

Tuneable hopping and cross-Kerr interactions with superconducting transmon qubits

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Acknowledgements: DiCarlo lab



Motivation

*Implementing on-chip
interaction regimes for
many-body
quantum simulations*

Strongly correlated systems

➤ Many interesting (unsolved) quantum many-body problems in lattice structures:

- High Tc superconductors → pairing mechanism?
- Topological properties of fractional QH states?
- Color confinement in QCD
-



➤ Quantum simulation

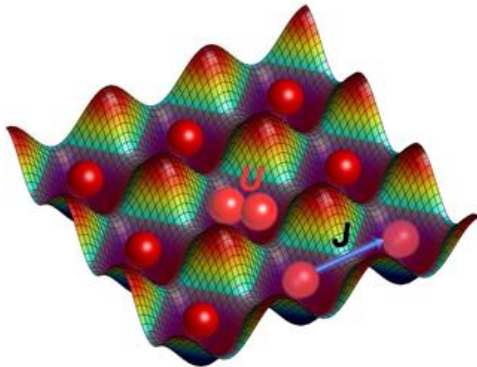
Use well-controlled engineered quantum mechanical systems to study these models

Start
"simple"



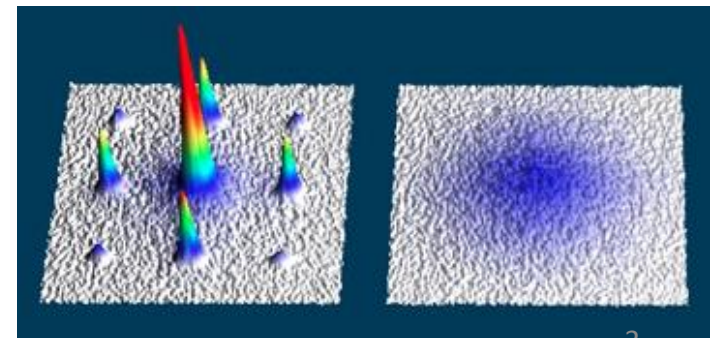
Increase complexity:
particles & interactions

➤ A paradigmatic many-body system: "Bose – Hubbard model"



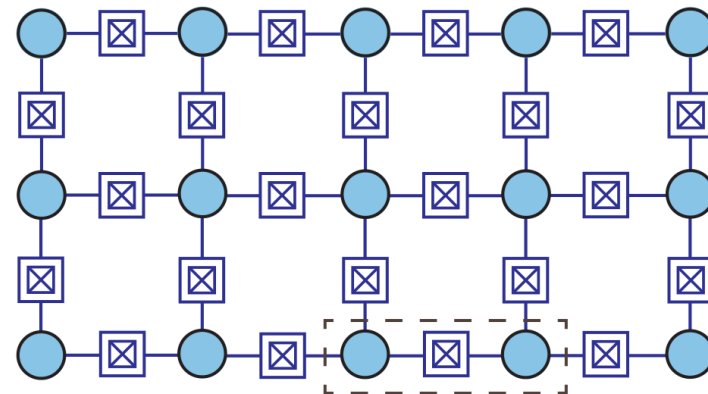
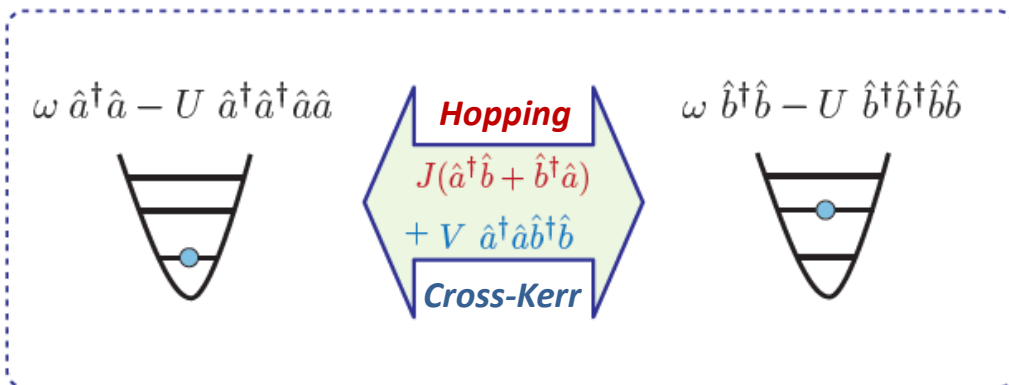
*Phase transition at the
interplay of hopping vs
on-site interactions
(J vs U)*

Superfluid to Mott-Insulator Transition:



Extended Bose-Hubbard models

Adding new interaction terms: “*cross-Kerr*”



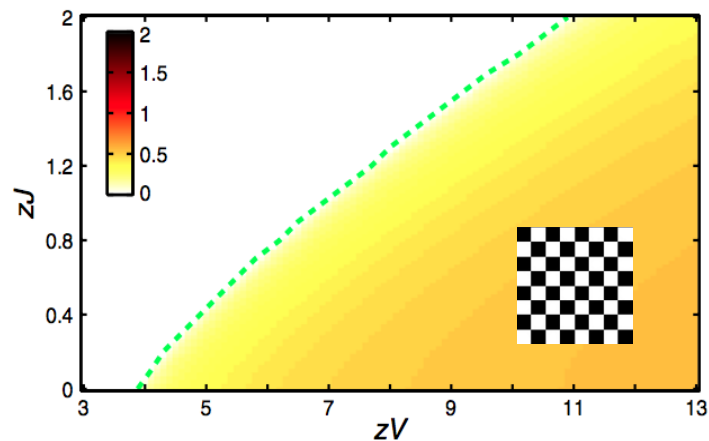
Competing interactions leading to richer quantum phase transitions

➤ *Photon crystalline-supersolid phases?*

(Mean-field theory predictions)

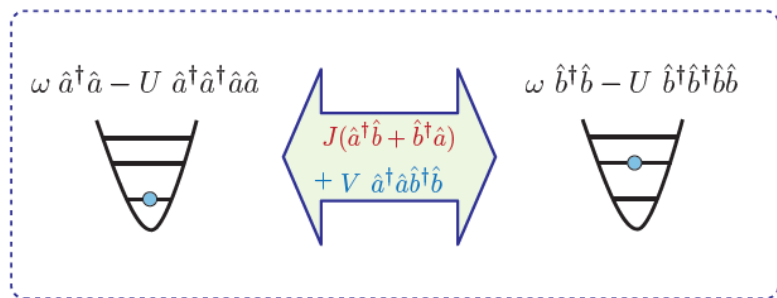
Jin et al, Phys. Rev. Lett. (2013)

Exploring different J/V regimes could lead to exotic phases of light

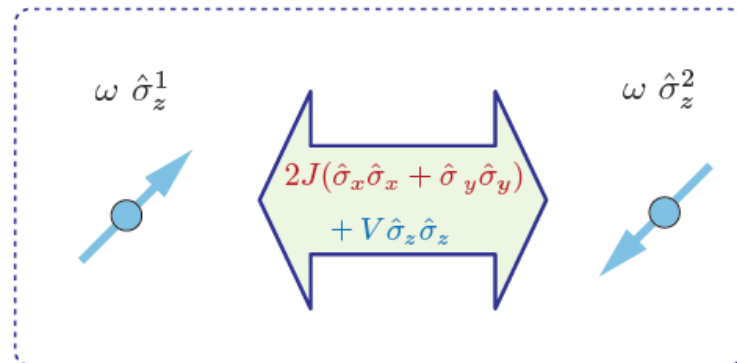


Emulating spin systems

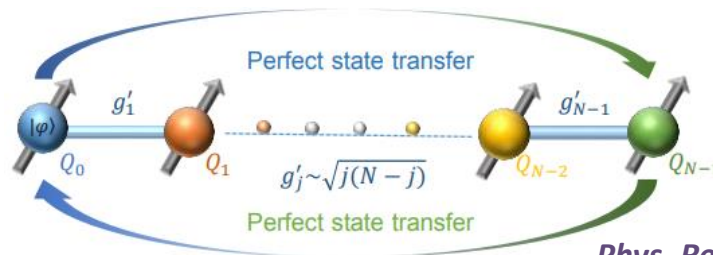
Restricting to qubit manifold:



Heisenberg XXZ model

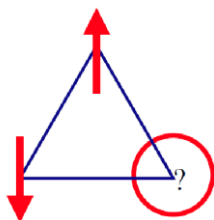


- State transfer protocols in spin chains



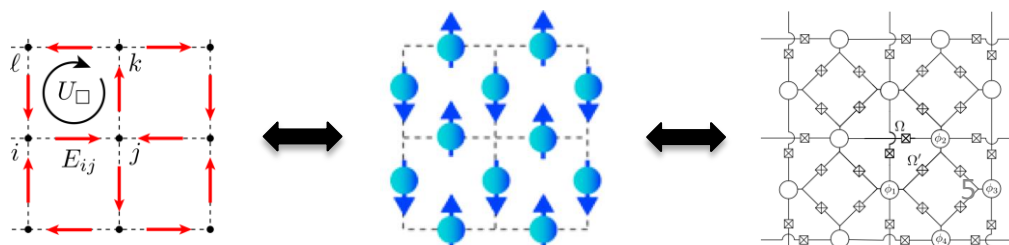
Phys. Rev. Lett. 92 (2004)
Phys. Rev. Applied 10 (2018)

- Frustration



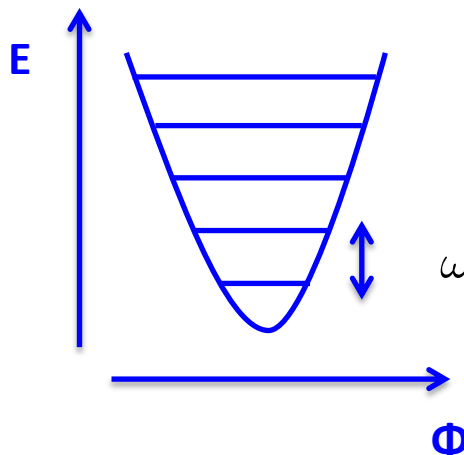
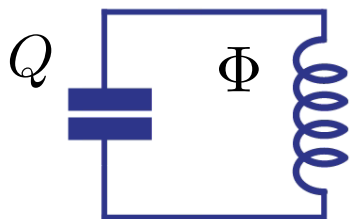
- Simulating lattice gauge fields

Marcos et al,
Ann. Phys. (2014)



Superconducting transmon qubits

LC circuit

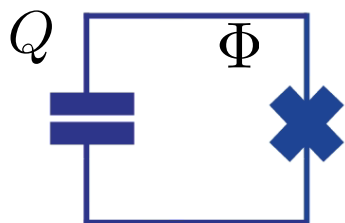


$$H = \frac{Q^2}{2C} + \frac{\Phi^2}{2L}$$

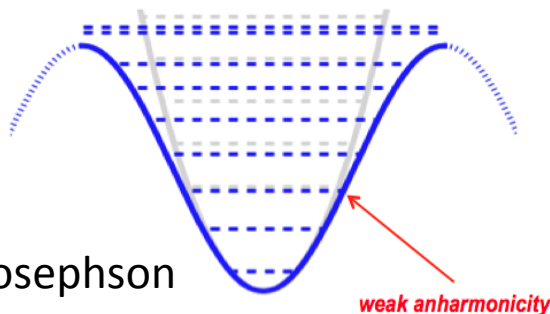
$$\omega_{01} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}} \sim 5 - 10 \text{ GHz}$$

Operating above the energy scale of thermal effects

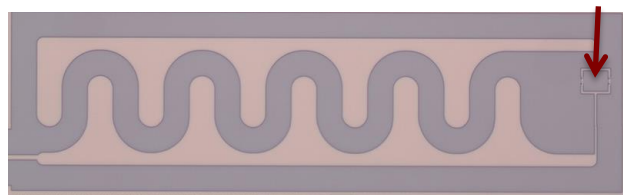
Transmon qubit



SIS Josephson junction



- Non-dissipative (superconducting)
- Flexible in design and engineering
- Nonlinearity provided by Josephson junctions



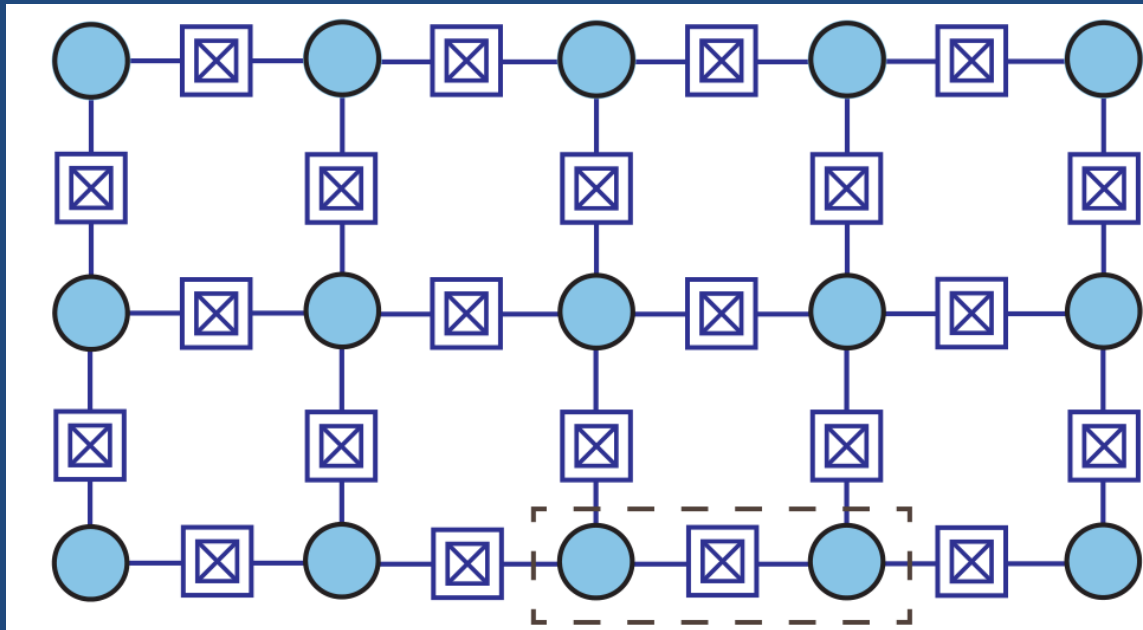
~0.5 mm

$$H = \frac{Q^2}{2C} - E_J \cos \Phi = \omega_A \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} - \left(\frac{E_{CA}}{2} \right) \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} \hat{a}$$

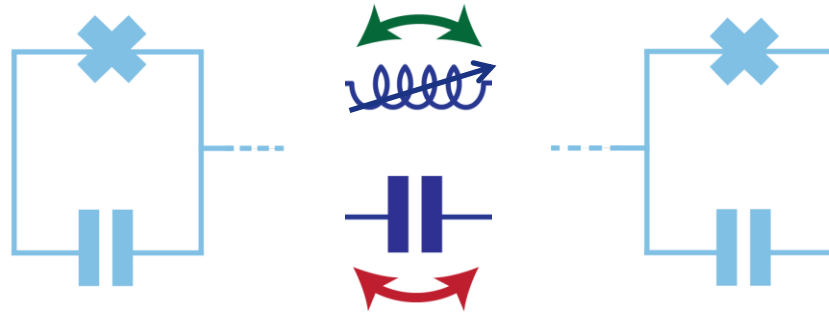
Koch et al. PRA (2007)

Anharmonicity / On-site interaction

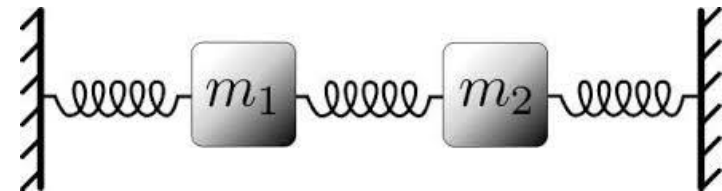
Coupling transmons



Using linear circuit elements



Same as coupled mass-spring system:



Dipole coupling / hopping interaction



$$-J_L(\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{b} + \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{a})$$

$$J_C(\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{b} + \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{a})$$

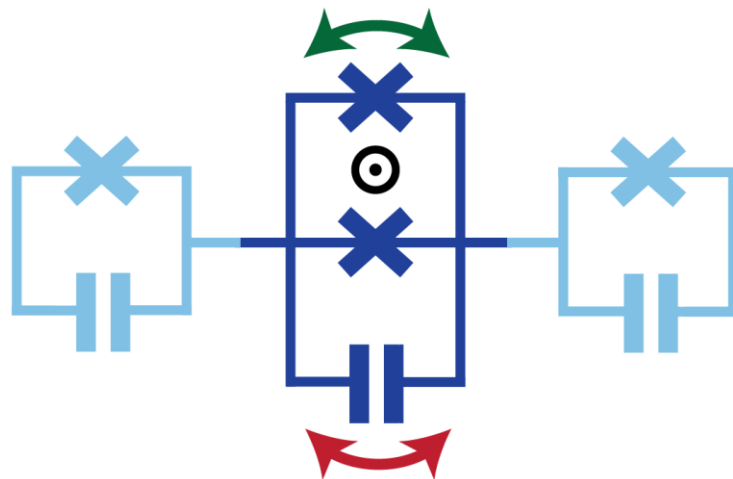
$$\omega_A \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} - \frac{E_{C_A}}{2} \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} \hat{a}$$



$$\omega_B \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b} - \frac{E_{C_B}}{2} \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b} \hat{b}$$

A capacitor in parallel to a tuneable inductor can be used to turn coupling on/off

Our coupling scheme: A SQUID and a capacitor



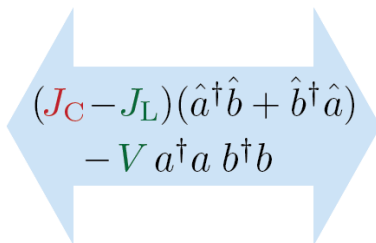
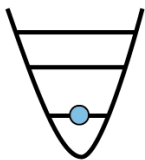
SQUID: flux-tuneable nonlinear inductor

$$-J_L(\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{b} + \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{a}) - \underbrace{V a^\dagger a b^\dagger b}_{\text{Nonlinearity in the coupling}} + \dots$$

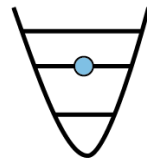
Combined with a capacitor:

*Nonlinearity in the coupling
results in cross-Kerr interaction*

$$\omega \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} - U \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} \hat{a}$$

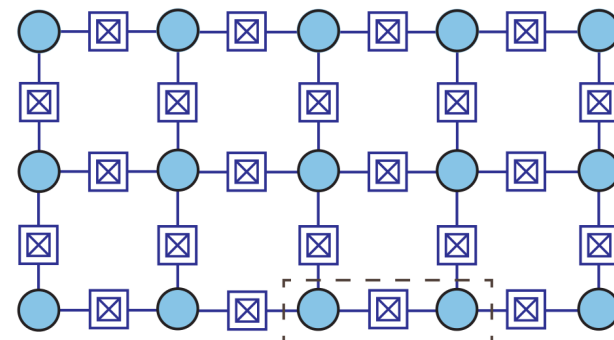


$$\omega \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b} - U \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{b} \hat{b}$$



$$(J_C - J_L)(\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{b} + \hat{b}^\dagger \hat{a}) - V a^\dagger a b^\dagger b$$

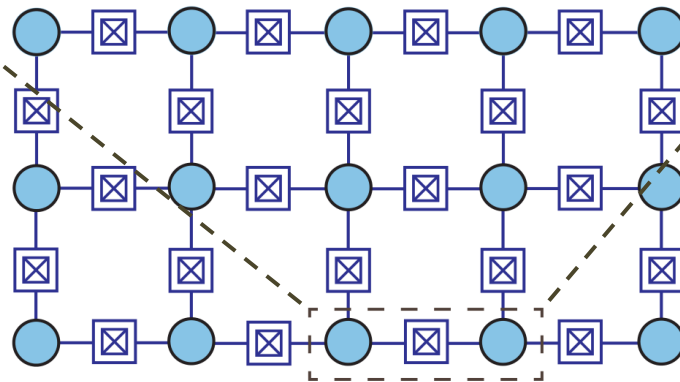
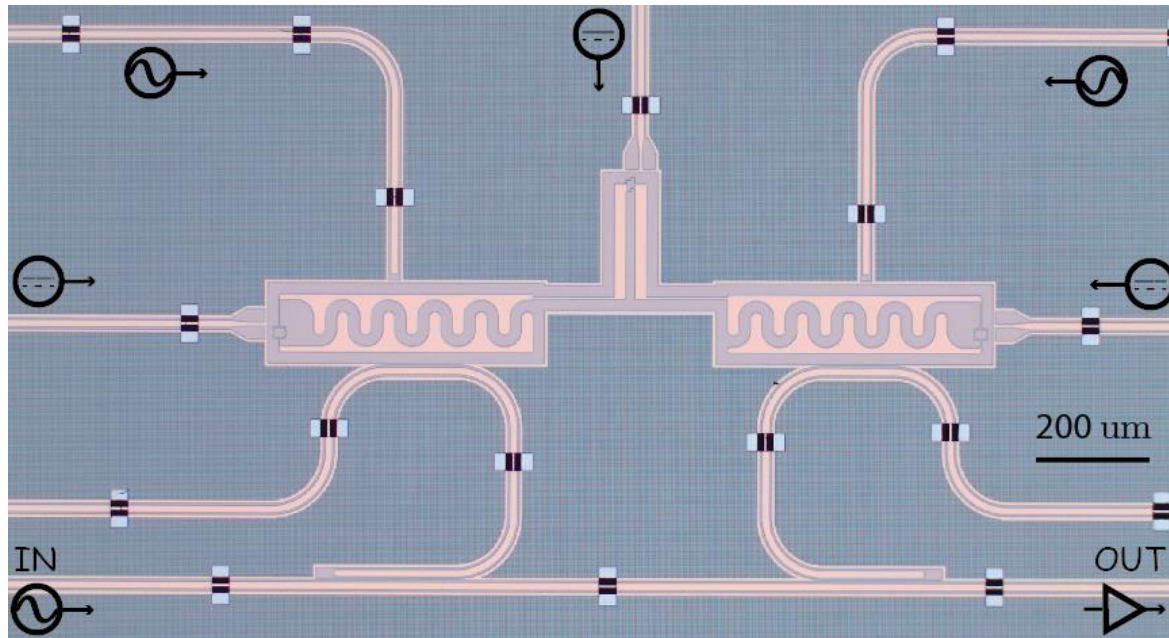
Tuneable J/V coupling regimes



Implementation

Implementation

NbTiN chip:



Implementation

NbTiN chip:

Ground plane

Flux line

Drive line

Flux line

Drive line

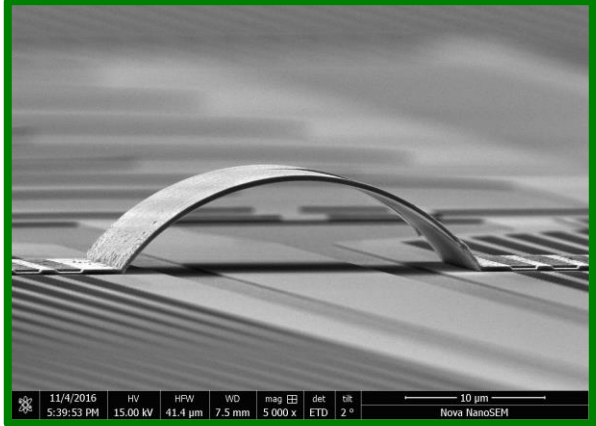
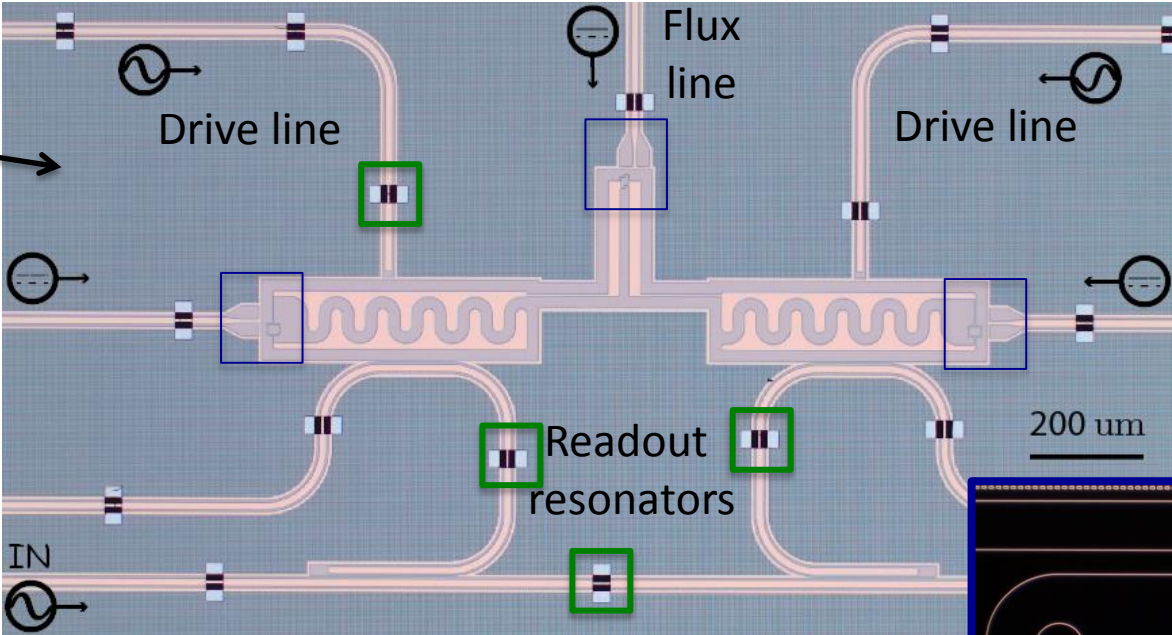
Flux line

Readout resonators

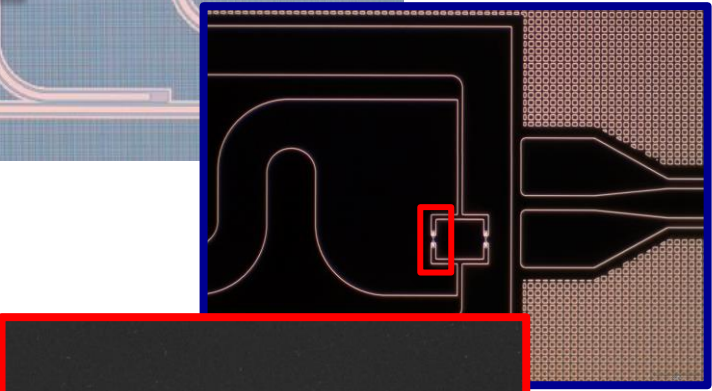
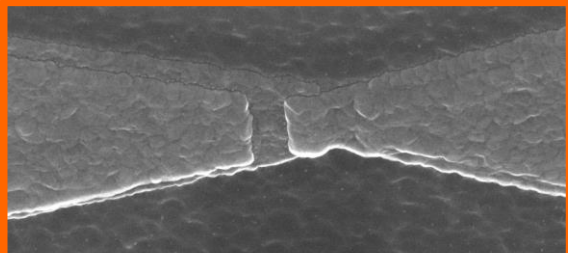
200 μm

SQUID loop

Air-bridges

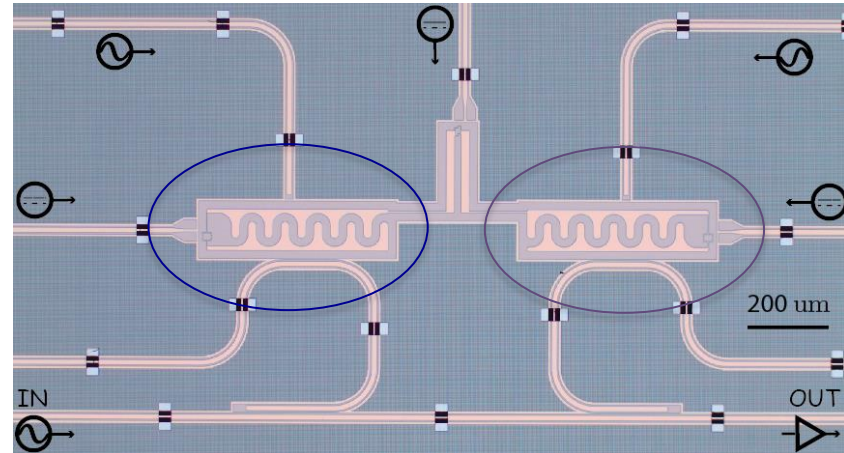


Al/AIOx/Al junctions

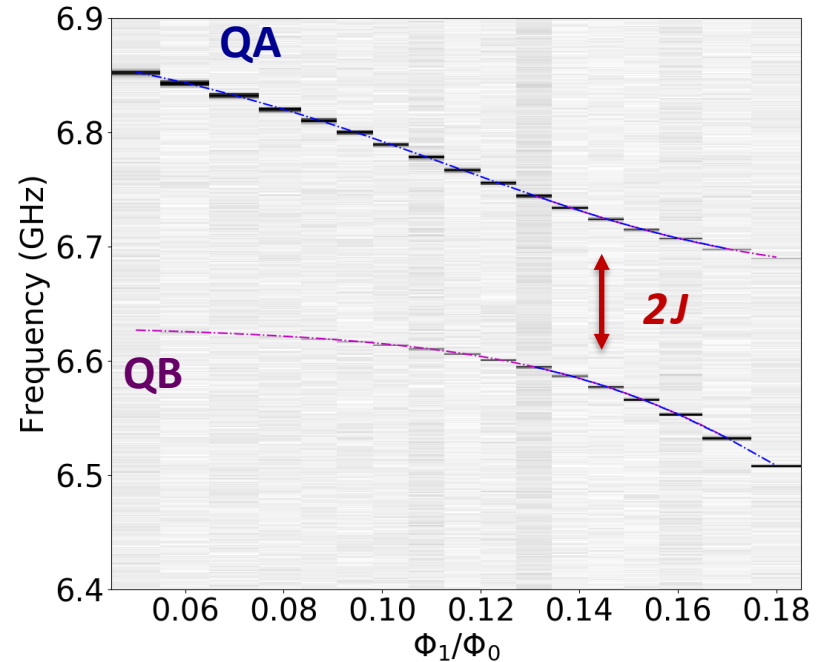
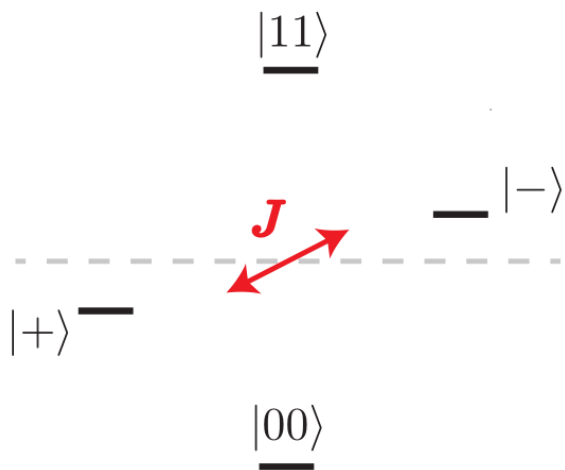


Measuring the normal mode splitting

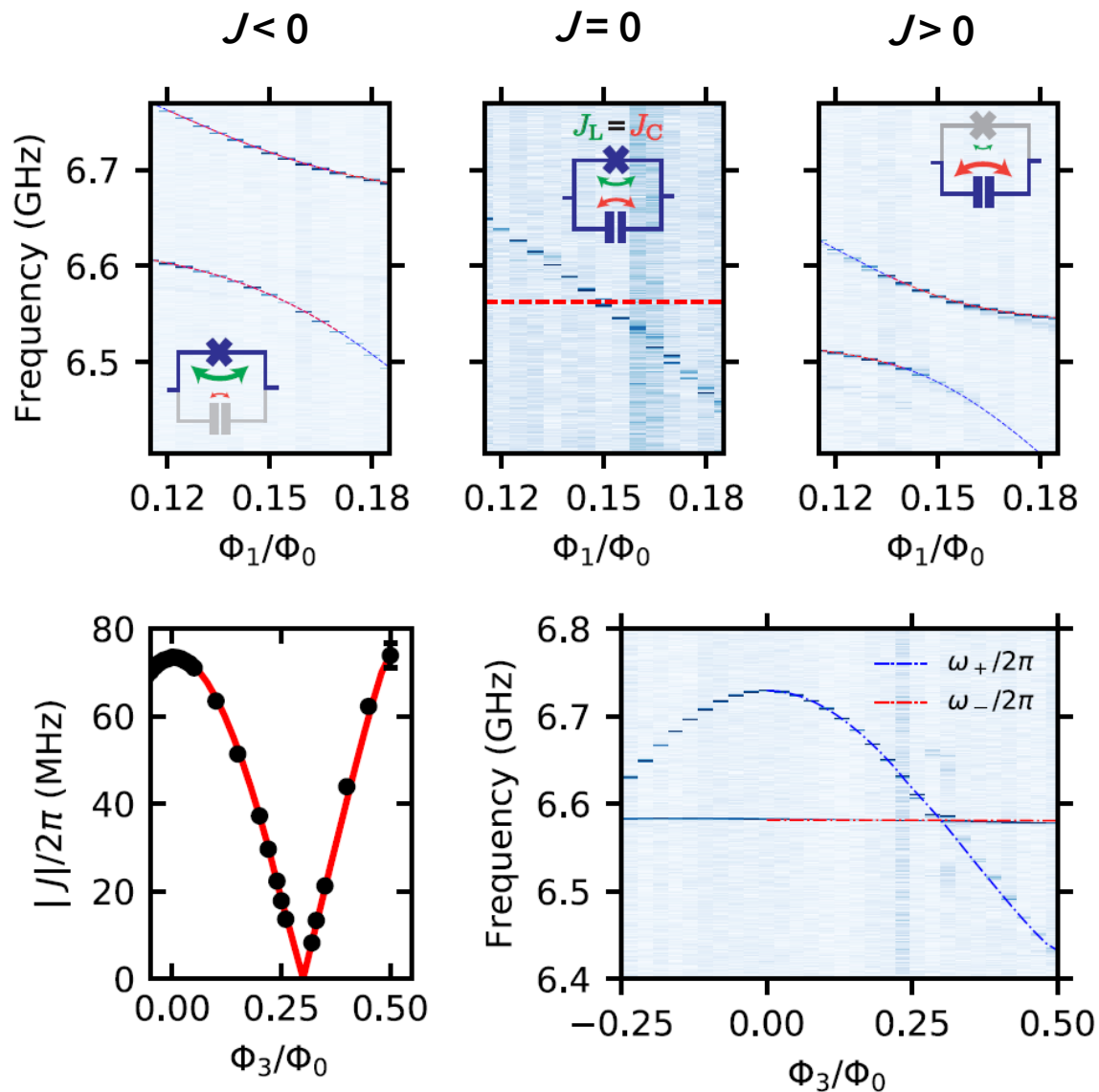
- “Cross” **QA** into resonance with **QB**
- Normal mode splitting determines the linear qubit-qubit coupling



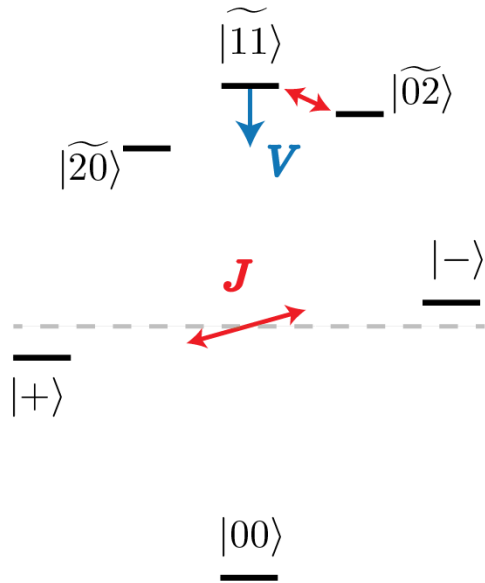
Avoided crossing



Tuning the linear coupling through zero



Measuring the cross-Kerr coupling



Cross-Kerr: the energy of one qubit depends on the other being populated

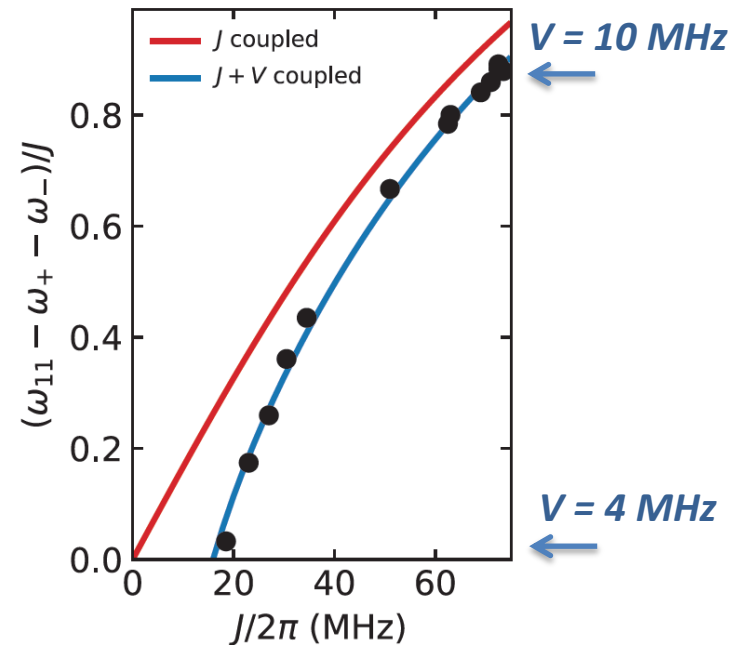
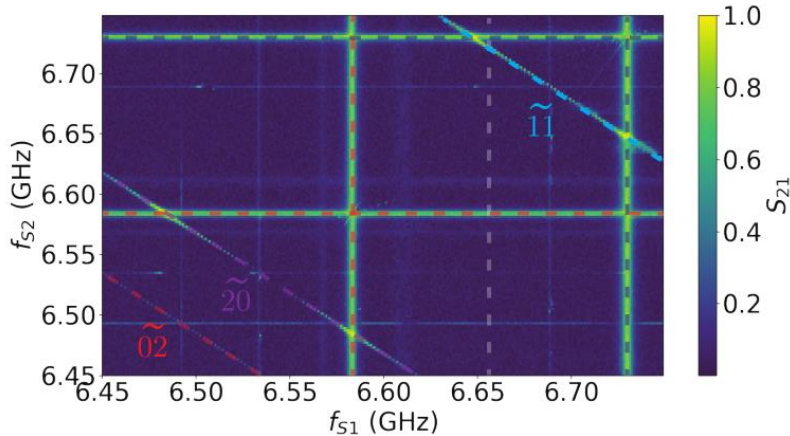
$$-V a^\dagger a b^\dagger b \quad \longrightarrow \quad \text{Negative shift of } 11 \text{ level}$$

$$\omega_{11} - \omega_+ - \omega_- < 0$$

BUT: transmons are weakly anharmonic

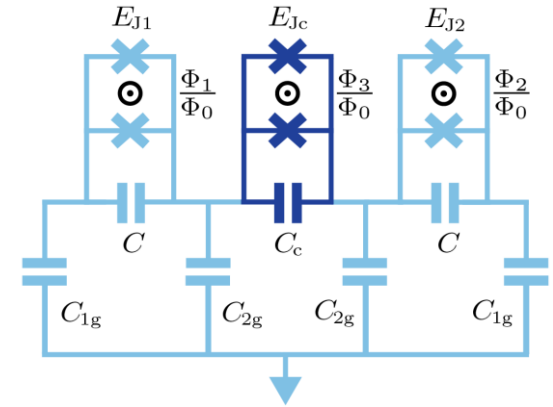
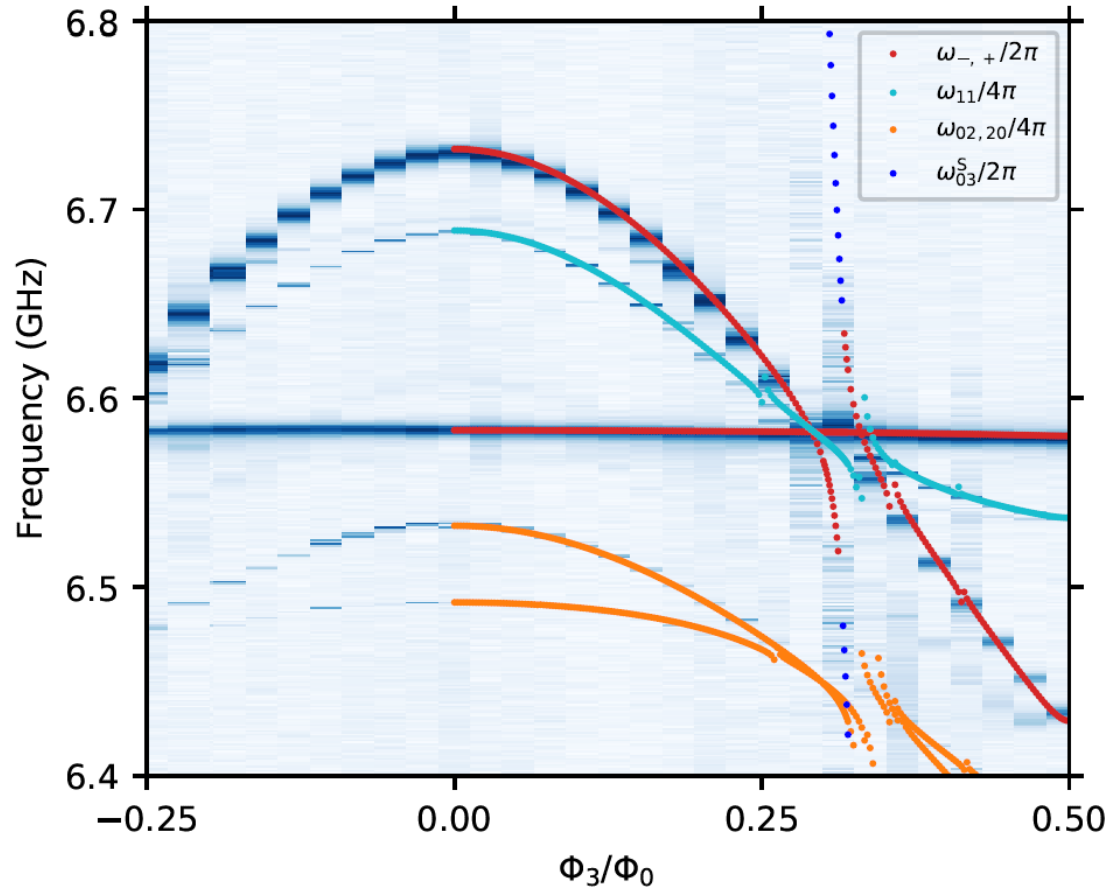
\longrightarrow **Repulsion of 11 due to higher levels**

3-tone spectroscopy



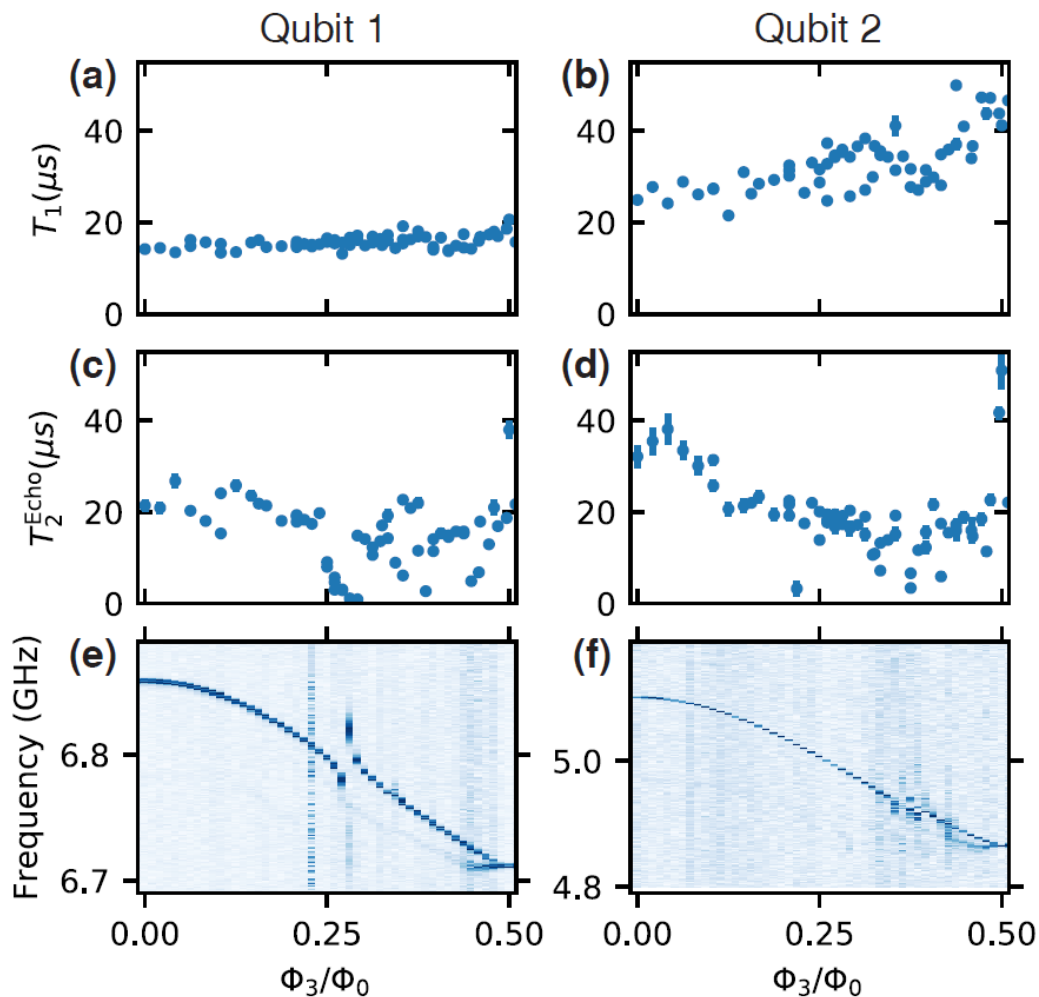
Full circuit model

Higher excitation manifold of the coupled system:



- All transitions well-understood including interfering “coupler mode”
- Crucial for scaling up to more complicated circuits

High coherence vs coupler tuning

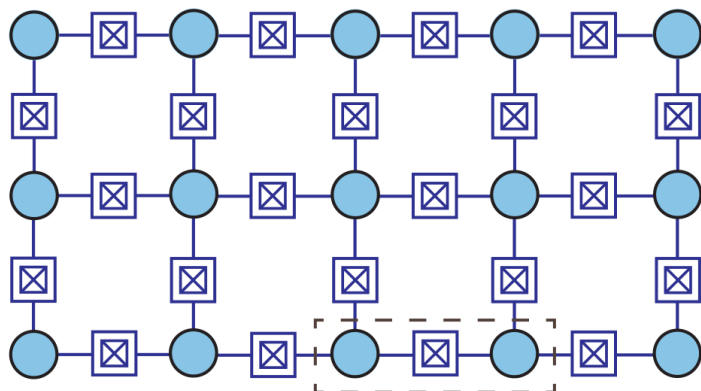


- High coherence compared to interaction timescales (2-3 orders of magnitude)
- Relaxation times unaffected by the coupler

Outlook to new experiments

Spin models with off-resonant qubits

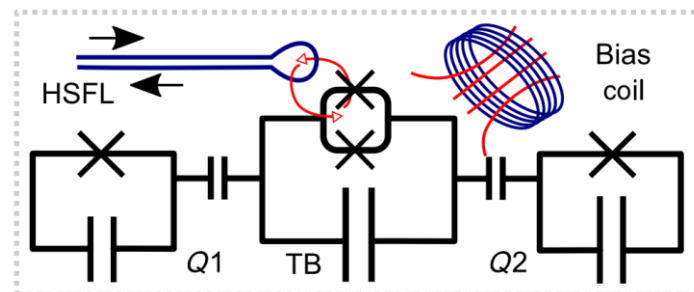
Scaling up leads to complexity...



- **Circuitry gets more complicated**
- **Frequency crowding**
- **Flux cross-talk**

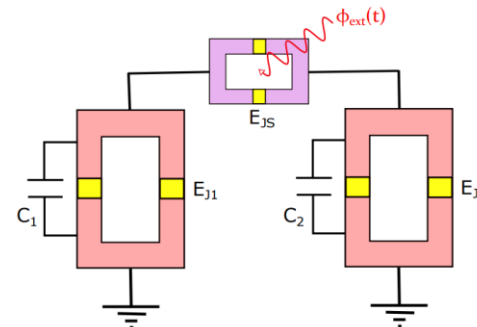
Smart choice of flux modulation of our coupler can implement arbitrary spin model interactions between two detuned qubits

Making off-resonant qubits interact



D. McKay et al., Phys. Rev. Applied 6 (2016)
M. Ganzhorn et al., arXiv:1809.05057

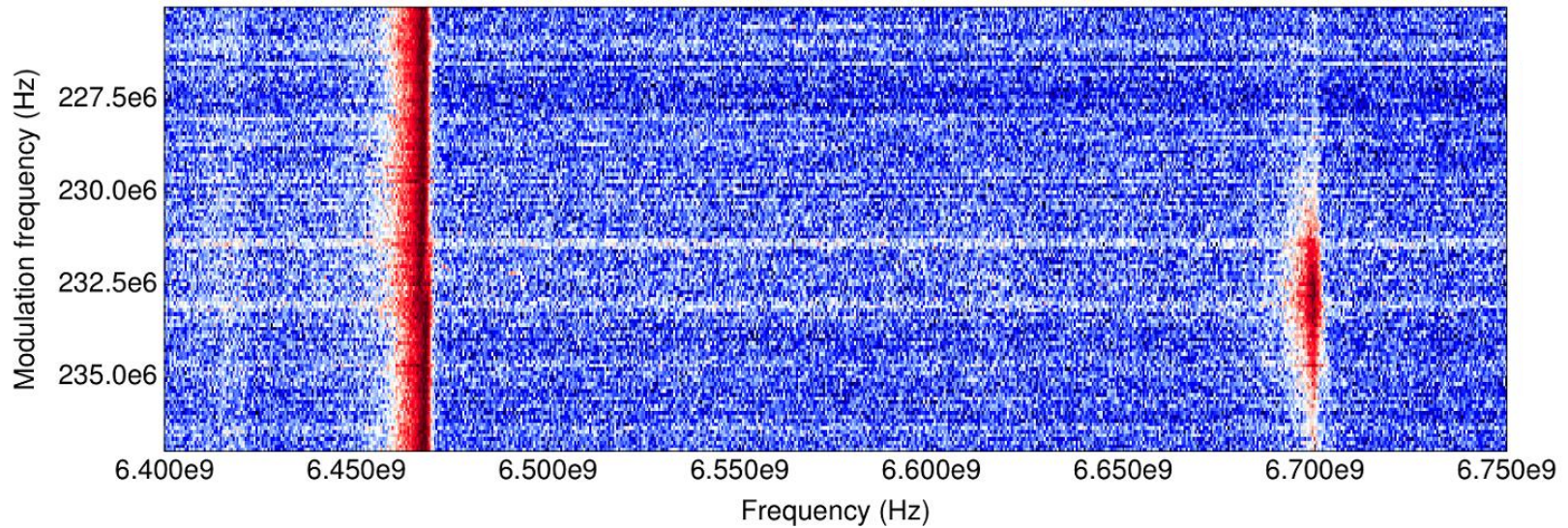
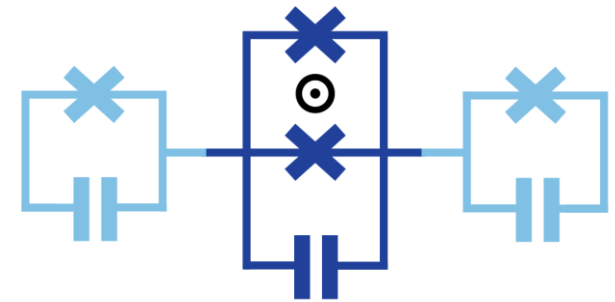
Difference frequency: **XY** coupling (hopping)
 Sum frequency: **pure XX** coupling (squeezing)
 Cross-Kerr: **ZZ** coupling



M. Sameti & M. J. Hartmann arXiv:1808.03176
Collodo et al., arXiv:1808.00889

Towards dynamic flux pumping in our device

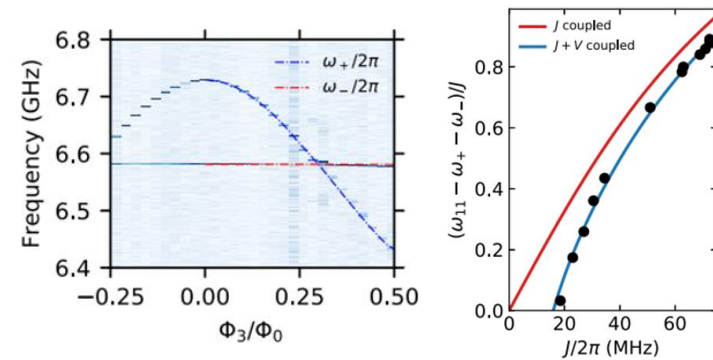
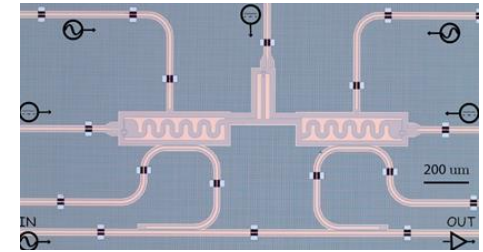
Sweeping the coupler flux modulation around the frequency difference



Work in progress..

Summary

- A scalable building block for analog quantum simulation of many-body systems
- Tuning and suppressing hopping terms
- Tuning the strength of nonlinear (cross-Kerr) interactions relative to hopping
- High relaxation times unaffected by the coupler
- Towards parametrically activated spin model interactions in off-resonant qubits



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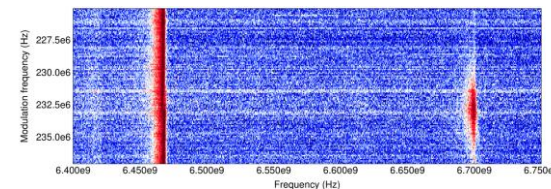
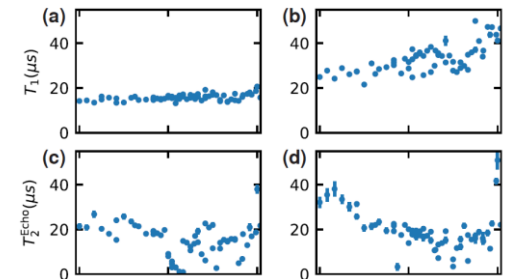
Acknowledgements: DiCarlo lab



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Thank you for your attention!