

# This Week

## Lecture 9

Quantum search – introduction to Grover's algorithm for amplitude amplification, geometric interpretation

## Lecture 10

Optimality, Succeeding with Certainty, Quantum Counting

## Lab

Grover's algorithm

# Grover's Algorithm

Physics 90045  
Lecture 9

# Introduction to Grover's algorithm

- This lecture: Grover's search algorithm
  - Grover's algorithm
  - Worked Example
  - Geometric interpretation

## References:

- Reiffel, Chapter 9.1-9.2
- Kaye, Chapter 8.1-8.2
- Nielsen and Chuang, Chapter 6.1-6.2

# Reminder: Outer Product

For two quantum states  $|\psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}, |\phi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} c \\ d \end{bmatrix}$

We can define an outer product between them:

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi\rangle\langle\phi| &= \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} c^* & d^* \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} ac^* & ad^* \\ bc^* & bd^* \end{bmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$|1\rangle\langle 2|$   
 For number basis states,  
 this specifies a matrix  
 with a single “1” in the  
 location 1,2. In general:

$|\text{row}\rangle\langle\text{column}|$

# Unordered Search

Grover's algorithm performs a similar\* problem to this: You are given a *telephone book*

And a phone number: 23675

## Your task:

Find the name which goes with that number...

Moose .....	50427	<b>R</b>	Roscco.....	23232
Morg .....	23179		Mobile.....	50200
Mobile .....	50499		Ruffy .....	50269
Muff .....	22641	<b>S</b>		
Mobile .....	50899		Sarlu .....	23849
Mutty .....	22412		Scotty .....	22634
<b>N</b>			Scully .....	23493
Nippa .....	23131		Mobile .....	50009
Noon .....	22246	<b>O</b>	Short (Graham) .....	22236
Onion .....	23611		Short (Nobbs).....	22628
Oodie .....	22289		Shorty .....	22495
<b>P</b>			Mobile .....	50340
Pash.....	22485		Skeeters .....	22341
Mobile.....	50485		Slack .....	22559
Pedro .....	22455		Slick.....	22473
Pelly.....	22288		Sluggy .....	50868
Perko .....	22536		Smitty .....	23675
Philly Foxtel.....	22470		Smudgie .....	22568
Pinky.....	22493		Mobile.....	50568
Pip (Reeves).....	22649		Snapper .....	22077
Pixie.....	23022		Mobile.....	50963
Mobile .....	50666		Snubbles.....	23026
Plumber.....	22501		Mobile.....	50350
Plute .....	22275		Snoop.....	22326
Pooh .....	50198		Mobile.....	51126
Pops..	23017		Snowy .....	22558
Poppa.....	24228			

© Administration of Norfolk Island

2010-11 Telephone Directory 90

Part of Norfolk Island's telephone book, with people listed by nickname (Photo: Wikicommons)

\* Not all that similar, better examples later....

# Quantum search – Grover's problem

Given a black box (oracle),  $U_f$ , which computes the function:

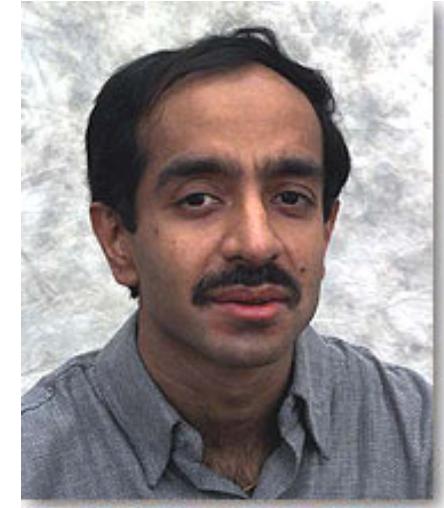
$$f: \{0,1\}^n \rightarrow \{0,1\}$$

Find an  $x$  s.t.  $f(x) = 1$

# Grover's Algorithm (1996)

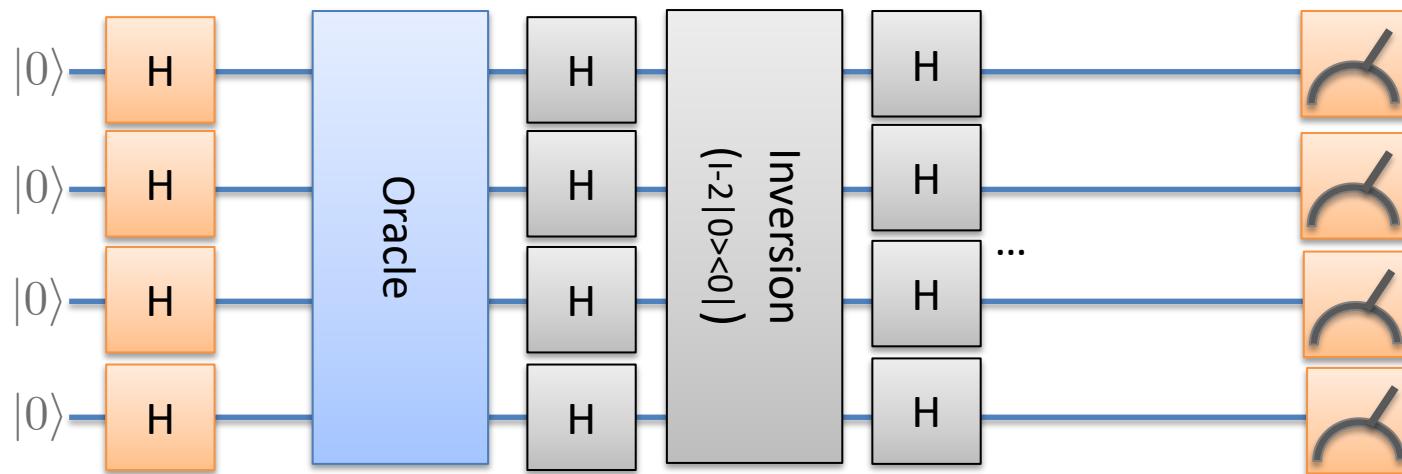
- Unordered search, find one marked item among many
- Classically, this requires  $N/2$  queries to the oracle
- Quantum mechanically, requires only  $O(\sqrt{N})$  queries.

Simple problem = search for one integer marked by the oracle.



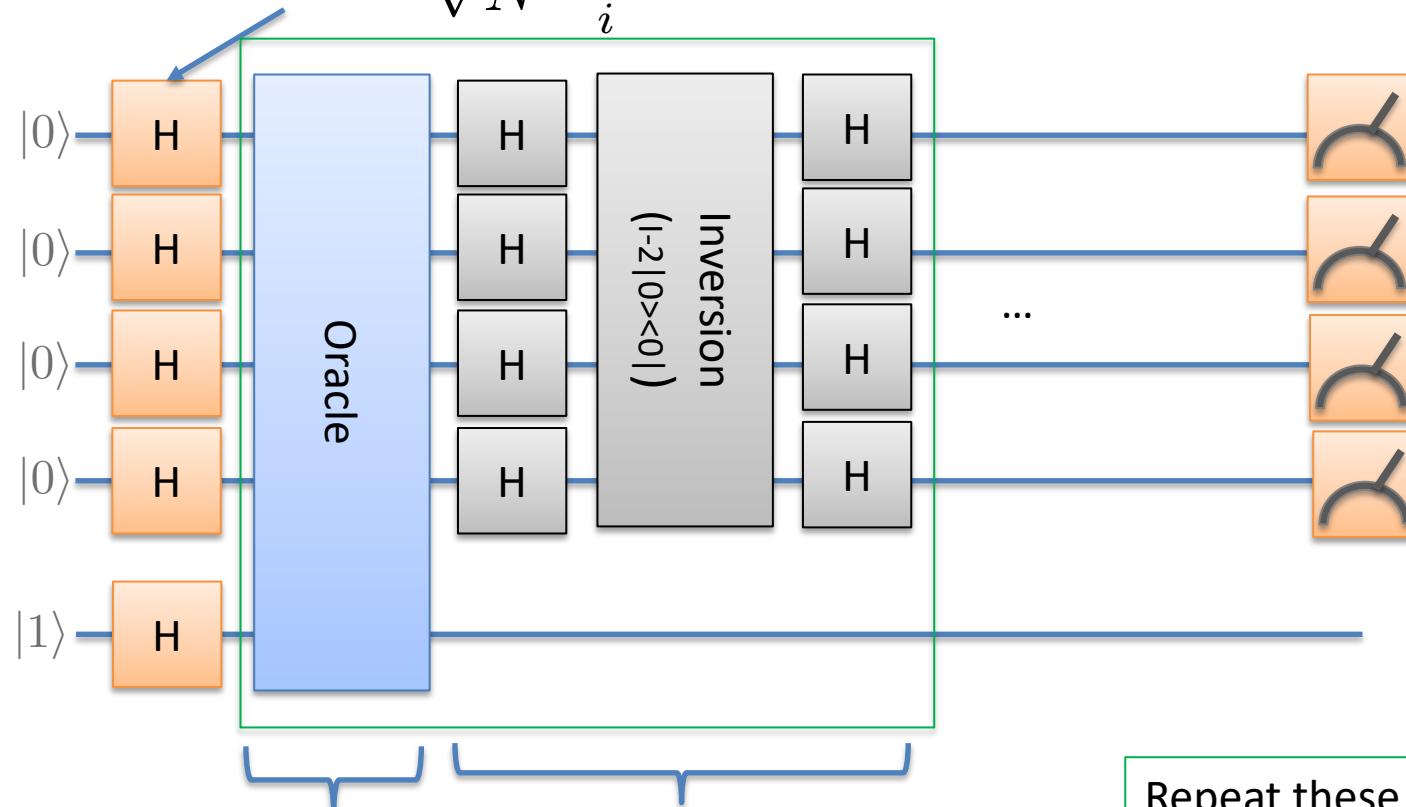
Lov Grover

High level structure:



# Two basic steps in Grover's algorithm

Quantum database:  $|\Phi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_i |i\rangle$  (i.e. all integers 0 to N-1)



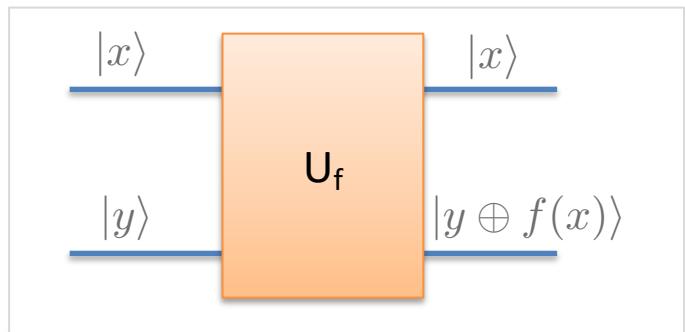
The “oracle”  
 Identifies a particular  
 marked state,  $m$

$I - 2|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|$   
 “Inversion about the mean”

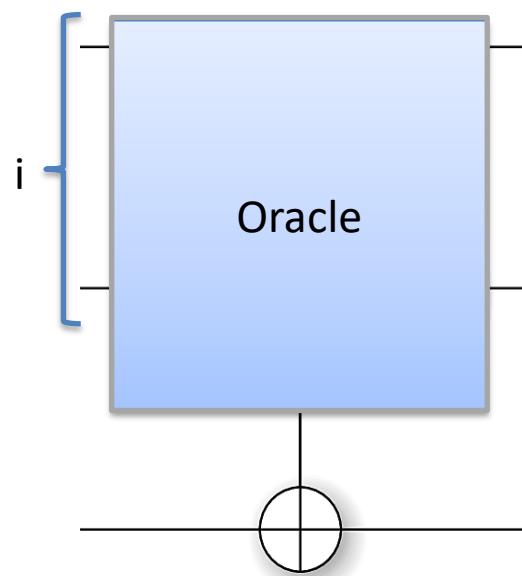
Repeat these  
 two operations  
 $O(\sqrt{N})$  times

# The Oracle

The task of recognizing the correct solution goes to the “oracle”.



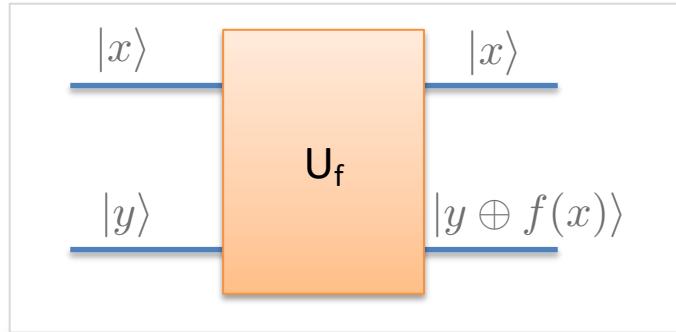
Binary function, or “oracle”  
Identifying a marked state,  $m$



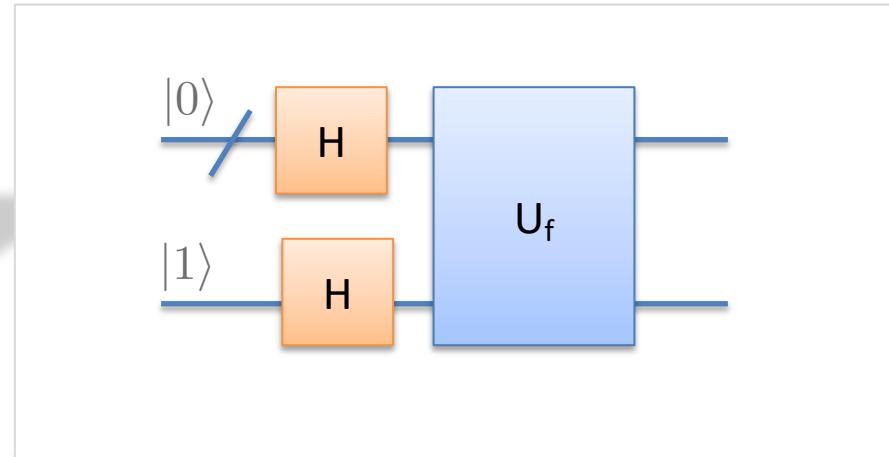
Designed to flip  
the last bit if the  
input,  $i$ , is a  
solution

The oracle is just a  
Boolean function  
(as seen in previous  
lectures)

# Phase kickback for Boolean function



Binary function, or “oracle”



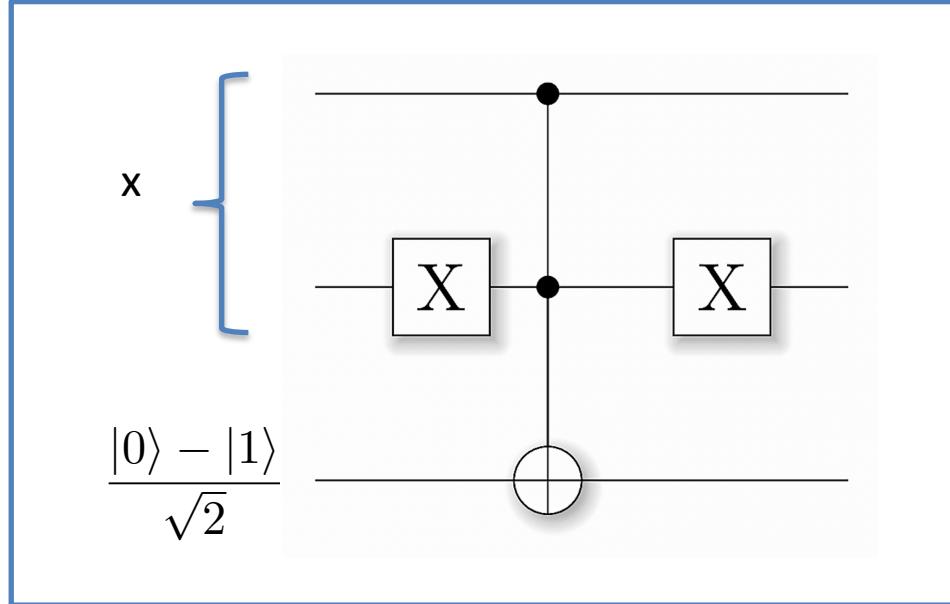
After the function has been applied:

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{i=0}^{N-1} (-1)^{f(i)} |i\rangle \otimes \frac{|0\rangle - |1\rangle}{\sqrt{2}}$$

Target qubit remains  
the same

If the oracle function evaluates to “1” then the target qubit is flipped, and we pick up a phase (associated with the control qubit state). Otherwise, there is no phase applied. This is a simple way to write that.

# Example: Oracle recognizing the state “2 = |10⟩”



Phase kickback

$$\begin{aligned}
 |00\rangle &\rightarrow |00\rangle \\
 |01\rangle &\rightarrow |01\rangle \\
 |10\rangle &\rightarrow -|10\rangle \\
 |11\rangle &\rightarrow |11\rangle
 \end{aligned}$$

The effect on each of the 4 states in the 2-qubit control register, x:

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} = I - 2|10\rangle\langle 10|$$

# The marked state

Initially in Grover's algorithm, we will be searching for a *single (integer) solution,  $m$* . In that case the effect of the oracle on the control register is:

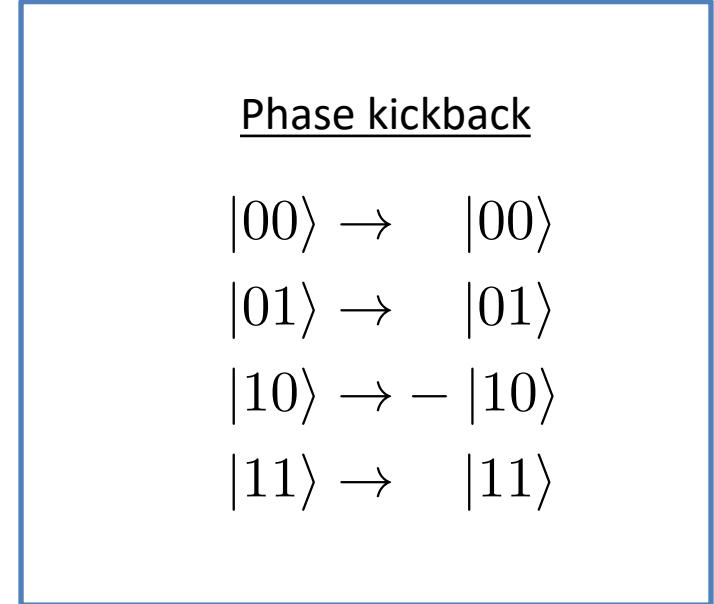
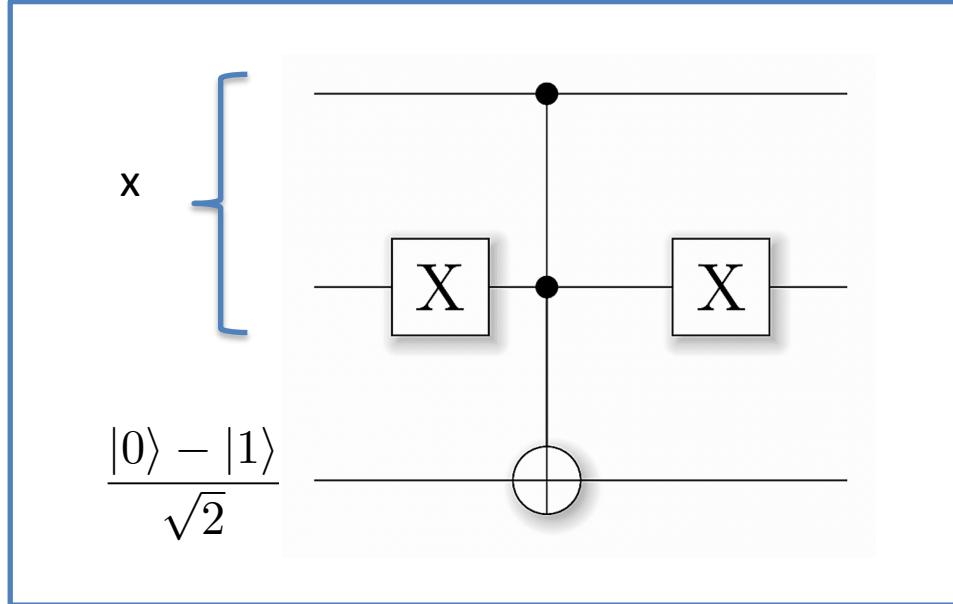
$$I - 2|m\rangle\langle m| \quad (\text{in decimal ket notation})$$

As a matrix:

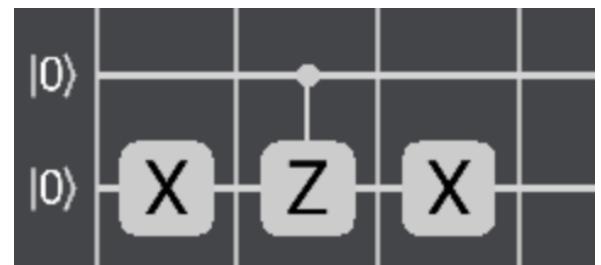
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{-1 in the } m^{\text{th}} \text{ position}$$

Here, as in future slides, we are only writing out the control qubits (in this case 2 qubits only).

# Example: Oracle recognizing the state “ $2 = |10\rangle$ ”

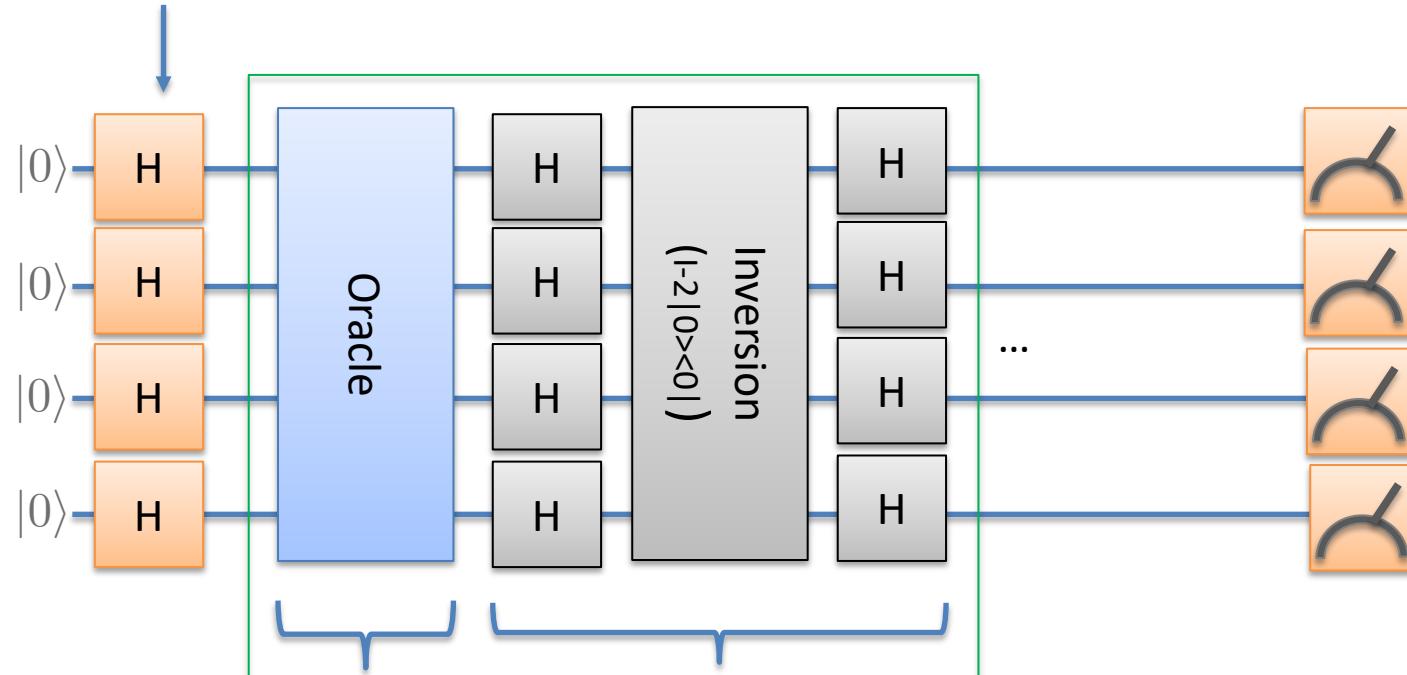


In practice we can implement the oracle without the check qubit using a controlled-Z gate (ex. Show the circuit right marks the state  $|10\rangle$ , i.e.  $|m=2\rangle$ ).



# Two steps to Grover's algorithm

Set up “data base”



$I - 2|m\rangle\langle m|$

The oracle

$I - 2|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|$

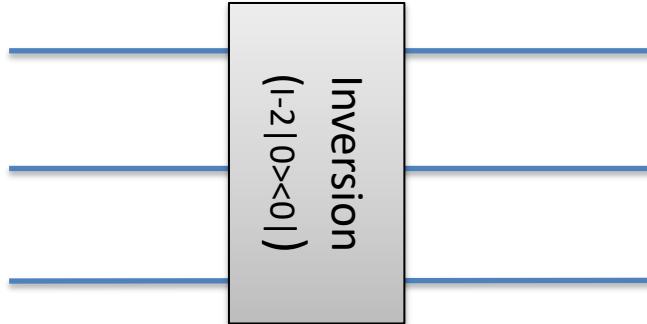
“Inversion about the mean”

Repeat these  
two operations  
 $O(\sqrt{N})$  times

One iteration of Grover where  $|\Phi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_i |i\rangle$

# Unpicking the details: “Inversion” operation

The “Inversion” part is just applying a phase to the zero state:



$$I - 2|0\rangle\langle 0| = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

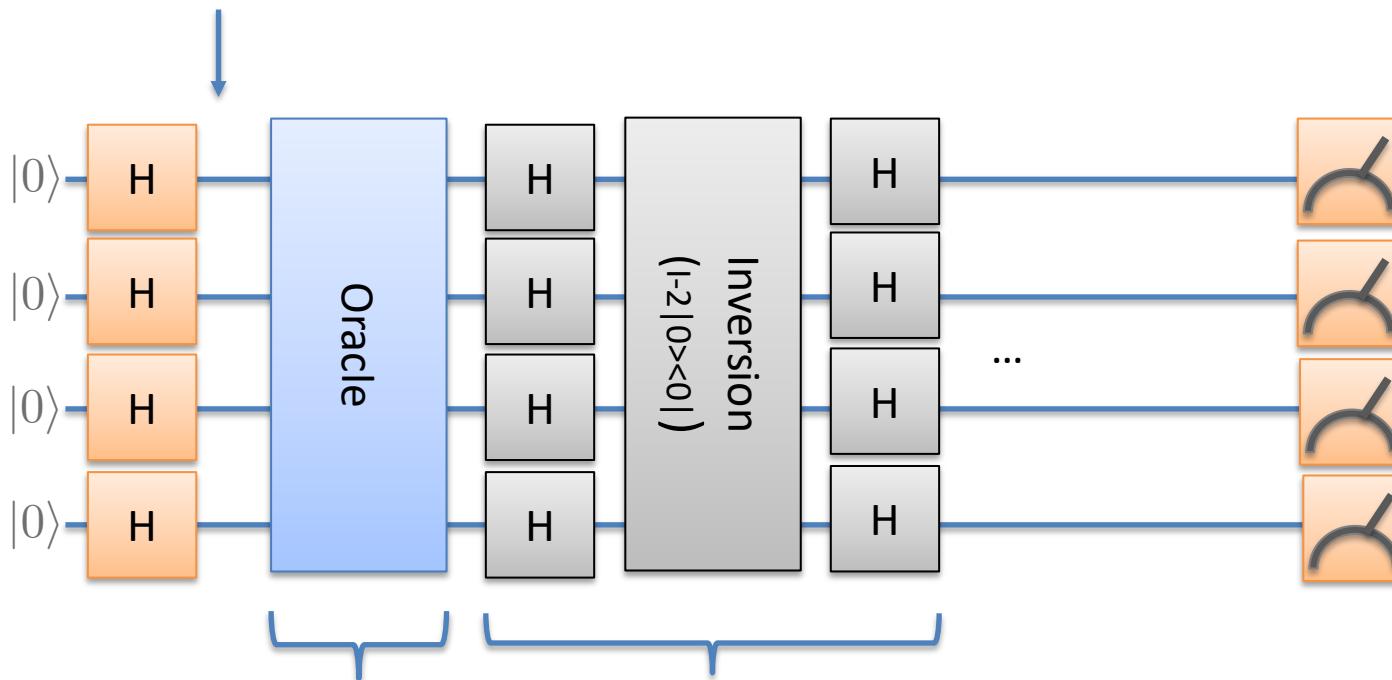
How? Recall outer product etc:  $|\psi\rangle\langle\phi| = \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix} \otimes \begin{bmatrix} c^* & d^* \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} ac^* & ad^* \\ bc^* & bd^* \end{bmatrix}$

$$|0\rangle = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \quad |0\rangle\langle 0| = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \otimes (10\dots 0) = \begin{pmatrix} 10\dots 0 \\ 00\dots 0 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \quad I = \begin{pmatrix} 100\dots 0 \\ 010\dots 0 \\ 001\dots 0 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix}$$

$$I - 2|0\rangle\langle 0| = \begin{pmatrix} 100\dots 0 \\ 010\dots 0 \\ 001\dots 0 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} - 2 \begin{pmatrix} 10\dots 0 \\ 00\dots 0 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & \dots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & \dots \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots \end{bmatrix}$$

# Inversion about the mean

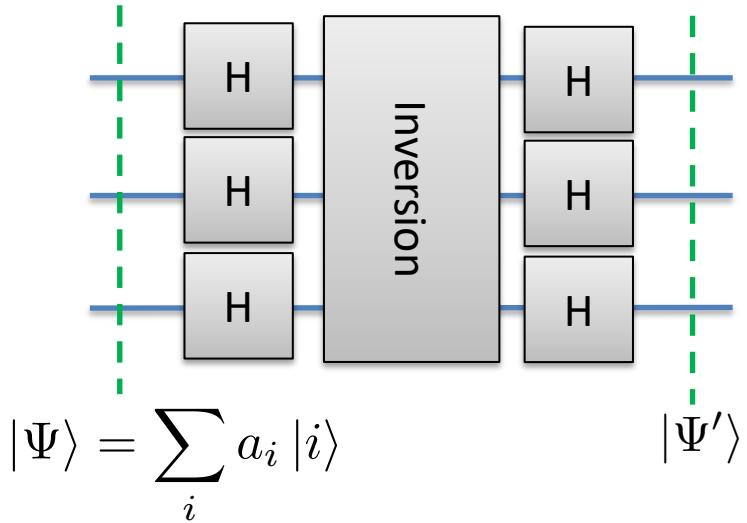
$$|\Phi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_i |i\rangle \text{ Set up "data base"}$$



$$I - 2 |\Phi\rangle \langle \Phi|$$

"Inversion about the mean" ...let's see how that works.

# Apply inversion about the mean to general state



Applying Hadamards both sides:

$$\begin{aligned} & I - 2H^{\otimes n} |0\rangle\langle 0| H^{\otimes n} \\ &= I - 2|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi| \end{aligned}$$

$$|\Phi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_i |i\rangle$$

Equal  
superposition

↑

General state

$$\begin{aligned} |\Psi\rangle &= \sum_i a_i |i\rangle \rightarrow |\Psi'\rangle = (I - 2|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|) \sum_i a_i |i\rangle \\ &= \sum_i a_i |i\rangle - 2 \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_k |k\rangle \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_j \langle j| \sum_i a_i |i\rangle \\ &= \sum_i a_i |i\rangle - 2 \sum_k |k\rangle \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_j a_j \right) \\ &= \sum_i (a_i - 2A) |i\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$A \equiv \left( \frac{1}{N} \sum_j a_j \right)$$

Average amplitude in state  $|\Psi\rangle$

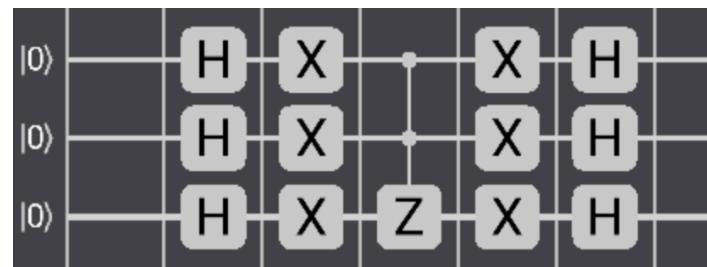
# Inversion about the mean

Consider a general state. The resulting amplitude from the “Inversion about the mean” step is:

$$\sum_i a_i |i\rangle \rightarrow \sum_i (a_i - 2A) |i\rangle$$

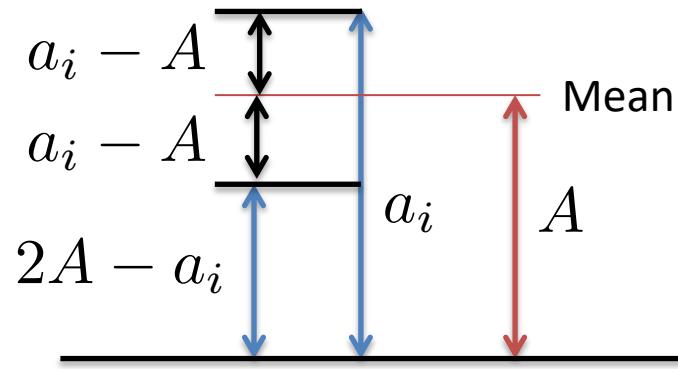
Original amplitude                      Average amplitude

In practice on the QUI...



# Inversion about the mean

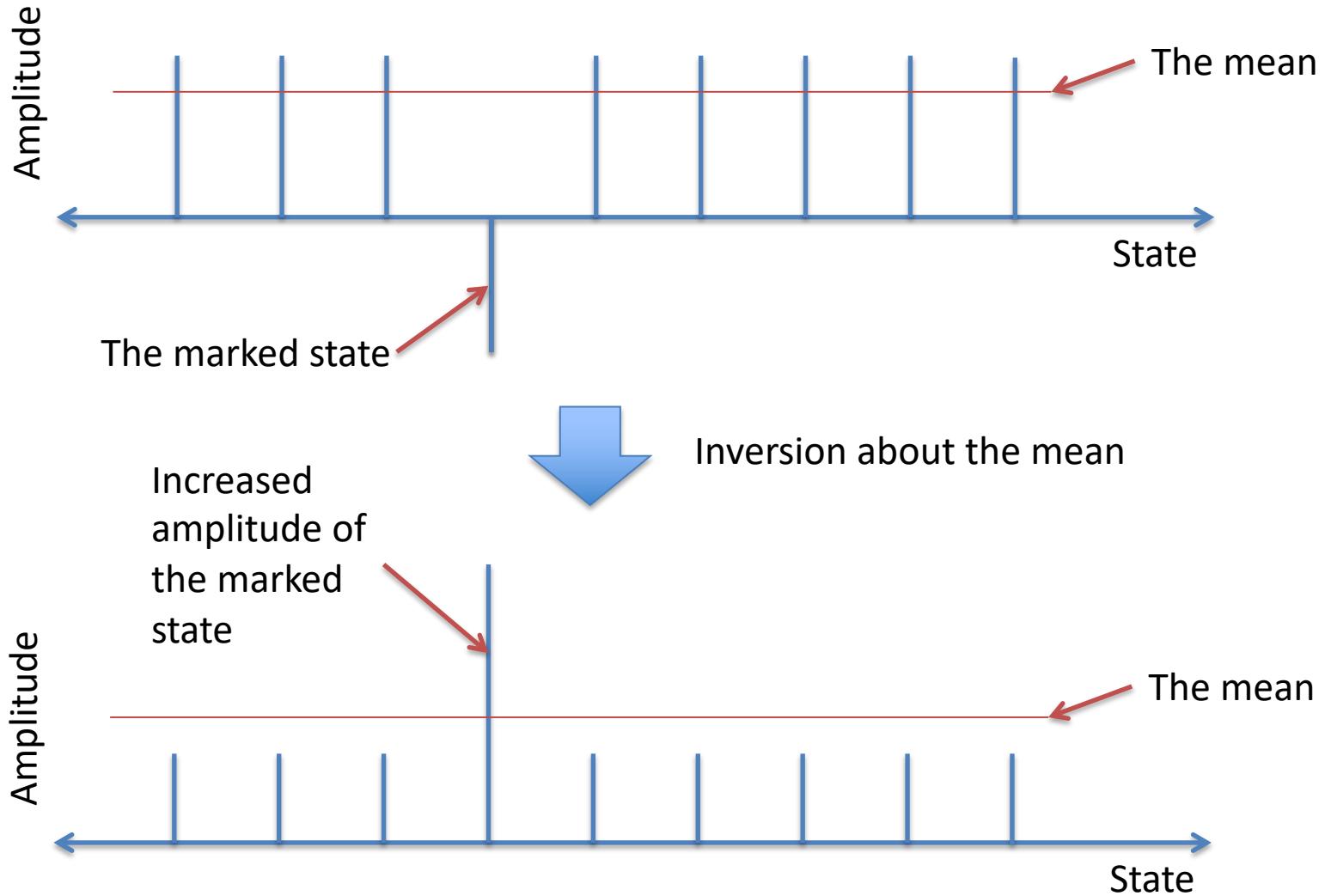
Amplitudes of the state, before and after:



When the state undergoes this transformation:

$$\sum_i a_i |i\rangle \rightarrow - \sum_i (2A - a_i) |i\rangle$$

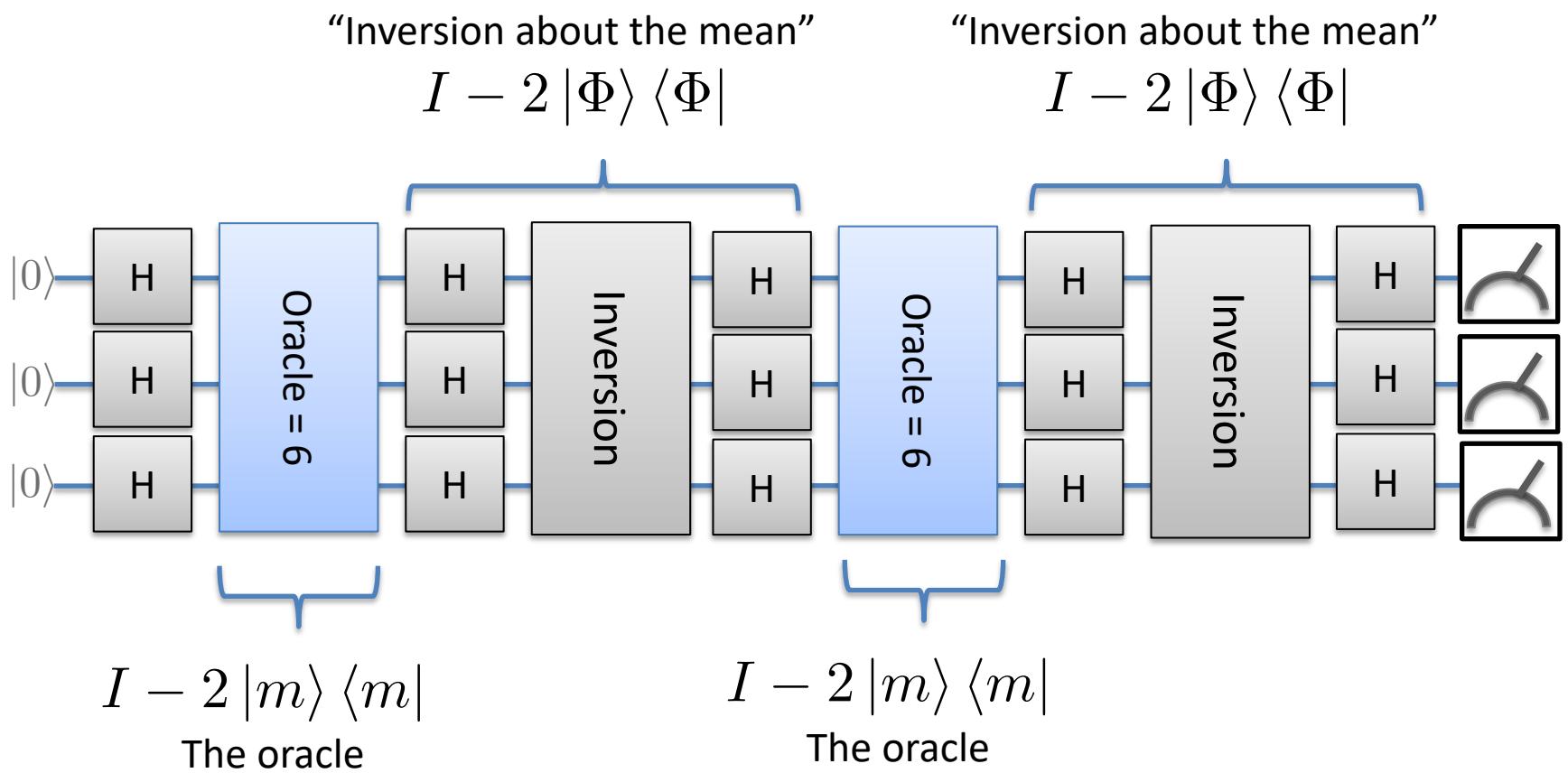
# Effect of inversion about the mean



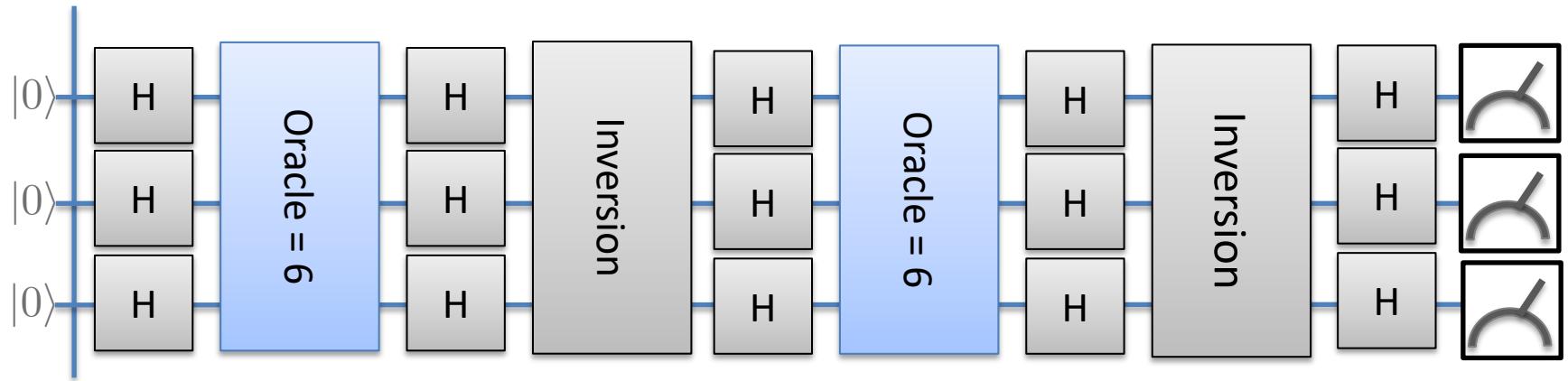
# Interactive Example

<https://codepen.io/samtonetto/full/BVOGmW>

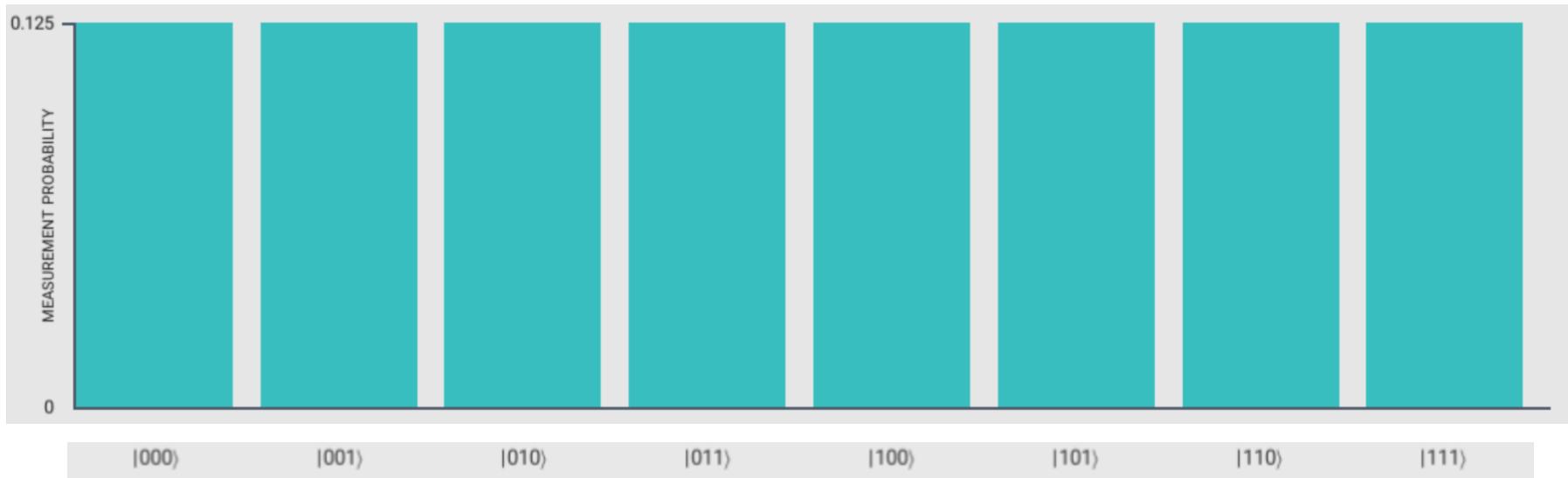
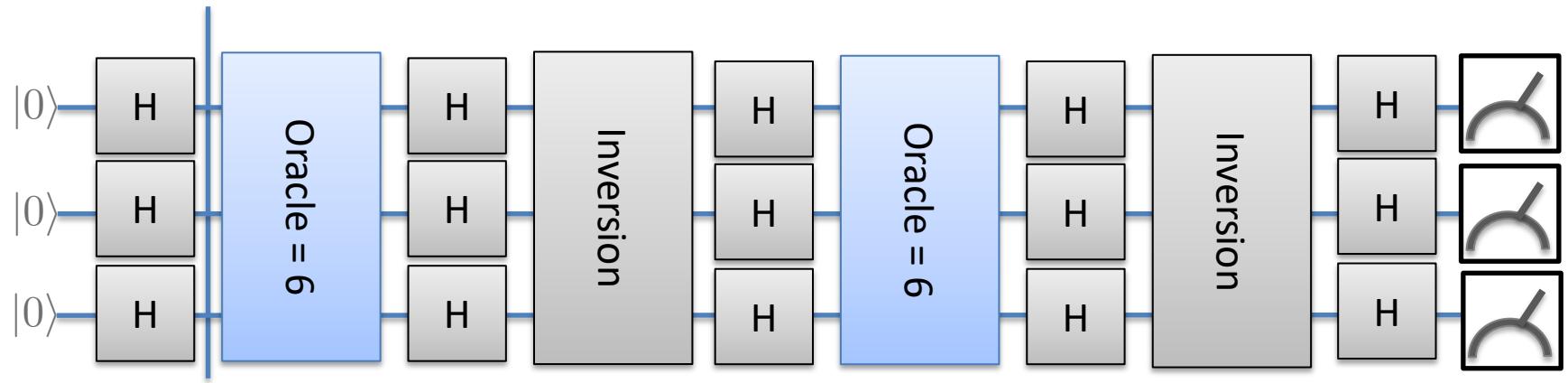
# Worked example: finding 6



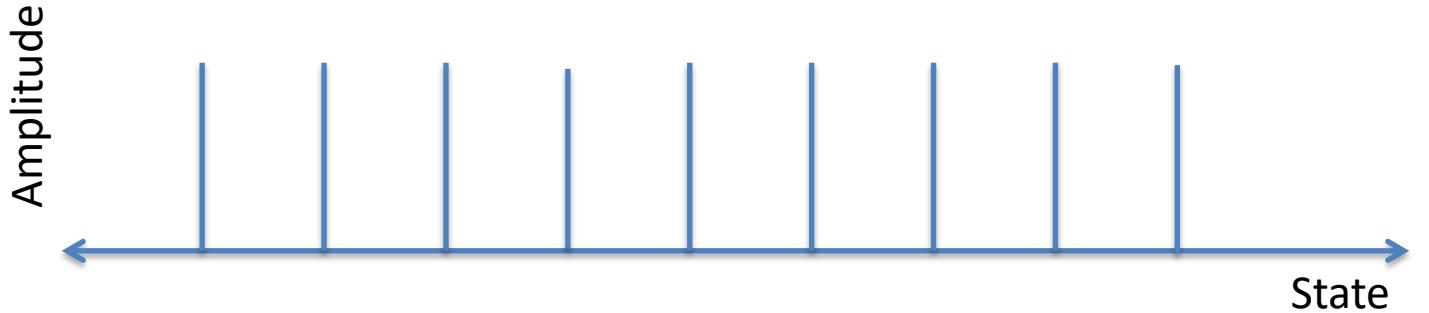
# Worked example: finding 6



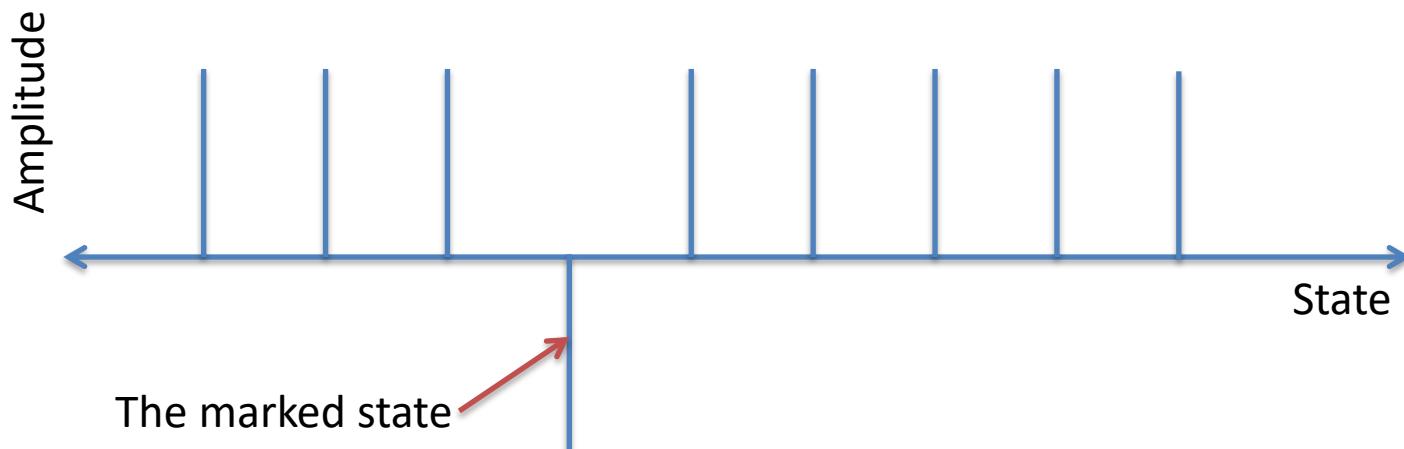
# Worked example: finding 6



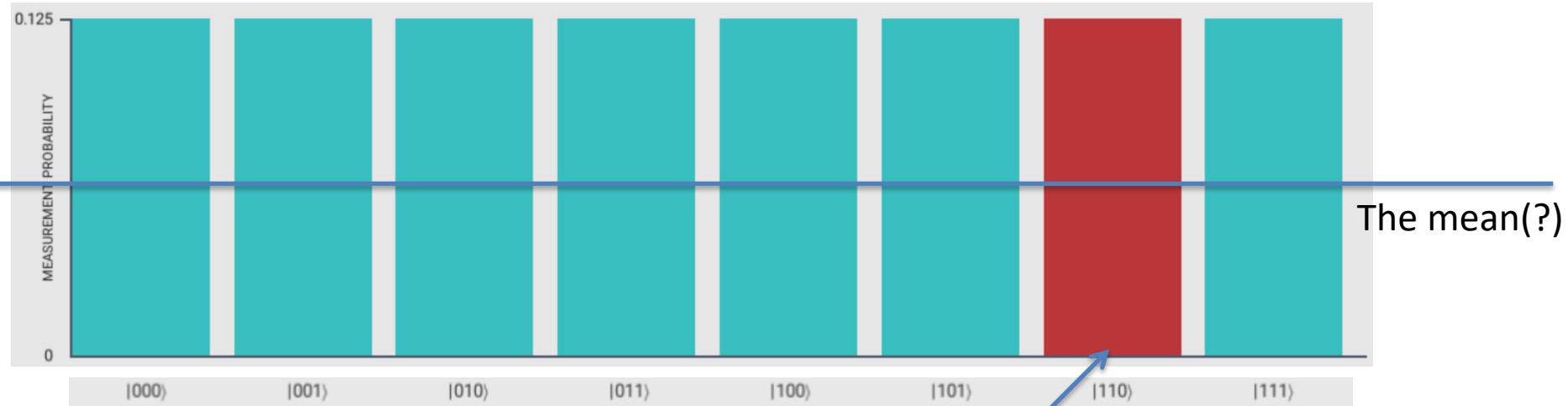
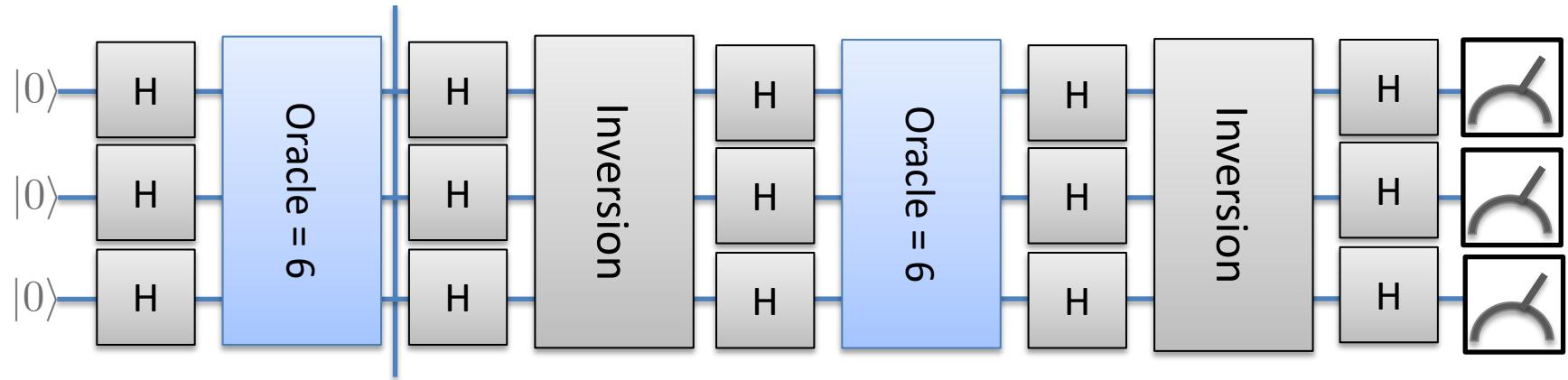
# Effect of the Oracle



Apply the oracle

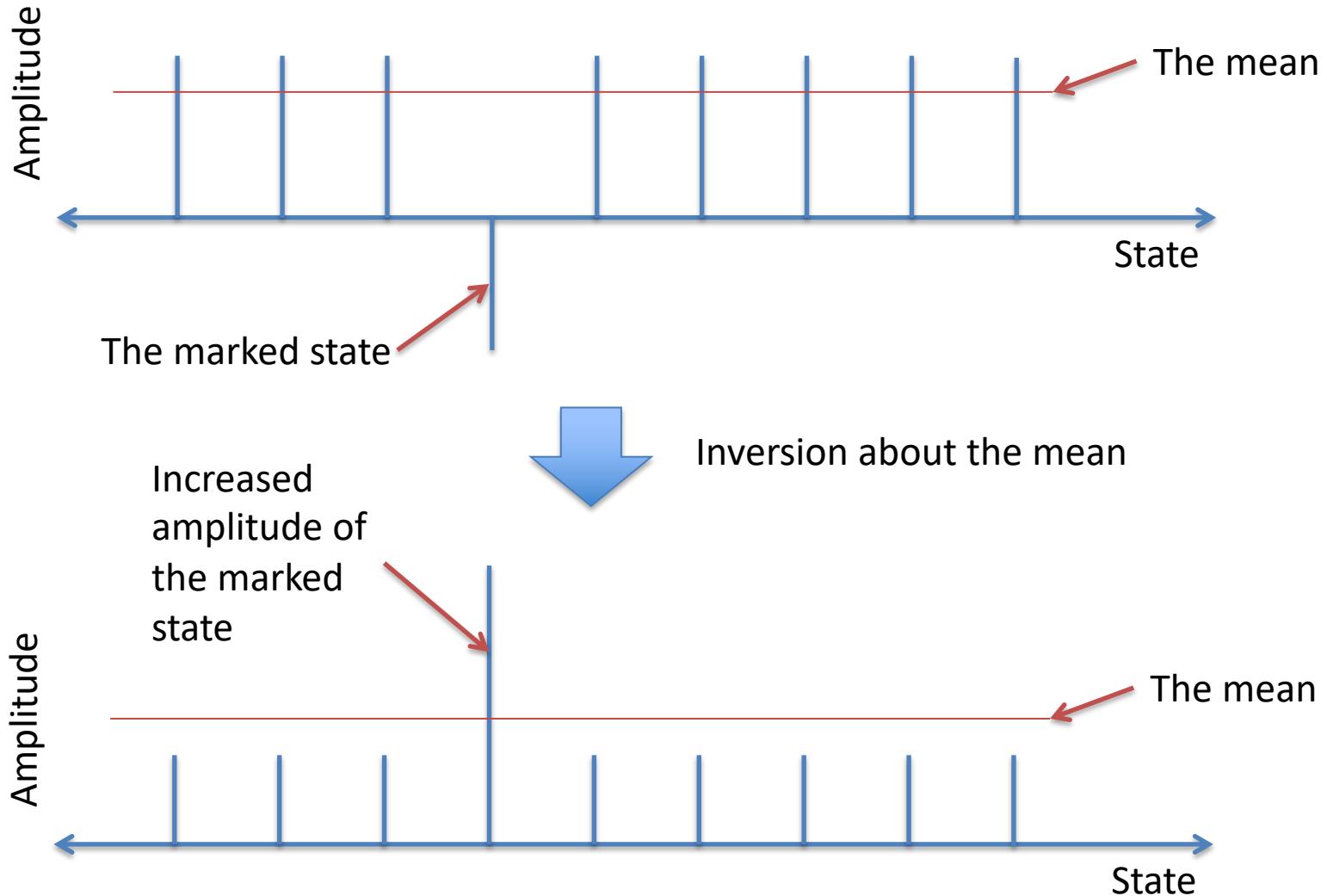


# Worked example: finding 6

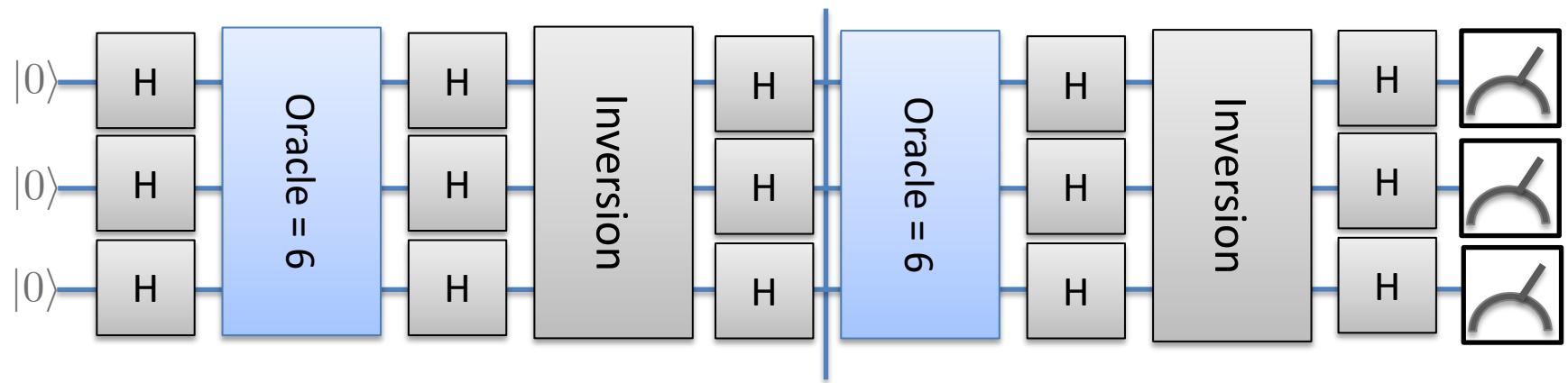


Phase of state 6 has changed to be negative

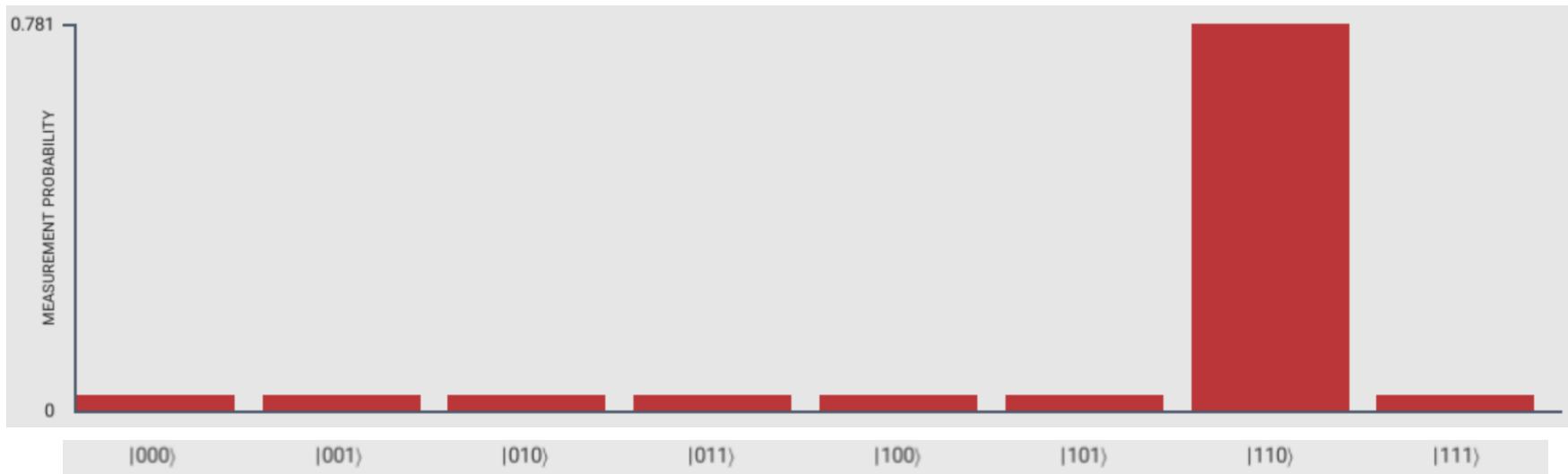
# Effect of inversion about the mean



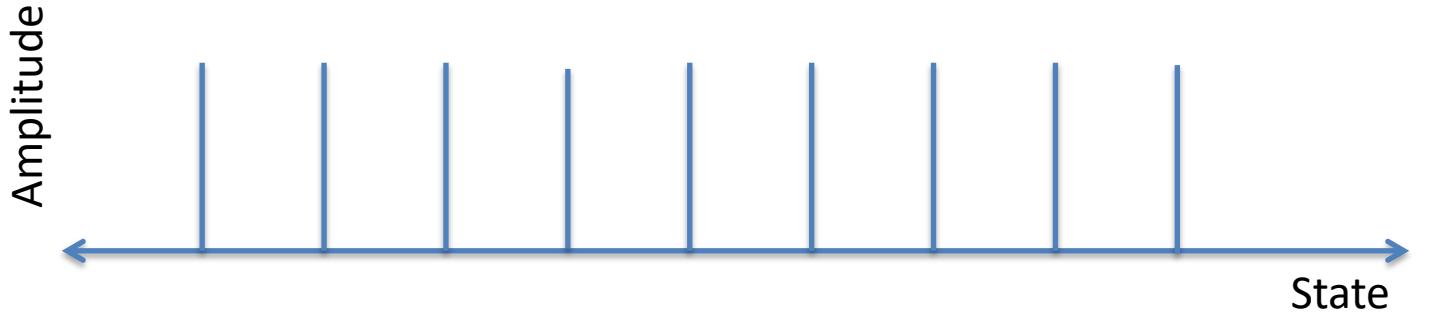
# Worked example: finding 6



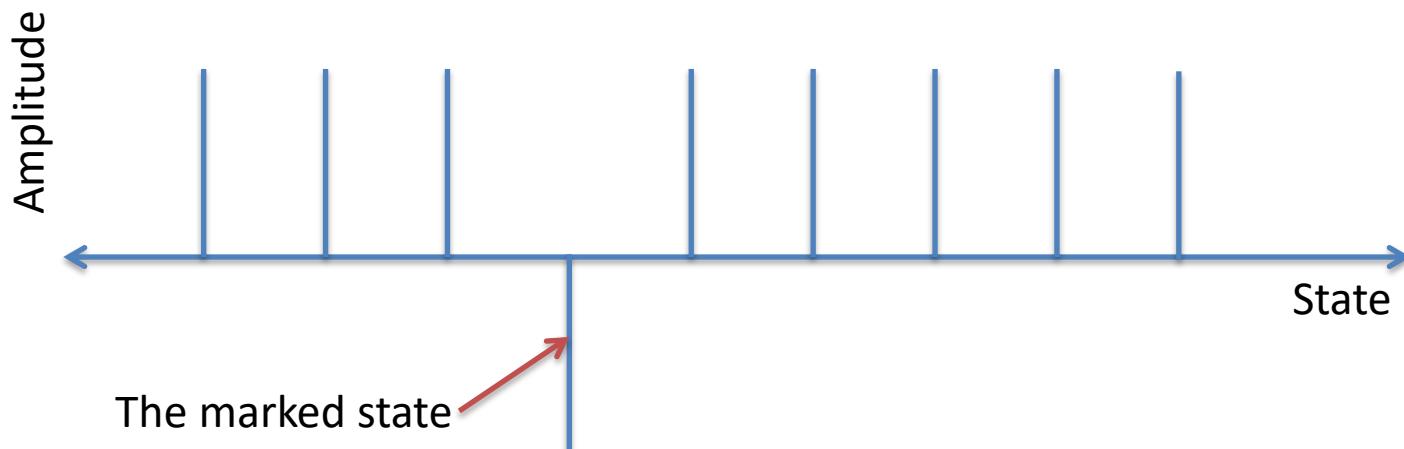
After inversion about the mean:



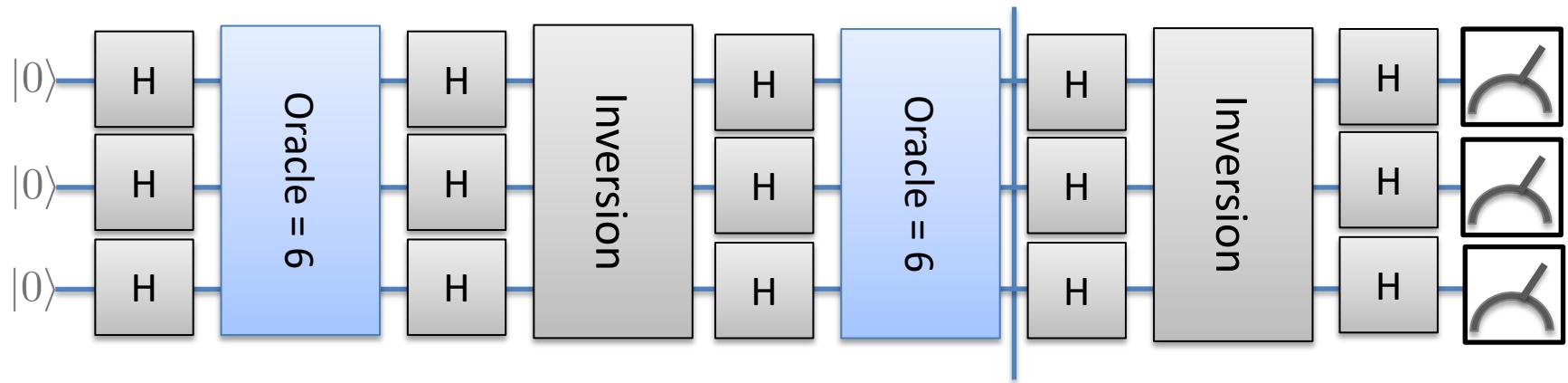
# Effect of the Oracle



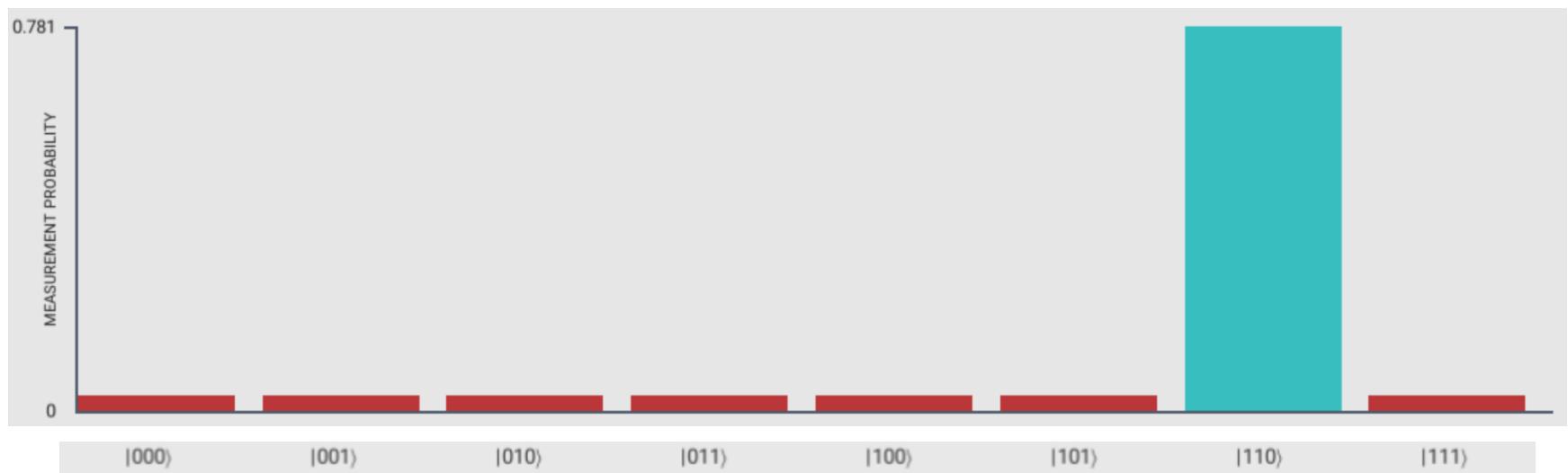
Apply the oracle



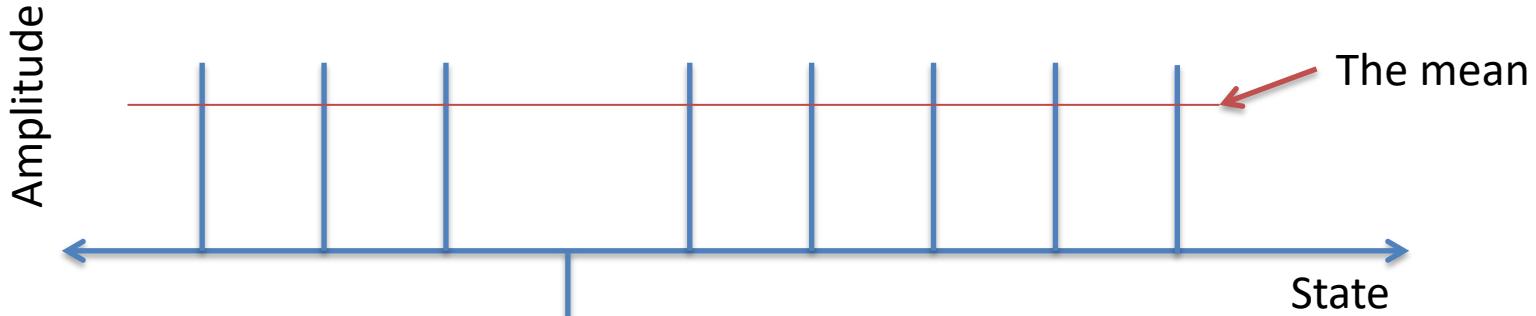
# Worked example: finding 6



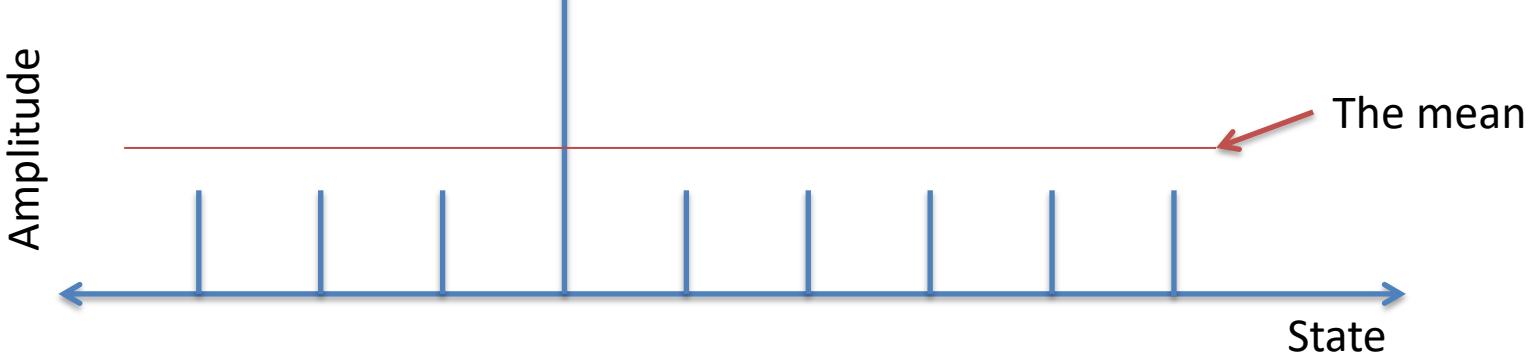
After the second oracle:



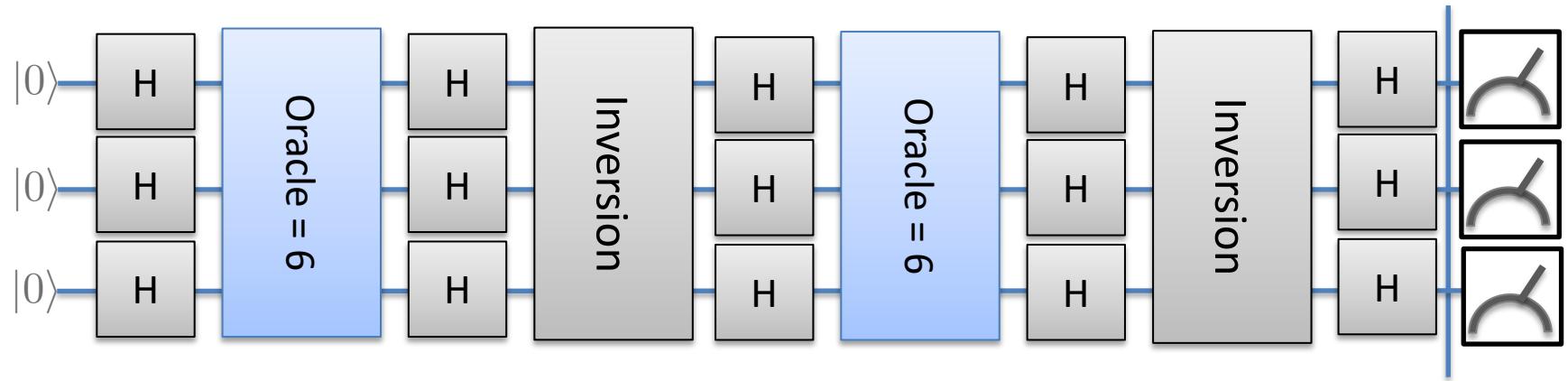
# Effect of inversion about the mean



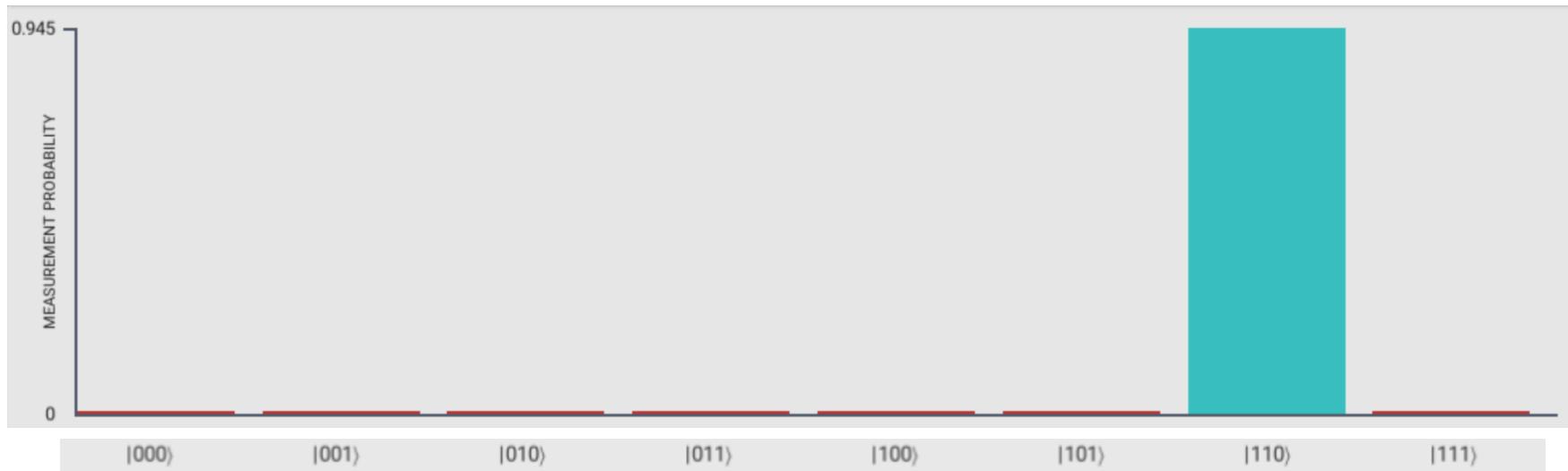
Inversion about the mean



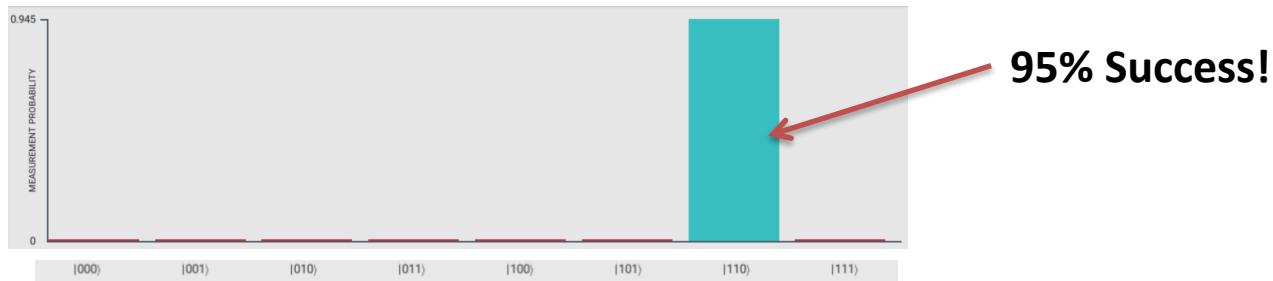
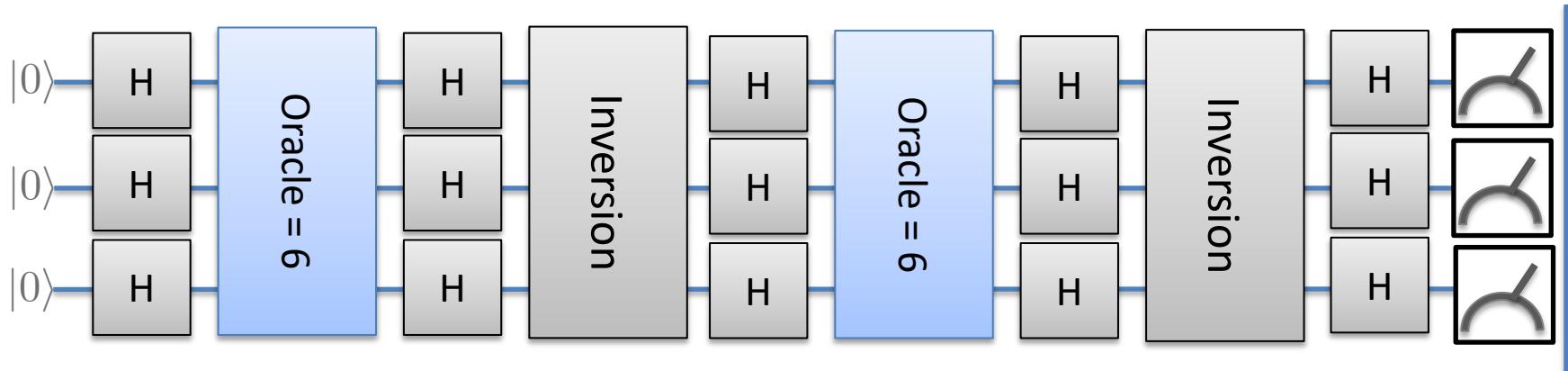
# Worked example: finding 6



After the second oracle:

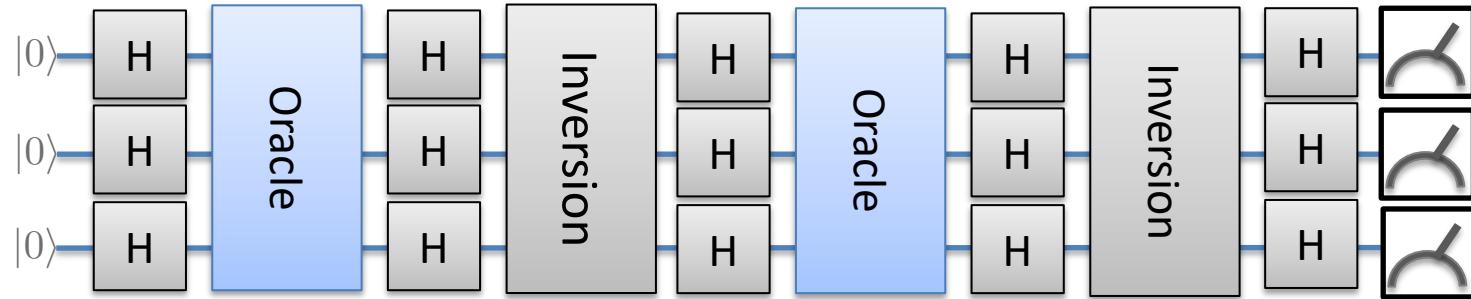


# Grover's algorithm



Finally, we measure the marked state after 2 applications of the oracle, and find the marked state, 6 with 95% probability

# Geometric interpretation of Grover's algorithm



A very useful basis:

$$|a\rangle = |m\rangle$$

Solution!



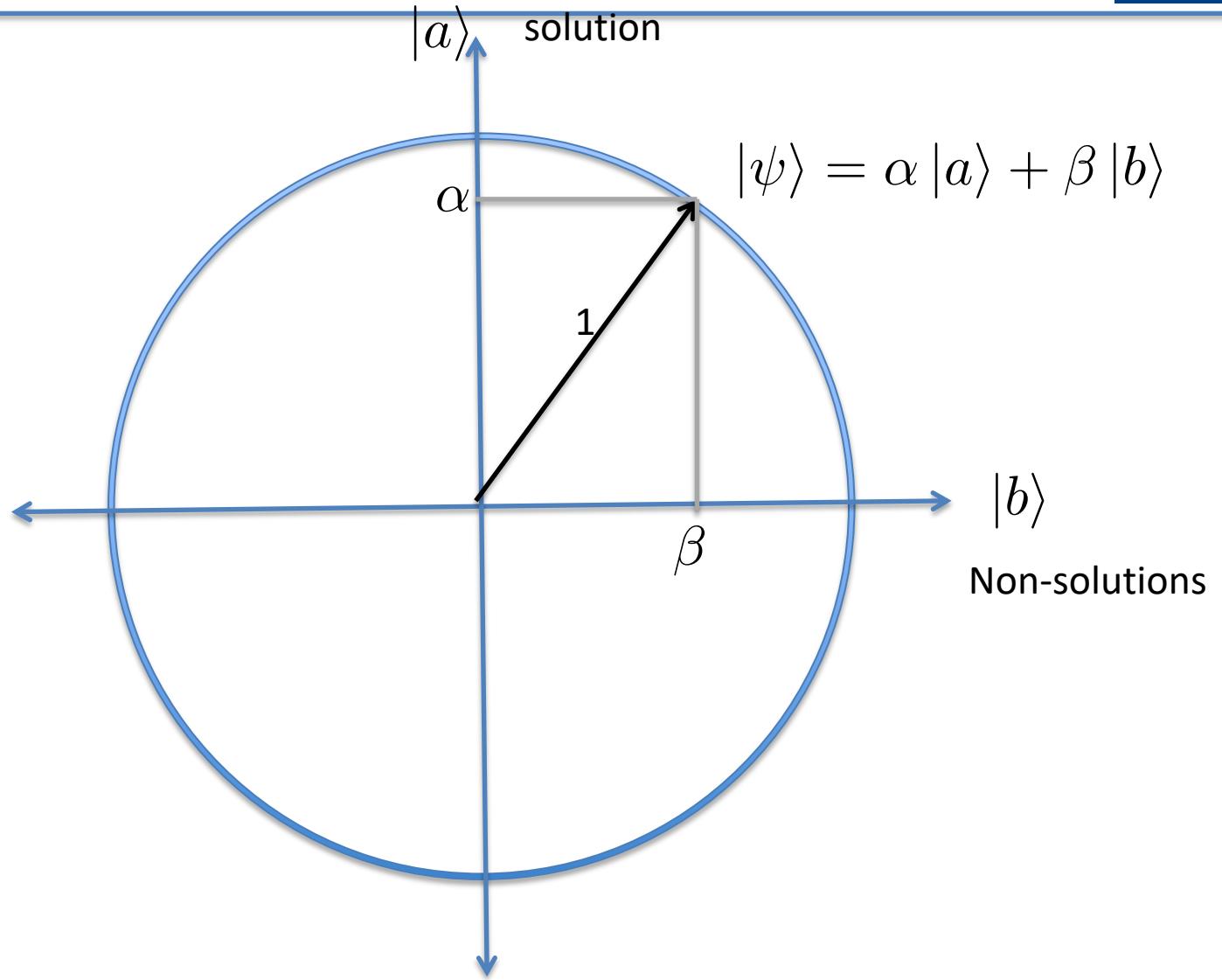
$$|b\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N-1}} \sum_{i \notin \text{solutions}} |i\rangle$$

Non-solutions...



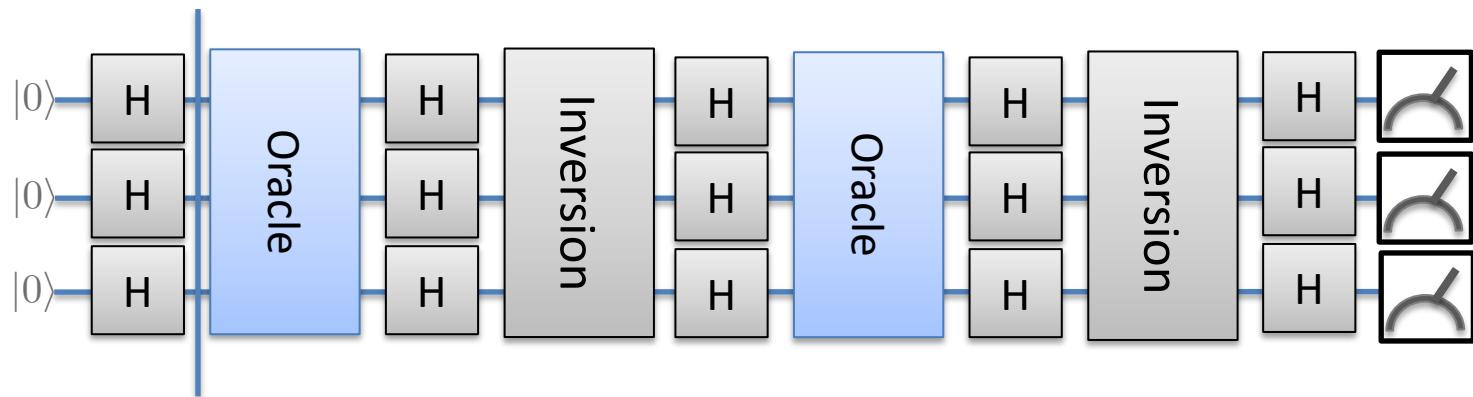
We only need to consider the amplitude of these two states in Grover's algorithm.  
 Every operation is also real, so we can plot on a circle.

# Geometric Interpretation



Every state in Grover's algorithm can be expressed as a superposition of these vectors

# Equal superposition



Equal superposition state:

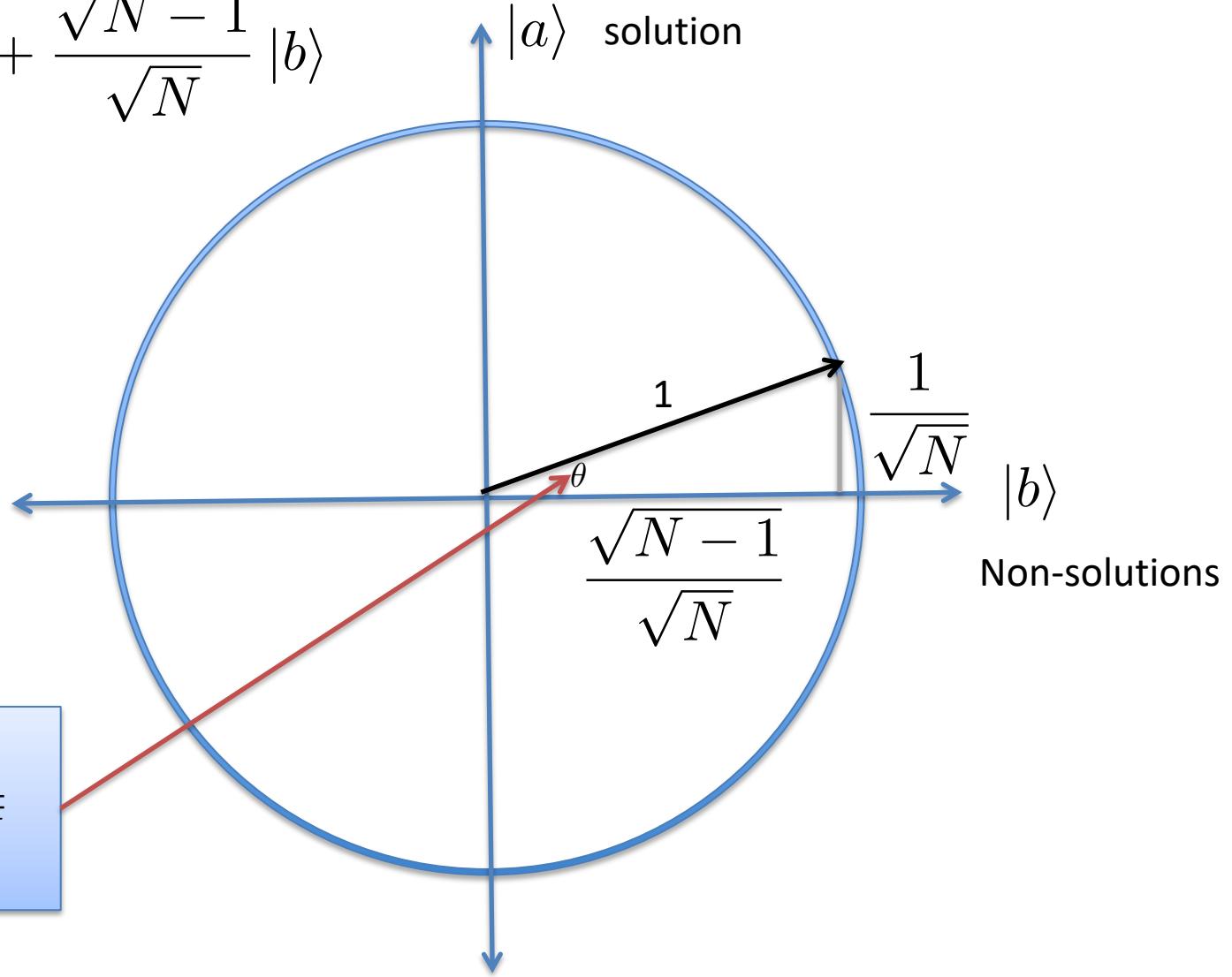
$$\begin{aligned} |\Phi\rangle &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_i |i\rangle \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} |a\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{N-1}}{\sqrt{N}} |b\rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$|a\rangle = |m\rangle \quad |b\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N-1}} \sum_{i \notin \text{solutions}} |i\rangle$$

# Equal Superposition

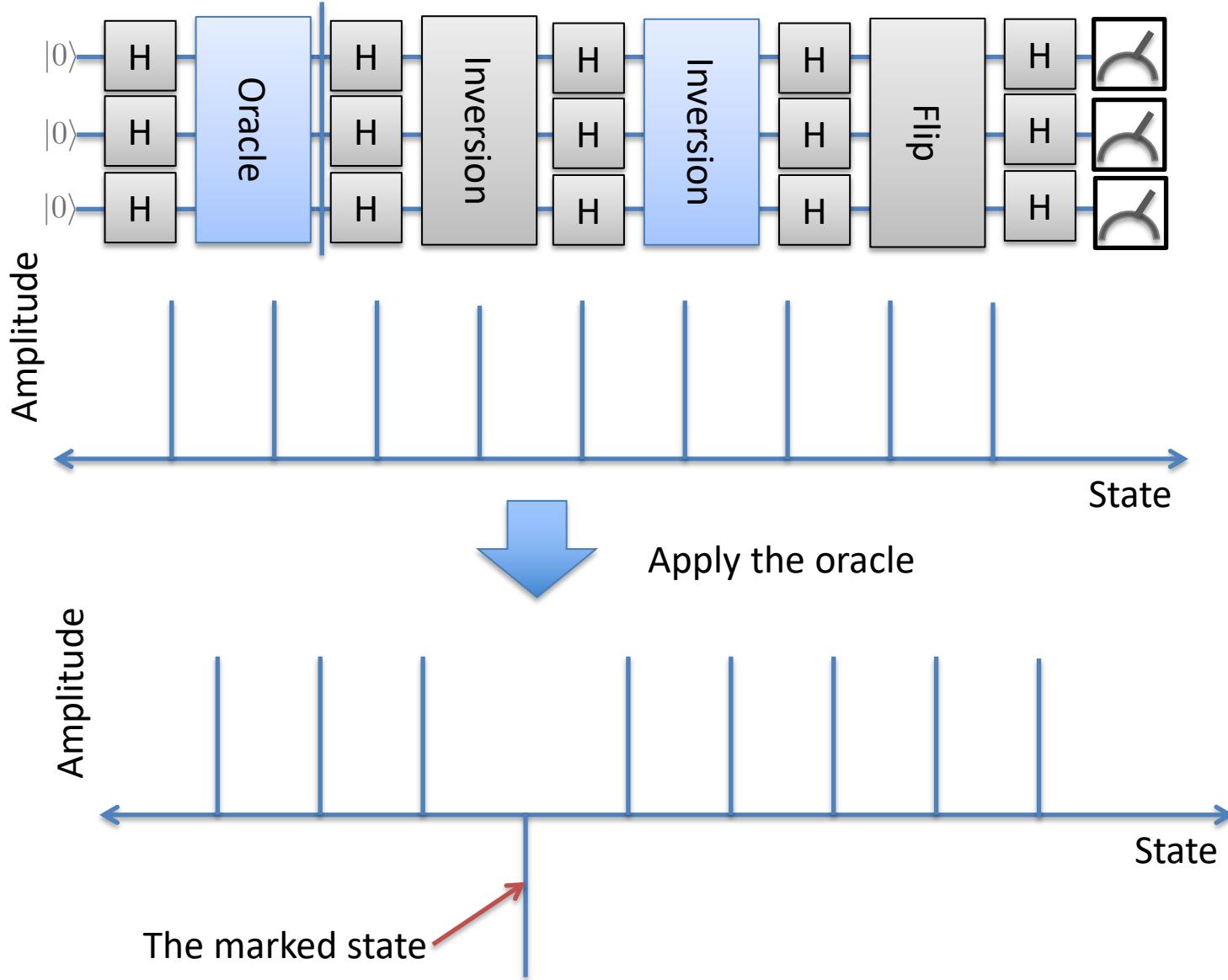
Consider the equal superposition:

$$|\phi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} |a\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{N-1}}{\sqrt{N}} |b\rangle$$



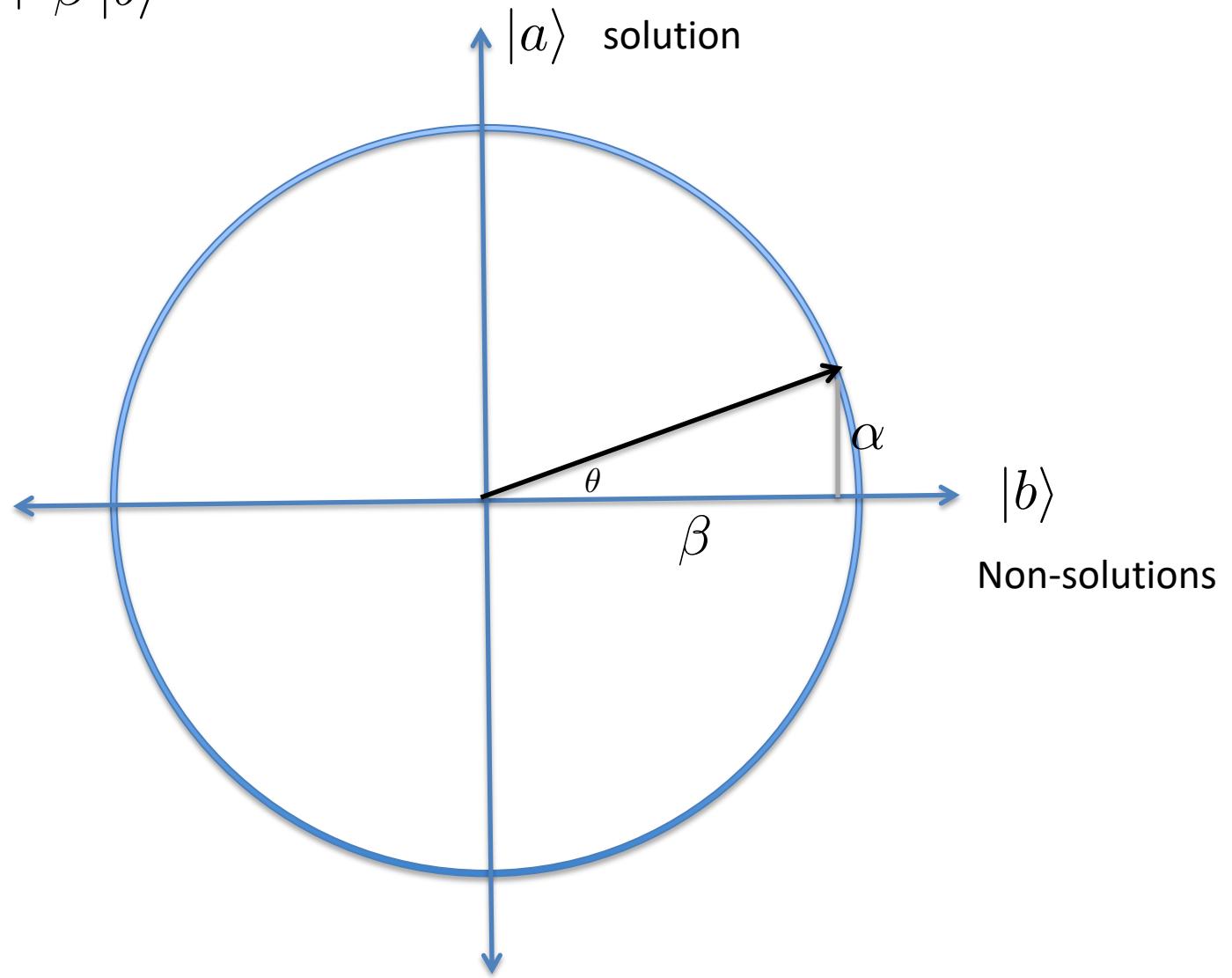
$$\sin \theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

# Effect of the Oracle



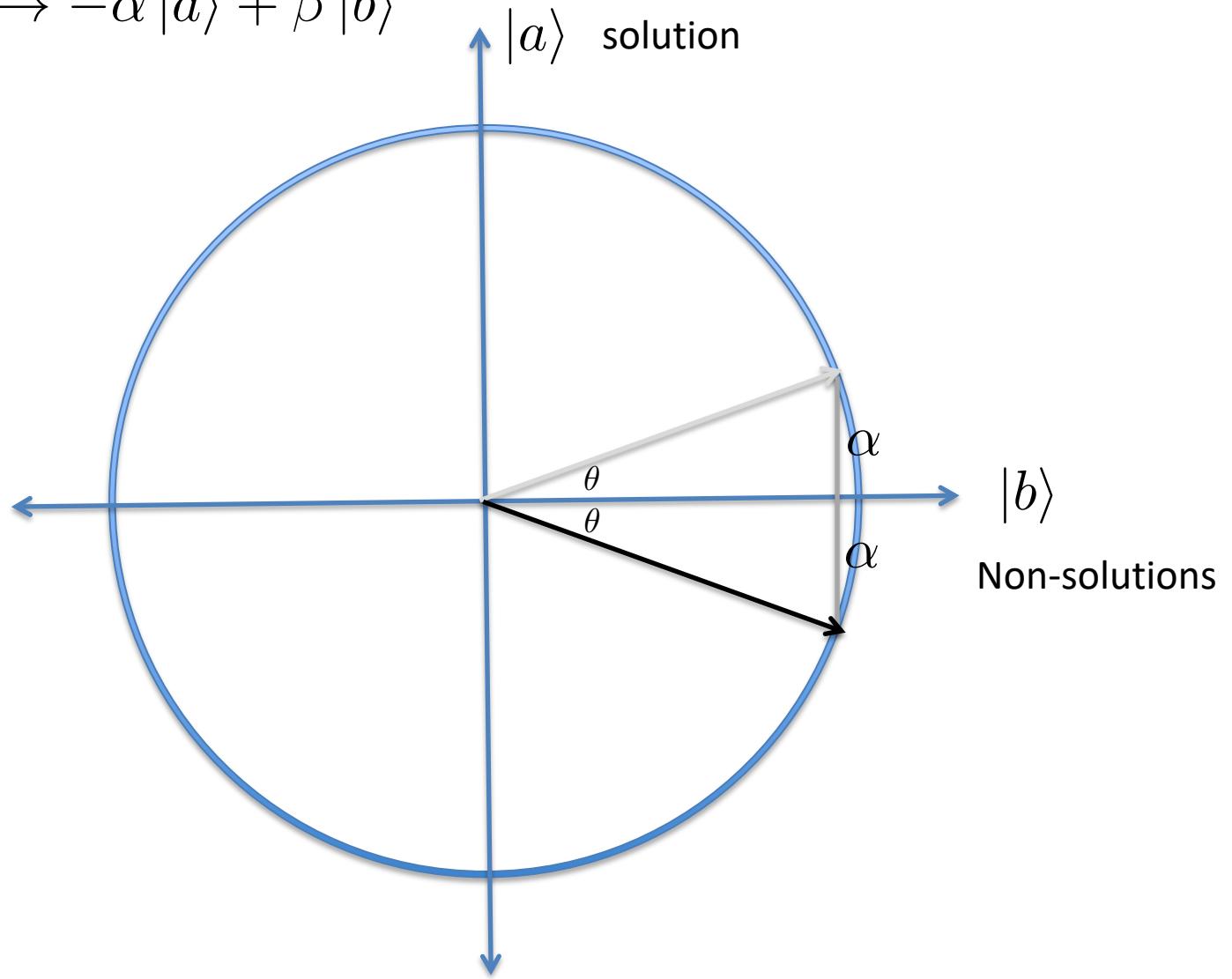
# Geometric Effect of Oracle

$$\alpha |a\rangle + \beta |b\rangle$$

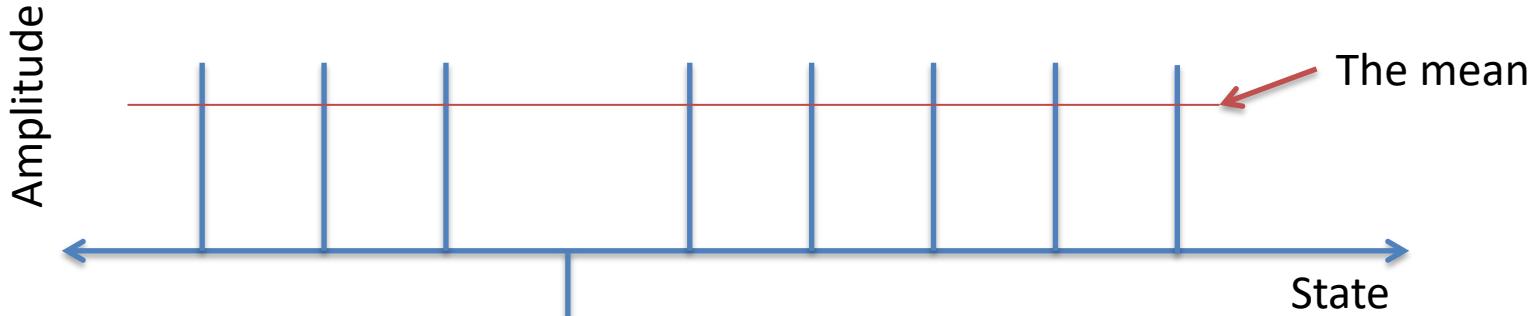


# Geometric Effect of Oracle

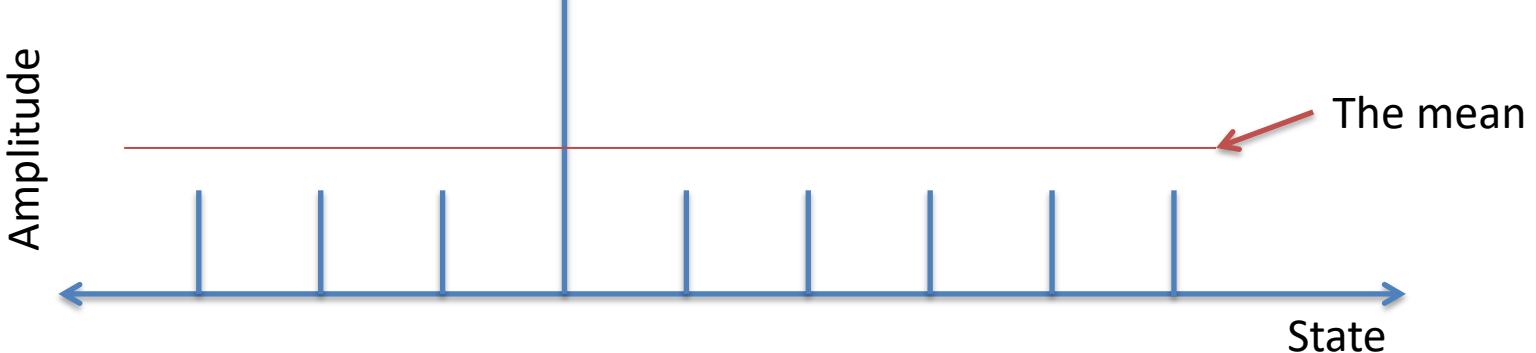
$$\alpha |a\rangle + \beta |b\rangle \rightarrow -\alpha |a\rangle + \beta |b\rangle$$



# Effect of inversion about the mean

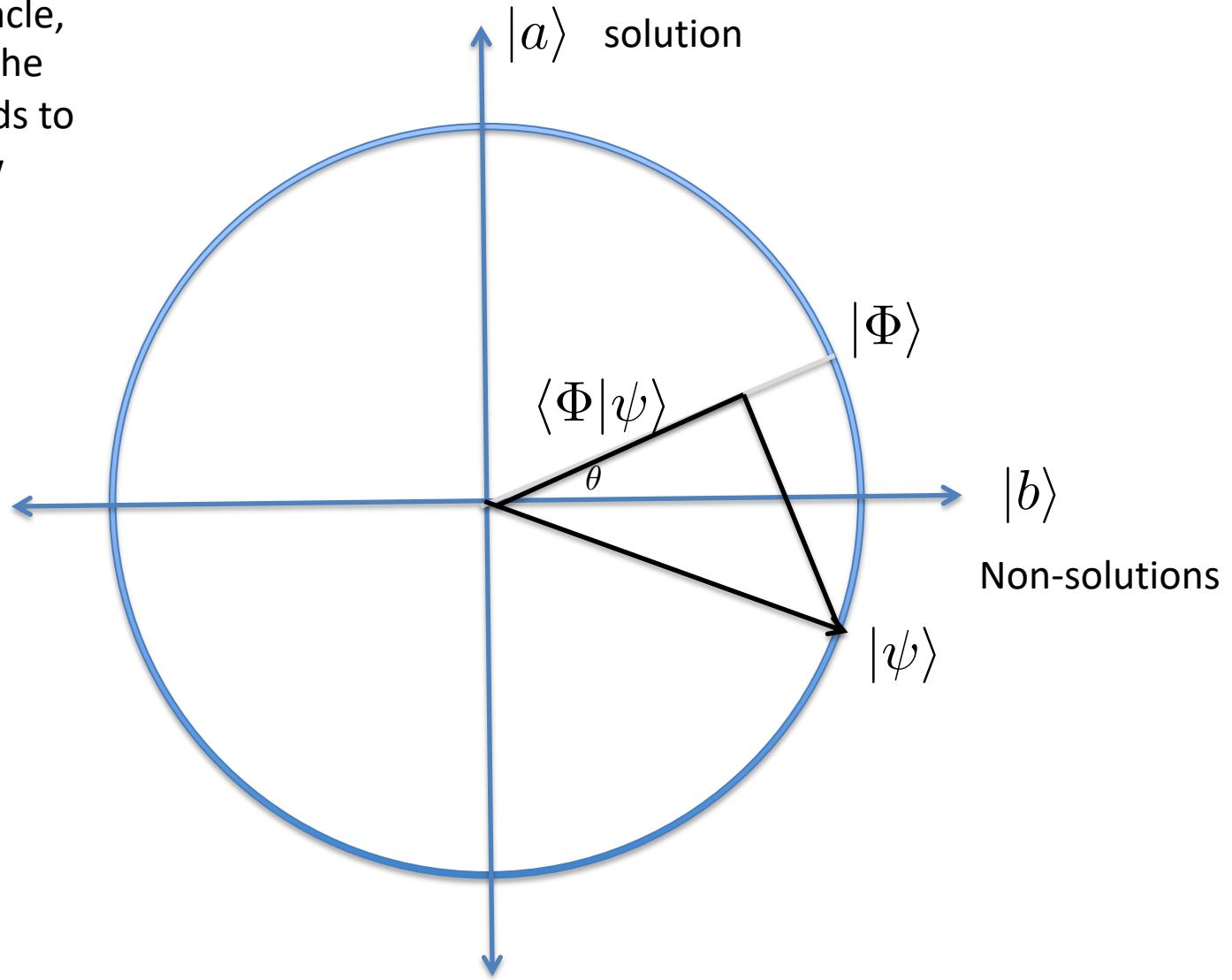


Inversion about the mean



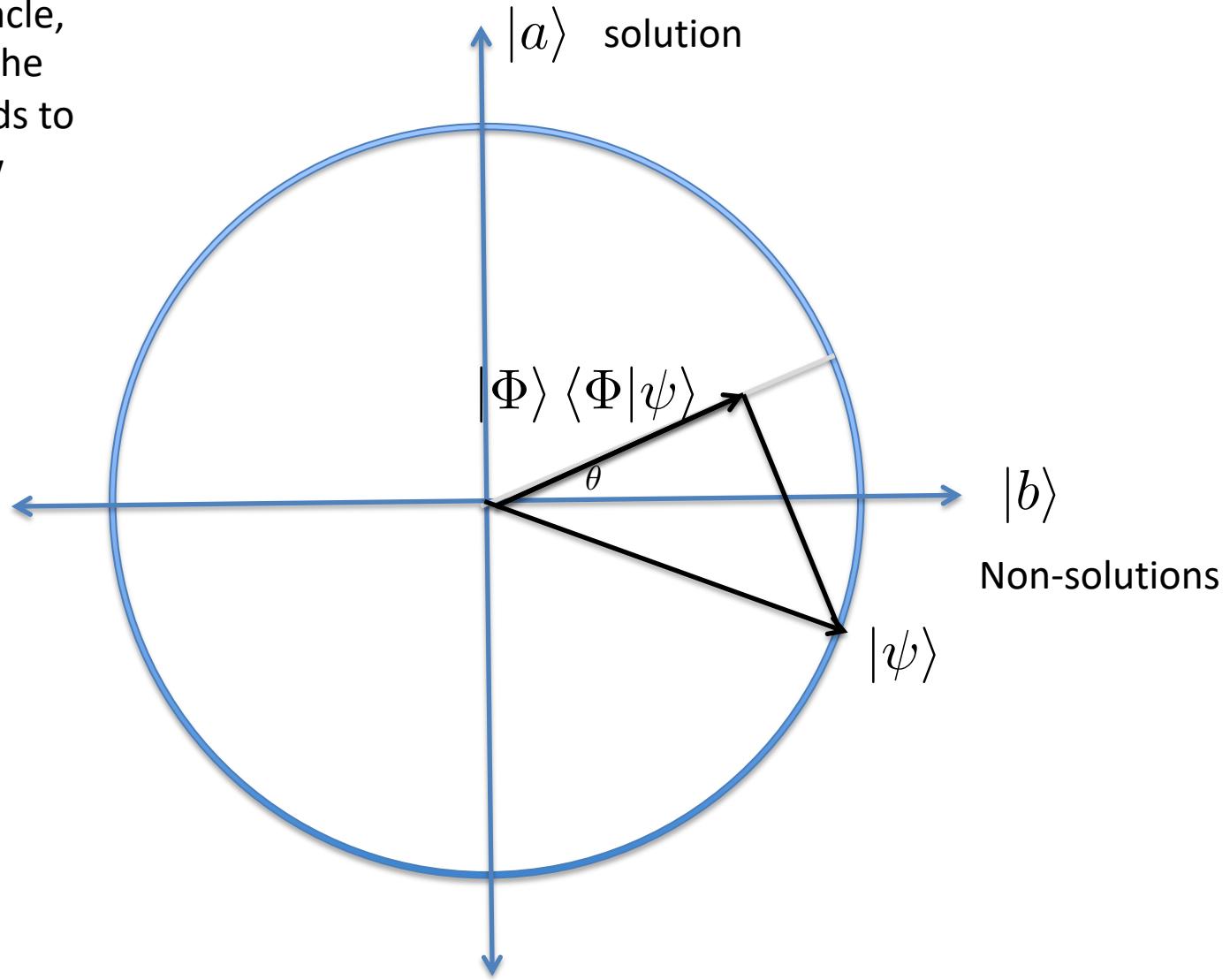
# Inversion about the mean

Similar to the oracle, inversion about the mean corresponds to a reflection. Now about **equal superposition**.

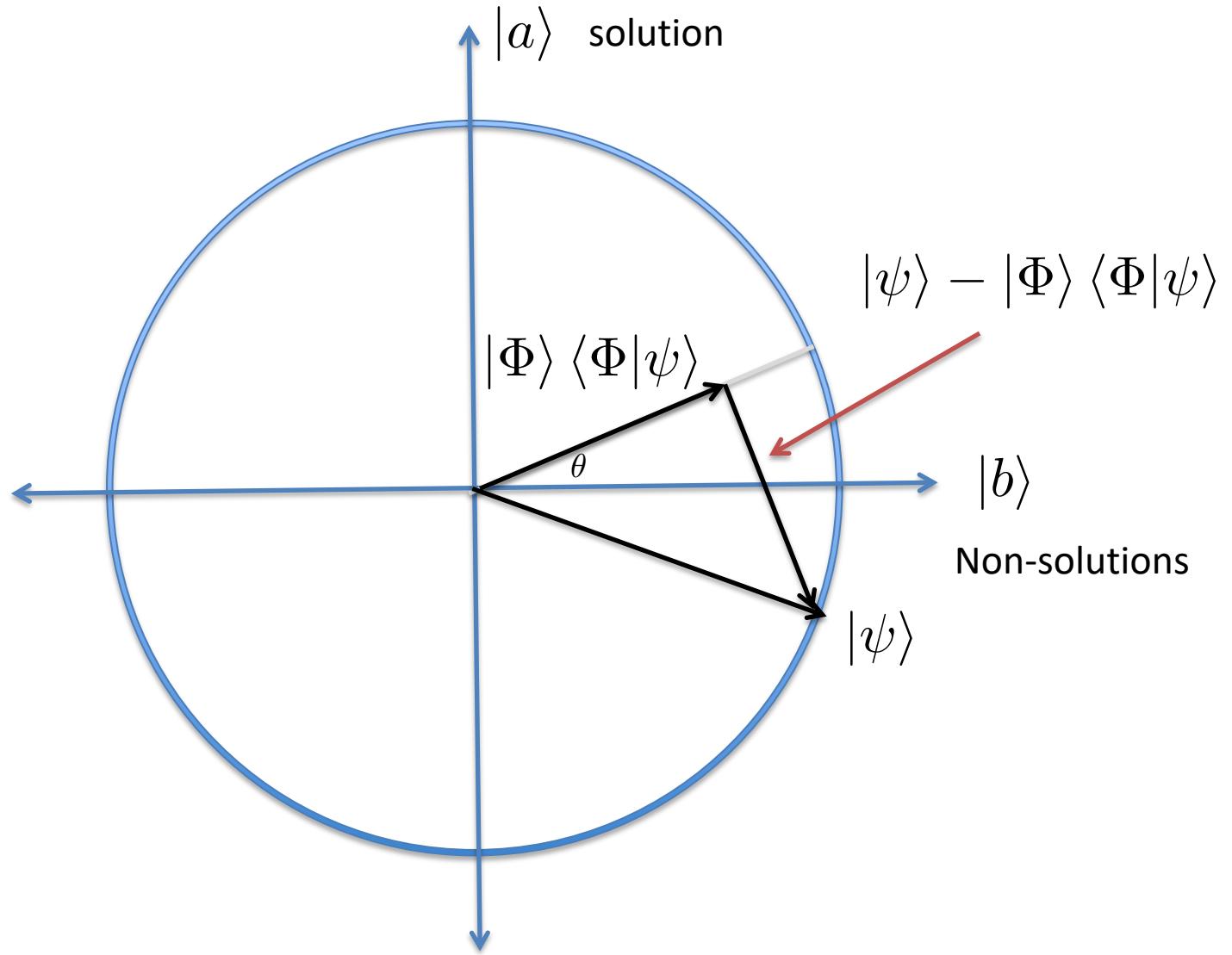


# Inversion about the mean

Similar to the oracle, inversion about the mean corresponds to a reflection. Now about **equal superposition**.

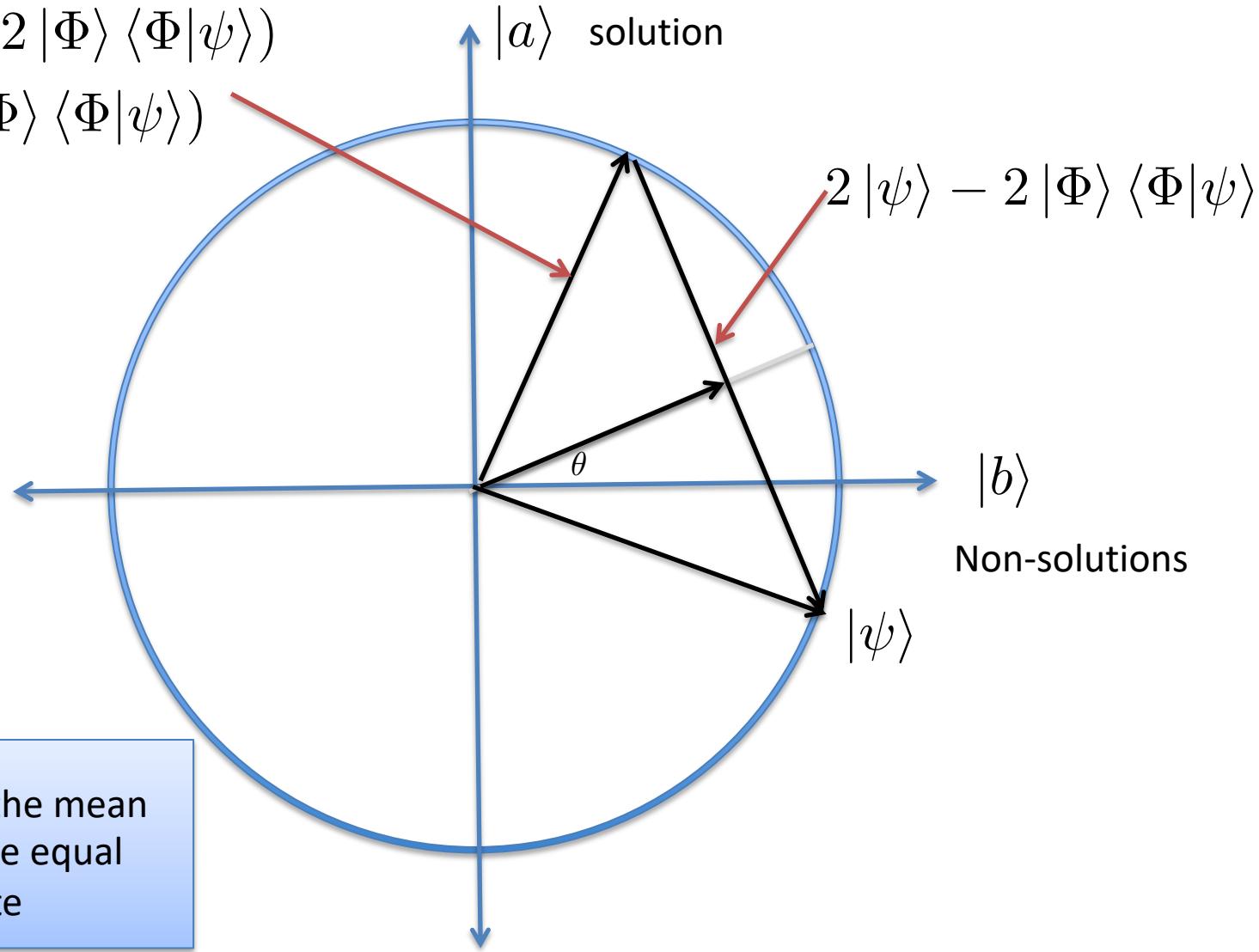


# Inversion about the mean



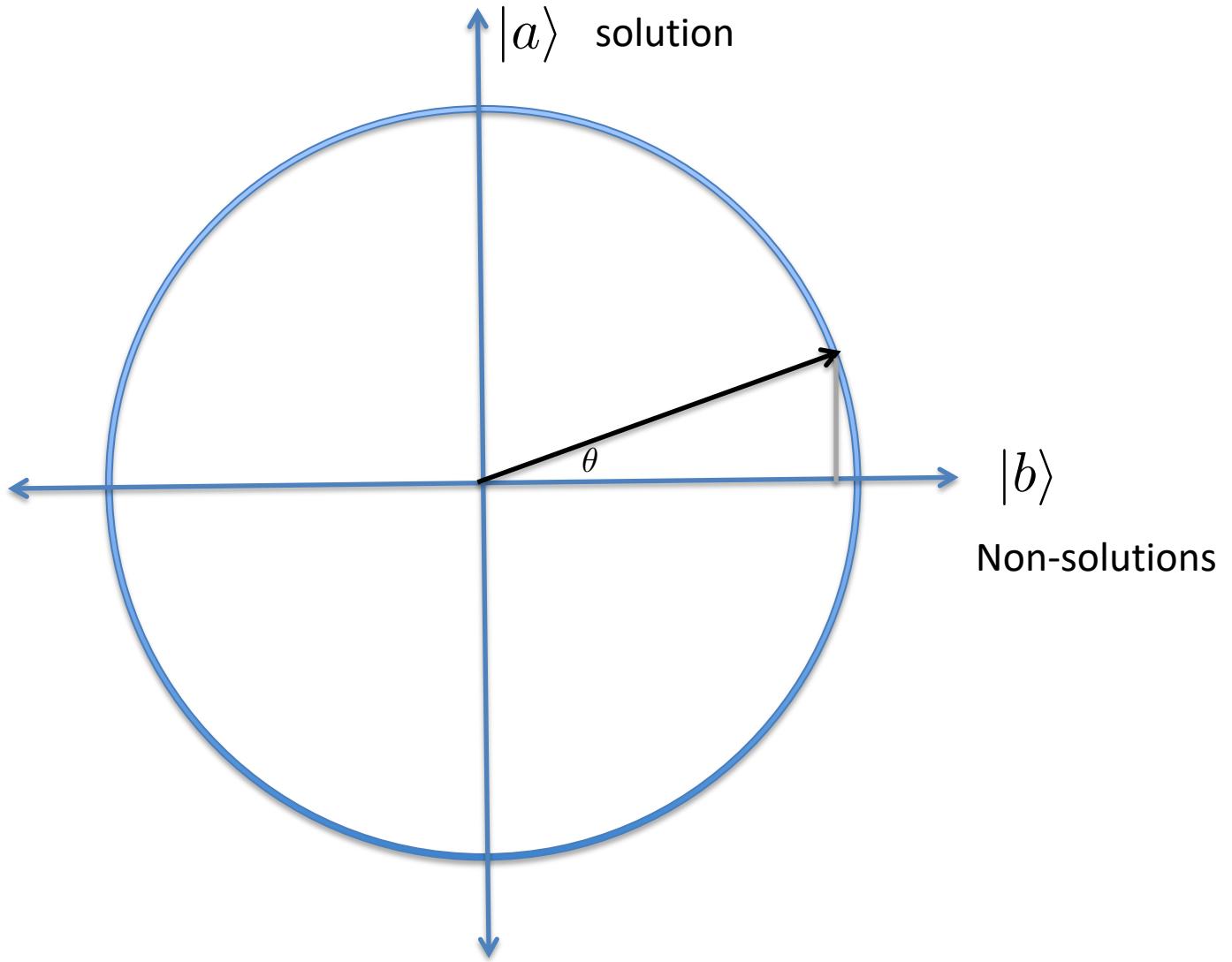
# Inversion about the mean

$$\begin{aligned} |\psi\rangle - (2|\psi\rangle - 2|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|\psi\rangle) \\ = -(|\psi\rangle - 2|\Phi\rangle\langle\Phi|\psi\rangle) \end{aligned}$$



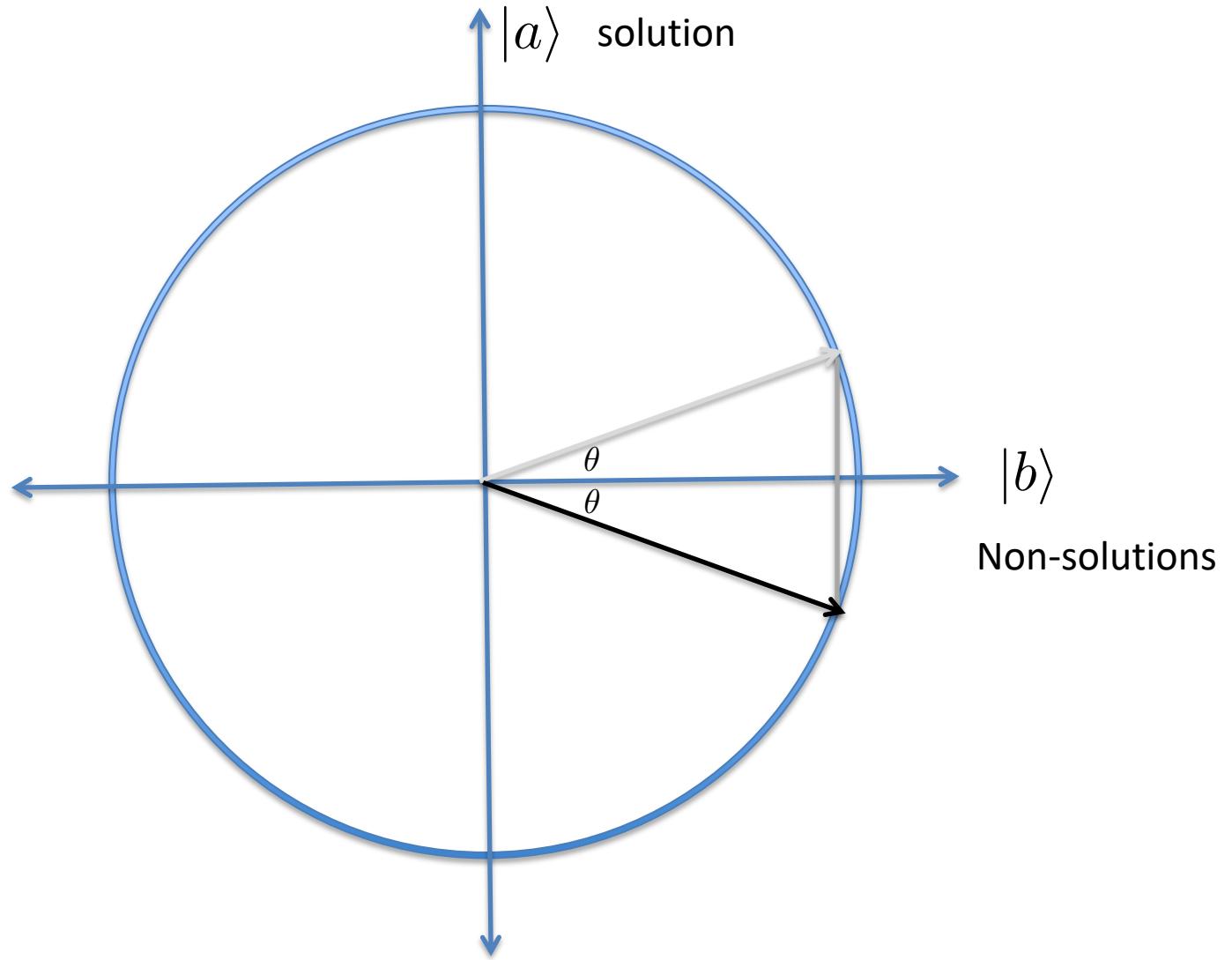
# Geometric Effect of both Oracle and Inversion

Combining both effects:



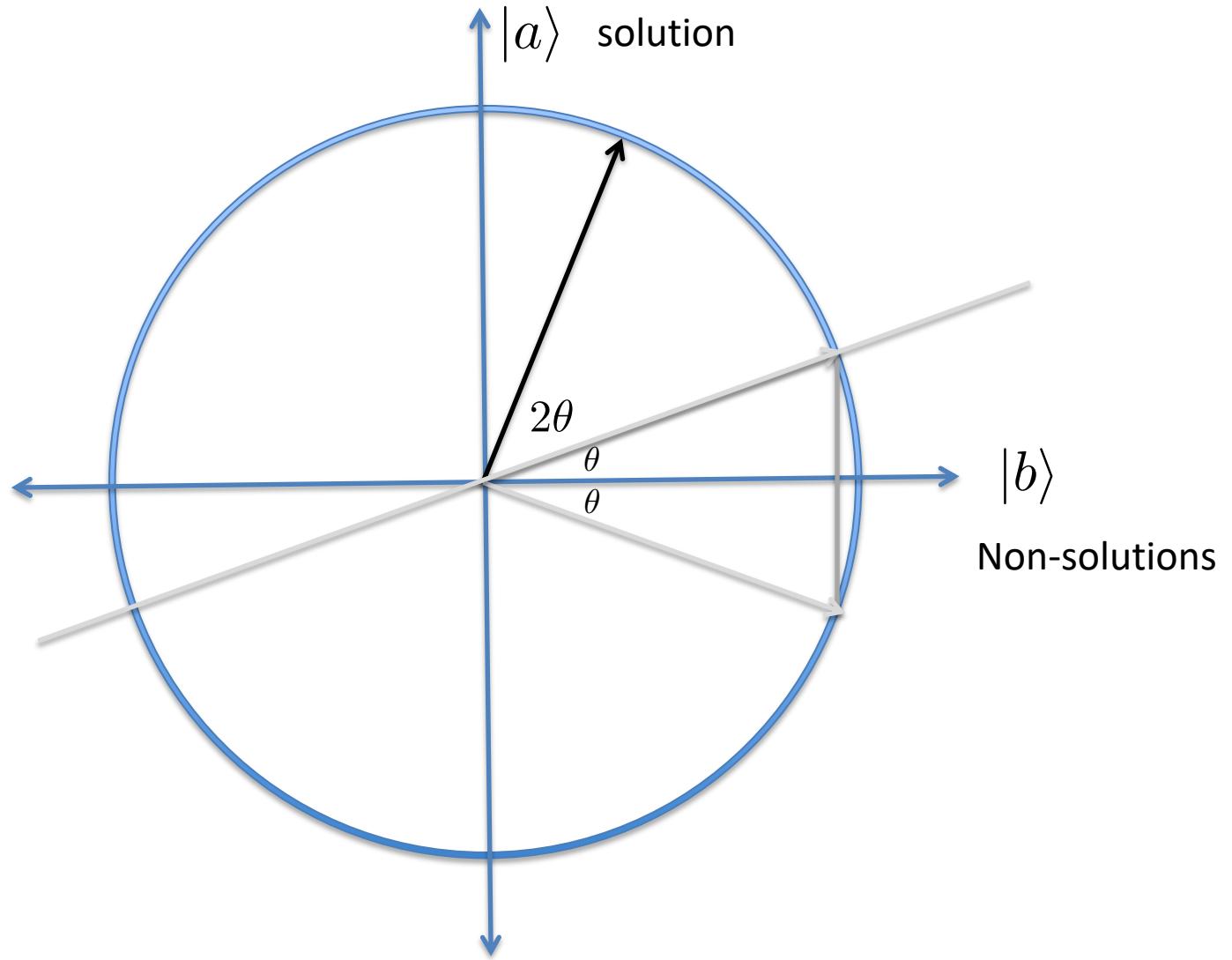
# Geometric Effect of both Oracle and Inversion

Combining both effects:



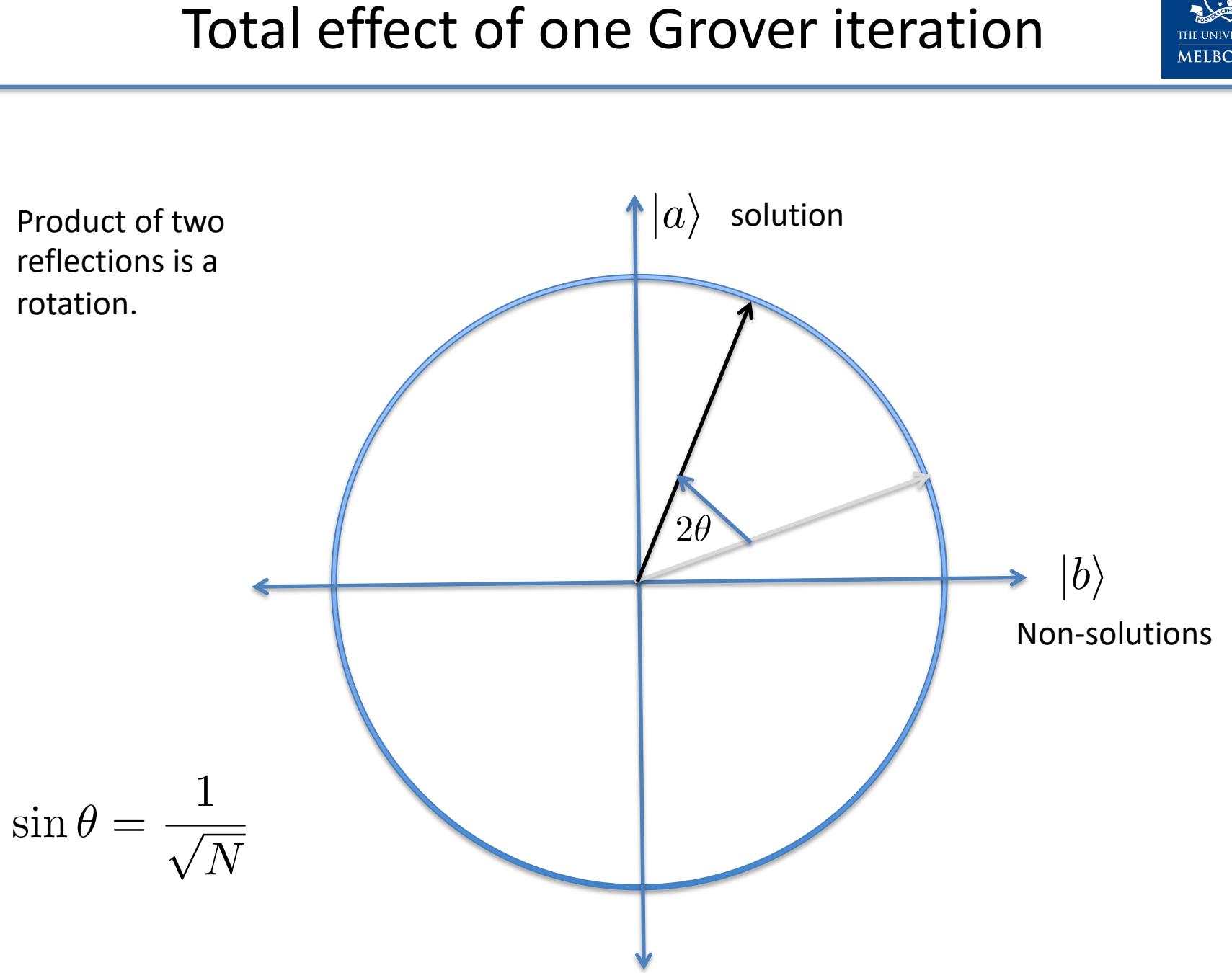
# Geometric Effect of both Oracle and Inversion

Combining both effects:



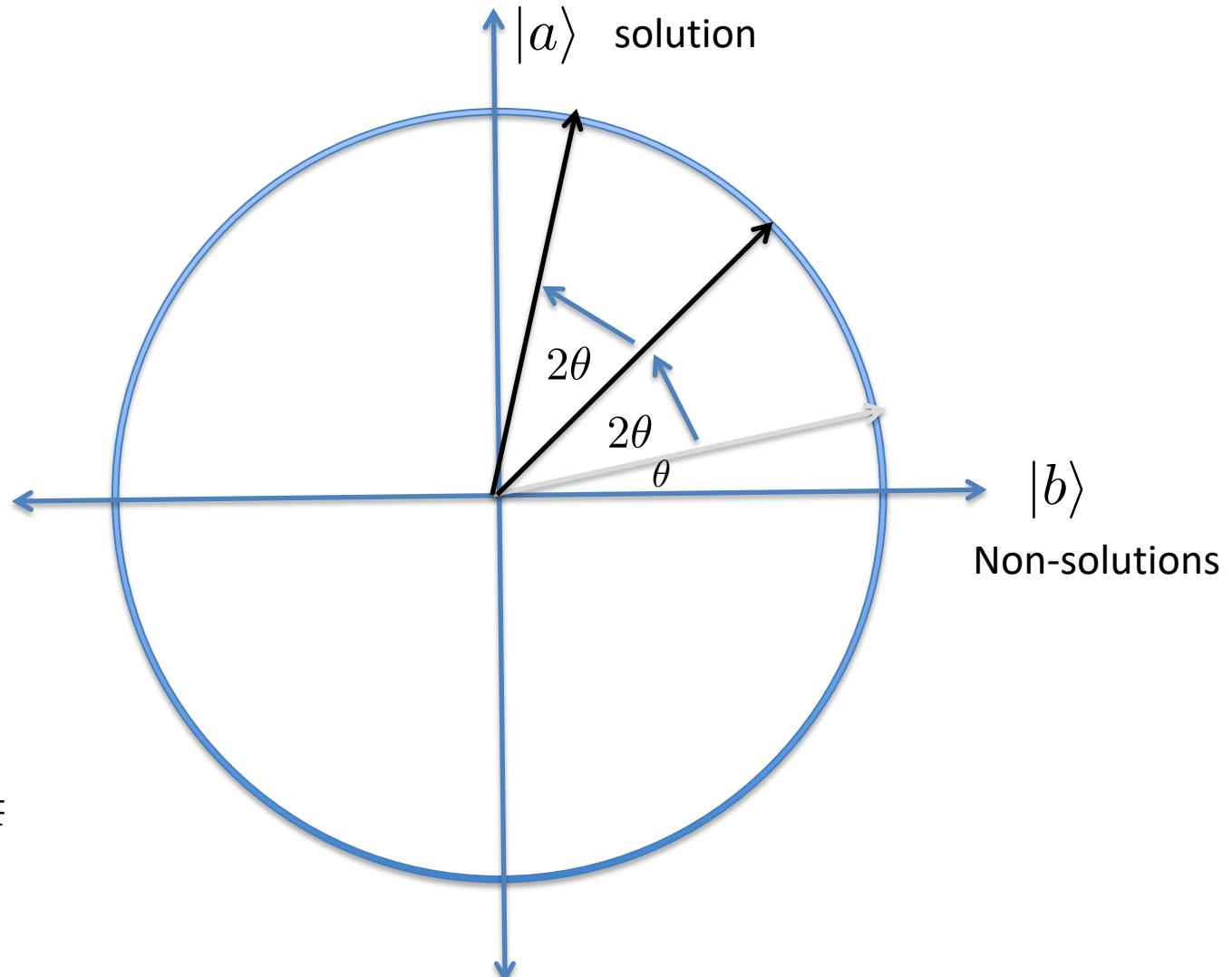
# Total effect of one Grover iteration

Product of two reflections is a rotation.



# Many Grover iterations

Product of two reflections is a rotation.



# How many iterations required?

$$\sin \theta = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

For small angles,

$$\theta \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

After  $n$  iterations, we rotate to have only marked solutions:

$$(2n + 1)\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

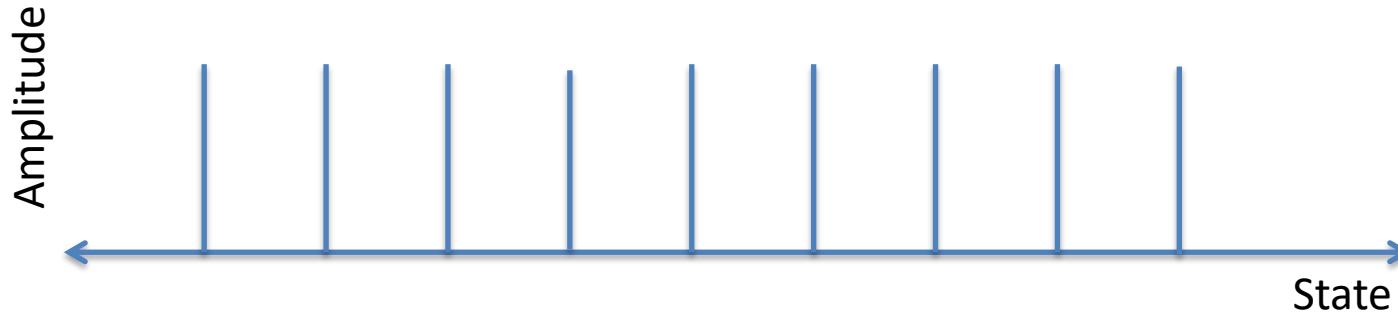
$$n \approx \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{N}$$

The number of steps,  $n$ , required scales as  $O(\sqrt{N})$ , and not with  $N$  as it would classically.

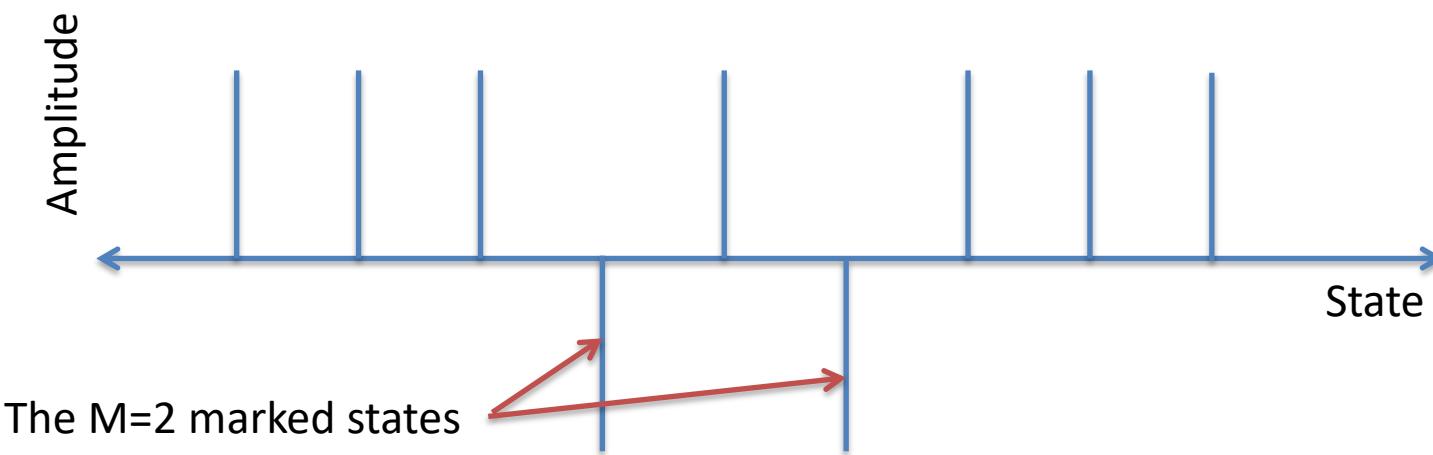
This is a “polynomial” rather than an “exponential” speedup.

# Multiple Solutions

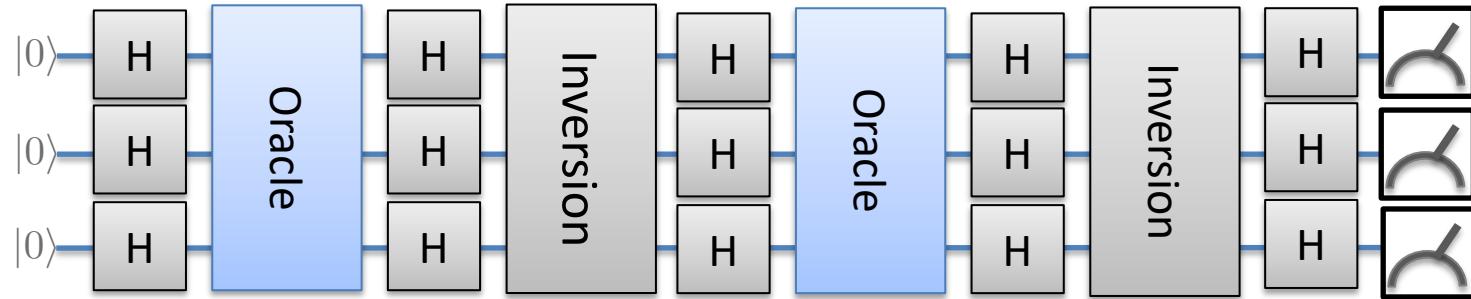
There can be more than one solution to a problem.



Apply the oracle



# Geometric interpretation of Grover's algorithm



A very useful basis:

$$|a\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \sum_{i \in \text{solutions}} |i\rangle \quad \text{Solutions!}$$

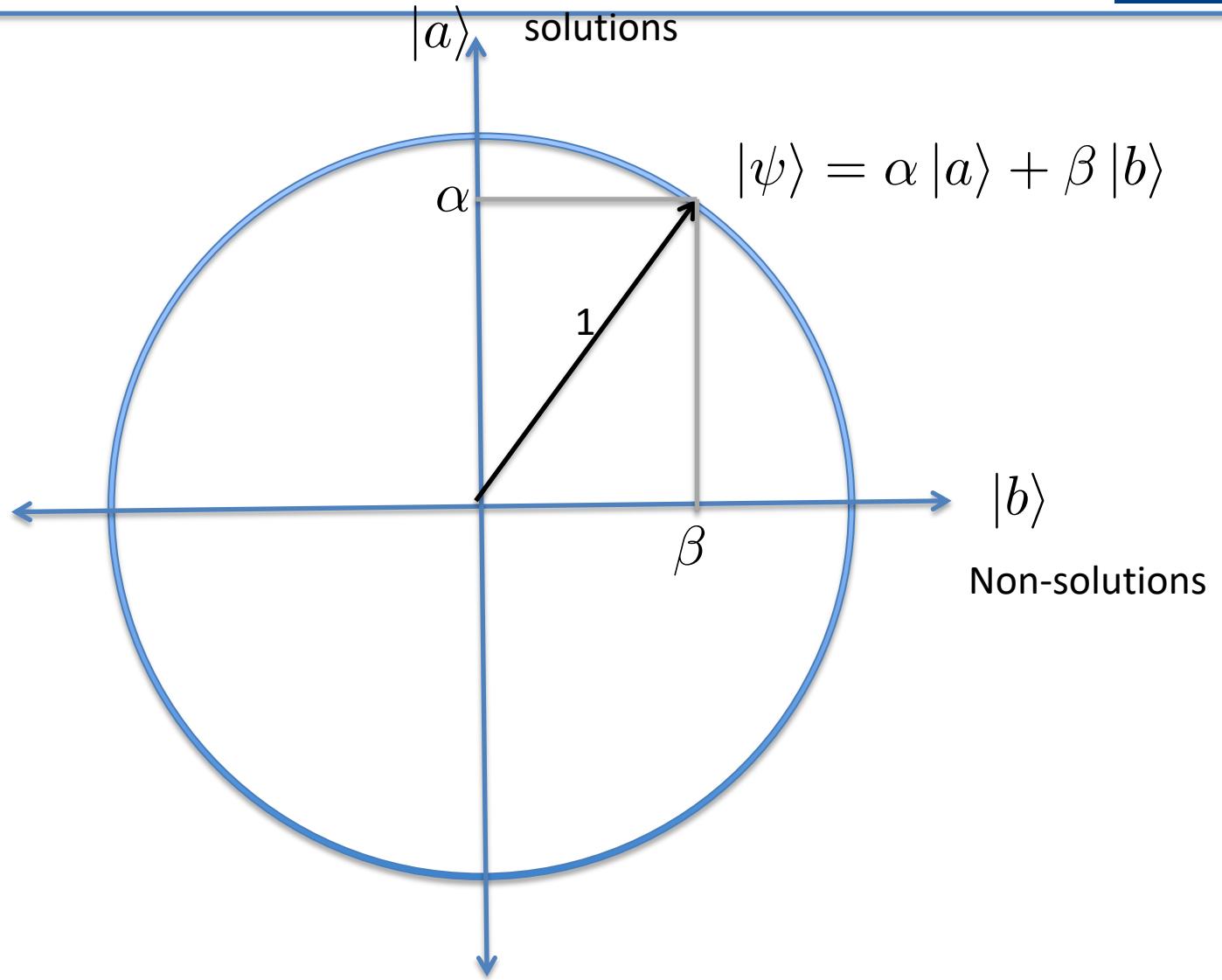


$$|b\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N - M}} \sum_{i \notin \text{solutions}} |i\rangle \quad \text{Non-solutions...}$$



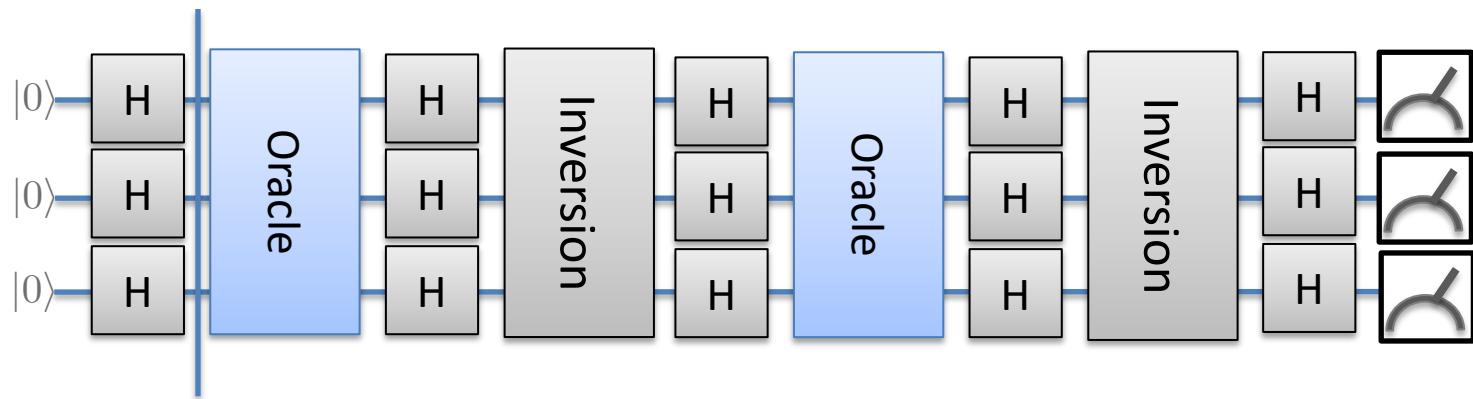
We only need to consider the amplitude of these two states in Grover's algorithm.  
 Every operation is also real, so we can plot on a circle.

# Geometric Interpretation



Every state in Grover's algorithm can be expressed as a superposition of these vectors

# Equal superposition



Equal superposition state:

$$|\Phi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_i |i\rangle$$

$$|\Phi\rangle = \frac{\sqrt{M}}{\sqrt{N}} |a\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{N-M}}{\sqrt{N}} |b\rangle$$

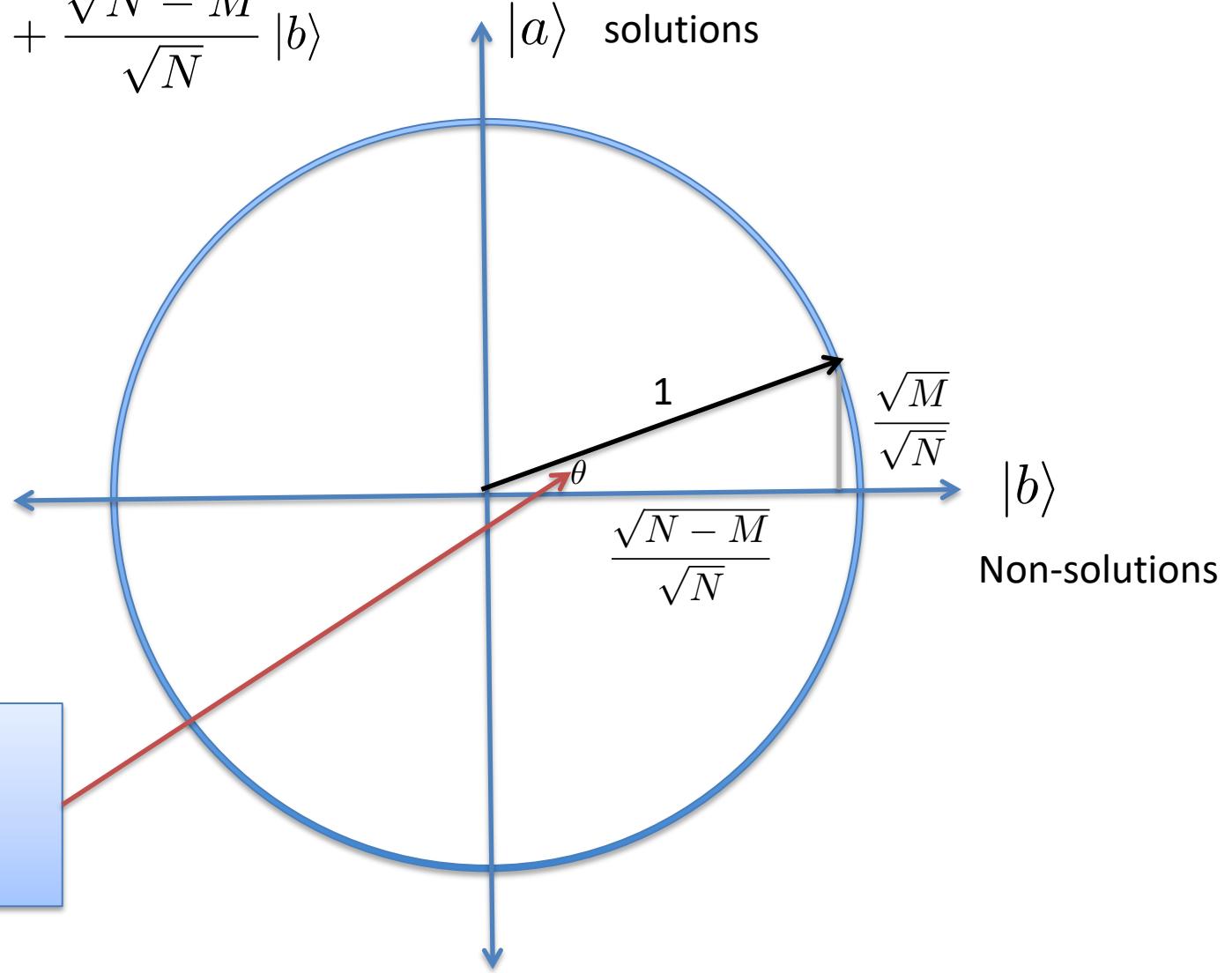
$$|a\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{M}} \sum_{i \in \text{solutions}} |i\rangle$$

$$|b\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N-M}} \sum_{i \notin \text{solutions}} |i\rangle$$

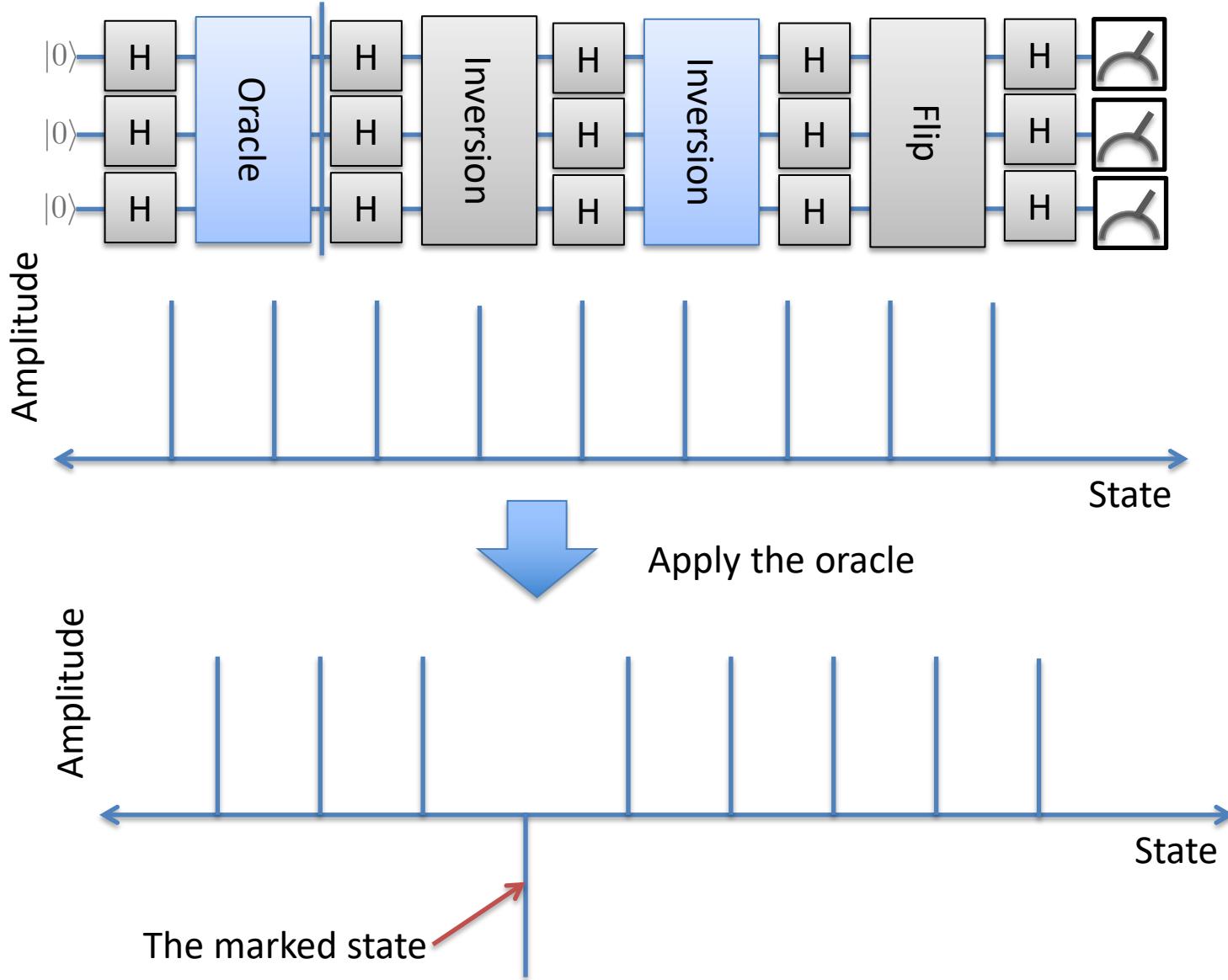
# Equal Superposition

Consider the equal superposition:

$$|\Phi\rangle = \frac{\sqrt{M}}{\sqrt{N}} |a\rangle + \frac{\sqrt{N-M}}{\sqrt{N}} |b\rangle$$

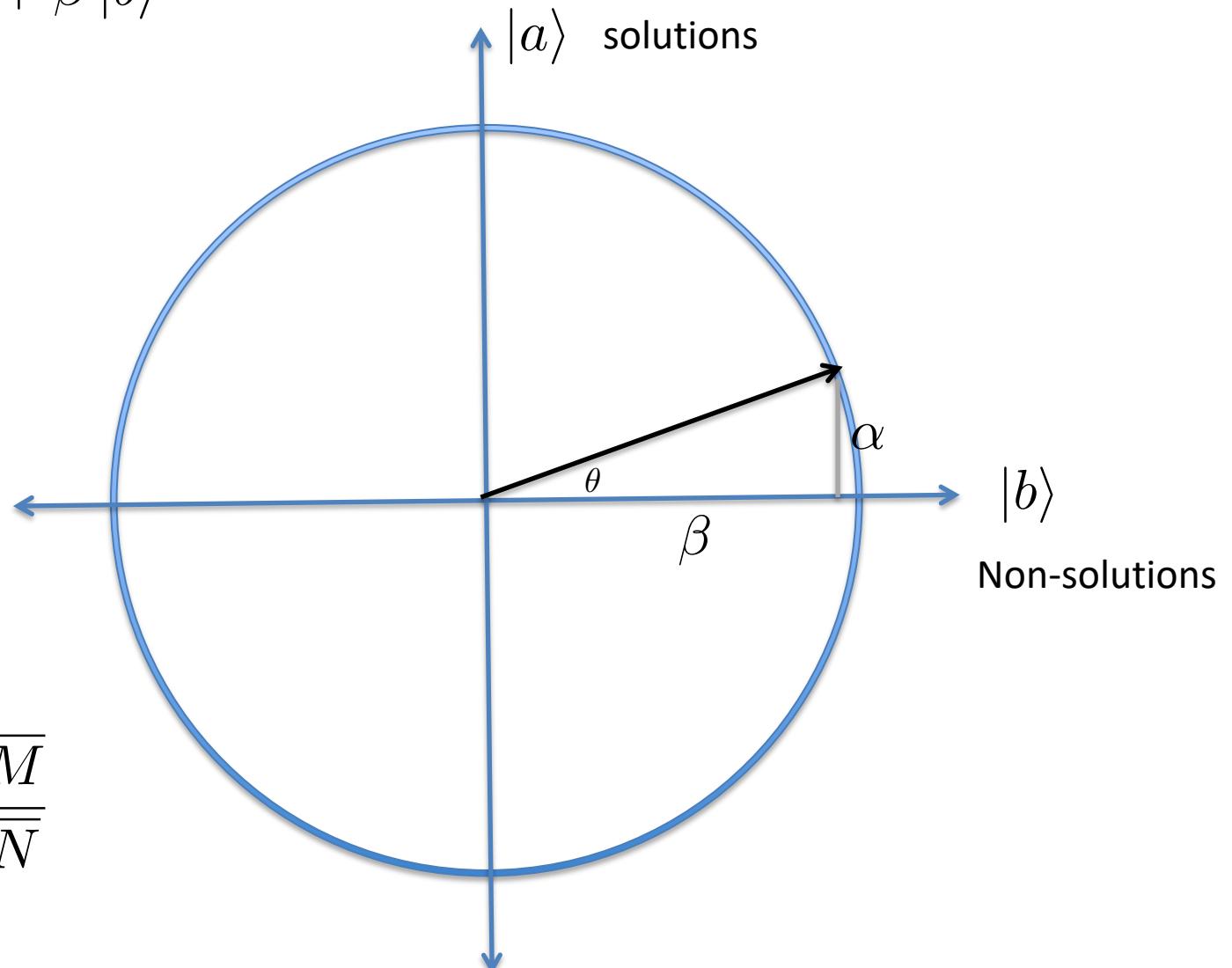


# Effect of the Oracle



# Geometric Effect of Oracle

$$\alpha |a\rangle + \beta |b\rangle$$

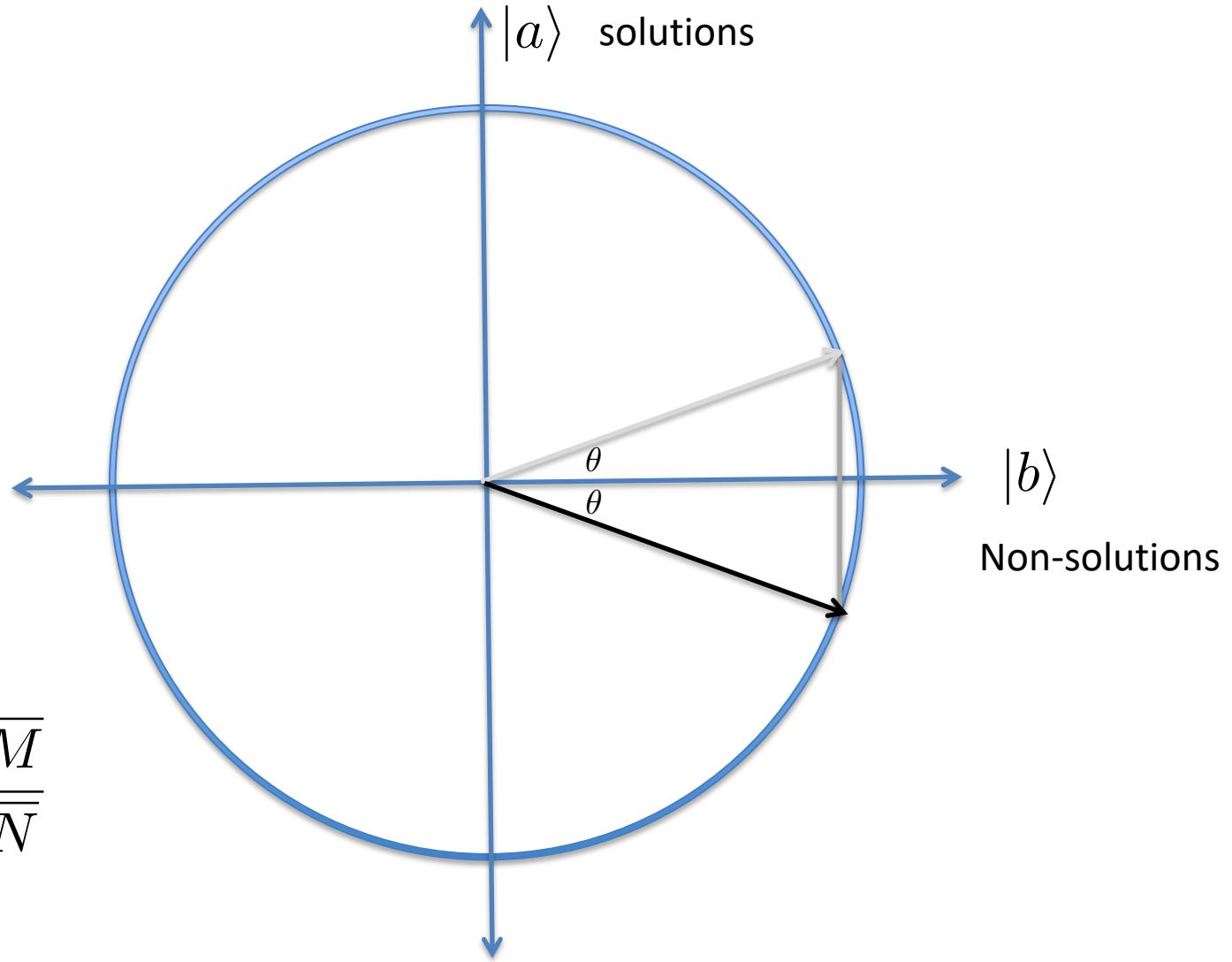


$$\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{M}}{\sqrt{N}}$$

# Geometric Effect of both Oracle and Inversion

Combining both effects:

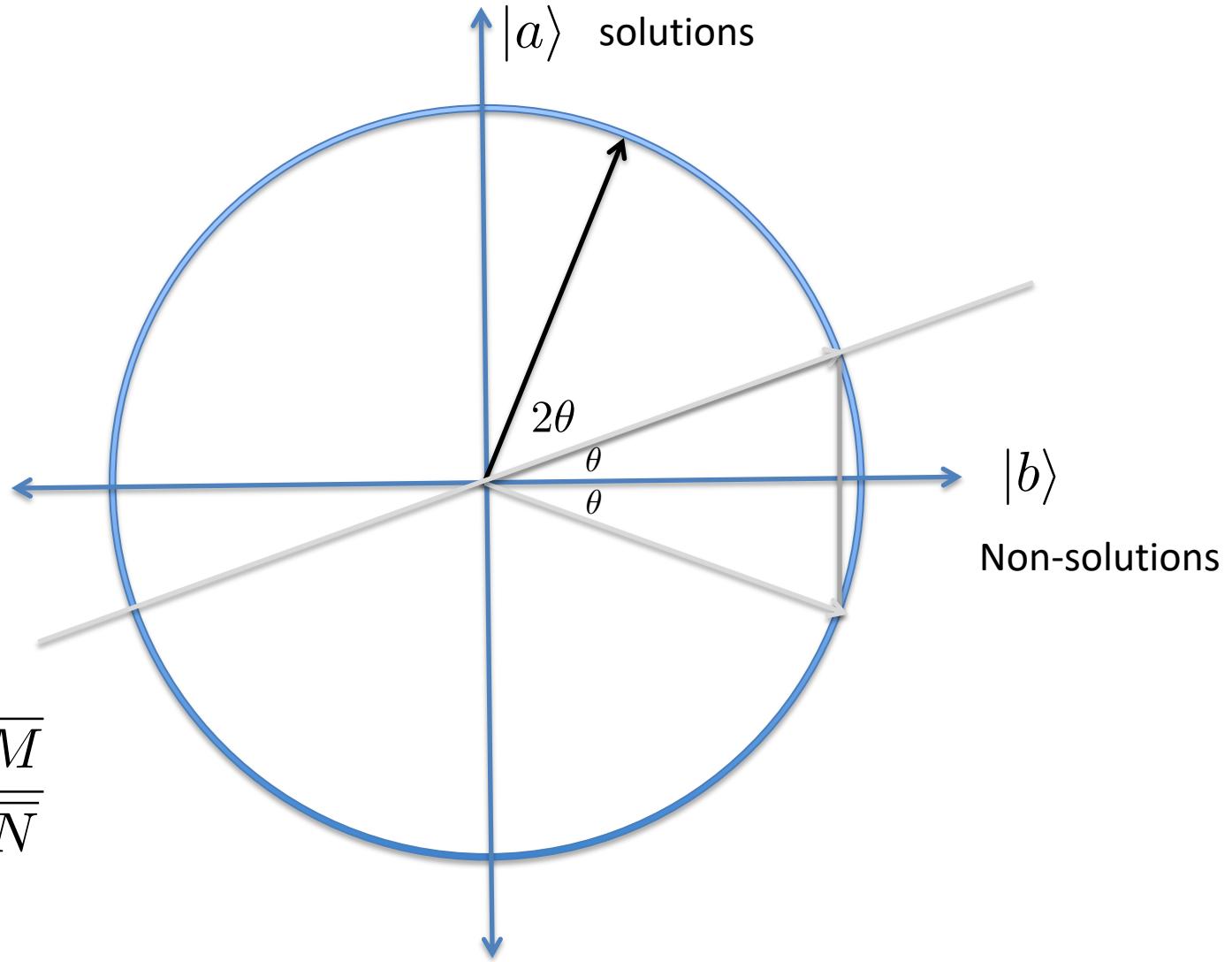
$$\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{M}}{\sqrt{N}}$$



# Geometric Effect of both Oracle and Inversion

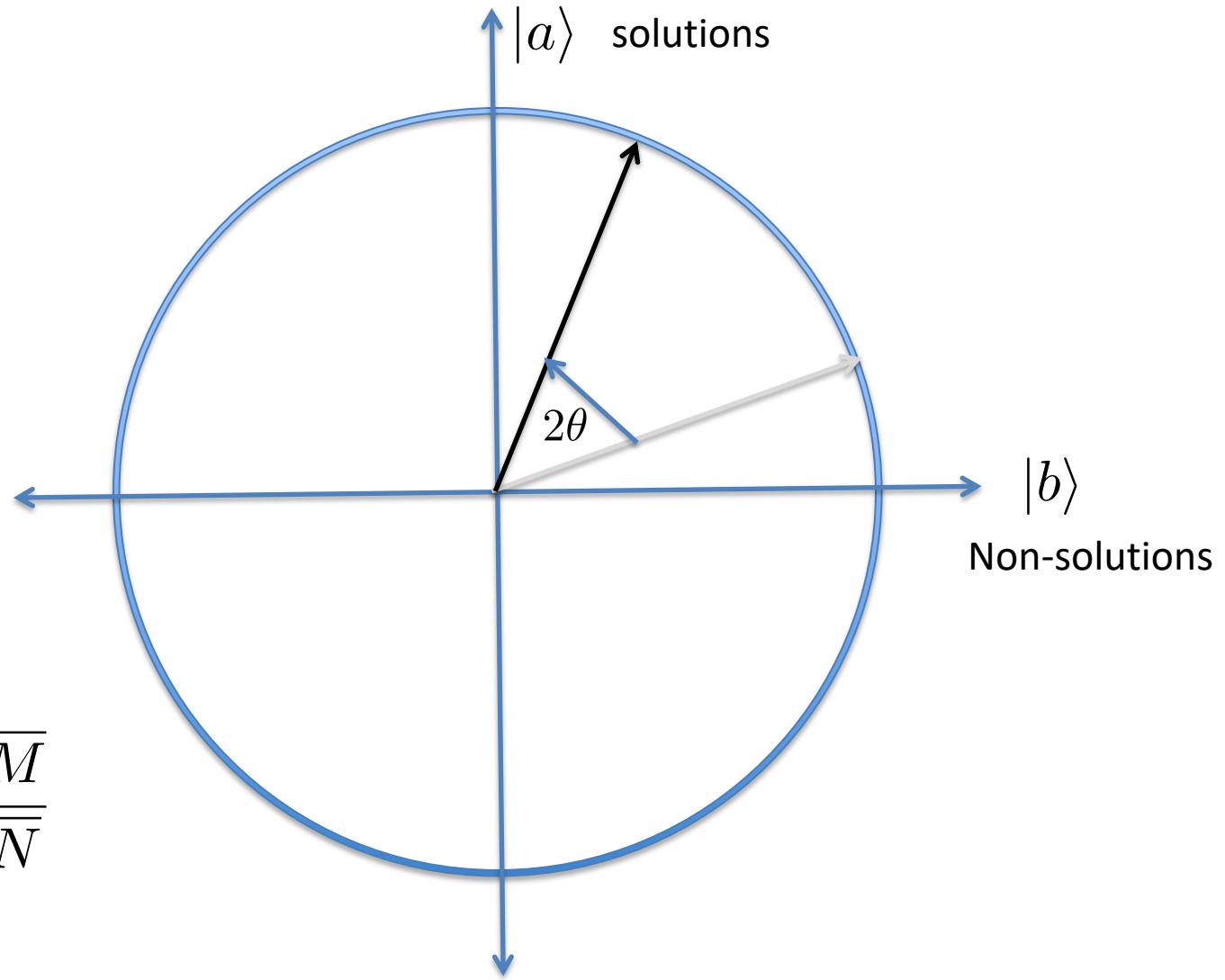
Combining both effects:

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{M}}{\sqrt{N}}$$



# Total effect of one Grover iteration

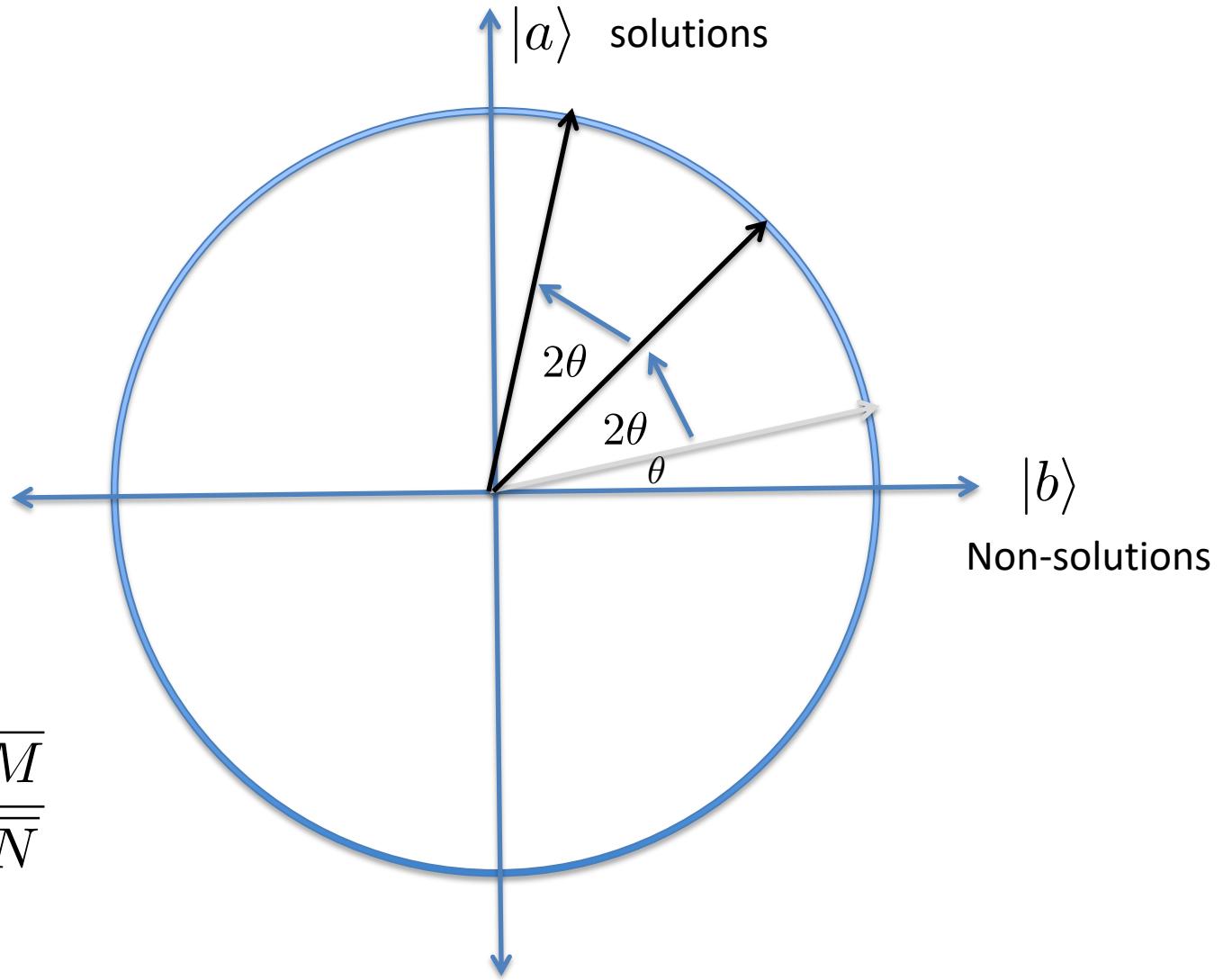
Product of two reflections is a rotation.



$$\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{M}}{\sqrt{N}}$$

# Many Grover iterations

Product of two reflections is a rotation.



# How many iterations required?

$$\sin \theta = \frac{\sqrt{M}}{\sqrt{N}}$$

For small angles,

$$\theta \approx \frac{\sqrt{M}}{\sqrt{N}}$$

After  $n$  iterations, we rotate to have only marked solutions:

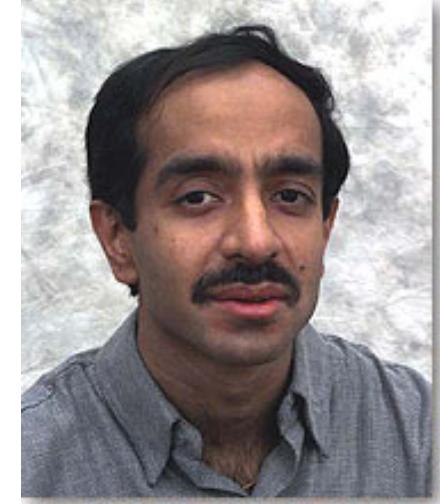
$$(2n + 1)\theta = \frac{\pi}{2}$$

$$n \approx \frac{\pi\sqrt{N}}{4\sqrt{M}}$$

Having multiple solutions is faster than searching for a single marked solution.

# Grover's Algorithm

- Unordered search, find one marked item among many
- Classically, this requires  $N/2$  uses of the oracle
- Quantum mechanically, requires only  $O(\sqrt{N})$ .



Lov Grover

