Qubit reset based on a quantum absorption refrigerator

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We use superconducting circuits to explore fundamental and applied questions in the areas of quantum information processing, microwave quantum optics and communication, and quantum thermodynamics.

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Thermally driven quantum refrigerator autonomously resets superconducting qubit

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Quantum thermodynamics



Heat engines

Individual moleules Colloidal particles Single-electron devices Cold atoms Trapped ions Superconducting circuits

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Quantum thermodynamics should be more useful...

Quantum advantages

Beat any classical machine at ...

- power output
- charging speed
- precision

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(Are we making a fair comparison?)

Practical applications

Deploy quantum thermal machines in useful settings, to do useful things

Example: Qubit reset



Qubit reset

- Necessary primitive for computing
- Speed and fidelity are key metrics
- Passive thermalization may be too slow and/or too unfaithful
- Resetting ancillary qubits is key in quantum error correction

ACTIVE RESET

Measure qubit, then flip if needed



UNCONDITIONAL RESET

Couple qubit to thermalized cold mode



Qubit reset in superconducting circuits



Ristè et int DiCarlo, PRL 109, 240502 (2012)



Magnard, ..., SG, ..., Wallraff, PRL 121, 060502 (2018) See also: 1. Zhou et al, Nat Commun 12, 5924 (2021)

Qubit reset in superconducting circuits





Unconditional ≠ autonomous: need coherent drives. Can we do the job with minimal thermodynamic resources?

Ristè et int DiCarlo, PRL 109, 240502 (2012)

Quantum absorption refrigerator



Early theory work:

Palao, Kosloff & Gordon, PRE 64, 056130-8 (2001) Linden et al, PRL 105, 130401 (2010) Levy & Kosloff, PRL108, 070604 (2012) Proposal with SC circuits Hofer et al, PRB 94, 235420 (2016)
Realization w trapped ions Maslennikov et al, Nat Commun 10, 202 (2019)
Reviews Mitchison, Contemp Phys 60, 164 (2019) (image credit)
Mitchison & Potts, in: *Thermodynamics in the Quantum Regime...(2018)*

Resetting a qubit with a quantum absorption refrigerator





evacuated





If also qubit H is excited, and the resonance condition $\omega_C = \omega_T + \omega_H$ is met, then both excitations are transferred to qubit C, then evacuated

evacuated



To build the machine, we need two key ingredients!



1) Microwave waveguides as heat baths



1) Microwave waveguides as heat baths

Previous work:

- Primary thermometry of synthesized thermal radiation
- Agreement bw synthesized and physical temperatures





Scigliuzzo et int SG, PRX 10, 041054 (2020)

Related work: Fink et al, PRL 105, 163601 (2010); Goetz et al, PRL 118, 103602 (2017); Wang et al, PRL 126, 180501 (2021)

2) Josephson junction as a quantum mixer

- Josephson energy: $E_J(1 \cos \hat{\varphi}_J)$
- Expand around $\hat{\varphi}_I = 0$
- Quadratic term \rightarrow linear eigenmodes \hat{a} , \hat{b}
- Write phase difference across junction as $\hat{\varphi}_J = \phi_a(\hat{a} + \hat{a}^{\dagger}) + \phi_b(\hat{b} + b^{\dagger})$
- Expansion of cosine potential generates mixing products, for example

 $\frac{E_J}{4!} \left(\phi_a(\hat{a} + \hat{a}^{\dagger}) + \phi_b(\hat{b} + \hat{b}^{\dagger}) \right)^4$



A simple quantum circuit with two modes. Adapted from Minev et al, cit.

Black-box quantization Nigg et al, PRL 108, 240502 (2012) Energy-participation quantization: Minev et al, npj Q Inf 7, 131 (2021) Josephson junction as a mixer: P Reinhold, PhD thesis, Yale (2019) (for the experts) 3-wave mixing with SNAIL: Frattini et al, APL 110, 222603 (2017)

Our quantum absorption refrigerator

 $Q_{1} \bigoplus_{g_{12}} \Gamma_{1} \bigoplus_{g_{12}} \Gamma_{2} \bigoplus_{g_{23}} \Gamma_{2} \bigoplus_{g_{23}} \prod_{g_{23}} \prod_{g_{2$

Hot waveguide



- Three transmon qubits Q1 Q2 Q3
- Two waveguides
- Readout resonator for Q3
- Q2 is used as a qudit
- 3-body interaction $a_1 \hat{a}_2^{\dagger} \hat{a}_2^{\dagger} \hat{a}_3 + h.c.$
- Resonance when $\omega_1 + \omega_3 = 2\omega_2 + \alpha_2$
- Q2 is frequency-tunable

QAR w superconducting circuits: Hofer et al, PRB 94, 235420 (2016) This 3-body interaction: Ren et al, PRL 125, 133601 (2020)

Demonstrating the three-body interaction



- Excite Q3, resonantly drive Q1, measure Q3
- Repeat for varying frequency of Q2
- Q3 pop is drastically reduced when resonance condition is met



Demonstrating the three-body interaction



- Excite Q3, resonantly drive Q1, measure Q3
- Increasing the strength of Q1 drive results in faster decay of Q3 population



Temperature-controlled, autonomous qubit reset



- Excite Q3, then elevate temperature of hot bath and measure Q3 pop vs time
- Relaxation time of Q3 drops by a factor 60 by heating the bath coupled to Q1!
- Steady-state population is lower than
 - (i) passive thermalization to qubit bath! --
 - (ii) Passive thermalization to coldest bath!



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Some numbers:

Lowest steady-state population: 5×10^{-4} (Effective temperature: 23.5 mK)

Reset time (1%): 970 ns

For comparison:

Passive thermalization gives 2.8% (50 mK)

(Hypothetical) direct thermalization to cold waveguide would give 2.0% (45 mK)

Comparing to the state of the art in qubit reset



Adapted from Zhou et al, Nat Commun 12, 5924 (2021), Suppl Mat

Summary and outlook



Here Quantum Thermodynamics

- Demonstrated useful, fully autonomous quantum thermal machine
- Performance competitive with state of the art
- Resource-efficient approach to a quantum computing task
- What other tasks could be executed autonomously?

Here circuit QED

- Circuit QED + thermal waveguides = comprehensive platform for experiments in gthermo
- Build one-of-a-kind quantum thermal machines to leverage native interactions
- Measure scattered thermal radiation: average power, fluctuations, correlations

60

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