

Experimental demonstration of motional averaging in a transmon

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When the transition frequency of a two-level quantum system is randomly jumping between two values $\pm\delta$, the shape of this system's spectrum is dependent on the average jumping frequency Ω . For $\Omega^2 \ll \delta^2$, there are two spectrum lines with the same linewidth 4Ω and a separation 2δ ; for $\Omega^2 \gg \delta^2$, there is only one spectrum line with a linewidth δ^2/Ω . This phenomenon is known as motional averaging in NMR.¹ We observe this phenomenon (see also ²) experimentally in a circuit QED³ system which consists of a transmon qubit⁴ and a superconducting coplanar waveguide (CPW) resonator. With nonrandom (square and sinusoidal) modulations of transmon's transition frequency, we also observe Landau-Zener-like interference patterns. The experimental data is in good agreement with numerical simulations.

¹A. Abragam, *The Principles of Nuclear Magnetism* (Oxford University Press, 1961).

²D. Gunnarsson *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **101**, 256806 (2008).

³A. Wallraff *et al.*, Nature (London) **431**, 162 (2004).

⁴J. Koch *et al.*, Phys. Rev. A **76**, 042319 (2007).