

# Policy: evolving (or not) simulation modes

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# Evolving simulation modes

- Various scenarios:
  - Changing the decay file for a signal mode *within an era*\*
  - Changing a decay file (other than DECAY.DEC) *between eras*
  - Changing the *code of the corresponding event generator*
    - To fix a bug that yielded manifestly bad data
    - To make a change that's more of a judgment call, where the existing data could still be used (e.g., with some reweighting)
- Existing policy:
  - All decay file changes require defining new modes
    - Justification: the decay file RCS revision / ProdDecayFiles tag is not carried along with the resulting data in bookkeeping
  - Code changes do not
    - Justification: bookkeeping knows about the SP release, so code change edges can be tracked in the datasets (Bbk\* commands have a release-selection option)

\* What is an *era*?

A complete set of simulation covering all running cycles:

- SP4
- SP5 (Runs 1-3) + SP6 (Run 4)
- SP8 (Runs 1-5) + SP9 (Run 6+)

# Quick question

- Should we require a new mode to be created for code changes as well?

## Argument:

- Simplifies what users need to know to do, avoids naïve errors
- May also aid in tracking the actual requests, reduce manual intervention by SP coordinator