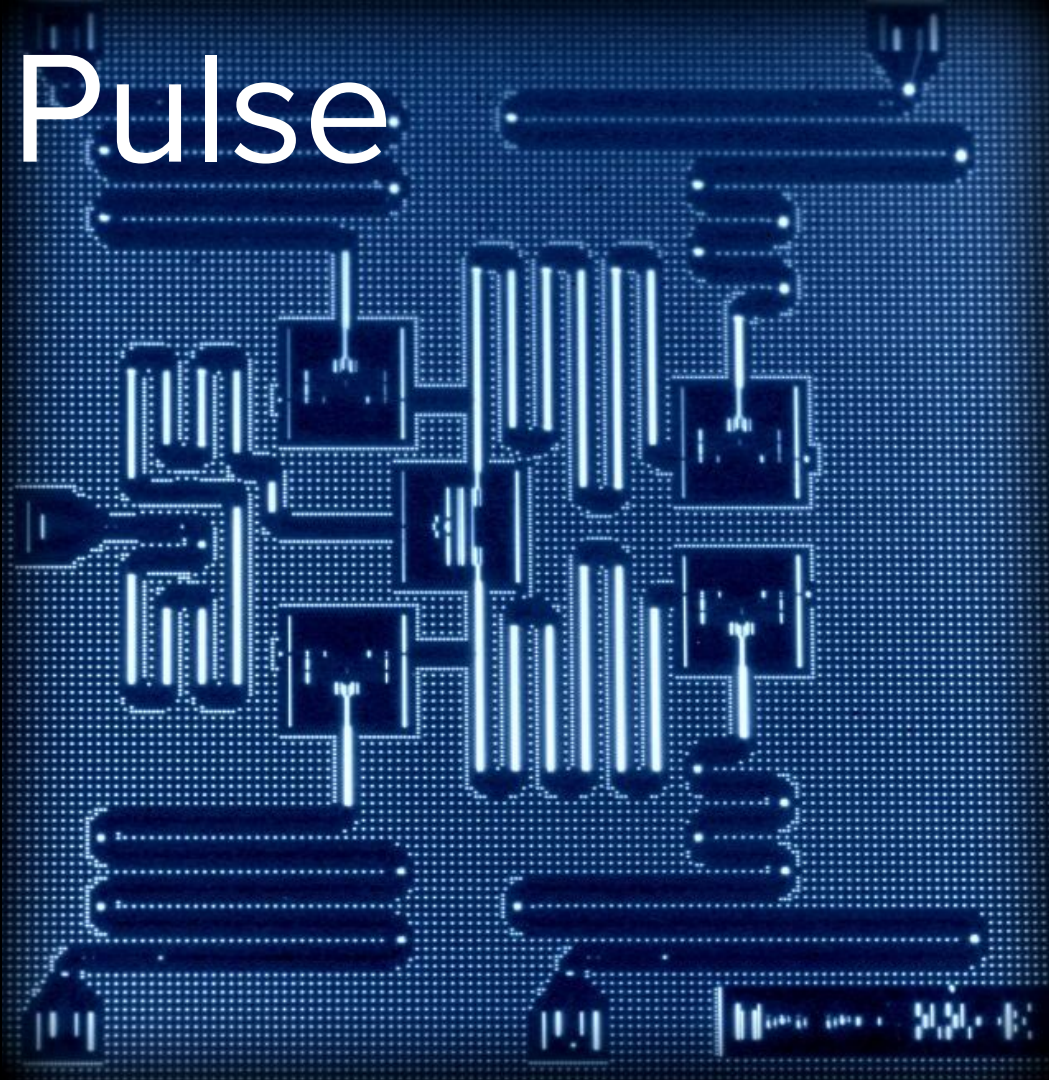


# Qiskit Pulse

Nahum Sá

Qiskit Advocate

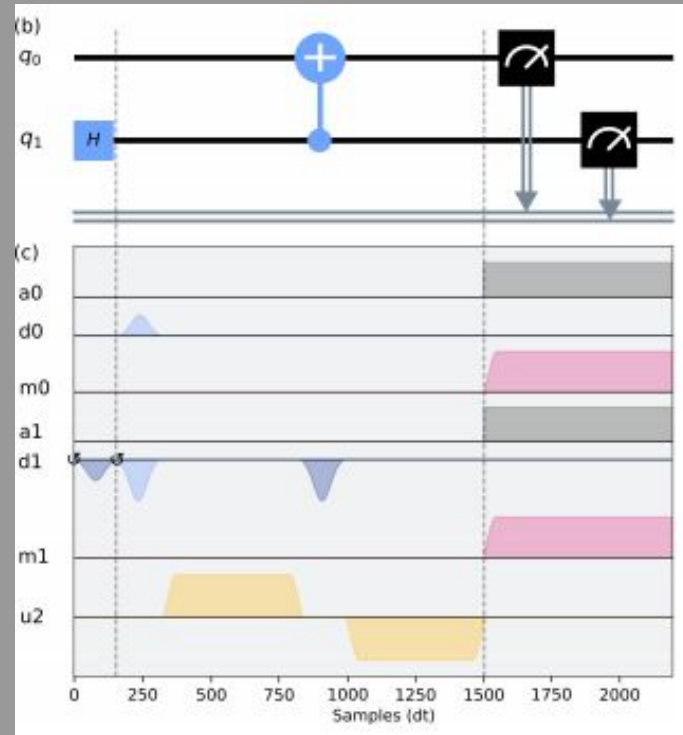


**CBPF**

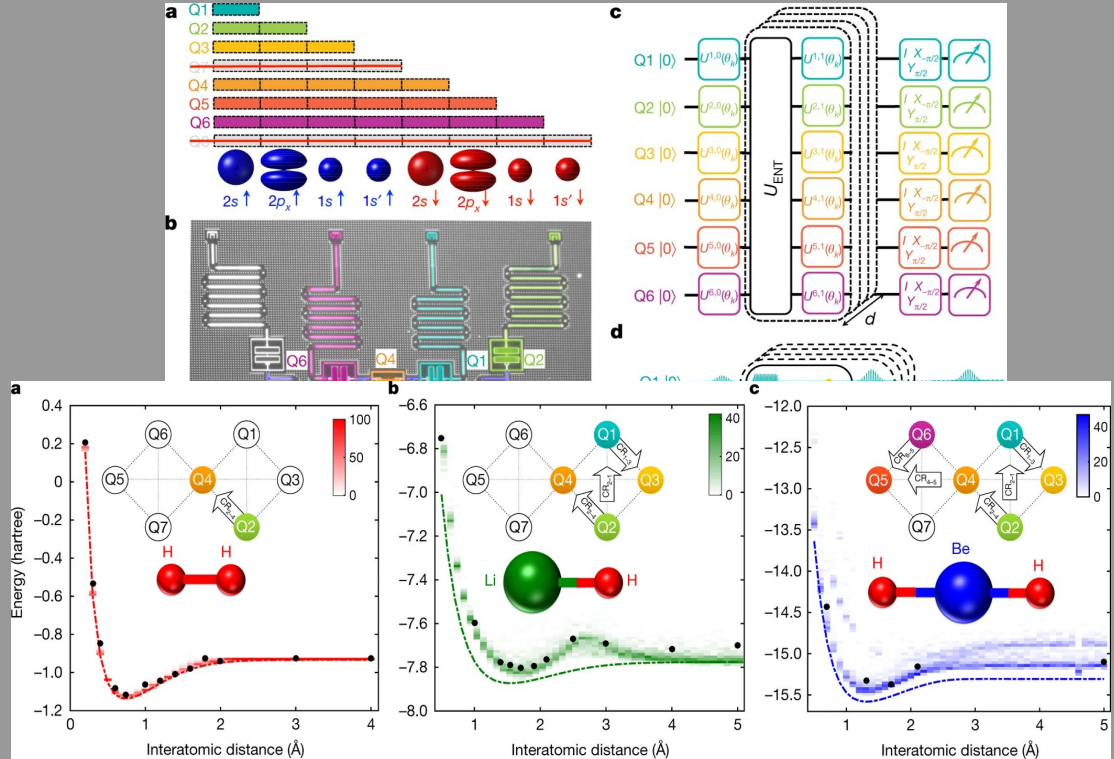
# Outline

- Introduction
  - LC Circuit
  - Transmon Qubit
- Qiskit Pulse
  - Characterization of qubits
  - Rabi Experiment
  - Measurement of  $T_1$ ,  $T_2$
  - Ramsey Experiment

# Introduction: How low can we go?

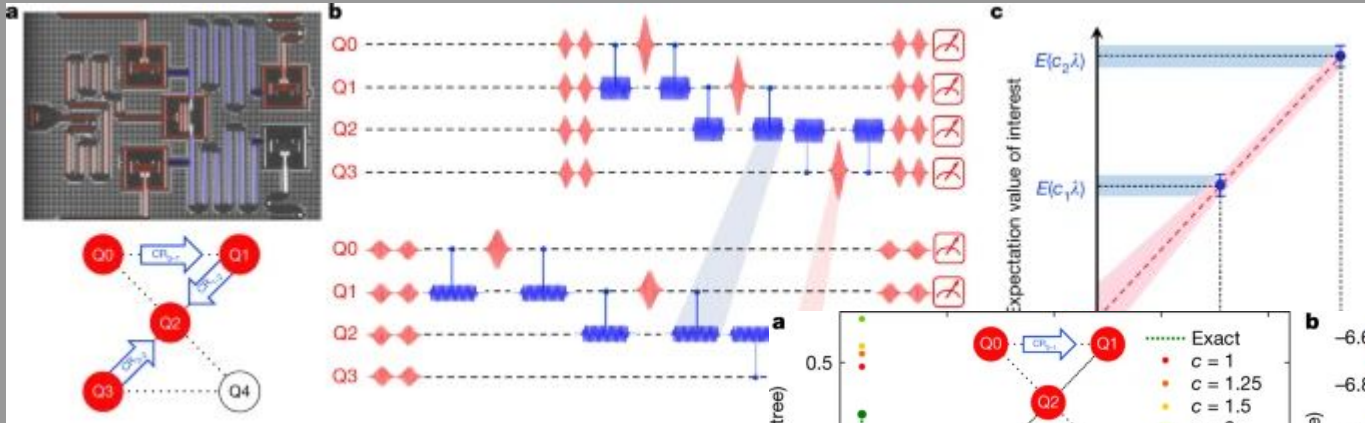


Source: Arxiv-2004.06755

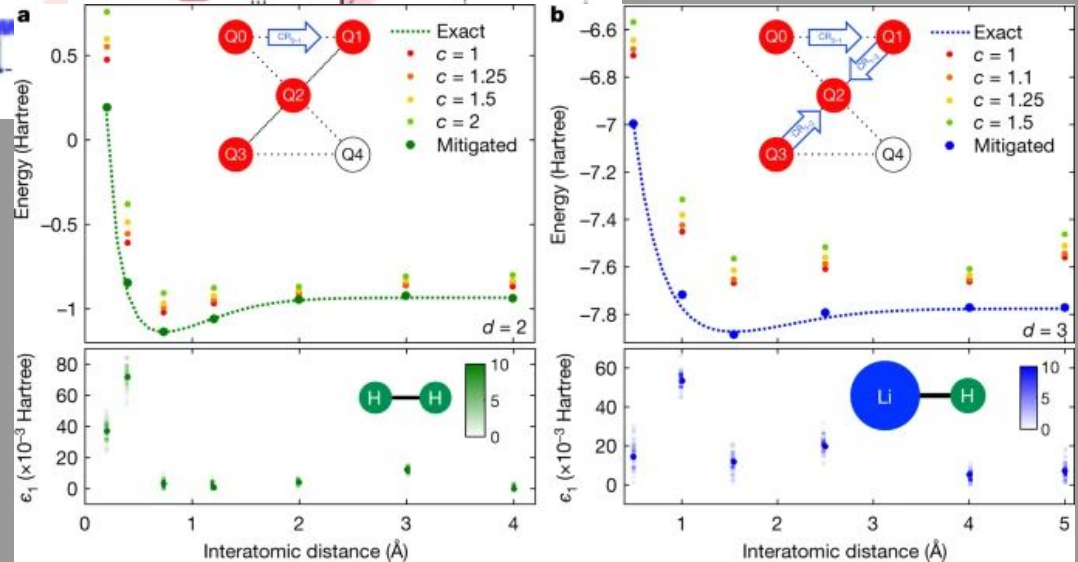


Source: Nature volume 549, pages242–246(2017)

# Introduction: How low can we go?



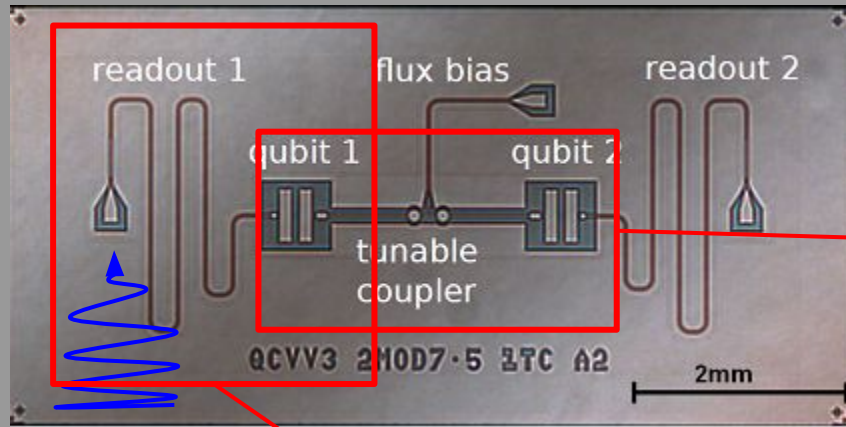
Source: Nature volume 567, pages 491–495 (2019)



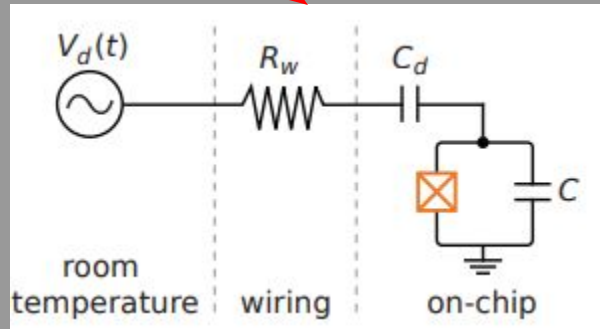
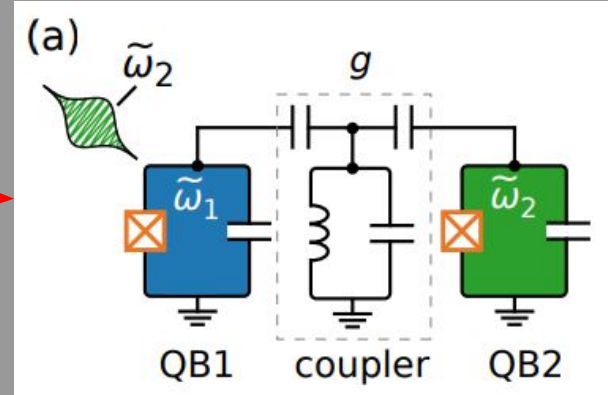
Source: Nature volume 567, pages 491–495 (2019)



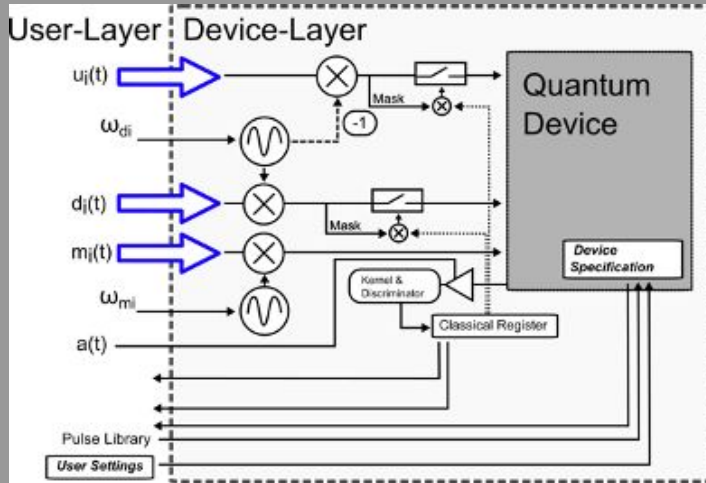
# Introduction: Superconducting Qubits



Source: IBM



# Introduction: Superconducting Qubits



Channel	Description	Alias
drive-channel (DriveChannel)	Transmit channel connected to qubit i, with signals typically modulated at a frequency in resonance with qubit i.	$d_i$
control-channel (ControlChannel)	Transmit channel with signals typically modulated at a frequency off resonant from its associated qubit.	$u_i$
measure-channel (PulseChannel)	Transmit channel connected to the readout resonator of qubit i.	$m_i$
acquire-channel (AcquireChannel)	Receive channel connected to the readout resonator of qubit and store result into a register slot	$a_i$
Instruction	Operands	Description
Play (Pulse)	<i>pulse, pulse-channel</i>	Output the waveform described by pulse on the pulse-channel.
Delay (Delay)	<i>duration, pulse-channel</i>	Idle the pulse-channel for the given duration.
shift-phase (Framechange)	<i>phase, pulse-channel</i>	Increase the phase of the pulse-channel by phase radians.
Acquire (Acquire)	<i>duration, acquire-channel, register</i>	Trigger the acquire-channel to collect data for the given duration, and store the measurement result in a register.

# LC Circuit

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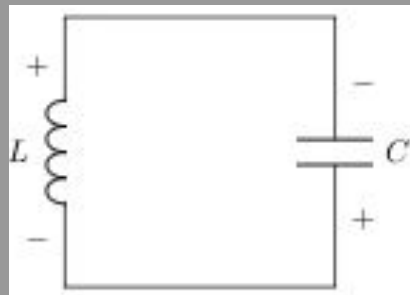
# Quantizing a LC Circuit

We define the flux and charge as follows:

$$\Phi(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t V(t') dt' \quad Q(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t I(t') dt'$$

Using Kirchoff's law we get the following equation of motion (EoM):

$$\ddot{\Phi} = \omega^2 \Phi \quad \omega = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$



From this EoM, we can “guess” the Lagrangean and derive the Hamiltonian by doing a Legendre Transform:

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{1}{2L} \Phi^2 - \frac{1}{2} C \dot{\Phi}^2 \quad \xrightarrow{Q \equiv \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{\Phi}} = C \dot{\Phi} = CV} \quad \mathcal{H} = Q\Phi - \mathcal{L} = \frac{Q^2}{2C} + \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$



# Quantizing a LC Circuit

Now to quantize our Hamiltonian, we put hat on our conjugate variables.

$$\mathcal{H} = Q\Phi - \mathcal{L} = \frac{Q^2}{2C} + \frac{\Phi^2}{2L} \longrightarrow \hat{\mathcal{H}} = \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C} + \frac{\hat{\Phi}^2}{2L}$$

By matching Poisson Brackets and Commutation relations for our conjugate variables, we have that:

$$\{\Phi, Q\} = 1 \Rightarrow [\hat{\Phi}, \hat{Q}] = i\hbar$$

We can rewrite the Hamiltonian using the reduced charge  $\hat{n} = \frac{\hat{Q}}{2e}$  and reduced flux  $\hat{\phi} = \frac{2\pi\Phi}{\Phi_0}$   $\Phi_0 = \frac{h}{2e}$

$$\hat{H} = 4E_C \hat{n}^2 + \frac{1}{2} E_L \hat{\phi}^2$$

$$E_C = \frac{e^2}{2C} \quad \text{Charge energy}$$

$$E_L = \left( \frac{\Phi_0}{2\pi} \right)^2 \frac{1}{L} \quad \text{Inductive energy}$$

# Quantizing a LC Circuit

Now we can define creation and annihilation operators in terms of zero-point fluctuations of the charge and phase:

$$\hat{n} = i n_{ZPF} (\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger)$$

$$\hat{\phi} = \phi_{ZPF} (\hat{a} - \hat{a}^\dagger)$$

$$n_{ZPF} = \left( \frac{E_L}{32E_C} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$\phi_{ZPF} = \left( \frac{2E_C}{E_L} \right)^{\frac{1}{4}}$$

Then our Hamiltonian becomes: (Dropping the hats)

$$\mathcal{H} = \hbar\omega \left( a^\dagger a + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\omega = \frac{\sqrt{8E_LE_C}}{\hbar} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$

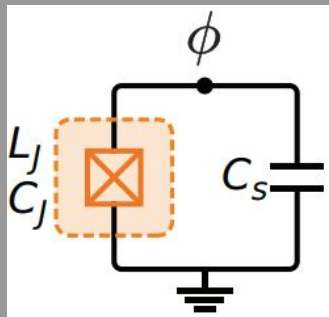
# Transmon Qubits

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# Transmon Hamiltonian

All the previous work was done for the quantization of LC circuits, for the Transmon circuit we need to change the inductor for a Josephson junction which has the following current-flux relation:

$$I = I_0 \sin \left( \frac{2\pi\Phi}{\Phi_0} \right)$$



Using Kirchoff's law, just as before, we have the following equation of motion:

$$I_0 \sin \left( \frac{2\pi\Phi}{\Phi_0} \right) + C\ddot{\Phi} = 0$$

Now we need to convert this equation of motion into a Lagrangian, which is:


$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{I_0 \Phi_0}{2\pi} \cos \left( \frac{2\pi\Phi}{\Phi_0} \right) + \frac{C}{2} \dot{\Phi}^2$$

We have the same conjugate variable, thus the Hamiltonian is:

$$\mathcal{H}_T = \frac{Q^2}{2C} - \frac{I_0 \Phi_0}{2\pi} \cos \left( \frac{2\pi\Phi}{\Phi_0} \right)$$

# Transmon Hamiltonian

Joseph Junction  
Energy



Now we can quantize the Transmon Hamiltonian:  $\mathcal{H}_T = 4 E_C \hat{n}^2 - E_J \cos \hat{\phi}$  ,  $E_J = \frac{I_0 \Phi_0}{2\pi}$

Just as the LC circuit, we define annihilation and creation operators:

$$\hat{n} = i n_{ZPF} (\hat{c} + \hat{c}^\dagger) \quad n_{ZPF} = \left( \frac{E_J}{32 E_C} \right) \quad \hat{\phi} = \phi_{ZPF} (\hat{c} - \hat{c}^\dagger) \quad \phi_{ZPF} = \left( \frac{2 E_C}{E_J} \right)$$

In the transmon regime, we have that  $\Phi \ll 1$ , then  $\frac{E_J}{E_C} \gg 1$  and we take the Taylor Expansion:

$$\mathcal{H}_T \approx \sqrt{8 E_C E_J} \left[ c^\dagger c + \frac{1}{2} \right] - E_J - \frac{E_C}{12} (c^\dagger + c)^4$$

Expanding on  $c$ ,  $c^\dagger$  and dropping fast rotating terms:

$$\mathcal{H}_T = \left( \omega_0 + \frac{\delta}{2} \right) c^\dagger c + \frac{\delta}{2} (c^\dagger c)^2$$

Which is a Hamiltonian of a Duffing Oscillator.

# Qubit Drive

We know about Transmon qubits and all, but we want to control them! This is done by applying a Electric Field which induces a dipole interaction between the transmon and microwave field. Now we have the qubit Hamiltonian and a drive Hamiltonian:

$$H = H_0 + H_d \quad , \quad H_0 = -\frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega_q\sigma^Z$$

$$\begin{aligned} c &\longrightarrow \sigma^+ |0\rangle = |1\rangle \\ c^\dagger &\longrightarrow \sigma^- |1\rangle = |0\rangle \end{aligned}$$

Since the electric field will excite and de-excite the qubit, we define the dipole operator as  $\vec{d} = \vec{d}_0\sigma^+ \vec{d}_0^*\sigma^-$   
The drive Hamiltonian is:

$$H_d = -\vec{d} \cdot \vec{E}(t) \qquad \vec{E}(t) = \vec{E}_0 e^{-i\omega_d t} + \vec{E}_0^* e^{i\omega_d t}$$

$$H_d = -\hbar \left[ \Omega e^{-i\omega_d t} + \tilde{\Omega} e^{i\omega_d t} \right] \sigma^+ - \hbar \left[ \tilde{\Omega}^* e^{-i\omega_d t} + \Omega^* e^{i\omega_d t} \right] \sigma^-$$

$$\Omega = \vec{d}_0 \cdot \vec{E}_0$$

$$\tilde{\Omega} = \vec{d}_0 \cdot \vec{E}_0^*$$



# Qubit Drive

Moving to the interaction picture:

$$H_{d,I} = U H_d U^\dagger \quad U = e^{i \frac{H_0 t}{\hbar}} = 1 \cos\left(\frac{\omega_q t}{2}\right) - i \sigma^Z \sin\left(\frac{\omega_q t}{2}\right)$$

$$\Delta_q = \omega_q - \omega_d$$

$$H_{d,I} = -\hbar \left[ \Omega e^{-i\Delta_q t} + \tilde{\Omega} e^{i(\omega_d + \omega_q)t} \right] e^{i\omega_q t} \sigma^+ - \hbar \left[ \tilde{\Omega}^* e^{-i(\omega_d + \omega_q)t} + \Omega^* e^{i\omega_d t} \right] e^{-i\Delta_q t} \sigma^+$$

Now, we apply the Rotating Wave Approximation:  $\omega_q + \omega_d \gg \Delta_q$

$$H_{d,I}^{\text{RWA}} = -\hbar \Omega e^{-i\Delta_q t} \sigma^+ - \hbar \Omega^* e^{i\Delta_q t} \sigma^-$$

$$H_d^{\text{RWA}} = -\hbar \Omega e^{-i\omega_d t} \sigma^+ - \hbar \Omega^* e^{i\omega_d t} \sigma^-$$

$$H^{\text{RWA}} = -\frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega_q \sigma^Z - \hbar \Omega e^{-i\omega_d t} \sigma^+ - \hbar \Omega^* e^{i\omega_d t} \sigma^-$$

# Qubit Drive

We can go to the frame of the drive by doing the following transformation  $U_d = e^{-i\omega_d t \frac{\sigma}{2}}$ , then in the frame of the drive using the Schrödinger Equation, the effective Hamiltonian is:

$$H_{\text{eff}} = U_d H^{\text{RWA}} U_d^\dagger - i\hbar U_d \dot{U}_d^\dagger$$

$$H_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega_q\sigma^Z - \hbar\Omega\sigma^+ - \hbar\Omega^*\sigma^- + \frac{1}{2}\hbar\Omega_d\sigma^Z = -\frac{1}{2}\hbar\Delta_q\sigma^Z - \hbar\Omega\sigma^+ - \hbar\Omega^*\sigma^-$$

Assuming that the drive is real, we have the desired Hamiltonian:

$$H_{\text{eff}} = -\frac{1}{2}\hbar\Delta_q\sigma^Z - \hbar\Omega\sigma^X$$

This shows that when the drive is resonant with the qubit ( $\Delta_q = 0$ ) the drive causes an X rotation in the Bloch sphere. On the other hand, an off-resonant qubit drive has additional Z rotations generated by the  $\sigma^Z$  contribution, and those manifest themselves as oscillations in a Ramsey experiment.

# Qiskit Pulse Demo

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# References

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- Krantz et al. - A Quantum Engineer's Guide to Superconducting Qubits - [Applied Physics Reviews 6, 021318 \(2019\)](#)
- Qiskit Pulse: Programming Quantum Computers Through the Cloud with Pulses - [Arxiv: 2004.06755](#)
- Kandala et al. - Hardware-efficient variational quantum eigensolver for small molecules and quantum magnets - [Nature volume 549, pages 242–246\(2017\)](#)
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