Exponentially Improved Dispersive Qubit Readout with Squeezed Light

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It has been a long-standing goal to improve dispersive qubit readout with squeezed light. However, injected external squeezing (IES) *cannot* enable a practically interesting increase in the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), and simultaneously, the increase of the SNR due to the use of intracavity squeezing (ICS) is even *negligible*. Here, we *counterintuitively* demonstrate that using IES and ICS together can lead to an *exponential* improvement of the SNR for any measurement time, corresponding to a measurement error reduced typically by many orders of magnitude. More remarkably, we find that in a short-time measurement, the SNR is even improved exponentially with twice the squeezing parameter. As a result, we predict a fast and high-fidelity readout. This work offers a promising path toward exploring squeezed light for dispersive qubit readout, with immediate applications in quantum error correction and fault-tolerant quantum computation.

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Introduction—Squeezed light is a powerful resource in modern quantum technologies [[1](#page-4-0)–[3](#page-4-1)]. It has been widely used for various applications, including quantum key distribution [\[4](#page-4-2)–7], mechanical cooling [8–[11](#page-4-3)], light-matter interaction enhancement [\[12](#page-4-4)–[18](#page-5-0)], and even quantum advantage demonstration [\[19](#page-5-1)–[21](#page-5-2)]. In particular, such nonclassical light plays a central role in high-precision quantum measurements [[22](#page-5-3),[23](#page-5-4)], e.g., gravitational-wave detection [[24](#page-5-5)–[26](#page-5-6)], optomechanical motion sensing [\[27,](#page-5-7)[28](#page-5-8)], and longitudinal qubit readout [[29](#page-5-9),[30](#page-5-10)]. Despite these achievements, how to utilize squeezed light to improve dispersive qubit readout (DQR) still remains an unresolved challenge [[31](#page-5-11)–[35](#page-5-12)].

DQR [\[36](#page-5-13)–[41\]](#page-5-14), as a common nondemolition readout, forms a crucial component of quantum error correction [\[42](#page-5-15)–[44\]](#page-5-16) and fault-tolerant quantum computation [[45](#page-5-17),[46](#page-5-18)]. In the readout, a qubit to be measured is dispersively coupled to a cavity working as the pointer, so that a qubit-statedependent cavity resonance shift is induced and then measured by homodyne detection. Usually, this readout is required to be fast and of high fidelity, and exploiting squeezed states of light to improve such a readout is, therefore, highly desirable [[35](#page-5-12)]. However, it has already been shown that injected external squeezing (IES) *cannot* significantly improve the signal-to-noise ratio (SNR) in an experimentally feasible way [\[32](#page-5-19)[,47,](#page-5-20)[50](#page-6-0)]. The reason is attributed to a qubit-state-dependent rotation of squeezing

and, thus, an increase in the overlap of the two pointer states [see Fig. 1(a)]. Furthermore, one might suggest the use of intracavity squeezing (ICS) generated, e.g., by a two-photon driving. However, in this case, the resulting improvement in the SNR is even *negligible* [\[47\]](#page-5-20). In addition to a detrimental rotation of squeezing, as in the case of IES, the reason is also related to the degree of squeezing that increases gradually from zero with the measurement time, as a result even causing a larger overlap of the pointer states [see Fig. 1(b)]. Hence, one can conclude that standard DQR cannot benefit well from the separate use of IES and ICS.

In this Letter, we *counterintuitively* demonstrate that when IES and ICS are applied simultaneously, the readout SNR can have an *exponential* improvement for any measurement time. In our approach, the qubit-state information is mapped onto a Bogoliubov mode of the cavity, rather than the bare cavity mode as usual. This ensures a strong and measurement-time-independent degree of squeezing, and also avoids the qubit-state-dependent rotation of squeezing. Thus in sharp contrast to the case of using IES or ICS alone, the overlap of the pointer states is exponentially decreased [see Fig. 1(c)]. Note that a heuristic approach that can exponentially improve the SNR of DQR has been previously proposed, based on a quantummechanics-free subsystem [\[32\]](#page-5-19). But it needs to inject two-mode squeezed light into two coupled cavities, and measure a pair of readout modes. In contrast, our approach relies on a single cavity and single-mode squeezed light, [*](#page-0-1)

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FIG. 1. (a)–(c) Phase-space representation of DQR with IES, ICS, and these two simultaneously. The separate use of IES and ICS cannot enable a significant improvement of practical interest in the SNR, but their simultaneous use can. (d) Schematic of DQR with both IES and ICS. The qubit is dispersively coupled to the cavity mode \hat{a} of frequency ω_c . A squeezed vacuum reservoir (squeezing parameter r, reference phase φ) provides IES for the cavity, while a two-photon driving (amplitude Ω , frequency ω_d , phase θ) is used to generate ICS.

therefore more suitable for the standard readout. More surprisingly, we find that the resulting SNR can scale as e^{2r} for short-time measurements, rather than e^r as given in Ref. [\[32\]](#page-5-19), indicating a fast and high-fidelity readout. Here, r refers to the squeezing parameter. Such a giant improvement arises due to two aspects, one from antisqueezed vacuum fluctuations, which amplify the qubit-cavity dispersive coupling and, thus, the signal separation (i.e., the pointer-state separation), and the other from squeezed vacuum fluctuations, which reduce the measurement noise.

Physical model—The key idea underlying our proposal is shown in Fig. 1(d). The qubit is coupled to the cavity via a detuned interaction $\hat{H}_{int} = g(\hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{\sigma}_{-} + \hat{a} \hat{\sigma}_{+})$, with a strength g. Here, \hat{a} (\hat{a}^{\dagger}) is the annihilation (creation) operator of the cavity, and $\hat{\sigma}_-(\hat{\sigma}_+)$ is the lowering (raising) operator of the qubit. We assume that a squeezed vacuum reservoir, with a squeezing parameter r and a reference phase φ , is injected into the cavity as IES [[10](#page-4-5),[51](#page-6-1)–[54](#page-6-2)]. To generate ICS, the cavity is further assumed to be pumped by a two-photon driving of amplitude $Ω$, frequency ω_d , and phase θ . The system Hamiltonian in a frame rotating at ω_d is

$$
\hat{H} = \Delta_c \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \Delta_q \hat{\sigma}_z + \hat{H}_{int} + \Omega (e^{i\theta} \hat{a}^{\dagger 2} + e^{-i\theta} \hat{a}^2), \quad (1)
$$

where $\hat{\sigma}_z$ is a qubit Pauli operator, $\Delta_c = \omega_c - \omega_d/2$, and $\Delta_q = \omega_q - \omega_d/2$. Here, ω_c is the cavity frequency, and ω_q is the qubit transition frequency. The Langevin equation of motion for the cavity mode \hat{a} is, therefore, given by

$$
\dot{\hat{a}}(t) = -i(\Delta_c - i\kappa/2)\hat{a} - i2\Omega e^{i\theta}\hat{a}^\dagger - ig\hat{\sigma}_- - \sqrt{\kappa}\hat{a}_{\text{in}}(t),\qquad(2)
$$

where κ is the cavity-photon loss rate, and $\hat{a}_{in}(t)$ represents the cavity input field. The correlations for the input-noise operator $\hat{\mathcal{A}}_{in}(t) = \hat{a}_{in}(t) - \langle \hat{a}_{in}(t) \rangle$ are $\langle \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{\text{in}}(t) \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{\text{in}}^{\dagger}(t') \rangle = \cosh^2(r) \delta(t - t')$ and $\langle \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{\text{in}}(t) \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{\text{in}}(t') \rangle =$ $\frac{1}{2}e^{i\varphi}\sinh(2r)\delta(t-t')$, due to IES.
We below consider the case of

We below consider the case of $\Delta_c \neq 0$, and introduce a Bogoliubov mode, $\hat{\beta} = \cosh(r_c)\hat{a} + e^{i\theta} \sinh(r_c)\hat{a}^{\dagger}$. Here, $tanh(2r_c) = 2\Omega/\Delta_c$. According to Eq. (2), the evolution of the mode $\hat{\beta}$ follows

$$
\dot{\hat{\beta}}(t) = -i(\omega_{\text{sq}} - i\kappa/2)\hat{\beta} - ig\hat{S}_- - \sqrt{\kappa}\hat{\beta}_{\text{in}}(t),\qquad(3)
$$

where $\omega_{\text{sq}} = \sqrt{\Delta_c^2 - 4\Omega^2}$ is the resonance frequency of the mode $\hat{\beta}$, $\hat{S}_- = \cosh(r_c)\hat{\sigma}_- - e^{i\theta} \sinh(r_c)\hat{\sigma}_+$, and $\hat{\beta}_{\text{in}}(t) =$ $\cosh(r_c)\hat{a}_{in}(t) + e^{i\theta}\sinh(r_c)\hat{a}_{in}^{\dagger}(t)$. Upon choosing $r_c = r$
and $\theta - \omega = \pi$, the correlations for the noise operator and $\theta - \varphi = \pi$, the correlations for the noise operator $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{in}}(t) = \hat{\beta}_{\text{in}}(t) - \langle \hat{\beta}_{\text{in}}(t) \rangle$ are [[47](#page-5-20)]

$$
\langle \hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{in}}(t)\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{in}}^{\dagger}(t')\rangle = \delta(t-t'), \qquad \langle \hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{in}}(t)\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{in}}(t')\rangle = 0. \tag{4}
$$

Therefore, $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{in}}(t)$ can be now thought of as the vacuum noise. Note that similar techniques of noise elimination have been used, e.g., to enhance light-matter interactions [\[12](#page-4-4)–[14,](#page-4-6)[55](#page-6-3)–[59](#page-6-4)], prepare nonclassical states [\[60\]](#page-6-5), generate squeezed lasing [[61](#page-6-6)], and induce optical nonreciprocity [\[62\]](#page-6-7). However, these studies are based on the amplified fluctuations in an antisqueezed quadrature. To improve DQR, here we also exploit the reduced fluctuations in a squeezed quadrature, and as an overall result, we achieve an improved SNR scaling as e^{2r} in a short-time measurement (see below).

Furthermore, we assume $(\Delta_q + \omega_{sq}) \gg g \cosh(r)$, and make a dispersive approximation [[63](#page-6-8)]. The effective dynamics of the system can be described by

$$
\dot{\hat{\beta}}(t) = -i(\omega_{\text{sq}} + \chi_{\text{sq}}\hat{\sigma}_z - i\kappa/2)\hat{\beta} - \sqrt{\kappa}\hat{\beta}_{\text{in}}(t). \qquad (5)
$$

Here, the $\hat{\sigma}_z$ term corresponds to a dispersive coupling, $\hat{V}_{\text{sq}} = \chi_{\text{sq}} \hat{\beta}^{\dagger} \hat{\beta} \hat{\sigma}_{z}$, of the qubit and the mode $\hat{\beta}$ [\[47\]](#page-5-20), with a strength

$$
\chi_{\text{sq}} = \chi \{ \cosh(r) + \sinh^2(r) / [\cosh(r) + 2\omega_{\text{sq}}\epsilon/g] \},\qquad(6)
$$

where $\chi = g\epsilon$ with $\epsilon = g \cosh(r)/(\Delta_q - \omega_{\text{sq}})$. The dispersive coupling of the qubit and the bare mode \hat{a} , used for standard DQR, is usually obtained by applying a dispersive approximation to the detuned interaction \hat{H}_{int} , and is given by $\hat{V}_0 = \chi_0 \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} \hat{\sigma}_z$, where $\chi_0 = g\epsilon_0$ with $\epsilon_0 = g/(\omega_q - \omega_c)$.

It is seen that in our readout, the qubit-state information is mapped onto the Bogoliubov mode \hat{a}_{sq} , rather than the bare mode \hat{a} as in the standard readout; i.e., the qubit shifts the resonance of the mode \hat{a}_{sa} , rather than the mode \hat{a} .

Note that the parameters ϵ_0 and ϵ determine the validity or accuracy of the dispersive approximations applied for V_0 and \hat{V}_{sq} , respectively. To compare \hat{V}_0 and \hat{V}_{sq} fairly, they need to have the same validity (i.e., $\epsilon_0 = \epsilon$) and, in such a case, χ can be regarded as the dispersive coupling strength χ_0 (i.e., $\chi = \chi_0$) (see [[47](#page-5-20)] for more details). Consequently, as plotted in Fig. 2(a), χ_{sq} becomes significantly enhanced by squeezing, compared to χ_0 (i.e., χ). Particularly, for $\epsilon \ll 1$, we obtain an exponential enhancement,

$$
\chi_{\text{sq}} \simeq \chi \exp(r),\tag{7}
$$

which, physically, originates from the amplification of the qubit-cavity coupling from g to $\simeq ge^r$ by the antisqueezing of vacuum fluctuations. As demonstrated below, such an enhancement can exponentially increase the signal separation and, thus, the readout SNR for shorttime measurements.

Exponentially enhanced DQR—The output quadrature measured via homodyne detection is $\hat{Z}_{out}(t) =$ $\hat{a}_{\text{out}}(t)e^{-i\phi_h} + \hat{a}_{\text{out}}^{\dagger}(t)e^{i\phi_h}$. Here, $\hat{a}_{\text{out}}(t) = \cosh(r)\hat{\beta}_{\text{out}}(t)$ $e^{i\theta}$ sinh $(r)\hat{\beta}_{out}^{\dagger}(t)$, where $\hat{\beta}_{out}(t) = \hat{\beta}_{in}(t) + \sqrt{\kappa}\hat{\beta}$, represents the cavity output field and ϕ , is the measurement angle the cavity output field, and ϕ_h is the measurement angle. The SNR, an essential parameter to quantify homodyne detection, is defined as

$$
\text{SNR} = |\langle \hat{M} \rangle_{\uparrow} - \langle \hat{M} \rangle_{\downarrow}| (\langle \hat{M}_N^2 \rangle_{\uparrow} + \langle \hat{M}_N^2 \rangle_{\downarrow})^{-1/2}. \quad (8)
$$

Here, $\hat{M} = \sqrt{\kappa} \int_0^{\tau} dt \hat{Z}_{out}(t)$ is the measurement operator with a measurement time τ , $\hat{M}_N = \hat{M} - \langle \hat{M} \rangle$ is the fluctuation-noise operator, and $\{\downarrow,\uparrow\}$ labels the qubit state. Note that although our proposal is based on the coupling $\hat{V}_{\rm{sa}}$ in the squeezed frame, the SNR in Eq. (8) is still given in the original lab frame as usual. Therefore, the SNR improvement mentioned below is measurable.

We now consider the measurement noise $\langle \hat{M}_N^2 \rangle$. The cavity output-noise operator, $\hat{\mathcal{A}}_{out}(t) = \hat{a}_{out}(t) - \langle \hat{a}_{out}(t) \rangle$, can be expressed as $\hat{\mathcal{A}}_{\text{out}}(t) = \cosh(r)\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{out}}(t) - e^{i\theta} \sinh(r)\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{\text{out}}^{\dagger}(t)$. Here, $\hat{\mathcal{B}}_{out}(t) = \hat{\beta}_{out}(t) - \langle \hat{\beta}_{out}(t) \rangle$. From Eqs. (4) and (5), we find $\langle \hat{\mathcal{B}}_{out}(t) \hat{\mathcal{B}}_{out}^{\dagger}(t') \rangle = \delta(t - t')$ and $\langle \hat{\mathcal{B}}_{out}(t) \hat{\mathcal{B}}_{out}(t') \rangle = 0$.
It follows that It follows that

$$
\langle \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{out}(t)\hat{\mathcal{A}}_{out}^{\dagger}(t')\rangle = \cosh^2(r)\delta(t-t'),\tag{9}
$$

$$
\langle \hat{\mathcal{A}}_{\text{out}}(t)\hat{\mathcal{A}}_{\text{out}}(t')\rangle = -\frac{1}{2}e^{i\theta}\sinh(2r)\delta(t-t'),\quad(10)
$$

and then that

$$
\langle \hat{M}_N^2 \rangle = \kappa \tau [\cosh(2r) - \cos(2\phi_h - \theta)\sinh(2r)]. \tag{11}
$$

Clearly, $\langle \hat{M}_{N}^{2} \rangle$ is qubit-state independent for any measure-
ment time, in stark contrast to the case of using IES or ment time, in stark contrast to the case of using IES or ICS alone [see Figs. 1(a) and 1(b)]. Furthermore, choosing $2\phi_h = \theta$ gives

$$
\langle \hat{M}_N^2 \rangle = \kappa \tau \exp(-2r), \qquad (12)
$$

indicating an exponential suppression of the measurement noise for any measurement time.

Consider a coherent measurement tone, $\langle \hat{a}_{in}(t) \rangle = \alpha_{in}e^{i\phi_{in}}$. Since the signal separation is proportional to $|\langle \hat{\beta}_{\text{in}}(t) \rangle|$ [[47](#page-5-20)],
we therefore maximize $|\langle \hat{\beta}_{\text{in}}(t) \rangle|$ by assuming $2\phi = 0$. we therefore maximize $|\langle \hat{\beta}_{\text{in}}(t) \rangle|$ by assuming $2\phi_{\text{in}} = \theta$, yielding $\langle \hat{\beta}_{\text{in}}(t) \rangle = \alpha_{\text{in}} e^r e^{i\phi_{\text{in}}}$. Note that in the optimal case of using IFS or ICS alone, the signal senaration case of using IES or ICS alone, the signal separation perpendicular to the measurement direction, labeled $|\langle \hat{M} \rangle_{\uparrow} - \langle \hat{M} \rangle_{\downarrow}|_{\perp}$, always vanishes [\[47](#page-5-20)], but not in the case of their simultaneous use. Thus, for comparison, we require $|\langle \hat{M} \rangle_{\uparrow} - \langle \hat{M} \rangle_{\downarrow}|_{\perp} = 0$ in our proposal, although reducing the
SND clickly, For a given measurement time, this maying SNR slightly. For a given measurement time, this requirement can be exactly satisfied by tuning ω_{sq} , as depicted in the inset of Fig. 2(a).

Before presenting numerical simulations, let us first discuss the two limits, i.e., $\kappa \tau \to 0$ and ∞ . In the shorttime limit $\kappa \tau \to 0$, the SNR is given by [\[47\]](#page-5-20)

$$
SNR \simeq 0.81 \exp(2r) SNR_{std}, \qquad (13)
$$

where SNR_{std} refers to the SNR of the standard readout with no squeezing. Surprisingly, we find that the SNR is improved exponentially with 2r. There are two reasons for this. First, the measurement noise is exponentially reduced, as seen in Eq. (12). Second, the signal separation, $\approx 0.27 \alpha_{\rm in} \kappa^{-1/2} \tan(\psi_{\rm sq})(\kappa \tau)^3$, with $\tan(\psi_{\rm sq}) = 2 \chi_{\rm sq}/\kappa$, is increased by a factor e^r , due to the enhanced χ_{sq} as given in Eq. (7). Instead, in the long-time limit $\kappa \tau \to \infty$, the signal separation, $\approx 4\alpha_{\text{in}}\kappa^{-1/2} \sin(\psi_{\text{sq}})\kappa\tau$, is not changed significantly by χ_{sq} or r; thus, we also have an exponential improvement but with r , i.e.,

$$
SNR \simeq \frac{\sin(\psi_{\text{sq}})}{\sin(2\psi)} \exp(r) SNR_{\text{std}}.
$$
 (14)

In Figs. 2(b) and 2(c), we plot the SNR and the measurement error, $\delta_m = 1 - \mathcal{F}_m$, for DQR using IES, ICS, and both of them. Here, $\mathcal{F}_m = \frac{1}{2} [1 + \text{erf(SNR}/2)]$ refers to the measurement fidelity. Note that in the case of ICS, we have measurement fidelity. Note that in the case of ICS, we have defined $r = \ln[(\kappa + 4\Omega)/(\kappa - 4\Omega)]$, which is the squeezing
parameter of the cavity output field in the absence of the parameter of the cavity output field in the absence of the qubit. Clearly, for any measurement time, our approach can enable at least an exponential improvement with r , compared to the other approaches. Assuming realistic parameters of $\alpha_{\text{in}}/\sqrt{\kappa} = 1$, $\chi = \kappa/2$, and $\kappa = 2\pi \times 5$ MHz, a
typical measurement time of $\tau = 1/\kappa \approx 32$ ns results in typical measurement time of $\tau = 1/\kappa \approx 32$ ns results in

FIG. 2. (a) Dispersive coupling enhancement, i.e, χ_{sq}/χ , versus the effective cavity frequency ω_{sq} , for $e^r = 10$ and $\epsilon = 1/10$, 1/20. It is clearly seen that a significant and even an exponential enhancement can be obtained. Inset: ω_{sq} required to achieve $|\langle \hat{M} \rangle_{\uparrow} - \langle \hat{M} \rangle_{\downarrow}|_{\perp} = 0$ versus the measurement time $\kappa \tau$. (b) SNR and (c) measurement error δ_m versus $\kappa \tau$. The three dashed curves in (b) represent SNR_{std} (i.e., the SNR of the standard readout with no squeezing), e^r SNR_{std}, and e^{2r} SNR_{std}, respectively. In the cases of separately using IES (green) and ICS (red), the optimization has been made for the squeezing parameter r in the range $1 \le e^r \le 10$, while we have set $\epsilon = 1/20$ and $e^r = 10$ in the readout of using both IES and ICS (blue). In (c), $\alpha_{\text{in}}/\sqrt{\kappa} = 1$, and in all plots, $\chi = \kappa/2$.

SNR \simeq 5.5 for $e^r = 10$, corresponding to a measurement error of $\delta_m \simeq 4.4 \times 10^{-5}$. In stark contrast, we find $SNR \approx 0.18$, 0.29, and 0.21 for the readout with no squeezing, IES, and ICS, respectively. The corresponding measurement errors are $\delta_m \simeq 0.45$, 0.42, and 0.44, all approximately 6 orders of magnitude larger than what is obtained using our approach. Indeed, as analyzed in detail in Ref. [\[47\]](#page-5-20), the use of IES or ICS alone cannot enable a significant SNR increase of practical interest.

Fast DQR—Standard DQR, although simple, cannot be improved arbitrarily by simply increasing the measurement-tone amplitude. The reason is because the cavityphoton number n typically needs to be kept well below the critical photon number $n_c = 1/4\epsilon^2$, to avoid the breakdown of the dispersive approximation [\[64\]](#page-6-9). This makes the readout very slow. However, as mentioned above, the SNR obtained using our approach is improved by a factor e^{2r} in the short-time measurement, implying that a fast and high-fidelity readout can be achieved.

In Figs. 3(a) and 3(b), we depict the measurement-tone amplitude α_{in} and the cavity-photon number *n*, needed to reach $SNR = 1$, for the three cases of using IES, ICS, and both of them. In our approach, the dispersive approximation is made for the mode $\hat{\beta}$, rather than the mode \hat{a} ; therefore, the cavity-photon number, used to evaluate the validity of this approximation, is $n = \langle \hat{\beta}^{\dagger}(t) \hat{\beta}(t) \rangle$ [[47](#page-5-20)].
Clearly our approach enables a much shorter measurement Clearly, our approach enables a much shorter measurement time. For example, we use a measurement tone of $\alpha_{\rm in} / \sqrt{\kappa} \simeq 3.5$, corresponding to $n \simeq 29$ cavity photons, to have $SNR = 1$ for a short measurement time of $\tau = 0.2/\kappa \simeq 6.4$ ns. Here, $\kappa = 2\pi \times 5$ MHz. However, to reach the same SNR at the same measurement time, the approaches based on IES and ICS need the much stronger

measurement tones of $\alpha_{\rm in} / \sqrt{\kappa} \simeq 52$ and ≃239, respectively, resulting in $n \approx 107$ and $\simeq 2238$ cavity photons, both higher than the critical photon number $n_c = 100$. Note that, here, the standard readout of no squeezing has almost the same results as in the case of ICS.

Experimental feasibility—So far, we have discussed an ideal model where $r_c = r$ and $\theta - \varphi = \pi$. However, there are always some parameter mismatches in realistic experiments, such that $r_c = r + \delta_r$, and $\theta - \varphi = \pi + \delta_p$, where δ_r and δ_p are the squeezing-degree and -direction mismatches, respectively. A detailed derivation of the SNR in such an imperfect case is given in Ref. [\[47\]](#page-5-20). We plot in Fig. 4 the SNR in the presence of these parameter mismatches. It is

FIG. 3. (a) Measurement-tone amplitude $\alpha_{\rm in} / \sqrt{k}$ and (b) cavityphoton number *n*, required to achieve SNR = 1, versus $\kappa \tau$. In our approach, the photon number n depends on the qubit state, and we depict the maximum values here. The horizontal dashed line indicates the critical photon number $n_c = 100$. It is seen that our approach can keep n well below n_c at a much smaller $\kappa \tau$, compared to the other approaches. In both plots, the parameters are chosen as in Fig. 2(b).

FIG. 4. SNR versus $\kappa\tau$ for some fixed parameter mismatches in (a), and versus the parameter mismatch for $\kappa \tau = 1$ in (b). We assumed $\delta_p = 0.1, 0.05, 0.01,$ and $\delta_r = 0.1$ (see Ref. [\[47\]](#page-5-20) for the $\delta_r = 0.01$ case) in (a). In (b), the red and blue curves show the robustness against the squeezing-direction mismatch δ_p for $\delta_r = 0.1$ and the squeezing-degree mismatch δ_r for $\delta_p = 0.05$, respectively. In both plots, other parameters and what the three dashed curves represent are the same as in Fig. 2(b).

seen from Fig. 4(a) that the exponential improvement in the SNR remains even in the presence of finite parameter mismatches. We also find from Fig. 4(b) that the SNR is sensitive to the squeezing-direction mismatch but, interestingly, is very robust against the squeezing-degree mismatch. Clearly, an SNR improvement nearly exponential can still be achieved at a measurement time $\tau \sim 1/\kappa$, even for large mismatches of $\delta_p = 0.1$ and $\delta_r = 0.1$; e.g., SNR $\simeq 0.72 \exp(r)$ SNR_{std}, at $\tau = 1/\kappa$. Moreover, our readout proposal is valid for a wide range of physical systems. Particularly, in superconducting quantum circuits, IES and ICS can be implemented using Josephson parametric amplifiers [[10](#page-4-5),[51](#page-6-1)[,65\]](#page-6-10). Hence, our proposal is experimentally feasible.

Conclusions—We have presented a method of simultaneously using IES and ICS to improve DQR. This method can enable at least an exponential improvement of the SNR with the squeezing parameter. In particular, the short-time SNR is improved exponentially with twice the squeezing parameter, therefore leading to a fast and high-fidelity readout. In stark contrast, using IES or ICS alone cannot make a significant and practically useful increase in the SNR. Our proposal opens a promising perspective for the use of squeezing, and could further stimulate more applications of squeezing for modern quantum technologies.

Note added—While completing this manuscript, we became aware of [[66](#page-6-11)], which also discusses the simultaneous use of IES and ICS for DQR. However, that work does not take full advantage of squeezing, and shows a completely different result, i.e., a modest (not an exponential as predicted in our present work) improvement in the SNR.

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