

Physics of superconducting quantum systems

Oleg Astafiev

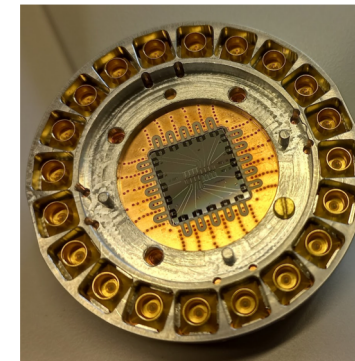
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Moscow Institute of Physics and Technology (MIPT), Russia
Royal Holloway, University of London, UK
National Physical Laboratory (NPL), UK*

Лаборатория Сверхпроводниковых квантовых технологий (СКТ), Сколтех Лаборатория Искусственных Квантовых Систем (ИКС), МФТИ



1. Лаборатория основана в 2015 г.
2. ~30 сотрудников
3. Большой опыт в области сверхпроводниковых квантовых технологий
4. Физика сверхпроводниковых квантовых систем
5. Квантовая оптика на чипе
6. Квантовая акустика
7. Сверхпроводниковые 5-ти, 8-ми, 12-ти, 16-ти кубитные процессоры



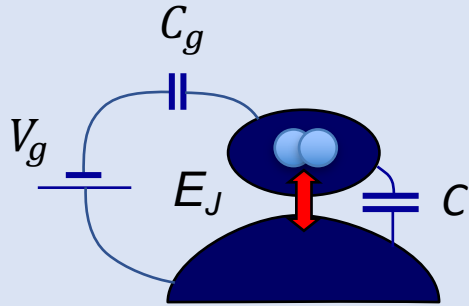
Сверхпроводниковый
8-ми кубитный
квантовый процессор.
Работает!

Superconducting Quantum Technologies

- Introduction into superconducting quantum systems
- Fabrication and measurement techniques
- Large quantum systems, quantum processors
- Quantum optics with artificial quantum systems
- Quantum acoustics
- Coherent Quantum Phase Slips (CQPS)

Superconducting quantum systems

Charge is quantized ($Q_0 = 2e$)

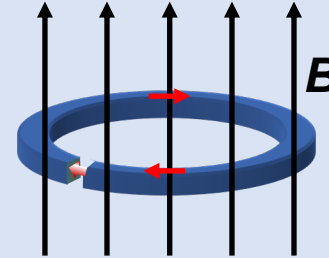


$$U = \frac{Q_0^2}{2C} (N - n)^2$$

$$Q_{ext} = C_g V_g = n Q_0$$

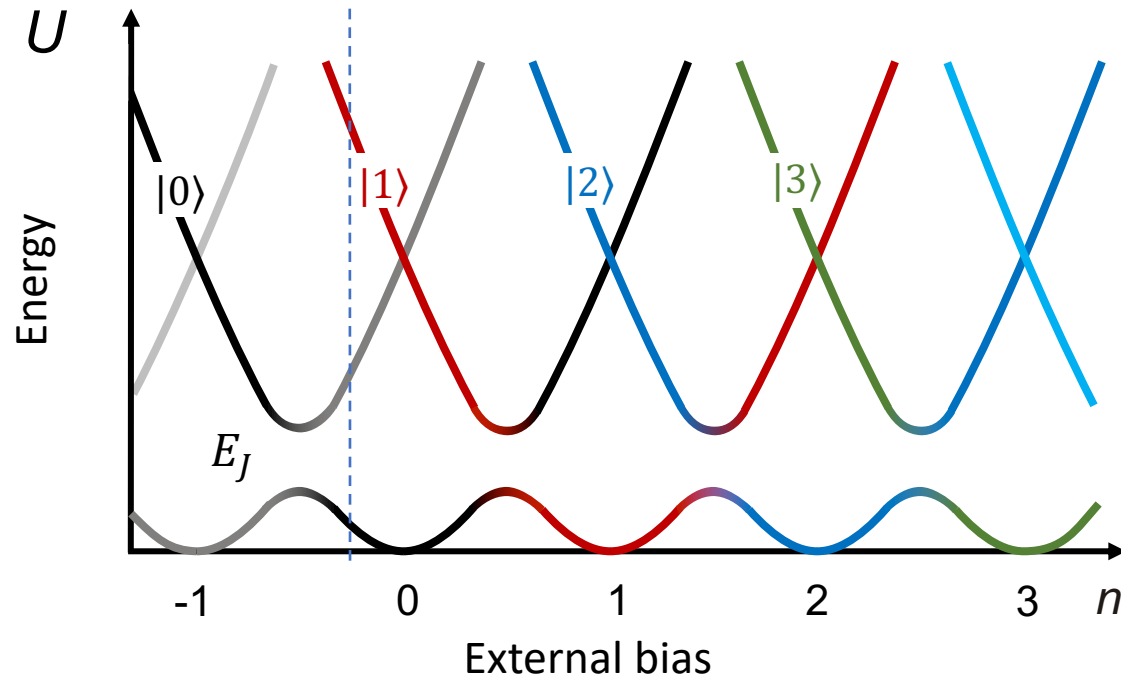
Continuous variable

Magnetic flux is quantized ($\Phi_0 = \frac{h}{2e}$)

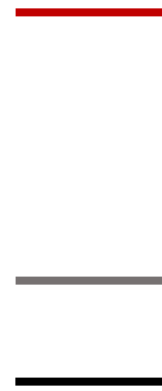


$$U = \frac{(N\Phi_0 - \Phi_{ext})^2}{2L}$$

$$\Phi_{ext} = BS = n\Phi_0$$



Energy levels

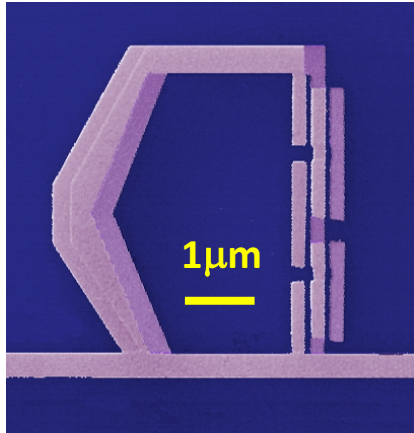


- Cooper pairs (charge $2e$) are elementary charge in superconductors
- Josephson junction is a tunnel barrier for Cooper pairs
- Josephson junction is a key element in superconducting quantum systems
- Necessary condition: $E_C \ll k_B T$

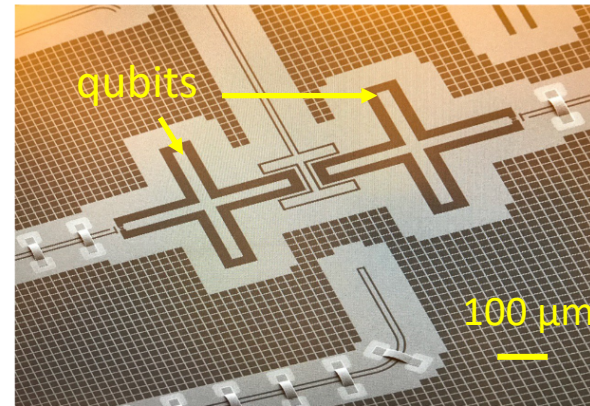
Superconducting Quantum Technologies

Quantum Optics in microwaves: 1 – 10 GHz ($\lambda = 1 - 10$ cm)

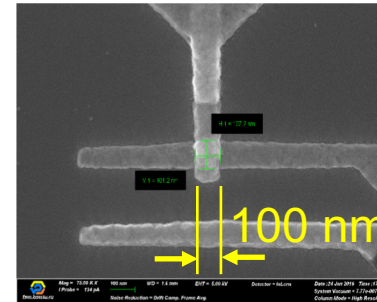
Flux qubits



Charge qubits



Josephson junction



Typical capacitance:

$$C = 10^{-15} - 10^{-13} \text{ F}$$

Charging energy:

$$\frac{E_C}{h} = \frac{(2e)^2}{Ch} = 10^9 - 10^{11} \text{ Hz}$$

$$T = 1 \text{ K}: \frac{k_B T}{h} = 2 \times 10^{11} \text{ Hz}$$

Superconducting Quantum systems:

- Fully controllable
- Can be designed with known parameters
- On-chip
- Scalable (integrated circuits)
- Based on nanofabrication processes

Research directions:

- **Superconducting Quantum Systems**
 - *Quantum bits*
 - *Quantum Simulators*
- **Quantum Optics with Artificial Atoms**
- **Quantum metrology and sensing**
 - *Coherent Quantum Phase Slips*
 - *Quantum metrology*
- **Quantum Acoustics**

Quantum Mechanics of Electric circuit

Mass



Position: x Velocity: \dot{x}

Momentum: p Kinetic energy:

$$p = m\dot{x} \qquad T = \frac{m\dot{x}^2}{2}$$

Mass: m

Momentum operator:

$$\hat{p} = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

Commutation relations:

$$[\hat{x}, \hat{p}] = i\hbar$$

Inductance



Charge: Q Current: $I = \dot{Q}$

Magnetic Flux: Φ Kinetic energy:

$$\Phi = LI = L\dot{Q} \qquad T = \frac{L\dot{Q}^2}{2}$$

Mass: L

Momentum operator:

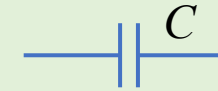
$$\hat{\Phi} = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial Q}$$

Commutation relations:

$$[\hat{Q}, \hat{\Phi}] = i\hbar$$

$$Q \leftrightarrow x \quad \Phi \leftrightarrow p \quad L \leftrightarrow m$$

Capacitance



Magnetic Flux: Φ Voltage: $V = \dot{\Phi}$

Charge: Q Kinetic energy:

$$Q = CV = C\dot{\Phi} \qquad T = \frac{C\dot{\Phi}^2}{2}$$

Mass: C

Momentum operator:

$$\hat{Q} = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial \Phi}$$

Commutation relations:

$$[\hat{\Phi}, \hat{Q}] = i\hbar$$

$$\Phi \leftrightarrow x \quad Q \leftrightarrow p \quad C \leftrightarrow m$$

A key element is tunnel junction: Josephson junction is superconducting circuits

Superconducting Quantum Technologies

Cryogenic

He-free dilution
fridge (~ 10 mK)

Measurements

- Signal generators
- NT analyzer up to 20 GHz
- Signal analyzers (20 GHz)
- Fast digital electronics

Fabrication

- EBL system (Crestec)
- Evaporator dedicated for Josephson junctions
- ...

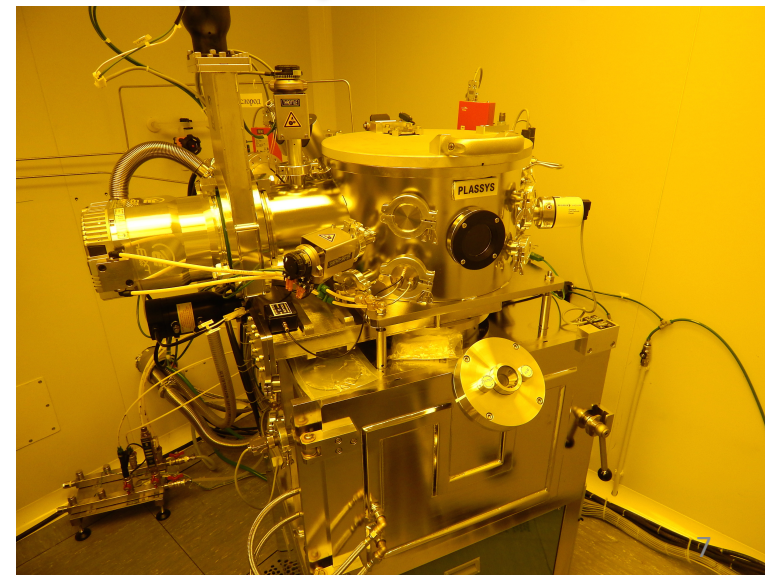
Experimental setup



Electron-beam Lithography



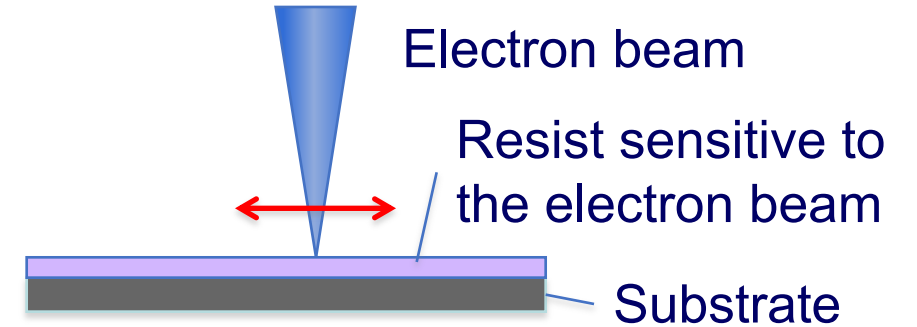
Josephson junction evaporator



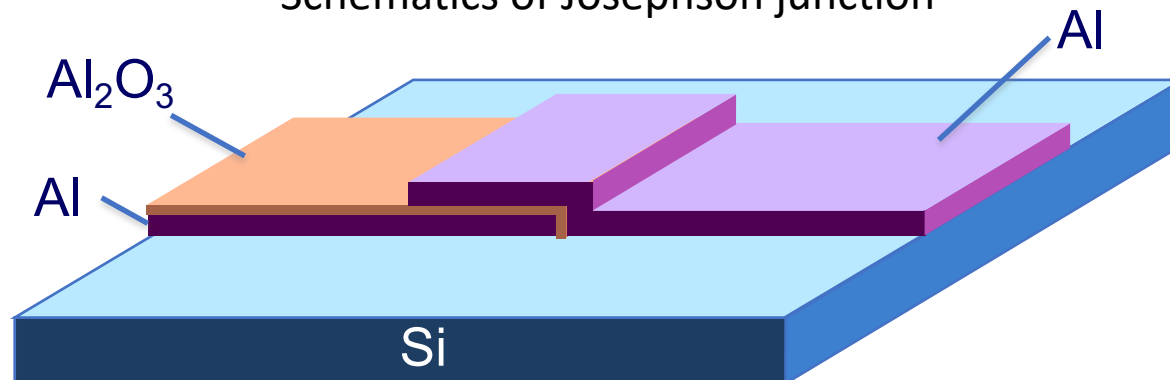
Nano-technology

Electron-beam lithography systems (EBL)

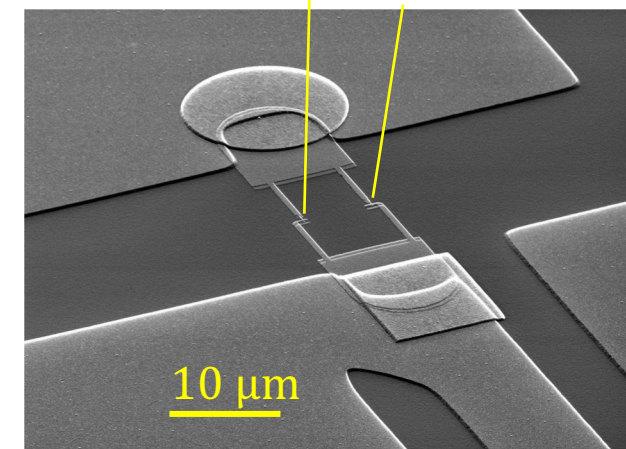
Resolution: ~2 nm



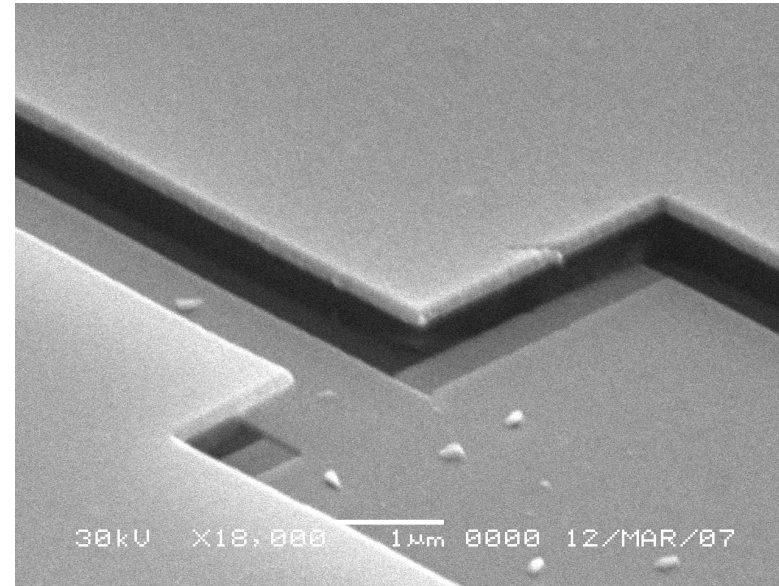
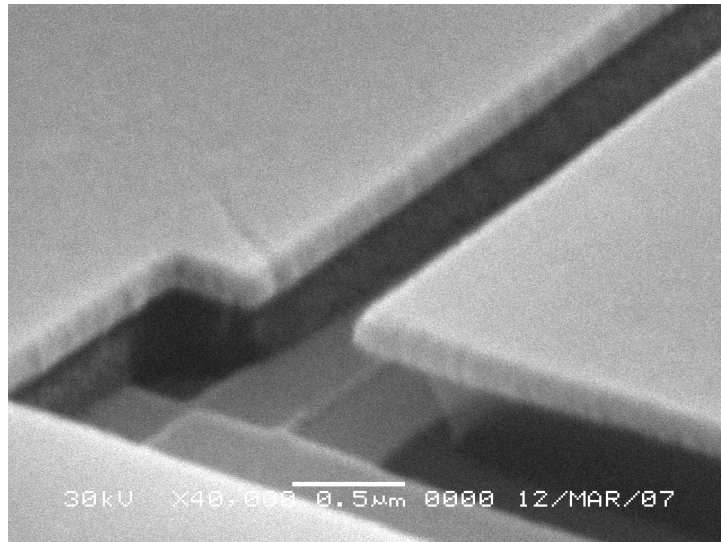
Schematics of Josephson junction



Josephson junctions ~ 100×100 nm²



Au film pictured after evaporation
on double layer resist



Experimental setup

Dilution refrigerator and measurement equipment

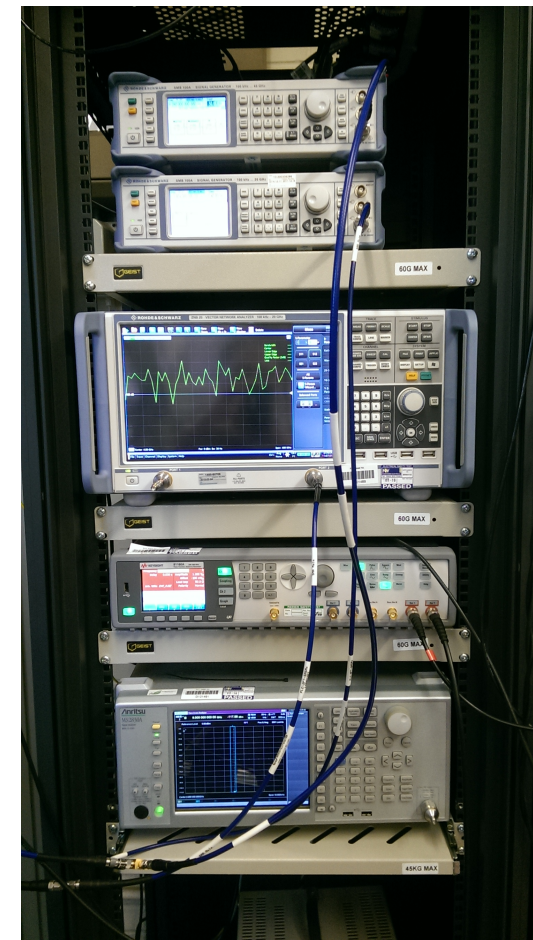
Dilution refrigerator



Internal view



Measurement MW equipment ($f = 1 - 10$ GHz)



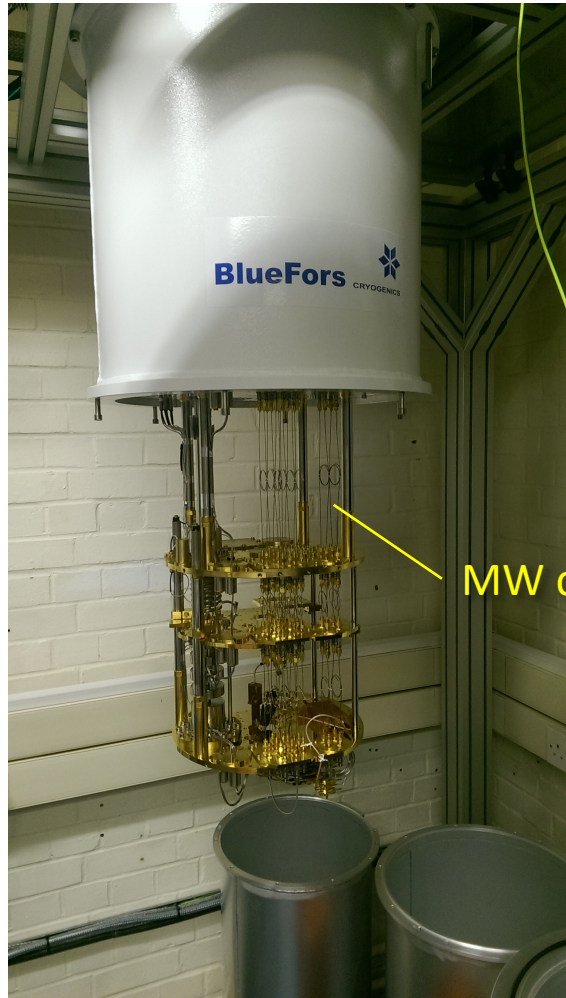
MW
generators

NT analyser

Pulse
generator

Spectrum
analyser

The lowest temperature is 10 mK

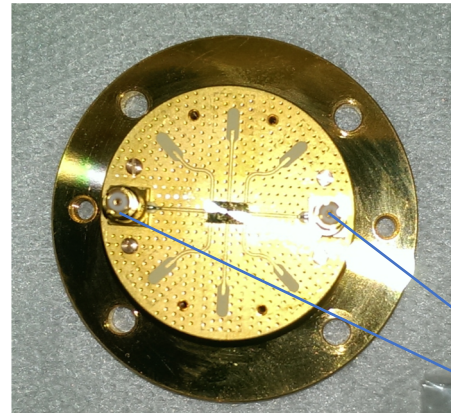


MW cables

Bottom view of a cold plate

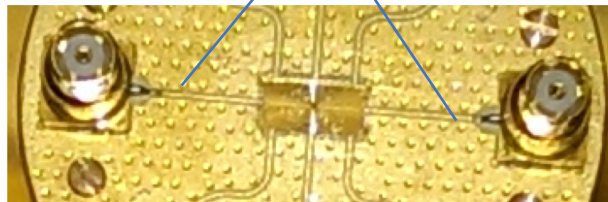


Sample holder

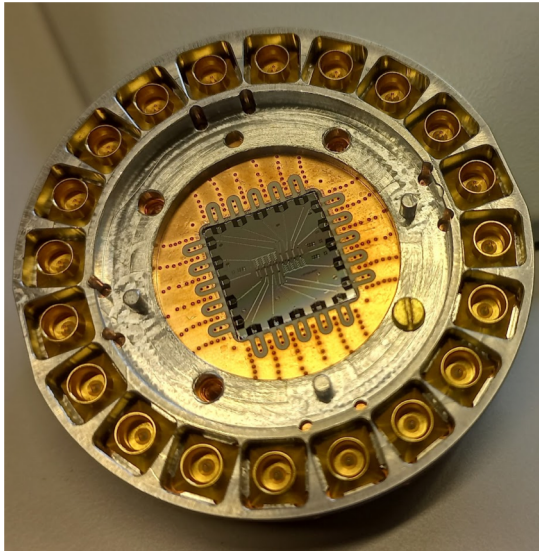


MW connectors

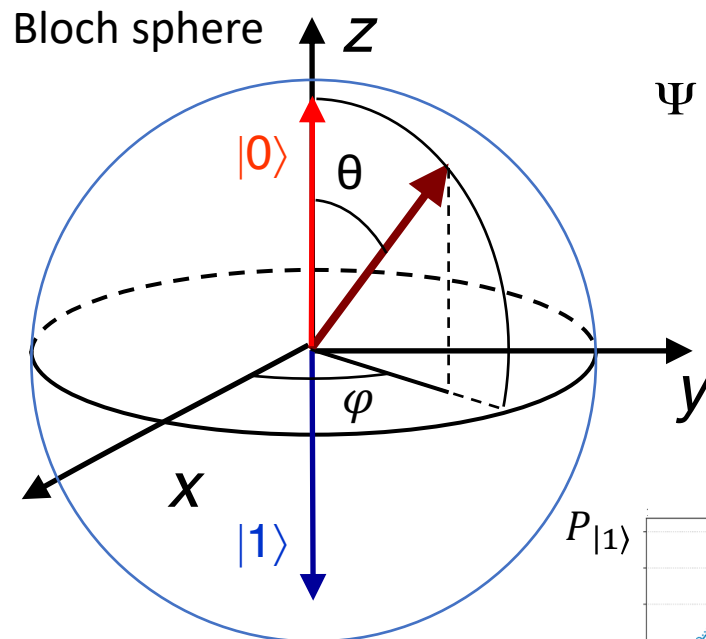
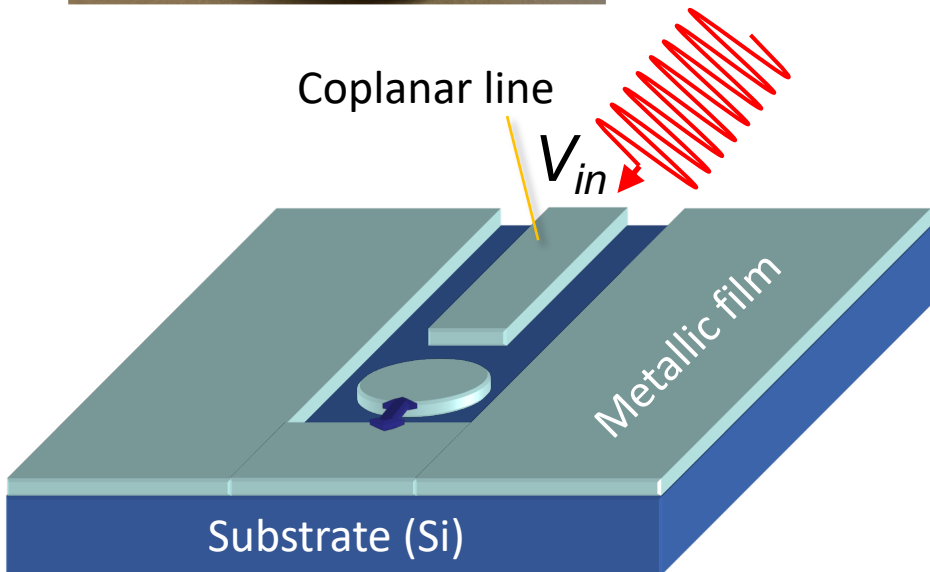
MW lines



Wavefunction of a two-level system on the Bloch sphere

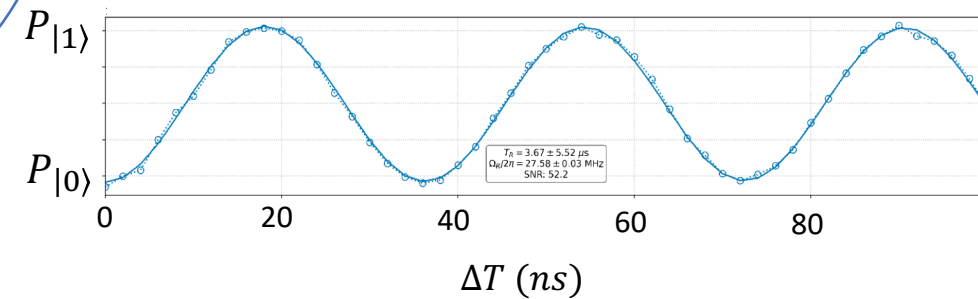


- Qubit is a two-level quantum system
- The qubit dynamics can be mapped to dynamics of spin ½
- Control of the qubit states by microwaves

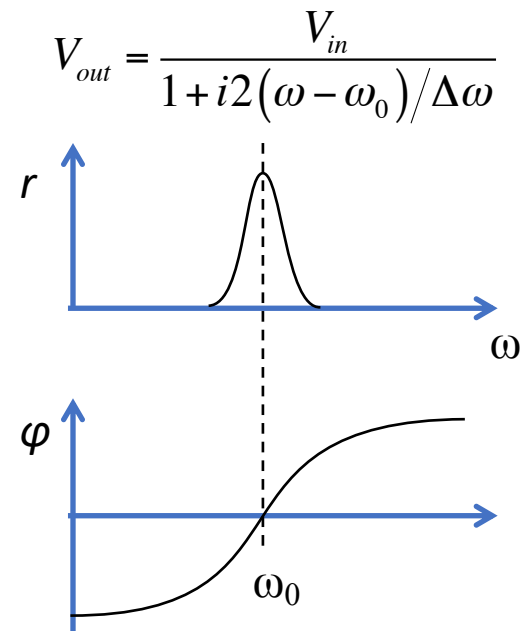
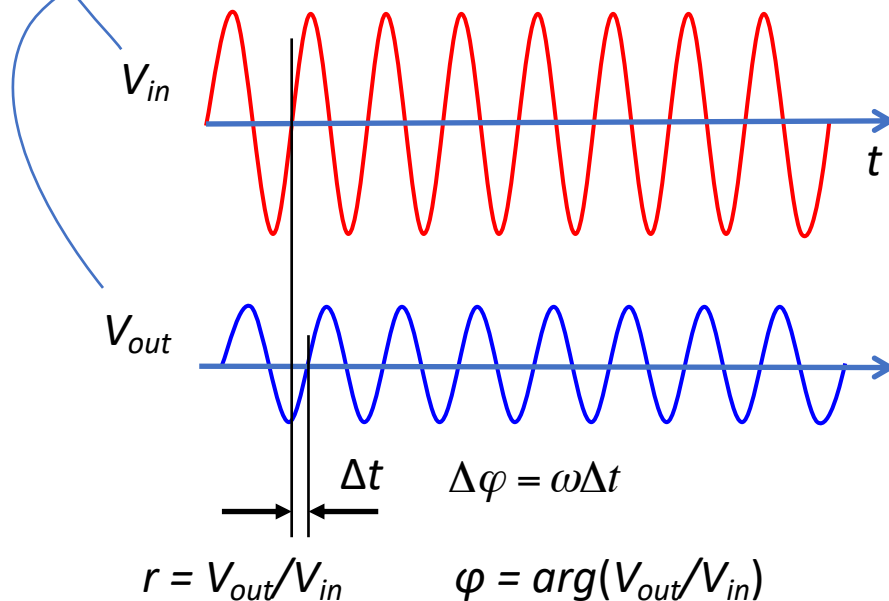
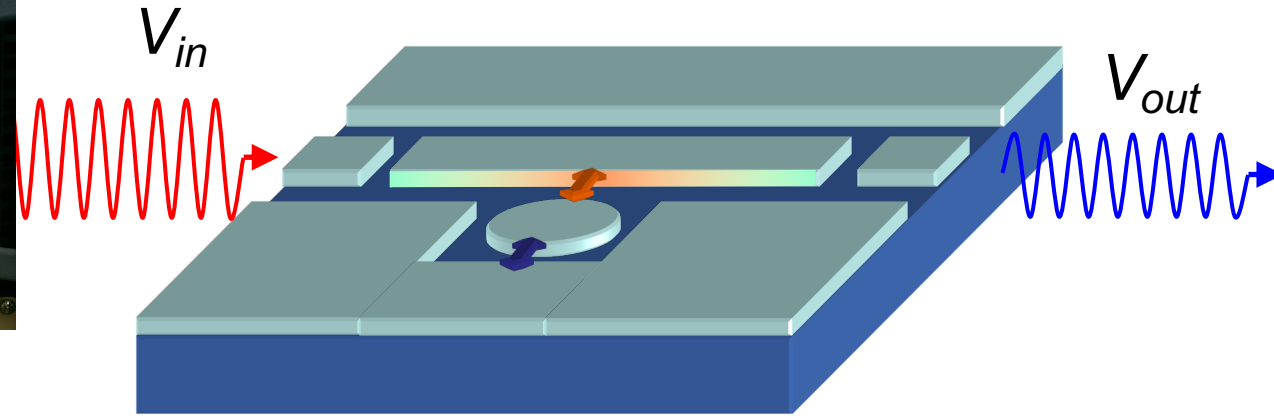
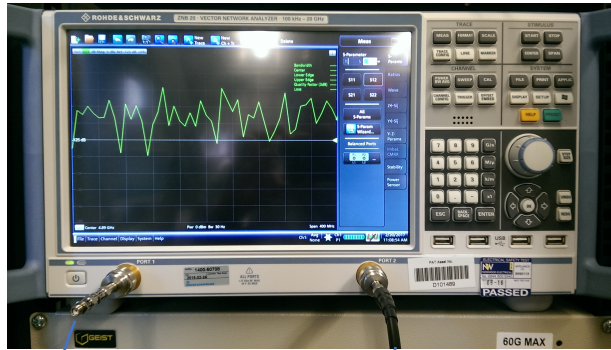


$$\Psi = \cos\frac{\theta}{2}|0\rangle + e^{i\varphi}\sin\frac{\theta}{2}|1\rangle$$

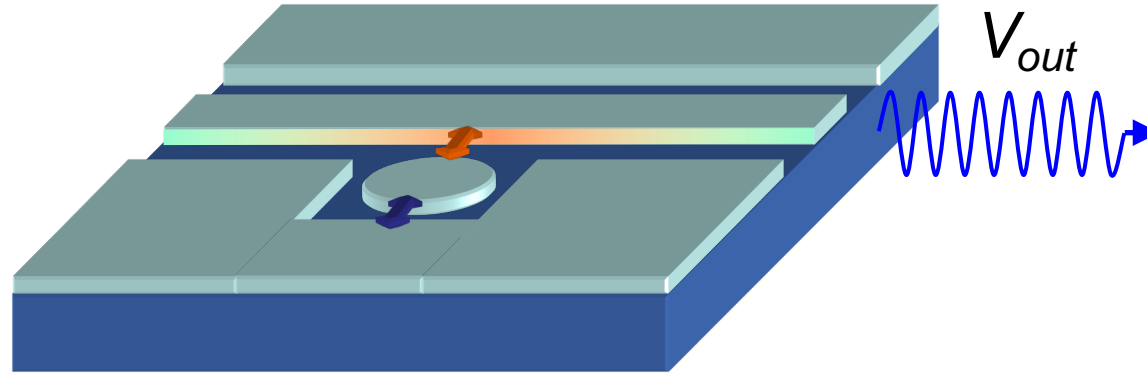
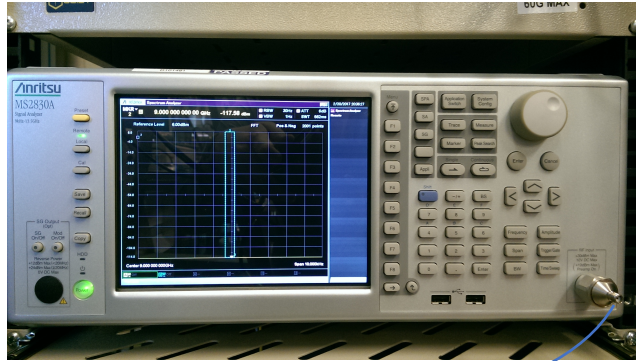
Oscillations of probability



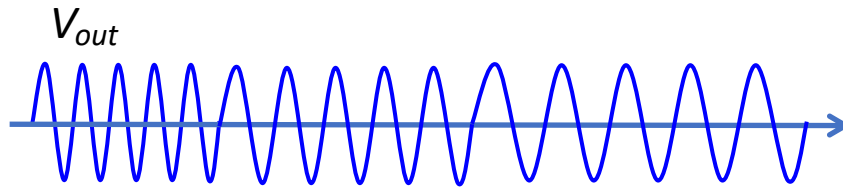
Phase-sensitive detection of transmitted signal by a network analyzer



Spectrum detection of emission by a spectrum analyzer

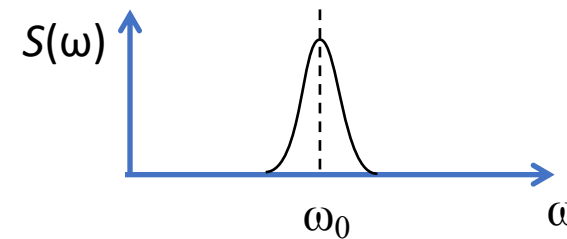


The output signal is uncorrelated in phase with excitation

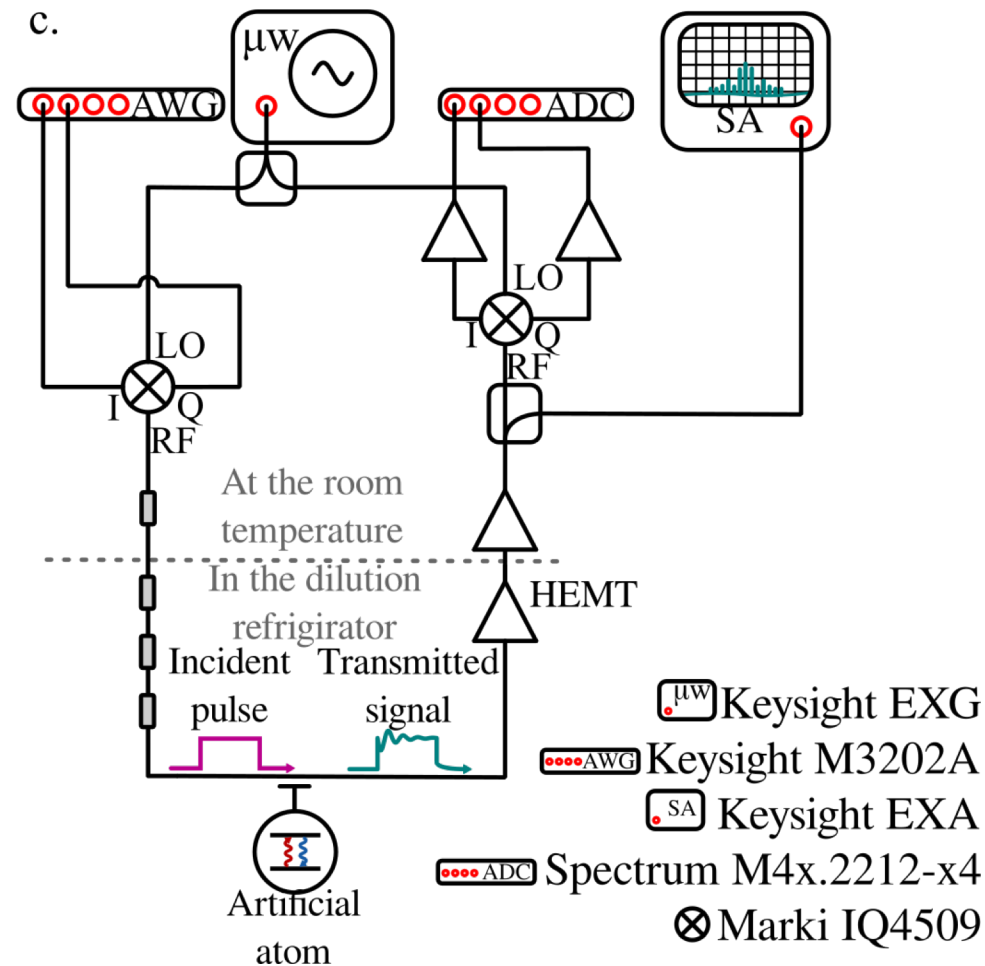
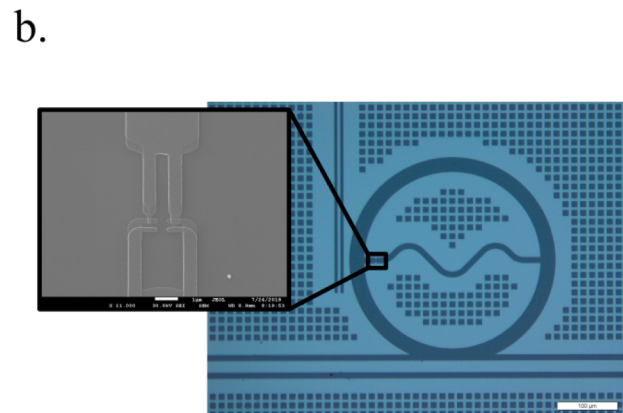
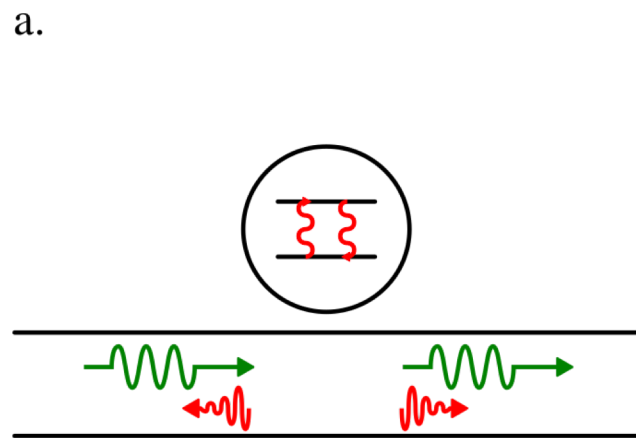


Spectral power density: $S(\omega)$

$$S_{out}(\omega) = \frac{S_0}{1 + [2(\omega - \omega_0)/\Delta\omega]^2}$$



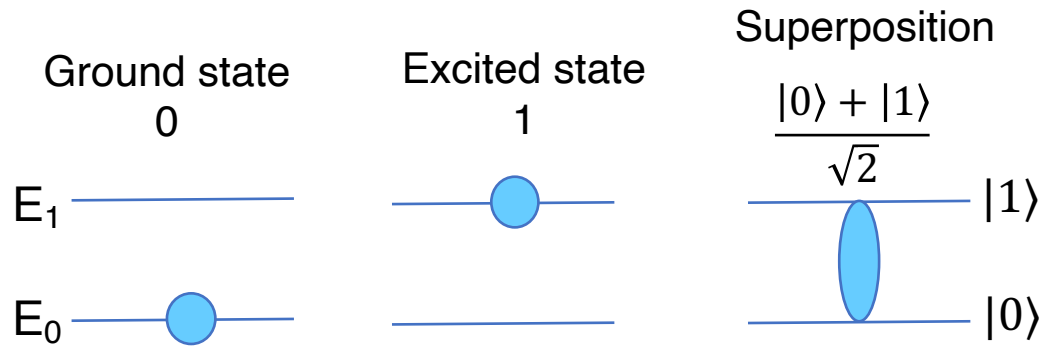
Interaction of a two-level atom with a propagated field



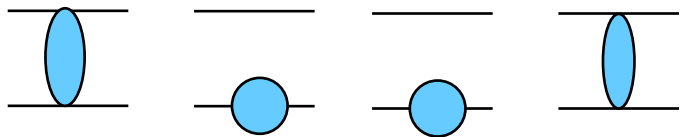
Directions of research

Quantum bits (qubits)

The information is encoded with quantum states



Encoding numbers in quantum systems

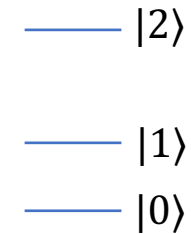


$$\left(\frac{|0\rangle + |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \otimes |0\rangle \otimes |0\rangle \otimes \frac{|0\rangle + |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}} \right) = \frac{|0000\rangle + |1000\rangle + |0001\rangle + |1001\rangle}{\sqrt{4}}$$

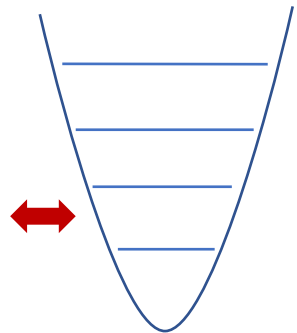
Strong coupling: interaction strength is large then relaxation:
Easily achieved in superconducting quantum systems

Artificial atoms (Quantum Optics)

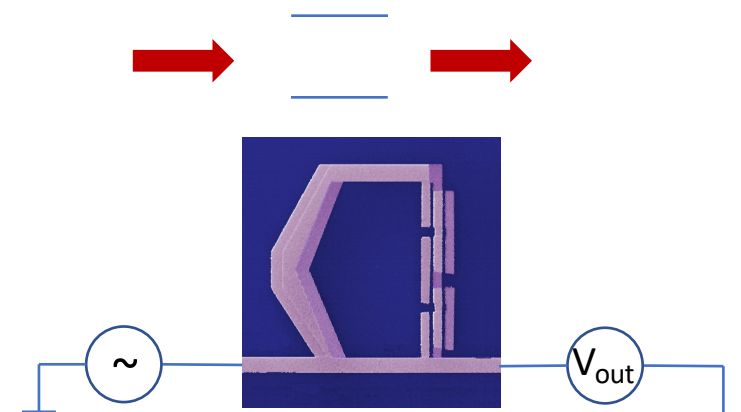
Three-level atom



Cavity QED



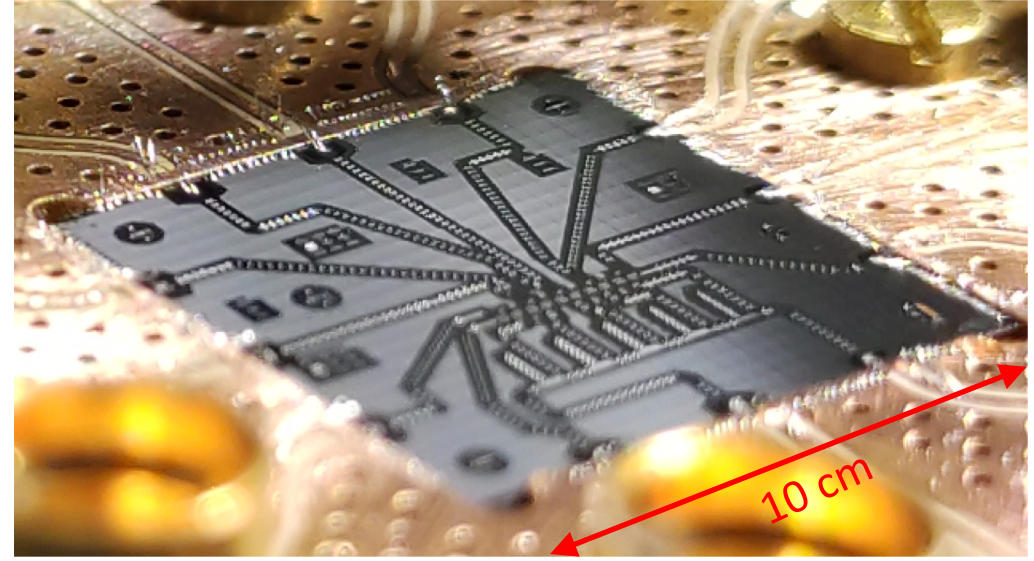
Artificial atom in the open space



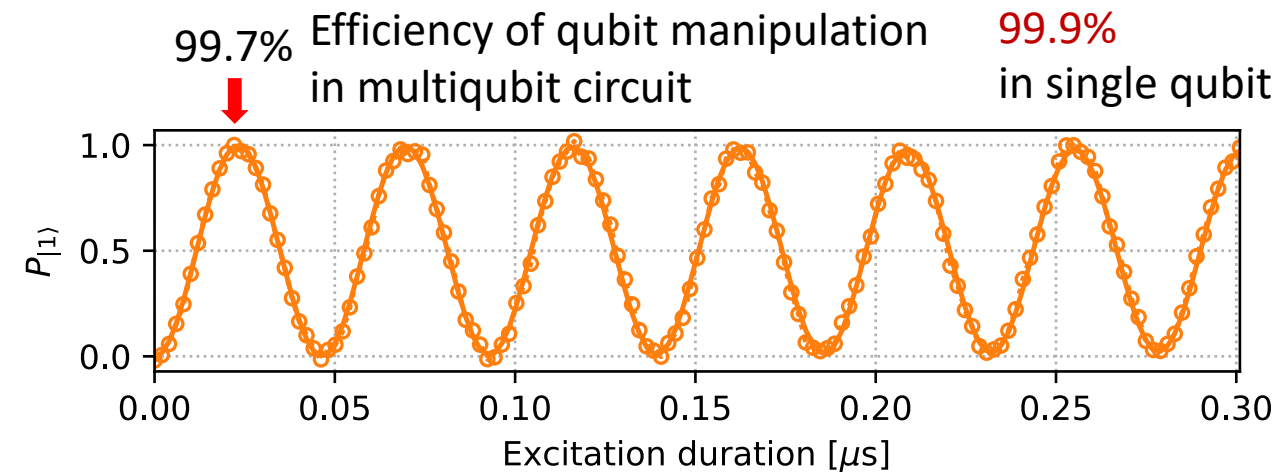
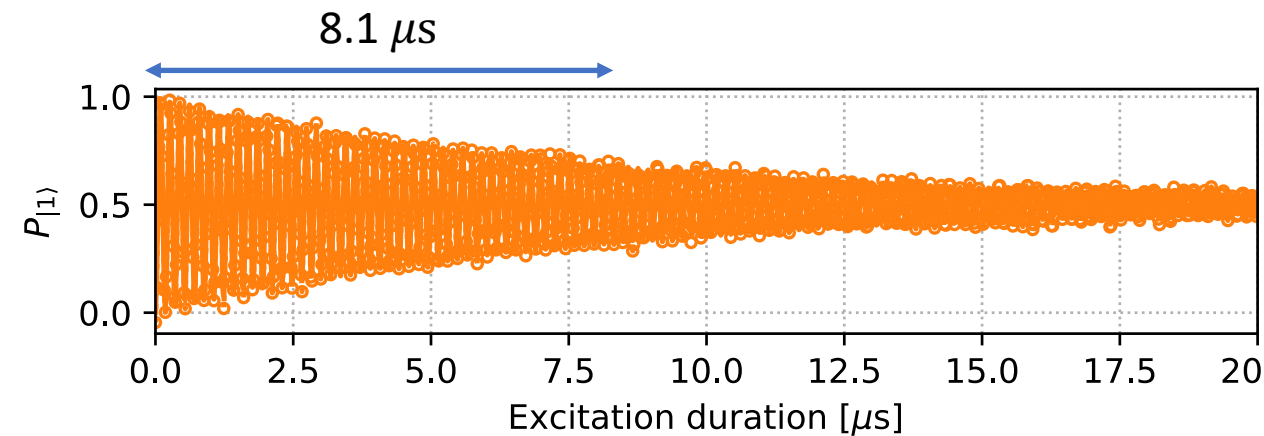
$g \gg \Gamma$ Typical number of oscillations $\frac{g}{\Gamma}$

Quantum processors

5 qubit processor



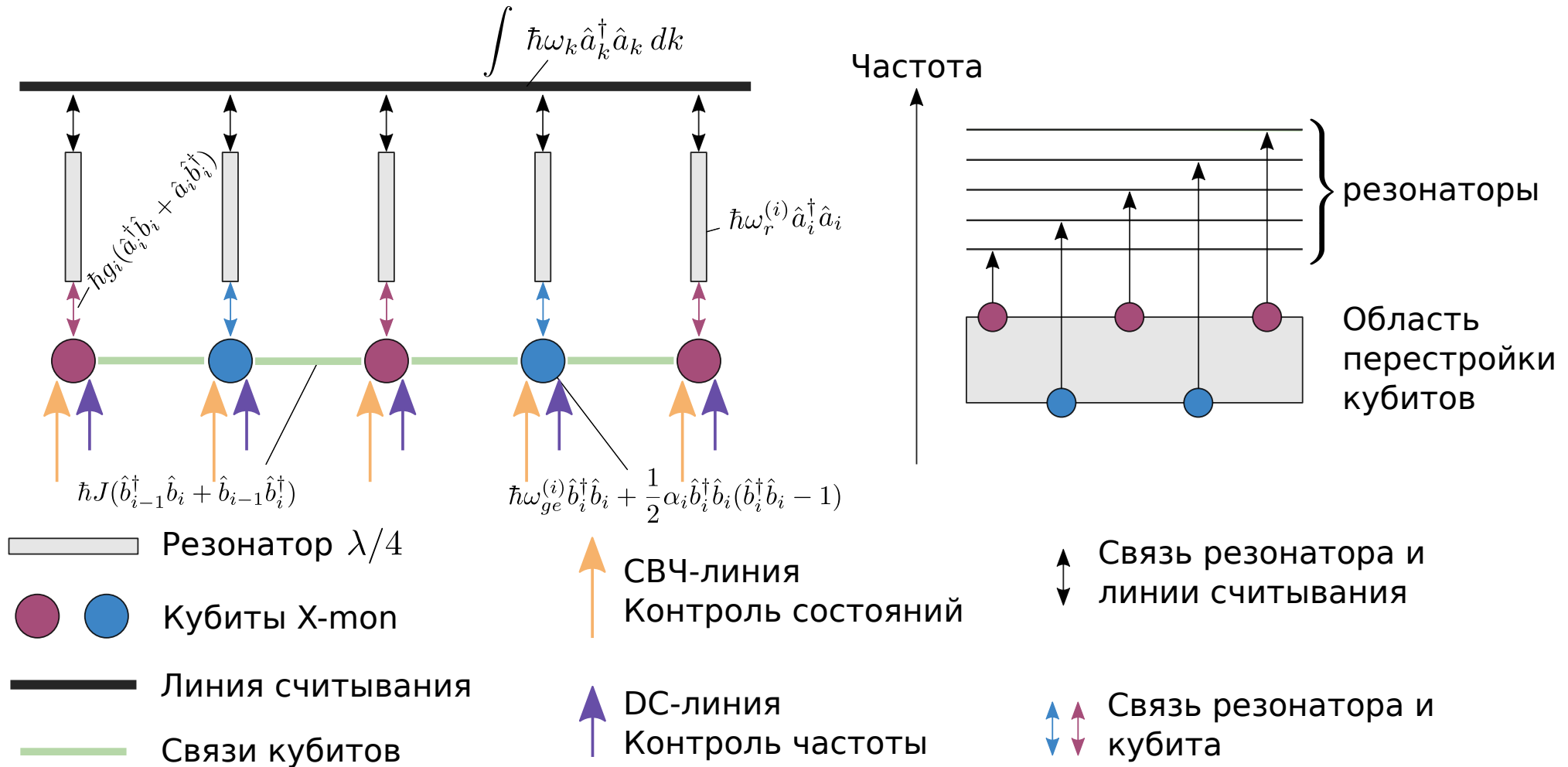
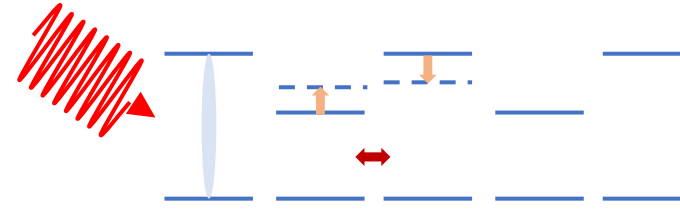
Universal processor We demonstrated solving problems of machine learning (Quantum simulator)
Typical coherence times in multi-qubit circuits are **5 – 20 μs**



Transfer of states with high efficiency has been demonstrated

5-ти кубитный процессор: принцип работы

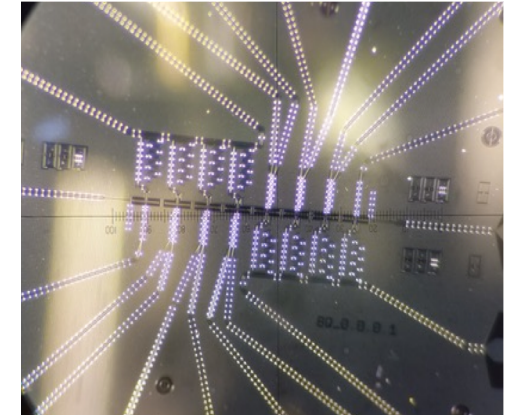
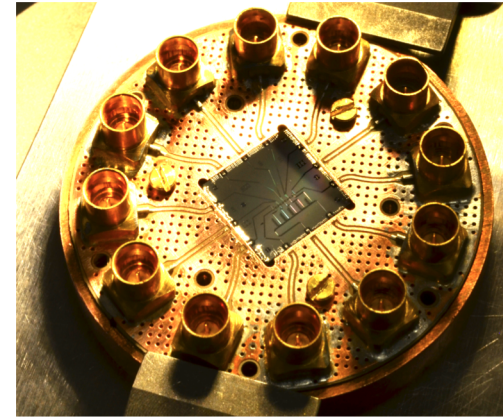
- State control by Microwave
- Each qubit Energy control
- 2-qubit interaction control



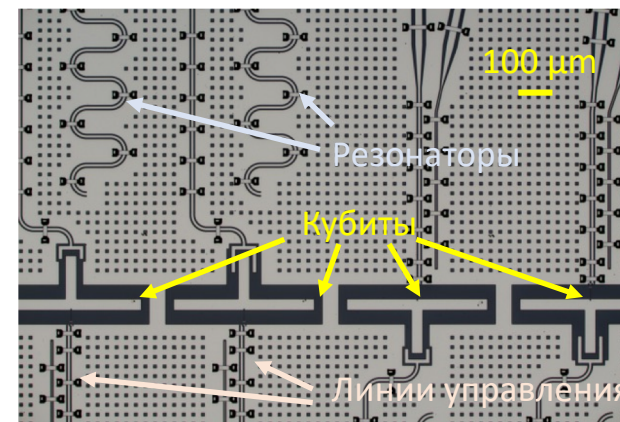
Квантовые процессоры

1. На базе ЦКП МФТИ **отлажена технология изготовления** высококачественных квантовых устройств ($T = 10 - 60 \mu\text{s}$).
2. Разрабатывается **несколько геометрий процессоров** различной сложности и функциональности.
3. Наиболее изученной является схема из 5-ти кубитов. Это полноценный квантовый процессор.
4. На 5-ти кубитной схеме продемонстрировано решение реальных **задач машинного обучения**.
5. Продемонстрирована высокая эффективность одиночного гейта **99.7%** (в **многокубитной** схеме – не путать с эффективностью в одно- и двухкубитных схемах).
6. В настоящий момент изготовлен, полноценно работает и тестируется **8-кубитный** квантовый процессор.
7. Разрабатывается 12/16-ти кубитная геометрия

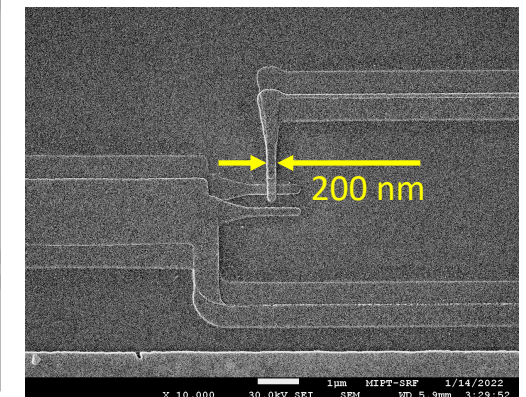
8-кубитный процессор



Элементы на чипе

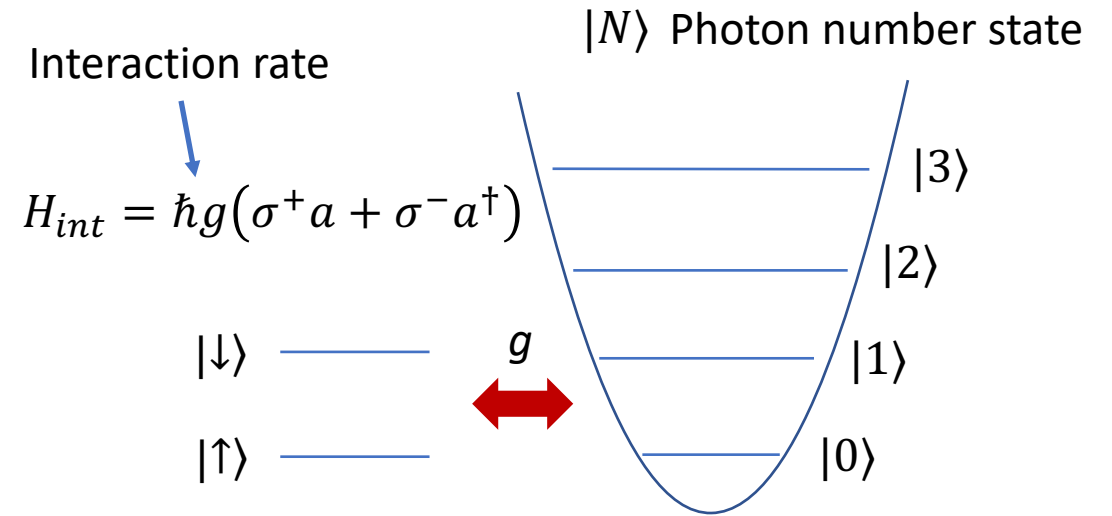
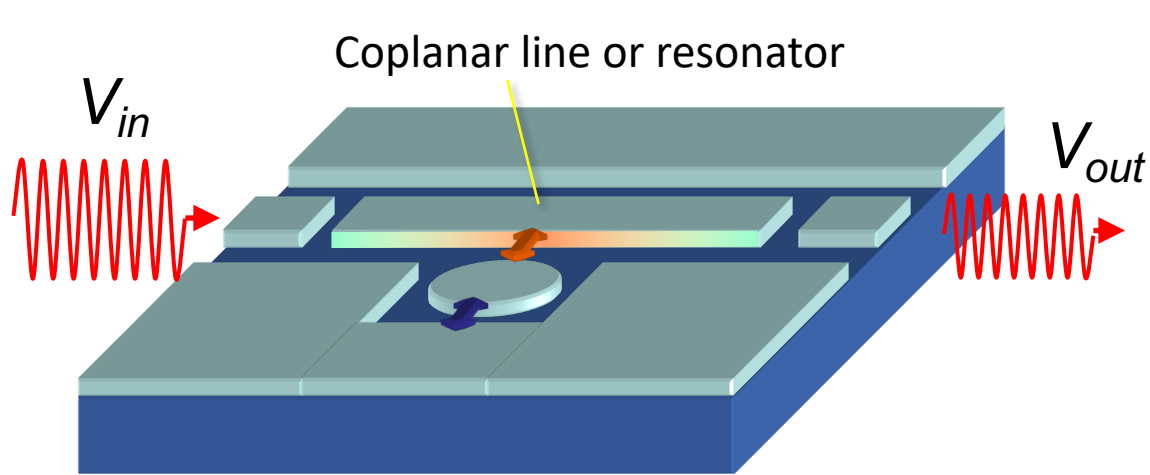


Джозефсоновский переход

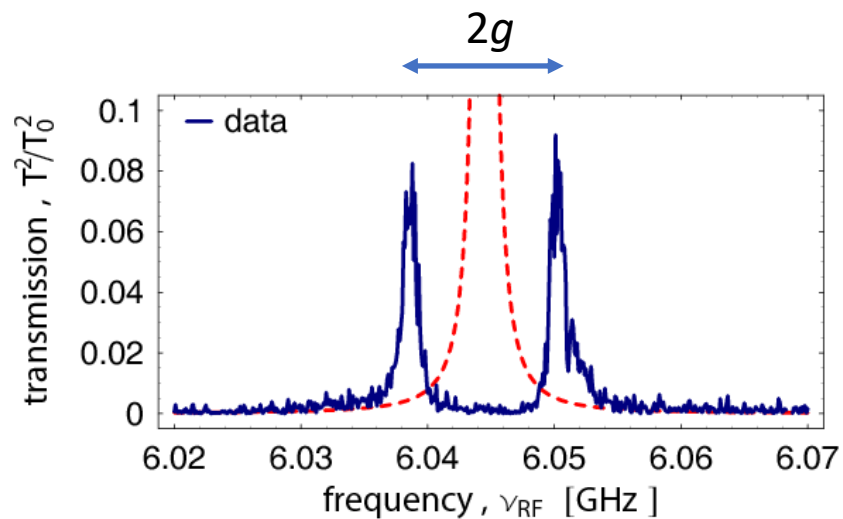


Quantum Optics
with superconducting quantum systems
(artificial atoms)
in the microwave range

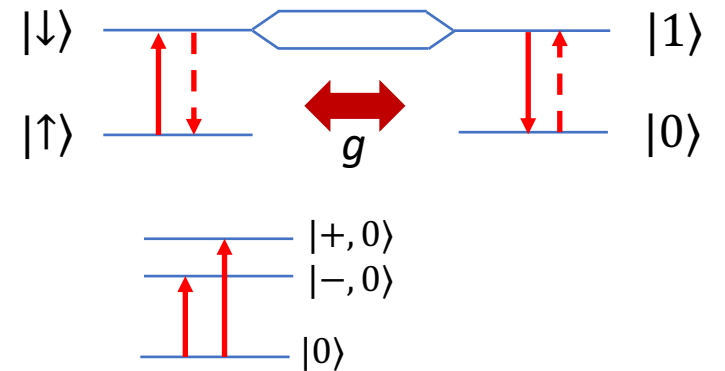
Quantum optics in the microwave range



Experimental observation of atom-resonator interaction

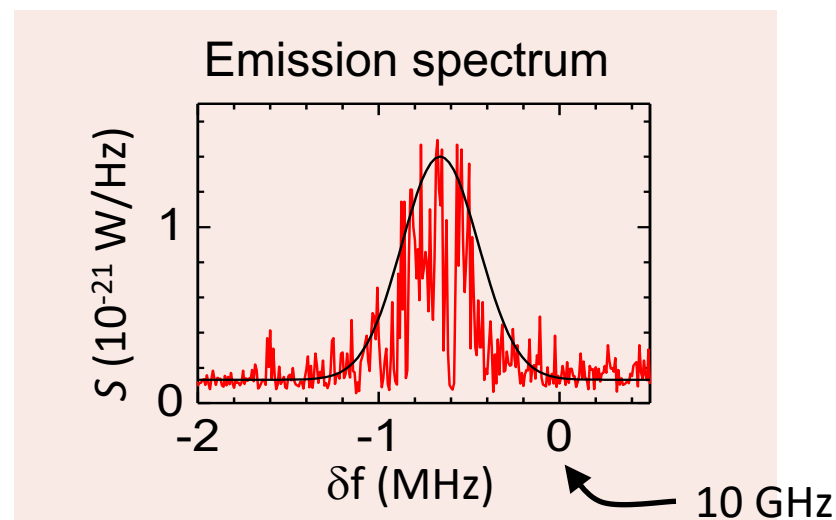
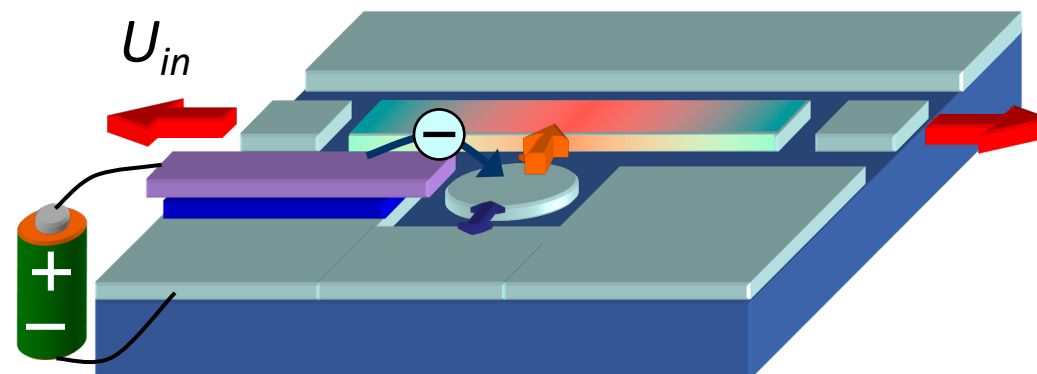
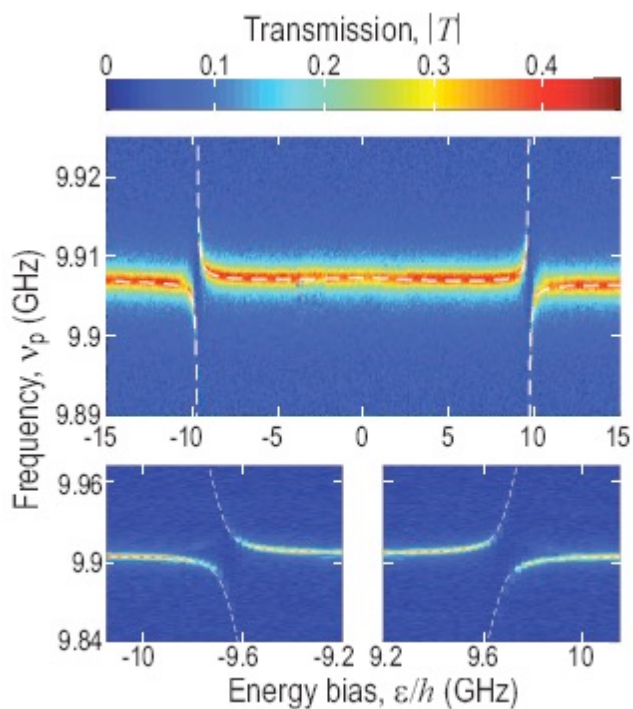
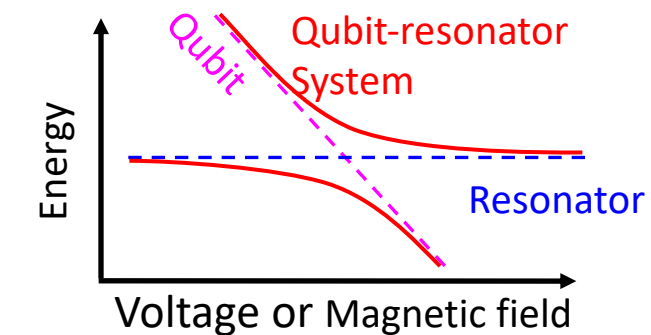


- Basic QO circuit
- Cavity Quantum Electrodynamics
- Lasing
- Fock ($|N\rangle$) state generation
- Quantum bath
- Stark shift



$$|\pm, N\rangle = \frac{|\uparrow, N+1\rangle \pm |\uparrow, N\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Cavity quantum electrodynamics: Single artificial-atom lasing

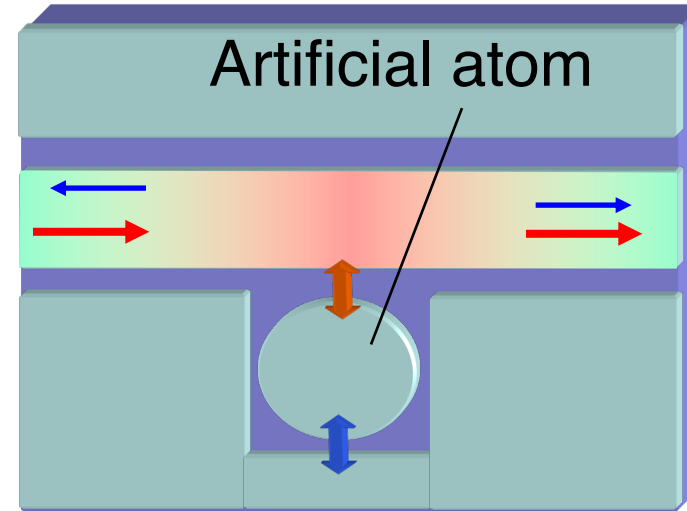
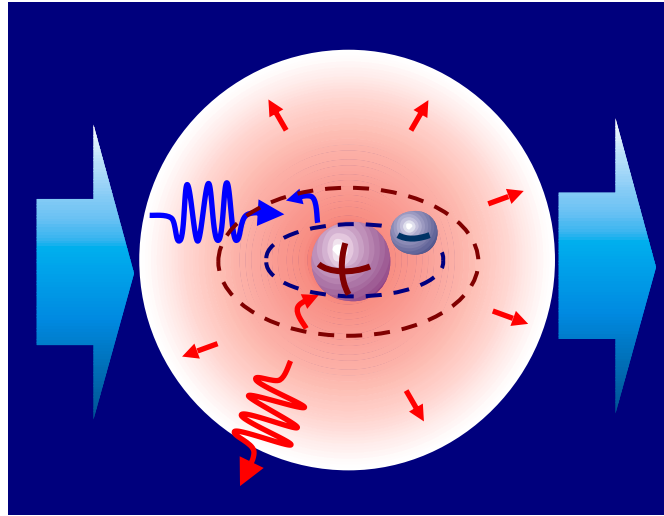


O. Astafiev, K. Inomata, A. O. Niskanen, T. Yamamoto, Yu. A. Pashkin, Y. Nakamura, J. S. Tsai. Single artificial-atom lasing, *Nature* **449**, 588 (2007)

Artificial atom in the open space

Atom in the open space

Light scattering by an atom



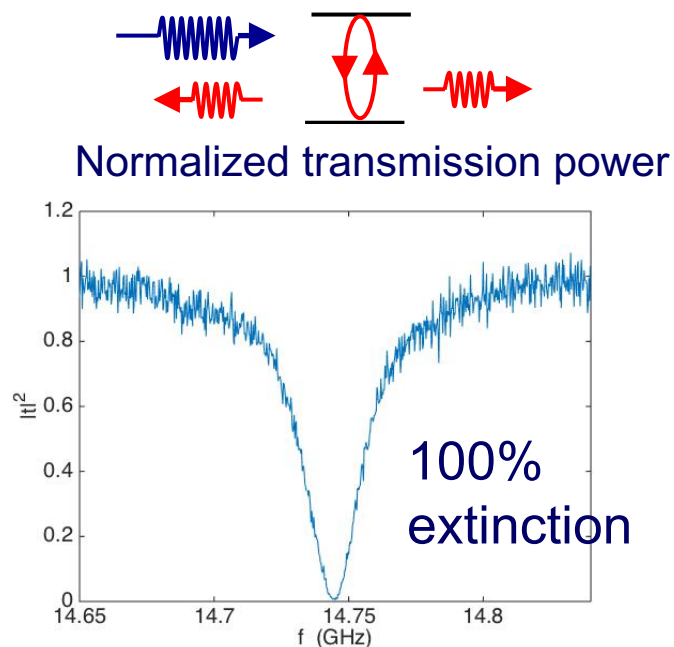
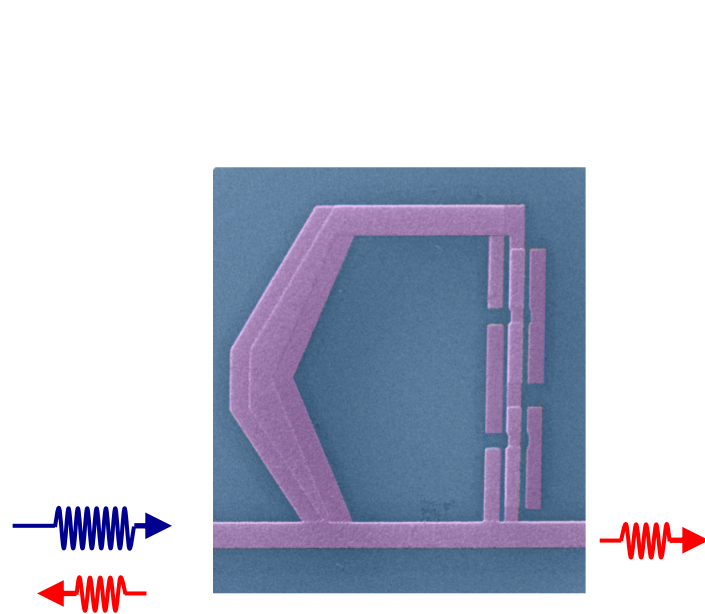
Artificial atoms are strongly coupled to electromagnetic waves
Natural atoms are weakly coupled to electromagnetic waves (weak scattering)

Strong scattering of propagating waves

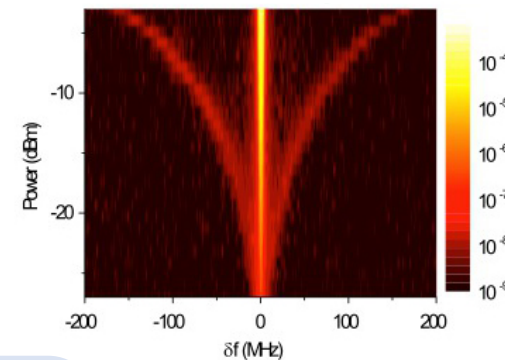
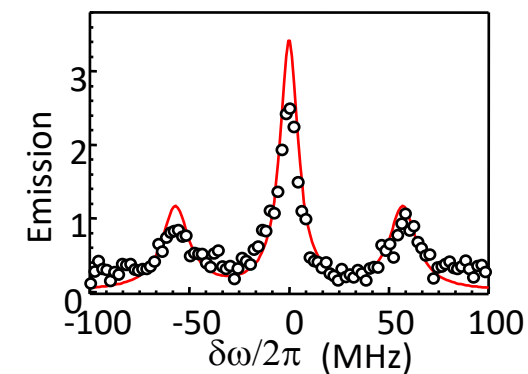
A series of very promising applications

O. Astafiev, A. M. Zagoskin, A.A. Abdumalikov, Yu. A. Pashkin, T. Yamamoto, K. Inomata, Y. Nakamura, and J.S. Tsai. Resonance fluorescence of a single artificial atom. *Science* **327** (2010).

Resonance Fluorescence with a single atom: Elastic and inelastic scattering



Inelastic scattering



The artificial atom **strongly** interacts with modes of 1D open space
↓
Promising candidate for quantum information processing with photons

Time domain measurements. Quantum state tomography

$$H = -\hbar\Omega(\cos\varphi\sigma_x + \sin\varphi\sigma_y)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt} \begin{pmatrix} \langle\sigma_x\rangle \\ \langle\sigma_y\rangle \\ \langle\sigma_z\rangle \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} -\gamma & 0 & -\Omega\sin\varphi \\ 0 & -\gamma & \Omega\cos\varphi \\ \Omega\sin\varphi & -\Omega\cos\varphi & -\Gamma \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \langle\sigma_x\rangle \\ \langle\sigma_y\rangle \\ \langle\sigma_z\rangle \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ -\Gamma \end{pmatrix}$$

Coherent emission:

$$I_{emit}(t) = i \frac{\hbar\Gamma}{\phi_p} \langle\sigma^-\rangle e^{-i\omega t}$$

$$\langle\sigma^\pm\rangle = \langle\sigma_x\rangle \pm i\langle\sigma_y\rangle$$

$$\text{Re}[I_{emit}] = \frac{\hbar\Gamma}{\phi_p} (\langle\sigma_y\rangle \cos\omega t + \langle\sigma_x\rangle \sin\omega t)$$

Incoherent emission:

$$P = \frac{\hbar\omega}{T} \rho_{11} = \frac{\hbar\omega}{T} \frac{\langle\sigma_z\rangle + 1}{2}$$

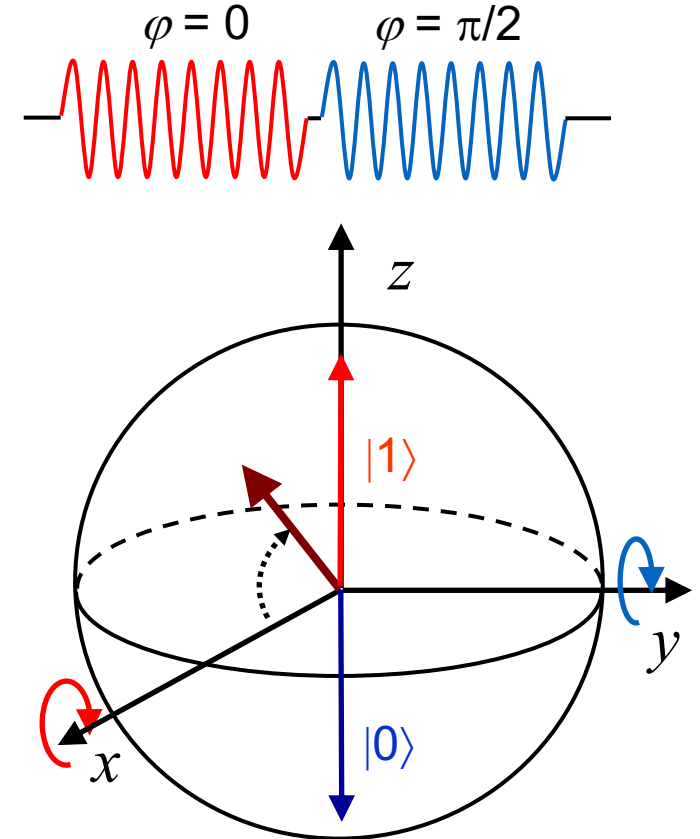
Max coherent emission

$$\sqrt{\langle\sigma_x\rangle^2 + \langle\sigma_y\rangle^2} = 1 \Rightarrow \frac{|0\rangle + e^{i\varphi}|1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Max incoherent emission

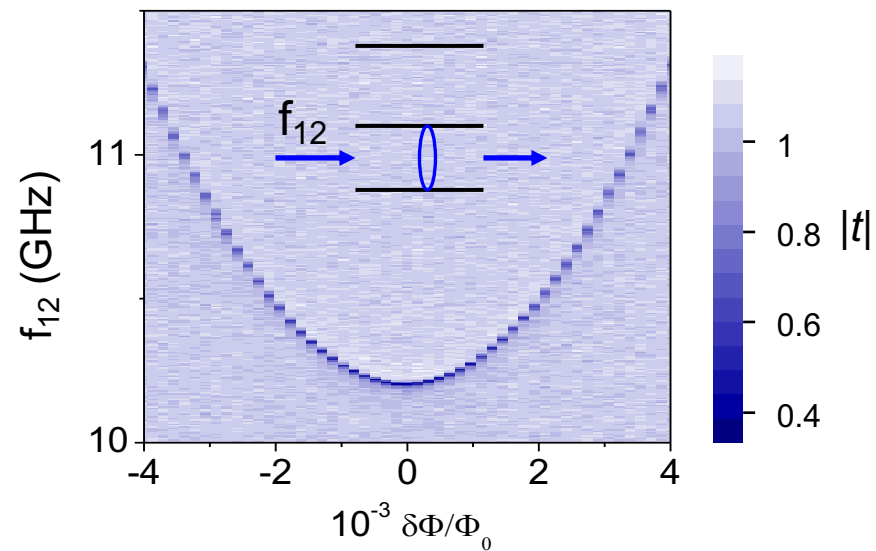
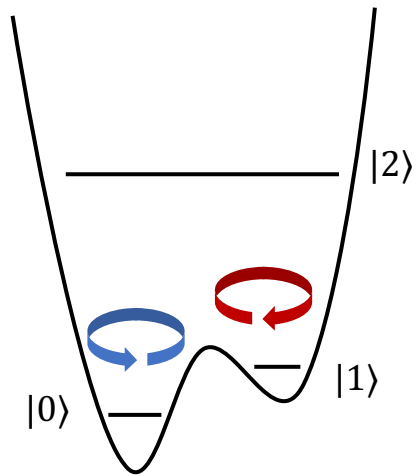
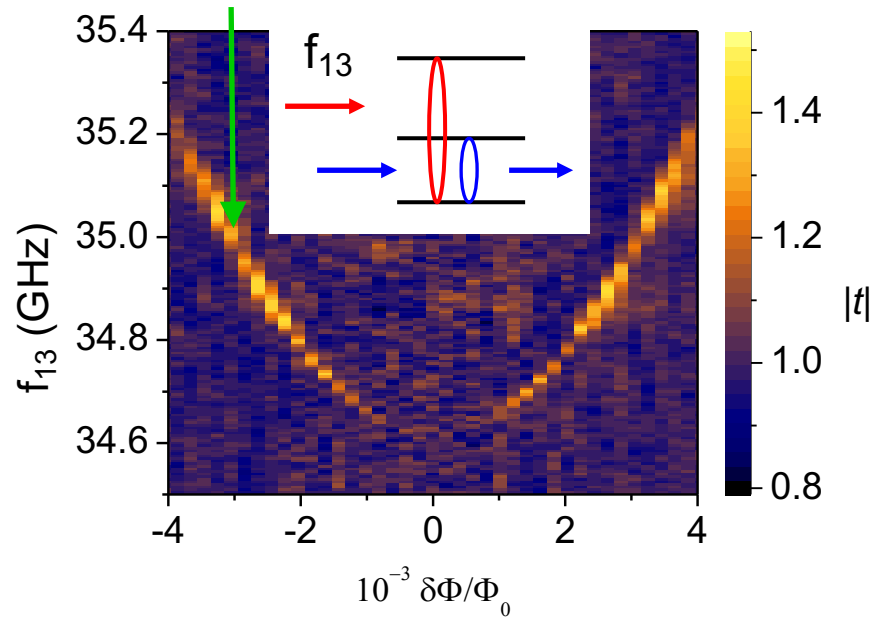
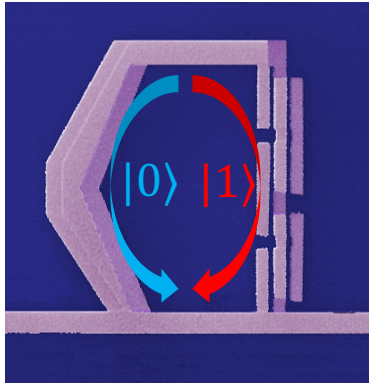
$$\langle\sigma_z\rangle = 1 \Rightarrow \rho_{11} = 1 \Rightarrow |1\rangle$$

State manipulation

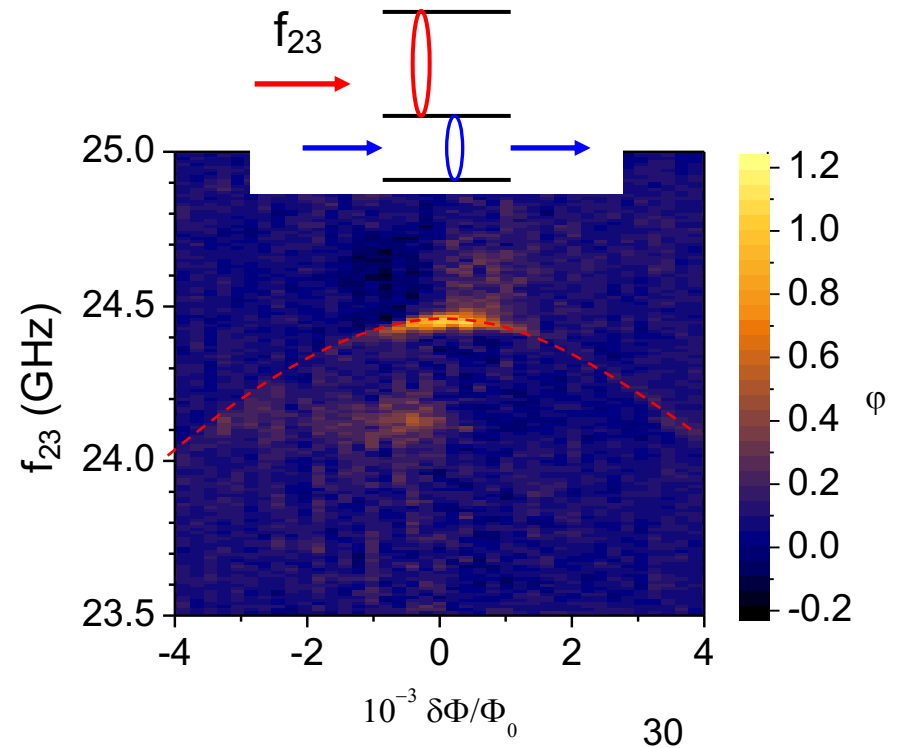


Two-frequency spectroscopy of three-level atom

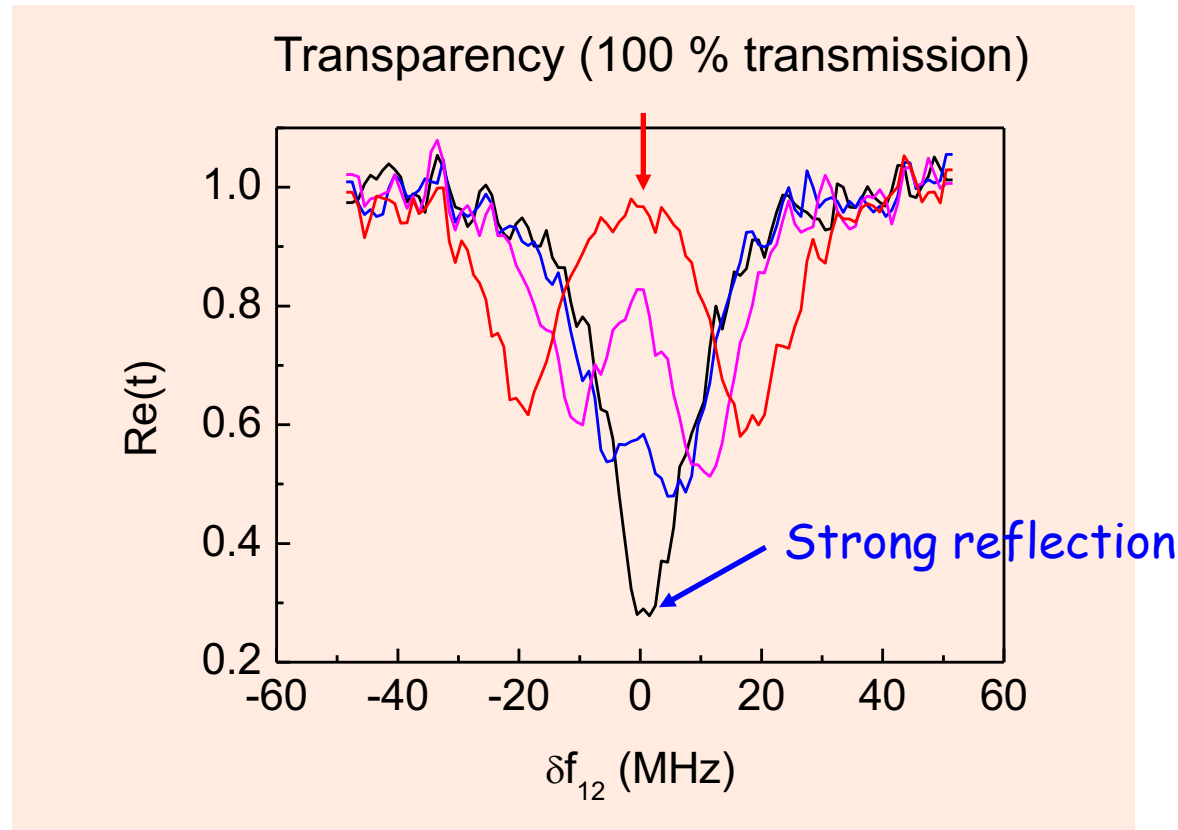
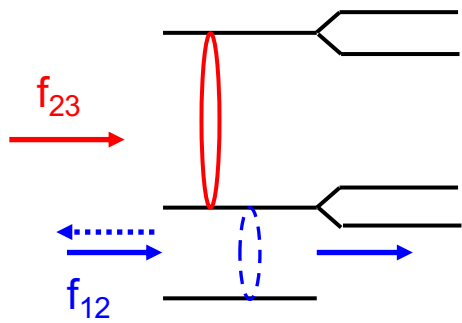
$1 \rightarrow 3$ is allowed



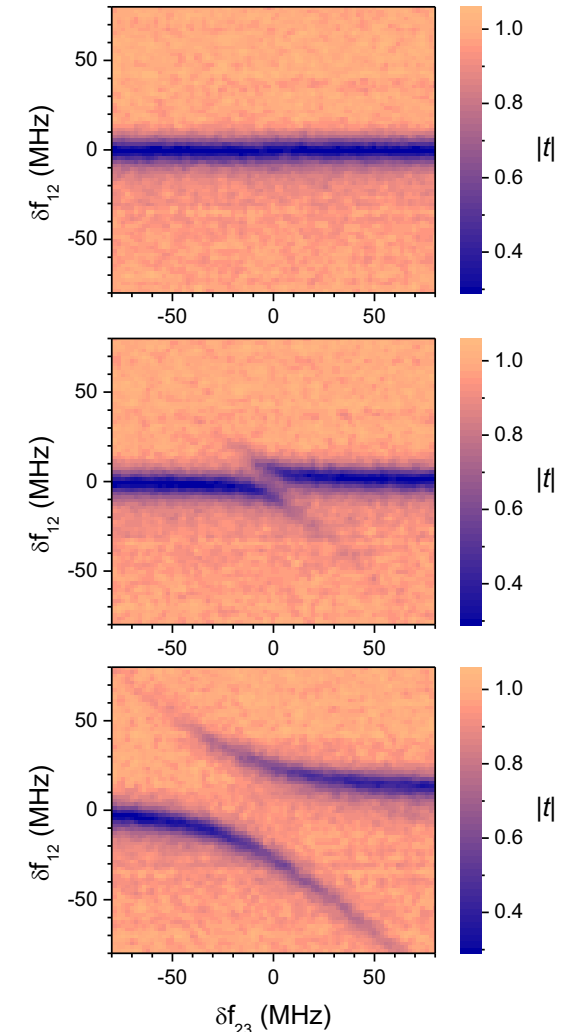
Transmission coefficient at different driving conditions



Electromagnetically induced transparency

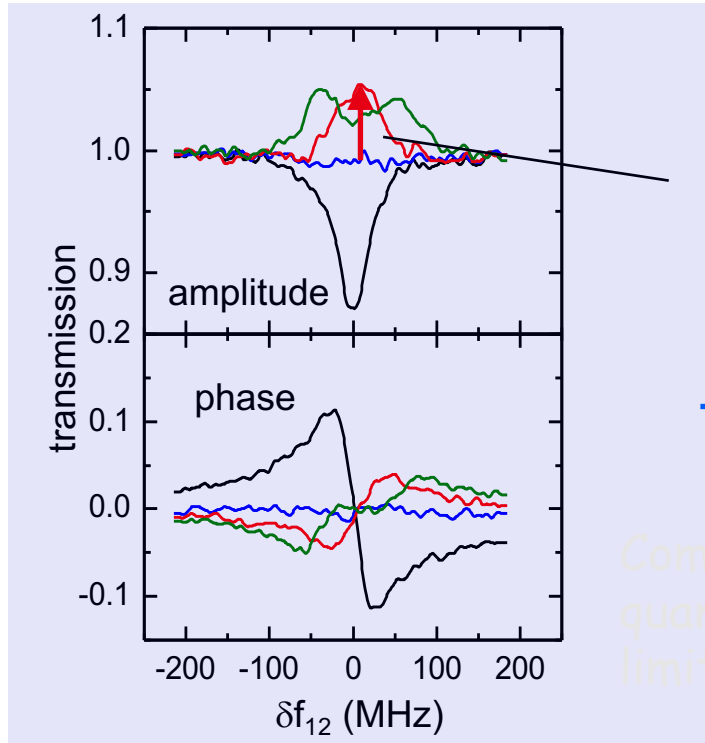
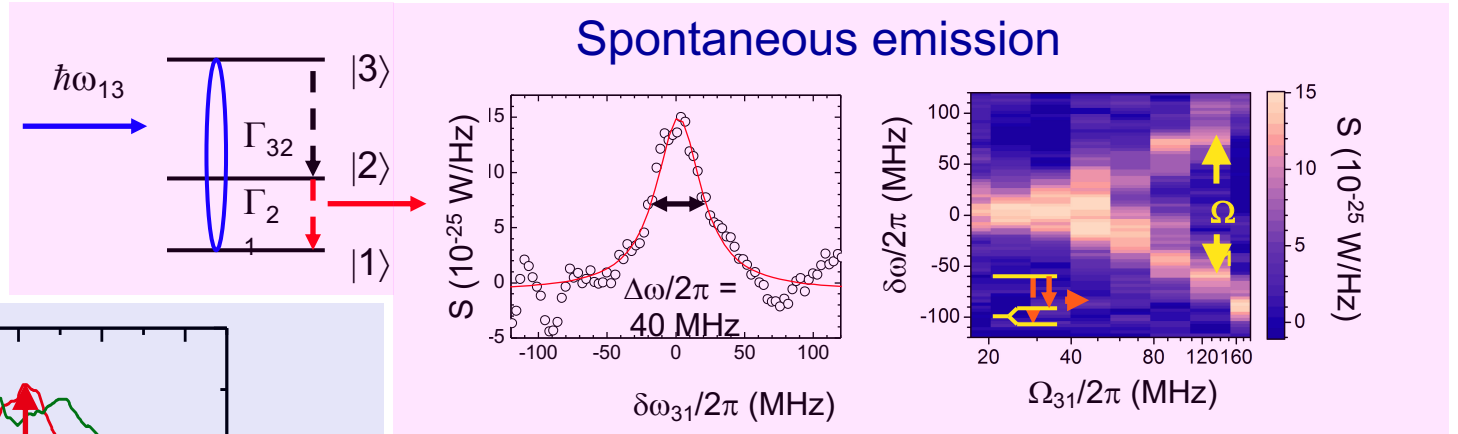
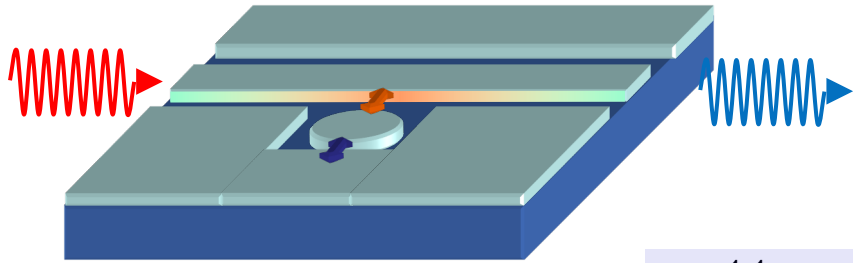


On-chip switchers, computation

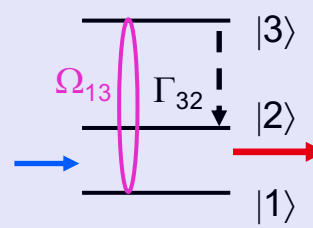


A. Abdumalikov, **O. V. Astafiev**, A. M. Zagoskin, Yu. A. Pashkin, T. Yamamoto, K. Inomata, Y. Nakamura, and J.S. Tsai. Electromagnetically Induced Transparency on a Single Artificial Atom. [Phys. Rev. Lett 104, 193601 \(2010\)](#).

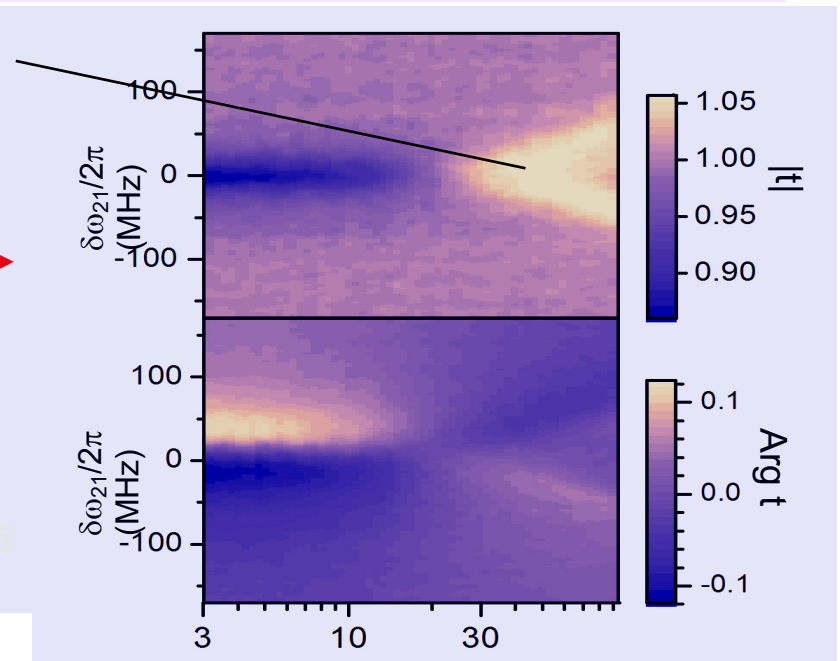
Ultimate (single atom) on-chip quantum amplifier



Amplification

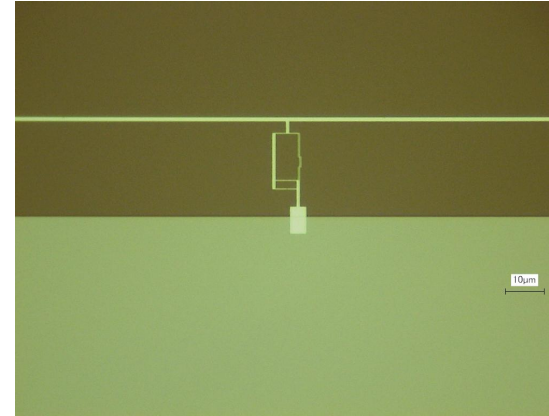
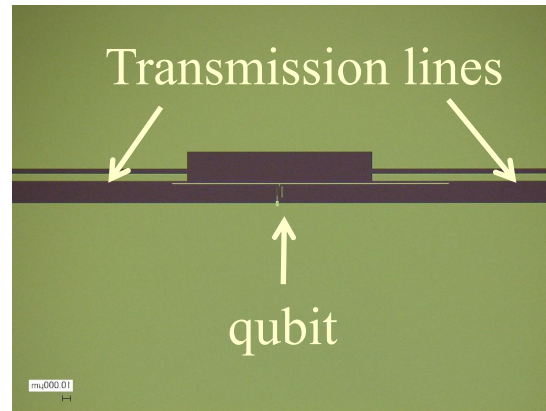
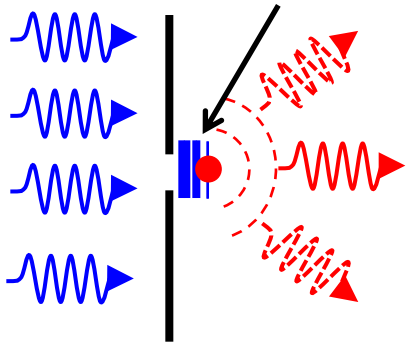


Compact on-chip
quantum-noise
limited amplifiers



Tunable on-demand single-photon source

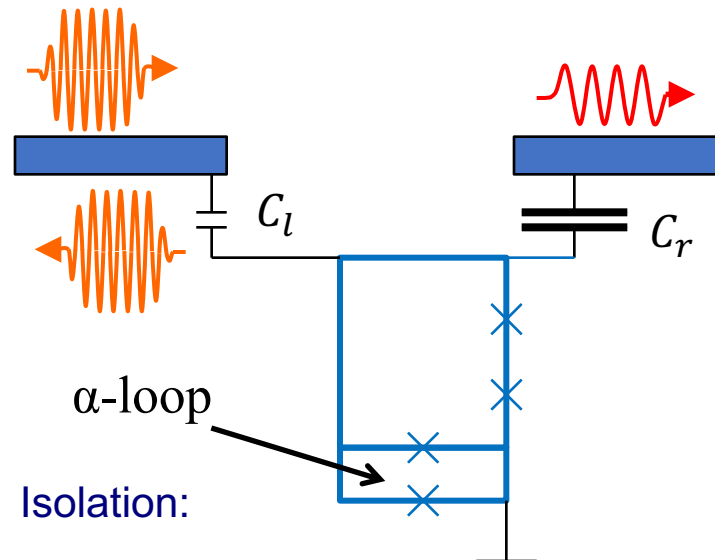
Photon can encode information \Leftrightarrow quantum simulators with photons \Rightarrow Boson sampling



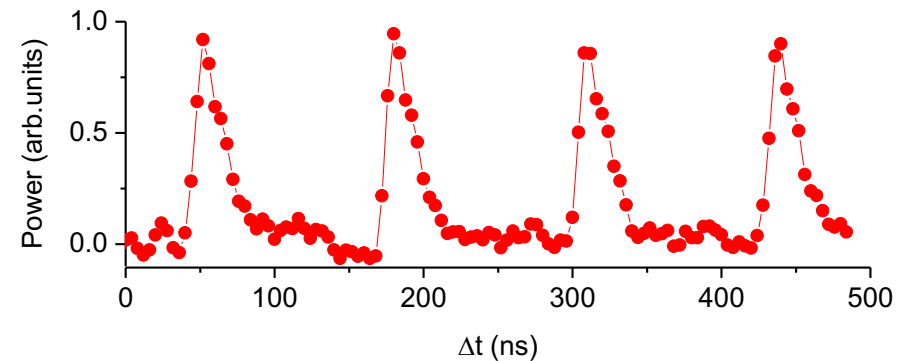
Recently demonstrated
photon generation efficiency:
> 98%

Photon mission to
the right line is
proportional to

$$1 - \left(\frac{C_l}{C_r}\right)^2$$

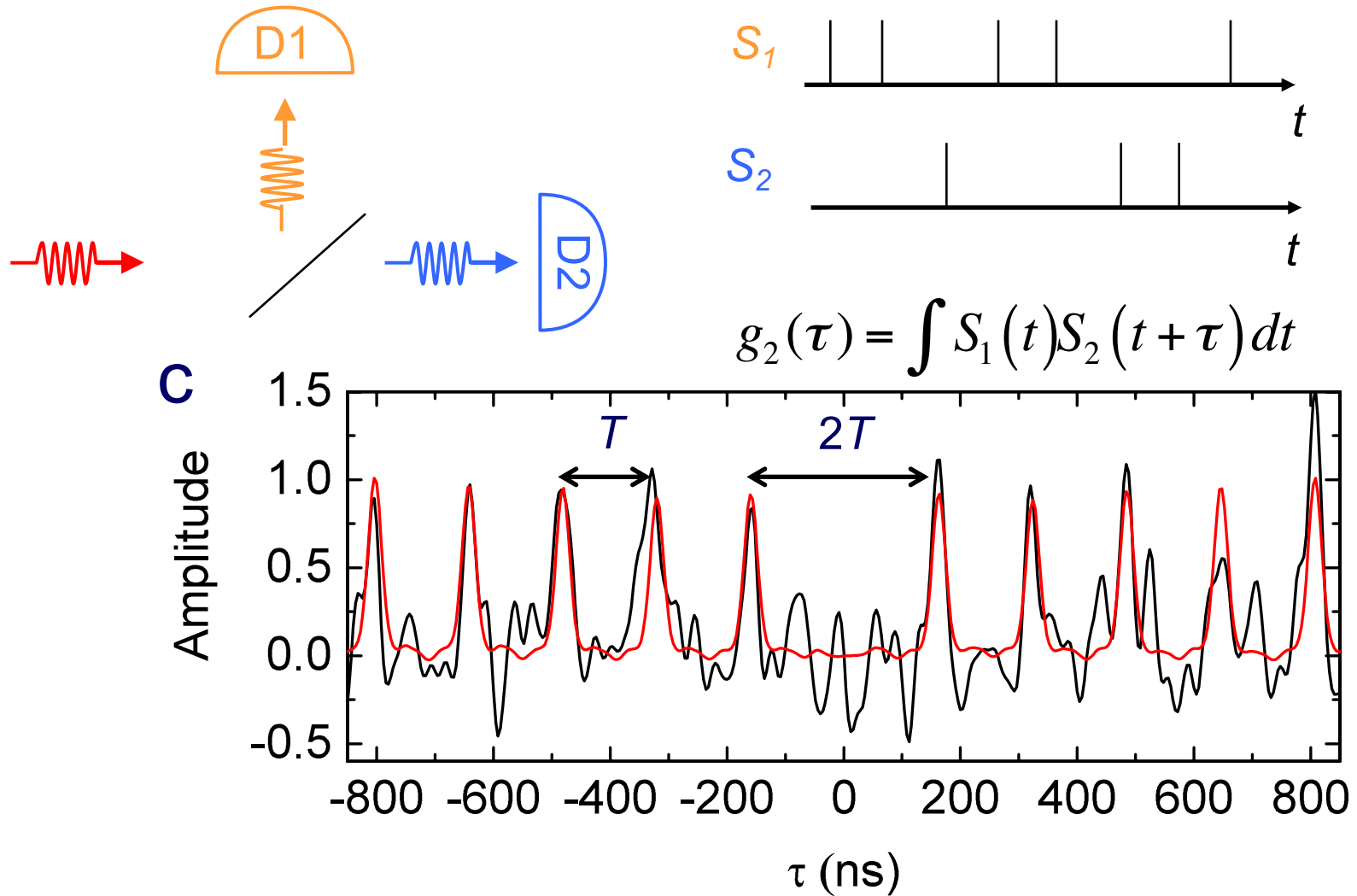


Averaged photons



Nature Communications 7, 12588 (2016).

Second order correlation function



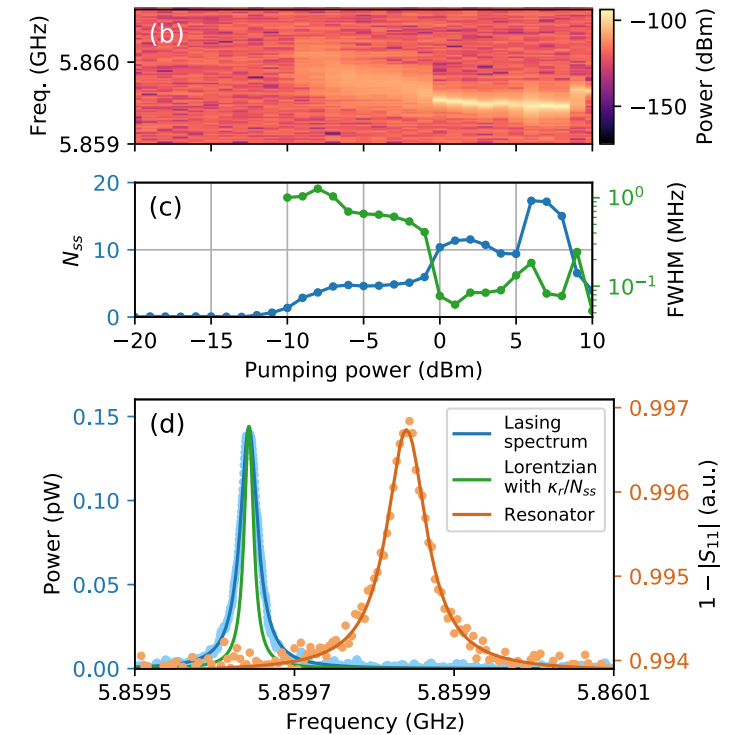
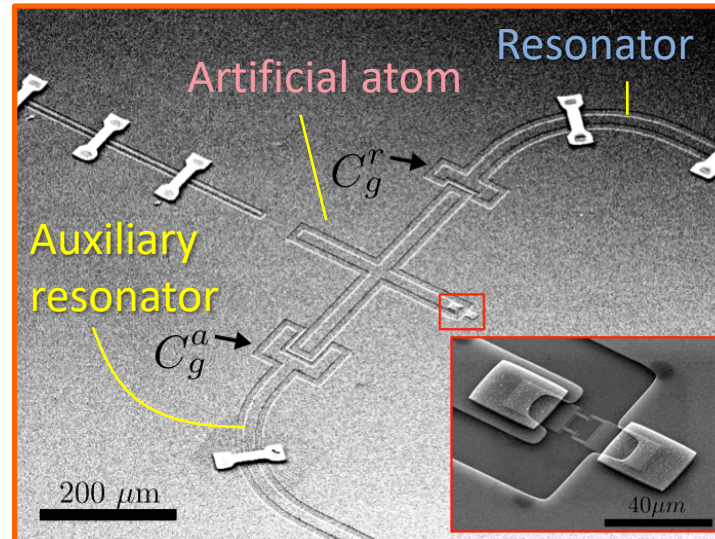
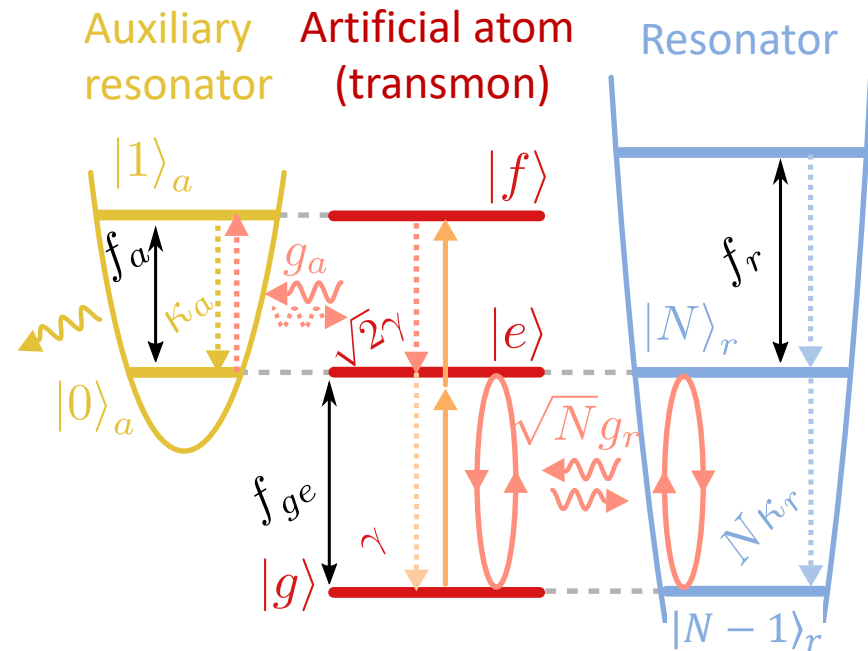
10¹⁰ traces: Took a month of averaging!

Quantum engineering: Lasing with an artificial atom

Atomic transition $|f\rangle \rightarrow |e\rangle$ is enhanced via an auxiliary resonator

Circuit

Experimental data



Sokolova, A. A., Fedorov, G. P., Il'ichev, E. V., & Astafiev, O. V. (2021). Single-atom maser with an engineered circuit for population inversion. *Physical Review A*, 103(1), 013718

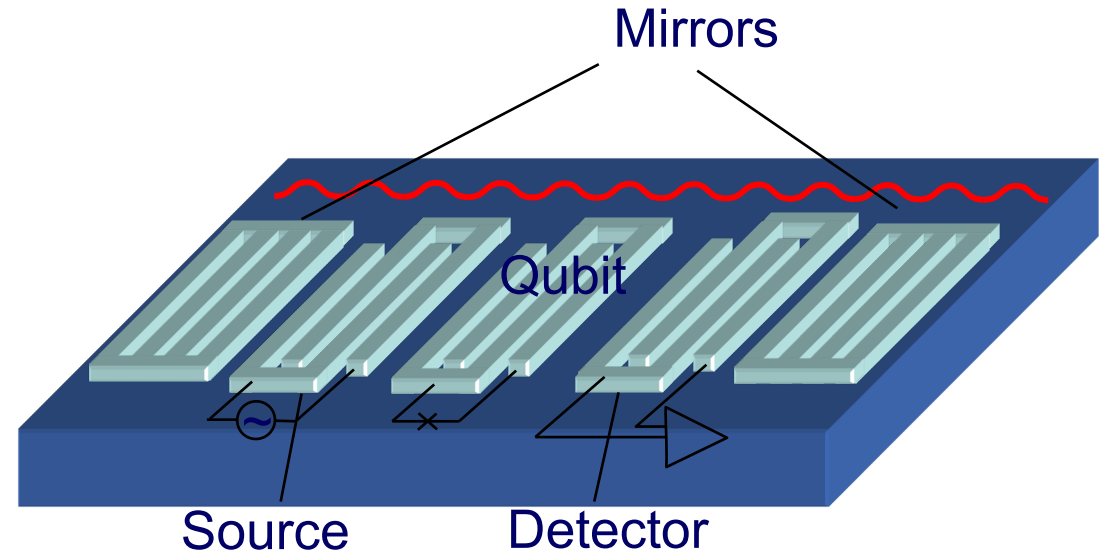
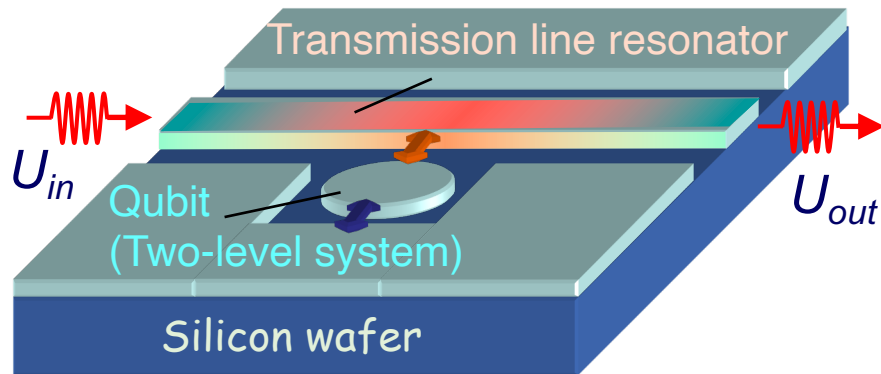
Quantum Acoustodynamics

Coupling of a superconducting two-level system to a quantized vacuum mode of a surface acoustic wave (SAW) resonator

A. N. Bolgar, J. I. Zotova, D. D. Kirichenko, I. S. Besedin, A. V. Semenov, R. S. Shaikhaidarov, and O. V. Astafiev. Quantum regime of a two-dimensional phonon cavity. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **120**, 223603 (2018).

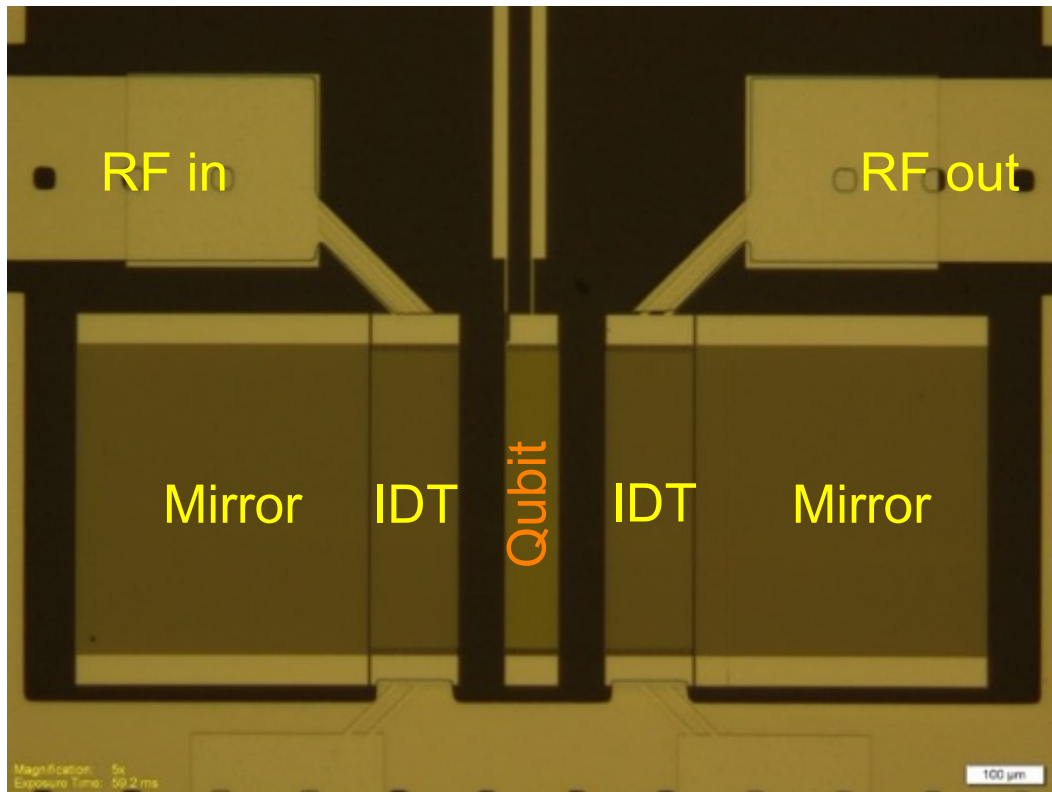
Why Acoustics?

Cavity and Circuit QED

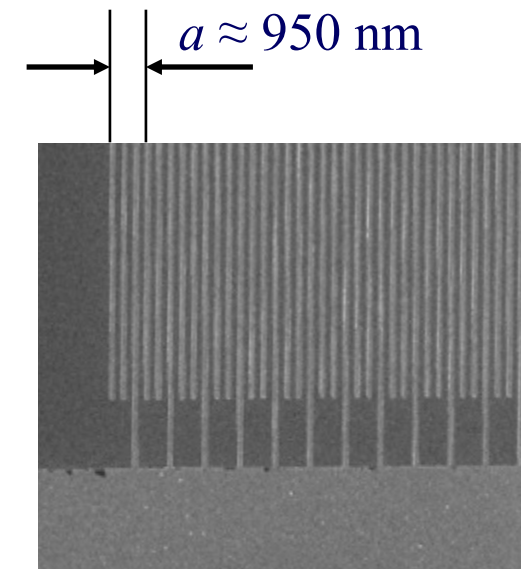


- Quantum mechanics becomes true quantum mechanics
- New physics
- Speed of sound 3000 m/s => compact elements
- 2D-geometry

Device geometry



Split gate geometry



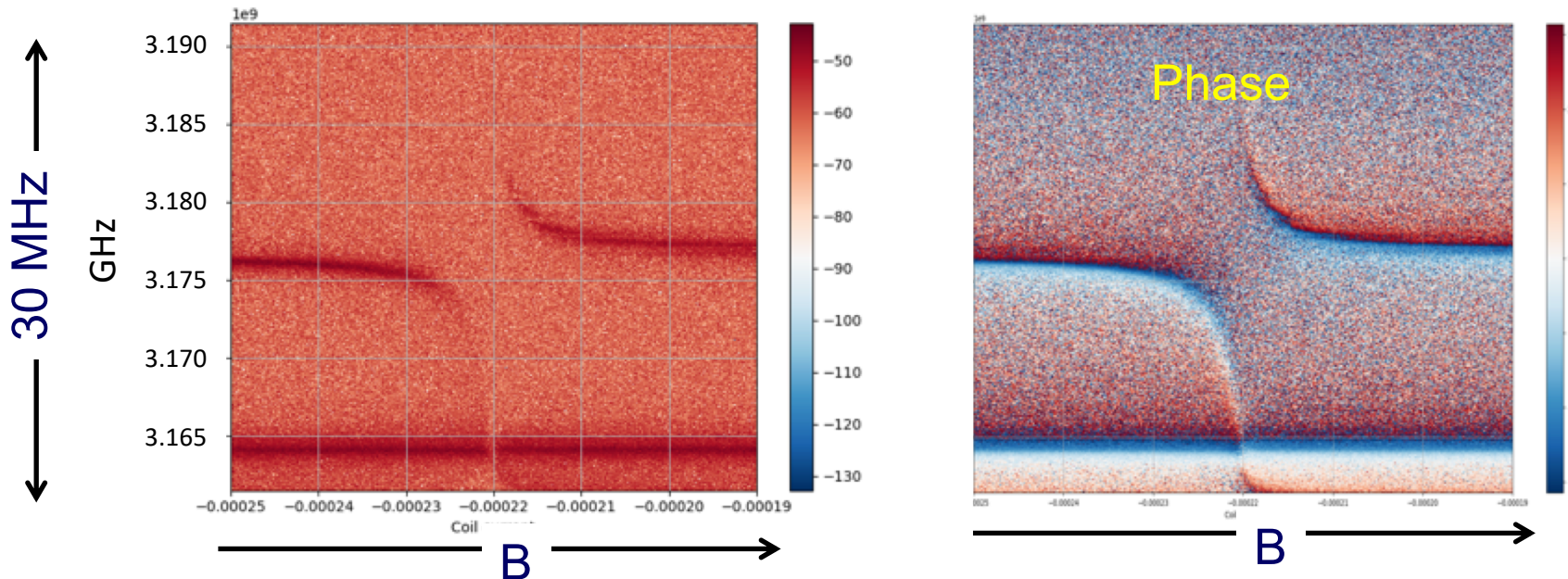
Technologically extremely challenging

Interaction between an artificial atom and a SAW resonator

Interaction of acoustic resonator with a superconducting artificial atom

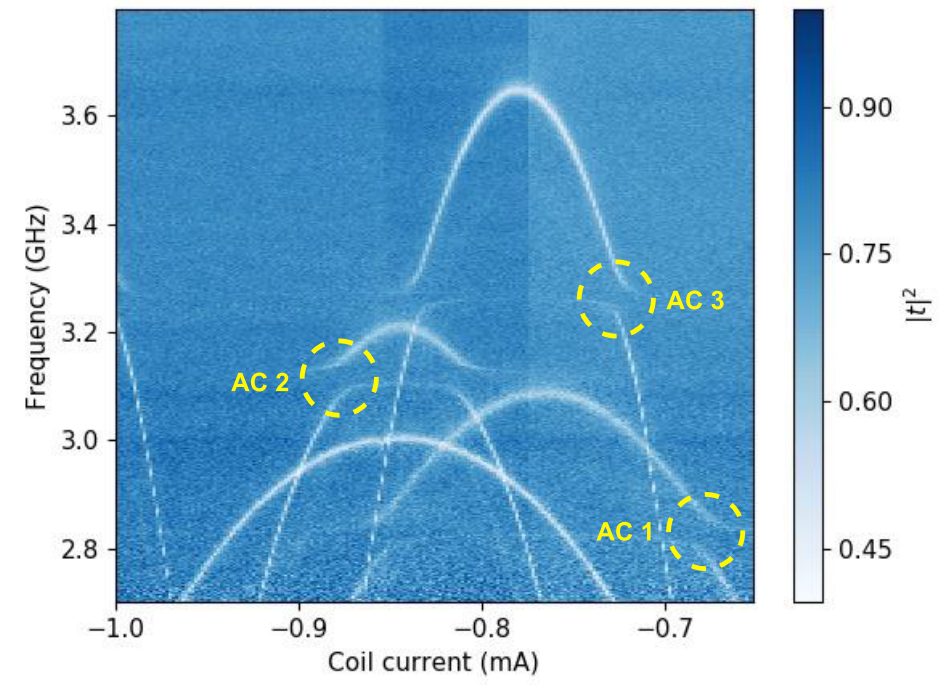
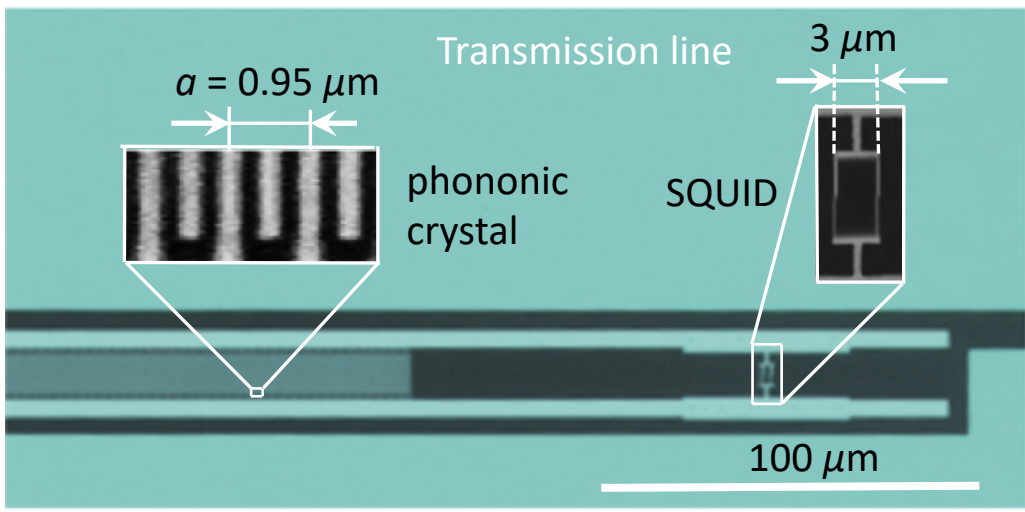
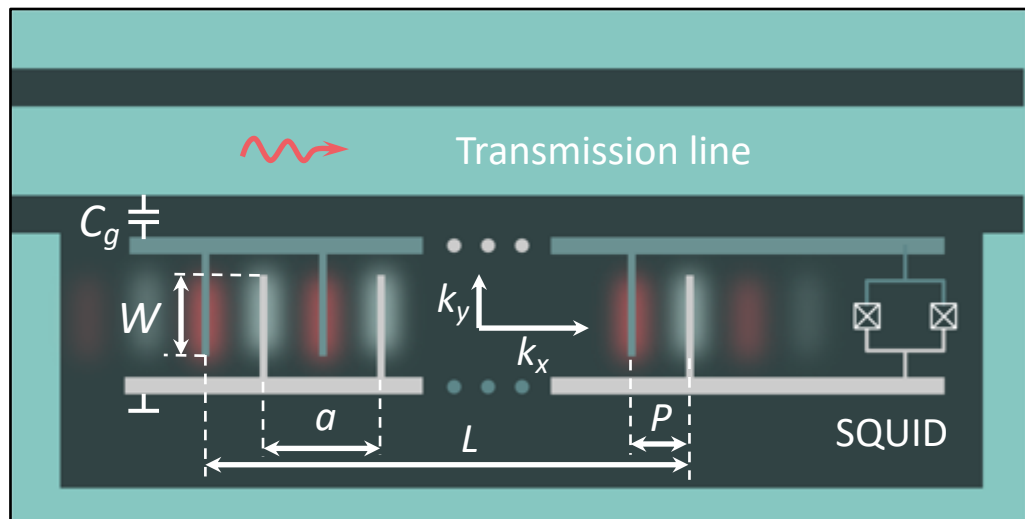
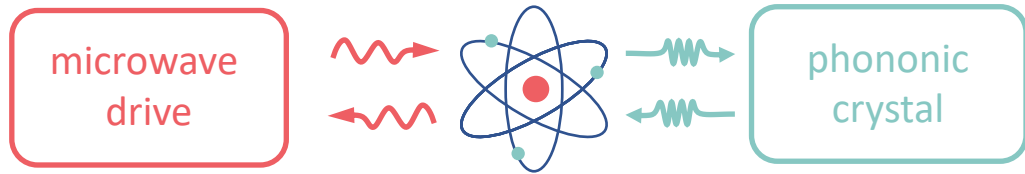
$$H_{JC} = -\frac{\Delta E}{2}\sigma_z + \hbar\omega_r b^\dagger b + g(b\sigma^+ + b^\dagger\sigma^-)$$

b^\dagger (b) – phonon creation (annihilation) operators

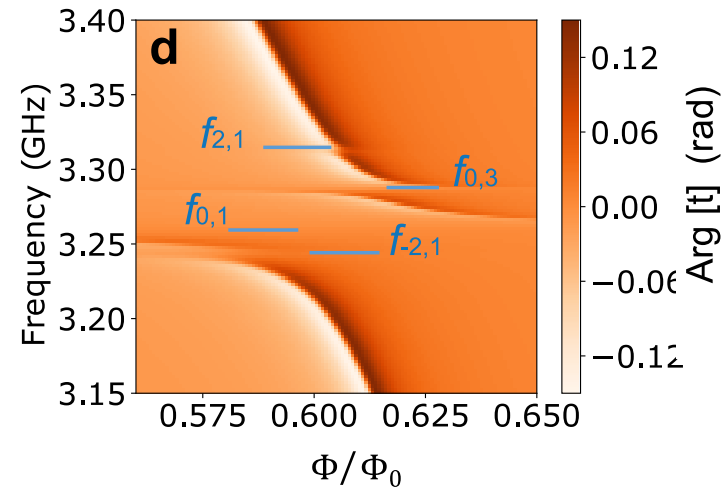
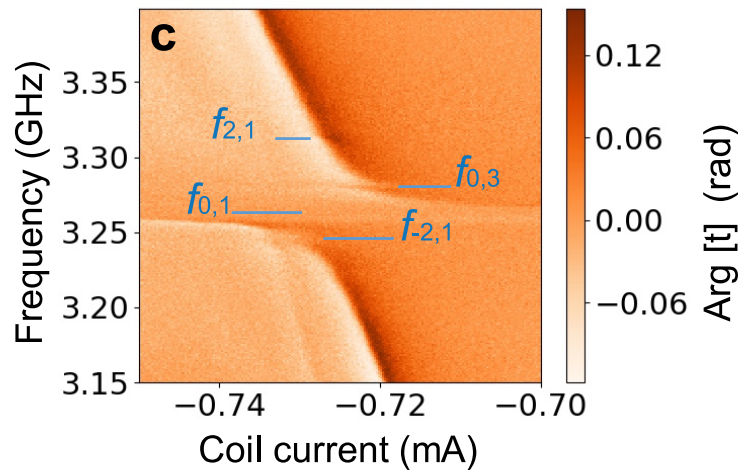
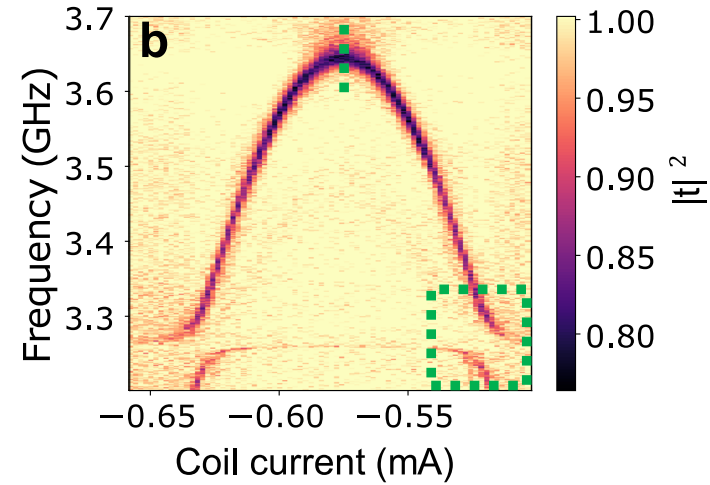
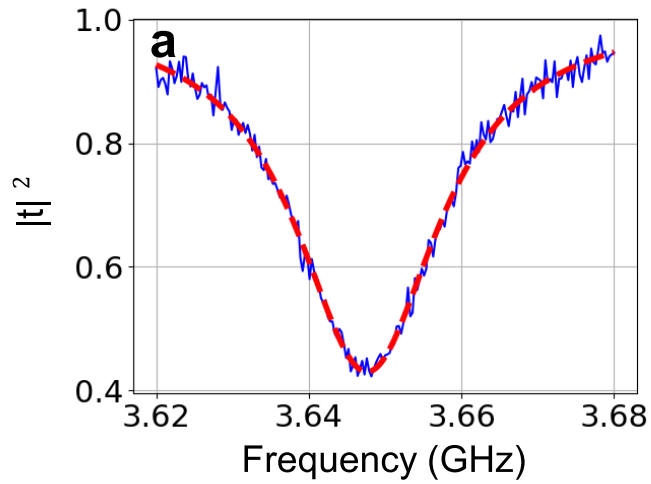


Coupling strength: $2g = 26$ MHz

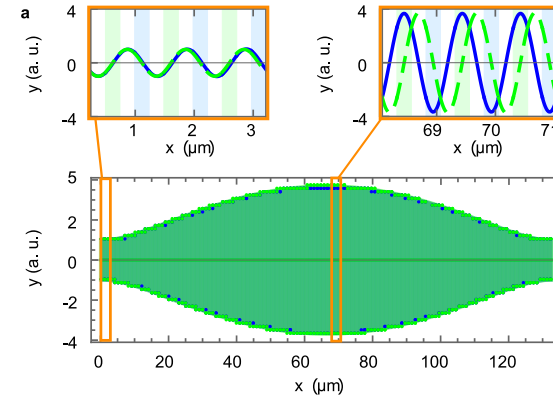
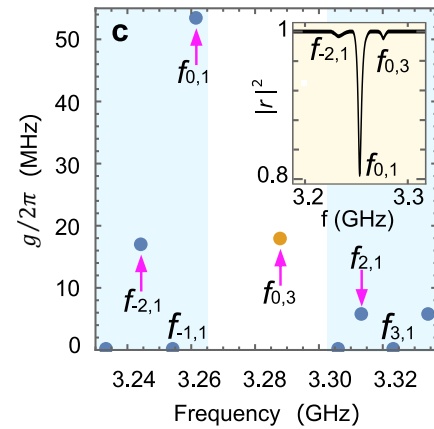
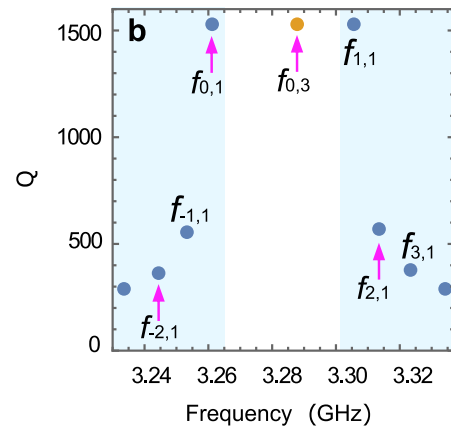
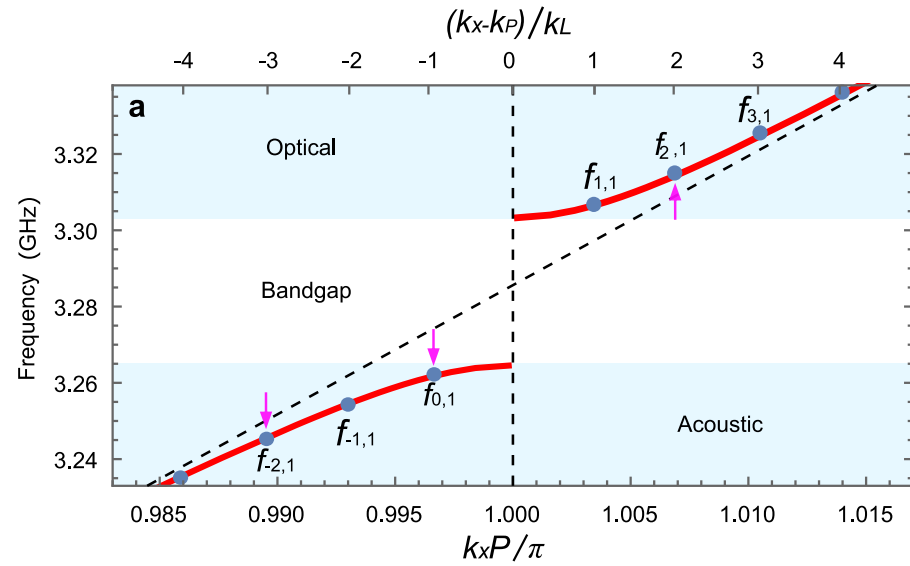
A. N. Bolgar, J. I. Zotova, D. D. Kirichenko, I. S. Besedin, A. V. Semenov, R. S. Shaikhaidarov, and O. V. Astafiev. Quantum regime of a two-dimensional phonon cavity. *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **120**, 223603 (2018).



Spectra



Phononic crystal modes



b

Mode	k_x	f (GHz)	$\frac{g}{2\pi}$ (MHz)	Re(V), a.u.	Im(V), a.u.	Energy density, a.u.
2,1	$2k_L$	3.313	6			
1,1	k_L	3.306	0			
0,1	$-k_L$	3.262	53			
-1,1	$-2k_L$	3.253	0			
-2,1	$-3k_L$	3.244	16			
0,3	$-k_L$	3.287	18			

Coherent Quantum Phase Slip (CQPS) AC CQPS effect

- *Nature* **484**, no. 7394 (2012): 355-358.
- *Nature Physics* **14**, no. 6 (2018): 590-594.
- *Nature* **608**, 45–49 (2022).

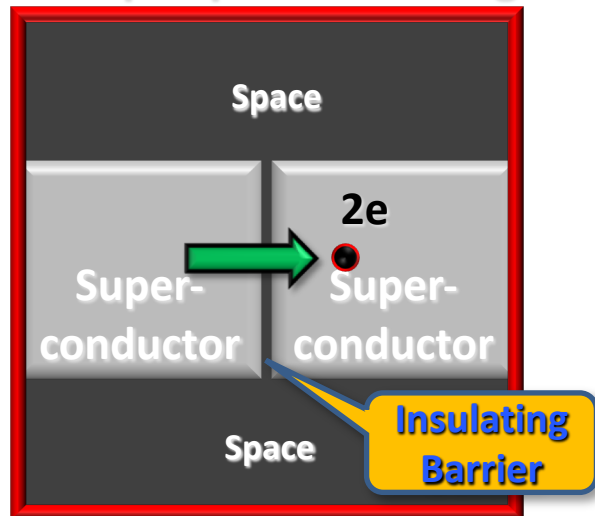
Coherent Phase Slip effect

Josephson Effect: Cooper pair tunneling

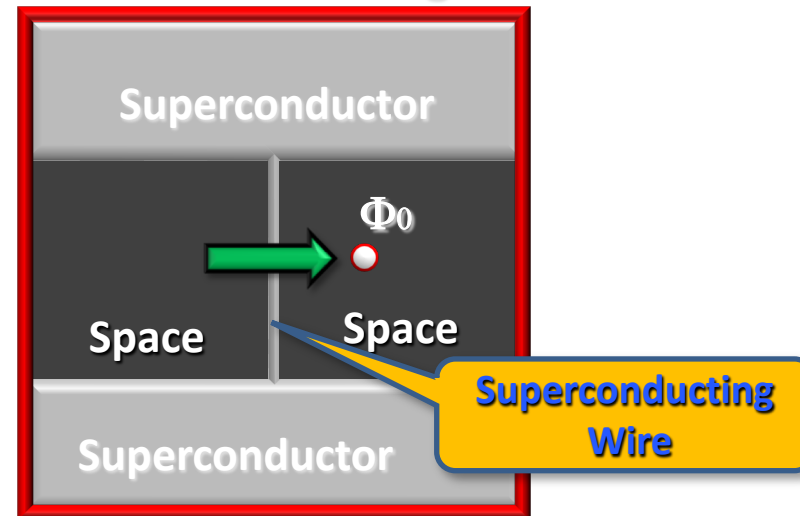
CQPS: magnetic flux quanta tunneling (phase slips)

CQPS is dual to the Josephson effect

Cooper pair tunneling

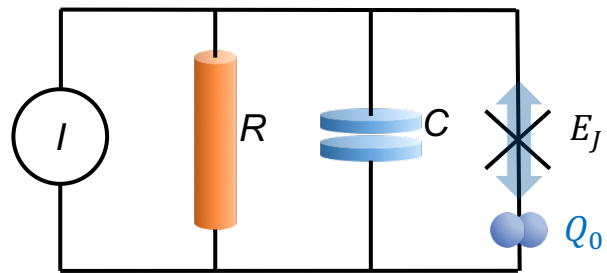
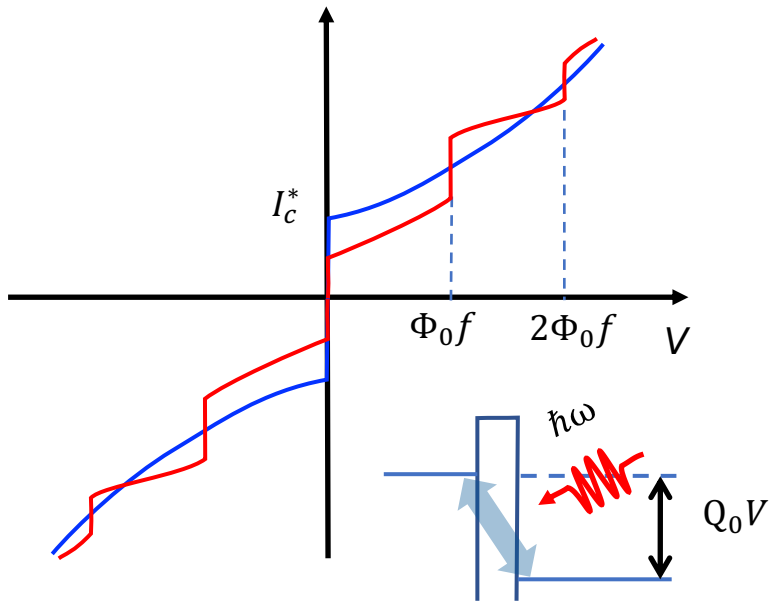


Flux tunneling

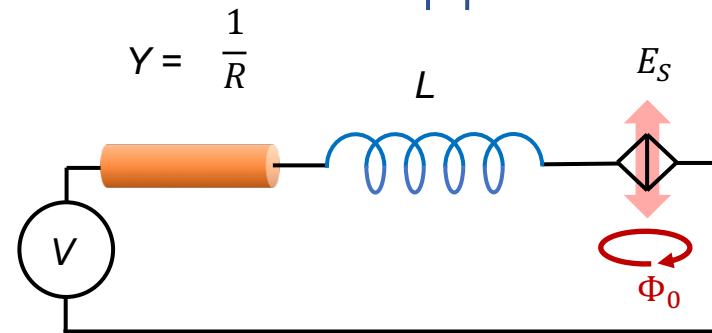
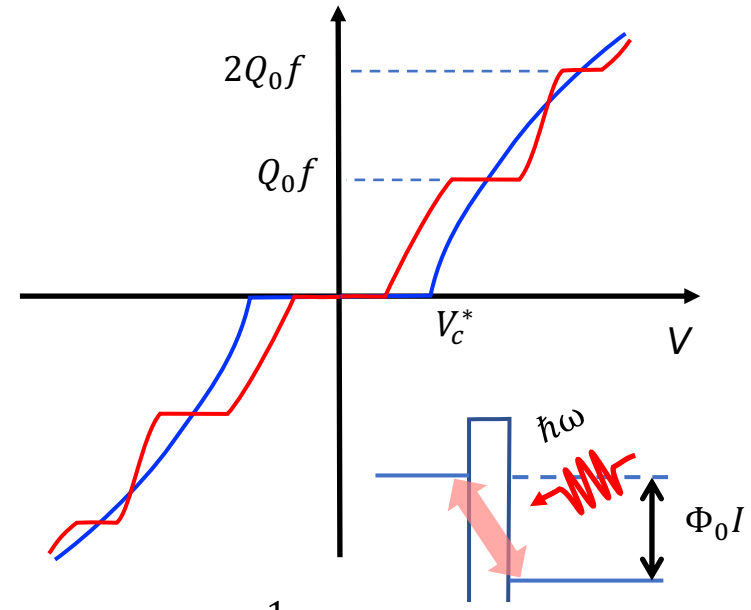


Duality between the Josephson effect and CQPS

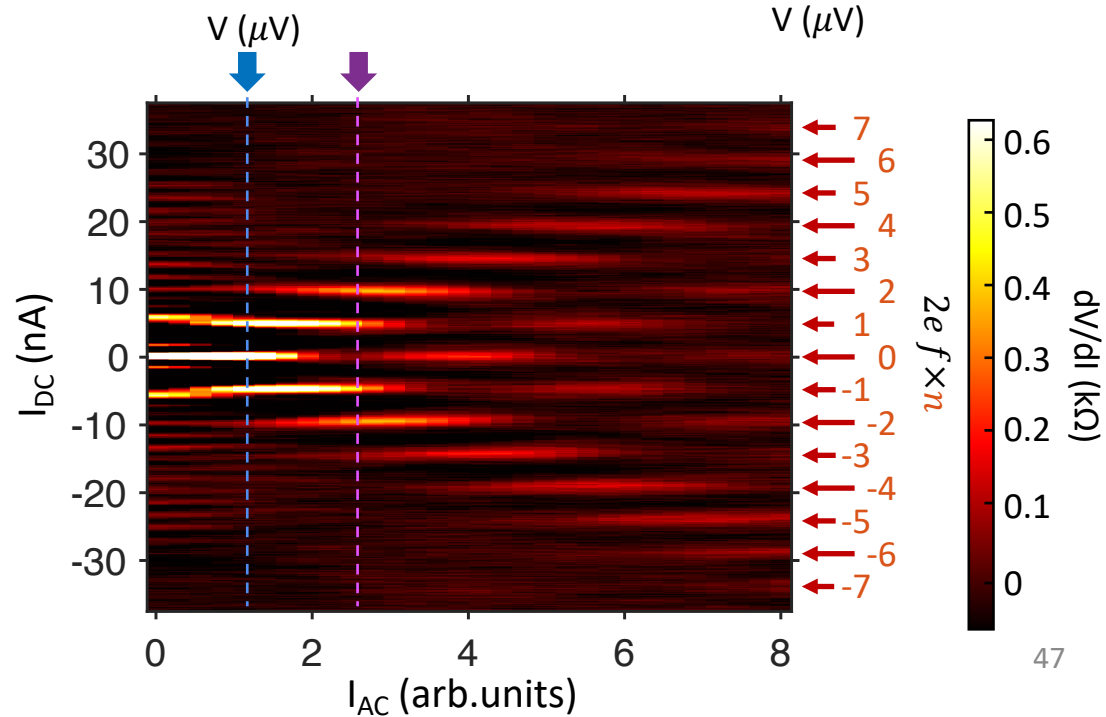
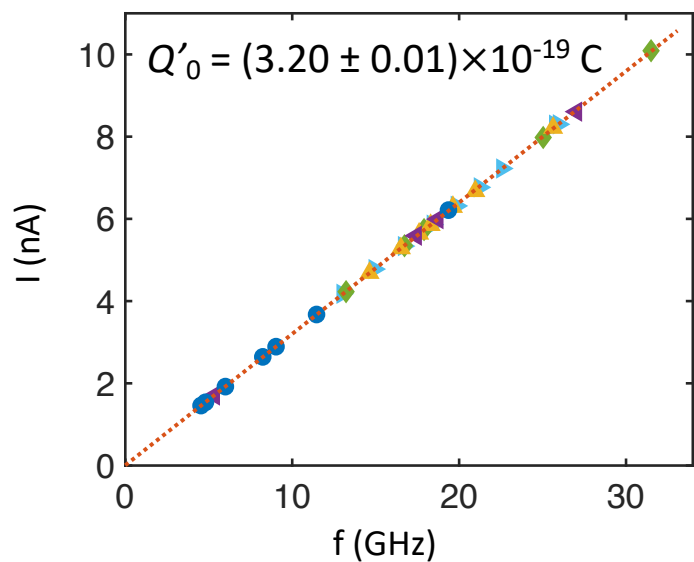
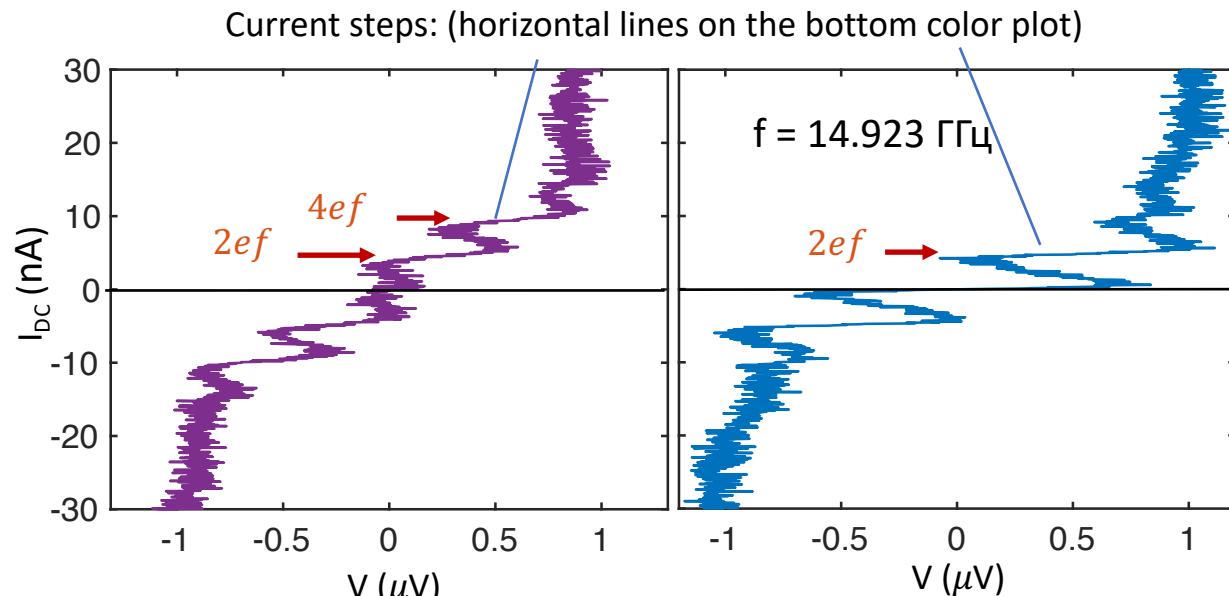
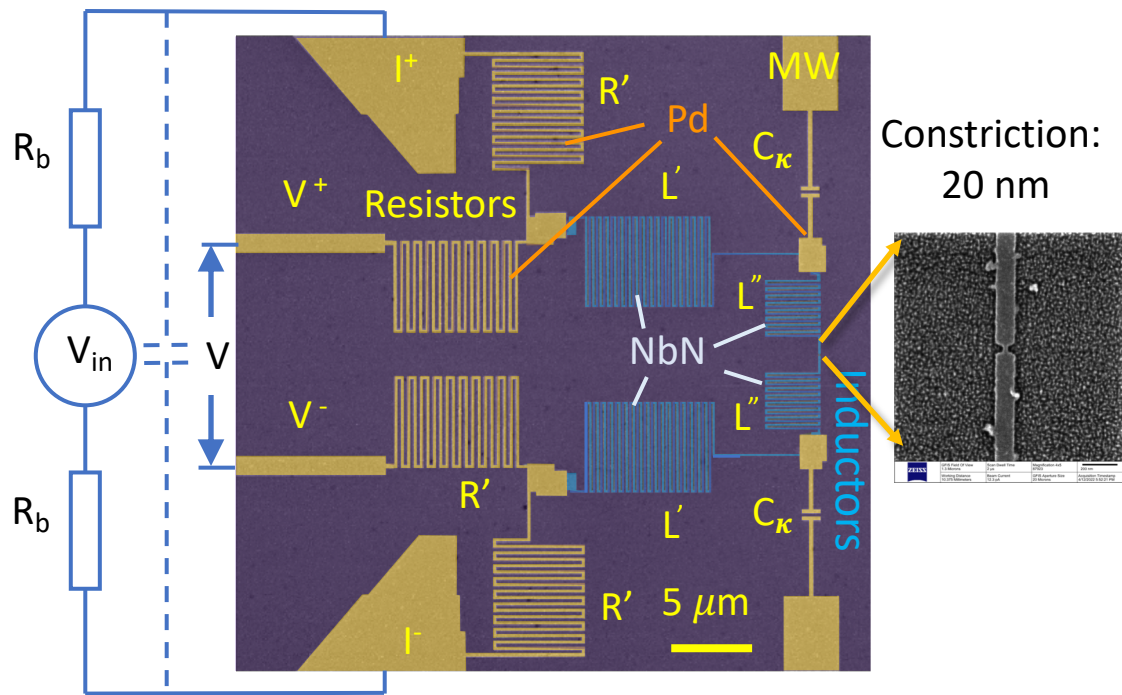
Josephson junction



CQPS



AC CQPS effect



Quantum metrology: current standard

Josephson effect \Leftrightarrow Coherent Quantum Phase slip Effect

Shapiro steps:

Voltage standards $V_n = n\Phi_0 f$

Quantum Hall effect (resistances steps)

Resistance standard

$$R_n = n \frac{h}{e^2}$$

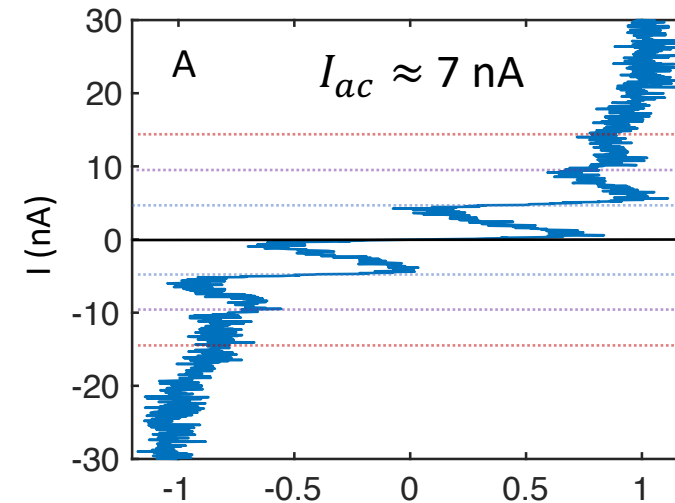
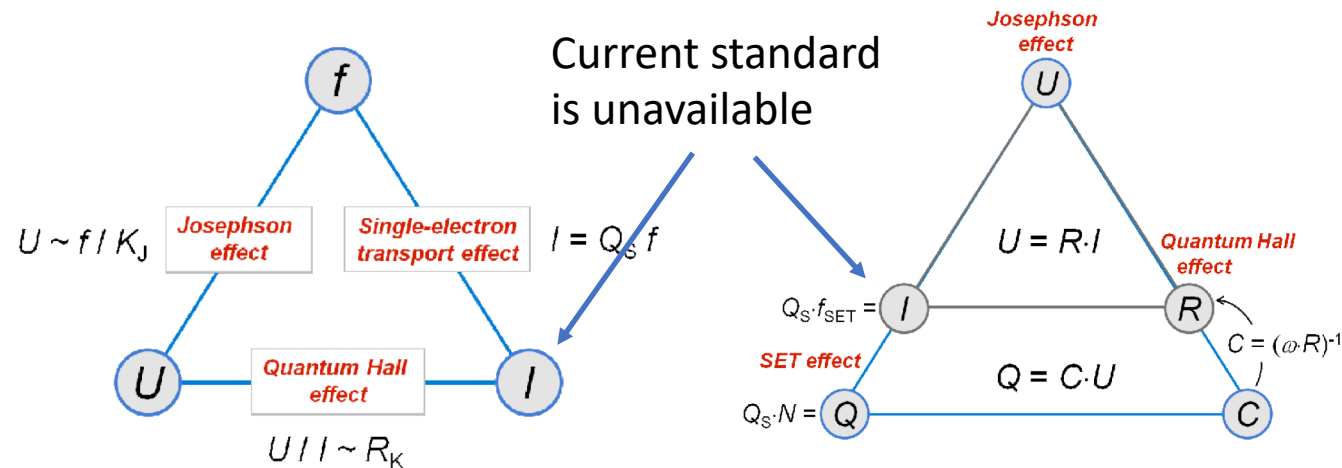
Inverse Shapiro steps:

Current standards:

$$I_n = nQ_0 f$$

$$Q_0 = 2e$$

Metrology triangle



Conclusion

- Superconducting Quantum Technologies:
wide range of research directions and applications (MW photonics)
- We are doing a research in the following directions:
 - Quantum processors (simulators)
 - Quantum optics in the MW range
 - Quantum acoustics
 - Quantum sensing and metrology