DARK MATTER DETECTION WITH QUBITS

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& Fermilab 07/07/2023

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OUTLINE

- Quantum sensing for Dark Matter at Fermilab/IIT
 - → DOE Quantum Science Enabled Discovery (QuantiSED)
- \rightarrow Quantum Science Center (QSC)

one of the five DOE Quantum Science Centers funded under National Quantum Initiative act passed by congress (2018). Led by Oak Ridge National Lab

All of this is relatively new and very future focused!



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QUBIT BASED DETECTORS FOR ULTRALIGHT AND LIGHT DARK MATTER SEARCHES

ADVANTAGES OF QUBITS OVER CURRENT DARK MATTER SEARCH TECHNOLOGY

Sensitivity to sub-eV energy threshold

- Dark Matter can be coupled to *phonons* (lattice vibrations of the substrate) or *as photon absorption* in the superconducting part of qubit
- Broken cooper pairs generated in the qubit when $E > 2\Delta$ (superconducting bandgap energy) → can be used as Dark Matter signal
- \circ **Easy signal readout** with a qubit readout protocol (T₁, T₂, charge parity measurements)
- Qubit superconducting systems in *mK cryostat*, ideal for *thermal noise reduction* for Dark Matter searches.

DARK MATTER CANDIDATES





Figure 2-6: Mass range probed for dark matter particles that scatter off nuclei, electrons, or collective excitations (1 keV to 1 GeV) and that are absorbed by nuclei, electrons, or collective excitations (1 meV to 1 keV). These masses are below those typically expected for WIMPs. Near-term experiments using existing advanced technologies can probe the mass range in green, while R&D on promising technologies can lead to experiments that can probe the extended mass range in blue.

DM mass	DM energy or momentum	CM scale
$50 { m MeV}$	$p_\chi \sim 50~{ m keV}$	zero-point ion momentum in lattice
$20 { m MeV}$	$E_\chi \sim 10 \; { m eV}$	atomic ionization energy
$2~{ m MeV}$	$E_{\chi} \sim 1 {\rm eV}$	semiconductor band gap
100 keV	$E_\chi\sim 50{ m meV}$	optical phonon energy

WHAT HAS BEEN DEMONSTRATED WITH QUBIT BASED DARK MATTER DETECTORS?



--Superconducting Transmon and its variants can be utilized for Dark Matter detection through several mechanisms of coupling App. Phys. Rev., 6, 2, 10.1063 (2019).



QUBIT BASED SINGLE PHOTON DETECTORS Quantised



Time (s)

JPL, FNAL, IIT, Wisconsin

QUANTUM CAPACITANCE DETECTORS (QCDS)



- QCD + photon emitter source integration in progress at FNAL/IIT
- Josephson Junction based photon emitter source for fab. by Robert McDermott's group
- JJ energy E_j = 2eV_{DC} => f = 2eV_{DC} /h produces photons at this frequency
- IIT Student Jilain Yu leading the work
- QCD multiple array readout and characterization in progress with RFSoC fpga boards

Projected sensitivity for BREAD experiment





IIT student Jialin Yu

(BREAD Collaboration) Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 131801 – Published 28 March 2022

QUANTUM SCIENCE CENTER (QSC)

 \rightarrow High throughput cryogenic facility for development and readout of

large arrays of quantum sensors (Commissioned Fall 2022)

Dark Matter and radiation sensing with sub-eV single photon/phonon resolution qubit-based sensors

→multiplexed readout of array of quantum sensors using FNAL developed Quantum Instrumentation Control Kit (QICK) based on Radio Frequency on Chip (RFSoC) fpga technology.

- >30 labs in the US and abroad
 20 science talks in APS March
 - meeting!





Open source: including hardware schematics/layout firmware, software. See https://github.com/openq uantumhardware





UNDERSTANDING ENERGY DISSIPATION IN QUBITS



- Investigate ~ eV energy dissipation through e + h and phonon production
- Simulation effort on charge transport and phonon kinematics in Si.
- Application of particle physics simulation tools like G4CMP to understand qubits (various substrates and geometry)
- Cryogenic photon source development (**0.62 6.9 eV**)





MEMS cryogenic photon source





Fermilab Postdoc Ryan Linehan Hernandez

phonon simulation in a 6-qubit silicon chip using G4CMP

QUBIT BASED SUB-EV SINGLE PHONON DETECTORS



sapphire substrate

phonons

Trickle, T., Zhang, Z., Zurek, K.M. et al. Multi-channel direct detection of light dark matter: theoretical framework. J. High Energ. Phys. 2020, 36 (2020).

UNDERGROUND, LOW BACKGROUND FACILITY AT FERMILAB FOR DARK MATTER SEARCHES

UNDERGROUND FACILITY AT FERMILAB

Neutrino tunnel at Fermilab: perfect place to study radiation effects on qubits

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NEXUS facility for SuperCDMS



QUIET low background facility by Quantum Science Center (QSC)

Dark Matter Impact of radiation in superconducting detectors



IMPACT OF COSMIC AND TERRESTRIAL RADIATION ON SUPERCONDUCTING DETECTORS

High energy radiation: source of quasiparticle in qubits

Resolving catastrophic error bursts from cosmic rays in large arrays of superconducting qubits



SUMMARY

- FNAL at the forefront of novel Quantum Science based research
- Particular focus on sub-eV threshold Light and Ultralight Dark Matter searches
- Brand new Aboveground and Underground cryogenic facilities at Fermilab great platforms for studies of impact of radiation in superconducting devices and quantum sensing for Fundamental science
- Dark Matter community developed resources and expertise being utilized for Quantum Science research
- Parallel technology development to bridge the gap between Dark Matter detector development and necessary tools
- These activities expected to expand further in the coming years

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Fermilab

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Processes:

- --DM Scattering off of nuclei
- --DM Scattering off of electrons
- *Fraction of DM Energy transferred to the target material (nuclear, electron recoil)

--<u>Absorption of DM</u> DM Energy absorbed by the target material



SOME EXPERIMENTS

Super-CDMS-SNOLAB

LZ (LUX-ZEPLIN)

-- DM-nuclei scattering (signal nuclear recoil) produces phonons (Ge/Si crystal lattice vibrations) and electrons through ionization (charge)



-- DM-Xe nuclei interaction produces electrons through ionization and photons that drift to the top causing flash of light (PMT)





--Superconducting Transmon and its variants can be utilized for Dark Matter detection through several mechanisms of coupling

App. Phys. Rev., 6, 2, 10.1063 (2019).

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DETECTING DARK MATTER WITH QUBITS





QUBIT BASED AXION DETECTOR



Photon # counting evades the quantum noise limit

SIGNAL AND NOISE RATE



NQI Program Component Areas

- **Quantum Sensing and Metrology (QSENS)** refers to the use of quantum mechanics to enhance sensors and measurement science. This can include uses of superposition and entanglement, non-classical states of light, new metrology regimes or modalities, and advances in accuracy and precision enabled by quantum control, for example with atomic clocks.
- **Quantum Computing (QCOMP)** activities include the development of quantum bits (qubits) and entangling gates, quantum algorithms and software, digital and analog quantum simulators using programmable quantum devices, quantum computers and prototypes, and hybrid digital plus analog, as well as quantum plus classical computing systems.
- **Quantum Networking (QNET)** includes efforts to create and use entangled quantum states, distributed over distances and shared by multiple parties, for new information technology applications and fundamental science; for example, networking of intermediate scale quantum computers (modules) for enhanced beyond-classical computing capabilities.
- **QIS for Advancing Fundamental Science (QADV)** includes foundational efforts to invoke quantum devices and QIS theory to expand fundamental knowledge in other disciplines; for example, to improve understanding of biology, chemistry, computation, cosmology, energy science, engineering, materials, nuclear matter, and other aspects of fundamental science.
- Quantum Technology (QT) catalogues several topics: work with end-users to deploy quantum technologies in the field and develop use cases; basic R&D on supporting technology for quantum information science and engineering, e.g., infrastructure and manufacturing techniques for electronics, photonics, and cryogenics; and efforts to understand and mitigate risks raised by quantum technologies, e.g., post-quantum cryptography (see Box 4.1).

QCD READOUT

QCD Readout

- Sweep the gate voltage that spans a few quantum capacitance peaks.
- Counting the missing peaks (tunneling event)
- Missing peak rate shows that the dark count rate is high at this point





MEMS mirror allows for desired operating specifications:



- ~1.5" x 1.5" scanning area
- <100µm spot size</p>
- ~10µm position resolution
- O(100)Hz scanning speed
- O(µs) pulse width
- >10mK operating temperature

NATURE OF DARK MATTER

For **mass < 70 eV**, Pauli exclusion principle causes dark matter clumps to swell up to be larger than the size of the smallest dwarf galaxies. (Randall, Scholtz, Unwin 2017)



Fermions: 1 DM particle per mode volume $(\lambda_{deBroglie})^3$





Particle like DM

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AXION PRODUCTION

- Global symmetry broken at scale f_a
 - -- axion produced through misalignment mechanism
 - -- during QCD phase transition, trough tilted by $\Lambda_{\text{QCD}}{}^4$
- PE $\sim \Lambda_{QCD}^4$ released, makes up dark matter
- -- oscillation of the QCD θ angle about its minimum--vacuum energy to axions
- QCD axion mass $m_a \sim \Lambda_{QCD}^2/f_a$ ~ (200 MeV)²/f_a

--- f_a unknown \Rightarrow GHz frequencies at $f_a \sim 10^{13}$ GeV scale





Fig 1:J. Ellis et al; arxiv:1201.6045v1

AXION SEARCHES OVERVIEW



AXION SEARCHES OVERVIEW CONTD.



QUANTUM AMPLIFIERS

Why quantum amps.?

Intrinsically low noise (superconducting technology)

- \Rightarrow low resistance elements
- \Rightarrow low thermal dissipation
- \Rightarrow Add very low added noise during amplification
- => Tunable in frequency



Only limited by Quantum Noise Rakshya Khatiwada



Josephson Parametric Amplifier JPA



QUANTUM INSTRUMENTATION CONTROL KIT (QICK)

- Primary support through QSC
- Broadly used: >30 labs in the US and abroad
- > 20 science talks in APS March meeting!
- 16 DAC outputs from DC to 10GHz all digital mixers.
 - This is critical need for quantum. => Better experiments.
 - Minimizes calibrations.
- 16 ADC inputs from DC to near 10GHz without analog mixers.
 - Input noise 120K (i.e. 1.2dB)
- 8 x 20-bit DAC outputs for bias (BW of 10 or 100Hz) ultra low noise, ±10V outputs.
- <200ns latency for error correction (fastest in the market).
- Optimal filtering, no dead-time 3ns pulses.
- 100 pico-second pulses for QN.
- Accurate timing readout 2ps resolution.
- RF multiplexing of 10K detectors per board.

AMD-RFSoC ZCUIII +QICK custom RF/DC amplifiers, bias





AMD-RFSoC ZCU216 QICK custom RF/DC amplifiers, bias under design

Cryogenic photon source for Detector Characterization



WHAT'S CAUSING THESE DARK COUNTS?

A superconductor free of quasiparticles for seconds

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2022

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Eliminated cosmic muon and radioactive background from suspects since qp poisoning suppressed over longer ~ a week cooldown period

Used similar device to charge parity device like QCD

Microfractures due to GE Varnish and mounting glue on Si substrate causing phonon bursts breaking cooper pair -> qp poisioning

A Stress Induced Source of Phonon Bursts and Quasiparticle Poisoning

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QCD READOUT

- Rate of qp Tunnel_{in} $\propto N_{qp}$
- Rate of qp Tunnel_{out} independent of N_{qp}
- Amplitude $\Delta C = T_{out} / (T_{in} + T_{out}) (4 E_C / E_J) (C_g^2 / C_{tot})$
- Since $\Delta C \propto T_{in} \propto N_{qp}$ and $N_{qp} \propto$ signal photon power, measurement of ΔC gives signal photon power.

(amplitude of quantum capacitance)



Change in the charge changes the capacitance of the resonator which is quantized as a function of odd and even quasiparticle state in the island.



QCD PRODUCING QUASIPARTICLE

Despite having only 20 qp Produced, they keep on tunneling in and out of the island until thermalized so the tunneling rate is high

- Rate of quasiparticle tunneling vs. # of quasiparticles
- For a 1.5 THz photon: 210 kHz qp tunneling rate (instantaneous rate) for # qp 20 as opposed to 8 kHz residual qp rate (unknown background)

I.5 THz incident photon

10THz photon ~ 133 qp 100THz photon > 1000 qp

Note: N_{qp} inferred from QP tunneling rate fit. N_{qp} not directly measured



QCD RESPONSE AS A FUNCTION OF INCIDENT POWER (TRUE QCD OPERATION LIMIT)

Dynamic range for operation considerations:

- photon rate has to be < than Quasiparticle tunneling rate (otherwise device noise becomes higher than photon shot noise) (No problem for DM)
- Good operation regime between P = 10⁻²⁰ to 10⁻¹⁷ W (shot noise dominated)
- Noise source (Shot noise): big island and reservoir volume decreasing both tunneling in and tunneling out rates causes increased shot noise of electron tunneling.
- Can extend shot noise limited regime from P = 10⁻²² to 10⁻¹⁶ W with fabrication improvements including decrease in mesh and island size and increase in junction (decreases tunneling resistance increasing the tunneling rate) width etc.

