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Josephson metamaterials: properties and fabrication

Circuit QED: from Quantum Devices to Analogues on Superconducting Circuits - Trento, October 3-5

Emanuele ENRICO

Introduction







Introduction





Introduction





Quantum Electronics - NanoTech





Quantum Electronics - Applications



Quantum Manifesto, A New Era of Technology May 2016

Pillars share **quantum states** experimental access, evidence and advantage

0		0	0
1. Communication	2. Simulators	3. Sensors	4. Computers
0 – 5 years			
A Core technology of quantum repeaters	A Simulator of motion of electrons in materials	A Quantum sensors for niche applications (incl. gravity and magnetic sensors for health	A Operation of a logical qubit protected by error correction or topologically
B Secure point-to-point quantum links	B New algorithms for quantum simulators and networks	care, geosurvey and security)	D. New eleverithms for every
		B More precise atomic clocks for synchronisation of	computers
		future smart networks, incl. energy grids	 Small quantum processor executing technologically relevant algorithms
5 – 10 years			
 Quantum networks between distant cities 	 C Development and design of new complex materials 	C Quantum sensors for larger volume applications including automotive, construction	D Solving chemistry and materials science problems with special purpose quantu
D Quantum credit cards	D Versatile simulator of quantum		computer > 100 physical qub
	magnetism and electricity	D Handheld quantum navigation	
> 10 years		uevices	
F. Quantum repeaters	E Simulators of quantum	F Gravity imaging devices based	F Integration of quantum circu
with cryptography and eavesdropping detection	dynamics and chemical reaction mechanisms to	on gravity sensors	and cryogenic classical contr hardware
	support drug design	F Integrate quantum sensors	
 Secure Europe-wide internet merging quantum and classical communication 		with consumer applications including mobile devices	 General purpose quantum computers exceed computational power of classical computers



Quantum states – Energy scale



Circuit QED gives access to the **tuneability** of quantum states interactions with **chip-scale** technologies



Metrology perspective and current status of cQED related quantities

Quantity	Traceability protocols	Calibration Standards	Uncertainty budget
Temperature			
Frequency			
Voltage			
Current			
Impedance			
S-parameters			
Gain/Attenuation			
Power			



Circuit QED Toolbox

- Transmission lines
- Resonators / Cavities
- Qubits
- Isolators / Circulators
- Bias-tee
- Directional couplers
- Quantum limited linear amplifiers
- Detectors (transducers or counters eg. single microwave photon detectors)
- Nonclassical radiation sources



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- **Josephson metamaterials** are engineered circuits characterized by mixing processes promoting:
- Parametric amplification Quantum limited added-noise
- Parametric downconversion Nonclassical radiation



Nonlinear (meta) materials

Dipole electric momentum of a nonlinear material under electromagnetic stimulus

```
\mathsf{P}(t) \!=\! \varepsilon_0 \left( \chi^{(1)} \mathsf{E}(t) \!+\! \chi^{(2)} \mathsf{E}^2(t) \!+\! \chi^{(3)} \mathsf{E}^3(t) \!+\! ... \right)
```

When a (weak) signal is pumped by a (strong) one

 $E(t)=E_{p}\cos(\omega_{p}t)+E_{s}\cos(\omega_{s}t)$

It generates

- Second harmonics (SHG)
- Sum frequency
- Different frequency or Parametric Down Conversion (PDC)







Nonlinear (meta) materials - µWaves

- Transmission line (eg. CPW or stripline) + identical meta-atom (with JJ nonlinearity)
- Effects of the interaction with the single cell are perturbative -> avoid abrupt changes that acts like point defects
 or scattering sites (crystal analogy)



S. Pagano et al., *Development of Quantum Limited Superconducting Amplifiers for Advanced Detection*, IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond, **32**, 4 (2022)

Zorin, Phys. Rev. Appl. 6, 034006 (2016)



Transmission lines peculiarities

- Packed CPW/stripline
- Influenced by substrate/dielectrics choice materials losses (eg. TLS)
- Total size vs. chip size slotline modes -> Airbridges
- Chip and connectors size influence packaging cavity modes





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Modelling

Modelling

First Quantization Hamiltonian

We adapt and further extend the work presented in [1] to an rf-SQUID based Josephson Traveling Wave Parametric Amplifier [2]

 $\Delta \Phi_{DC}$ is the constant flux difference due to external bias

 $\delta \Phi(z,t)$ is the timedependent flux difference induced by the travelling waves

The first quantization Hamiltonian can be written as the sum of the electromagnetic energy stored in each component of the transmission line

$$H = \frac{1}{a} \int_{0}^{aN} \left[\frac{1}{2L_{g}} \Delta \Phi(z, t)^{2} + \varphi_{0} I_{c} \left(1 - \cos\left(\frac{\Delta \Phi(z, t)}{\varphi_{0}}\right) \right) + \frac{C_{J}}{2} \left(\frac{\partial \Delta \Phi(z, t)}{\partial t}\right)^{2} + \frac{C_{g}}{2} V_{C_{g}}^{2}(z, t) \right] dz$$

[1] T. H. A. van der Reep, "Mesoscopic Hamiltonian for Josephson traveling-wave parametric amplifier", Phys. Rev. A 99, 063838 (2019)
 [2] A. B. Zorin, "Josephson Traveling-Wave Parametric Amplifier with Three-Wave Mixing", Phys. Rev. App. 6, 034006 (2016)

Second Quantization Hamiltonian

Second Quantization Hamiltonian

The Hamiltonian describes all the energy preserving interactions between 3 or 4 traveling waves (i.e., the parametric down conversion, the sum frequency generation, the high order harmonics generation, etc...)

Quantum states evolution

CMEs from Heisenberg Equation

Selecting a proper bias condition, the amplifier can work as a pure 3-Wave Mixer or 4-Wave Mixer (H_{3WM} , H_{4WM}). In this condition the evolution of propagating modes can be derived solving the Heisenberg equation:

$$\frac{d\hat{a}_n}{dt} = \frac{i}{\hbar} \left[H_{3WM(4WM)}, \hat{a}_n \right] + \frac{\partial \hat{a}_n}{\partial t} \qquad \text{where } n = \{\text{p, s, i, j}\}$$

Under the undepleted and classical pump approximation, the output field at the signal frequency ω is:

$$\hat{a}_{\omega}(t) = \left[\left(\cosh(gt) + \frac{i\Psi}{2g} \sinh(gt) \right) \hat{a}_{\omega,\text{in}} - \left(\frac{i\Upsilon}{g} \sinh(gt) \right) \hat{a}_{\omega',\text{in}}^{\dagger} \right] e^{-i\left(\frac{\Psi}{2}\right)t}$$

where g is the complex gain factor, Ψ is the density phase mismatch and Υ is the interaction parameter.

$$\hat{a}_{\omega,\text{in}}$$

 $\hat{a}_{\omega',\text{in}}$
Parametric
Down-Conversion
 $\hat{a}_{\omega,\text{out}} = u(\omega)\hat{a}_{\omega,\text{in}} - v(\omega)\hat{a}^{\dagger}_{\omega',\text{in}}$

Classical quantities

Signal photon number at output

An idler tone at the input port influences the Noise figure $F(\omega)$ of the amplifier

[4] Z. Shi et al., "Quantum noise properties of non-ideal optical amplifiers and attenuators", J. Opt. 13 (2011)

Noise Temperature

The effective temperature $T_{eff}(\omega)$ of the amplifier is the temperature that a Bose-Einstein distribution should have to equal the output ω mode occupancy generated by a vacuum input state [5]:

$$\frac{1}{e^{\hbar\omega/k_{\rm B}T_{\rm eff}(\omega)}-1}=|v(\omega)|^2$$

The noise temperature $T_n(\omega)$ is the effective temperature normalized on the gain minus the contribution given by the fluctuation of the input vacuum state:

$$T_{n}(\omega) = \frac{T_{eff}(\omega)}{G(\omega)} - \frac{1}{2}\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_{B}}$$

For high gain $T_n(\omega)$ approaches the Standard Quantum Limit:

$$T_{\rm n,SQL} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\hbar\omega}{k_{\rm B}}$$

[5] A. A. Clerk *et al.*, "Introduction to quantum noise, measurement, and amplification", *Rev. Mod. Phys.* **82**, 1155 (2010)

Time-evolution of bimodal Fock states

For more details ...

PHYSICAL REVIEW B 104, 184517 (2021)

Quantum model for rf-SQUID-based metamaterials enabling three-wave mixing and four-wave mixing traveling-wave parametric amplification

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A quantum model for Josephson-based metamaterials working in the three-wave mixing (3WM) and fourwave mixing (4WM) regimes at the single-photon level is presented. The transmission line taken into account, namely Josephson traveling wave parametric amplifier (JTWPA), is a bipole composed of a chain of rf-SQUIDs, which can be biased by a DC current or a magnetic field to activate the 3WM or 4WM nonlinearities. The model exploits a Hamiltonian approach to analytically determine the time evolution of the system both in the Heisenberg and interaction pictures. The former returns the analytic form of the gain of the amplifier, while the latter allows recovering the probability distributions vs time of the photonic population Fock and coherent input states. The dependence of the metamaterial's nonlinearities circuit parameters in a lumped model framework while evaluating the effects of the the model validity.

DOI: 10.1103/PhysRevB.104.184517

A. Greco et al., Phys. Rev. B (2021)

IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON APPLIED SUPERCONDUCTIVITY, VOL. 32, NO. 4, JUNE 2022

Bimodal Approach for Noise Figures of Merit Evaluation in Quantum-Limited Josephson Traveling Wave Parametric Amplifiers

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Abstract—The advent of ultra-low noise microwave amplifiers revolutionized several research fields demanding quantum-limited technologies. Exploiting a theoretical bimodal description of a linear phase-preserving amplifier, in this contribution we analyze some of the intrinsic properties of a model architecture (i.e., an rf-SQUID based Josephson Traveling Wave Parametric Amplifier) in terms of amplification and noise generation for key case study input states (Fock and coherent). Furthermore, we present an analysis of the output signals generated by the parametric amplification mechanism when thermal noise fluctuations feed the device.

eve photonics, noise figure,

gress in several fields pl um computation and br [4] radio detection ca

the amplifier is considered as a two-ports black-box driven at a pump frequency ω_p that amplifies a bosonic input mode at frequency ω . The amplification is associated with the creation of a second mode at frequency $\omega' = \omega_{\rm p} - \omega$ (the so-called idler mode of a three-wave mixing parametric amplification [15]) that is commonly considered as an internal mode of the amplifier that causes the onset of noise at the output port. Here, we extend and give a different perspective of this description considering the case in which an uncorrelated idler mode is already present at the input port (i.e., considering a bimodal input field), analyzing the effect of the interaction between these modes inside the amplifier in terms of typical noise estimators. This operative condition may arise in real measurement setups where the amplifier is exploited, for instance, for the multiplexed readout of broadband signals [16] or for the joint detection and amplification of probing signals in a microwave quantum illumination

L. Fasolo et al., IEEE TAS (2022)

Josephson metamaterials: properties and fabrication – cQED@Tn – 5/10/2022 - E. ENRICO

1700306

Preliminary samples

- Poor impedance matching of TL1, TL2 and 50 Ω
- No dispersion engineering
- High Josephson Junctions parameters spread
- No sloline modes rejection techniques

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Istituto Nazionale di Fisica Nucleare

Technologica

research

-40

-60

-80

-100

P / dBm

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S. Pagano et al., *Development of Quantum Limited Superconducting Amplifiers for Advanced Detection*, IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond, **32**, 4 (2022)

The role of Josephson Junction parameters spread

- Josephson Junction spread of parameters deeply affect the amplifiers performances (eg. Gain)
- Due to the exponential dependence of its properties, Josephson tunnel junctions are the **bottleneck** of the whole JTWPAs operation

The Effect of Parameter Variations on the Performance of the Josephson Travelling Wave Parametric Amplifiers, https://arxiv.org/abs/2112.07766

Technological challange

E. Enrico, et al., *Single charge transport in a fully superconducting SQUISET locally tuned by self-inductance effects*, AIP Advances **12**, 055122 (2022)

UV shadow lithography based Josephson Junction

PiQuET Cleanroom facility 500 m² of ISO 5-6 laboratories

Tunnel junctions in real life

- Niobium technology Multi-step sputtering-based process (Nb/Al/AlOx/Nb Technique, '80)
- Aluminum technology Single step e-beam evap-based process (Niemeyer-Dolan Technique, 1987)

Tunnel junctions in real life

UV shadow mask lithography

Thick and robust mask

compatible with O₂ ashing process reduced *hillocks* formation increased dielectric barrier uniformity

- Compatible with low-conductivity substrates
- Reasonable fast and reproducible process on wafer-scale
 tested with RT semi-automatic measurements on JJs series

Josephson Junctions - area/oxidation

interplay

Run to run predictability and repeatability

On-Wafer reproducibility and homogeneity

Quantum Signals Processing Lab.

Quantum Signals Processing Lab.

Two-ports microwave **S-parameters** calibration scheme at cryogenic temperature

Uncertainty budget contributions:

- Reproducibility
- Stability
- Standards

Luca Oberto (INRiM)

Microwave metrology for superconducting quantum circuits (20FUN07 SuperQuant)

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Ranzani L., Spietz L., Popovic Z., *and* Aumentado J., "Two-port microwave calibration at millikelvin temperatures", *Review of Scientific Instruments* **84**, 034704 (2013)

Signal processing + Control electronics

Quantum Signals Processing Laboratory

Control software

Quantum Signals Processing Laboratory

Squeezing as a resource

Principle scheme for detecting quantum correlations in the output signals of a JTWPA --- Frequency Lock Power IF-I divider Directional Digitize IF-O- RF_2 Coupler AWG IF-0 PC RF. IF-Q₁ Digitizer IF-I₁ IQ₁ То From Cryostat Cryostat LO1

Esposito M., Ranadive A., Planat A., Leger S., Fraudet D., Jouanny V., Buisson O., Guichard W., Naud C., Aumentado J., Lecocq F., *and* Roch N., "Observation of Two-Mode Squeezing in a Traveling Wave Parametric Amplifier", *Phys. Rev. Lett.* **128**, 153603 (2022)

Highly sensitive detection of single microwave photons with coherent quantum network of superconducting qubits for searching galactic axions

H2020-FETOPEN-2018-2019-2020-01

Future perspectives

Single Microwave Photon Detectors (SMPD) Calibration via Heralding

SPAD analogue in the microwave regime

G. Brida et al., An extremely low-noise heralded single-photon source: A breakthrough for quantum technologies Appl. Phys. Lett. 101, 221112-1-11 (2012). doi:10.1063/1.4768288

Highly sensitive detection of single microwave photons with coherent quantum network of superconducting qubits for searching galactic axions

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Thanks for your attention!

