



Superconducting Metamaterials

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Quantum metamaterials:

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Materials and Metamaterials



material is made out of *atoms*



metamaterial is composed out of *units* called *meta-atoms*



Electromagnetic wave in a material







Visible light: $\lambda \cong 390$ nm – 700nm



Materials are composed out of atoms – smallest resonators "made" by nature





Electromagnetic metamaterials

Controlling the propagation of light through material parameters





Magnetic Meta-Atoms





Microwave Metamaterials and Meta-Atoms

$\lambda \gg a$ can be achieved for "macroscopic" dimensions



Shelby et al., *Science* **77** 292 (2001)

Problem: losses increase with decreasing the size of meta-atoms

Distance between meta-atoms: a ≅ 5 mm
Microwaves (X-band): λ ≅ 2.5cm - 3.75cm



Modern history of metamaterials





J. B. Pendry et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 76, 4773 (1996)



D. R. Smith et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. **84**, 4184 (2000)

Veselago-Pendry lens



J. B. Pendry, Negative Refraction Makes a Perfect Lens, Phys. Rev. Lett. 85, 3966 (2000).

Not so modern history of metamaterials ...

H. Lamb, *Proc. London Math. Soc.* **1**, 473 (1904) (backward waves; mechanical systems)

A. Schuster, *An Introduction to the Theory of Optics*, pp. 313-318 Edw. Arnold, London (1904) (backward waves)

H. C. Pocklington, *Nature* **71**, 607 (1905) (phase velocity opposite to the group velocity)

L. I. Mandel'shtam, *Zh. Eksp. Teor. Fiz.* **15**, 476 (1945) (in Russian);

G. D. Malyuzhinets, *Zh. Tekh. Fiz.* **21**, 940 (1951) (in Russian)

D. V. Sivukhin, *Opt. Spektrosk.* **3**, 308 (1957) (in Russian) (n < 0)

Superconducting Metamaterials

- Decreasing size of meta-atoms without extra loss
- Easily tunable frequency (magnetic field, current, temperature)
- Nonlinear, multi-stable, and switchable
- Ultra-compact low-loss resonators
 - size/wavelength < 10⁻⁴ is within reach
- Quantum metamaterials
 - arrays of superconducting qubits
 - quantum optics with artificial atoms



Equivalent circuit for a Josephson junction





Superconducting quantum interference device (SQUID)





Tunable resonance frequency of a SQUID





1D SQUID metamaterial

- 1D coplanar transmission line
- coupling to magnetic component of the field
- Central conductor is used for both $\Phi_{\rm DC}$ and $\Phi_{\rm RF}$



SQUID-based 1D metamaterial



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Results for 54 SQUIDs: tuning the transmission S₂₁ by magnetic flux



P. Jung, S. Butz, S. V. Shitov, and A. V. Ustinov, Appl. Phys. Lett. 102, 062601 (2013)

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Fitting experiment to theory





Extracting effective μ_r



S. Butz, P. Jung, L.V. Filippenko, V.P. Koshelets, and A. V. Ustinov, Opt. Express 21, 22540 (2013)



Tuning effective μ_r by magnetic flux



S. Butz, P. Jung, L.V. Filippenko, V.P. Koshelets, and A. V. Ustinov, Opt. Express 21, 22540 (2013)

Nonlinear and multi-stable superconducting metamaterials

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Nonlinear effects: Multi-stability





R. Vijay, M. H. Devoret, and I. Siddiqi Rev.Sci.Intr. 80, 111101 (2009)



Potential energy of junction and SQUID



potential energy



Nonlinear effects: Multi-stable metamaterial



P. Jung, S. Butz, M. Marthaler, M.V. Fistul, J. Leppäkangas, V.P. Koshelets, and A.V. Ustinov, Nature Commun. 5, 3730 (2014)



Nonlinear effects: Multi-stable metamaterial



P. Jung, S. Butz, M. Marthaler, M.V. Fistul, J. Leppäkangas, V.P. Koshelets and A.V. Ustinov, Nature Commun. 5, 3730 (2014)



Multi-stability: Comparison with theory



P. Jung, S. Butz, M. Marthaler, M.V. Fistul, J. Leppäkangas, V.P. Koshelets and A.V. Ustinov, Nature Commun. 5, 3730 (2014)



"All-optical" switching between stable states



P. Jung, S. Butz, M. Marthaler, M.V. Fistul, J. Leppäkangas, V.P. Koshelets and A.V. Ustinov, Nature Commun. **5**, 3730 (2014)

Ultra-compact low-loss resonators

Superconducting spiral resonator



C. Kurter, A.P. Zhuravel, J. Abrahams, C.L. Bennett, A.V. Ustinov, and S.M. Anlage, IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond. **21**, 709 (2011)

Superconducting spiral resonator



Frequency (GHz)

N. Maleeva, M.V. Fistul, A. Karpov, A.P. Zhuravel, A. Averkin, P. Jung, and A. V. Ustinov, J. Appl. Phys. **115**, 064910 (2014)



Imaging resonant modes in a superconducting spiral resonator



N. Maleeva, M.V. Fistul, A. Karpov, A.P. Zhuravel, A. Averkin, P. Jung, and A. V. Ustinov, J. Appl. Phys. **115**, 064910 (2014)



Ultra-compact superconducting spiral resonators



In a superconducting 100-nm wide 5 nm thick NbN nanowire the kinetic inductance $L_{\rm k}$ can be dominating the geometric inductance $L_{\rm g}$ by a factor > 100

G. Goltsman et al., IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond. **17**, 246 (2007) A. J. Annunziata et al., Nanotechnology **21**, 445202 (2010)



Spiral resonator of 100 nm wide NbN wire



G. Goltsman et al., IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond. 17, 246 (2007)



Spiral resonator of 100 nm wide NbN wire



1st resonance frequency f₁ =193 MHz wavelength $\lambda = 1.5$ m resonator size $d = 100 \ \mu$ m yields $\lambda/d = 15000$ => size/wavelength ≈ 10⁻⁴



Quantum metamaterials

Superconducting flux qubit



flux quantization: $\varphi_1 + \varphi_2 + \varphi_3 + 2\pi \frac{\Phi}{\Phi_0} = 2\pi n$

effective 2D potential: $\frac{U}{E_J} = \cos \varphi_1 + \cos \varphi_2 + \alpha \cos \left(-\varphi_1 - \varphi_2 - 2\pi \frac{\Phi_{\text{ext}}}{\Phi_0}\right)$

> Mooij et al. Science **285**, 1036 (1999) Van der Wal et al. Science **290**,1140 (2000)



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IEEE/CSC & ESAS SUPERCONDUCTIVITY NEWS FORUM (global edition), October 2015. EUCAS 2015 plenary presentation PL-5. Not submitted to *IEEE Trans. Appl. Supercond.*

Superconducting flux qubit as a quantum two-level system





Superconducting quantum metamaterial: array of flux qubits

20 flux qubits



P. Macha, G. Oelsner, J.-M. Reiner, M. Marthaler, S. André, G. Schön, U. Huebner, H.-G. Meyer, E. Il'ichev, and A. V. Ustinov, *Nature Commun.* **5**, 5146 (2014)

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Collective coupling of 8 qubits out of 20



P. Macha, G. Oelsner, J.-M. Reiner, M. Marthaler, S. André, G. Schön, U. Huebner, H.-G. Meyer, E. Il'ichev, and A. V. Ustinov, *Nature Commun.* **5**, 5146 (2014)



 \bowtie f ¥ † Emerging Technology From the arXiv September 30, 2013

World's First Quantum Metamaterial Unveiled

German researchers have designed, built, and tested the first metamaterial made out of superconducting quantum resonators.

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In recent years, physicists have been excitedly exploring the potential of an entirely new class of materials known as metamaterials. This stuff is built from repeating patterns of sub-wavelength-sized structures that interact with photons, steering them in

ways that are impossible with naturally occuring materials.

All in all, a significant first step for quantum metamaterials.

Ref: http://arxiv.org/abs/1309.5268: Implementation of a Quantum Metamaterial



Summary

Tunable and switchable SQUID based metamaterials

- decreasing size of meta-atoms without extra loss
- easily tunable frequency (magnetic field, current, temperature)
- strong nonlinearity (if needed, e.g. for parametric gain)

Ultra-compact low-loss resonators

size/wavelength < 10⁻⁴ is within reach

Quantum metamaterials

- arrays of superconducting qubits
- quantum optics with artificial atoms

Applications

- MRI imaging
- tunable antennas
- ultra-compact filters
- reflective back planes, metasurfaces

Alexey Ustinov

Review: P. Jung, A. V. Ustinov, S.M. Anlage, Supercond. Sci. Techn. 27, 073001 (2014)

42