

# Wave mixing of classical and nonclassical light on a single qubit

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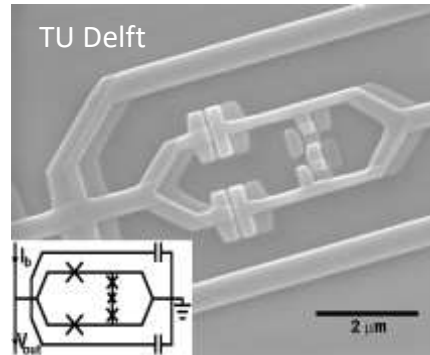
S. V. Remizov, A. A. Elistratov (VNIIA)

# Superconducting qubits

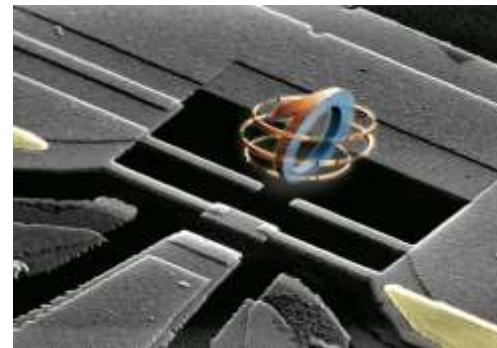
charge 1999



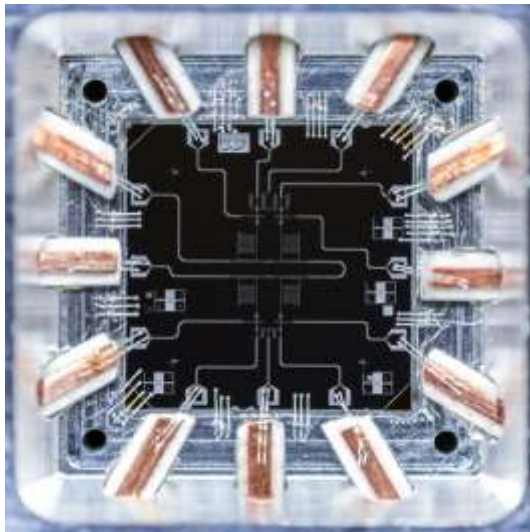
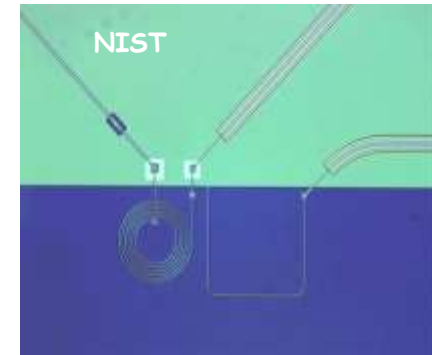
flux 2002



charge-/flux 2004



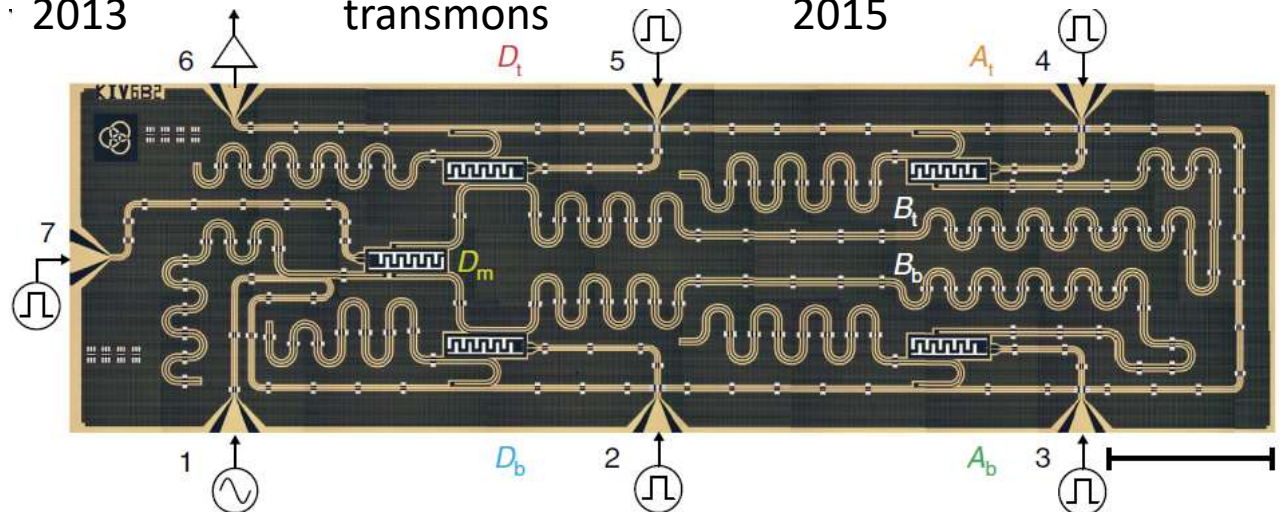
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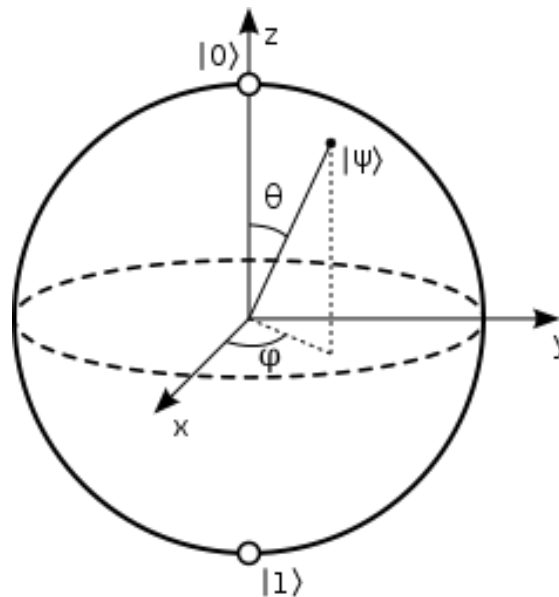
2015



# Кубит (двухуровневая система)

$$|\psi\rangle = \cos \frac{\theta}{2} |0\rangle + e^{i\phi} \sin \frac{\theta}{2} |1\rangle$$

## Сфера Блоха



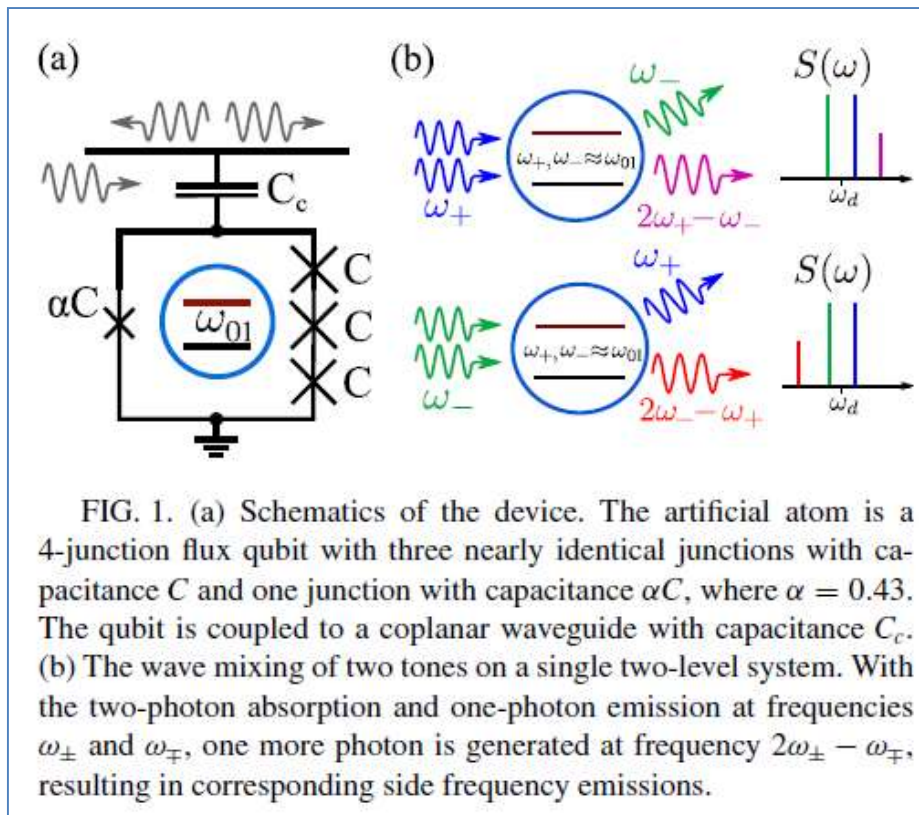
$$\langle \sigma_z \rangle = \cos \theta$$

$$\langle \sigma_- \rangle = \frac{1}{2} e^{i\phi} \sin \theta$$

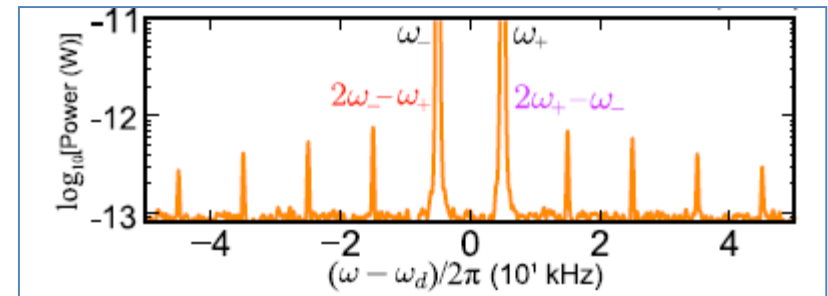
# Superconducting qubits as nonlinear elements for the photon interaction

A series of works by the group(s) of O. V. Astafiev

Nat. Commun. 8, 1352 (2017); Phys. Rev. A 98, 041801(R) (2018); Phys. Rev. A 100, 013808 (2019),...



Spectrum of scattered radiation (spectrum analyzer):



Amplitude of the elastically scattered wave:

$$V^{sc} = -\frac{i\Gamma_1}{\hbar\mu} \langle \sigma^- \rangle$$

$$\langle \sigma^- \rangle = -\frac{\sin \theta}{\Lambda} \frac{\Omega_- e^{-i\delta\omega t} + \Omega_+ e^{i\delta\omega t}}{1 + \sin \theta \cos 2\delta\omega t}$$

**Hypothesis: peak heights should be sensitive to photon statistics**

# I. Two classical signals

Closed frequencies:  $|\omega_1 - \omega_2| \ll \Gamma$ .

Amplitudes of drivings:  $\Omega_1$  и  $\Omega_2$ .

Rotating frame:  $\omega_d = (\omega_1 + \omega_2)/2$

Maxwell-Bloch equations in the rotating-wave approximation:

$$\frac{d\langle\sigma_{-}\rangle}{dt} = \langle\sigma_{-}\rangle(-i\Delta\omega - \gamma) - \frac{i\Omega_1}{2}e^{-i\delta\omega t}\langle\sigma_z\rangle - \frac{i\Omega_2}{2}e^{i\delta\omega t}\langle\sigma_z\rangle,$$

$$\frac{d\langle\sigma_z\rangle}{dt} = -\Gamma(\langle\sigma_z\rangle + 1) + i\Omega_1(\langle\sigma_{+}\rangle e^{-i\delta\omega t} - \langle\sigma_{-}\rangle e^{i\delta\omega t}) + i\Omega_2(\langle\sigma_{+}\rangle e^{i\delta\omega t} - \langle\sigma_{-}\rangle e^{-i\delta\omega t}),$$

where  $\Delta\omega = \omega_{01} - \omega_d$ ,  $\delta\omega = \omega_1 - \omega_d = \omega_d - \omega_2$ .

$\Gamma$  is a radiative decay rate

$\gamma = \Gamma/2 + \Gamma_\phi$  is a decoherence rate

$\Gamma_\phi$  is a pure dephasing rate

# I. Two classical signals

$\delta\omega t$  is a slowly varying phase on the time scale  $\Gamma^{-1}$

## Quasi-stationary solutions of Maxwell-Bloch equations

$$\langle\sigma_z\rangle = - \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma}{\Gamma} \frac{\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2 + \Omega_1\Omega_2(e^{-2i\delta\omega t} + e^{2i\delta\omega t})}{(\Delta\omega)^2 + \gamma^2} \right)^{-1},$$

$$\langle\sigma_{-}\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Omega_1 e^{-i\delta\omega t} + \Omega_2 e^{i\delta\omega t}}{\Delta\omega - i\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma}{\Gamma} \frac{\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2 + \Omega_1\Omega_2(e^{-2i\delta\omega t} + e^{2i\delta\omega t})}{(\Delta\omega)^2 + \gamma^2} \right)^{-1}.$$

Amplitude of the scattered wave is  $-i\Gamma\langle\sigma_{-}\rangle/\mu$ ,

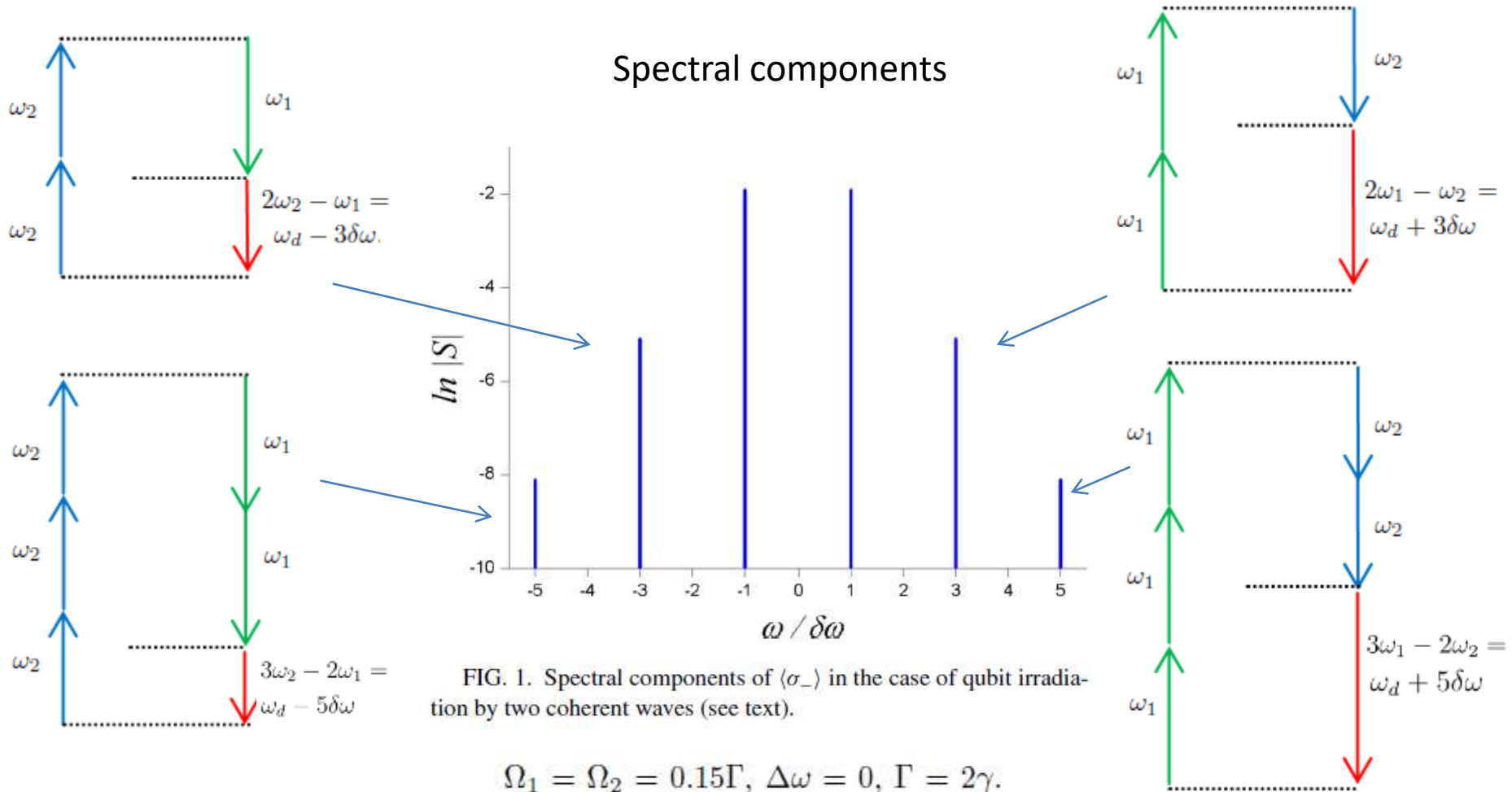
where  $\mu$  is the qubit dipole moment



# I. Two classical signals

$$\langle \sigma_- \rangle = \frac{\Omega_1 e^{-i\delta\omega t} + \Omega_2 e^{i\delta\omega t}}{\Lambda} \tan \vartheta \sum_{p=-\infty}^{+\infty} (-\tan(\vartheta/2))^{|p|} e^{i2p\delta\omega t},$$

$$\Lambda = \frac{4\gamma\Omega_1\Omega_2}{\Gamma(\Delta\omega + i\gamma)}, \quad \vartheta = \arcsin \frac{2\gamma\Omega_1\Omega_2}{\Gamma((\Delta\omega)^2 + \gamma^2) + \gamma(\Omega_1^2 + \Omega_2^2)}.$$



# I. Two classical signals

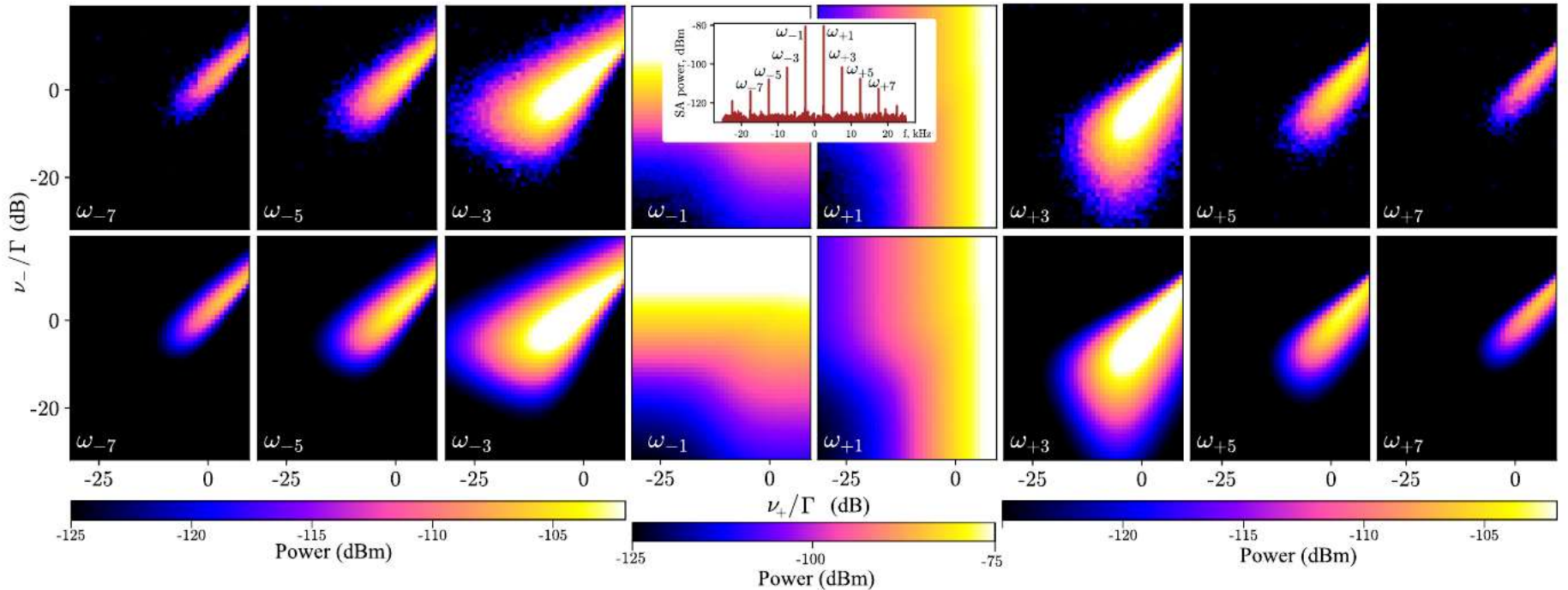
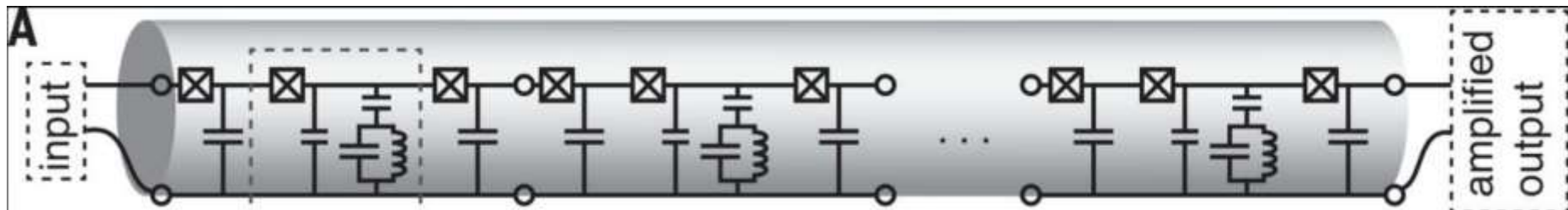


FIG. 4. The mixing of two classical tones of frequencies  $\omega_+$  and  $\omega_-$  on the probe. The tone of  $\omega_+$  is applied through the input in I when the source is very detuned and its effect is negligible, see Fig. 1(b), and the tone of  $\omega_-$  is applied through the input in II. The measured powers of the side peaks are plotted in the upper row of the panels as functions of  $\nu_-/\Gamma$  and  $\nu_+/\Gamma$ . The inset panel in between components  $\omega_{-1}$  and  $\omega_{+1}$  of the upper row contains the single-run measured spectrum of mixing for  $\nu_-/\Gamma = \nu_+/\Gamma = 0$  dB. The bottom panels depict analytical expressions of Eq. (7) recalculated to the power of the side peaks for  $\Gamma = 2$  MHz. All components are re-scaled by a single multiplier to fit the data.



## II. Classical signal and squeezed light

Degenerate parametric amplifier (nonlinear medium)



Effective Hamiltonian:

$$H_s = \omega_2 a_0^\dagger a_0 + \frac{i}{2} (a_0^{\dagger 2} \epsilon_s e^{-2i\omega_2 t} - a_0^2 \epsilon_s^* e^{2i\omega_2 t})$$

Output field (squeezed light, photon pairs, broadband signal):

$$\langle a_{\text{out}}^\dagger(t) a_{\text{out}}(t') \rangle = N e^{i\omega_2(t-t')} \delta(t - t'),$$

$$\langle a_{\text{out}}(t) a_{\text{out}}(t') \rangle = M e^{-i\omega_2(t+t')} \delta(t - t')$$

## II. Classical signal and squeezed light

Equations of motion for the qubit degrees of freedom:

$$\frac{d\langle\sigma_{-}\rangle}{dt} = \langle\sigma_{-}\rangle(-i\omega_{01} - \gamma(1 + 2N)) - \frac{i\Omega_1}{2}e^{-i\omega_1 t}\langle\sigma_z\rangle - 2\gamma M e^{-2i\omega_2 t}\langle\sigma_{+}\rangle,$$

$$\frac{d\langle\sigma_z\rangle}{dt} = -\Gamma(\langle\sigma_z\rangle + 1) - 2N\Gamma\sigma_z + i\Omega_1(\langle\sigma_{+}\rangle e^{-i\omega_{d_1} t} - \langle\sigma_{-}\rangle e^{i\omega_{d_1} t}).$$

C. W. Gardiner, *Quantum Noise* (Springer-Verlag, Berlin, 1991).

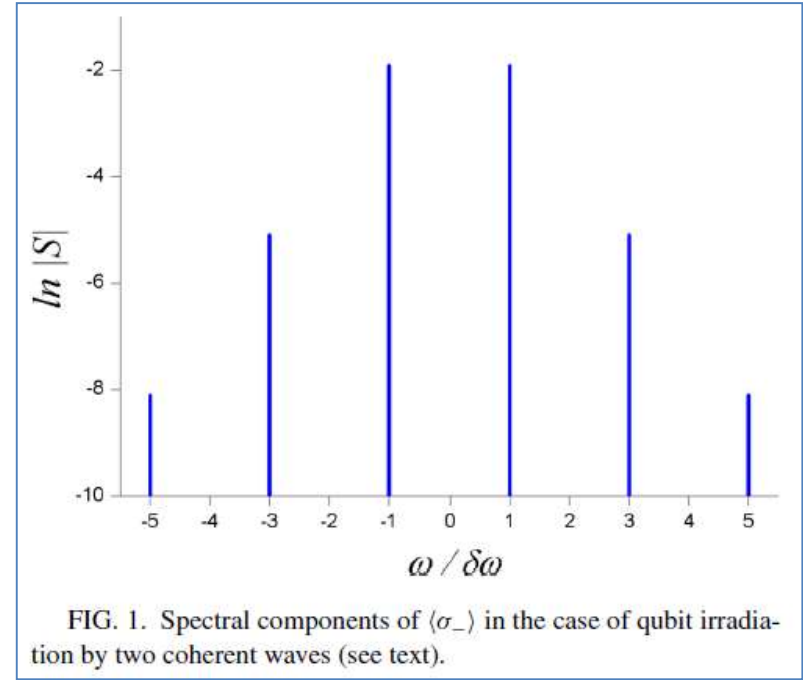
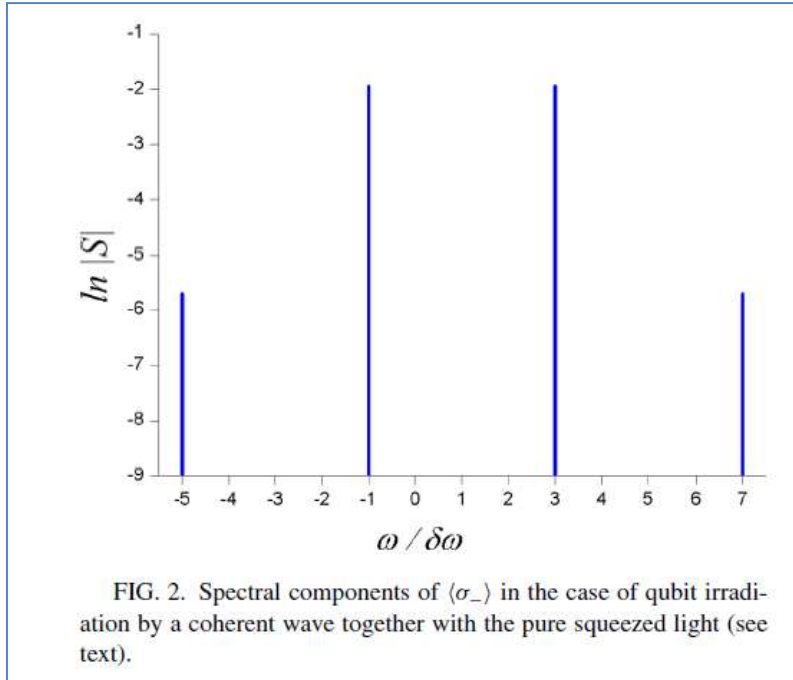
Quasi-stationary solution:

$$\langle\sigma_z\rangle = -\frac{1}{1 + 2N} + \frac{\gamma\Omega_1^2}{\Gamma(1 + 2N)} \frac{1 + \frac{M}{2N+1}e^{4i\delta\omega t} + \frac{M^*}{2N+1}e^{-4i\delta\omega t}}{(\Delta\omega)^2 + \gamma^2[(2N + 1)^2 - 4|M|^2] + \frac{\gamma\Omega_1^2}{\Gamma}\left(1 + \frac{M}{2N+1}e^{4i\delta\omega t} + \frac{M^*}{2N+1}e^{-4i\delta\omega t}\right)},$$

$$\langle\sigma_{-}\rangle = \frac{\Omega_1}{2} \frac{(i\gamma + \frac{\Delta\omega}{2N+1})e^{-i\delta\omega t} + i\gamma\frac{2M}{2N+1}e^{3i\delta\omega t}}{(\Delta\omega)^2 + \gamma^2[(2N + 1)^2 - 4|M|^2] + \frac{\gamma\Omega_1^2}{\Gamma}\left(1 + \frac{M}{2N+1}e^{4i\delta\omega t} + \frac{M^*}{2N+1}e^{-4i\delta\omega t}\right)}.$$

## II. Classical signal and squeezed light

### *Spectrum structure*



### Qualitative picture:

- *The peak structure differs from the case of mixing two classical signals.*
- *Nonzero squeezing (parameter  $M$ ) together with the classical signal generates side peaks.*
- *Without the classical signal, squeezed light does not generate any peaks.*

## The limit of weak driving:

$$\langle \sigma_- \rangle \approx \frac{if\Gamma}{\Omega_1} (fe^{-i\delta\omega t} + fme^{3i\delta\omega t} - f^3m^*e^{-5i\delta\omega t} - f^3m^2e^{7i\delta\omega t} + \dots),$$

$$\Omega_1 \ll \Gamma$$

$$f = \frac{\Omega_1}{\sqrt{2\Gamma\gamma[(2N+1)^2 - 4|M|^2]}},$$

$$m = \frac{2M}{2N+1}.$$

## Features of multiphoton processes:

- Photons from the squeezed light signal always appear in multiphoton processes as correlated *pairs*; the signal is broadband.

- The amplitudes of the side peaks are proportional to the corresponding powers of the squeezing parameter  $m$ .

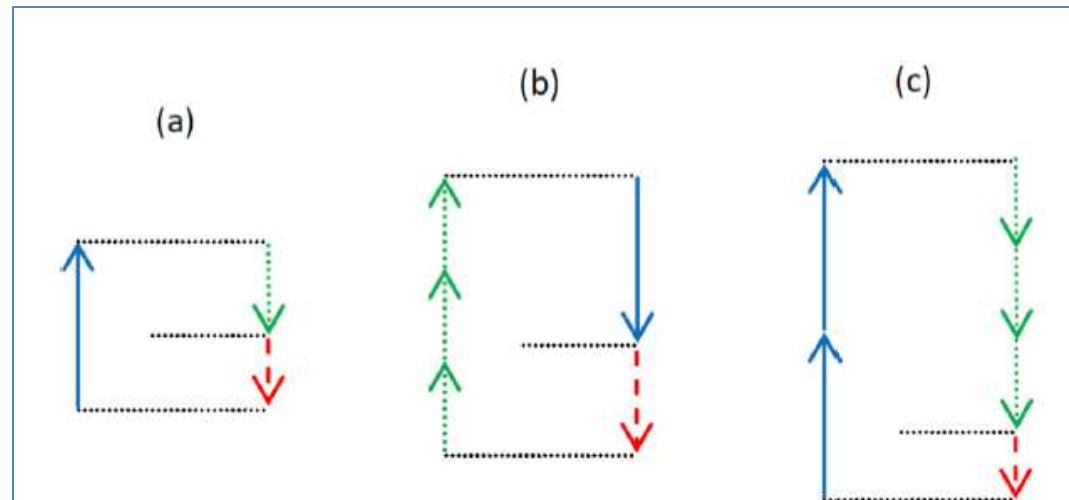


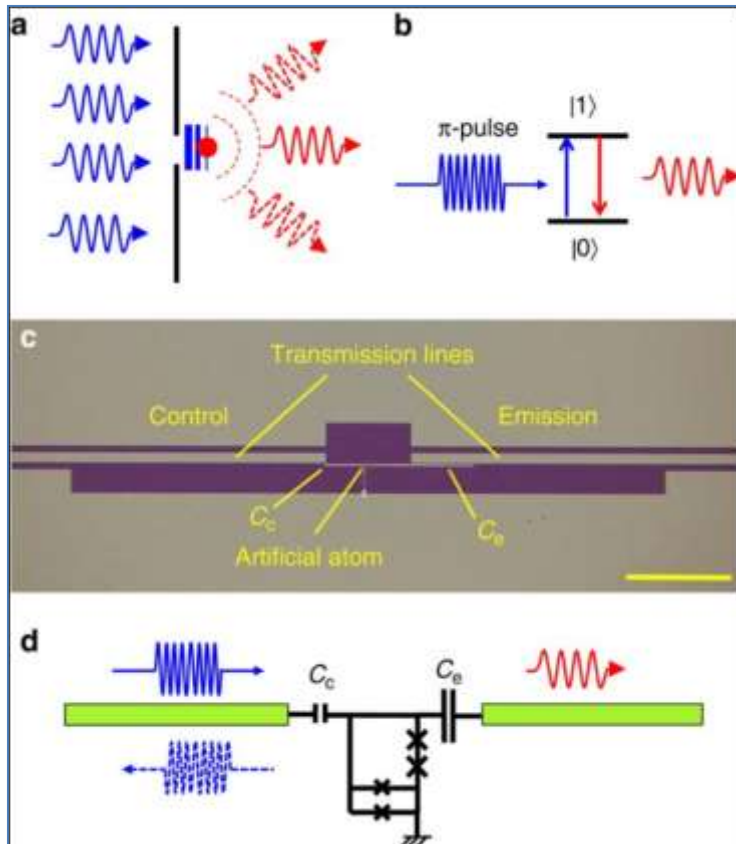
FIG. 3. Schematic images of multiphoton processes resulting in different side peaks in the emission spectra at (a)  $3\delta\omega$ , (b)  $-5\delta\omega$ , and (c)  $7\delta\omega$ . Blue arrows (solid lines) show the absorption and emission of correlated photon pairs with total energy  $2\omega_2$ . Green arrows (dotted lines) correspond to single photons with energies  $\omega_1$ . Red arrows (dashed lines) indicate photon emission, which is responsible for the side peaks.

# III. Классический сигнал и источник состояний «0 + 1»

## Tuneable on-demand single-photon source in the microwave range

Z. H. Peng , S. E. de Graaf, J. S. Tsai & O. V. Astafiev 

*Nature Communications* **7**, Article number: 12588 (2016)



### Смешение волн:

- Что будет, если смешивать классический сигнал и периодически возбуждаемые состояния типа «0+1» с однофотонного источника?





### III. Классический сигнал и источник состояний «0 + 1»

Гамильтониан:

$$H = H_{phot} + H_q + H_{int} + H_e + H_{int}^{(e)},$$

$$H_{phot} = \sum_k \omega_k a_k^\dagger a_k,$$

$$H_q = \frac{\omega_{01}}{2} \sigma_z - f_q(t) (\sigma_+ + \sigma_-), \quad H_{int} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_s}} \sum_k (e^{-ikr} g_k^* a_k^\dagger \sigma_- + e^{ikr} g_k a_k \sigma_+)$$

$$H_e = \frac{\omega_{01}^{(e)}}{2} \sigma_z^{(e)}, \quad H_{int}^{(e)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N_s}} \sum_k (e^{-ikr_e} g_k^{(e)*} a_k^\dagger \sigma_-^{(e)} + e^{ikr_e} g_k^{(e)} a_k \sigma_+^{(e)})$$

Уравнения движения в гейзенберговской картине:

$$\frac{d\langle \sigma_- \rangle}{dt} = -i\omega_{01} \langle \sigma_- \rangle - if_q \langle \sigma_z \rangle + \frac{i}{\sqrt{N_s}} \sum_k e^{ikr} g_k \langle a_k \sigma_z \rangle,$$

$$\frac{d\langle \sigma_z \rangle}{dt} = 2if_q (\langle \sigma_+ \rangle - \langle \sigma_- \rangle) + \frac{2i}{\sqrt{N_s}} \sum_k \left( e^{-ikr} g_k^* \langle a_k^\dagger \sigma_- \rangle - e^{ikr} g_k \langle a_k \sigma_+ \rangle \right).$$

...

### III. Классический сигнал и источник состояний «0 + 1»

Приближение Маркова-Борна:

$$\frac{d\langle\sigma_{-}\rangle}{dt} = \langle\sigma_{-}\rangle(-i\omega_{01} - \gamma) - \frac{i\Omega_{1}}{2}e^{-i\omega_{1}t}\langle\sigma_{z}\rangle + i\sqrt{\gamma\gamma_{e}}\langle\sigma_{z}\sigma_{-}^{e}\rangle,$$

$$\frac{d\langle\sigma_{z}\rangle}{dt} = -\Gamma(\langle\sigma_{z}\rangle + 1) + i\Omega_{1}(\langle\sigma_{+}\rangle e^{i\omega_{1}t} - \langle\sigma_{-}\rangle e^{-i\omega_{1}t}) + 2i\sqrt{\gamma\gamma_{e}}(\langle\sigma_{-}\sigma_{+}^{e}\rangle - \langle\sigma_{+}\sigma_{-}^{e}\rangle).$$

Состояния эмиттера:

$$\sqrt{1-\nu}|\downarrow\rangle + e^{-i\omega_{01}^{e}Tn}\sqrt{\nu}|\uparrow\rangle$$

где  $\nu$  - вероятность эмиссии фотона

$$\langle\sigma_{-}^{e}(Tn)\rangle = \frac{\sin\theta}{2}e^{-i\omega_{01}^{e}Tn},$$

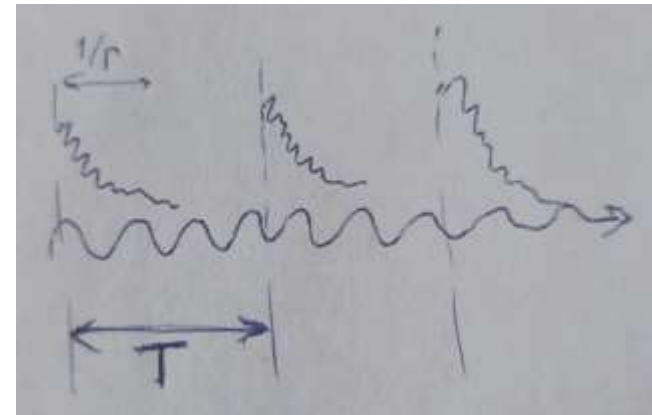
$$\cos\theta = 2\nu - 1$$

$$\langle\sigma_{z}^{e}(Tn)\rangle = \cos\theta,$$

Состояния рассеивателя (период  $T$  большой):

$$\langle\sigma_{z}(Tn)\rangle = -\left(1 + \frac{\gamma}{\Gamma} \frac{\Omega_{1}^{2}}{(\Delta\omega)^{2} + \gamma^{2}}\right)^{-1},$$

$$\langle\sigma_{-}(Tn)\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Omega_{1}e^{-i\omega_{1}Tn}}{\Delta\omega - i\gamma} \left(1 + \frac{\gamma}{\Gamma} \frac{\Omega_{1}^{2}}{(\Delta\omega)^{2} + \gamma^{2}}\right)^{-1}.$$



### III. Классический сигнал и источник состояний «0 + 1»

Перекрестные корреляторы:

$$\langle \sigma_z \sigma_-^e(Tn) \rangle = \langle \sigma_z(Tn) \rangle \langle \sigma_-^e(Tn) \rangle = - \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma}{\Gamma} \frac{\Omega_1^2}{(\Delta\omega)^2 + \gamma^2} \right)^{-1} \frac{\sin \theta}{2} e^{-i\omega_{01}^e Tn}.$$

$$\langle \sigma_- \sigma_+^e(Tn) \rangle = \langle \sigma_-(Tn) \rangle \langle \sigma_+^e(Tn) \rangle = \frac{1}{2} \frac{\Omega_1}{\Delta\omega - i\gamma} \left( 1 + \frac{\gamma}{\Gamma} \frac{\Omega_1^2}{(\Delta\omega)^2 + \gamma^2} \right)^{-1} \frac{\sin \theta}{2} e^{i(\omega_{01}^e - \omega_1) Tn}.$$

Уравнения движения на корреляторы:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\langle \sigma_z \sigma_-^e \rangle}{dt} &= \langle \sigma_z \sigma_-^e \rangle (-i\omega_{01}^e - \Gamma - \gamma_e), \\ \frac{d\langle \sigma_- \sigma_+^e \rangle}{dt} &= \langle \sigma_- \sigma_+^e \rangle (i(\omega_{01}^e - \omega_1) - \gamma - \gamma_e). \end{aligned}$$

Приближенное решение:

$$\langle \sigma_- \rangle = c_1 e^{i\delta\omega t} + c_{-1} e^{-i\delta\omega t} + c_{-3} e^{-3i\delta\omega t}.$$

Структура спектра:

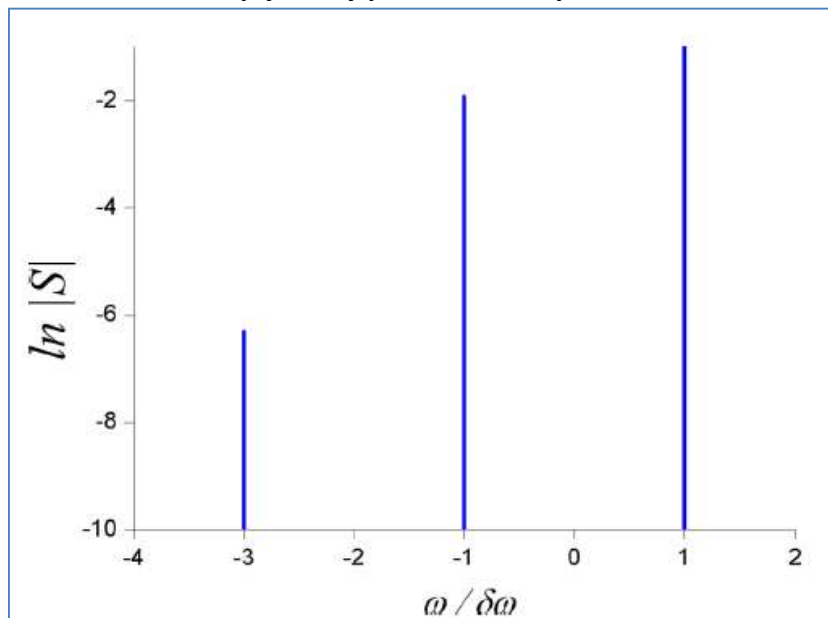


FIG. 4. Spectral components of  $\langle \sigma_- \rangle$  in the case of qubit irradiation by a coherent wave together with the superposition of Fock states with 0 and 1 photon (see text).

Единственный многофотонный процесс:

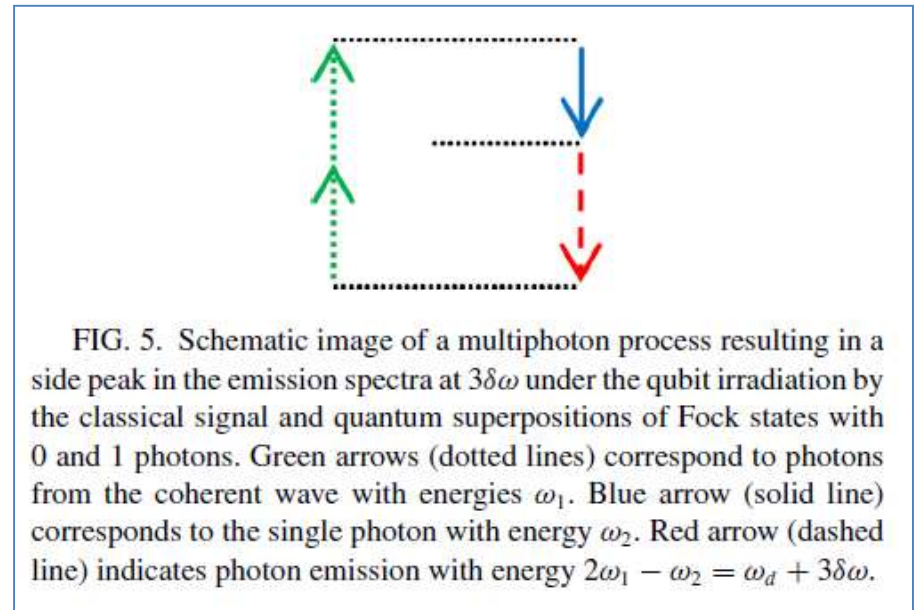
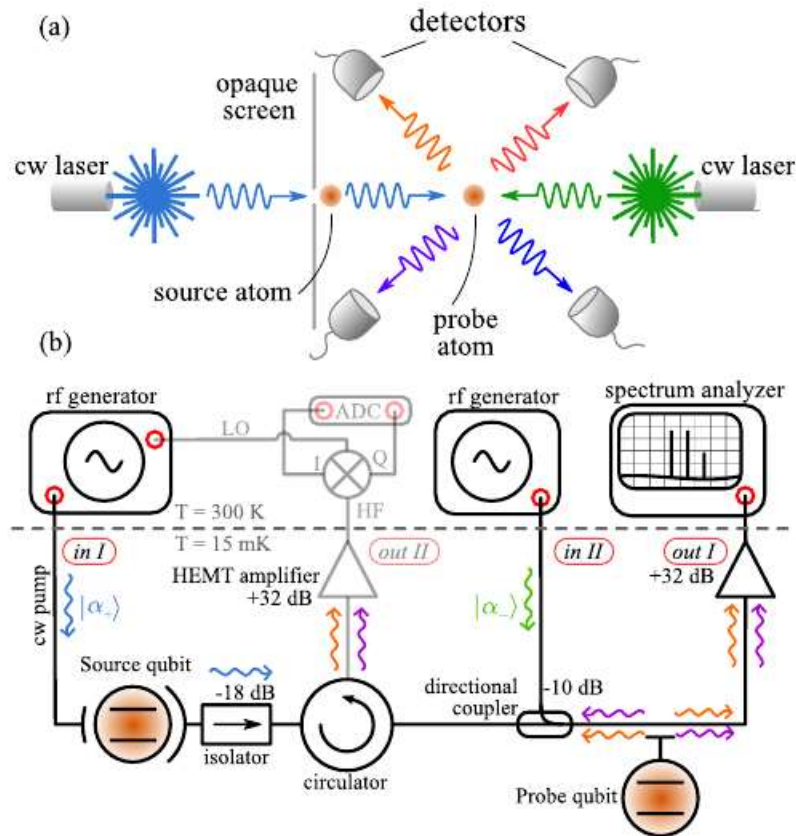


FIG. 5. Schematic image of a multiphoton process resulting in a side peak in the emission spectra at  $3\delta\omega$  under the qubit irradiation by the classical signal and quantum superpositions of Fock states with 0 and 1 photons. Green arrows (dotted lines) correspond to photons from the coherent wave with energies  $\omega_1$ . Blue arrow (solid line) corresponds to the single photon with energy  $\omega_2$ . Red arrow (dashed line) indicates photon emission with energy  $2\omega_1 - \omega_2 = \omega_d + 3\delta\omega$ .

# IV. Wave-mixing in a cascaded two-qubit system



- Source atom: light antibunched in the time domain

- Second-order correlation function:

$$g^{(2)}(\tau) = \frac{\langle \sigma_+(0)\sigma_+(\tau)\sigma_-(\tau)\sigma_-(0) \rangle}{((1 + \langle \sigma_z \rangle)/2)^2}$$

$$g^{(2)}(\tau) = 1 - e^{-\frac{3}{4}\gamma\tau} \left[ \cos(\Omega_g\tau) + \frac{3\gamma}{\Omega_g} \sin(\Omega_g\tau) \right]$$

FIG. 1. (a) The experiment's optical concept: the probe atom scatters two coherent fields—non-classical from a source through a small aperture in an opaque screen, and classical from an external generator. The probe's field is detected and analyzed. (b) Simplified sketch of the waveguide-QED microwave setup with two superconducting transmon qubits in a dilution refrigerator. The measurements in this work are done with the use of the channel labeled as “out I”.

Thus,  $g^{(2)}(0)$  is always equal to 0.



## IV. Wave-mixing in a cascaded two-qubit system

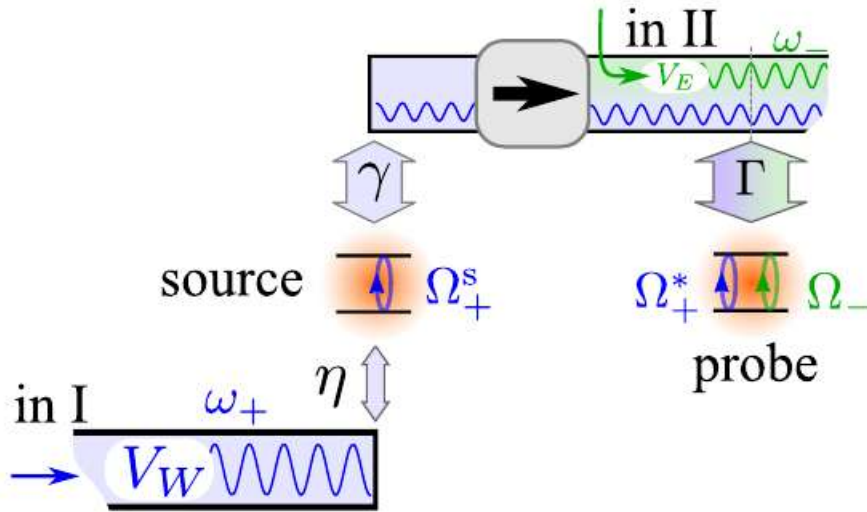


FIG. 5. The schematic image of theoretically described two-atomic cascade. Semi-infinite waveguides are shown by half-cut rectangles, couplings are shown as two-sided arrows.

We need to take into account uni-directional coupling between the source and the probe via the waveguide

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}} = \hat{\mathcal{H}}_q + \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{dr},s} + \hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{dr},p}$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}_q = \frac{1}{2} (\omega_s \sigma_s^z + \omega_p \sigma_p^z)$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{dr},s} = -i\sqrt{\eta} \left( W \hat{\sigma}_s^+ e^{i(\omega_d - \delta\omega)t} + \text{c.c.} \right)$$

$$\hat{\mathcal{H}}_{\text{dr},p} = -i\sqrt{\frac{\Gamma}{2}} \left( E \hat{\sigma}_p^+ e^{i(\omega_d + \delta\omega)t} + \text{c.c.} \right)$$

[1] C. W. Gardiner and A. S. Parkins, *Phys. Rev. A* **50**, 1792 (1994).

## IV. Wave-mixing in a cascaded two-qubit system

Now we need to include not only the radiative relaxation of each atom, but also the fact that the probe is irradiated by all the field emitted by the source. As shown [39], this task is accomplished by the standard form of the quantum master equation for the two-qubit density matrix  $\rho$ :

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}\rho = -i [\hat{\mathcal{H}}, \rho] + \hat{\mathcal{L}}\rho. \quad (12)$$

but with a very specific Lindblad term with a following form:

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}}\rho = \hat{\mathcal{L}}_s\rho + \hat{\mathcal{L}}_p\rho + \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{sp}\rho. \quad (13)$$

The first two terms are straightforward and they describe the radiational relaxation of atoms because of waveguide modes:

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\mathcal{L}}_{s,p}\rho &= \hat{L}_{s,p}\rho\hat{L}_{s,p}^\dagger - \frac{1}{2} \left\{ \hat{L}_{s,p}^\dagger\hat{L}_{s,p}, \rho \right\}, \\ \hat{L}_s &= \sqrt{\gamma + \eta}\sigma_s^-, \hat{L}_p = \sqrt{\Gamma}\sigma_p^-, \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

whereas the coupling term is non-hermitian and has the form:

$$\hat{\mathcal{L}}_{sp}\rho = \alpha\sqrt{\gamma\Gamma} \left( [\sigma_s^-, \rho, \sigma_p^+] + [\sigma_p^-, \rho, \sigma_s^+] \right). \quad (15)$$

- [1] C. W. Gardiner and A. S. Parkins, *Phys. Rev. A* **50**, 1792 (1994).

## IV. Wave-mixing in a cascaded two-qubit system

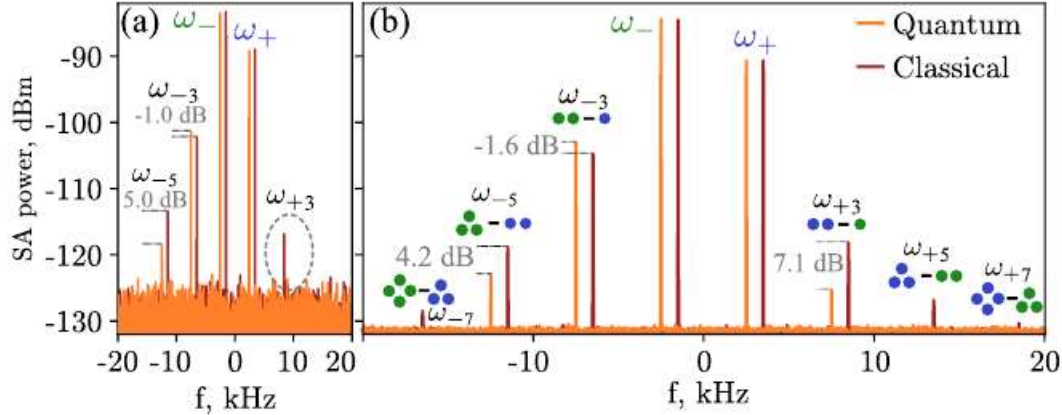


FIG. 6. (a) Single measurement of coherent components for cascaded mixing at point  $\nu_{+}/\gamma = -9.9$  dB and  $\nu_{-}/\gamma = -4.0$  dB (orange trace) and for classical mixing (brown trace) for nearly same driving parameters, selected in a way that emitted components at  $\omega_{\pm}$  are maximally equal. The difference in side peaks at  $\omega_{-3}$  and  $\omega_{-5}$  is labeled, and the absence of  $\omega_{+3}$ -component in cascaded mixing is highlighted with dashed oval. (b) The comparison of classical and quantum (cascaded) traces averaged over several values of driving strengths, around the parameters specified in (a). The classical trace is shift by 1 kHz for clear comparison. The difference of corresponding components is labeled.

# IV. Wave-mixing in a cascaded two-qubit system

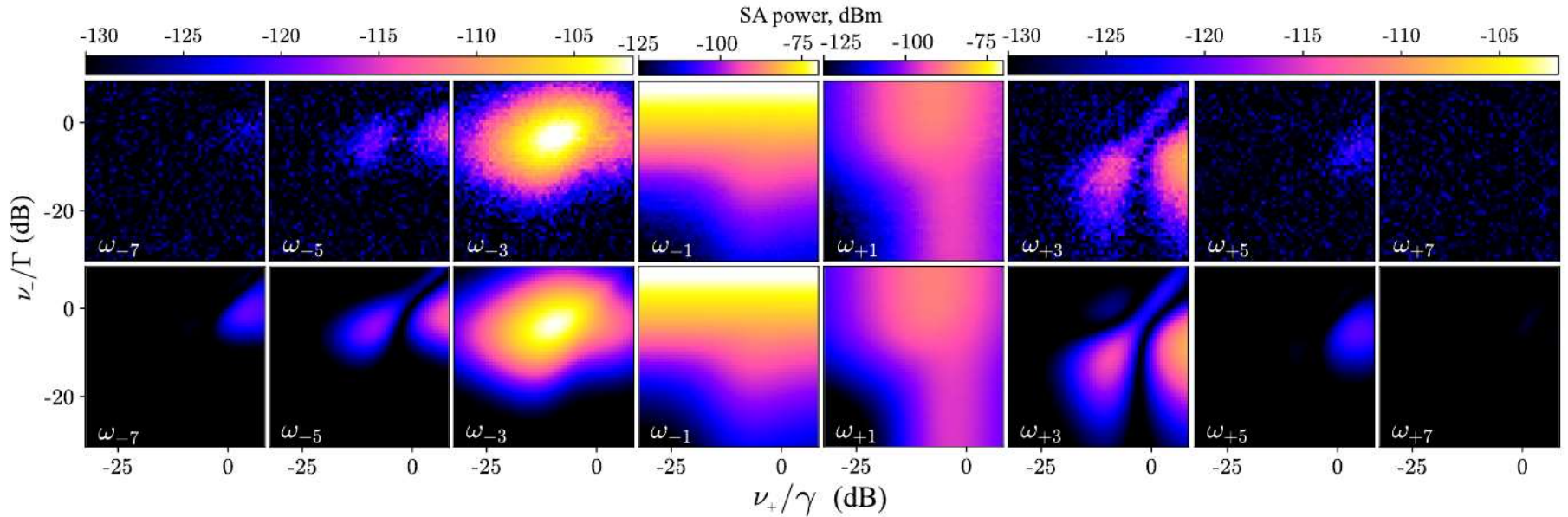


FIG. 7. The side components emitted by the probe in wave mixing processes of stationary atomic emission at  $\omega_+$  (emitted by the driven source) and classical tone at  $\omega_-$ , both applied to the probe. Upper row of panels: power of each side peak measured by spectral analyzer with a resolution bandwidth of 5 Hz as a function of  $\nu_+/\gamma$  and  $\nu_-/\Gamma$ . Lower row of panels: the power fit obtained through numerical calculations. The fitting parameters are  $\Gamma/2\pi = 1.8$  MHz,  $\gamma/2\pi = 1.7$  MHz,  $\alpha = 0.79$  and some general attenuation and amplification coefficients.

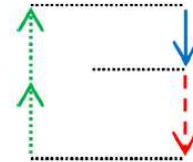
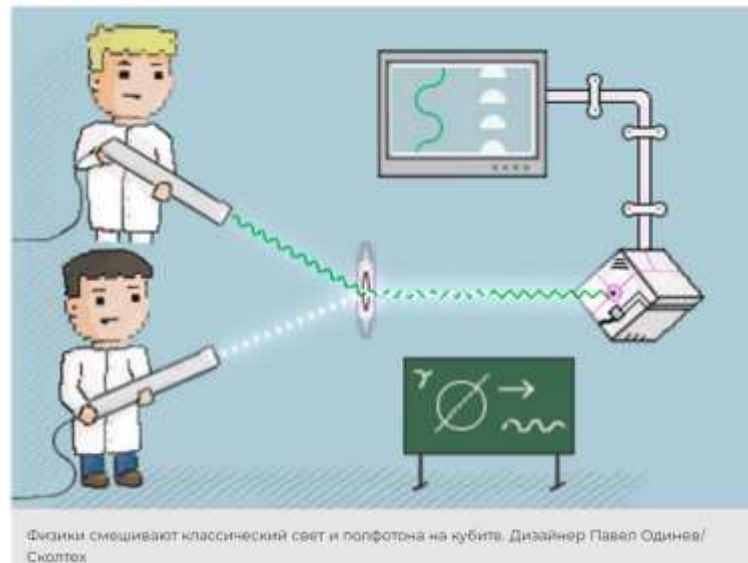


FIG. 5. Schematic image of a multiphoton process resulting in a side peak in the emission spectra at  $3\delta\omega$  under the qubit irradiation by the classical signal and quantum superpositions of Fock states with 0 and 1 photons. Green arrows (dotted lines) correspond to photons from the coherent wave with energies  $\omega_1$ . Blue arrow (solid line) corresponds to the single photon with energy  $\omega_2$ . Red arrow (dashed line) indicates photon emission with energy  $2\omega_1 - \omega_2 = \omega_d + 3\delta\omega$ .

# Summary

- Wave mixing of classical and nonclassical signals on a single qubit
- The spectrum of the scattered wave differs from the case of mixing two classical signals
- The structure of the spectrum can indicate the photon statistics in the nonclassical mode



W. V. Pogosov, A. Yu. Dmitriev, and O. V. Astafiev, "*Effects of photon statistics in wave mixing on a single qubit*", Phys. Rev. A 104, 023703 (2021); [arXiv:2107.10769](https://arxiv.org/abs/2107.10769).

A. Yu. Dmitriev, A. V. Vasenin, S. A. Gunin, S. V. Remizov, A. A. Elistratov, W. V. Pogosov, and O. V. Astafiev, "*Direct experimental observation of sub-poissonian photon statistics by means of multi-photon scattering on a two-level system*", submitted to Phys. Rev. A; arXiv:2409.10975.







$$\langle a_{out}^\dagger(t)a_{out}(t') \rangle = N e^{i\omega_2(t-t')} \delta(t-t'), \quad (9)$$

$$\langle a_{out}(t)a_{out}(t') \rangle = M e^{-i\omega_2(t+t')} \delta(t-t'), \quad (10)$$

where  $M$  is a measure of light squeezing. In general,  $|M|^2 \leq N(N+1)$ , while  $|M|^2 = N(N+1)$  corresponds to the pure squeezed state.