



# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

David DiVincenzo

24.01.2013

QIP Beijing





Masters/PhD/postdocs available!

[http://www.physik.rwth-aachen.de/  
institute/institut-fuer-quanteninformation/](http://www.physik.rwth-aachen.de/institute/institut-fuer-quanteninformation/)

(G: IQI Aachen)

# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

David DiVincenzo

24.01.2013

QIP Beijing



# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

## Outline

- Basic physics of Josephson devices
- A short history of quantum effects in electric circuits
- A Moore's law for quantum coherence
- Approaching fault tolerant fidelities (95%)
- Scaling up with cavities – towards a surface code architecture
- Will it work??

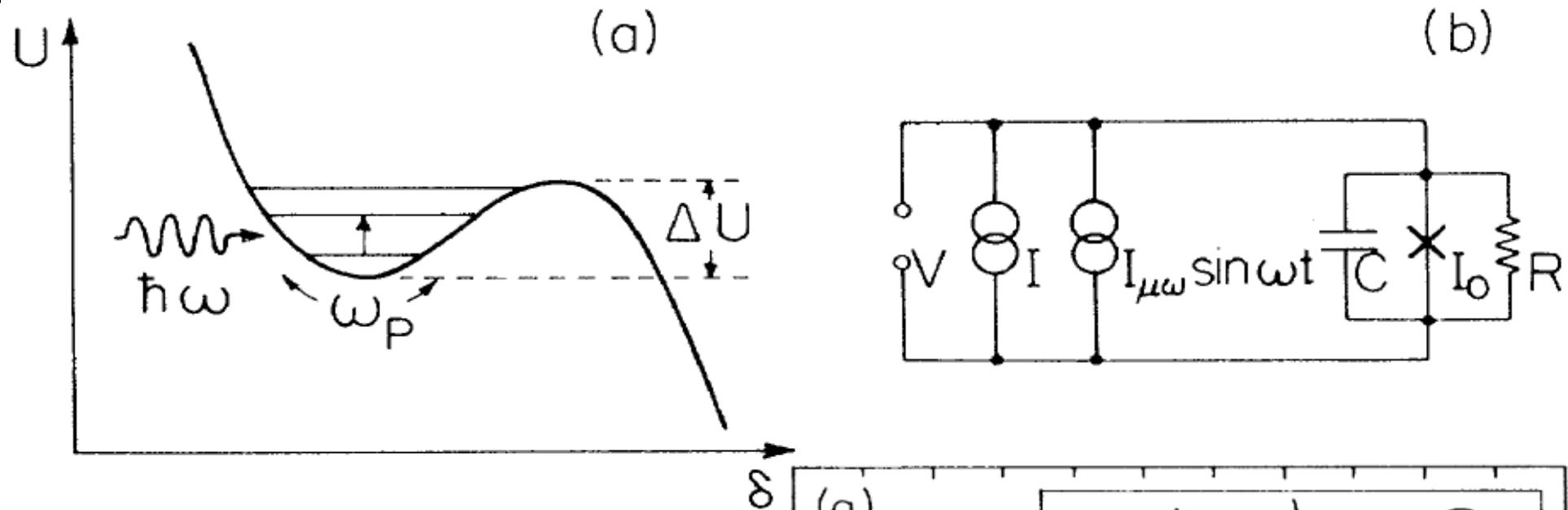
---

*"In a machine such as this there are very many other problems due to imperfections. . . .  
At least some of these problems can be remedied in the usual way by techniques  
such as error correcting codes . . . But until we find a specific implementation  
for this computer, I do not know how to proceed to analyze these effects."*

R.P. Feynman  
"Quantum Mechanical Computers"  
*Optics News*, February 1985

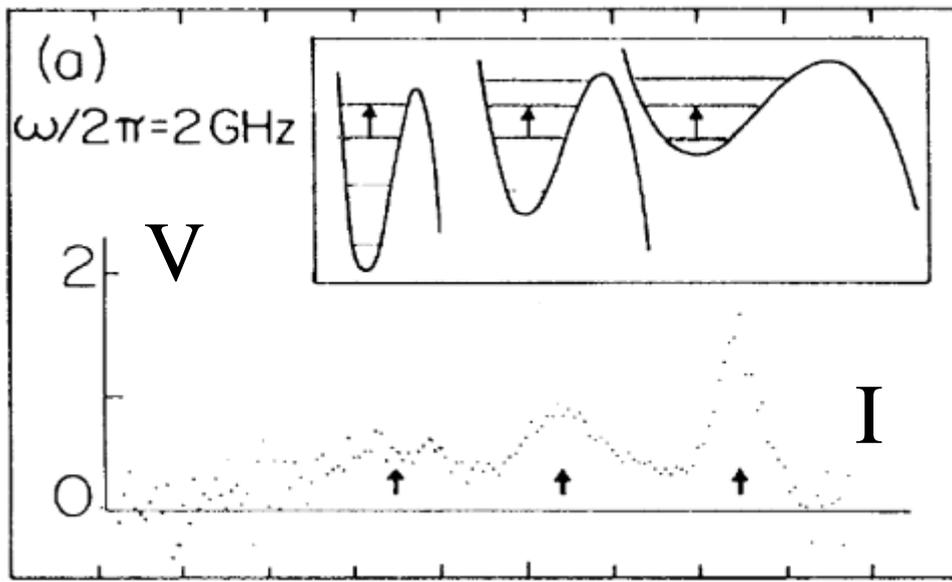
## Energy-Level Quantization in the Zero-Voltage State of a Current-Biased Josephson Junction

John M. Martinis, Michel H. Devoret,<sup>(a)</sup> and John Clarke



Interesting claim:

Go direct from lumped electric circuit  
To Schrodinger equation

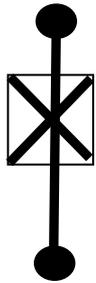


# The discovery of tunnelling supercurrents\*

B. D. Josephson

Reviews of Modern Physics, Vol. 46, No. 2, April 1974

*Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England*



Current controlled by

$$f \mu \int V dt$$

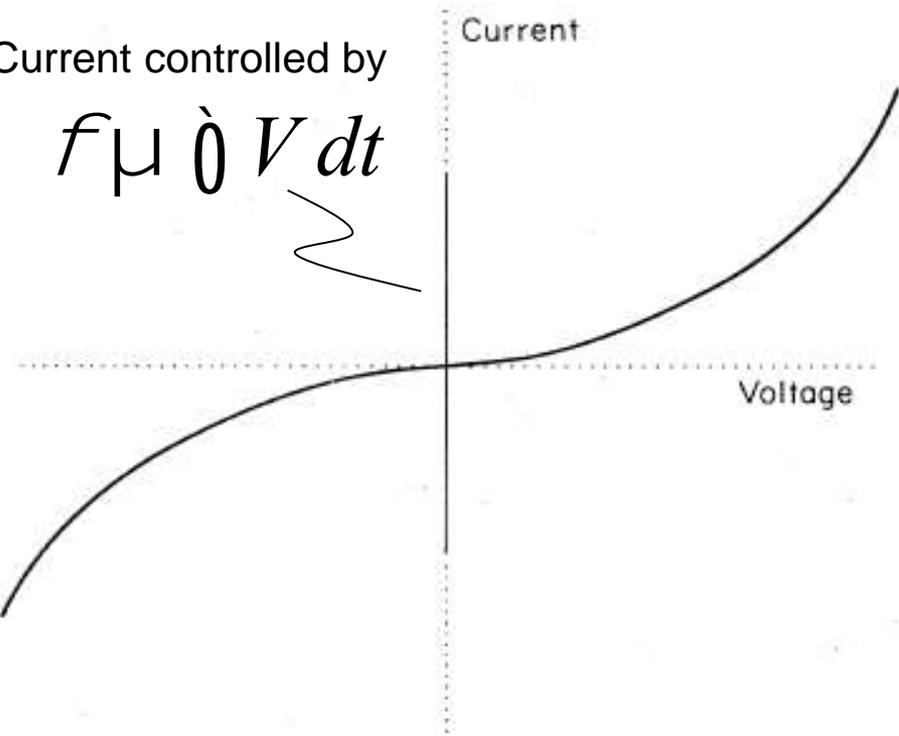


FIG. 2. Predicted two-part current-voltage characteristic of a superconducting tunnel junction.

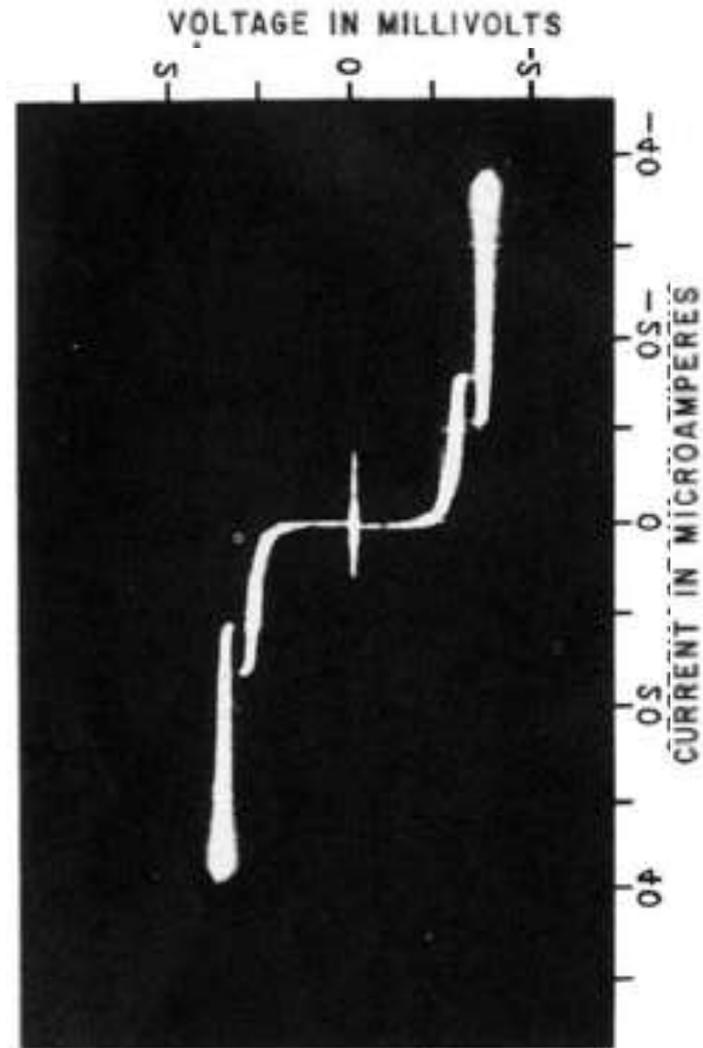


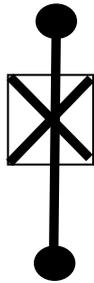
FIG. 3 The first published observation of tunnelling between two evaporated-film superconductors (Smith *et al.*, 1961). A zero-voltage supercurrent is clearly visible. It was not until the experiments of Anderson and Rowell (1963) that such supercurrents could be definitely ascribed to the tunnelling process.

# The discovery of tunnelling supercurrents\*

**B. D. Josephson**

Reviews of Modern Physics, Vol. 46, No. 2, April 1974

*Cavendish Laboratory, Cambridge, England*



Some other history:

IBM had a large project (1975-85) to make a Josephson junction digital computer. "0" was the zero-voltage state, "1" was the finite-voltage state.

Very different from a quantum computer.

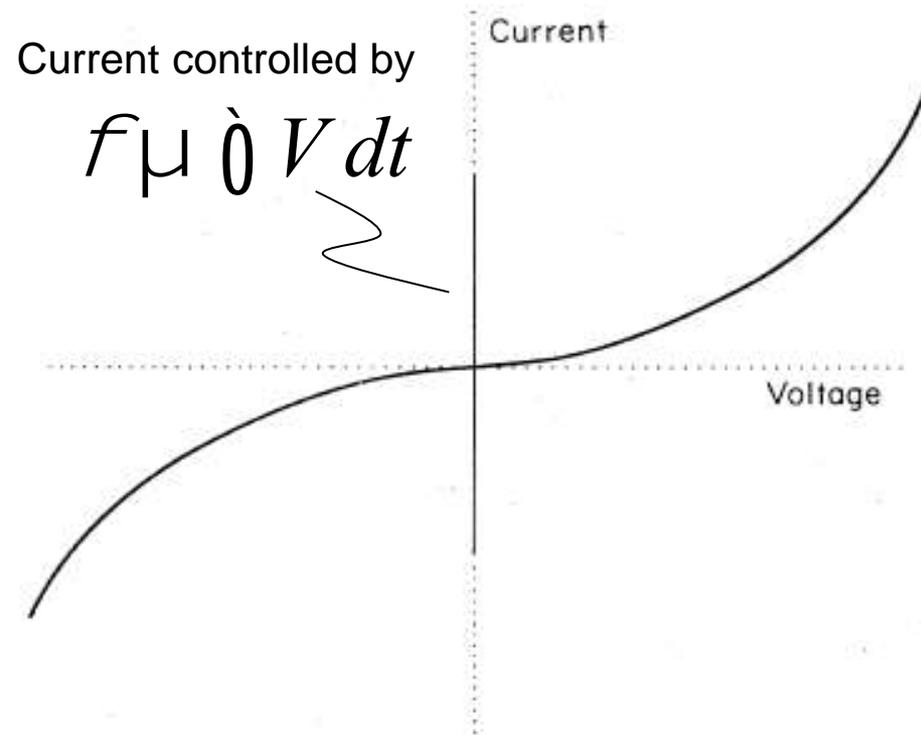


FIG. 2. Predicted two-part current-voltage characteristic of a superconducting tunnel junction.

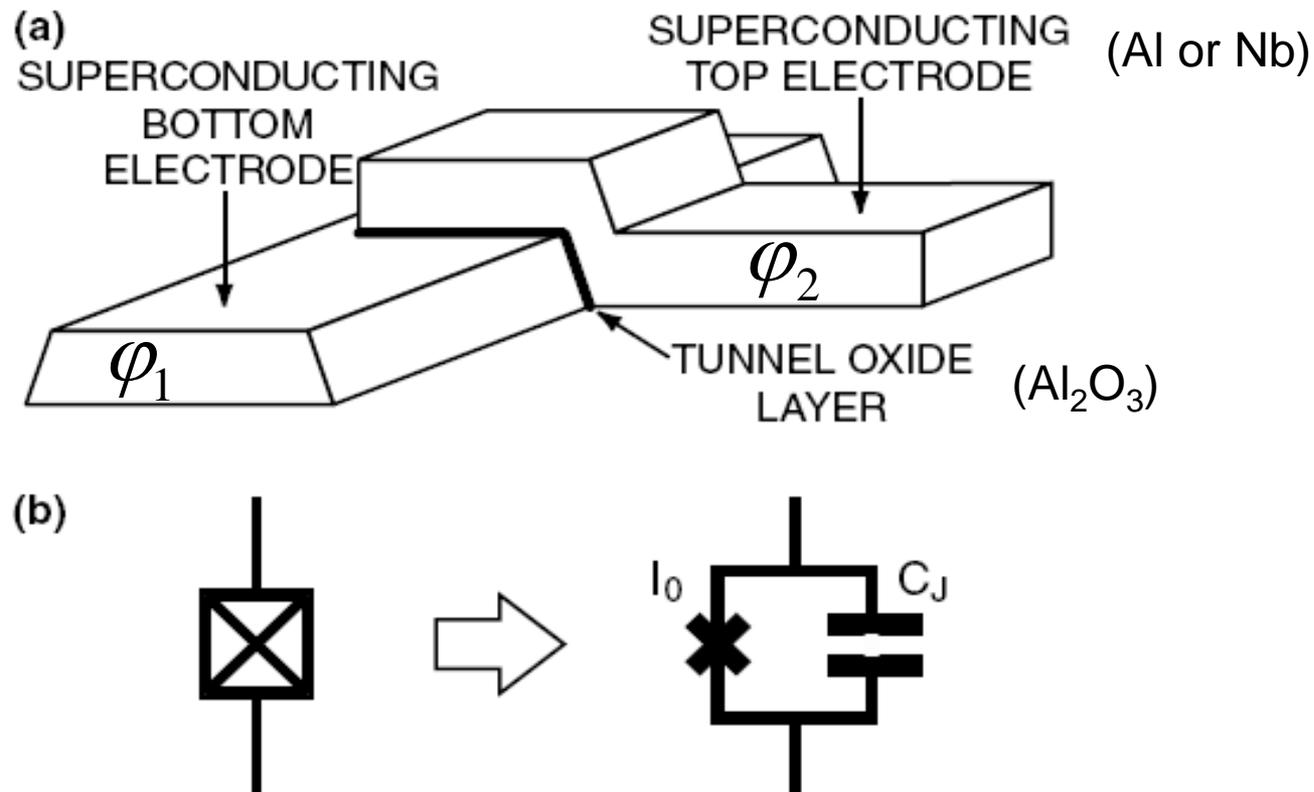


Fig. 1. (a) Josephson tunnel junction made with two superconducting thin films; (b) Schematic representation of a Josephson tunnel junction. The irreducible Josephson element is represented by a cross.

$$I = I_c \sin(\varphi_1 - \varphi_2)$$

# QUANTUM FLUCTUATIONS IN ELECTRICAL CIRCUITS

Michel H. Devoret

*S. Reynaud, E. Giacobino and J. Zinn-Justin, eds.*

*Les Houches, Session LXIII, 1995*

*Fluctuations Quantiques*

*Quantum Fluctuations*

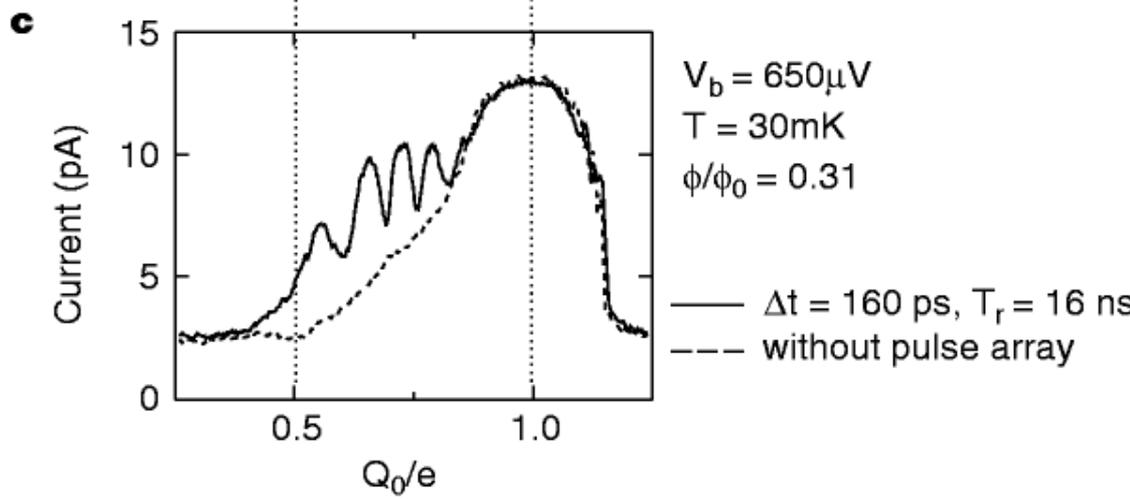
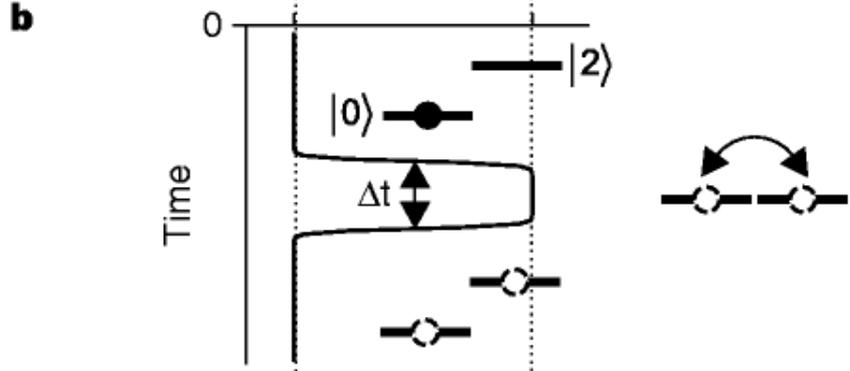
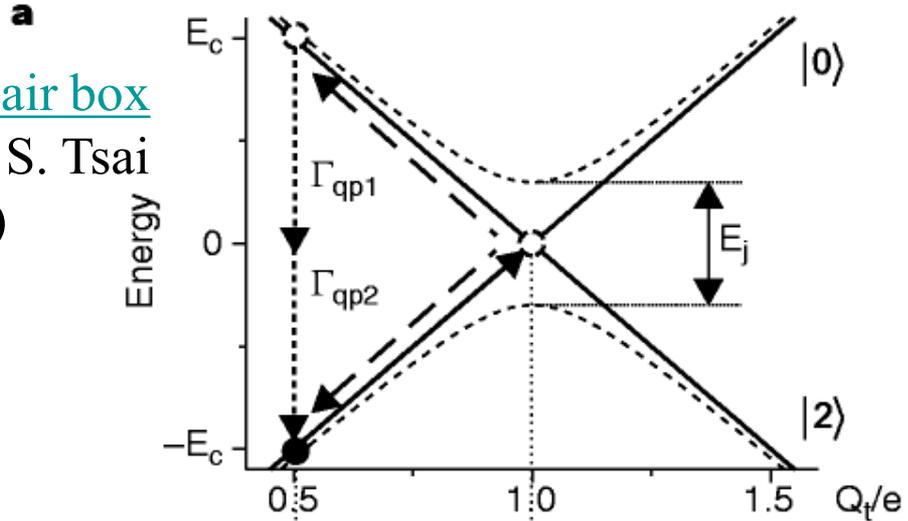
© 1997 Elsevier Science B.V. All rights reserved

Josephson junctions are so well coupled to their electromagnetic environment that dissipation cannot be treated as a perturbation. In fact, dissipation combines with the non-linearity of tunnel elements to produce qualitatively new quantum effects which are not encountered for example in the almost dissipation-free quantum systems studied in atomic physics. The most spectacular new quantum feature is the localization of position-like degrees of freedom when dissipation exceeds a certain threshold set by the quantum of resistance  $h/(2e)^2 \simeq 6.4 \text{ k}\Omega$  [8–10].

Coherent control of macroscopic quantum states in a single-Cooper-pair box

Y. Nakamura, Yu. A. Pashkin and J. S. Tsai  
 Nature 398, 786-788(29 April 1999)

Feeble signs  
 of quantum coherence

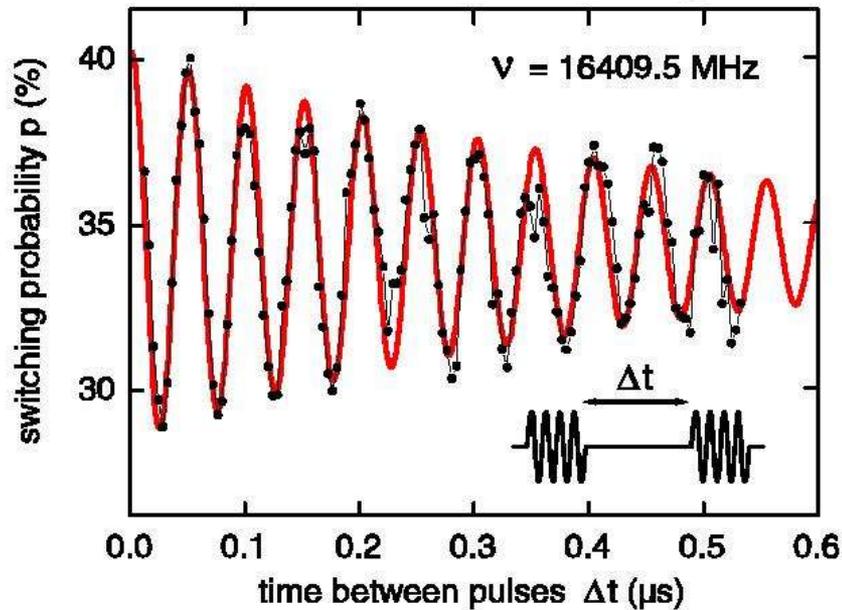


# Saclay Josephson junction qubit

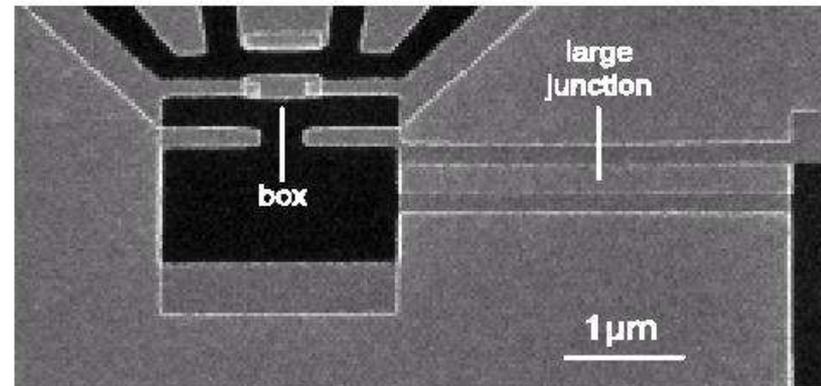
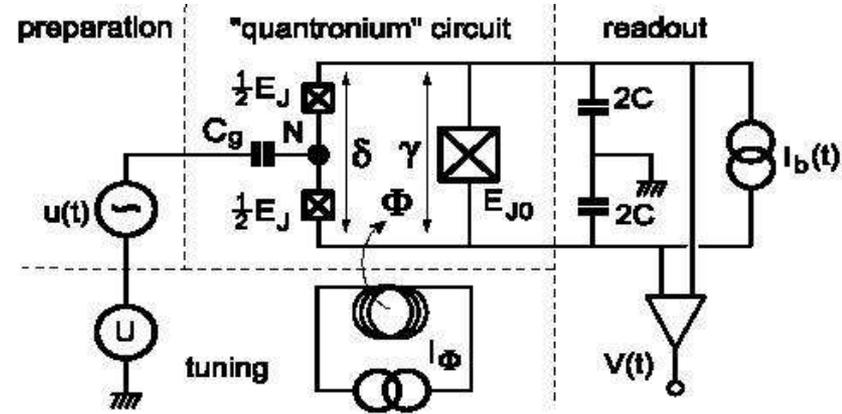
Manipulating the quantum state of an electrical circuit

Science 296, 886 (2002)

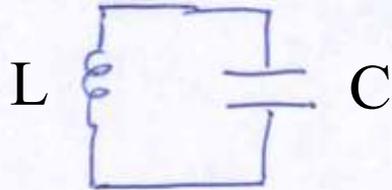
D. Vion, A. Aassime, A. Cottet, P. Joyez, H. Pothier,  
C. Urbina, D. Esteve and M.H. Devoret



Oscillations show rotation of qubit at constant rate, with noise.



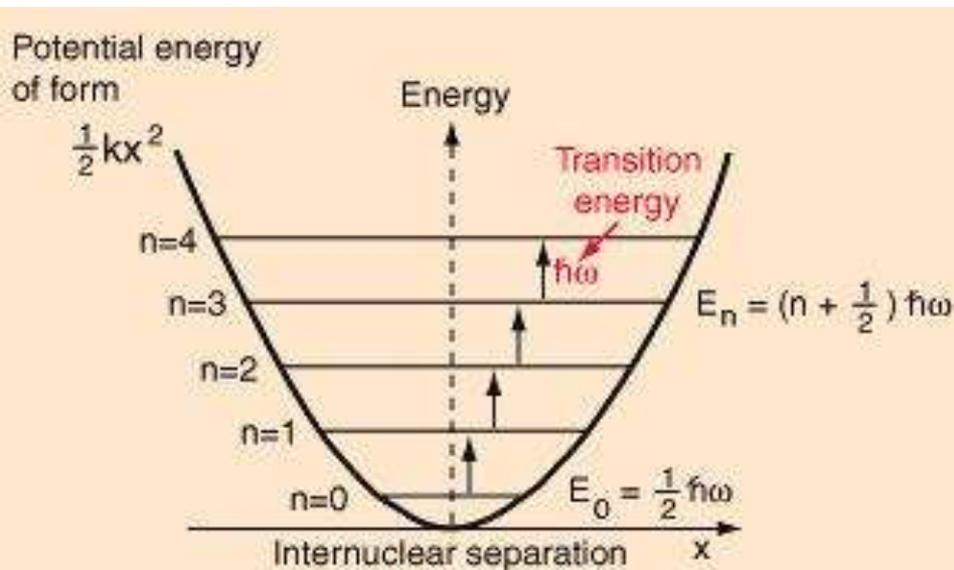
# Simple electric circuit...



harmonic oscillator with resonant frequency

$$\omega_0 = 1 / \sqrt{LC}$$

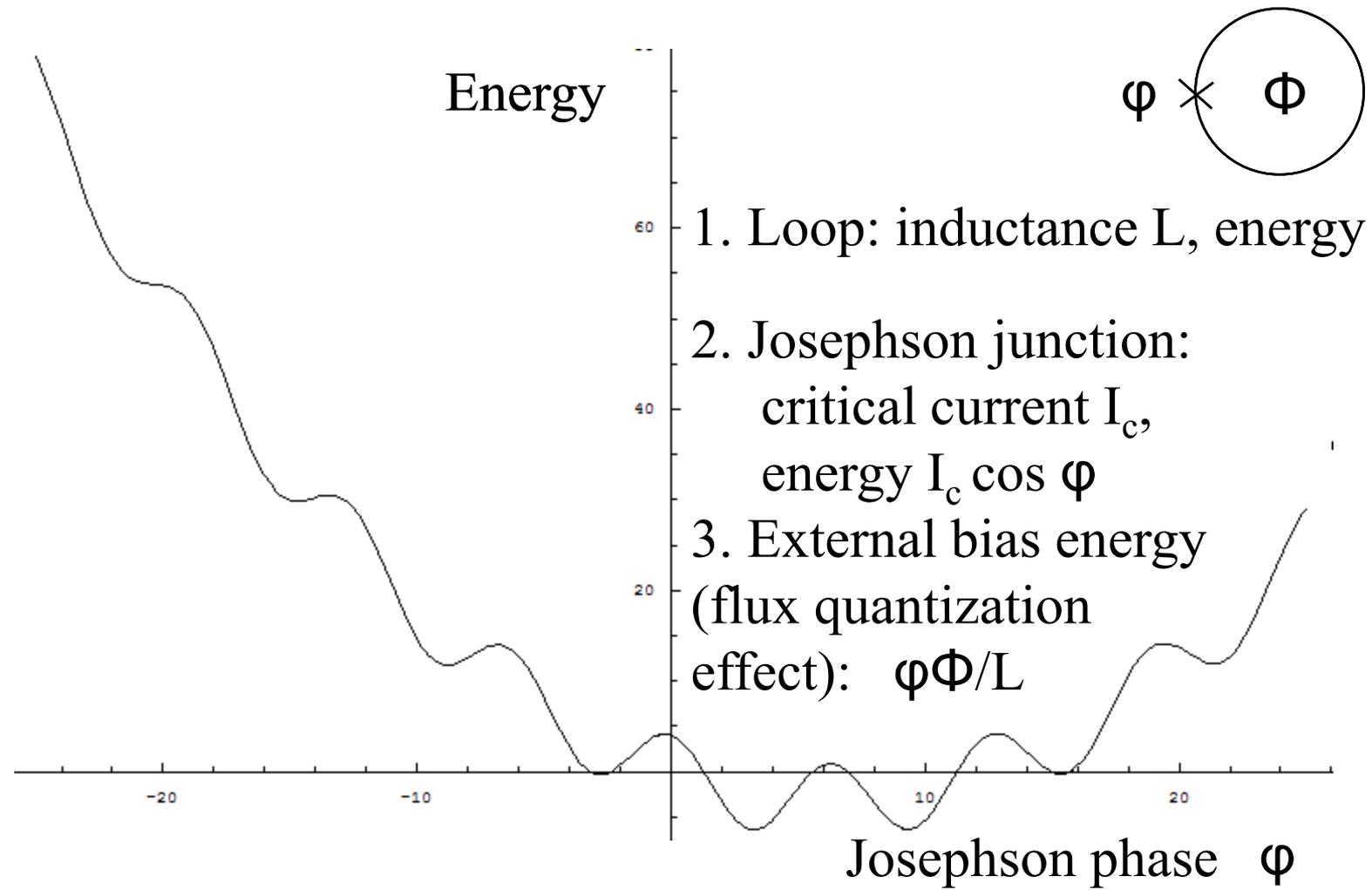
Quantum mechanically, like a kind of atom (with harmonic potential):



x is any circuit variable  
(capacitor charge/current/voltage,  
Inductor flux/current/voltage)

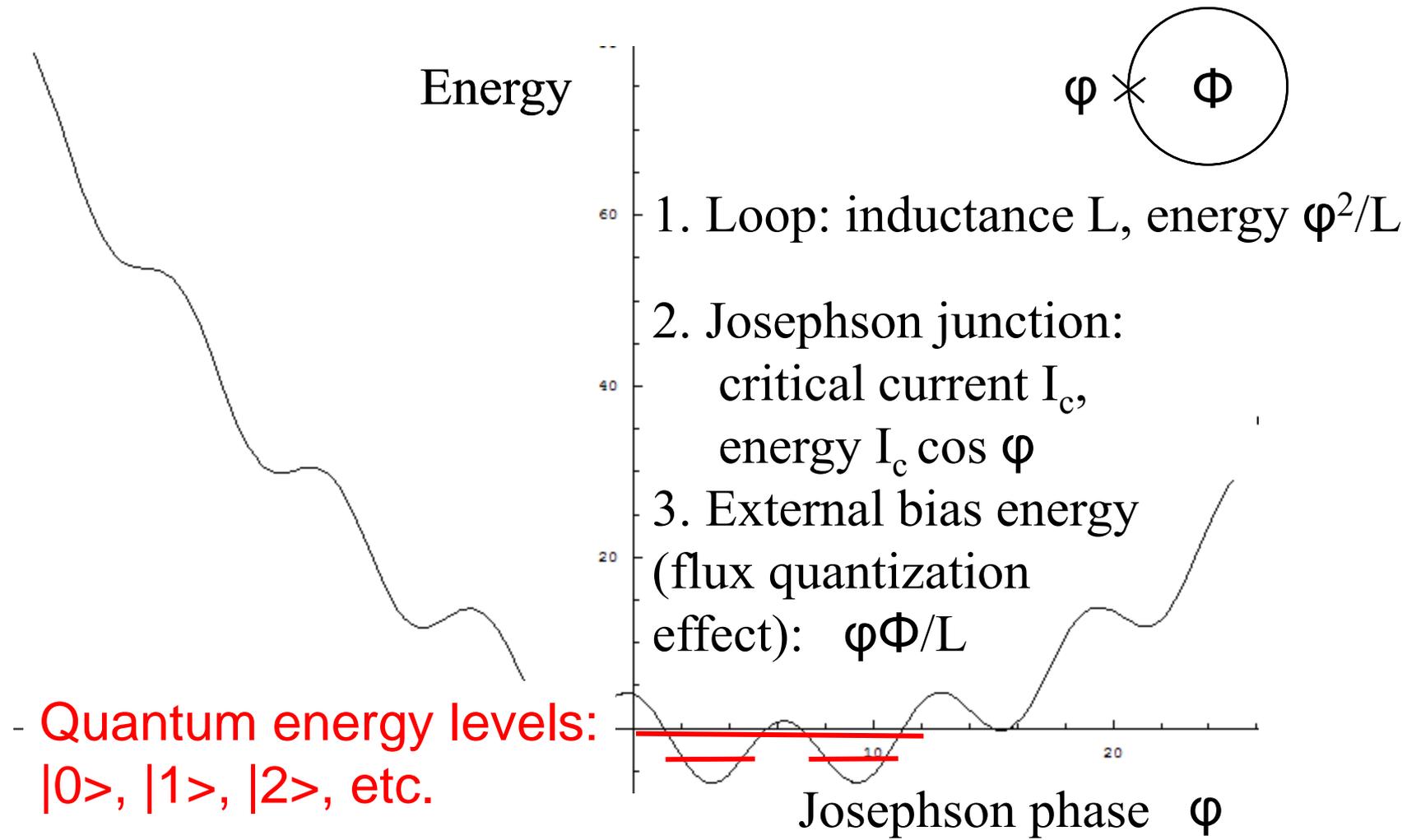
That is to say, it is a  
“macroscopic” variable that is  
being quantized.

# Textbook (classical) SQUID characteristic: the “washboard”



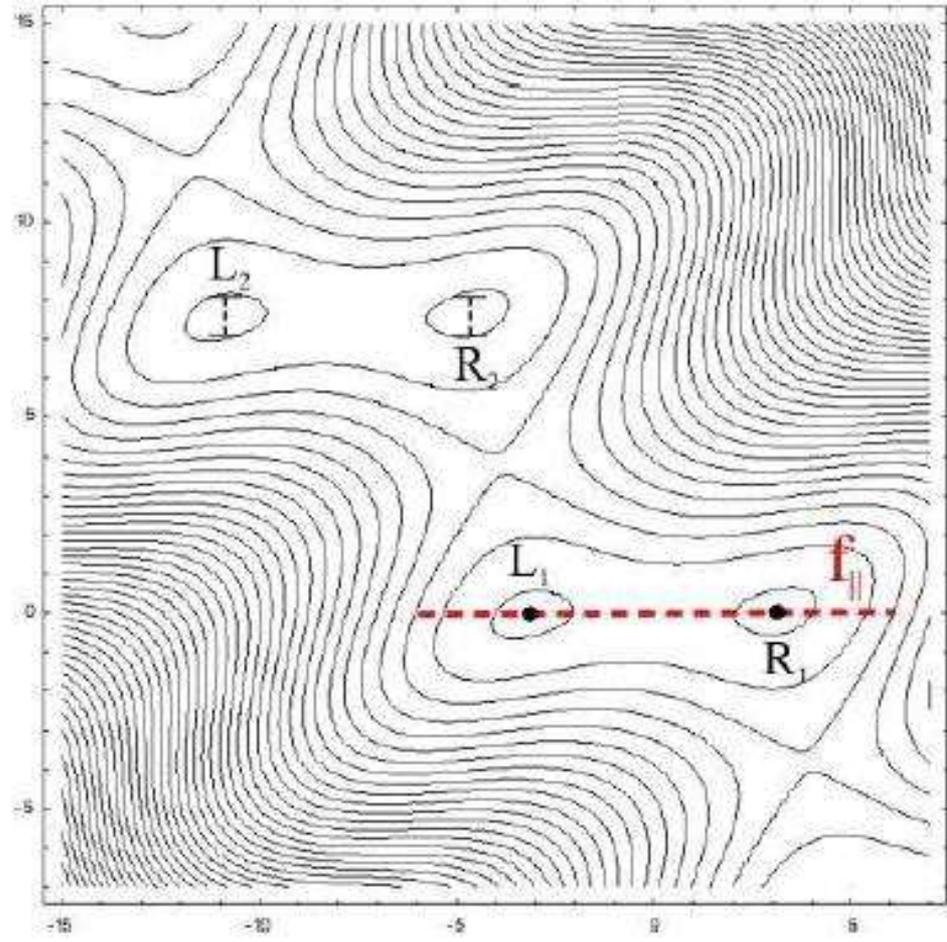
Junction capacitance  $C$ , plays role of particle mass

# Quantum SQUID characteristic:

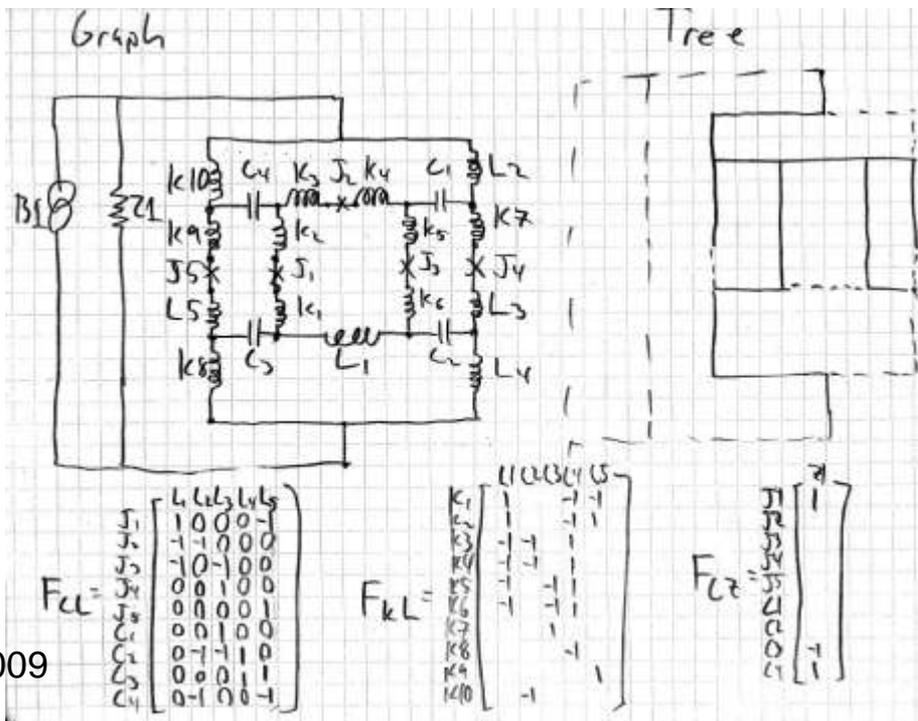


Junction capacitance  $C$ , plays role of particle mass

Burkard, Koch, DiVincenzo, Phys. Rev. B (2004)  
 DiVincenzo, Brito, and Koch, Phys. Rev. B (2006).

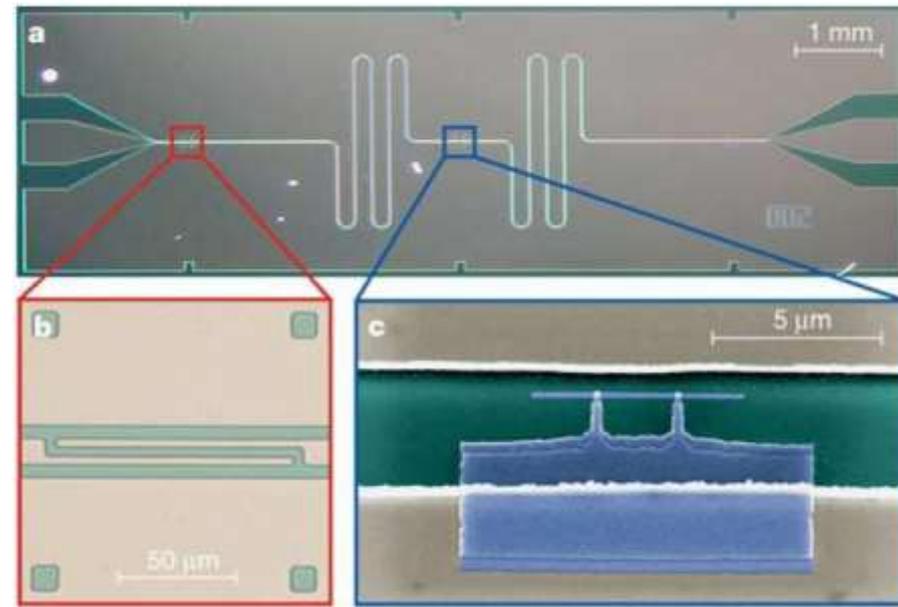
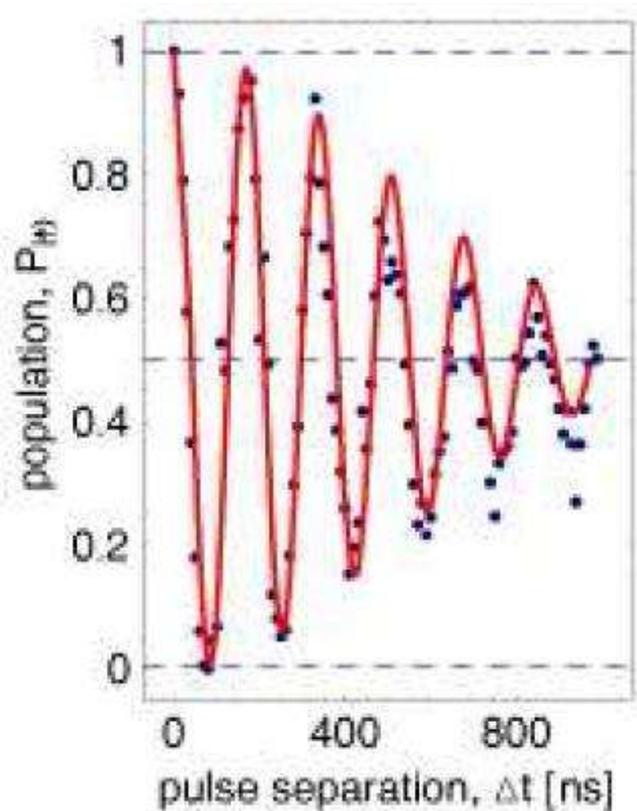


Effective potential is generally multidimensional, complex interplay between anharmonic and harmonic parts



# “Yale” Josephson junction qubit

PRL 2005;  
also Nature, 2004



Approaching Unit Visibility for Control of a Superconducting Qubit  
with Dispersive Readout

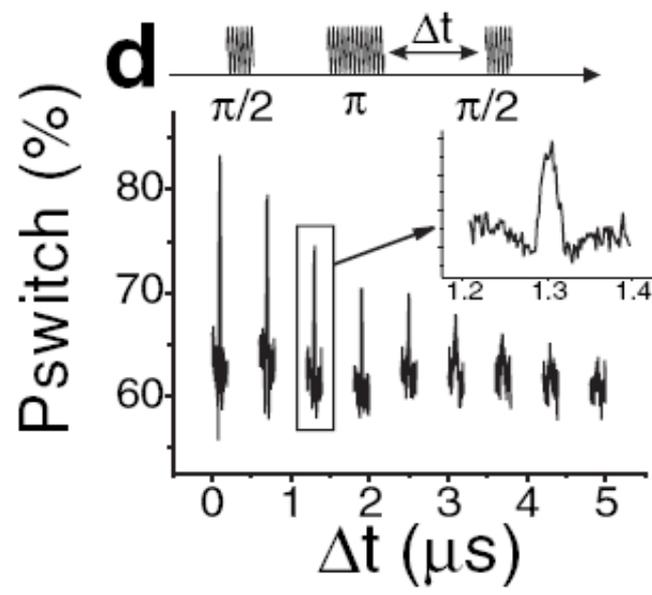
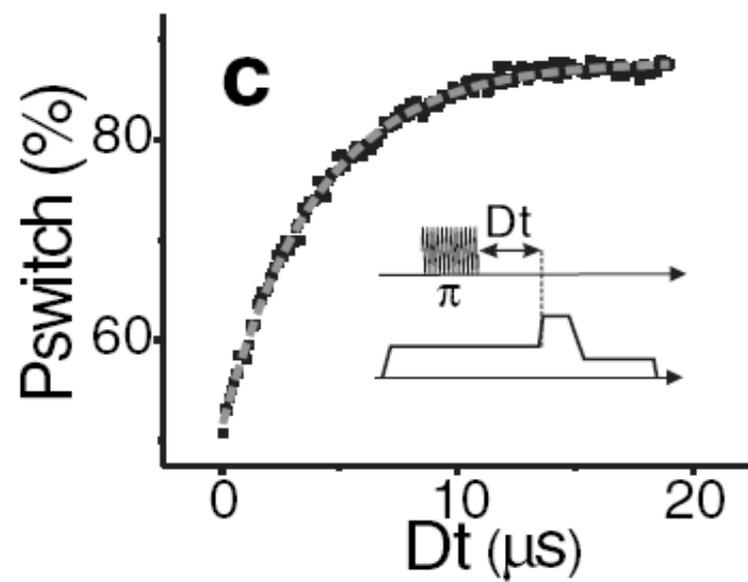
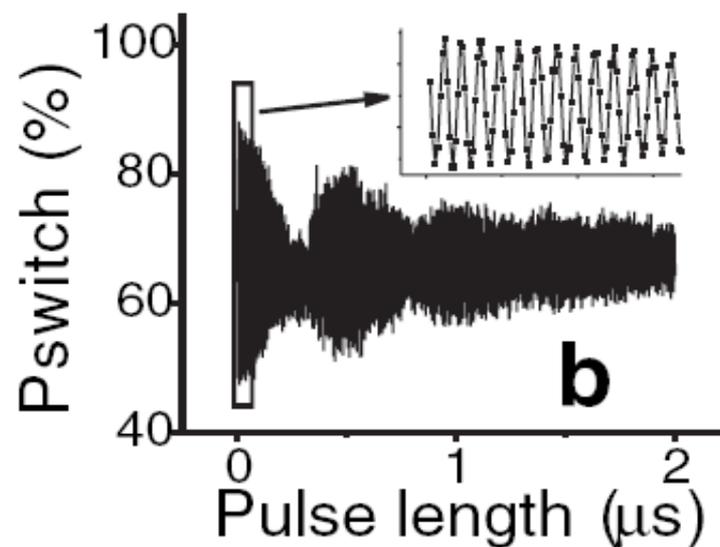
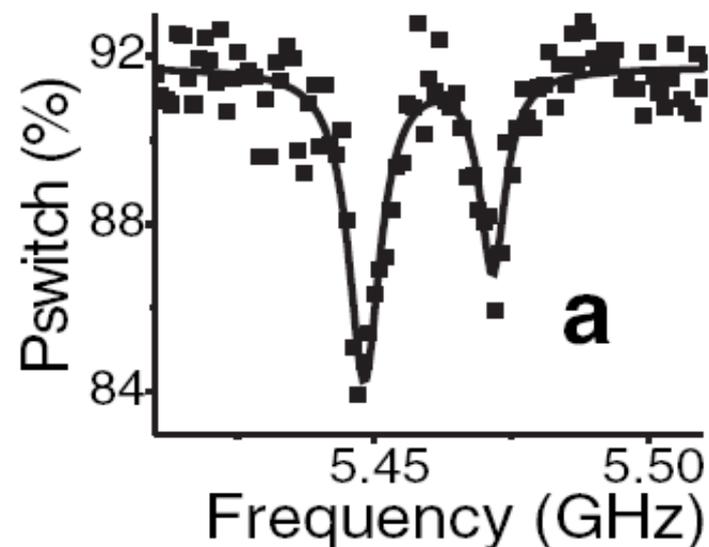
A. Wallraff, D. I. Schuster, A. Blais, L. Frunzio, J. Majer, S. M. Girvin, and R. J. Schoelkopf

arXiv:cond-mat/0502645 v1 27 Feb 2005

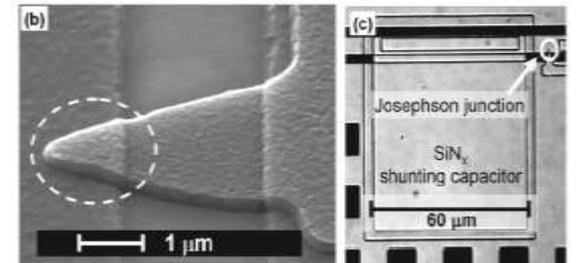
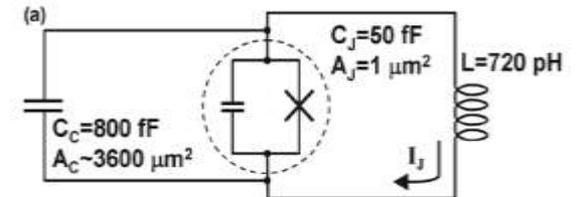
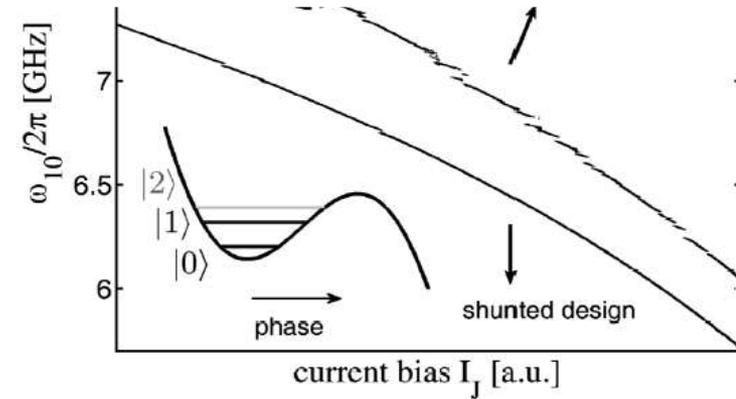
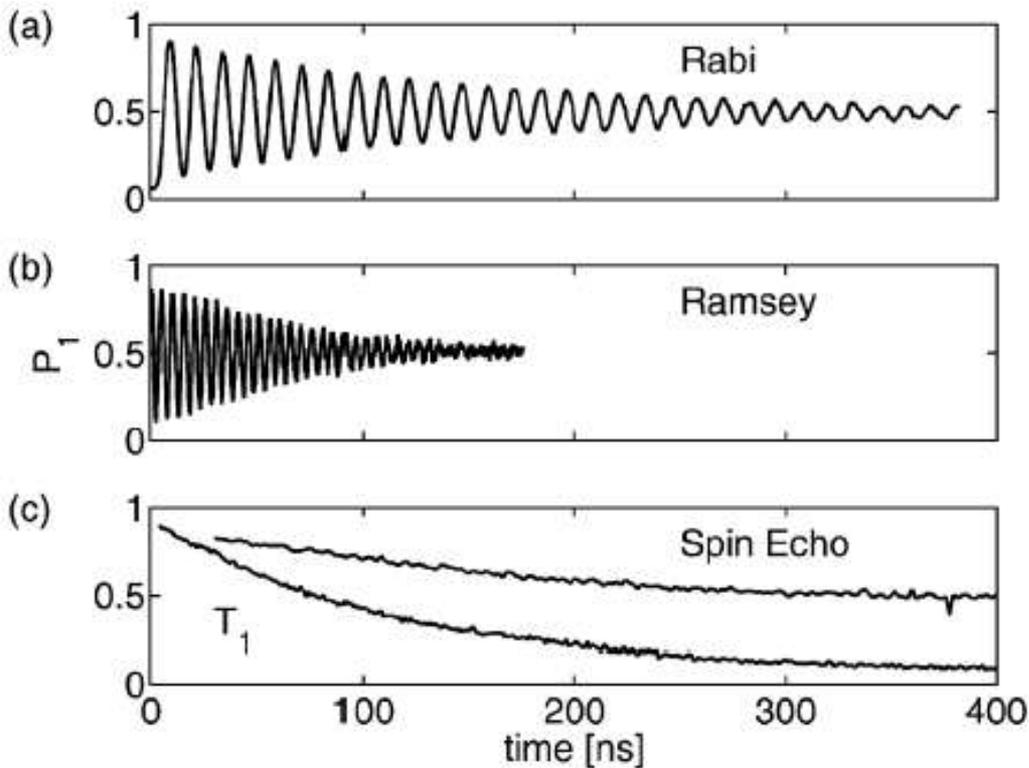
Coherence time again c.  $0.5 \mu\text{s}$  (in  
Ramsey fringe experiment)  
But fringe visibility  $> 90\%$  !

## Dephasing of a Superconducting Qubit Induced by Photon Noise

P. Bertet,<sup>1</sup> I. Chiorescu,<sup>1,\*</sup> G. Burkard,<sup>2,3</sup> K. Semba,<sup>1,4</sup> C.J.P.M. Harmans,<sup>1</sup> D.P. DiVincenzo,<sup>2</sup> and J.E. Mooij<sup>1</sup>



# UCSB Josephson junction qubit ("phase")



PRL 97, 050502 (2006)

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

week ending  
4 AUGUST 2006

## State Tomography of Capacitively Shunted Phase Qubits with High Fidelity

Matthias Steffen, M. Ansmann, R. McDermott, N. Katz, Radoslaw C. Bialczak, Erik Lucero, Matthew Neeley, E.M. Weig, A.N. Cleland, and John M. Martinis\*

Department of Physics and California Nanosystems Institute, University of California, Santa Barbara, California 93106, USA

# Temperature dependence of coherent oscillations in Josephson phase qubits

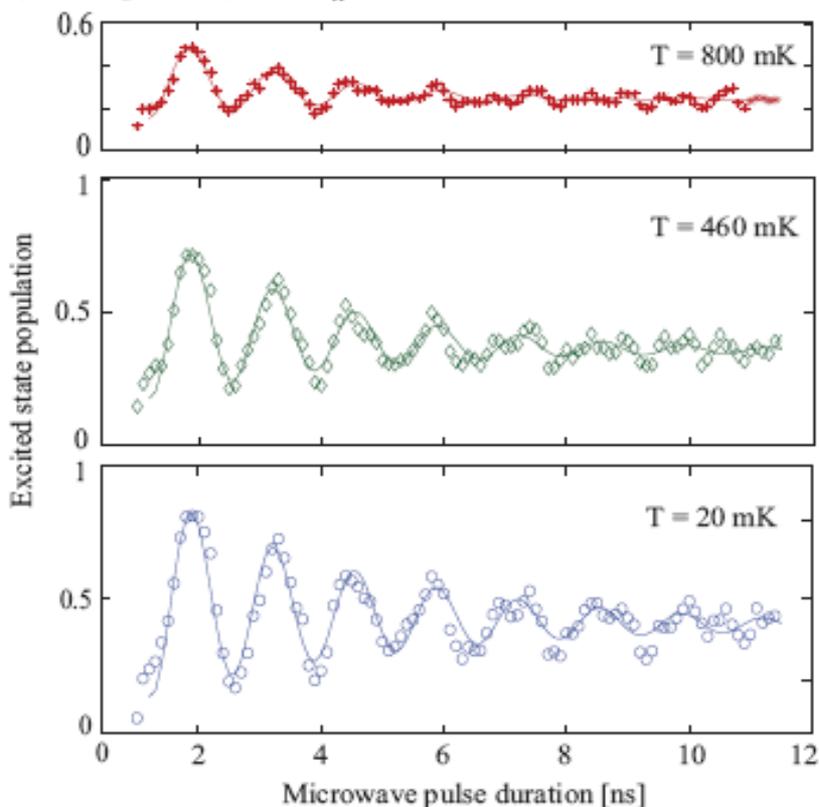
J. Lisenfeld<sup>1</sup>, A. Lukashenko<sup>1</sup>, M. Ansmann<sup>2</sup>, J. M. Martinis<sup>2</sup>, and A. V. Ustinov<sup>1\*</sup>

<sup>1</sup> *Physikalisches Institut III, Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, D-91058 Erlangen, Germany*

<sup>2</sup> *Department of Physics and California Nanosystems Institute, University of California, Santa Barbara, California 93106, USA*

(Dated: February 1, 2008)

(a) sample #1 (Nb SiO<sub>2</sub>)



(b) sample #2 (Al SiN<sub>x</sub>)

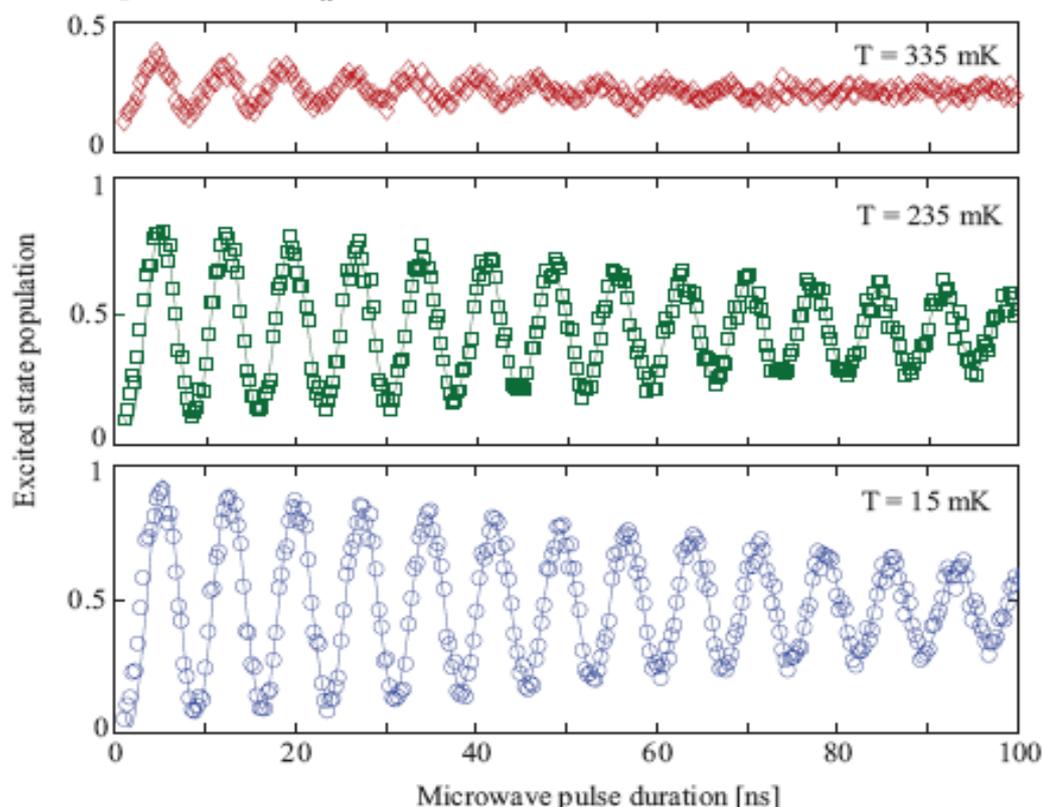
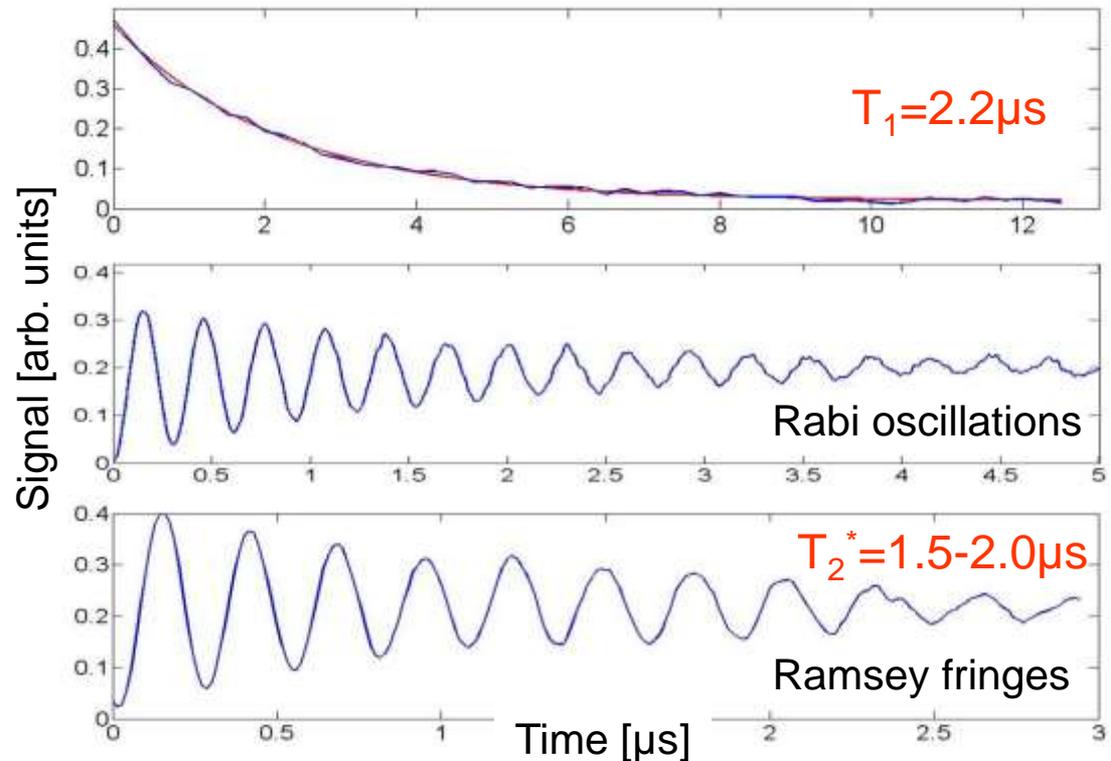
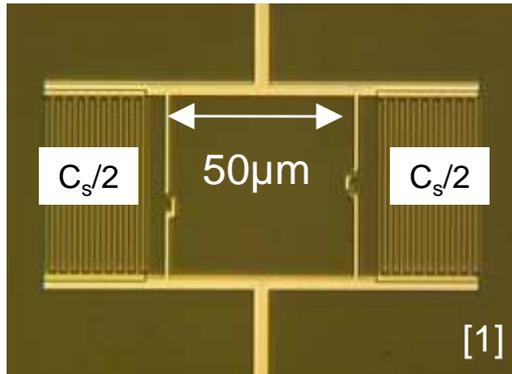
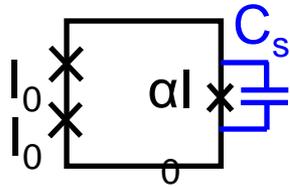


FIG. 2: (a) Rabi oscillations observed in Nb-based sample #1 with SiO<sub>2</sub> insulation and (b) in Al-based sample #2 featuring SiN<sub>x</sub> insulation, at the indicated temperatures. Solid lines are a fits to exponentially decaying sine functions from which Rabi amplitude and decay time are extracted.

# IBM Experiments 2010

## Capacitively Shunted Flux Qubit (CSFQ)

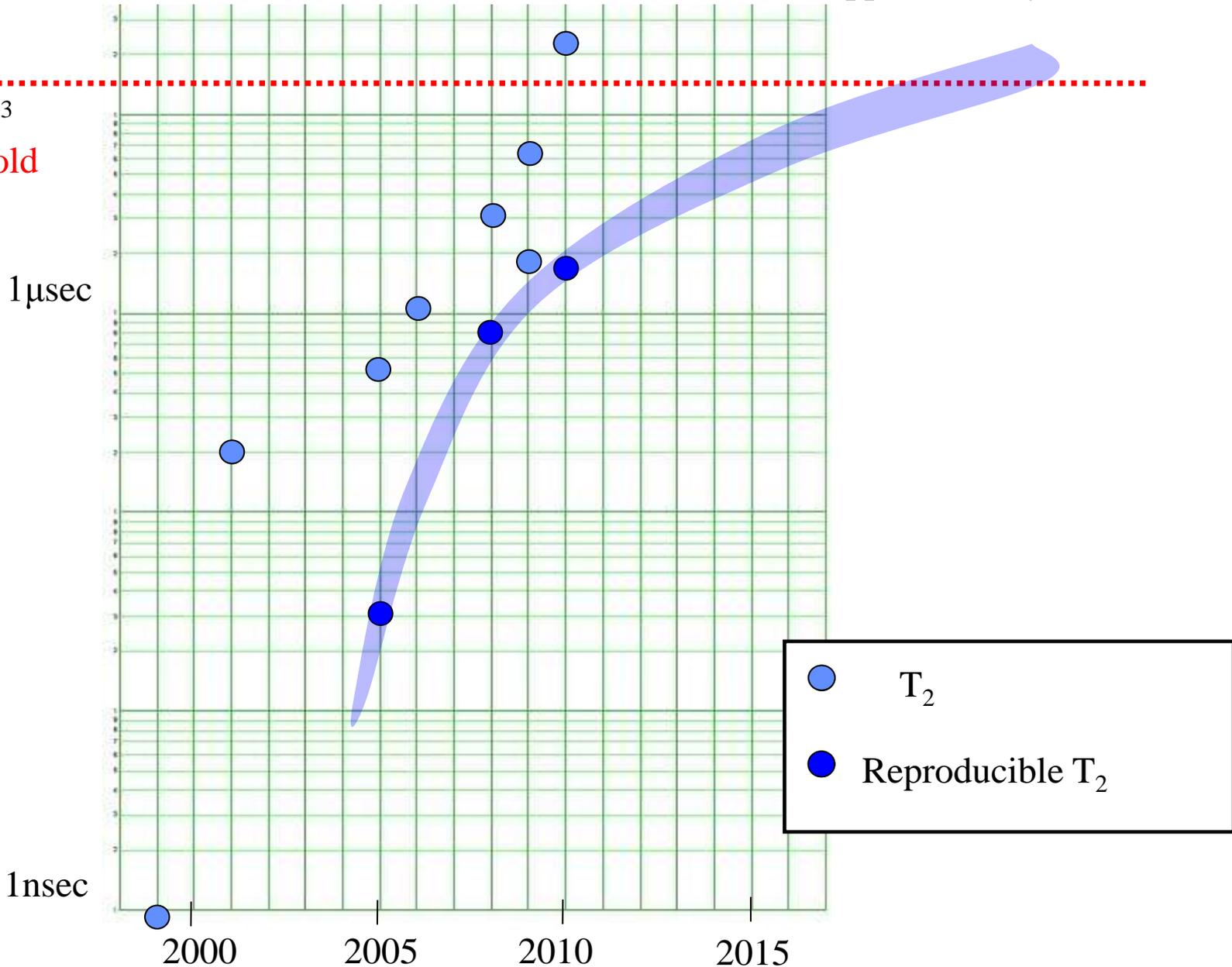


- Nine out of ten samples measured gave  $T_1 > 1 \mu\text{s}$
- No device failure observed yet
- Energy loss likely dominated by dielectric surface loss

# Prospects: a Moore's law for coherence time

NB: anticipated gate time approximately 30 nsec

$t_{\text{gate}}/T_2 \approx 5 \times 10^{-3}$   
= **noise threshold**  
of 2D surface  
code scheme



# Prospects: a Moore's law for coherence

NB: anticipated gate time approximately 30 nsec

$t_{\text{gate}}/T_2 \approx 5 \times 10^{-3}$   
= **noise threshold**  
of 2D surface  
code scheme

100  $\mu\text{sec}$

1  $\mu\text{sec}$

1 nsec

2000

2005

2010

2015

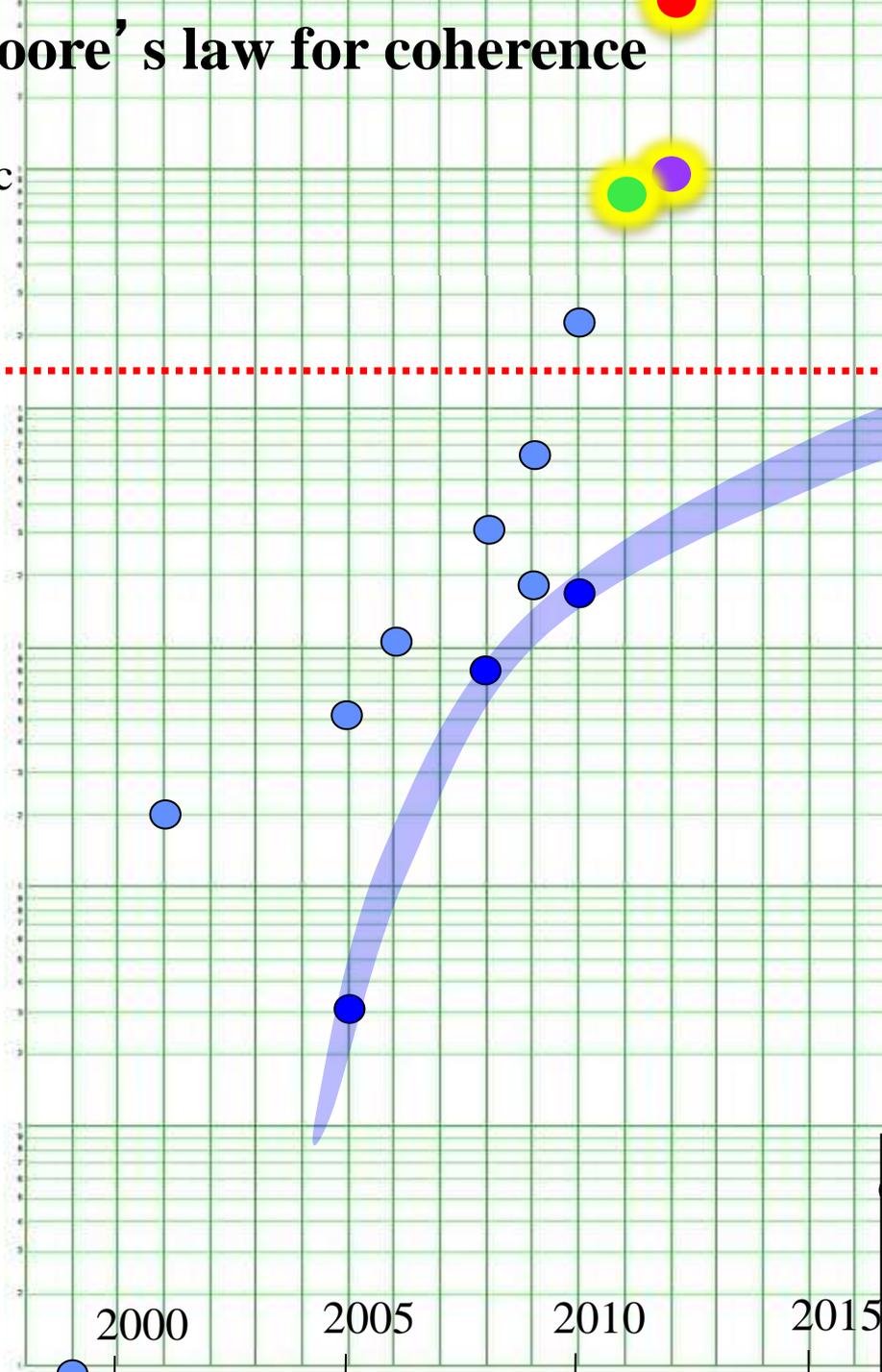
$T_2 > 75 \mu\text{sec}$   
reported,  
L. DiCarlo,  
Oct. 2011

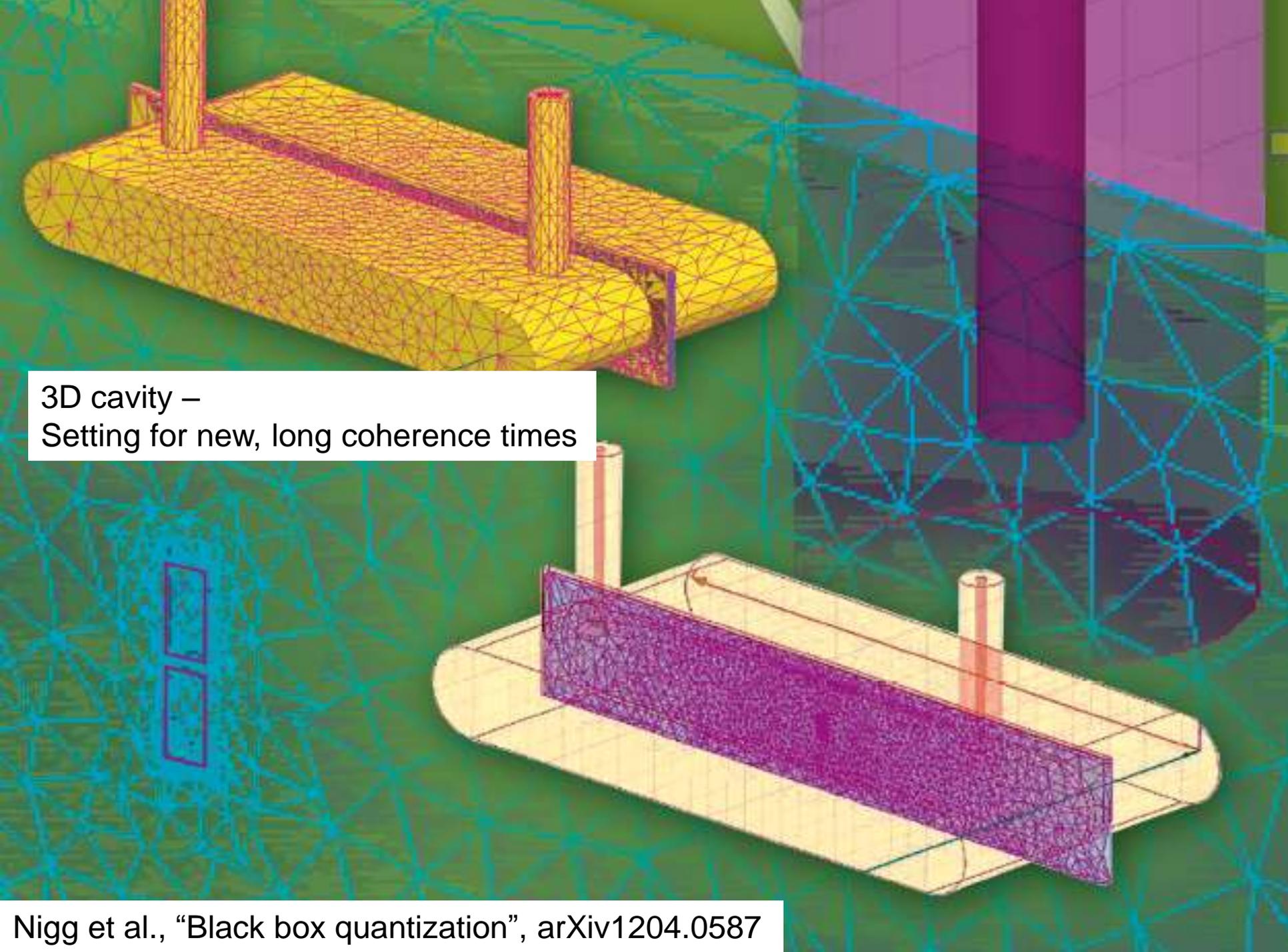
$T_2 > 95 \mu\text{sec}$   
reported,  
Rigetti et al.,  
Mar. 2012

$T_2 \approx 150 \mu\text{sec}$  rep.  
Schoelkopf et al.,  
June 2012

$\circ$   $T_2$

$\bullet$  Reproducible  $T_2$



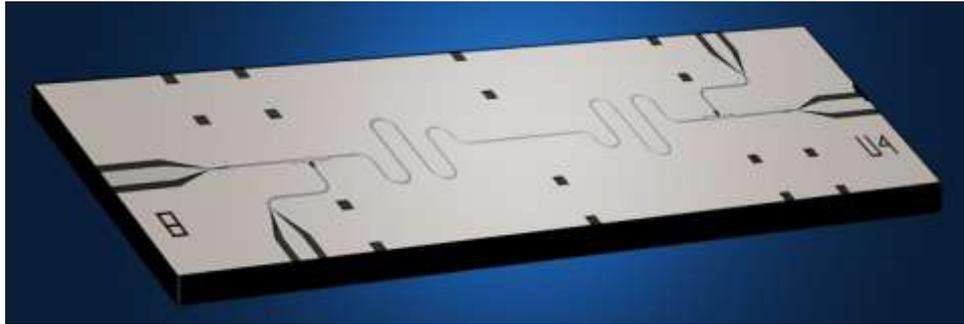
A 3D visualization of a quantum cavity. The main structure is a yellow, elongated rectangular block with rounded ends, composed of a fine triangular mesh. Two vertical red cylindrical pillars are positioned on top of the block. To the right, a large blue cylinder is partially visible, also rendered with a mesh. The background is a dark blue, textured surface with a grid-like pattern. A white text box is overlaid on the left side of the image.

3D cavity –  
Setting for new, long coherence times

# Demonstration of Two-Qubit Algorithms with a Superconducting Quantum Processor

L. DiCarlo,<sup>1</sup> J. M. Chow,<sup>1</sup> J. M. Gambetta,<sup>2</sup> Lev S. Bishop,<sup>1</sup> B. R. Johnson,<sup>1</sup> D. I. Schuster,<sup>1</sup> J. Majer,<sup>3</sup> A. Blais,<sup>4</sup> L. Frunzio,<sup>1</sup> S. M. Girvin,<sup>1</sup> and R. J. Schoelkopf<sup>1</sup>

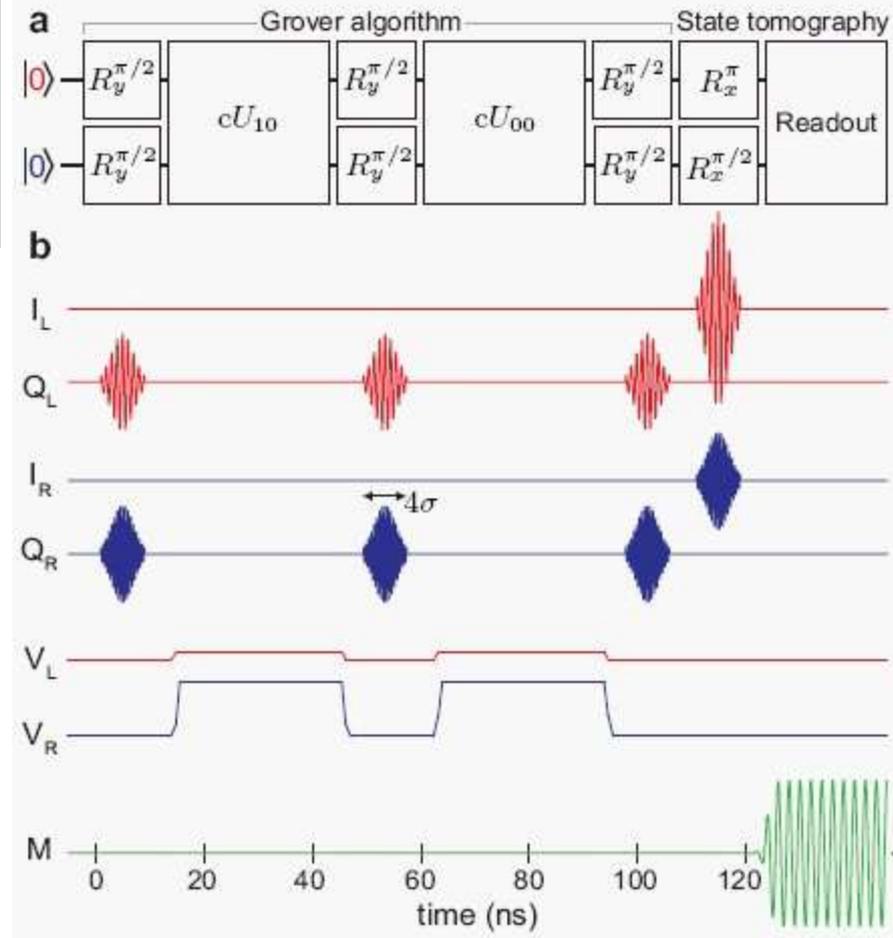
<sup>1</sup>*Departments of Physics and Applied Physics, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06511, USA*



Nature 460, 240-244 (2009)

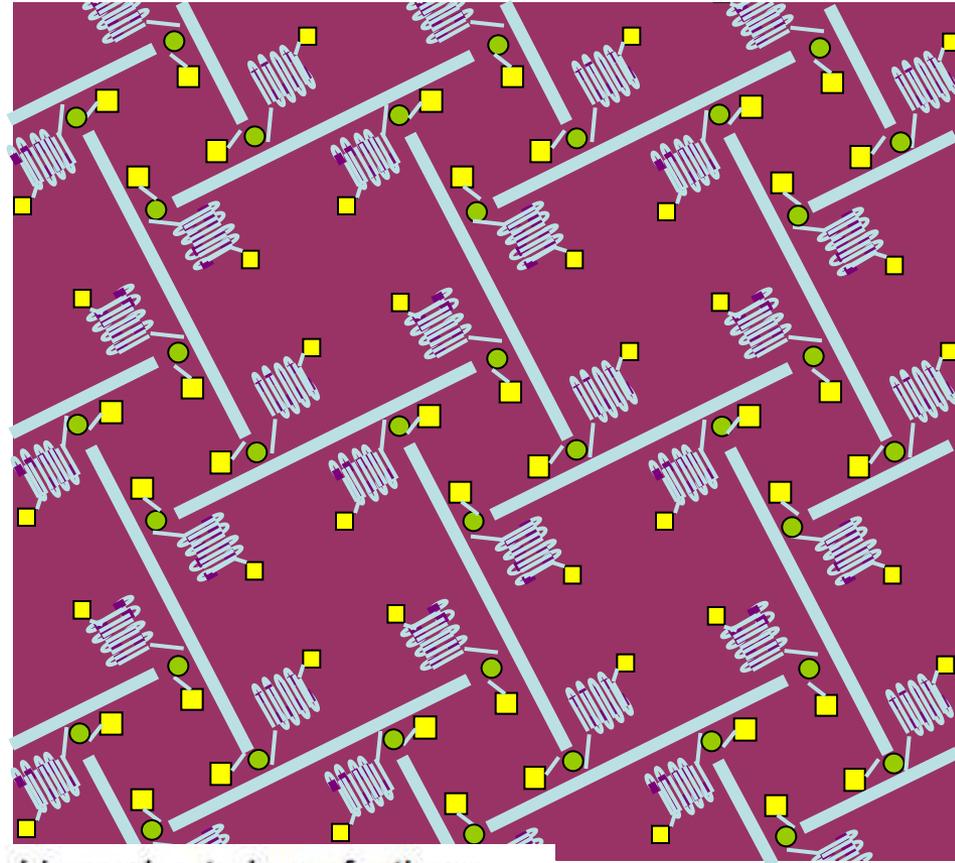
Fidelity above 90% for two qubit gates

Like early NMR experiments, but in scalable system!



# Regular square lattice of coupled qubits make an effective architecture for fault tolerance

- Qubits (green) coupled via high-Q superconducting resonators (gray)
- “skew-square” layout of qubits and resonators is one way to achieve abstract square
- Every qubit has a number of controller and sensor lines to be connected to the outside world (gold pads)

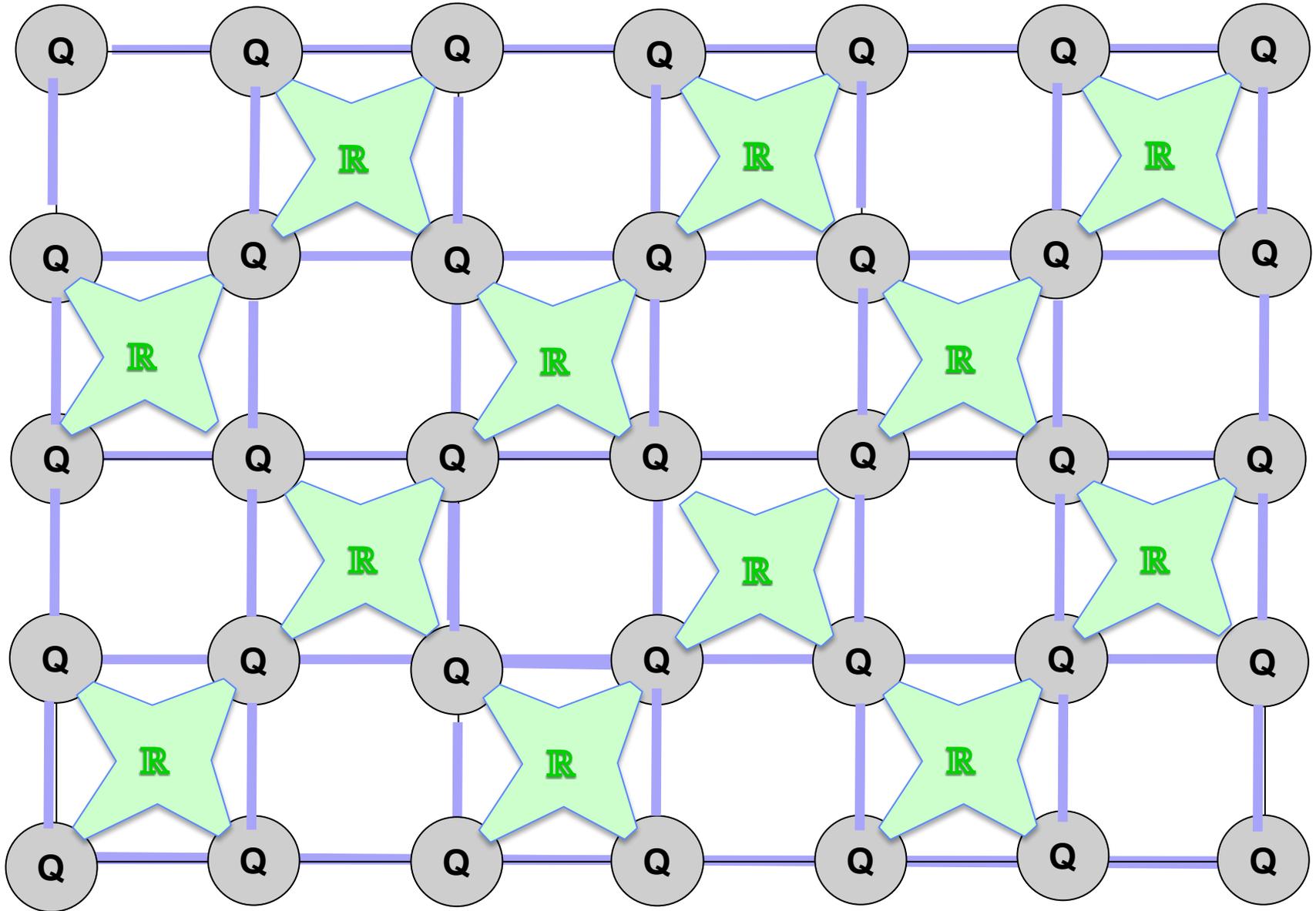


*"In a machine such as this there are very many other problems due to imperfections . . . At least some of these problems can be remedied in the usual way by techniques such as error correcting codes . . . But until we find a specific implementation for this computer, I do not know how to proceed to analyze these effects."*

R.P. Feynman  
"Quantum Mechanical Computers"  
*Optics News*, February 1985

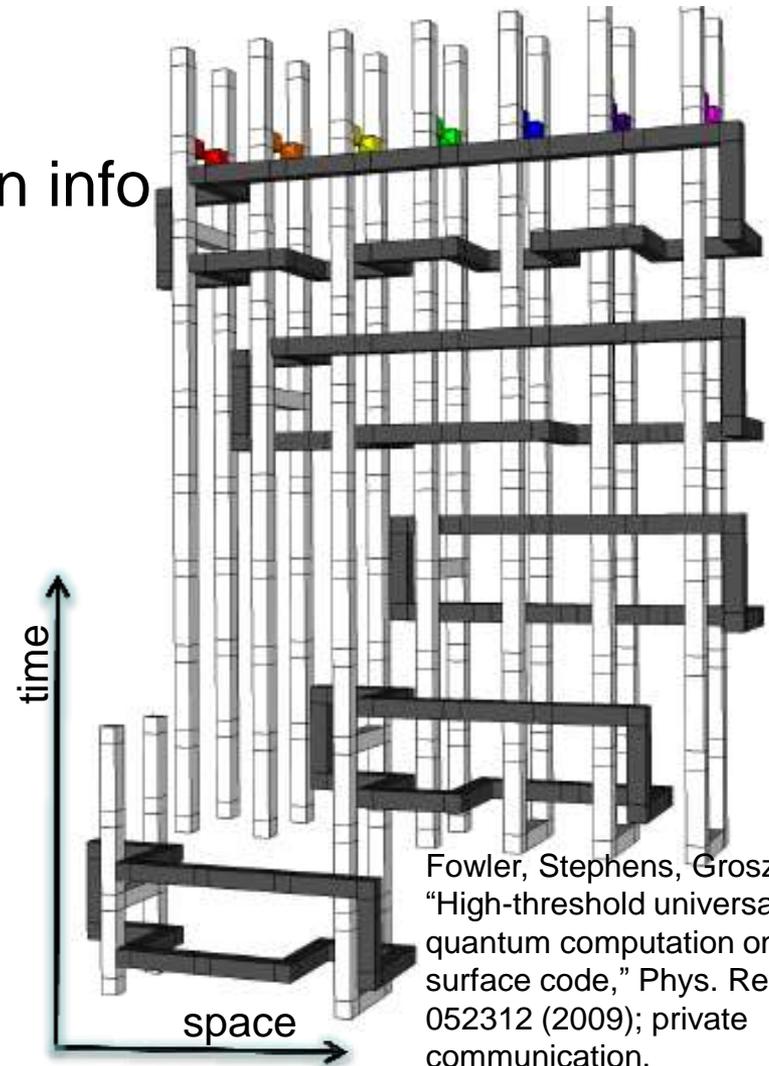
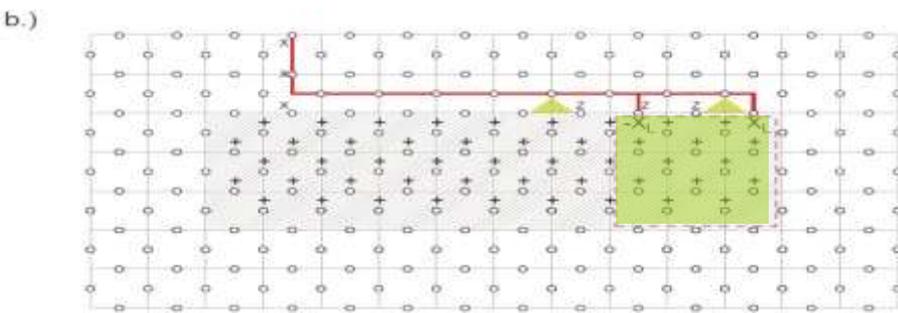
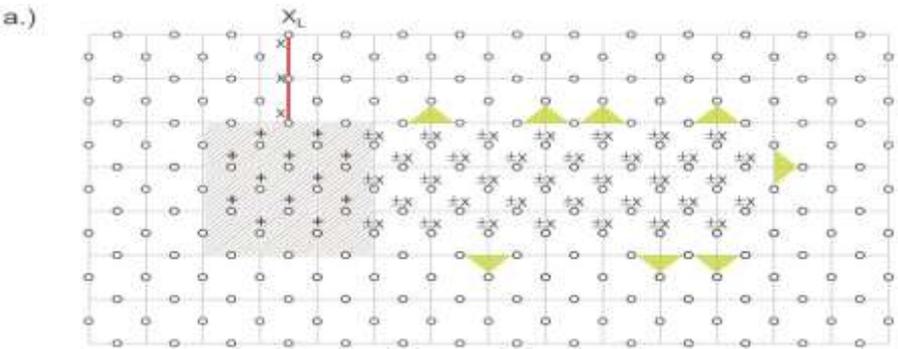
DP. DiVincenzo,  
"Fault tolerant architectures for superconducting qubits,"  
*Phys. Scr. T* **137**  
(2009) 014020.

**Surface code error correction:** skew-square cavity arrangement is topologically equivalent to this:



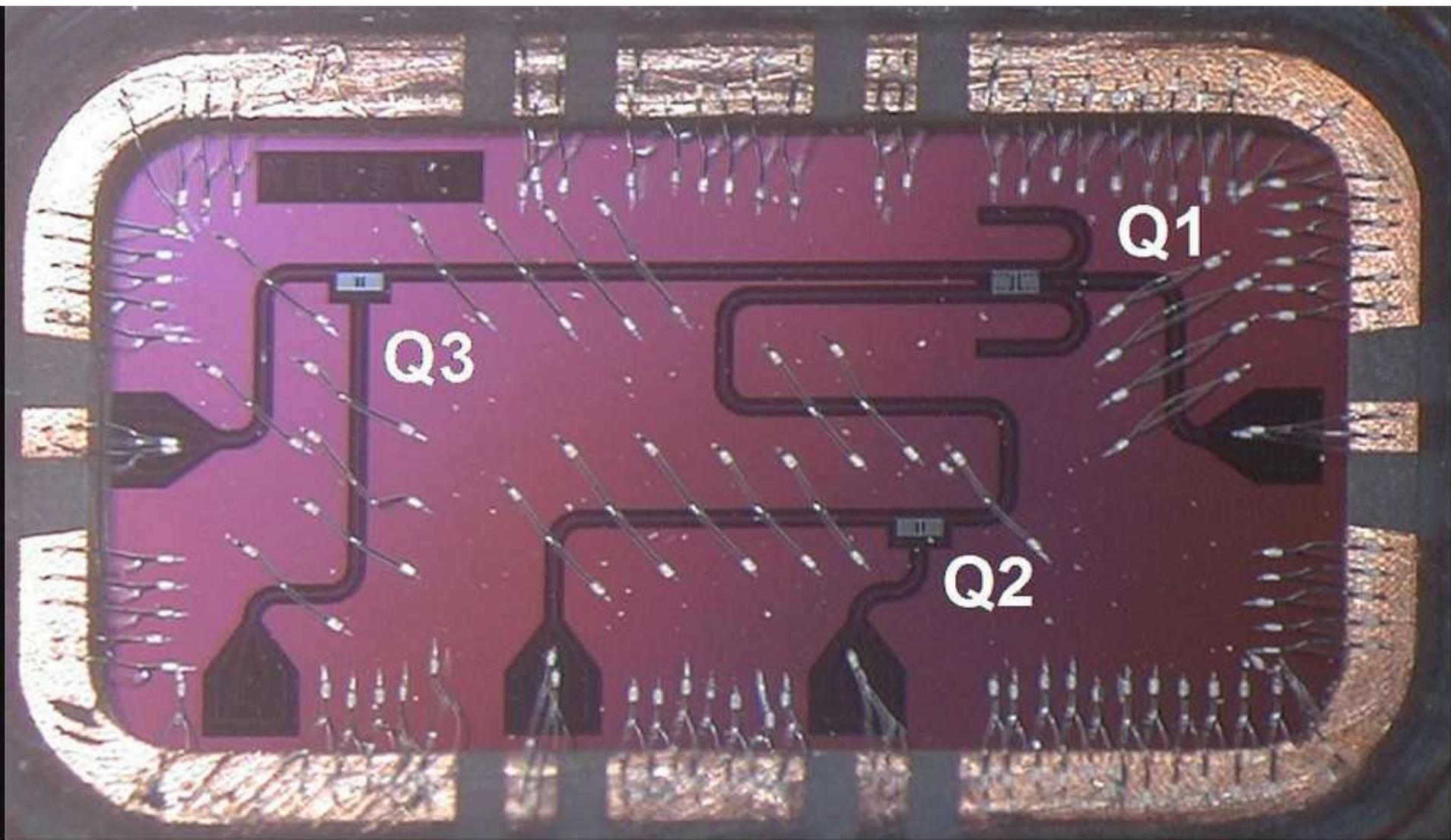
# Fault tolerant algorithms with surface code

- Do repetitive pattern in large patches, except for holes where nothing is done
- Holes define qubits; algorithm performed by braiding holes
- measurements give error correction info
- theoretical threshold is 0.75%



Fowler, Stephens, Groszkowski, "High-threshold universal quantum computation on the surface code," Phys. Rev. A 80, 052312 (2009); private communication.

# IBM (Feb. 2012) – 3 qubit structure, start of scalability?



2D Superconducting qubit

# IBM (Feb. 2013) – a year of hard work

## B 4 Control of Superconducting Qubits <sup>1</sup>

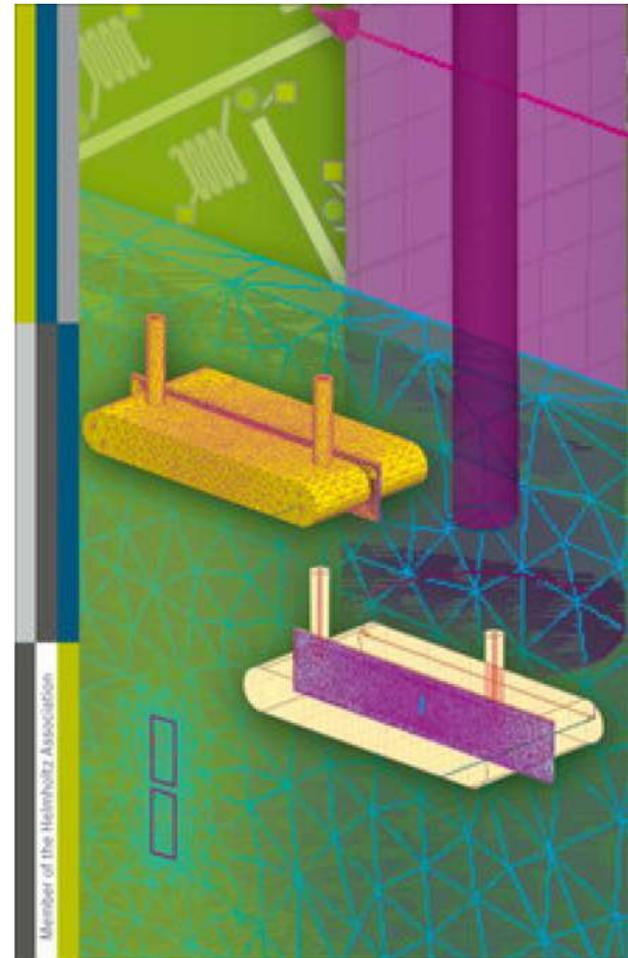
Jay M. Gambetta

IBM T.J. Watson Research Center

Yorktown Heights, New York 10598, USA

### Contents

<b>1 The Transmon</b>	<b>3</b>
1.1 The model	3
1.2 The charge dispersion of the transmon	5
1.3 Large $E_J/E_C$ effective Hamiltonian	8
1.4 Control of $\omega$ by external flux	9
1.5 External driving by capacitively coupled transmission lines	10
1.6 Rotating frame and single qubit gates	11
<b>2 Circuit quantum electrodynamics</b>	<b>12</b>
2.1 Dispersive regime	13
2.2 Quantum non-demolition measurement	14
2.3 Two-qubit exchange interaction	17
2.4 The 3D cavity architecture	18
2.5 Implementation of the iSwap gate by virtual qubit-qubit interactions	19
2.6 Implementation of the cPhase gate by higher level interactions	20
2.7 Implementation of the $ZX_{\pi/2}$ gate by the cross resonance effect	21
2.8 Implementation of the bSwap gate by higher level induced transitions	25
2.9 Summary of two-qubit gates	26
<b>3 Optimal single qubit gates</b>	<b>28</b>
3.1 Leakage errors in single qubit gates	28
3.2 Correcting for leakage with DRAG shaping	30
3.2.1 Zero order solution	31
3.2.2 First order solution	31



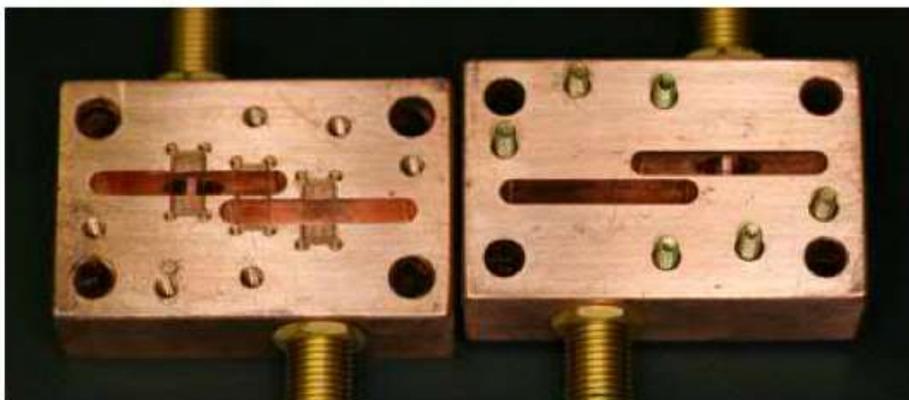
Quantum Information Processing

44<sup>th</sup> IFF Spring School 2013

February 25 – March 8, 2013 in Jülich, Germany

# Gambetta summary of IBM results

Gate	Reference	$F_s$ (Bell)	Process tomography $F_g$	Benchmarking $F_g$
iSwap	[35]	0.91	0.92	-
iSwap (phase)	[49]	-	0.70	-
cPhase	[36, 29]	0.94	-	-
cPhase (phase)	[50]	-	0.76	-
ZX <sub>90</sub>	[5]	0.983	0.968 (raw) 0.95 (mle)	-
ZX <sub>90</sub> echo	[43]	-	0.883 (mle) 0.880 (mle)	0.935
bSwap	[44]	> 0.99	0.873 (raw) and 0.80 (mle)	-
sideband	[48]	0.58	-	-



**Fig. 8:** A copper enclosure consisting of two cavities (and three transmons). The transmons are fabricated on individual sapphire or silicon chips and are independently pre-characterization and chosen for their desired application.

# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

## Outline

- Basic physics of Josephson devices
- A short history of quantum effects in electric circuits
- A Moore's law for quantum coherence
- Approaching fault tolerant fidelities (95%)
- Scaling up with cavities – towards a surface code architecture
- Will it work??

---

*"In a machine such as this there are very many other problems due to imperfections. . . . At least some of these problems can be remedied in the usual way by techniques such as error correcting codes . . . But until we find a specific implementation for this computer, I do not know how to proceed to analyze these effects."*

R.P. Feynman  
"Quantum Mechanical Computers"  
*Optics News*, February 1985



Masters/PhD/postdocs available!

[http://www.physik.rwth-aachen.de/  
institute/institut-fuer-quanteninformation/](http://www.physik.rwth-aachen.de/institute/institut-fuer-quanteninformation/)

(G: IQI Aachen)

# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

David DiVincenzo

24.01.2013

QIP Beijing



# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

## Outline

- Superconducting qubits: a quantum Moore's law
- Error correction – using massive redundancy
- Using the surface code
- The architecture of a large quantum computer – road map
- Going “off road”:
  - New error correction ideas
  - Direct multiqubit parity measurements

---

*“In a machine such as this there are very many other problems due to imperfections. . . . At least some of these problems can be remedied in the usual way by techniques such as error correcting codes . . . But until we find a specific implementation for this computer, I do not know how to proceed to analyze these effects.”*

R.P. Feynman  
“Quantum Mechanical Computers”  
*Optics News*, February 1985

# A development of 1996-7:

## Quantum error correction with imperfect gates

A. Yu. Kitaev

L.D.Landau Institute for Theoretical Physics,  
117940, Kosygina St. 2

e-mail: [kitaev@itp.ac.ru](mailto:kitaev@itp.ac.ru)

September 25, 1996

### Abstract

Quantum error correction can be performed fault-tolerantly. This allows a quantum state intact (with arbitrary small error probability) for arbitrary time at a constant decoherence rate.

In *Quantum Communication, Computing, and Measurement*, O. Hirota et al., Eds. (Plenum, New York, 1997).



Stabilizer generators XXXX, ZZZZ;

Stars and plaquettes of interesting  
2D lattice Hamiltonian model

# Toric Code/Surface Code

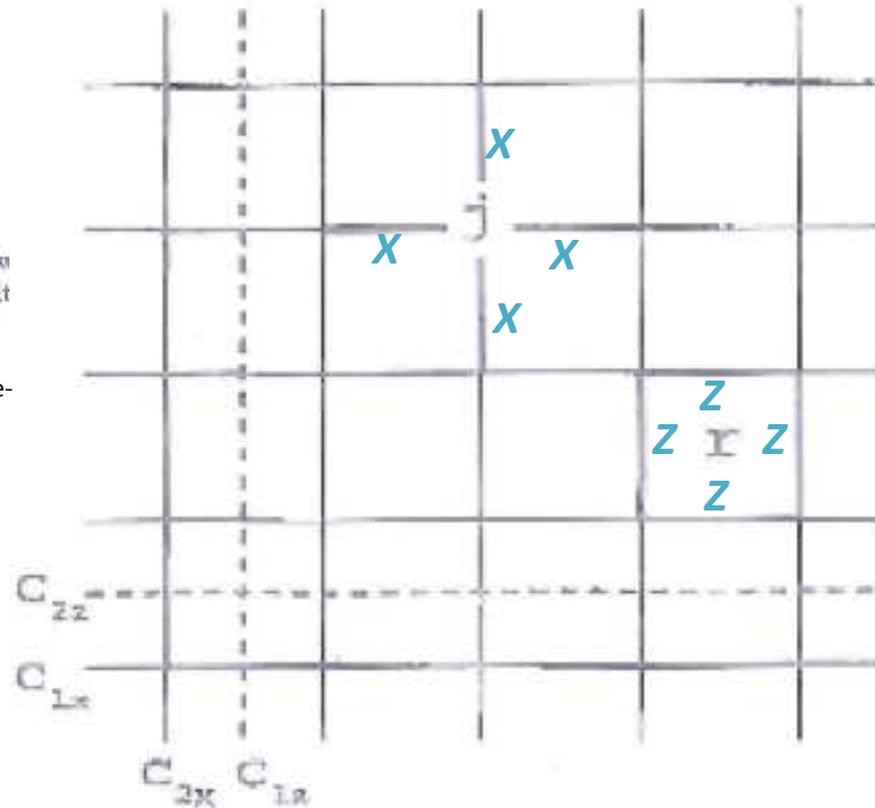
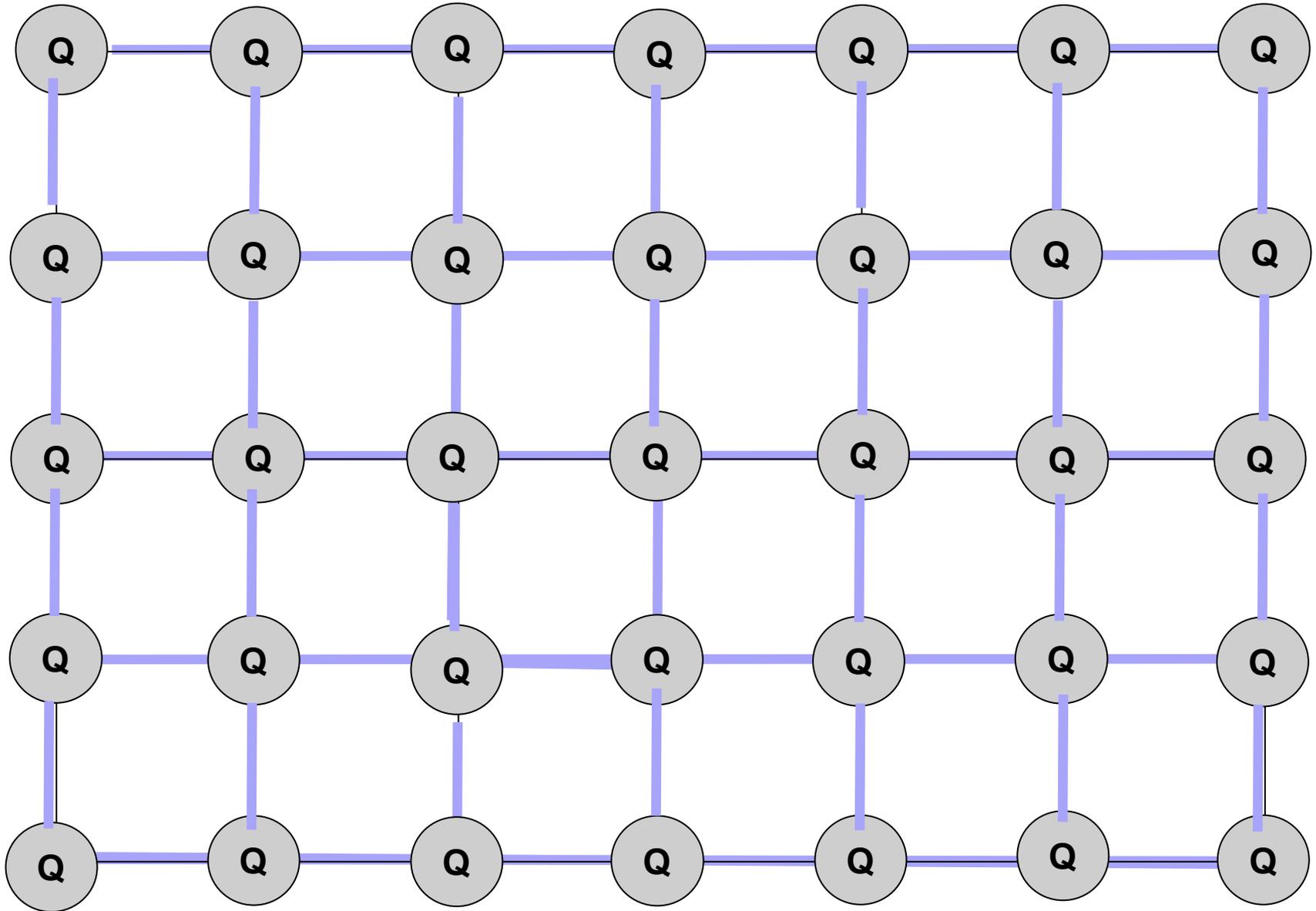


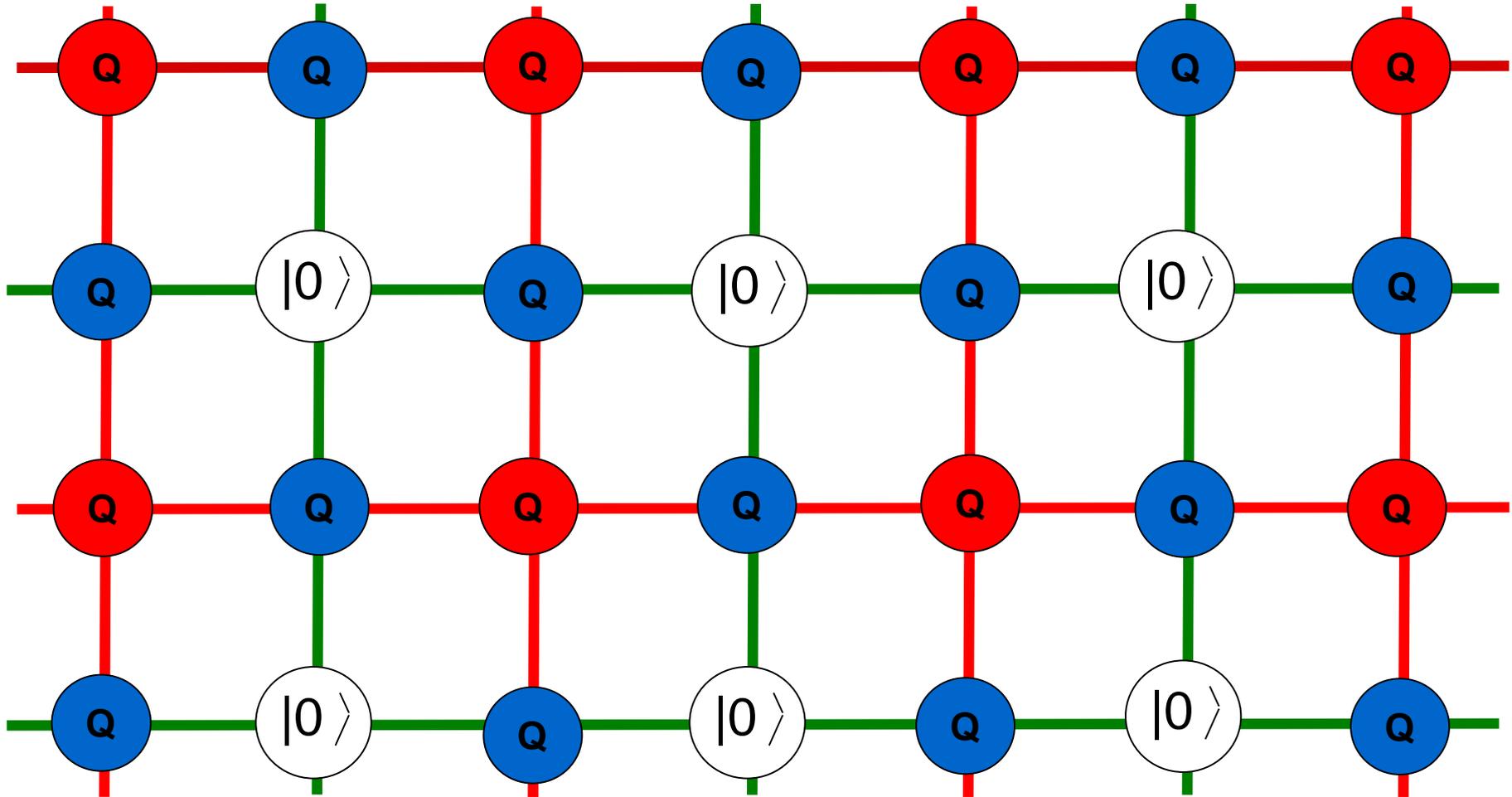
Figure 1: The toric code  $T(5,5)$ .

**Surface code error correction:** qubits (abstract) in fixed 2D square arrangement (“sea of qubits”), only nearest-neighbor coupling are possible



# Surface code

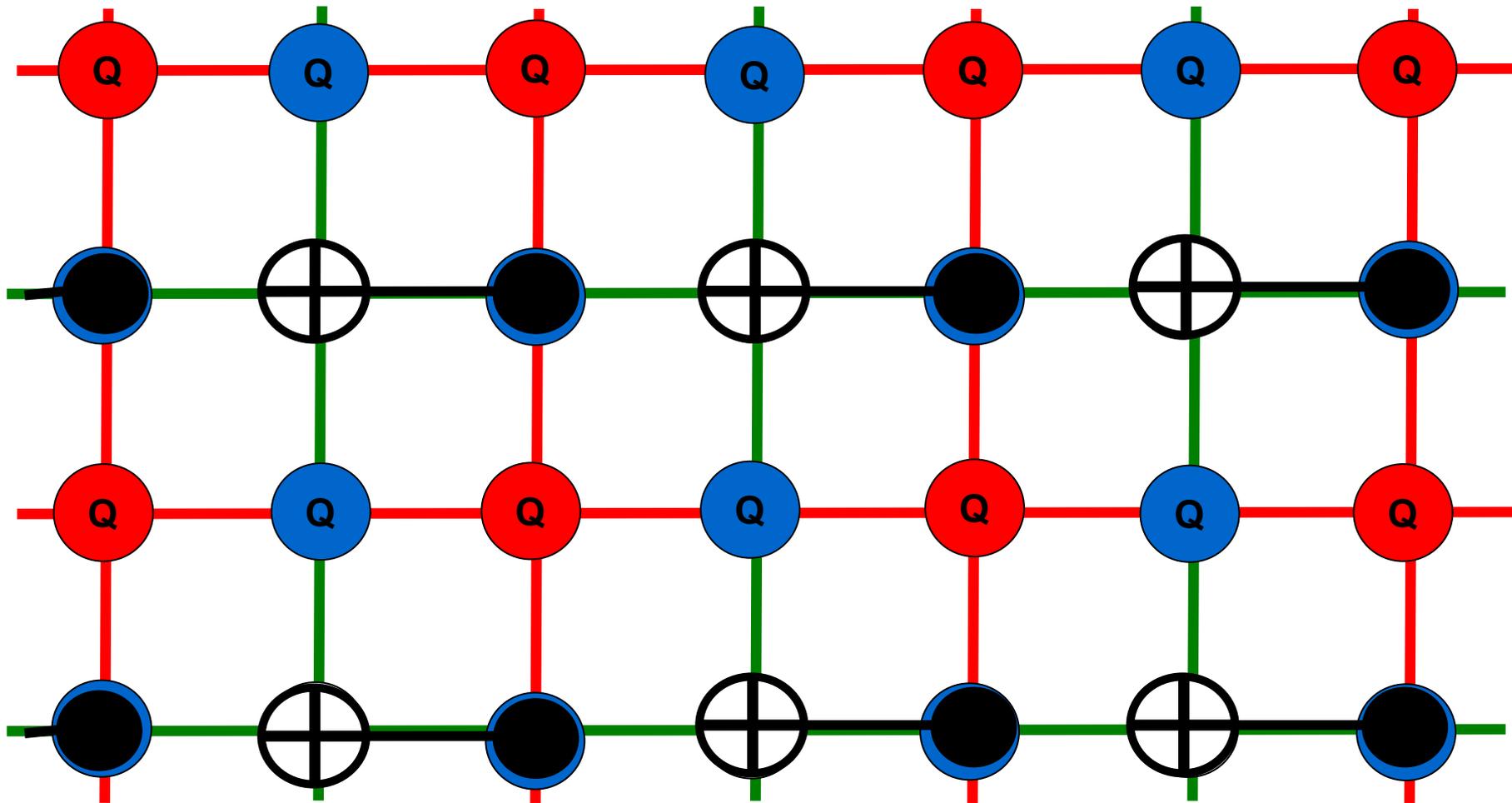
Colorized thanks to Jay Gambetta and John Smolin



● Initialize Z syndrome qubits to  $|0\rangle$

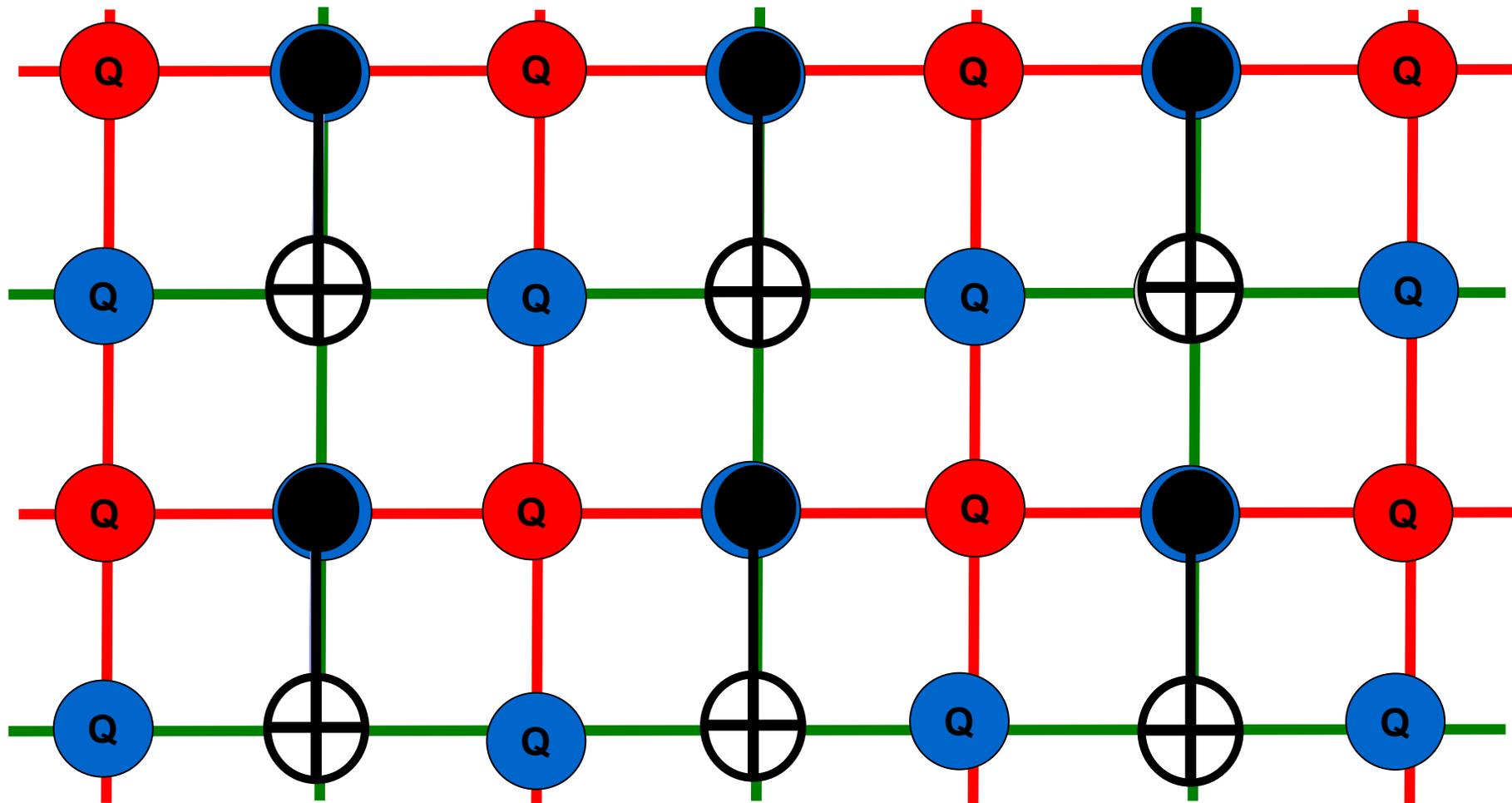
Implementing the “surface code”:  
-- in any given patch, independent of the quantum algorithm to be done:

# Surface code



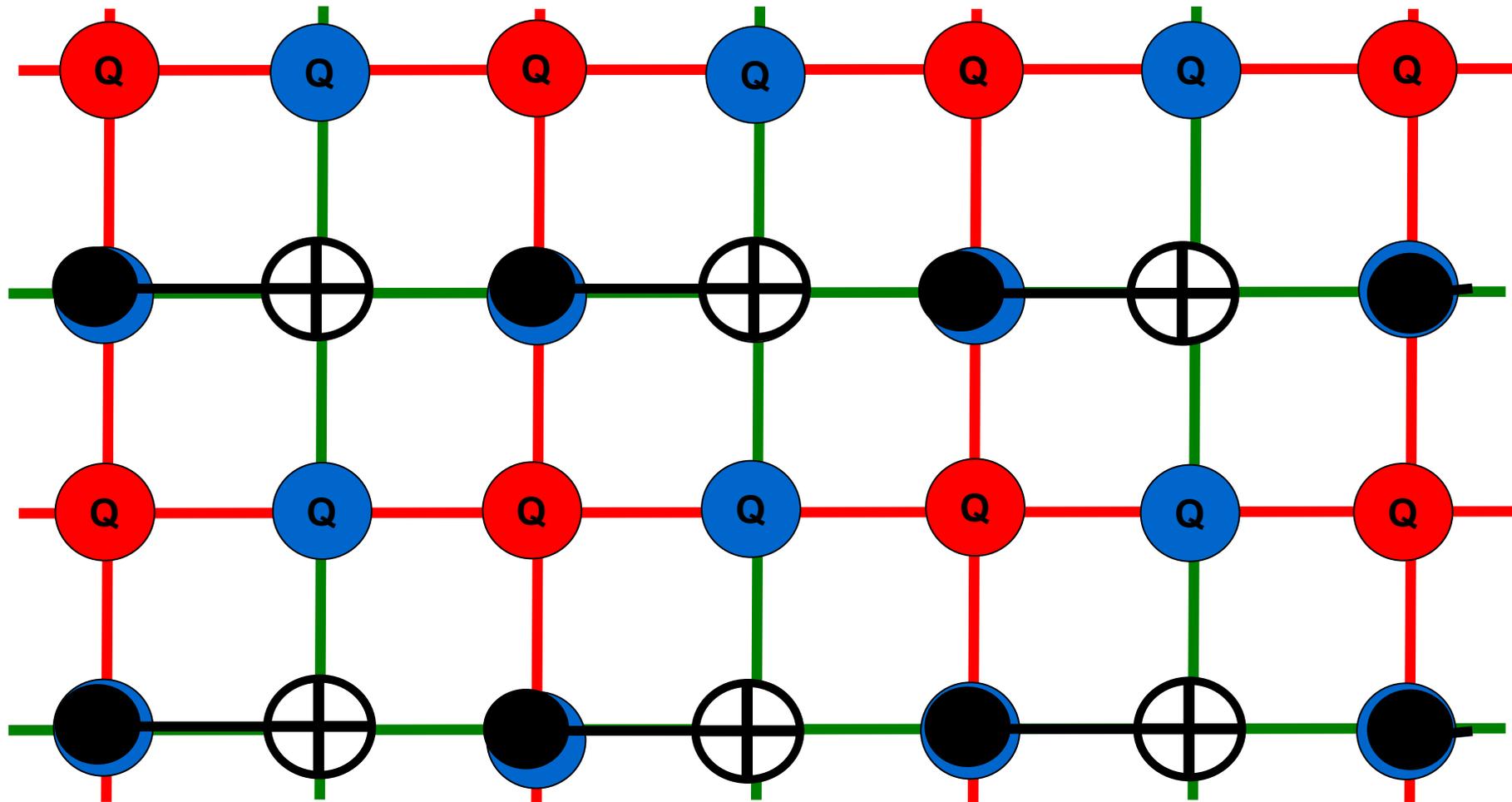
● CNOT left array

# Surface code



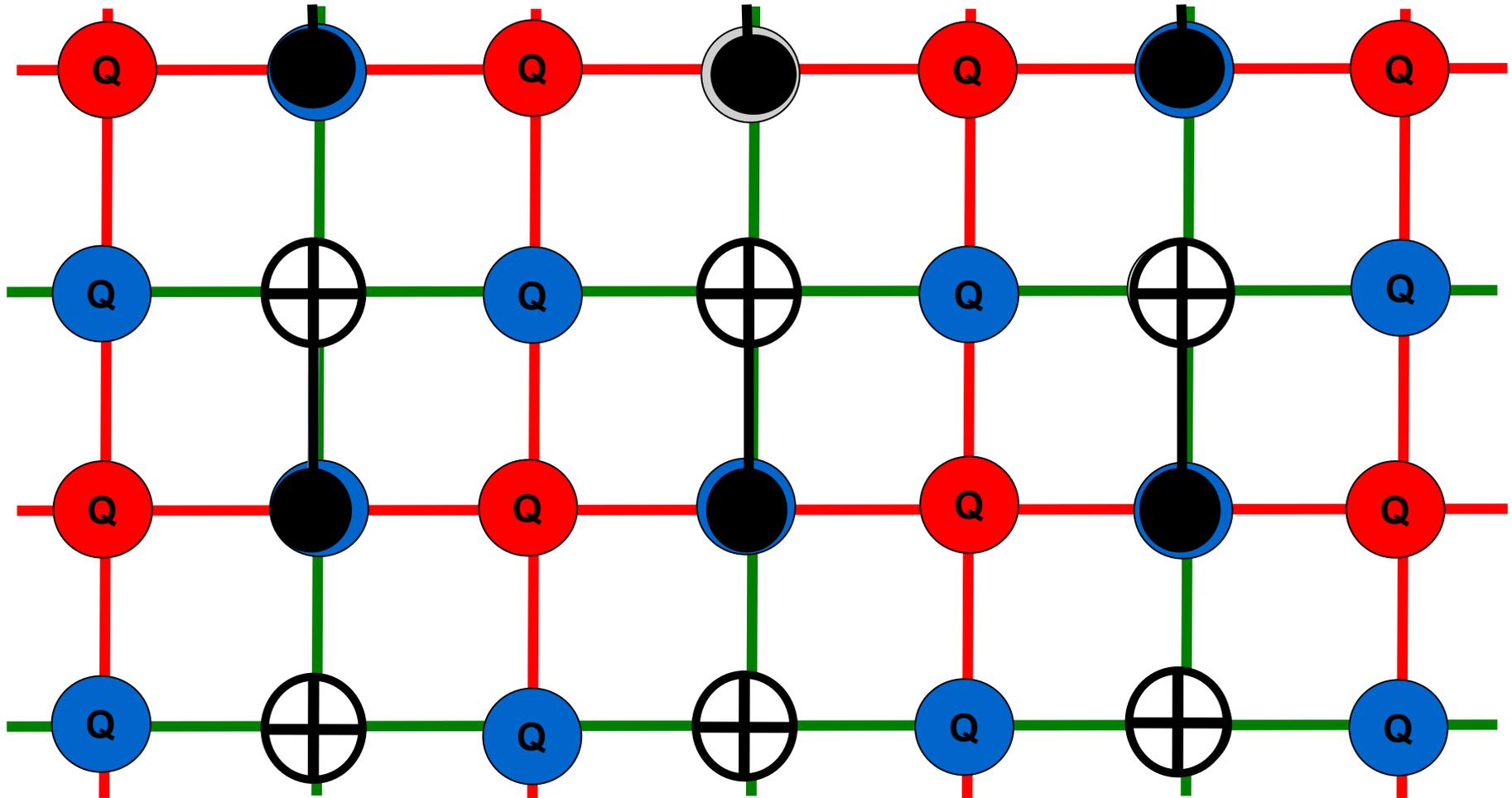
● CNOT down array

# Surface code



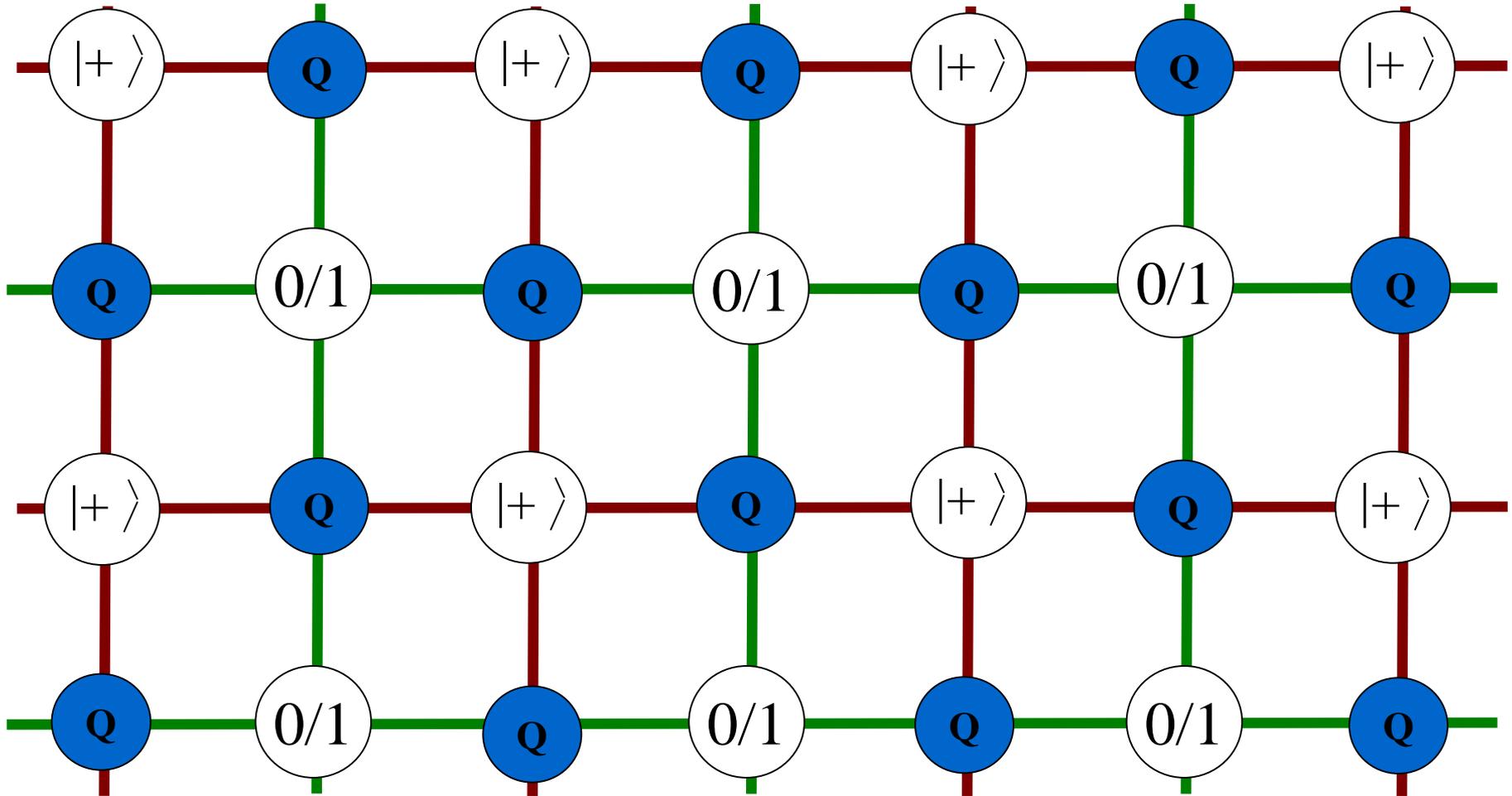
● CNOT right array

# Surface code fabric



● CNOT up array

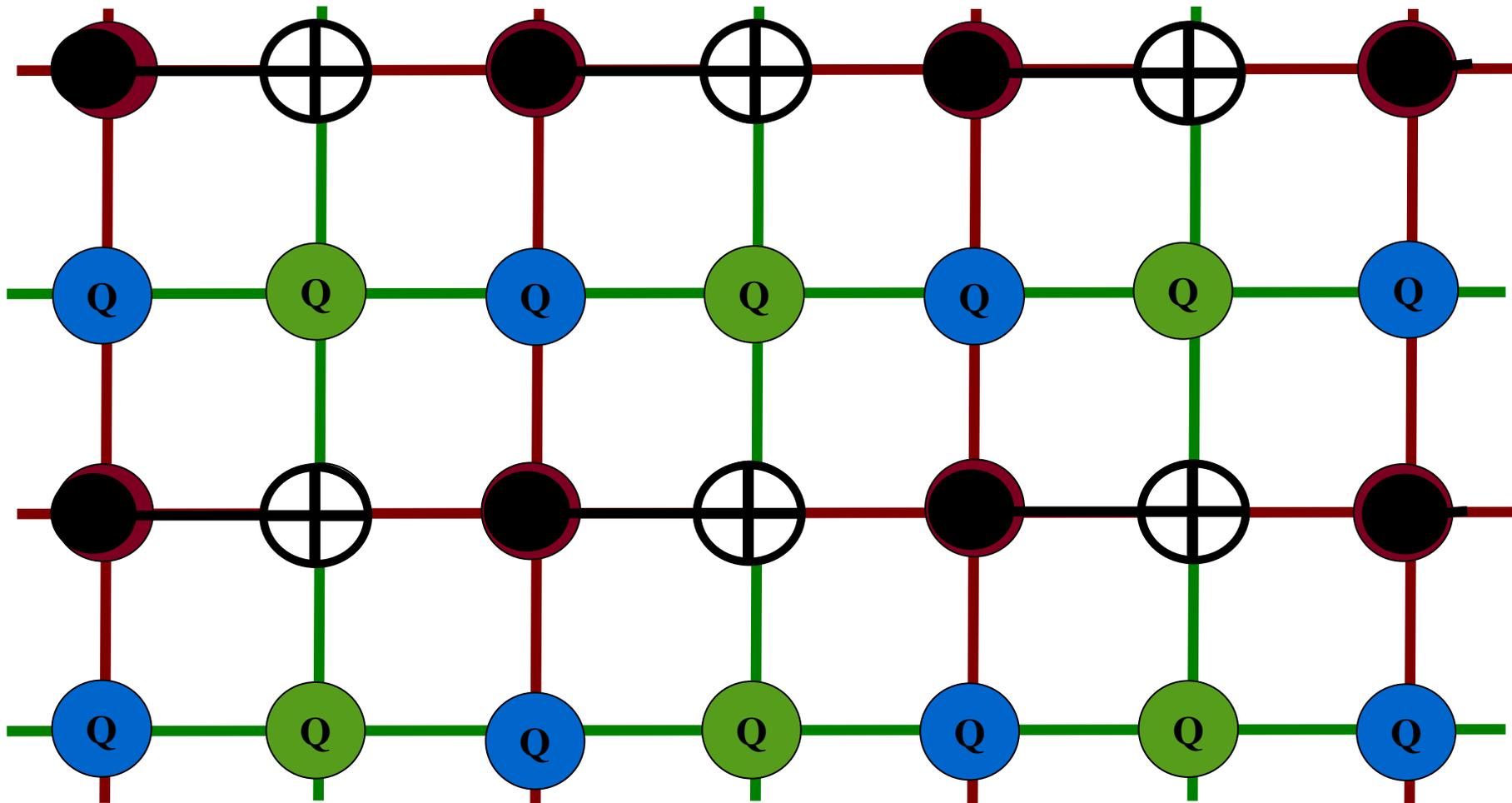
# Surface code fabric



$0/1$  - measure in 0/1 basis

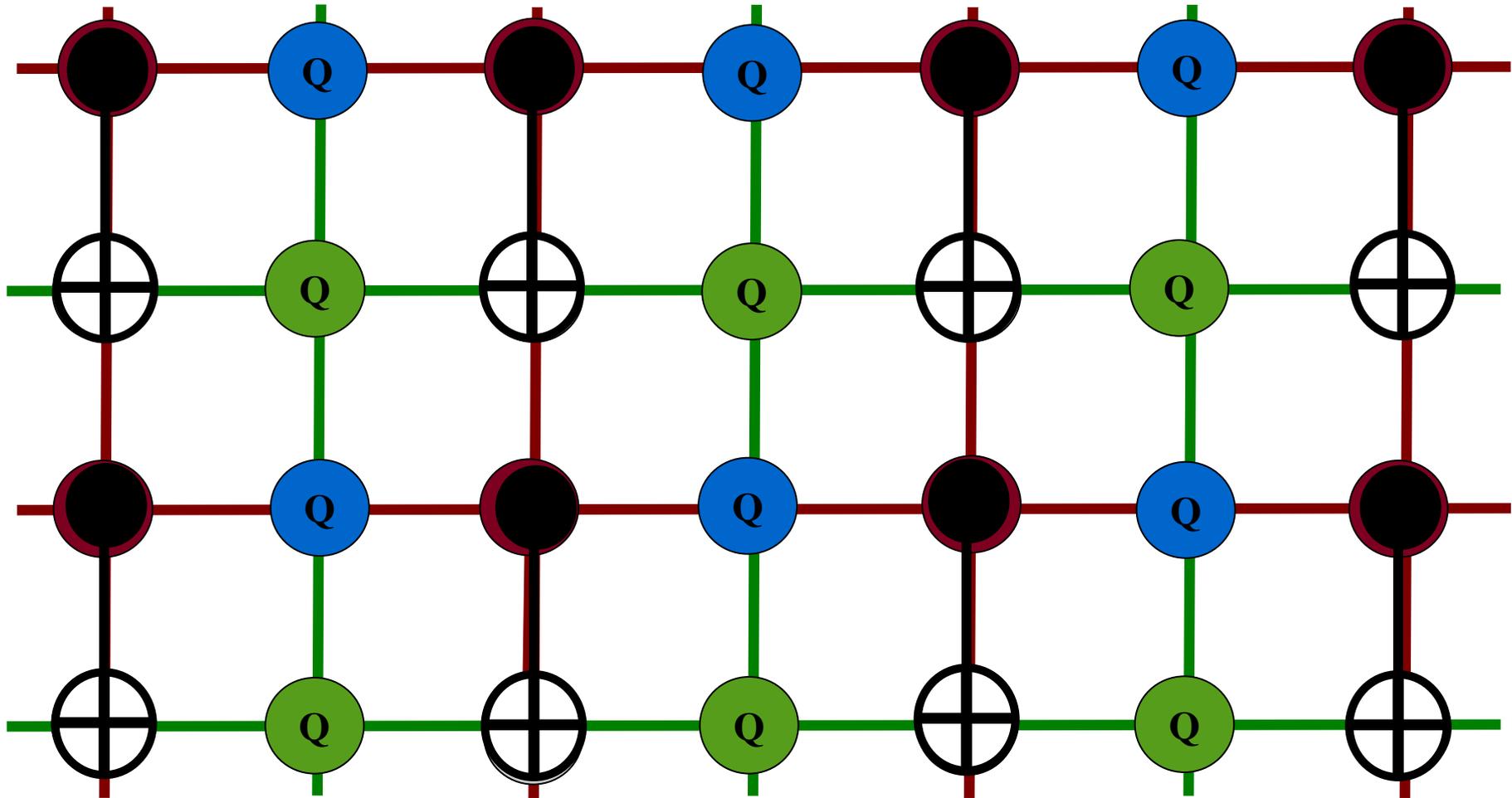
$|+\rangle$  -- prepare 0+1 state

# Surface code



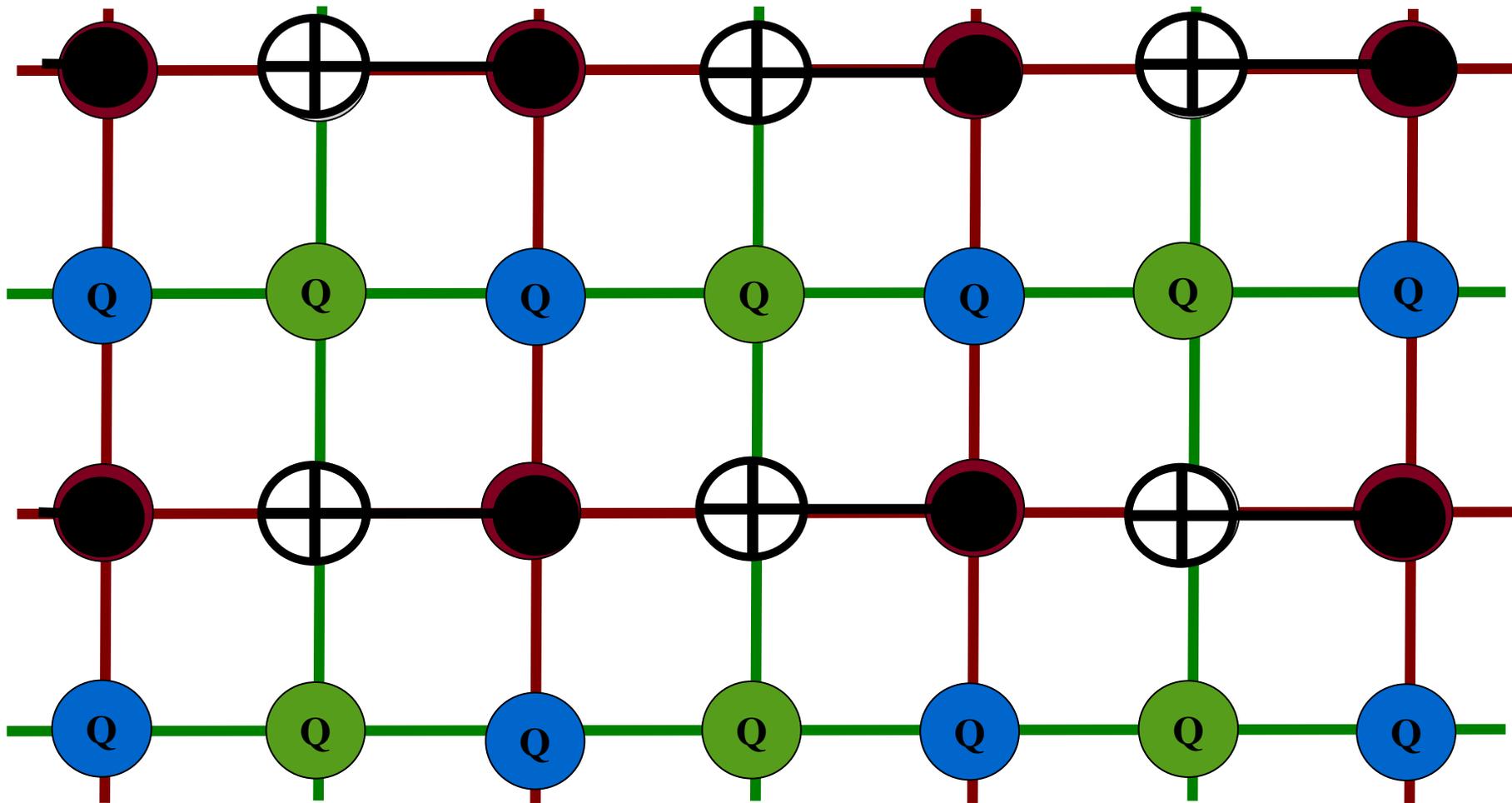
● Shifted CNOT right array

# Surface code



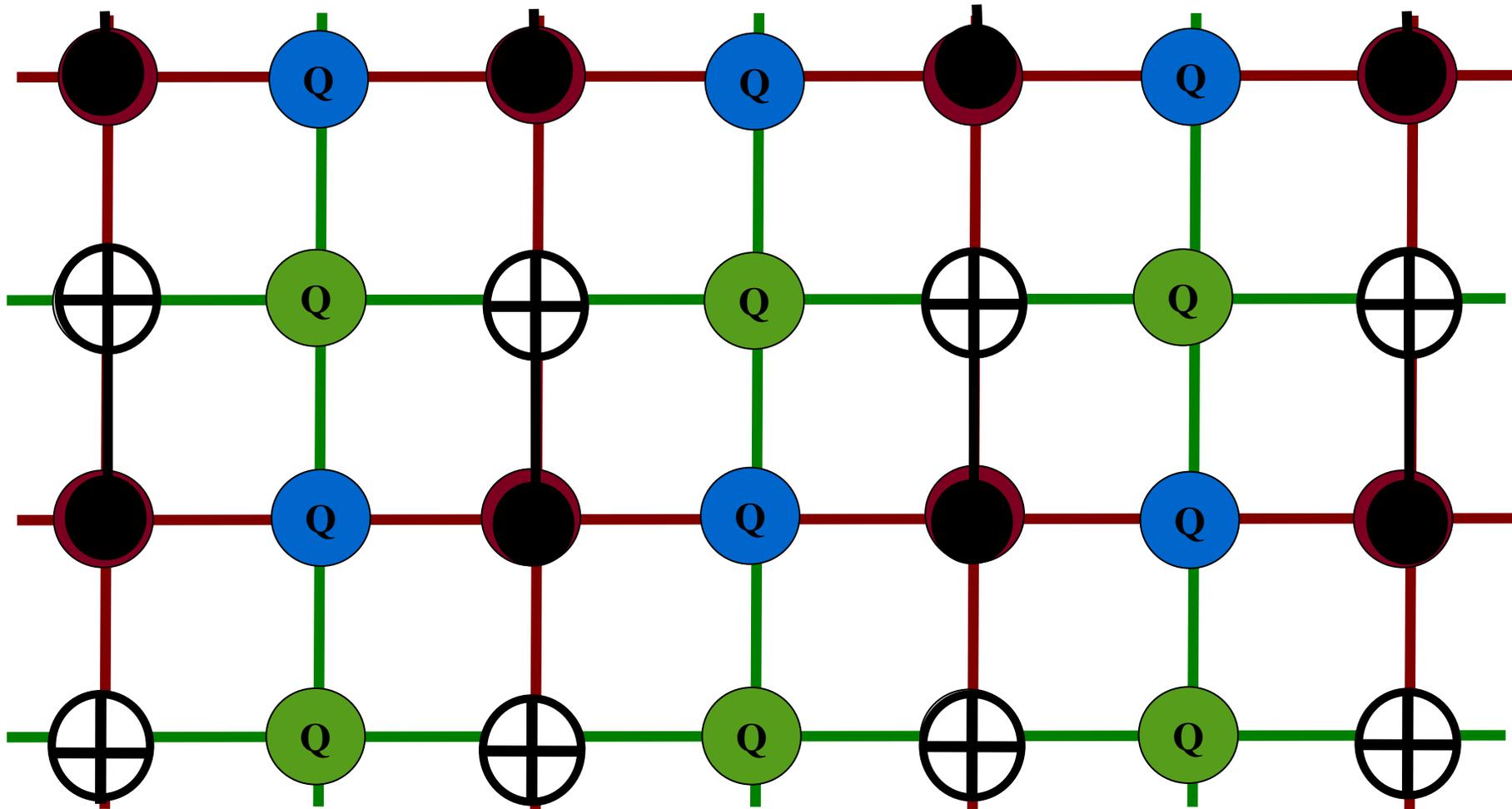
● Shifted CNOT down array

# Surface code



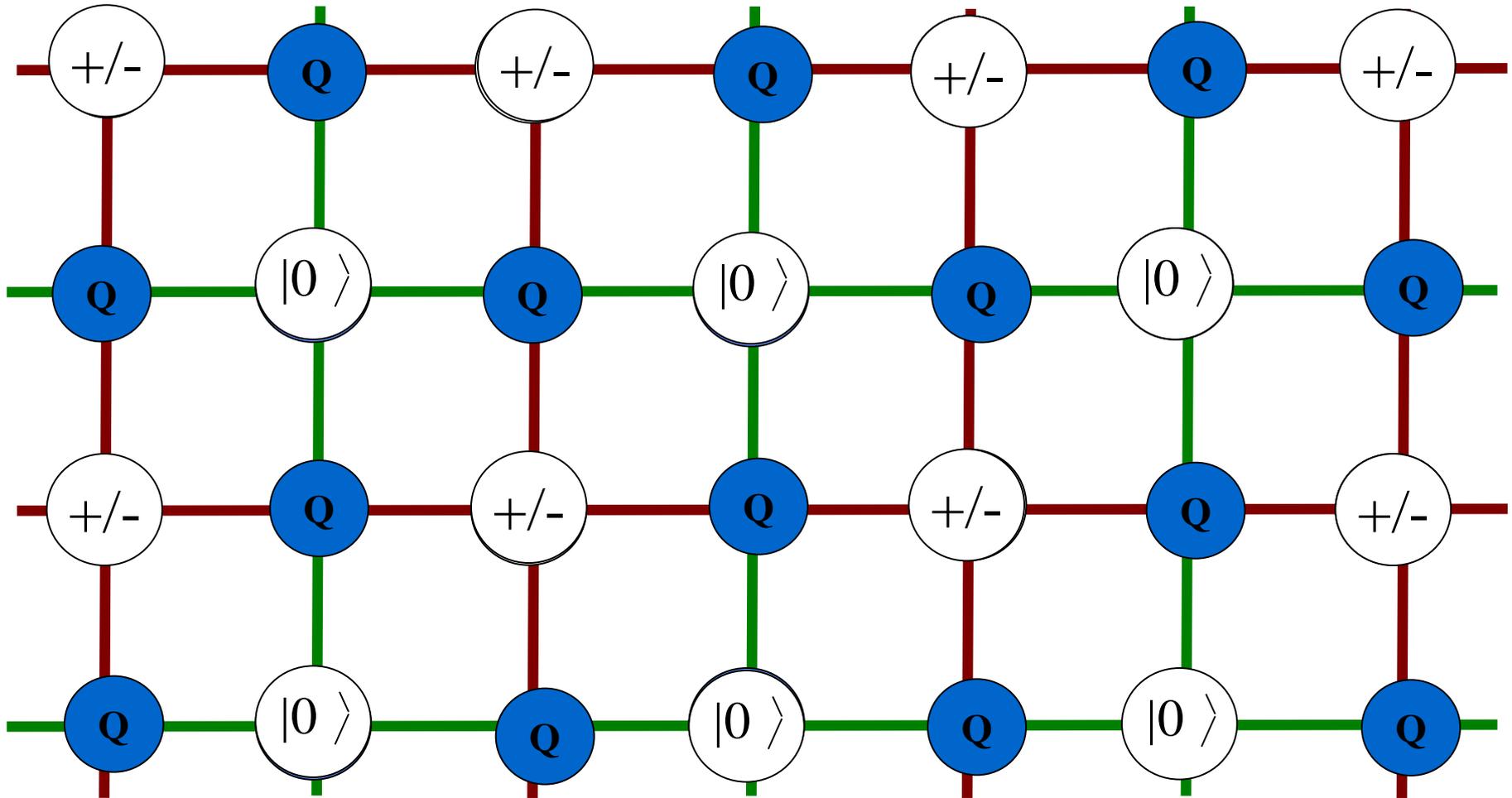
● Shifted CNOT left array

# Surface code



● Shifted CNOT up array

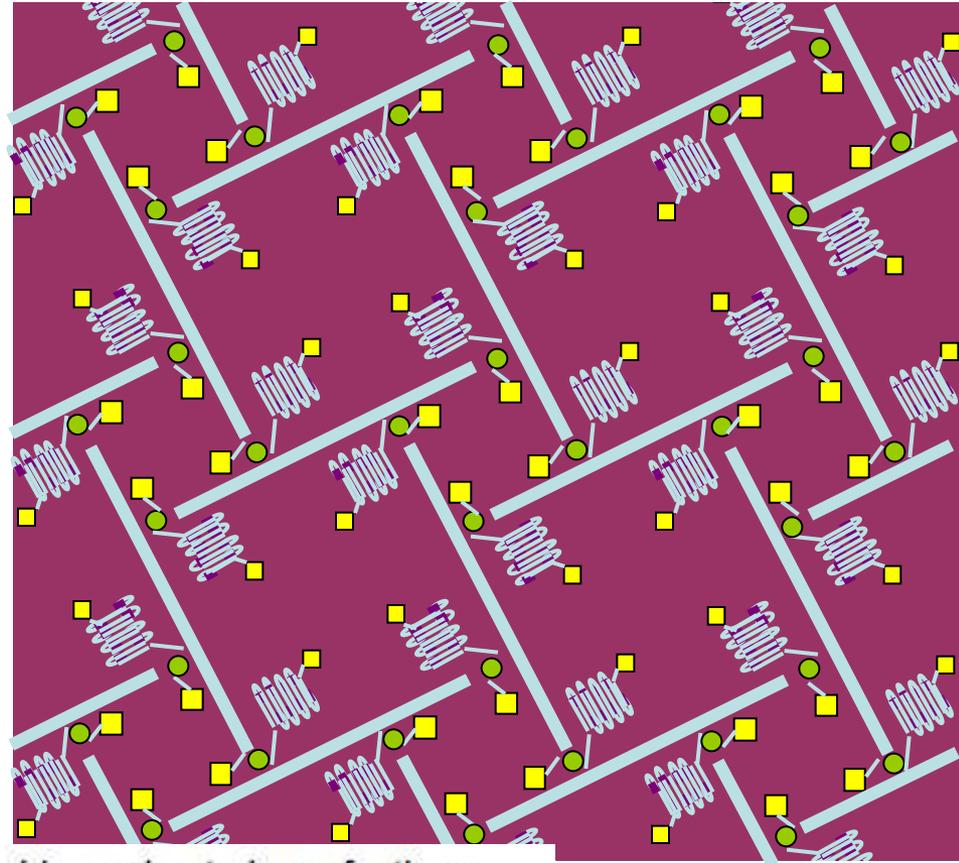
# Surface code fabric



● Repeat over and over....

# Regular square lattice of coupled qubits make an effective architecture for fault tolerance

- Qubits (green) coupled via high-Q superconducting resonators (gray)
- “skew-square” layout of qubits and resonators is one way to achieve abstract square
- Every qubit has a number of controller and sensor lines to be connected to the outside world (gold pads)

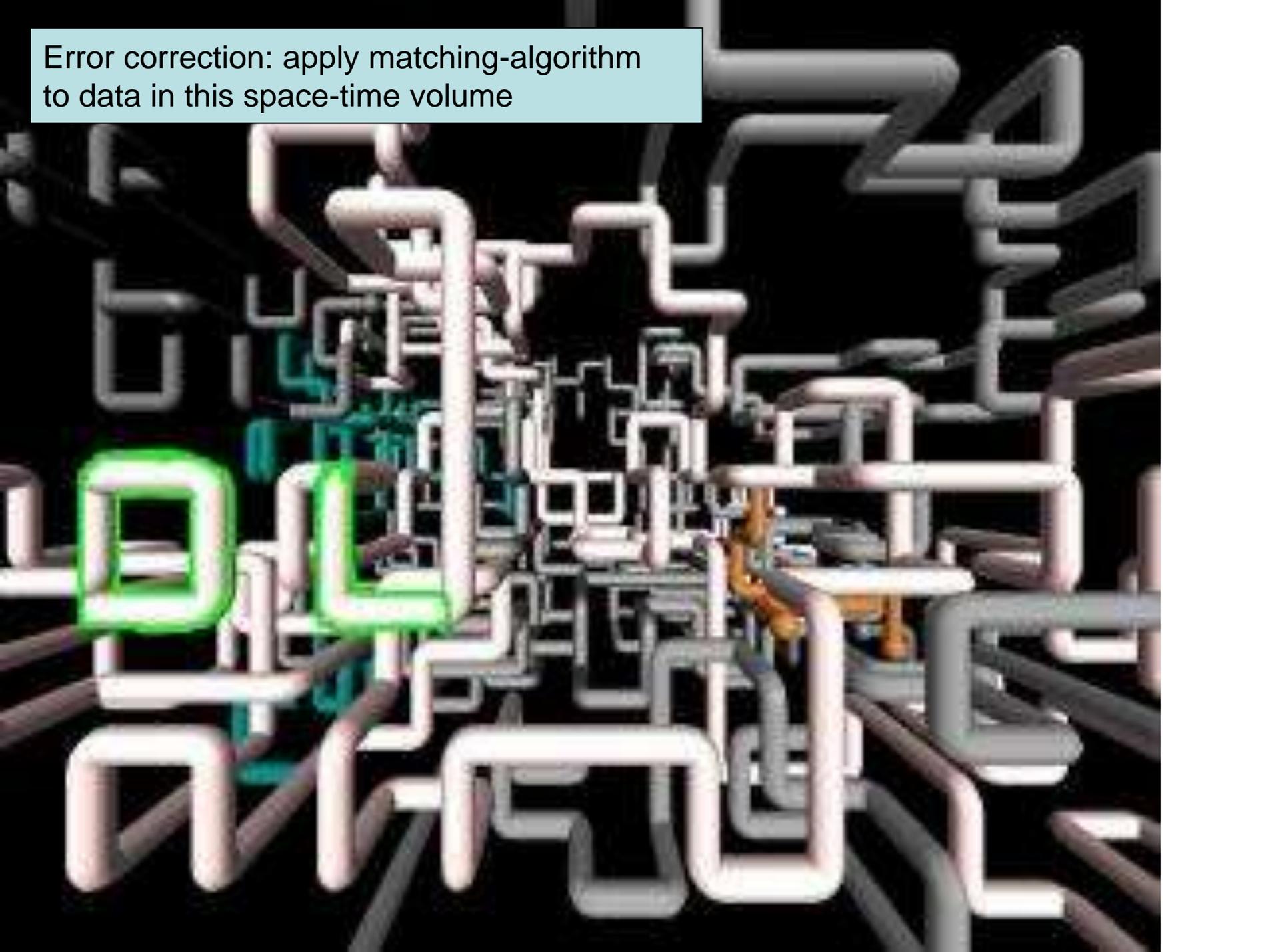


*"In a machine such as this there are very many other problems due to imperfections . . . At least some of these problems can be remedied in the usual way by techniques such as error correcting codes . . . But until we find a specific implementation for this computer, I do not know how to proceed to analyze these effects."*

R.P. Feynman  
"Quantum Mechanical Computers"  
*Optics News*, February 1985

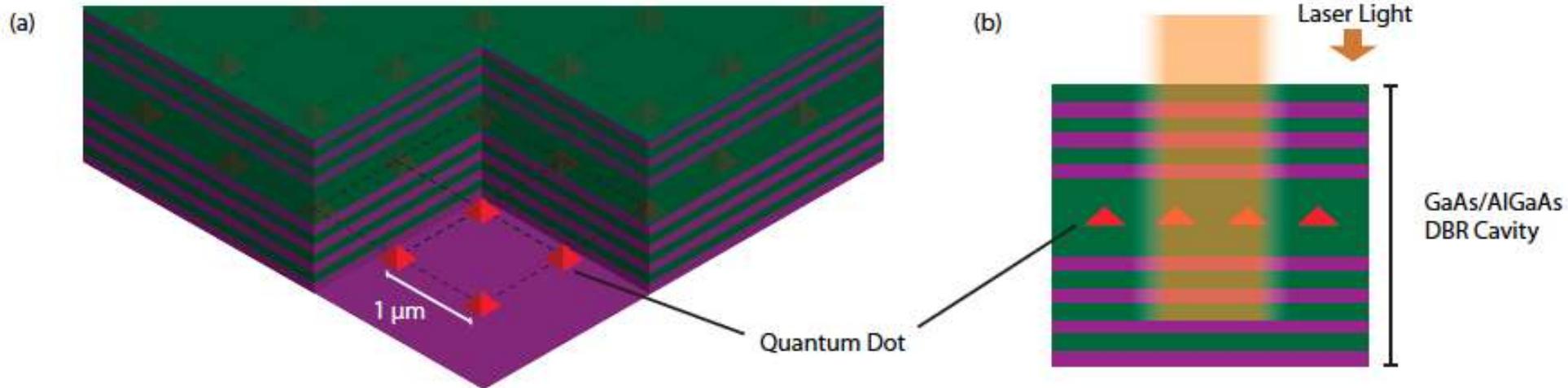
DP. DiVincenzo,  
"Fault tolerant architectures for superconducting qubits,"  
*Phys. Scr. T* **137**  
(2009) 014020.

Error correction: apply matching-algorithm to data in this space-time volume



A different notional architecture:  
 optically controlled quantum dots  
 (NOT my preferred embodiment!)

NC Jones et al., "Layered Architecture  
 For Quantum Computing," Phys Rev X  
 2, 031007 (2012)



Some interesting  
 numbers

Computing Resource		Shor's Algorithm (1024-bit)	Molecular Simulation (alanine)
Layer 5	Application qubits	6144	6650
	Circuit depth (Toffoli)	$1.68 \times 10^8$	$1.27 \times 10^9$
Layer 4	Log. distillation qubits	66564	15860
	Logical clock cycles	$5.21 \times 10^9$	$3.94 \times 10^{10}$
Layer 3	Code distance	31	31
	Error per lattice cycle	$2.58 \times 10^{-20}$	$2.58 \times 10^{-20}$
Layer 2	Virtual qubits	$4.54 \times 10^8$	$1.40 \times 10^8$
	Error per virtual gate	$1.00 \times 10^{-3}$	$1.00 \times 10^{-3}$
Layer 1	Quantum dots (area on chip)	$4.54 \times 10^8$ (4.54 cm <sup>2</sup> )	$1.40 \times 10^8$ (1.40 cm <sup>2</sup> )
Execution time (est.)		1.81 days	13.7 days

# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

## Outline

- Superconducting qubits: a quantum Moore's law
- Error correction – using massive redundancy
- Using the surface code
- The architecture of a large quantum computer – road map
- Going “off road”:
  - New error correction ideas
  - Direct multiqubit parity measurements

---

*“In a machine such as this there are very many other problems due to imperfections. . . . At least some of these problems can be remedied in the usual way by techniques such as error correcting codes . . . But until we find a specific implementation for this computer, I do not know how to proceed to analyze these effects.”*

R.P. Feynman  
“Quantum Mechanical Computers”  
*Optics News*, February 1985

# A development of 1996-7:

## Quantum error correction with imperfect gates

A. Yu. Kitaev

L.D.Landau Institute for Theoretical Physics,  
117940, Kosygina St. 2

e-mail: [kitaev@itp.ac.ru](mailto:kitaev@itp.ac.ru)

September 25, 1996

### Abstract

Quantum error correction can be performed fault-tolerantly. This allows a quantum state intact (with arbitrary small error probability) for arbitrary time at a constant decoherence rate.

In *Quantum Communication, Computing, and Measurement*, O. Hirota et al., Eds. (Plenum, New York, 1997).



Stabilizer generators XXXX, ZZZZ;

Stars and plaquettes of interesting  
2D lattice Hamiltonian model

**Toric Code/Surface Code**

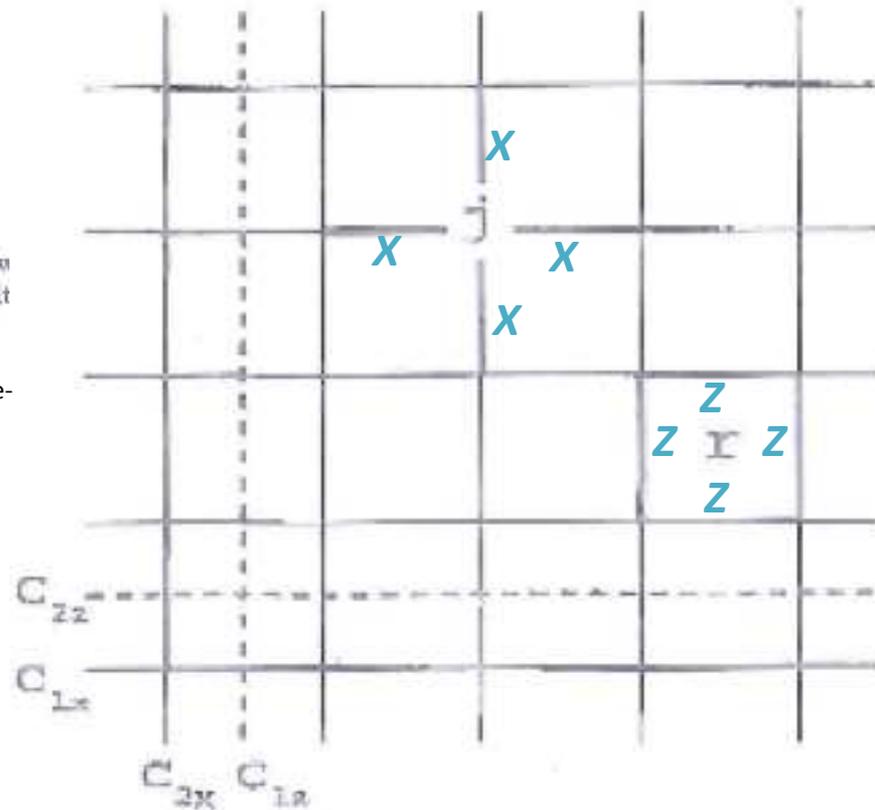
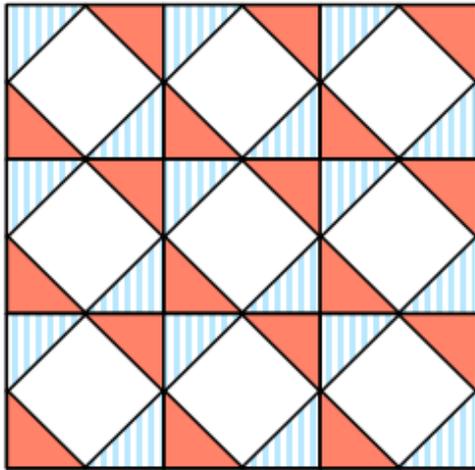


Figure 1: The toric code TOR(5).

# Subsystem surface codes with three-qubit check operators

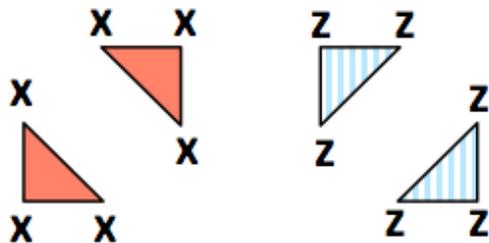
1207.1443

Sergey Bravyi,<sup>1</sup> Guillaume Duclos-Cianci,<sup>2</sup> David Poulin,<sup>2</sup> and Martin Suchara<sup>3</sup>



Messages:

- ZZZ rather than ZZZZ
- threshold almost unchanged (1%)
- ZZZ specifies a joint *measurement*, not necessarily a *circuit* – can be done directly?

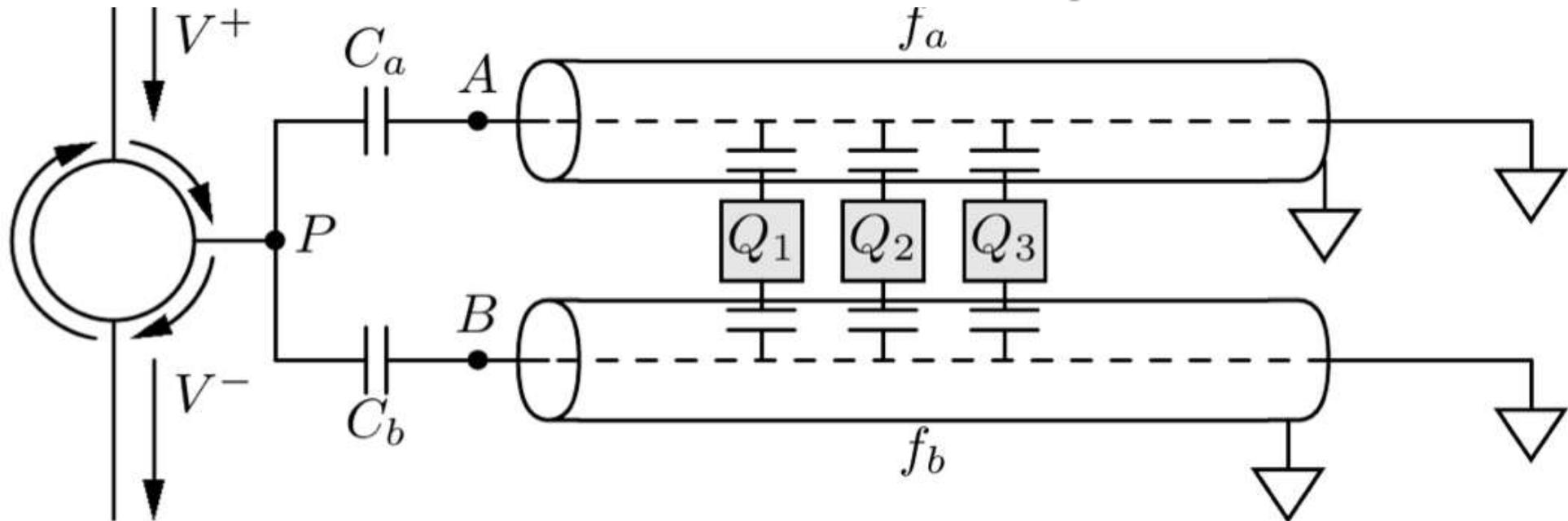


**Triangle operators**

FIG. 1: Subsystem toric code. Qubits live at vertices and centers of edges of the regular square lattice.

# Multi-qubit parity measurement in circuit quantum electrodynamics

David P. DiVincenzo and Firat Solgun



- No gate action among the three qubits
- Three qubits coupled dispersively to each of two nearly degenerate resonant modes
- Measurement by reflectometry: tone in at + port, detect phase of tone out at – port
- Designed as quantum eraser: measures only ZZZ (parity)

# arg(r(ω)) for different qubit states

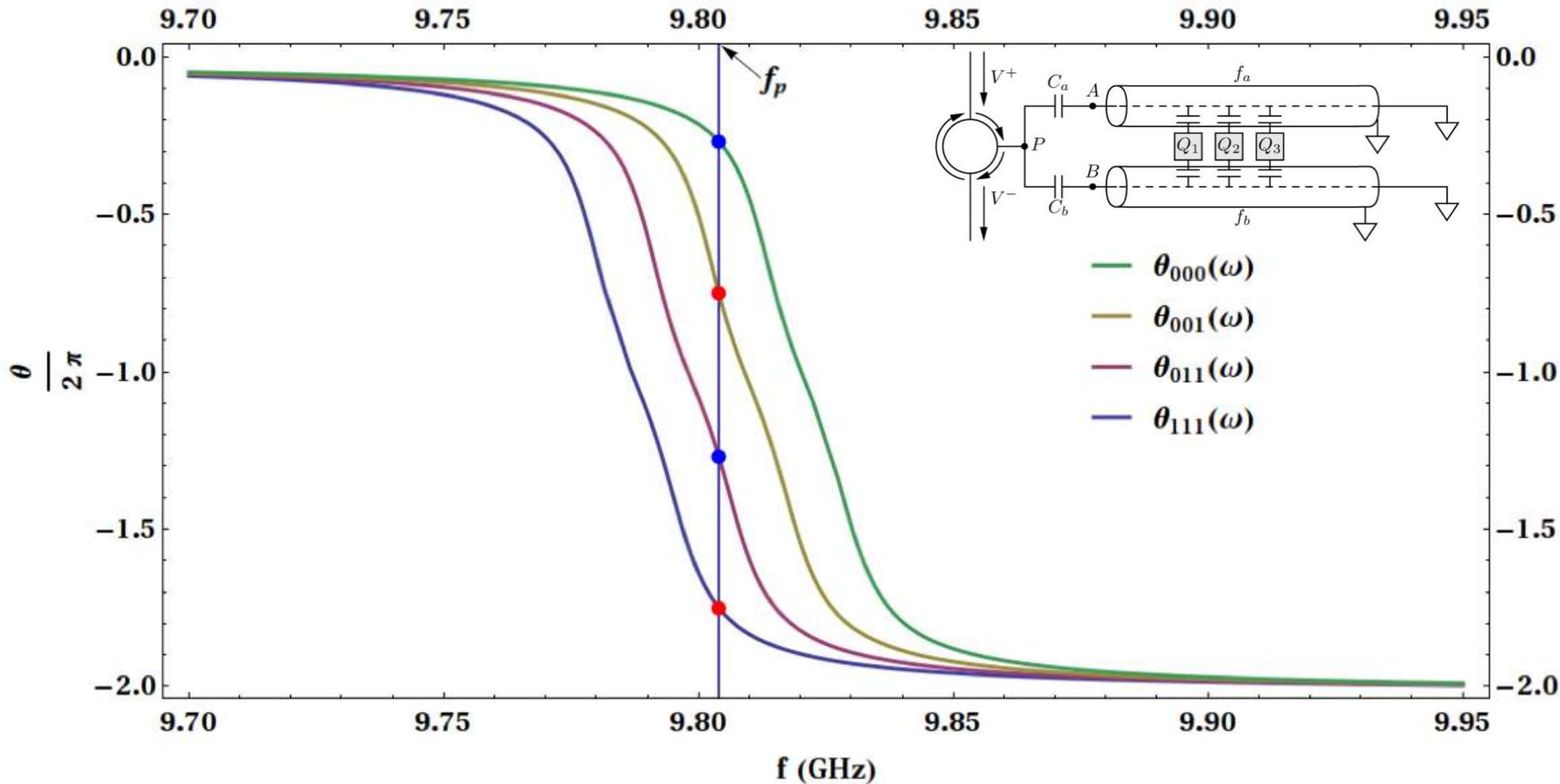


Figure 3. Solution for realistic values  $\omega_a = 2\pi(9.99 \text{ GHz})$ ,  $\omega_b = 2\pi(10.01 \text{ GHz})$ ,  $C_a = C_b = 10 \text{ fF}$ ; with  $\omega_p = 2\pi(9.804 \text{ GHz})$ ,  $\chi = 5.77 \text{ MHz}$ , giving  $\Delta\theta = 172.9^\circ$ . Blue points correspond to even states whereas red points correspond to odd states. Vertical blue line shows the probe frequency  $f_p = 9.804 \text{ GHz}$ .

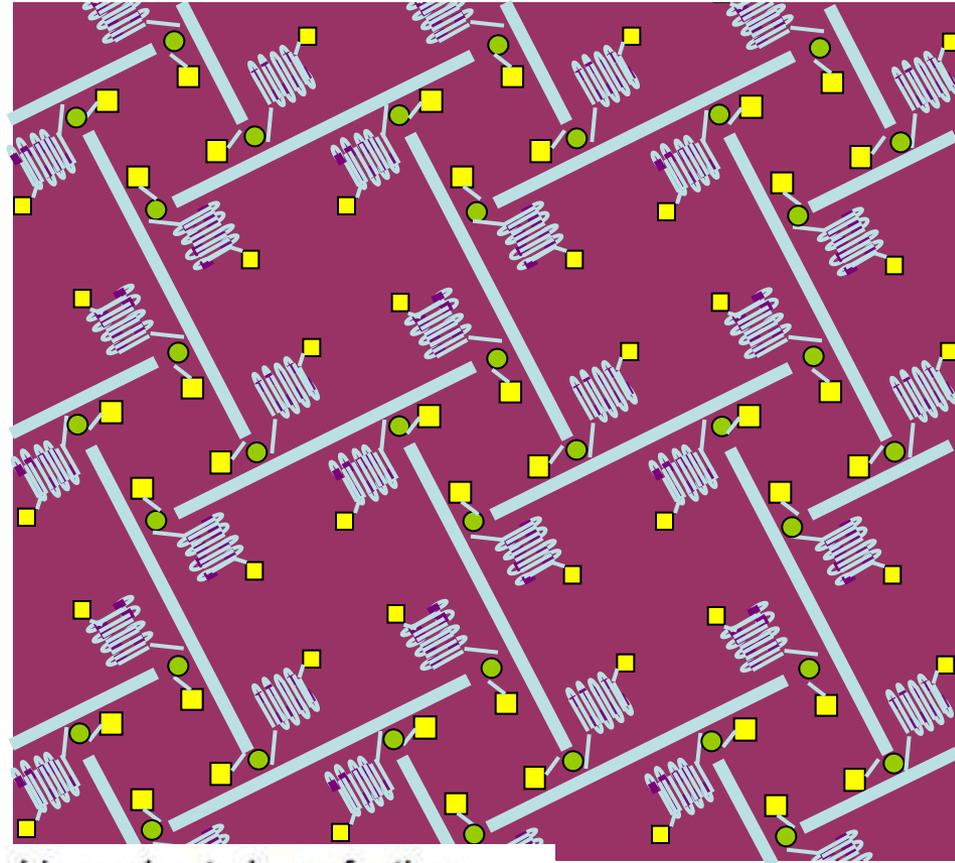
$\theta$  is the same for all even states (mod  $2\pi$ )

$\theta$  is the same for all odd states (mod  $2\pi$ )

$$\theta_{\text{even}} \neq \theta_{\text{odd}}$$

# Regular square lattice of coupled qubits make an effective architecture for fault tolerance

- Qubits (green) coupled via high-Q superconducting resonators (gray)
- “skew-square” layout of qubits and resonators is one way to achieve abstract square
- Every qubit has a number of controller and sensor lines to be connected to the outside world (gold pads)



*"In a machine such as this there are very many other problems due to imperfections . . . At least some of these problems can be remedied in the usual way by techniques such as error correcting codes . . . But until we find a specific implementation for this computer, I do not know how to proceed to analyze these effects."*

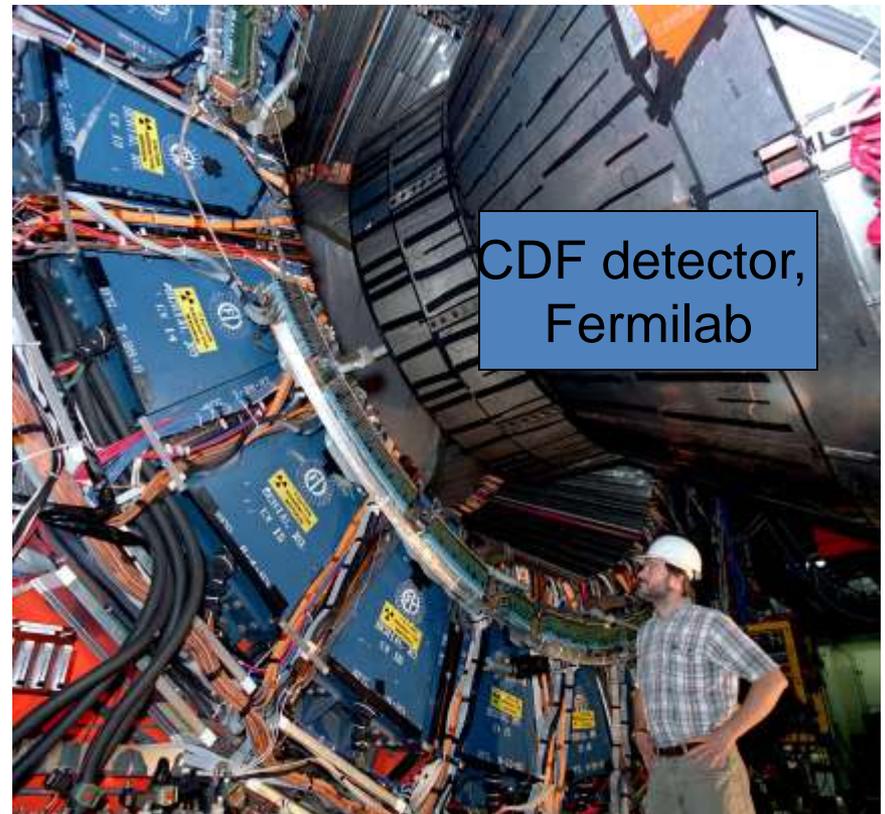
R.P. Feynman  
"Quantum Mechanical Computers"  
*Optics News*, February 1985

DP. DiVincenzo,  
"Fault tolerant architectures for superconducting qubits,"  
*Phys. Scr. T* **137**  
(2009) 014020.

“No power is required to perform computation.”  
CH Bennett



“Quantum computers can operate autonomously.”  
N Margolus



# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

## Outline

- Superconducting qubits: a quantum Moore's law
- Error correction – using massive redundancy
- Using the surface code
- The architecture of a large quantum computer – road map
- Going “off road”:
  - New error correction ideas
  - Direct multiqubit parity measurements

---

*“In a machine such as this there are very many other problems due to imperfections. . . . At least some of these problems can be remedied in the usual way by techniques such as error correcting codes . . . But until we find a specific implementation for this computer, I do not know how to proceed to analyze these effects.”*

R.P. Feynman  
“Quantum Mechanical Computers”  
*Optics News*, February 1985



# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

David DiVincenzo

26.9.2012

ETHZ

-- positions available!  
-- 2-week lecture school,  
Feb. 2013:  
[www.iff-springschool.de](http://www.iff-springschool.de)



Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation





# Prospects for Superconducting Qubits

David DiVincenzo

7.10.2012

LCN

-- 2-week lecture school,  
Feb. 2013:  
[www.iff-springschool.de](http://www.iff-springschool.de)



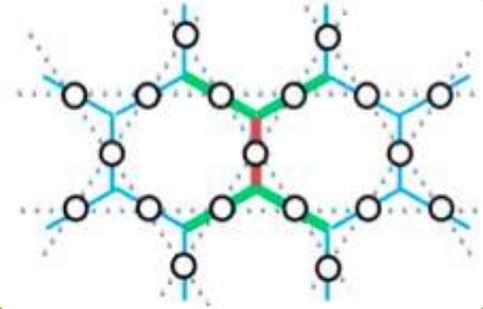
Alexander von Humboldt  
Stiftung/Foundation



# Levin-Wen Models

Trivalent lattice: Qubits live on edges

$$H = - \sum_v Q_v - \sum_p B_p$$



## Vertex Operator

$$Q_v \left| \begin{array}{c} j \\ i \text{---} \text{v} \text{---} k \end{array} \right\rangle = \delta_{ijk} \left| \begin{array}{c} j \\ i \text{---} \text{v} \text{---} k \end{array} \right\rangle$$

“Doubled Fibonacci” Model

$$\delta_{100} = \delta_{010} = \delta_{001} = 0$$

$$\text{All other } \delta_{ijk} = 1$$

## Plaquette Operator

$$B_p^s \left| \begin{array}{c} a \quad b \quad c \\ i \quad j \\ n \quad \text{p} \quad k \\ f \quad m \quad l \quad d \\ e \end{array} \right\rangle = \sum_{i'j'k'l'm'n'} B_{\mathbf{p},ijklmn}^{s,i'j'k'l'm'n'}(abcdef) \left| \begin{array}{c} a \quad b \quad c \\ i' \quad j' \\ n' \quad \text{p} \quad k' \\ f \quad m' \quad l' \quad d \\ e \end{array} \right\rangle$$

Horrible 12 spin interaction!

$$B_p = \frac{B_p^0 + \varphi B_p^1}{\sqrt{1 + \varphi^2}}$$

$$B_{\mathbf{p},ijklmn}^{s,i'j'k'l'm'n'}(abcdef) = F_{si'n'}^{ani} F_{sj'i'}^{bij} F_{sk'j'}^{cjk} F_{sl'k'}^{dkl} F_{sm'l'}^{elm} F_{sn'm'}^{fmn}$$

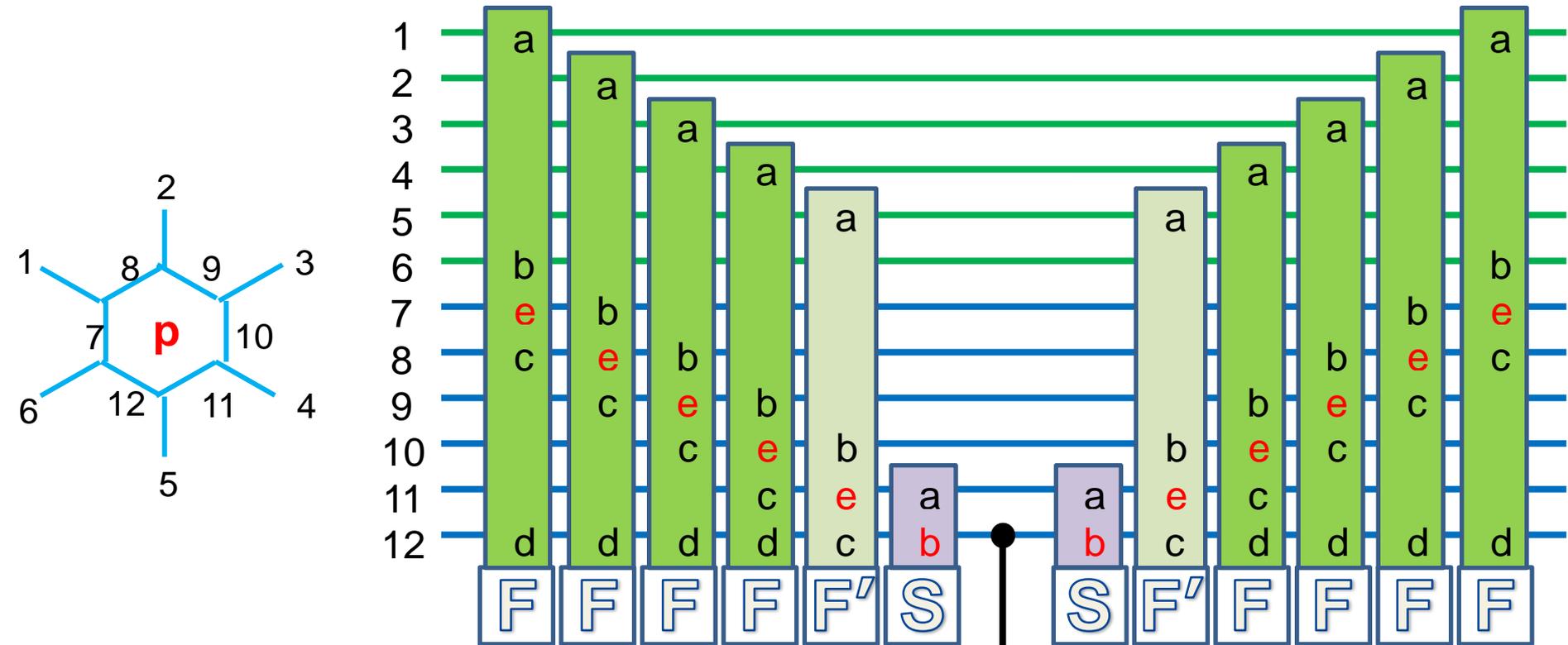
# “Fibonacci” Levin-Wen Model

- **Excitations are Fibonacci anyons:** Universal quantum computation can be carried out purely by braiding.
- **Active approach:** Ground states of Fibonacci Levin-Wen model can be used as a quantum code (the Fibonacci code).  $Q_v$  and  $B_p$  are stabilizers which are measured to diagnose errors.

Koenig, Kuperberg, Reichardt, *Ann. of Phys.* (2010).

**Question:** How hard is it to measure  $Q_v$  and  $B_p$ ?

# Quantum Circuit for Measuring $B_p$



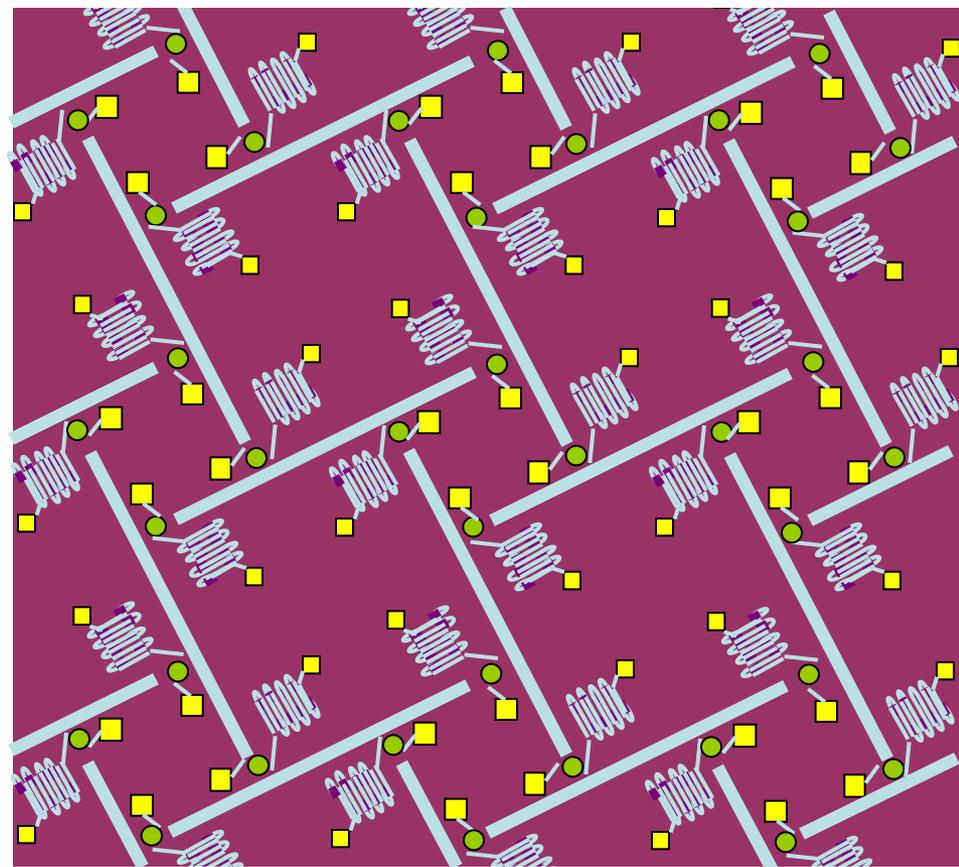
82 Toffoli gates  
 43 CNOT gates  
 26 Single Qubit gates

$|0\rangle$   
 or  
 20 n-qubit Toffoli gates  
 10 CNOT gates  
 24 Single Qubit gates

$1 - B_p$

# Conclusion: quantum error correction in your future

- Original insights still being played out
- Maybe a good evolutionary path to quantum computer hardware



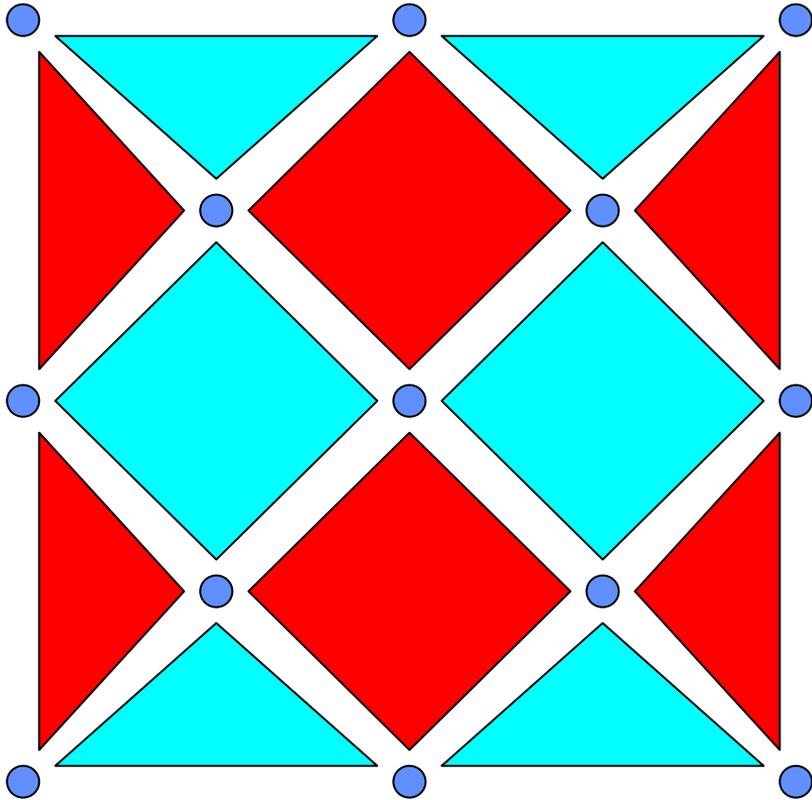
Concept (IBM) of surface code fabric with Superconducting qubits and coupling resonators

*"In a machine such as this there are very many other problems due to imperfections. . . . At least some of these problems can be remedied in the usual way by techniques such as error correcting codes . . . But until we find a specific implementation for this computer, I do not know how to proceed to analyze these effects."*

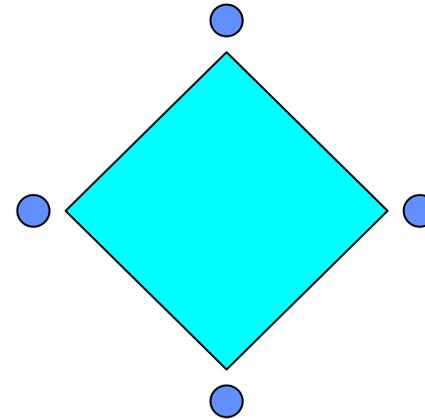
R.P. Feynman  
"Quantum Mechanical Computers"  
Optics News, February 1985

# Another view of the 2D Surface Code

With these 13 qubits, one gets a standard code that will correct for one error:



4-qubit QND parity measurement:



Red diamond: the same in the conjugate basis

S. Bravyi and A. Yu. Kitaev, "Quantum codes on a lattice with boundary,"  
Quantum Computers and Computing **2**, 43-48 (2001).

M. H. Freedman and D. A. Meyer,  
"Projective plane and planar quantum codes,"  
Found. Comp. Math. **1**, 325 (2001)

Observations:

## Calculated fault tolerant threshold:

$$p \approx 0.7\%$$

Now  $p \approx 1\%$ , according to Wang, Fowler, Hollenberg, Phys. Rev. A 83, 020302(R) (2011)

Crosstalk assumed “very small”, not analyzed

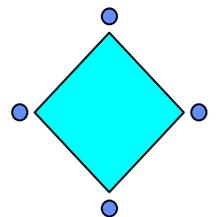
Residual errors decrease exponentially with lattice size

Gates: CNOT only (can be CPHASE), no one qubit gates

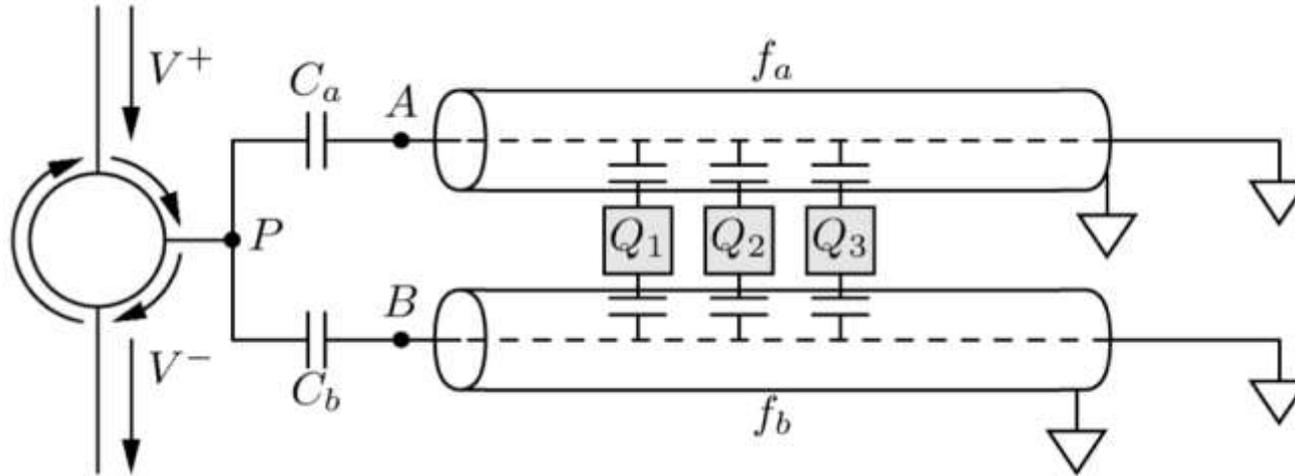
If measurements slow: more ancilla qubits needed, no threshold penalty

NB: Error threshold for 4-qubit Parity QND measurement is around

$$2\% < p < 12\%$$



A two-resonator device for measuring the parity of three qubits:

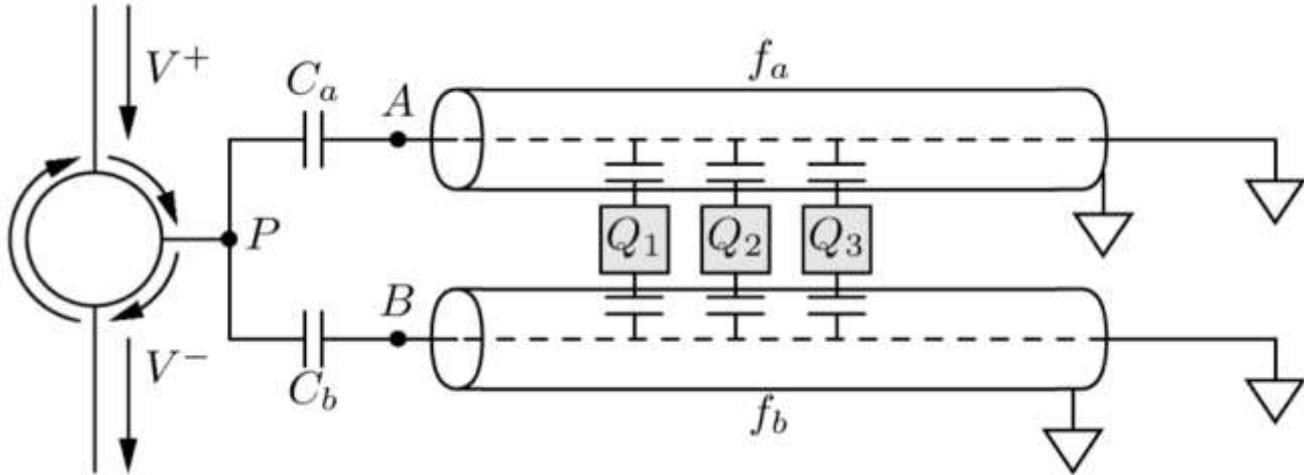


$$\omega_{r,a} = \omega_a + \sum_{j=1}^3 (-1)^{s_j} \chi_j. \quad \chi = g^2/\Delta$$

$s_1, s_2, s_3$  are the states of the three qubits (0,1)

$\chi_i$  is dispersive shift parameter

Dispersive coupling is the same for each qubit and the same on both resonators (a and b)



$$Z_A(\omega) = iZ_0 \tan \left( \frac{\pi}{2} \frac{\omega}{\omega_{r,a}} \right) \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Wave impedance} \\ \text{"looking into" port A} \\ \text{(transmission line theory)} \end{array}$$

$$r(\omega) = \frac{V^-(\omega)}{V^+(\omega)} = \frac{Z_P(\omega) - Z_0}{Z_P(\omega) + Z_0} \quad (Z_0=50\Omega)$$

Reflection coefficient of full structure

NB  $|r| = 1$