

# Superconducting circuits: from photon generation to universal quantum gates

Fernando C. Lombardo

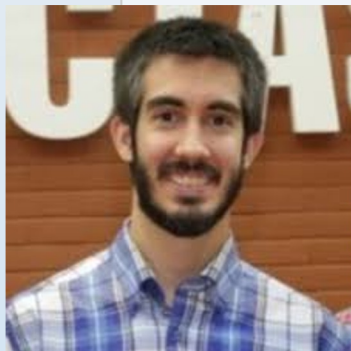
## A controlled-squeeze gate in superconducting quantum circuits

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We present a method to prepare non-classical states of the electromagnetic field in a microwave resonator. It is based on a controlled gate that applies a squeezing operation on a SQUID-terminated resonator conditioned on the state of a dispersively coupled qubit. This controlled-squeeze gate, when combined with Gaussian operations on the resonator, is universal. We explore the use of this tool to map an arbitrary qubit state into a superposition of squeezed states. In particular, we target a bosonic code with well-defined superparity and photon loss is thus error detectable by nondemolition parity measurements. We analyze the possibility of implementing this using state-of-the-art circuit QED tools and conclude that it is within reach of current technologies.



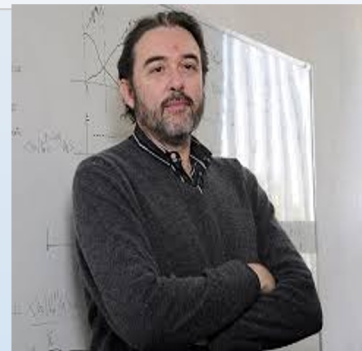
Nicolás del  
Grosso



Paula Villar



Fernando  
Lombardo



Juan Pablo  
Paz



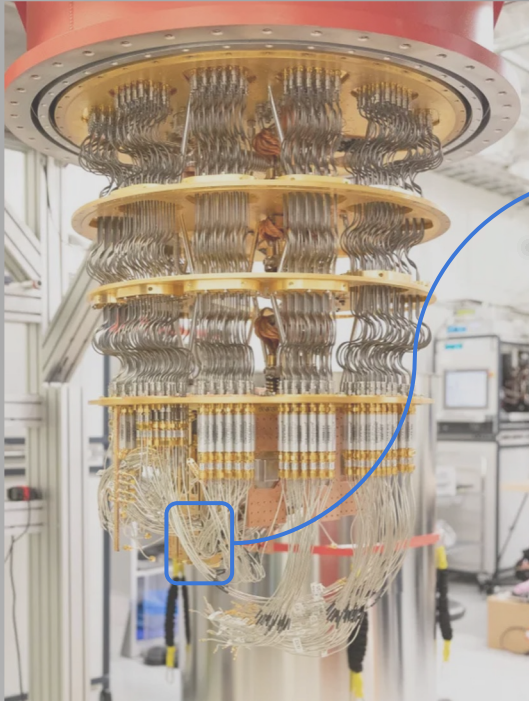
Rodrigo  
Cortiñas

# Why Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics?

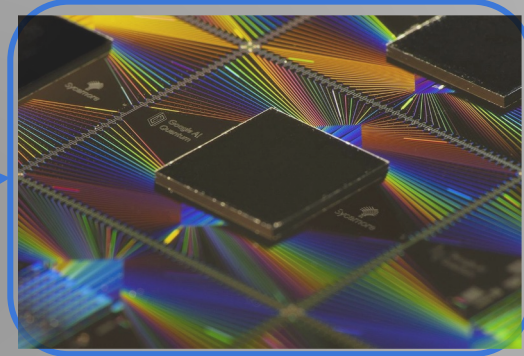


# Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics

Promising Platform for successful Quantum Computation



Sycamore Google Quantum Computer



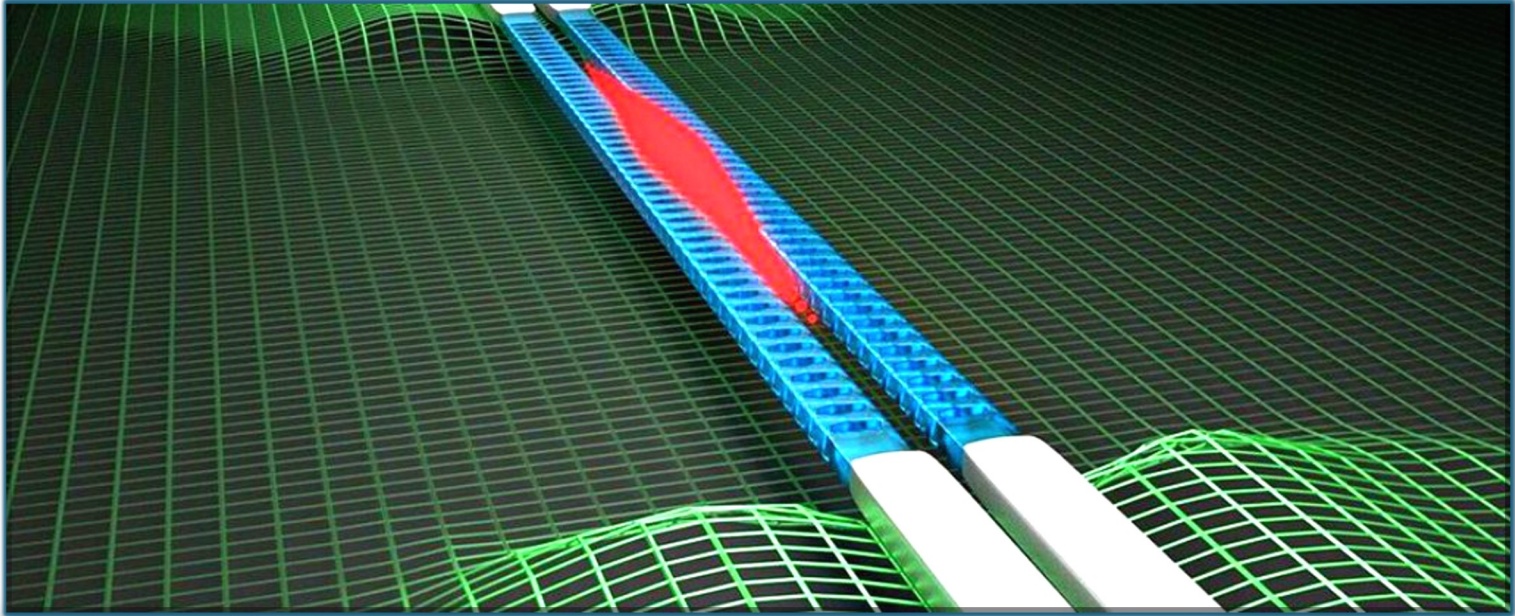
Photograph of the Sycamore chip.

~~QUANTUM SUPREMACY~~

2019: 53 qubits  
2024: 80 qubits  
2025: 1000 qubit

QUANTUM UTILITY

# Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics has also provided the Simulation of the Dynamical Casimir Effect



# Very difficult to observe...

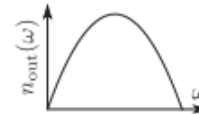
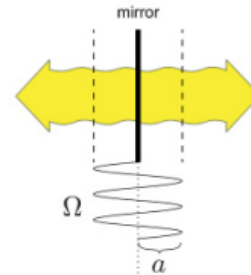
Rate of photon production by a single oscillating mirror *in vacuum*

$$\frac{N}{T} = \frac{A}{60\pi^2} \frac{\Omega^3}{c^2} \left(\frac{v_{max}}{c}\right)^2 \quad v = \Omega \cdot a$$

$$\frac{v_{max}}{c} = 10^{-7} \quad \Omega = 10GHz \quad A = 10cm^2$$

1 photon/day!!

Single-mirror setups



Broadband spectrum with peak at  $\omega_d/2$

<sup>1</sup>G.T. Moore, J. Math. Phys. 11, 2679 (1970)

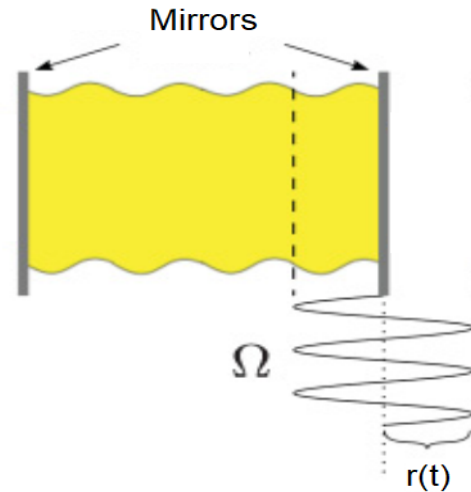
<sup>2</sup>A. Lambrecht, M.T. Jaekel and S. Reynaud, Phys. Rev. Lett.77, 615 (1996)

For *cavities* the situation is better due to parametric resonance... but still difficult

- In order to produce 5 GHz photons, we need mechanical oscillations with 10GHz
- Actual limit: 6GHz

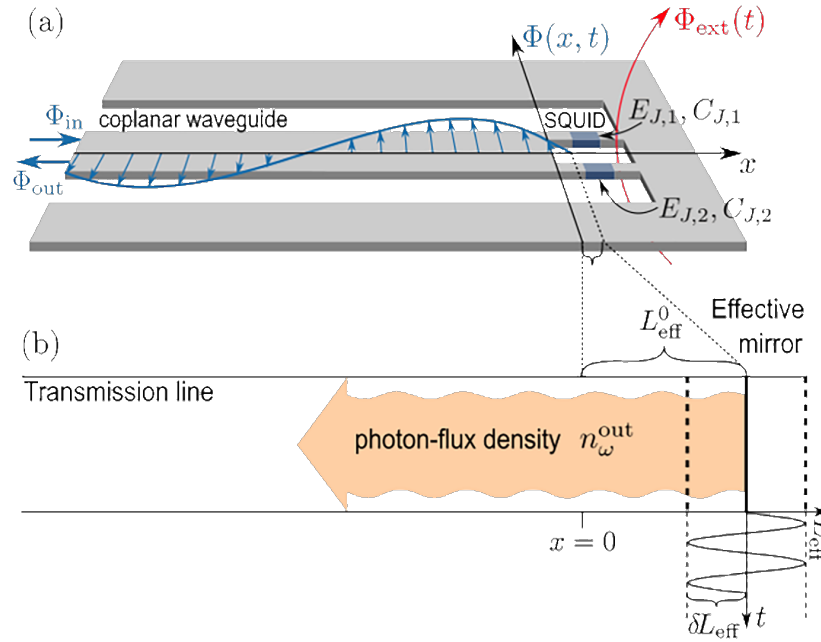
$$N = e^{\eta\epsilon\Omega t}, \eta = O(1)$$

$$N_{max} \simeq e^{\epsilon Q} \leq e^{10^{-8}Q}$$



# EXPERIMENTAL VERIFICATION OF DCE (2011)

By applying a time-dependent magnetic flux through the SQUID we get a time-dependent inductance, which in turn produces a time-dependent boundary condition for the field in the waveguide

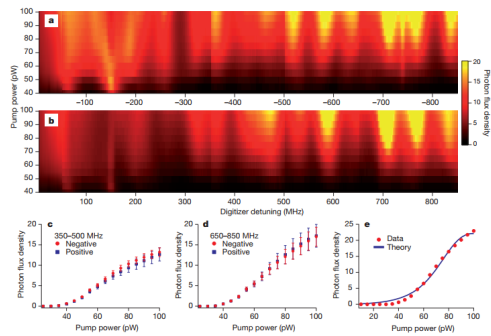
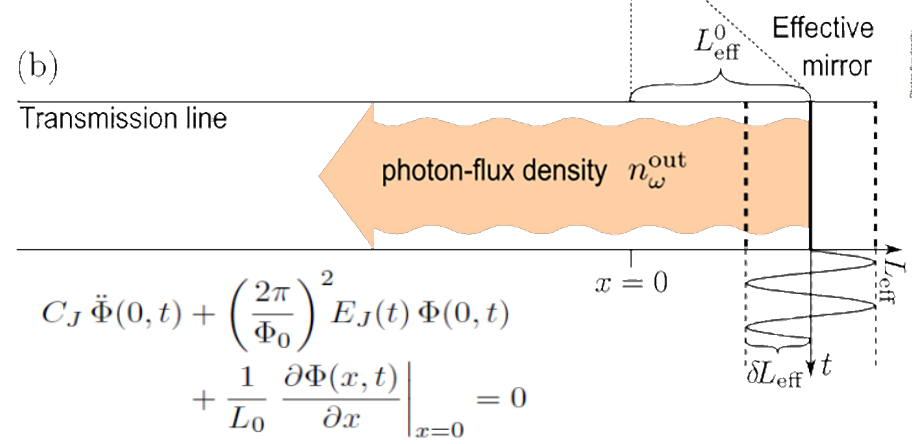
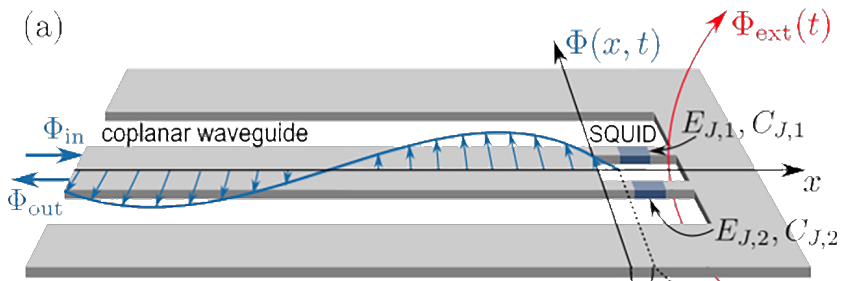


<sup>4</sup>J. R. Johansson, G. Johansson, C. M. Wilson, and F. Nori, Phys. Rev. Lett. 103, 147003 (2009)

<sup>5</sup>G. Johansson, A. Pourkabirian, M. Simoen, J. R. Johansson, T. Duty, F. Nori, and P. Delsing, Nature 479, 376 (2011)

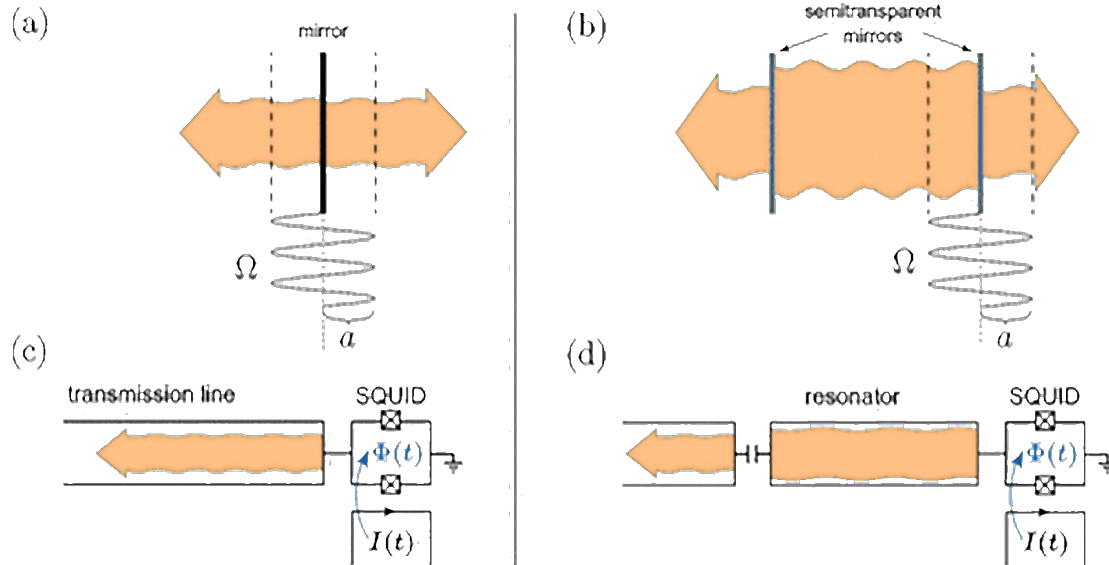
Modulated inductance of SQUID at high frequencies ( $> 10$  GHz)





**Time dependent boundary condition**

# DIFFERENT EXPERIMENTAL REALIZATIONS OF DCE



# Outline

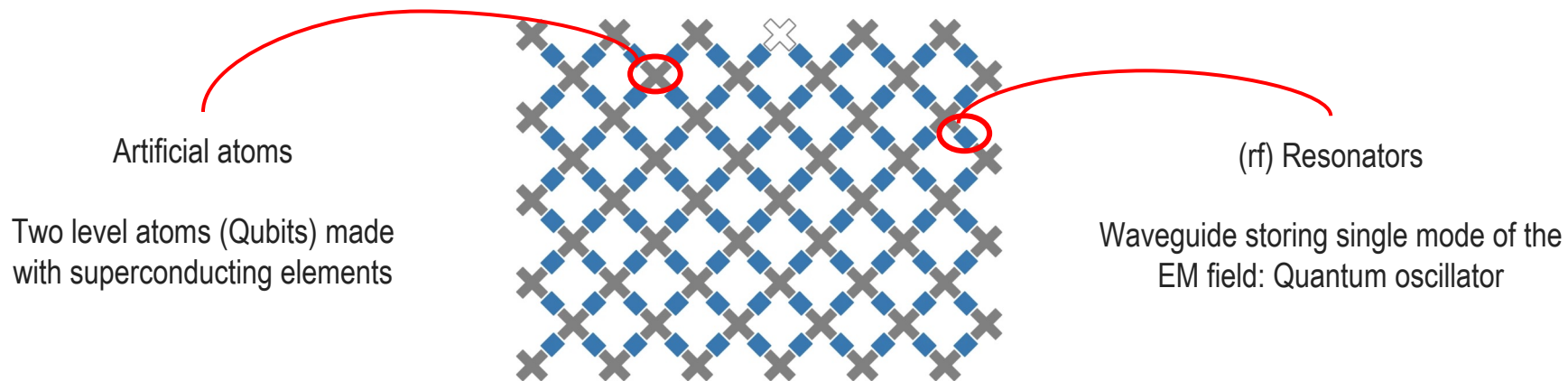
1. Introduction to Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics
  2. New Universal Gate : Controlled-squeeze gate
  3. What can we do with it? Encoding quantum states in the resonator in an error-detectable way
  4. Summary
-

# 1. Introduction to Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics



# 1. Introduction to Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics

**Circuit QED:** quantum circuits with quantum atoms and resonators interconnecting them



Artificial atoms

Two level atoms (Qubits) made with superconducting elements

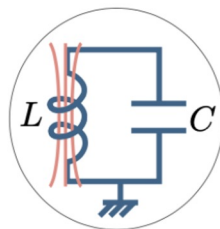
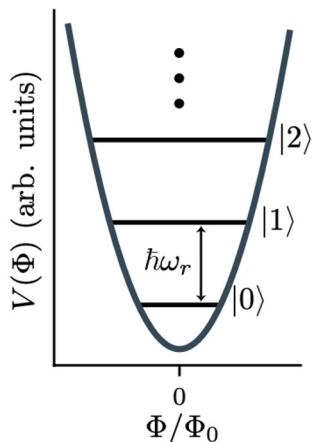
(rf) Resonators

Waveguide storing single mode of the EM field: Quantum oscillator

Scheme of a typical circuit QED setup

# 1. Introduction to Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics

## LC circuit: the simplest electronic resonator



$$\omega_r = \frac{1}{\sqrt{LC}}$$

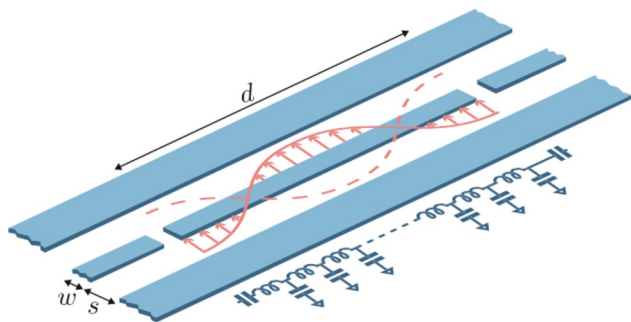
$$\hat{H}_{\text{LC}} = \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C} + \frac{\hat{\Phi}^2}{2L} \quad [\hat{\Phi}, \hat{Q}] = i\hbar.$$
$$\hat{H}_{\text{LC}} = \hbar\omega_r \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}$$

Quantum harmonic oscillators come in many shapes and sizes and constitute different elements of a circuit

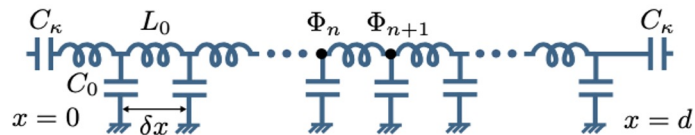
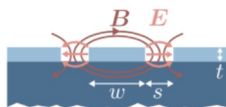
# 1. Introduction to Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics

## Resonator or Transmission line

Stores excitations of the electromagnetic field



Series of LC-Resonators



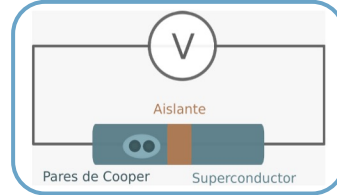
$$H = \sum_{n=0}^{N-1} \left[ \frac{1}{2C_0} Q_n^2 + \frac{1}{2L_0} (\Phi_{n+1} - \Phi_n)^2 \right].$$

One mode approximation:  $\hat{H}_r = \hbar\omega_r \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}$

# 1. Introduction to Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics

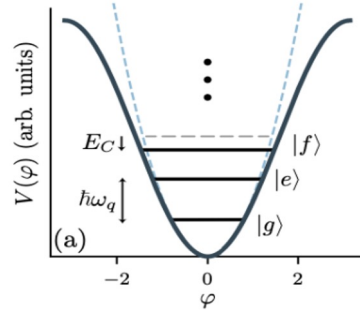
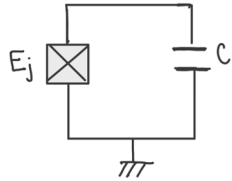
## Artificial atom

Based on a Josephson Junction



$$I = I_C \sin\left(\frac{2\pi\Phi}{\Phi_0}\right)$$

We shall use a transmon (most stable artificial atom)



Non linear potential well of the transmon qubit (full line) compared to the quadratic potential of the LC oscillator (dashed lines).

$$\hbar\omega_q = \hbar\omega_q(E_C, E_J)$$

Non linear Inductance

$$\hat{H}_q = \frac{\hat{Q}^2}{2C_\Sigma} - \frac{\Phi_0}{2\pi} I_c \cos\left(\frac{2\pi}{\Phi_0} \hat{\Phi}\right)$$

$$\hat{H}_q = 4E_C \hat{n}^2 - E_J \cos(\hat{\phi})$$

⋮

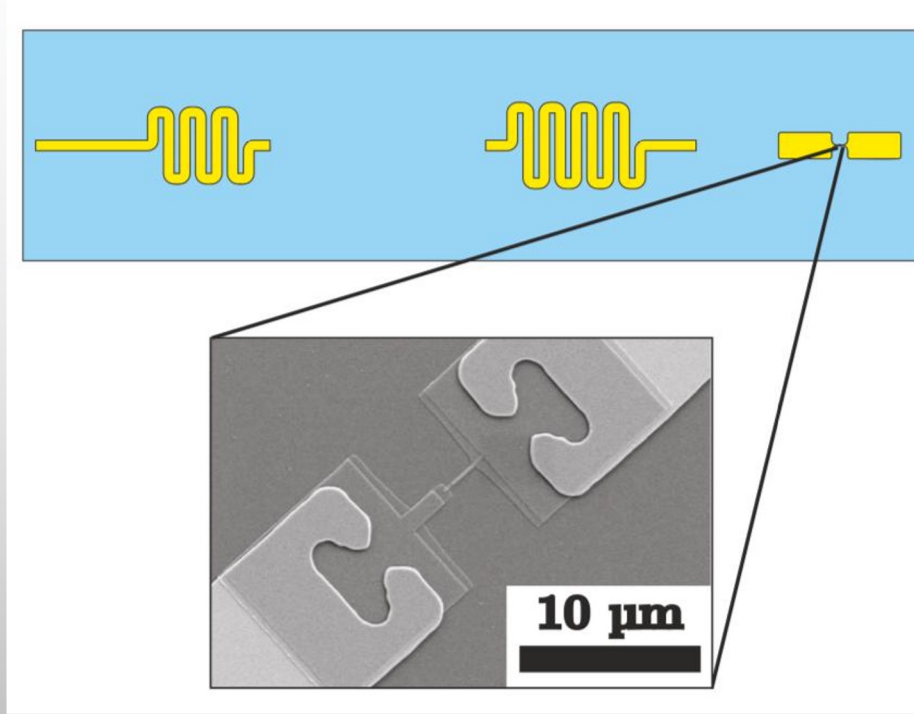
$$E_J/E_C \gg 1$$

$$\hat{H}_q = \frac{\hbar\omega_q}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z = \frac{\hbar\omega_q}{2} \left( |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1| \right)$$



# In reality, things do not look like in paper

This is a transmon



# 1. Introduction to Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics

## Interaction qubit-resonator

$$H_{\text{int}} = \frac{C_\chi}{2} (\Delta V)^2$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{int}} = \frac{C_\chi}{2} \left( \frac{\hat{Q}_{\text{trans}}}{C_J} - \frac{\hat{Q}_{\text{LC}}}{C} \right)^2$$

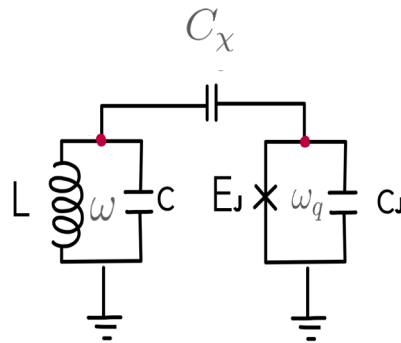
$$\hat{H}_{\text{int}} = \frac{C_\chi}{2} \left( \frac{\hat{Q}_{\text{trans}} \hat{Q}_{\text{LC}}}{C C_J} \right) + \dots$$

⋮

$$\hat{H}_{\text{int}} = \chi (\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{\sigma}_- + \hat{a} \hat{\sigma}_+)$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{int}} = \chi a^\dagger a \sigma_z$$

$$\hat{H}_T = \frac{\hbar \omega_q}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z + \hbar \omega_r \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \chi \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} \hat{\sigma}_z$$



This is a Jaynes Cummings interaction Hamiltonian

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \hat{Q}_{\text{LC}} \rightarrow (\hat{a}^\dagger - \hat{a}) \\ \hat{Q}_{\text{trans}} \rightarrow (\hat{b}^\dagger - \hat{b}) \\ \hat{b}^\dagger \rightarrow \hat{\sigma}_+ \\ \hat{b} \rightarrow \hat{\sigma}_- \end{array} \right.$$

Resonant Case  $\omega_r = \omega_q$

We shall work in the non resonant case  $\omega_r \neq \omega_q$

In the one-mode approximation for the resonator and the 2-Level system for the transmon, using RWA

# 1. Introduction to Circuit Quantum Electrodynamics

## Summary cQED Toolbox

- Qubits can be tunable (Google) and non tunable (IBM)
- Single qubit operation: rf pulses
- Gaussian operations on the resonator. Qubit-qubit interaction mediated by resonator. JC resonant, non resonant, strong coupling regime
- Universal set of gates: Controlled displacement (together with single qubit and gaussian operations)

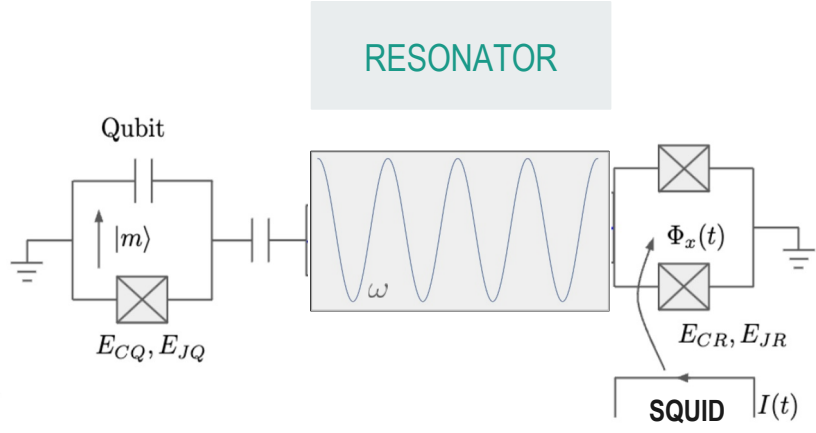
## 2. New Universal Gate: Controlled-Squeeze Gate



# 2. New Universal Gate: Controlled-Squeeze

## SETUP

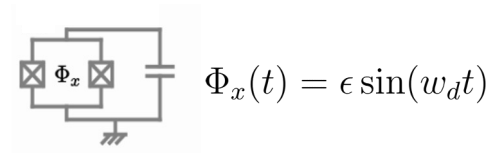
To implement the proposed controlled-squeeze gate we need to use three basic elements: one resonator and two circuits containing Josephson components located at each side



The superconducting circuit at the left acts as a qubit with quantum states  $|0\rangle$  and  $|1\rangle$

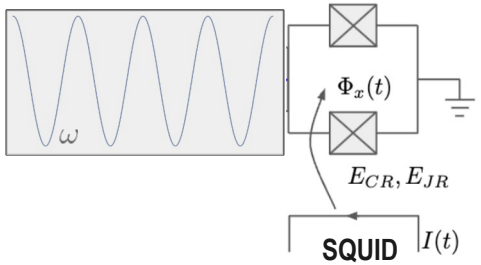
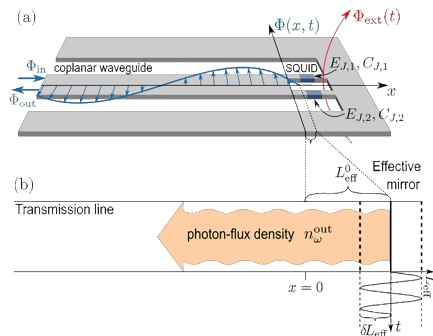
The superconducting circuit at the right (SQUID) acts as a classical pump

The resonator is terminated by a SQUID where we apply a time dependent flux



## 2. New Universal Gate: Controlled-Squeeze

The lagrangian for a field inside a **superconducting resonator** of length  $d$  with inductance  $L_0$  and capacitance  $C_0$  per unit length, terminated in a **SQUID** at  $x = d$



$$\phi(t) = \Phi_x(t)$$

External magnetic field flux

$$L = \left(\frac{1}{2e}\right)^2 \frac{C_0}{2} \int_0^d (\dot{\Phi}^2 - v^2 \Phi'^2) dx + \left(\frac{1}{2e}\right)^2 2C_J \int_0^d \frac{\dot{\Phi}^2}{2} \delta(x-d) dx + 2E_J \int_0^d \cos(\Phi) \cos(2e\phi(t)) \delta(x-d) dx.$$

⋮

$$\hat{H}(t) = \omega \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + g_d \epsilon \sin(\omega t - \theta) (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a})^2$$

Wustmann Shumeiko 2013

$$\ddot{\phi} - v^2 \phi'' = 0$$

$$v = 1/\sqrt{L_0 C_0}$$

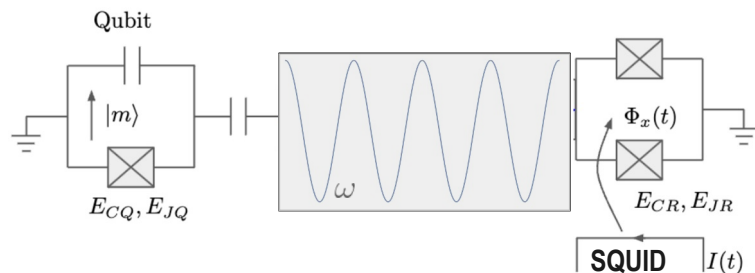
$$E_C = (2e)^2 / (2C_J)$$

$$E_{L,cav} = (\hbar/2e)^2 (1/L_0 d)$$

$$\frac{\hbar^2}{E_C} \ddot{\phi}_d + 2E_J \cos f(t) \phi_d + E_{L,cav} d \phi_d' = 0,$$

## 2. New Universal Gate: Controlled-Squeeze

### Hamiltonian of the model



$$\hat{H}(t) = \underbrace{\frac{\omega_q}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z}_{\text{Qubit}} + \underbrace{\omega \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \chi \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} \hat{\sigma}_z}_{\text{Dispersive coupling between the resonator and qubit}} + \underbrace{g_d \epsilon \sin(\omega_d t - \theta) (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a})^2}_{\text{Coupling to external time-dependent flux}}$$

Coupling to external time-dependent flux

$$\omega_{0,1}(t) = \bar{\omega}_{0,1} + g_d \epsilon \sin(\omega_d t - \theta)$$

A state dependent resonator

$$|0\rangle \longrightarrow \bar{\omega}_0 = \omega + \chi$$

$$|1\rangle \longrightarrow \bar{\omega}_1 = \omega - \chi$$

Time dependent frequency squeezes the state of the resonator

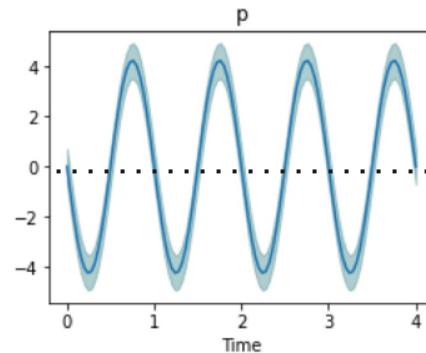
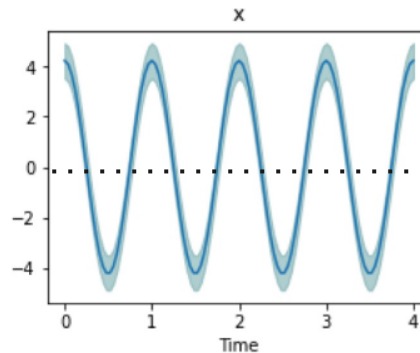
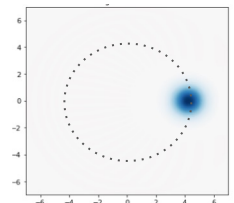
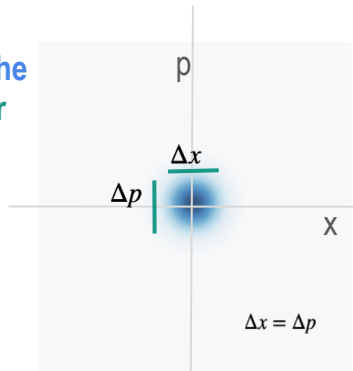
→ State dependences can be used to turn on and off the parametric resonance

Controlled Squeeze Gate

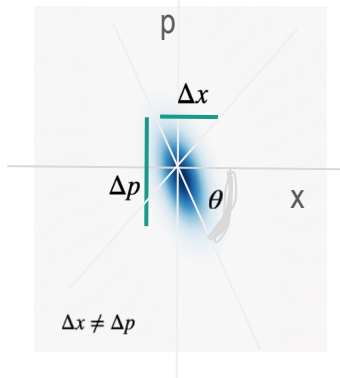
# What is squeezing?

A coherent state has minimum uncertainty  $\Delta x \Delta p = \frac{\hbar}{2} \rightarrow \hat{a}|\Psi\rangle = \mu|\Psi\rangle$

Coherent state of the harmonic oscillator

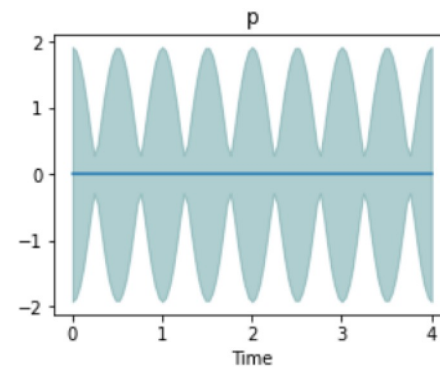
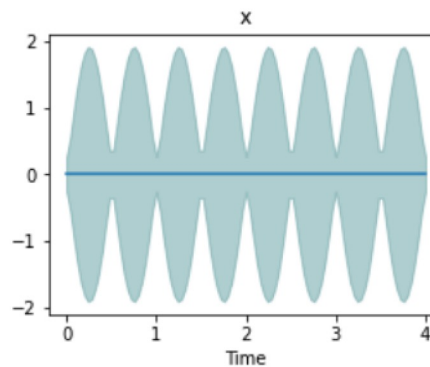


Squeezed state



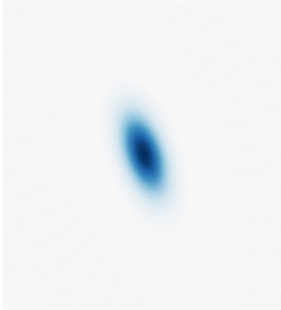
$$\Delta x = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega}} e^{-r}$$

$$\Delta p = \sqrt{\frac{m\hbar\omega}{2}} e^r$$





# What is Squeezing?



Squeezed state  $\longrightarrow$  eigenstate of  $\hat{a}e^{i\theta} \cosh(r) + \hat{a}^\dagger e^{-i\theta} \sinh(r)$

$$|r, \theta\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{\cosh r}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\tanh(r)e^{i\theta})^n \frac{\sqrt{2n!}}{n!} |2n\rangle$$

We define the squeezing operator  $\hat{S}(r, \theta) = e^{(r/2)(e^{-i\theta}\hat{a}^2 - e^{i\theta}\hat{a}^{\dagger 2})}$

## How to prepare a squeezed state?

Time dependence on the frequency induces squeezing

$$\hat{a} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \left( \frac{\hat{x}}{\sigma} + i \frac{\sigma}{\hbar} \hat{p} \right)$$

$$\dot{\hat{a}} = -i\omega\hat{a} - \frac{\dot{\omega}}{2\omega}\hat{a}^\dagger$$

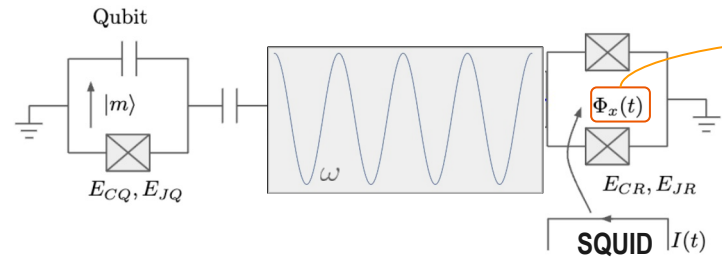
$$\hat{H}(t) = \frac{1}{2m}\hat{p}^2 + \frac{m}{2}\omega(t)^2\hat{x}^2$$

$$a_t \rightarrow u a + v a^\dagger$$

$$|u_t|^2 - |v_t|^2 = 1$$

# 2. New Universal Gate: Controlled-Squeeze

## Controlled Squeeze Gate Setup



We generate the squeezing by the external pumping of the SQUID, through parametric resonance

$$\omega_d = 2\bar{\omega}_1$$

From the Hamiltonian:

$$\hat{H}(t) = \frac{\omega_q}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z + \omega_r \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \chi \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} \hat{\sigma}_z + g_d \epsilon \sin(\omega_d t - \theta) (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a})^2$$

$$e^{-i\hat{H}_I t} = \hat{S}(g_d \epsilon t, \theta) \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1| + \hat{U}_0(\tilde{\Delta} t) \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|$$

$$\hat{H}_I = \underbrace{\frac{i}{2} g_d \epsilon (e^{-i\theta} \hat{a}^2 - e^{i\theta} \hat{a}^{\dagger 2}) \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1|}_{\text{Squeezing}} + \underbrace{\tilde{\Delta} \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} \otimes |0\rangle\langle 0|}_{\text{Harmonic evolution}}$$

$$\tilde{\Delta} = \bar{\omega}_1 - \bar{\omega}_0$$

$$\tilde{\Delta} \gg g_d \epsilon$$

If the control qubit is in state  $|1\rangle$ , the cavity field is squeezed

If the control qubit is in state  $|0\rangle$ , an harmonic evolution takes place (can be compensated)

### Controlled Squeeze Gate

A universal gate

## 2. New Universal Gate: Controlled-Squeeze

$\hat{U}(t) := \mathbf{C}\text{-Sqz}(r, \theta)$ .  It applies a squeezing operation  $\hat{S}(r, \theta)$  conditioned on the state of the qubit

 **Universal Gate**

It satisfied the following condition when combined with the Displacement operator

$$\hat{D}(\gamma): \hat{S}(r, \theta)\hat{D}(\gamma)\hat{S}^{-1}(r, \theta) = \hat{D}(\gamma')$$

Which means that applying a displacement operator  $\hat{D}(\gamma)$  in between two squeezing operators  $\hat{S}^{-1}(r, \theta)$  y  $\hat{S}(r, \theta)$  is equivalent to the application of a different displacement operator

The above relation among operators can be extended to control gates

$$\hat{D}^{-1}(\gamma)\mathbf{C}\text{-Sqz}(r, \theta)\hat{D}(\gamma)(\mathbf{C}\text{-Sqz})^{-1}(r, \theta) = \mathbf{C}\text{-Dsp}(\gamma' - \gamma)$$

The universality of  $\mathbf{C}\text{-Dsp}(r, \theta)$  implies the universality of  $\mathbf{C}\text{-Sqz}(r, \theta)$

## 2. New Universal Gate: Controlled-Squeeze

What does  
Universality mean?

Combined with:  
 $C - Sqz(r, \theta)$

Single qubit operations

Gaussian operations in the resonators

Qubit measurements

Can be used to create any  
quantum state of the  
qubit-resonator system

Controlled Squeezed Gate is universal if and only if Controlled Displacement Gate is universal

## 2. New Universal Gate: Controlled-Squeeze

A Controlled Squeeze Gate can be implemented with trapped ions 🙌


PHYSICAL REVIEW A **101**, 052331 (2020)

### State-dependent motional squeezing of a trapped ion: Proposed method and applications

Martín Drechsler<sup>1</sup>, M. Belén Farías,<sup>2</sup> Nahuel Freitas,<sup>2</sup> Christian T. Schmiegelow,<sup>1,\*</sup> and Juan Pablo Paz<sup>1</sup>

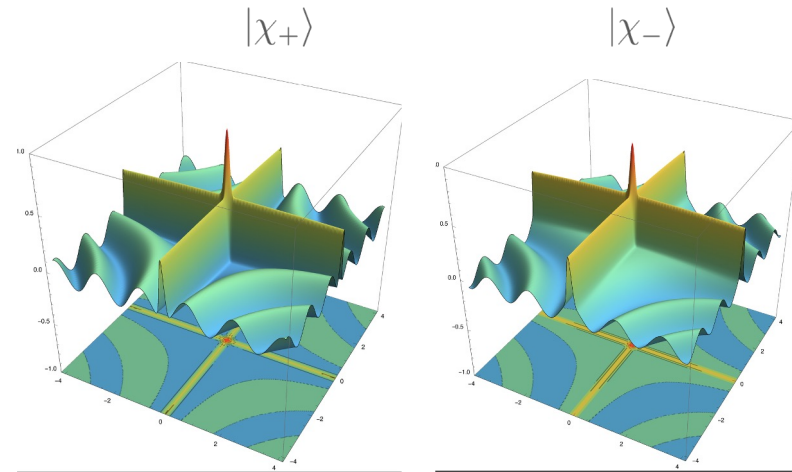
<sup>1</sup>*Departamento de Física, FCEyN, UBA and IFIBA, UBA CONICET, Pabellón 1, Ciudad Universitaria, 1428 Buenos Aires, Argentina*

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We show that the motion of a cold trapped ion can be squeezed by modulating the intensity of a phase-stable optical lattice placed inside the trap. The method we propose is reversible (unitary) and state selective: it effectively implements a controlled-squeeze gate. This resource could be useful for quantum information processing with continuous variables. We show that the controlled-squeeze gate can prepare coherent superpositions of states which are squeezed along complementary quadratures. Furthermore, we show that these states, which we denote “ $\mathcal{X}$  states,” exhibit a high sensitivity to small displacements along two complementary quadratures, which makes them useful for quantum metrology.

$$|\chi_{\pm}\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2c_{\pm}}} (|r, \tilde{\theta}\rangle \pm |r, \tilde{\theta} + \pi\rangle),$$



### 3. What can we do with a Controlled Squeeze Gate?

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#### Encoding quantum states in the resonator



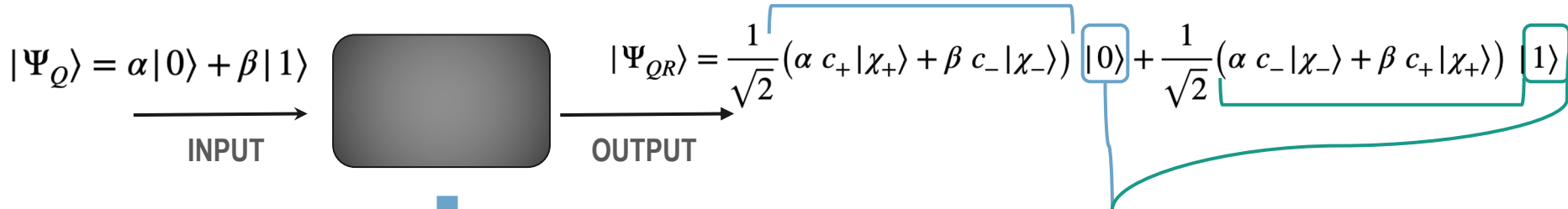
This means that when losing a photon, the error can be detected by a subsequent parity measurement of the photon number inside the resonator

Odd and even superpositions of squeezed states along two orthogonal directions in quadrature space

Have similar properties to the four-legged cat states as they are respectively superposition of  $4n$  and  $4n + 2$  photon states

### 3. What can we do with a Controlled Squeeze Gate?

#### Protocol



- (i) Apply a Hadamard gate to the qubit
- (ii) Apply a non-compensated  $C - sqz(r, \theta)$
- (iii) Apply a  $\pi$ -rotation to the qubit
- (iv) Apply the operator  $\hat{U}(r, \theta + 2\varphi + \pi, \varphi)$
- (v) Apply a  $\pi$ -rotation to the qubit
- (vi) Apply another Hadamard gate to the qubit

$$c_{\pm} = \sqrt{1 \pm 1/\sqrt{\cosh(2r)}}$$



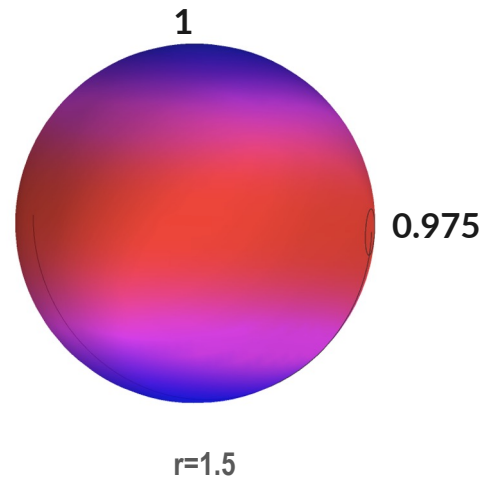
### 3. What can we do with a Controlled Squeeze Gate?

#### Fidelity

The fidelity is defined as  $F = |\langle \Psi_{\text{ideal}} | \Psi_{\text{real}} \rangle|^2$

Mean Fidelity (maximum)  $\bar{F} = \frac{1 + P_z}{2} + \frac{1 - P_z}{2} \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{\cosh(2r)}}$

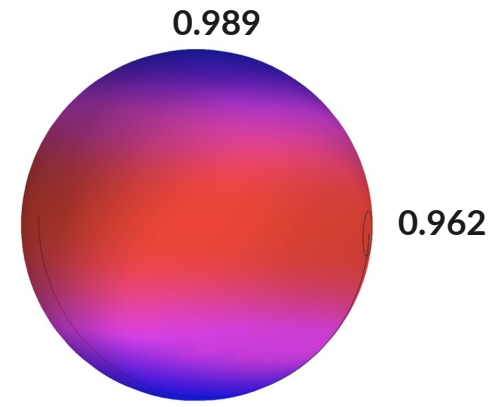
$P_z = \alpha^2 - \beta^2$



> We have simulated:

- $\omega_r / (2\pi) = 6 \text{ GHz}$
- $\omega_q / (2\pi) = 4 \text{ GHz}$
- $\chi / (2\pi) = 8 \text{ MHz}$
- $g_d = 50 \text{ MHz}$

Losses { Thermal Coupling 60 mk  
Relaxation time 200 micro s  
Gate time 200 ns



$\bar{F} \geq 0.995 \rightarrow r \geq 2$

Purity values obtained are 97.3% (equator) and 99.3% poles

# 4. Summary



## 4. Summary

- We presented a method for a universal quantum gate for Control Squeeze
- Parametric resonance is turned on and off by the state of the qubit
- Can be used for encoding quantum states in an error detectable way  $\bar{F} \sim 1 - e^{-2r}(1 - P_z^2)/4$

### A controlled-squeeze gate in superconducting quantum circuits

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We present a method to prepare non-classical states of the electromagnetic field in a microwave resonator. It is based on a controlled gate that applies a squeezing operation on a SQUID-terminated resonator conditioned on the state of a dispersively coupled qubit. This controlled-squeeze gate, when combined with Gaussian operations on the resonator, is universal. We explore the use of this tool to map an arbitrary qubit state into a superposition of squeezed states. In particular, we target a bosonic code with well-defined superparity and photon loss is thus error detectable by nondemolition parity measurements. We analyze the possibility of implementing this using state-of-the-art circuit QED tools and conclude that it is within reach of current technologies.