





# **Direct Neutrino Mass Measurement**

Christoph Köhler (TUM), PIC 2024, 23.10.2024

### Neutrino mass





- Neutrino oscillations → non-zero mass
- Smallness, ordering and origin of mass?

### **Determination method**



# Neutrinoless ββ-decay



World leading: KamLAND-Zen  $T_{1/2} > 3.8e26 \text{ y} \Rightarrow m_{\beta\beta} 28-122$ meV

- Majorana nature!?
- Nuclear matrix elements?





# Neutrinoless ββ-decay





# Cosmology

 Most stringent bound driven by Planck and DESI data

[Adame et al., arXiv:2404.03002]

 $\Sigma$  < 0.07 eV (95% CI)

 Model dependence can weaken bounds



# Introducing effective neutrino mass $\rightarrow {\sim} 3\sigma$ tension



[Elbers, Neutrino 2024]

# β-decay<sup>\*</sup> kinematics

\* or electron capture



<sup>3</sup>H

<sup>3</sup>He

- Independent of cosmology
- Independent of neutrino nature







## The challenge



#### Key requirements:

- Strong β-decaying source
  - Tritium: **12.3 years**, **E**<sub>0</sub> = **18.6 keV**
  - Holmium: 4500 years,  $E_0 = 2.8 \text{ keV}$
- Excellent energy resolution (1 eV)
- Low background (< 100 mcps)</li>

### **Experimental approaches**





# Experimental approaches



# KArlsruhe TRItium Neutrino Experiment

- International collaboration (150 members)
- Design sensitivity: 0.2 eV (90 % C.L.) (1000 days of measurement time)

### Experimental overview



### Measurement strategy



- ~30 HV set points with varying duration
- Scan interval:  $E_0 40 \text{ eV}$ ,  $E_0 + 135 \text{ eV}$
- 2-3 h scan time
- Several campaigns per year with O(100) scans



# Analysis strategy

• Maximum likelihood fit of model

$$\Gamma(qU) \propto A \int_{qU}^{E_0} D(E; m_\beta^2, E_0) \, \mathbf{R}(qU, E) \, \mathrm{d}E + B$$



Τ

- Free parameters: squared neutrino mass  $m_{\beta}^2$ , effective endpoint  $E_0$ , amplitude A and background B
- Theoretical (Fermi theory, molecular excitations) and experimental inputs (calibration measurements)

### Data taking overview



# New KATRIN result

#### Data set:

• 250 days of data (5 campaigns)

#### **Result:**

- Best fit: m<sub>v</sub><sup>2</sup> = -0.14<sup>+0.13</sup><sub>-0.15</sub> eV<sup>2</sup> (stat. dom.)
- New limit: m<sub>v</sub> < 0.45 eV (90% CL)

Neutrino-24 (2024), arXiv:2406.13516 (2024)

#### Final goal (in 2026):

• < 0.3 eV sensitivity



# **Experimental improvements**

- Background reduction by a factor of 2 with "shifted analyzing plane" configuration
- Mapping of smaller volume on detector
- Inhomogeneous EM-fields
  - Segmentation in **14** patches
  - Calibration of fields needed





# Systematic uncertainties

- Statistical uncertainties dominate
- Significant reduction of background-related systematics
- Source-related uncertainties reduced in current data



# **KATRIN** results



- New KATRIN release improves direct neutrino-mass bound by a factor of 2: m<sub>v</sub> < 0.45 eV (90% CL)</li>
- Final result:
  - based on 1000 days of data taking (completed end of 2025)
  - sensitivity better than  $m_v < 0.3 \text{ eV}$

# 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 (~ 1eV)
    - Avoid limiting systematics of  $T_2$



# **Experimental approaches**

#### **R&D** launched:

- Atomic tritium source concepts
- Application of microcalorimeters (MMC) to β-electrons

#### Leverage unique infrastructures:

- Tritium Laboratory Karlsruhe
- KATRIN beamline





KATRIN++ (Tritium)



# Experimental approaches



# Cyclotron Radiation Emission Spectroscopy (CRES)

• Precise frequency measurement:

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

#### Advantages:

- (sub)-eV-scale differential measurement
- no electron beamline

#### **Challenges:**

- Weak signal: ~1fW
- B-field homogeneity at the 10<sup>-7</sup> level
- Large volume (~m<sup>3</sup>) atomic trap for < 0.04 eV sensitivity</li>





# Project 8

- Achievements:
  - Proof of CRES concept

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

 $\circ$  First neutrino mass limit: m<sub>v</sub> < 155 eV (90% CL)

A. Ashtari Esfahani et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 131, 102502 (2023)

- Next steps /challenges:
  - large-volume (m<sup>3</sup>) cavity resonator
  - development of atomic tritium source
- Ultimate goal to cover inverted ordering: 40 meV sensitivity arXiv:2203.07349 (2022)



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### Experimental approaches



# Working principle

Low-temperature micro-calorimetry with holmium

A. De rujula and M. Lusignoli, Phys. Lett. 118B (1982)

 $^{163}_{67}\text{Ho}{\rightarrow}^{163}_{66}\text{Dy}^* + \nu_e$ 

$$^{163}_{66}$$
Dy $^* \rightarrow ^{163}_{66}$ Dy $+ E_{C}$ 





# Working principle

#### Advantages:

- eV-scale differential measurement
- Source implanted in detector

#### Challenges:

- eV-resolution
  - operation at low temperature (mK)
  - small pixels (µm-scale)
- Collecting data (> 10<sup>13</sup> decay for eV sensitivity)
  - high as possible activity per pixel (10 Bq)
  - many (> 10,000) pixels
  - multiplexed read-out



### **Experiments**



• 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:** m<sub>v</sub> < 150 eV (95% CL)
- ECHo-1k: m<sub>v</sub> < 19 eV (90% CL) ~1 Bq/pixel, 60 pixels, 10 eV FWHM Neutrino (2024)
- ECHo-100k: excellent performance demonstrated: ~10 Bq/pixel, 12000 pixels, 1 eV sensitivity Neutrino (2024)

#### Next steps/challenges:

• Scaling up to more activity and pixels

#### Ultimate goal:

• 10 MBq (100,000 pixels)  $\rightarrow$  low sub-ev sensitivity







### Holmes

#### Achievements:

- **First result:** m<sub>v</sub> < 28 eV (90% CL)
- 52 active pixels (64 total)
- <A> ≈ 0.3 Bq, ΔE<sub>FWHM</sub> = ~4 eV @ 6 keV
  Neutrino (2024)

#### Next steps/challenges:

• Scaling to more activity and pixels

#### Goal:

● 0.3 MBq (1000 pixels) → 1 eV sensitivity Nuclear Inst. and Methods in Physics Research, A 1051 (2023) 168205



#### 64 pixel detector: ~0.5 Bq activity/pixel



# **Experimental approaches**

- Science goal: Search for Big Bang neutrinos arXiv:1307.4738 [astro-ph.IM]
- Sensitivity to neutrino mass of m<sub>v</sub> < 10 meV JCAP 07 (2019) 047
- Combined beyond-thestate-of-the-art technologies PPNP 106, 2019, 120-131



# Summary

#### KATRIN

- Leading neutrino mass limit ( $m_v < 0.45 \text{ eV}$ ) from direct measurements
- Final goal: sensitivity m<sub>v</sub> < 0.3 eV

#### Cyclotron Radiation Emission Spectroscopy (CRES): 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 (MMC, TES): ECHo, Holmes & KATRIN++

- New limits  $m_v < 19 \text{ eV}$  (ECHo) and  $m_v < 28 \text{ eV}$  (Holmes)
- Next step: scaling up to high-activity and large number of detectors





# Thank you

and thanks to the KATRIN collaboration ECHo collaboration Project-8 collaboration Holmes collaboration QTNM collaboration





#### Collaboration meeting, October 2024, Karlsruhe



## Backup

## KATRIN++



# QTNM



Conceptual design of CRESDA

https://www.hep.ucl.ac.uk/qtnm/

### Ptolemy



PoS(EPS-HEP2023)103