

# Introduction to Quantum Computing



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Microsoft

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@KittyArtPhysics



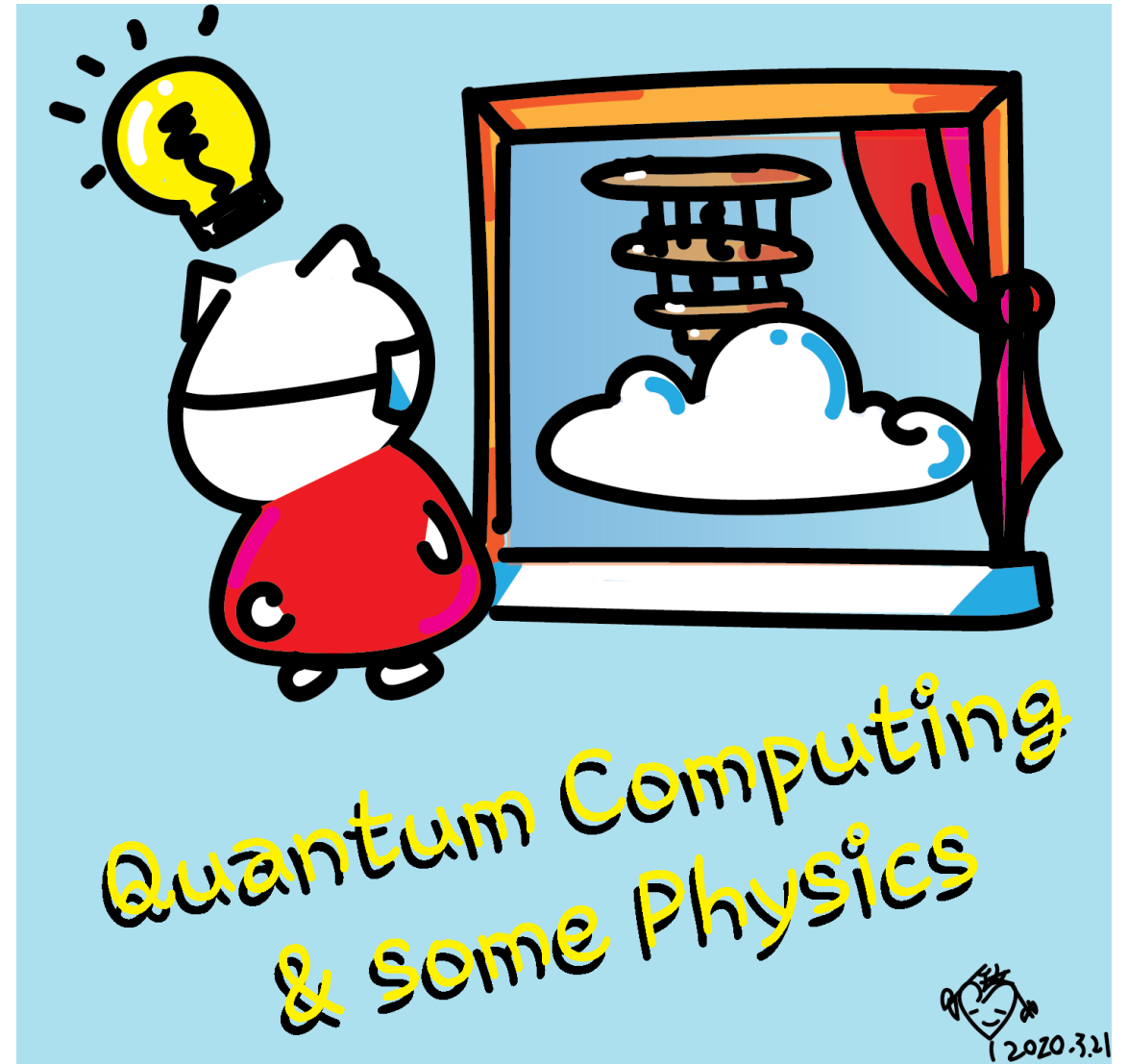
@artbyphysicistkittyyeung

May 3, 2020

Hackaday, session 6

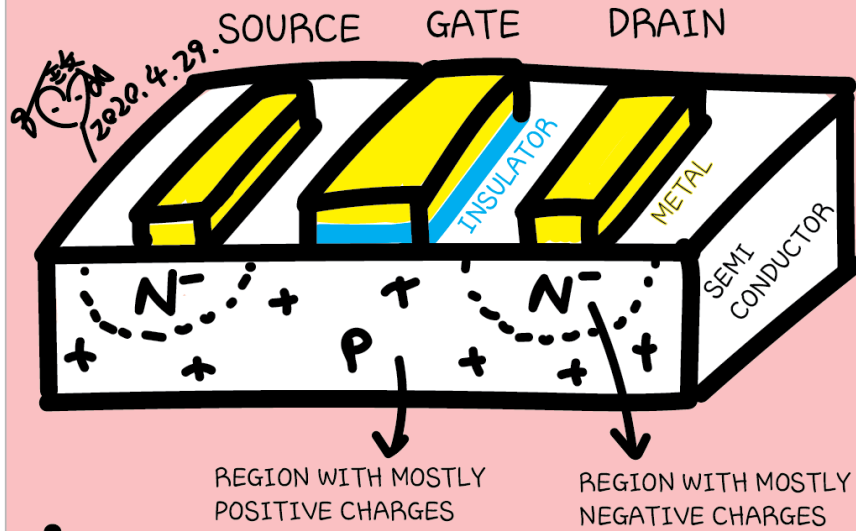
# Class structure

- [Comics on Hackaday – Introduction to Quantum Computing](#) every Wed & Sun
- 30 mins every Sun, one concept (theory, hardware, programming), Q&A
- Contribute to Q# documentation  
<http://docs.microsoft.com/quantum>
- Coding through Quantum Katas  
<https://github.com/Microsoft/QuantumKatas/>
- Discuss in Hackaday project comments throughout the week
- Take notes

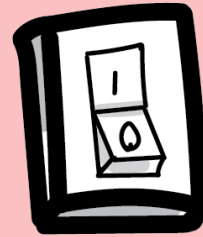


We leverage various properties of materials to make computing hardware.

25



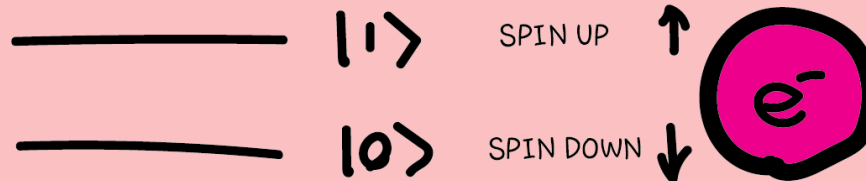
The gate applies voltage to control the electron flow from source to drain of a transistor. At a certain gate voltage level, electrons flow. This is the "on" state which we call "1". When there's no electron flow, we say the transistor is "off", or "0".



Transistors are nano- to micrometer switches.

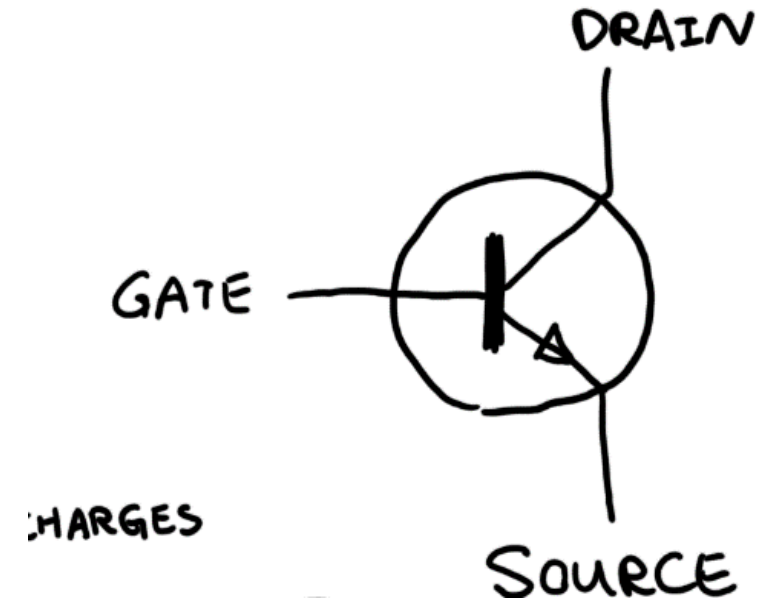
To make a qubit, we need a system with two states that can be in superposition.

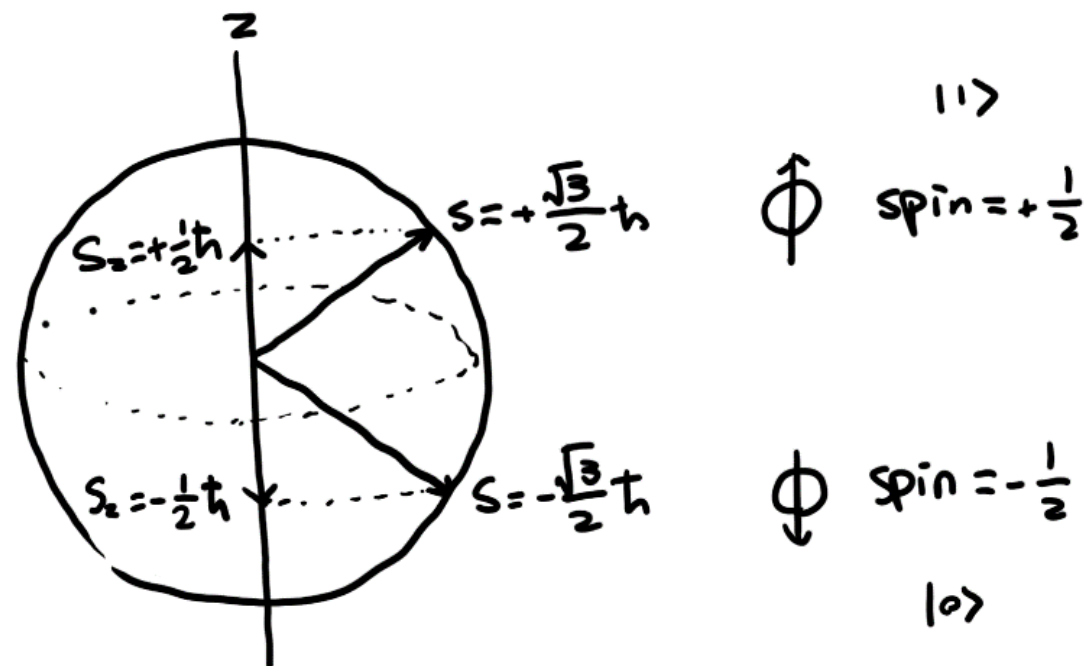
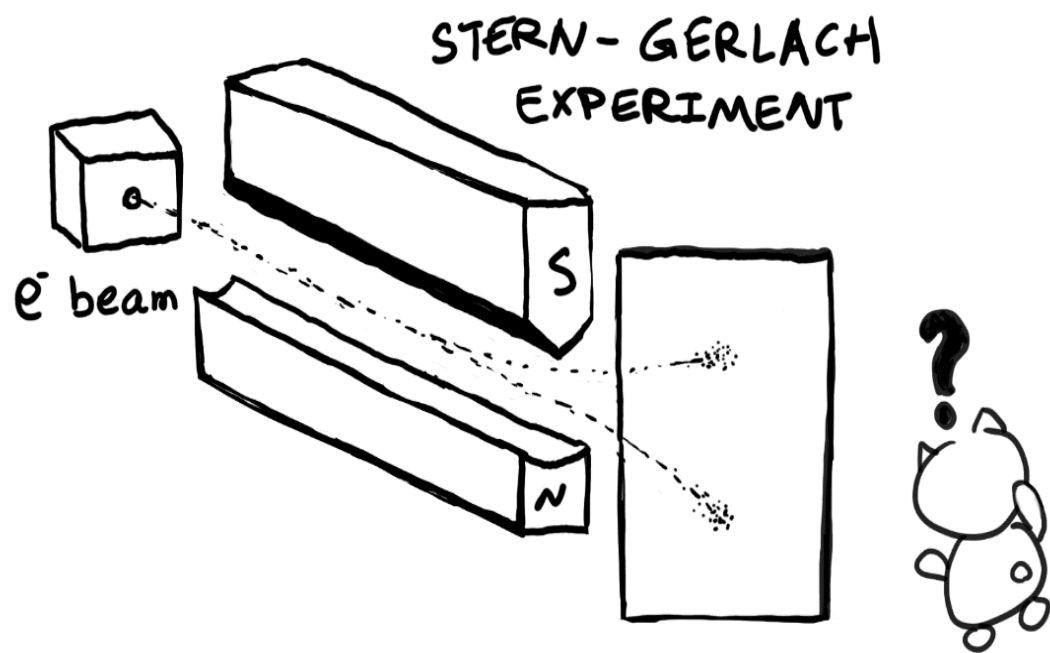
The electron spin seems to be a natural candidate.

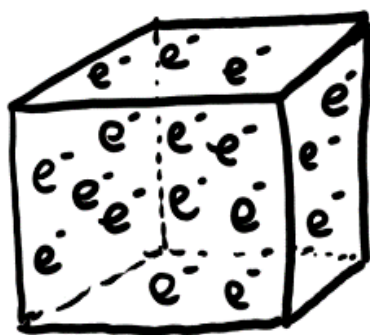


But how do we isolate and control electrons?

## CIRCUIT SYMBOL







3D

IN A METAL



2D

AT THE  
INTERFACE  
BETWEEN  
TWO  
SEMICONDUCTOR  
LAYERS



1D

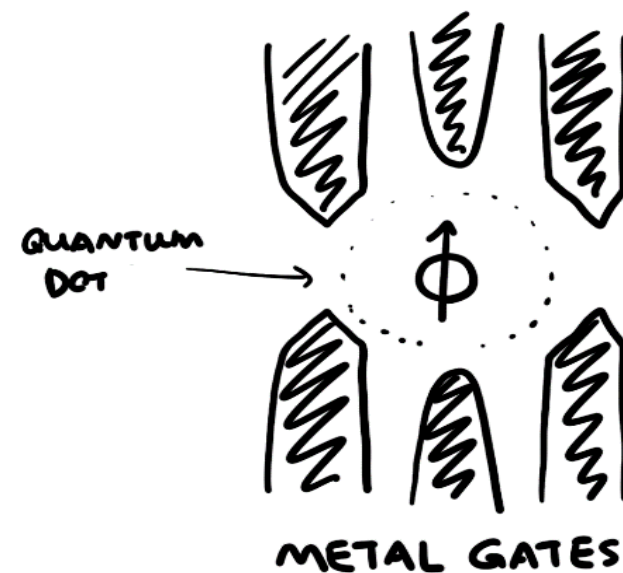
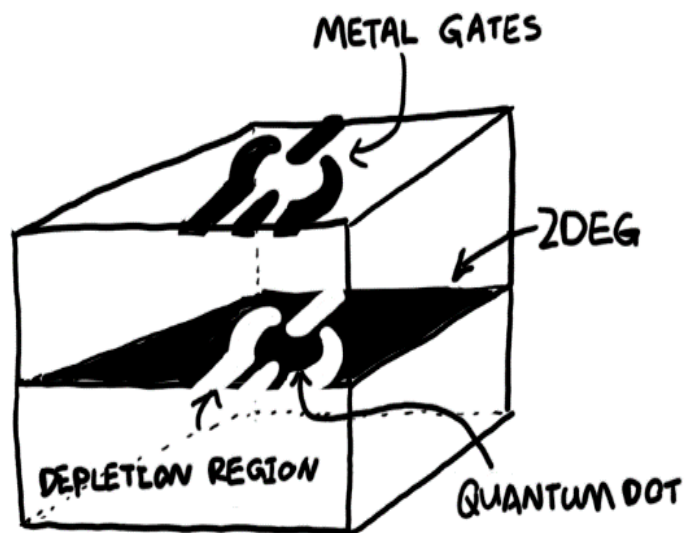
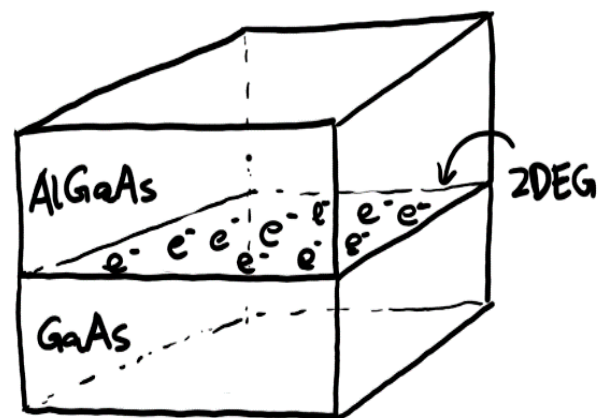
IN A  
NANOWIRE

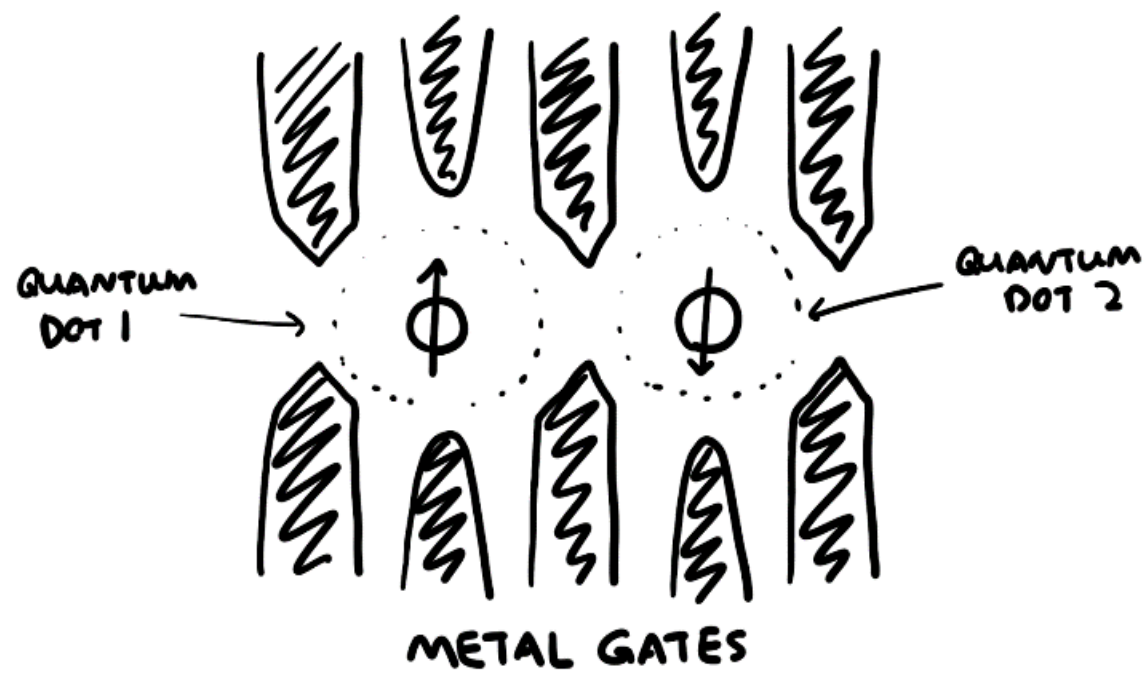


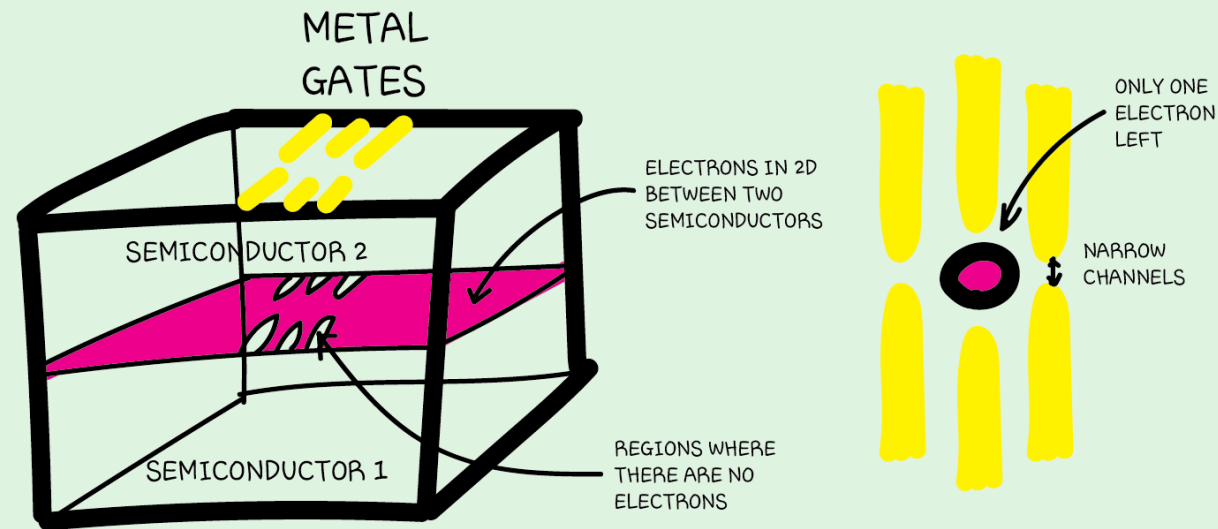
0D

IN AN  
ARTIFICIALLY  
CREATED  
TRAP

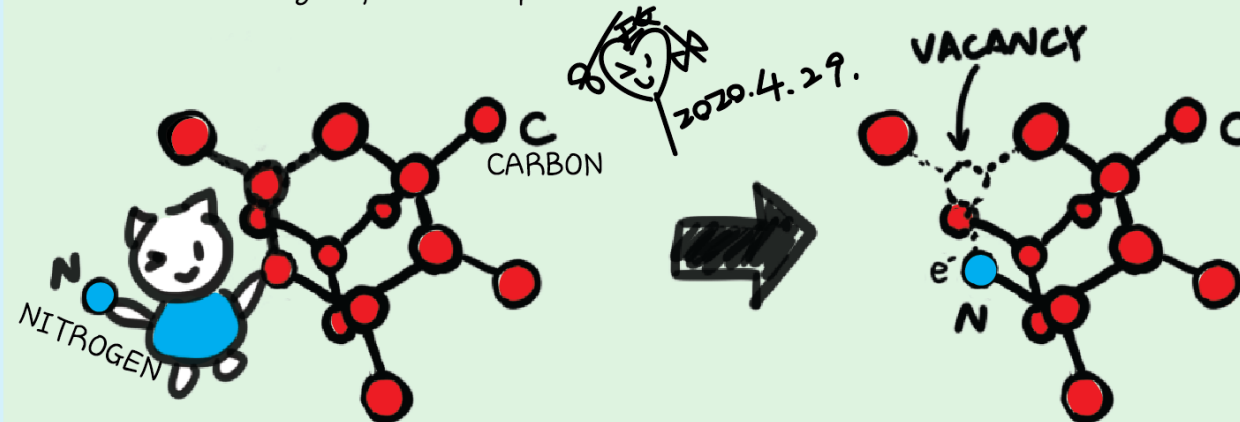






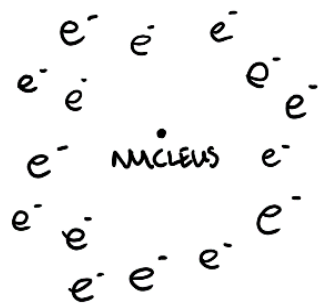


We can create a semiconductor stack. At the interface between the two semiconductors, electrons can be confined in 2D. By applying a gate voltage, the electrons underneath are removed, until there is only one electron left in a small region, called a “quantum dot”.



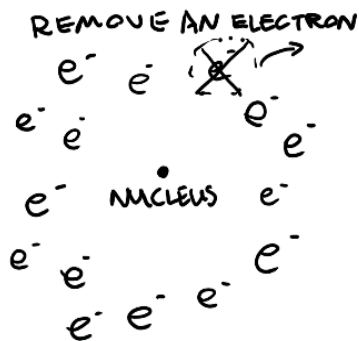
We can also use a crystal lattice, e.g. diamond. We can remove two carbon atoms (each has 6 electrons), replacing them with a single nitrogen atom (which has 7 electrons). The extra electron is bound to the nitrogen-vacancy region.





ATOM

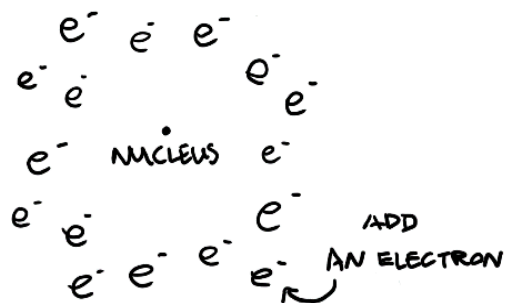
NET CHARGE = 0



ION

NET CHARGE = +1

NET SPIN =  $\pm \frac{1}{2}$



ION

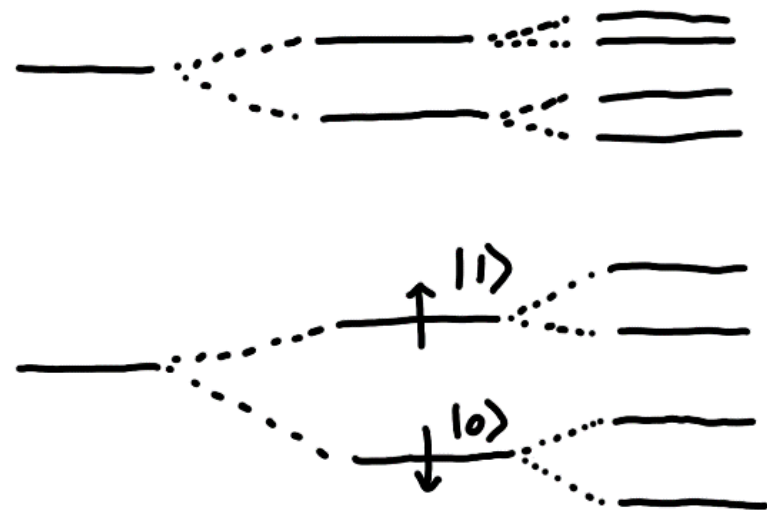
NET CHARGE = -1

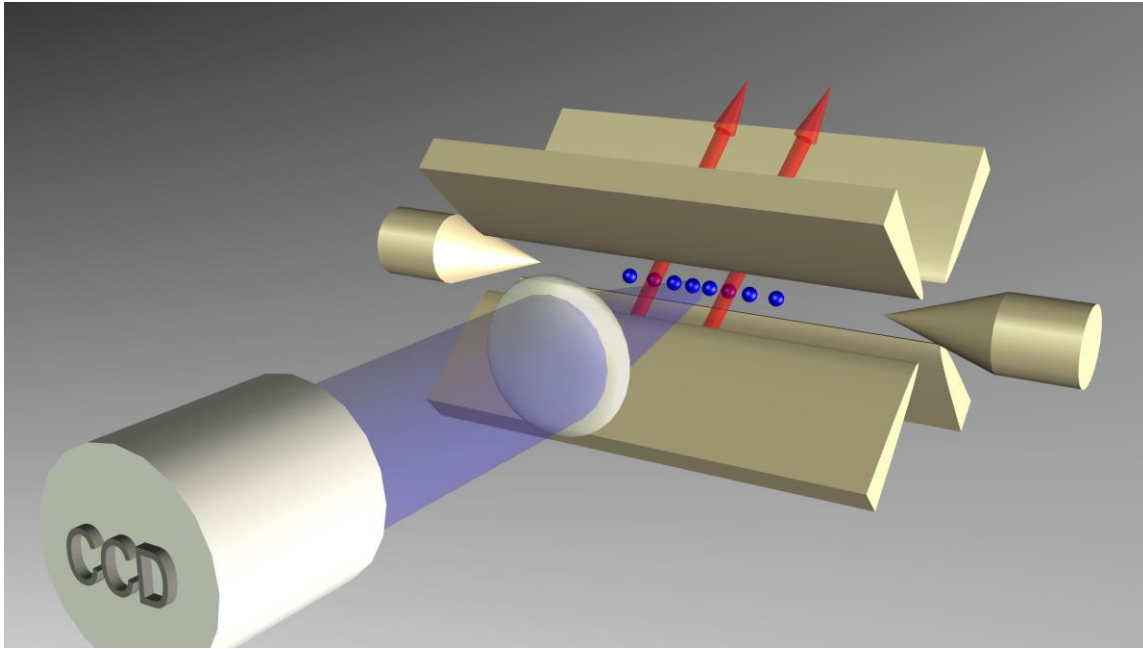
NET SPIN =  $\pm \frac{1}{2}$

TWO ENERGY  
LEVELS IN  
AN ION

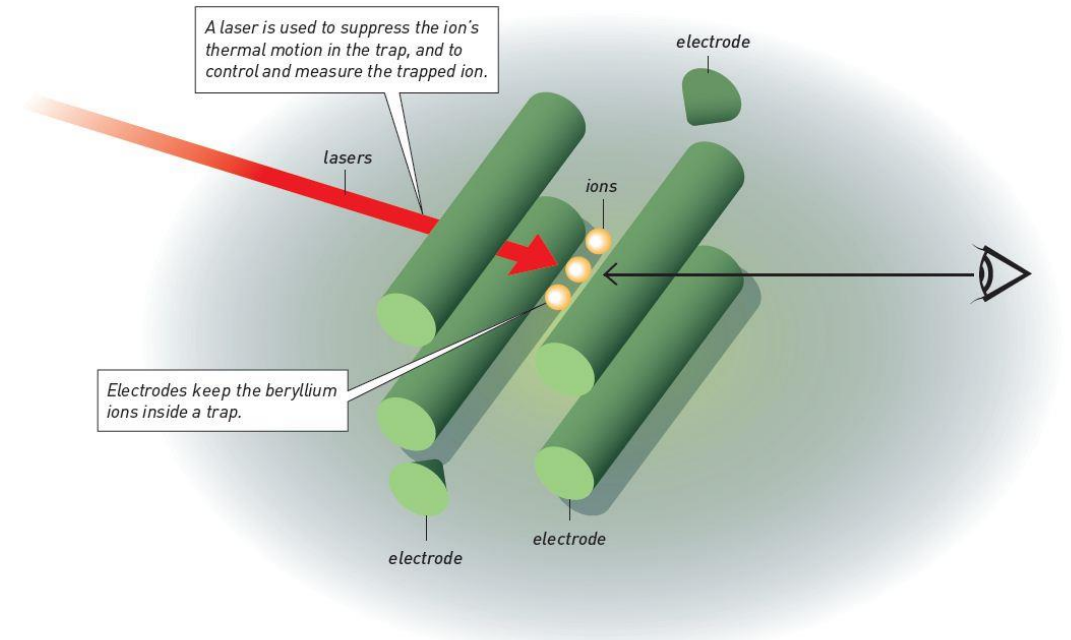
FINE  
STRUCTURE

HYPERFINE  
STRUCTURE



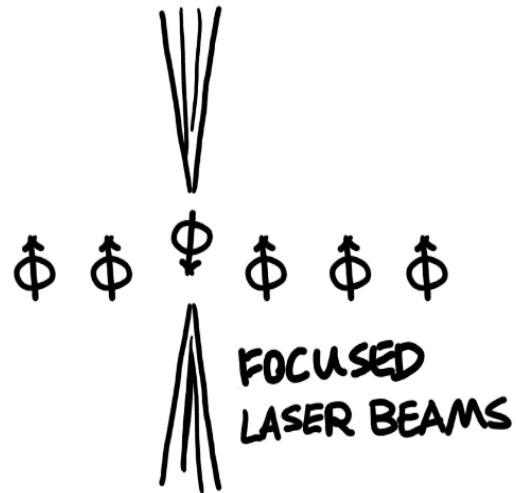
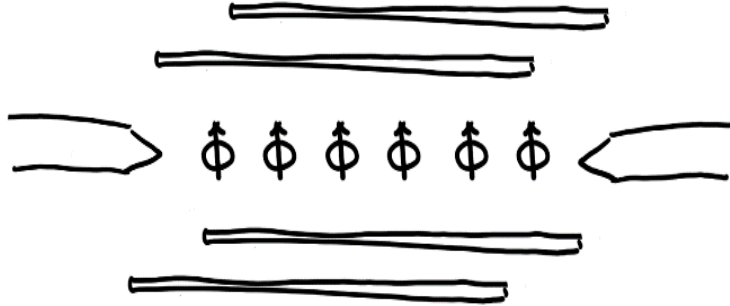


<https://quantumoptics.at/en/mobile/en/news/72-scalable-multiparticle-entanglement-of-trapped-ions.html>



<https://sciencenode.org/spotlight/nobel-prize-goes-quantum-computing-pioneers.php>

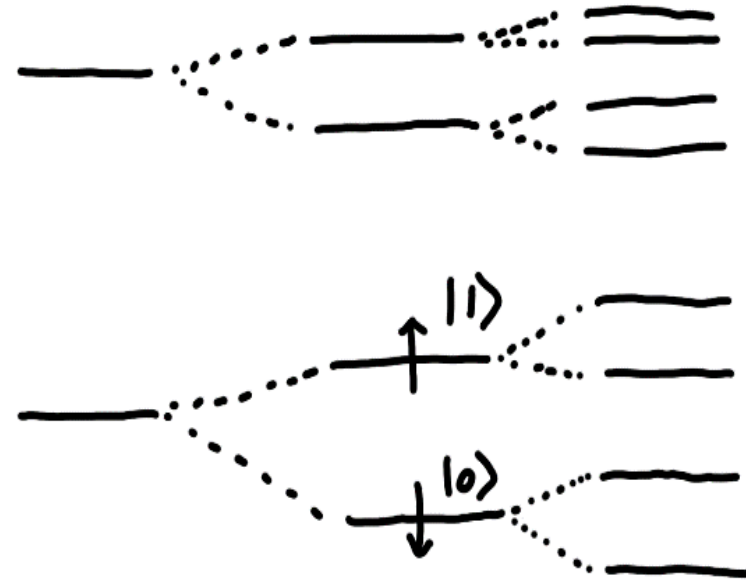
ELECTRODS CREATING E-M FIELDS,  
TRAPING IONS IN A LINE



TWO ENERGY  
LEVELS IN  
AN ION

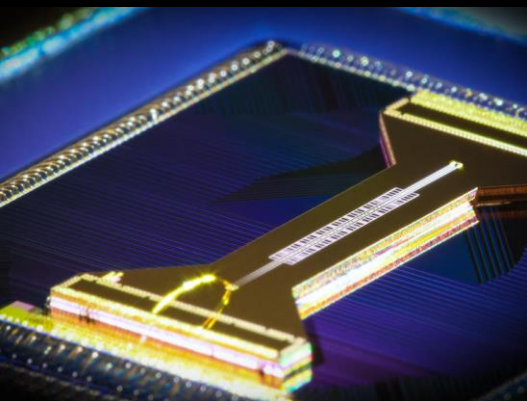
FINE  
STRUCTURE

HYPERFINE  
STRUCTURE

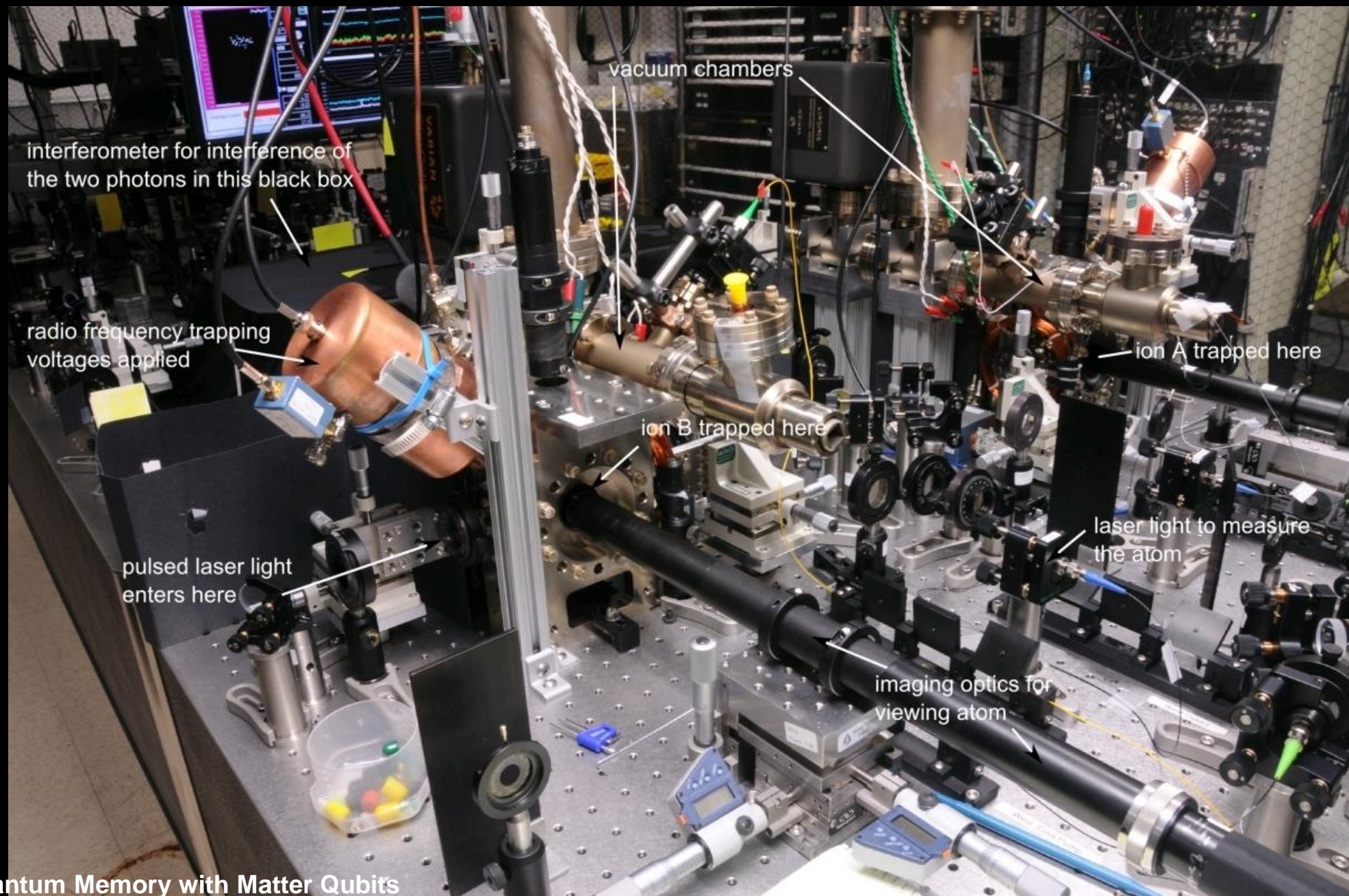




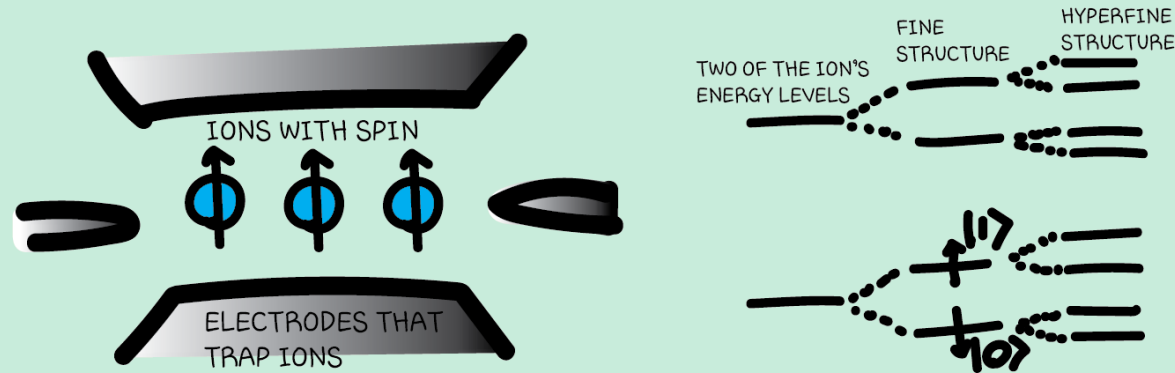
# Trapped Ion



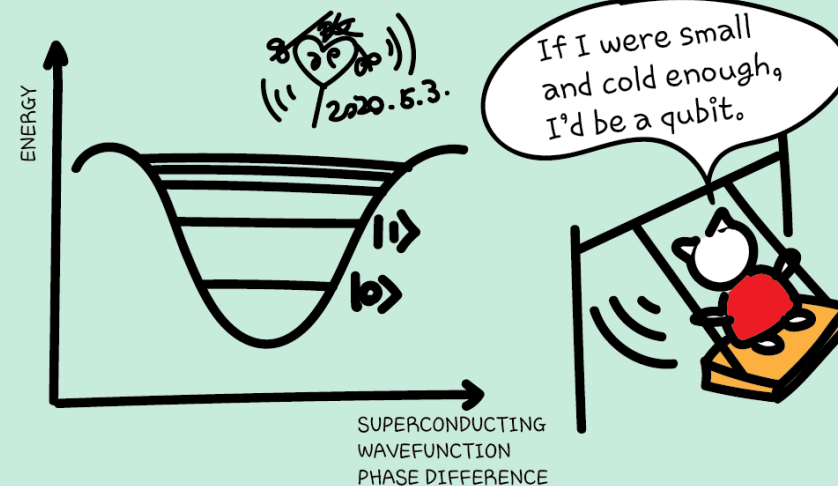
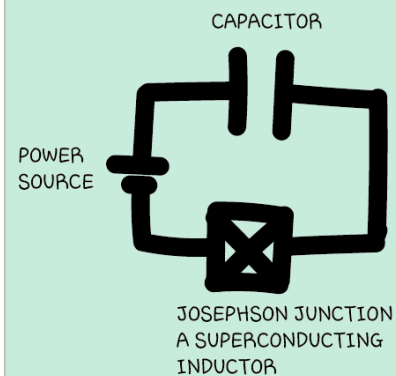
Honeywell on-chip ion trap



Although an electron can be conceptually the easiest qubit,  
it doesn't mean it is straightforward to control many electrons.  
There are other systems to explore.

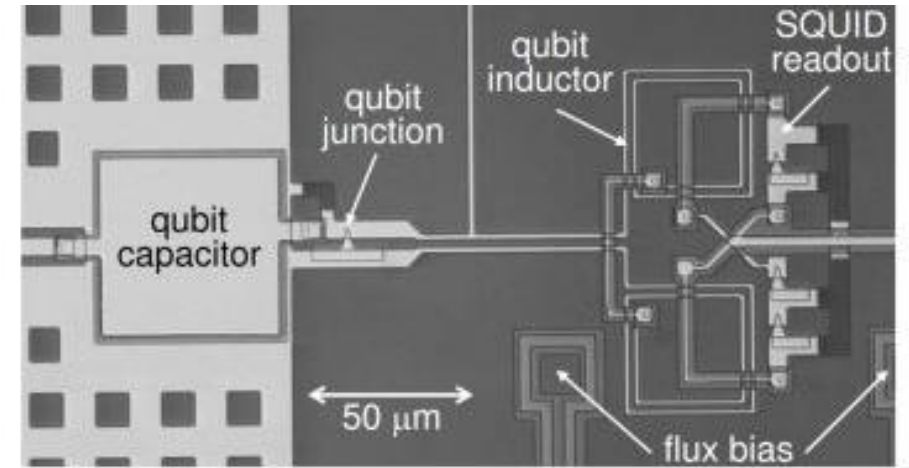
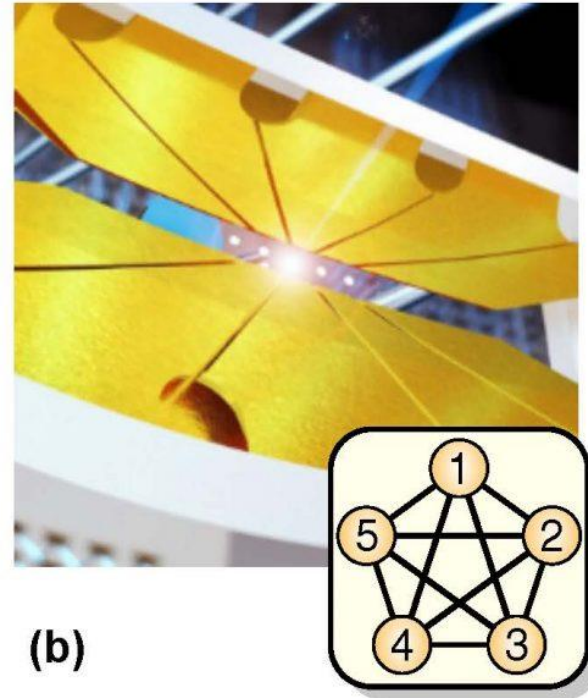
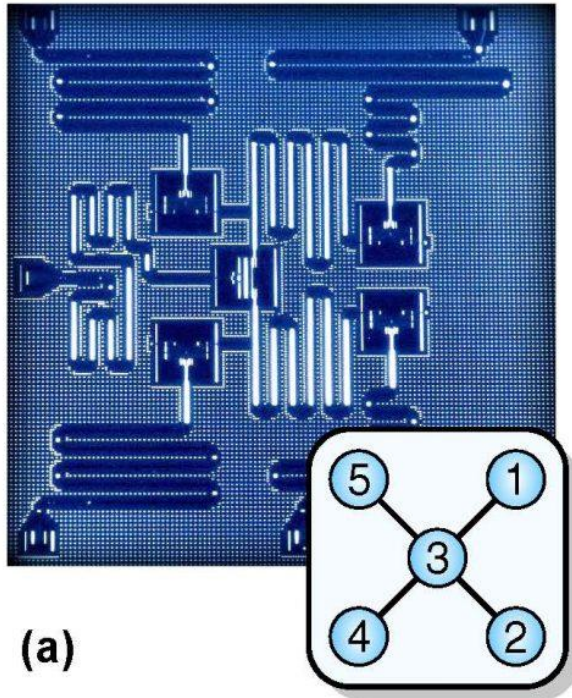


We can use two of an ion's electronic energy levels as the two qubit states. They can be the fine structure due to the ion's electron spins or the hyperfine structure due to electrons' interactions with the ion's nucleus. We can also make an "artificial atom" and use its energy levels as qubit states, e.g. a superconducting circuit. Its oscillation creates a set of discrete energies.





# Superconducting quantum circuits

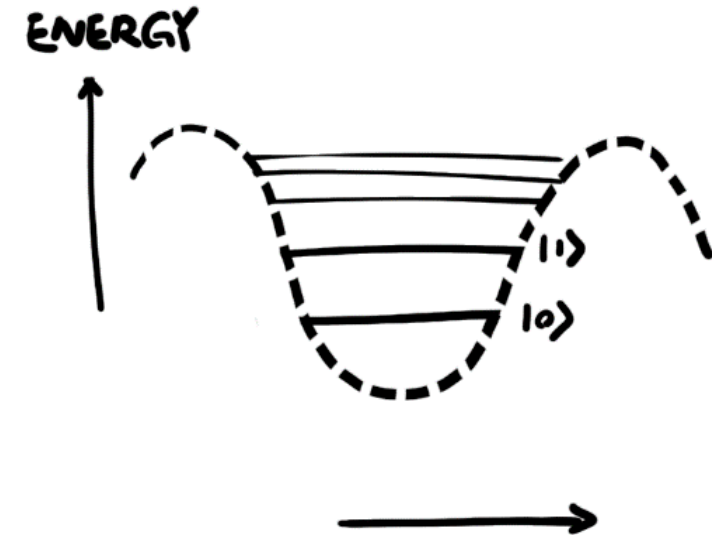
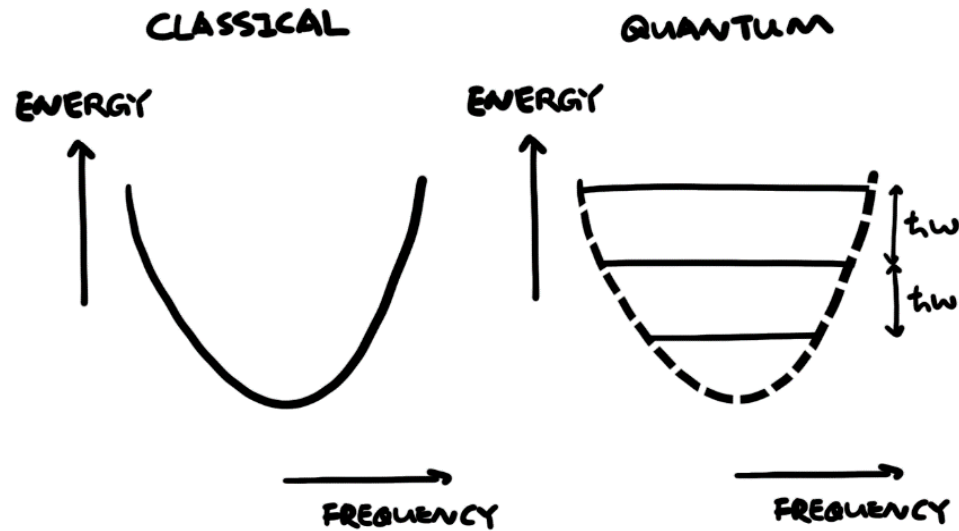
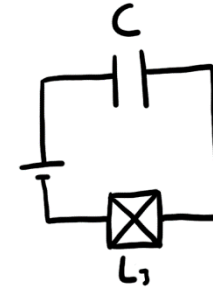
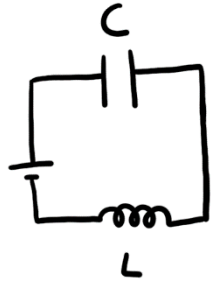


John Martinis -> Google

<http://iontrap.umd.edu/>

Superconductors vs. Trapped Ions



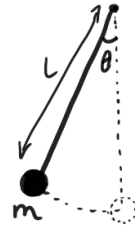


Classical to quantum mechanical:

1. effective length of the circuit is smaller than the electron scattering length in the circuit;
2. temperature is low enough:  $kT < \hbar\omega$ , where  $k$  is the Boltzmann constant,  $T$  is the temperature and  $\omega = \sqrt{LC}$  is the natural frequency of the circuit.

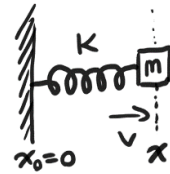
**SUPERCONDUCTING  
WAVE FUNCTION  
PHASE DIFFERENCE**

# KINETIC ENERGY + POTENTIAL ENERGY



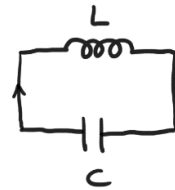
$$H = \frac{P_\theta^2}{2mL^2} + mgL(1 - \cos\theta)$$

$\swarrow$  ANGULAR MOMENTUM       $\swarrow$  GRAVITATIONAL ACCELERATION



$$H = \frac{1}{2} m v^2 + \frac{1}{2} k x^2$$

$\swarrow$  SPEED       $\swarrow$  DISTANCE TRAVELLED



CLASSICAL

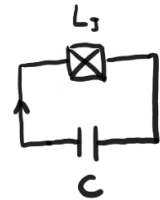
$$H = \frac{\phi^2}{2L} + \frac{q^2}{2C}$$

$\swarrow$  MAGNETIC FLUX       $\swarrow$  CHARGE

QUANTUM

$$i\hbar \frac{d\psi}{dt} = \frac{\phi^2}{2L} \psi - \frac{\hbar^2}{2C} \nabla^2 \psi$$

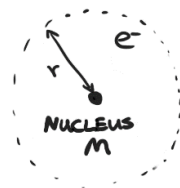
$\swarrow$  WAVEFUNCTION



CHARGE ON C      SUPERCONDUCTING WAVEFUNCTION PHASE DIFFERENCE

$$H = E_c (N - N_g)^2 - E_J \cos\theta$$

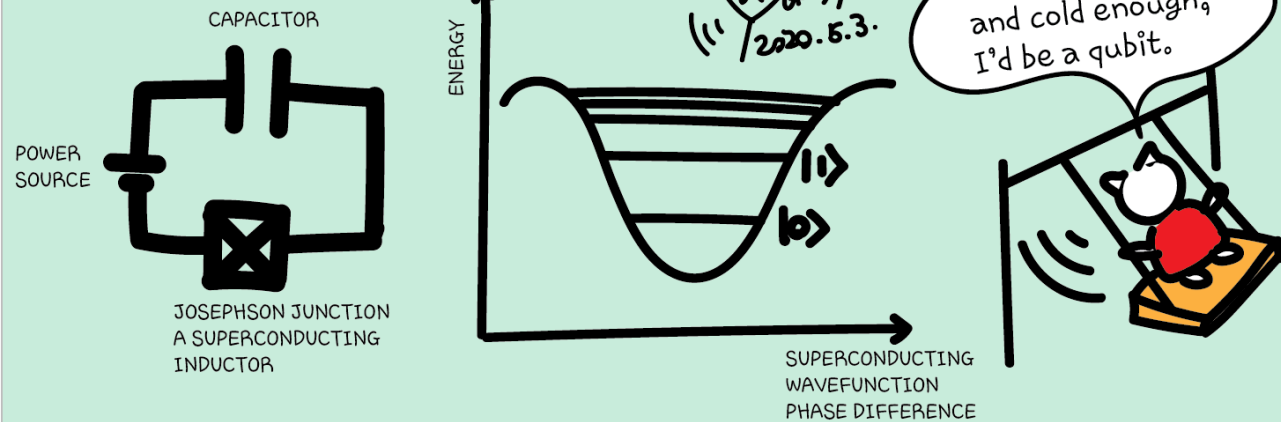
$\swarrow$  CHARGING ENERGY       $\swarrow$  # OF COOPER PAIRS       $\swarrow$  JOSEPHSON ENERGY



$$E\psi = - \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla^2 \psi + \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} \psi$$

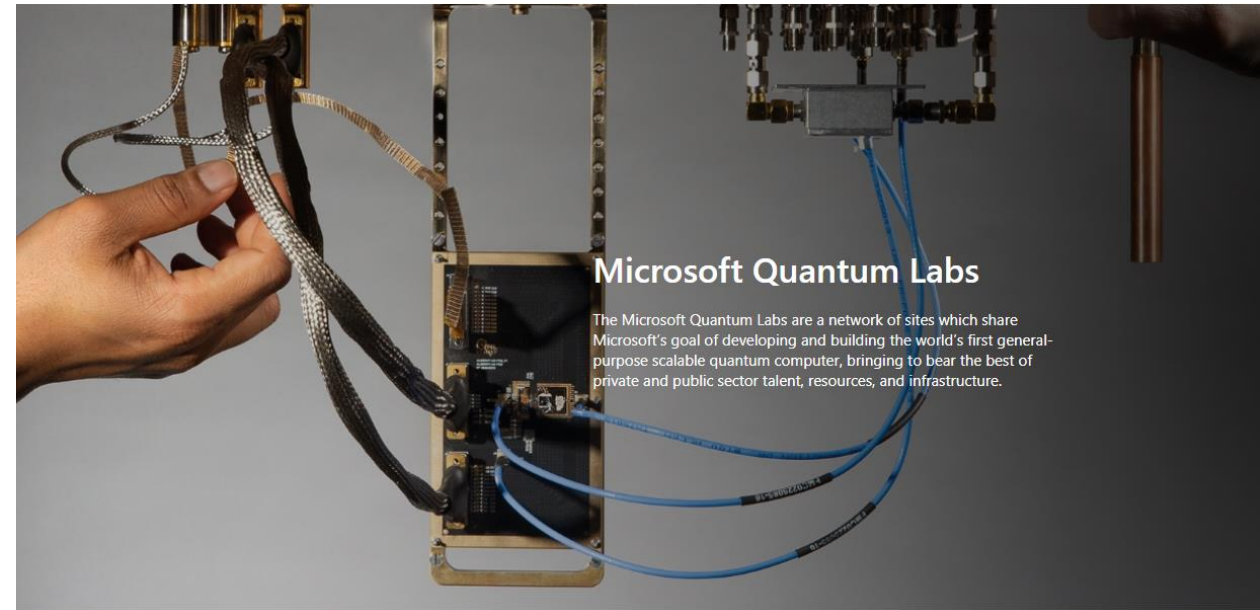
$\swarrow$  REDUCED MASS  $\frac{m_e m}{m_e + m}$        $\swarrow$  VACUUM PERMITTIVITY

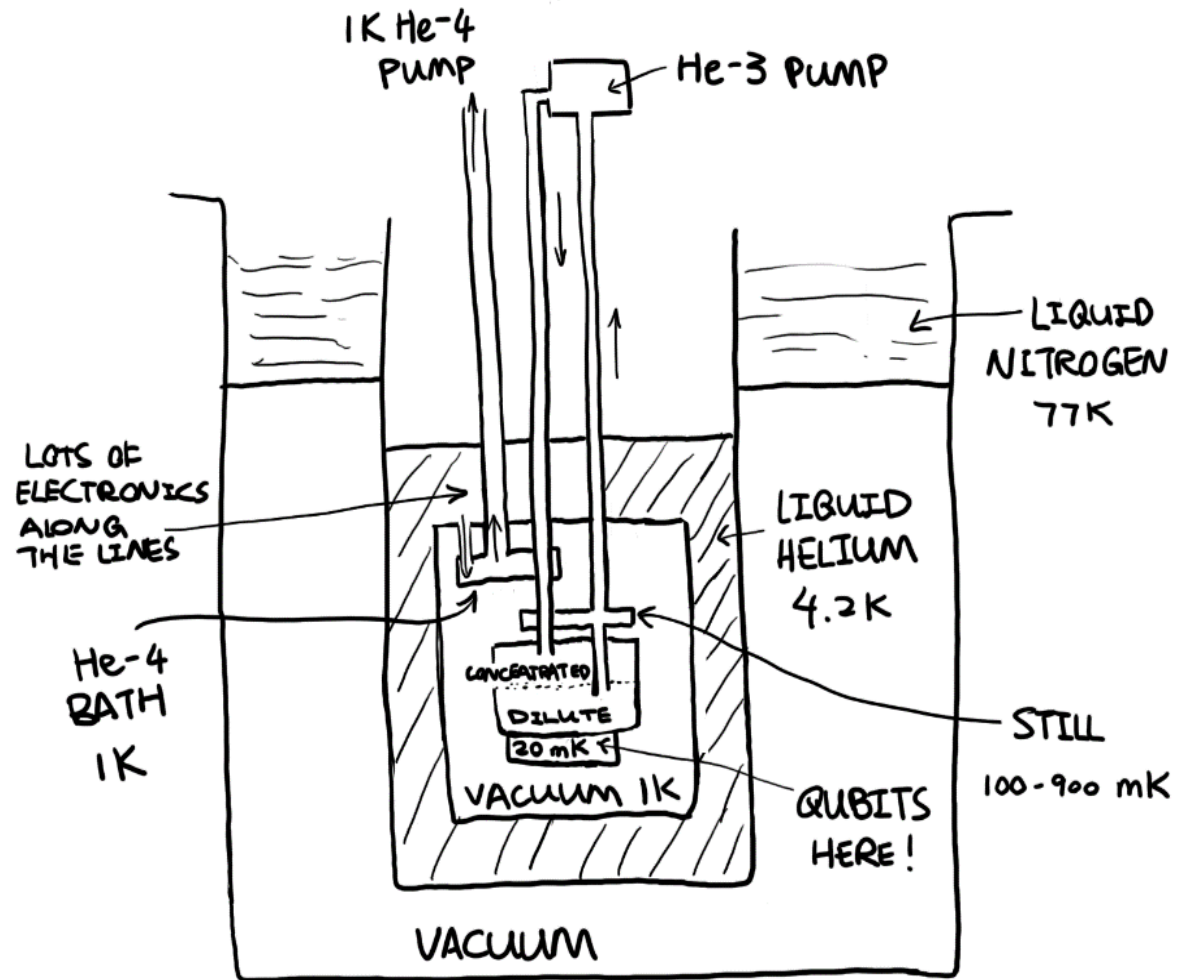
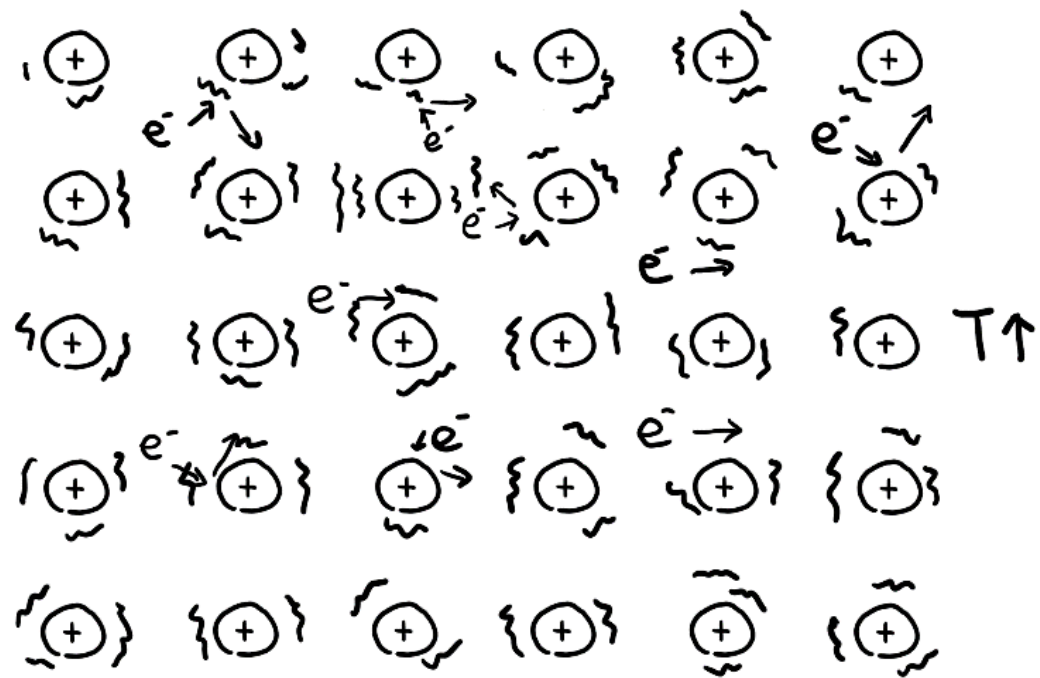
We can also make an “artificial atom” and use its energy levels as qubit states, e.g. a superconducting circuit. Its oscillation creates a set of discrete energies.



The specific criteria are: effective length of the circuit is smaller than the electron scattering length in the circuit; and the temperature is low enough. How cold is low enough?  $kT < \hbar\omega$ , where  $k$  is the Boltzmann constant,  $T$  is the temperature and  $\omega = \sqrt{LC}$  is the natural frequency of the circuit. Typically, with small circuits we make today, the temperature could be below liquid Helium temperature at 4K.

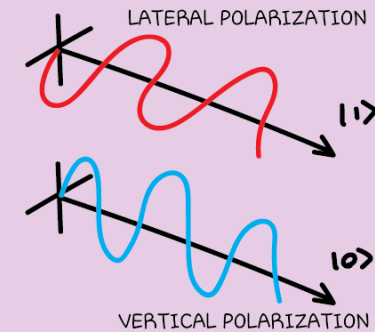
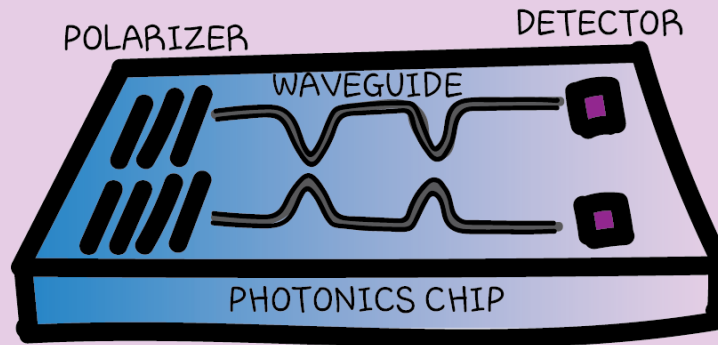
# Dilution refrigerators



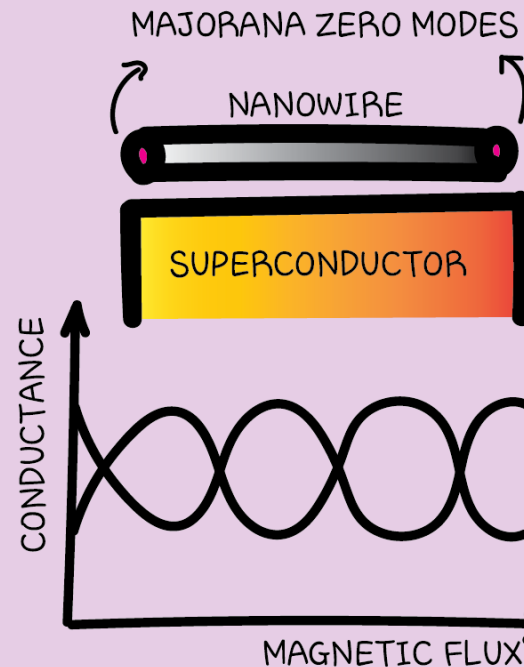




If we can use natural and artificial particles, such as electrons, ions or oscillating circuits, we can also try other types of particles and quasiparticles, and parameters other than energy levels.

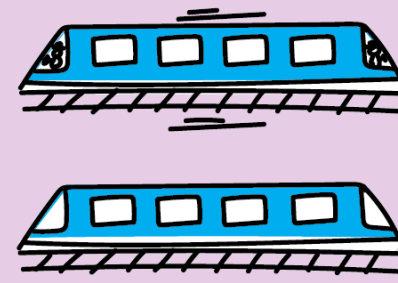
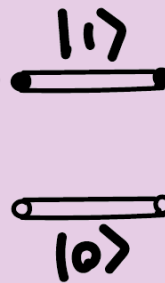


We can use photons' polarizations to encode qubit states.



Or the quasiparticles constructed in a topological material (in this case the ends of a nanowire on a superconductor).

The **zero modes** are locations that can be empty or occupied by an electron, thus giving two qubit states.



2020.5.3.



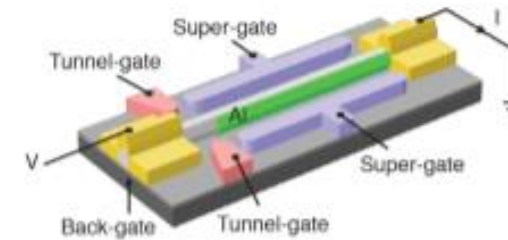
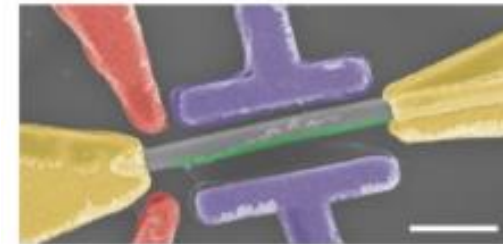
# Topological quantum computer

Majorana Fermions – particle equals anti-particle

Fractional quantum Hall conductance

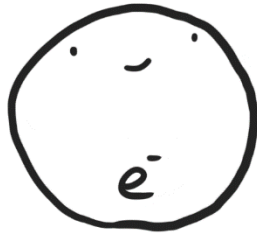
Low temperature in magnetic field

<https://arxiv.org/pdf/cond-mat/0412343.pdf>



Quantized Majorana Conductance

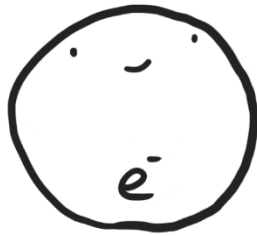
<https://www.nature.com/articles/nature26142>



ELECTRON



MAJORANA PAIR



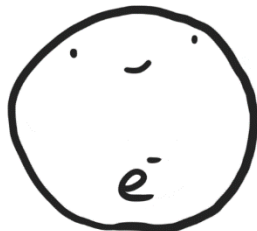
ELECTRON



MAJORANA PAIR



ELECTRONS SITTING IN A SEMICONDUCTOR NANOWIRE



ELECTRON

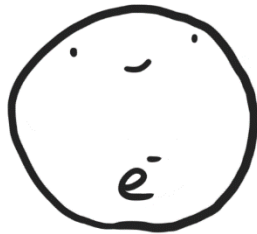


MAJORANA PAIR



ELECTRONS SITTING IN A SEMICONDUCTOR NANOWIRE





ELECTRON

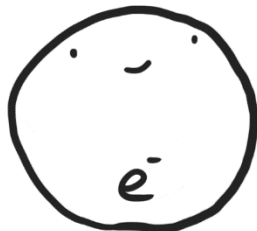


MAJUMDAR-GHOSH PAIR



ELECTRONS SITTING IN A SEMICONDUCTOR NANOWIRE





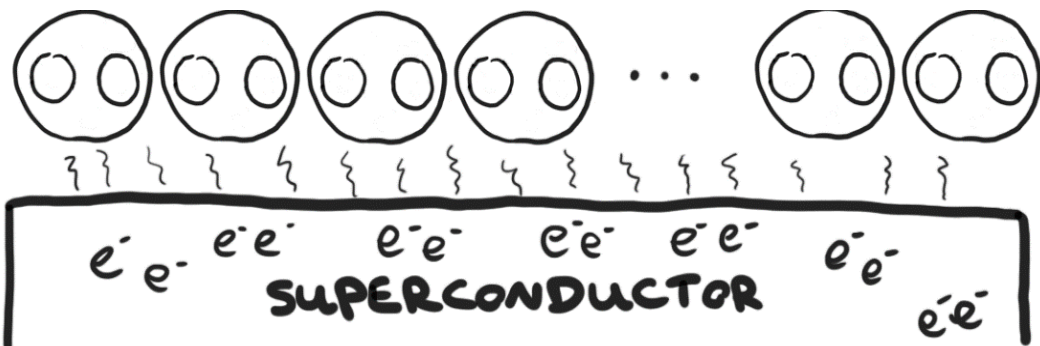
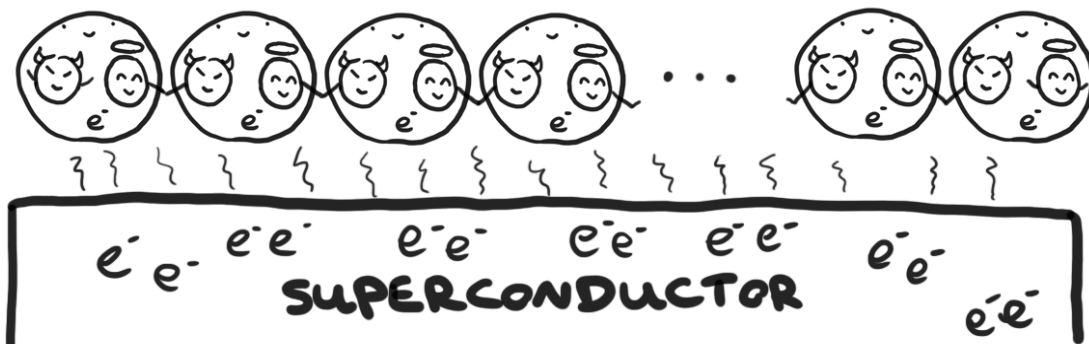
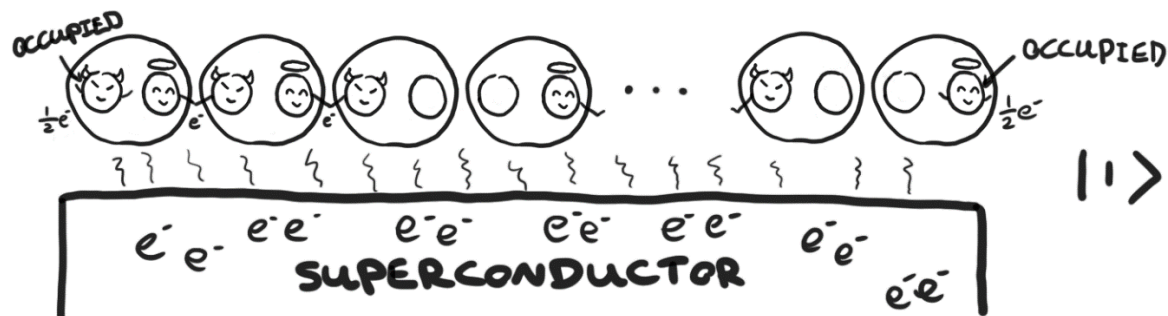
ELECTRON



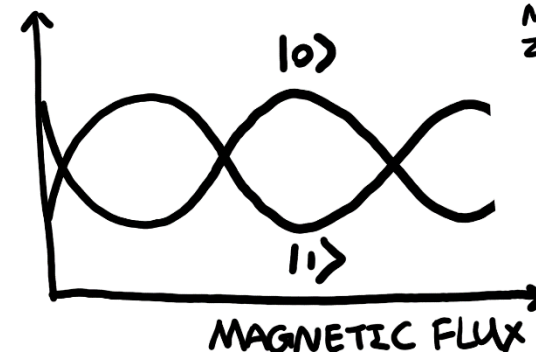
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ELECTRONS SITTING IN A SEMICONDUCTOR NANOWIRE



CONDUCTANCE



MAJORANA  
ZERO MODES

— OCCUPIED

— EMPTY



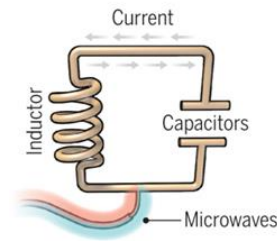
# Reading: Topological Quantum Computer

- <https://scipost.org/SciPostPhys.3.3.021/pdf>
- <https://arxiv.org/abs/cond-mat/0010440>
- <https://arxiv.org/abs/cond-mat/9906453>

# Quantum Computer Hardware

## A bit of the action

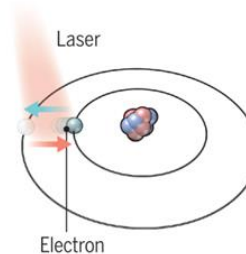
In the race to build a quantum computer, companies are pursuing many types of quantum bits, or qubits, each with its own strengths and weaknesses.



### Superconducting loops

A resistance-free current oscillates back and forth around a circuit loop. An injected microwave signal excites the current into superposition states.

**Longevity** (seconds)  
0.00005



### Trapped ions

Electrically charged atoms, or ions, have quantum energies that depend on the location of electrons. Tuned lasers cool and trap the ions, and put them in superposition states.

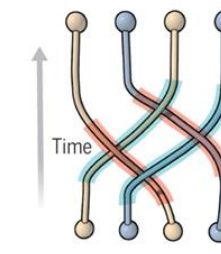
>1000



### Silicon quantum dots

These "artificial atoms" are made by adding an electron to a small piece of pure silicon. Microwaves control the electron's quantum state.

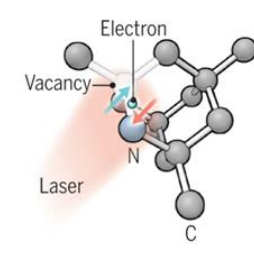
0.03



### Topological qubits

Quasiparticles can be seen in the behavior of electrons channeled through semiconductor structures. Their braided paths can encode quantum information.

N/A



### Diamond vacancies

A nitrogen atom and a vacancy add an electron to a diamond lattice. Its quantum spin state, along with those of nearby carbon nuclei, can be controlled with light.

10

### Logic success rate

99.4%

99.9%

~99%

N/A

99.2%

### Number entangled

9

14

2

N/A

6

### Company support

Google, IBM, Quantum Circuits

ionQ

Intel

Microsoft, Bell Labs

Quantum Diamond Technologies

### Pros

Fast working. Build on existing semiconductor industry.

Very stable. Highest achieved gate fidelities.

Stable. Build on existing semiconductor industry.

Greatly reduce errors.

Can operate at room temperature.

### Cons

Collapse easily and must be kept cold.

Slow operation. Many lasers are needed.

Only a few entangled. Must be kept cold.

Existence not yet confirmed.

Difficult to entangle.

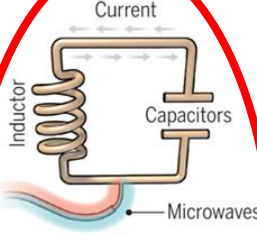
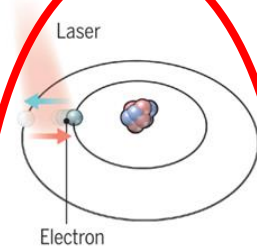

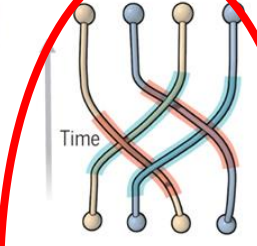
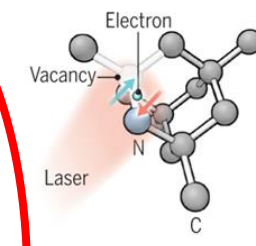
**Note:** Longevity is the record coherence time for a single qubit superposition state, logic success rate is the highest reported gate fidelity for logic operations on two qubits, and number entangled is the maximum number of qubits entangled and capable of performing two-qubit operations.

# Quantum Computer Hardware

## Photonics quantum computing

### A bit of the action

In the race to build a quantum computer, companies are pursuing many types of quantum bits, or qubits, each with its own strengths and weaknesses.

				
<b>Superconducting loops</b> A resistance-free current oscillates back and forth around a circuit loop. An injected microwave signal excites the current into superposition states.	<b>Trapped ions</b> Electrically charged atoms, or ions, have quantum energies that depend on the location of electrons. Tuned lasers cool and trap the ions, and put them in superposition states.	<b>Silicon quantum dots</b> These "artificial atoms" are made by adding an electron to a small piece of pure silicon. Microwaves control the electron's quantum state.	<b>Topological qubits</b> Quasiparticles can be seen in the behavior of electrons channeled through semiconductor structures. Their braided paths can encode quantum information.	<b>Diamond vacancies</b> A nitrogen atom and a vacancy add an electron to a diamond lattice. Its quantum spin state, along with those of nearby carbon nuclei, can be controlled with light.
<b>Longevity</b> (seconds) 0.00005	>1,000	0.03	N/A	10
<b>Logic success rate</b> 99.4%	99.9%	~99%	N/A	99.2%
<b>Number entangled</b> 9	14	2	N/A	6
<b>Company support</b> Google, IBM, Quantum Circuits	ionQ	Intel	Microsoft, Bell Labs	Quantum Diamond Technologies
<b>Pros</b> Fast working. Build on existing semiconductor industry.	Very stable. Highest achieved gate fidelities.	Stable. Build on existing semiconductor industry.	Greatly reduce errors.	Can operate at room temperature.
<b>Cons</b> Collapse easily and must be kept cold.	Slow operation. Many lasers are needed.	Only a few entangled. Must be kept cold.	Existence not yet confirmed.	Difficult to entangle.

**Note:** Longevity is the record coherence time for a single qubit superposition state, logic success rate is the highest reported gate fidelity for logic operations on two qubits, and number entangled is the maximum number of qubits entangled and capable of performing two-qubit operations.

# Q# exercise: option 1

## No installation, web-based Jupyter Notebooks

- The Quantum Katas project (tutorials and exercises for learning quantum computing) <https://github.com/Microsoft/QuantumKatas>
- Tutorials
- BasicGates
- Superposition
- Measurements
- Teleportation
- SuperdenseCoding
- DeutschJozsaAlgorithm
- GroversAlgorithm
- SimonsAlgorithm

# Certificate

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