Tereza Vakhtel, Science Leiden Instituut Onderzoek Natuurkunde (LION), Theoretical Physics

Quantum phase slips in a resonant Josephson junction

In superconducting circuits with highly transparent junctions, the amplitude for quantum tunneling under the Josephson potential barrier is modified by the Landau-Zener probability to excite an Andreev bound state, resulting in the suppression of 2pi quantum phase slips. We investigate the consequences of this process on the observable properties of transmon and fluxonium circuits. In particular, in a transmon circuit, we determine the residual charge dispersion of the energy levels that persists even at perfect transparency, due to the occurance of 4pi phase slips. We determine parameters to observe these effects with present-day circuits.