



Seminar/Talk

Engineering $\cos(2\phi)$ Hamiltonians with multimode circuits

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Host: Johannes Fink

Superconducting circuits are macroscopic networks of superconducting wires and plates forming distributed inductances and capacitances that sustain microwave electromagnetic fields. Superconductivity ensures minimal loss, while Josephson junctions introduce a cosine-phase nonlinearity with negligible dissipation and dephasing. By tuning the relative energy scales and connectivity of inductors, capacitors, and Josephson junctions, one can realize a wide range of quantum systems from amplifiers to superconducting qubits. This naturally raises the question: can new components further advance circuit quantum engineering? The answer is yes. Incorporating elements that generate terms such as phase slips ($\cos(2N\phi)$), Cooper-pair pairing ($\cos(2\phi)$), and Cooper-pair halving ($\cos(\phi/2)$) into the Hamiltonian enables enhanced device performance and the design of qubits intrinsically protected from relaxation and decoherence. In this talk, I will show how the physics of the $\cos(2\phi)$ element can emerge effectively in multimode circuits built from conventional materials, and how this element can be harnessed either to improve qubit error resilience or to mediate high-order photon interactions in a resonator.

Wednesday, October 15, 2025 03:00pm - 04:00pm

Office Bldg West / Ground floor / Foyer seminar room (I21.EG.128)



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