

Superconducting qubits

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Y. Nakamura, Y. Pashkin

Funding 2002 -- 2005: NSA, ARDA, AFOSR, NSF

Funding 2006 --: NSA, LPS, ARO, NSF, JST

Quick overview (just three slides!) of several types of superconducting qubits

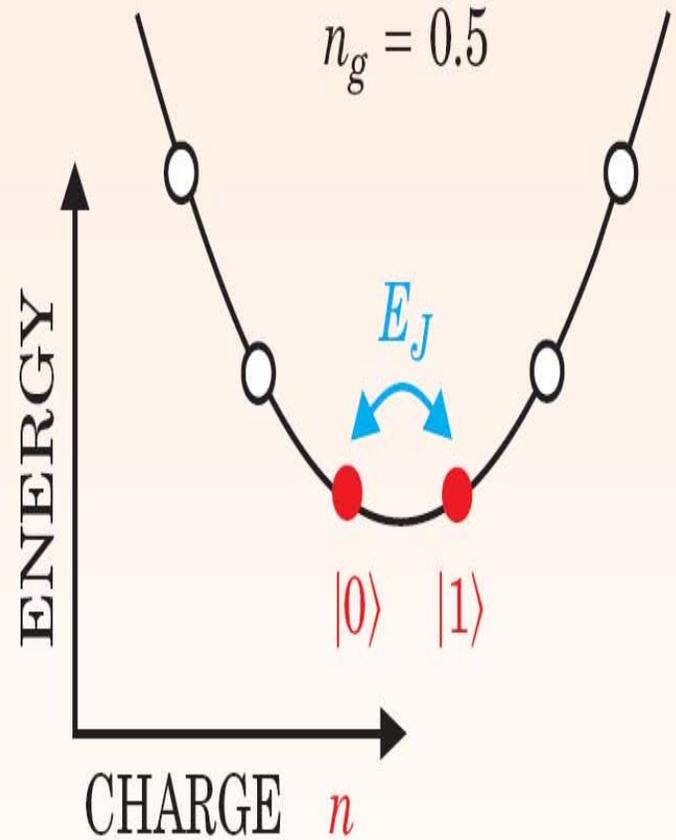
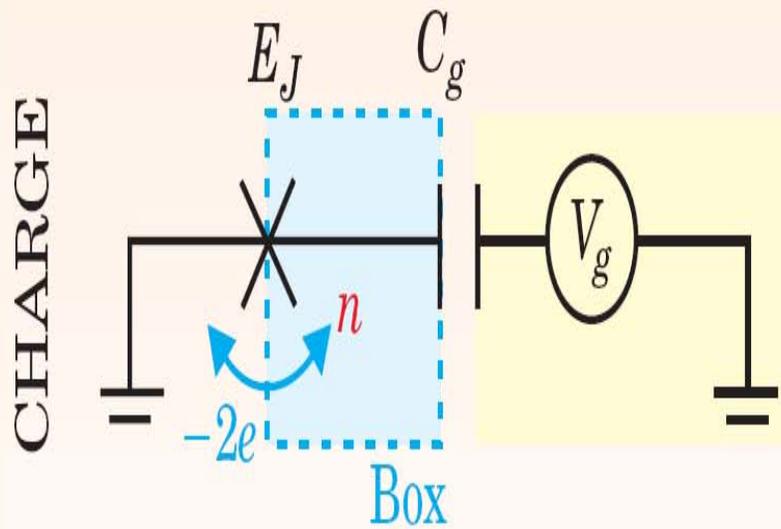
The following figures are taken from the short review in:

You and Nori, *Physics Today* (November 2005)

(complimentary color reprints available after this talk)

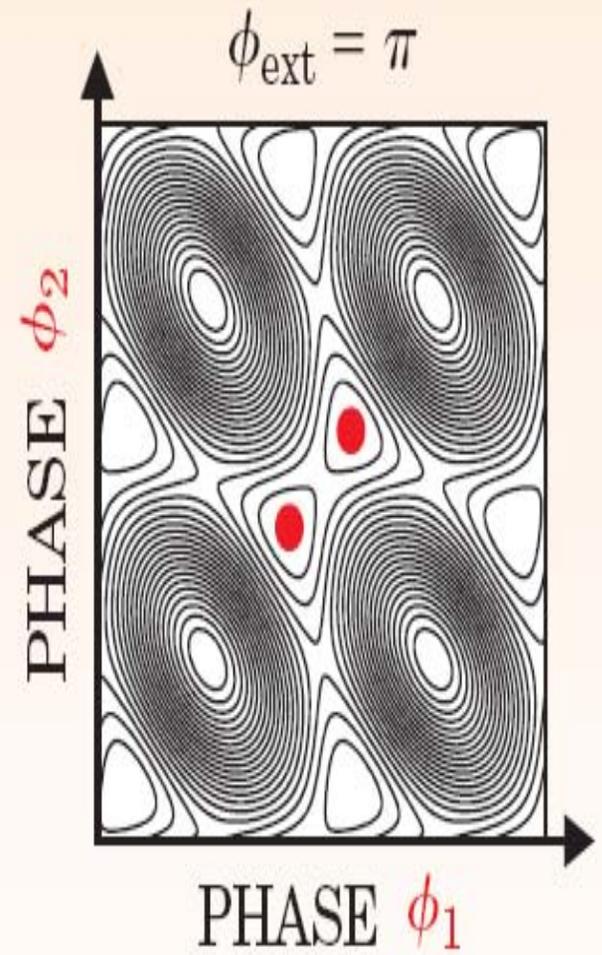
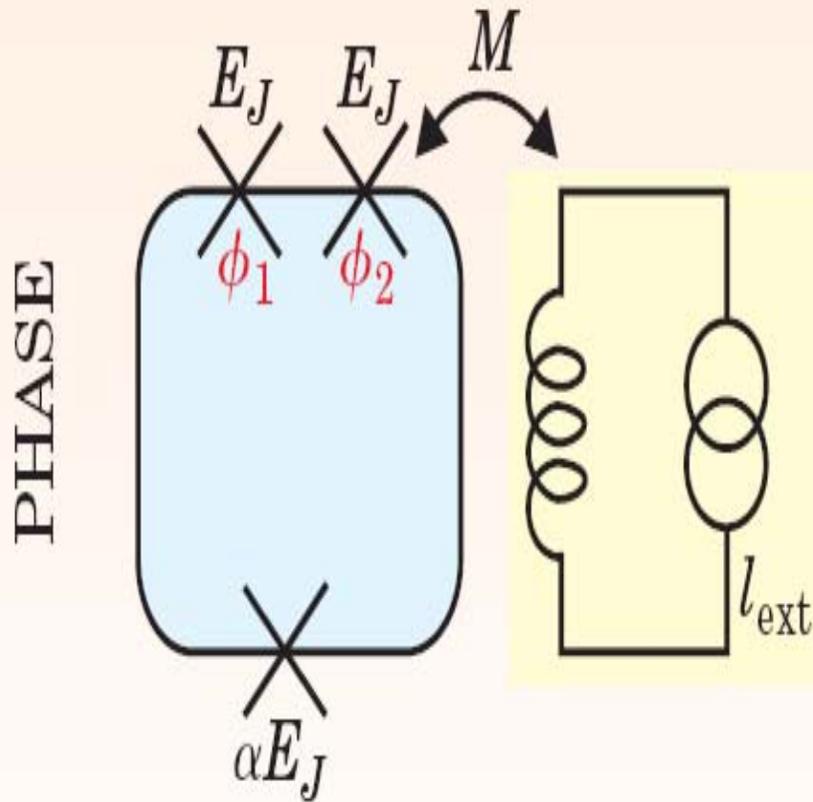
Charge qubit

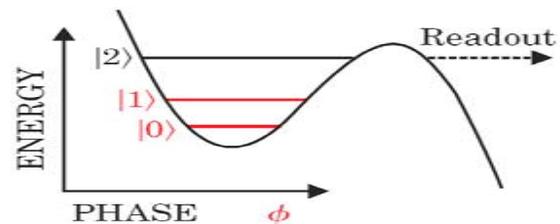
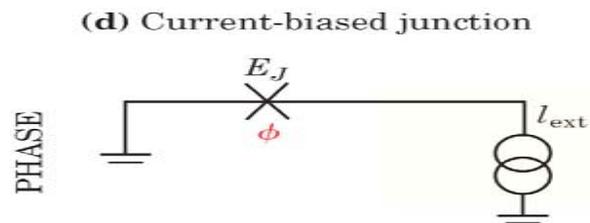
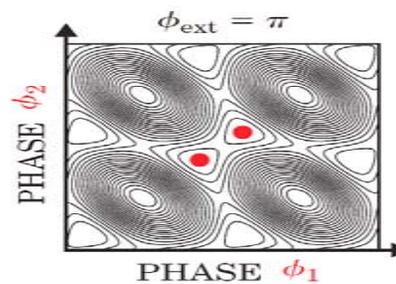
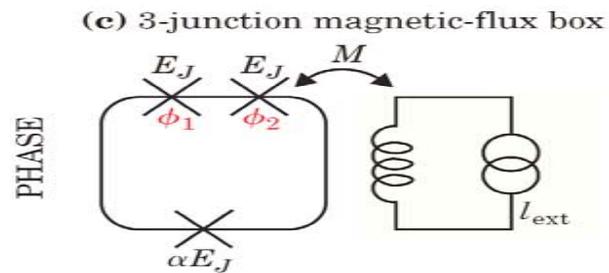
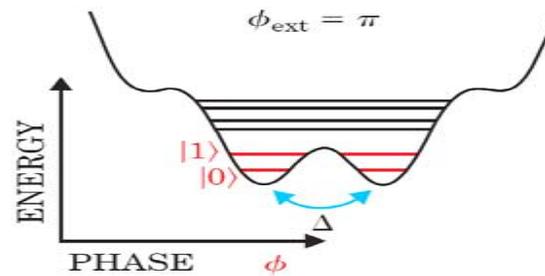
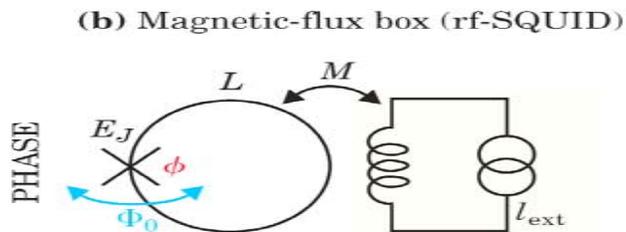
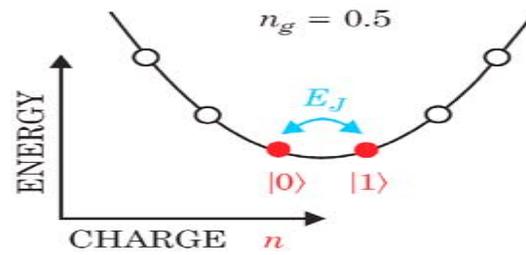
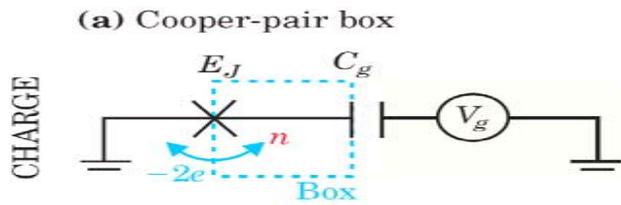
(a) Cooper-pair box



Flux qubit

(c) 3-junction magnetic-flux box





Now we will focus on a few
results from our group

No time to cover other results

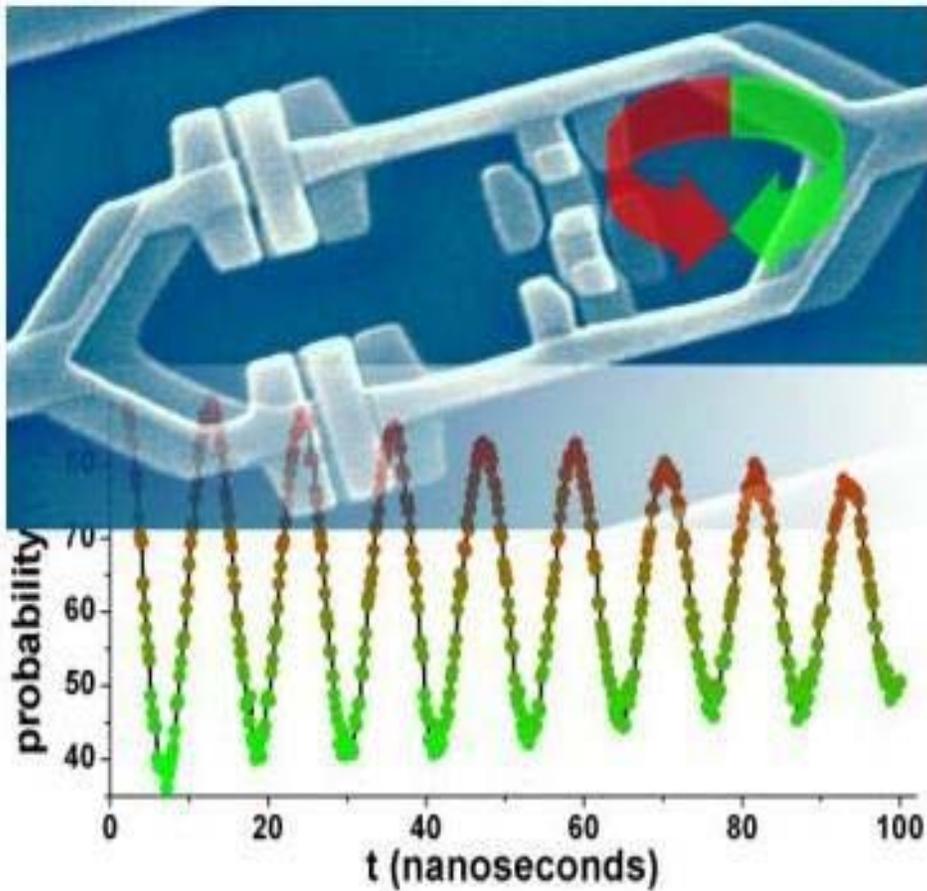
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- Flux qubits as micromasers and artificial atoms
- Cavity QED on a chip
- Coupling qubits
- Controllable coupling between qubits:
 - via variable frequency magnetic fields
 - via data buses
- Scalable circuits
- Testing Bell inequalities. Generating GHZ states.
- Quantum tomography
- Conclusions

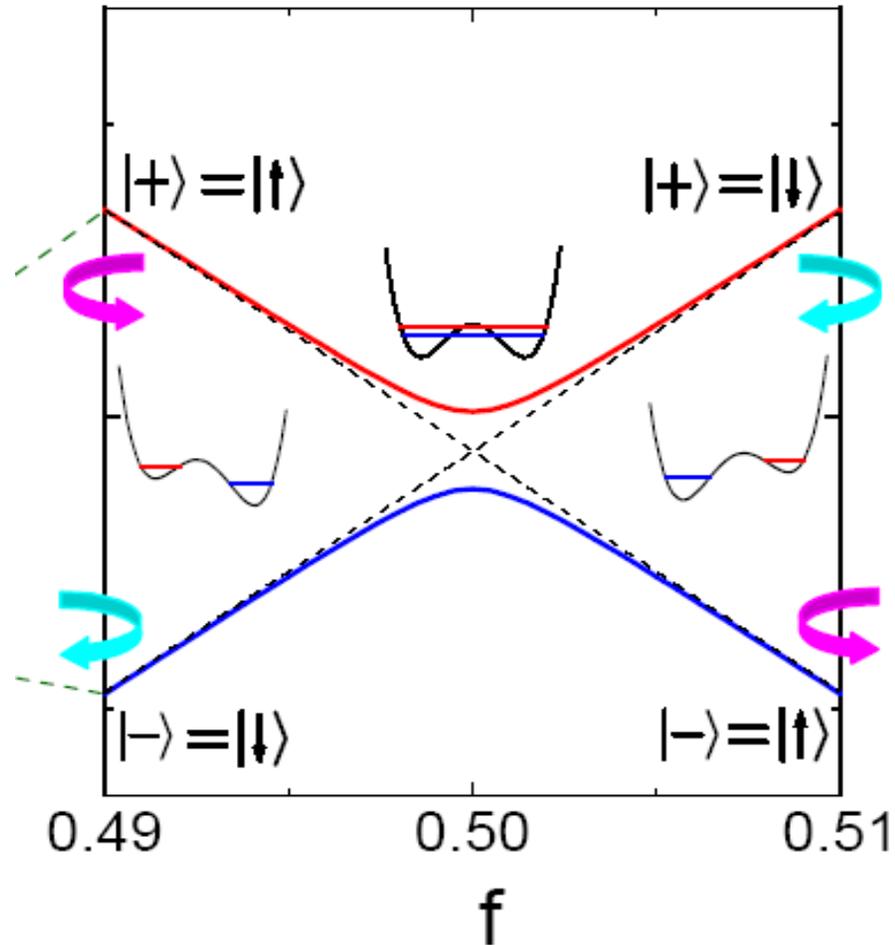
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Qubit = Two-level quantum system



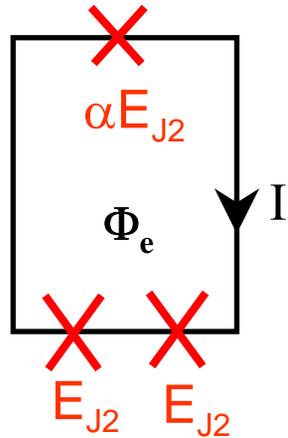
Chiorescu et al, *Science* 299, 1869 (2003)



You and Nori, *Phys. Today* 58 (11), 42 (2005)

Reduced magnetic flux: $f = \Phi_e / \Phi_0$. Here: Φ_e = external DC bias flux

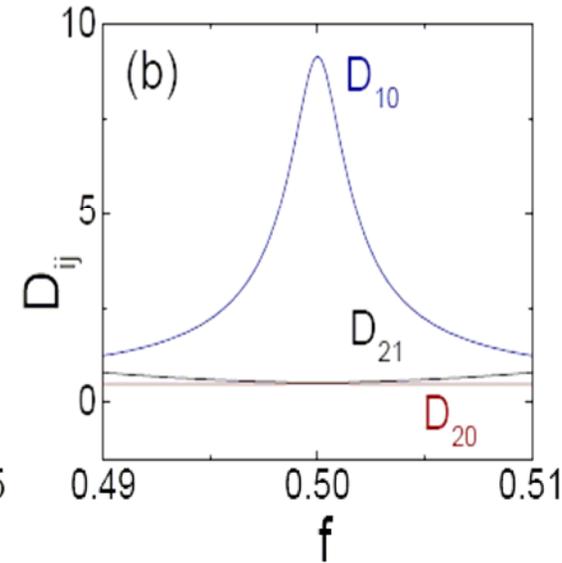
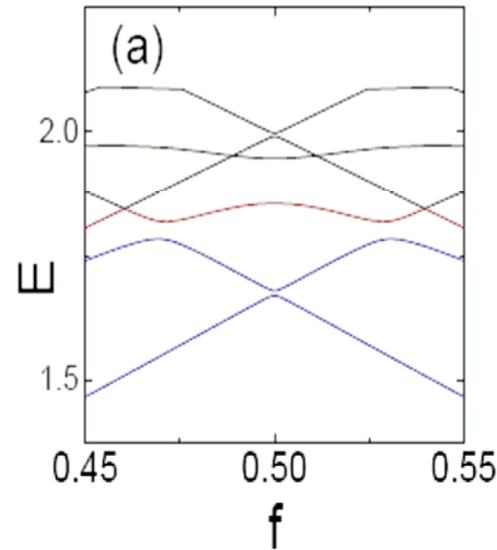
Flux qubit (here we consider the three lowest energy levels)



$$H_0 = \frac{P_p^2}{2M_p} + \frac{P_m^2}{2M_m} + U(\varphi_p, \varphi_m, f)$$

$$U = 2E_J (1 - \cos \varphi_p \cos \varphi_m) + \alpha E_J [1 - \cos(2\varphi_m + 2\pi f)]$$

$$f = \frac{\Phi_e}{\Phi_0}$$



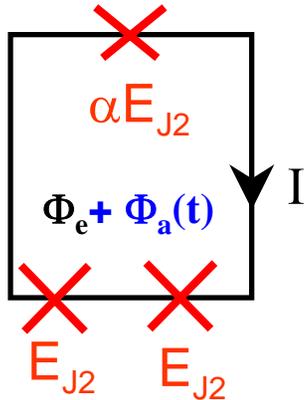
Phases and momenta (conjugate variables) are (see, e.g., Orlando et al, *PRB* (1999))

$$\varphi_p = (\phi_1 + \phi_2)/2; \quad \varphi_m = (\phi_1 - \phi_2)/2; \quad P_k = -i\hbar \partial / \partial \varphi_k \quad (k = p, m)$$

Effective masses

$$M_p = (\Phi_0 / 2\pi)^2 2C; \quad M_m = 2M_p (1 + 2\alpha) \quad \text{with capacitance } C \text{ of the junction}$$

Flux qubit: Symmetry and parity



$$H = H_0 + V(t)$$

$$H_0 |m\rangle = E_m |m\rangle$$

Time-dependent magnetic flux

$$\Phi_a(t) = \Phi_a^{(0)} \cos(\omega_{ij}t)$$

$$H_0 = \frac{P_p^2}{2M_p} + \frac{P_m^2}{2M_m} + U(\varphi_p, \varphi_m, f)$$

$$V(t) = -\frac{2\alpha\pi\Phi_a^{(0)}E_J}{\Phi_0} \sin(2\pi f + 2\varphi_m) \cos(\omega_{ij}t)$$

Transition elements are

$$t_{ij} = -\frac{2\alpha\pi\Phi_a^{(0)}E_J}{\Phi_0} \langle i | \sin(2\pi f + 2\varphi_m) | j \rangle$$

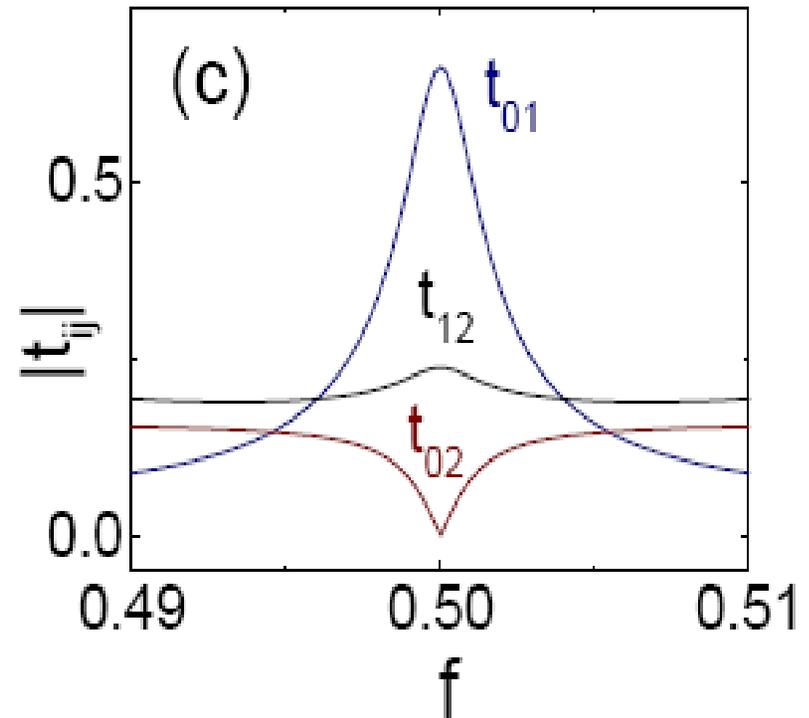
Liu, You, Wei, Sun, Nori, *PRL* 95, 087001 (2005)

Parity of $U(\varphi_m, \varphi_p) \equiv U$

$$U = 2E_J(1 - \cos\varphi_p \cos\varphi_m) + \alpha E_J [1 - \cos(2\varphi_m + 2\pi f)]$$

$f = 1/2 \Rightarrow U(\varphi_m, \varphi_p)$ even function of φ_m and φ_p

$$U = 2E_J(1 - \cos\varphi_p \cos\varphi_m) + \alpha E_J [1 + \cos(2\varphi_m)]$$



Flux qubit: Symmetry and parity

In standard atoms, electric-dipole-induced selection rules for transitions satisfy :

$$\Delta l = \pm 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \Delta m = 0, \pm 1$$

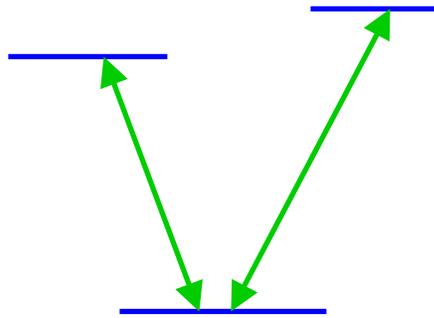
In superconducting qubits, there is no obvious analog for such selection rules.

Here, we consider an analog based on the symmetry of the potential $U(\varphi_m, \varphi_p)$ and the interaction between:

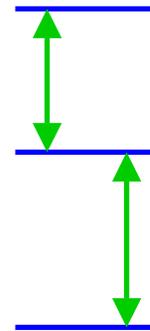
-) superconducting qubits (usual atoms) and the
-) magnetic flux (electric field).

Liu, You, Wei, Sun, Nori, *PRL* (2005)

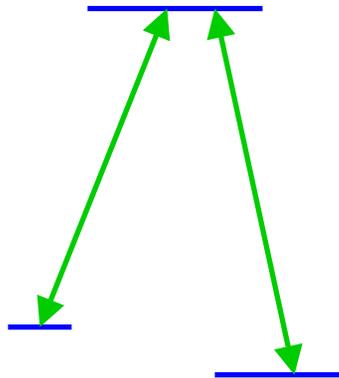
Allowed three-level transitions in natural atoms



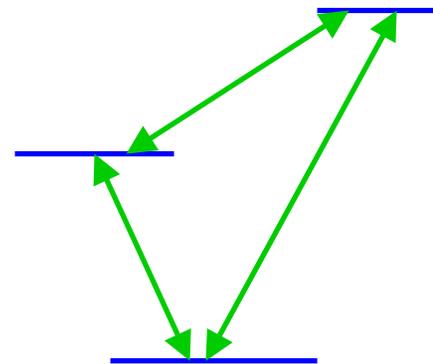
V - type



Ξ - type or ladder



Λ - type



No Δ - type
because of the
electric-dipole
selection rule.

Some differences between artificial and natural atoms

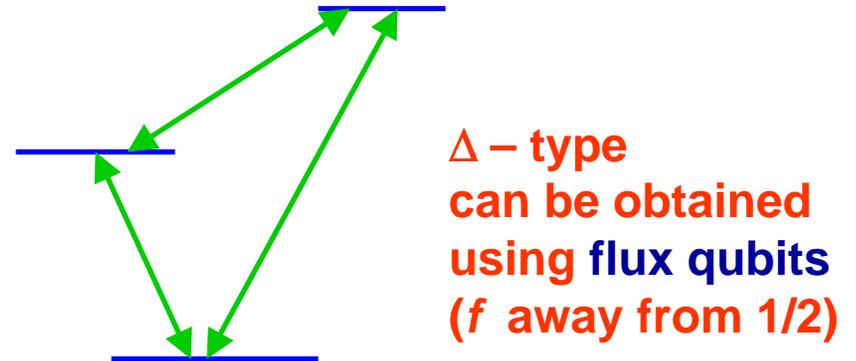
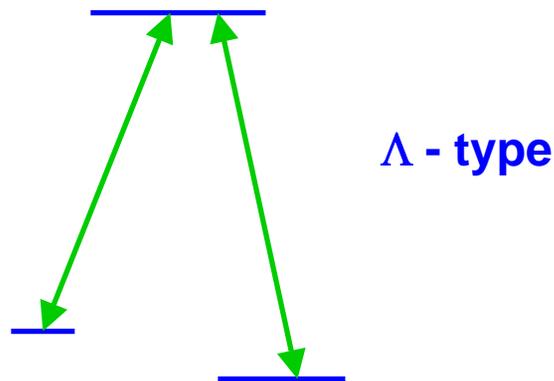
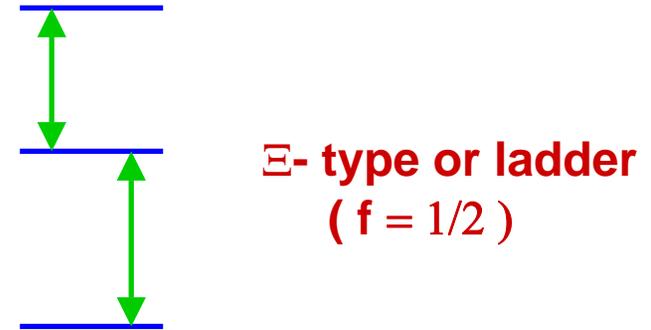
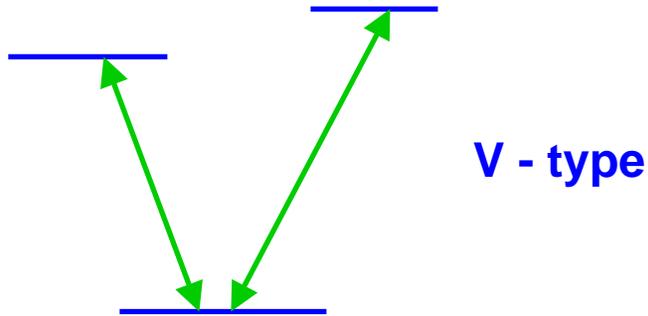
In natural atoms, it is *not* possible to obtain **cyclic transitions** by only using the **electric-dipole interaction**, due to its well-defined symmetry.

However, these transitions can be naturally obtained in the flux qubit circuit, due to the broken **symmetry of the potential of the flux qubit**, when the bias flux deviates from the optimal point.

The magnetic-field-induced transitions in the flux qubit are similar to atomic electric-dipole-induced transitions.

Liu, You, Wei, Sun, Nori, *PRL* (2005)

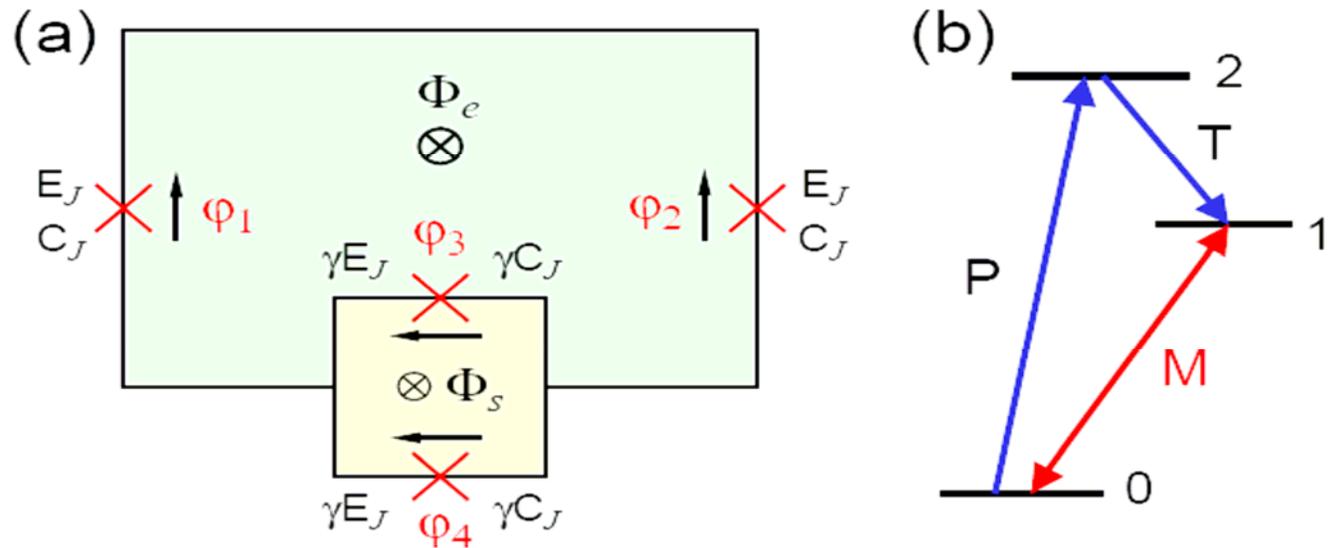
Different transitions in three-level systems



Liu, You, Wei, Sun, Nori, *PRL* (2005)

Flux qubit: micromaser

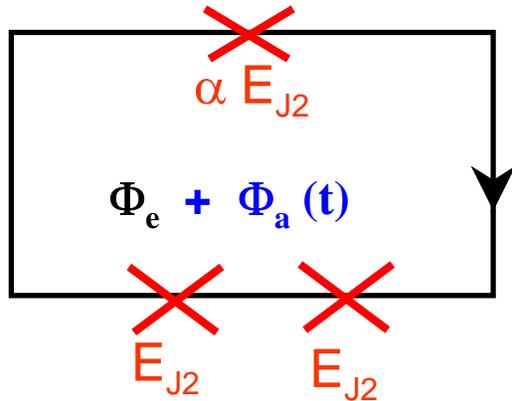
You, Liu, Sun, Nori,
quant-ph / 0512145



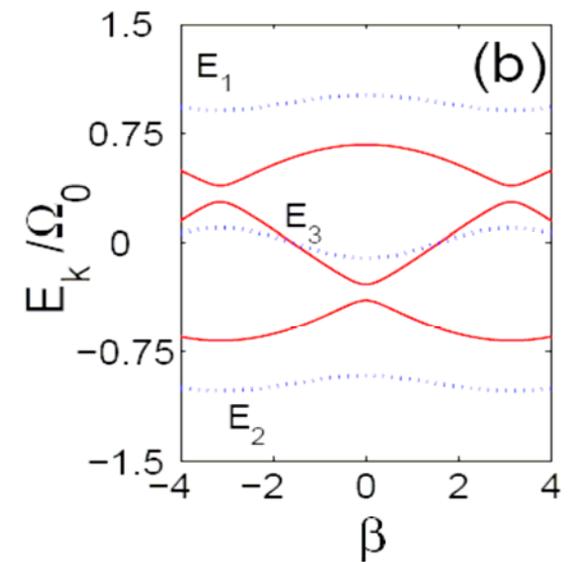
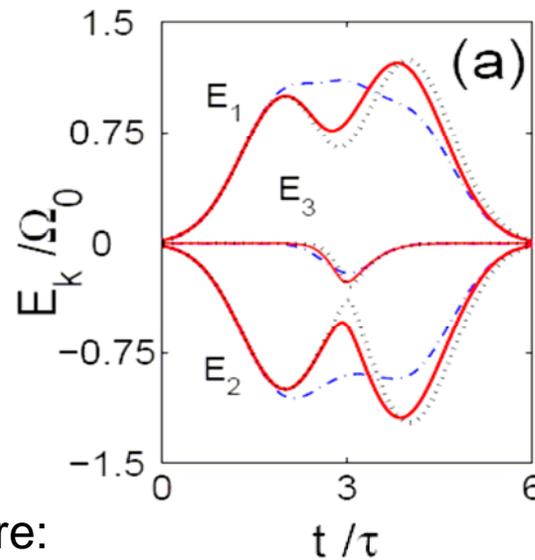
We propose a *tunable* on-chip *micromaser* using a superconducting quantum circuit (SQC).

By taking advantage of *externally controllable state transitions*, a state population inversion can be achieved and preserved for the two working levels of the SQC and, when needed, the SQC can *generate a single photon*.

Flux qubit: Adiabatic control and population transfer



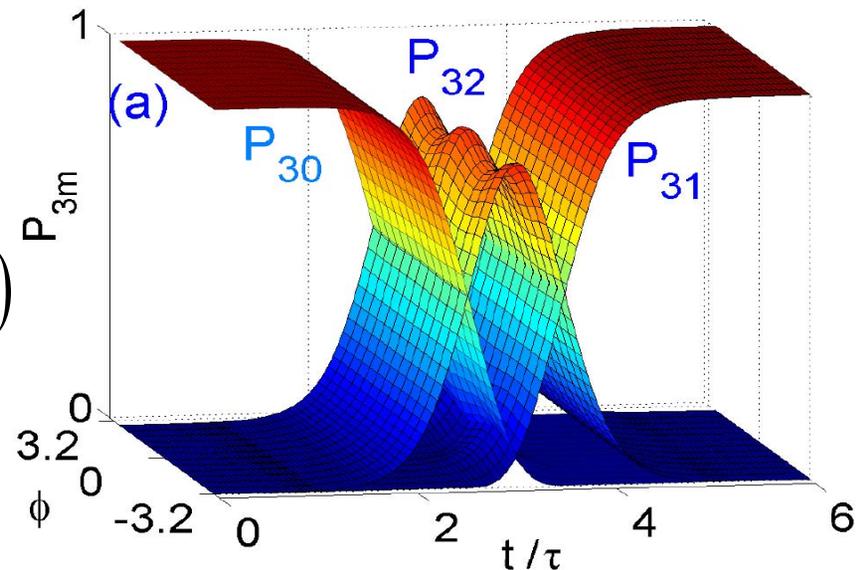
The applied magnetic fluxes and interaction Hamiltonian are:



$$\Phi_a(t) = \sum_{m>n=0}^2 \left[\Phi_{mn}(t) \exp(-i\omega_{mn}t) + \text{H.c.} \right]$$

$$H_{\text{int}} = \sum_{m>n=0}^2 \left(\Omega_{mn}(t) \exp(i\Delta_{mn}t) |m\rangle \langle n| + \text{H.c.} \right)$$

Liu, You, Wei, Sun, Nori, PRL 95, 087001 (2005)



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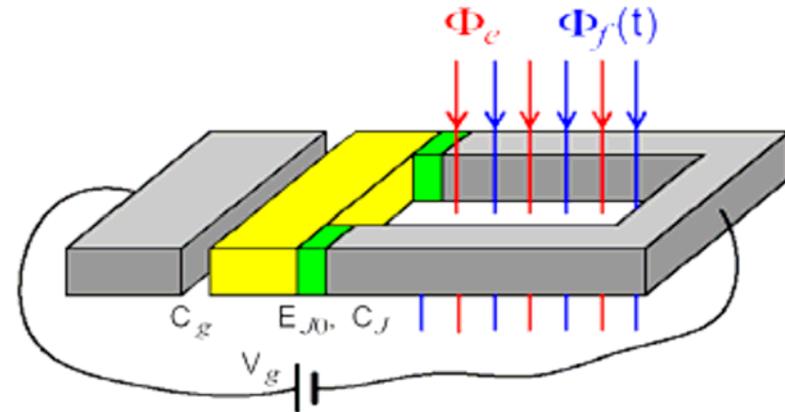
Cavity QED: Charge-qubit inside a cavity

$$H = E_c (n - C_g V_g / 2e)^2 - E_J(\Phi_e) \cos \phi,$$

ϕ = average phase drop across the JJ

$$E_c = 2e^2 / (C_g + 2C_{J0}) = \text{island charging energy};$$

$$E_J(\Phi_e) = 2 E_{J0} \cos(\pi \Phi_e / \Phi_0).$$



You and Nori, *PRB* 68, 064509 (2003)

Here, we assume that the **qubit is embedded in a microwave cavity** with only a single photon mode λ providing a **quantized flux**

$$\Phi_f = \Phi_\lambda a + \Phi_\lambda^* a^\dagger = |\Phi_\lambda| (e^{-i\theta} a + e^{i\theta} a^\dagger),$$

with Φ_λ given by the contour integration of $\mathbf{u}_\lambda d\mathbf{l}$ over the SQUID loop.

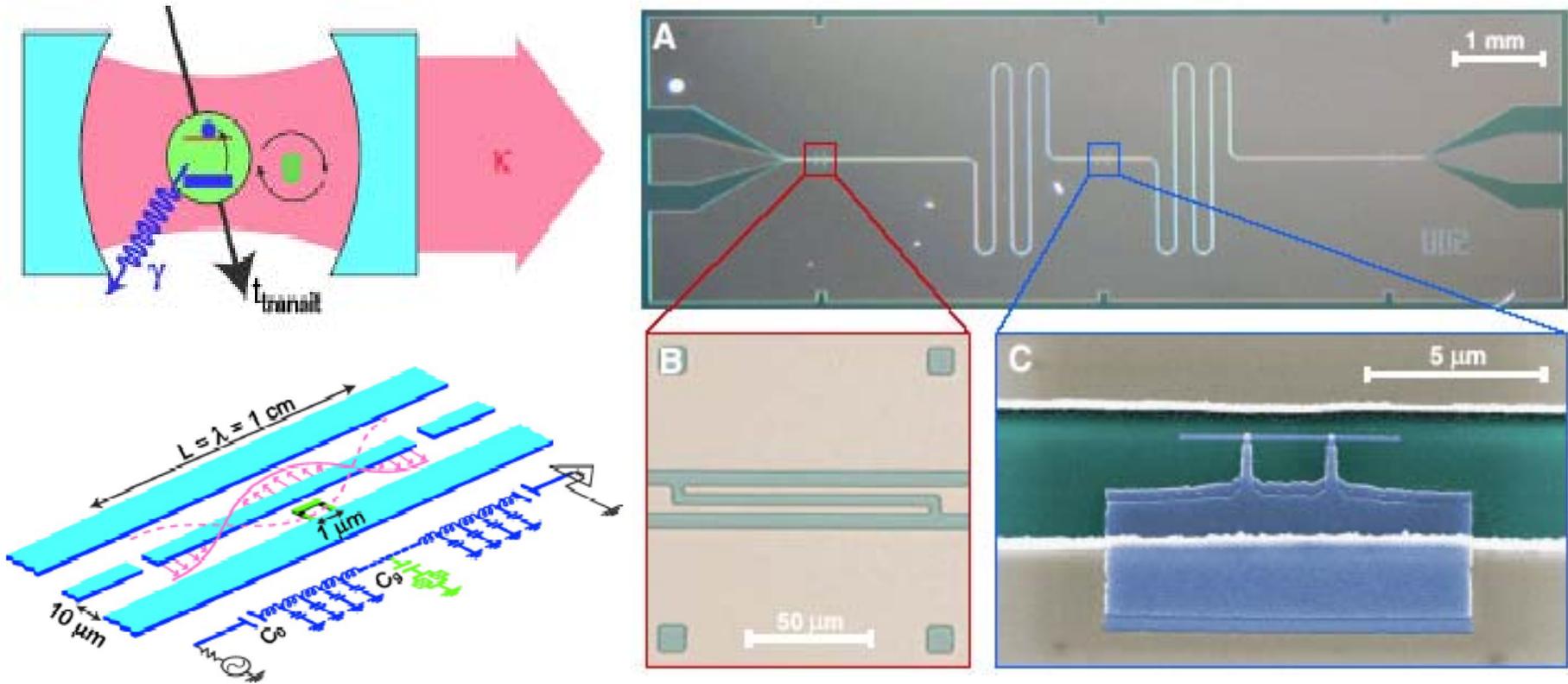
Hamiltonian:
$$H = \frac{1}{2} E \rho_z + \hbar \omega_\lambda (a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2}) + H_{\text{Ik}},$$

$$H_{\text{Ik}} = \rho_z f(a^\dagger a) + [e^{-ik\theta} |e\rangle\langle g| a^k g^{(k)}(a^\dagger a) + \text{H.c.}]$$

This is **flux**-driven. The **E**-driven version is in: You, Tsai, Nori, *PRB* (2003)

Circuit QED

Charge-qubit coupled to a transmission line



Yale group

$$H = \frac{\hbar}{2} \omega(\Phi_e, n_g) \sigma_z + \hbar \omega a^\dagger a + \hbar [g \sigma_+ a + H.c.]$$

$\omega(\Phi_e, n_g)$ can be changed by the gate voltage n_g and the magnetic flux Φ_e .

Cavity QED on a chip

Based on the interaction between the radiation field and a superconductor, we propose ways to engineer quantum states using a charge qubit inside a microcavity.

This device can act as a deterministic single **photon source** as well as generate any photon states and an **arbitrary superposition of photon states for the cavity field**.

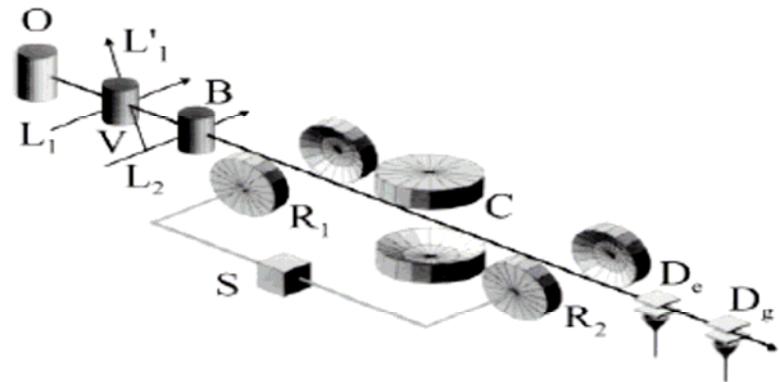
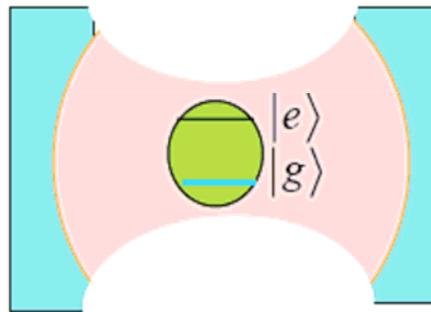
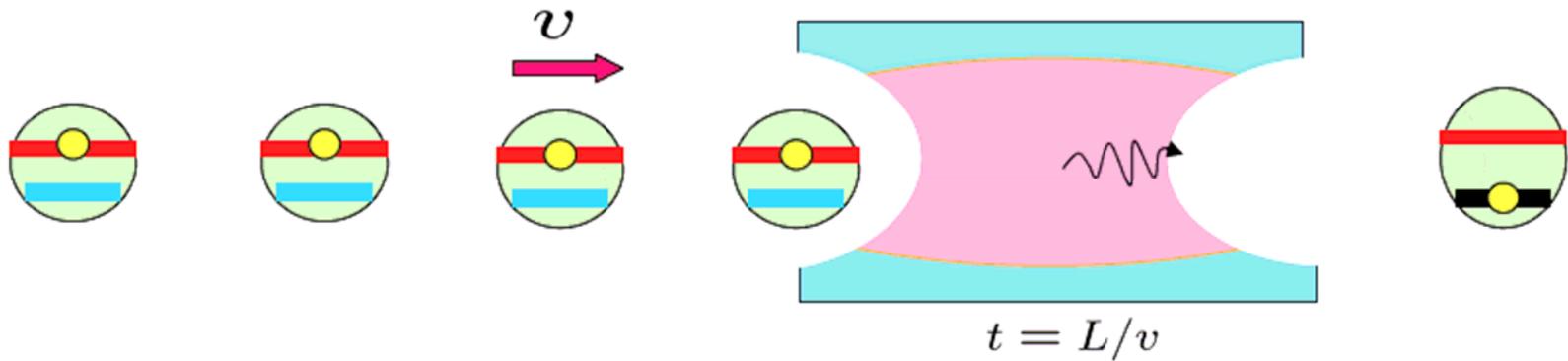
The controllable interaction between the cavity field and the qubit can be realized by the tunable gate voltage and classical magnetic field applied to the SQUID.

Liu, Wei, Nori, *EPL* 67, 941 (2004); *PRA* 71, 063820 (2005); *PRA* 72, 033818 (2005)

Comparison of our proposal with a micromaser

Carrier process: thermal excitation for micromaser

First red sideband excitation: the excited atoms enter the cavity, decay, and emit photons



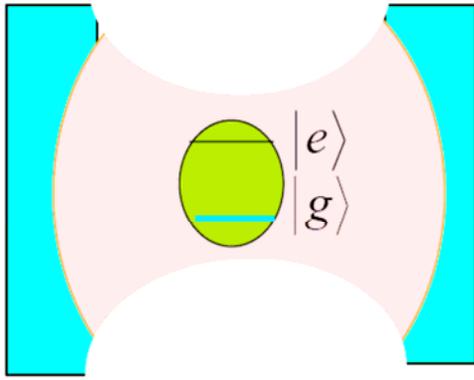
X. Maitre, et al., PRL 79, 769 (1997)

Comparison of our proposal with a micromaser

| | JJ qubit photon generator | Micromaser |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Before | <p>JJ qubit in its ground state then excited via</p> $n_g = 1/2, \quad \Phi_C = \Phi_0$ | <p>Atom is thermally excited in oven</p> |
| Interaction with microcavity | <p>JJ qubit interacts with field via</p> $n_g = 1, \quad \Phi_C = \Phi_0/2$ | <p>Flying atoms interact with the cavity field</p> |
| After | <p>Excited JJ qubit decays and emits photons</p> | <p>Excited atom leaves the cavity, decays to its ground state providing photons in the cavity.</p> |

Liu, Wei, Nori, *EPL* (2004); *PRA* (2005); *PRA* (2005)

Interaction between the JJ qubit and the cavity field



Liu, Wei, Nori,
 EPL 67, 941 (2004);
 PRA 71, 063820 (2005);
 PRA 72, 033818 (2005)

$$H = \underbrace{\hbar\omega a^\dagger a}_{\text{cavity field}} - \underbrace{2E_C(1 - 2n_g)\sigma_z}_{\text{charging energy}} - \underbrace{E_J \cos \left[\frac{\pi}{\Phi_0} (\Phi_c + ga + g^* a^\dagger) \right]}_{\text{interaction term}} \sigma_x$$

with $g = i \int_S u(r) \cdot ds$ and $\hbar\omega = 2E_C$

(1) The interaction between the cavity field and the SQUID is controlled by the gate charge n_g and the dc applied flux Φ_C .

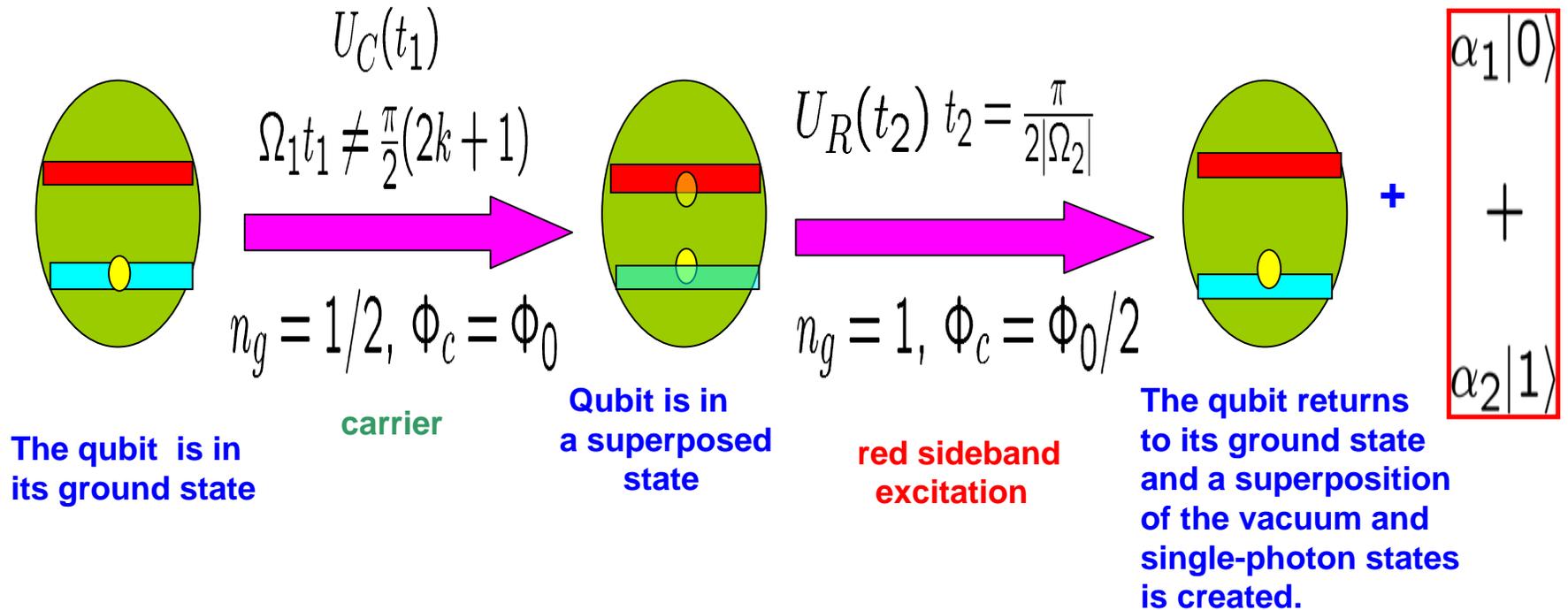
(2) S is the area of the SQUID.

(3) $u(r)$ is a mode function of a single-mode cavity field.

Cavity QED on a chip

How to create superpositions of photon states

$$\alpha_1|0\rangle + \alpha_2|1\rangle \text{ with } \alpha_1 = \cos(\Omega_1 t_1) \text{ and } \alpha_2 = e^{-i\theta} \sin(\Omega_1 t_1)$$



When the red sideband excitation satisfies the condition $t_2 = \pi/2|\Omega_2|$, it creates a superposition of the vacuum and single photon states.

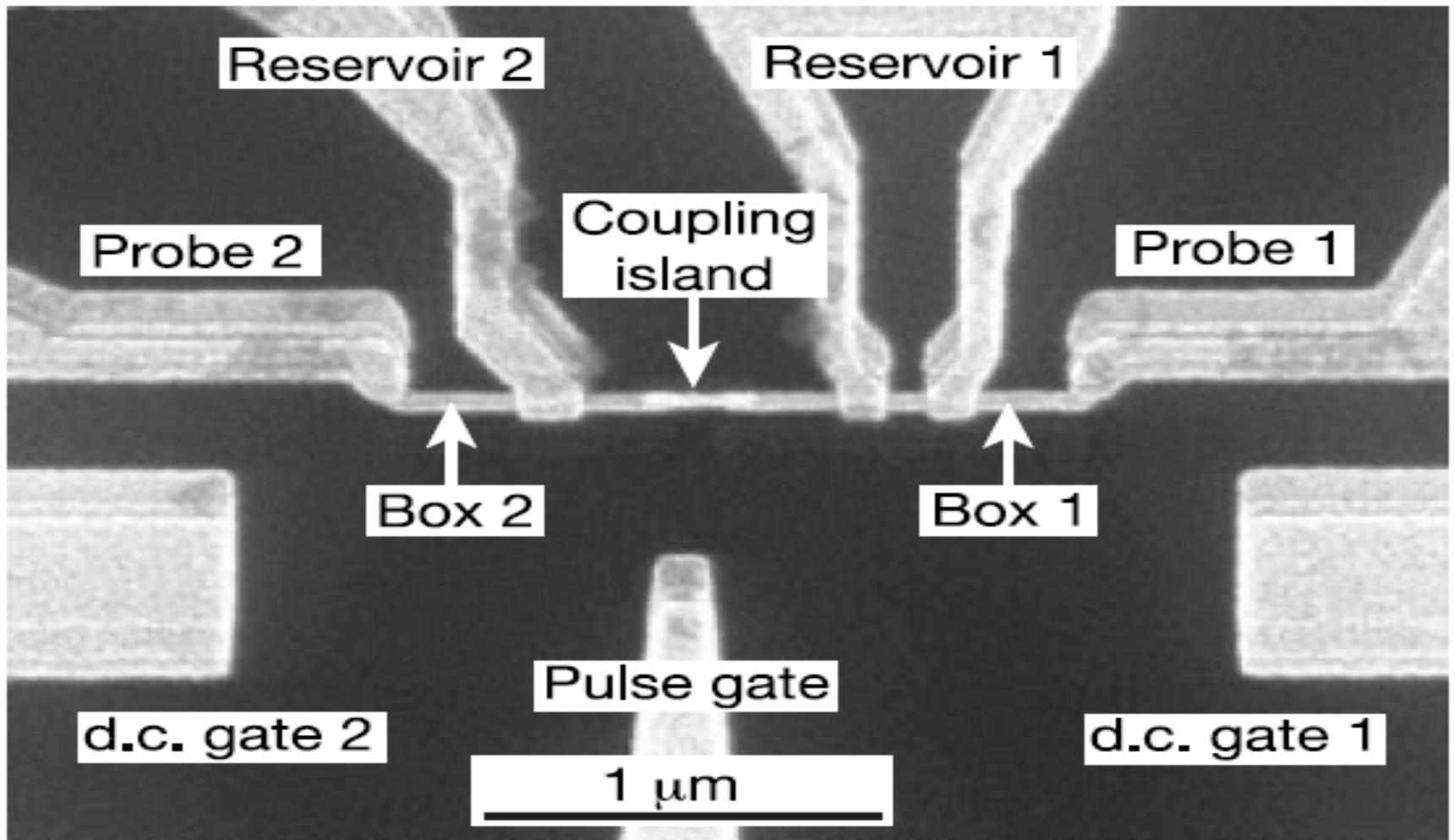
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Qubits can be ***coupled***
either directly
or
indirectly, using a data bus
(i.e., an “intermediary”)

Let us now very quickly
(fasten your seat belts!)
see a few experimental
examples of qubits
coupled directly

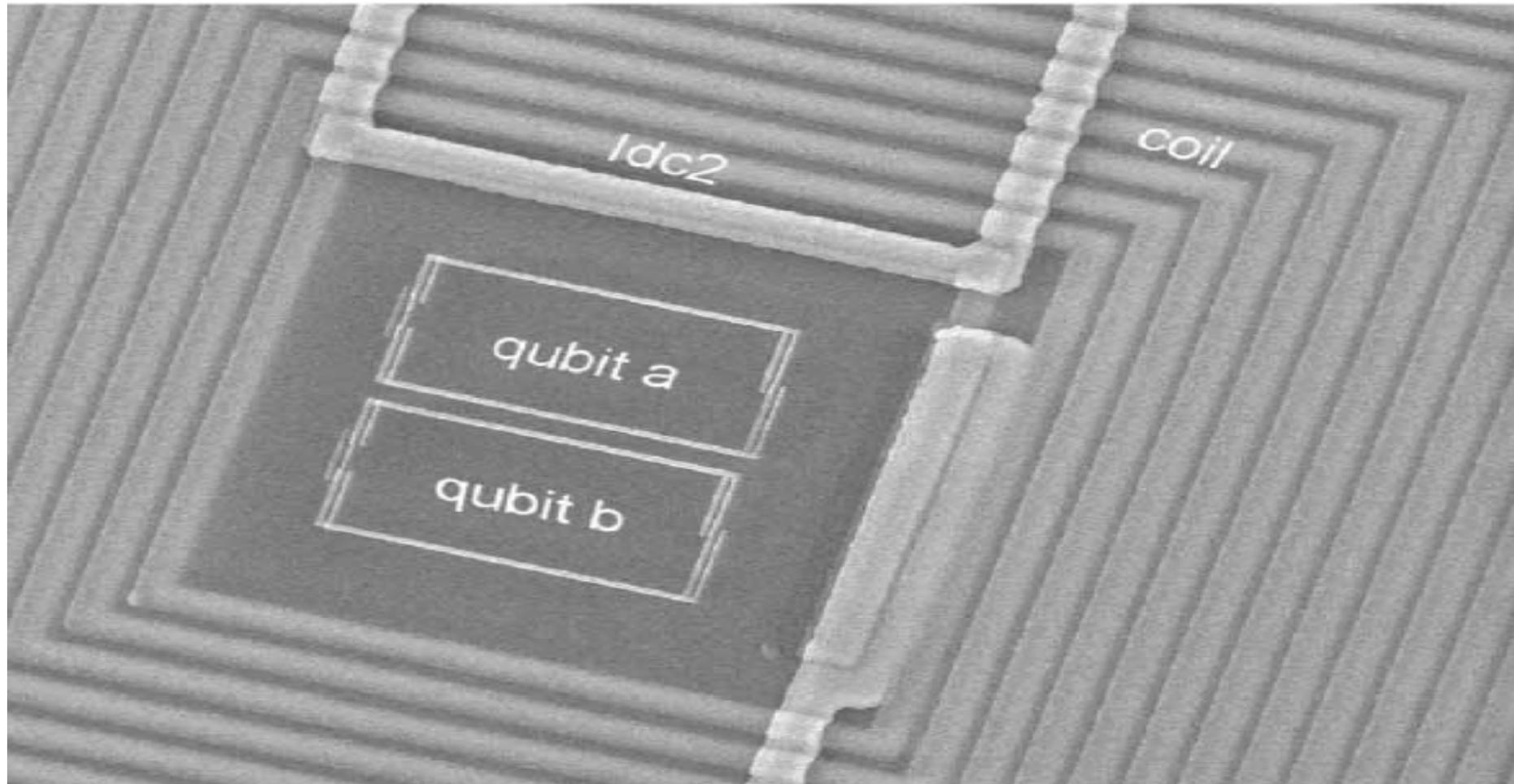
Capacitively coupled charge qubits



NEC-RIKEN

Entanglement; conditional logic gates

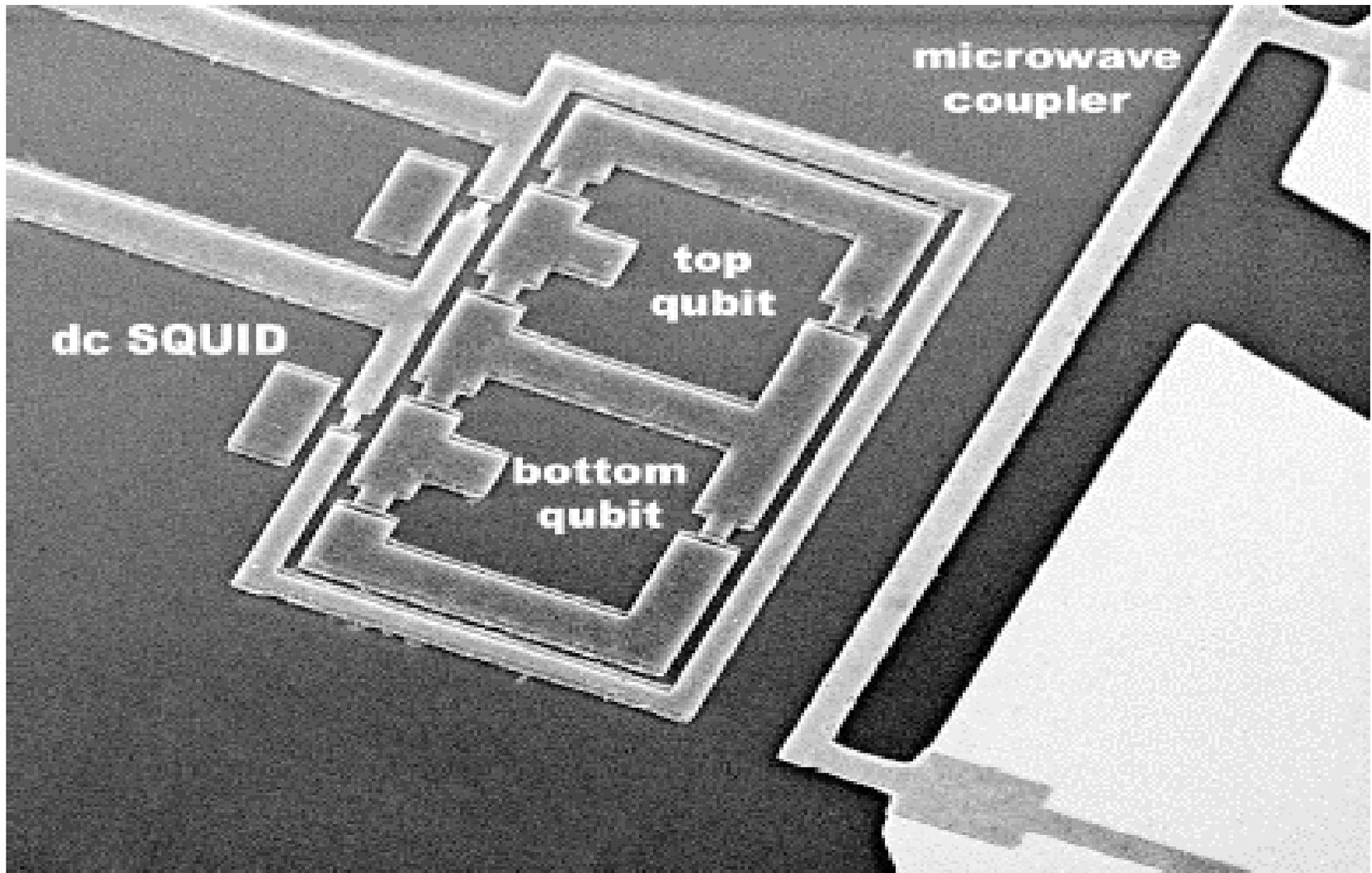
Inductively coupled flux qubits



A. Izmailkov et al., PRL 93, 037003 (2004)

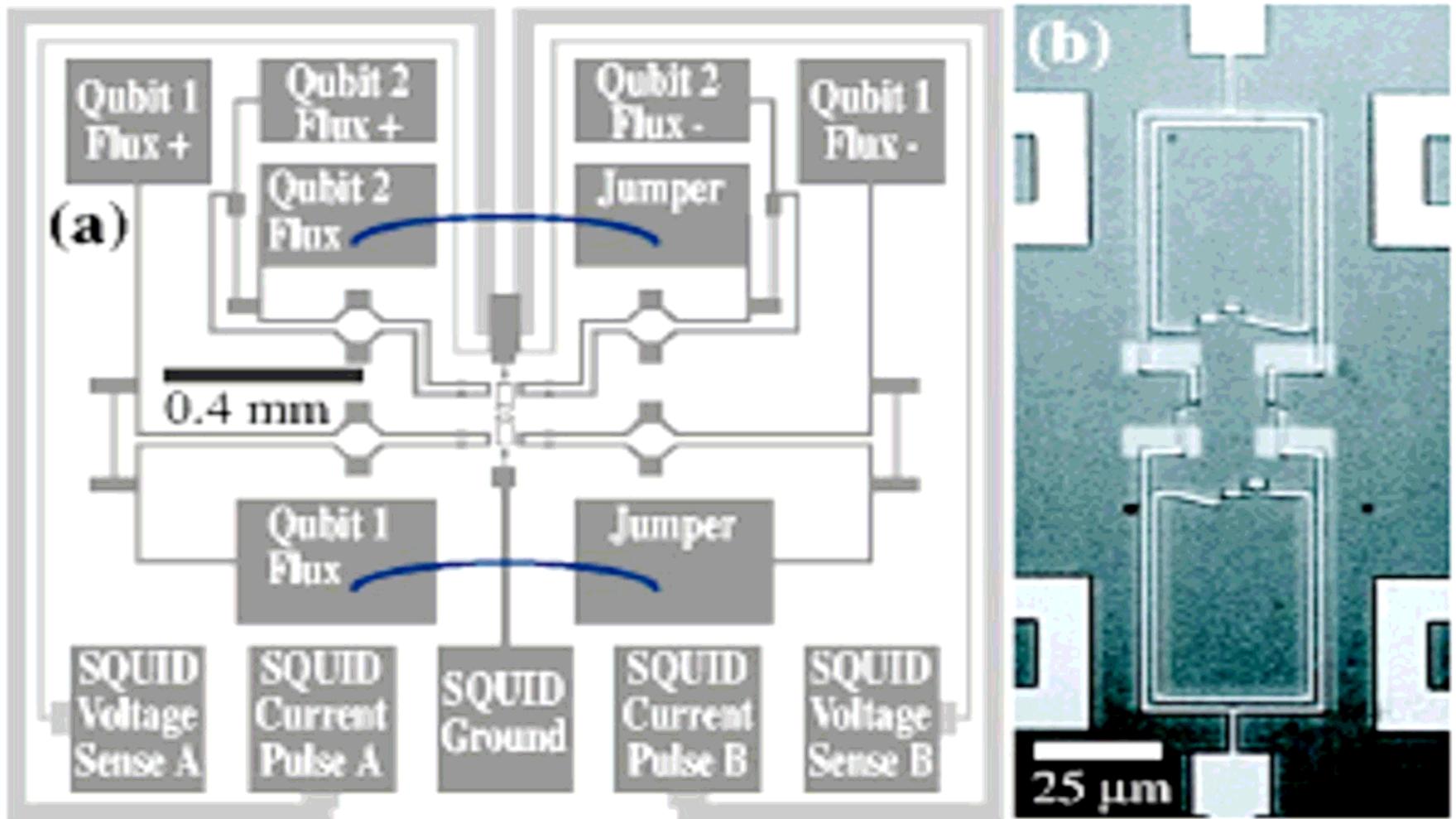
Entangled flux qubit states

Inductively coupled flux qubits



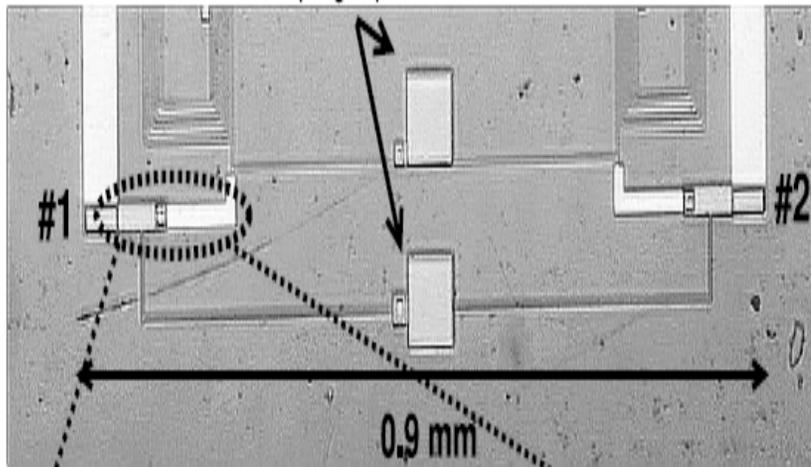
J.B. Majer et al., *PRL* 94, 090501 (2005). Delft group

Inductively coupled flux qubits

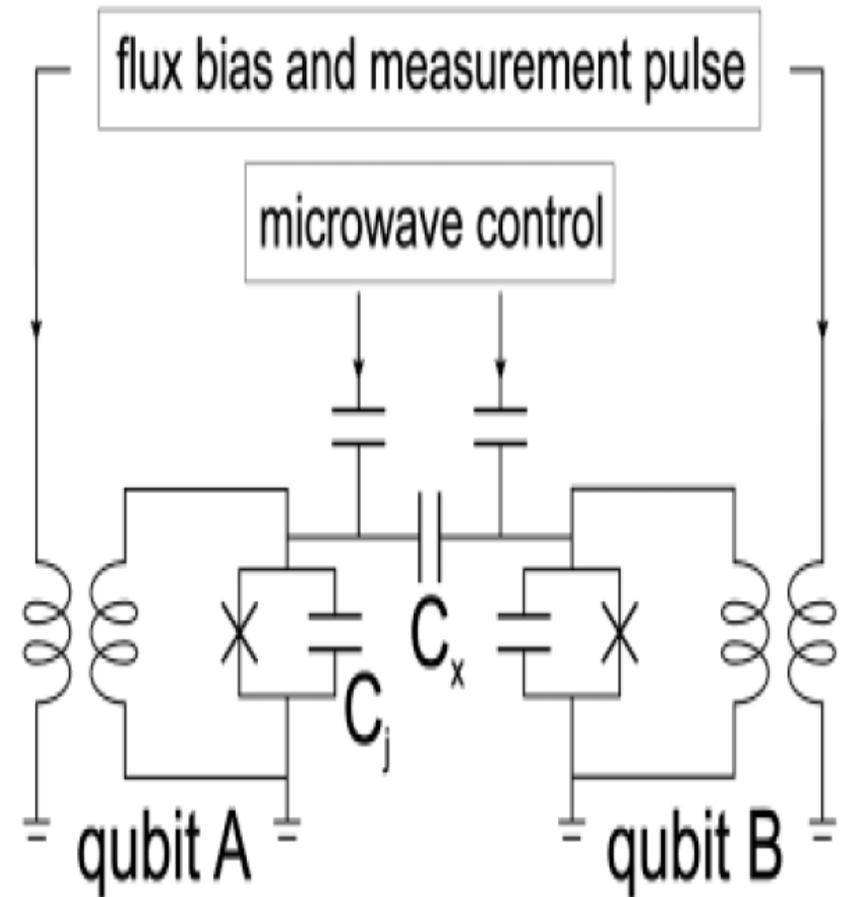
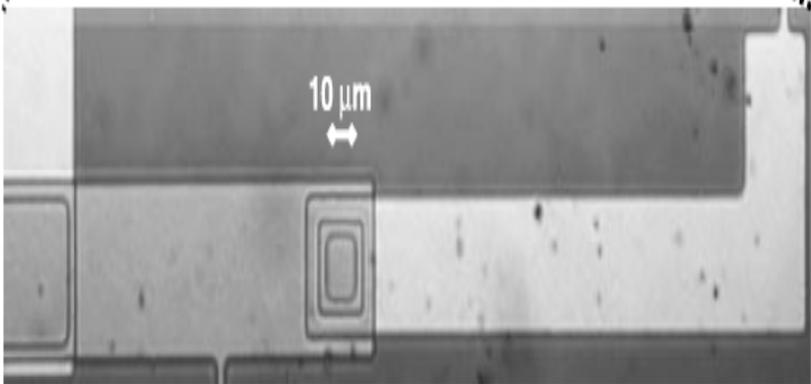


J. Clarke's group, Phys. Rev. B 72, 060506 (2005)

Capacitively coupled phase qubits



Berkley et al., Science (2003)



McDermott et al., Science (2005)

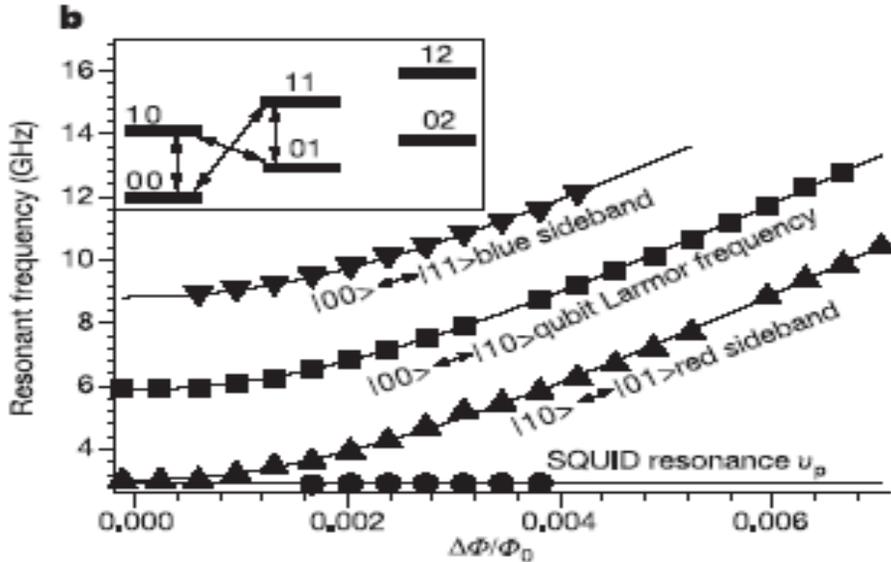
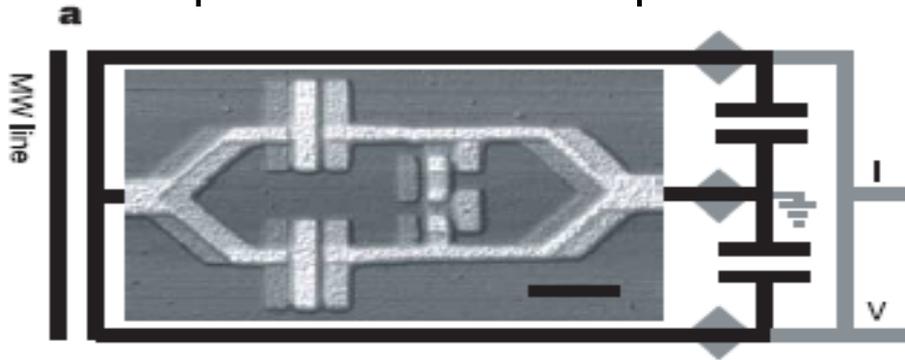
Entangled phase qubit states

Let us now consider qubits
coupled *indirectly*

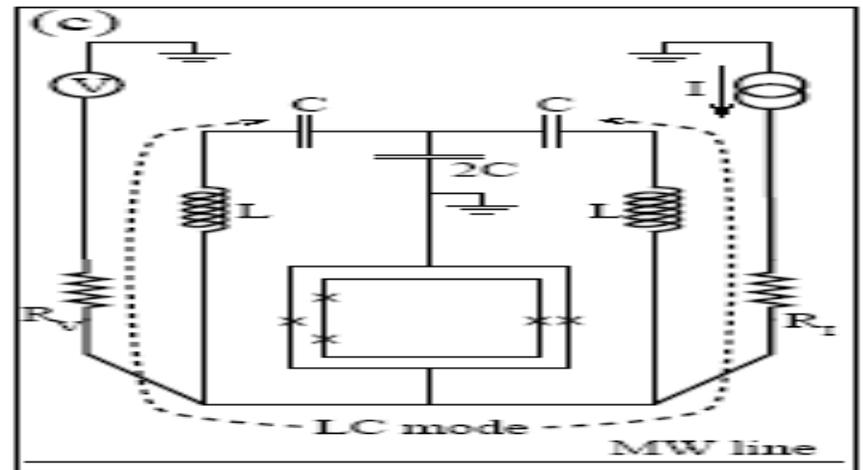
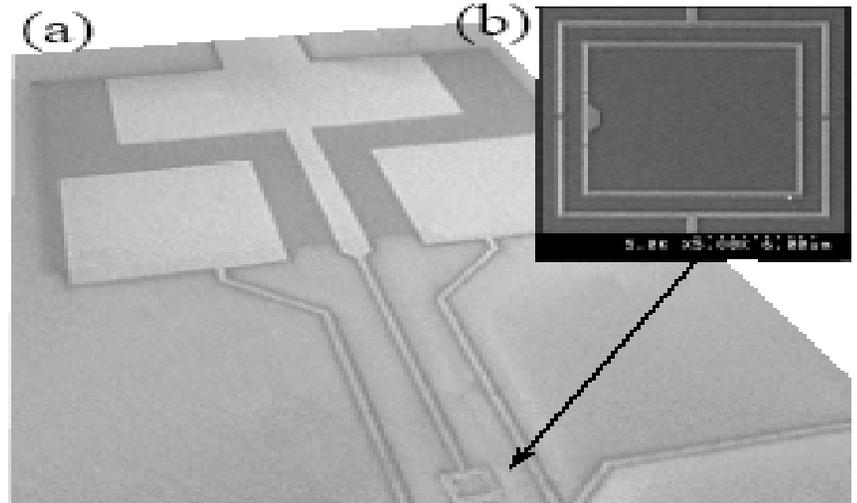
Scalable circuits: using an LC data bus

LC-circuit-mediated interaction between qubits

Level quantization of a superconducting LC circuit has been observed.



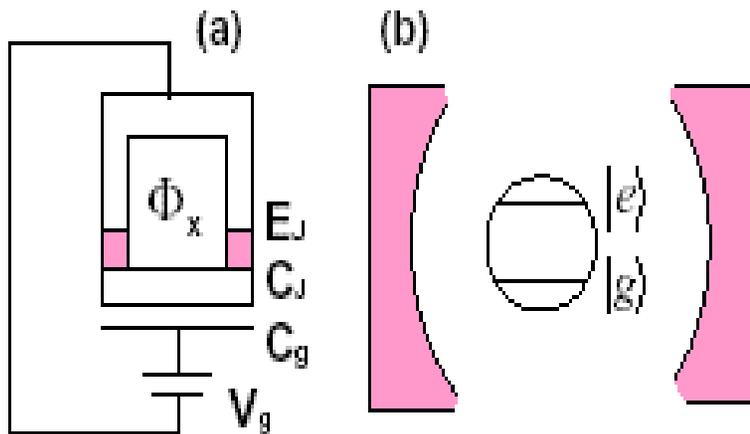
Delft, Nature, 2004



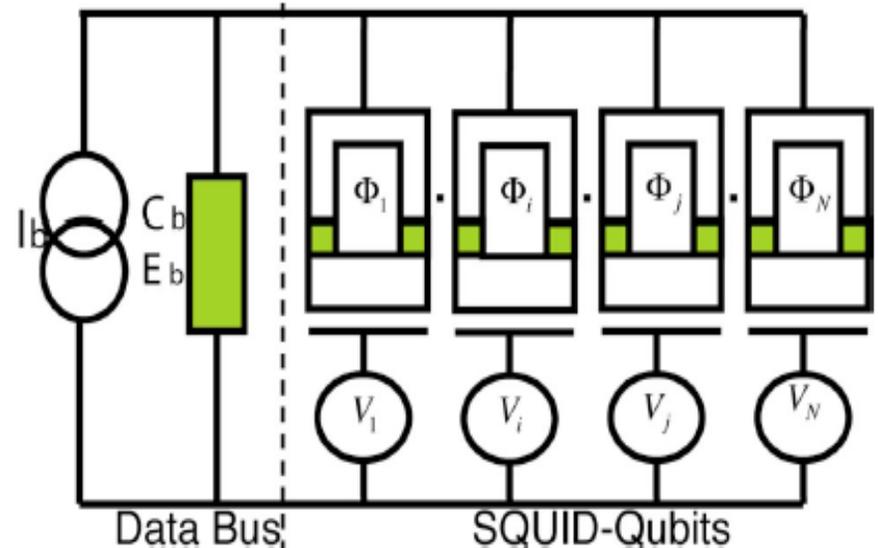
NTT, PRL 96, 127006 (2006)

Switchable coupling: data bus

A **switchable coupling** between the **qubit and a data bus** could also be realized by changing the magnetic fluxes through the qubit loops.



Liu, Wei, Nori, EPL 67, 941 (2004)



Wei, Liu, Nori, PRB 71, 134506 (2005)

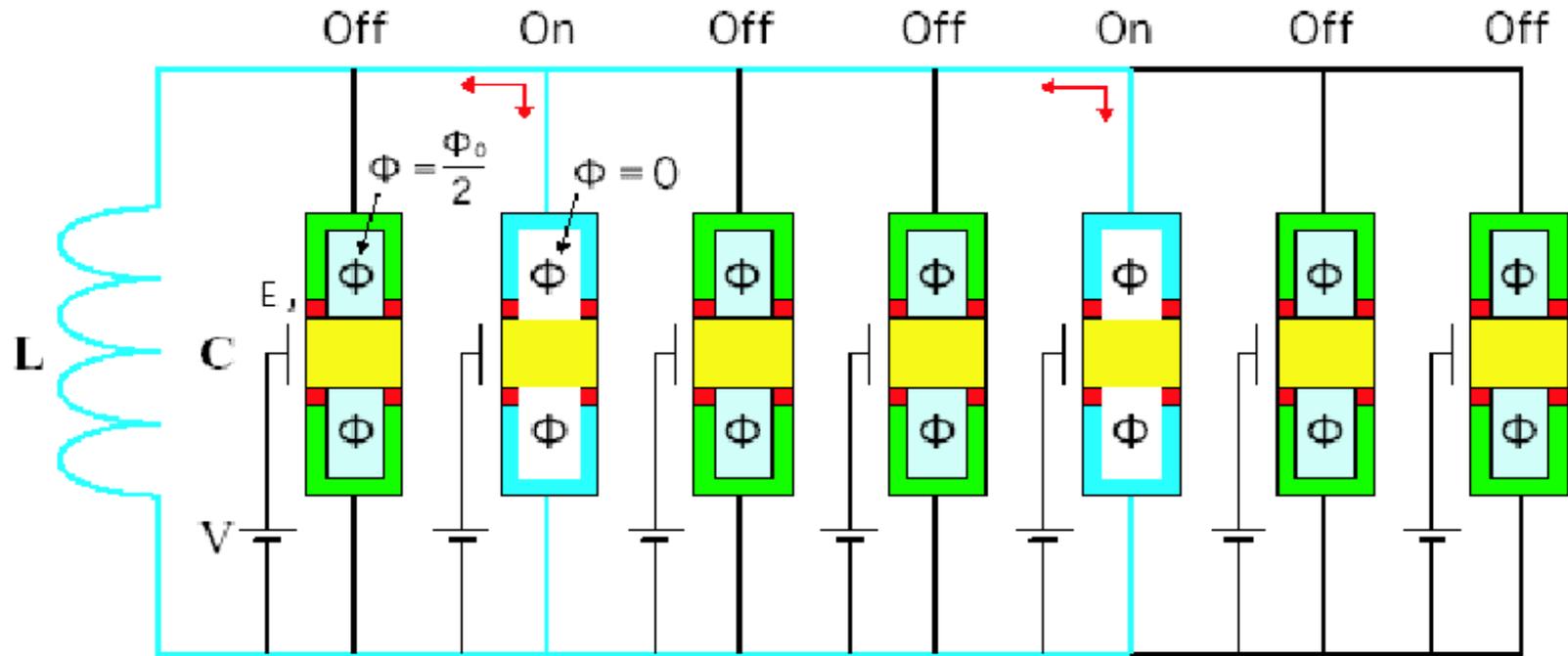
Single-mode cavity field

Current-biased junction

The bus-qubit coupling is proportional to $\cos\left(\pi \frac{\Phi_x}{\Phi_0}\right)$

Scalable circuits

Couple qubits *directly* via a common inductance



You, Tsai, and Nori, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 89, 197902 (2002)

Switching on/off the SQUIDs connected to the Cooper-pair boxes, can couple any selected charge qubits by the common inductance (*not* using LC oscillating modes).

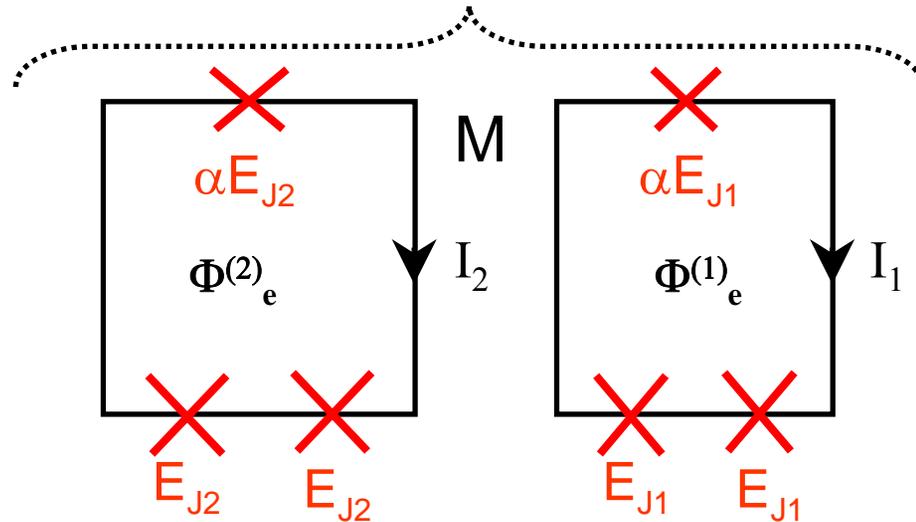
Contents

- Flux qubits
- Cavity QED on a chip
- Coupling qubits
- **Controllable coupling between qubits:**
 - **via variable frequency magnetic fields
(no data bus)**
 - via data buses
- Scalable circuits
- Testing Bell inequalities. Generating GHZ states.
- Quantum tomography
- Conclusions

Coupling qubits directly and (first) without VFMF (Variable Frequency Magnetic Flux)

$$H_0 = H_{q1} + H_{q2} + H_I = \text{Total Hamiltonian}$$

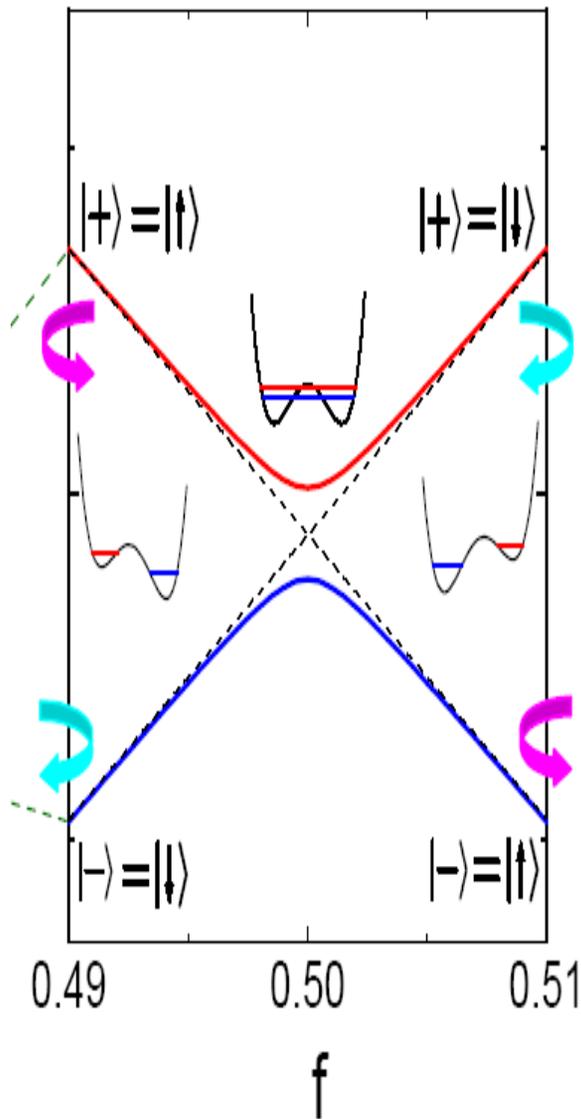
$$H_I = M I_1 I_2$$



$$H_{ql} = \frac{P_{ml}^2}{2M_{ml}} + \frac{P_{pl}^2}{2M_{pl}} + 2E_{Jl} + \alpha E_{Jl} - 2E_{Jl} \cos \varphi_m^{(l)} \cos \varphi_P^{(l)} - \alpha E_{Jl} \cos(2\pi f_1 + 2\varphi_m^{(l)})$$

$$l=1,2$$

Hamiltonian in qubit basis



$$H_0 = \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[\omega_1 \sigma_z^{(1)} + \omega_2 \sigma_z^{(2)} \right] + \left[g \sigma_+^{(1)} \sigma_-^{(2)} + \text{H.c.} \right]$$

Qubit frequency ω_l is determined by the loop current $I^{(l)}$ and the tunneling coefficient t_l

$$\omega_l = \sqrt{2 I^{(l)} \left[\Phi_e^{(l)} - \Phi_0 / 2 \right]^2 + t_l^2}$$

Decoupled Hamiltonian

$$\Delta = \omega_1 - \omega_2 \gg |g|$$

$$H_0 \approx \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[\omega_1 + 2 \frac{|g|^2}{\Delta} \right] \sigma_z^{(1)} + \frac{\hbar}{2} \left[\omega_2 - 2 \frac{|g|^2}{\Delta} \right] \sigma_z^{(2)}$$

$$|g| / (\omega_1 - \omega_2) \approx 0$$

$$H_0 \approx \frac{\hbar}{2} \omega_1 \sigma_z^{(1)} + \frac{\hbar}{2} \omega_2 \sigma_z^{(2)}$$

Now: let's consider a
Variable-Frequency-
Magnetic-Flux (VFMF)

Controllable couplings via VFMFs

We propose an experimentally realizable method to **control the coupling** between two flux qubits (PRL 96, 067003 (2006)).

The dc bias fluxes are always fixed for the two inductively-coupled qubits. The detuning $\Delta = |\omega_2 - \omega_1|$ of these two qubits can be initially chosen to be sufficiently large, so that their initial interbit coupling is almost negligible.

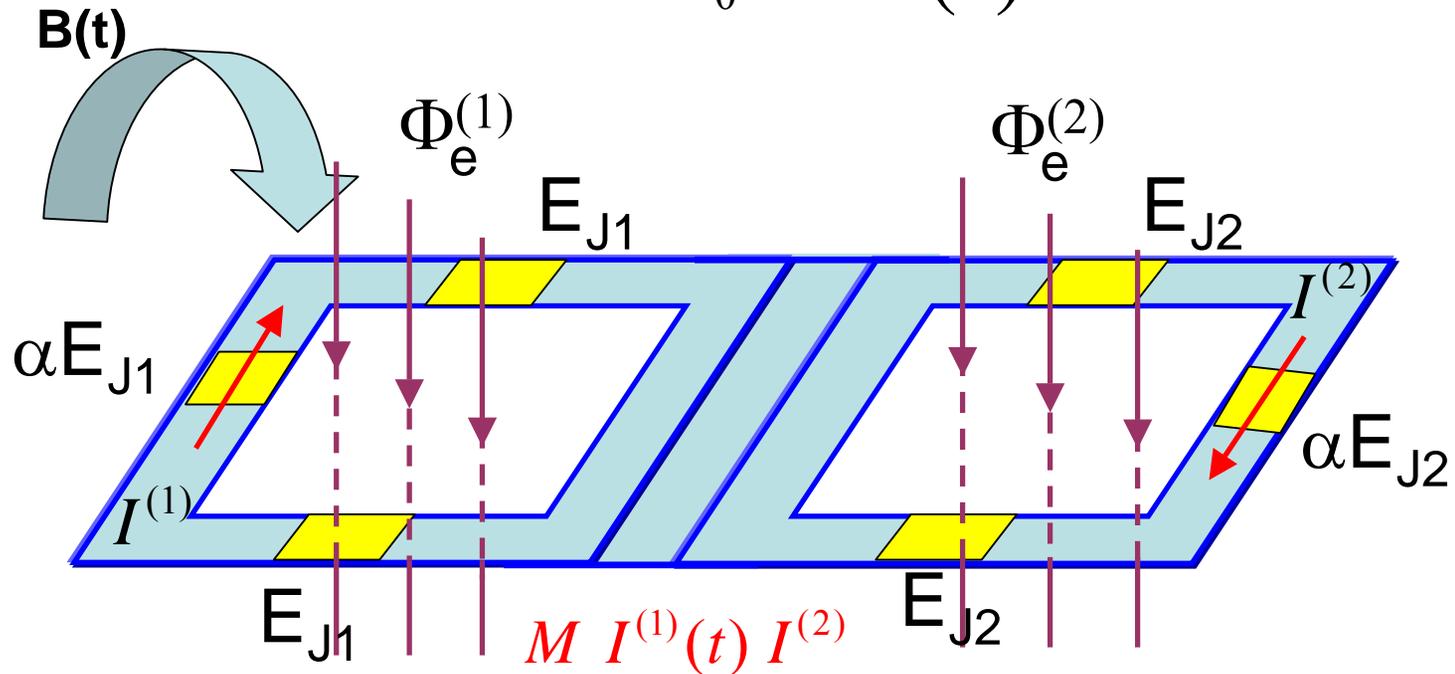
When a time-dependent, or variable-frequency, magnetic flux (VFMF) is applied, **a frequency of the VFMF can be chosen to compensate the initial detuning and couple the qubits.**

This proposed method avoids fast changes of either qubit frequencies or the amplitudes of the bias magnetic fluxes through the qubit loops

Controllable couplings via VFMFs

Applying a Variable-Frequency Magnetic Flux (VFMF)

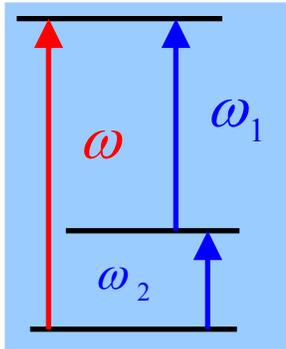
$$H = H_0 + H(t)$$



$$I^{(1)}(t) \approx I^{(1)} + \tilde{I}(t)$$

Liu, Wei, Tsai, and Nori, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* 96, 067003 (2006)

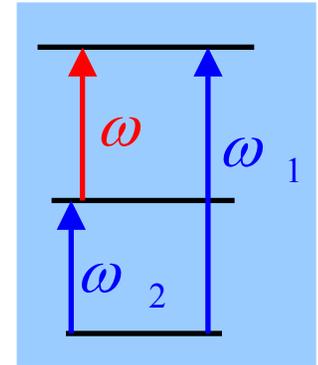
Controllable couplings via VFMFs



$$\omega_1 + \omega_2 = \omega$$

Frequency or mode matching conditions

$$H_{\text{int}} = \left\{ \Omega_1 \sigma_+^{(1)} \sigma_+^{(2)} \exp[-i(\omega - \omega_1 - \omega_2)t] + \text{H.c.} \right\} \\ + \left\{ \Omega_2 \sigma_+^{(1)} \sigma_-^{(2)} \exp[-i(\omega + \omega_2 - \omega_1)t] + \text{H.c.} \right\}$$



$$\omega_1 - \omega_2 = \omega$$

If $\omega_1 - \omega_2 = \omega$, then the $\exp[\dots]$ of the second term equals one, while the first term oscillates fast (canceling out). Thus, the second term dominates and the qubits are coupled with coupling constant Ω_2

If $\omega_1 + \omega_2 = \omega$, then the $\exp[\dots]$ of the first term equals one, while the second term oscillates fast (canceling out). Thus, the first term dominates and the qubits are coupled with coupling constant Ω_1

Thus, the coupling between qubits can be controlled by the frequency of the variable-frequency magnetic flux (VFMF) matching either the detuning (or sum) of the frequencies of the two qubits.

Controllable couplings via VFMFs

Mode matching conditions

$$\omega_1 - \omega_2 = \omega$$

$$H_1 = \Omega_2 \sigma_+^{(1)} \sigma_-^{(2)} + \text{H.c.}$$

$$|\psi_{\pm}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|e_1, g_2\rangle + |g_1, e_2\rangle)$$

$$\omega_1 + \omega_2 = \omega$$

$$H_2 = \Omega_1 \sigma_+^{(1)} \sigma_+^{(2)} + \text{H.c.}$$

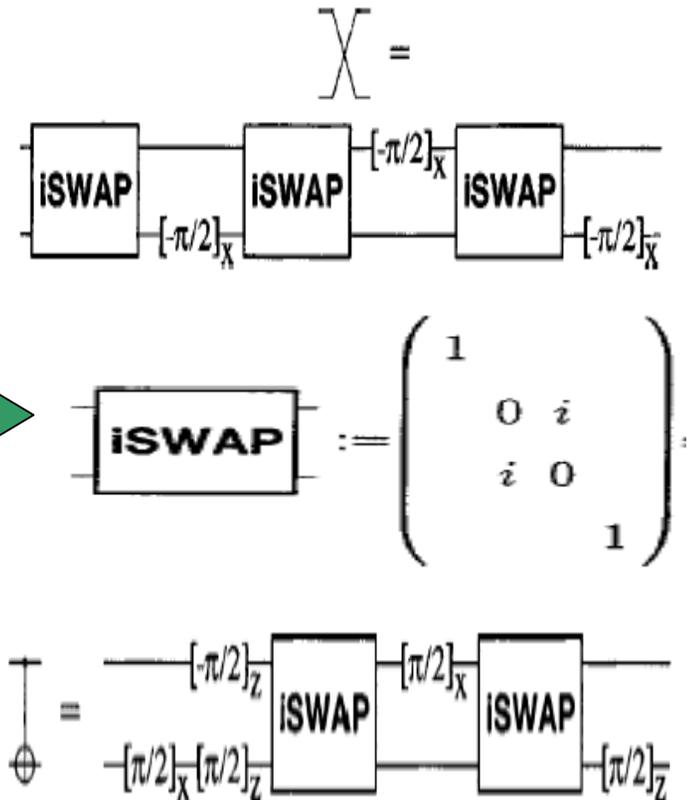
$$|\psi_{\pm}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|g_1, g_2\rangle + |e_1, e_2\rangle)$$

$$t = \frac{\hbar \pi}{2 |\Omega_2|}$$



$$t = \frac{\hbar \pi}{2 |\Omega_1|}$$

Logic gates



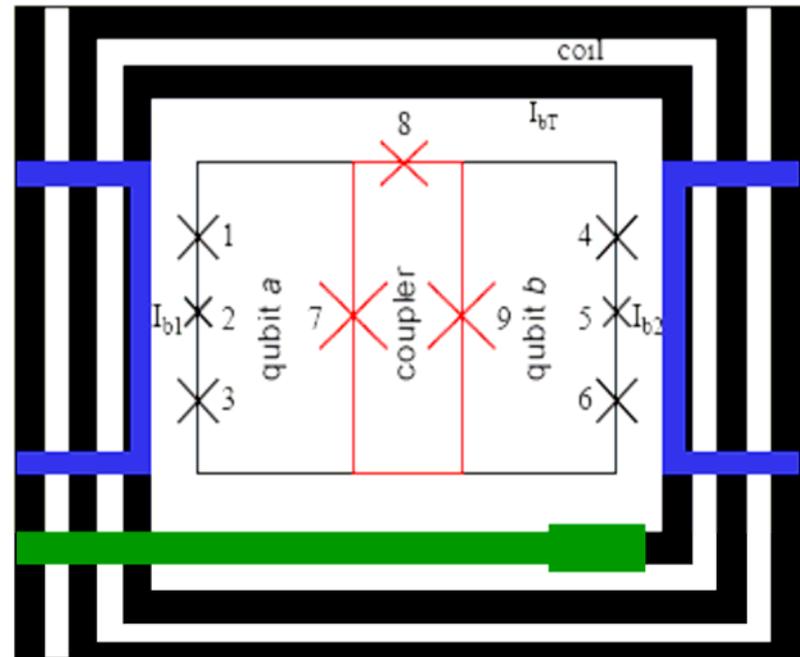
Quantum tomography can be implemented via an ISWAP gate, even if only one qubit measurement can be performed at a time.

Experimentally realizable circuits for VFMF controlled couplings

We propose a coupling scheme, where two **flux** qubits with different eigenfrequencies share Josephson junctions with a coupler loop devoid of its own quantum dynamics.

Switchable two-qubit coupling can be realized by tuning the frequency of the AC magnetic flux through the coupler to a combination frequency of two of the qubits.

The coupling allows **any or all of the qubits to be simultaneously at the degeneracy point** and their mutual interactions can change sign.



Grajcar, Liu, Nori, Zagoskin, cond-mat/0605484
DC version in Jena exper., cond-mat/0605588

[details](#)

Switchable coupling proposals (without using data buses)

| Proposal \ Feature → | Weak fields | Optimal point | No additional circuitry |
|---|-------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| Rigetti et al. (Yale) | No | Yes | Yes |
| Liu et al. (RIKEN-Michigan) | OK | No | Yes |
| Bertet et al. (Delft) Niskanen et al. (RIKEN-NEC) Grajnar et al. (RIKEN-Michigan) | OK | Yes | No |
| Ashhab et al. (RIKEN-Michigan) | OK | Yes | Yes |

Depending on the experimental parameters, our proposals might be useful options in certain situations.

[details](#)

Now: let's consider a
Variable-Frequency-
Magnetic-Flux (VFMF)

and also
a data bus

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Scalable circuits: data bus + VFMF

We propose a scalable circuit with superconducting qubits (SCQs) which is essentially the same as the successful one now being used for trapped ions.

The SCQs act as "trapped ions" and are coupled to a "vibrating" mode provided by a superconducting LC circuit, acting as a data bus (DB).

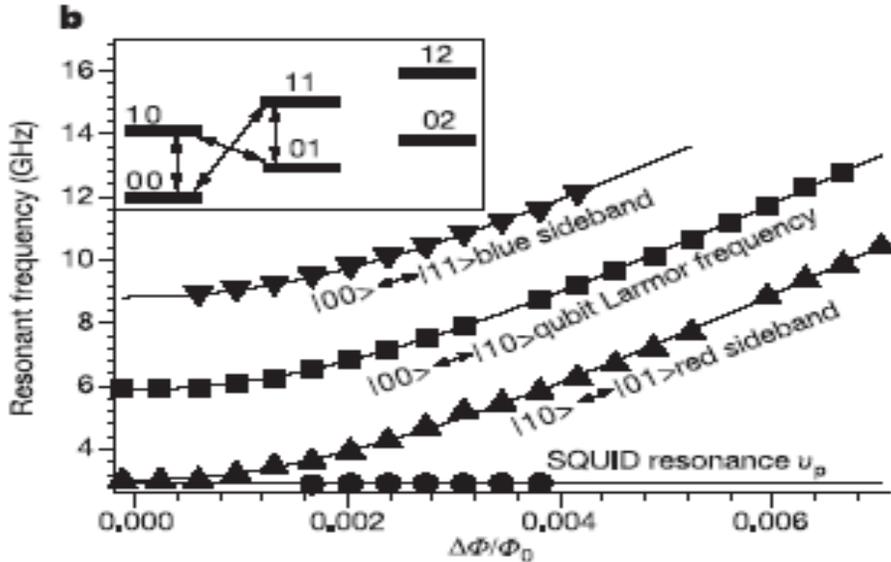
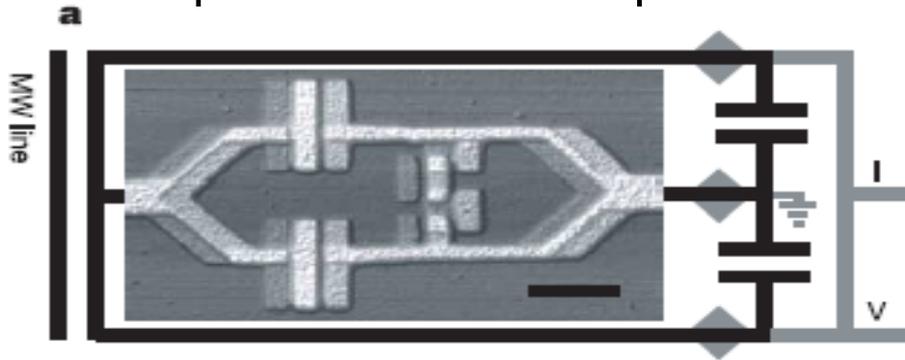
Each SC qubit can be separately addressed by applying a time-dependent magnetic flux (TDMF).

Single-qubit rotations and qubit-bus couplings and decouplings are controlled by the frequencies of the TDMFs. Thus, qubit-qubit interactions, mediated by the bus, can be selectively performed.

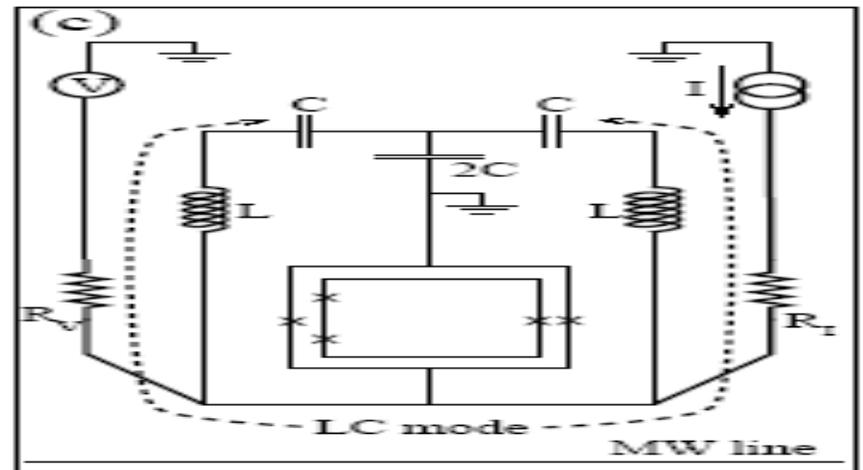
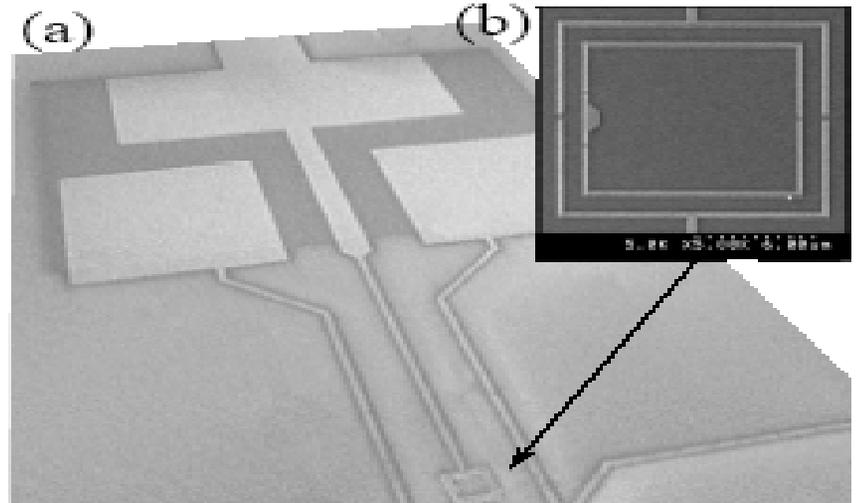
Scalable circuits: using an LC data bus

LC-circuit-mediated interaction between qubits

Level quantization of a superconducting LC circuit has been observed.



Delft, Nature, 2004



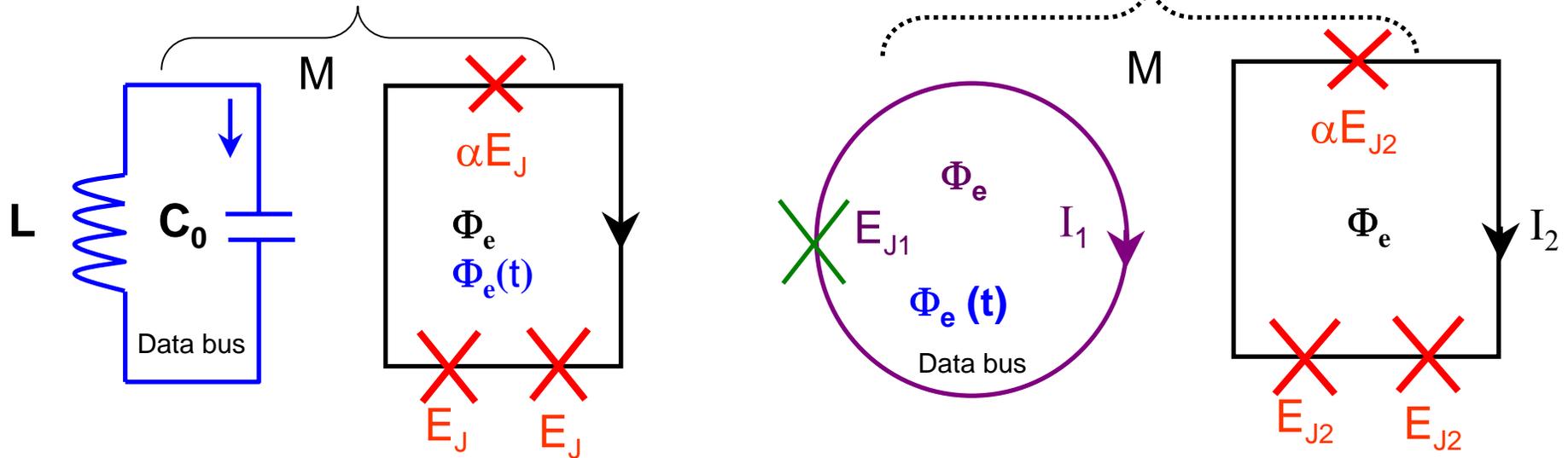
NTT, PRL 96, 127006 (2006)

Scalable circuits: LC versus JJ-loop data-bus

Controllable interaction between the data bus and a flux qubit

Inductive coupling via M

$$H = H_{qubit} + H_{bus} + MI_1 I_2$$



The circuit with an LC data bus models the Delft circuit in Nature (2004), which does not work at the optimal point for a TDMF to control the coupling between the qubit and the data bus.

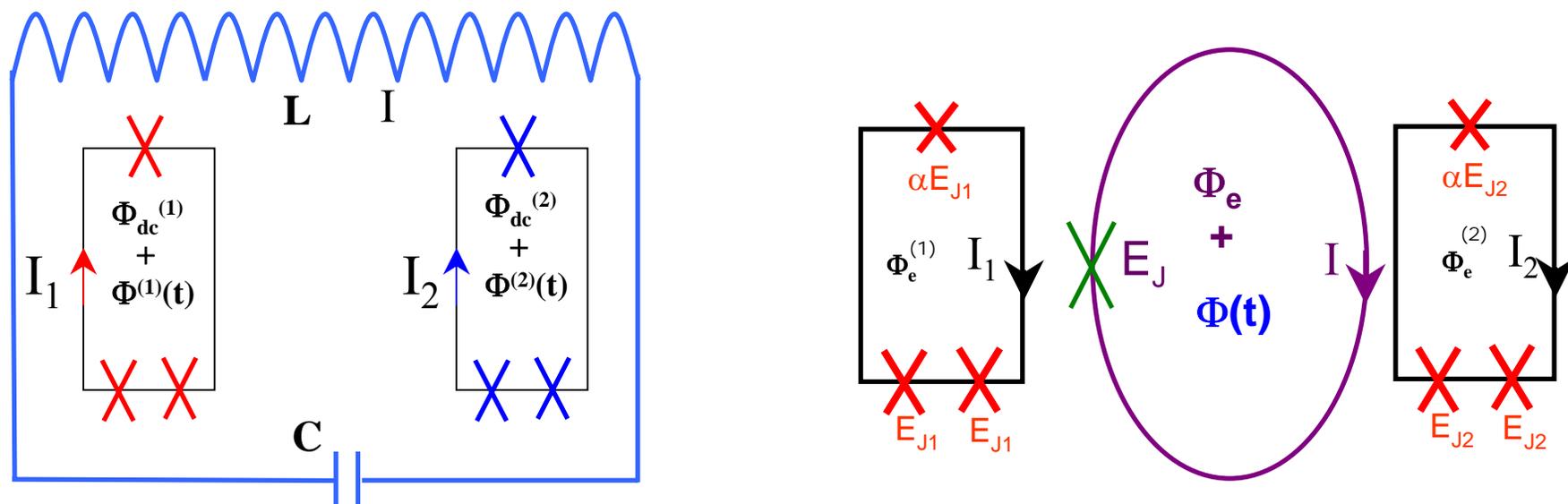
This TDMF introduces a non-linear coupling between the qubit, the LC circuit, and the TDMF.

Replacing the LC circuit by the JJ loop as a data-bus, with a TDMF, then the qubit can work at the optimal point

Liu, Wei, Tsai, Nori, cond-mat/0509236

[details](#)

A data bus using TDMF to couple several qubits



A data bus could couple several tens of qubits.

The TDMF introduces a nonlinear coupling between the qubit, the LC circuit, and the TDMF.

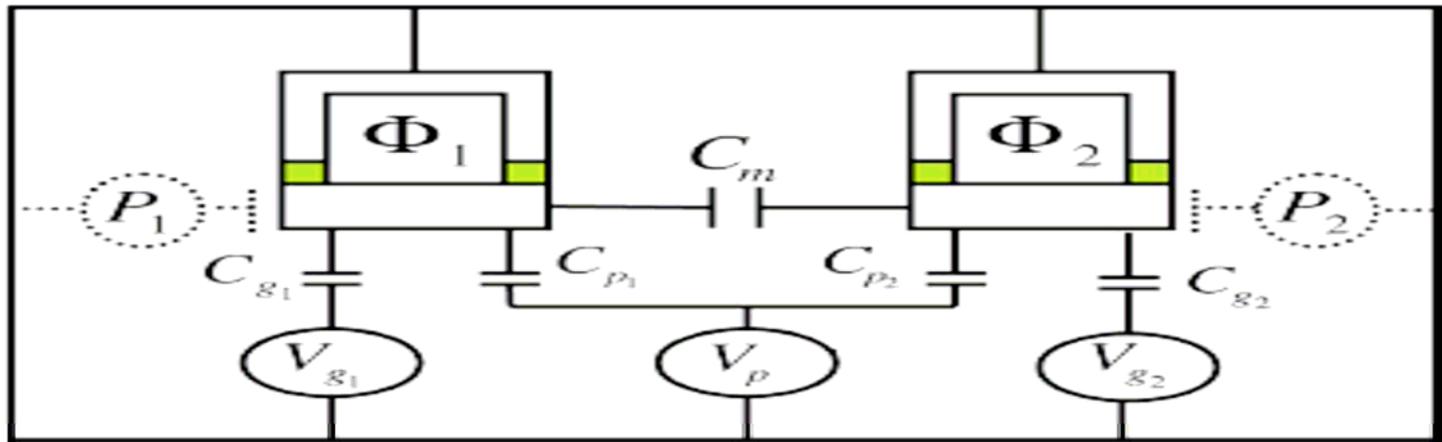
Comparison between SC qubits and trapped ions

| | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------|
| Qubits | Trapped ions | Superconducting circuits |
| Quantized bosonic mode | Vibration mode | LC circuit |
| Classical fields | Lasers | Magnetic fluxes |

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Testing Bell's inequality



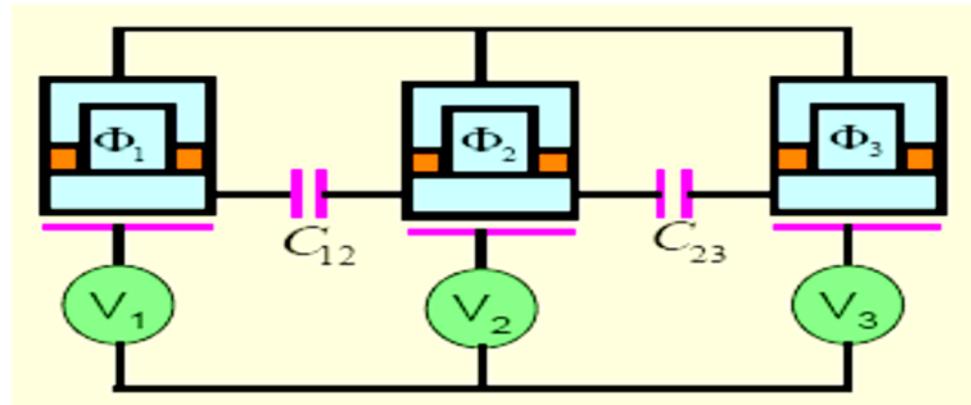
We propose how to use
coupled Josephson qubits
to test Bell's inequality

Wei, Liu, Nori, *Phys. Rev. B* (2005)

Generating GHZ states

We propose an efficient approach to produce and control the quantum entanglement of three macroscopic coupled superconducting qubits.

Wei, Liu, Nori,
Phys. Rev. Lett. (June 2006)



We show that their Greenberger-Horne-Zeilinger (GHZ) entangled states can be deterministically generated by appropriate conditional operations.

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- **Quantum tomography**
- Conclusions

Quantum tomography

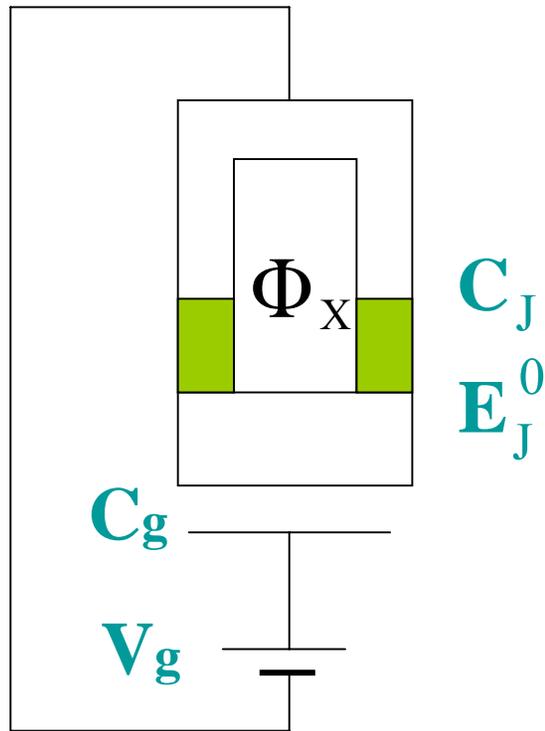
We propose a method for the *tomographic reconstruction of qubit states* for a general class of solid state systems in which the Hamiltonians are represented by spin operators, e.g., with Heisenberg-, XXZ-, or XY- type exchange interactions.

We analyze the implementation of the projective operator measurements, or spin measurements, on qubit states. All the qubit states for the spin Hamiltonians can be reconstructed by using experimental data.

This general method has been applied to study *how to reconstruct any superconducting charge qubit state*.

Liu, Wei, Nori, *Europhysics Letters* 67, 874 (2004); *Phys. Rev. B* 72, 014547 (2005)

Superconducting charge qubit



Hamiltonian

$$H = -E_{\text{ch}} \sigma_z - E_J \sigma_x$$

with

$$E_{\text{ch}} = \frac{e^2}{C_g + 2C_J} (1 - 2n_g)$$

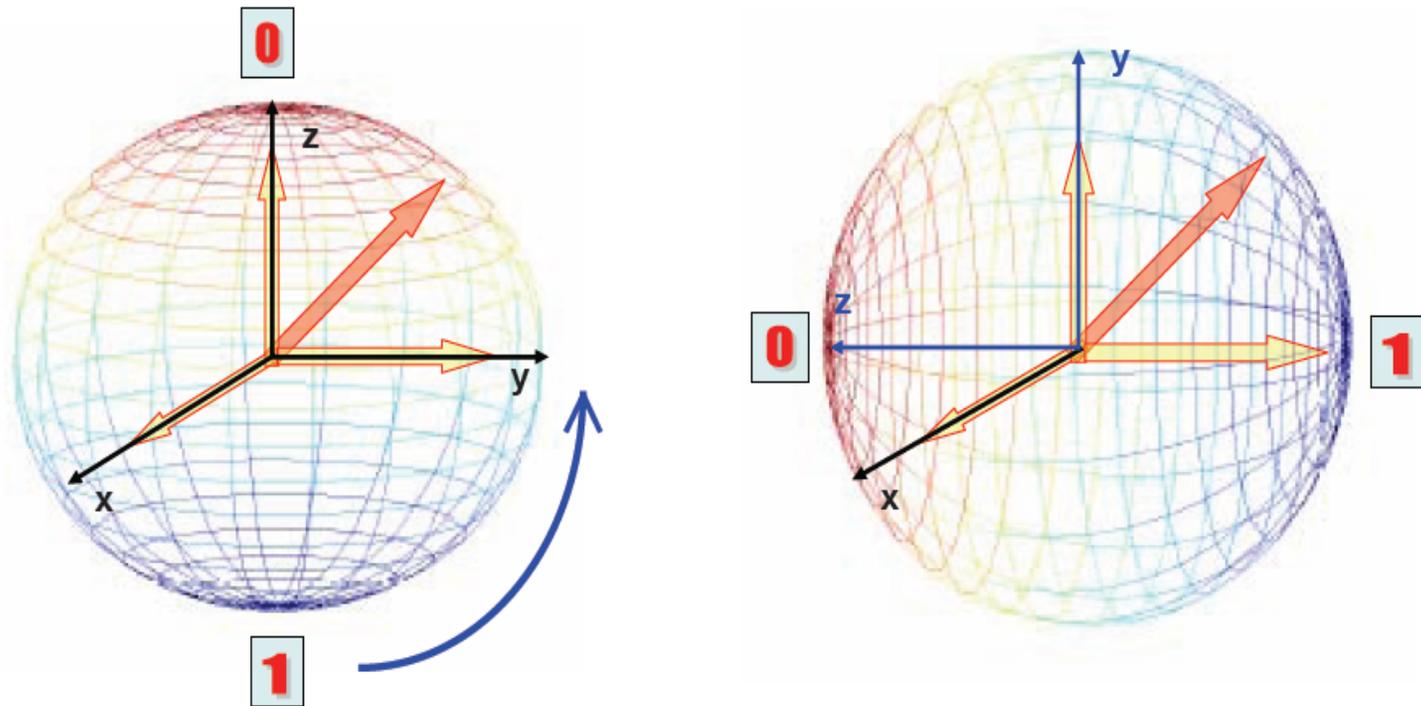
$$E_J = E_J^0 \cos\left(\pi \frac{\Phi_X}{\Phi_0}\right)$$

Quantum tomography for superconducting charge qubits

Liu, Wei, Nori, Phys. Rev. B 72, 014547 (2005)

Quantum tomography

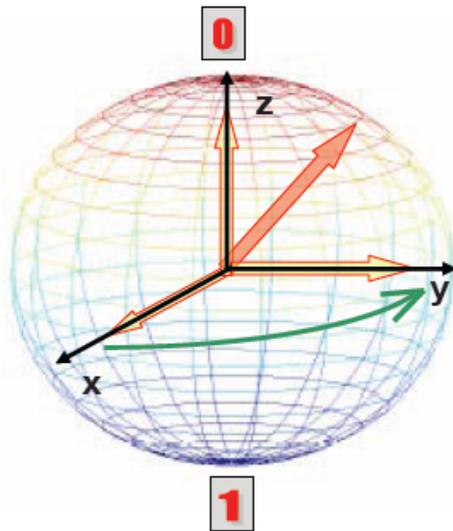
$\frac{\pi}{2}$ rotation around the x axis



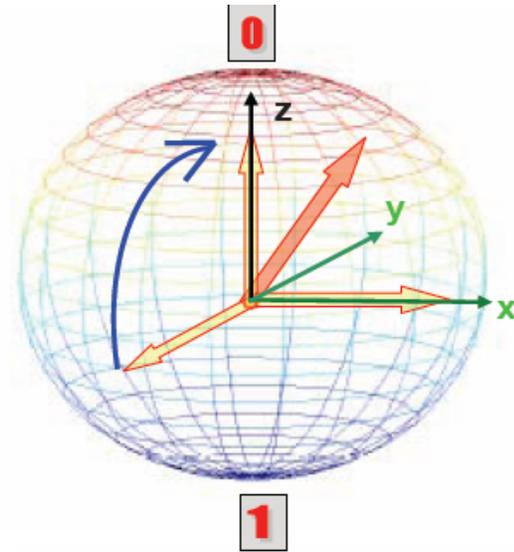
This rotation can be realized by setting $\Phi_x = 0$ and $n_c = \frac{1}{2}$ with an evolution time $t_x = \frac{\hbar\pi}{4E_J^0}$.

Quantum tomography

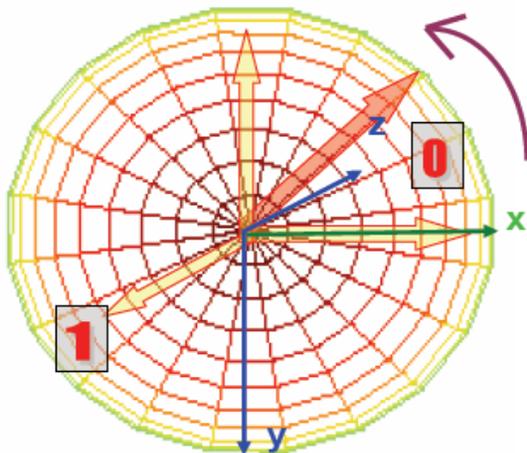
$\frac{\pi}{2}$ rotation around the y axis



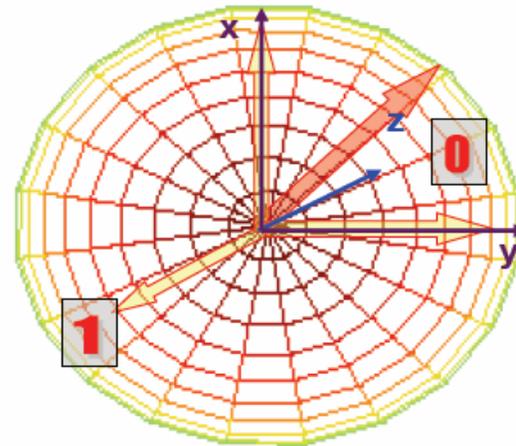
$\Phi_x = \frac{\pi}{2}$
 $n_g = 0$
 $t_1 = \frac{\hbar\pi}{8E_c}$
 $\frac{\pi}{2}$ rotation
 around the
 z axis



$n_g = \frac{1}{2}$
 $\Phi_x = 0$
 $t_2 = \frac{3\hbar\pi}{4E_J^0}$
 $-\frac{\pi}{2}$ rotation
 around the
 x axis



$\Phi_x = \frac{\pi}{2}$
 $n_g = 0$
 $t_3 = \frac{3\hbar\pi}{8E_c}$
 $-\frac{\pi}{2}$ rotation
 around the
 z axis



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Summary

- Studied SC charge, flux, charge-flux, and phase qubits
- Studied many analogies between atomic physics and SC qubits including ion traps, on-chip micromasers, cyclic transitions, generating photon states using SC qubits
- We proposed and studied circuit QED. It has been verified experimentally, years after our prediction
- Proposed several methods of controllable couplings between different qubits
- Studied how to dynamically decouple qubits with always-on interactions
- Introduced solid state quantum tomography

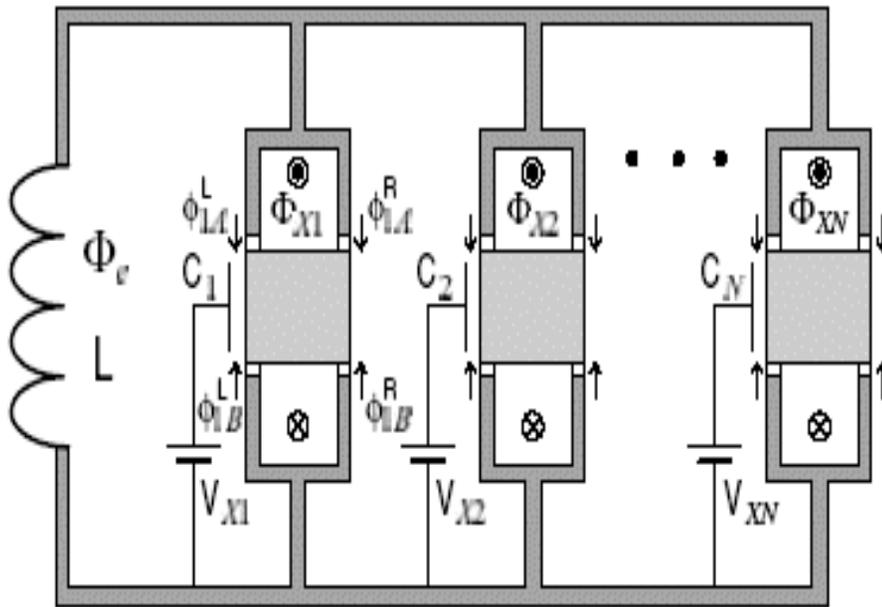
End of the Quick overview of several types of superconducting qubits

For a short pedagogical overview, please see:

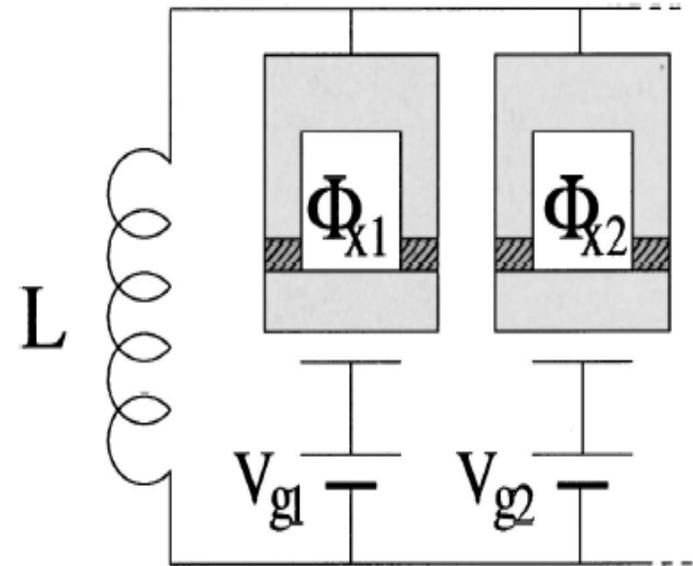
You and Nori, *Physics Today* (November 2005)

Switchable qubit coupling proposals

E.g., by changing the magnetic fluxes through the qubit loops.



You, Tsai, Nori, *PRL* (2002)



Y. Makhlin et al., *RMP* (2001)

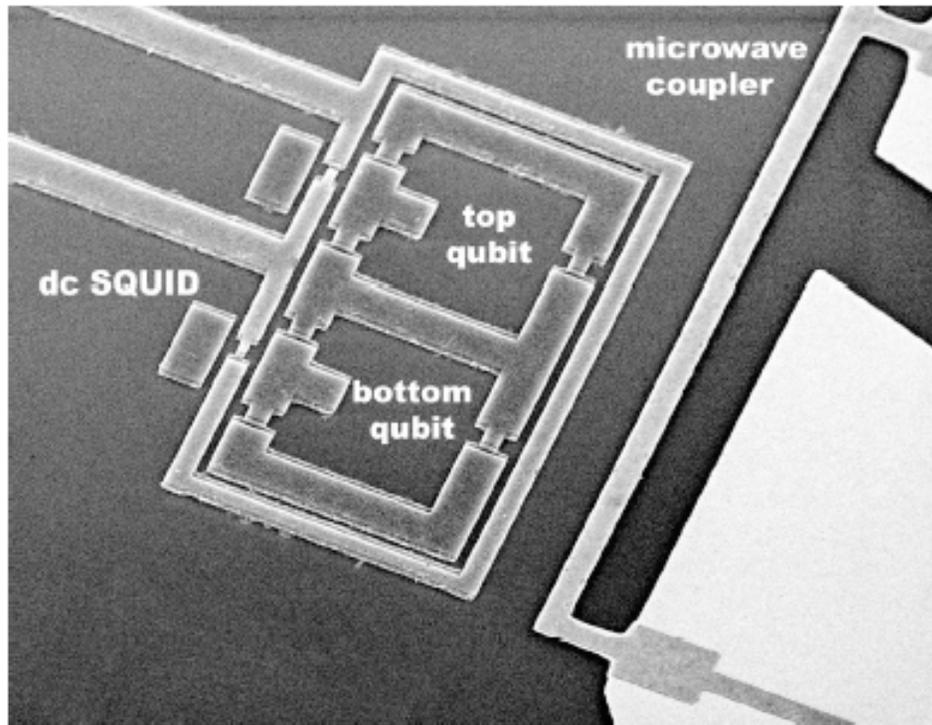
Coupling:
$$\chi(\Phi_e^{(1)}, \Phi_e^{(2)}) \propto \cos\left(\pi \frac{\Phi_e^{(1)}}{\Phi_0}\right) \cos\left(\pi \frac{\Phi_e^{(2)}}{\Phi_0}\right)$$

How to couple flux qubits

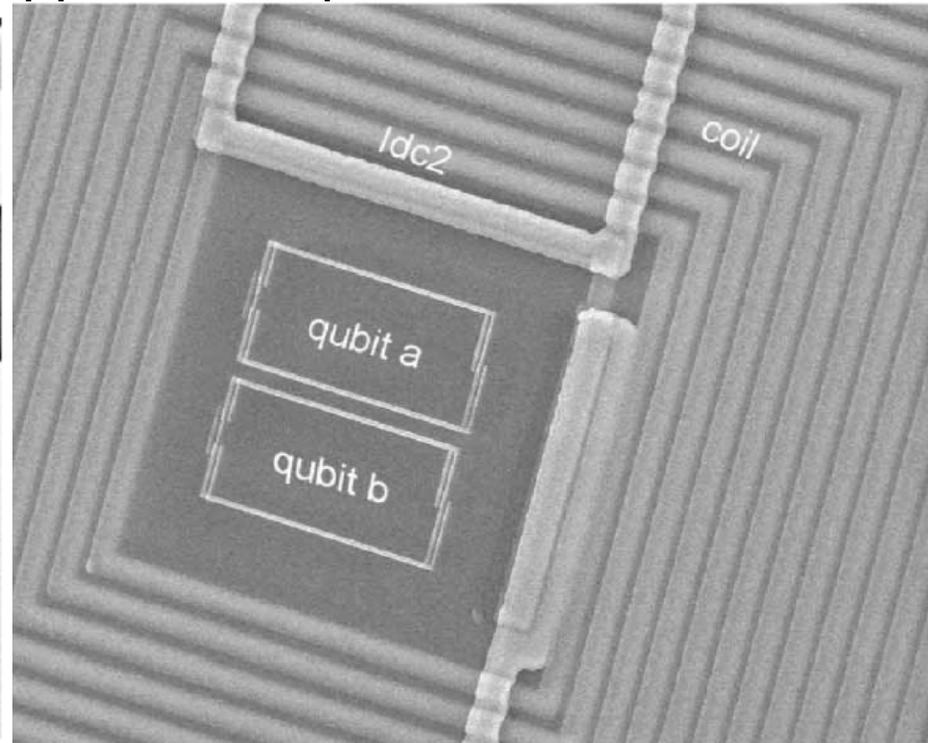
We made several proposals on how to couple qubits.

No auxiliary circuit is used in several of these proposals to mediate the qubit coupling.

This type of proposal could be applied to experiments such as:



J.B. Majer et al., PRL94, 090501 (2005)



A. Izmailkov et al., PRL 93, 037003 (2004)

Controllable couplings via VFMFs

Coupling constants with VFMF

When $|g|/(\omega_1 - \omega_2) \ll 1$, the Hamiltonian becomes

$$H = \frac{\hbar}{2} \omega_1 \sigma_z^{(1)} + \frac{\hbar}{2} \omega_2 \sigma_z^{(2)} + [\Omega_1 \sigma_+^{(1)} \sigma_+^{(2)} \exp(-i\omega t) + \text{H.c.}] + [\Omega_2 \sigma_+^{(1)} \sigma_-^{(2)} \exp(-i\omega t) + \text{H.c.}]$$

$$f_i = \frac{1}{2} \text{ and parity}$$

$$\Omega_1 \propto \langle e_2 | I^{(2)} | g_2 \rangle \times \langle e_1 | \cos(2\varphi_p^{(1)} + 2\pi f_1) | g_1 \rangle$$

$$\Omega_2 \propto \langle g_2 | I^{(2)} | e_2 \rangle \times \langle e_1 | \cos(2\varphi_p^{(1)} + 2\pi f_1) | g_1 \rangle$$

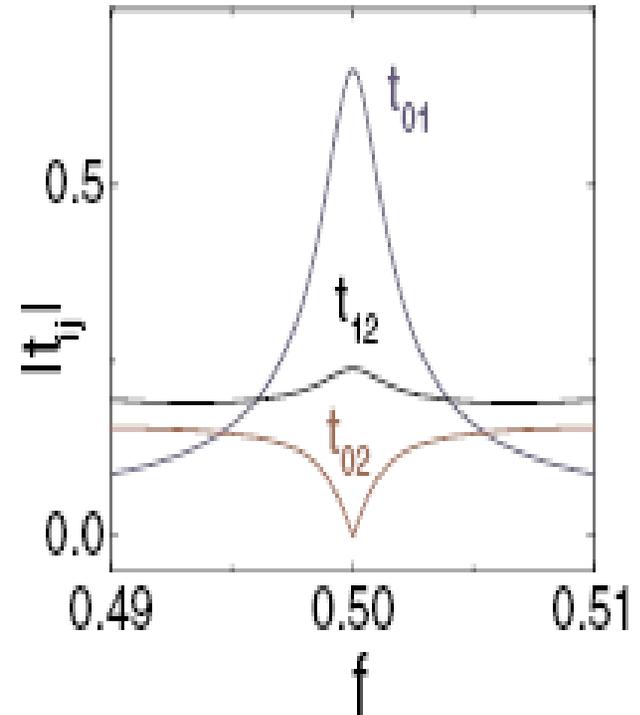
$f_1 = 1/2$ even parity

$|g\rangle$ and $|e\rangle$ have different parities when $f_i = 1/2$

$$I^{(2)} = C_2 \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{I_{ic}^{(2)}}{C_i} \sin \varphi_i^{(2)}$$

with
$$\frac{1}{C_2} = \sum_{i=1}^3 \frac{1}{C_{ji}^{(2)}}$$

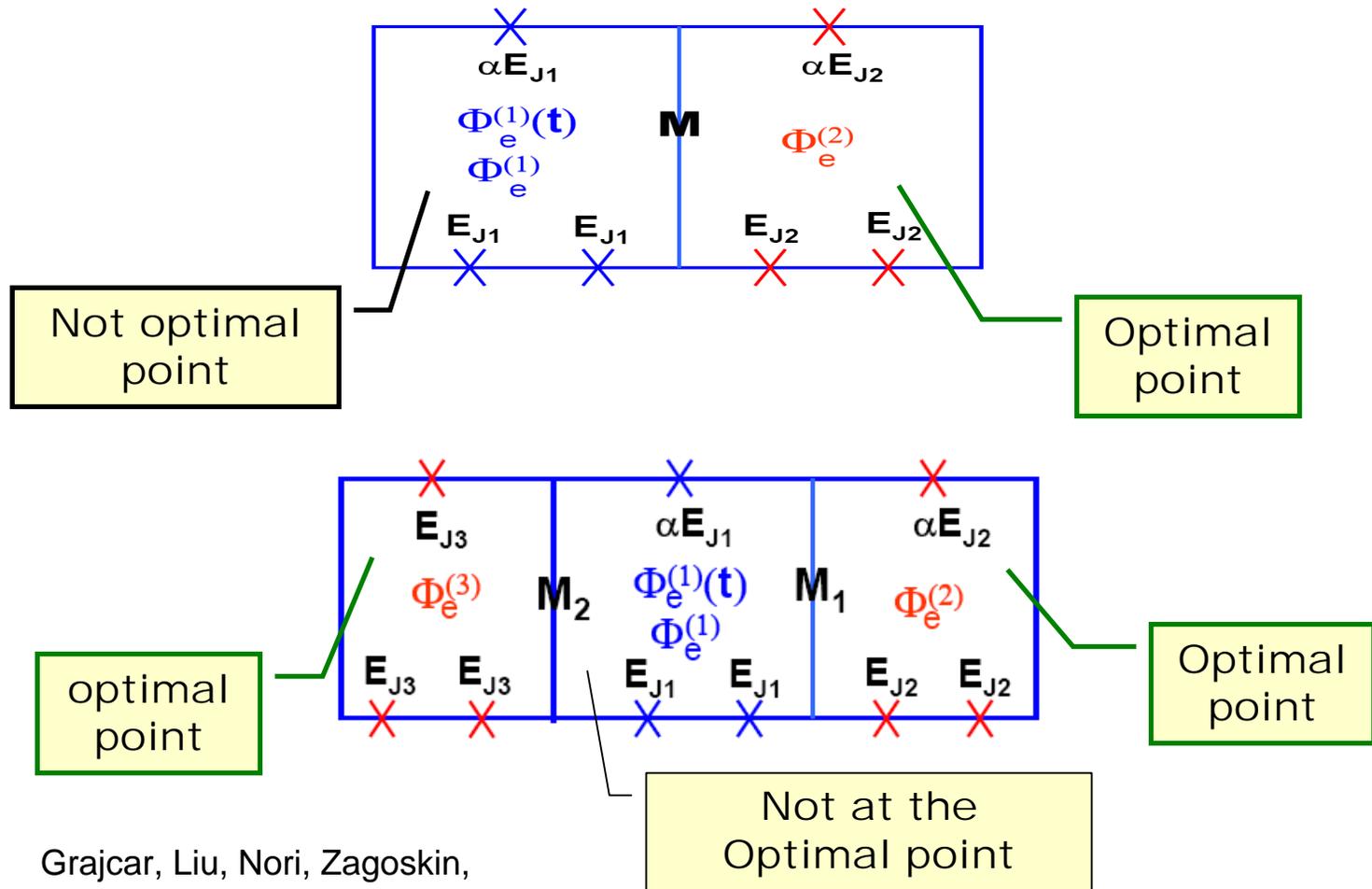
$f_2 = 1/2$ odd parity



Liu et al., PRL 95, 087001 (2005)

Controllable couplings via VFMFs

The couplings in these two circuits work similarly

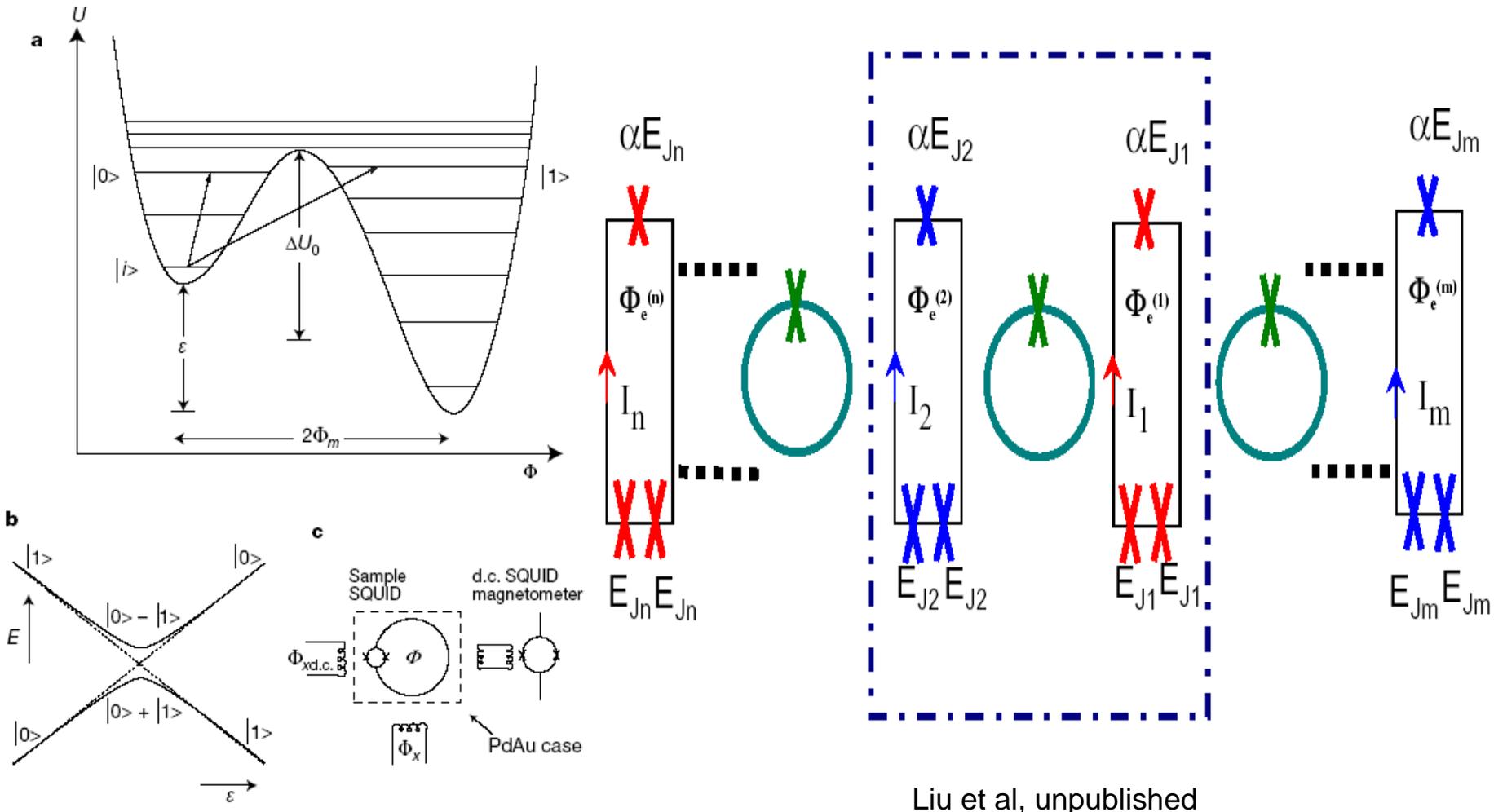


Grajcar, Liu, Nori, Zagoskin,
cond-mat/0605484

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Scalable circuits

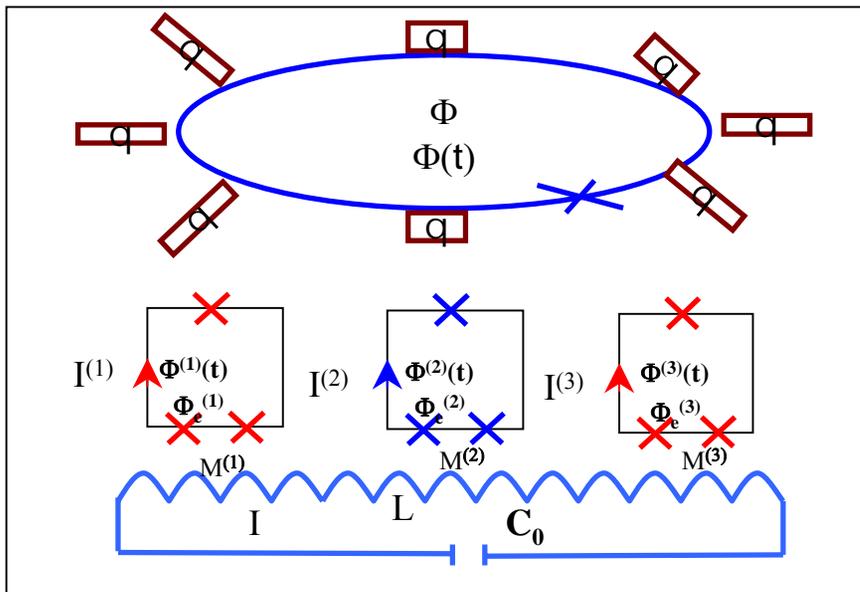
rf SQUID mediated qubit interaction



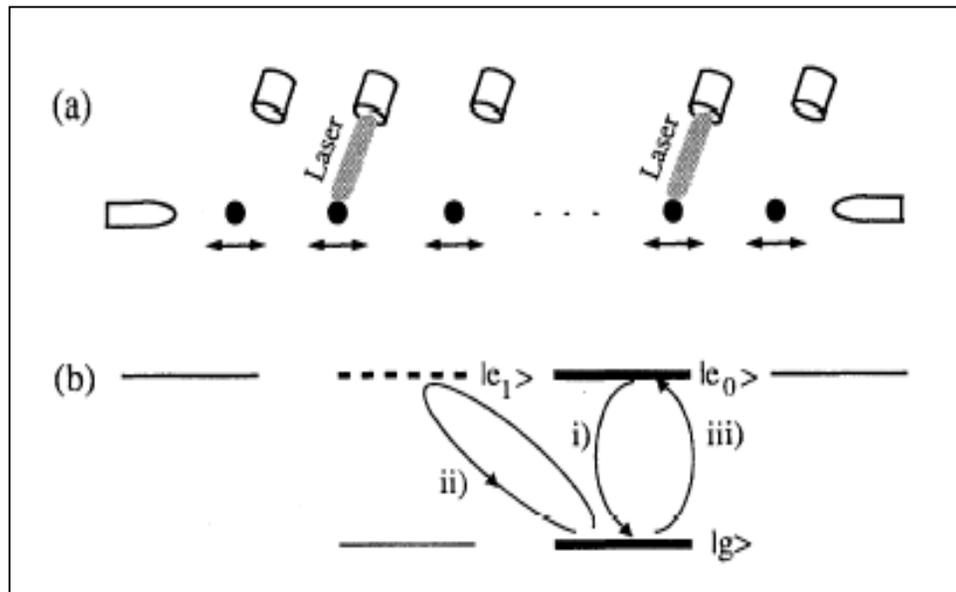
Friedman et al., Nature (2000)

Radius of rf SQUID $\sim 100 \mu\text{m}$; Radius of the qubit with three junctions $\sim 1\text{--}10 \mu\text{m}$. Nearest neighbor interaction.

SC qubits as analogs of trapped ions



Liu, Wei, Tsai, Nori, cond-mat/0509236



Cirac and Zoller, PRL74, 4091 (1995)

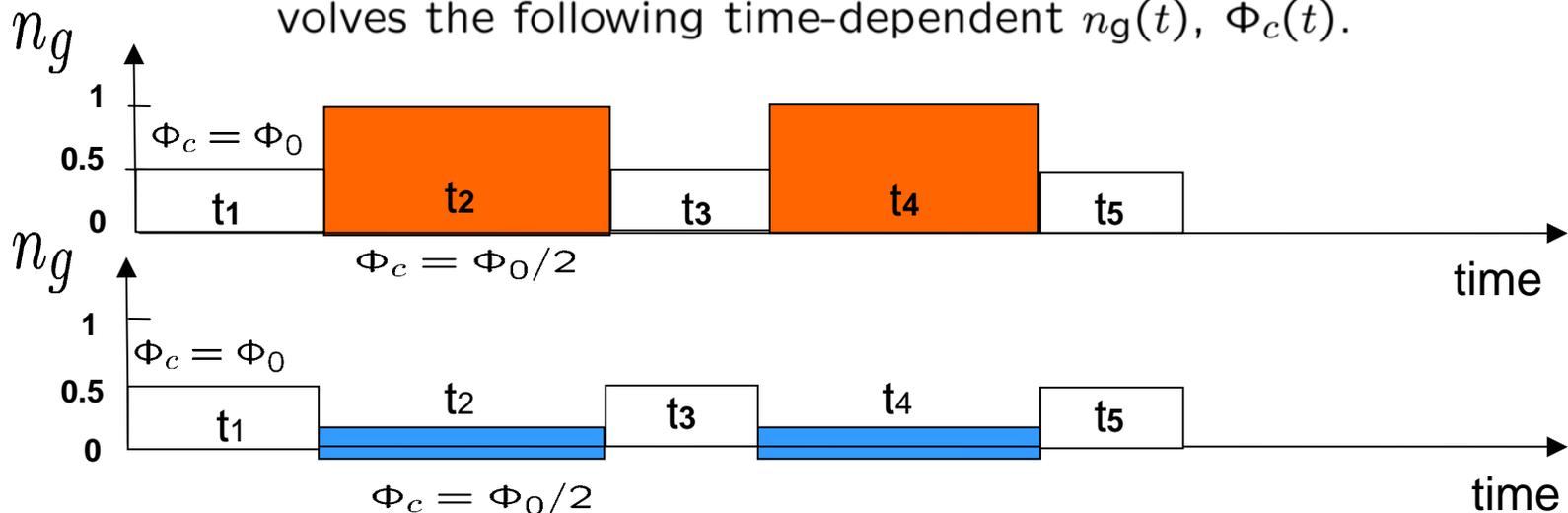
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Cavity QED: Controllable quantum operations

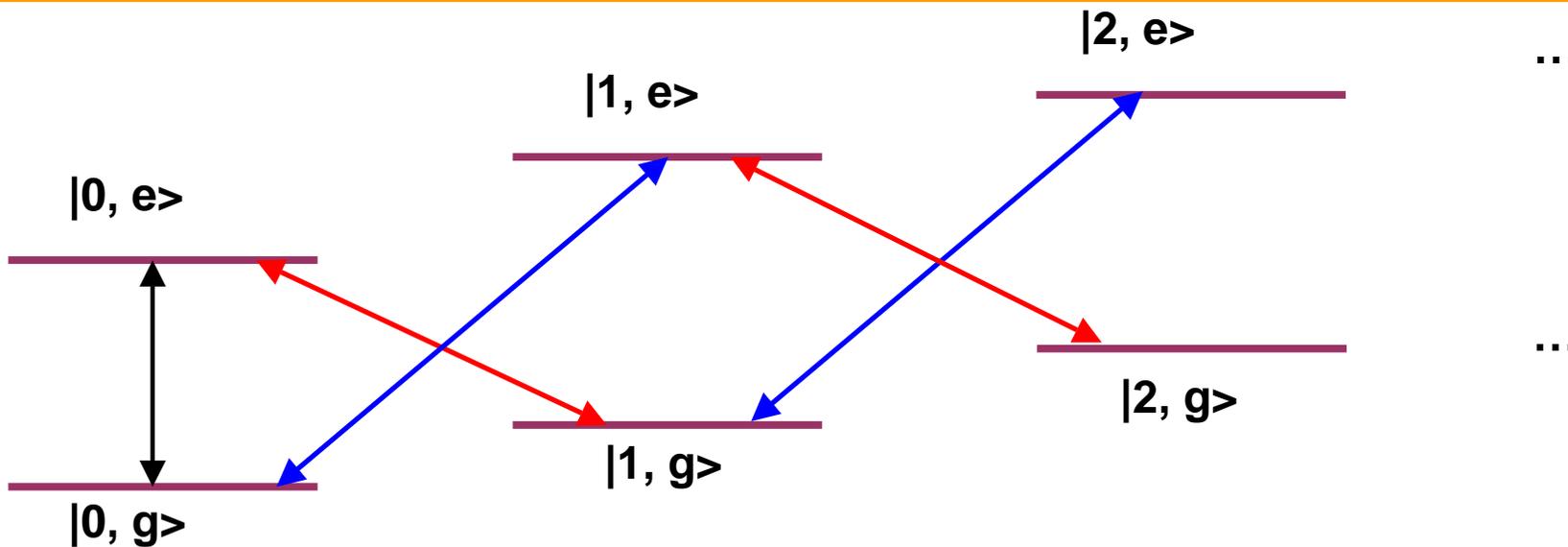
Controllable operation can be realized by the Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned}
 H = & \underbrace{\hbar\omega a^\dagger a}_{\text{cavity field}} - \underbrace{2E_C(1 - 2n_g)\sigma_z}_{\text{charging energy}} - \underbrace{E_J \cos\left(\frac{\pi\Phi_c}{\Phi_0}\right) (\sigma_+ + \sigma_-)}_{\text{carrier}} \\
 & + \underbrace{\frac{\pi E_J}{\Phi_0} \sin\left(\frac{\pi\Phi_c}{\Phi_0}\right) (ga\sigma_+ + g^*a^\dagger\sigma_-)}_{\text{Red sideband excitation}} + \underbrace{\frac{\pi E_J}{\Phi_0} \sin\left(\frac{\pi\Phi_c}{\Phi_0}\right) (ga\sigma_- + g^*a^\dagger\sigma_+)}_{\text{Blue sideband excitation}}
 \end{aligned}$$

Operation with red (blue) sideband excitation and carrier involves the following time-dependent $n_g(t)$, $\Phi_c(t)$.



Three-types of excitations



$$|n, g\rangle \longleftrightarrow |n, e\rangle$$

$$|n+1, g\rangle \longleftrightarrow |n, e\rangle$$

$$|n, g\rangle \longleftrightarrow |n+1, g\rangle$$

Carrier process:

$$\omega_q = \omega_c$$

Red sideband excitation:

$$\omega_c = \omega_q - \omega$$

Blue sideband excitation:

$$\omega_c = \omega_q + \omega$$

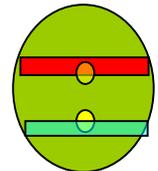
Cavity QED on a chip

Carrier brings the qubit to superpositions or excited states

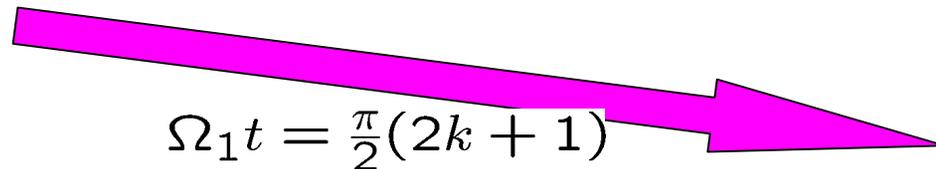
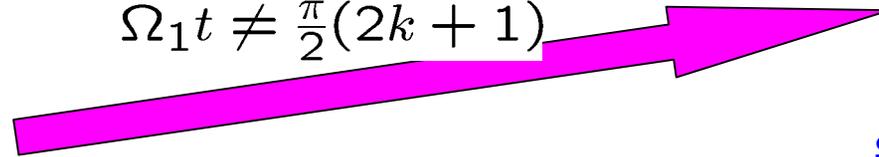
When the JJ charge qubit works at the degeneracy point $n_g = 1/2$, the qubit can be prepared in the state $\beta_1|\downarrow\rangle + \beta_2|\uparrow\rangle$ or $|\downarrow\rangle$ by the quantum operation (here $\Omega_1 = E_J/\hbar$)

$$U_c(t) = \underbrace{\cos(\Omega_1 t)I + \sin(\Omega_1 t)(|e\rangle\langle g| + |g\rangle\langle e|)}_{H_c = E_J\sigma_x}$$

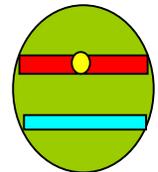
$$\Omega_1 t \neq \frac{\pi}{2}(2k + 1)$$



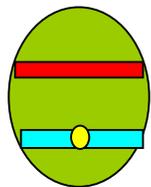
Superposition state



$$\Omega_1 t = \frac{\pi}{2}(2k + 1)$$



Excited state



Initially, the qubit is in its ground state

$$U_c(t)$$

$$\Phi_c = \Phi_0$$

Now turn $n_g = 1/2$

There is no interaction between the qubit and the cavity field at this stage.

Cavity QED on a chip

Red sideband process: JJ qubit emits a photon

The gate voltage and magnetic flux are set to $n_g = 1$ and $\Phi_c = \Phi_0/2$. Then the qubit resonantly interacts with the cavity field.

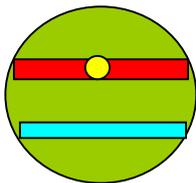
$$U_R(t) = R_{ee}|e\rangle\langle e| + R_{gg}|g\rangle\langle g| - iR_{ge}|g\rangle\langle e| - iR_{eg}|e\rangle\langle g|$$

$$H_R = \frac{\pi E_J}{\Phi_0} (ga\sigma_+ + ga^\dagger\sigma_-)$$

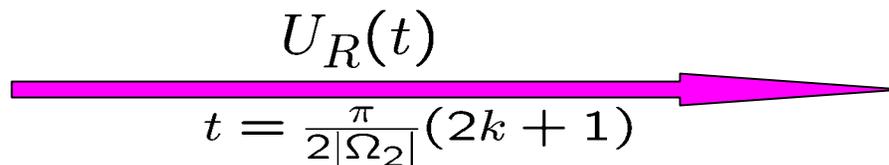
where

$$R_{eg} = \left[e^{i\theta} \frac{\sin(|\Omega_2|t\sqrt{a^\dagger a})}{\sqrt{a^\dagger a}} \right] \quad a = R_{ge}^\dagger, \quad \Omega_2 = \frac{\pi|g|E_J}{\hbar\Phi_0} e^{i\theta}$$

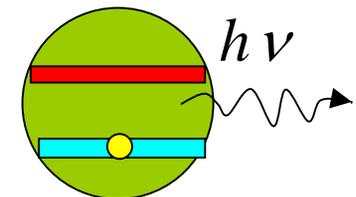
$$R_{ee} = \cos(|\Omega_2|t\sqrt{aa^\dagger}), \quad R_{gg} = \cos(|\Omega_2|t\sqrt{a^\dagger a})$$



Initially, the qubit is in its excited state $n_g = 1$



Red sideband excitation is provided by turning on the magnetic field such that $\Phi_c = \Phi_0/2$.



Finally, the qubit is in its ground state and one photon is emitted.

Controllable interaction between data bus and a flux qubit

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \omega_q \sigma_z - (\Omega_1 \sigma_+ + \Omega_1^* \sigma_-) [\exp(-i\omega_c t) + \exp(i\omega_c t)] \\ + \left(\hbar\omega + \frac{1}{2} \right) a^\dagger a - (a^\dagger + a) (\Omega_2 \sigma_- + \Omega_2^* \sigma_+) \\ - (a^\dagger + a) (\Omega \sigma_+ + \Omega^* \sigma_-) [\exp(-i\omega_c t) + \exp(i\omega_c t)]$$

Large detuning: $|\omega_q - \omega| \gg |\Omega_2|$

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \omega_q \sigma_z - (\Omega_1 \sigma_+ + \Omega_1^* \sigma_-) [\exp(-i\omega_c t) + \exp(i\omega_c t)] \\ + \left(\hbar\omega + \frac{1}{2} \right) a^\dagger a - (a^\dagger + a) (\Omega \sigma_+ + \Omega^* \sigma_-) [\exp(-i\omega_c t) + \exp(i\omega_c t)]$$

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \omega_q \sigma_z - (\Omega_1 \sigma_+ \exp(-i\omega_c t) + \Omega_1^* \exp(i\omega_c t) \sigma_-)$$

$\omega_q = \omega_c$, Carrier

Mode match and rotating wave approximation

$\omega_c = \omega_q - \omega$, Red

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \omega_q \sigma_z + \left(\hbar\omega + \frac{1}{2} \right) a^\dagger a \\ + \Omega \sigma_+ a \exp(-i\omega_c t) + \Omega^* \sigma_- a^\dagger \exp(i\omega_c t)$$

$$H = \Omega \sigma_+ a \exp(i\Delta t - i\omega_c t) + \text{H.c.}$$

$$\Delta = \omega_q - \omega$$

$\omega_c = \omega_q + \omega$, Blue

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \omega_q \sigma_z + \left(\hbar\omega + \frac{1}{2} \right) a^\dagger a \\ + \Omega \sigma_+ a^\dagger \exp(-i\omega_c t) + \Omega^* \sigma_- a \exp(i\omega_c t)$$

back

Dynamical decoupling

Main idea:

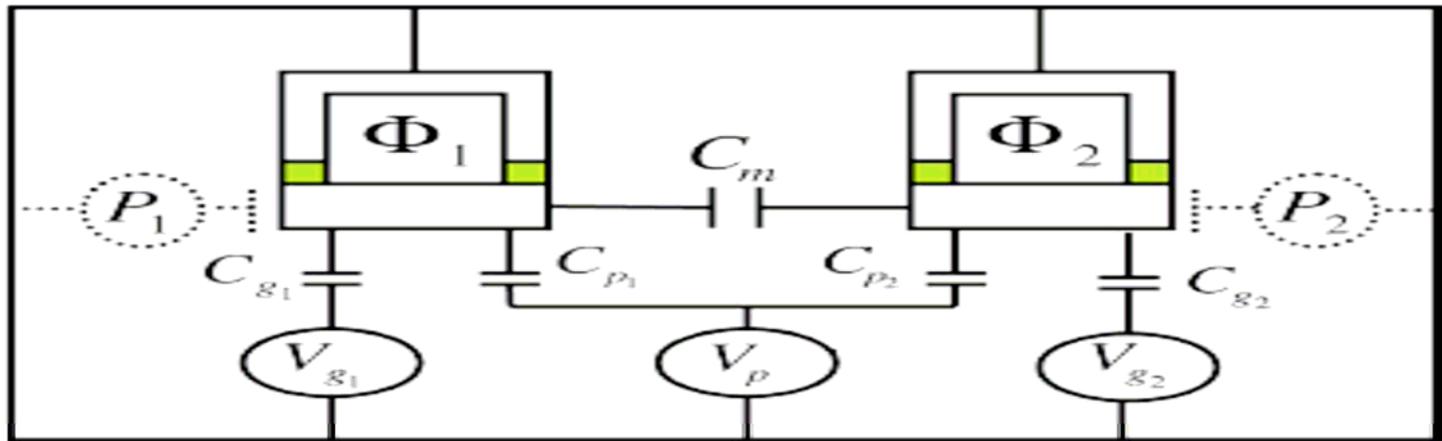
Let us assume that the coupling between qubits is not very strong (coupling energy $<$ qubit energy)

Then the interaction between qubits can be effectively incorporated into the single qubit term (as a perturbation term)

Then single-qubit rotations can be approximately obtained, even though the qubit-qubit interaction is fixed.

Wei, Liu, Nori, *Phys. Rev. B* 72, 104516 (2005)

Testing Bell's inequality

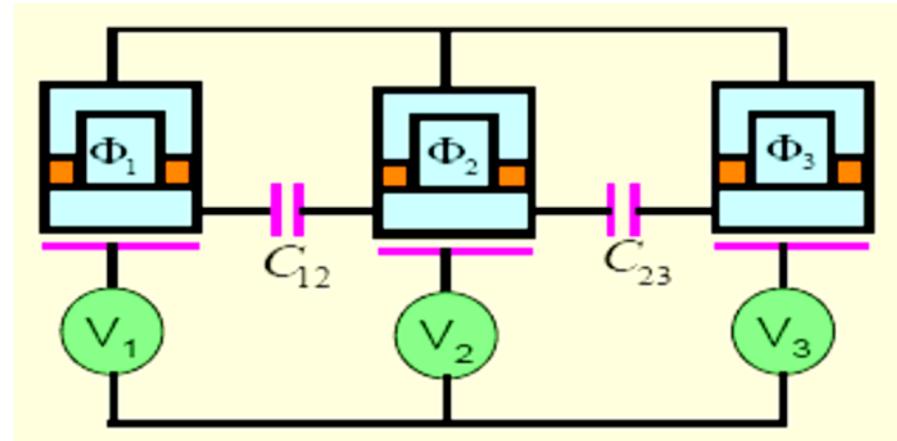


Wei, Liu, Nori, *Phys. Rev. B* (2005)

- 1) Propose an effective dynamical decoupling approach to overcome the “fixed-interaction” difficulty for effectively implementing elemental logical gates for quantum computation.
- 2) The proposed single-qubit operations and local measurements should allow **testing Bell's inequality** with a pair of capacitively coupled Josephson qubits.

Generating GHZ states

- 1) We propose an efficient approach to produce and **control the quantum entanglement of three macroscopic coupled superconducting qubits.**



Wei, Liu, Nori, *Phys. Rev. Lett.* (June 2006)

- 2) We show that their Greenberger-Horne-Zeilinger (GHZ) entangled states can be deterministically generated by appropriate conditional operations.
- 3) The possibility of using the prepared GHZ correlations to test the macroscopic conflict between the noncommutativity of quantum mechanics and the commutativity of classical physics is also discussed.

Quantum tomography

Quantum states

A single qubit state can be expressed in the basis $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$ as a density matrix

$$\rho = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{00} & \rho_{01} \\ \rho_{10} & \rho_{11} \end{pmatrix},$$

which can be rewritten as

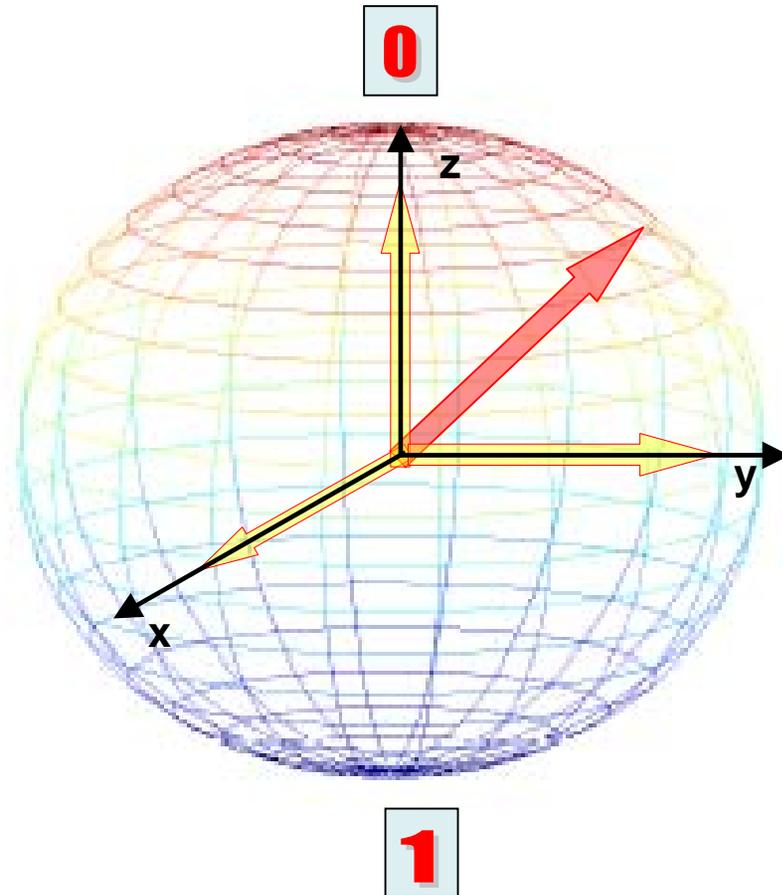
$$\rho = \frac{1}{2}(1 + \sum_k r_k \sigma_k)$$

with three Pauli matrices σ_k ($k=x, y, z$), and

$$r_z = \rho_{00} - \rho_{11},$$

$$r_x = \rho_{01} + \rho_{10},$$

$$r_y = i(\rho_{01} - \rho_{10}).$$



Liu, Wei, and Nori, Europhys. Lett. 67, 874 (2004)

Quantum tomography

r_k can be determined via measurements of σ_k : $r_k = \text{Tr}(\rho \sigma_k)$

r_z determines the probabilities of $|0\rangle$ and $|1\rangle$.

r_x and r_y determine the relative phase of the state.

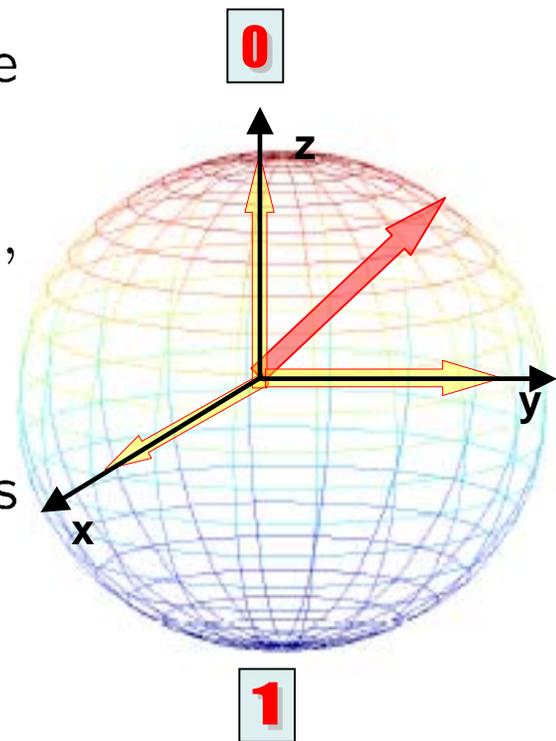
The experimental measurement $|1\rangle\langle 1|$ is done along the z axis, that is,

$$|1\rangle\langle 1| = \frac{1}{2}(I - \sigma_z) = \frac{1}{2} \left[\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \right],$$

which is used to obtain r_z .

The resulting probability of measuring $|1\rangle\langle 1|$ is

$$p = \text{Tr}(\rho |1\rangle\langle 1|) = \frac{1}{2}(1 - r_z) = \rho_{11}.$$



Quantum tomography

1. r_x and r_y cannot be directly obtained via the experimentally realizable measurement $|1\rangle\langle 1|$.
2. A quantum operation (rotation) W needs to be performed so that the r_x and r_y are transformed to a measurable position.
3. After the operation W is made on the qubit state, the measured probability is
$$p = \text{Tr}(W\rho W^\dagger |1\rangle\langle 1|).$$
4. r_y (r_x) can be obtained by a rotation $\pi/2$ around the x (y) axis.