

Update on forward tracking parameterisation update

Martin Tat

Heidelberg University

10th June 2025



**UNIVERSITÄT
HEIDELBERG**
ZUKUNFT
SEIT 1386

- 1 Introduction and reminder of previous presentation
- 2 Closer study of z_{mag} parameterisation
- 3 Conclusion

I previously presented an update on the HLT2 forward tracking parameterisations

- [Link to Indico here](#)
- Tracking algorithm described in three steps:
 - ① Trajectories based on equations of motion and detector geometry
 - ② Parameterise complex calculations using polynomials
 - ③ Determine coefficients by fits to MC
- Parameterisations updated using new MC samples
 - New magnetic field map (presented [here](#))
 - Initially worked with a private MC production
 - Moved to centrally produced samples [here](#)

Last time I presented these parameterisations:

- 1 z magnet kick position
- 2 x fringe field correction
- 3 Stereo angle y correction
- 4 Hough histogram binning
- 5 z hit correction with SciFi yz tilt
- 6 Magnetic field integral

Last time I presented these parameterisations:

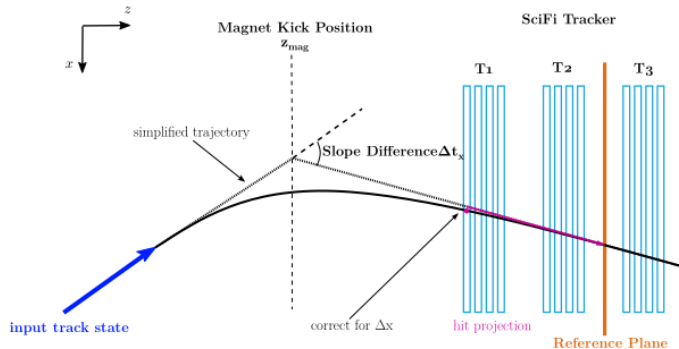
- ① z magnet kick position \leftarrow Caused some issues
- ② x fringe field correction
- ③ Stereo angle y correction
- ④ Hough histogram binning
- ⑤ z hit correction with SciFi yz tilt
- ⑥ Magnetic field integral

Reminder: Parameterisations in HLT2 forward tracking

Last time I presented these parameterisations:

- ① z magnet kick position
- ② x fringe field correction
- ③ Stereo angle y correction
- ④ Hough histogram binning
- ⑤ z hit correction with SciFi yz tilt
- ⑥ Magnetic field integral \leftarrow Improves momentum resolution estimate

Reminder: z_{mag} parameterisation

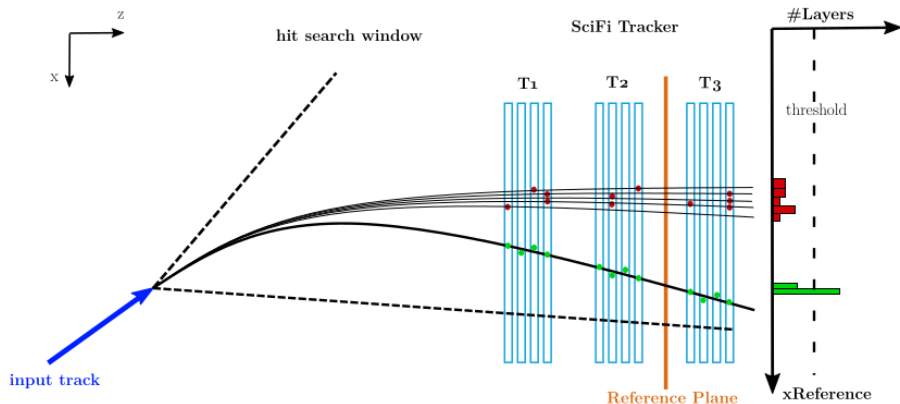


From CERN-THESIS-2023-097

- Simplified track model: Assume magnet “kicks” particle at $z = z_{\text{mag}}$
- Parameterise z_{mag} as:

$$z_{\text{mag}} = c_0 + c_1 t_x^2 + c_3 t_y^2 + \Delta t'_x (c_2 t_x + c_4 \Delta t'_x)$$

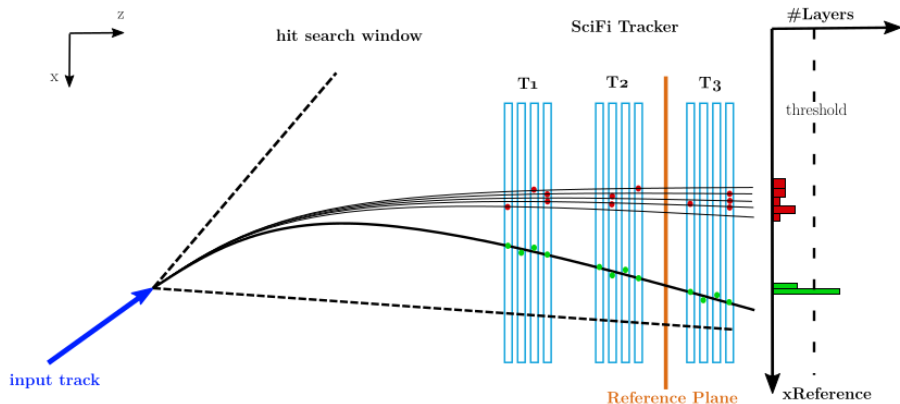
Reminder: Hit mapping to reference plane



From CERN-THESIS-2023-097

- Once all SciFi hits are parameterised, map hits to reference plane
- Hits from real tracks show peaks in “Hough histogram”

Reminder: Hit mapping to reference plane



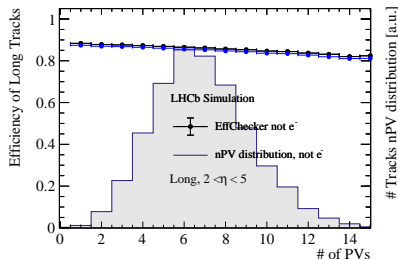
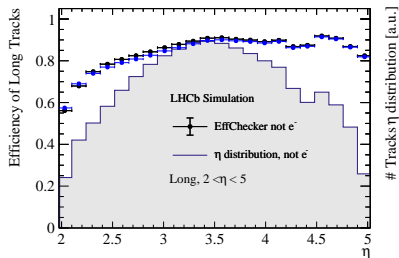
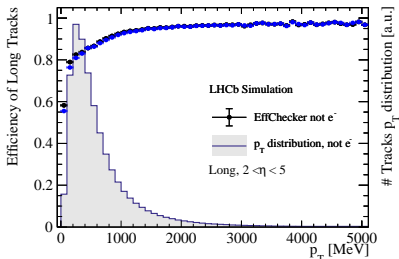
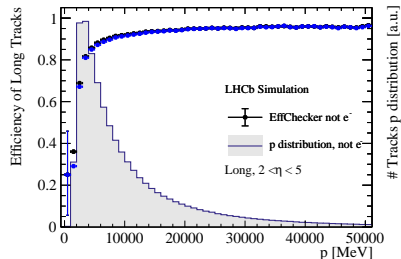
From CERN-THESIS-2023-097

- Mapping depends on momentum, as low momentum tracks bend more
- Define a search window by assuming $p = p_{\min} = 1500 \text{ MeV}/c$

Previously: Performance found to be worse after update

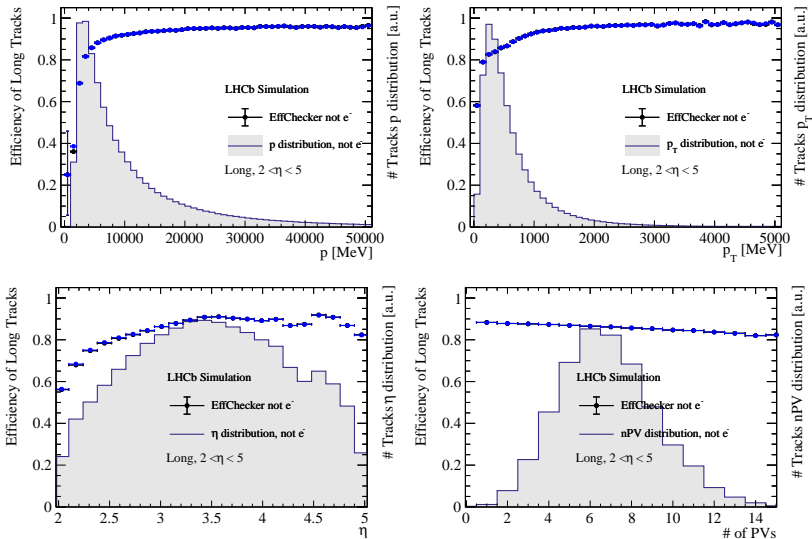
- Traced back to the z_{mag} parameterisation
- Reverting back to old z_{mag} parameterisation
 - Negligible change in performance compared to 2025-patches
- Possible explanation: Biases in z_{mag} are larger with new MC

Reminder: Tracking efficiencies with new parameterisation



Black: Old parameterisation. Blue: Updated parameterisation.

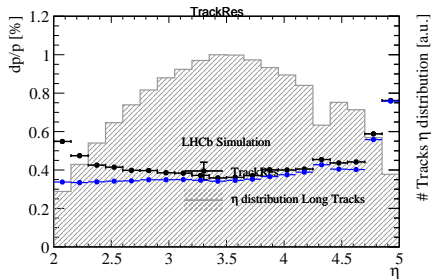
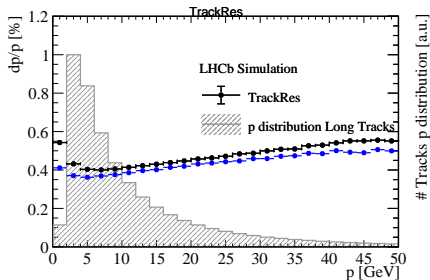
Reminder: Tracking efficiencies with new parameterisation



Black: Old parameterisation. Blue: Updated parameterisation with old z_{mag} .

Reminder: Momentum resolution

Despite difficulties with z_{mag} , it would be ideal to update parameterisations using the new field map

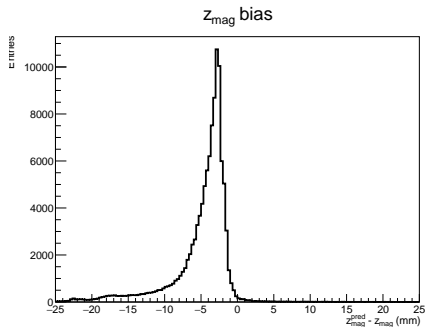
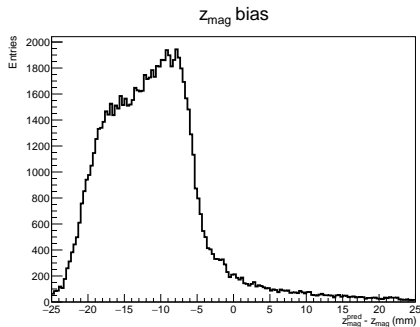


Black: Old parameterisation. Blue: Updated parameterisation with old z_{mag} .

Clear improvement in momentum resolution!

Study of z_{mag} bias

Study bias $z_{\text{mag}}^{\text{pred}} - z_{\text{mag}}$ of original parameterisation:

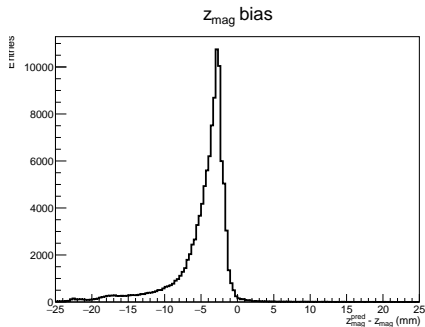
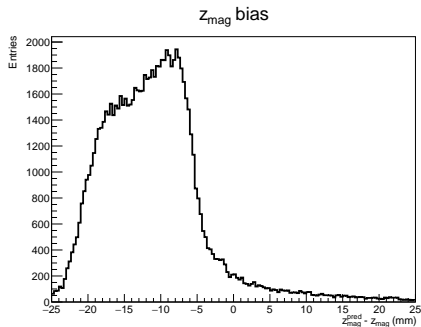


Left: $p < 7$ GeV. Right: $p > 7$ GeV.

- Parameterisation struggles a low momentum
 - Large negative bias
 - Very wide distribution

Study of z_{mag} bias

Study bias $z_{\text{mag}}^{\text{pred}} - z_{\text{mag}}$ of original parameterisation:

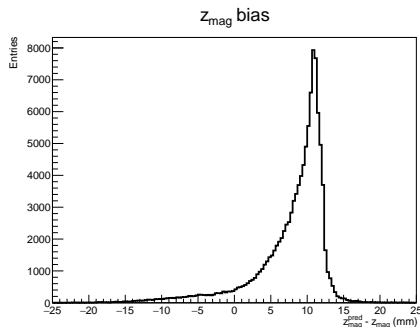
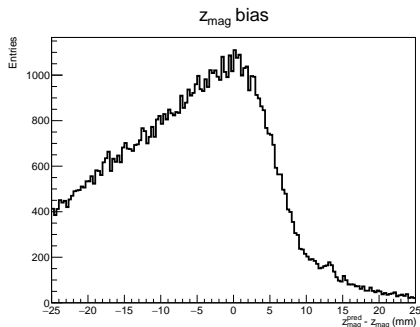


Left: $p < 7$ GeV. Right: $p > 7$ GeV.

- Parameterisation works well at high momentum
 - Small and almost negligible bias
 - Very small variance

Study of z_{mag} bias

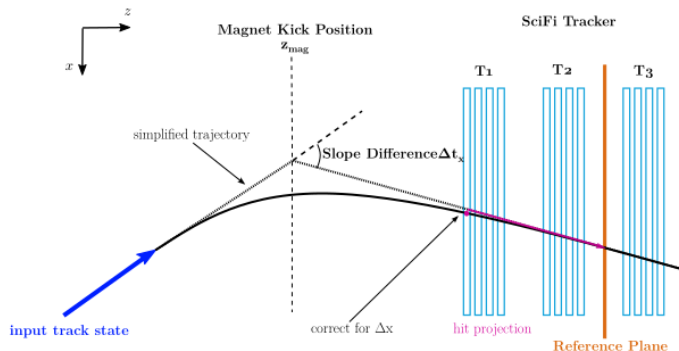
If we only update coefficients of z_{mag} parameterisation:



Left: $p < 7$ GeV. Right: $p > 7$ GeV.

- Potential explanation of worse performance with new coefficients:
 - Bias is generally worse
 - Parameterisation doesn't describe z_{mag} well

Reminder: z_{mag} parameterisation

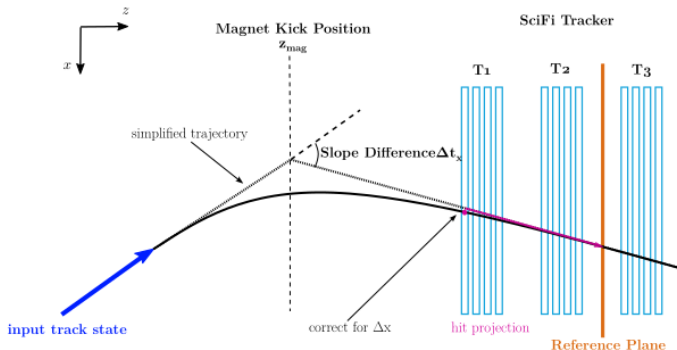


From CERN-THESIS-2023-097

- Original z_{mag} parameterisation:

$$z_{\text{mag}} = c_0 + c_1 t_x^2 + c_3 t_y^2 + \Delta t'_x (c_2 t_x + c_4 \Delta t'_x)$$

Improved z_{mag} parameterisation



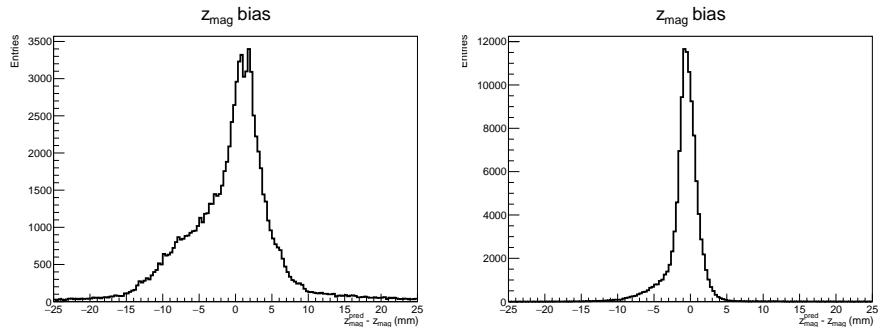
From CERN-THESIS-2023-097

- After trial and error, this parameterisation was obtained:

$$z_{\text{mag}} = c_0 + c_1 t_x^2 + c_3 t_y^2 + \Delta t'_x (c_2 t_x + c_4 \Delta t'_x) + (c_5 + t_x^2 + t_y^2 + |\Delta t'_x|^2) |\Delta t'_x|$$

Study of z_{mag} bias

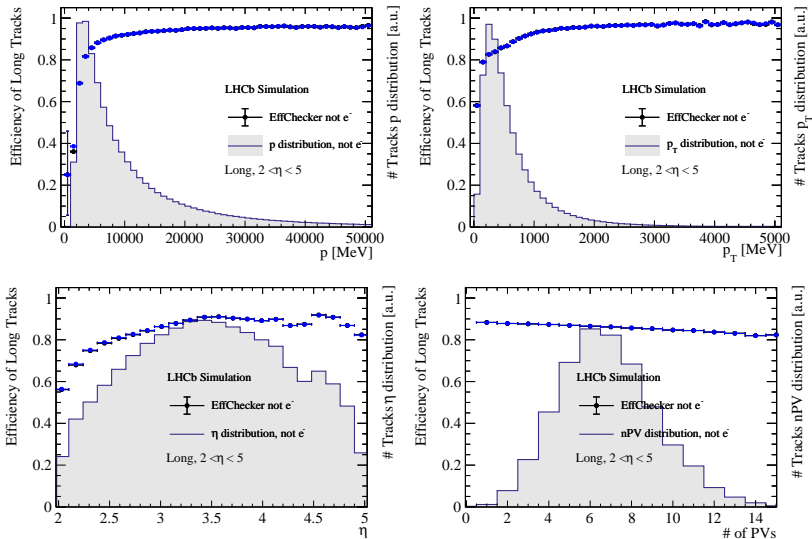
Check biases with new improved parameterisation:



Left: $p < 7$ GeV. Right: $p > 7$ GeV.

- Huge improvement in biases:
 - Almost symmetric and unbiased distribution at high momentum
 - Mostly unbiased at low momentum, with a left tail

Tracking efficiencies with new improved parameterisation

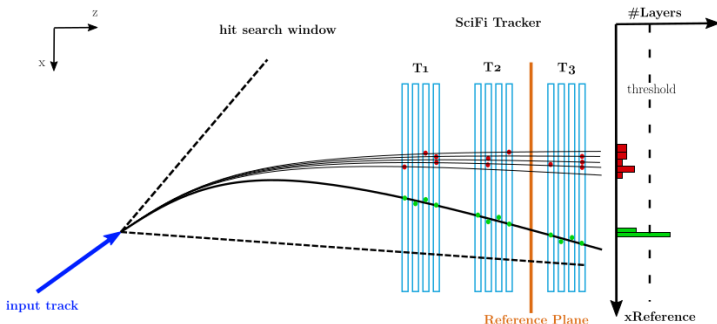


Black: Old parameterisation. Blue: Improved parameterisation of z_{mag} need to update these plots

Tracking efficiencies with new improved parameterisation

- I propose that we keep the original z_{mag} parameterisation
 - Determined by Andre Günther using DC19 MC
- Somehow, tracking efficiencies get worse when using a more accurate parameterisation...
- ...but perhaps in this case doing the wrong thing is better
- Is there a straightforward explanation for this...?

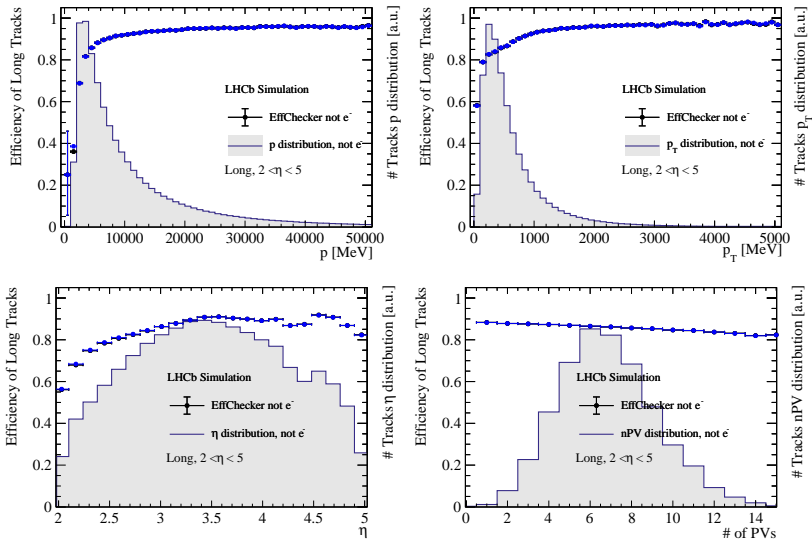
Reminder: Hit mapping to reference plane



From CERN-THESIS-2023-097

- Define a search window by assuming $p = p_{\min} = 1500 \text{ MeV}/c$
- My understanding is:
 - z_{mag} is underestimated \rightarrow Search window becomes larger!
 - \rightarrow Add negative bias at low momentum to improve performance

Tracking efficiencies with biased z_{mag} parameterisation

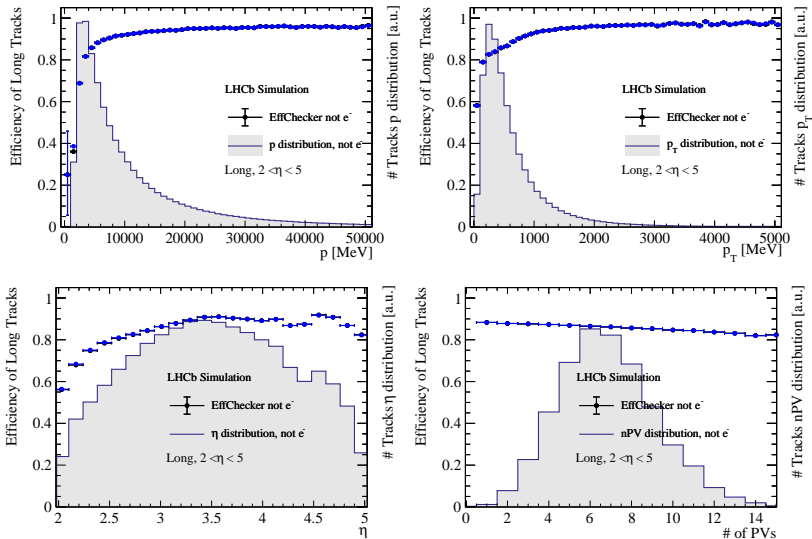


Black: Old parameterisation. Blue: Biased parameterisation of z_{mag} need to update these plots

Conclusion of z_{mag} studies

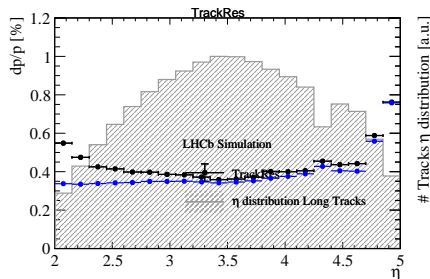
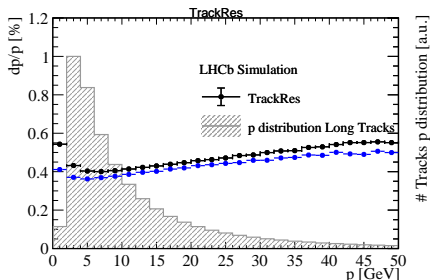
- Indeed, the improvement in performance when introducing a bias confirms that it is the search window size that drive the tracking efficiencies at low momentum
- Motivates us to keep the original z_{mag} parameterisation
- All other parameterisations will be updated using new MC samples
- I have already added these samples to TestDB in [this MR](#)
- I will also add documentation to the [ParamScriptor](#) repository

Tracking efficiencies with final parameterisation



Black: Old parameterisation. Blue: Proposed parameterisation need to update these plots

Momentum resolution with final parameterisation



Black: Old parameterisation. Blue: Proposed parameterisation. need to update these plots

Summary

- All parameterisations have been updated using centrally produced MC
 - ① Larger MC samples
 - ② Both magnet polarities
 - ③ Larger selection of decay modes
- Possible improvements to z_{mag} parameterisation have been explored
 - Biases are reduced, but performance gets worse
 - Reason for this unexpected behaviour:
 - Original parameterisation mostly underestimated z_{mag}
 - Overestimated search windows in the x-plane
 - More hits included in reconstruction
 - Higher tracking reconstruction
- I propose: Update all parameterisations except for that of z_{mag}
 - Negligible change in tracking efficiencies
 - Small improvement in momentum resolution

- 1 Get !4362 and !567 merged
- 2 Document work in ParamScriptor
- 3 Final step: Improve throughput
 - Code was already heavily optimised by Andre Günther...
 - ...but I'll do some quick checks for obvious bottlenecks

Thanks for listening!