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Beyond strong coupling in a massively multimode cavity
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DREW HOUCK, Princeton University — We present experiments in a new regime
of cavity quantum electrodynamics (cQED), the multimode strong coupling regime,
in which the qubit-cavity coupling is comparable to the free spectral range, thus
requiring the collective treatment of all modes along with the qubit. Here we show
that this regime is accessible in circuit QED by coupling a 90MHz microwave cavity
with a transmon qubit, resonant with the 75th harmonic with a coupling strength
exceeding 30MHz. When driving this system, we observe multimode fluorescence
consistent with cavity-enhanced sideband emission, with unexpected multi-photon
processes and the emergence of ultra-narrow linewidths. This multimode coupling
opens the door for a wide range of potential experiments, including studying the
manifestation of complex many-body phenomena, the breakdown of the rotating
wave approximation, and the bridge between discrete and continuous Hilbert spaces.

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