Reconsidering qubit control paradigms for high fidelity fluxonium gates

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Fluxonium qubits





Why Fluxonium?





Important quantity for most SC qubit gates is:

Gate time / Coherence time

- Coherence (esp. T1) scales inversely with qubit frequency
- Gate time scales like $min(\omega_{01}, \alpha)$

Fluxonium decoherence should be slower, but gates can be faster

Low frequency is cheaper / easier Less crowding of transitions

Rethinking paradigms



• Initialization via laser cooling

• Initialization via active reset

• Ultrafast single qubit gates

• High fidelity galvanicallycoupled two qubit gates



10.0

Running time (hours

7.5

12.5

15.0

17.5





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 Reset fidelity limited by cavity & |f> state population

-----Readout

 $|e1\rangle$ -

le0⟩

1**g0**)

|h0>



Reset fidelity limited by cavity & |f> state
 population

• Perform a $|e\rangle \rightarrow |f\rangle \pi$ pulse before readout

• 50% readout fidelity

 In newer samples no longer necessary to excite for readout

Qubit initialization and readout





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Qubit initialization and readout





Qubit initialization and readout





97% initial state fidelity, $T_q = 190 \ \mu K$

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Real time dispersive readout





- Better readout design results in high fidelity readout
- Paramp would still speed up (and improve) measurement, state preparation



- Qubit prepared by measurement w/ feedback
- Statistical infidelity $\sim 2\%$
- Infidelity of prepared states ~18% (~.98mK)

Demonstration of post-selection protocol





Demonstration of post-selection protocol





Riste 2012 Phys. Rev. Lett. 109 050507

Demonstration of post-selection protocol





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Executing the active reset protocol with the QICK





Stefanazzi 2021 arXiv: 2110.00557





Firmware and software is published and **open-source** https://github.com/openquantumhardware/qick

Developed with team at Fermi National Lab Review of Scientific Instruments **93**, 044709 (2022)

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0.9970









$$H/h = A\delta\Phi_{ext}\sigma_x + \frac{\omega_q}{2}\sigma_z$$

It's easy to have $A\delta\Phi_{ext} \gg \frac{\omega_q}{2}$





- Lab frame
- Finished within a qubit cycle
- zero total net flux, effective echo for low frequency noise

Fast single-cycle flux gates



200

A (MHz)

0

400

200

A (MHz)

0

400

0

0

400

200

A (MHz)



Duration (about 4x faster than previous gen) Y/2: 5.5 ns Z/2: 6ns Y: 8ns (total pulse)

Qubit frequency **100x slower** than transmon, gate speed **2x faster**!

0.0

Zhang, H. et al Phys. Rev. X 11, 011010 (2021) 20



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Optical Image of the device





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Freq (MHz) T_1	(us) \Box	$\Gamma_{2E}(us)$
$\begin{array}{ccc} 48.45 & 17 \\ 61.76 & 38 \end{array}$	73.74 2 81.48 2	223.09 238.45

Two inductively coupled fluxoniums







Two qubits are coupled via a shared inductor

$$H \approx H_a + H_b + \frac{L_c}{L_a} E_L \varphi_a \varphi_b$$

In computational basis looks like

$$H_c \approx 4\pi^2 \frac{L_c}{L_a} E_L \sigma_x \sigma_x$$

Problem: It's always on!





Now the shared inductance is tunable with coupler flux Φ_{C}

To the second order, it gives a tunable coupling term from 0 to

$$\sim E_{JC} \frac{E_{La} E_{Lb}}{E_{L1} E_{L2}} \varphi_a \varphi_b$$





Decomposing the two qubit Hamiltonian into single qubit bases:

 $H = \omega_1 \sigma_{z1} + \omega_2 \sigma_{z2} + A_1(\Phi_a, \Phi_c) \sigma_{x1} + A_2(\Phi_b, \Phi_c) \sigma_{x2} + J(\Phi_c, \Phi_a, \Phi_b) \sigma_{x1} \sigma_{x2}$



- Couple two fluxonium qubits galvanically/inductively:
 - Tunable coupling
 - Exactly cancel coupling
 - Coupling strength can rival single qubit energy



experiment: capacitive coupling

- F. Bao et al. arXiv:2111.13504 (2021)
- Q. Ficheux et al. PRX 11, 21026 (2021)
- H. Xiong et al. arXiv:2103.04491 (2021)
- L. Ding et al. arXiv: 2304.06087 (2023)

theory: capacitive coupling

- Y. Chen et al. arXiv:2110.00632 (2021)
- K. N. Nesterov et al. PRX Quantum 2, 020345 (2021)
- I. N. Moskalenko et al. arXiv:2107.11550 (2021)





- Coupler E_L>>Qubit E_L
- Lowest coupler mode frequency ~ 10 GHz
- $J = J_+ + J_-$, thus when $J_+ = -J_-$, we turn off all coupling

DK. Weiss, PRX Quantum 3 (4), 040336 29

Tunable Coupler – Couplings vs coupler flux





Effective Hamiltonian $H = \omega_1 \sigma_{z1} + \omega_2 \sigma_{z2} + A_1(\Phi_a, \Phi_c) \sigma_{x1} + A_2(\Phi_b, \Phi_c) \sigma_{x2} + J(\Phi_c, \Phi_a, \Phi_b) \sigma_{x1} \sigma_{x2}$

ZZ coupling measurement by Qubit B Ramsey





 $T_2^* \approx 180 \,\mu s$ ZZ $\approx 0.2 \,kHz$



Coupler parameters

Checking coupler parameters by varying coupler Ec from -5% to 5%



Inducing a parametric interaction – iSwap





 $\omega_d = \omega_B - \omega_A$

 \sqrt{iSWAP} gate length = 170ns

Inducing a parametric interaction - bSwap



 \sqrt{bSWAP} gate length = 101ns

 $\omega_d = \omega_B + \omega_A$

sqiSWAP and sqbSWAP Kraus matrix





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SQBSWAP Process Matrix







XEB results - sqbswap





Interleaved Randomized Benchmarking



0.065% +/- 0.006% error per qA 1Q Clifford 0.052% +/- 0.004% error per qB 1Q Clifford 0.137% +/- 0.003% error per 1Q Clifford (Interleaved qA X/2) 0.104% +/- 0.006% error per 1Q Clifford (Interleaved qB X/2) 0.072% error per qA X2 gate (IRB extracted) 0.052% error per qB X2 gate (IRB extracted)



99.533 +/- 0.02% fidelity per average 2Q Clifford 98.986 +/- 0.064% fidelity per 2Q Clifford (Interleaved CNOT) 99.45% fidelity per CNOT gate (IRB)





Major challenges?

- Very sensitive to flux bias noise (sweet spot $<1e-4 \Phi_0$), and thus requires a very clean fridge ground
- Crosstalk between gates is very significant, requires the use of cancellation pulses, careful tuning procedures, and prevents gates from being played in parallel
- Scaling the galvanically coupled design might be difficult for large 2D array of qubits







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Current sample parameters





 $\omega_{qa} \approx 48 \text{ MHz}$

 $\omega_{qb} \approx 61 \text{ MHz}$

Tunable coupler performance

- Tunable from 0 60MHz using coupler flux, results in gate speeds of 20ns
- Requires adjustments to single qubit flux to remain on sweet spot











$$\varphi_+ = (\varphi_1 + \varphi_2)/2$$

$$\varphi_{-} = \varphi_{1} - \varphi_{2}$$





$$H = 4E_{C_a}n_a^2 + 4E_{C_b}n_b^2 + \frac{E_{L_a}}{2}\varphi_a^2 + \frac{E_{L_b}}{2}\varphi_b^2 - E_{J_a}\cos(\varphi_a + \varphi_{e,a}) - E_{J_b}\cos(\varphi_b + \varphi_{e,b}) \qquad H_a + H_b$$

$$H_+ + H_- \qquad 2E_C n_+^2 + \frac{E_{\widetilde{C}}n_-^2}{2} + \frac{\widetilde{E}_{L_1} + \widetilde{E}_{L_2}}{2}(\varphi_+^2 + \frac{\varphi_-^2}{4}) - E_J\cos(\varphi_- + \varphi_e) + (\widetilde{E}_{L_1} - \widetilde{E}_{L_2})\varphi_+\varphi_-/2$$

$$- E_{L_a}\varphi_a(\varphi_+ + \varphi_-/2) - E_{L_b}\varphi_b(\varphi_+ - \varphi_-/2). \qquad H'$$





Calculate H' with perturbation theory

First order:
$$\varphi_a \to \varphi_a + \frac{\langle \psi_0^{(0)} | \varphi_- | \psi_0^{(0)} \rangle}{2}, \ \varphi_b \to \varphi_b - \frac{\langle \psi_0^{(0)} | \varphi_- | \psi_0^{(0)} \rangle}{2}$$

Second order gives us a coupling term:

 $E_{La}E_{Lb}(\chi^-/2-2\chi^+)\varphi_a\varphi_b$

where
$$\chi^-\equiv\sum_{m\neq 0}\frac{|\langle\psi_0^-|\varphi_-|\psi_m^-\rangle|^2}{e_m^--e_0^-}\qquad \chi^+\equiv\frac{|\langle\psi_0^+|\varphi_-|\psi_1^+\rangle|^2}{\omega_+}$$

XEB results - sqiswap



