# The First KATRIN Neutrino Mass Result

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On behalf the KATRIN collaboration



#### Neutrino mass





#### Neutrino mass





#### Kinematic Measurement Concept

- Kinematic determination of the neutrino mass
- Non-zero neutrino mass reduces the endpoint and distorts the spectrum





#### Experimental Challenges





#### Where do we stand?



- Current limit: Mainz and Troitsk Experiment
- Ongoing experiments: Distinguish between degenerate and hierarchical scenario
- New ideas: Resolve normal vs inverted neutrino mass hierarchy

Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino Experiment

Appast

Russian Academy of Sciences

Max-Planck-Institut für Phy

Hochschule Fulda

University of Applied Sciences

MAX-PLANCK-INSTITUT FÜR KERNPHYSIK HEIDELBERG

WILHELMS-UNIVERSITÄ

WESTFÄLISCHE

MÜNSTER

THE UNIVERSITY of NORTH CAROLINA

at CHAPEL HILL

UNIVERSITÄT MAIN

BERGISCHE UNIVERSITÄT WUPPERTAL

CRS

WASHINGTON

The Czech Academy

universität**bonn** 

BERKELEY LAB

of Sciences

**TECHNISCHE** 

UNIVERSITÄT

MÜNCHEN

ASE WESTERN RESERVEN

/lassachusette

Institute of Technology

- Experimental site: Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)
- International Collaboration (150 members)
- Sensitivity m<sub>v</sub> = 0.2 eV (90% CL) after 3 net-years



8

#### **KATRIN Working Principle**





















#### Response to quasi-monoenergic electrons







### KATRIN neutrino mass campaign #1 (KNM-1)

- First ever high-activity tritium operation of KATRIN
- April 10 May 13 2019: **780 h (4 weeks)**
- high-quality data collected **2 million electrons**
- ✓ First neutrino mass result





### Tritium operation of KATRIN

• tritium gas density:

#### 22% of nominal (burn-in period)

- high isotopic tritium purity:
- high source activity:

2.45 · 10<sup>10</sup> Bq

97.5%





#### Tritium operation of KATRIN

- tritium gas density:
- high isotopic tritium purity:

4.9 g/day

• high source activity:







expectation

#### Source Potential

- Filtering energy = qU<sub>spectrometer</sub> qU<sub>source</sub>
- Gold-plated rear wall provides the reference potential, qU<sub>source</sub>
- Optimization of homogeneity and coupling of plasma potential





### Source density

- High-intensity electron gun
- Column density  $1.1 \times 10^{21}$  molecules/m<sup>-2</sup> (precision < 1 %)
- %-ish drift of density observed













#### Focal plane detector

- multi-pixel silicon array
- 117/148 (79%) of all pixels used
- detection efficiency of 90%
- negligible retarding-potential dependence of efficiency
- $\triangleright$  One  $\beta$ -decay spectrum for each pixel







#### Background

• low energy electrons trapped in the spectrometer are guided to the focal plane detector



#### Radon-induced backgrounds





- NEG pumps radon emanation
- $\alpha$ -decays of single <sup>219</sup>Rn atoms (3.96 s)
- Low energy e<sup>-</sup> emission inside spectrometer
- Effective reduction via nitrogen-cooled baffle system
- Non-Poisson fluctuations







#### Neutral Excited Atoms



- Radon exposition during construction  $\rightarrow$  <sup>210</sup>Pb surface contamination
- Rydberg atoms sputtered off from the spectrometer surfaces by <sup>210</sup>Pb  $\alpha$ -decays
- Ionisation by thermal radiation
- Low energy e<sup>-</sup> emission inside spectrometer
- Scale as the spectrometer flux-tube volume...



#### Misleading Display of $m_{\nu}$ Imprint





#### Correct Display of Neutrino Mass



previous region of interest displayed -

#### Integral spectrum modeling





#### Molecular Final States







#### Tritium Beta Decay calculation

Fermi spectra summed over all rob-vib molecular final states

 $R_{\rm calc}(\langle qU \rangle) = A_{\rm s} \cdot N_{\rm T} \int R_{\beta}(E) \cdot f_{\rm calc}(E - \langle qU \rangle) \, dE + R_{\rm bg}$  $R_{\beta}(E) = \frac{G_{\rm F}^2 \cdot \cos^2 \Theta_{\rm C}}{2\pi^3} \cdot |M_{\rm nucl}^2| \cdot F(E, Z')$  $\cdot (E + m^2)^{1/2}$  $\cdot (E + m_{\rm e}) \cdot \sqrt{(E + m_{\rm e})^2 - m_{\rm e}^2}$  Fit part  $\cdot \sum_{\rm i} \zeta_j \cdot \varepsilon_j \cdot \sqrt{\varepsilon_j^2 - m_{\nu}^2} \cdot \Theta(\varepsilon_j - m_{\nu})$ parameter final states  $\varepsilon_j = E_0 - E - V_j$ 32



#### Simplified but helpful view of the signal

 $R(qU, E_0, m_v^2) \propto (qU - E_0)^3 - m_v^2 (qU - E_0)$ 



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#### Simplified but helpful view of the signal

 $R(qU, E_0, m_{\nu}^2) \propto (qU - E_0)^3 - m_{\nu}^2 (qU - E_0)$ 



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### **Electron Transmission Model**





#### Summary of Expected Signal



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#### Impact of <u>any</u> mis-modeling?

spectrum convoluted with gaussian



Mimick a 'negative' $m_{\nu}^2$ 

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 $R(qU, E_0, m_{\nu}^2) \propto (qU - E_0)^3 + 2 \sigma_{missed}^2 (qU - E_0)$ 



#### Fit of a single 2-h beta-scan



- A single  $2h\beta$ -scan
- $m_{\nu}$  fixed to 0
- 3 parameter fit
  - Tritium Activity, A<sub>s</sub>
  - Endpoint, E<sub>0</sub>
  - Background, R<sub>bg</sub>
- High quality data

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#### Stability over 274 scans

- All detector pixels combined
- Stability of fitted endpoint in time



#### Uniformity over 117 pixels



- All scans combined
- Spatial homogeneity over detector wafer





#### ... combination of 32058 spectra





#### 3-fold bias free final fit





#### Two independent analysis approaches







#### Budget of uncertainties





#### What do we expected to measure?





#### Final fit result (neutrino mass)



- 2 million events
- 4 free parameters: background, signal normalization,  $E_0$ ,  $m_v^2$
- excellent goodness-of-fit: p-value = 0.56
- Neutrino mass best fit

$$m_{
u}^2 = ig(-1.\,0^{+0.9}_{-1.1}ig)$$
eV²



#### Actual Result Compared to Expectation



- \* 18.7% probability to find a  $m_{\nu}{}^2$  value less than 1 eV^2
- Shift interpreted as  $1\sigma$  statistical fluctuation
- Best-fit  $m_{\nu}^2$  fully consistent with expectations





#### New KATRIN limit





#### Lokhov and Tkachov (LT)

- m<sub>v</sub> < 1.1 eV (90% CL) = sensitivity
- official KATRIN limit

#### Feldman and Cousins (FC)

- m<sub>v</sub> < 0.8 eV (90% CL)
- m<sub>v</sub> < 0.9 eV (95% CL)



#### Historical context



Squared neutrino mass values obtained from tritium  $\beta$  -decay in the period 1990-2019



#### Improvements in statistics



Squared neutrino mass Uncertainties obtained from tritium  $\beta$  -decay in the period 1990-2019



#### Improvements in systematics







#### Conclusion

- High-quality data collected over 780 hours @25 GBq = 5 days of nominal KATRIN @100GBq
  - World Best Direct Neutrino Mass Measurement:  $m_{\nu} < 1.1 \text{ eV}$  (90% C.L.)
    - more information: <u>http://arxiv.org/abs/1909.06048</u>
      - see also https://arxiv.org/abs/1909.06069
      - Background improvement experimentally verified
         ...towards the 0.2 eV 5y design goal
    - Promising perspectives to search for eV to keV sterile neutrinos





## Thanks for your attention