

# Pushing the Frontier in Measuring the Mass of the Lightest Lepton

## Results from the Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino Experiment

Magnus Schlösser for the KATRIN collaboration

9th International Conference on New Frontiers in Physics 2020

INSTITUTE FOR NUCLEAR PHYSICS, TRITIUM LABORATORY KARLSRUHE

November 2019



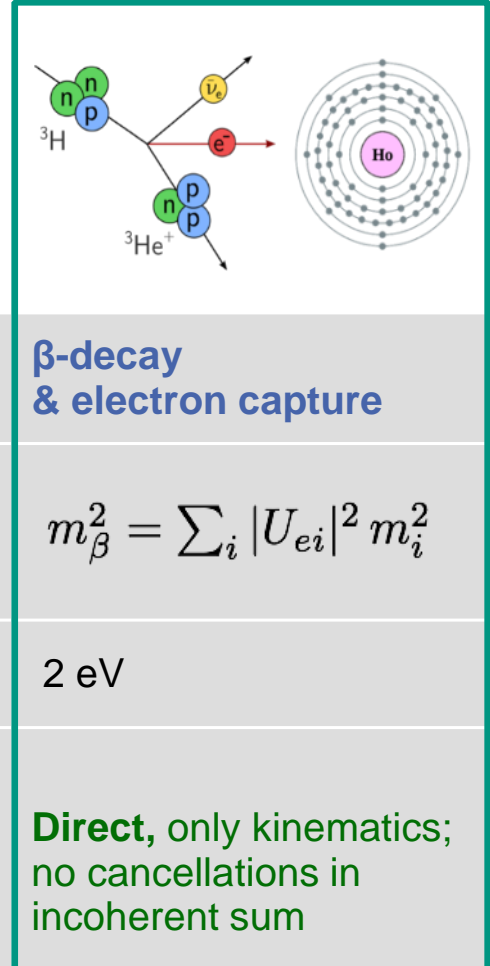
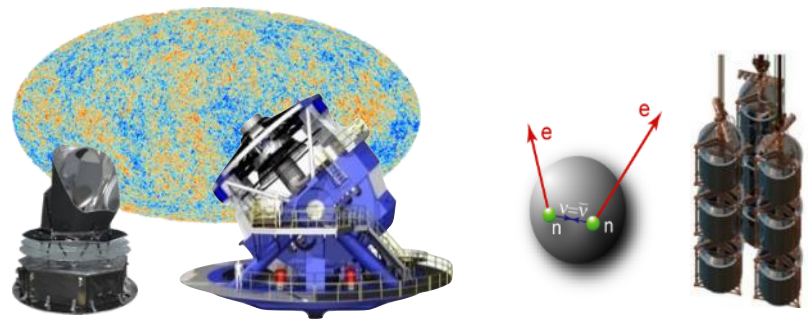
November 2006

# Short motivation

$\sim 300$  neutrinos per  $\text{cm}^3$

$m_\nu?$

# Ways to access the neutrino mass

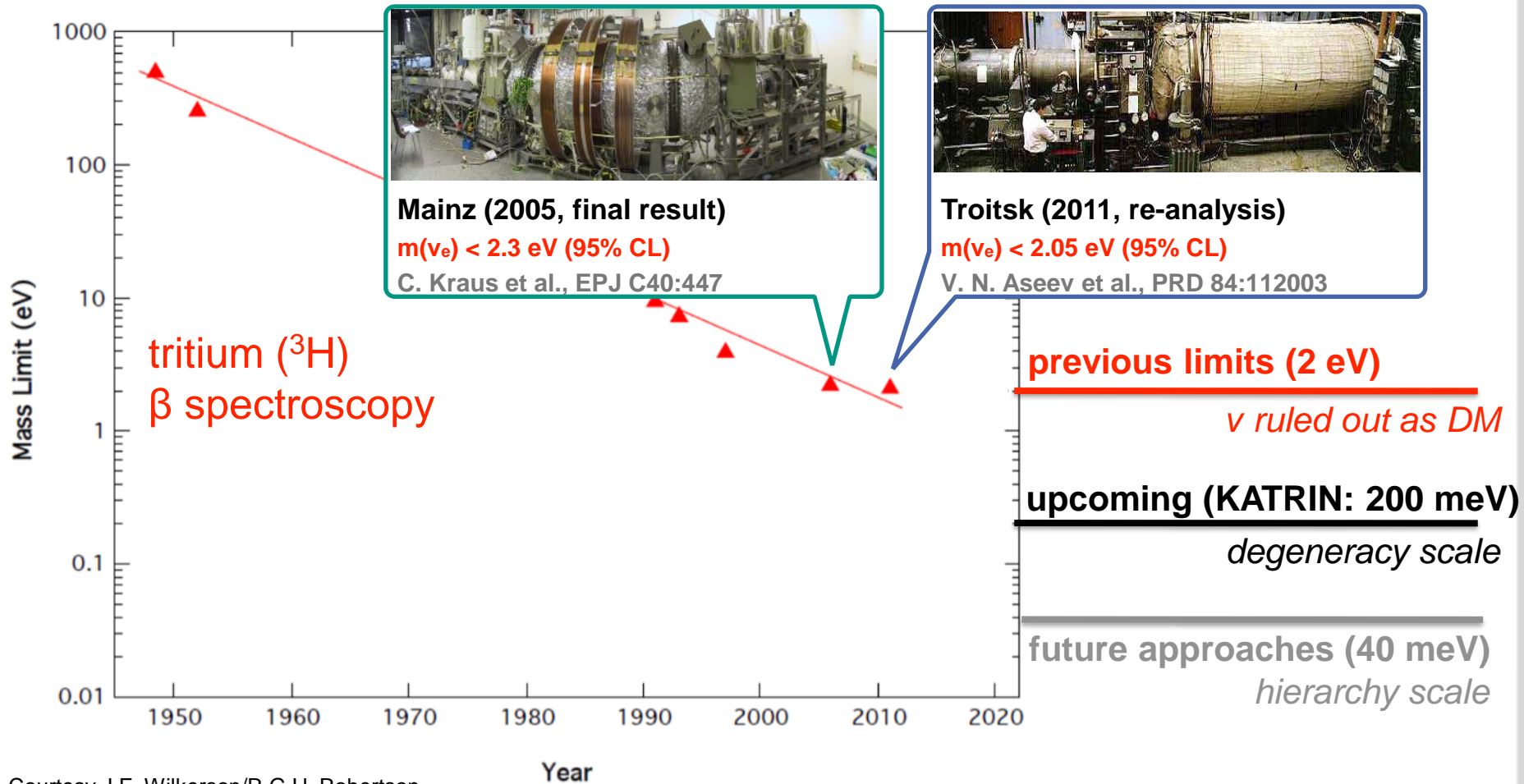


	Cosmology	Search for $0\nu\beta\beta$	$\beta$ -decay & electron capture
<b>Observable</b>	$M_\nu = \sum_i m_i$	$m_{\beta\beta}^2 =  \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i ^2$	$m_\beta^2 = \sum_i  U_{ei} ^2 m_i^2$
<b>Present upper limit</b>	0.12 – 1 eV	0.2 – 0.4 eV	2 eV
<b>Model dependence</b>	Multi-parameter cosmological model	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Majorana <math>\nu</math></li> <li>- contributions other than <math>m(\nu)</math>?</li> <li>- nuclear matrix elements, <math>g_A</math></li> </ul>	<b>Direct</b> , only kinematics; no cancellations in incoherent sum

**KATRIN → 200 meV**

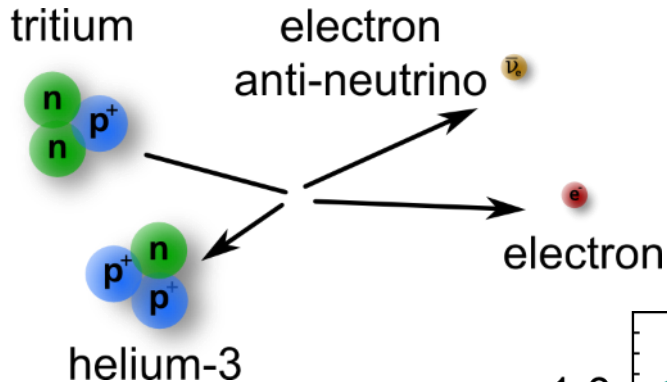


# Moore's Law of direct neutrino mass searches



Courtesy J.F. Wilkerson/R.G.H. Robertson

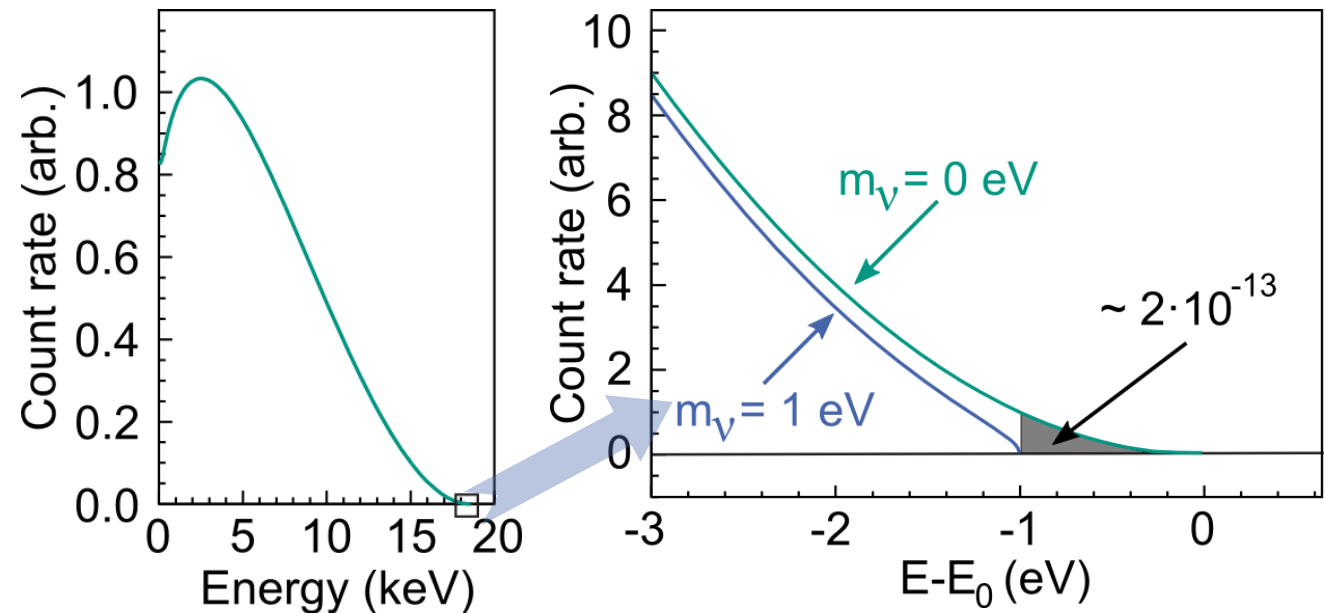
# Tritium $\beta$ -decay



$E_0 = 18.6 \text{ keV}$   
 $T_{1/2} = 12.3 \text{ y}$

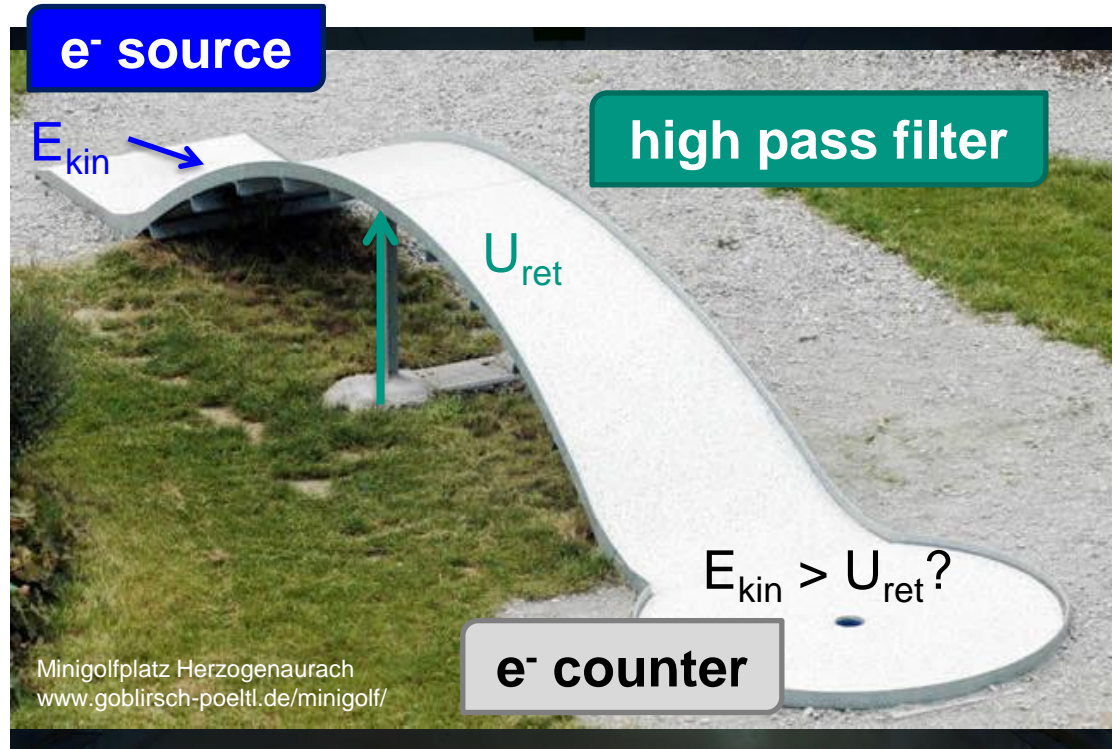
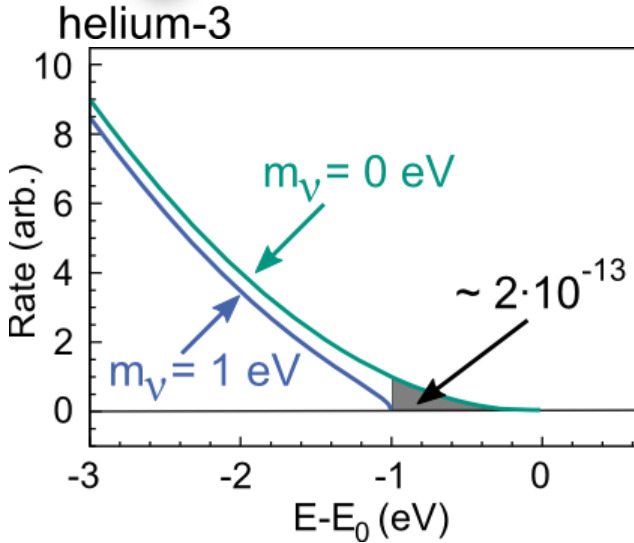
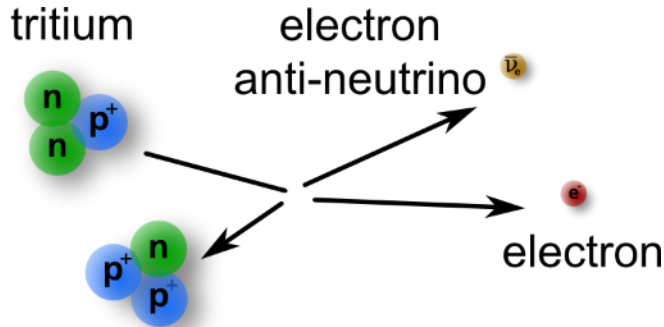
## $\beta$ -electron spectrum

$$\frac{dN}{dE} \propto \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_{\nu_i}^2 c^4}$$

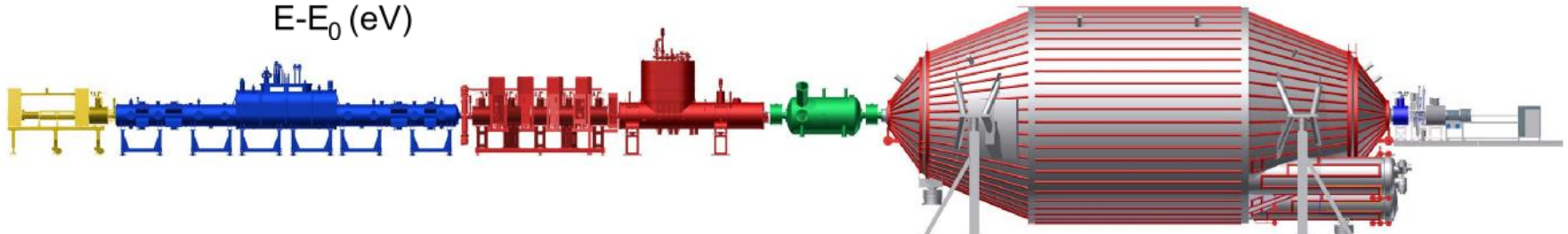


**KATRIN's aim: Measurement of  $m_{\nu}$  with a sensitivity of 200 meV/c<sup>2</sup>**

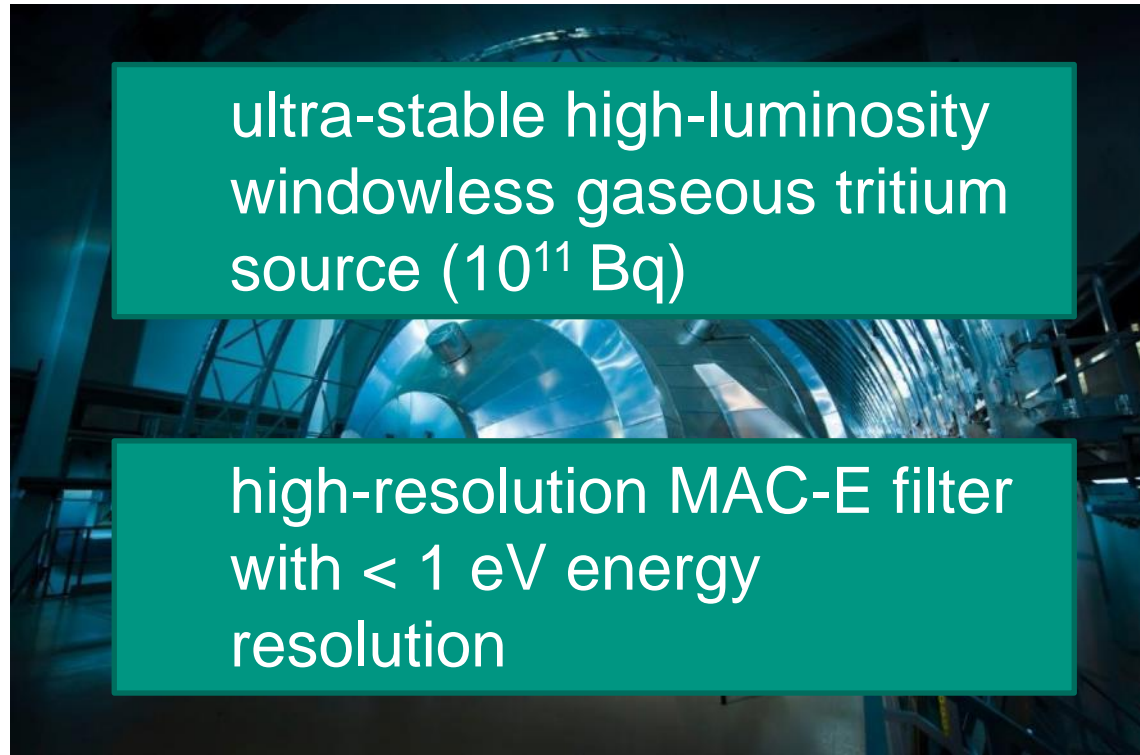
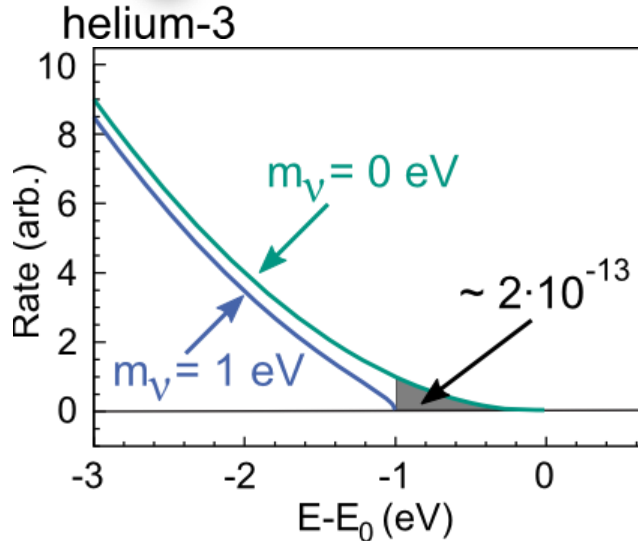
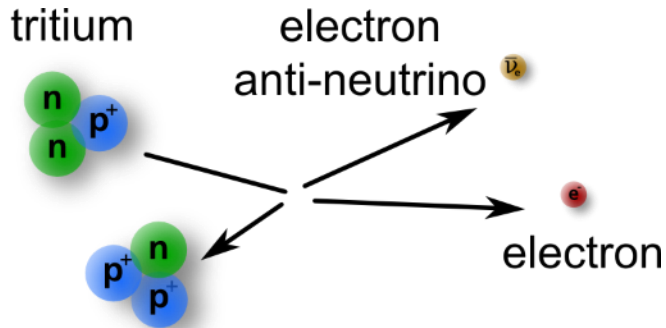
# The Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino Experiment



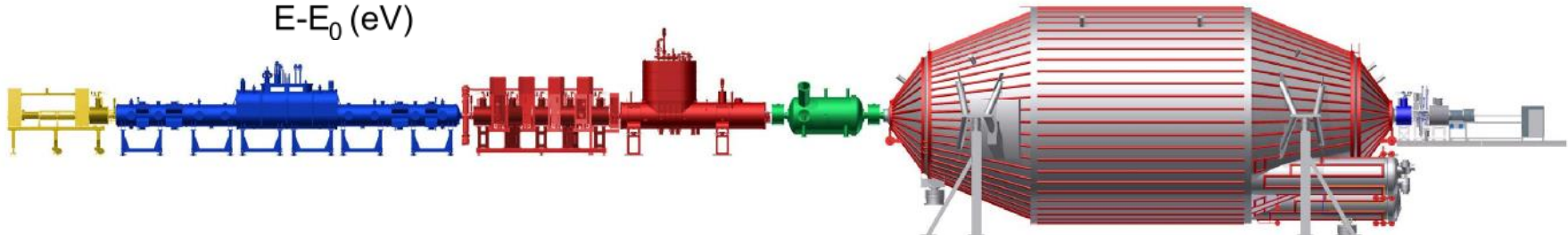
[katrin.kit.edu](http://katrin.kit.edu)



# The Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino Experiment



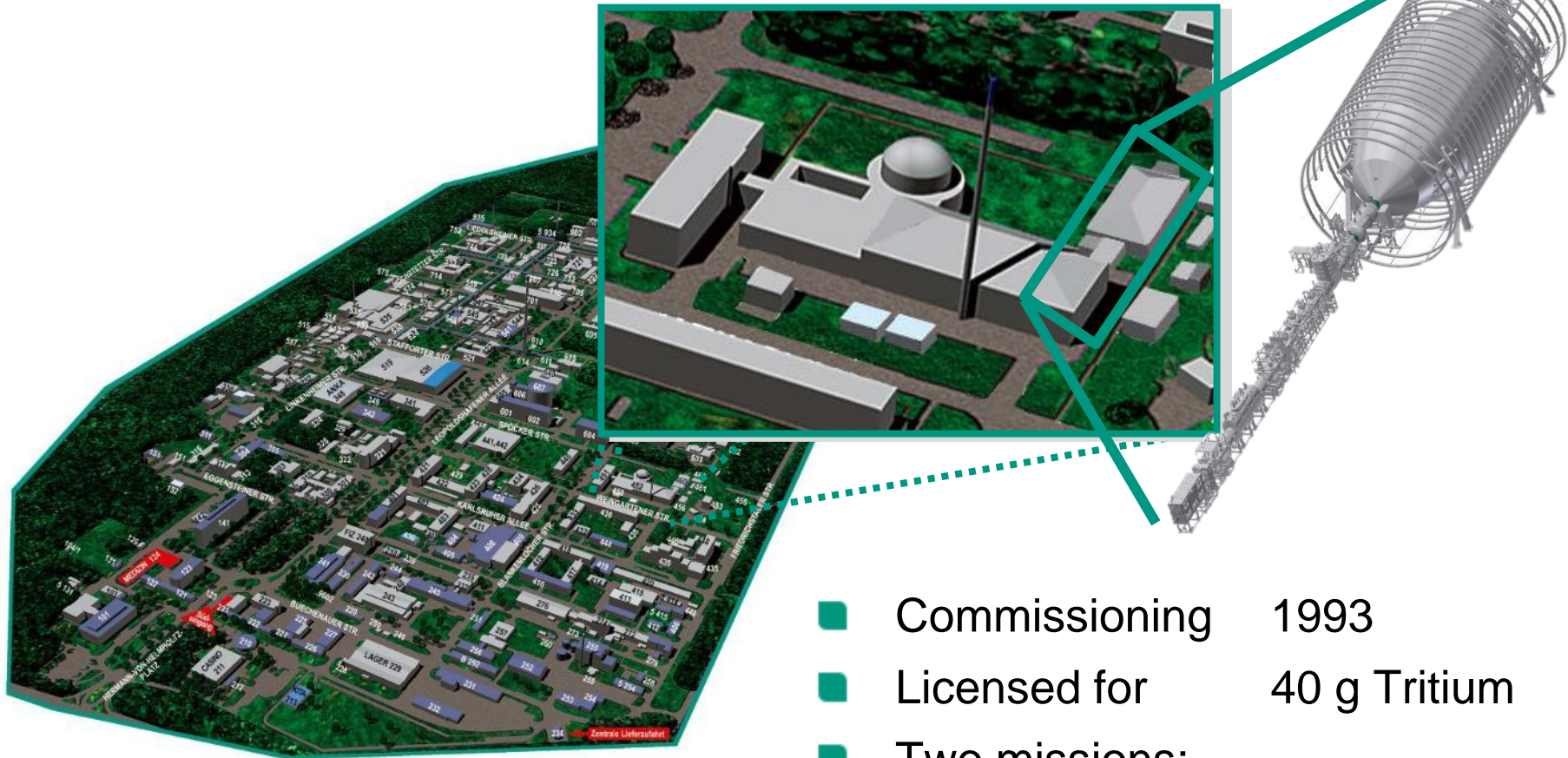
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# The Tritium Laboratory Karlsruhe

## Tritium Laboratory Karlsruhe (TLK)

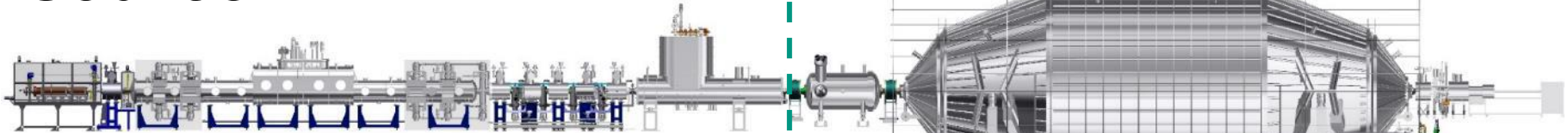


Karlsruhe Institute of Technology  
Campus North

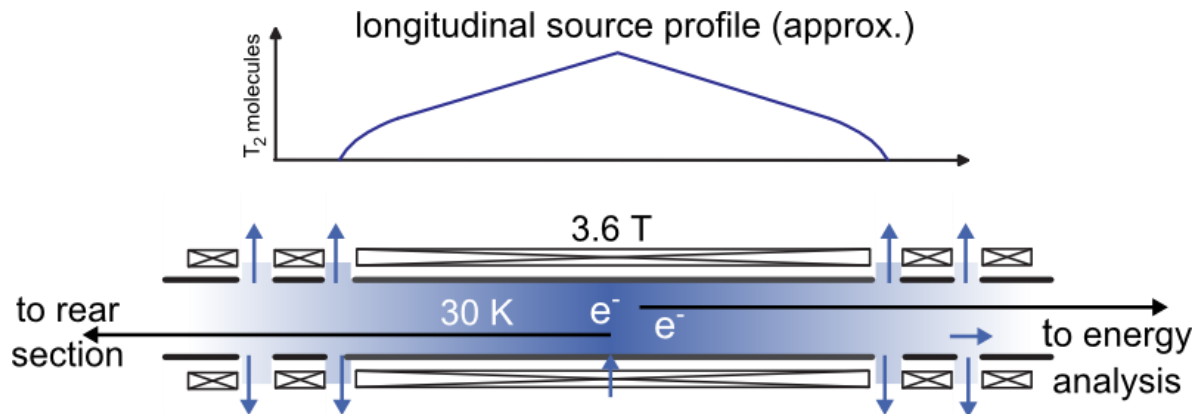
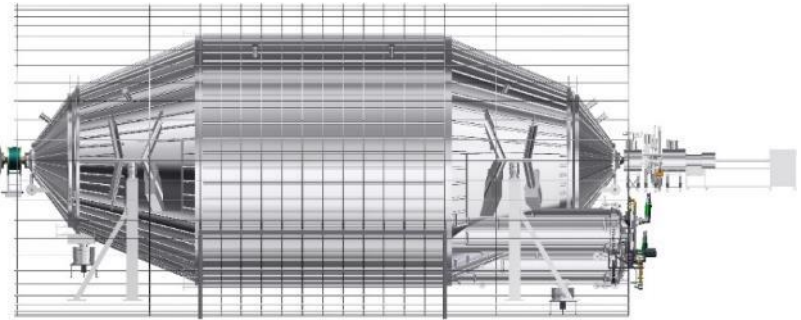
- Commissioning 1993
- Licensed for 40 g Tritium
- Two missions:
  - Fuel cycle for fusion reactors
  - KATRIN Experiment



# A high-luminosity, ultra-stable tritium source



**T<sub>2</sub> retention before spectrometers >10<sup>14</sup>**

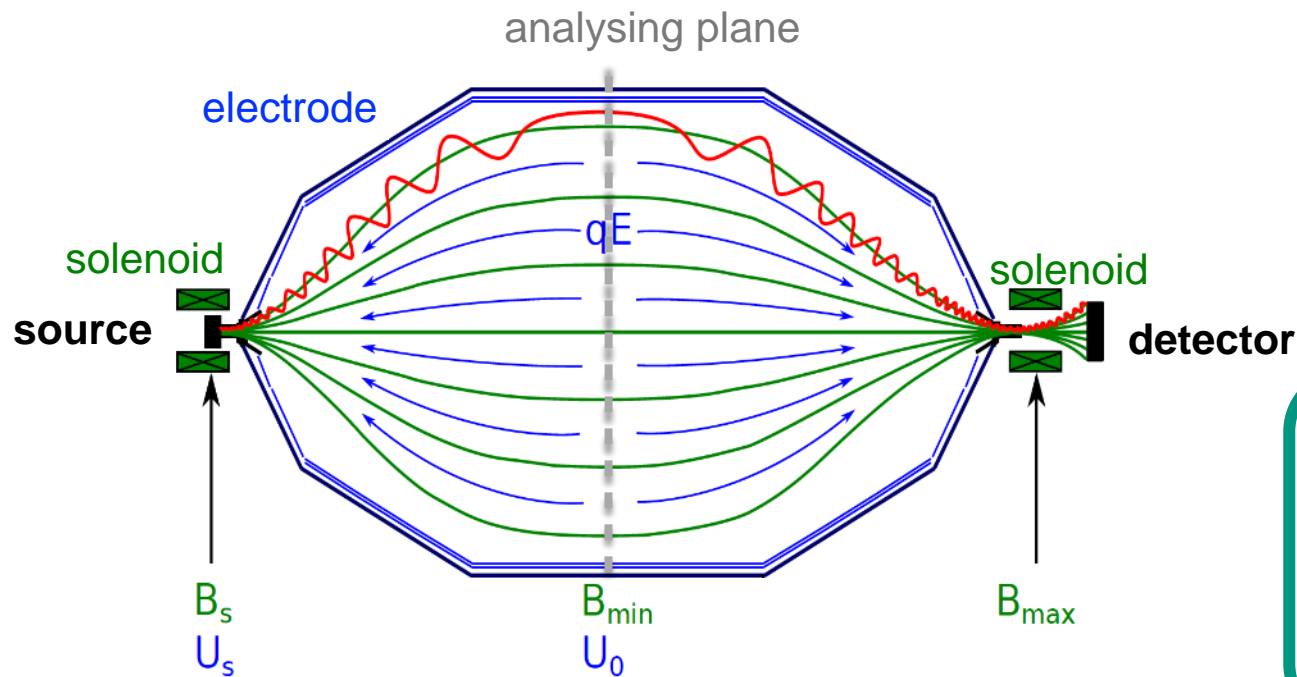


- T<sub>2</sub> purity > 95%
- Source activity 10<sup>11</sup> Bq
- Source profile stable to 10<sup>-3</sup> level
- T<sub>2</sub> throughput ~ 40 g/day
- Operation 24/7, 60 days/run
- Necessary inventory >15 g

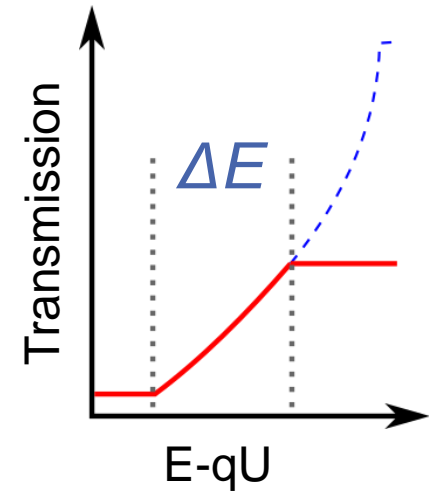
# High-resolution spectrometer: MAC-E filter

Magnetic Adiabatic Collimation & Electrostatic Filter:

- integrating electrostatic filter ( $E_{kin} > eU_0$ )
- “clean” (analytic) response function



Sharp high pass filter:

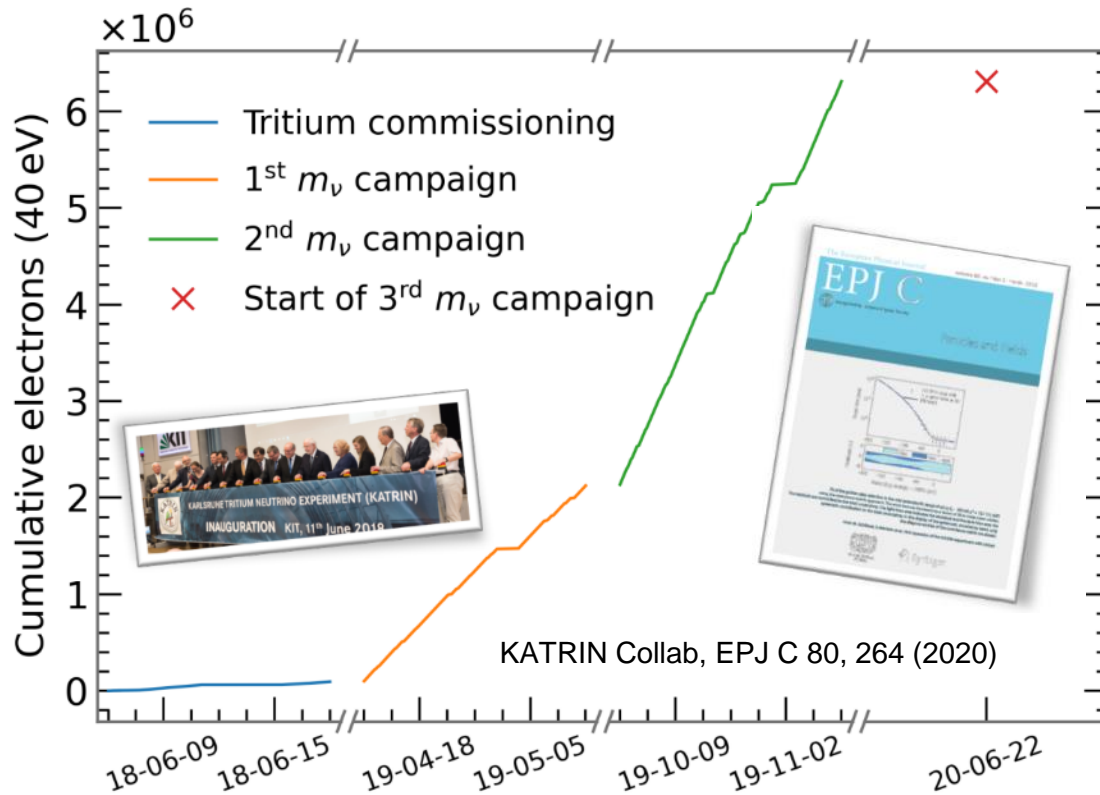


$$\frac{\Delta E}{E} = \frac{B_{min}}{B_{max}}$$

→  $\Delta E < 1 \text{ eV}$  at  $18.6 \text{ keV}$

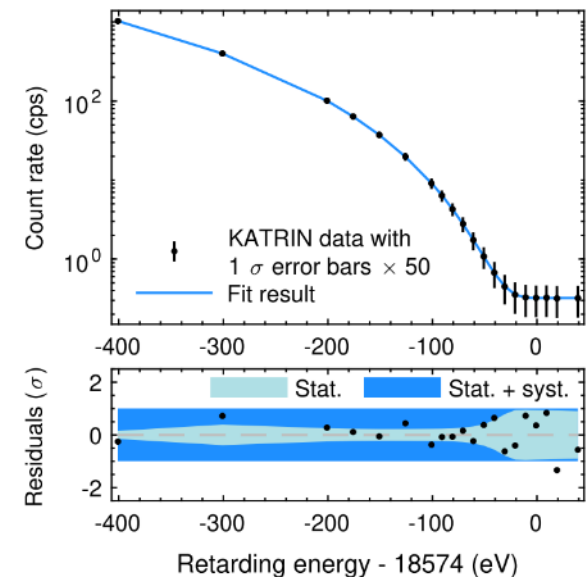
e.g. Kleesiek et al., EPJ. C 79, 204 (2019)

# First tritium „engineering“ run with KATRIN 2018



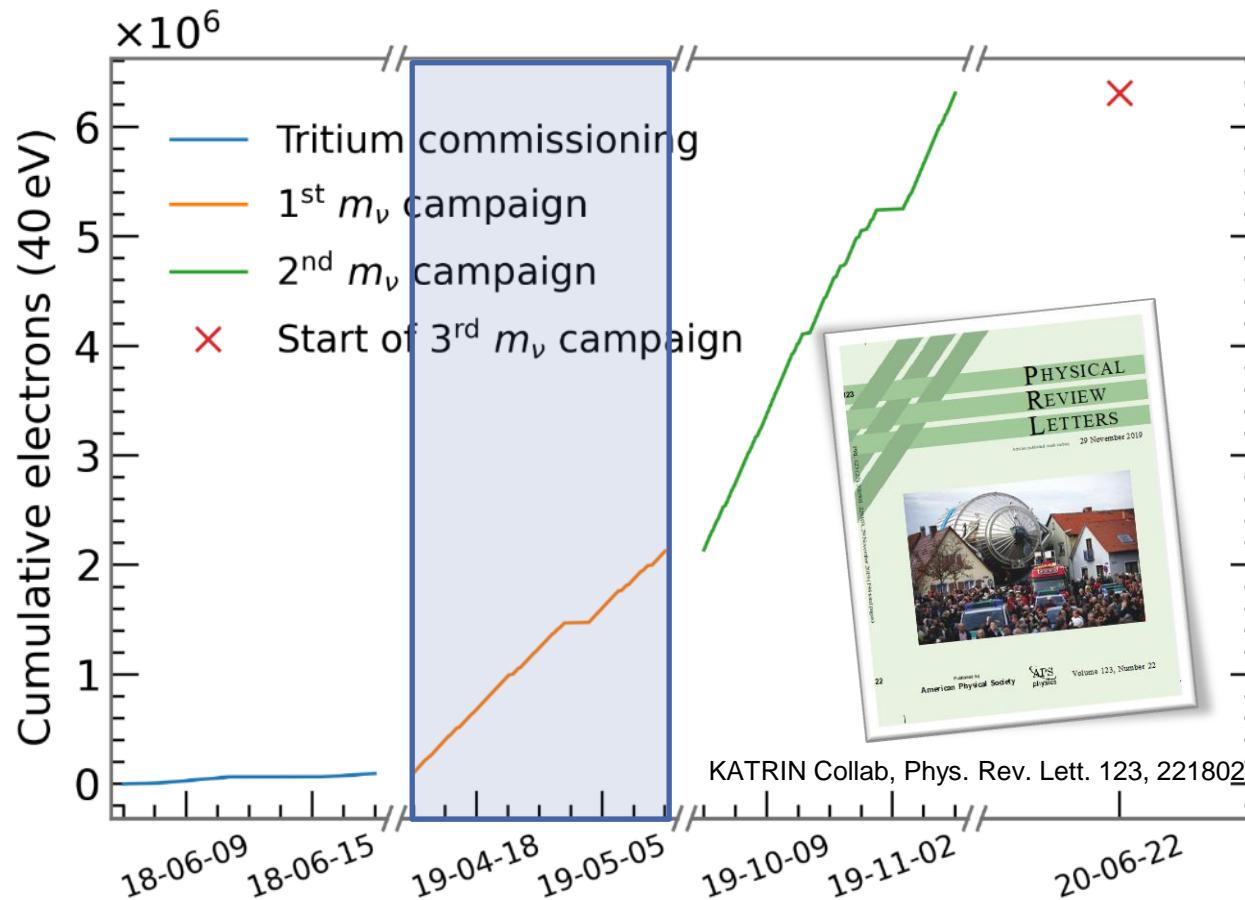
- 2 week run at full column density
- Reduced activity and tritium purity: 1% DT, 99% D<sub>2</sub>

Successful operation of source and spectrometer sections at  $10^{-3}$  stability





# First neutrino mass campaign with KATRIN 2019



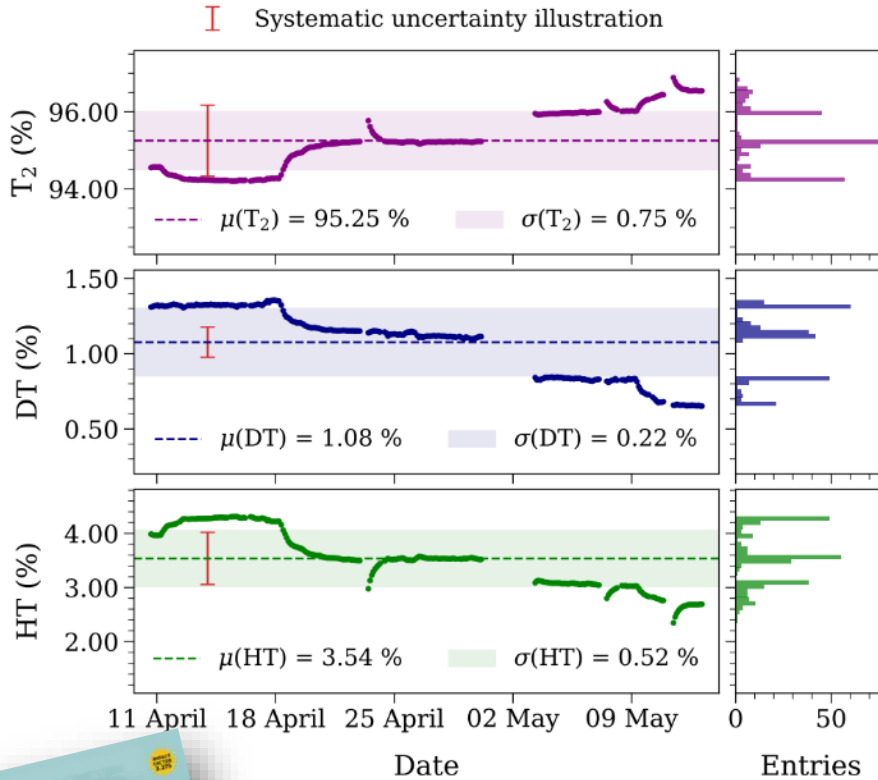
# First KATRIN measurement campaign

- 4-week long campaign with high-purity tritium
- April 10 – May, 13 2019
- 274 spectra (each 2 h)
- 521.7 h for analysis interval  
[ $E_0 - 40$  eV,  $E_0 + 50$  eV]
- Source activity  $2.45 \cdot 10^{10}$  Bq
- Tritium purity ( $\epsilon_T = 97.5$  %)
- Tritium throughput 4.9 g / day



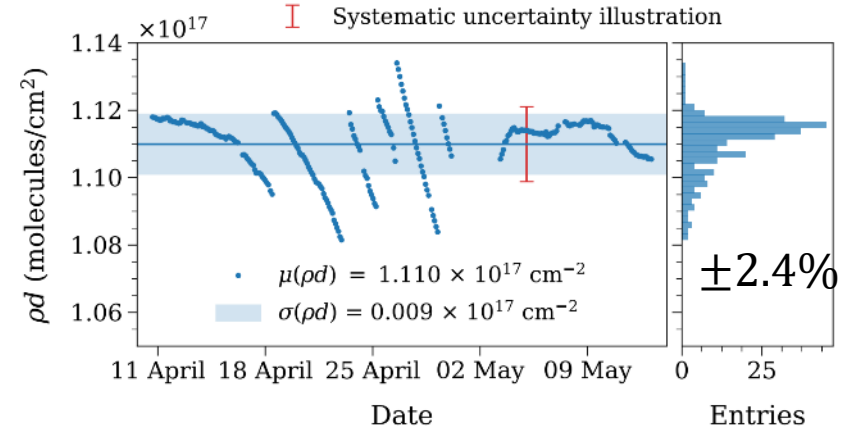
# Tritium source parameters

## Composition via Raman spectroscopy



Very high tritium purity achieved

## Column density



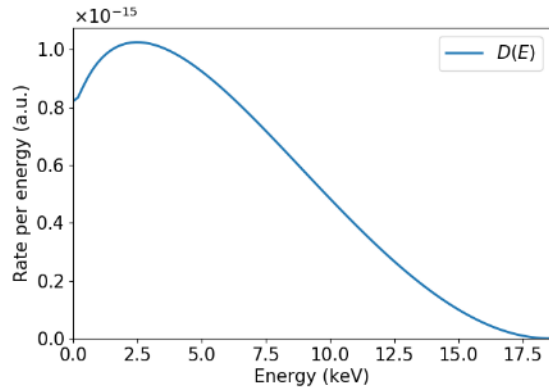
- Reduced column density (22%)
- Radiochemical methane generation
- Throughput limited (initial burn-in effect)



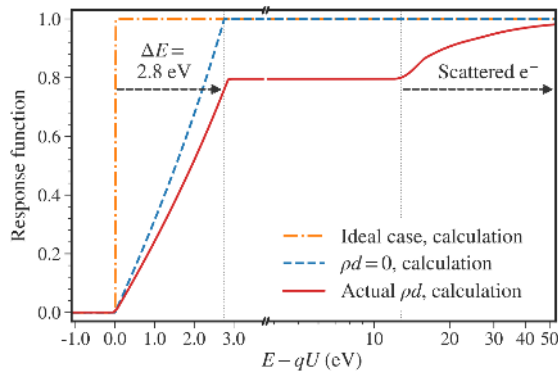
KATRIN Collab, Sensors 2020, 20(17), 4827



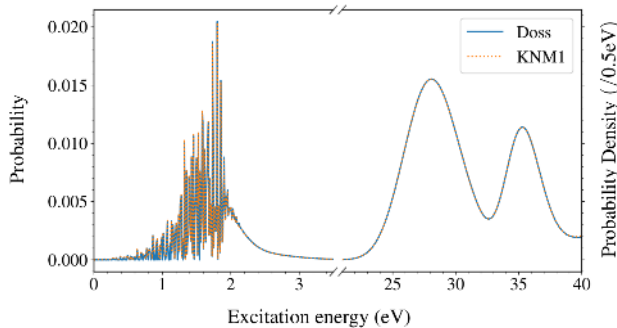
# Ingredients for integral spectrum



Differential spectrum

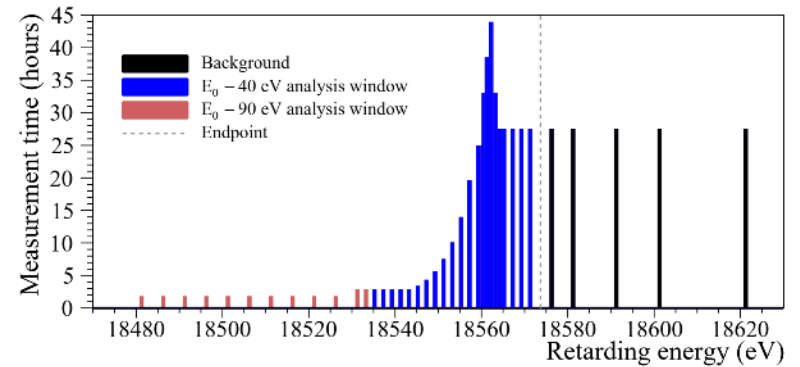


Experimental response (scattering, transmission, ..)

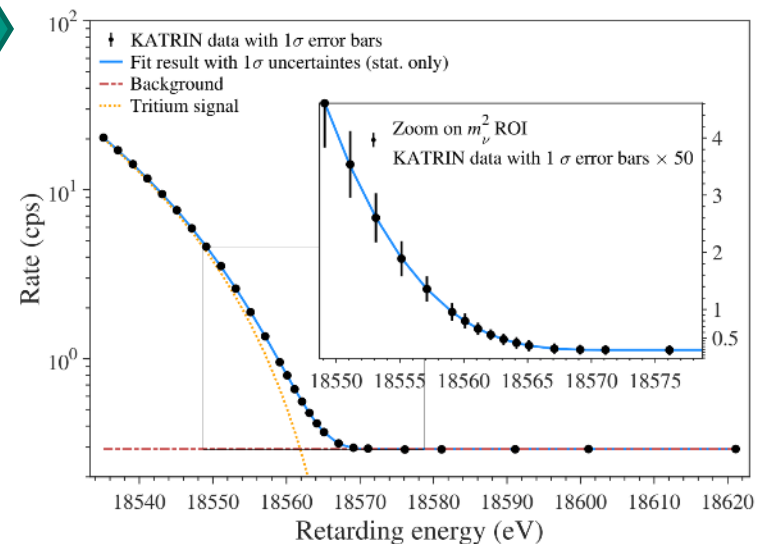


Molecular final state distribution

## Measurement time distribution

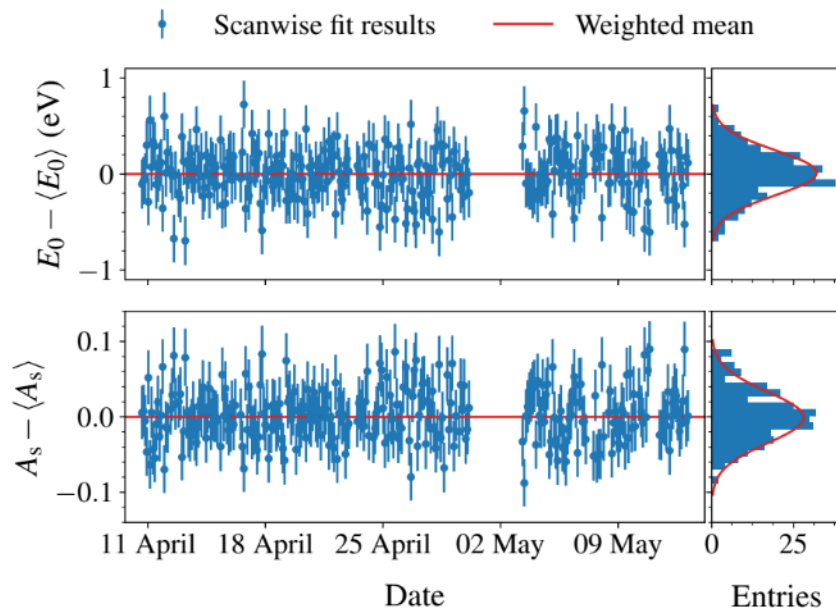


## Integrated spectrum

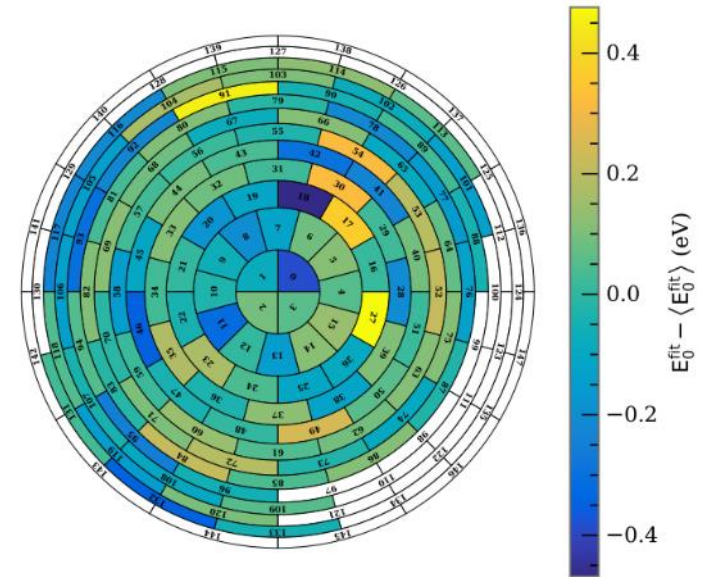


# Generation of final spectrum

No temporal effects in single scan fits



No spatial effects in single pixel fits

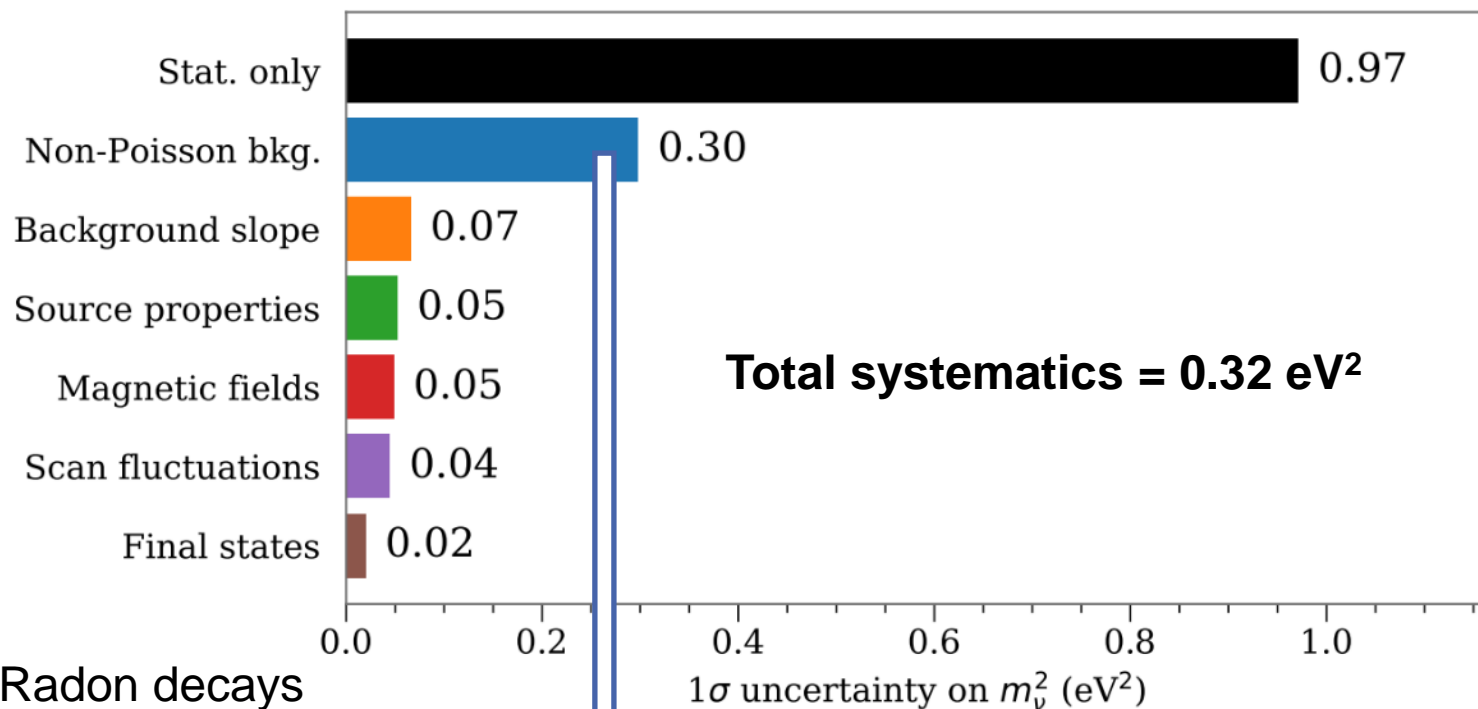


## Strategy for first neutrino mass analysis

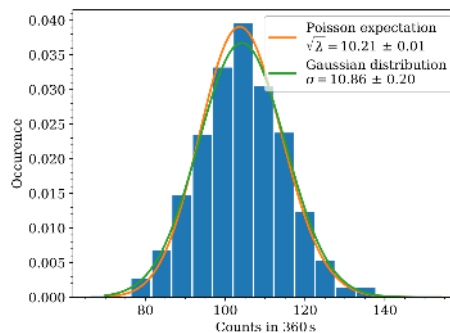
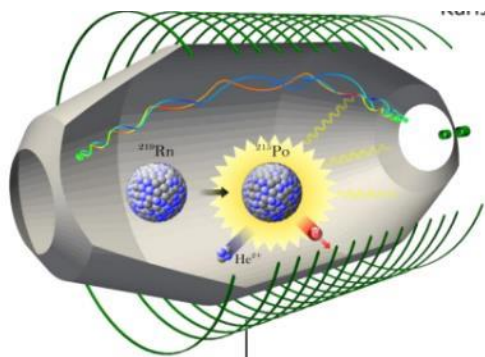
- Add up all runs (average slow control parameters, excellent HV stability!)
- Add up all pixel (average transmission function)

Additional systematics by „simplification“ ( $\ll$  statistical uncertainty in this run!)

# Uncertainty breakdown



Radon decays



**Dominated by statistics**  
(5 effective days of measurements)



# Analysis strategy

## ■ Analysis on Monte Carlo data

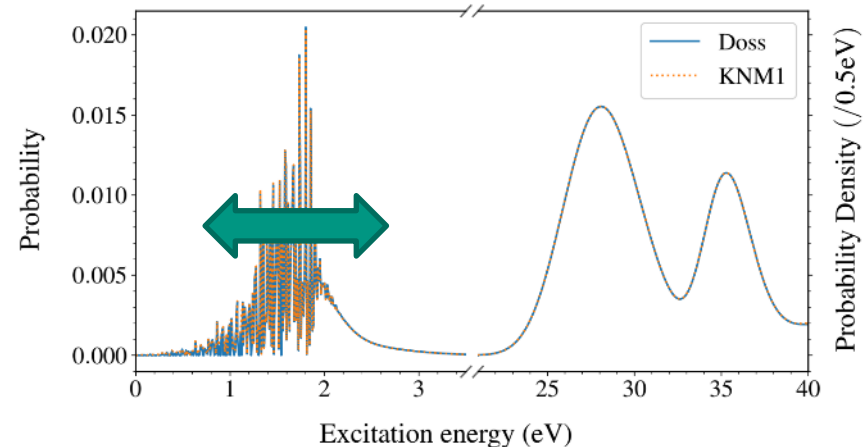
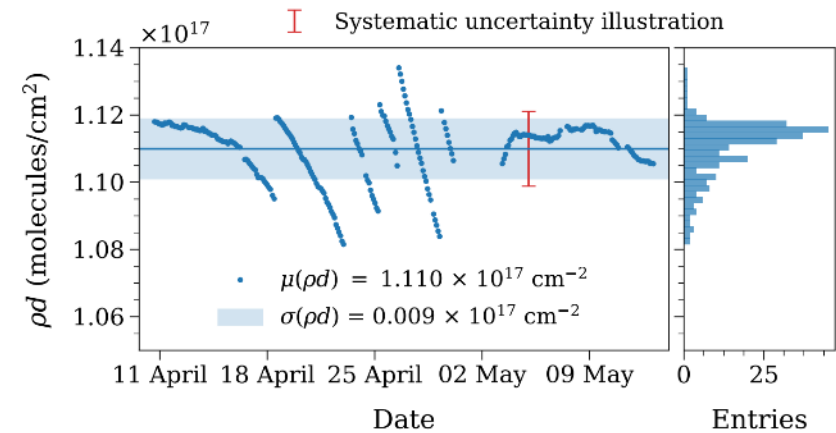
- Generated from actual sensor data
- Neutrino mass = 0 eV
- Freezing before unblinding

## ■ Model blinding

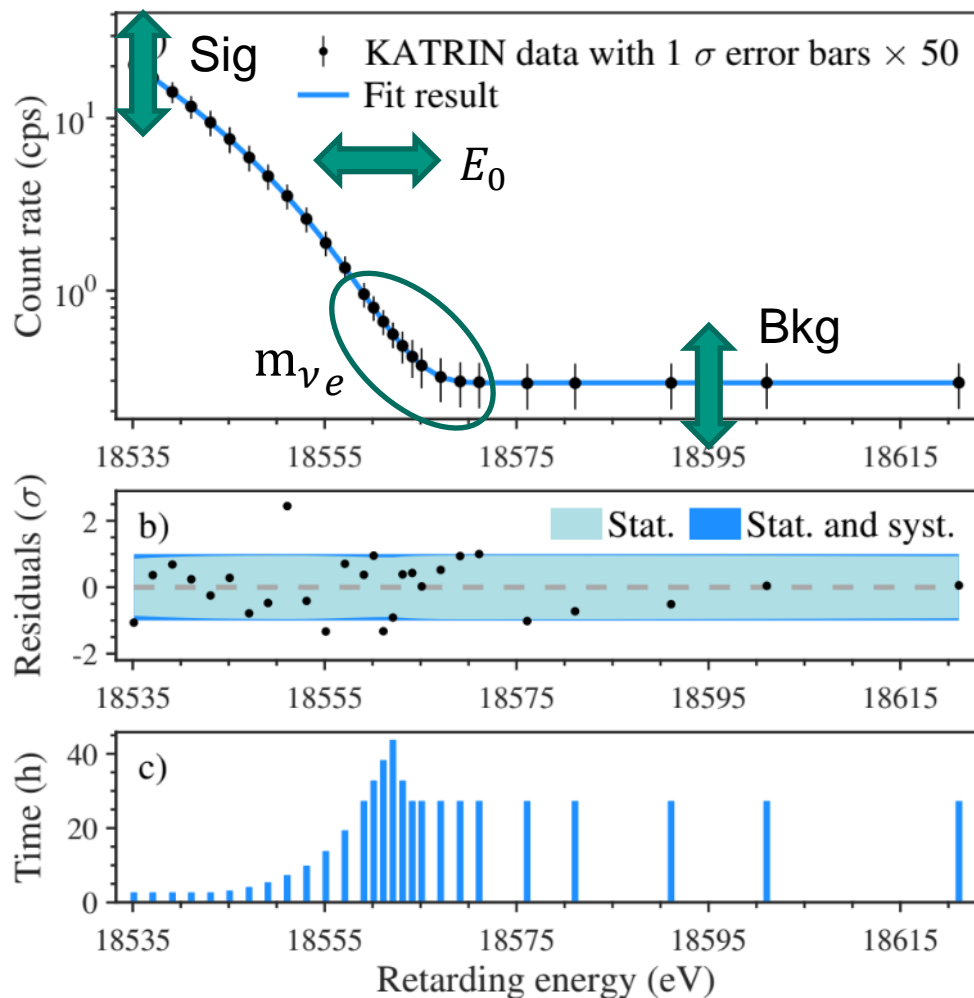
- Add unknown scaling to final-state distribution calculation → would result in shifted neutrino mass

## ■ Independent fitting strategy and teams

- Systematics via 1) Covariance matrix and 2) MC propagation



# Final spectral fit



■ Number of events in ROI:

■  $2 \cdot 10^6$

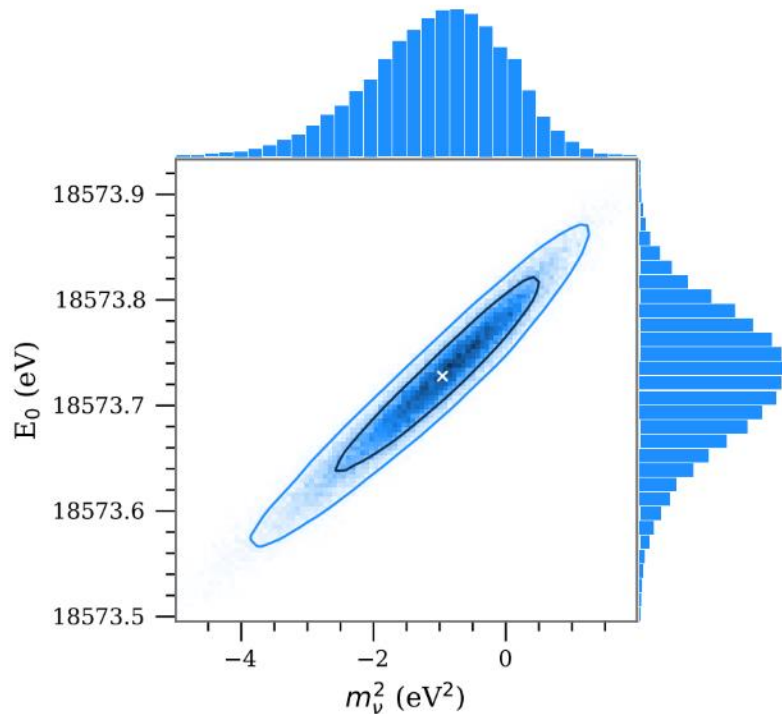
■ 4 parameter fit

Bkg, Sig,  $E_0$ ,  $m_{\nu e}$

■ p-value = 0.56

excellent goodness-of-fit

# Final fit results



- Independent analysis methods  
systematics propagation and  
parameter fit

- Neutrino mass

$$m^2(\nu_e) = (-1.0^{+0.9}_{-1.1}) \text{ eV}^2$$

(90% C. L.)

- Endpoint

$$E_0 = 18573.7 \pm 0.1 \text{ eV}$$

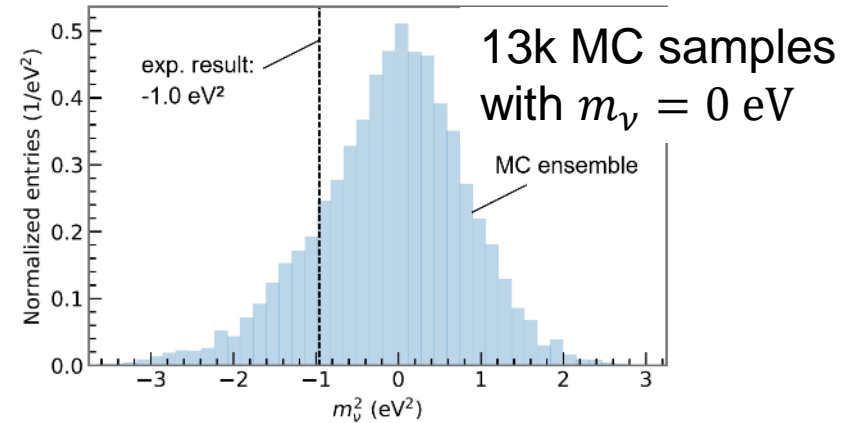
agreement

Q-value ( $\Delta M(\text{T}, {}^3\text{He}) = (18575.2 \pm 0.5) \text{ eV}$   $\longleftrightarrow$  Q-value (KATRIN)  $(18575.72 \pm 0.07) \text{ eV}$

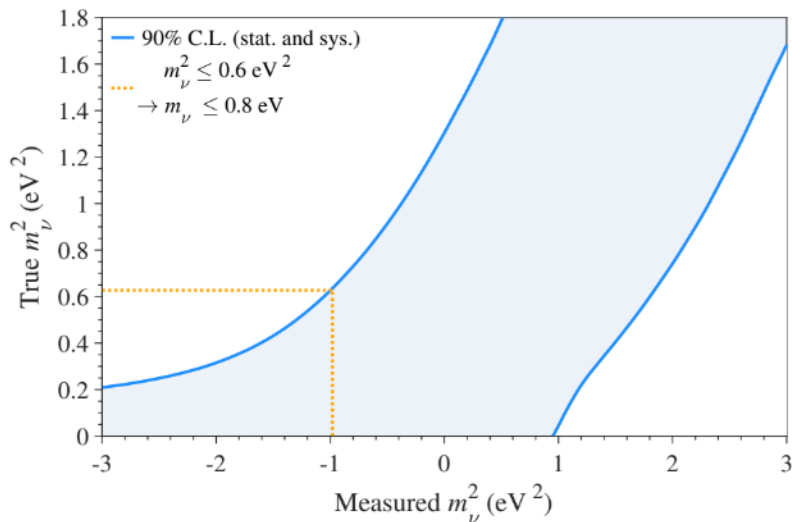
# Understanding of final result

## Confidence belts

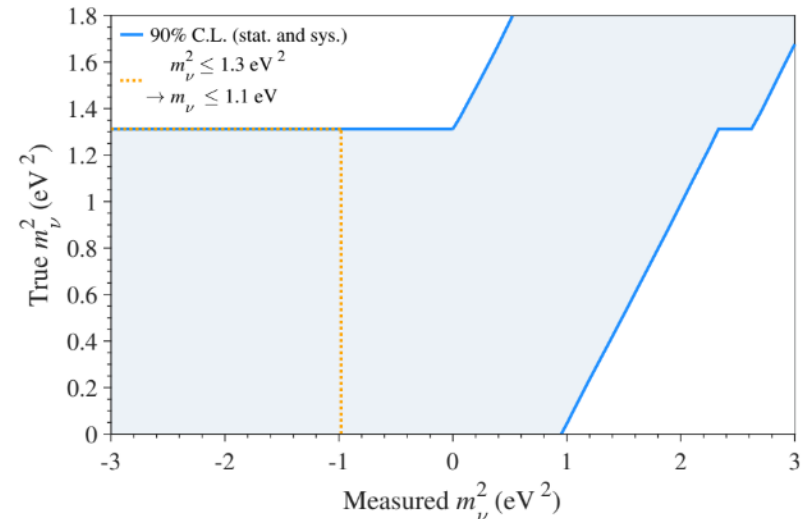
- **Lokhov-Tkachov**  
 $m_\nu < 1.1 \text{ eV}$  (90% CL)
- **Feldman-Cousins**  
 $m_\nu < 0.8 \text{ eV}$  (90% CL)
- **Bayesian Confidence Interval ( $m_\nu^2$ , flat)**  
 $m_\nu < 0.9 \text{ eV}$  (90% CL)



Best fit:  $1\sigma$  fluctuation to negative



**Feldman-Cousins**



**Lokhov-Tkachov**



# Neutrino mass measurements

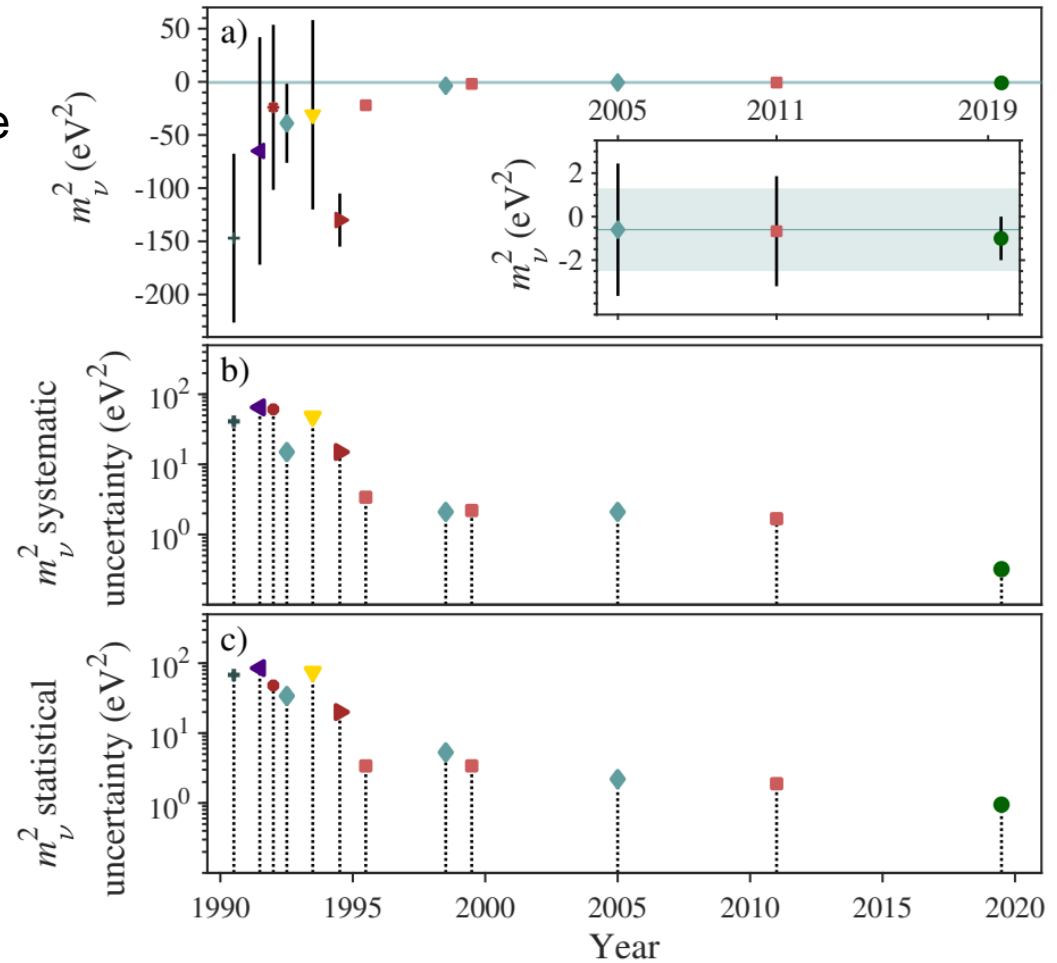
Effective measurement time  
**5 days**

Full KATRIN measurement time  
**1000 days**

Improve systematics:  
**factor 6**

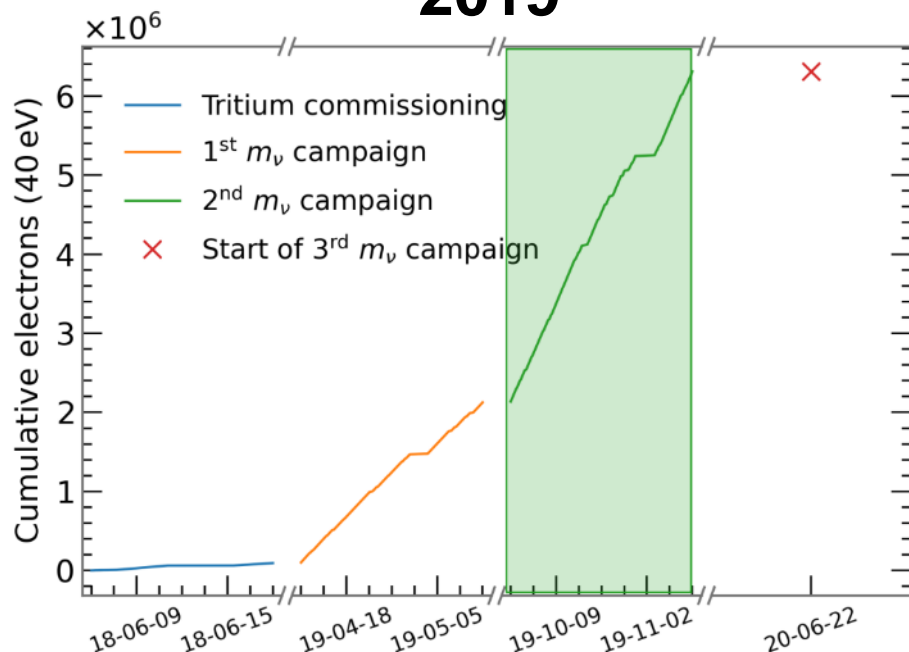
Improve statistics:  
**factor 2**

- † Los Alamos (1991)
- ◆ Mainz (1993)
- ◆ Troitsk (1995)
- ◆ Mainz (2005)
- ◆ Tokyo (1991)
- ◆ Beijing (1993)
- ◆ Mainz (1999)
- ◆ Troitsk (2011)
- ◆ Zurich (1992)
- ◆ Livermore (1995)
- ◆ Troitsk (1999)
- ◆ KATRIN (2019)



# Next neutrino mass campaigns

## 2019

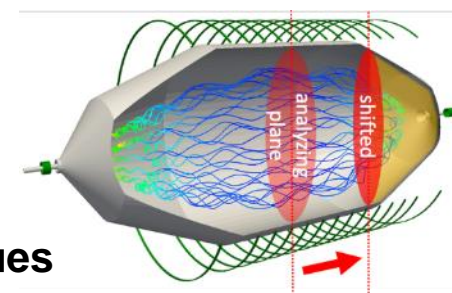


- Measurement time: 31 days
- **Gas density:** 84%
- Isotopic purity: 97.5% tritium
- **Source activity:**  $9.8 \cdot 10^{10}$  Bq
- Total statistics:  $4 \cdot 10^6$  e's

Unblinding soon in the next weeks

## 2020

- **Spring/Summer: Third neutrino mass run**
  - Study of source plasma systematics
  - Implementation of background reduction techniques



- **Fall/Winter: Fourth neutrino mass run**

Starting this week

# A view to the future

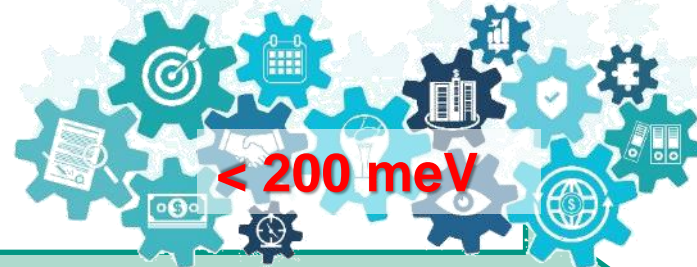
2019 – 2023...

Neutrino mass measurement

„1000 days“

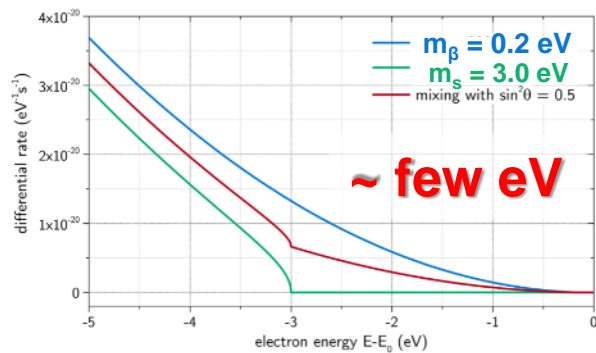


R&D: new techniques  
(e.g. ToF spectroscopy,  
atomic sources, ...)



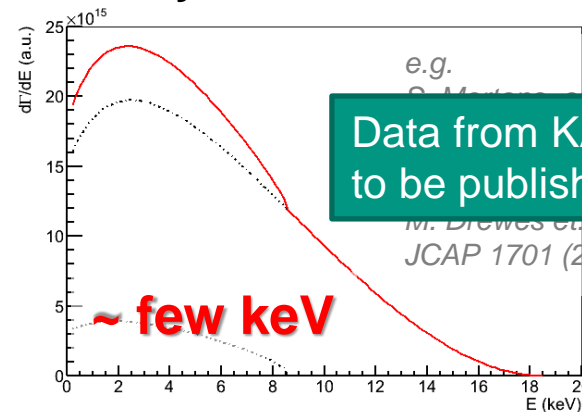
$m_\nu$

BSM searches (eV sterile, Lorentz-Violation, ...)



No extra data taking required!

Heavy sterile neutrino search

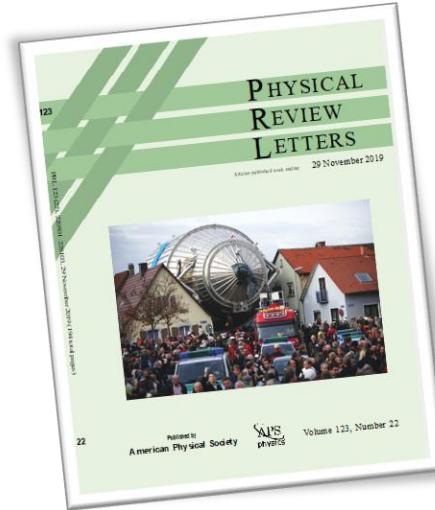


KATRIN with new TRISTAN detector

# Summary & Conclusion

- KATRIN achieved world-best direct neutrino mass limit

$$m_\nu < 1.1 \text{ eV (90\% CL)}$$



KATRIN Collab, Phys. Rev. Lett. 123, 221802



- KATRIN is in operation for next „1000 days“

$$m_\nu < 200 \text{ meV (90\%CL)} \text{ \& \ search for "new physics"}$$

- *First data on eV and keV sterile neutrinos will be published soon*



# The KATRIN collaboration



BERGISCHE  
UNIVERSITÄT  
WUPPERTAL



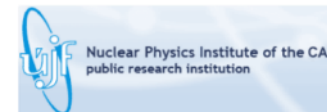
Carnegie  
Mellon  
University



Hochschule Fulda  
University of Applied Sciences



UNIVERSIDAD  
COMPLUTENSE  
MADRID



THE UNIVERSITY  
of NORTH CAROLINA  
at CHAPEL HILL



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