

Introduction

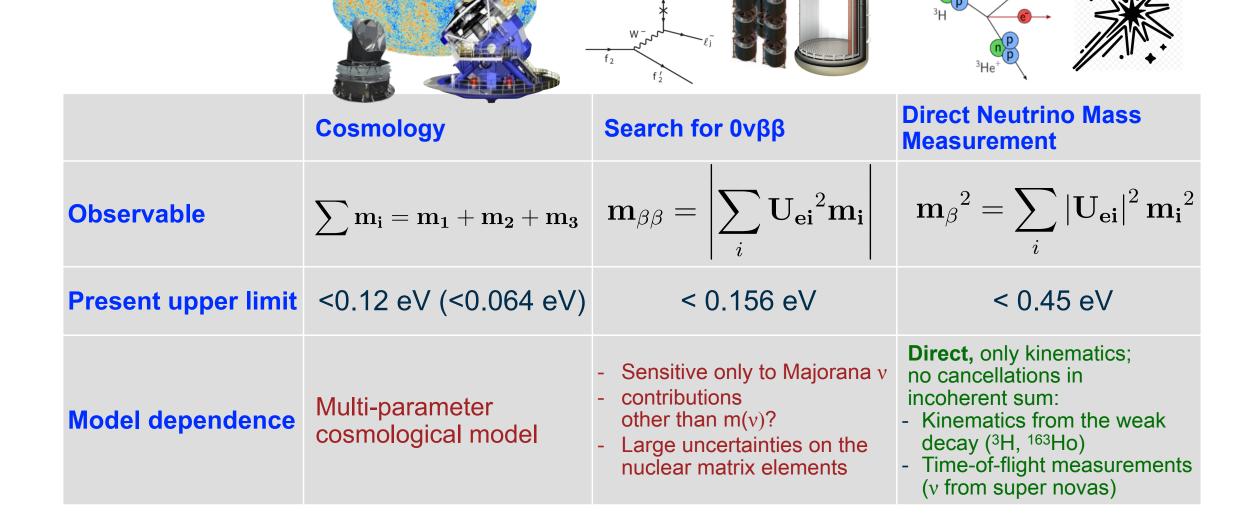
- Overview of the KATRIN experiment;
 - Observation of the **endpoint of the tritium β spectrum** weak decay kinematics;
 - High energy resolution achieved using a Magnetic Adiabatic Collimation with an Electrostatic (MAC-E) filter.
- KATRIN neutrino mass results KNM1-KNM5 released in 2024;
- KATRIN eV-scale sterile neutrino analysis (2025);
- 2026-2027: search for **keV-scale sterile** neutrinos

Future of the KATRIN experiment (R&D phase):

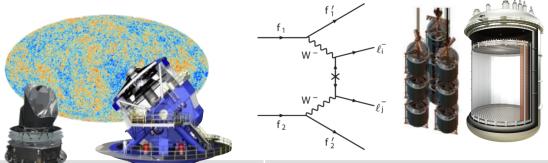
- Improved resolution through quantum sensors of the MMC type in a differential measurement approach;
- Reduced systematic uncertainties by employing an atomic tritium source instead of the current molecular source.

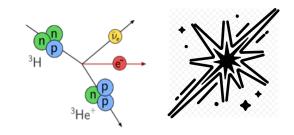


Neutrino Mass Observables



Neutrino Mass Observables





	Cosmology	Sparch for living	Direct Neutrino Mass Measurement
Observable	$\sum \mathrm{m_i} = \mathrm{m_1} + \mathrm{m_2} + \mathrm{m_3}$	$\mathbf{m}_{etaeta} = \left \sum_i \mathbf{U_{ei}}^2 \mathbf{m_i} ight $	$\mathbf{m_{eta}}^2 = \sum_i \mathbf{U_{ei}} ^2 \mathbf{m_i}^2$
Present upper limit	<0.12 eV (<0.064 eV)	< 0.156 eV	< 0.45 eV
Model dependence	Multi-parameter cosmological model	 Sensitive only to Majorana v contributions other than m(v)? Large uncertainties on the nuclear matrix elements 	 Direct, only kinematics; no cancellations in incoherent sum: Kinematics from the weak decay (³H, ¹⁶³Ho) Time-of-flight measurements (ν from super novas)

Limits from Cosmology

DR2 data from DESI (Dark Energy Spectroscopic Instrument)

- Galaxy survey
- Measurements of the baryon acoustic oscillations (BAO) in the redshift range at $z \sim 0.1$ -4.2
- Combined with CMB \rightarrow sensitive to $\Sigma m\nu$

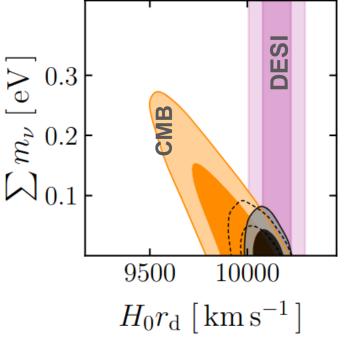
Result (assuming ΛCDM and three degenerate neutrino states) from 2025

$$\Sigma m_{\nu} < 0.0642 \text{ eV}$$

From neutrino oscillations:

- $\Sigma m_{\nu} > 0.0588 \text{ eV (Normal Ordering)}$
- $\Sigma m_{\nu} > 0.101 \text{ eV (Inverted Ordering)}$



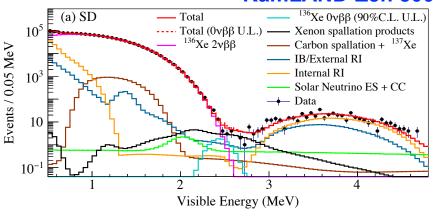


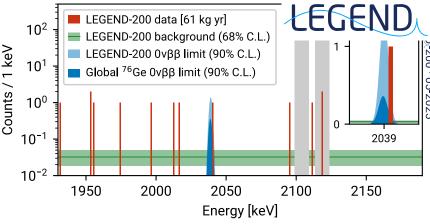
Limits from 0vββ

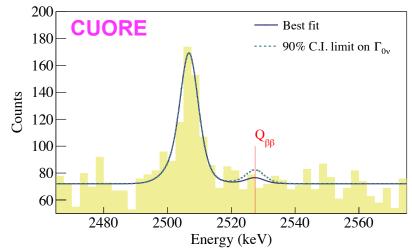
$$(T_{1/2}^{0\nu})^{-1} = g_A^4 G^{0\nu} |M^{0\nu}|^2 \frac{\langle m_{\beta\beta} \rangle^2}{m_e^2}$$

- 136**Xe** (Q-Value: 2.458 MeV)
 - KamLAND-Zen 800 (complete data set) complete dataset with 2.097 ton×yr of ¹³⁶Xe **2024** [1]
 - $T_{1/2} > 3.8 \times 10^{26}$ years (90% C.L.)
 - $m_{\beta\beta} > 0.028-0.122 \text{ eV } (90\% \text{ C.L.})$
- 76**Ge** (Q-Value: 2.039 MeV)
 - **LEGEND-200** 61 kg×yr of ¹³⁶Xe 2025 [2]
 - Limit: $T_{1/2} > 1.9 \times 10^{26}$ years
 - $m_{\beta\beta} > 0.075-0.200 \text{ eV} (90\% \text{ C.L.})$
- 130**Te** (Q-Value: 2.615 MeV)
 - CUORE 2 ton×yr of ¹³⁶Xe 2025 [2]
 - Limit: $T_{1/2} > 3.8 \times 10^{25}$ years
 - $m_{\beta\beta} > 0.070-0.240 \text{ eV} (90\% \text{ C.L.})$
 - [1] https://arxiv.org/abs/2406.11438 (2024)
 - [2] https://arxiv.org/pdf/2509.21166 (2025)
 - [3] https://arxiv.org/abs/2404.04453 (2024)

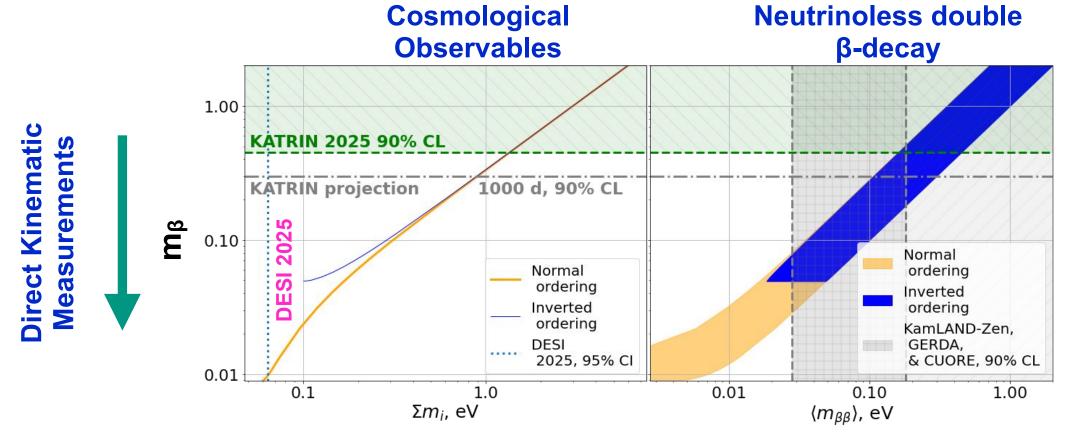
KamLAND-Zen 800







Neutrino Mass Observables



Assuming mixing angles θ and Δm^2 from oscillations

Measurement of the incoherent sum of the neutrino mass:

Neutrino Mass from Tritium Decay

Why Tritium?

$${}^{3}{\rm H} \rightarrow {}^{3}{\rm He} + e^{-} + \bar{\nu}_{e}$$

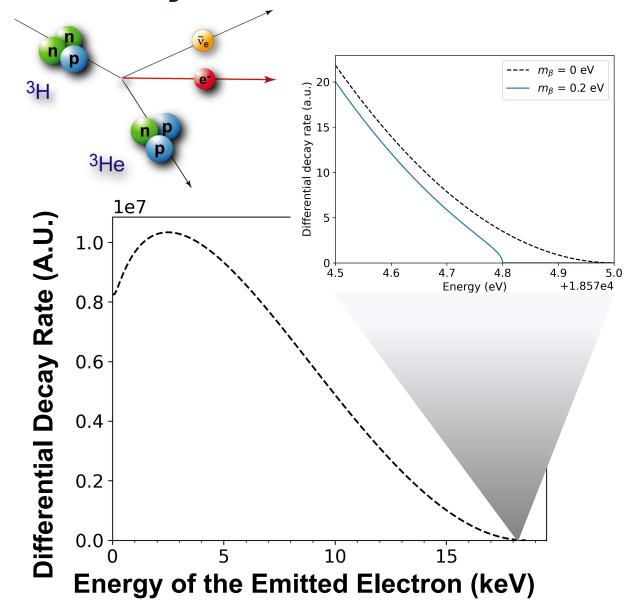
- Simple structure of atomic/nuclear shell;
- Low endpoint energy 18 592.071(22) eV [1]
 - subtracted by 16.29 eV due to molecular disassociation);
- Super-allowed transition (T_{1/2} = 12.32 a).

(Anti-)neutrino mass determined from spectral shape distortion near the kinematic **endpoint**:

$$R_{\beta}(E) \propto (E_0 - E)\sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_{\nu}^2}$$

with:

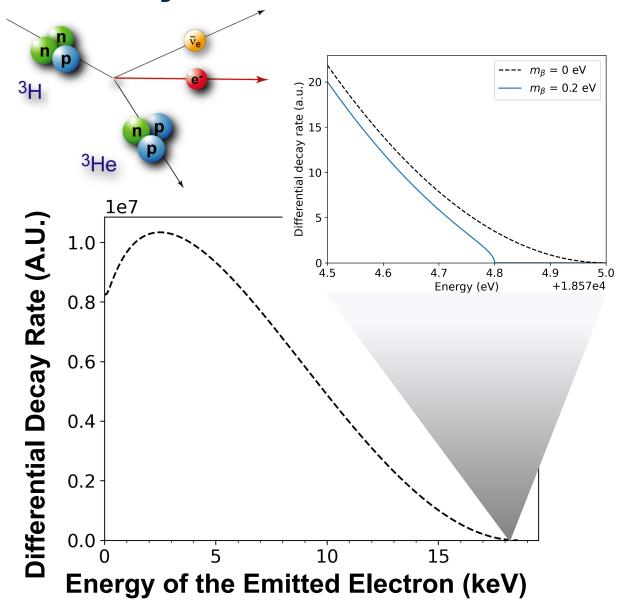
$$m_{\nu} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^{3} |U_{ei}|^2 \cdot m_i^2}$$



Neutrino Mass from Tritium Decay

Challenges:

- Low event rate near the endpoint → requires a high luminosity source and low background;
- Distortion is on the scale of the neutrino mass
 → good energy resolution required;
- Precise modelling of the spectral shape and hardware stability over the years.



KATRIN Collaboration













WASHINGTON









Bundesministerium für Bildung

und Forschung





























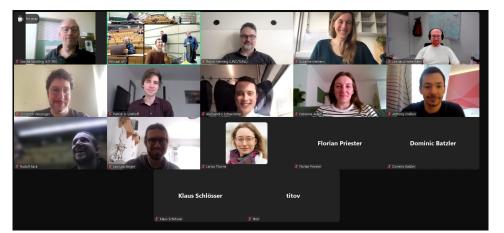


DFG









The international KATRIN collaboration: ≈150 people from 24 institutions in 7 countries (formed in 2001)









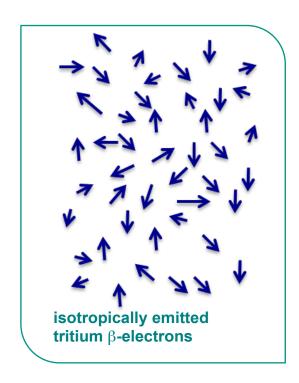


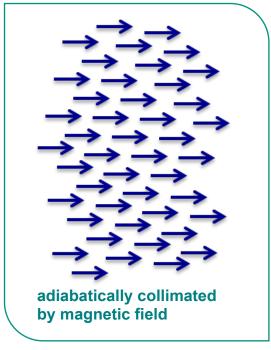


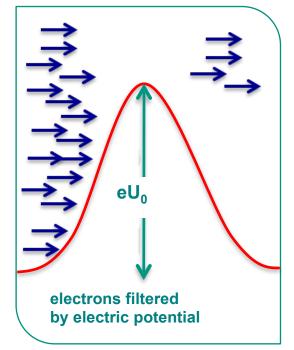
KATRIN at Karlsruhe

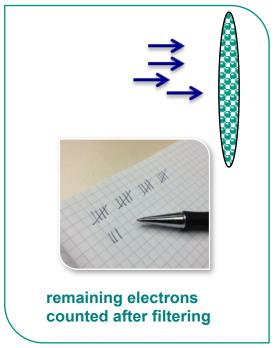


Working Principle MAC-E Filter

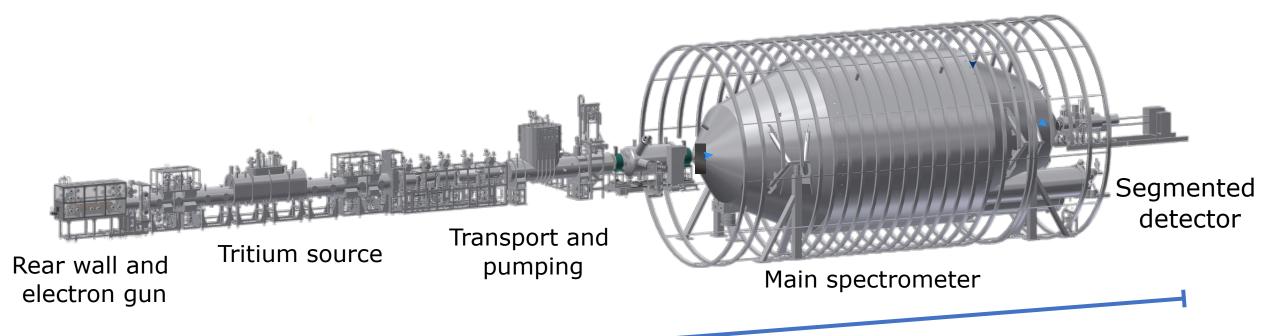




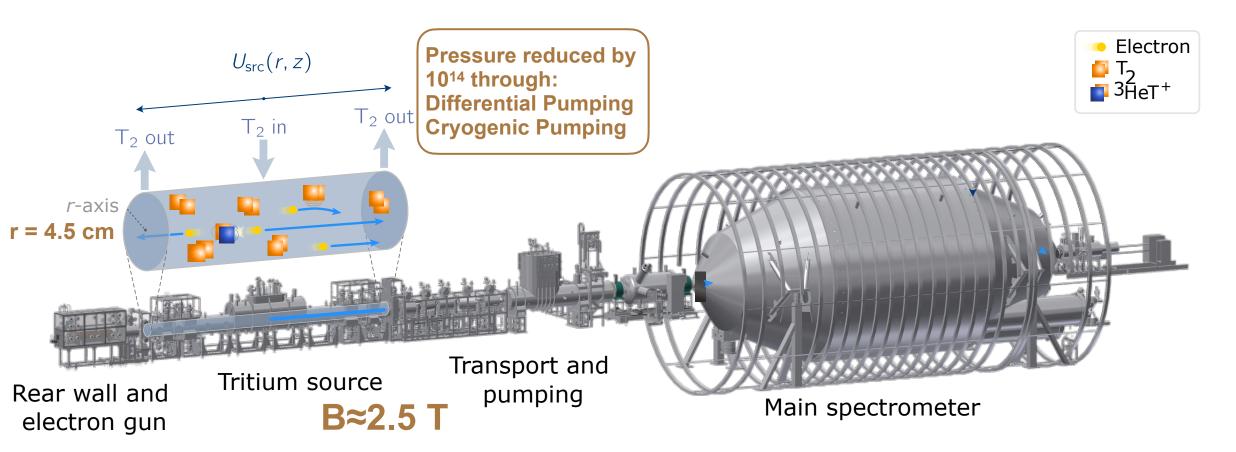




Working Principle

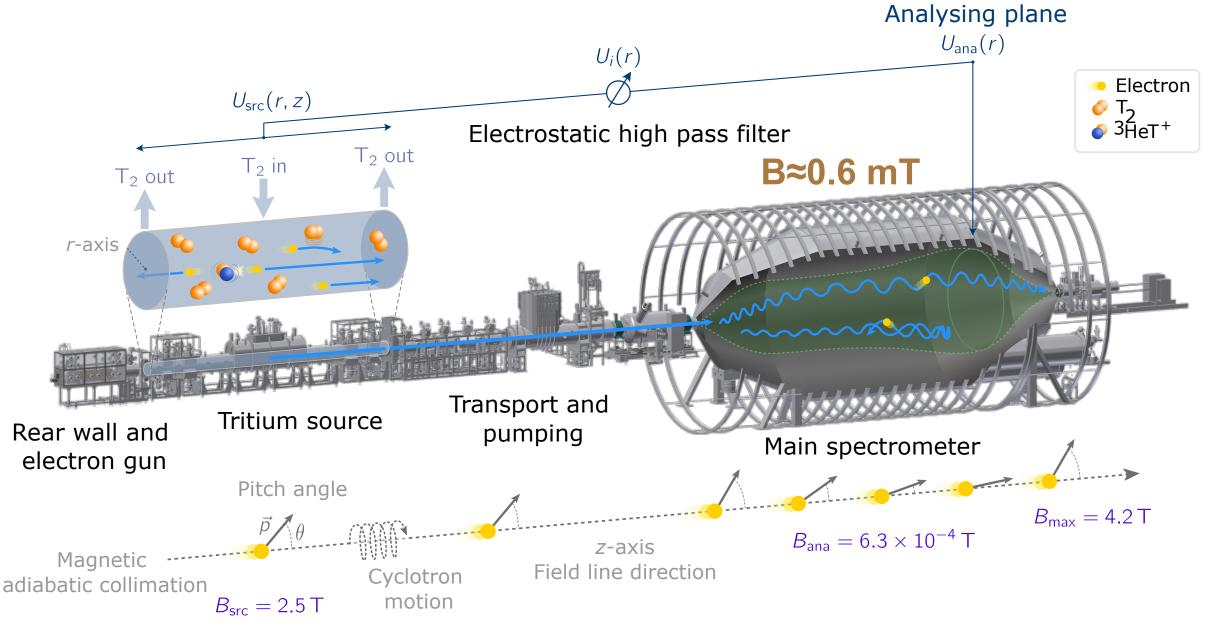


70 m

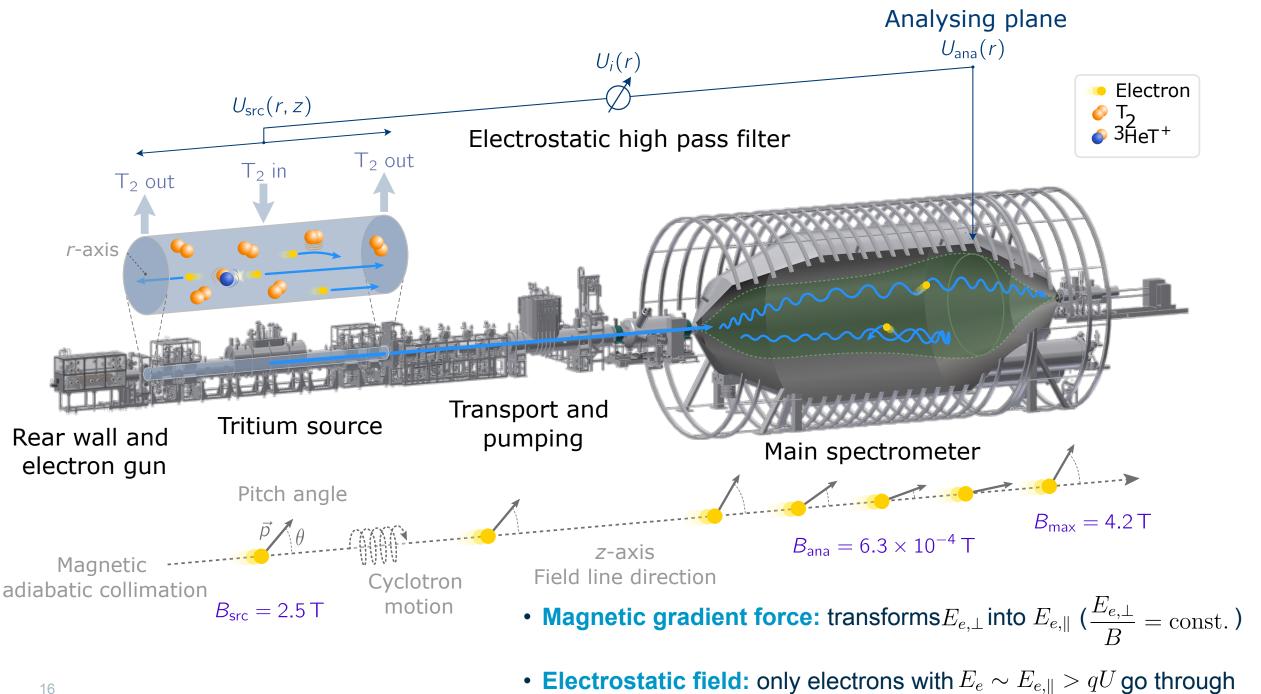


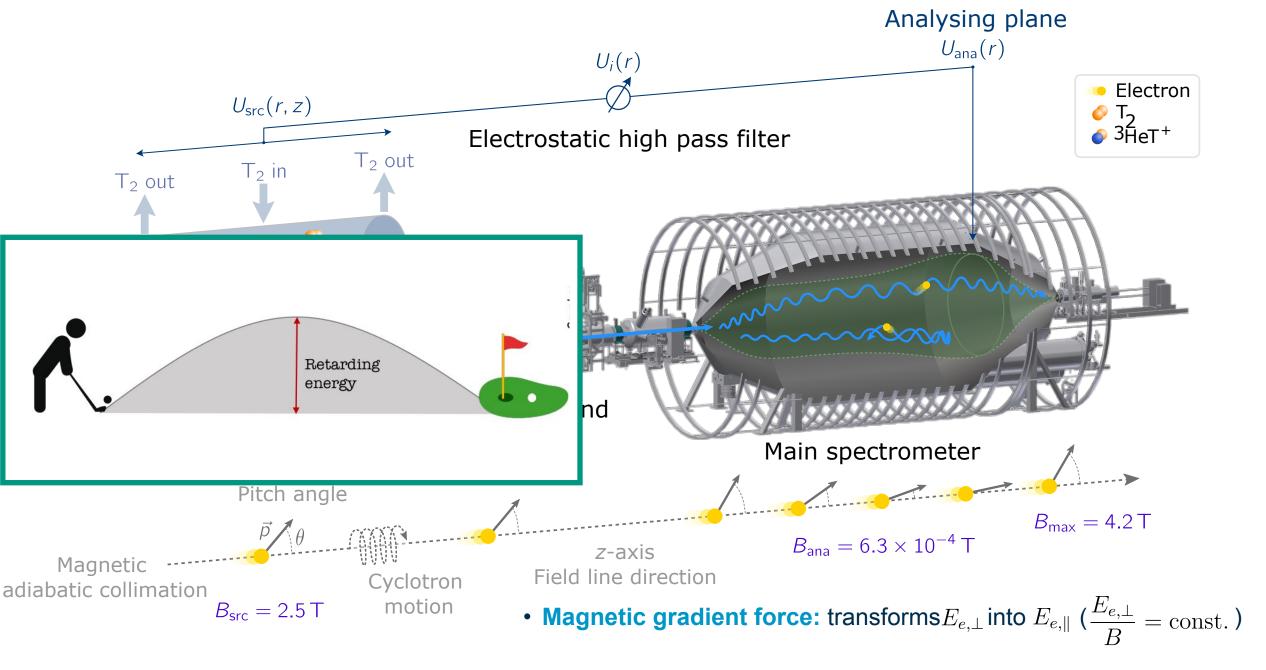


- **High-activity molecular** T₂ source (100 GBq) operated as a windowless gaseous tritium source (WGTS).
- Column density of $pd = 4.20 \times 10^{21} T_2/m^2$ (after KNM1)
- Flow rate of 40 g T₂/day with an isotropic purity >95%.



Main spectrometer: high voltage (~18 kV) and ultra-low vacuum pressure <10-11 mbar Based on the Magnetic Adiabatic Collimation with Electrostatic (MAC-E) Filter principle.





• Electrostatic field: only electrons with $E_e \sim E_{e,\parallel} > qU$ go through

Focal Plane Detector:

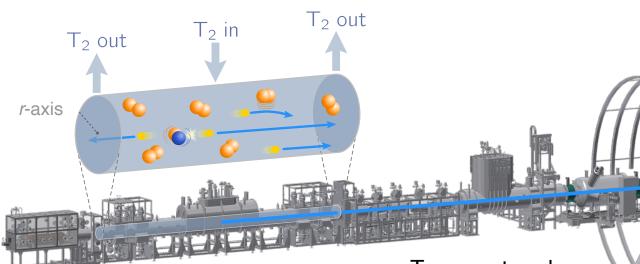
148 pixels

Dartboard layout

Post-acceleration: 10 kV

Segmented

detector

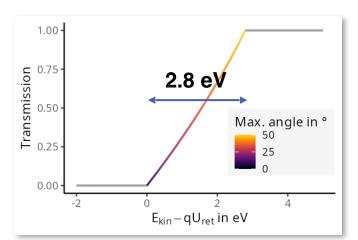


Rear wall and electron gun

Tritium source

Transport and pumping





Very High Energy Resolution: $\frac{\Delta E}{E} = \frac{B_{\min}}{B_{\max}} \sim 1 \mathrm{eV}$

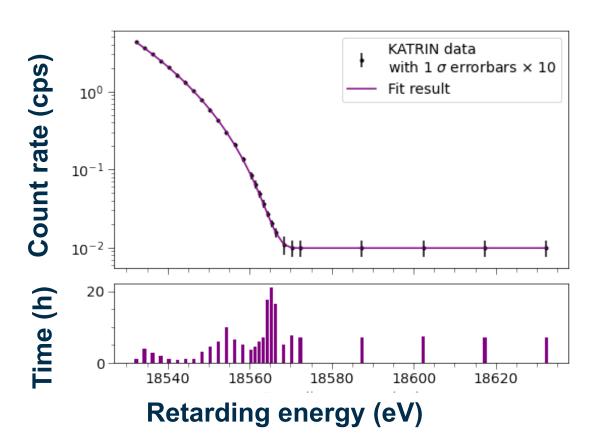
Very High Angular Acceptance: $\theta_{\mathrm{max}} = 50^{\circ}$



KATRIN Timeline

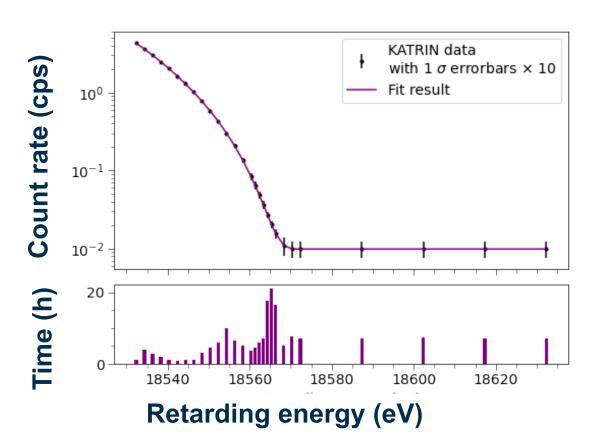
2019-20252026-20272028-2034 (PoF-V)Scientific goalPhase 1 (integral) neutrino massPhase 2 (differential) keV-sterile νQuantum sensor R&DQuantum sensor demonstratorAtomic tritium R&D
Atomic tritium demonstrator

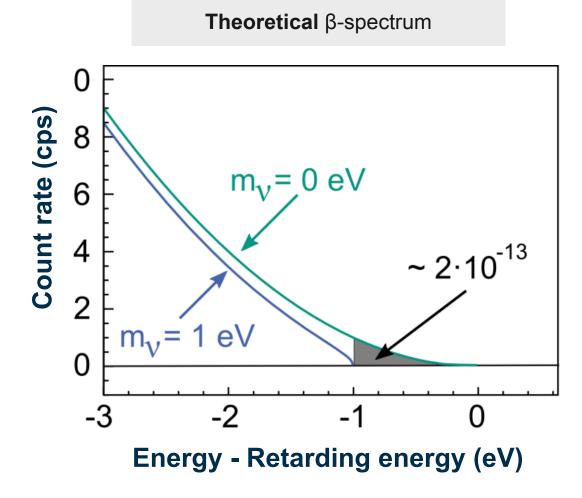
Measured individual β-spectrum



- 2-3 hour scans, about 100 scans per campaign
- Stack data points with identical measurement conditions.
- Analysis window: [E₀ 40 eV, E₀ + 135 eV].
 - We have data down to E₀ 350 eV

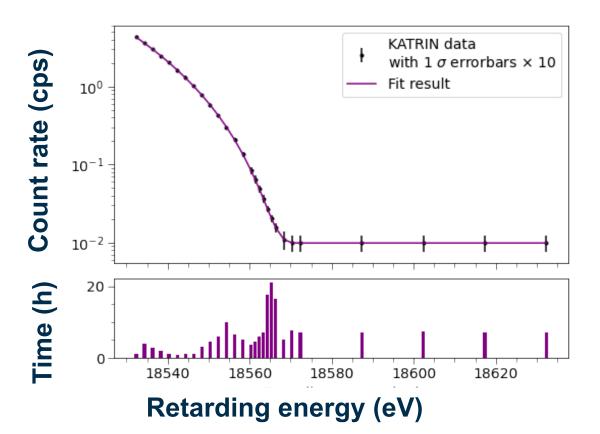
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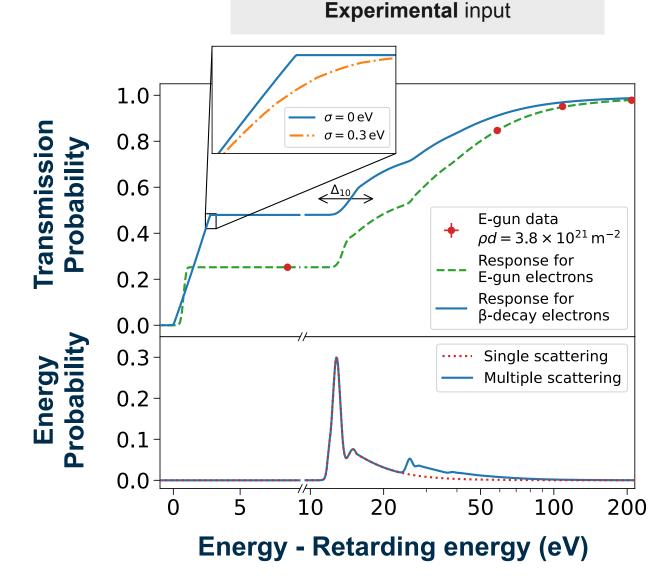




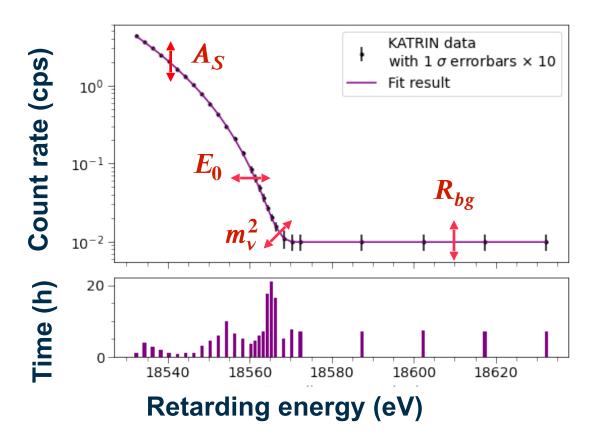
Fermi theory with radiative corrections and molecular excitations

Measured individual β-spectrum





Spectrometer transmission and energy losses in the source Obtained with electron gun and ^{83m}Kr calibrations



$$R(U) = A_s \cdot N_T \int_{qU}^{E_0} \frac{d\Gamma}{dE} (E, m_v^2) \cdot f(E, U) dE + R_{bg}$$

4 free fit parameters: A_S , E_0 , m_v^2 , R_{bg}

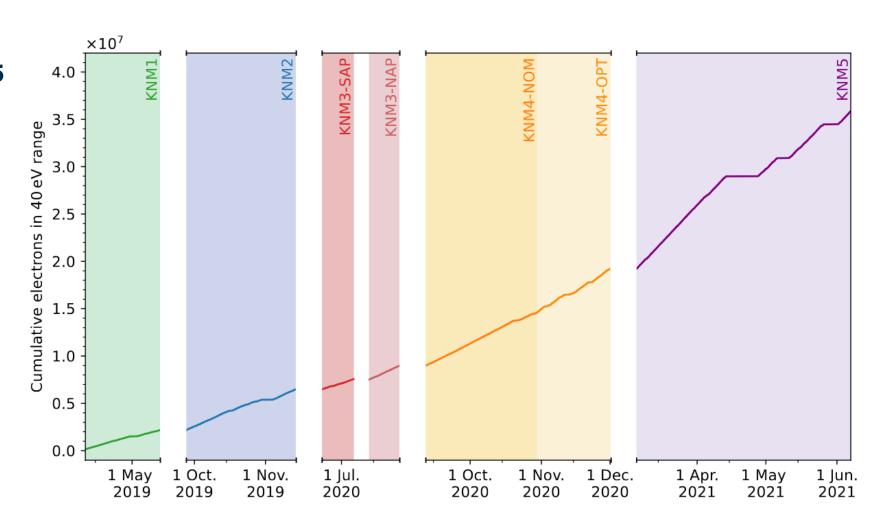
KATRIN Data Acquisition for the 2024 Result

Data Analysed: KNM1-KNM5

- 259 measurement days
- 1757 β -scans
- ~36 million counts

Previous Results (90% C.L):

- 2019: m_{ν} < 1.1 eV (KNM1)
- 2022: m_{ν} < 0.8 eV (KNM1-2)



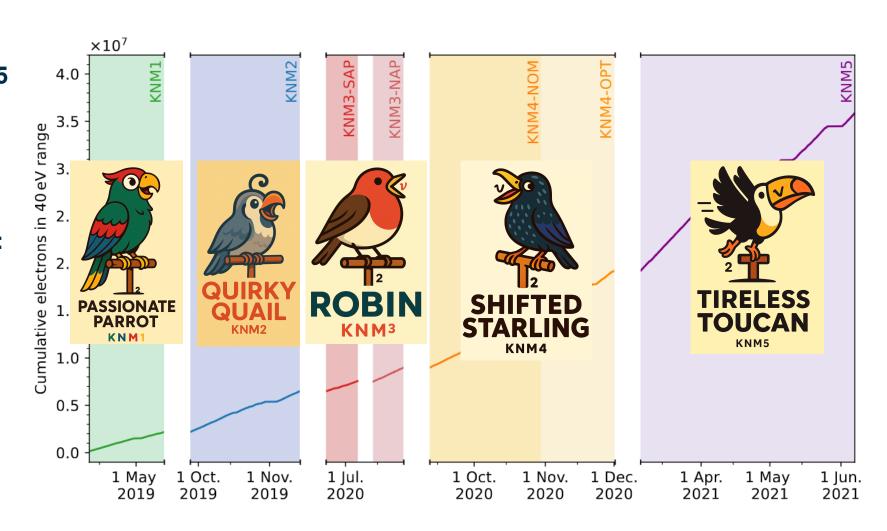
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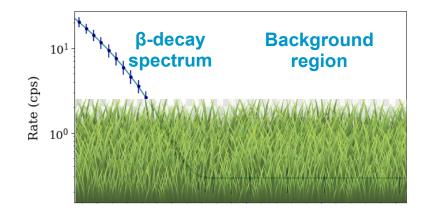
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KATRIN Backgrounds

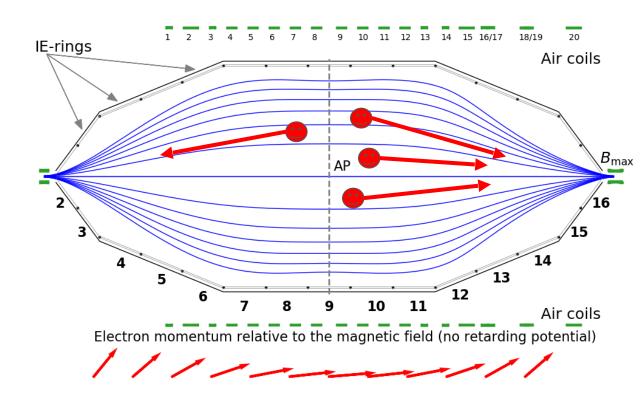
- Most sensitive region to the neutrino mass with signal/background ~ 1
- High background hides the shape distortion of spectrum by m_{ν}



Katrin Technical Design: 10 mcps

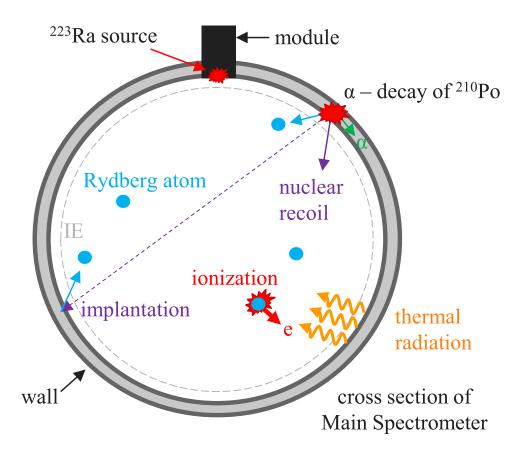
KNM 1: **293 mcps**

No significant background from μ^+/μ^- , external γ 's, radon, penning discharges.



Backgrounds originate from low-energy electrons generated beyond the analyzing plane (plane where the potential is highest).

KATRIN Backgrounds

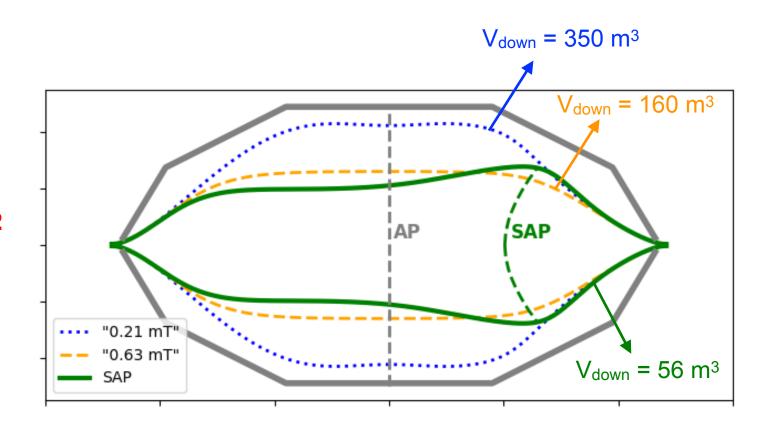


- Spectrometer was exposed to air during the installation of the inner electrodes platting of 210 Pb ($t_{1/2}$ = 22.23 a) in the walls
- Decay of 210 Pb ($t_{1/2}$ = 22.23 a) in the vessel wall
- Sputtering of atoms excited in Rydberg states (n>20) from the wall due to α -decay of ²¹⁰Po
 - Ionized in the volume by the blackbody radiation or autoionisation → very low energy electrons of subeV range
- Electron Background distributed uniformly in the volume

Shifted Analysis Configuration

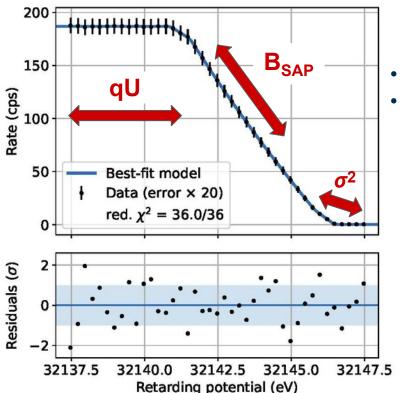
Shifted analysis configuration (from KNM3, 2020 onwards, [1]):

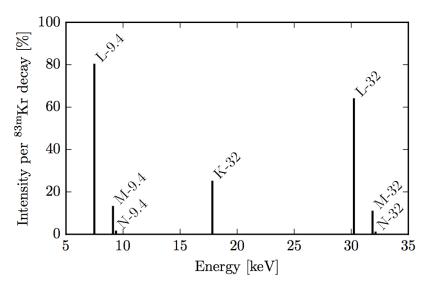
- Idea: minimizing the volume between the AP and detector
- Same or better energy resolution.
- Reduced background by a factor of 2
 But, with trade-offs:
 - Smaller source volume mapped onto detector;
 - Inhomogeneous EM-fields:
 - Data segmented is 14 bins;
 - Simulations not reliable field Calibration required.



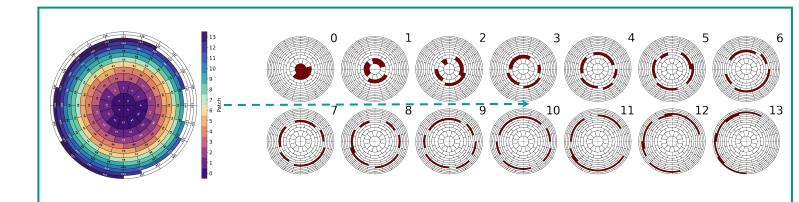
Calibration of the EM Fields

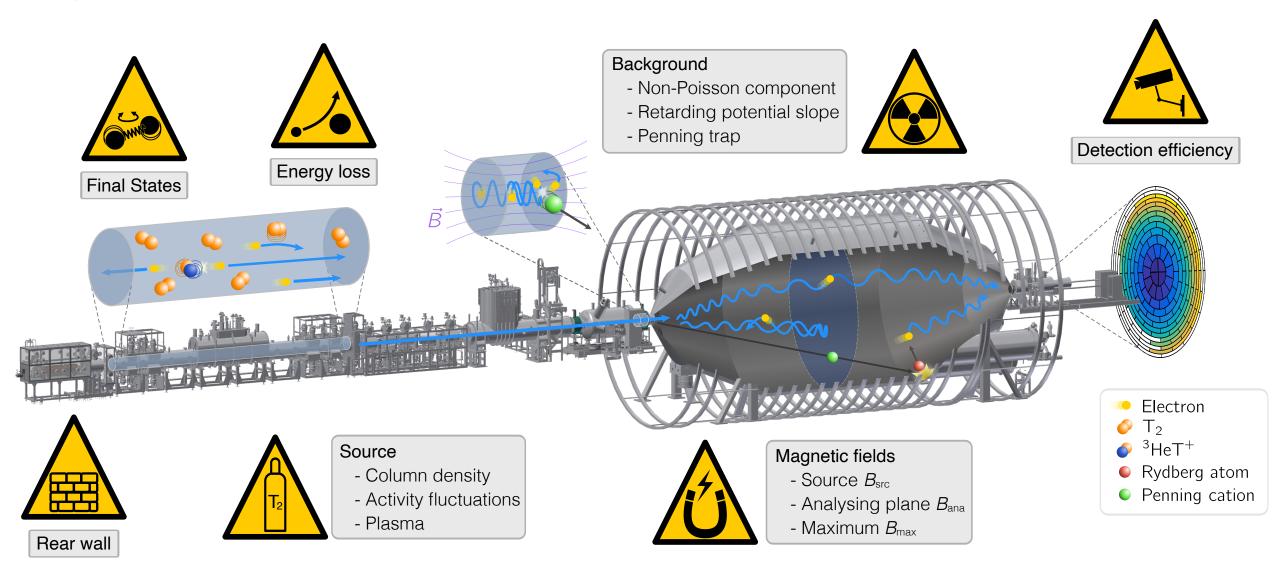
- In situ calibration using 83mKr
 - $N_{2,3}$ -32 lines (E = 32.1 keV, Γ negligible) **mono-energetic** source.





- Transmission parameters for each detector pixel
- Combine pixels with similar parameters into "patches"
 - More segmented data, x 14 to nominal configuration → challenge for the analysis

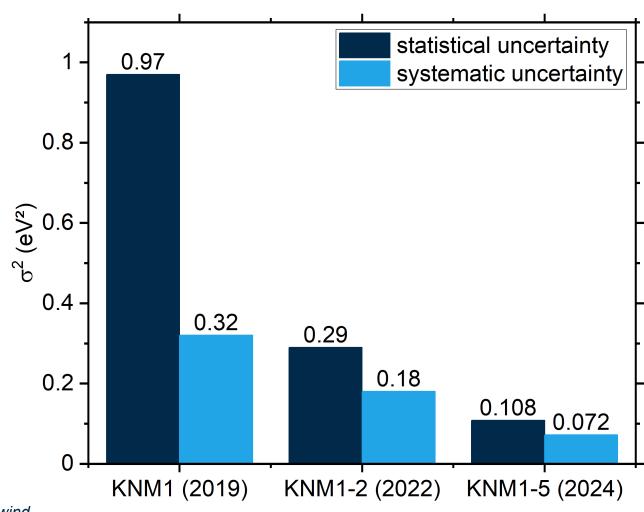




Statistical uncertainties dominate;

- Significant reduction of backgroundrelated systematics in KNM1-5
 - Better control over source scattering
 - Removal of the penning trap [1]
 - Reduction of the molecular final states uncertainties [2]
 - Reassessment of theoretical uncertainty estimation: S. Schneidewind et al. Our. Phys. J. C 84, 494 (2024)

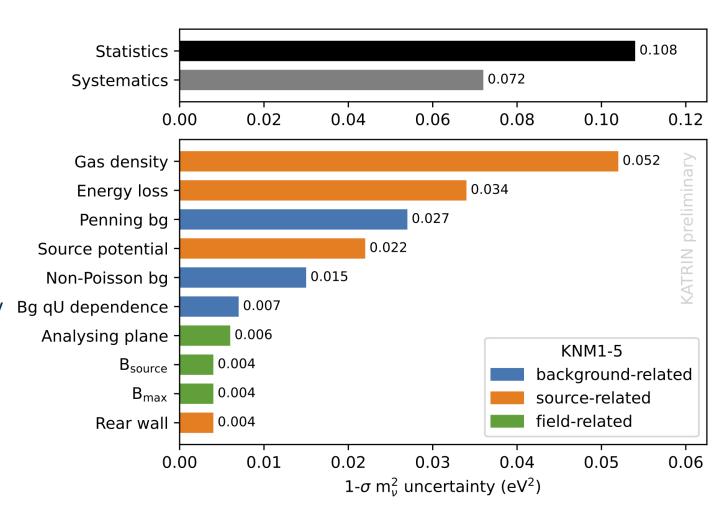
Improvement of statistics and systematics



^[1] M. Aker et al. Eur. Phys. J. C 80: 821 (2020)

^[2] Reassessment of theoretical uncertainty estimation: S. Schneidewind et al. Our. Phys. J. C 84, 494 (2024)

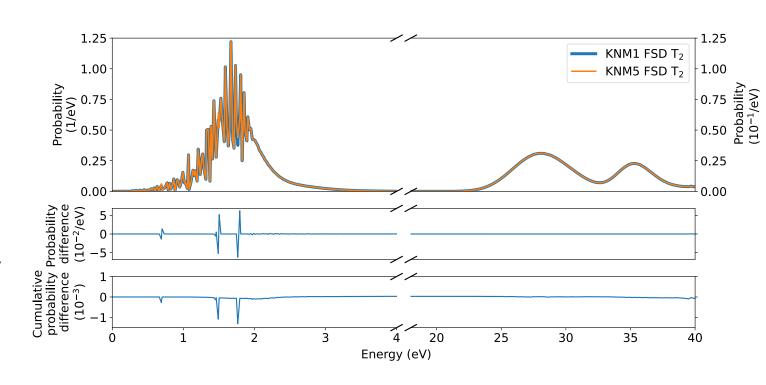
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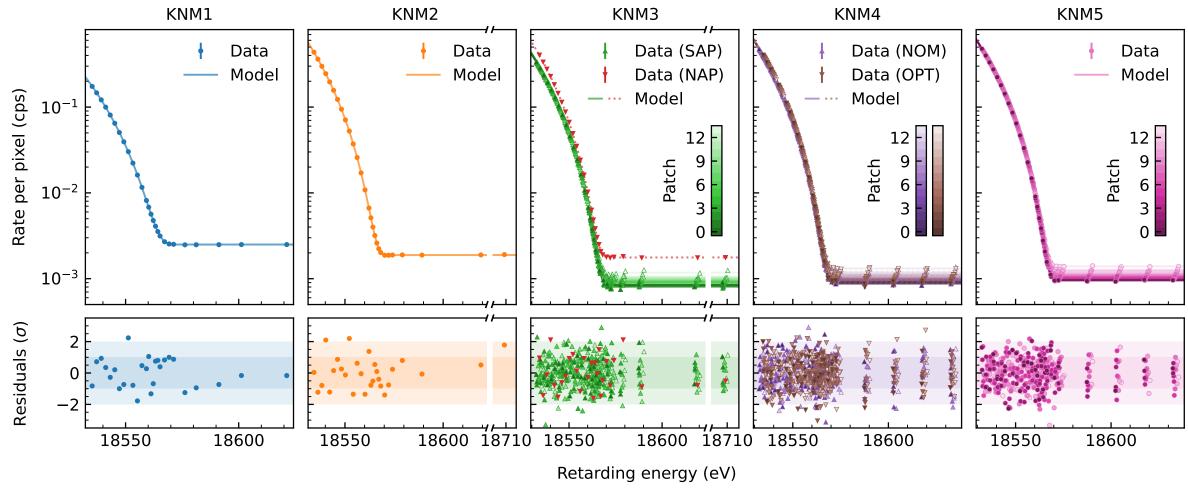
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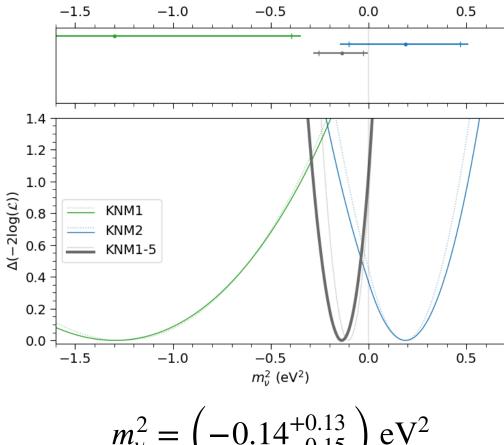
^[2] Reassessment of theoretical uncertainty estimation: S. Schneidewind et al. Our. Phys. J. C 84, 494 (2024)



Simultaneous maximum likelihood fit with common m_{ν}^2 parameter - p-value=0.84.

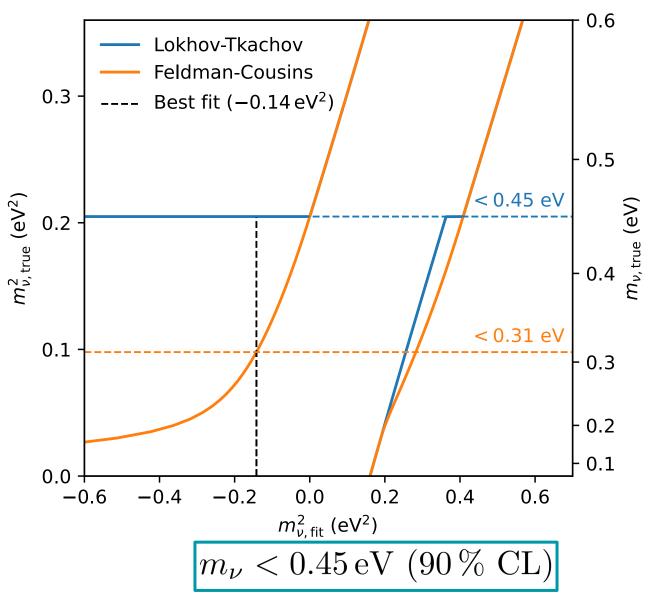
Highly segmented data (1609 data points).

Fit Result



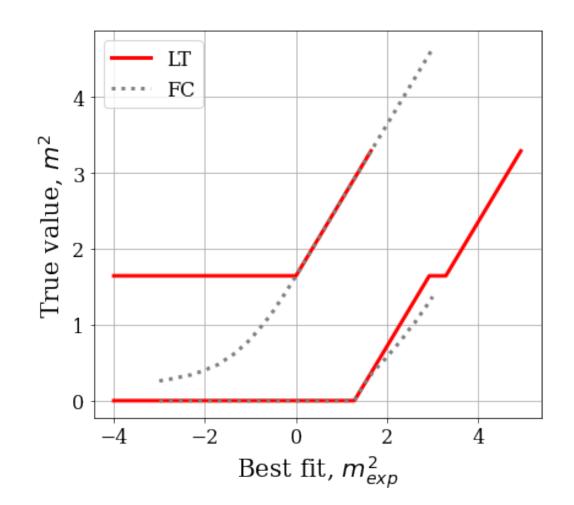
$$m_{\nu}^2 = \left(-0.14^{+0.13}_{-0.15}\right) \text{ eV}^2$$

Q-value: (18 575.0 ± 0.3) eV

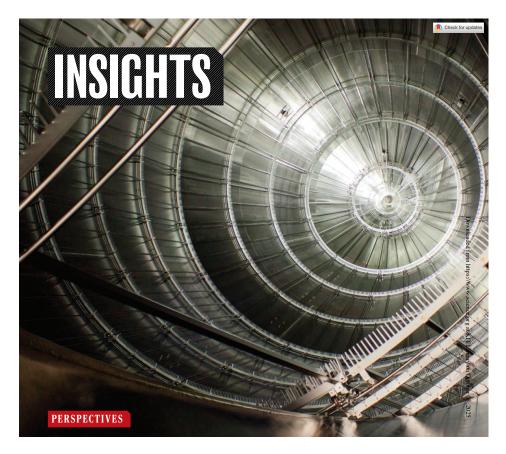


Neutrino mass limit

- Frequentist confidence interval with a priori information: $m^2 \ge 0$
- Feldman-Cousins → a special way of accumulating probability
 - Shrinking upper limit for negative $(m_{\nu})^2$
- Lokhov-Tkachov → constant upper limit below m² = 0
 - Sensitivity of the experiment for m² < 0
 - No "improvement" of upper limit for negative $(m_{\nu})^2$







PARTICLE PHYSICS

Closing the gap in the neutrino mass

New measurements make an important step toward demystifying the fundamental particle

By Loredana Gastaldo

ach second, more than 100 billion neuof particle physics-that originate

lations between these flavor states as the

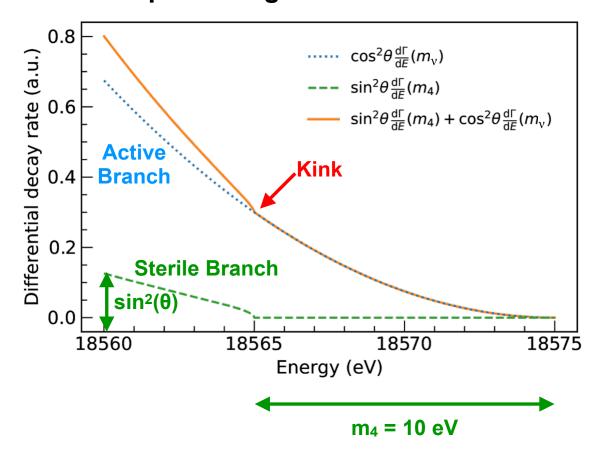
by "flavor," each with distinct properties: | oration (1) report the new results obtained electron, muon, and tau neutrino, Oscil- with the Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino (KA-TRIN) experiment that narrows down the trinos—electrically neutral elementary particles of the Standard Model particle travels through space indicates that neutrinos have a distinct mass. Howelets the thing the space indicates that neutrinos have a distinct mass. Howelets the space indicates the neutrino mass. This latest upper limit of 0.45 eV at 90% confiever, neutrinos are the only fundamental | dence level implies that the mass of a neufrom the Sun's core pass through a particle whose mass is still unknown. On trino is less than 1 millionth the mass of human body. Neutrinos are described | page 180 of this issue, the KATRIN Collab- | an electron. Determining this fundamental

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eV Sterile Neutrinos

Expected signature in KATRIN



Several experimental anomalies:

- Reactor Antineutrino Anomaly (RAA, ~3σ)
- Gallium flux (~4σ)

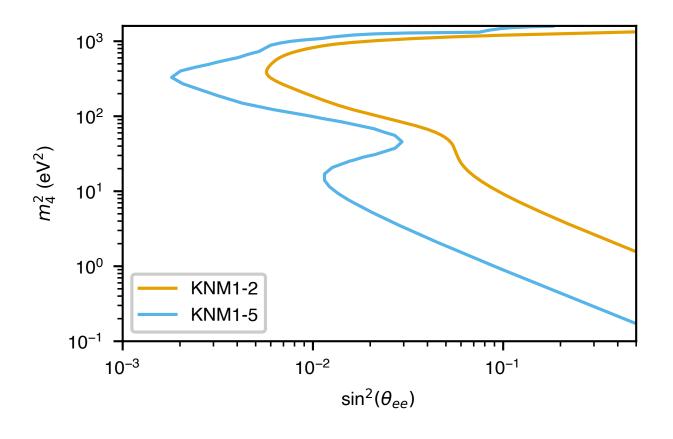
$$\frac{\mathrm{d}\Gamma}{\mathrm{d}E} = \boxed{(1-\sin^2\theta)\frac{\mathrm{d}\Gamma}{\mathrm{d}E}(m_\nu^2)} + \sin^2\theta\frac{\mathrm{d}\Gamma}{\mathrm{d}E}(m_4^2)$$

 SM light (anti-)neutrino eV Sterile (anti-)neutrino

Maximum likelihood fit of model for 3v + 1 includes two additional parameters in the fit:

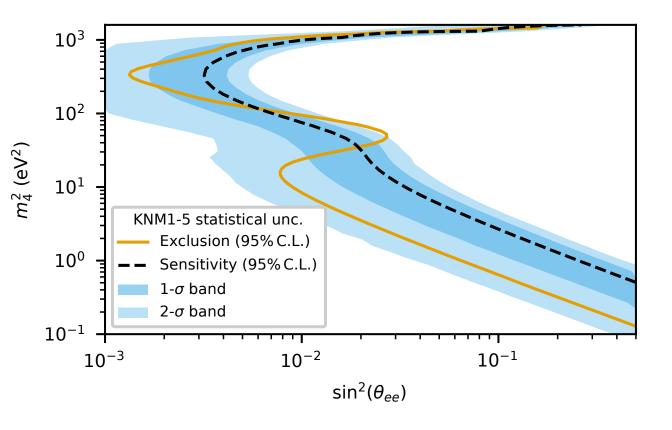
- m₄: mass of the eV-sterile neutrino;
- sin²θ: the mixing angle of the fourth neutrino.
- mv: constrained to 0 or free

Results - $m_v=0$



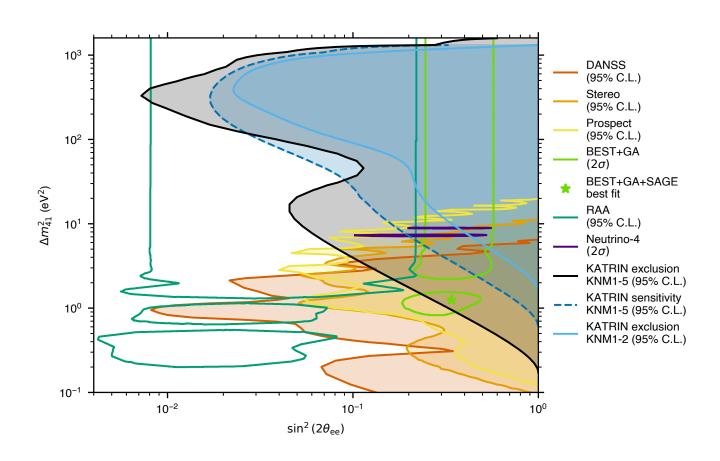
- Using the same data for the sterile neutrino searches - with a different signal model.
- No evidence found for an eV-sterile neutrino. Limits on 90% C.L presented.
- Statistical uncertainties dominate for all masses.

Results - $m_v=0$

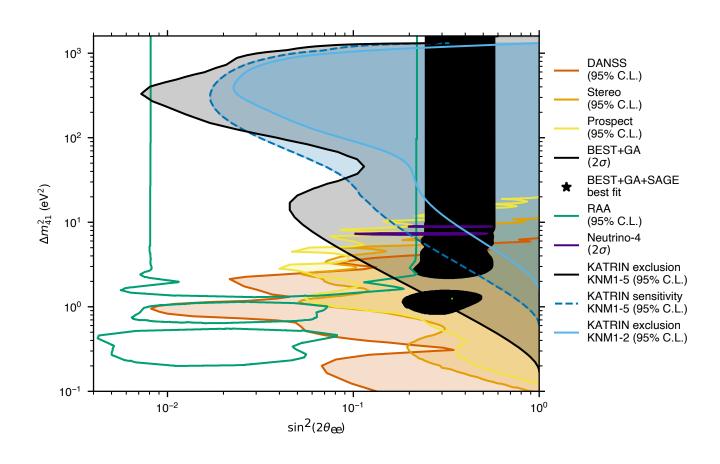


- Using the same data for the sterile neutrino searches - with a different signal model.
- No evidence found for an eV-sterile neutrino.
- Statistical uncertainties dominate for all masses.
- 1σ and 2σ statistical sensitivity bands reconstructed from simulations.
- New exclusion contour aligns with expected statistical fluctuations within 95%

Results - m_v=0

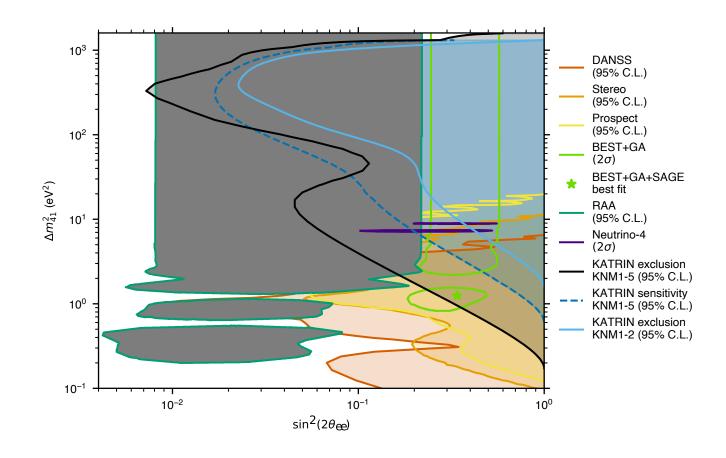


Results - $m_v=0$



 Almost excluded the allowed region with the Gallium anomaly except a small region.

Results - $m_v=0$



- Almost excluded the allowed region with the Gallium anomaly except a small region.
- A large section of the Reactor Antineutrino Anomaly was also excluded as exemplified.

Pre-print available "Sterile-neutrino search based on 259 days of KATRIN data", https://arxiv.org/abs/2503.18667

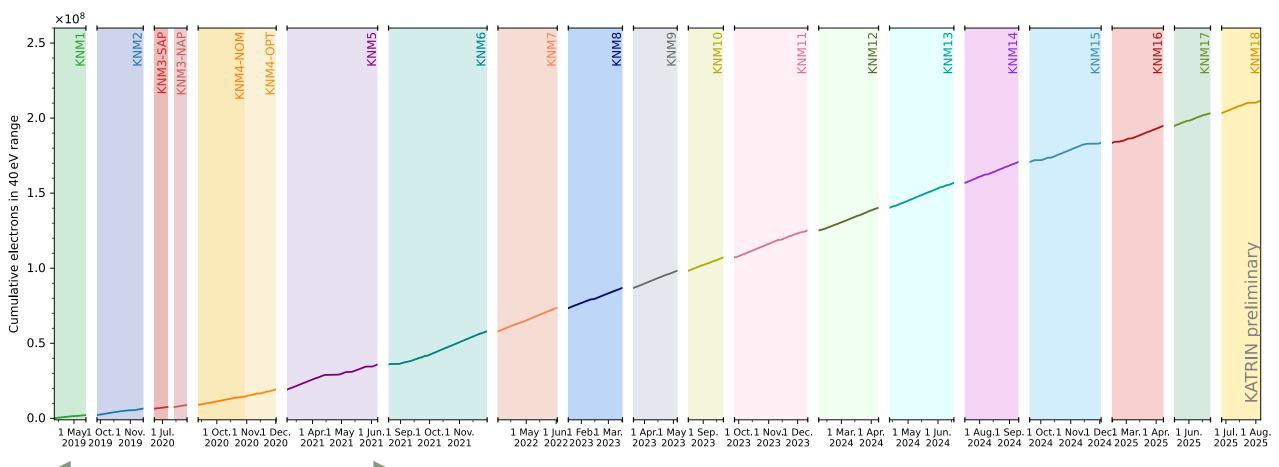
KATRIN Data Taking until 2025

18 measurement campaigns completed until now - 2 Campaigns Remain until we reach 1000 days

More than 210 million counts recorded – x5.8 of this release!

2024 Data Release

• plus calibrations and improvement in the systematics uncertainties (e.g. https://arxiv.org/pdf/2503.13221).

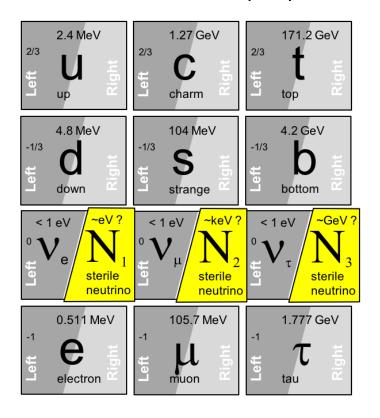


KATRIN Timeline - The TRISTAN Phase

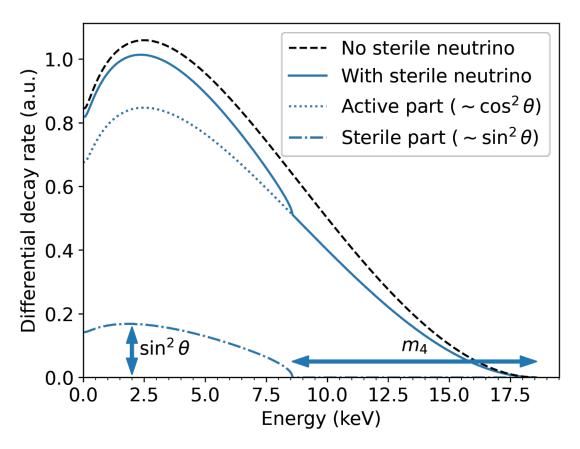
2019-20252026-20272028-2034 (PoF-V)Scientific goalPhase 1 (integral) neutrino massPhase 2 (differential) keV-sterile νR&D phase KATRIN ++Quantum sensor R&DAtomic tritium R&D
Quantum sensor demonstrator
Atomic tritium demonstrator

keV Sterile Neutrinos

Standard Model (SM)

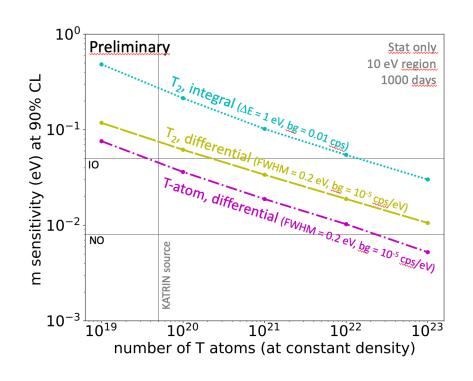


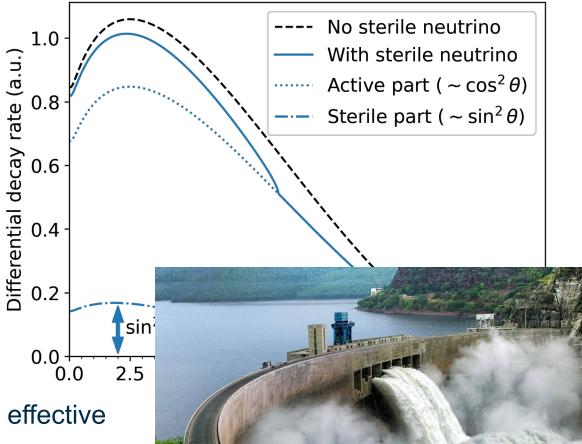
PRL 110 061801 (2013)



- Kink-like distortion in the differential β -spectrum
 - Position governed by the mass of the neutrino;
 - Amplitude governed by mixing angle sin²θ;

Integral versus Differential Measurement



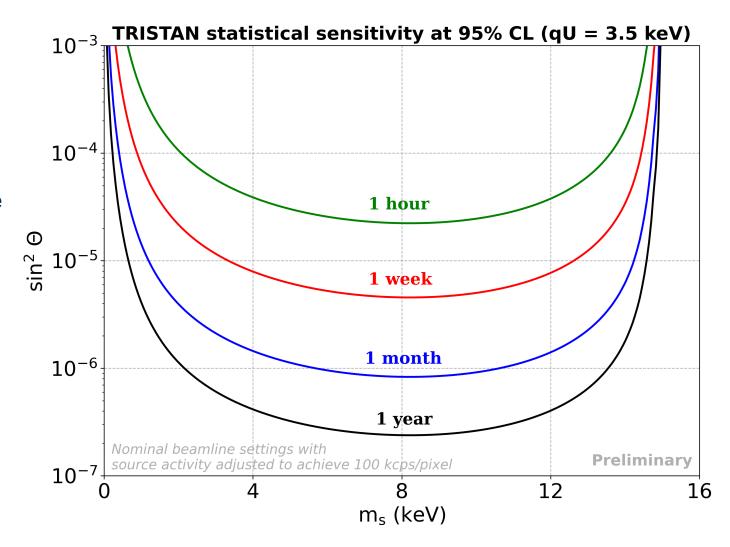


- A differential measurement makes more effective use of statistics;
- Requires upgrading the KATRIN at multiple levels.

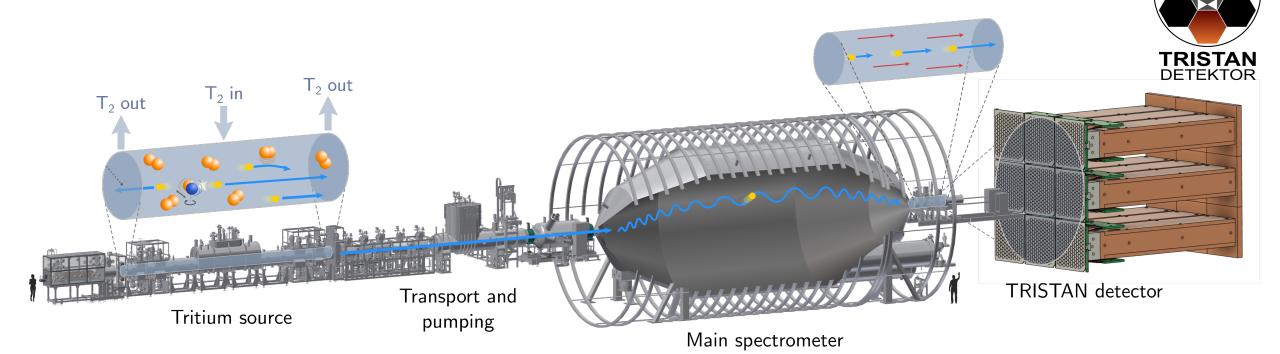
Differential Measurement

HIGH STATISTICS!

Systematic uncertainties must be carefully controlled!



Differential Measurement

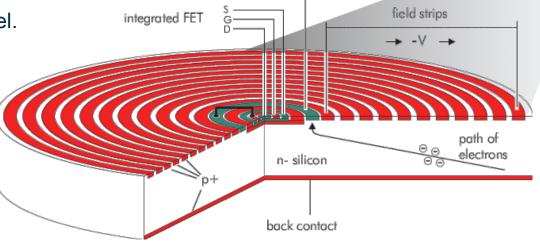


- New detector system capable of handling high rates with an excellent energy resolution and low noise, etc...
 - SDD Silicon Drift Detector:
- Source Activity to be reduced to **0.1–1% of the current values**;
- The rear wall has to be reconfigured to reduce the amount of backscattering;
- New field configuration to **ensure adiabatic transport** and a new post-acceleration electrode.

TRISTAN - The Novel Detector System

- The detector needs to handle high rates
 - Small readout contact: Small detector capacitance Low noise (good resolution) for high rates
- Needs an excellent energy resolution and be linear, to resolve the kink
 - Integrated amplification (nJFET): energy resolution better than 360 eV;
- Needs to cover the full electron beam, minimizing dead area

• Large detector area for each pixel.

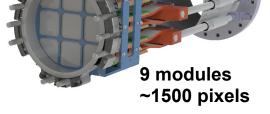


Single module

166 pixels



D. Siegmann: J. Phys. G: Nucl. Part. Phys. 51 (2024) 085202 (25pp)



Differential Measurement - Systematics

Rear Wall section:

- RW material
- Backscattering model

• T₂ sorption

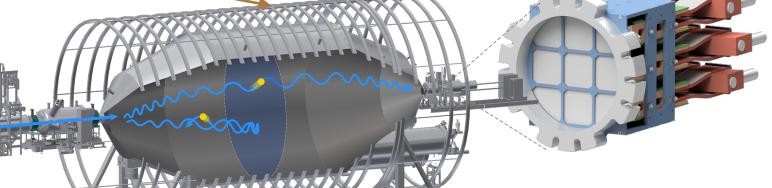
EM Transport:

- Non-Adiabaticity
- Magnetic reflection

Detector:

Energy loss in a passive layer Electron backscattering

Charge sharing between pixels Fano factor of the silicon



Source:

- Source scattering
- Tritium density
- Tritium spectrum
- Magnetic Traps
- Plasma Potential

Data Acquisition:

Electronic noise Deadtime, threshold Nonlinearity Pileup



- Non-Adiabaticity
- Magnetic reflection
- Backgrounds

Detector:

- Energy loss in a passive layer
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Source:

Rear Wall section:

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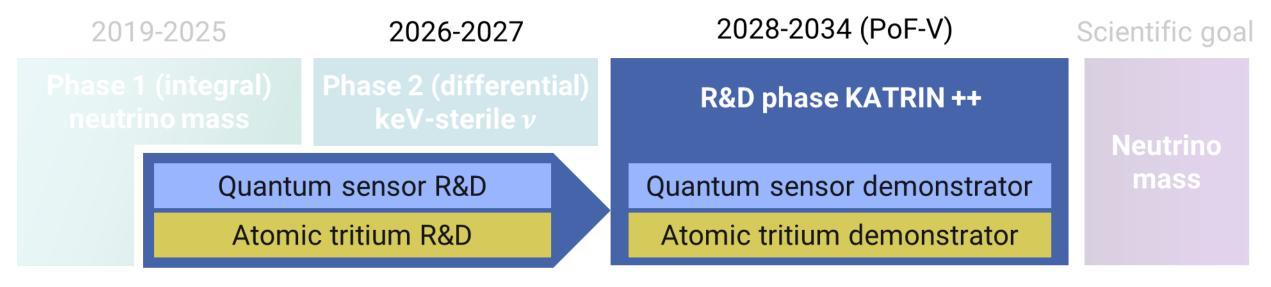
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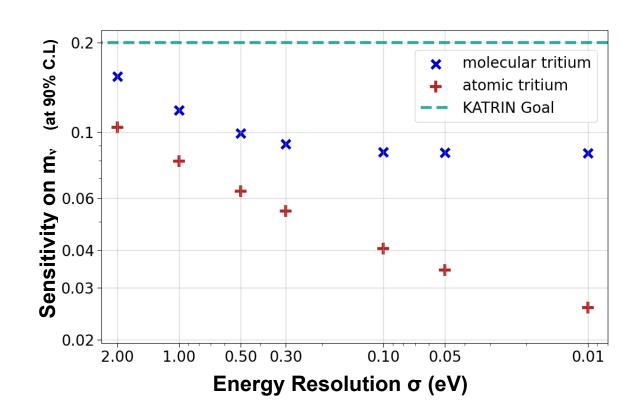


KATRIN Timeline

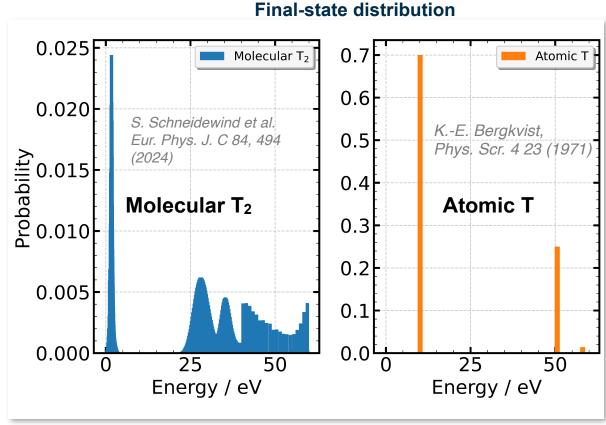


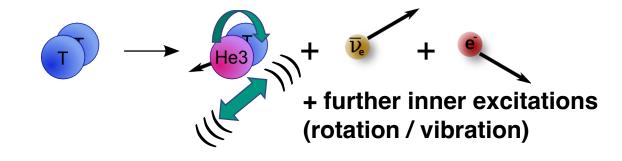
- Reduction on the systematic uncertainties:
 - Reduction of the final state uncertainties → atomic source tritium
- Improvement of energy resolution:
 - MAC-E: implementation of a high-pass filter → Transverse Energy Compensator;
 - Calorimetry: measuring the deposited energy by temperature change → Quantum sensors;
 - Cyclotron Radiation Emission Spectroscopy: measuring E via cyclotron v (Project 8 Collaboration)

KATRIN++

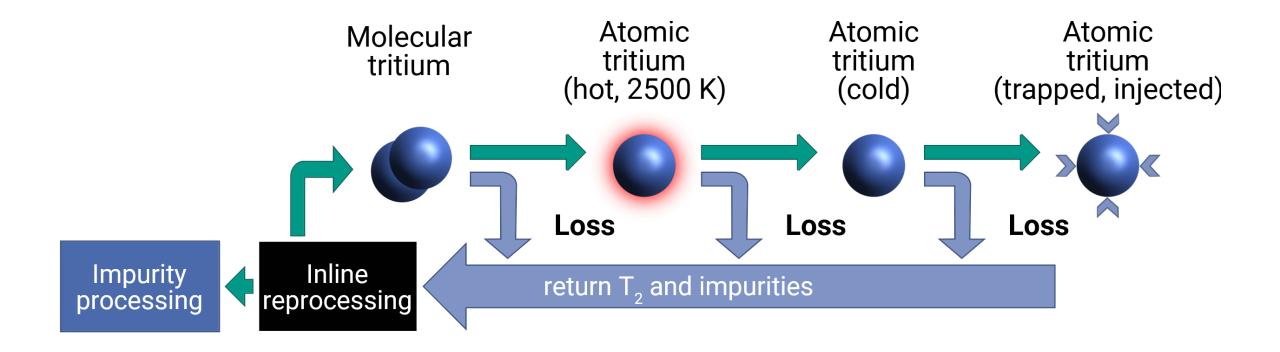


- Daughter molecule ³HeT+ exhibits inner excitations (rotations and vibrations) after tritium beta decay.
- Intrinsic broadening of ground state (std. dev. of about 0.4 eV).





Development of an Atomic Tritium Source



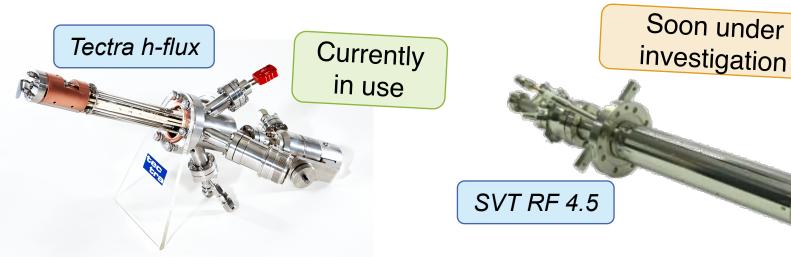
Development of an Atomic Tritium Source



Installation of first ever atomic **tritium** source at KIT ongoing

Atomic Tritium Demonstrator at KIT:

- Development at Tritiumlabor Karlsruhe (TLK) for future m_{ν} -experiments;
- Simple setup to demonstrate tritium operation and investigate tritium compatibility, recovery and isotopic effects.



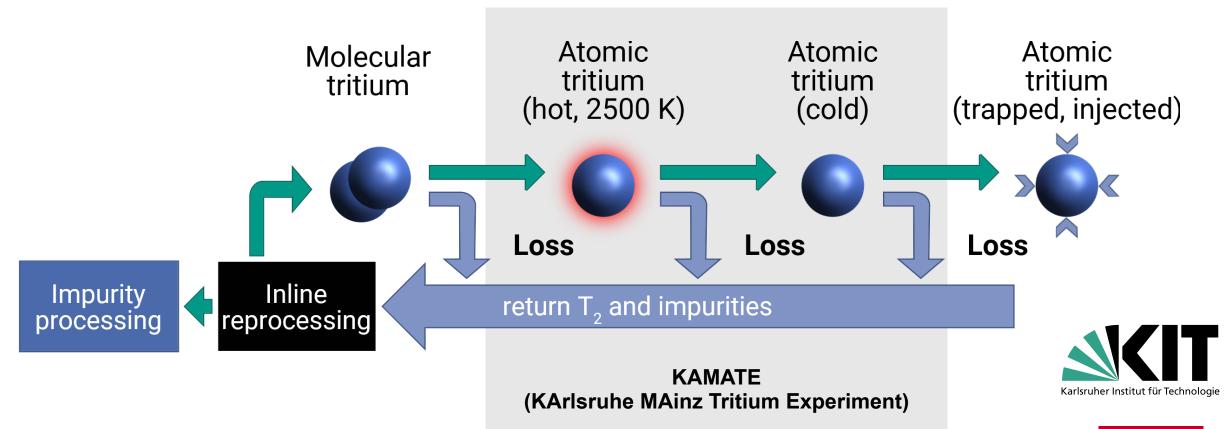
Thermal Dissociation:

- Fine tungsten capillarity heated by electron bombardment
- Atoms with > 2000 K

RF-discharge:

- A Radio frequency field is applied to the gas creating a plasma of ions, electrons, and excited atoms.
- Atoms are colder compared to Tetra h-flux

Development of an Atomic Tritium Source

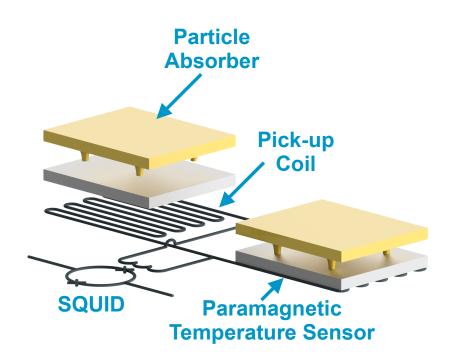


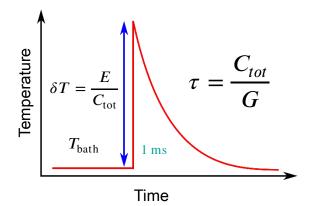
- Propose of Demonstrator KAMATE:
 - Develop a cooling mechanism for atoms (≈10 mK);
 - Generate an atom throughput on the order of 10 g day (c.f. KATRIN: 40 g/day);
 - Investigate trapping times and maximal atom densities.



More on atomic cooling: https://arxiv.org/pdf/2502.00188 (2025)

Quantum Sensors as High Resolution Detectors





Principle of Working:

• Metallic Magnetic Calorimeters: temperature-dependence in sensor magnetisation [1, 2];

Advantages:

- Energy Resolution of < 1 eV (not tested with external electrons)
- Fast rise time (~100 ns) and near 100% quantum efficiency
- No dead layer.

Challenges:

- Operation in magnetic field;
- Coupling of mK-cold sensors with room temperature spectrometer;
- Large number of channels required (about 10⁵ 10⁶ channels)
 We have a clear strategy to solve each of these challenges.

[1] NIMA 1030 (2022) 166406 (2021)

[2] https://arxiv.org/abs/2502.05975

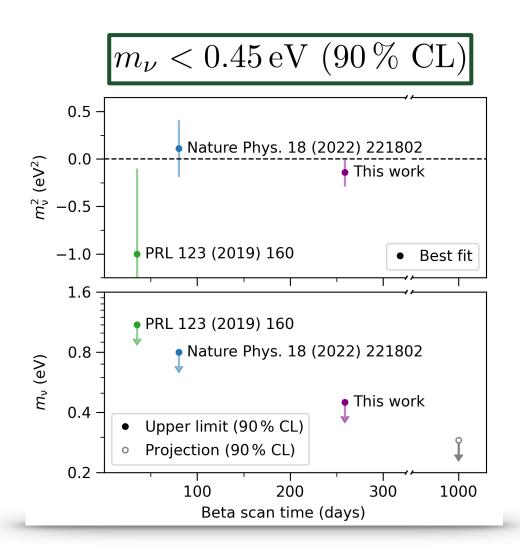
Conclusion and Outlook



 The current KATRIN data release sets an upper bound on the neutrino mass of:

$$m_{\nu} < 0.45 \,\mathrm{eV} \,\,(90 \,\% \,\,\mathrm{CL})$$

- keV sterile search ruled-out most of the parameter space allowed by the gallium anomaly and a large section of the RAA allowed region.
- Ongoing data taking through $2025 \rightarrow 1000 \text{ days}$
 - Targeting a sensitivity below 0.3 eV.



Conclusion and Outlook

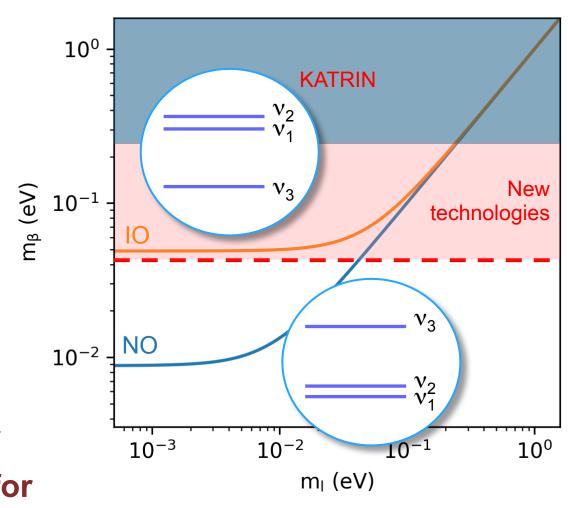


Neutrino Sterile Search:

- 2026: we will modify the detector from an integral measurement to a differential measurement in order to detect sterile neutrinos with masses up to 18 keV.
- Katrin++: R&D program to develop an experiment with sensitivity on m_{β} < 0.05 eV. It would cover the inverted order. It requires:
 - A high resolution detection: MAC-E with compensator or/and a differential method with quantum sensors;
 - A tritium atomic source cooled down to mK to reduce the systematics.

New opportunities to look for new-v with lower mixing angles.
 Thank you for

your attention!

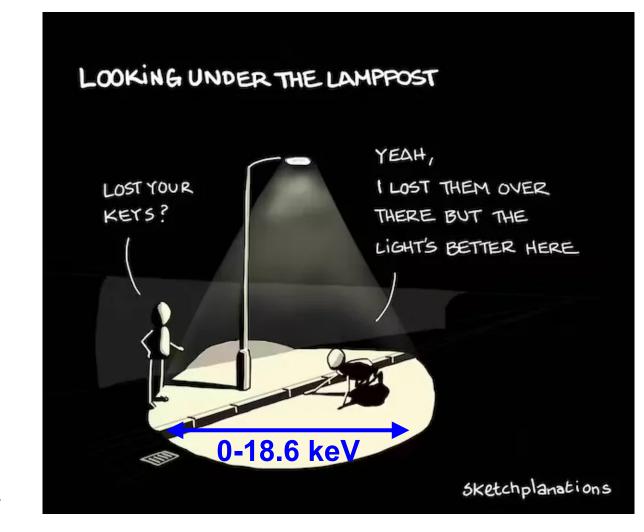


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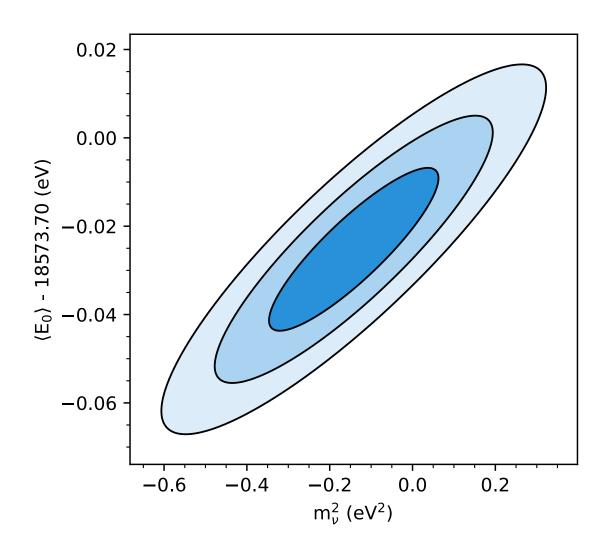
Backup Slides

Overview of the KATRIN Runs

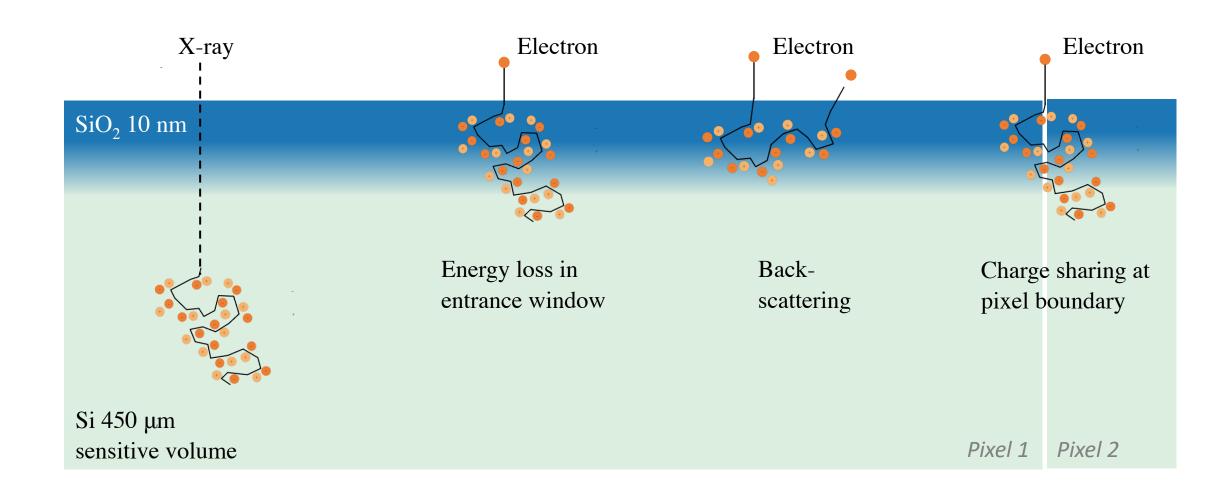
Table 1: Key features of the measurement campaigns. The live time corresponds to the data used for analysis. The values are quoted for the number of active pixels in each measurement campaign and all the scan-steps above $E_0 - 40 \,\mathrm{eV}$.

	KNM1	KNM2	KNM3-SAP	KNM3-NAP	KNM4-NOM	KNM4-OPT	KNM5
Year	2019	2019	2020	2020	2020	2020	2021
Month	04 - 05	10 - 12	06 - 07	07	09 - 10	10 - 12	04 - 06
Measurement days	35	45	14	14	49	30	72
Analyzing plane	nominal	nominal	shifted	nominal	shifted	shifted	shifted
Pre-spectrometer voltage (kV)	-10.5	-10.5	-10.5	-10.5	-10.5	-10.5 / -0.1	-0.1
Scan-step duration	nominal	nominal	nominal	nominal	nominal	optimized	optimized
Rear-wall	-	-	-	-	-	-	cleaned
Source temperature (K)	30	30	80	80	80	80	80
Background rate (cps)	0.29	0.22	0.12	0.22	0.13	0.13	0.14
Number of scans	274	361	114	116	320	150	422
Live time (hrs)	522	694	220	224	835	432	1226
Active pixels	117	117	126	126	126	126	126
Column density ($\times 10^{21} \mathrm{m}^{-2}$)	1.08	4.20	2.05	3.70	3.76	3.76	3.77
Source activity (GBq)	24	94	46	83	84	84	84
Number of counts ($\times 10^6$)	2.03	4.31	1.07	1.43	5.64	4.58	16.65

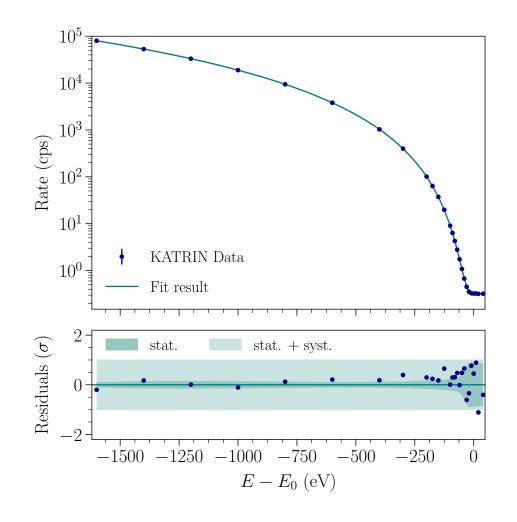
Correlation Between Mass and Endpoint

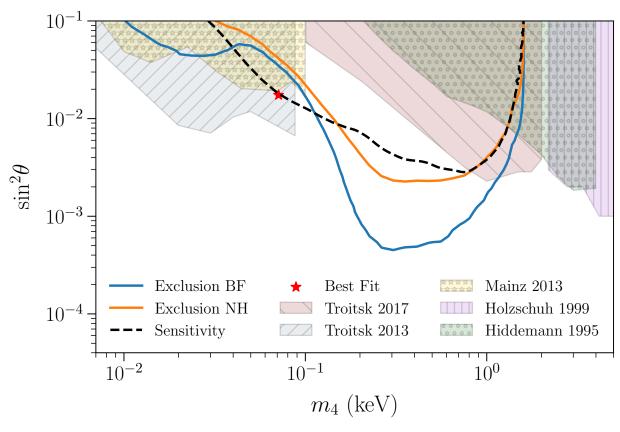


Interaction in the SDD Detector



Search for Sterile Neutrinos in the First Campaign





12 day measurement taken during KATRIN commissioning up to 1.6 keV below the endpoint Improves on laboratory limits for m_4 from 0.1-1.0 keV.

Eur. Phys. J. C (2023) 83:763