

Engineering the speedup of quantum tunneling in Josephson systems via dissipation

Phys. Rev. B **106**, 045408 (2022)

Phys. Rev. Research **3**, 033019 (2021)

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Quantum dissipation

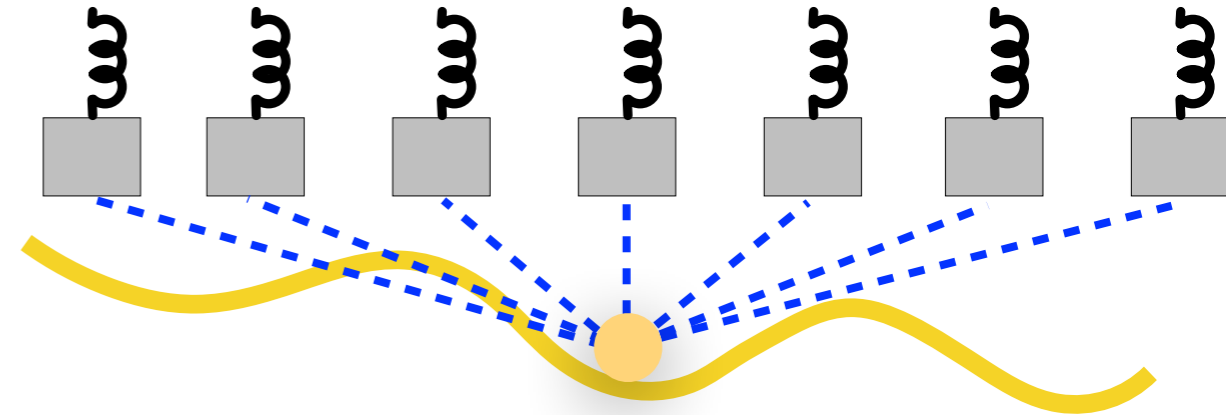
Quantum Brownian motion (Caldeira-Leggett model)

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_S + \hat{H}_{int} + \hat{H}_{bath}$$

$$\hat{H}_{int} \sim \hat{X} \hat{B}$$

particle's operator

bath's operator



conventional
interaction

$$\hat{X} = \hat{q}$$

unconventional
interaction

$$\hat{X} = \hat{p}$$

A. J. Leggett, *PRA* **30**, 1208 (1984)

Quantum dissipation

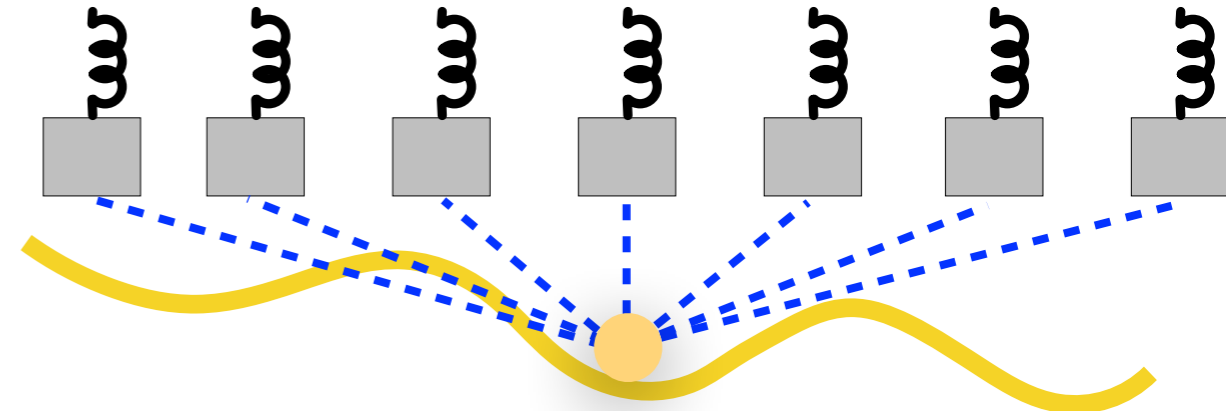
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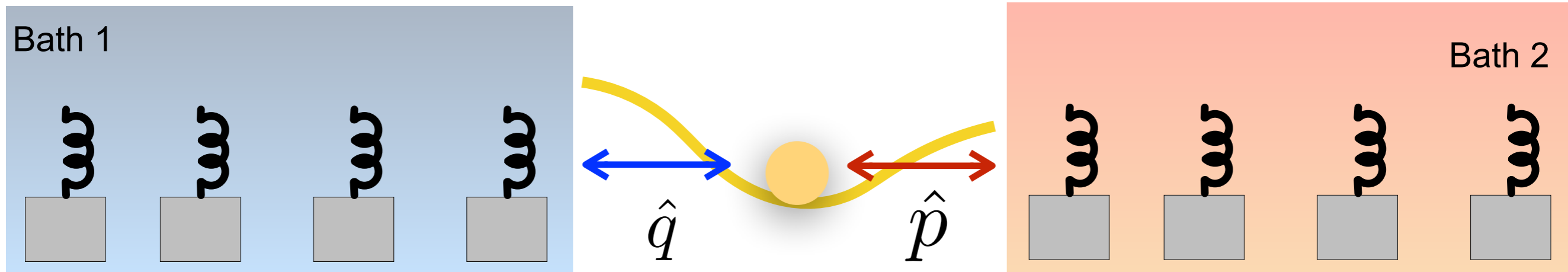
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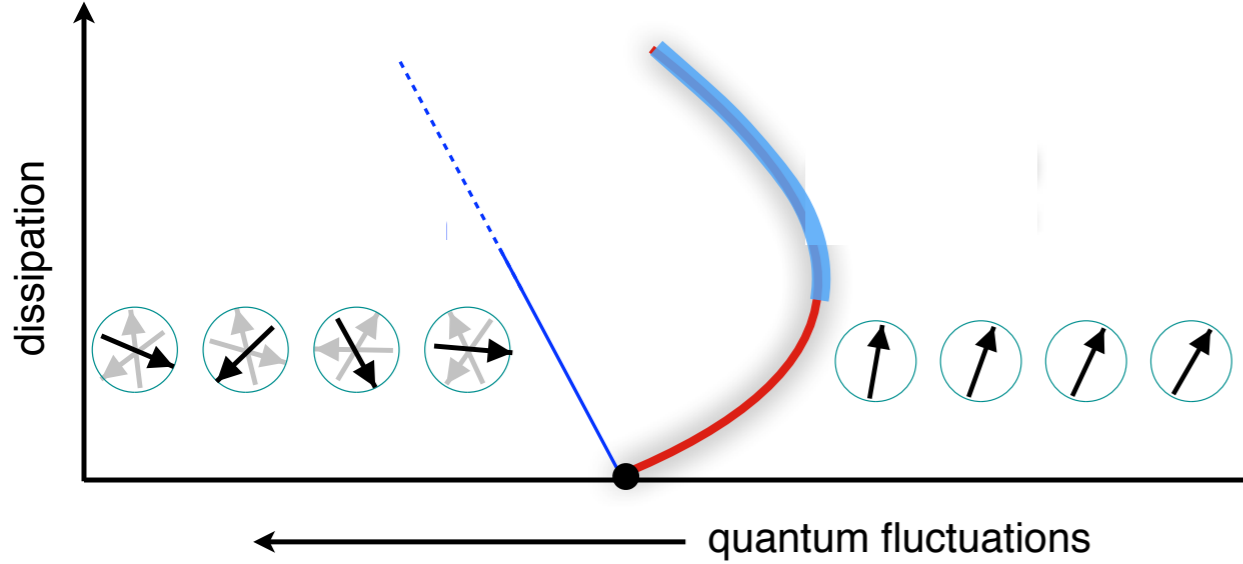
Question: coupling to two baths via two non-commuting observables?



[see for instance: *New J. of Phys.* **18**, 053033 (2016)]

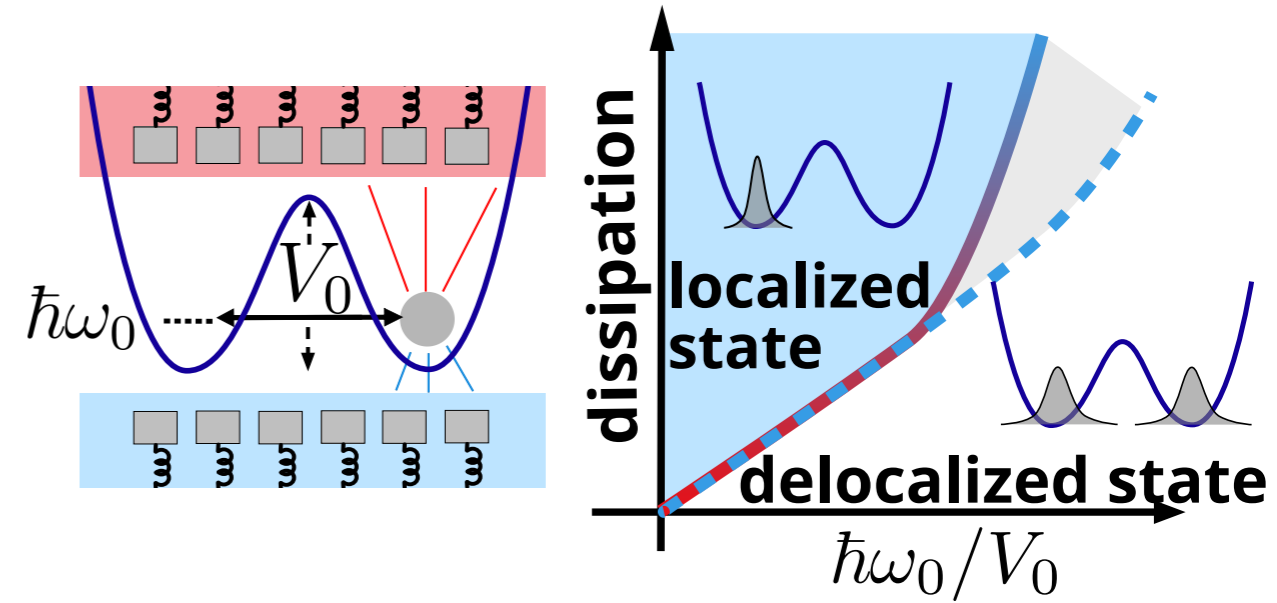
Some results

Many-body systems (Josephson junction chains)



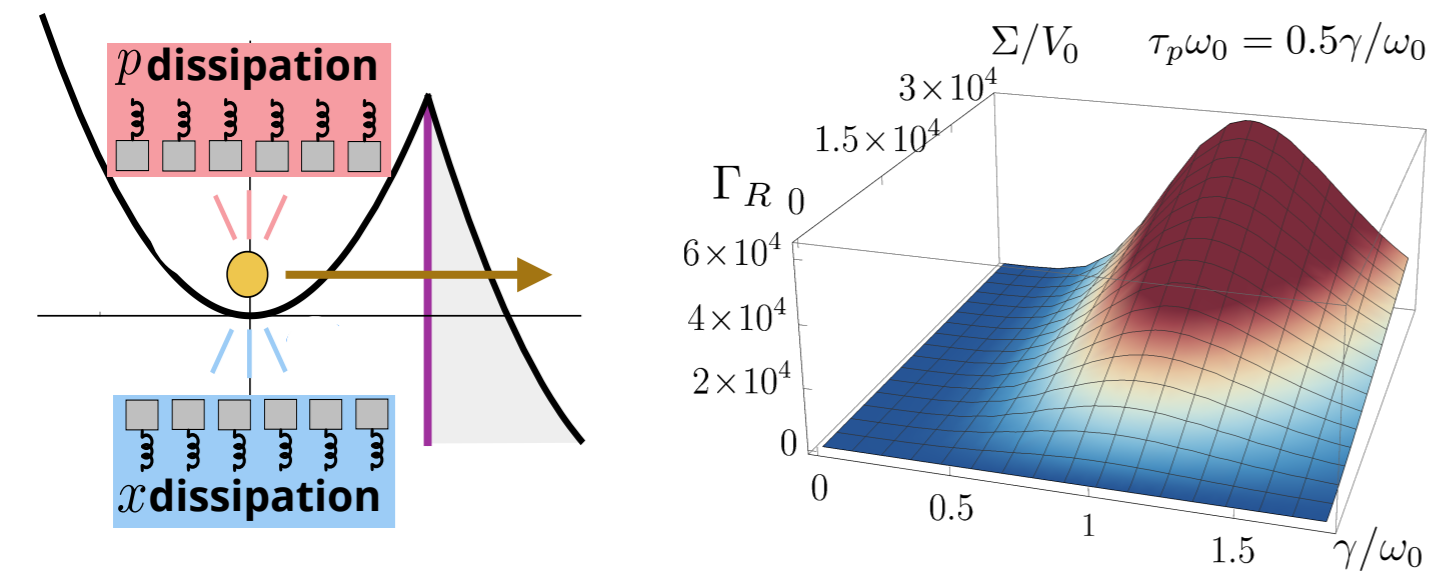
Phys. Rev. B **97**, 155427 (2018)

Double-well potential



Phys. Rev. Research **2**, 013226 (2020)

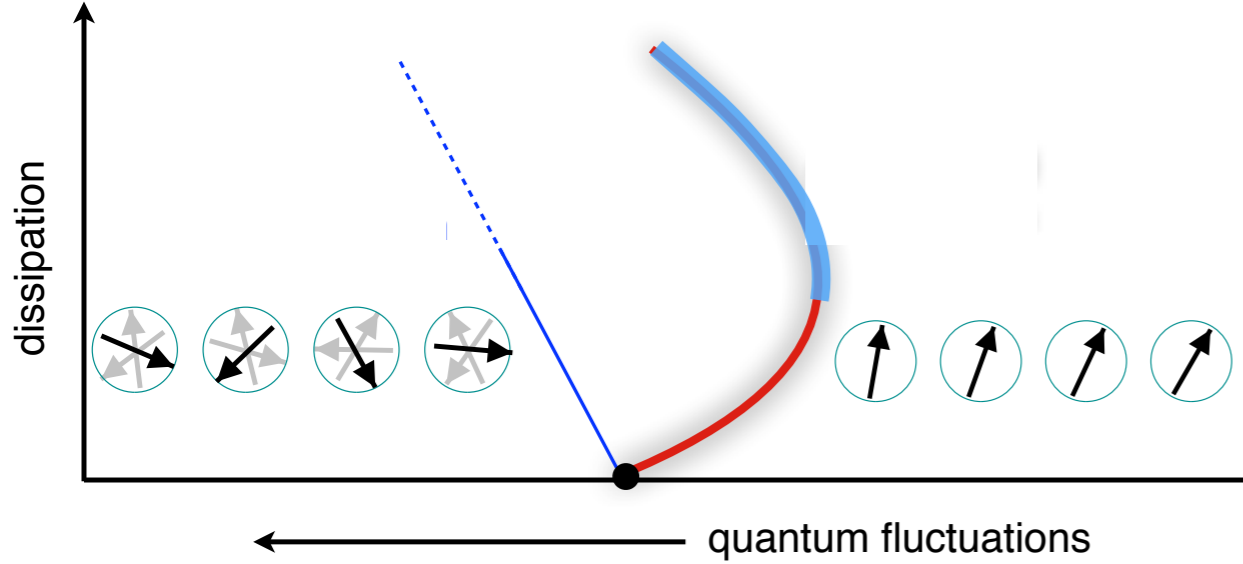
Metastable potential



Phys. Rev. Research **3**, 033019 (2021)

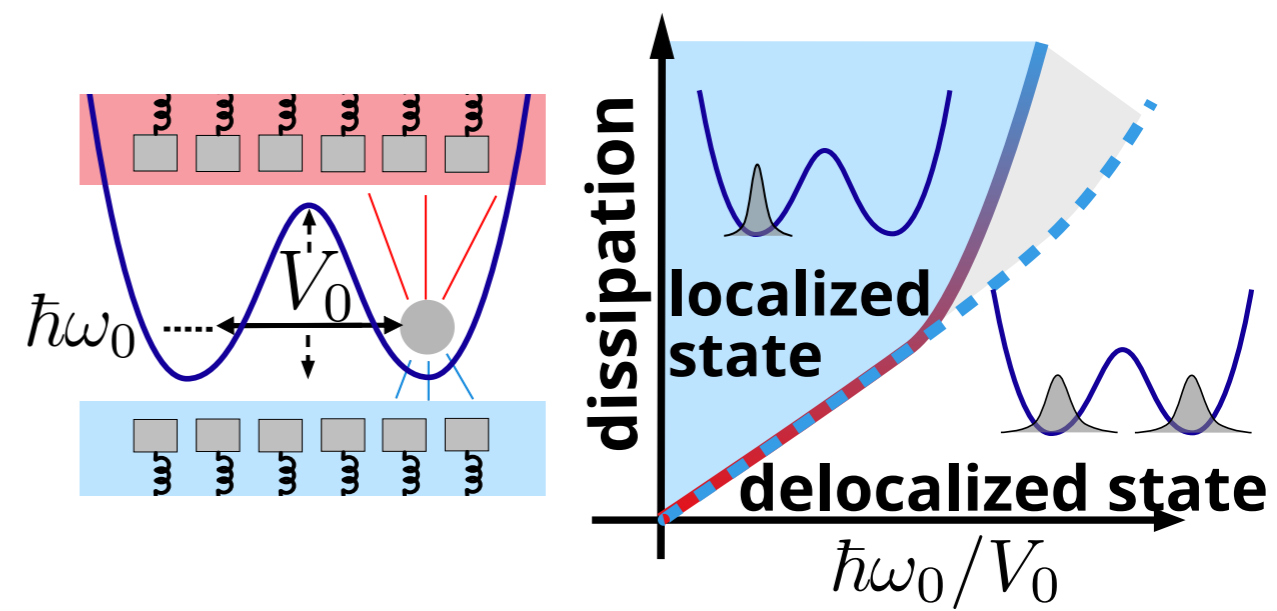
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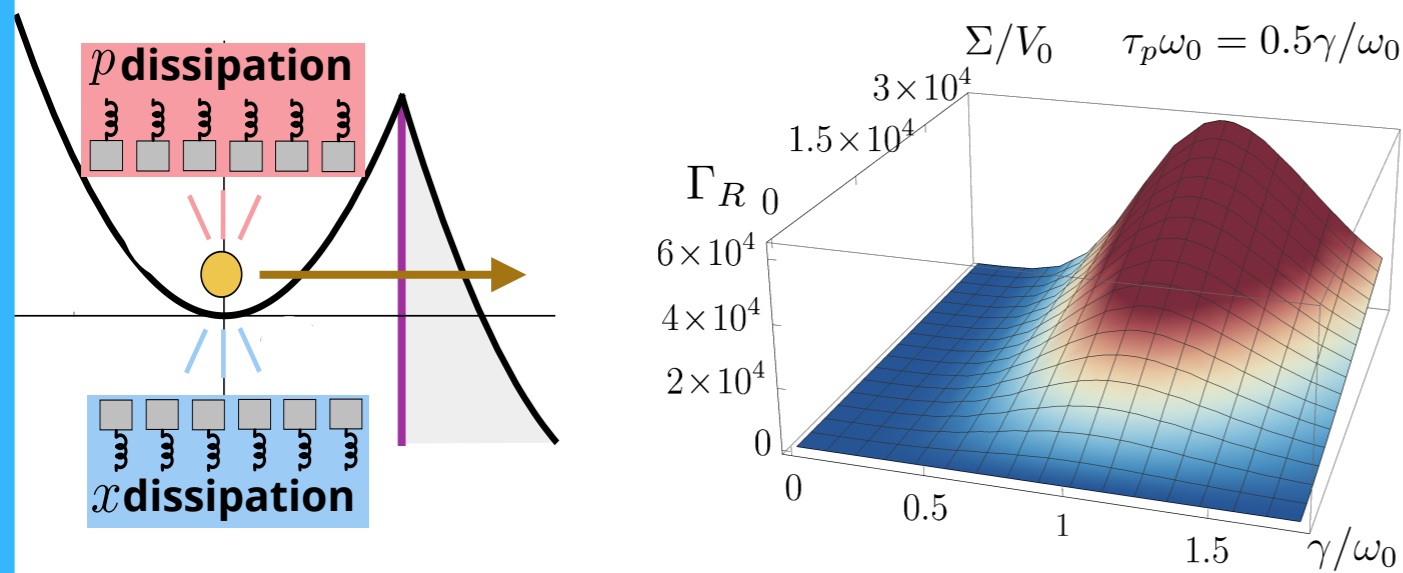
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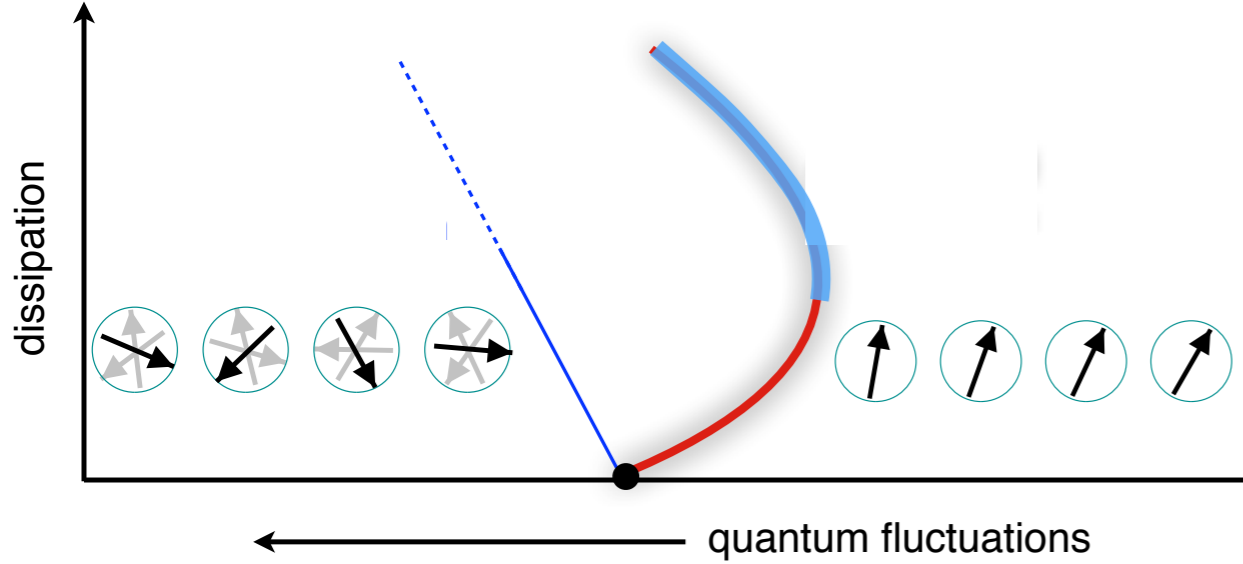
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Phys. Rev. Research **3**, 033019 (2021)

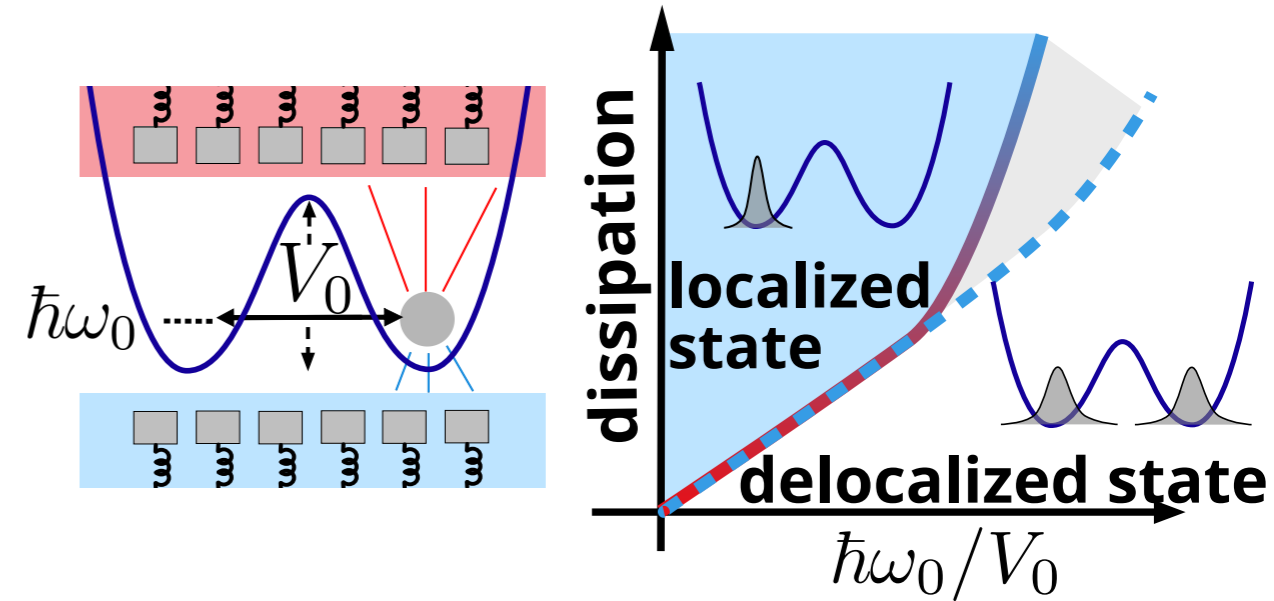
Some results

Many-body systems (Josephson junction chains)



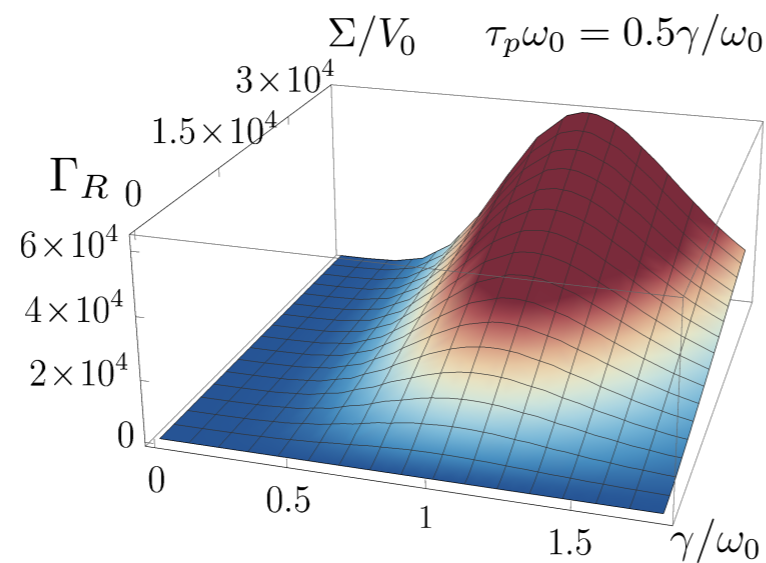
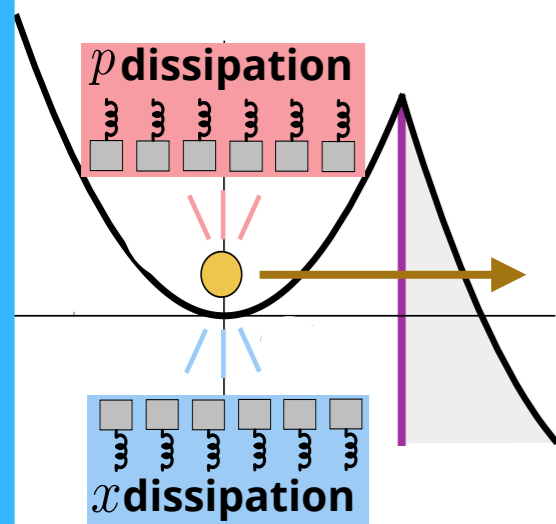
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How to realize it in an experimental system?

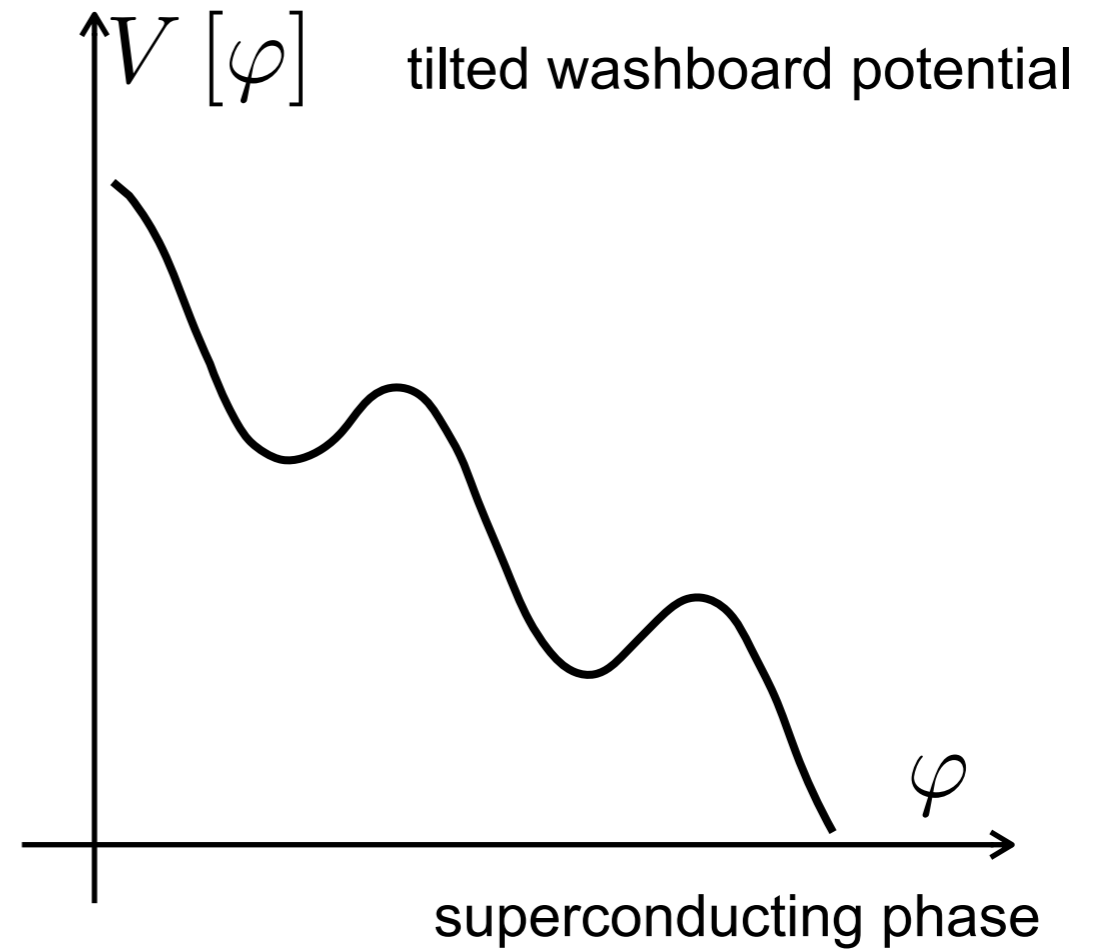
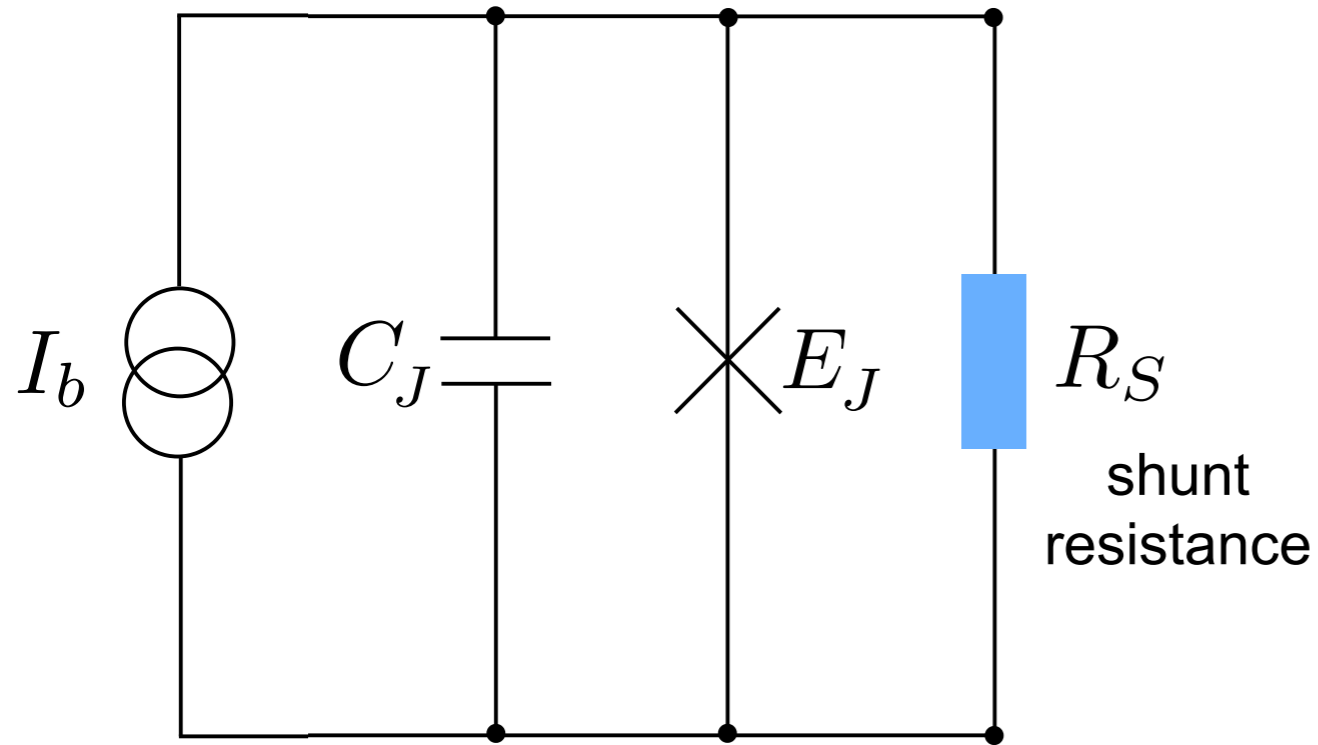


Josephson junction circuits

Phys. Rev. B **106**, 045408 (2022)

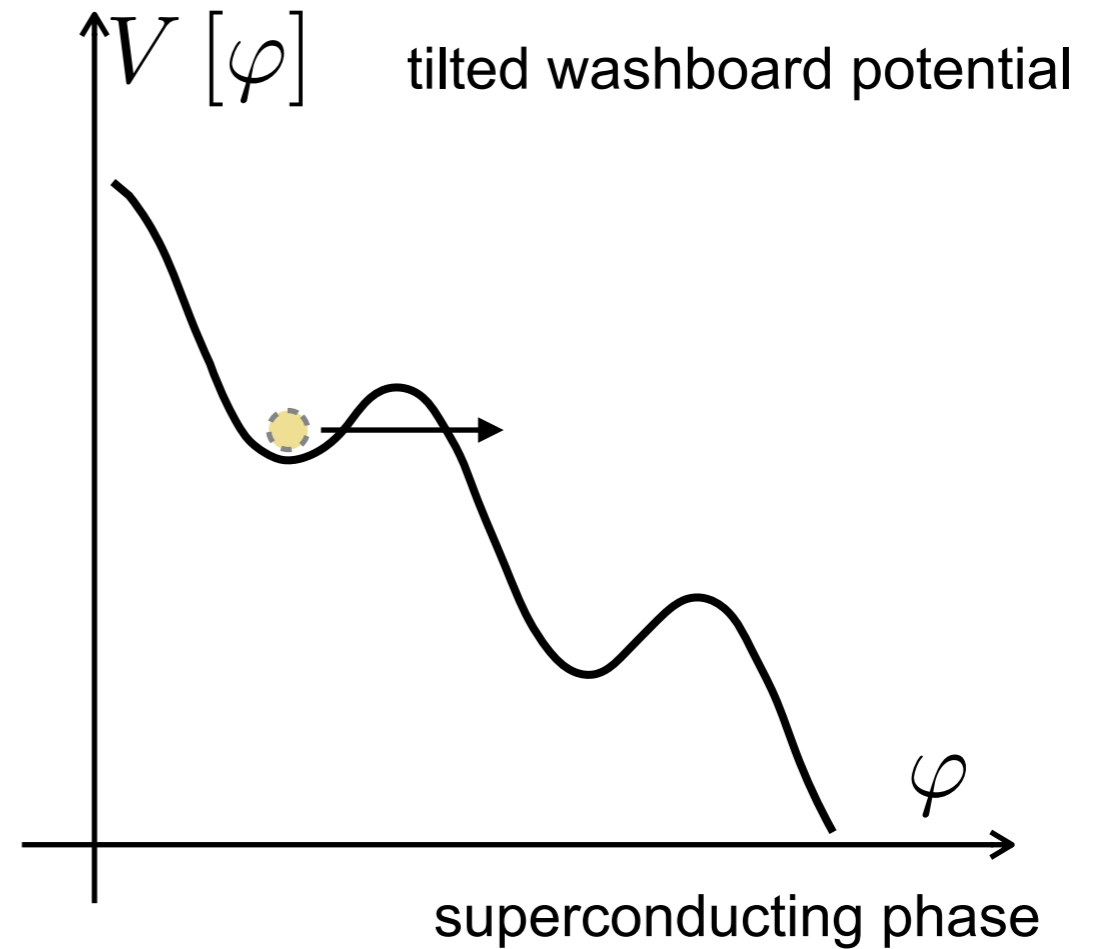
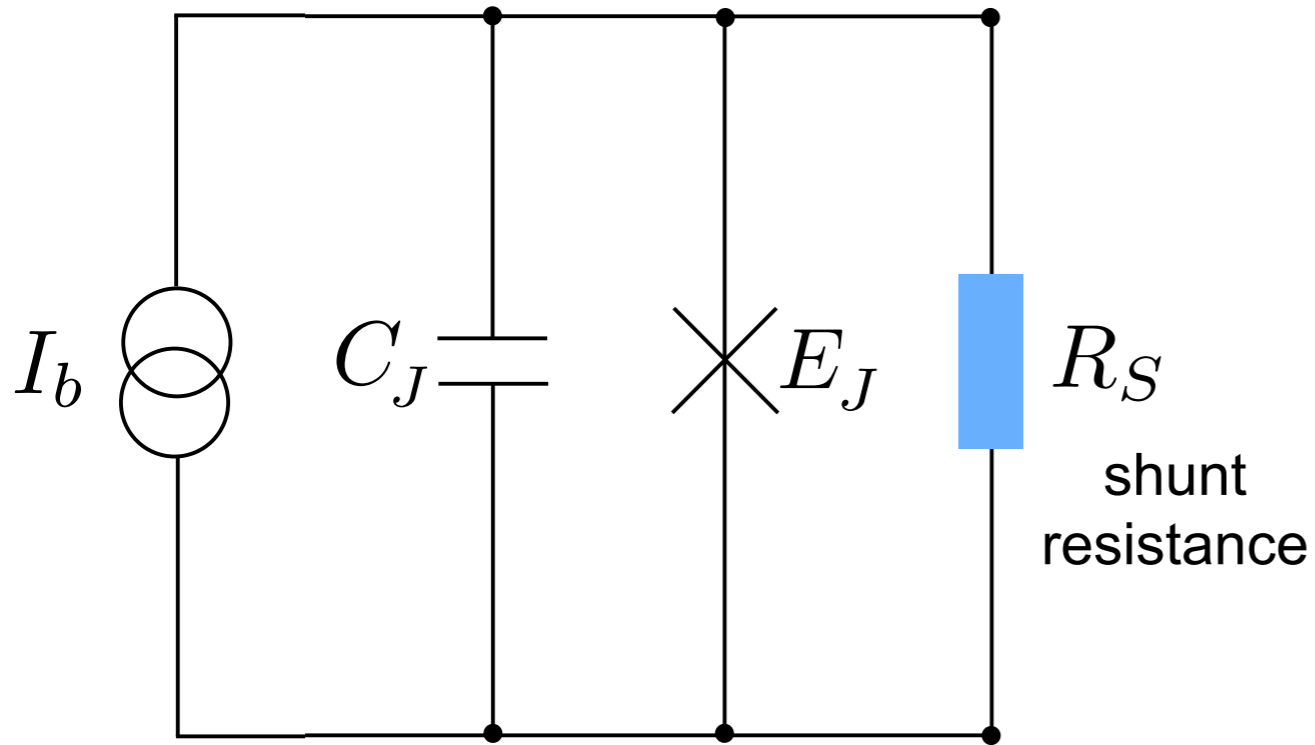
Conventional dissipation in quantum tunneling

current bias Josephson junction



Conventional dissipation in quantum tunneling

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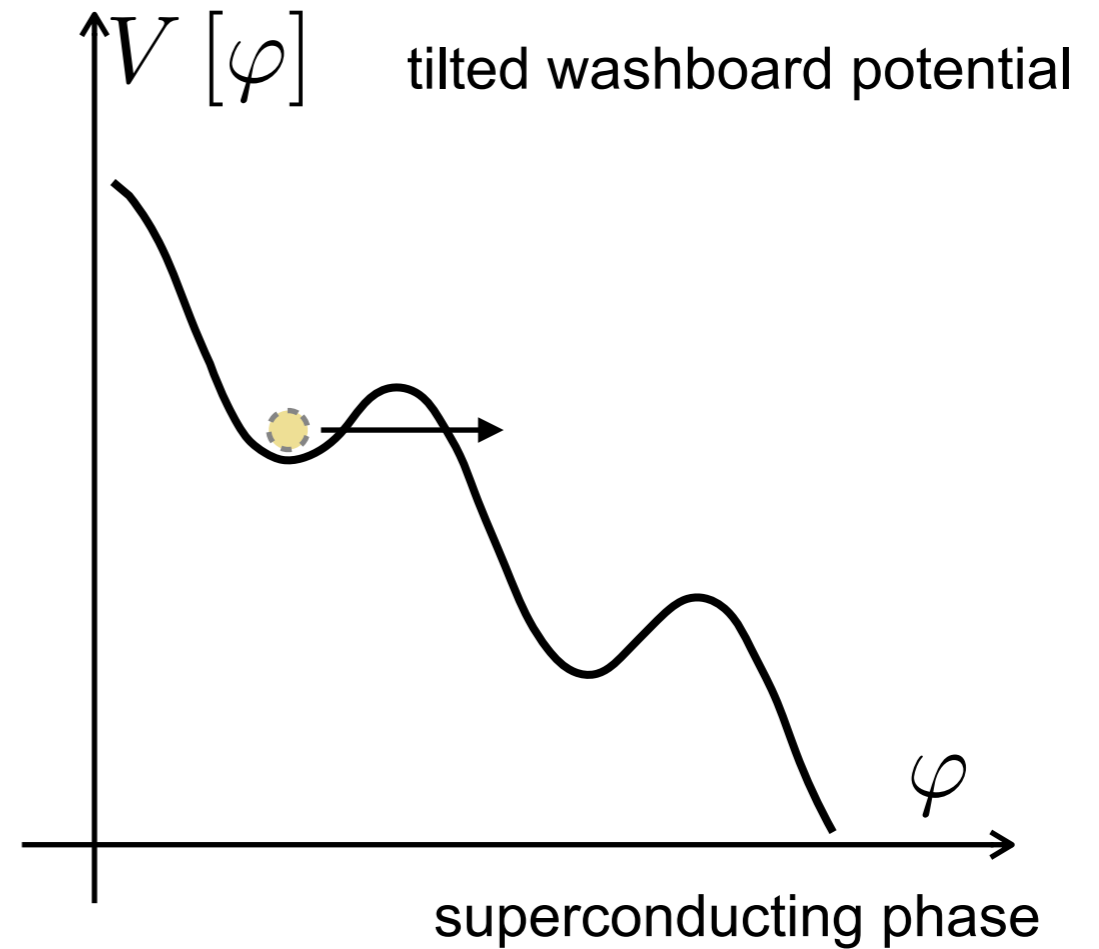
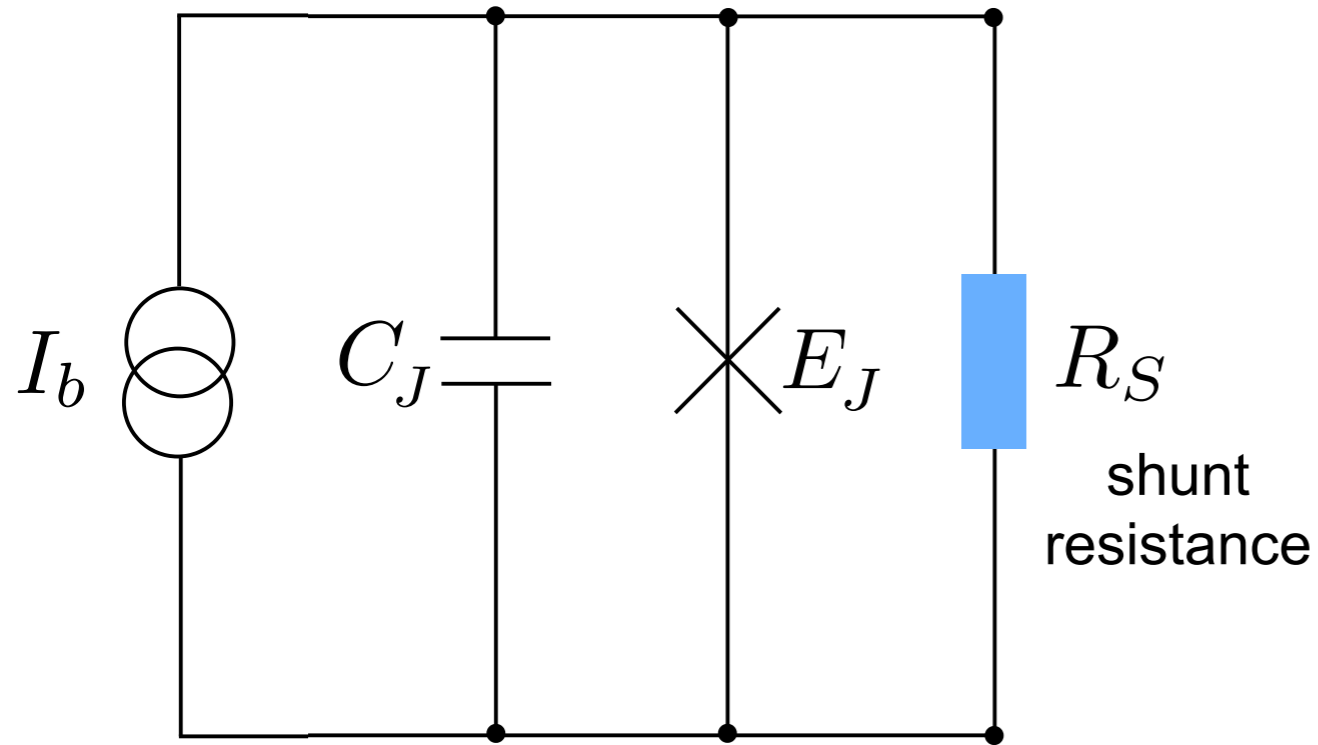
- first experimental observations

M.H. Devoret, J.M. Martinis, J. Clarke, *PRL* **55**, 1908 (1985)

[see also: J.M. Martinis, M.H. Devoret, J. Clarke, *Nat. Physics* **16**, 234 (2020)]

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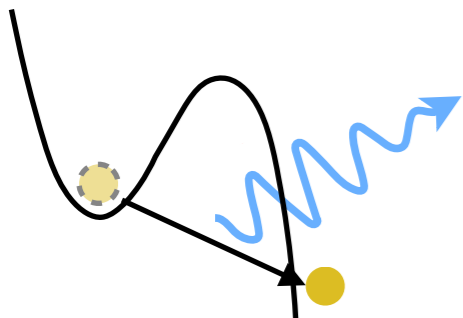


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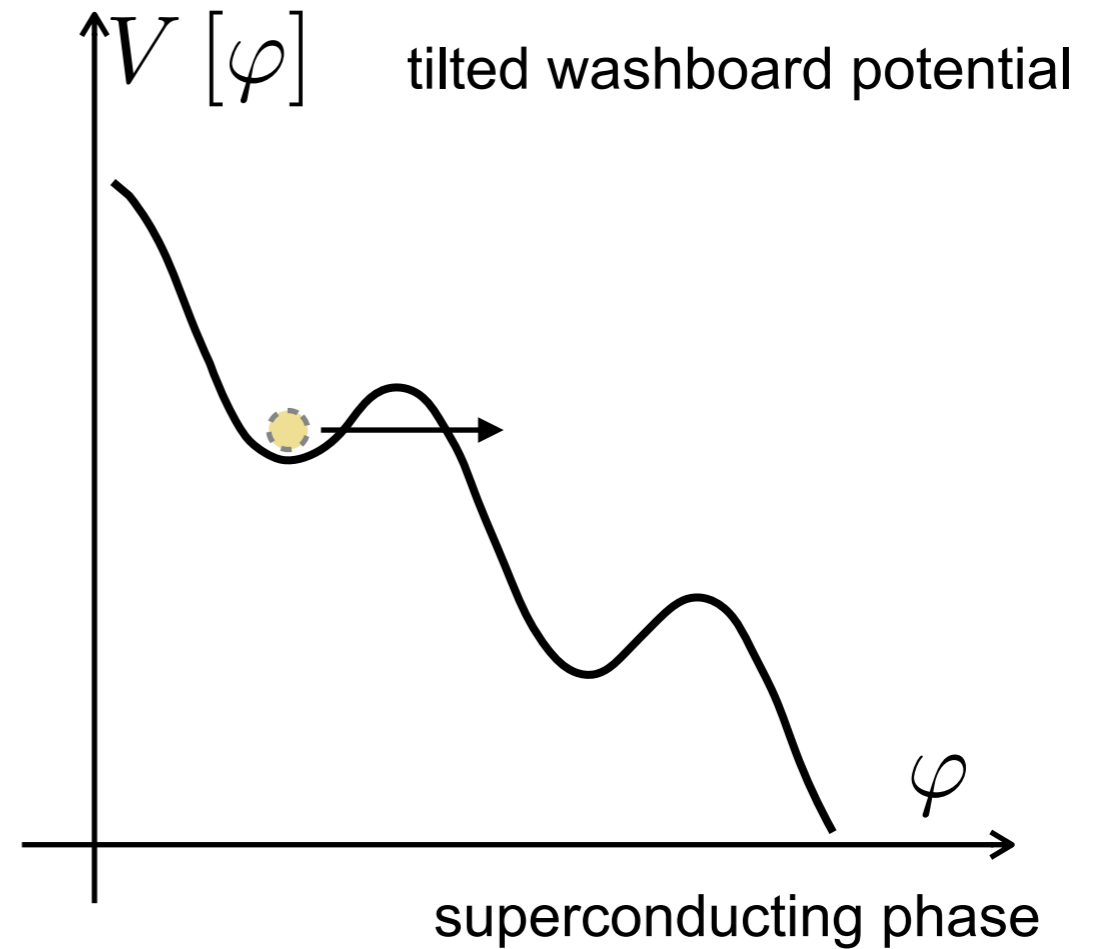
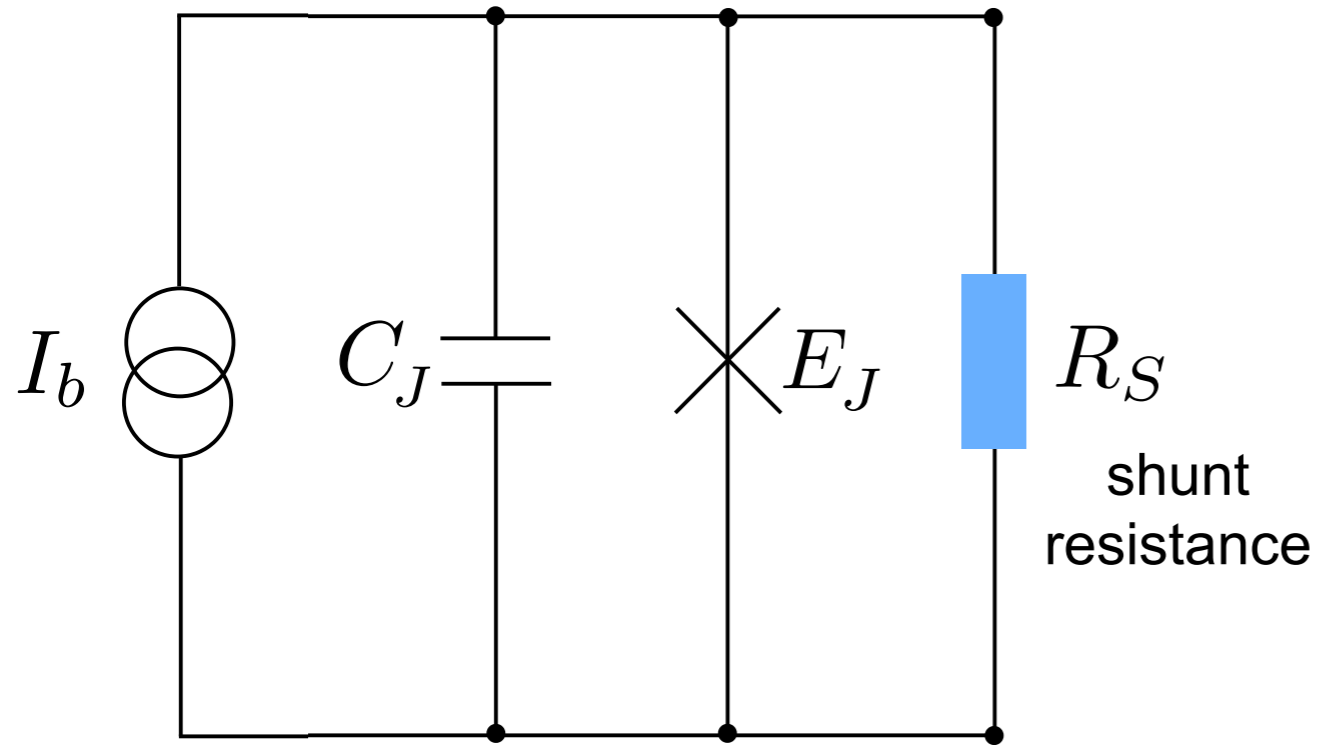
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- environmental assisted quantum tunneling



Conventional dissipation in quantum tunneling

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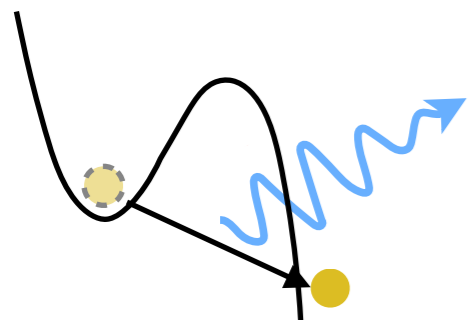


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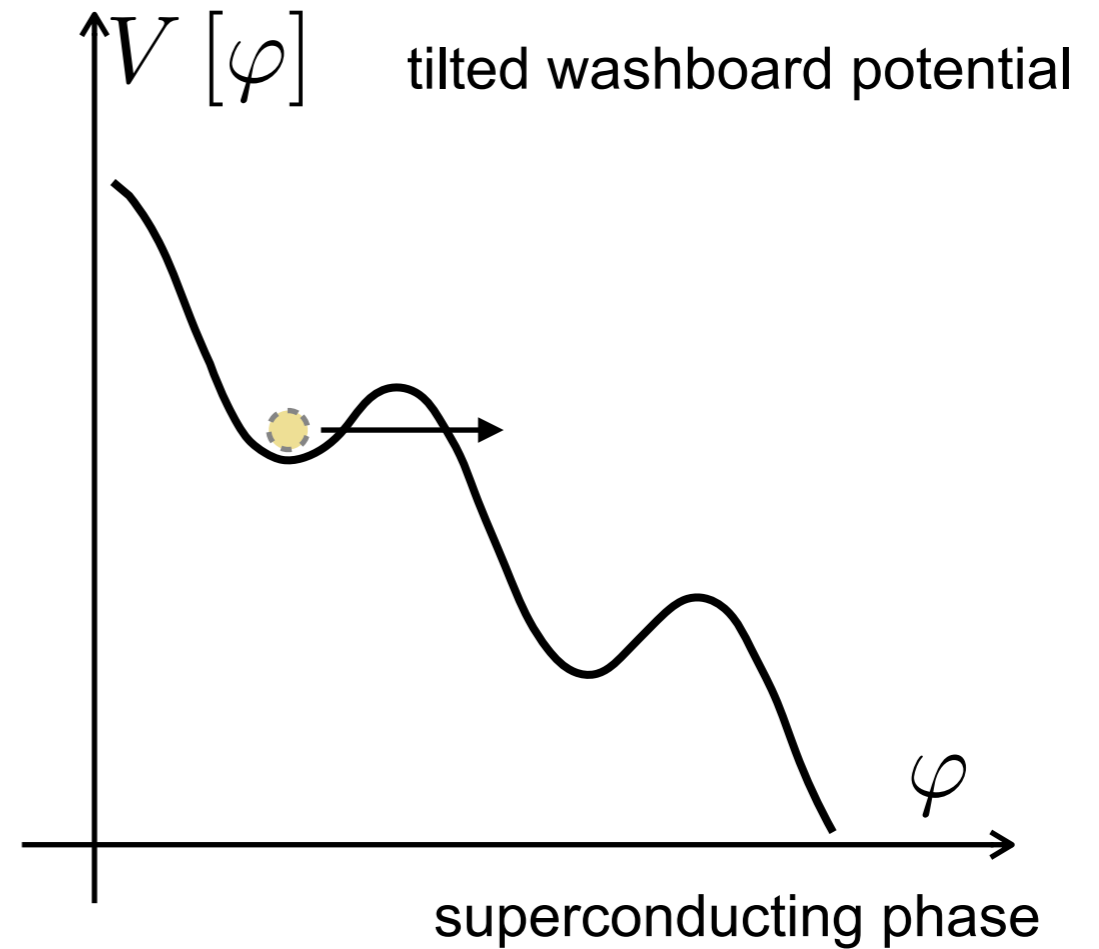
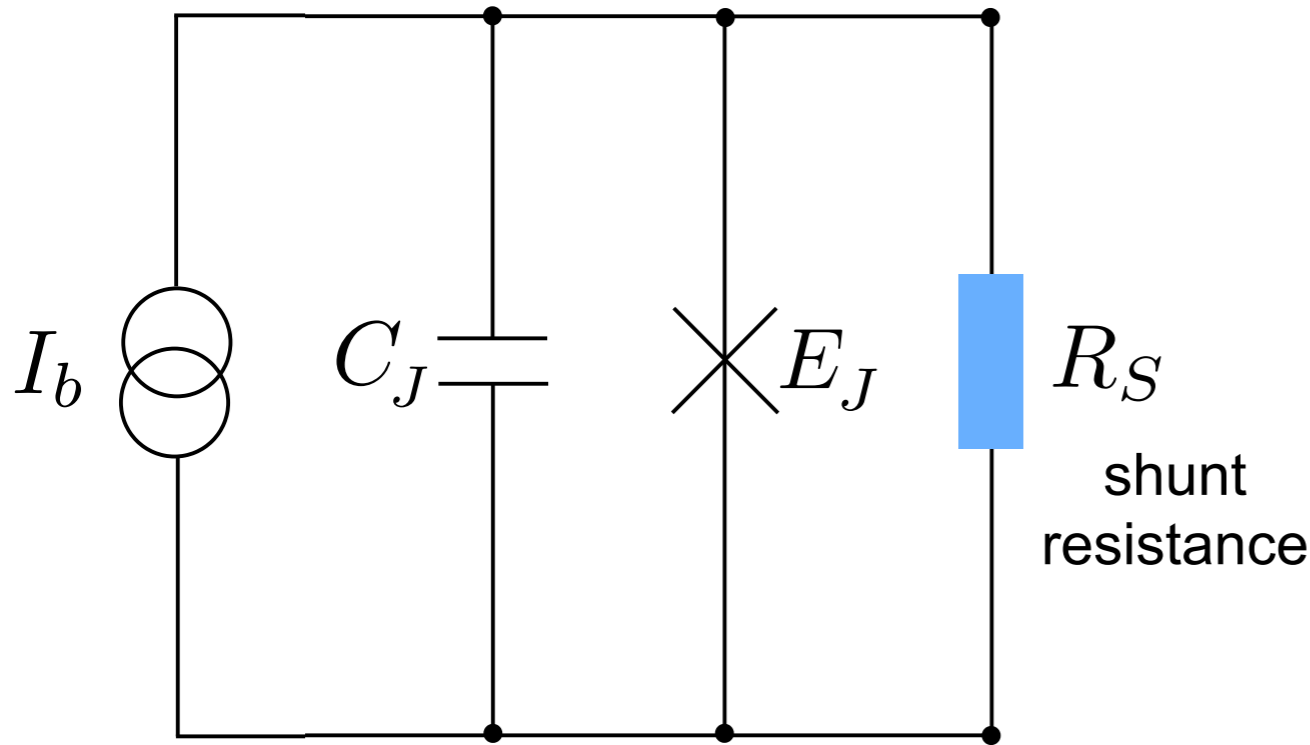
- exponential suppression of the escape rate

$$\sim \exp\left[-\frac{a \eta d^2}{\hbar}\right]$$

A.O. Caldeira, A.J. Leggett, *PRL* **46**, 211 (1981)

Conventional dissipation in quantum tunneling

current bias Josephson junction

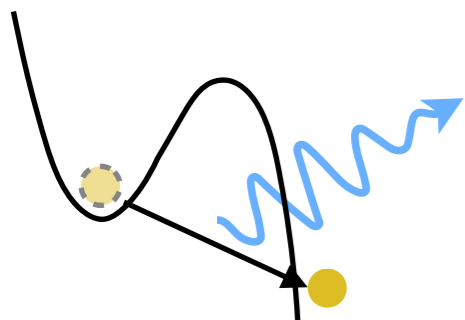


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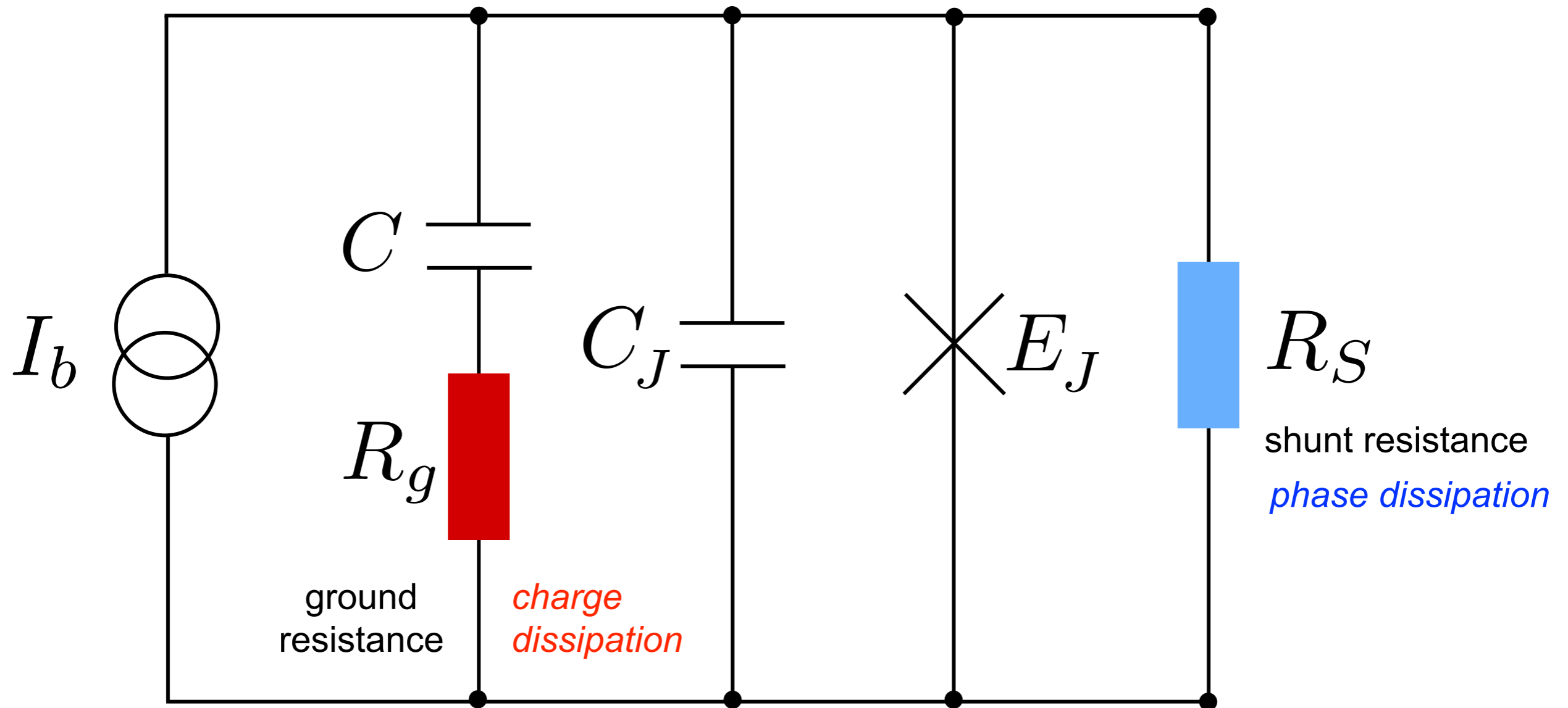
- exponential suppression of the escape rate

$$\sim \exp\left[-\frac{a \eta d^2}{\hbar}\right] \quad \textit{phase dissipation}$$

A.O. Caldeira, A.J. Leggett, *PRL* **46**, 211 (1981)

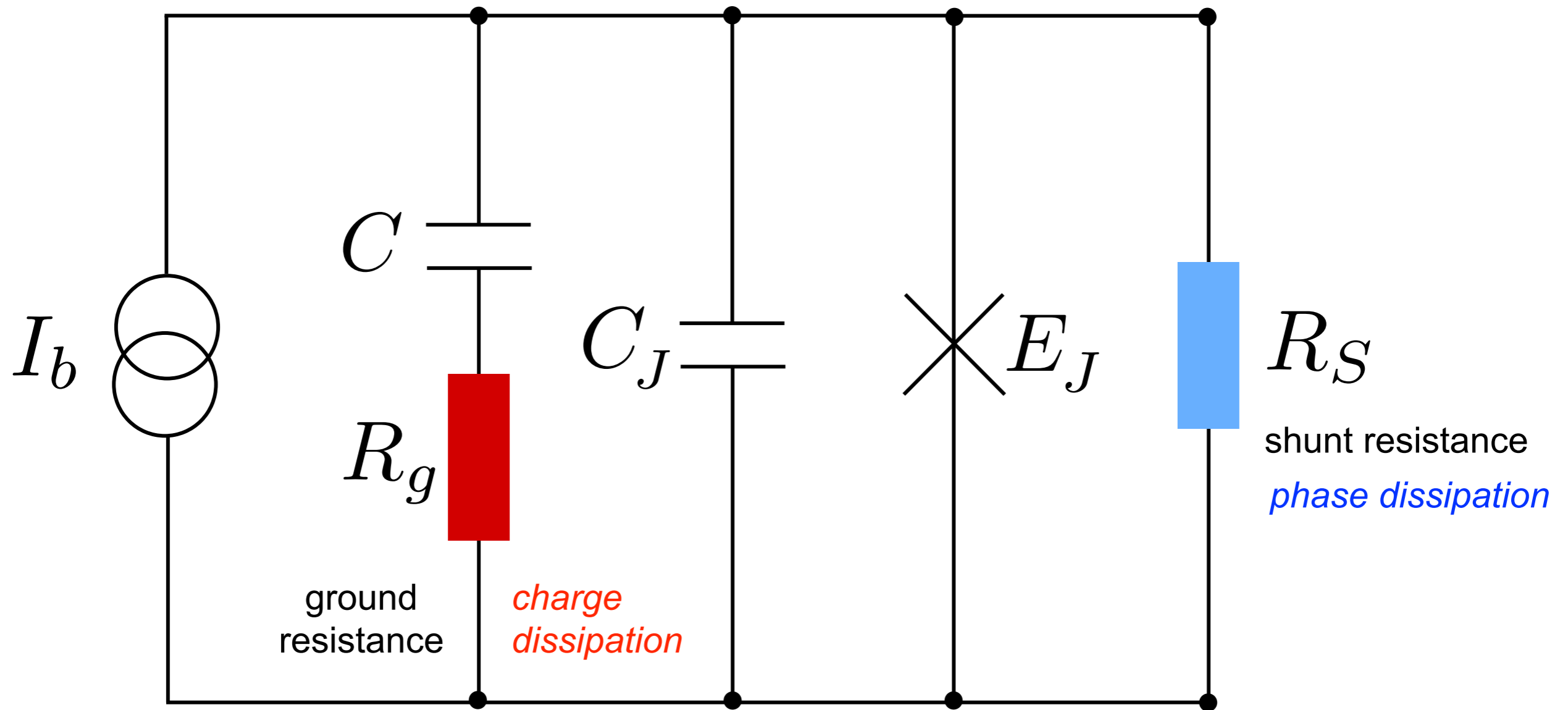
Engineered dissipation

phase and charge: non-commuting observables/operators



Engineered dissipation

phase and charge: non-commuting observables/operators

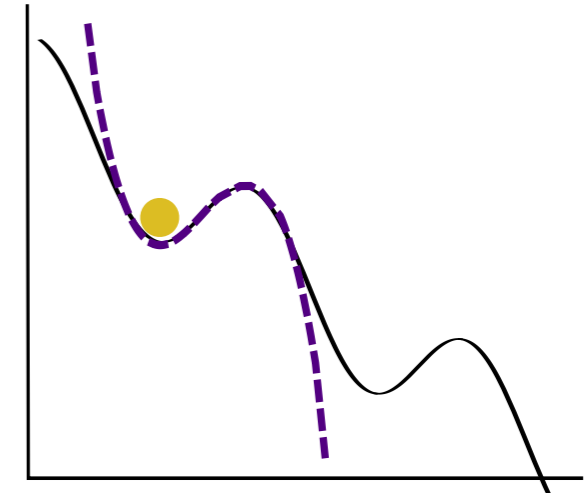


two non-commuting dissipative interactions

Quantum escape rate without dissipation

$$\hat{H}_S = \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C_{tot}} + V[\hat{\varphi}]$$

$$V[\hat{\varphi}] = -\frac{\hbar I_C}{2e} \cos(\hat{\varphi}) - \frac{\Phi_0 I_b}{2\pi} \hat{\varphi} \simeq \frac{C_{tot} \Phi_0^2}{4\pi^2} \left(\frac{1}{2} \omega_I^2 \hat{\varphi}^2 - \frac{1}{3} \omega_J^2 \hat{\varphi}^3 \right)$$

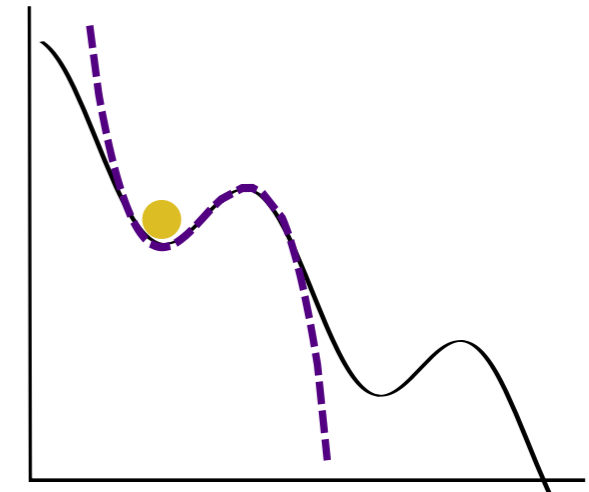


(0)

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Semiclassical regime (path integral method)

$$V_0 \gg \hbar \omega_I$$

$$E_J \gg E_C$$

escape rate $\Gamma_0 = K_0 \exp \left[-S_B^{(0)} / \hbar \right]$

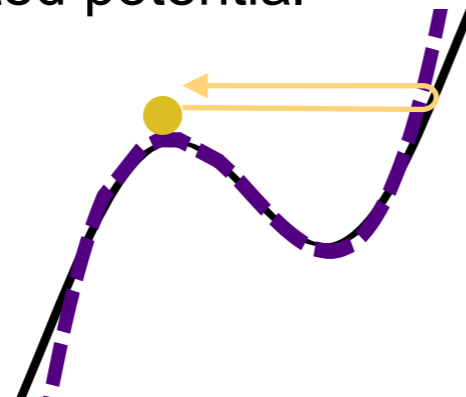
Euclidean action $S_0[\varphi(\tau)] = \int_{-\beta/2}^{\beta/2} d\tau \left[\frac{C_{tot} \Phi_0^2}{8\pi^2} \dot{\varphi}^2(\tau) + V[\varphi(\tau)] \right]$

$$\beta = \frac{\hbar}{k_B T} \longrightarrow \infty$$

(quantum limit)

bounce path in the inverted potential

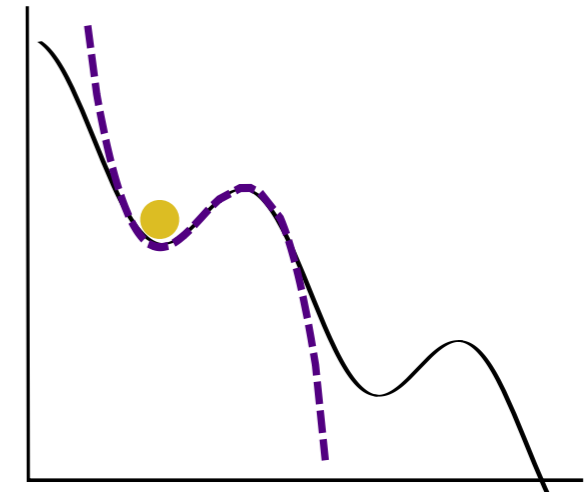
$$S_B^{(0)} = S_0[\varphi_B^{(0)}(\tau)]$$



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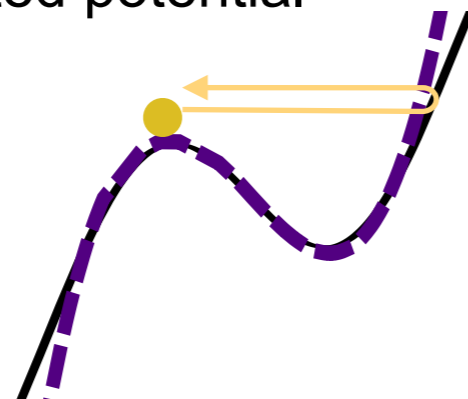
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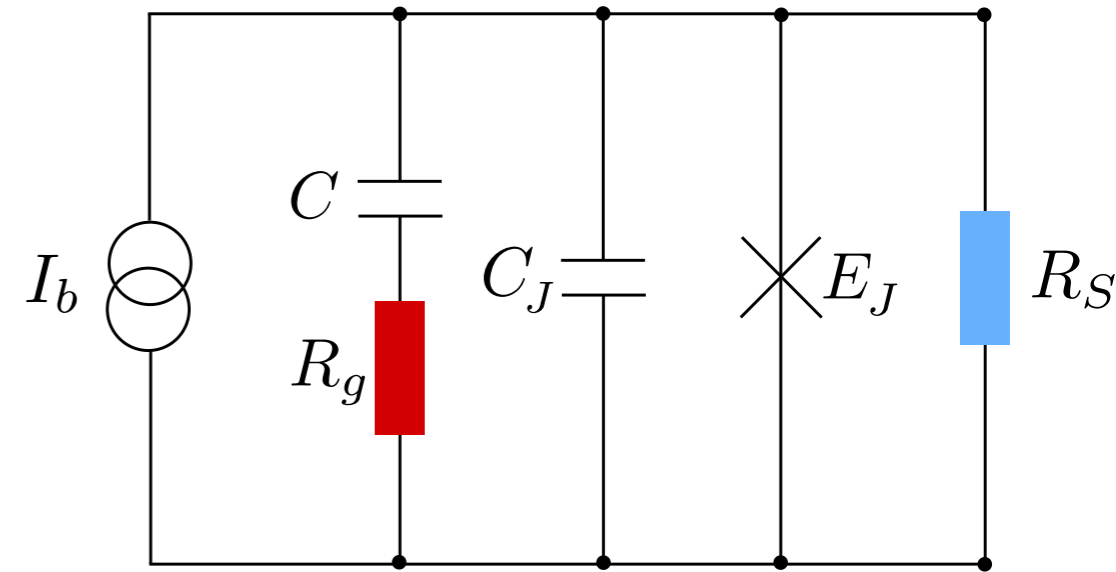
result:

$$S_B^{(0)} = \frac{108}{15} \frac{V_0}{\hbar\omega_I}$$

Electromagnetic environment

$$\Gamma = K \exp \left[- S_B / \hbar \right]$$

$$S_B = S \left[\varphi_B(\tau) \right] \quad \text{Euclidean action with the bounce}$$



$$S \left[\varphi(\tau) \right] = S_0 \left[\varphi(\tau) \right] + \frac{1}{2} \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau d\tau' F^{(\varphi)}(\tau - \tau') \varphi(\tau) \varphi(\tau') + \frac{1}{2} \iint_{-\infty}^{\infty} d\tau d\tau' F^{(Q)}(\tau - \tau') \dot{\varphi}(\tau) \dot{\varphi}(\tau')$$

*phase
dissipation*

$$F^{(\varphi)}(\omega) = \frac{\Phi_0^2}{4\pi^2 R_S} |\omega|$$

shunt resistance

*charge
dissipation*

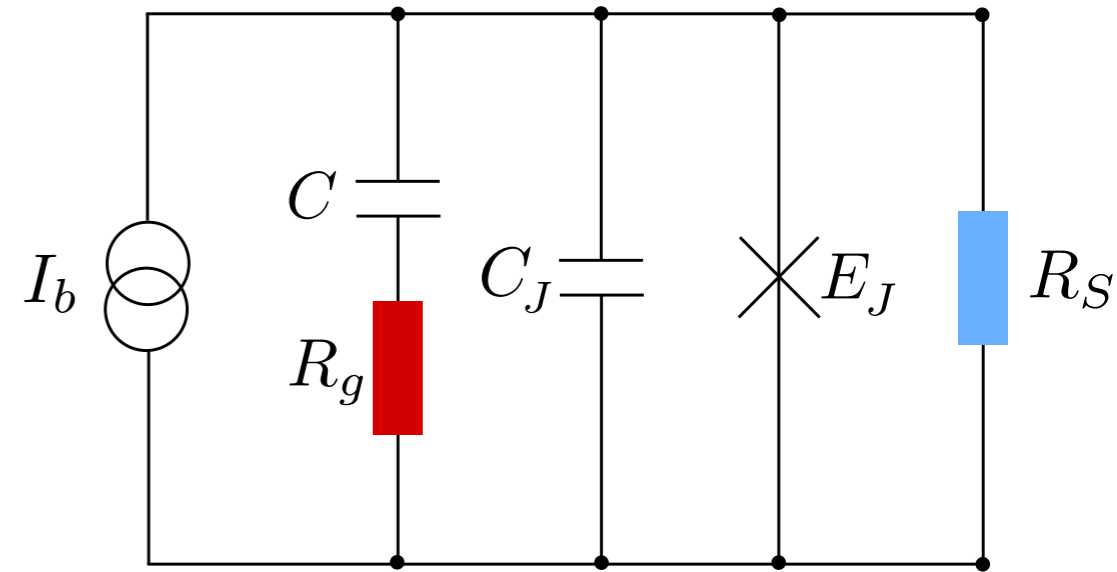
$$F^{(Q)}(\omega) = -\frac{C^2 \Phi_0^2}{4\pi^2} \frac{R_g |\omega|}{1 + R_g C |\omega|}$$

resistance to ground

Electromagnetic environment

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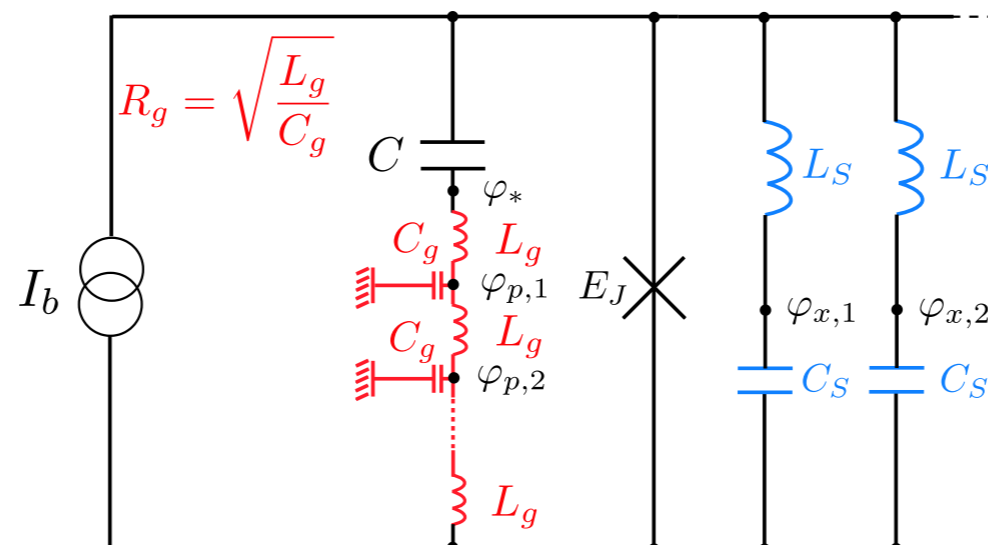
*charge
dissipation*

$$F^{(Q)}(\omega) = -\frac{C^2 \Phi_0^2}{4\pi^2} \frac{R_g |\omega|}{1 + R_g C |\omega|}$$

resistance to ground

theoretical model
(ensemble of LC oscillators)

$$R_g = \sqrt{\frac{L_g}{C_g}}$$



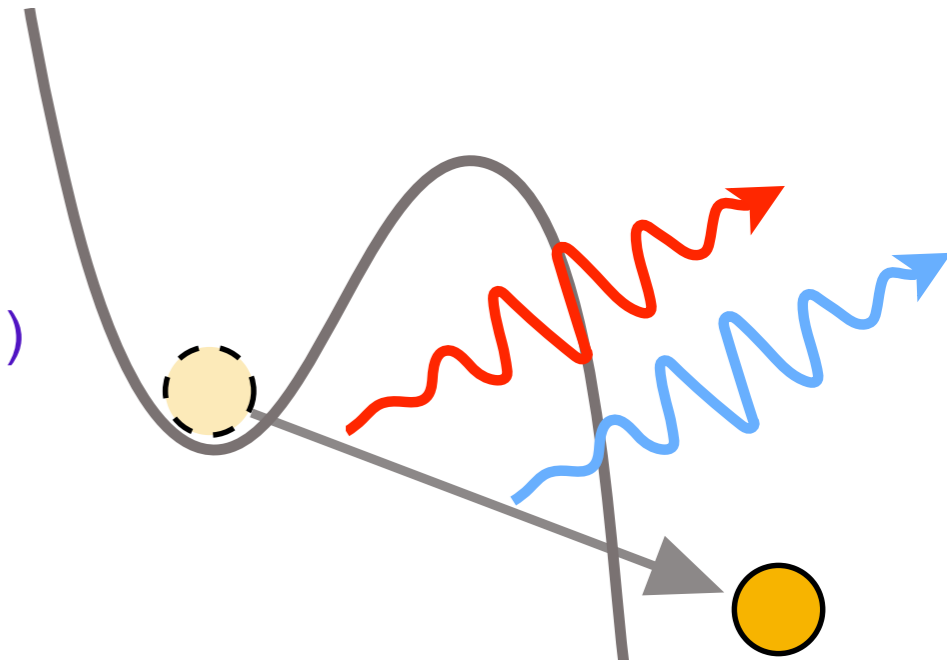
$$R_S = \sqrt{\frac{L_S}{C_S}}$$

Environmental assisted tunneling

$$\Gamma = K \exp \left[- S_B / \hbar \right]$$

- prefactor $K \sim K_0$ [Phys. Rev. Research 3, 033019 \(2021\)](#)

- enhancement $\mathcal{E} = \exp \left[- \frac{1}{\hbar} \left(S_B - S_B^{(0)} \right) \right]$,

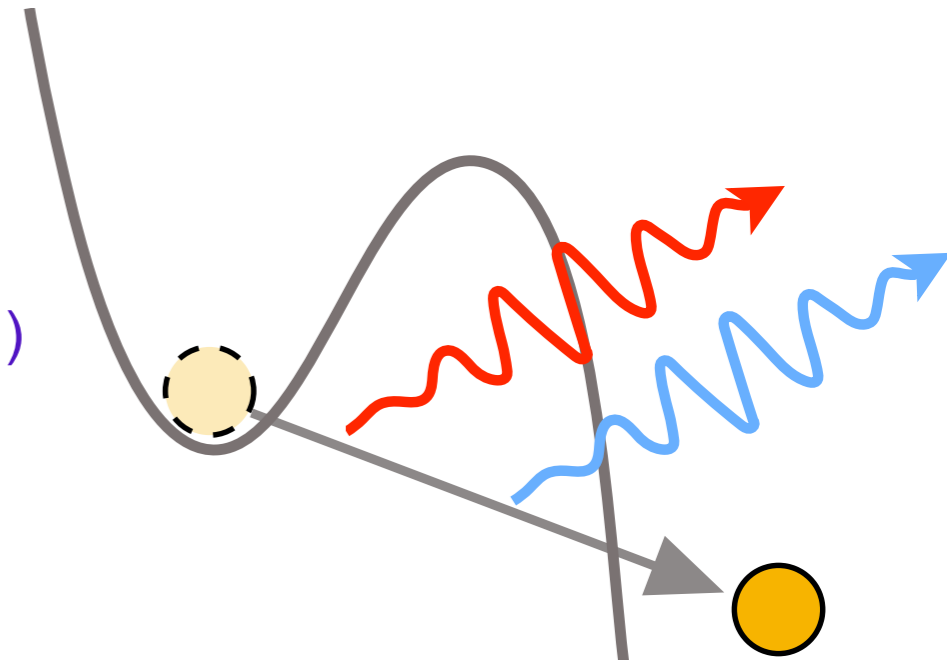


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Methods

- exact solution for the cubic potential only for $S_B^{(0)} = S_0 \left[\varphi_B^{(0)}(\tau) \right]$

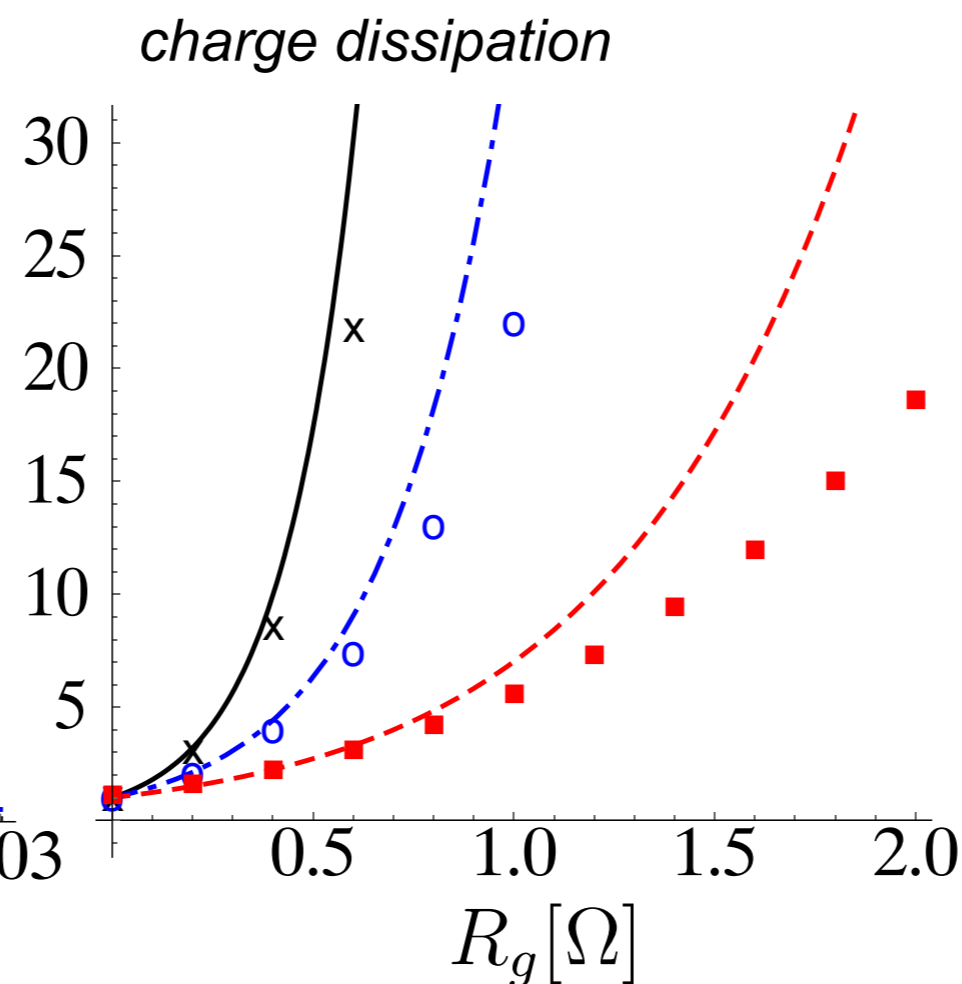
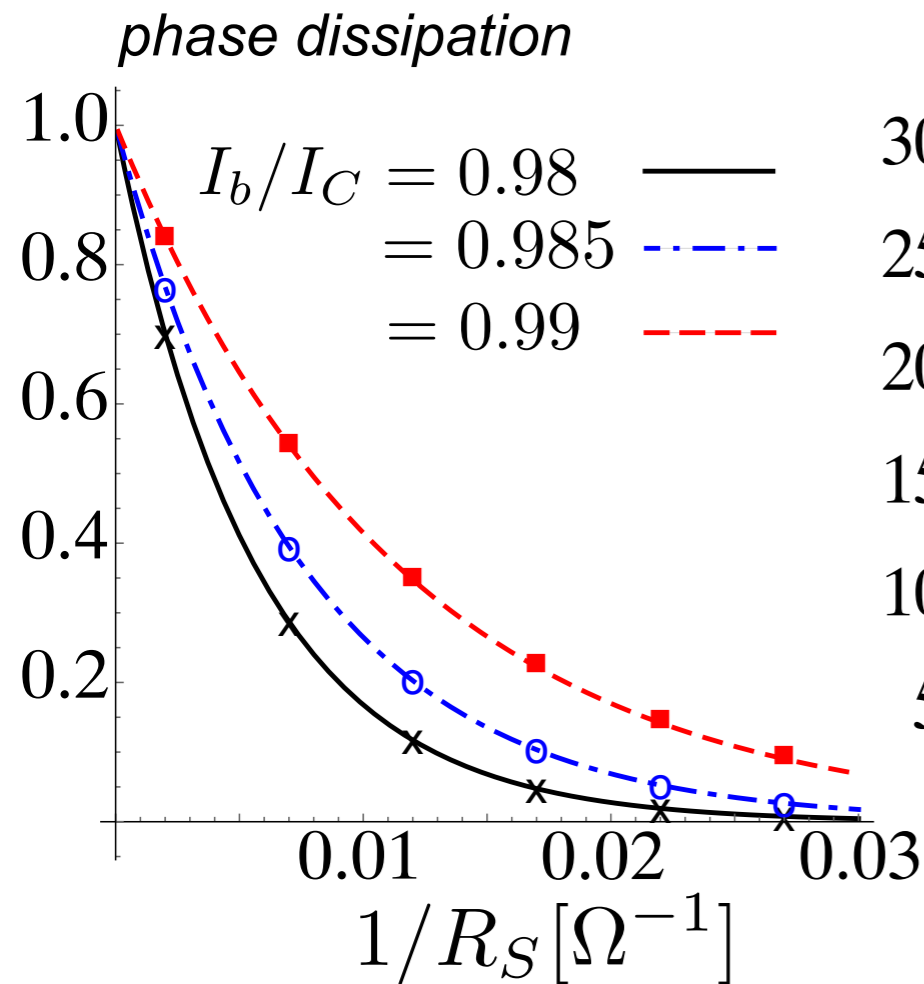
- perturbative approach $S_B \simeq S_0 \left[\varphi_B^{(0)}(\tau) \right] + S_{env} \left[\varphi_B^{(0)}(\tau) \right]$ [A.O. Caldeira, A.J. Leggett, *Annals of Physics* 149, 374 \(1983\)](#)
(undamped bounce)

- variational approach $\varphi_V(\tau)$ with variational parameters [E. Freidkin, P. Riseborough, P. Hänggi, *PRB* 34, 1952 \(1986\)](#)

- numerical solution [L.D. Chang, S. Chakravarty, *PRB* 29, 130 \(1984\)](#)

Results for different dissipations

$$\mathcal{E} = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{\hbar} \left(S_B - S_B^{(0)} \right) \right];$$



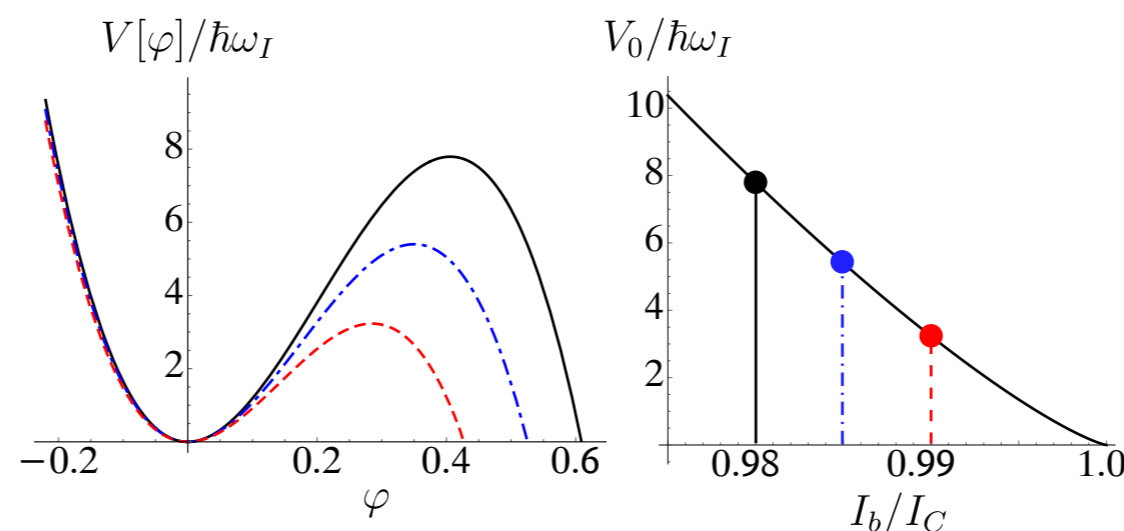
lines = variational method

points = perturbative approximation

Parameters

$$I_C = 21 \mu\text{A}$$

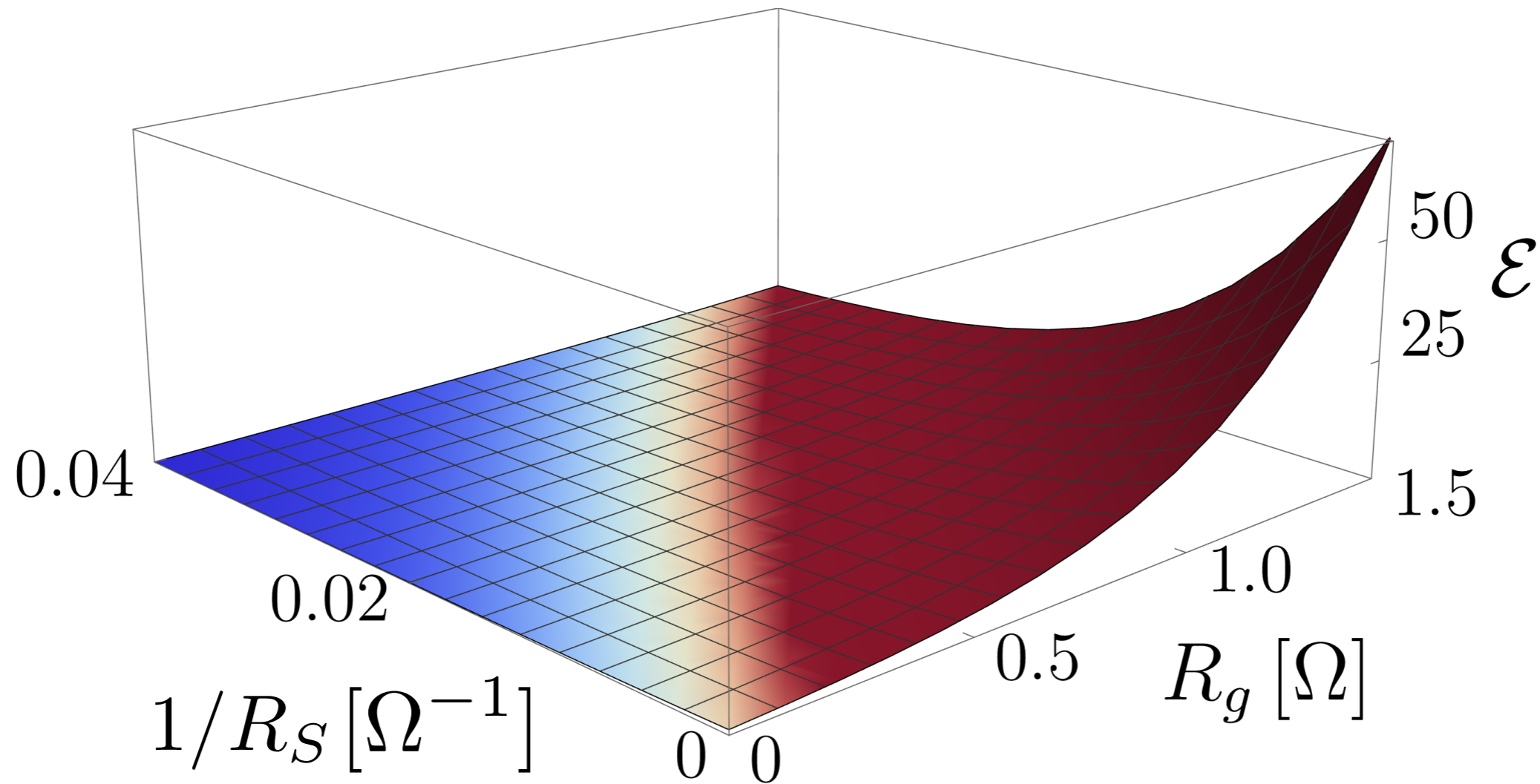
$$C_{tot} = 6 \text{ pF} \quad C_J \ll C$$



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General result

$$\mathcal{E} = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{\hbar} \left(S_B - S_B^{(0)} \right) \right],$$



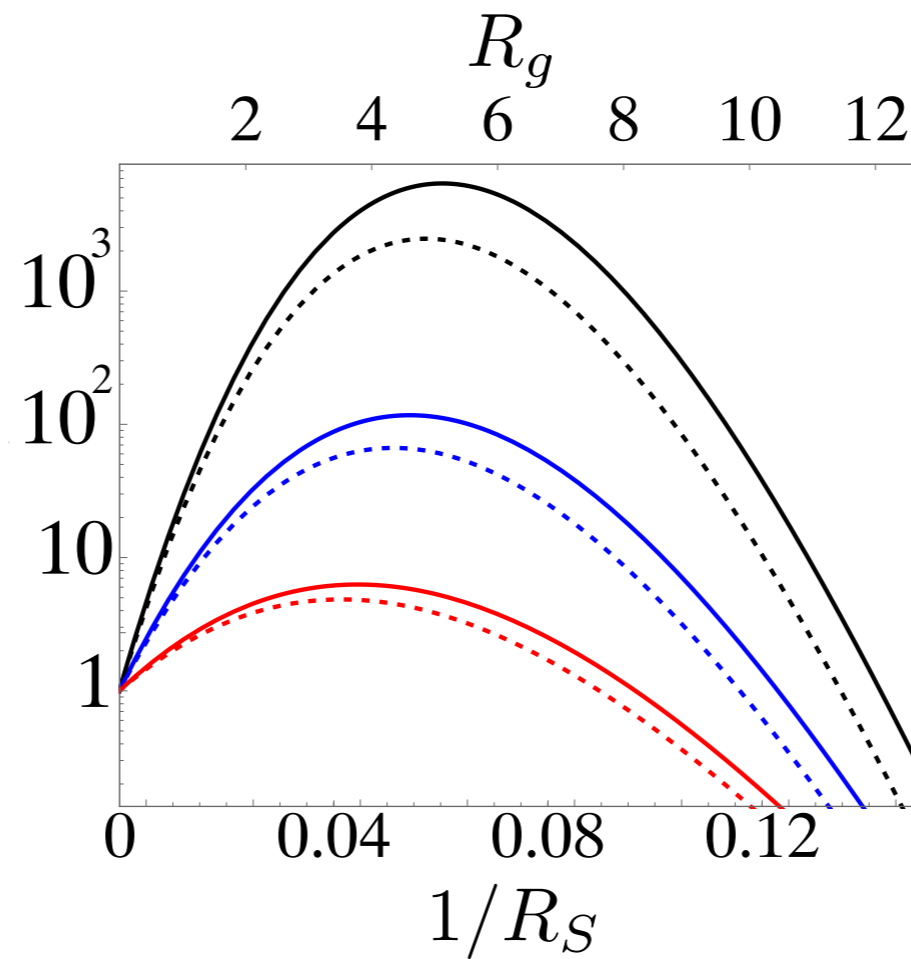
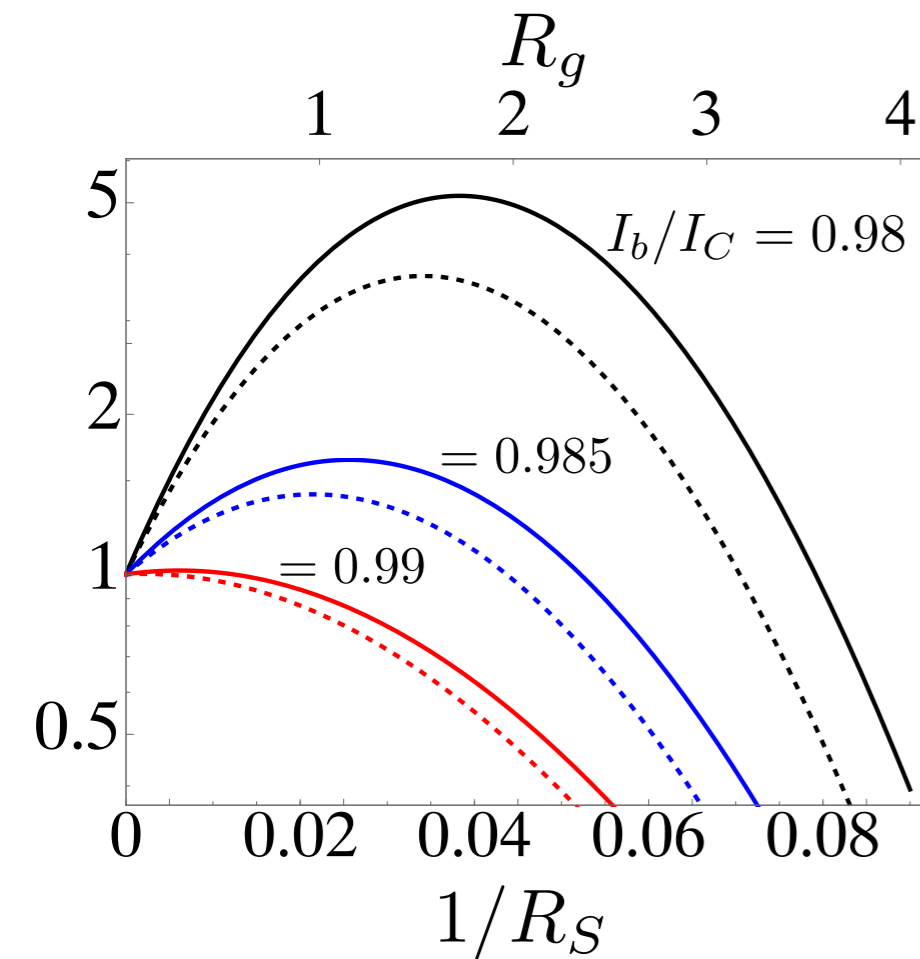
phase dissipation and *charge dissipation*

Parameters $I_C = 21 \mu\text{A}$ $V_0/\hbar\omega_I = 4$ $C_{tot} = 6 \text{ pF}$ $C_J \ll C$

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Results

$$\mathcal{E} = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{\hbar} \left(S_B - S_B^{(0)} \right) \right],$$



phase dissipation
and
charge dissipation

Parameters

$$I_C = 21 \mu\text{A}$$

$$C_{tot} = 6 \text{ pF}$$

$$R_g R_S \omega_I^2 = \text{constant}$$

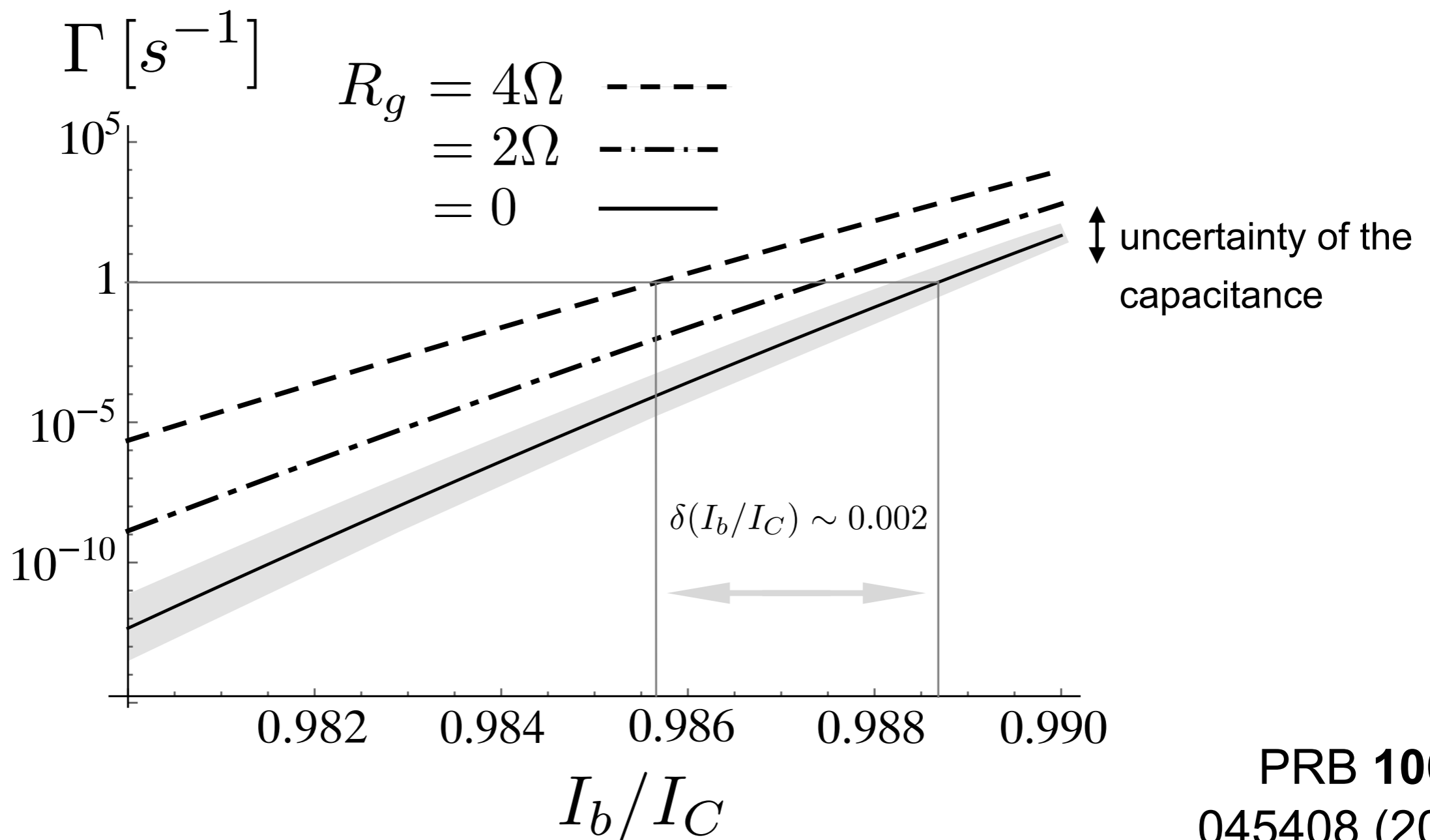
$$C_J \ll C \quad \text{lines}$$

$$C_J/C = 0.02 \quad \text{dots}$$

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Experimental detection

- characterisation of the electromagnetic environment
- tunability of the resistances
- accurate experimental control of the parameters

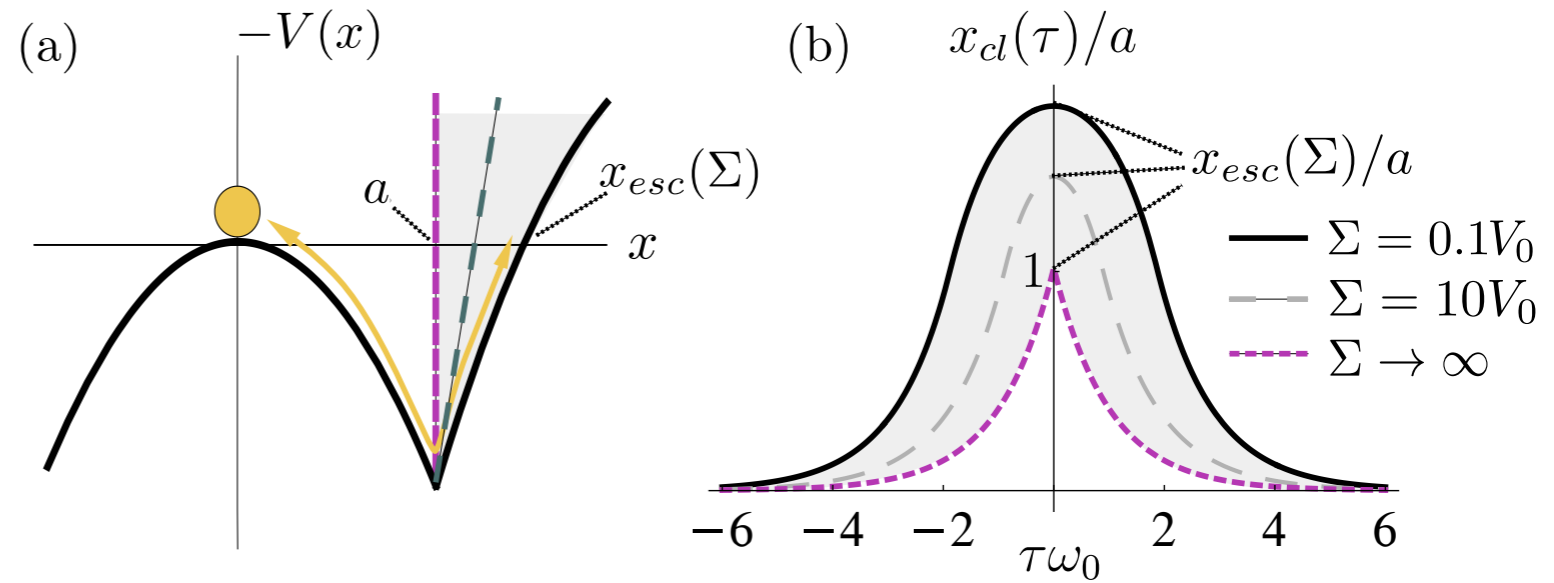
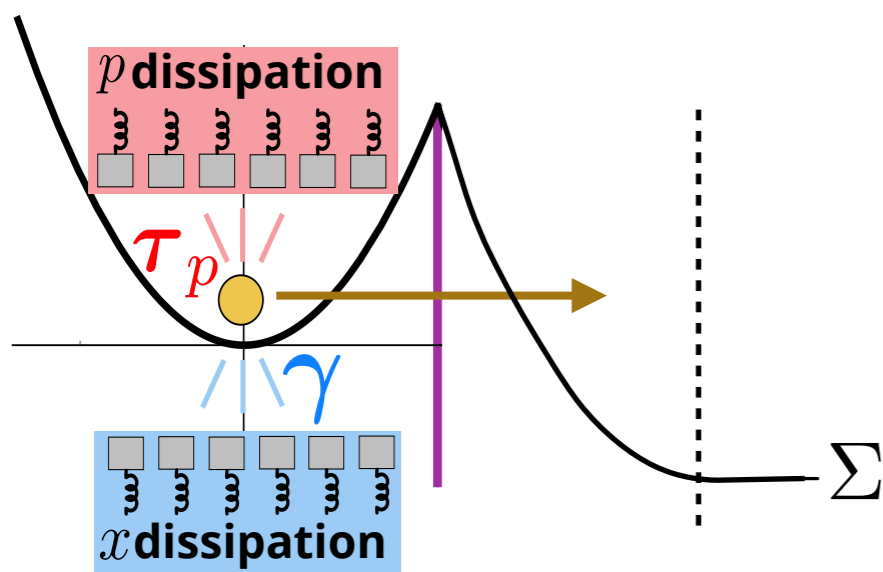


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Metastable systems with
dissipation:
a model with analytic results

Phys. Rev. Research **3**, 033019 (2021)

Model potential



Semiclassical regime (path integral method)

$$\Gamma = K e^{-\frac{1}{\hbar} S_{cl}}$$

escape rate

Euclidean action

$$S = S_0 + S_{dis}$$

$$S_0[x(\tau)] = \int_{-\frac{\beta}{2}}^{\frac{\beta}{2}} d\tau \left[\frac{m}{2} \dot{x}^2(\tau) + V[x(\tau)] \right]$$

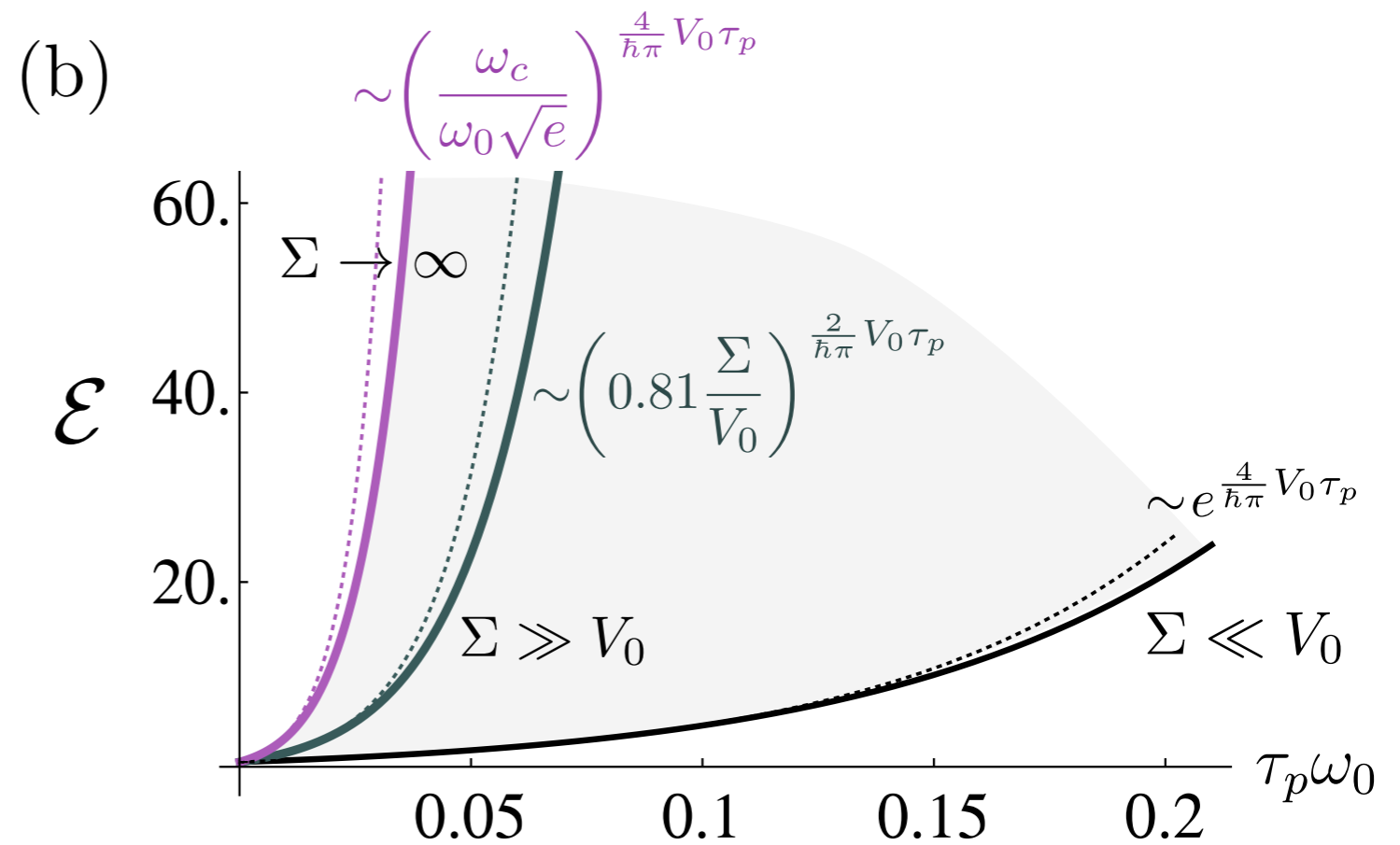
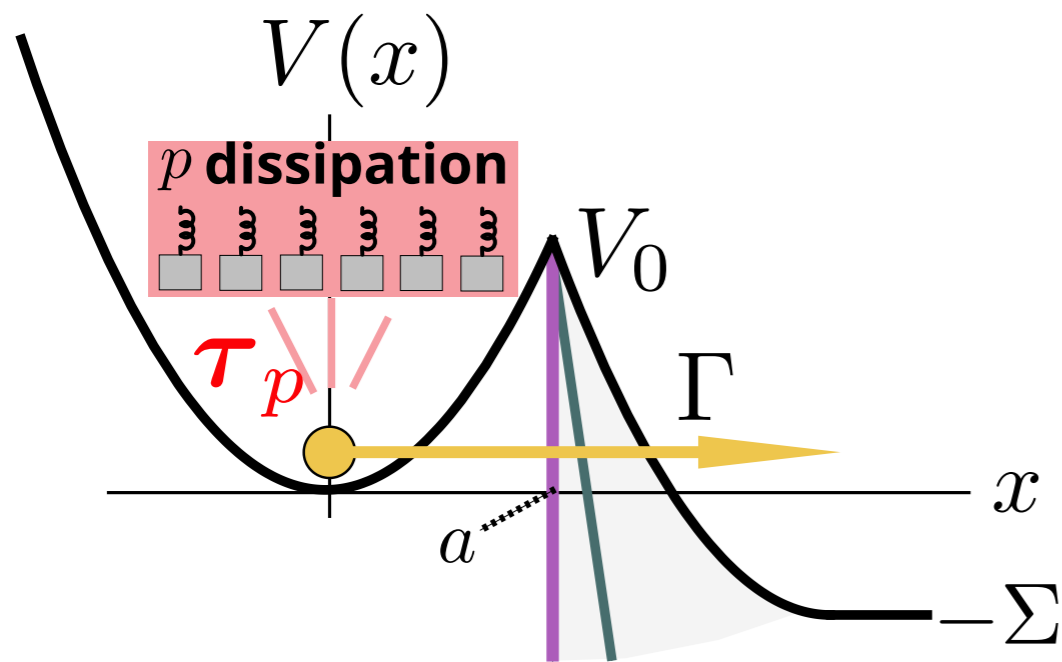
$$\beta = \frac{\hbar}{k_B T} \longrightarrow \infty$$

$$S_{dis}[x(\tau)] = \frac{1}{2} \iint_{-\frac{\beta}{2}}^{\frac{\beta}{2}} d\tau d\tau' F^{(x)}(\tau - \tau') x(\tau) x(\tau') + \frac{1}{2} \iint_{-\frac{\beta}{2}}^{\frac{\beta}{2}} d\tau d\tau' F^{(p)}(\tau - \tau') \dot{x}(\tau) \dot{x}(\tau')$$

$$F_l^{(x)} = \gamma m |\omega_l| f_c(\omega_l) \quad F_l^{(p)} = m [-1 + (1 + \tau_p |\omega_l| f_c(\omega_l))^{-1}] \quad \omega_l = \frac{2\pi}{\beta} l$$

Results with momentum dissipation

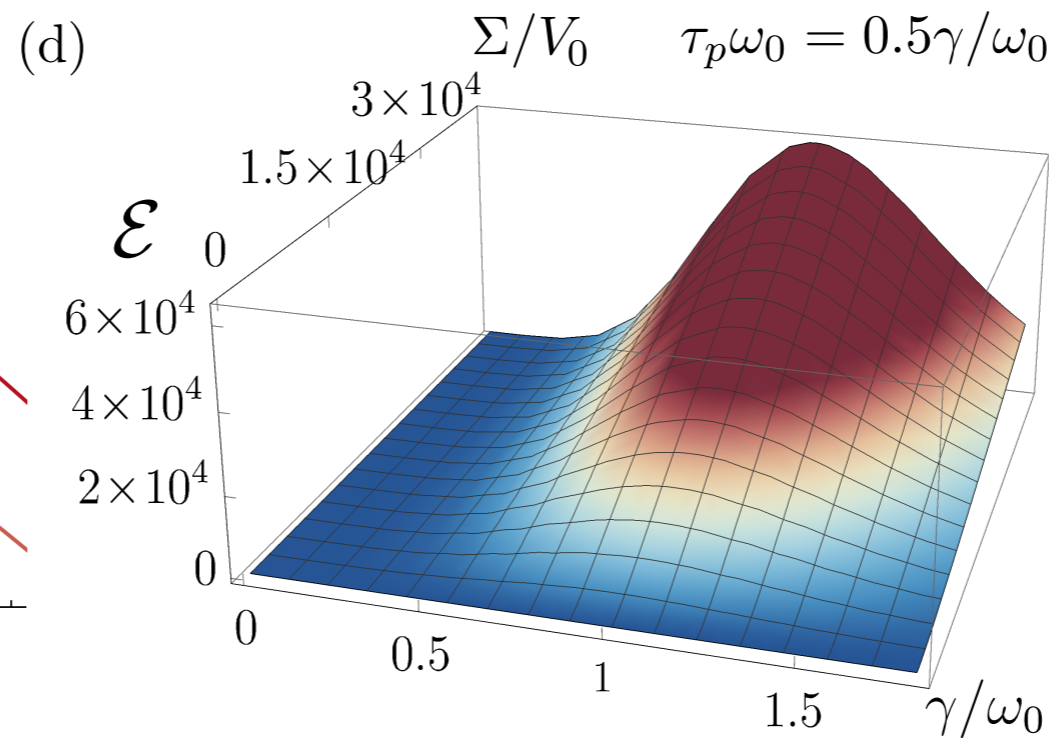
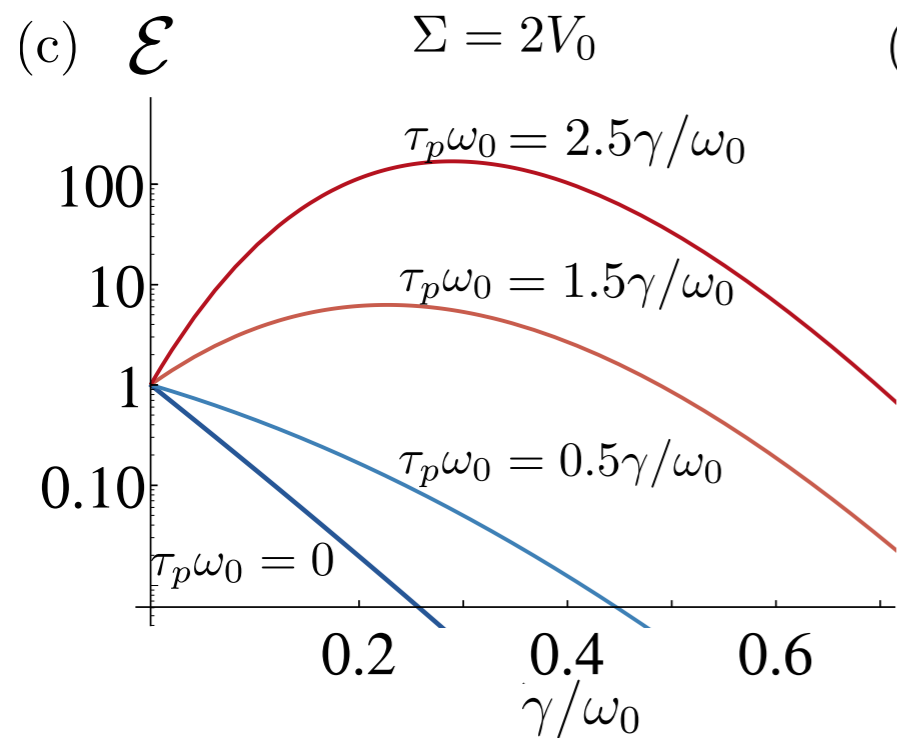
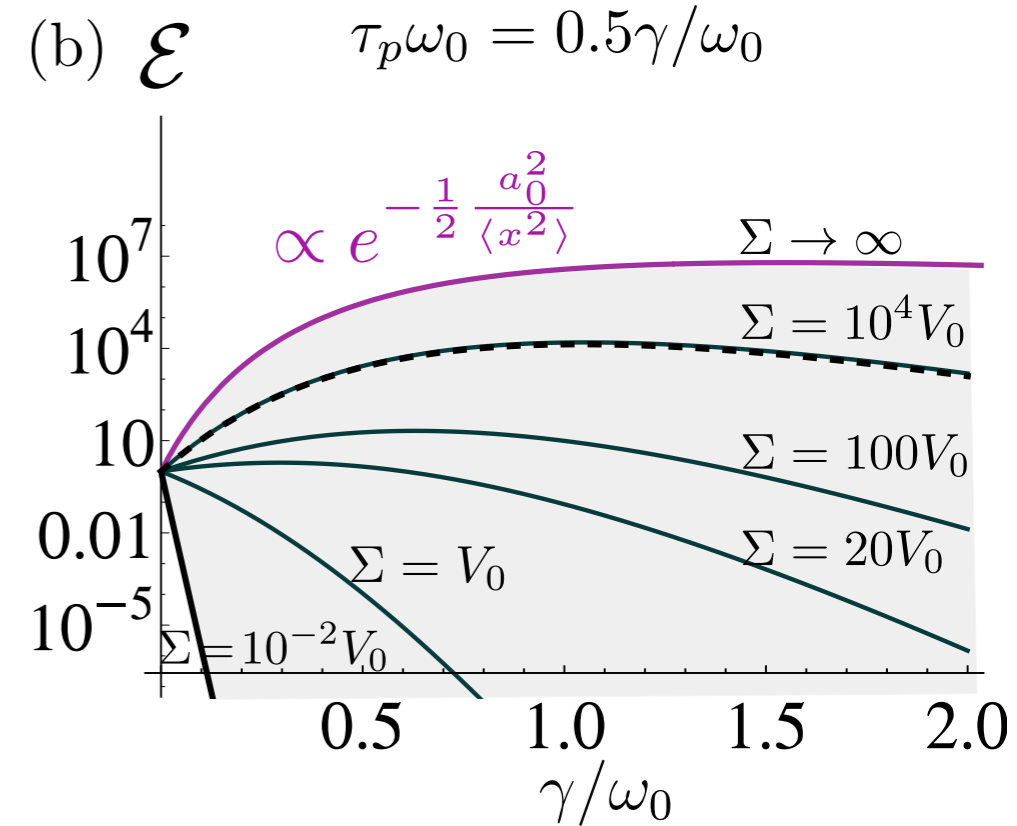
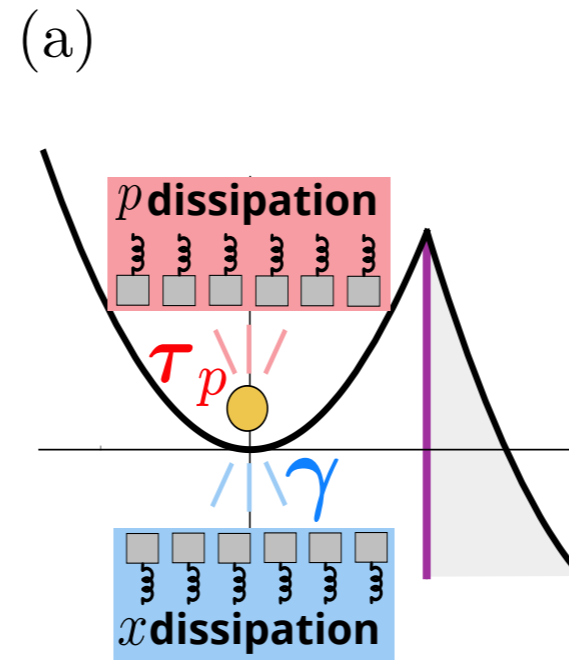
enhancement $\mathcal{E} = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{\hbar} \left(S_B - S_B^{(0)} \right) \right];$



Phys. Rev. Research **3**, 033019 (2021)

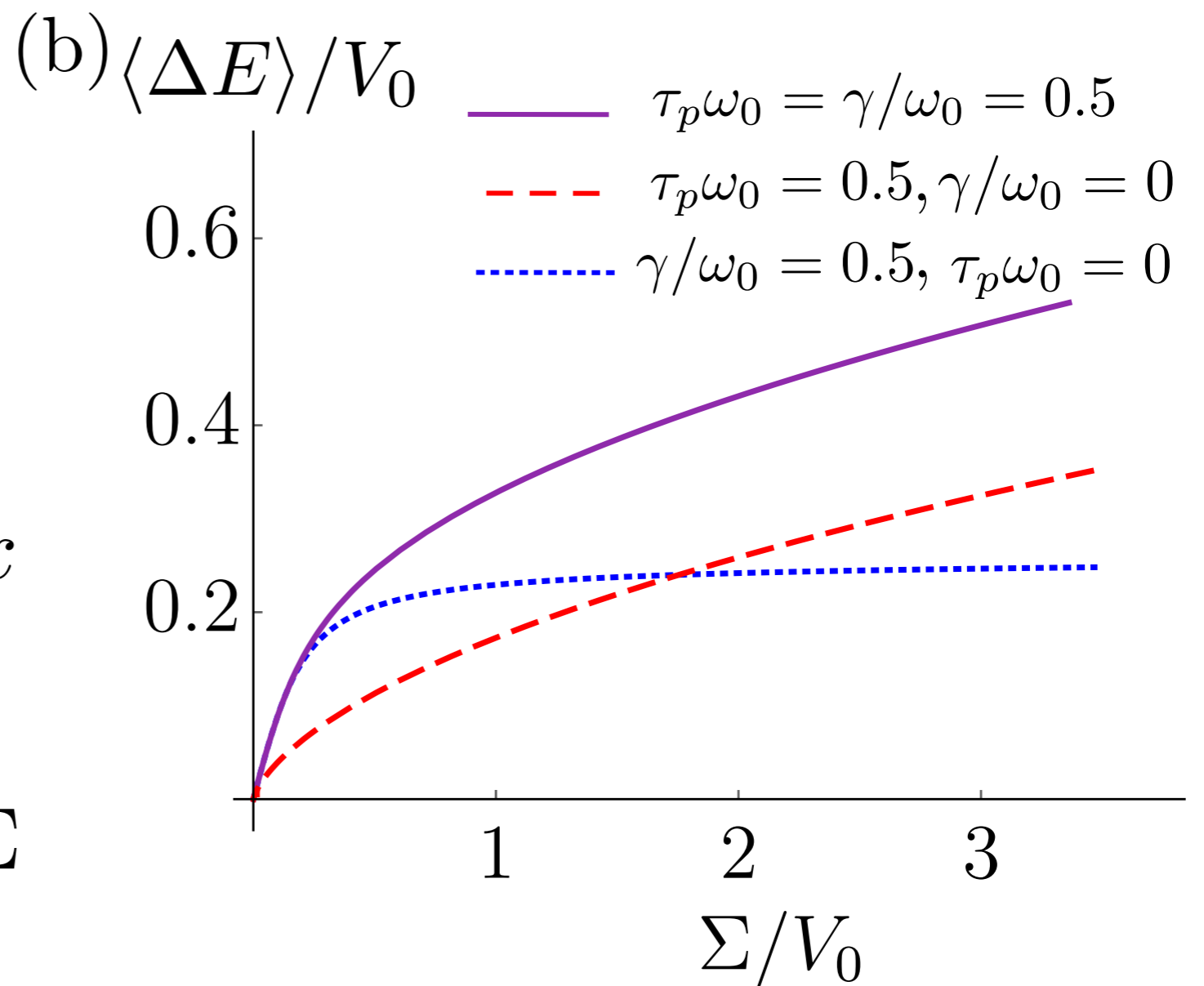
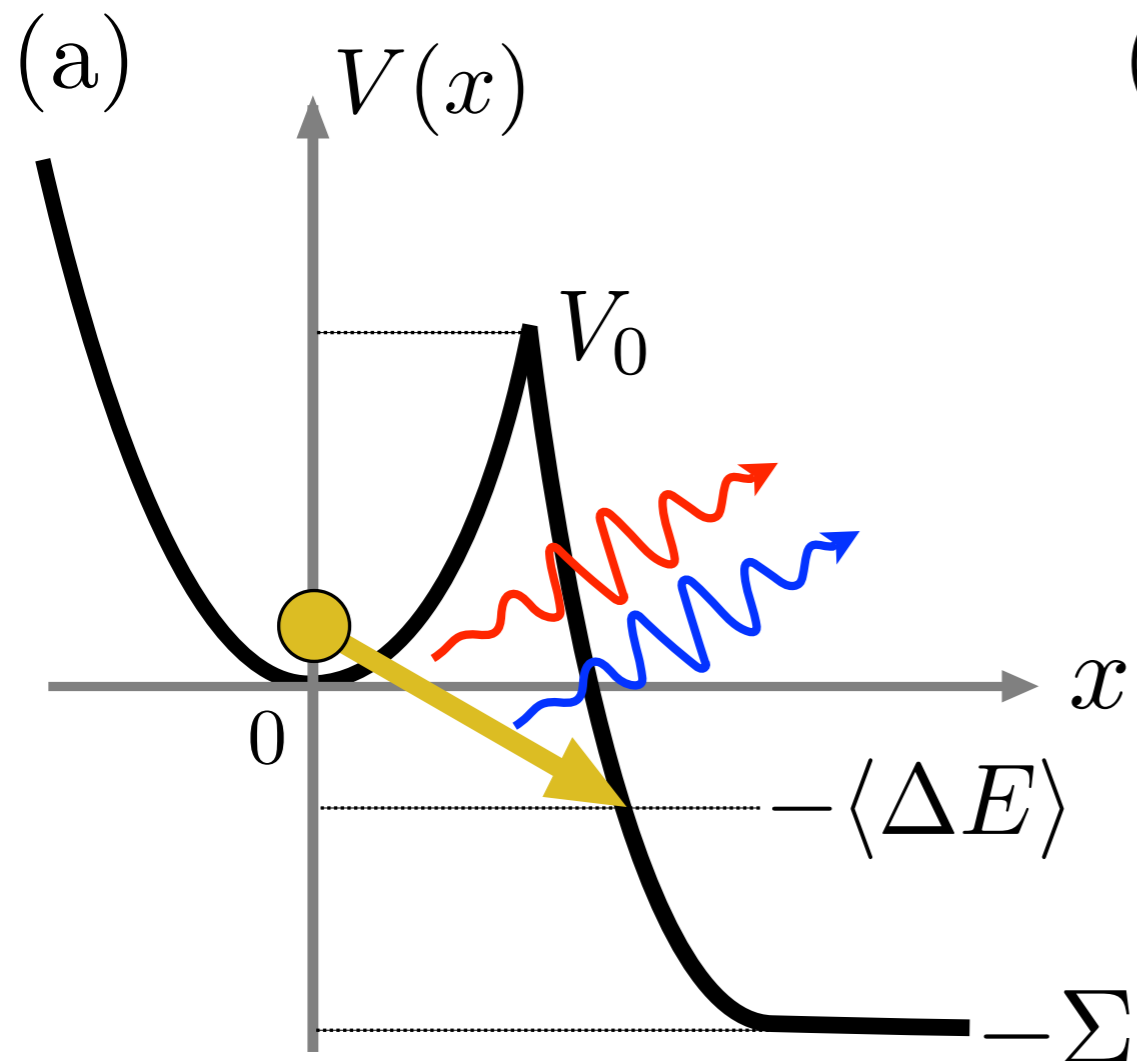
General results

$$\mathcal{E} = \exp \left[-\frac{1}{\hbar} \left(S_B - S_B^{(0)} \right) \right]$$



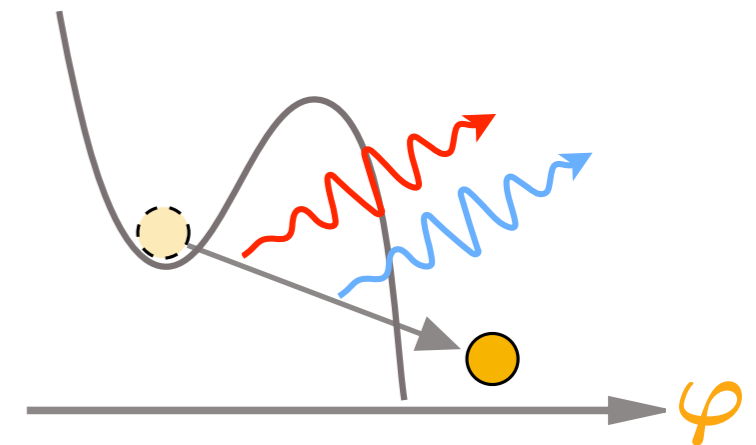
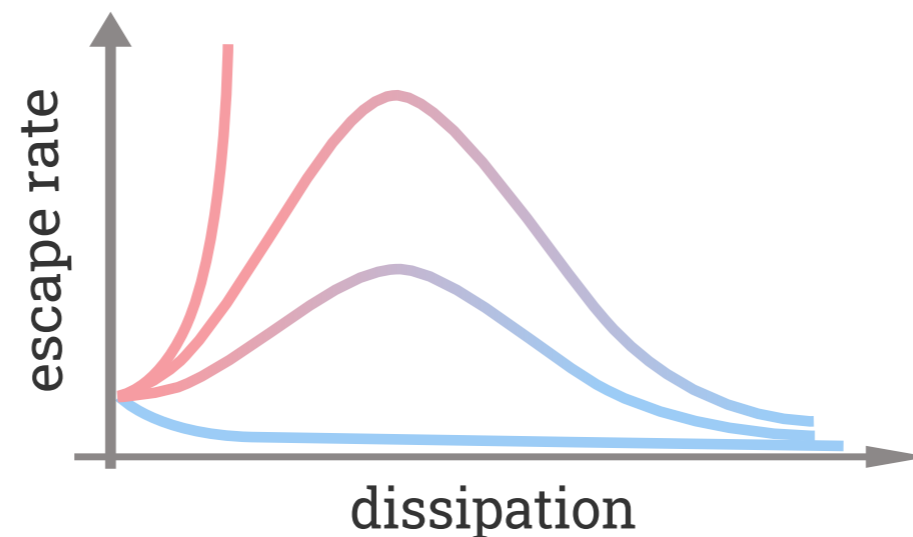
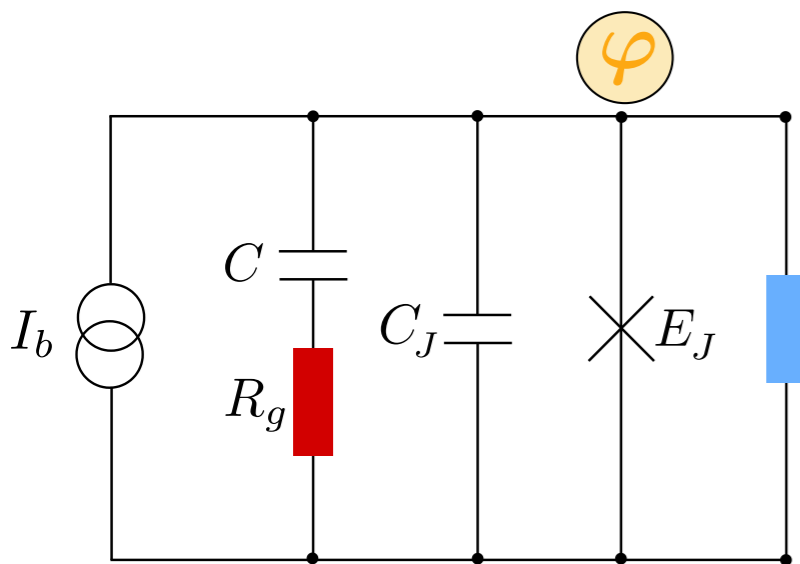
Phys. Rev. Research **3**, 033019 (2021)

Average energy loss



Summary

- **enhancement of the escape rate** from a metastable state in a quantum Josephson circuit using a simple scheme
- possibly of speeding up the relaxation dynamics towards the energy minimum
- as proof of concept: **perspective of using quantum dissipative Josephson circuits as quantum simulators for optimization problems**



PRB 106, 045408 (2022)

Collaborators



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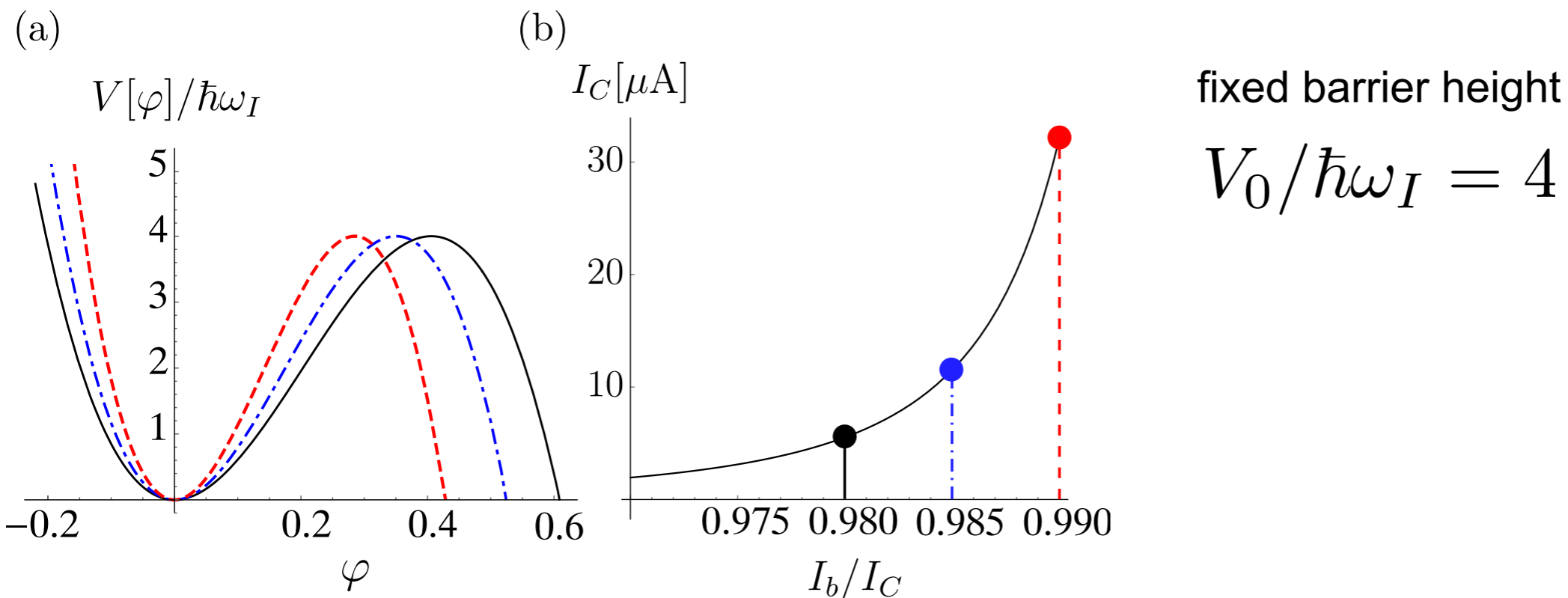
Wolfgang Belzig

Universität Konstanz

Thank you for the attention

Additional slides

Results: fixed barrier height

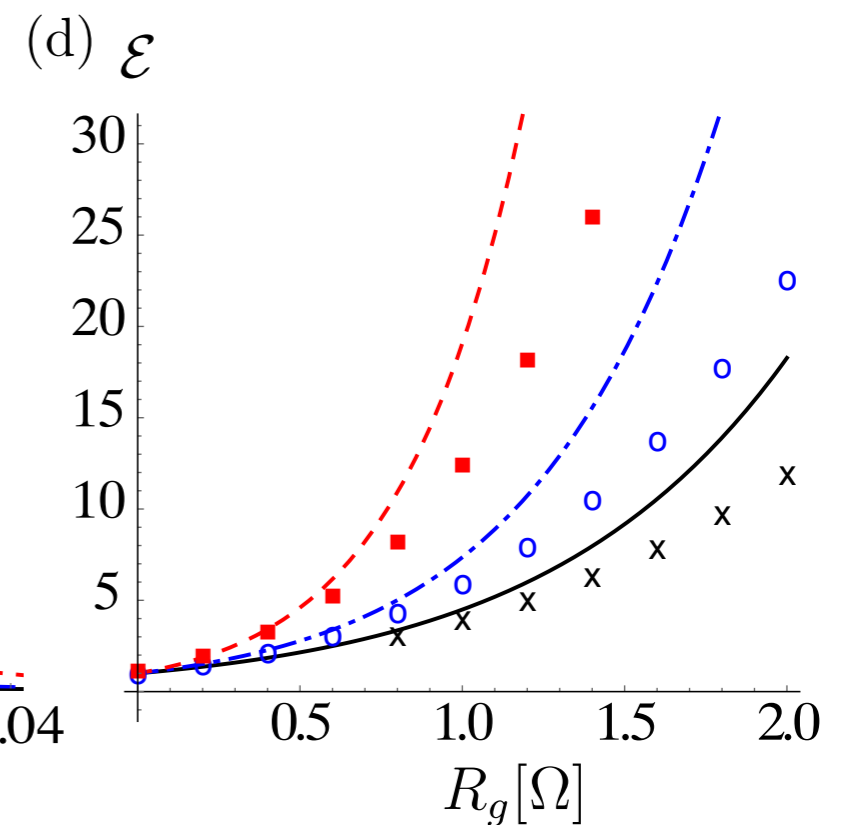
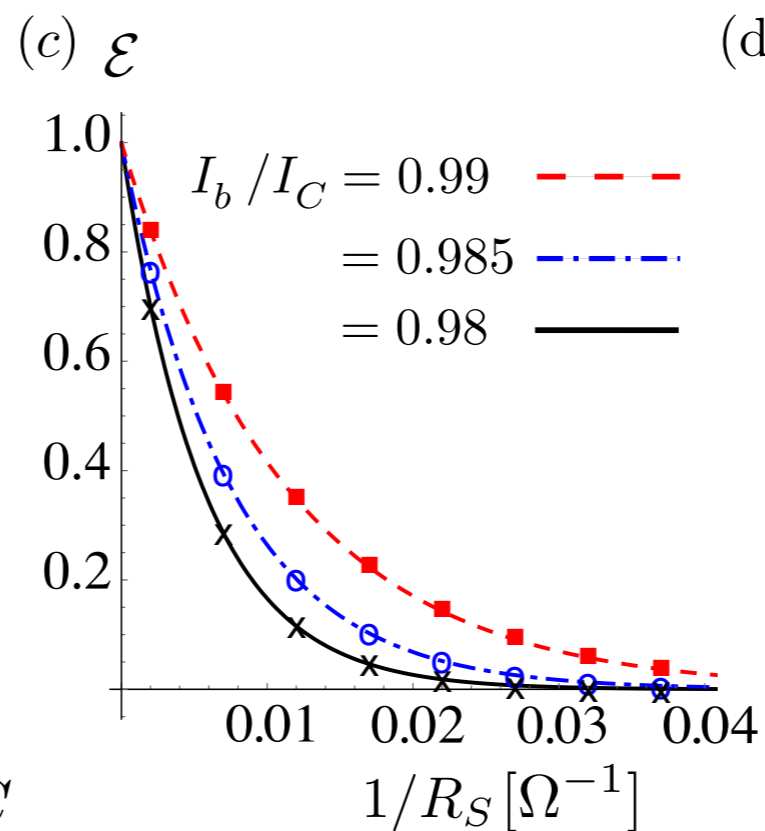


lines = variational method
 points = perturbave approx.

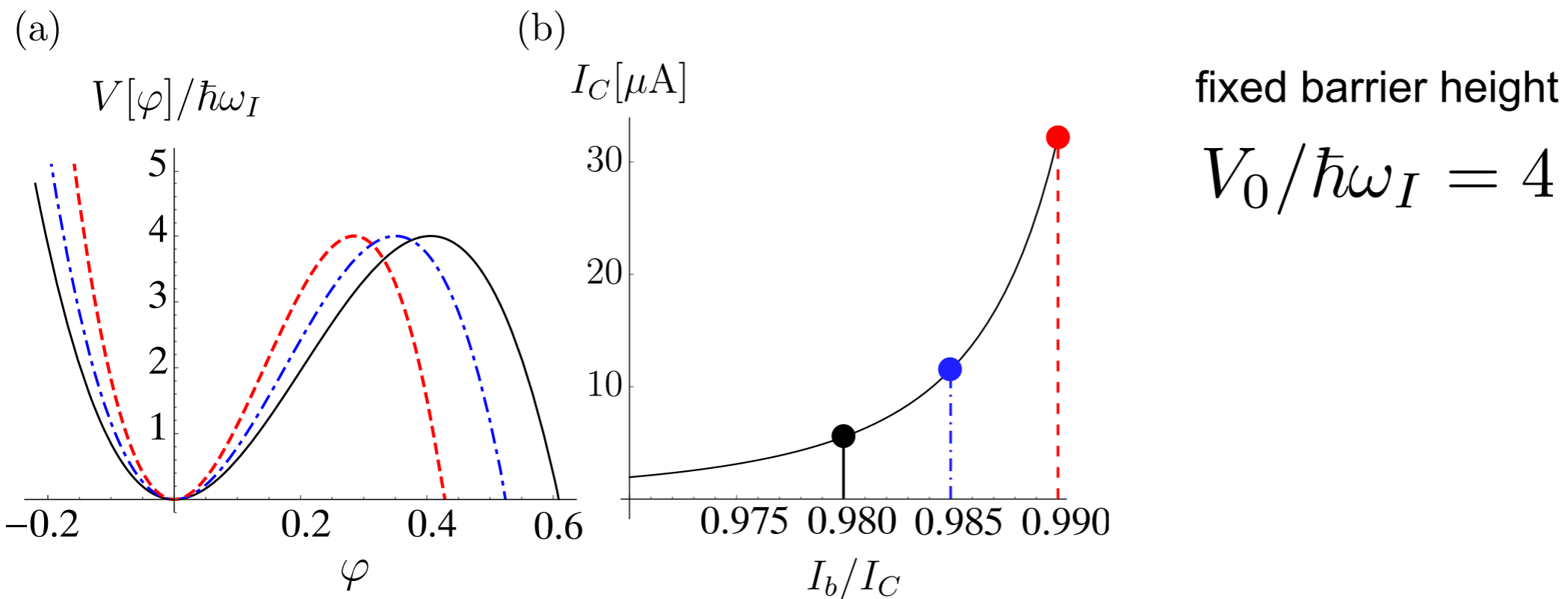
Parameters: $C_{tot} = 6 \text{ pF}$ $C_J \ll C$

phase dissipation

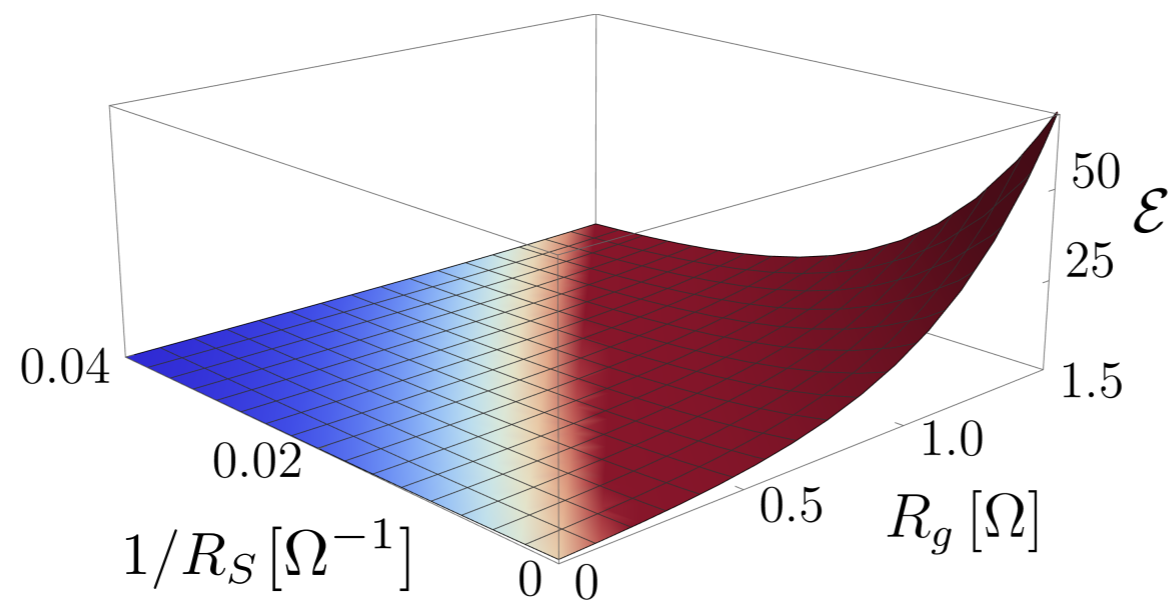
charge dissipation



Results: fixed barrier height



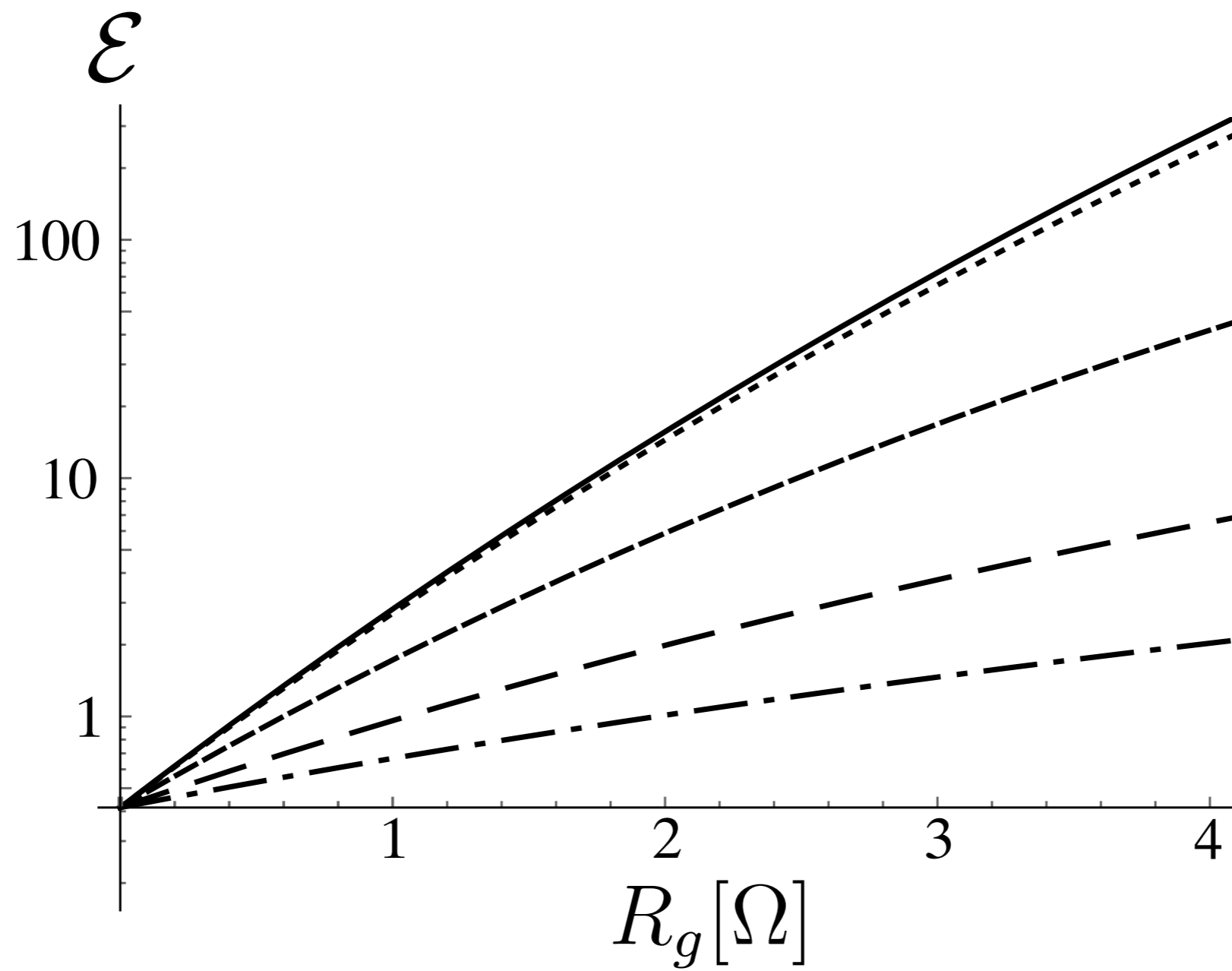
phase dissipation & *charge dissipation*



$I_b/I_C = 0.99$
variational method

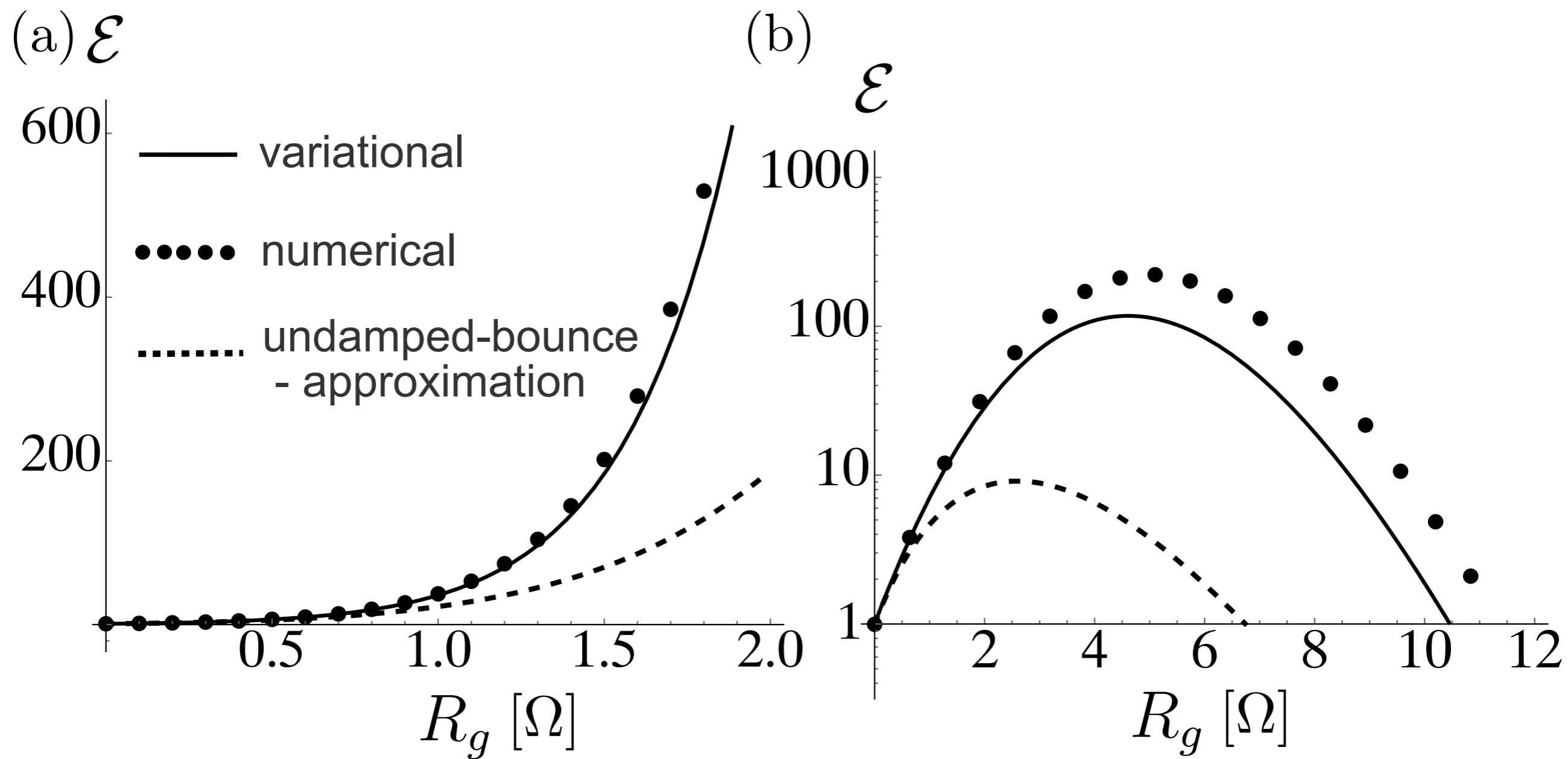
Parameters: $C_{tot} = 6 \text{ pF}$ $C_J \ll C$

Results: effect of the capacitance

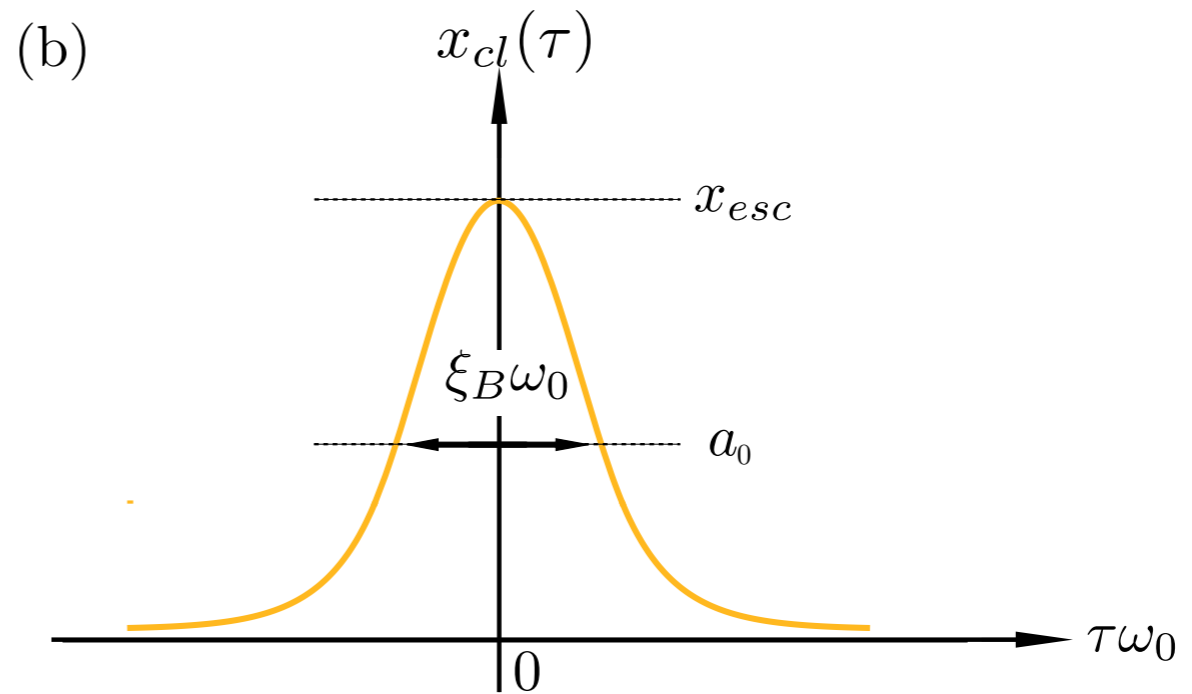
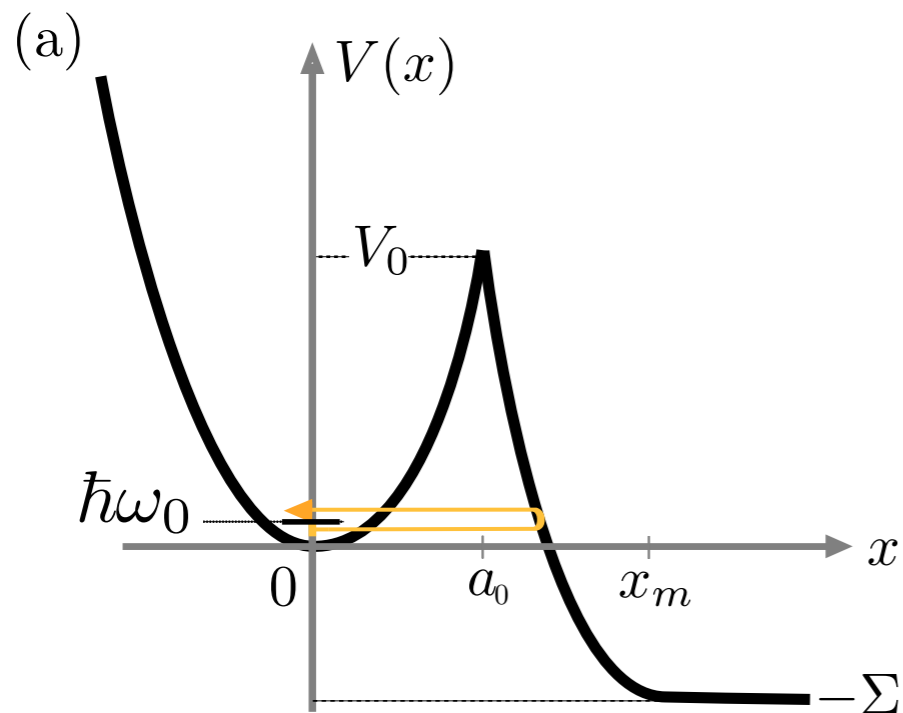


$C_J/C = 0, 0.01, 0.2, 0.5, 1$

Numerics vs variational method



General formula for the Action



$$-m \frac{d^2}{d\tau^2} x_{cl}(\tau, \xi) + \left. \frac{dV(x(\tau))}{dx} \right|_{x_{cl}} + \int_{-\beta/2}^{\beta/2} d\tau' F(\tau - \tau') x_{cl}(\tau', \xi) - \int_{-\beta/2}^{\beta/2} d\tau' \tilde{F}(\tau - \tau') \frac{d^2}{d\tau'^2} x_{cl}(\tau', \xi) = 0$$

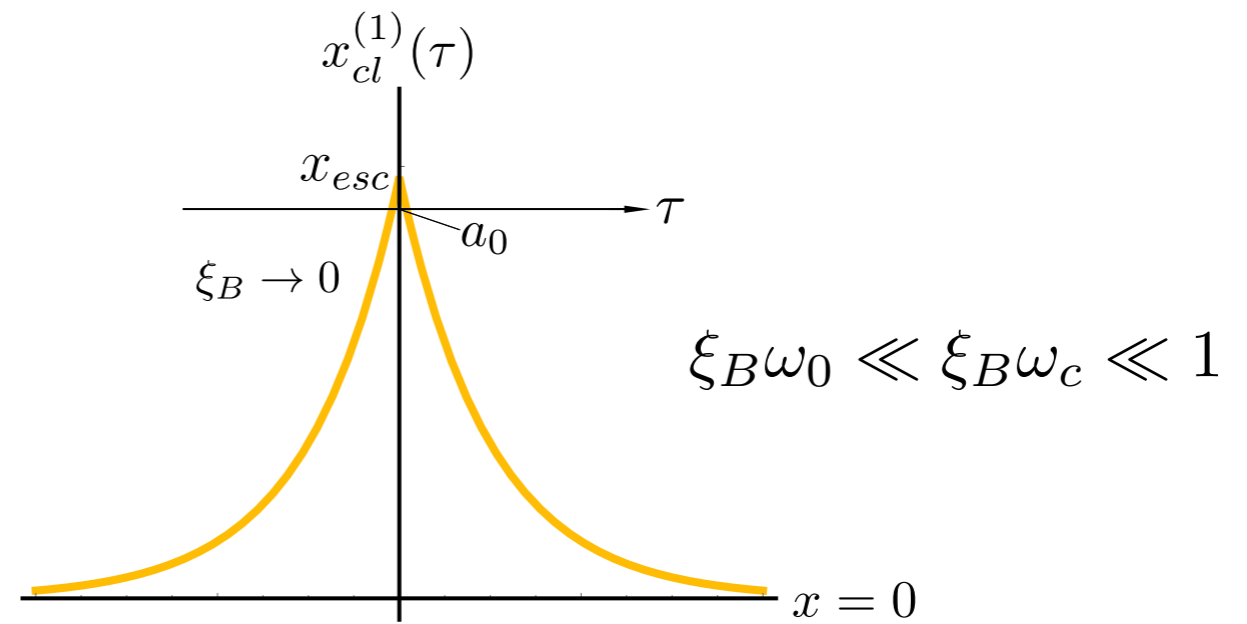
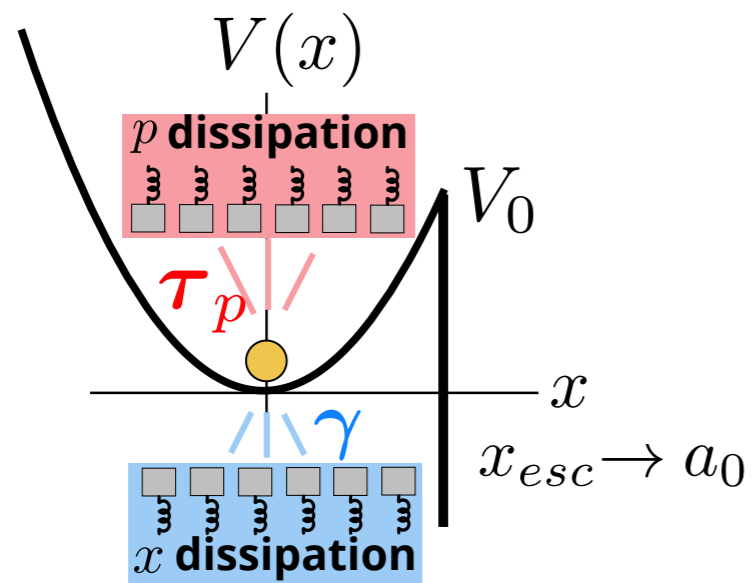
bounce time:

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\omega \frac{\sin(\omega\xi_B)}{\omega \left(\frac{\omega^2}{1 + \tau_p \omega f_c(|\omega|)} + \omega_0^2 + \gamma \omega f_c(|\omega|) \right)} \stackrel{!}{=} \frac{1}{\omega_0^2} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \Sigma/V_0} + 1}$$

action on the saddle point path:

$$S_{cl} = -\frac{2\omega_0^2 V_0 \left(\sqrt{1 + \Sigma/V_0} + 1 \right)^2}{\pi} \int_0^\infty d\omega \frac{(1 - \cos(\omega\xi_B))}{\omega^2 \left(\frac{\omega^2}{1 + \tau_p \omega f_c(|\omega|)} + \omega_0^2 + \gamma \omega f_c(|\omega|) \right)} + 2V_0 \left(1 + \sqrt{1 + \Sigma/V_0} \right) \xi_B$$

Limit case (1)



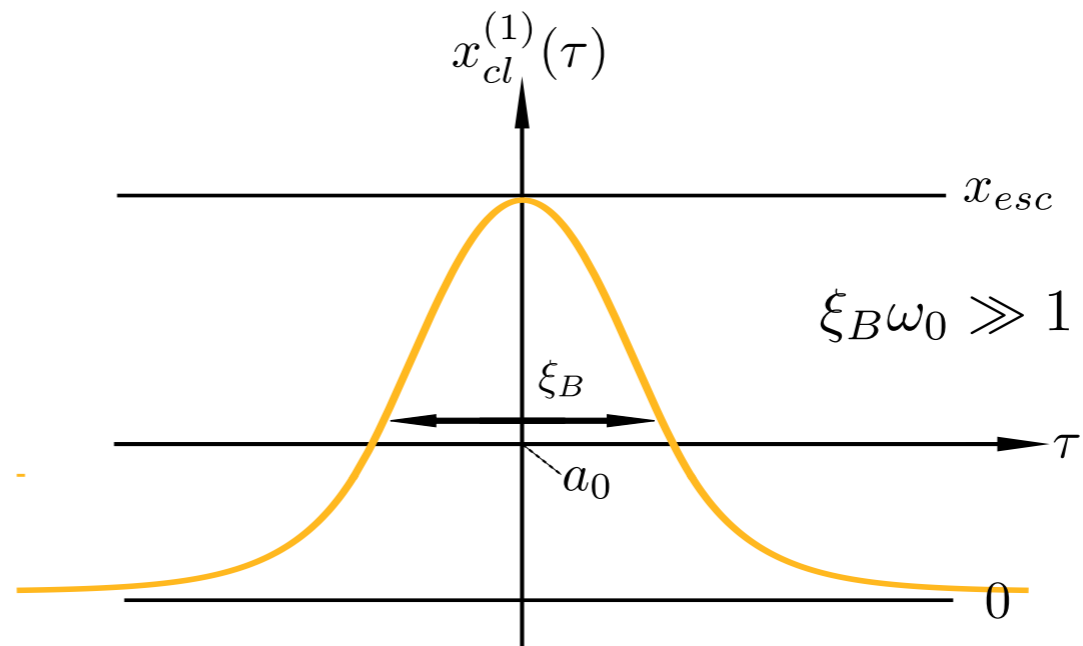
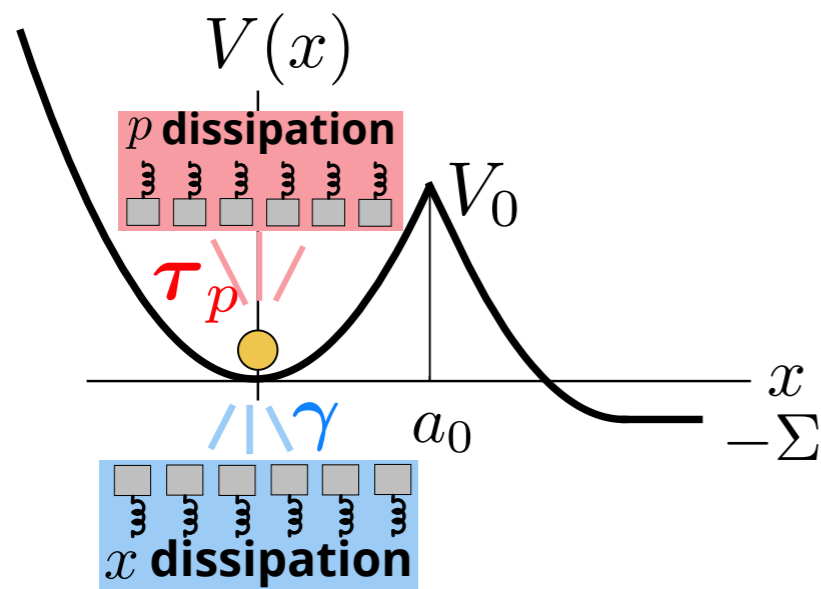
bounce time:

$$\xi_B \omega_0 = \frac{\hbar}{m\omega_0} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \Sigma/V_0 + 1}} \frac{1}{\langle x^2 \rangle}$$

action on the saddle point path:

$$S_{cl} = \frac{\hbar}{2} \frac{a_0^2}{\langle x^2 \rangle}$$

Limit case (2)



bounce time:

$$\xi_B \omega_0 \approx \frac{8 V_0 \gamma}{\pi \Sigma \omega_0}$$

action on the saddle point path:

$$S_{cl} \approx \frac{\epsilon_0}{\omega_0} + \frac{8 V_0 \gamma}{\pi \omega_0 \omega_0} \ln(\xi_B \omega_0) - \Sigma \xi_B$$

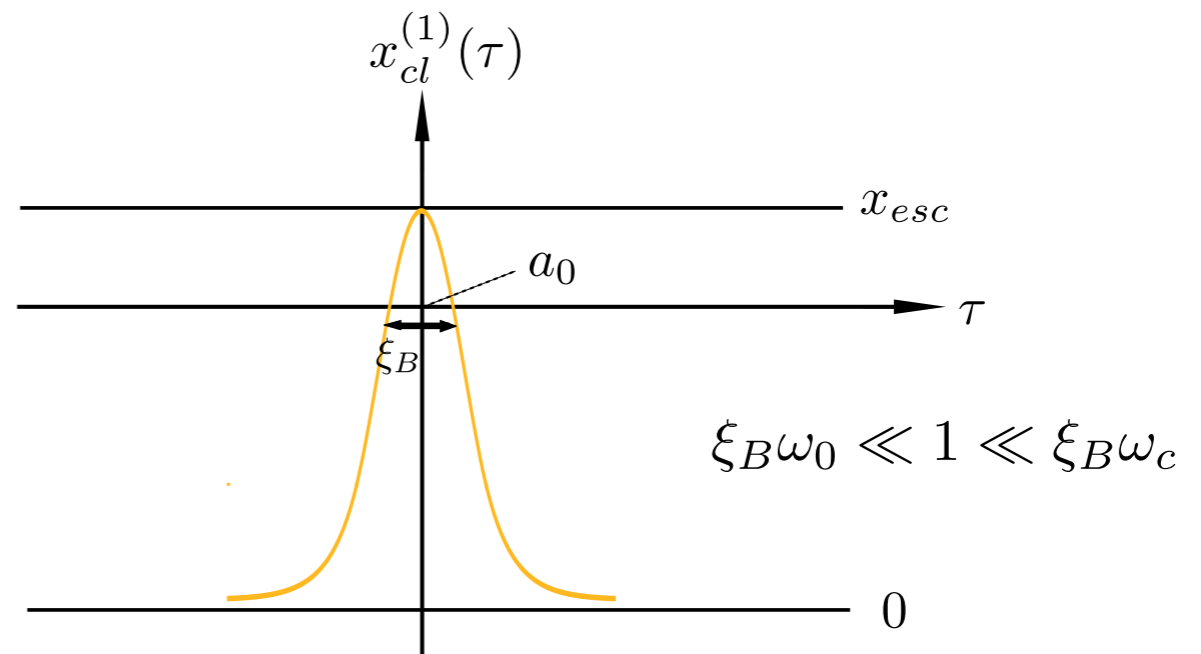
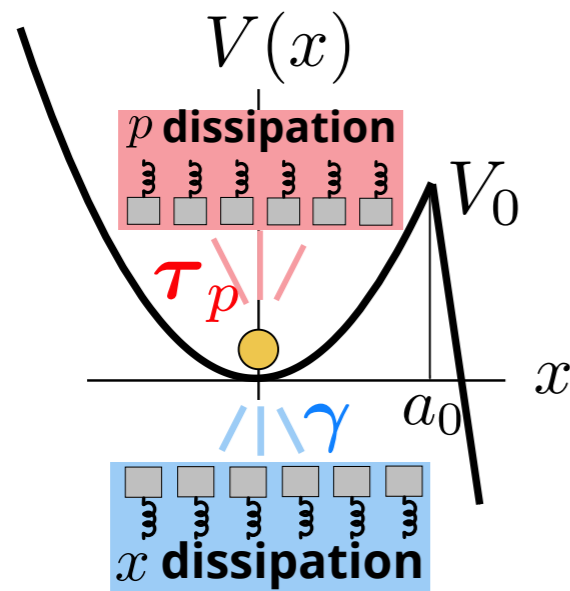
$$\frac{\epsilon_0}{\omega_0} = \frac{8 V_0}{\pi \omega_0} \left[\frac{\gamma}{\omega_0} \left(C - \frac{\ln(1 + \sigma^2)}{2} \right) - \frac{\left(\frac{\gamma}{\omega_0} P_- - 1 \right)}{2 \sqrt{P_-^2 - 1}} \ln \left(\frac{\Lambda_1}{\Lambda_2} \right) \right]$$

$$P_{\pm} = (\gamma \pm \tau_p \omega_0^2) / 2 \omega_0$$

$$\sigma = \sqrt{\gamma \tau_p}$$

$$\Lambda_{1,2} = \frac{\omega_0}{1 + \sigma^2} \left(P_+ \pm \sqrt{P_-^2 - 1} \right)$$

Limit case (3)



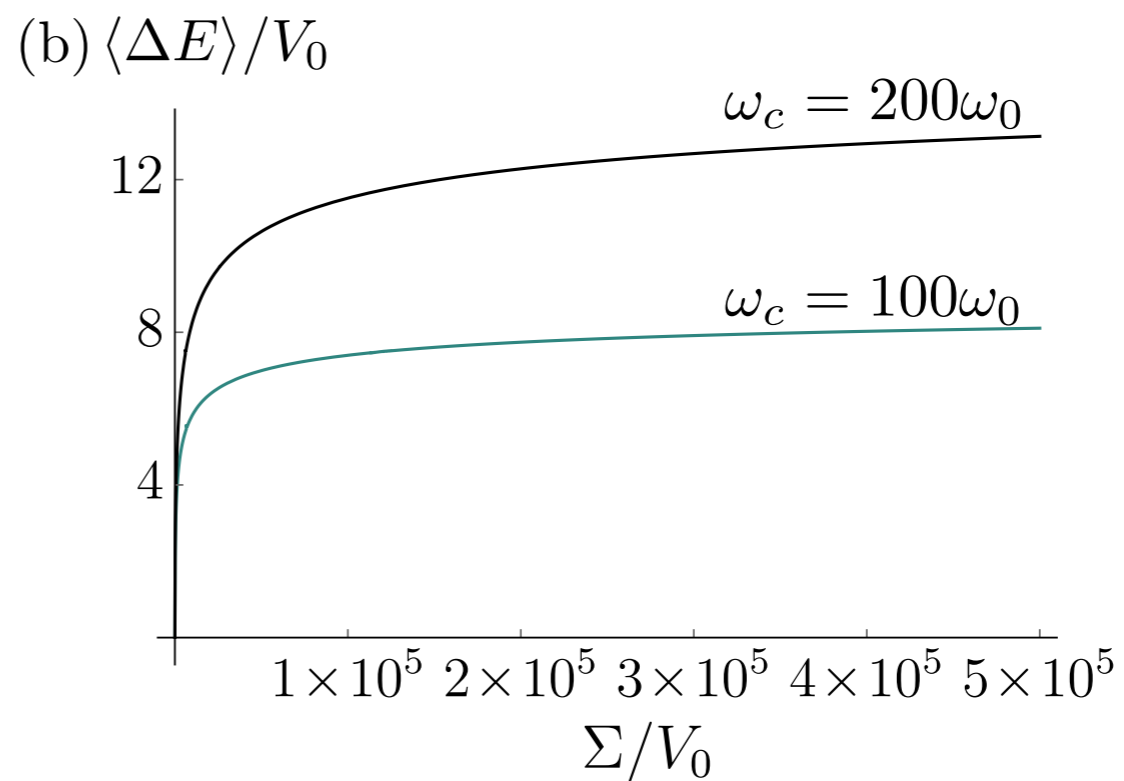
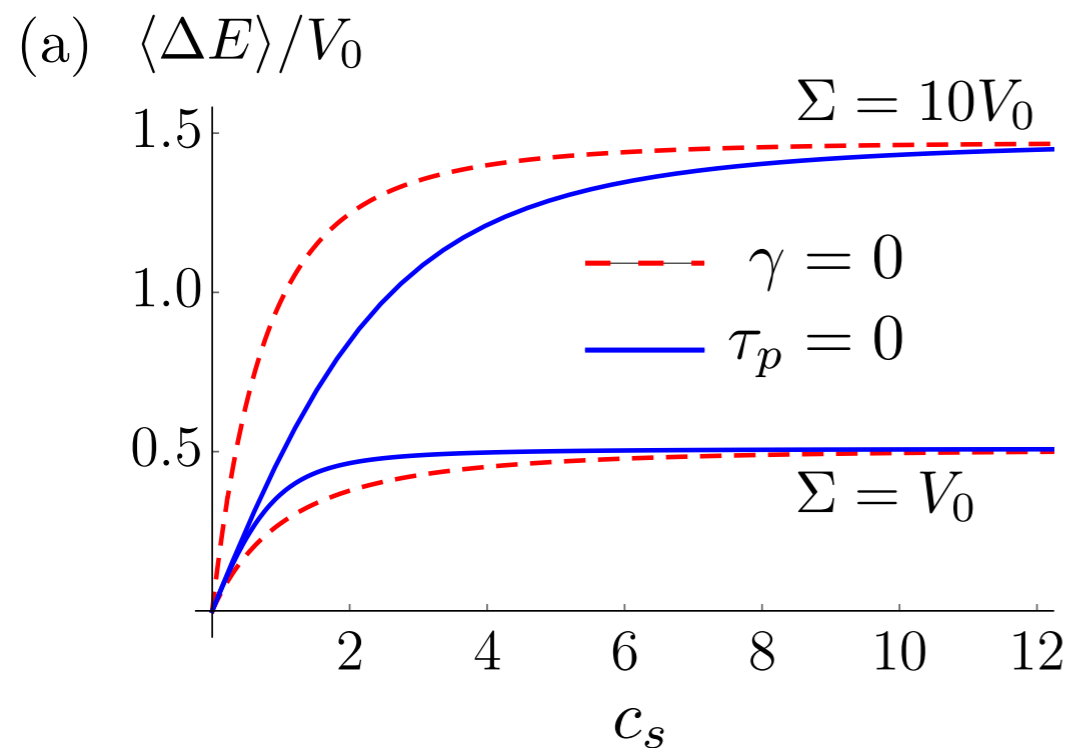
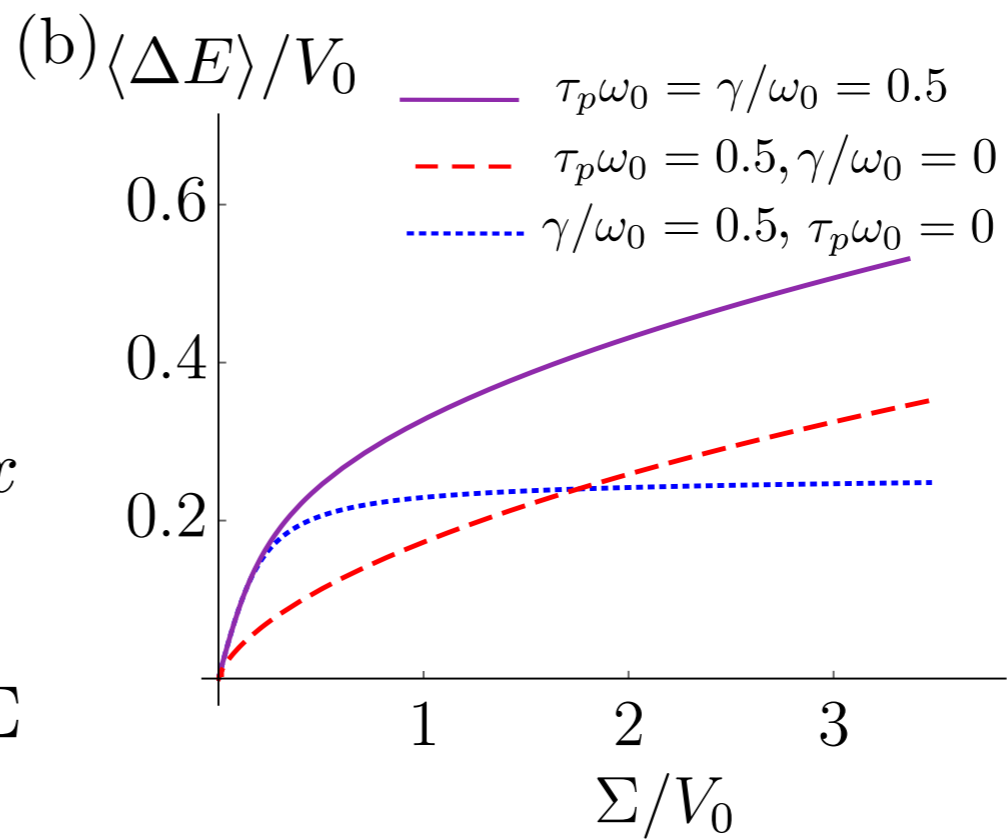
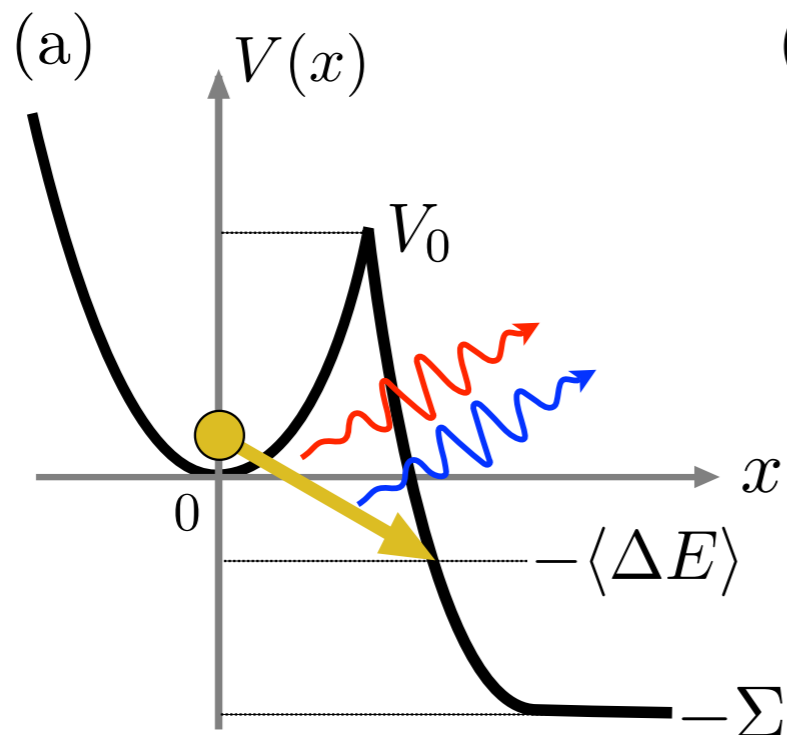
bounce time:

$$\frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\xi_B \omega_0}{(1 + \sigma^2)} \left(\frac{(1 + \tau_p \omega_0 P_-)}{2\sqrt{P_-^2 - 1}} \ln \left(\frac{\Lambda_1}{\Lambda_2} \right) - \tau_p \omega_0 \left(\ln(\omega_0 \xi_B) - \frac{1}{2} \ln(1 + \sigma^2) + (C - 1) \right) \right) \stackrel{!}{=} \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 + \Sigma/V_0 + 1}}$$

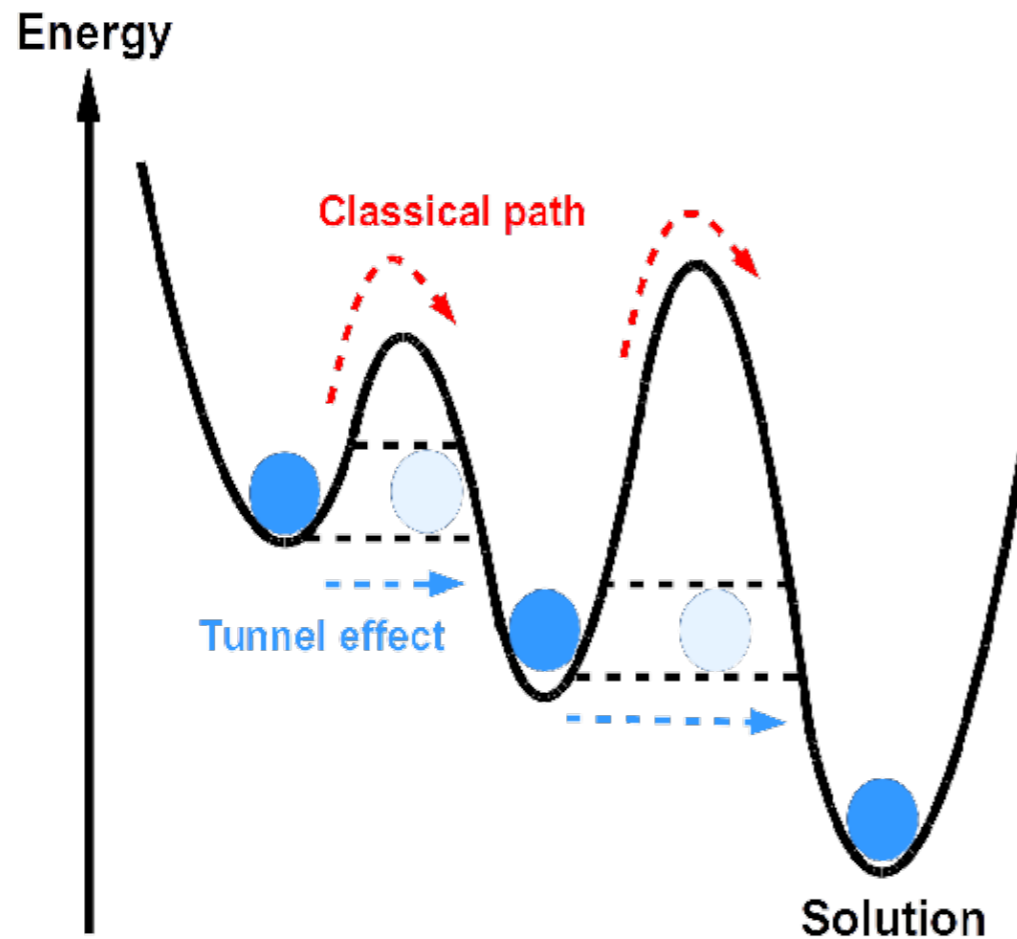
action on the saddle point path:

$$S_{cl} = \frac{V_0}{\omega_0} \left(\sqrt{1 + \Sigma/V_0 + 1} \right) \xi_B \omega_0 - \frac{V_0}{\omega_0} \frac{\left(\sqrt{\Sigma/V_0 + 1} + 1 \right)^2}{2\pi(1 + \sigma^2)} \xi_B^2 \omega_0^2 \tau_p \omega_0$$

Average energy loss



Perspectives

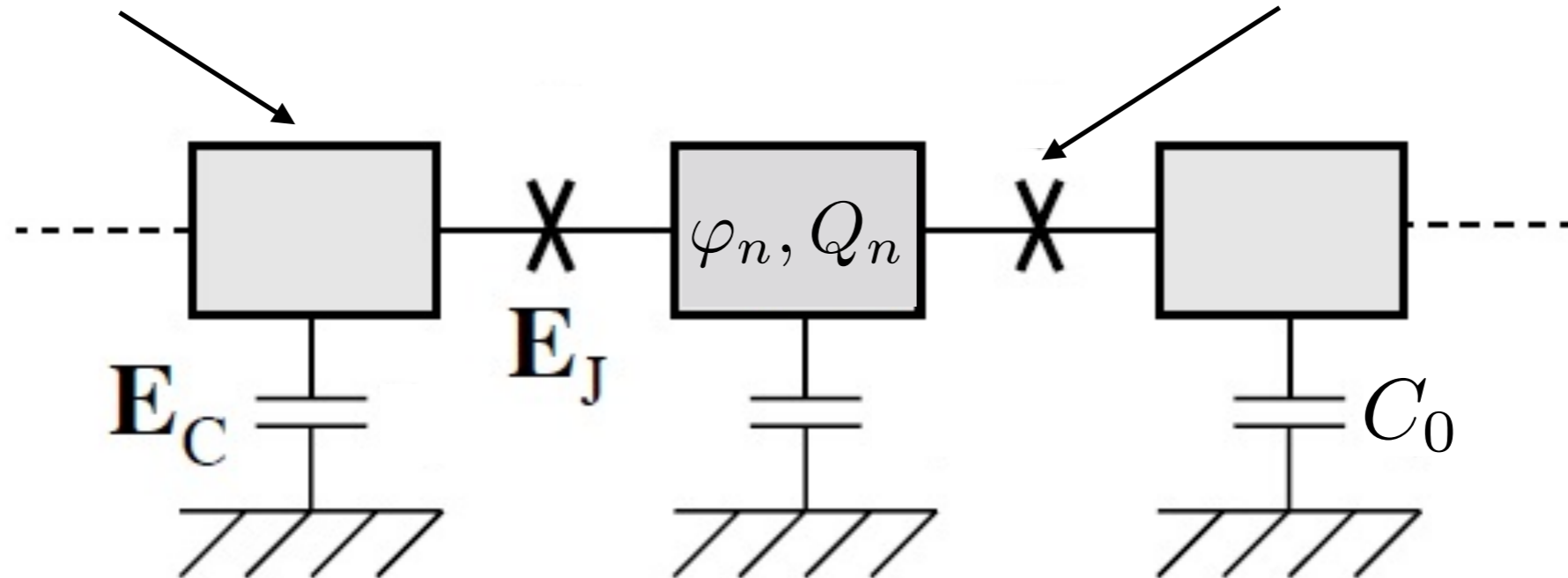


- **Classical Minimum= solution of an optimization problem**
- prepare the state in an arbitrary minimum
- switch on the *unconventional* interaction with the *engineered* environment
- the *incoherent* tunneling rate *increases* (environment assisted)
- ➔ adiabatic evolution is not required
- ➔ quantum coherence is not required

Josephson junction chains

Superconducting island

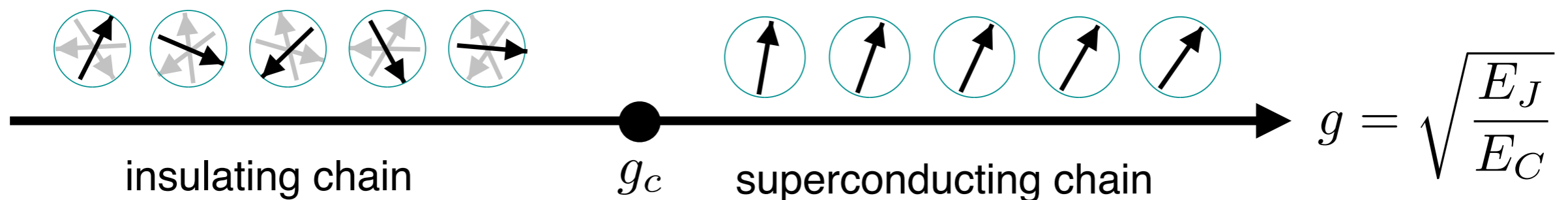
Josephson junction



Fazio, van der Zant, Phys. Rep. 355, 235 (2001)

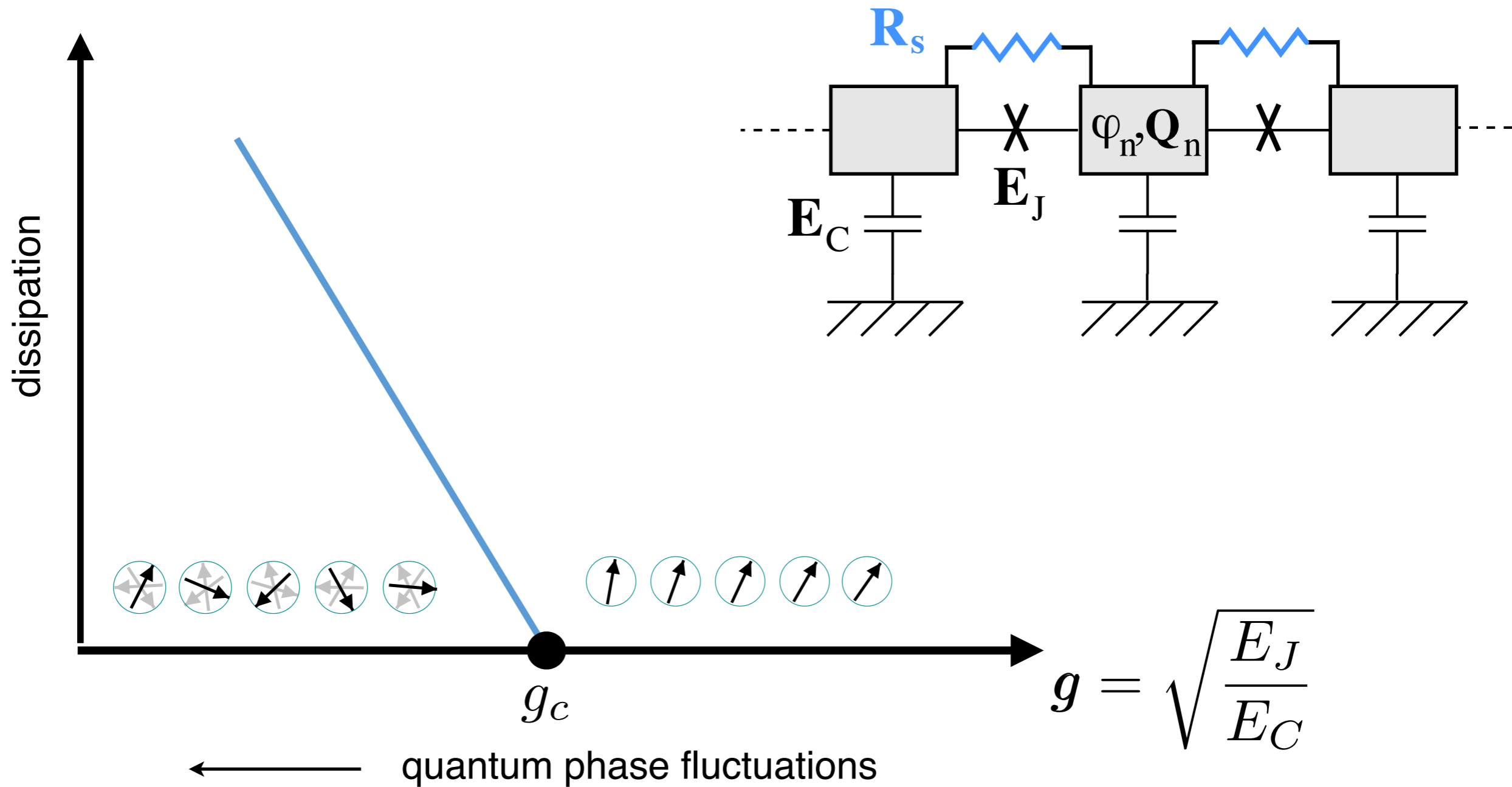
Quantum phase transition

$$T = 0K$$



Bradley, Doniach, Phys. Rev. B 30, 1138 (1984)

Dissipative Quantum Phase Transition



Chakravarty et al., PRL **56**, 2303 (1986)

Panyukov,Zaikin, Phys.Lett.A **124**, 325 (1987)

Korshunov, EPL **9**, 107 (1989)

Chakravarty et al., PRB **37**, 3293 (1988)

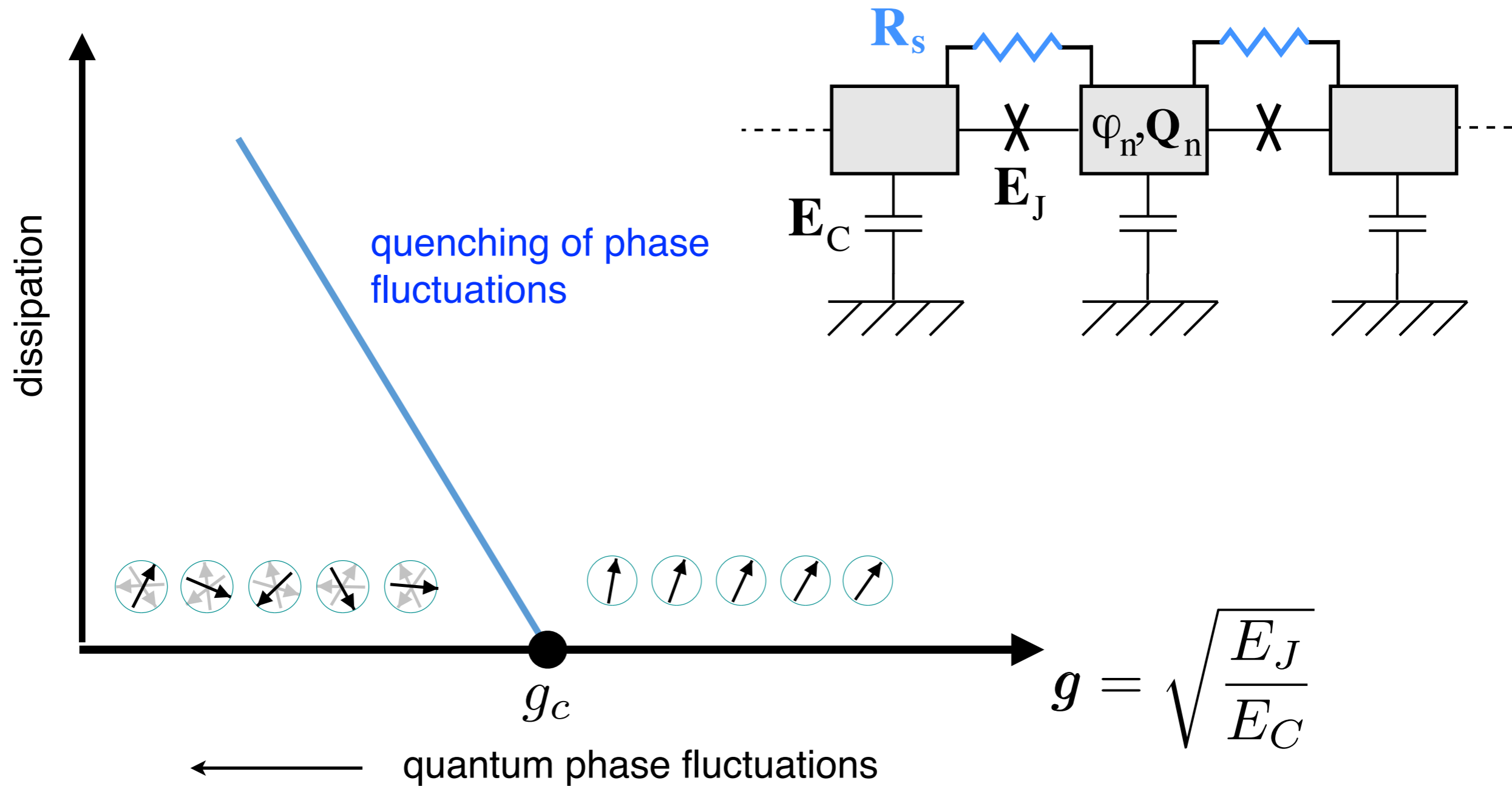
Bobbert et al., PRB **41**, 4009 (1990)

Bobbert et al., PRB **45**, 2294 (1992)

Wagenblast, PRL **79**, 2730 (1997)

Refael et al., PRB **75**, 014522 (2007)

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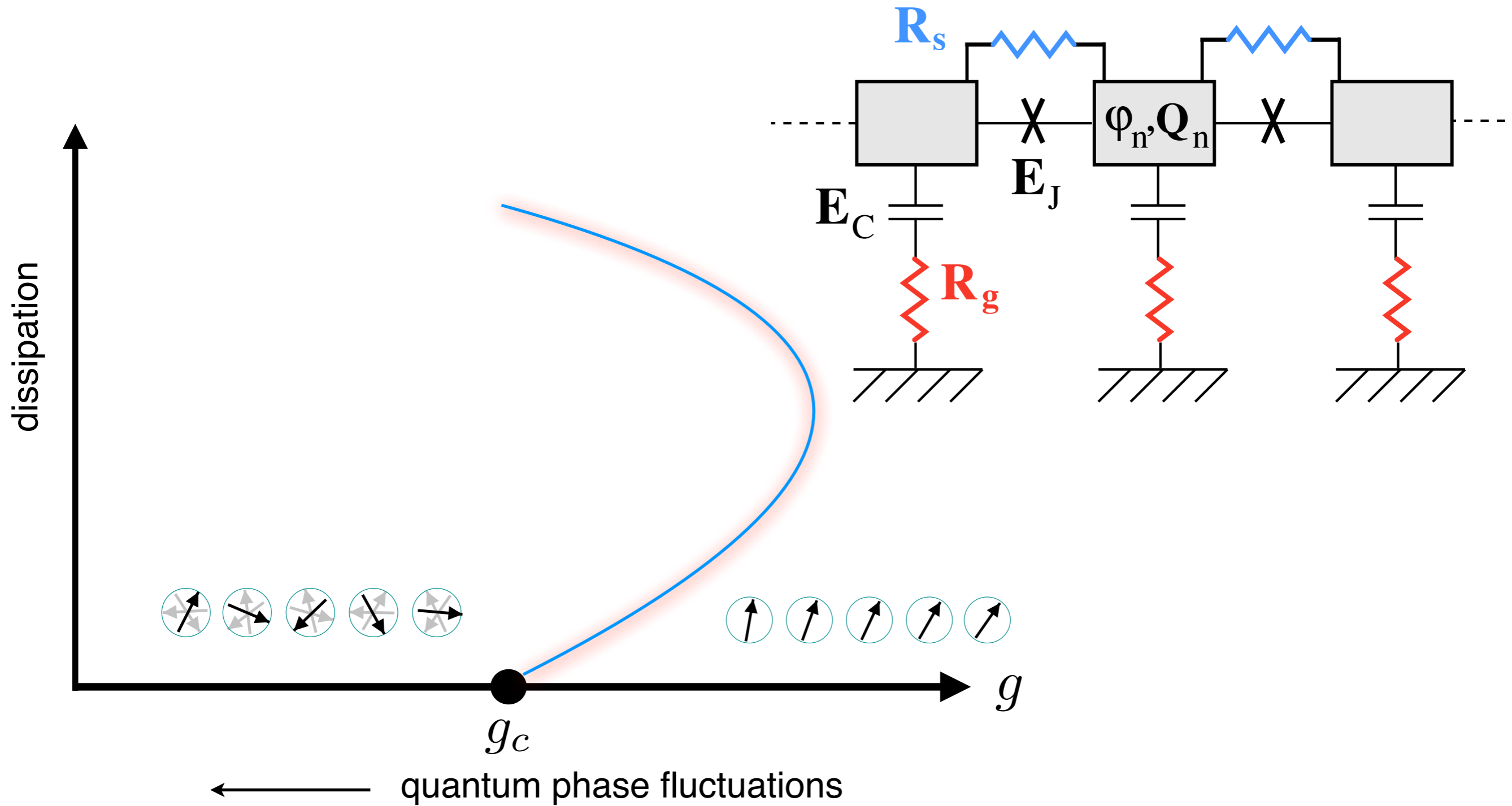
Bobbert et al., PRB **41**, 4009 (1990)

Bobbert et al., PRB **45**, 2294 (1992)

Wagenblast, PRL **79**, 2730 (1997)

Refael et al., PRB **75**, 014522 (2007)

QPT with dissipative frustration



D Maile, S. Andergassen, W. Belzig, G. Rastelli, PRB **97**, 155427 (2018).