



# THREE POINT HELIX CHECK ERRORS

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**github issue 126**

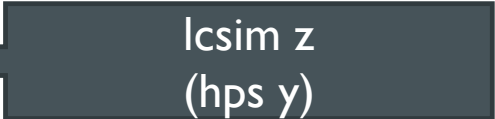
# DOWN THE RABBIT-HOLE

- `org.lcsim.recon.tracking.seedtracker.FastCheck ▶ ThreePointHelixCheck`  
triplet-finding for track seeds

- For each of the 3 hits, calculates contribution to *z error*

```
dztot += _nsig * Math.sqrt(hit.getCovMatrix()[5]);
```

lcsim z  
(hps y)



- Then 

```
// Add multiple scattering error here - for now, just set it to 1 mm  
dztot += 1.; dztot += _nsig * MSError;
```

- Compares *total z error* to (*predicted – actual*) *z position* of middle hit

```
if (Math.abs(zpred - z[1]) > dztot) return false;
```

- Implementing a proper `MSError` makes ~no difference to tracking output. Why?
- Because *even without any MSError*, `dztot` is far bigger than `zpred-z[1]`, meaning no seeds get thrown out here anyway

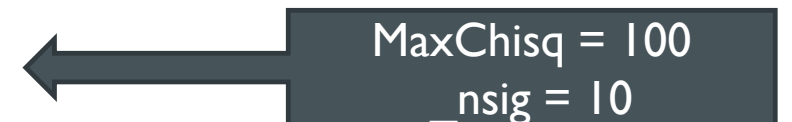
# DOWN THE RABBIT-HOLE

- Why is this potentially a problem?
  - We do want to avoid throwing out decent candidates at seeding stage, but if we're not throwing out any seeds, we might as well not bother with this check at all
  - Intuitively, *dztot* *should* be dominated by *MSError*. But it *is* dominated by hit errors.
- Why are the hit errors so big?

## I. Big `_nsig`

```
_nsig = Math.sqrt(strategy.getMaxChisq());
```

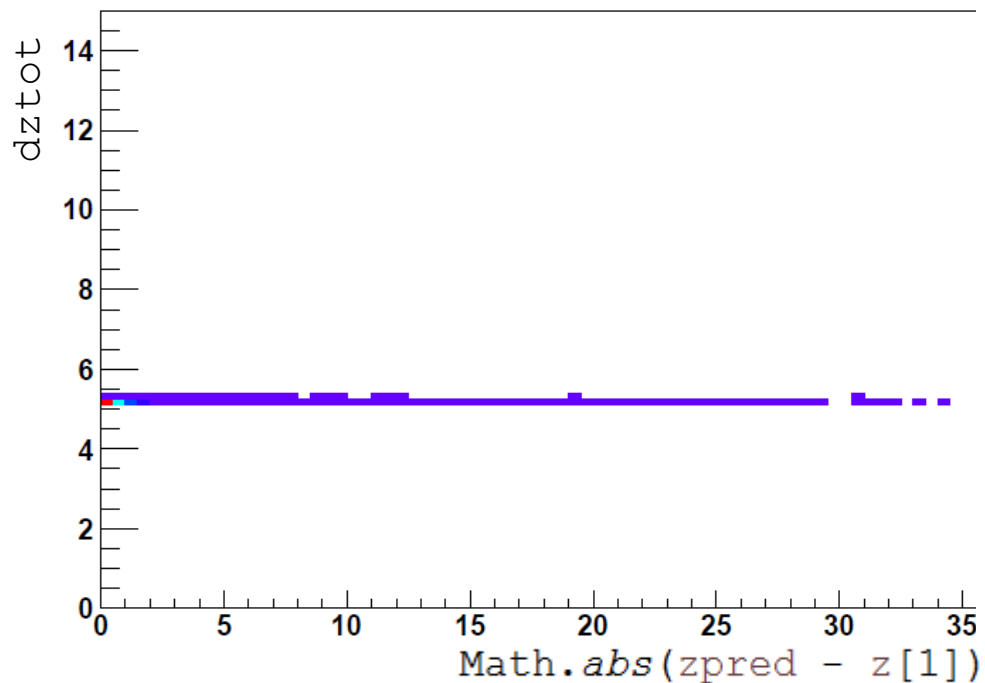
- Decouple `_nsig` from `Strategy.MaxChisq`
- ***MSError*** has greater effect at lower `_nsig`



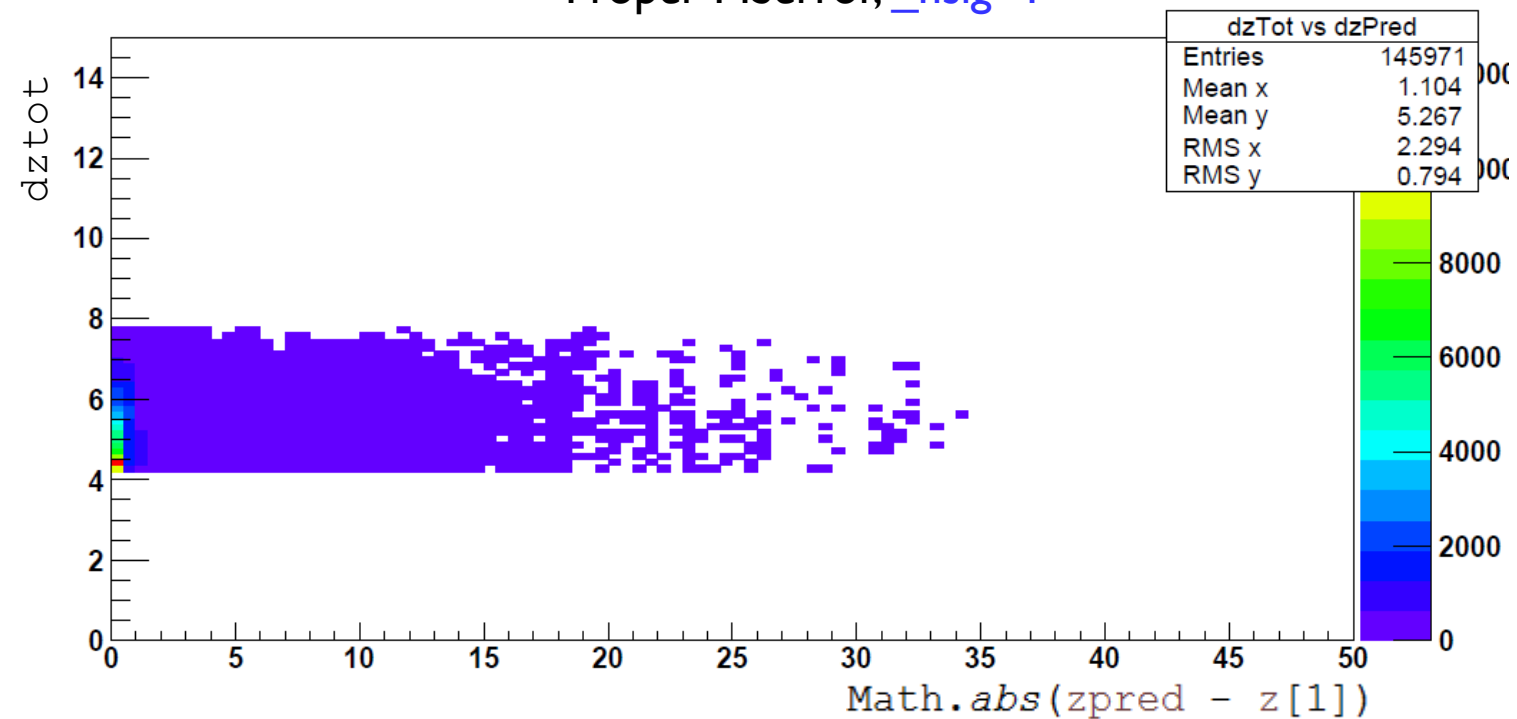
# FIXING THE CODE

- But even at `_nsig=1`, `dztot` is still big

MSerror = 1.0, `_nsig = 1`



Proper MSerror, `_nsig=1`



# DOWN THE RABBIT-HOLE

## 2. Big `hit.getCovMatrix()[5]`

Not corrected for track direction

- Typically  $\sim 2$
- For 3 hits, added linearly:  $3\sqrt{2} \approx 4.5$
- Typical uncorrected covariance matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0.3 & -11.5 & -0.6 \\ -11.5 & 400.5 & 20.0 \\ -0.6 & 20.0 & \boxed{2.0} \end{pmatrix}$$

Typical corrected covariance matrix:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 6e-5 & -2e-3 & -1e-4 \\ -2e-3 & 0.08 & 4e-3 \\ -1e-4 & 4e-3 & \boxed{2e-4} \end{pmatrix}$$

# DOWN THE RABBIT-HOLE

lcsim-tracking ▸ src/main/java ▸ org.lcsim.fit.helicaltrack ▸ HitUtils ▸ CovarianceFromOrigin(HelicalTrackStrip, HelicalTrackStrip) : SymmetricMatrix

```
public static SymmetricMatrix CovarianceFromOrigin(HelicalTrackStrip strip1, HelicalTrackStrip strip2) {  
    // Assume the particle is coming from the origin, so  $x_2 = \gamma * x_1$   
    //  $\gamma = \text{Origin}_2 \cdot \hat{w} / \text{Origin}_1 \cdot \hat{w}$   
    double gamma = VecOp.dot(strip2.origin(), strip2.w()) / NonZeroDotProduct(strip1.origin(), strip1.w());  
    // Calculate the seperation between the sensor planes  
    double separation = SensorSeperation(strip1, strip2);  
    // Calculate  $v_{\text{hat}} \cdot u_{\text{hat}}$ , which is equivalent to  $\sin(\alpha)$  where  $\alpha$  is the stereo angle  
    double salpha = getSinAlpha(strip1, strip2);  
    // Calculate the scale factor:  $\text{factor} = (1 + \gamma)^2 / 4 * \sin^2(\alpha)$   
    double factor = (1 + gamma)*(1 + gamma) / (4. * salpha*salpha);  
    // Calculate  $v * v^T$  for strips 1 and 2  
    Matrix v1 = v2m(strip1.v());  
    Matrix v2 = v2m(strip2.v());  
    Matrix v1v1t = MatrixOp.mult(v1, MatrixOp.transposed(v1));  
    Matrix v2v2t = MatrixOp.mult(v2, MatrixOp.transposed(v2));  
    // Find measurement uncertainties for strips 1 and 2  
    double du1 = strip1.du();  
    double du2 = strip2.du();
```

← Questionable du() values:  
issue 135

# DOWN THE RABBIT-HOLE

lcsim-tracking ▸ src/main/java ▸ org.lcsim.fit.helicaltrack ▸ HitUtils ▸ CovarianceFromOrigin(HelicalTrackStrip, HelicalTrackStrip) : SymmetricMatrix

```
// Calculate the uncertainty in the unmeasured coordinate due to not knowing the track direction
// by assuming phat . u has an uncertainty of  $2/\sqrt{12}$  so  $dv = 2 / \sqrt{12} * \text{separation} / \sin(\alpha)$ 
double dv = Math.abs(2. * separation / (Math.sqrt(12) * salpha));
// Don't let dv be greater than the strip length / sqrt(12)
double dv1 = Math.min(dv, (strip1.vmax()-strip1.vmin()) / Math.sqrt(12.));
double dv2 = Math.min(dv, (strip2.vmax()-strip2.vmin()) / Math.sqrt(12.));
// Calculate the covariance matrix.
// From resolution: cov = factor * (v2 * v2^T * dul^2 + v1 * v1^T * du2^2)
// From direction: + (v1 * v1^T * (dv1/2)^2 + v2 * v2^T * (dv2/2)^2
Matrix cov1 = MatrixOp.mult(factor * du2*du2 + 0.25 * dv1*dv1, v1v1t);
Matrix cov2 = MatrixOp.mult(factor * dul*dul + 0.25 * dv2*dv2, v2v2t);
Matrix cov = MatrixOp.add(cov1, cov2);
return new SymmetricMatrix(cov);
```

← phat . u uncertainty  
~5x too big?

# DOWN THE RABBIT-HOLE

3. Adding up all the contributions linearly
  - Should we add them in quadrature instead?

## Options:

- A. “Make seeding cuts great again” to throw out some seeds
  - Look at distributions of  $(\text{phat.u})$  to get proper uncertainty for it
  - Revisit `strip.du()` values (issue 135)
  - Perform dedicated studies to decide value of `_nsig`
- B. Decide it’s OK to keep all seeds
  - Simply eliminate `ThreePointHelixCheck` since it’s not accomplishing anything

