

# Non-Hermitian Evolution from Continuous Monitoring

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*QuiDiQua III*, 2025/11/06



# Outline

- **Superconducting Qubits**
  - Circuit QED Overview
  - Dispersive Readout and Trajectories
- **Modeling Measurement**
  - Reduced Qubit: Steady-State Scattering
  - Qubit-Resonator: Non-Hermitian Evolution



Sacha Greenfield



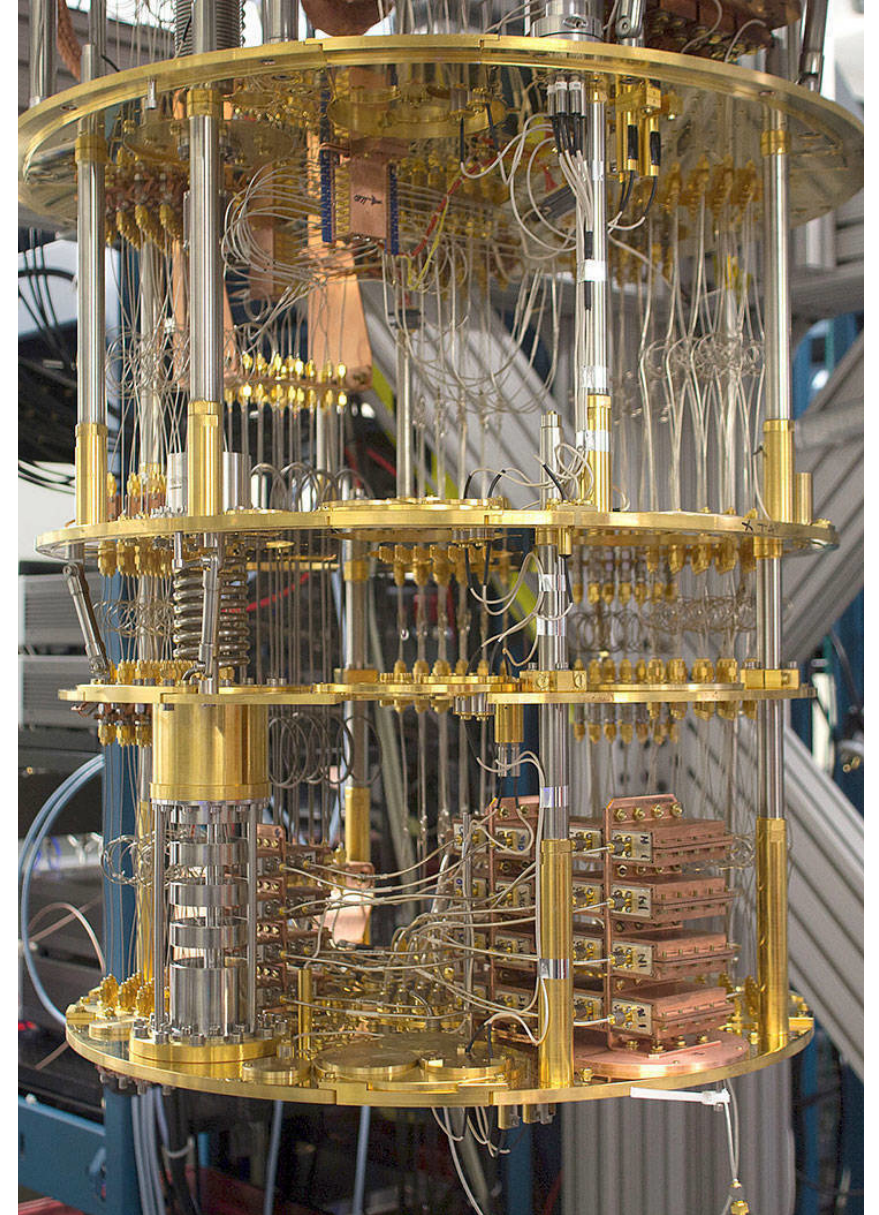
Cory Panttaja



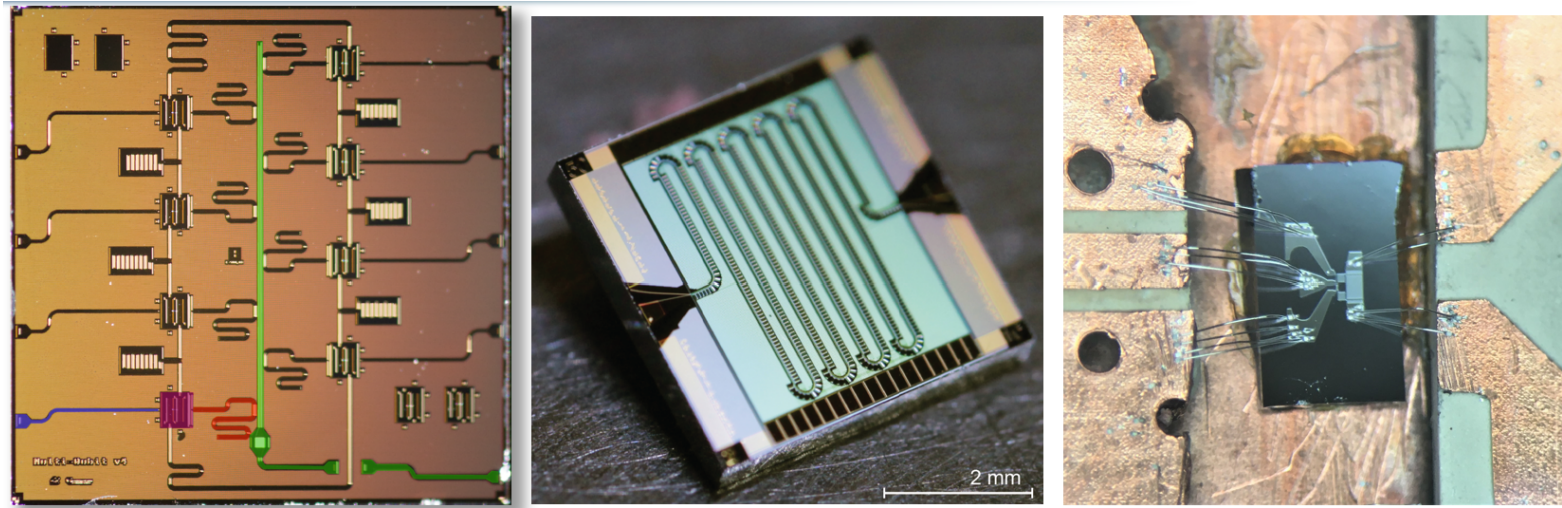
Luke Burns



D.D. Briseno-Colunga



# Superconducting Qubits



**Mesoscopic** coherence of **collective charge motion** at  $\mu\text{m}$  scale, mK temperature

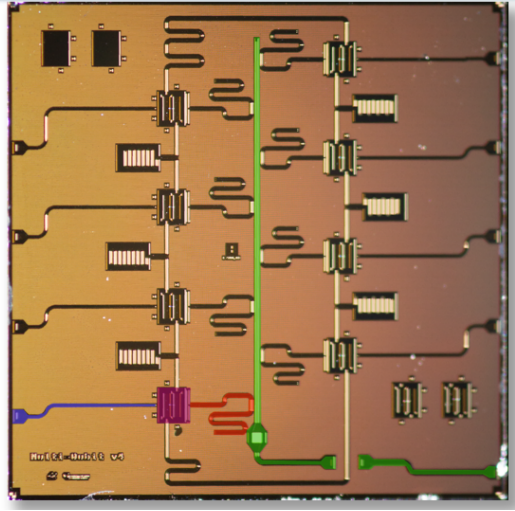
**EM Fields** of charge motion described by **Circuit QED**

**Anharmonic oscillator** potentials treated as **artificial atoms**, with lowest 2 levels as **qubit**

Qubit levels **controlled** by resonant **microwave field** drives

Qubit levels **measured** via dispersive frequency-shift of coupled **microwave resonator** mode

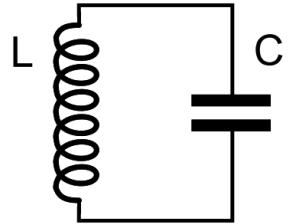
# Circuit QED Overview



**Canonically conjugate dynamical variables:**  $[\hat{\Phi}, \hat{Q}] = i\hbar$

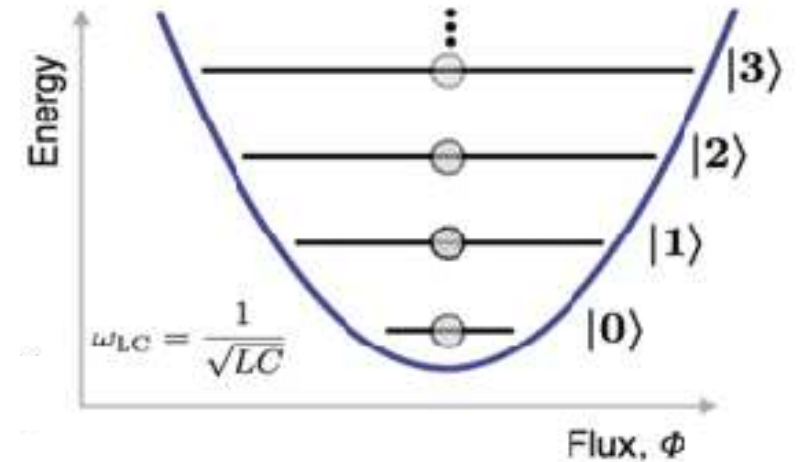
- inductive (magnetic) **flux**:  $\hat{\Phi} = \Phi_0 \hat{\phi}$ ,  $\Phi_0 = \hbar/2e$
- capacitive (electric) **charge**:  $\hat{Q} = (2e) \hat{n}$

**Dimensionless conjugate variables:**  $[\hat{\phi}, \hat{n}] = i$

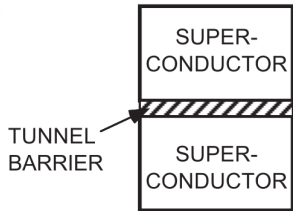


## Example: Harmonic Oscillator

Useful circuit, but **bad qubit**:  
Can't isolate specific level pairs since  
**all energy gaps are identical**

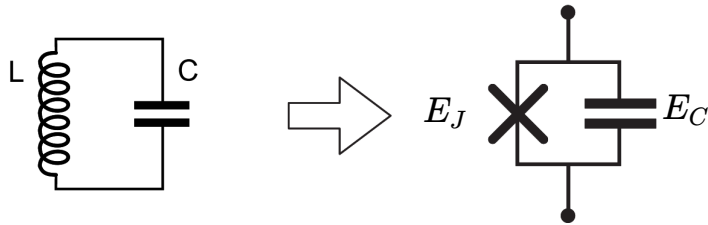
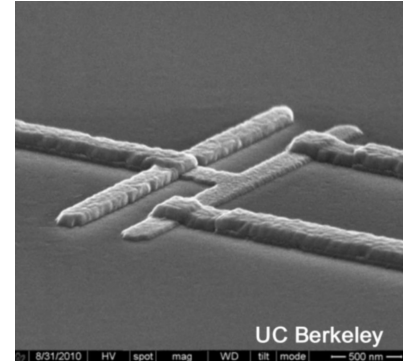


# Quantum Pendulum

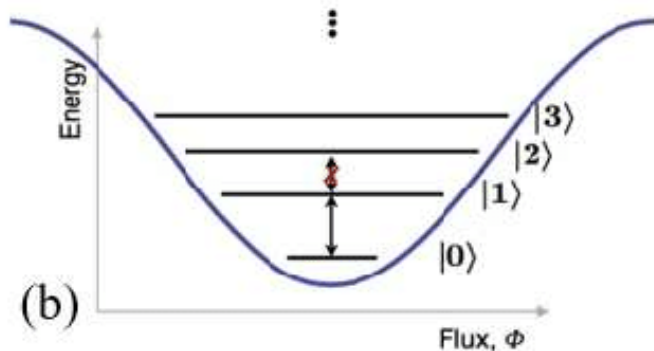


**Josephson Junction:**  $\hat{H}_J = E_J \left( 1 - \cos \hat{\phi} \right) \approx \frac{E_J}{2} \hat{\phi}^2 - \frac{E_J}{4!} \hat{\phi}^4 + \dots$

$\hat{\phi} = \frac{\hat{\Phi}}{\Phi_0}, \quad E_J = \frac{\Phi_0^2}{L_J}$  Acts as *nonlinear inductance*  $\Rightarrow$  *anharmonic oscillator*  
*Shunting with large capacitor shields from charge noise*



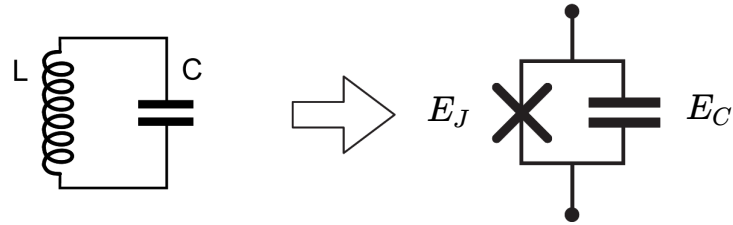
Nonlinear inductance makes energy gaps different  
**Energy level pairs now addressable as qubits**



Multiple levels are bound in the cosine well, like an **artificial atom**  
**The bottom two levels are the most stable qubit**

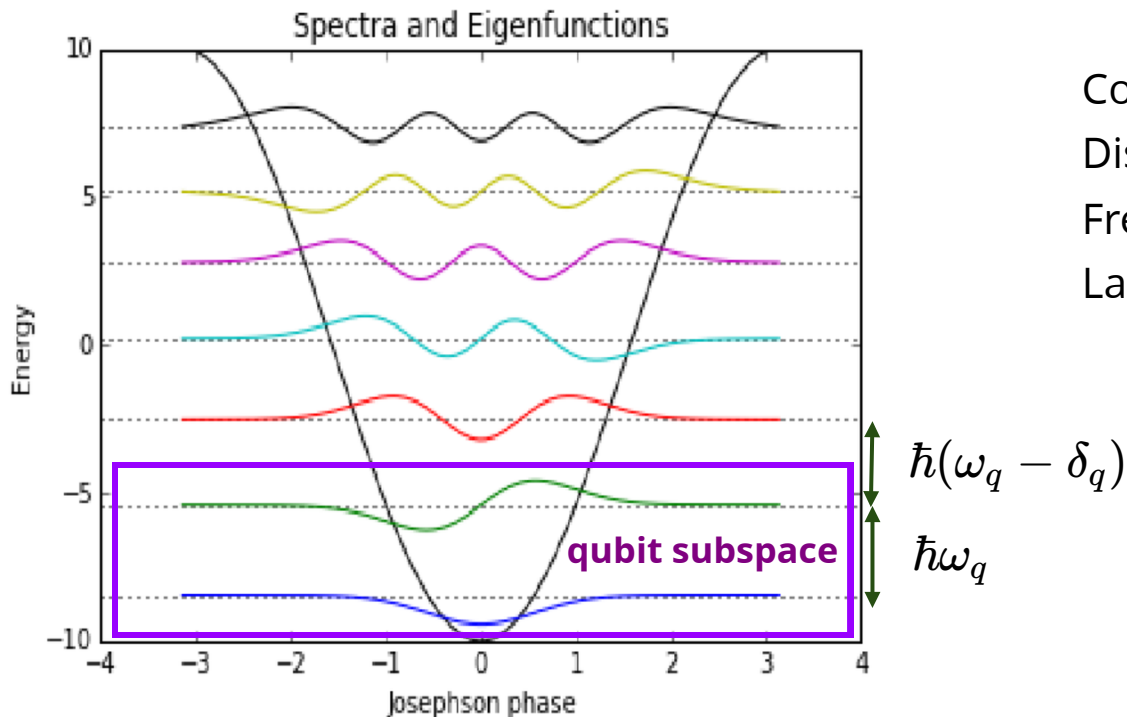
**Microwave drive** resonant with qubit energy gap  
 induces single-qubit gates (controlled Rabi oscillations)

# Transmon Qubit



$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_C + \hat{H}_J = E_C (2\hat{n})^2 + E_J (1 - \cos \hat{\phi})$$

Large shunt capacitor  $\frac{E_J}{E_C} \approx 100$



$$\omega_q/2\pi \sim 4\text{--}7\text{GHz} \quad \delta_q/2\pi \sim 100\text{--}300\text{MHz}$$

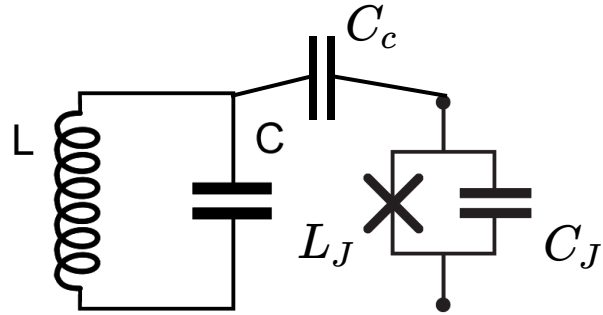
Cosine potential acts like an **artificial atom** with  $\sim 7$  levels  
 Distinct level spacings allow **targeted control** of specific pairs of levels  
 Frequency gaps in the **microwave** regime  
 Large capacitor **protects against charge noise**

## Distinct behavior from optical regime with real atoms:

- Engineered chips permit *ultra-strong* and *deep-strong* coupling regimes that are difficult to achieve with atoms
- Lower frequencies than optics make *transients* more relevant
- *Emission* can be *directionally controlled* down waveguides to minimize collection loss and increase detection efficiency

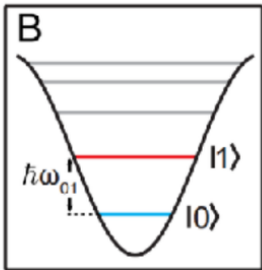
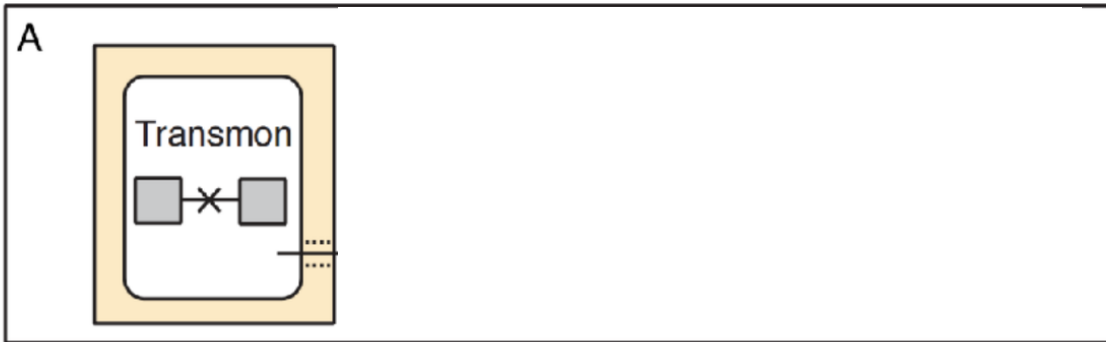
$$\hat{H} \approx E_0 \hat{1} + \hbar\omega_q |1\rangle\langle 1| + \hbar(2\omega_q - \delta_q) |2\rangle\langle 2| \approx \frac{E_0}{2} \hat{1} - \frac{\hbar\omega_q}{2} \hat{\sigma}_z \quad \hat{\sigma}_z = |0\rangle\langle 0| - |1\rangle\langle 1| \quad \text{Qubit Pauli Z}$$

# How do we Measure a Superconducting Qubit?



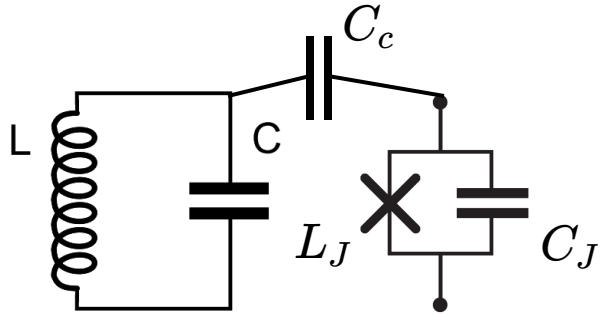
## Problem:

Qubit is on a chip inside a fridge near absolute zero.  
How does one "measure the energy eigenstate" of the qubit  
*without causing unwanted changes to those energy states?*



Transmon qubit

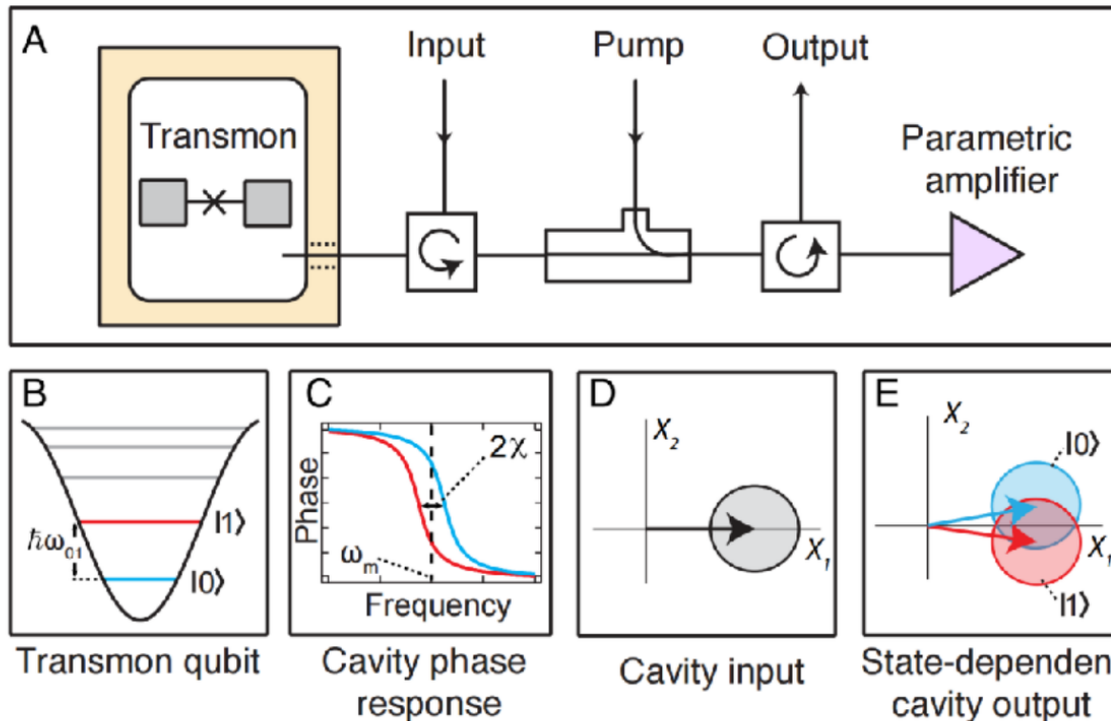
# How do we Measure a Superconducting Qubit?



## Problem:

Qubit is on a chip inside a fridge near absolute zero.  
How does one "measure the energy eigenstate" of the qubit *without causing unwanted changes to those energy states*?

## Solution:

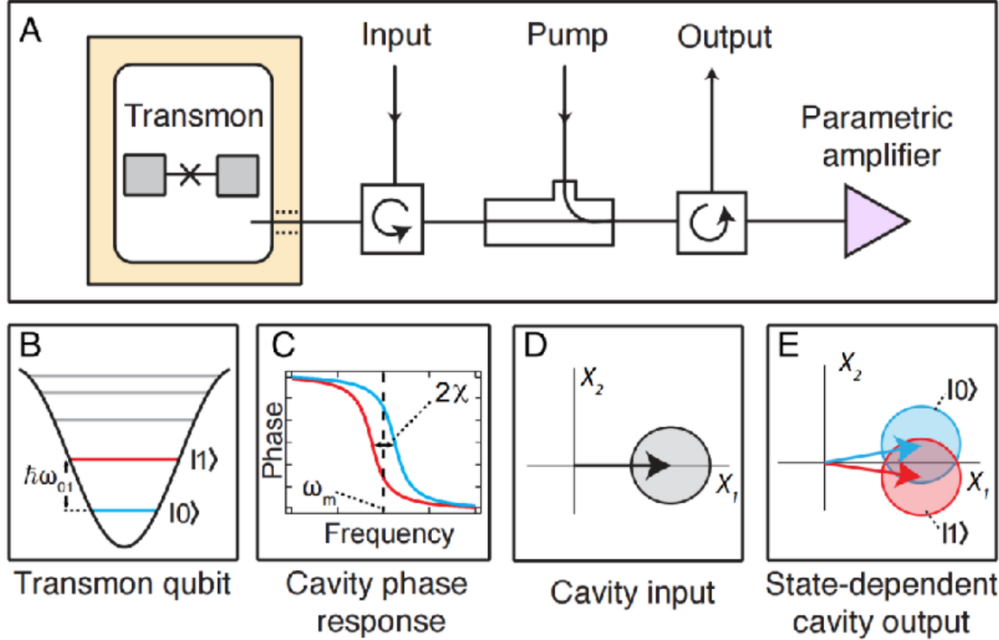


*Indirectly peek at the qubit energy by dispersively coupling the qubit to a strongly detuned resonator, then probing that resonator with a microwave tone.*

The *frequency shift* of the leaked and amplified tone stores *information* about the energy state of the qubit *without allowing energy transitions* between the qubit and resonator.

This type of measurement that does not disturb energy eigenstates in the process of measuring the energy is called a "*quantum non-demolition (QND) measurement*".

# Dispersive Readout: Quantum Filtering



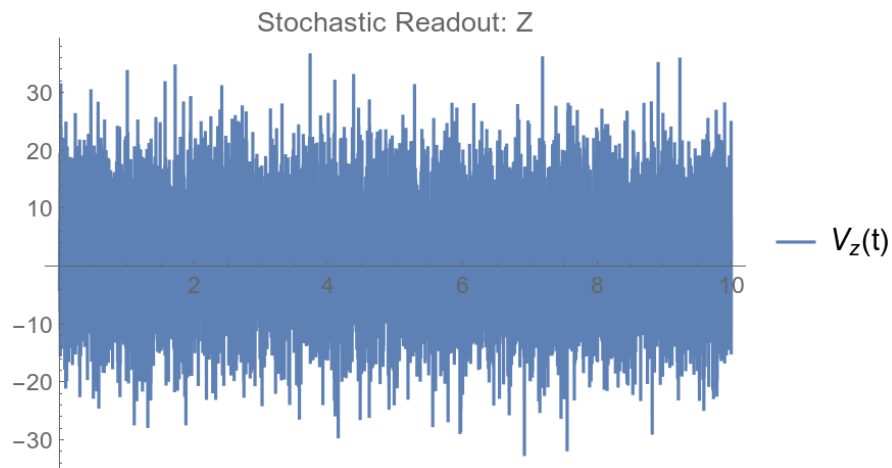
## Problem:

The microwave probe tone must be *compared* to the original source, using *homodyne* or *heterodyne* measurements.

*These signals are noisy due to the intrinsic vacuum noise of the source, which dominates the tiny amount of qubit information per unit time.*

Need to:

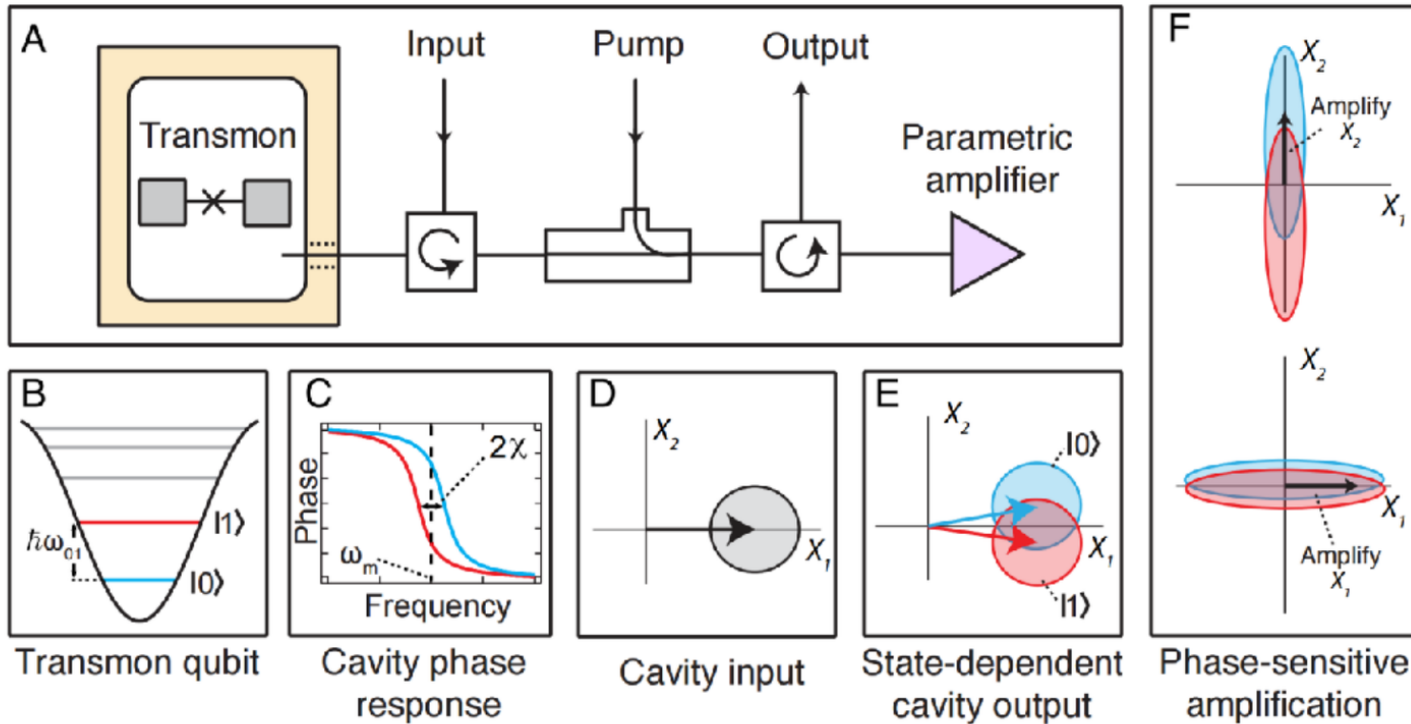
- process *stochastic* voltage records (**classical signal filtering**)
- infer corresponding state evolution (**quantum state filtering**)



**Bayes' Rule** from probability theory and the

**Born rule** from quantum mechanics dictate how the **state partially collapses** with information gain!

# Dispersive Readout: Amplification



Outgoing signal is **further amplified** to enhance phase difference in steady-state resonator modes

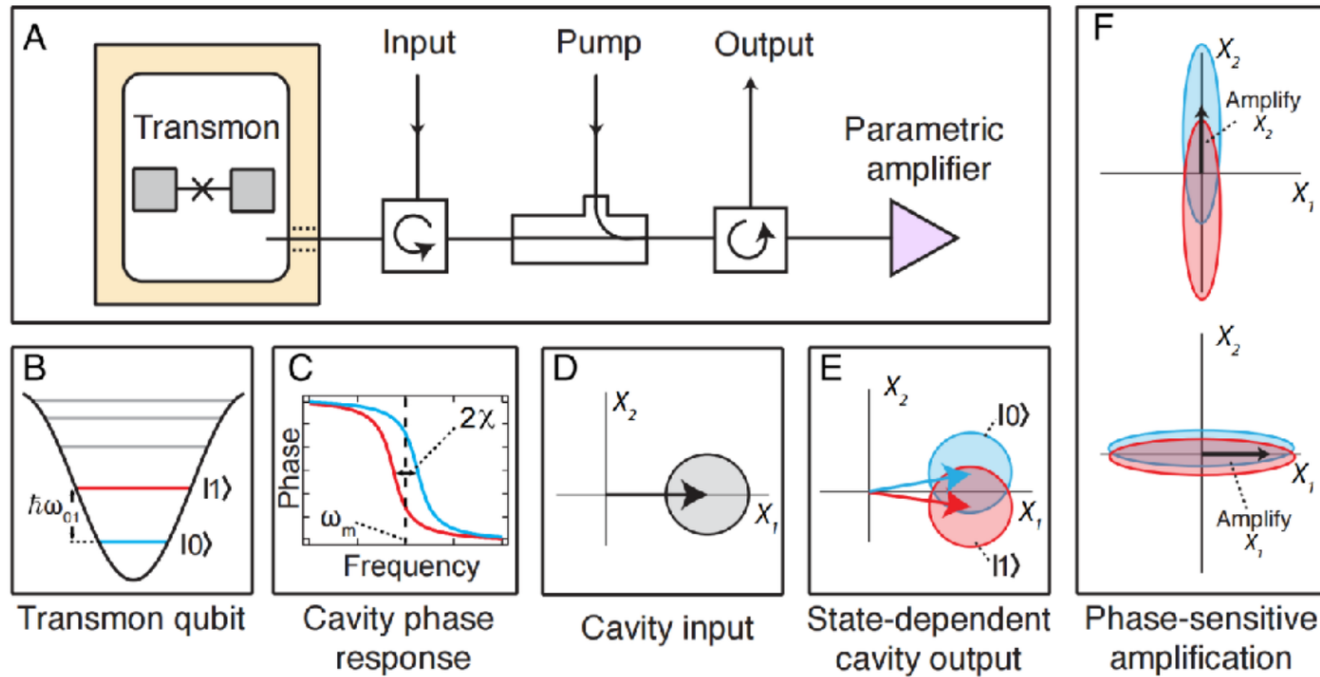
One (*informational*) quadrature encodes the **qubit state information** as a displacement of the signal distribution

The orthogonal (*phase*) quadrature encodes **photon number fluctuations** inside the resonator

**Quantum-limited amplifiers** (built from Josephson junctions using their nonlinear inductance):

- **Josephson Parametric Amplifier (JPA)**: narrow-band reflected 3-wave mixer
  - can operate in phase-sensitive (squeezed, above) or phase-preserving (unsqueezed) modes
- **Traveling Wave Parametric Amplifier (TWPA)**: *broad-band* amplification over transmission-line propagation
  - only operates in phase-preserving (unsqueezed) mode

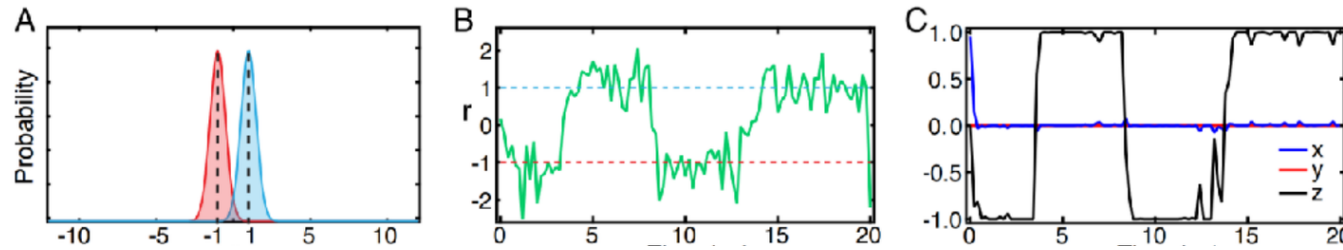
# Strong Continuous Monitoring



**Stronger coupling** yields more *distinguishable* resonator states

*More information per unit time* yields more *rapid projection* to the stationary eigenstates of the coupling

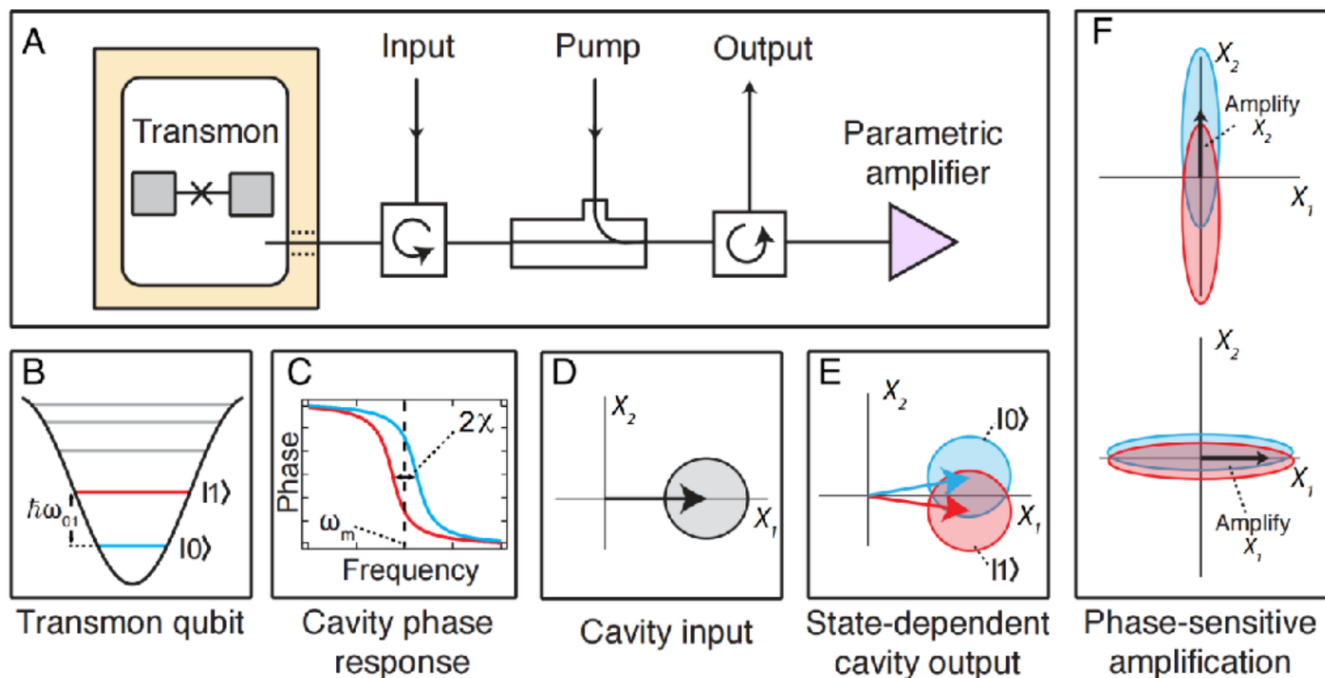
=> **Strong continuous measurement**



Single shot "projective" readout

- Integrated signal clearly distinguishes definite qubit states
- "quantum jumps" visible (useful for syndrome detection)
- Prevents normal dynamics from occurring (*quantum Zeno effect*)

# Weak Continuous Monitoring



**Weaker coupling** yields  
*less distinguishable* resonator states

*Less information per unit time* yields  
*slower projection* to the coupling eigenstates

=> **Weak continuous measurement**

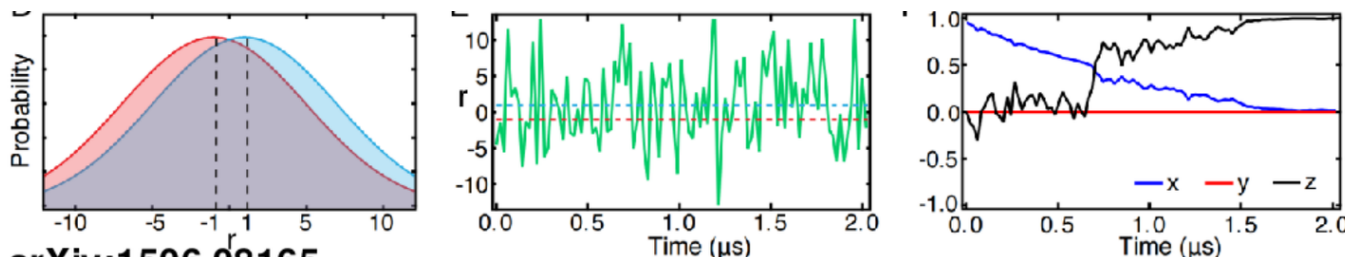
**Following Bayes' rule**, the qubit state  
*randomly walks* as probabilities are updated  
with each chunk of information in the signal

- Quantum state less affected per unit time
- Same average information** collected over an ensemble
- Can "gently" **monitor** average information **during dynamics**,
- State **gradually collapses** to an eigenstate as information accumulates.

$$P(k|r) = \frac{P(r|k)P(k)}{P(r|1)P(1) + P(r|0)P(0)}$$

$$|\psi\rangle = \sqrt{P(0)}|0\rangle + \sqrt{P(1)}e^{i\phi}|1\rangle$$

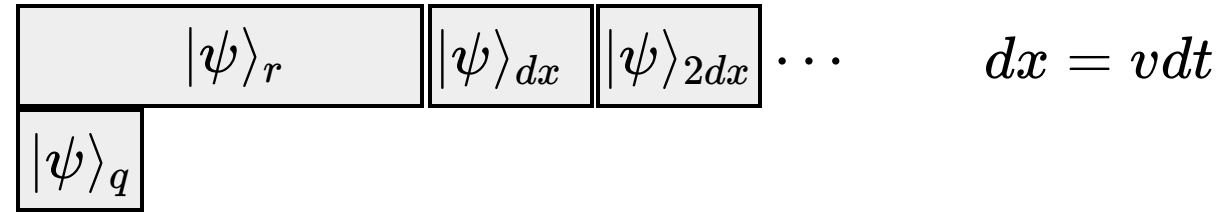
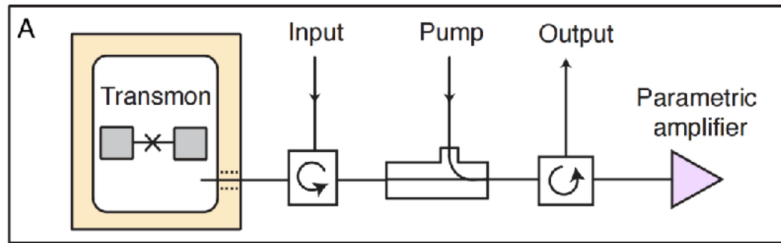
$$|\psi\rangle \xrightarrow{r} \sqrt{P(0|r)}|0\rangle + \sqrt{P(1|r)}e^{i\phi}|1\rangle$$



# Steady-state Scattering Model

## • Transmon + Resonator + Transmission Line:

Koroktov, Phys. Rev. A 94, 042326 (2016)  
JD group, Phys. Rev. A 96, 022311 (2017)



- Coherent drive yields 2 qubit-dependent **resonator coherent states** :  $|\alpha_0\rangle$ , and  $|\alpha_1\rangle$
- Beam-splitter-like **scattering** to transmission line
- Per unit time  $dt$ , amplitude  $\sqrt{\kappa dt}$  of coherent field leaks into transmission line segment of width  $dx$
- Once in tail, each  $dx$  simply propagates down the line from segment to segment

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi(2dt)\rangle &= c_0|0\rangle|\alpha_0(2dt)\rangle|\sqrt{\kappa dt}\alpha_0(dt)\rangle \cdots \\ &+ c_1|1\rangle|\alpha_1(2dt)\rangle|\sqrt{\kappa dt}\alpha_1(dt)\rangle \cdots \end{aligned}$$

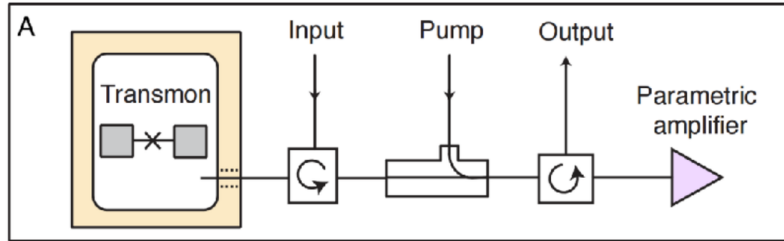
Entanglement stores **memory** of past interactions

- Tracing out the transmission line yields effective "dephasing"/"decoherence" of the qubit state
- Measuring the transmission line **collapses** the entangled factors and changes qubit amplitudes, yielding stochastic dynamics

# Steady-state Scattering Model

- **Transmon + Resonator + Transmission Line:**

Koroktov, Phys. Rev. A 94, 042326 (2016)  
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$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline |\psi\rangle_r \\ \hline |\psi\rangle_q \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline |\psi\rangle_{dx} \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline |\psi\rangle_{2dx} \\ \hline \end{array} \cdots \quad dx = vdt$$

- Resonator evolution:  $\frac{d\alpha_{0/1}}{dt} = \mp i\chi\alpha_{0/1} - \frac{\kappa}{2}\alpha_{0/1} - i\varepsilon$
- Coherent steady states:  $\alpha_{0/1} = \frac{-i2\varepsilon}{\kappa} \frac{1}{1 \pm i2\chi/\kappa}$ ,  $\bar{n} = |\alpha_{0/1}|^2 = \frac{4|\varepsilon|^2}{\kappa^2} \frac{1}{1 + (2\chi/\kappa)^2}$
- Reduced qubit-resonator state:  
 $\hat{\rho}_{qr} = |c_0|^2 |0\rangle\langle 0| \otimes |\alpha_0\rangle\langle \alpha_0| + |c_1|^2 |1\rangle\langle 1| \otimes |\alpha_1\rangle\langle \alpha_1| + c_0 c_1^* \langle \sqrt{\kappa dt} \alpha_1 | \sqrt{\kappa dt} \alpha_0 \rangle |0\rangle\langle 1| \otimes |\alpha_0\rangle\langle \alpha_1| + \text{h.c.}$
- Measurement-dephasing rate and ac-Stark shift:  $\langle \sqrt{\kappa dt} \alpha_1 | \sqrt{\kappa dt} \alpha_0 \rangle = \exp(-\Gamma_m dt + i \omega_S dt)$   
 $\Gamma_m = \frac{\kappa |\alpha_1 - \alpha_0|^2}{2} = \frac{8\chi^2 \bar{n}}{\kappa(1 + (2\chi/\kappa)^2)}$ ,  $\omega_S = \kappa \text{Im} \alpha_1^* \alpha_0 = \frac{4\chi \bar{n}}{1 + (2\chi/\kappa)^2}$

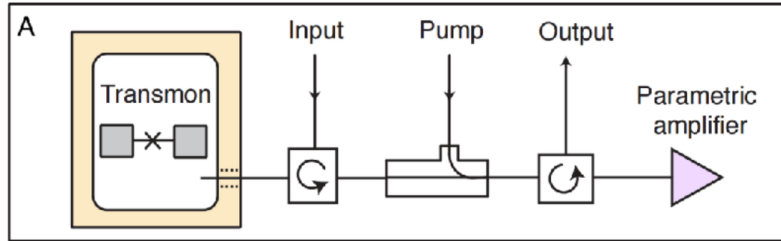
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JD group, forthcoming (2025)



$$\begin{array}{|c|} \hline |\psi\rangle_r \\ \hline |\psi\rangle_q \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline |\psi\rangle_{dx} \\ \hline \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{|c|} \hline |\psi\rangle_{2dx} \\ \hline \end{array} \cdots \quad dx = vdt$$

- Post-measurement qubit-resonator state after measuring quadrature  $\langle I_\theta |$ :

$$|\Psi_{qr}\rangle' = c_0 \langle I_\theta | \sqrt{\kappa dt} \alpha_0 \rangle |0\rangle |\alpha_0\rangle + c_1 \langle I_\theta | \sqrt{\kappa dt} \alpha_1 \rangle |1\rangle |\alpha_1\rangle = (\hat{M}_{I_\theta} \otimes \hat{1}) |\Psi_{qr}\rangle$$

$$\langle I_\theta | \sqrt{\kappa dt} \alpha_{0/1} \rangle = \frac{1}{\pi} \exp \left[ -\frac{1}{2} (I_\theta - \sqrt{2\kappa dt} \operatorname{Re}(\alpha_{0/1} e^{i\theta}))^2 + I_\theta \sqrt{2\kappa dt} \operatorname{Im}(\alpha_{0/1} e^{i\theta}) - i\kappa dt \operatorname{Re}(\alpha_{0/1} e^{i\theta}) \operatorname{Im}(\alpha_{0/1} e^{i\theta}) \right]$$

- Qubit Gaussian POVM:

$$\hat{M}_{I_\theta}^\dagger \hat{M}_{I_\theta} dI_\theta = \hat{M}_{r,\theta}^\dagger \hat{M}_{r,\theta} dr = \sqrt{\frac{\Gamma_m dt}{\pi}} \exp(-dt \Gamma_m (r - \cos \theta \hat{\sigma}_z)^2) dr,$$

$$r = \frac{I_\theta}{\sqrt{\Gamma_m dt}} - \frac{\kappa}{2\chi} \sin \theta$$

- Qubit Measurement (Kraus) Operator:

$$\hat{M}_{r,\theta} = (\Gamma dt)^{1/4} [\langle I_\theta | \sqrt{\kappa dt} \alpha_0 \rangle |0\rangle \langle 0| + \langle I_\theta | \sqrt{\kappa dt} \alpha_1 \rangle |1\rangle \langle 1|] = \sqrt{\bar{p}(r, \theta)} \hat{U}_\theta \exp(dt \Gamma_m r e^{-i\theta} \hat{\sigma}_z)$$

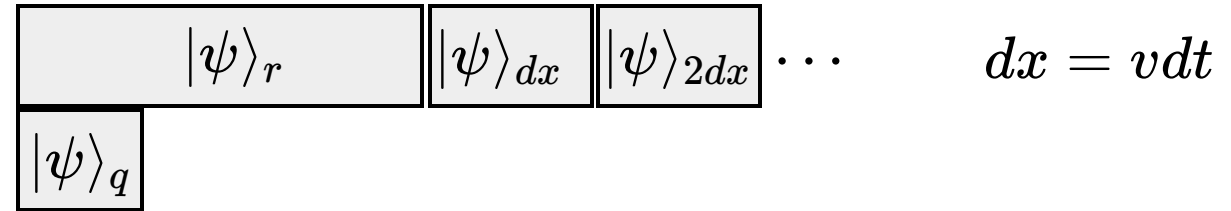
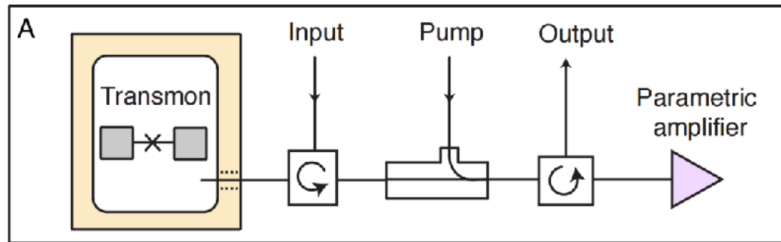
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- **Take-aways:**

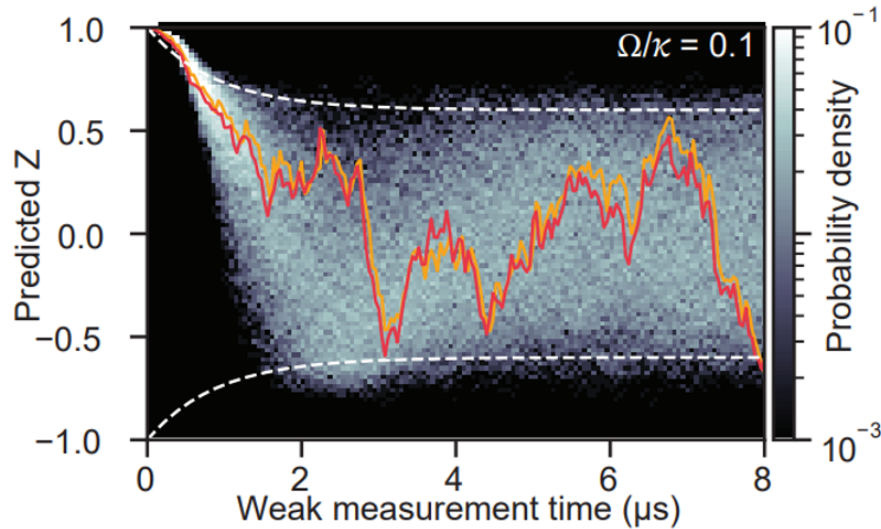
- Steady **coherent-state scattering model works extremely well** to predict experiment
- Depends on **transmission line "boxcar"** of width  $dx = vdt$ , set by the **detector time resolution**
- Each boxcar in the transmission line train is an **independent Hilbert space factor**
- Each boxcar must be an **commuting bosonic mode** supporting compatible coherent states

- **Limitations:**

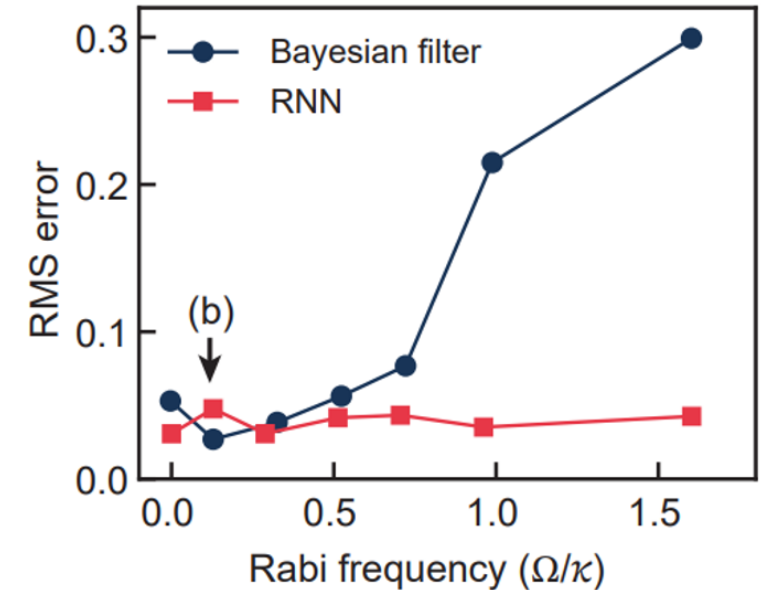
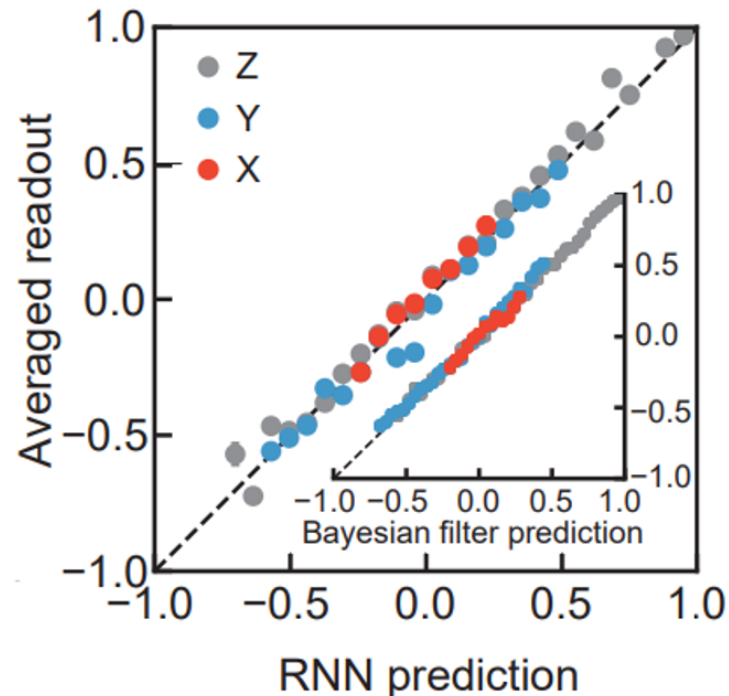
- Assumes resonator returns to steady state faster than each boxcar time  $dt$ : **no transient evolution!**
- Assumes qubit evolution is adiabatic on relaxation timescale: **no fast qubit dynamics!**
- Assumes conditional coherent states: **no exotic resonator states!**
- Good for analytic qubit formulation: **no numerical simulation** of resonator dynamics!

# Machine Learning of Quantum Trajectories

Siddiqi group, JD, *PRX* 12, 031017 (2022)



- RNN trajectory predictions compare favorably to *tomographic strong readout* (for the same slow Rabi trajectories shown on left)
- Bayesian comparison inset



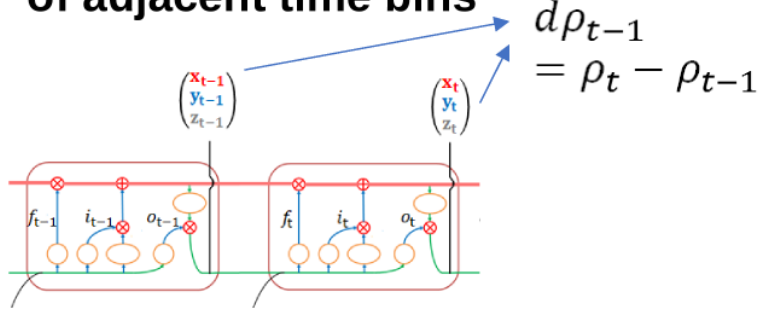
- For **slow** Rabi drive ( $2\Omega_R/\kappa = 0.2$ ):
  - RNN trajectories (red) agree well with standard Bayesian update trajectories (orange)
  - Measurement dephasing from inefficiency balances purification over Rabi period to confine diffusive trajectories

- RMS error averaged over the three qubit coordinates shown above vs. Rabi frequency
- For **faster** Rabi drive ( $2\Omega_R/\kappa \geq 1$ ) the simple Bayesian update filter fails while the **LSTM RNN filter maintains consistent accuracy**

# Machine Learning of Quantum Trajectories

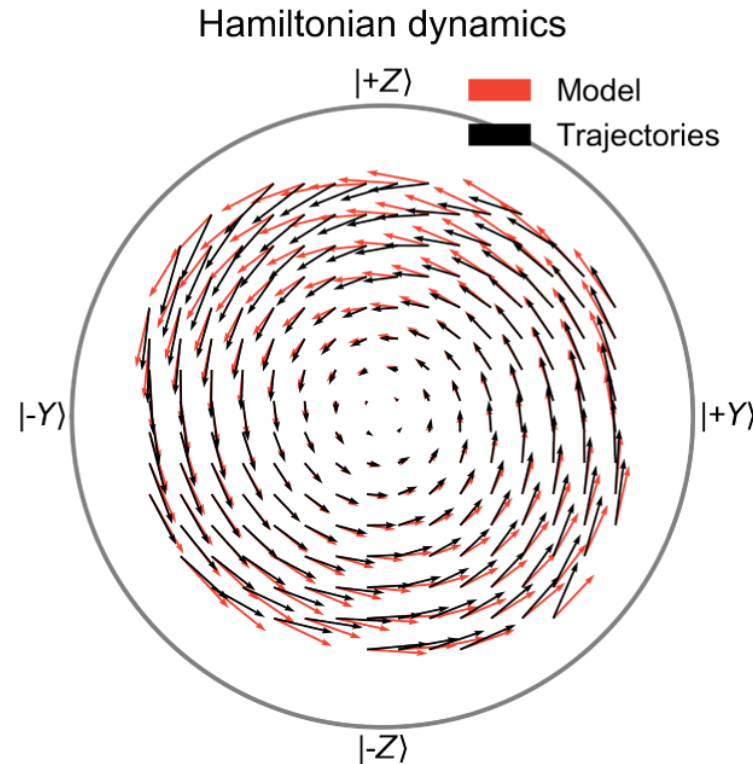
Siddiqi group, JD, *PRX* 12, 031017 (2022)

**LSTM RNN** produces successive state estimates, so directly predicts the **state increment at every pair of adjacent time bins**

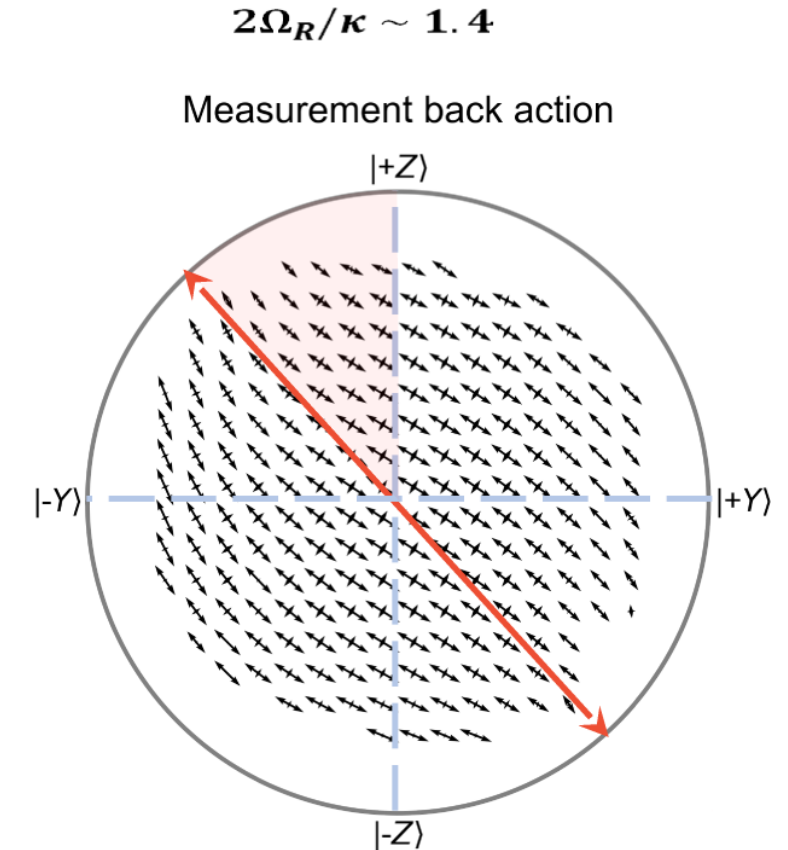


State update parameters can be fit and extracted, and their dynamical contributions analyzed independently

$$d\rho_t = \underbrace{\left( i[H_R, \rho_t] + \mathcal{L} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{\gamma\phi}{2}} \sigma_Z \right] \rho_t \right) dt}_{\text{deterministic evolution}} + \underbrace{\sqrt{\eta} \mathcal{H} \left[ \sqrt{\frac{\gamma\phi}{2}} \sigma_Z \right] \rho_t dw_t}_{\text{backaction}}$$



Extracted **RNN Hamiltonian dynamics** agrees well with that expected from Rabi control, even with faster drives

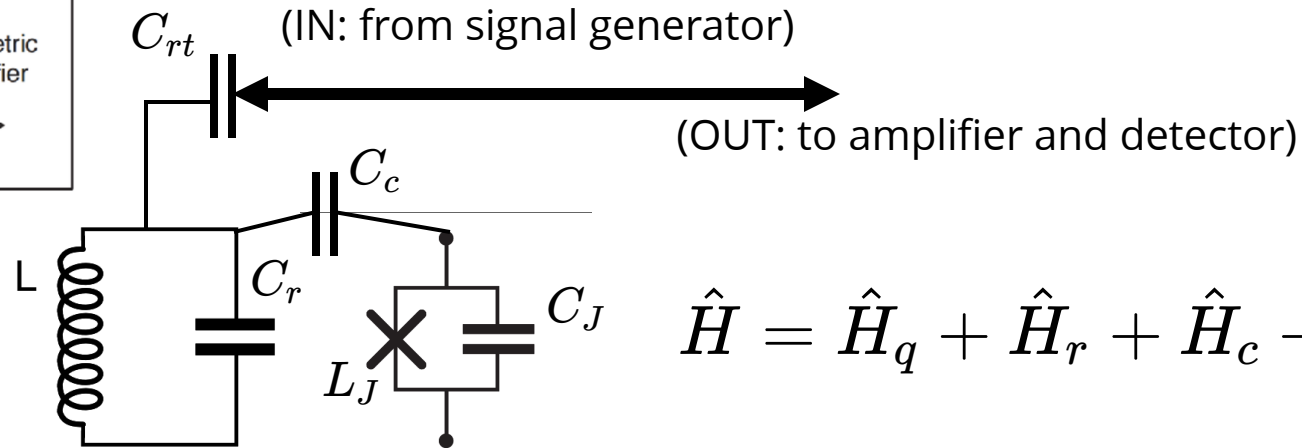
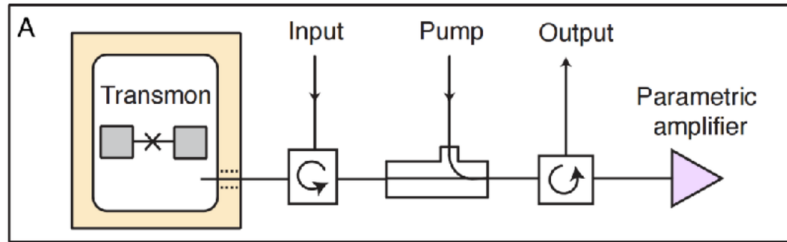


Extracted **RNN collapse dynamics** reveals **Rabi-induced physics**:

1. Tilted measurement axis
2. Reduced collapse rate

# Circuit-QED: Transmission-line Fields

Campagne-Ibarcq (2017)



$c, l$  Capacitance, Inductance per unit length

$$v = \frac{1}{\sqrt{lc}} \quad Z_t = \sqrt{\frac{l}{c}}$$

$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_q + \hat{H}_r + \hat{H}_c + \hat{H}_t + \hat{H}_{rt}$$

$$\hat{H}_t = \int_0^\lambda \left[ \frac{\hat{q}(x)^2}{2c} + \frac{(\partial_x \hat{\phi}(x))^2}{2l} \right] dx = v \int_0^\lambda (\hat{A}^\leftarrow(x)^2 + \hat{A}^\rightarrow(x)^2) dx = \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \hbar \omega_k \frac{\hat{c}_k^\dagger \hat{c}_k + \hat{c}_k \hat{c}_k^\dagger}{2}$$

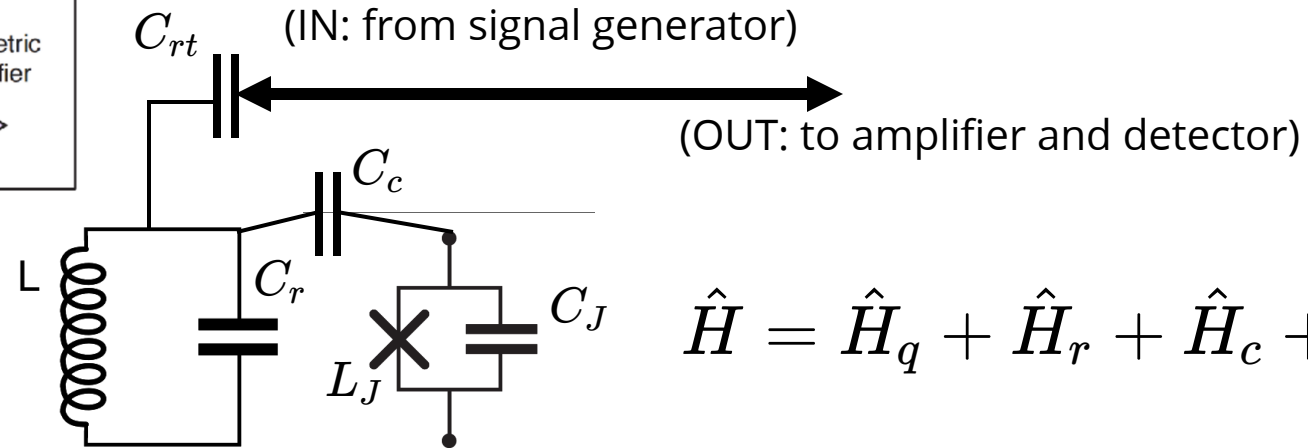
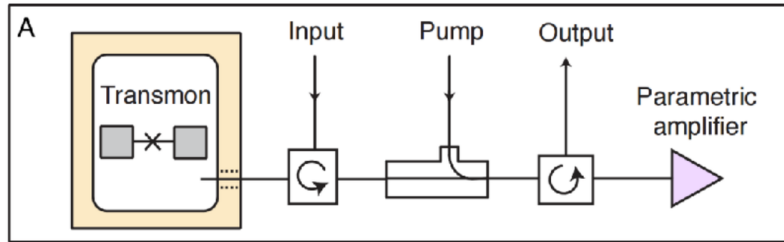
Transmission line: **local quantum fields**  $[\hat{\phi}(x), \hat{q}(x')] = i\hbar\delta(x - x')$

**Local traveling waves:**  $\hat{A}^\rightleftharpoons(s = t \mp x/v) = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{v}} \left( \frac{\partial_s \hat{\phi}(s)}{\sqrt{l}} \pm \frac{\hat{q}(s)}{\sqrt{c}} \right) \quad [\hat{A}^\rightleftharpoons(s), \hat{A}^\rightleftharpoons(s')] = \frac{i\hbar}{2} \partial_s \delta(s - s')$

**Global harmonic modes:**  $\hat{c}_k = \sqrt{\frac{2v}{\lambda}} \int_0^\lambda \hat{A}^\rightarrow(x) \frac{e^{-ikx}}{\sqrt{\hbar\omega_k}} dx, \quad k > 0 \quad [\hat{c}_k, \hat{c}_{k'}^\dagger] = \delta_{kk'}$

**Measured bosonic modes are local wavelet packets**

# Resonator-Transmission-line Coupling



$$\hat{H} = \hat{H}_q + \hat{H}_r + \hat{H}_c + \hat{H}_t + \hat{H}_{rt}$$

$$\hat{H}_{rt} = \hat{\Phi} \hat{I}(x=0)$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar Z_r}{2}} (\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger) \sqrt{\frac{1}{Z_t}} (\hat{A}^\rightarrow(t) - \hat{A}^\leftarrow(t)) \\ &= \frac{\hbar}{2} \sqrt{\frac{Z_r}{Z_t}} (\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger) \sqrt{\frac{v}{\lambda}} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{\omega_k} (\hat{c}_{-k} + \hat{c}_{-k}^\dagger - \hat{c}_k - \hat{c}_k^\dagger) \\ &\equiv \frac{\hbar}{2} i \sqrt{\kappa} (\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger) (\hat{c}_{\text{in}} - \hat{c}_{\text{in}}^\dagger - \hat{c}_{\text{out}} + \hat{c}_{\text{out}}^\dagger) \end{aligned}$$

$$\kappa \equiv \omega_r \frac{Z_r}{Z_t} \quad \text{Resonator decay rate near } \omega_r$$

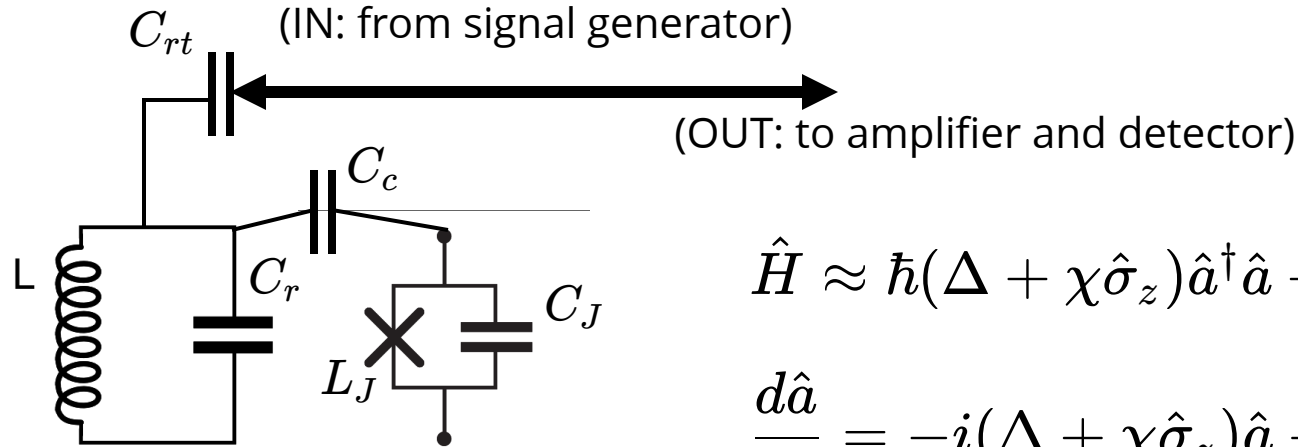
$$\begin{aligned} \hat{c}_{\text{in}} &\equiv -i \sqrt{\frac{v}{\lambda}} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_k}{\omega_r}} \hat{c}_{-k} \\ \hat{c}_{\text{out}} &\equiv -i \sqrt{\frac{v}{\lambda}} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \sqrt{\frac{\omega_k}{\omega_r}} \hat{c}_k \end{aligned}$$

**Input-output (boundary) condition:**

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\Phi} &= \hat{\phi}(x=0) \\ \Rightarrow \sqrt{\kappa} \hat{a} e^{-i\omega_d t} &= (\hat{c}_{\text{in}} + \hat{c}_{\text{out}}) e^{-i\omega_d t} \quad \text{(RWA)} \end{aligned}$$

**Approximately white in narrow frequency band near  $\omega_r$**

# Effective RWA Resonator Evolution



$$\hat{H} \approx \hbar(\Delta + \chi\hat{\sigma}_z)\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a} + \frac{\hbar}{2}i\sqrt{\kappa}[\hat{a}^\dagger(\hat{c}_{\text{in}} - \hat{c}_{\text{out}}) - \hat{a}(\hat{c}_{\text{in}}^\dagger - \hat{c}_{\text{out}}^\dagger)]$$

$$\frac{d\hat{a}}{dt} = -i(\Delta + \chi\hat{\sigma}_z)\hat{a} + \frac{\sqrt{\kappa}}{2}(\hat{c}_{\text{in}} - \hat{c}_{\text{out}})$$

$$\Delta = \omega_r - \omega_d$$

$$\sqrt{\kappa}\hat{a}e^{-i\omega_d t} = (\hat{c}_{\text{in}} + \hat{c}_{\text{out}})e^{-i\omega_d t}$$

$$\hat{c}_{\text{in}}(t) \approx -i(\varepsilon(t)/\sqrt{\kappa} + \hat{v}(t))$$

Vacuum fluctuations

$$[\hat{v}(t), \hat{v}^\dagger(t')] = \delta(t - t')$$

Markovian vacuum white noise

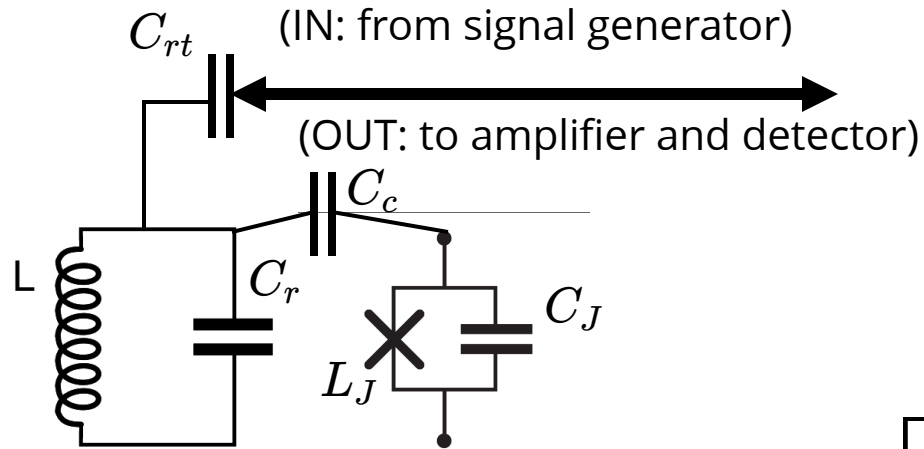
**Quantum Langevin Equation (RWA):**

$$\frac{d\hat{a}}{dt} = -i(\Delta + \chi\hat{\sigma}_z)\hat{a} - \frac{\kappa}{2}\hat{a} - i(\varepsilon(t) + \sqrt{\kappa}\hat{v}(t))$$

**Reflected field in transmission line:**

$$\hat{c}_{\text{out}}(t) = \sqrt{\kappa}\hat{a}(t) + i(\varepsilon(t)/\sqrt{\kappa} + \hat{v}(t))$$

# Effective Boxcar Propagator



Traveling reflected field:

$$\hat{c}_{\text{out}}(t) = \sqrt{\kappa} \hat{a}(t) + i(\varepsilon(t)/\sqrt{\kappa} + \hat{v}(t))$$

Finite bandwidth detector absorbs demodulated **compact wavelet mode**:

$$\hat{b}_{\text{out}}(t) = \int_{t-\Delta t}^t \hat{c}_{\text{out}}(t') \frac{dt'}{\sqrt{\Delta t}} \approx \sqrt{\kappa \Delta t} \hat{a}(t) - \hat{b}_{\text{in}}(t)$$

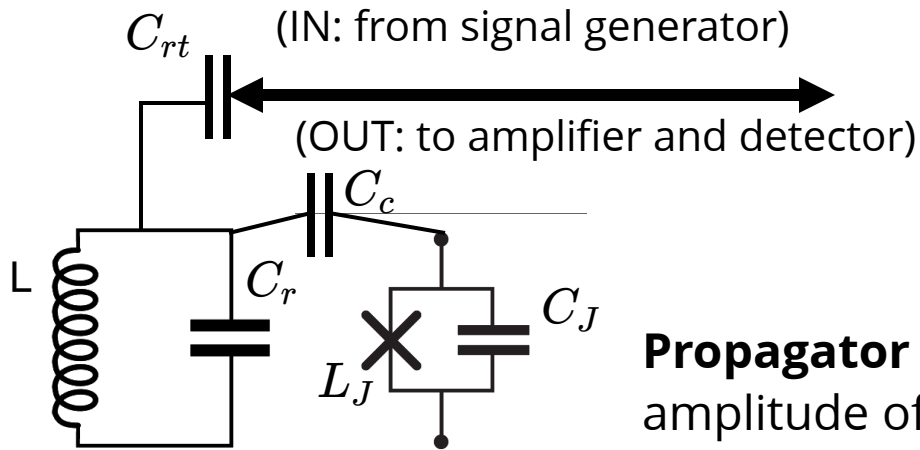
**Bosonic commutator** of wavelet mode must be preserved:

$$\langle \hat{b}_{\text{in}}(t) \rangle \approx -i\varepsilon(t') \sqrt{\frac{\Delta t}{\kappa}}, \quad [\hat{b}_{\text{in}}(t), \hat{b}_{\text{in}}^\dagger(t)] = 1 \quad \implies \quad [\hat{b}_{\text{out}}(t), \hat{b}_{\text{out}}^\dagger(t)] = 1$$

**Propagator** for digitized evolution "boxcar" duration  $\Delta t$ :

$$\hat{U} = \exp \left[ -\frac{i}{\hbar} \int_{t-\Delta t}^t \hat{H}(t') dt' \right] = \exp \left[ -i\Delta t(\Delta + \chi \hat{\sigma}_z) \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\kappa \Delta t} [\hat{a}^\dagger (\hat{b}_{\text{in}} - \hat{b}_{\text{out}}) - \hat{a} (\hat{b}_{\text{in}}^\dagger - \hat{b}_{\text{out}}^\dagger)] \right]$$

# Effective Boxcar Displacement and Initial State



$$\hat{b}_{\text{out}}(t) = \sqrt{\kappa \Delta t} \hat{a}(t) - \hat{b}_{\text{in}}(t)$$

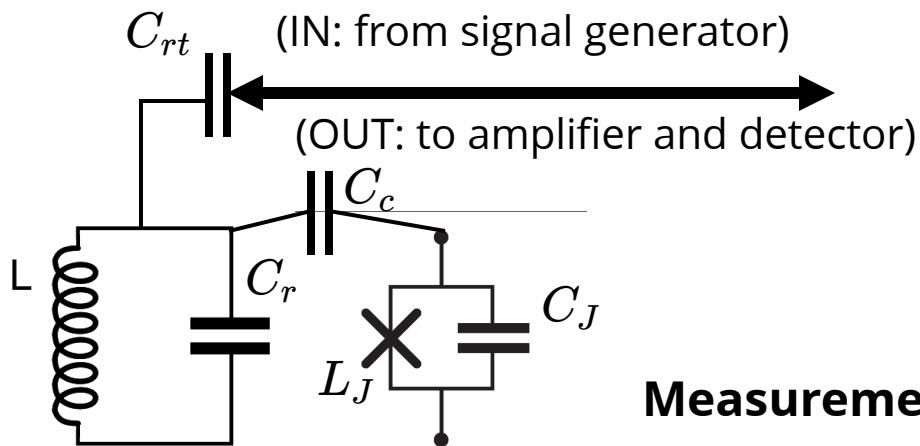
**Propagator** for "boxcar" looks like effective *displacement* of *output* mode by leaked amplitude of the resonator field!

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{U} &= \exp \left[ -i\Delta t(\Delta + \chi \hat{\sigma}_z) \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{\kappa \Delta t} [\hat{a}^\dagger (\hat{b}_{\text{in}} - \hat{b}_{\text{out}}) - \hat{a} (\hat{b}_{\text{in}}^\dagger - \hat{b}_{\text{out}}^\dagger)] \right] \\ &= \exp \left[ -i\Delta t(\Delta + \chi \hat{\sigma}_z) \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} + \boxed{\hat{b}_{\text{out}}^\dagger (\sqrt{\kappa \Delta t} \hat{a}) - \hat{b}_{\text{out}} (\sqrt{\kappa \Delta t} \hat{a}^\dagger)} \right] \end{aligned}$$

**Initial coherent state for *input* mode** is equivalent to **resonator drive Hamiltonian** and equivalent choice of **initial *negated* coherent state for the *output* mode**:

$$\begin{aligned} |-i\varepsilon \sqrt{\Delta t / \kappa}\rangle_{\text{in}} &= \exp \left[ \hat{b}_{\text{in}}^\dagger (-i\varepsilon \sqrt{\Delta t / \kappa}) - \hat{b}_{\text{in}} (i\varepsilon^* \sqrt{\Delta t / \kappa}) \right] |0\rangle \\ &= \boxed{\exp \left[ -i\Delta t (\hat{a}^\dagger \varepsilon + \hat{a} \varepsilon^*) \right] |+i\varepsilon \sqrt{\Delta t / \kappa}\rangle_{\text{out}}} \end{aligned}$$

# Return of the Steady-State Picture



$$\hat{U} = \exp \left[ -i\Delta t(\Delta + \chi\hat{\sigma}_z)\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a} + \hat{b}_{\text{out}}^\dagger(\sqrt{\kappa\Delta t}\hat{a}) - \hat{b}_{\text{out}}(\sqrt{\kappa\Delta t}\hat{a}^\dagger) \right]$$

$$|-i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa}\rangle_{\text{in}} = \exp \left[ -i\Delta t(\hat{a}^\dagger\varepsilon + \hat{a}\varepsilon^*) \right] | +i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa}\rangle_{\text{out}}$$

**Measurement** of output mode **post-selects** a particular state  $\langle I_\theta|$ , yielding an effective evolution **Kraus operator**:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{M}_{I_\theta} &= {}_{\text{out}} \langle I_\theta | \hat{U} |-i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa}\rangle_{\text{in}} \\ &= {}_{\text{out}} \langle I_\theta | \exp \left[ -i\Delta t(\Delta + \chi\hat{\sigma}_z)\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a} + \hat{b}_{\text{out}}^\dagger(\sqrt{\kappa\Delta t}\hat{a}) - \hat{b}_{\text{out}}(\sqrt{\kappa\Delta t}\hat{a}^\dagger) \right] \exp \left[ -i\Delta t(\hat{a}^\dagger\varepsilon + \hat{a}\varepsilon^*) \right] | +i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa}\rangle_{\text{out}} \end{aligned}$$

When the **resonator** is in a **steady coherent state**  $|\alpha_{0/1}\rangle$ , this simplifies:

$$\hat{M}_{I_\theta} \rightarrow \exp \left[ -i\Delta t((\Delta + \chi\hat{\sigma}_z)\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a} + \hat{a}^\dagger\varepsilon + \hat{a}\varepsilon^*) \right] {}_{\text{out}} \langle I_\theta | + i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa} + \sqrt{\kappa\Delta t}\alpha_{0/1} \rangle_{\text{out}}$$

Resonator Hamiltonian evolution

After subtraction of background reflected input pump, *this is the expected coherent state overlap of the steady-state boxcar picture!*

# Non-Hermitian Hamiltonian Evolution

**Phase-preserving measurement** of output mode **post-selects** a particular coherent state:  $\langle +i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa} + \sqrt{\kappa\Delta t} r |$   
 This choice subtracts the reflected pump and scales the readout result  $r$  to match the resonator  $\hat{a}$

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{M}_r &= {}_{\text{out}} \langle +i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa} + \sqrt{\kappa\Delta t} r | \hat{U} | -i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa} \rangle_{\text{in}} \\ &= e^{-i\Delta t(\Delta + \chi\hat{\sigma}_z)\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a} - i\Delta t(\hat{a}^\dagger\varepsilon + \hat{a}\varepsilon^*)} {}_{\text{out}} \langle +i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa} + \sqrt{\kappa\Delta t} r | e^{\hat{b}_{\text{out}}^\dagger(\sqrt{\kappa\Delta t}\hat{a}) - \hat{b}_{\text{out}}(\sqrt{\kappa\Delta t}\hat{a}^\dagger)} | +i\varepsilon\sqrt{\Delta t/\kappa} \rangle_{\text{out}}\end{aligned}$$

Expanding to linear order in  $\Delta t$  yields effectively **Non-Hermitian Hamiltonian evolution**:

$$\hat{M}_r = \exp\left(-\frac{i\Delta t}{\hbar}\hat{H}_{\text{eff}}(r)\right) {}_{\text{out}} \langle \sqrt{\kappa\Delta t} r | 0 \rangle_{\text{out}}$$

$$\hat{H}_{\text{eff}}(r) = \hbar(\Delta + \chi\hat{\sigma}_z)\hat{a}^\dagger\hat{a} + \hbar(\hat{a}^\dagger\varepsilon + \hat{a}\varepsilon^*) + i\hbar\kappa r^* \hat{a} - i\hbar\kappa \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}/2$$

**Stochastic** measurement backaction  
 (depends on random result  $r$ )

"No-jump" **Lindblad resonator decay**

# An Alternative Approach: Husimi Q

$$dP(r|\hat{\rho}) = \text{Tr}(d\hat{P}(r) \hat{\rho}) = \iint dP_Q(r|\alpha) P(\alpha|\hat{\rho}) d^2\alpha,$$

$$dP_Q(r|\alpha) = \frac{d^2r}{\pi} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa\Delta t}{\pi}} \exp[-\kappa\Delta t|r - \alpha|^2] = \frac{\langle\alpha| d\hat{P}(r) |\alpha\rangle}{\pi}$$

The  $Q$ -representation encodes eigenvalues  $\alpha$  for normally-ordered field-operator products.

The POVM  $d\hat{P}(r)$  can be evaluated and factored into a pair of *Kraus operators*  $\hat{M}_r$  and  $\hat{N}$

$$d\hat{P}(r) \equiv d^2r p_0(r) \exp(\kappa\Delta t r \hat{a}^\dagger) [1 - \kappa\Delta t]^{\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}} \exp(\kappa\Delta t r^* \hat{a}) \equiv d^2r p_0(r) (\hat{N} \hat{M}_r)^\dagger (\hat{N} \hat{M}_r),$$

$$p_0(r) = \sqrt{\frac{\kappa\Delta t}{\pi}} \exp(-\kappa\Delta t |r|^2) \propto |\langle \sqrt{\kappa\Delta t} r | 0 \rangle|^2,$$

$$\hat{M}_r \equiv \exp(\kappa\Delta t r^* \hat{a}),$$

$$\hat{N} \equiv [1 - \kappa\Delta t]^{\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}/2} \approx \exp(-\kappa\Delta t \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}/2)$$

# Phase-preserving Measurements

## Regime 1:

$$2\chi/\kappa = 1$$

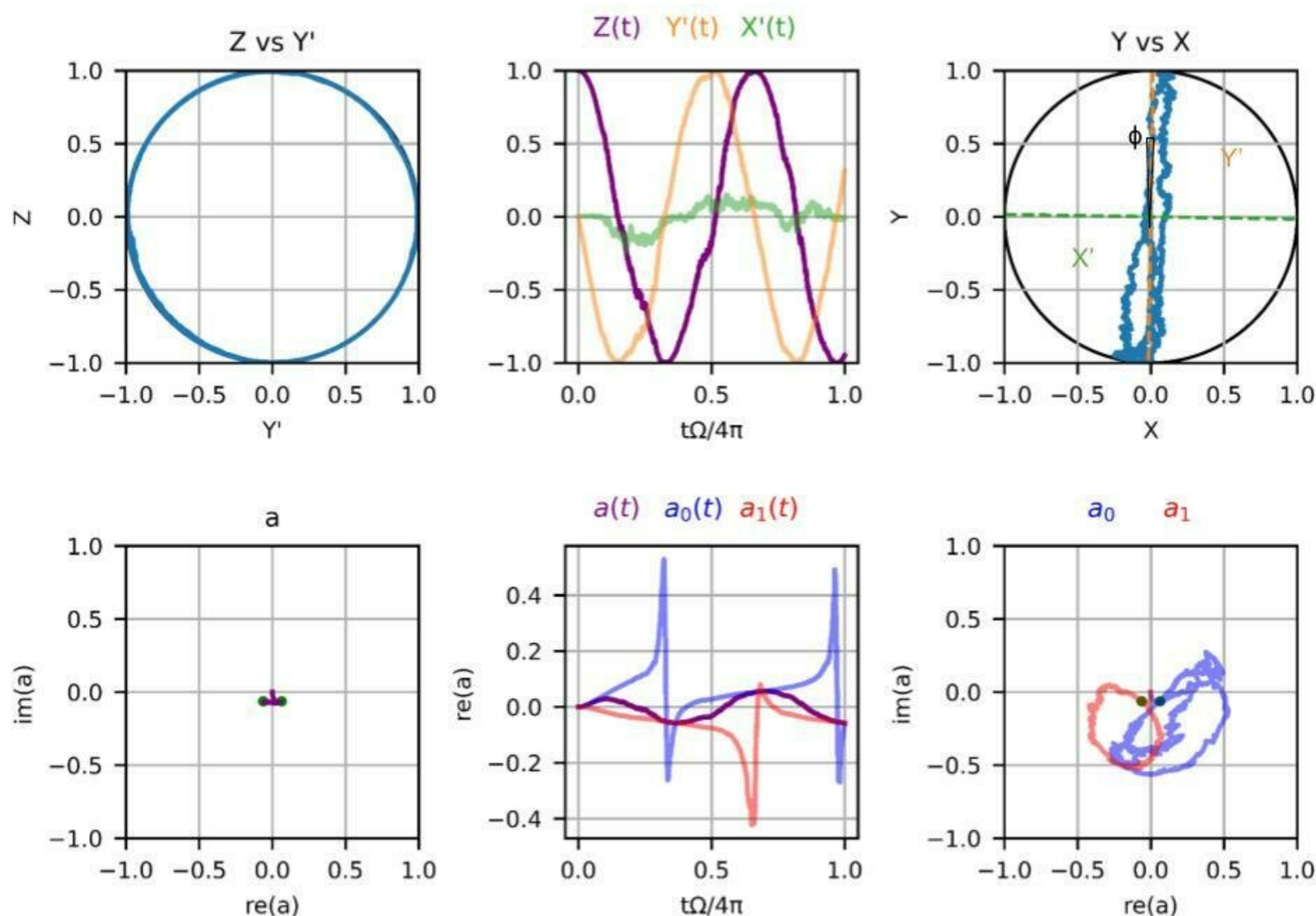
$$2\Omega/\kappa = 0.8$$

$$2\varepsilon/\kappa = 0.125$$

$$\Gamma_m/\Omega = 0.02$$

**weak  
measurement**

Conditioned resonator  
states follow weak-  
valued trajectories!



# Phase-preserving Measurements

## Regime 2:

$$2\chi/\kappa = 1$$

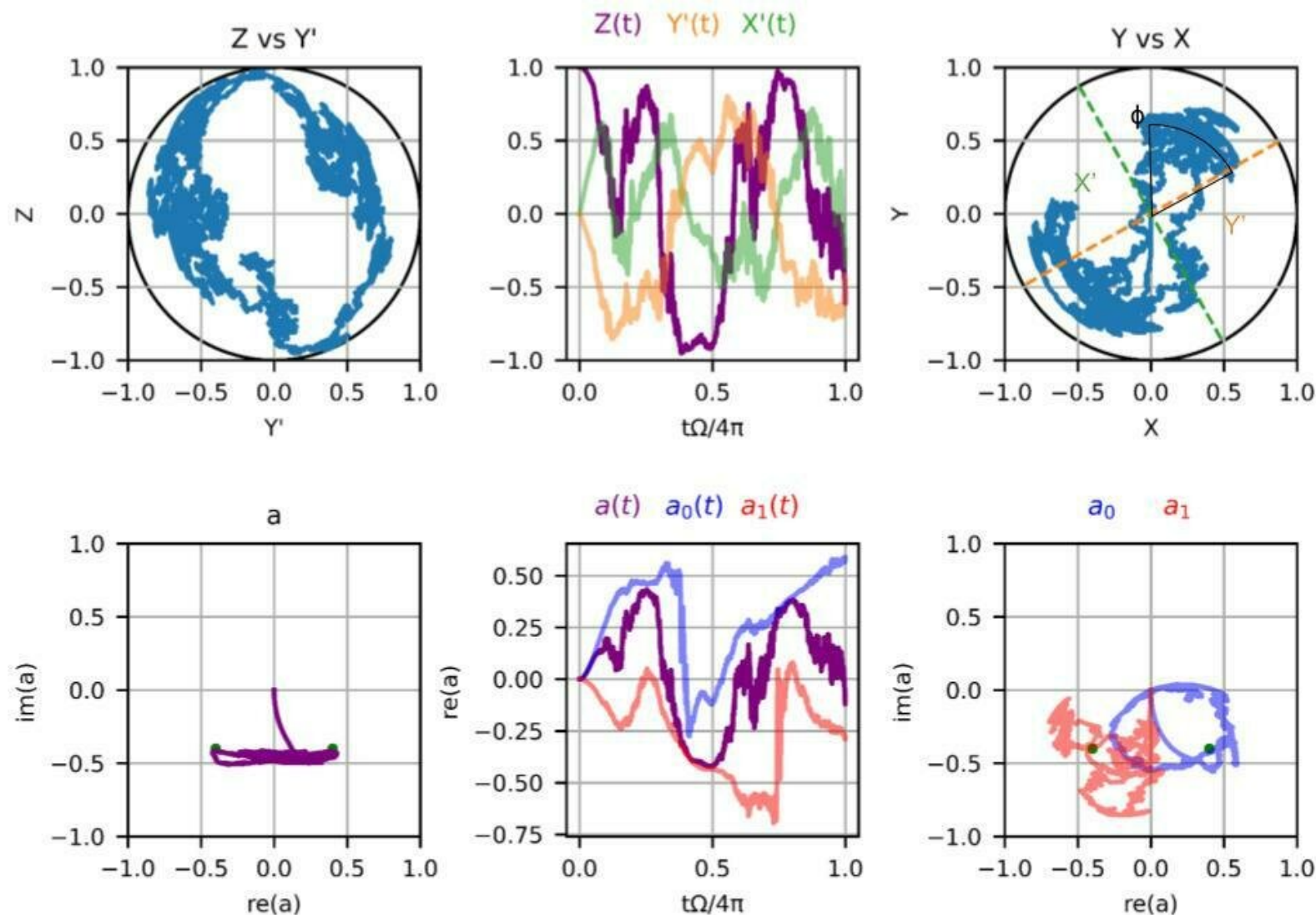
$$2\Omega/\kappa = 0.8$$

$$2\varepsilon/\kappa = 0.8$$

$$\Gamma_m/\Omega = 0.8$$

***wishy-washy  
measurement***

Frustrated competition  
between measurement  
and unitary dynamics



# Phase-preserving Measurements

## Regime 3:

$$2\chi/\kappa = 1$$

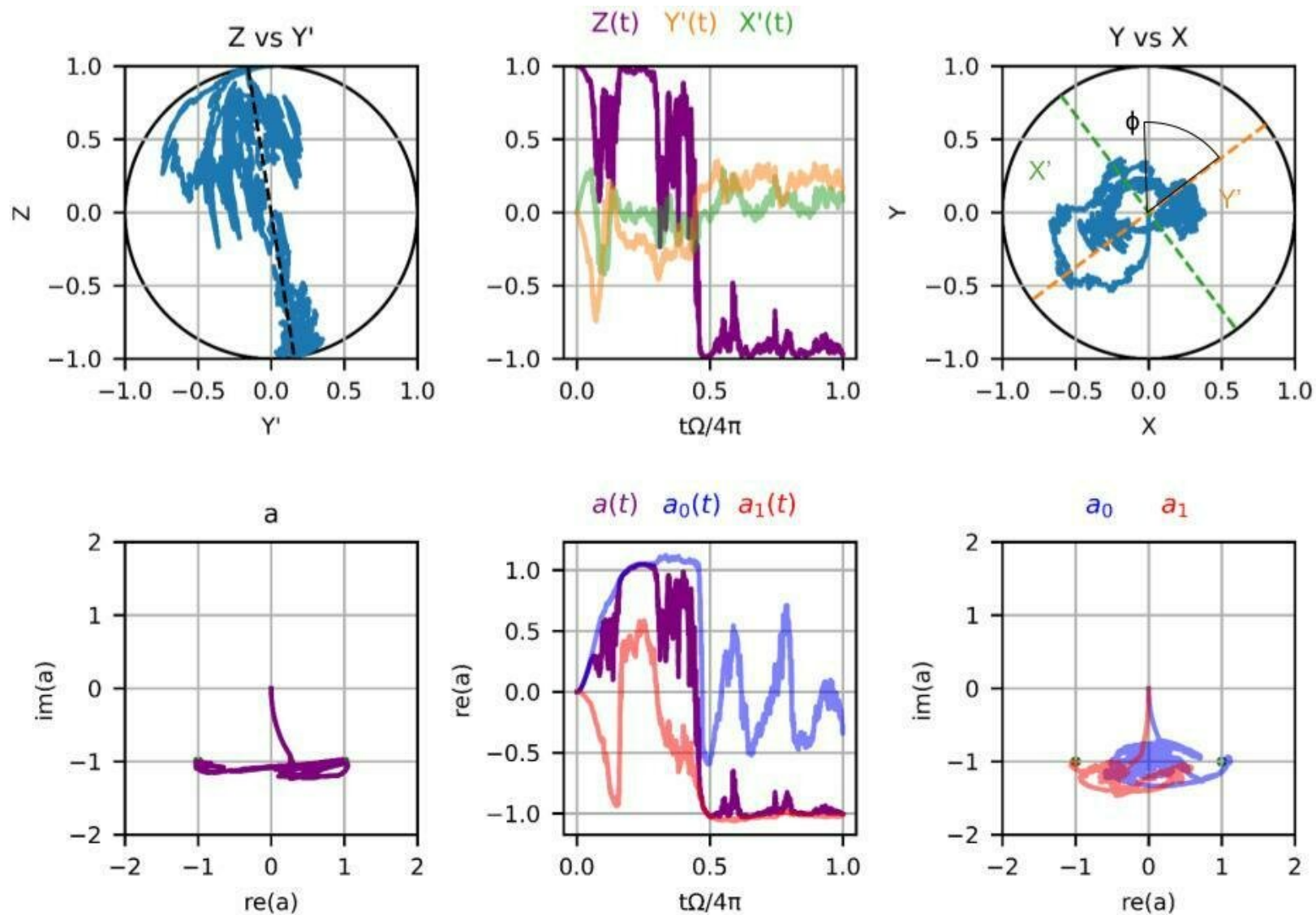
$$2\Omega/\kappa = 0.8$$

$$2\varepsilon/\kappa = 2$$

$$\Gamma_m/\Omega = 5$$

*wimpy*  
*measurement*

Tilted measurement  
axis and reduced  
measurement rate  
(confirms machine  
learning experiment)



# Phase-preserving Measurements

## Regime 4:

$$2\chi/\kappa = 1$$

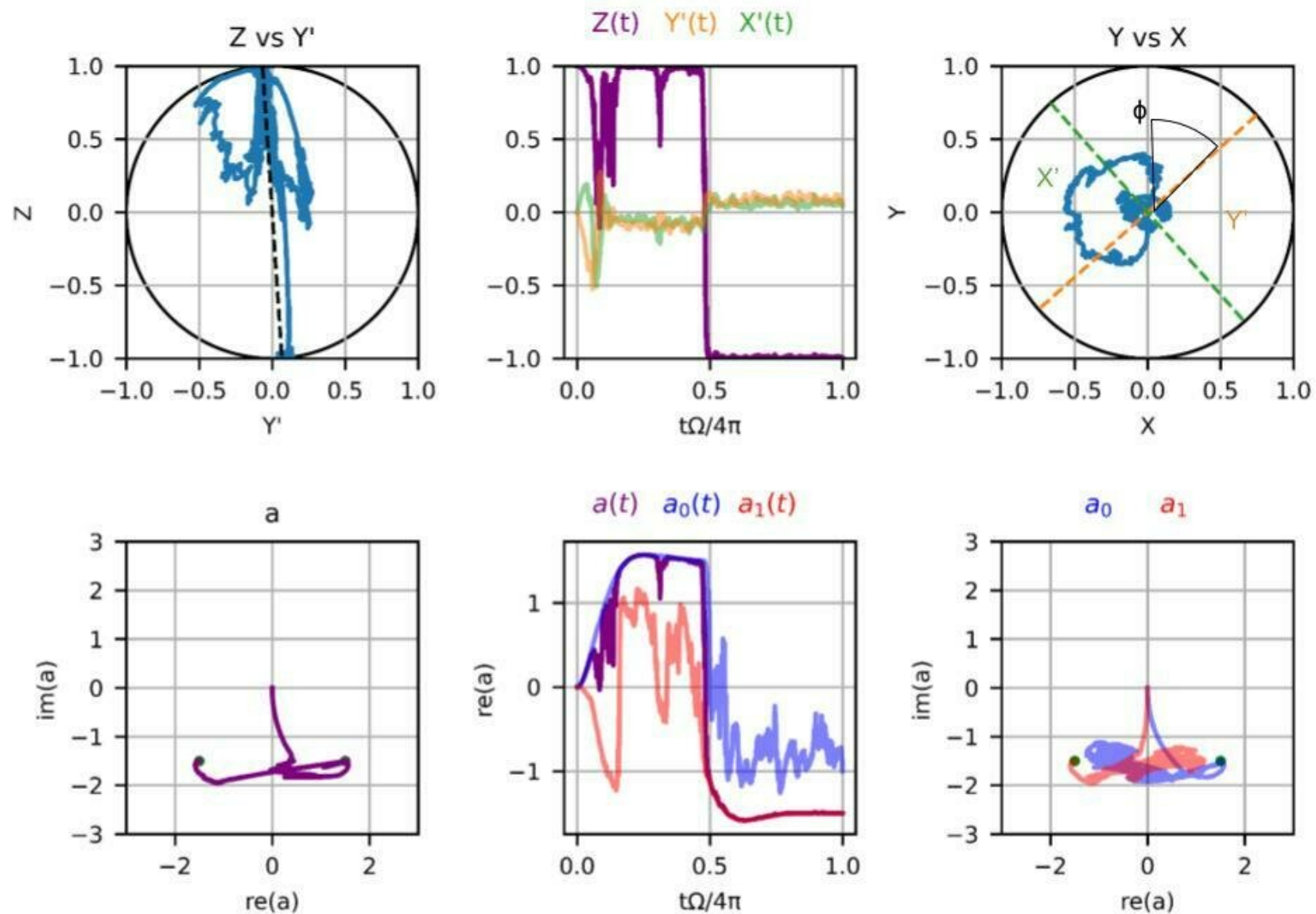
$$2\Omega/\kappa = 0.8$$

$$2\varepsilon/\kappa = 3$$

$$\Gamma_m/\Omega = 11$$

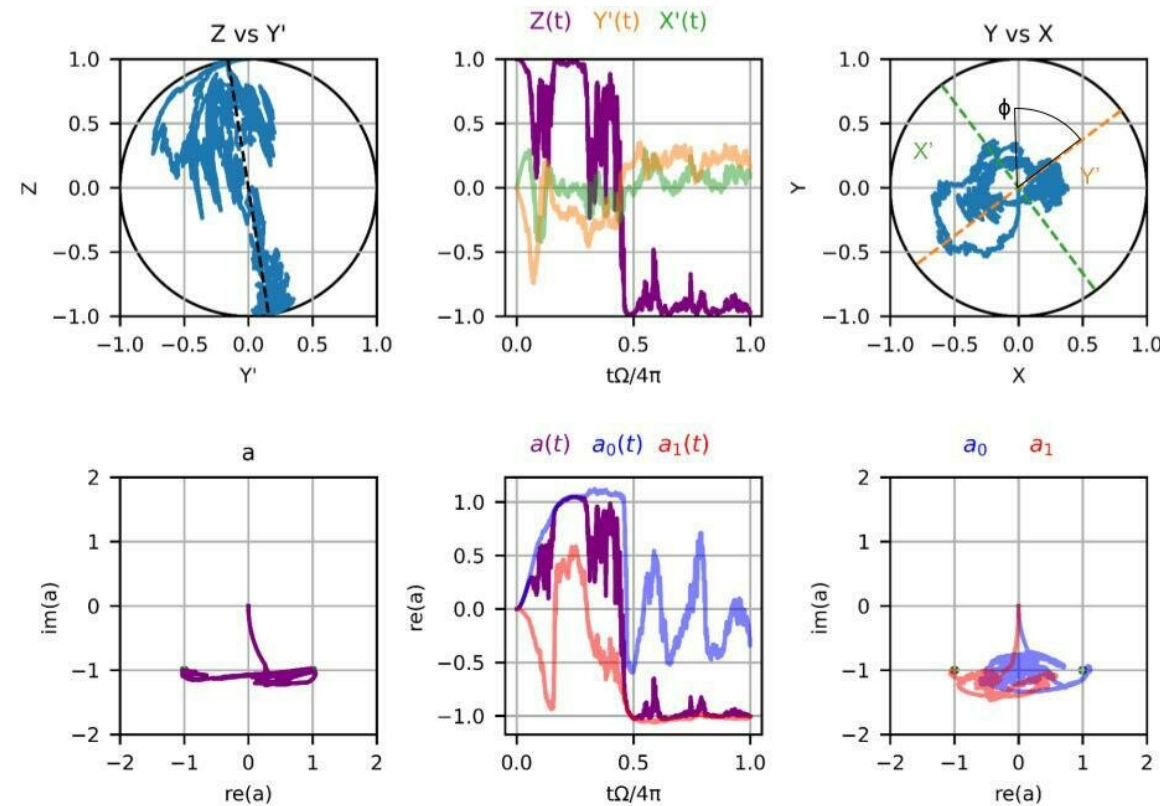
**strong  
measurement**

Zeno-pinned to  
measurement  
eigenstates, telegraphic  
jump behavior



# Conclusions

- Superconducting qubits naturally use continuous measurements, which have much more detailed information and potential utility than binary projective measurements
- Quantum trajectories of monitored joint qubit-resonator states can now be readily simulated and analyzed using a stochastic non-Hermitian Hamiltonian
- There is very interesting behavior to explore in transient and low-probability regimes that requires this more comprehensive treatment of measurement



**Thank you!**