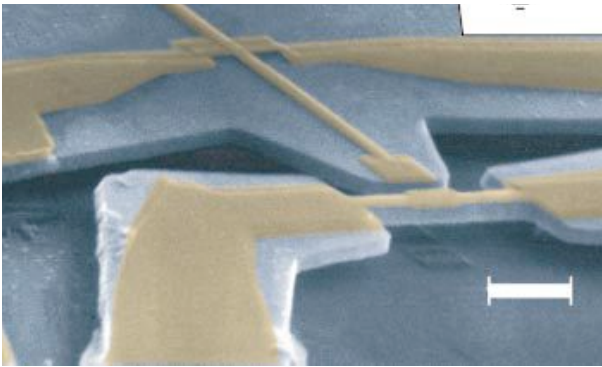
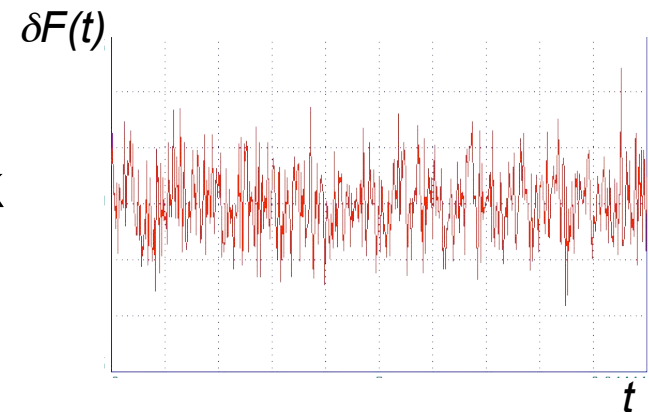


# Quantum Noise and Quantum Measurement

*(APS Tutorial on Quantum Measurement)*



Aashish Clerk  
McGill University



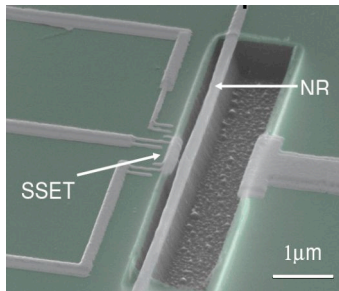
(With thanks to S. Girvin, F. Marquardt, M. Devoret)

- Use quantum noise to understand quantum measurement...



# Quantum Measurement & Mesoscopic Physics

- **Quantum measurement** relevant to many recent expts...

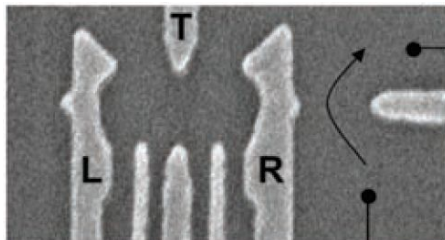


(K. Schwab)

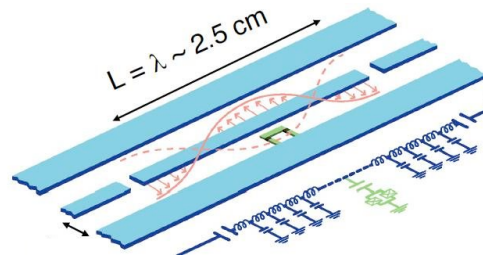


(K. Lehnert)

Quantum electro-mechanical systems...

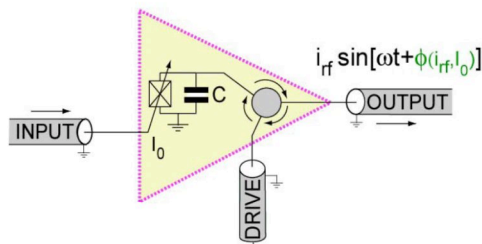


(C. Marcus, J. Petta)

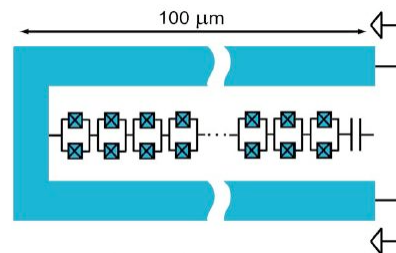


(R. Schoelkopf)

Qubit + readout experiments...



(M. Devoret, I. Siddiqi)

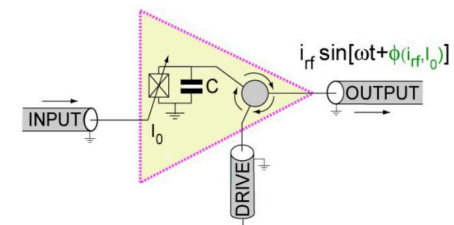
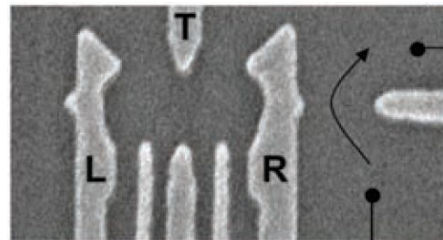
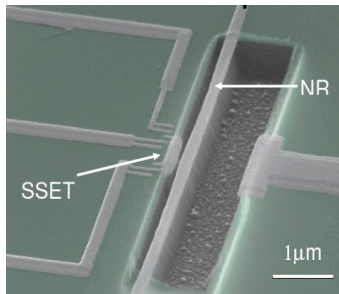


(K. Lehnert)

Quantum-limited & back-action evading amplifiers...

# Quantum Measurement & Mesoscopic Physics

- **Quantum measurement** relevant to many recent expts...



- **Issues?**

1. *How do we describe the “back-action” of a detector?*

- Detector is quantum and out-of-equilibrium

2. *What is the “quantum limit”?*

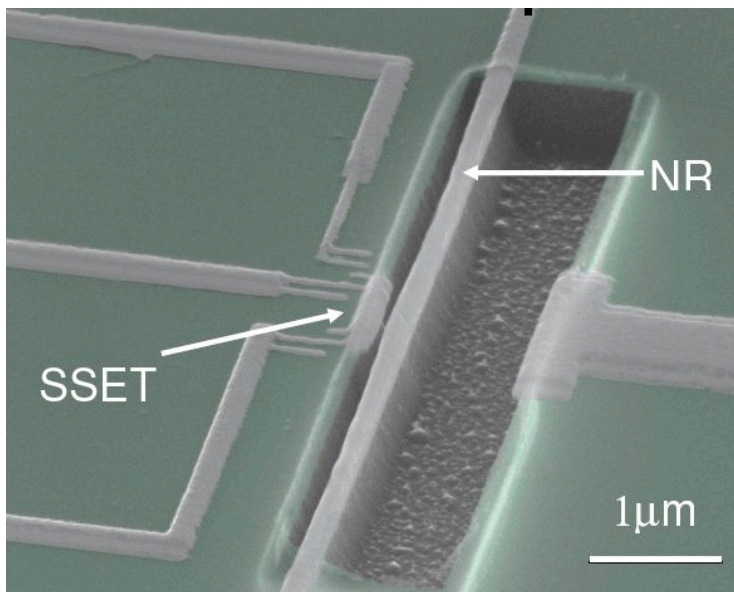
- How do we reach this ideal limit?

3. *Conditional evolution?*

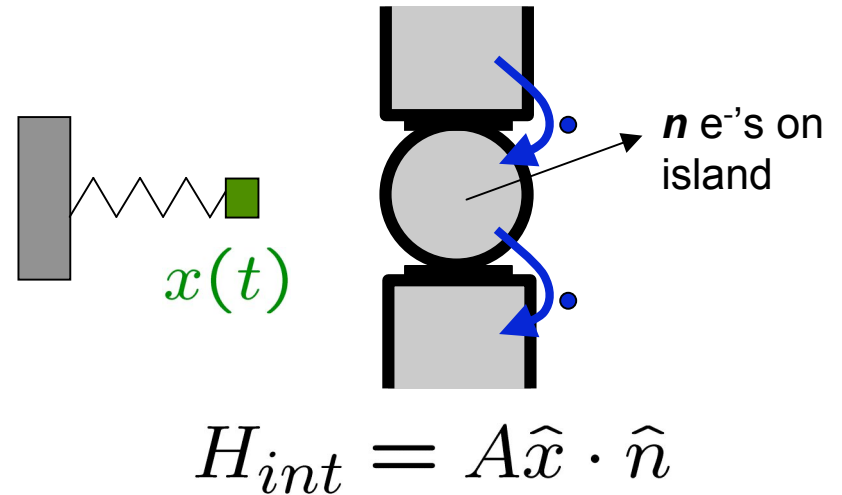
- What is the state of the measured system given a particular measurement record?

# Weak Continuous Measurements

- Information only acquired gradually in time...
- Need to average to reduce the effects of noise
- *e.g. oscillator measured by a single-electron transistor:*

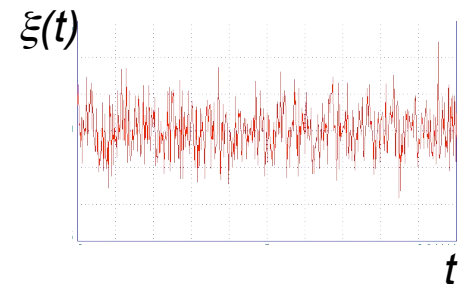


(K. Schwab group, Cornell)



$$I(t) = \lambda x(t) + \xi(t)$$

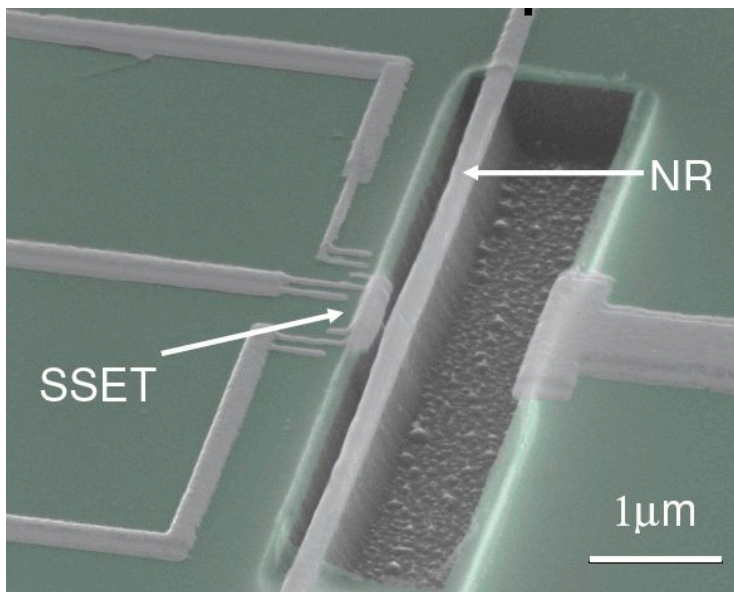
$$\lambda = \frac{dI}{dU} \times \frac{dU}{dx}$$



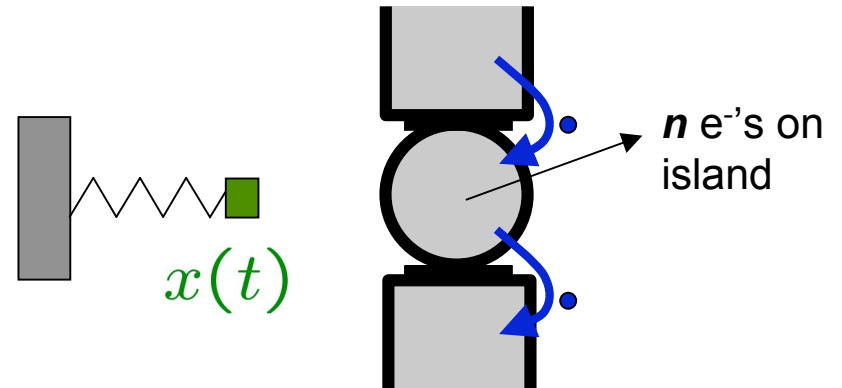
# Weak Continuous Measurements

- **Not** measuring instantaneous  $x(t)$ ; rather “quadrature amplitudes”:

$$x(t) = X(t)\cos\omega_M t + Y(t)\sin\omega_M t$$



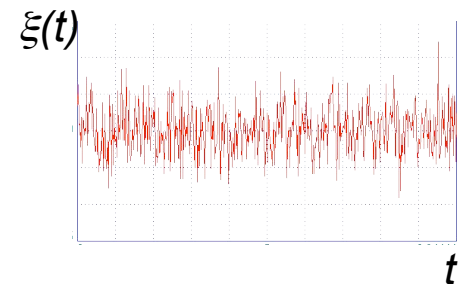
(K. Schwab group, Cornell)



$$H_{int} = A\hat{x} \cdot \hat{n}$$

$$I(t) = \lambda x(t) + \xi(t)$$

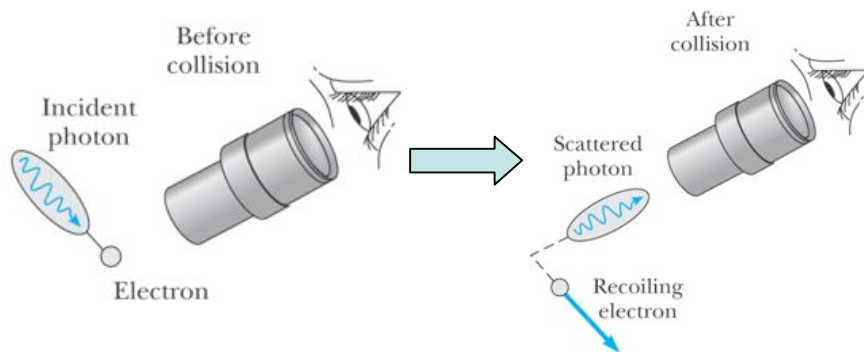
$$\lambda = \frac{dI}{dU} \times \frac{dU}{dx}$$



# Quantum Limits?

- **Naïve:** for a more precise measurement, just increase coupling, hence  $\lambda \dots$   $I(t) = \lambda x(t) + \xi(t)$
- **BUT:** *back-action* puts a limit to how much you can do this!

Heisenberg microscope



$$\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2}$$

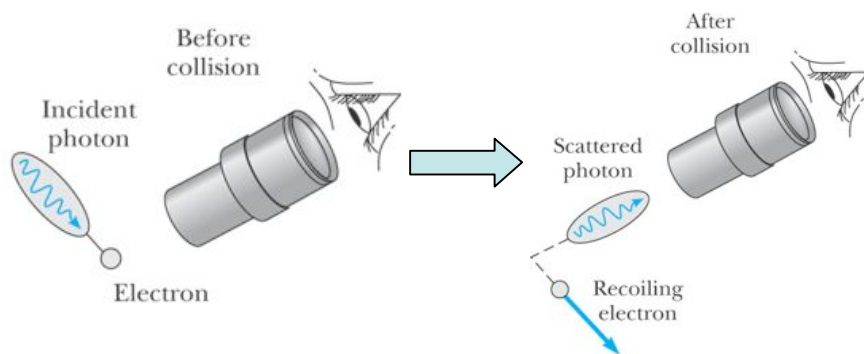
- Measure  $x \Rightarrow$  disturb  $p$
- This messes up meas. of  $x$  at later times

$$\Delta x(\delta t) = \Delta x(0) + \delta t \frac{\Delta p}{m}$$

# Quantum Limits?

- **Naïve:** for a more precise measurement, just increase coupling, hence  $\lambda$ ....  $I(t) = \lambda x(t) + \xi(t)$
- **BUT:** *back-action* puts a limit to how much you can do this!

Heisenberg microscope

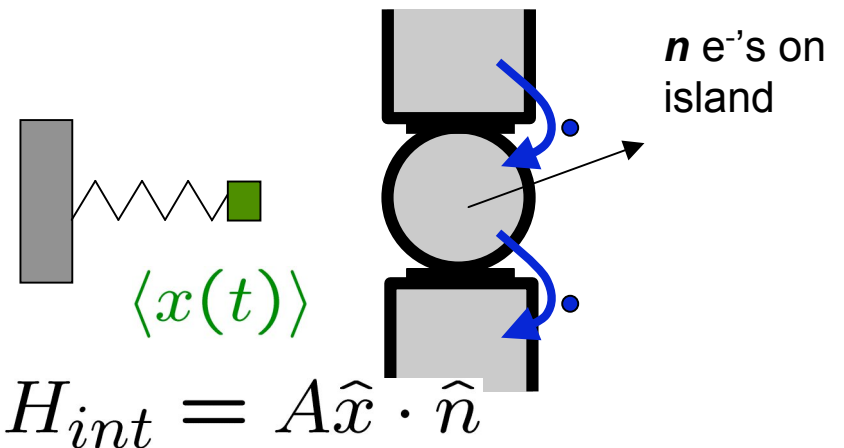


$$\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \geq \frac{h}{2}$$

- Measure  $x \Rightarrow$  disturb  $p$
- This messes up meas. of  $x$  at later times

$$\delta I(t) = \lambda \delta x(t) + \xi(t)$$

SET position detector?

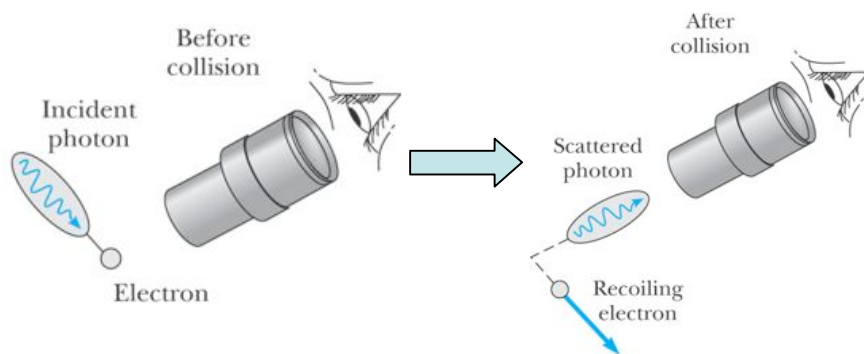


- $A \cdot n$  is a fluctuating force on oscillator... will cause  $x$  to fluctuate.

# Quantum Limits?

- **Naïve:** for a more precise measurement, just increase coupling, hence  $\lambda \dots \hat{I}(t) = \lambda \langle x(t) \rangle + \xi(t)$
- **BUT:** *back-action* puts a limit to how much you can do this!

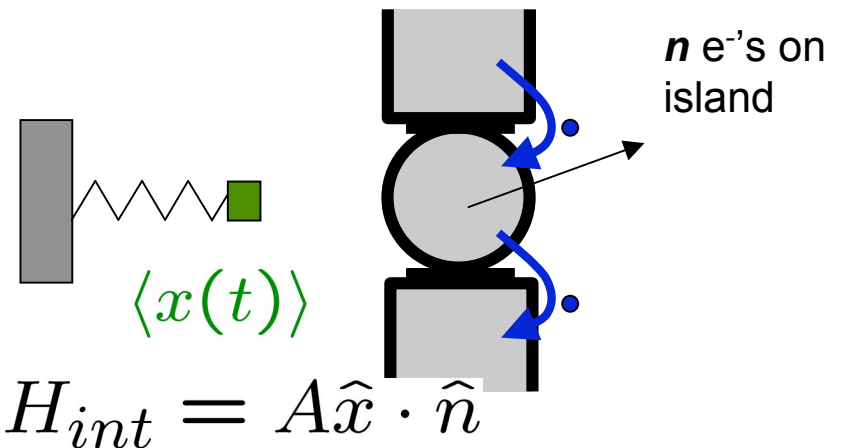
## Heisenberg microscope



$$\Delta x \cdot \Delta p \geq \frac{\hbar}{2}$$

- Measure  $x \Rightarrow$  disturb  $p$
- This messes up meas. of  $x$  at later times

## SET position detector?



$$H_{int} = A \hat{x} \cdot \hat{n}$$

- $A \cdot n$  is a fluctuating force on oscillator... will cause  $x$  to fluctuate.

*How do we describe back-action? Is it "ideal" or not?*

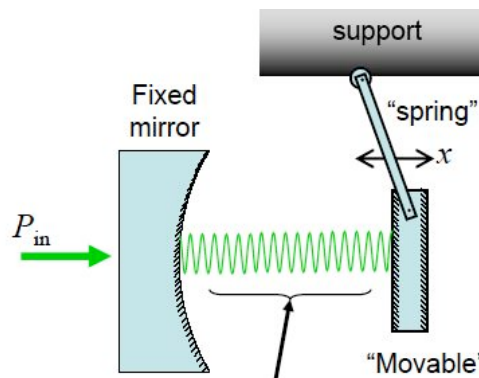


# Quantum Noise Approach

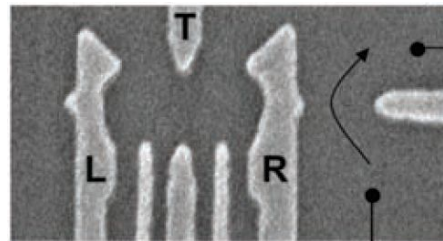
- What does back-action do to the oscillator?
- Is it as small as allowed by quantum mechanics?
  - *Need to understand the (quantum) noise properties of the detector's back-action force..*

$$H = H_{system} + H_{detector} - \hat{x} \cdot \hat{F}$$

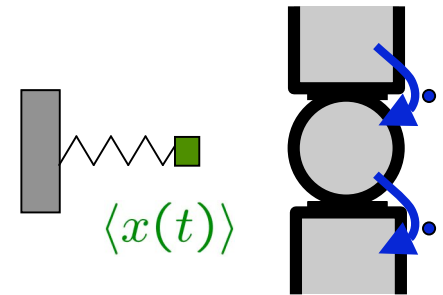
- Force exerted by detector described by an operator  $F$



$F \sim$  cavity photon number



$F \sim$  charge in QPC



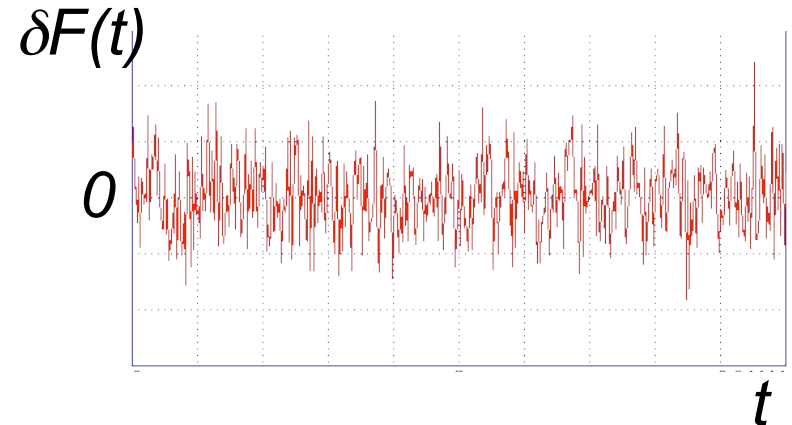
$F \sim n$

# Basics of Classical Noise

- Start by thinking of the noisy force  $F(t)$  classically...

$$F(t) = \bar{F} + \delta F(t)$$

$$\delta F(\omega) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{T}} \int_0^T dt [\delta F(t)] e^{i\omega t}$$

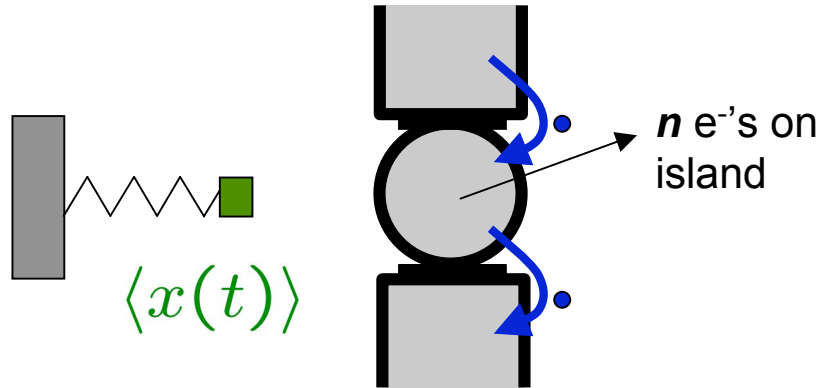


- **Power spectral density:** how big is the noise at a given frequency?

$$\begin{aligned} S_F(\omega) &\equiv \langle |\delta F(\omega)|^2 \rangle \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \langle \delta F(t) \cdot \delta F(0) \rangle e^{i\omega t} \end{aligned}$$

- **Stationary noise?** Autocorrelation only depends on time difference
- **Gaussian noise?** Full probability distribution set by  $S_F(\omega)$

# What about a noisy quantum force?



$$H_{int} = A\hat{x} \cdot \hat{n}$$
$$\hat{F} = -A\hat{n}$$

- Back-action force is a quantum operator; also described by a spectral density...

$$S_F(\omega) = \int dt e^{i\omega t} \langle \hat{F}(t) \hat{F}(0) \rangle$$

Heisenberg-picture operators

Expectation value is with respect to the density matrix describing the detector's state...

# What is so quantum about quantum noise?

$$S_F(\omega) = \int dt e^{i\omega t} \langle \hat{F}(t) \hat{F}(0) \rangle$$

## 1. *Zero-point fluctuations*

- Noise does not vanish at zero temperature
- At high frequencies,  $\hbar\omega > k_B T$ ; noise will be much bigger than the classical prediction

## 2. *Positive and negative frequencies not the same!*

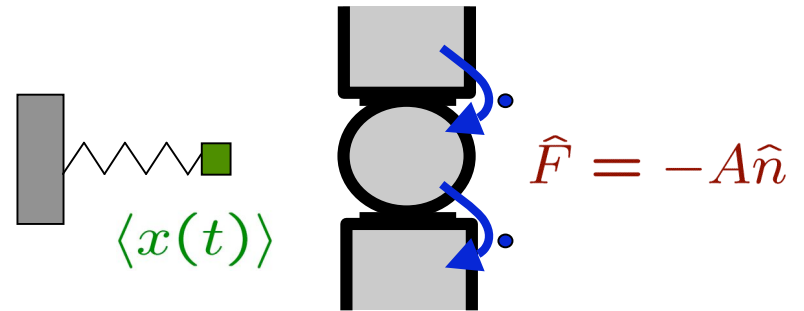
- Classical:  $\delta F(-\omega) = \delta F(\omega)^*$ , thus  $S_F(\omega) = S_F(-\omega)$
- Quantum:  $\mathbf{F}(t)$  and  $\mathbf{F}(0)$  do not commute!

## 3. *Heisenberg-like quantum constraints on noise!*

- The uncertainty principle places a rigorous lower bound on  $S_F$

# Effects of the back-action force?

- *Classical case*: use a Langevin equation:



$$m\ddot{x} = -kx - \int dt' m\gamma(t-t')\dot{x}(t') + \delta F(t)$$

damping kernel
random force

$$S_{\delta F}(\omega) = 2m\gamma(\omega)k_B T$$

- *Quantum case*: Langevin equation still holds **if** the detector is in equilibrium and has Gaussian noise...

$$S_{\delta F}(\omega) = m\gamma(\omega)\hbar\omega \coth\left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{2k_B T}\right)$$

- **But**: any reasonable detector is **NOT** in equilibrium!  
What is the “effective temperature” of the detector?

# Positive versus Negative Frequency Noise?

$$S_F(\omega) = \int dt e^{i\omega t} \langle \hat{F}(t) \hat{F}(0) \rangle \quad S_F(\omega) \neq S_F(-\omega)$$

- Instructive to write  $S_F(\omega)$  in terms of the exact eigenstates of our “bath”:

$$S_F(\omega) = 2\pi \sum_{f,i} \rho_{ii} |\langle f | F | i \rangle|^2 \delta(E_f - E_i + \omega)$$

Bath density matrix

Bath energy eigenstates

- Just the Golden Rule expression for a transition rate!

$\omega > 0$ : absorption of  $\hbar\omega$  by bath

$\omega < 0$ : emission of  $\hbar\omega$  by bath

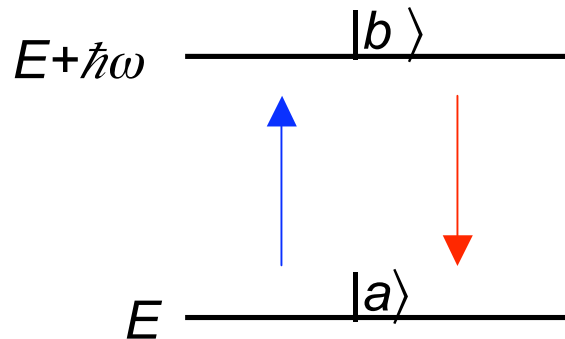
# Effective Temperature

$$S_F(\omega) = \int dt e^{i\omega t} \langle \hat{F}(t) \hat{F}(0) \rangle$$

$\omega > 0$ : absorption of  $\hbar\omega$  by bath  
 $\omega < 0$ : emission of  $\hbar\omega$  by bath

$$S_F(\omega) = 2\pi \sum_{f,i} \rho_{ii} |\langle f | F | i \rangle|^2 \delta(E_f - E_i + \omega)$$

- In equilibrium, quantum noise directly tied to temperature...
- Consider the rate at which the detector makes transitions between states with energy  $E$  and  $E + \hbar\omega$ ...



$$\frac{\rho_{bb}}{\rho_{aa}} = \exp\left(-\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)$$

Thus:

$$\frac{\text{rate to emit } \hbar\omega}{\text{rate to absorb } \hbar\omega} = \exp\left(-\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)$$

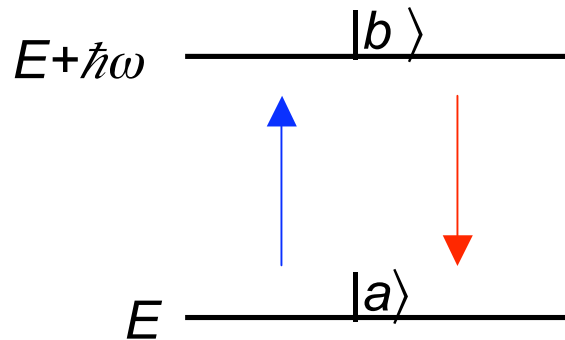
# Effective Temperature

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- In equilibrium, quantum noise directly tied to temperature...
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$$\frac{\rho_{bb}}{\rho_{aa}} = \exp\left(-\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)$$

Thus:

$$\frac{S_F(-\omega)}{S_F(\omega)} \equiv \exp\left(-\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)$$



# Effective Temperature

$$S_F(\omega) = \int dt e^{i\omega t} \langle \hat{F}(t) \hat{F}(0) \rangle$$

$\omega > 0$ : absorption of  $\hbar\omega$  by bath  
 $\omega < 0$ : emission of  $\hbar\omega$  by bath

$$S_F(\omega) = 2\pi \sum_{f,i} \rho_{ii} |\langle f|F|i\rangle|^2 \delta(E_f - E_i + \omega)$$

- In equilibrium, ratio between positive and negative noise set by temperature:

$$\frac{S_F(-\omega)}{S_F(\omega)} \equiv \exp\left(-\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T}\right)$$

- **BUT:** What if bath is *not* in equilibrium?
- Can use this ratio to *define* an effective temperature....

$$\frac{S_F(-\omega)}{S_F(\omega)} \equiv \exp\left(-\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T_{eff}(\omega)}\right)$$

# Effective Temperature

$$S_F(\omega) = \int dt e^{i\omega t} \langle \hat{F}(t) \hat{F}(0) \rangle$$

$\omega > 0$ : absorption of  $\hbar\omega$  by bath  
 $\omega < 0$ : emission of  $\hbar\omega$  by bath

$$\frac{S_F(-\omega)}{S_F(\omega)} \equiv \exp\left(-\frac{\hbar\omega}{k_B T_{eff}(\omega)}\right)$$

- $T_{eff}$  in a non-equilibrium system?
  - a measure of the asymmetry between emission and absorption
- $T_{eff}$  is frequency-dependent?
  - the price we pay for being out-of-equilibrium!

*Still... how does this relate to more usual notions of temperature?*

# Effective bath descriptions

- For weak coupling, can *rigorously* derive a Langevin equation  
A.C., Phys. Rev. B 70 (2004); ( also J. Schwinger, J. Math Phys. 2 (1960); Mozyrsky, Martin & Hastings, PRL 92 (2004))

$$m\ddot{x} = -\tilde{k}x - \int dt' m\gamma(t-t')\dot{x}(t') + \delta F(t)$$

damping kernel
random force

$$\gamma(\omega) = \frac{S_F(\omega) - S_F(-\omega)}{2m\hbar\omega} \quad S_{\delta F}(\omega) = \frac{S_F(\omega) + S_F(-\omega)}{2}$$

$$\bar{S}_{\delta F}(\omega) = m\gamma(\omega)\hbar\omega \coth\left(\frac{\hbar\omega}{2k_B T_{eff}(\omega)}\right)$$

- *Generic approach:*

- To understand how the detector acts as a “bath”, need to know its  $S_F(\omega)$ ...

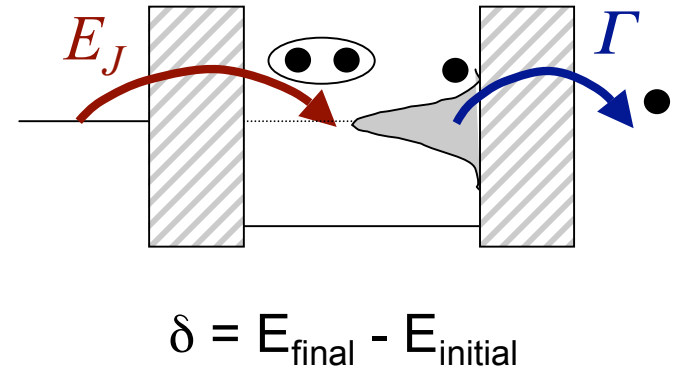
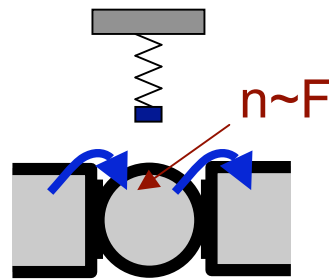
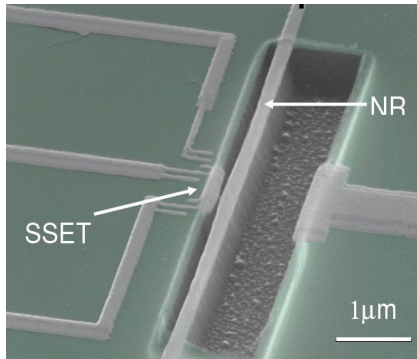
- $T_{eff}$ ?

- Energy scale characterizing the difference between energy absorption and emission

# Applications of this Approach?

*KEY: If we understand the quantum noise properties of our detector, we understand how it acts as a bath...*

- Back-action cooling with Cooper Pairs:



$T_{\text{eff}}$  NOT set by bias voltage  
 Rather, by lifetime of a resonance!  
 (expt:  $V_{\text{DS}} \sim 5\text{K}$ ,  $T_{\text{eff}} \sim 200\text{ mK}$ )

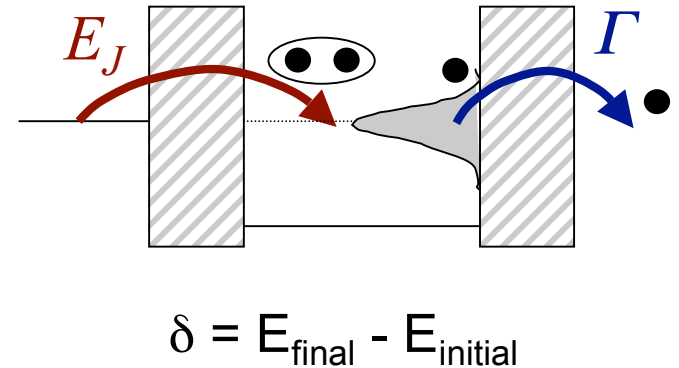
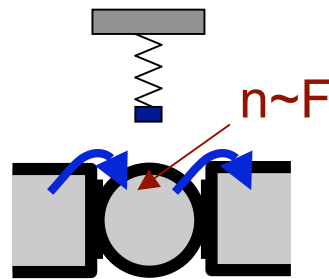
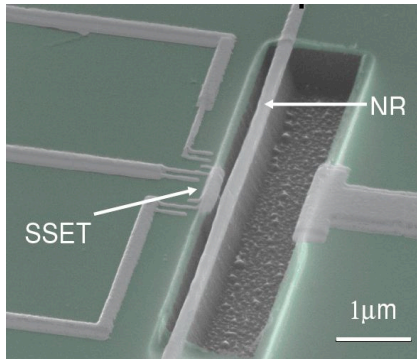
$$k_B T_{\text{eff}} = \frac{(\hbar \Gamma_a)^2 + 4\delta^2}{16\delta}$$

*Theory:* AC, Girvin & Stone, 02; AC & Bennett, 05; Blencowe, Armour & Imbers, 05  
*Expt:* Naik et al, 2006

# Applications of this Approach?

*KEY: If we understand the quantum noise properties of our conductor, we understand how it acts as a bath...*

- Back-action cooling with Cooper Pairs:



- What if oscillator frequency is not small?

$$n_{osc} = \frac{1}{e^{\hbar\omega/(k_B T_{eff}(\omega))} - 1} = \frac{(\hbar\omega - \delta)^2 + (\Gamma/2)^2}{4\hbar\omega\delta}$$

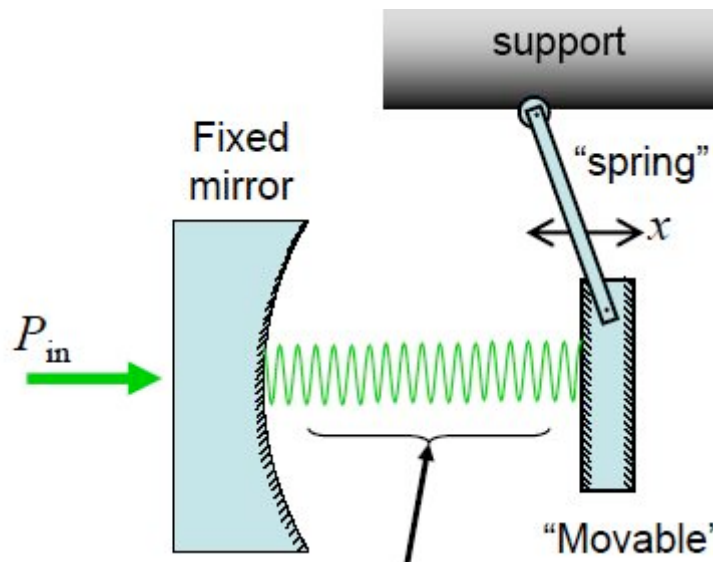
• *If  $\delta = \hbar\omega$ ,  $\hbar\omega \gg \Gamma$ ?*  $n_{osc} \rightarrow \left(\frac{\Gamma}{4\hbar\omega}\right)^2 \rightarrow 0$

*(AC, unpublished)*

# Applications of this Approach?

*KEY: If we understand the quantum noise properties of our conductor, we understand how it acts as a bath...*

- Back-action cooling with photons:



$$\bar{n}_M^O = - \frac{(\omega_M + \Delta)^2 + (\kappa/2)^2}{4\omega_M \Delta}$$

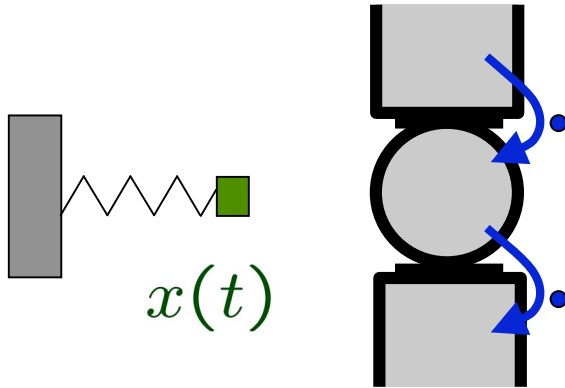
- Same expression as for Cooper pair cooling!
- Can reach ground state for large  $\omega_m / \kappa \dots$

$$H_{int} = A a^\dagger a \cdot x$$

Quantum theory: Marquardt, Chen, AC, Girvin, 07; Wilson-Rae, Nooshi, Zwerger & Kippenberg 07

Expts: Hohberger-Metzger et al., 04; Arcizet et al., 06; Gigan et al. 06; Schliesser et al. 06; Corbitt et al 07; Thompson et al. 08

# Towards the Quantum Limit



$$H_{osc} = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

$$H_{int} = A\hat{x} \cdot \hat{n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I(t) &= \lambda x(t) + \xi(t) \\ &= \lambda [x_0(t) + \tilde{\xi}(t)] \end{aligned}$$

- How small can we make the added noise?

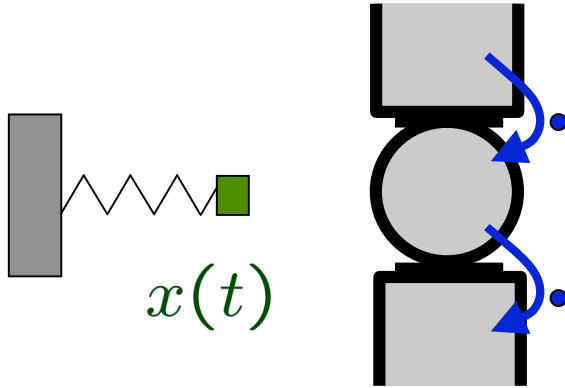
Two parts to the noise:

$$\tilde{\xi}(t) = \frac{\xi_0(t)}{\lambda} + \xi_{BA}(t)$$

“Intrinsic” output noise:

- Present even without coupling to oscillator (e.g. shot noise)
- Make it smaller by *increasing* coupling strength...

# Towards the Quantum Limit



$$H_{osc} = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

$$H_{int} = A\hat{x} \cdot \hat{n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I(t) &= \lambda x(t) + \xi(t) \\ &= \lambda [x_0(t) + \tilde{\xi}(t)] \end{aligned}$$

- How small can we make the added noise?

Two parts to the noise:

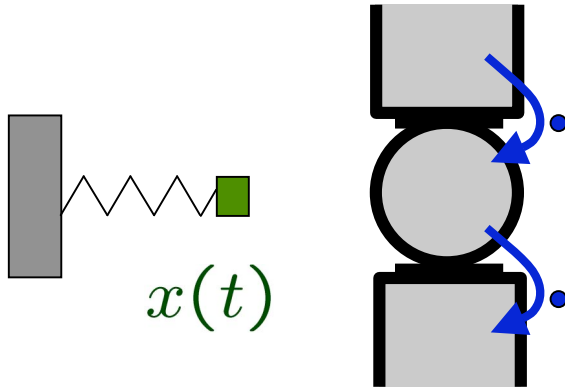
$$\tilde{\xi}(t) = \frac{\xi_0(t)}{\lambda} + \xi_{BA}(t)$$

## Back-action noise:

- Measuring  $x$  **must** disturb  $p$  in a random way; this leads to uncertainty in  $x$  at later times.
- Make it smaller by *decreasing* coupling strength...



# Amplifier Quantum Limit



$$H_{osc} = \frac{p^2}{2m} + \frac{1}{2}kx^2$$

$$H_{int} = A\hat{x} \cdot \hat{n}$$

$$\begin{aligned} I(t) &= \lambda x(t) + \xi(t) \\ &= \lambda [x_0(t) + \tilde{\xi}(t)] \end{aligned}$$

- How small can we make the added noise?

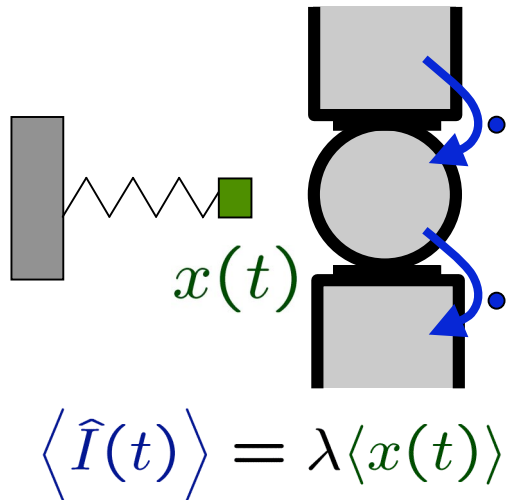
Two parts to the noise:

$$\tilde{\xi}(t) = \frac{\xi_0(t)}{\lambda} + \xi_{BA}(t)$$

## Quantum Limit

- If our detector has a “large” gain, then  $\tilde{\xi}(t)$  *cannot be arbitrarily small*
- The *smallest* it can be is the size of the **oscillator zero-point motion**...

# A Precise Statement of the QL



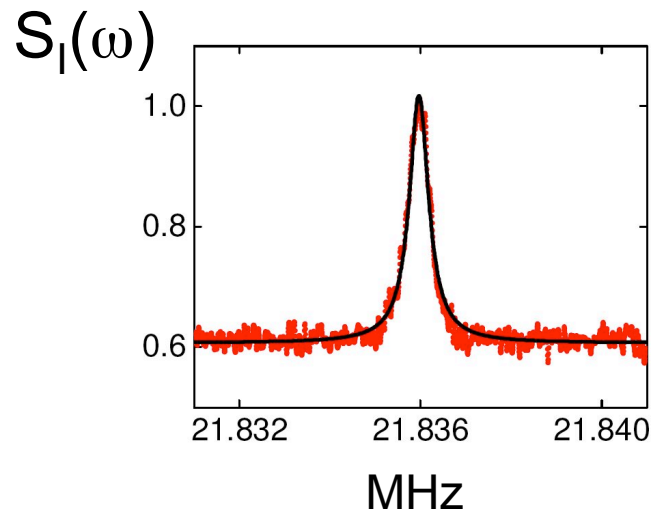
If there were no noise:

$$S_I(\omega) = \lambda^2 S_x(\omega)$$

Including noise added by detector:

$$S_I(\omega) = \lambda^2 [S_x(\omega) + \delta S_x(\omega)] + S_{\xi_0}(\omega)$$

(Ignore correlation for the moment!)



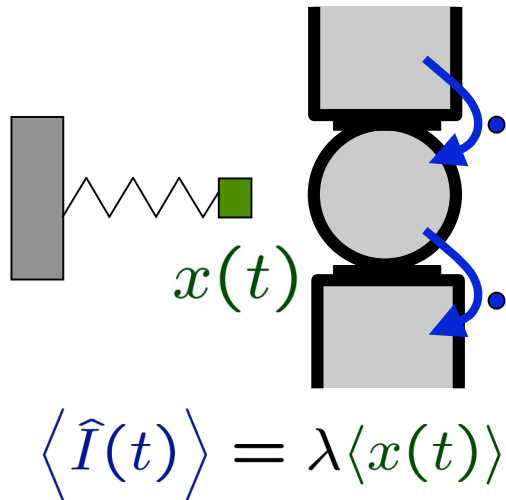
Added noise  $S_{x,\text{add}}(\omega)$ :

$$S_{x,\text{add}}(\omega) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} S_{\xi_0}(\omega) + \delta S_x(\omega)$$

Quantum limit?

$$\begin{aligned} S_{x,\text{add}}(\omega) &\geq S_{x,\text{zpt}}(\omega) \\ &= (\Delta x_{\text{zpt}})^2 \frac{2\Omega\gamma|\omega|}{(\omega^2 - \Omega^2)^2 + \omega^2\gamma^2} \end{aligned}$$

# A loophole?



If there were no noise:

$$S_I(\omega) = \lambda^2 S_x(\omega)$$

Including noise added by detector:

$$S_I(\omega) = \lambda^2 [S_x(\omega) + \delta S_x(\omega)] + S_{\xi_0}(\omega)$$

(Ignore correlation for the moment!)

Added noise  $S_{x,\text{add}}(\omega)$ : 
$$S_{x,\text{add}}(\omega) = \frac{1}{\lambda^2} S_{\xi_0}(\omega) + \delta S_x(\omega)$$

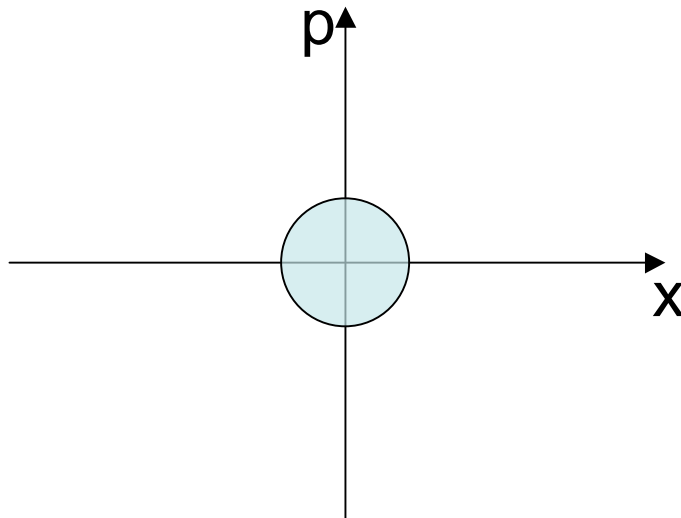
WAIT: what if back-action force and “shot noise” anti-correlated?

$$\tilde{\xi}(t) = \frac{\xi_0(t)}{\lambda} + \xi_{BA}(t)$$

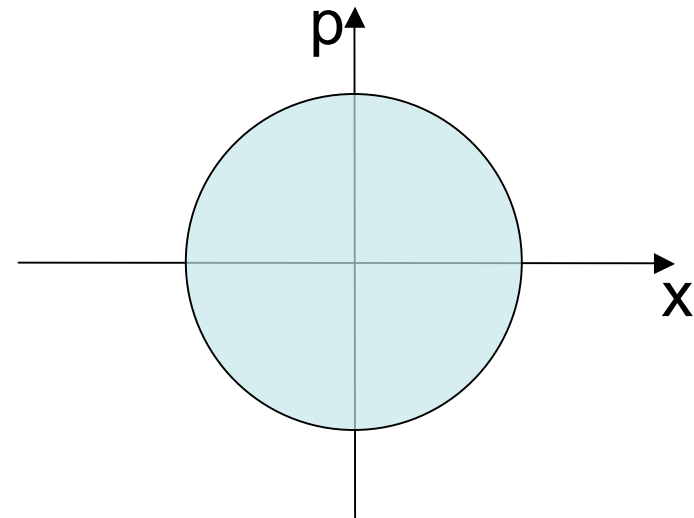
Could in principle have back-action, yet still have no added noise!

# Why must there be added noise?

Before Amplification:



After Amplification:

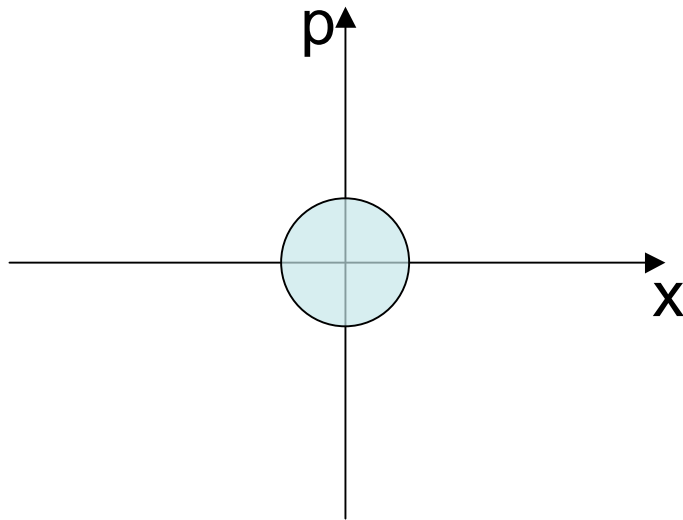


- **Liouville Theorem:** phase-space volume can't expand!
- *Way out:* there *must* be extra degrees of freedom
- **Quantum:** these extra degrees of freedom *must* have some noise (at the very least, zero-point noise)

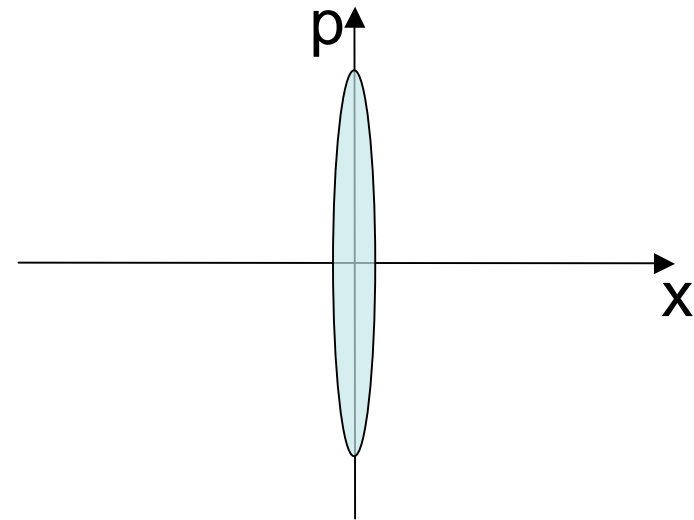
(can use this to derive amplifier quantum limit: Haus & Mullen, 62; Caves 82)

## Aside: Noise-Free Amplification?

Before Amplification:



After Amplification:



- Can amplify one quadrature without any added noise:

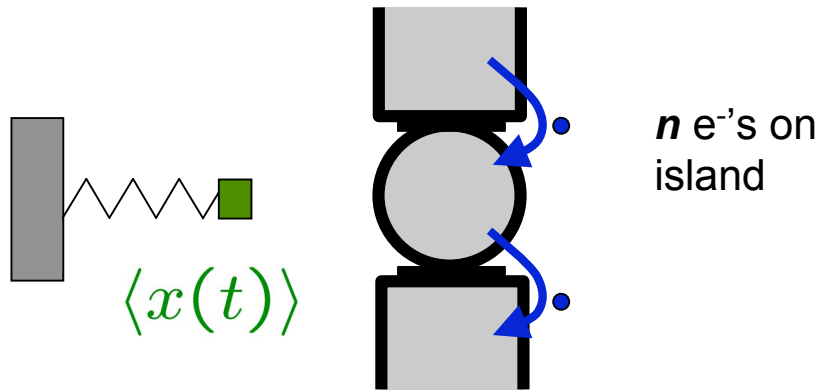
$$x(t) = X(t) \cos \Omega t + Y(t) \sin \Omega t$$



$$x(t) = e^{-A} X(t) \cos \Omega t + e^A Y(t) \sin \Omega t$$

- Can realize this in many ways  
e.g. driven cavity coupled to osc. (AC, Marquardt, Jacobs, 08)

# Detector Noise



$$\hat{I}(t) = \lambda \langle x(t) \rangle + \xi(t)$$

Noise characterized by symmetrized spectral densities:

$$\bar{S}_I(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \langle \{ \delta \hat{I}(t), \delta \hat{I}(0) \} \rangle e^{i\omega t}$$

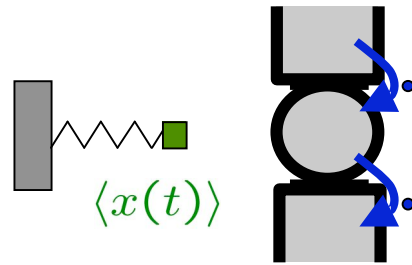
$$\bar{S}_F(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \langle \{ \delta \hat{F}(t), \delta \hat{F}(0) \} \rangle e^{i\omega t}$$

$$\bar{S}_{IF}(\omega) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dt \langle \{ \delta \hat{I}(t), \delta \hat{F}(0) \} \rangle e^{i\omega t}$$

# Quantum Constraint on Noise

AC, Girvin & Stone, PRB **67** (2003)

Averin, cond-mat/031524



$$\hat{I}(t) = \lambda \langle x(t) \rangle + \xi(t)$$

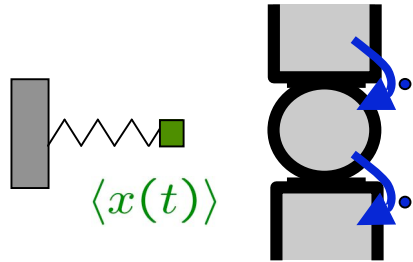
Important aspect of quantum noise:

*There are quantum constraints on noise that have no classical analogue.*

$$\bar{S}_I(\omega) \bar{S}_F(\omega) - [\text{Re } \bar{S}_{IF}(\omega)]^2 \geq \left( \frac{\hbar \lambda(\omega)}{2} \right)^2$$

- ***If we have gain, we MUST in general have noise.***
- To simplify inequality, have assumed:
  - No reverse gain (if you couple to I, F is not affected)
  - $\lambda$  is real

# Origin of Quantum Noise Constraint



$$\hat{I}(t) = \lambda \langle x(t) \rangle + \xi(t)$$

$$\bar{S}_I(\omega) \bar{S}_F(\omega) - [\text{Re } \bar{S}_{IF}(\omega)]^2 \geq \left( \frac{\hbar \lambda(\omega)}{2} \right)^2$$

- Usual Heisenberg Uncertainty relation:

$$(\Delta A)^2 (\Delta B)^2 \geq \frac{1}{4} \langle \{A, B\} \rangle^2 + \frac{1}{4} |\langle [A, B] \rangle|^2$$

- To have gain,  $I(t)$  and  $F(0)$  can't commute for all times  $t$ !

$$\lambda(t) \equiv -\frac{i}{\hbar} \theta(t) \langle [I(t), F(0)] \rangle$$

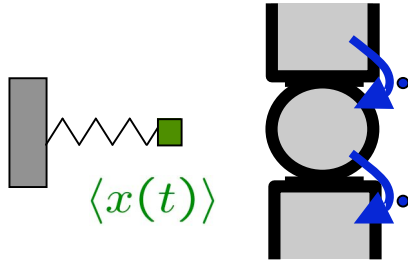
- This non-commutation at different times leads directly to our quantum constraint on the noise



# Quantum Constraint on Noise

AC, Girvin & Stone, PRB **67** (2003)

Averin, cond-mat/031524



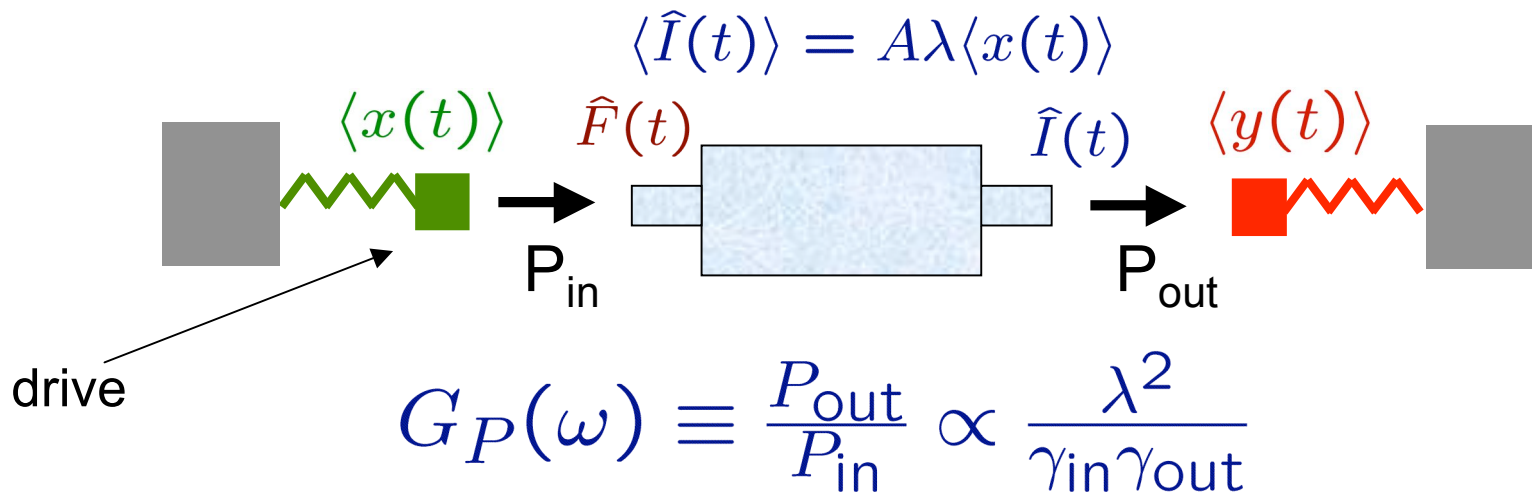
$$\hat{I}(t) = \lambda \langle x(t) \rangle + \xi(t)$$

$$\bar{S}_I(\omega) \bar{S}_F(\omega) - [\text{Re } \bar{S}_{IF}(\omega)]^2 \geq \left( \frac{\hbar \lambda(\omega)}{2} \right)^2$$

- *A detector with “quantum ideal” noise?*
  - One where the product  $S_I S_F$  reaches a minimum.
- *Reaching the quantum limit on the added noise requires a detector with “quantum ideal” noise....*

# Power Gain

- Only have a quantum limit if our detector truly amplifies
- Need dimensionless measure of **power gain**....



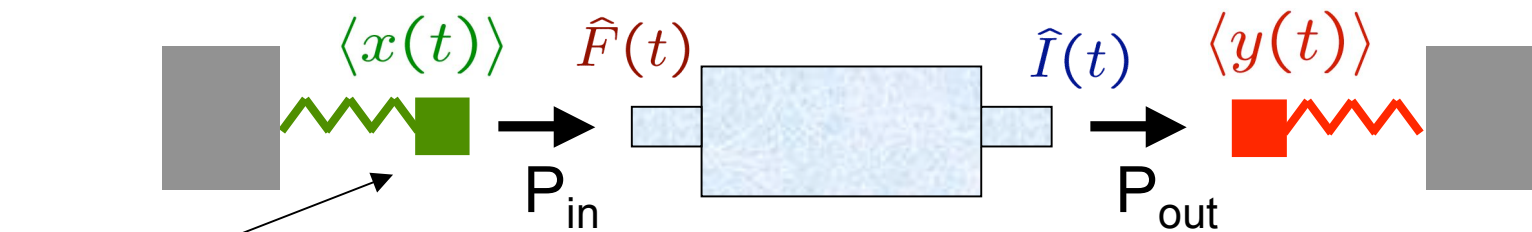
***Need a large power gain!***

Otherwise, we can't ignore the added noise of the next stage of amplification!

# Power Gain

- Only expect a quantum limit if our detector truly amplifies
- Need to introduce the notion of a dimensionless **power gain**....

$$\langle \hat{I}(t) \rangle = A\lambda \langle x(t) \rangle$$



drive

$$G_P(\omega) \equiv \frac{P_{out}}{P_{in}} \propto \frac{\lambda^2}{\gamma_{in}\gamma_{out}}$$

- If detector has “ideal” quantum noise:

$$G_P(\omega) = \left( \frac{4k_B T_{eff}}{\hbar\omega} \right)^2$$

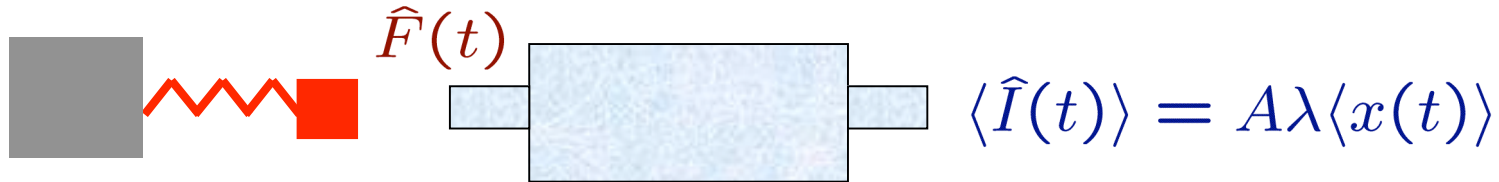
Power gain set by effective temperature!

- If also  $G_P \gg 1$ :

$S_{IF}$  must be real!

(correlations can't help beat QL!)

# Minimum Added Noise



- Quantum noise constraint leads to the quantum limit...
- Consider a large power gain... cross-correlator  $S_{IF}$  is real

$$S_x(\omega) = \frac{\bar{S}_I}{A^2 \lambda^2} + A^2 |g(\omega)|^2 \bar{S}_F - \frac{2 \text{Re} [g(\omega)] \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda}$$

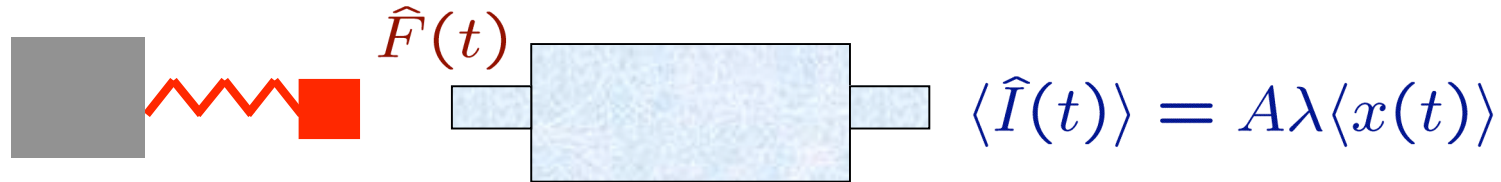
*Intrinsic output  
noise of detector*

*Effect of back-  
action force noise*

***Three steps for reaching the quantum limit:***

$$g(\omega) = \frac{1}{m\omega^2 - \Omega^2 + i\omega\gamma}$$

# Minimum Added Noise



- Quantum noise constraint leads to the quantum limit...
- Assume the limit of a large power gain  $\Rightarrow S_{IF} / \lambda$  is real

$$S_x(\omega) = \frac{\bar{S}_I}{A^2 \lambda^2} + A^2 |g(\omega)|^2 \bar{S}_F - \frac{2\text{Re}[g(\omega)] \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda}$$

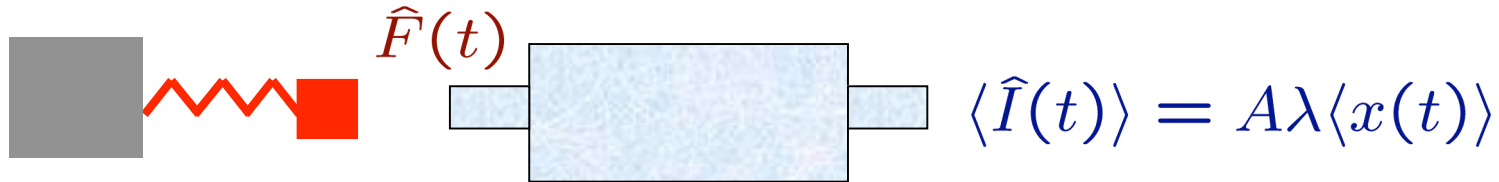
*Intrinsic output  
noise of detector*

*Effect of back-  
action force noise*

**Three steps for reaching the quantum limit:**

1. Balance back action and intrinsic noise via tuning coupling  $A$ .

# Minimum Added Noise



- Quantum noise constraint leads to the quantum limit...
- Assume the limit of a large power gain  $\Rightarrow S_{IF} / \lambda$  is real

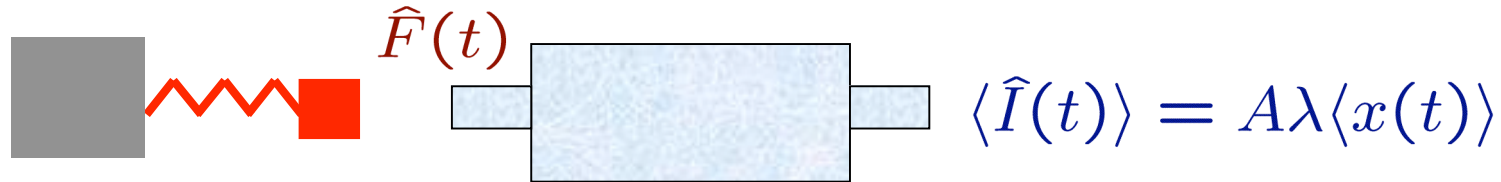
$$S_x(\omega) = \frac{\bar{S}_I}{A^2 \lambda^2} + A^2 |g(\omega)|^2 \bar{S}_F - \frac{2 \operatorname{Re} [g(\omega)] \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda}$$

$$\geq 2 |g(\omega)| \left[ \sqrt{\bar{S}_I \bar{S}_F / \lambda^2} - \frac{\cos \phi(\omega) \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda} \right]$$

**Three steps for reaching the quantum limit:**

1. Balance back action and intrinsic noise via tuning coupling  $A$ .

# Minimum Added Noise



- Quantum noise constraint leads to the quantum limit...
- Assume the limit of a large power gain  $\Rightarrow S_{IF} / \lambda$  is real

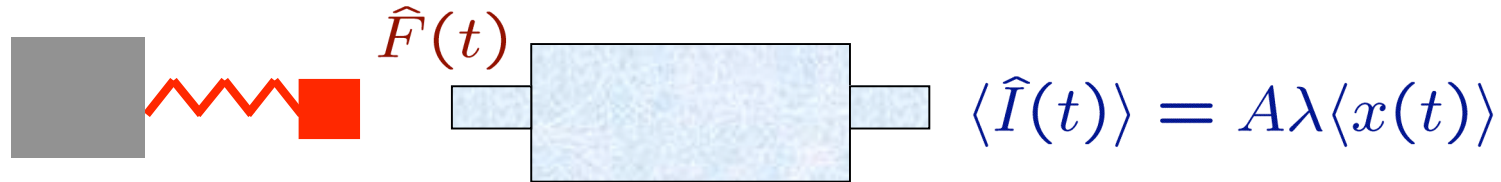
$$S_x(\omega) = \frac{\bar{S}_I}{A^2 \lambda^2} + A^2 |g(\omega)|^2 \bar{S}_F - \frac{2 \operatorname{Re} [g(\omega)] \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda}$$

$$\geq 2 |g(\omega)| \left[ \sqrt{\bar{S}_I \bar{S}_F / \lambda^2} - \frac{\cos \phi(\omega) \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda} \right]$$

**Three steps for reaching the quantum limit:**

1. Balance back action and intrinsic noise via tuning coupling A
2. **Use a quantum-limited detector!**

# Minimum Added Noise



- Quantum noise constraint leads to the quantum limit...
- Assume the limit of a large power gain  $\Rightarrow S_{IF} / \lambda$  is real

$$S_x(\omega) = \frac{\bar{S}_I}{A^2 \lambda^2} + A^2 |g(\omega)|^2 \bar{S}_F - \frac{2 \operatorname{Re} [g(\omega)] \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda}$$

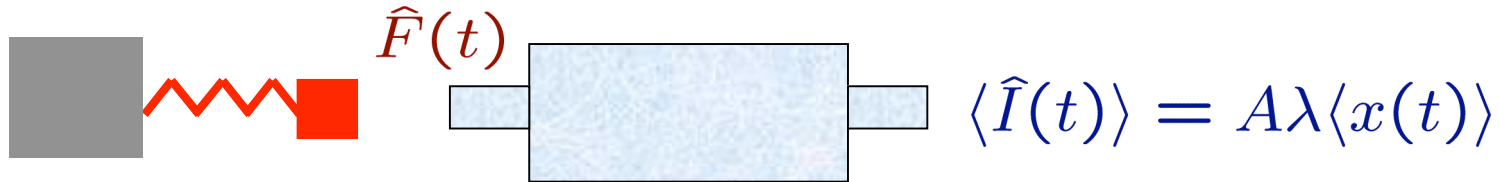
$$\geq 2 |g(\omega)| \left[ \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{4} + \frac{\bar{S}_{IF}^2}{\lambda^2}} - \frac{\cos \phi(\omega) \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda} \right]$$

**Three steps for reaching the quantum limit:**

1. Balance back action and intrinsic noise via tuning coupling  $A$
2. Use a quantum-limited detector!



# Minimum Added Noise



- Quantum noise constraint leads to the quantum limit...
- Assume the limit of a large power gain  $\Rightarrow S_{IF} / \lambda$  is real

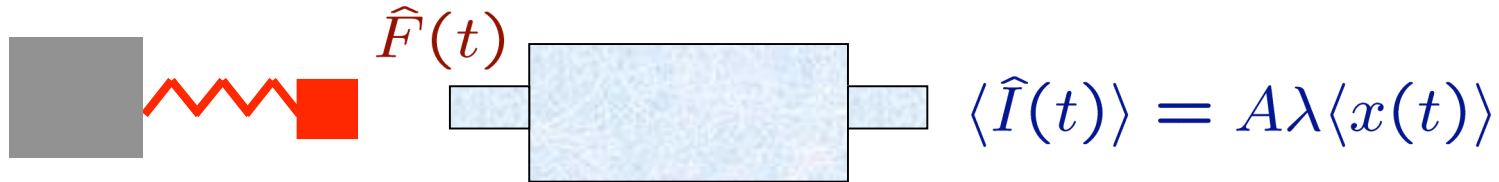
$$S_x(\omega) = \frac{\bar{S}_I}{A^2 \lambda^2} + A^2 |g(\omega)|^2 \bar{S}_F - \frac{2 \operatorname{Re} [g(\omega)] \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda}$$

$$\geq 2 |g(\omega)| \left[ \sqrt{\frac{\hbar^2}{4} + \frac{\bar{S}_{IF}^2}{\lambda^2}} - \frac{\cos \phi(\omega) \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda} \right]$$

## **Three steps for reaching the quantum limit:**

1. Balance back action and intrinsic noise via tuning coupling
2. Use a quantum-limited detector!
3. Tune the cross-correlator  $S_{IF}$

# Minimum Added Noise



- Quantum noise constraint leads to the quantum limit...
- Assume the limit of a large power gain  $\Rightarrow S_{IF} / \lambda$  is real

$$S_x(\omega) = \frac{\bar{S}_I}{\lambda^2 A^2} + A^2 |g(\omega)|^2 \bar{S}_F - \frac{2\text{Re} [g(\omega)] \bar{S}_{IF}}{\lambda}$$

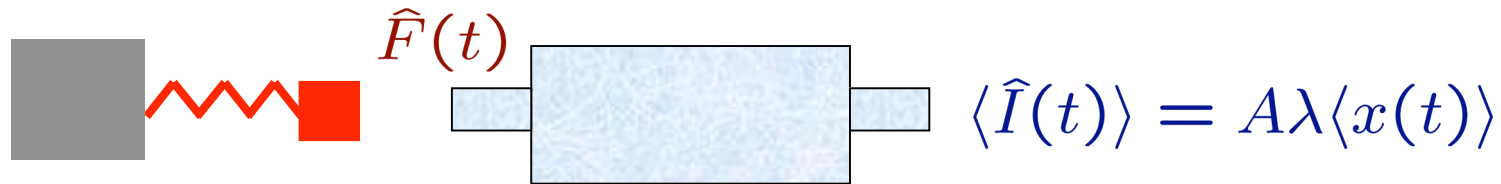
$$\geq \frac{\hbar\omega\gamma_{tot}/m}{(\omega^2 - \Omega^2)^2 + \omega^2\gamma_{tot}^2} = S_{x,zpt}(\omega)$$

*Same as zero point noise!*

## **Three steps for reaching the quantum limit:**

1. Balance back action and intrinsic noise via tuning coupling  $A$
2. Use a quantum-limited detector!
3. Tune the cross-correlator  $S_{IF}$

## On resonance, $\omega = \Omega$



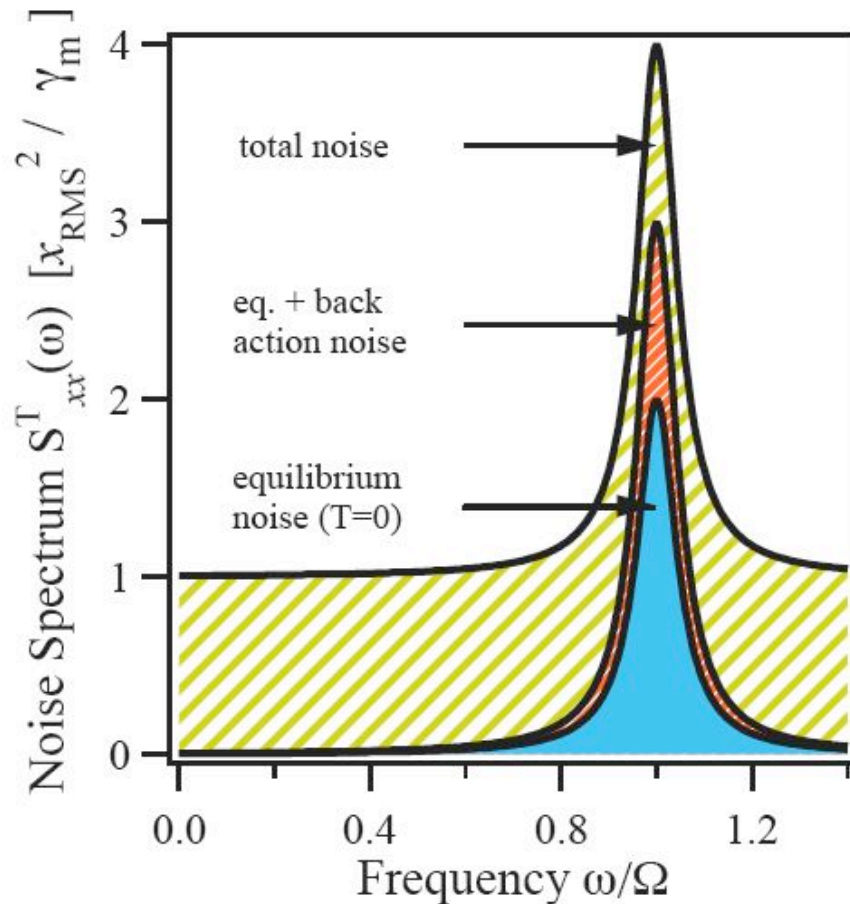
$$S_x(\omega = \Omega) \geq \frac{\hbar}{m\Omega} \cdot \frac{1}{\gamma_{tot}} = 2(\Delta x)^2 \frac{1}{\gamma_{tot}}$$

- The condition for an optimal coupling takes a simple form:

$$\frac{A_{opt}^2 \gamma}{\gamma_0 + A_{opt}^2 \gamma} = \frac{\hbar \Omega}{4k_B T_{eff}}$$

- *At the quantum limit, the amplifier-oscillator coupling has to be weak enough to offset the large  $T_{eff}$  of the amplifier*

# Detecting Zero Point Motion?



$$\hat{I}(t) = \lambda \langle x(t) \rangle + \xi(t)$$

- Pick coupling to minimize added noise *on resonance*
- *Oscillator peak is 4 times noise background...*

Experiments:

$$\frac{k_B T_N}{\hbar \omega / 2} \equiv \frac{\sqrt{S_I S_F}}{\hbar \lambda / 2}$$

Naik, Schwab et al. 06:

SET detector,  $15 \times QL$  (*but...*)

using actual output noise?  $525 \times QL$

Flowers-Jacobs, Lehnert et al. 07:

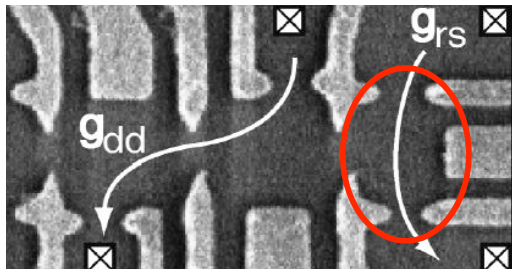
APC detector,  $(1700 \pm 400) \times QL$  (measured!)

# Meaning of “ideal noise”?

- *Key point: need to have a detector with “ideal” quantum noise to reach the quantum limit.*

$$S_I(\omega)S_F(\omega) - [\text{Re } S_{IF}(\omega)]^2 \geq \hbar^2 [\text{Re } \lambda(\omega)]^2$$

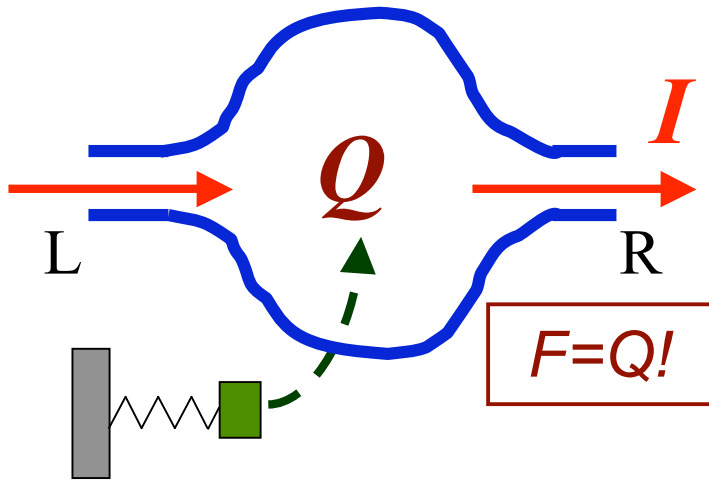
- *What does this mean?*
  - Detector **cannot** be in a thermal equilibrium state;
  - More concrete: “no wasted information”  
e.g. generalized QPC detector
    - scattering matrix must satisfy constraints related to “wasted information” (Pilgram & Buttiker; A.C., Stone & Girvin)



$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{d\varepsilon} (\beta - \varphi) &= 0 \\ \frac{\frac{dT}{d\varepsilon}}{T(1 - T)} &= \frac{1}{C} \end{aligned}$$

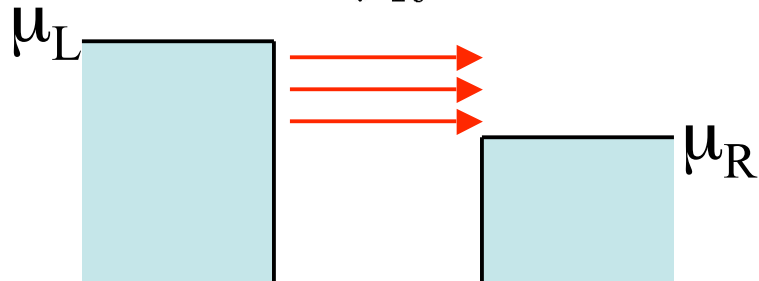
# Mesoscopic Scattering Detector

(AC, Girvin & Stone 03)



$$s(\varepsilon) = \begin{pmatrix} \sqrt{1-T}e^{i\beta} & \sqrt{T}e^{i\varphi'} \\ \sqrt{T}e^{i\varphi} & -\sqrt{1-T}e^{i\beta'} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$I_0 = \frac{e^2}{h} \int_{\mu_R}^{\mu_L} d\varepsilon T(\varepsilon)$$



T depends on oscillator:

$$T(\varepsilon) = T_0(\varepsilon) + \frac{dT(\varepsilon)}{dx} \cdot x$$

$$\langle I \rangle = I_0 + A\lambda \langle x(t) \rangle$$

Insisting on “ideal” noise puts constraints on s-matrix:

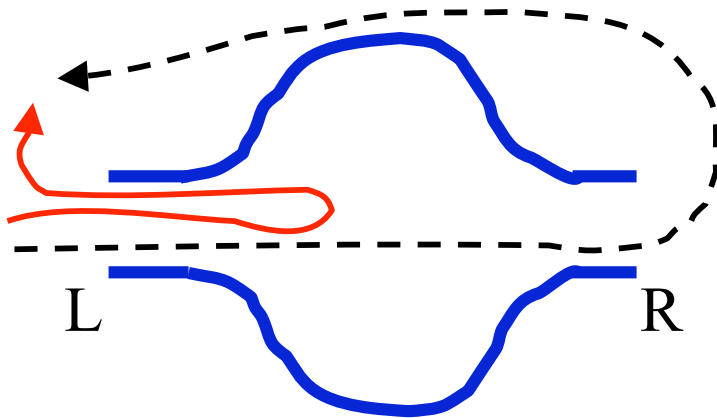
$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d}{dx} (\beta - \varphi) &= 0 \\ \left[ \frac{\frac{dT}{dx}}{T(1-T)} \right] (\varepsilon) &= \frac{1}{C} \end{aligned}$$

# Wasted Information?

(AC, Girvin & Stone 03)

## Phase Info:

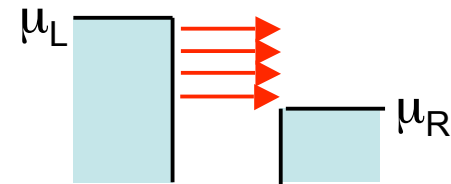
- try to learn more by doing an interference expt.



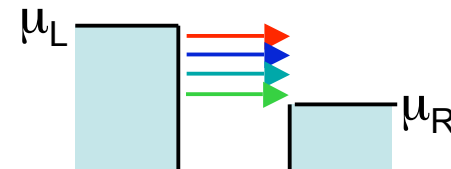
$$\frac{d}{dx} (\beta - \varphi) = 0$$

## Info in $T(\varepsilon)$ :

- try to learn more by using the energy-dependence of  $T$

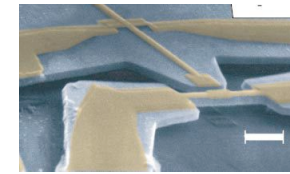
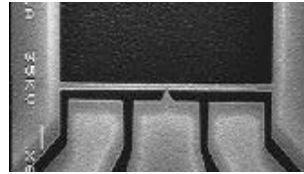
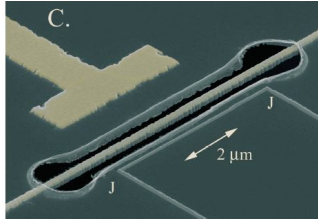


versus

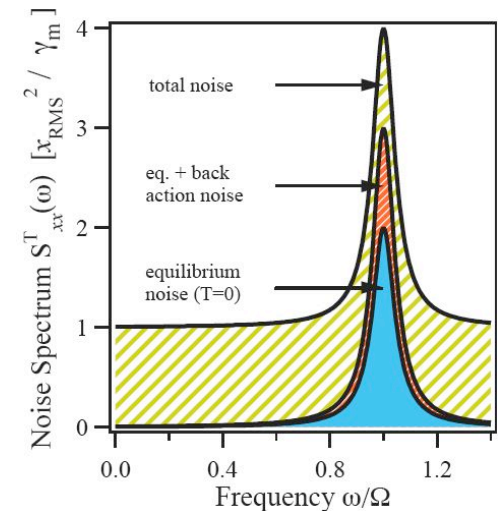


$$\left[ \frac{\frac{dT}{d\varepsilon}}{T(1-T)} \right] (\varepsilon) = \frac{1}{C}$$

# Conclusions



- $T_{eff}$  of a non-equilibrium system:
  - Defined by the detector's quantum noise spectrum
  - Characterizes asymmetry between absorption and emission of energy
  - In general, is frequency dependent
- Quantum Limit
  - There are quantum constraints on noise
  - Reaching the quantum limit requires a detector with “ideal” noise



*Clerk, Phys. Rev. B 70, 245306 (2004)*  
*Clerk & Bennett, New. J. Phys. 7, 238 (2005)*  
*Clerk, Girvin, Marquardt, Devoret & Schoelkopf, RMP (soon!)*