

# Settings Management: status and plans

Michi Hostettler

on behalf of the Settings Management Working Group / EPA WP 6  
and with great thanks to all OP teams, the LSA team,  
and the EPA project core team

# towards efficient settings management

"efficient settings management" is a long term process

## Settings Management Working Group (OP + LSA team + equipment groups)

### Objectives:

- Homogenize as far as possible the operational procedures and principles concerning settings management for accelerators and facilities
- Get toward more physics parameters oriented operation
- Get rid of 'cultural' differences of the operations teams, deal with the technical differences and specific constraints of the different accelerators
- Solve issues (common or specific) and improve the usage of LSA-INCA in all facilities

↓  
improvements and solutions for existing  
operational use cases & problems

## other EPA work packages with setting management requirements

WP1  
Dynamic Beam Scheduling  
Lead: F. Irannejad (BE-CSS)

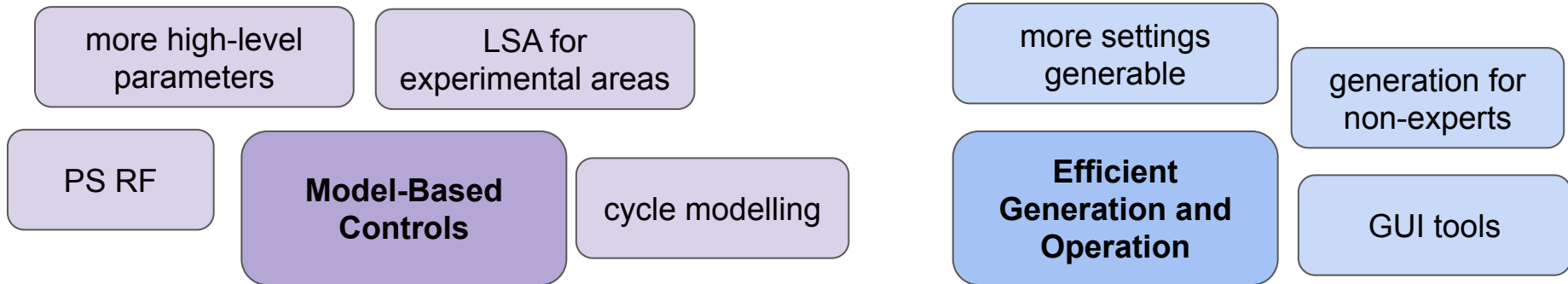
WP3  
Automated Parameter Control & Optimisation  
Lead: M. Schenk (BE-CSS)

WP8  
Automating Equipment  
Lead: K. Papastergiou, F. Velotti (SY-ABT)

WP2  
Automated LHC Filling  
Lead: G. Trad, A. Huschauer (BE-OP)

↓  
requirements on settings management for future  
novel operational approaches

## EPA WP6 - efficient settings management



# Efficient Settings Management

reliable mapping and drive

transactions

hierarchy breaking

cycle "families"

**Settings Consistency**

FEI

HW - LSA discrepancies

**Integration with Automation**

configuration storage in LSA

python API and integration

UCAP trims

external LSA make rules



# where are we?

- significant effort on **high-level controls for injectors during LS2** (in the view of LIU)
  - driven by the joint CO + OP + Equip Settings Management Working Group
  - mostly successful: in operation since 2021
  - next: experimental areas!
- optics + steering for all machines
- generation - could still be improved
- settings (in)consistency - being addressed
- more and more integration outside LSA
  - measure & correct, optimization, ...

**settings management for run 3 and beyond: what could be done?**

M. Hostettler, D. Jacquet  
with thanks to the Settings Management Working Group

**high level controls: LINAC4-PSB**

- set up **K → I → I\_REF hierarchy** for LINAC4 & PSB lines
  - calibration curves, logical devices, ...
- quadrupole K **generated from optics**
  - automatic generation for debuncher voltage changes

**high level controls: PSB tune control**

- new **ring-by-ring high level tune control**
  - including fast "corrections" during the fall of the injection chicane
- LSA make rules to compute  $Q \rightarrow K \rightarrow I \rightarrow I\_REF$ 
  - analytic  $Q \rightarrow K$  calculation
  - $I \rightarrow I\_REF$  mains, ...
- **change LSA**
  - custom
  - combin
- difficulty: ne
  - extensiv

**high level controls: SPS RF**

- new software controlled LLRF system in SPS
- HW parameters **calculated from physics parameters**
- **generation** for high-level parameters
- custom python and Java applications

**Injector Settings Management Diagram:** A circular diagram showing the relationship between Injector, Equipment, and Facility.

**Q control hierarchy diagram:** A flowchart showing the hierarchy from Q control to various parameters like I\_REF and I.

**SPS RF Parameters Diagram:** A hierarchical tree diagram showing the relationship between SPS RF parameters like Voltage, Phase, and Frequency.

**SPS RF Parameters Table:**

Parameter	Value
Budget area	500 MHz
Voltage	100 kV
Phase	0°
Frequency	500 MHz
...	...

**SPS RF Parameters Table:**

Parameter	Value
Synchronous tune, frequency, period	500 MHz
Synchronous tune LQR	0.01
Synchronous tune long, damping	0.01
Synchronous tune CLEBU	0.01
Stable phase	0°
LQR hierarchy	0.01
Long-Range Hierarchy	0.01
CLEBU Hierarchy	0.01

**SPS RF Parameters Table:**

Parameter	Value
500 MHz Voltage ratio offset	0.01
500 MHz Total voltage	100 kV
Voltage partitioning	0.01
Voltage and phase outputs	0.01

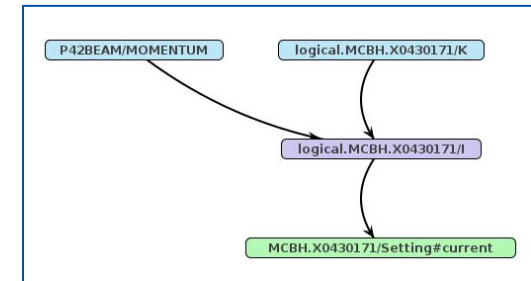
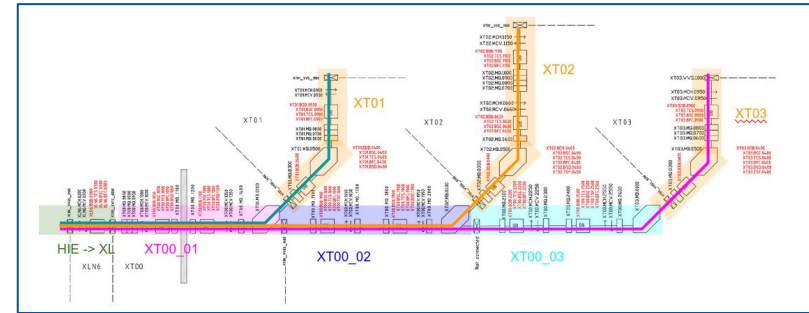
**SPS RF Parameters Table:**

Parameter	Value
500 MHz Voltage ratio offset	0.01
500 MHz Total voltage	100 kV
Voltage partitioning	0.01
Voltage and phase outputs	0.01

# LSA for experimental areas

- CESAR renovation + NA consolidation
  - unify settings management
  - model based controls
- non-PPM, partially cycle bound
- **model: stand-alone beam processes**
  - like LHC, but **no hyper-cycles**
  - possibility to map beam processes per particle transfer / beam line
- first implementations:
  - ISOLDE - HIE part
  - P42 line - first test in November

Beam Process	Particle Transfer
H2A.NA61.910	NA_H2Transfer
H4D.HERD.002	NA_H4Transfer
H8A.SBA.061	NA_H8Transfer
M2A.SBA.040	NA_M2Transfer
POA.SBA.000	NA_P0SurveyTransfer
P42A.SBA.040	NA_P42Transfer
	NA_H6Transfer
	NA_K12Transfer

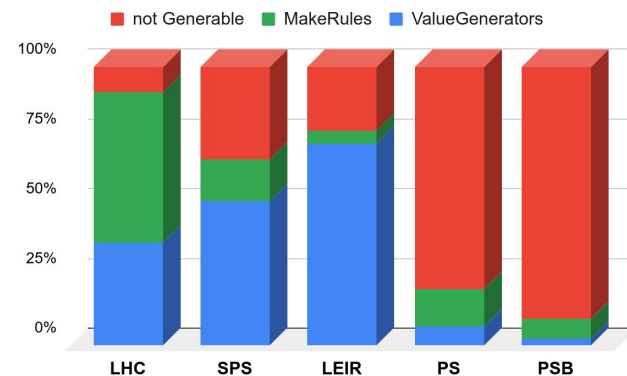


# generation

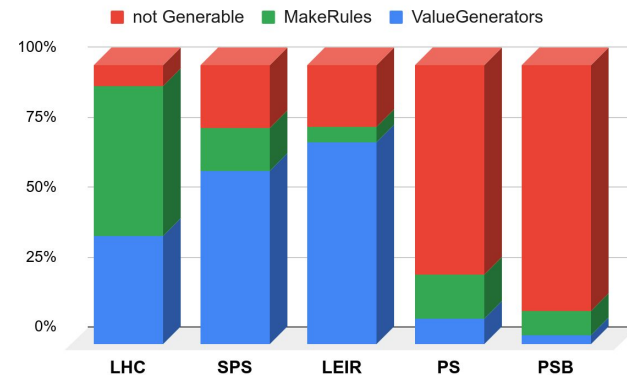
- generation: preferred way to initialize settings
  - largely automated
  - code / logic in a central place
  - avoid losing knowledge / single point of failure
- PS and PSB still need some of work ...
  - cycle model also fully ideal
  - work planned in LS3
- new: **bulk generation**
  - $N$  parameters \*  $M$  contexts



## Montreux 2021



## End of 2024





# (in)consistencies

- at **different levels**:
  - missing settings / discontinuities (new cycles / BPs)
  - broken LSA hierarchies
  - LSA - HW inconsistencies
- predominant cause of **settings related downtime**
  - e.g. LHC - LLRF settings issue during MD3  
"reloading" of a tag took RF out > 1 day
- LSA - HW: new **continuous checks** in place
  - injectors: web application provided by LSA team
  - LHC: sequencer tasks during preparation
  - optional tolerance (HW read-back issues)
- not solved - but mitigated!

Cockpit Online check

Setting	Errors	Mismatches	No settings
<b>_NON_MULTIPLEXED_PS</b>	0	5	0
ILHC100#4b_Pb	0	0	0
LHC25#48b_3eVs_24	0	0	0

COMPARE NON\_MULTIPLEXED SETTINGS WITH HW

- COMPARE OFB NON\_MULTIPLEXED SETTINGS WITH HARDWARE
- COMPARE RF NON\_MULTIPLEXED SETTINGS WITH HARDWARE**
- COMPARE INJ AGK NON\_MULTIPLEXED SETTINGS WITH HARDWARE
- COMPARE INJ KICKER NON\_MULTIPLEXED SETTINGS WITH HARDWARE



# automation integration

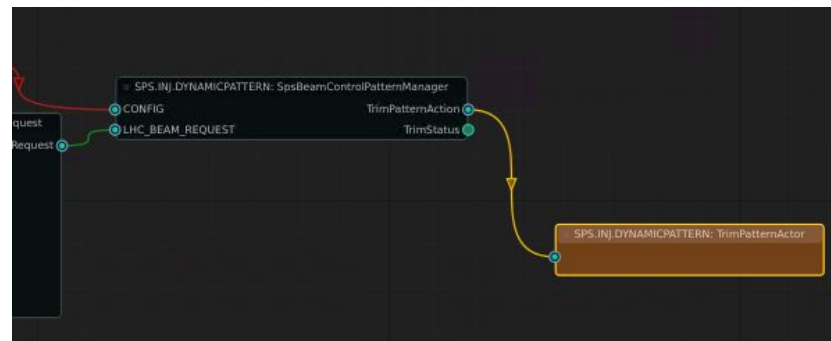
- "transient" trims
  - problem: automated trims fill up the trim history
    - difficult tracking, performance, ...
  - transient trims: cleaned up after 14 days
    - do we need more flexible time to live?
  - same application can produce transient and permanent trims

Time	Descr
22-11-2024 15:07:43	LumiServer trim [ManualSeparationLev
22-11-2024 15:12:05	LumiServer trim [ManualSeparationLev
22-11-2024 15:16:48	LumiServer trim [ManualSeparationLev
22-11-2024 15:18:31	LumiServer trim [ManualSeparationLev
22-11-2024 15:18:55	LumiServer trim [ManualSeparationLev
22-11-2024 15:21:23	LumiServer trim [OptimizationAutopilot
22-11-2024 15:22:04	LumiServer trim [OptimizationAutopilot
22-11-2024 15:22:46	LumiServer trim [OptimizationAutopilot
22-11-2024 15:29:06	LumiServer trim [OptimizationAutopilot
22-11-2024 15:29:48	LumiServer trim [OptimizationAutopilot
22-11-2024 15:30:29	LumiServer trim [OptimizationAutopilot

permanent

transient

- UCAP LSA trim actor
  - now in ucap-actions-standard
  - trim from UCAP - avoiding JAPC API
  - used by GeOFF, optimizers, ...
  - possibility for transient trims
  - traceability (actor name in history)



# automation integration

- "transient" trims

**sneak peek:**  
**UCAP actor to load LSA tags**

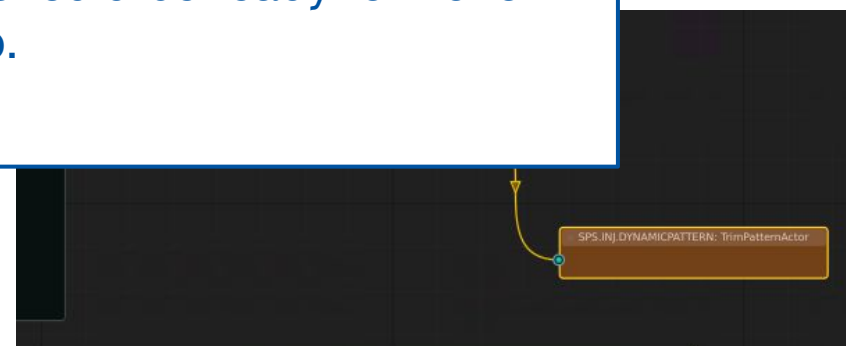
... under review by the UCAP team, should be ready for 2025 startup.

- - used by GeOFF, optimizers, ...
  - possibility for transient trims
  - traceability (actor name in history)

Time	Descr
2024-11-20 15:07:43	ManualSeparationLev
	ManualSeparationLev
	OptimizationAutopilot
	OptimizationAutopilot
	OptimizationAutopilot
	OptimizationAutopilot

permanent

transient



# what do we still need?

- we are fine in the short term, but ...
- novel controls and optimization concepts (ML, ...)
  - softening the border between online and offline
  - Java-only is too rigid
  - one setting per cycle may be too rigid
- improved modelling for exp. areas, PS, ...
- HL-LHC integration
- settings management is more than device/properties
  - modelling, domain-driven objects, ...
- the (apparently) simplest solution may or may not be the best
  - the truth lies between the quick hack and the most generic solution



How the customer explained it



What operations installed



What the customer really needed

# custom logic in LSA - beyond Java

- custom code in LSA: **make rules, value generators, ...**
  - runs online (mapped/resident context) or offline
  - currently: monolithic, Java only
- python libraries superior in certain fields
  - machine learning
  - numerics & scientific computing
- ➔ Machine Learning Platform - promising solution
  - "stand-alone" model deployment
  - remote call from LSA code
  - planned for next-generation PS PFW control
  - investigated for post-LS3 PS LLRF control
- LSA core will remain Java native

```
RealMatrix K0;
RealMatrix KH1, KH2;
RealMatrix SH1, SH2;

int iterationCount = 0;
RealMatrix P_ = initialP;

try {
    KH1 = B.transpose().multiply(P_).multiply(B);
    KH2 = B.transpose().multiply(P_).multiply(A);
    K = inverse(R.add(KH1)).multiply(KH2);
} catch (NullPointerException ex) {
    System.out.println(P_);
    System.out.println(A);
}

SH1 = A.transpose().multiply(P_).multiply(A);
SH2 = K.transpose().multiply(B.transpose()).multiply(P_);
SH2 = A.transpose().multiply(P_).multiply(B).multiply(K);
P_ = (Q.add(SH1)).subtract(SH2);

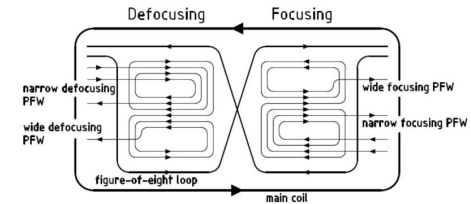
K0 = K.scalarMultiply(0);

while (K.subtract(K0).getNorm() > EPSILON * K.getNorm()) {
    K0 = K;
    KH1 = B.transpose().multiply(P_).multiply(B);
    KH2 = B.transpose().multiply(P_).multiply(A);
    K = inverse(R.add(KH1)).multiply(KH2);
}
```

scipy.linalg.solve\_discrete\_are

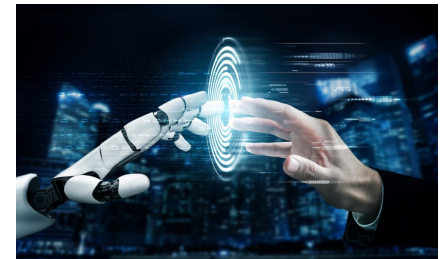
scipy.linalg.solve\_discrete\_are(a, b, q, r, e=None, s=None, f=None)

Solves the discrete-time algebraic Riccati equation (DARE).

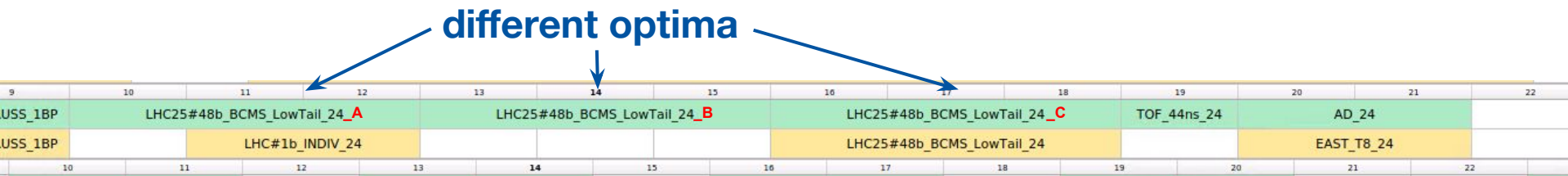


# interaction with automatic controllers

- increasing amount of automatic optimizers / feedbacks
  - ensure continuous optimization
  - reduce OP workload / repetitive tasks
- **OP (and other optimizers) need an overview**
  - which optimizers are running?
  - which parameters are touched by which optimizer?
  - how to monitor, interact, stop, and resume optimizers?
  - goes beyond settings management
- ➔ **concept of "parameter ownership"?**
  - automatic controllers need to "reserve" parameters
  - warning for OP if trimmed manually
- ➔ **optimizers are there to help us - OP**
  - ensure a good human-machine collaboration



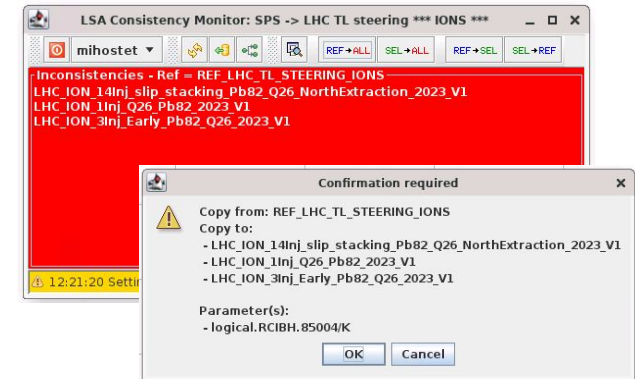
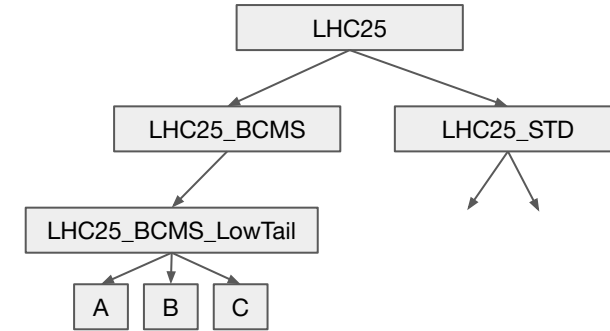
# per cycle-instance settings



- **different cycle executions** may have different optimal settings
    - depending on intensity, preceding cycles, hysteresis, ...
    - e.g. splitting, trajectories, ...
  - **avoid: trims / sending settings for every cycle execution**
    - overflowing trim history, even with transient trims
    - optimizers and LSA do not have real-time guarantees
- ➔ "real" hardware real-time channels (needs HW support)
- ➔ different timing user per execution for different programmed settings?

# do we need super-settings?

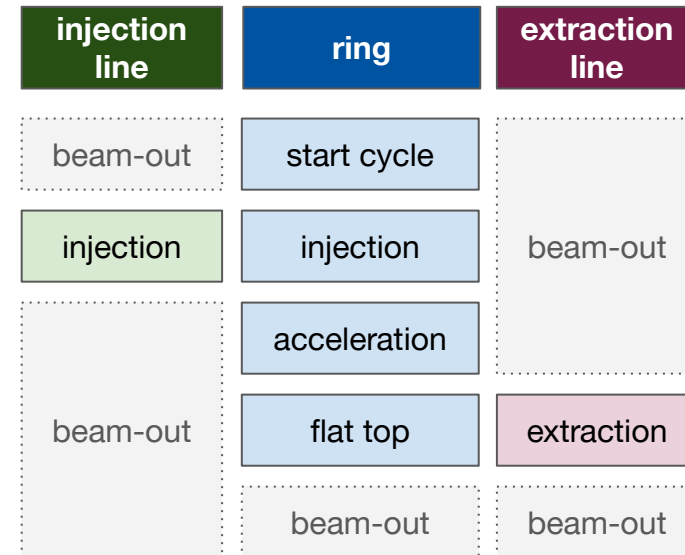
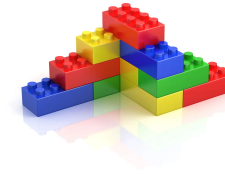
- scenario: different cycles which are **50-90% similar**
  - cycles for the same destination in injectors
  - SPS-LHC injection steering
  - different users per cycle execution
  - ... if we are going for this solution
- **common settings** should be kept in sync
  - not only initially, but also during operation
- **"super settings"** - propagation between cycles
  - technical challenge ... looks solvable
  - operational complexity is the main concern (understand propagation, debugging, ...)
- **lightweight approach: reference cycles**
  - used throughout 2024 for LHC injection steering





# LS3: re-thinking injector cycle modelling

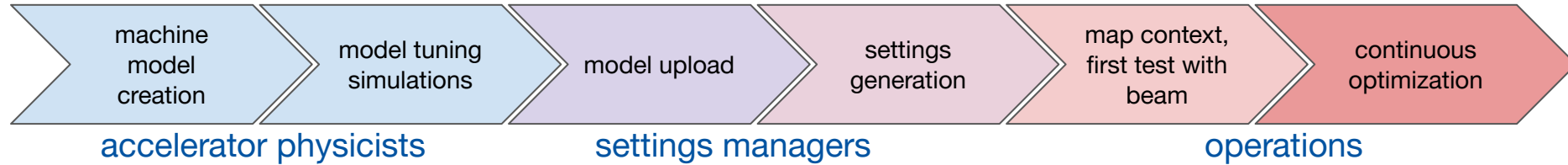
- a LSA **cycle type** can schedule multiple **sequential beam process types**
- beam process types are "**building blocks**" that can be reused (e.g. ramps, plateaus, ...)
- **beam-in** and **beam-out** beam processes
- **current situation:**
  - SPS: full cycle model
  - LEIR: 1 beam-in and 1 beam-out beam process
  - PS / PSB / AD / ELENA: 1 beam process (beam-in only) per cycle and particle transfer
- **full model could be useful for other machines**
  - PS full model under study, including RF processes
  - PSB could at least profit from beam-in/out



# LS3: LHC moving towards the HL-LHC era

- **standard transaction system**
  - transactions are crucial in LHC to execute synchronized transitions (ramp, ...)
  - currently each system has its own transaction protocol
  - goal: use common transaction protocol introduced in injectors during LS2
- **new inner triplet assemblies in LSA**
  - IT-STRING as a test facility - unique opportunity!
  - beyond magnetic elements: FRAS, QPS, ...
- **QPS settings management**
  - expose QPS settings in a more standard way (FESA classes, interfaces)
  - store settings in LSA (possibly with extra protection)
- **XSuite for optics creation and upload**

# model-based controls, in an ideal world ...



- smooth and standardized path from physics models to operations
  - models allow to generate initial settings to make a beam pass
  - handle what can be handled with physics-backed models
    - pre-correct / feed-forward known effects
  - feedback loops and optimizers correct for dynamic effects and imperfections
- do not spend beam time on problems that can be solved offline

# conclusions

- **steady evolution towards model-based controls**
  - significant improvement for injectors in LS2
  - experimental areas upcoming
  - settings generation and cycle model being improved
- **settings inconsistencies still an issue**
  - LSA internal / LSA-HW
  - main cause of settings related downtime
  - mitigations in place
- **integration with automation**
  - automated trims: transient to avoid overflowing history
  - optimizer management: part of settings management?
  - per cycle-execution settings?