Direct Neutrino Mass Measurements

22nd International Workshop on Next Generation Nucleon Decay and Neutrino Detectors

Thierry Lasserre (CEA & TUM) Procida, 12/10/2023



Neutrino mass



Neutrino mass



General idea



✓ Independent of cosmology✓ Independent of neutrino nature



The challenge

Key requirements:

- Strong β -decaying source
 - Tritium (12.3 years, E₀ = 18.6 keV)
 - Holmium (4500 years, E₀ = 2.8 keV)
- Excellent energy resolution (~ 1 eV)
- Low background (< 100 mcps)









KATRIN

- Experimental site: Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT)
- International Collaboration (150 members)
- Design sensitivity: 0.2 eV (90% CL) (1000 days of measurement time)



Working Principle





Working Principle



Measurement strategy

Integral spectrum



Analysis strategy

• Fit of theoretical prediction: $\Gamma(qU) \propto \mathbf{A} \cdot \int_{qU}^{E_0} D(E; \mathbf{m}_{\nu}^2, \mathbf{E}_0) \cdot R(qU, E) dE + \mathbf{B}$



• Free parameters: $m_{\nu}^2 + E_0$, B, A + nuisance parameters (constrained via calibrations)

• Blinded analysis: 1. independent analysis teams, 2. MC twin data, 3. model blinding

KATRIN Data Taking Overview



1st and 2nd campaign



First campaign:

- total statistics: 2 million events
- best fit: $m_v^2 = (-1, 0^{+0.9}_{-1.1}) \text{ eV}^2$ (stat. dom.)
- limit:

 $m_{
m v} < 1.1~{
m eV}$ (90% CL)

PRL. 123, 221802 (2019) Phys. Rev. D 104, 012005 (2021)

Second campaign:

- total statistics: 4 million events
- best fit:

• limit:

 $m_{
u}^2 = ig(0.26^{+0.34}_{-0.34} ig)$ eV² (stat. dom.) $m_{
u} < 0.9$ eV (90% CL)

Nat. Phys. 18, 160–166 (2022)

• Combined result: $m_{
m v} < 0.8$ eV (90% CL)





1st and 2nd campaign



✓ Search for relic big-bang neutrinos Phys. Rev. Lett. **129**, 011806 (2022)

 Search for violation of Lorentz invariance
 Phys. Rev. D 107, 082005 (2023)

✓ Search for light sterile neutrinos

Phys. Rev. Lett. 126, 091803 (2021)

Phys. Rev. D 105, 072004 (2022)





(sc) 18568 18572 18576 E (eV)

Improvements: 2nd vs 5th campaign



Improvements: 2nd vs 5th campaign



Improvements: 2nd vs 5th campaign



Upcoming KATRIN results



• Upcoming result (this year):

- Based on first five campaigns
- Statistics x 6, Systematics ÷ 3
- Sensitivity better than $m_v < 0.5 eV$
- Paper (almost) ready for submission
- Final result:
 - Based on 1000 days of data taking (completed end of 2025)
 - Sensitivity better than $m_v < 0.3 \text{ eV}$



KATRIN timeline



Going beyond KATRIN



 KATRIN final: < 0.3 eV (90% CL) Distinguish between degenerate and hierarchical scenario

Going beyond KATRIN



- KATRIN final: < 0.3 eV (90% CL) Distinguish between degenerate and hierarchical scenario
- New technologies: < 0.05 eV Cover inverted ordering

Going beyond KATRIN



- Differential measurement (FWHM < 1 eV)
 - ✓ Better use of statistics
 - ✓ Lower background
- Atomic tritium
 - ✓ Avoid broadening (~ 1 eV)
 - \checkmark Avoid limiting systematics of T₂





Experimental efforts

R&D launched:

- ✓ atomic tritium source concepts
- \checkmark application of microcalorimeters (MMC) to keV β -electrons



KATRIN++

(Tritium)

Experimental efforts



Working principle

Tritium trap

Cyclotron Radiation Emission Spectroscopy (CRES)

B. Monreal and Joe Formaggio, Phys. Rev D 80:051301

$$\omega(\gamma) = \frac{\omega_0}{\gamma} = \frac{eB}{E + m_e}$$



Working principle

Advantages:

✓ (sub)-eV-scale differential measurement

✓ no electron beamline

Challenges:

• ...

- Sub-eV energy resolution
 → B-field homogeneity at the 10⁻⁷-level
- High statistics (~10¹⁹ T-atoms for < 0.04 eV sensi)
 → large volume (~m³) atomic tritium trap
- Detection of femto zetta Watt radiation





Project 8

• Achievements:

✓ Proof of CRES concept

D.M. Asner et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 114, 162501 (2015)

✓ First neutrino mass limit: m_v < 185 eV (90% CI.) arXiv:2212.05048 (2022)

- Next steps / challenges:
 - large-volume (m³) cavity resonator
 - develop atomic tritium source (atoms stored in magneto-gravitational trap)
- Ultimate goal:
 - Cover inverted ordering: 40 meV sensitivity arXiv:2203.07349 (2022)



15 cm

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QTNM: Quantum Technology for Neutrino Mass

• Current effort:

 Key technology demonstration: e.g. H-storage, B-field mapping, CRES with quantum limited micro-wave electronics

• Mid-term future:

 Demonstrator (CRESDA) at tritium facility (strong engagement with Culham, UK)



Experimental efforts



Working principle



Working principle

Advantages:

- ✓ eV-scale differential measurement
- ✓ "source = detector" concept

Challenges:

- eV-resolution
 - \rightarrow operation at low temperature (mK)
 - \rightarrow small pixels (µm-scale)
- High statistics (> 10¹³ decays for eV sensitivity)
 - \rightarrow high as possible activity per pixel (10 Bq)
 - \rightarrow many (> 10 000) pixels
 - \rightarrow multiplexed read-out



Experiments

ECHo

• metallic magnetic calorimeters (MMC) L. Gastaldo et al. Eur. Phys. J. Spec. Top. 226 (2017)



HOLMES

ECHO

• transition edge sensors (TES) J Low Temp Phys 184, 492–497 (2016)



HOLMES

ECHo

- Achievements
 - ✓ Prototype: nu-mass limit: m < 150 eV (95% C.L.)</p>
 EPJ-C 79 1026 (2019)
 - ✓ *ECHo-1k:* completed (10⁸ counts)
 - ~1 Bq/pixel \rightarrow 60 pixels \rightarrow <10 eV FWHM \rightarrow 20 eV sensitivity EPJ-C 81, 963 (2021)
 - ✓ ECHo-100k: excellent performance demonstrated ~10 Bq/pixel → 12000 pixels → 5 eV FWHM → 2 eV sensitivity NIMA, 1055, 2023, 168564
- Next steps/challenges
 - Scaling to more activity and pixels
- Ultimate goal:
 - 10 MBq (= 10^5 pixels) \rightarrow low sub-eV sensitivity



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Holmes

• Approach:

 Maximize activity per pixel (if possible) \rightarrow reduce number of pixels

Achievements

- ✓ Mid June 2023: First detector array finalized
- ✓ First holmium spectra measured $\langle A \rangle \approx 0.5$ Bq, $\Delta E_{\text{FWHM}} = 7$ eV @6keV
- Next steps:
 - Scaling to more activity and pixels



0.5 Bq average activity/pixel

Experimental efforts



Summary

KATRIN (integral)

- Leading neutrino mass limit ($m_v < 0.8 \text{ eV}$) from direct measurements
- Upcoming data release this year: sensitivity better than 0.5 eV
- Final goal: sensitivity better than 0.3 eV

Cyclotron Radiation Emission Spectroscopy (differential): Project-8 & QTNM

- First neutrino mass limit $m_v < 150 \text{ eV}$ (Project-8)
- Next step: Scaling up to large-volume traps, develop atomic tritium source

Microcalorimeter (differential): ECHo & Holmes & KATRIN++

- First neutrino mass limit $m_{\rm v}$ < 150 eV (ECHo) and $m_{\rm v}$ < 10 eV is in reach
- Next step : Scaling-up to high-activity and large number of detectors



Thank you for your attention

Thanks to the KATRIN collaboration ECHo collaboration Project-8 collaboration Holmes collaboration QTNM collaboration