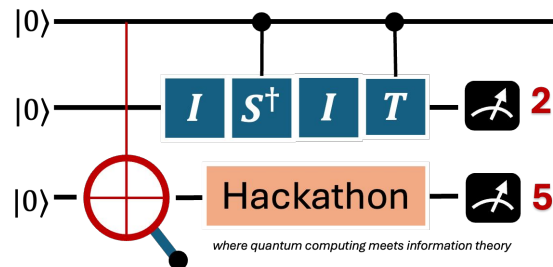


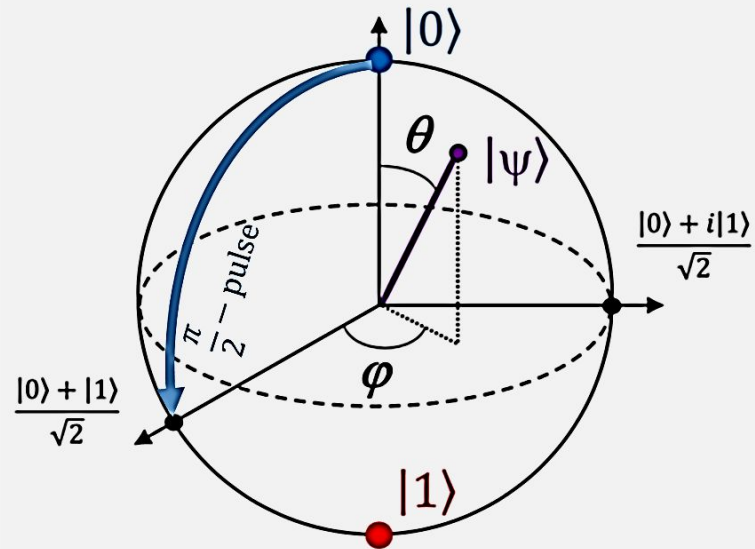
Welcome to the new era of *Quantum Computing*  
- where *Quantum Physics* entangles with *Computing*

# The Grover's Search Algorithm

Prepared by Mohammad Aamir Sohail and Erin Diran-Ojo for the ISIT 2025 Quantum Hackathon



# Outline:



$$|\psi\rangle = \cos\frac{\theta}{2}|0\rangle + e^{i\varphi}\sin\frac{\theta}{2}|1\rangle$$

1

Motivation: Unstructured Search

2

Introduction-Grover's Algorithm

3

Amplitude Amplification

4

Grover's Circuit

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References & Further Reading



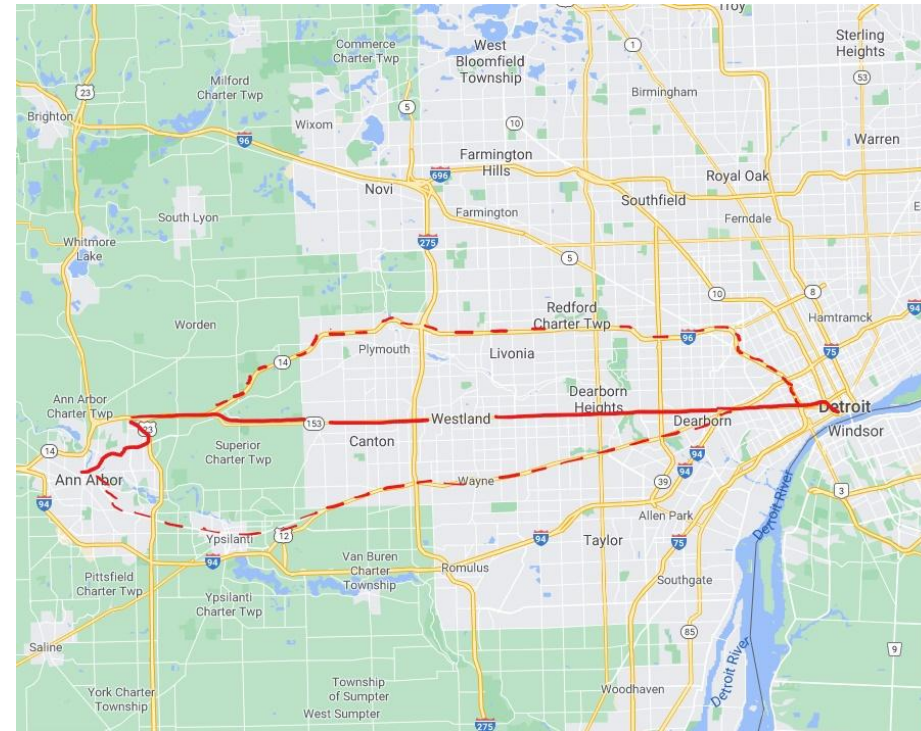
# Motivation— Unstructured Search

Suppose we have given a large list of  $N$  (unstructured) items.  
Among these we wish to find items which is a solution to a certain problem.

# of employees:  $N = 2^n$

First Name	Last Name	Position	Company
Thomas	Sneed	Inspector	Sink, Inc.
Betty	Brown	Line Manager	Carp Corp.
Larry	Snopes	CEO	Snopes, LLC
Reginald	Williams	Partner	Williams, Lane & Porter, PC
Wendy	Lane	Clown	Party Hearty
Steve	Linder	Support Representative	Carp Corp
Patrick	Gerald	Attorney	Williams, Lane & Porter, PC
Stanley	Worrell	Store Manager	Quick Tire & Battery
Janet	Mercer	Catering Sales	Pellatino Ptries
Sandeep	Khatri	VP Sales	Widget Mania

# of possible paths:  $N = 2^n$



**Problem 1:** Find details of Wendy Lane from a database.

**Problem 2:** Find the shortest path between Ann Arbor and Detroit.

# continued...

**Problem:** Let  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n$  be the variables which take only positive integer value,  $0 \leq x_1 \leq M-1$ . Find  $x_i$ 's such that  $(x_1 + x_2 + x_3 + \dots + x_n) = \delta$ .

# of possible combinations:  $N = M^n$

## ***Naïve Approach:***

Define  $p(\bar{x}) = (1_n \cdot \bar{x}) - \delta$

For each possible  $\bar{x} = (x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_n)$ ,

    Compute  $p(\bar{x})$ ,

    if  $p(\bar{x}) = 0$ ,

        →  $\bar{x}$  is a solution

    else

        →  $\bar{x}$  is not a solution

## Classically ...



The performance of the classical search algorithm is  $\mathcal{O}(N)$ .



Using classical computation, in order to search an element in an unstructured list with probability 0.5, one need to traverse at  $N/2$  elements.



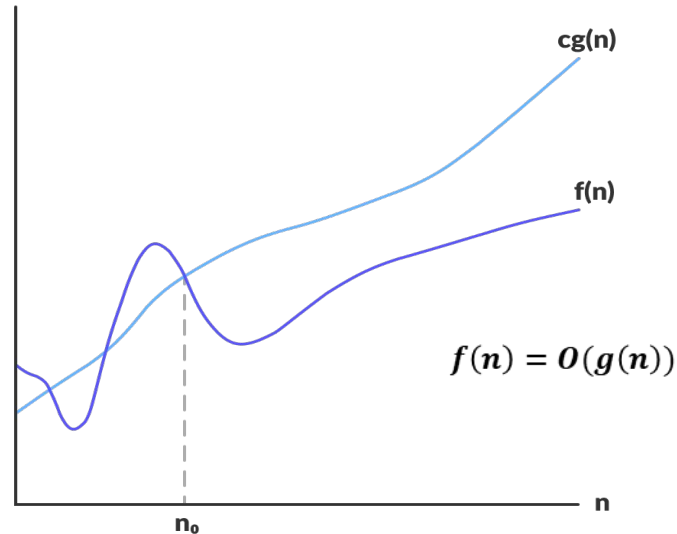
Worst case, one need to traverse  $N$  elements to find a solution.

# Detour : Big-O Notation

## Definition:

Let  $f$  and  $g$  are the functions from the set of real numbers ( $\mathbb{R}$ ) to the set of real numbers ( $\mathbb{R}$ ). We say that  $f(n) = O(g(n))$ , if there exist positive constant  $c$  and  $n_0$  such that-

$$0 \leq f(n) \leq cg(n), \quad \text{for all } n \geq n_0$$

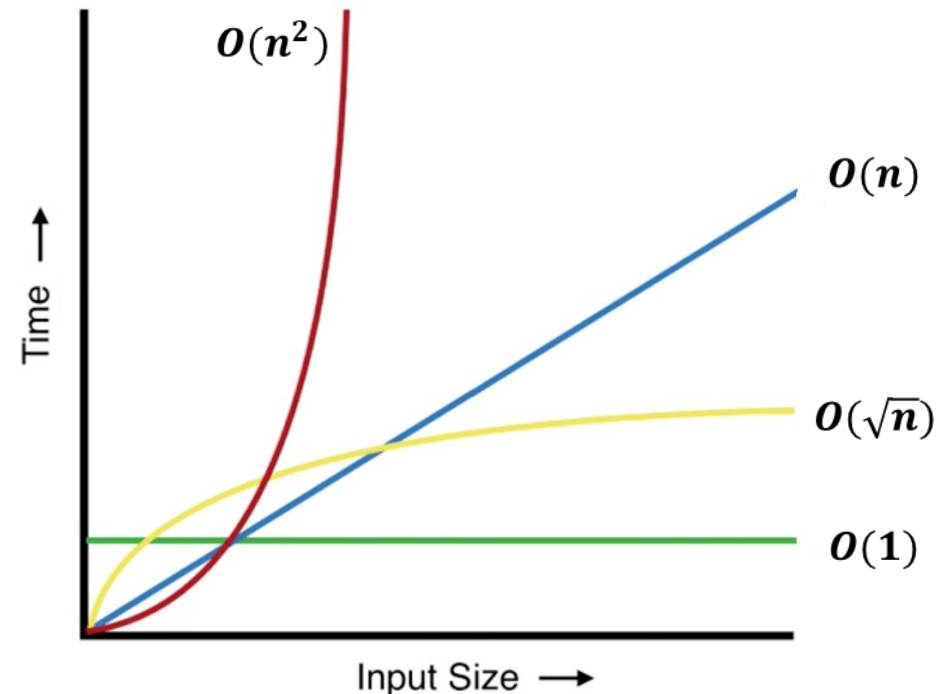


Here,  $g(n)$  is an asymptotic upper bound for  $f(n)$

## Why do we need Big-O?

In computer science, it is used to categorize the algorithm based on their scalability.

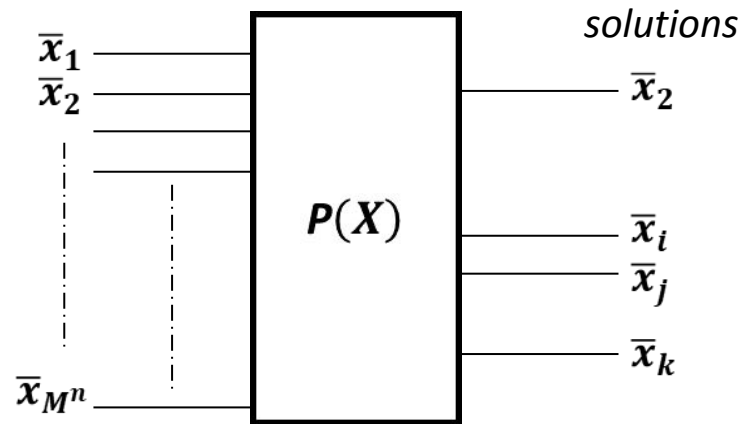
*\*\* Estimating the worst case running time of an algorithm as a function of the input size \*\**



# Quantum Search Algorithm

## Question:

Can we compute  $p(\bar{x})$  at once for all possible  $\bar{x}$ .

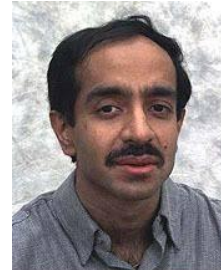


***“Quantum Parallelism” or “Superposition”***

?



## The Grover's Search Algorithm



**Lov Grover** published a “*Quantum Unstructured Search Algorithm*” in 1996 with complexity  $O(\sqrt{N})$ . It's commonly known as the Grover's algorithm.



*It provides ‘quadratic speedup’ over classical algorithm.*

Consider a list of million elements, which contains integer 1 to  $10^6$ , in randomised order. We need to traverse the list and find out the integer 59.

Classically:  $\sim \frac{10^6}{2} = (5 \times 10^5)$  units of time.

Quantum:  $\sqrt{10^6} = 10^3$  units of time.

***$O(\sqrt{N})$  ! But we are using Quantum Parallelism***

# Amplitude Amplification

Let the search space be  $S = \{|0\rangle, |1\rangle, \dots, |N-1\rangle\}$ , basis for the  $N$  dimensional Hilbert Space.  
Also,  $|x_o\rangle \in S$  be a solution to problem  $p(x)$ .

Step 0: *Uniform Superposition*

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x\rangle$$

Steps:

1. Flipping the sign of the  $x_o$
2. Inversion about the mean

**Note: Qbit or Quantum Bit** is a state vector of 2-dimensional Hilbert Space.  
(standard /computational) Basis:  $\{|0\rangle, |1\rangle\}$

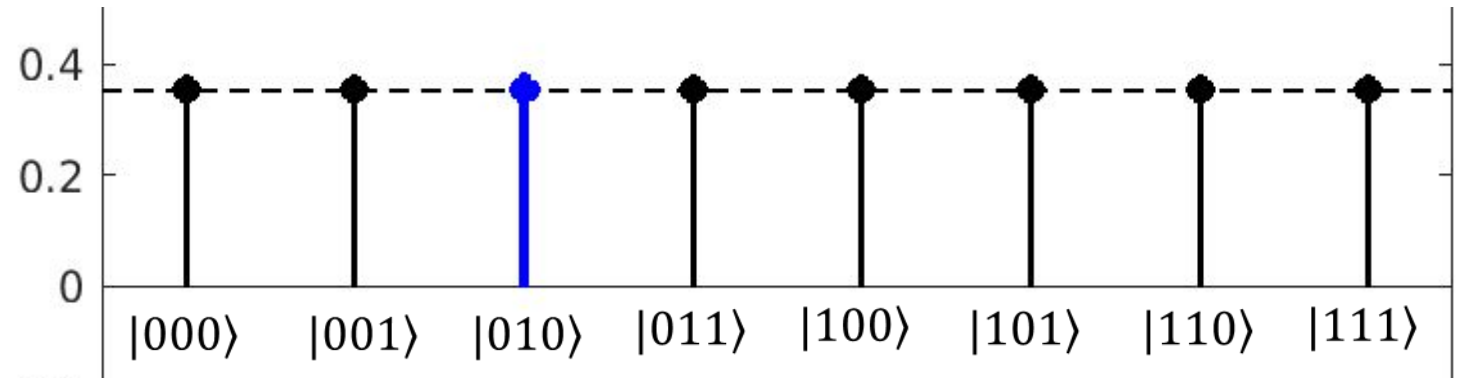
Consider an example of  $n = 3$  qubits quantum system.

$$\dim(\mathcal{H}) = N = 2^n = 8$$

Basis (search space):  $\{|000\rangle, |001\rangle, \dots, |111\rangle\}$  (i.e.  $|0\rangle \rightarrow |7\rangle$ ).

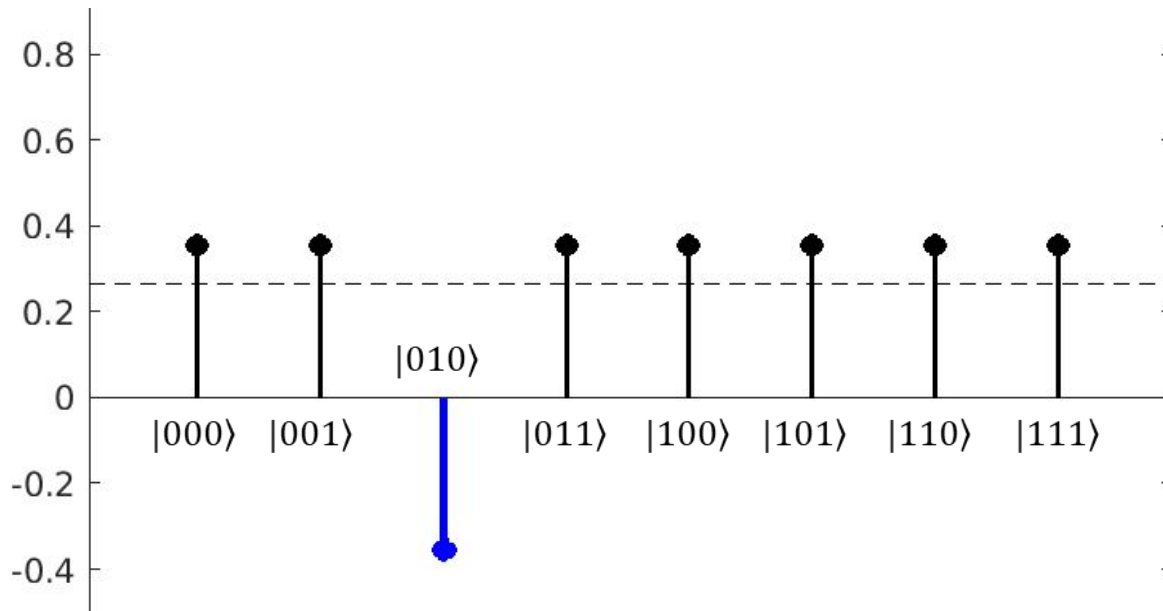
Step 0:

$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \sum_{x=0}^7 |x\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \{|000\rangle + |001\rangle + \dots + |111\rangle\}$$

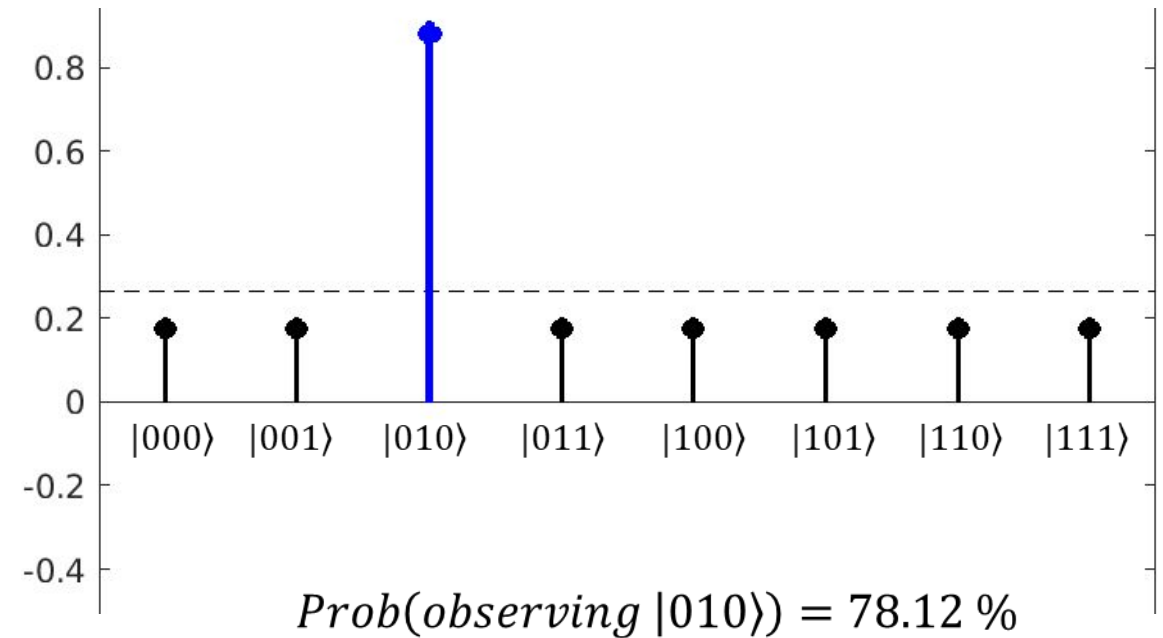


# Amplitude Amplification continued ...

## Step 1: Flipping the sign mean



## Step 2: Inversion about the mean



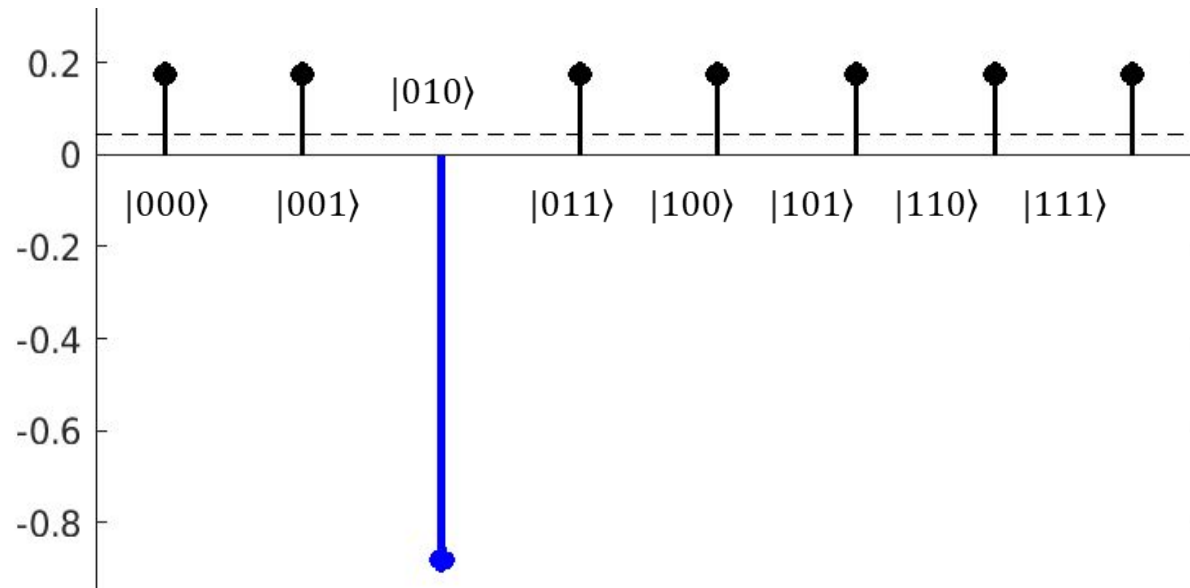
**Note:** y-axis represents prob. amplitude



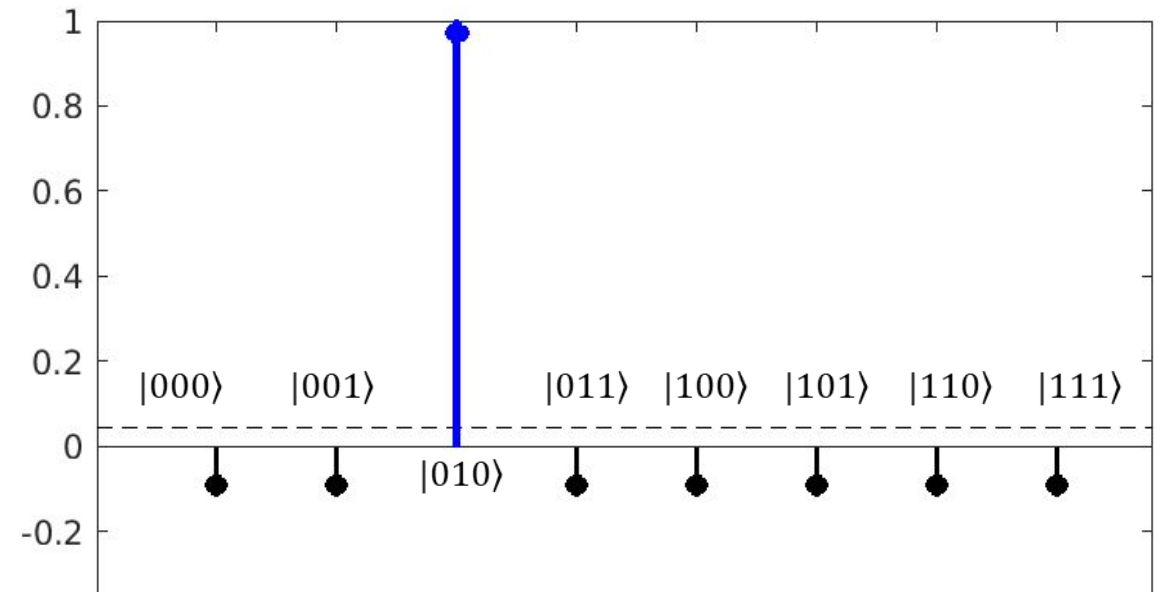
# Amplitude Amplification continued ...

## Iteration # 2

Step 1: Flipping the sign  
mean



Step 2: Inversion about the



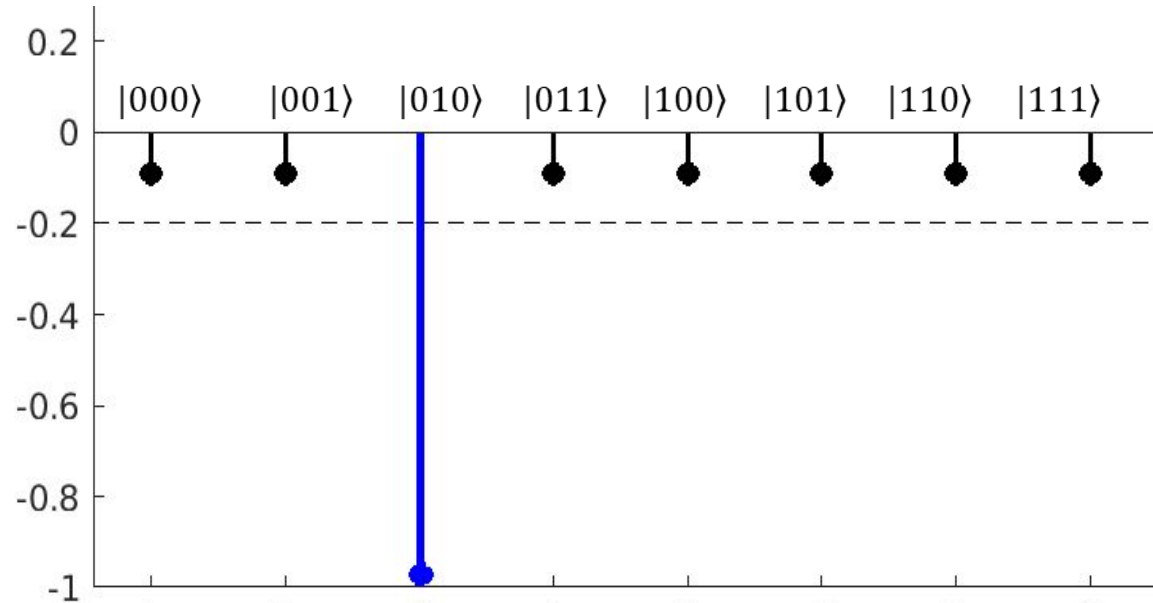
$Prob(\text{observing } |010\rangle) = 94.53 \%$

# Amplitude Amplification continued ...

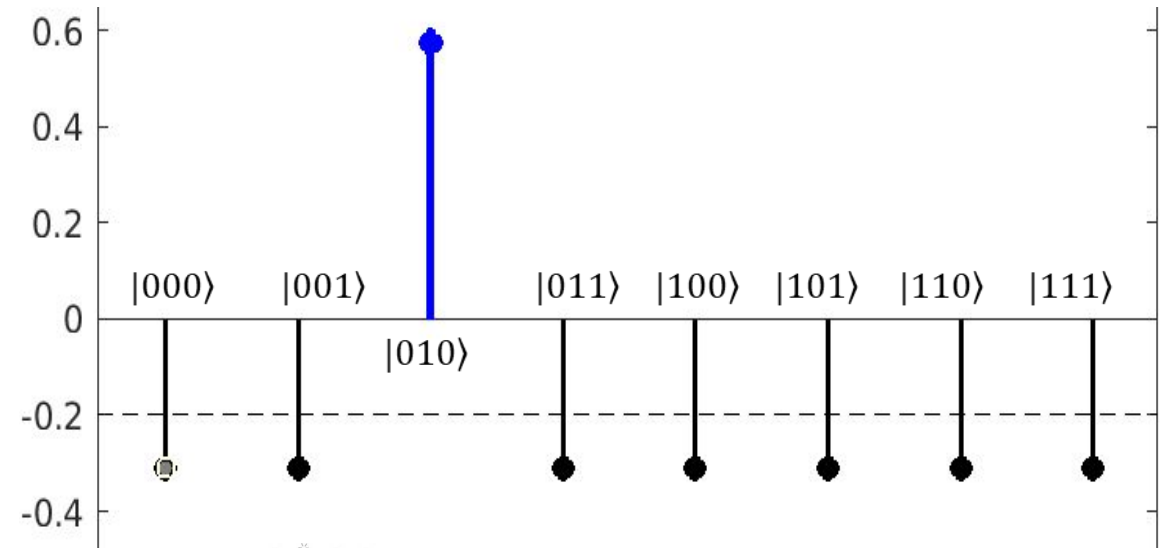


## Iteration # 3

### Step 1: Flipping the sign



### Step 2: Inversion about the mean



$Prob(\text{observing } |010\rangle) = 33.01 \%$

### Performance Analysis:

upper bound on the # of iterations:  $itr \leq \left\lceil \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{\frac{N}{M}} \right\rceil$  i.e.  $O\left(\sqrt{\frac{N}{M}}\right)$ ,

here  $N$  is the dimension of search space,  $M$  is the # of solution of  $p(x)$ .

\*\*\* Geometrical Interpretation, Chp.6, Neilson and Chuang, Quantum Computation and Quantum Information

# Grover's Circuit

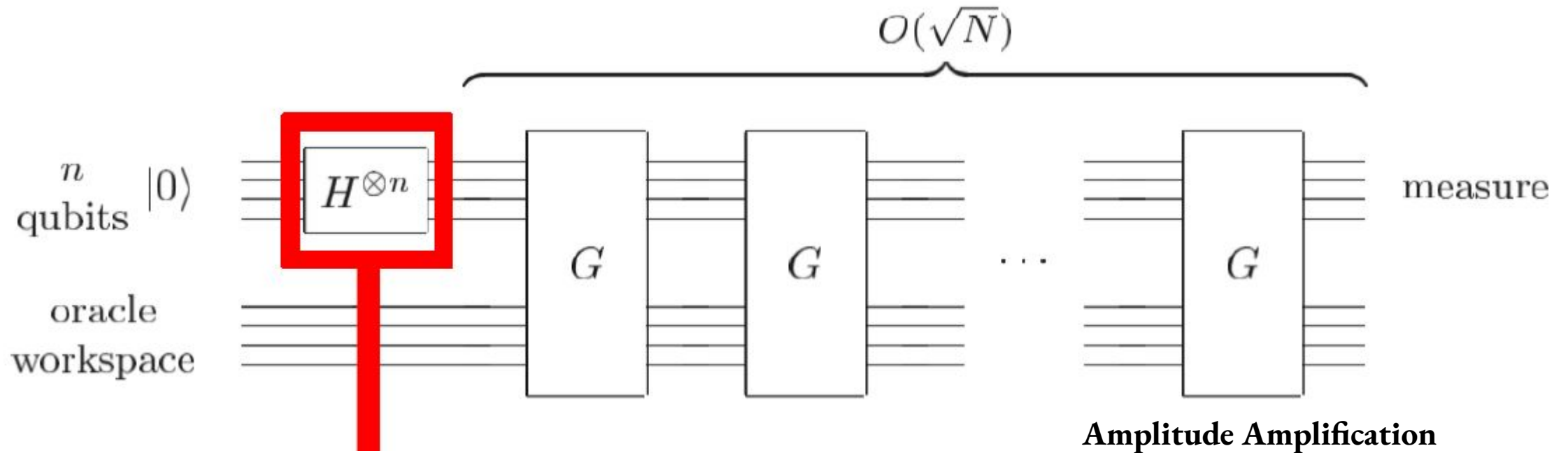
Let the search space be  $S = \{|0\rangle, |1\rangle, \dots, |N - 1\rangle\}$ , basis for the  $N$  dimensional Hilbert Space. Also,  $|x_o\rangle \in S$  be a solution to problem  $p(x)$ .

$$(|0\rangle^{\otimes n}, S, p(x))$$

**Grover's Circuit**

$$\approx |x_o\rangle$$

# The Algorithm: breaking it down ...



Hadamard Gate,  $H|0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\{|0\rangle + |1\rangle\}$

$$H = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad H|1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}\{|0\rangle - |1\rangle\}$$

$\longrightarrow H^{\otimes n}|0\rangle^{\otimes n} = |\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x\rangle$

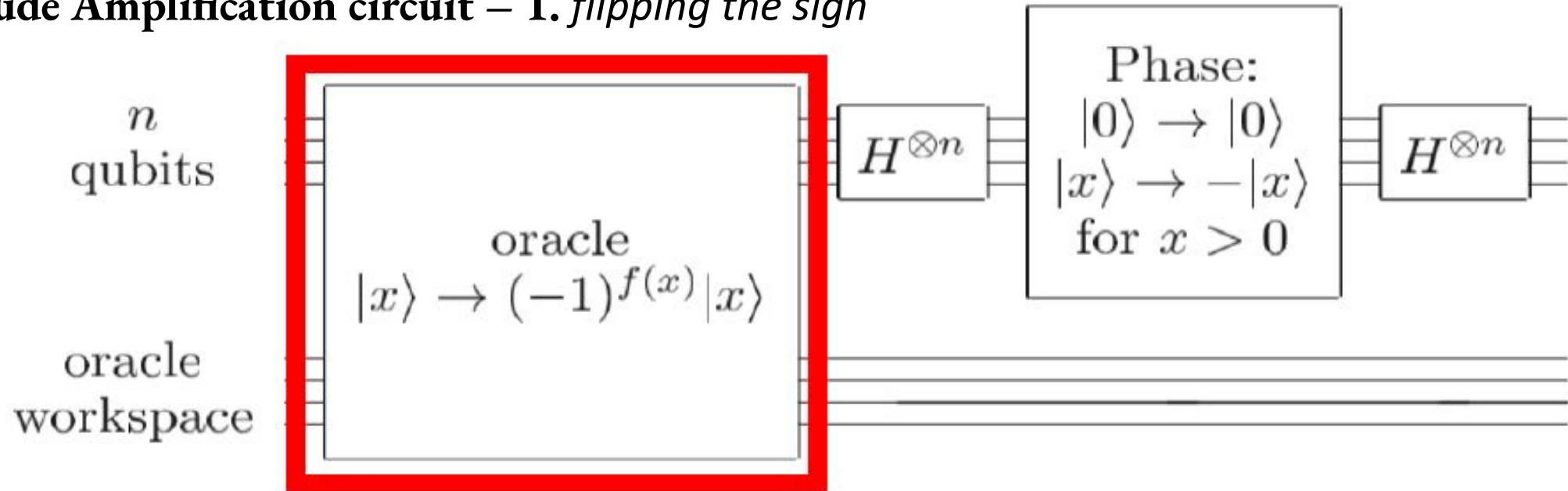
**Example:**  $n = 3$  qubits,  $N = 2^n = 8$ .

$$H^{\otimes 3}|0\rangle^{\otimes 3} = |\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \sum_{x=0}^8 |x\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \{|000\rangle + |001\rangle + |010\rangle + |011\rangle + |101\rangle + |110\rangle + |111\rangle\}$$



# The Algorithm: breaking it down ...

**Amplitude Amplification circuit – 1. *flipping the sign***



**Example:**  $n = 3$  qubits,  $N = 2^n = 8$ ,  $|x_0\rangle = |010\rangle$

oracle:

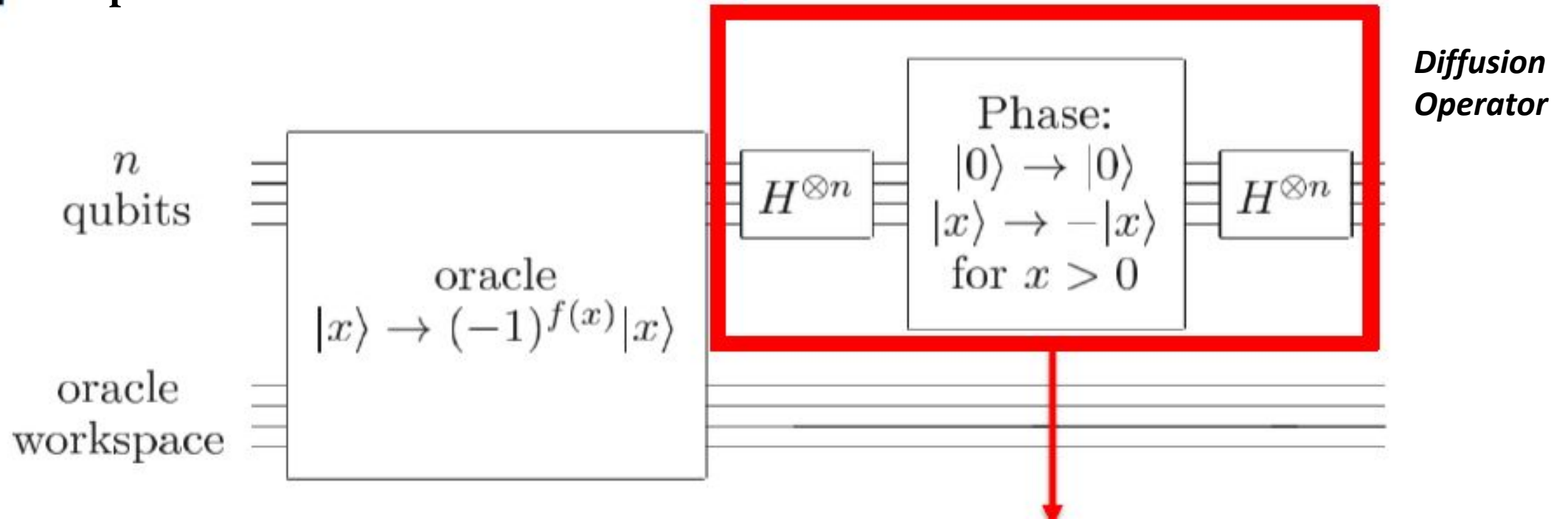
$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & |x\rangle = |010\rangle \\ 0, & |x\rangle \neq |010\rangle \end{cases}$$

$$|\psi_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \{ |000\rangle + |001\rangle - |010\rangle + |011\rangle + |101\rangle + |110\rangle + |111\rangle \}$$



# The Algorithm: breaking it down ...

**Amplitude Amplification circuit – 2. inversion about mean)**



$$D = H^{\otimes n}(2|0\rangle\langle 0| - I)H^{\otimes n} = (2|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| - I)$$

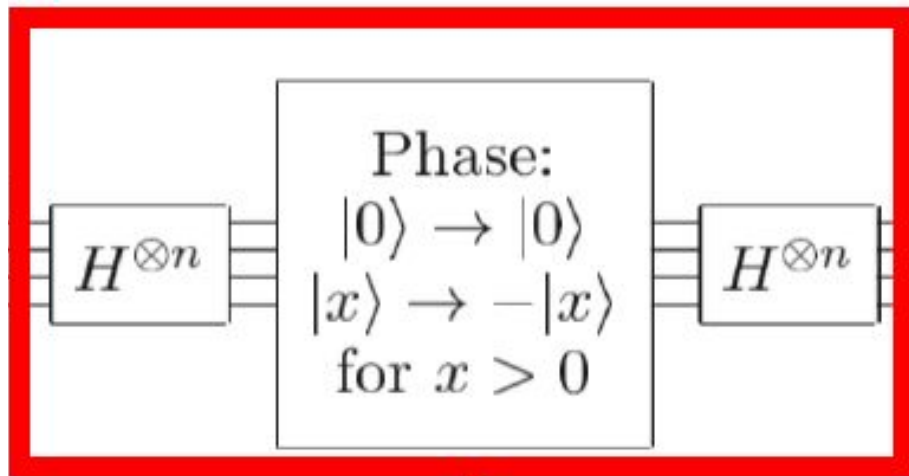
**Example:**  $n = 3$  qubits,  $N = 2^n = 8$ ,  $|x_0\rangle = |010\rangle$

$$|\psi_2\rangle = (2|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| - I)|\psi_1\rangle = [(2|\psi\rangle\langle\psi| - I)\text{Oracle}]|\psi\rangle = G|\psi\rangle$$

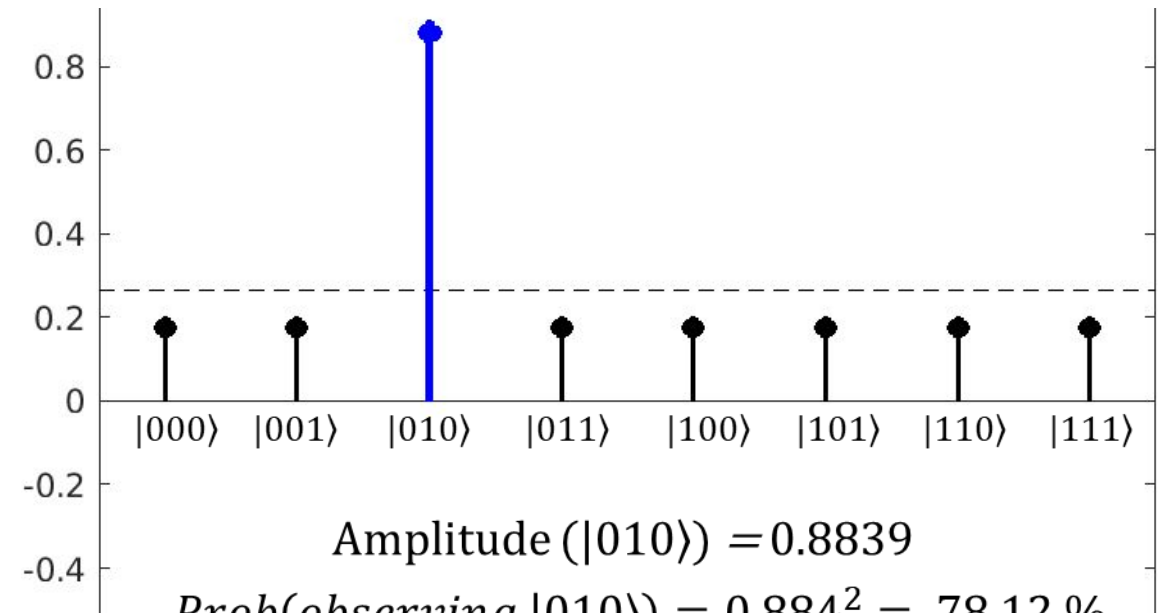
$$|\psi\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x\rangle$$

# The Algorithm: breaking it down ...

## Amplitude Amplification circuit – 2. inversion about mean



$$(2|\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1| - I)$$



$$\begin{aligned} \text{Amplitude}(|010\rangle) &= 0.8839 \\ \text{Prob}(\text{observing } |010\rangle) &= 0.884^2 = 78.12 \% \end{aligned}$$

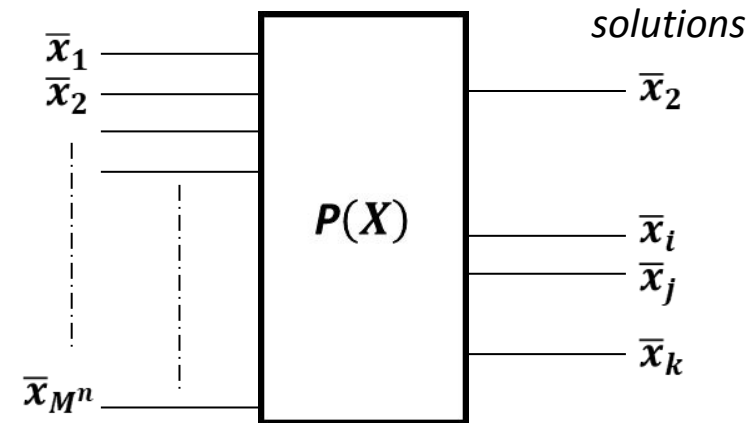
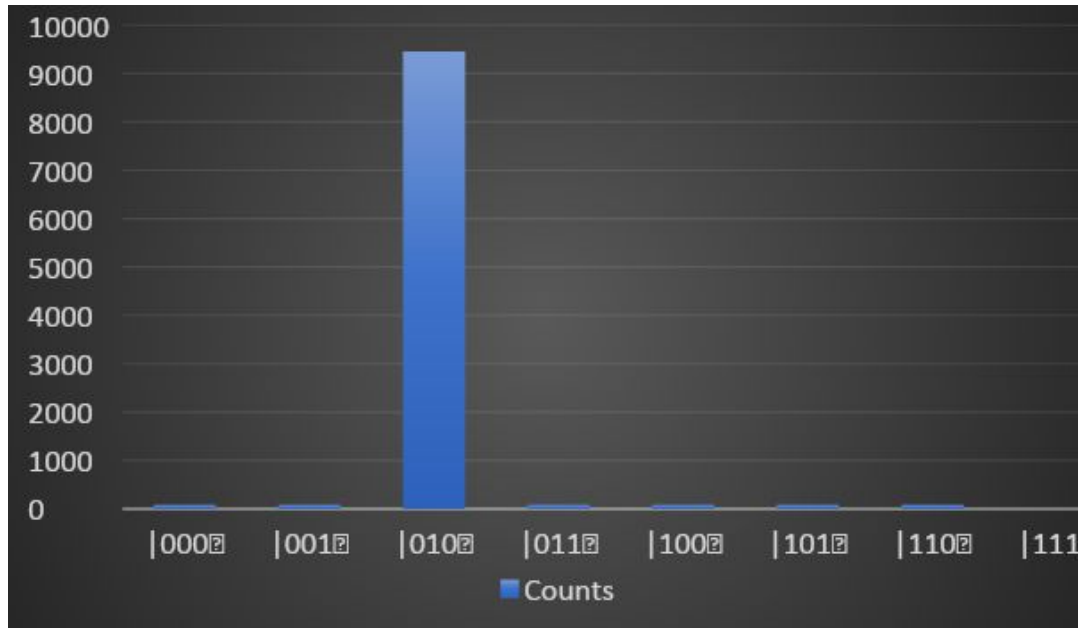
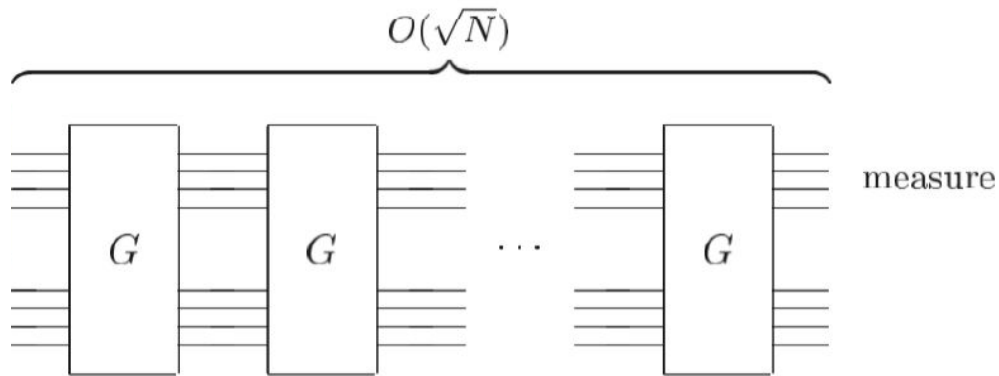
**Example:**  $n = 3$  qubits,  $N = 2^n = 8$ ,  $|x_0\rangle = |010\rangle$

$$|\psi_1\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \{ |000\rangle + |001\rangle - |010\rangle + |011\rangle + |101\rangle + |110\rangle + |111\rangle \}$$

$$(2|\psi_1\rangle\langle\psi_1| - I)|\psi_1\rangle = 0.1768 * \{ |000\rangle + |001\rangle + |011\rangle + |101\rangle + |110\rangle + |111\rangle \} + 0.8839 * |010\rangle$$

# Conclusion

## The Grover's Algorithm



## Summary:

- **Superposition**
- **Amplitude Amplification:**
  - Flipping the sign
  - Inversion about mean
- Repeat the above process  $O(\sqrt{N})$  times
- Perform Measurement

## Applications:

- Finding minimum
- Cryptography – finding keys



## References

- Grover's Algorithm, Chapter 3, Section-3.10, Qiskit Notebook.  
<https://qiskit.org/textbook/ch-algorithms/grover.html>
- Lecture 4- Grover's Algorithm, Quantum Computation-Fall 2015, John Wright (CMU).  
<https://www.cs.cmu.edu/~odonnell/quantum15/lecture04.pdf>
- The Grover's Algorithm, QSIT16-talks, Camilo Zapata, Xiao yang.  
[https://qudev.phys.ethz.ch/static/content/QSIT16/talks/Grover\\_QSIT.pdf](https://qudev.phys.ethz.ch/static/content/QSIT16/talks/Grover_QSIT.pdf)

## Further Reading

- Quantum Computation and Quantum Information, Neilson and Chuang
- Dancing with Qubits, Robert S. Tutor
- Quantum Algorithms for Beginners (<https://arxiv.org/pdf/1804.03719.pdf>)