Superconducting Qubits II

Transmon & Measurements



IBM Quantum IBM T.J. Watson Research Center, Yorktown Heights, NY





Image copyright: ZKM unless otherwise noted

The road ahead



Road image: based on Freepik

Takeaways from Lecture I

(and building on)

"Quantum phenomena do *not* occur in a Hilbert space, they occur in a laboratory."

Asher Peres

Qubit in the cloud



* Laptop image: rawpixel.com; Photos: IBM

Transmon qubit: physical picture



A first approximation

Harmonic oscillator



Classical to quantum bridge



βruno @brunormzg · 15h

This is perhaps my favorite of many "aha!" moments that I've had during the #qgss. I didn't quite grasp the origin of the creation/annihilation operators, but that is no more. Thanks a lot, looking forward to tomorrow's lecture!! @zlatko_minev @qiskit @IBM



The LC quantum harmonic oscillator



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$$Q(lpha)=rac{1}{\pi}\langlelpha|\hat
ho|lpha
angle$$

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The cloud of quantum uncertainty







Transmon Qubit





Introduction

The transmon as a non-linear oscillator



Non-linear inductor

Josephson tunnel junction





SEM image: L. Frunzio

Circuit image: Minev et al., EPR to appear (2020) Zlatko Minev — Qiskit Global Summer School 2020 (14)

The Transmon qubit





$$\phi_0 = rac{\hbar}{2e} \ pprox 3.3 imes 10^{-16} \, \mathrm{Wb}$$



Image: Minev et al., EPR to appear (2020)

Semi-classical intuition: phase space picture

$$\mathcal{H}\left(\Phi,Q\right) = \frac{Q^2}{2C} - E_J \cos\left(\Phi/\phi_0\right)$$

$$E = \hbar\omega_0 \left(n + \frac{1}{2}\right)$$
$$= \frac{Q^2}{2C} - E_J \cos\left(\Phi/\phi_0\right)$$



The Transmon qubit



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Hand-written notes



Hand-written notes







The Kerr Hamiltonian of the transmon



To first order perturbation theory the eigenstates do not change! Only the energy changes. Dispersive.

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Exploring a real transmon qubit



$$L_J = 14 \text{ nH} \qquad E_J = \frac{\phi_0^2}{L_J} = 12 \text{ GHz}$$
$$C_J = 65 \text{ fF} \qquad E_C = \frac{e^2}{2C} = 0.3 \text{ GHz}$$

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Exploring a real transmon qubit



Quantum fluctuations of the transmon qubit



Energy diagram and transition spectrum

Energy levels

Transition spectrum

$$\hat{H} \approx \omega_0 \hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{a} - \frac{\alpha}{2} \hat{a}^{\dagger 2} \hat{a}^2$$



Ladder operators and matrix representation



annihilation $\hat{a} |0\rangle = 0$ \hat{a} $\hat{a} |1\rangle = \sqrt{1} |0\rangle$ \hat{a}

 $egin{array}{l} {
m creation} \ {\hat a}^\dagger \left| 0
ight
angle = \sqrt{1} \left| 1
ight
angle \ {\hat a}^\dagger \left| 1
ight
angle = \sqrt{2} \left| 2
ight
angle \end{array}$

general hopping $\hat{a} |n\rangle = \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle$ $\hat{a}^{\dagger} |n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle$

Image: Griffiths, D.J.

The Transmon qubit: restricting Hilbert space

$$\hat{H}_{4}^{\text{RWA}} \approx \hbar \omega_{q} \hat{N} - \frac{\hbar \alpha}{2} \hat{N} \left(\hat{N} - 1 \right)$$

 $\hat{N} \equiv \hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{a}$

Restrict to qubit subspace of IO> and I1>

$$\hat{a}^{\dagger}\hat{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 2 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 3 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$
$$\hat{a} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \sqrt{2} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \sqrt{3} \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ddots \end{pmatrix}$$



The Transmon qubit: restricting Hilbert space

$$\hat{H}_{4}^{\text{RWA}} \approx \hbar \omega_{q} \hat{N} - \frac{\hbar \alpha}{2} \hat{N} \left(\hat{N} - 1 \right)$$

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Restrict to qubit subspace of IO> and I1>

$$\begin{pmatrix} \hat{N} - \frac{1}{2}\hat{I} \\ \uparrow & -\frac{1}{2}\hat{Z} & \hat{a} \mapsto \hat{\sigma}_{-} = \frac{1}{2}\begin{pmatrix} \hat{X} - i\hat{Y} \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \uparrow & \uparrow & \uparrow \\ \end{pmatrix}$$
Fock number Qubit Pauli Z Qubit Pauli X and Y operator operator operators
$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & \cdots \\ 0 & 2 & \cdots \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{pmatrix} \quad \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & -i \\ i & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$





Drawing: Zurek, Physics Today (1991)

Calculating the energy-participation ratio

Energy stored in junction

 $p_m = \frac{1}{1}$ Inductive energy stored in mode *m*



$$0 \le p_{mj} \le 1 \; .$$

Energy participation-ratio: a bridge



for j>1, root requires sign bit $s_{mj} = \pm 1$ Drawing: Zurek, Physics Today (1991)

Minev et al., EPR to appear (2020); Dissertation arXiv: 1902.10355

All this explicated in

Minev dissertation Sec. 4.1 (arXiv: 1902.10355)

In detail, to appear soon in the EPR paper:

Energy-participation quantization of Josephson circuits

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Superconducting microwave circuits incorporating nonlinear devices, such as Josephson junctions, are an appealing platform for emerging quantum technologies. Further increase of circuit complexity requires efficient numerical methods for the calculation and optimization of the spectrum, nonlinear interactions, and dissipation in multi-mode distributed quantum circuits. Here, we present a method based on a powerful concept—the energy-participation ratio (EPR) of a dissipative or nonlinear element in an electromagnetic mode. The EPR, a number between zero and one, quantifies how much of the energy of a mode is stored in each element. It is calculated from a unique, efficient electromagnetic eigenmode simulation of the linearized system, including lossy elements, and is the key to the modeling of the quantum Hamiltonian of the system. The method provides an intuitive and simple-to-use tool to quantize multi-junction circuits, and is especially well-suited for weakly anharmonic systems, such as transmon qubits coupled to resonators, or Josephson transmission lines. We experimentally tested this method on a variety of Josephson circuits in three-dimensional and flip-chip architectures, and demonstrated agreement within several percents for nonlinear couplings and modal Hamiltonian parameters, spanning five-orders of magnitude in energy, across a dozen samples.

Transmon Qubit







Control and beyond



Single-qubit quantum gates





Qubit control





qubit

input-output line (control, shaped signals, but also environment)

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Qubit control: overview

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Qubit control: overview



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Qubit control: overview

$$\hat{H}_R = \frac{\hbar}{2}\Delta\hat{Z} + \frac{\hbar}{2}\Omega\left(e^{-i\theta}\hat{\sigma} + e^{+i\theta}\hat{\sigma}^{\dagger}\right)$$
$$\hat{X} = \frac{1}{2}\left(\hat{\sigma}^{\dagger} - \hat{\sigma}\right)$$
$$\hat{Y} = i\frac{1}{2}\left(\hat{\sigma}^{\dagger} + \hat{\sigma}\right)$$





Qubit control: Covered in Lab 1 by Nick Bronn & Co.





input-output line (control, shaped signals, but also environment)

qubit

Control, noise, and dissipation go hand-in-hand



Can lead to uncontrolled, random bit and phase flip.

Fluctuation-dissipation theorem*

susceptibility, noise, and dissipation always go hand-in-hand

Intrinsic and *I-O* channels, lead to relaxation times:



 T_1 : energy T_2 : (coherence) transverse

Noisy environment, and always zero-point quantum fluctuations

* This is a major topic in condensed matter physics; we will only touch on it.

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Coherence in superconducting circuits



Image reproduced Reagor (2015), an update of Devoret and Schoelkopf (2013), and updated

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Is the junction phase/flux compact or not?



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Harmonic Approximation



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Tight-binding model



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Quantum measurement:

a very brief primer

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Principal element of sensing: the measurement



A classical measurement example

Are there fumes in the oil barrel?



Example based on Wiseman and Milburn (2010)



Two basic classes of measurements



e.g., photon absorption

e.g., dispersive cavity

Both accessible in circuits, more on this later

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Takeaways: Basic character of quantum measurements



Necessarily *disturb* system (back-action)

non-commuting

. . . .

Heisenberg uncertainty

fundamental limits to precision, e.g., SQL, ...

no joint probability distribution (over x, p)

quasi-probabilities (Wigner, Q) no classical Fisher information entropy-increasing contextuality





In quantum physics, you don't see what you get, you get what you see.

A.N. Korotkov Private communication

Qubit measurement with circuits



 Demolition



Clarke & Wilhelm, Nature (2008)

Quantum non-demolition* (QND)



Inhibited spontaneous emission

Blais *et al.*, PRA (2004) Zlatko Minev — Qiskit Global Summer School 2020 (51)

Qubit coupled to resonator



Qubit coupled to resonator

Qubit coupled to qubit





Readout

Two-qubit gates

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Qubit measurement with circuits









Two coupled transmon qubits



Canonical charge is modified by coupling capacitor

Can use EPR to avoid issues

 $\hat{H}_1 = \frac{\hat{Q}_1^2}{\hat{Q}_1} - E_a \cos\left(\hat{\Phi}_1/\phi_0\right)$

Minev et al., EPR to appear (2020); Dissertation arXiv: 1902.10355

 $\hat{H}_2 = \frac{\hat{Q}_2^2}{2C_b} - E_b \cos\left(\hat{\Phi}_2/\phi_0\right)$

Energy-participation eigenmode approach



Minev et al., EPR to appear (2020); Dissertation arXiv: 1902.10355

Linearize



All linear Easy to solve, classical problem Eigenmode solutions



Minev et al., EPR to appear (2020); Dissertation arXiv: 1902.10355

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Linearize





Recall

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{E}_J \left(\Phi \right) &= -E_J \cos \left(\Phi / \phi_0 \right) \\ &\approx \frac{E_J}{2!} \left(\hat{\Phi} / \phi_0 \right)^2 - \frac{E_J}{4!} \left(\hat{\Phi} / \phi_0 \right)^4 \\ &+ \mathcal{O} \left(\hat{\Phi}^6 \right) \end{aligned}$$

Solutions are eigenmodes (normal mode), just more SHO. Their Eigenfrequencies are

 ω_a, ω_b

The Hamiltonian of two SHO is

$$\hat{H}_{\rm lin} = \hbar \omega_a \hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{a} + \hbar \omega_a \hat{b}^{\dagger} \hat{b}$$

The non-linear part of the Hamiltonian is

$$\hat{H}_{\rm nl} \approx -\frac{E_a}{4!} \left(\hat{\Phi}_1 / \phi_0 \right)^4 - \frac{E_b}{4!} \left(\hat{\Phi}_2 / \phi_0 \right)^4$$

The coupling capacitor C_C effect is accounted for in the definition of the eigenmode *a* and *b* operators.

We need the junction flux in mode operators.

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Eigen-decomposition of junction flux $\hat{H}_{\text{full}} = \left| \hat{H}_{\text{lin}} \right| + \left| \hat{H}_{\text{nl}} \right|$



(second quantization in eigen basis of linearized circuit)

See Minev et al., EPR to appear (2020); Dissertation arXiv: 1902.10355

Partitioning the Hamiltonian



$$\begin{split} & \hbar \omega_c \hat{a}_c^{\dagger} \hat{a}_c + \hbar \omega_q \hat{a}_q^{\dagger} \hat{a}_q \\ & - \frac{E_a}{4!} \left[\phi_{1a}^{\rm ZPF} \left(\hat{a}^{\dagger} + \hat{a} \right) + \phi_{1b}^{\rm ZPF} \left(\hat{b}^{\dagger} + \hat{b} \right) \right]^4 \\ & \text{where} \quad \phi_{1a}^{\rm ZPF} = \Phi_{1a}^{\rm ZPF} / \phi_0 \quad \text{, and so on} \end{split}$$

 $\hat{H}_{\text{full}} = |\hat{H}_{\text{lin}}| + |\hat{H}_{\text{nl}}|$

What fraction of the energy of a mode *m* is stored in the junction?

$$\frac{1}{\hbar}\phi_{mj}^2 = p_{mj}\frac{\omega_m}{2E_j}$$

See Minev et al., EPR to appear (2020); Dissertation arXiv: 1902.10355

and for weak coupling

 $\phi_{1a}^{\rm ZPF} \gg \phi_{1b}^{\rm ZPF}$

Breakdown of the Hamiltonian



Terms like those of isolated transmon

Drop small terms (cross-participation)

 $\phi_b \ll \phi_a$

Only new addition is this non-linear, photon-number dependent coupling, called the cross-Kerr. RWA. Notation: dropping ZPF and index for 1

$$\left[\phi_{a}^{\text{ZPF}}\left(\hat{a}^{\dagger}+\hat{a}\right)+\phi_{b}^{\text{ZPF}}\left(\hat{b}^{\dagger}+\hat{b}\right)\right]^{4}$$

$$= 12 \left(\phi_a^4 + \phi_a^2 \phi_b^2 \right) \hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{a} + 6 \phi_a^4 \hat{a}^{\dagger 2} \hat{a}^2 +$$

$$24\phi_a^2\phi_b^2\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a}\hat{b}^\dagger\hat{b}$$

. . .

Linearize system and find eigenmodes



Review of steps

- 1. Linearize and find eigenmodes
- 2. Taylor series of nl. potential to 4th order
- 3. RWA and normal order
- 4. Dispersive approximation

$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}} = \left(\omega_q - \Delta \hat{H} \hat{\eta}_{q} \right) \pm \left(\omega_q \hat{n}_{\overline{q}} \Delta_c \hat{\mu} \hat{n}_{\overline{q}} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \alpha_q \hat{n}_q \left(\hat{n}_q - \hat{1}\right)$$

Using labels to q for qubit eigenmode and c for cavity eigenmode, and $\ \hat{n}_q=\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a}\quad \hat{n}_c=\hat{b}^\dagger\hat{b}$

Joint spectrum



$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}} = \left(\omega_q - \Delta_q\right)\hat{n}_q + \left(\omega_c - \Delta_c\right)\hat{n}_c - \chi_{qc}\hat{n}_q\hat{n}_c \\ - \frac{1}{2}\alpha_q\hat{n}_q\left(\hat{n}_q - \hat{1}\right) - \frac{1}{2}\alpha_c\hat{n}_c\left(\hat{n}_c - \hat{1}\right),$$

$$\hat{H}_{\rm cav}^{\rm eff} = \hbar \underbrace{\left(\omega_c - \chi \hat{a}^{\dagger} \hat{a}\right)}_{i} \hat{b}^{\dagger} \hat{b}$$

cavity frequency



Recall that harmonic oscillator has evenly spaced levels

Conditional cavity spectrum



Frequency

cQED dispersive readout: measuring Z

$$\hat{H}_{int} = \hbar \chi \hat{a}_{q}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{q} \hat{a}_{c}^{\dagger} \hat{a}_{c}$$

$$\begin{vmatrix} \alpha_{e} \rangle & |\alpha_{g} \rangle \\ \hline \sqrt{n} & \sqrt{n} \end{vmatrix}$$



Pointer states of measurement apparatus (cavity) corresponding to the qubit in the ground (g) and excited (e) states

$$\hat{I} \equiv \hat{c} + \hat{c}^{\dagger}$$
 and $\hat{Q} \equiv -i\left(\hat{c} - \hat{c}^{\dagger}\right)$

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cQED dispersive readout: measuring Z



image: Clerk et al. (2010)

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The road behind



Road image: based on Freepik

Tightly integrated lab work with Dr. Nick Bronn and Co.! Run experiments on real devices

Check out references, problems given in the lecture, dangerous bends

Break away from the rules of today












The important thing is not to stop questioning. Curiosity has its own reason for existence.

One cannot help but be in awe when he contemplates the mysteries of eternity, of life, of the marvelous structure of reality.

It is enough if one tries merely to comprehend a little of this mystery each day.



Photo: F. Schmutzer

Albert Einstein







IBM Quantum