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# New results on Neutrino Mass from the KATRIN Experiment

**Weiran Xu** for the KATRIN collaboration

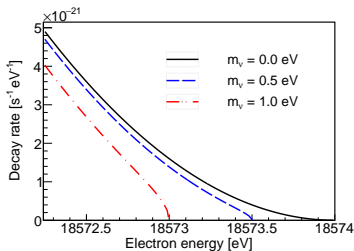
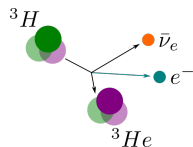
Massachusetts Institute of Technology

CoSSURF Conference, May 11, 2022

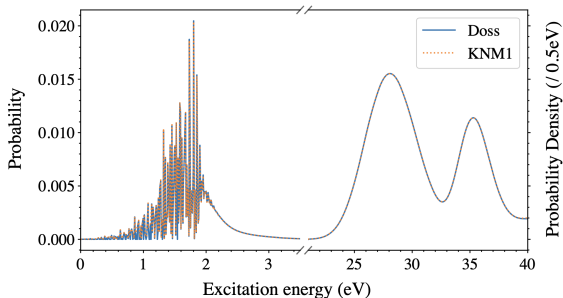
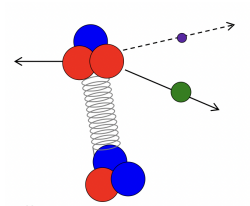
# Neutrino mass from tritium beta decay

- Kinematics affected by neutrino mass
- Direct, model-independent measurement requiring high energy resolution  $\Delta E \sim \text{eV}$
- KATRIN sensitive to a degenerated neutrino mass scale

$$m_\nu = \sqrt{\sum_{i=1}^3 |U_{ei}|^2 m_i^2}$$



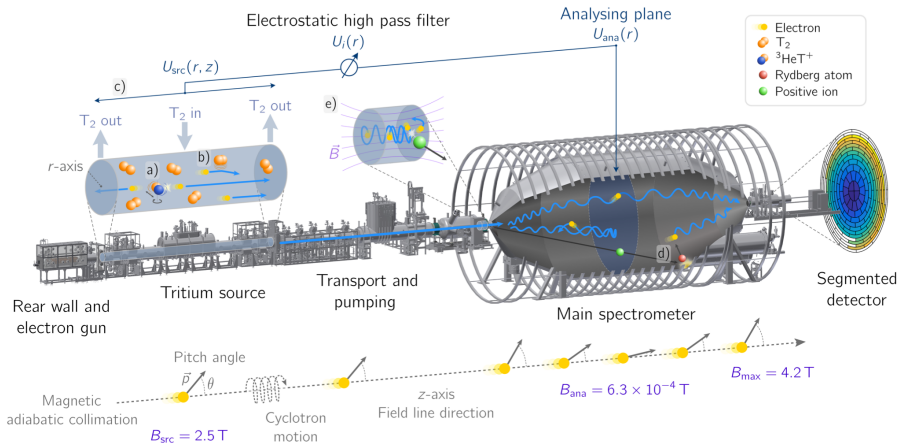
# Molecular tritium final state distribution



- Correction from rovibrational final states:

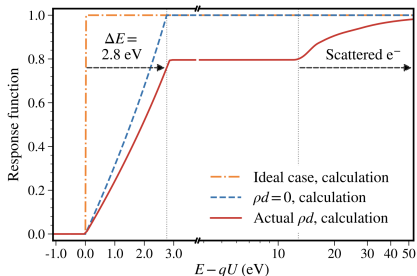
$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dE} \rightarrow \left( \frac{d\Gamma}{dE} \right)' = \sum_f P_f \left. \frac{d\Gamma}{dE'} \right|_{E'=E-V_f}$$

# The KATRIN Experiment

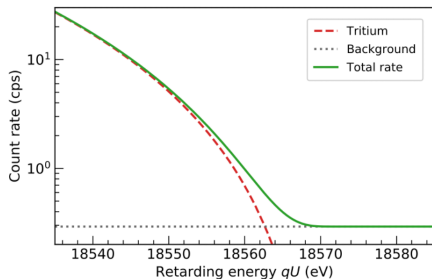


Energy resolution characterized by  $\frac{\Delta E}{E} = \frac{B_{ana}}{B_{max}} \sim 10^{-4}$ .

# Integrated spectrum to measure



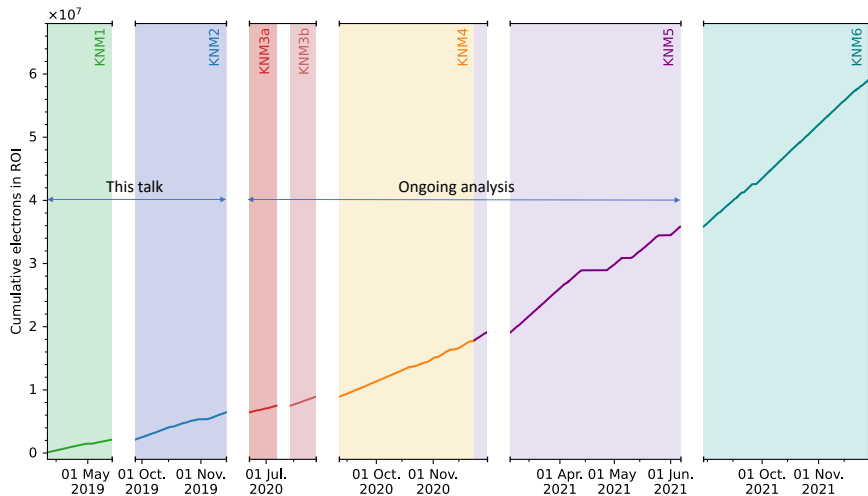
- Pixel-wise response function
  - Filter width  $\Delta E$  from transverse momentum at analyzing plane
  - Additional complexity from electron scattering



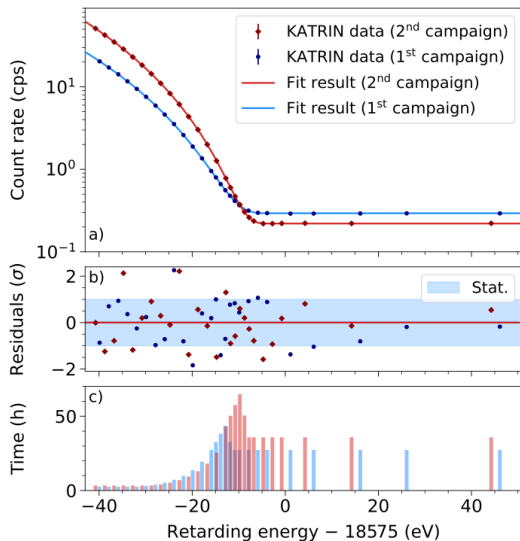
- Integrated spectrum
  - Flat background
  - $N_j^{\text{sig}} \propto \int_{qU}^{\infty} \frac{d\Gamma}{dE} \cdot R_j(E, qU) dE$
  - Measurement time adjusted to maximize sensitivity

- Steady-state background
  - Ionization of hydrogen Rydberg atoms from the recoiling  $^{206}\text{Pb}$  in the  $^{222}\text{Rn}$  decay chain, Poissonian
  - Primary and secondary electrons produced by scattering of trapped electrons from  $^{219}\text{Rn}$  decays on residual gas, non-Poissonian
- Time-dependent background
  - Electrons produced from scattering of residual gas and trapped electrons between pre- and main spectrometer, removed after each scan by inserting an electron catcher
- Background rates are predicted to be nearly independent of high voltage settings

# KATRIN timeline



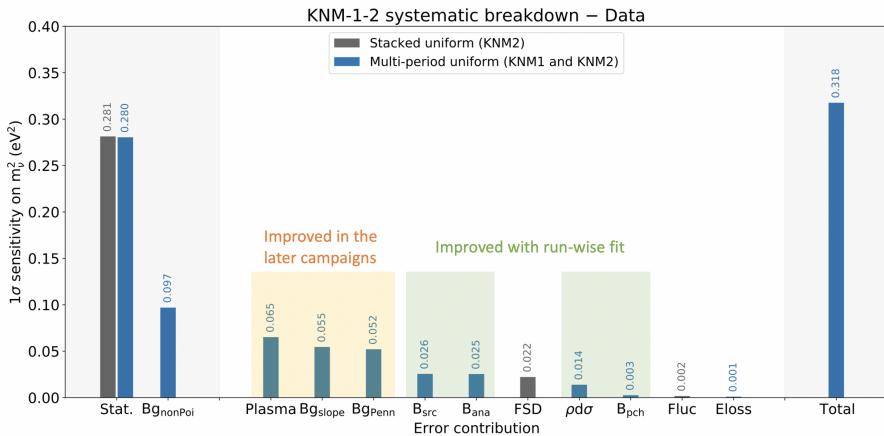
# KNM1+KNM2 statistics



- Livetime for neutrino mass scan
  - KNM1: 22 days
  - KNM2: 31 days
- Source activity relative to nominal value
  - KNM1: 22%
  - KNM2: 84%
- Background rate
  - KNM1: 293 mcps
  - KNM2: 220 mcps



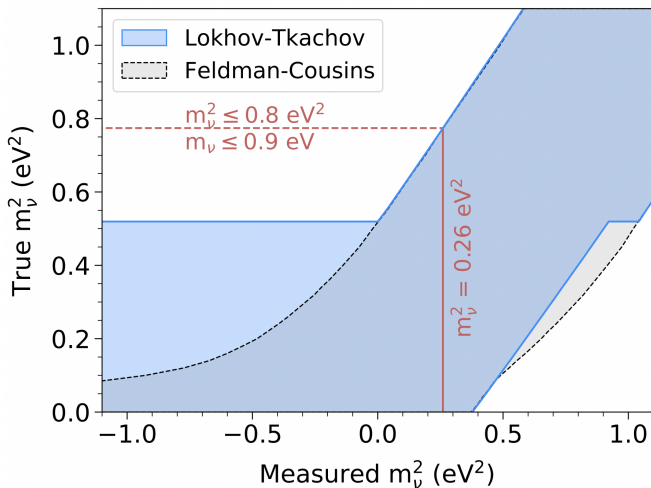
# Breakdown of uncertainty



# Analysis strategy and results

- Blind analysis
  - Generate artificial final state distributions for each campaign
  - Freeze all systematic inputs based on Monte Carlo data with blinded FSD
  - Unblind the FSD for real data
- Ring-wise fitting for golden run lists
  - 1 common  $m_\nu^2$ ,  $12 \times$  ring-wise endpoint, signal and background rates
- Three independent approaches: pull term, covariance matrix and Monte Carlo propagation
- Best fit value for  $m_\nu^2$ , with extrapolated model in the negative region for Frequentist approach
  - KNM1:  $m_\nu^2 = -1.0_{-1.1}^{+0.9} \text{eV}^2$
  - KNM2:  $m_\nu^2 = 0.26_{-0.34}^{+0.34} \text{eV}^2$

# First sub-eV upper limit on neutrino mass



- KNM1 at 90% C.L.:

$$m_\nu < 1.1 \text{ eV}$$

- KNM2 at 90% C.L.:

$$m_\nu < 0.9 \text{ eV}$$

- Combined result at 90% C.L.:

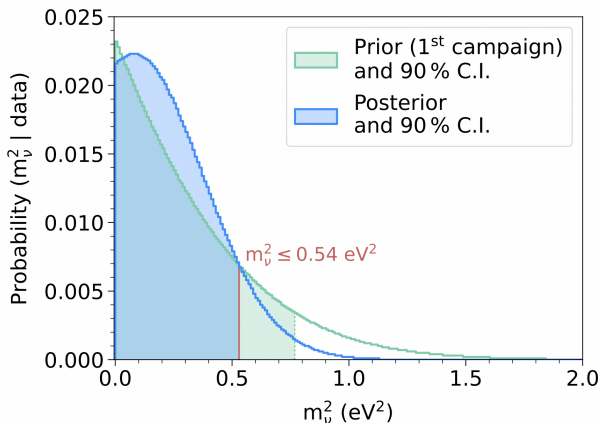
$$m_\nu < 0.8 \text{ eV}$$

*Nature Physics* 18.2 (2022): 160-166

Reference for the Lokhov-Tkachov construction:  
*Phys. Part. Nucl.* 46, 347-365 (2015)

# Bayesian combination of the two campaigns

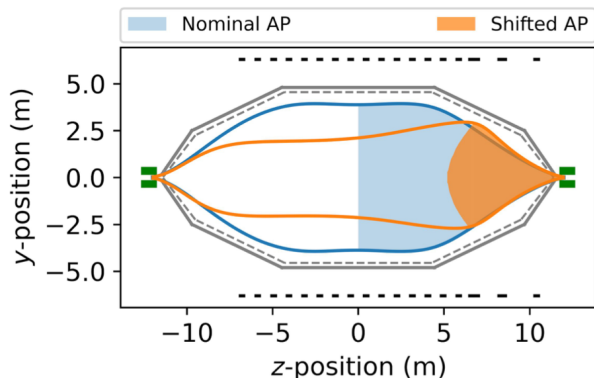
$$\pi(\theta|y) \sim \pi(y|\theta) \cdot \pi(\theta)$$



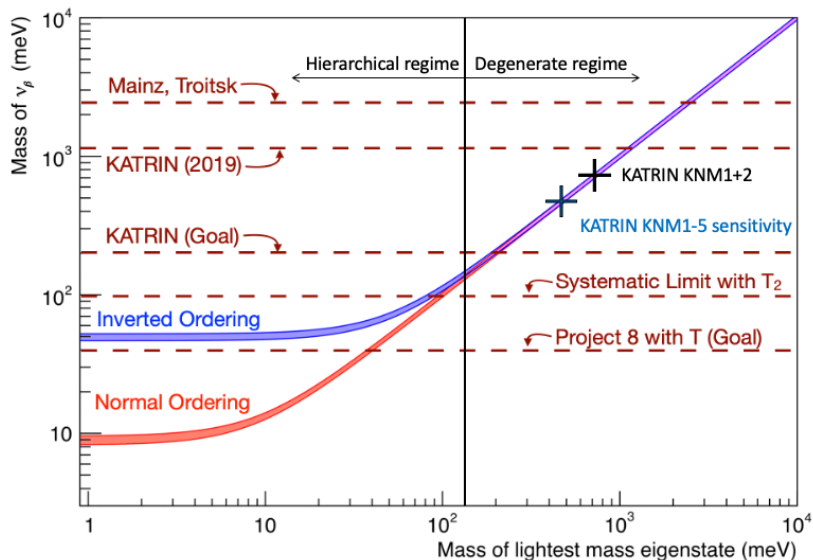
- Currently based on generated covariance matrix
- Flat prior for KNM1
- KNM1 prior for KNM2
- Bayesian limit at 90% C.I.:  
 $m_\nu < 0.7\text{eV}$

# Improvements in the following campaigns

- Shifted analyzing plane – reduce 50% of background
- New Krypton source to reduce plasma systematics
- Eliminate background from penning trap
- Precise calculation of molecular final states

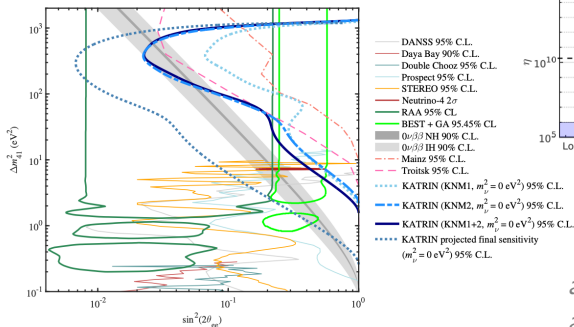


# The future of neutrino mass measurements

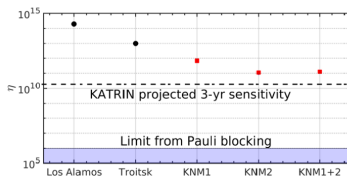


# KATRIN: beyond neutrino mass

## ● Sterile neutrinos



## ● Relic neutrinos

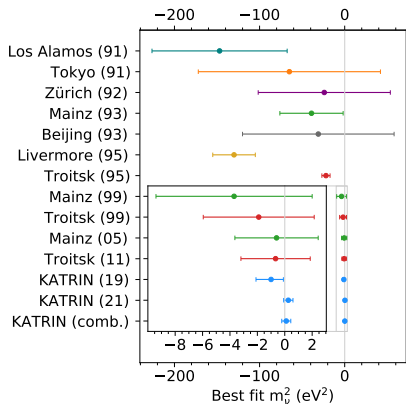


*arXiv:2201.11593*

*arXiv:2202.04587*

# Summary

- KATRIN has improved the model-independent upper limit of  $m_\nu < 0.8\text{eV}$  at 90% C.L. with the first two measurement campaigns
- With various improvements, KATRIN has a better sensitivity reaching  $m_\nu < 0.5\text{eV}$  for the next three campaigns (data release planned by early 2023)



Thanks for your attention!



# Backup: approaches to Neutrino mass

- Determine the neutrino masses with ...

	<b>Cosmology</b>	<b><math>0\nu\beta\beta</math></b>	<b>Single <math>\beta</math> decay</b>
<b>Observable</b>	$\sum_i m_i$	$ \sum_i U_{ei}^2 m_i ^2$	$\sum_{i=1}^3  U_{ei} ^2 m_i^2$
<b>Upper limit</b>	0.12eV	0.18eV	0.8eV
<b>Dependency</b>	$\Lambda$ CDM	Majorana $m_\nu$	Kinematics

# Backup: Energy loss from multiple scattering

