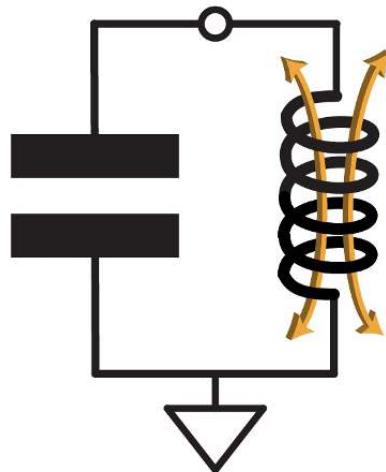


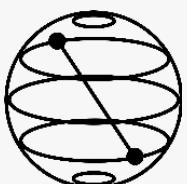
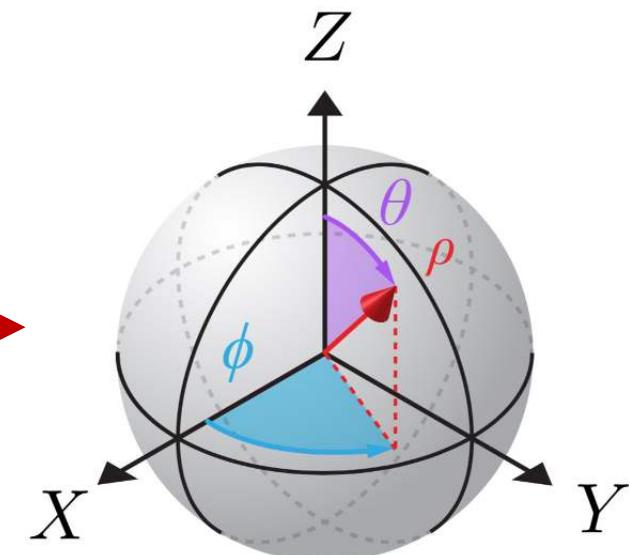
# Superconducting Qubits 101

## Making Your First Qubit From an Oscillator



Introduction to Circuit  
Quantum Electrodynamics (cQED)

Zlatko K. Minev



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



@zlatko\_minev



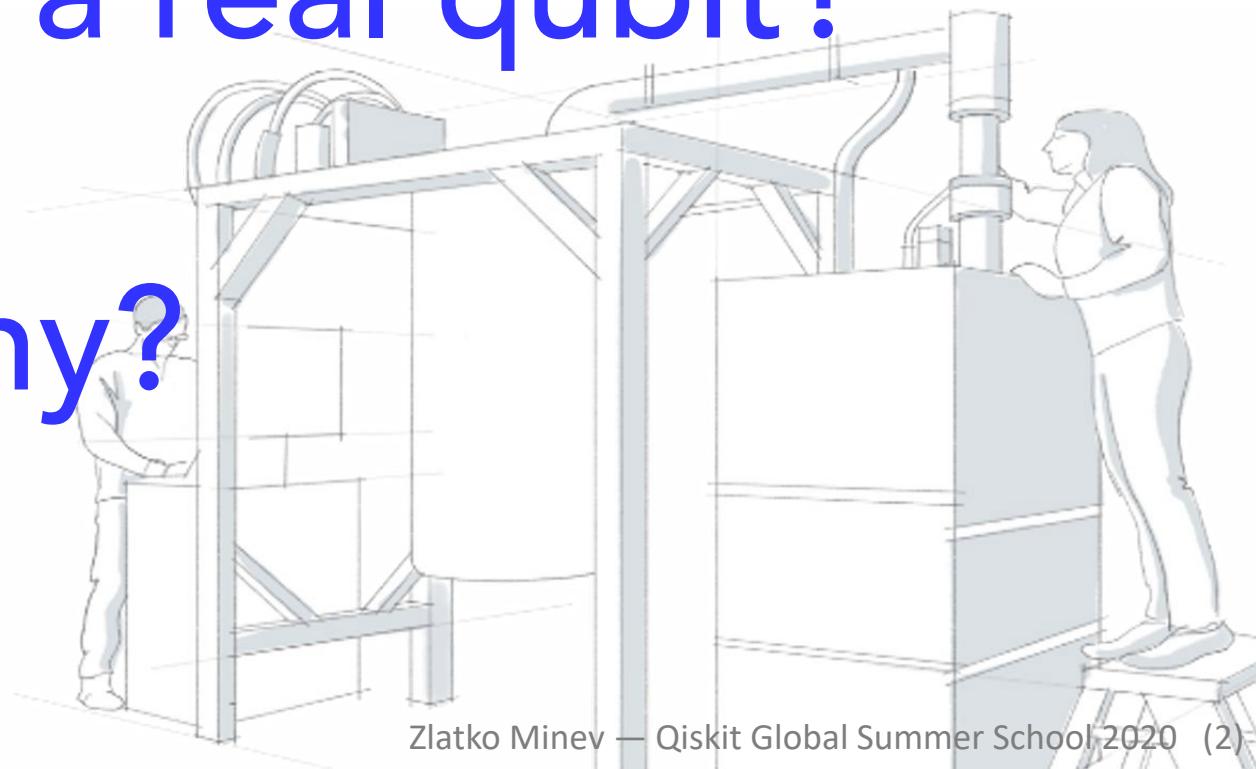
[zlatko-minev.com](http://zlatko-minev.com)

*Image copyright:  
ZKM unless otherwise noted*

# What is a real qubit?

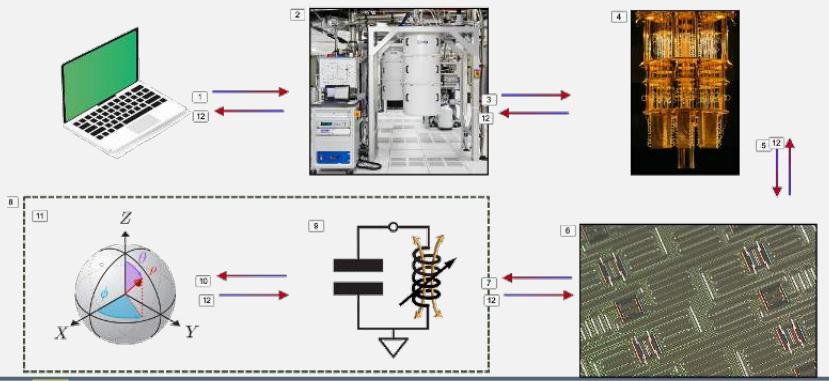
How can you design, control,  
and measure a real qubit?

Why?

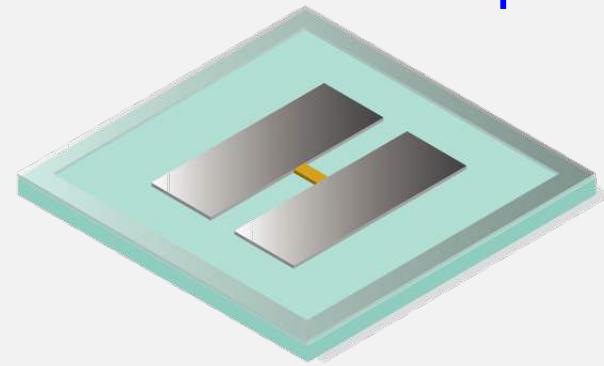


# On the road ahead

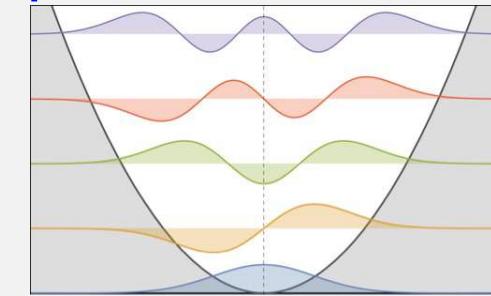
## Qubit in the cloud



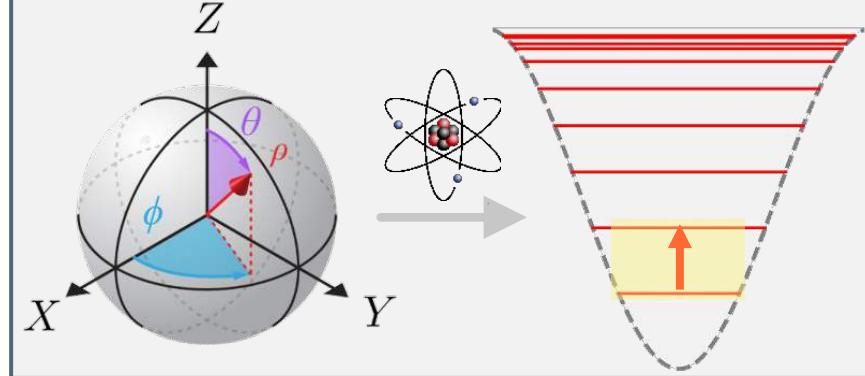
## cQED: Transmon qubit



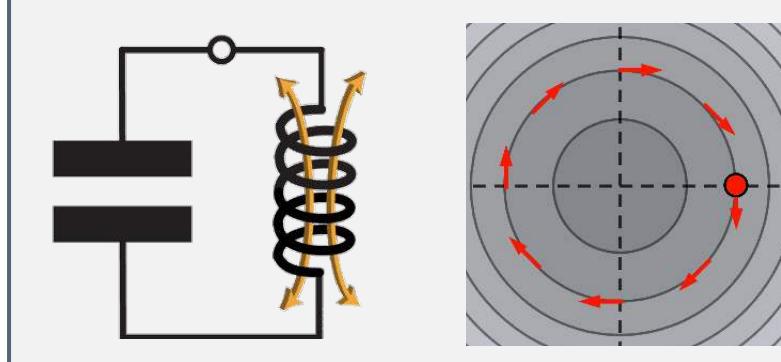
## Unveiling the quantum oscillator



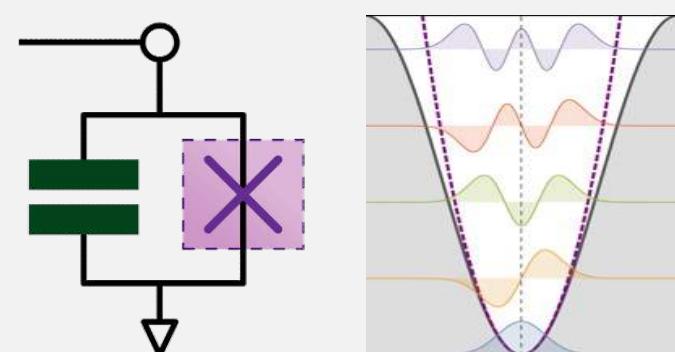
## Qubit from atom / oscillator



## Classical circuits & the LC



## Transmon qubit



# This Lecture

Introductory and skill reaffirming

Don't need to know much going in, but we will go far



Advanced material

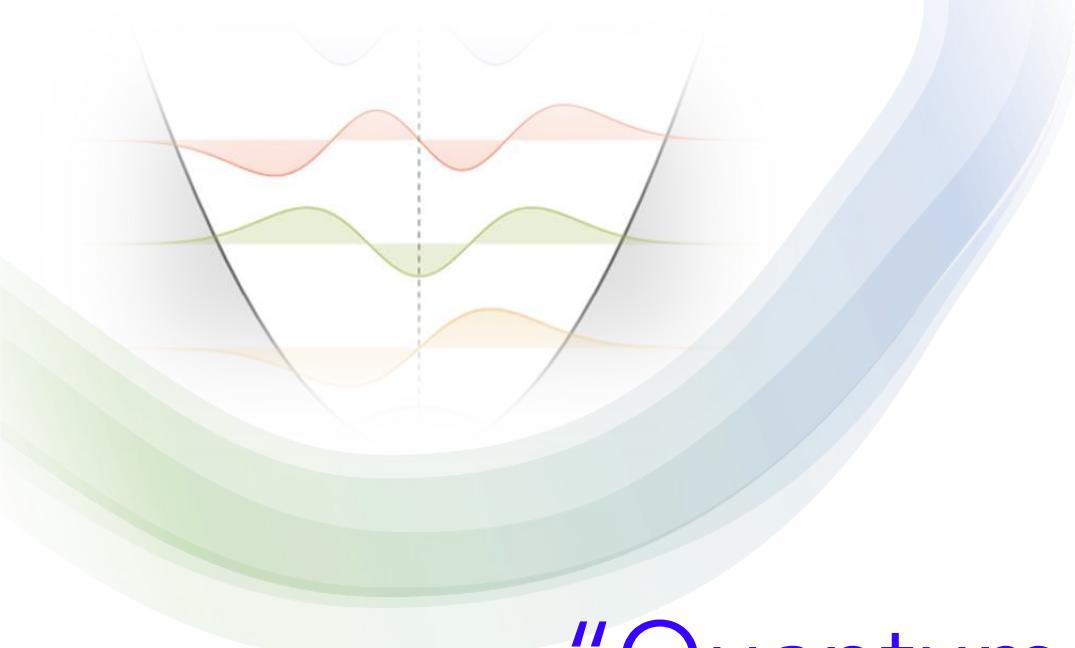
Examples: simplest, most practical examples

Step by step

Ask questions!

Tightly integrated work by Dr. Thomas McConkey!





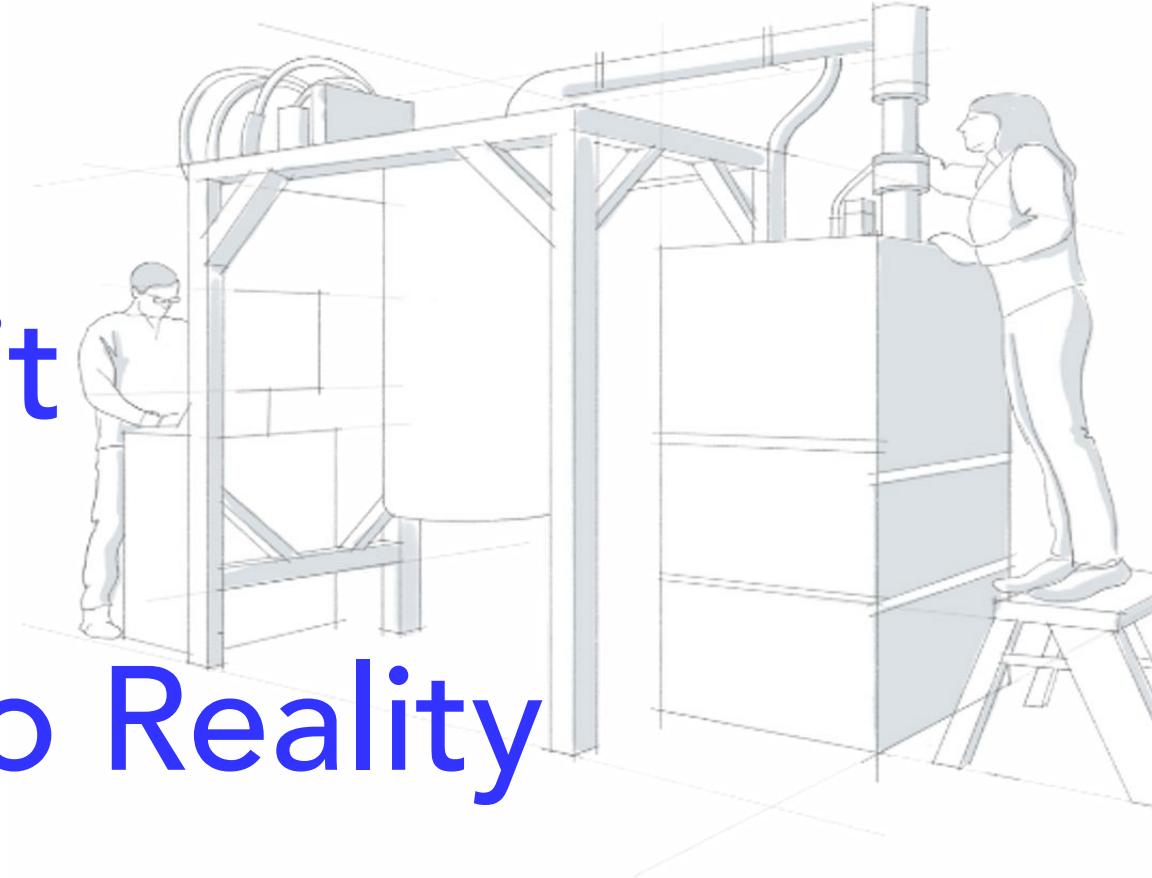
*“Quantum phenomena do not occur in a Hilbert space, they occur in a laboratory.”*

Asher Peres



# Qubit

# From Idea to Reality



THE BIG PICTURE  
before calculations

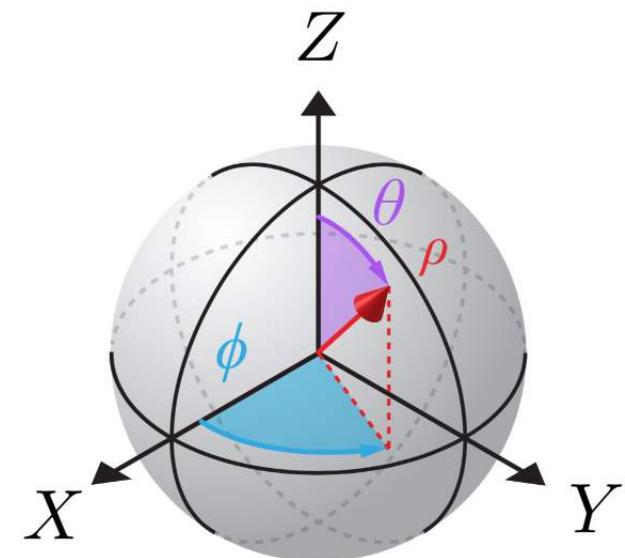
# Qubit: idea

Energy levels

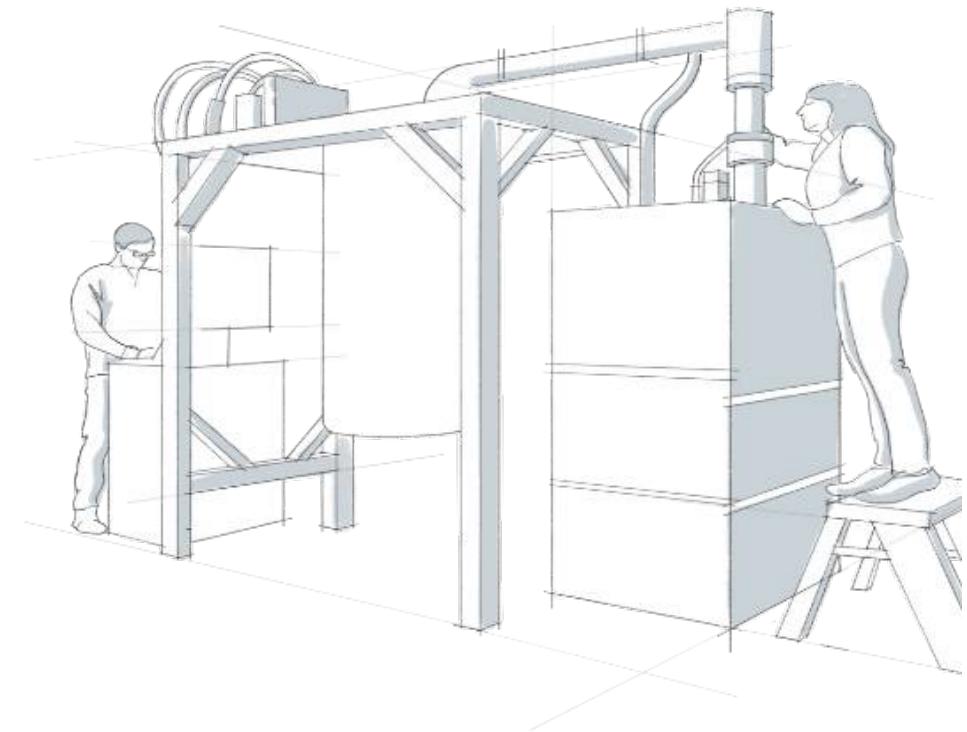
|1>

|0>

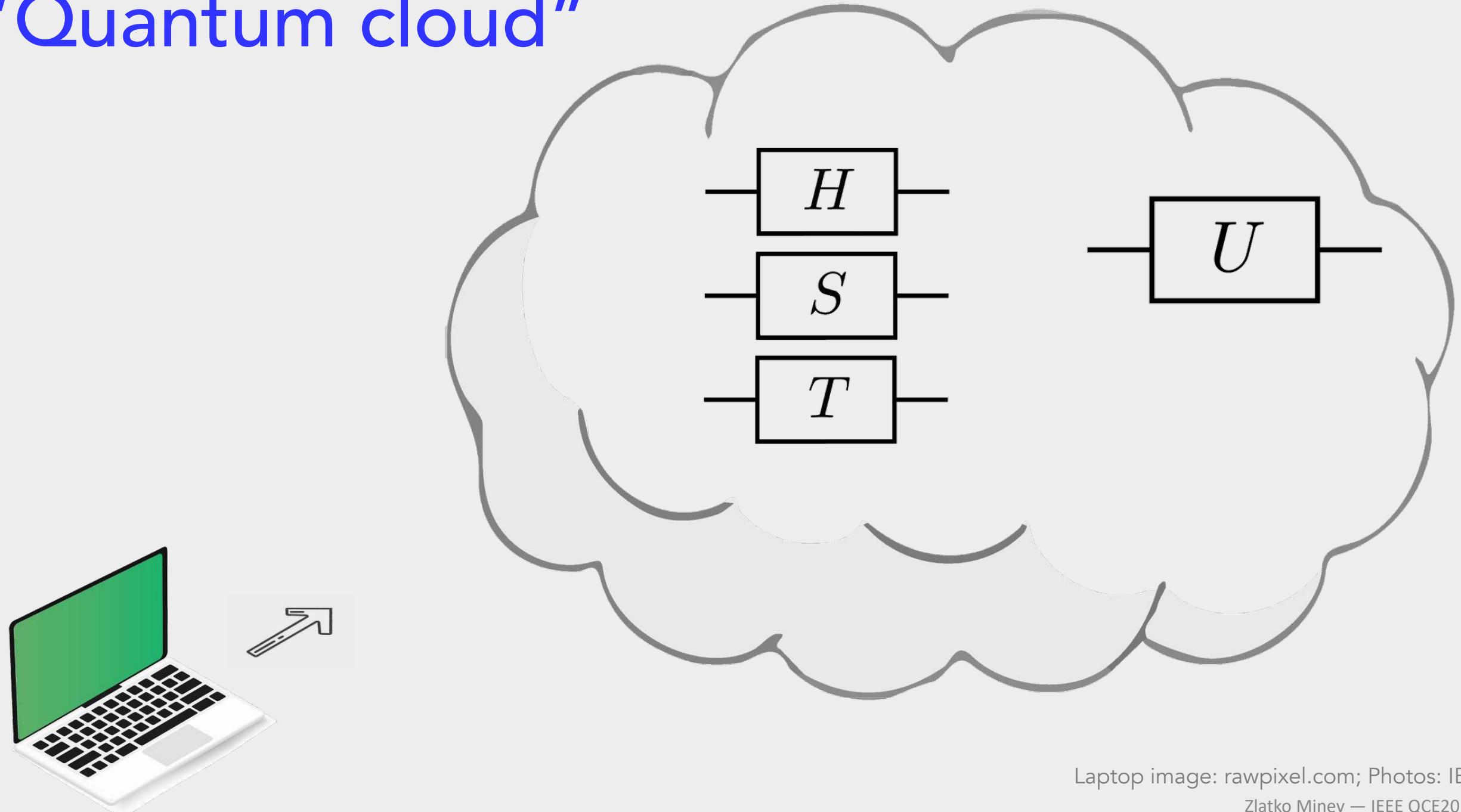
Hilbert space



Quantum cloud?

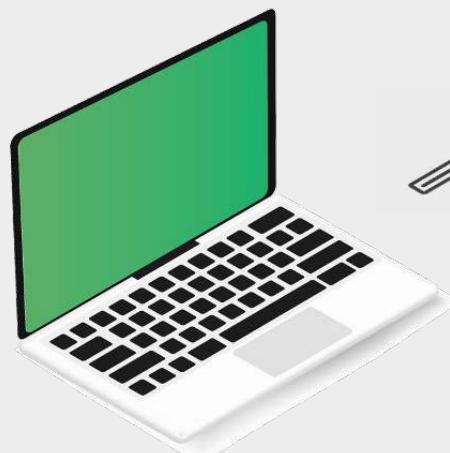


# "Quantum cloud"



# Quantum in the cloud or lab

Superconducting qubits



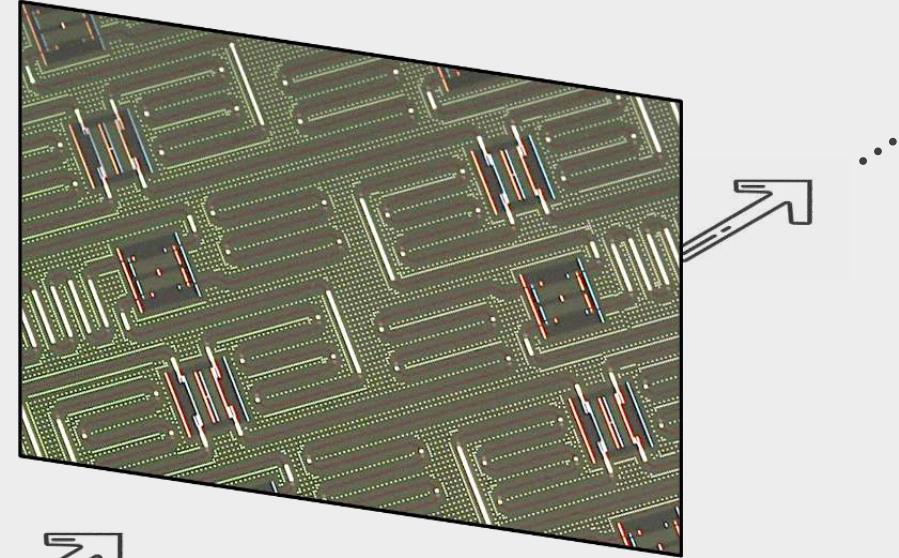
Quantum community



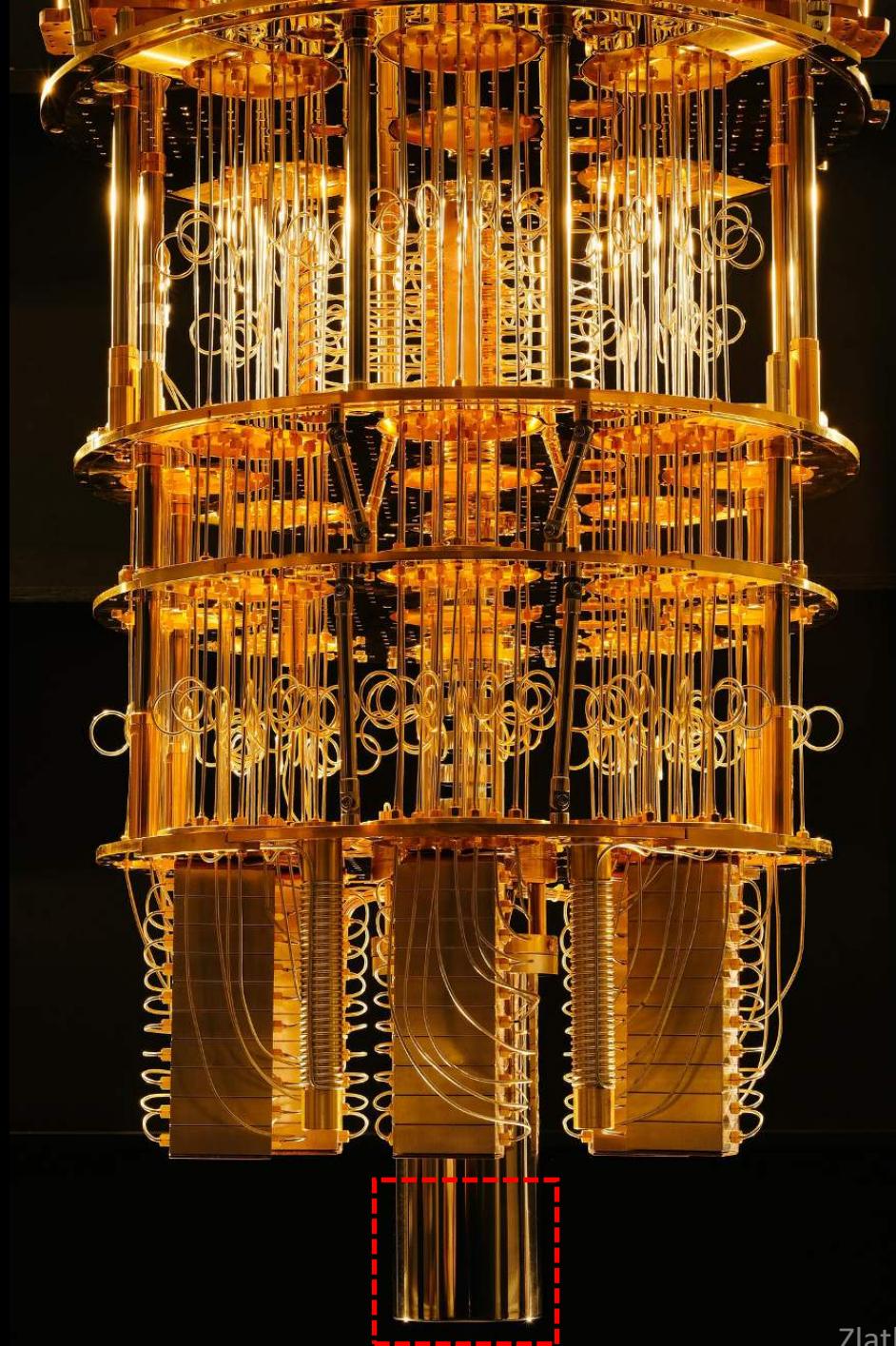
Lab / cloud facility



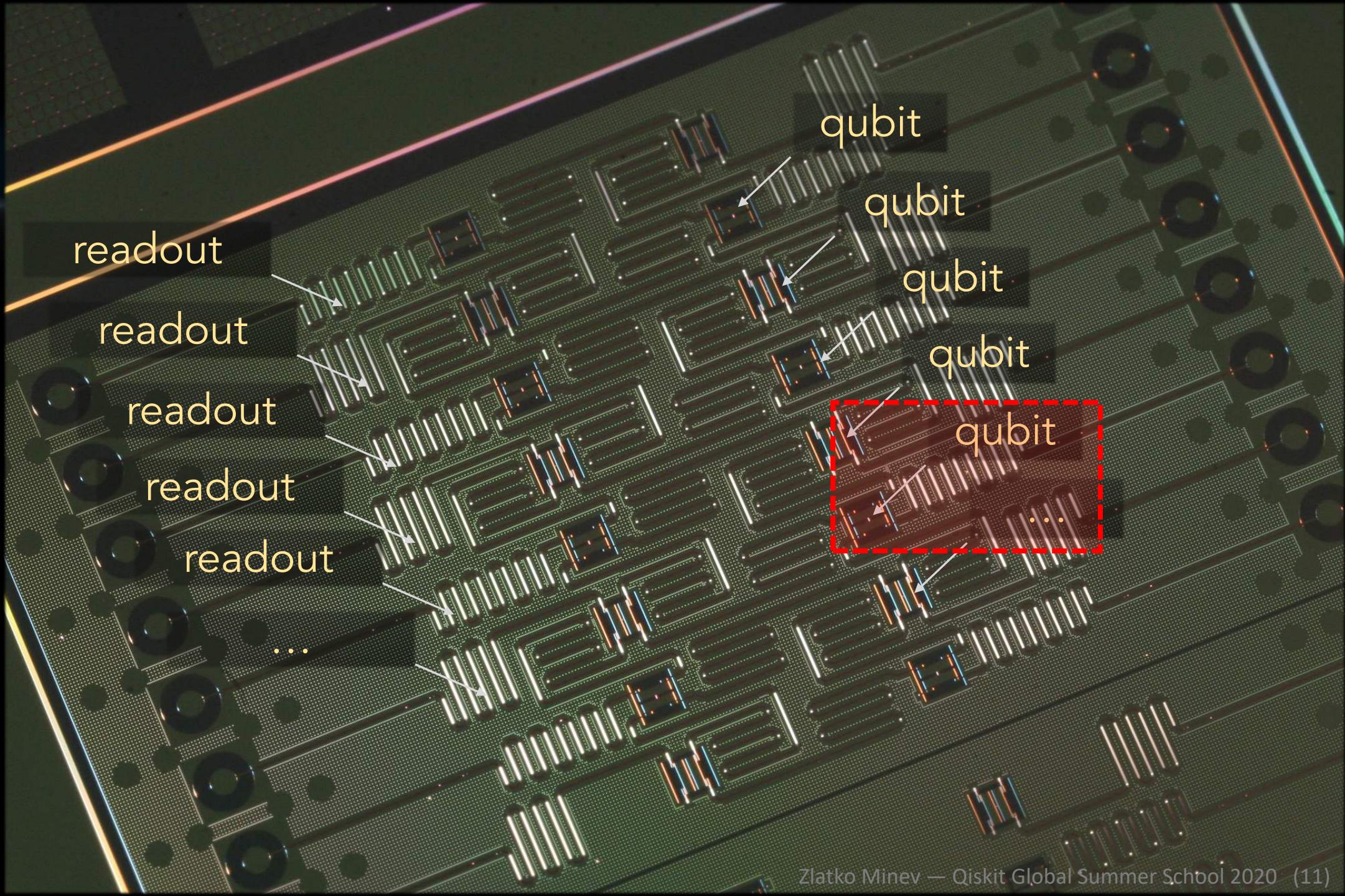
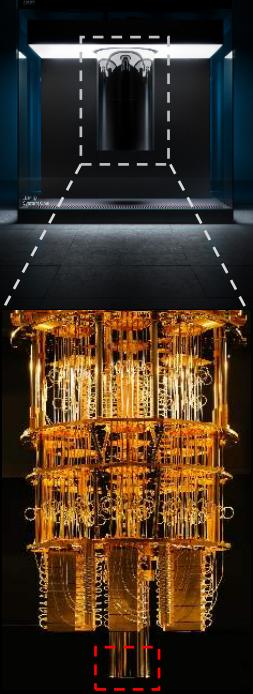
Cryogenic environment

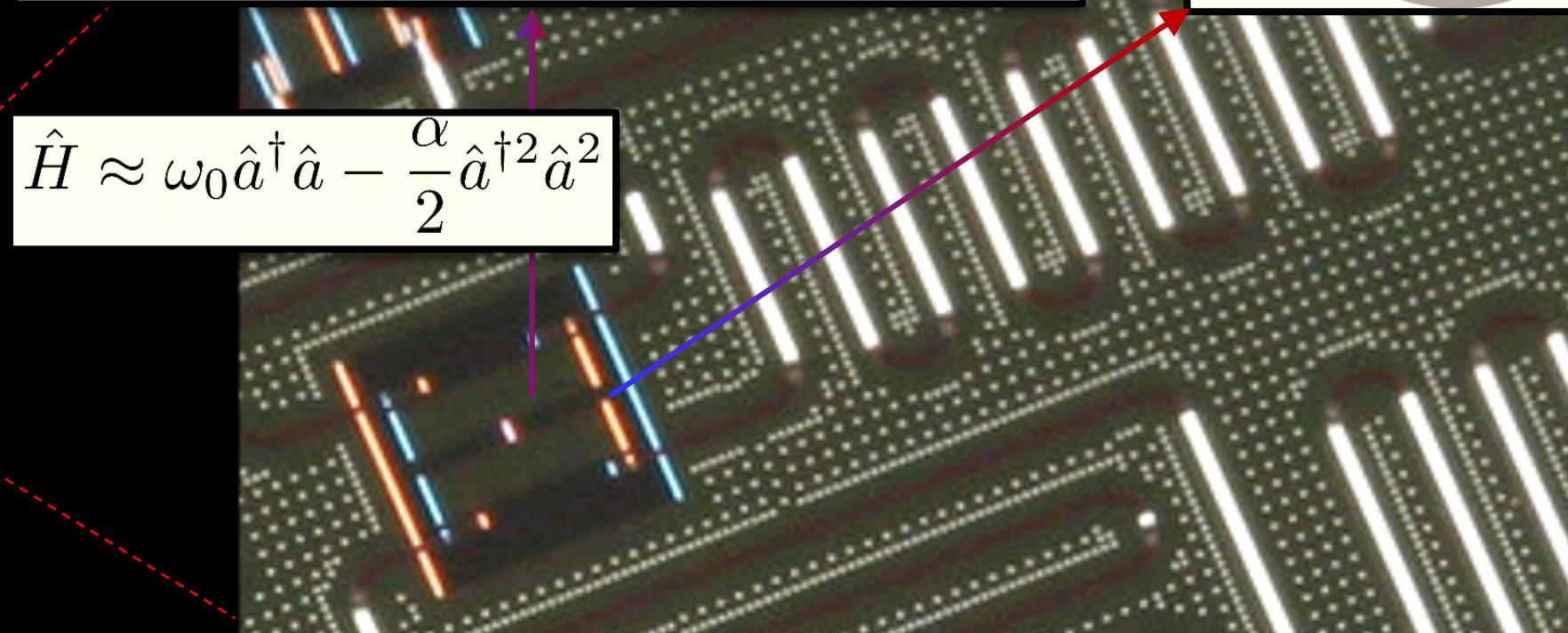
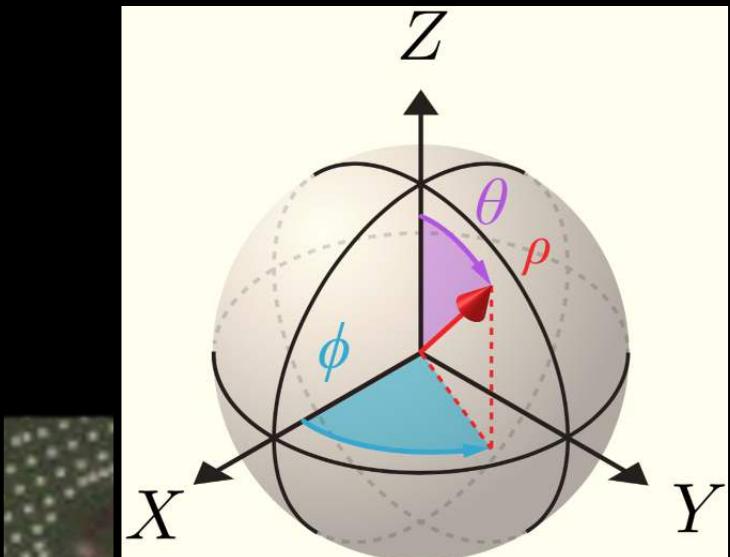
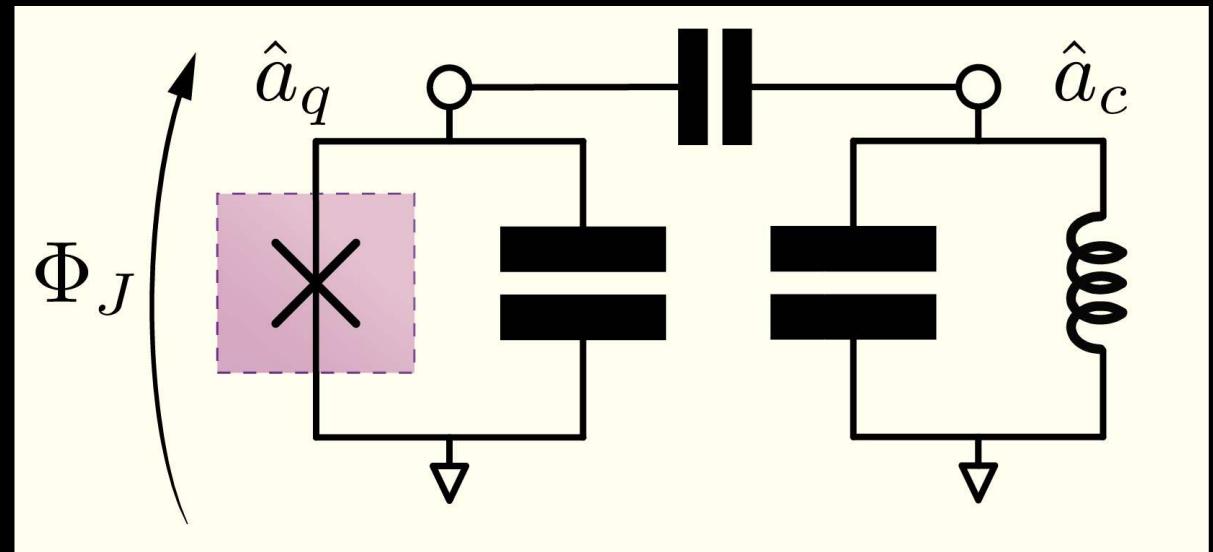
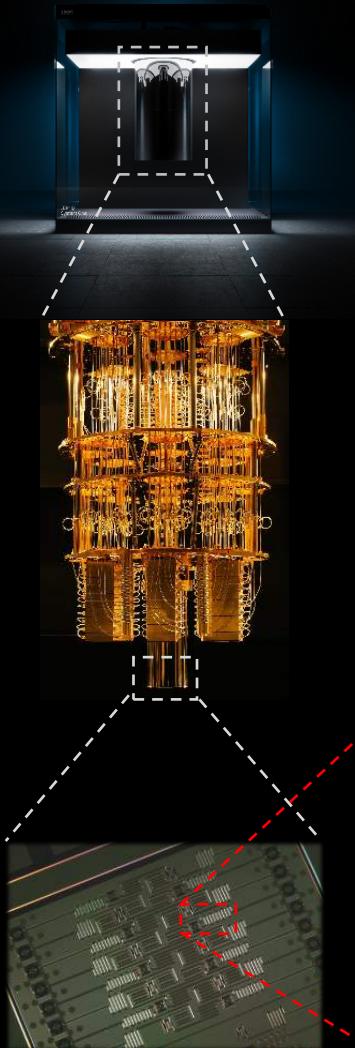


Quantum-device chip



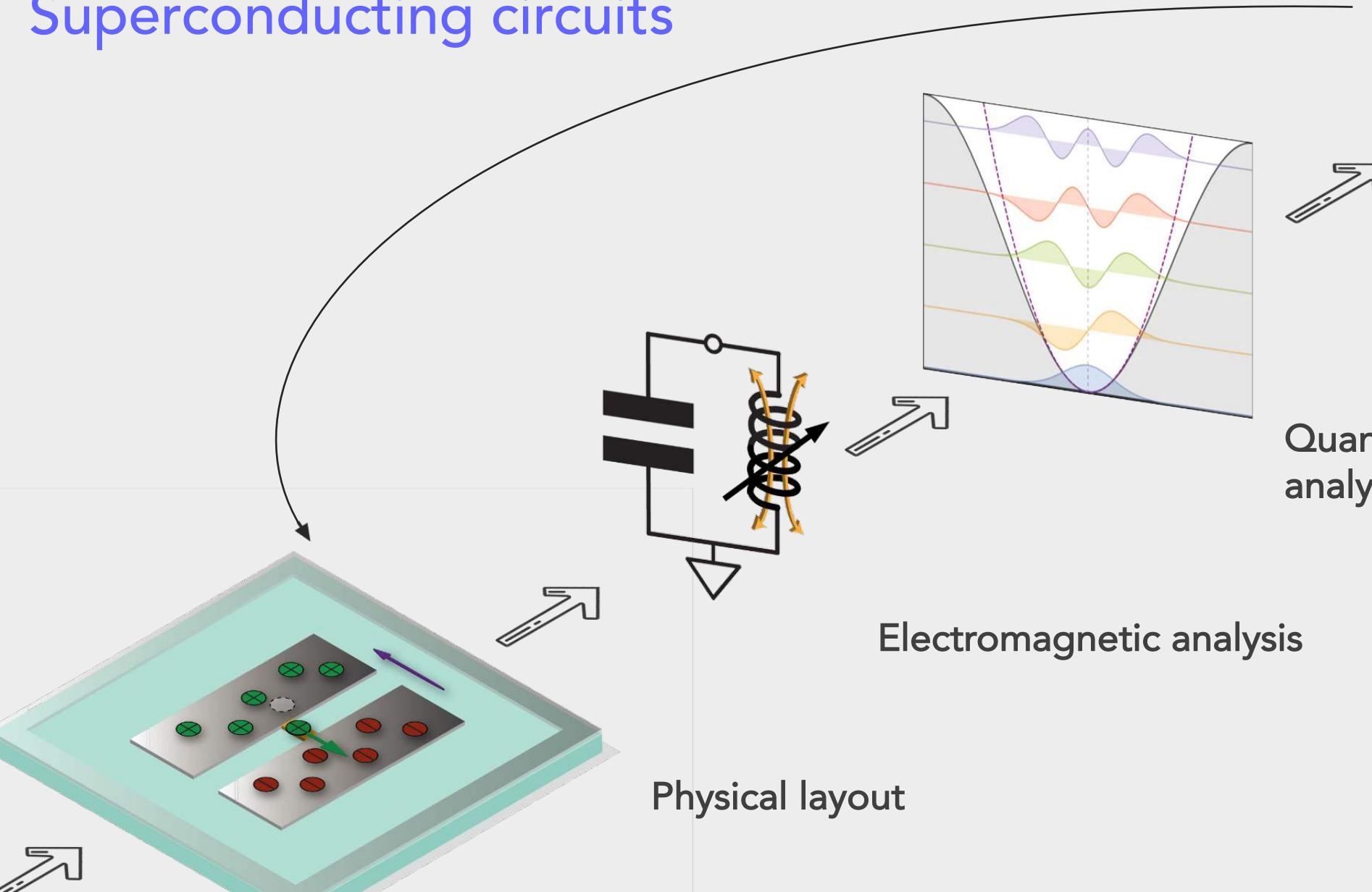
Operation at  
15 mK (-273.13 °C)

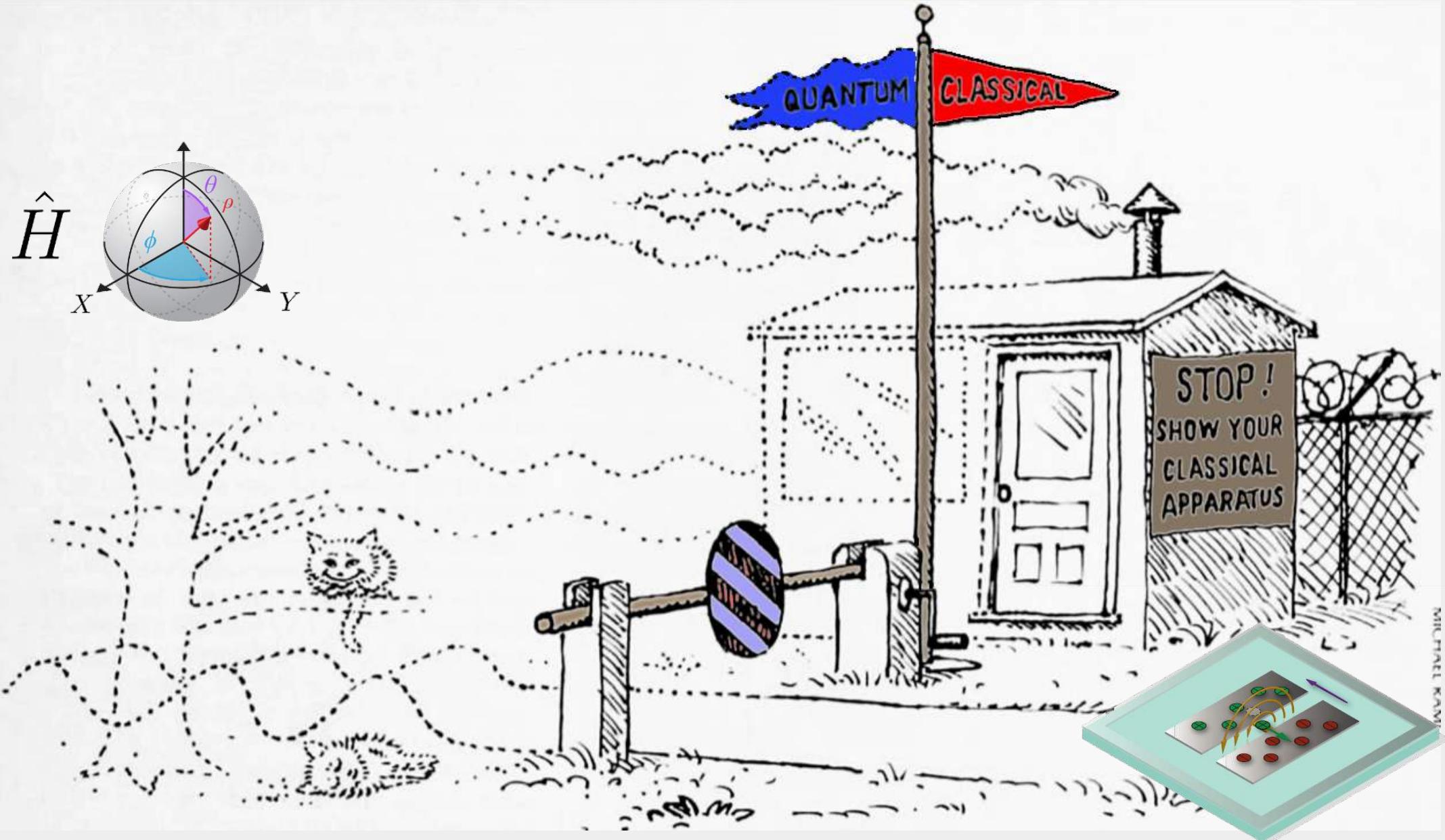




# Quantum Device Design

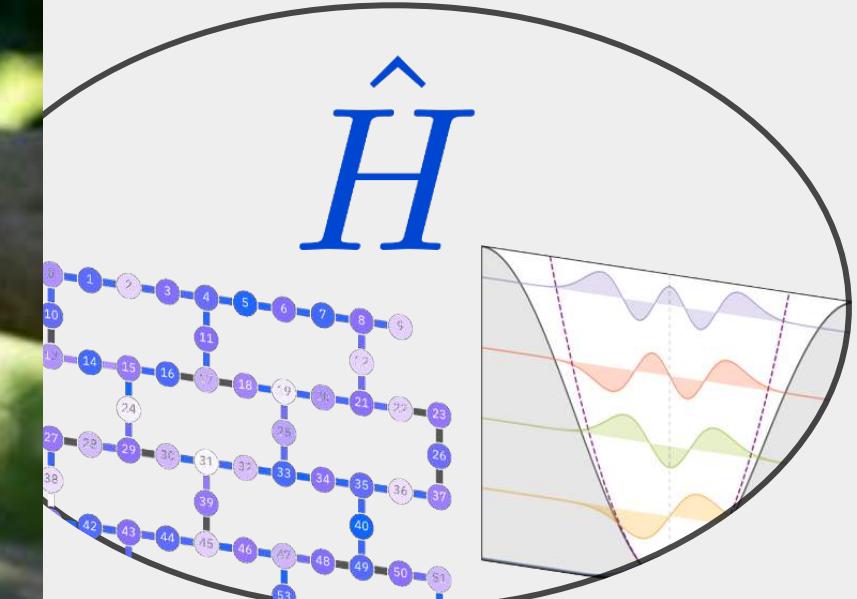
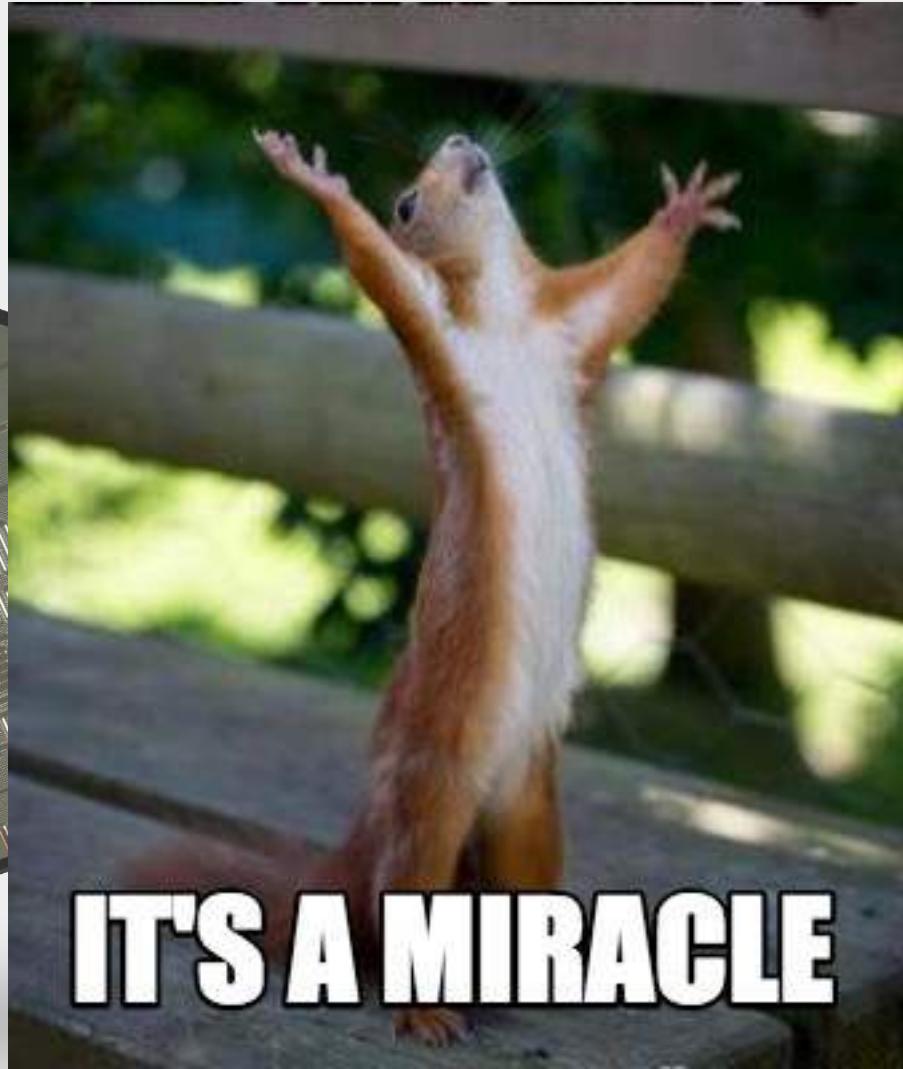
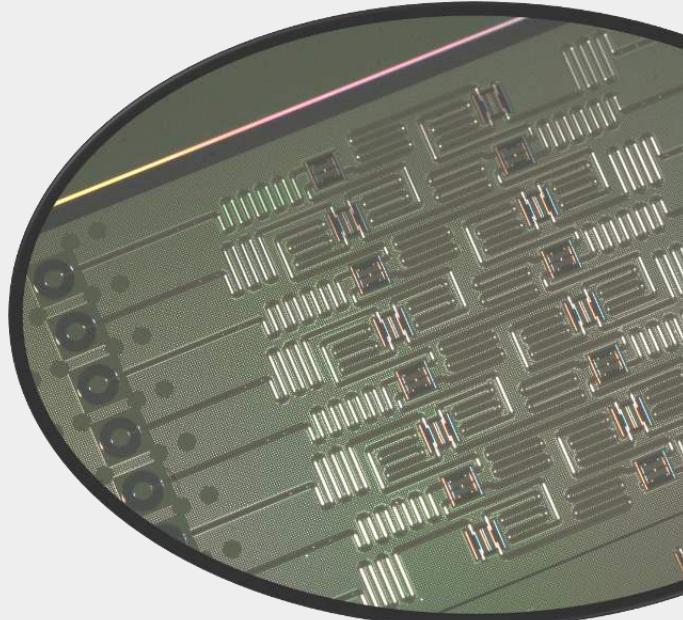
Superconducting circuits



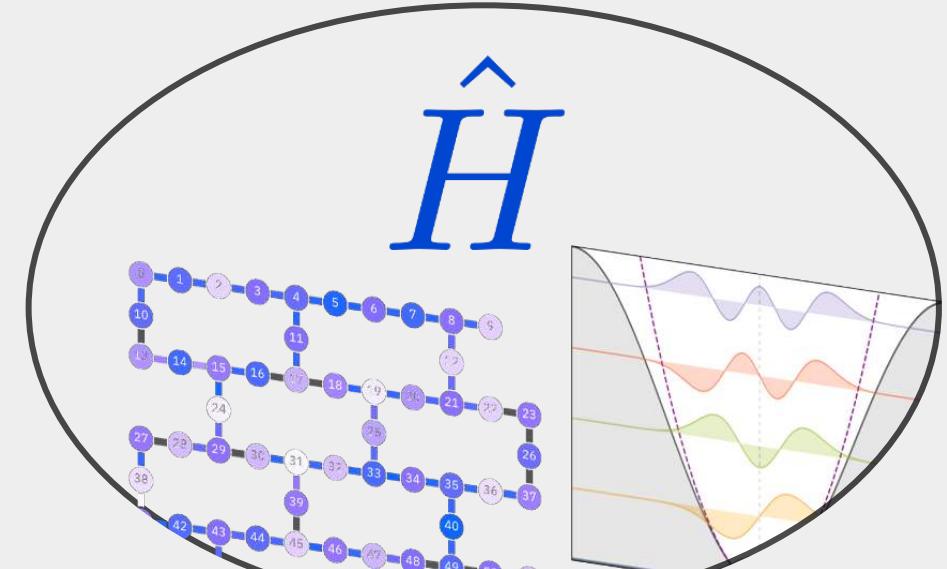
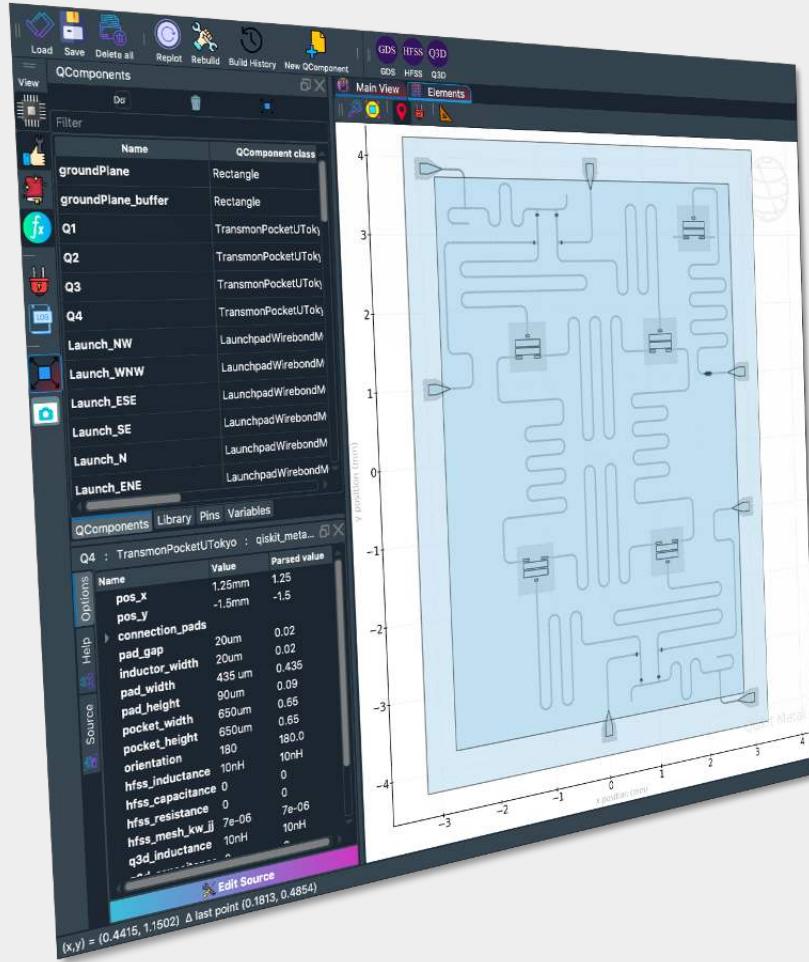


Drawing: Zurek, Physics Today (1991)

# Physical Devices $\leftrightarrow$ Quantum Hamiltonian



# Make easy?



# Qubit

## From Idea to Reality

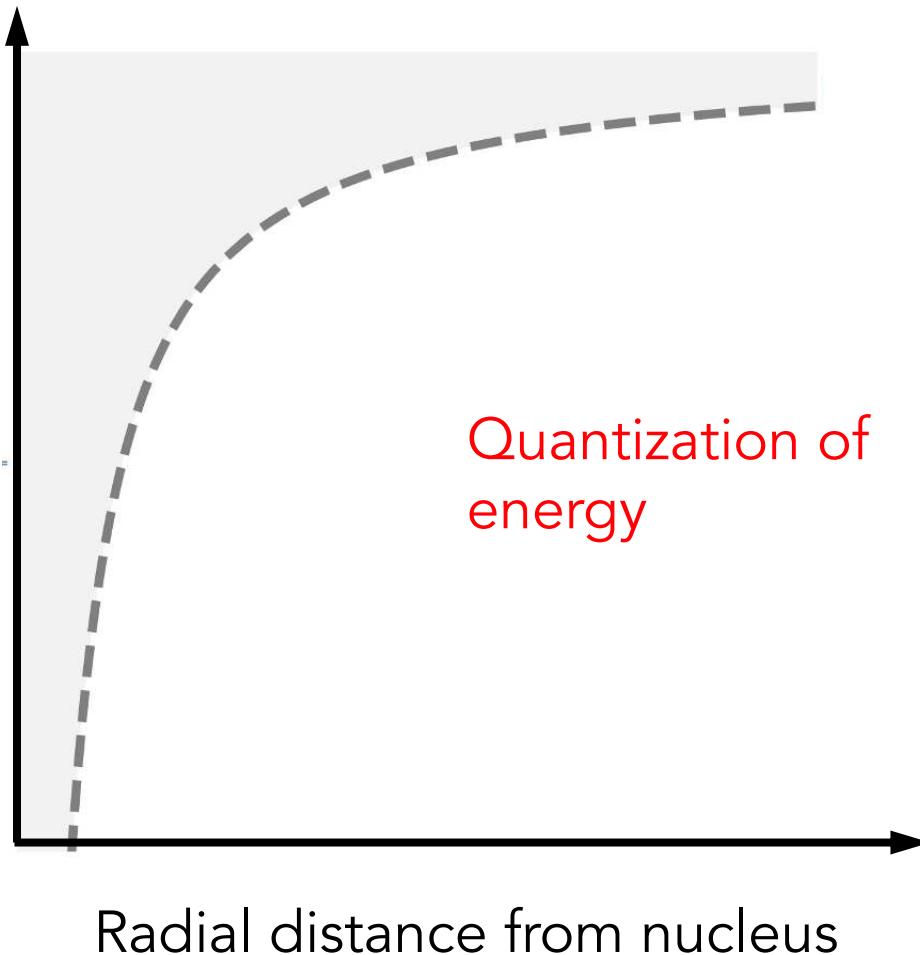
### Concepts

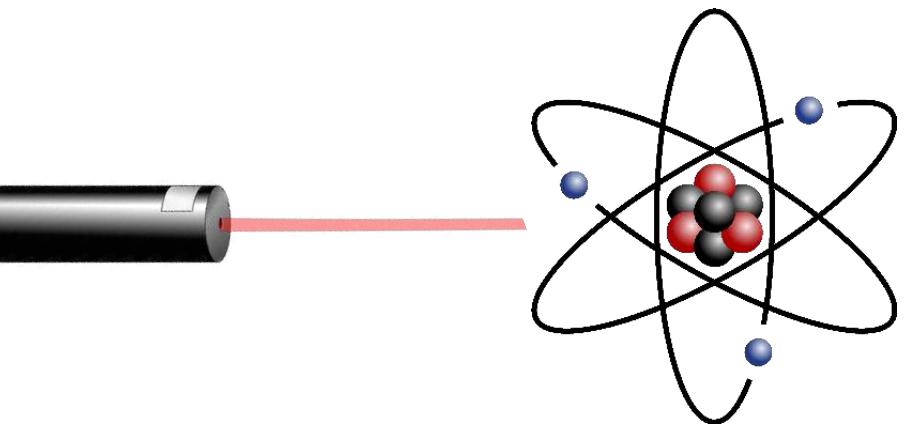
# The light of atoms



# Atomic energy levels and transitions

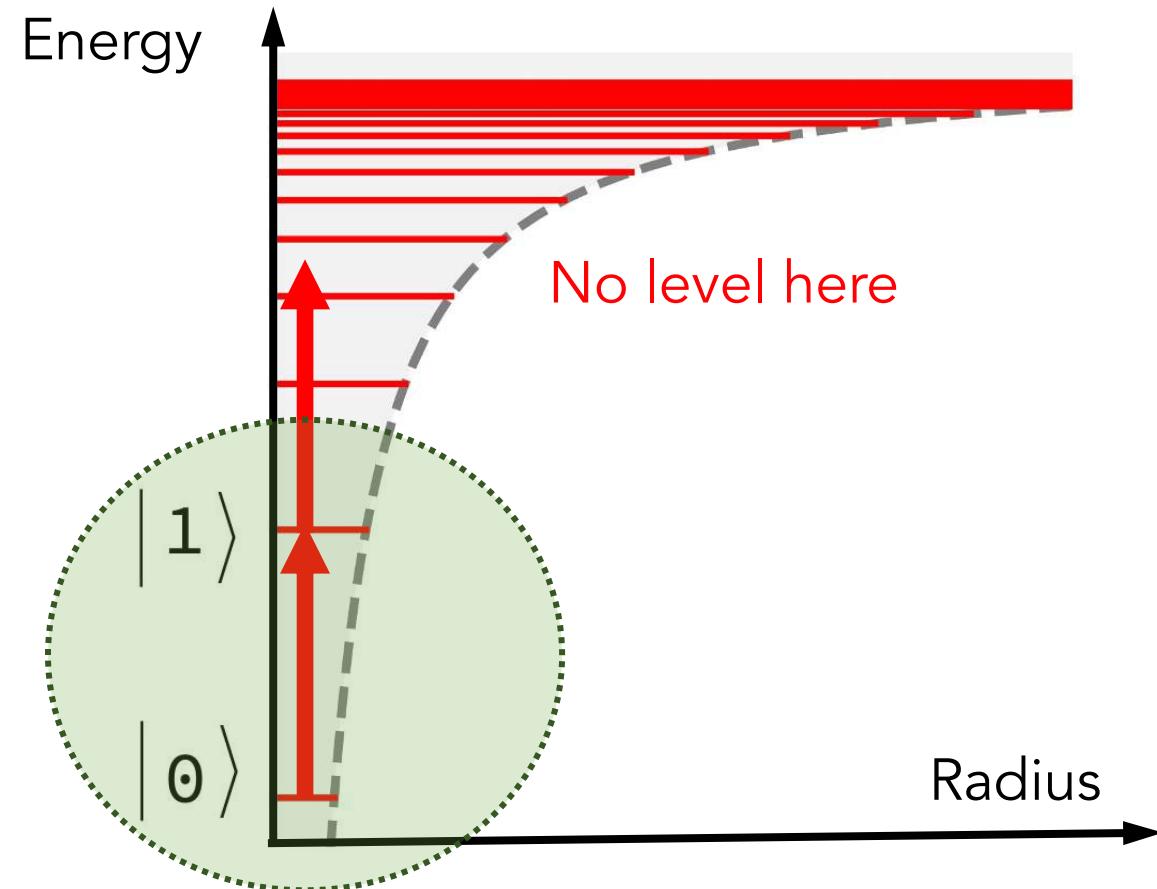
Electron potential-energy landscape





# Qubit from Atom

Anharmonic degree of freedom and spin



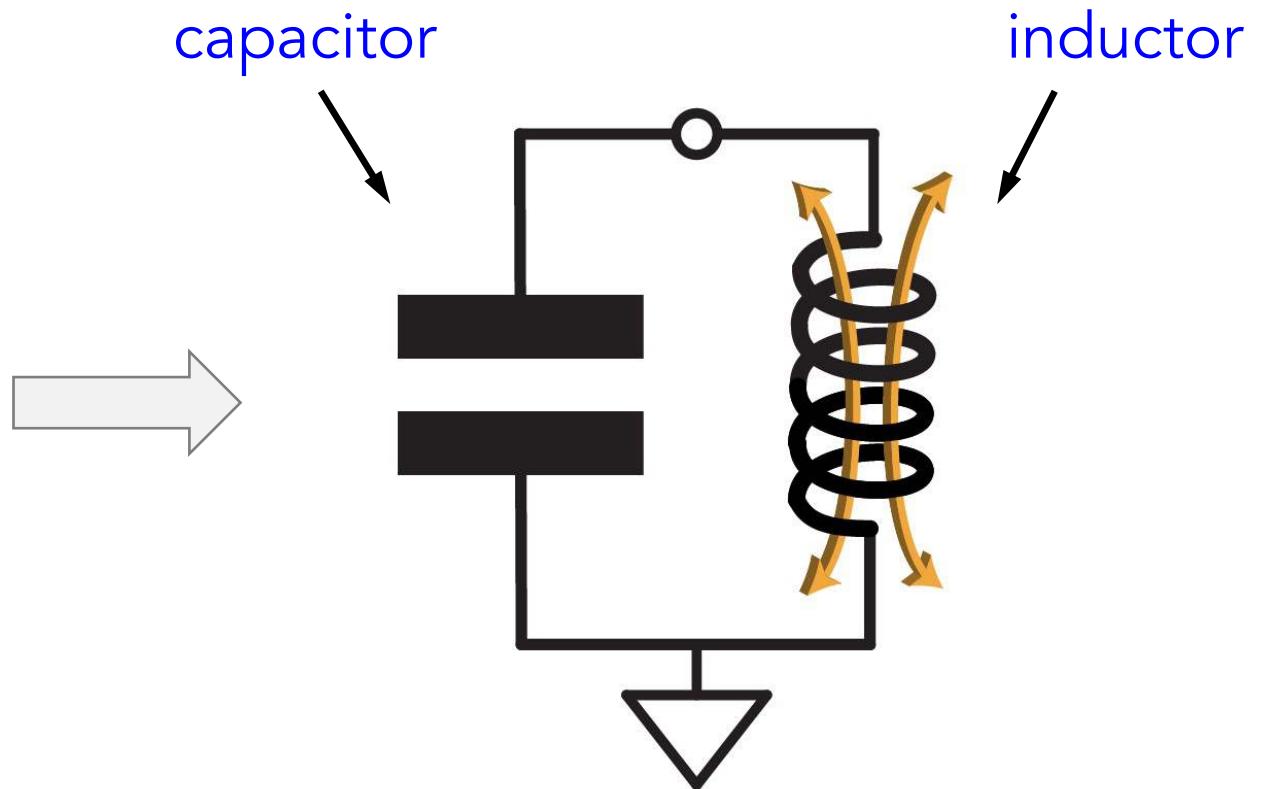
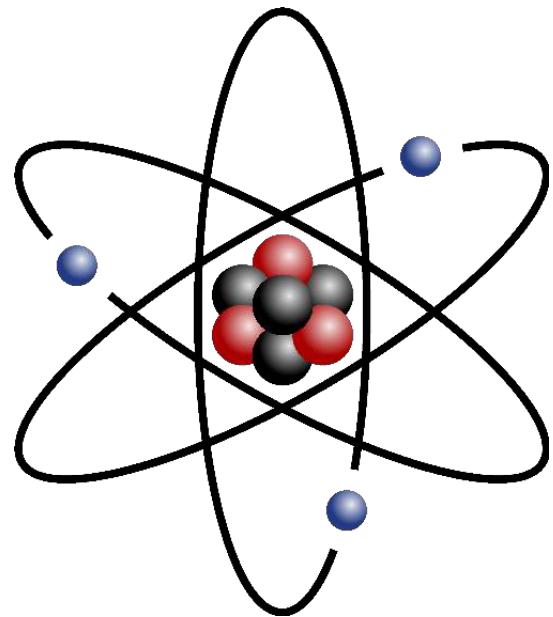
Isolated from environment and thermal bath

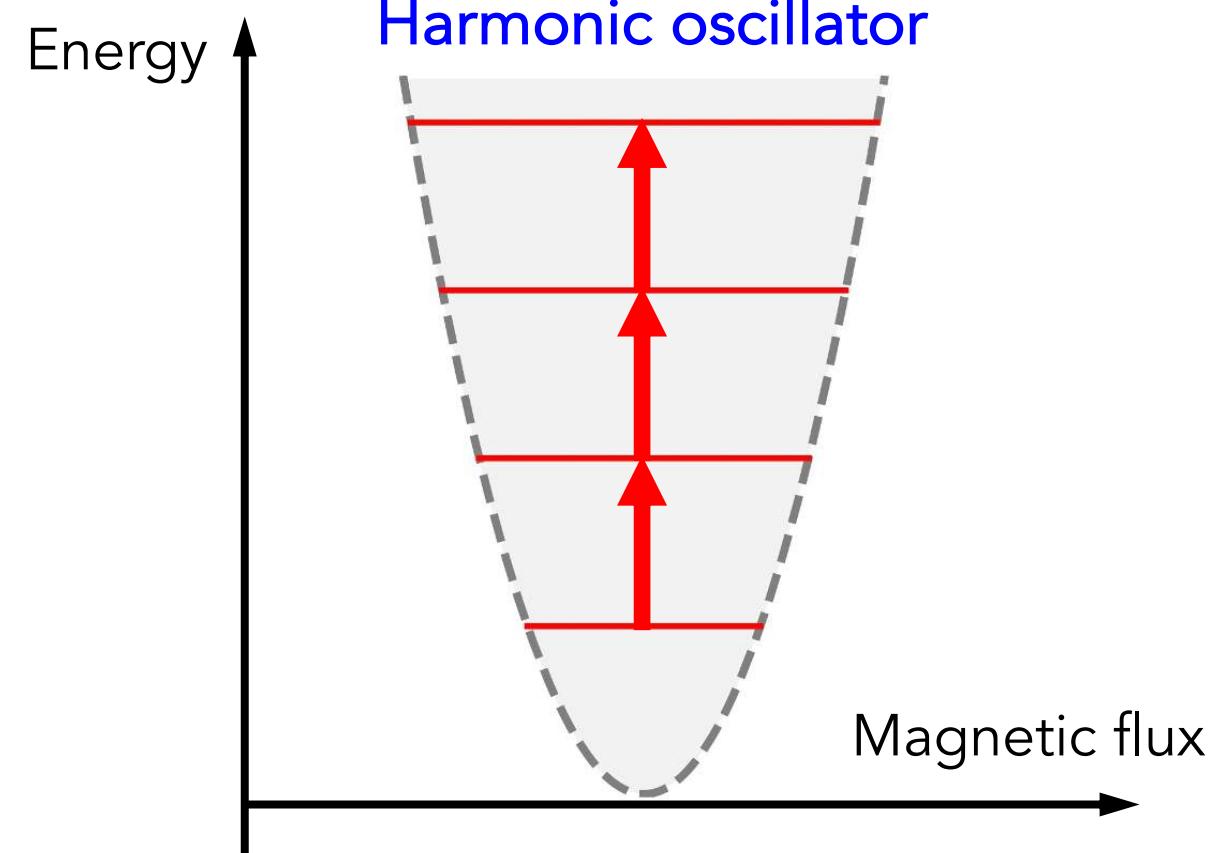
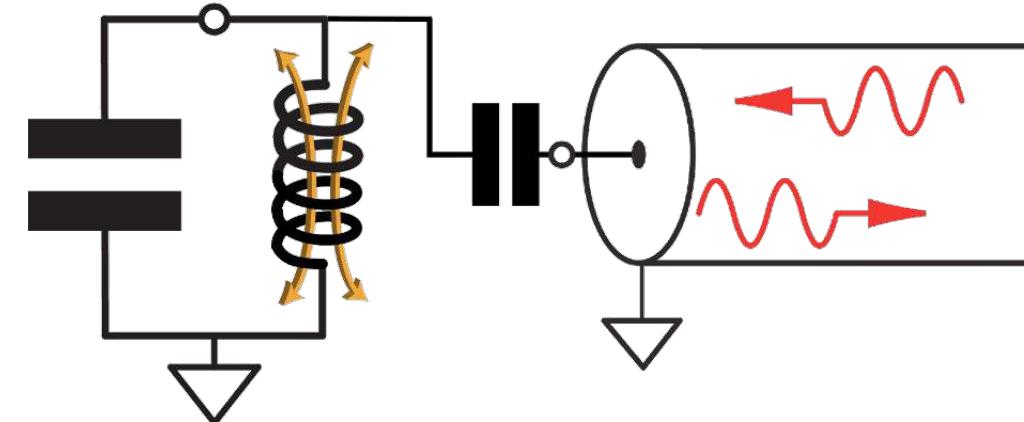
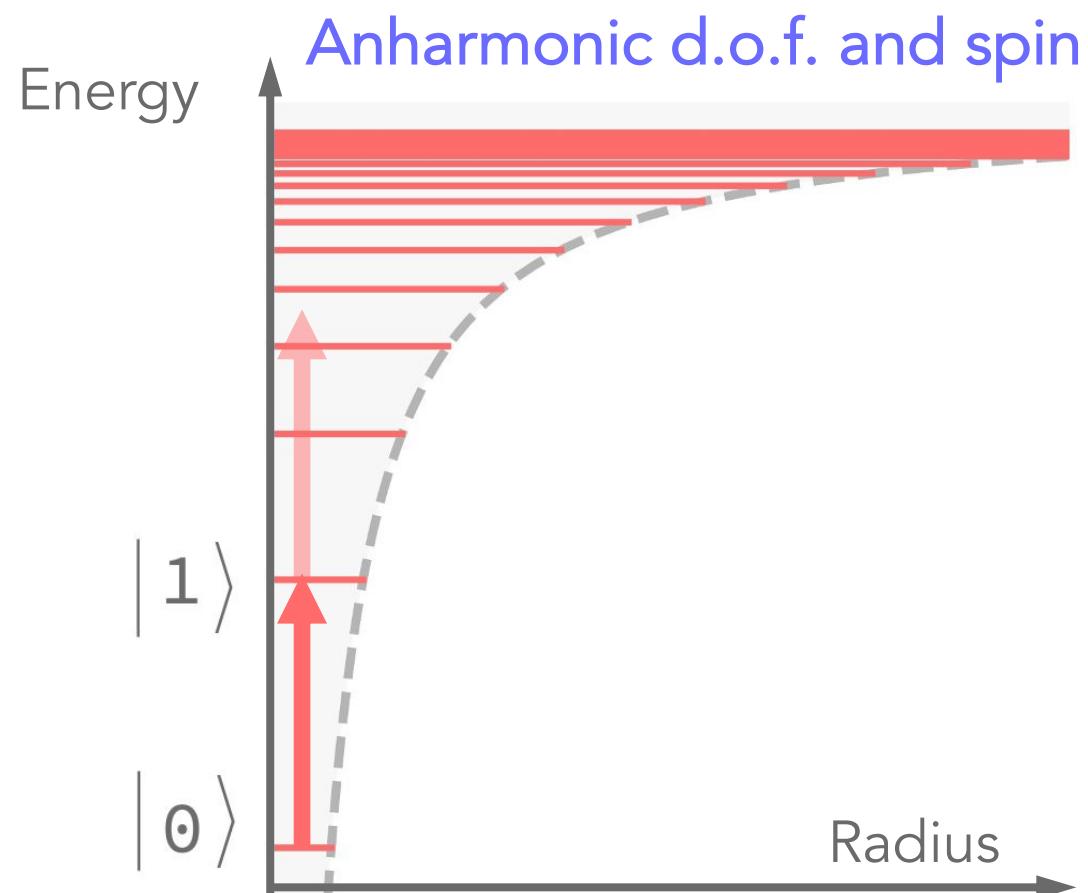
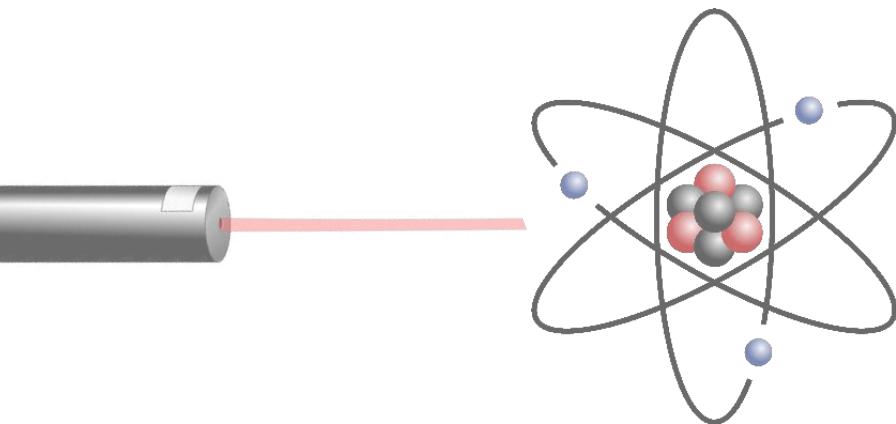
Low-loss

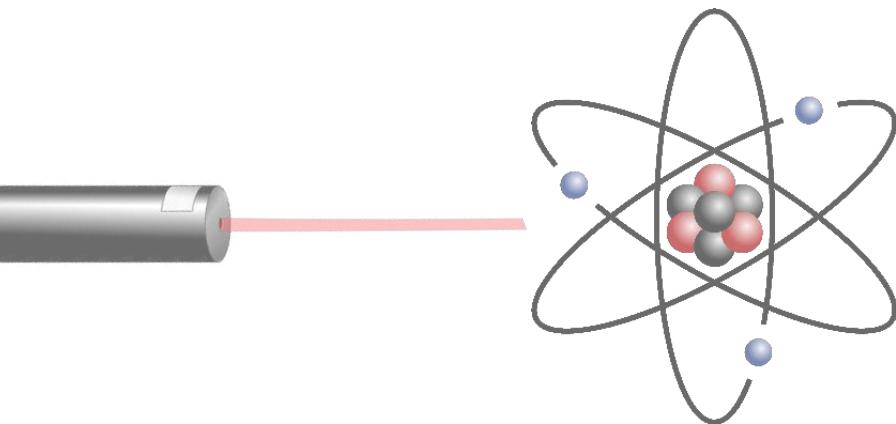
Level diagram allows for qubit-specific control and readout

There are always more than two levels

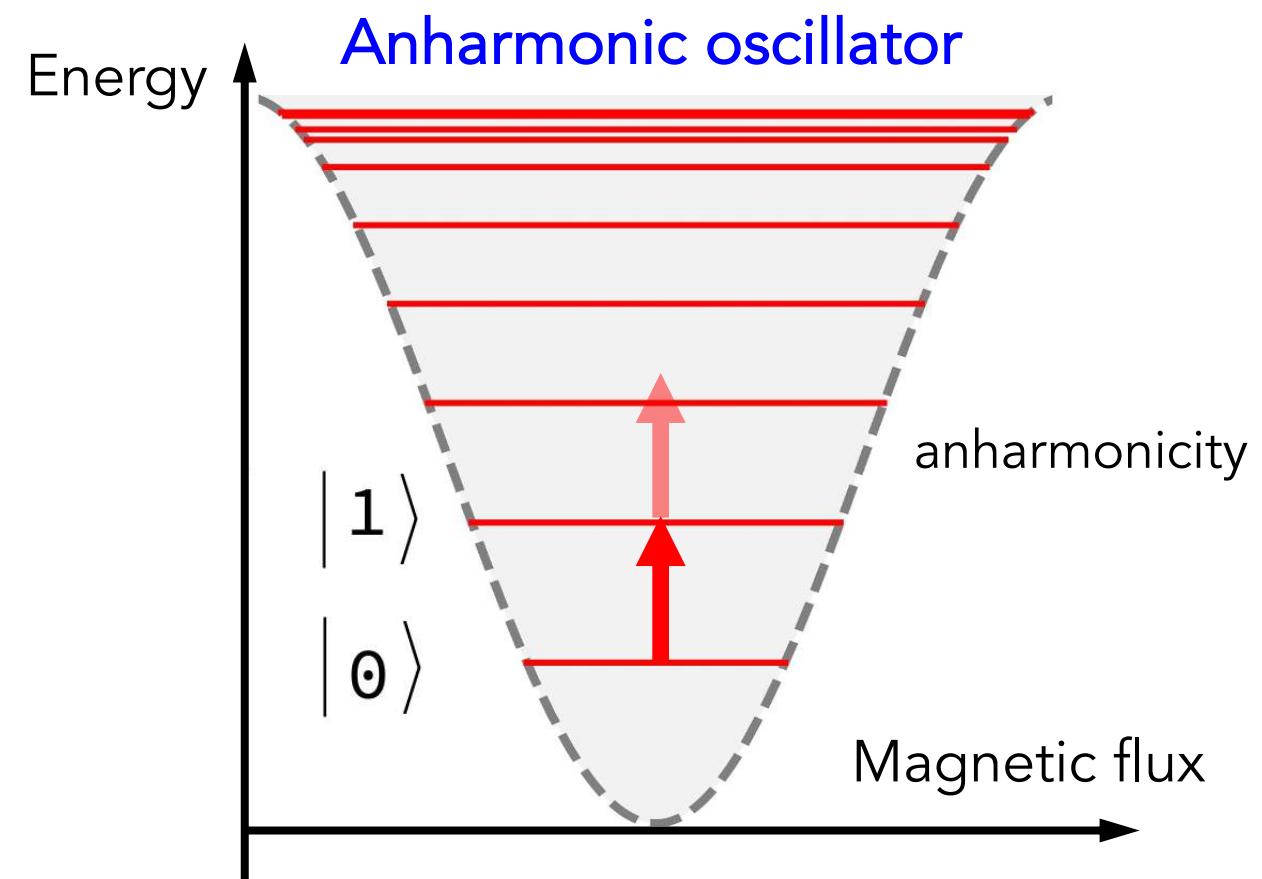
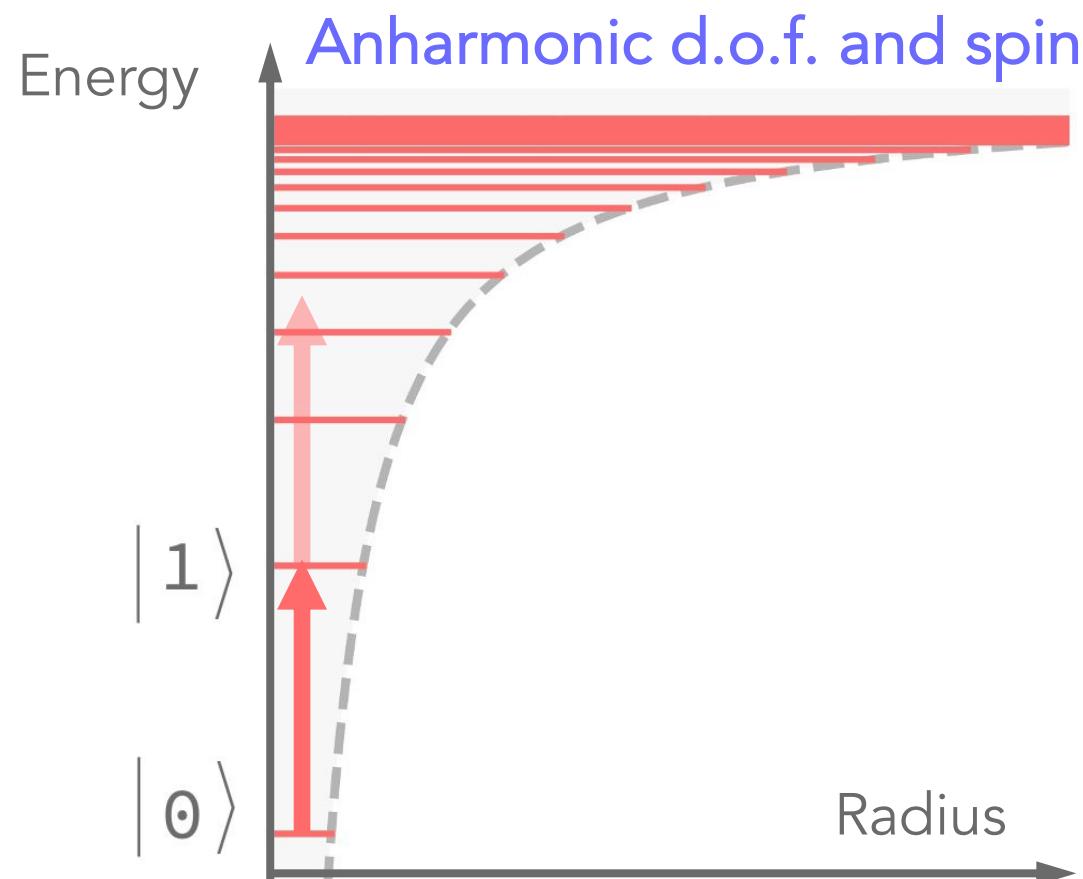
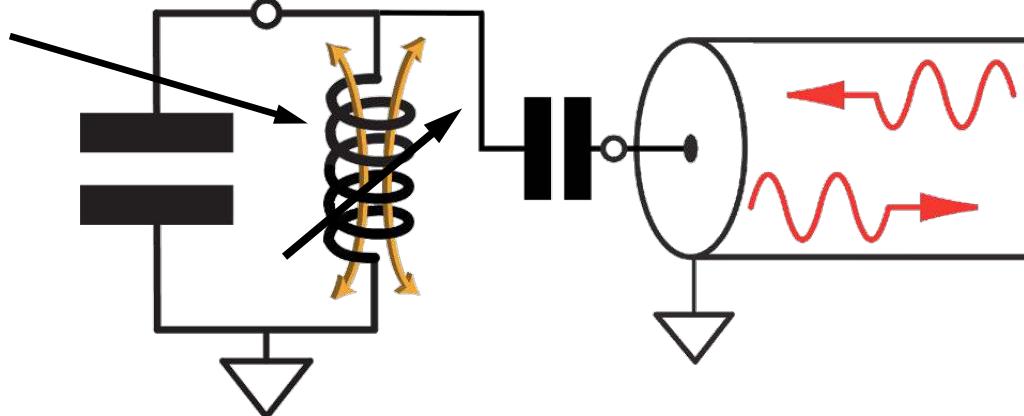
# Artificial atoms





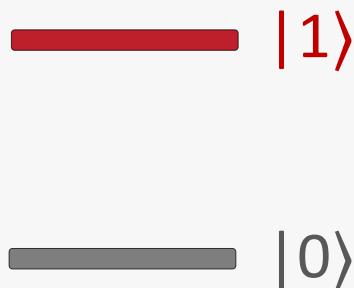


non-linear  
inductor

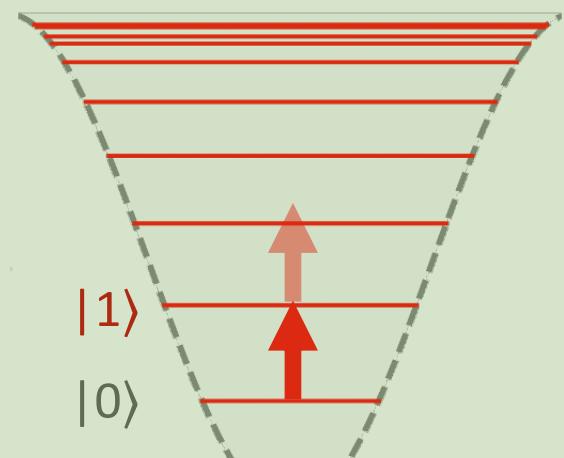


# Big-picture connections

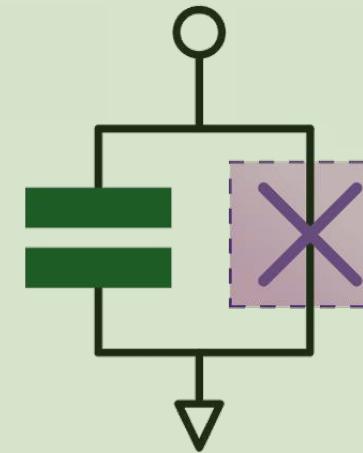
Idealization of  
*qubit*



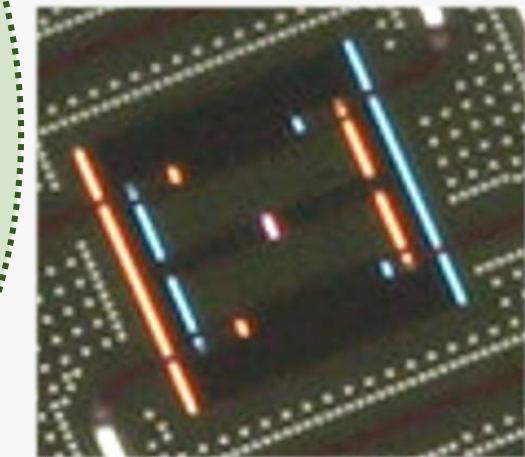
Anharmonic  
oscillator



Physical circuit  
model



Physical layout



Idealization



Physical reality

# Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics (cQED)

Macro  
overview

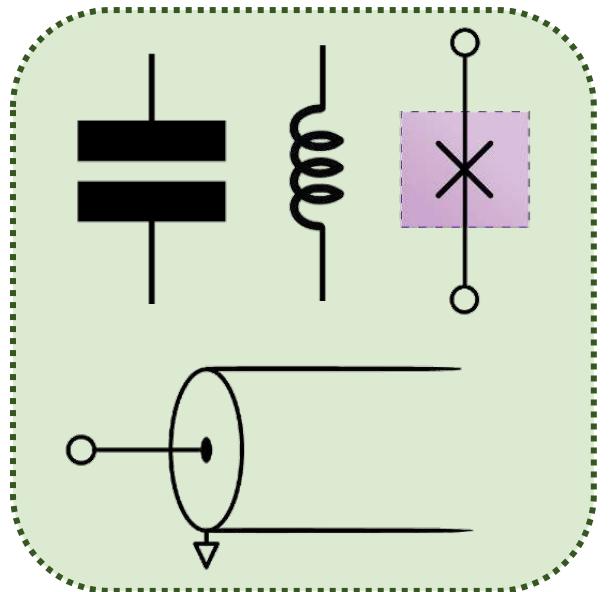
There are two kinds of physicists:

Those who believe all of physics is *spins*.

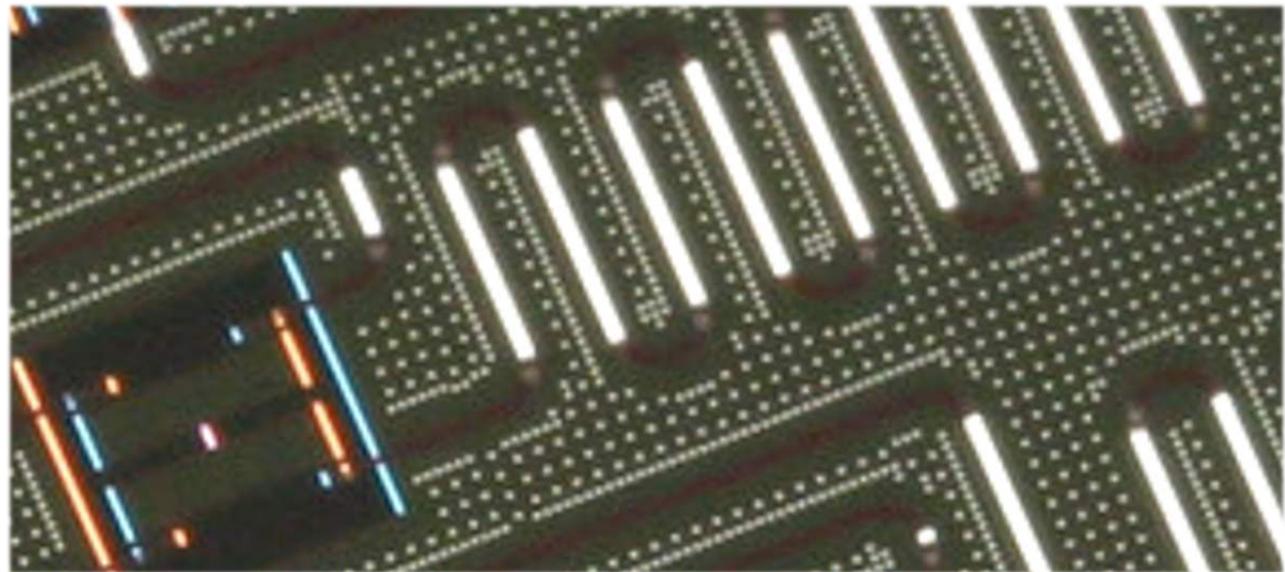
Those who believe all of physics is *oscillators*.

# cQED Ingredients

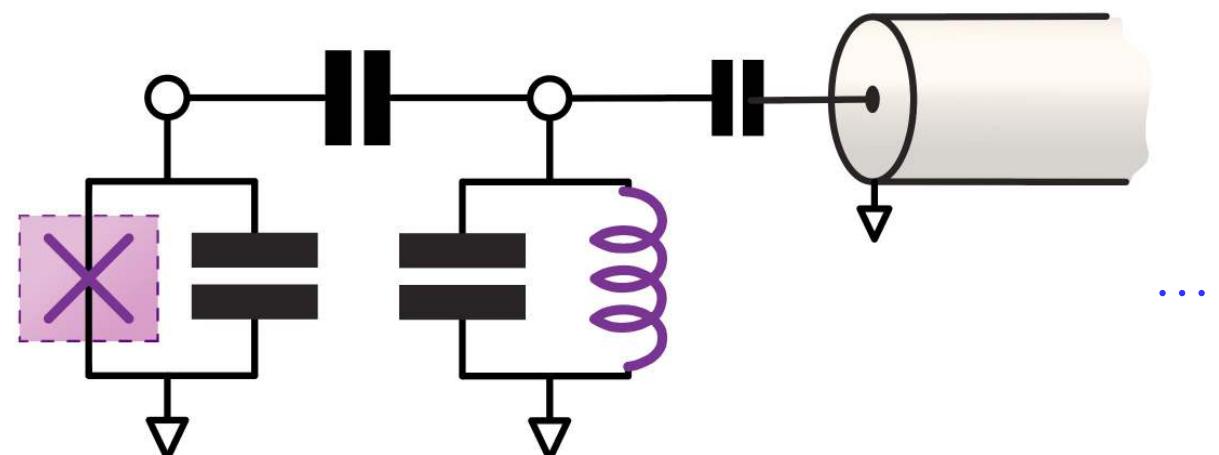
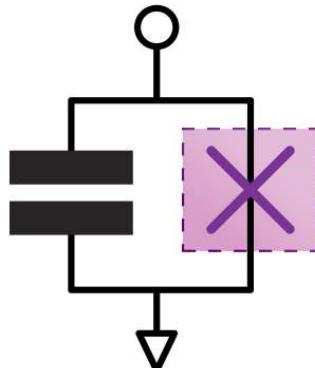
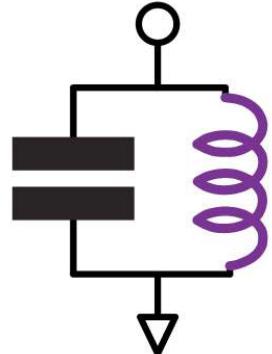
Circuit elements



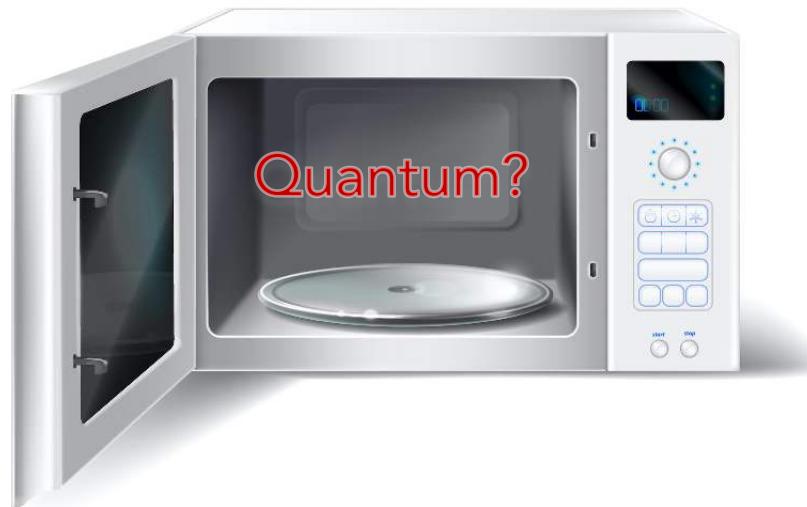
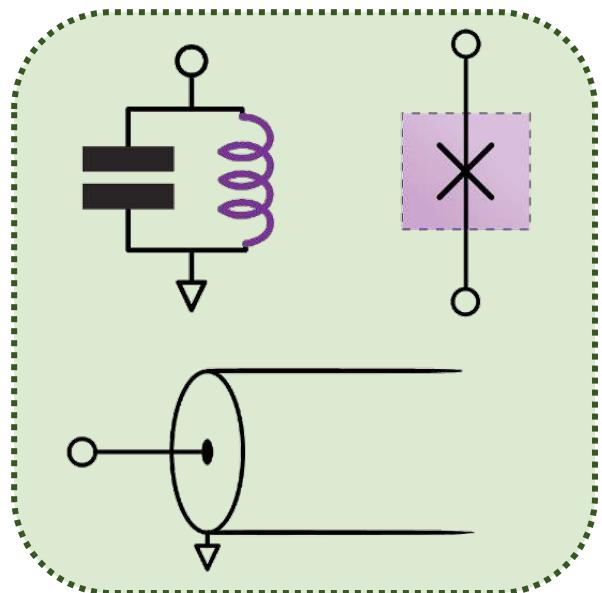
Microwave oscillators



Combine



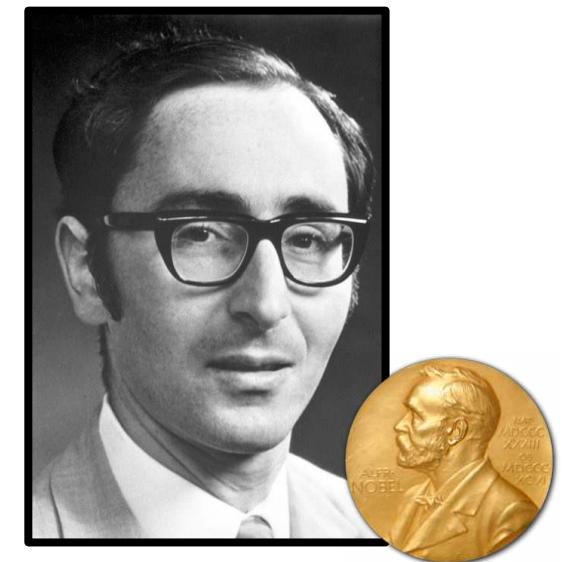
# cQED Ingredients

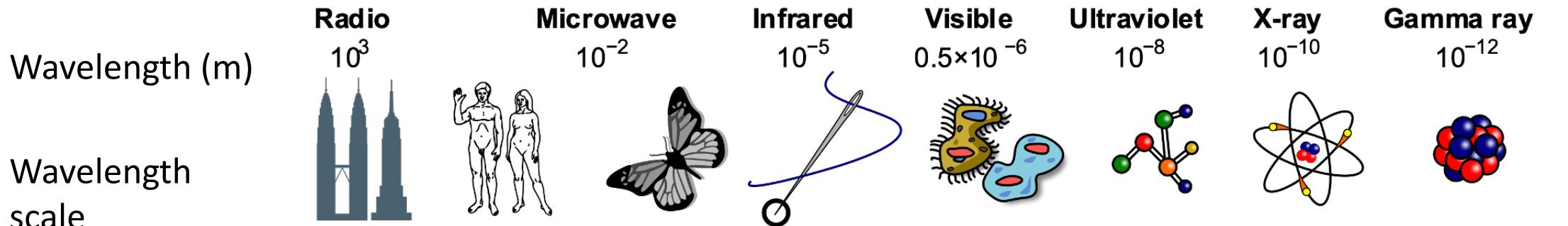


Small dissipation  
Isolation from environment  
Low temperature  
Nonlinearity  
Large vacuum fluctuations

## Superconductivity

- Nominally zero intrinsic dissipation and heat
- Nominal temperature far below energy level splitting
- Non-linear, robust Josephson tunnel junction effect





Buildings Humans Butterflies Needle Point Protozoans Molecules Atoms Atomic Nuclei

Frequency (Hz)

$$\hbar\omega = k_B T$$

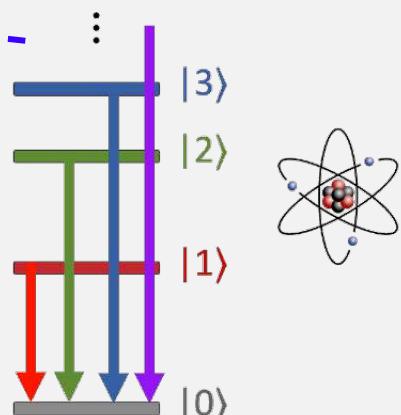
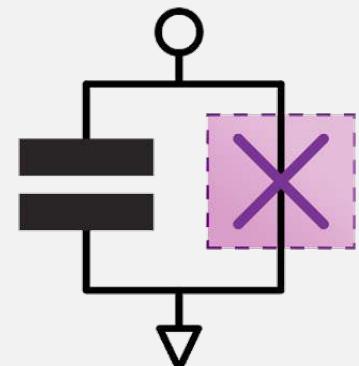
Effective temperature

Order of magnitude



$10^{-2} \text{ K}$

$0.5 \text{ K}, 10 \text{ GHz}, 3 \text{ cm}$



Spectrum image: Inductiveload, NASA

# A few introductory reviews

And many more... check online or ask us for specific topic

Qiskit Textbook (2020; more chapters coming)

Blais, A., Grimsmo, A. L., Girvin, S. M., & Wallraff, A. (2020)  
*Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics* (*arXiv:2005.12667*)

Kjaergaard, M., Schwartz, ... Oliver, W. D. (2020)  
*Superconducting Qubits: Current State of Play*  
*Annual Reviews of Condensed Matter Physics* 11, 369-395

Krantz, P., Kjaergaard, M., Yan, F., ... & Oliver, W. D. (2019)  
A quantum engineer's guide to superconducting qubits  
*Applied Physics Reviews*, 6(2), 021318

Corcoles, A. D., Kandala, A., ... Gambetta, J. M. (2019)  
Challenges and Opportunities of Near-Term Quantum Computing Systems. *Proceedings of the IEEE*, 1–15.

Wendin, G. (2017)  
Quantum information processing with superconducting circuits. *Reports on Progress in Physics*, 80(10), 106001

Gambetta, J. M., Chow, J. M., & Steffen, M. (2017)  
Building logical qubits in a superconducting quantum computing system. *Npj Quantum Information*, 3(1), 2

Girvin, S. M. (2011) Circuit QED: superconducting qubits coupled to microwave photons. *Quantum machines: measurement and control of engineered quantum systems*, 113, 2.

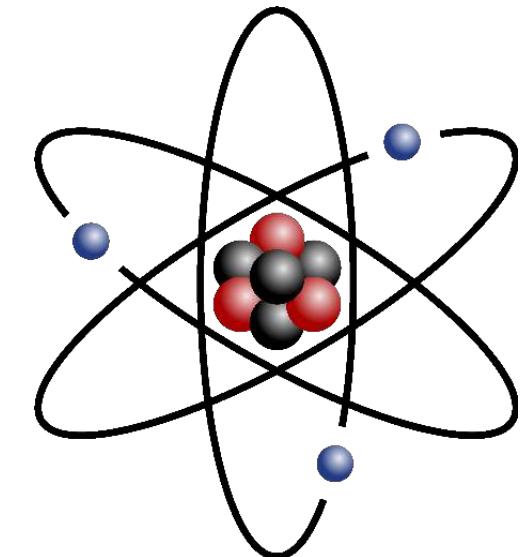
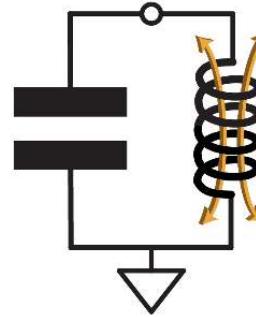
Clerk, A. A., Girvin, S. M., Marquardt, F., & Schoelkopf, R. J. (2010)  
Introduction to quantum noise, measurement, and amplification  
*Reviews of Modern Physics*, 82(2), 1155–1208

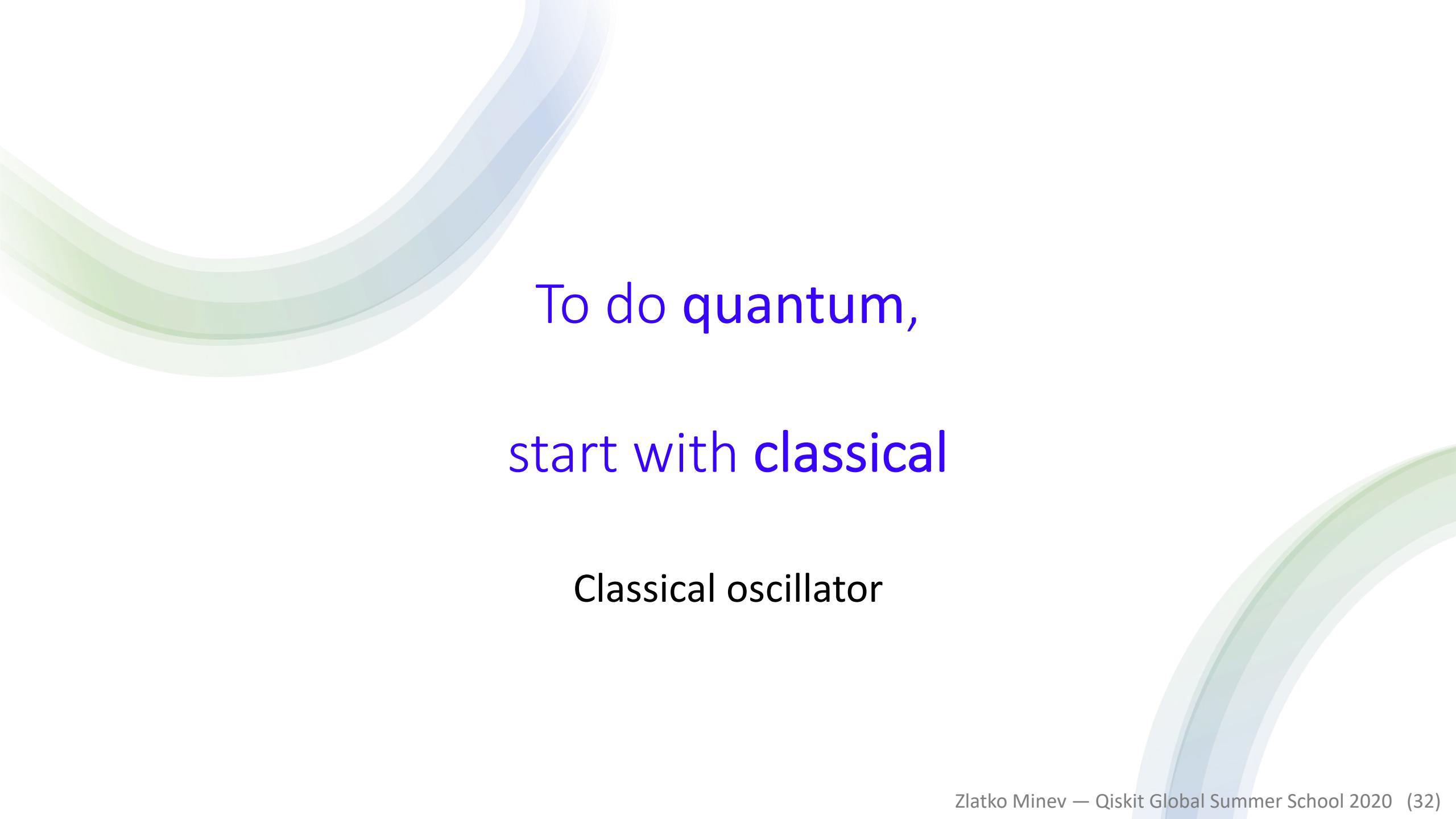
Clarke, J., & Wilhelm, F. K. (2008)  
Superconducting quantum bits. *Nature*, 453(7198), 1031–1042

Devoret, M. H. (1997)  
Quantum Fluctuations in Electrical Circuits.  
In *Fluctuations Quantiques/Quantum Fluctuations* (p. 351)

...

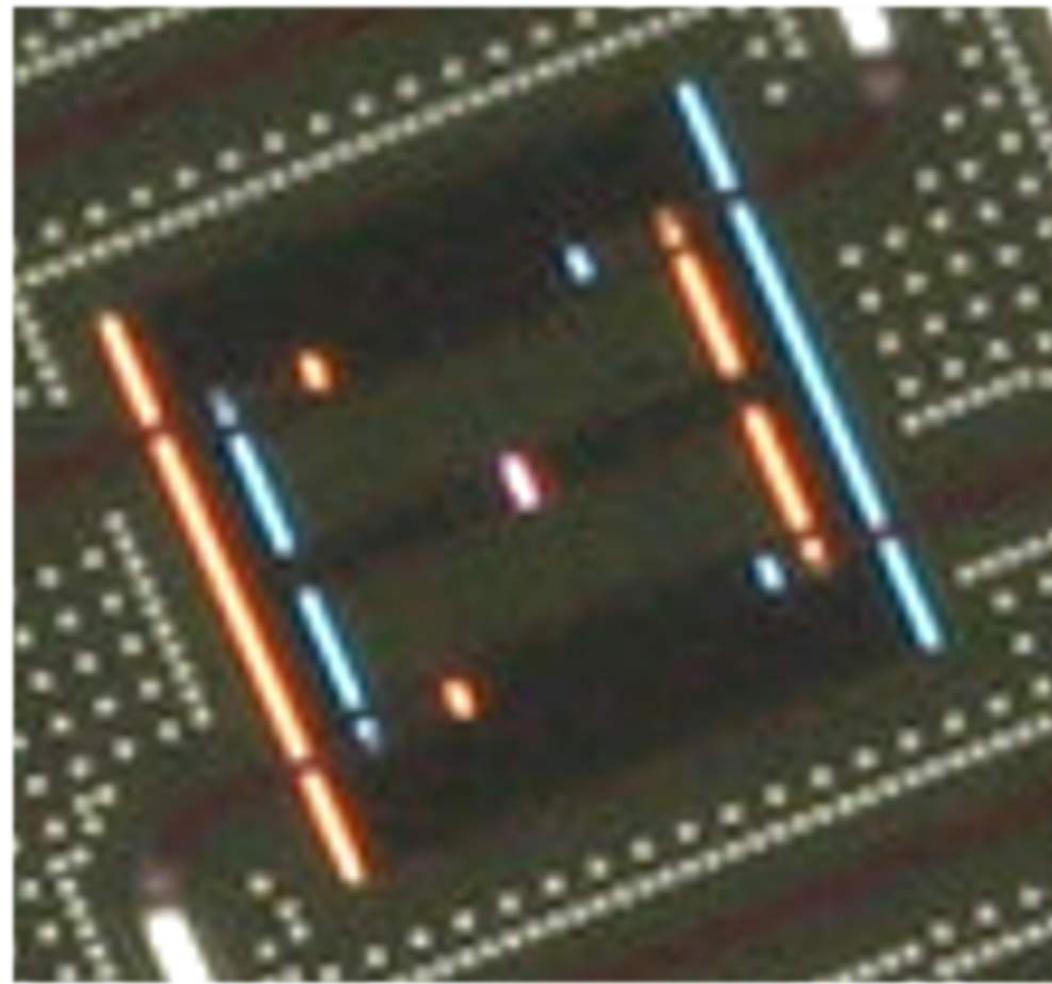
# Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics



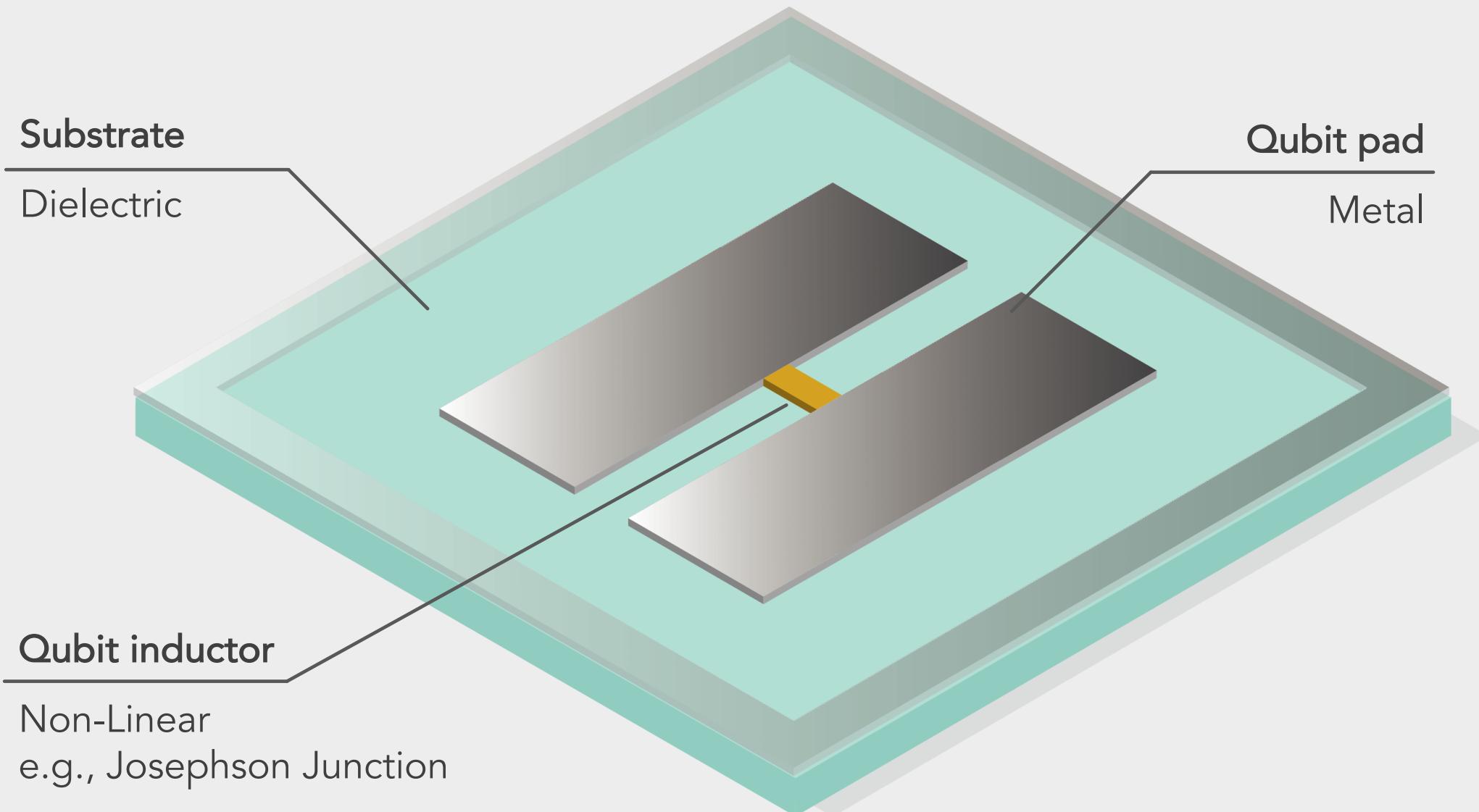


To do quantum,  
start with classical  
Classical oscillator

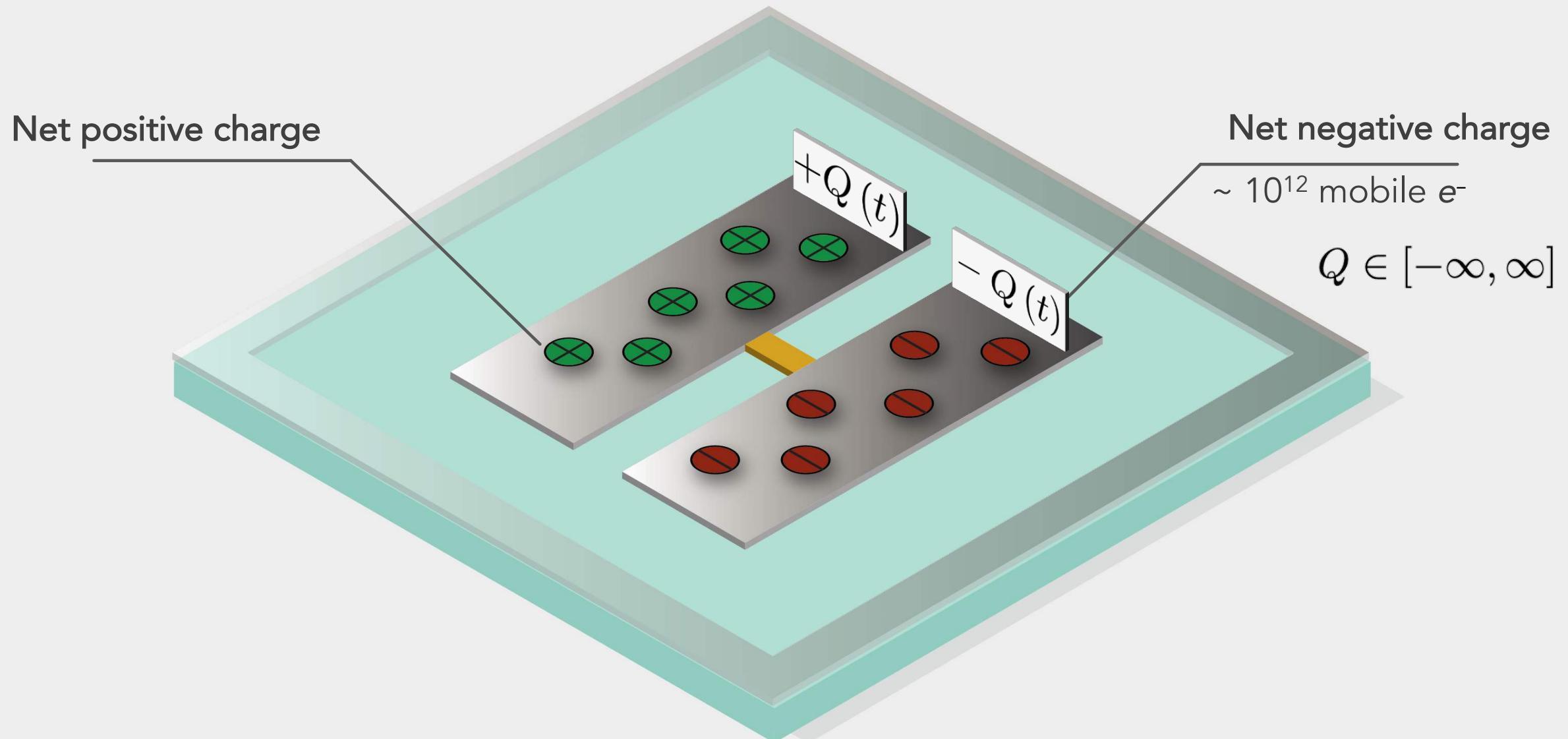
# Transmon qubit



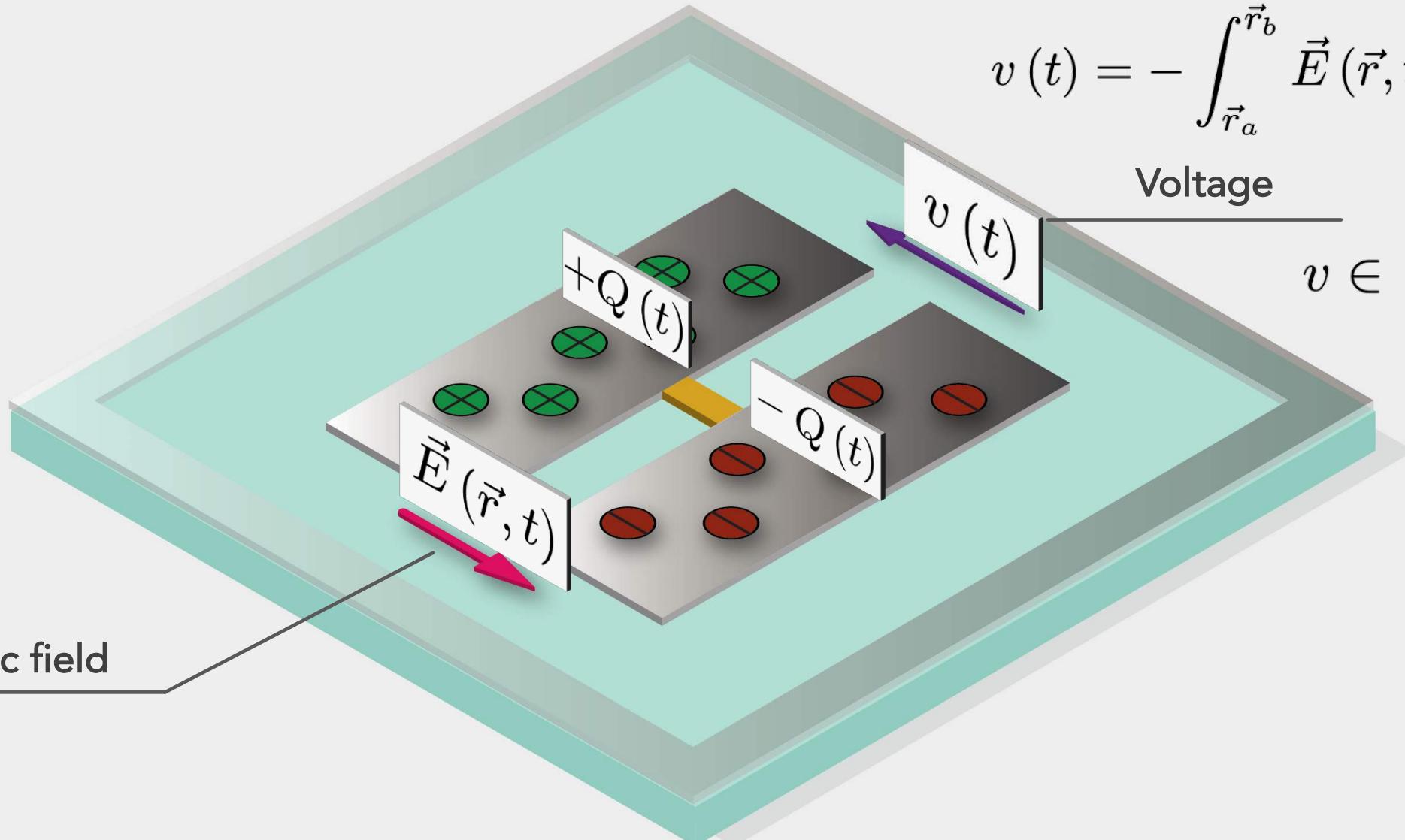
# Transmon qubit



# Transmon qubit: charge



# Electric field and voltage



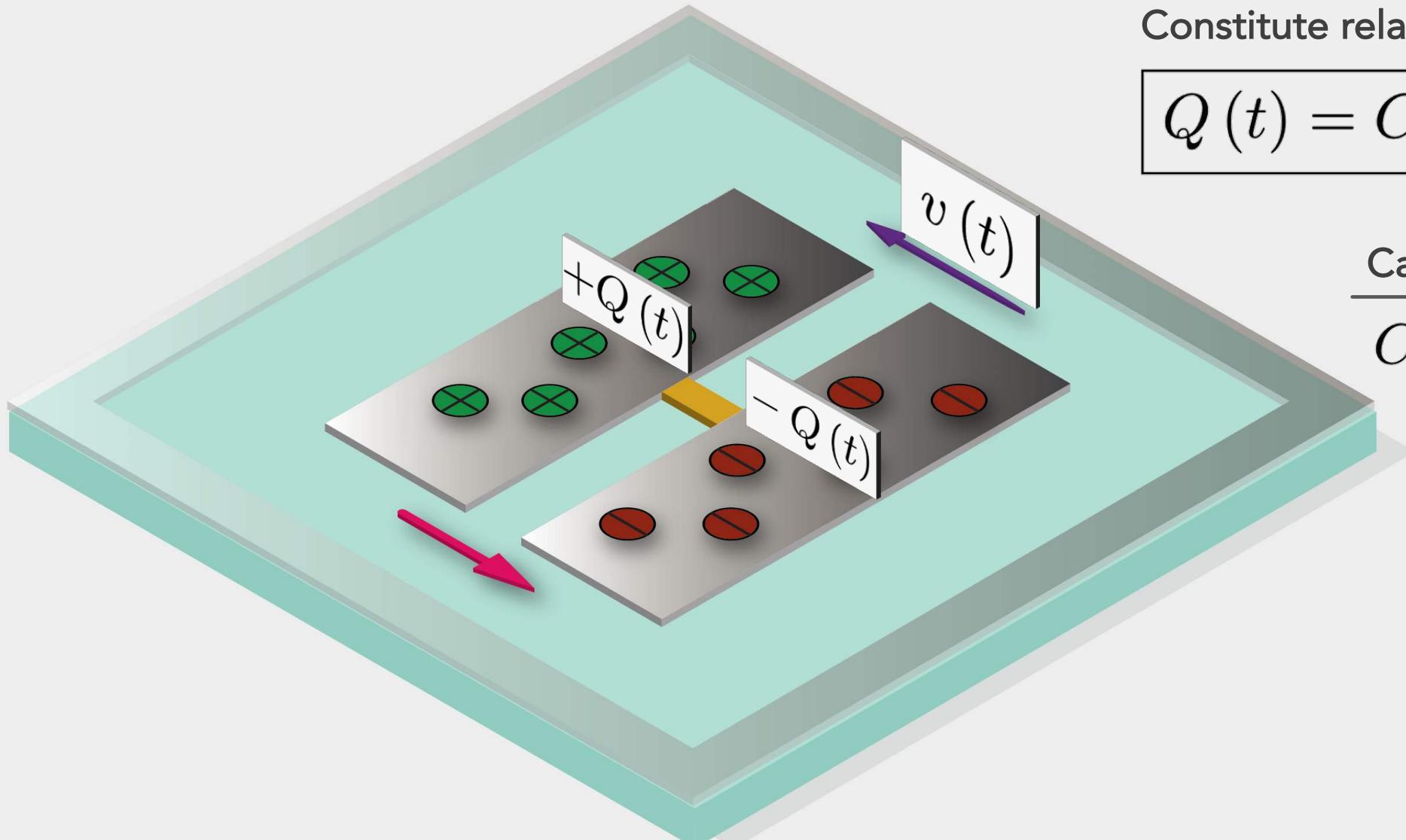
$$v(t) = - \int_{\vec{r}_a}^{\vec{r}_b} \vec{E}(\vec{r}, t) \cdot d\vec{l}(\vec{r})$$

Voltage

$$v \in [-\infty, \infty]$$

Electric field

# Charge and capacitance



Constitute relationship

$$Q(t) = Cv(t)$$

Capacitance  
 $C \in (0, \infty)$



For a good discussion, see "The Feynman Lectures on Physics Vol. II Ch. 22: AC Circuits." Caltech.

## Conservation of charge

Universal relationship

$$\frac{d}{dt}Q(t) = i(t)$$

$$Q(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t i(\tau) d\tau$$

Initial conditions

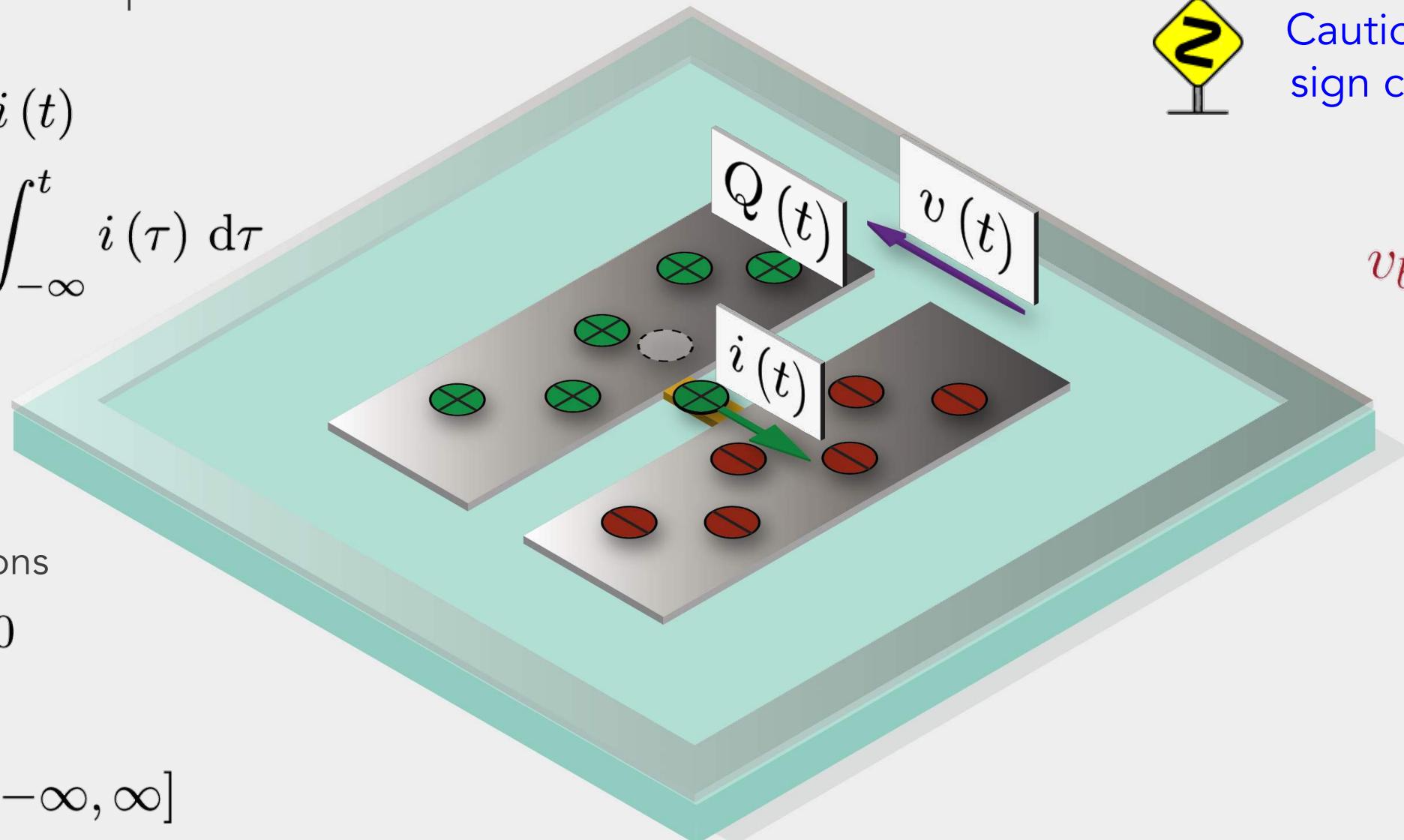
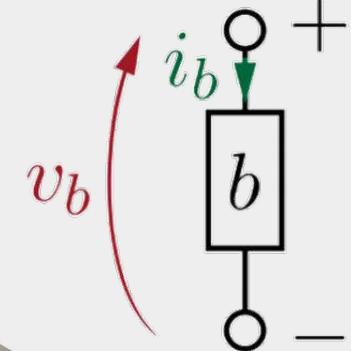
$$Q(-\infty) = 0$$

$$i \in [-\infty, \infty]$$

# Charge and current



Caution: Passive sign convention



# Magnetic flux and inductance

Faraday's law of induction

Universal relationship

$$\Phi(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t v(\tau) d\tau$$

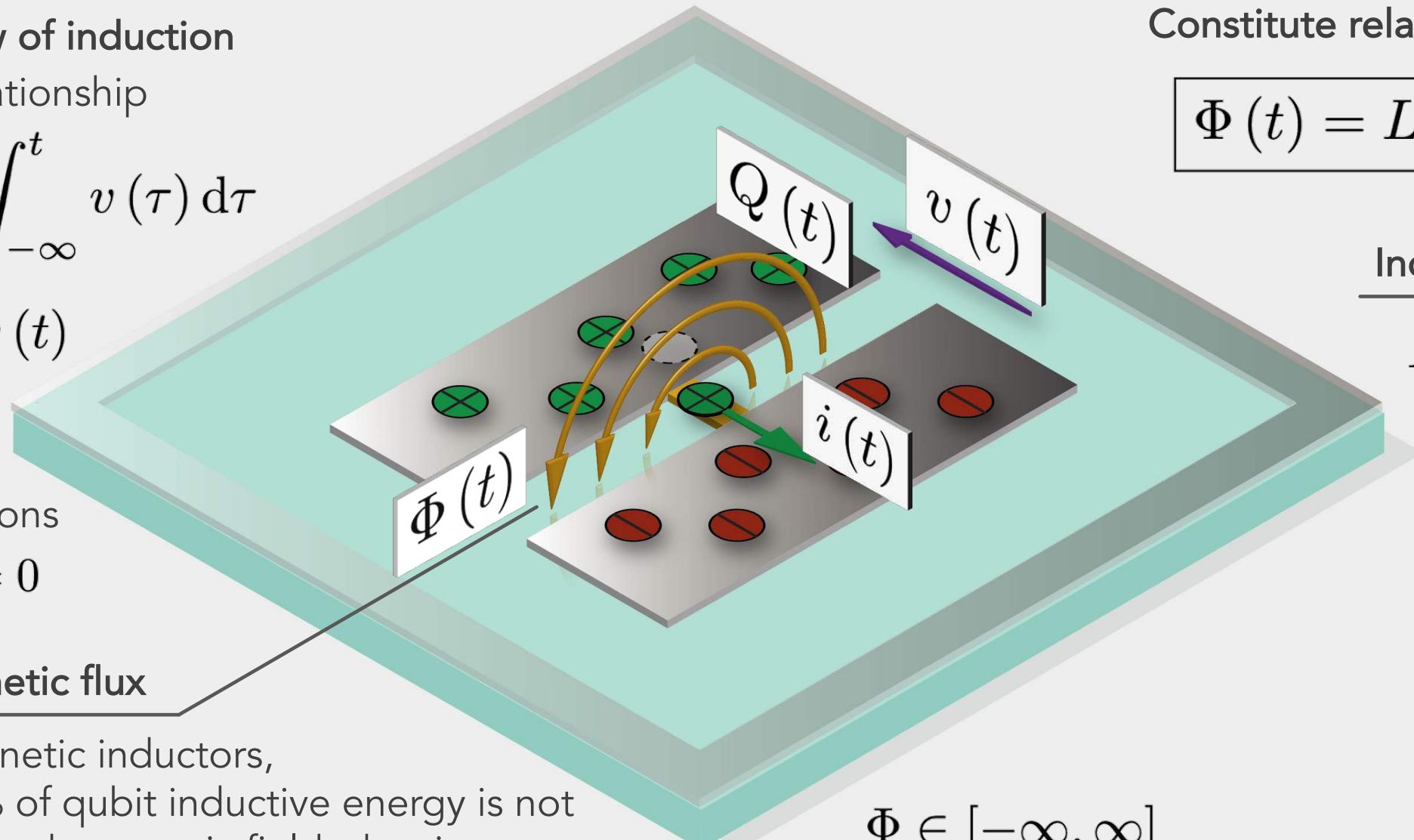
$$\frac{d}{dt}\Phi(t) = v(t)$$

Initial conditions

$$\Phi(-\infty) = 0$$

## Magnetic flux

For kinetic inductors,  
~98% of qubit inductive energy is not  
in stored magnetic fields, but in  
kinetic inductance



$$\Phi \in [-\infty, \infty]$$

Constitute relationship

$$\Phi(t) = Li(t)$$

Inductance

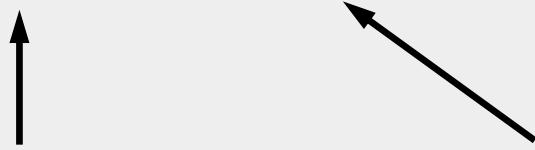
$$L \in (0, \infty)$$



# Power and energy

Universal

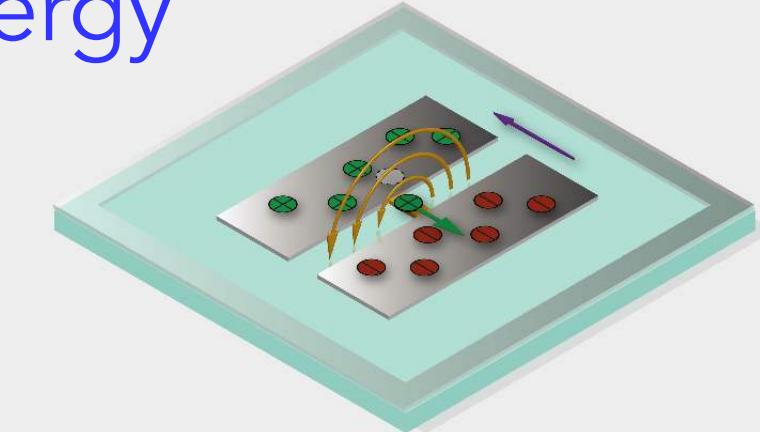
$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathcal{E}(t) = p(t) \equiv v(t) i(t)$$



Energy stored in  
(delivered to)  
component

Instantaneous  
power flowing  
to component

$$\mathcal{E}(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t p(\tau) d\tau$$



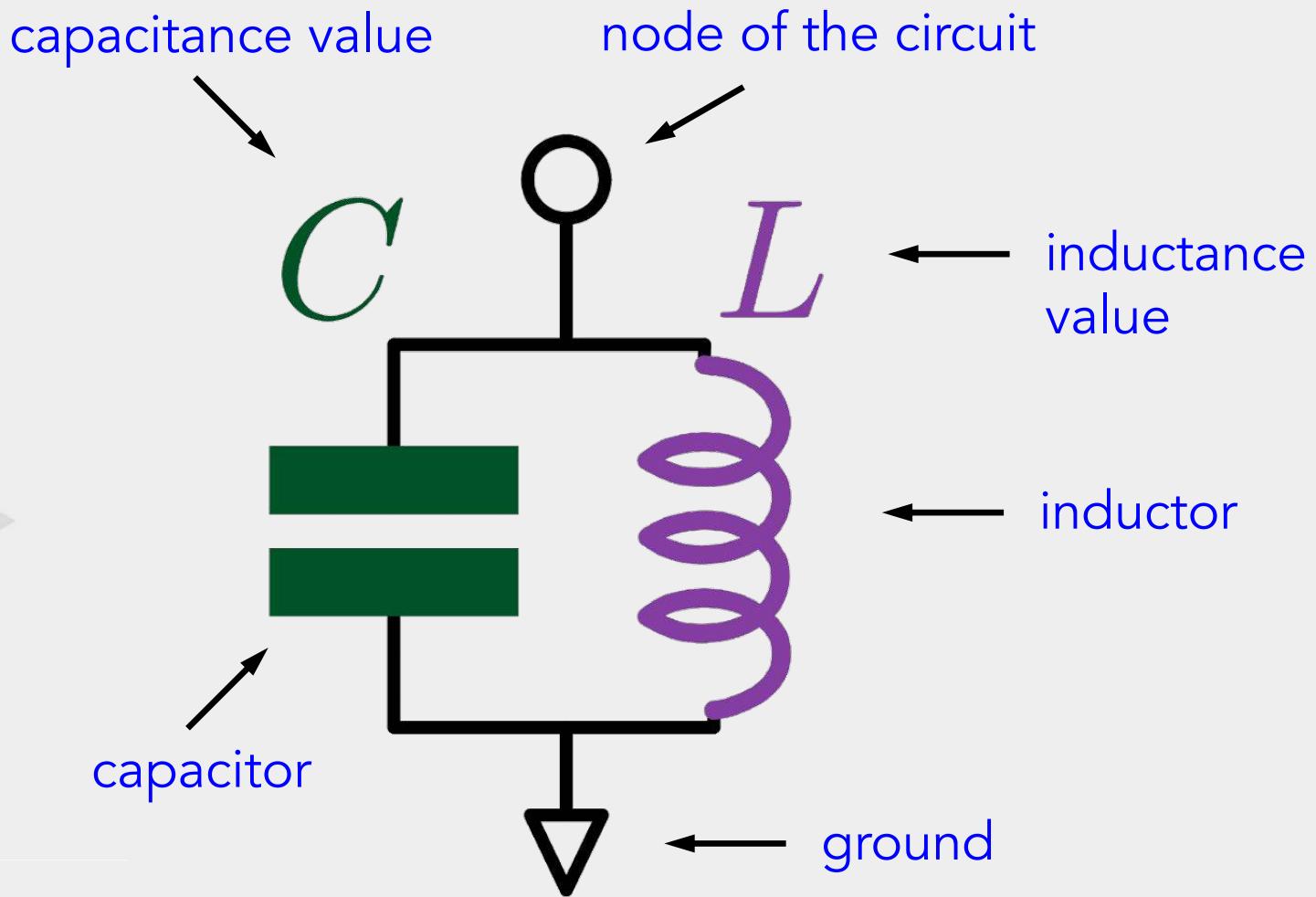
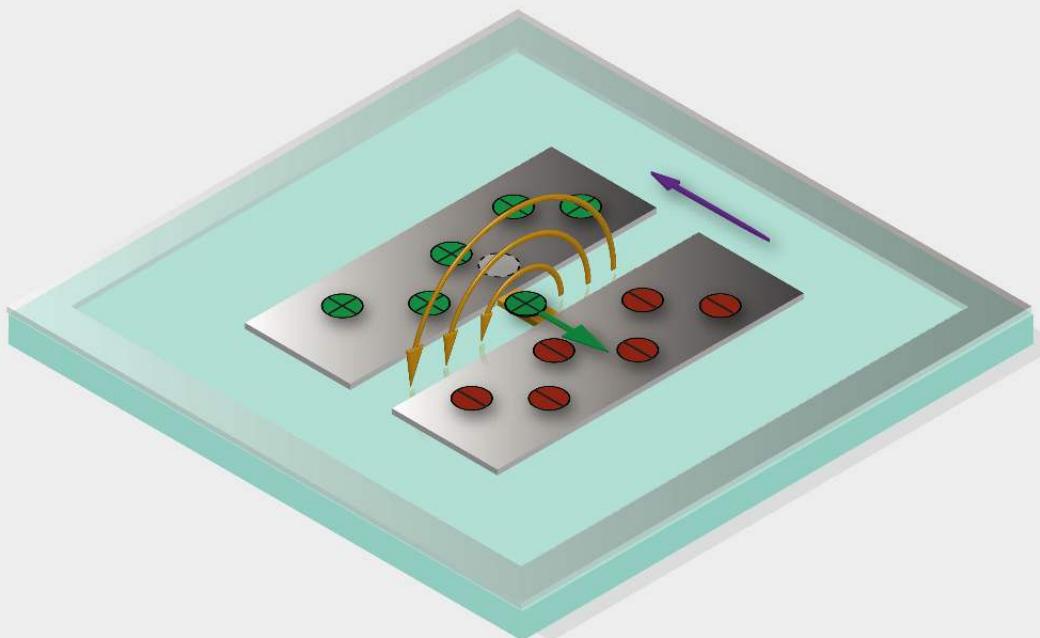
$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{cap}}(\dot{\Phi}) = \frac{1}{2} C \dot{\Phi}^2$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{ind}}(\Phi) = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{cap}}(Q) = \frac{Q^2}{2C}$$

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{ind}}(\dot{Q}) = \frac{1}{2} L \dot{Q}^2$$

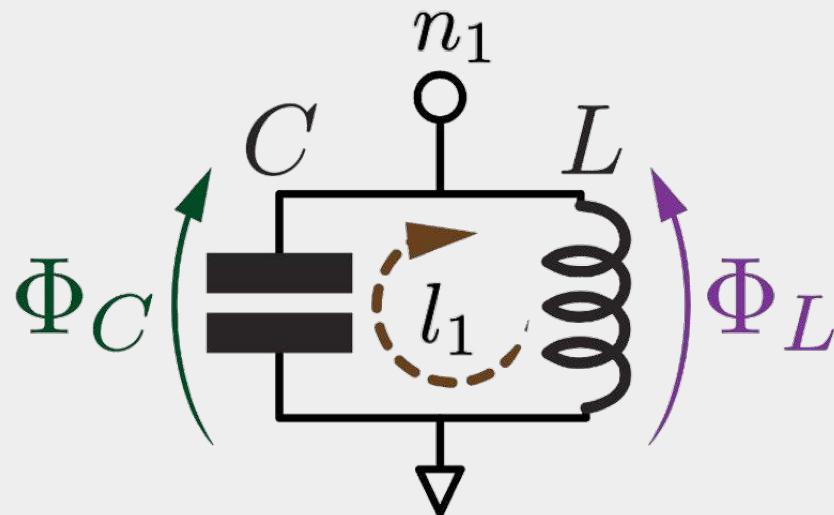
# Electromagnetic oscillator



# Kirchhoff's network laws\*

Conservation of charge  
Kirchhoff's current law

$$\sum_{b \in \text{node}} \pm \dot{Q}_b(t) = 0$$



$$n_1 : \dot{Q}_C + \dot{Q}_L = 0$$

$$C\ddot{\Phi} + L^{-1}\Phi = 0$$

Faraday's law of induction  
Kirchhoff's voltage law

$$\sum_{b \in \text{loop}} \pm \dot{\Phi}_b(t) = 0$$

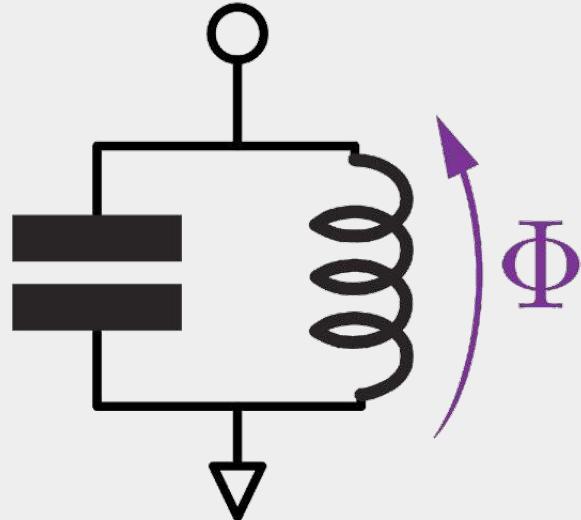
$$l_1 : \dot{\Phi}_C - \dot{\Phi}_L = 0$$

$$\Phi_C = \Phi_L$$



As we will see later, for the Lagrangian description in flux basis, KVL acts as a set of holonomic constraints and KCL as the equations of motion

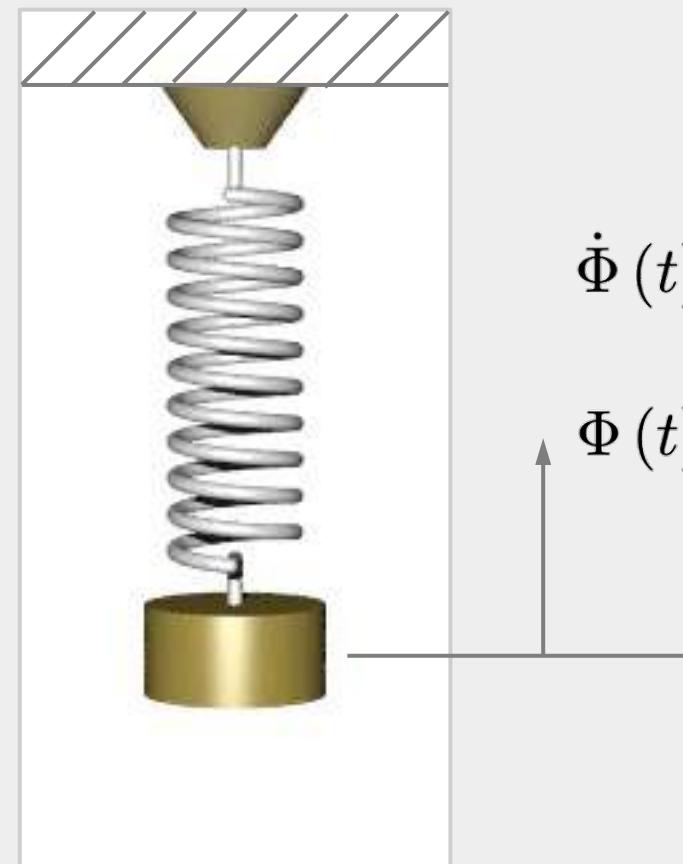
# Oscillator analogy



$$C\ddot{\Phi} + L^{-1}\Phi = 0$$

$$\ddot{\Phi} = -\omega_0^2\Phi, \quad \omega_0 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$

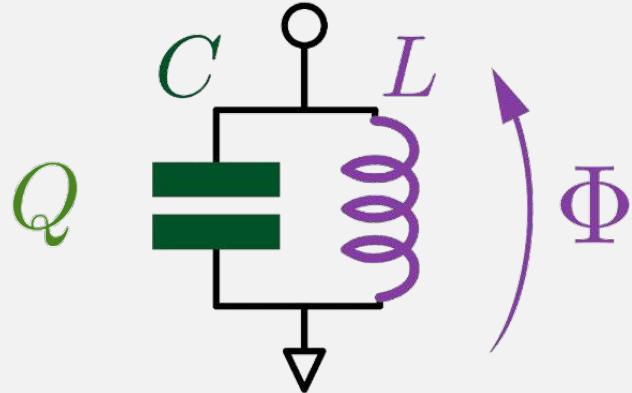
Resonance  
frequency



$\dot{\Phi}(t)$  Velocity

$\Phi(t)$  Deviation from equilibrium

Equilibrium position  
 $x = 0, \Phi = 0$



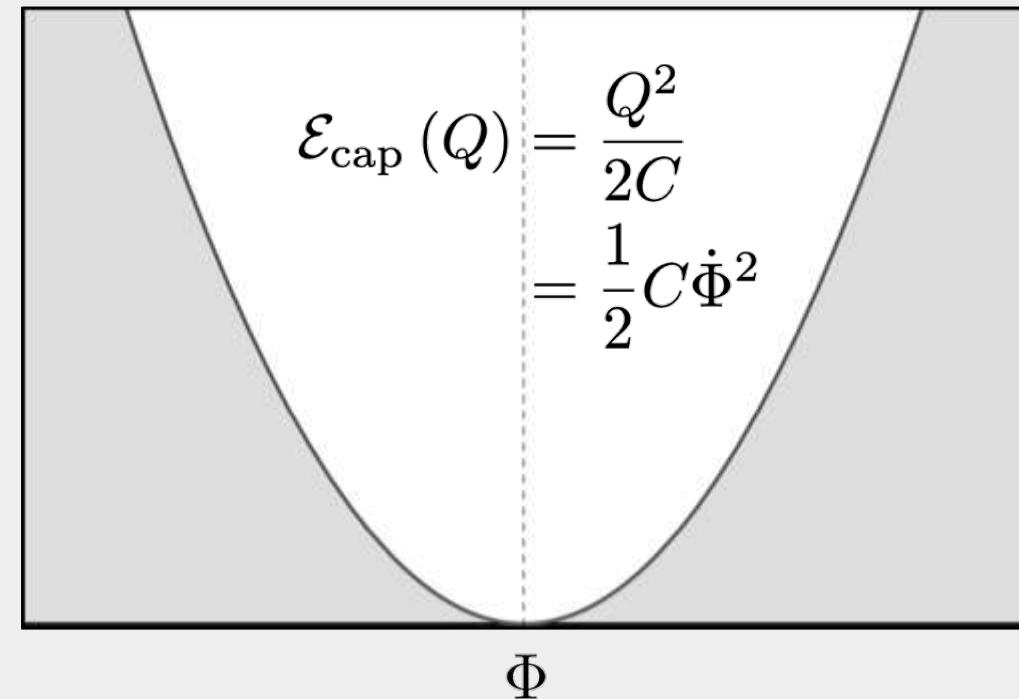
# The LC classical harmonic oscillator



Position:  $\Phi \mapsto x$   
Mass:  $C \mapsto m$

Momentum:  $Q \mapsto p$   
Spring constant:  $L^{-1} \mapsto k$

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{ind}}(\Phi) = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$



$$\mathcal{H}(\Phi, Q) = \frac{Q^2}{2C} + \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$

$$\omega_0^2 = \frac{1}{LC} \quad Z_0 = \frac{L}{C}$$

“It is by *logic* that we prove,  
but by *intuition* that we discover.”

Henri Poincaré

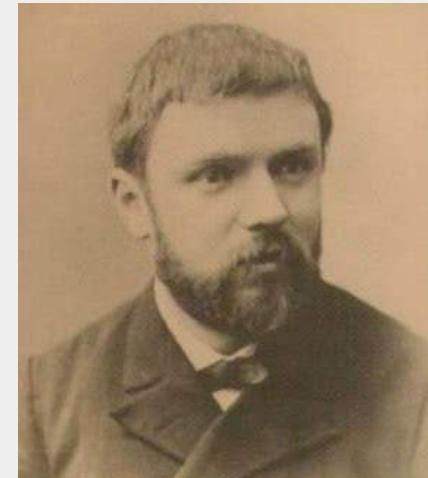


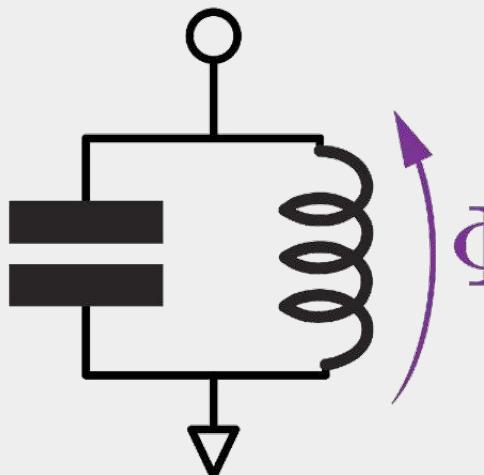
Photo by Eugène Pirou

# Hamiltonian dynamics and phase space

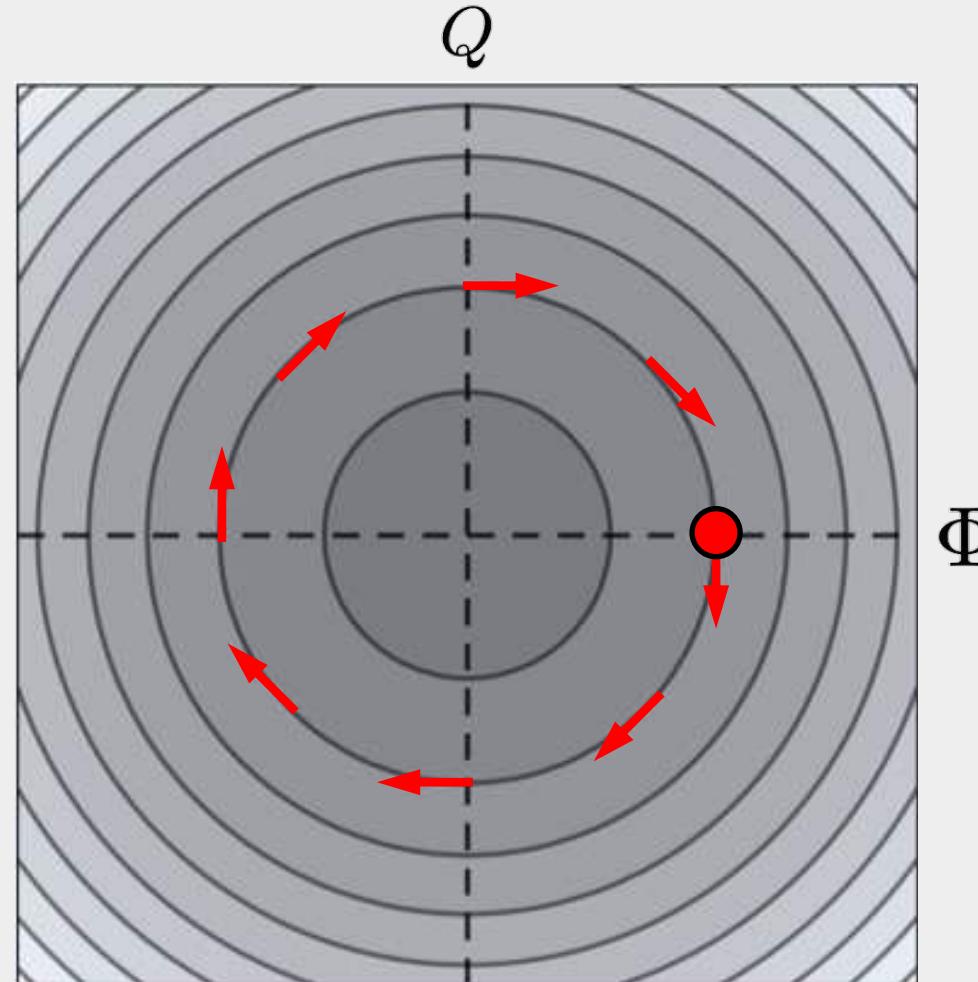
$$\mathcal{H}(\Phi, Q) = \frac{Q^2}{2C} + \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$

$$E = \hbar\omega_0 \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) = \frac{1}{2} (Q^2 + \Phi^2)$$

with  $L = C = 1$



$$E = \frac{3\hbar\omega_0}{2}$$
$$E = \frac{\hbar\omega_0}{2}$$



$$\dot{\Phi} = +\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial Q} = +Q$$
$$\dot{Q} = -\frac{\partial \mathcal{H}}{\partial \Phi} = -\Phi$$

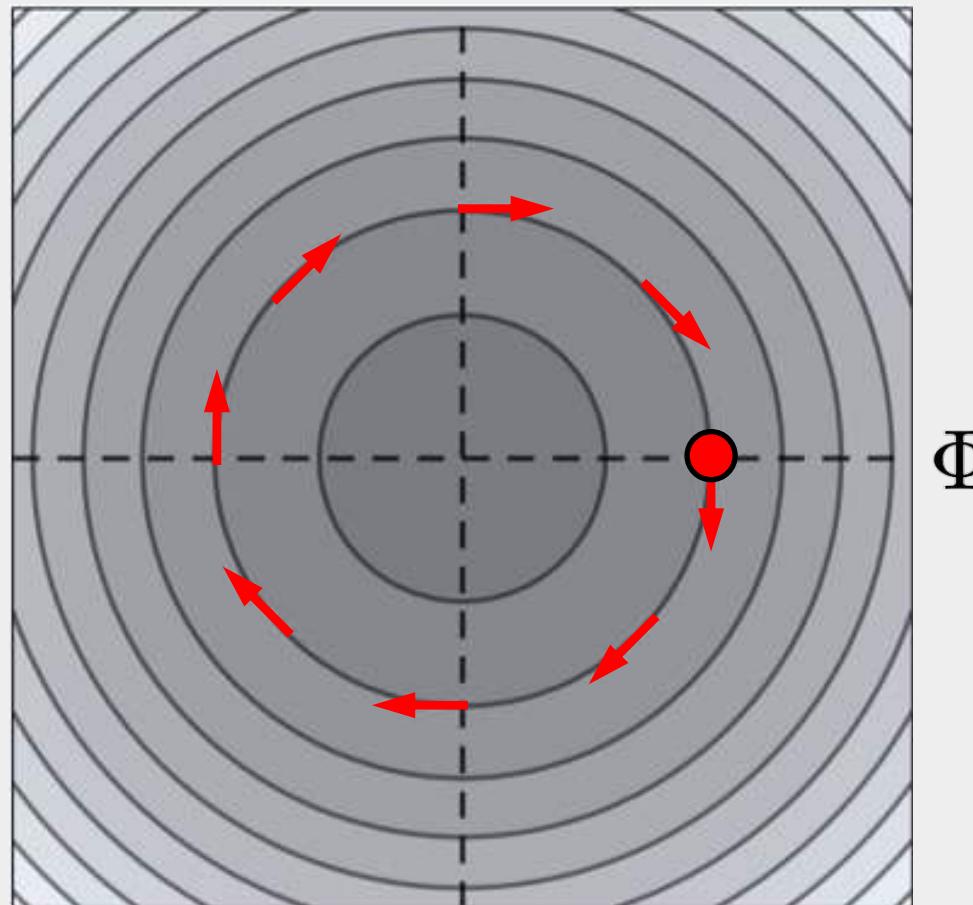
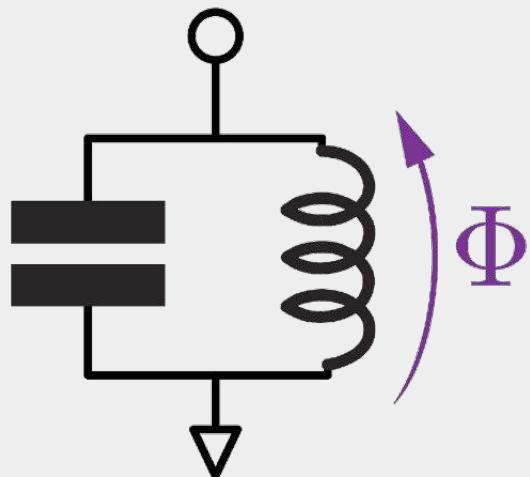
# Complex action-angle variable

$$\mathcal{H}(\Phi, Q^*) = \frac{Q^2}{2\bar{Q}} \hbar \omega_0 \frac{\Phi^2}{2L} (\alpha^* \alpha + \alpha \alpha^*)$$

$$E = \hbar \omega_0 \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\alpha(t) = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\hbar Z}} [\Phi(t) + iZQ(t)]$$

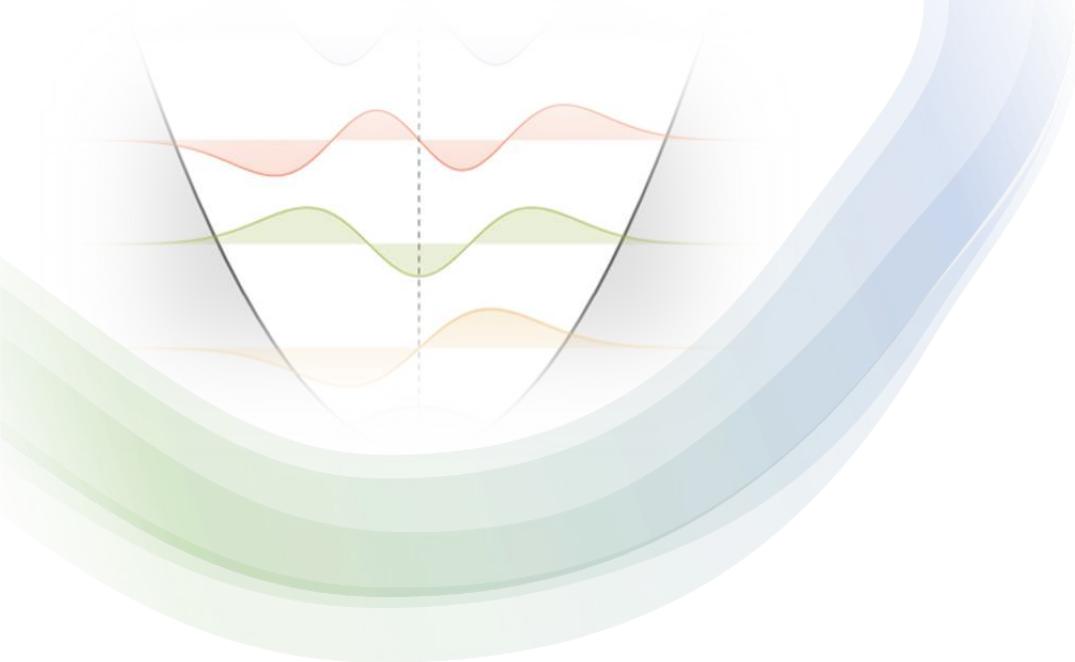
$Q$



Classical analog of the bosonic ladder operator

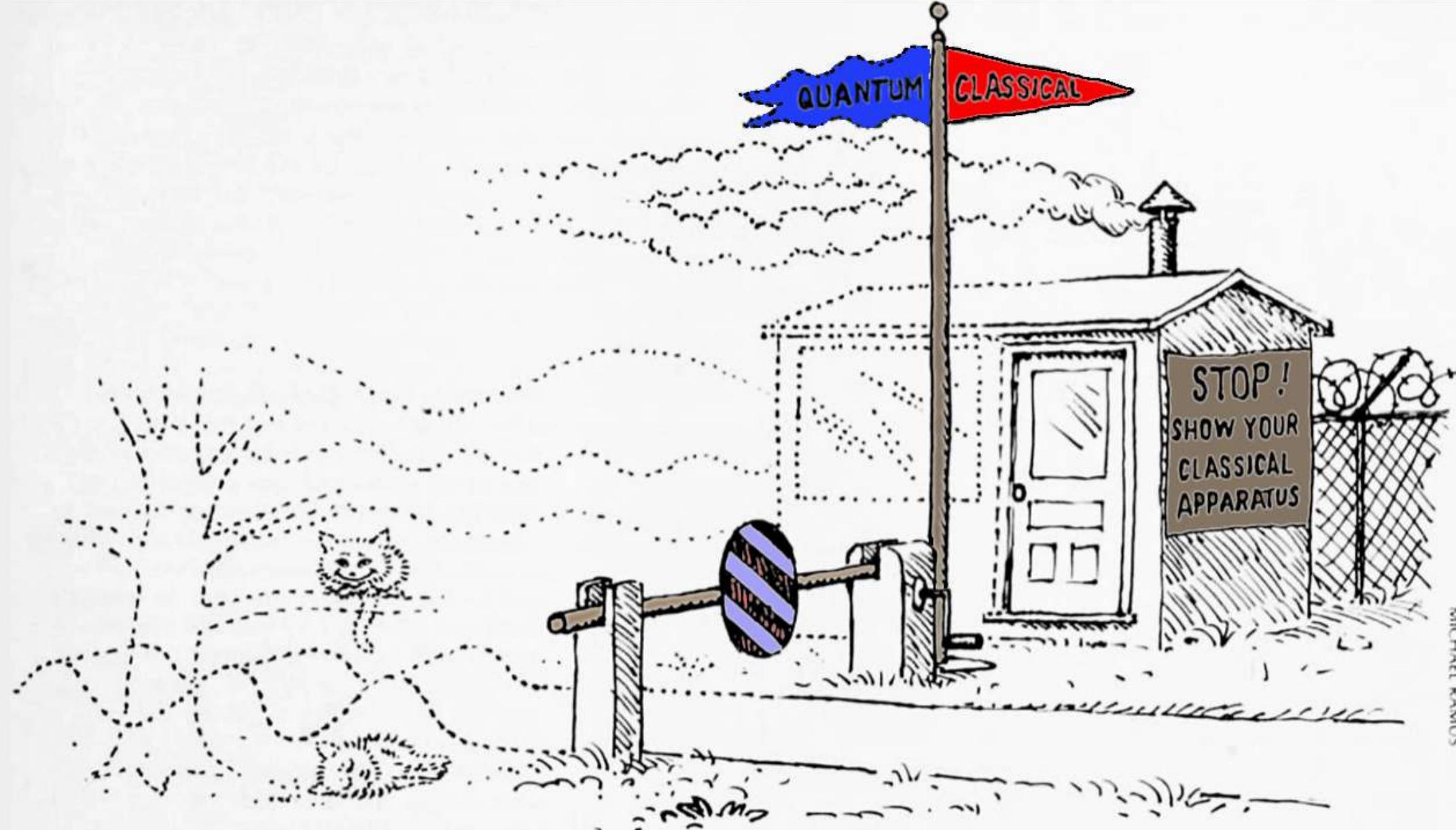
$$\alpha(t) = \alpha(0) e^{-i\omega_0 t}$$

$\Phi$

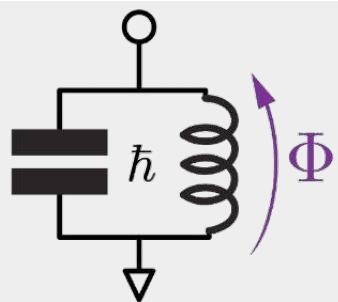


# Unveiling the quantum

## Quantum harmonic oscillator



Drawing: Zurek, Physics Today (1991)



# The classical and quantum oscillator

Classical

Quantum

$$\Phi(t) \mapsto \hat{\Phi}$$

$$Q(t) \mapsto \hat{Q}$$

$$\mathcal{H}(\Phi, Q) \mapsto \hat{H}(\hat{\Phi}, \hat{Q})$$

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

$$\{\alpha, \alpha^*\} = 1/(i\hbar) \mapsto [\hat{a}, \hat{a}^\dagger] = \hat{1}$$

$$\{A, B\} = \frac{\partial A}{\partial \Phi} \frac{\partial B}{\partial Q} - \frac{\partial B}{\partial \Phi} \frac{\partial A}{\partial Q}$$

$$[\hat{A}, \hat{B}] = \hat{A}\hat{B} - \hat{B}\hat{A}$$

If I knew what I was doing, it  
wouldn't be called research.

---

Albert Einstein  
See Hawken *et al.* (2010)

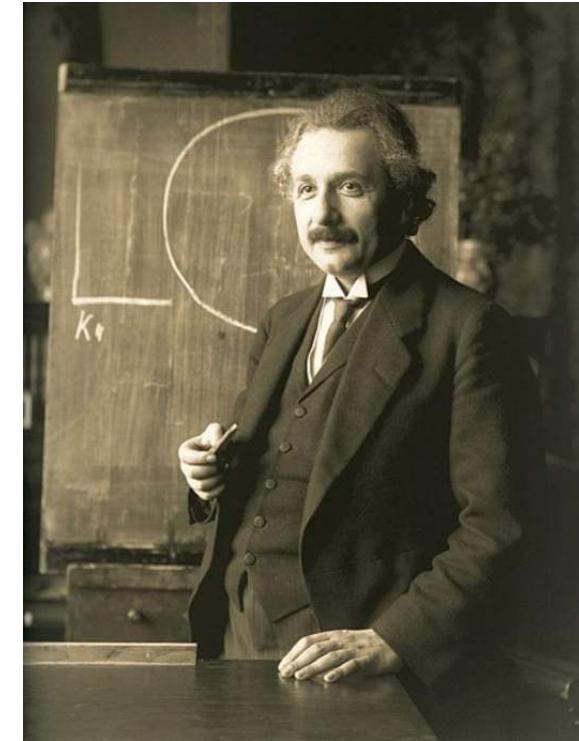
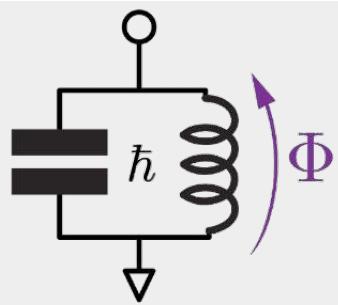
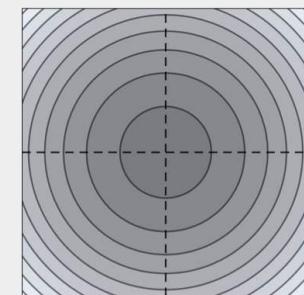


Photo: F. Schmutz



# The classical and quantum oscillator



Hamiltonian

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{H} &= \frac{Q^2}{2C} + \frac{\Phi^2}{2L} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \hbar \omega_0 (\alpha^* \alpha + \alpha \alpha^*)\end{aligned}$$

Classical

Quantum

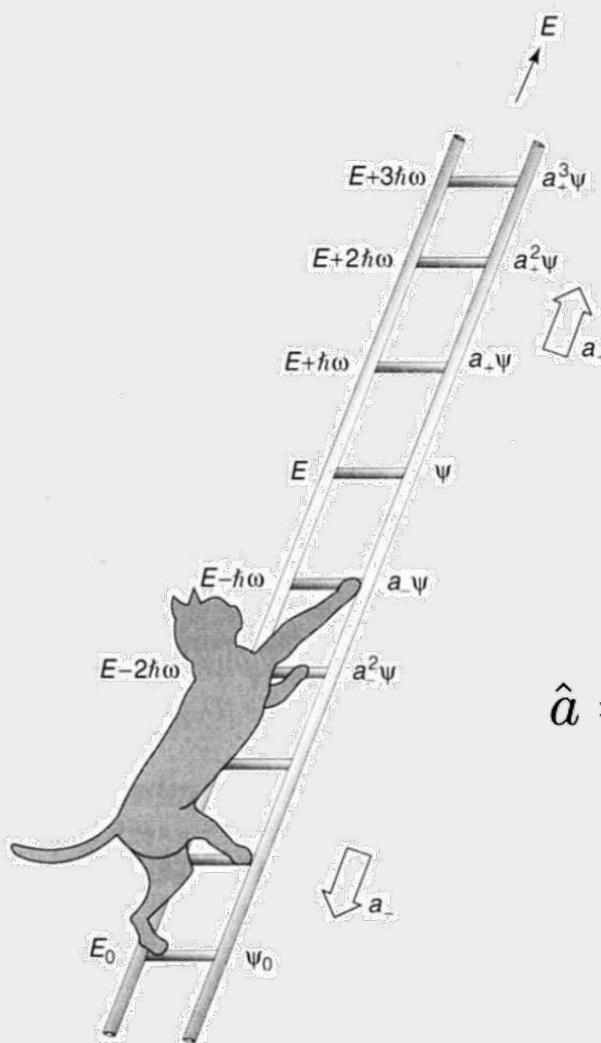
Phase space

$$\begin{aligned}\alpha(t) &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\hbar Z}} [\Phi(t) + iZQ(t)] \\ \alpha(t) &= \alpha(0) e^{-i\omega_0 t} \\ \Phi(t) &= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar Z}{2}} (\alpha^*(t) + \alpha(t)) \\ Q(t) &= i\sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2Z}} (\alpha^*(t) - \alpha(t))\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{H} &= \frac{\hat{\Phi}^2}{2L} + \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C} \\ &= \hbar \omega_0 (\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \hat{a} \hat{a}^\dagger)\end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{a} &= \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\hbar Z}} (\hat{\Phi} + iZ\hat{Q}) \\ \hat{a}(t) &= \hat{a}(0) e^{-i\omega_0 t} \quad (\text{Heisenberg picture}) \\ \hat{\Phi} &= \Phi_{\text{ZPF}} (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a}) \\ \hat{Q} &= iQ_{\text{ZPF}} (\hat{a}^\dagger - \hat{a})\end{aligned}$$

# Ladder operators and matrix representation



annihilation

$$\hat{a} |0\rangle = 0$$

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

creation

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

$$\hat{a}^\dagger |1\rangle = \sqrt{2} |2\rangle$$

general hopping

$$\hat{a} |n\rangle = \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle$$

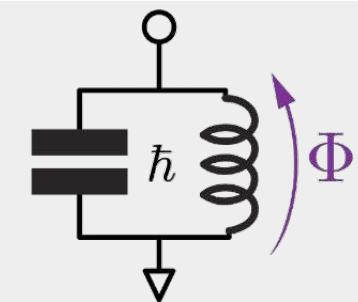
$$\hat{a}^\dagger |n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle$$

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

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

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

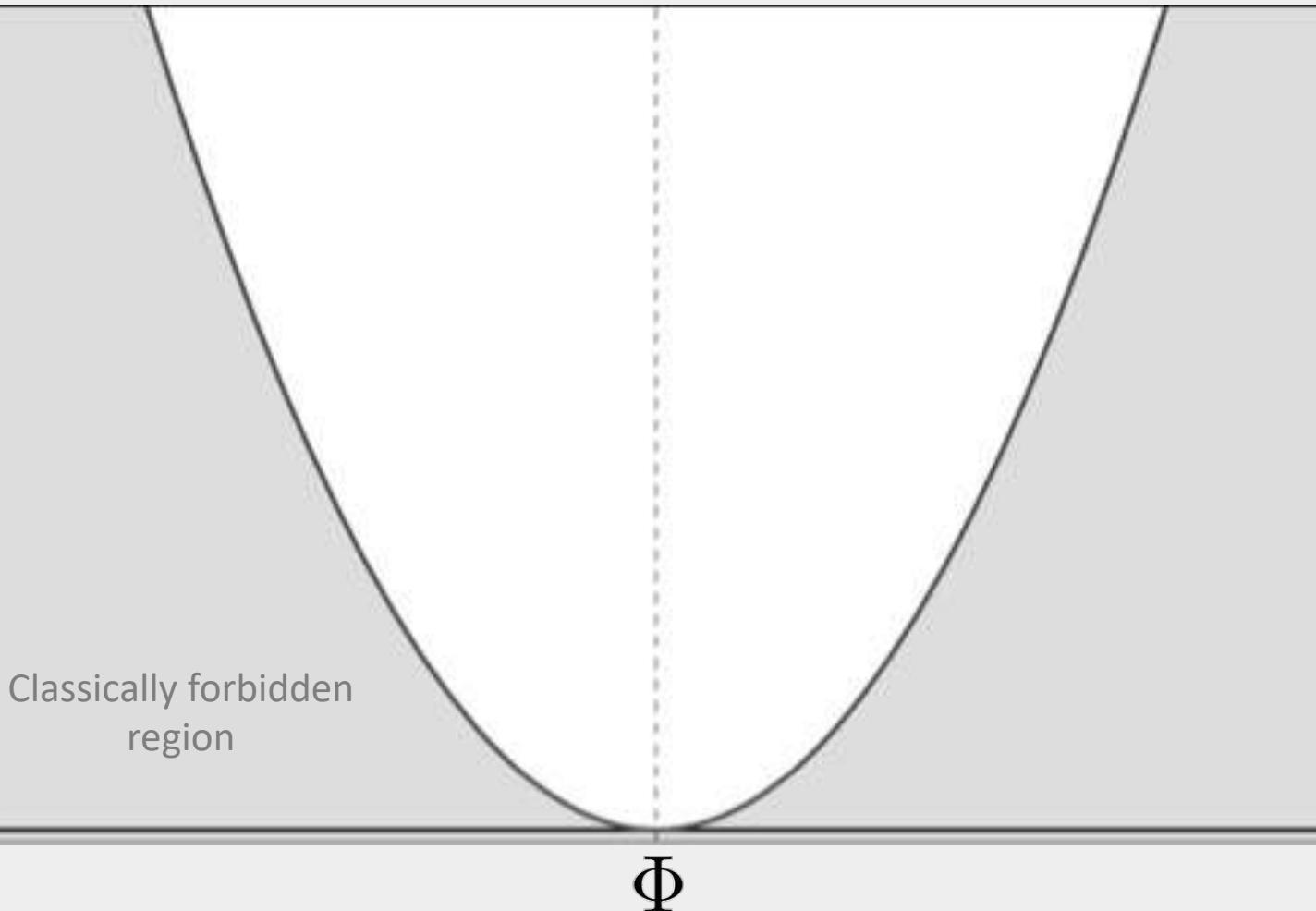
Image: Griffiths, D.J.

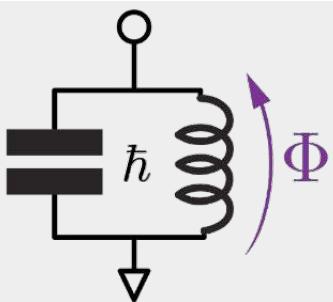


# Wavefunctions of the quantum oscillator

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{ind}}(\Phi) = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$

Energy



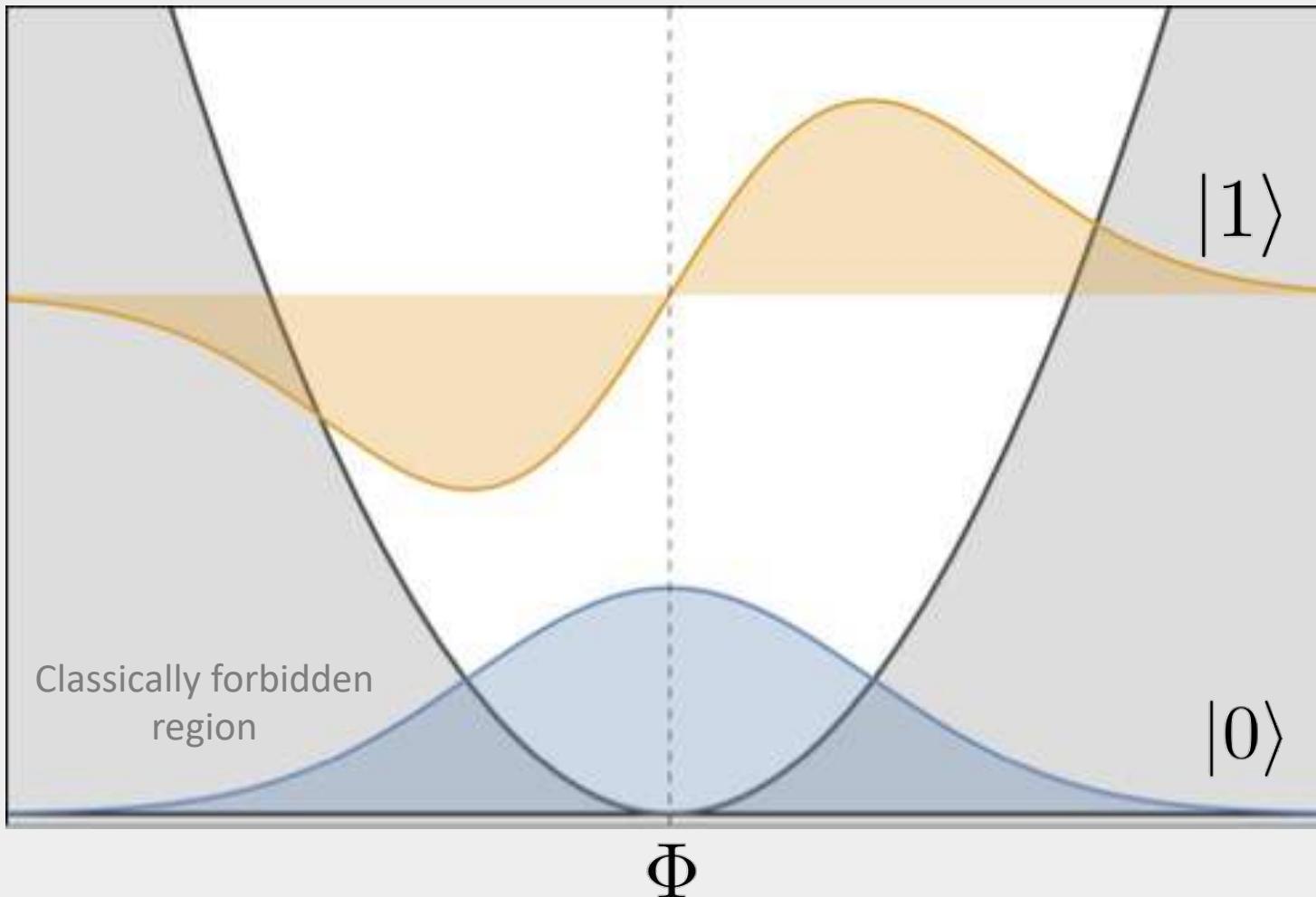


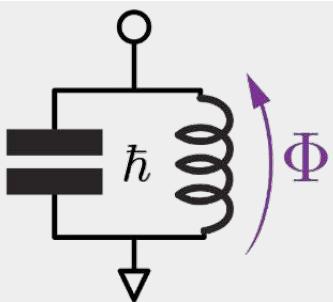
# Wavefunctions of the quantum oscillator

$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{ind}}(\Phi) = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$

$$\psi_n(\Phi) \equiv \langle \Phi | n \rangle$$

Energy /  
Scaled  
wavefunction  
amplitude



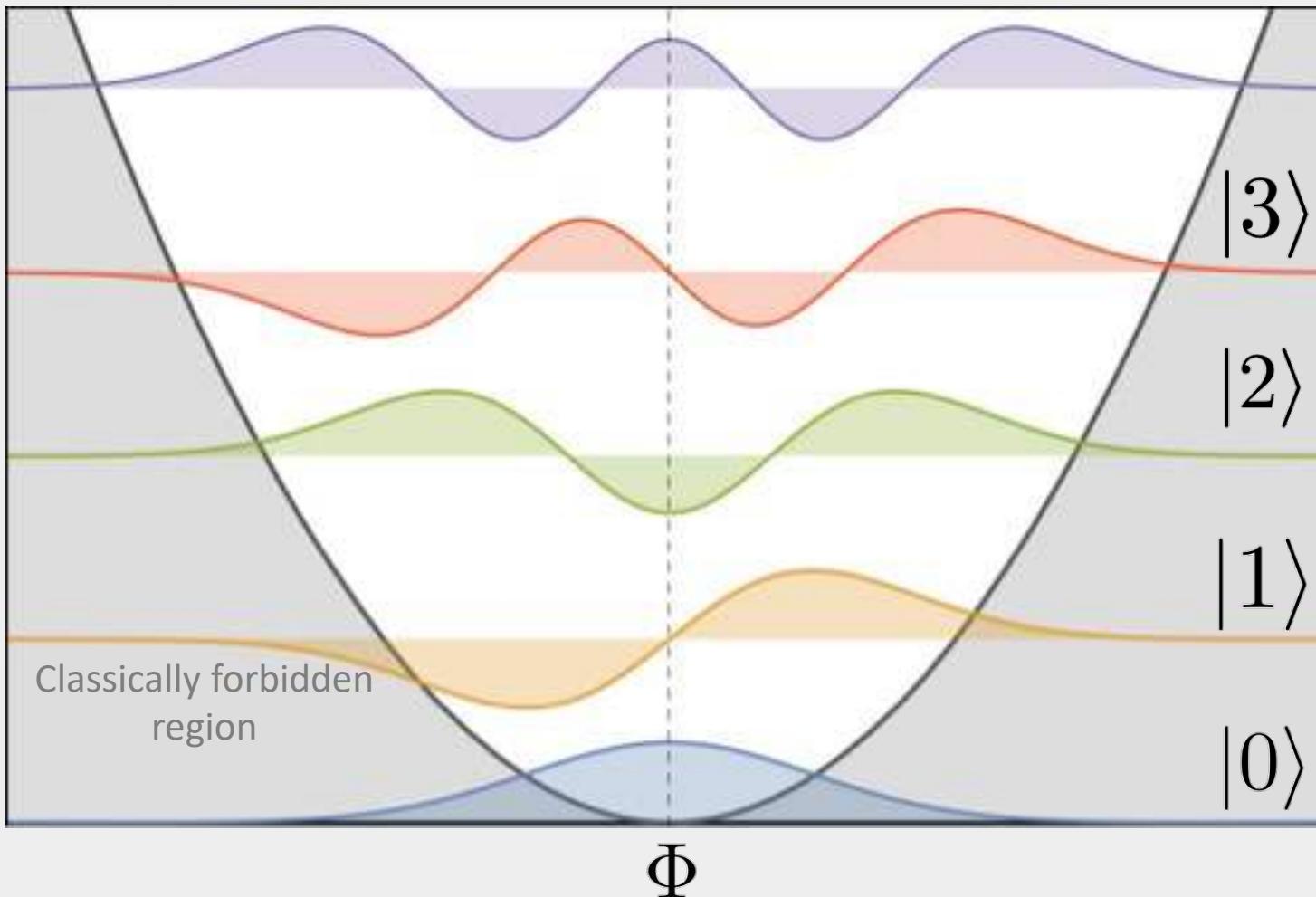


# Wavefunctions of the quantum oscillator

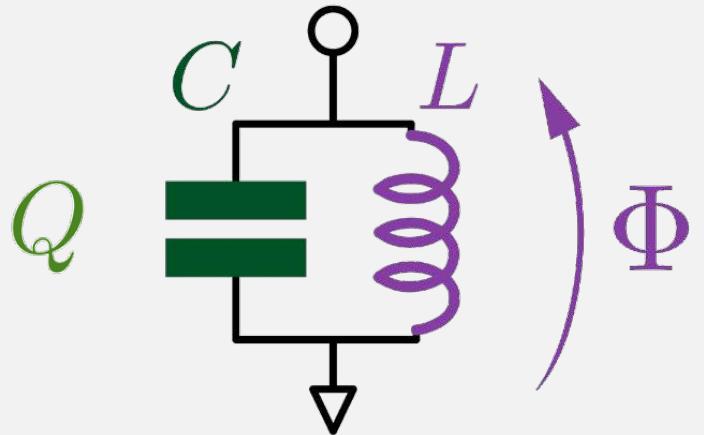
$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{ind}}(\Phi) = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$

$$\psi_n(\Phi) \equiv \langle \Phi | n \rangle$$

Energy /  
Scaled  
wavefunction  
amplitude



# Pop-up question



The flux and charge operators are Hermitian observables.

How can some expectations, such as

$$\langle 0 | \hat{\Phi} \hat{Q} | 0 \rangle = \frac{1}{4} i ,$$

be imaginary?

Or, others be negative...?

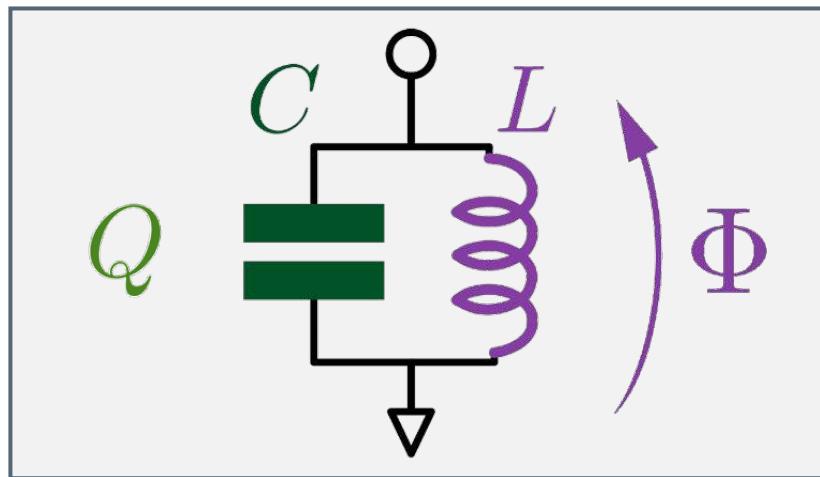
# Advanced questions

1. What is  $\hat{\Phi}(t)$  in terms of  $\hat{a}$  in the Heisenberg picture?
2. **Autocorrelation.** Find the autocorrelation operator  $\hat{C}_{\Phi\Phi}(t) = \hat{\Phi}(t)\hat{\Phi}(0)$ . What frequency components does it have?
  - (a) What is the flux autocorrelation expectation value  $C_{\Phi\Phi}(t) = \langle n | \hat{\Phi}(t)\hat{\Phi}(0) | n \rangle$  for the Fock state  $|n\rangle$ ? Is it real? Why not? What is the frequency spectrum?
  - (b) Repeat for a coherent state  $|\alpha\rangle$ .
3. **Thermal state.** The thermal state is  $\hat{\rho}_{\text{th}} = \exp[-\beta\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a}] / \text{Tr}[\exp(-\beta\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a})]$ , where  $\beta = \hbar\omega_0/k_B T$ , and  $T$  is the temperature of the oscillator.
  - (a) What is the mean and variance of the flux  $\hat{\Phi}$  and charge  $\hat{Q}$  operators?
  - (b) How does the frequency spectrum of the autocorrelation  $\langle \hat{C}_{\Phi\Phi}(t) \rangle = \text{Tr}[\hat{\rho}_{\text{th}}\hat{C}_{\Phi\Phi}(t)]$  change when with that for the state  $|n\rangle$  and  $|\alpha\rangle$ ?
  - (c) The spectrum is not symmetric in frequency. How can you interpret that positive and negative frequencies have different weights? How is this related to absorption and emission of the oscillator? (Consider Fermi's golden rule).
  - (d) What happens to the spectrum in the limit of high temperature,  $k_B T \gg \hbar\omega_0$ ? How about low temperature,  $k_B T \ll \hbar\omega_0$ ?
  - (e) How do the above conclusions change for charge; i.e., for  $\langle \hat{C}_{QQ}(t) \rangle = \text{Tr}[\hat{\rho}_{\text{th}}\hat{C}_{QQ}(t)]$ ?

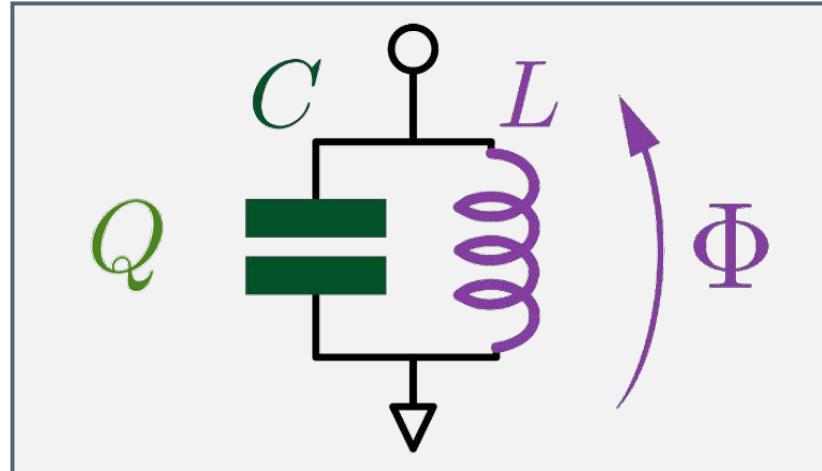
Will discuss  
answers on my  
blog sometime  
soon



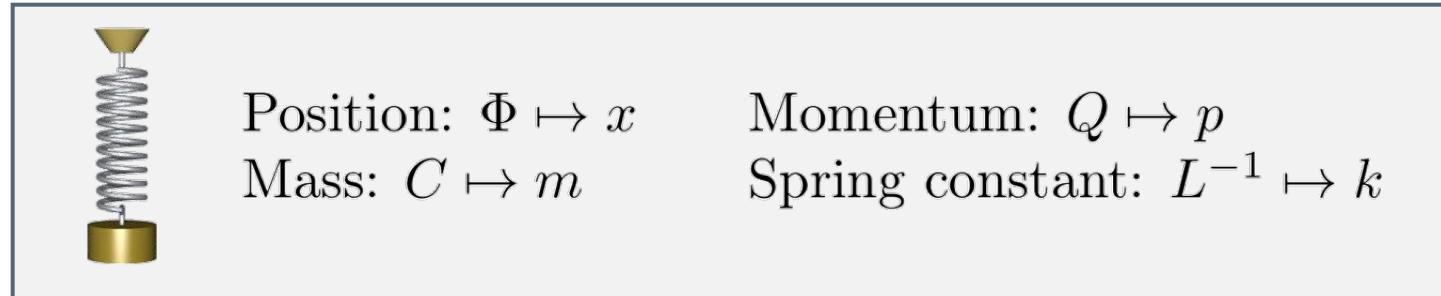
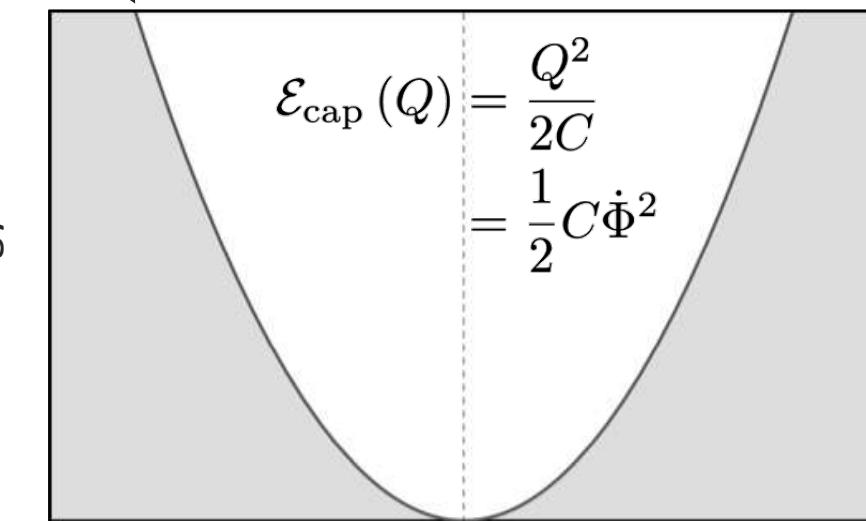
# Linear harmonic oscillator summary



# The LC quantum harmonic oscillator



$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{ind}}(\Phi) = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$



$$\hat{H}(\hat{\Phi}, \hat{Q}) = \frac{\hat{\Phi}^2}{2L} + \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C} = \hbar\omega_0 \left( \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$\omega_0^2 = \frac{1}{LC}$$

$$\hat{H}|n\rangle = \hbar\omega_0 \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) |n\rangle$$

$$Z_0 = \frac{L}{C}$$

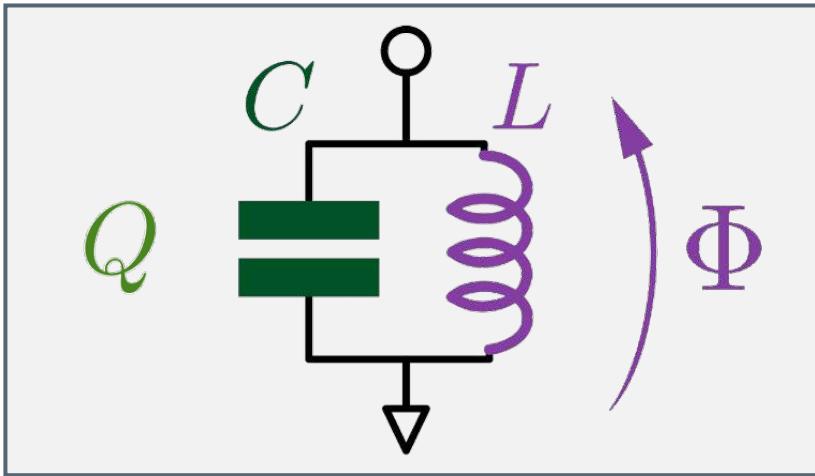
$$\hat{\Phi} = \Phi_{\text{ZPF}} (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a})$$

$$\Phi_{\text{ZPF}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2}} Z_0 = \Phi_0 \sqrt{\frac{z_0}{2\pi}},$$

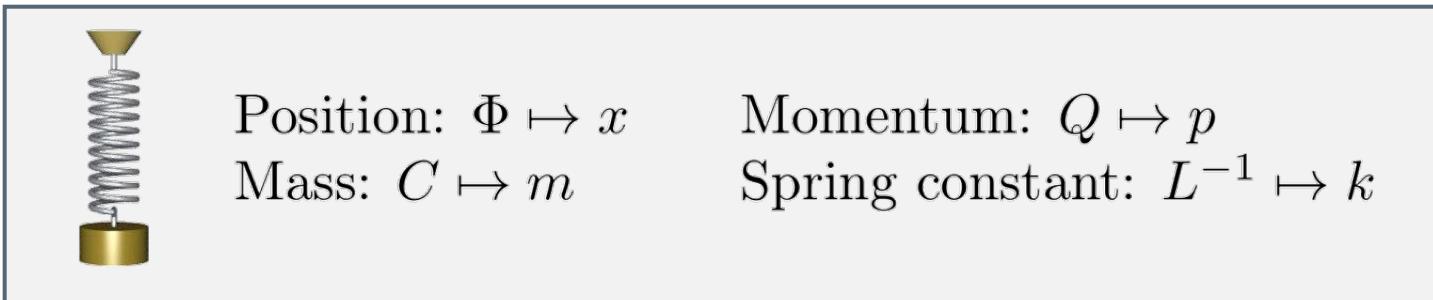
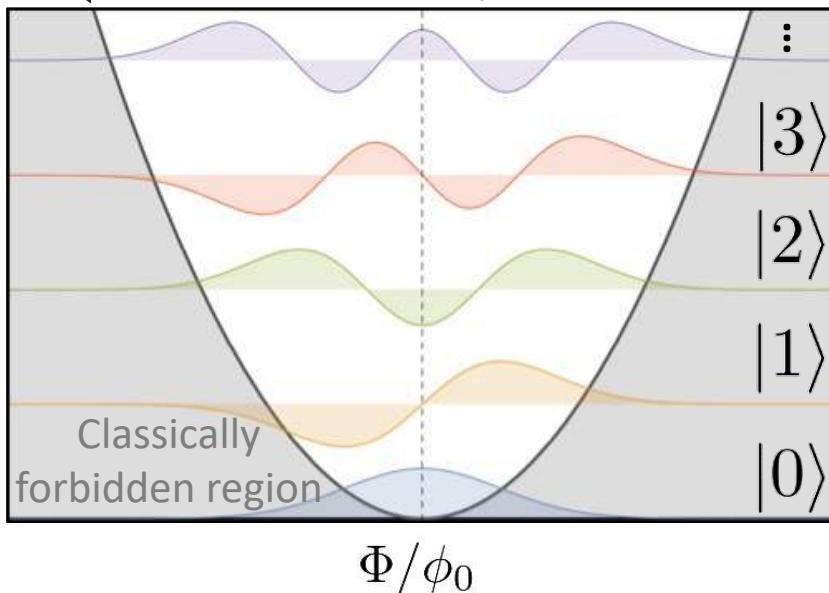
$$\hat{Q} = iQ_{\text{ZPF}} (\hat{a}^\dagger - \hat{a})$$

$$Q_{\text{ZPF}} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2}} Z_0^{-1} = (2e) \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi z_0}},$$

# The LC quantum harmonic oscillator



$$\mathcal{E}_{\text{ind}}(\Phi) = \frac{\Phi^2}{2L} \quad \psi_n(\Phi) \equiv \langle \Phi | n \rangle$$

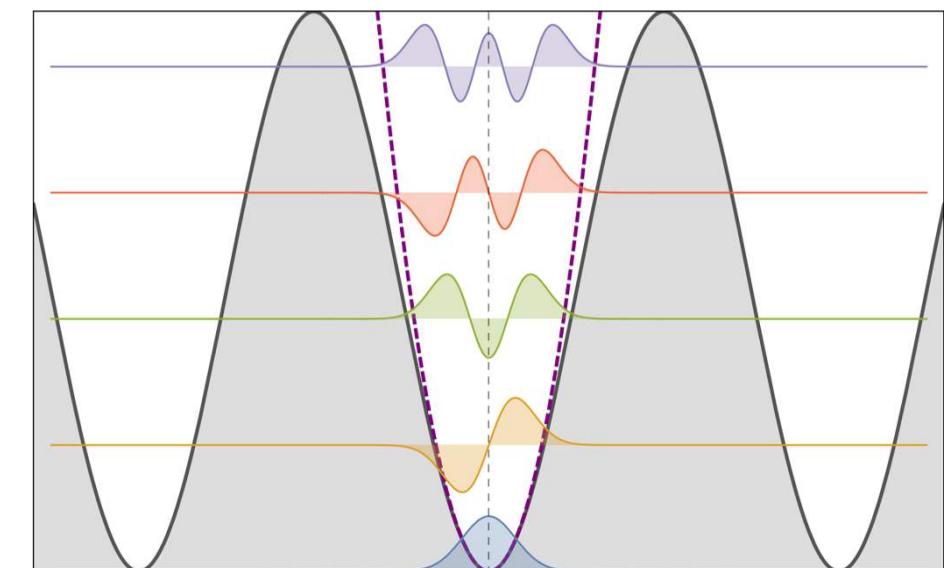
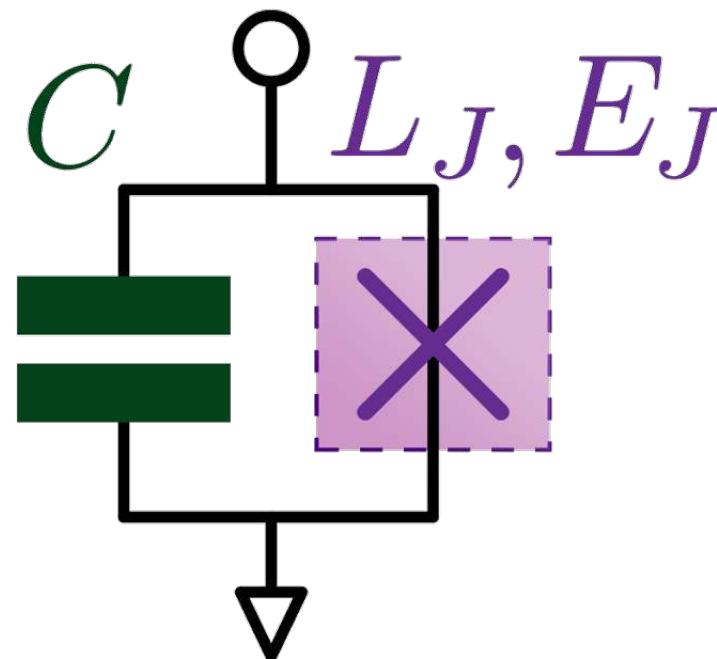
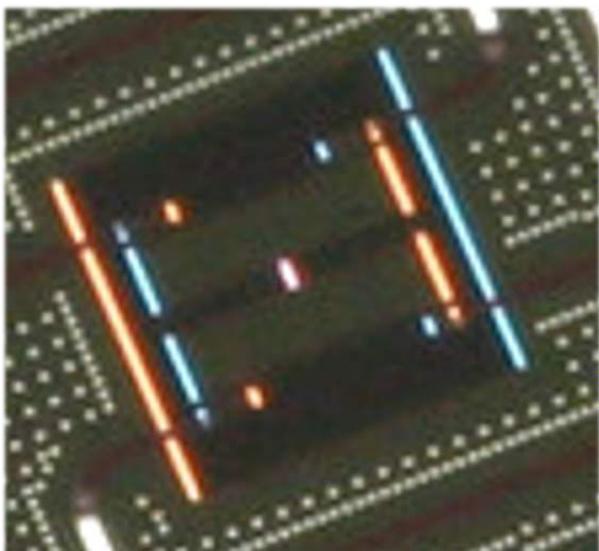


$$\hat{H}(\hat{\Phi}, \hat{Q}) = \frac{\hat{\Phi}^2}{2L} + \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C} = \hbar\omega_0 \left( \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad \omega_0^2 = \frac{1}{LC}$$

$$\hat{H}|n\rangle = \hbar\omega_0 \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right) |n\rangle \quad \Phi_{\text{ZPF}} Q_{\text{ZPF}} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \quad Z_0 = \frac{L}{C}$$

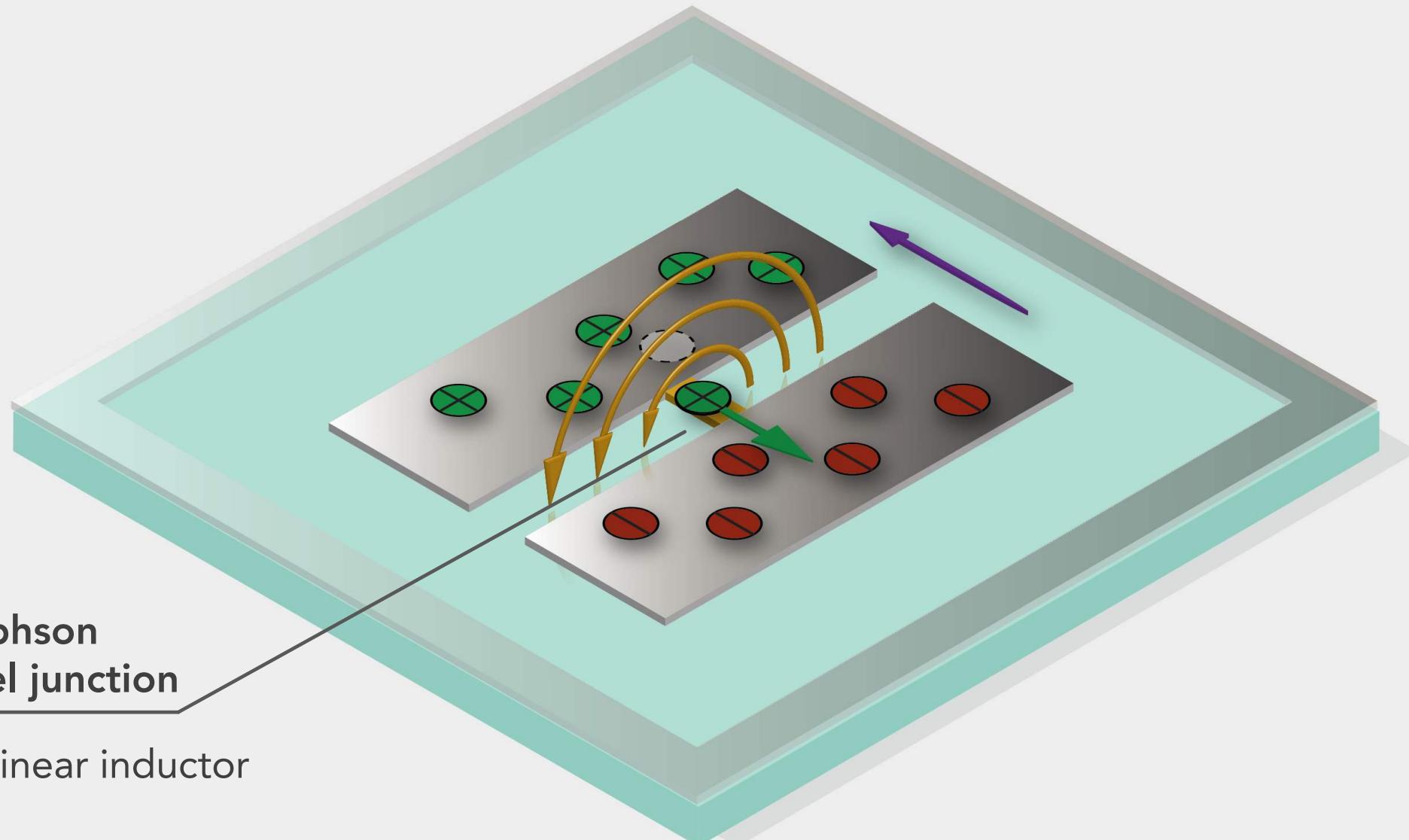
$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\Phi} &= \Phi_{\text{ZPF}} (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a}) & \Phi_{\text{ZPF}} &= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2} Z_0} & \langle 0 | \hat{\Phi}^2 | 0 \rangle &= \Phi_{\text{ZPF}}^2 \\ \hat{Q} &= i Q_{\text{ZPF}} (\hat{a}^\dagger - \hat{a}) & Q_{\text{ZPF}} &= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2} Z_0^{-1}} & \langle 0 | \hat{Q}^2 | 0 \rangle &= Q_{\text{ZPF}}^2 \end{aligned}$$

# Transmon Qubit

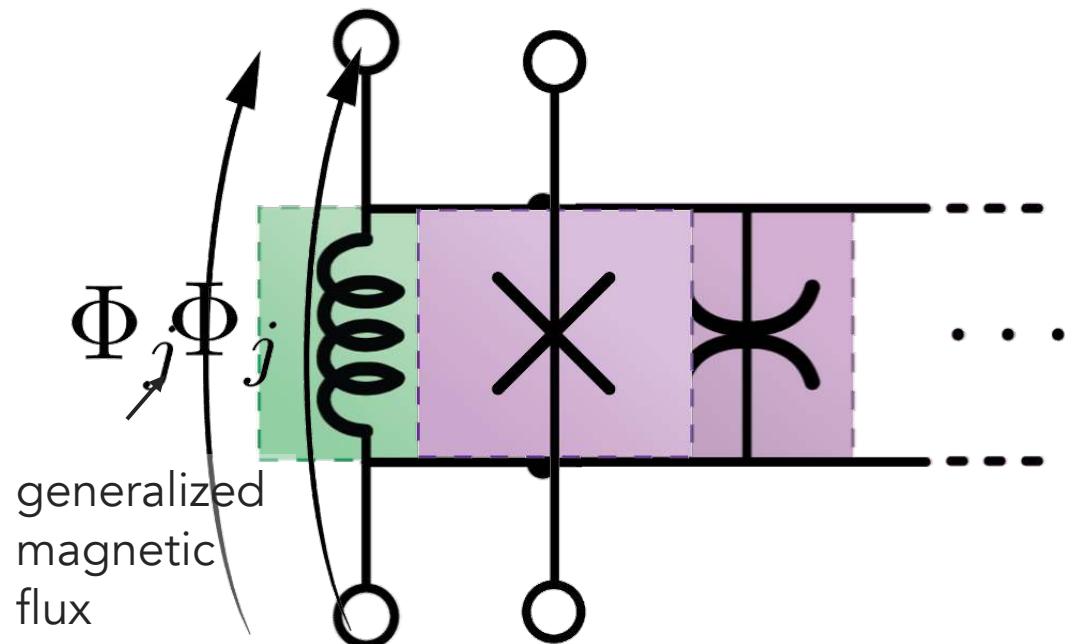


Introduction

# The transmon as a non-linear oscillator



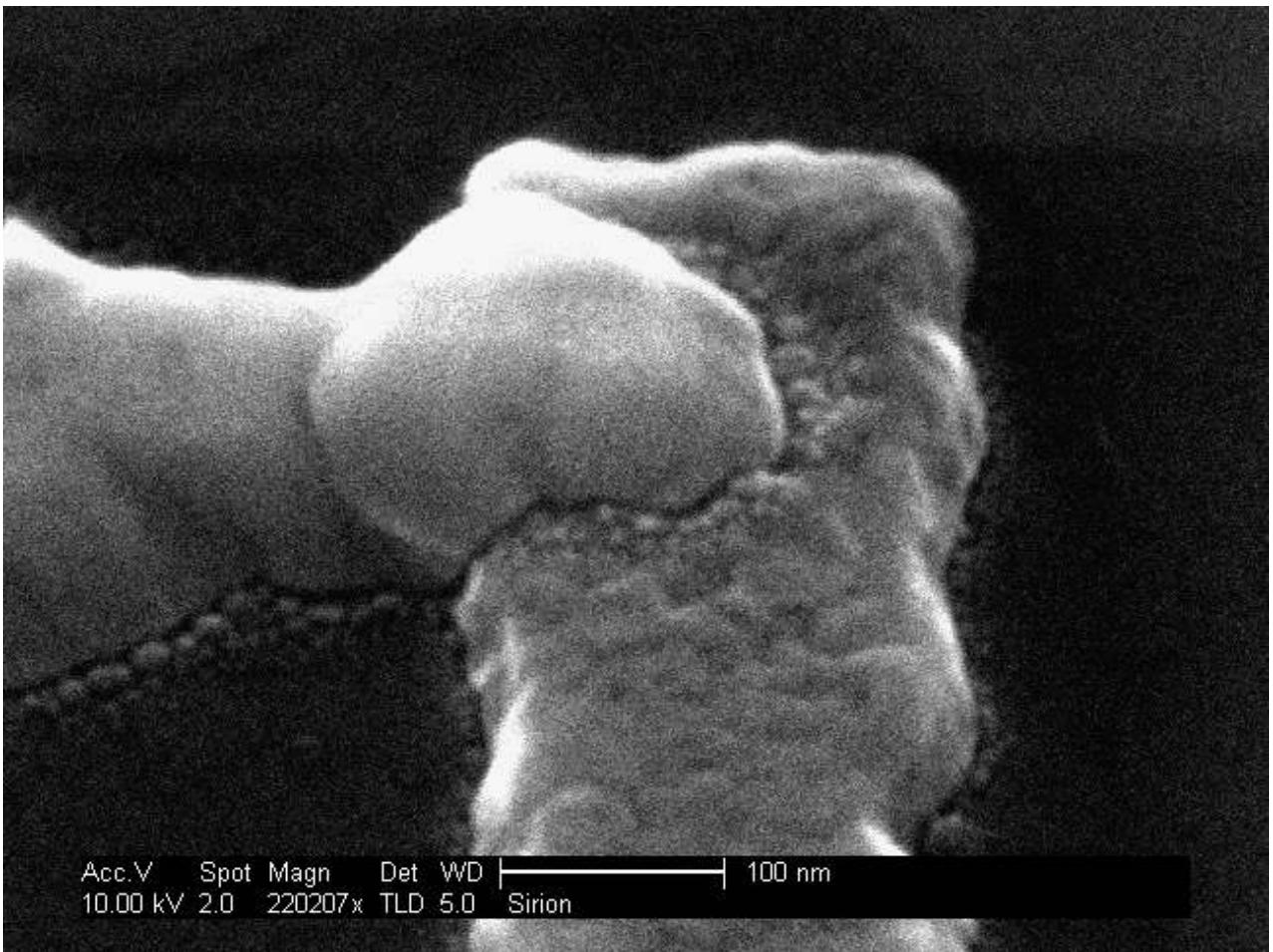
# Josephson tunnel junction



$$\mathcal{E}_j(\Phi_j) = E_j(1 - \cos(\Phi_j/\phi_0))$$

$$\phi_0 \equiv \hbar/2e = \mathcal{E}_j^{\text{lin}}(\Phi_j) + \mathcal{E}_j^{\text{nl}}(\Phi_j)$$

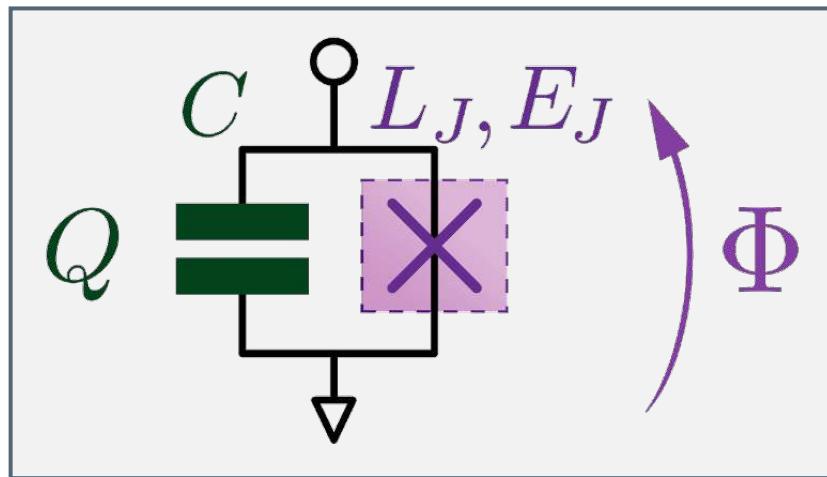
$$= \frac{E_j}{2} \left( \frac{\Phi_j}{\phi_0} \right)^2 - \frac{E_j}{4!} \left( \frac{\Phi_j}{\phi_0} \right)^4 + \mathcal{O}(\Phi_j^6)$$



SEM image: L. Frunzio

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

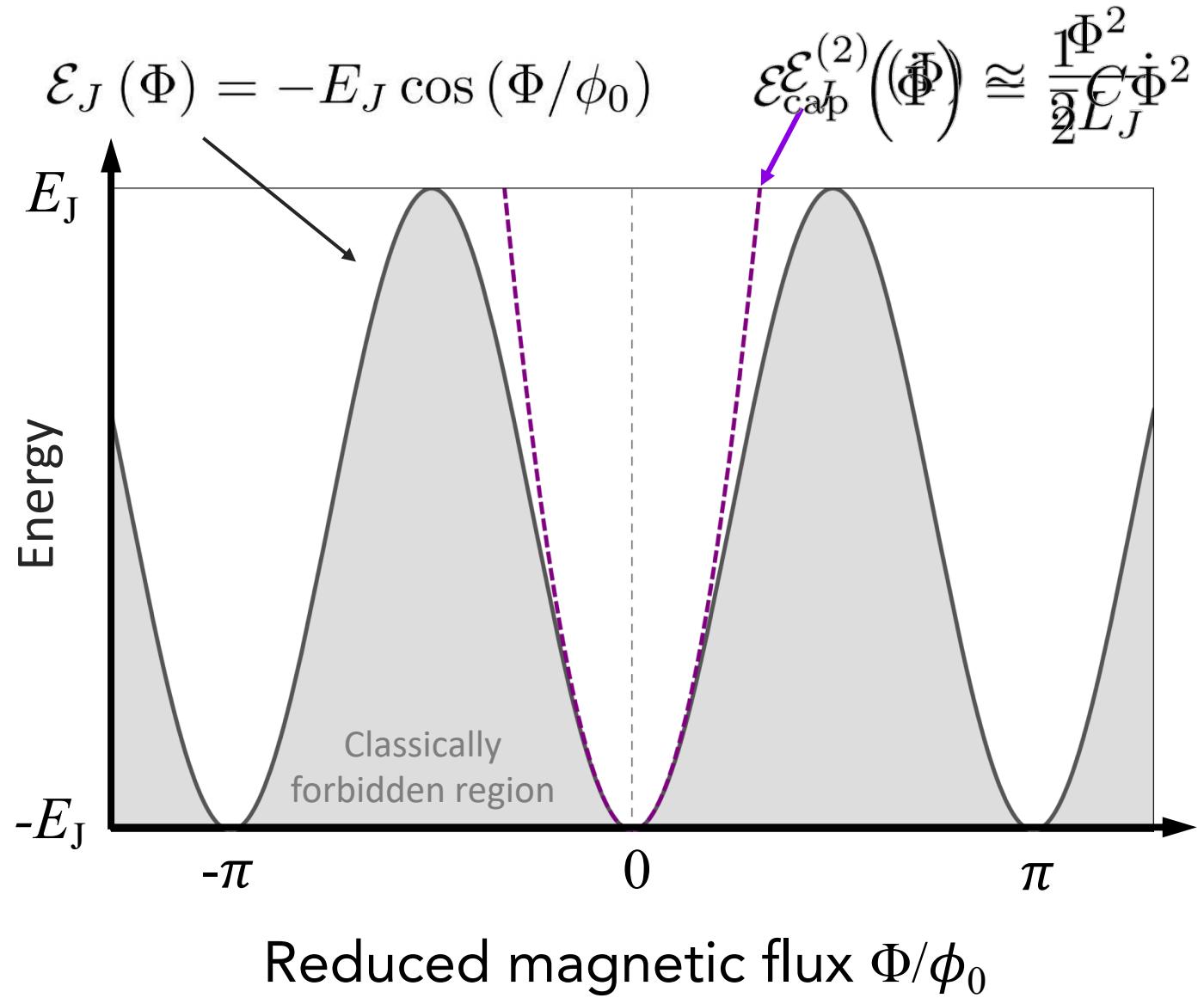
# The Transmon qubit



$$E_J = \frac{\phi_0^2}{L_J}$$

$$\phi_0 = \frac{\hbar}{2e}$$

$$\approx 3.3 \times 10^{-16} \text{ Wb}$$

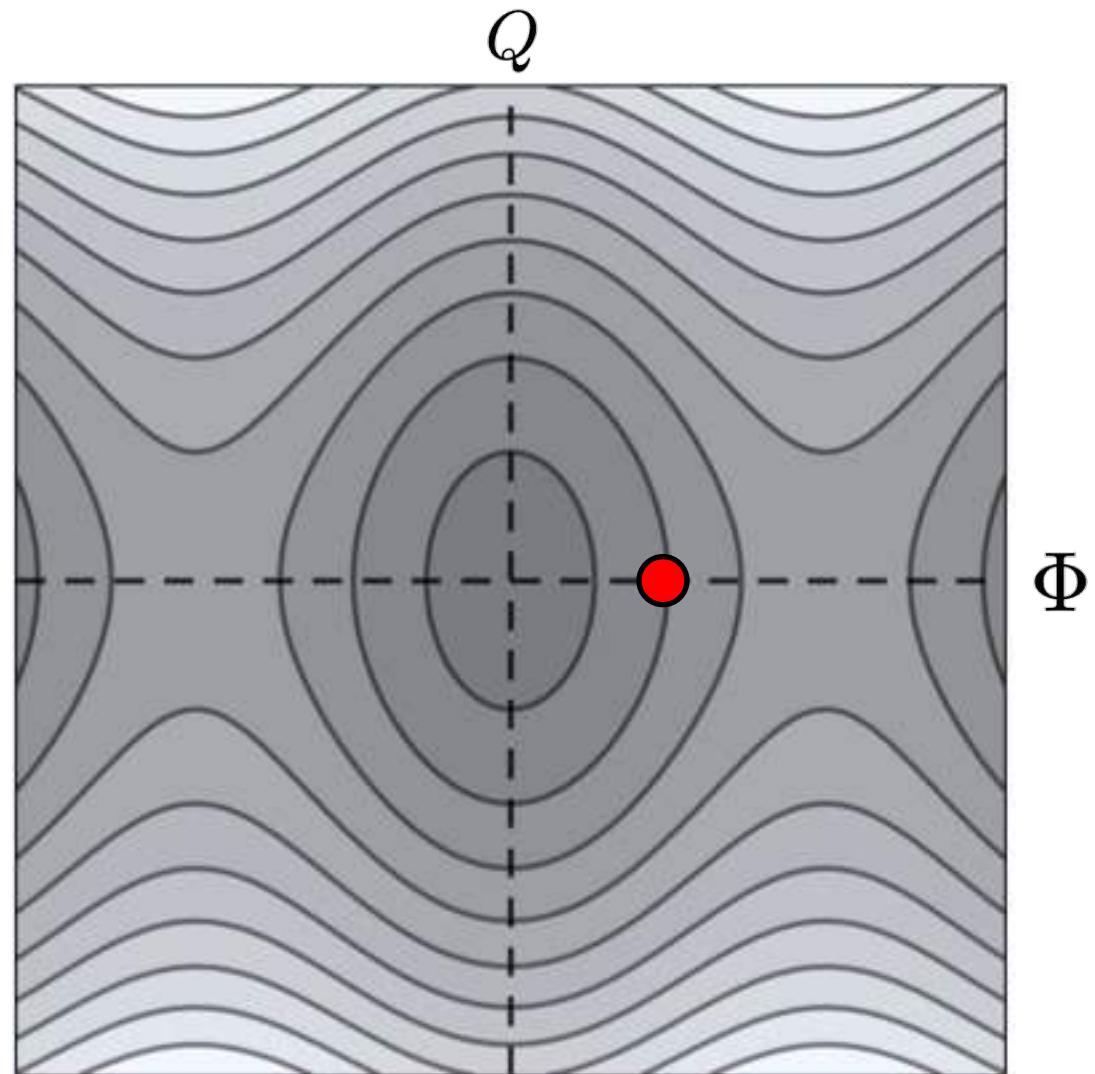


# Semi-classical intuition: phase space picture

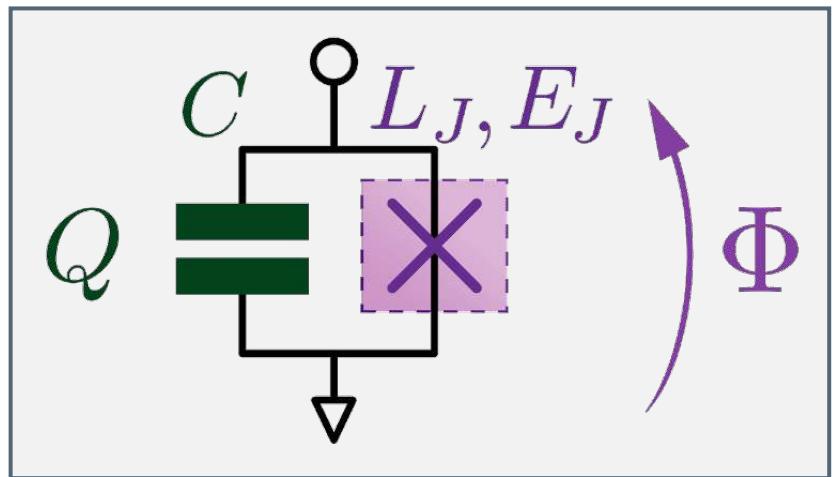
$$\mathcal{H}(\Phi, Q) = \frac{Q^2}{2C} - E_J \cos(\Phi/\phi_0)$$

$$E = \hbar\omega_0 \left( n + \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

$$= \frac{Q^2}{2C} - E_J \cos(\Phi/\phi_0)$$



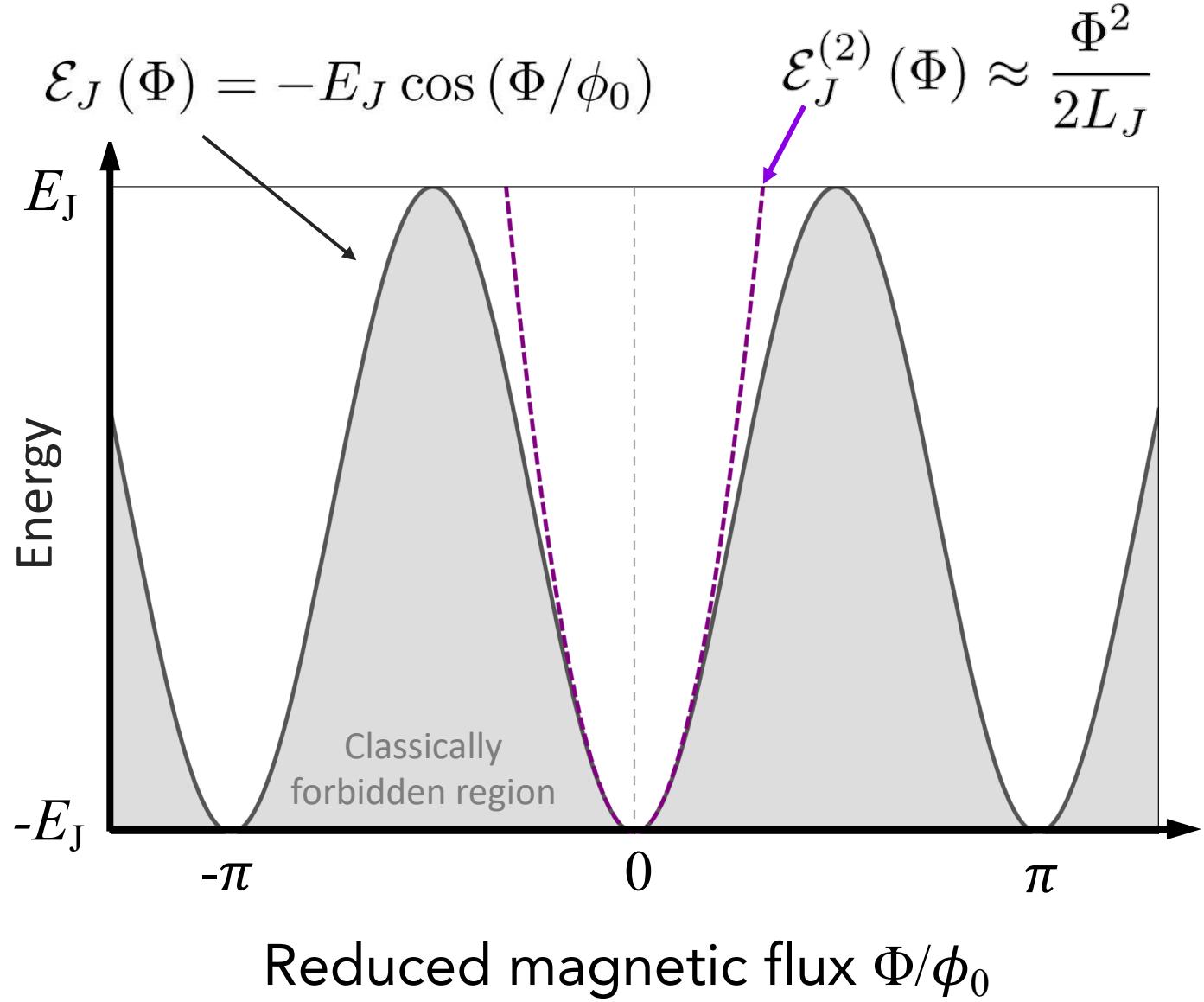
# The Transmon qubit



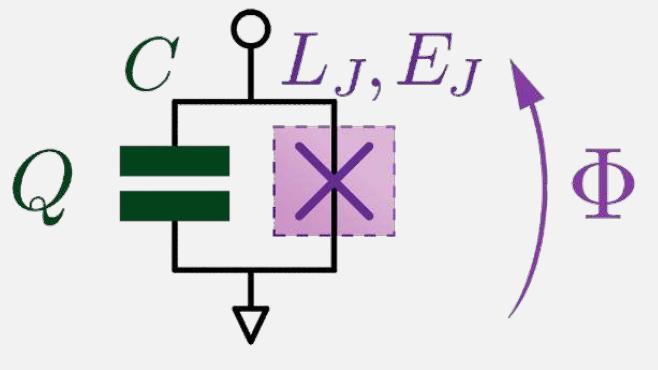
$$\hat{H} = \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C} - E_J \cos\left(\hat{\Phi}/\phi_0\right)$$

$$\approx \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C} + \frac{\hat{\Phi}^2}{2L_J} - \frac{E_J}{4!} \left( \frac{\hat{\Phi}}{\phi_0} \right)^4$$

$$= \hbar\omega_0 \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} - \frac{E_J \phi_{\text{ZPF}}^4}{4!} (\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger)^4$$



# The Transmon qubit



$$= \hbar\omega_0 \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} - \frac{E_J \phi_{\text{ZPF}}^4}{4!} (3 + 6\cancel{\hat{a}^2} + 12\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + 6\cancel{\hat{a}^{\dagger 2}} \\ + \cancel{\hat{a}^4} + 4\cancel{\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}^3} + 6\cancel{\hat{a}^{\dagger 2} \hat{a}^2} + 4\cancel{\hat{a}^{\dagger 3} \hat{a}} + \cancel{\hat{a}^{\dagger 4}})$$

RWA or 1<sup>st</sup>  
order PT

$$\hat{H}_4^{\text{RWA}} = \hbar\omega_0 \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} - \frac{E_J}{4!} \phi_a^4 (12\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + 6\hat{a}^{\dagger 2} \hat{a}^2)$$

$$= \hbar(\omega_0 - \Delta_q) \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} - \frac{\hbar\alpha}{2} \hat{a}^{\dagger 2} \hat{a}^2$$

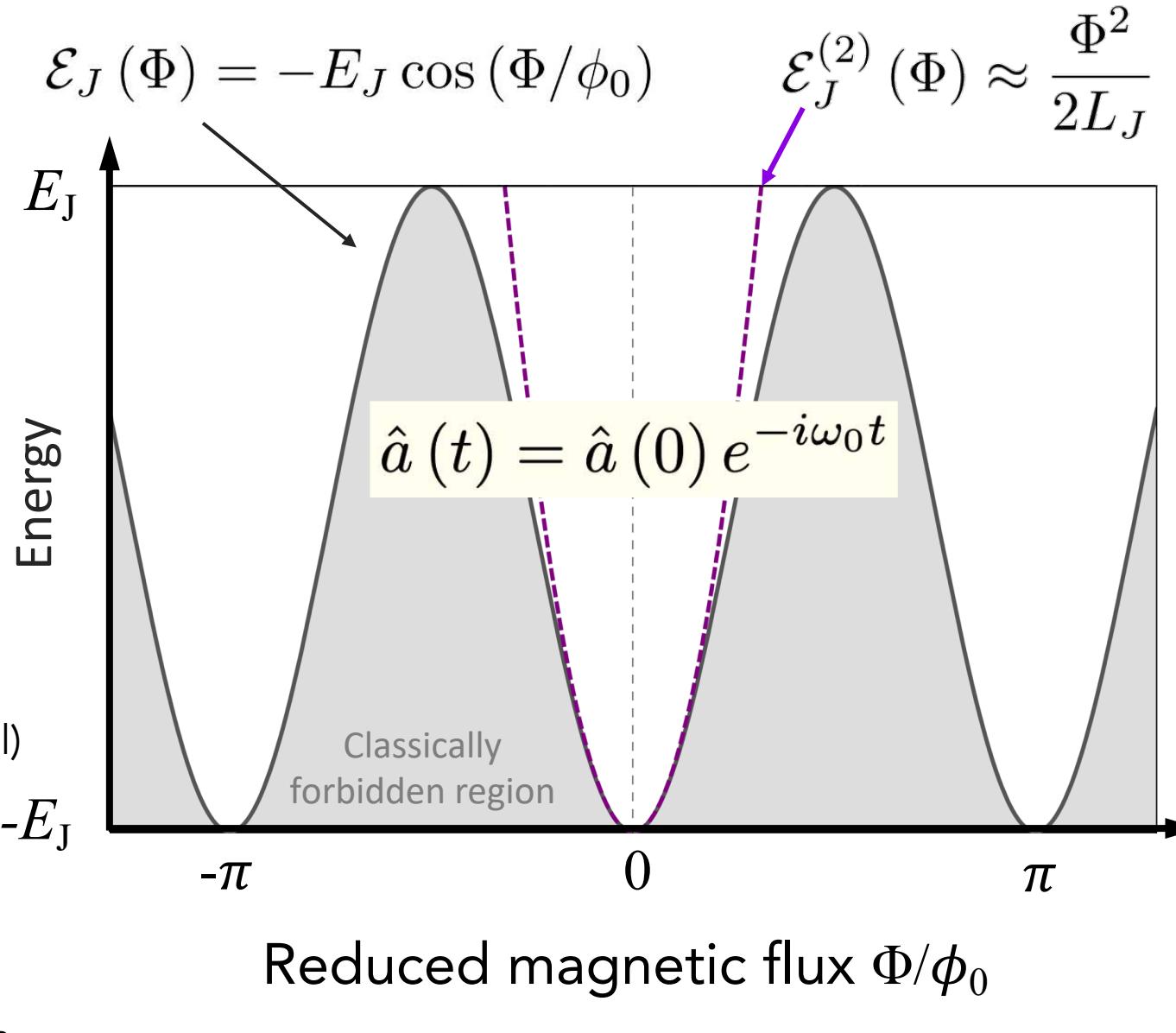
Due to nl & commutator

$$\text{where } \hbar\Delta_q = \hbar\alpha \equiv \frac{1}{2} E_J \phi_{\text{ZPF}}^4$$

"Lamb shift"  
due to ZPF

Anharmonicity

Zero-point  
fluctuations



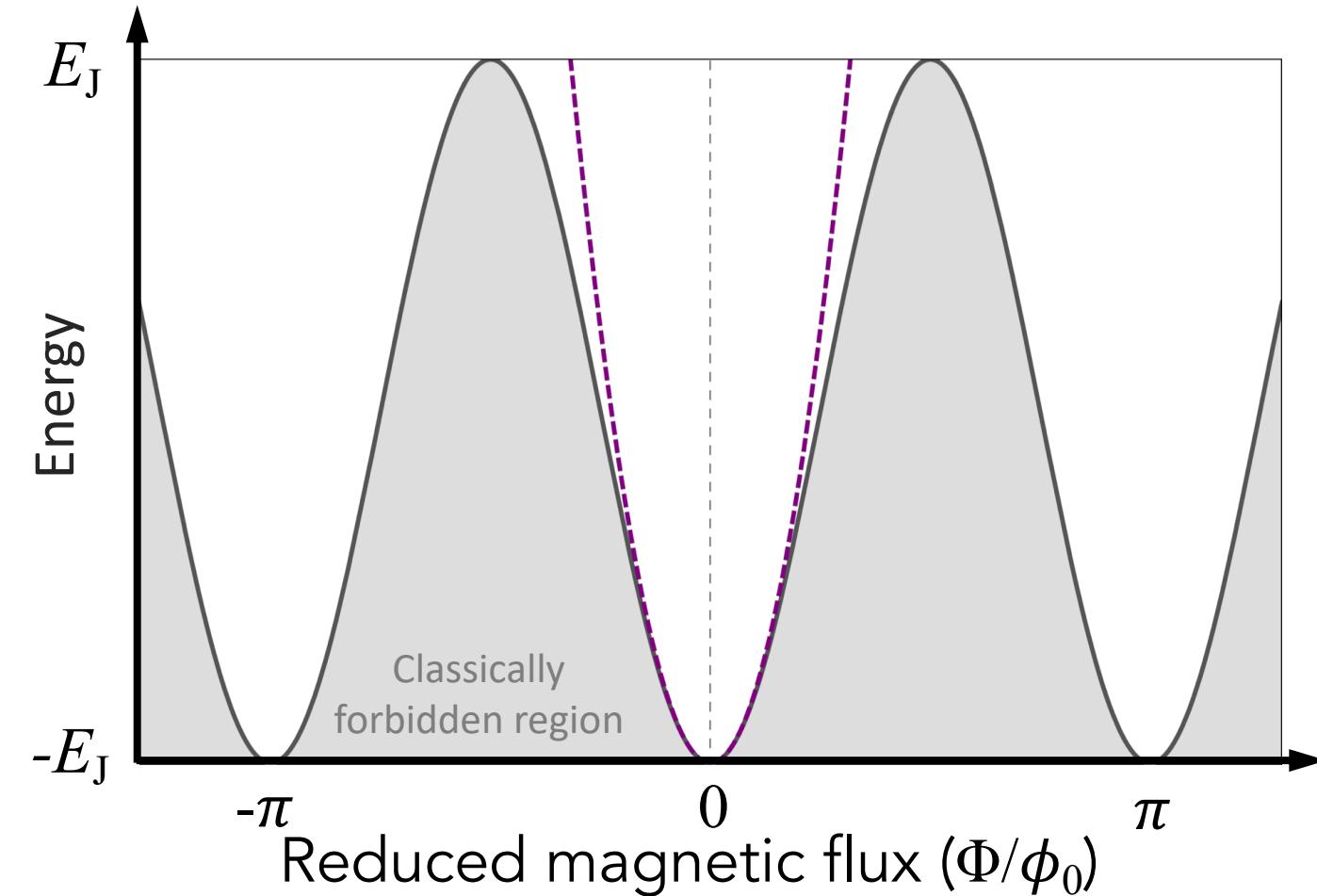
# The Kerr Hamiltonian of the transmon

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

$$\hat{H}_4^{\text{RWA}} \approx \hbar\omega_q \hat{N} - \frac{\hbar\alpha}{2} \hat{N} (\hat{N} - 1)$$

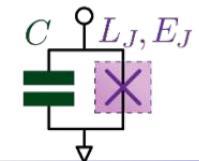
$\hat{H}_{\text{lin}}$  → Solution known (SHO)       $\hat{H}_{\text{nl}}$  → New from nonlinearity

$$\hat{H}_4^{\text{RWA}} |n\rangle = \hbar\omega_q n \left( 1 - \frac{\hbar\alpha_a}{2} (n - 1) \right) |n\rangle$$



1<sup>st</sup> order correction to energy:  $E_n^{(1)} = \langle n^{(0)} | \hat{H}_{\text{nl}} | n^{(0)} \rangle$  and to eigenstates:  $|n^{(1)}\rangle = \sum_{k \neq n} \frac{\langle k^{(0)} | \hat{H}_{\text{nl}} | n^{(0)} \rangle}{E_n^{(0)} - E_k^{(0)}} |k^{(0)}\rangle$ .

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

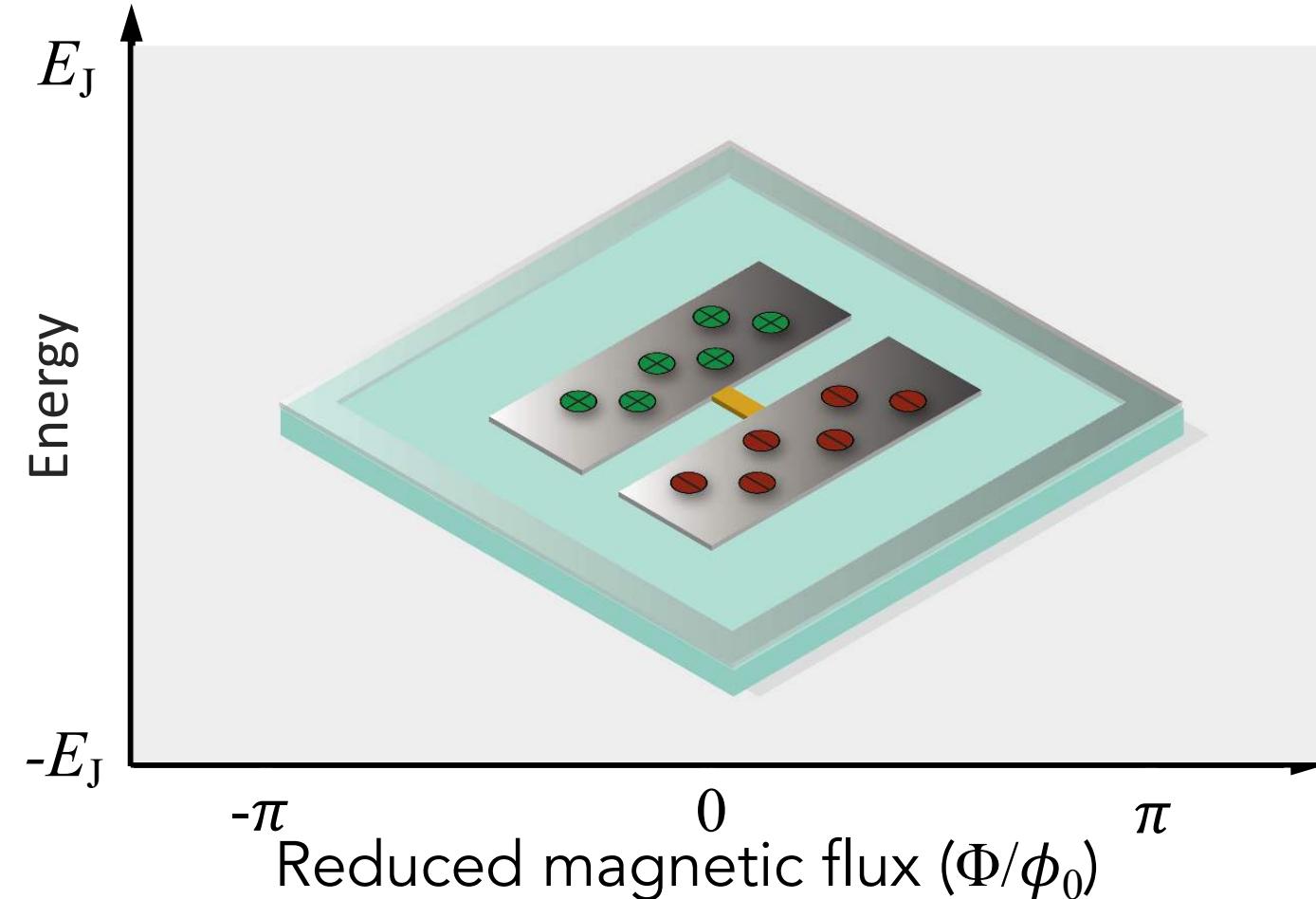


# Exploring a real transmon qubit

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

$$\hat{H}_4^{\text{RWA}} \approx \hbar\omega_q \hat{N} - \frac{\hbar\alpha}{2} \hat{N} (\hat{N} - 1)$$

$\hat{H}_{\text{lin}}$  Solution known (SHO)       $\hat{H}_{\text{nl}}$  New from nonlinearity



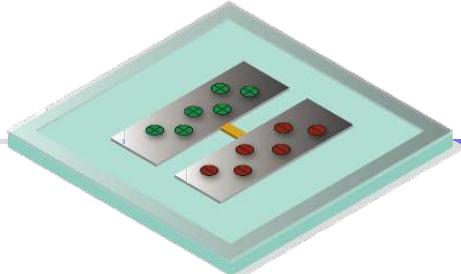
## Experimental parameters

$$L_J = 14 \text{ nH}$$

$$E_J = \frac{\phi_0^2}{L_J} = 12 \text{ GHz}$$

$$C_J = 65 \text{ fF}$$

$$E_C = \frac{e^2}{2C} = 0.3 \text{ GHz}$$



# Exploring a real transmon qubit

$$\hat{H}_4^{\text{RWA}} \approx \hbar\omega_q \hat{N} - \frac{\hbar\alpha}{2} \hat{N} (\hat{N} - 1)$$

Dispersive, states didn't change to 1<sup>st</sup> order  
 "Lamb shift" due to ZPF

Parameters used in figure (of a measured qubit)

$$L_J = 14 \text{ nH}$$

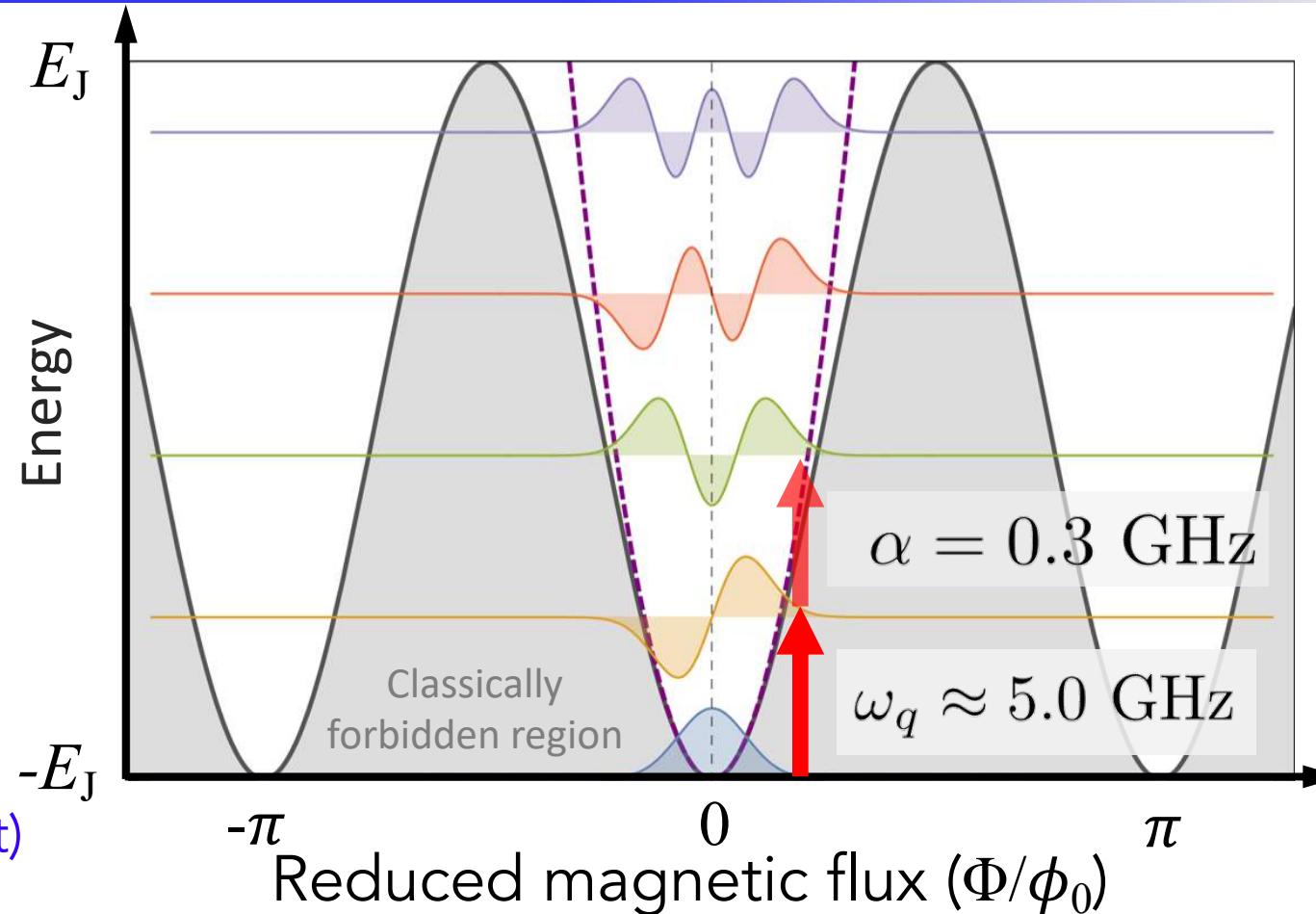
$$E_J = \frac{\phi_0^2}{L_J} = 12 \text{ GHz}$$

$$C_J = 65 \text{ fF}$$

$$E_C = \frac{e^2}{2C} = 0.3 \text{ GHz}$$

$$\omega_0 = \sqrt{\frac{1}{LC}} = 5.3 \text{ GHz}$$

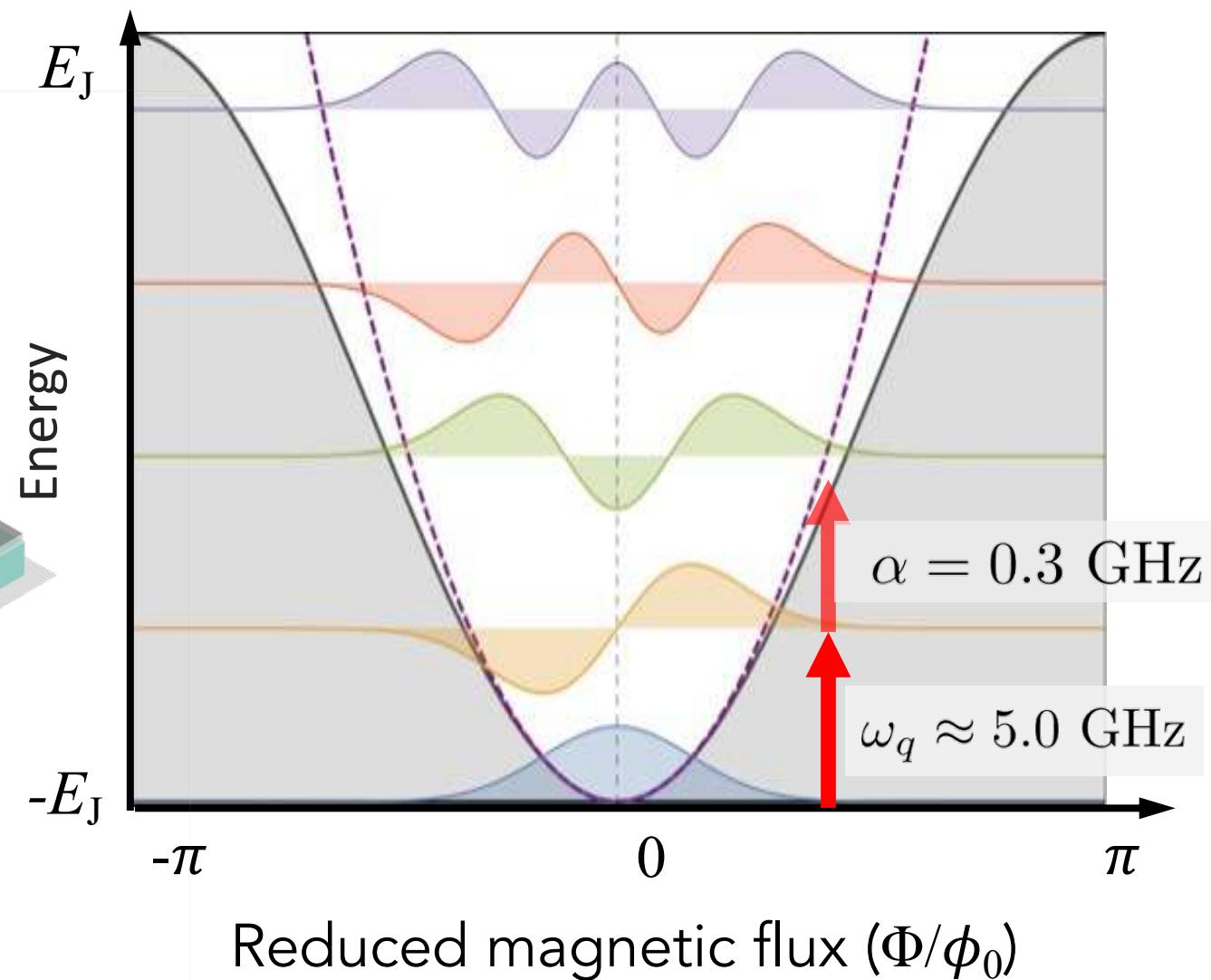
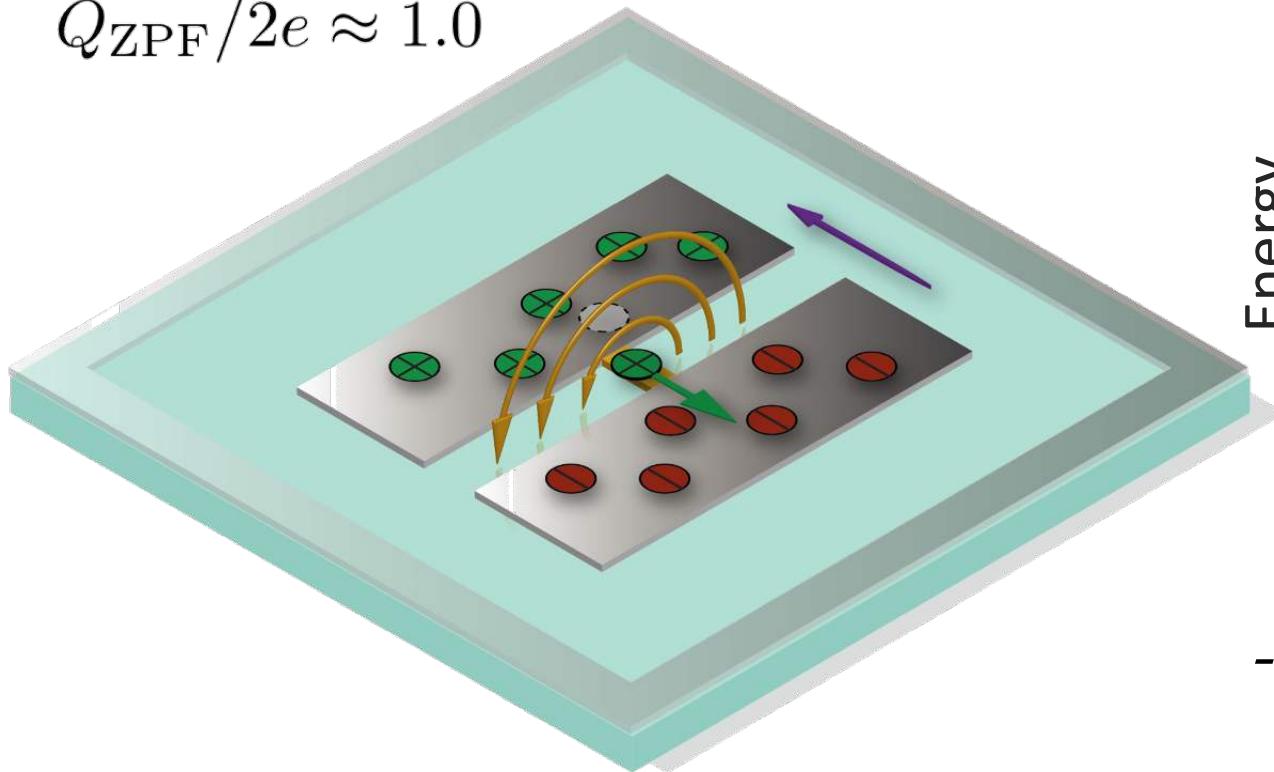
$$Z = \sqrt{\frac{L}{C}} \approx 450 \Omega$$



# Quantum fluctuations of the transmon qubit

$$\Phi_{\text{ZPF}}/\phi_0 \approx 0.5$$

$$Q_{\text{ZPF}}/2e \approx 1.0$$

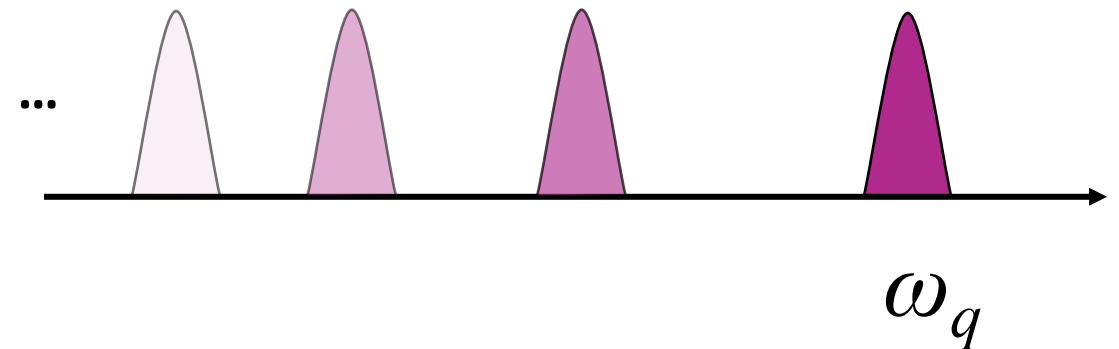


# Energy diagram and transition spectrum

Energy levels

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

Transition spectrum



# The Transmon qubit: restricting Hilbert space

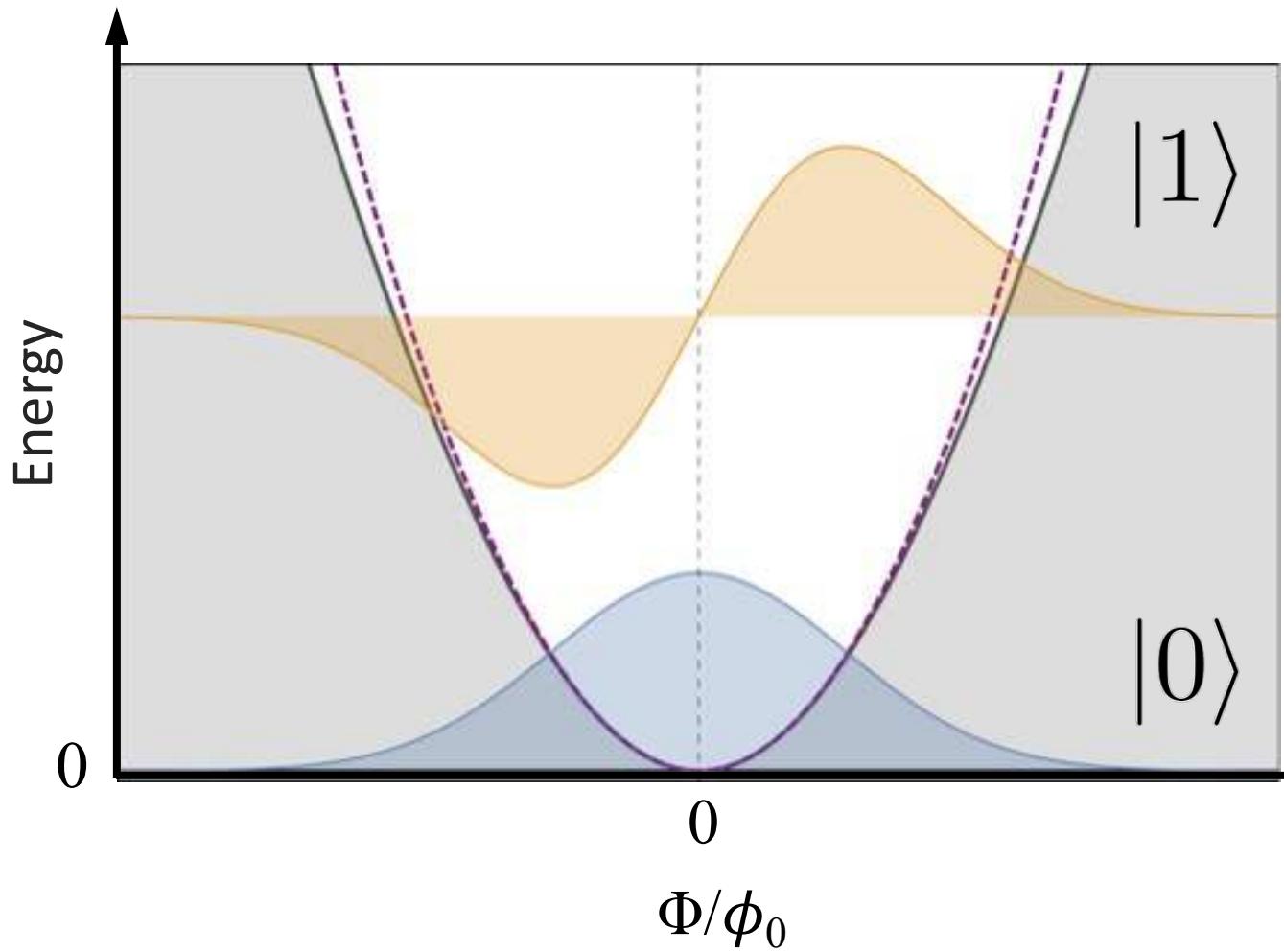
$$\hat{H}_4^{\text{RWA}} \approx \hbar\omega_q \hat{N} - \frac{\hbar\alpha}{2} \hat{N} (\hat{N} - 1)$$

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

Restrict to qubit subspace of  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$

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

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



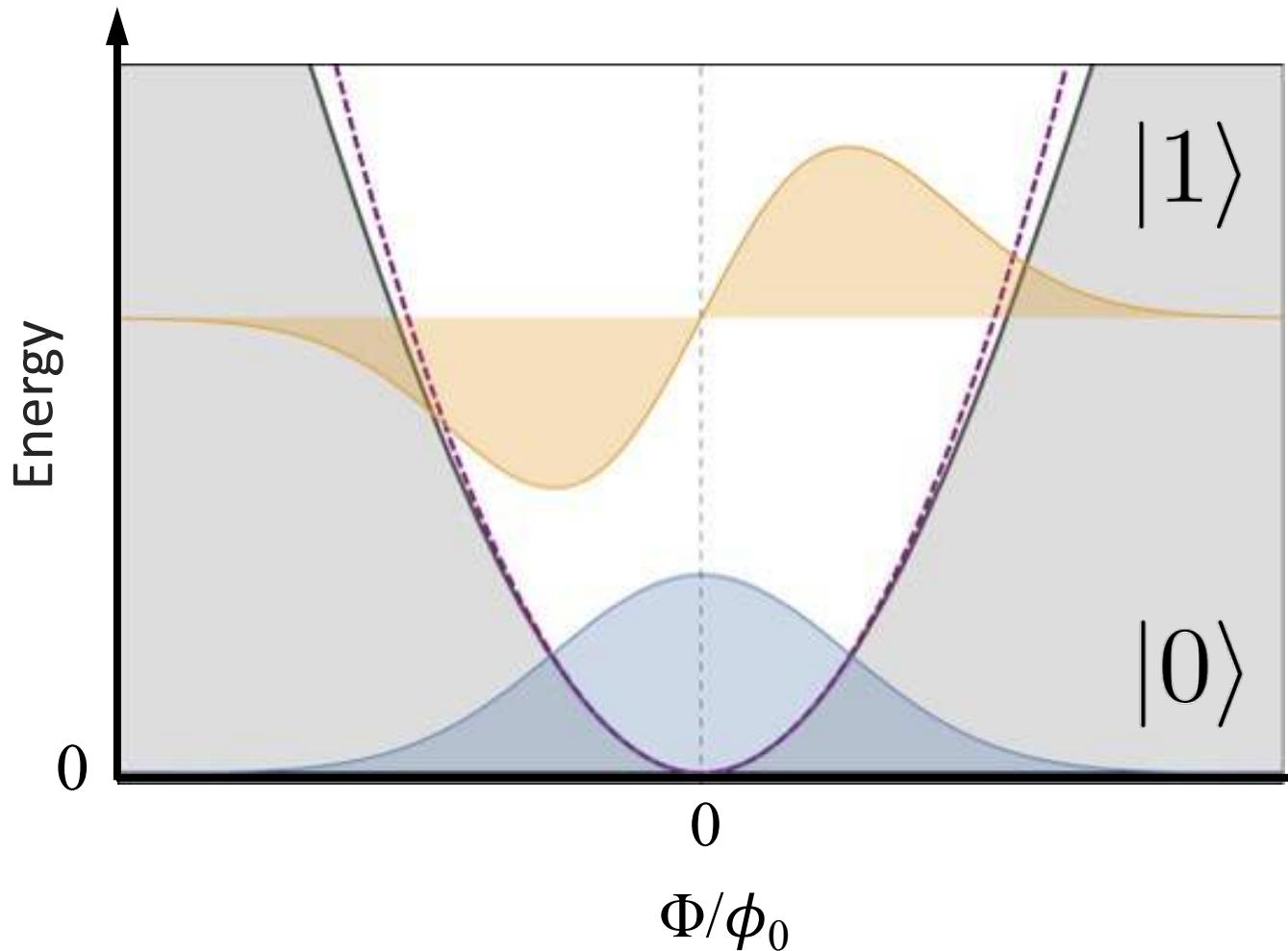
# The Transmon qubit: restricting Hilbert space

$$\hat{H}_4^{\text{RWA}} \approx \hbar\omega_q \hat{N} - \frac{\hbar\alpha}{2} \hat{N} (\hat{N} - 1)$$

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

Restrict to qubit subspace of  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$

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

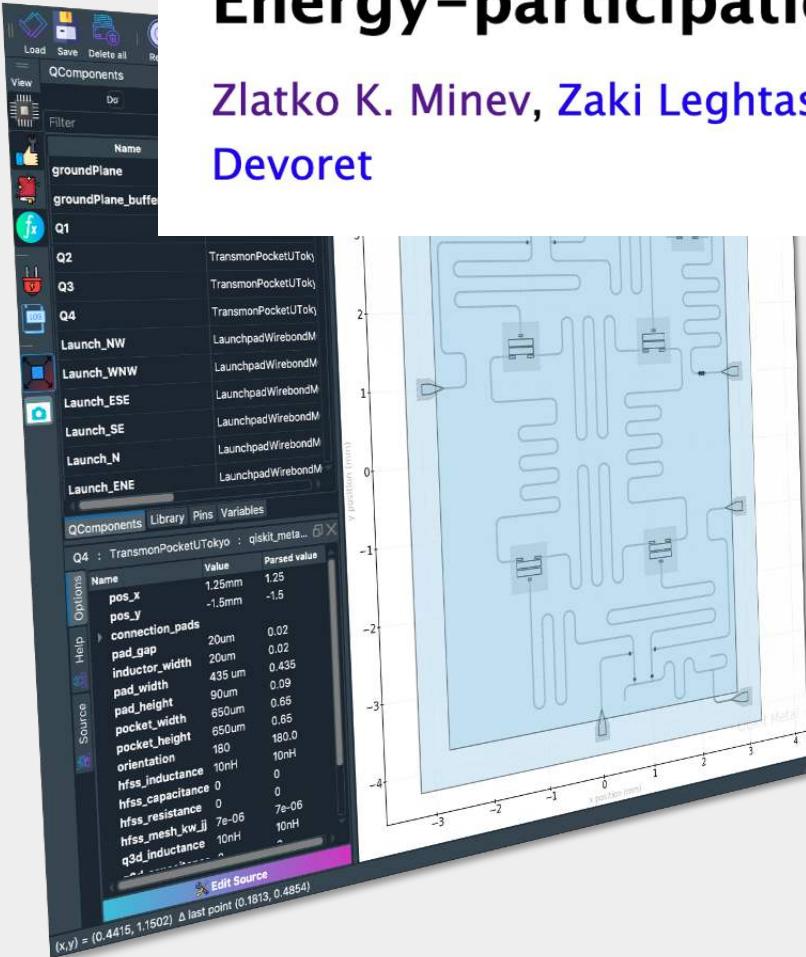


## Quantum Physics

*[Submitted on 1 Oct 2020]*

# Energy-participation quantization of Josephson circuits

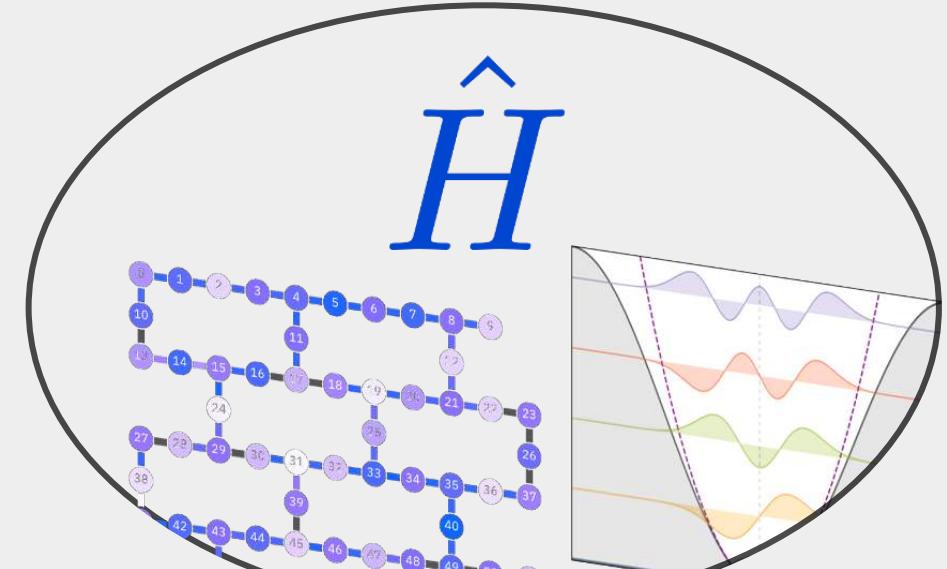
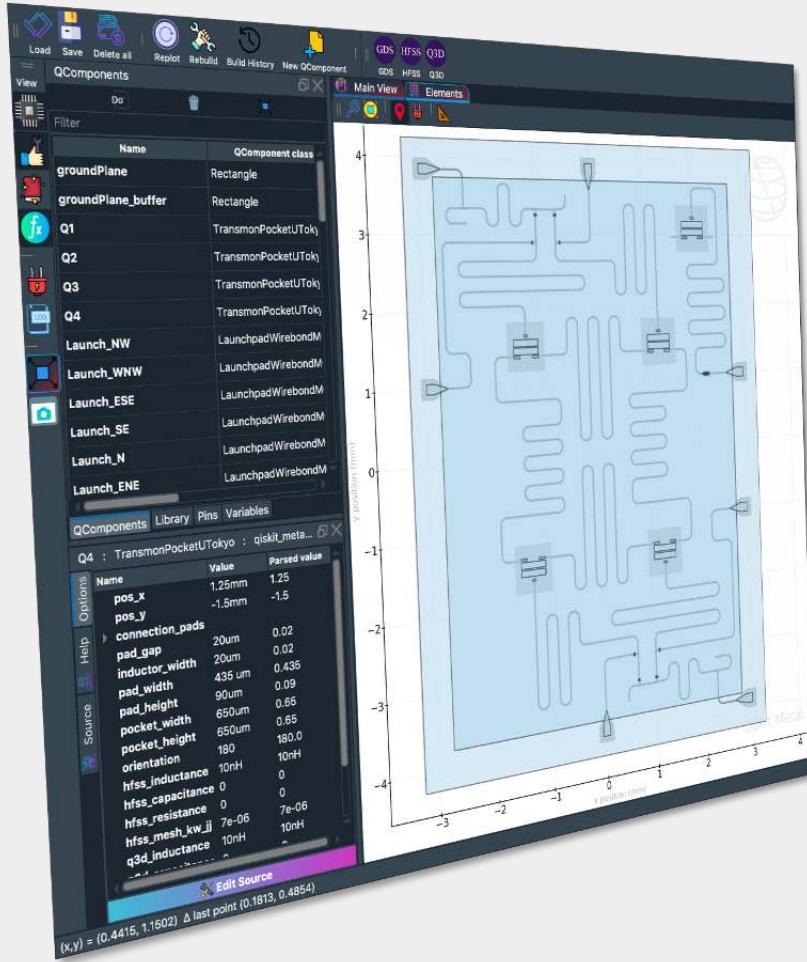
Zlatko K. Minev, Zaki Leghtas, Shantanu O. Mundhada, Lysander Christakis, Ioan M. Pop, Michel H. Devoret

Accepted: *Nature npj qinfo*

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

See also Minev  
Yale dissertation Sec. 4.1  
(arXiv: 1902.10355)

# Make easy?





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## Qiskit / qiskit-metal

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# Qiskit Metal

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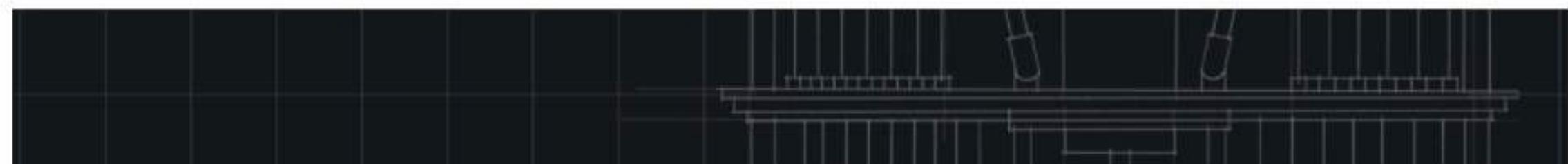


awesome

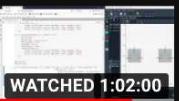
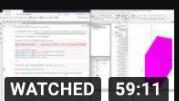
DOI

10.5281/zenodo.4618153

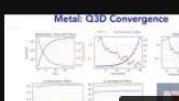
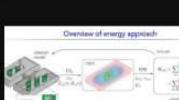
Quantum hardware design and analysis



# Tutorials so far

- 1  **Qiskit Metal E01 - Overview**  
Qiskit  
**WATCHED 1:07:34**
- 2  **Qiskit Metal E02 - End to end example of Quantum Chip Design - Part 1 of 2**  
Qiskit  
**WATCHED 1:02:00**
- 3  **Qiskit Metal E03 End to end example of Quantum Chip Design - Part 2 of 2**  
Qiskit  
**WATCHED 59:11**
- 4  **Qiskit Metal E04 - QComponents for parametric design**  
Qiskit  
**52:46**

## New analysis (pre-recorded)

- 5  **Qiskit Metal E05.1 - Analysis - Capacitance and Frequency Control**  
Qiskit  
**1:09:45**
- 6  **Qiskit Metal E05.2 - Analysis - Eigenmode and Energy Participation**  
Qiskit  
**1:07:02**
- 7  **Qiskit Metal E05.3 - Analysis - EPR Theory**  
Qiskit  
**1:18:26**
- 8  **Qiskit Metal E05.4 - Analysis - Summary EPR Quantization with Code Example**  
Qiskit  
**1:07:32**
- 9  **Qiskit Metal E05.5 - Analysis - Finish Eigenmode Start Impedance Analysis**  
Qiskit  
**54:27**
- 10  **Qiskit Metal E05.6 - Analysis - Extracting S Parameters for a Hanging Resonator**  
Qiskit  
**40:18**

Transmon Qubit CPB Hamiltonian × Transmon Qubit CPB Hamiltonian × +

localhost:8888/notebooks/tutorials/Appendix/Quick Topic Tutorials Notebooks/Transmon Qubit CPB Hamiltonian Charge Basis Demo.ipynb#Experimental

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jupyter Transmon Qubit CPB Hamiltonian Charge Basis Demo Last Checkpoint: 05/19/2021 (autosaved)

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## Modeling transmon qubit Cooper-pair box Hamiltonian in the charge basis

(Zlatko Minev, Christopher Warren, Nick Lanzillo 2021)

This module models the transmon qubit in the cooper-pair charge basis, assuming wrapped junction phase variable. The Hamiltonian is given by:

$$\hat{H} = 4E_C (\hat{n}_\downarrow - n_g) - E_J \cos(\hat{\phi}),$$

where  $E_C$  is the charging energy,  $E_J$  is the Josephson energy,  $\hat{n}$  is the number of Cooper pairs transferred between charge islands,  $\hat{\phi}$  is the gauge-phase difference between charge islands, and  $n_g$  is effective offset charge of the device. Expressions for the charging energy, Josephson energy and charge can be written as:

$$E_C = \frac{e^2}{2C_\Sigma}, \quad n_g = -\frac{C_d \Phi_s(t)}{2e}, \quad E_J = \frac{\phi_0^2}{L_J},$$

where  $C_\Sigma = C_J + C_B + C_g$  (the sum of the Josephson capacitance, shunting capacitance and gate capacitance),  $L_J$  is the inductance of the Jose junction, and  $\phi$  is the magnetic flux.

The variables are

$$\hat{\phi} \equiv \frac{\hat{\Phi}}{\phi_0}, \quad \hat{n} \equiv \frac{\hat{Q}}{2e},$$

Observe that  $\hat{\phi}$  and  $\hat{n}$  are both dimensionless, and they obey the commutation relationship:

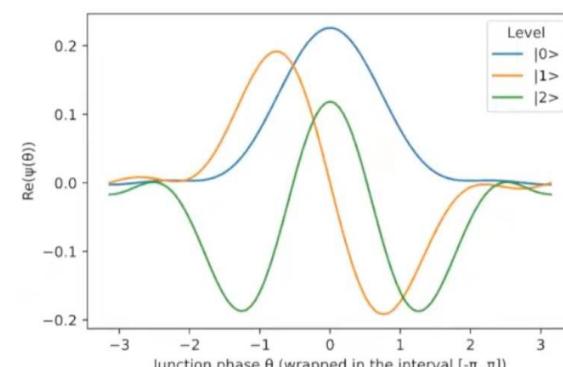
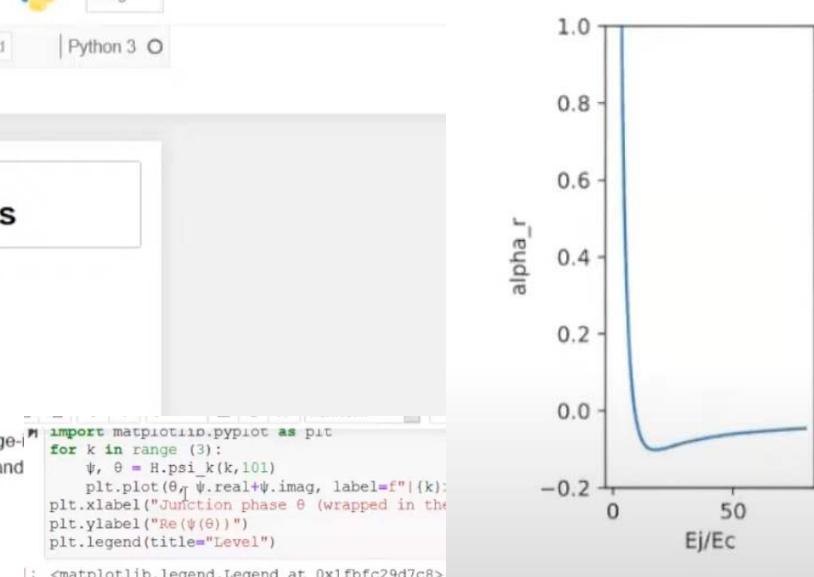
$$[\hat{\phi}, \hat{n}] = i$$

The Hamiltonian can be written in the charge ( $\hat{n}$ ) basis as:

$$H = 4E_C(\hat{n} - n_g)^2 - \frac{1}{2}E_J \sum_n (|n\rangle\langle n+1| + \text{h.c.}),$$

Where  $\hat{n} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} |n\rangle\langle n|$

10:51 / 53:04





Docs & tutorials  
[qiskit.org/documentation/metal](https://qiskit.org/documentation/metal)

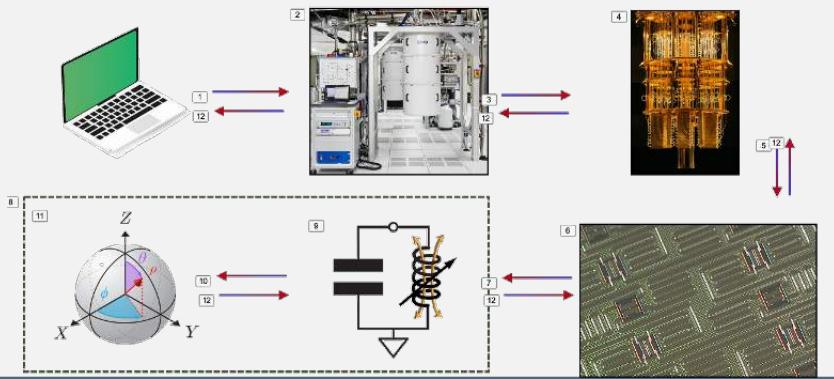
Tutorial videos  
YouTube – see docs

Slack  
**#metal** (qiskit workspace)

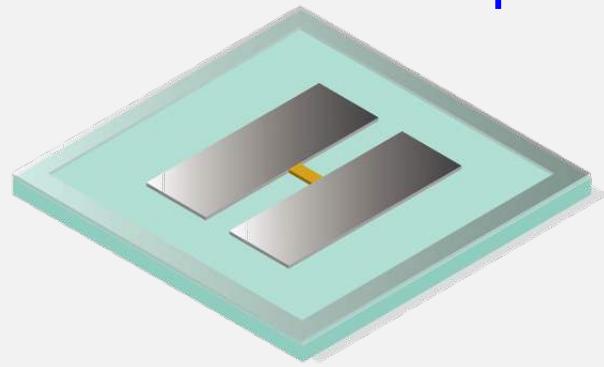
Live weekly tutorials

# The road behind and ahead

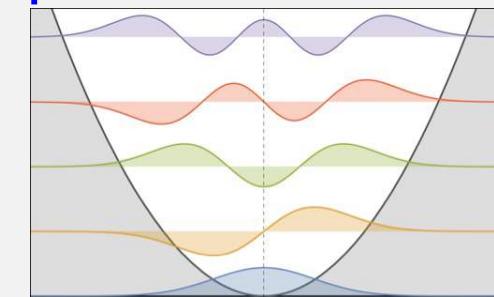
## Qubit in the cloud



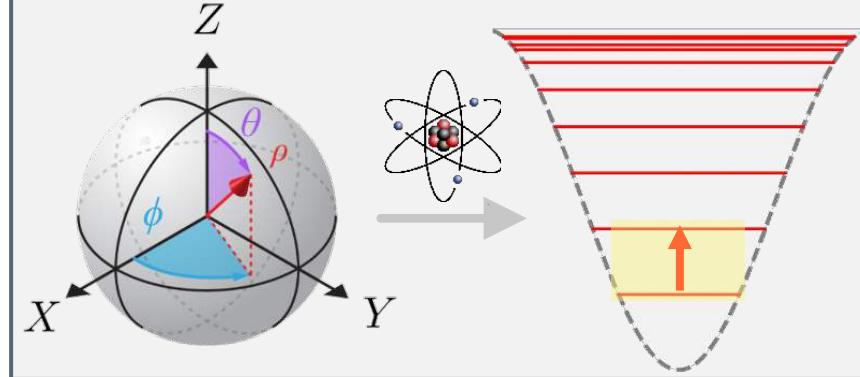
## cQED: Transmon qubit



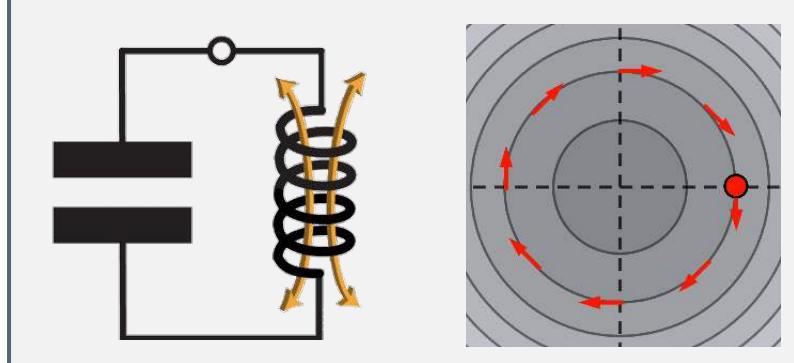
## Unveiling the quantum oscillator



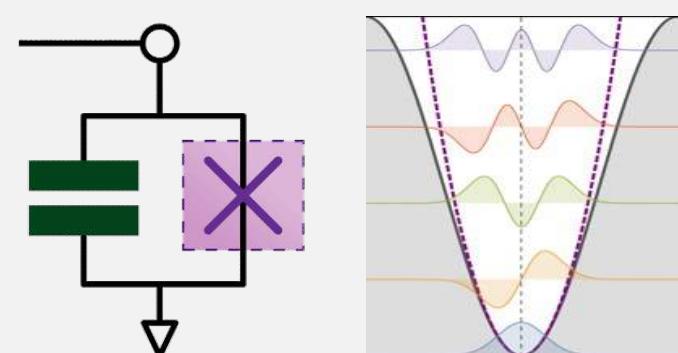
## Qubit from atom / oscillator



## Classical circuits & the LC



## Transmon qubit



# Next steps

Tightly integrated lab work with Dr. Thomas McConkey!

More depth on qubit control

Run experiments on real devices



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

Break away from the rules of today



Thank you!

**Zlatko K. Minev**



@zlatko\_minev



zlatko-minev.com

IBM Quantum

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.

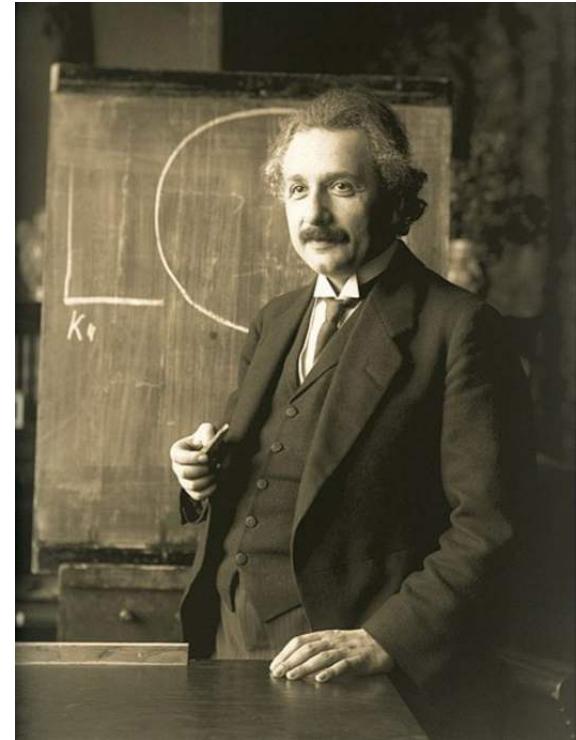


Photo: F. Schmutz

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Albert Einstein



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