

SMR.1587 - 16

*SCHOOL AND WORKSHOP ON
QUANTUM ENTANGLEMENT, DECOHERENCE, INFORMATION, AND
GEOMETRICAL PHASES IN COMPLEX SYSTEMS
(1 November - 12 November 2004)*

**Josephson Qubits:
Manipulation and Decoherence**

G. Schön
Institut für Theoretische Festkörperphysik
Universität Karlsruhe
Wolfgang-Gaede Strasse 1
D-76128 Karlsruhe
Germany

These are preliminary lecture notes, intended only for distribution to participants

Josephson Qubits: Manipulations and Decoherence

Gerd Schön

University of Karlsruhe, Germany

Alexander Shnirman

Josef Schrieffer

Yuriy Makhlin

→ Landau Institute

- Physics of Josephson junction qubits, experiments
- Decoherence, classification, models, results
- Decoherence at symmetry points
- Low-T decoherence, preparation, renormalization

Quantum computation:

- store information in qubit (spin, ...)
- program: manipulate qubits by controlling Hamiltonian
- model Hamiltonian:

$$H(t) = -\sum_{i=1}^N \left[B_x^i(t) \sigma_x^i + B_z^i(t) \sigma_z^i \right] + \sum_{i < j} J^{ij}(t) \sigma_+^i \sigma_-^j + h.c. + H_{\text{meas}}(t) + H_{\text{diss}}$$

single-bit logic gates,
NOT, $\sqrt{\text{NOT}}$
superpositions

two-bit gates,
CNOT
entanglement

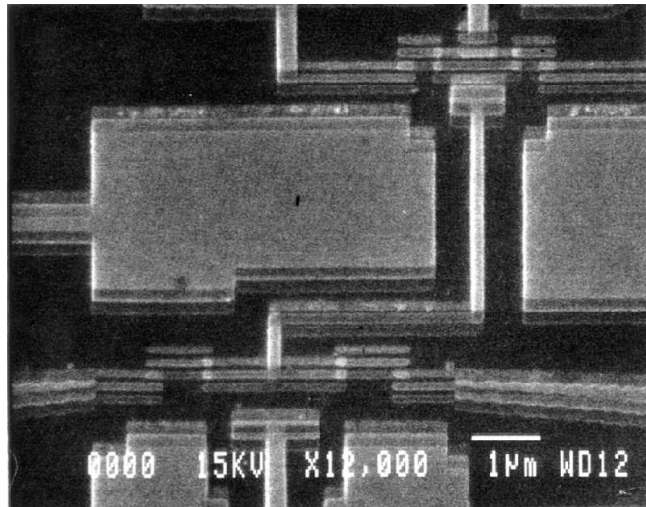
dephasing,
relaxation

Requirements (DiVincenzo criteria)

1. N well defined qubits, scalable to large N
2. preparation of well-defined initial state
3. all single-bit gates and some two-bit gates, forming universal set
4. long phase coherence time $\tau_\phi / \tau_{\text{op}} \geq 10^4$
5. read-out

1. Josephson Junction Qubits

Single-electron effects



V. Bouchiat et al. (1996)

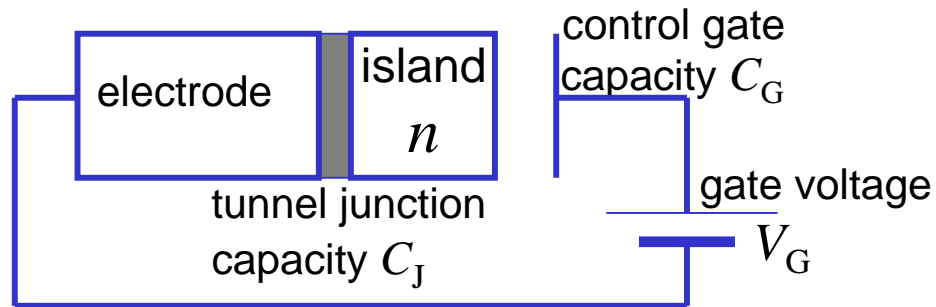
small-area tunnel junctions

typical area 100nm x 100nm

typical capacitance $C \approx 10^{-15}$ F

charging energy scale $E_C = e^2/2C \approx 1\text{K}/k_B$

Single-electron box



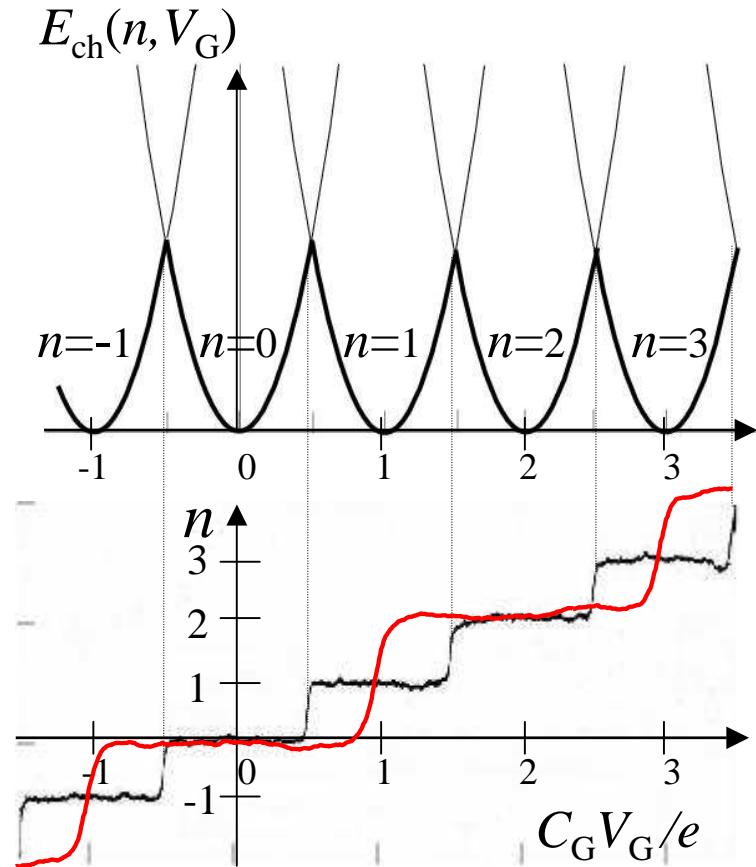
Charging energy

$$E_{\text{ch}}(n, V_G) = \frac{(ne - C_G V_G)^2}{2C}$$

$$C = C_J + C_G$$

$$n = \dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

of excess electrons on the island



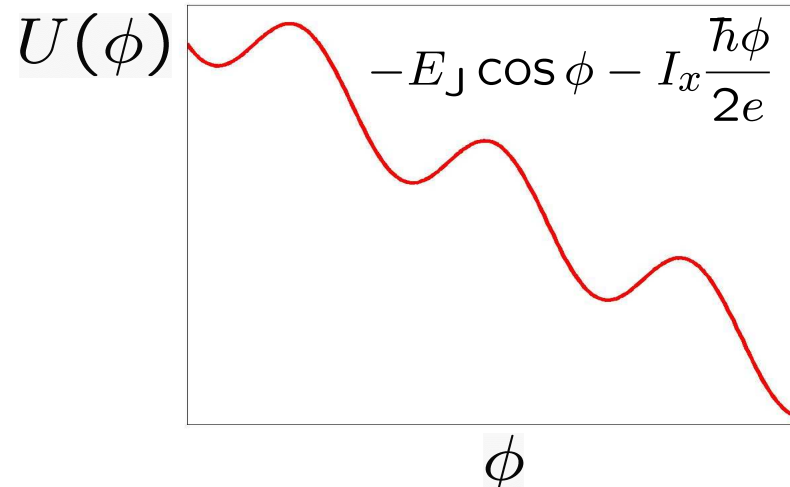
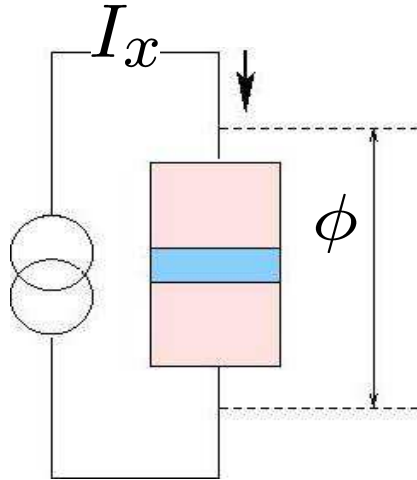
Devoret et al. (90's)

Superconducting Single-charge Box: $E_C \ll \Delta$

complete suppression of quasiparticle tunneling
 coherent tunneling of Cooper pair charge $2e$

Josephson Junctions

classical and quantum description



tilted washboard
potential
energy scale:

$$E_J = \frac{\hbar}{2e} I_c$$

Josephson relations

$$I_s = I_c \sin \phi \quad ; \quad 2eV = \hbar \dot{\phi} \quad ; \quad I_c \propto \frac{\Delta}{R}$$

Balance of currents

$$\frac{\hbar}{2e} C \ddot{\phi} + \frac{1}{R} \frac{\hbar}{2e} \dot{\phi} + I_c \sin \phi = I_x$$

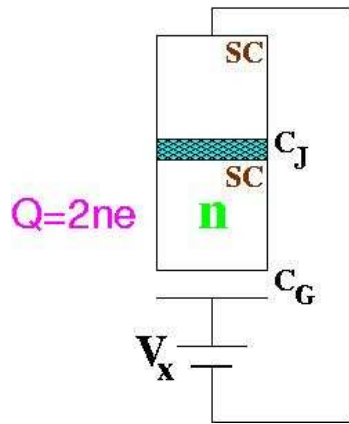
Hamiltonian

charge and phase
are conjugate variables

$$H = \frac{Q^2}{2C} - E_J \cos \phi - I_x \frac{\hbar \phi}{2e} + H_{\text{diss}}(\phi)$$

$$Q = \frac{\hbar}{i} \frac{d}{d\hbar \phi / 2e}$$

Josephson charge qubit



- charging energy (Cooper-pairs)

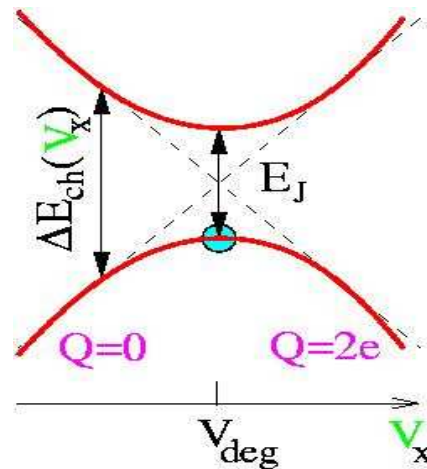
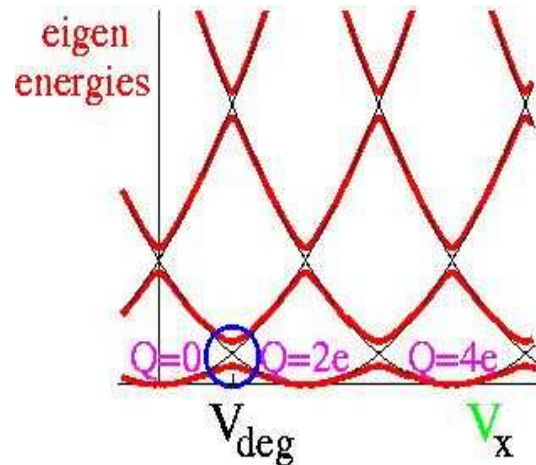
$$E_{\text{ch}}(n, V_x) = \frac{(2ne - C_G V_x)^2}{2(C_G + C_J)}$$

- Josephson coupling

$$E_J \cos \phi \rightarrow \frac{E_J}{2} |n\rangle \langle n \pm 1|$$

- Hamiltonian

$$H = \sum_n \left[E_{\text{ch}}(n, V_x) |n\rangle \langle n| + \frac{E_J}{2} |n\rangle \langle n \pm 1| \right]$$



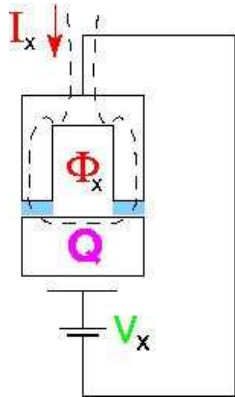
$$E_C \gg E_J, \quad C \approx 10^{-15} \text{F}$$

2-state system
= qubit

Shnirman, G.S., Hermon '97

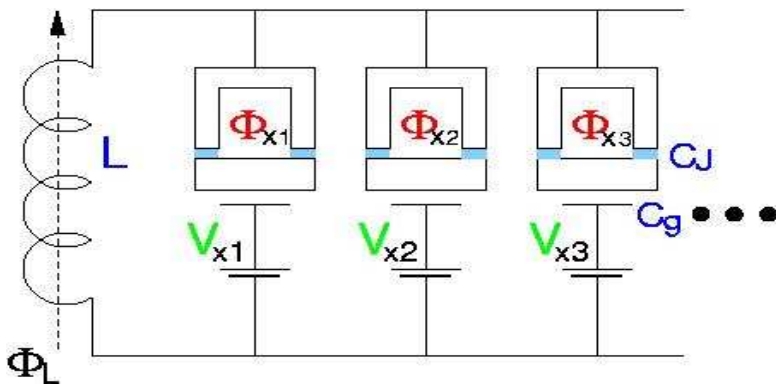
$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \Delta E_{\text{ch}}(V_x) \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2} E_J \sigma_x$$

Voltage- and flux-controlled qubit



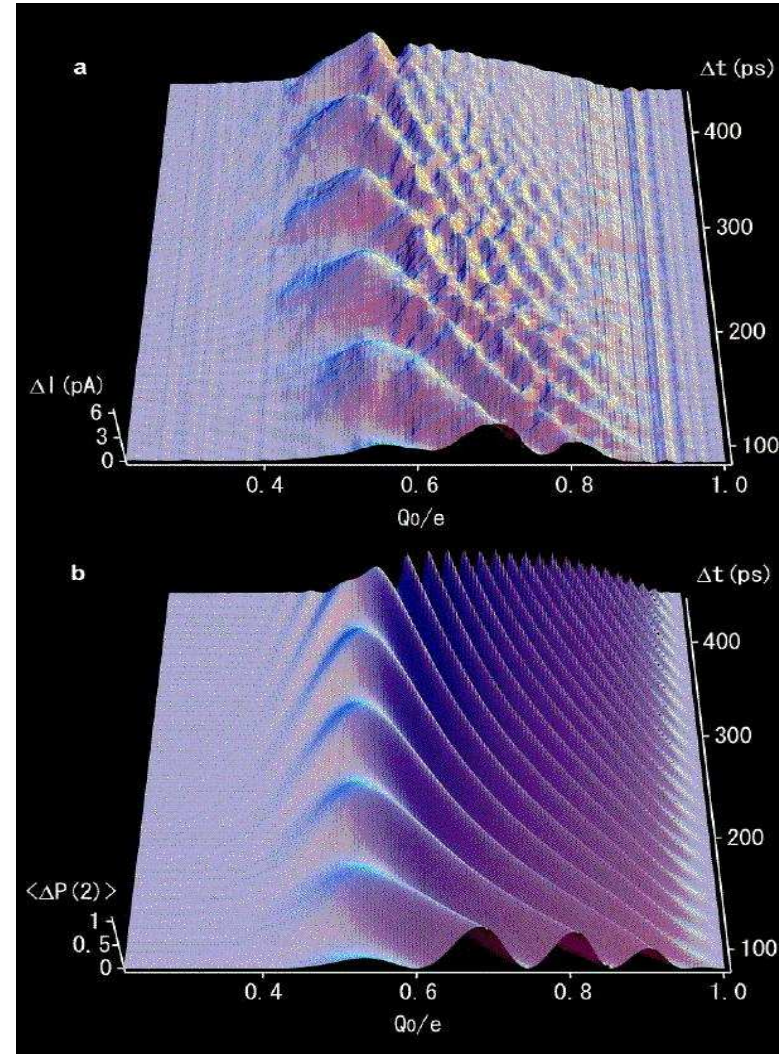
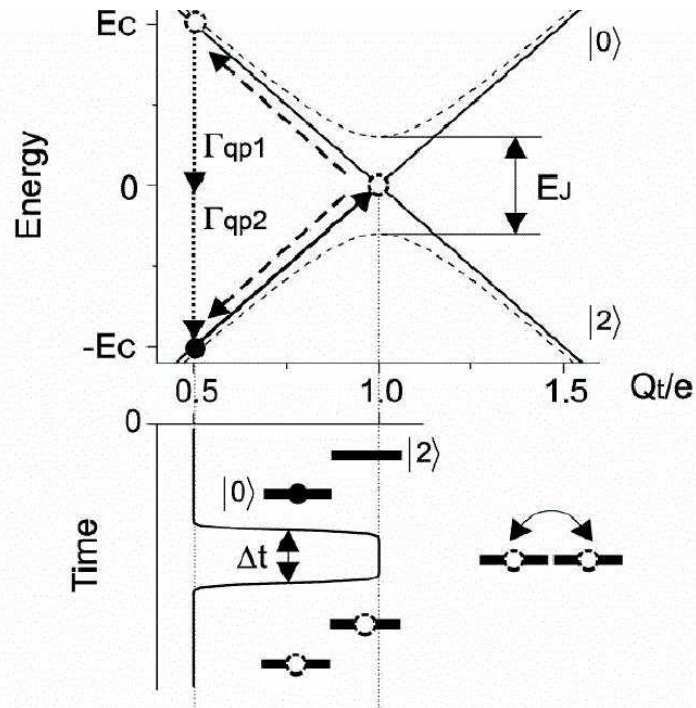
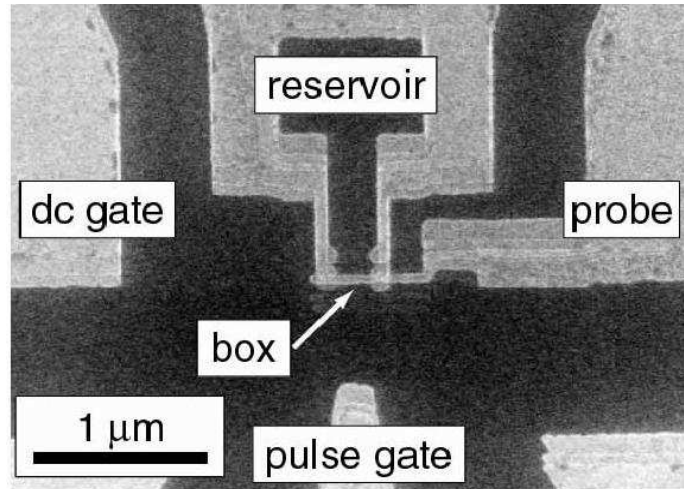
$$H = -\frac{1}{2}\Delta E_{\text{ch}}(V_x) \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2}E_J(\Phi_x) \sigma_x$$

Qubits coupled by an LC – oscillator



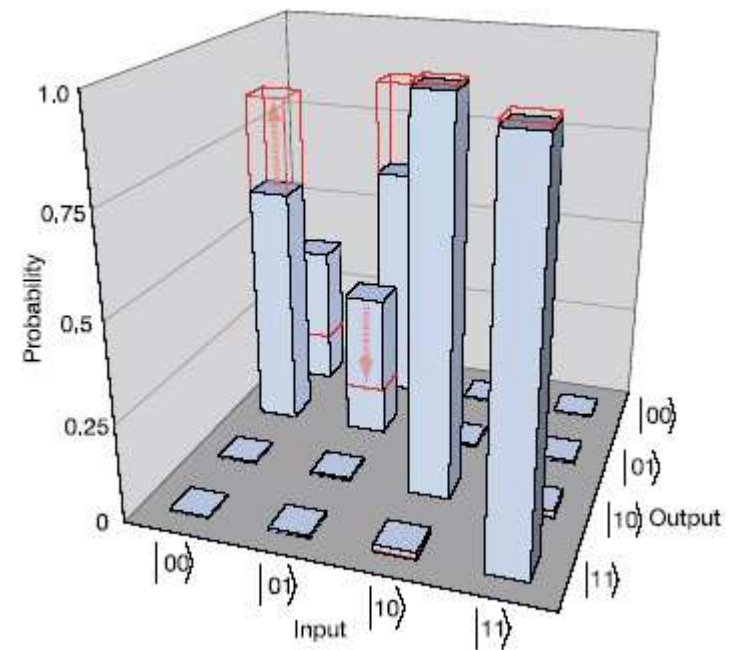
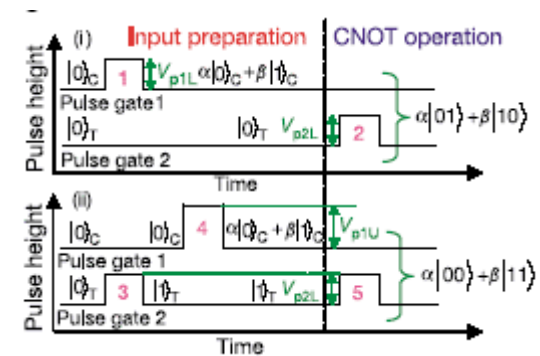
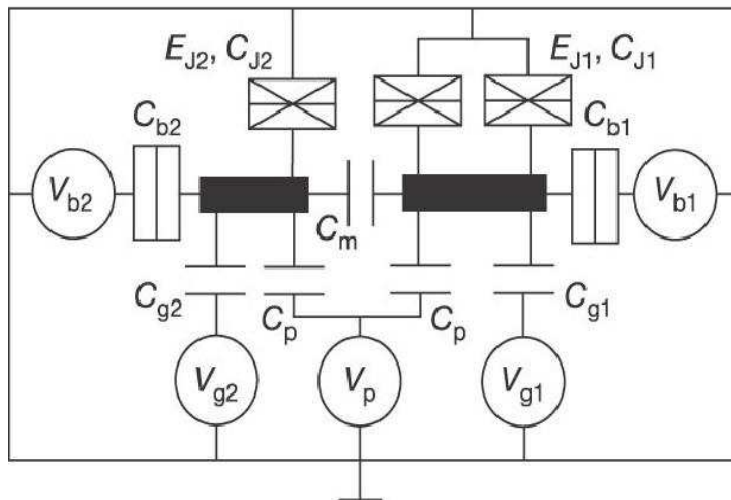
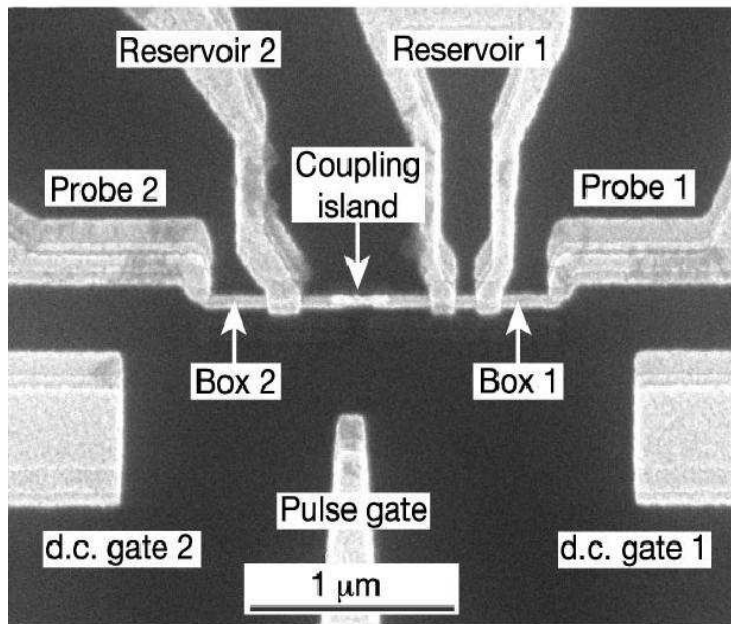
$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \left[\Delta E_{\text{ch}}(V_{xi}) \sigma_z^i + E_J(\Phi_{xi}) \sigma_x^i \right] + \sum_{i < j} \pi^2 \left(\frac{C_g}{C_J} \right)^2 \frac{E_J(\Phi_{xi}) E_J(\Phi_{xj})}{\Phi_0^2 / L} \sigma_y^i \sigma_y^j$$

Observation of coherent oscillations : Nakamura, Pashkin, and Tsai, '99



≈ 50 oscillations
 $\tau_{op} \approx 50 \dots 100$ psec, $\tau_{\phi} \approx 5$ nsec

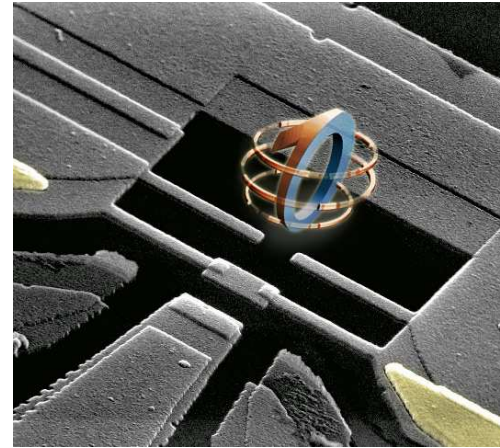
2 Coupled charge qubits/CNOT operation: Nakamuro et al. 02, 03



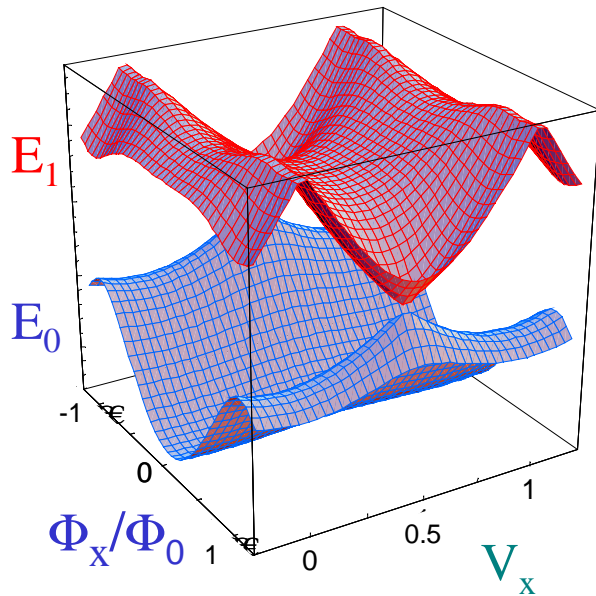
Charge-phase qubit

Devoret, Esteve, ...(Saclay)

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} E_{\text{ch}}(V_x) \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2} E_J(\Phi_x) \sigma_x$$



Quantronium



$$E_C \approx E_J$$

less sensitive to charge noise

Operation at saddle point

$$E_{\text{ch}}(V_{x0}) = 0, \quad dE_J(\Phi_{x0})/d\Phi_x = 0$$

- minimizes noise effects
- voltage fluctuations couple transverse
- flux fluctuations couple quadratically

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} E_J(\Phi_{x0}) \sigma_x - \frac{1}{2} \left. \frac{\partial E_{\text{ch}}}{\partial V_x} \right|_{V_{x0}} \delta V_x \sigma_z - \frac{1}{4} \left. \frac{\partial^2 E_J}{\partial \Phi_x^2} \right|_{\Phi_{x0}} \delta \Phi_x^2 \sigma_x$$

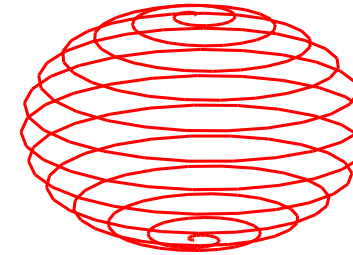
Tool box:

Rabi oscillations

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} B_z \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2} \Omega_R (\cos \omega t \sigma_x + \sin \omega t \sigma_y)$$

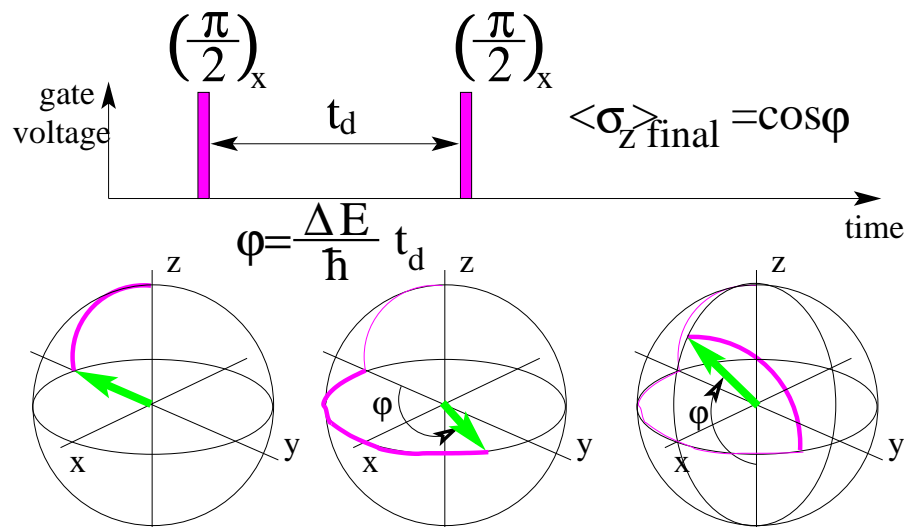
operate at resonance $\omega = B_z$

in rotating frame
(unitary transformation) $H' = -\frac{1}{2} \Omega_R \sigma_x$



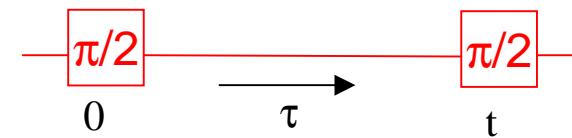
in lab frame

Ramsey fringes

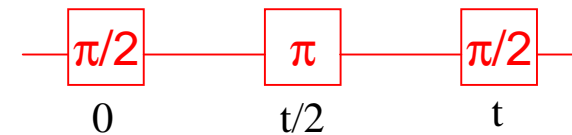


Echo experiment

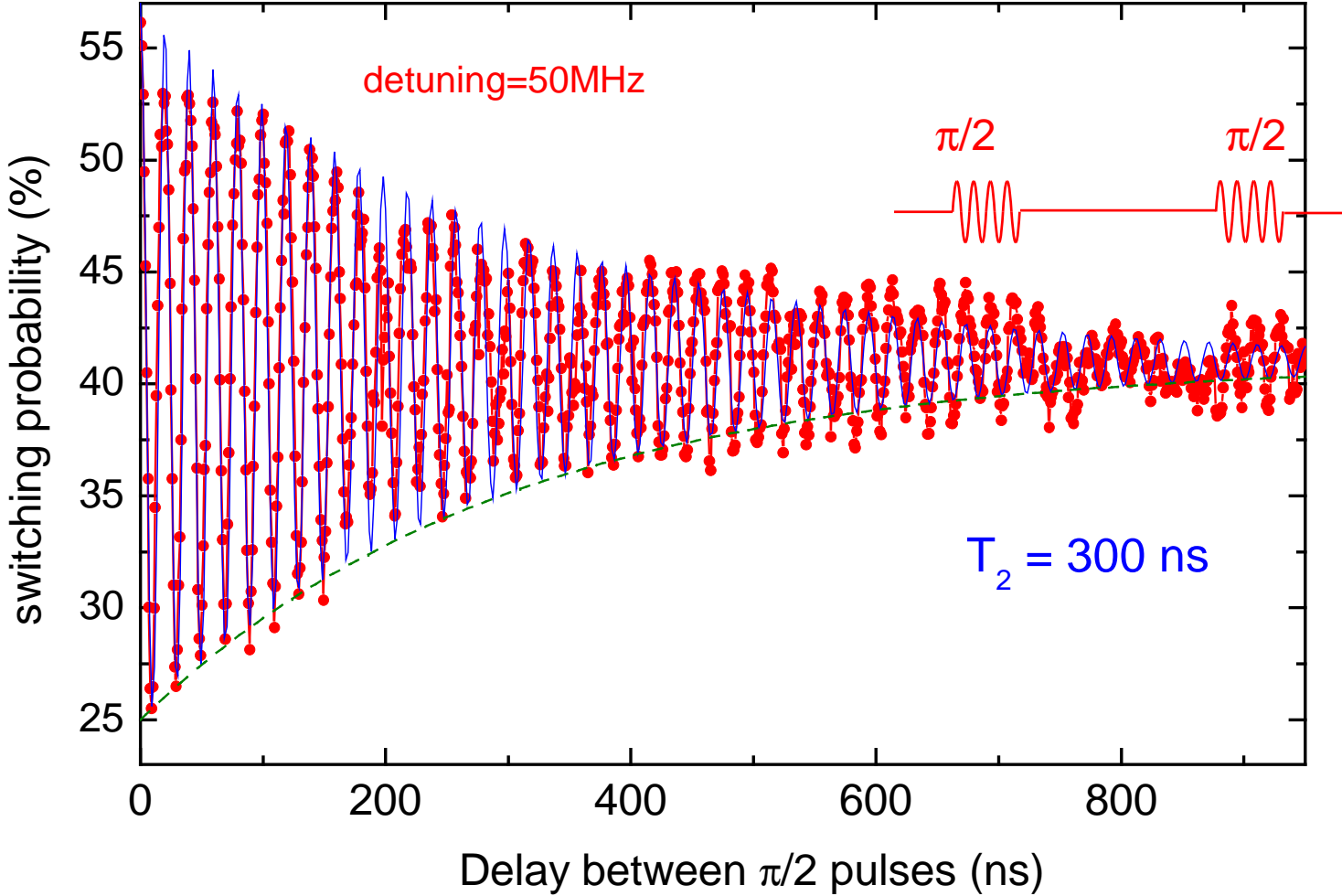
Free decay (Ramsey fringes)



Echo signal



Decay of Ramsey fringes at optimal point



Vion et al., Science 02, ...

2. Coherence and Dephasing

Bloch equations, relaxation ($\Gamma_{\text{rel}} = 1/T_1$) and dephasing ($\Gamma_{\phi} = 1/\tau_{\phi} = 1/T_2$)

$$\frac{d}{dt} \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{M} - \frac{1}{T_1} (M_z - M_0) \mathbf{e}_z - \frac{1}{T_2} (M_x \mathbf{e}_x + M_y \mathbf{e}_y)$$

Bloch (46,57)
Redfield (57)

For 2-level system (spin 1/2) \mathbf{M} is determined by density matrix

$$\mathbf{M} = \langle \boldsymbol{\sigma} \rangle = \text{Tr}[\boldsymbol{\sigma} \rho]$$

$$\rho = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_{00} & \rho_{01} \\ \rho_{10} & \rho_{11} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\dot{\rho}_{00} = -\Gamma_{\uparrow} \rho_{00} + \Gamma_{\downarrow} \rho_{11}$$

$$\dot{\rho}_{11} = \Gamma_{\uparrow} \rho_{00} - \Gamma_{\downarrow} \rho_{11}$$

$$\dot{\rho}_{01} = -iB_z \rho_{01} - \Gamma_{\phi} \rho_{01}$$

$$\Gamma_{\text{rel}} = \Gamma_{\uparrow} + \Gamma_{\downarrow} \quad \text{and} \quad M_0 = (\Gamma_{\downarrow} - \Gamma_{\uparrow}) / (\Gamma_{\uparrow} + \Gamma_{\downarrow})$$

Sources of noise

'external':

- electro smog (*reduce by shielding*)
- background charge fluctuations
- nuclear spin flips
- ...

intrinsic:

- quasiparticle tunneling (*suppressed at low T*)
- fluctuations due to control circuit
- fluctuations due to measurement device (*need quantum switch*)
- ...

Properties of noise

Gaussian or non-Gaussian

- spectrum: Ohmic (white), $1/f$,
- different coupling

Models for noise and classification

$$H = -\frac{1}{2}\Delta E \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2} X \cos\eta \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2} X \sin\eta \sigma_x - \frac{1}{4} X^2 \sigma_z + H_{\text{bath}}$$

longitudinal – transverse – quadratic (longitudinal) ...

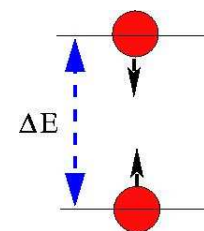
Power spectrum:

$$S_X(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \int dt \langle \{X(t), X(0)\}_+ \rangle e^{i\omega t}, \quad \chi'' = A_X(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \int dt \langle [X(t), X(0)]_- \rangle e^{i\omega t}$$

model	Bosonic bath	Spin bath
noise	$X = \sum_j c_j (a_j + a_j^\dagger), H_{\text{bath}} = \sum_j \omega_j a_j^\dagger a_j$ $J(\omega) \equiv \sum_j c_j^2 \delta(\omega - \omega_j)$	$X = \sum_j c_j \sigma_{x,j}, H_{\text{bath}} = \sum_j \omega_j \sigma_{z,j}$ $J(\omega) \equiv \sum_j c_j^2 \delta(\omega - \omega_j)$
Ohmic	$J(\omega) = \alpha \omega$ $S_X(\omega) = \alpha \omega \coth \frac{\omega}{2T}$	
1/f (Gaussian)	$J(\omega) = \alpha$ $S_X(\omega) = \alpha \coth \frac{ \omega }{2T_{1/f}} \approx \frac{E_{1/f}^2}{ \omega }$	$J(\omega) = E_{1/f}^2 / \omega$ $S_X(\omega) = E_{1/f}^2 / \omega $

Transverse coupling \Rightarrow relaxation

$$H = -\frac{1}{2}\Delta E\sigma_z - \frac{1}{2}X\sigma_x + H_{Bath}$$



Golden Rule:

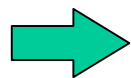
$$\Gamma_{\uparrow} = \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i,f} \rho_{ii}^{Bath} \left| \langle 0, i | X \sigma_x | 1, f \rangle \right|^2 \delta(E_i + \Delta E - E_f) \quad \text{compare "P(E)-theory"}$$

$$= \frac{2\pi}{\hbar} \frac{1}{4} \sum_{i,f} \rho_{ii}^{Bath} \langle i | X | f \rangle \langle f | X | i \rangle \frac{1}{2\pi\hbar} \int dt \exp \left[i(E_i + \Delta E - E_f)t / \hbar \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{4\hbar^2} \int dt \sum_i \rho_{ii}^{Bath} \langle i | X(t) X(0) | i \rangle \exp[i\Delta E t / \hbar]$$

$$\Gamma_{\uparrow} = \frac{1}{4\hbar^2} \langle X(t) X(0) \rangle_{\omega=\Delta E/\hbar}$$

$$\Gamma_{\downarrow} = \frac{1}{4\hbar^2} \langle X(t) X(0) \rangle_{\omega=-\Delta E/\hbar}$$



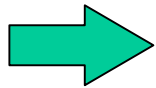
$$\frac{1}{T_1} \equiv \Gamma_{rel} = \Gamma_{\uparrow} + \Gamma_{\downarrow} = \frac{1}{2\hbar^2} S_X(\omega = \Delta E / \hbar)$$

Longitudinal coupling \Rightarrow pure dephasing

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} B_z \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2} X \sigma_z + H_{Bath}$$

X treated as classical, Gaussian random field

$$\begin{aligned} |\rho_{01}(t)| &\propto \left\langle \exp\left(-\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_0^t X(\tau) d\tau\right) \right\rangle = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\hbar^2} \int_0^t d\tau_1 \int_0^t d\tau_2 \langle X(\tau_1) X(\tau_2) \rangle\right) \\ &= \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\hbar^2} \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} S_X(\omega) \frac{\sin^2(\omega t / 2)}{(\omega / 2)^2}\right) \approx \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2\hbar^2} S_X(\omega \approx 0) t\right) \\ &\qquad\qquad\qquad \frac{\sin^2(\omega t / 2)}{(\omega / 2)^2} \approx 2\pi\delta(\omega) t \end{aligned}$$



$$\Gamma_{\varphi}^* = \frac{1}{2\hbar^2} S_X(\omega \approx 0)$$

Linear coupling

$$H = -\frac{1}{2}\Delta E \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2}X \cos\eta \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2}X \sin\eta \sigma_x + H_{Bath}$$

Golden rule

exponential decay law $\propto e^{-\Gamma t}$

$$\frac{1}{T_1} = \Gamma_{\text{rel}} = \frac{1}{2} S_X(\omega = \Delta E) \sin^2\eta$$

$$\frac{1}{T_2} = \Gamma_{\varphi} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{1}{T_1} + \frac{1}{2} S_X(\omega \approx 0) \cos^2\eta$$

pure dephasing: Γ_{φ}^*

Example: Ohmic noise

$$S_X(\omega) = \alpha \omega \coth \frac{\omega}{2T}$$

\Rightarrow

$$\Gamma_{\text{rel}} = \frac{\alpha}{2} \Delta E \coth \frac{\Delta E}{2T} \sin^2\eta$$

$$\Gamma_{\varphi}^* = \alpha T \cos^2\eta$$

Dephasing due to 1/f noise, T=0, nonlinear coupling, ... ?

**1/f noise,
longitudinal linear coupling**

$$H = -\frac{1}{2}(\Delta E + X)\sigma_z + H_{Bath}$$

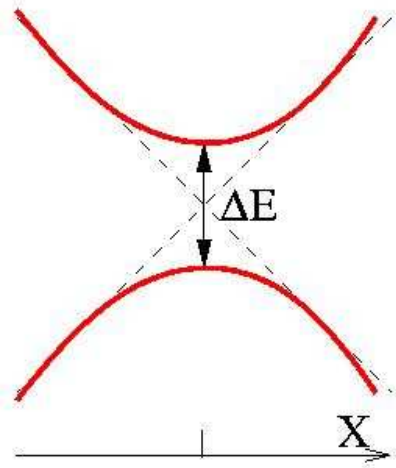
$$\begin{aligned} |\rho_{01}(t)| &= \left\langle \exp\left(-i \int_0^t X(\tau) d\tau\right) \right\rangle = \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2} \int \frac{d\omega}{2\pi} S_X(\omega) \frac{\sin^2(\omega t/2)}{(\omega/2)^2}\right) \\ &= \exp\left(-\frac{E_{1/f}^2}{2\pi} t^2 \ln|\omega_{ir} t|\right) \quad \text{for } S_X(\omega) = \frac{E_{1/f}^2}{\omega} \end{aligned}$$

Cottet et al. (01)

⇒ Non-exponential decay of coherence

$$S_X(\omega) \text{ regular} \Rightarrow \frac{\sin^2(\omega t/2)}{(\omega/2)^2} = 2\pi \delta(\omega) t \Rightarrow \text{Golden rule, exponential decay}$$

1/f noise, transverse coupling



$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \Delta E \sigma_z - \frac{1}{2} X \sigma_x + H_{\text{bath}}$$

Adiabatic approximation for $\omega \ll \Delta E$

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow H &= -\frac{1}{2} \Delta E (X(t)) \sigma_z + H_{\text{bath}} \\ &\approx -\frac{1}{2} \left(\Delta E + \frac{X^2(t)}{2\Delta E} \right) \sigma_z + H_{\text{bath}} \end{aligned}$$

Linear transverse 1/f noise \Rightarrow quadratic longitudinal noise

- Spectrum of fluctuations of $X^2(t)$?
- Distribution of fluctuations of $X^2(t)$?

Quadratic longitudinal coupling:

$$H = -\frac{1}{2} \left(\Delta E + \lambda X^2 \right) \sigma_z$$

Even if $X(t)$ is distributed Gaussian (central limit theorem), $X^2(t)$ is not!

As 1st step, let us **assume** that $X^2(t)$ is distributed Gaussian.

for reference; good or bad (?) approximation

• **Ohmic noise**

$$S_X(\omega) = \alpha \omega \coth \frac{\omega}{2T} \Rightarrow S_{X^2}(\omega) \equiv \frac{1}{2} \left\langle \{X^2(t), X^2(0)\} \right\rangle_{\omega} = \alpha^2 \omega (\omega^2 + T^2) \coth \frac{\omega}{2T}$$

$$\Rightarrow \Gamma_{\varphi}^* = \alpha^2 \lambda^2 T^3$$

if X^2 is Gaussian

good approx.

• **1/f noise**

$$S_X = \frac{E_{1/f}^2}{|\omega|} \Rightarrow S_{X^2} \approx \frac{E_{1/f}^4}{|\omega|} \ln \frac{\omega}{\omega_{ir}} \quad \text{again 1/f noise with different scale}$$

$$\Rightarrow \text{if } X^2 \text{ is Gaussian } |\rho_{01}(t)| = \exp \left(-\lambda^2 \frac{E_{1/f}^4}{\pi} t^2 \ln^2 |\omega_{ir} t| \right) \quad \text{Good or bad?}$$

Quadratic longitudinal coupling: non-Gaussian effects

Yu. Makhlin, A. Shnirman, PRL 2004

$$H = -\frac{1}{2}(\Delta E + \lambda X^2)\sigma_z$$

$$\langle \rho_{01}(t) \rangle = e^{-i\Delta E t} P(t) \quad \text{with} \quad P(t) = \left\langle \exp\left(i\lambda \int_0^t X^2(\tau) d\tau\right) \right\rangle$$

$$\ln P(t) = \sum \frac{1}{n} F_n = \text{circle} + \frac{1}{2} \times \text{circle} \times + \frac{1}{3} \times \text{circle} \times \quad \text{linked cluster expansion}$$

$$F_n = \frac{(2i\lambda)^n}{2} \int \frac{d\omega_1}{2\pi} \int \frac{d\omega_2}{2\pi} \dots \int \frac{d\omega_n}{2\pi} f(\omega_1 - \omega_2) S_X(\omega_1) f(\omega_2 - \omega_3) S_X(\omega_3) \dots$$

$$f(\omega) = \frac{\sin(\omega t / 2)}{\omega / 2}$$

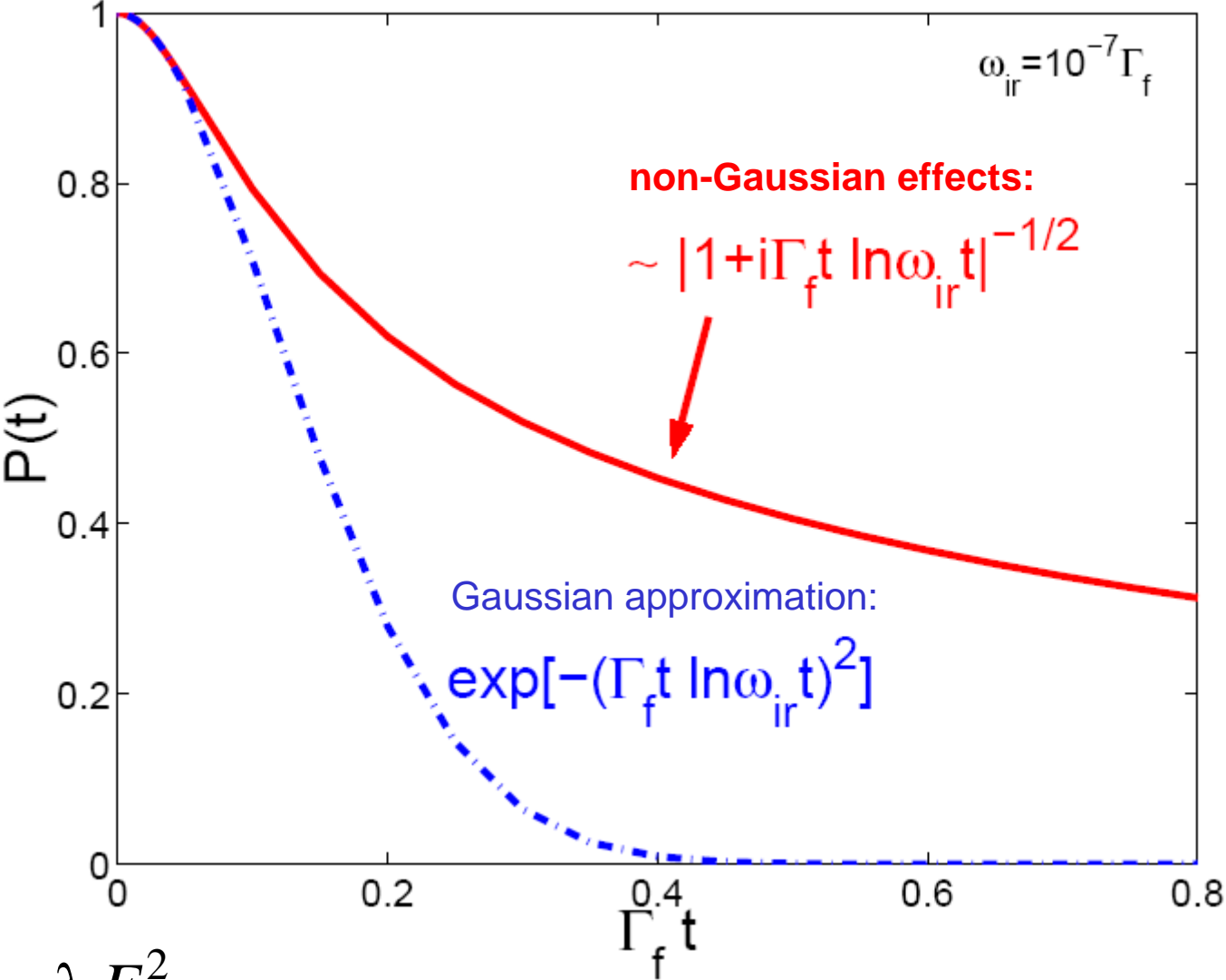
short times $f(\omega) = \frac{\sin(\omega t / 2)}{\omega / 2} \approx t$

long times $f(\omega) = \frac{\sin(\omega t / 2)}{\omega / 2} \approx 2\pi \delta(\omega)$

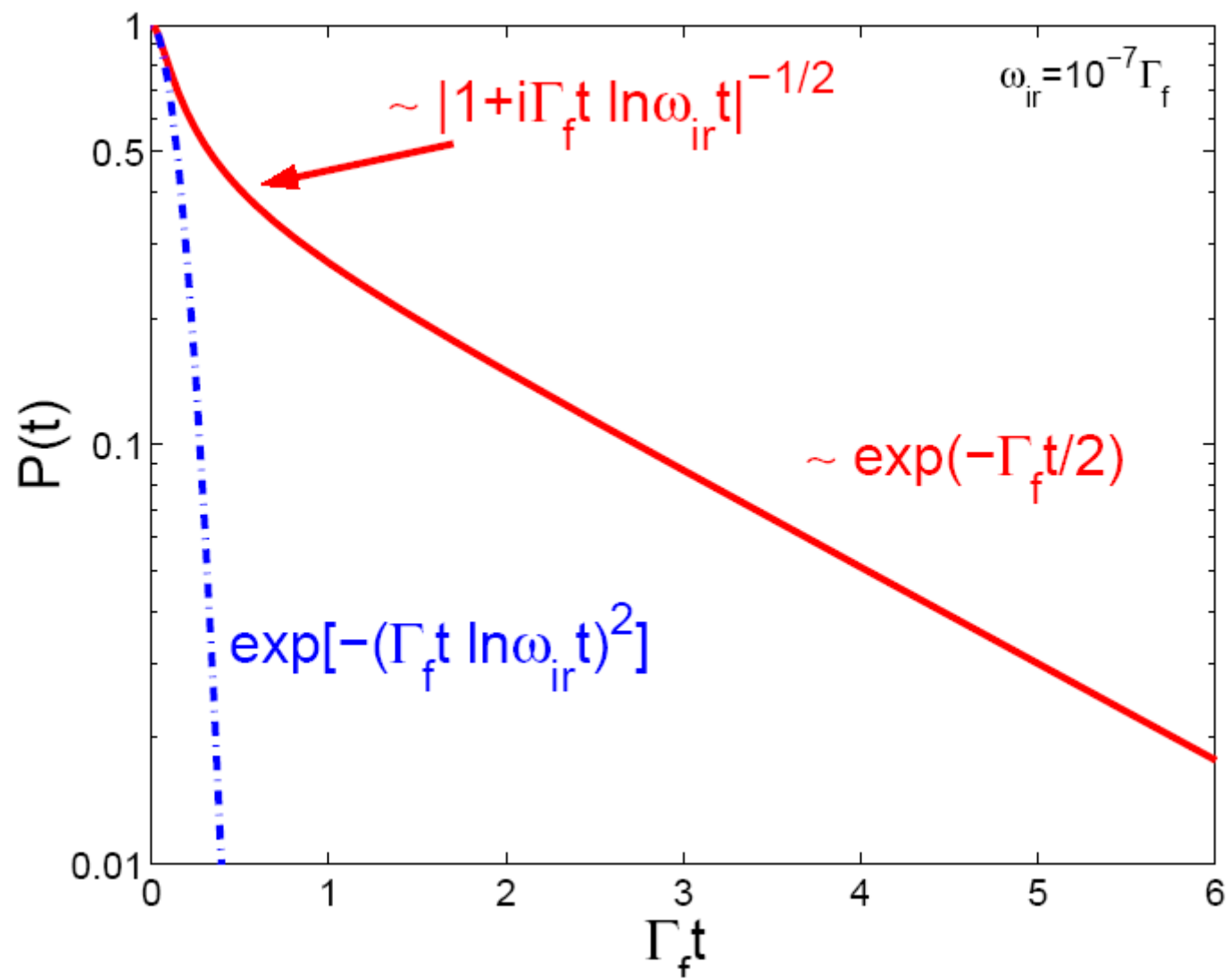
$$|P(t)| = \left[1 + \left(\frac{2}{\pi} \lambda E_{1/f}^2 t \ln \omega_{ir} t \right)^2 \right]^{-\frac{1}{4}}$$

$$|P(t)| = \exp\left[-\frac{\lambda E_{1/f}^2}{2} t \right]$$

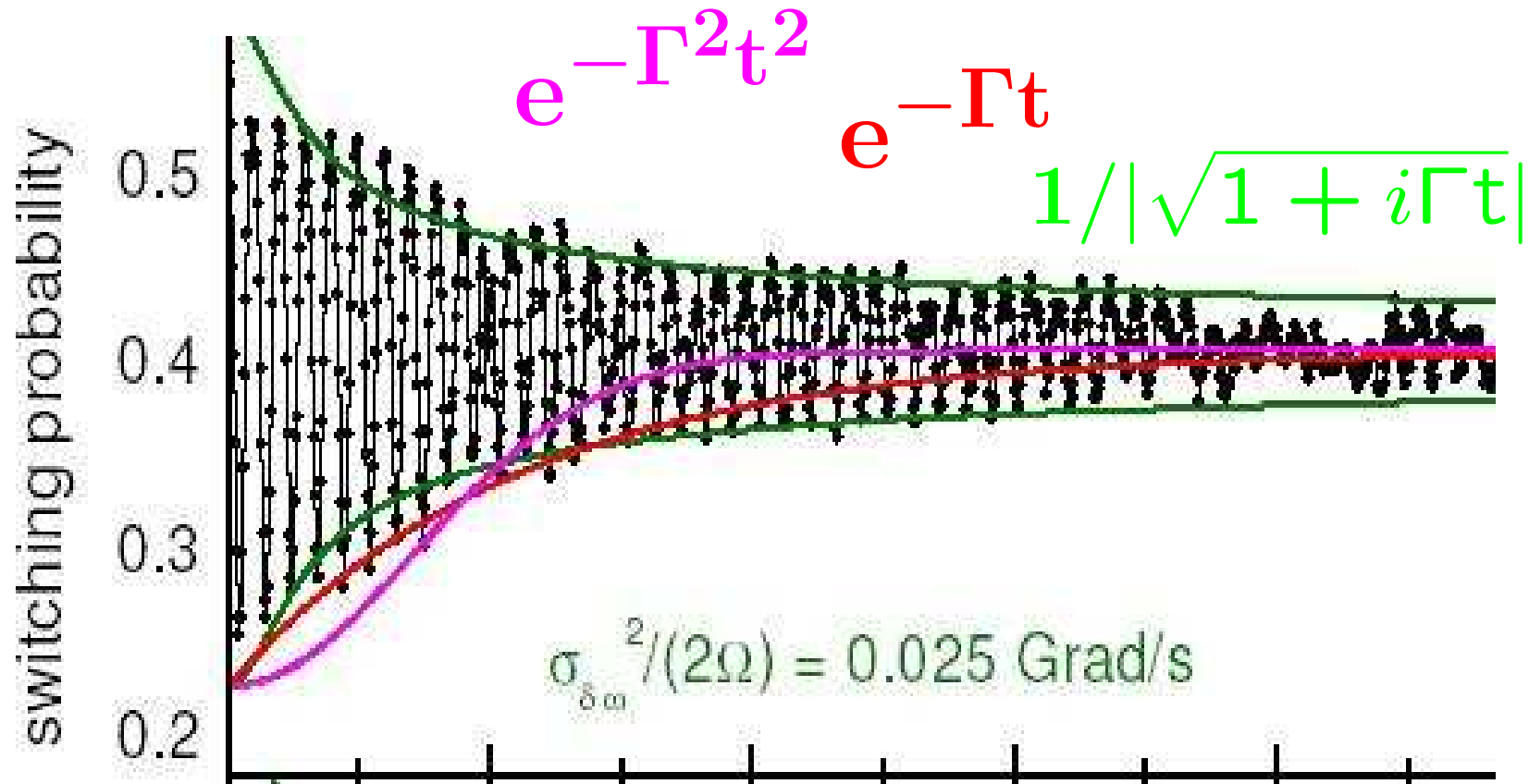
Decay law for Ramsey interference



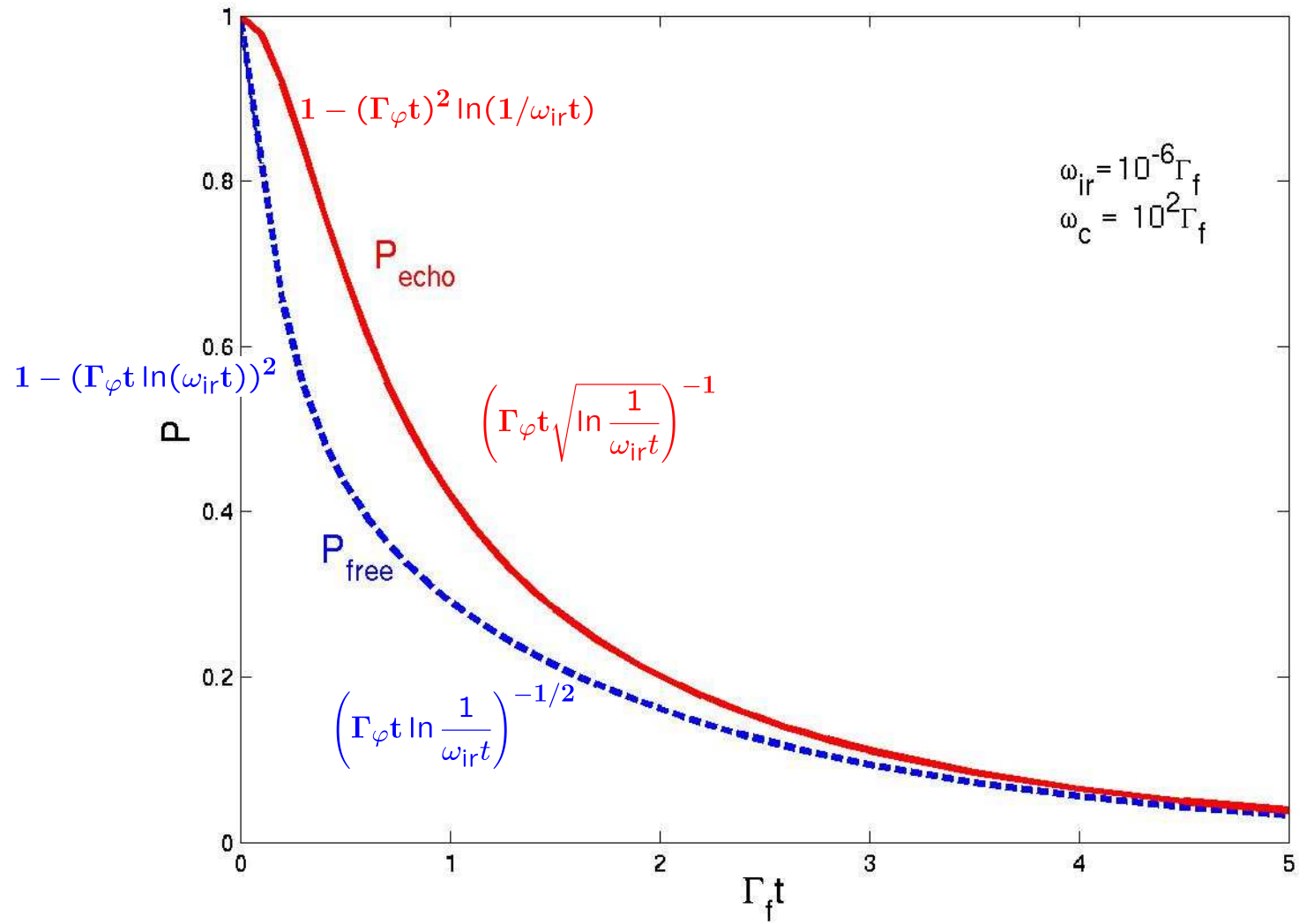
$$\Gamma_f = \lambda E_{1/f}^2$$



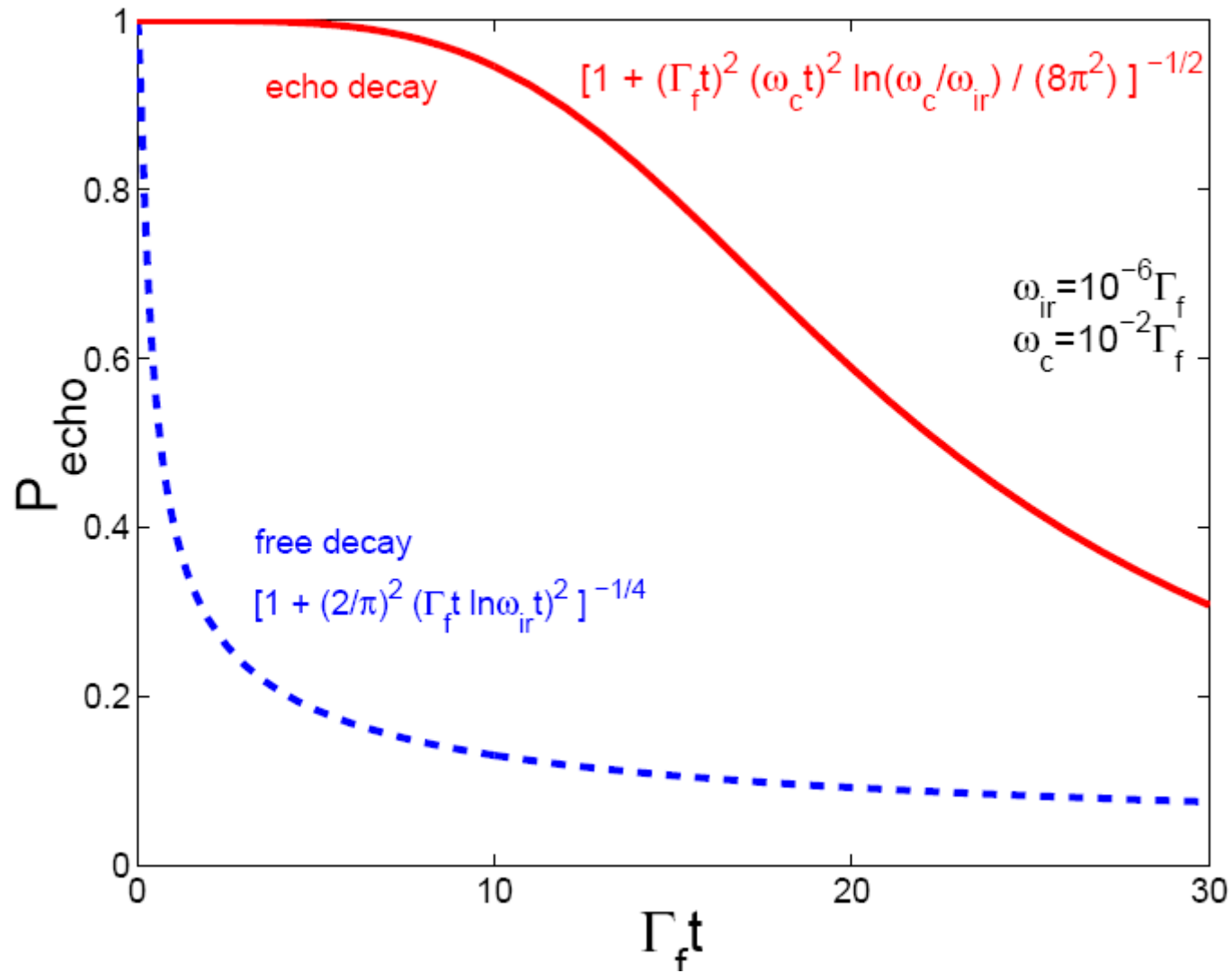
Fitting the experiment



Decay law for echo signal

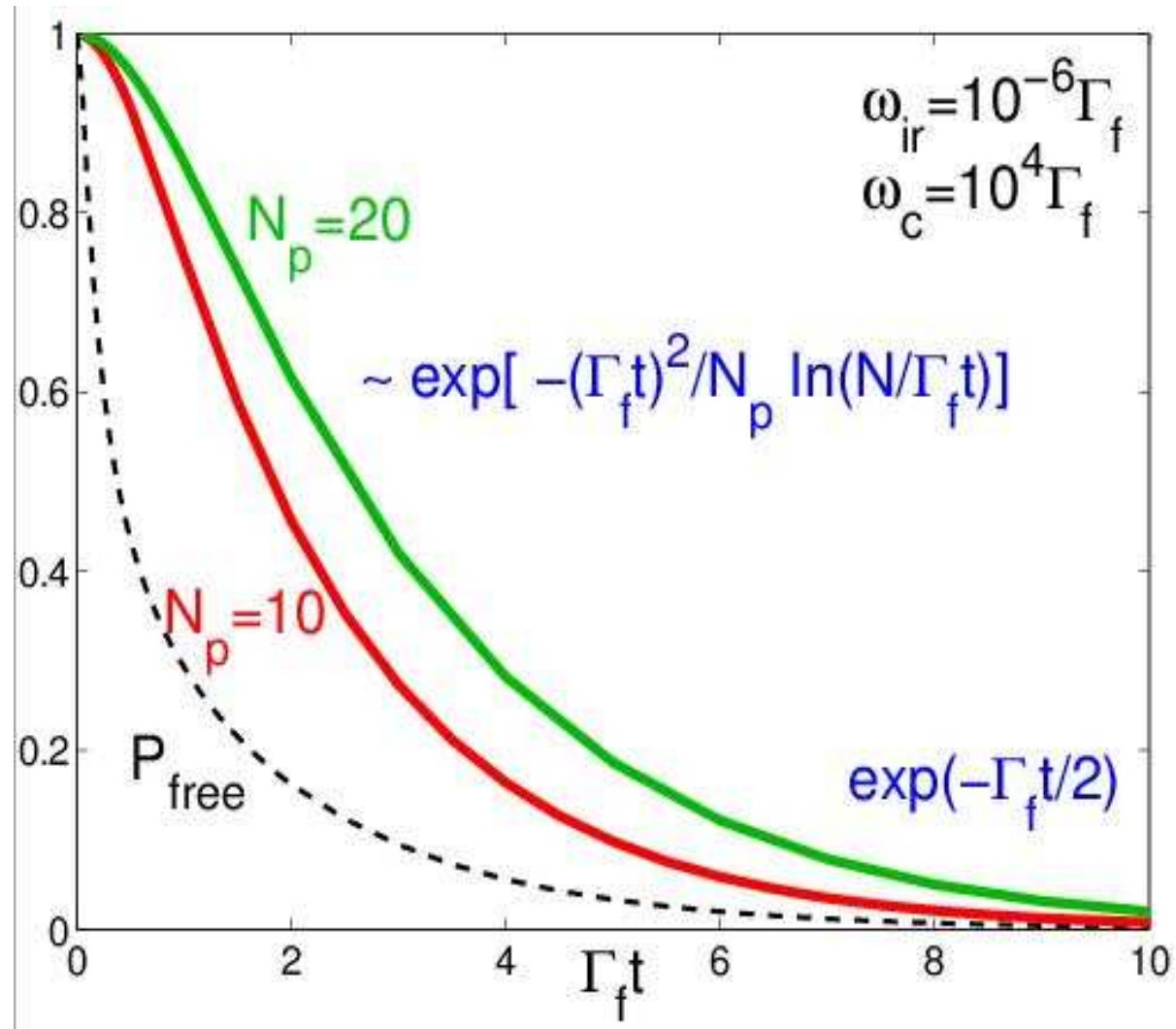


Power spectrum cut off at $\omega_c < 1/\tau_\phi$



Echo with many (N) pulses (Bang-Bang)

$$P_{\text{echo}}^{\text{hf}}(t) \simeq \exp\left(-\frac{1}{2N} \left(\frac{4}{\pi} \Gamma_f t\right)^2 \ln \frac{N}{\Gamma_f t}\right) \quad : \quad \Gamma_f t \ll N$$

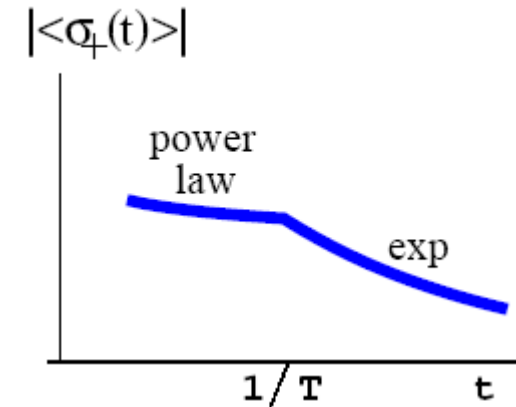


Low-Temperature Dephasing

- Ohmic: $J(\omega) = \frac{\pi}{2} \alpha \omega \Theta(\omega_c - \omega)$, cutoff ω_c

for $\omega_c^{-1} \ll t \ll T^{-1}$: $|\langle \sigma_+(t) \rangle| = P_{\omega_c}(t) \approx (\omega_c t)^{-2\alpha}$

for $T^{-1} \ll t$: $|\langle \sigma_+(t) \rangle| = P_{\omega_c}(t) \approx e^{-2\pi\alpha T t}$

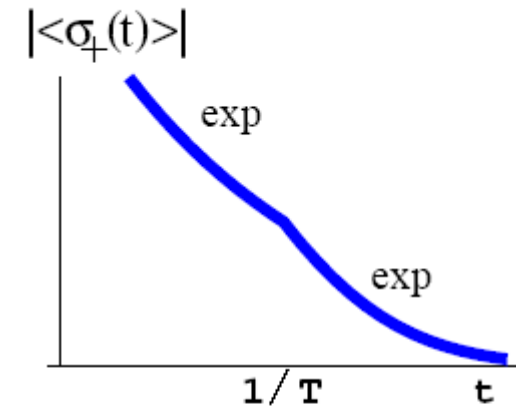


- Sub-Ohmic: $J(\omega) = \frac{\pi}{2} \alpha \omega_0^{1-s} \omega^s \Theta(\omega_c - \omega)$

for $0 < s < 1$

for $\omega_c^{-1} \ll t \ll T^{-1}$: $|\langle \sigma_+(t) \rangle| = P_{\omega_c}(t) \approx e^{-\alpha(\omega_0 t)^{1-s}}$

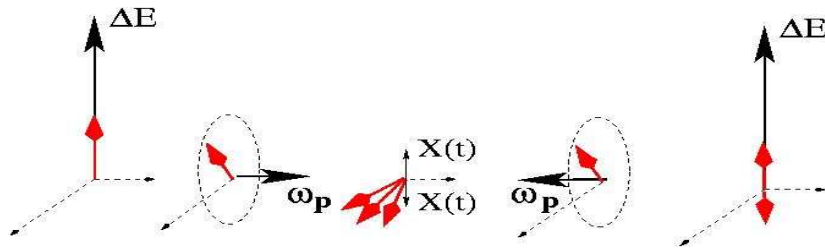
for $T^{-1} \ll t$: $|\langle \sigma_+(t) \rangle| = P_{\omega_c}(t) \approx e^{-\alpha T t (\omega_0 t)^{1-s}}$



Preparation Effects

Introduce frequency scale ω_p

Slow modes $\omega \ll \omega_p$ **dephasing**, fast modes $\omega \gg \omega_p$ **renormalization**



a) Initially $|\uparrow\rangle |g_\uparrow\rangle$

$|g_\uparrow\rangle$ ground state of $H_\uparrow \equiv |\uparrow\rangle\langle\uparrow| \cdot \sum_j c_j (a_j + a_j^\dagger) + \sum_j \hbar\omega_j a_j^\dagger a_j$

b) $\frac{\pi}{2}$ pulse $|\uparrow\rangle \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|\uparrow\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle)$

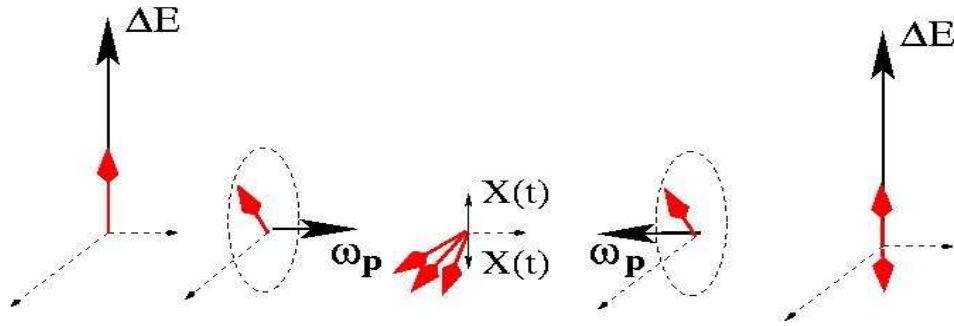
implemented as $H = -\frac{1}{2} Z^{-1} \omega_p \hat{\sigma}_x$ for $\tau = \frac{\pi\hbar}{2\omega_p}$

Slow oscillators do not react

Fast oscillators follow adiabatically

$$|\uparrow\rangle \rightarrow \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} [|\uparrow\rangle |g_\uparrow^{\text{fast}}\rangle + |\downarrow\rangle |g_\downarrow^{\text{fast}}\rangle] |g_\uparrow^{\text{slow}}\rangle$$

$$\hat{\rho}_{\uparrow,\downarrow} = Z \equiv \langle g_\uparrow^{\text{fast}} | g_\downarrow^{\text{fast}} \rangle \quad \text{BUT} \quad \hat{\rho}_{\tilde{\uparrow},\tilde{\downarrow}} = 1 \text{ where } |\tilde{\uparrow}\rangle \equiv |\uparrow\rangle |g_\uparrow^{\text{fast}}\rangle, |\tilde{\downarrow}\rangle \equiv |\downarrow\rangle |g_\downarrow^{\text{fast}}\rangle$$



c) Free evolution, dephasing

$$\hat{\rho}_{\uparrow,\downarrow}(t) = Z P_{\omega_p}(t) \text{ and } \hat{\rho}_{\tilde{\uparrow},\tilde{\downarrow}} = P_{\omega_p}(t) = \langle g_{\uparrow}^{\text{slow}} | e^{-iH_{\downarrow}t} | g_{\uparrow}^{\text{slow}} \rangle$$

d) $-\frac{\pi}{2}$ pulse

e) Measurement of $\hat{\sigma}_z$, $\langle \hat{\sigma}_z \rangle = |P_{\omega_p}(t)|$

Slow oscillators \Rightarrow dephasing $P_{\omega_p}(t)$

Fast oscillators \Rightarrow renormalization Z

Appropriate basis: renormalized (dressed) spin $|\tilde{\uparrow}\rangle, |\tilde{\downarrow}\rangle$