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Single Microwave-Photon Detector based on Superconducting Quantum Circuits



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1. Motivation

2. Impedance-matched Λ system (artificial Λ -type atom) 3. Single microwave-photon detection

4. Summary

Quantum information processing with photons ← Frequency 10^{20} 10^{10} 10^{22} 10^{18} 10^{16} 10^{0} 10^{24} 10^{12} 10^{6} 10^{4} 10^{2} ν (Hz) UV X rays $\sim 10^{\circ}$ Microwave FM AM Long radio waves y rays Radio waves Wikipedia 10^{-14} 10^{-12} 10^{-16} 10^{-10} 10^{-8} 10^{-4} 10^{-2} 10^{4} 0^0 10^{2} 10^{6} 10^{8} λ (m) Wavelength \rightarrow **Optical photons (~ visible light) Microwave photons** Communication based on a single photon Î∼ GHz Quantum optics <u>2</u> μm Science 2003 L= 1 = 25 mm Coherent interaction between a qubit and a MW photon Single photon detectors NICT space=100 5 um Flying qubit PRA 2004. Quantum network based on Quantum network based Nature 2004. Diameter=35 NIST Hamamatsu MW photons, etc... **SSPD** TES APD η > 90 % η > 90 % Single photon detector η ~ 30 %

Photon detectors in MW domain

Harmonic oscillator mode [J. Wenner et al., PRL (2014)]



- ✓ Efficiency = 0.994
- ✓ Precise photon pulse shaping
- Time-dependent control of system parameters
- MW nanobolometer [J. Govenius et al., PRL (2016)]



- ✓ Efficiency ~ 0.56 (for ~200 photons ~ 1.1 zJ)
- $\checkmark\,$ No single-photon sensitivity
- ✓ Dead time: ~100 μ s



Three-level cascaded system [S. R. Sathyamoorthy et al., PRL (2014)]



- ✓ Efficiency > 0.9 (theoretically)
- ✓ QND measurement
- Chain of transmons connected via circulators

Single photon detection in MW domain

Impedance-matched Λ system

K. Koshino, K. I. *et al., PRL* (2013) K. Inomata *et al., PRL* (2014)



- Sensitivity to single MW photon
- \checkmark Efficiency: ~ 0.66 (theory > 0.9)
- Dead time: short (reset pulse)
- ✓ Dark count: ~0.014
- Free from photon pulse shaping
- ✓ No time-dependent control of params

K. Koshino, K. I *et al.*, *PRA* (2015) K. Inomata *et al.*, *Nat. Commun.* (2016)

Time-gate operation



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Perfect reflection



Perfect absorption (Impedance matching)

Impedance-matched A system

- Deterministic down-converter
- Single photon detector
- Single photon memory

K. Koshino, PRA (2009, 2010).

↓Impedance-matched A system using dressed states









K. Inomata et al., PRL (2014)

Down-converted spectrum



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Device & Measurement setup

Device & Measurement setup

Triton 200 (Oxford)

- ✓ Base temperature: 10 mK
- ✓ Input MW line: 20
- ✓ Output MW line with a HEMT: 4

GHzDAC (designed by J. Martinis)

- ✓ 1GSa/s
- ✓ Pulse shaping with ns precision

Pulse sequence for itinerant photon detection

K. Inomata et al., Nat. Commun. (2016)

Linerant photon detection using Z-matched Λ system

A Photon detection with a reset pulse

Summary

- ✓ Demonstration of itinerant-photon detection using an artificial Λ -type atom.
- ✓ Single-photon detection efficiency = 0.66 ± 0.06 .
- ✓ Demonstration of "*reset*" of the system.
- \checkmark Repetition time for the photon detection ~ 1.3 MHz.
- ✓ Dark count probability = 0.014 ± 0.001 .

