

Funded by the European Union



# Development of superconducting circuits in Italy

2 February 2024

Federica Mantegazzini



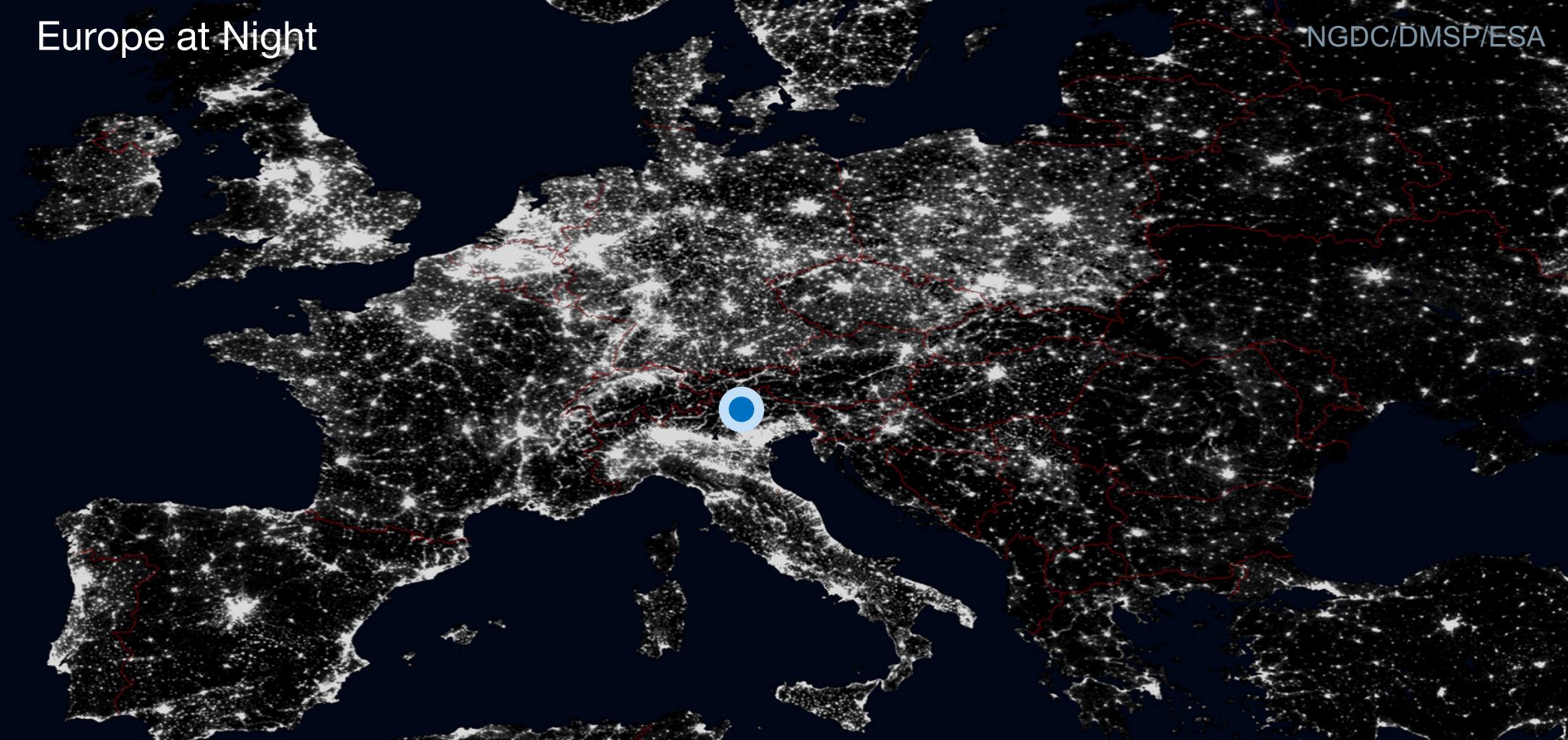
FONDAZIONE  
BRUNO KESSLER

SENSORS  
AND DEVICES

[fmantegazzini@fbk.eu](mailto:fmantegazzini@fbk.eu)  
[www.fbk.eu](http://www.fbk.eu)

Europe at Night

NGDC/DMSPI/ESA



FUTURE BUILT  
ON KNOWLEDGE

Italy  
Trento (Povo)  
Via Sommarive 18



# FBK-Sensors & Devices Centre

*at a glance*

10-12mil €

ANNUAL BUDGET

130+

PUBLICATIONS/YEAR

65 Researchers

20 Technicians

20 PhD

100+

EMPLOYEES

65+

ACTIVE FINANCED PROJECTS

20 EU projects

6

RESEARCH UNITS  
+ Partnership with CNR

2

MAIN INFRASTRUCTURES  
(MicroNanoFacility + Labssah)

40+

COMPANY COLLABORATIONS  
Inc. 1 newco

41

ACTIVE PATENTS

# Micro and Nano fabrication Facility

IPCEI1: 1200m<sup>2</sup> moving to >2000m<sup>2</sup> semiconductor ISO4-6 cleanrooms



## 6" Microfabrication Area Clean Room Detectors

700 m<sup>2</sup>; Class 10/100 0,8 um CMOS pilot line: Ion Implantation, Oxidation, Diffusion, RIE, Deep RIE (silicon and oxide), Lithography (stepper 0.35 um and mask aligner), metal sputtering, optical profilometry



## Clean Room MEMS

500 m<sup>2</sup> Class 100/1000 diffusion, lithography (mask aligner), wafer bonding, electroplating, Si bulk micromachining, metal evaporation, RIE, mechanical and optical profilometry



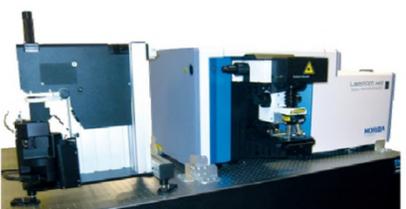
## Testing Area

300 m<sup>2</sup> manual parametric testing, automatic parametric/functional testing, optical testing (spectral responsivity, quantum efficiency), solar cells efficiency characterization, gas and pressure sensors test benches



## Integration Area

100 m<sup>2</sup> clean room Class 1000 Microassembly station; screen printing, bonding (ball & wedge bonder), Shear-Pull Tester, reflow oven, CNC micro-mill, pick and place



## Nano- and Micro- Analytical Facility

Nano Ramen, FIB-SEM-EDX-EBSD, D-SIMS, TOF-SIMS, XPS, AFS, XRD/XRF

# Characterisation facility



## D-SIMS Dynamic Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry

Composition depth profile  
very high sensitivity: ppm-ppb  
depth resolution: 1nm; lateral resolution: 1mm



## ToF-SIMS Time of Flight Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry

Elemental chemical mapping  
very high sensitivity: ppm-ppb  
lateral resolution: 0.3 mm



## XPS X-Ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy

Chemical and elemental surface analysis  
sensitivity: 0.5-1%; lateral resolution: 5 mm

## FIB-SEM-EDX-EBSD

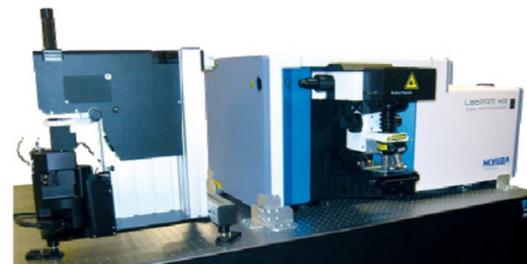
Focused Ion Beam; Electron microscopy; Energy Dispersion X-Ray; Electron Back Scattered Diffraction

## AFM Atomic Force Microscopy

Surface microscopy  
vertical resolution: 0.5nm; lateral resolution: 5 nm

## Nano Raman

Raman Spectroscopy coupled to SPM microscopy



## XRD/XRF X-ray Diffraction / X ray Fluorescence

Elemental, crystallographic phase and stress analyses  
Spatial resolution: 1cm; Sensitivity: 0.1-1%

# Characterisation facility



## D-SIMS Dynamic Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry

Composition depth profile  
 very high sensitivity: ppm-ppb  
 depth resolution: 1nm; lateral resolution: 1mm



## ToF-SIMS Time of Flight Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry

Elemental chemical mapping  
 very high sensitivity: ppm-ppb  
 lateral resolution: 0.3 mm

## Dedicated cryogenic lab

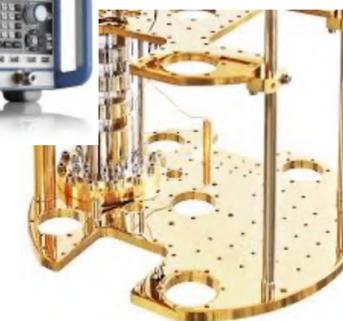
Dry dilution refrigerator,  $T_b = 10$  mK ✓

Pulse tube cooler,  $T_b = 2$  K

Vector Network Analyser

Spectrum Analyser

Microwave generators



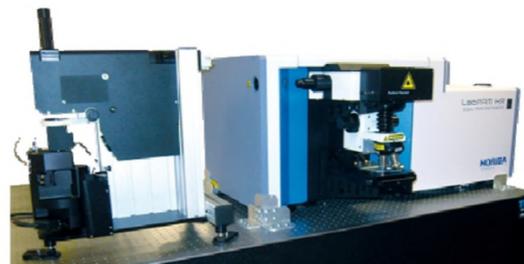
Elemental surface analysis  
 lateral resolution: 5 mm

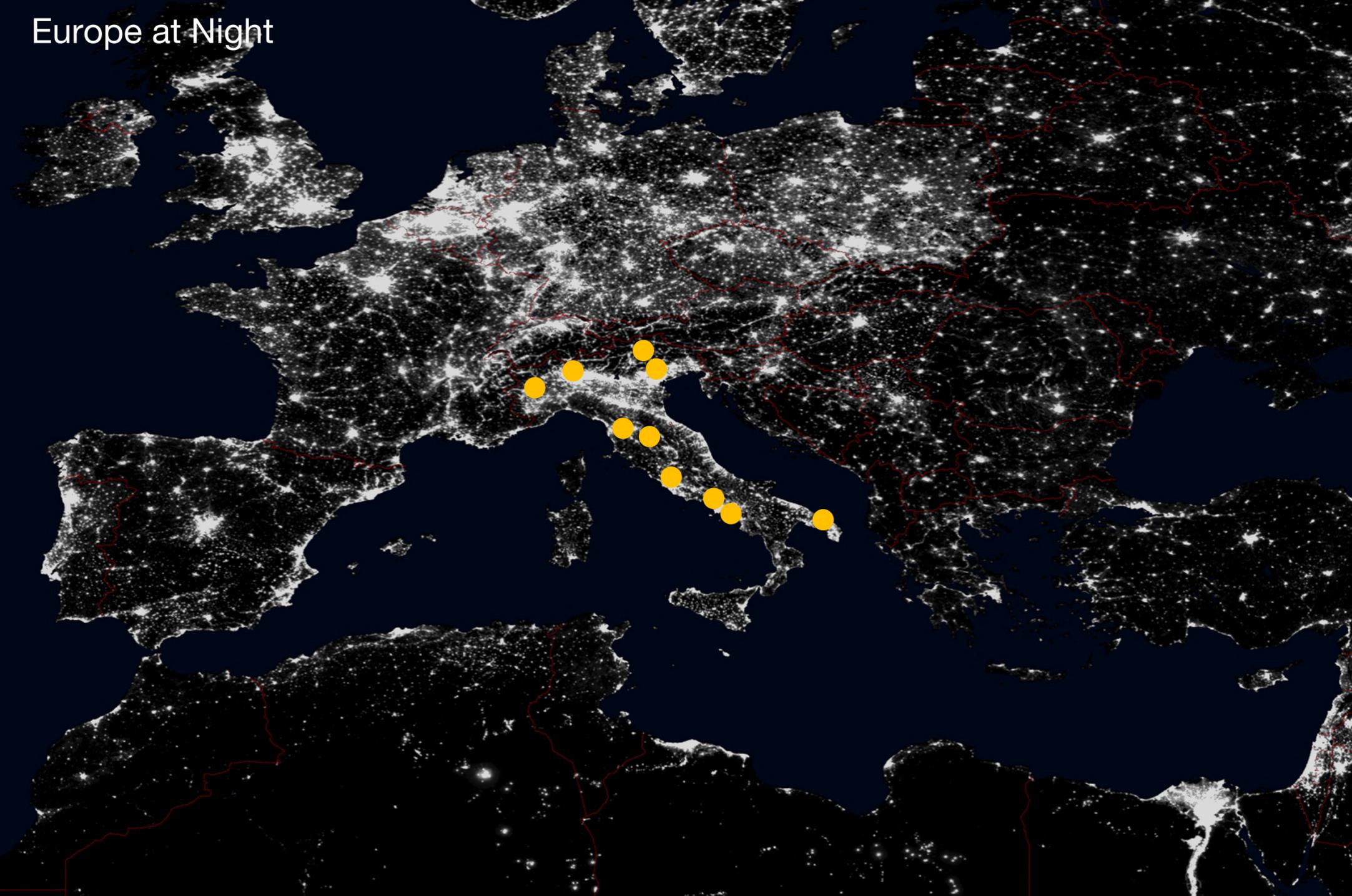
Electron microscopy; Energy  
 Electron Back Scattered Diffraction

Resolution: 0.5nm; lateral resolution: 5 nm

Coupled to SPM microscopy

Topographic phase and stress analyses  
 Sensitivity: 0.1-1%





# Superconducting circuits in Italy

## Several groups...

- Fondazione Bruno Kessler, Trento
- INFN TIFPA, Trento
- University of Milano-Bicocca, Milan
- INFN Frascati Laboratories, Rome
- INFN Legnaro Laboratories, Padova
- INFN Lecce
- INFN Salerno
- INRiM (National Metrology Institute), Turin
- CNR SPIN, Naples

...

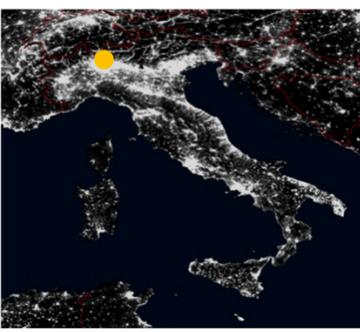
## ... and several projects



...



# Quantum Technologies at UniMiB



## Projects:

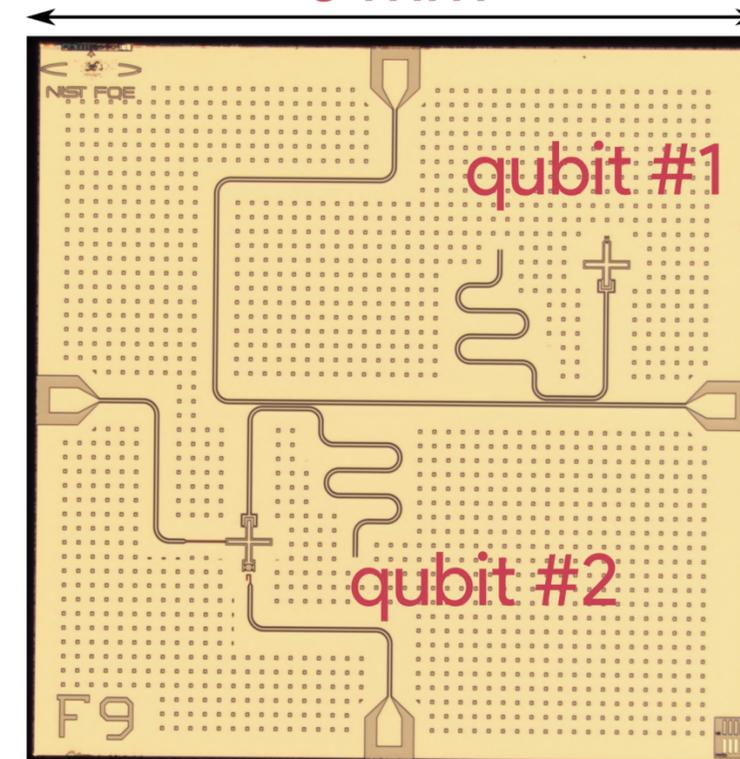
- **DARTWARS** (Unimib, INFN, FBK, INRiM, NIST): Development of **broadband quantum limited parametric amplifiers** for high fidelity readout of detectors and qubit arrays;
- **Qub-IT** (Unimib, INFN, FBK, CNR): Development of **qubit array** for quantum sensing and quantum computing. Development of custom electronics for qubit readout;
- **CalQuStates** (Unimib, INRiM): Development of **microwave metrology tools** in cryogenic environments for precise characterization of qubits, resonators and parametric amplifier;
- **B-NGO** (Unimib, INFN) Development of **innovative substrates** for improving the resonators loss and qubit decoherence times;



## Group

M. Borghesi, P. Campana, R. Carobene, M. Faverzani, E. Ferri, A. Giachero, M. Gobbo, A. Irace, D. Labranca, R. Moretti, A. Nucciotti, L. Origo

5 mm



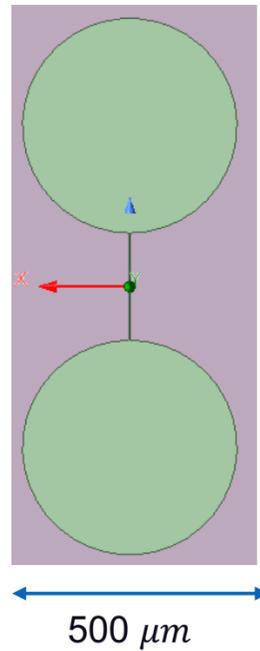
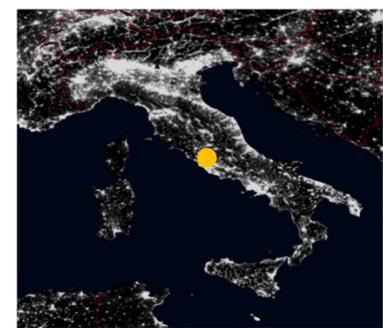
Qubit array developed in collaboration with INFN and produced at NIST



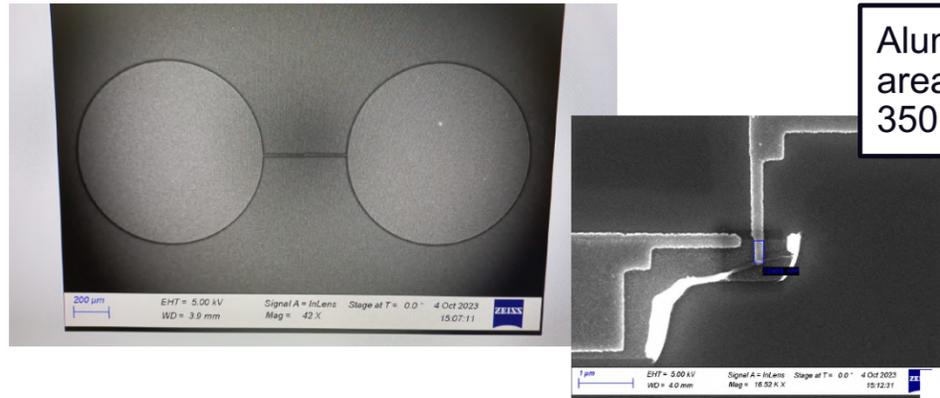
# Quantum Technologies at the INFN LNF

## 3D Transmon Qubits

Talk by Alessio Rettaroli  
1 Feb 4:10 PM



$F_q = 6.57 \text{ GHz}$   
 $C_{\text{tot}} = 100 \text{ fF}$



Aluminum JJ with area about 200 x 350 nm

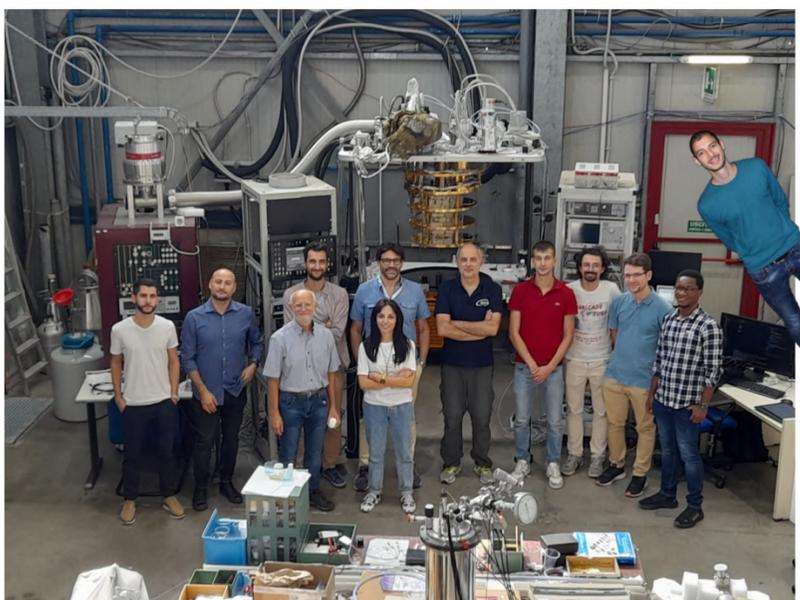
Manufacturing of 3D qubits at IFN CNR



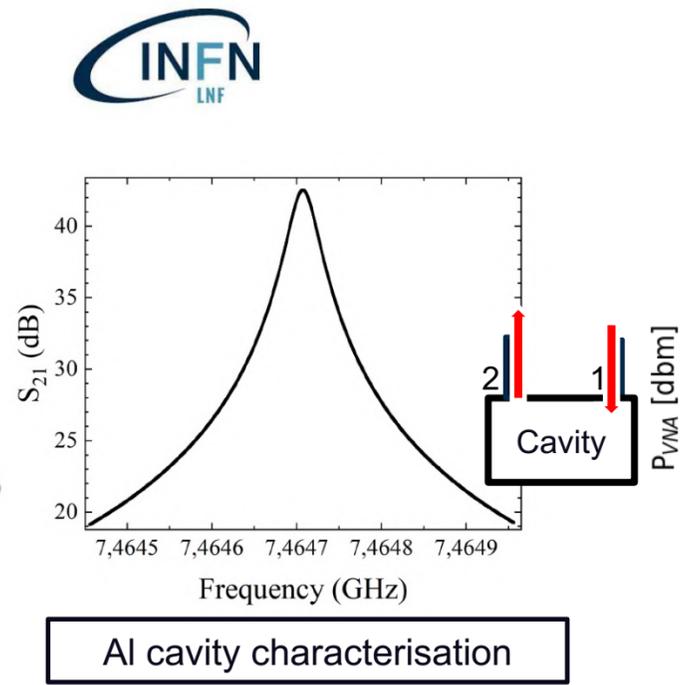
3D cavity fabrication at INFN LNL



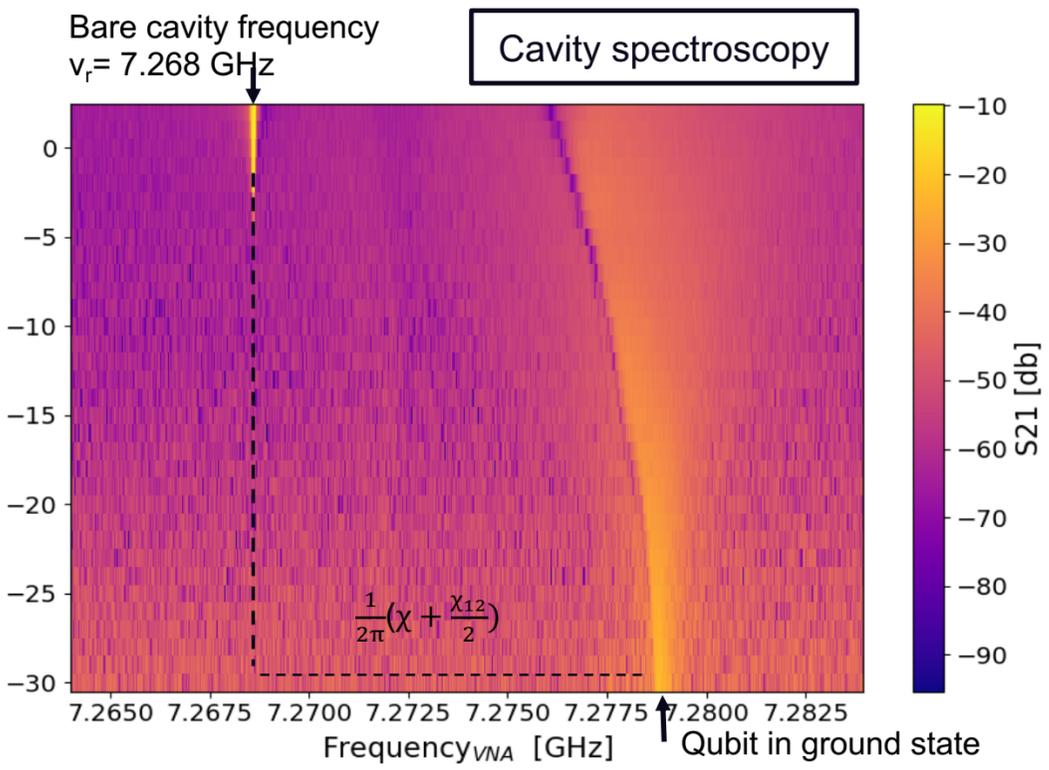
Cryogenic measurements at INFN LNF



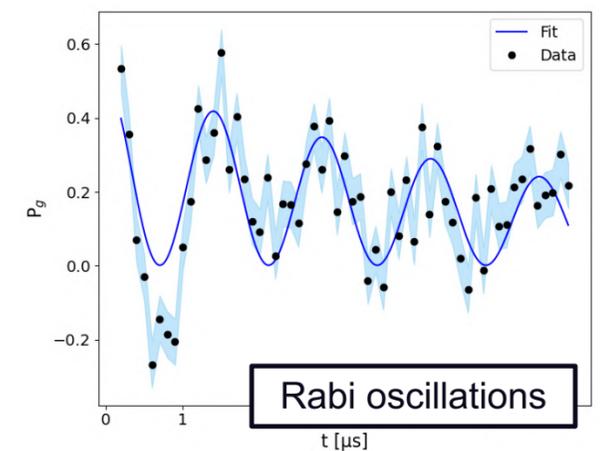
Credits: Simone Tocci



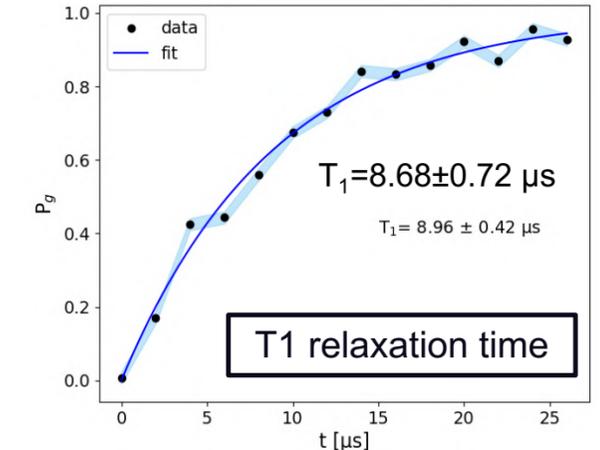
AI cavity characterisation



Cavity spectroscopy

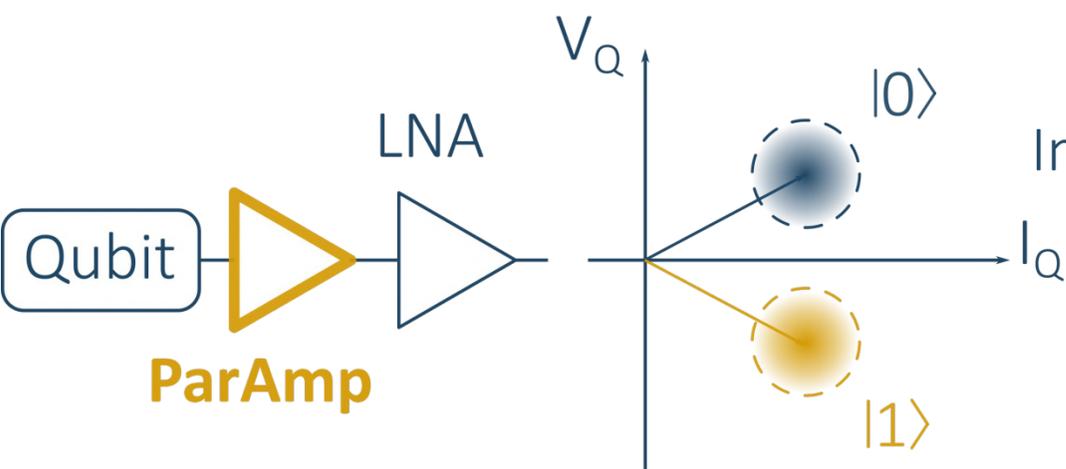
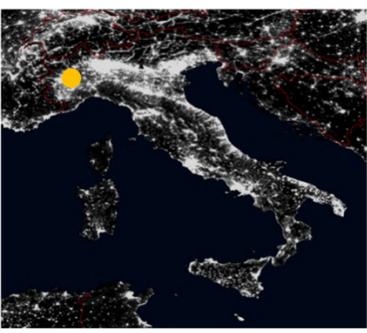


Rabi oscillations

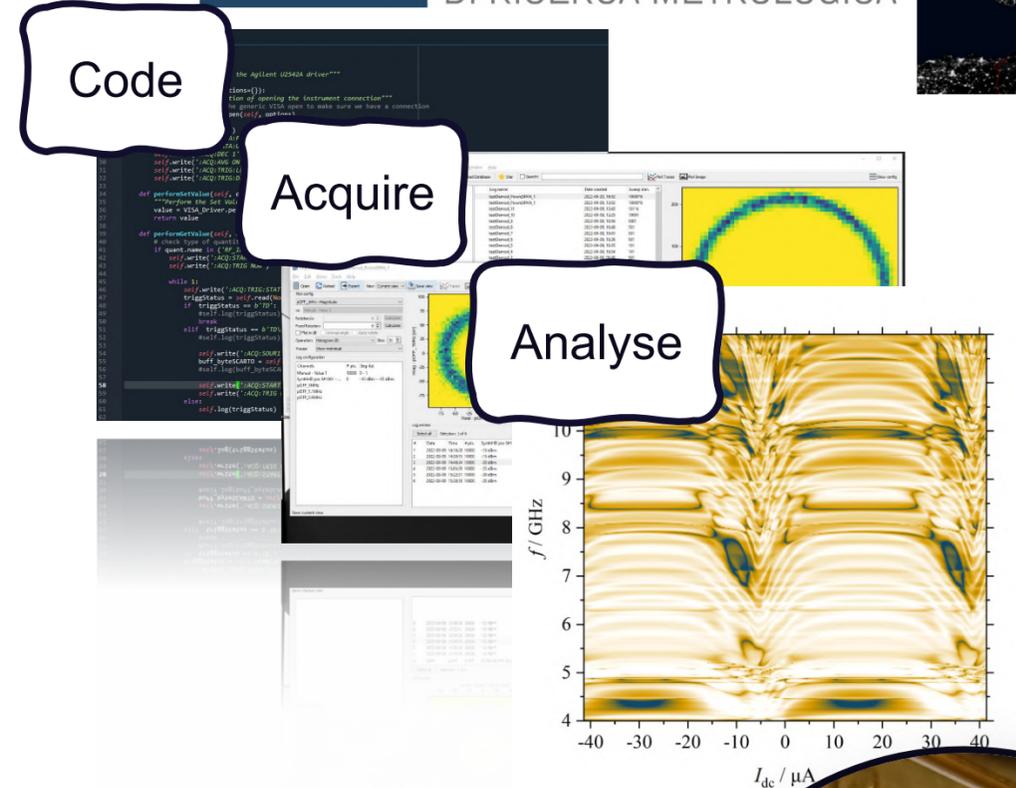


T1 relaxation time

# Superconducting Devices at INRiM



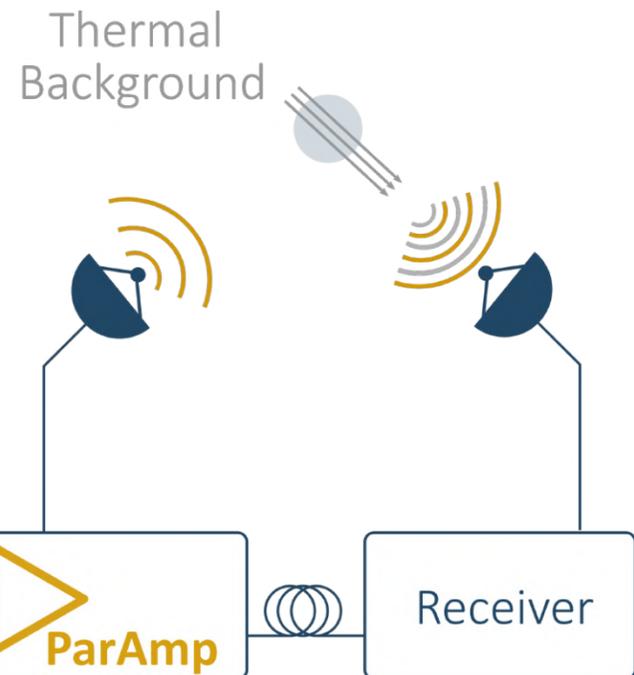
Improvement of readout of weak microwave signals with a **Quantum Limited Amplifier**



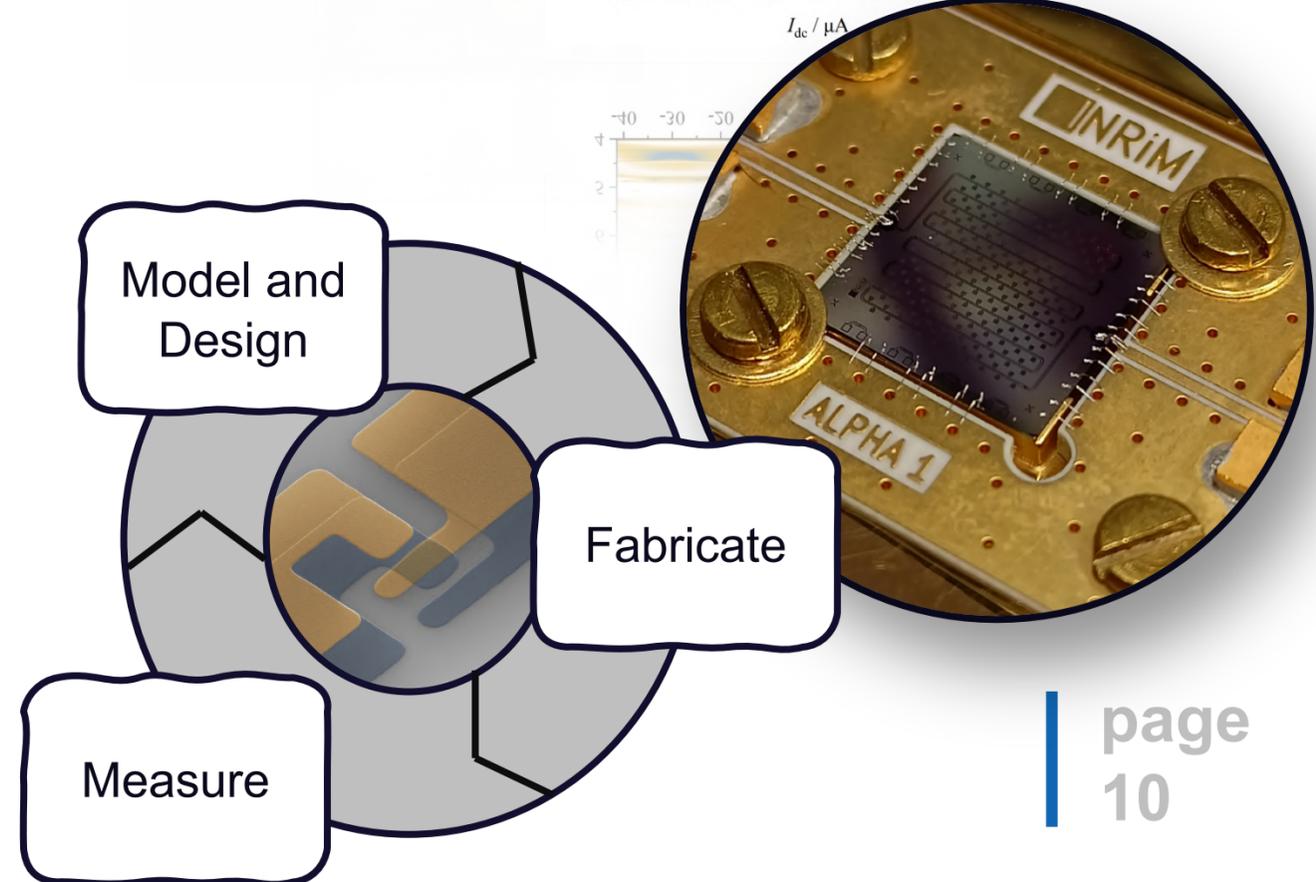
Code

Acquire

Analyse



Microwave quantum illumination (**Quantum Radar**) to improve detection of low-reflectivity object or to calibrate single photon detector (**Heralding Source**)

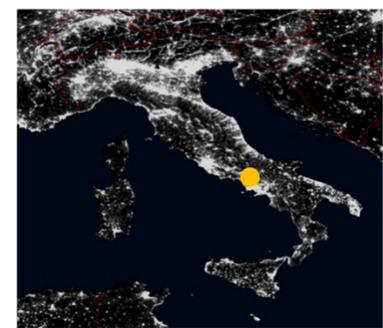


Model and Design

Fabricate

Measure

# Superconducting Quantum Devices team in Naples



## Main research activities

- **Superconducting Qubits and Hybrid quantum devices**

Recent publications:

[H. G. Amad et al. Condens. Matter 8\(1\), 29, \(2023\)](#)

[Vetoliere et al. Nanomaterials 12\(23\), 4155 \(2022\)](#)

[H. G. Amad et al. Phys. Rev. B 105, 214522 \(2022\)](#)

- **SFQ digital qubit control and readout**

Recent publication:

[L. Di Palma et al. Phys. Rev. Applied 19, 064025 \(2023\)](#)

- **Superconducting Parametric Amplifiers**

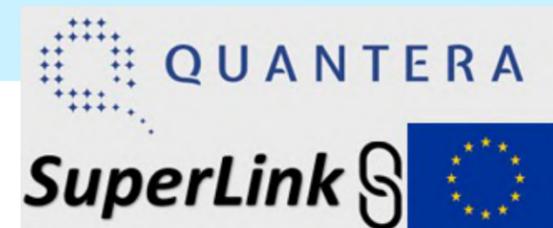
Recent publication:

[M. Esposito. et al. Phys. Rev. Lett. 128, 153603 \(2022\)](#)

## Major active projects



Funded by the European Union



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Funded by the European Union

PRIN 2022



Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca



UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI NAPOLI  
FEDERICO II



Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche

## People

**PIs:** D. Massarotti, D. Montemurro, M. Esposito  
G. Ausanio, L. Parlato, G. P. Pepe, **F. Tafuri**

**3 Postdoctoral researchers, 10 PhDs**

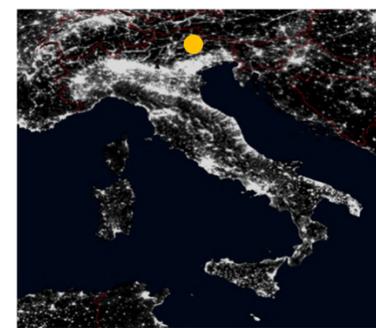


# Superconducting devices in Trento

## A growing group



Quantum Science and Technology in Trento



*Federica Mantegazzini, Felix Ahrens, Nicolò Crescini, Alessandro Irace*



*Paolo Falferi, Renato Mezzena, Andrea Vinante*



*Iacopo Carusotto, Gianluca Rastelli, Alberto Biella*

## Projects

- INFN: DARTWARS, Qub-IT
- Horizon Europe: Qu-Pilot, MiSS
- PNRR NQSTI
- QuantERA: LEMAQUME
- ... and others

## Collaborators

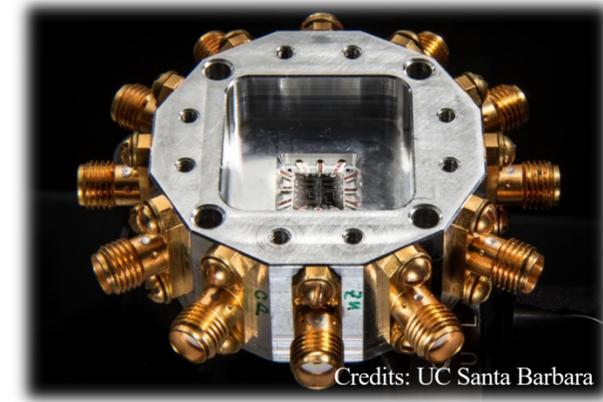
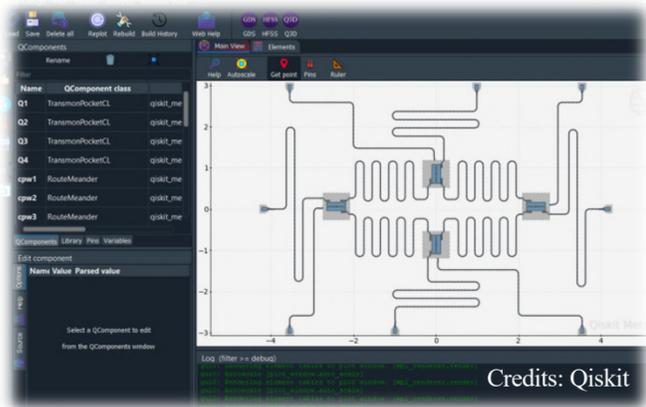
- University of Milano-Bicocca, Italy
- INFN, Italy
- INRiM, Italy
- NIST, U.S
- CNRS, France
- Aalto University, Finland



**We have opening positions for PhDs and postdocs!**



# “Developing superconducting circuits” means...



Design & Simulations



Microfabrication



Packaging



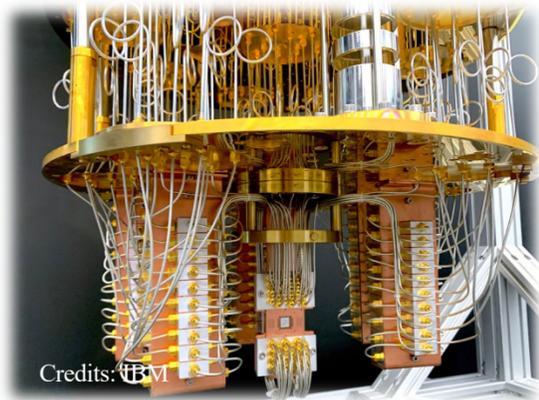
Cryogenic characterisation



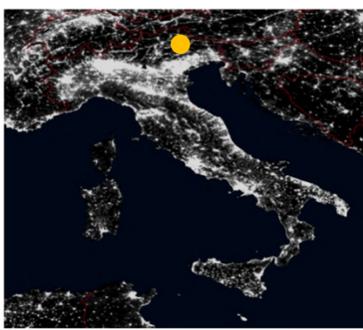
Experimental set-up



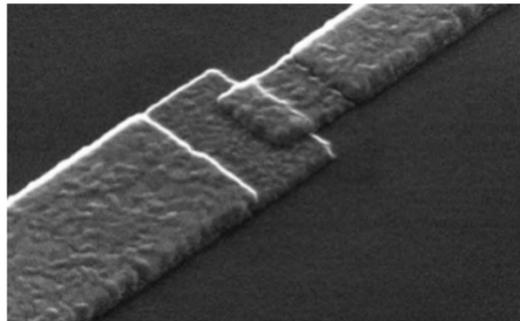
Experiment / Application



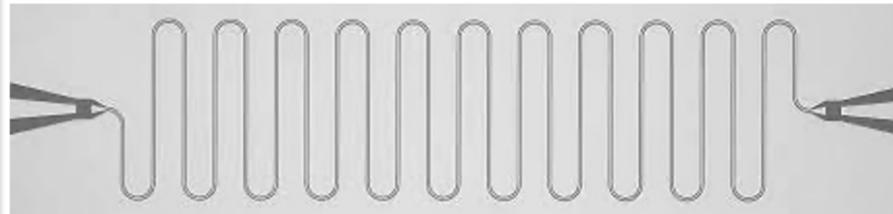
# Superconducting building blocks



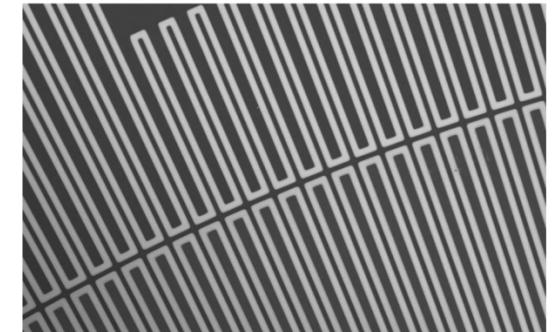
Josephson junctions



Superconducting resonators



High kinetic inductance films



SQUIDs

Parametric Amplifiers

Qubits

Cryogenic detectors

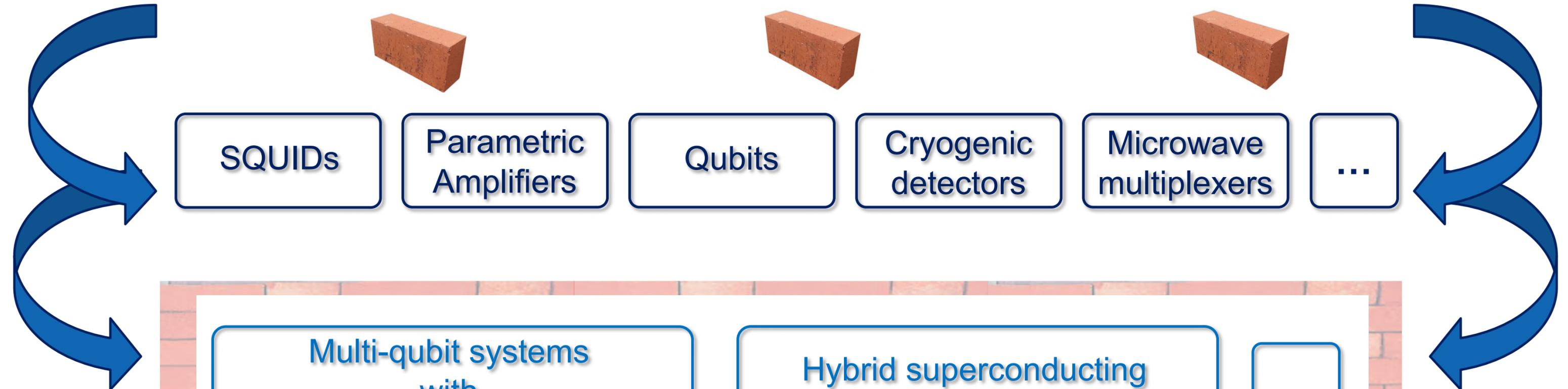
Microwave multiplexers

...

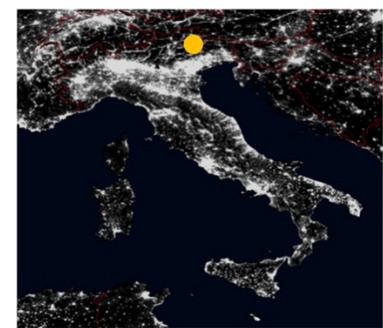
Multi-qubit systems with Quantum limited noise read-out

Hybrid superconducting magneto-mechanical systems

...



# ... for experimental applications



Multi-qubit systems with Quantum limited noise read-out

Hybrid superconducting magneto-mechanical systems

...

## READ-OUT

## QUANTUM SENSING

## cQED EXPERIMENTS

Neutrino mass experiments

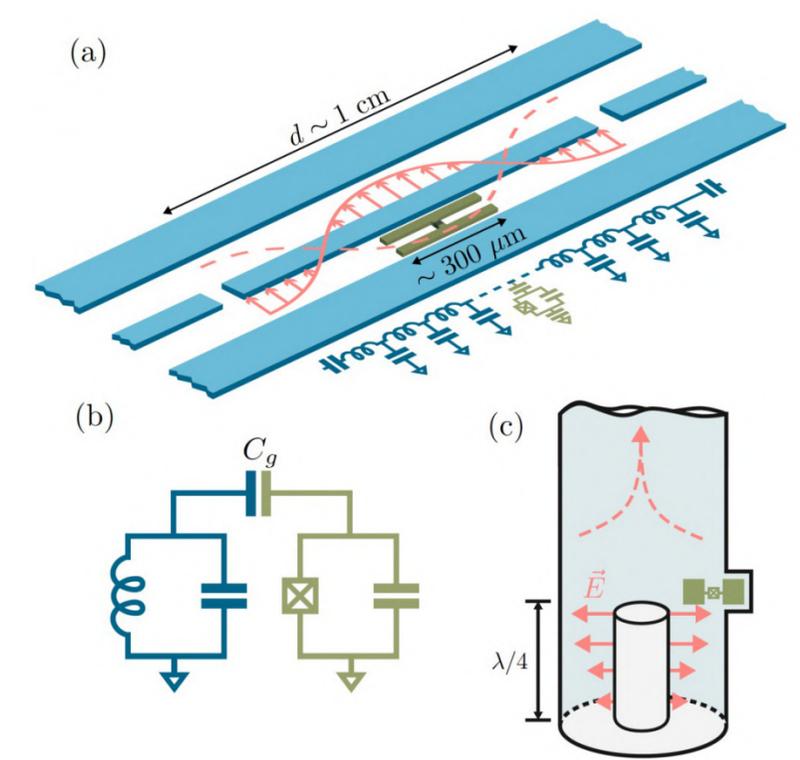
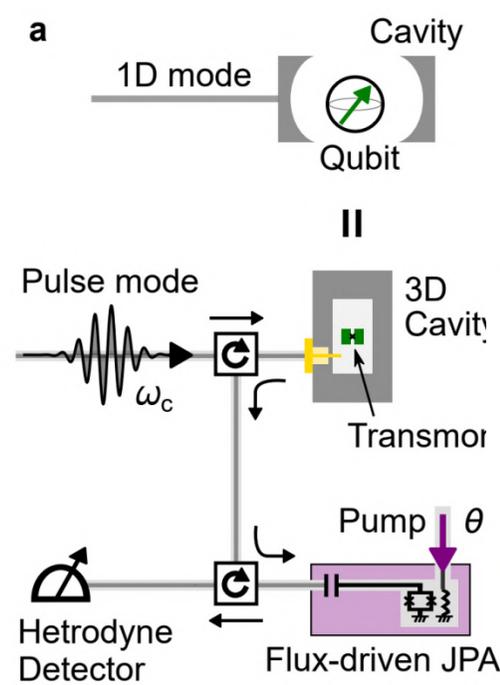
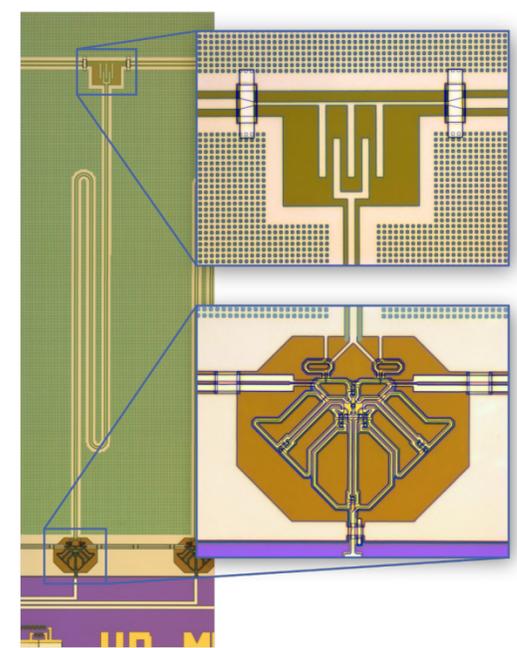
Microwave photons detection

Hybrid quantum systems

Light-matter interaction

Microwave SQUID multiplexer

Dark matter searches



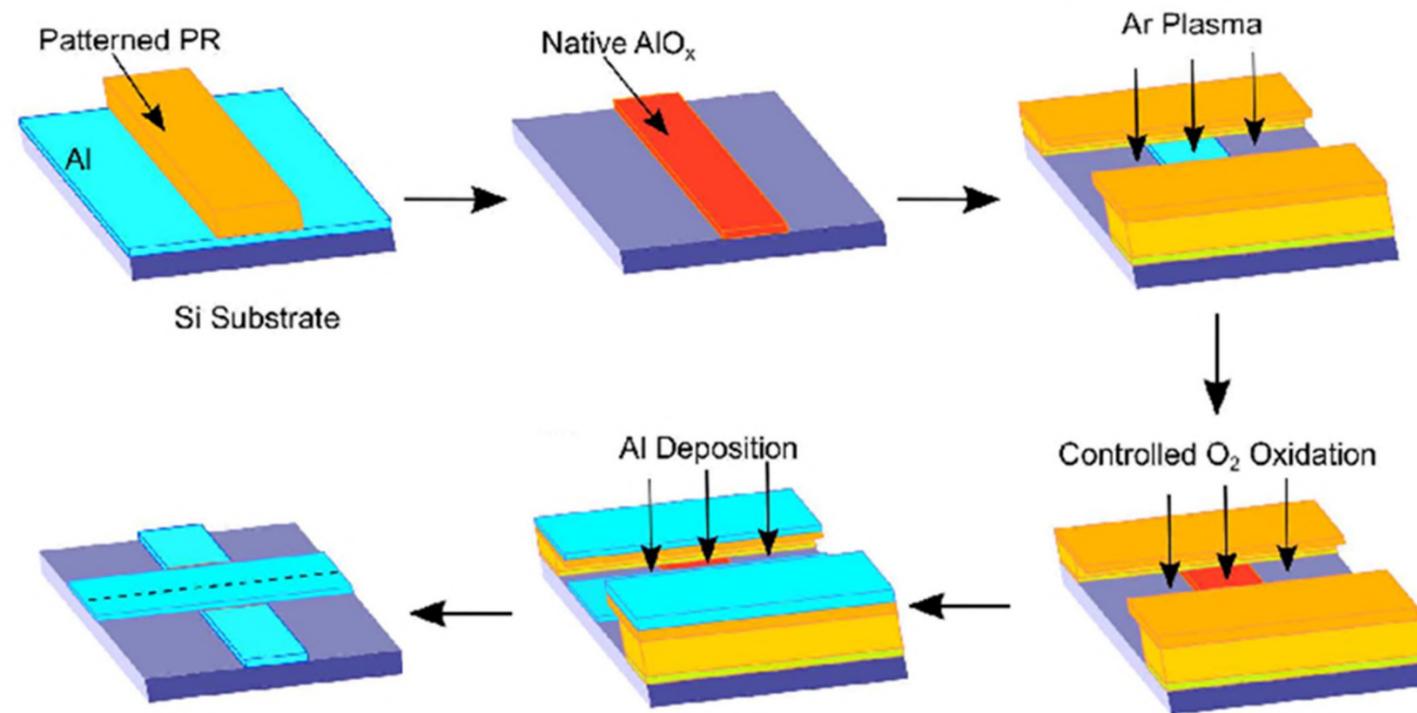
Credits: KIT

Credits: 10.1038/s41567-018-0066-3

Credits: 10.1103/PhysRevLett.130.033601

Credits: 10.1103/RevModPhys.93.025005

# Cross Josephson junctions at FBK

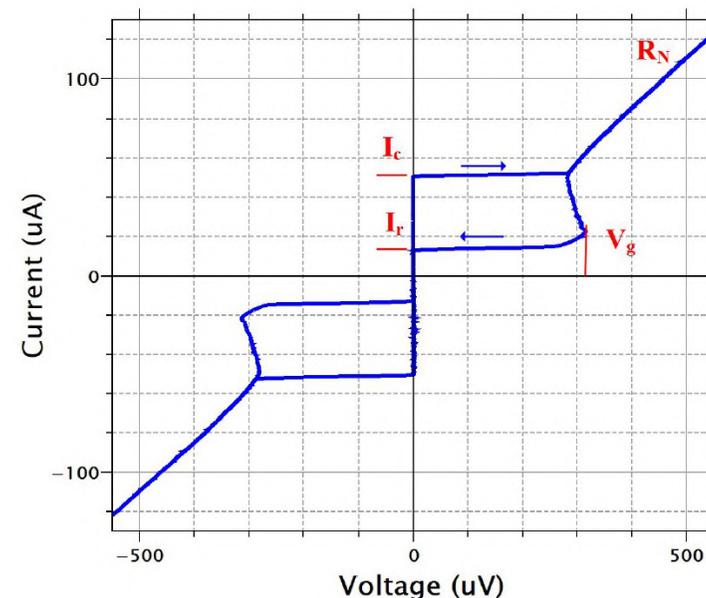
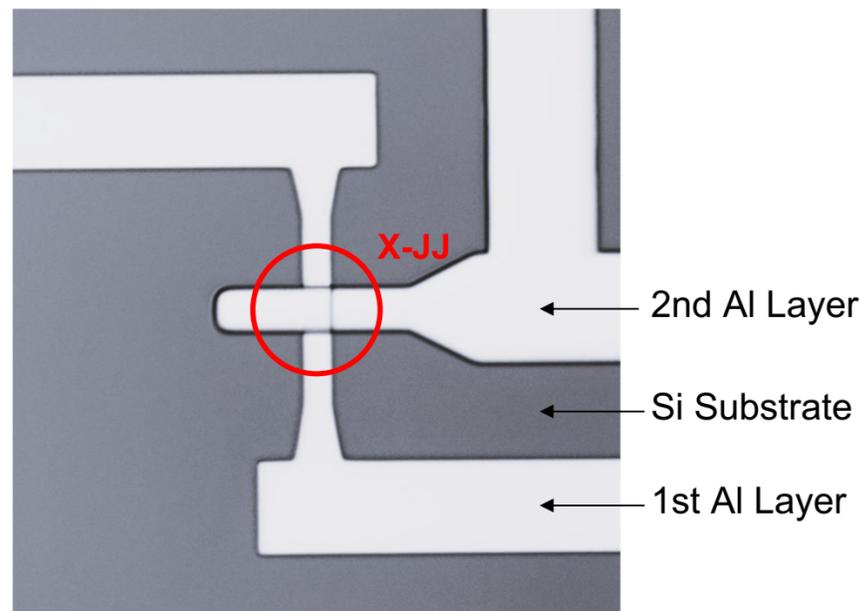


## Advantages

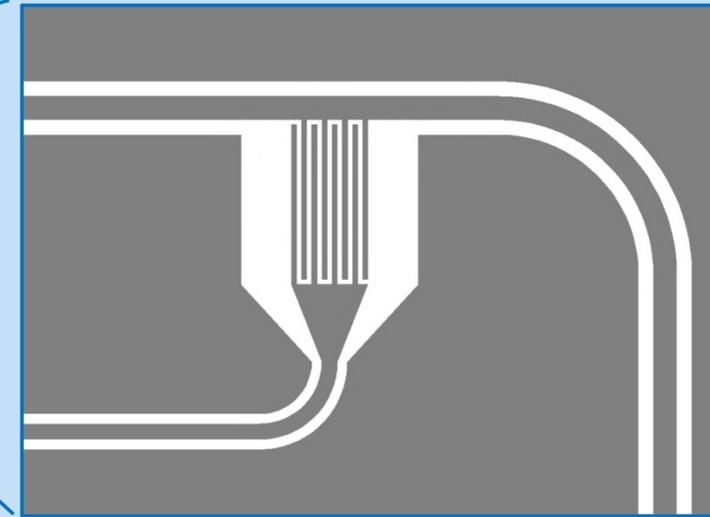
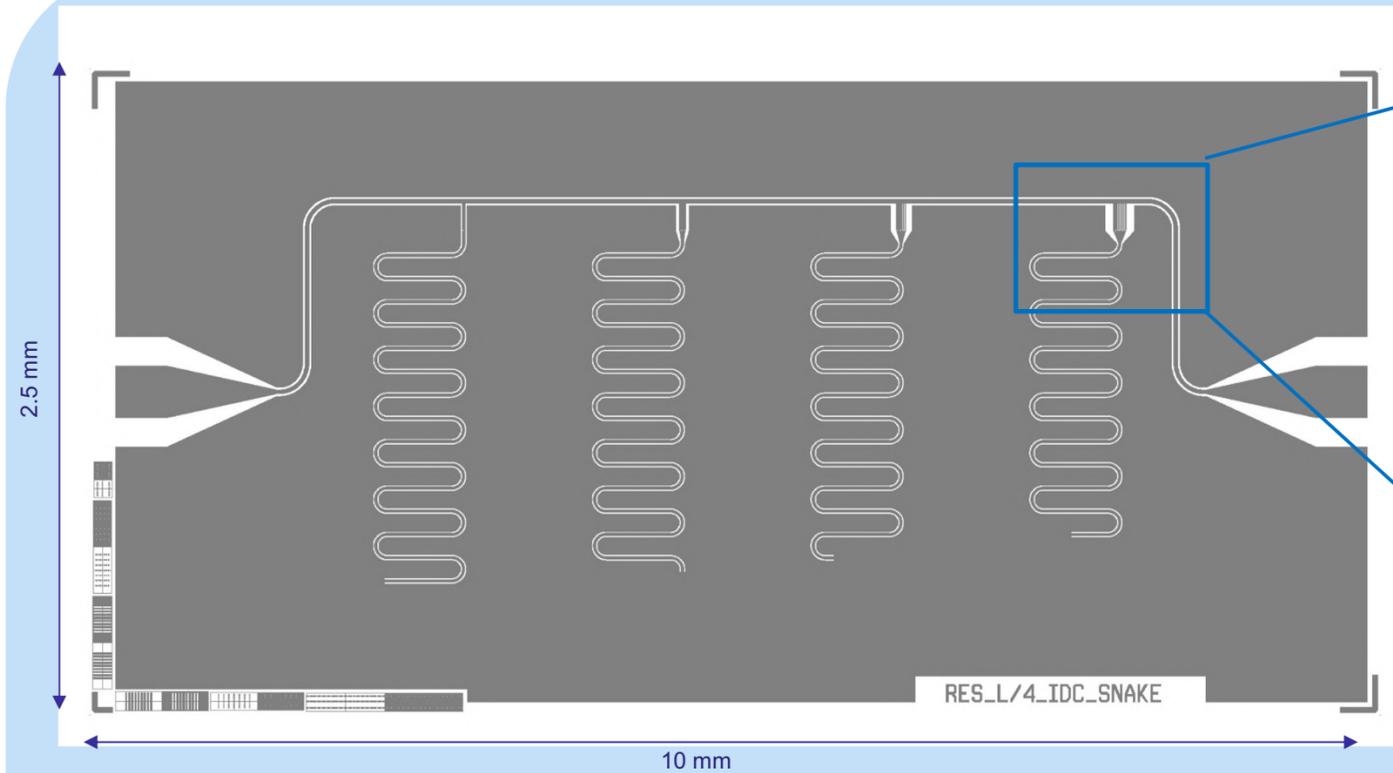
- High control on areas (and on junction parameters)
- Two-layers process

## Challenge

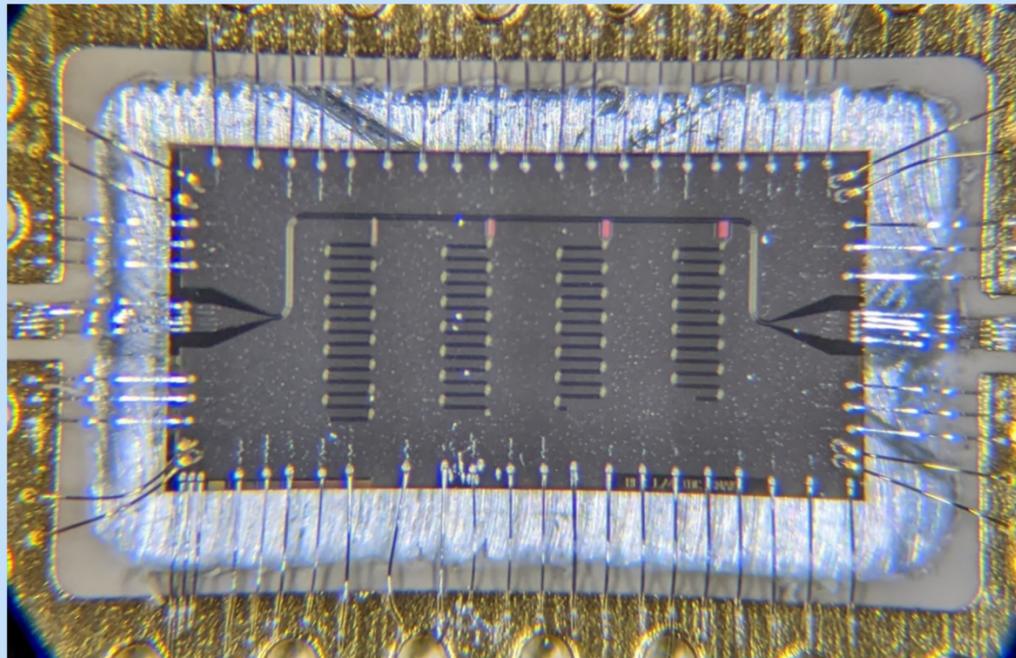
- Develop an efficient Ar plasma cleaning
- Optimise the second lithographic step (lift-off)



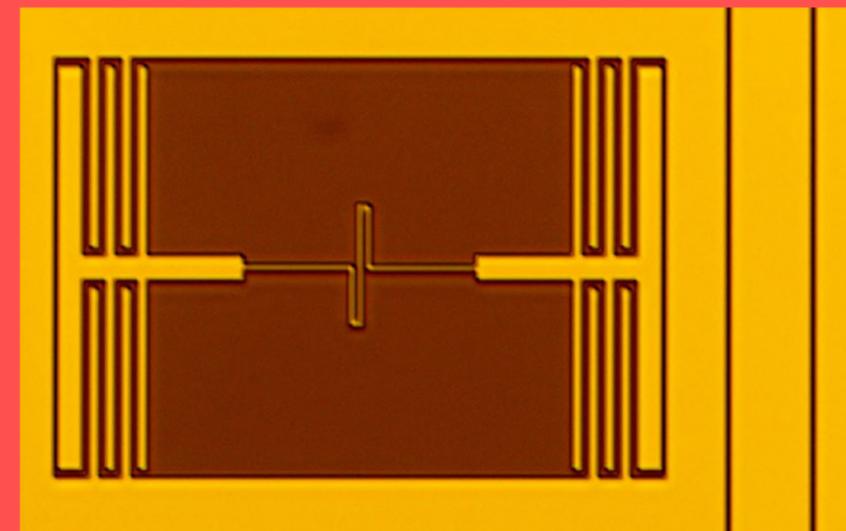
# Superconducting microwave resonators



CPW quarter-wave resonators

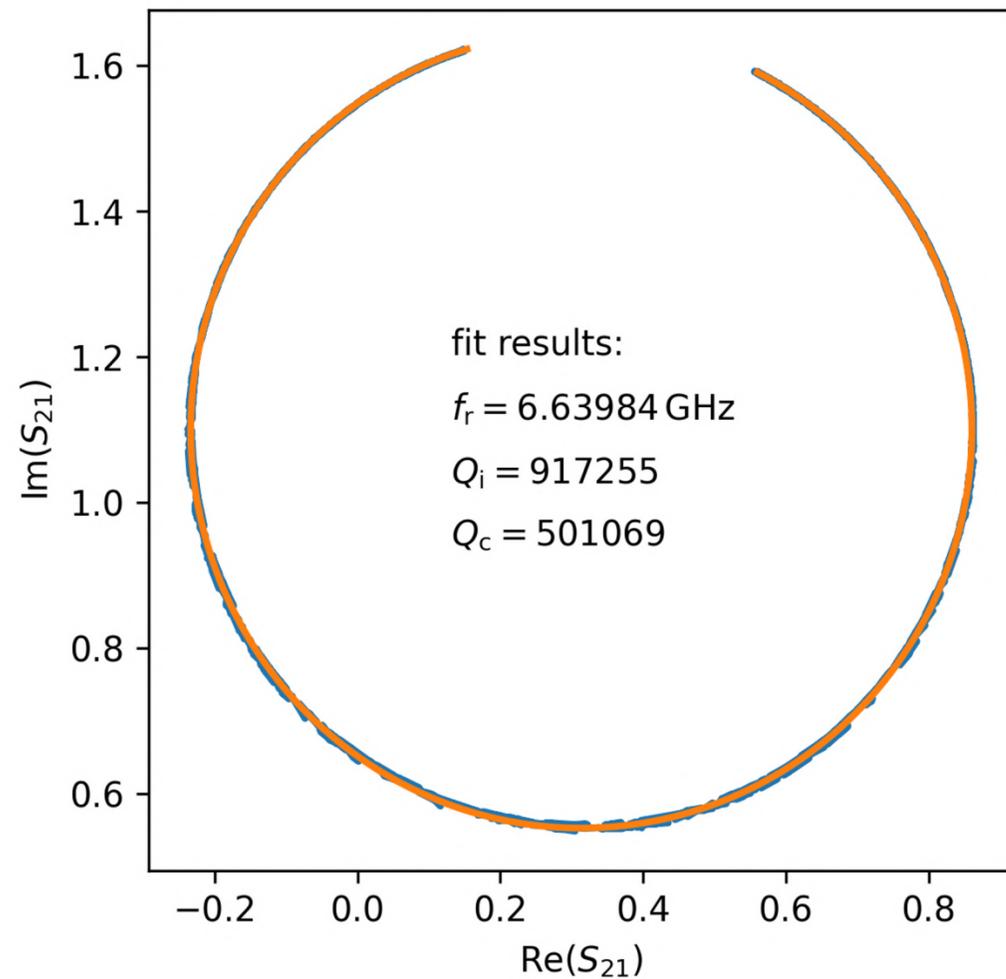


Lumped element resonators

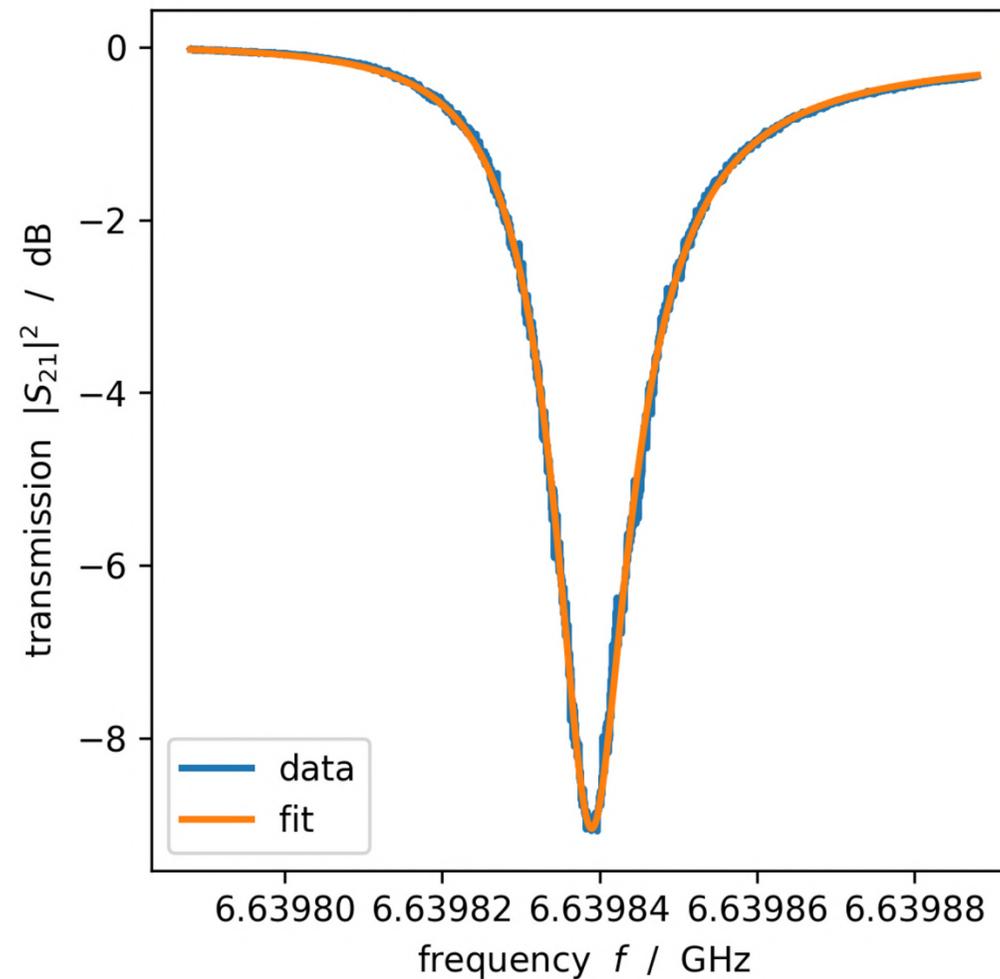


# Superconducting microwave resonators

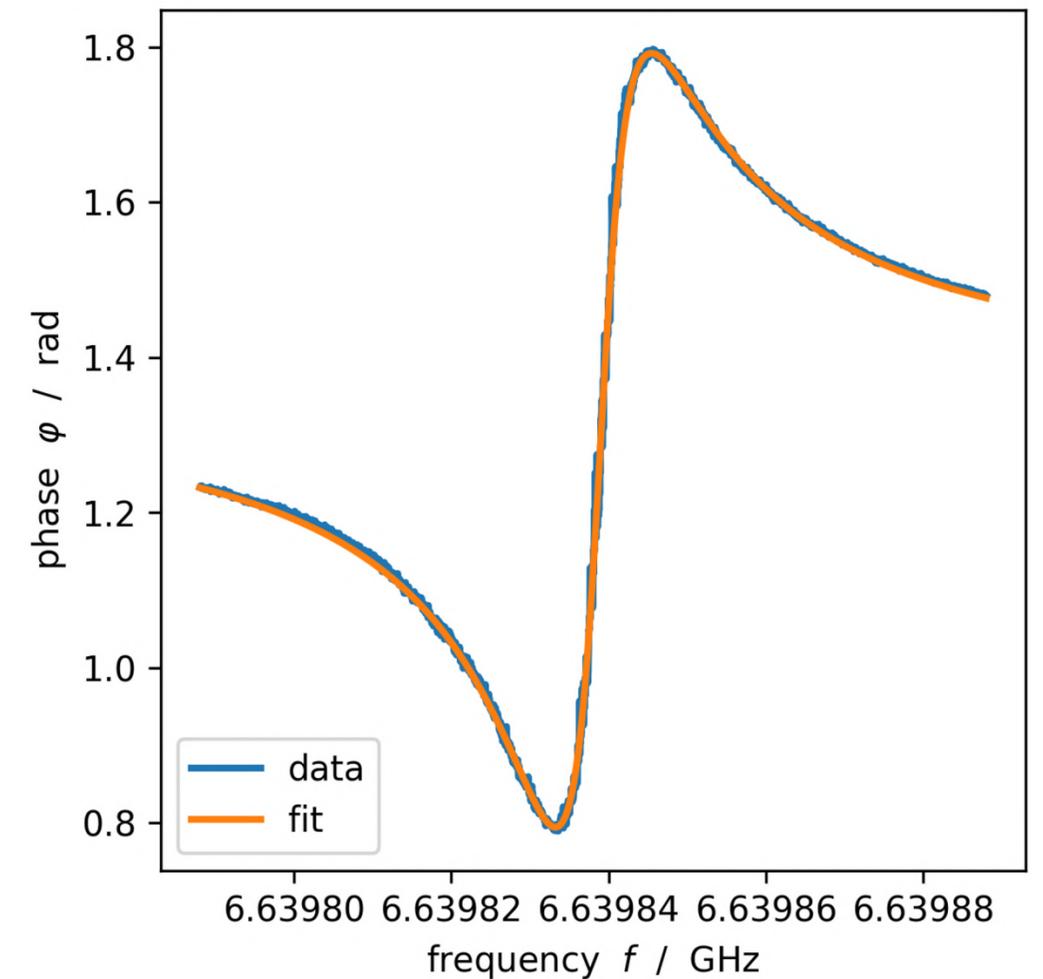
Most recent results with aluminium based lumped element resonators



Fit in complex  $S_{21}$  plane



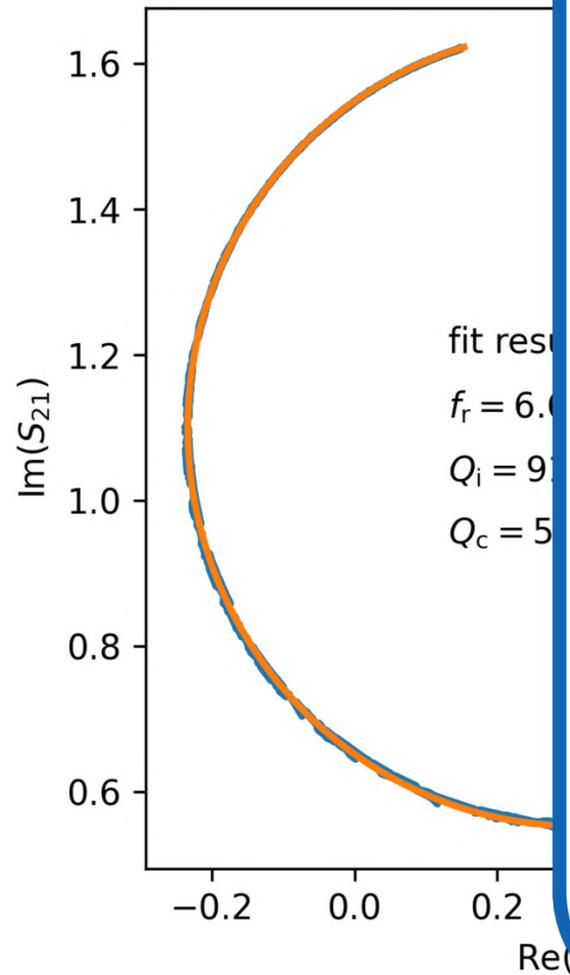
Transmission  $|S_{21}|^2$



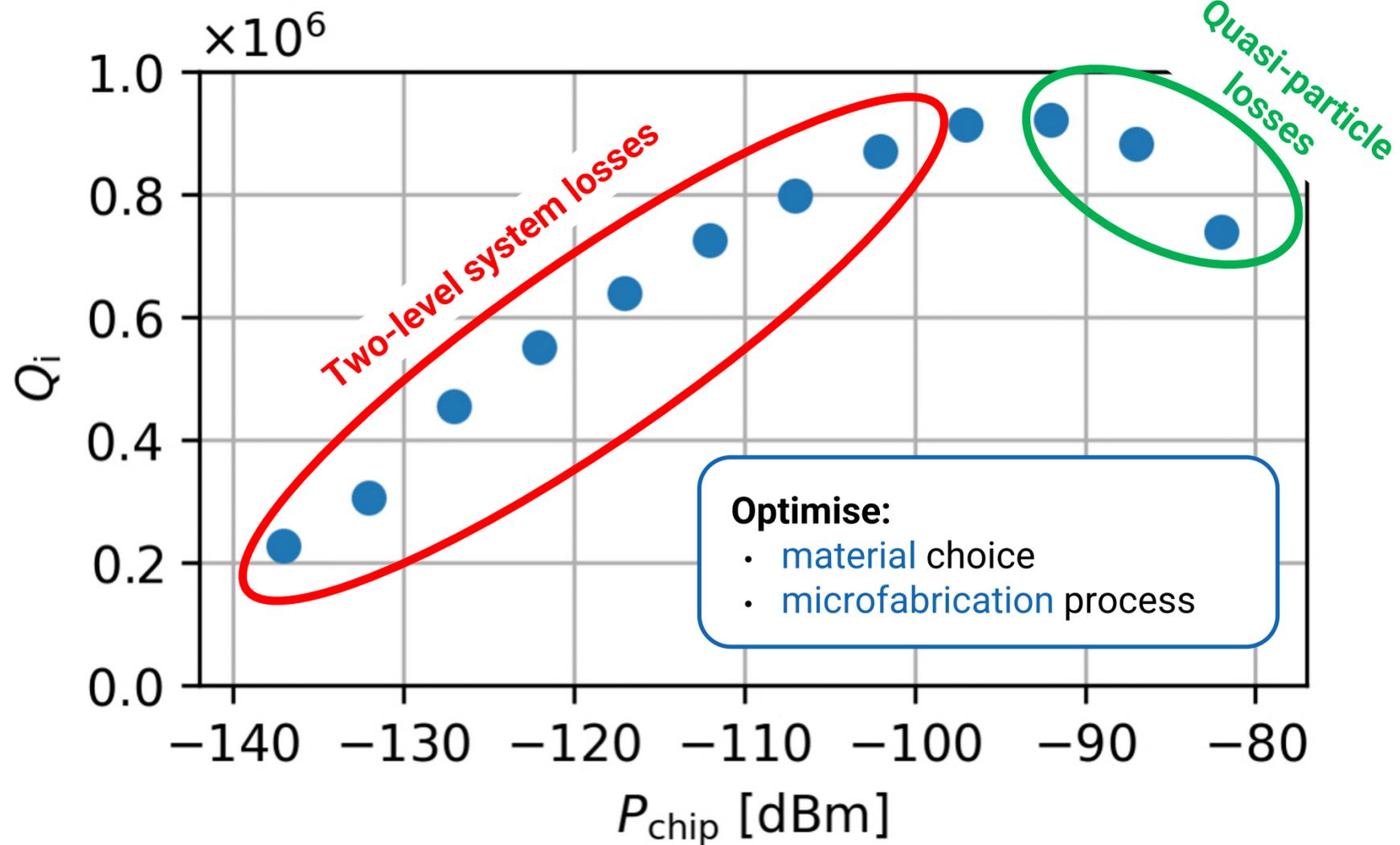
Phase  $\arctan2[\text{Im}(S_{21}), \text{Re}(S_{21})]$

# Superconducting microwave resonators

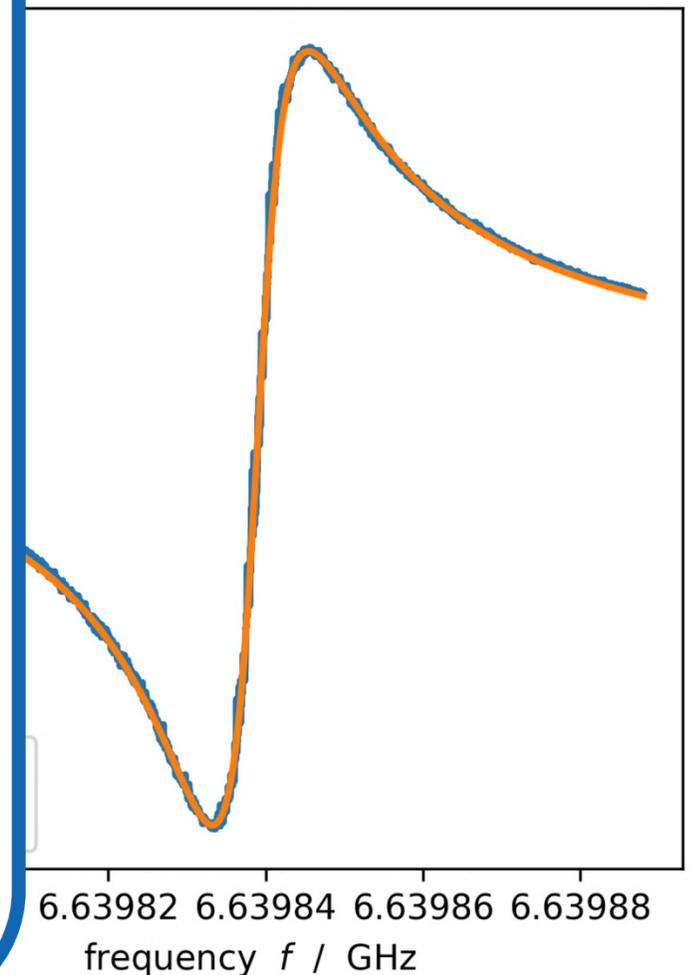
Most recent re



Fit in complex  $S_{21}$  plane



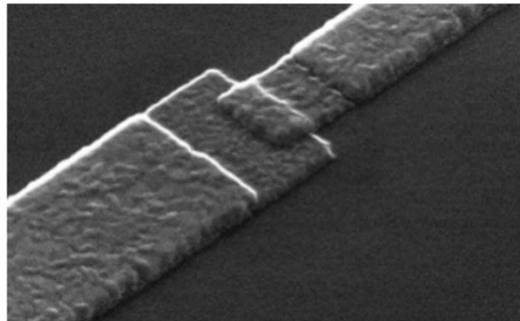
Transmission  $|S_{21}|^2$



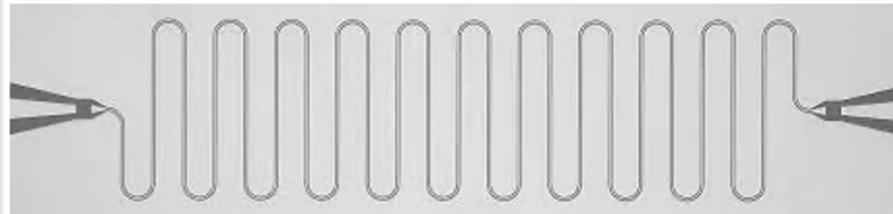
Phase  $\arctan2[\text{Im}(S_{21}), \text{Re}(S_{21})]$

# Superconducting building blocks

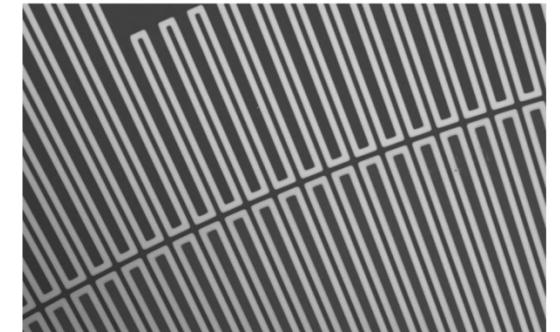
Josephson junctions



Superconducting resonators



High kinetic inductance films



SQUIDs

Parametric Amplifiers

Qubits

Cryogenic detectors

Microwave multiplexers

...

Multi-qubit systems with Quantum limited noise read-out

Hybrid superconducting magneto-mechanical systems

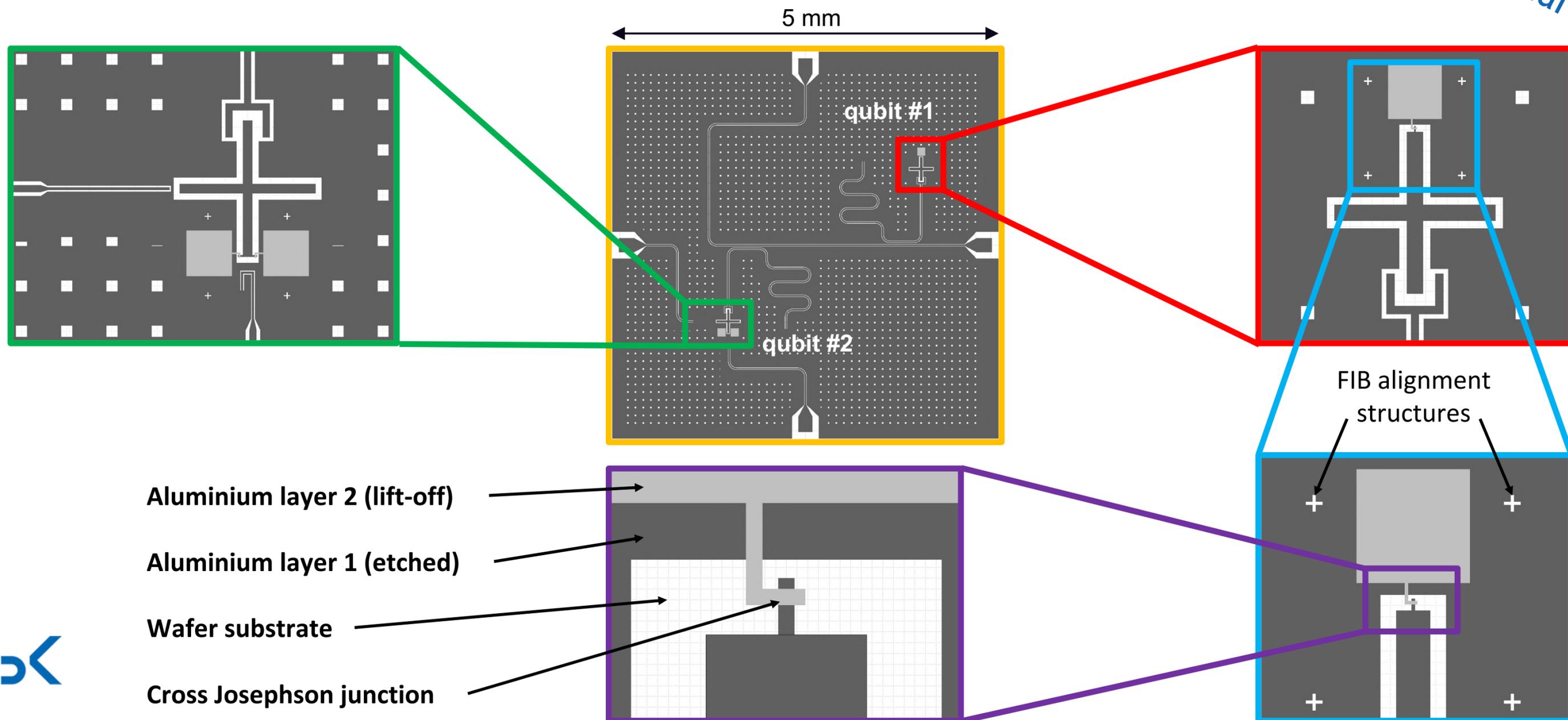
...



# Superconducting transmon qubits

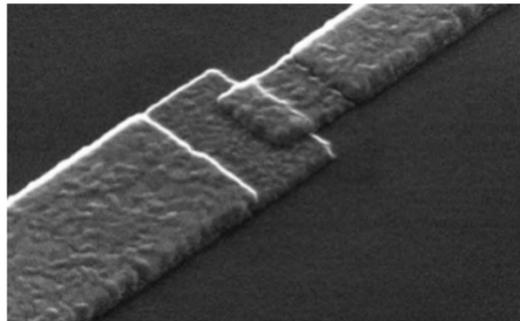
Chip design: **qubit #1**: fixed-frequency resonator driven transmon  
**qubit #2**: tunable-frequency transmon with dedicated drive-line

*Microfabrication  
starting soon!*

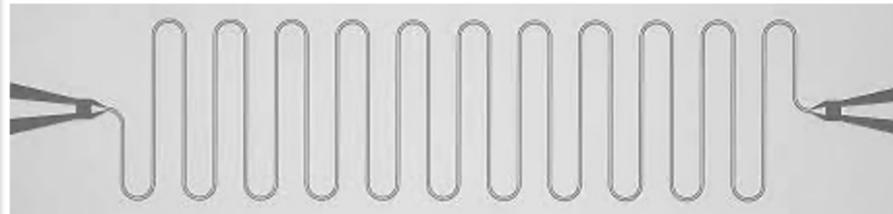


# Superconducting building blocks

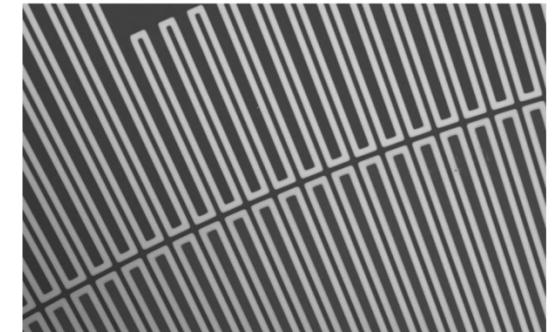
Josephson junctions



Superconducting resonators



High kinetic inductance films



SQUIDs

Parametric Amplifiers

Qubits

Cryogenic detectors

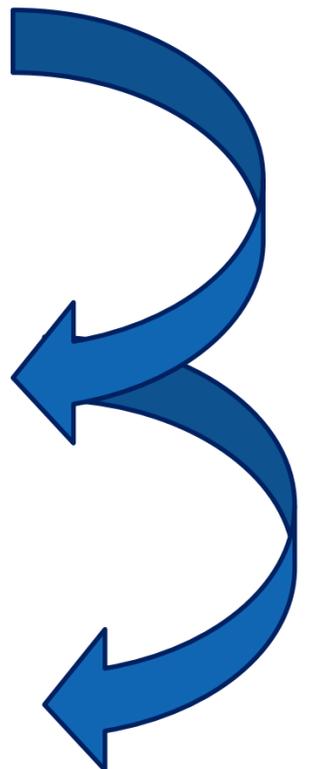
Microwave multiplexers

...

Multi-qubit systems with Quantum limited noise read-out

Hybrid superconducting magneto-mechanical systems

...



# Travelling Wave Parametric Amplification (TWPA)

**Parametric amplification** = wave-mixing process based on parametric **non-linearity**

**Superconducting amplifiers** for microwave amplification:

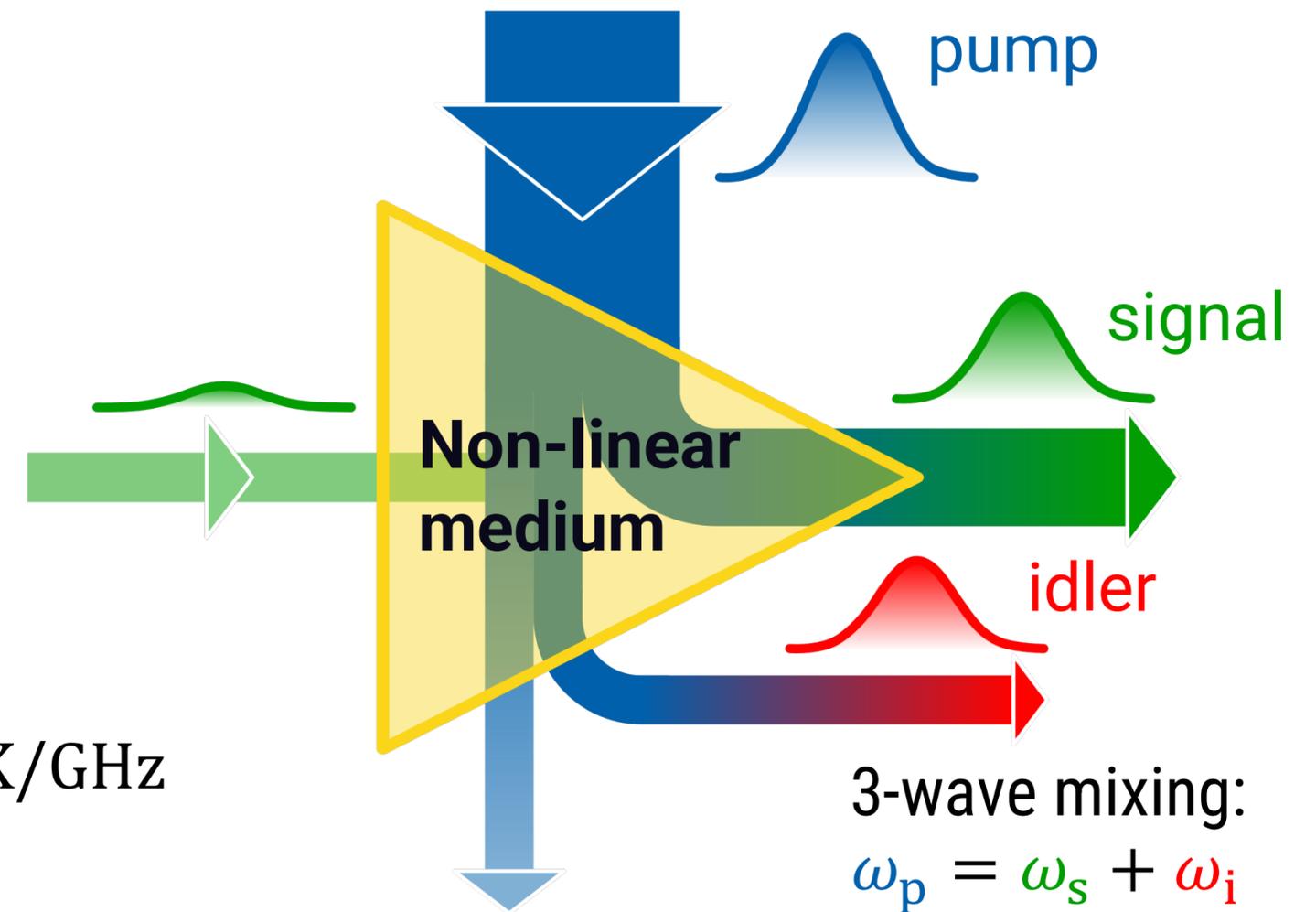
👍 (Ideally) non-dissipative

👍 Ultra-low-noise amplification

→ Quantum noise limit:  $T_N/f \sim h/2k_B \sim 25 \text{ mK/GHz}$

**Non-linearity** given by Josephson junctions  
or

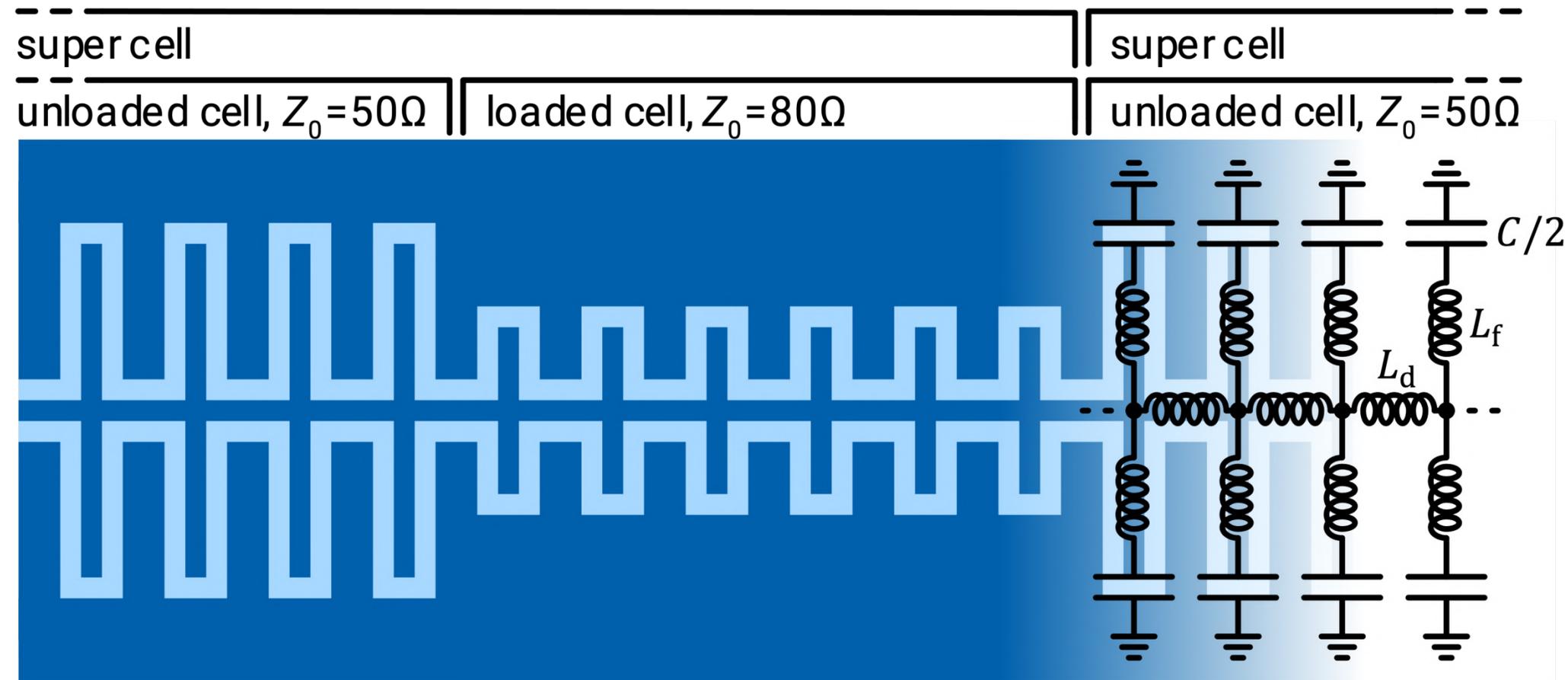
Kinetic inductance of the material



# NbTiN films for Superconducting Parametric Amplifiers

## Kinetic Inductance Travelling Wave Parametric Amplifiers (KI-TWPAs)

- **NbTiN** thin film:  
reactive sputter deposition with  $\text{Nb}_{80\%}\text{Ti}_{20\%}$  target  
→ high control on film properties by fine tuning of the deposition process
- **Artificial transmission line:**  
increased interaction time
- Unloaded/loaded segments:  
**phase matching**

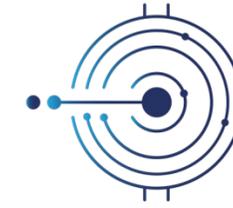


- NbTiN film
- Si substrate



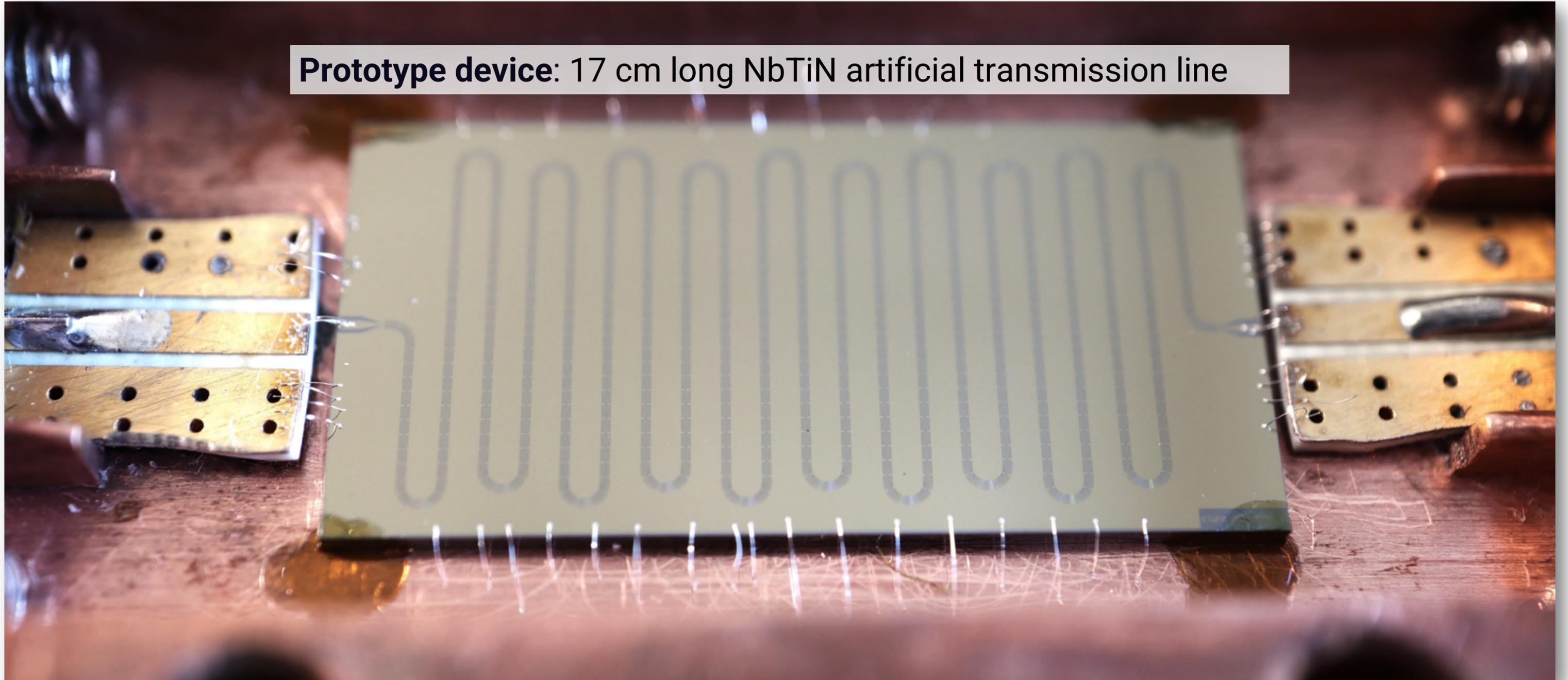
**DARTWARS**  
Detector Array Readout with Traveling Wave Amplifiers

# KI-TWPA prototype characterisation

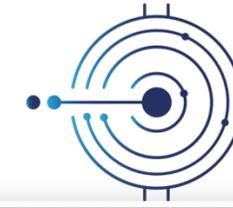


DARTWARS  
Detector Array Readout with Traveling Wave AmplifierS

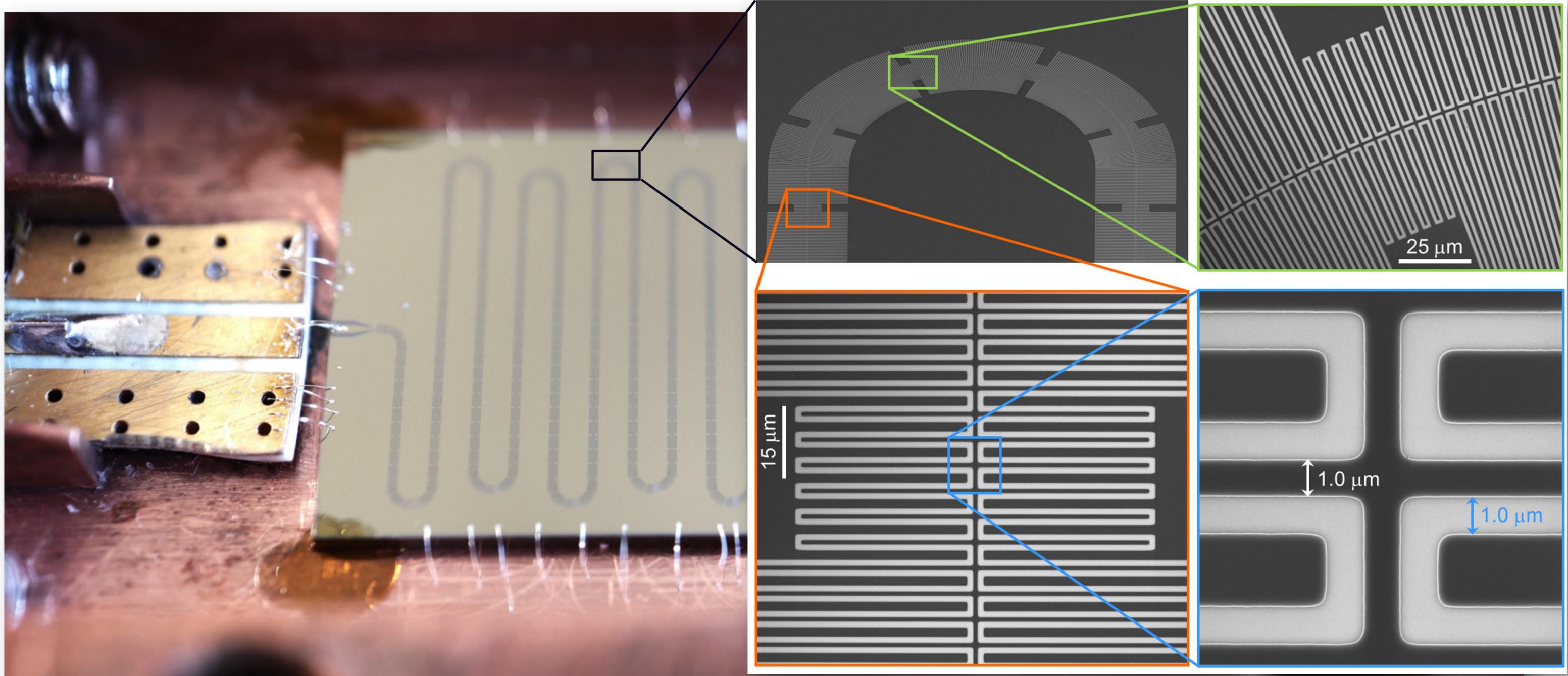
Prototype device: 17 cm long NbTiN artificial transmission line



# KI-TWPA prototype characterisation



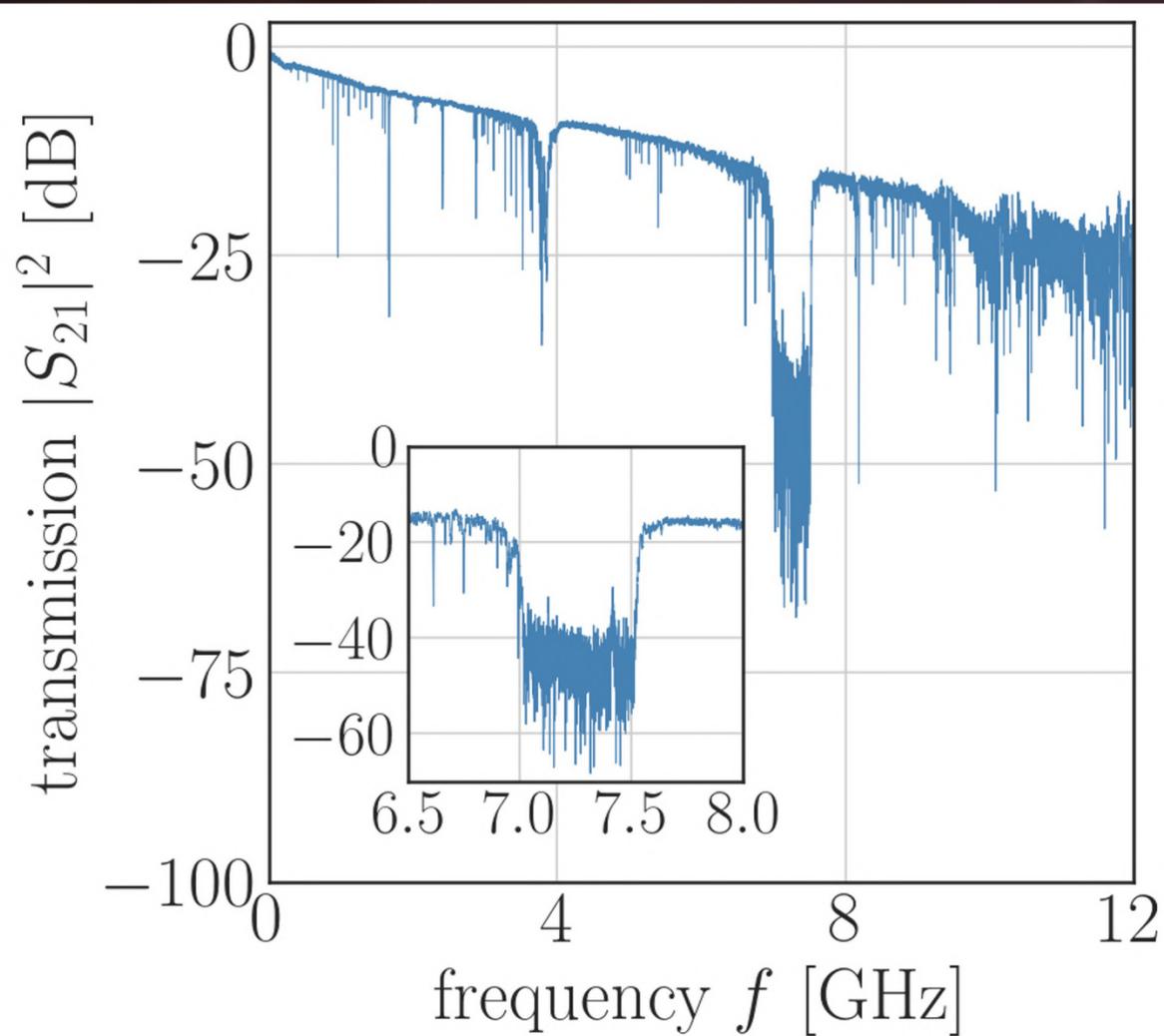
DARTWARS  
Detector Array Readout with Traveling Wave AmplifierS



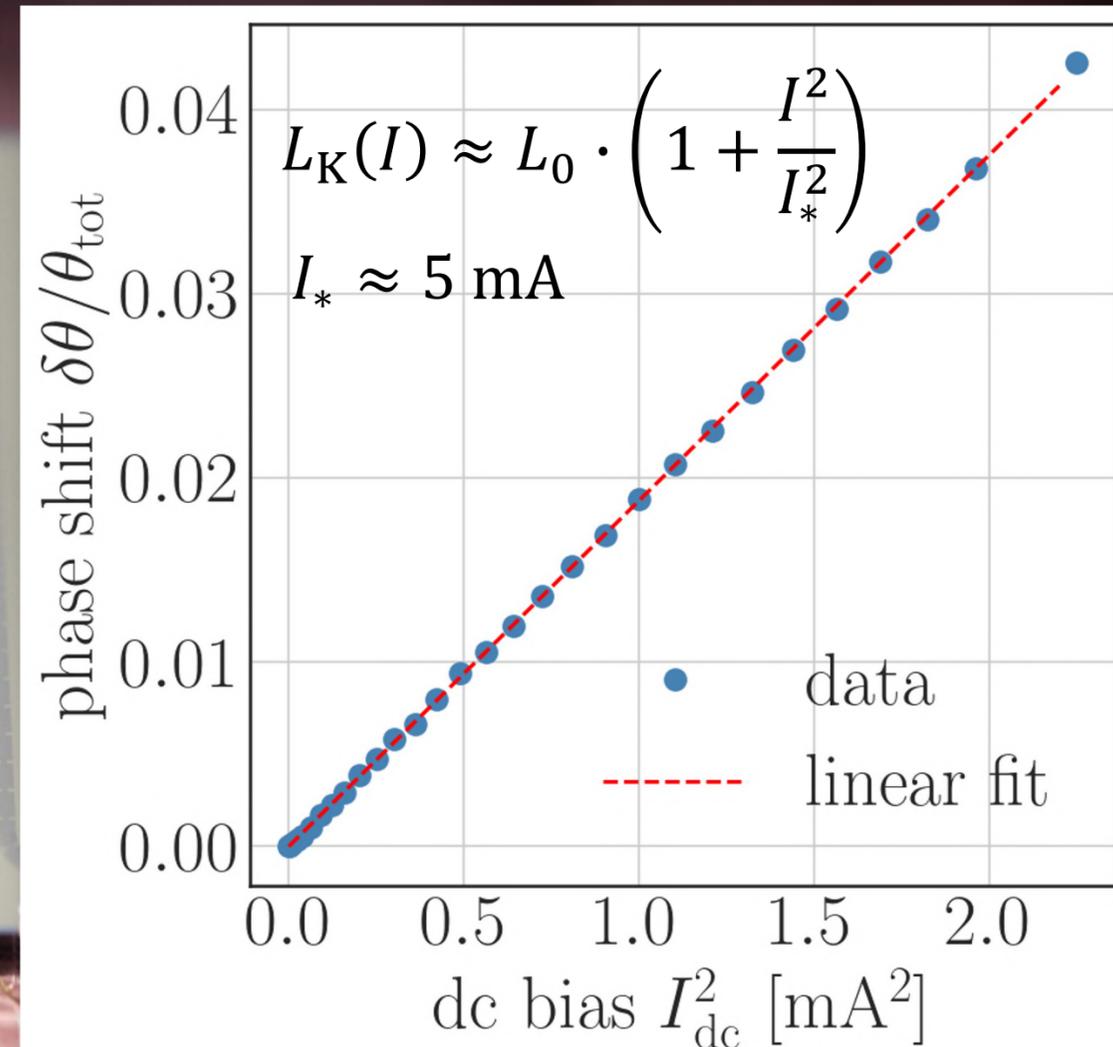
# KI-TWPA prototype characterisation



DARTWARS  
Detector Array Readout with Traveling Wave Amplifiers

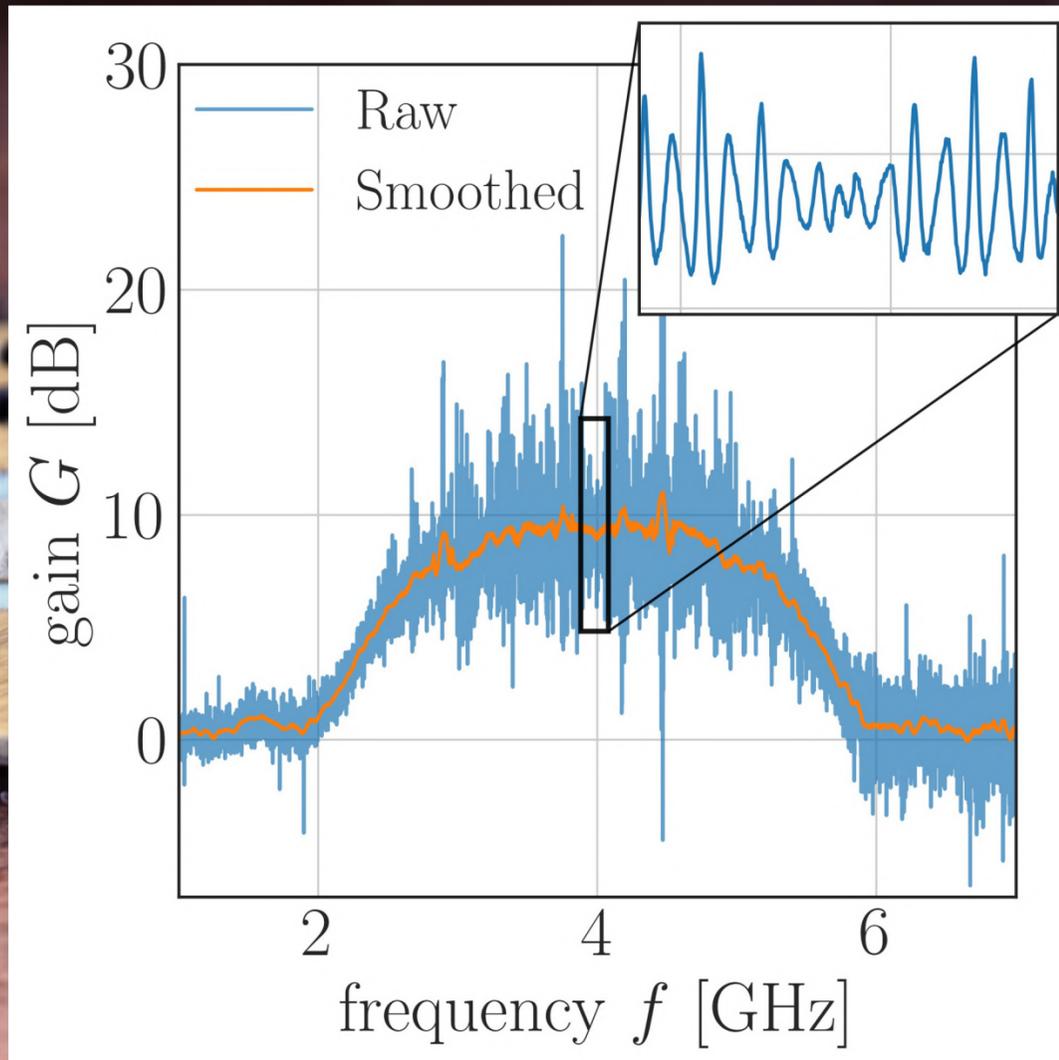


✓ Transmission with **bandgap** at  $\sim 7$  GHz

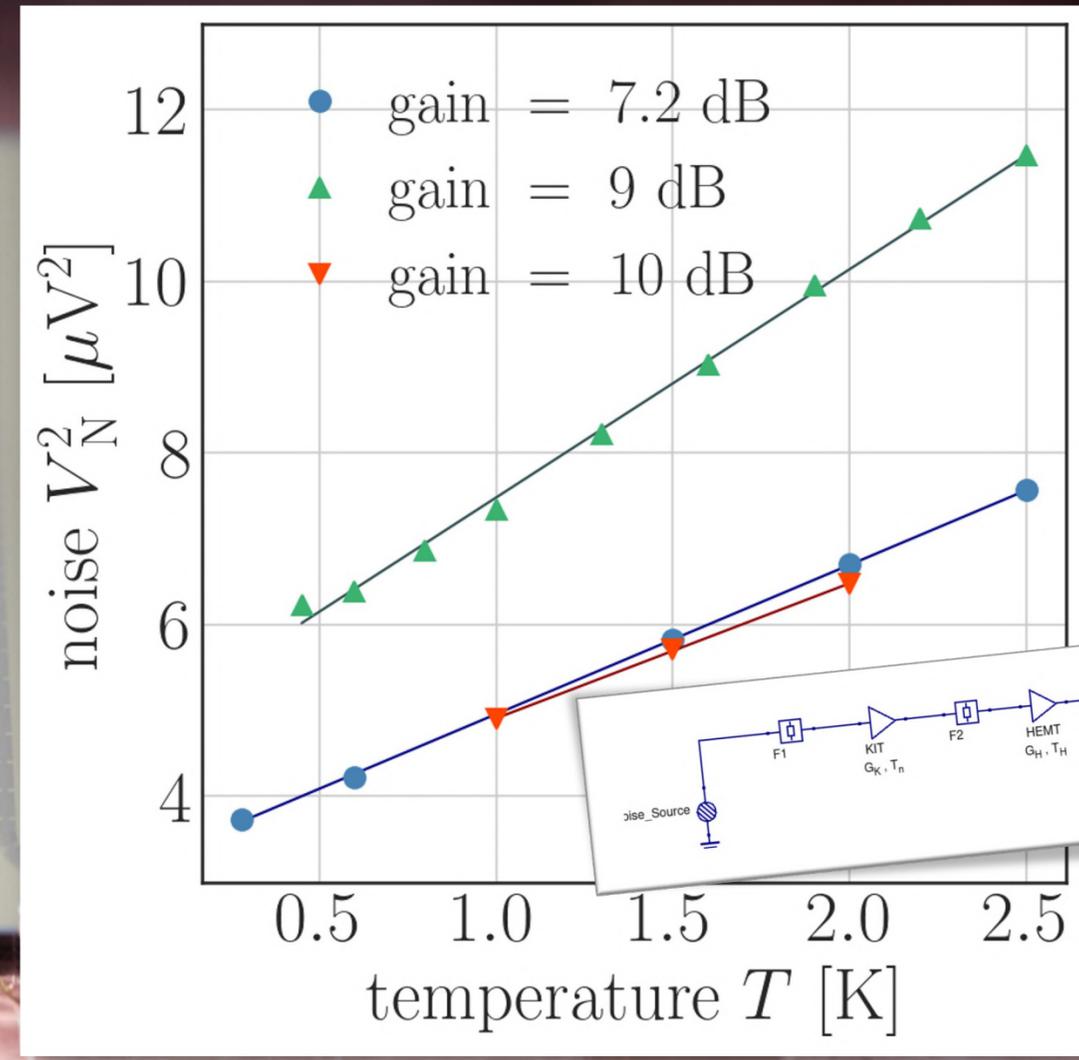


✓ **Non-linearity** due to kinetic inductance

# KI-TWPA prototype characterisation



✓ **Gain:** up to ~ 10 dB (with  $I_{dc} = 1$  mA)



✓ **Noise:** down to 2.5-3 noise quanta

*My contacts*

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## SHORT SUMMARY

- Several groups in Italy are developing superconducting devices

AT FBK WE ARE OPTIMISING THE FUNDAMENTAL BUILDING BLOCKS:

JOSEPHSON JUNCTIONS, RESONATOR, HIGH KINETIC INDUCTANCE FILMS

TARGETED DEVICES:

QUBITS, PARAMETRIC AMPLIFIERS, HYBRID SYSTEMS

TARGETED APPLICATIONS:

cQED, QUANTUM SENSING, PARTICLE DETECTORS, TESTING of QUANTUM MODELS



SENSORS  
AND DEVICES

# Extra material

31 January 2024

**Federica Mantegazzini**

[fmantegazzini@fbk.eu](mailto:fmantegazzini@fbk.eu)  
[www.fbk.eu](http://www.fbk.eu)

# Cross Josephson junctions at FBK - 1st generation

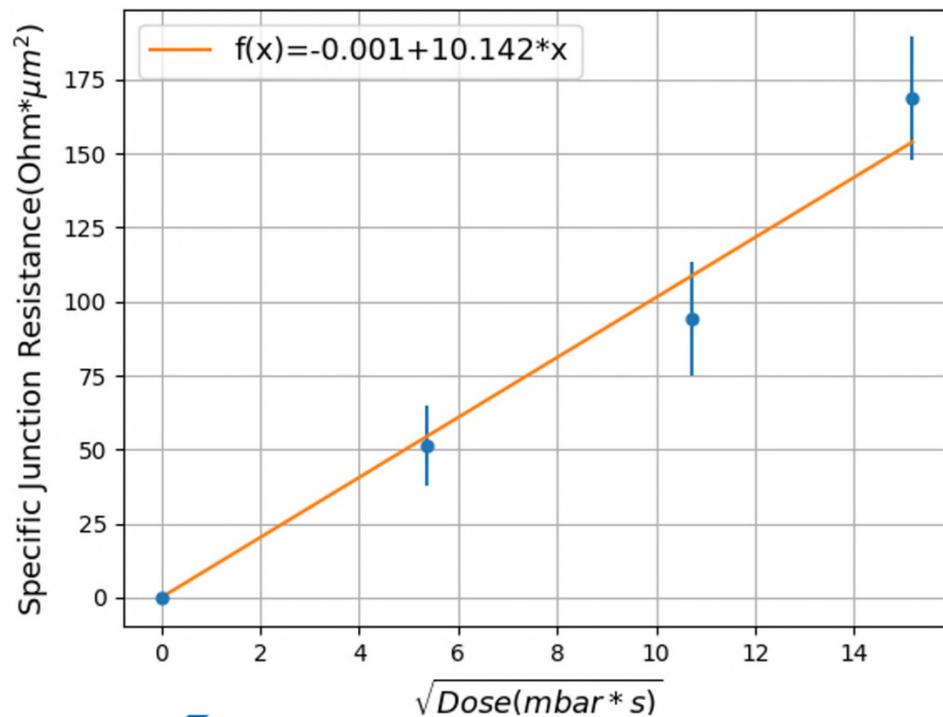
The junction normal resistance  $R_N$  is related to the critical current  $I_c$  :

$$R_N = (\pi/4) \cdot V_g$$

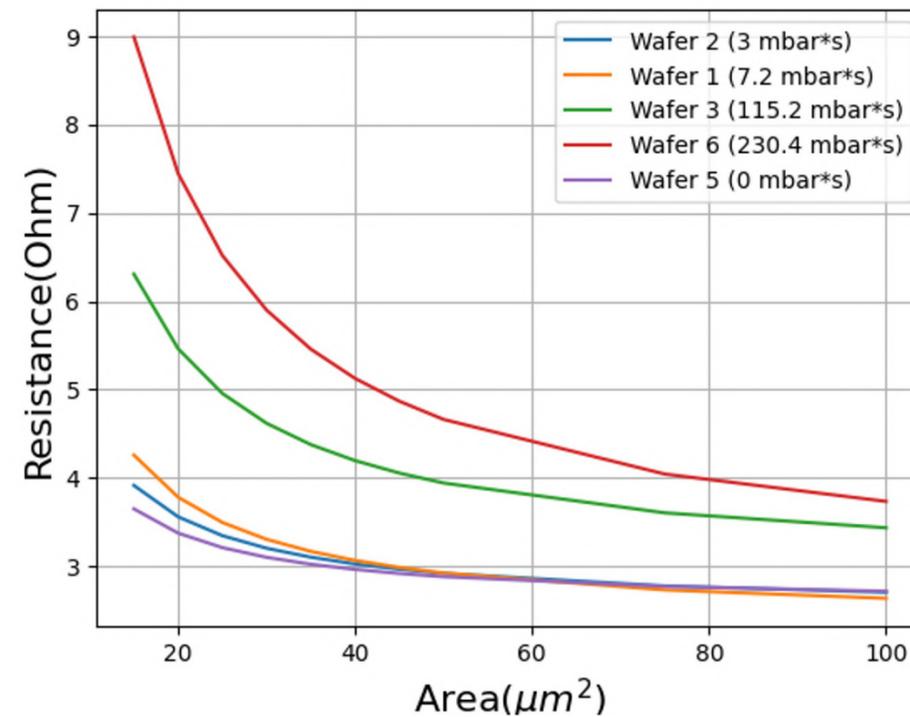
Resistance measurements at  $T = 300$  K

Cryogenic measurements  
at  $T_b \approx 20$  mK

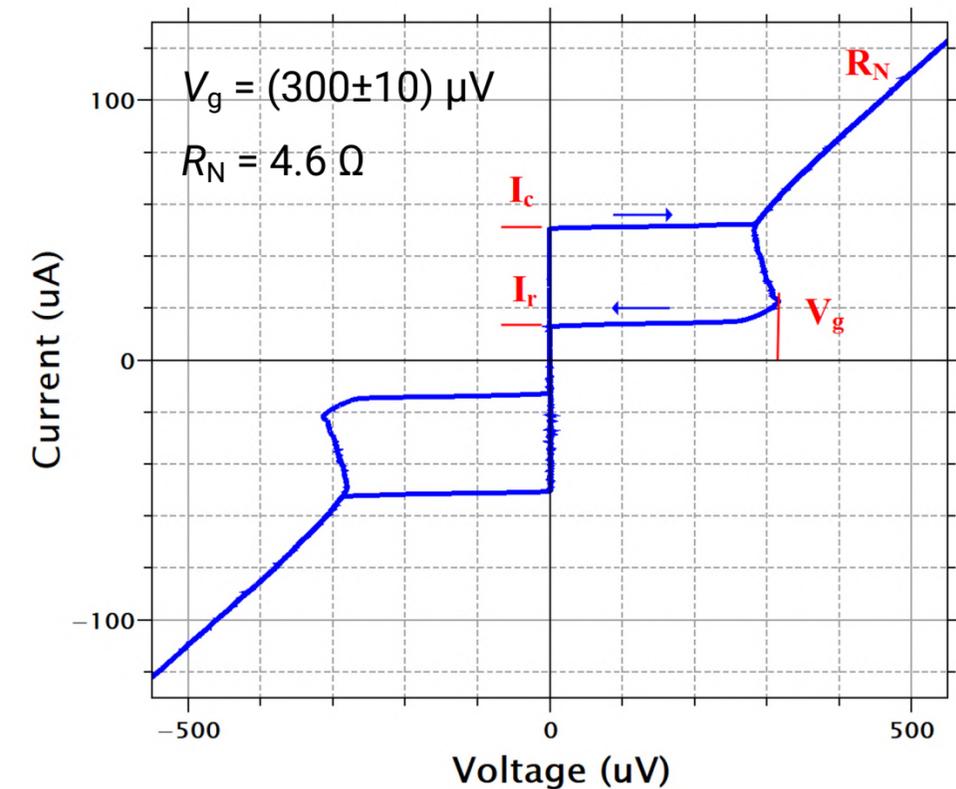
Junction resistance vs  $\sqrt{\text{oxidation dose}}$



Junction resistance vs junction area  
(for different oxidation doses)



IV characteristics



# Cross Josephson junctions at FBK - 2nd generation

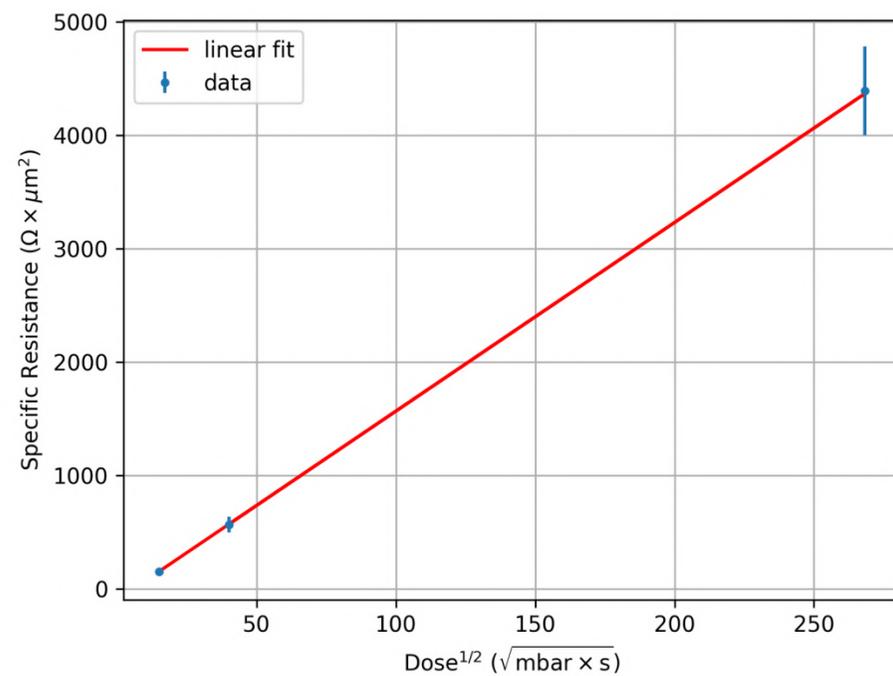
The junction normal resistance  $R_N$  is related to the critical current  $I_c$  :

$$R_N = (\pi/4) \cdot V_g$$

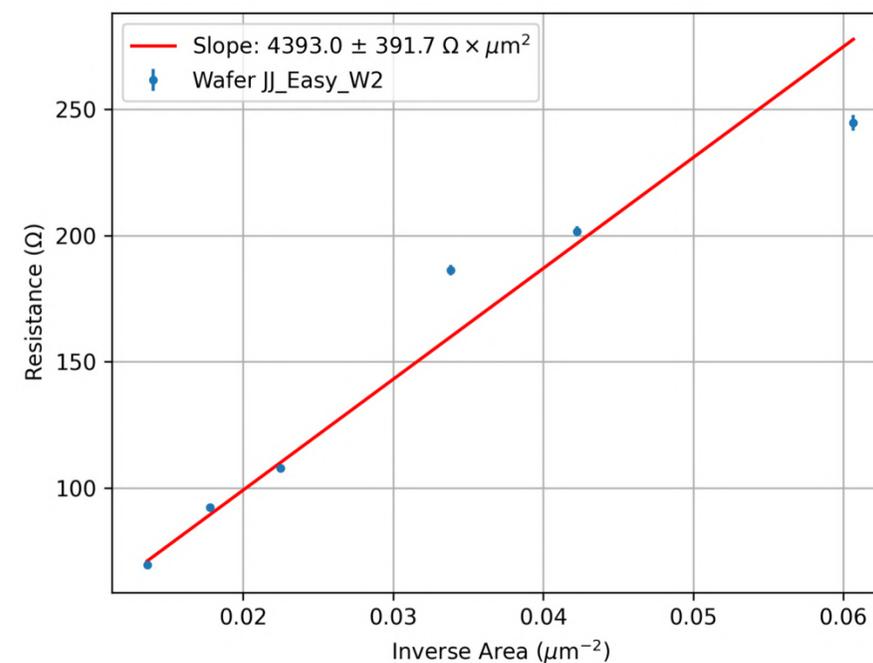
Resistance measurements at  $T = 300\text{ K}$

Cryogenic measurements  
at  $T_b \approx 20\text{ mK}$

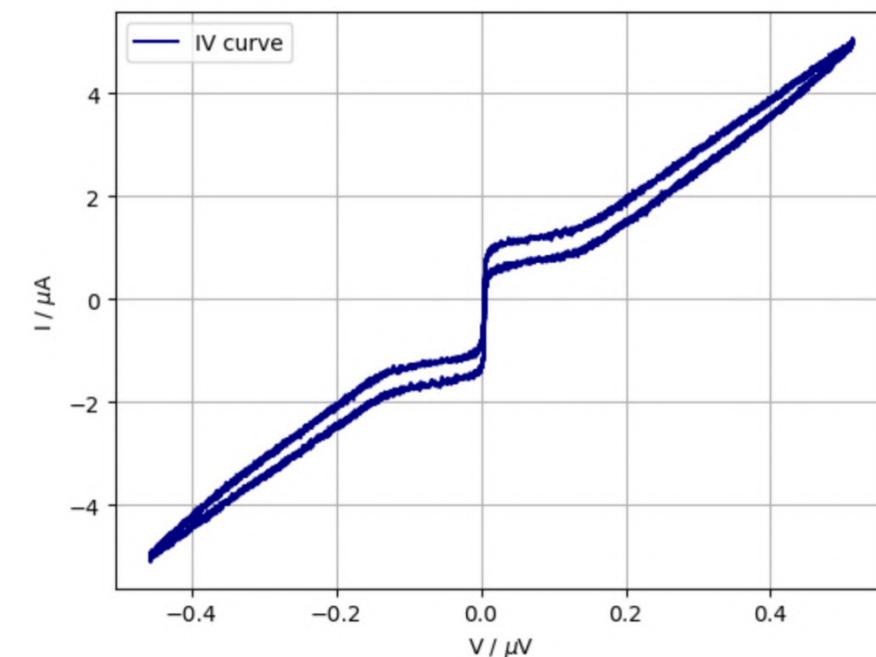
Junction resistance vs  $\sqrt{\text{oxidation dose}}$



Junction resistance vs junction area  
(for different oxidation doses)



IV characteristics





# Superconducting Parametric Amplifiers

**Parametric amplification** = wave-mixing process based on parametric

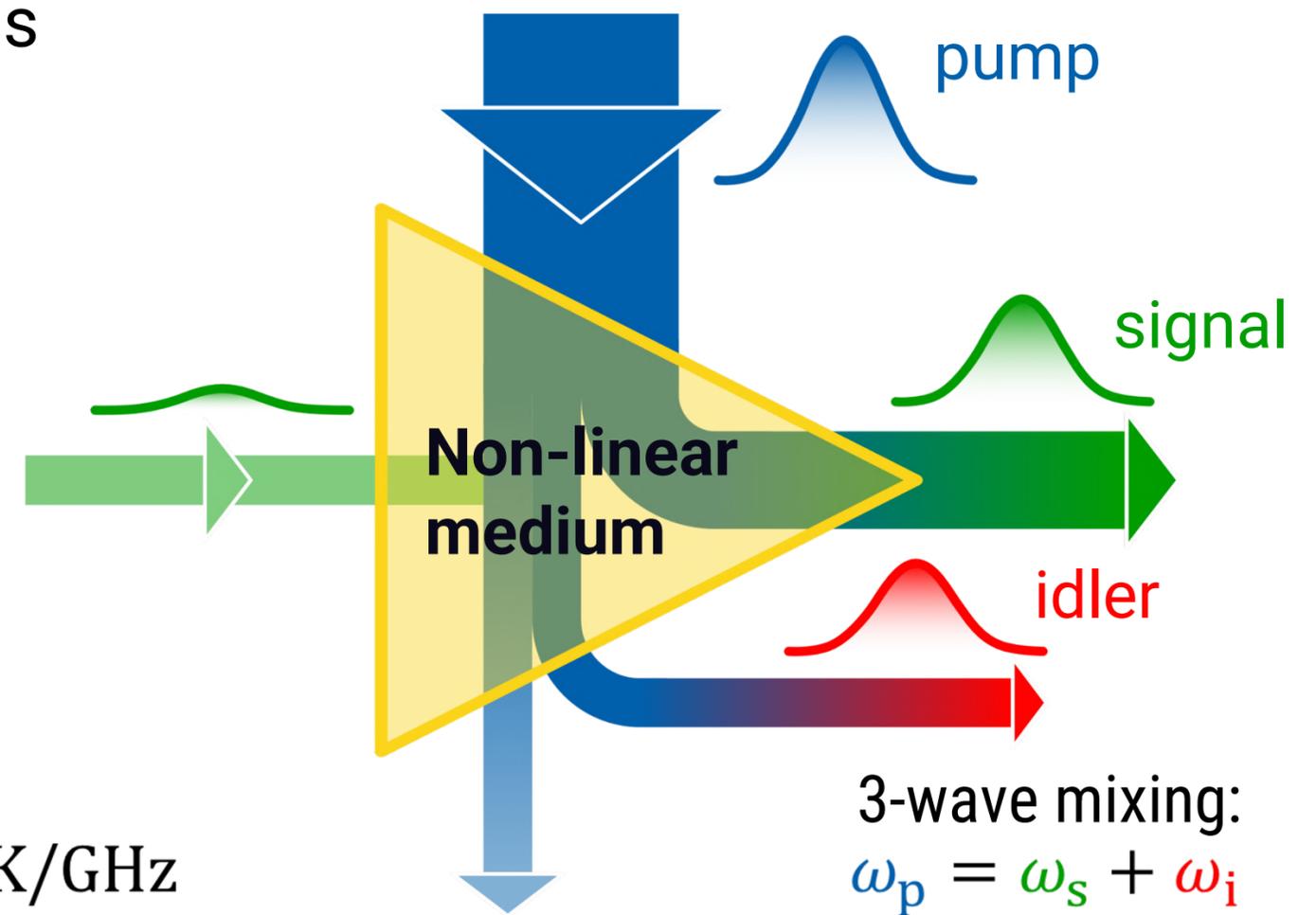
**non-linearity**

**Superconducting amplifiers** for microwave amplification:

👍 (Ideally) non-dissipative

👍 Ultra-low-noise amplification

→ Quantum noise limit:  $T_N/f \sim h/2k_B \sim 25 \text{ mK/GHz}$





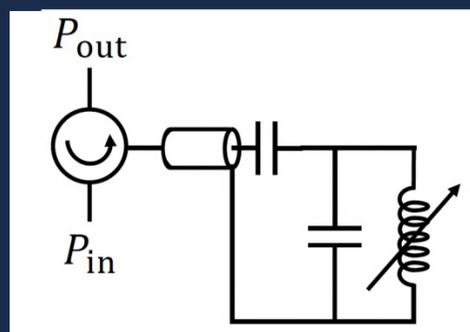
## Different approaches: JPAs vs TWPAs

Increasing **signal gain** by *increasing* the **interaction time** in the non-linear medium



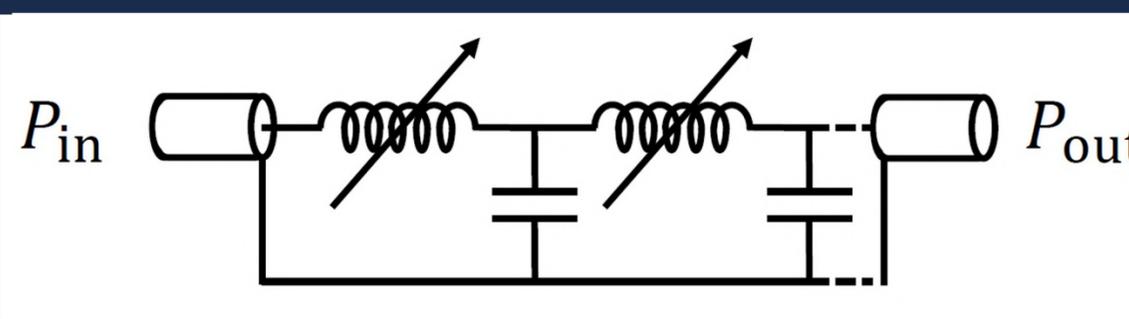
**Resonator-based paramp:**

Josephson Parametric Amplifiers **JPAs**



**Long non-linear medium:**

Travelling Wave Parametric Amplifiers **TWPAs**



Larger bandwidth

Larger saturation power