

Probing neutrino masses in the laboratory

Christoph Wiesinger (Technical University of Munich), LNF spring school, 16.05.2024

What we know about neutrinos

} Gabriela Barenboim's
lecture

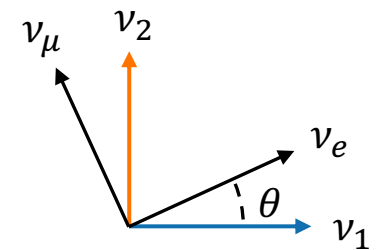
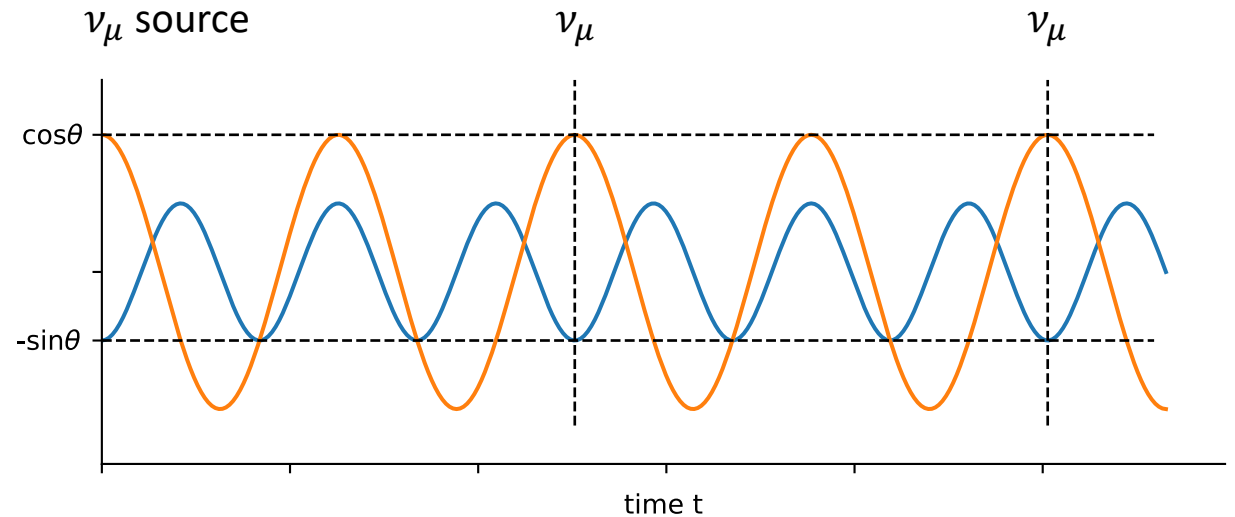
- three active **flavor eigenstates** ν_l with $l \in \{e, \mu, \tau\}$
- **linear combinations** of mass eigenstates ν_i

$$\nu_l = \sum_i U_{li} \nu_i$$

- **mass squared differences** $\Delta m_{ij}^2 = m_i^2 - m_j^2$
- **neutrino oscillation** $P(\nu_l \rightarrow \nu_m) > 0$

[Kajita, McDonald, Nobel Prize in Physics 2015]

- › at least **two neutrinos have mass**



What we know about neutrinos

Gabriela Barenboim's
lecture

- three active **flavor eigenstates** ν_l with $l \in \{e, \mu, \tau\}$
- **linear combinations** of mass eigenstates ν_i

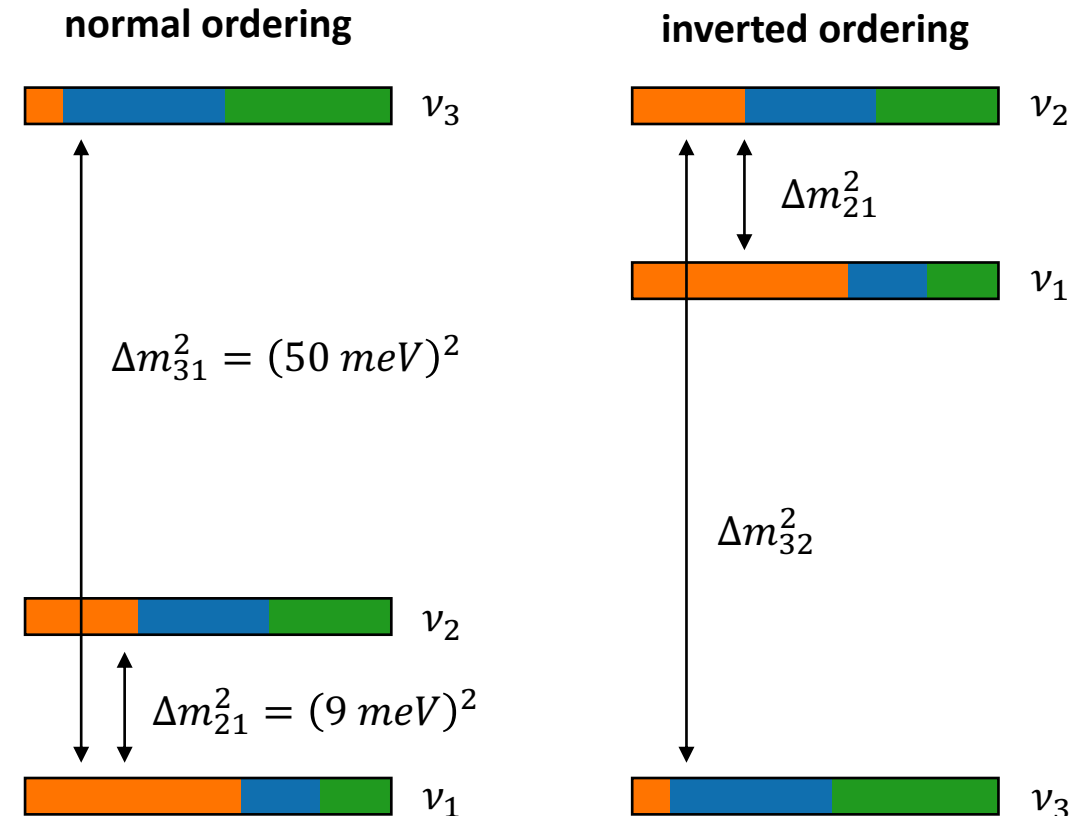
$$\nu_l = \sum_i U_{li} \nu_i$$

- **mass squared differences** $\Delta m_{ij}^2 = m_i^2 - m_j^2$
- **neutrino oscillation** $P(\nu_l \rightarrow \nu_m) > 0$
[Kajita, McDonald, Nobel Prize in Physics 2015]

› at least **two neutrinos have mass**

- **matter effects** in sun $m_1 < m_2$
[Mikheyev, Smirnov, Sov.J.Nucl.Phys. 42 (1985); Wolfenstein, PRD 17 (1978)]

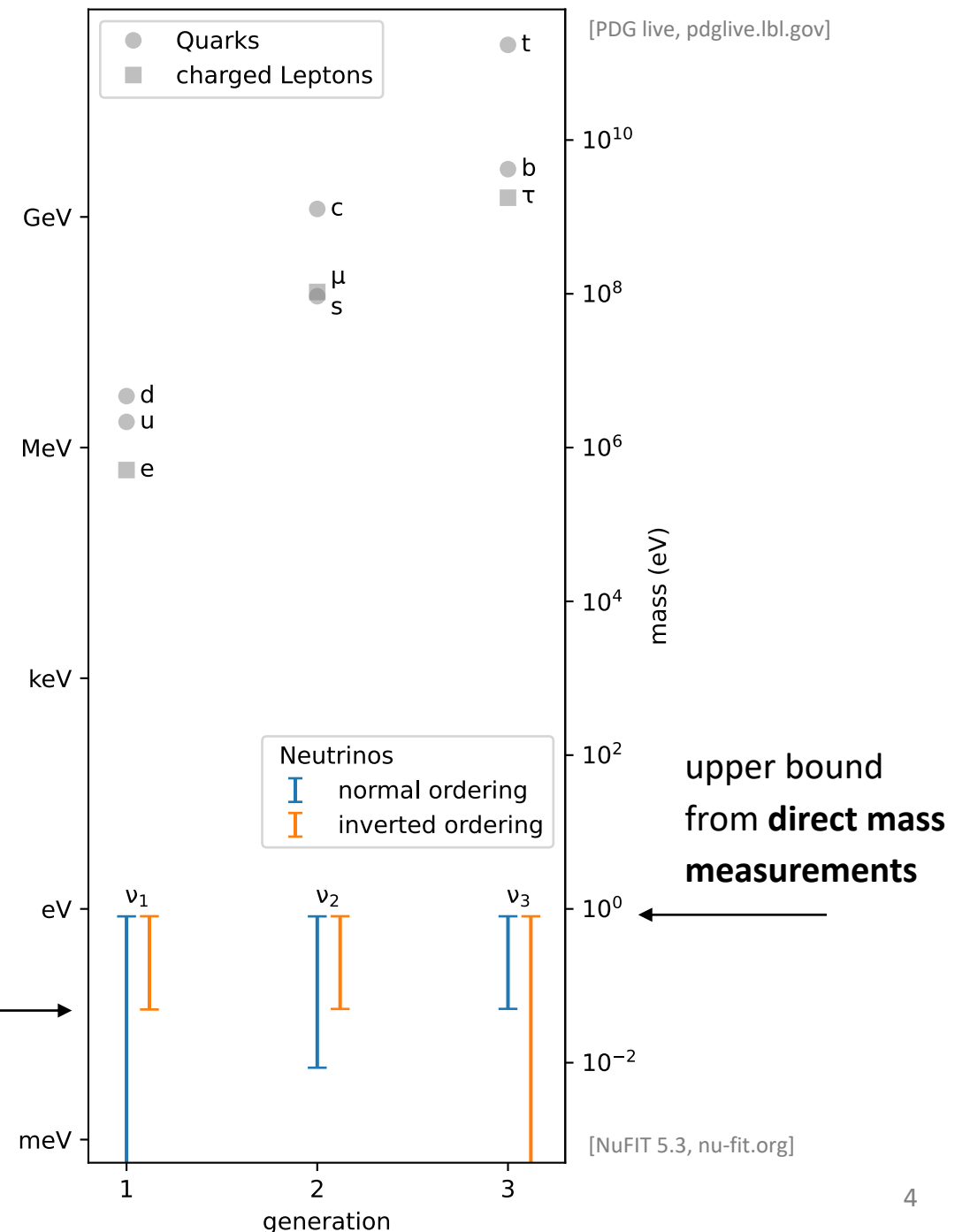
› there are **two ordering scenarios**



What we *don't* know about neutrinos

- Which is the **lightest neutrino**?
What is the neutrino **mass ordering**?
- What is the **mass of the lightest neutrino**?
What is the **absolute neutrino mass**?
- What is the **neutrino nature**?
Is the neutrino its **own anti-particle**?
- Do neutrinos and anti-neutrinos behave differently?
Is **CP violated** in the lepton sector?
- Are there **additional neutrinos**?

lower bounds from
oscillation experiments



What we *don't* know about neutrinos

- Which is the **lightest neutrino**?
What is the neutrino **mass ordering**?

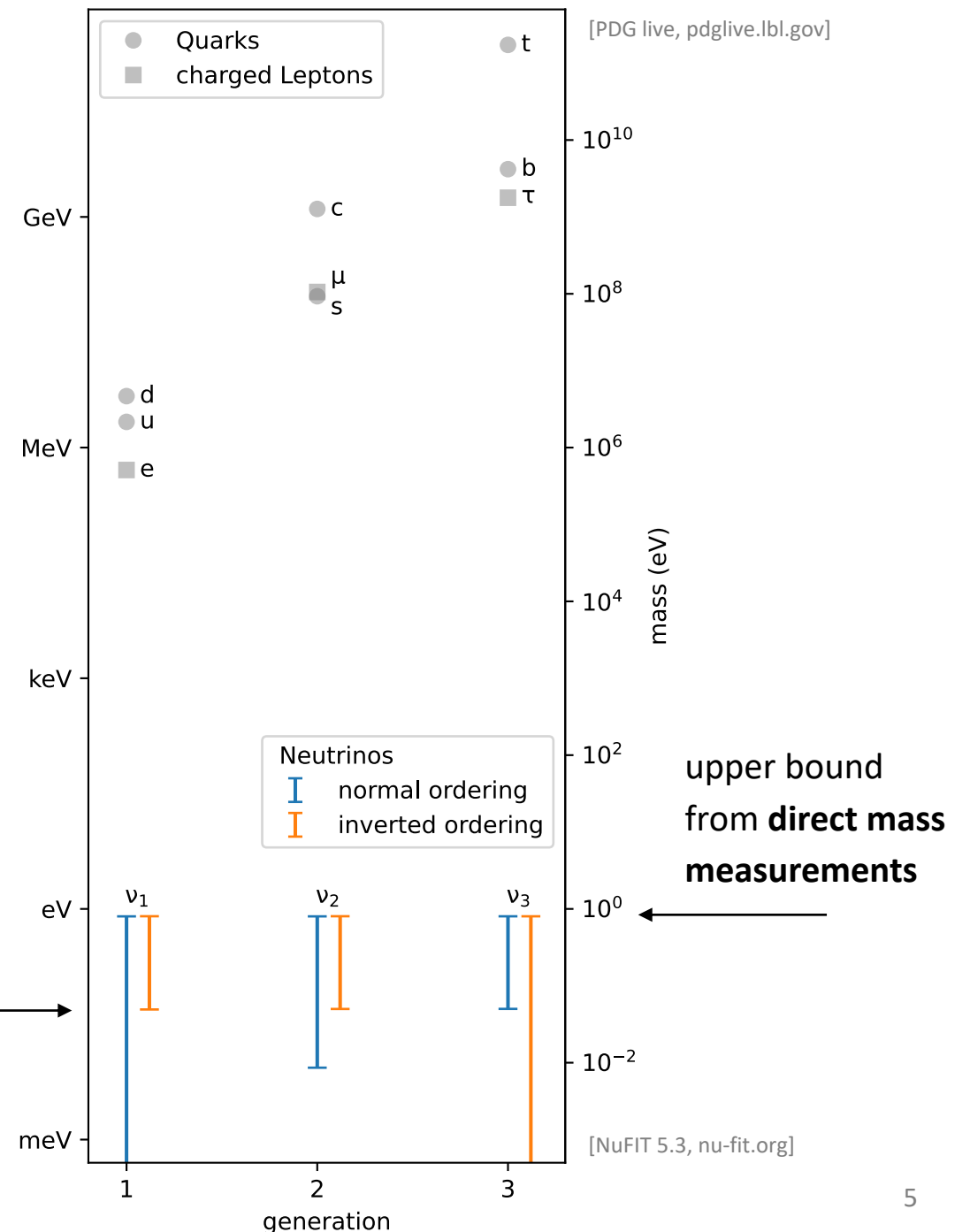
- What is the **mass of the lightest neutrino**?
What is the **absolute neutrino mass**? } **this lecture**

- What is the **neutrino nature**?
Is the neutrino its **own anti-particle**? } **Riccardo Brugnera's lecture**

- Do neutrinos and anti-neutrinos behave differently?
Is **CP violated** in the lepton sector?

- Are there **additional neutrinos**?

lower bounds from
oscillation experiments

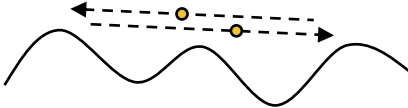


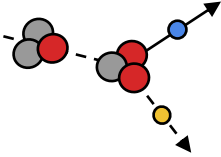
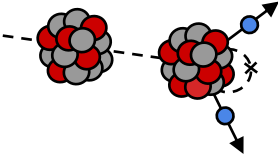
Take away

- **How** can we measure the absolute neutrino mass?
- What are current **neutrino mass constraints**?
- **What assumptions** are behind different neutrino mass observables?
- How does the **KATRIN experiment** work?

Neutrino mass probes

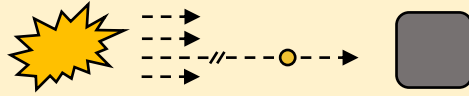
- **Supernovae, time-of-flight** 

- **Cosmology** 

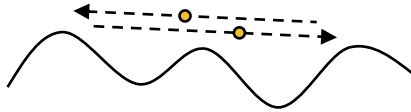
- **Beta decay kinematics, direct neutrino mass measurements** 
 - **Neutrinoless double beta decay** 
- } **laboratory-based**

Neutrino mass probes

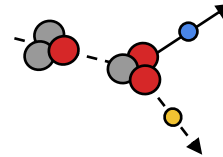
- **Supernovae, time-of-flight**



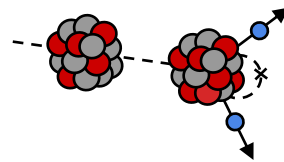
- **Cosmology**



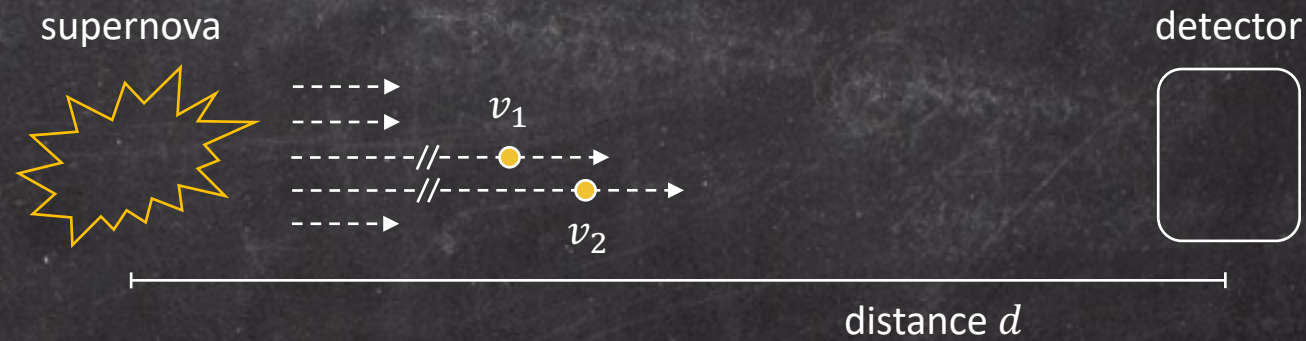
- **Beta decay kinematics, direct neutrino mass measurements**



- **Neutrinoless double beta decay**



Time-of-flight



Velocity of relativistic neutrino

$$v \approx c \sqrt{1 - \frac{m^2 c^4}{E^2}}$$

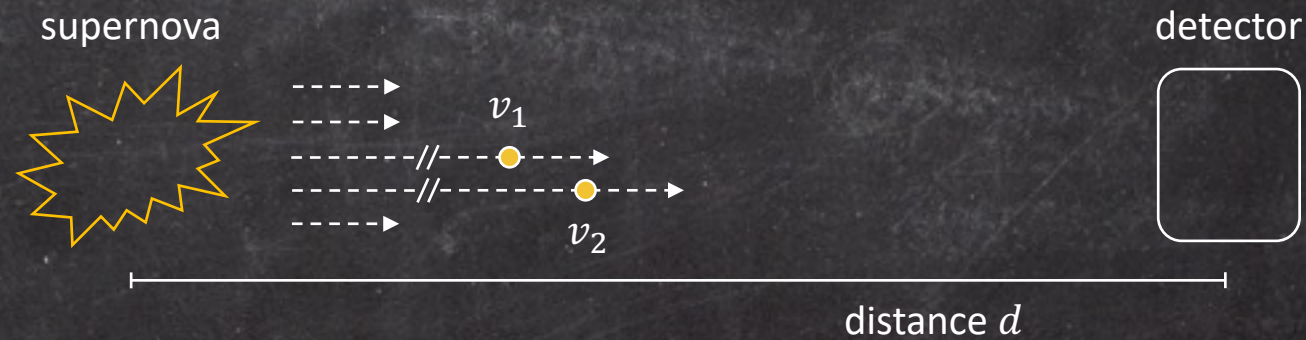
Travel time

$$t = \frac{d}{v} = \frac{d}{c \sqrt{1 - \frac{m^2 c^4}{E^2}}} \approx \frac{d}{c} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{m^2 c^4}{E^2}\right)$$

Time difference

$$\Delta t = \frac{d}{v_1} - \frac{d}{v_2} = \frac{d}{2c} m^2 c^4 \left(\frac{1}{E_1^2} - \frac{1}{E_2^2} \right) \quad \rightarrow \quad mc^2 = \sqrt{\frac{2c\Delta t}{d} \left(\frac{1}{E_1^2} - \frac{1}{E_2^2} \right)^{-1}}$$

Time-of-flight



Velocity of relativistic neutrino

$$v \approx c \sqrt{1 - \frac{m^2 c^4}{E^2}}$$

Travel time

$$t = \frac{d}{v} = \frac{d}{c \sqrt{1 - \frac{m^2 c^4}{E^2}}} \approx \frac{d}{c} \left(1 + \frac{1}{2} \frac{m^2 c^4}{E^2}\right)$$

Time difference

$$\Delta t = \frac{d}{v_1} - \frac{d}{v_2} = \frac{d}{2c} m^2 c^4 \left(\frac{1}{E_1^2} - \frac{1}{E_2^2} \right) \quad \rightarrow \quad mc^2 = \sqrt{\frac{2c\Delta t}{d} \left(\frac{1}{E_1^2} - \frac{1}{E_2^2} \right)^{-1}}$$

SN1987A: $d = 170\,000 \text{ ly} = 1.7 \cdot 10^{21} \text{ m}$, $E_1 = 6 \text{ MeV}$, $E_2 = 36 \text{ MeV}$, $\Delta t = 12 \text{ s}$ $\rightarrow mc^2 = 12 \text{ eV}$

Supernova limits

- **SN1987A data** from Kamiokande, IMB and Baksan, **25 events** in total, recent supernova electron antineutrino **emission model**

[Pagliaroli, Rossi-Torres, Vissani, Astropart.Phys. 33 (2010)]

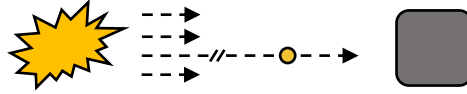
$$m_\nu < \mathbf{5.8 \text{ eV}} \text{ (95\% CL)}$$

- › independent, but not competitive bound
- **1-3 supernovae per century** in our galaxy, more powerful detectors online (e.g. SuperKamiokande) or under construction (e.g. DUNE)
- › **sub-eV sensitivity**, depends on circumstances (e.g. distance)

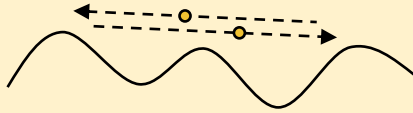
[Pompa et al., PRL 129 (2022)]

Neutrino mass probes

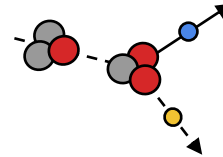
- **Supernovae, time-of-flight**



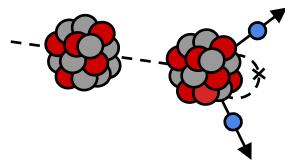
- **Cosmology**



- **Beta decay kinematics, direct neutrino mass measurements**

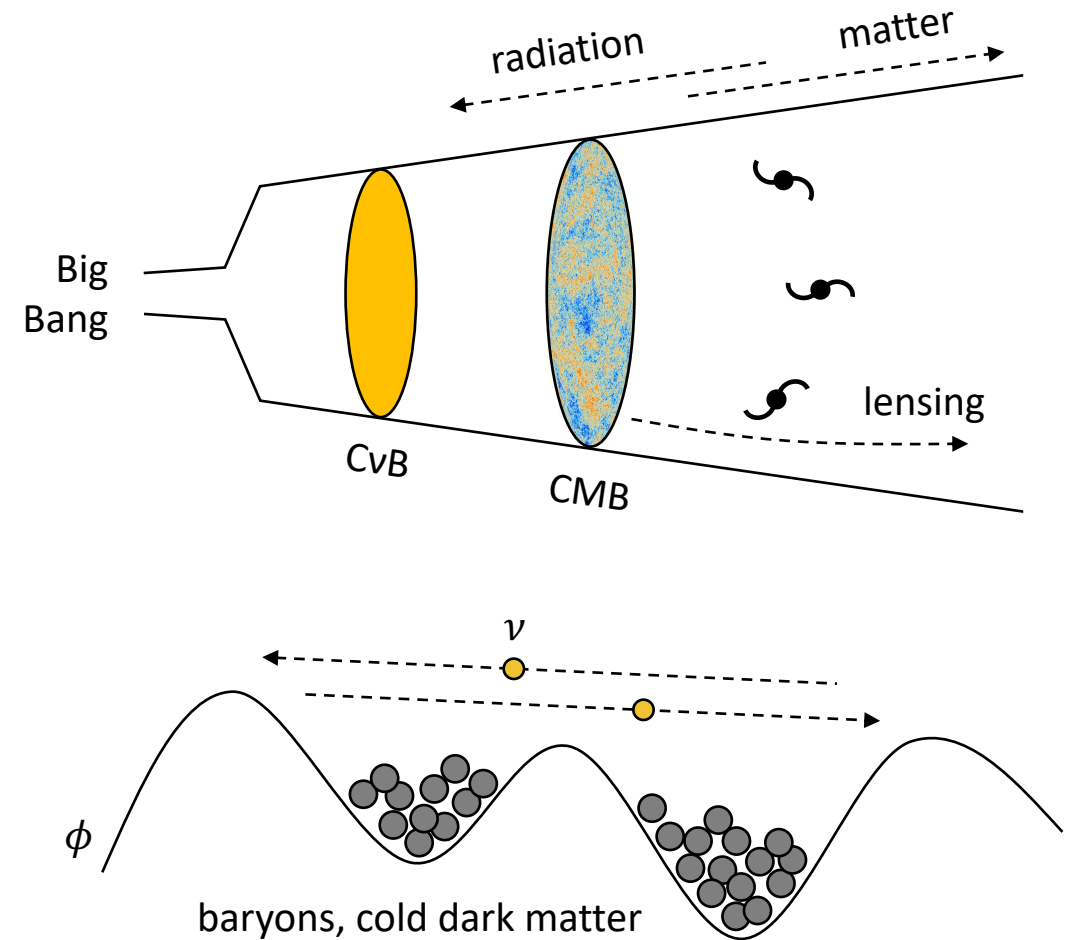


- **Neutrinoless double beta decay**

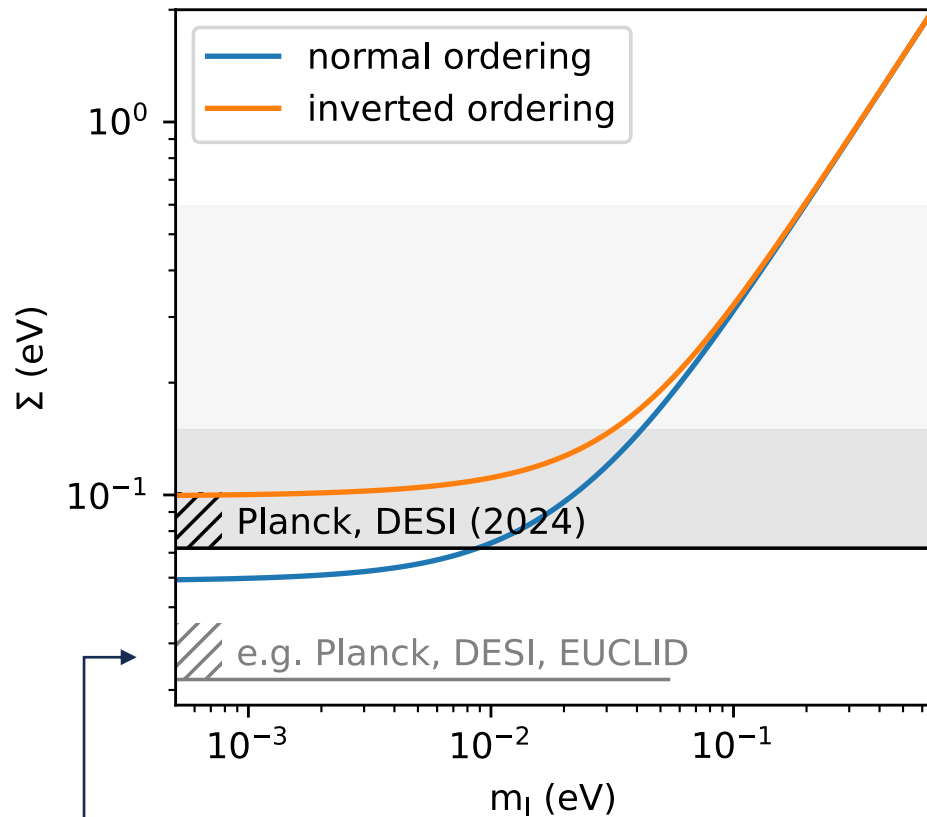


Neutrinos in the cosmos

- present in **primordial plasma**, **freeze-out** as temperature drops below weak interaction scale, **cosmic neutrino background (CvB)**
 - › **most abundant known massive particle** in the universe
- neutrino mass defines transition from **radiation to matter behaviour**
 - › modifies **background evolution**, redshift to matter-to-radiation equality
- heavy non-relativistic **matter clumps on small scales**, neutrinos disperse energy across overdensities, effectiveness depends on neutrino mass
 - › neutrino mass leaves **imprint on structure growth**, matter power spectrum



Sum of neutrino mass eigenstates, $\Sigma = \sum_i m_i$



standard scenario **predicts detection**

- minimum at **0.06 eV** (normal ordering), **0.10 eV** (inverted ordering)

- most stringent bound driven by **Planck and DESI data**

[Aghanim et al., A&A 641 (2020); Adame et al., arXiv:2404.03002]

$$\Sigma < \mathbf{0.07 \text{ eV}} \text{ (95\% CL)}$$

- **model dependence** can weaken bounds

- extended **cosmology** (dark energy dynamics, ..), **x2**

[Choudhury, Hannestad, JCAP 07 (2020), ..]

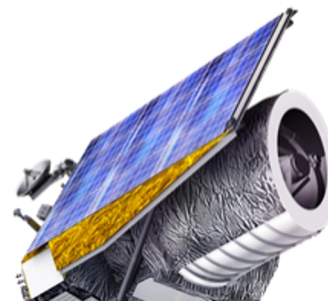
- non-standard **neutrino physics** (invisible neutrino decay, time-dependent neutrino mass, ..), **x10**

[Escudero et al., JHEP 12 (2020); Dvali, Funke, PRD 93 (2016), ..]

- future observatories and missions (**EUCLID**, ..)

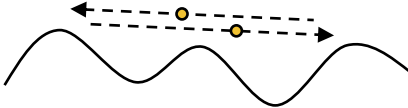
[Brinckmann et al., JCAP 01 (2019), ..]

$$\sigma_{\Sigma} = \mathbf{O(0.01) \text{ eV}}$$

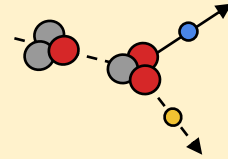


Neutrino mass probes

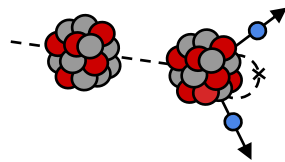
- **Supernovae, time-of-flight** A yellow starburst represents a supernova. Several dashed arrows point to the right, representing neutrinos. One arrow has a small yellow dot at its tip, representing a neutrino. To the right of the arrows is a grey square representing a detector.

- **Cosmology** A wavy line represents the expansion of the universe. Two dashed arrows point in opposite directions, representing neutrinos traveling across cosmological distances. Small yellow dots are placed on the arrows to represent neutrinos.

- **Beta decay kinematics, direct neutrino mass measurements**



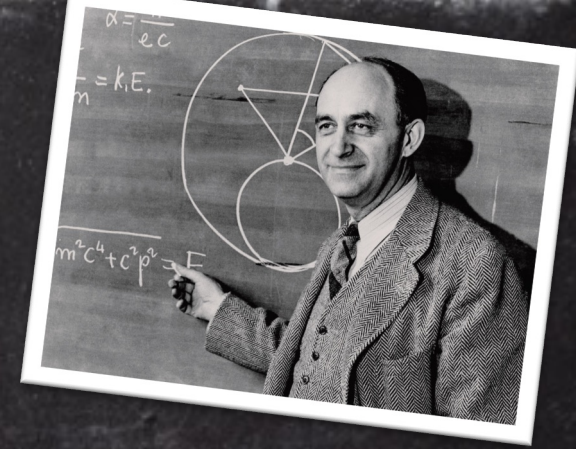
- **Neutrinoless double beta decay**



β decay kinematics

Enrico Fermi:

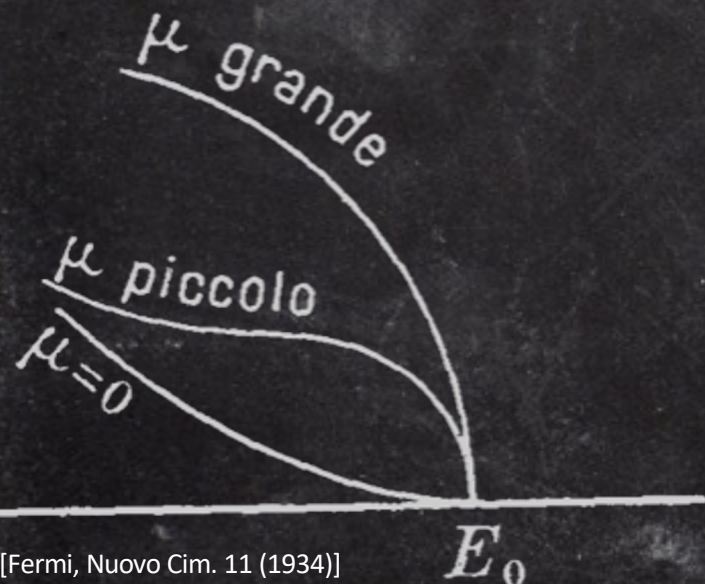
“Let’s express this with the *kinetic energy of the electron* and the *mass of the neutrino*.”



differential decay rate $\frac{d\Gamma}{dE} \propto$ $\underbrace{F(E,Z)}_{\text{Fermi function}} \cdot \underbrace{E_e \cdot E_\nu \cdot p_e \cdot p_\nu}_{\text{phase space factor}}$

$$= F(E,Z) \cdot \underbrace{(E + m_e)}_{\text{electron energy}} \cdot \underbrace{(E_0 - E)}_{\text{neutrino energy (endpoint } E_0)} \cdot \underbrace{\sqrt{(E + m_e)^2 - m_e^2}}_{\text{electron momentum } (E^2 = p^2 + m^2)} \cdot \underbrace{\sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_\nu^2}}_{\text{neutrino momentum}}$$

electron energy neutrino energy (endpoint E_0) electron momentum ($E^2 = p^2 + m^2$) neutrino momentum

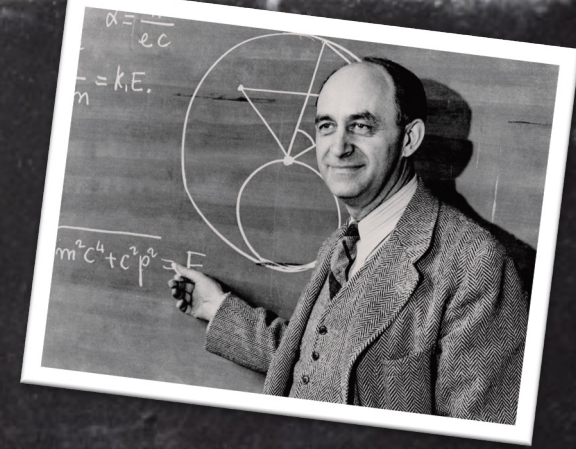


[Fermi, Nuovo Cim. 11 (1934)]

β decay kinematics

Enrico Fermi:

“Let’s express this with the *kinetic energy of the electron* and the *mass of the neutrino*.”



differential decay rate $\frac{d\Gamma}{dE} \propto$ Fermi function $F(E, Z)$ phase space factor $\cdot E_e \cdot E_\nu \cdot p_e \cdot p_\nu$

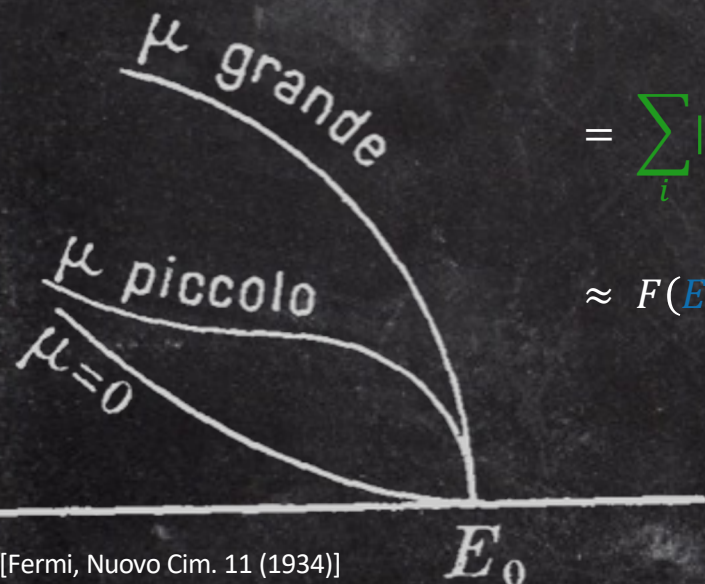
$$= F(E, Z) \cdot (E + m_e) \cdot (E_0 - E) \cdot \sqrt{(E + m_e)^2 - m_e^2} \cdot \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_\nu^2}$$

$$= \sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 \cdot F(E, Z) \cdot (E + m_e) \cdot (E_0 - E) \cdot \sqrt{(E + m_e)^2 - m_e^2} \cdot \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_i^2}$$

$$\approx F(E, Z) \cdot (E + m_e) \cdot (E_0 - E) \cdot \sqrt{(E + m_e)^2 - m_e^2} \cdot \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_\beta^2}$$

effective electron (anti-)neutrino mass
(incoherent sum of mass eigenstates)

$$m_\beta = \sqrt{\sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2}$$



[Fermi, Nuovo Cim. 11 (1934)]



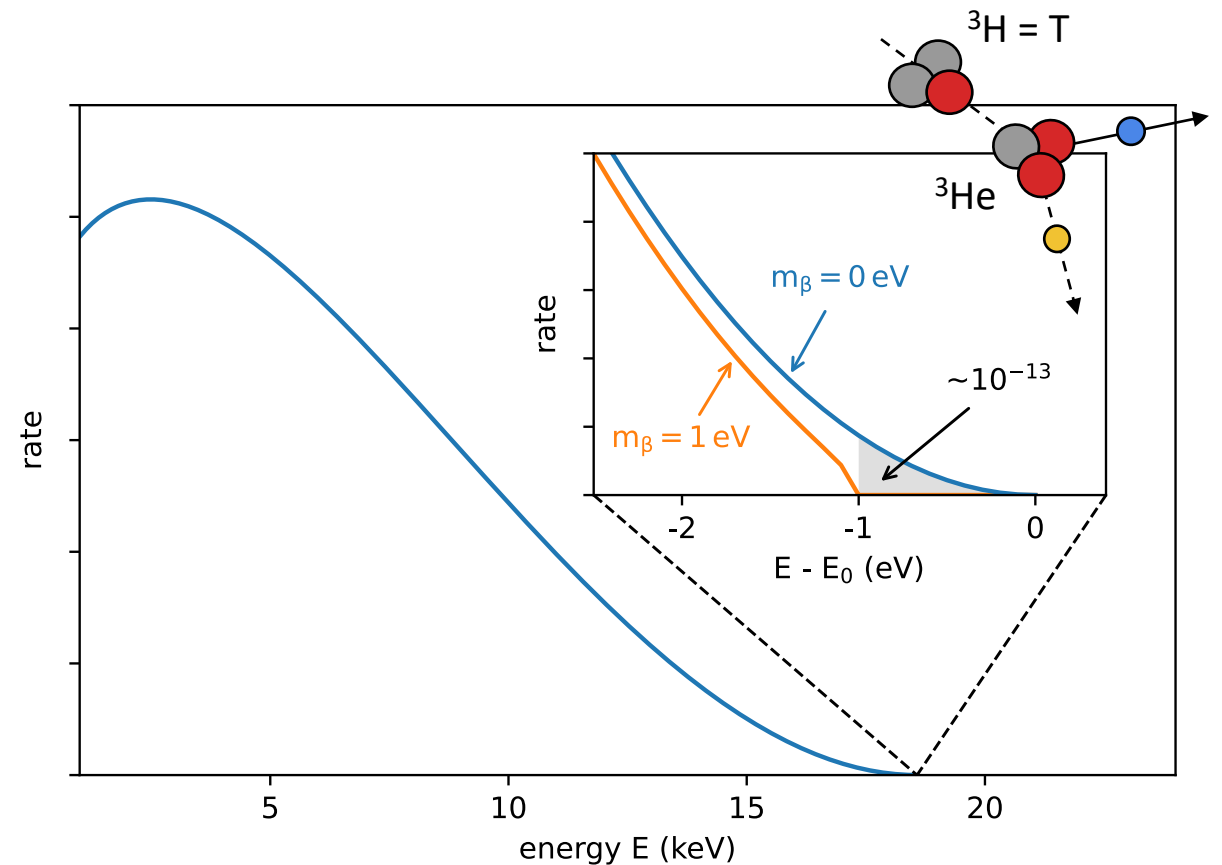
Shoichi Sakata:

“But there are *three neutrino mass eigenstates*.”

Experimental challenge

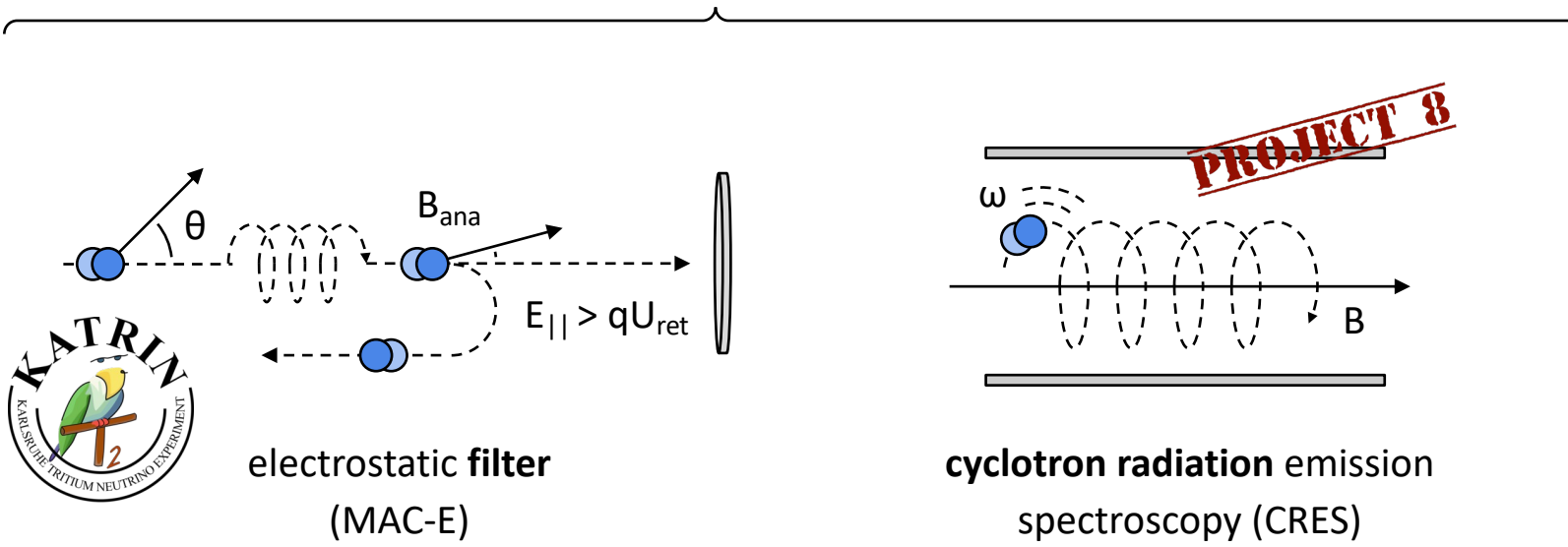
measure eV-scale **spectral distortion**, maximal at keV-scale **kinematic endpoint**

- **high-activity** source, **low Q-value**
 - **tritium** ^3H ($T_{1/2} = 12.3$ yr, $E_0 = 18.6$ keV)
 - **holmium** ^{163}Ho ($T_{1/2} = 4570$ yr, $E_0 = 2.8$ keV)
- excellent **energy resolution** ($O(1)$ eV, $< 0.01\%$),
low **background** (mcps)
- **high precision** understanding of theoretical spectrum
and experimental response



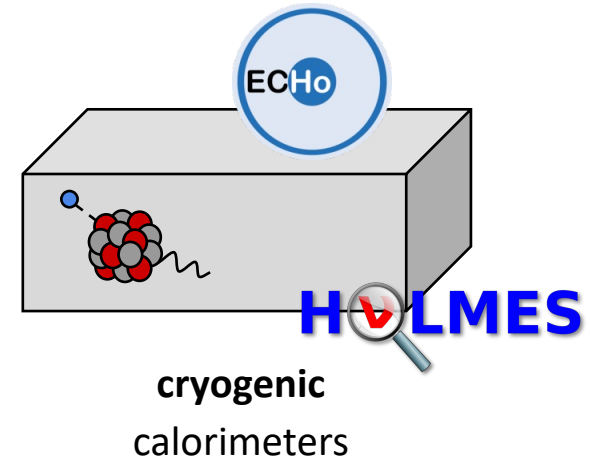
Experimental approaches

tritium



electrostatic filter
(MAC-E)

cyclotron radiation emission
spectroscopy (CRES)

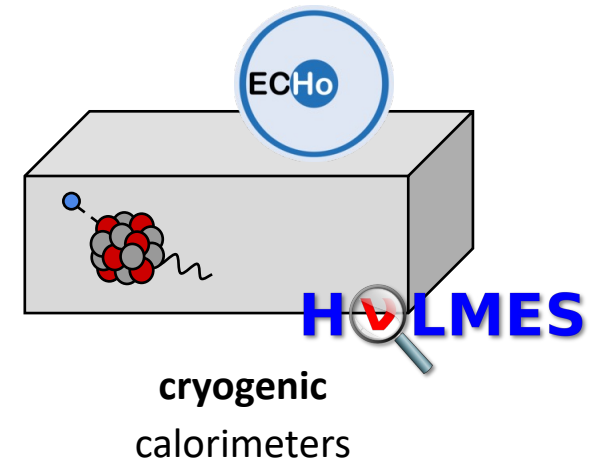
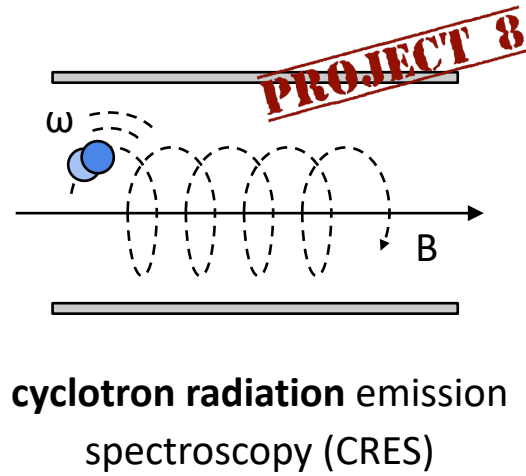
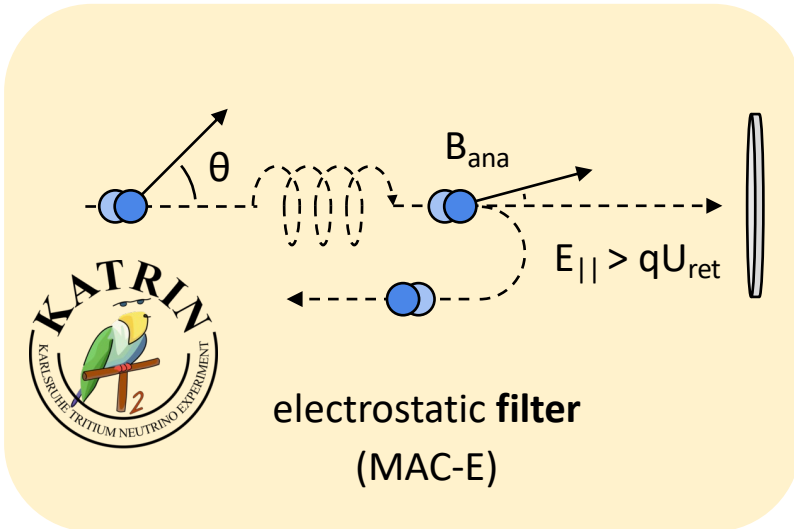


cryogenic
calorimeters

R&D

Experimental approaches

tritium



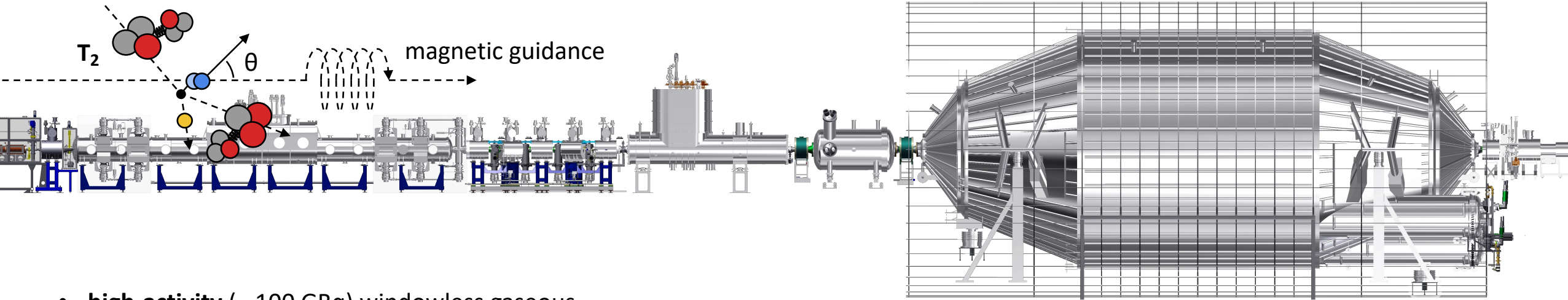
R&D

*Karlsruhe Tritium Neutrino
(KATRIN) experiment*



KATRIN working principle

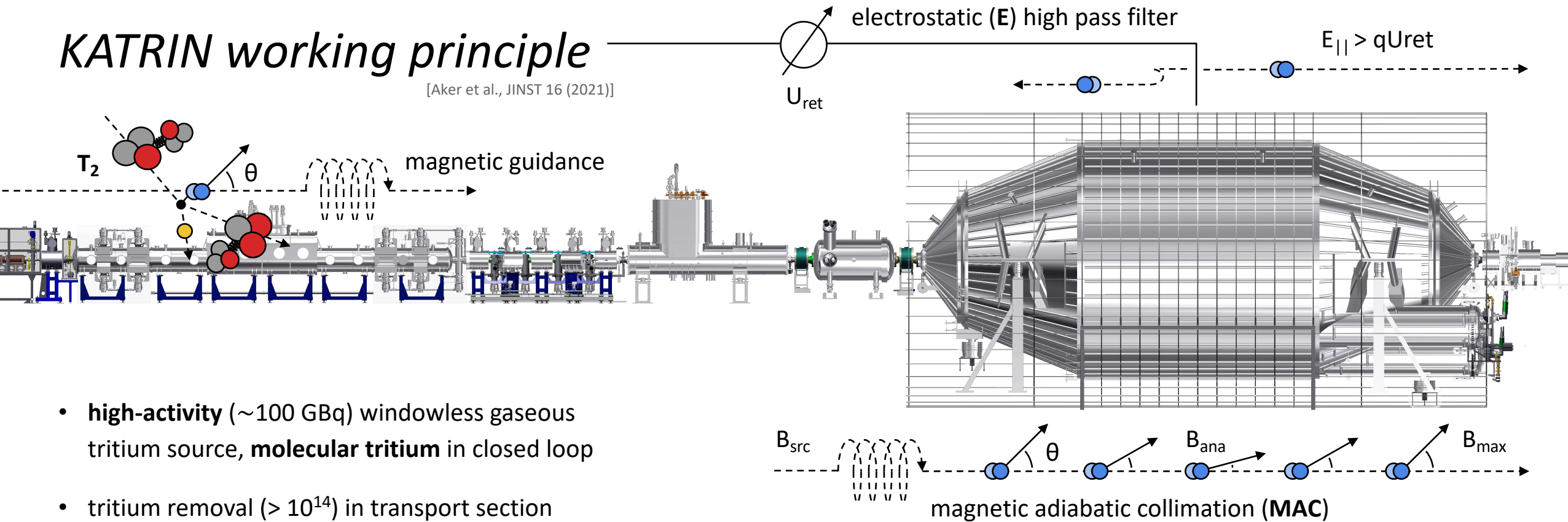
[Aker et al., JINST 16 (2021)]



- **high-activity** (~ 100 GBq) windowless gaseous tritium source, **molecular tritium** in closed loop
- tritium removal ($> 10^{14}$) in transport section

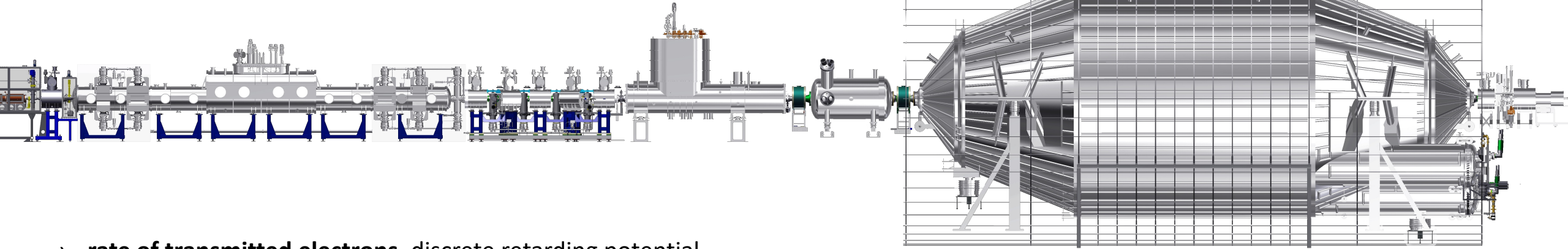
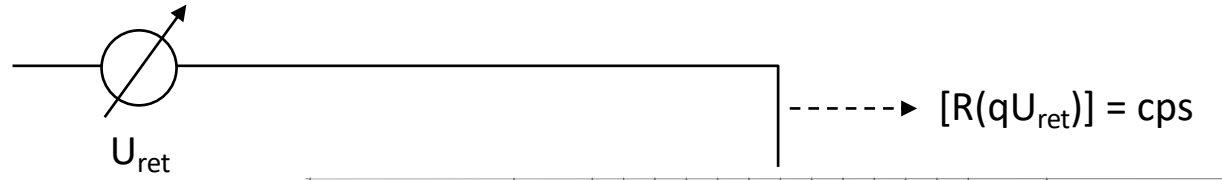
KATRIN working principle

[Aker et al., JINST 16 (2021)]

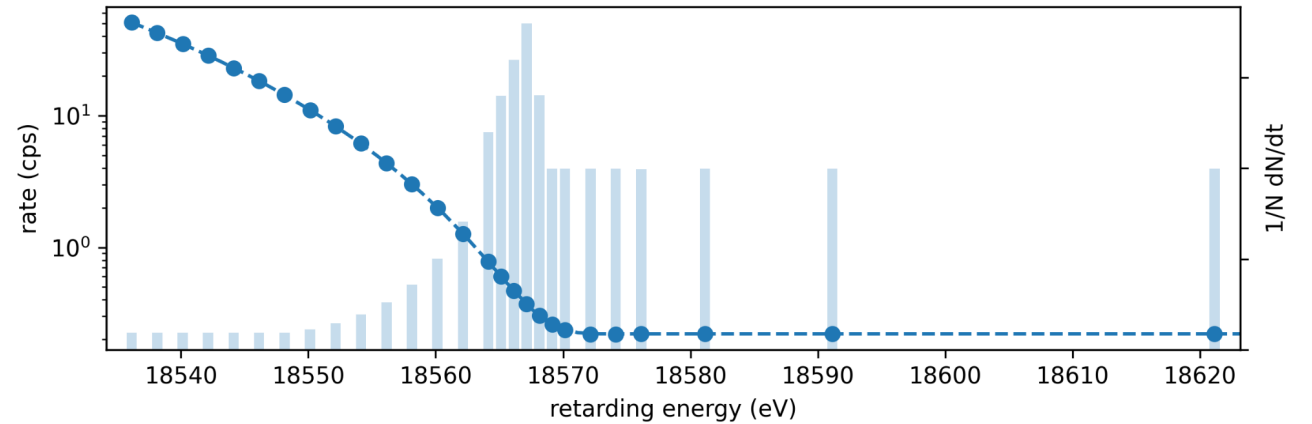


- **high-activity** (~ 100 GBq) windowless gaseous tritium source, **molecular tritium** in closed loop
- tritium removal ($> 10^{14}$) in transport section
- **high-resolution** (~ 1 eV) **large-acceptance** ($0-51^\circ$) MAC-E spectrometer system
- **electron counting** with focal plane detector (148-pixel silicon PIN diode)

KATRIN measurement strategy



- › **rate of transmitted electrons**, discrete retarding potential steps, optimized measurement time distribution
- **scans** in up, down and random sequence
- O(1h) per scan, O(100) scans per campaign, several **campaigns** per year



KATRIN neutrino mass results

1st campaign, 2 million events (22 days)

[Aker et al., PRL 123 (2019)]

- best fit (**p-value = 0.6**) $m_{\beta}^2 = -1.0_{-1.1}^{+0.9} eV^2$
- › upper limit $m_{\beta} < 1.1 eV$ (90% CL)

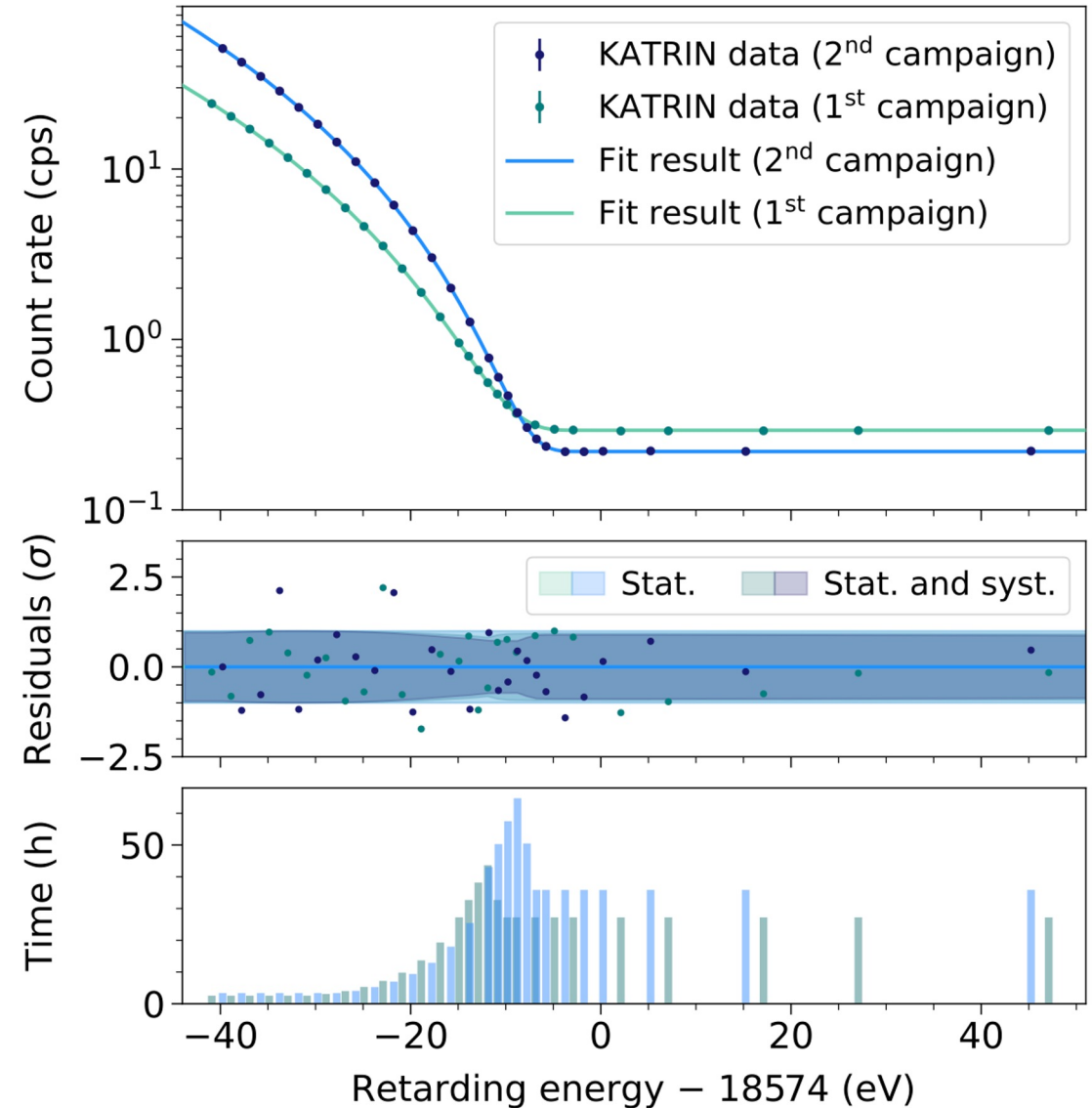
2nd campaign, 4 million events (31 days)

[Aker et al., Nature Phys. 18 (2022)]

- best fit (**p-value = 0.8**) $m_{\beta}^2 = (0.26 \pm 0.34) eV^2$
- › upper limit $m_{\beta} < 0.9 eV$ (90% CL)

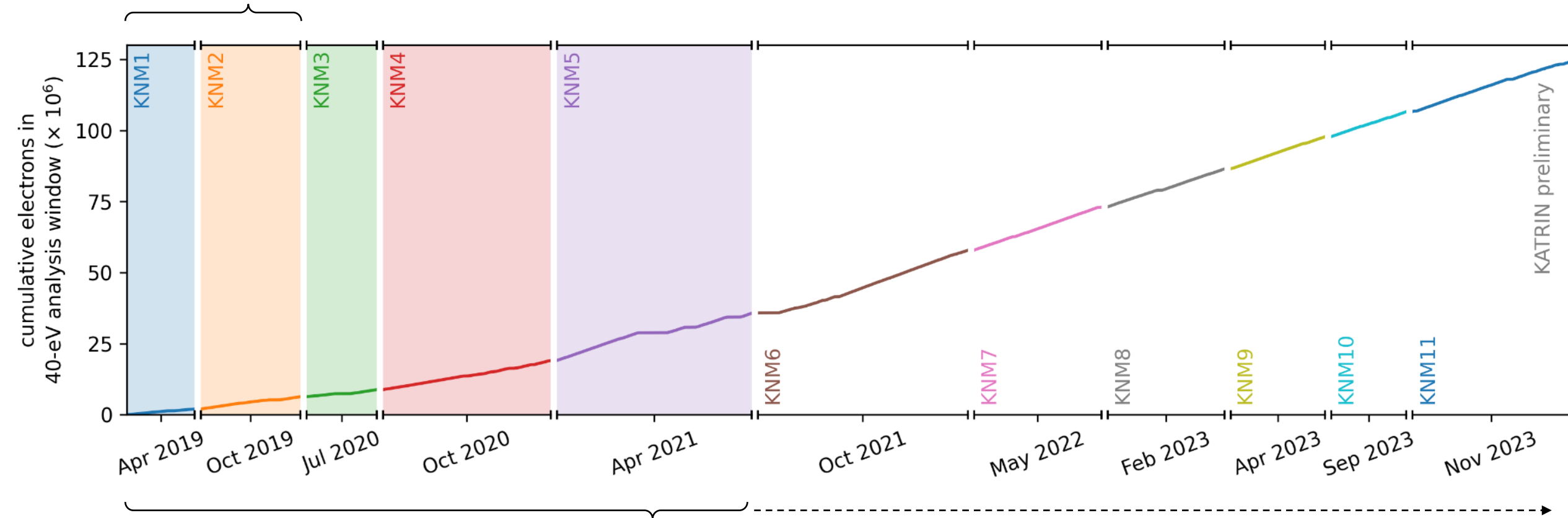
combined: $m_{\beta} < 0.8 eV$ (90% CL)

[Aker et al., Nature Phys. 18 (2022)]



KATRIN data taking overview

world-best constraint, $m_\beta < 0.8 \text{ eV}$ (90% CL)

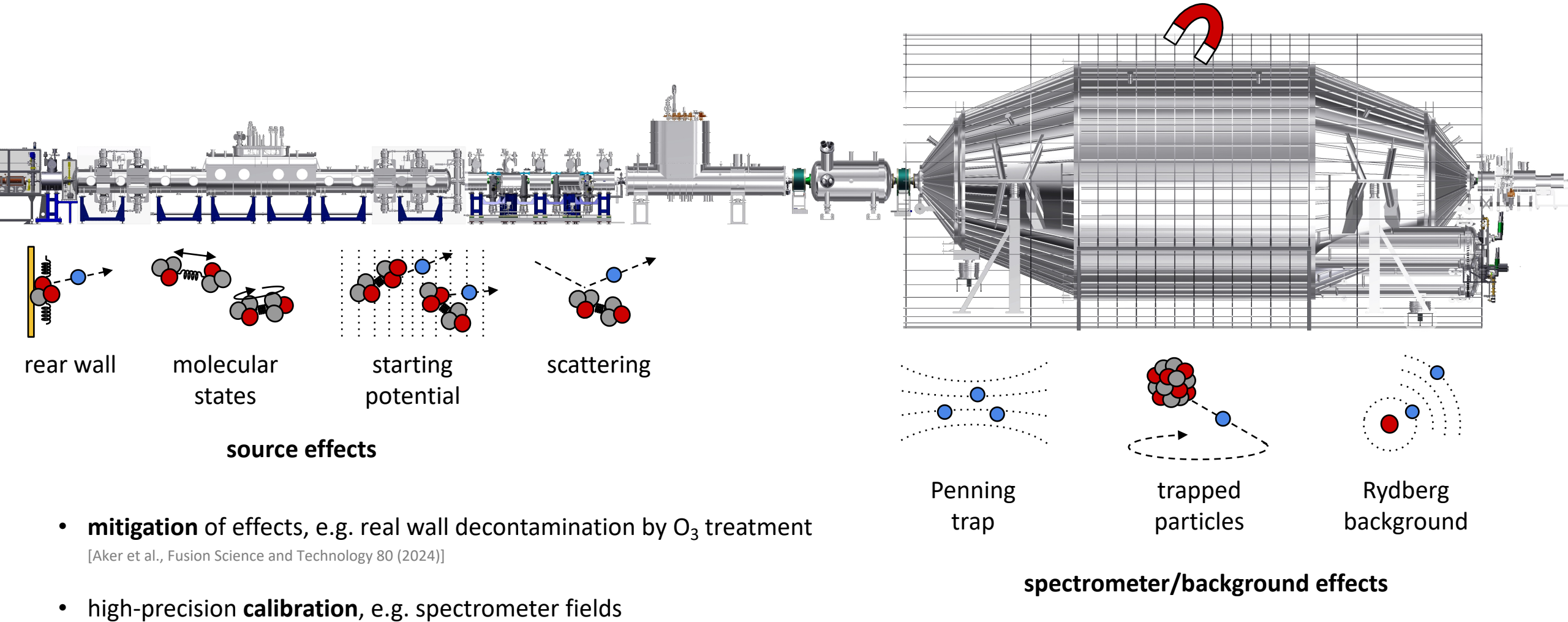


upcoming release, main challenges

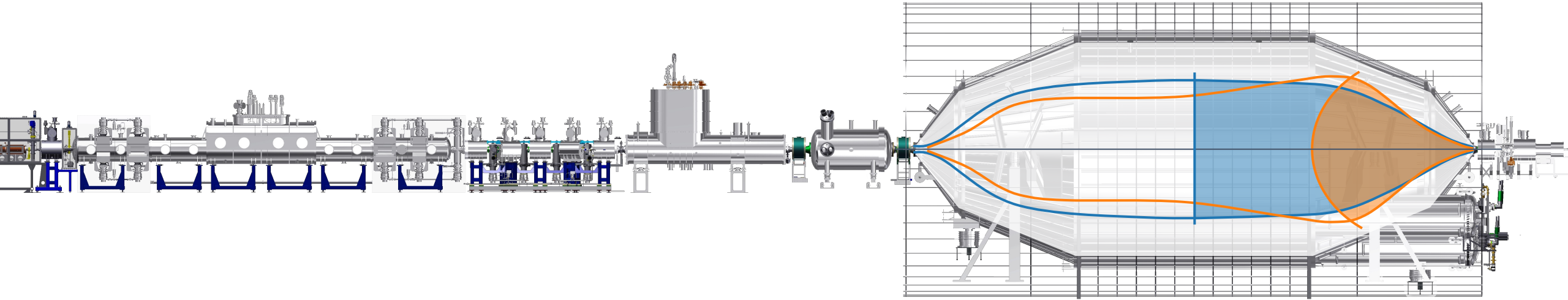
until end-2025

- **backgrounds** and **systematic effects**
- combination of **heterogeneous datasets**

KATRIN backgrounds and systematic effects



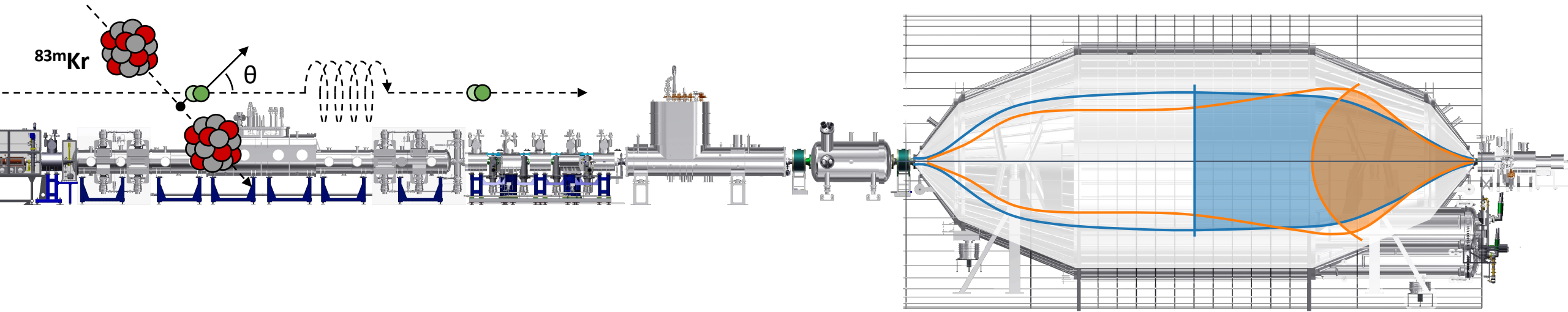
KATRIN experimental improvements



- **shifted analyzing plane configuration, background reduction**

[Lokhov et al., EPJ C 82 (2022)]

KATRIN experimental improvements



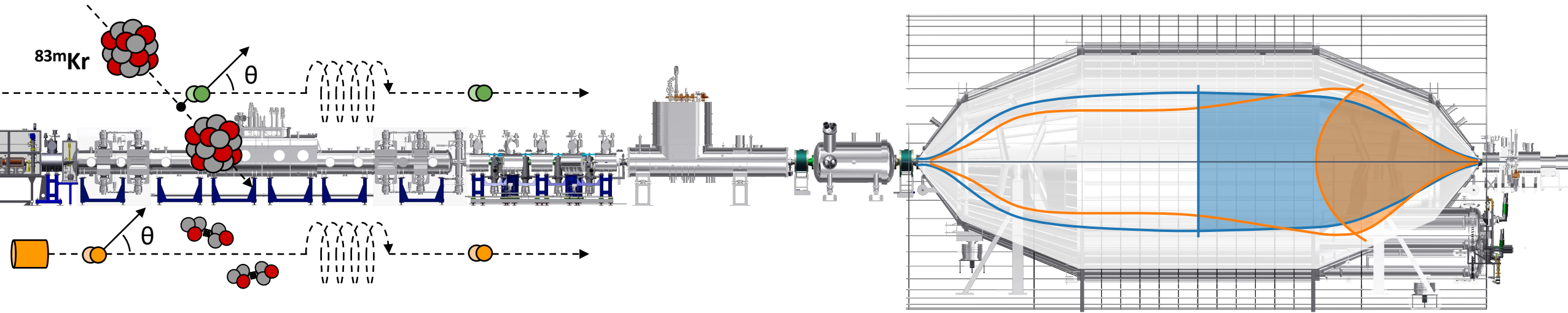
- **shifted analyzing plane configuration, background reduction**

[Lokhov et al., EPJ C 82 (2022)]

- **^{83m}Kr co-circulation, monoenergetic conversion electrons, probe source potential and spectrometer fields**

[Altenmüller et al., J.Phys.G 47 (2020)]

KATRIN experimental improvements



- **shifted analyzing plane configuration, background reduction**

[Lokhov et al., EPJ C 82 (2022)]

- **$^{83\text{m}}\text{Kr}$ co-circulation, monoenergetic conversion electrons, probe source potential and spectrometer fields**

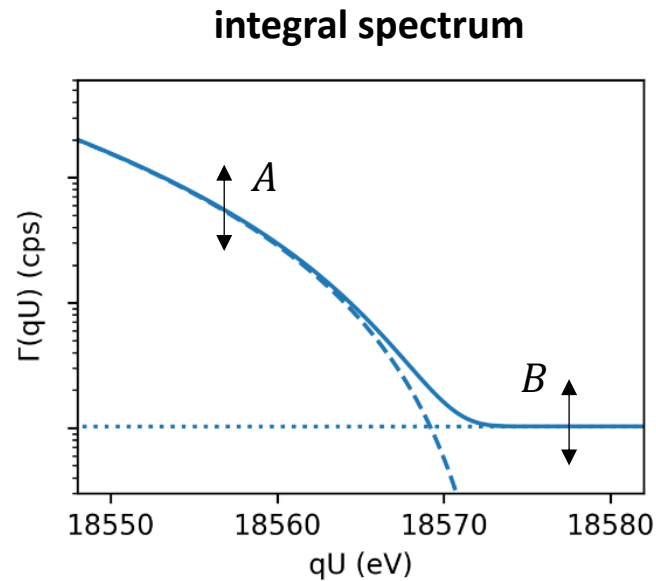
[Altenmüller et al., J.Phys.G 47 (2020)]

- **improved electron gun, mono-energetic angular-selective photoelectron source, probe scattering effects**

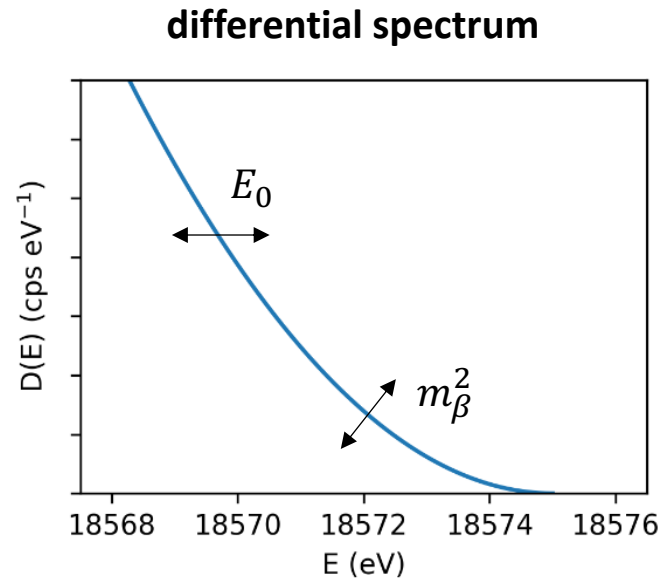
[Aker et al., EPJ C 81 (2021)]

KATRIN analysis procedure

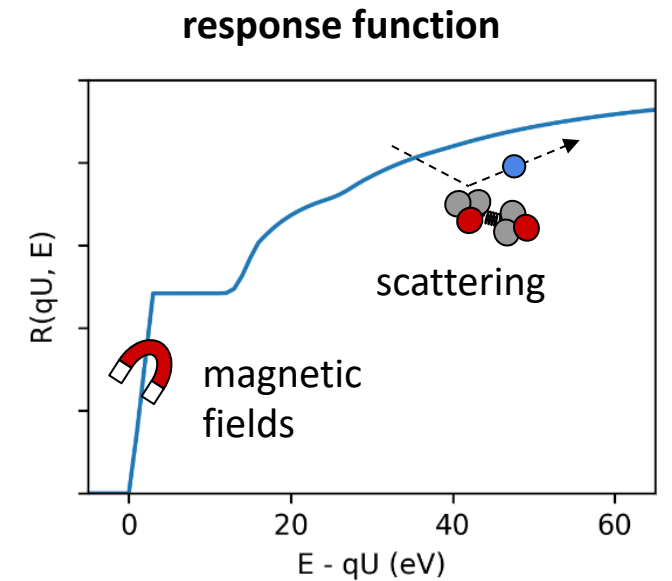
- **maximum likelihood fit of model** $\Gamma(qU) \propto A \cdot \int_{qU}^{E_0} D(E, m_\beta^2, E_0) \cdot R(qU, E) dE + B$



=



⊗



with free **squared neutrino mass** m_β^2 , effective endpoint E_0 , amplitude A and background B

- **theoretical** (Fermi theory, molecular excitations) and **experimental** inputs (calibration measurements)

KATRIN analysis challenge

- **high granularity**, different campaign settings, detector segmentation
- **high dimensionality**, parameter correlations across datasets
- **complex model**, differential spectrum integrated over response

7 datasets, 59 spectra, **1609 data points**

178 free parameters

KATRIN analysis challenge

- **high granularity**, different campaign settings, detector segmentation
- **high dimensionality**, parameter correlations across datasets
- **complex model**, differential spectrum integrated over response

7 datasets, 59 spectra, **1609 data points**

178 free parameters

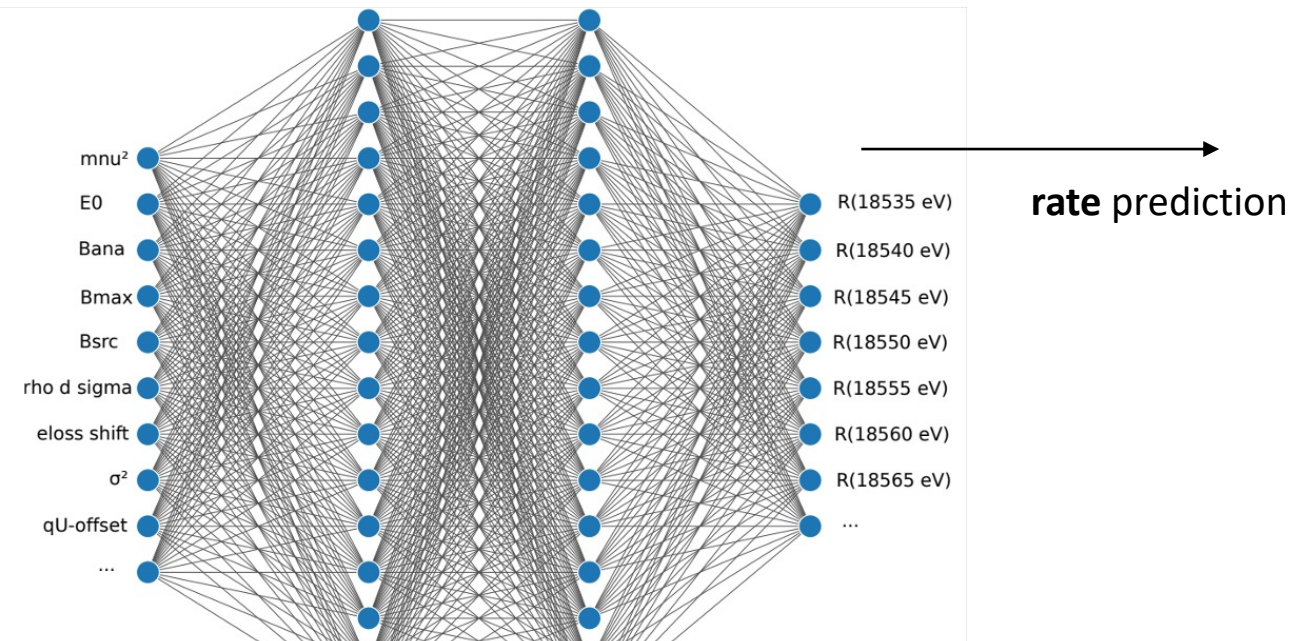
- two **independent analysis** frameworks
 - optimized model evaluation, caching
 - neutral network surrogate, interpolation

successfully unblinded, data release in preparation

- **two-stage blinding**, simulation analysis, model blinding

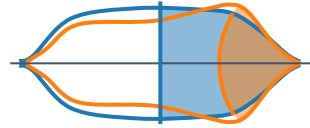
[Karl et al., EPJ C 82 (2022)]

model **parameters**, e.g. gas density

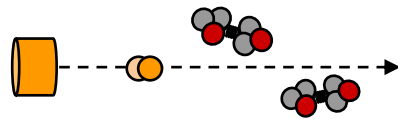


KATRIN upcoming result

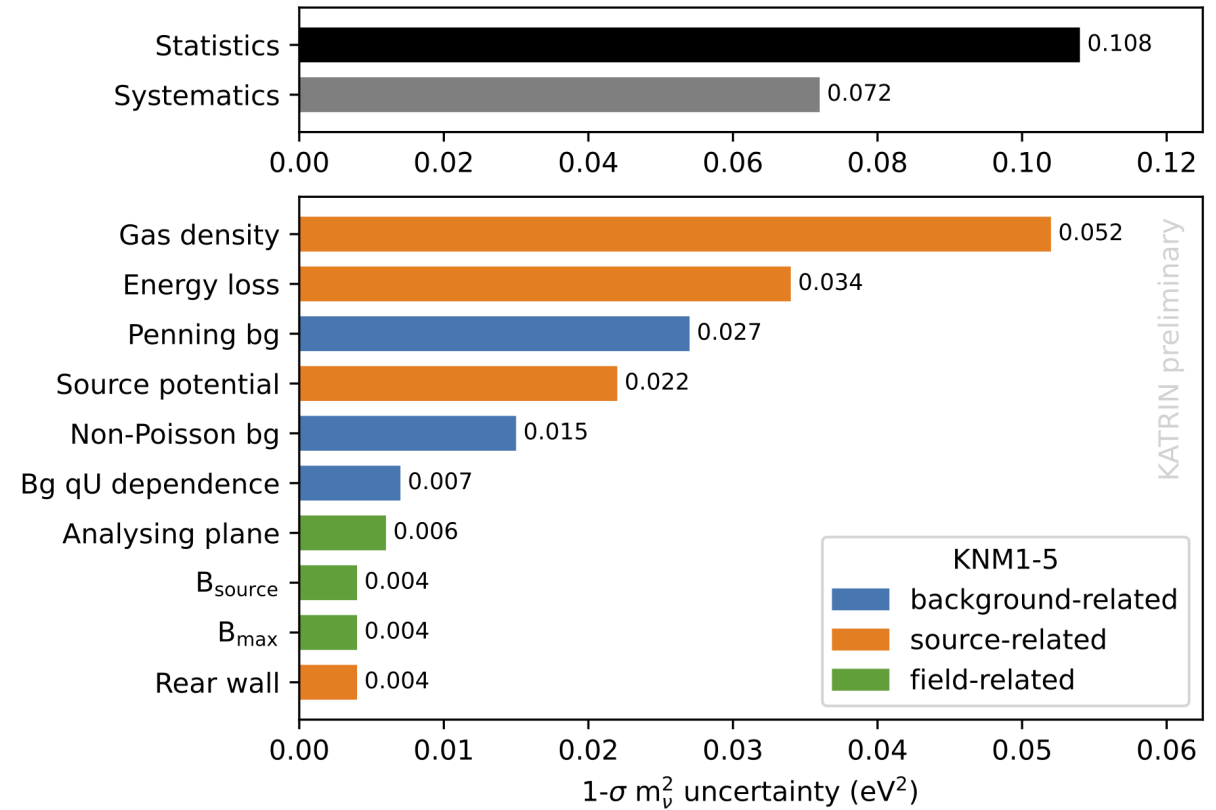
- **6-fold increase in statistics,**
2-fold reduction of background



- **3-fold reduction of systematic uncertainties,**
source effects leading

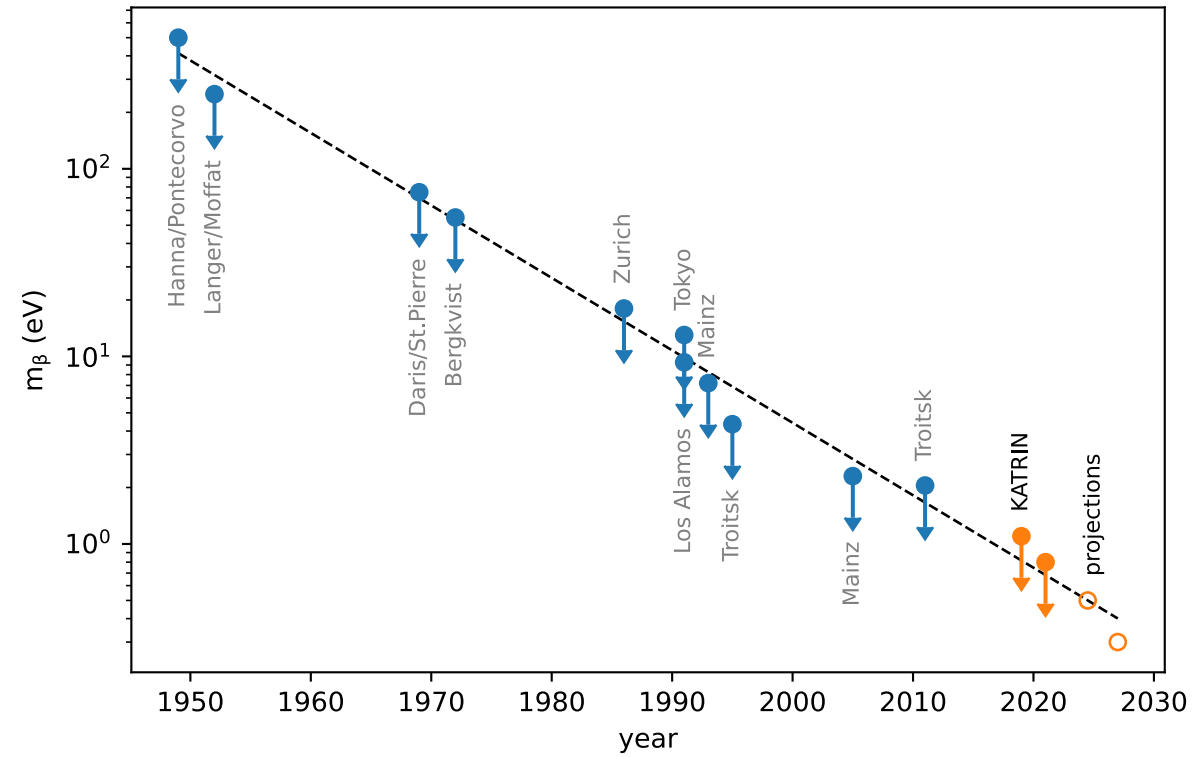


- › statistics dominated, **projected sensitivity**
 $m_\beta < 0.5 \text{ eV}$ (90% CL)



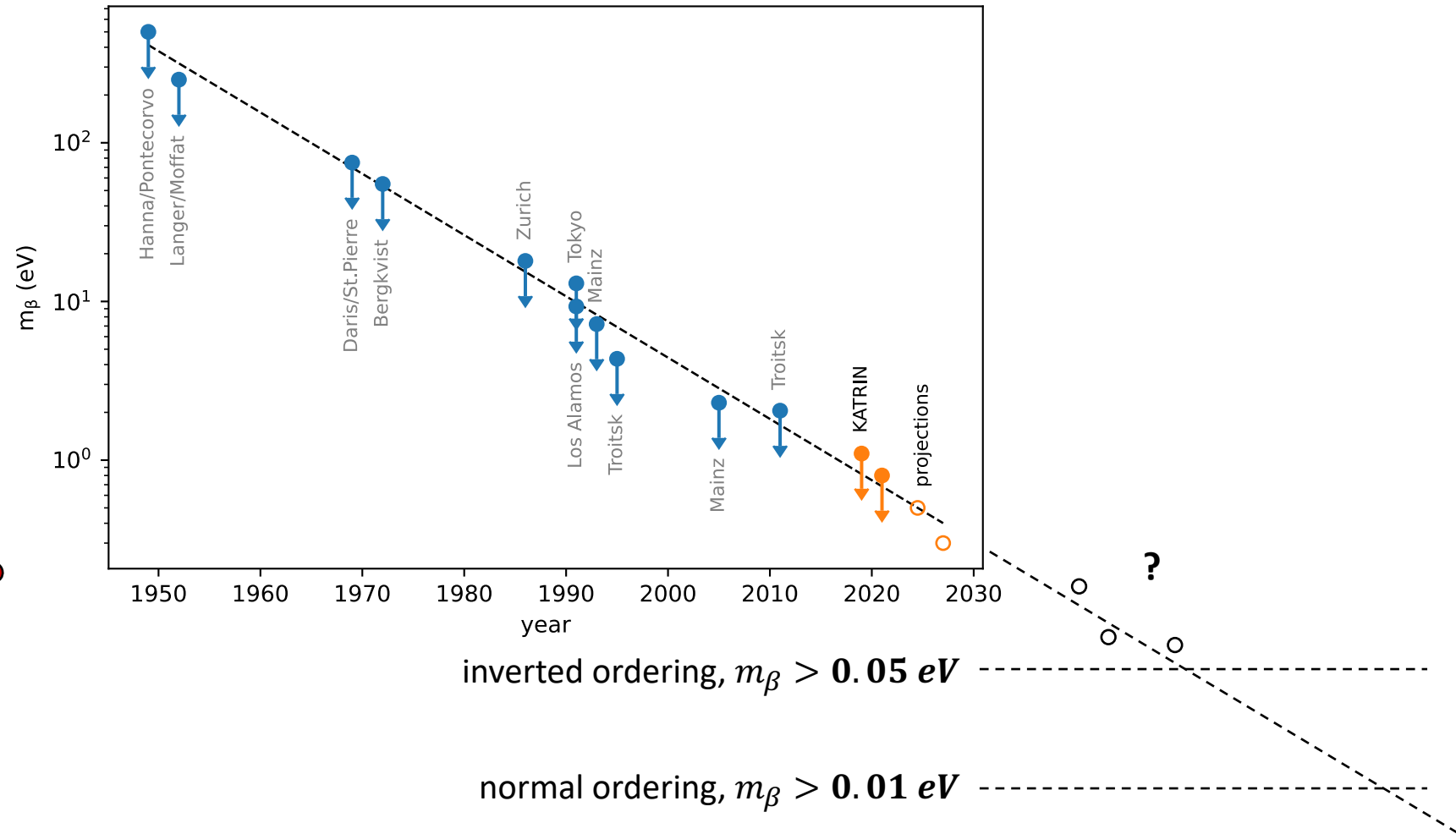
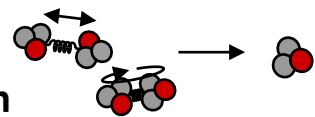
KATRIN outlook

- data taking **ongoing**, projected final sensitivity $m_\beta < 0.3 \text{ eV}$ (90% CL)



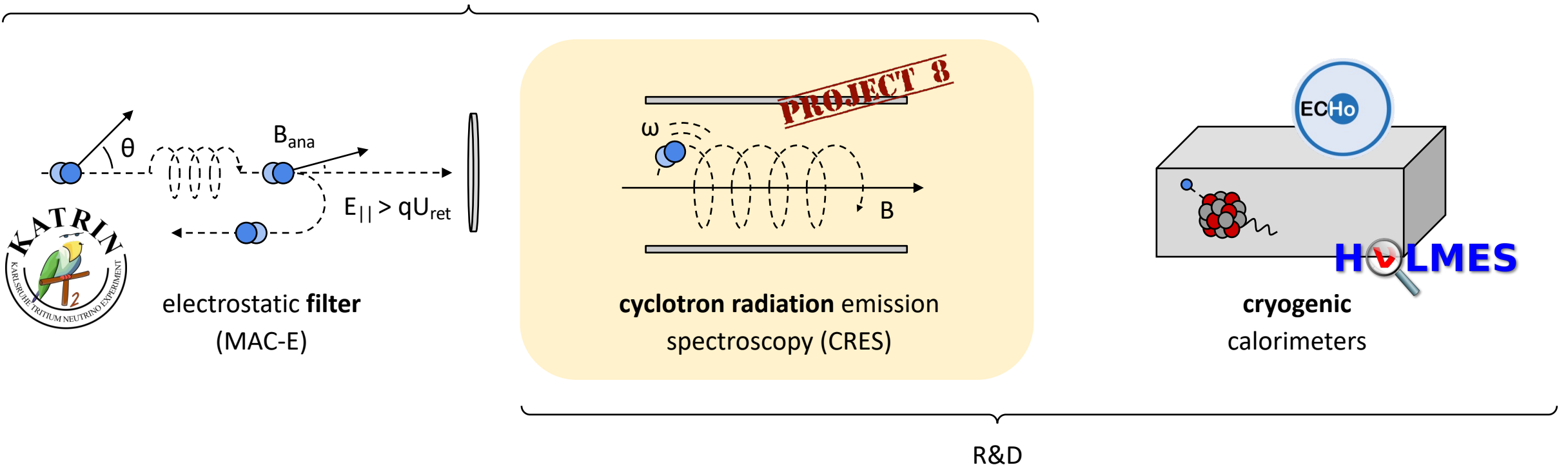
KATRIN outlook and beyond

- data taking **ongoing**, projected final sensitivity $m_\beta < 0.3 \text{ eV}$ (90% CL)
- m_β has **minimum value**, guaranteed measurement
- sensitivity beyond KATRIN requires **new technology**
 - **differential sub-eV spectroscopy**
 - **atomic tritium** (or **calorimetric measurement**)
 - › **KATRIN++** R&D efforts



Experimental approaches

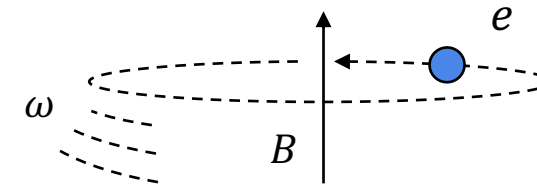
tritium



Cyclotron radiation emission spectroscopy (CRES)

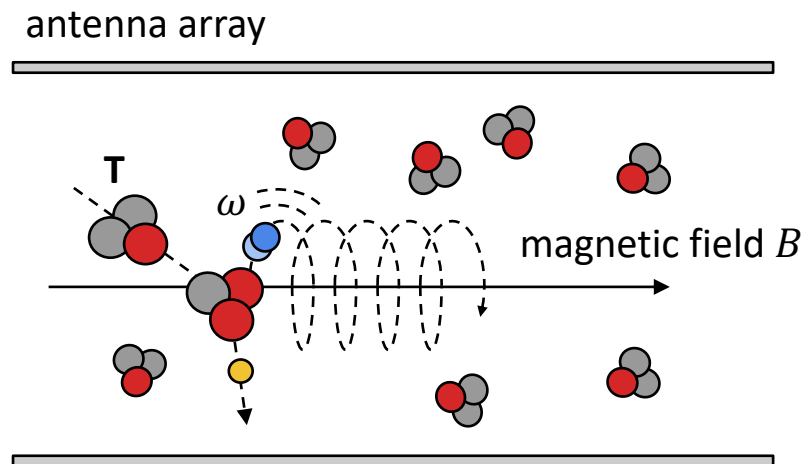
- **electromagnetic radiation** emitted by electron undergoing **cyclotron motion**

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



- › measure **cyclotron frequency**, determine energy of **trapped electron**

[Monreal, Formaggio, PRD 80 (2009) 051301]

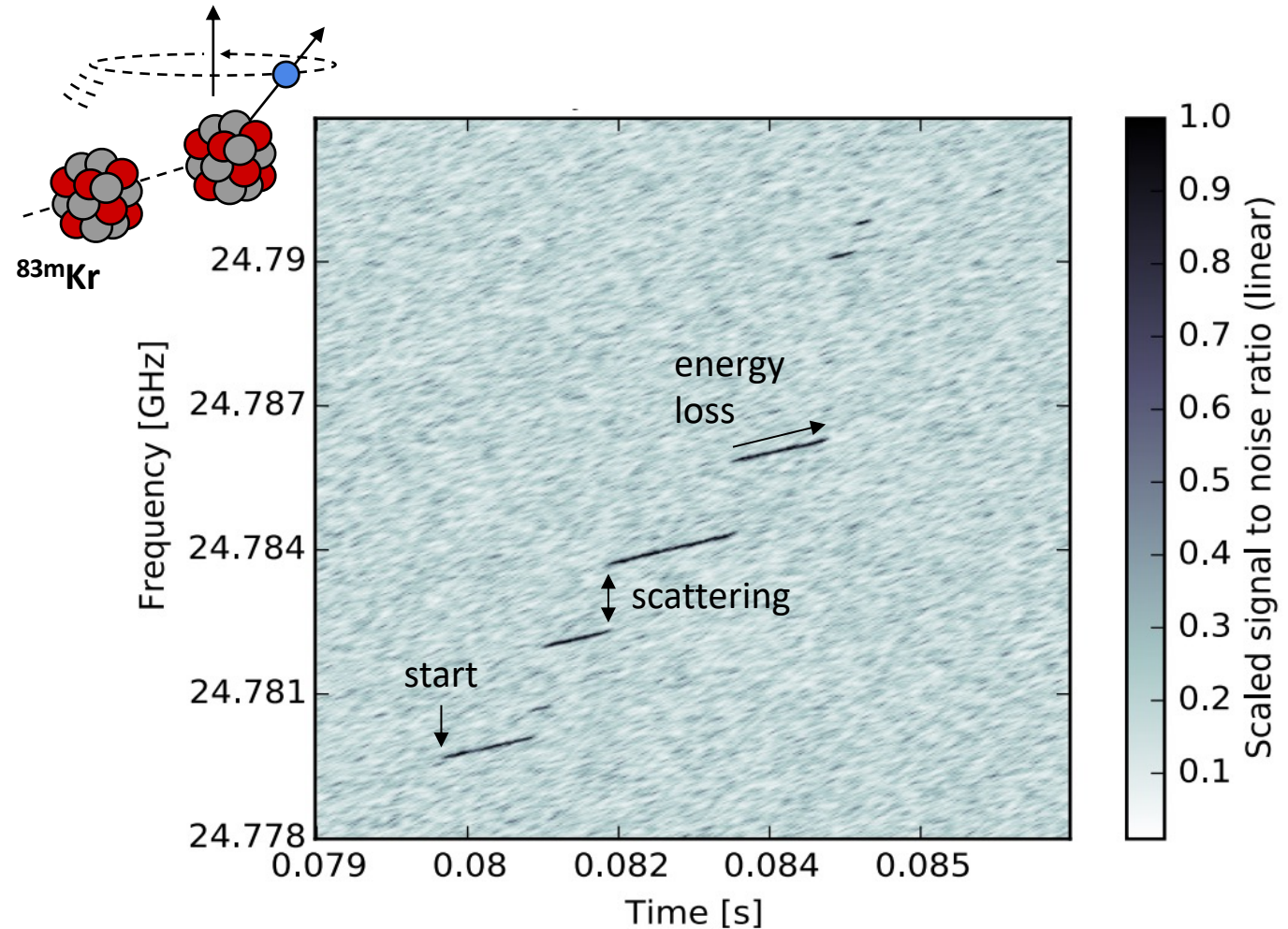


Cyclotron radiation emission spectroscopy (CRES)

- **source transparent** to microwave radiation
- › **no electron extraction** needed
- **differential** frequency measurement
- › **eV-scale** resolution, **low background**

challenges

- sensitivity to **low power signal** ($< 10^{-15}$ W)
- **homogeneous** magnetic field (10^{-7})
- **large volume** trap (m^3)



Project8

- **cold** atomic tritium **trap**, resonant **cavity**
- **proof-of-concept**, single electron spectroscopy
- molecular tritium **endpoint measurement**, first neutrino mass limit

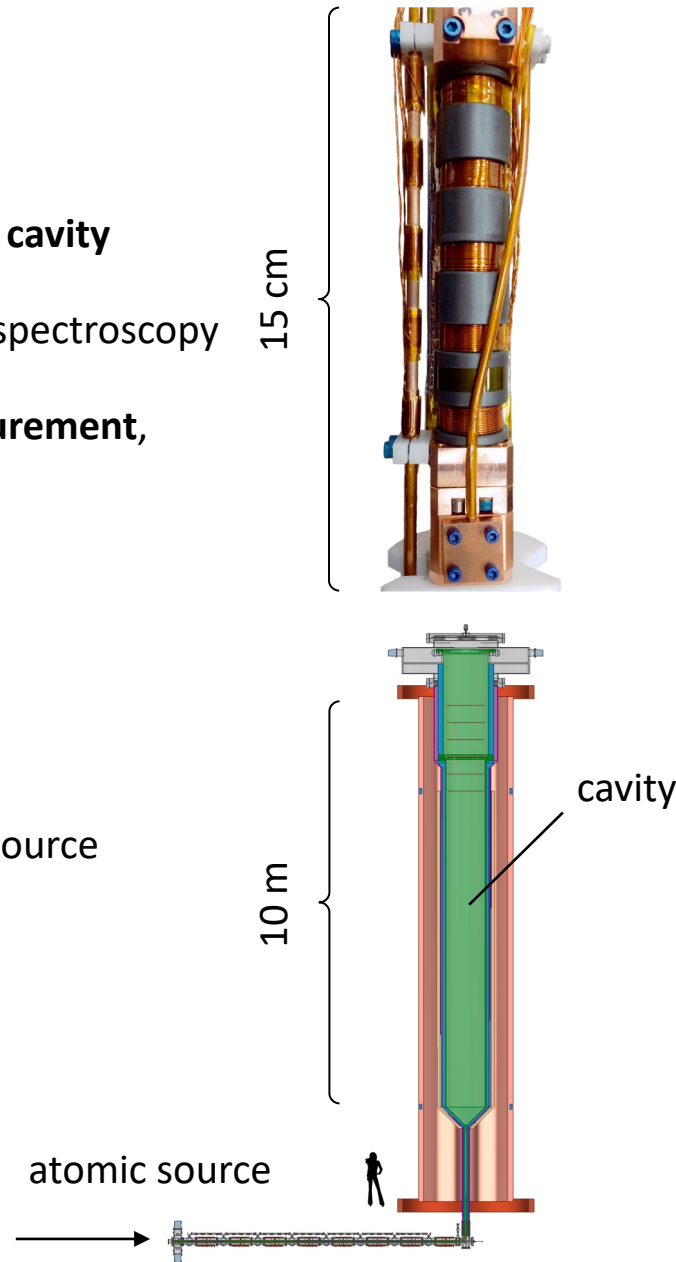
[Ashtari Esfahani et al., PRL 131 (2023)]

$$m_\beta < 155 \text{ eV (90\% CL)}$$

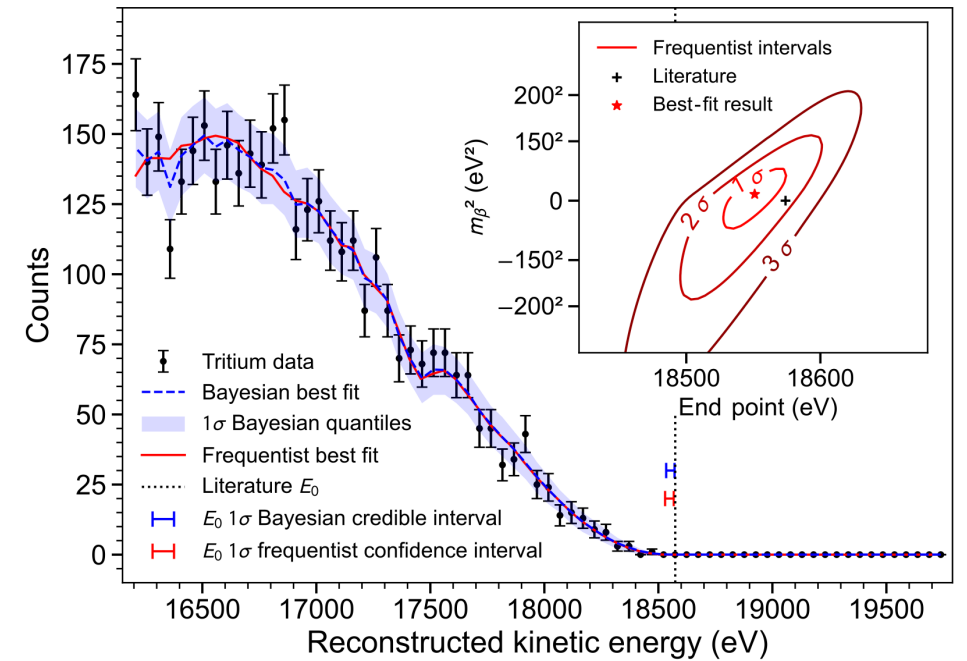
- **m³-scale** traps (antenna array or cavity resonator), **atomic tritium source**

- › sensitivity **down to 0.04 eV**

[Ashtari Esfahani et al., arXiv:2203.07349]

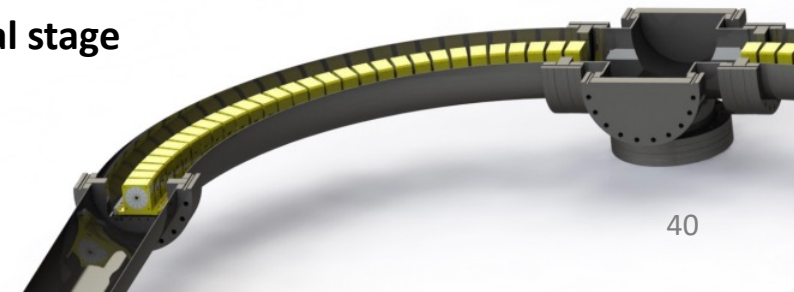


[Ashtari Esfahani et al., PRL 131 (2023)]



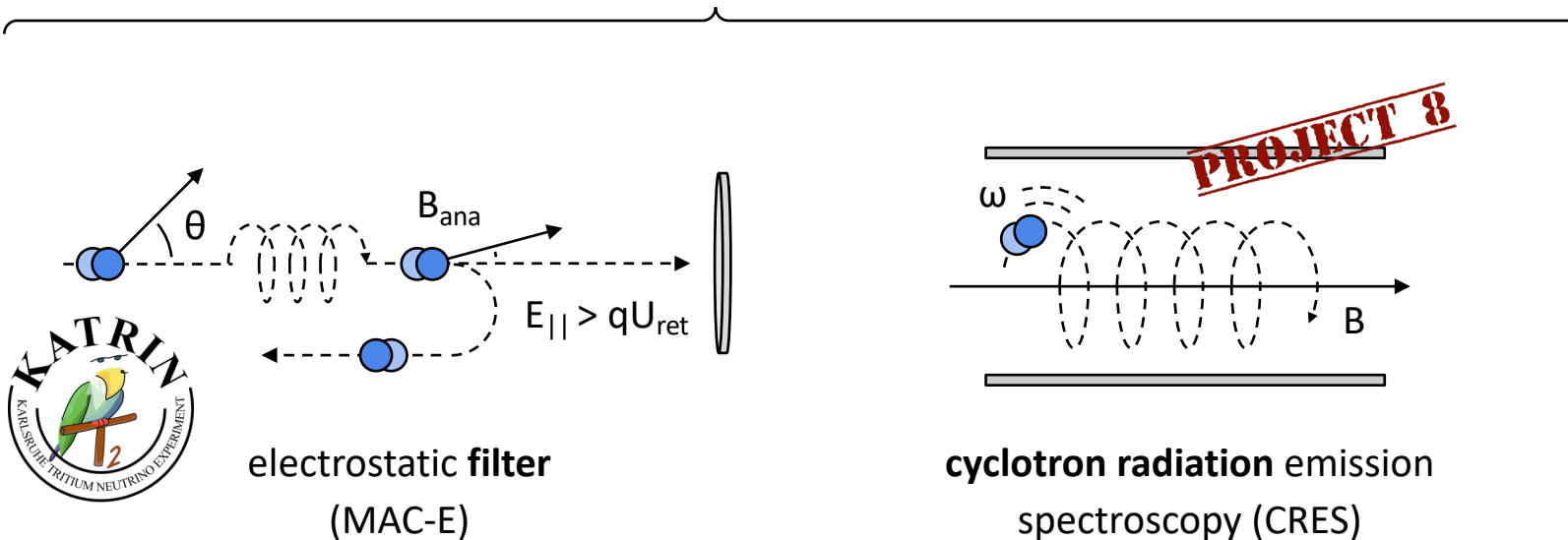
QTNM

- **storage ring** confinement, quantum limited micro-wave electronics
- in **conceptual stage**



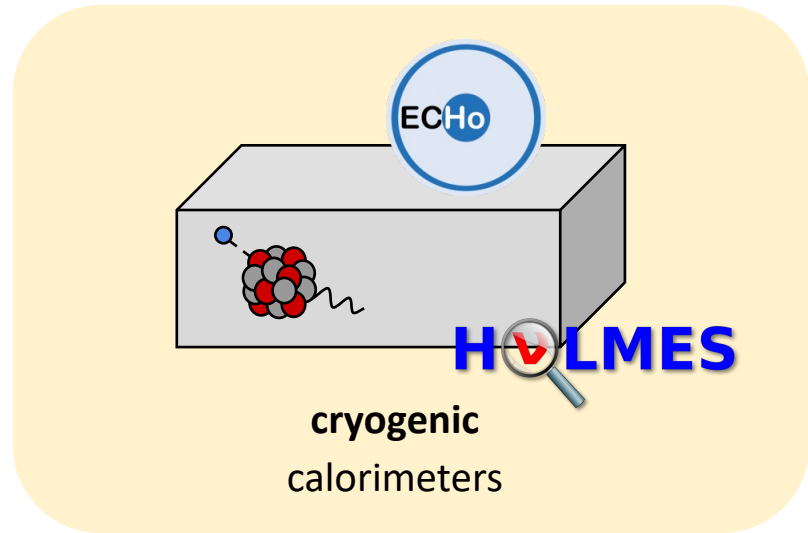
Experimental approaches

tritium



electrostatic filter (MAC-E)

cyclotron radiation emission spectroscopy (CRES)

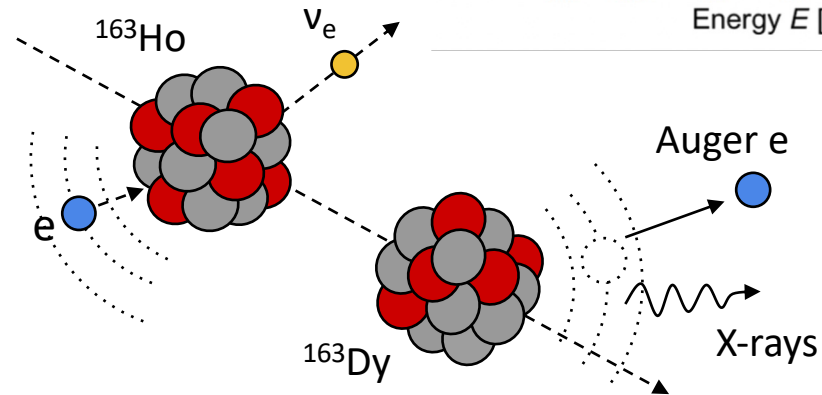
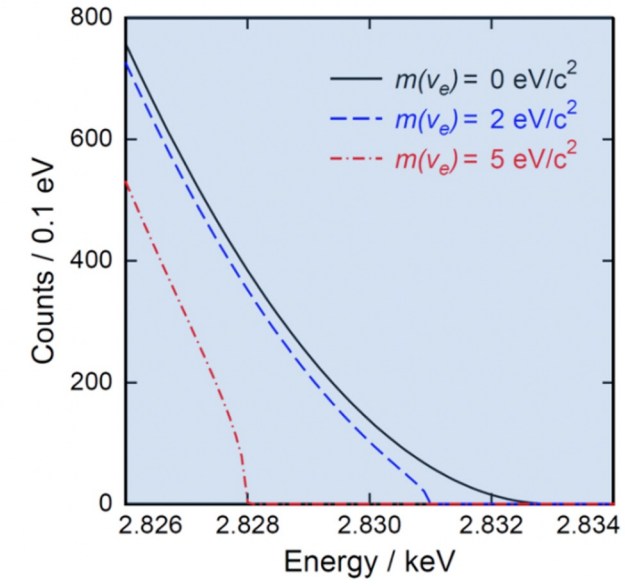
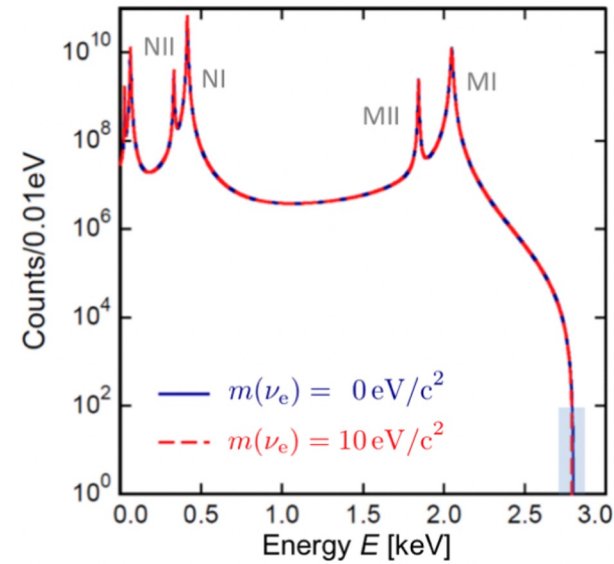


cryogenic calorimeters

R&D

Holmium-163

- **electron capture** decay, energy shared between **excitation** and neutrino
- super-low **Q-value** (2.8 keV), **sub-eV** sensitivity with **MBq-scale activity**
[Eliseev et al., PRL 115 (2015)]
- › **calorimetric measurement** of decay energy
[De Rujula, Lusignoli, PLB 118 (1982) 429]



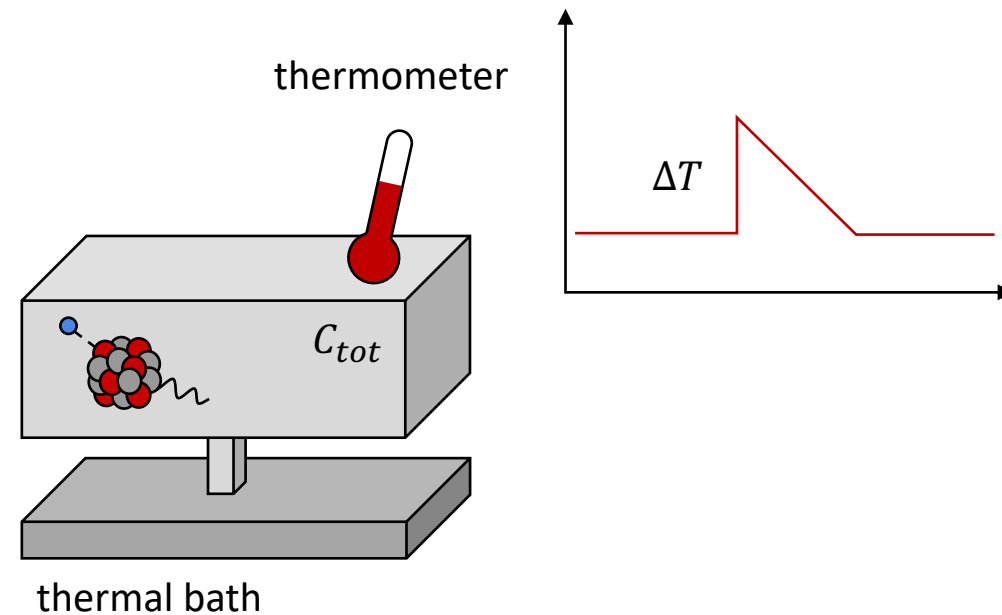
Cryogenic calorimeters

- **holmium implanted** in absorber with **small heat capacity** C_{tot}
 - › small volume, low temperatures (mK)

$$C_{tot} = \left(\frac{T}{T_D}\right)^3 \quad (\text{Debye Law})$$

- › detection of **temperature increase** from decay energy

$$\frac{\Delta T}{E} \approx \frac{1}{C_{tot}} = O(1) \text{ mK/keV}$$

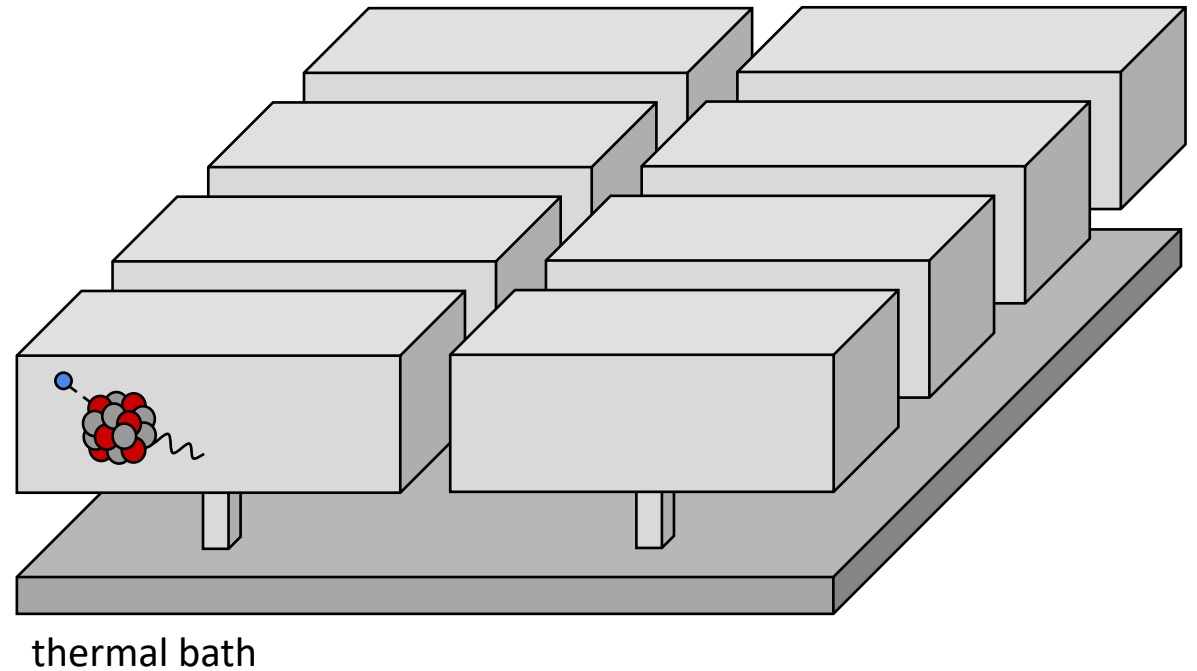


Cryogenic calorimeters

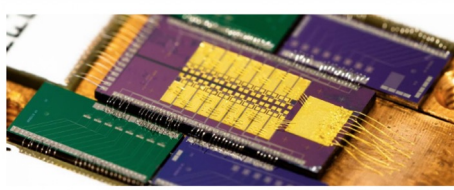
- **source = detector** concept, all decay energy is measured
- **eV-scale differential** measurement

challenges

- **pile-up** limits activity per pixel, multiplexed read-out
- difficult theoretical **spectrum calculation**



ECHO



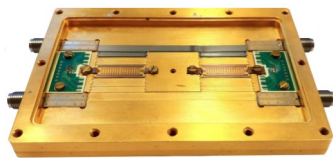
- array of **metallic magnetic calorimeters** (MMC) with ^{163}Ho -implanted absorber, 10 Bq per pixel
- first **neutrino mass limit** (4 pixels with 0.2 Bq)
[Velte et al., EPJ C 79 (2019)]

$$m_\beta < 150 \text{ eV (95\% CL)}$$

- analysis of **new data** ongoing (60 pixels with 1 Bq)

$$\text{sensitivity: } m_\beta < 20 \text{ eV (95\% CL)}$$

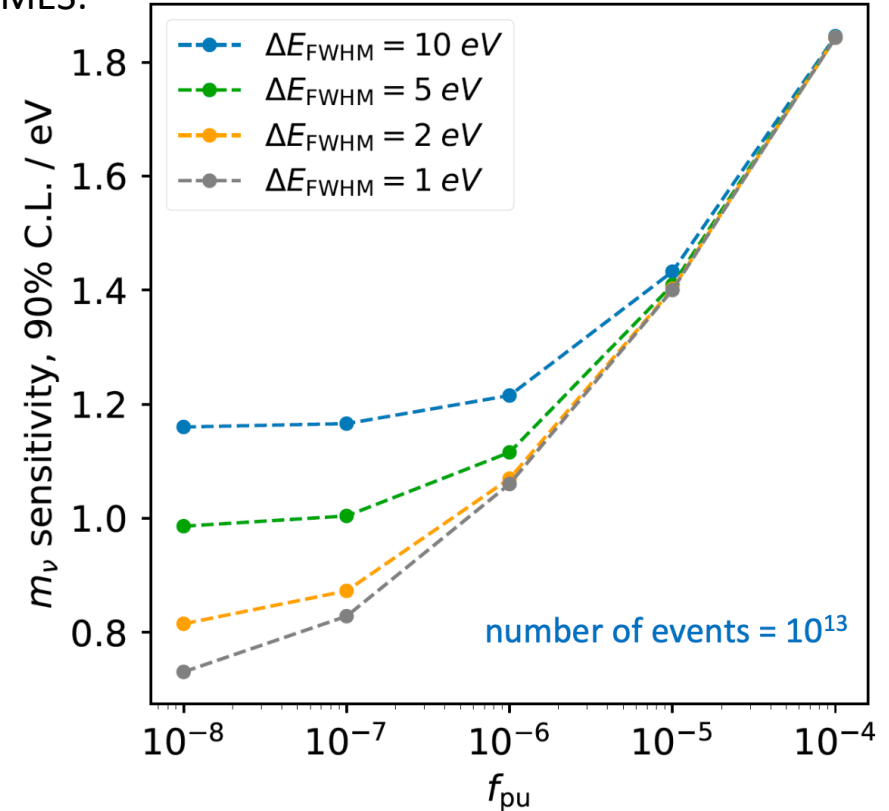
HOLMES



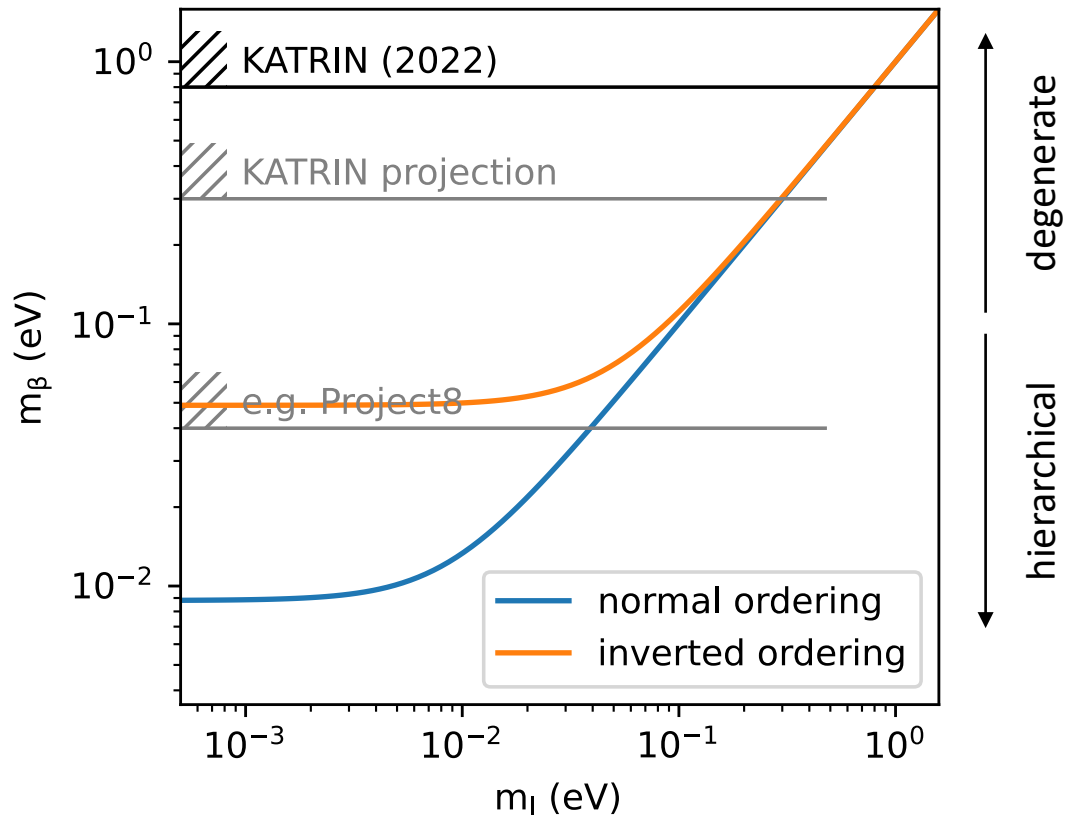
- array of **transition edge sensors** (TES) coupled to ^{163}Ho -implanted absorber, 300 Bq per pixel
- first neutrino mass data taken, expect limit around 10 eV

sensitivity for **coming phases** of
ECHO/HOLMES:

[Gastaldo, TAUP 2023]



Effective electron neutrino mass, $m_\beta = \sqrt{\sum_i |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2}$



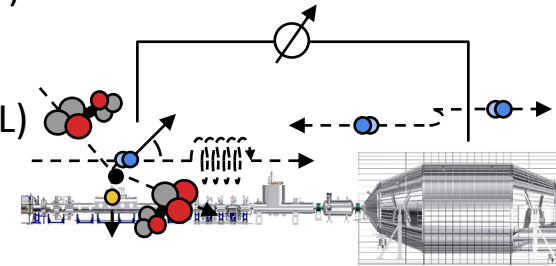
- minimum at **0.01 eV** (normal ordering), **0.05 eV** (inverted ordering)

- current bound (KATRIN, 1st + 2nd campaign)

[Aker et al., Nature Phys. 18 (2022) 2, 160-166]

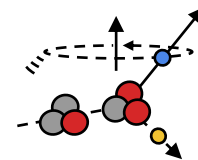
$m_\beta < \mathbf{0.8 \text{ eV}}$ (90% CL)

and **data taking** is ongoing



- promising technologies to go beyond (**cyclotron radiation emission spectroscopy**, ..), differential detectors, atomic tritium

[Ashtari Esfahani et al., arXiv:2203.07349]



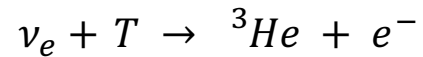
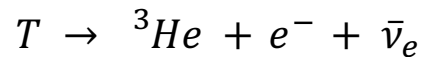
Project8 target: $m_\beta < \mathbf{0.04 \text{ eV}}$ (90% CL)

Side note: relic neutrinos

- cosmic neutrino background (CvB)

$$\rho_{CvB} = 300 \text{ cm}^{-3} \text{ and } T_{CvB} = 1.95 \text{ K}$$

- **capture on tritium**, no energy threshold, above endpoint



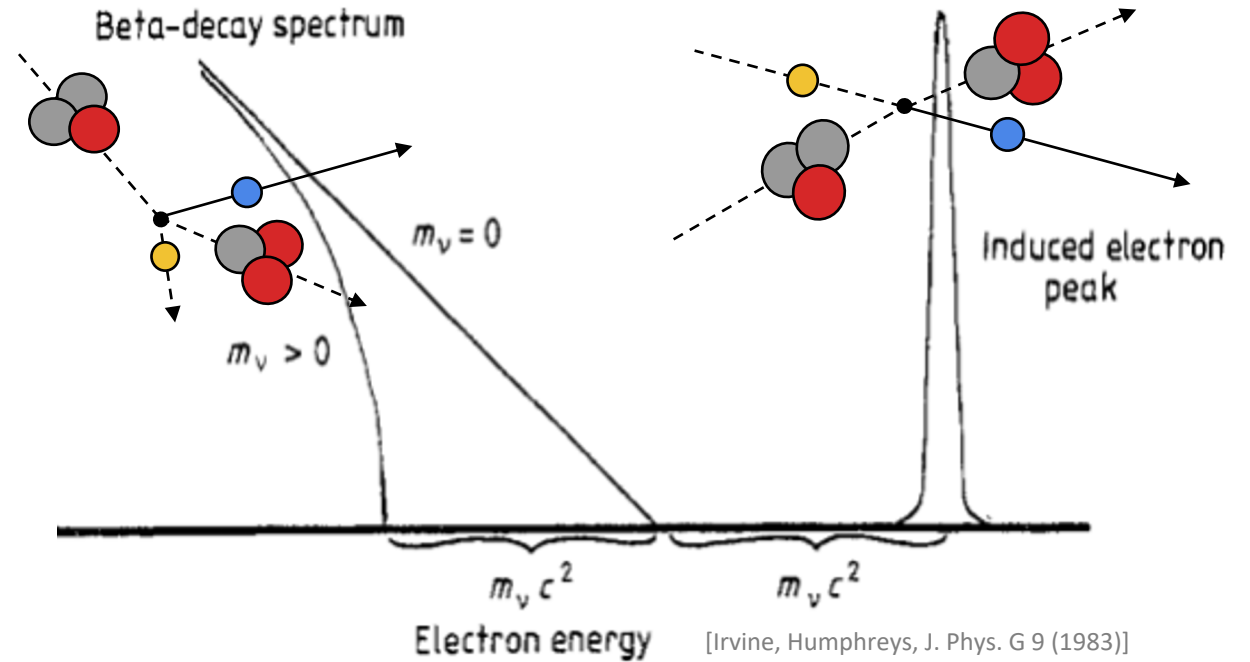
- capture rate doubles for Majorana neutrinos (see later)

- $\sim 10 \mu\text{g}$ KATRIN “target”, constraint on **local overdensity**

[Aker et.al, PRL 129 (2022)]

$$\eta < 1.1 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ (95\% CL)}$$

- › **100x improvement** over previous laboratory bound



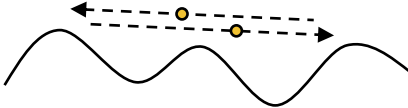
PTOLEMY

- monoatomic tritium in **graphene matrix**, **cyclotron emission tagging**, dynamic **electromagnetic filter**, micro **calorimeters**

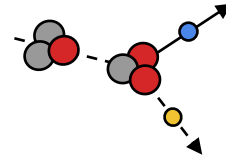
[Betti et al., PNP 106 (2019)]

Neutrino mass probes

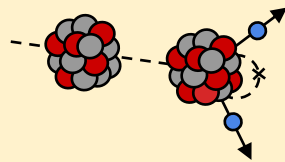
- **Supernovae, time-of-flight** 

- **Cosmology** 

- Beta decay **kinematics**, direct neutrino mass measurements

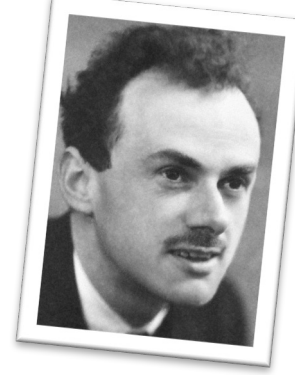
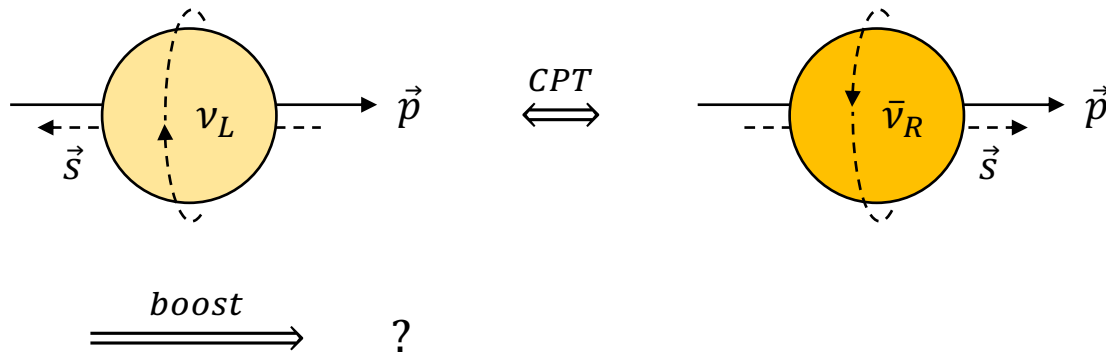


- Neutrinoless **double beta decay**



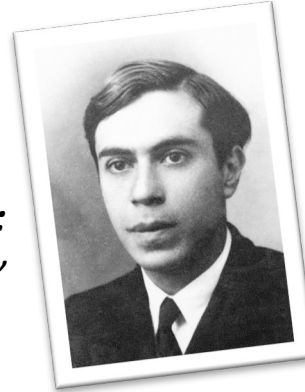
Neutrino nature

- **neutrinos** are left-handed, **anti-neutrinos** are right-handed



Paul Dirac:

"They are fundamentally different particles."

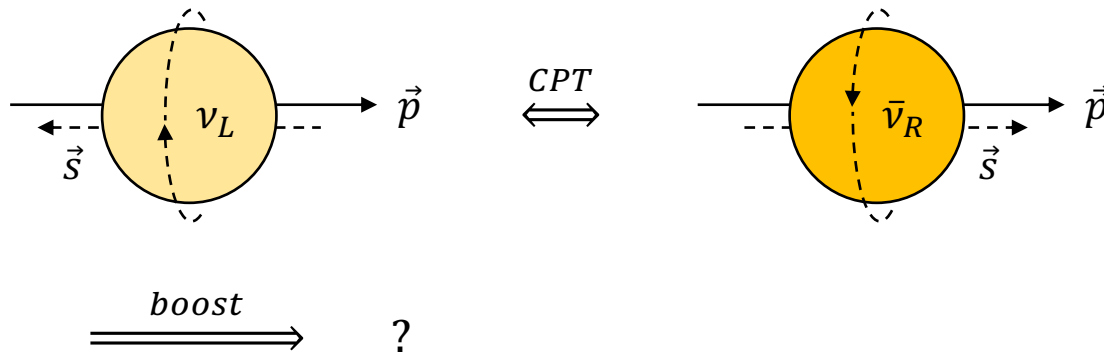


Ettore Majorana:

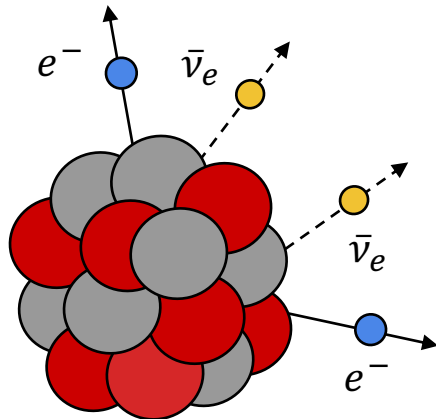
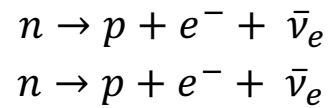
"That's the only difference."

Neutrino nature

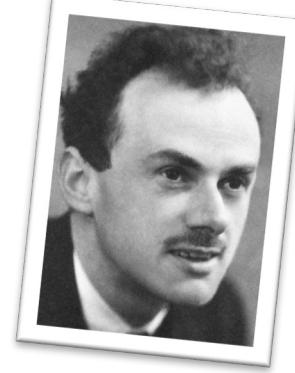
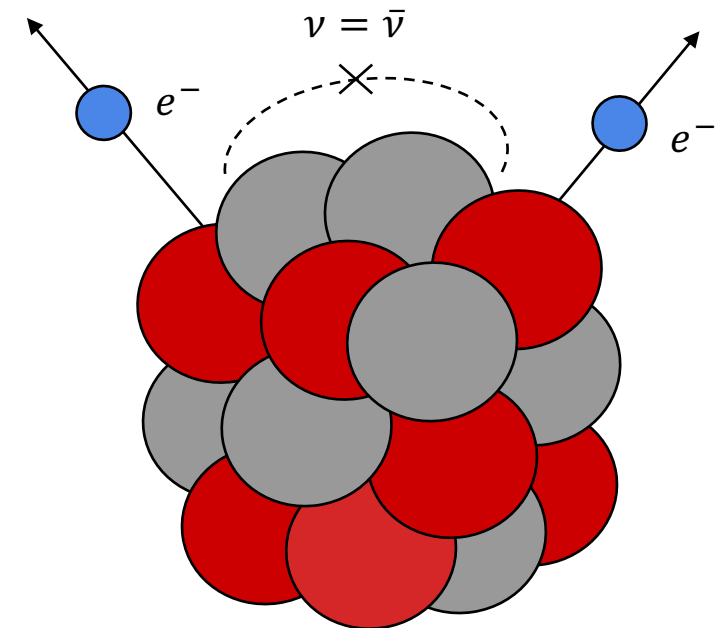
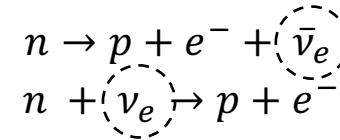
- **neutrinos** are left-handed, **anti-neutrinos** are right-handed



- double beta ($2\nu\beta\beta$) decay, second order weak process

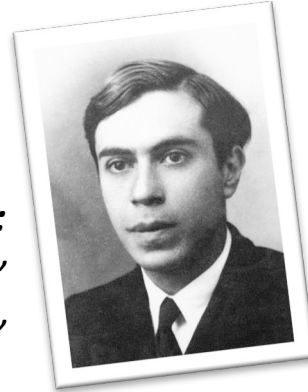


- neutrinoless double beta ($0\nu\beta\beta$) decay



Paul Dirac:

“They are fundamentally different particles.”
 “This reaction **is not possible.**”

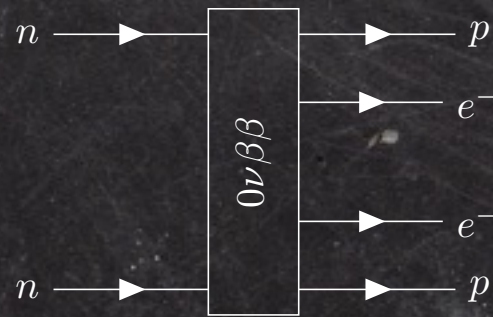


Ettore Majorana:

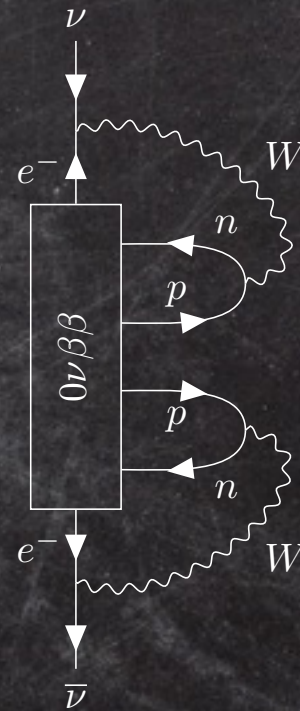
“That’s the only difference.”
 “This reaction **is possible.**”

$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

decay rate $\Gamma^{0\nu} \propto \sum_i \overbrace{G_i^{0\nu}}^{\text{phase space factor}} \cdot \overbrace{|\mathcal{M}_i^{0\nu}|^2}^{\text{nuclear matrix element}} \cdot \overbrace{\eta_i^2}^{\text{strength}}$



lepton-number violating
($\Delta L = 2$) physics



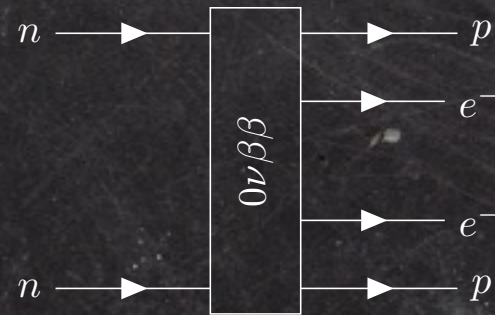
black box /
Schechter-Valle theorem
[Schechter, Valle, PRD 22 (1980)]

$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

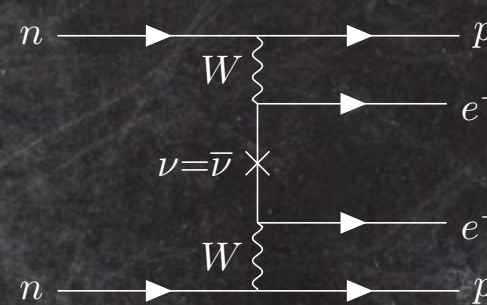
decay rate $\Gamma^{0\nu} \propto \sum_i \underbrace{G_i^{0\nu}}_{\text{phase space factor}} \cdot \underbrace{|\mathcal{M}_i^{0\nu}|^2}_{\text{nuclear matrix element}} \cdot \underbrace{\eta_i^2}_{\text{strength}}$

$\approx G^{0\nu} \cdot |\mathcal{M}^{0\nu}|^2 \cdot \underbrace{\left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e}\right)^2}_{m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|}$

effective Majorana neutrino mass
(coherent sum of mass eigenstates)



lepton-number violating
($\Delta L = 2$) physics

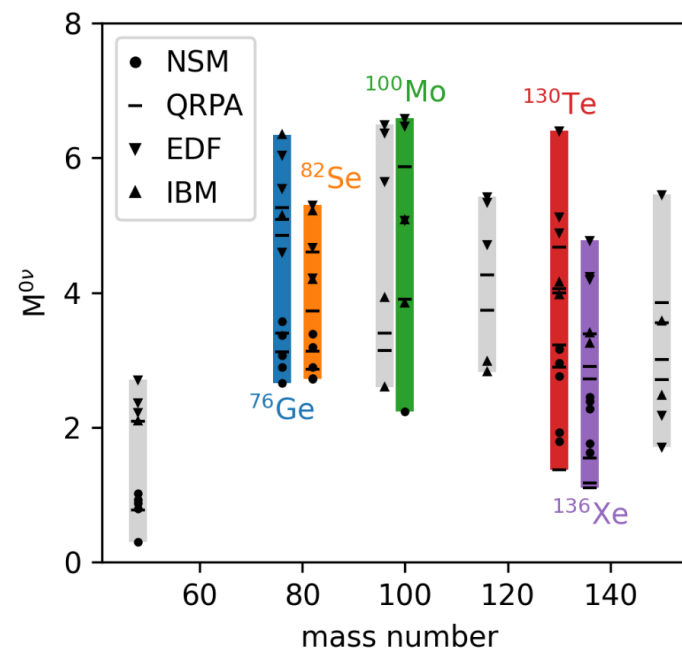
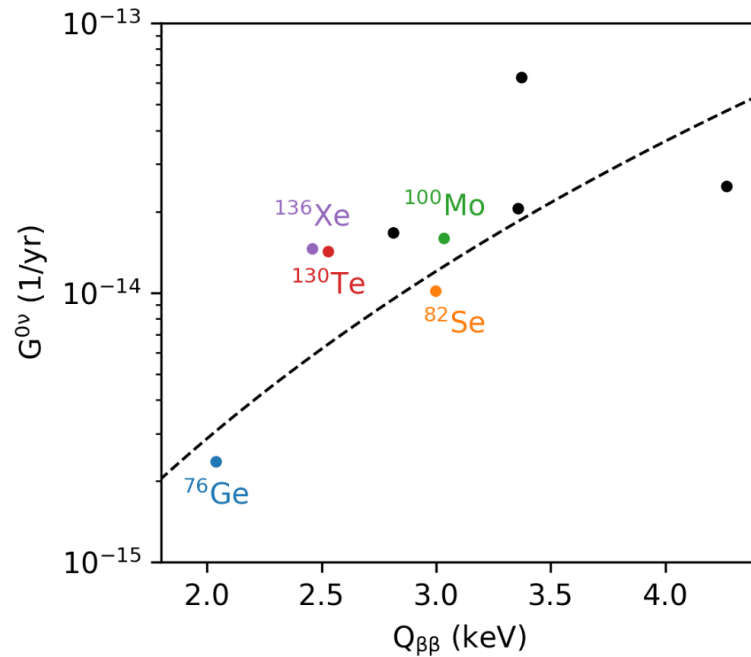


light Majorana neutrino
exchange, mass mechanism

Decay rate

- interplay of **lepton-number violating physics** and **isotope properties**

$$\Gamma^{0\nu} = \frac{N_A}{M(^A X)} \cdot G^{0\nu} \cdot \ln(2) \cdot |g_A^2 \mathcal{M}^{0\nu}|^2 \cdot \left(\frac{m_{\beta\beta}}{m_e}\right)^2$$



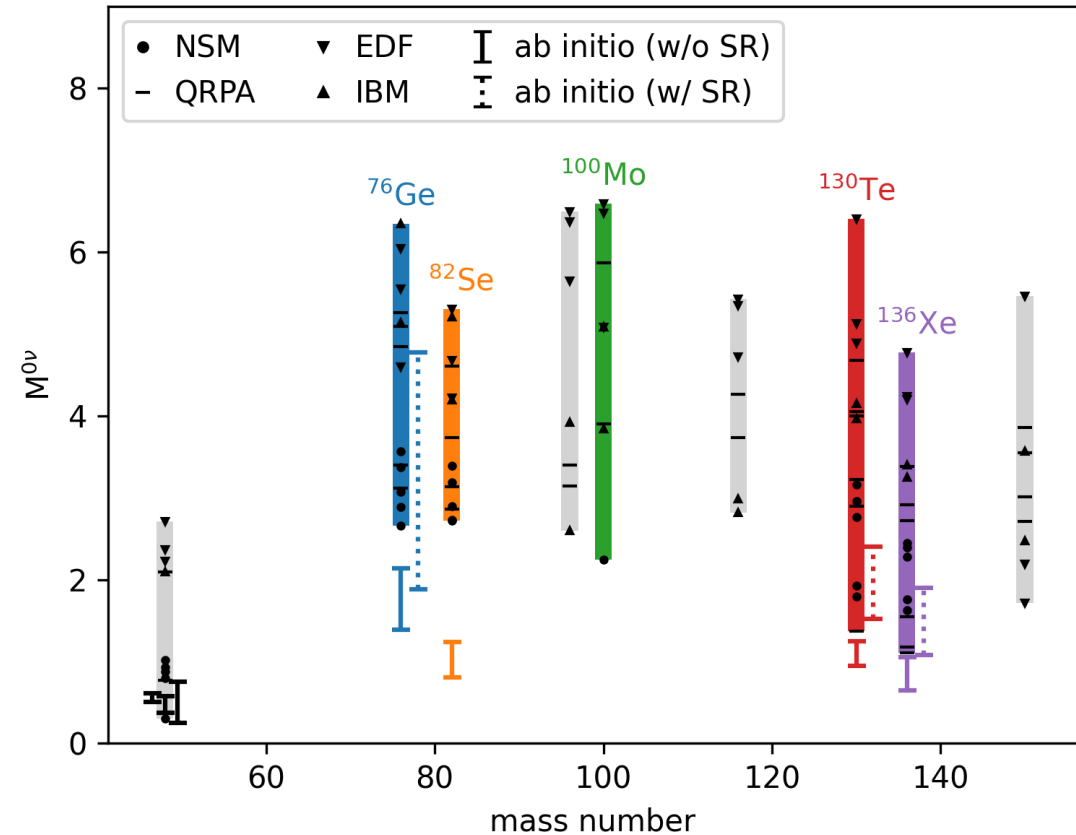
- accurate **phase space factor**, large Q-value favorable
[Kotila, Iachello, PRC 85 (2012)]
- different **nuclear matrix elements** using various **many-body methods**, significant spread
[Agostini et al., Rev.Mod.Phys. 95 (2023)]

Nuclear matrix elements

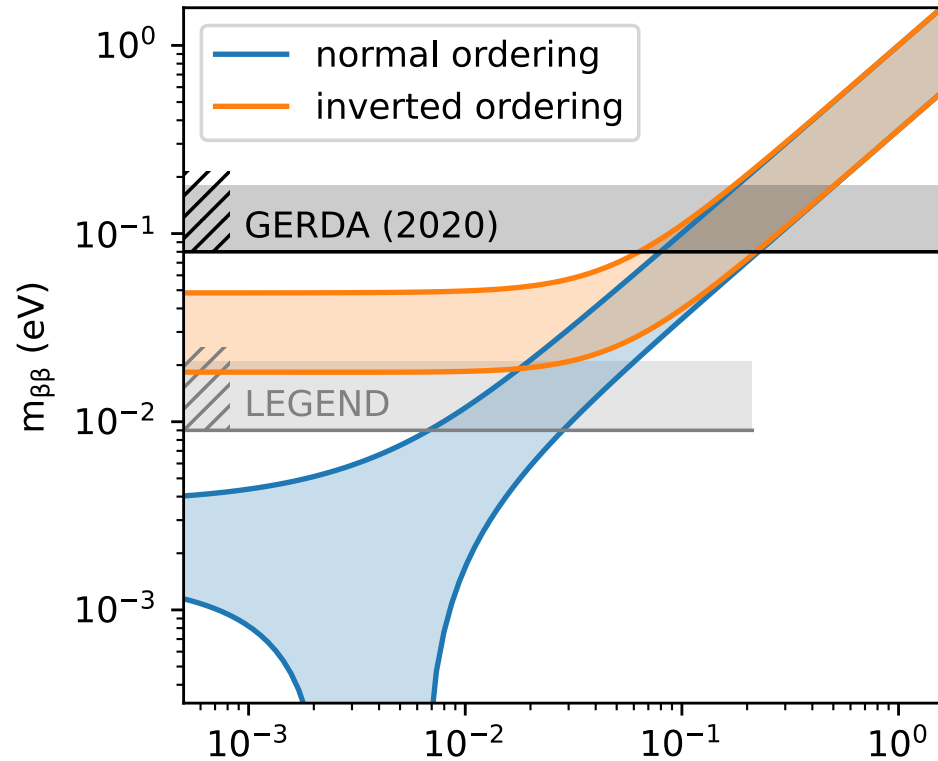
- first **ab initio** calculations available, could resolve **quenching issue, short-range operator** under investigation

[Yao et al., PRL 124 (2020); Belley et al., PRL 126 (2021); Novario et al., PRL 126 (2021); Cirigliano et al., PRL 120 (2018); Belley et al., arXiv:2307.15156; Belley et al., PRL 132 (2024)]

- experimental input by ..
 - .. precision **$2\nu\beta\beta$ decay** measurements
[Gando et al., PRL 122 (2019)]
 - .. heavy-ion double **charge exchange** reactions
[Cappuzzello et al., EPJ A 54 (2018)]
 - .. ordinary **muon capture**
[Zinatulina et al., PRC 99 (2019)]



Effective Majorana neutrino mass, $m_{\beta\beta} = \left| \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i \right|$



- **complex Majorana phases**, cancelation possible (normal ordering), minimum at **0.02 eV** (inverted ordering)

- **current bounds**, e.g.

[Agostini et al., PRL 125 (2020); Adams et al., arXiv:2404.04453; Abe et al., PRL 130 (2023)]

GERDA (^{76}Ge): $m_{\beta\beta} < [0.08, 0.18] \text{ meV}$ (90% CL)

CUORE (^{130}Te): $m_{\beta\beta} < [0.07, 0.24] \text{ meV}$ (90% CI)

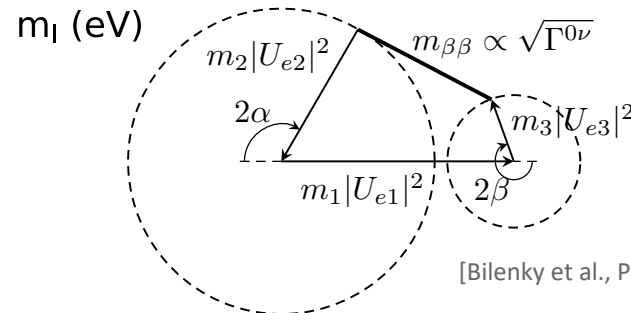
KamLAND-Zen (^{136}Xe): $m_{\beta\beta} < [0.04, 0.17] \text{ meV}$ (90% CL)

- **next generation** experiments, e.g.

[Abgrall et al., arXiv:2107.11462]

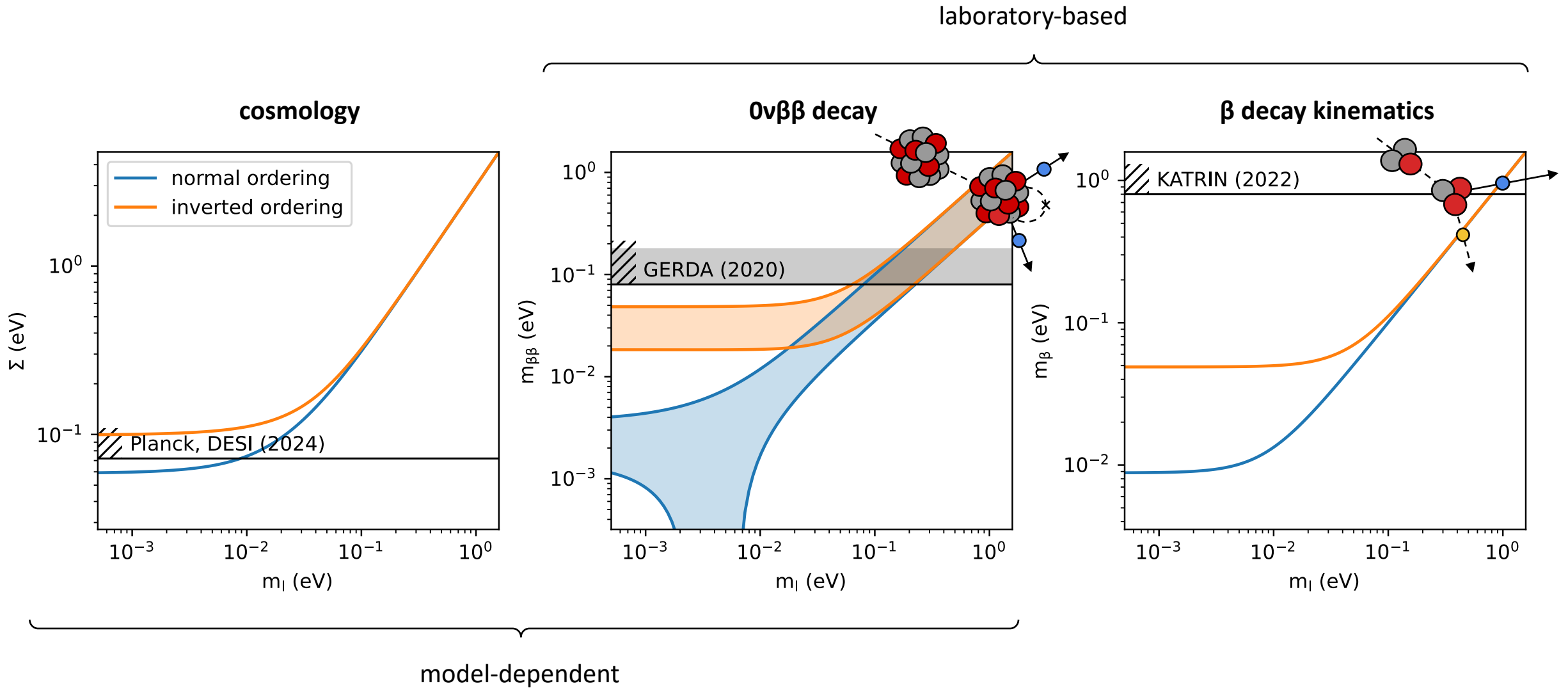
LEGEND-1000: $[0.01, 0.02] \text{ eV}$ (3σ discovery)

similar numbers for CUPID, nEXO, ...



[Bilenky et al., PRD 64 (2001)]

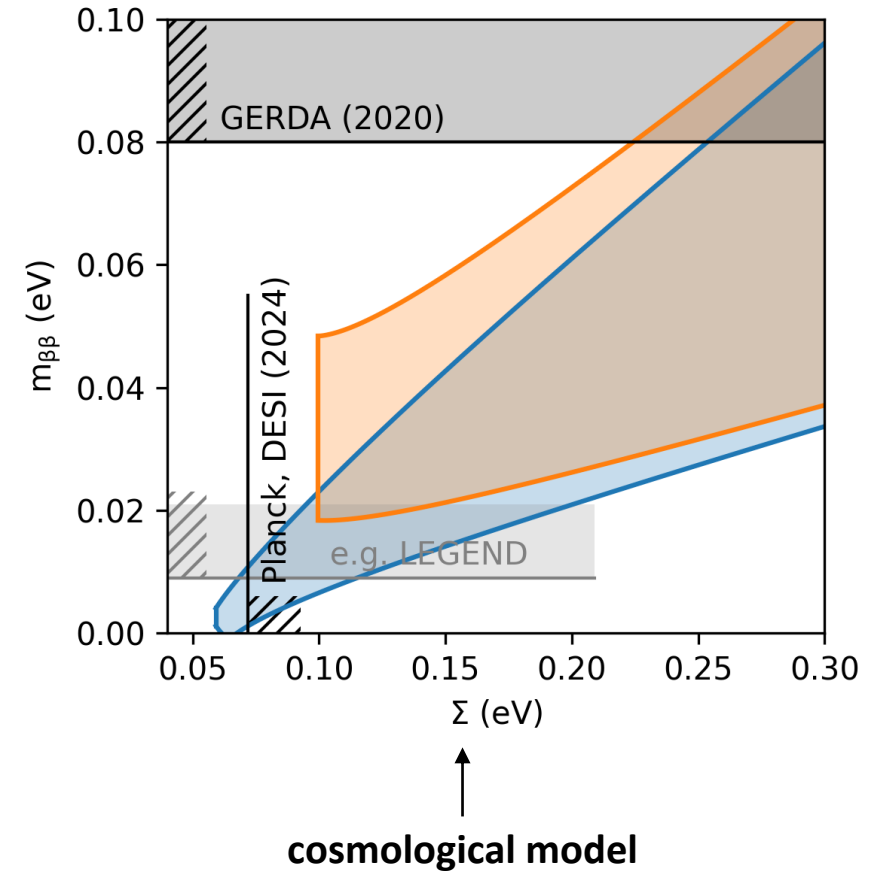
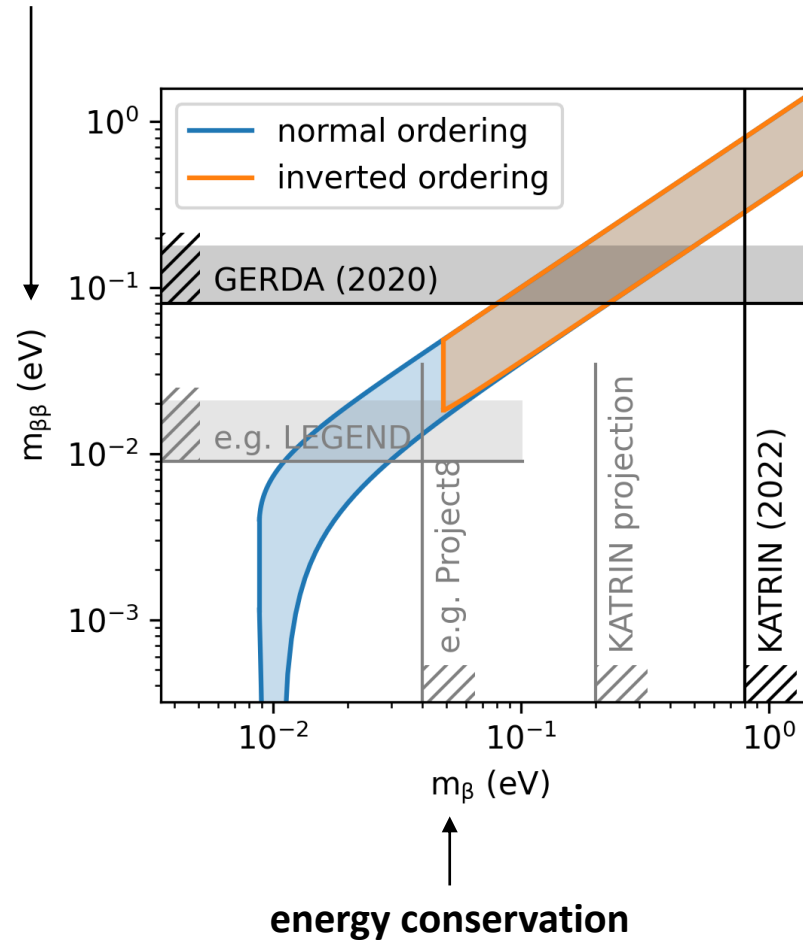
Neutrino mass observables



Interplay

- **complementary** neutrino mass information
 - different **mass eigenstate combinations**
 - different **model assumptions**
- › **counter measurements, model discrimination**

Majorana nature,
light Majorana neutrino exchange



Take away

- **How** can we measure the absolute neutrino mass?

_____ ? _____ ? _____ ? _____ ?

- What are current **neutrino mass constraints**?

sum of mass eigenstates, $\Sigma < \underline{\hspace{2cm}} ?$

effective Majorana neutrino mass, $m_{\beta\beta} < \underline{\hspace{2cm}} ?$

effective electron neutrino mass, $m_{\beta} < \underline{\hspace{2cm}} ?$

- **What assumptions** are behind different neutrino mass observables?

sum of mass eigenstates, $\Sigma: \underline{\hspace{2cm}} ?$

effective Majorana neutrino mass, $m_{\beta\beta}: \underline{\hspace{2cm}} ?$

effective electron neutrino mass, $m_{\beta}: \underline{\hspace{2cm}} ?$

- How does the **KATRIN experiment** work?

_____ ? _____

Take away

- **How** can we measure the absolute neutrino mass?

Supernovae

cosmology

β decay kinematics

$0\nu\beta\beta$ decay

- What are current **neutrino mass constraints**?

sum of mass eigenstates, $\Sigma < \underline{0.07 \text{ eV}}$ (95% CI)

effective Majorana neutrino mass, $m_{\beta\beta} < \underline{[0.04, 0.16] \text{ eV}}$ (90% CL)

effective electron neutrino mass, $m_{\beta} < \underline{0.8 \text{ eV}}$ (90% CL)

- **What assumptions** are behind different neutrino mass observables?

sum of mass eigenstates, Σ : cosmological model

effective Majorana neutrino mass, $m_{\beta\beta}$: Majorana nature, decay mechanism

effective electron neutrino mass, m_{β} : energy conservation

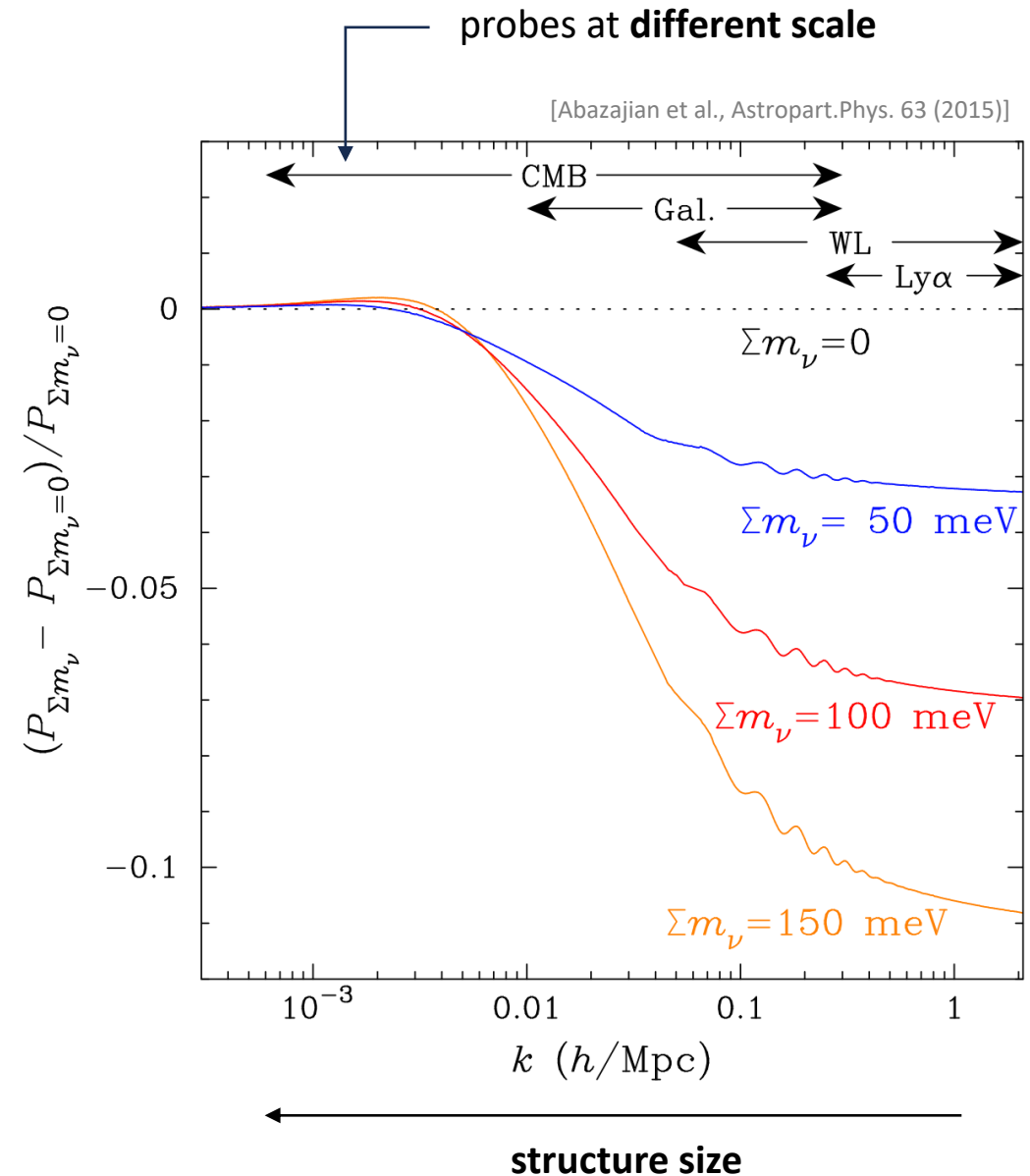
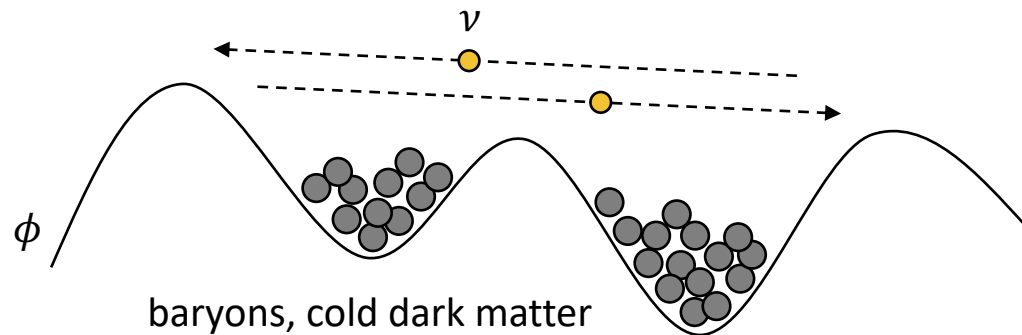
- How does the **KATRIN experiment** work?

high-activity gaseous molecular tritium source, magnetic adiabatic collimation with electrostatic filter (MAC-E) spectrometer

Backup

Neutrinos in the cosmos

- heavy, non-relativistic **matter clumps on small scales**
- **relativistic neutrinos** disperse energy across overdensities, effectiveness depends on neutrino mass
- › neutrino mass leaves **imprint on structure growth**, matter power spectrum



Side note: sterile neutrinos

- additional **sterile neutrino** state, mixing with electron neutrino

$$\begin{pmatrix} \nu_e \\ \nu_\mu \\ \nu_\tau \\ \nu_s \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} U_{e1} & U_{e2} & U_{e3} & U_{e4} \\ U_{\mu1} & U_{\mu2} & U_{\mu3} & U_{\mu4} \\ U_{\tau1} & U_{\tau2} & U_{\tau3} & U_{\tau4} \\ U_{s1} & U_{s2} & U_{s3} & U_{s4} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \nu_1 \\ \nu_2 \\ \nu_3 \\ \nu_4 \end{pmatrix}$$

- motivated by **anomalies** (eV-scale), viable **dark matter candidate** (keV-scale)
 - › additional spectral component, kink-like signature
- unique test of **eV-scale parameter space**
- deep spectral exploration to search for **keV-sterile neutrinos**
 - › **TRISTAN upgrade** of KATRIN, silicon drift detector array

