

# Direct neutrino mass determination

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## Introduction

- Neutrino mass in particle physics / cosmology
- Current knowledge
- Experimental methods

## Tritium $\beta$ -decay experiments

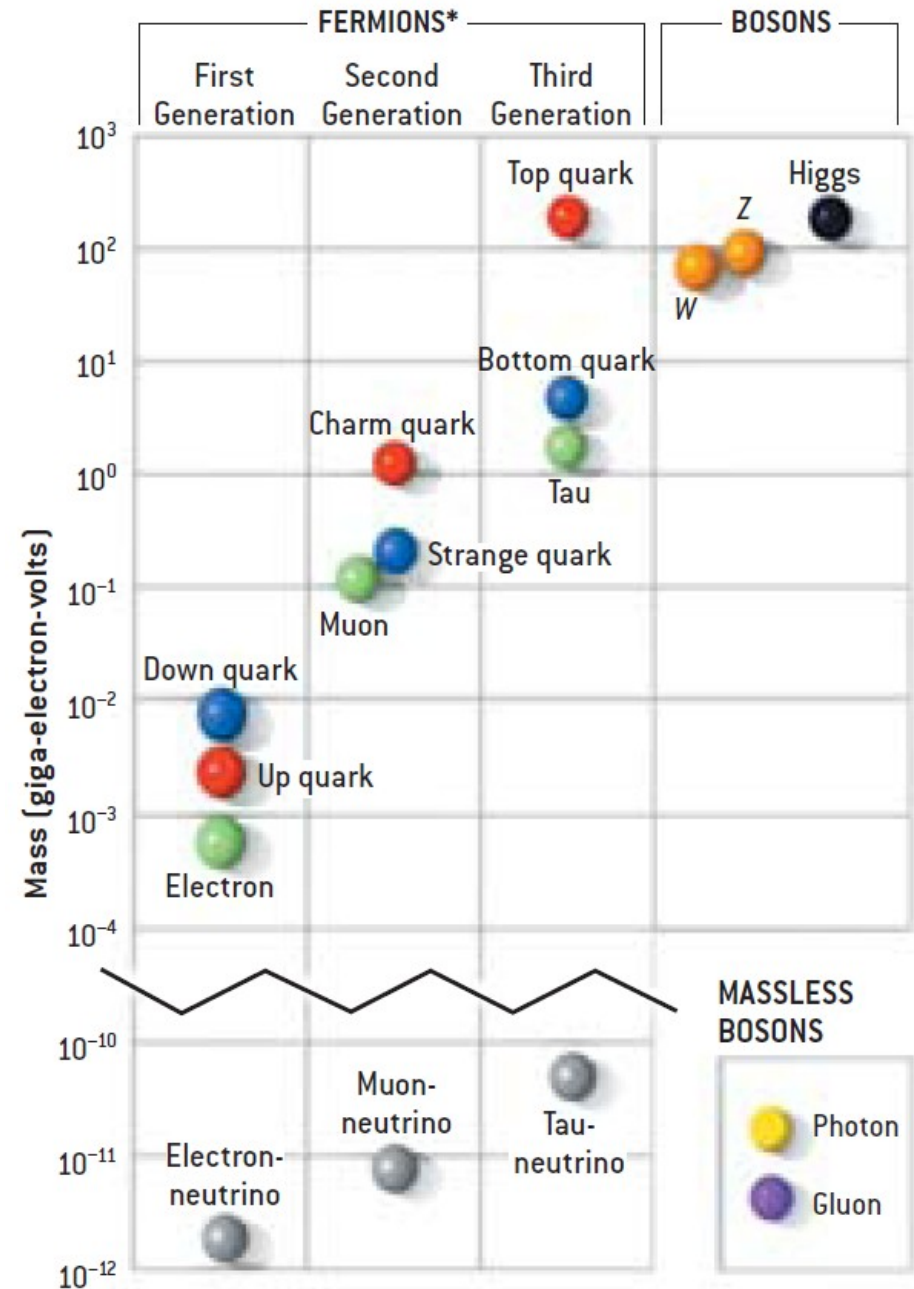
- KATRIN
- Project 8

## Holmium EC-decay experiments

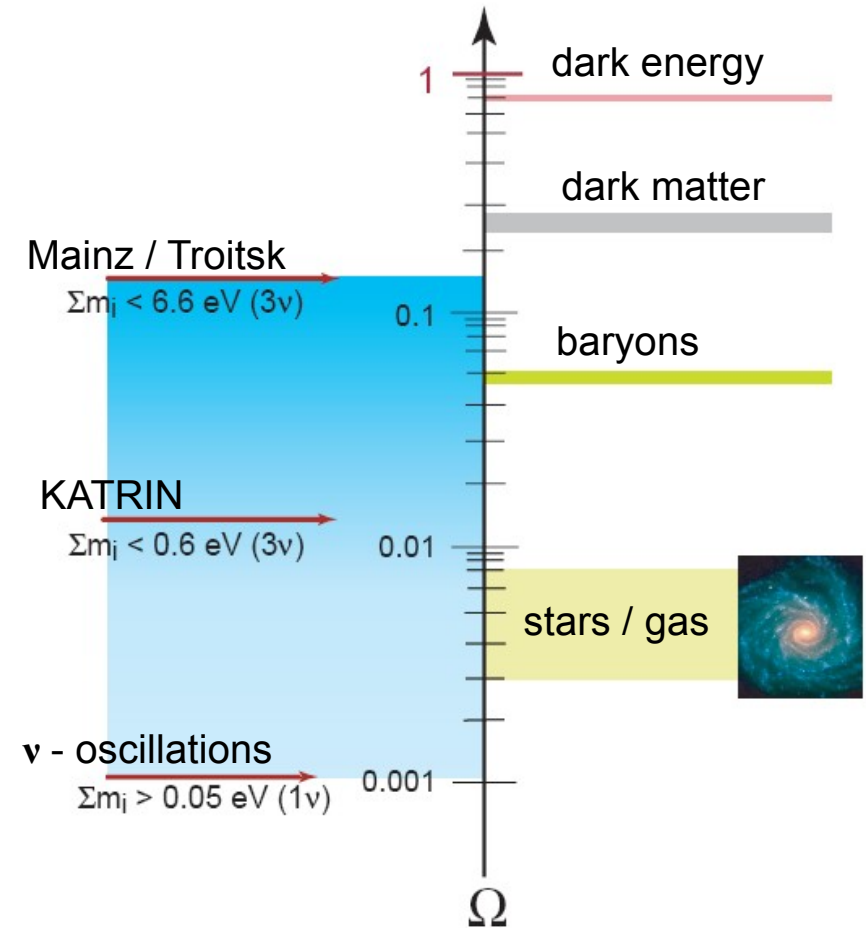
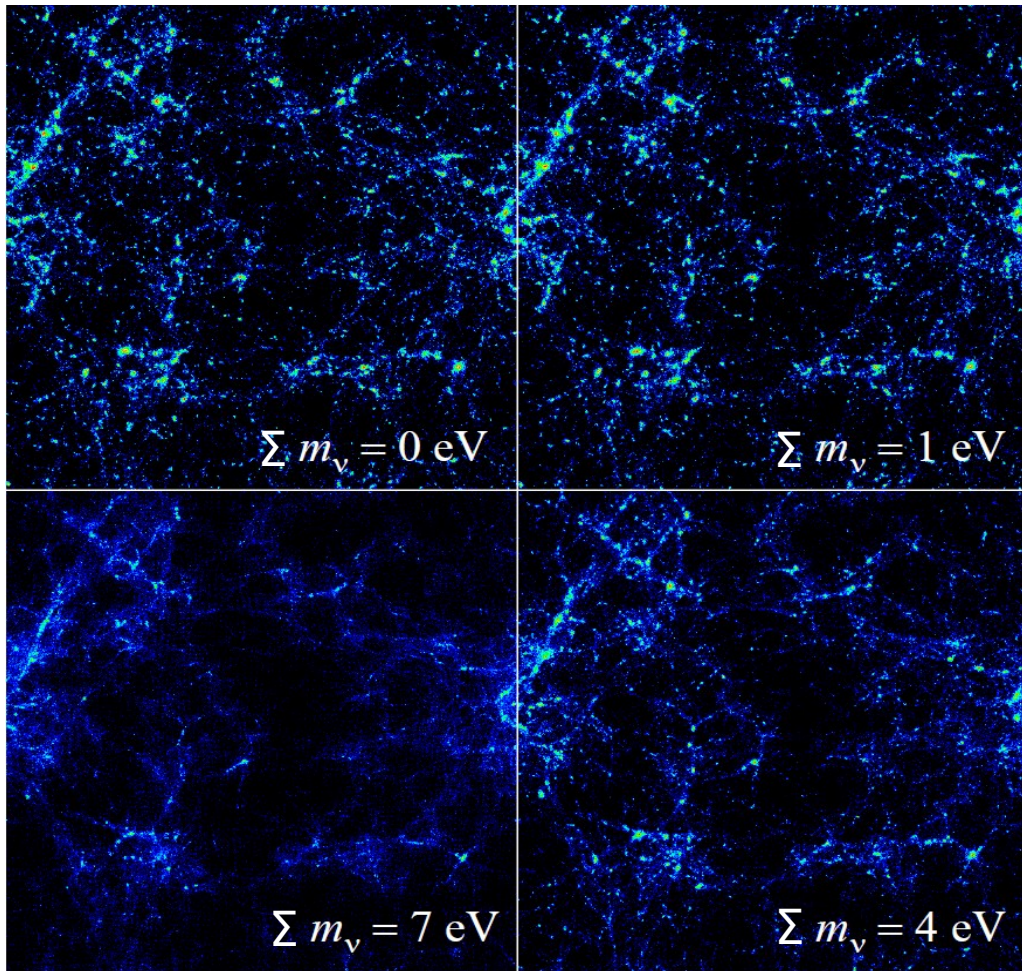
- ECHO
- HOLMES

## Summary

- Nature of the neutrino: Majorana or Dirac particle, i.e. is the neutrino its own anti-particle ?
- How to explain the many orders of magnitude difference between neutrino mass limits and masses of the charged fermions of the standard model
  - sea-saw type I and type II mechanisms
- Possible connection to the generation of the observed matter - antimatter asymmetry in the universe
  - leptogenesis



- Neutrinos are (after  $\gamma$ 's) the second most abundant particle species in the universe
- As part of the hot dark matter, neutrinos have a significant influence on structure formation



- For large  $\Sigma m_\nu$  values fine grained structures are washed out by the free streaming neutrinos

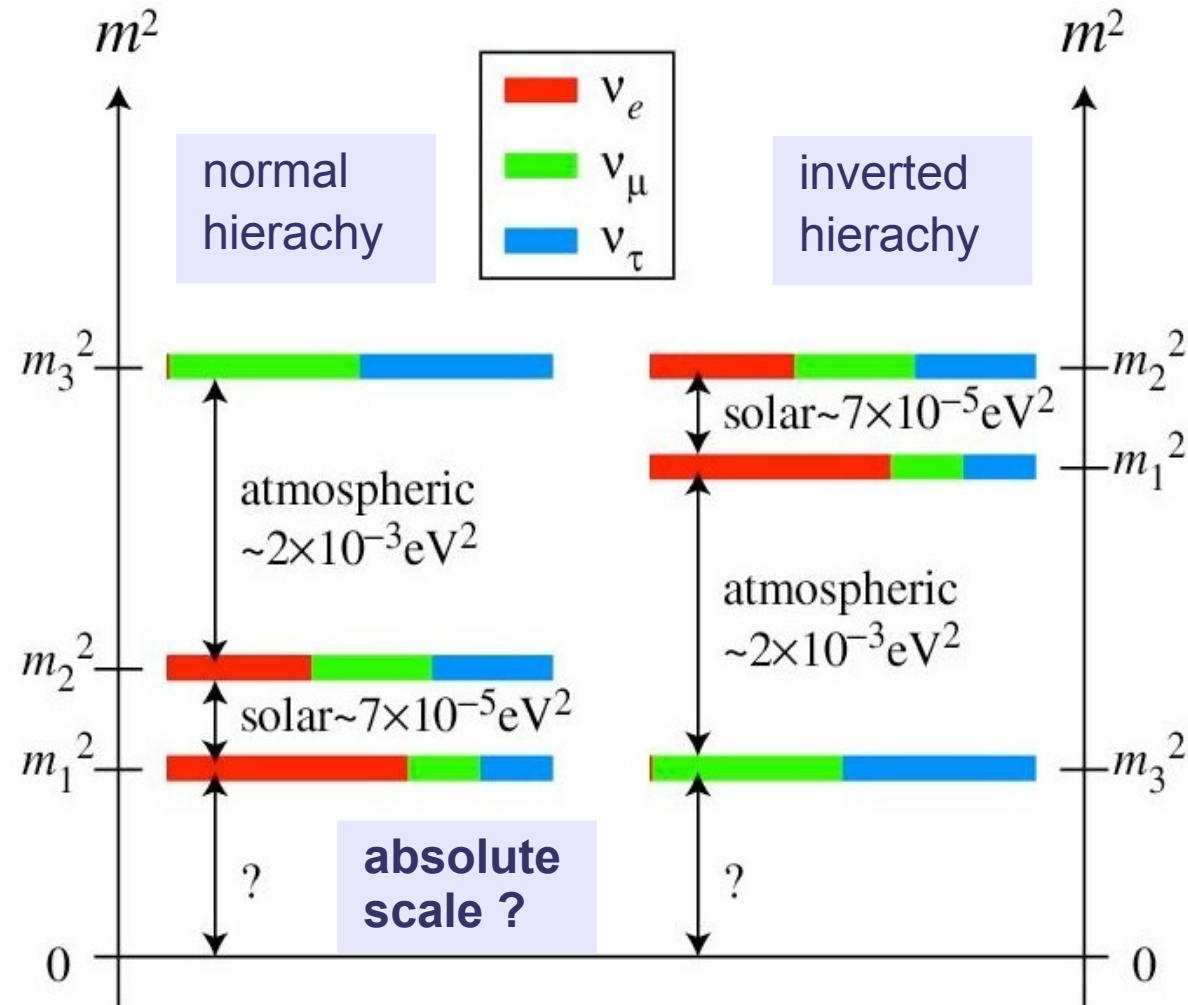
Chung-Pei Ma 1996

## What we know (from $\nu$ oscillations):

- Neutrino flavour eigenstates differ from their mass eigenstates
- Neutrinos oscillate, hence they must have mass
- Mixing angles and  $\Delta m^2$  values known (with varying accuracies)

## What we don't know :

- Normal or inverted hierachy ?
- Dirac or Majorana particle ?
- CP violating phases in mixing matrix ?
- **No information about absolute mass scale ! (only upper limits)**
- Existence of sterile neutrinos ?



## $\beta$ -decay: absolute $\nu$ -mass

model independent, kinematics

status:  $m_\nu < 2.3$  eV

potential:  $m_\nu \approx 0.2$  eV

e.g.: KATRIN, Project-8, ECHO  
HOLMES, NuMECS

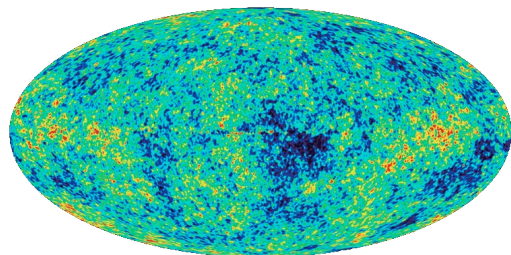
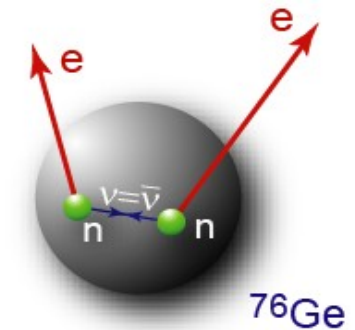
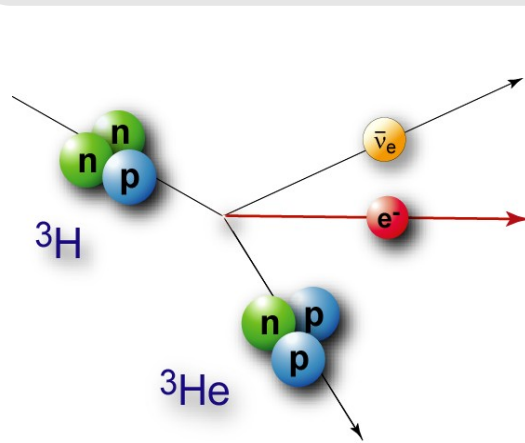
## $0\nu\beta\beta$ -decay: eff. Majorana mass

model-dependent (CP-phases)

status:  $m_{\beta\beta} < 0.31$  eV

potential:  $m_{\beta\beta} \approx 20$ -50 meV

e.g.: GERDA, CUORE, EXO, SNO+, Majorana,  
Nemo 3, COBRA, KamLAND-Zen



## cosmology: $\nu$ hot dark matter $\Omega_\nu$

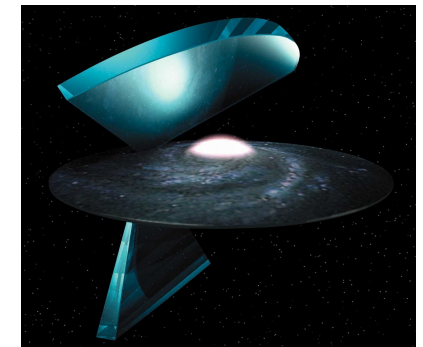
model dependent, analysis of CMB and structure formation data

status:  $\Sigma m_\nu < 0.23$  eV

(Planck Collaboration, A&A 594 (2016) A13)

possible signal:  $\Sigma m_\nu = 0.11 \pm 0.03$  eV

(Emami et al., arXiv:1711.05210)



$$\frac{d\Gamma}{dE} = C p(E + m_e)(E_0 - E) \sqrt{(E_0 - E)^2 - m_{\nu_e}^2} F(Z + 1, E) \Theta(E_0 - E - m_{\nu_e}) S(E)$$

$$C = \frac{G_F^2}{2\pi^3} \cos^2 \theta_C |M|^2$$

(modified by final state distribution, recoil corrections, radiative corrections, ...)

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

Suitable Isotopes:

## Tritium

- $E_0 = 18.6$  keV,  $T_{1/2} = 12.3$  a
- $S(E) = 1$  (super-allowed)

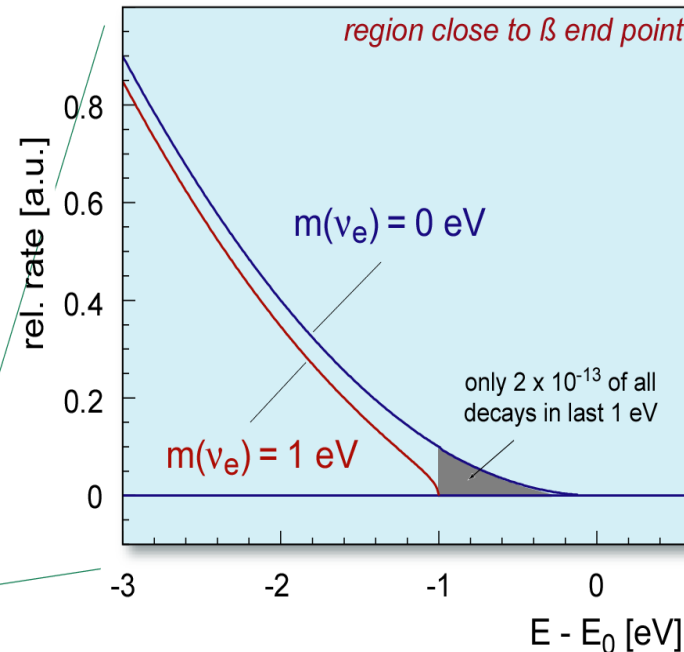
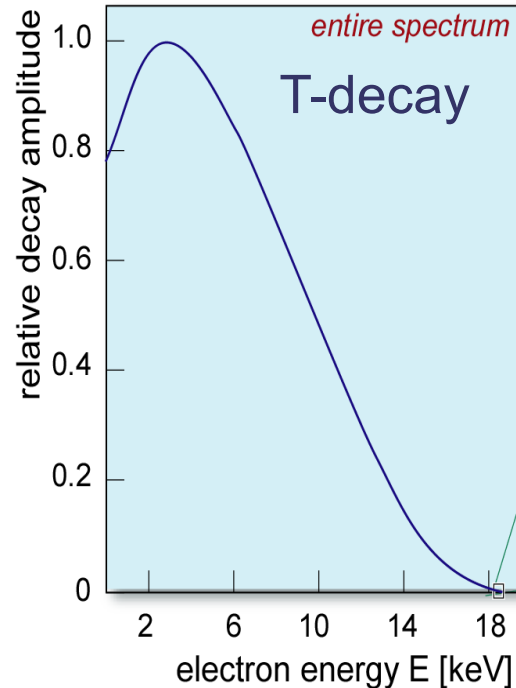
## Rhenium

- $E_0 = 2.47$  keV,  $T_{1/2} = 43.2$  Gy

alternative approach:

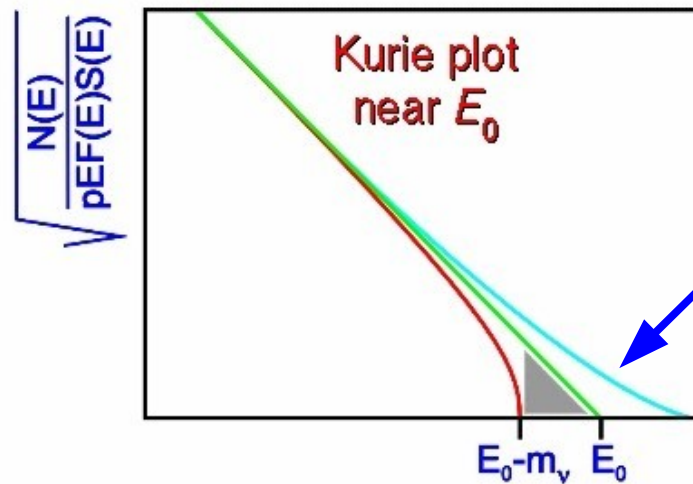
## Holmium (EC decay)

- $Q_{EC} \approx 2.5$  keV,  $T_{1/2} = 4570$  y



## Detector requirements:

- large solid angle or source=detector approach
- high energy resolution
- low background
- low dead time / no pile up



effect of :

- background
- pile up
- fluctuations

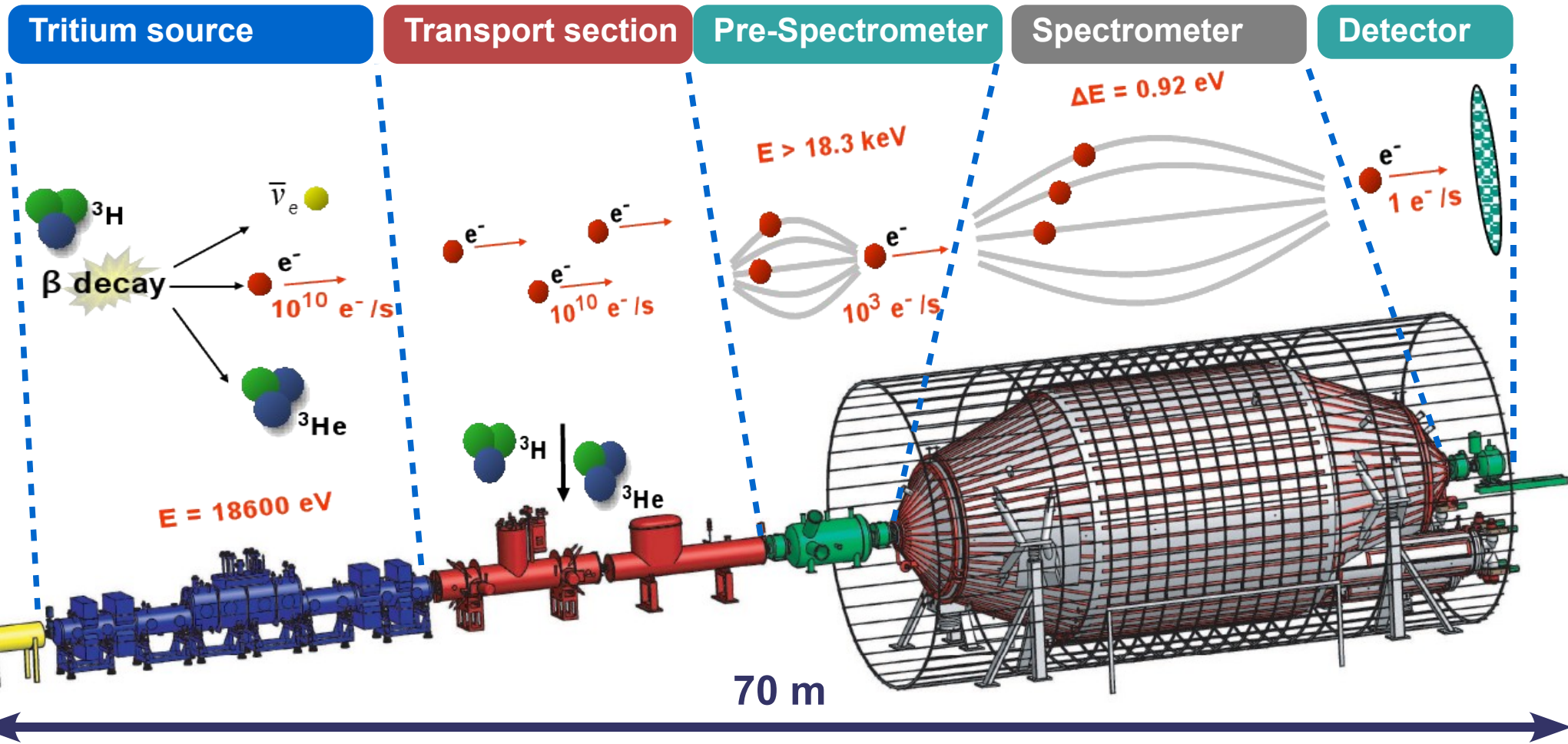
## Tritium based experiments

- **KATRIN**: gaseous tritium source with MAC-E type integrating spectrometer determining kinetic energy spectrum of  $\beta$ -decay electrons
- **Project 8**: gaseous tritium source determining kinetic energy spectrum of  $\beta$ -decay electrons by measuring cyclotron radiation emitted in a magnetic field

## Holmium based experiments

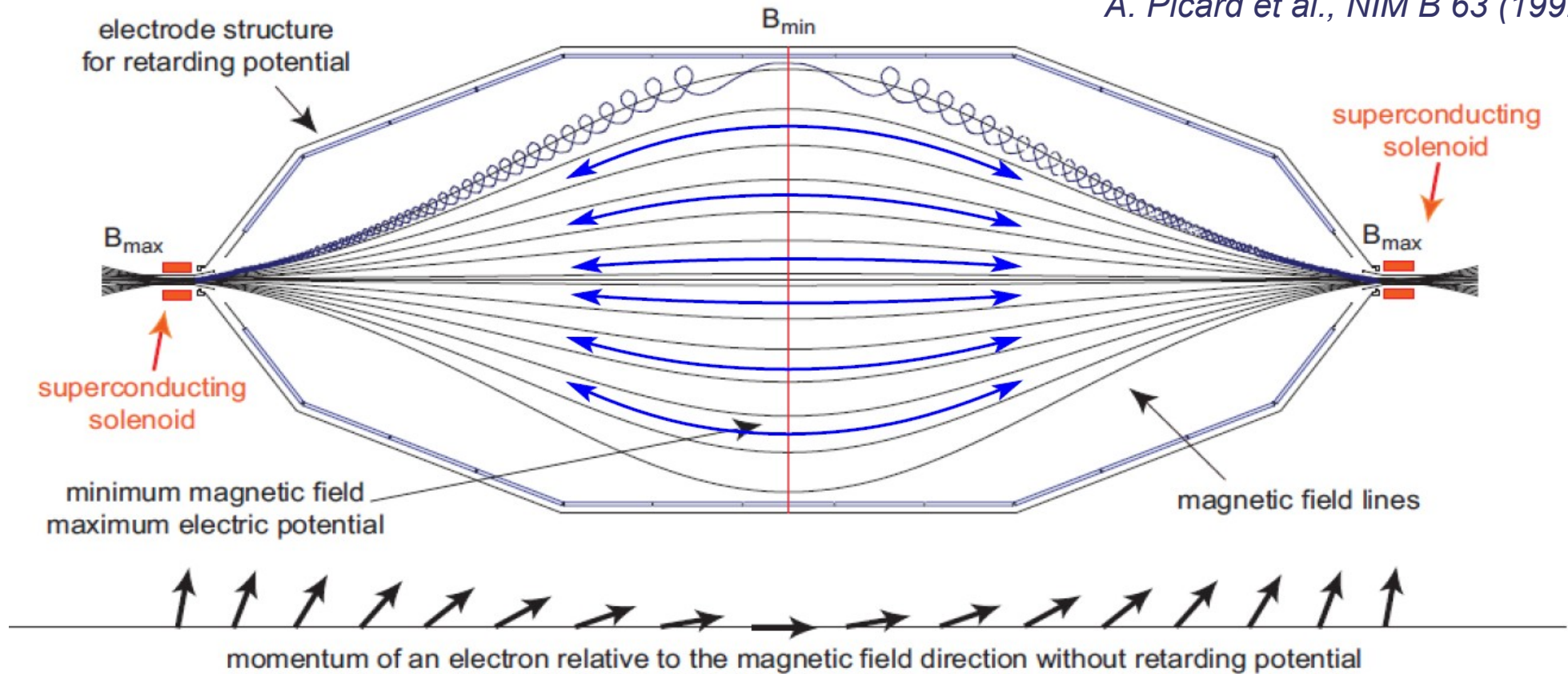
- **ECHO**: Calorimetric measurement of energy released in EC decay of  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  using Metallic Magnetic Calorimeters (MMC)
- **HOLMES**: Calorimetric measurement of energy released in EC decay of  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  using Transition Edge Sensors (TES), successor of MARE effort
- **NuMECS**: similar experimental approach as HOLMES





## Magnetic Adiabatic Collimation with Electrostatic Filter

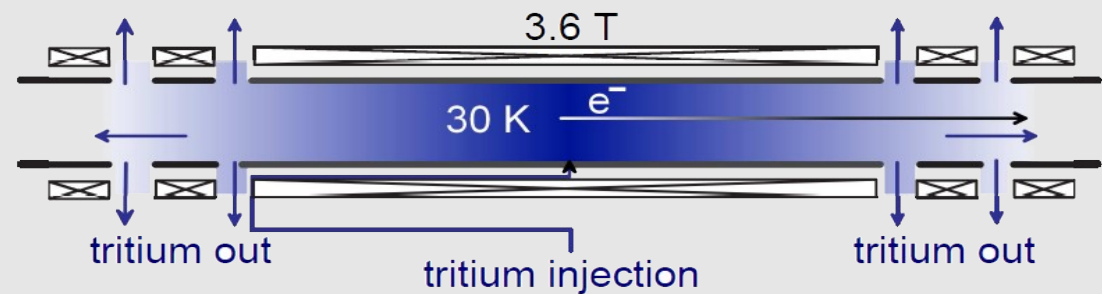
A. Picard et al., NIM B 63 (1992)



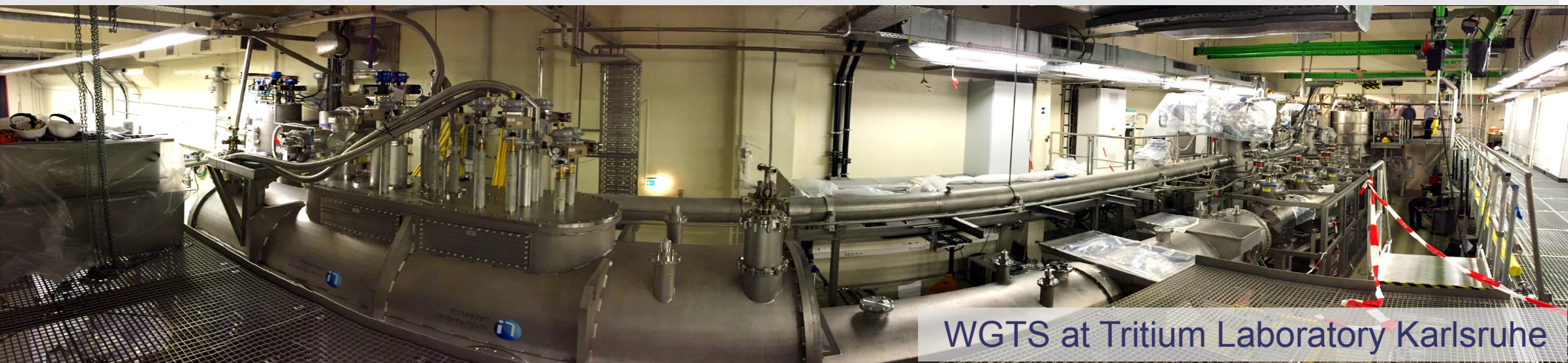
- adiabatic transport  $\rightarrow \mu = E_{\perp} / B = \text{const.}$
- $B$  drops by  $2 \cdot 10^4$  from solenoid to analyzing plane  $\rightarrow E_{\perp} \rightarrow E_{\parallel}$
- only electrons with  $E_{\parallel} > eU_0$  can pass the retardation potential
- Energy resolution  $\Delta E = E_{\perp, \text{max, start}} \cdot B_{\min} / B_{\max} < 1 \text{ eV}$



- beam tube  $\varnothing = 9 \text{ cm}$  ,  $L = 10 \text{ m}$
- guiding field  $3.6 \text{ T}$
- temperature  $T = 30 \text{ K} \pm 30 \text{ mK}$ ,
- $T_2$  flow rate  $5 \cdot 10^{19} \text{ molecules/s}$   
( $40 \text{ g of } T_2 / \text{day}$ )
- $T_2$  purity  $95\% \pm 0.1 \%$
- $T_2$  inlet pressure  $10^{-3} \text{ mbar} \pm 0.1 \%$



- column density  $5 \cdot 10^{17} T_2 / \text{cm}^2$
- luminosity  $1.7 \cdot 10^{11} \text{ Bq}$

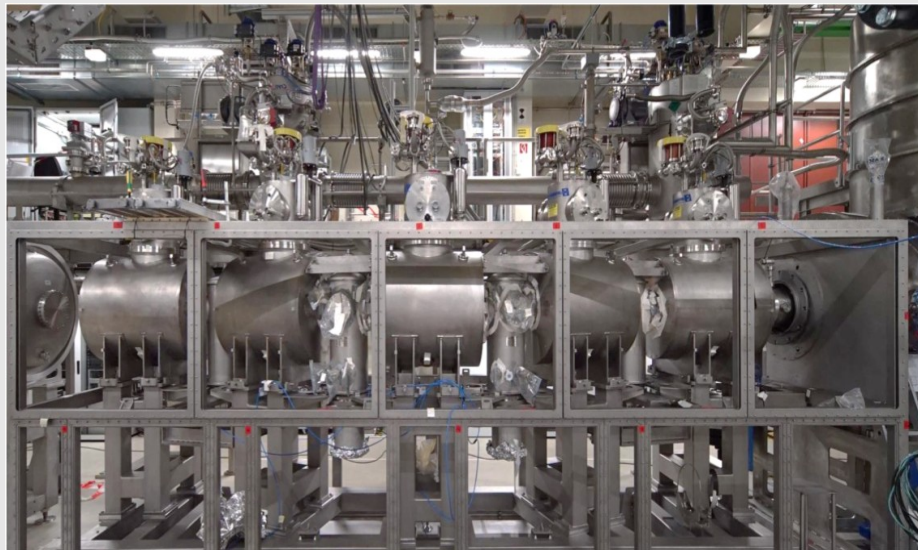


WGTS at Tritium Laboratory Karlsruhe



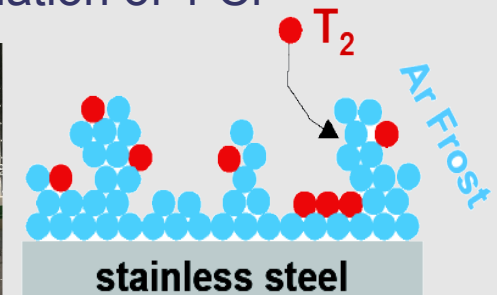
## Differential Pumping Section (DPS2-F)

- magnetic guiding field  $B = 5.6$  T
- differential pumping using 2000 l/s TMPs  
→ tritium reduction factor:  $1 \cdot 10^5$
- ion monitoring by FTICR
- ion manipulation by electrodes



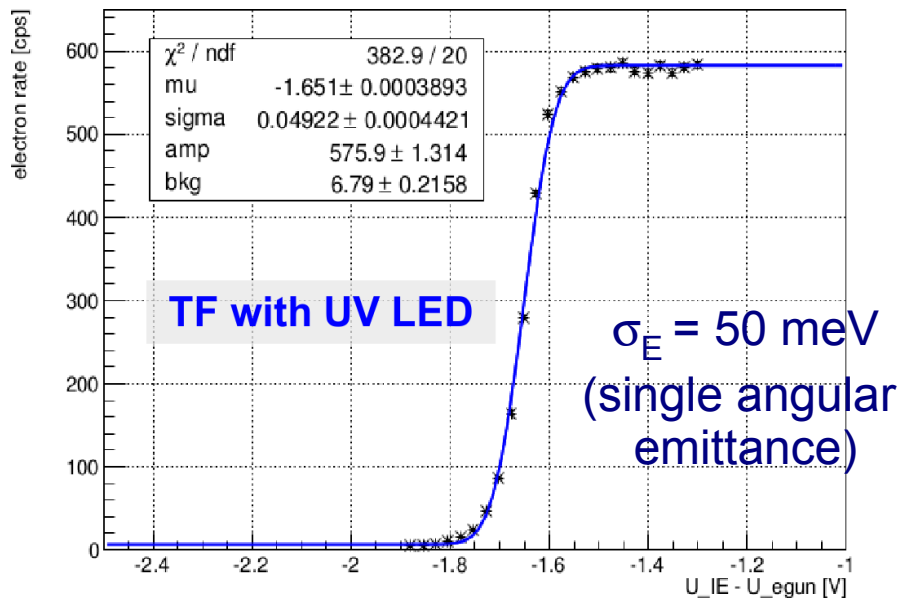
## Cryogenic Pumping Section (CPS)

- magnetic guiding field  $B = 5.6$  T
- cryosorption of  $T_2$  on Ar frost at  $\approx 3$  K  
→ tritium reduction factor  $1 \cdot 10^7$
- within 60 days: accumulation of 1 Ci



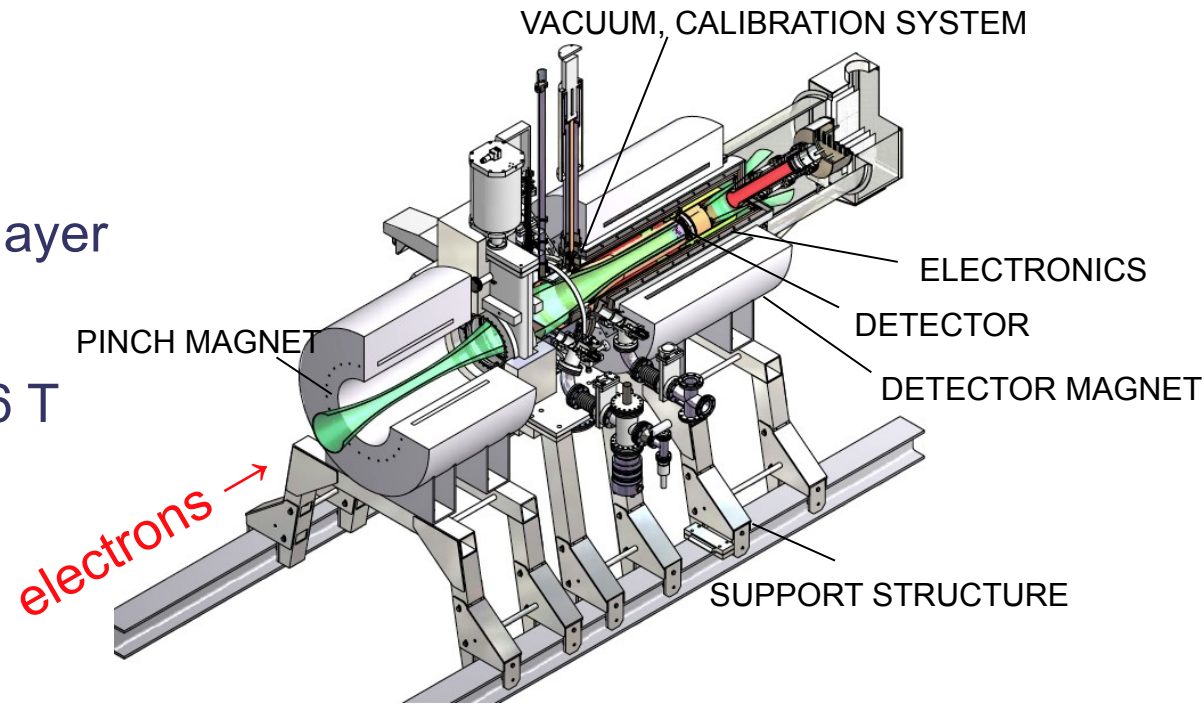


- 18.6 kV retardation voltage,  $\sigma < 60$  meV
- 0.93 eV resolution
- pressure  $< 10^{-11}$  mbar
- Air coils for earth magnetic field compensation
- Double layer wire electrode for background reduction and field shaping



## Focal plane detection system

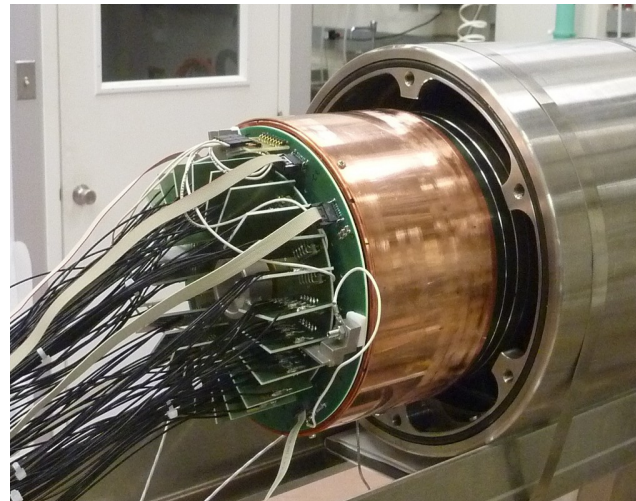
- segmented Si PIN diode:  
90 mm Ø, 148 pixels, 50 nm dead layer
- energy resolution  $\approx 1$  keV
- pinch and detector magnets up to 6 T
- post acceleration up to 30kV
- active veto shield



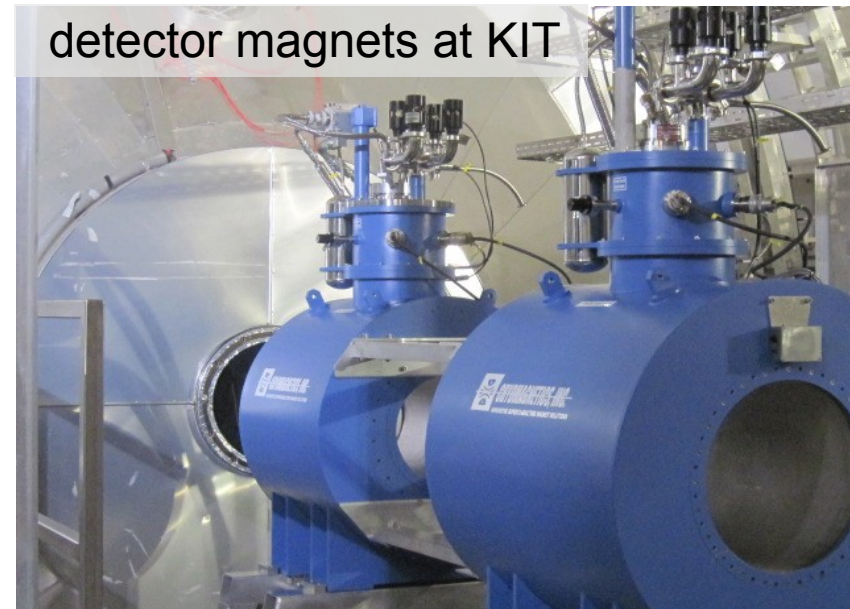
segmented Si-PIN wafer



pre-amplifier wheel



detector magnets at KIT



## Technical start of KATRIN: „1<sup>st</sup> light“, photo-electrons from rear wall & ions

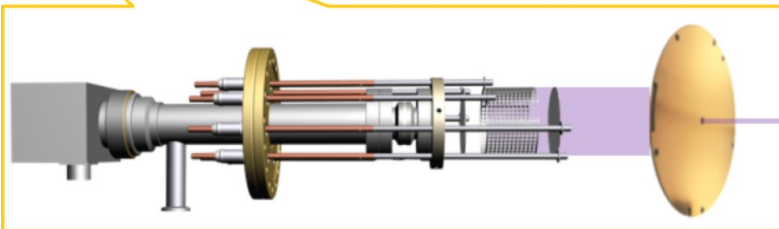
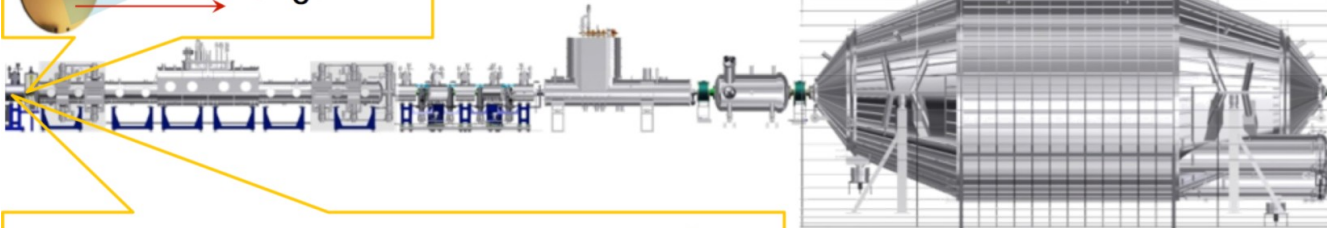
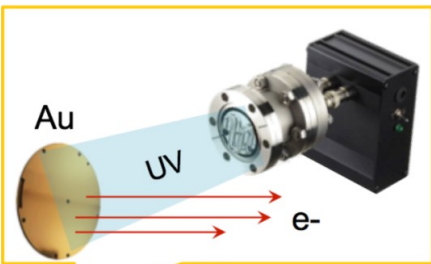
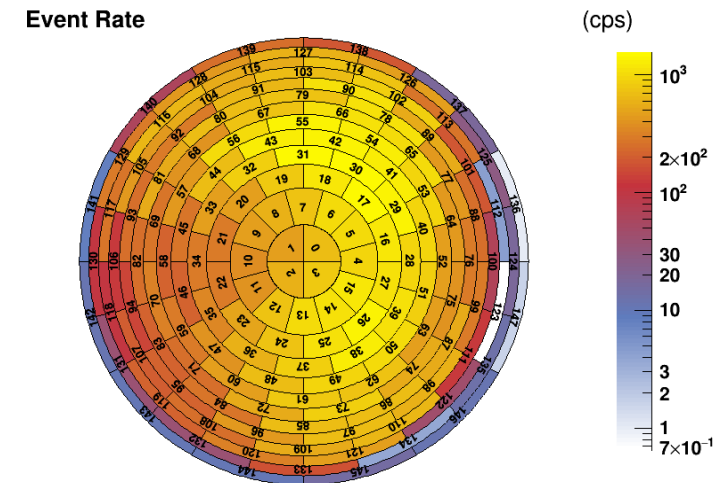
Testing complete 70m long beamline with electrons:

- alignment
- magn. steering of pencil beam

and with ions:

- ion removal

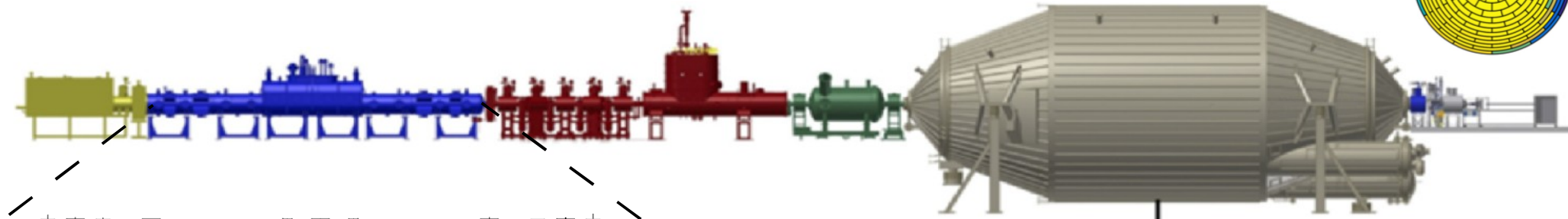
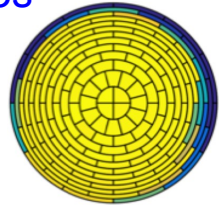
no tritium yet



# Commissioning campaign with $^{83m}\text{Kr}$

July 2017: calibration and commissioning campaign using gaseous, condensed and implanted  $^{83m}\text{Kr}$  sources

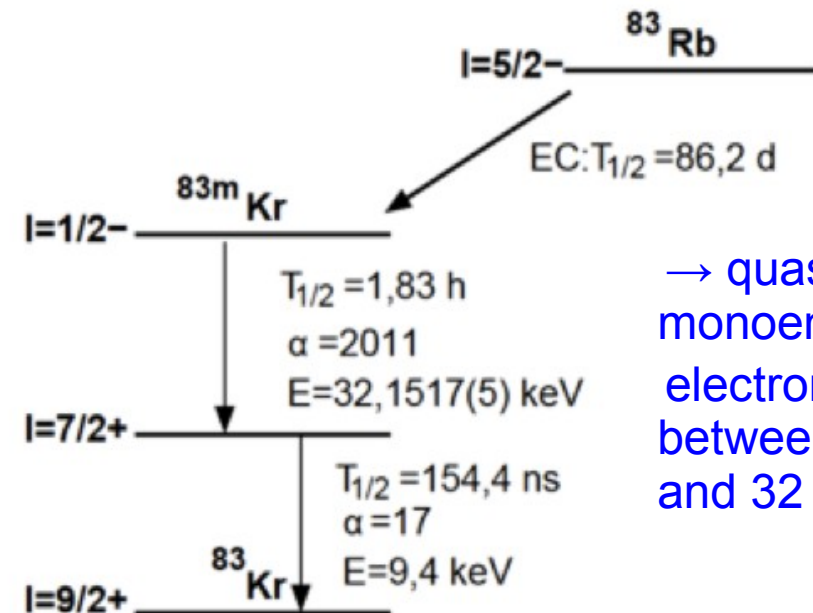
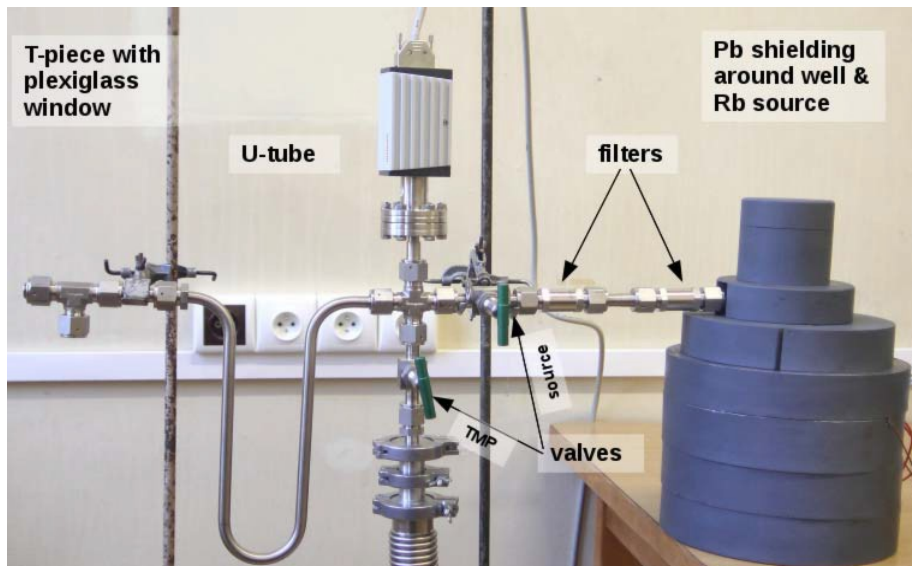
homogenous detector illumination



implanted  $^{83}\text{Rb}/^{83m}\text{Kr}$



$^{83m}\text{Kr}$  from 1 GBq  $^{83}\text{Rb}$  source



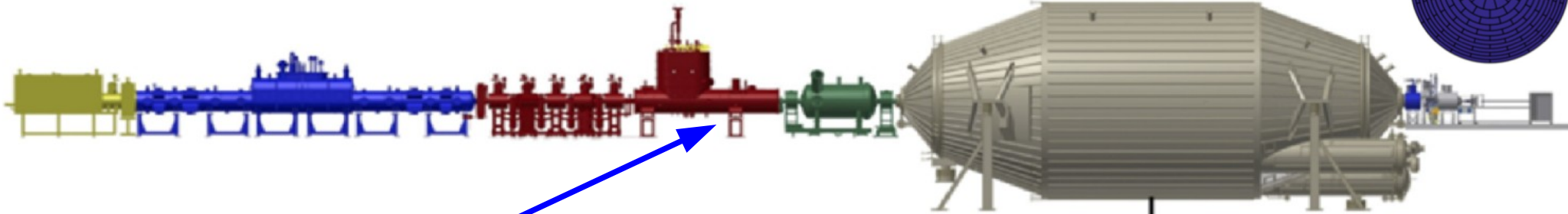
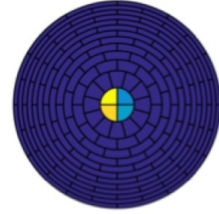
→ quasi-monoenergetic electron lines between 7 keV and 32 keV



# Commissioning campaign with $^{83m}\text{Kr}$

July 2017: calibration and commissioning campaign using gaseous, condensed and implanted  $^{83m}\text{Kr}$  sources

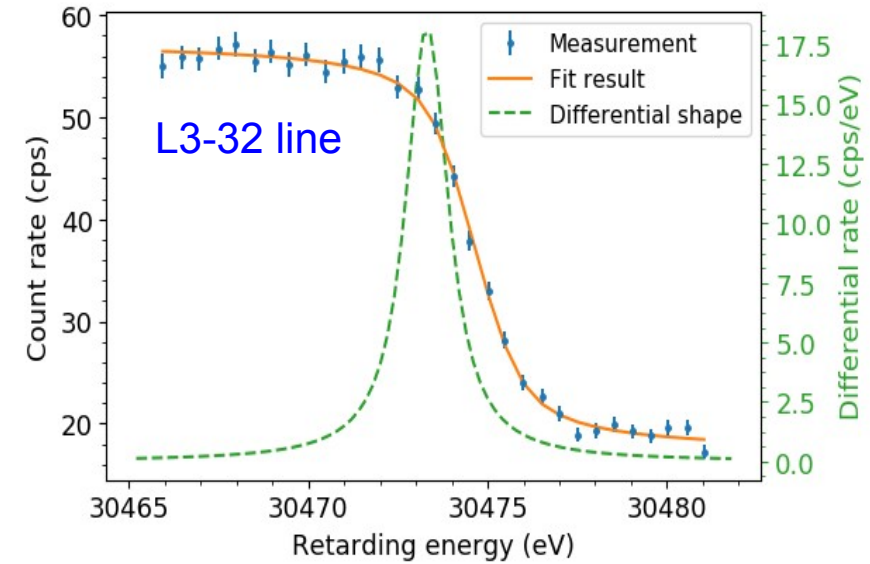
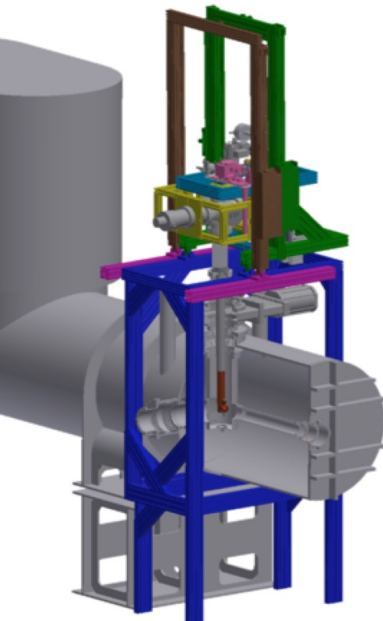
pixel selective  
detector  
illumination



condensed  $^{83m}\text{Kr}$  source,  
point-like, can be scanned  
over full flux tube



implanted  
 $^{83}\text{Rb}/^{83m}\text{Kr}$



preliminary, small part of statistics only !

1. Inelastic scattering of  $\beta$ 's in the source (WGTS)
  - calibration measurements with e-gun necessary
  - deconvolution of electron energy loss function
2. Fluctuations of WGTS column density (required  $< 0.1\%$ )
  - rear wall detector, Laser - Raman spectroscopy, T=30K stabilization, e-gun measurements
3. Transmission function
  - spatially resolved e-gun measurements
4. WGTS charging due to decay ions (MC:  $\phi < 20\text{mV}$ )
  - Injection of low energy (meV) electrons from the rear end, diagnostic tools available
5. Final state distribution
  - reliable quantum chem. calculations
6. HV stability of retarding potential on 3ppm level required
  - precise HV-Divider (PTB), monitor spectrometer, calibration sources

fluctuations  $\sigma^2$  lead to a downward shift in  $m_\nu^2$

$$\Delta m_\nu^2 = -2 \sigma^2$$

allow only few contributions with  $\Delta m_\nu^2 \leq 0.007 \text{ eV}^2$   
 $\Leftrightarrow \sigma < 60 \text{ meV}$

$$\frac{\Delta U}{U} = \frac{0.06}{18575} \approx 3 \cdot 10^{-6}$$

$\Rightarrow$  3 ppm long term stability

1. Inelastic scattering of  $\beta$ 's in the source (WGTS)
  - calibration measurements with e-gun necessary
  - deconvolution of electron energy loss function

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$$\Delta m_\nu^2 = -2 \sigma^2$$

2. Fluctuations of WGTS column density (required  $< 0.1\%$ )

**KATRIN sensitivity:  
5 year measurement  
(eff. 3 y of data)**

statistical uncertainty

$$\sigma_{\text{stat}} \approx 0.018 \text{ eV}^2$$

systematic uncertainty

$$\sigma_{\text{sys,tot}} \approx 0.017 \text{ eV}^2$$

→ sensitivity for upper limit: **0.2 eV/c<sup>2</sup>** (90% C.L.)  
 $m(\nu_e) = 0.35 \text{ eV}$  observable with  $5\sigma$

5. Final state distribution
  - reliable quantum chem. calculations

$$\frac{\Delta U}{U} = \frac{0.06}{18575} \approx 3 \cdot 10^{-6}$$

6. HV stability of retarding potential on 3ppm level required
  - precise HV-Divider (PTB), monitor spectrometer, calibration sources

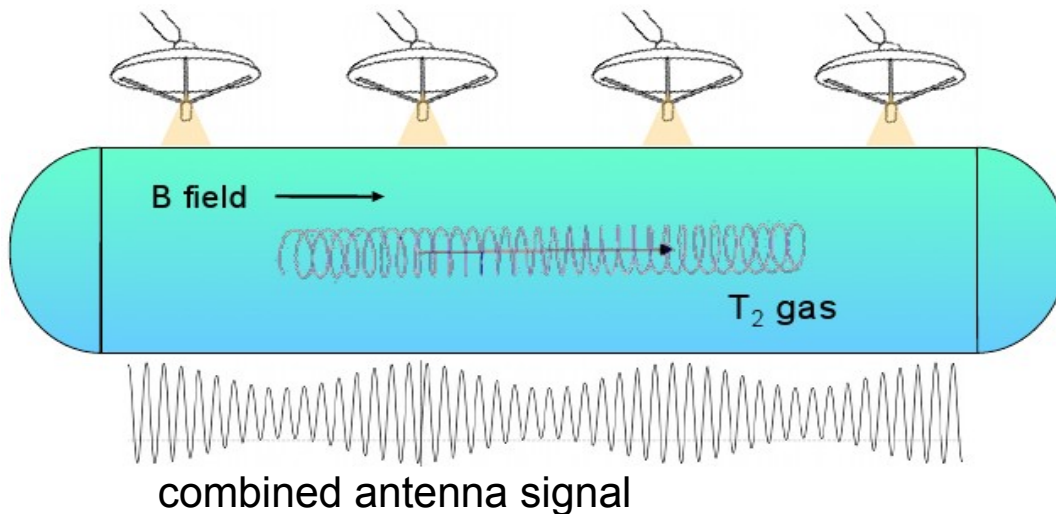
⇒ 3 ppm long term stability

## Measurement of coherent cyclotron radiation of tritium $\beta$ electrons

- Source similar to KATRIN: guiding magnetic field + low pressure  $T_2$  gas
- $\beta$  electrons radiate coherent cyclotron radiation with frequency:

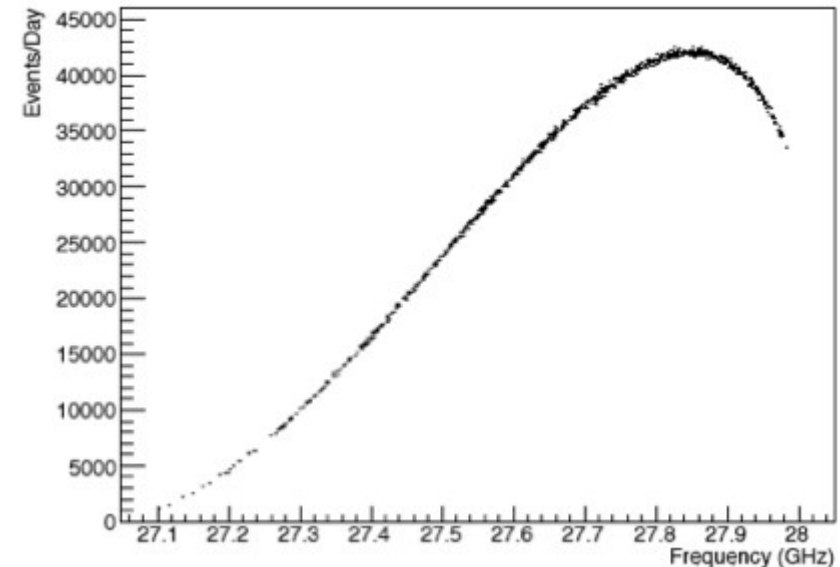
$$\omega(\gamma) = \frac{\omega_0}{\gamma} = \frac{e B}{E_k + m_e}$$

- Antenna array for cyclotron radiation detection



**PROJECT 8**

UW (Seattle), MIT,  
UCSB (Santa Barbara), Yale, Pacific  
NW, Livermore,  
NRAO, KIT

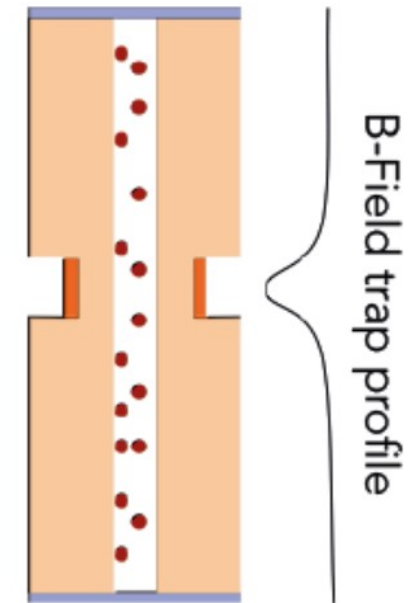
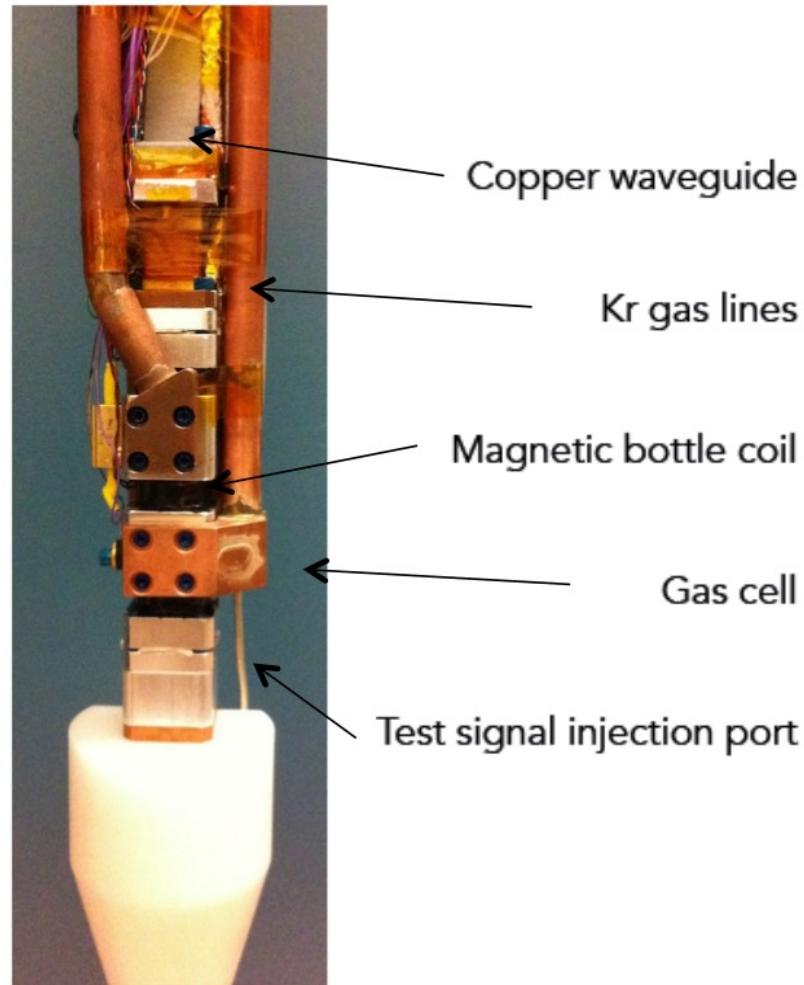
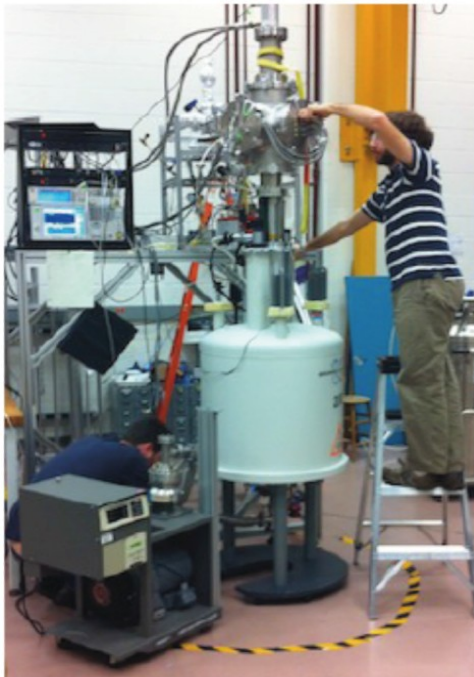


*B. Monreal and J. Formaggio, PRD 80:051301, 2009*

## Prototype for $^{83m}\text{Kr}$ measurements

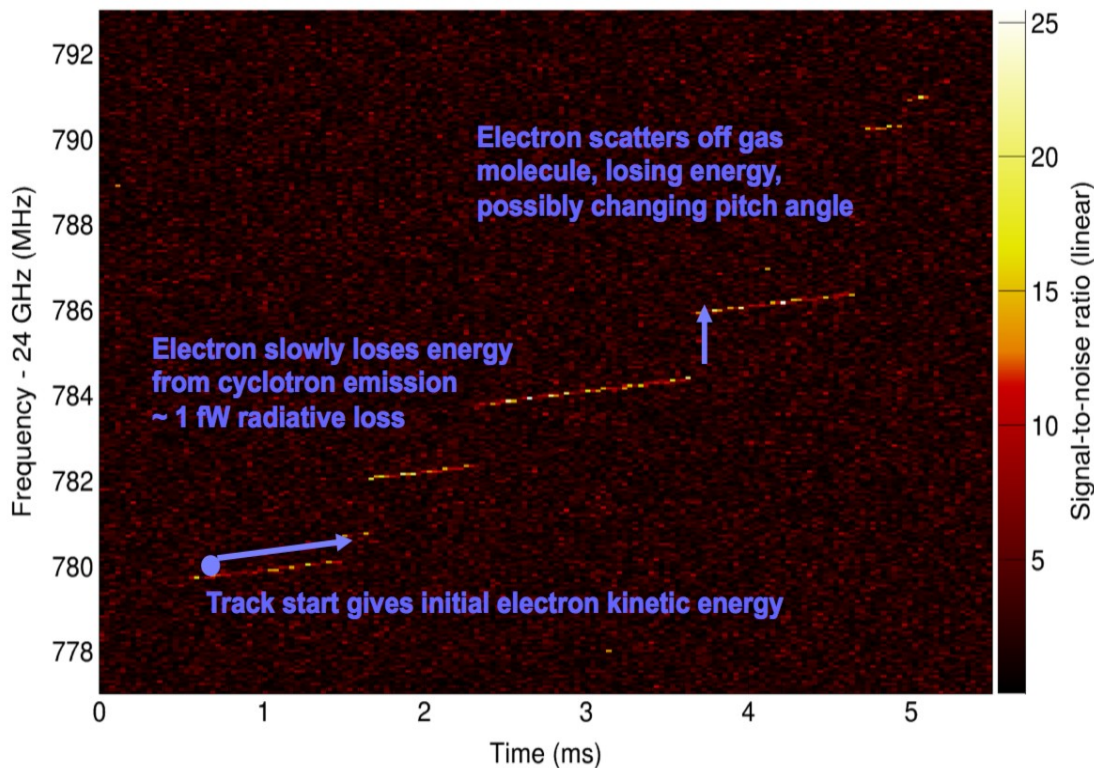
- $^{83m}\text{Kr}$  moving within a waveguide
- Cyclotron radiation picked up by cascaded cryogenic low noise amplifiers
- B-field: 1 Tesla
- $\omega(18 \text{ keV}) \sim 26 \text{ GHz}$
- $P(18 \text{ keV}) = 1.2 \text{ fW}$

**PROJECT 8**



Waveguide  
Cut-away

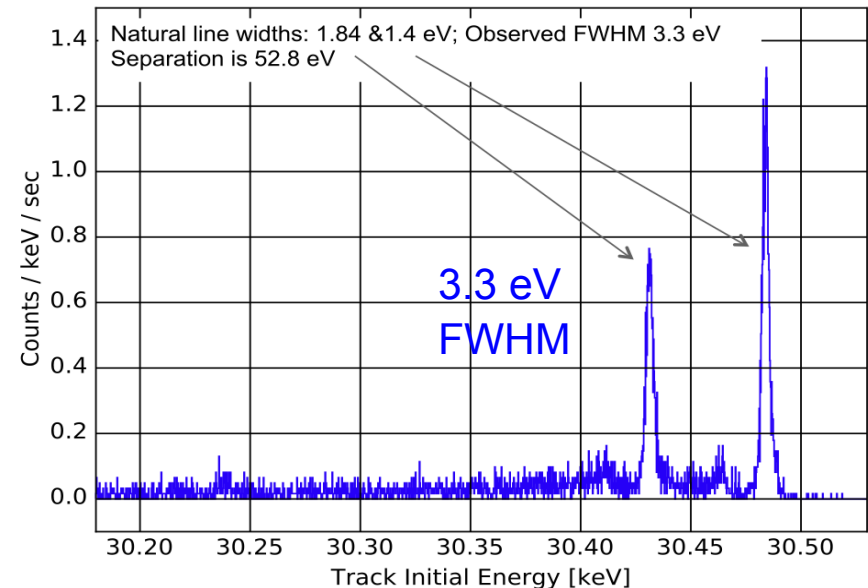
## First detection of cyclotron radiation from a single trapped electron



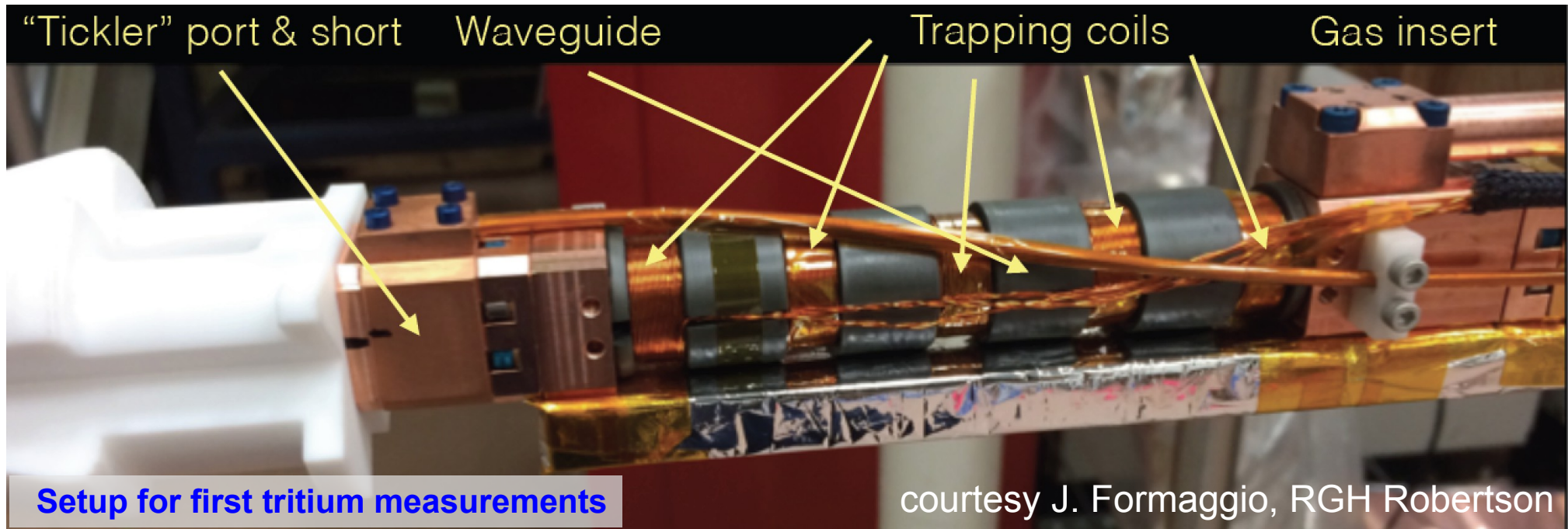
*D. M. Asner et al., Phys. Rev. Lett. 114 (2015) 162501*



Region of interest near the 30.4 keV lines  
(bins are 0.5 eV wide)

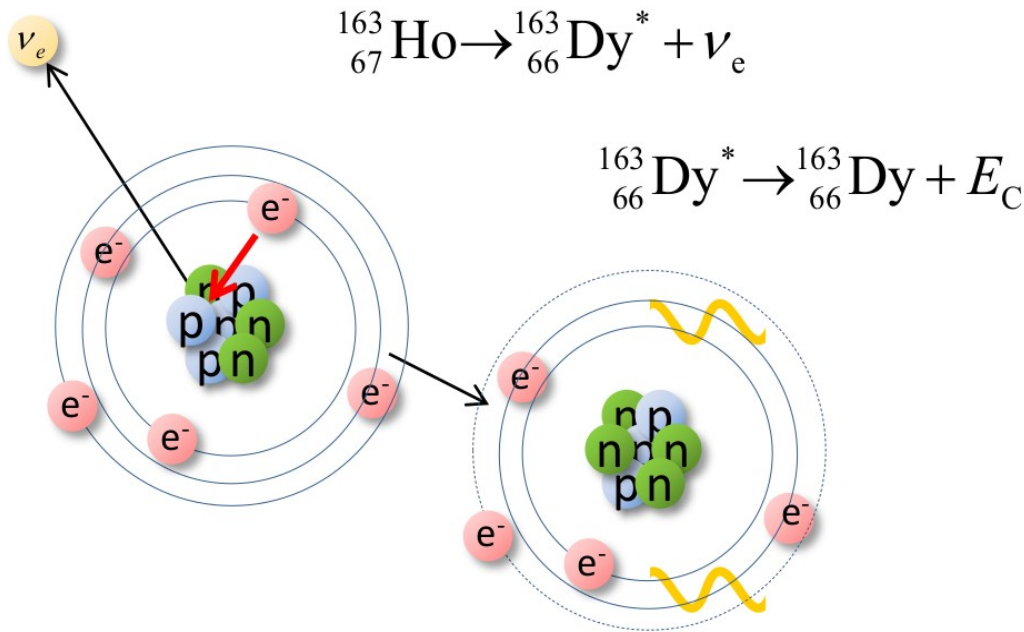


*A. A. Esfahani et al., J. Phys. G 44 (2017) 5*



## Project 8 outlook:

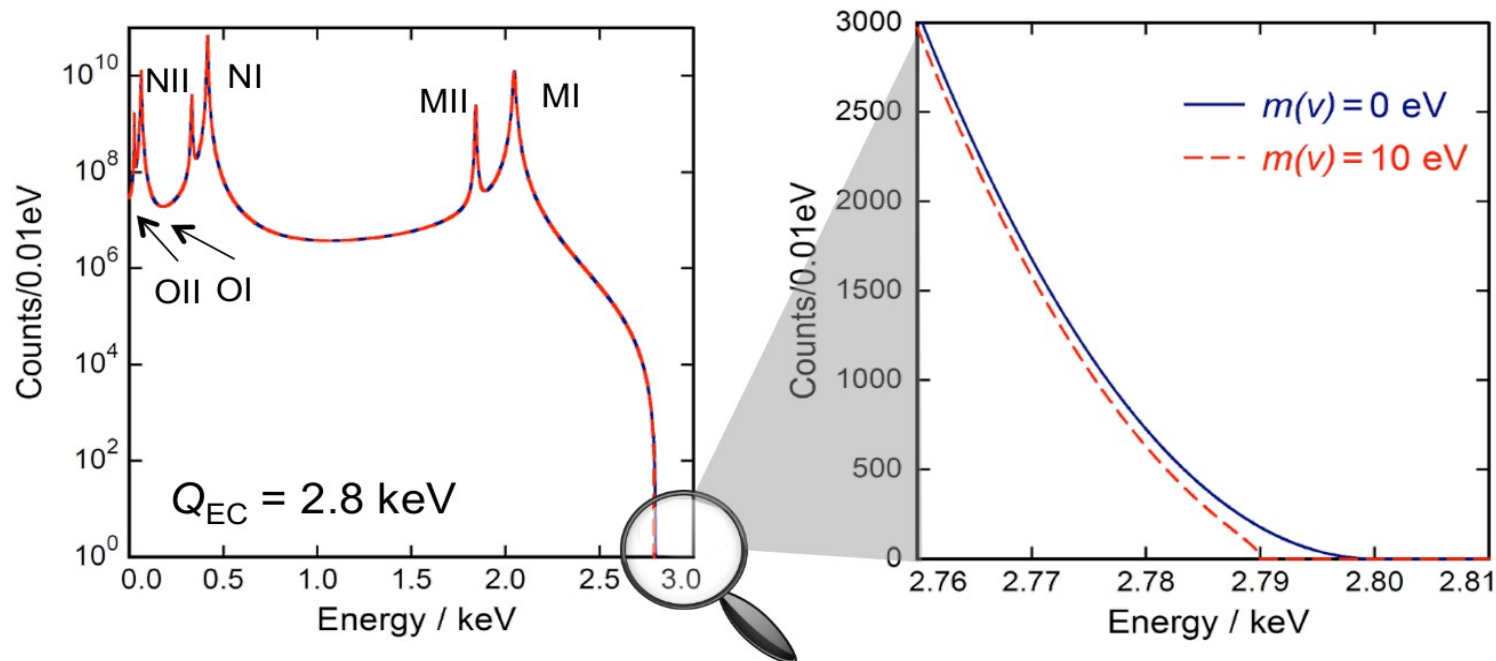
- $T_2$  spectroscopy with Project 8 should enable a similar or slightly better sensitivity as with KATRIN (assuming  $10^{11}$  molecules/cm<sup>3</sup>, 10 m<sup>3</sup> sensitive volume and 1 year measuring time optimistically 100 meV could be reached)
- Need to consider new systematics (Doppler shift, magnetic field drifts / inhomogeneities, scattering, pile-up, ...) → **lots of R&D work necessary !**
- If a large (100 m<sup>3</sup>) atomic tritium source could be realized sensitivities down to 40 meV might be possible (see A. A. Esfahani et al., *J. Phys. G* 44 (2017) 5)



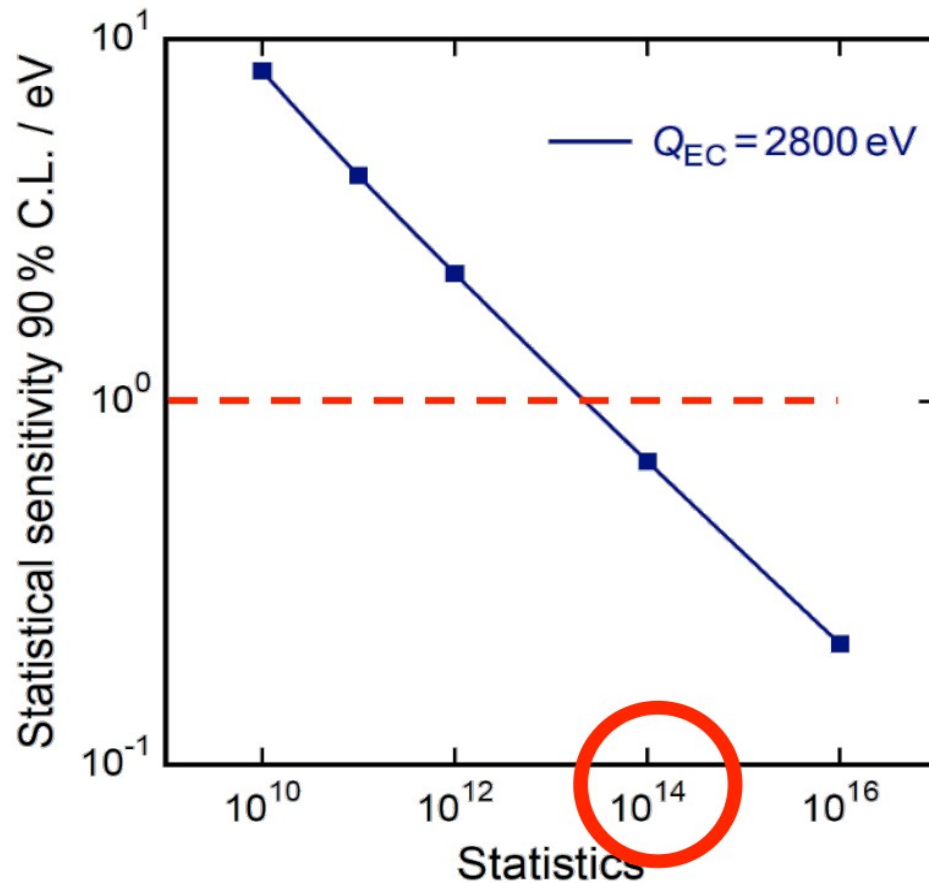
- $^{163}\text{Ho}$  decays by electron capture (EC) with  $T_{1/2} \approx 4570 \text{ y}$  ( $2 \times 10^{11}$  atoms for 1 Bq)

- Atomic de-excitation by:
  - X-ray emission
  - Auger electrons
  - Coster-Kronig transitions

- A non-zero neutrino mass affects the de-excitation energy spectrum







## To reach sub-eV sensitivity:

$10^{14}$  decays in 1 year

10 Bq / detector  $\rightarrow$   $10^5$  detectors

- **Calorimetric measurement:**

All the energy released in the electron capture process minus the one of the electron neutrino is measured by the detector

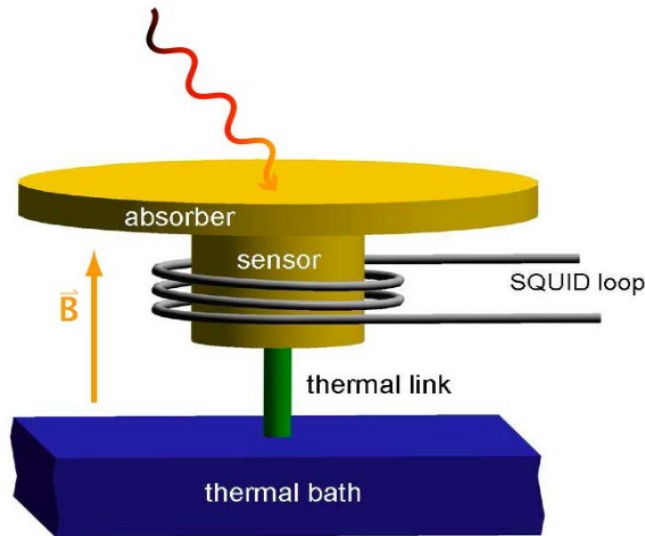
- **Advantages:**

- Source = detector
- All energy is detected

- **Challenges:**

- Sufficient and clean isotope production
- $\Delta E_{FWHM} < 10 \text{ eV}$
- $\tau_{\text{risetime}} < 1 \mu\text{s}$
- Multiplexed read-out of a large number of detectors

- Measurement of de-excitation energy using Metallic Magnetic Calorimeters (MMC)
  - measure  $\Delta T$  by determining change in magnetic properties

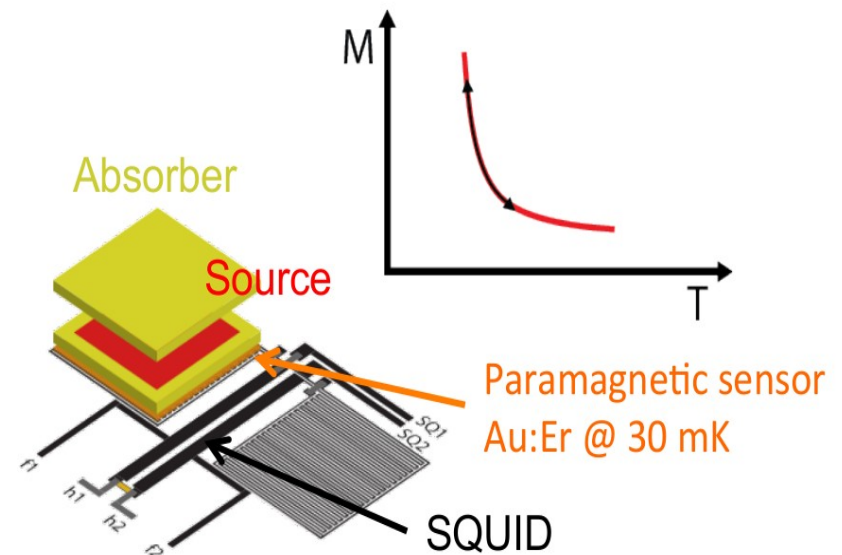


$$\Delta\Phi_s \propto \frac{\partial M}{\partial T} \Delta T \rightarrow \Delta\Phi_s \propto \frac{\partial M}{\partial T} \frac{E}{C_{\text{sens}} + C_{\text{abs}}}$$

- Operated at 30 mK
- Rise Time  $\sim 130$  ns
- $E_{\text{FWHM}} = 7.6$  eV @ 6 keV (2013)
- Non-Linearity  $< 1\%$  @ 6keV



Heidelberg (Univ., MPI-K),  
 U Mainz, U Tübingen,  
 TU Dresden, U Bratislava,  
 INR Debrecen, ITEP  
 Moscow, PNPI St  
 Petersburg, IIT Roorkee,  
 Saha Inst. Kolkata



courtesy L. Gastaldo

- High purity  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  source has been produced
- $^{163}\text{Ho}$  ions have been successfully implanted in offline process

@ISOLDE-CERN in 32 pixels

@RISIKO in 8 pixels

@RISIKO in 64 pixels

- Large MMC arrays have been tested and microwave SQUID multiplexing has been successfully demonstrated

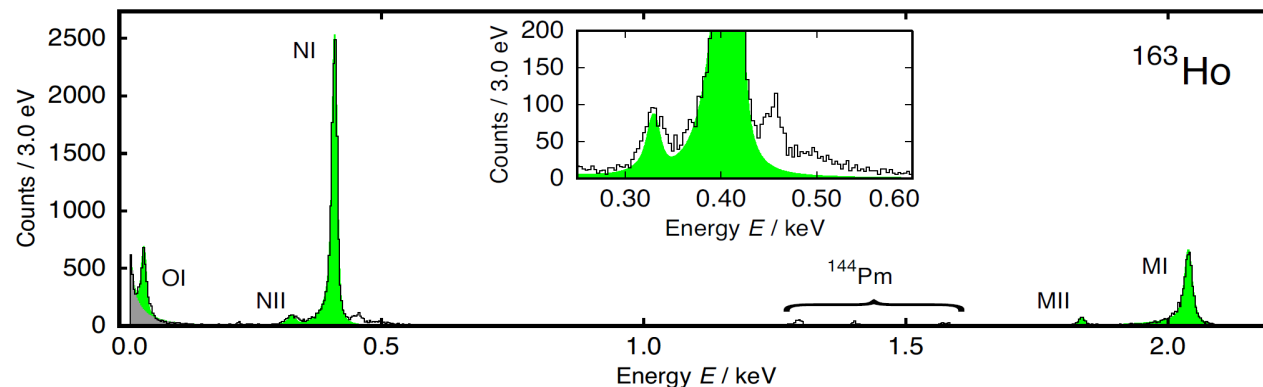
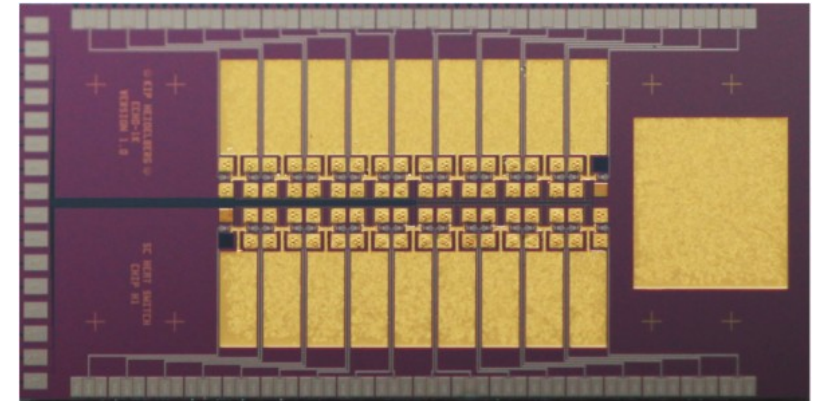
- Independent Q-value measurement:

$$Q_{\text{EC}} = (2.858 \pm 0.010_{\text{stat}} \pm 0.05_{\text{syst}}) \text{ keV}$$

*P. C.-O. Ranitzsch et al.,  
Phys. Rev. Lett. 119 (2017) 122501*

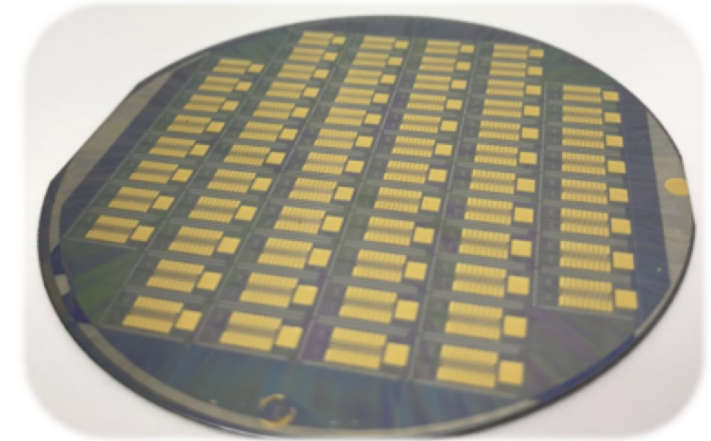
courtesy L. Gastaldo

|                                |                                |                                |                                |                                 |                      |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|----------------------|
| <b>Er161</b><br>3.21 h<br>3/2- | <b>Er162</b><br>0+             | <b>Er163</b><br>75.0 m<br>5/2- | <b>Er164</b><br>0+             | <b>Er165</b><br>10.36 h<br>5/2- | <b>Er166</b><br>0+   |
| EC                             | 0.14                           | EC                             | 1.61                           | EC                              | 33.6                 |
| <b>Ho160</b><br>25.6 m<br>5+   | <b>Ho161</b><br>2.48 h<br>7/2- | <b>Ho162</b><br>15.0 m<br>1+   | <b>Ho163</b><br>4570 y<br>7/2- | <b>Ho164</b><br>29 m<br>1+      | <b>Ho165</b><br>7/2- |
| EC *                           | EC *                           | EC *                           | EC *                           | EC,β *                          | 100                  |



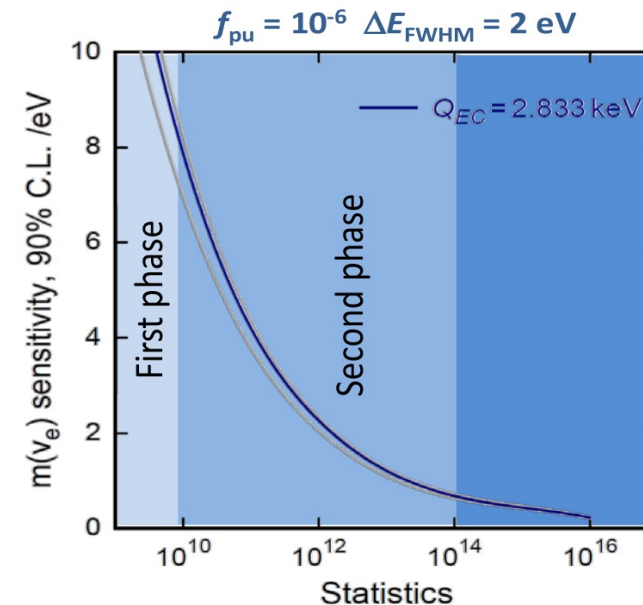
Prove scalability with medium large experiment **ECHo-1K (2015-2018)**

- total activity 1000 Bq, high purity  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  source (produced at reactor)
- $\Delta E_{\text{FWHM}} < 5 \text{ eV}$
- $\tau_{\text{rise}} < 1 \mu\text{s}$
- multiplexed arrays
  - microwave SQUID multiplexing
- 1 year measuring time
  - $10^{10}$  counts
  - neutrino mass sensitivity  $m < 10 \text{ eV}$



**Future: ECHo-10M** for sub-eV sensitivity

In addition: high energy resolution and high statistics  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  spectra allow to investigate the existence of **sterile neutrinos** in the eV-scale and keV-scale



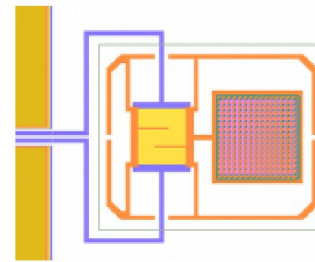
courtesy L. Gastaldo

## HOLMES

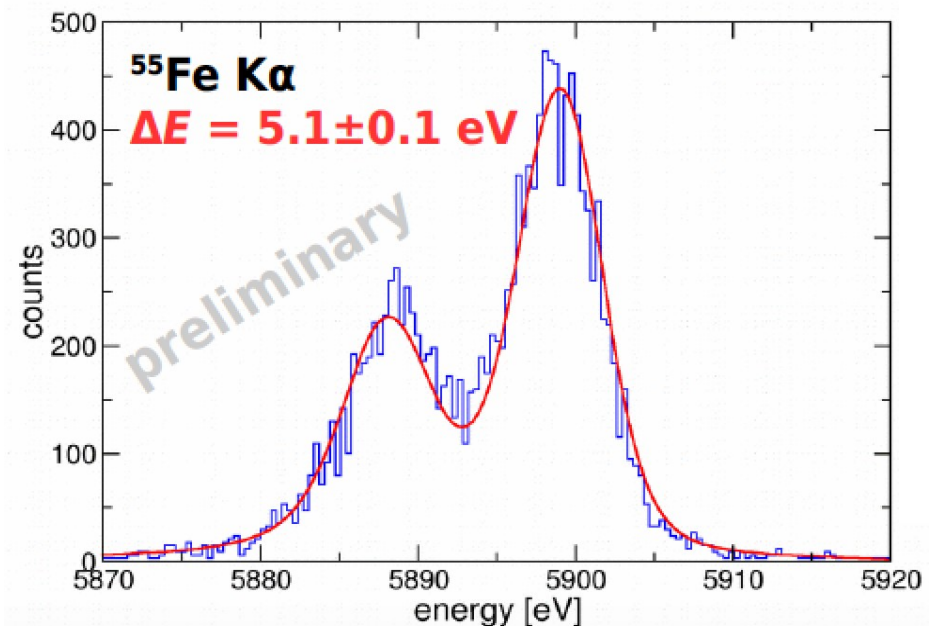
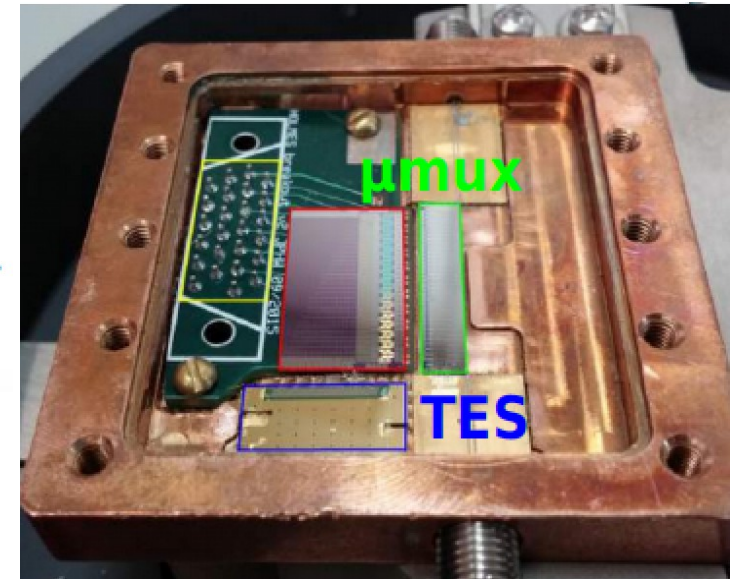
- $^{163}\text{Ho}$  implanted in Au absorber with transition edge sensor (TES) readout
- frequency multiplexing approach for readout of multi-pixel detector
  - custom chip  $\mu\text{MUX17A}$
  - 33 resonances in 500 MHz interval with a width of 2 MHz and 14 MHz separation
- sampling frequency 400 kS/s
- energy resolution at endpoint  $\Delta E_0 = 4 \text{ eV}$
- rise time 35  $\mu\text{s}$ , decay time 141  $\mu\text{s}$

### Project status

- TES array and DAQ ready
- ion implanter setup in progress
- first  $^{163}\text{Ho}$  implantation coming shortly
- first spectrum late in 2017
  - 32 pixels for 1 month
  - $m_\nu$  sensitivity  $\approx 10 \text{ eV}$



200×200  $\mu\text{m}^2$  absorber  
 $C = 0.9 \text{ pJ/K}$   
 $G = 570 \text{ pW/K}$



courtesy A. Nucciotti

- Studies of  $\beta$ -decay kinematics offer a model-independent way to determine the neutrino mass, complementary to cosmology and  $0\nu\beta\beta$  searches
- Besides neutrino mass the experiments in preparation are also sensitive to sterile neutrinos
- KATRIN will probe the neutrino mass range down to 0.2 eV
- Start of tritium data taking with KATRIN: June 2018
- Calorimetric experiments (ECHO, HOLMES) will provide an independent look at kinematic neutrino mass limits. The scalable approach and further R&D work will allow to reach a competitive level of sensitivity.
- New ideas and a lot of R&D work are required to go beyond 100 meV !