

Universidade do Minho

# Quantum Computing: Grover's Algorithm

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# Problem Statement: function inversion

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- ▶ Let  $f: \{0, 1, \dots, 2^n - 1\} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ , with  $f(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \neq x^* \\ 1 & \text{if } x = x^* \end{cases}$
- ▶ Grover's algorithm returns, with high probability,  $x^*: f(x^*) = 1$
- ▶ On its simplest form requires that there is a single solution  $x^*$



# Problem Statement Example:

## Search

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- ▶ Let  $v$  be a vector (array) with  $2^n$  elements
- ▶ Grover's algorithm can be thought as searching for the index,  $x^*$ , of some unique key,  $y$ , within this vector:

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } v[x] \neq y \\ 1 & \text{if } v[x] = y \end{cases}$$

# Classical Problem Complexity

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4

Given that:

- ▶ Nothing is known about  $f(x)$  -- black box analogy
- ▶ The value of  $f(x)$  for each  $x$  can only be known by evaluating  $f(x)$

then a classical solution for finding  $x^*: f(x^*) = 1$  requires, in the worst case, exhaustive search, i.e., evaluating all  $N = 2^n$  values of  $x$  ;

- ▶ its complexity is  $\mathcal{O}(N)$

# Quantum Problem Definition:

## Oracle

- ▶  $f(x)$  becomes the operator  $\hat{O}$ , which is applied to an **uniform superposition** of all

$$N = 2^n \text{ states} \quad |s\rangle = \hat{H} |0\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} |x\rangle$$

- ▶ The “Oracle”,  $\hat{O}$ , negates state  $|x^*\rangle$  sign:

$$\hat{O} |s\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0, x \neq x^*}^{N-1} |x\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} |x^*\rangle$$

- ▶  $\hat{O}$  is often denoted as the reflection operator  $\hat{S}_f$ , conditionally changing the signal of the good state:

$$\hat{S}_f |x\rangle = \begin{cases} |x\rangle & \text{if } f(x) = 0 \\ -|x\rangle & \text{if } f(x) = 1 \end{cases}$$

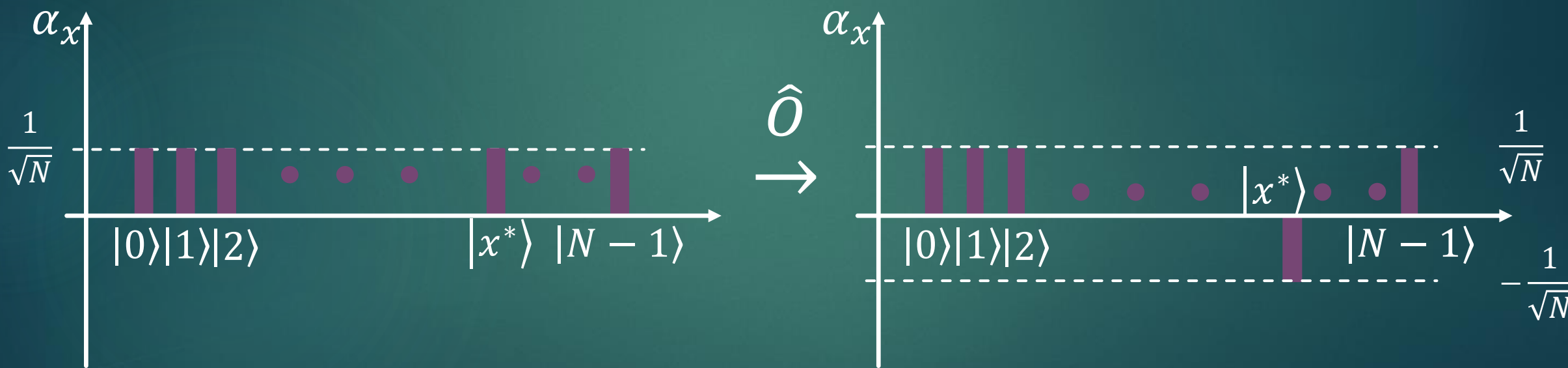


# Oracle Graphical Interpretation

6

- The oracle negates the sign of the desired state  $|x^*\rangle$ :

$$\hat{O} |s\rangle = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{x=0, x \neq x^*}^{N-1} |x\rangle - \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} |x^*\rangle$$



The probability of measuring each state doesn't change:  $P(x) = |\alpha_x|^2$

# Grover's Diffusion Operator

7

- ▶ Grover's diffusion operator,  $\hat{D}$ , amplifies the magnitude of  $|x^*\rangle$
- ▶ It reflects the coefficients over their mean:

$$\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \alpha_x |x\rangle \xrightarrow{\hat{D}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} (2\mu - \alpha_x) |x\rangle, \text{ with } \mu = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \alpha_x$$

- ▶ After the oracle  $\hat{O}$  the mean is

$$\mu = \frac{1}{N} \left( \frac{N-1}{\sqrt{N}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \right) = \frac{N-2}{N\sqrt{N}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} - \epsilon, \quad \epsilon = \frac{2}{N\sqrt{N}} \approx 0$$

# Grover's Diffusion operator

8

► Given:

$$\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \alpha_x |x\rangle \xrightarrow{\hat{D}} \sum_{x=0}^{N-1} (2\mu - \alpha_x) |x\rangle, \text{ with } \mu \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}}$$

► Applying  $\hat{D}$  to the oracle's output yields:

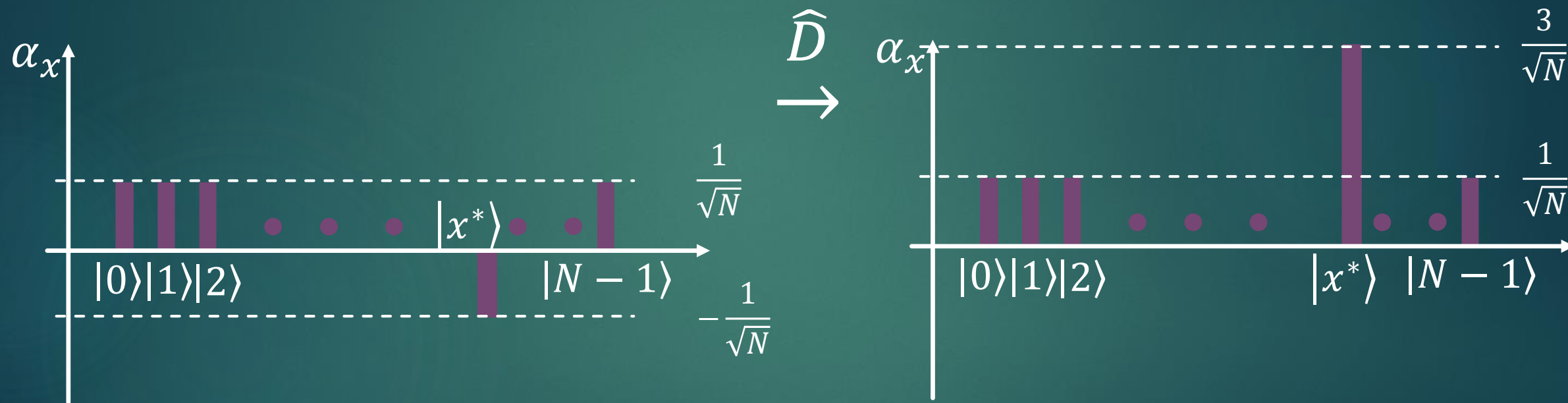
$$\begin{cases} \alpha_{x, x \neq x^*} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \xrightarrow{\hat{D}} \alpha_{x, x \neq x^*} = (2\mu - \alpha_x) \approx \frac{2}{\sqrt{N}} - \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \\ \alpha_{x^*} = -\frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \xrightarrow{\hat{D}} \alpha_{x^*} = (2\mu - \alpha_{x^*}) \approx \frac{2}{\sqrt{N}} + \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} = \frac{3}{\sqrt{N}} \end{cases}$$



# Grover's Diffusion Operator

9

Grover's diffusion operator  $\hat{D}$  reflects the coefficients over their mean



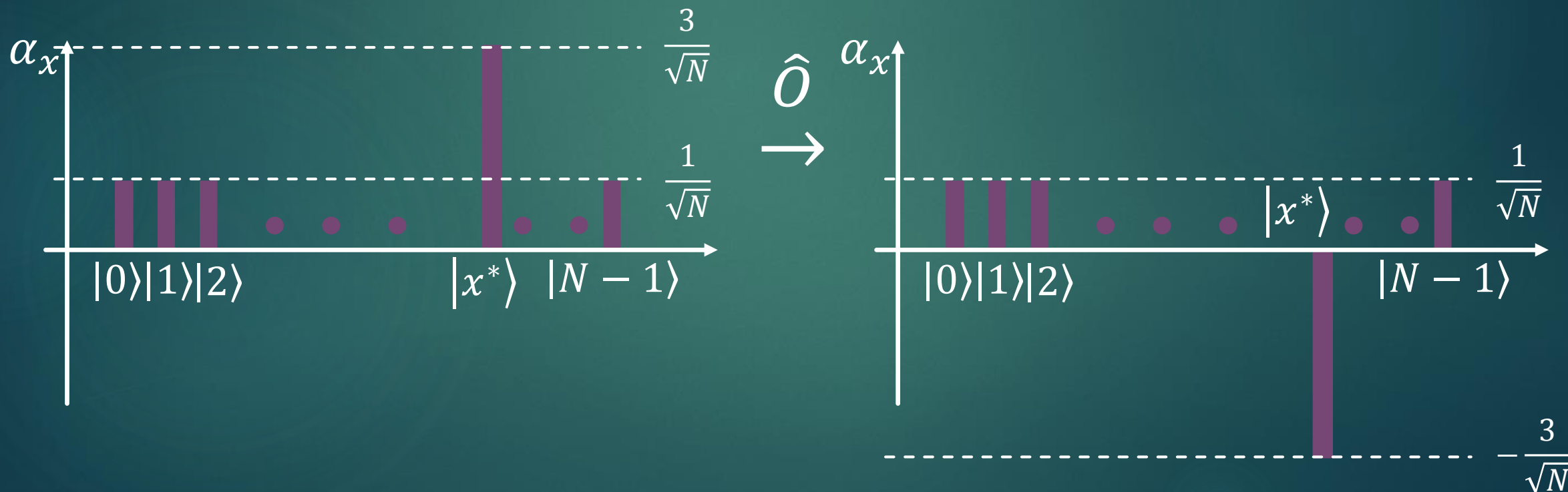
The probability of measuring state  $|x^*\rangle$  is amplified  $P(|x^*\rangle) = \frac{9}{N}$

# Grover's Iterations

10

- The operators  $\hat{D}\hat{O}$  are iteratively applied  $r$  times:  $|\Psi^{(r)}\rangle = (\hat{D}\hat{O})^{(r)}|s\rangle$

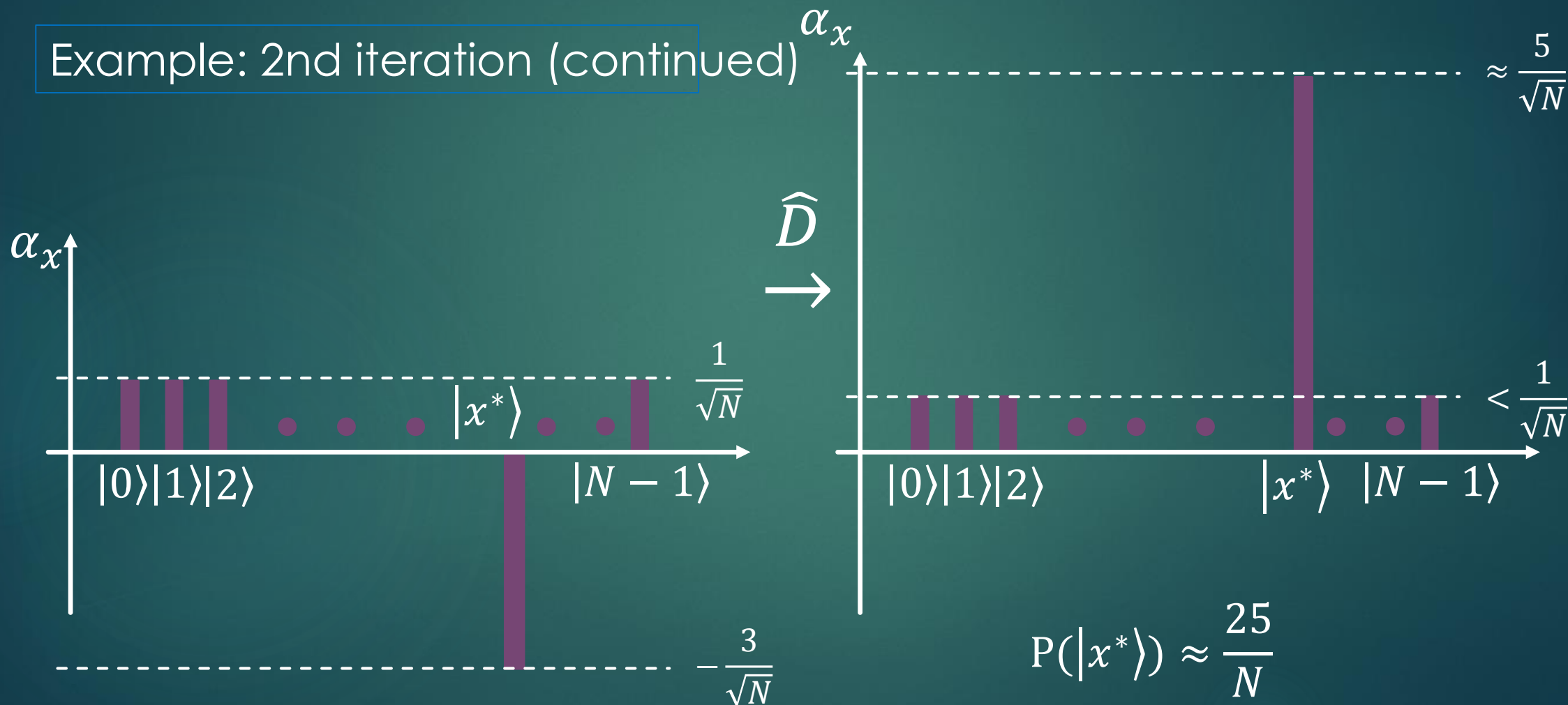
Example: 2nd iteration



# Grover's Iterations

11

Example: 2nd iteration (continued)

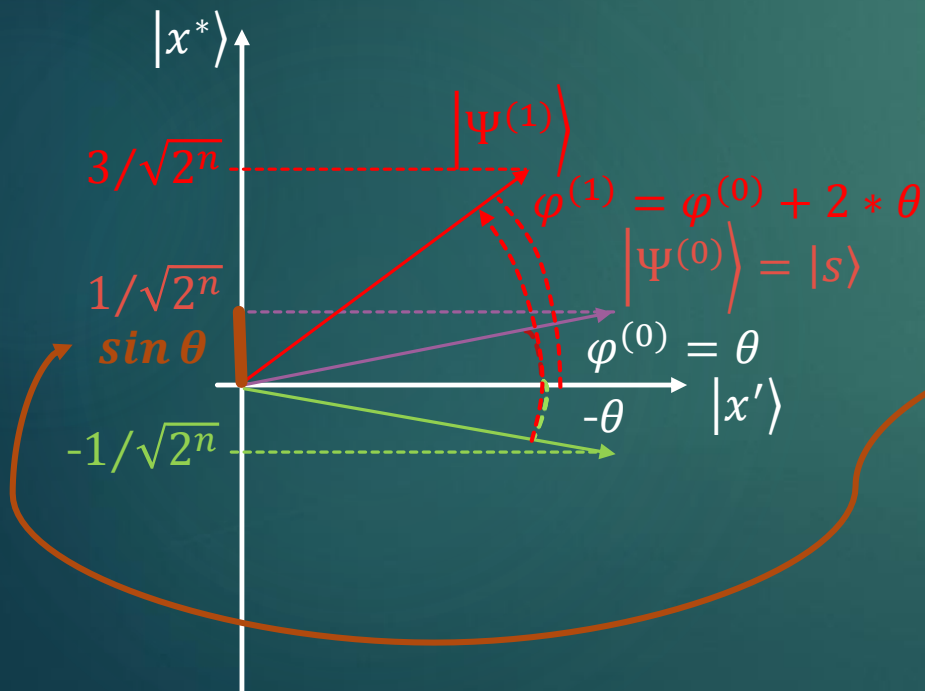


# Grover's Iterations

12

[To diffusion slide](#)

- ▶ Goal: compute  $|\Psi^{(r)}\rangle = (\hat{D}\hat{O})^{(r)}|s\rangle$ , such that  $P(|x^*\rangle) \approx 1$
- ▶ What is the number of iterations  $r$ ?



$\hat{O}$  - oracle

$\hat{D}$  - diffusion

$$\varphi^{(r)} = (2r + 1)\theta \approx \pi/2$$

$$\sin \theta = 1/\sqrt{2^n}; n \gg 1 \Rightarrow \theta \approx 1/\sqrt{2^n}$$

$$\frac{2r + 1}{\sqrt{2^n}} \approx \pi/2 \Leftrightarrow 2r \approx \frac{\pi}{2}\sqrt{2^n} - 1 \Rightarrow$$

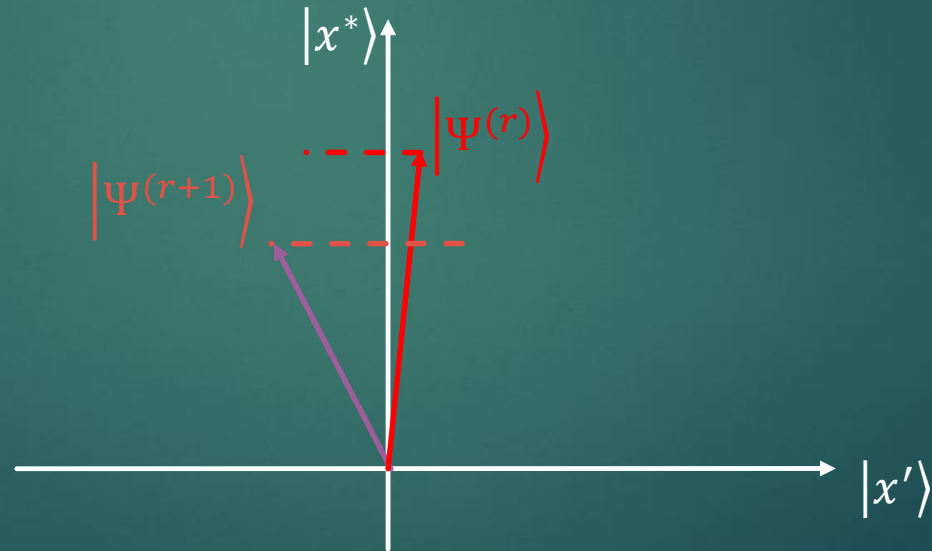
$$\Rightarrow r = \frac{\pi}{4}\sqrt{2^n} - \frac{1}{2} \approx \left\lceil \frac{\pi}{4}\sqrt{2^n} \right\rceil, n \gg 1$$



# Grover's Iterations

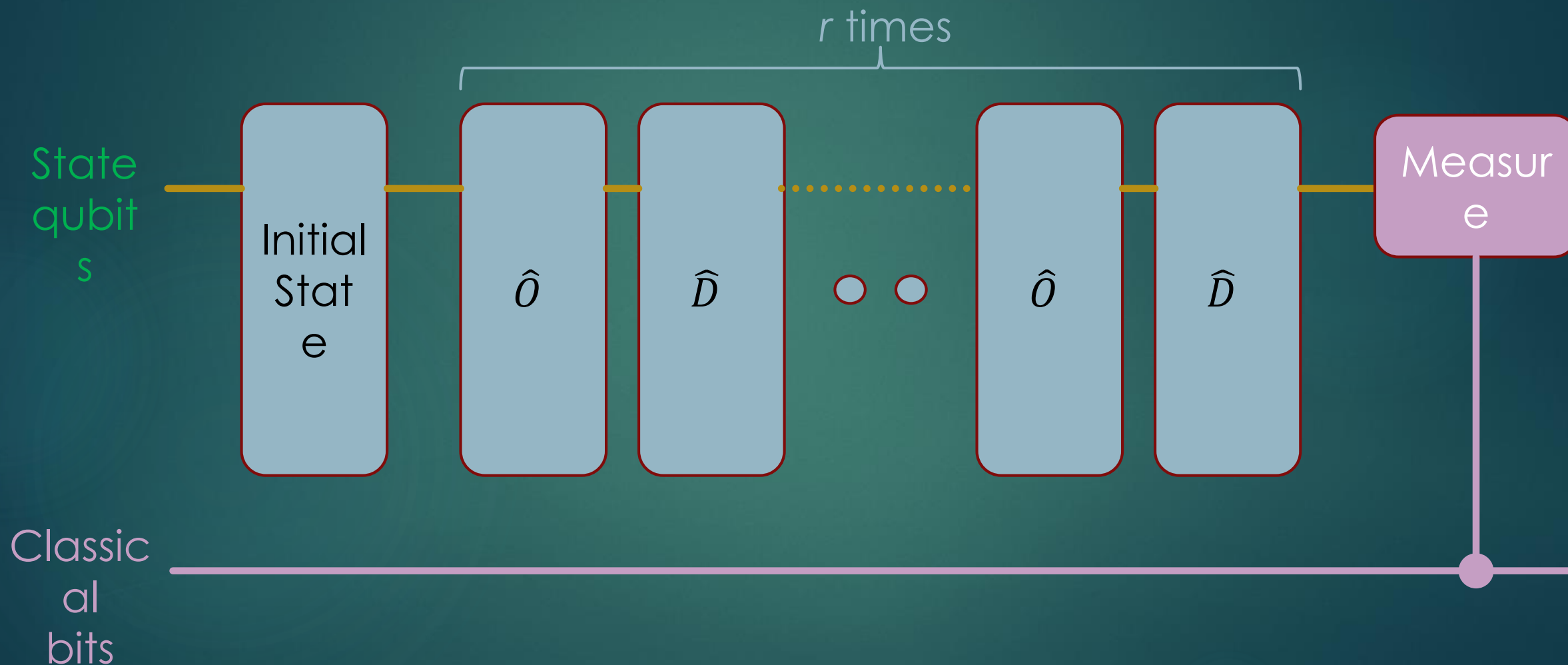
13

- ▶  $r = \lceil \sqrt{2^n} \rceil$ , meaning the oracle is evaluated  $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{2^n})$  times, representing a quadratic advantage over classical (  $\mathcal{O}(2^n)$  )
- ▶ Note that iterating more than  $r$  times reduces the probability of measuring  $|x^*\rangle$



# Grover's Implementation

14



# Grover's Implementation: Initial State

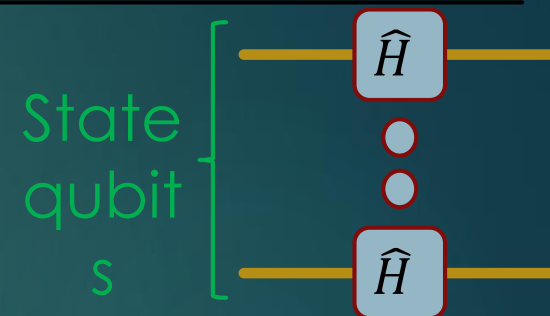
The state qubits are set onto an uniform superposition:

$$|x\rangle = \hat{H}^{(n)} |0\rangle$$

$$\hat{H}^{(1)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix};$$

$$\hat{H}^{(n)} = \hat{H}^{(1) \otimes (n)} = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2^n}} \left( \underbrace{\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \otimes \dots \otimes \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 \end{bmatrix}}_{n \text{ times}} \right)$$

► Example for 2 qubits:  $|x\rangle = \hat{H}|0\rangle = \frac{1}{2} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 & -1 \\ 1 & 1 & -1 & -1 \\ 1 & -1 & -1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/2 \\ 1/2 \end{bmatrix}$



# Grover's cZ Implementation: Oracle

$$\sum_{x=0}^{N-1} \alpha_x |x\rangle \xrightarrow{\hat{O}} \sum_{x=0, x \neq x^*}^{N-1} \alpha_x |x\rangle - \alpha_{x^*} |x^*\rangle$$

Z gate:

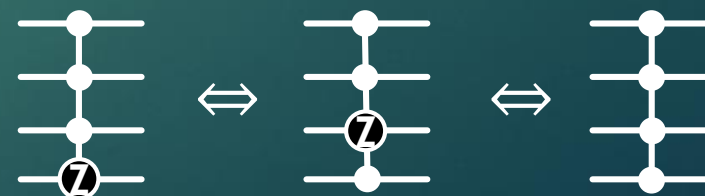
flips the signal of the  $|1\rangle$  basis state coefficient:

$$\hat{Z} |\Psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ \alpha_1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ -\alpha_1 \end{bmatrix}$$

$c^m Z$  gate:

flips the signal of the  $|1\rangle^{\otimes(m+1)} = |\mathbf{1}\rangle$  basis state coefficient:

$$c\hat{Z} |\Psi\rangle = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ \alpha_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \alpha_0 \\ \alpha_1 \\ \alpha_2 \\ -\alpha_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

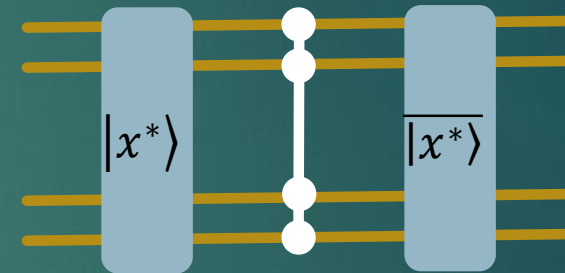


symmetric on  
the position of  
Z



# Grover's cZ Implementation: Oracle

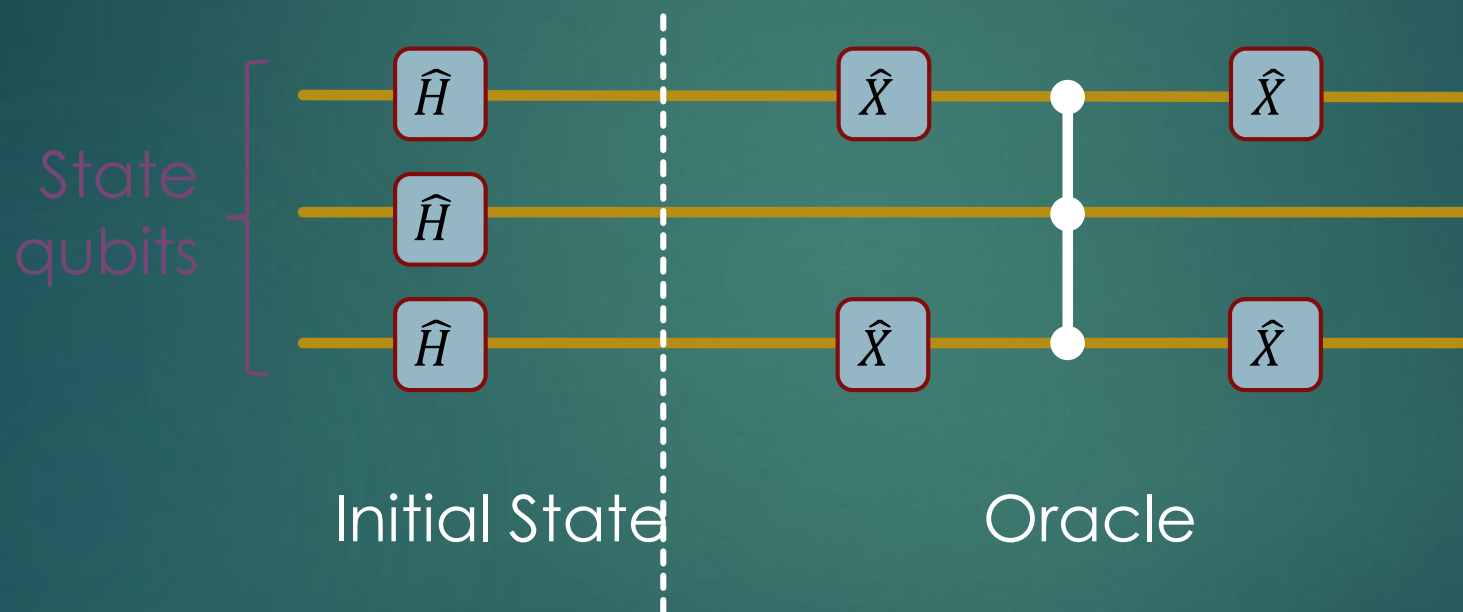
17



# Grover's cZ Implementation: Oracle

18

Example circuit for 3 qubits and  $|x^*\rangle = |010\rangle$



# Grover's cZ Implementation:

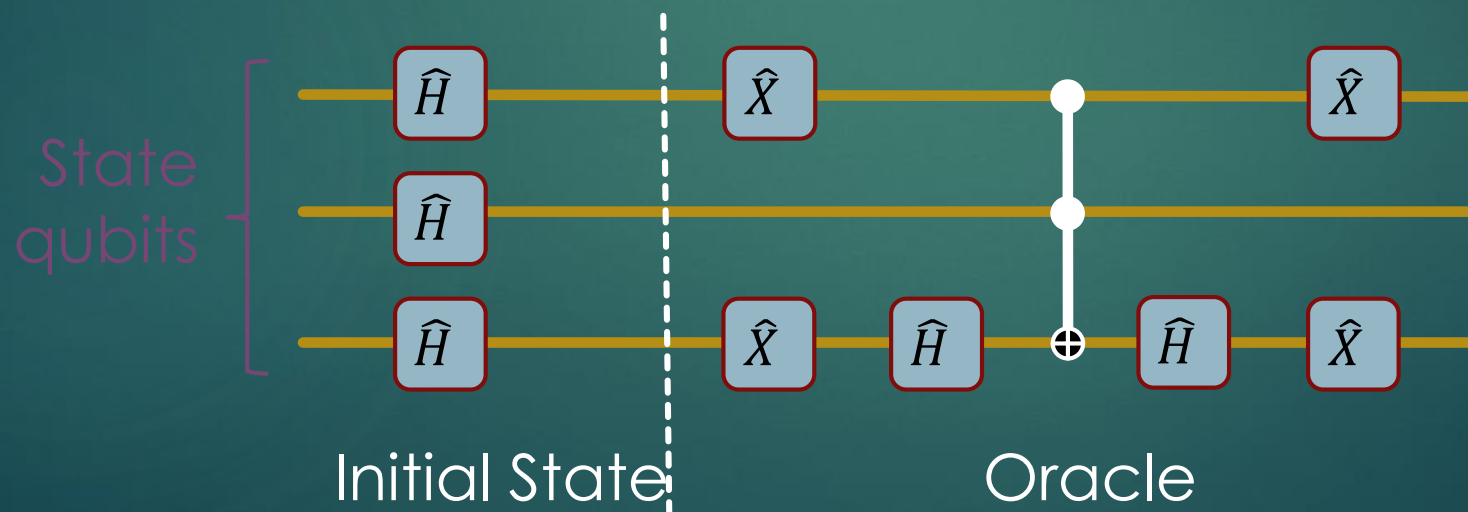
## Oracle

Example circuit for 3 qubits and  $|x^*\rangle = |010\rangle$

$c^mZ$  gates are equivalent to:

1. applying Hadamard to the target qubit
2. then a  $c^mNOT$  gate
3. then Hadamard again

(since the Hadamard transform rotates the X axis to Z and Z to X, and cNOT is a cX)



# Grover's Implementation: Diffusion Operator

26

- ▶ Geometric analysis of  $\hat{D}$  -> reflection over the uniform superposition ([see slide again](#)):

$$\hat{D} = 2 |s\rangle\langle s| - \hat{I}$$

- ▶ By using the Hadamard transform this can be made into a reflection over  $|0\rangle$  (remember that  $|s\rangle = \hat{H}|0\rangle$  and  $\hat{H}$  is its own inverse):

$$\hat{D} = 2 \hat{H} |0\rangle\langle 0| \hat{H} - \hat{I}$$

- ▶ Let  $-\hat{S}_0$  be the negated reflector over  $|0\rangle$  : changes the sign of state  $|0\rangle$

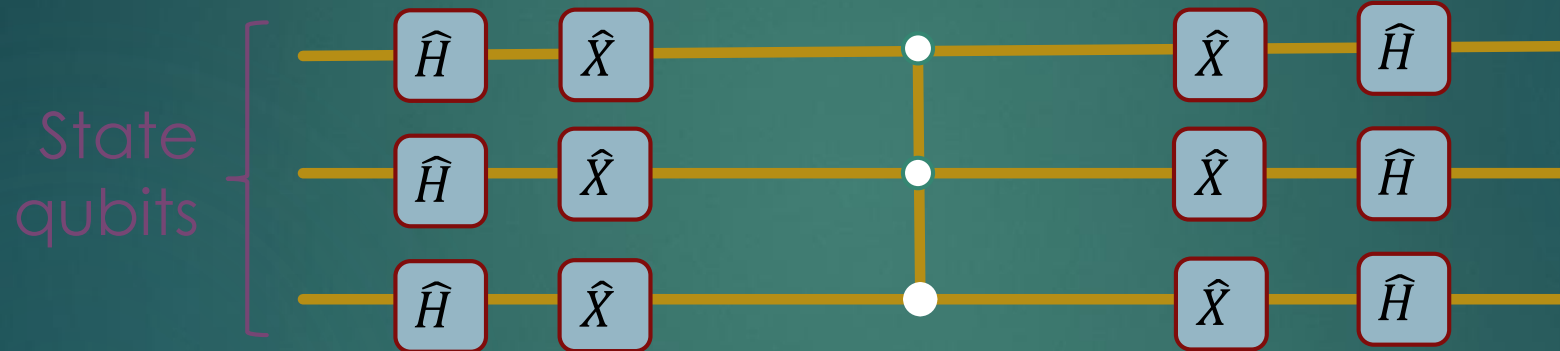
$$-\hat{S}_0 |x\rangle = \begin{cases} |x\rangle & \text{if } |x\rangle \neq |0\rangle \\ -|0\rangle & \text{if } |x\rangle = |0\rangle \end{cases}$$

- ▶ Then  $-\hat{D} |x\rangle = -\hat{H}\hat{S}_0 \hat{H} |x\rangle$   
(the sign is not relevant, since the probability is given by the squared amplitude)



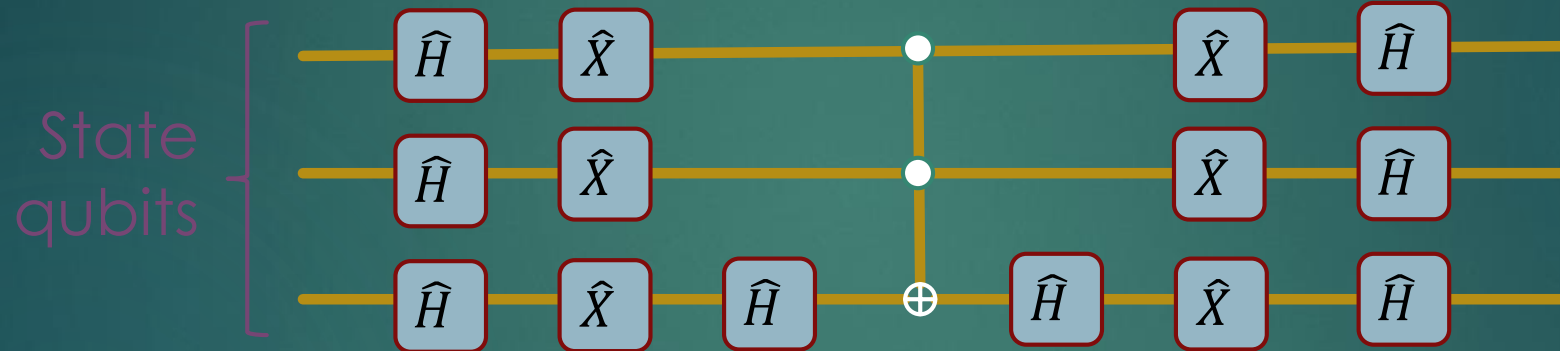
# Grover's implementation: DIFFUSION OPERATOR

$-\hat{D} = -\hat{H}\hat{S}_0\hat{H}$  - Example circuit for 3 qubits (ccZ gate):



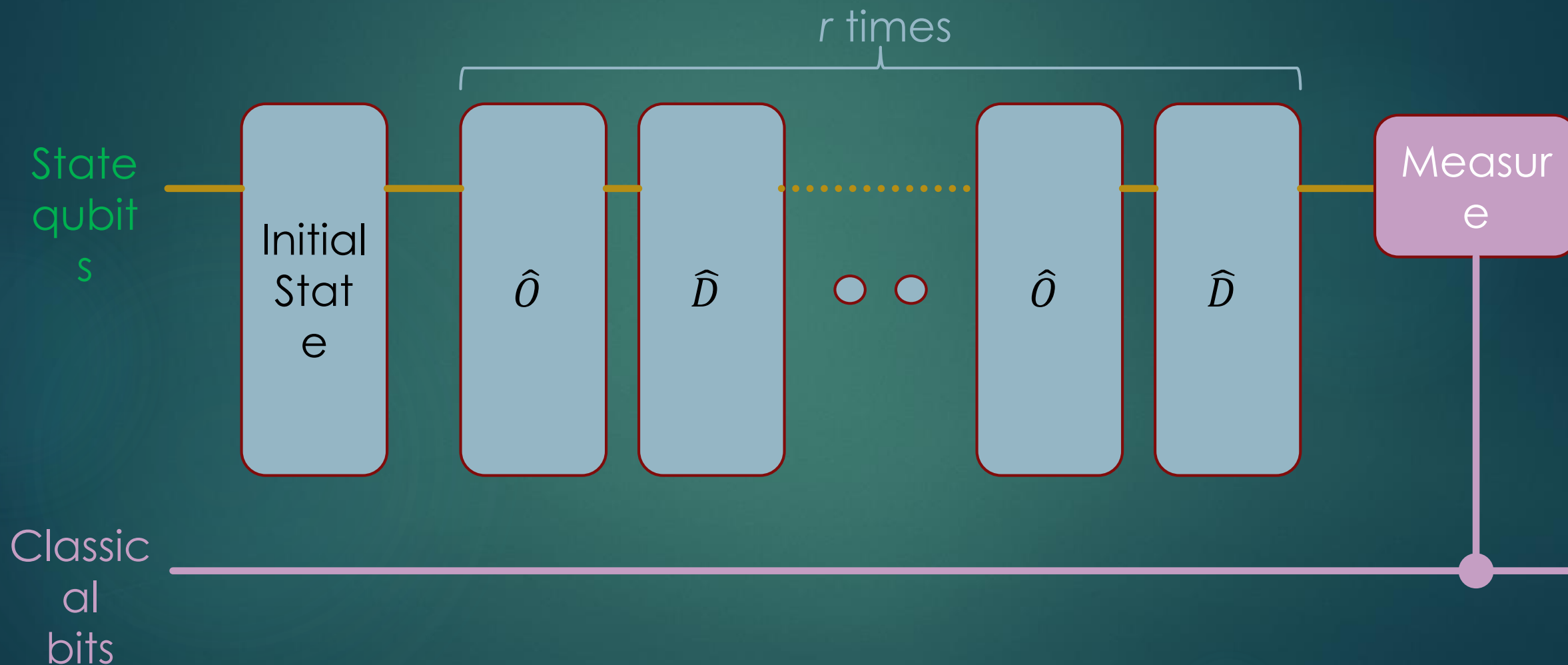
# Grover's implementation: DIFFUSION OPERATOR

Example circuit for 3 qubits (which as seen [here](#) can be designed with ccX gates):



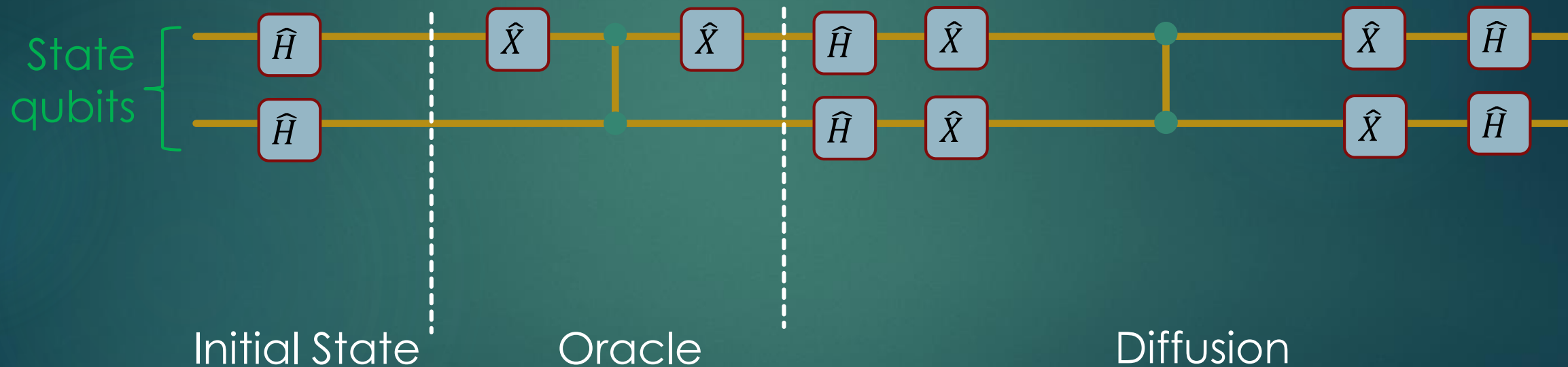
# Grover's Implementation

29



# Grover's Circuit: 2 qubits and $|x^*\rangle = |01\rangle$

30





# Grover: multiple solutions

37

- ▶ If there are  $t < N$  ( $N = 2^n$ ) solutions, then the number of iterations  $r$  to search for 1 solution is

$$r \approx \left\lceil \frac{\pi}{4} \sqrt{N/t} \right\rceil$$

- ▶  $r$  can not exceed the ideal number of iterations, therefore the above applies for  $t$  known
- ▶ If the number of solutions,  $t$ , is unknown then [Brassard2000] use either:
  - ▶ a probabilistic algorithm
  - ▶ an approximate counting algorithm to estimate  $N/t$ , using an

approach similar to Shor's algorithm (period finding via Quantum Fourier Transform)  
Brassard, Gilles; Hoyer, Peter; Mosca, Michele; Tapp, Alain, "Quantum Amplitude Amplification and Estimation", May 2000

# Grover multiple solutions: probabilistic

38

Qsearch [Brassard2000]

1.  $l = 0 ; 1 < c < 2$
2.  $l = l + 1 ; S = \lceil c^l \rceil$
3.  $|s\rangle = \hat{H} |0\rangle ; x = \text{measure}(|s\rangle) ; \text{if } f(x) == 1 \text{ then stop}$
4.  $|s\rangle = \hat{H} |0\rangle$
5.  $j = \text{random\_integer}(1..S)$
6.  $|\psi\rangle = (\hat{D} \hat{O})^j |s\rangle$
7.  $x = \text{measure}(|s\rangle) ; \text{if } f(x) == 1 \text{ then stop}$
8. goto 2

Exponential searching:  $S$ , the search space, increases exponentially

$$\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{N/t})$$

# Grover: arbitrary initial state [Brassard2000]

39

- ▶ Generalized: initial state  $|\psi\rangle$  different from uniform sobreposition  $|s\rangle$  [Brassard2000]

- ▶ Grover:  $|s\rangle = \hat{H} |0\rangle ; \hat{O} = \hat{S}_f ; \hat{D} = -\hat{H} \hat{S}_0 \hat{H}$

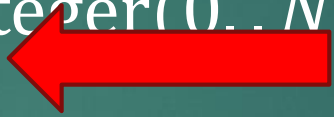
- ▶ Generalized:  $|\psi\rangle = \mathcal{A} |0\rangle ; \hat{O} = \hat{S}_f ; \hat{D} = -\mathcal{A} \hat{S}_0 \mathcal{A}^{-1}$

number of iterations  $r \approx \frac{1}{\sqrt{a}} ; a = P(|x^*\rangle)$

# Grover: finding the minimum

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40

1. Select initial minimum threshold index  
 $y = \text{random\_integer}(0..N - 1)$ 
2. Run the QSearch algorithm
3. If  $v(x) < v(y)$  then  $y = x$
4. If  $timeSteps < 22.5\sqrt{N} + 1.4 \log_2 N$  goto 2
5. Output  $y$



