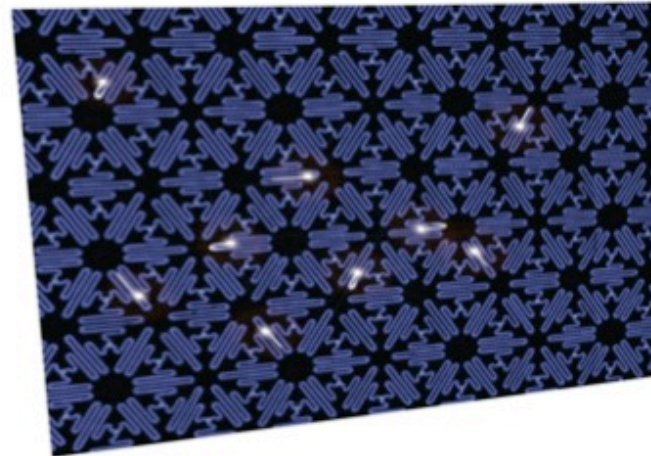


# Flat bands with Strongly correlated photons

Sebastian Schmidt (ETH Zurich)

In collaboration with: M. Biondi, E. Niewenburg, S. Huber, G. Blatter (ETH)



Review: S. Schmidt & J. Koch,  
*Ann. Phys. (Berlin)* 525, 395-412 (2013)

**ETH**

Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule Zürich  
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich



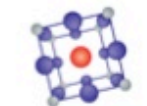
PRINCETON CENTER FOR THEORETICAL SCIENCE



**FNSNF**

SWISS NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION

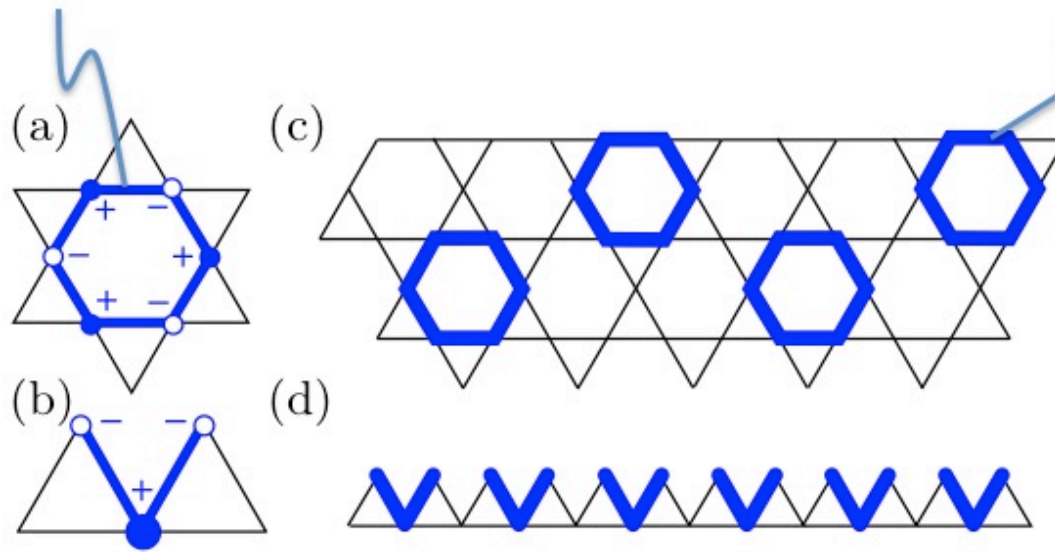
**QSIT**



**MaNEP**  
SWITZERLAND

# Flat bands

localized, degenerate  
s.-p. states



CDW at fractional fillings  
for repulsive interactions

enhanced interactions

**➔** highly correlated, topological and exotic states of matter

- Zhitomirsky and Tsunetsugu, PRB 2004
- Zhitomirsky and Tsunetsugu, Prog.Theor.Phys. 2005
- Wu et. al. PRL 2007
- Bergman et. al. PRB 2008
- Huber et. al. PRB 2008 .....

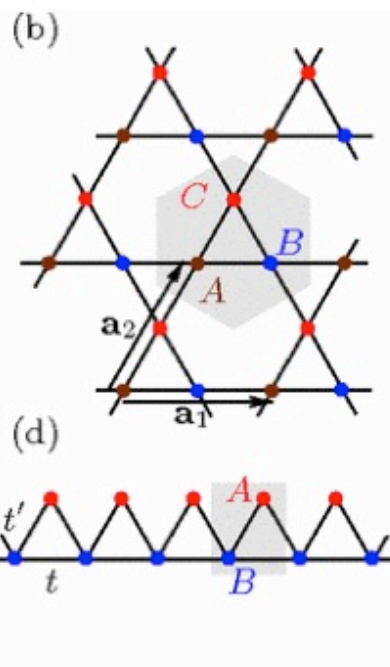
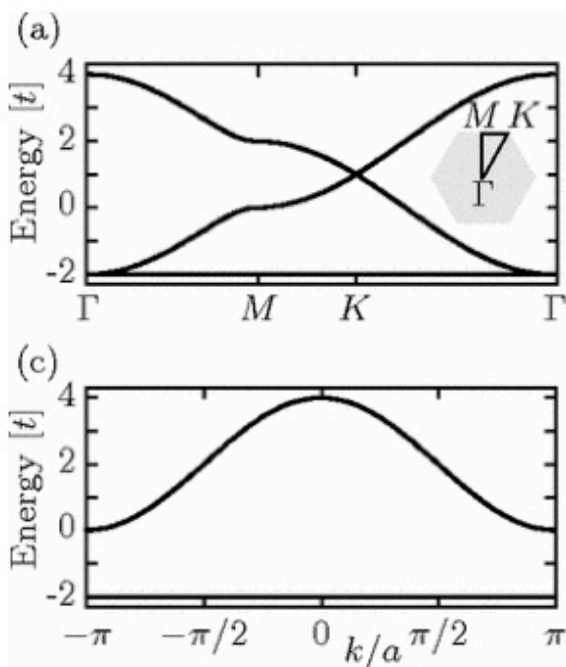
# Flat Bands

$$H = \sum_j h_j^{\text{local}} + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j$$



- electrons
- spins
- atoms

Geometric frustration → dispersionless bands

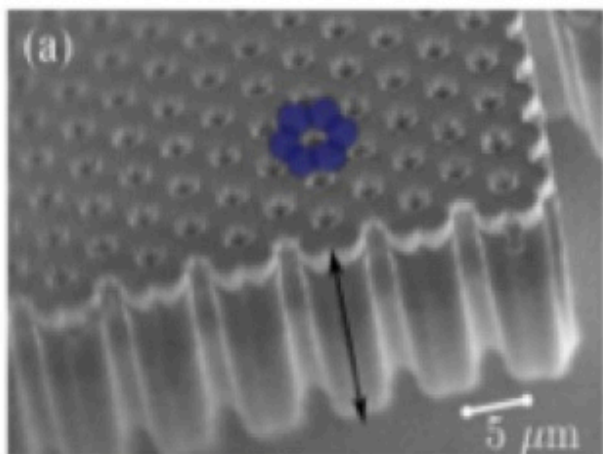


Kagome lattice

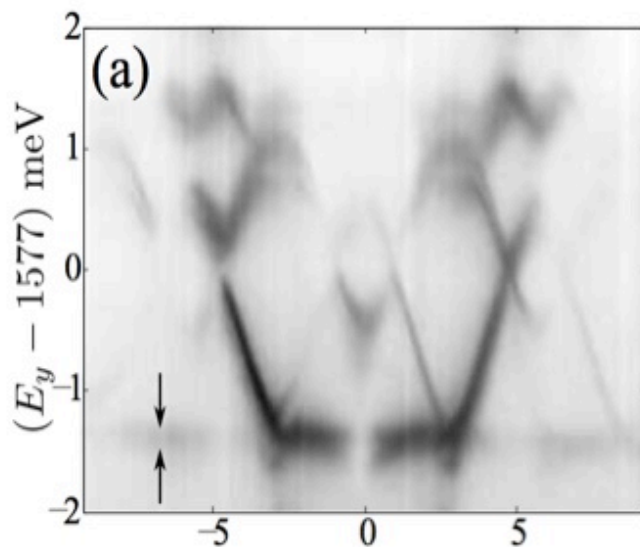
Sawtooth chain

# Photonic lattices

## Micropillar cavity lattice



Jacqmin et al., PRL 2014



## Tight-binding model for photons

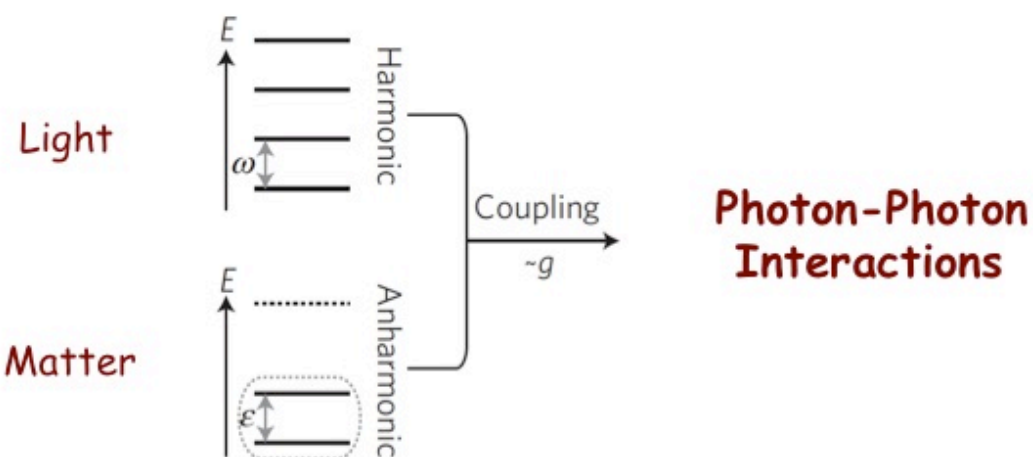
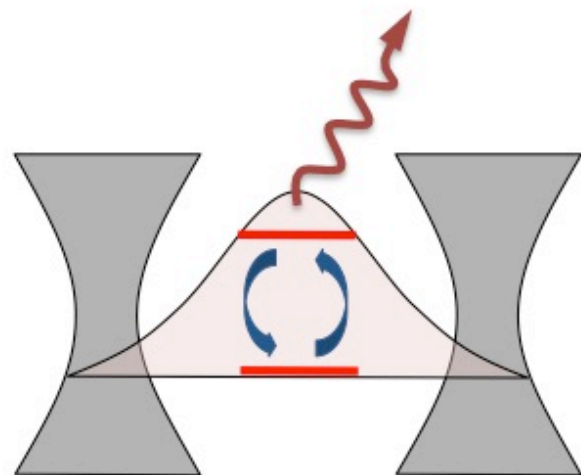
$$H = \sum_j h_j^{\text{local}} + \sum_{\langle ij \rangle} J_{ij} a_i^\dagger a_j$$

- full coherent control
- arbitrary geometries
- tunable parameters

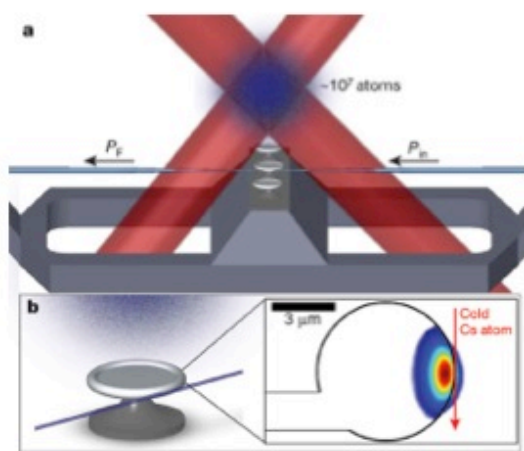
Application of flat bands: slow light polaritons

# Interactions ?

## Strong light-matter coupling

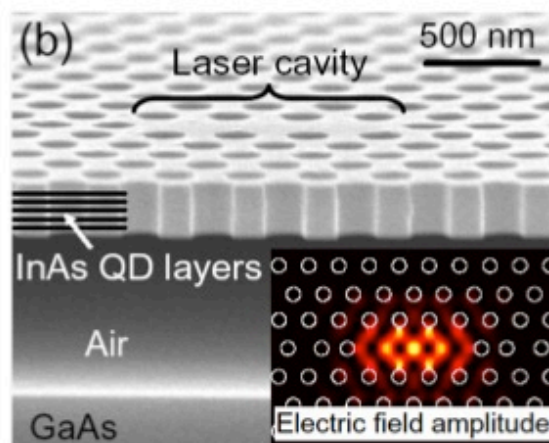


### AMO



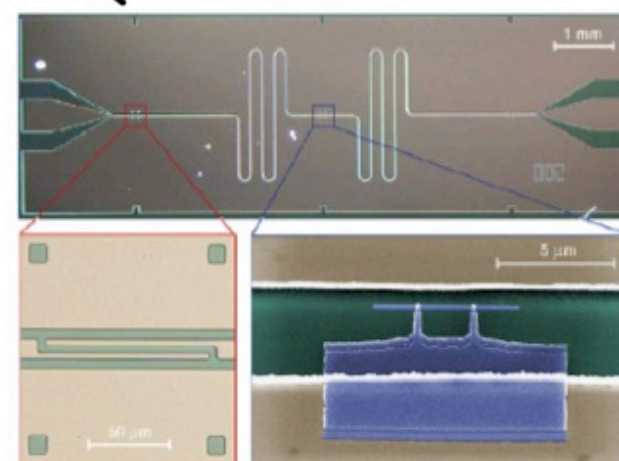
Caesium atoms  
Nature **443**, 671 (2006)

### Solid State



Semiconductor quantum dots  
Nature **432**, 197 (2004)

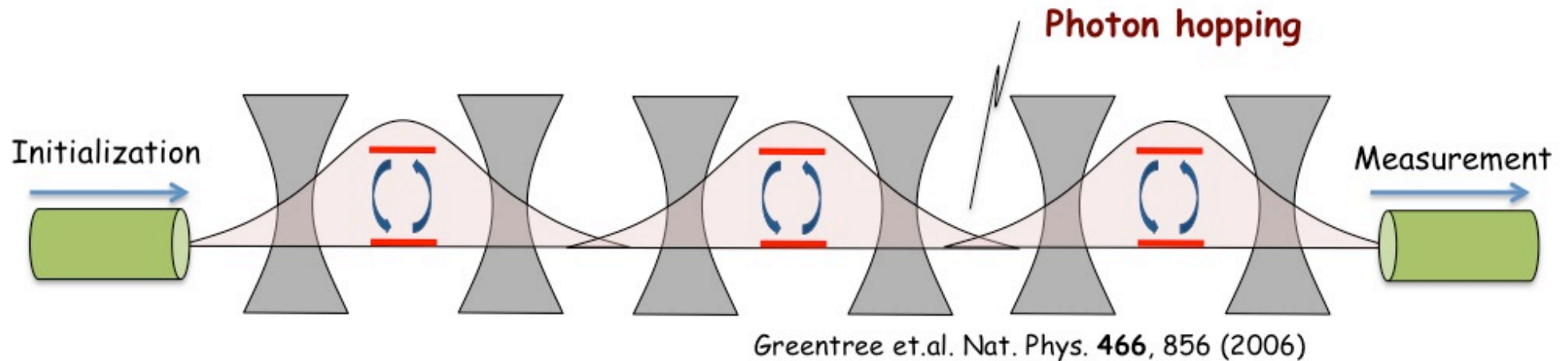
### Quantum Electronics



Superconducting qubits  
Nature **431**, 159 (2004)

# Quo Vadis?

Scaling up & understanding **coupled systems**



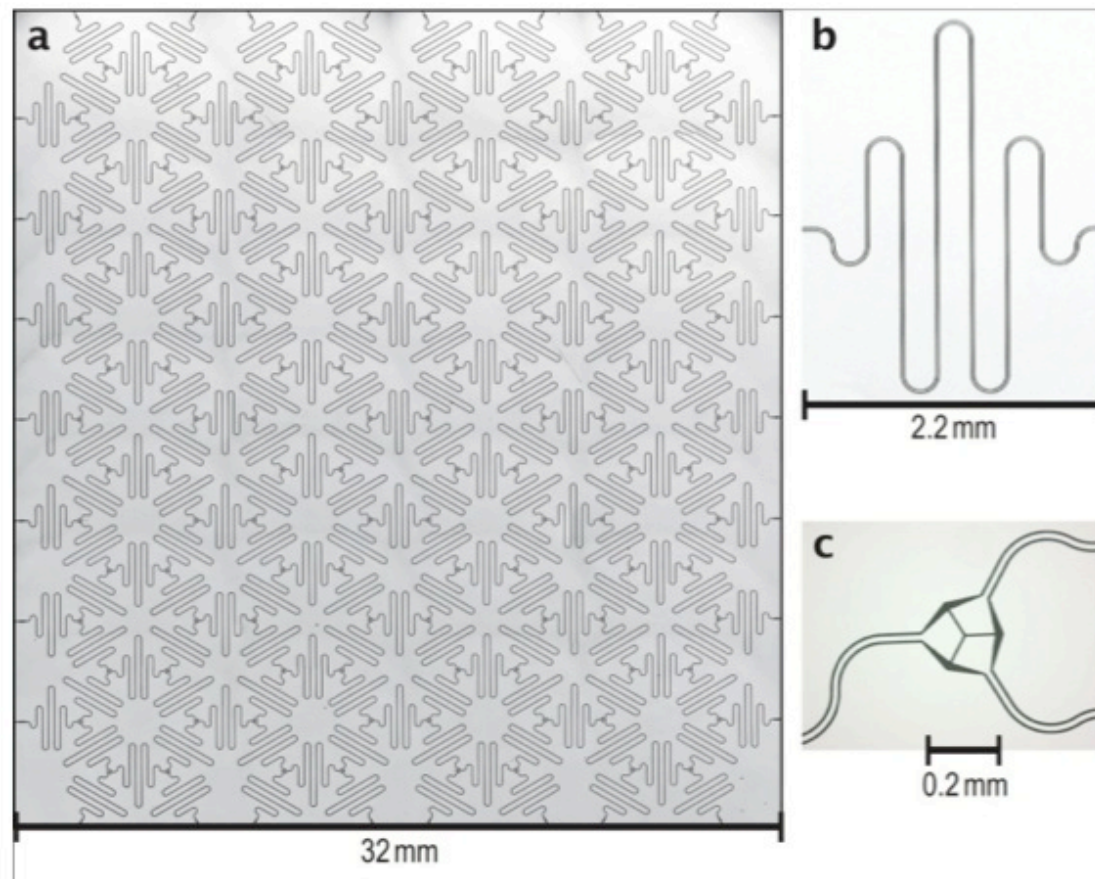
**Quantum Devices**  
Single-photon source  
entangled photon pair source  
quantum-limited amplifiers  
...

**Quantum Simulation**  
Strong correlations  
Frustration  
Topological states  
...

**New aspects: Drive and Dissipation !**

# Circuit QED Kagome lattice

On-going experiment: Qdevice Lab @ Princeton (A. Houck)

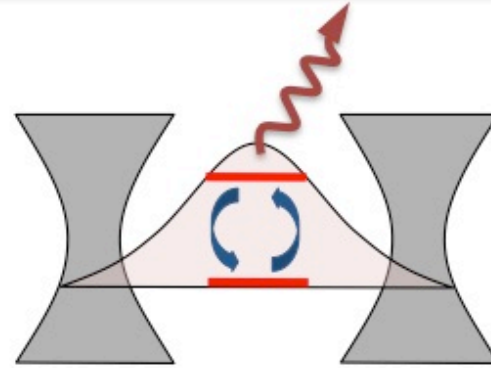


A. Houck, H. Tureci, J. Koch, Nature Physics 2012

# Outline

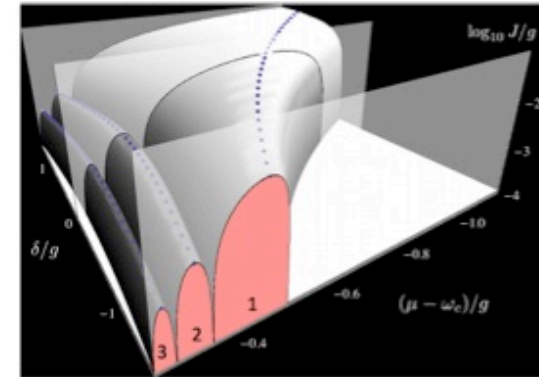
## Cavity QED primer

Jaynes-Cummings model  
Photon Blockade  
Circuit QED



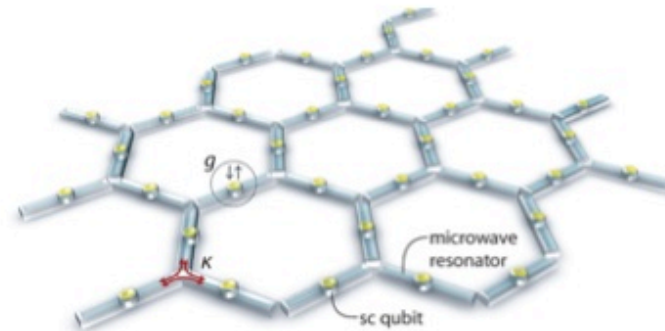
## Strong correlations

Self-trapping of photons  
Non-equilibrium SF-MI transition of polaritons



## Flat bands

Lieb chain  
Crystalline order of photons



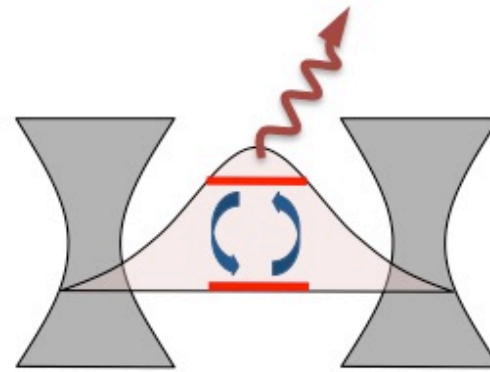


## Cavity QED primer

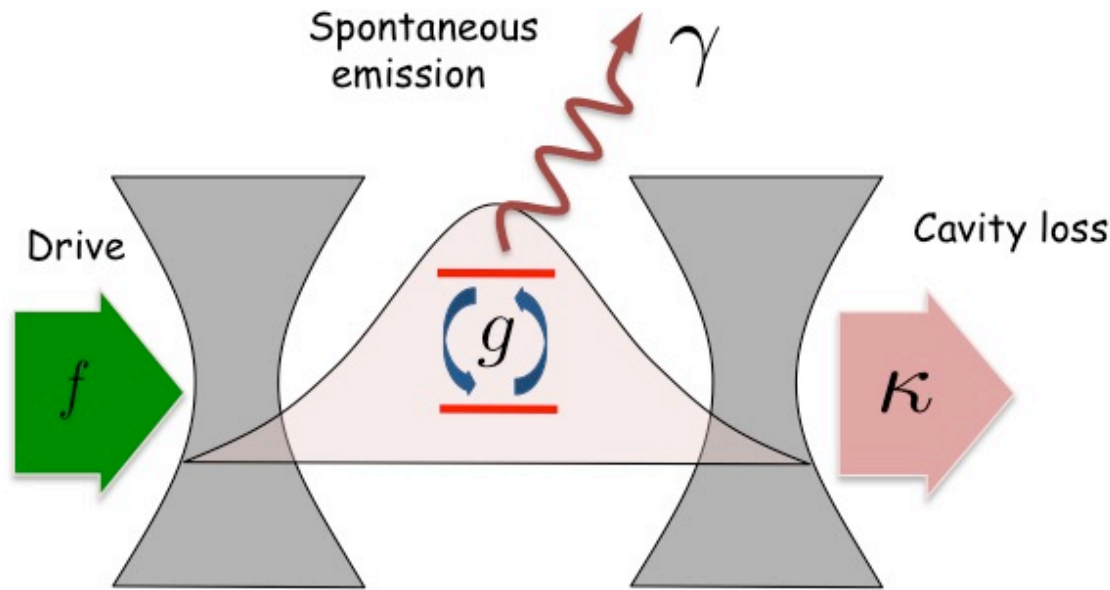
Jaynes-Cummings model

Photon Blockade

Circuit QED



# Light-matter interactions



**Strong coupling:**  $g \gg \kappa, \gamma, \gamma_\phi$

**Weak drive:**  $g \gg f$

$$H = H_{\text{JC}} + H_{\text{dr}} + H_{\kappa} + H_{\gamma}$$

Jaynes-Cummings model

$$H_{\text{JC}} = \omega_r a^\dagger a + \omega_q \sigma^+ \sigma^- + g(a^\dagger \sigma^- + a \sigma^+).$$

EM field  
(cavity mode)

Two-level  
system

Interaction

Coherent Drive

$$H_{\text{drive}} = f(ae^{i\omega_d t} + a^\dagger e^{-i\omega_d t})$$

Dissipation via Master equation

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \rho = & -i[H_{\text{JC}} + H_{\text{drive}}, \rho] \\ & + \kappa \mathcal{D}[a]\rho + \gamma \mathcal{D}[\sigma^-]\rho + \gamma_\phi \mathcal{D}[\sigma^z]\rho \end{aligned}$$

$$\dot{\rho} = \mathcal{L}\rho \quad \rho(t) = e^{\mathcal{L}t} \rho(0)$$

Lindblad operator

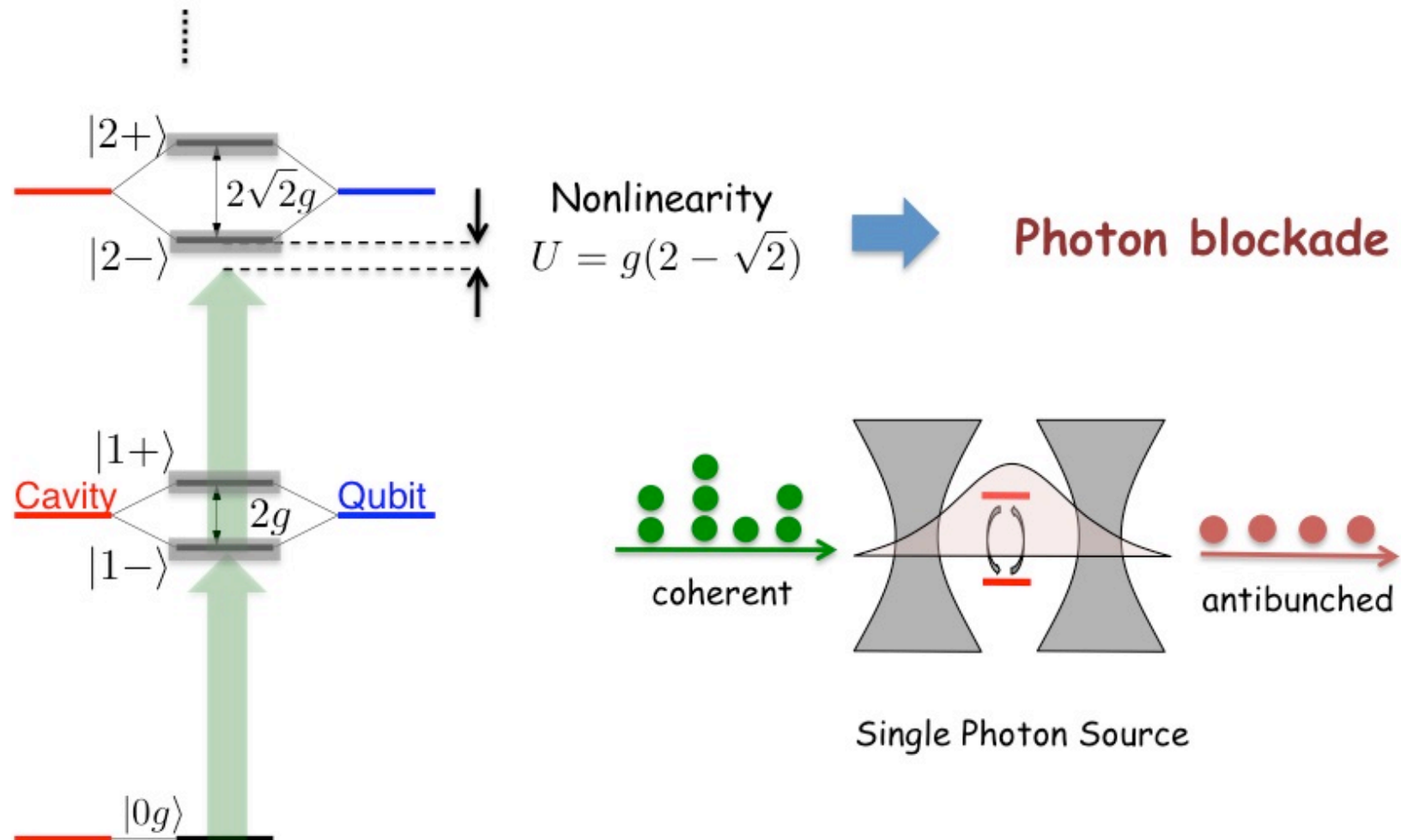
$$\mathcal{D}[A]\rho = A\rho A^\dagger - \{A^\dagger A, \rho\}/2$$

(Born-Markov)

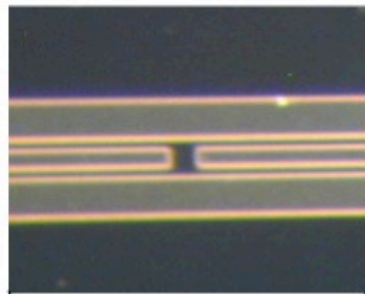
# Photon blockade

Lets consider:  $\delta = \omega_r - \omega_q = 0$

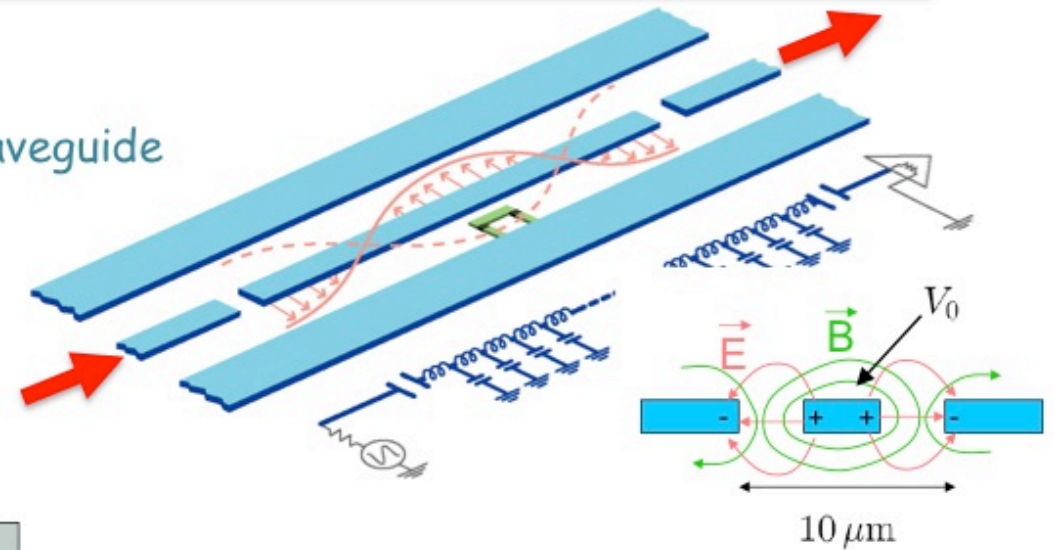
$|n, \pm\rangle \sim |g, n\rangle \pm |e, n-1\rangle$  JC ladder: dressed states (polaritons)



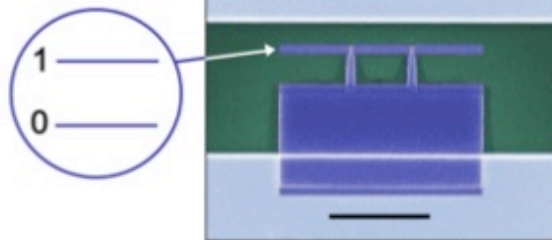
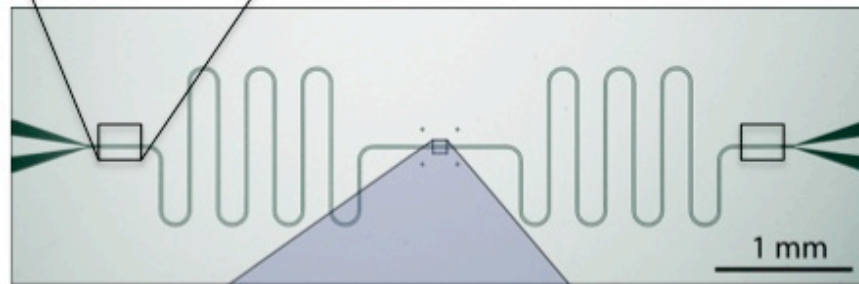
# Circuit QED realization



Cavity: Coplanar waveguide

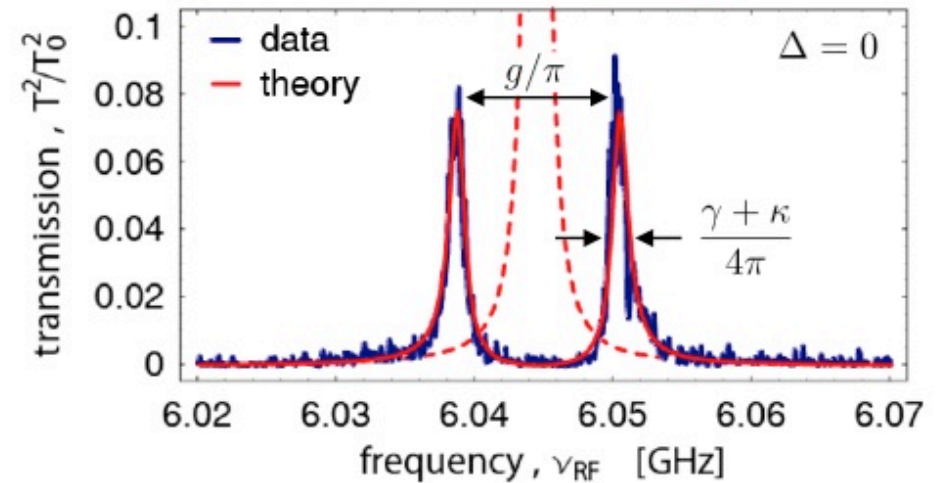


Wallraff et. al., Nature (2004)



Artificial atom: Cooper pair box

## Vacuum Rabi splitting



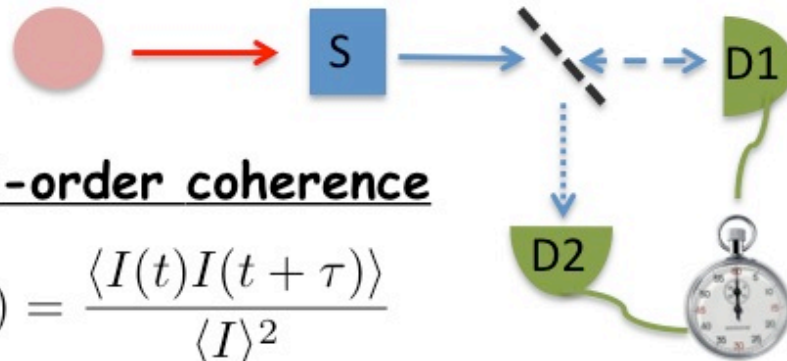
# Parameter regime

**Table 1** Circuit QED parameters and typical values.

Model Parameter	$m$	Typical values	$m/2\pi$	In-situ tunability?
$\omega_r$	resonator frequency	1... 15 GHz		Yes – with SQUID terminated resonators [ 57]
$\omega_q$	qubit frequency	100 MHz ... 15 GHz [ 64]		Yes – e.g., via global or local magnetic flux [ 58]
$g$	photon-qubit coupling strength	0... 400 MHz		Yes [ 55, 59]
$J$	photon hopping strength	1... 100 MHz [ 60]		Yes – with additional coupler circuits [ 51, 53]
$\kappa$	photon escape rate at port	10 kHz ... 80 MHz [ 60]		Yes – with additional coupler circuits [ 51, 61]
$\gamma_\kappa$	intrinsic photon escape/dissipation rate	$\geq 5$ kHz [ 62]		No
$\gamma_1$	qubit relaxation rate	$\geq 10$ kHz [ 24]		Yes – e.g., via Purcell effect [ 63]
$\gamma_\phi$	qubit dephasing rate	$\geq 50$ kHz [ 24]		Yes – by inducing extra noise

Review: S. Schmidt & J. Koch, Ann. Phys. (Berlin) 525, 395-412 (2013)

# Measurement



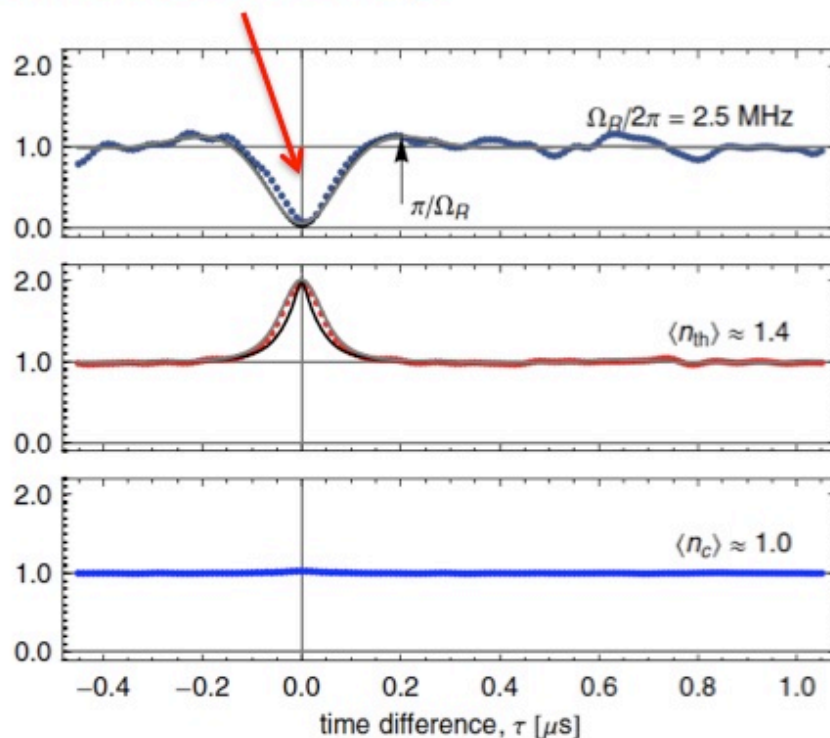
## Second-order coherence

$$g^{(2)}(\tau) = \frac{\langle I(t)I(t + \tau) \rangle}{\langle I \rangle^2}$$

## Statistics

$$g^{(2)}(0) = \frac{\langle n(n - 1) \rangle}{\langle n^2 \rangle}$$

## Photon blockade dip



Antibunching (Cavity field)

Sub-poissonian  $g^{(2)}(0) < 1$

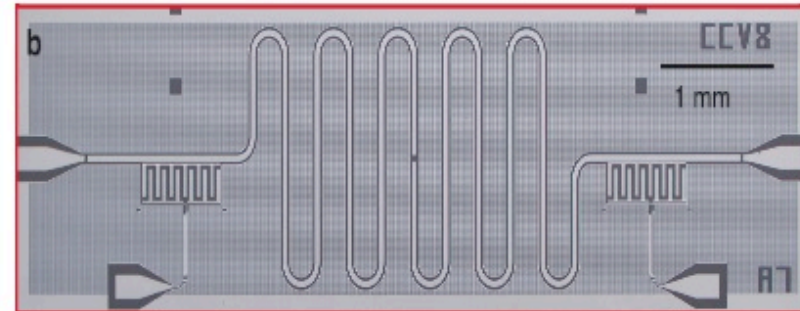
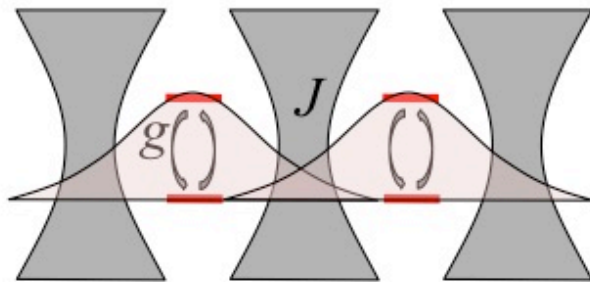
Bunching (Thermal field)

Super-poissonian  $g^{(2)}(0) > 1$

Coherent (Random field)

Poissonian  $g^{(2)}(0) = 1$

# Self-trapping of photons



Theory:  
Schmidt et al, PRB 82, 100507(R) (2010)

Experiment:  
Raftery et al., arXiv:1312.2963 (2013)

Interactions vs. Hopping



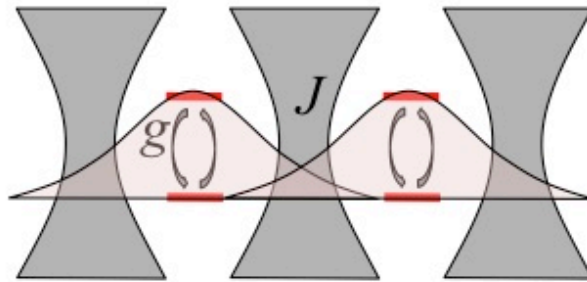
Dynamical (phase) transition

# Two cavities

Interactions vs. Hopping

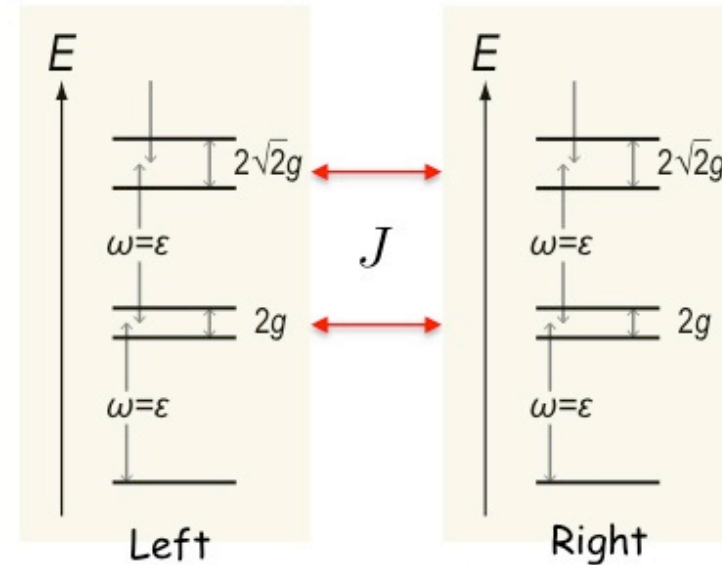


Dynamical (phase) transition



Jaynes-Cummings dimer (JCD)

$$H = H_{\text{JC,L}} + H_{\text{JC,R}} + J(a_L^\dagger a_R + \text{h.c.})$$



for large number of photons  $N \gg 1$

sharp localization-delocalization transition at  $g_c = \alpha\sqrt{N}J$



# JCD Eigenstates

Total number of excitations conserved  $N = n_L + n_R + \sigma_L^z + \sigma_R^z$

$N = 50$

(sector with both qubits in the ground state  $\sim g$ )

all photons in L

$|Ng\rangle_L|0g\rangle_R$

half/half

$|(N/2)g\rangle_L|(N/2)g\rangle_R$

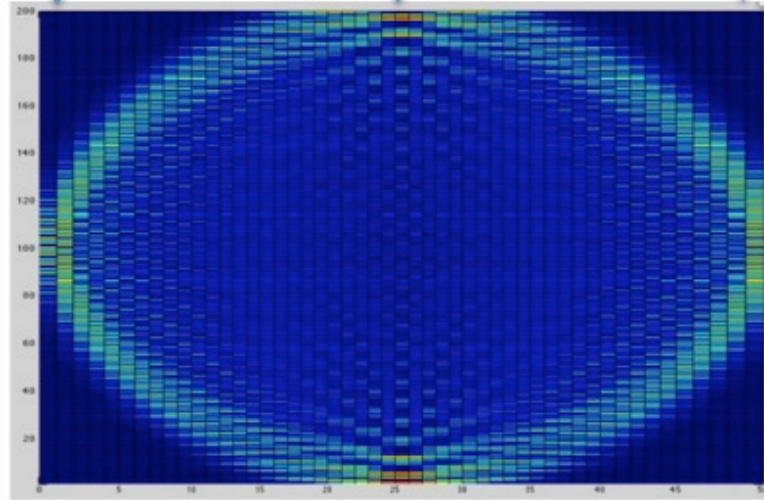
all photons in R

$|0g\rangle_L|Ng\rangle_R$

**Imbalance**

$$Z = \frac{n_L - n_R}{n_L + n_R}$$

Eigenstates (ordered from low to high)



Basis state index

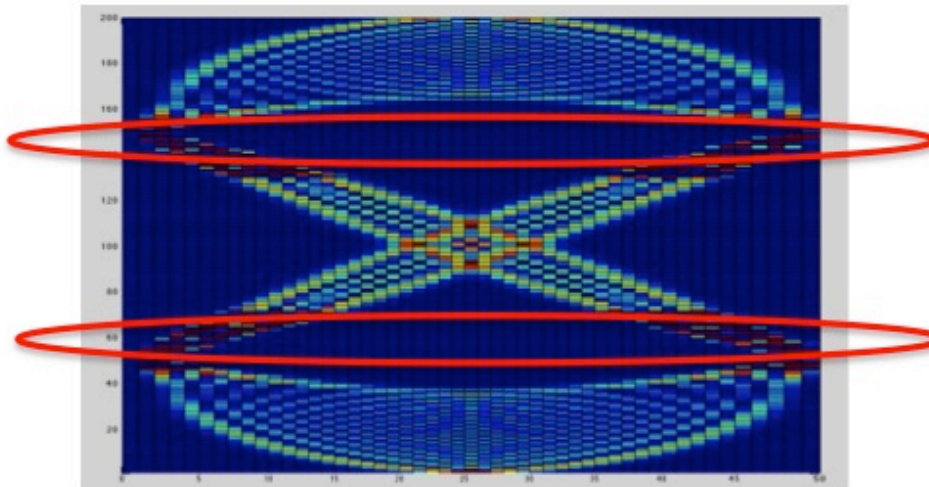
**Delocalized states**

$$\langle \psi_i | Z | \psi_i \rangle = 0$$

$g \ll J$



$g \gg J$



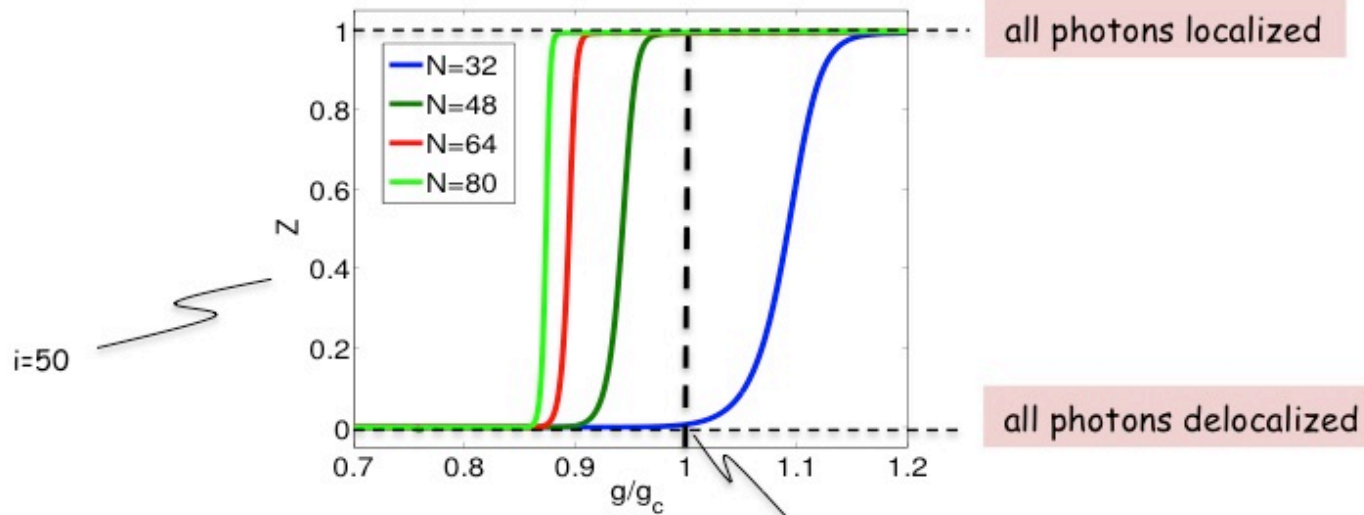
**Localized states**

$$\langle \psi_i | Z | \psi_i \rangle \neq 0$$

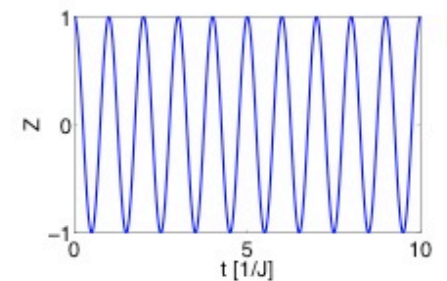
# Dynamical (phase) transition

Imbalance of an eigenstate

$$Z = \langle \psi_i | \hat{Z} | \psi_i \rangle$$



probe dynamics!



semiclassical approximation  $\langle a_i \sigma_i^- \rangle \approx \langle a_i \rangle \langle \sigma_i^- \rangle$

$$\rightarrow g_c^{\text{cl}} \sim 2.8 \sqrt{N} J$$

sharp delocalization-localization transition !

needs many photons: collective interaction effect



$$N \gg 1$$

critical coupling strength depends on quantum state

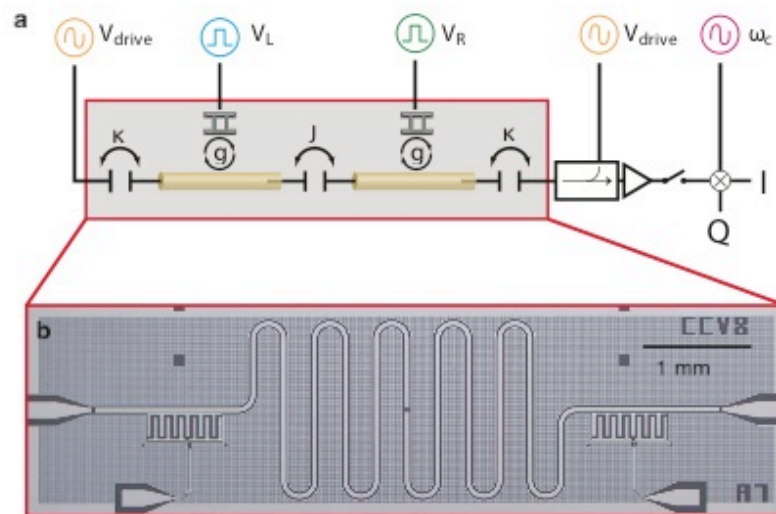


$$g_{c,i}^q = \alpha_i \sqrt{N} J$$

# Experimental realization

Qdevice lab of A. Houck (Princeton)

J.Raftery, D. Sadri, S. Schmidt, H. Tureci, A. Houck, arxiv:1312.2963 (2013)



$$\nu_c = 6.34 \text{ GHz}$$

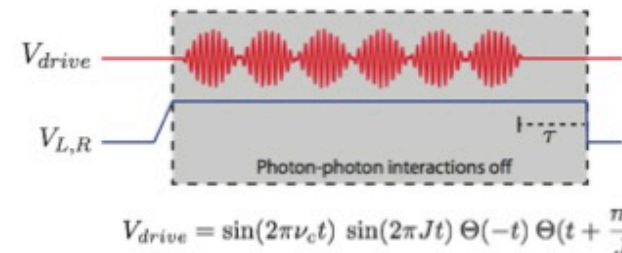
$$J = 8.7 \text{ MHz}$$

$$g = 190 \text{ MHz}$$

$$\kappa = 225 \text{ KHz}$$

$$g \gg \kappa$$

- Initialization: pulse + quench



- measures homodyne signal  $\langle a_L \rangle$

- varies initial photon number

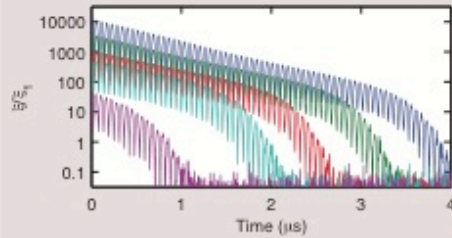
$$g_c = \alpha \sqrt{N} J \quad \longleftrightarrow \quad N_c = \left( \frac{g}{\alpha J} \right)^2$$

- weak dissipation

# Phase diagram

Homodyne signal of the left cavity (initially localized in the left cavity)

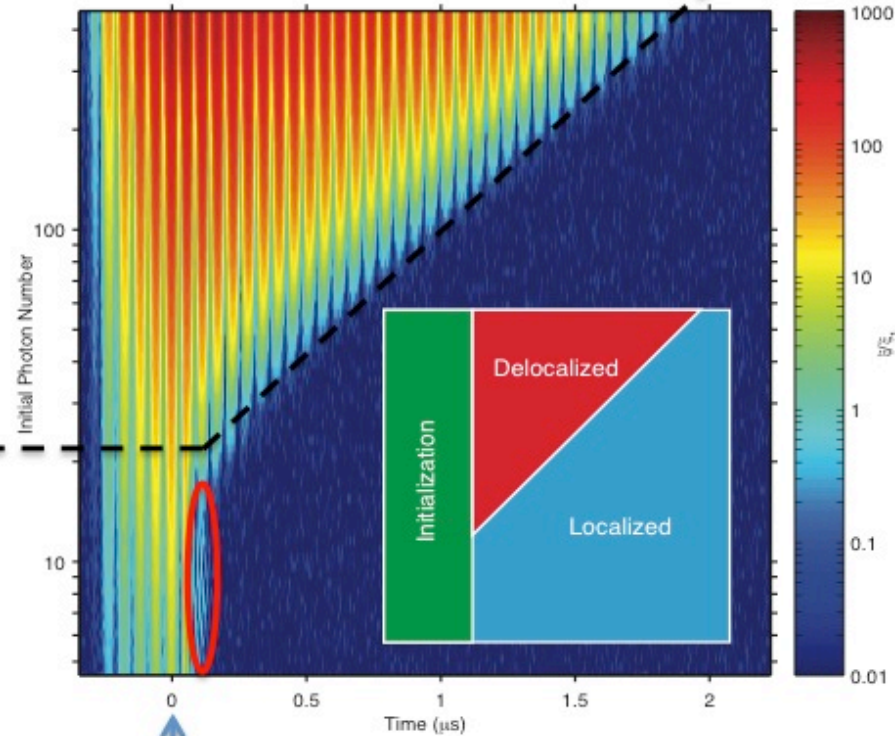
✓ Dissipation driven classical-to-quantum transition



Classical oscillations

$$t_J = \frac{\pi}{J}$$

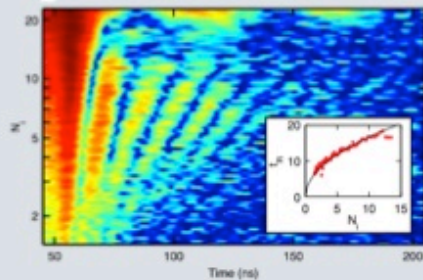
Photon loss  $N(t) = N e^{-\kappa t} \rightarrow t_c \sim (1/\kappa) \ln(J\sqrt{N}/g)$  **dissipation driven**



quench

**Crossover**  $t_J \sim t_{\text{rev}} \leftrightarrow g \sim \sqrt{N}J$

(consistent with semiclassical prediction)



Quantum Revivals

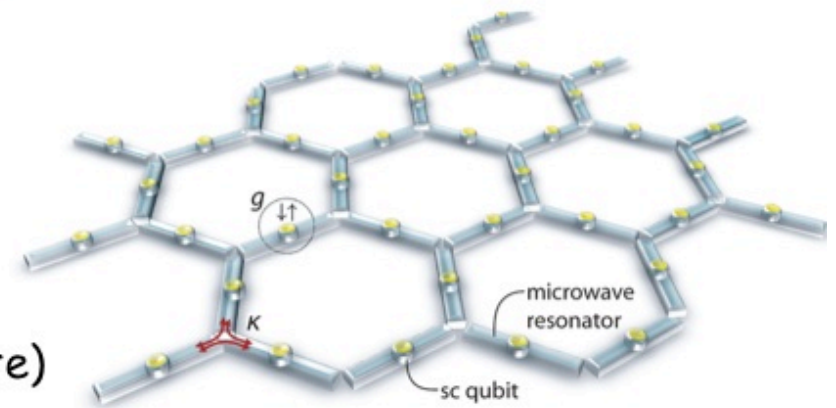
$$t_{\text{rev}} = \frac{2\pi\sqrt{N}}{g}$$

## Non-equilibrium SF-MI transition

Jaynes-Cummings-Hubbard model

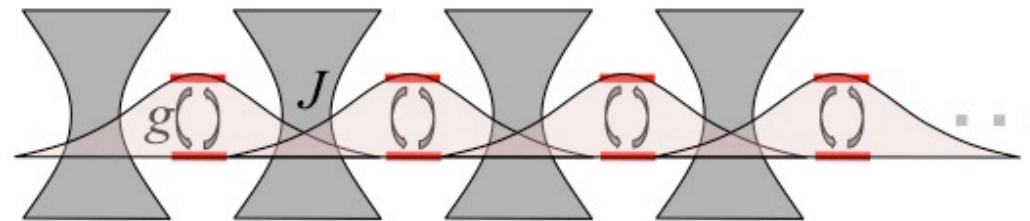
Equilibrium SF-MI transition (ground state)

Non-Equilibrium SF-MI transition (steady state)



# Jaynes-Cummings-Hubbard model

Coupled cavity array (CCa)



Photons in a cavity interacting with a two-level system ( $g$ ) and tunneling to neighbouring cavities ( $J$ )

$$H_{JCHM} = \sum_j H_{JC,j} + \sum_{\langle i,j \rangle} (J a_i^\dagger a_j + \text{h.c.})$$

$$H_{JC} = \omega_r a^\dagger a + \omega_q \sigma^+ \sigma^- + g(a^\dagger \sigma^- + a \sigma^+)$$

Greentree et.al. Nat. Phys. **466**, 856 (2006)  
(for NV centers in diamond)

Schmidt and Blatter, PRL (2009)

# Quantum phase diagram

neglect drive and dissipation:

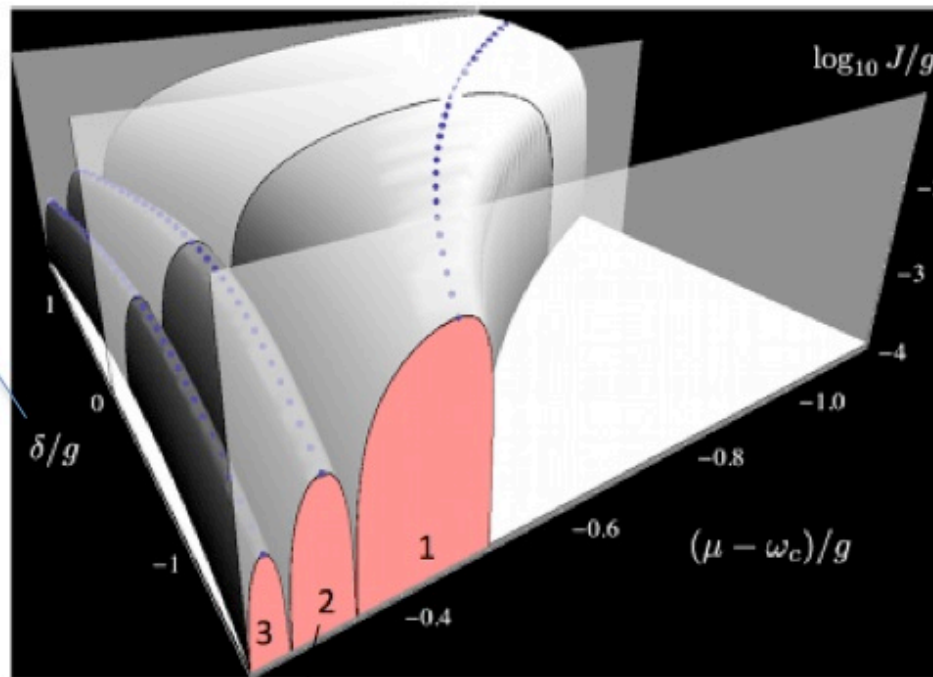
$$H = H_{\text{JCHM}} + H_{\text{chem}}$$

$$H_{\text{chem}} = \sum_j \mu (a_j^\dagger a_j + \sigma_j^+ \sigma_j^-)$$

Introduce chemical potential

our methods: Decoupling MFT, Linked-cluster, Slave-boson, Quantum Monte Carlo, ....

cavity-qubit detuning



Greentree et.al. Nat. Phys. (2006)  
 Angelakis et.al PRA (2007)  
 Aichhorn et.al PRL (2008)  
 Schmidt and Blatter, PRL (2009)  
 Koch and LeHur PRA (2009)  
 Schmidt and Blatter PRL (2010)  
 Hohenadler et al. PRA (2011)  
 .....

## Equilibrium Theory:

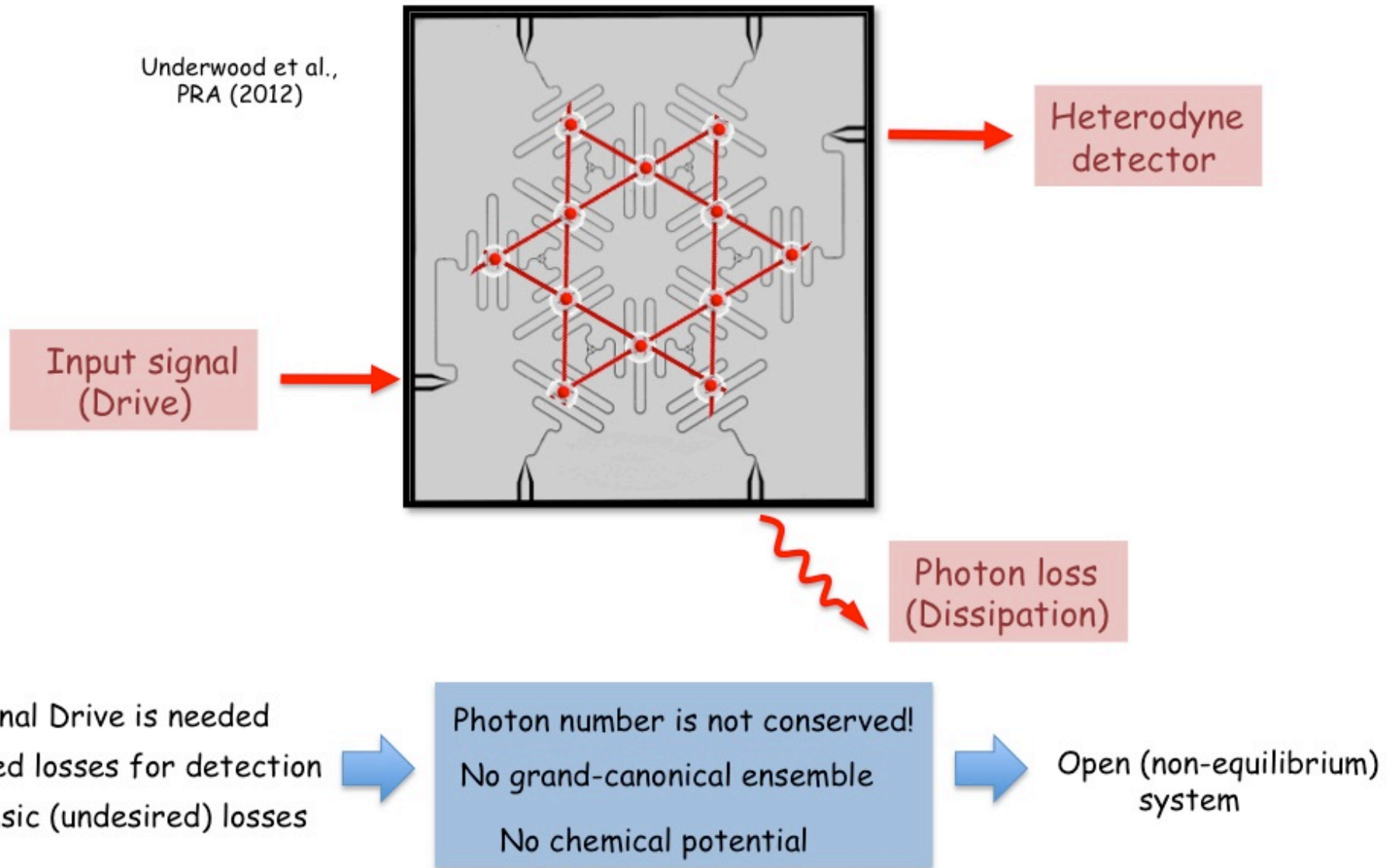
- ✓ phase diagram
- ✓ elementary excitations
- ✓ critical exponents
- ✓ long-range hopping

**Photonic Mott insulator**  $\langle a_i \rangle = 0$

main differences with Bose-Hubbard model:

- $\sqrt{n}$  dependence of the particle-hole gap
- Mott lobes with flavor (detuning parameter)
- additional gapped conversion modes

# New Challenges



What is the fate of the SF-MI transition in non-equilibrium steady state?



# JCHM with drive and dissipation

$$H = H_{\text{JCHM}} + H_{\text{drive}}$$

coherent pump with equal phases and drive strength

$$H_{\text{drive}} = \sum_j f \left( a_j + a_j^\dagger \right)$$

Master equation:

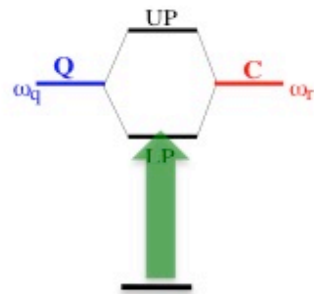
$$\begin{aligned} \partial_t \rho = & -i[H_{\text{JCHM}} + H_{\text{drive}}, \rho] \\ & + \sum_i \left( \kappa \mathcal{D}[a_i] \rho + \gamma \mathcal{D}[\sigma_i^-] \rho + \gamma_\phi \mathcal{D}[\sigma_i^z] \rho \right) \end{aligned}$$

# Hopping-induced Bistability

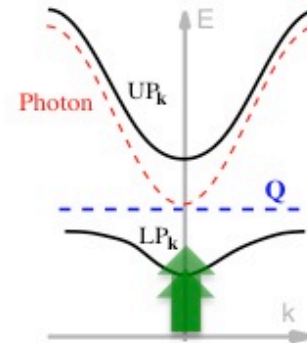
F. Nissen *et al.*, PRL 2012

Le Boite *et al.*, PRL 2013

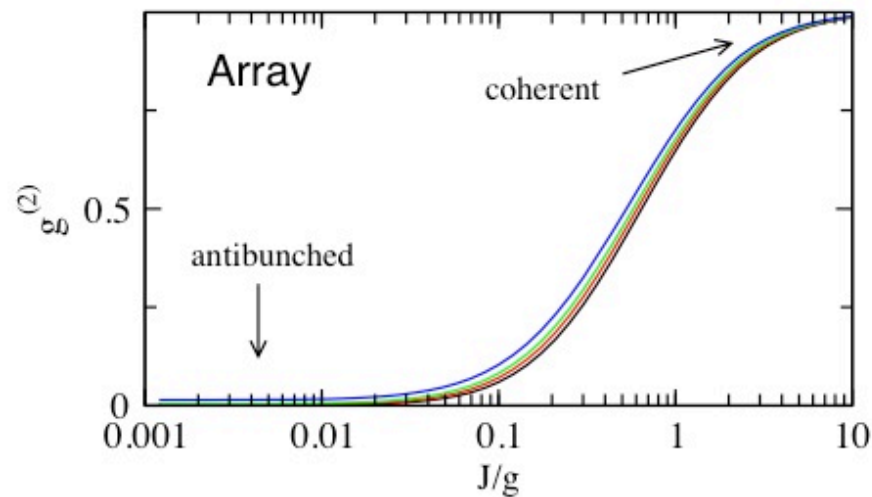
(a) Single cavity



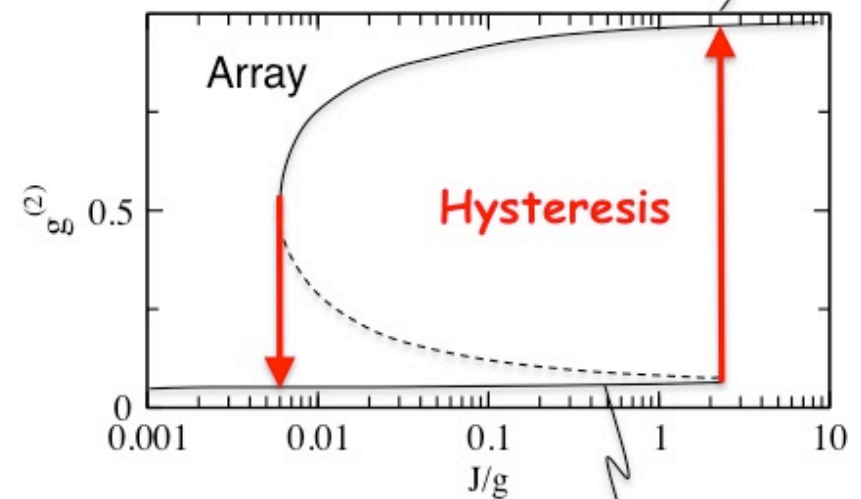
(b) Large array



Case 1: Pump at the bottom of the band



Case 2: Pump into the band



delocalized branch

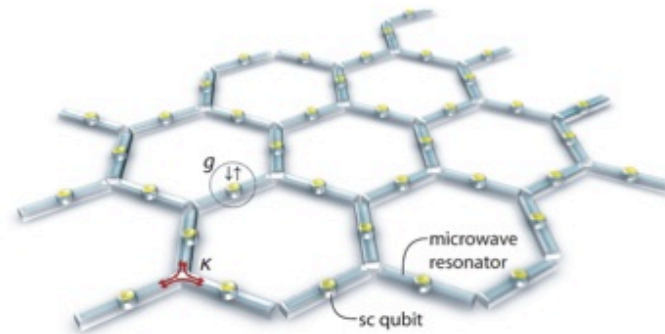
Non-equilibrium SF-MI phase transition

localized branch

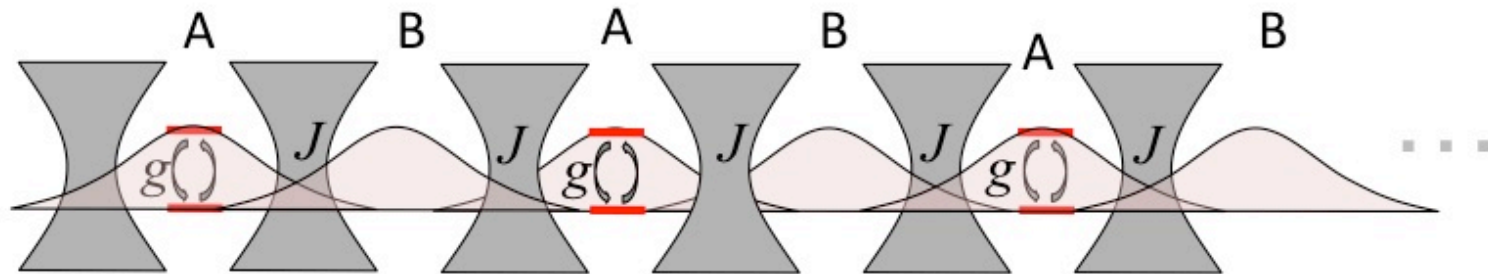
## Flat bands

Lieb chain

Crystalline order of photons



# Photonic lattices



alternating quasi-1D JC lattice

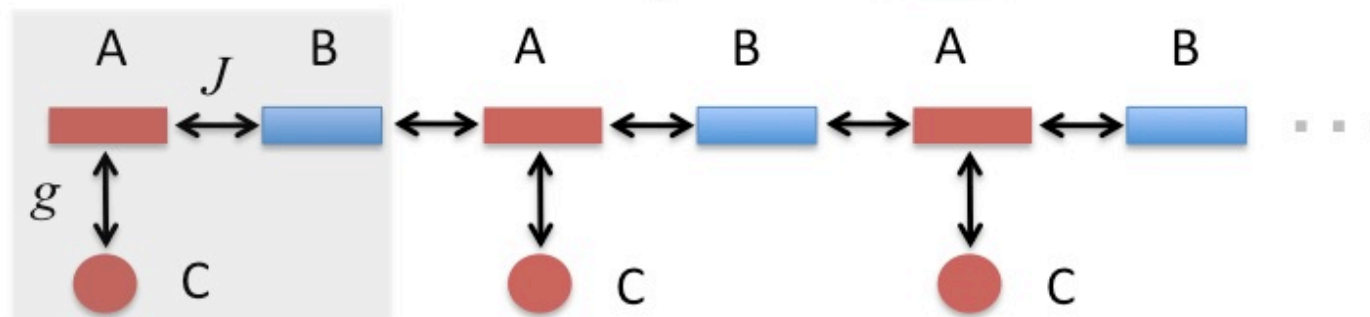
$$H = \sum_j (h_{jA}^{\text{JC}} + \omega_B b_j^\dagger b_j) + J \sum_j [b_j^\dagger (a_j + a_{j+1}) + \text{H.c.}],$$

$$h_{jA}^{\text{JC}} = \omega_A a_j^\dagger a_j + \omega_q \sigma_j^+ \sigma_j^- + g(a_j^\dagger \sigma_j^- + \text{H.c.}).$$

on the single-particle level:



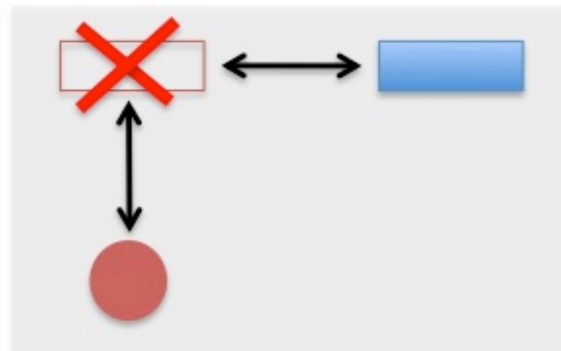
$$\sigma_j^+ \rightarrow c_j^\dagger$$



quasi-1D Lieb chain

# Unit cell

## Lieb chain unit cell



$$h = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_a & J & g \\ J & \omega_b & 0 \\ g & 0 & \omega_q \end{pmatrix} \quad (\text{single excitation subspace})$$

for  $\omega_q = \omega_b$   Quantum Interference

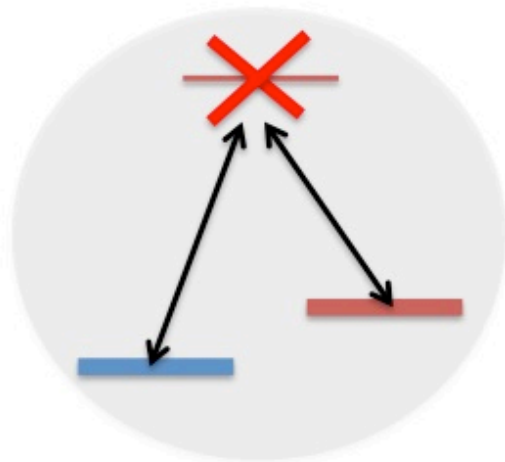
$$\lambda = \omega_b$$

$$|D\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g^2 + J^2}} (gb^\dagger - J\sigma^+) |0\rangle$$

dark state polariton

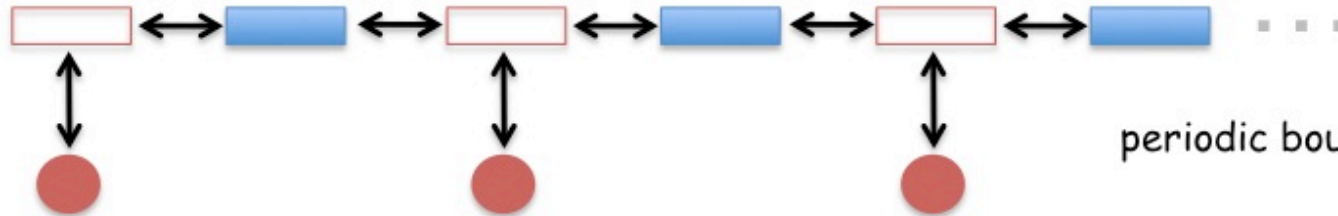


## 3LS Lambda configuration



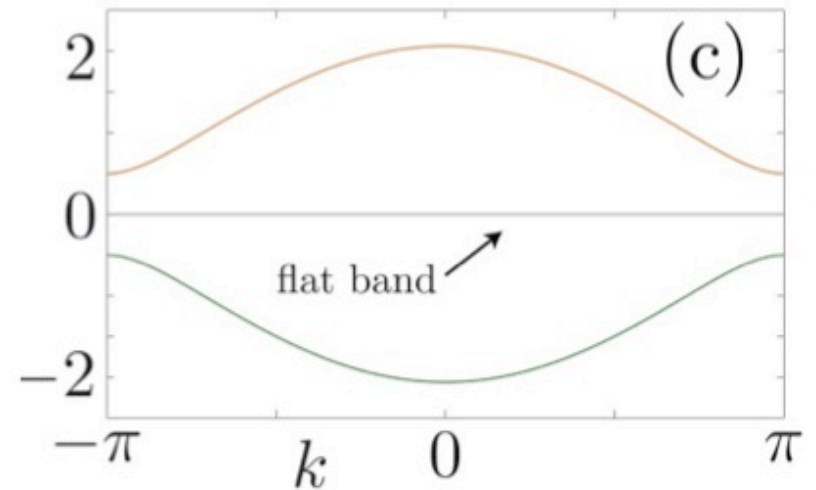
analogous to electromagnetically-induced transparency (EIT effect)

# Flat band

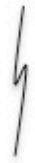


$$h_k = \begin{pmatrix} \omega_a & J(1 + e^{-ik}) & g \\ J(1 + e^{ik}) & \omega_b & 0 \\ g & 0 & \omega_q \end{pmatrix}$$

for  $\omega_q = \omega_b \Rightarrow$  Quantum Interference



$$\lambda_F = \omega_b$$

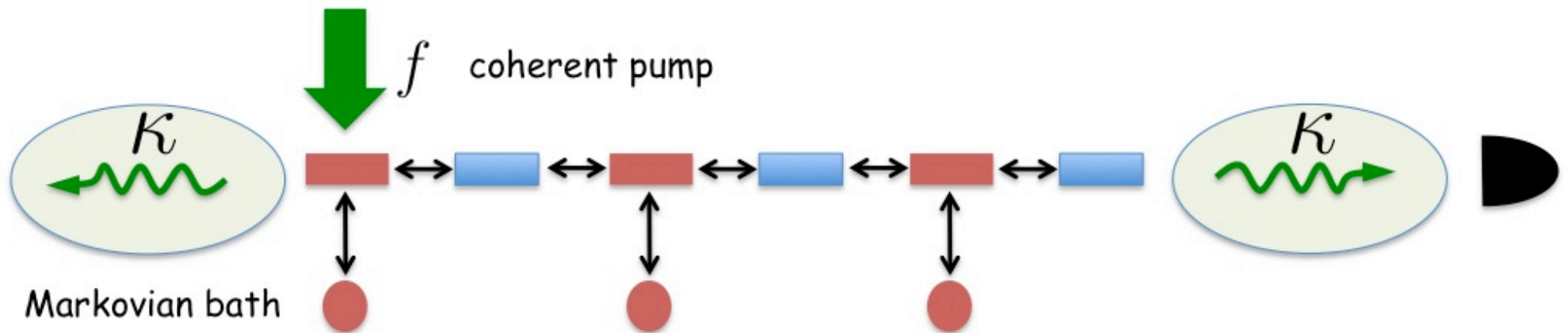


Flat band energy

$$|\lambda_j\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{g^2 + 2J^2}} [gb_j^\dagger - J(\sigma_j^+ + \sigma_{j+1}^+)] |0\rangle$$

lambda states = set of degenerate single particle states

# Spectroscopy



$$\dot{\rho} = 0 = -i[\rho, H + H_{\text{dr}}] + \kappa\mathcal{D}[a_1]\rho + \kappa\mathcal{D}[b_N]\rho$$

$$H_{\text{dr}} = f \left( a_1 e^{i\omega_d t} + \text{h.c.} \right)$$

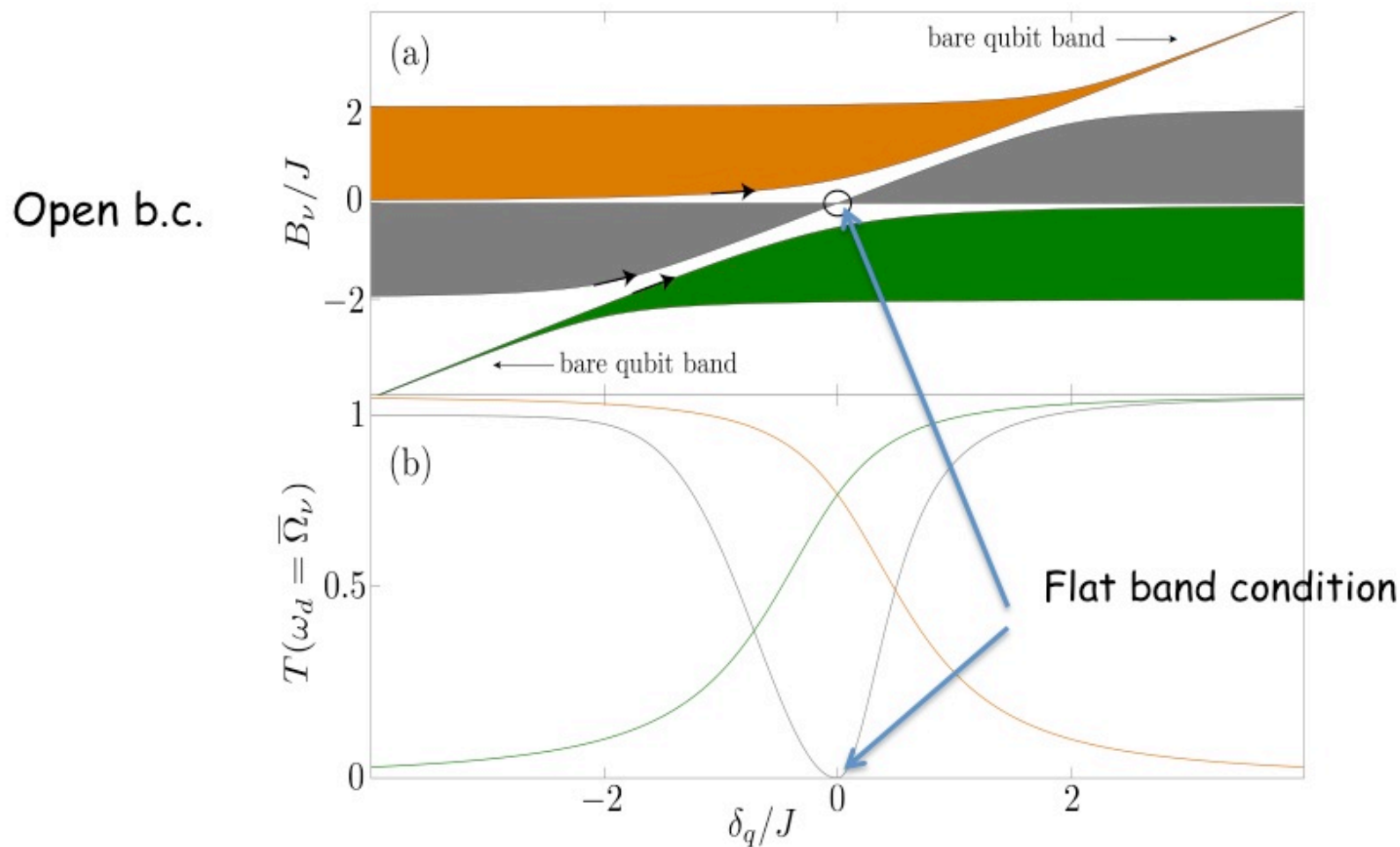
Input/Output theory  $T = (\kappa/f)^2 |\langle b_N \rangle_{\text{ss}}|^2$  Collet and Gardiner (1991)

weak pump condition  $f \ll \kappa, g, J$

solve analytically in single excitation basis!

# weak pump spectroscopy

$$f \ll \kappa, g, J$$



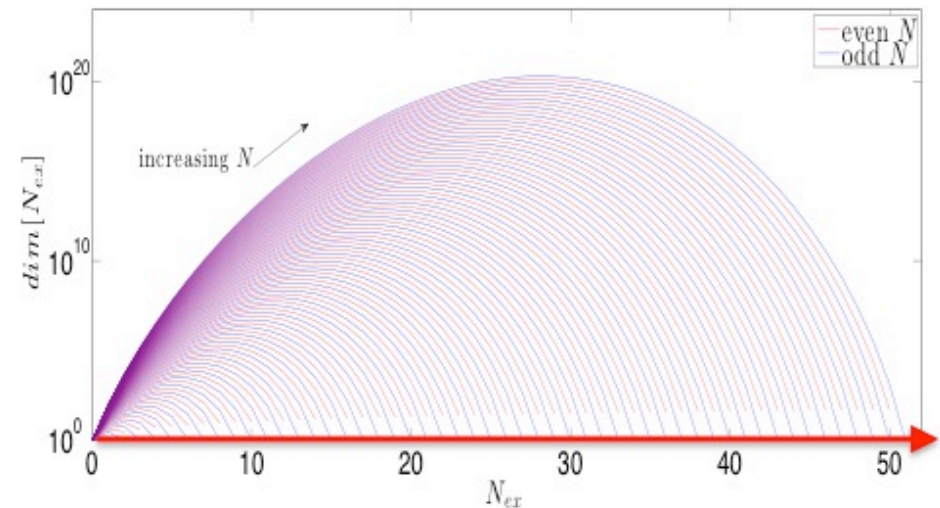
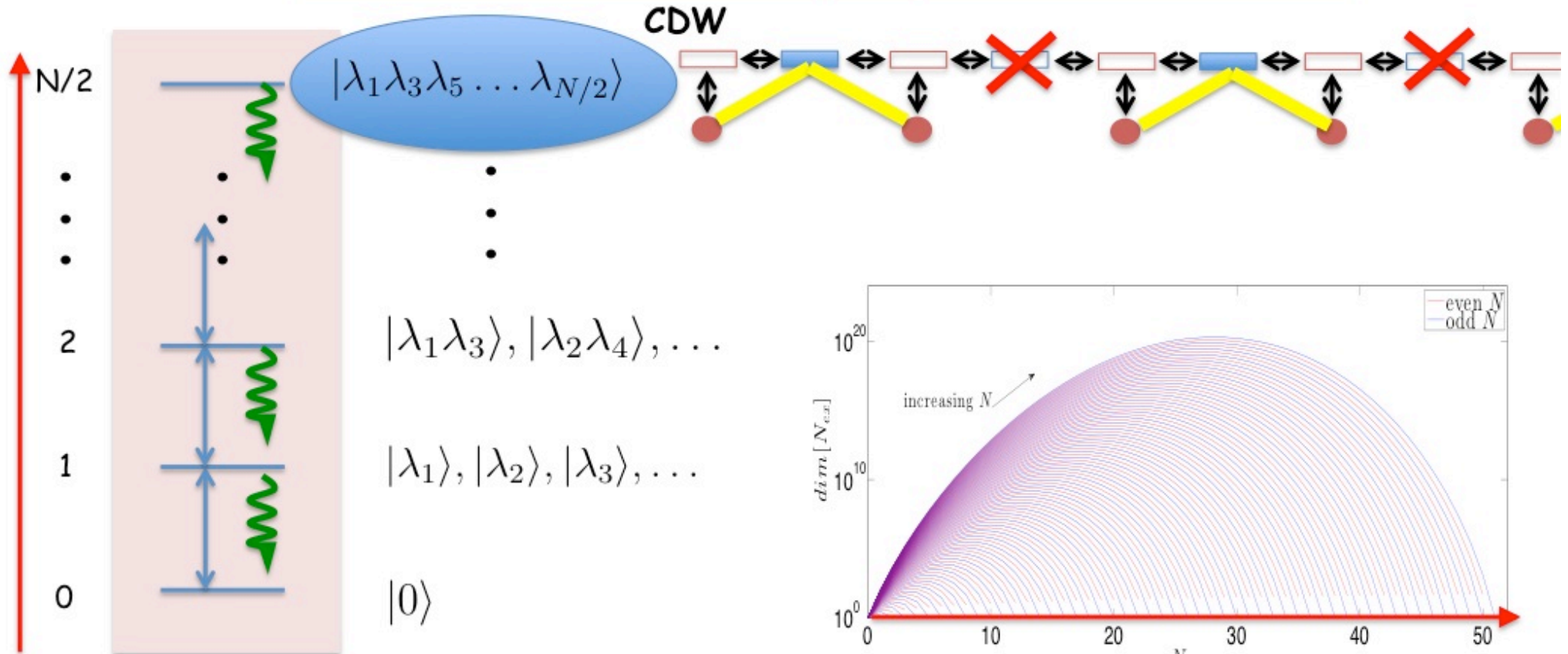
In-situ tunable parameter  $\delta_q = \omega_q - \omega_b$



# Flat band basis

What about interactions ?

Lambda states build exact many-body basis for the flat band!

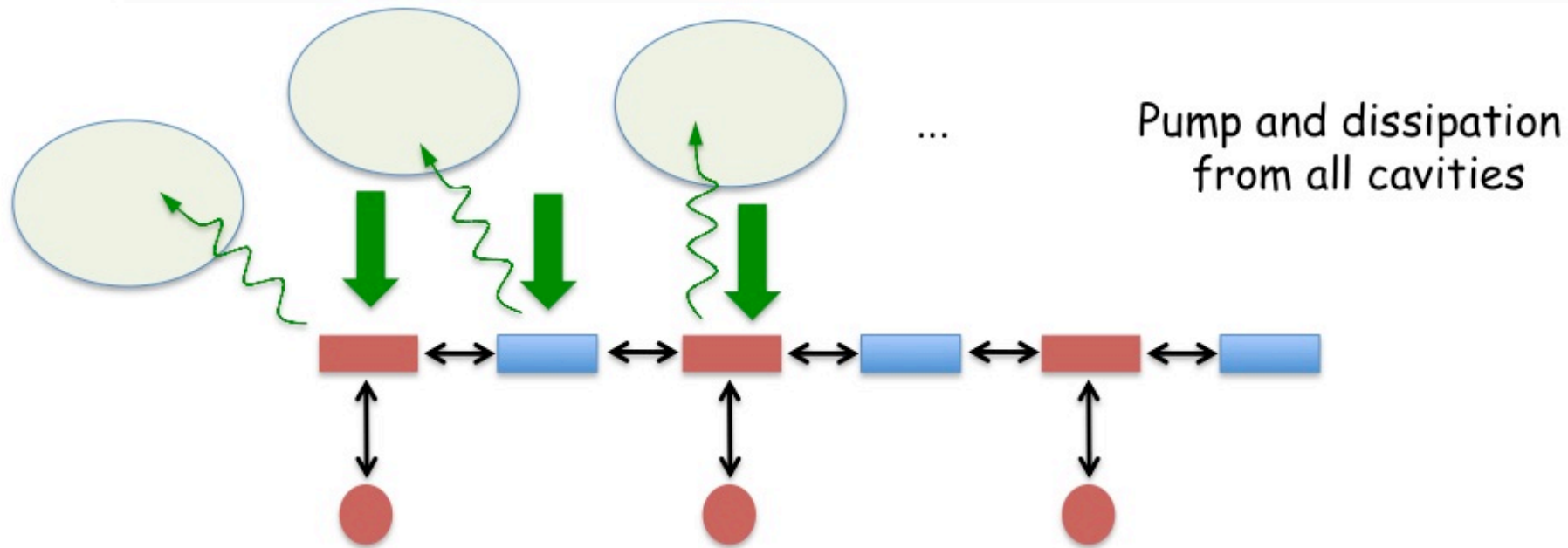


Flat band = driven, dissipative multi-level system

Size of the Liouvillian still increases exponentially

exact diagonalization up to 25 sites

# Nonequilibrium steady state



$$\dot{\rho} = 0 = -i[\rho, H + H_{\text{dr}}] + \kappa \sum_i \mathcal{D}[a_i]\rho + \kappa \sum_i \mathcal{D}[b_i]\rho$$

$$H_{\text{dr}} = f \sum_i [(a_i + b_i)e^{i\omega_d t} + \text{h.c.}]$$

steady state cavity occupation  $\psi_i = \langle a_i \rangle_{\text{ss}}, \langle b_i \rangle_{\text{ss}}$

stronger pump  $f \sim \kappa \ll g, J$

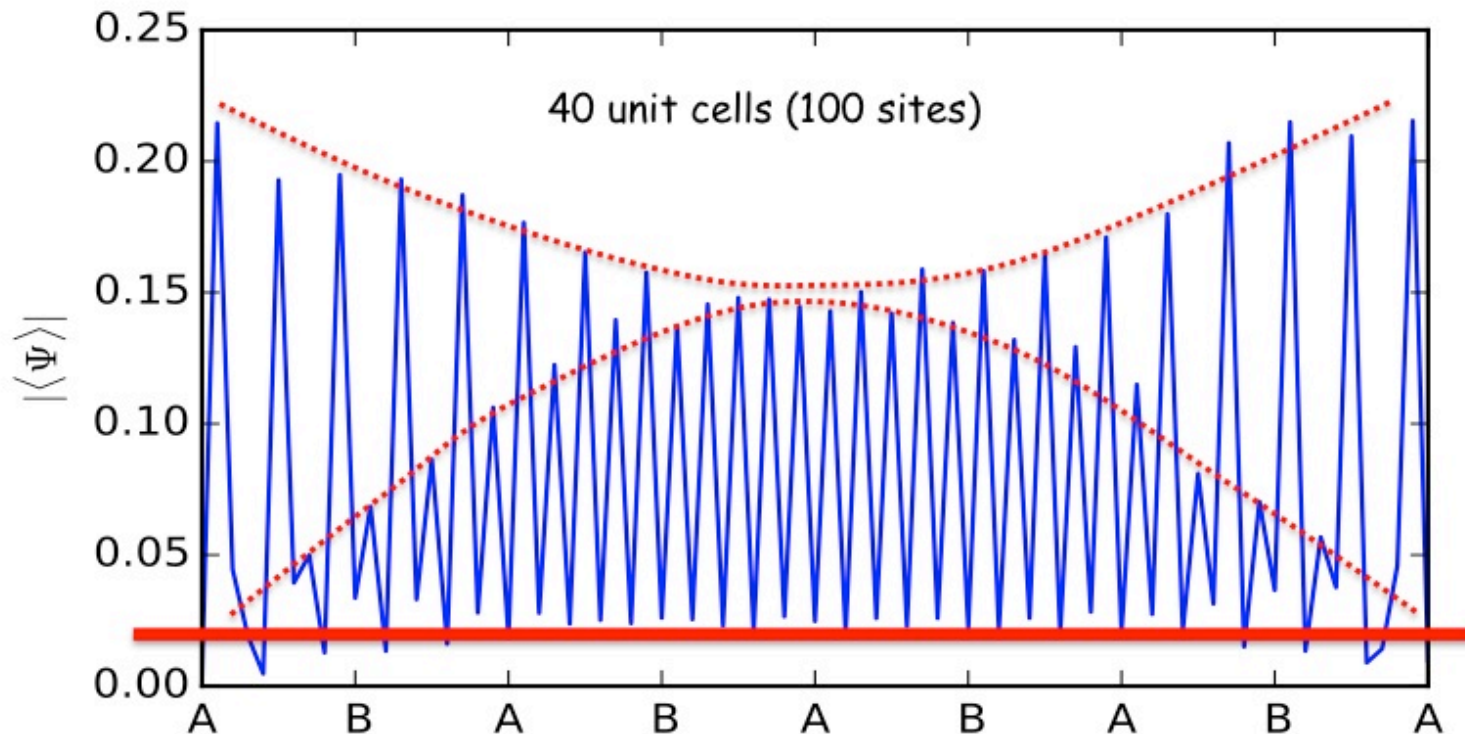
exact diagonalization of the Liouvillian in flat band subspace!

# Open System TEBD/tDMRG

$$\dot{\rho} = \mathcal{L}\rho \quad \rightarrow \quad \rho(t) = e^{\mathcal{L}t} \rho(0)$$

vectorized matrix product state (MPS)

Trotter decomposition + TEBD/DMRG



# Thanks

Ph.D. students at Institute for Theoretical Physics, ETH Zurich



Matteo Biondi



Evert v Nieuwenburg