Towards Analog Simulations of Quantum Impurity Physics

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The magic of Al/AlO_x/Al tunnel junction



Non-dissipative non-linearity





"ultraviolet cut-off" $\omega_p \equiv 1/\sqrt{L_J C_J}$ $\omega_p/2\pi \approx 20 \text{ GHz} \approx 1 \text{ K}$

Enormous kinetic inductance

$$L_J/\sqrt{A} > 10^4 \mu_0$$

Common circuits





circuit quantum electrodynamics



A. Wallraff et al. (2004)



Kondo effect: an example of quantum impurity physics

Many free electrons (modes) interact via a single spin $\frac{1}{2}$ (impurity)



Luttinger liquid physics



$$H_0 = \frac{1}{2}vh \int \left[\frac{Z}{R_Q}\rho(x)^2 + \frac{R_Q}{Z}\left(\frac{\nabla\phi(x)}{2\pi}\right)^2\right]dx$$

 $[\phi(x), \rho(x)] = i\delta(x - x')$



Fazio, R., et al. (1996); Glazman, L. I., Larkin, A. I. (1997)



A TEM waveguide is a spinless Luttinger liquid

 $Z/R_Q > 1$ repulsion $Z/R_Q < 1$ attraction

The boundary sine-Gordon quantum impurity model

Gogolin, Nersesyan, Tsvelik, "Bosonisation and strongly correlated systems"





$$H = \frac{1}{2}vh\int \left[\frac{Z}{R_Q}\rho(x)^2 + \frac{R_Q}{Z}\left(\frac{\nabla\phi(x)}{2\pi}\right)^2\right]dx - E_J \cos\phi(x=0)$$

$$[\phi(x), \rho(x)] = i\delta(x - x')$$



 $Z/R_Q > 1$ repulsion $Z/R_Q < 1$ attraction

A zero-energy picture of the critical point



A. Schmid (1983); S. Bulgadaev (1984); C. Kane & M. Fisher (1992)

The finite frequencies picture: inelastic scattering of single photons



M. Goldstein et al. (2013); M. Goldstein and V. Manucharyan, (in progress 2017)

High-impedance Josephson transmission line

10 ... 15 mm



Ultra-slow microwave "light"

Measured speed of light $c = 2.1 \cdot 10^6 \frac{m}{sec}$



Reservoir where every mode is individually available!



Dispersion relation: exp vs thy



Long-range disorder in the junction parameters

Modes Spacing vs Mode Number



The boundary sine-Gordon quantum impurity



Suppression of the waves by only one phase-slip junction



Frequency depended dissipation



Weakly anharmonic oscillator impurity





33,000 junctions (10 mm long)



More familiar (to us) low-energy spectrum

High impedance >10 kOhm —> low g Independently measured plasma freq





- 0.9000

- 0.1625

- -0.5750

- -1.313

- -2.050

- -2.787

- -3.525

- -4.263

-5.000

0.3650

- 0.1944

- 0.02375

- -0.1469

- -0.3175

- -0.4881

- -0.6587

- -0.8294

-1.000







A (over)simplified circuit model



Design rule: $Z_2 >> Z_1$ to prevent mode hybridization



Simulation of Kondo impurities



Relevant theory: G. Ripoll et al. (2007) K. Le Hur et al. (2012)

M. Goldstein et al. (2012)

Fast control knobs:

- Infrared cut-off (length)
- exchange anisotropy (impedance)
- magnetic field (charge/flux offsets)

Relevant experiments K. Lehnert et al. (2008) O. Astafiev et al. (2010) A. Weiss et al. (2015) P. Forn Diaz et al. (2016)

Summary

High-impedance Josephson transmission lines are tunable Luttinger liquids with low disorder

Junctions and qubits act as impurities with arbitrary strong coupling: Boundary sin-Gordon & Kondo

Experiment probes frequency-dependent elastic and inelastic scattering instead of conductance

Many experiments ahead, almost no theory!