

# Quantum computing with dissipative cat qubits: a top-to-bottom overview

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Quantum error correction with 01 Quantant 5 biased noise qubits



Macroscopic bit-flip times



Experimental progress towards a CNOT





Quantum error correction with biased noise qubits



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## The state of quantum computing



1 Petabyte (10 <sup>15</sup> )	Storage	1000 qubits
1 ps	Gate speed	10 ns
10 <sup>-25</sup>	Gate errors	10 <sup>-3</sup>

Focus on problems with exponential speed-up Still, errors are too frequent  $\rightarrow$  need 10<sup>-8</sup>

# A fundamental predicament



Inevitable coupling to bath



## Quantum error correction

## **Error discretization theorem**

Correcting Pauli errors = Correcting arbitrary errors

#### Discrete qubit codes



Google Quantum AI, Nature 2022

#### **Bosonic codes**



## Practical discrete error correcting codes

 $\llbracket n,k,d \rrbracket$  with n: number of physical qubits k: number of logical qubits d: code distance

Physical constraints: 2D local codes

Bravyi Poulin Theral (BPT) bound:  $kd^2 = \mathcal{O}(n)$ 

- ightarrow Surface code saturates the bound
- → Solutions: 3D codes
  - Long-range connections
  - Classical codes

<u>BPT bound for classical codes:</u>  $k\sqrt{d} = \mathcal{O}(n)$ 

- $\rightarrow$  In practice, d ~ 10-30
  - Quantum code: 100-900 physical/logical
  - Classical code: 3-6 physical/logical



Google Quantum AI, Nature 2022



S. Bravyi et al., arXiv 2023

## Can we afford a classical code?

<u>Need biased-noise qubits</u>:  $p_{x}$ ,  $p_{y} \ll p_{z}$ 

- Small bias → erasure codes (dual-rail), biased quantum codes (XZZX)
- Large bias → classical codes (cat qubits)



<u>Cat qubits:</u> bosonic code with non-local encoding

Fermi's golden rule:

- $\Gamma_Z \propto |\langle -\alpha | H | \alpha \rangle|^2 \propto \exp(-2|\alpha|^2)$
- $\Gamma_X \propto \kappa_1 |\alpha|^2$

## Two well-known stabilisation schemes:

- Kerr cats  $\rightarrow$  Better gates, limited by thermal noise
- Dissipative cats → More inertia, high bias

→ Combined cats (**RG** et al., PRXQ 2022)

### Is bias enough to afford a classical code?

## A hardware-efficient repetition code



Dissipative cat qubit = bit-flip repetition code

#### Need to correct phase-flip errors



```
Logical states: |+_L\rangle = |+ + \dots +\rangle, |-_L\rangle = |- - \dots -\rangle
Logical operators: Z_L = \bigotimes_i Z_i and X_L = X_i
Stabilizer: S_i = X_i X_{i+1}
```





#### Need to correct phase-flip errors



## Repetition code ingredients

• +/- state preparation





#### Need to correct phase-flip errors



#### Repetition code ingredients

- +/- state preparation
- CNOT gate



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#### Repetition code ingredients

- +/- state preparation
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- Parity measurement



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## **Bit-flip requirements**

 Data bit-flips must be exponentially suppressed: data noise bias



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- +/- state preparation
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- Ancilla bit-flips must also be exponentially suppressed: no error propagation



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- Data bit-flips must be exponentially suppressed: data noise bias
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- Bit-flips must remain exponentially suppressed during CNOT: bias-preserving gates



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#### Phase-flip metrics

• Data phase-flip probability:  $p_{ZD}$ 



#### Need to correct phase-flip errors



#### Repetition code ingredients

- +/- state preparation
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#### Phase-flip metrics

- Data phase-flip probability: p<sub>ZD</sub>
- Total error detection failure probability:  $p_{ZA}$

## Repetition code threshold





### Practical threshold definition:

- ightarrow Logical error scales as  $p_{ZL} \propto \Lambda^{d/2}$
- $\rightarrow \Lambda = 1$  when fitted for  $d \leq 19$
- → Only requires  $p_{ZA} + p_{ZD} \le 0.30$
- $\rightarrow$  Favours ancilla/data error assymetry



## Repetition code is <u>very</u> forgiving





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## Reservoir engineering of two-photon dissipation



Requires parametric four-wave mixing

## Parametric four-wave mixing



$$\hat{H} = -E_J \cos(\hat{\varphi}) \qquad \qquad \hat{H} = -E_J \cos(\varphi_{\text{ext}}) \cos(\hat{\varphi}) \qquad \qquad \hat{H} = \frac{1}{2} E_L \hat{\varphi}^2 - 2E_J \cos(\varphi_{\Sigma}) \cos(\hat{\varphi} + \varphi_{\Delta}) \\ \rightarrow \frac{1}{2} E_L \hat{\varphi}^2 - 2E_J \cos(\varphi_{\Sigma}) \sin(\hat{\varphi})$$

# Experimental setup



## Experimental setup



## Transmon-induced saturation



Saturation due to readout transmon Confirmed in Berdou et al. PRX Quantum (2022)

## Transmon-free experimental setup



Problem: how do we readout?

## Readout protocol

Wigner distribution

$$W(\lambda) = \langle \hat{D}(\lambda) \hat{P} \hat{D}^{\dagger}(\lambda) \rangle$$
  
with parity operator  $\hat{P} = e^{i\pi \hat{a}^{\dagger}\hat{a}}$   
with displacement operator  $\hat{D}(\lambda) = e^{\lambda \hat{a}^{\dagger} - \lambda^{*}\hat{a}}$ 



Four-step process:

(1) Displace initial state

(2) Map to cat states while preserving parity (two-ph. diss)

(3) Map parity to coherent states

(4) Readout coherent states

# Mapping parity to coherent states



Réglade, Bocquet et al. arXiv (2023); V. Albert et al. PRL (2016)

## Readout protocol





## Exponentially biased qubits



Bit lifetime at > 10 seconds !



#### Need to correct phase-flip errors



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## **CNOT** scheme





# CNOT at play





 $p_{ZA}^{CNOT} \approx 0.15 \quad p_{ZD}^{CNOT} \approx 0.15$ 

# Characterizing bit-flips



Bit-flip scaling is limited by leakage while stabilization is turned off.

#### <u>Solutions</u>

- Further reduce Kerr and dephasing
- Engineer conditional rotation of the two-photon dissipation on the target



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