

Nanoelectromechanical Systems

A much too short introduction

Overview

Intro

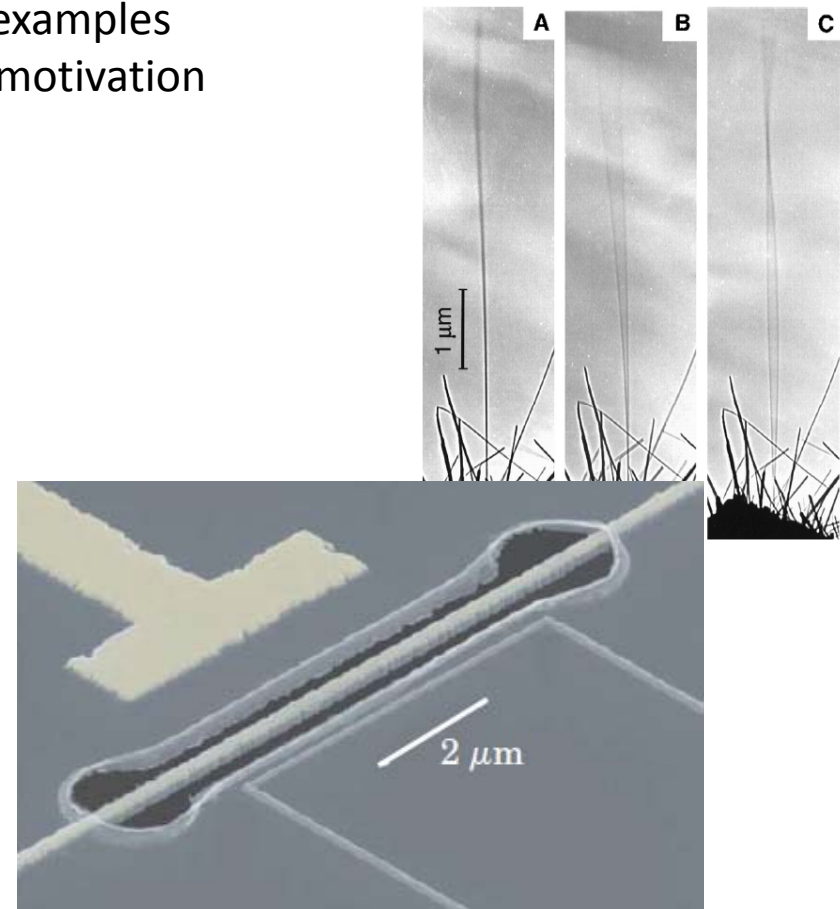
- up to now: electronic quantum / nanoscale systems, e.g. Quantum dots (QDs)
- coupling electronic to other quantum systems: examples
- nanoelectromechanical systems: examples and motivation

Basics

- some basics of continuum mechanics
- oscillating beams
- from modes to harmonic oscillators
- coupling mechanisms: actuation and sensing
- [(quantum) back-action]

Fundamental experiments and applications

- ground state cooling (Teufel et al.)
- engineering of coupling to a QD (Ilani et al.)
- [Franck- Condon blockade]
- [Phonon-assisted Andreev tunneling]
- ...



Coupling electronic to other quantum systems

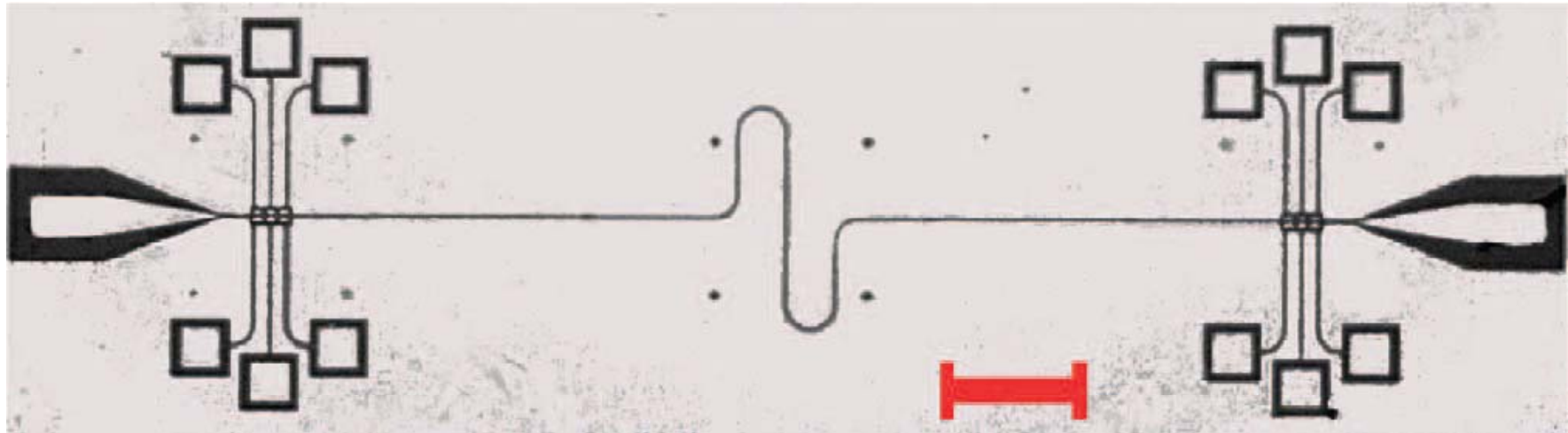
Coupling to **Phonons / vibrations**:

- electrical resistance due to phonon scattering (week 2)
- many more... (topic of this part)

Coupling to **cold atoms / ions / Rydberg atoms**:

Coupling to **Photons**:

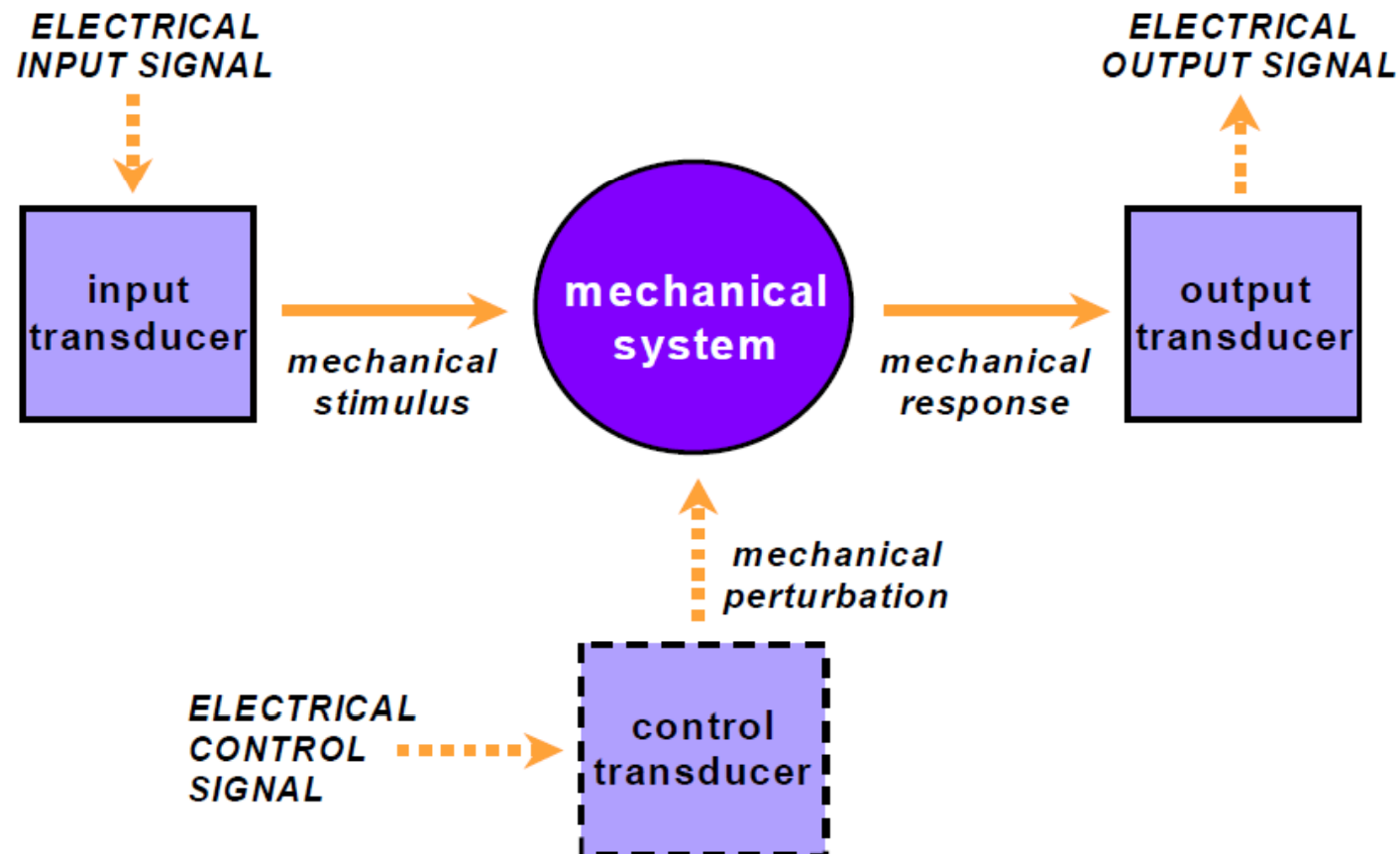
- rf cavity photons
- quantum dot LEDs
- electrically driven quantum cascade, QD, double-QD and other lasers (e.g. Kolloquium!)



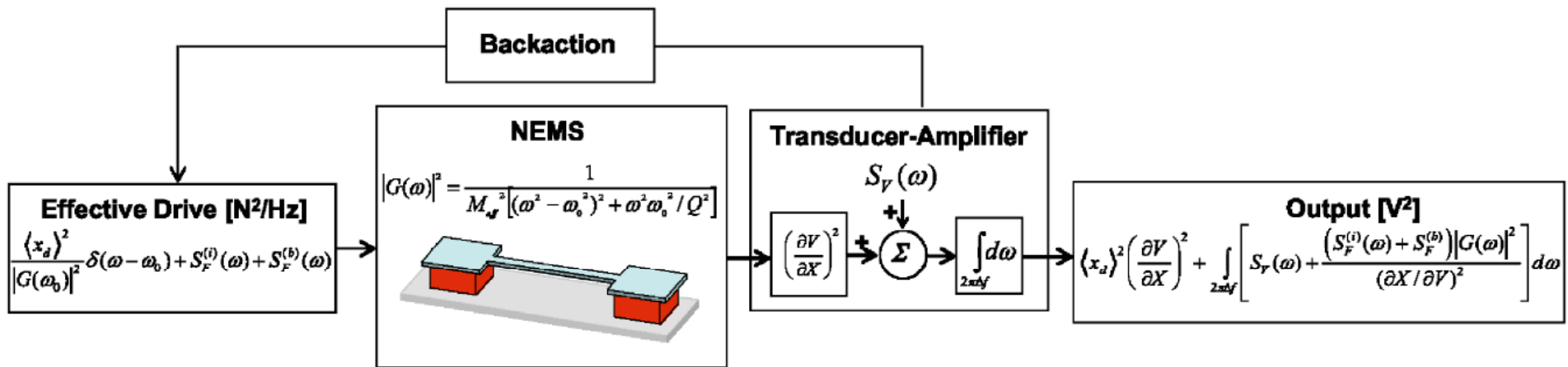
Photon-mediated interaction between distant quantum dots

Delbecq *et al.*, Nature Comm. **4**, 1400 (2013)

Nanoelectromechanical Systems: intro



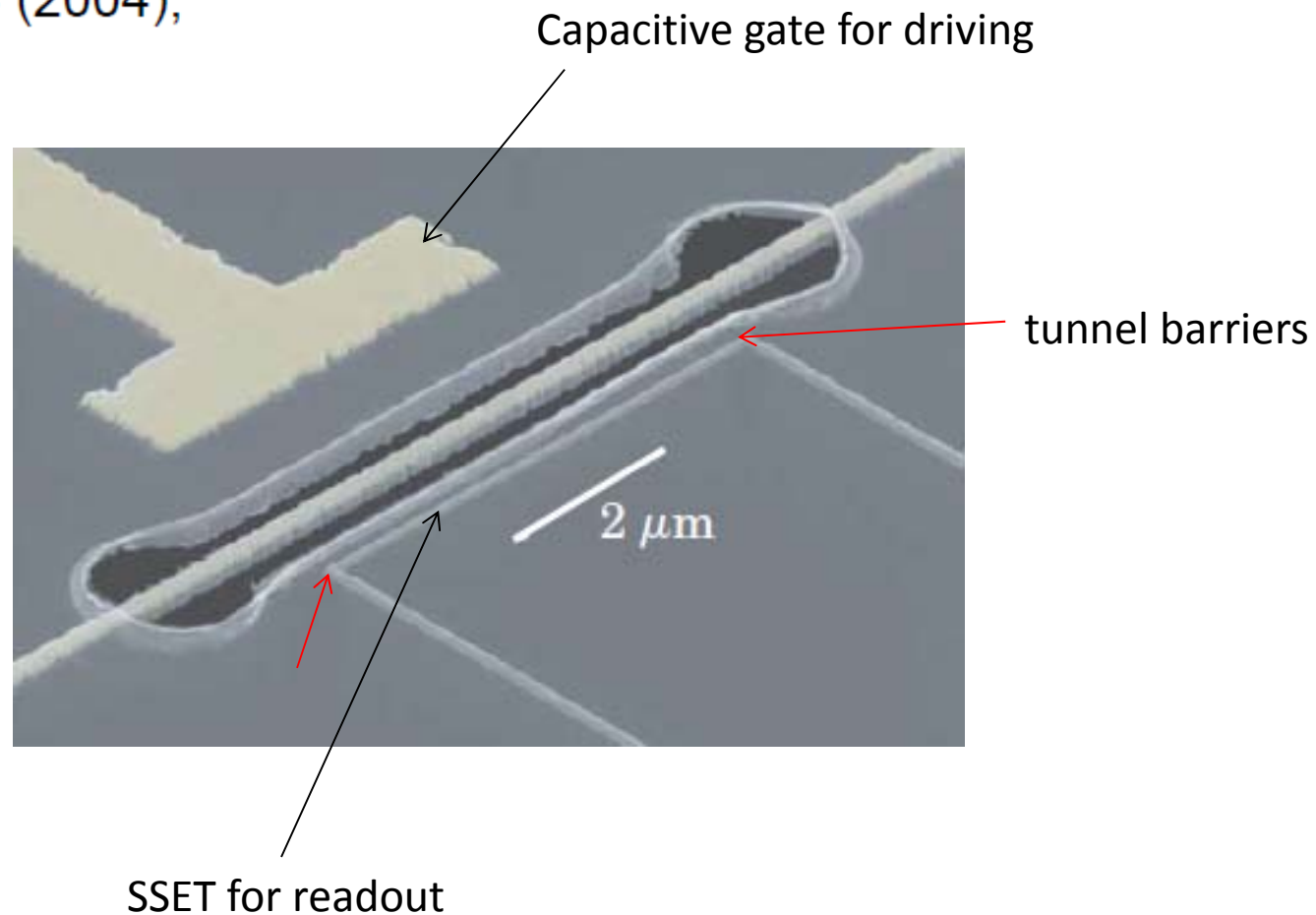
Nanoelectromechanical Systems: intro



Nanoelectromechanical Systems: examples

Approaching the Quantum Limit of a Nanomechanical Resonator

M. D. LaHaye, *et al.*
Science **304**, 74 (2004);



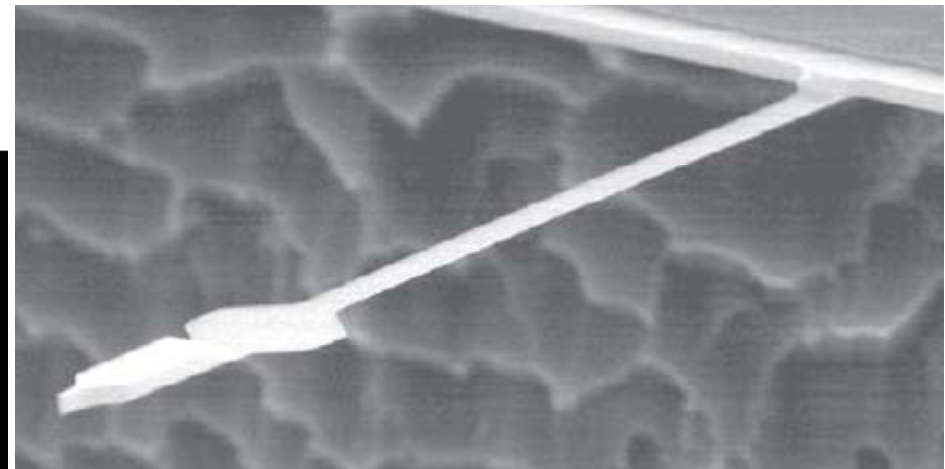
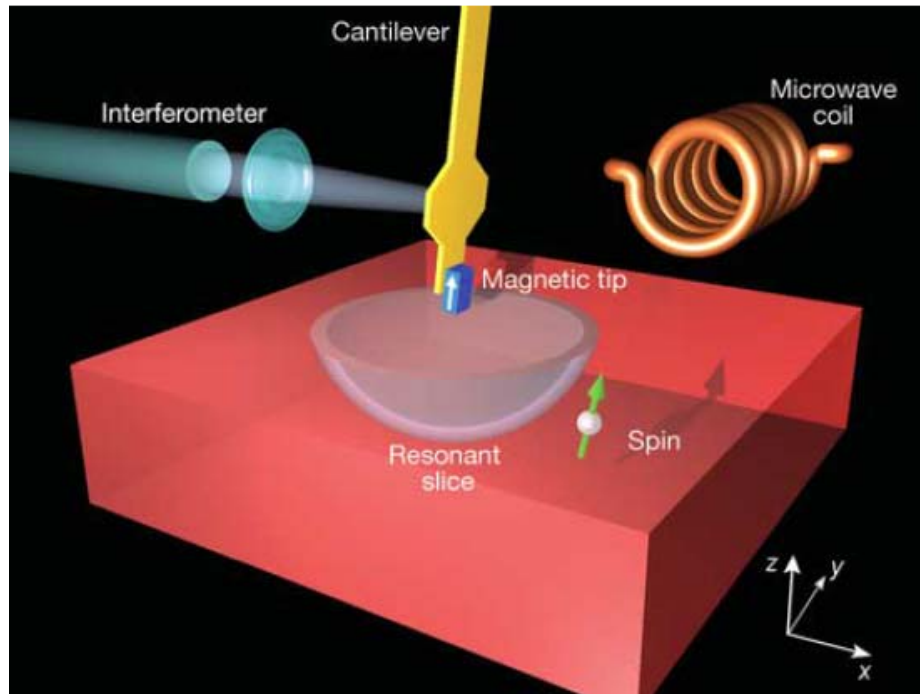
Nanoelectromechanical Systems: examples

Single spin detection by magnetic resonance force microscopy

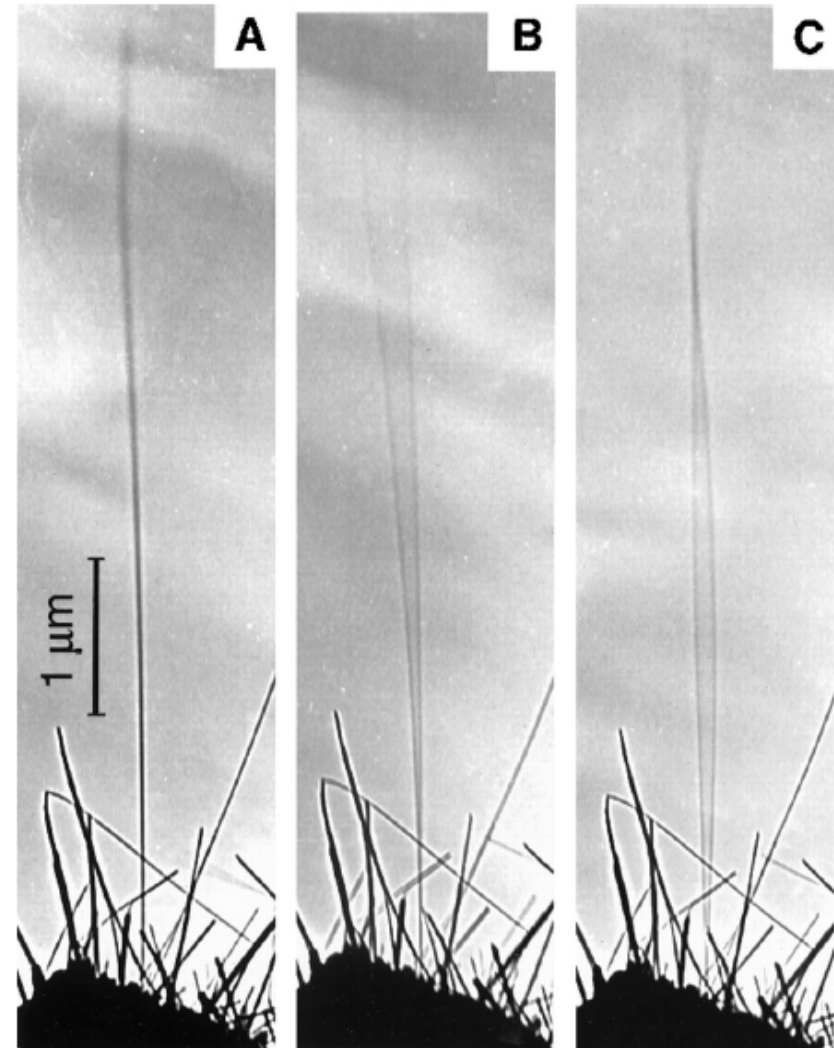
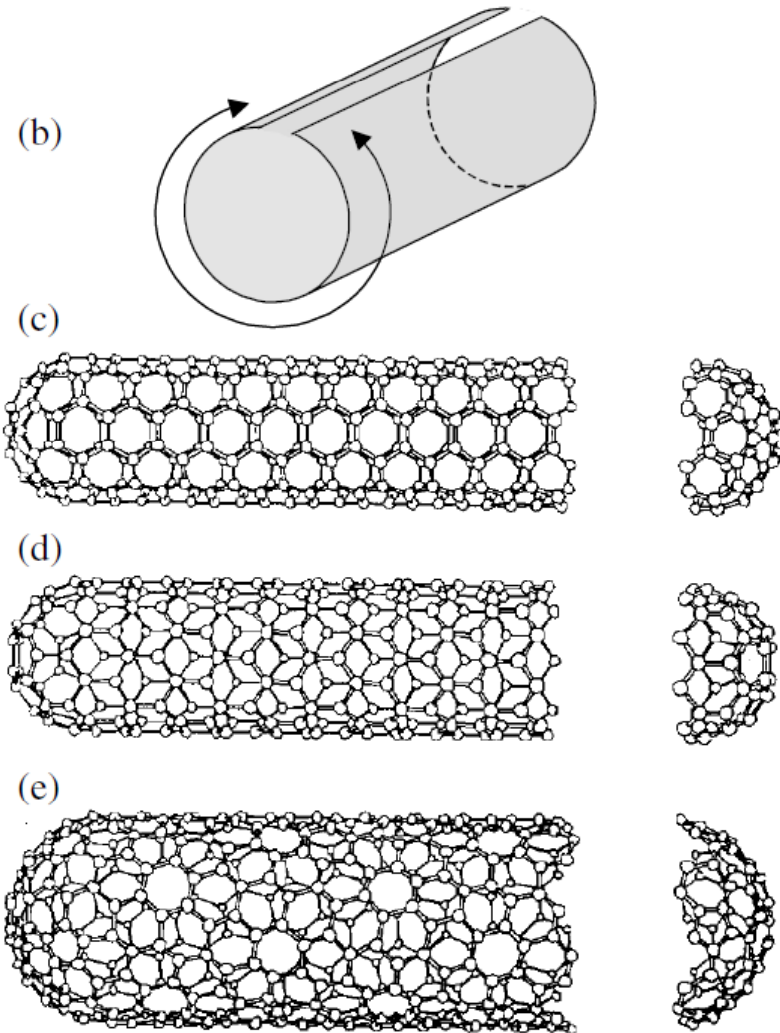
D. Rugar, R. Budakian, H. J. Mamin & B. W. Chui

NATURE | VOL 430 | 15 JULY 2004

Magnetic cantilever



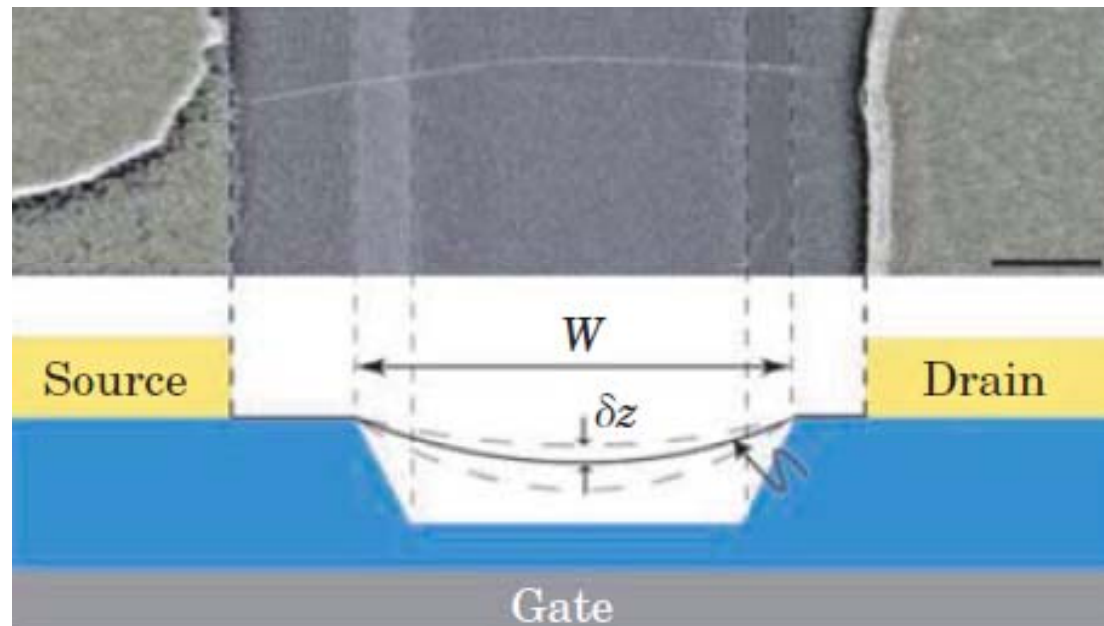
CNTs



TEM images of CNTs at different gate voltages
Poncharal *et al.*, *Science* 283, 1513 (1999)

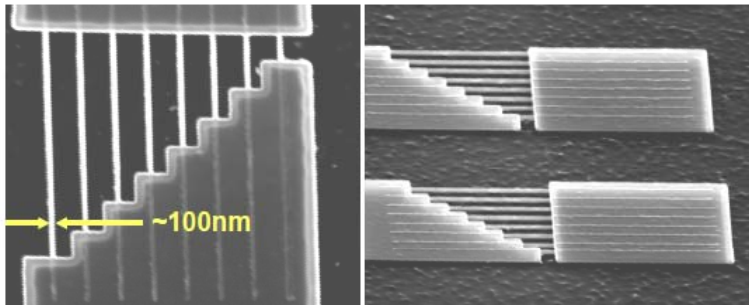
Nanoelectromechanical Systems: examples

A tunable carbon nanotube electromechanical oscillator



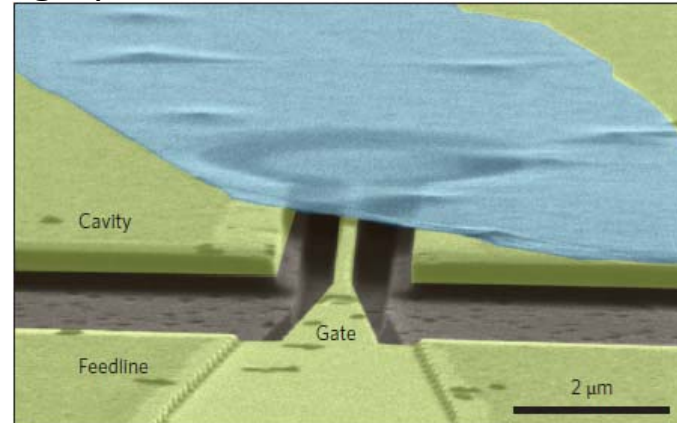
Nanoelectromechanical Systems: examples

SiC beams



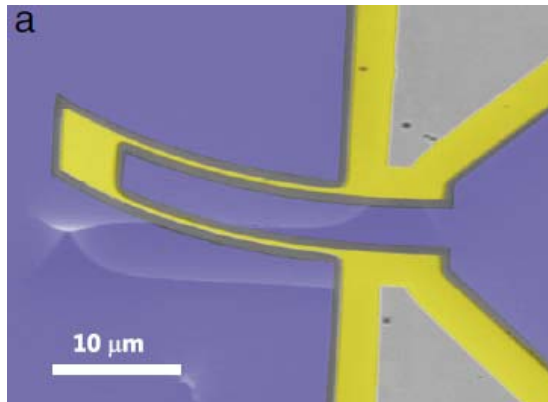
Solid-State Sensor and Actuator Workshop,
arXiv:cond-mat/0008187 (2000)

graphene drum



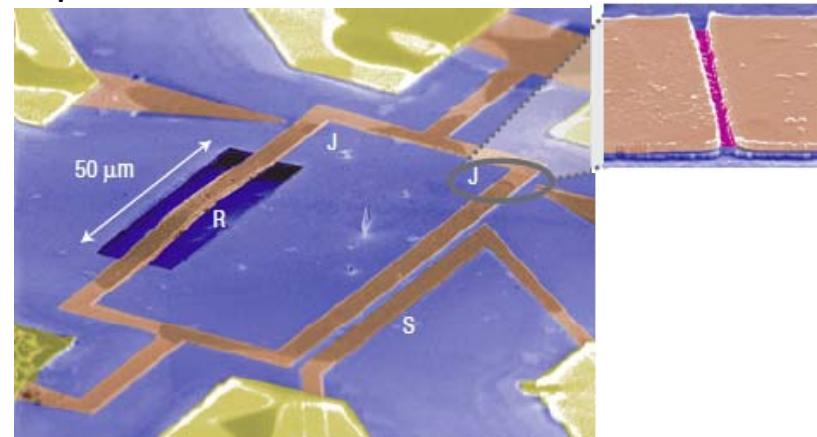
Singh et al., Nature Nanotech. 9, 820 (2014)

Piezo-resistive cantilever,
piezoelectric tuning forks, ...



Poot et al., Physics Reports 511, 273 (2012)

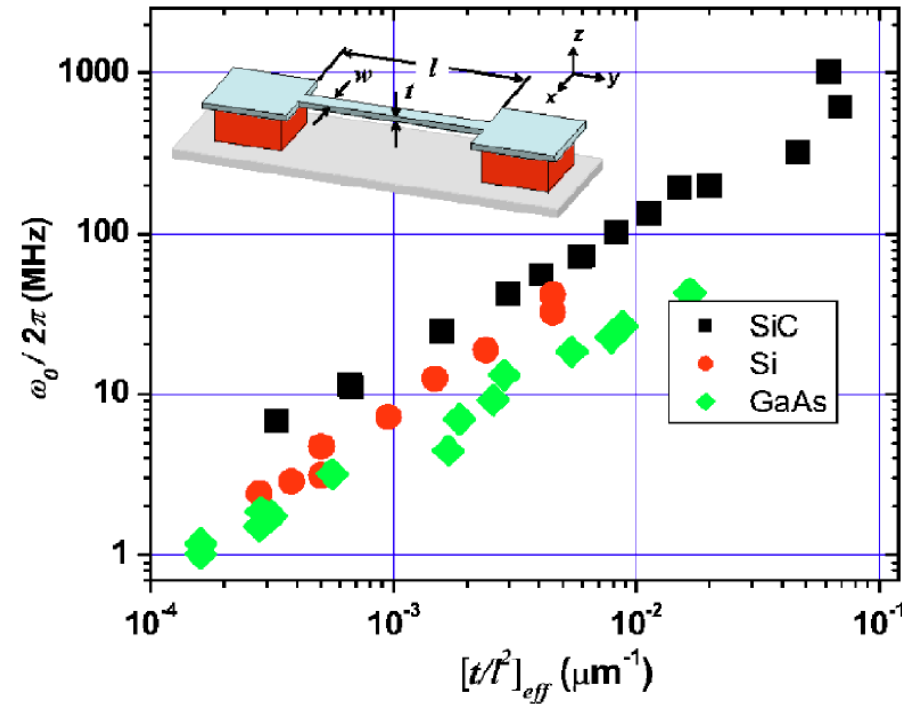
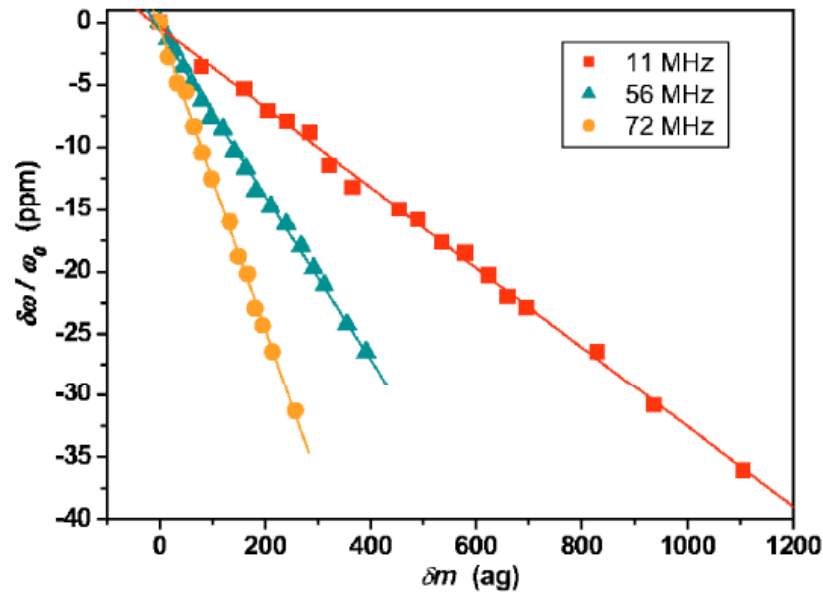
SQUID with variable area/flux
couples motion to SQUID



Etaki et al., Nature Nanotech. 4, 785 (2008)

Nanoelectromechanical Systems: application

mass detection



Today: mass of a proton $\sim 10^{-27}$ kg!

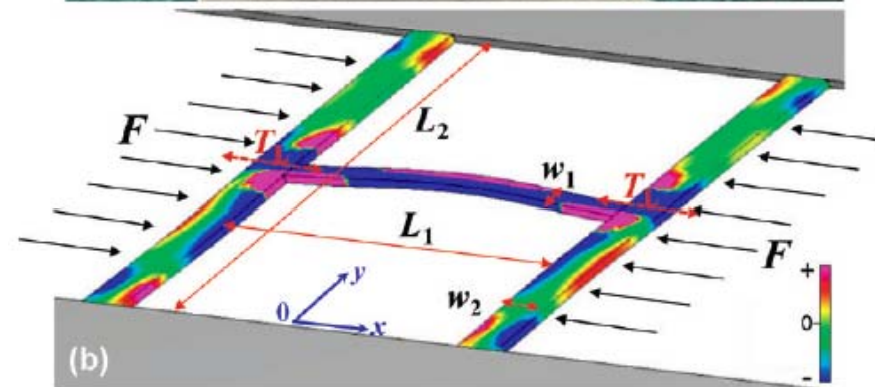
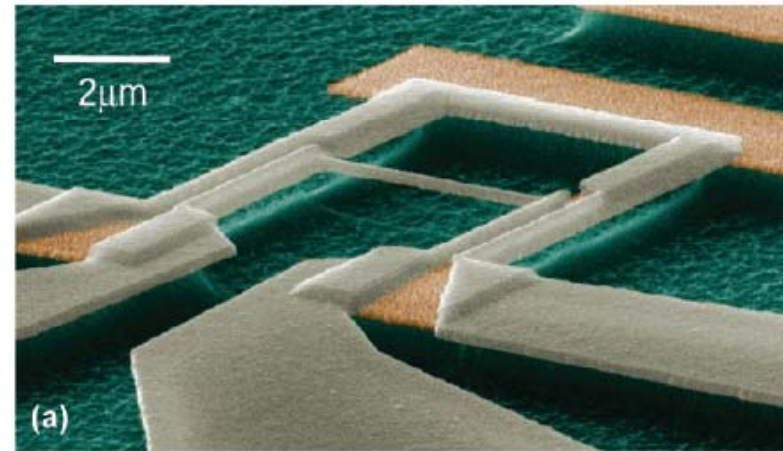
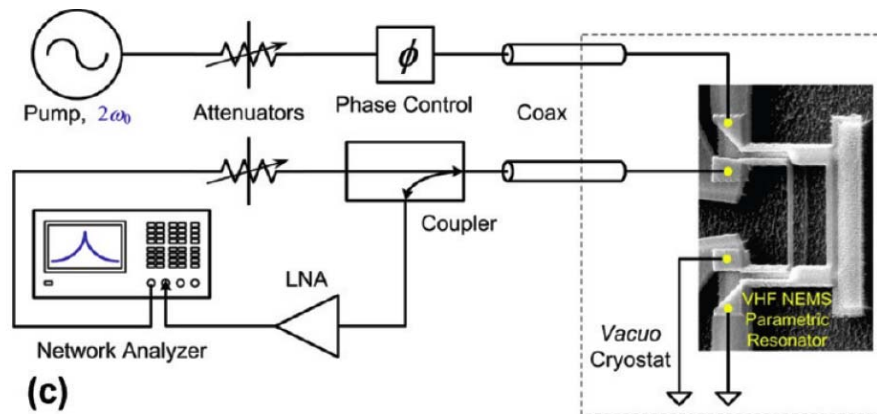
Nanoelectromechanical Systems: applications

Parametric radio-frequency mechanical Amplifier

Large out-of plane field

$$\text{Excitation: } F = LBI(t)$$

Distortion modulates strain (spring constant)
-> parametric amplification



Continuums mechanics Poot et al., Physics Reports 511, 273 (2012)

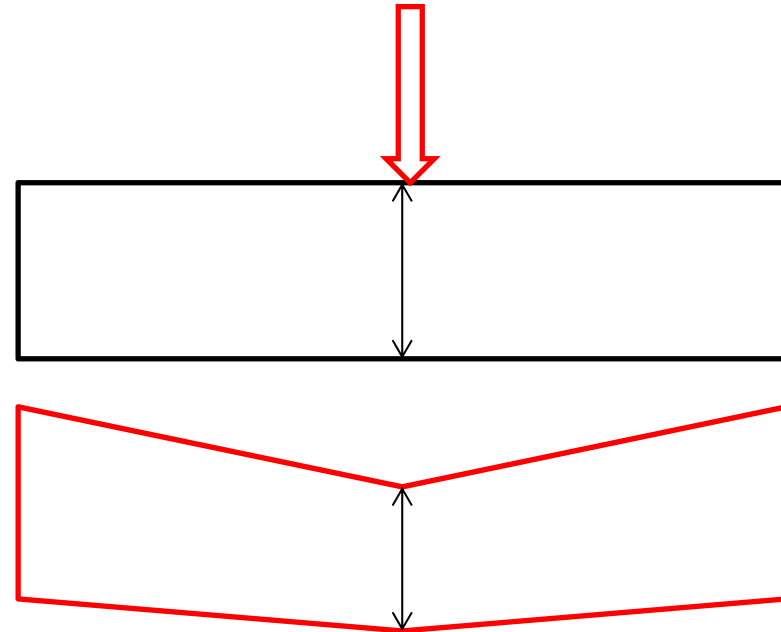
OK for > 10 monolayers (perpendicular to vibration)

Infinitesimal volume element:

displacement $\mathbf{u}(x,y,z)$ -> deformation / elongation of volume element (not only displacement):
strain tensor γ

e.g. no strain for $\mathbf{u}=\text{const.}$

$$\gamma_{ij} = \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\partial u_i}{\partial x_j} + \frac{\partial u_j}{\partial x_i} + \cancel{\frac{\partial u_m}{\partial x_i}} \cancel{\frac{\partial u_m}{\partial x_j}} \right)$$



Continuums mechanics Poot et al., Physics Reports 511, 273 (2012)

$$\delta F_i = \sigma_{ij} n_j \delta A$$

strain tensor

Consider **momentum** of element of the material with mass Δm and volume ΔV speed $\mathbf{v} = \dot{\mathbf{u}}$,

$$\Delta \mathbf{p} \equiv \int_{\Delta m} \mathbf{v} dm = \int_{\Delta V} \rho \mathbf{v} dV$$

$$\frac{d\Delta \mathbf{p}}{dt} = \int_{\Delta V} \mathbf{F}_b dV + \int_{\delta(\Delta V)} \sigma dA$$

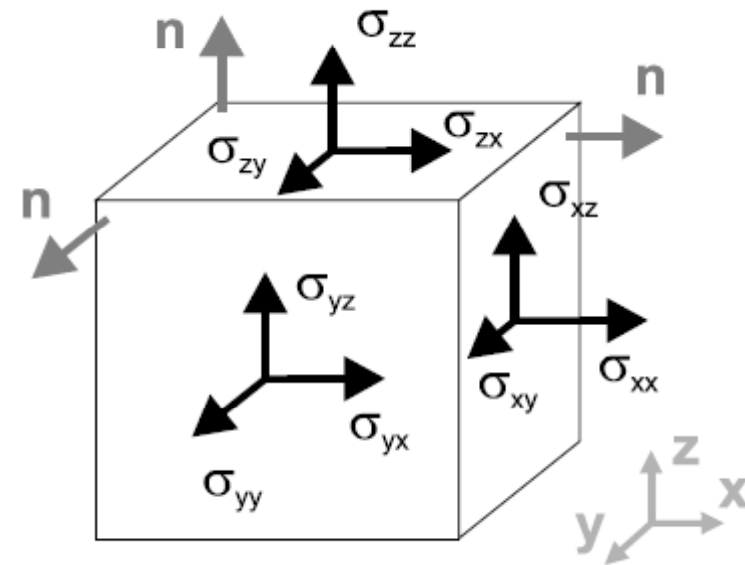
Gauss integral:

$$\int_{\delta(\Delta V)} \sigma dA = \int_{\Delta V} \partial \sigma_{ij} / \partial x_i \cdot \hat{\mathbf{x}}_i dV$$

material forces + body forces

Cauchy's first law of motion $\rho \ddot{u}_j = \frac{\partial \sigma_{ij}}{\partial x_i} + F_{b,j}$

similar for angular momentum: $\sigma_{ij} = \sigma_{ji}$



Continuums mechanics

Elasticity: $\sigma_{ij} = E_{ijkl} \gamma_{kl}$



From symmetries (81 elements -> 21 indep. Elements)

$$\begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{xx} \\ \sigma_{yy} \\ \sigma_{zz} \\ \sigma_{xz} \\ \sigma_{yz} \\ \sigma_{xy} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} E_{xxxx} & E_{xxxy} & E_{xxxz} & E_{xxxx} & E_{xxyz} & E_{xxxz} \\ E_{xxxy} & E_{yyyy} & E_{yyyz} & E_{yyxz} & E_{yyyz} & E_{yyyx} \\ E_{xxxz} & E_{yyyz} & E_{zzzz} & E_{zzzx} & E_{zzzy} & E_{zzxy} \\ E_{xxxz} & E_{yyxz} & E_{zzzx} & E_{xzzx} & E_{xzzz} & E_{yxxz} \\ E_{xxyz} & E_{yyyz} & E_{zzzy} & E_{xzzz} & E_{yxxz} & E_{xyyz} \\ E_{xxxz} & E_{yyyx} & E_{zzzy} & E_{yxxz} & E_{xyyz} & E_{xyyx} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \gamma_{xx} \\ \gamma_{yy} \\ \gamma_{zz} \\ 2\gamma_{xz} \\ 2\gamma_{yz} \\ 2\gamma_{xy} \end{bmatrix}$$

or $[\sigma] = [E][\gamma]$

compliance tensor C $\gamma_{ij} = C_{ijkl} \sigma_{kl}$

isotropic material
→ only two indep. elements!

$$[C] = \begin{bmatrix} 1/E & -\nu/E & -\nu/E & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\nu/E & 1/E & -\nu/E & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ -\nu/E & -\nu/E & 1/E & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/G & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/G & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1/G \end{bmatrix}$$

$$G = \frac{E}{2 + 2\nu}$$

Young's modulus E and Poisson's ratio ν

G is the shear modulus

Continuums mechanics

energy: $U = \int_V U' dV$ with $U' = \frac{1}{2} E_{ijkl} \gamma_{ij} \gamma_{kl}$

$$U = U_B + U_T + U_F$$

depending on geometry: bending (perpendicular to long dimensions)
 + tension (along long dimensions)
 + external

minimize U (variational methods) -> differential equation for \mathbf{u}
 $u \rightarrow u + \delta u$

e.g. Euler Bernoulli equation for a beam:

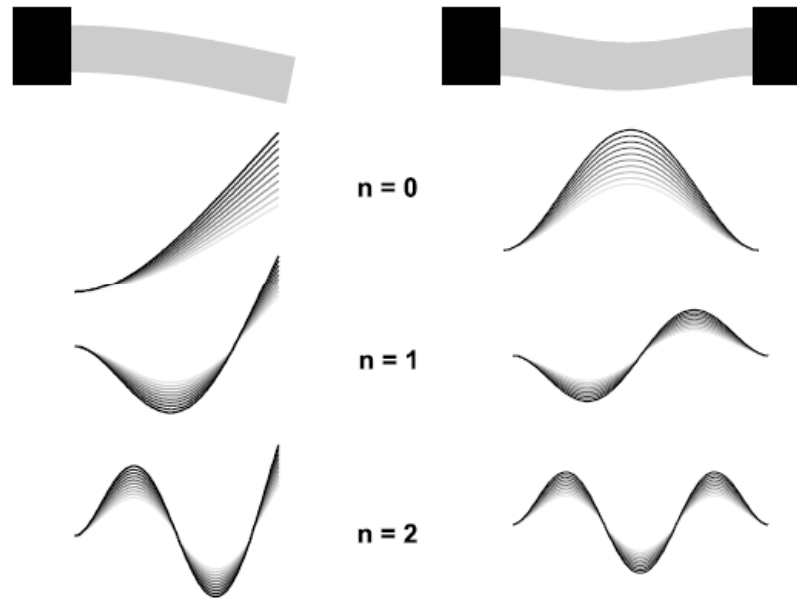
$$\rho A \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + D \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} - T \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = F$$

Continuums mechanics

(doubly) clamped beam

neglect tension \rightarrow small amplitudes

$$\rho A \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + D \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} - T \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = F$$



$$u_n(x) = c_4 \left(\sin \left(\beta_n \frac{x}{\ell} \right) - \sinh \left(\beta_n \frac{x}{\ell} \right) - \frac{\sin(\beta_n) + \sinh(\beta_n)}{\cos(\beta_n) + \cosh(\beta_n)} \left[\cos \left(\beta_n \frac{x}{\ell} \right) - \cosh \left(\beta_n \frac{x}{\ell} \right) \right] \right)$$

and

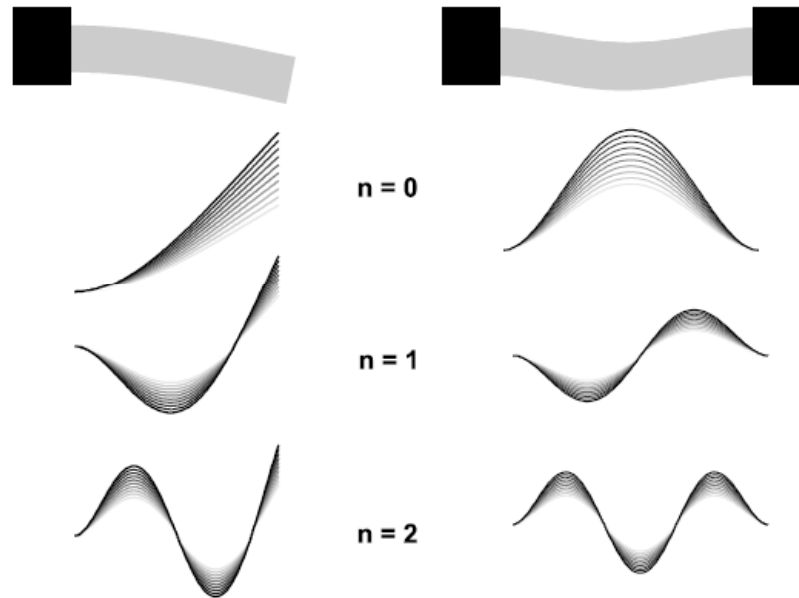
$$\cos(\beta_n) \cosh(\beta_n) - 1 = 0, \quad \omega_n = 2\pi f_n = \beta_n^2 \ell^{-2} \sqrt{D/\rho A}.$$

Continuums mechanics

(doubly) clamped beam

neglect tension -> small amplitudes

$$\rho A \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + D \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4} - T \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = F$$



Hermitean

$$m_{\text{eff}} \ddot{u}(\mathbf{r}, t) = -\gamma \dot{u}(\mathbf{r}, t) + \mathcal{L}[u(\mathbf{r}, t)]$$

$$u(x, t) = \sum_n u^{(n)}(t) \xi_n(x)$$

-> eigenfunctions form complete orthogonal basis -> harmonic oscillators!

Mass: beam-mass only for **ortho-normal** ξ : $\ell^{-1} \int_0^\ell \xi_n^2 dx = 1$

Continuums mechanics

Euler Bernoulli equation

Tension-dominated (guitar string)

$$\rho A \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + \cancel{D \frac{\partial^4 u}{\partial x^4}} - T \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x^2} = F$$

standard harmonic oscillator, usual solutions, i.e.

$$f_n = \sqrt{T/\rho A} \times (n + 1)/2\ell$$

$$\xi_n(x) = \sqrt{2} \sin(\pi n x / \ell)$$

Harmonic oscillator, classical

differential equation: $\ddot{x}(t) + \frac{\omega_0}{Q} \dot{x}(t) + \omega_0^2 x(t) = \frac{F}{m} \cdot \cos(\omega t)$

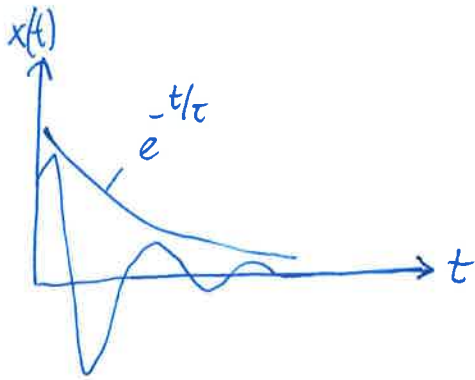
\uparrow quality factor \uparrow eigenfrequency of un-damped oscillator \uparrow driving force

under-damped oscillator: $Q > 1/2$

no drive, $F=0$: $x(t) = e^{-t/\tau} \cdot [A \cdot \cos(\omega t) + B \cdot \sin(\omega t)]$

\uparrow from initial conditions

ring-down time $\tau = \frac{2Q}{\omega_0} \hat{=} \text{bandwidth of the system} \approx \tau^{-1} = \frac{\omega_0}{2Q}$

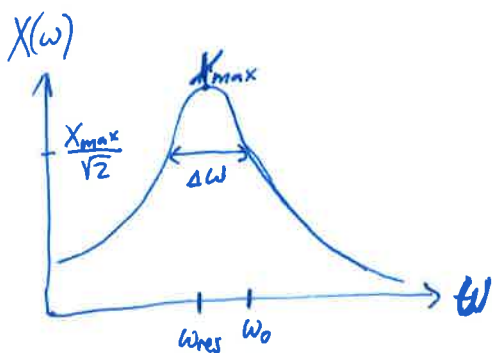


[over-damped: $Q < 1/2 \rightarrow$ double-exponential damping, no oscillations]

driven oscillator; $F \neq 0$: stationary solution $x(t) = X(\omega) \cdot \cos(\omega t - \alpha[\omega])$

\uparrow amplitude

$$X(\omega) = \frac{F/m}{(\omega^2 - \omega_0^2)^2 + \frac{1}{Q^2} \omega^2 \omega_0^2}, \quad \tan(\alpha) = \frac{1}{Q} \cdot \frac{\omega \omega_0}{\omega_0^2 - \omega^2}$$



$$\omega_{res} = \omega_0 \cdot \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{2Q^2}}$$

$$\frac{\Delta\omega}{\omega_0} = \frac{1}{Q} \rightarrow \text{Bandwidth [for } Q \gg 1]$$

Energy loss per period: $\frac{\Delta E}{E} \approx \frac{2\pi}{Q}$ [for $Q \gg 1$]

\Rightarrow prospective device: energy loss/pumping $> k_B T$ (otherwise thermally driven)

\Rightarrow power consumption $\approx \frac{k_B T}{\tau} = \frac{k_B T \omega_0}{2Q} \approx 10^{-17} \text{ W} \ll$ electronic devices

quantum harmonic oscillator

no damping.

Hamiltonian $\hat{H} = \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} + \frac{1}{2} m \omega_0^2 \hat{x}$

creation and annihilation operators

$$\hat{a}^\dagger = \frac{m\omega_0 \hat{x} - i\hat{p}}{\sqrt{2m\hbar\omega_0}}, \quad \hat{p} = -i\hbar \frac{\partial}{\partial x}$$

$$\hat{a} = \frac{m\omega_0 \hat{x} + i\hat{p}}{\sqrt{2m\hbar\omega_0}}$$

properties: $\hat{a}^\dagger |n\rangle = \sqrt{n+1} |n+1\rangle$
 $\hat{a} |n\rangle = \sqrt{n} |n-1\rangle$
 $[\hat{a}^\dagger, \hat{a}] = 1$

$$\hat{H} = \hbar\omega_0 (\hat{n} + 1/2) \quad \text{with } \hat{n} = \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} \quad \text{(number operator)}$$

$$E_n = \hbar\omega_0 (n + 1/2), \quad n \in \mathbb{N}_0$$

• zero-point motion: ground state $n=0$, $E_0 = \frac{1}{2} \hbar\omega_0$

$$\Rightarrow \underline{\Delta x} := \sqrt{\langle x^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{\langle 0 | \hat{x}^2 | 0 \rangle} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega_0} \langle 0 | (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a})^2 | 0 \rangle} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega_0} (\langle 0 | \hat{a}^{\dagger 2} | 0 \rangle + \langle 0 | \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a} | 0 \rangle + \langle 0 | \hat{a} \hat{a}^\dagger | 0 \rangle + \langle 0 | \hat{a}^2 | 0 \rangle)}$$

$$\hat{x} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega_0}} (\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a})$$

$$\langle 0 | 0 \rangle = 1$$

$$= \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega_0} (\underbrace{\langle 0 | 2 \rangle}_0 + \underbrace{\langle 0 | \hat{a} \hat{a}^\dagger + 1 | 0 \rangle}_{\text{commutator}} + \underbrace{\langle 0 | \hat{a} \hat{a}^\dagger | 0 \rangle}_0 + \underbrace{\langle 0 | \hat{a} \hat{a} | 0 \rangle}_0)} = \sqrt{\frac{\hbar}{2m\omega_0}}$$

omitted

• Coupling between electronic (two-level) system and phonons (bosonic field)

Example: coherent oscillations between electronic qubit and a mechanical oscillator, O'Connell et al., Nature 464, 697 (2010)

Formally: $\hat{H} = \hat{H}_el + \hat{H}_{field} + \hat{H}_{interaction}$ with $H_{el} = \frac{1}{2} \hbar\omega_{el} \cdot \hat{\sigma}_z \leftrightarrow$



$$H_{field} = \hbar\omega_0 \hat{n} = \hbar\omega_0 \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{a}$$

(const. $\frac{1}{2}\hbar\omega_0$ omitted)

$$H_{int} = \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} \underbrace{(\hat{a}^\dagger + \hat{a})}_{\sim \hat{x}} \cdot \underbrace{(\hat{\sigma}^\dagger + \hat{\sigma})}_{\text{ladder operators} \cong \text{polarization}}$$

compare to electric field: $\delta E = \vec{E} \cdot \vec{p}$ (dipole coupling)

rotating frame: $H_0 = H_{el} + H_{field} \Rightarrow \hat{a}^\dagger \rightarrow e^{i\hbar\omega_0 t / \hbar} \hat{a}^\dagger e^{-i\hbar\omega_0 t / \hbar}$ with commutation relations

$$\Rightarrow \hat{a}^\dagger(t) = \hat{a}^\dagger e^{i\omega_0 t}; \hat{a}(t) = \hat{a} e^{-i\omega_0 t}; \hat{\sigma}^\dagger(t) = \hat{\sigma}^\dagger e^{i\omega_{el} t}; \hat{\sigma}(t) = \hat{\sigma} e^{-i\omega_{el} t} \quad \text{and } [\hat{a}^\dagger, \hat{\sigma}] = [\hat{a}, \hat{\sigma}^\dagger] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow H_{int}(t) = \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} [\hat{a}^\dagger \hat{\sigma}^\dagger e^{i(\omega_0 + \omega_{el})t} + \hat{a} \hat{\sigma} e^{i(\omega_{el} - \omega_0)t} + \hat{a} \hat{\sigma}^\dagger e^{-i(\omega_{el} - \omega_0)t} + \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{\sigma} e^{-i(\omega_0 + \omega_{el})t}] \approx \frac{\hbar\Omega}{2} [\hat{a} \hat{\sigma}^\dagger + \hat{a}^\dagger \hat{\sigma}]$$

Jaynes Cummings Hamiltonian, intuitive (swap)

neglect fast $\approx 2\omega$ terms

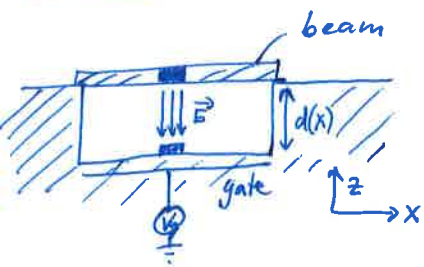
on blackboard:

Coupling mechanisms:

Actuation / detection by electrical means

- capacitive (see below)
- magneto-motive (see below)
- piezoelectric / resistive (e.g. scanning probe experiments)
- non-linear elements (SETs, SQUIDS, ...)
- rf-resonators
- ...

Capacitively:



1 area/volume element: $E_{\text{charge}} = \frac{1}{2} \frac{Q^2}{C} - Q \cdot V_g$
 $= \frac{1}{2} \frac{C^2 V_g^2}{C} - C V_g^2 = -\frac{1}{2} C V_g^2$
 $Q = C \cdot V_g$

force on this element: $f(x) = -\frac{\partial E_c}{\partial z} = \frac{1}{2} V_g^2 \cdot \frac{\partial C}{\partial z}$

simplest version: plate capacitors (transl. invariant along x and wide \rightarrow negligible stray fields)

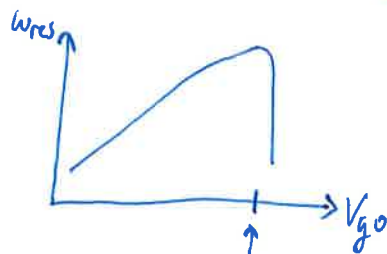
$\Rightarrow C(z) = C(d) = \frac{\overset{\text{area}}{\epsilon \cdot A}}{d(x)}$; $d(x) = d_0 - \underset{\text{deformation}}{u(z)}$

Drive: $V_g(t) = V_{g0} + \delta V_g \cdot e^{-i\omega t}$

$\Rightarrow f(x) = \frac{1}{2} V_{g0}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial d} \left(\frac{\epsilon A}{d} \right) + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} V_{g0} \cdot \delta V_g \cdot e^{-i\omega t} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial d} \left(\frac{\epsilon A}{d} \right) + O(\delta V_g^2)$
 $\approx \underbrace{-\frac{\epsilon A}{2d(t)^2} V_{g0}^2}_{\text{time } f} + \underbrace{\frac{\epsilon A}{d(t)^2} V_{g0} \cdot \delta V_g \cdot e^{-i\omega t}}_{\text{oscillates in time}}$

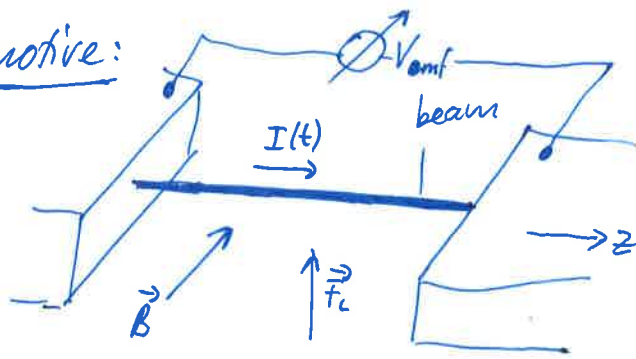
- small forces: $d(t) \approx d_0 \rightarrow$ homogeneous $f(x,t) = f(t)$
- larger forces: $d(t) = d(x,t) \rightarrow f = f(x,t) \rightarrow$ requires exact $u(x,t)$, ...

↳ intuitive / qualitative: $f \rightarrow$ tension \rightarrow larger restoring force \rightarrow larger ω_{res}



"snap-in" \rightarrow material gets deformed to another average position

magnetomotive:



excitation →
• current $I(t)$ through beam
• large (!) magnetic field $\vec{B} \perp \vec{I}$
⇒ Lorentz force $\vec{F}_L \propto \vec{I} \wedge \vec{B}$
↳ oscillation

Detection: electromagnetic force → measurable voltage $V_{emf}(t)$

$$\hookrightarrow V_{emf}(t) = \frac{d\Phi_m}{dt} = \underbrace{B}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{const.}}} \cdot \int \frac{du(z,t)}{\partial t}$$

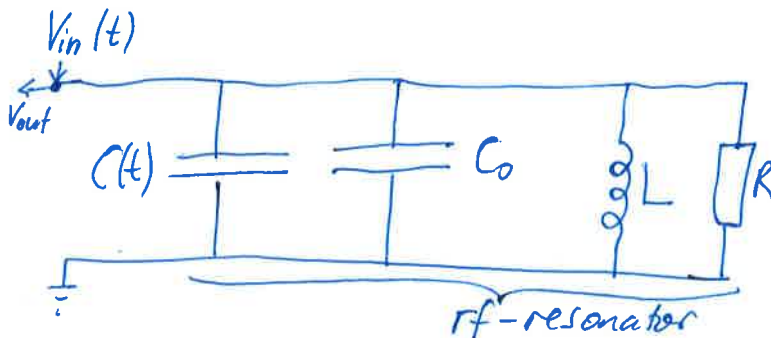
↑
change in
magnetic flux

↳ resonance → maximum u → maximum V_{emf}

SQUIDS: (see intro) current depends strongly on magnetic flux through loop → oscillating beam changes loop area: $A = A(t)$

SET: oscillating beam capacitively coupled (see above) to SET, SET is used as very sensitive electrometer.

rf-resonator:



$C(t)$: oscillating capacitance of a beam, e.g. to backgate

↳ coupled to an LCR-resonator given by C_0, L, R :

↳ changes in resonance frequency and phase

↳ read-out by reflection of $V_{in}(t)$ into $V_{out}(t)$

↳ very sensitive to changes in $C_{tot} = C_0 + C(t) \Rightarrow f_{res}(t), \varphi(t)$

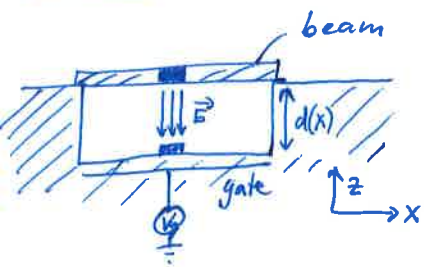
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force on this element: $f(x) = -\frac{\partial E_c}{\partial z} = \frac{1}{2} V_g^2 \cdot \frac{\partial C}{\partial z}$

simplest version: plate capacitors (transl. invariant along x and wide → negligible stray fields)

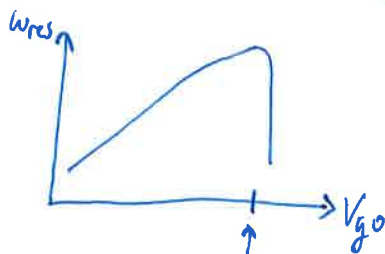
$\Rightarrow C(z) = C(d) = \frac{\overset{\text{area}}{\epsilon \cdot A}}{d(x)}$; $d(x) = d_0 - \underset{\text{deformation}}{u(z)}$

Drive: $V_g(t) = V_{g0} + \delta V_g \cdot e^{-i\omega t}$

$\Rightarrow f(x) = \frac{1}{2} V_{g0}^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial d} \left(\frac{\epsilon A}{d} \right) + 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2} V_{g0} \cdot \delta V_g \cdot e^{-i\omega t} \cdot \frac{\partial}{\partial d} \left(\frac{\epsilon A}{d} \right) + O(\delta V_g^2)$
 $\approx \underbrace{-\frac{\epsilon A}{2d(t)^2} V_{g0}^2}_{\text{time } f} + \underbrace{\frac{\epsilon A}{d(t)^2} V_{g0} \cdot \delta V_g \cdot e^{-i\omega t}}_{\text{oscillates in time}}$

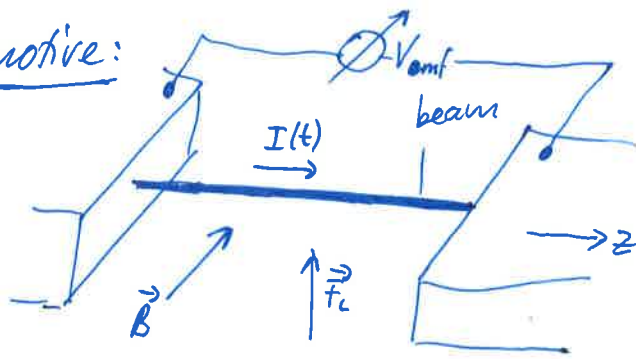
- small forces: $d(t) \approx d_0 \rightarrow$ homogeneous $f(x,t) = f(t)$
- larger forces: $d(t) = d(x,t) \rightarrow f = f(x,t) \rightarrow$ requires exact $u(x,t)$, ...

↳ intuitive / qualitative: $f \rightarrow$ tension \rightarrow larger restoring force \rightarrow larger ω_{res}



"snap-in" → material gets deformed to another average position

magnetomotive:



excitation \rightarrow
- current $I(t)$ through beam
- large (!) magnetic field $\vec{B} \perp \vec{I}$
 \Rightarrow Lorentz force $\vec{F}_L \propto \vec{I} \wedge \vec{B}$
 \rightarrow oscillation

Detection: electromagnetic force \rightarrow measurable voltage $V_{emf}(t)$

$$\rightarrow V_{emf}(t) = \frac{d\Phi_m}{dt} = \underbrace{B}_{\substack{\uparrow \\ \text{const.}}} \cdot \int \frac{du(z,t)}{\partial t}$$

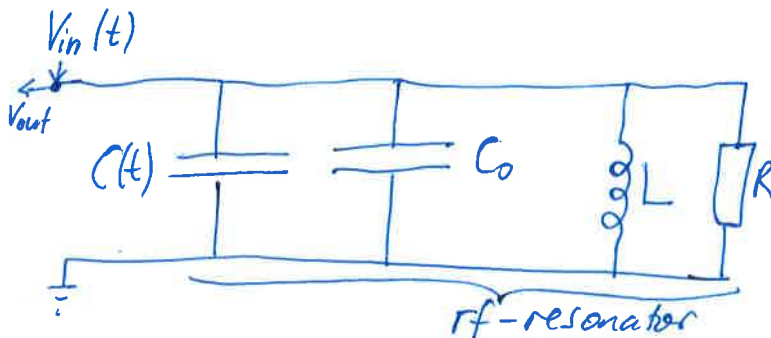
change in magnetic flux

\rightarrow resonance \rightarrow maximum $u \rightarrow$ maximum V_{emf}

SQUIDS: (see intro) current depends strongly on magnetic flux through loop \rightarrow oscillating beam changes loop area: $A = A(t)$

SET: oscillating beam capacitively coupled (see above) to SET, SET is used as very sensitive electrometer.

rf-resonator:



$C(t)$: oscillating capacitance of a beam, e.g. to backgate

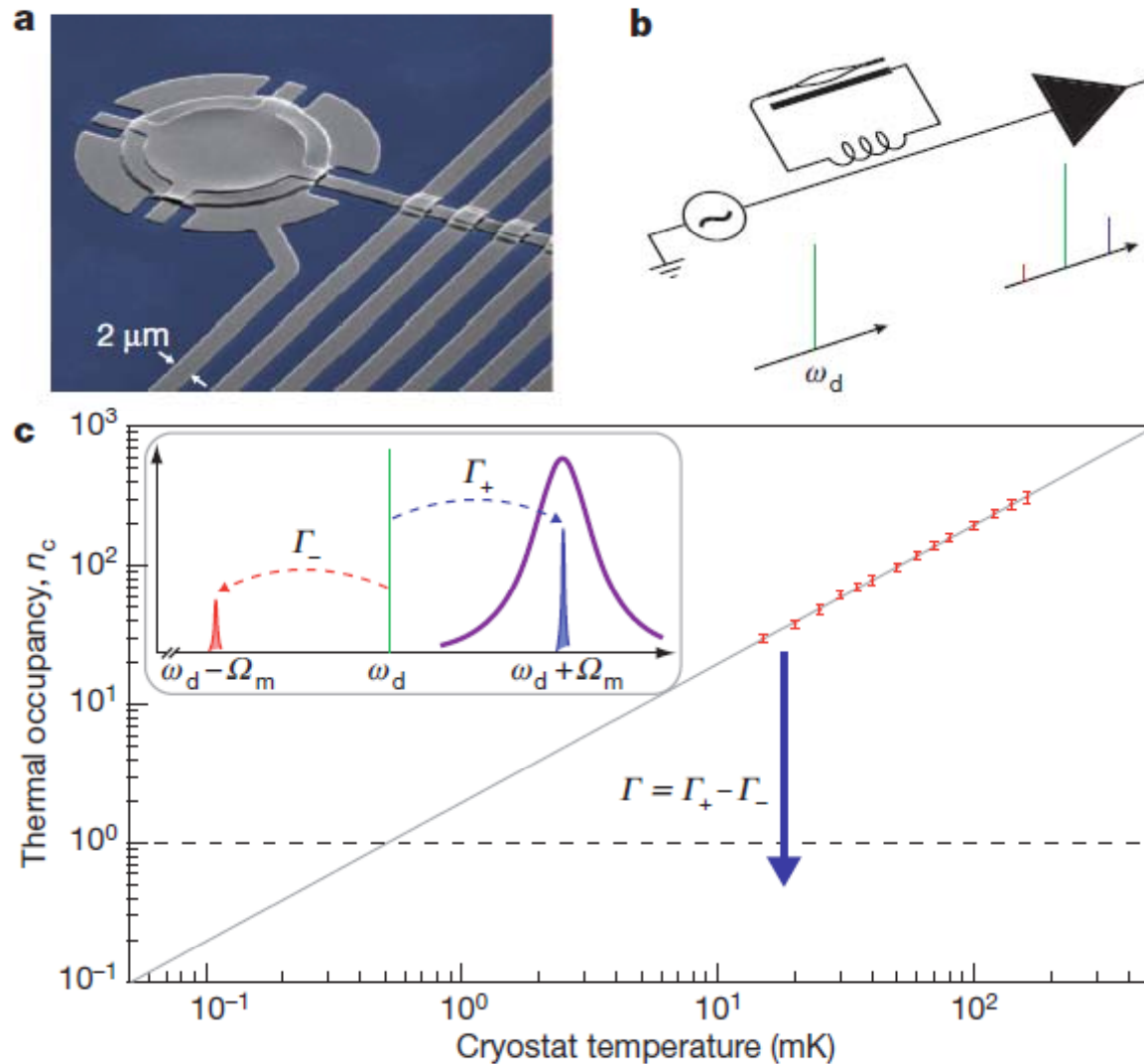
\rightarrow coupled to an LCR-resonator given by C_0, L, R :

\rightarrow changes in resonance frequency and phase

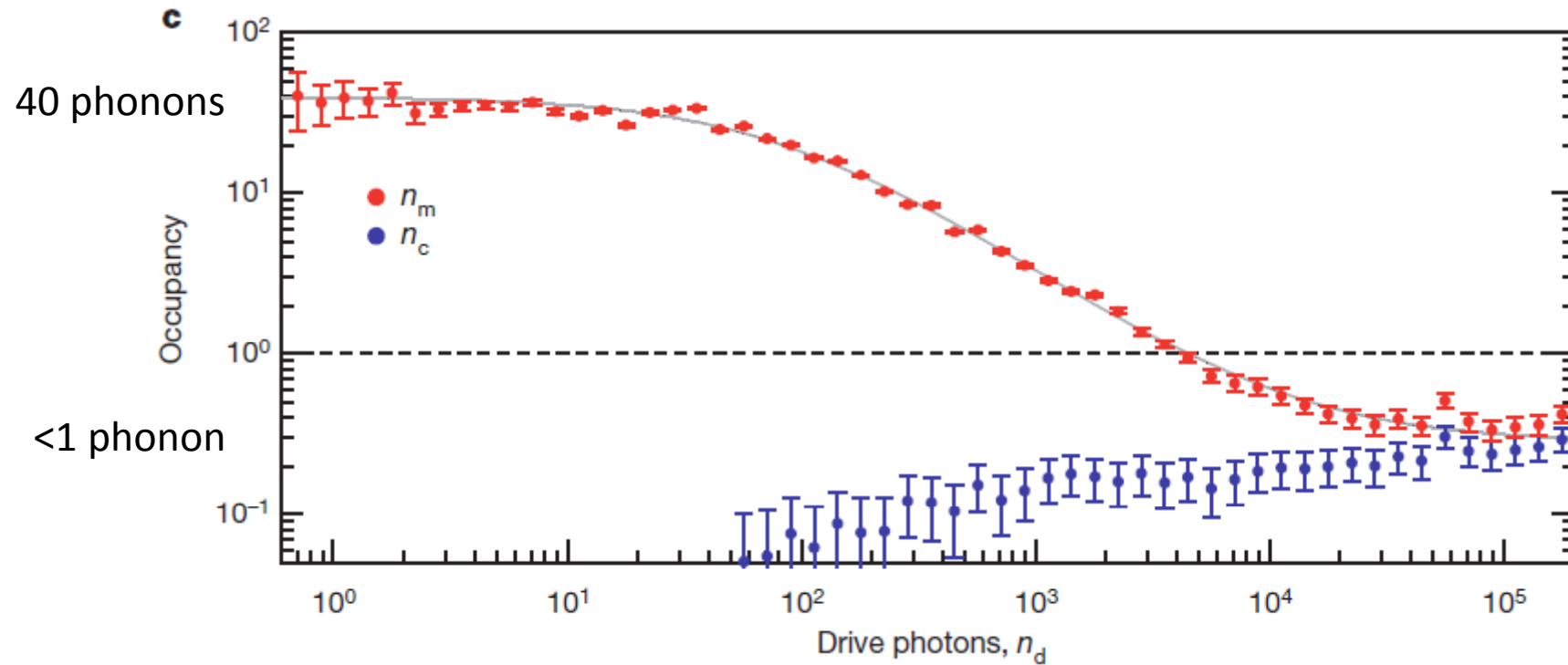
\rightarrow read-out by reflection of $V_{in}(t)$ into $V_{out}(t)$

\rightarrow very sensitive to changes in $C_{tot} = C_0 + C(t) \Rightarrow f_{res}(t), \varphi(t)$

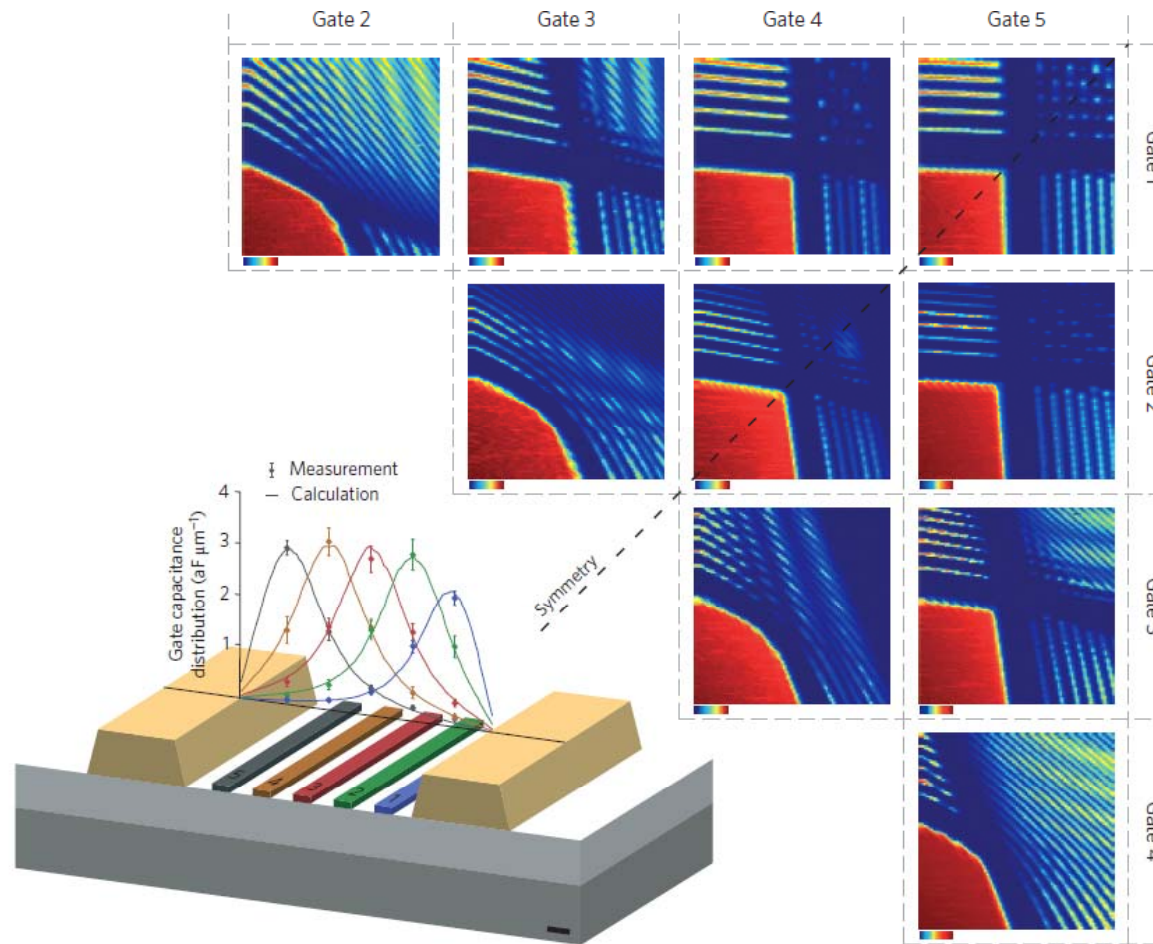
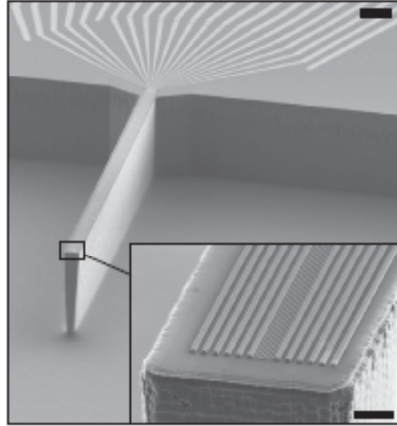
Electrical side-band cooling of a resonator



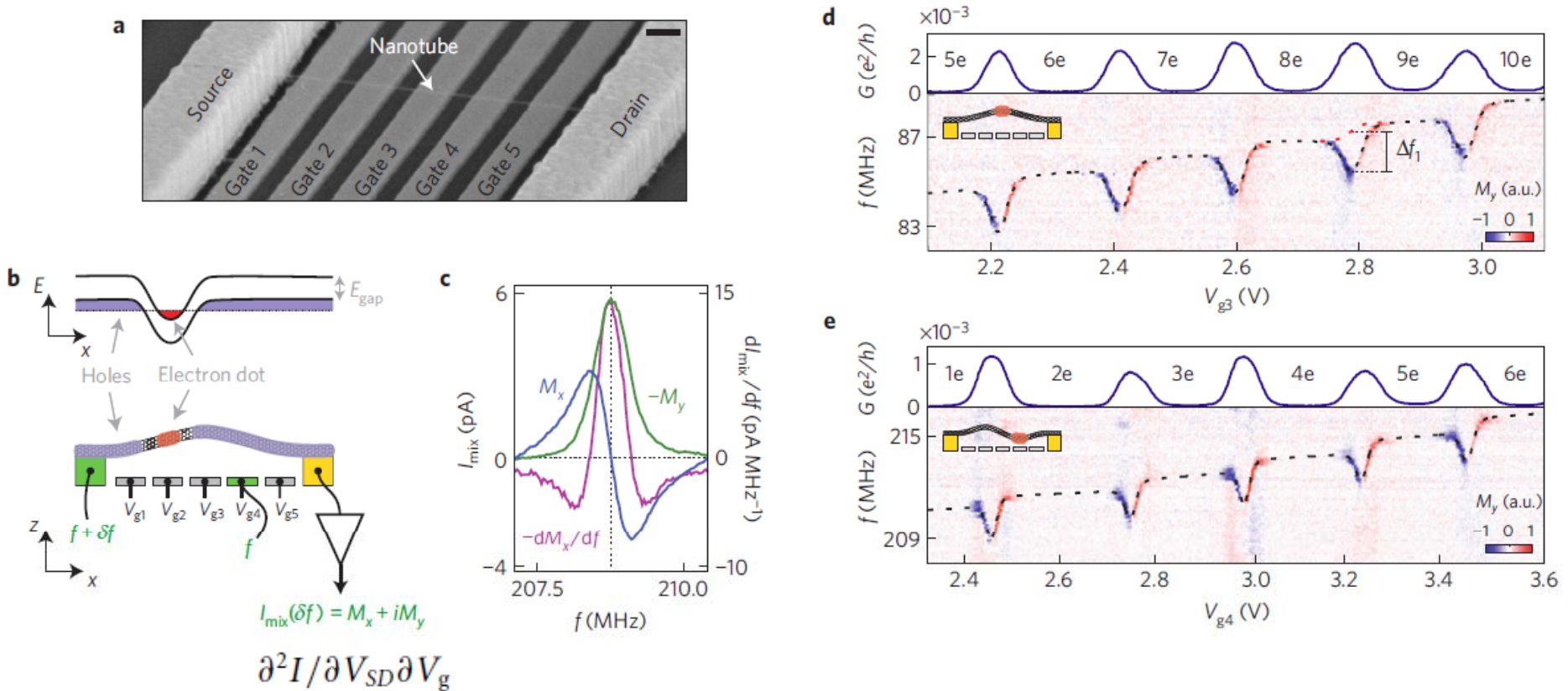
Electrical side-band cooling of a resonator



Tailoring the electron-phonon interaction



Tailoring the electron-phonon interaction

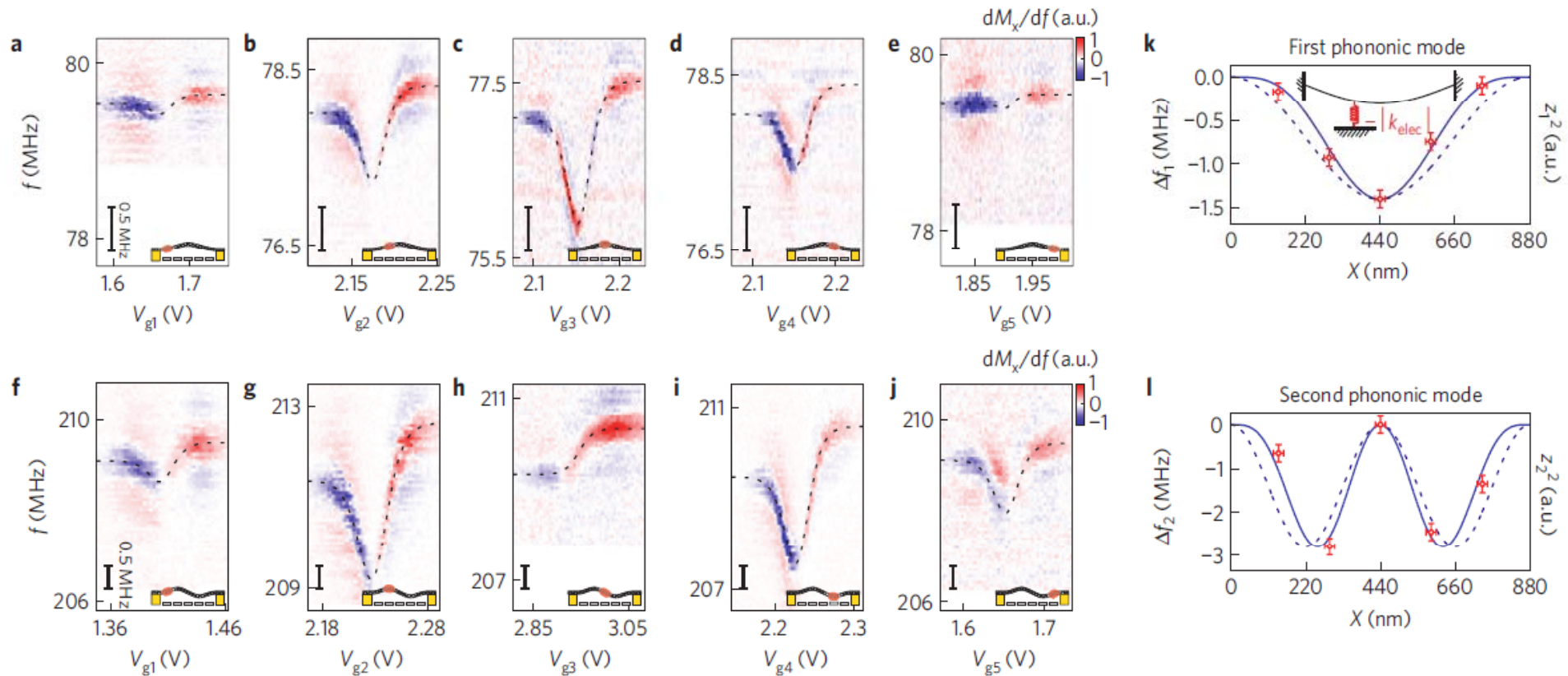


Detection: frequency mixing

Dynamic softening by tunneling to and from leads \rightarrow like a (negative) spring constant at the QD position

Benyamini *et al.*, Nature Phys. 10, 151 (2014)

Tailoring the electron-phonon interaction



Then: double QD!