

The KATRIN likelihood function

KATRIN uses the following Poisson likelihood for the campaigns with the shifted analyzing plane (SAP) configuration:

$$-2 \log \mathcal{L}_{\text{SAP}} = \sum_{i,k} 2 \left(R_{\text{calc},k}(qU_i) \cdot t_i - N_{i,k} + N_{i,k} \cdot \ln \frac{N_{i,k}}{R_{\text{calc},k}(qU_i) \cdot t_i} \right),$$

and the following likelihood for a normal distribution for the campaigns with nominal analyzing plane (NAP):

$$-2 \log \mathcal{L}_{\text{NAP}} = \sum_i \frac{(R_{\text{calc}}(qU_i) - R_{\text{data}}(qU_i))^2}{\sigma_{R,i}^2},$$

where k stands for the patch indices, $R_{\text{calc}}(qU_i)$ are the calculated rates at the i^{th} high voltage set point, $R_{\text{data}}(qU_i)$ are the corresponding rates, $N_{i,k}$ and t_i are the event counts and the measurement time respectively. $\sigma_{R,i}^2$ is the modified variance accounting for an overdispersion of background rate.

The KATRIN systematic uncertainties are taken as pull terms for the total likelihood:

$$-2 \log \mathcal{L}_{\text{sys}} = (\vec{\eta} - \vec{\eta}_{\text{ext}})^T \cdot \Theta_{\text{cov}}^{-1} \cdot (\vec{\eta} - \vec{\eta}_{\text{ext}}),$$

with $\vec{\eta}$ being the nuisance parameters and their calibration measurements $\vec{\eta}_{\text{ext}}$ and covariance matrix Θ_{cov} .