

Non-linearities in quantum circuits

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"A gentle journey into not-so-gentle quantum many-body problems"

[:] Non-linearities in quantum circuits

Organization of the lectures

Superconducting nanocircuits

- Lecture 1 : i) General circuitry; ii) From Josephson junctions chains to spin-boson model
- Lecture 2 : i) Scattering theory with dynamical emitter; ii) Frequency conversion beyond RWA; iii) Renormalization from many-body entanglement; iv) Many-body inelastic scattering theory

Metallic nanocircuits

- Lecture 3 : i) Anderson and Kondo models ; ii) DC Transport ; iii) Non Fermi liquid extensions
- Lecture 4 (closing the loop) : i) Boson-fermion connection in first quantization (using quantum optics concepts); ii) Insights into the Kondo wave-function; iii) Emergent Majorana fermions

Beyond quantum optics in superconducting circuits

Fiat Lux

A bit of philosophy about the fine structure constant :

$$\alpha_{\rm QED} = \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0\hbar c} \simeq \frac{1}{137} \quad \text{magic number!}$$

Another fine Feynman quote :

"God's hand wrote lpha, and we don't know how He pushed his pencil"



What if α_{QED} were much larger?





[Eikema, Walz & Hänsch, PRL 2001]

• Natural linewidth Γ (relative to transition frequency Δ) for 3D atomic decay : $\frac{\Gamma}{\Delta} \simeq [\alpha_{\rm QED}]^3 \simeq 10^{-7}$ For 1S-2P transition, $\Gamma = 10^2$ MHz and $\Delta = 10^9$ MHz

Ultra-strong coupling of quantum optics

Linewidth of an atomic transition in vacuum :

$$\frac{\Gamma}{\Delta} = \left(\frac{P}{e\lambda}\right)^2 \alpha_{\text{QED}}$$

$$\simeq \left(\frac{a_{\text{Bohr}}}{\lambda}\right)^2 \alpha_{\text{QED}} \ll 1$$



• P = transition electric dipole

• $\lambda =$ wavelength of resonant photon mode

Ultra-strong coupling of QED :

$$rac{\Gamma}{\Delta}\simeq 1$$



- Higher probability for multi-photon exchange
- Strong non-linearities at small power

Anyway, playing with $lpha_{\rm QED}$ is not such a good idea

Decrease $\alpha_{\rm QED}$ (with constant $\alpha_{\rm strong})$ by few % :

- Fast fusion $p+p \rightarrow {}^{2}He$ takes place
- Stars exhaust fuel and quickly collapse to black holes [Barrow, Tipler&Wheeler, "The anthropic cosmological principle" (Oxford)]

Increase $\alpha_{\rm QED}$ by few % :

- Blocks nucleosynthesis of heavy elements
- Biology and life are no more possible



Safer approach : go to the lab and emulate this on a chip



Fiat Lux Reloaded

Step 1 : Increase density of states

▶ 1D waveguides $\Rightarrow \Gamma/\Delta \simeq \alpha_{\rm QED}$ instead of $[\alpha_{\rm QED}]^3$

Step 2 : Increase fine structure constant

- Slow down light to enhance interaction with matter
- Use large inductance medium = Josephson arrays

Step 3 : Optimize atomic dipole P

Use tunable artificial atoms = superconducting qubits



The platform

<u>Device</u> : Cooper pair box capacitively coupled to Josephson chain \Rightarrow maximizes non-linear effects, but not optimal w.r.t. noise



Effective Hamiltonian : spin-boson model [Leggett et al. RMP (1987)]

$$H = \frac{\Delta}{2}\sigma_{\mathbf{x}} - \sigma_{\mathbf{z}}\sum_{k}\frac{g_{k}}{2}(a_{k}^{\dagger} + a_{k}) + \sum_{k}\omega_{k}a_{k}^{\dagger}a_{k}$$

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Reaching the ultra-strong coupling regime

Spectral density : $J(\omega) \equiv \sum_k g_k^2 \delta(\omega - \omega_k)$

- Ohmic spectrum : $J(\omega) = 2\pi \alpha \omega$ for $\omega \ll \omega_P$
- Linewidth from Golden Rule : $\Gamma = \frac{\pi}{2}\alpha\Delta$

Dimensionless coupling strength :

Effective coupling constant α controlled by geometric capacitances and chain impedance :

$$\alpha = \left(\frac{C_c}{C_c + C_{gd} + 2C_J}\right)^2 \frac{2Z_{\text{chain}}}{R_Q}$$

Enhance light-matter coupling : as expected, we need to

- Maximize the dipole by qubit design
- Maximize the chain impedance

Transport properties : quantum optics regime

[Shen & Fan, PRL (2005)]

[Zheng, Gauthier, Baranger, PRA (2010)]

On the board : scattering theory in RWA ($lpha \ll 1$)

On the board : scattering theory in RWA ($lpha \ll 1$)

Transmission :

$$T(k) = rac{(k-\Delta)^2}{(k-\Delta)^2 + \Gamma^2}$$

Reflection :

$$R(k) = |1 - t(k)|^2 = rac{\Gamma^2}{(k - \Delta)^2 + \Gamma^2}$$

• All elastic :
$$R(k) + T(k) = 1$$

Result for a single photon (Fock) input state

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Resonant absorption of a single artificial atom

Experiment with low-Z waveguide : [Astafiev et al., Science 2010]



Resonant transmission vanishes due to perfect interference of incident and emitted waves

Quantum stuff : antibunching

Coherent state input : (classical signal)

- same transmission as previous at low power
- The reflected signal comes only from emitter
- Emitter has lifetime 1/Γ

 \Rightarrow Photons antibunch at times $t < 1/\Gamma$

$$g^{(2)}(au) = rac{\left\langle a^{\dagger}(t+ au) a(t+ au) a^{\dagger}(t) a(t)
ight
angle}{\left\langle a^{\dagger}(t+ au) a(t+ au)
ight
angle \left\langle a^{\dagger}(t) a(t)
ight
angle}$$

Antibunching measurements in waveguide QED



[Hoi et al., NJP 2013] (Chalmers)

Antibunching measurements in waveguide QED



[Hoi et al., NJP 2013] (Chalmers)

Strong inelastic effects in photon scattering

[Goldstein, Devoret, Houzet & Glazman, PRL 2013] [Bera, Baranger & Florens, PRA 2016] [Gheeraert, Bera, Baranger, Roch, Florens, in preparation]

Physics beyond RWA

Let's open Pandora's box :



$$H_{\text{coupling}} = \sum_{k} \frac{g_{k}}{2} \left[\left(\tau^{+} a_{k} + \tau^{-} a_{k}^{\dagger} \right) + \left(\tau^{+} a_{k}^{\dagger} + \tau^{-} a_{k} \right) \right]$$

Number of excitations is not conserved \Rightarrow full many-body problem It's not just harder : new phenomena!

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Physics beyond RWA

PRL 110, 017002 (2013)

Inelastic Microwave Photon Scattering off a Quantum Impurity in a Josephson-Junction Array

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Quantum fluctuations in an anharmonic superconducting circuit enable frequency conversion of individual incoming photons. This effect, linear in the photon beam intensity, leads to ramifications for the standard input-output circuit theory. We consider an extreme case of anharmonicity in which photons scatter off a small set of weak links within a Josephson junction array. We show that this quantum impurity displays Kondo physics and evaluate the elastic and inelastic photon scattering cross sections. These cross sections reveal many-body properties of the Kondo problem that are hard to access in its traditional fermionic version.

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Transport coefficients for infinite lossless waveguide

Transport coefficients : linear response (Kubo)

- Reflection : $R(\omega) = (2\pi\alpha\omega)^2 |\chi(\omega)|^2$
- Transmission : $T(\omega) = (2\pi\alpha\omega)^2 [\chi'(\omega)]^2 + [1 2\pi\alpha\omega\chi''(\omega)]^2$
- Total inelastic losses : $\gamma(\omega) \equiv 1 R(\omega) T(\omega)$
- Energy resolved losses : $\gamma(\omega, \omega')$ beyond linear response

Qubit charge response :

$$\chi(t) = -\frac{i}{4}\theta(t) \langle \mathrm{GS} | [\sigma_z(t), \sigma_z(0)] | \mathrm{GS} \rangle$$

 $\gamma(\omega)$ and $\gamma(\omega, \omega')$ computed in perturbation theory [Goldstein et al.] Only $\gamma(\omega)$ can be computed non-perturbatively by NRG [Bera et al.]

Breakdown of RWA at ultra-strong coupling?

RWA vs. NRG vs. many-body scattering theory :



[Bera, Baranger & Florens, PRA 2016]

- RWA lorentzian lineshape works only if $lpha \ll 1$
- RWA inaccurate when $\Gamma/\Delta\simeq 1$
- Strong level renormalization Δ_R < Δ for increasing α
 About 40% Lamb shift for α = 0.2

Total inelastic losses at large α (NRG calculation)



• Large inelastic losses : photons scatter at $\omega' \neq \omega ! !$

Computing the distribution of scattered photons is beyond NRG

- Span physical sector by multicomponent Schrödinger cats
- Crazy quantum states ask an exponential number of cats



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Introduce time-dependent multicomponent cats

$$|\Psi(t)
angle = \sum_{n=1}^{N_{\mathrm{cs}}} \left[p_n(t) | f^{(n)}(t)
angle \otimes | \uparrow
angle + q_n(t) | h^{(n)}(t)
angle \otimes |\downarrow
angle
ight]$$

with multimode coherent state $|f(t)\rangle = e^{\sum_k f_k(t)a_k^{\dagger} - f_k^*(t)a_k(t)}$

- Construct Lagrangian : $\mathcal{L} = ig\langle \Psi(t) | rac{i}{2} \overleftrightarrow{\partial_t} \mathcal{H} | \Psi(t) ig
 angle$
- ► Solve Hamilton-Jacobi equations : $\frac{d}{dt} \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial \dot{f}_k^{(n)}} = \frac{\partial \mathcal{L}}{\partial f_k^{(n)}}, \dots$
- Classical-like equations of motion (after manipulation) :

$$\frac{\mathrm{d}}{\mathrm{d}t}f_k^{(n)} = \sum_{k'=1}^{N_{\mathrm{modes}}}\sum_{n'=1}^{N_{\mathrm{cs}}}C_{k,k'}^{(n,n')}[f,h,p,q]$$

- Numerical cost $\sim \mathcal{O}[(N_{\rm cs})^3 \times (N_{\rm modes})^2] \Longrightarrow {\sf Cheap\,}!$
- Norm and energy are conserved by construction
- Non-linear classical circuit theory is included by construction

 Classical input : a coherent state distribution with average momentum k₀, width σ, and average photon number n



- Non-classical input : Fock state = small antisymmetric cat
- Output wavefunction is analyzed spectrally

Control of the error (spontaneous emission)



Error in the dynamical simulation :

Define auxiliary state
$$|\Phi(t)\rangle \equiv (i\partial_t - H)|\Psi(t)\rangle$$

 $\operatorname{Err}(t) \equiv \langle \Phi(t)|\Phi(t)\rangle$
 $\operatorname{Err}(t) = 0$ in the exact Schrödinger dynamics







Size of the full Hilbert space : 1000 modes, Fock states up to n = 5 populated $\Rightarrow 1000^5 = 10^{15}$ states in total!

Addressing the physical subspace : $N_{cs} = 20$ classical states are enough for these calculations

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Direct evidence of the 3-photon continuum



k₁

- Output wavefunction projected onto Fock state : $\sum_{k_1,k_2,k_3} \Gamma(k_1,k_2,k_3) a_{k_1}^{\dagger} a_{k_2}^{\dagger} a_{k_3}^{\dagger} |0\rangle$
- Amplitude $\Gamma(k_1, k_2, k_3)$ plotted for $k_3 = \Delta_R$
- The two photons accomodate the excess energy $k_0 \Delta_R$

Saturation effects beyond RWA

<u>Reflection coefficient</u> : for increasing \bar{n}



The post-RWA asymmetric lineshape persists at strong power

Open question

True microscopic model : non-uniform Josephson chain

$$H = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j} (2e)^2 n_i [\hat{C}^{-1}]_{ij} n_j - \sum_i E_i^J \cos(\Phi_i - \Phi_{i+1})$$

 $n - \Phi$ are conjugate variables : $[\hat{n}_j, \hat{\Phi}_l] = i\delta_{j,l}$

Experimental perspectives :

- Compromise : decrease qubit non-linearity to avoid charge noise, but not too much
- What is left of the inelastic effects?

Qubit frequency renormalization from many-body entanglement [Emery and Luther, PRL (1971)]

[Silbey and Harris, J. Chem. Phys. (1984)] [Snyman & Florens, PRB 2015]

On the board : qubit renormalization

On the board : qubit renormalization

Physics : each qubit state induces its own charge polarization



$$|\Psi
angle \simeq rac{|\uparrow
angle \otimes |f
angle}{\sqrt{2}} - rac{|\downarrow
angle \otimes |-f
angle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Many-body Bell state between qubit and waveguide

Why the screening cloud has to do with Kondo?

Metallic vs superconducting quantum dots :



Proper response function : qubit response from non-local gates

$$\chi_j = \langle \sigma_z (n_j - \bar{n}_j) \rangle \neq 0$$

- Charge rather than spin response : easier to detect
- Unidimensional and clean chain : hard to do with 2DEGs
- No quasiparticles : simpler environment (no Friedel oscillations)

Spatial behavior of the cloud

Variational result : universal function

$$\chi_j \propto -L_{\mathcal{K}} \operatorname{Re} \left\{ e^{-ij/L_{\mathcal{K}}} \Gamma \left[0, -ij/L_{\mathcal{K}}\right] \right\}$$

- χ_j decays as $1/j^2$ for $j \gg L_K$
- χ_j drops logarithmically at $1 \ll j \ll L_K$

Same behavior as spin-density of Kondo cloud [Barzyrik&Affleck, PRL 1996]



Dashed line : variational Full line : exact numerics On the menu of the next lecture

Metallic quantum circuits :

- Anderson and Kondo models
- Transport properties
- Non Fermi liquid extensions

Extra slides

Quantum dynamics : decoupling of relaxation and decoherence

[Gheeraert, Bera & Florens, arXiv :1601.01545]

Dynamics of a single artificial atom

Experiment with low-impedance transmission line :

[Abdumalikov et al., PRL 2011]



- Spin dynamics of single atom is read from collected light
- Coherent radiation reveals atomic superposition :

$$|\Psi\rangle = [\alpha|g\rangle + \beta|e\rangle] \otimes |0\rangle \rightarrow |g\rangle \otimes [\alpha|0\rangle + \beta a^{\dagger}|0\rangle]$$

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Qubit dynamics at ultra-strong coupling

 $\underline{\text{Protocol}:} \text{ prepare state } \left|\Psi\right\rangle = \left|0\right\rangle \otimes \left|\uparrow\right\rangle = |0\rangle \otimes [|g\rangle + |e\rangle]/\sqrt{2}$

Method : time-dependent variational coherent state expansion

Quantum optics regime ($lpha \ll 1$) : $T_2 = 2T_1$

- T_2 = time scale for decoherence \Leftrightarrow decay of $\langle \sigma_z(t) \rangle$
- $T_1 = ext{time scale for energy relaxation} \Leftrightarrow ext{decay of } ig\langle \sigma_x(t) ig
 angle$



Ultra-strong coupling regime $(\alpha \simeq 1)$: $T_2 \gg 2T_1$ Relaxation and decoherence time scales decouple!

Decoupling of the dynamics

Fast energy relaxation :



- |e
 angle is very strongly damped at increasing lpha
- Relaxation time as short as $T_1 \simeq 1/\omega_p$ for $\alpha \simeq 1$

Slow decoherence :

- The system must relax to the many-body ground state
- This can take an exponential time $T_2 \propto L_K \propto 1/\Delta_R$
- Quantum information is transferred slowly from qubit to environment (due to extended size of entanglement cloud)

Spontaneous emission : cat state radiation

[Gheeraert, Bera & Florens, arXiv :1601.01545]

Tomography of itinerant single microwave photon Wigner distribution of emitted photon : [Eichler *et al.*, PRL 2011]



 $\begin{array}{l} \frac{\text{Heterodyne detection : moments } \langle (a^{\dagger})^{n}(a)^{m} \rangle \text{ of emitted signal} \\ \overline{\text{Power}} \propto [E_{\text{signal}} \cos(\omega_{\text{signal}}t) + E_{\text{LO}} \cos(\omega_{\text{LO}}t)]^{2} \\ \rightarrow E_{\text{signal}} E_{\text{LO}} \cos[(\omega_{\text{signal}} - \omega_{\text{LO}})t] + \text{filtered out} \end{array}$

$\begin{array}{l} \mbox{Spatial profile of electromagnetic modes} \\ \underline{\mbox{Initial state : }} |\Psi\rangle = \left|0\right\rangle \otimes \left|e\right\rangle = \left|0\right\rangle \otimes (\left|\uparrow\right\rangle + \left|\downarrow\right\rangle)/\sqrt{2} \end{array}$



For large α :

- Entanglement spreads within the waveguide (T₂ long)
- Wavepacket is dominated by wavefront (T₁ short)
- Displacements in the wavepacket increase

Distribution of emitted photons at large α



For increasing α :

- Fast energy relaxation \Rightarrow broad spectral distribution
- $\Gamma/\Delta \simeq 1 \Rightarrow$ Photon number $\gg 1$

Emission : from photon to cat

A photon = small Schrödinger kitten



Emission : from photon to cat

A photon = small Schrödinger kitten



• Cat states with n = 3 are radiated for $\alpha \simeq 1$

Cat coherence is limited by entanglement with the cloud

Standard dressed atom picture

<u>Back to finite chain</u> : near a resonance $(\omega_k \simeq \Delta)$ for $\alpha \ll 1$

Jaynes Cummings :
$$H \simeq \frac{\Delta}{2} \tau_z - \frac{g_k}{2} (\tau^- a_k^{\dagger} + \tau^+ a_k) + \omega_k a_k^{\dagger} a_k$$



- Only |g, n+1
 angle and |e, n
 angle couple : effective two-level system
- New eigenstates $|\pm
 angle$ mixing |g,n+1
 angle and |e,n
 angle
- Anticrossing on resonance : $\Omega_{k,n} = 2g_k\sqrt{n} \propto \sqrt{k}\sqrt{n}$

Dressed atom from cavity-QED to multimode resonators





But $g_0 \simeq 5$ MHz $\ll \omega_{k+1} - \omega_k \simeq 100$ MHz : single mode !

Dressed atom in Josephson waveguides

Spectrum from exact diagonalizations (1-photon subspace) :



- Strong dressing even for low-energy modes
- Non-resonant modes are also lifted : many-body dressed state
- Profile of degeneracy lifting is universal (Kondo again)

Re-interpretation of absorption spectra

Qubit response χ in infinite system :



The broadening and giant Lamb shift come from a broad band of modes with strong qubit "character"

Preliminary experimental results

Two early generations of samples : charge qubit and transmon



- Qualitatively ok with expectations
- Cleaner samples are coming up... 4

Exact mapping to Kondo model

Spin boson Hamiltonian :

$$H = \frac{\Delta}{2}\sigma_x - \sigma_z \sum_k \frac{g_k}{2} (a_k^{\dagger} + a_k) + \sum_k \omega_k a_k^{\dagger} a_k$$

Unitary transformation : $U_{\gamma} = \exp\{-\gamma \sigma_z \sum_k \frac{g_k}{2\omega_k} (a_k^{\dagger} - a_k)\}$

$$U_{\gamma}HU_{\gamma}^{\dagger} = \frac{\Delta}{2}\sigma^{+}e^{-\gamma\sum_{k}\frac{g_{k}}{\omega_{k}}(a_{k}^{\dagger}-a_{k})} + h.c. + (\gamma-1)\sigma_{z}\sum_{k}\frac{g_{k}}{2}(a_{k}^{\dagger}+a_{k}) + \sum_{k}\omega_{k}a_{k}^{\dagger}a_{k}$$

Bosonization (ohmic bath only) : [Guinea, Hakim, Muramatsu PRB (1985)]

$$\begin{split} U_{\gamma}HU_{\gamma}^{\dagger} &= \sum_{k\sigma} \epsilon_{k}c_{k\sigma}^{\dagger}c_{k\sigma} + \Delta\sigma^{+}\sum_{kk'}c_{k\downarrow}^{\dagger}c_{k'\uparrow} + h.c. \quad \rightarrow J_{\perp} = \Delta \\ &+ (1 - \sqrt{\alpha})\omega_{c}\sigma^{z}\sum_{kk'} [c_{k\uparrow}^{\dagger}c_{k'\uparrow} - c_{k\downarrow}^{\dagger}c_{k'\downarrow}] \quad \rightarrow J_{z} \propto 1 - \sqrt{\alpha} \end{split}$$

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Relating Kondo to spin-boson

Phase diagram :



<u>Spatial correlations</u>: an exact identity connects bosonic to fermionic Kondo cloud $\langle \sigma_z[c^{\dagger}_{\uparrow}(x)c_{\uparrow}(x) - c^{\dagger}_{\downarrow}(x)c_{\downarrow}(x)] \rangle \sim \chi(x) + \cos(2k_F x)\chi_{2k_F}(x)$

Unveiling the Kondo anti-cloud

New Ansatz with two coherent states :

$$\left|\Psi\right\rangle = \left|\uparrow\right\rangle \otimes \left[\left|+f_{k}^{\text{pol.}}\right\rangle + p\left|+f_{k}^{\text{anti.}}\right\rangle\right] - \left|\downarrow\right\rangle \otimes \left[\left|-f_{k}^{\text{pol.}}\right\rangle + p\left|-f_{k}^{\text{anti.}}\right\rangle\right]$$

p = weight of the anti-cloud relative to the main polarization





These correlations drastically improve the tunneling amplitude!

General many-body coherent states expansion

Idea : we expand the wavefunction in the coherent state "basis"



• Development of an efficient numerical algorithm : $f_k^{(n)}$ parametrized by $(N_{cs})^2$ coefficients \implies Cheap !

Checking the coherent states expansion

Tunneling amplitude $\langle \sigma_x \rangle$ and energy variance :



- Fast convergent expansion : error vanishes as $N_{cs}^{-2-1/\alpha}$
- Main numerical difficulty : reaching efficiently the global minimum in a very flatish landscape

Kondo scale (extra) renormalization

