

Building a full-stack quantum computer in an academic environment

Lessons from the WACQT center, Sweden

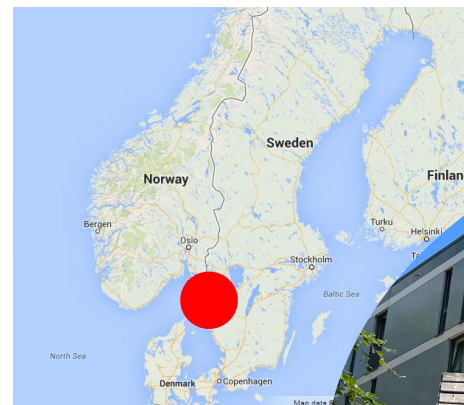
Simone Gasparinetti

Principal Investigator, WACQT
Assistant Professor, Chalmers University of Technology

My research group

Superconducting circuits for

- Quantum computing with bosonic modes
- Quantum thermodynamics
- Quantum-enabling technologies



202Q · LAB



CHALMERS



Nano-fabrication facility



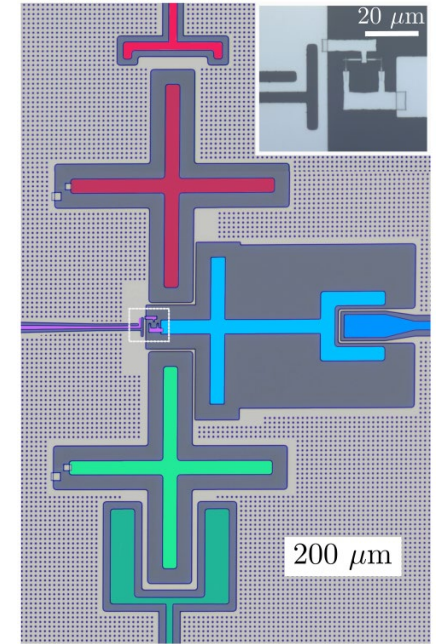
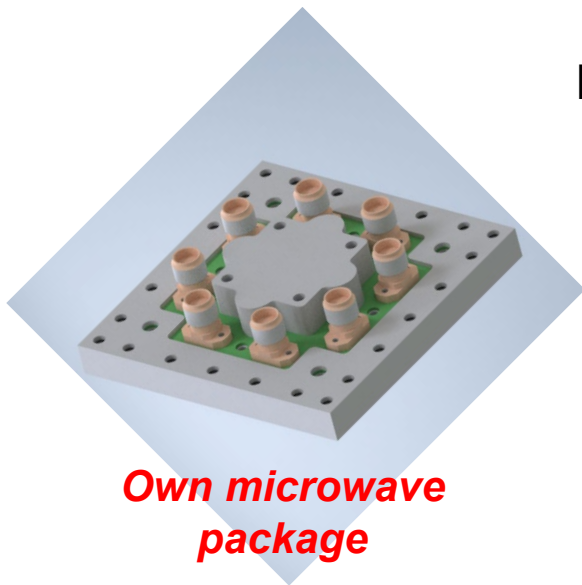
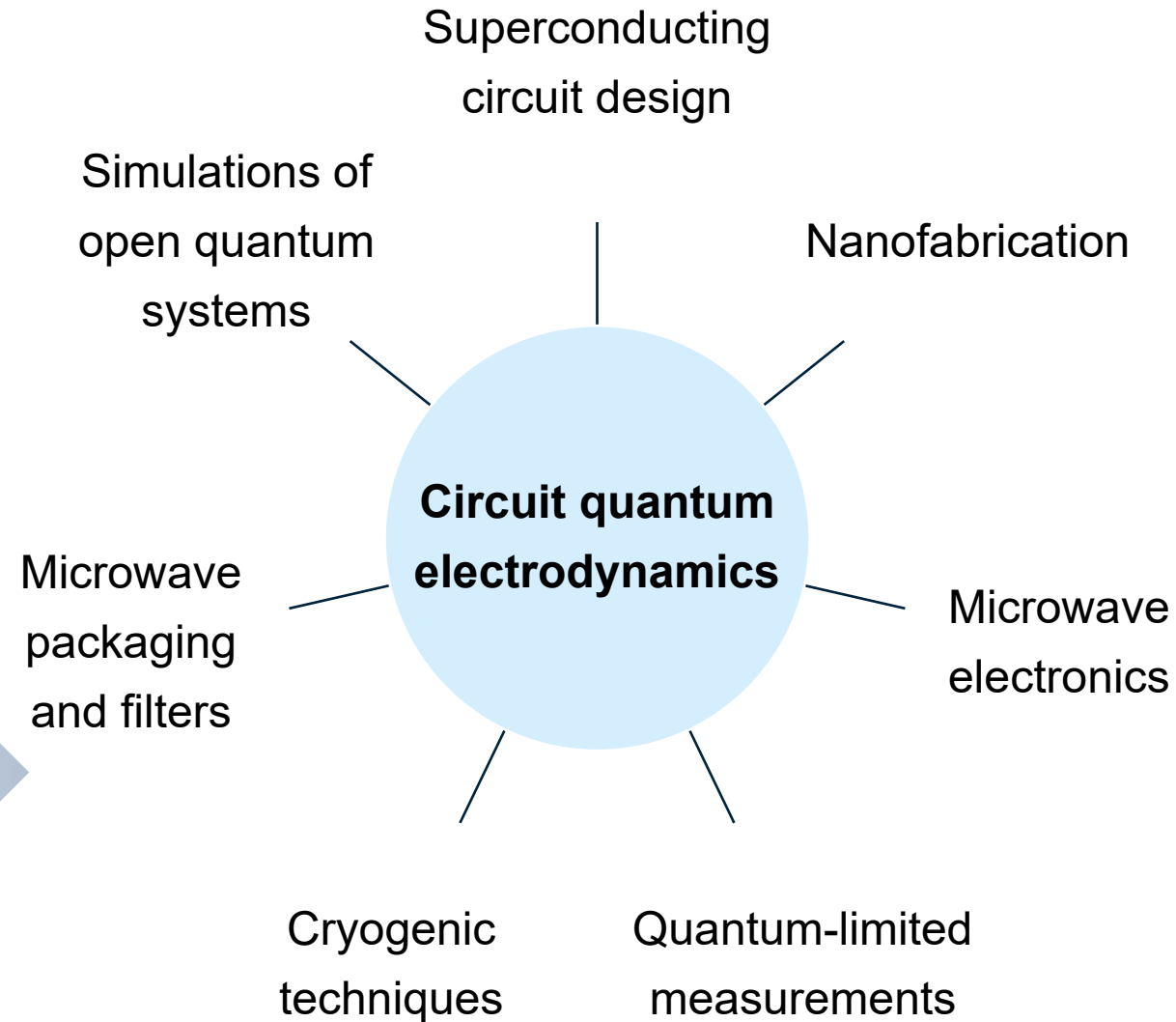
European
Innovation
Council



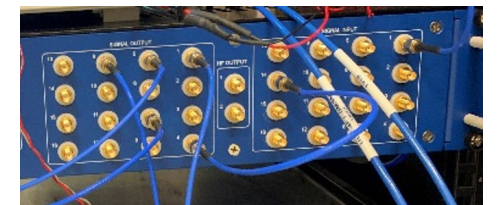
Contact: simoneg@chalmers.se
Visit our website 202q-lab.se



How we work

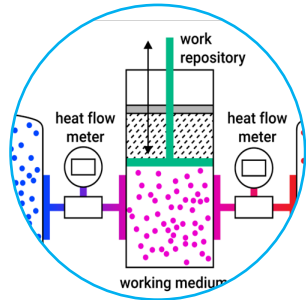


One-of-a-kind quantum circuit

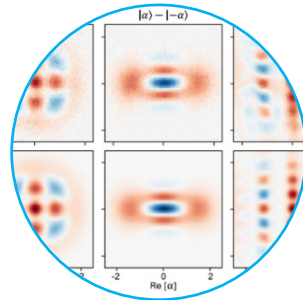


Customized electronics

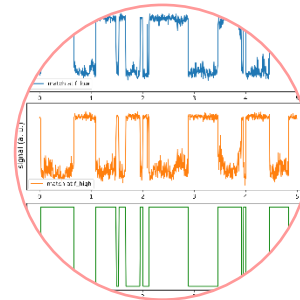
Our research



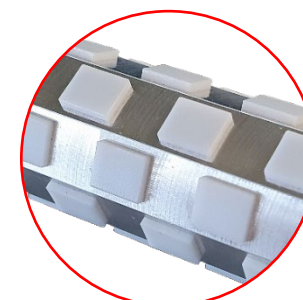
Quantum thermodynamics



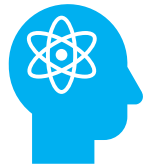
Quantum computing with bosonic modes



Diagnostics of superconducting circuits

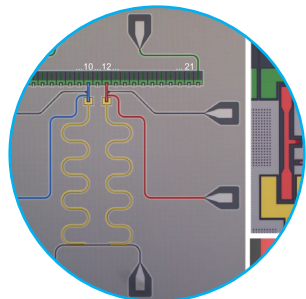
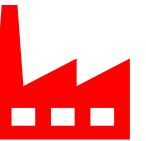


Microwave packages and filters

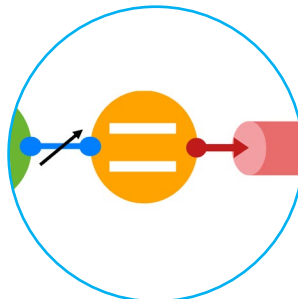


BASIC

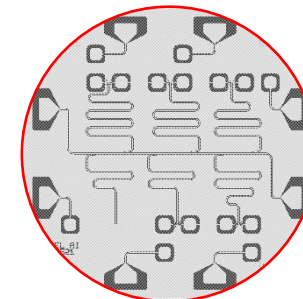
APPLIED



Microwave quantum optics

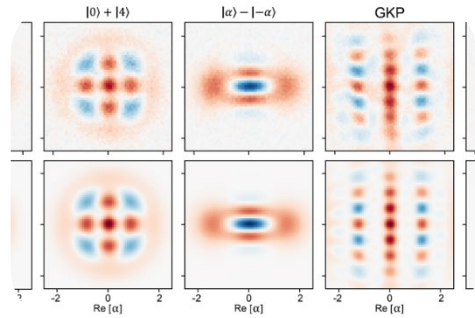


Distributed quantum computing



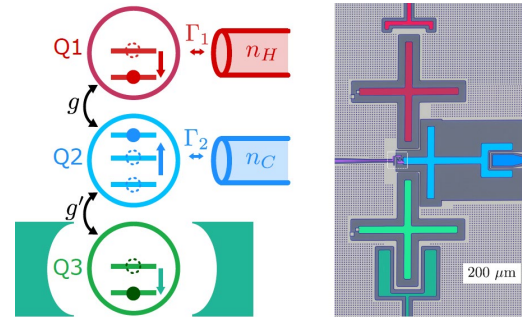
Cryogenic microwave switches

Some research highlights



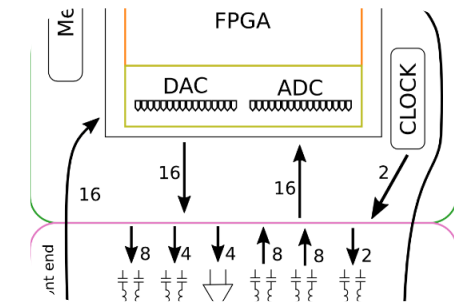
Quantum state preparation in
3D cavities

PRX Quantum **3**, 030301 (2022)



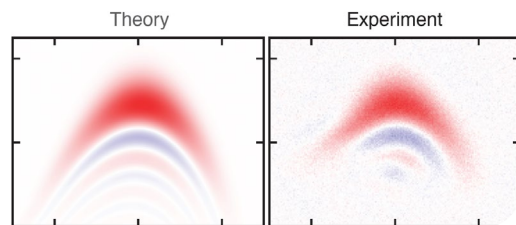
Autonomous qubit reset with
quantum absorption refrigerator

arXiv:2305.16710



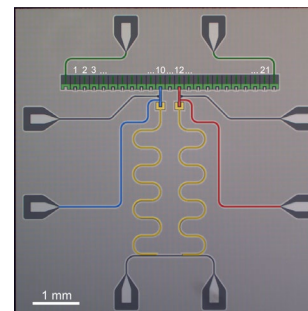
Qubit meas&control with
integrated RF-SoC platform

Rev Sci Instr **93**, 104711 (2022)



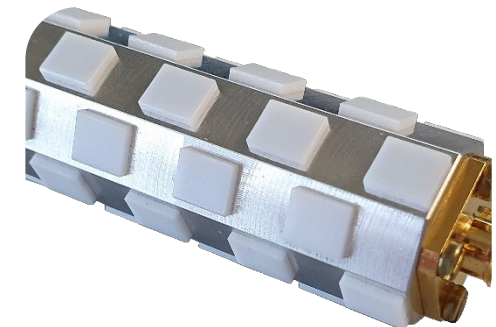
Control of a bosonic mode via
native cubic interactions

arXiv:2308.15320



Atom-photon bound states in
JJ resonator arrays

PRX **12**, 031036 (2022)



Low-pass filter for quantum
computing applications

IEEE TMTT **1** (2023), patent pending

Outline

- Overview of WACQT
- Building a full-stack quantum computer at WACQT
- WACQT's 25-qubit quantum processor
- Personal reflections

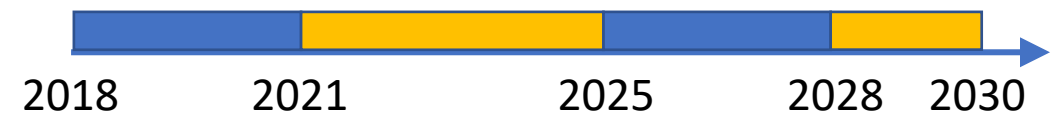
Wallenberg Centre for Quantum Technology

Main goals i) To build a broad competence base in Sweden for Quantum Technology
 ii) To build a quantum computer based on superconducting circuits

Two parts Core project on quantum computing
 Excellence program including all of Quantum Technology

Universities: Chalmers, KTH, Lund, SU, LiU, GU
 120+ people involved

Duration: 12 years, (3+4+3+2 years)
 Started Jan 1, 2018

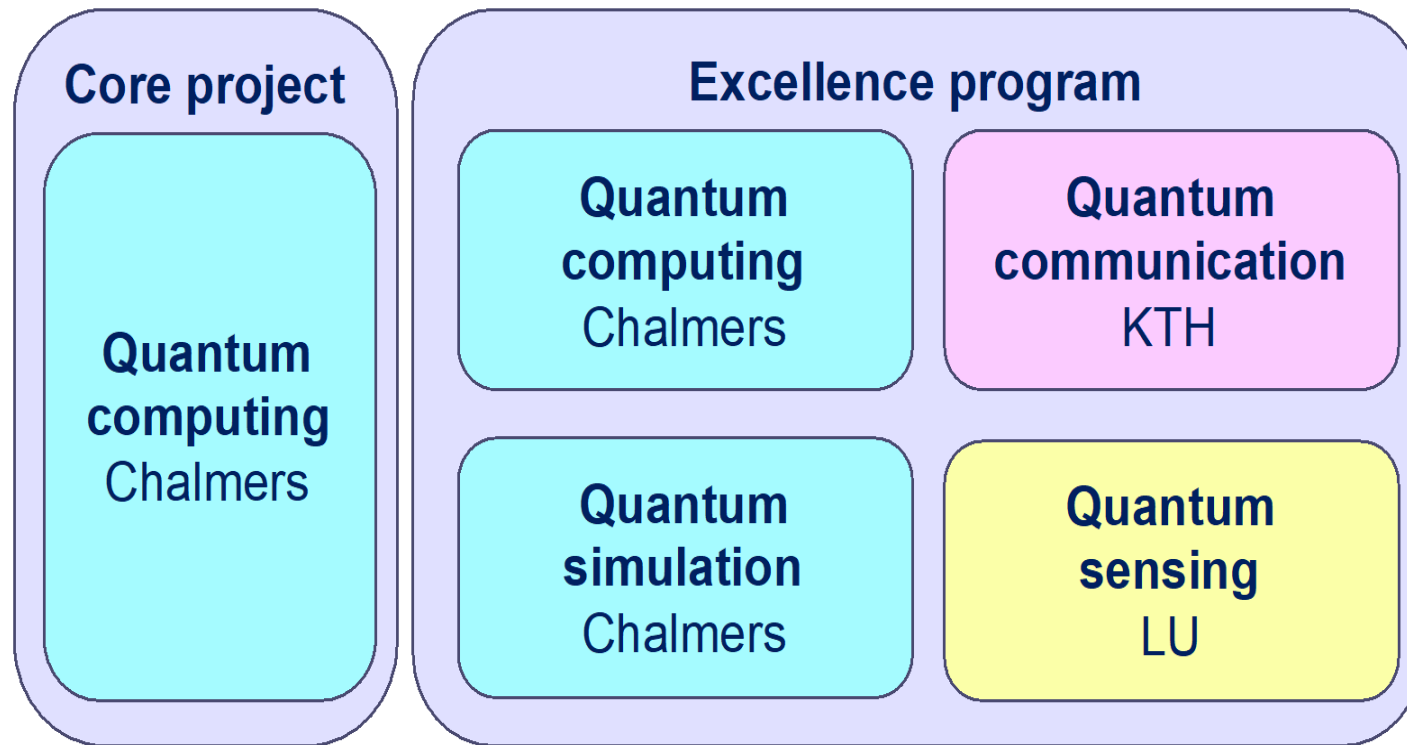


Involving industry Big industry for applications + SME for enabling technology

Funding: 1400 MSEK (~120 MEUR) from KAW foundation + Universities + Industry partners

Wallenberg Centre for Quantum Technology

Core project and Excellence program



WACQT total ~140 people

Graduate School
 Guest researcher program
 Industry collaboration

Total over 12 years:
 85 PhD students
 70 Postdocs
 14 Assistant professors

Quantum industry related to WACQT

User companies



AstraZeneca 



 Hitachi Energy



ERICSSON 

7 industrial PhD students

Technology enablers

Spectracure

Intermodulation Products

Low Noise Factory

ConScience

RISE/SP

3 industrial PhD students

Spin-off companies

Deep Light Vision AB

Atlantic Quantum AB

ScalinQ

Sweden Quantum AB

quCertify

WACQT-IP

All started within the last 2 years

Quantum technology testbed(s)

Quantum algorithm testbed (for researchers and big companies; start in 2025)

- User facility for testing quantum algorithms
- Dedicated cryostat with an operational 25 qubit processor
- Upgrading to 40 qubits later when WACQT-platform after 4 years

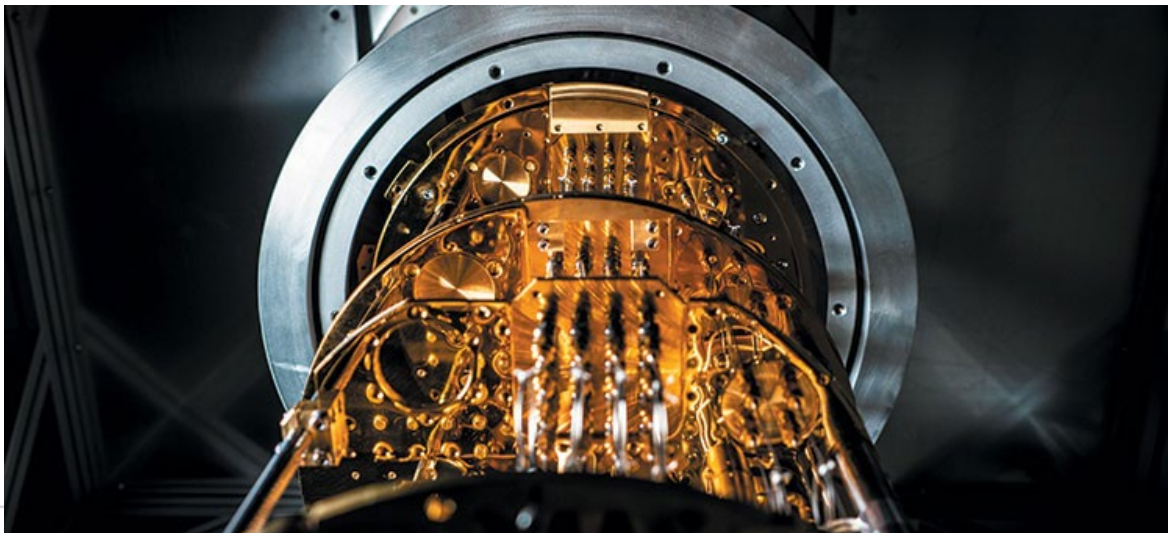
Quantum algorithm help desk (start in 2024)

Quantum hardware testbed (for SMEs and spin-offs; start in 2024)

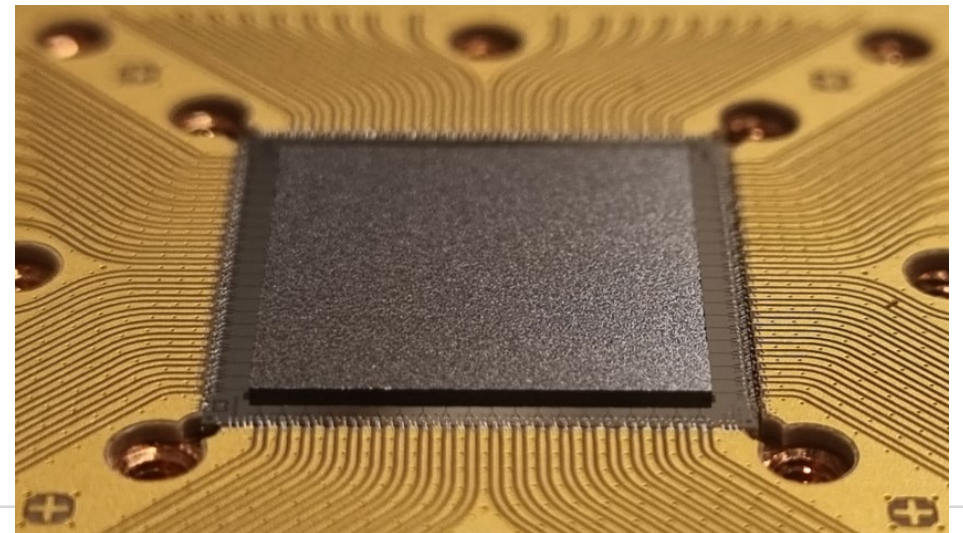
- User facility for testing quantum hardware at cryogenic temperatures
- Dedicated (smaller) cryostat
- Expertise on cryogenics and quantum technology

The WACQT Quantum Computer

- A Swedish quantum computer based on superconducting circuits
- Application to use cases within optimization and quantum chemistry
- Full stack HW and SW development



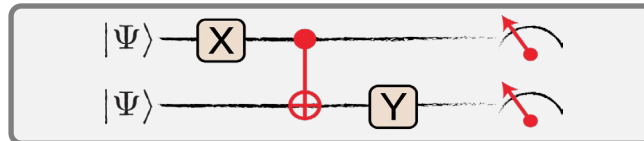
The 25-qubit platform



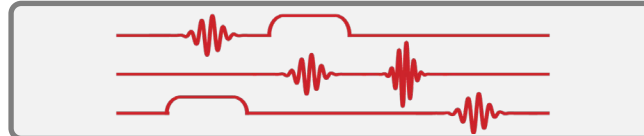
WACQT has a full-stack approach

```
let shorCorrector (qs:Qubits) =
  let out = xflipSyndrome qs.[0 .. 2]
  if (out > 0) then
    X [qs.[out - 1]]
```

Quantum algorithms



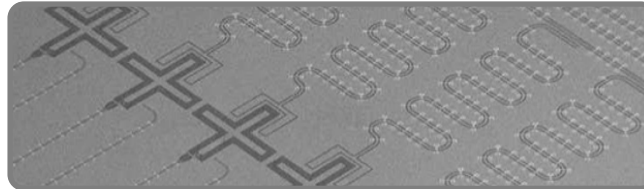
Quantum compiler



Control system



Classical hardware



Qubit register

Engineering needs + opportunities for science at each layer, and their interface!

- Coherence + reproducibility
- Gates
- Readout
- 3D integration & packaging
- Crosstalk
- Control systems
- Software & automation
- ... And many more

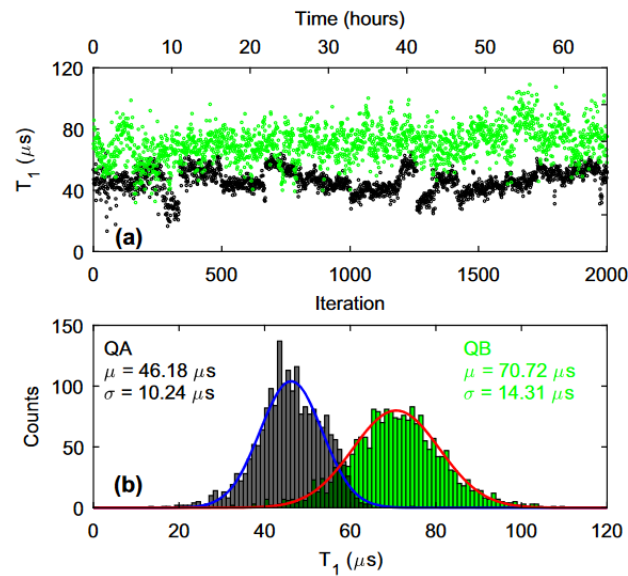
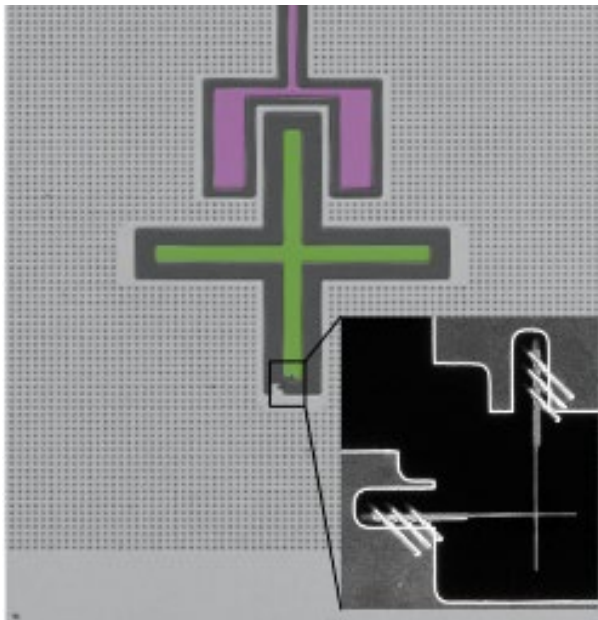
Experimental team working on core project

PIs	Jonas Bylander Per Delsing Giovanna Tancredi
Researchers	Anita Fadavi Robert Rehammar Daryoush Shiri
Senior res. engineers	Abdullah-al Amin (SW) Miroslav Dobsicek (SW) Marcus Rommel (Fab)
Research engineers	Martin Ahindura (SW) Nicklas Botö (SW) Stefan Hill (SW) Andreas Nylander (Fab) Krishnasamy Subramaniam
Lab Manager	Olga Yuzefovych

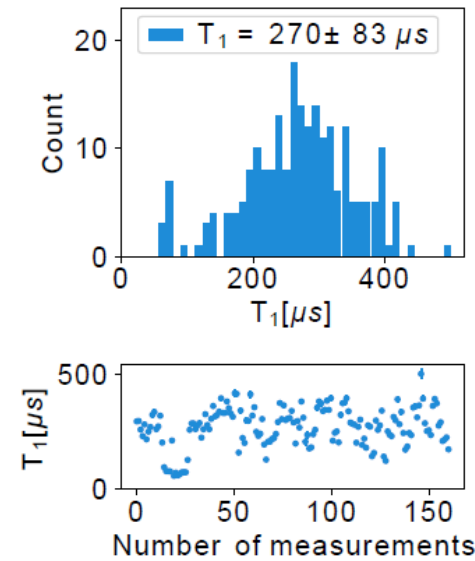
Postdocs	Sahara Hejazi Tangyou Huang Anna Kepiklova Sumit Kumar Eleftherios Moschandreou Tom Vethaak
PhD students	Anuj Aggarwal Janka Biznárová Liangyu Chen Christian Krizan Hang-Xi Li Amr Osman Hampus Rehnberg Nilsson Emil Rehnman Christopher Warren
MS	Maurizio Toselli Halldór Jakobsson

One qubit

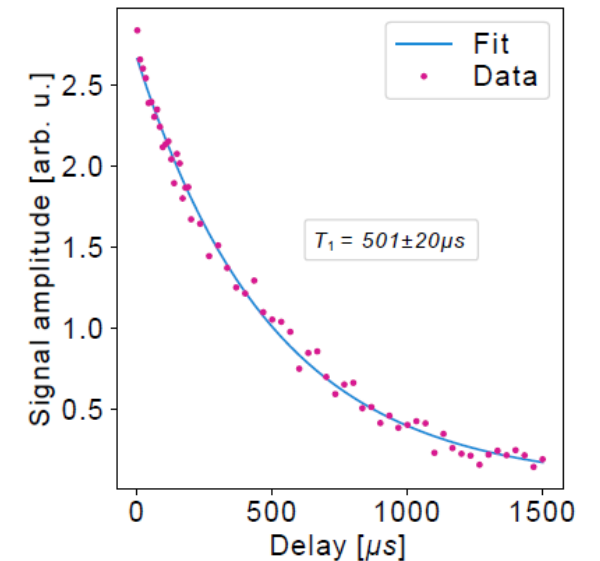
- Conventional transmon qubits, Al on Si
- Constantly improved thanks to material science + process development



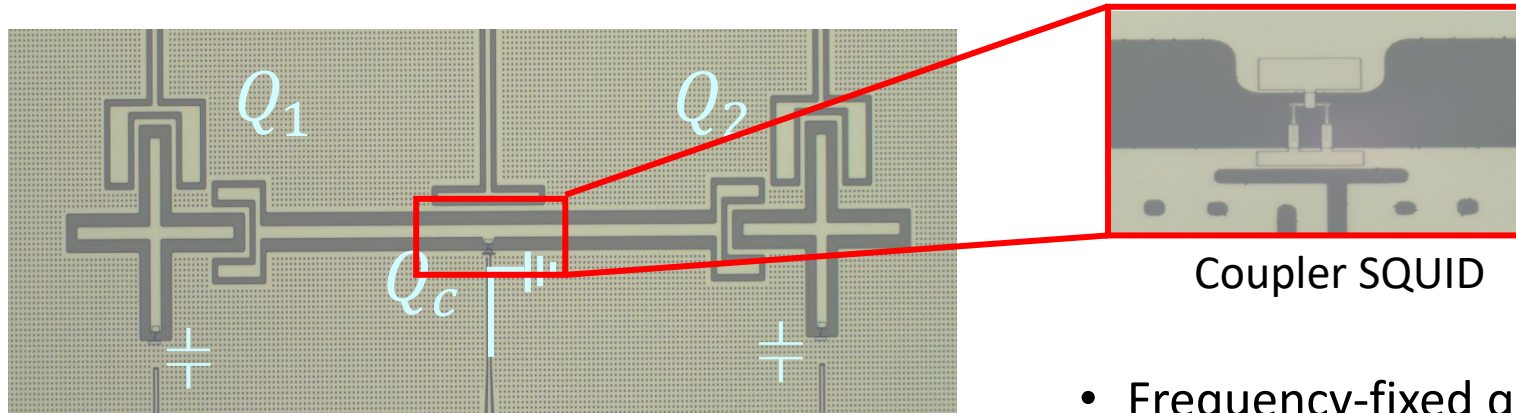
Burnett 2019, $T_1 \sim 70 \mu\text{s}$



Biznarova 2023, $T_1 \sim 270 \mu\text{s}$



Two qubits



Single-qubit gates in 10-20 ns
Two-qubit gate in ~ 300 ns
Readout 1-2 μ s (now 180 ns)

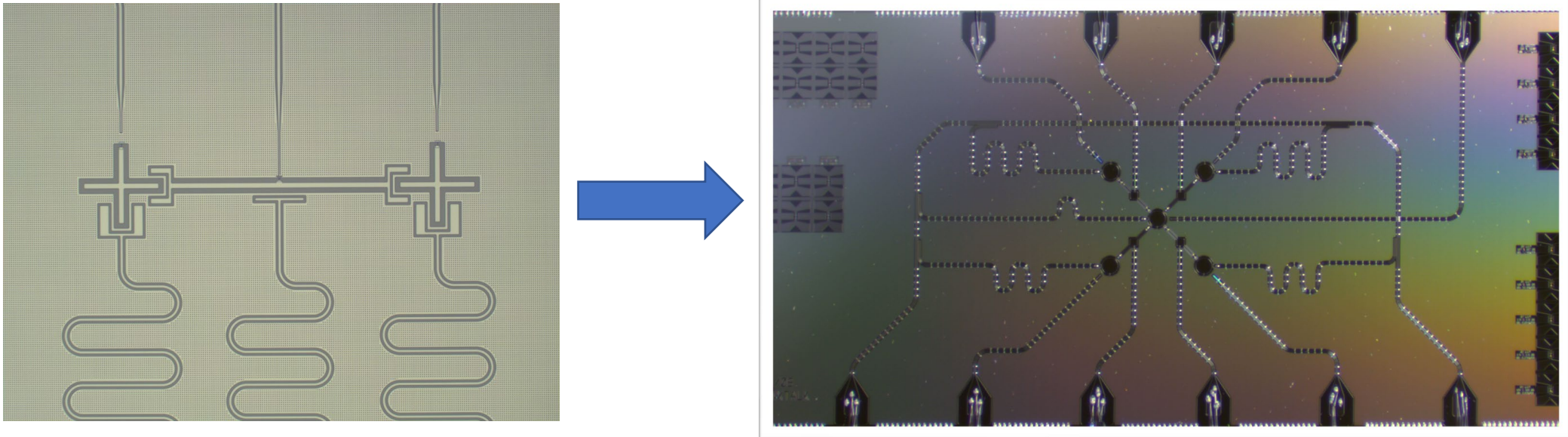
Coupler SQUID

- Frequency-fixed qubits, frequency-tunable coupler
- Two-qubit gate (CZ) by parametric drive on coupler
- QAOA algorithm implemented on this device

McKay, PRAppl. 6, 064007 (2016)

Bengtsson, PRAppl. 14, 034010 (2020)

From 2 to 5 qubits



As we scale up, there is many more things to take care of!

Connectivity

Frequency collisions

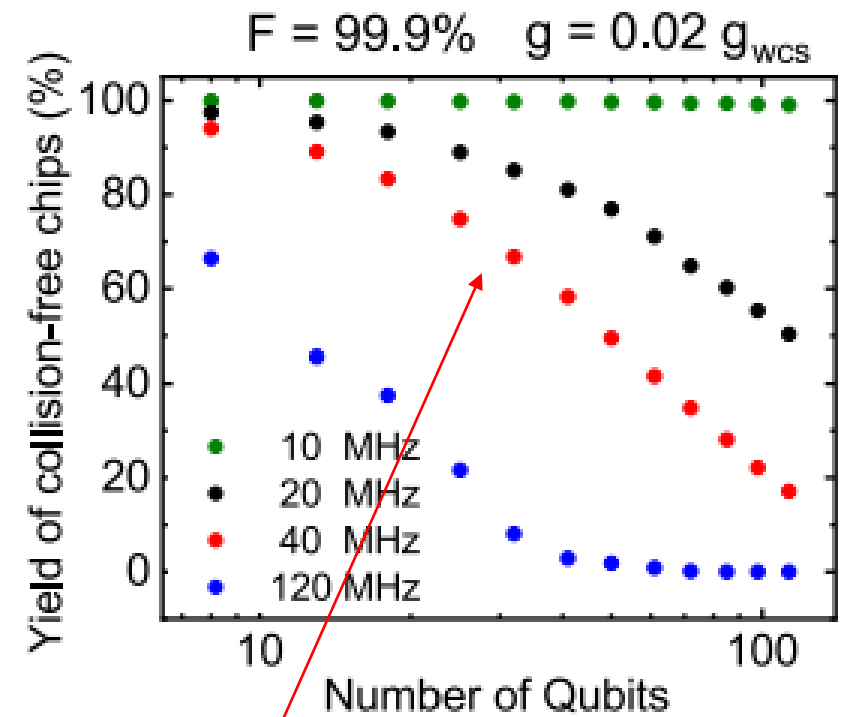
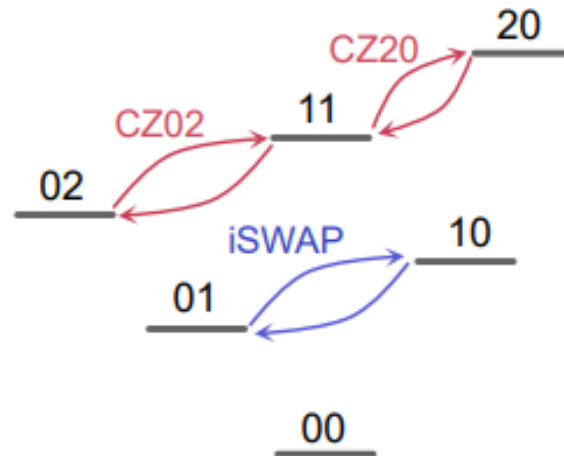
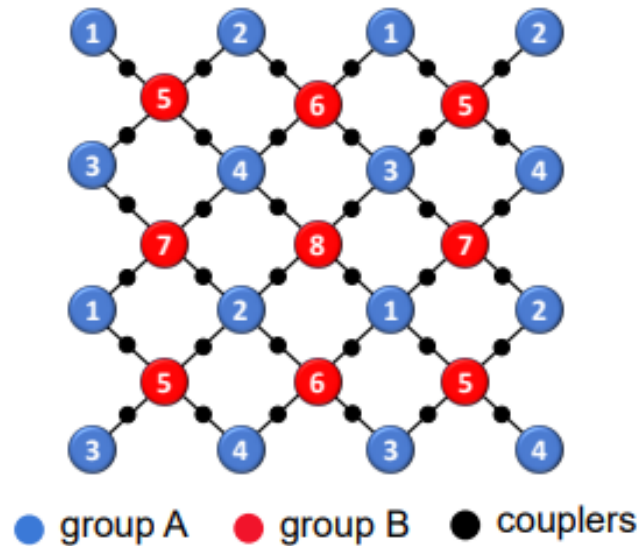
Crosstalk

Reproducibility ...

25-qubit processor: avoiding collisions

Tileable 4 x 4 pattern

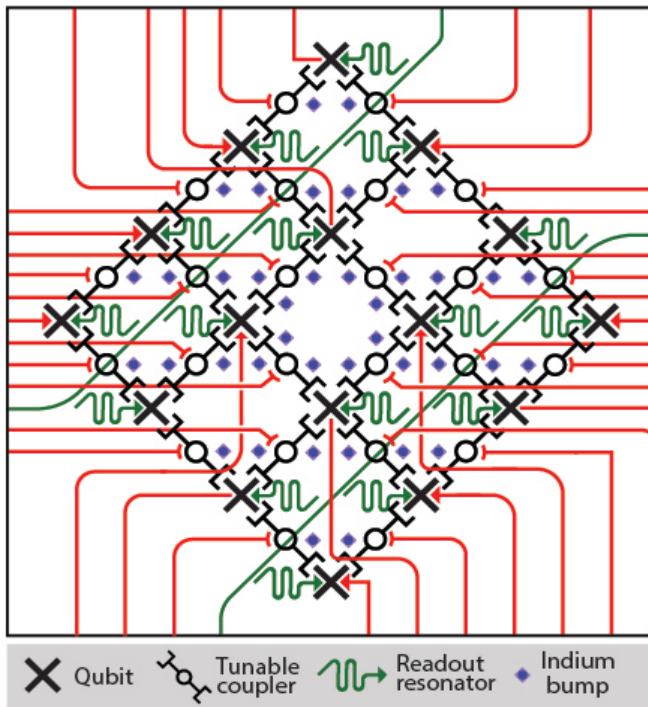
Two groups of qubits with different anharmonicities



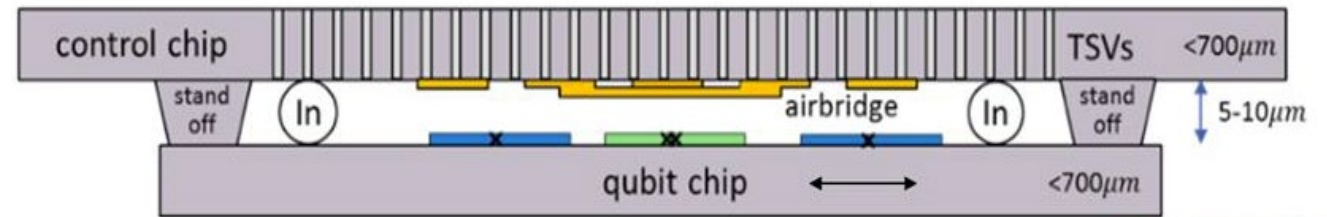
Our standard deviation of qubit frequencies is 40 MHz

25-qubit processor: 3D integration

Conceptual architecture



Flip-chip module



Flip-chip module

- **Quantum chip:** qubit array and couplers
- **Control chip:** measurement & control lines
- **Bump-bonded module**

Features

- Scalable
- Highly connected
- Addressable
- Crosstalk-mitigated
- Packaged
- Standardized

Kosen *et al.*, Quant Sci Tech 7, 035018 (2022)

25-qubit processor: physical design

Device layout (qubits, control lines, read-out)

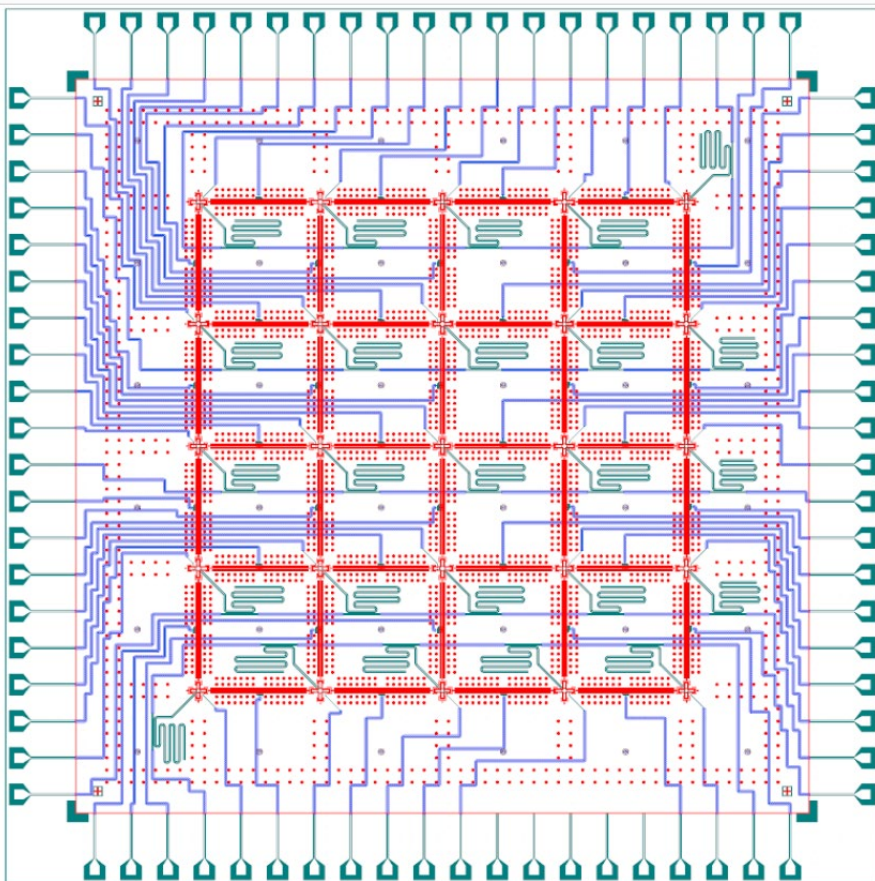
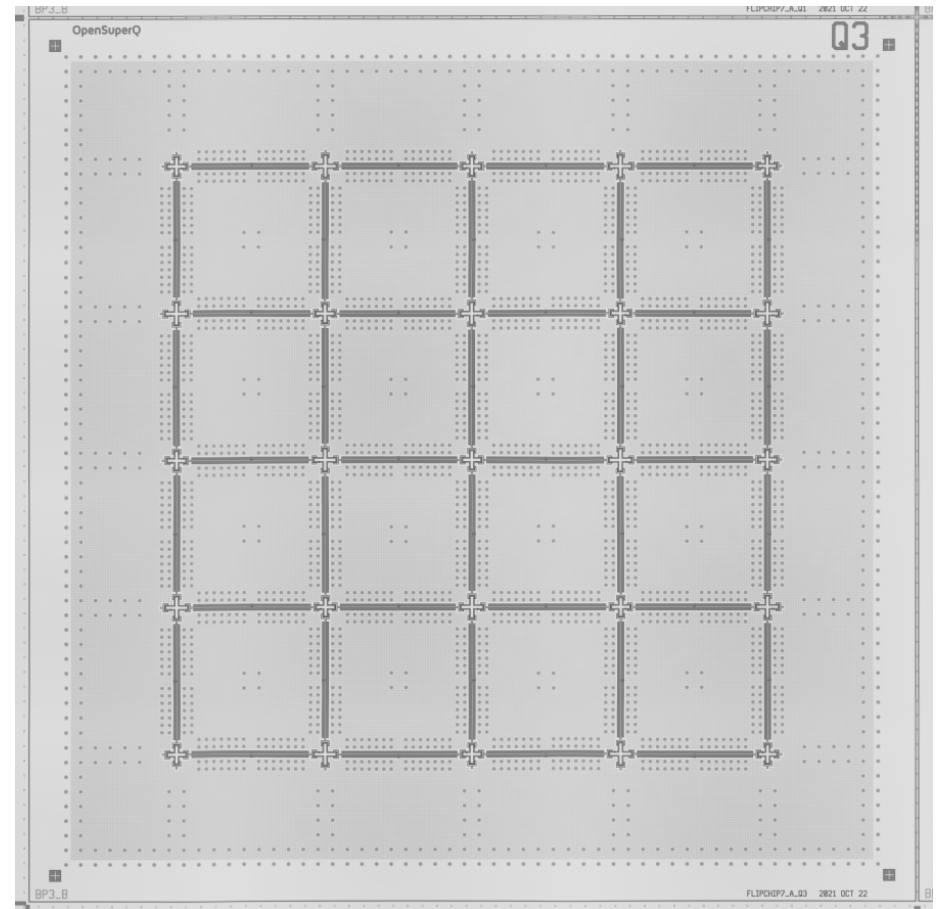
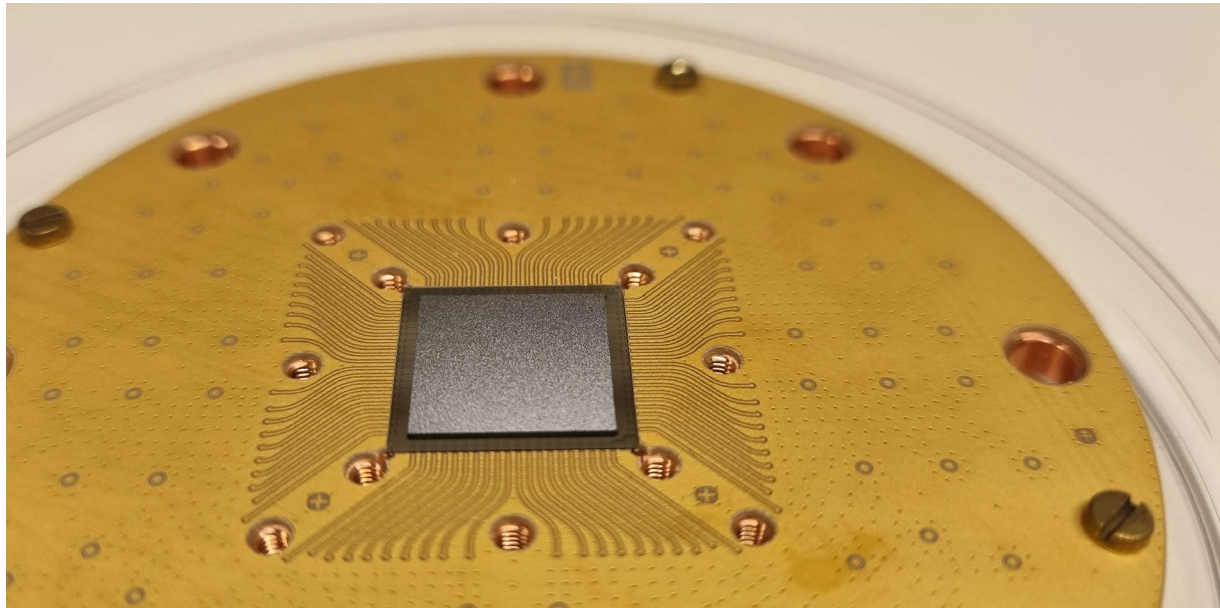


Photo of 25 qubit chip

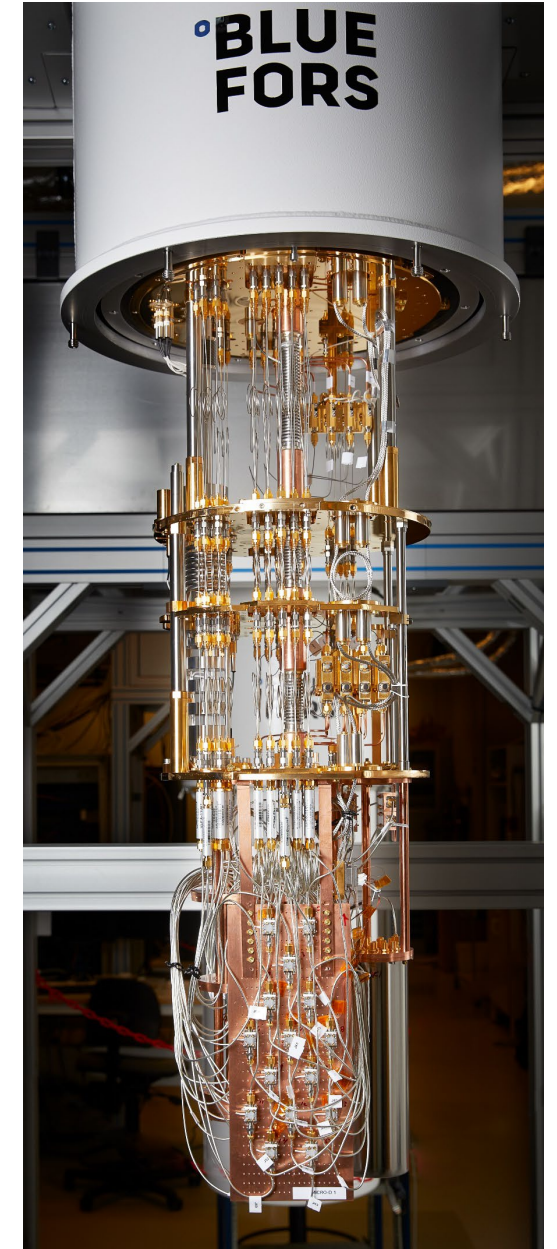
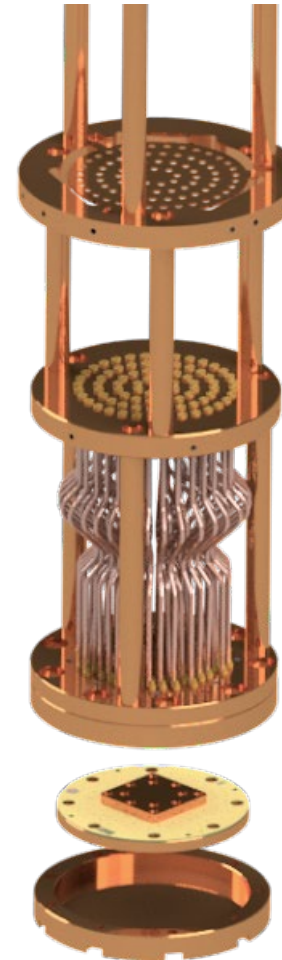


25-qubit processor

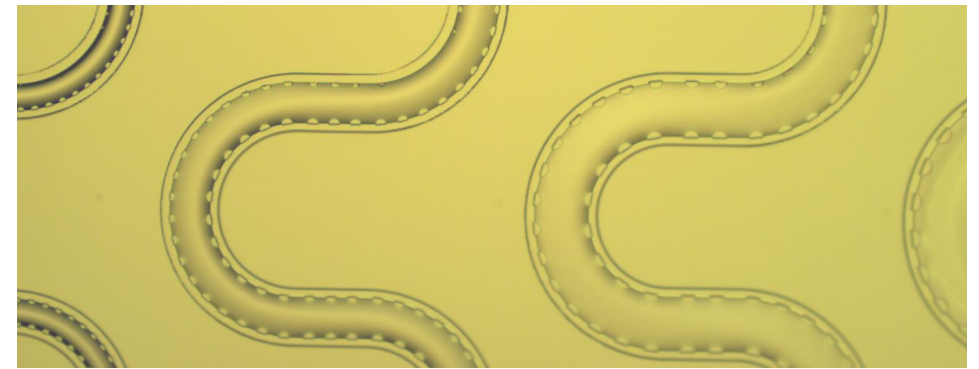
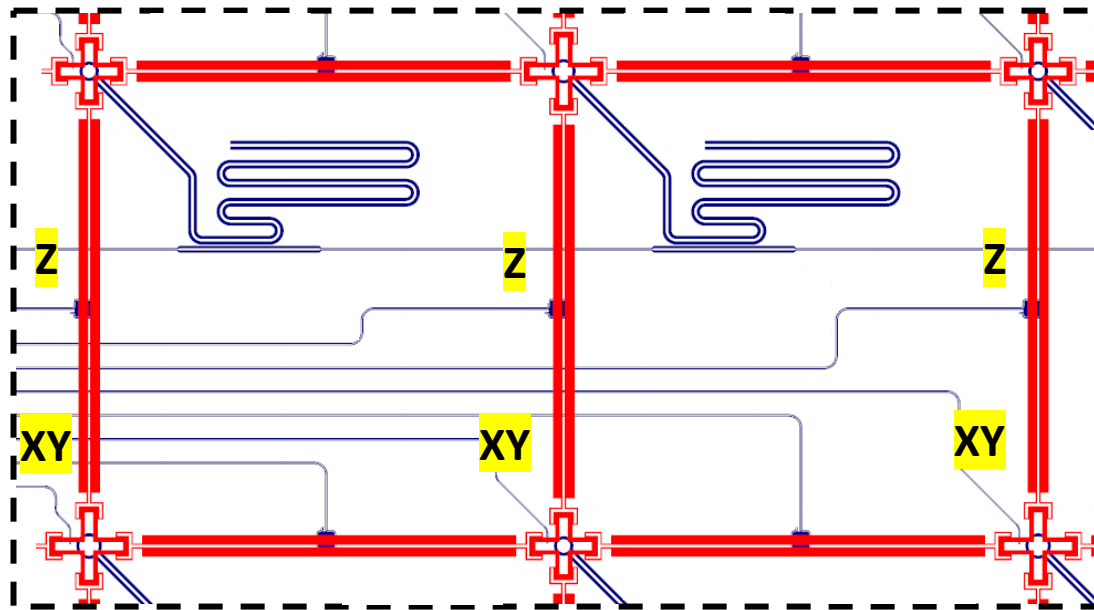
Made at Chalmers, bonded at VTT, measured at Chalmers



- 25 qubits in a 5 x 5 grid
- Pairwise coupled
- CZ parametric gates
- $T_1 > 90 \mu\text{s}$
- $F(1Q) > 99.9\%$
- $F(\text{CZ}) > 98.6\%$



Investigating cross-talk



Superconducting tunnels to shield all the control lines on the C-chip

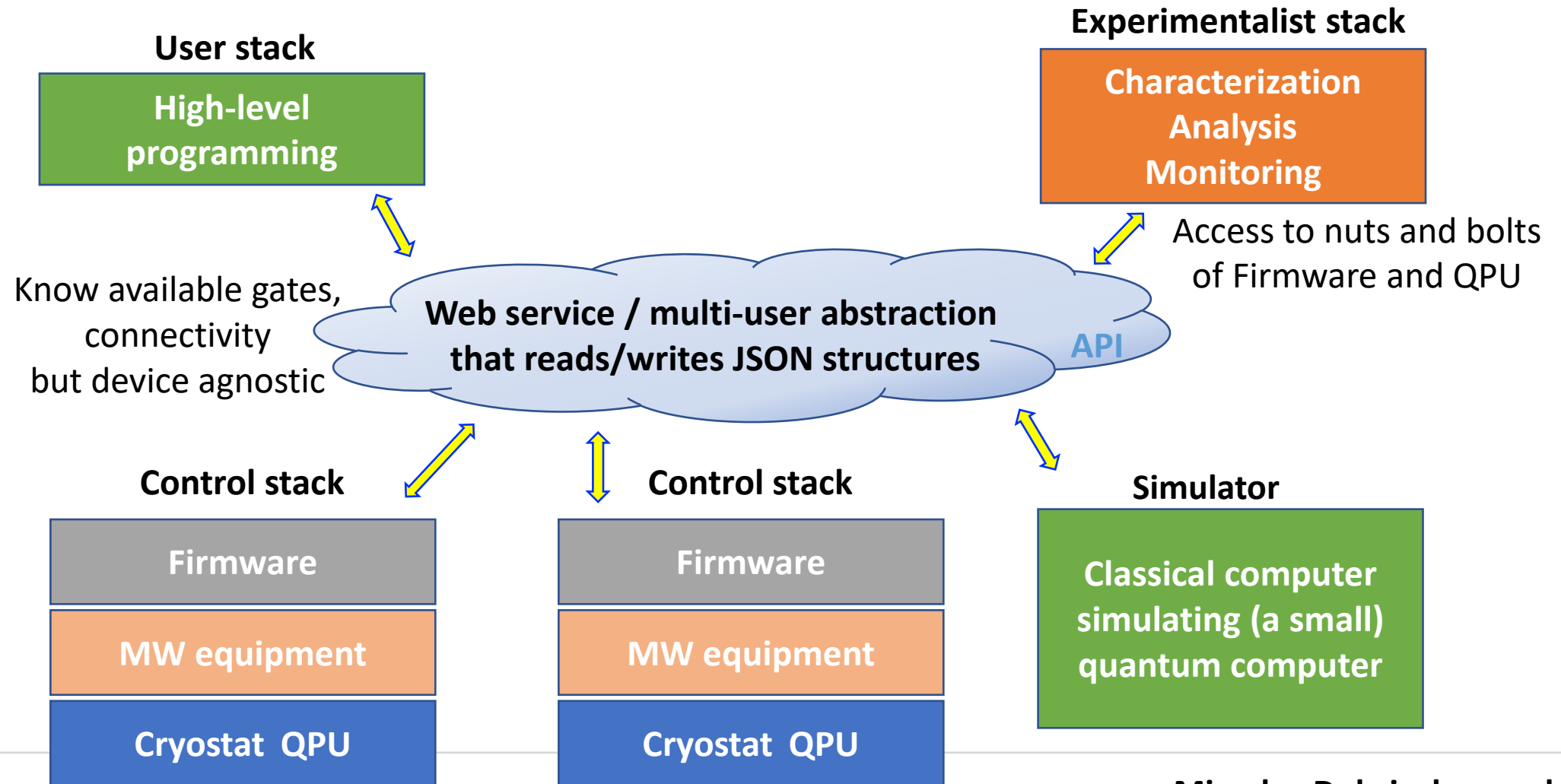
- XY on-resonant crosstalk ~ -40 dB
- DC flux crosstalk below $\sim 0.1\%$

Kosen *et al.*, in prep.

This is really good!

Thanks to flip-chip environment, return current engineering, magnetic field shielding via airtunnels

Software stack



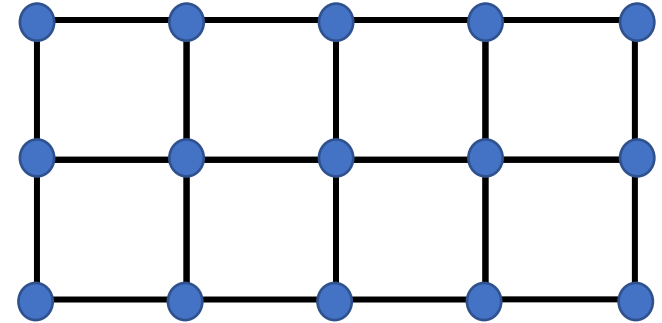
Software stack – automated tune-up

Single-qubit simultaneous calibration

15 qubits

11 routines

- Resonator spectroscopy
- Qubit spectroscopy
- Rabi (f01)
- Ramsey (01)
- DRAG optimization (amplitude and derivative)
- Resonator spectroscopy (with qubit in $|0\rangle$, $|1\rangle$)
- Qubit Spectroscopy (f12)
- Rabi (f12)
- Ramsey (f12)
- Resonator spectroscopy (with qubit in $|0\rangle$, $|1\rangle$, $|2\rangle$)



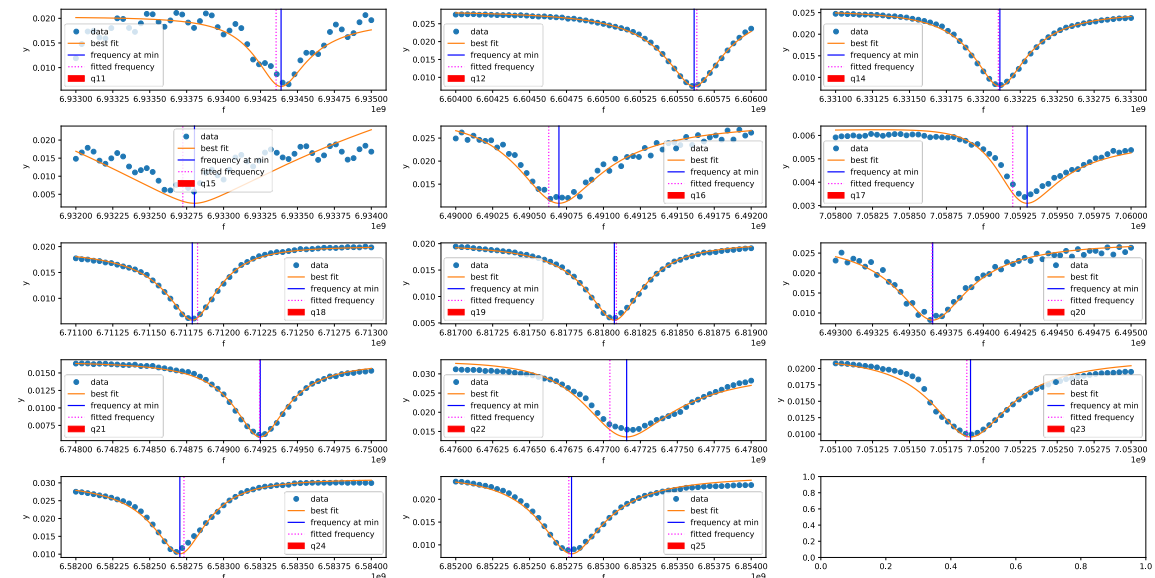
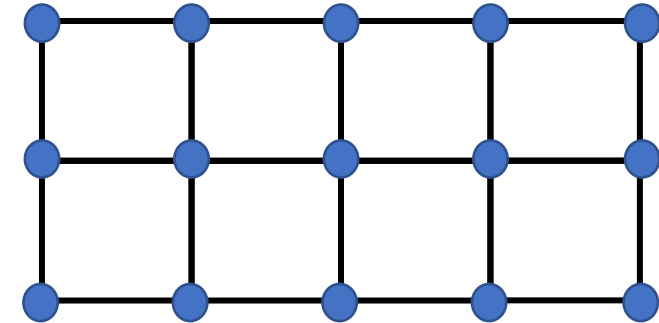
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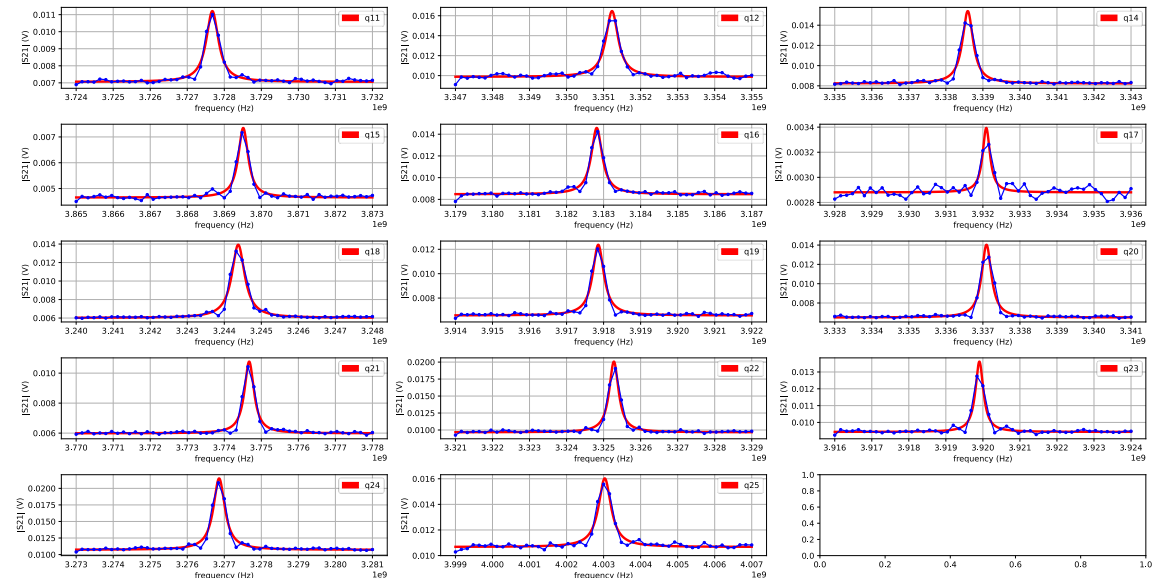
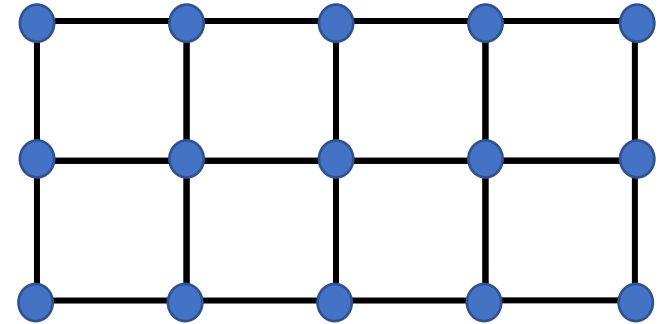
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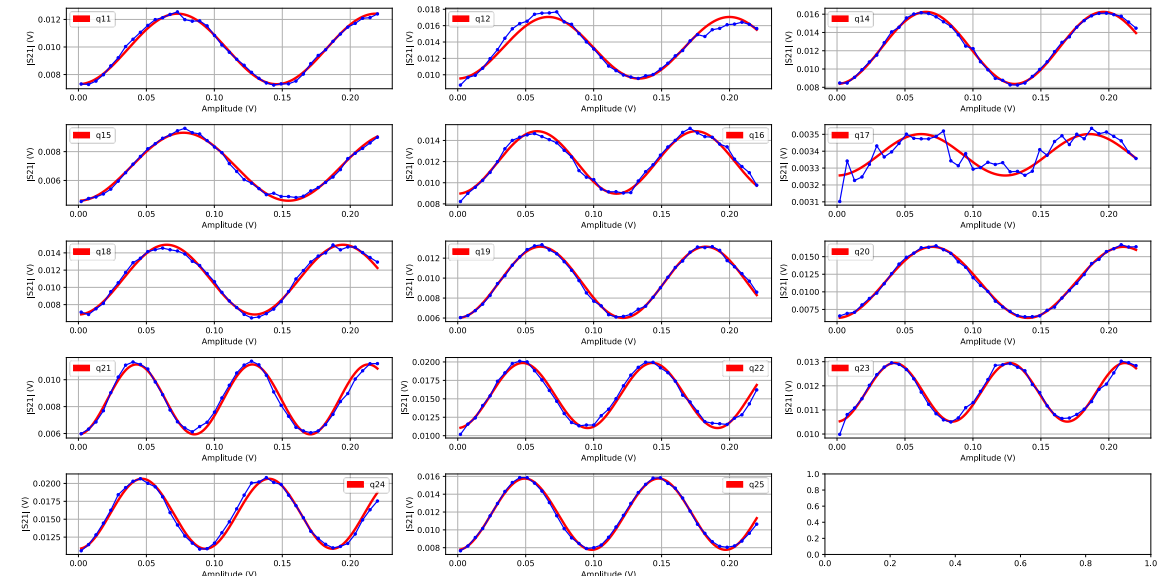
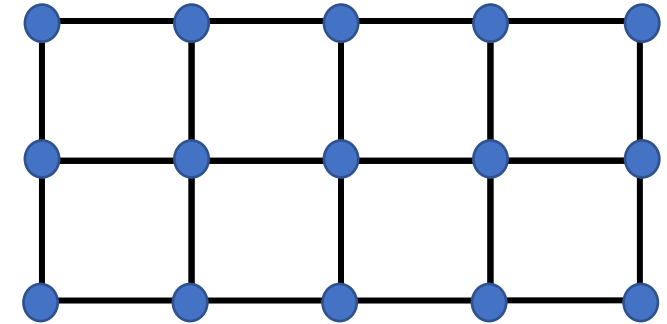
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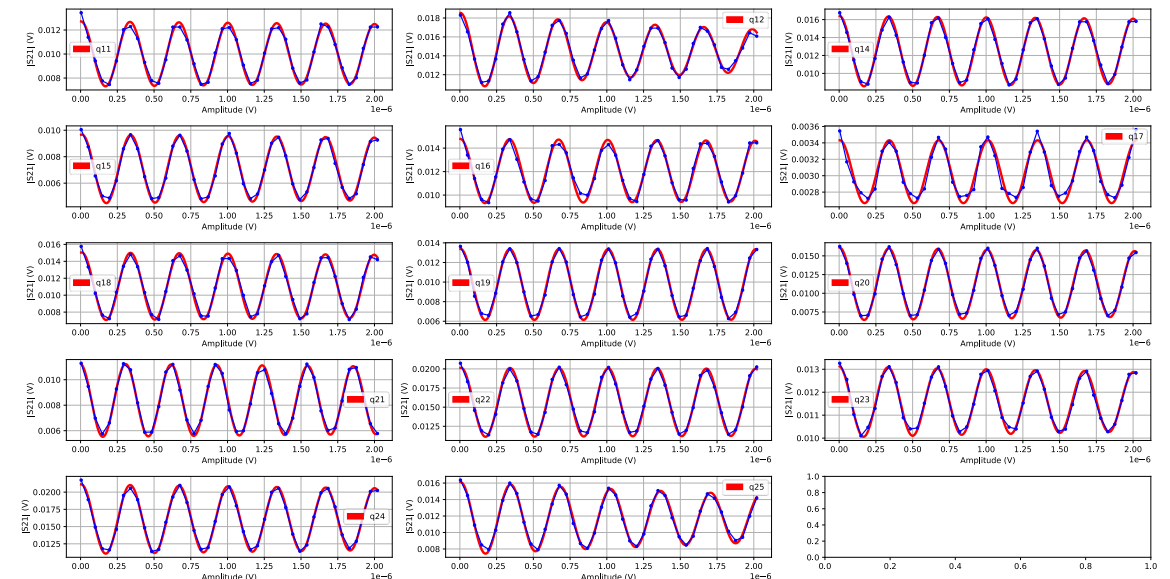
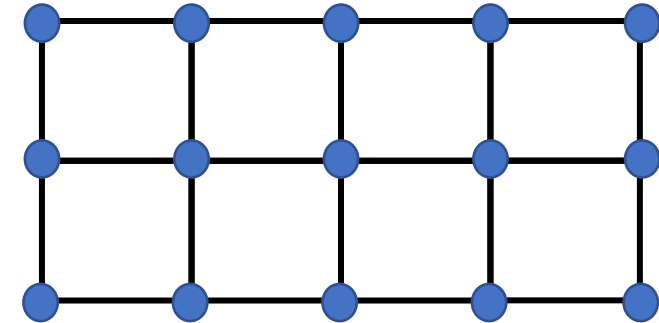
Software stack – automated tune-up

Single-qubit simultaneous calibration

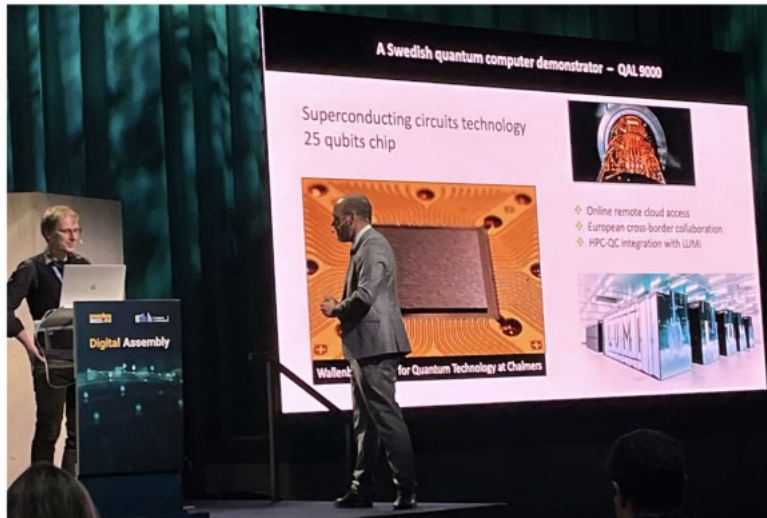
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- Rabi (f12)
- Ramsey (f12)
- Resonator spectroscopy (with qubit in $|0\rangle$, $|1\rangle$, $|2\rangle$)



Software stack: connecting to HPC



Live demonstration at the EU Digital Assembly 2023
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=52vOdakwT1Q>
(WACQT Demo: 5h 9min)

Miroslav Dobsicek



- Online remote cloud access
- HPC-QC integration with Lumi
- HPC pre- and post-processing capabilities for quantum jobs
- Simple demonstration of QML

Still so much to do...

Improving qubits

- Understand Two-level Fluctuators (TLFs)

- Optimize substrate materials

- Improve reproducibility

- Thermalize qubits (and TLFs)

- Develop new types of qubits

- Implement error correction

System integration

- Packaging at mK temperatures, 3D integration

- Microwave solutions for operating a large-scale quantum computer

Software for quantum computers

- Quantum computer operation

- Quantum algorithms for real world use cases

What have we learned?

Can one build a quantum computer in academia? Yes, but beware:

- High employee turnover! Work on shared documentation and onboarding.
- Hire permanent researchers if you can. Better if they have industry experience.
- Science or engineering? Do it together. Look for inventive tweaks as you catch up.
- Get the theorists on board. Develop a deep mutual understanding.
- Software is very important! Easy to underestimate for (some) physicists
- Enabling companies greatly help. However, promiscuity can cause problems. Set clear boundaries.
- Working with user companies requires patience but is worth it. In Sweden, moderate interest.

Quantum computing still needs major breakthroughs – likely from academia

Thank you!

More questions? simoneg@chalmers.se