

Quantum Information with Solid-State Devices

VO 141.246

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Lecture 9



RF-SQUID

Quantum superposition of distinct macroscopic states

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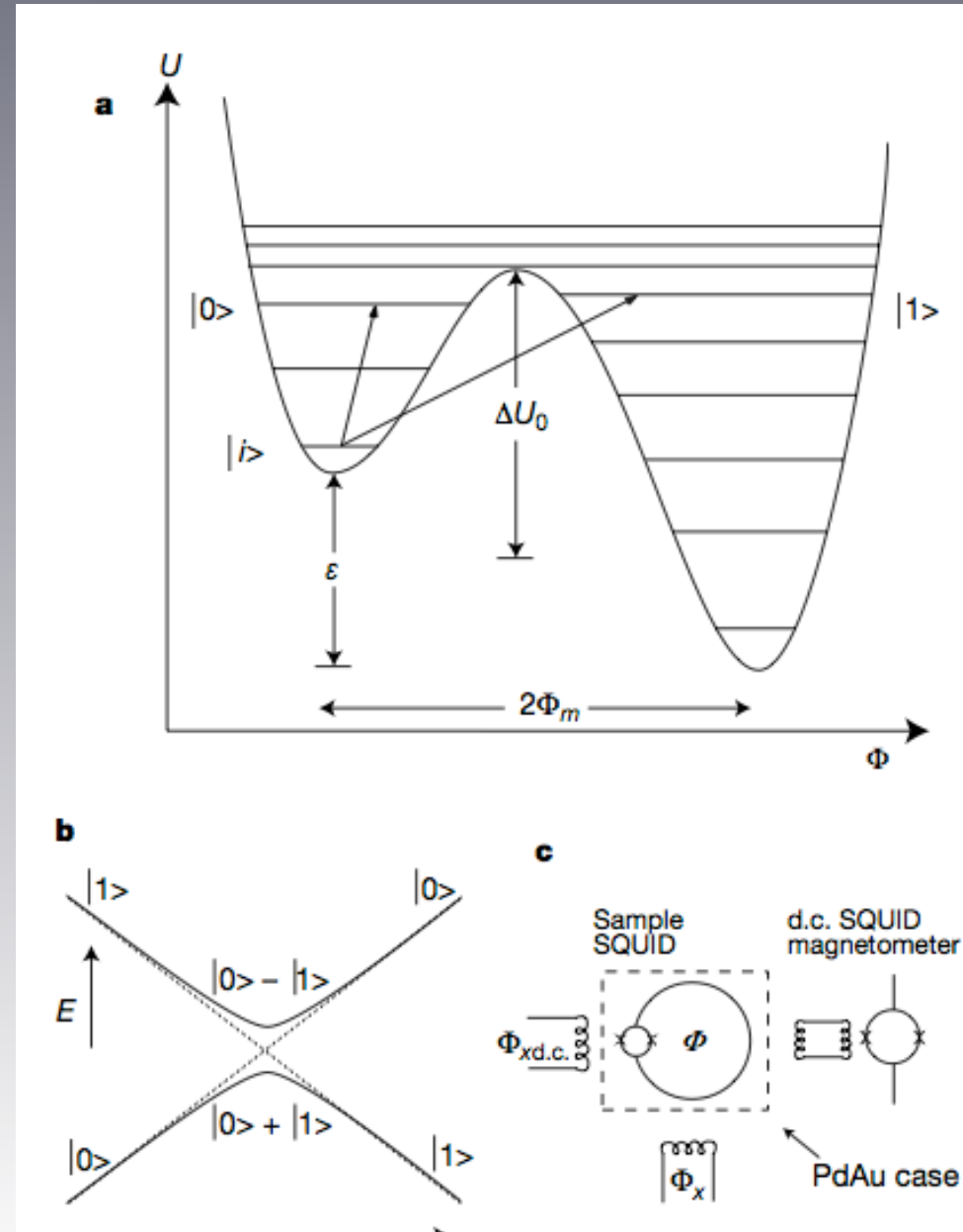
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external flux Φ_x applied to the loop. The dynamics of the SQUID can be described in terms of the variable Φ and are analogous to those of a particle of 'mass' C (and kinetic energy $\frac{1}{2}C\dot{\Phi}^2$) moving in a one-dimensional potential (Fig. 1a) given by the sum of the magnetic energy of the loop and the Josephson coupling energy of the junction:

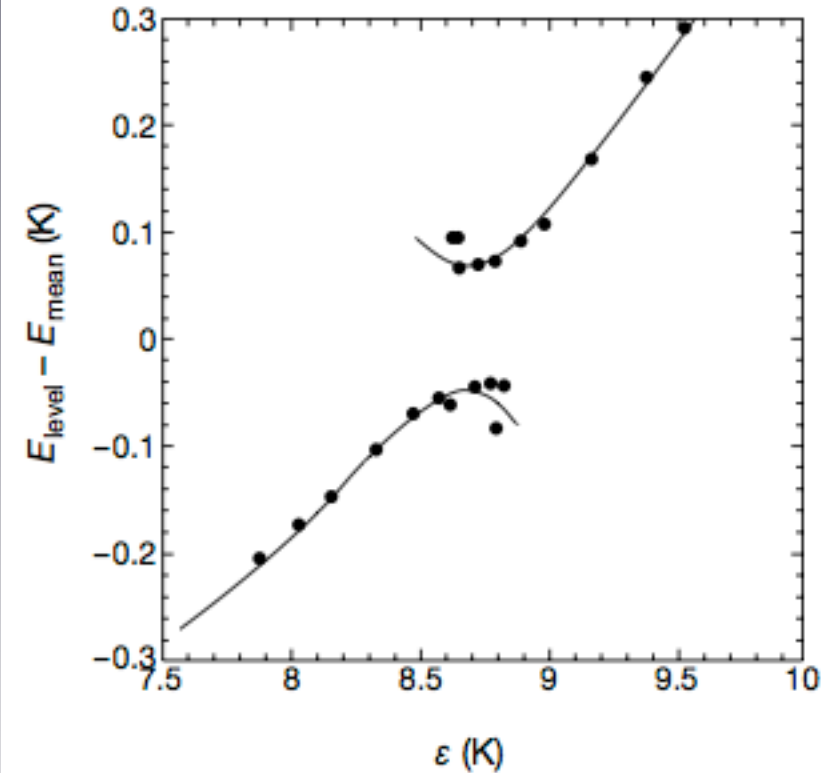
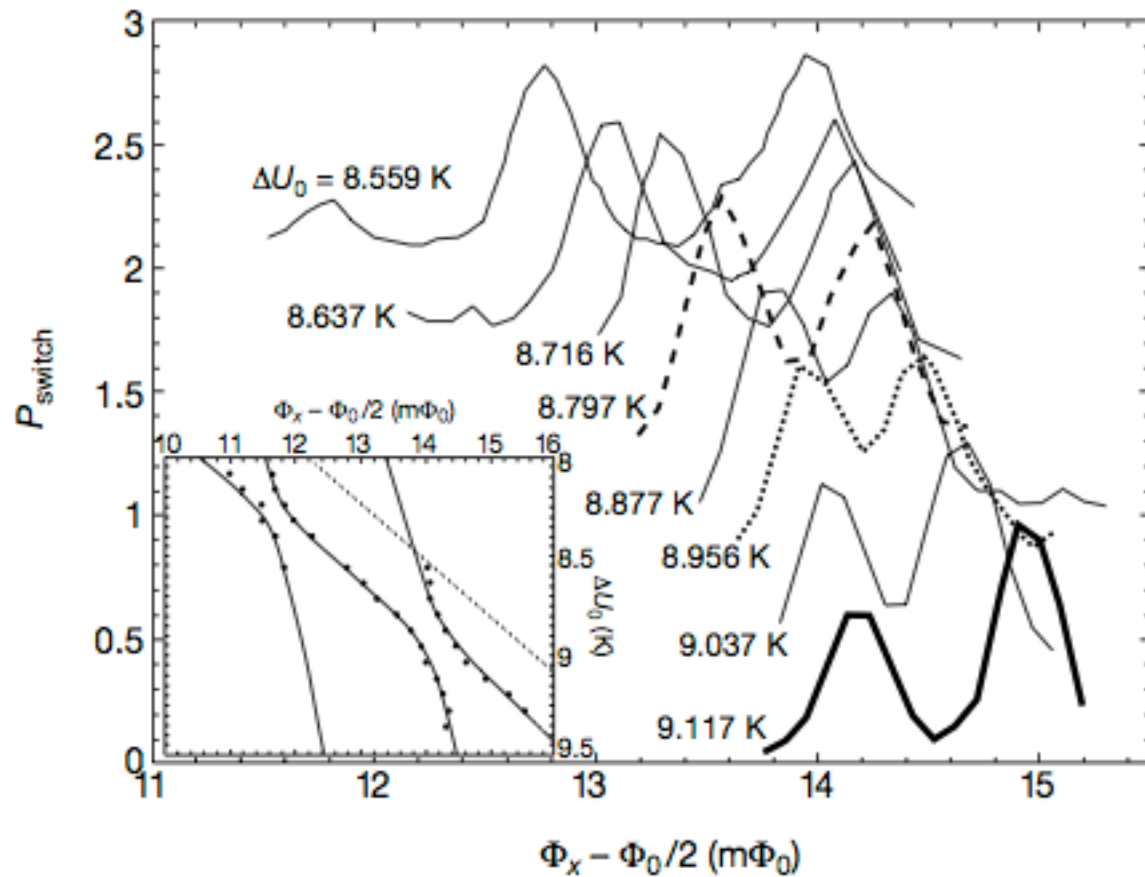
$$U = U_0 \left[\frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{2\pi(\Phi - \Phi_x)}{\Phi_0} \right)^2 - \beta_L \cos(2\pi\Phi/\Phi_0) \right] \quad (1)$$

where Φ_0 is the flux quantum, $U_0 \equiv \Phi_0^2/4\pi^2L$ and $\beta_L \equiv 2\pi LI_c/\Phi_0$. For the parameters used in our experiment, this is a double-well potential separated by a barrier with a height depending on I_c . When $\Phi_x = \Phi_0/2$ the potential is symmetric. Any change in Φ_x then tilts the potential, as shown in Fig. 1a.

NATURE | VOL 406 | 6 JULY 2000 | www.nature.com



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VOLUME 55, NUMBER 15

PHYSICAL REVIEW LETTERS

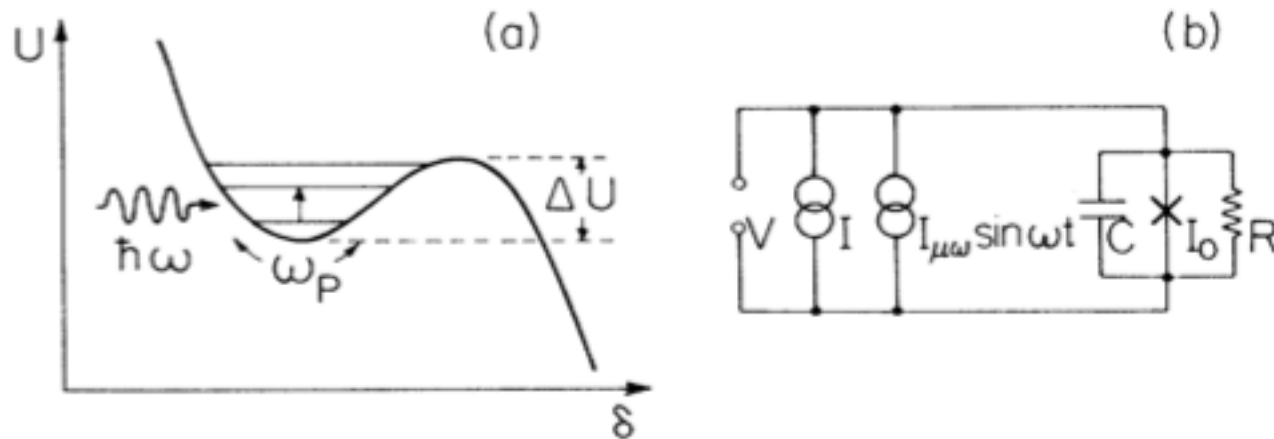
7 OCTOBER 1985

Energy-Level Quantization in the Zero-Voltage State of a Current-Biased Josephson Junction

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(Received 14 June 1985)



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