A photograph of a superconducting quantum device chip. The chip is a square, gold-colored substrate with a complex network of thin, dark lines representing superconducting circuits. A central square region is covered with a white, textured material, likely a dielectric or insulating layer. The chip is mounted on a dark, rectangular substrate with several gold-colored pins or connectors around its perimeter.

# Introduction to Superconducting Quantum Devices

**Eunjong Kim**

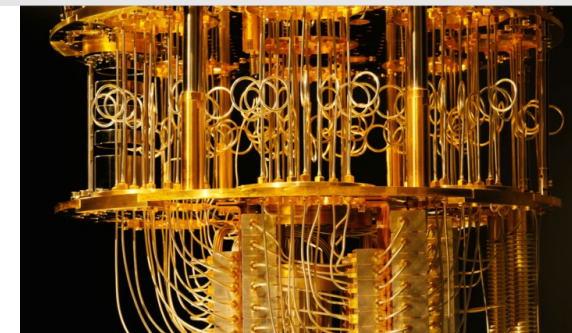
Assistant Professor, Seoul National University

May. 24, 2024 (Fri)

The 13<sup>th</sup> School of Mesoscopic Physics School

# Useful References

- P. Krantz et al., “A quantum engineer’s guide to superconducting qubits,” *Appl. Phys. Rev.* **6**, 021318 (2019)
- A. Blais et al., “Circuit quantum electrodynamics,” *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **93**, 025005 (2021)
- S. E. Rasmussen et al., “Superconducting Circuit Companion—an Introduction with Worked Examples,” *PRX Quantum* **2**, 042204 (2021).
- S. Girvin, “Circuit QED: superconducting qubits coupled to microwave photons,” *Lecture Notes from Les Houches Summer School in Theoretical Physics, Session XCVI* (2011).



Also, you can ask questions at any time

[eunjongkim \(at\) snu.ac.kr](mailto:eunjongkim@snu.ac.kr)

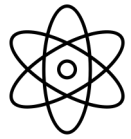


Lab Info



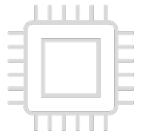


# Content

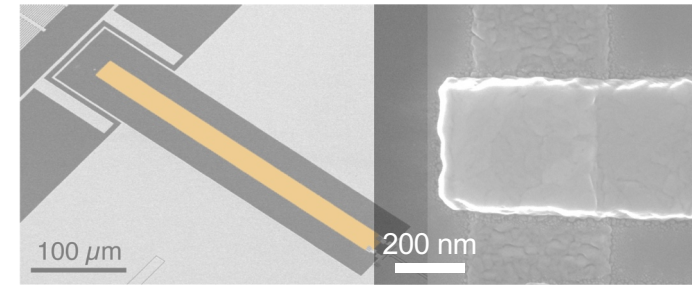


Motivation: Quantum Computation

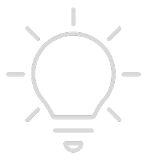
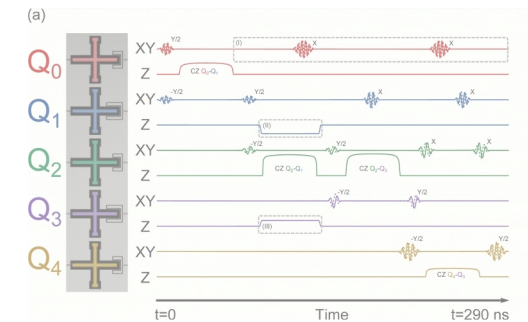
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{cat}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{dog}\rangle$$



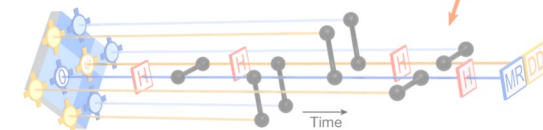
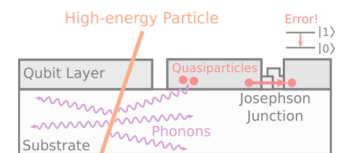
Superconducting Qubits & Circuit QED



Control & Readout of Superconducting Qubits

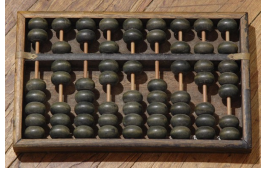


Challenges, Current Research Topics



# The History of Computing Hardware

## Analog Calculators



Abacus  
(3000 BC)

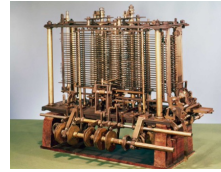


Napier's Bones  
(1617)



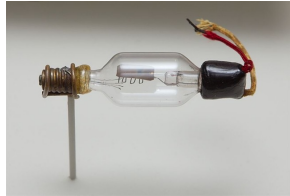
Pascaline  
(1642)

• • •

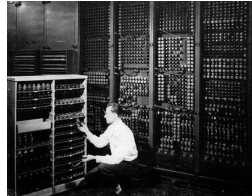


Analytical Engine  
(1833)

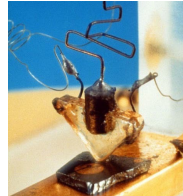
## Digital Electronic Computer



Vacuum Tube  
(1906)



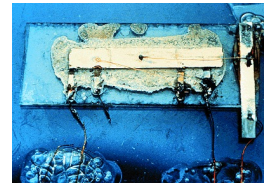
ENIAC  
(1946)



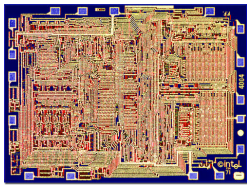
Transistor  
(1947)



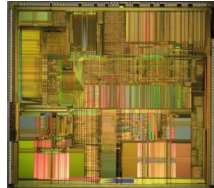
TX-0  
(1956)



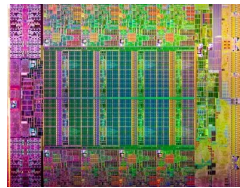
Integrated  
Circuit  
(1958)



2K transistors  
i4004  
(1971)



5.5M transistors  
Pentium Pro  
(1995)



18 cores  
5.5B transistors  
Xeon Haswell  
(2014)

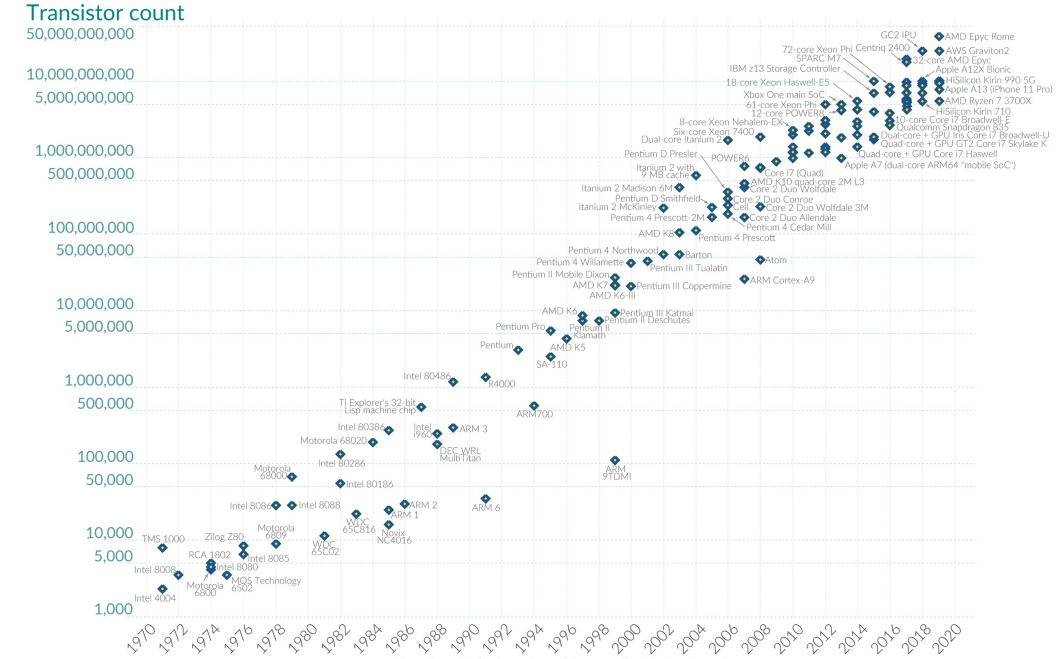
• • •

new computing device: advancement of society

Moore's Law: The number of transistors on microchips doubles every two years

Moore's law describes the empirical regularity that the number of transistors on integrated circuits doubles approximately every two years. This advancement is important for other aspects of technological progress in computing – such as processing speed or the price of computers.

Our World in Data



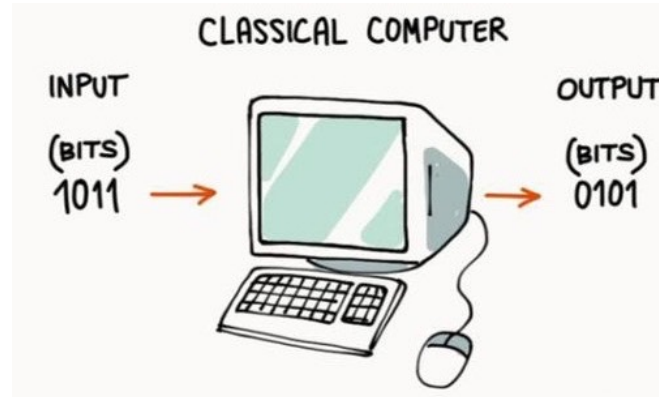
Data source: Wikipedia (wikipedia.org/wiki/Transistor\_count)  
OurWorldinData.org – Research and data to make progress against the world's largest problems. Licensed under CC-BY by the authors Hannah Ritchie and Max Roser.

What comes next?

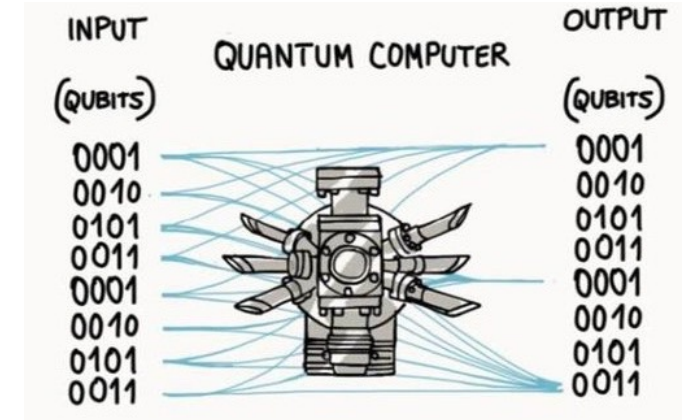


# Classical vs Quantum Computing

## Classical Computer



## Quantum Computer



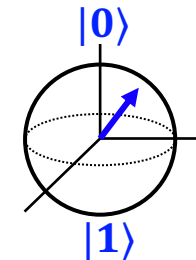
Fundamental Logic Element

“**Bit**” : classical bit  
(transistor, spin in magnetic memory, ...)

“**Qubit**” : quantum bit  
(coherent two-level system)

State

0 “or” 1



|0> “and” |1>



Quantum Superposition  
 $|\psi\rangle = \alpha|0\rangle + \beta|1\rangle$

Measurement

- **Discrete** states
- Deterministic measurement  
Ex: Set as **1**, Measure as **1**

- **Superposition** states
- Probabilistic measurement  
Ex: If  $|\alpha| = |\beta|$ , 50% |0>, 50% |1>



# Example: Prime Factorization

**Prime Factorization:** Given an integer  $N$ , find a set of prime numbers  $p, q$  that satisfy  $N = p * q$

1807082088687  
4048059516561  
6440590556627  
8102516769401  
3491701270214  
5005666254024  
4048387341127  
5908123033717  
8188796656318  
2013214880557

=

?

×

?

# Example: Prime Factorization

**Prime Factorization:** Given an integer  $N$ , find a set of prime numbers  $p, q$  that satisfy  $N = p * q$

1807082088687 4048059516561 6440590556627 8102516769401 3491701270214 5005666254024 4048387341127 5908123033717 8188796656318 2013214880557	=	3968599945959 7454290161126 1628837860675 7644911281006 4832555157243	×	4553449864673 5972188403686 8972744088643 5630126320506 9600999044599
--	---	---	---	---

- Given  $p$  and  $q$ , it is very easy to calculate  $N = p * q$ . The reverse is very hard.
- Basis for many cryptographic protocols today





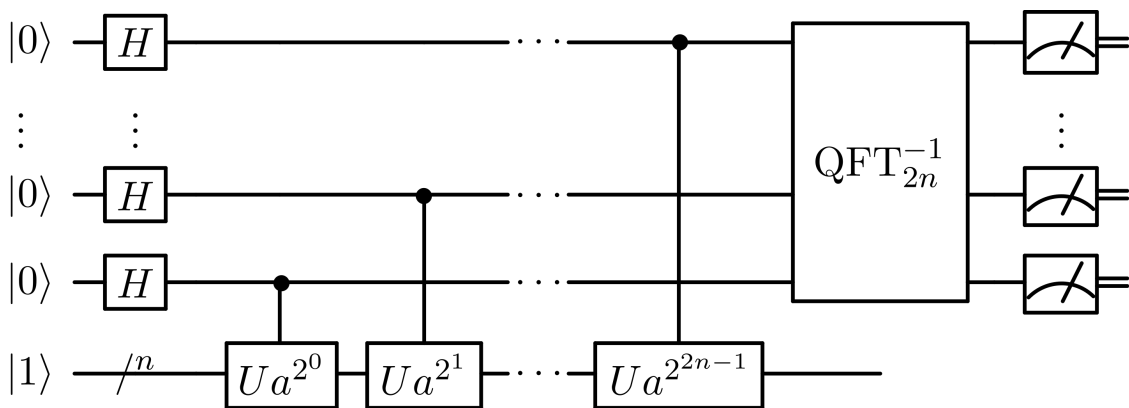
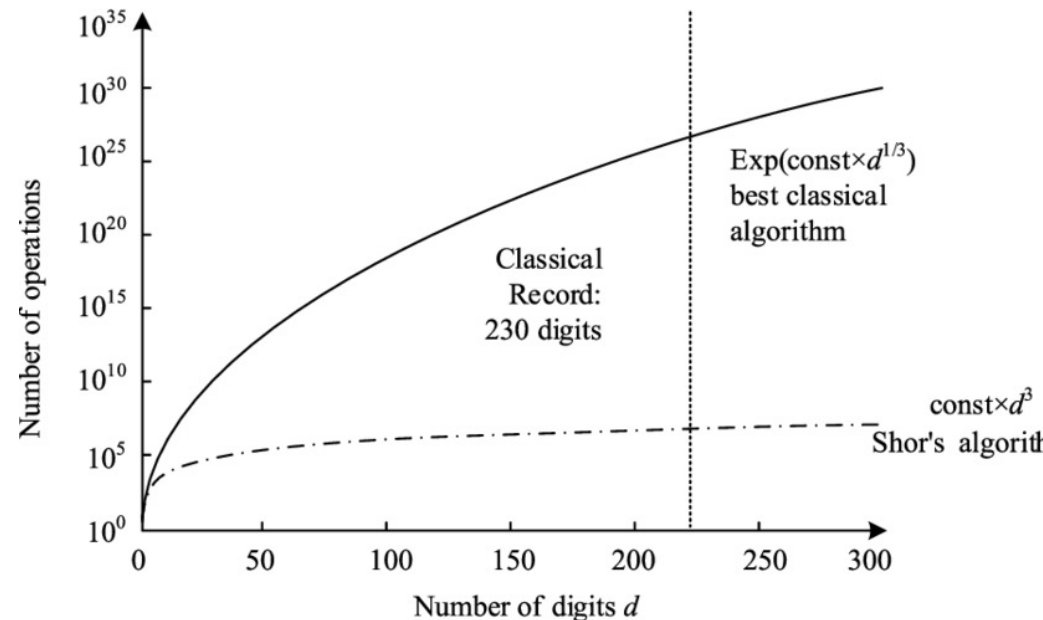
# Classically Hard Can Be Quantum Easy

**Prime Factorization:** Given an integer  $N$ , find a set of prime numbers  $p, q$  that satisfy  $N = p * q$

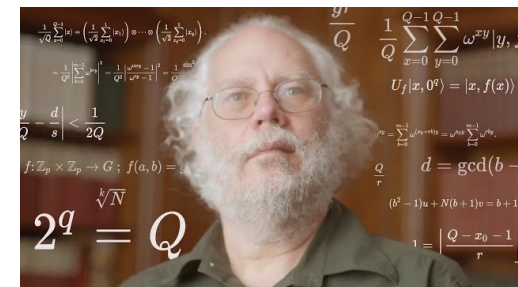
- Best known classical algorithm: **classically hard**  
 Number Field Sieve  $O\left(e^{1.9(\log N)^{1/3}(\log \log N)^{2/3}}\right)$

(log N = # of bits)

- Quantum algorithm: **quantum easy**  
 Shor's Algorithm  $O((\log N)^2(\log \log N)(\log \log \log N))$



The boundary between “hard” and “easy” seems to be different in a quantum world than in a classical world.



Peter Shor (MIT)



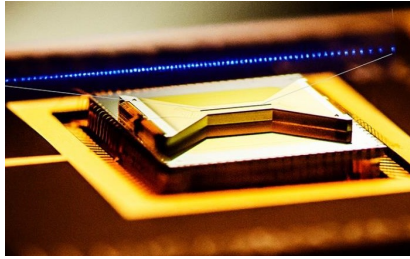
# Quantum Information Science Today

## Quantum Hardware

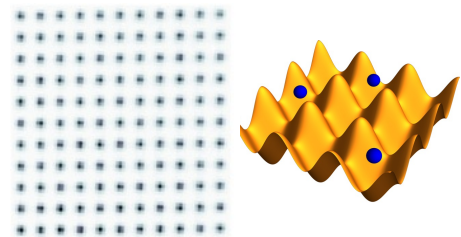
Superconducting qubits



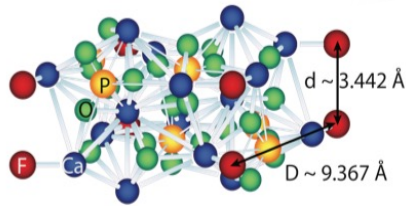
Trapped ions



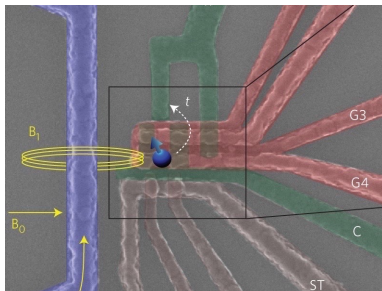
Neutral atoms



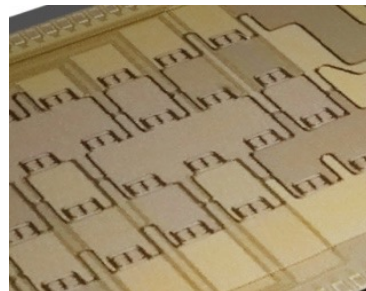
Solid-state spins



Quantum dots



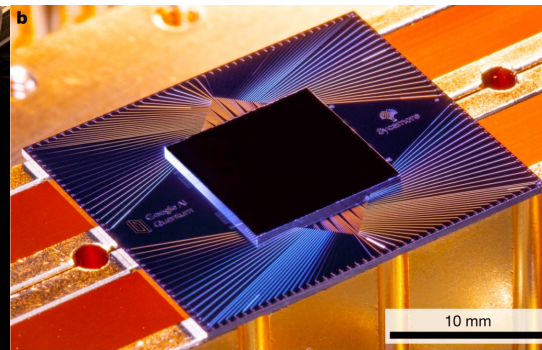
Photons



## Quantum Industry



New Era of  
**Quantum**  
Information



Google (2019)

USTC (2020)

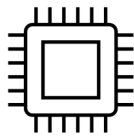
## Quantum Advantage

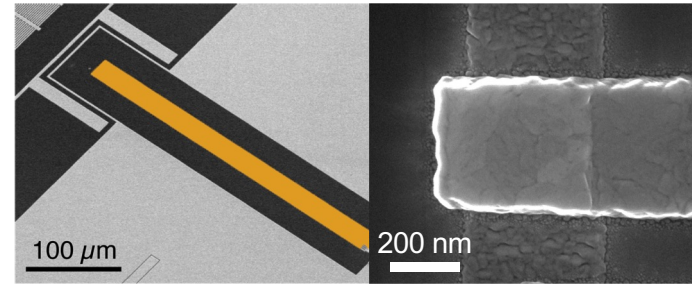


# Content

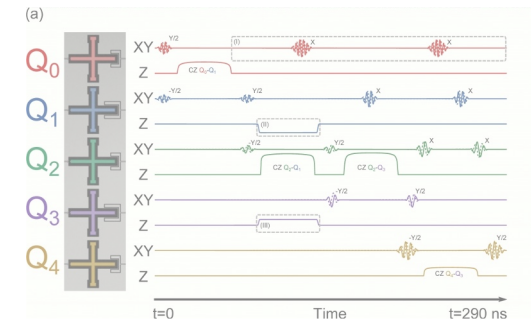
 Motivation: Quantum Computation

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{cat}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{dog}\rangle$$

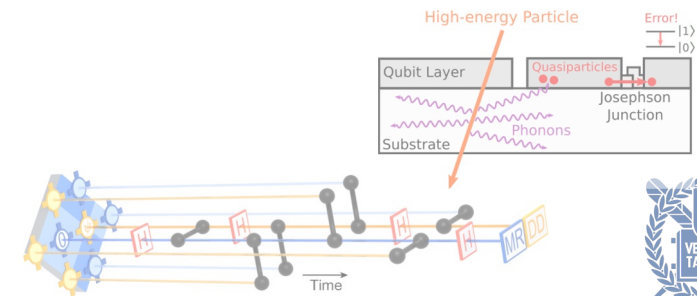
 Superconducting Qubits & Circuit QED



 Control & Readout of Superconducting Qubits



 Challenges, Current Research Topics





# Superconducting Quantum Circuits

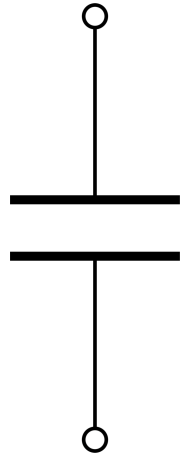
Can Electrical Circuits behave **Quantum Mechanically** ?

Circuit Elements:



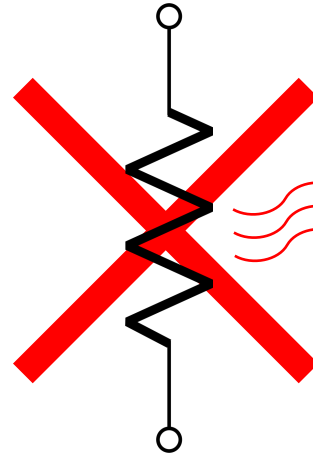
L

(inductor)



C

(Capacitor)



R

(Resistor)

Non-Energy-Preserving

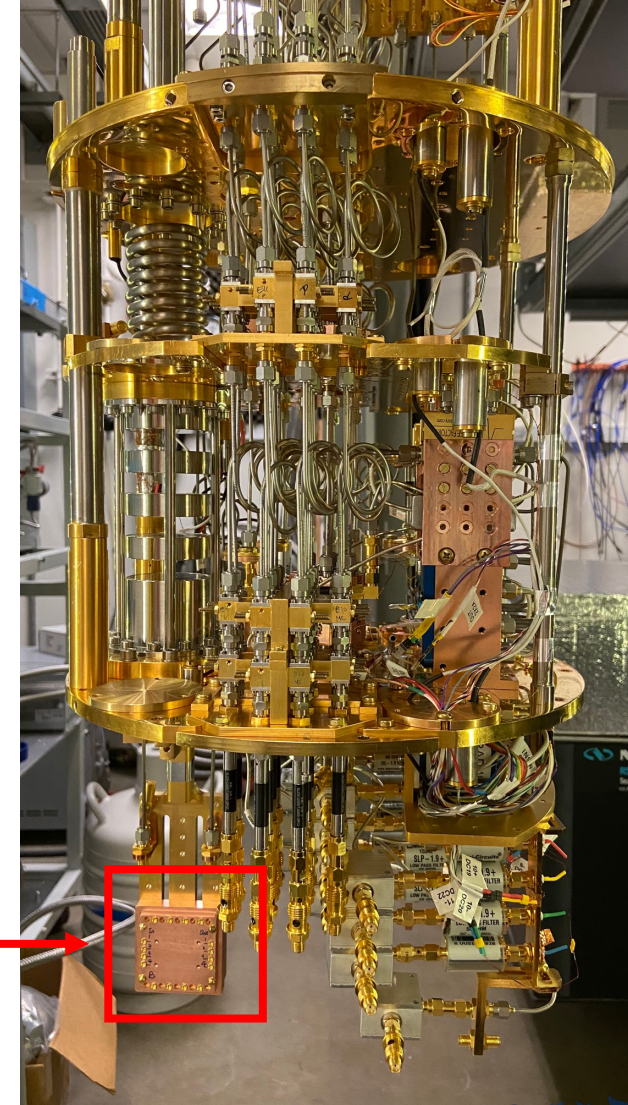
heat

Requirement:

$$R = 0$$

Operating  
Frequencies  
3 – 9 GHz

Sample  
< 10 mK

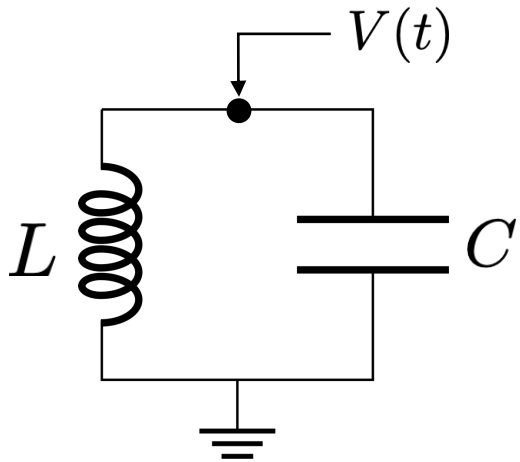


*Superconducting* electrical circuits at temperature  $T \ll hf / k_B$   
(zero resistance)

Dilution Refrigerator "DF2"  
(Painter Lab @ Caltech)

# Linear Quantum Circuit: LC Resonator

## LC Resonator



Our canonical coordinate:

Node Flux  $\Phi(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t V(t') dt'$



Capacitive Energy  $E_C = \frac{1}{2} CV^2 = \frac{1}{2} C \dot{\Phi}^2$

Inductive Energy  $E_L = \frac{1}{2} LI^2 = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$

$V = L \frac{dI}{dt}$

Lagrangian  $\mathcal{L} = E_C(\dot{\Phi}) - E_L(\Phi) = \frac{1}{2} C \dot{\Phi}^2 - \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$

conj. variable  $Q = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\Phi}} = C \dot{\Phi}$  (charge)

Hamiltonian  $H = \frac{Q^2}{2C} + \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$  **Harmonic Oscillator**

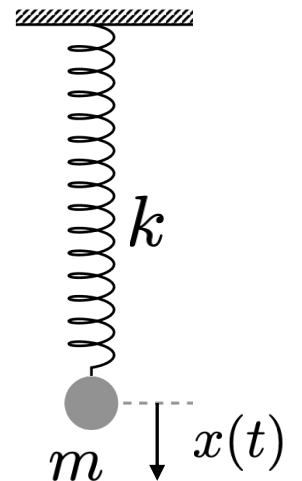
## Mass on a spring

$x(t)$  Position



Kinetic Energy  $T = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2$

Potential Energy  $U = \frac{1}{2} k x^2$



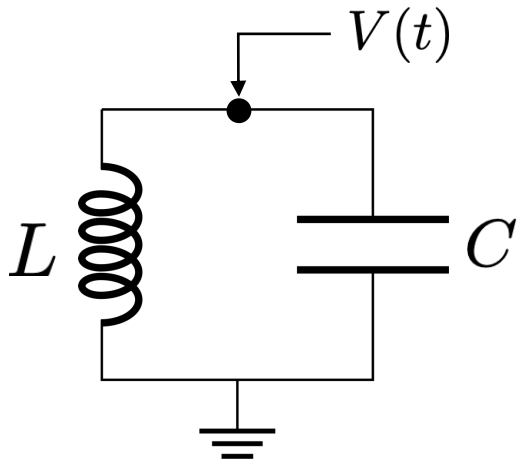
Lagrangian  $\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2} m \dot{x}^2 - \frac{1}{2} k x^2$

conj. variable  $p = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{x}} = m \dot{x}$  (momentum)

Hamiltonian  $H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} k x^2$

# Linear Quantum Circuit: LC Resonator

## LC Resonator



Our canonical coordinate:

Node Flux  $\Phi(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t V(t') dt'$

$$Q = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\Phi}} = C \dot{\Phi} \quad (\text{charge})$$

$$H = \frac{Q^2}{2C} + \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$

## Mass on a spring

$x(t)$  Position

$$p = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{x}} = m \dot{x} \quad (\text{momentum})$$

$$H = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2} k x^2$$

Hamiltonian Theory of Classical Mechanics  $\rightarrow$  Quantum Theory



Paul Dirac

Classical Poisson Brackets  
 $\{A, B\}$

$$\{\Phi, Q\} = 1$$

flux and charge satisfy the canonical commutation relation !

Now, we are good to talk about “quantum” electrical circuits

Commutator b/w Observables

$$\frac{1}{i\hbar} [\hat{A}, \hat{B}]$$

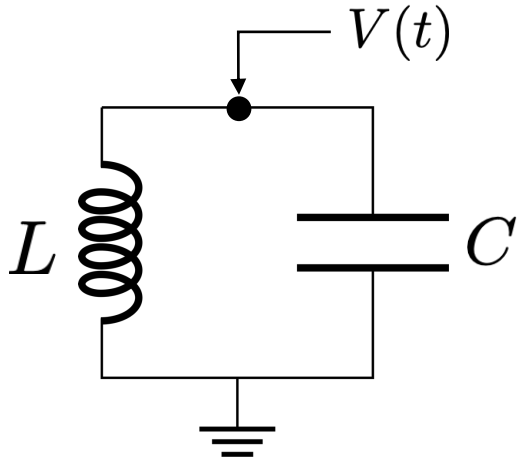
$$[\hat{\Phi}, \hat{Q}] = i\hbar$$

uncertainty principle

$$\Delta\Phi \Delta Q \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

# Quantum LC Resonator

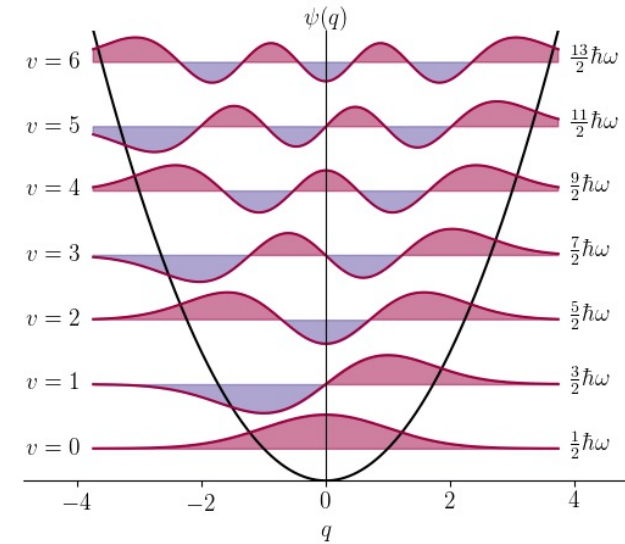
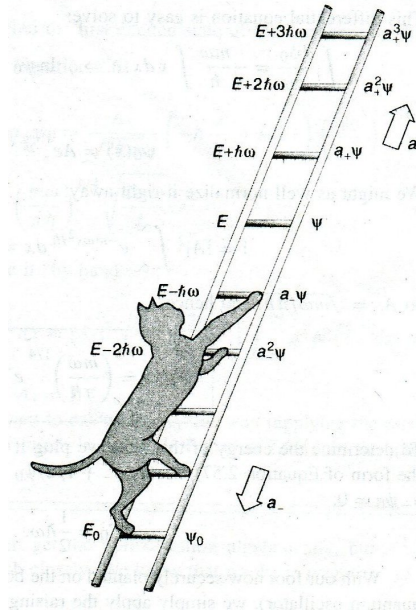
## LC Resonator



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

$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{\Phi}^2}{2L} + \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C} = \hbar\omega \left( \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\omega = 1/\sqrt{LC}$$



The LC resonator becomes a quantum harmonic oscillator

Cooper-pair number  $\hat{N} = -\frac{\hat{Q}}{2e}$

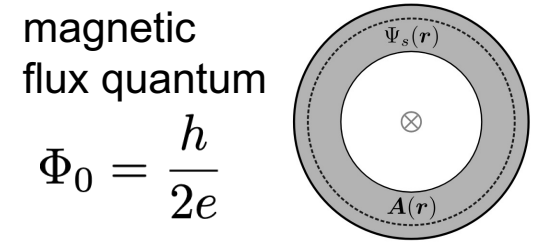
Phase  $\hat{\varphi} = 2\pi \frac{\hat{\Phi}}{\Phi_0}$



$$\hat{H} = 4E_C \hat{N}^2 + \frac{1}{2} E_L \hat{\varphi}^2$$

Number-phase uncertainty  
 $“[\hat{N}, \hat{\varphi}] = i”$

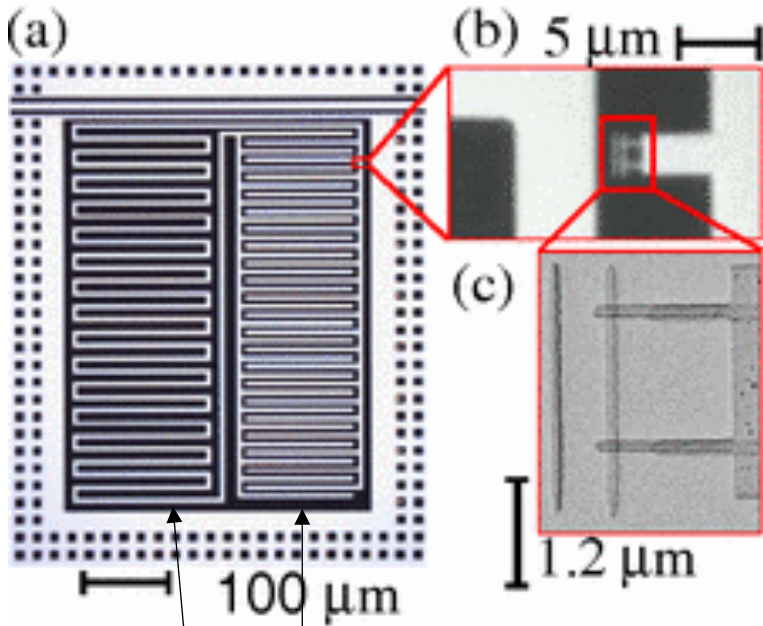
$E_C = \frac{e^2}{2C}$  charging E  
 $E_L = \frac{1}{L} \left( \frac{\Phi_0}{2\pi} \right)^2$  inductive E





# Variations of Superconducting Resonators

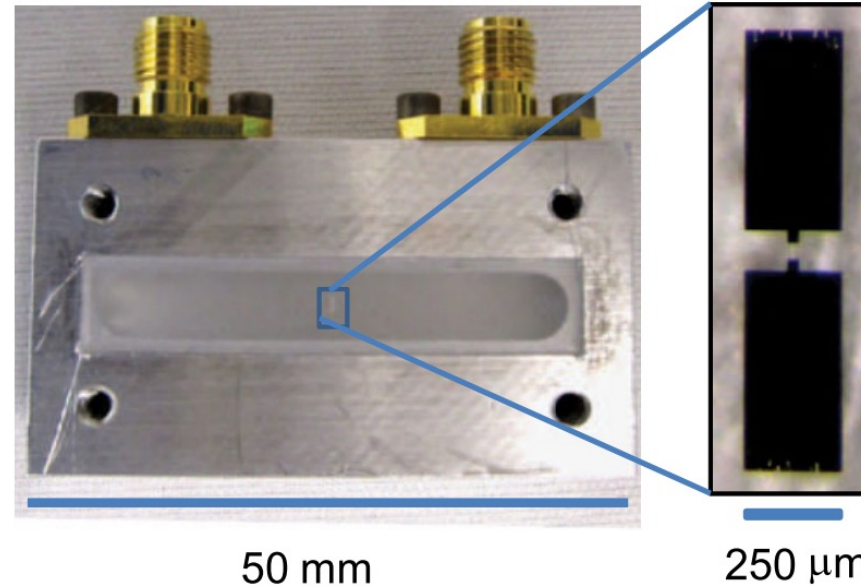
Lumped-element Resonator:



Z. Kim et al., PRL 106, 120501 (2011)

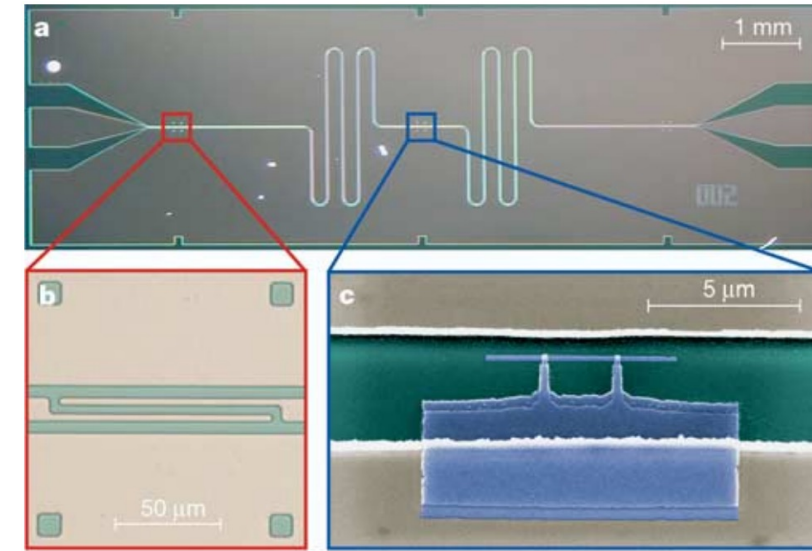
meander inductor  
interdigitated capacitor

3D Cavity:

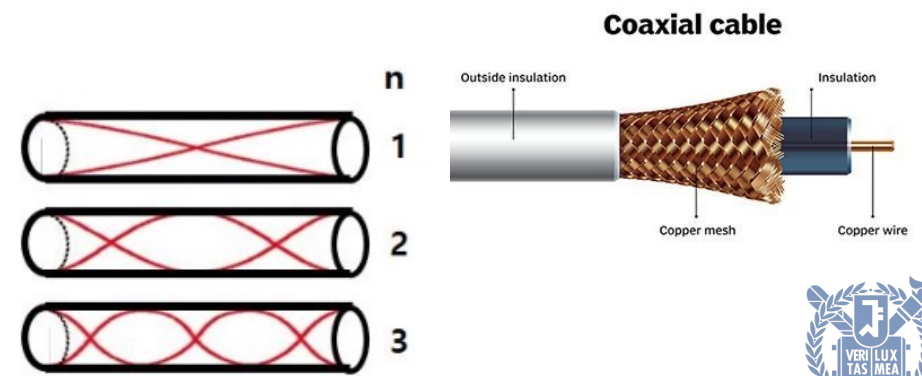


H. Paik et al., PRL 107, 240501 (2011)

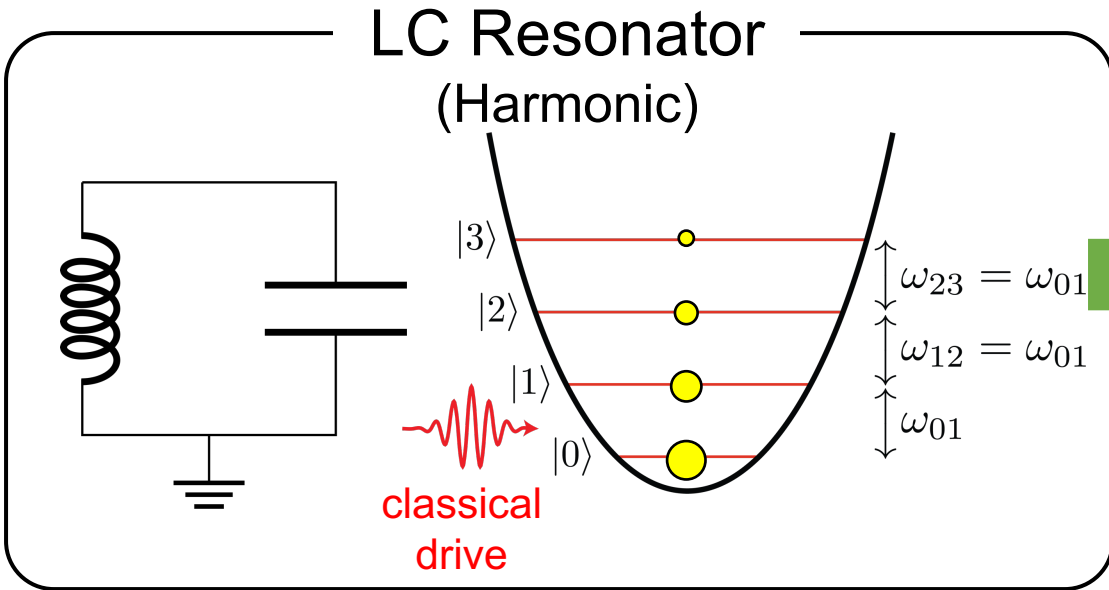
Planar transmission-line resonator



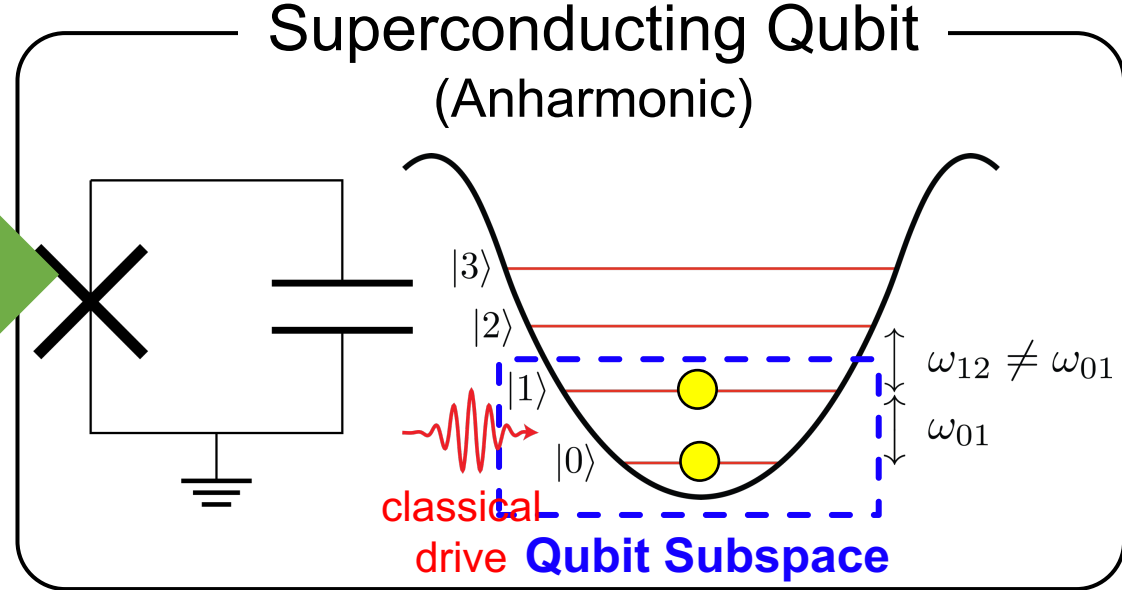
A. Wallraff et al., Nature 431, 162 (2004)



# One missing circuit element: JJ



+ nonlinearity



Cannot use classical drive to address individual levels (i.e. no quantum-level control)

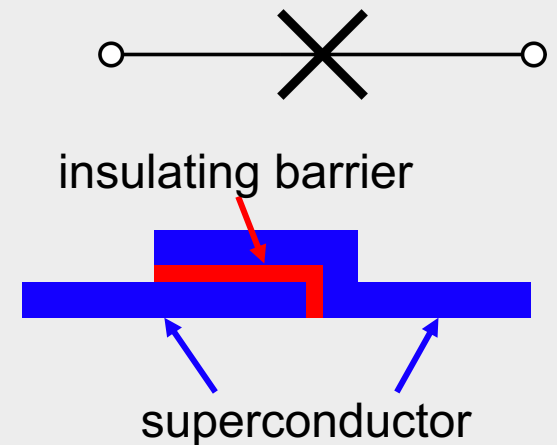
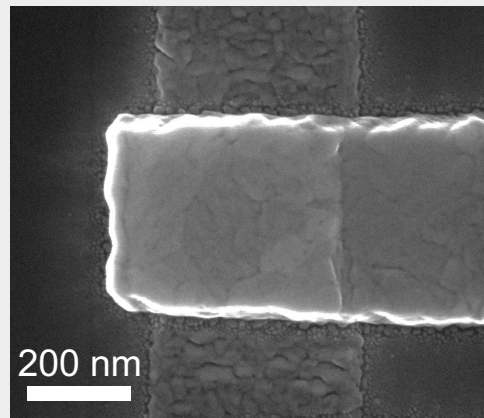
Josephson Junction: non-dissipative & non-linear

Josephson Equations:

$$\frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial t} = \frac{2\pi}{\Phi_0} V(t) \quad I(t) = I_c \sin \varphi$$

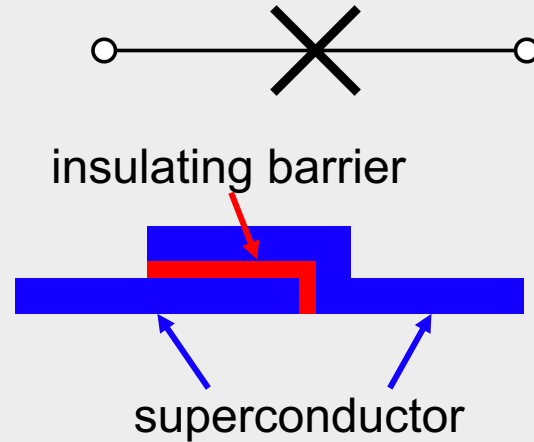
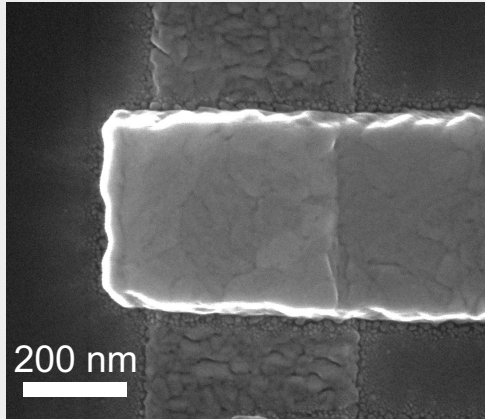
“Josephson Energy”

$$U_J = -E_J \cos \hat{\varphi} \quad E_J = \frac{I_c \Phi_0}{2\pi} = \frac{h\Delta}{8e^2 R_n}$$



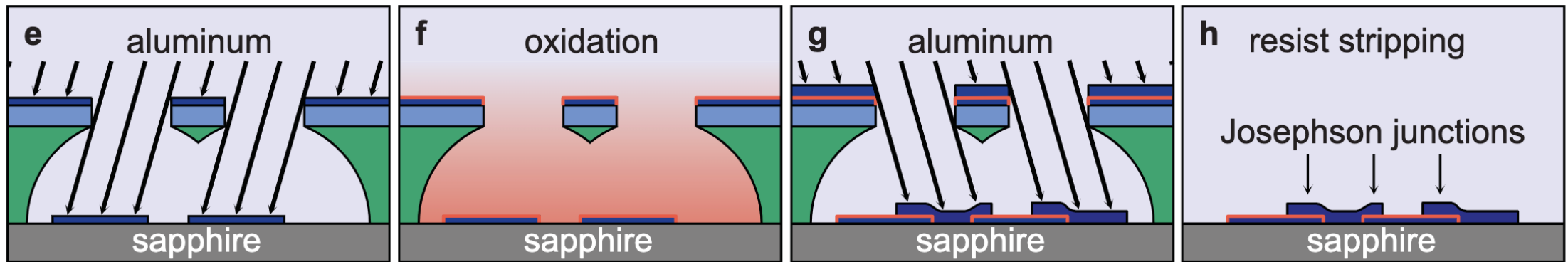
# Josephson Tunnel Junctions

Josephson Junction: **non-dissipative** & **non-linear**



- superconductors: Nb, Al
- insulating barrier:  $\text{AlO}_x$


**Fabrication:** Shadow evaporation technique

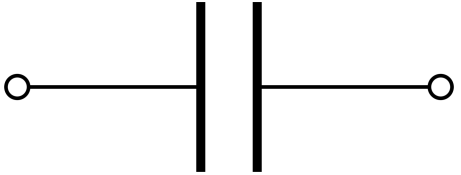



Very good fabrication yield. typically a few % error in  $E_J$  (disorder)

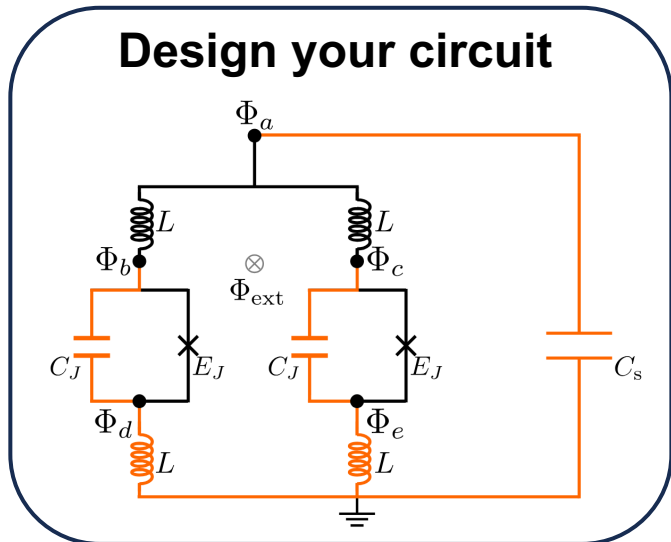
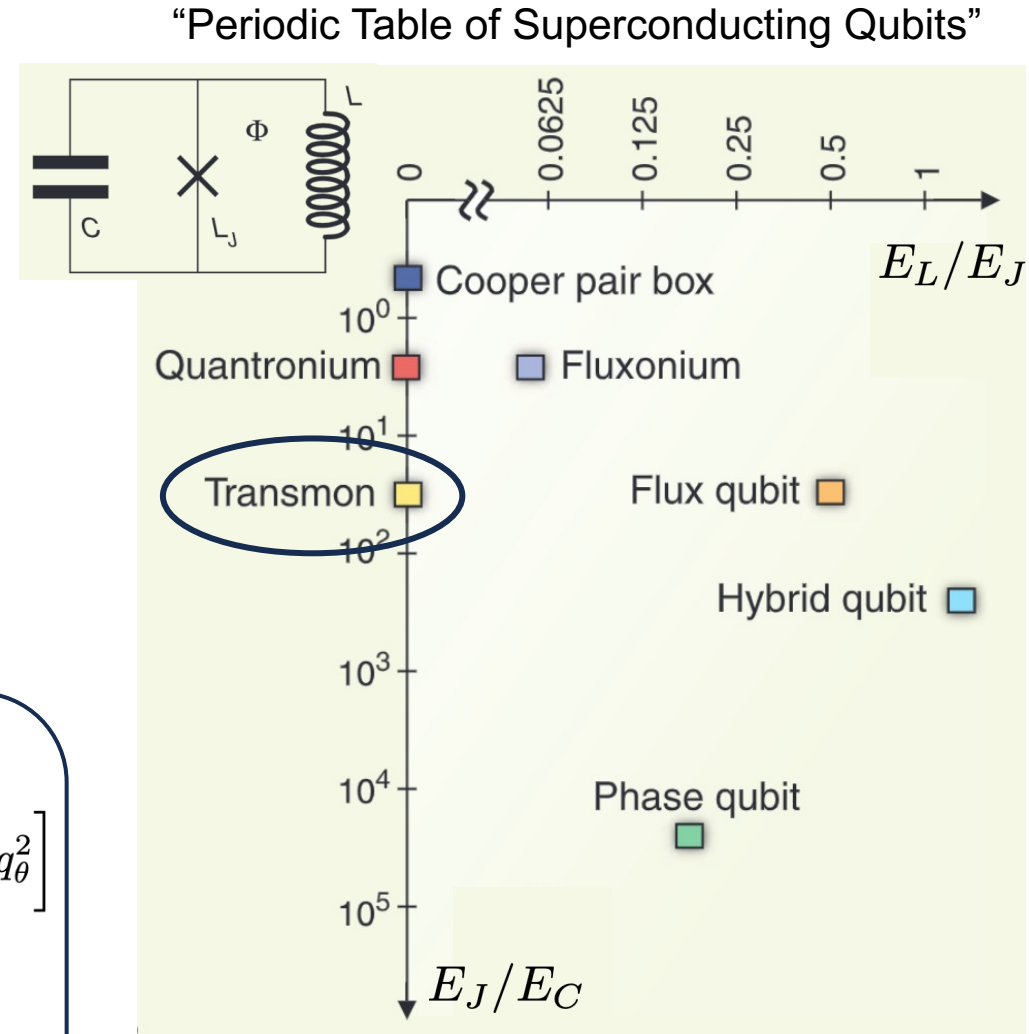
# Engineering Superconducting Quantum Circuits

## Relevant Energies

**L**   $E_L = \frac{1}{L} \left( \frac{\Phi_0}{2\pi} \right)^2$  Inductive Energy

**C**   $E_C = \frac{e^2}{2C}$  Charging Energy

**JJ**   $E_J = \frac{I_c \Phi_0}{2\pi}$  Josephson Energy



**Design your Hamiltonian**

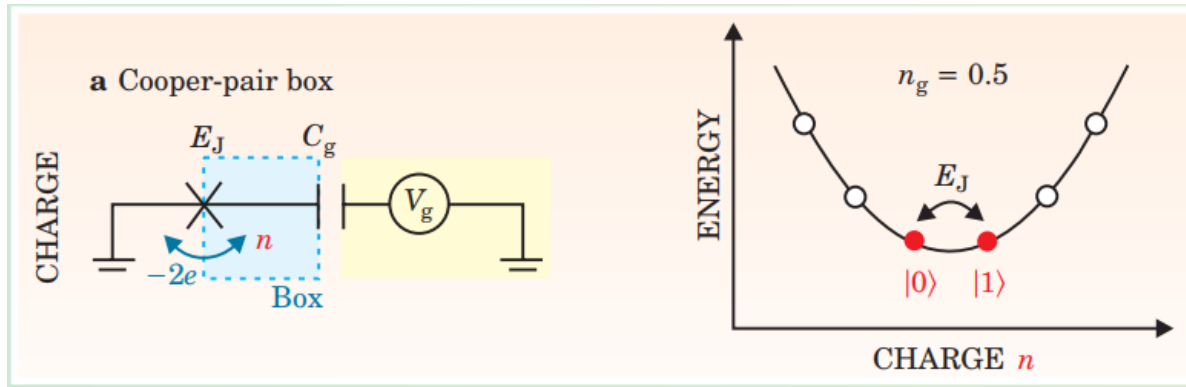
$$\mathcal{H} = 4E_{CJ} \left[ 4q_\phi^2 + (q_\chi - q_\theta)^2 + 2\frac{C_J}{C_s} q_\theta^2 \right] - 2E_J \cos(\chi) \cos\left(\frac{\phi}{2}\right) + \frac{E_L}{2} \left[ \frac{1}{4}(\phi - \phi_{\text{ext}})^2 + \theta^2 \right]$$

Science **339**, 1169 (2013)



# 1<sup>st</sup> Generation SC Qubits (early 2000s)

**Charge Qubit:**  
A box for a Cooper pairs controlled by external voltage



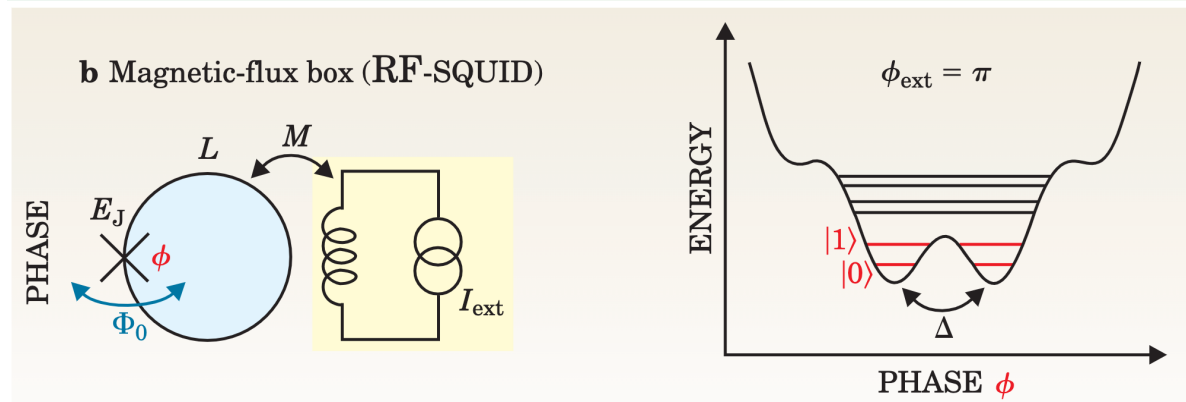
**Regime**

$$\frac{E_J}{E_C} \sim 0.1$$

**Qubit States**

Superposition of Cooper pair number states  $|0\rangle, |1\rangle$

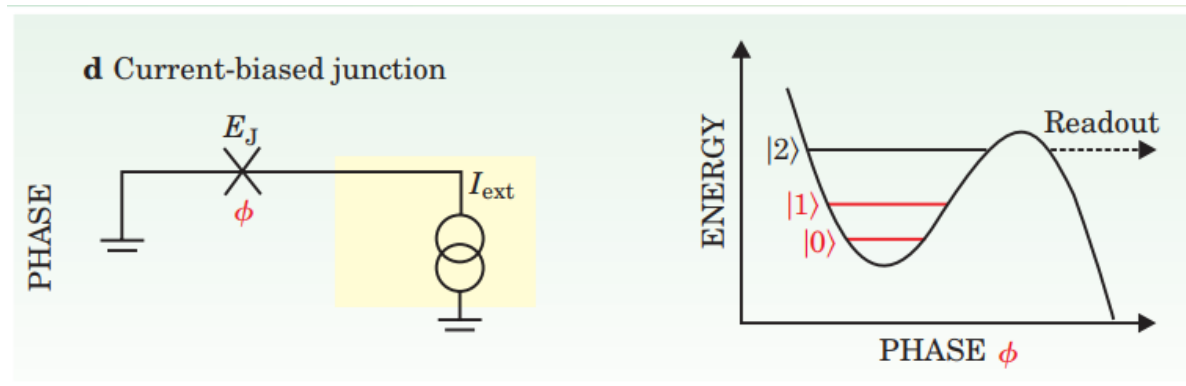
**Flux Qubit:**  
A loop controlled by an external magnetic field



$$\frac{E_J}{E_C} \sim 10$$

Superposition of Persistent current states  $|\uparrow\rangle, |\downarrow\rangle$

**Phase Qubit:**  
A Josephson junction biased by a current



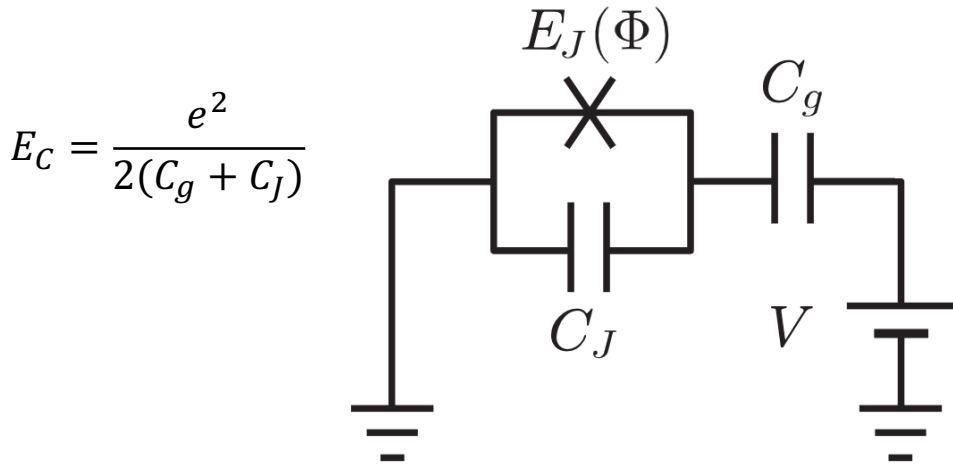
$$\frac{E_J}{E_C} \sim 10^6$$

Quantized levels in a phase potential well



# Modern SC Qubit: Transmon Qubit

transmon: "Transmission line shunted plasmon oscillation circuit"  
 (same circuit diagram as the charge qubit)



$$E_C = \frac{e^2}{2(C_g + C_J)}$$

$$\hat{H} = 4E_C(\hat{n} - n_g)^2 - E_J \cos \hat{\phi}.$$

fluctuation of  $n_g$ : charge noise

charge qubit regime:  $E_J < E_C$

Difference:

vs.

transmon qubit regime:  $E_J \gg E_C$



Jens Koch



Jay Gambetta



Andrew Houck



David Schuster



Johannes Majer



Alexandre Blais



Michel Devoret



Steve Girvin



Robert Schoelkopf

## Proposal:

(cited > 3000 times!)

PHYSICAL REVIEW A **76**, 042319 (2007)

### Charge-insensitive qubit design derived from the Cooper pair box

Jens Koch,<sup>1</sup> Terri M. Yu,<sup>1</sup> Jay Gambetta,<sup>1</sup> A. A. Houck,<sup>1</sup> D. I. Schuster,<sup>1</sup> J. Majer,<sup>1</sup> Alexandre Blais,<sup>2</sup> M. H. Devoret,<sup>1</sup> S. M. Girvin,<sup>1</sup> and R. J. Schoelkopf<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Departments of Physics and Applied Physics, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06520, USA

<sup>2</sup>Département de Physique et Regroupement Québécois sur les Matériaux de Pointe, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Québec, Canada J1K 2R1

(Received 22 May 2007; published 12 October 2007)

Short dephasing times pose one of the main challenges in realizing a quantum computer. Different approaches have been devised to cure this problem for superconducting qubits, a prime example being the operation of such devices at optimal working points, so-called "sweet spots." This latter approach led to significant improvement of  $T_2$  times in Cooper pair box qubits [D. Vion *et al.*, *Science* **296**, 886 (2002)]. Here, we introduce a new type of superconducting qubit called the "transmon." Unlike the charge qubit, the transmon is designed to operate in a regime of significantly increased ratio of Josephson energy and charging energy  $E_J/E_C$ . The transmon benefits from the fact that its charge dispersion decreases exponentially with  $E_J/E_C$ , while its loss in anharmonicity is described by a weak power law. As a result, we predict a drastic reduction in sensitivity to charge noise relative to the Cooper pair box and an increase in the qubit-photon coupling, while maintaining sufficient anharmonicity for selective qubit control. Our detailed analysis of the full system shows that this gain is not compromised by increased noise in other known channels.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevA.76.042319](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevA.76.042319)

PACS number(s): 03.67.Lx, 74.50.+r, 32.80.-t

small  $E_C$

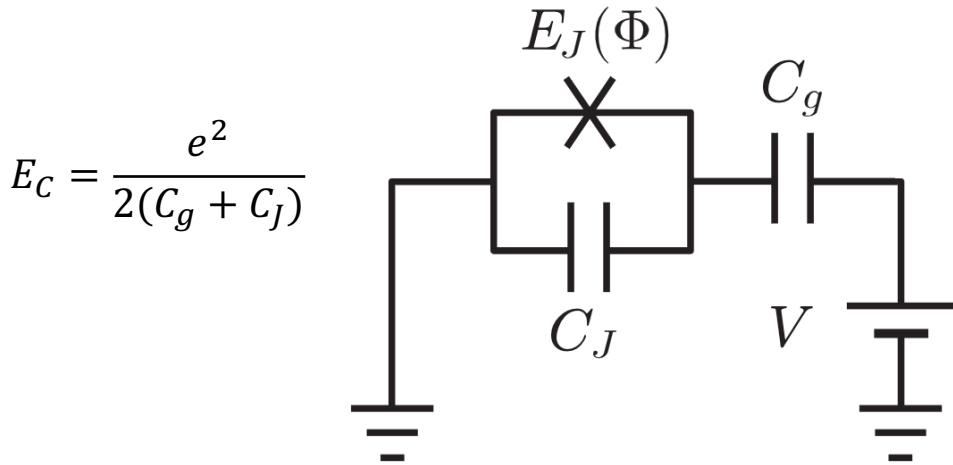
⇒ small sensitivity of E to  $n_g$

⇒ charge-noise insensitive!



# Transmon Qubit: Idea

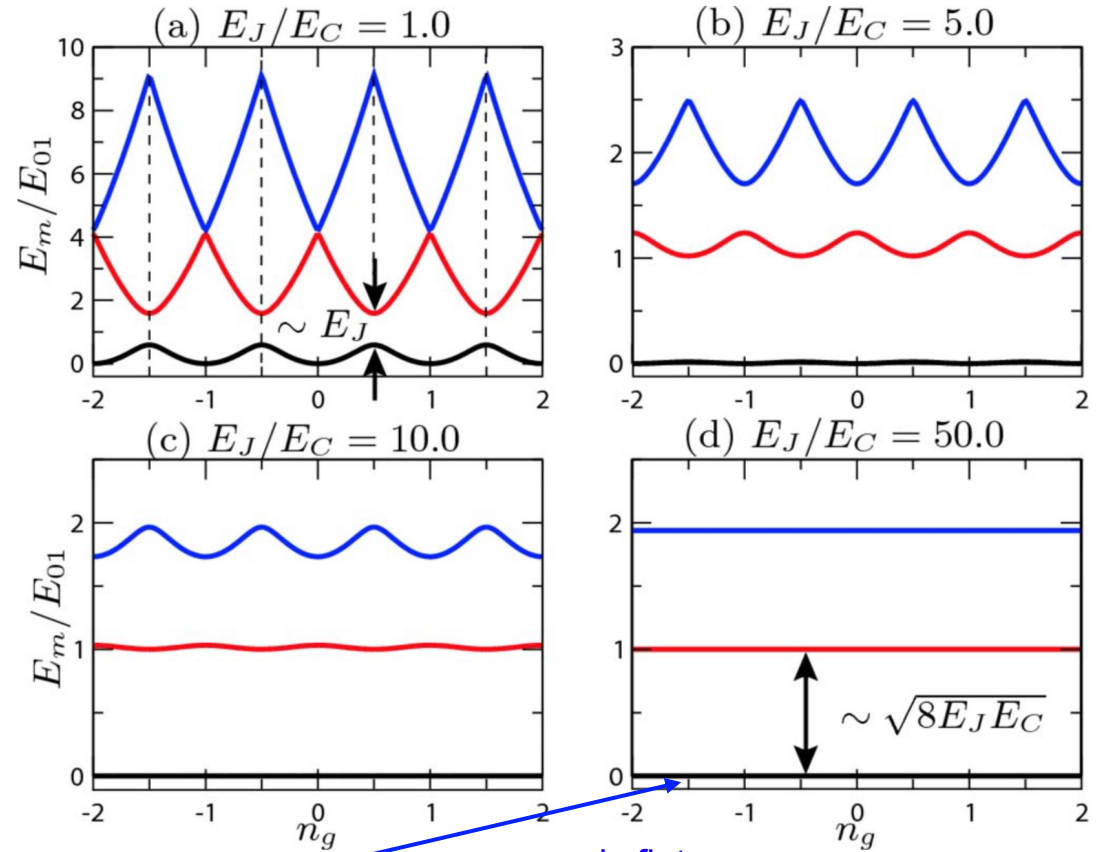
(same circuit diagram as the charge qubit)



$$\hat{H} = 4E_C(\hat{n} - \underbrace{n_g}_{\text{fluctuation of } n_g: \text{ charge noise}})^2 - E_J \cos \hat{\phi}.$$

fluctuation of  $n_g$ : charge noise

Eigenenergies:



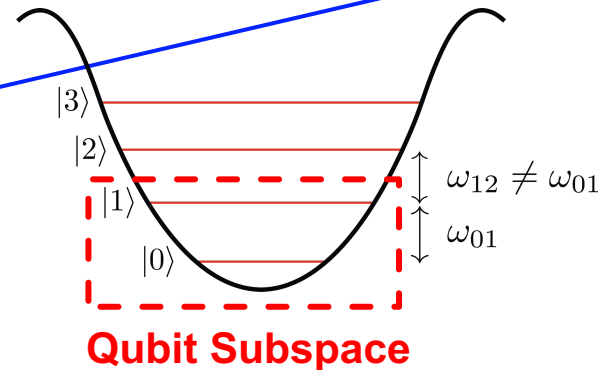
nearly flat

## Key Idea 1:

Charge dispersion reduces exponentially in  $E_J/E_C$

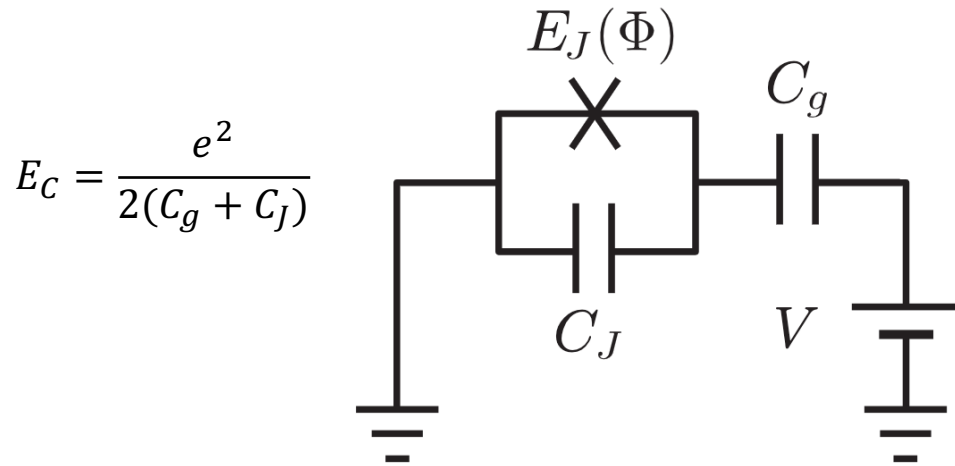
⇒ nearly full protection against the charge noise

**Problem:** reduction of anharmonicity =  $|E_{12} - E_{01}|$   
(crucial element for qubit operation)



# Transmon Qubit: Idea

(same circuit diagram as the charge qubit)



$$\hat{H} = 4E_C(\hat{n} - \underbrace{n_g}_{\text{fluctuation of } n_g: \text{ charge noise}})^2 - E_J \cos \hat{\phi}.$$

fluctuation of  $n_g$ : charge noise

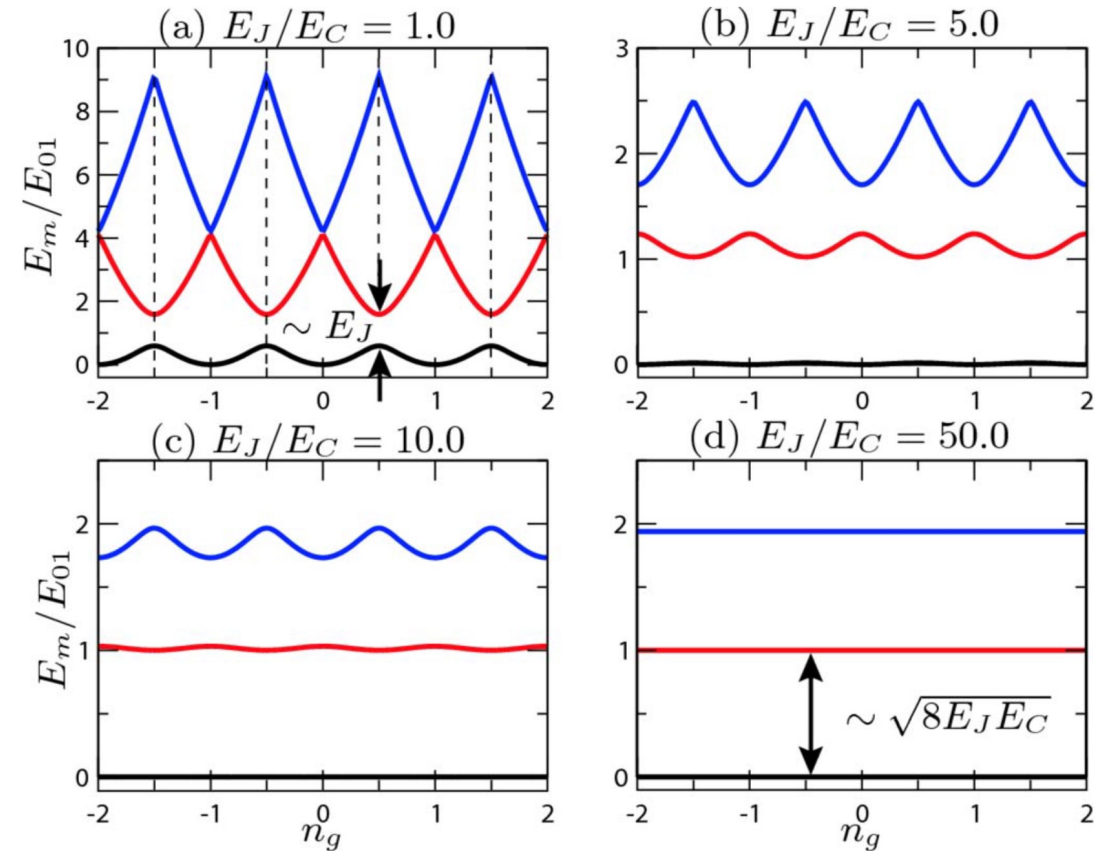
## Key Idea 1:

Charge dispersion reduces exponentially in  $E_J/E_C$   
 $\Rightarrow$  nearly full protection against the charge noise

**Problem:** reduction of anharmonicity =  $|E_{12} - E_{01}|$   
 (crucial element for qubit operation)



Eigenenergies:



## Key Idea 2:

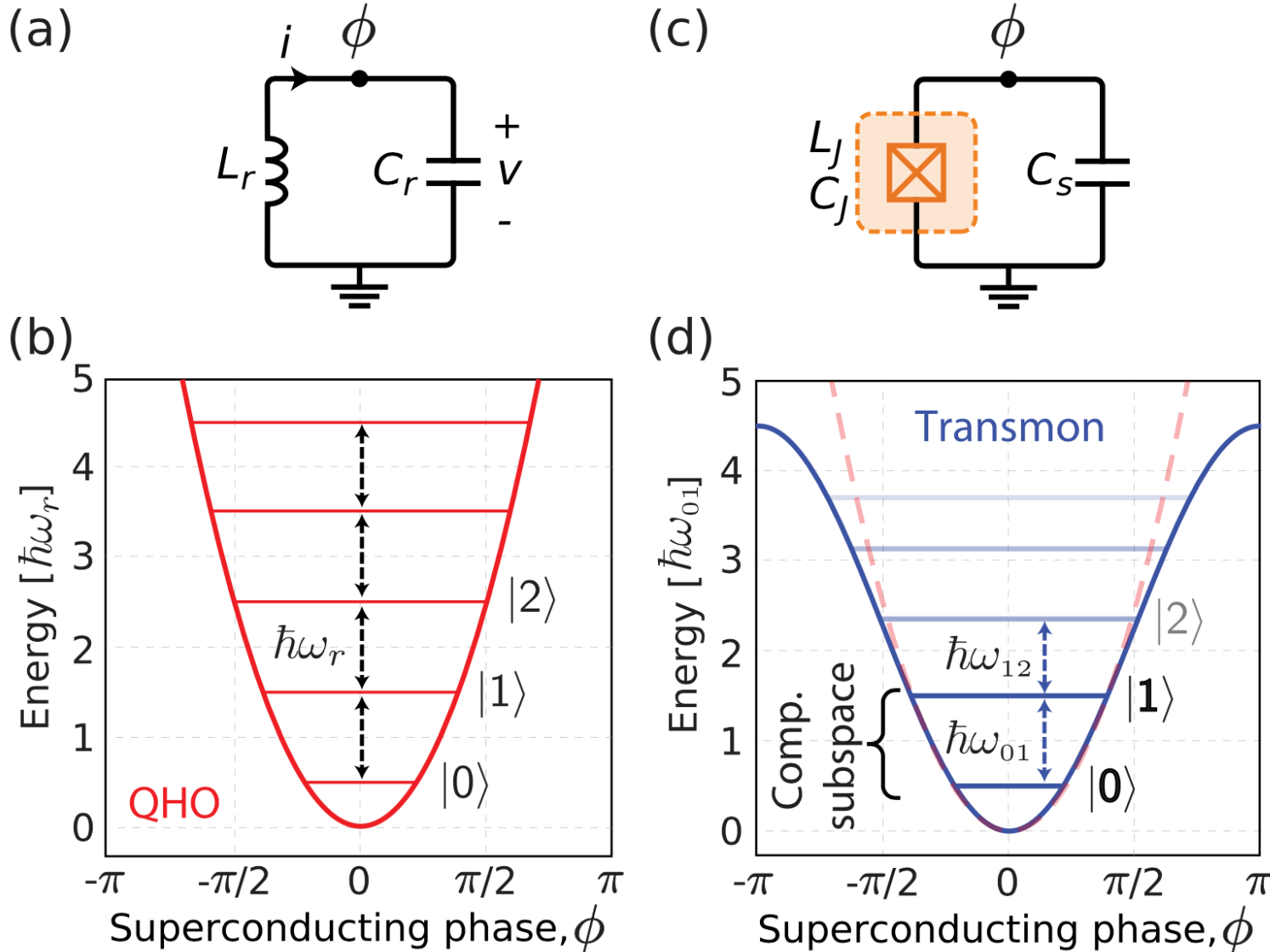
Anharmonicity only decreases algebraically, with a slow power law in  $E_J/E_C$

$\Rightarrow$  only a small sacrifice in the two-level approximation





# Transmon Qubit: Summary



**Transmon:** Weakly anharmonic oscillator

$$\hat{H} = \omega \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b} + \frac{\alpha}{2} \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b} (\hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b} - 1)$$

$\omega$  : qubit frequency ( $\sim 2\pi \times 6$  GHz)

$\alpha$  : anharmonicity ( $\sim -2\pi \times 200$  MHz)

$$\omega_{01} = \omega$$

$$\omega_{12} = \omega + \alpha$$

# 3D transmon qubit (2011)

## 3D superconducting microwave cavity:

Low-loss, well-controlled electromagnetic environment for the qubit



Hanhee Paik

240501 (2011)

Selected for a **Viewpoint** in *Physics*  
PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
9 DECEMBER 2011



### Observation of High Coherence in Josephson Junction Qubits Measured in a Three-Dimensional Circuit QED Architecture

Hanhee Paik,<sup>1</sup> D. I. Schuster,<sup>1,2</sup> Lev S. Bishop,<sup>1,3</sup> G. Kirchmair,<sup>1</sup> G. Catelani,<sup>1</sup> A. P. Sears,<sup>1</sup> B. R. Johnson,<sup>1,4</sup> M. J. Reagor,<sup>1</sup> L. Frunzio,<sup>1</sup> L. I. Glazman,<sup>1</sup> S. M. Girvin,<sup>1</sup> M. H. Devoret,<sup>1</sup> and R. J. Schoelkopf<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Physics and Applied Physics, Yale University, New Haven, Connecticut 06520, USA*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Physics and James Franck Institute, University of Chicago, Chicago, Illinois 60637, USA*

<sup>3</sup>*Joint Quantum Institute and Condensed Matter Theory Center, Department of Physics, University of Maryland, College Park, Maryland 20742, USA*

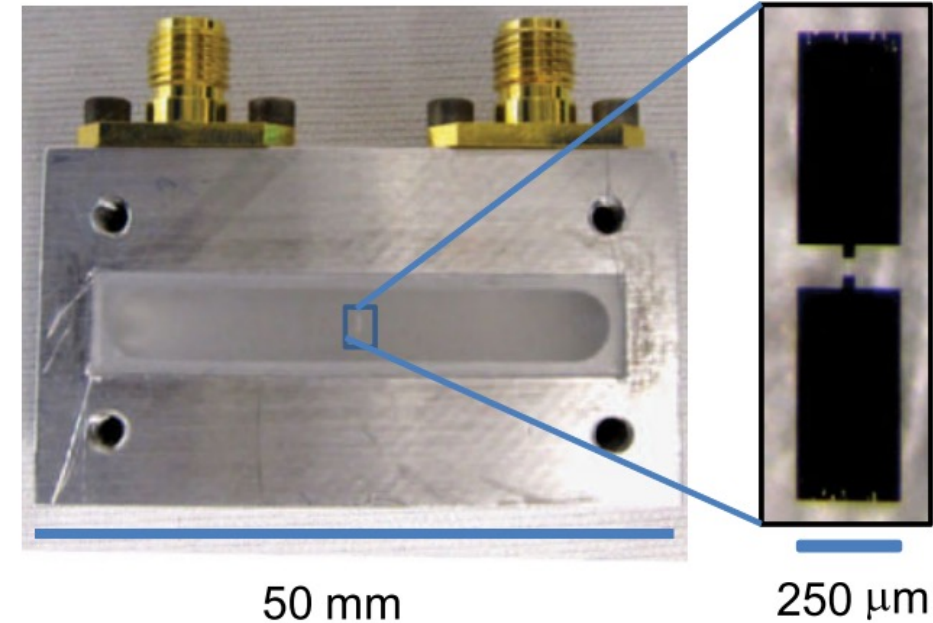
<sup>4</sup>*Raytheon BBN Technologies, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02138, USA*

(Received 3 July 2011; revised manuscript received 15 September 2011; published 5 December 2011)

Superconducting quantum circuits based on Josephson junctions have made rapid progress in demonstrating quantum behavior and scalability. However, the future prospects ultimately depend upon the intrinsic coherence of Josephson junctions, and whether superconducting qubits can be adequately isolated from their environment. We introduce a new architecture for superconducting quantum circuits employing a three-dimensional resonator that suppresses qubit decoherence while maintaining sufficient coupling to the control signal. With the new architecture, we demonstrate that Josephson junction qubits are highly coherent, with  $T_2 \sim 10$  to  $20 \mu\text{s}$  without the use of spin echo, and highly stable, showing no evidence for  $1/f$  critical current noise. These results suggest that the overall quality of Josephson junctions in these qubits will allow error rates of a few  $10^{-4}$ , approaching the error correction threshold.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevLett.107.240501](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.107.240501)

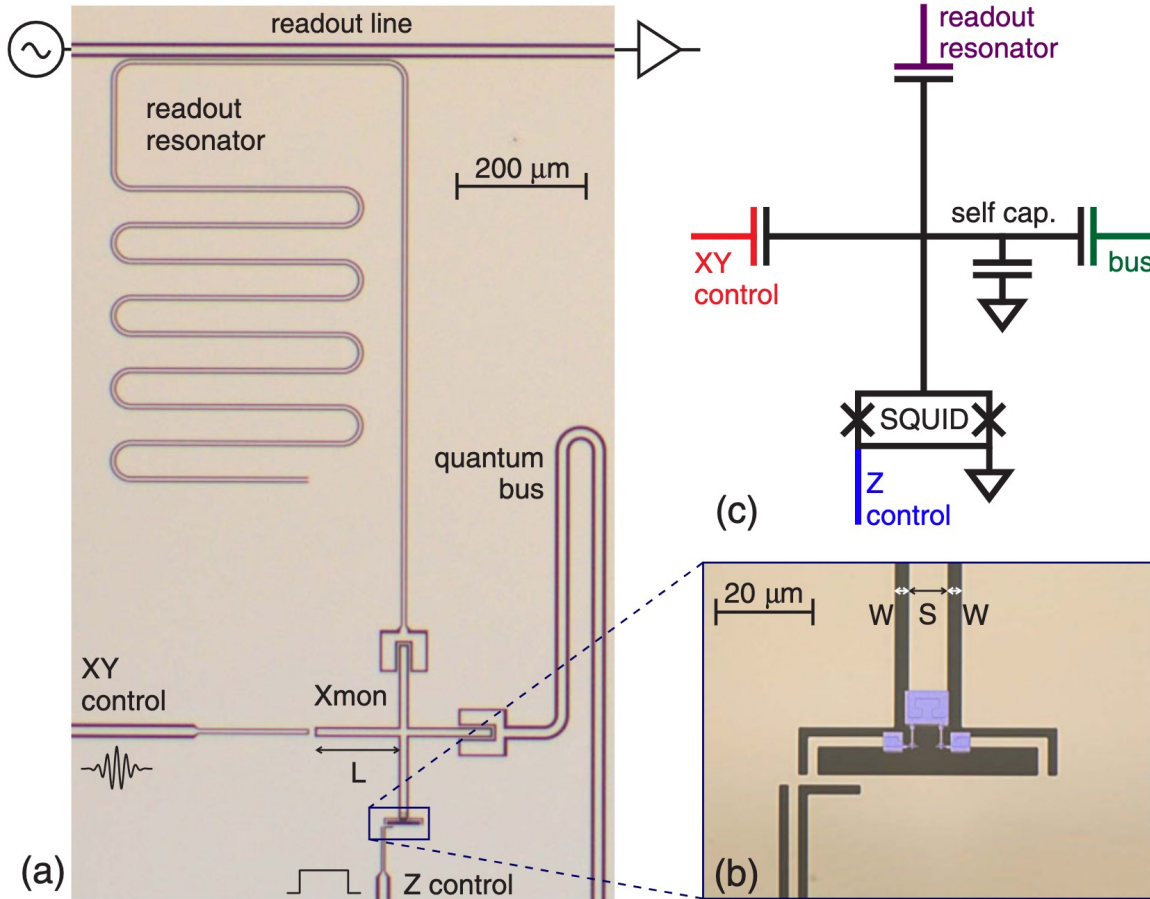
PACS numbers: 03.67.Lx, 42.50.Pq, 85.25.-j



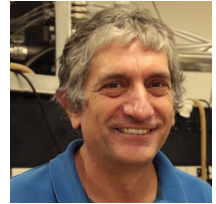
- Much longer coherence time observed:  
 $T_1 \sim 60 \mu\text{s}$ ,  $T_2 \sim 20 \mu\text{s}$   
(order of magnitude improvement!)
- Demystified Josephson junction voodooos  
(People believed JJ would ultimately limit the coherence time to  $\sim$  few  $10 \mu\text{s}$ )



# Xmon qubit (2013)



Andrew Cleland



John Martinis

PRL 111, 080502 (2013)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
23 AUGUST 2013

## Coherent Josephson Qubit Suitable for Scalable Quantum Integrated Circuits

R. Barends, J. Kelly, A. Megrant, D. Sank, E. Jeffrey, Y. Chen, Y. Yin,\* B. Chiaro, J. Mutus, C. Neill, P. O'Malley, P. Roushan, J. Wenner, T. C. White, A. N. Cleland, and John M. Martinis

Department of Physics, University of California, Santa Barbara, California 93106, USA

(Received 5 April 2013; published 22 August 2013)

We demonstrate a planar, tunable superconducting qubit with energy relaxation times up to  $44 \mu\text{s}$ . This is achieved by using a geometry designed to both minimize radiative loss and reduce coupling to materials-related defects. At these levels of coherence, we find a fine structure in the qubit energy lifetime as a function of frequency, indicating the presence of a sparse population of incoherent, weakly coupled two-level defects. We elucidate this defect physics by experimentally varying the geometry and by a model analysis. Our “Xmon” qubit combines facile fabrication, straightforward connectivity, fast control, and long coherence, opening a viable route to constructing a chip-based quantum computer.

DOI: [10.1103/PhysRevLett.111.080502](https://doi.org/10.1103/PhysRevLett.111.080502)

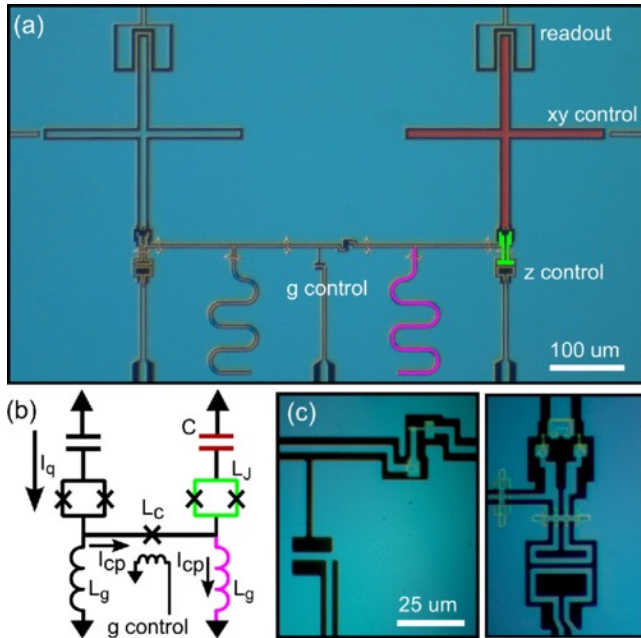
PACS numbers: 03.67.Lx, 03.65.Yz, 85.25.Cp

- modification of transmon geometry to a “grounded” cross-shaped circuit
- Each control method (XY, Z, RO, 2Q gate) established using the “arm” of Xmon
- moderate, reproducible coherence times on a planar circuit  $T_1 > 40 \mu\text{s}$ ,  $T_2 \sim 20 \mu\text{s}$

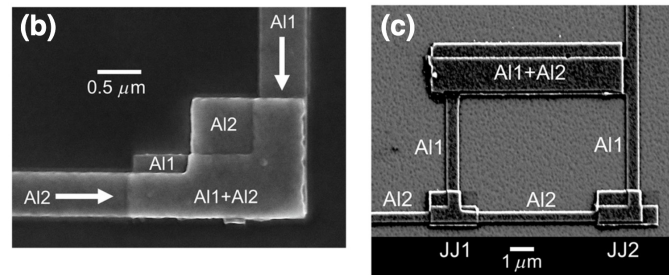
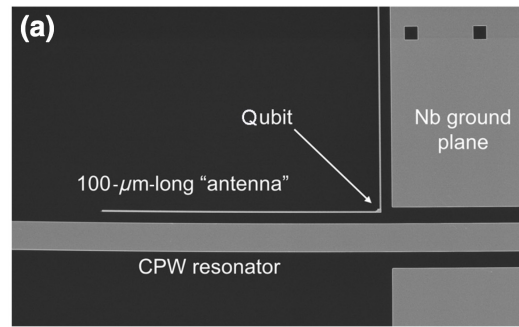
**Design basis of modern superconducting quantum processors**



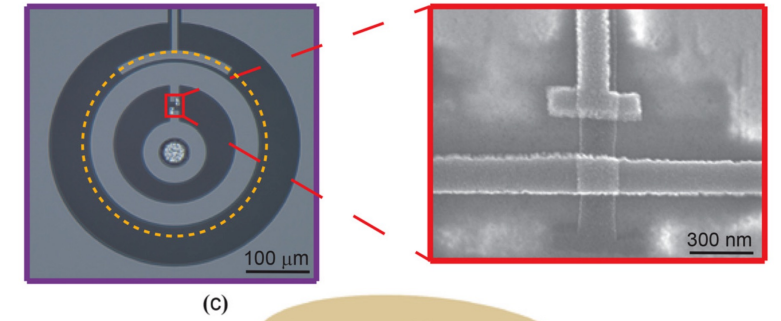
# Lots of -mon qubit (variants of transmons)



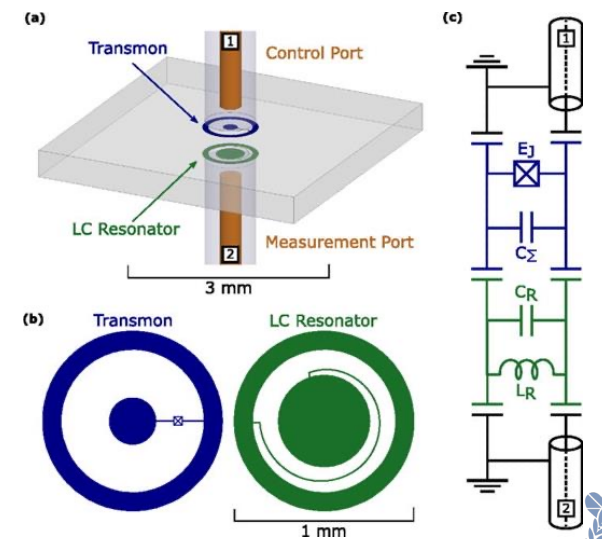
Gmon (UCSB, Google)



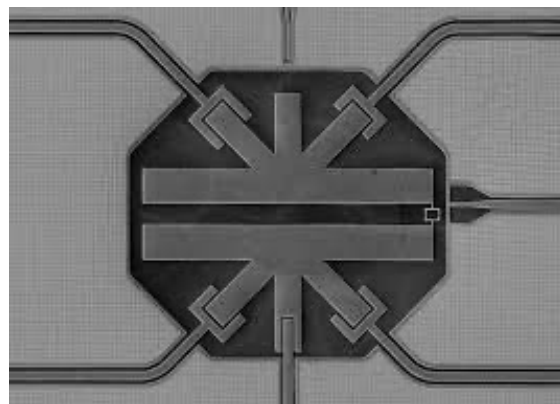
Mergemon (IBM)



Flipmon (BAQIS, China)



Coaxmon (Oxford U)



Starmon (intel, TU Delft)



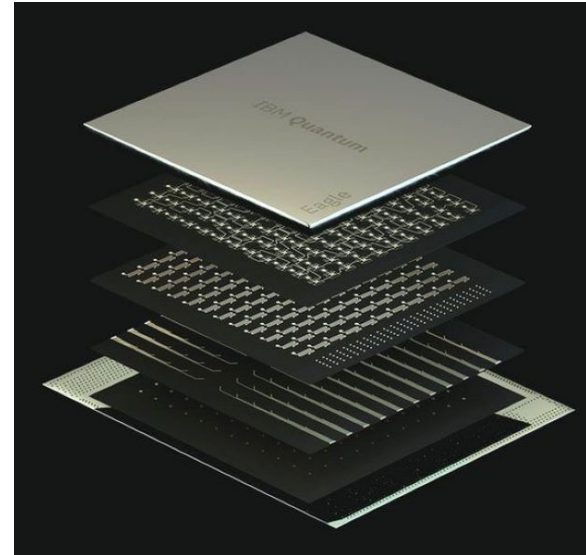
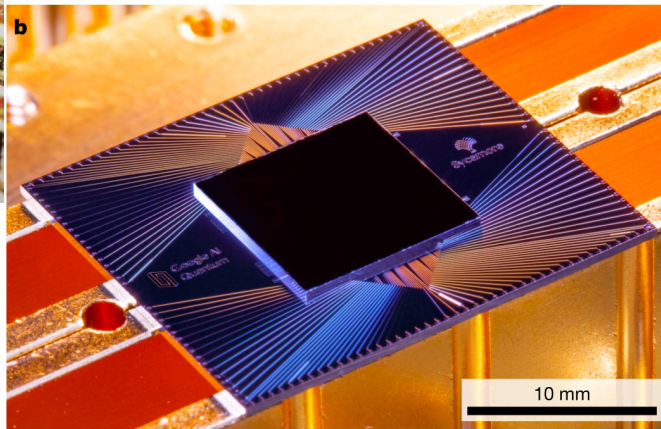
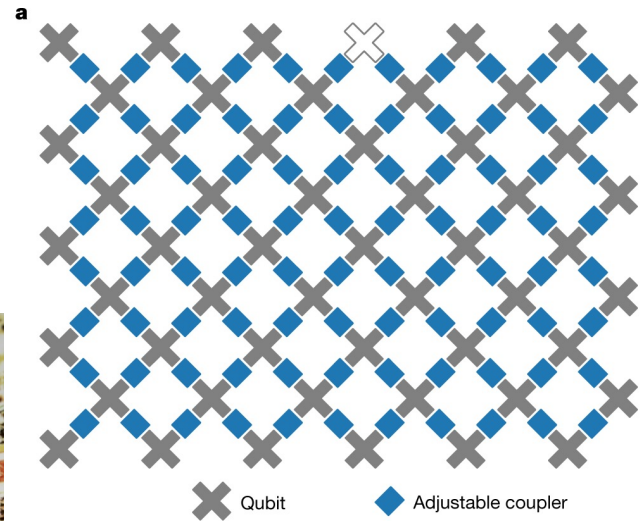
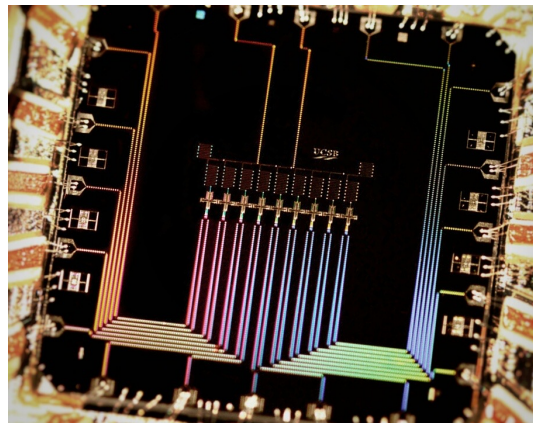
What is your next qubit? 😂



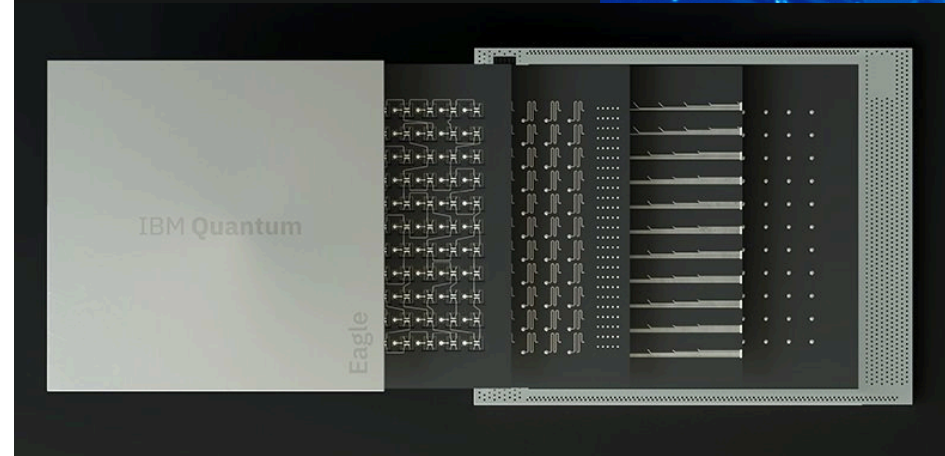
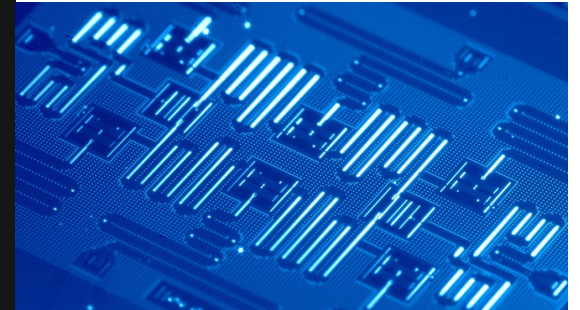
# Transmon qubit today: in quantum processors

Transmon: choice of qubit in major industry-led quantum computing efforts

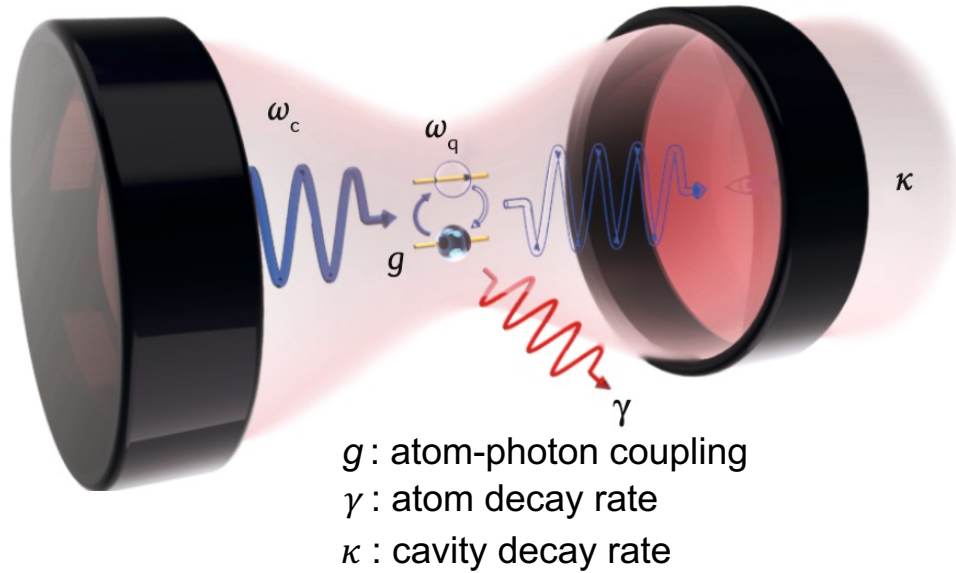
**Google**  
tunable-frequency  
Xmons



**IBM**  
fixed-frequency  
transmons



# Cavity Quantum Electrodynamics (QED) with SC Circuits



Controllable coherent interaction  
of **single photons** with **individual two-level systems**

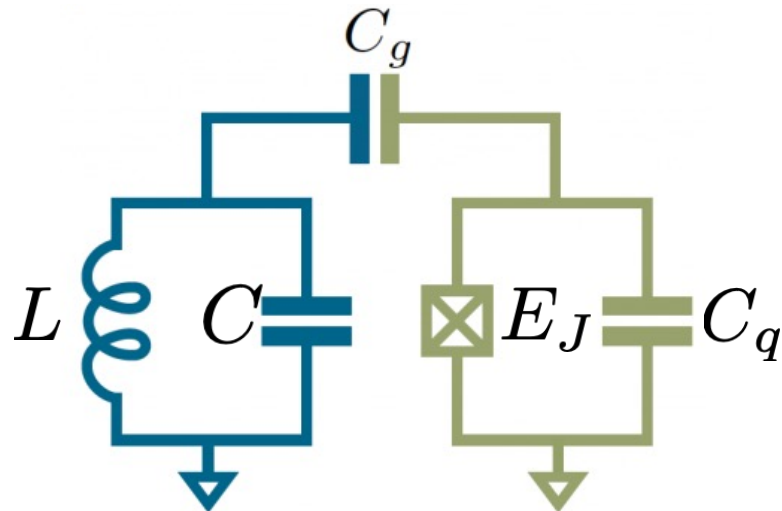
With atoms:

J. M. Raimond et al., RMP **73**, 565 (2001)

S. Haroche & J. Raimond, Exploring the Quantum (2006)

J. Ye, H. J. Kimble, H. Katori, Science **320**, 1734 (2008)

With superconducting circuits: “**Circuit QED**”



How is circuit QED useful for quantum information processing?

- Isolating qubits from their electromagnetic environment
- Maintaining the addressability of qubits
- Reading out the state of qubits
- Coupling qubits to each other
- Converting stationary qubits to flying qubits



# Cavity Quantum Electrodynamics (QED) with SC Circuits

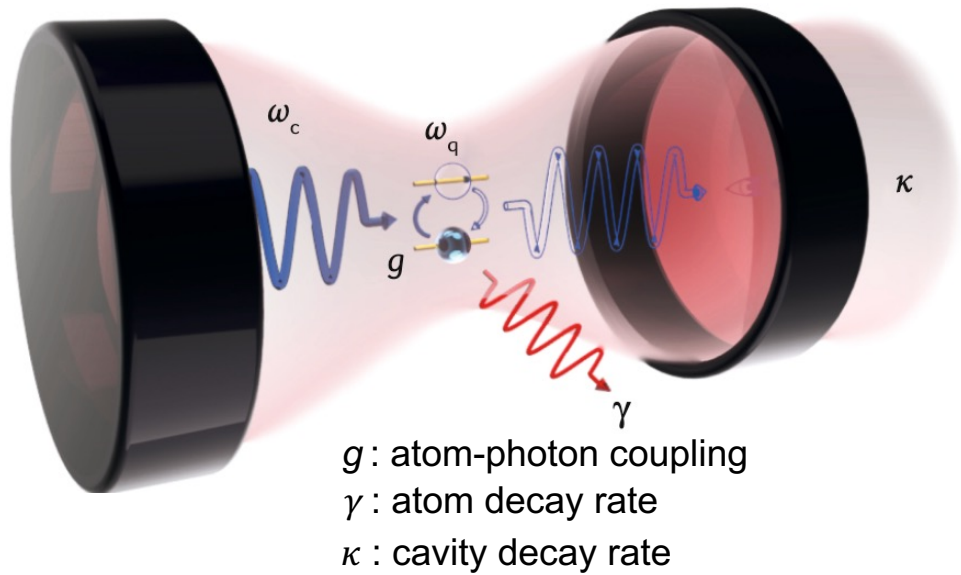
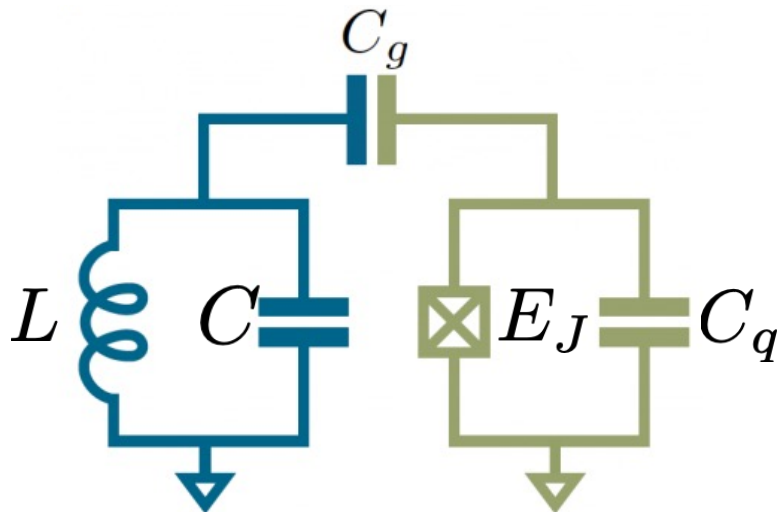


Figure of Merit: Cooperativity  $C = \frac{4g^2}{\kappa\gamma}$

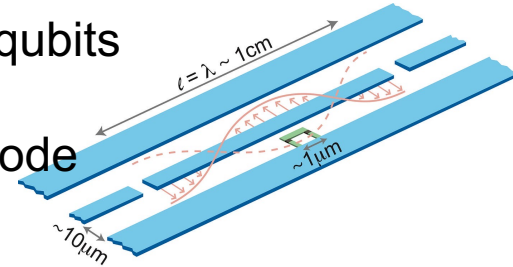
In superconducting circuits, very easy to realize **large g values**

$$g = d \sqrt{\frac{\omega}{2\hbar\epsilon_0 V_m}}$$

With superconducting circuits: **“Circuit QED”**



- large transition dipole  $d$  of superconducting qubits
- sub-wavelength confinement of resonator mode (small mode volume  $V_m$ )



Very easy to achieve strong-coupling regime ( $C \gg 1$ ) of cavity QED

- Offers a good platform to study quantum optics

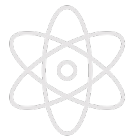
**Interesting current research topics:**

Ultrastrong coupling regime, Waveguide QED,  
 Topological Quantum Optics, Driven-Dissipative Systems...

([what we work on](#))

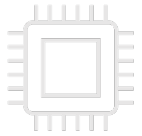


# Content

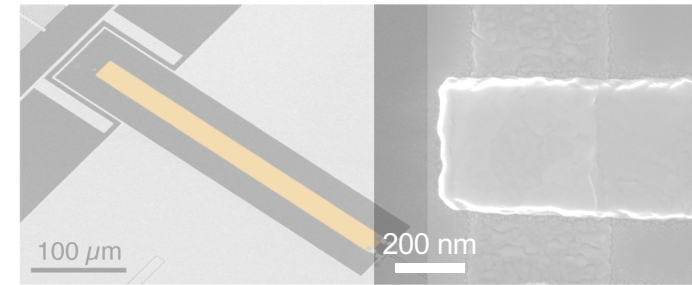


Motivation: Quantum Computation

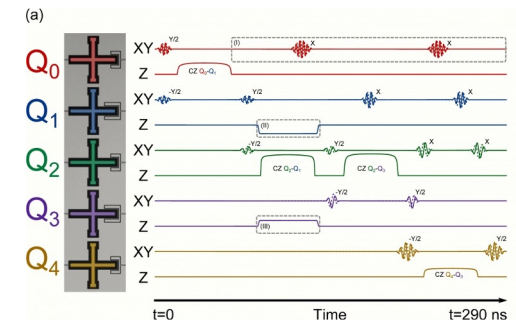
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{cat}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{dog}\rangle$$



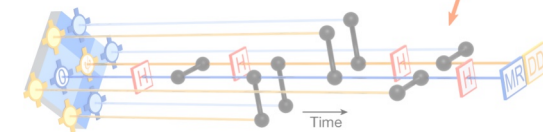
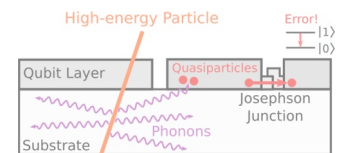
Superconducting Qubits & Circuit QED



Control & Readout of Superconducting Qubits



Challenges, Current Research Topics



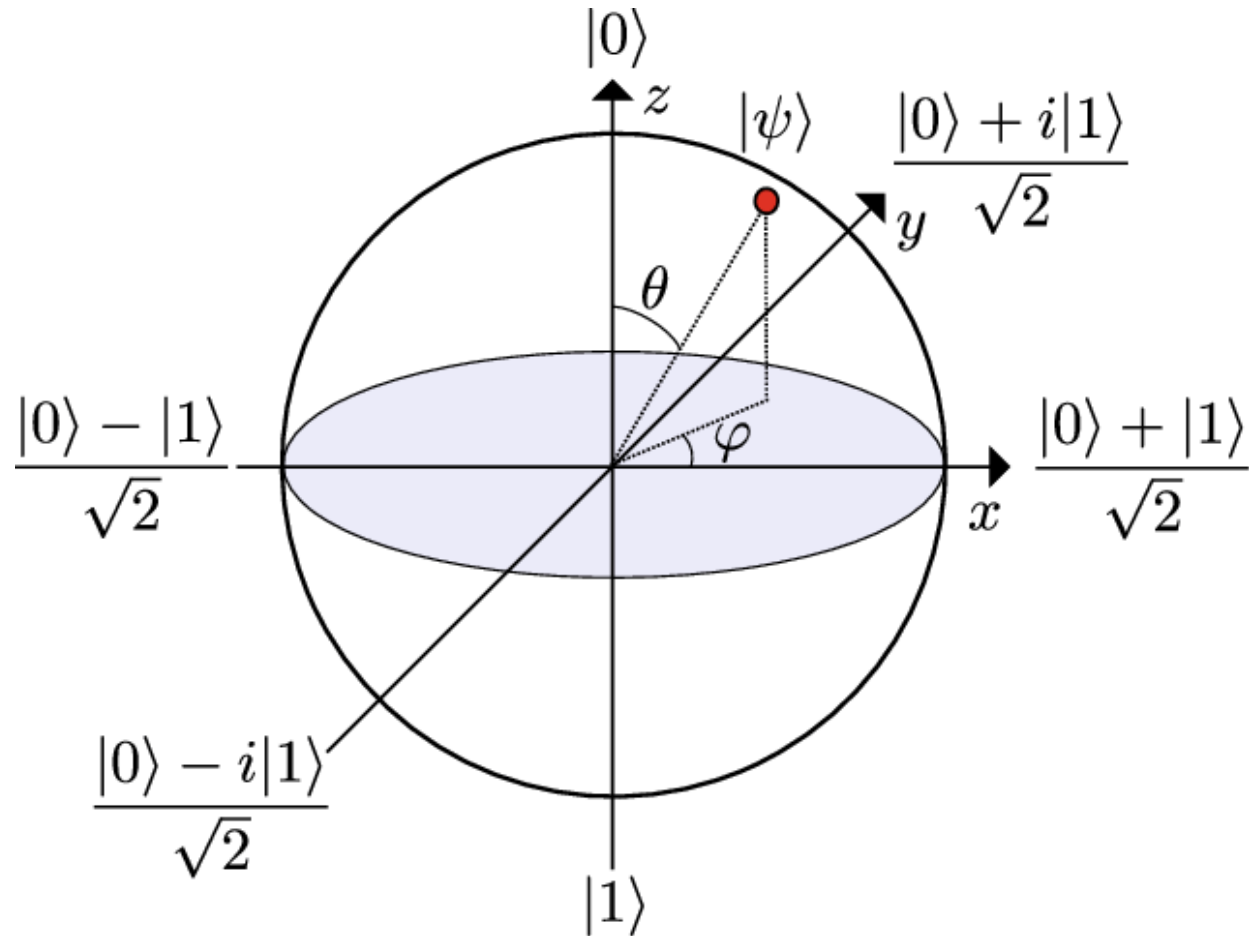
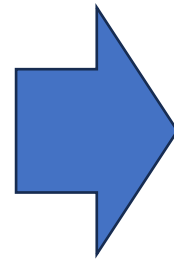


# Visualizing the state of a qubit: Bloch Sphere

$$\sigma_x = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad \sigma_z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$$

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

(up to a global phase factor)



**“Bloch Sphere”**

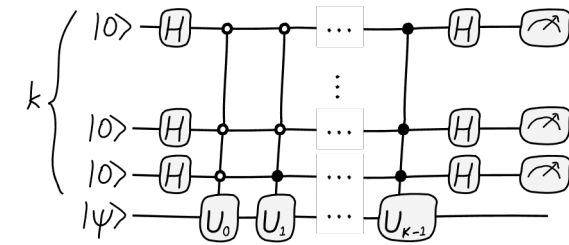
Given a state  $|\psi\rangle$ , the Bloch vector points at  $\langle \sigma \rangle = (\langle \sigma_x \rangle, \langle \sigma_y \rangle, \langle \sigma_z \rangle)$



# Logic Gates used in Quantum Computers

**Quantum Logic:** Unitary operations on quantum states

→ implemented by a set of single-qubit and two-qubit gates



- single-qubit gates: rotation on a Bloch sphere

<p>X gate: rotates the qubit state by <math>\pi</math> radians (<math>180^\circ</math>) about the x-axis.</p>		$X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Input</th> <th>Output</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><math> 0\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 1\rangle</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td><math> 1\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 0\rangle</math></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Input	Output	$ 0\rangle$	$ 1\rangle$	$ 1\rangle$	$ 0\rangle$	
Input	Output									
$ 0\rangle$	$ 1\rangle$									
$ 1\rangle$	$ 0\rangle$									
<p>Y gate: rotates the qubit state by <math>\pi</math> radians (<math>180^\circ</math>) about the y-axis.</p>		$Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Input</th> <th>Output</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><math> 0\rangle</math></td> <td><math>i 1\rangle</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td><math> 1\rangle</math></td> <td><math>-i 0\rangle</math></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Input	Output	$ 0\rangle$	$i 1\rangle$	$ 1\rangle$	$-i 0\rangle$	
Input	Output									
$ 0\rangle$	$i 1\rangle$									
$ 1\rangle$	$-i 0\rangle$									
<p>Z gate: rotates the qubit state by <math>\pi</math> radians (<math>180^\circ</math>) about the z-axis.</p>		$Z = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Input</th> <th>Output</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><math> 0\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 0\rangle</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td><math> 1\rangle</math></td> <td><math>- 1\rangle</math></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Input	Output	$ 0\rangle$	$ 0\rangle$	$ 1\rangle$	$- 1\rangle$	
Input	Output									
$ 0\rangle$	$ 0\rangle$									
$ 1\rangle$	$- 1\rangle$									
		⋮								

- two-qubit gate: controls entanglement

<p>Controlled-NOT gate: apply an X-gate to the target qubit if the control qubit is in state <math> 1\rangle</math></p>		$CNOT = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Input</th> <th>Output</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><math> 00\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 00\rangle</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td><math> 01\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 01\rangle</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td><math> 10\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 11\rangle</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td><math> 11\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 10\rangle</math></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Input	Output	$ 00\rangle$	$ 00\rangle$	$ 01\rangle$	$ 01\rangle$	$ 10\rangle$	$ 11\rangle$	$ 11\rangle$	$ 10\rangle$
Input	Output												
$ 00\rangle$	$ 00\rangle$												
$ 01\rangle$	$ 01\rangle$												
$ 10\rangle$	$ 11\rangle$												
$ 11\rangle$	$ 10\rangle$												
<p>Controlled-phase gate: apply a Z-gate to the target qubit if the control qubit is in state <math> 1\rangle</math></p>		$CPHASE (CZ) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix}$	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Input</th> <th>Output</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td><math> 00\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 00\rangle</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td><math> 01\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 01\rangle</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td><math> 10\rangle</math></td> <td><math> 10\rangle</math></td> </tr> <tr> <td><math> 11\rangle</math></td> <td><math>- 11\rangle</math></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Input	Output	$ 00\rangle$	$ 00\rangle$	$ 01\rangle$	$ 01\rangle$	$ 10\rangle$	$ 10\rangle$	$ 11\rangle$	$- 11\rangle$
Input	Output												
$ 00\rangle$	$ 00\rangle$												
$ 01\rangle$	$ 01\rangle$												
$ 10\rangle$	$ 10\rangle$												
$ 11\rangle$	$- 11\rangle$												

operation on the **target qubit**,  
conditioned on the state of the **control qubit**

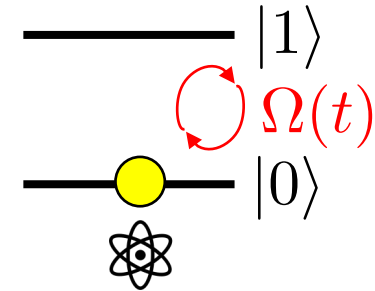
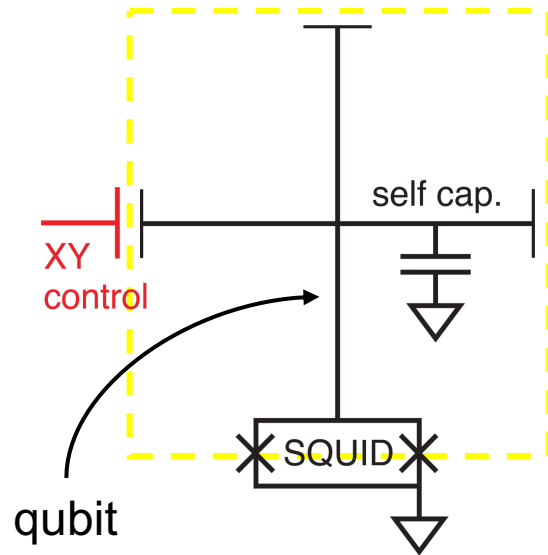
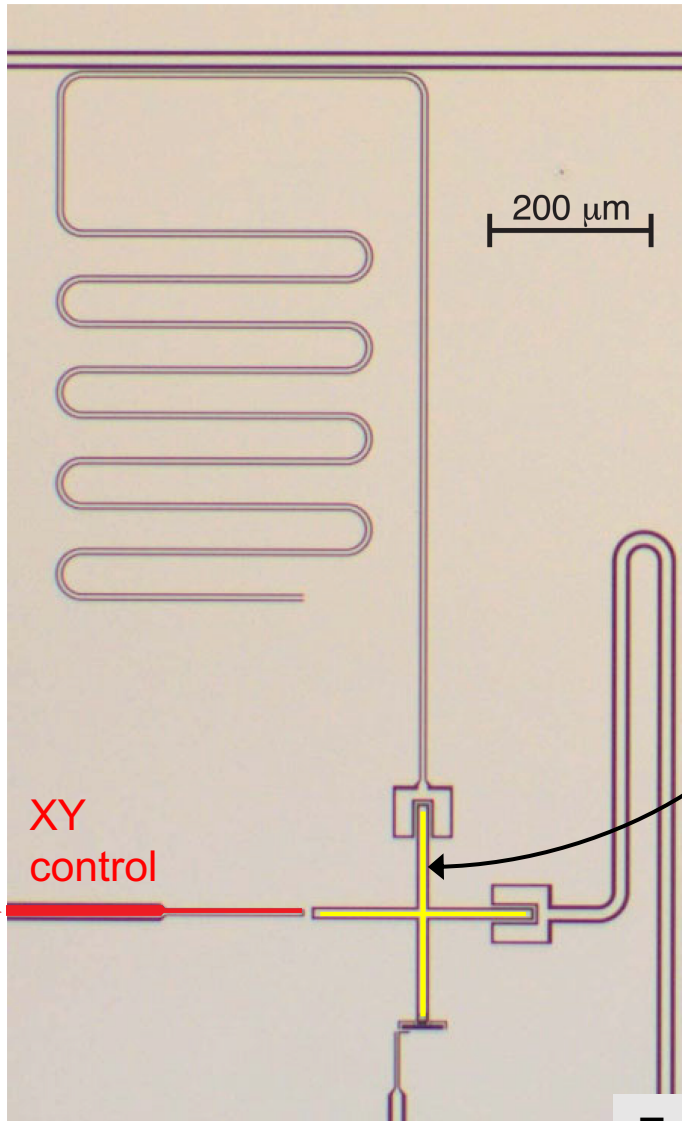
**Universal Gate Set:** a set of gates sufficient to implement an arbitrary quantum logic

Example: {arbitrary 1Q rotations, CNOT (or CZ)}

How do we *physically* realize such a universal gate set?



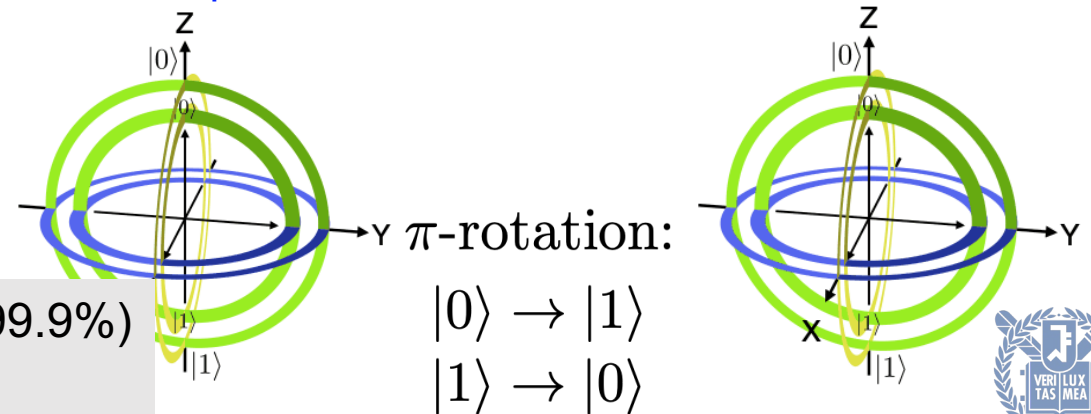
# Single-Qubit Gates: XY control



$$\hat{H} = + \frac{\Omega(t)}{2} \hat{\sigma}_x$$

✓ XY control: microwave pulse (**charge drive**)

Resonant drive: induce  $|0\rangle \leftrightarrow |1\rangle$  state transition (**bit-flip**)  
 → rotation about an axis lying on the equator (xy-plane) of the Bloch sphere

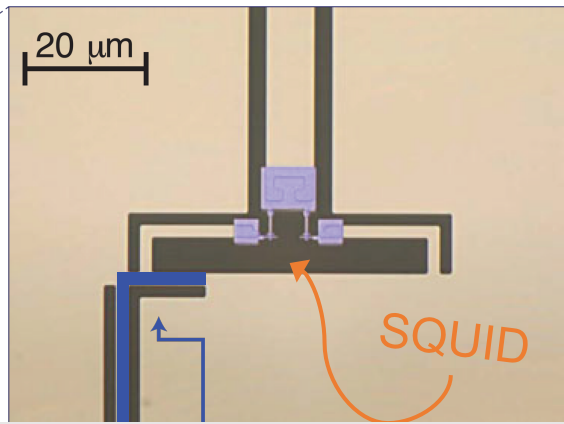
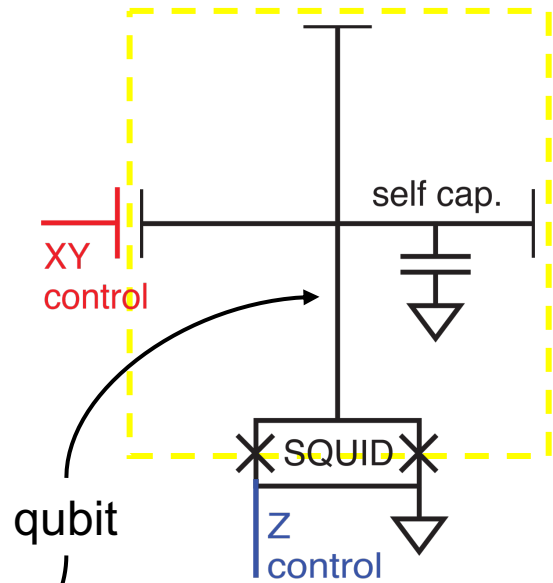
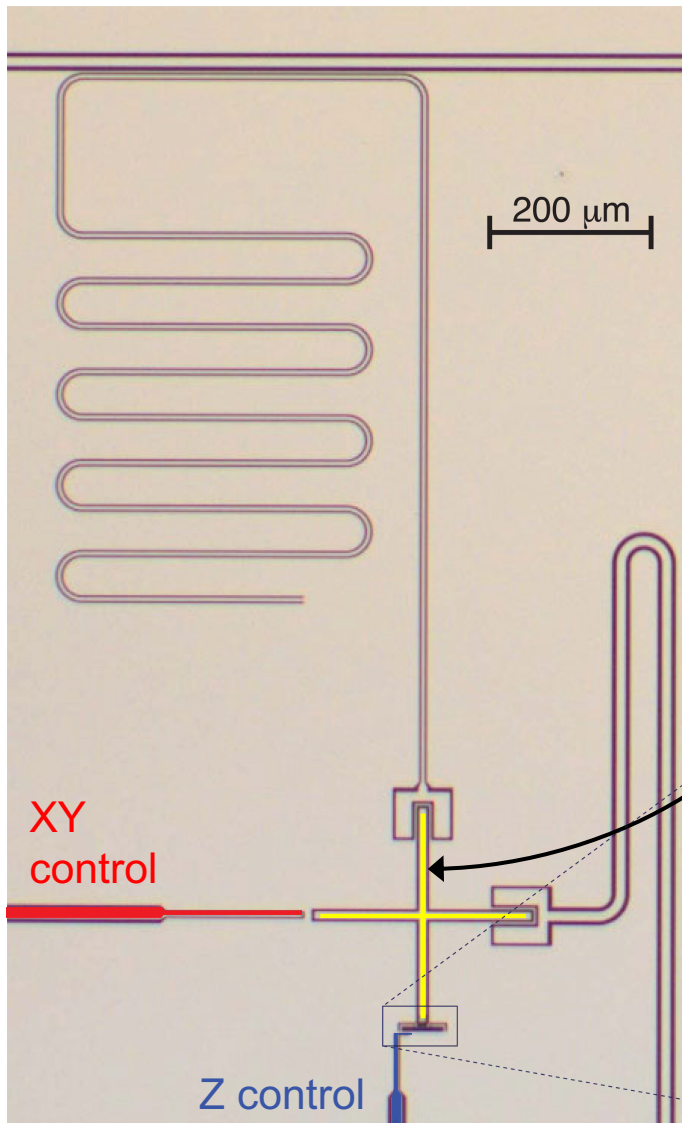


Fast (<20ns), High-fidelity (> 99.9%)  
 XY Gates Achievable

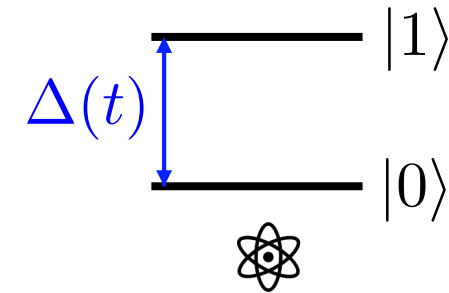


Figure adapted from R. Barends et al., PRL 111, 080502 (2013)

# Single-Qubit Gates: Z control



Alternatively, Virtual Z-rotation: perfect (updating oscillator phase)



$$\hat{H} = -\frac{\Delta(t)}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z$$

✓ Z control: square pulse (flux bias)

flux on SQUID: shifts qubit frequency (**phase-flip**)  
 → rotation about the z-axis of the Bloch sphere

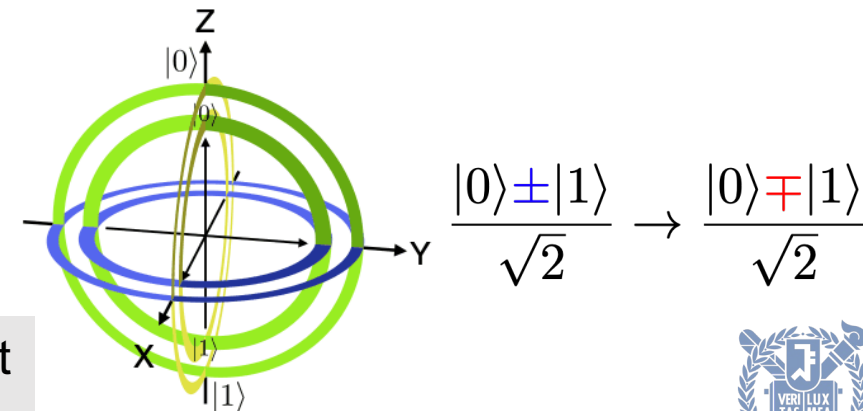
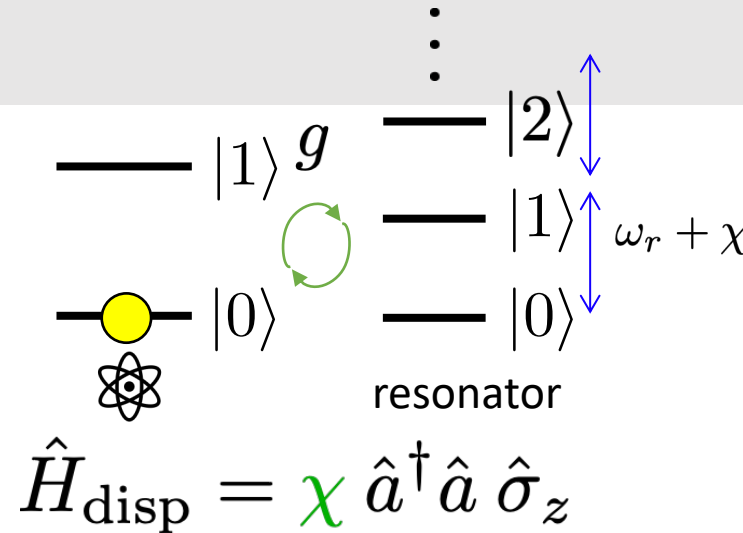
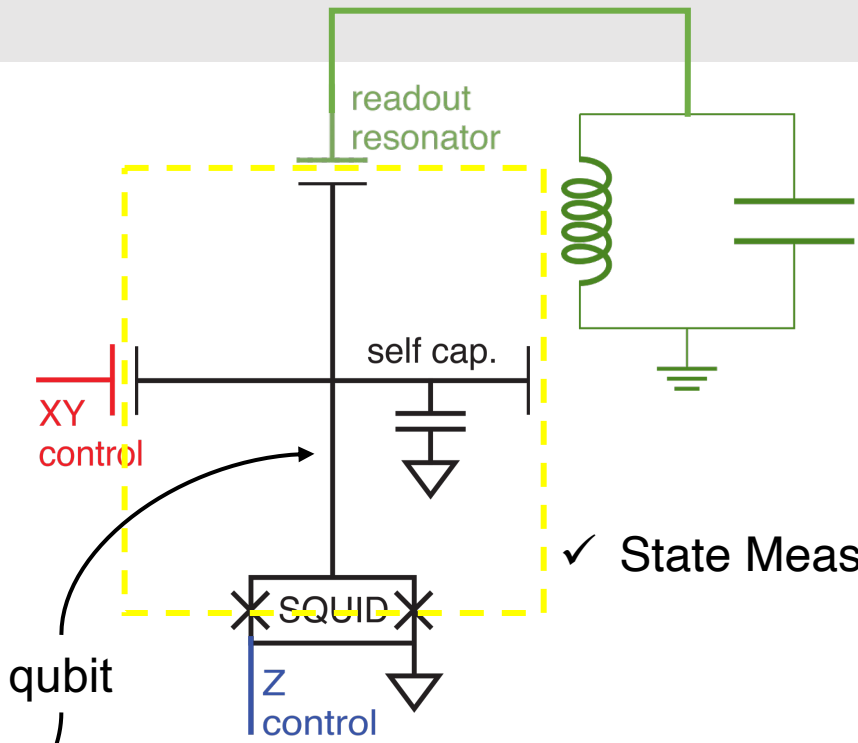
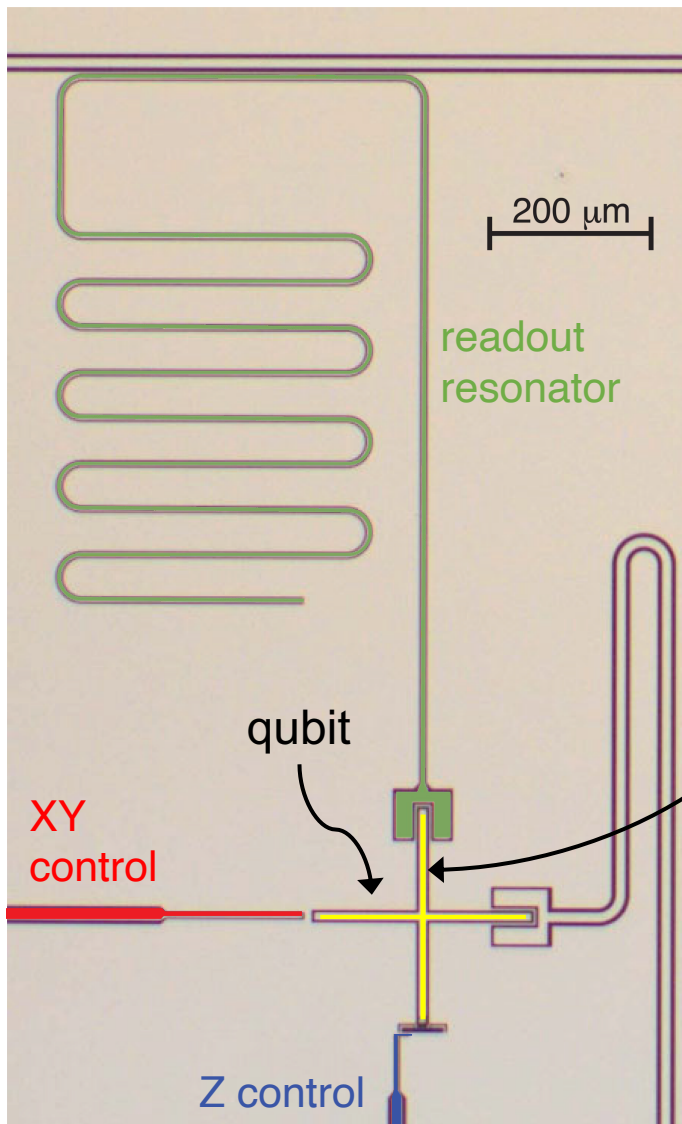


Figure adapted from R. Barends et al., PRL 111, 080502 (2013)



# Qubit Readout



✓ State Measurement: by using a readout resonator

Measured Voltage Signal

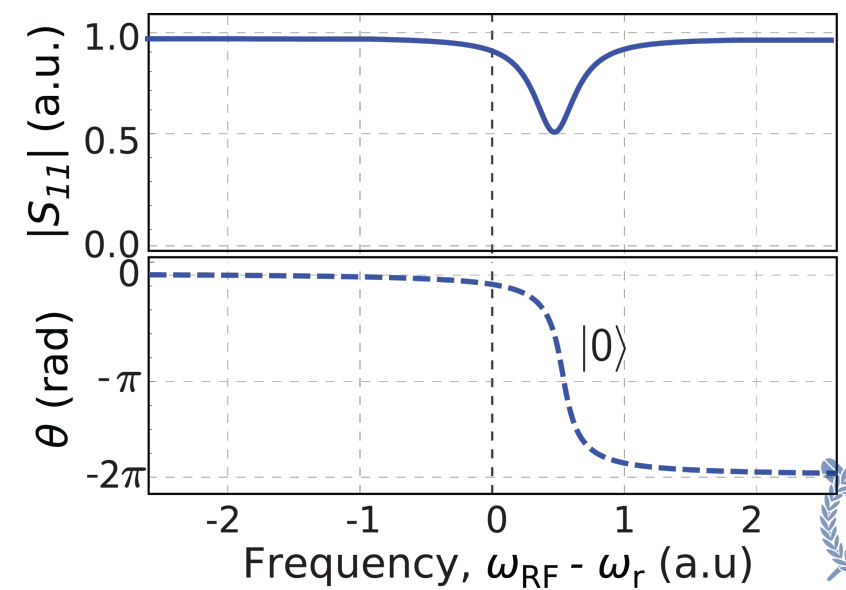
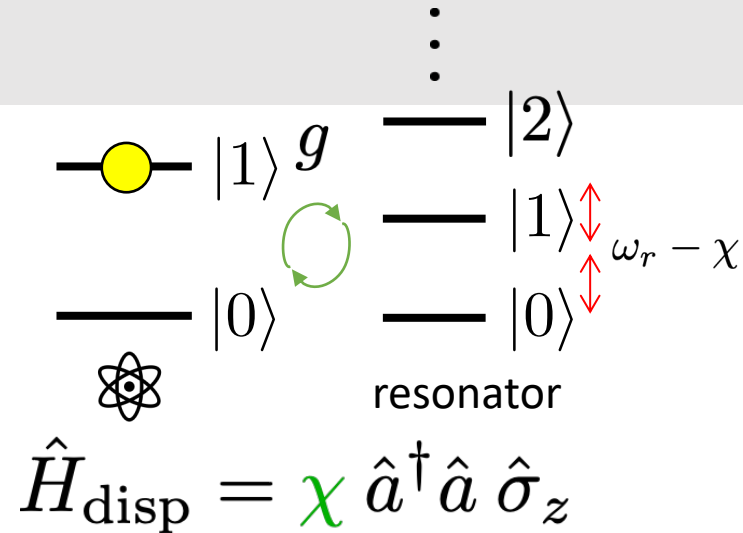
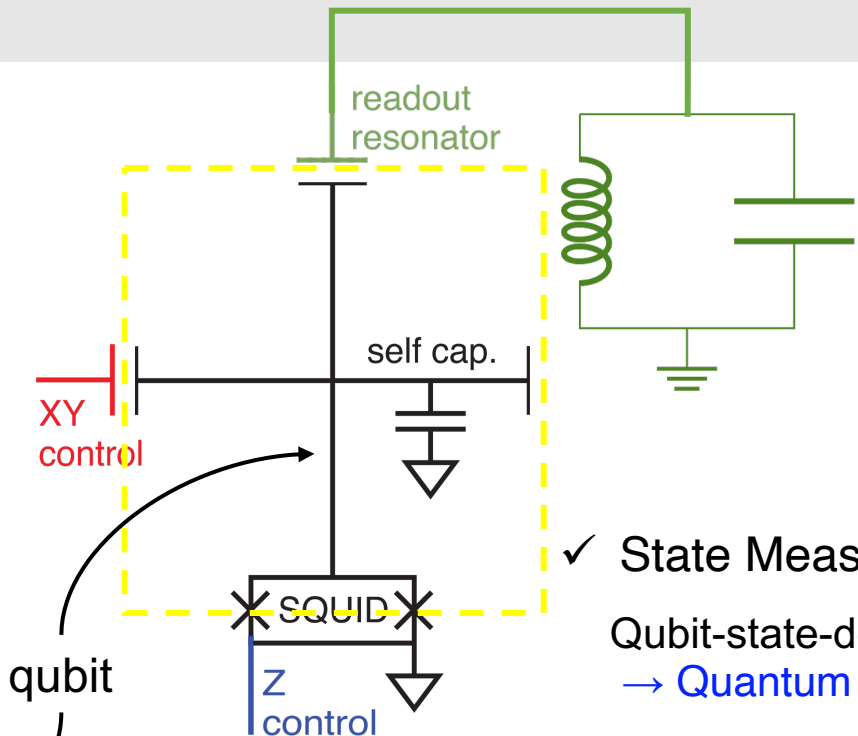
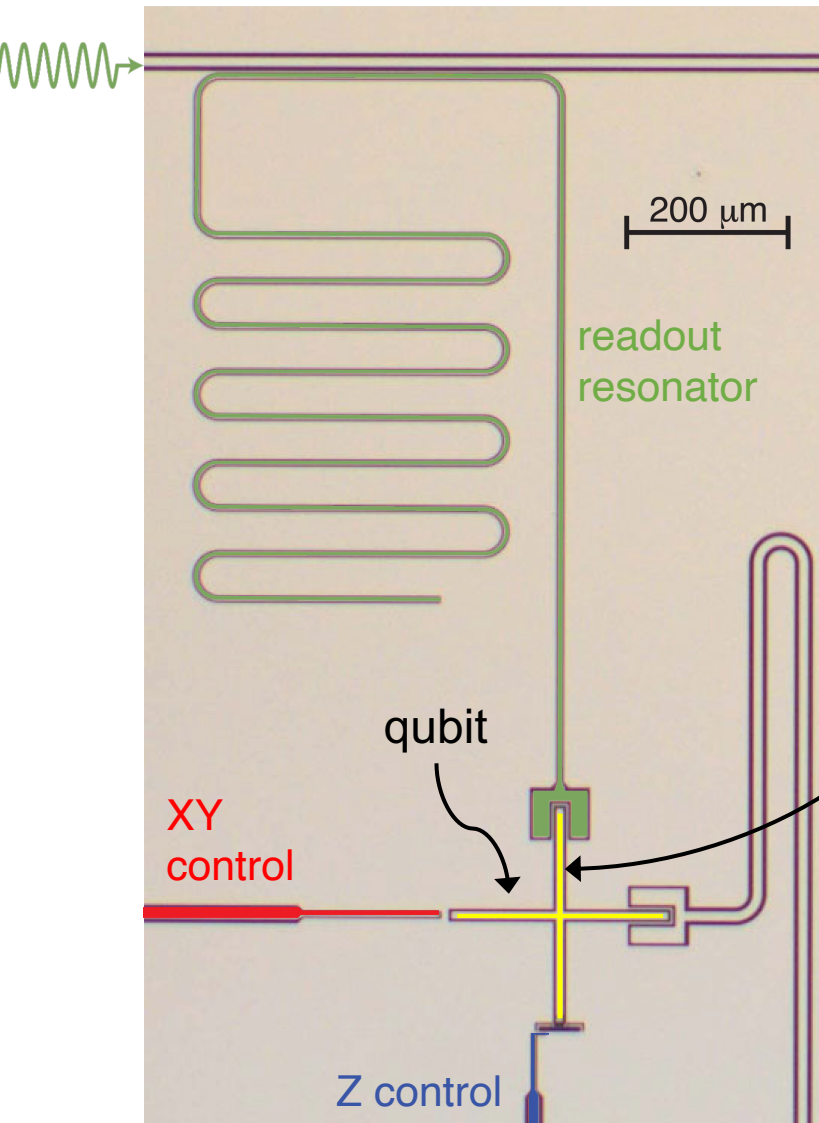


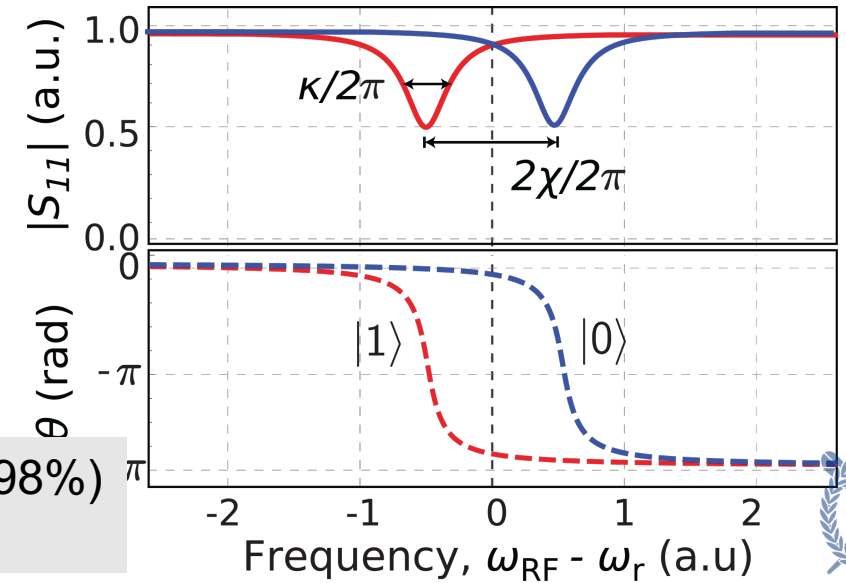
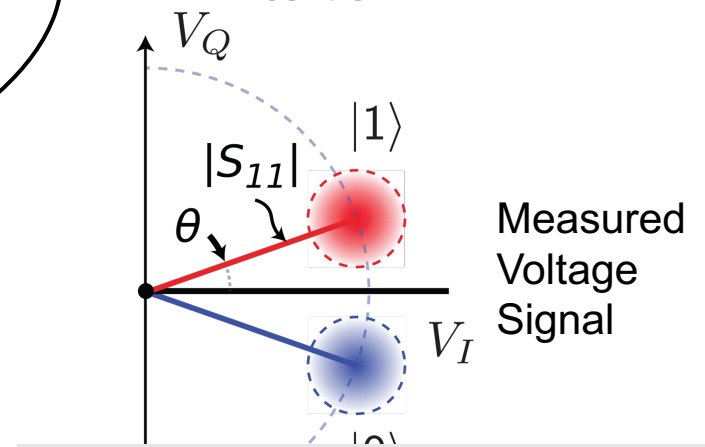
Figure adapted from R. Barends et al., PRL 111, 080502 (2013)



# Qubit Readout



✓ State Measurement: by using a readout resonator  
 Qubit-state-dependent shift of resonator frequency  
 → Quantum Non-Demolition (QND) Readout



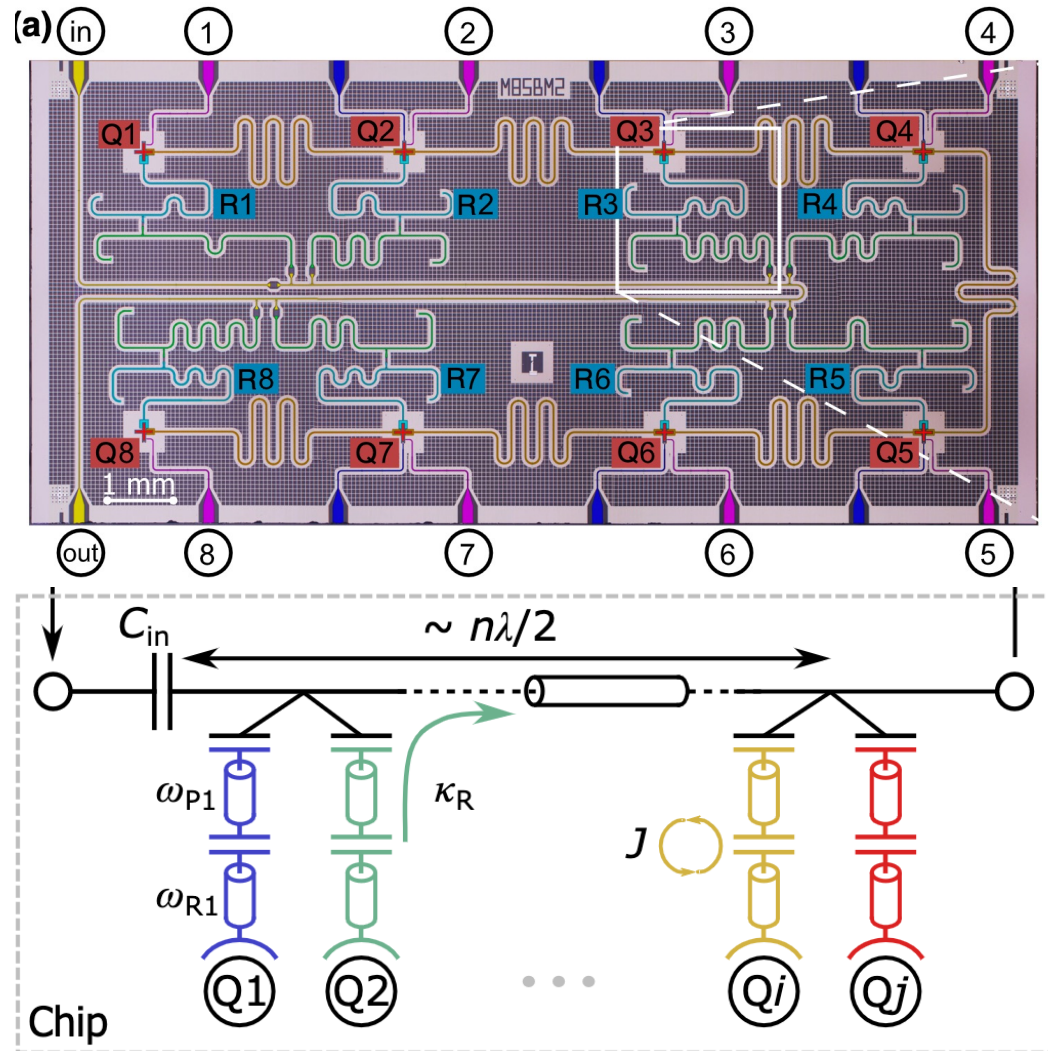
Rapid (<200ns), High-Fidelity(>98%)  
 QND Readout Achievable

Figure adapted from R. Barends et al., PRL 111, 080502 (2013)

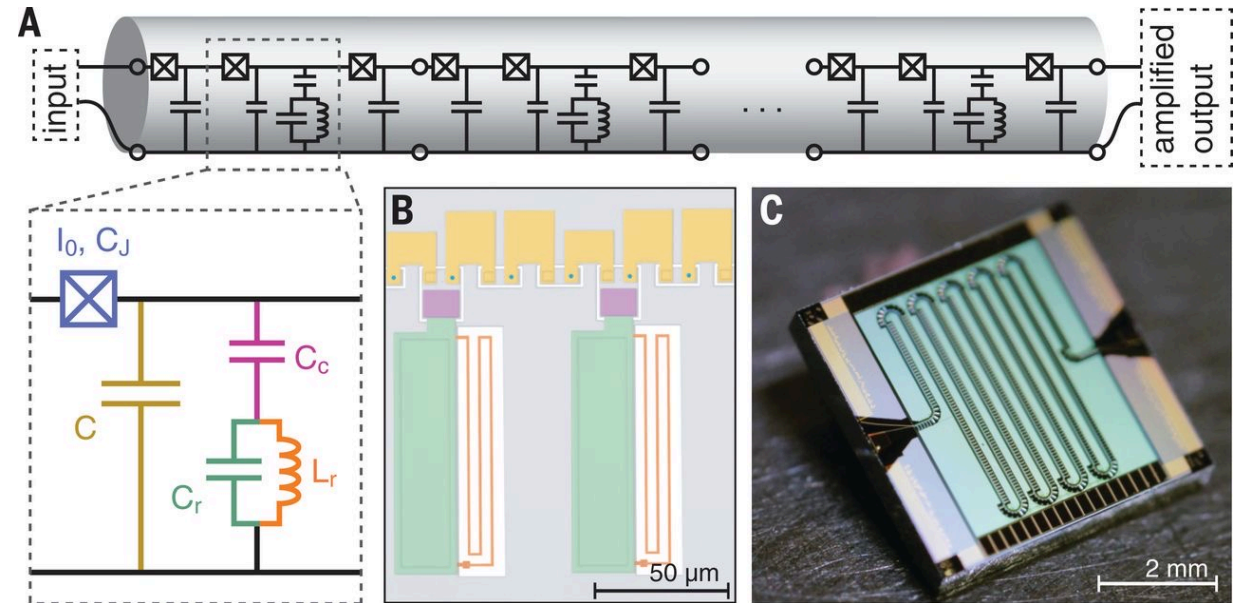


# Simultaneous Readout of Multiple Qubits

**Multiplexed Readout:** use readout resonators at different frequencies, allocated to each qubit



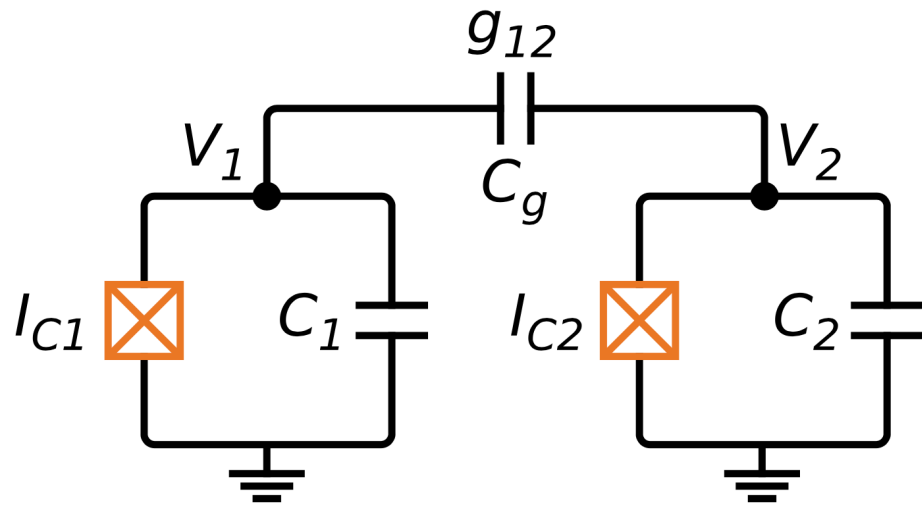
With the help of wideband Josephson parametric amp:  
**Josephson Travelling-Wave Parametric Amplifier (JTWPA)**



Science **350**, 307-310 (2015)

- Can simultaneously readout 4-5 qubits using a single amp. chain
- Mid-Circuit Measurement Possible\*

# Two-Qubit Gate: Using Capacitive Coupling



Qubit-Qubit interaction from capacitive coupling

$$\hat{H} = g(\hat{\sigma}_1^+ \hat{\sigma}_2^- + \hat{\sigma}_2^+ \hat{\sigma}_1^-) = \frac{g}{2}(\hat{\sigma}_1^x \hat{\sigma}_2^x + \hat{\sigma}_1^y \hat{\sigma}_2^y)$$

(spin flip-flop interaction or spin XY model)

coupling strength determined from circuit parameters:

$$g = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\omega_1 \omega_2} \frac{C_g}{\sqrt{(C_1 + C_g)(C_2 + C_g)}}$$

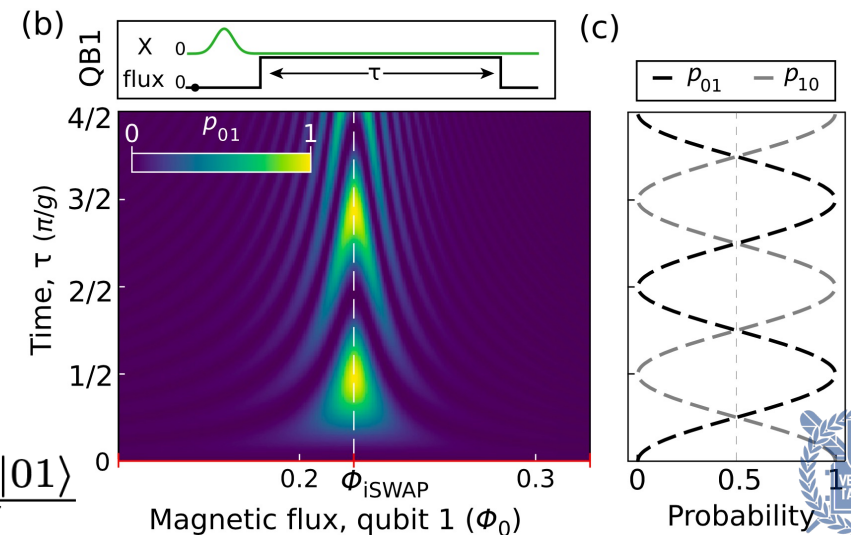
Typical values: 10-40 MHz

Unitary evolution matrix in the  $\{|00\rangle, |01\rangle, |10\rangle, |11\rangle\}$  basis

$$U_{qq}(t) = e^{-i\frac{g}{2}(\sigma_x \sigma_x + \sigma_y \sigma_y)t} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & \cos(gt) & -i \sin(gt) & 0 \\ 0 & -i \sin(gt) & \cos(gt) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

At  $t = \pi/g$ , iSWAP gate:  $|01\rangle \rightarrow -i|10\rangle$ ,  $|10\rangle \rightarrow -i|01\rangle$

At  $t = \pi/(2g)$ ,  $\sqrt{i}$ SWAP gate:  $|01\rangle \rightarrow \frac{|01\rangle - i|10\rangle}{2}$ ,  $|10\rangle \rightarrow \frac{|10\rangle - i|01\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$





# Two-Qubit Gate: CZ gate

Inclusion of higher excited levels (transmon)

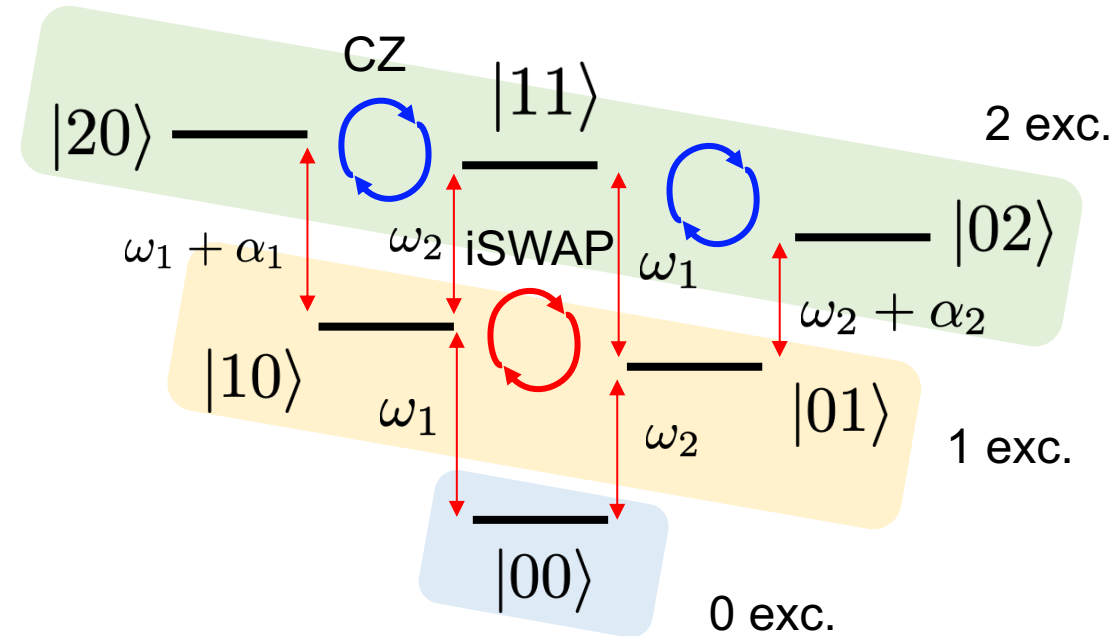
$$\hat{H} = g(\hat{\sigma}_1^+ \hat{\sigma}_2^- + \hat{\sigma}_2^+ \hat{\sigma}_1^-) \rightarrow \hat{H} = g(\hat{b}_1^\dagger \hat{b}_2 + \hat{b}_2^\dagger \hat{b}_1)$$

$$\hat{H} = \begin{bmatrix} E_{|00\rangle} & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & E_{|01\rangle} & g & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & g & E_{|10\rangle} & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & E_{|11\rangle} & \sqrt{2}g & \sqrt{2}g \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2}g & E_{|02\rangle} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2}g & 0 & E_{|20\rangle} \end{bmatrix}$$

$|11\rangle \leftrightarrow |20\rangle$  are coupled when  $\omega_1 + \alpha_1 = \omega_2$

$$|\psi(t)\rangle = \cos(\sqrt{2}gt)|11\rangle - i \sin(\sqrt{2}gt)|20\rangle$$

**Now we have the universal gate set!**

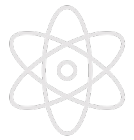


$|ij\rangle$ : qubit 1 in state  $|i\rangle$ , qubit 2 in state  $|j\rangle$

At  $t_{\text{CZ}} = \pi/(\sqrt{2}g)$ ,  $|\psi(t_{\text{CZ}})\rangle = -|11\rangle$

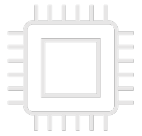
$$U_{\text{CZ}} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Content

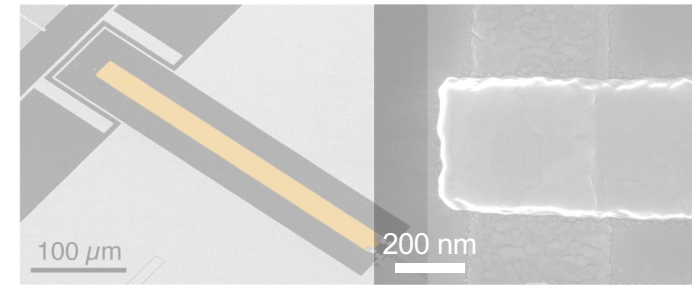


Motivation: Quantum Computation

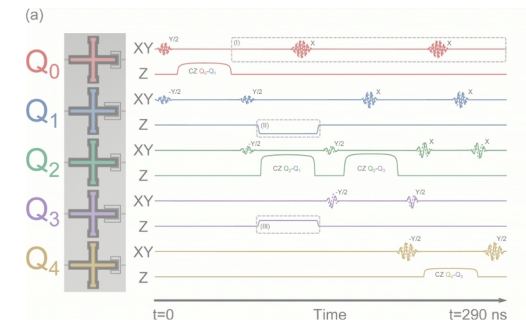
$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{cat}\rangle + \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}|\text{dog}\rangle$$



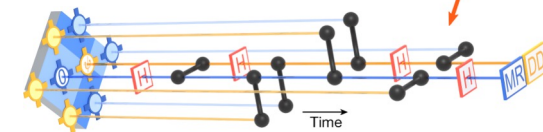
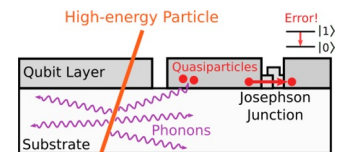
Superconducting Qubits & Circuit QED



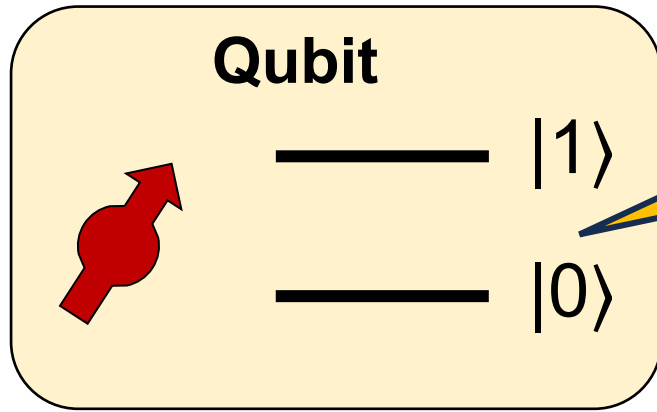
Control & Readout of Superconducting Qubits



Challenges, Current Research Topics

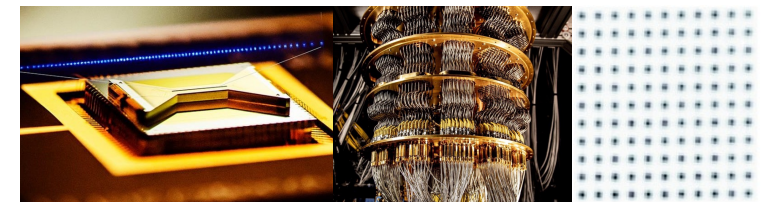
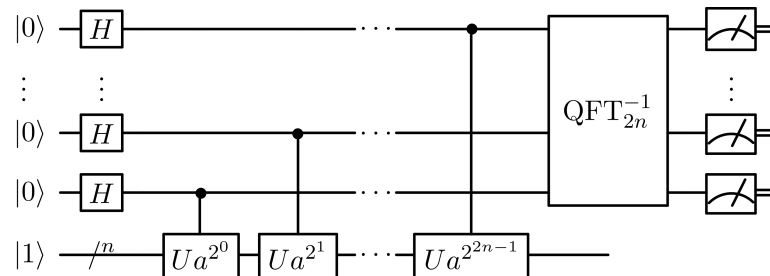
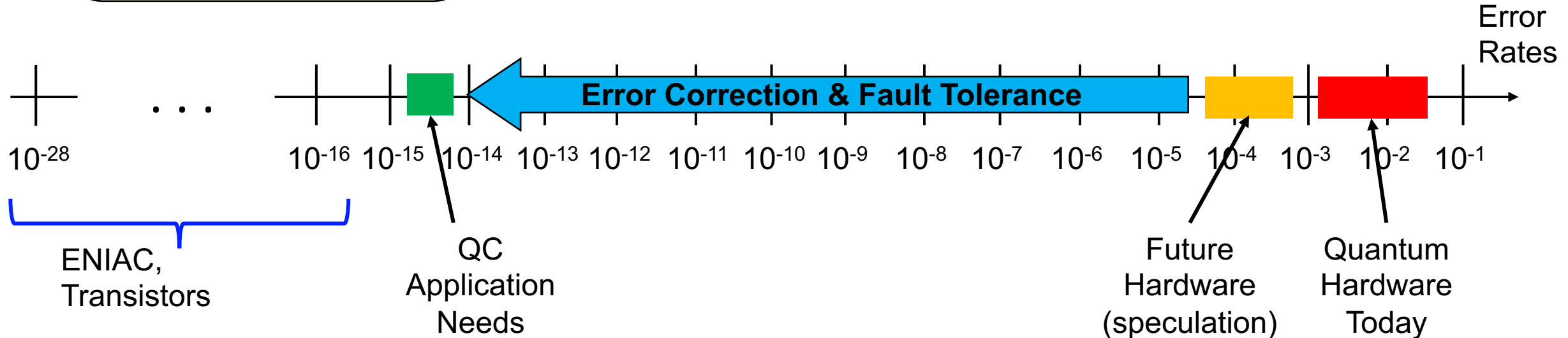


# Problem: Quantum information is fragile



“The environment is watching”

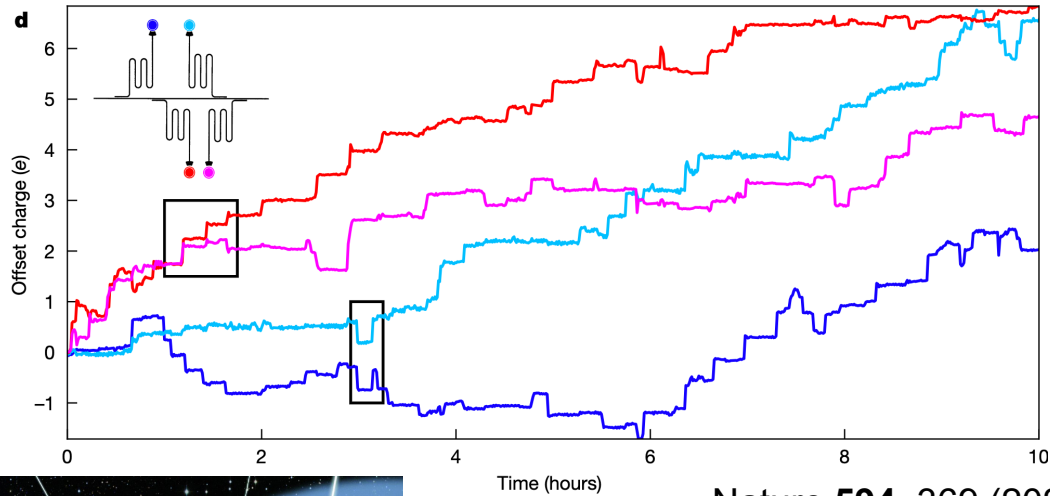
**Decoherence**



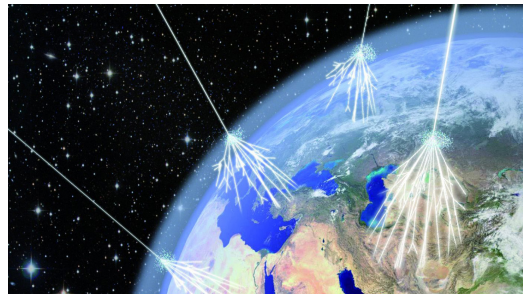


# Reducing Error: Decoherence Mechanisms

## Correlated Errors: Cannot be corrected with QEC

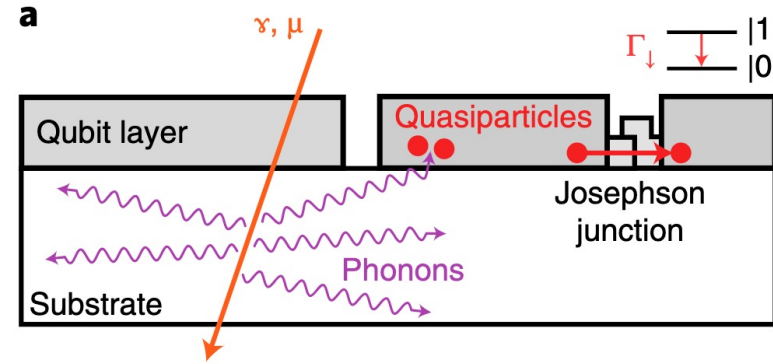


Nature **594**, 369 (2021)



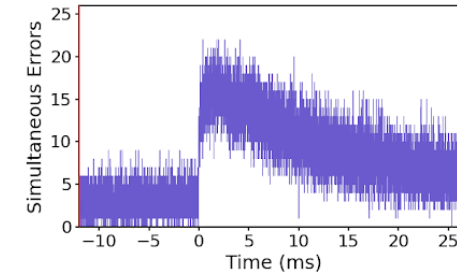
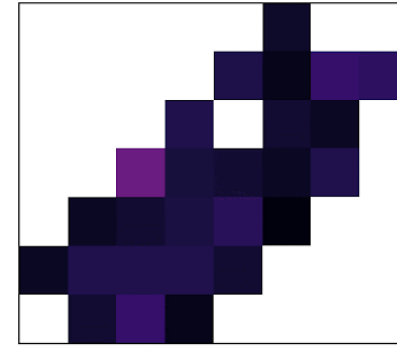
Cosmic ray (high-energy particle  $E \sim 100\text{keV} - 1\text{MeV}$ ) hits the sample

- Phonons in the bulk substrate are excited
- Break Cooper pairs ( $\Delta \sim 350 \text{ ueV}$ ), induces quasiparticles
- Correlated qubit decay or parity jump

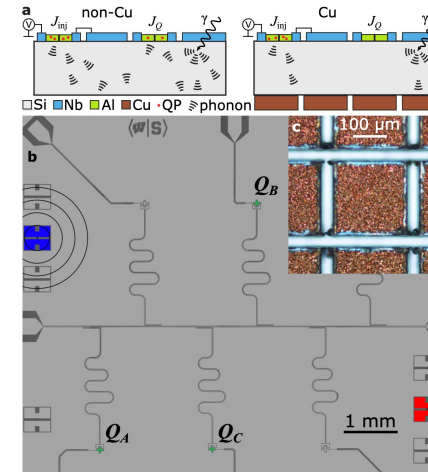


Nature Physics **18**, 107 (2022)

This event happens once every 10s on average



## Mitigation strategy example: normal-metal reservoir



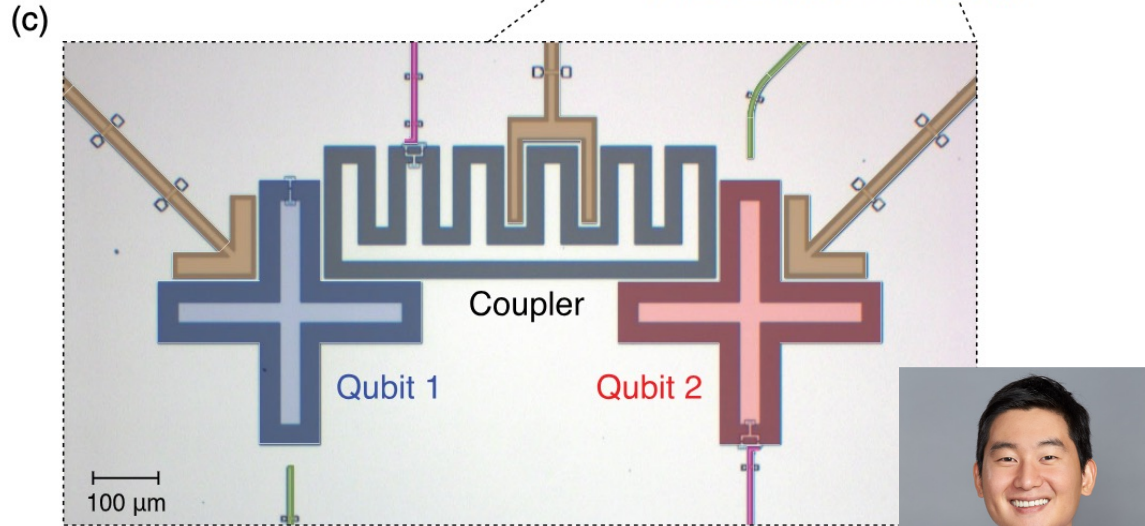
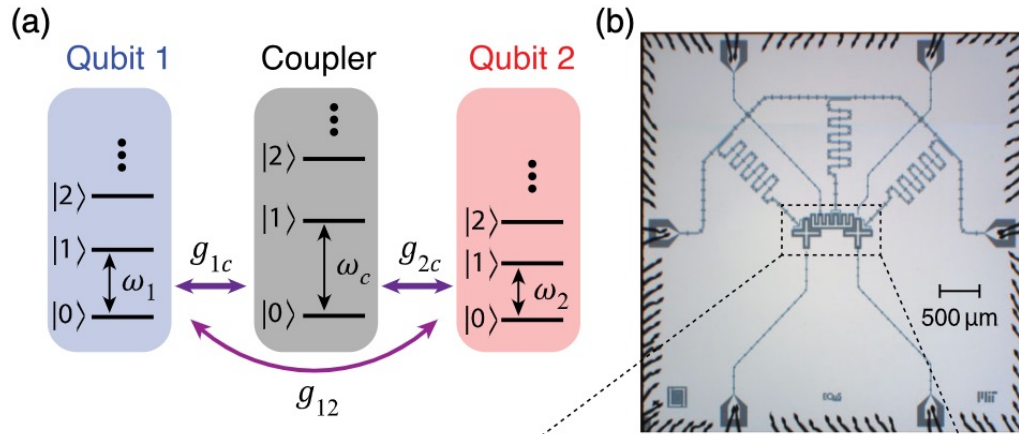
Dr. Jaseung Ku (currently @ KRISS)



# Reducing Error: High-Fidelity Gate

Tunable-coupling element: high on-off ratio of coupling

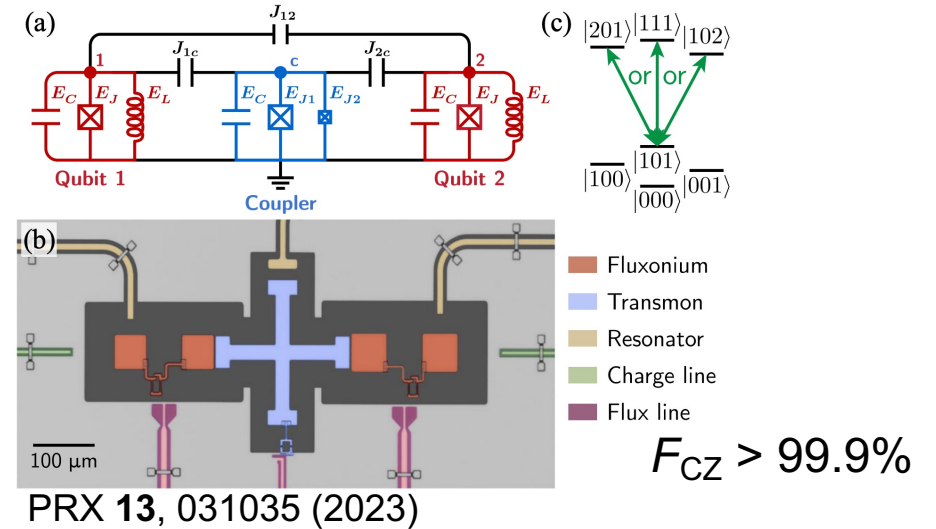
• Fluxonium-Transmon-Fluxonium Architecture



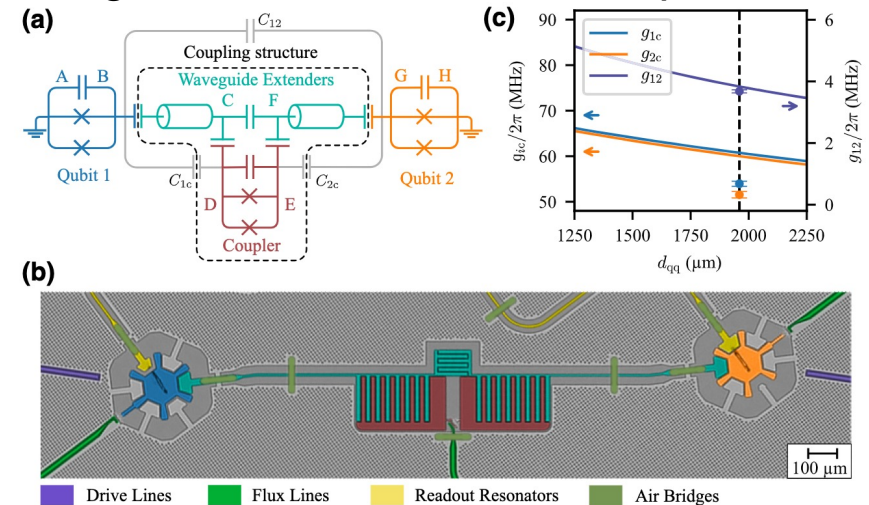
F. Yan et al., PRApplied **10**, 054062 (2018)  
 Y. Sung et al., PRX **11**, 021058 (2021)



Dr. Youngkyu Sung  
 (currently @ Atlantic Quantum)

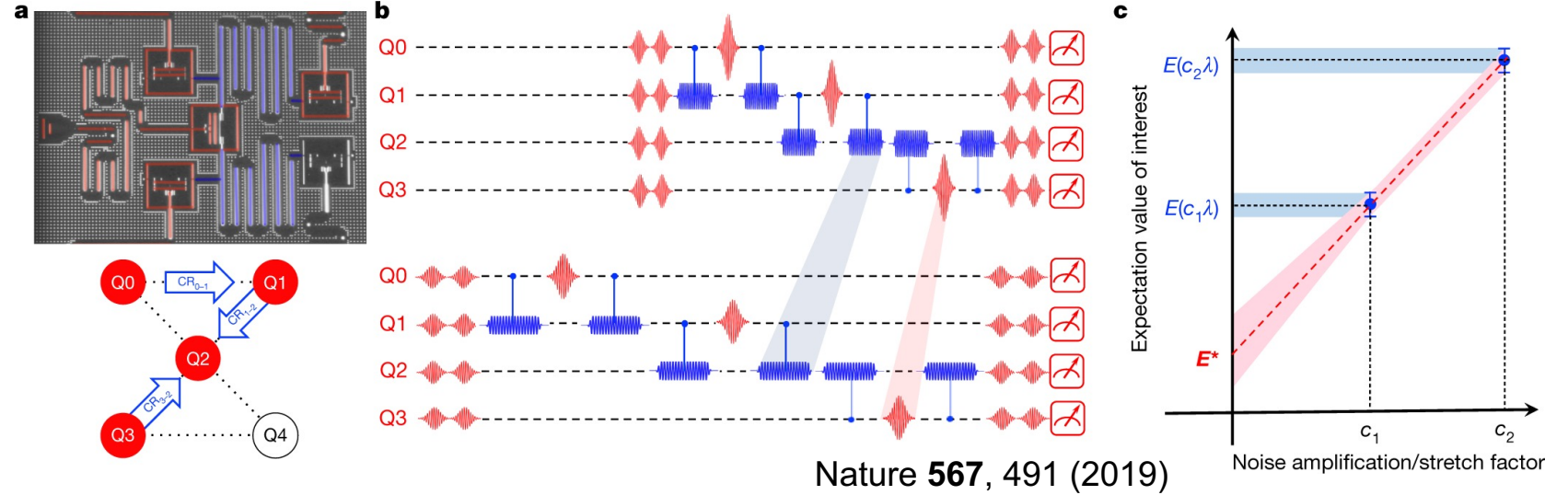


• Long-Distance Transmon Coupler



# Surviving from Error: Quantum Error Mitigation

## Zero-Noise Extrapolation (ZNE):

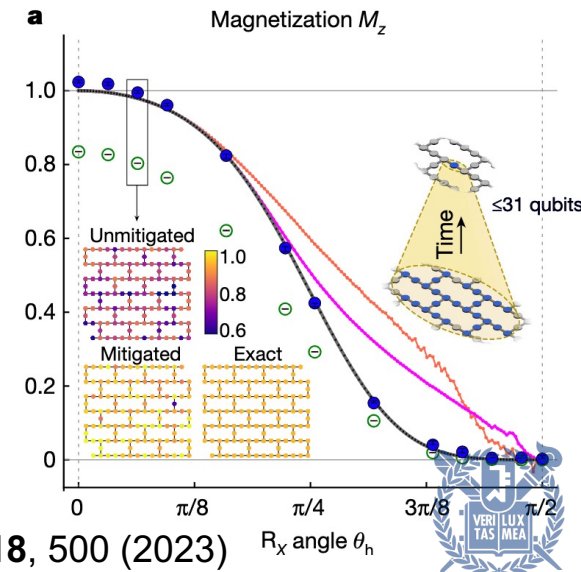


Expectation value obtained from scaling the noise (e.g., can use a longer pulse with the same area)

→ Used to extrapolate **the zero-noise limit of the expectation value (result that we want)**

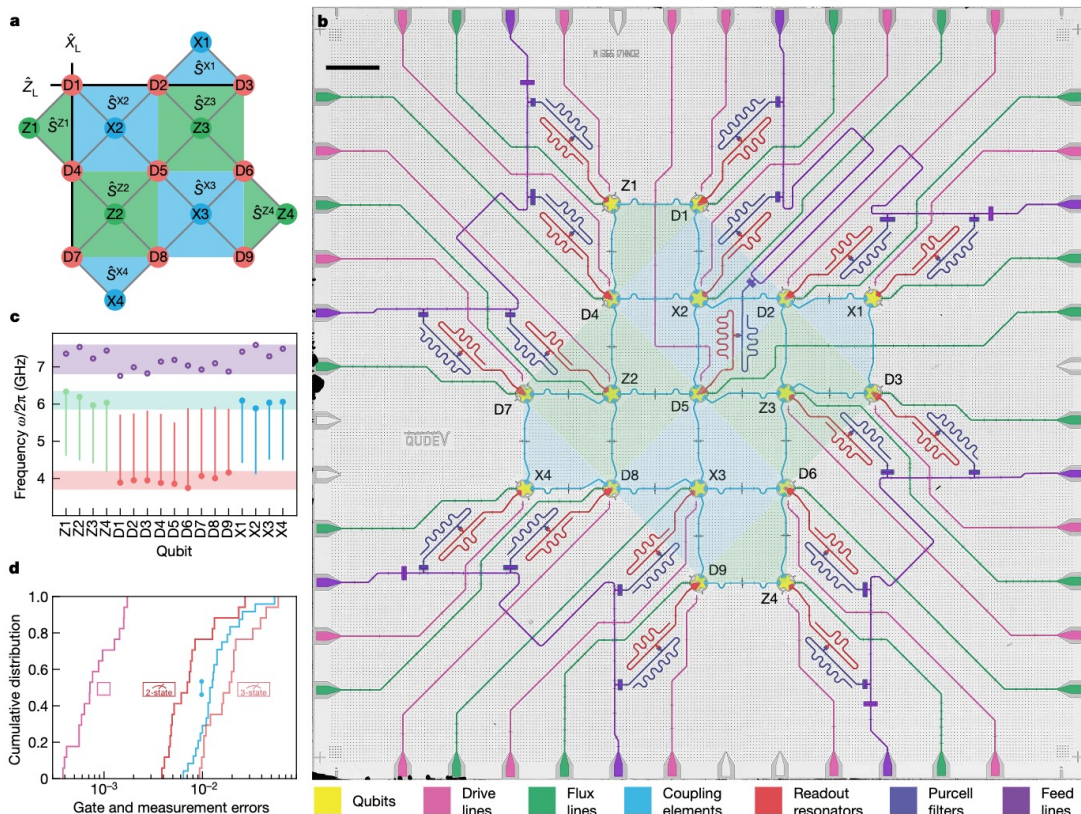
Successful execution reported in 127-qubit IBM quantum processor

→ **utility of quantum computing before fault tolerance?**



# Fighting off Error: Quantum Error Correction

## Distance-3 Surface Code



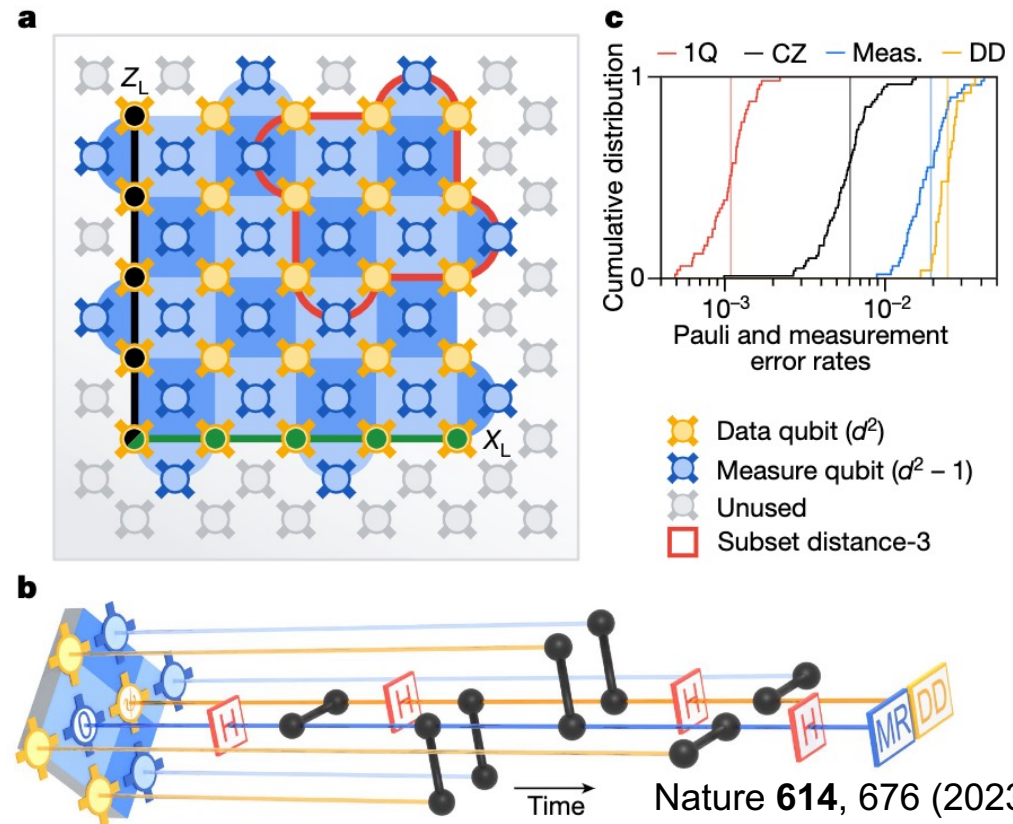
Nature **605**, 669 (2022)

**Challenge:** massive overhead

Assuming physical error rate of  $10^{-3}$ ,

Need more than 1000 qubits per logical qubit to realize “practical” logical error rate  $< 10^{-12}$

## Logical Error Reduction by Scaling Surface Code



Nature **614**, 676 (2023)

distance-3:  $(3.028 \pm 0.023)\%$  logical error per cycle

distance-5:  $(2.914 \pm 0.016)\%$  logical error per cycle

**New Error Correction Schemes:** Quantum LDPC Code  $\rightarrow$  requires long-range connectivity between qubits

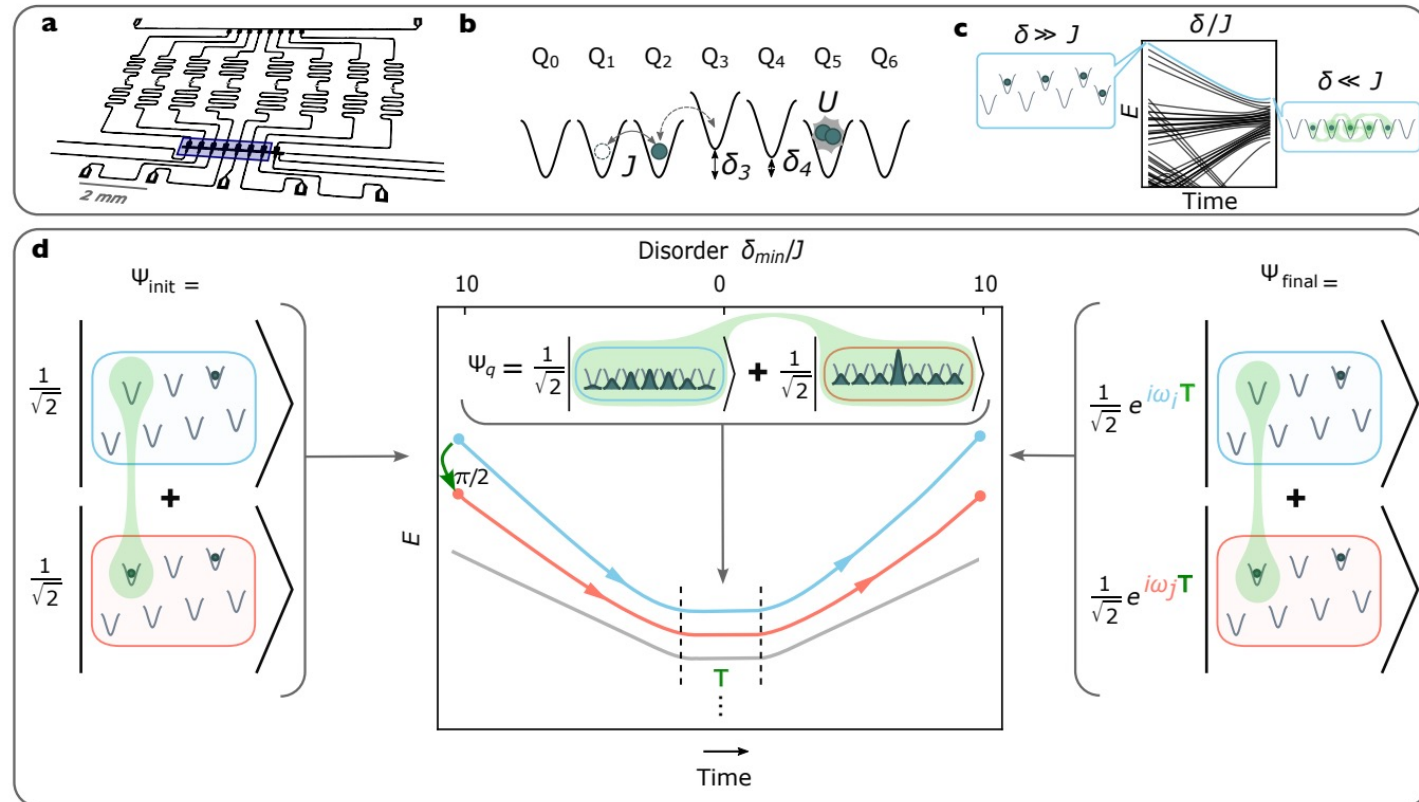
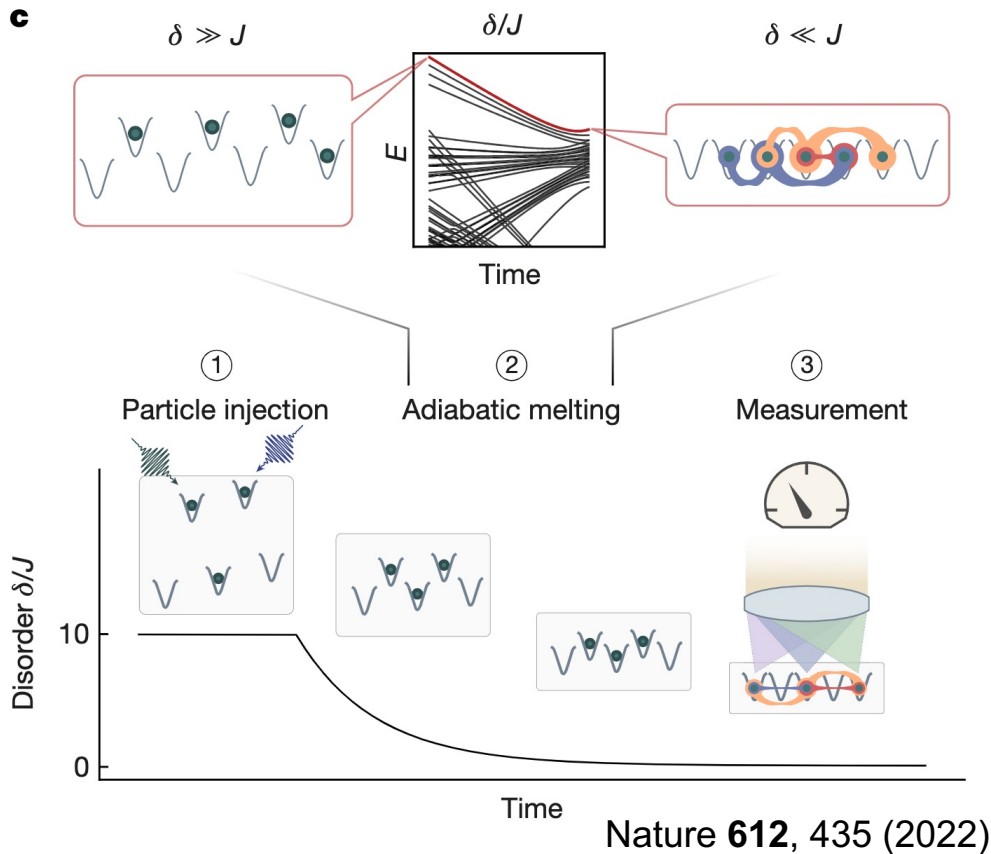
Nature **627**, 778 (2024)





# Quantum Many-Body Physics

- Full individual local qubit control (XY and Z)
- Quantum non-demolition measurement + mid-circuit measurement
- Real-time feedback operation (enables fast repetition with active reset)

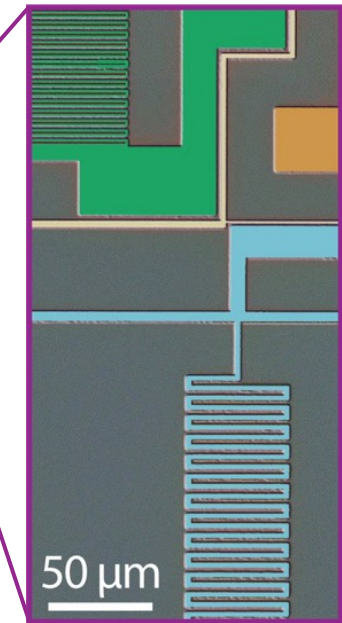
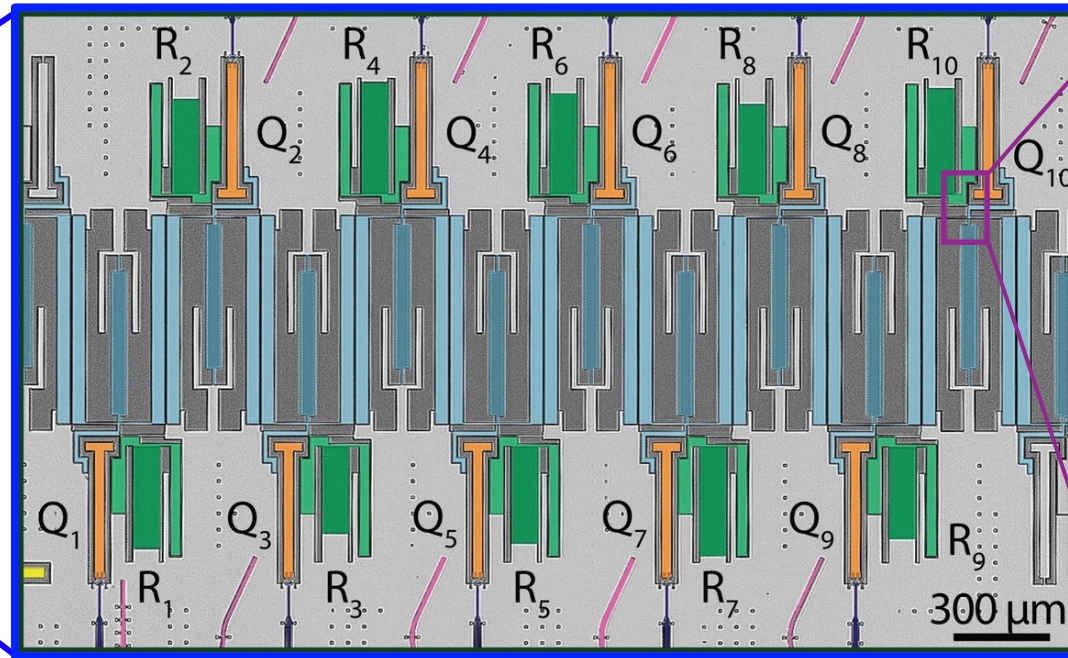
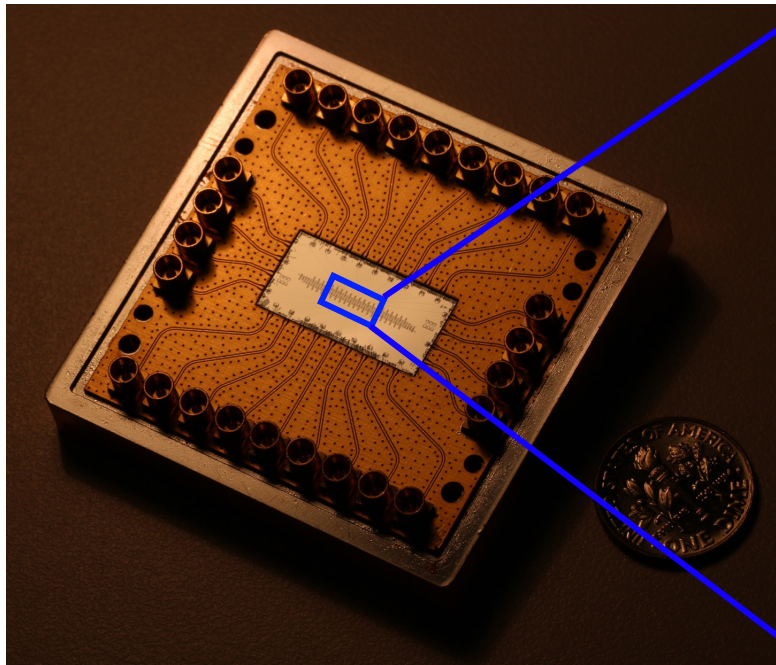


arXiv:2309.05727 (2023)

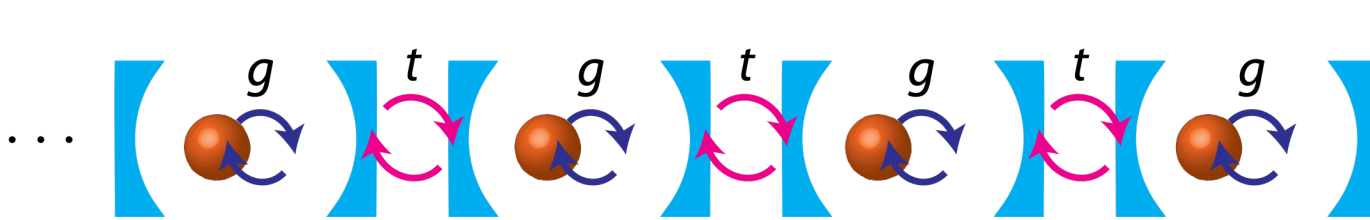
→ Playground for high-fidelity quantum simulation of many-body phenomena



# Our work: Interfacing with MW Photonic Structures

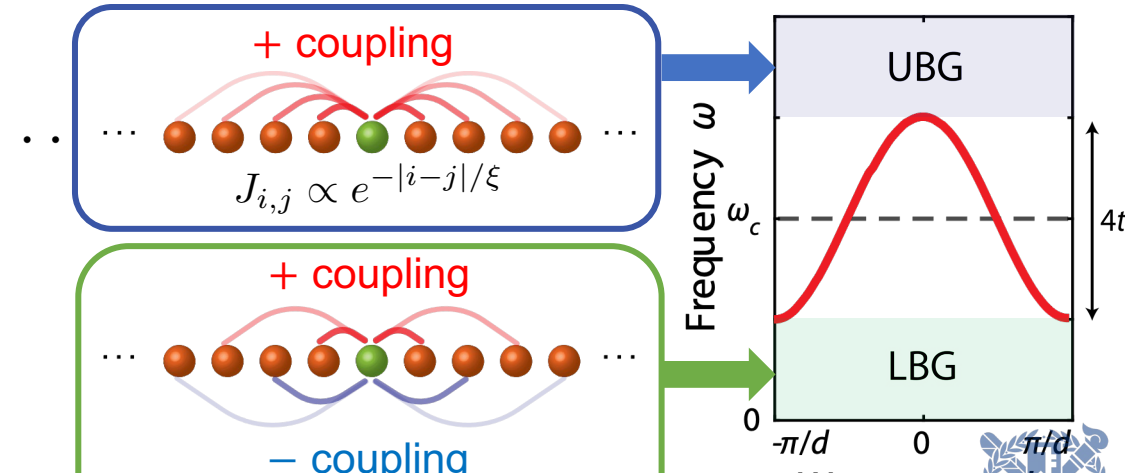


- MM resonator
- XY control
- Z control
- RO resonator
- Qubit



**Photonic-bandgap metamaterial:**  
a tight-binding array of microwave cavities

**Superconducting qubits:**  
coupled to every cavity site of the metamaterial



**Goal: Novel Directions for Quantum Simulation with Superconducting Circuits**

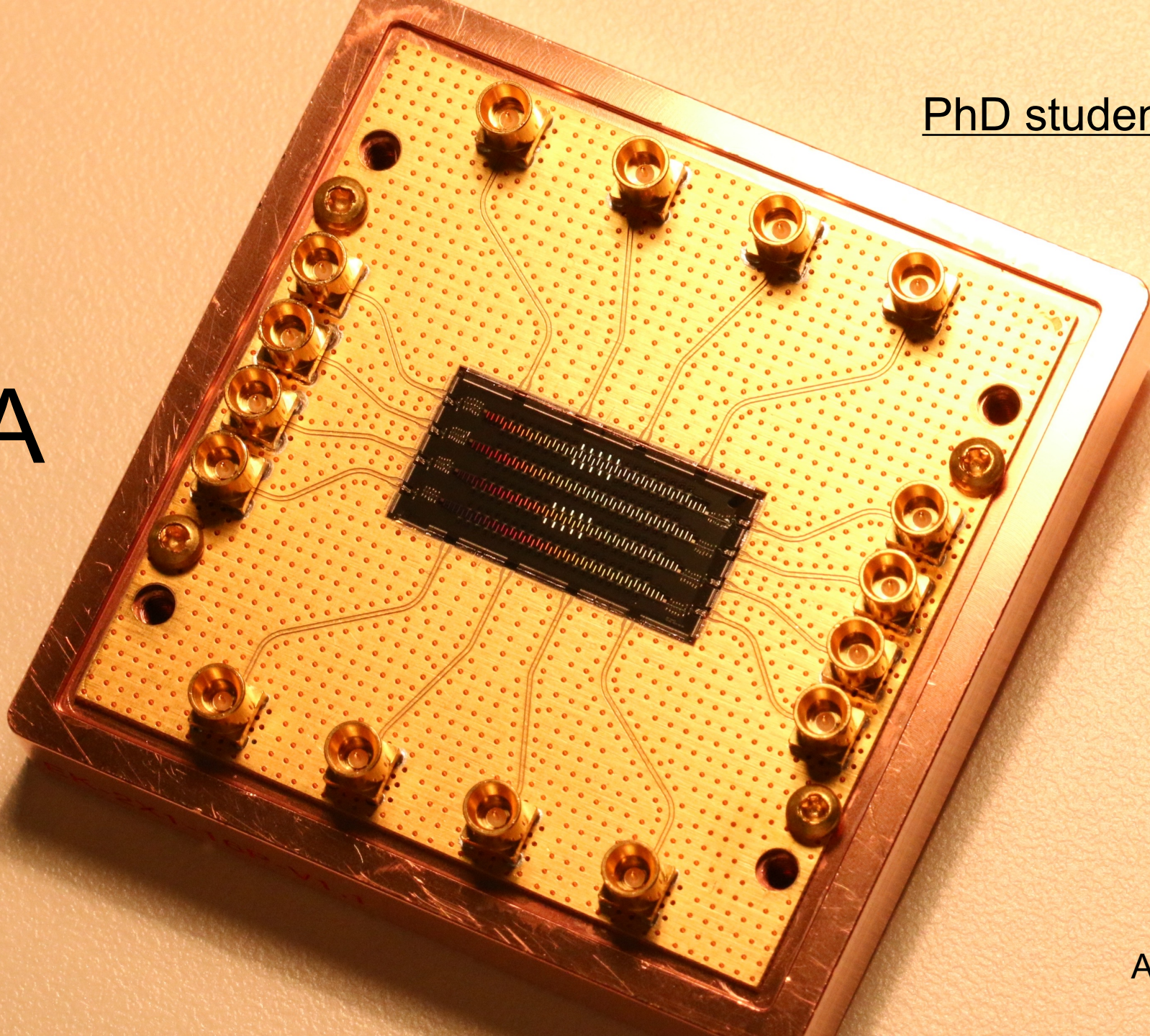


Looking for  
PhD students & Postdocs!



Lab Info

Q & A



**Eunjong Kim, Ph.D.**  
Assistant Professor, SNU  
eunjongkim@snu.ac.kr