

UNDERSTANDING THE KALMAN FILTER: TESTING ON A TOY MONTECARLO MODEL



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KALMAN FILTER IN GENERAL

- A **Kalman filter** is an iterative algorithm which uses a system's physical laws of motion, known control inputs and multiple sequential measurements to form an estimate of the system's varying quantities
- At each step of the iteration an **estimate of the state of the system is produced as a weighted average of the system's predicted state and of the new measurement**. The weights are calculated from the **covariance**.
- The **extended Kalman filter** expands the Kalman filter technique to non-linear systems
- The models for state transition and measurement can be written as:

$$x_k = f(s_{k-1}, x_{k-1}) + w_{k-1}$$

$$z_k = h(s_k) + v_k$$

- Where f is the function of the previous state, s_{k-1} , and the free parameter, u_{k-1} , that provides the current state s_k . h is the measurement function that relates the current state, x_k , to the measurement z_k . w_{k-1} and v_k are Gaussian noises for the process model and the measurement model with covariance Q and R , respectively

KALMAN FILTER IN GENERAL

1. Make **a priori predictions** for the current step's state and covariance matrix using the **a posteriori best estimate of the previous step** (i.e. updated using measurement)

STATE VECTOR

$$\hat{s}_k^- = f(\hat{s}_{k-1}^+, x_{k-1})$$

COVARIANCE MATRIX

$$P_k^- = F_{k-1} P_{k-1}^+ F_{k-1}^T + Q$$

$$F_{k-1} = \left. \frac{\partial f}{\partial s} \right|_{\hat{s}_{k-1}^+, u_{k-1}}$$

JACOBIAN

$$H_k = \left. \frac{\partial h}{\partial s} \right|_{\hat{s}_k^-}$$

CONVERSION MATRIX

$$Q$$

PROCESS NOISE
COVARIANCE

Note: In the first iteration step we use step 0 estimates for the state vector and the covariance matrix (x_0, P_0) , which can be made very roughly

KALMAN FILTER IN GENERAL

2. Calculate the **measurement residual** and the **Kalman Gain**

RESIDUAL

$$\tilde{y}_k = z_k - h(\hat{s}_k^-)$$

KALMAN GAIN

$$K_k = P_k^- H_k^T (R + H_k P_k^- H_k^T)^{-1}$$

R

MEASUREMENT
NOISE COVARIANCE

3. Update the estimate

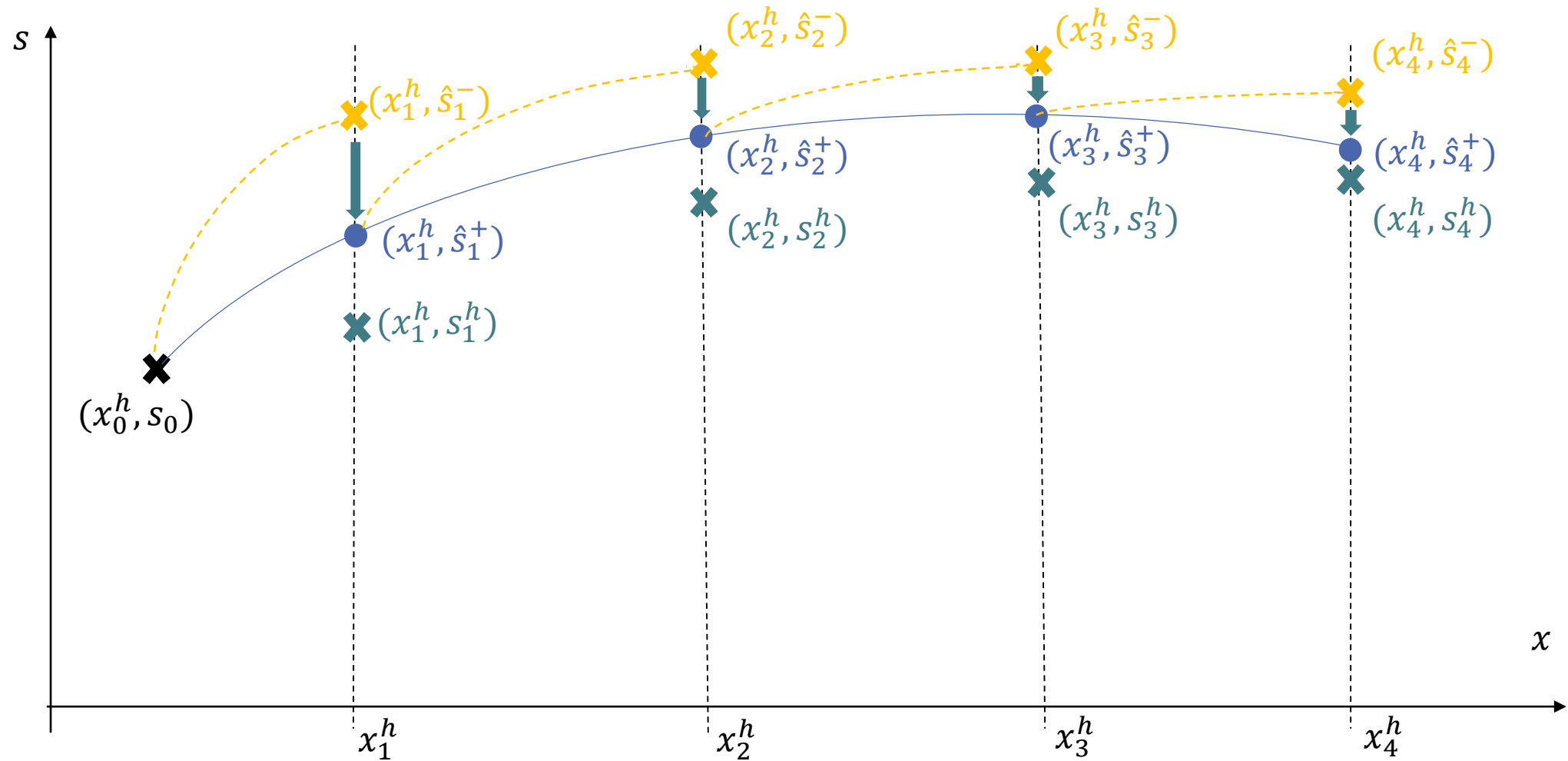
STATE VECTOR

$$\hat{x}_k^+ = \hat{x}_k^- + K_k \tilde{y}$$

COVARIANCE MATRIX

$$P_k^+ = (1 - K_k H_k) P_k^-$$

KALMAN FILTER IN GENERAL



KALMAN FILTER APPLICATION

- We want to apply the extended Kalman filter to the motion of a charged particle in the magnetic field

$$\begin{cases} x = x_0 + r \tan \lambda (\phi - \phi_0) \\ y = y_c - r \cos \phi \\ z = z_c + r \sin \phi \end{cases}$$

TRACK PARAMETERS

We apply the Kalman filter to track candidates, consisting of groups of TPC clusters, which are identified and put together during the reconstruction process. Each step of the Kalman filter algorithm is identified by one of these TPC clusters

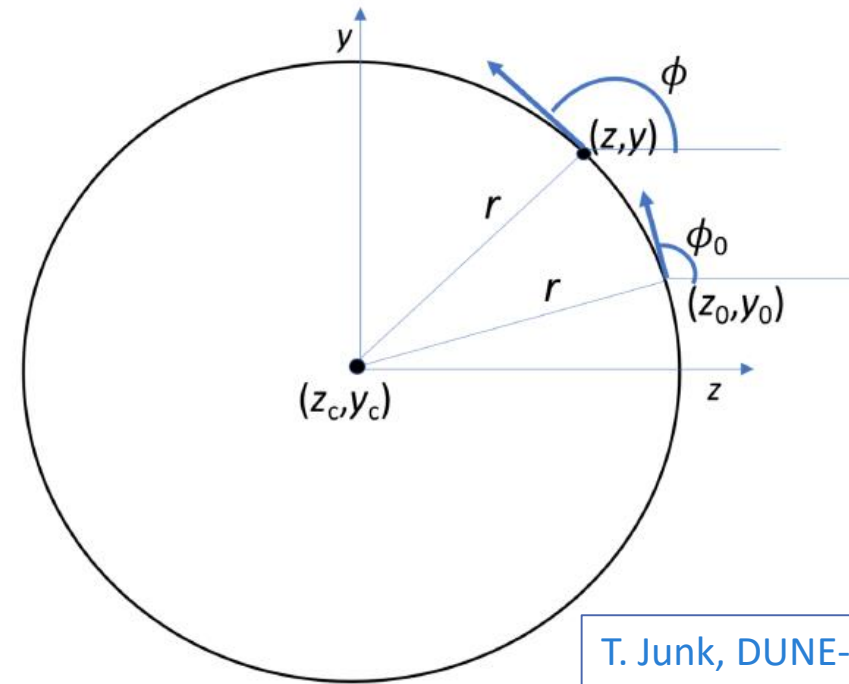


FIG. 1: Track parameter definitions in the (z, y) plane.

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KALMAN FILTER APPLICATION: INITIAL ESTIMATES

- Before the Kalman filter algorithm can be applied, we need an **initial estimate** for the **state vector**, which in our case includes $y, z, 1/r, \phi$ and λ and the **covariance matrix**

STATE VECTOR

$$x_0^T = (y_0 \quad z_0 \quad 1/r_0 \quad \phi_0 \quad \lambda_0) = (0 \quad 0 \quad 0.1 \quad 0 \quad 0)$$

COVARIANCE
MATRIX

$$P_0 = \begin{pmatrix} 1^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1^2 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0.5^2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.5^2 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0.5^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

- The estimated quantities from the state vector can be used to estimate the particle's momentum

$$\begin{cases} p_x = p_T \tan \lambda \\ p_y = p_T \sin \phi \\ p_z = p_T \cos \phi \end{cases}$$

$$p_T(\text{GeV}/c) = 0.3 \times B(T) \times r(m)$$

KALMAN FILTER APPLICATION: PREDICTION AND MEASUREMENT

- From the equation of motion we obtain the [prediction function for our state vector](#).

$$\hat{x}_k^- = f \begin{pmatrix} \hat{y}_{k-1}^+ \\ \hat{z}_{k-1}^+ \\ 1/\hat{r}_{k-1}^+ \\ \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ \\ \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+ \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \hat{y}_{k-1}^+ + dx_k \times \cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1} \times \sin \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ \\ \hat{z}_{k-1}^+ + dx_k \times \cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1} \times \cos \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ \\ 1/\hat{r}_{k-1}^+ \\ \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ + dx_k \times \cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1} \times \sin \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ \\ \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+ \end{pmatrix}$$

Note: the prediction model does not account for dE/dx energy loss

- The [only measured quantities in our case are y and z](#), and are set at the center of the TPC cluster correspondent to the present step.

$$z_k = \begin{pmatrix} y_k^h \\ z_k^h \end{pmatrix}$$

KALMAN FILTER APPLICATION: KINEMATIC FIT

- Each algorithm step corresponds to a TPC cluster. The x coordinate is treated as independent and used to identify the step width dx . The step width is determined for each algorithm step, so that it minimizes:

$$\Delta = \left[\frac{(x_k^h - \hat{x}_k^-)^2}{\sigma_x} \right] + \left[\frac{(y_k^h - \hat{y}_k^-)^2}{\sigma_{yz}} \right] + \left[\frac{(z_k^h - \hat{z}_k^-)^2}{\sigma_{yz}} \right]$$

$$= \left[\frac{(dx_k)^2}{\sigma_x} \right] + \left[\frac{(y_k^h - \hat{y}_{k-1}^+ + dx_k \times \cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1} \times \sin \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+)^2}{\sigma_{yz}} \right] + \left[\frac{(z_k^h - \hat{z}_{k-1}^+ + dx_k \times \cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1} \times \sin \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+)^2}{\sigma_{yz}} \right]$$

$\sigma_x = 0.5\text{cm}$ and $\sigma_{yz} = 1\text{cm}$ are arbitrary values, which do not coincide with the TPC values in the R matrix

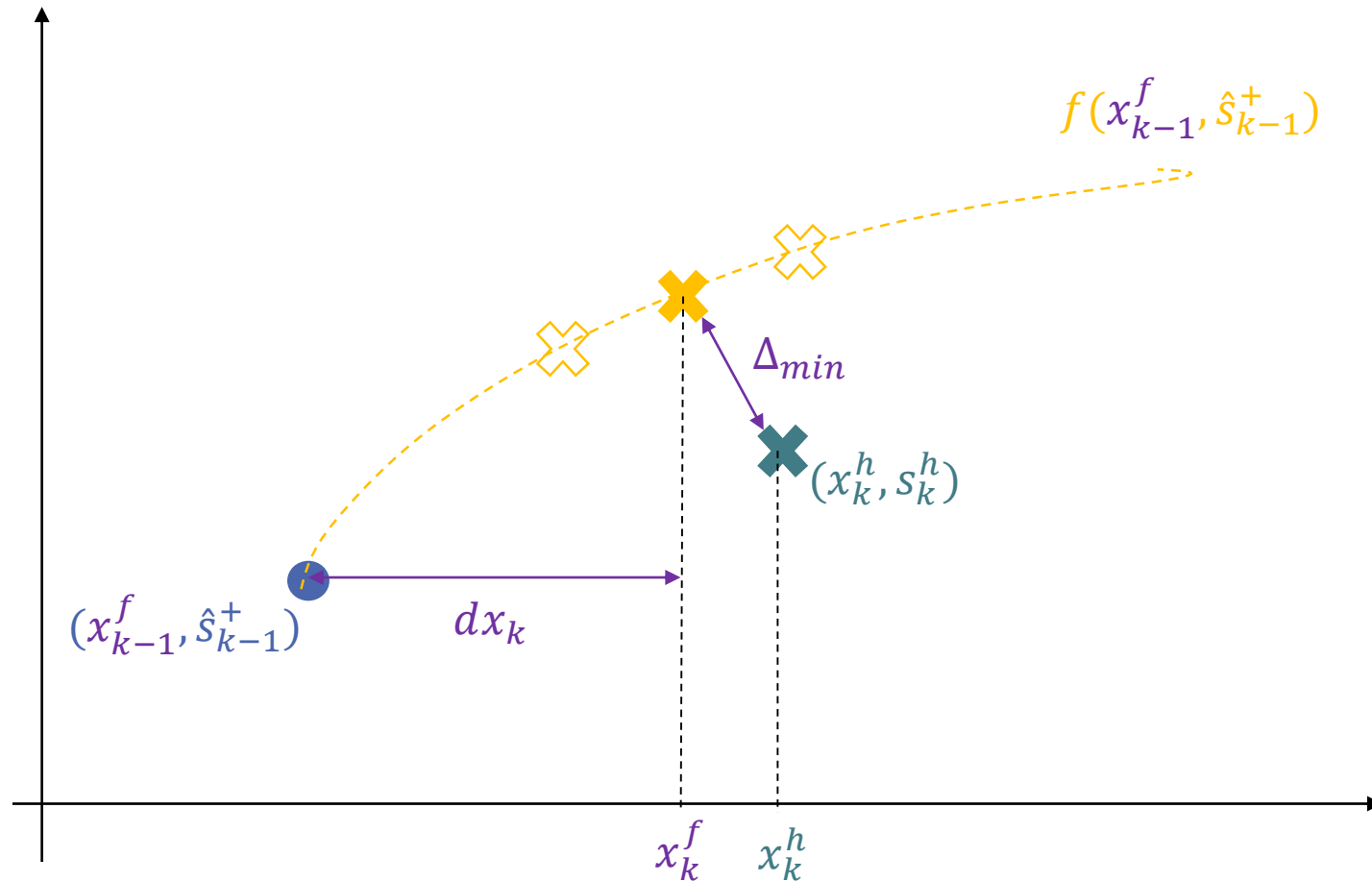
- We call this procedure **kinematic fit** (note that this is not part of the Kalman Filter but runs alongside it):

$$\frac{d\Delta}{d(dx_k)} = 0$$



$$dx_k = \frac{\left(\frac{\cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+}{\sigma_{yz}^2} \left((y_k^h - \hat{y}_{k-1}^+) \sin \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ + (z_k^h - \hat{z}_{k-1}^+) \cos \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ \right) \right) + \frac{(x_k^h - \hat{x}_{k-1}^+)}{\sigma_x^2}}{\cot^2 \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+ / \sigma_{yz}^2 + 1 / \sigma_x^2}$$

KALMAN FILTER: KINEMATIC FIT



$$x_k^f = x_{k-1}^f + dx_k$$

dx_k is taken such that the distance between the a priori prediction $f(x_{k-1}^f, \hat{s}_{k-1}^+)$ and the measurement (x_k^h, s_k^h) is minimized

KALMAN FILTER APPLICATION: COVARIANCE MATRIX PREDICTION

- First step to make the prediction for the covariance matrix is to calculate the **Jacobian**

$$F_{k-1} = \frac{\partial f(\hat{x}_{k-1}^+)}{\partial \hat{x}_{k-1}^+} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & dx_k \cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+ \cos \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ & dx_k \sin \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ (-1 - \cot^2 \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+) \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -dx_k \cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+ \sin \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ & dx_k \cos \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ (-1 - \cot^2 \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+) \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & dx_k \cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+ & 1 & dx_k / \hat{r}_{k-1}^+ (-1 - \cot^2 \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+) \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

- The **step uncertainty matrix** is also needed

$$Q = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sigma_{\Delta 1/r} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sigma_{\Delta \phi} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \sigma_{\Delta \lambda} \end{bmatrix}$$

- The prediction is then:

$$P_k^- = F_{k-1} P_{k-1} F_{k-1}^T + Q$$

KALMAN FILTER APPLICATION: EVALUATE THE RESIDUAL

- We now evaluate the **residual** and **Kalman Gain**

RESIDUAL

$$\tilde{y}_k = z_k - H(\hat{x}_k^-) = \begin{pmatrix} y_k^h - \hat{y}_k^- \\ z_k^h - \hat{z}_k^- \end{pmatrix}$$

KALMAN GAIN

$$K_k = P_k^- H(R + HP_k^- H^T)^{-1}$$

With:

$$R = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_{yz}^2 & 0 \\ 0 & \sigma_{yz}^2 \end{pmatrix}$$

MEASUREMENT NOISE COVARIANCE

$$H = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

CONVERSION MATRIX

Note: The uncertainties in R are fixed, before the Kalman filter is applied, as external parameters: R is not updated.

KALMAN FILTER APPLICATION: PREDICTION UPDATE

- We are now finally able to [update our estimates](#) using both the a priori prediction and the measurement

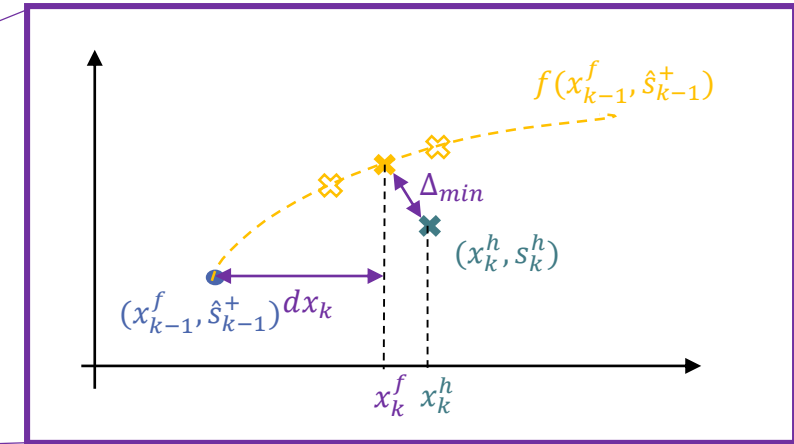
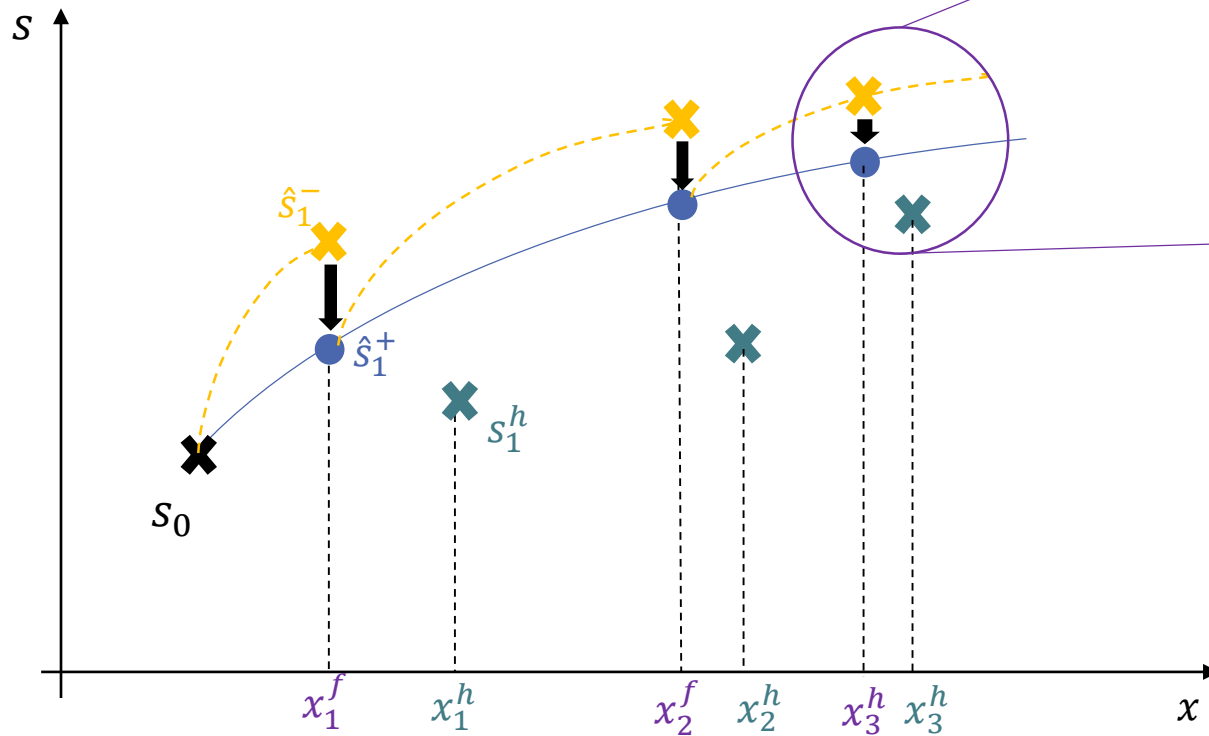
STATE VECTOR

$$\hat{x}_k^+ = \hat{x}_k^- + K_k \tilde{y}_k$$

COVARIANCE MATRIX

$$P_k^+ = (1 - H_k K_k) P_k^-$$

OUR KALMAN FILTER: VISUALIZATION



KINEMATIC FIT
+
STANDARD KALMAN FILTER
=
OUR KALMAN FILTER

KALMAN FILTER APPLICATION: χ^2

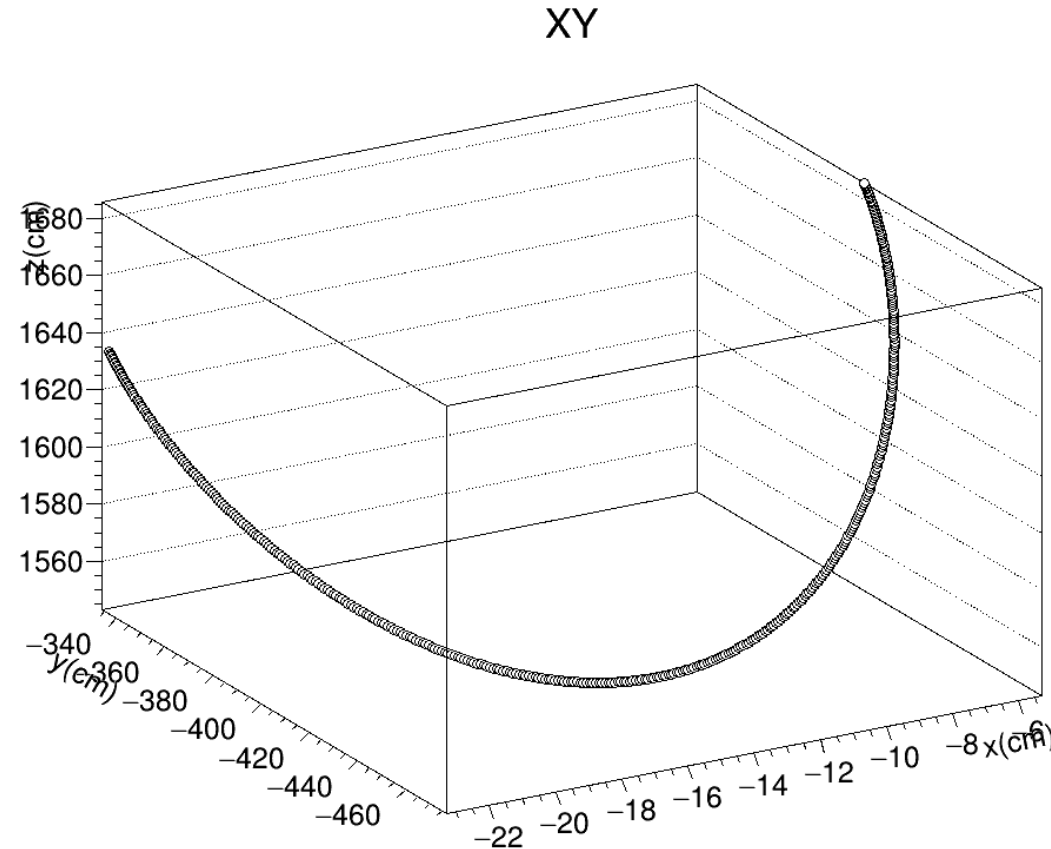
- The Kalman filter algorithm is applied to the track candidate **both ways** (i.e. From first TPC cluster to last and vice versa) and each time a χ^2 **value** is calculated

$$\chi^2 = \frac{\sum |\tilde{y}_k|^2}{\sum |y_k^{typ}|^2}$$

- Where y_k^{typ} is the residual typical value which depends on the particle trajectory position in the detector and the tracking planes (fixed values evaluated a priori)

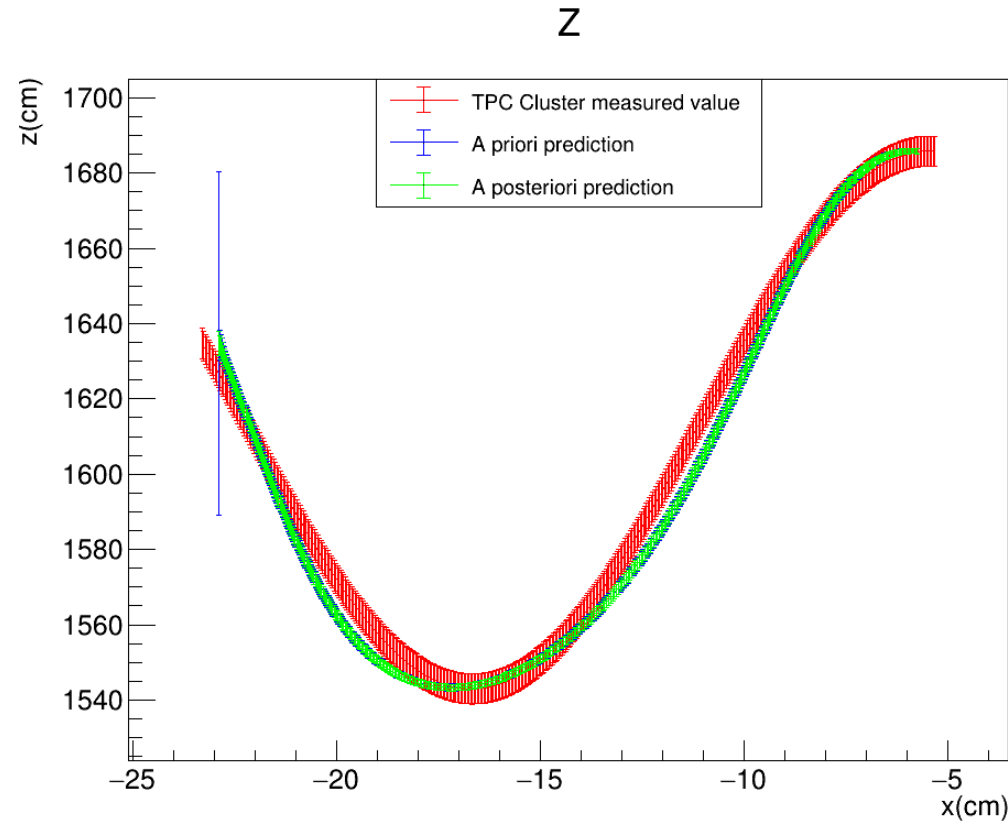
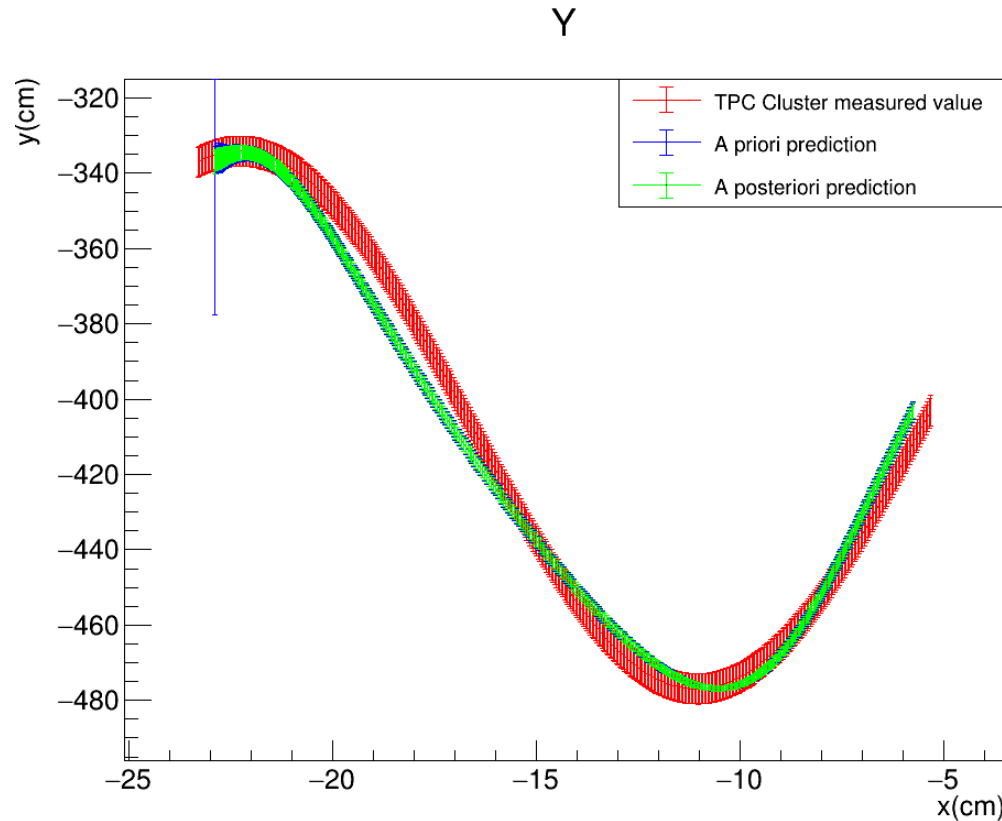
TOY MONTECARLO

- Applied Kalman Filter to [ideal measurements following perfectly an helix](#) with initial coordinates: $x_i^T = (y_i \quad z_i \quad 1/r_i \quad \phi_i \quad \lambda_i) = (y_1^h \quad z_1^h \quad 0.014 \text{ cm}^{-1} \quad 6 \text{ rad} \quad -0.05 \text{ rad})$ and the free parameter $x_i = x_1^h$ and the step $dx = 0.04 \text{ cm}$



TOY MONTECARLO

- Plots describing the evolution of the estimate of the **measured quantities** (y, z) as a function of the **free parameter** x for the perfect helix. Note that the fake TPC points have on the x coordinate the fake measured value, while for the estimates we use the estimated x (i.e. $x_k = x_0 + k \times dx_k$)



Note: the ‘TPC Cluster measured values’ are from a Toy Montecarlo, so the red error bars are just dummy values

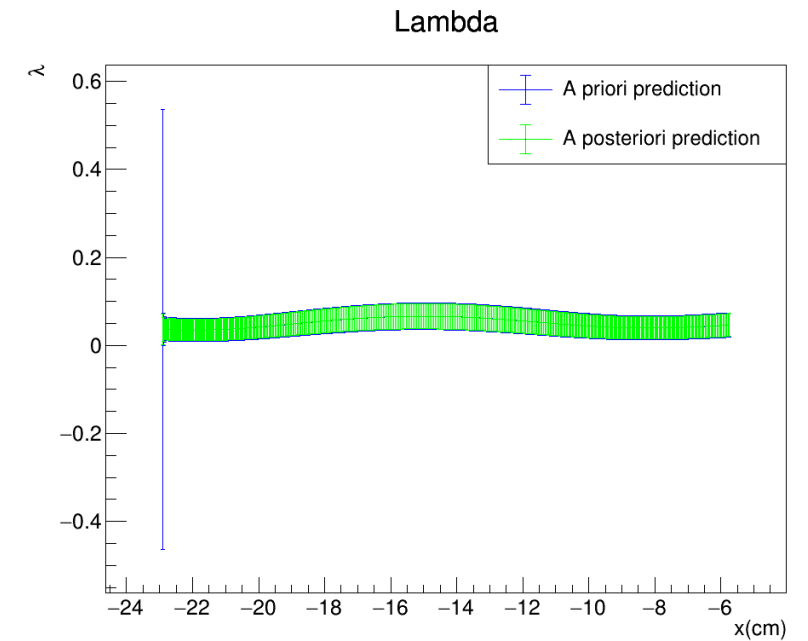
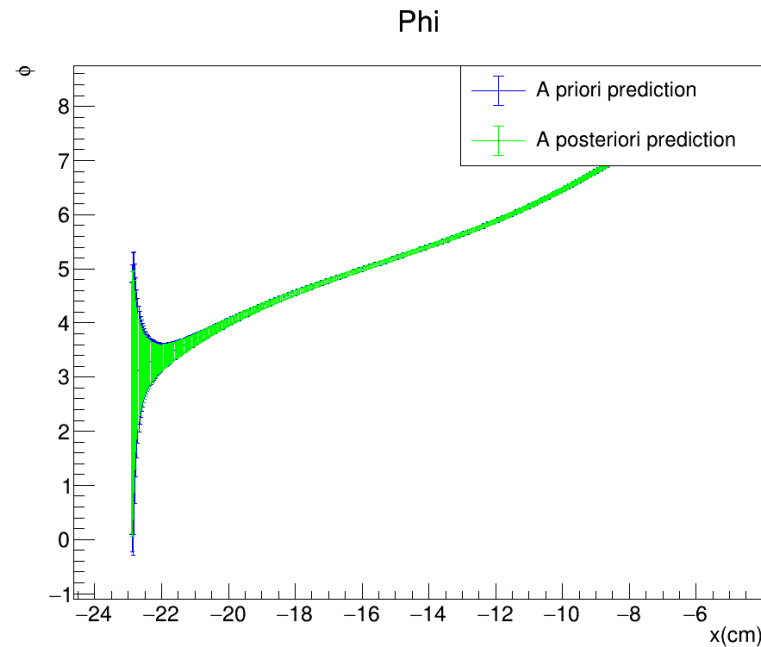
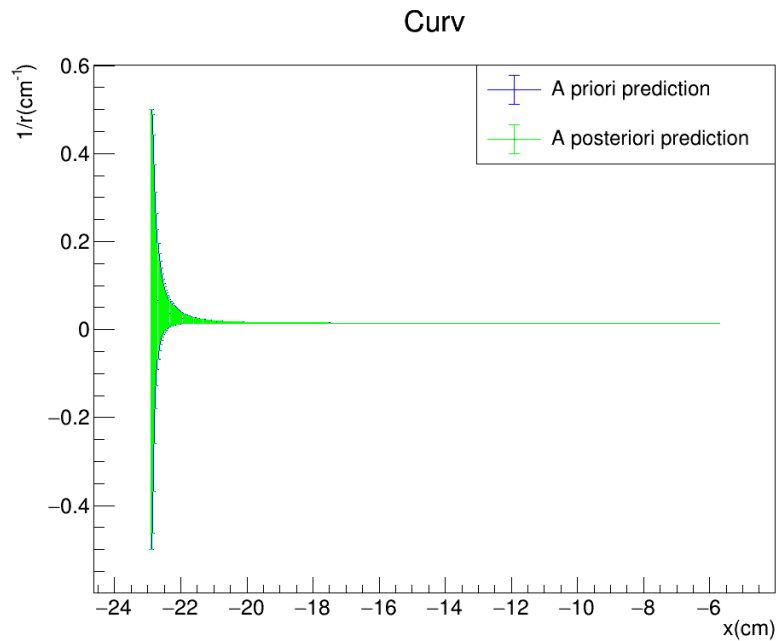


FITTER PROPAGATION DIRECTION

$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5\text{cm}, 1\text{cm})$$

TOY MONTECARLO

- Plots describing the evolution of the estimate of the **non measured quantities** $(\frac{1}{r}, \phi, \lambda)$ as a function of the **free parameter** x for the **perfect helix**

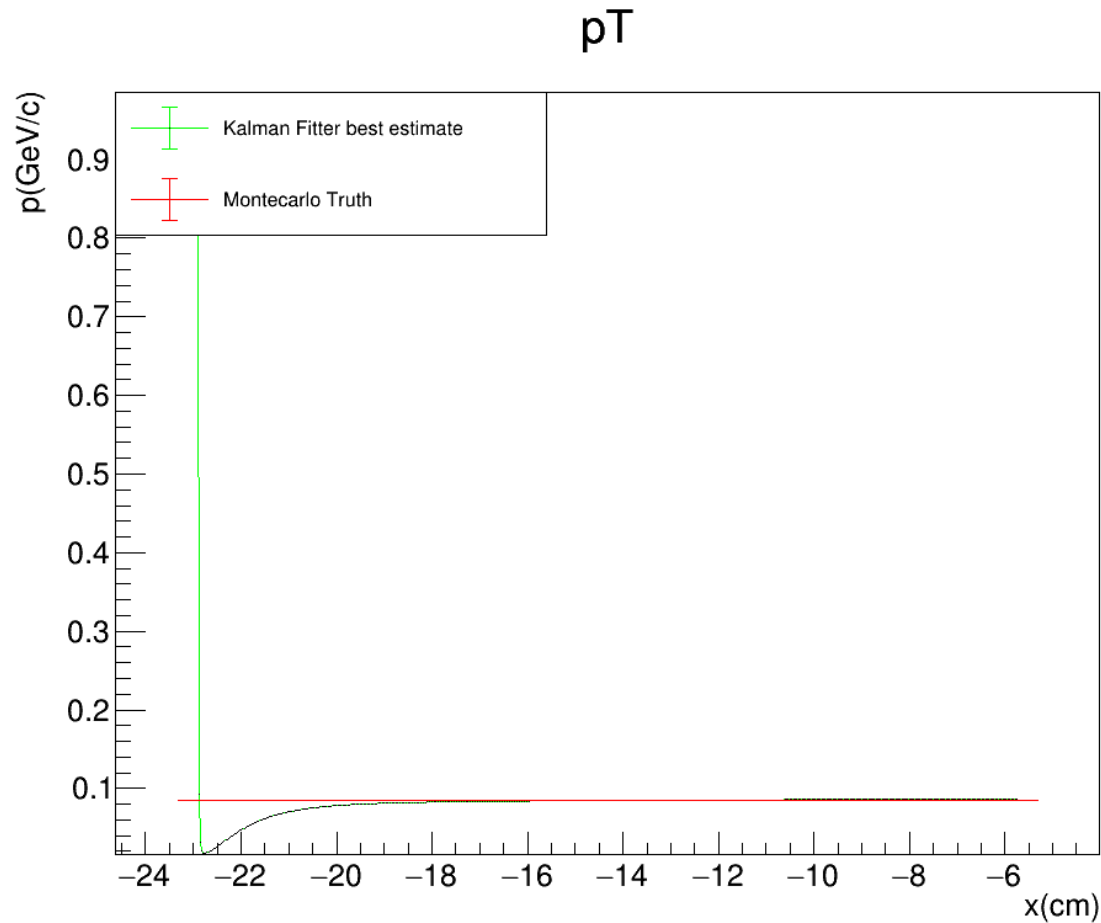


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FITTER PROPAGATION DIRECTION

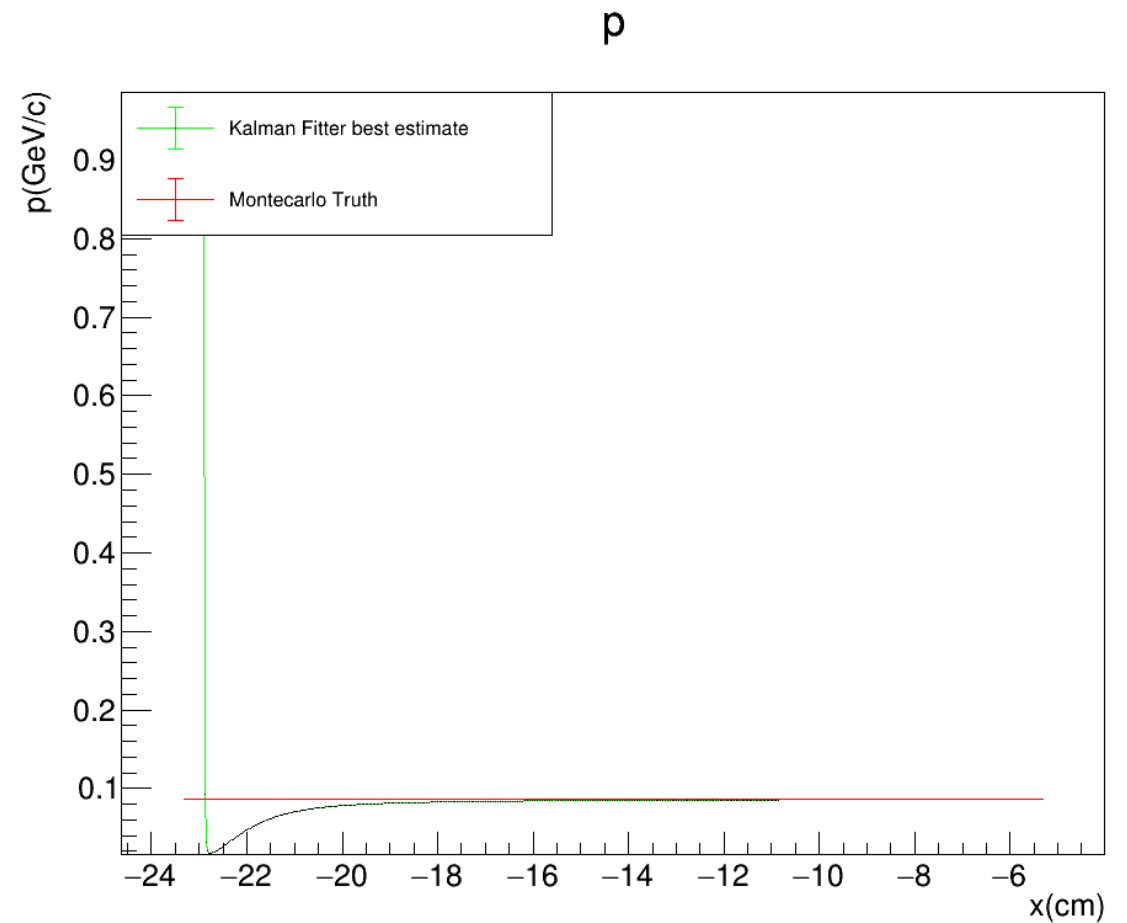
TOY MONTECARLO

- Plots comparing the **reconstructed transverse momentum p_T** and the **reconstructed total momentum p_T** from the Kalman fitter algorithm to the **MC truth** as a function of the **free parameter x**



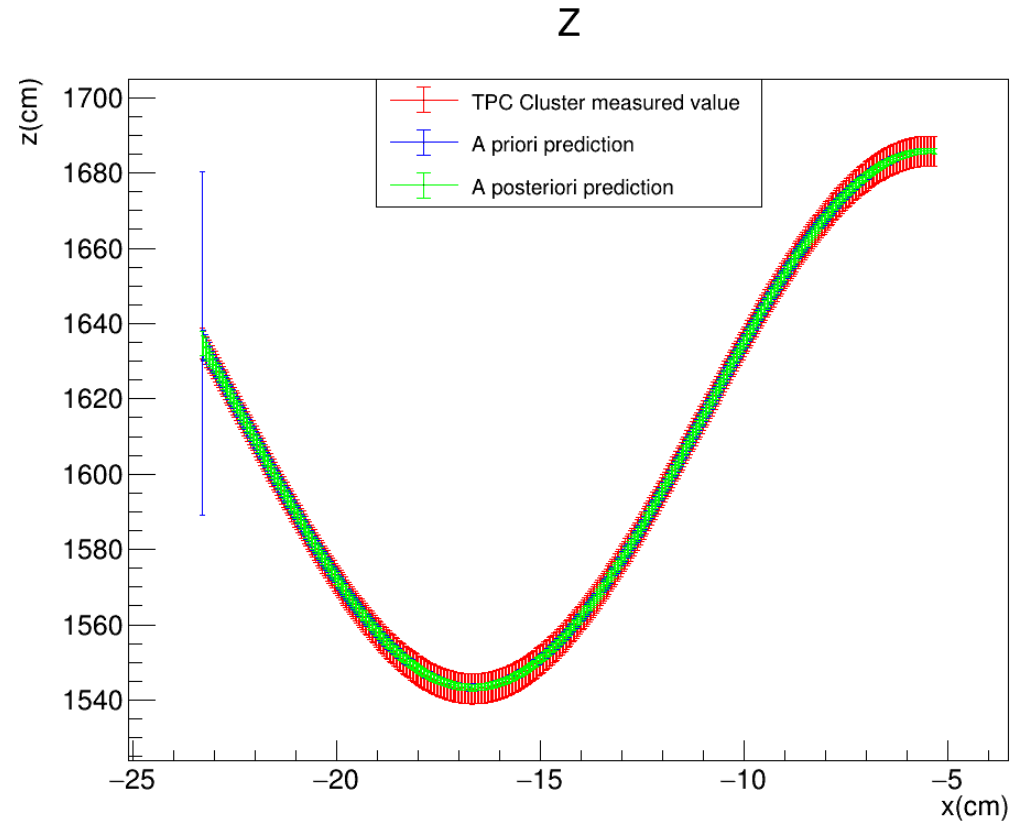
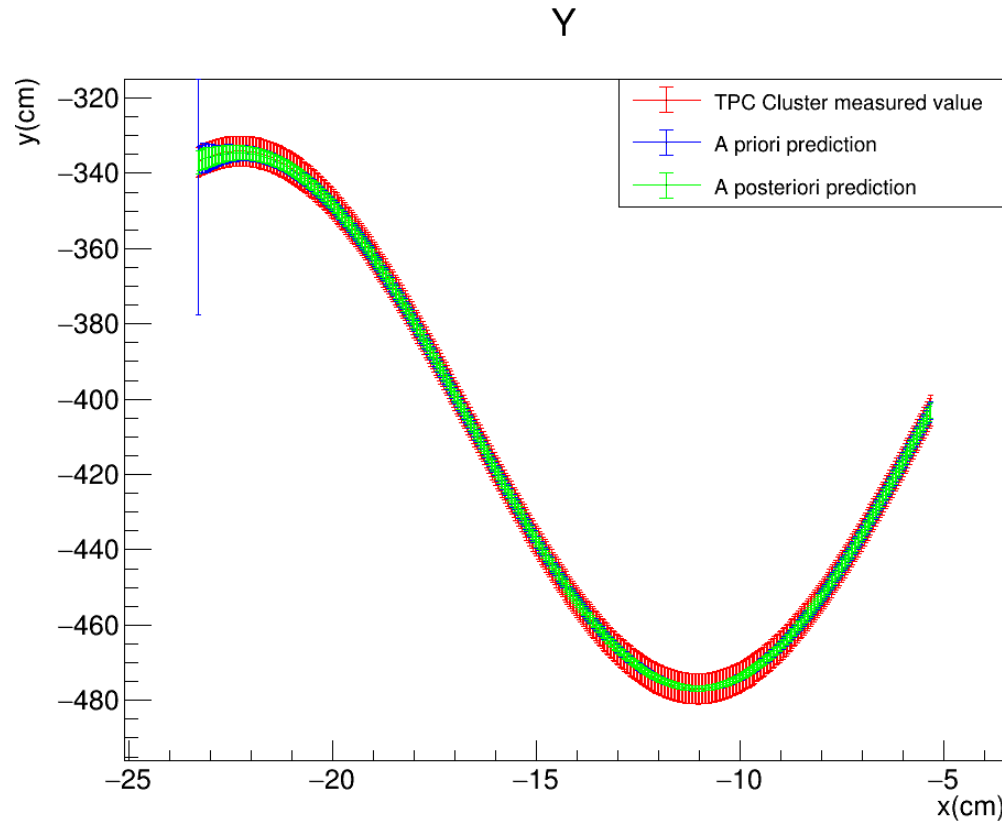
$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5\text{cm}, 1\text{cm})$$

FORWARD FIT



TOY MONTECARLO

- Plots describing the evolution of the estimate of the **measured quantities** (y, z) as a function of the **free parameter** x for the perfect helix. This time both the fake TPC points and the predictions have on the x coordinate the fake measured value: **the predictions for the state vector are working fine, while the kinematic fit prediction for the free parameter is failing**



$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5\text{cm}, 1\text{cm})$$



FITTER PROPAGATION DIRECTION

TOY MONTECARLO: UNDERSTANDING STEP DETERMINATION

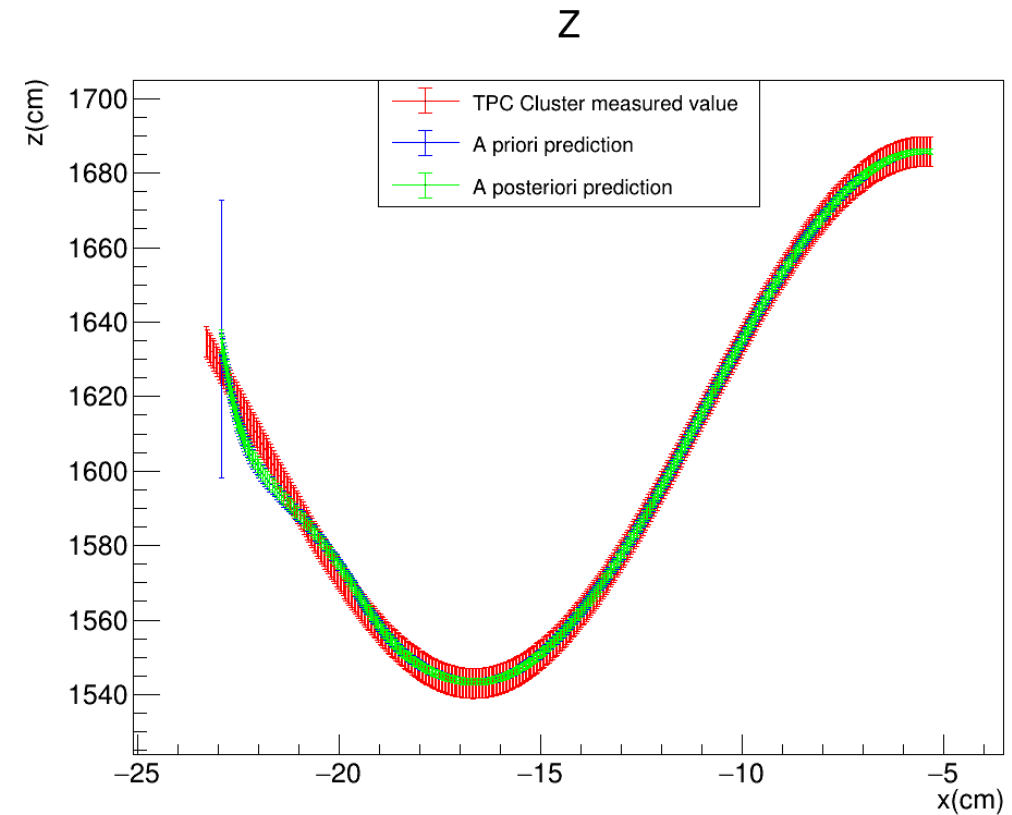
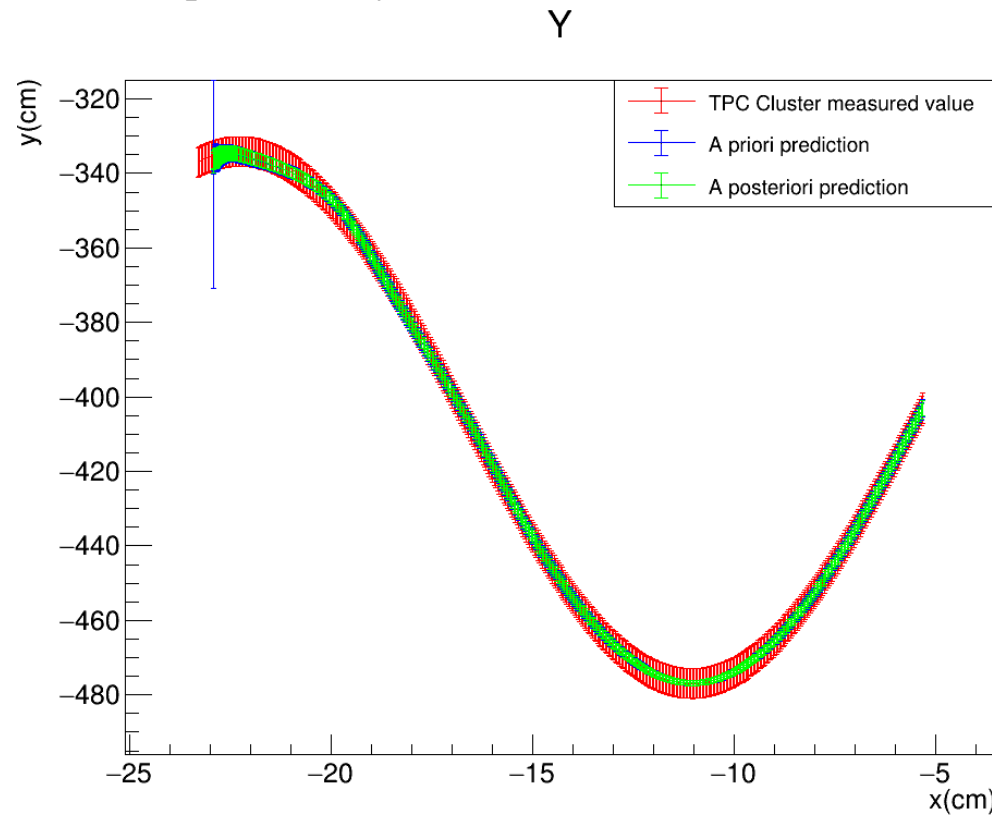
- The dx_k update formula can be divided into two parts: one that depends on the evolution of the x free parameter, and one on the measured quantities y and z

$$dx_k = \frac{\frac{\cot \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+}{\sigma_{yz}^2} \left((y_k^h - \hat{y}_{k-1}^+) \sin \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ + (z_k^h - \hat{z}_{k-1}^+) \cos \hat{\phi}_{k-1}^+ \right)}{\cot^2 \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+ / \sigma_{yz}^2 + 1 / \sigma_x^2} + \frac{\frac{(x_k^h - \hat{x}_{k-1}^+)}{\sigma_x^2}}{\cot^2 \hat{\lambda}_{k-1}^+ / \sigma_{yz}^2 + 1 / \sigma_x^2} = dx_{yz} + dx_x$$

- The values of σ_x and σ_{yz} determine how much the update is influenced by the measured values of x or of y and z respectively
- With the current sigma values ($\sigma_x = 0.5cm$ and $\sigma_{yz} = 1cm$) dx_{yz} completely dominates, being often 2 or 3 orders of magnitude larger than dx_x : this gives us fairly accurate predictions for y and z , but completely wrong ones for x , because the fit can never recover from a bad initial estimate for the free parameter

TOY MONTECARLO: UNDERSTANDING STEP DETERMINATION

- In order for the x parameter to have more weight in the update of dx_k , changed the value of σ_{yz} from 1cm to 4cm, leaving $\sigma_x = 0.5\text{cm}$
- The fit initially concentrates on fixing the x prediction until that becomes accurate, and then it focuses on yz, reaching similar levels of precision by the end



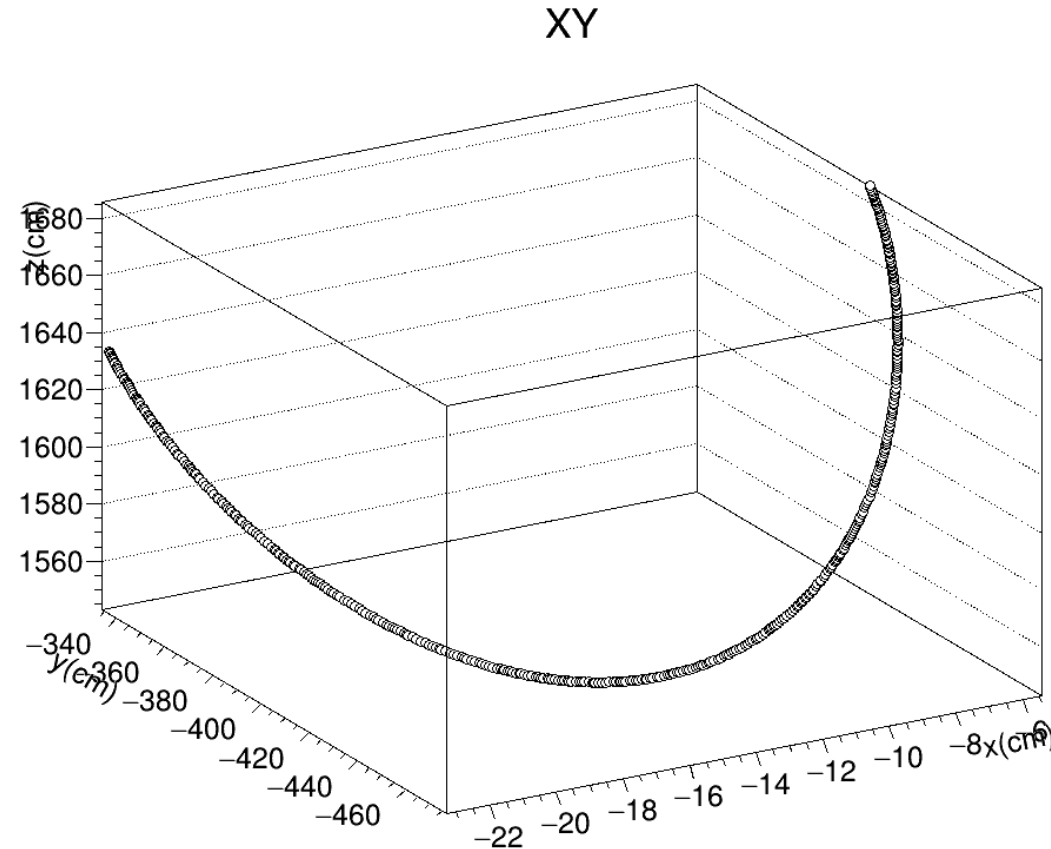
$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5\text{cm}, 4\text{cm})$$



FITTER PROPAGATION DIRECTION

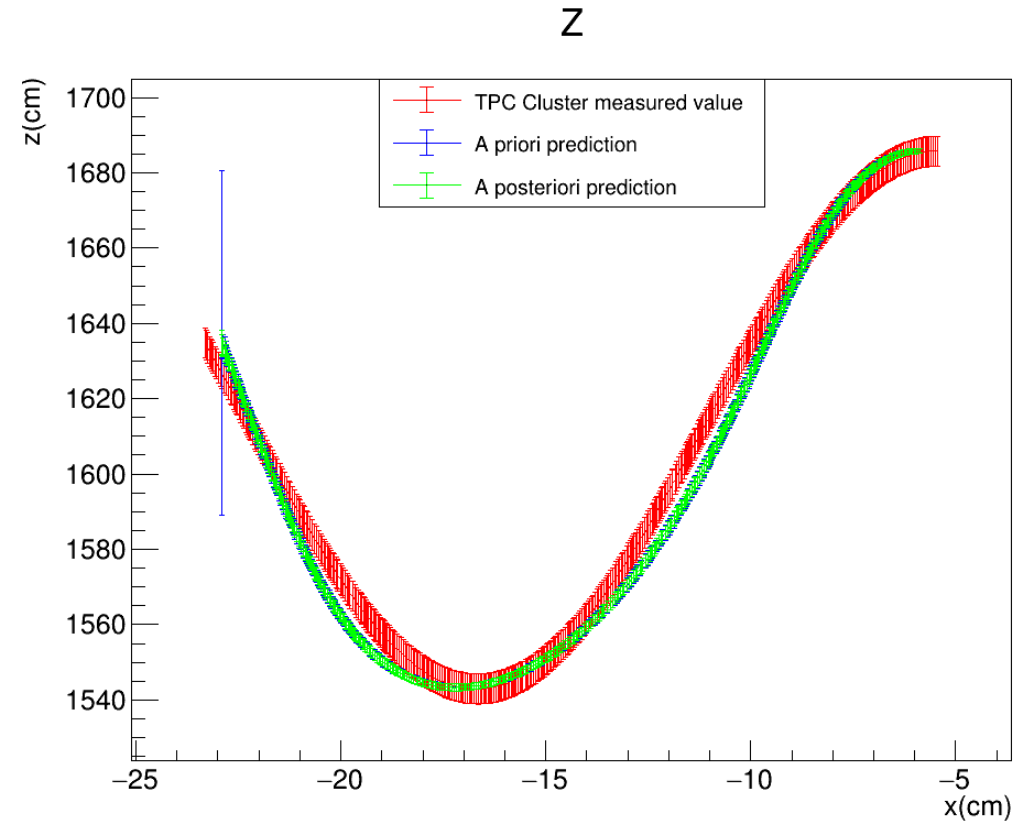
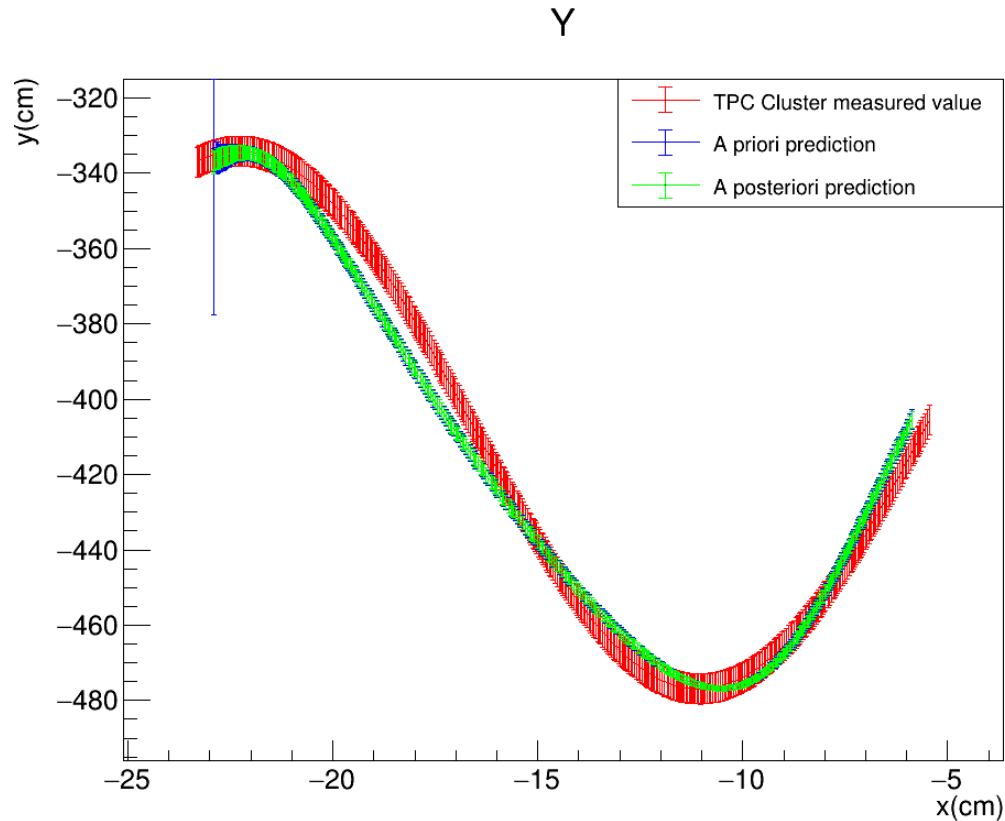
RANDOMIZED X STEP

- Now we try applying Kalman Filter to **ideal measurements following perfectly an helix** with initial coordinates: $x_i^T = (y_i \ z_i \ 1/r_i \ \phi_i \ \lambda_i) = (y_1^h \ z_1^h \ 0.014 \text{ cm}^{-1} \ 6 \text{ rad} \ -0.05 \text{ rad})$ and the free parameter $x_i = x_1^h$ but with a **randomized step dx uniformly distributed between 0.02cm and 0.06cm**



RANDOMIZED X STEP

- Plots describing the evolution of the estimate of the **measured quantities** (y, z) as a function of the **free parameter** x for the perfect helix. Note that the fake TPC points have on the x coordinate the fake measured value, while for the estimates we use the estimated x (i.e. $x_k = x_0 + k \times dx_k$)



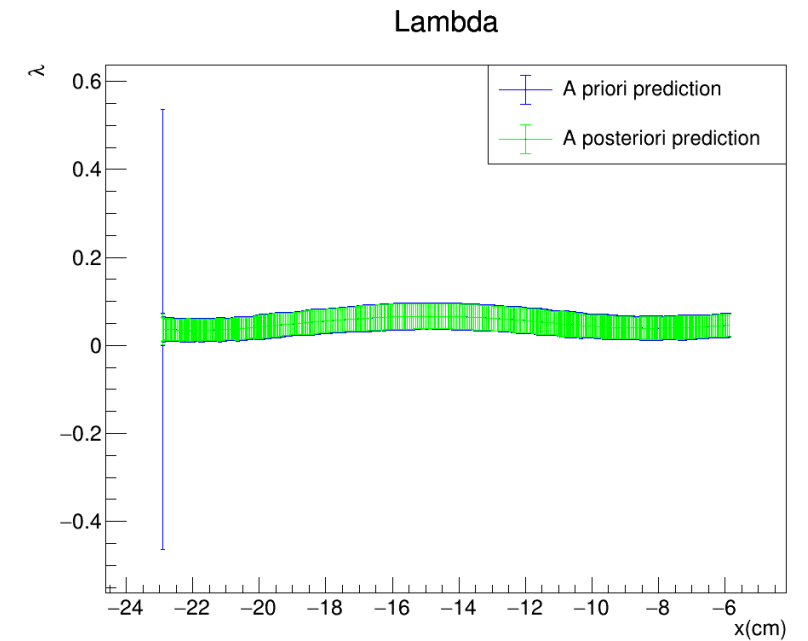
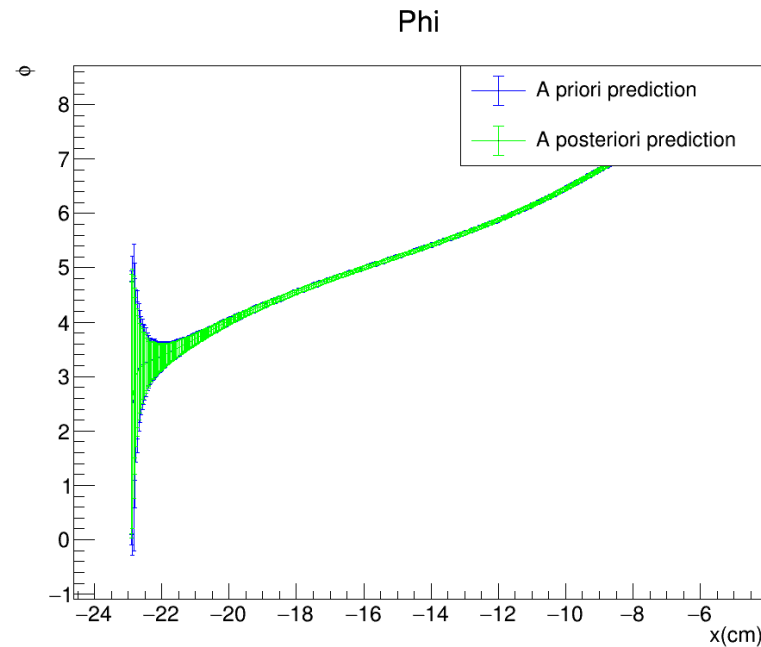
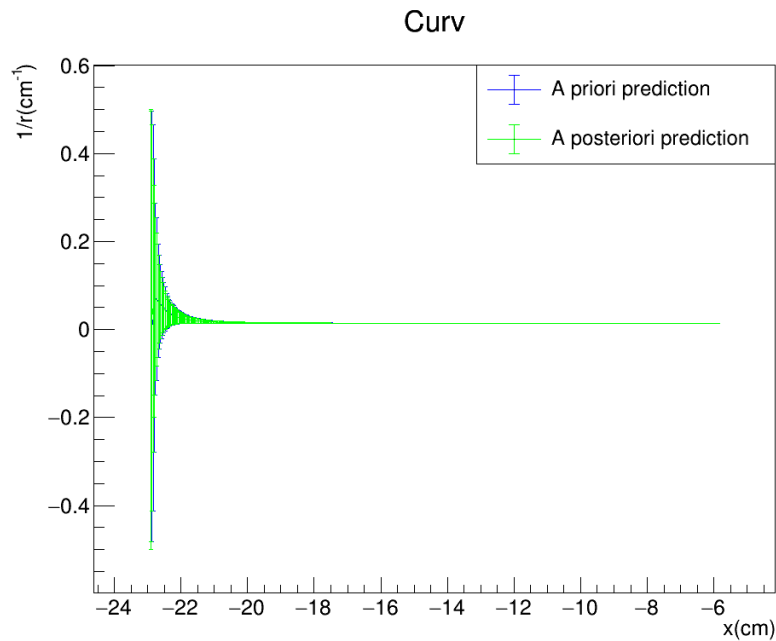
$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5\text{cm}, 1\text{cm})$$



FITTER PROPAGATION DIRECTION

RANDOMIZED X STEP

- Plots describing the evolution of the estimate of the **non measured quantities** $(\frac{1}{r}, \phi, \lambda)$ as a function of the **free parameter** x for the **perfect helix**

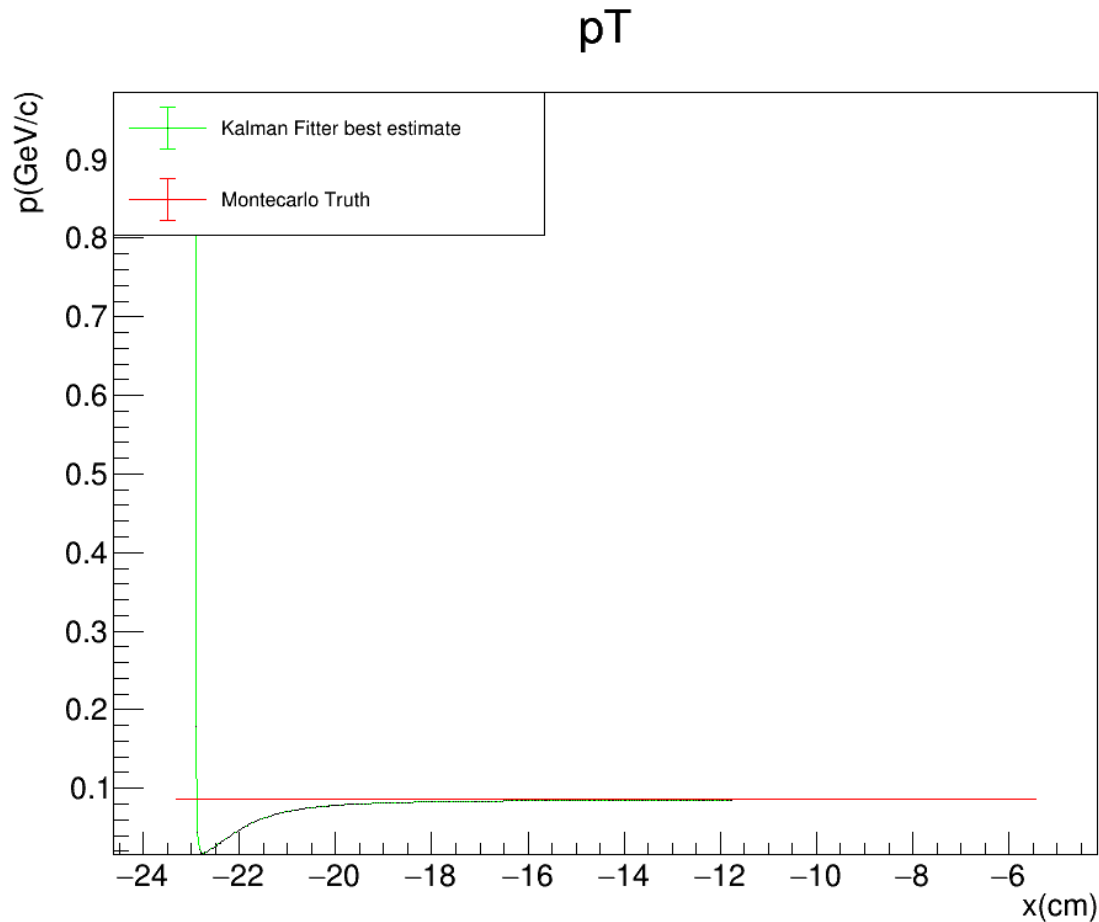


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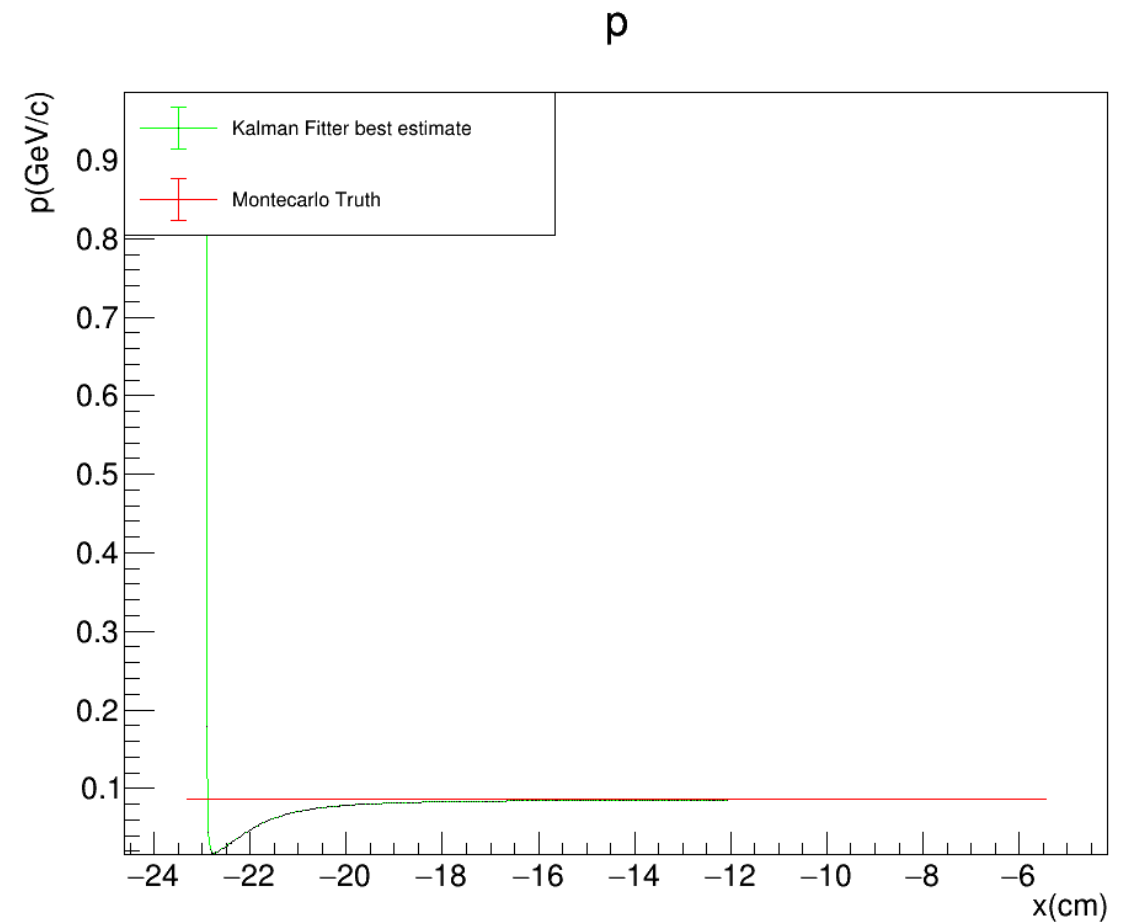
FITTER PROPAGATION DIRECTION

RANDOMIZED X STEP

- Plots comparing the **reconstructed transverse momentum p_T** and the **reconstructed total momentum p_T** from the Kalman fitter algorithm to the **MC truth** as a function of the **free parameter x**



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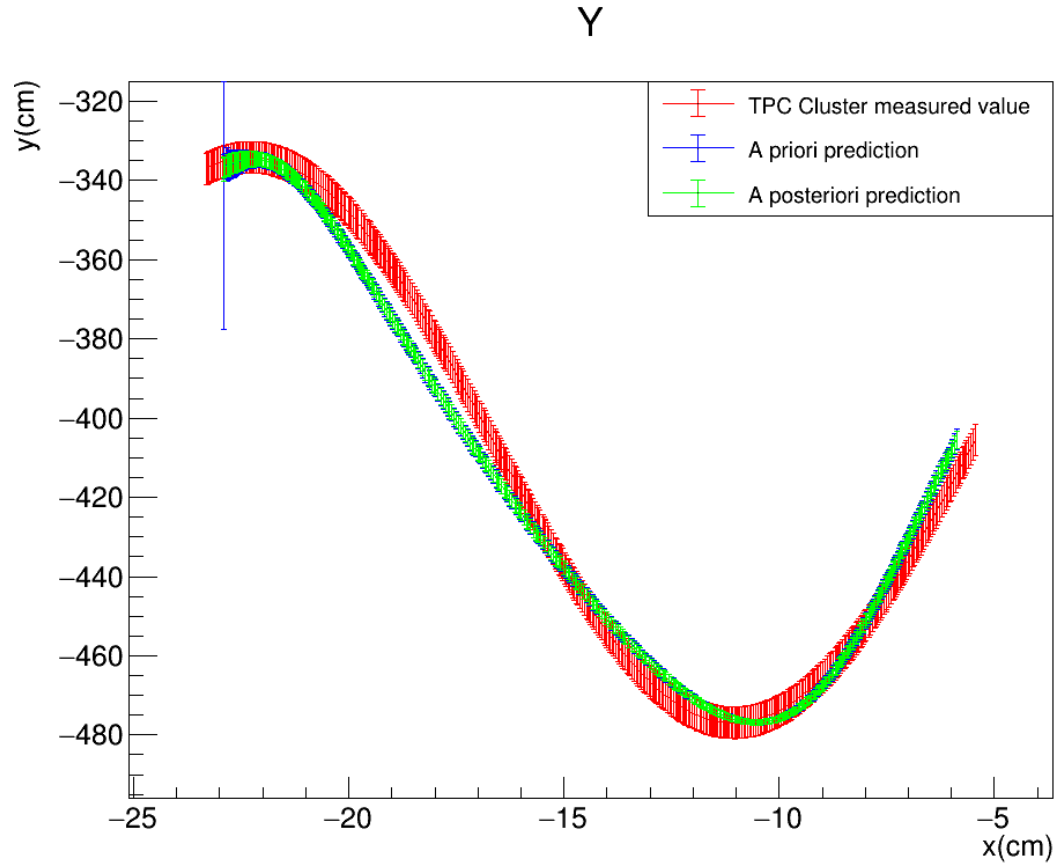


FORWARD FIT

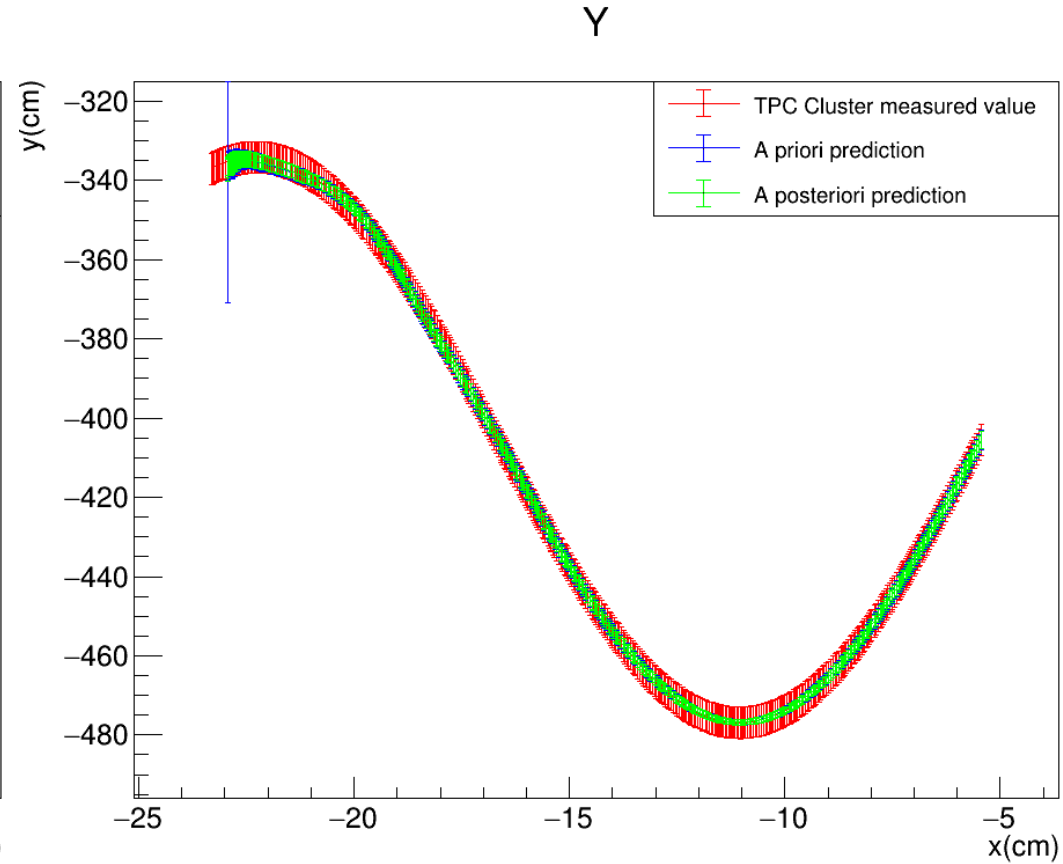


RANDOMIZED X STEP

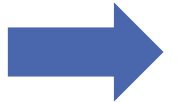
- Reapplying the fit with the new $\sigma_{yz} = 4\text{cm}$ we see that the 3D predictions are more in line with the Montecarlo truth, past the first few steps



$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5\text{cm}, 1\text{cm})$$



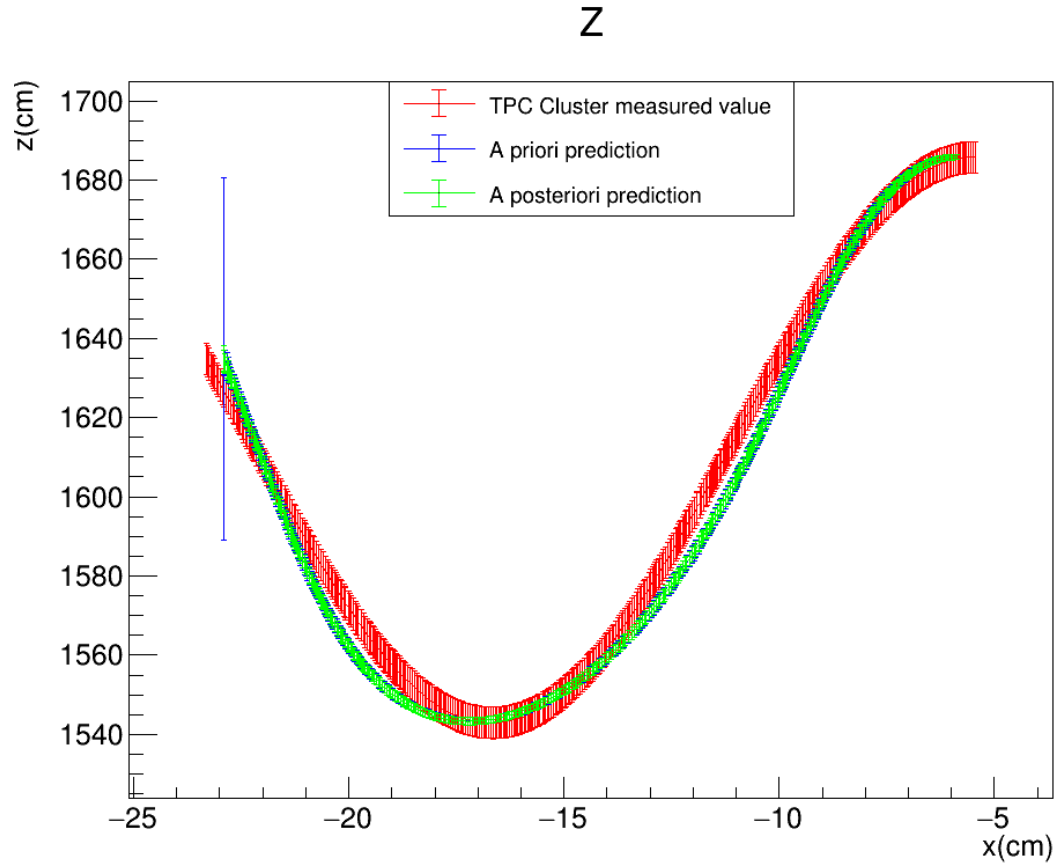
$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5\text{cm}, 4\text{cm})$$



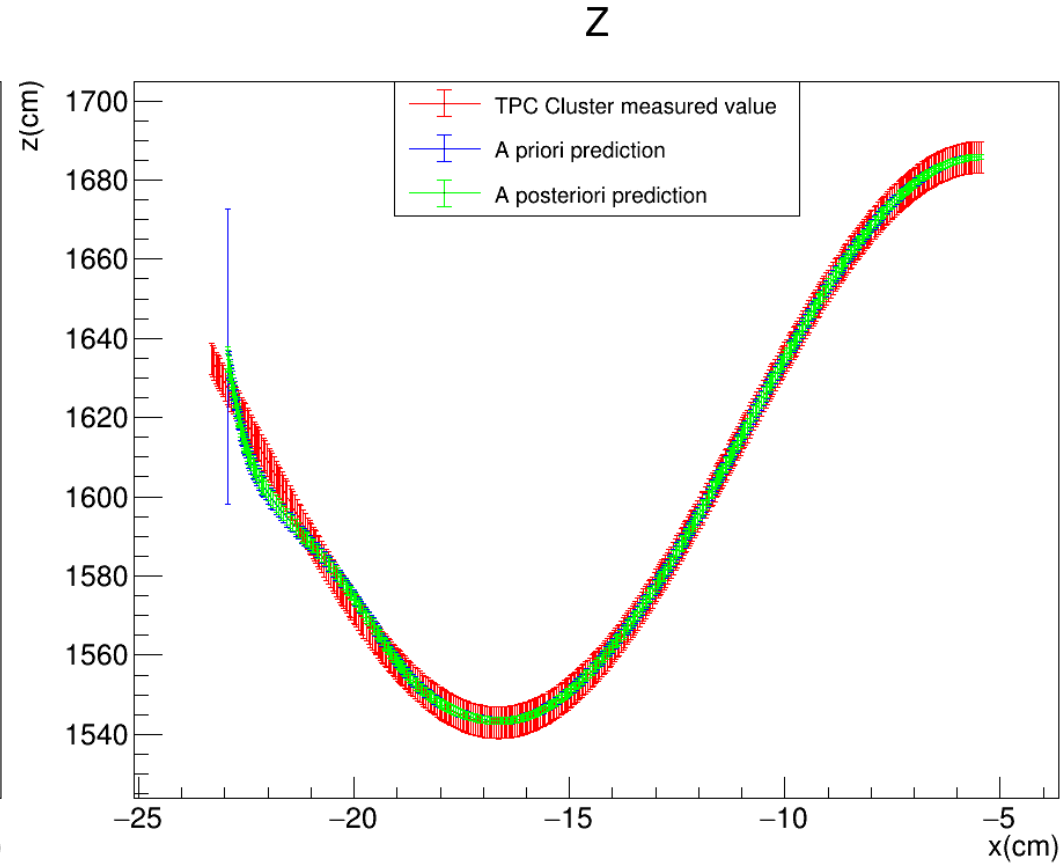
FITTER
PROPAGATION
DIRECTION

RANDOMIZED X STEP

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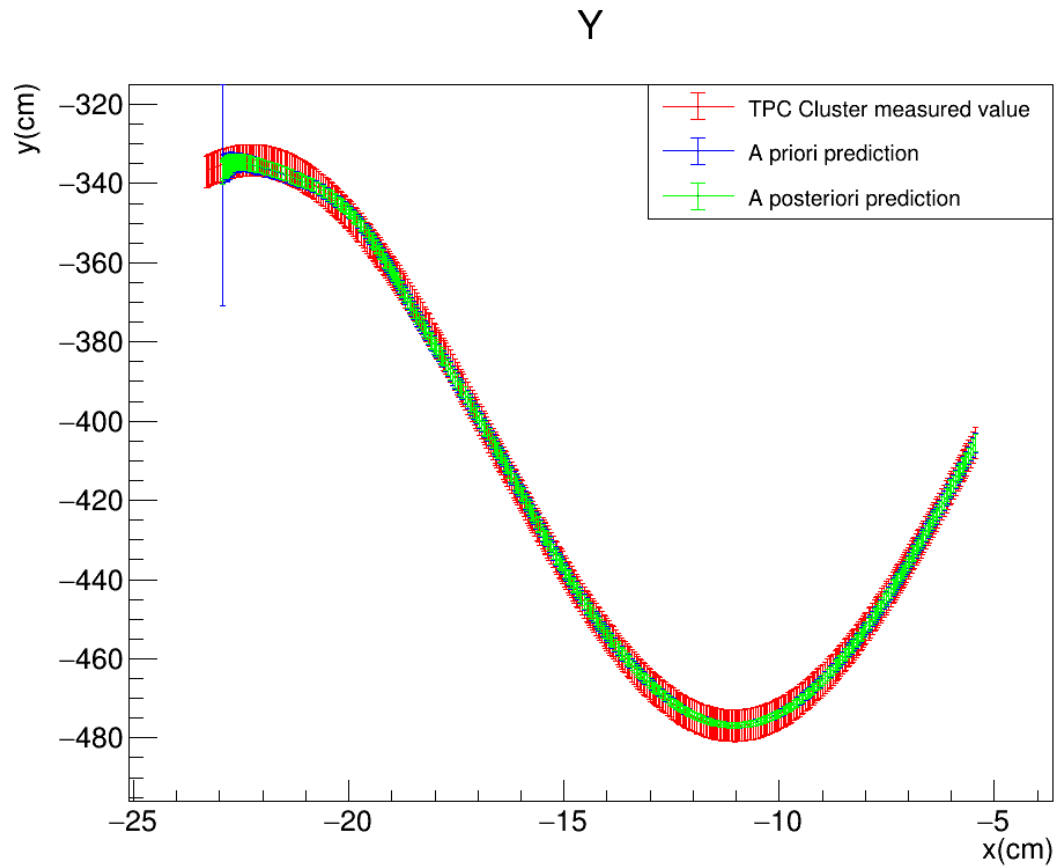


$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5\text{cm}, 4\text{cm})$$

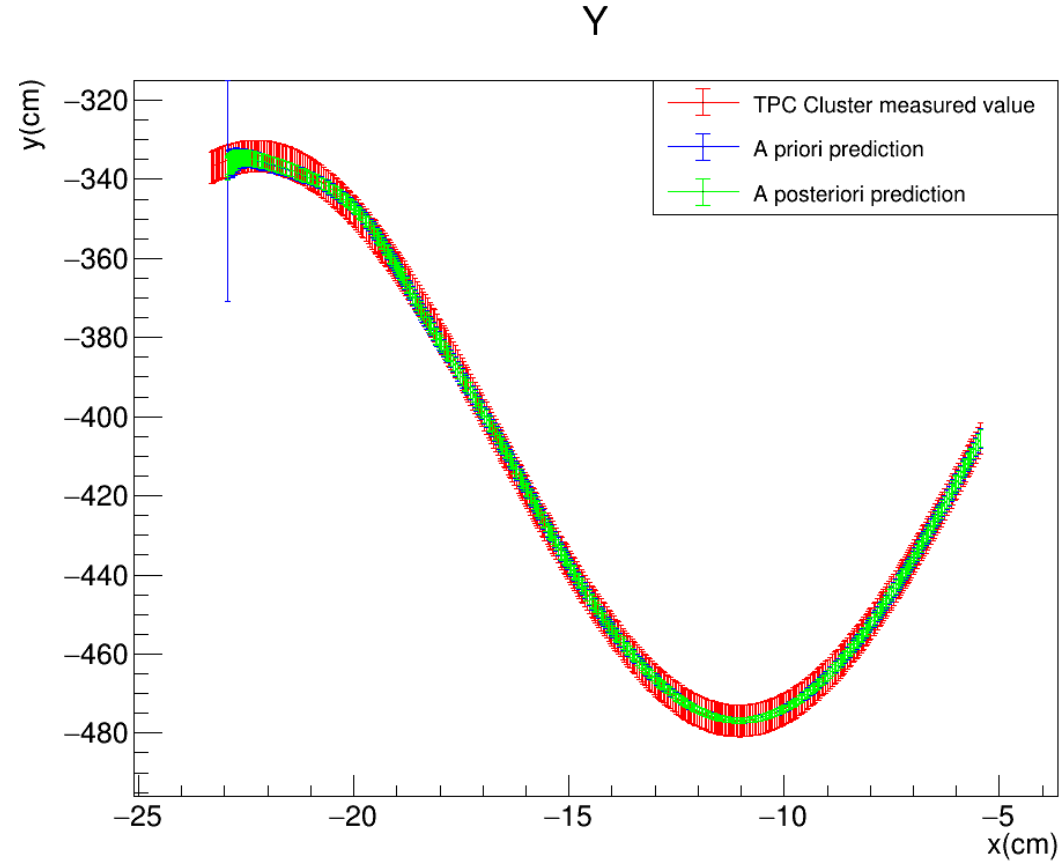

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RANDOMIZED X STEP: TESTING THE RATIO

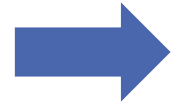
- Since σ_x and σ_{yz} are essentially weights, **only their ratio σ_x/σ_{yz} should matter**. To test this we try the pair $(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (1cm, 8cm)$ which has the same ratio as $(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5cm, 4cm)$



$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5cm, 4cm)$$



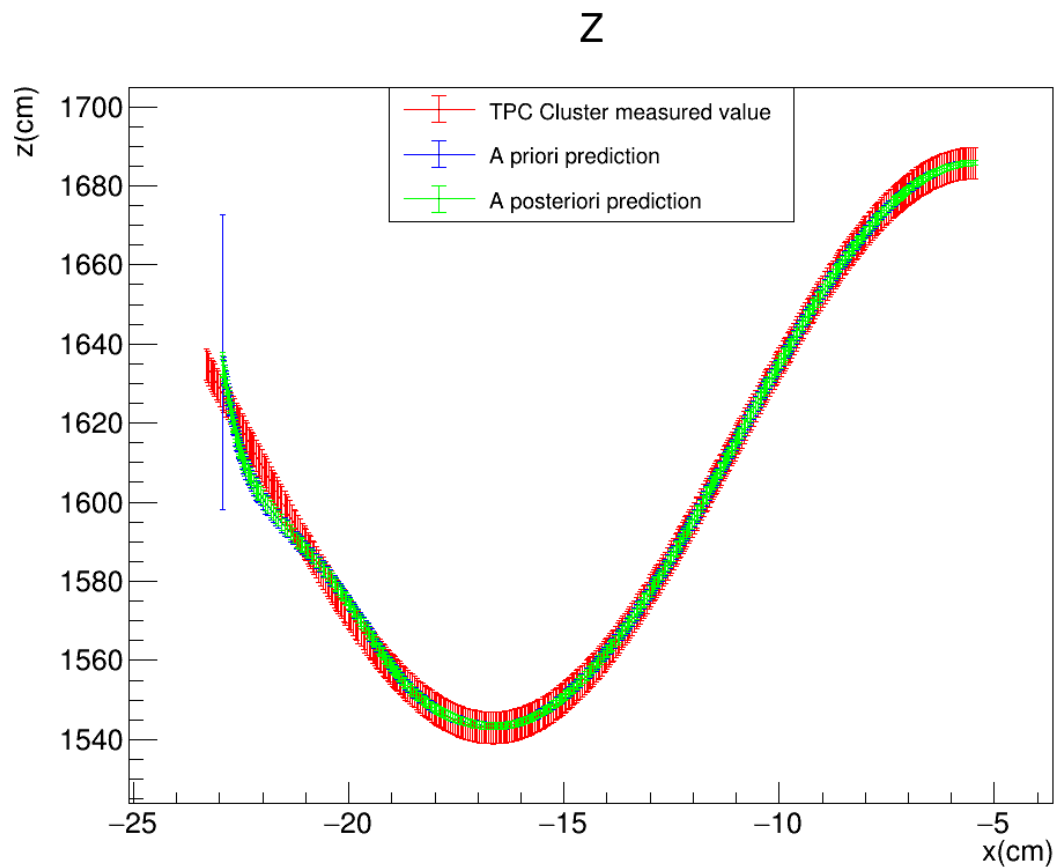
$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (1cm, 8cm)$$



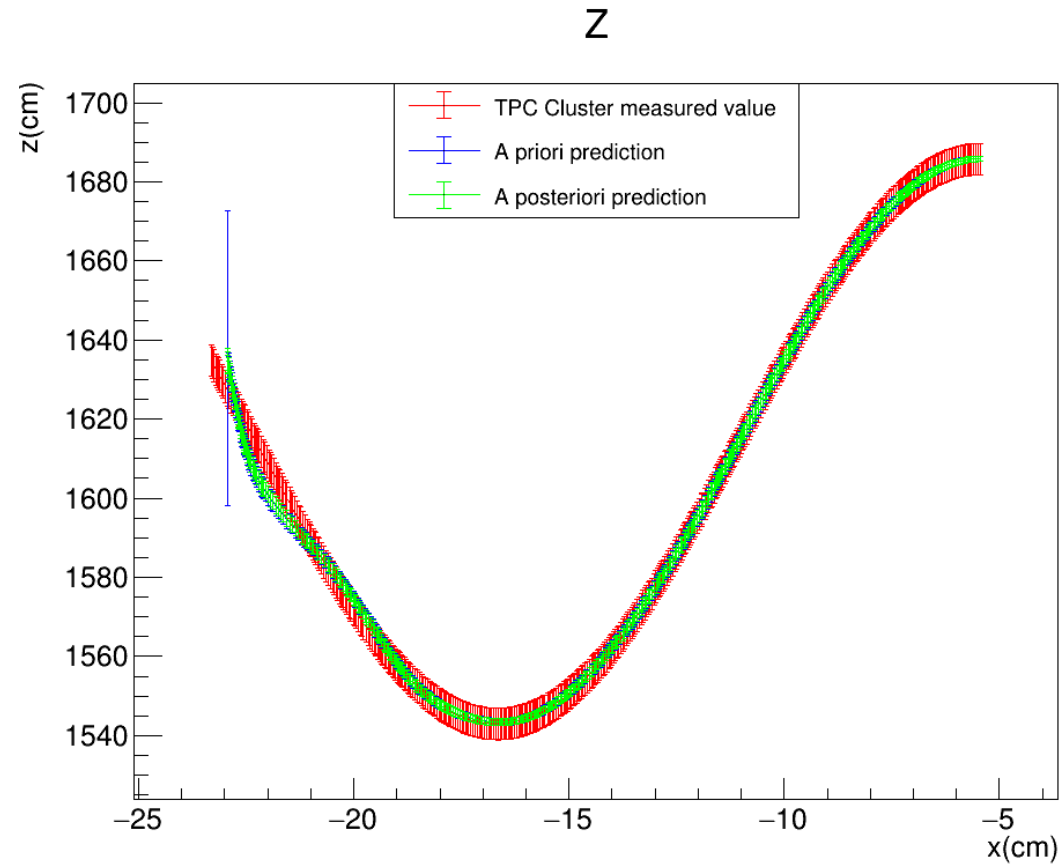
FITTER
PROPAGATION
DIRECTION

RANDOMIZED X STEP: TESTING THE RATIO

- Since σ_x and σ_{yz} are essentially weights, **only their ratio σ_x/σ_{yz} should matter**. To test this we try the pair $(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (1cm, 8cm)$ which has the same ratio as $(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5cm, 4cm)$



$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5cm, 4cm)$$



$$(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (1cm, 8cm)$$

➡
FITTER
PROPAGATION
DIRECTION

SUMMARY AND FUTURE STEPS

- The Kalman Filter now in use works in parallel with a Kinematic Fit which determines the evolution of the free parameter, minimizing the distance between the measured value and the a priori prediction
- The Kinematic fit is regulated by two weights σ_{yz} and σ_x whose ratio determines weather the fit is dominated by corrections related to the yz or the x measurements and predictions
- With the previous values of $(\sigma_x, \sigma_{yz}) = (0.5cm, 1cm)$ the Kalman Fit disregarded the x measurements in the update
 - Increasing the value of σ_{yz} , bringing the ratio from $\sigma_{yz}/\sigma_x = 2$ to $\sigma_{yz}/\sigma_x = 8$ the fit better takes into account the x measurements and follows the Montecarlo truth more closely
- Future steps:
 - The optimal ratio of σ_{yz}/σ_x needs to be found
 - A smeared helix Toy Montecarlo needs to be investigated
 - Other options for the free parameter need to be studied