

Abstract Submitted  
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**Tritium Helium-3 Mass Difference**<sup>1</sup> EDMUND MYERS, ANKE WAGNER, HOLGER KRACKE, BRIDGET WESSON, Florida State University — By trapping and manipulating pairs of ions in a cryogenic Penning trap we are measuring the cyclotron frequency ratios  $\text{HD}^+/\text{}^3\text{He}^+$  and  $\text{HD}^+/\text{T}^+$ . From these ratios a more precise value for the atomic mass difference between T and  ${}^3\text{He}$ , and hence the Q-value of tritium beta-decay can be derived. This will enable a strong test of the systematics in the large-scale tritium beta-decay spectrometer KATRIN, which aims for a ten-fold improvement in the laboratory measurement of the electron neutrino mass.

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