

# Quantum Chebyshev's Inequality and Applications

Yassine Hamoudi, Frédéric Magniez

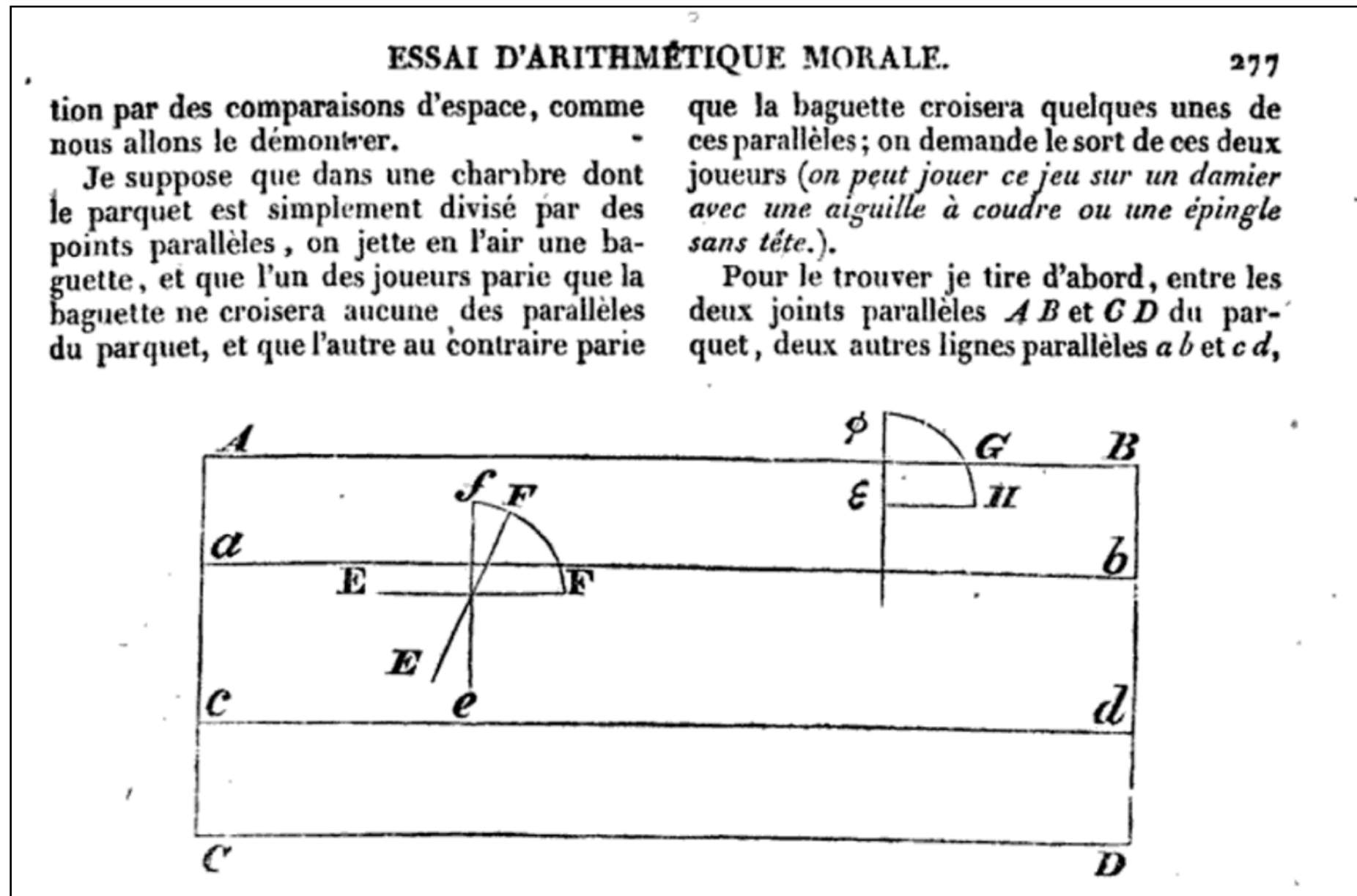
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# Buffon's needle

A needle dropped randomly on a floor with equally spaced parallel lines will cross one of the lines with probability  $2/\pi$ .



Buffon, G., *Essai d'arithmétique morale*, 1777.

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**Law of large numbers:** 
$$\frac{x_1 + \dots + x_n}{n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{E}(X)$$

**Empirical mean:**  $\tilde{\mu} = \frac{x_1 + \dots + x_n}{n}$  with  $x_1, \dots, x_n \sim X$

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**Chebyshev's Inequality:**

**Hypothesis:**  $E(X) \neq 0$  and  $\text{Var}(X) = E(X^2) - E(X)^2 \neq 0$  finite

**Objective:**  $|\tilde{\mu} - E(X)| \leq \epsilon E(X)$  with high probability

 multiplicative error  $0 < \epsilon < 1$

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**In practice:** given an upper-bound  $\Delta^2 \geq \frac{E(X^2)}{E(X)^2}$ , take  $n = \Omega\left(\frac{\Delta^2}{\epsilon^2}\right)$  samples

### Counting with Markov chain Monte Carlo methods:

Counting vs. sampling [Jerrum, Sinclair'96] [Štefankovič et al.'09], Volume of convex bodies [Dyer, Frieze'91], Permanent [Jerrum, Sinclair, Vigoda'04]

### Data stream model:

Frequency moments, Collision probability [Alon, Matias, Szegedy'99] [Monemizadeh, Woodruff'] [Andoni et al.'11] [Crouch et al.'16]

### Testing properties of distributions:

Closeness [Goldreich, Ron'11] [Batu et al.'13] [Chan et al.'14], Conditional independence [Canonne et al.'18]

### Estimating graph parameters:

Number of connected components, Minimum spanning tree weight [Chazelle, Rubinfeld, Trevisan'05], Average distance [Goldreich, Ron'08], Number of triangles [Eden et al. 17]

etc.

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**Quantum sample:** one (controlled-)execution of a quantum sampler  $S_X$  or  $S_X^{-1}$ , where

$$S_X |0\rangle = \sum_{x \in \Omega} \sqrt{p_x} |\psi_x\rangle |x\rangle$$

with  $|\psi_x\rangle$  = arbitrary garbage state

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[Montanaro'15] [Li, Wu'17]	$\Delta^2/\epsilon$ or $(\Delta/\epsilon)^*(\mathbf{H}/\mathbf{L})$	$\Delta^2 \geq \frac{\mathbf{E}(X^2)}{\mathbf{E}(X)^2}$ <b><math>\mathbf{L} \leq \mathbf{E}(X) \leq \mathbf{H}</math></b>

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<b>Our result</b>	$(\Delta/\epsilon)^* \mathbf{log}^3(\mathbf{H}/\mathbf{E}(X))$	$\Delta^2 \geq \frac{\mathbf{E}(X^2)}{\mathbf{E}(X)^2}$ $\mathbf{E}(X) \leq \mathbf{H}$

# Our Approach

**Sampler:**  $S_X |0\rangle = \sum_{x \in \Omega} \sqrt{p_x} |\psi_x\rangle |x\rangle$  on sample space  $\Omega \subset [0, B]$

**Ampl-Est:**  $O\left(\frac{\sqrt{B}}{\epsilon \sqrt{\mathbf{E}(X)}}\right)$  quantum samples to obtain  $\left| \tilde{\mu} - \frac{\mathbf{E}(X)}{B} \right| \leq \epsilon \cdot \frac{\mathbf{E}(X)}{B}$   
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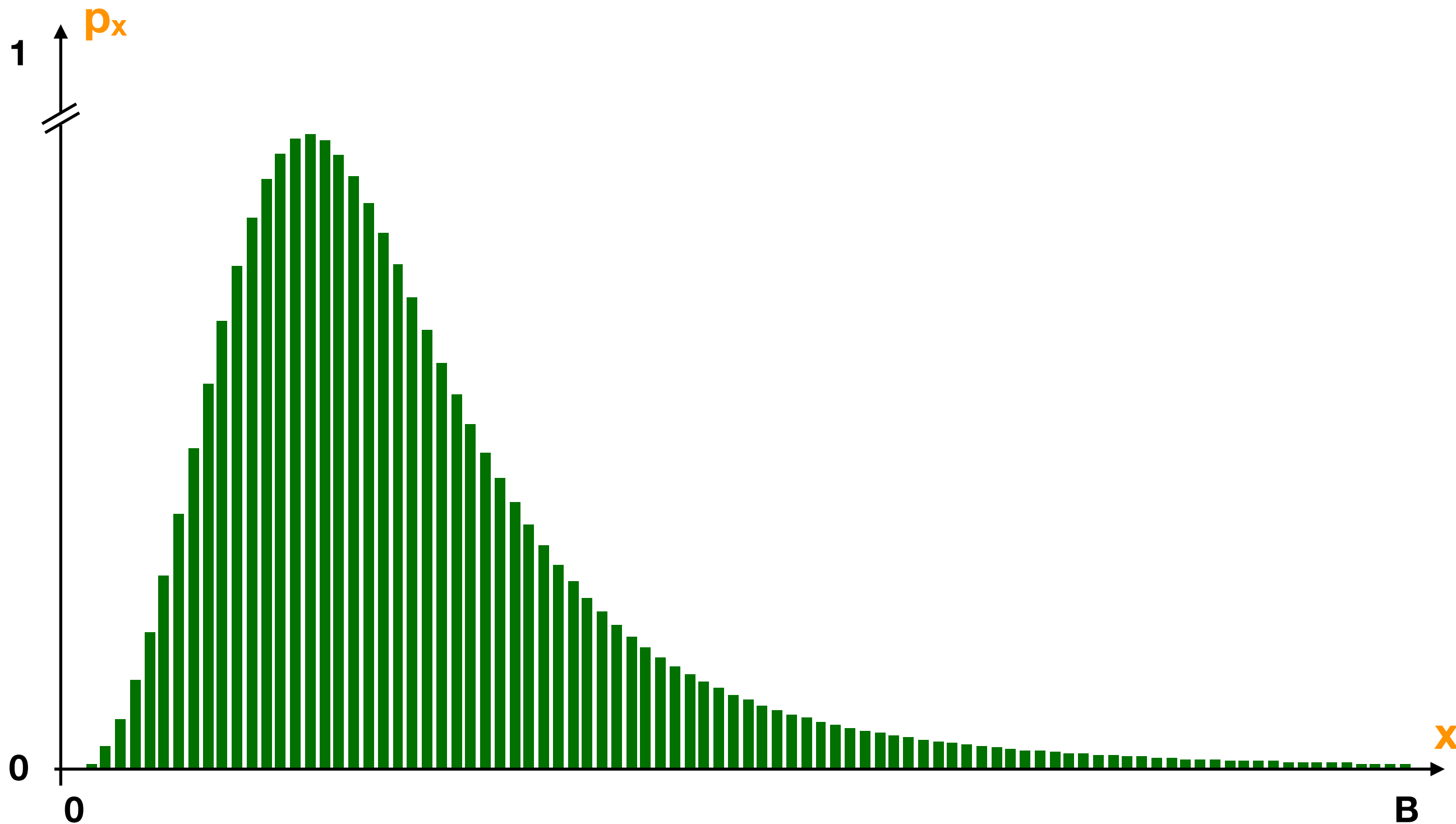
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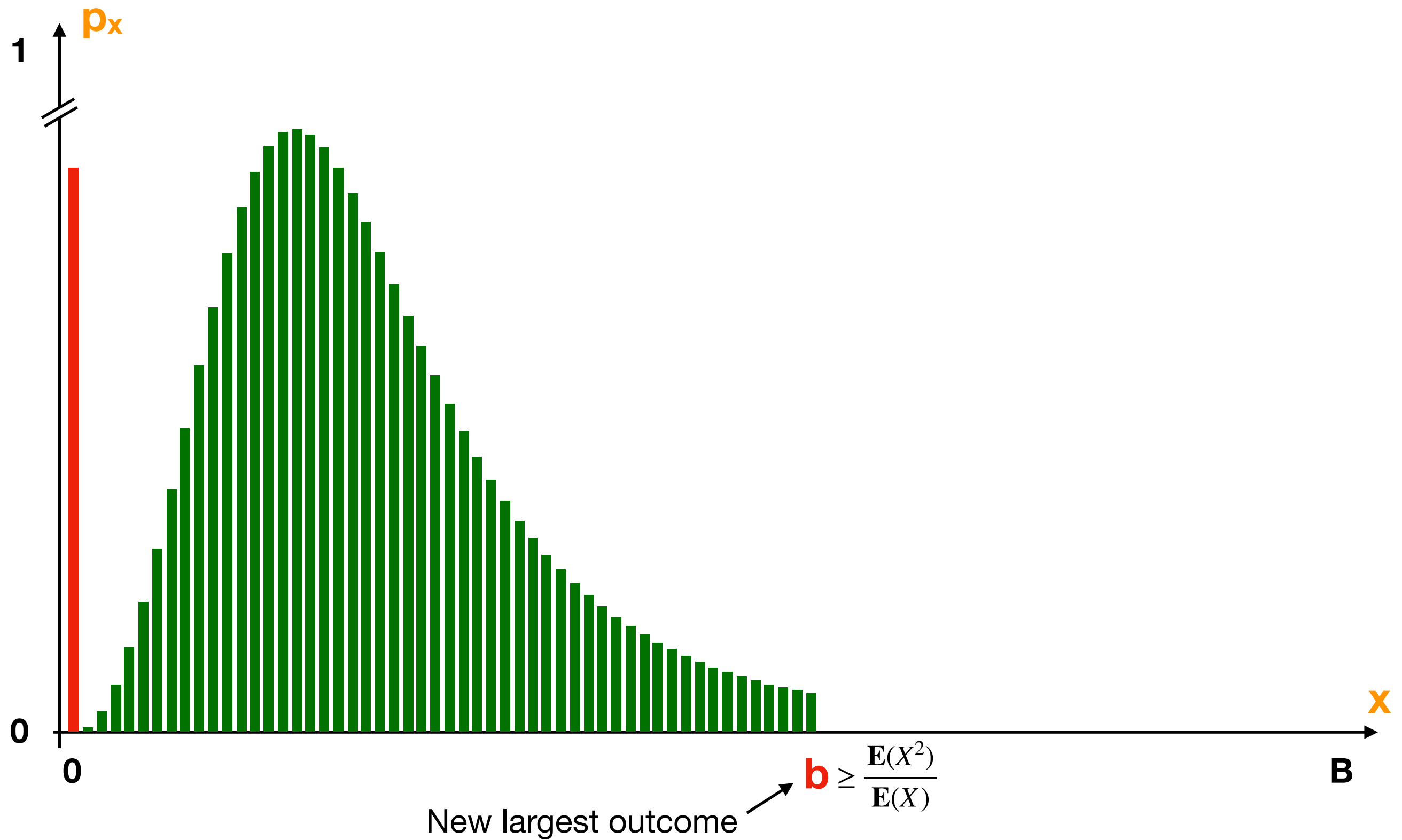


# Random variable X



Largest outcome  $\nearrow B$

# Random variable $X_{<b}$



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**Lemma:** If  $b \geq \frac{\mathbf{E}(X^2)}{\epsilon \mathbf{E}(X)}$  then  $(1 - \epsilon)\mathbf{E}(X) \leq \mathbf{E}(X_{<b}) \leq \mathbf{E}(X)$ .

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Threshold	Estimated value	Number of samples	Estimation
$b_0 = H\Delta^2$	$\frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b_0})}{b_0}$	$\Delta$	$\tilde{\mu}_0$
$b_1 = (H/2)\Delta^2$	$\frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b_1})}{b_1}$	$\Delta$	$\tilde{\mu}_1$
$b_2 = (H/4)\Delta^2$	$\frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b_2})}{b_2}$	$\Delta$	$\tilde{\mu}_2$

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**Theorem:** the first non-zero  $\tilde{\mu}_i$  is obtained w.h.p. when:

$$2 \cdot \mathbf{E}(X)\Delta^2 \leq b_i \leq 10^4 \cdot \mathbf{E}(X)\Delta^2$$

# Analysis

- If  $b_i \approx \mathbf{E}(X) \cdot \Delta^2 \rightarrow \frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b_i})}{b_i} \overset{\star}{\approx} \frac{\mathbf{E}(X)}{b_i} \approx \frac{1}{\Delta^2} \rightarrow \Delta \text{ samples are enough}$

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- If  $b_i$  is very large ?  $\rightarrow \frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b_i})}{b_i}$  is very small  $\rightarrow \Delta$  samples is not enough to distinguish  $\frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b_i})}{b_i}$  from 0

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## [Brassard et al.'02]

The output of the **Amplitude-Estimation** algorithm is 0 w.h.p. when the estimated value is below the inverse-square of the number of samples

$$\frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b_i})}{b_i} \quad \Delta$$

Diagram illustrating the relationship between the estimated value and the number of samples. An arrow points from the fraction  $\frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b_i})}{b_i}$  to the underlined text "estimated value". Another arrow points from the symbol  $\Delta$  to the underlined text "number".

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$$\swarrow \Delta$$



**Lemma:** If  $b \geq 10^4 \cdot \mathbf{E}(X)\Delta^2$  then  $\frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b})}{b} \leq \frac{1}{10^4 \cdot \Delta^2}$

# Applications

# Application 1: approximating graph parameters


---

**Input:** graph  $G=(V,E)$  with  $n$  vertices,  $m$  edges,  $t$  triangles

**Query access:** unitaries  $O_{\text{deg}} |v\rangle |0\rangle = |v\rangle |\text{deg}(v)\rangle$  *(degree query)*

$O_{\text{pair}} |v\rangle |w\rangle |0\rangle = |v\rangle |w\rangle |(v,w) \in E ?\rangle$  *(pair query)*

$O_{\text{ngh}} |v\rangle |i\rangle |0\rangle = |v\rangle |i\rangle |v_i\rangle$  *(neighbor query)*

  $i^{\text{th}}$  neighbor of  $v$



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**Result:**  $\widetilde{\Theta} \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{m^{1/4}} \right)$  degree/neighbor quantum queries to approximate  $m$

$\widetilde{\Theta} \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{t^{1/6}} + \frac{m^{3/4}}{\sqrt{t}} \right)$  degree/pair/neighbor quantum queries to approximate  $t$

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**Result:**  $\widetilde{\Theta} \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{m^{1/4}} \right)$

degree/neighbor quantum queries to approximate  $m$

(vs.  $\widetilde{\Theta} \left( \frac{n}{\sqrt{m}} \right)$  classical degree/neighbor queries)

[Goldreich, Ron'08] [Seshadhri'15]

$\widetilde{\Theta} \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{t^{1/6}} + \frac{m^{3/4}}{\sqrt{t}} \right)$

degree/pair/neighbor quantum queries to approximate  $t$

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[Eden, Levi, Ron'15] [Eden, Levi, Ron, Seshadhri'17]

## Application 2: frequency moments in the streaming model

---

**Input:** (finite) stream of updates  $\mathbf{x}_i \leftarrow \mathbf{x}_i + \delta$  on  $\mathbf{x} = (0, \dots, 0)$  of **dimension  $n$**

**Output:** (at the end of the stream) approximate of  $F_k = \sum_{i=1}^n |x_i|^k$  (moment of order  $k \geq 3$ )

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**Result:**  $M = \widetilde{O}\left(\frac{n^{1-2/k}}{P^2}\right)$  qubits of memory

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[Monemizadeh, Woodruff'10]  
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# Conclusion

The **mean** of any quantum sampler  $S_X$  is estimated with **multiplicative error  $\epsilon$**  using  $\tilde{O}\left(\frac{\Delta}{\epsilon} \cdot \log^3\left(\frac{H}{E(X)}\right)\right)$  **quantum samples**, given  $\Delta^2 \geq \frac{E(X^2)}{E(X)^2}$  and  $H \geq E(X)$ .

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**Lower bound:** For any  $\Delta, \epsilon$  there exists two samplers  $\begin{cases} S_X|0\rangle = \sqrt{1-p}|0\rangle + \sqrt{p}|1\rangle \\ S_Y|0\rangle = \sqrt{1-q}|0\rangle + \sqrt{q}|1\rangle \end{cases}$

with  $E(Y) \geq (1 + 2\epsilon) \cdot E(X)$  and  $\frac{E(X^2)}{E(X)^2}, \frac{E(Y^2)}{E(Y)^2} \in [\Delta^2, 2\Delta^2]$

such that distinguishing between  $X$  and  $Y$  requires:

$$\Omega\left(\frac{\Delta - 1}{\epsilon}\right)$$

Quantum samples  
from  $S_X / S_Y$



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$$\Omega\left(\frac{\Delta - 1}{\epsilon}\right) \quad \text{or} \quad \Omega\left(\frac{\Delta^2 - 1}{\epsilon^2}\right)$$

Quantum samples  
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Copies of  
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**Extra slides**

## Subroutine: the Amplitude Estimation algorithm

---

**Sampler:**  $S_X|0\rangle = \sum_{x \in \Omega} \sqrt{p_x} |\psi_x\rangle |x\rangle$  on sample space  $\Omega \subset [0, B]$

**Result:**  $O\left(\frac{\sqrt{B}}{\epsilon \sqrt{\mathbf{E}(X)}}\right)$  quantum samples to obtain  $|\tilde{\mu} - \mathbf{E}(X)| \leq \epsilon \mathbf{E}(X)$

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**Reduction to a Bernoulli sampler** [Brassard et al.'11] [Wocjan et al.'09] [Montanaro'15]:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{x \in \Omega} \sqrt{p_x} |\psi_x\rangle |x\rangle |0\rangle &\xrightarrow{\text{Controlled rotation}} \sum_{x \in \Omega} \sqrt{p_x} |\psi_x\rangle |x\rangle \left( \sqrt{1 - \frac{x}{B}} |0\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{x}{B}} |1\rangle \right) \\ &\xrightarrow{\text{Reordering}} \sqrt{1 - \frac{\mathbf{E}(X)}{B}} |\varphi_0\rangle |\mathbf{0}\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{E}(X)}{B}} |\varphi_1\rangle |\mathbf{1}\rangle = S_Y |0\rangle \end{aligned}$$

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**Expectation of a Bernoulli sampler** [Brassard et al.'02]:

$$\mathbf{S}_Y |\mathbf{0}\rangle = \sqrt{1 - \frac{\mathbf{E}(X)}{B}} |\varphi_0\rangle |\mathbf{0}\rangle + \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{E}(X)}{B}} |\varphi_1\rangle |\mathbf{1}\rangle$$

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**Step 0:** the **Grover's operator**  $G = S_Y^{-1}(I - 2|0\rangle\langle 0|)S_Y(I - 2I \otimes |1\rangle\langle 1|)$  has eigenvalues  $e^{\pm 2i\theta}$ , where  $\theta = \sin^{-1}(\sqrt{\mathbf{E}(X)/B})$ .

**Step 1:** use the **Phase Estimation Algorithm** on  $G$  for  $t \geq \Omega(\sqrt{B}/(\epsilon \sqrt{\mathbf{E}(X)}))$  steps (i.e. using  $t$  **quantum samples**), to get an estimate  $\tilde{\theta}$  of  $\pm\theta$ .

**Step 2:** output  $\sin^2(\tilde{\theta})$  as an estimate to  $\mathbf{E}(X)/B$ . ( $\tilde{\mu} = B \cdot \sin^2(\tilde{\theta})$ )

**Result:** There is an **optimal** algorithm that approximates the mean of any quantum sampler  $S_X$  over  $\Omega \subset [0, B]$  with

$$\widetilde{\Theta} \left( \frac{\sqrt{B}}{\sqrt{\epsilon E(X)}} + \frac{E(X^2)}{\epsilon E(X)} \right)$$

quantum samples, when there is no a priori information on  $X$ .

→ Quantization of [\[Dagum, Karp, Luby, Ross'00\]](#)




**Lemma:** If  $b \geq \frac{\mathbf{E}(X^2)}{\epsilon \mathbf{E}(X)}$  then  $(1 - \epsilon)\mathbf{E}(X) \leq \mathbf{E}(X_{<b}) \leq \mathbf{E}(X)$ .



**Lemma:** If  $b \geq 10^4 \cdot \mathbf{E}(X)\Delta^2$  then  $\frac{\mathbf{E}(X_{<b})}{b} \leq \frac{1}{10^4 \cdot \Delta^2}$






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**Proof:**

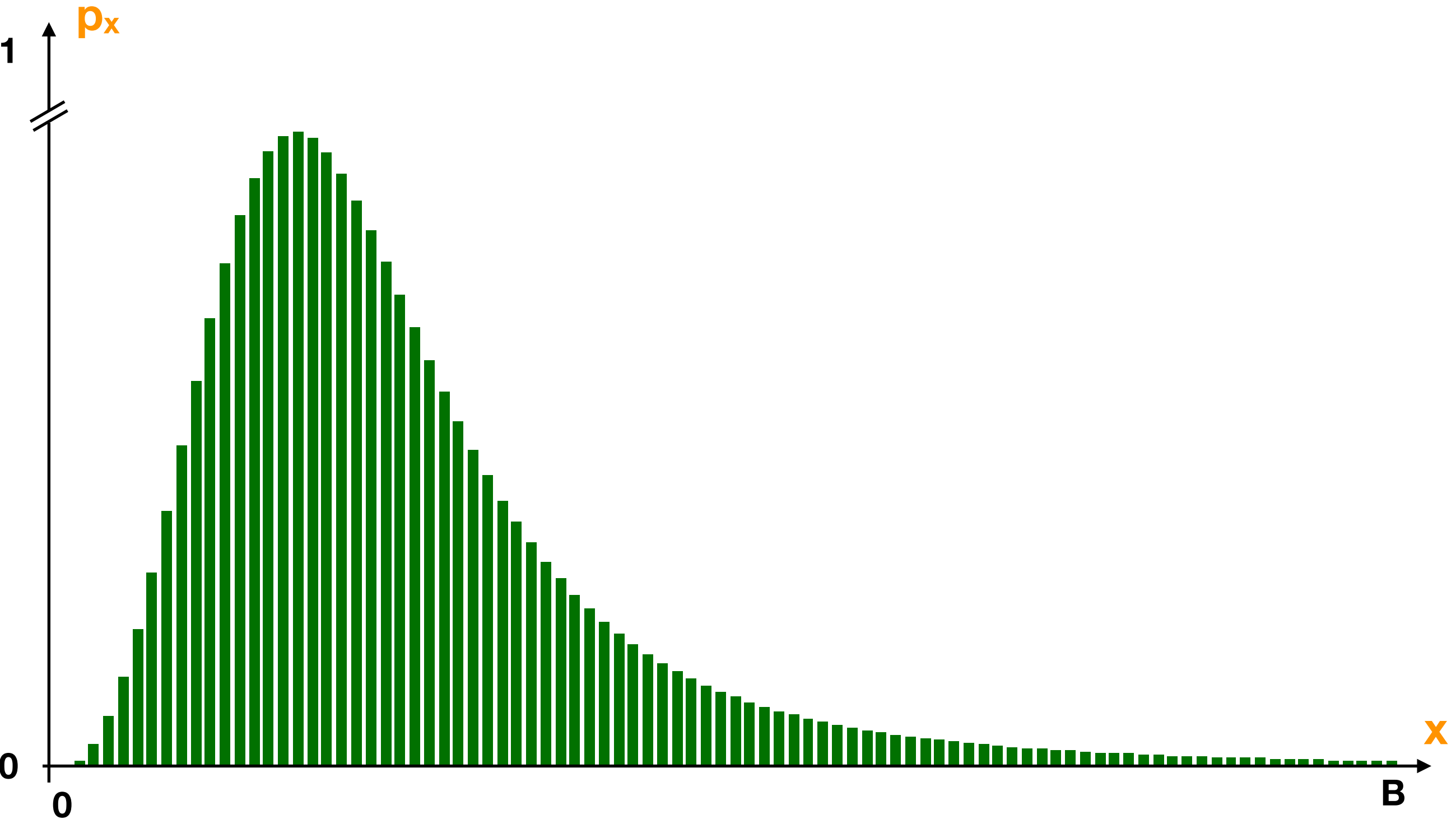
- $\mathbf{E}(X_{\geq b}) \leq \frac{\mathbf{E}(X^2)}{b} \leq \epsilon \mathbf{E}(X)$
- $\mathbf{E}(X_{<b}) = \mathbf{E}(X) - \mathbf{E}(X_{\geq b}) \geq (1 - \epsilon)\mathbf{E}(X)$



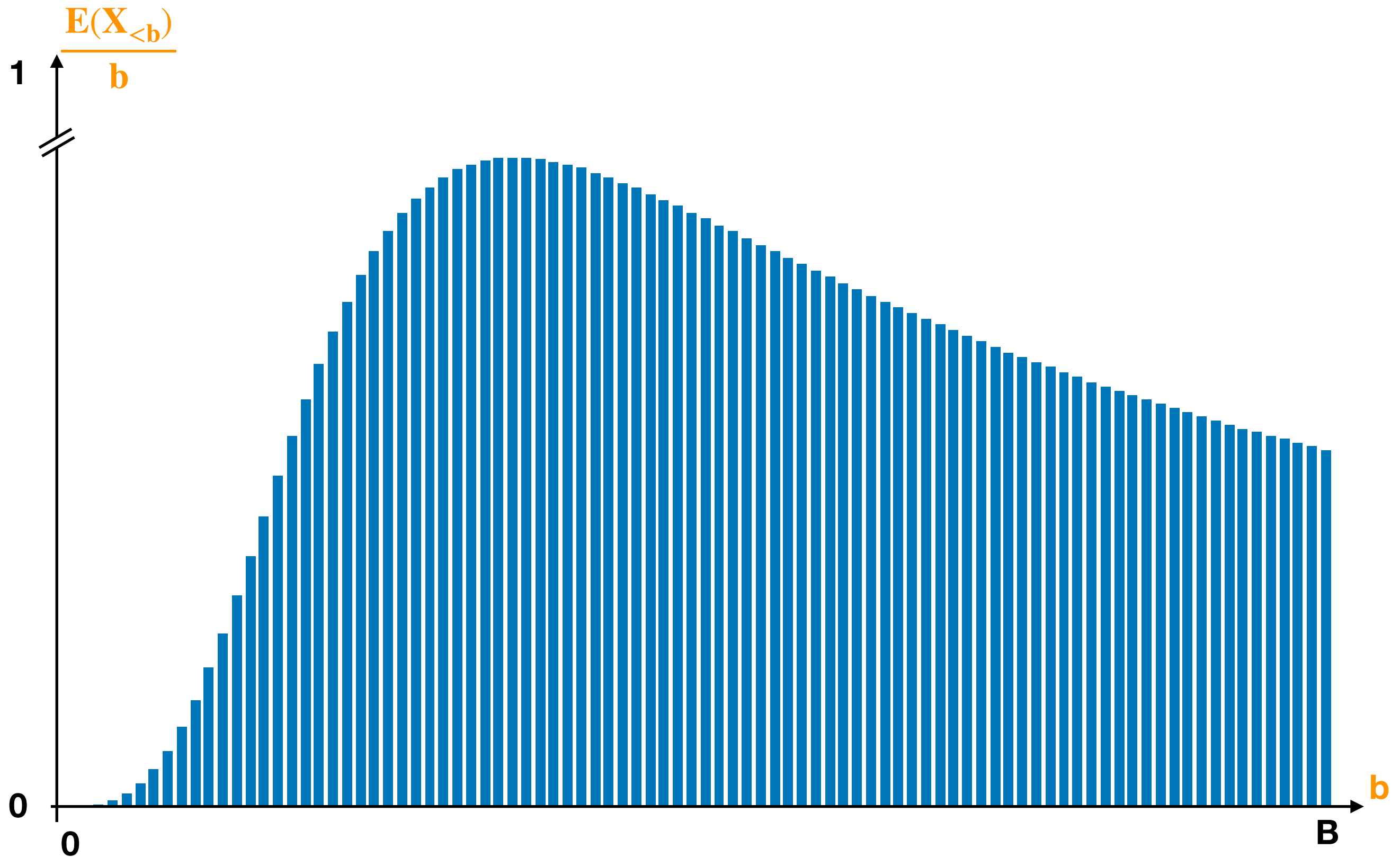
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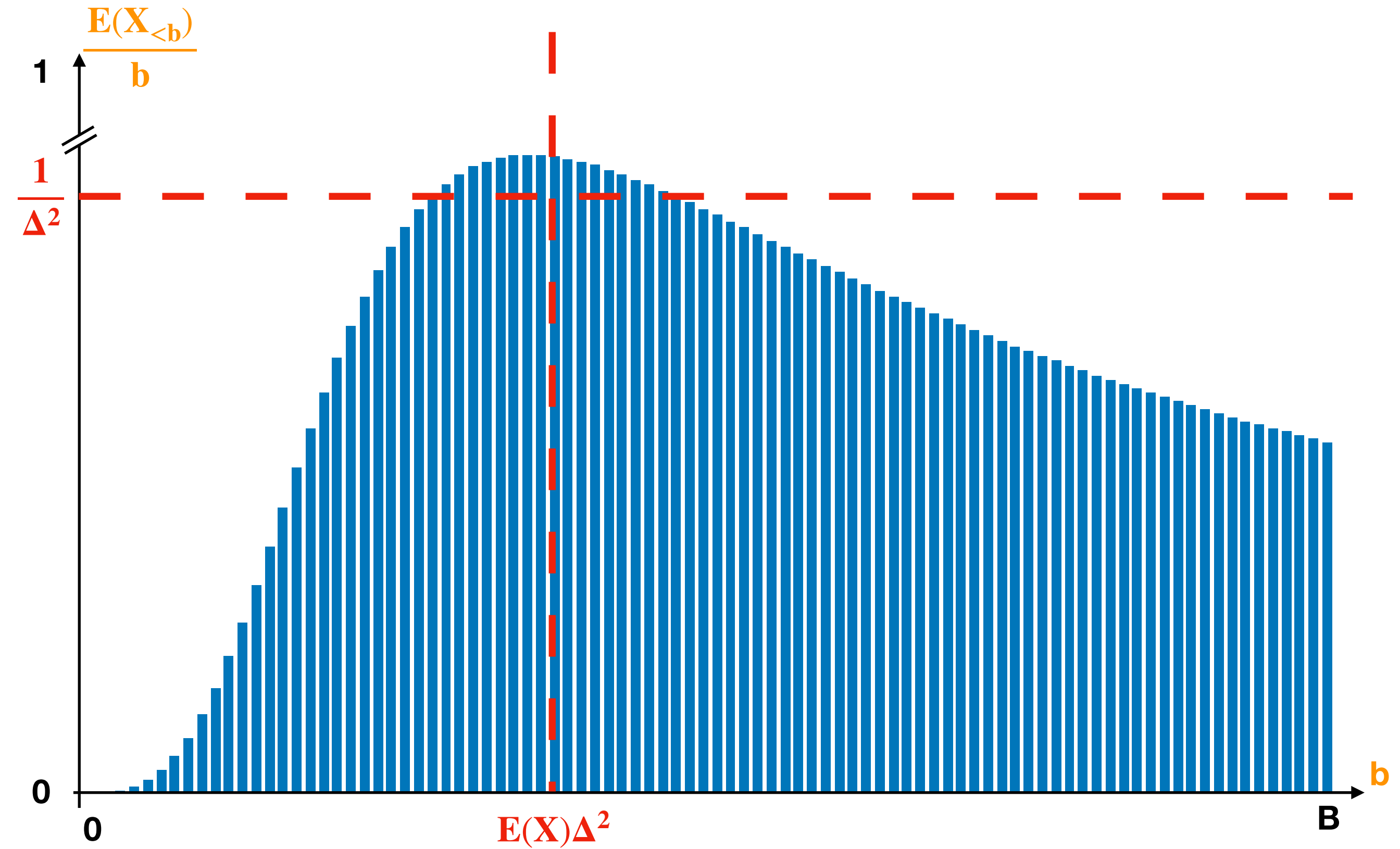
# Example



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# Final algorithm:

**Step 1:** Logarithmic search on  $b$  until **Amplitude-Estimation** $(S_{X_{<b}}, \Delta) \neq 0$

→ get  $2 \cdot \mathbf{E}(X)\Delta^2 \leq b \leq 10^4 \cdot \mathbf{E}(X)\Delta^2$  with high probability  
 $\Delta \cdot \log^3 \left( \frac{H}{\mathbf{E}(X)} \right)$

**Step 2:** Set threshold  $d = b/\epsilon$  and output **Amplitude-Estimation** $(S_{X_{<d}}, \Delta/\epsilon^{3/2}) \neq 0$

→ get  $|\tilde{\mu} - \mathbf{E}(X)| \leq \epsilon \mathbf{E}(X)$  with high probability  
 $\Delta/\epsilon^{3/2}$

**Step 2bis:** Slightly refined algorithm, adapted from [Heinrich'01, Montanaro'15]

$\Delta/\epsilon$

## Application 1: counting the number of edges in a graph

---

### Estimator $X$ :=

1. Sample a vertex  $v \in V$  uniformly at random
2. Sample a neighbor  $w$  of  $v$  uniformly at random
3. If  $\deg(v) < \deg(w)$  (or  $\deg(v) = \deg(w)$  and  $v <_{\text{lex}} w$ )

Output  $n \cdot \deg(v)$

Else

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**Lemma:**  $E(X) = m$  and  $E(X^2)/E(X)^2 \leq O(\sqrt{n})$ . (when  $m \geq \Omega(n)$ )

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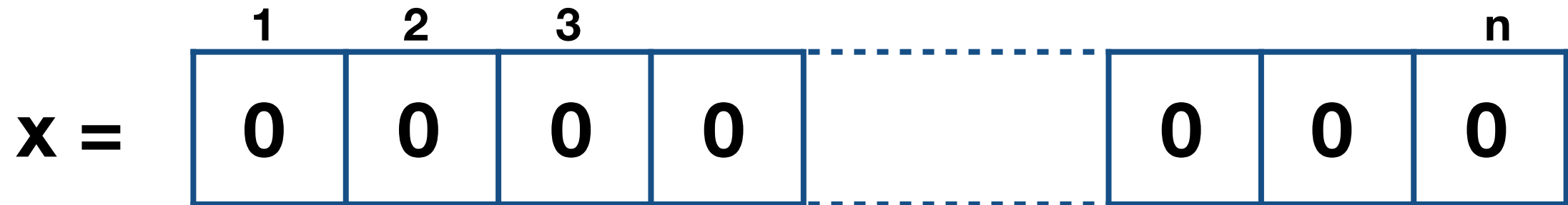
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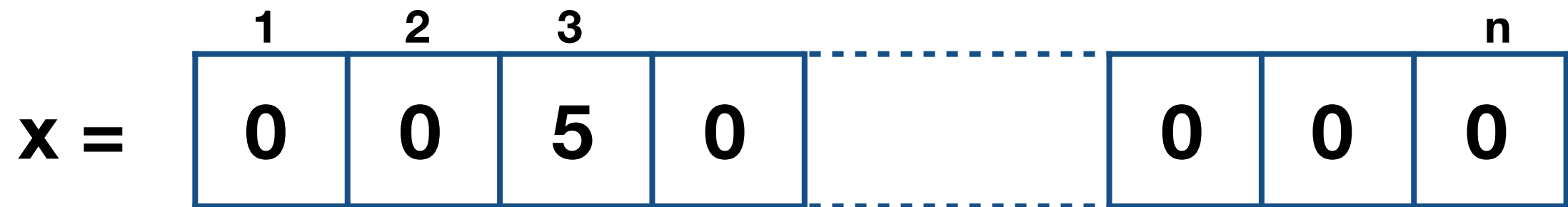
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Stream of **updates** to  $\mathbf{x}$ :

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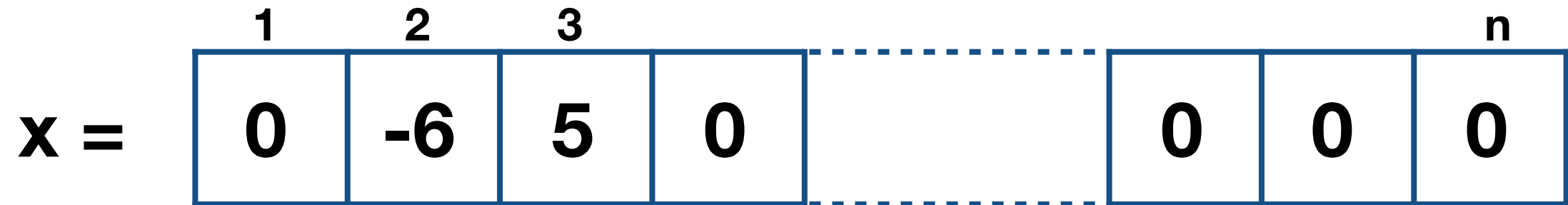
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Stream of **updates** to  $x$ : (3,+5)

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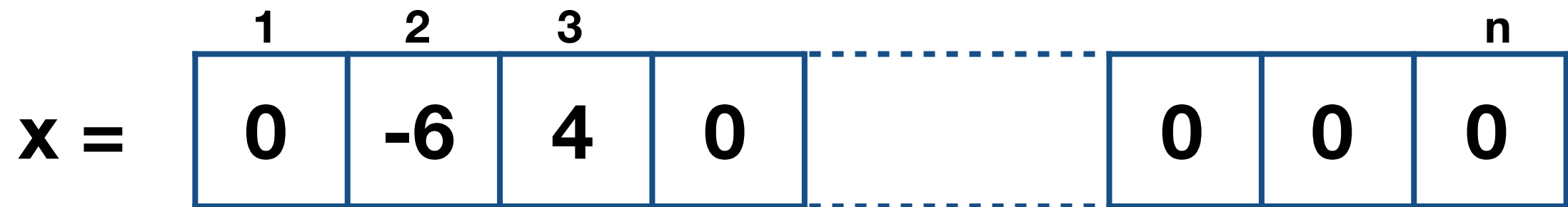
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Stream of **updates** to  $x$ : (3,+5) ; (2,-6)

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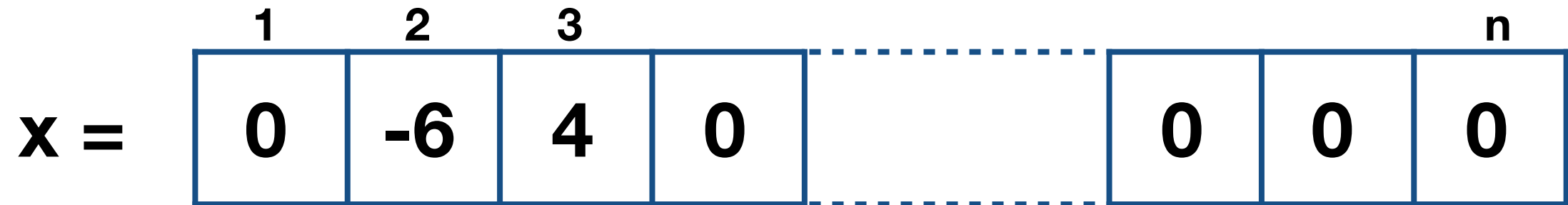
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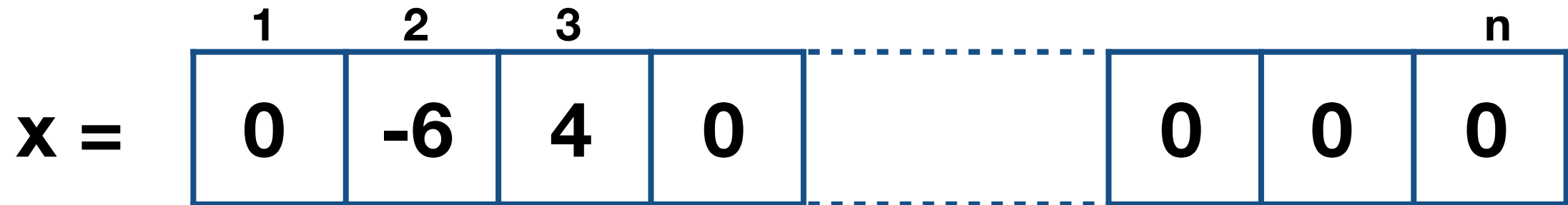
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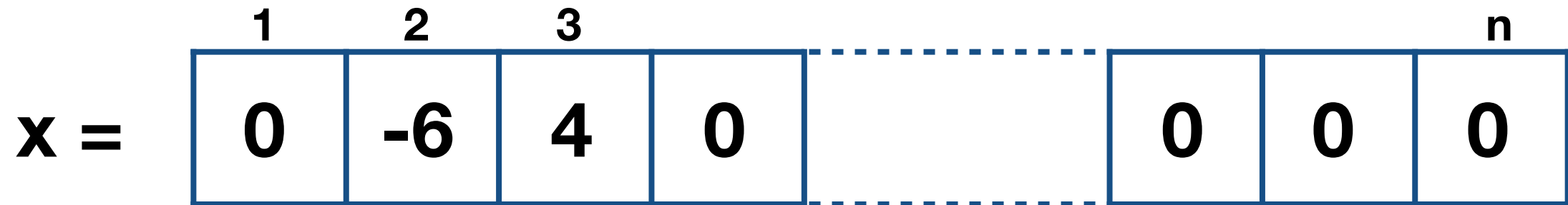
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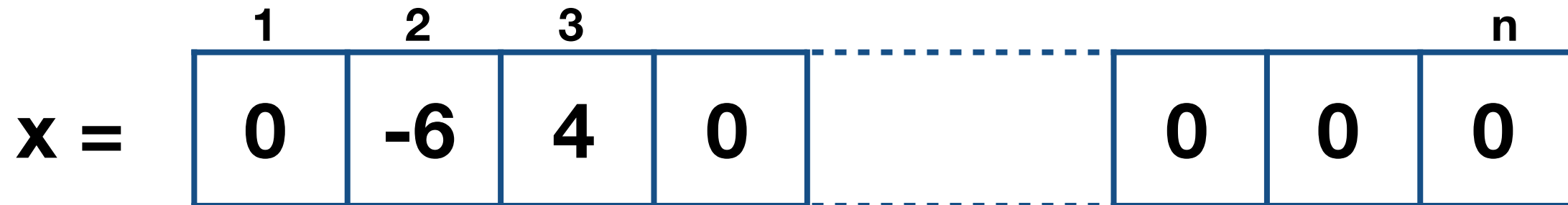
||

1 sample from a random variable  $X$  with

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**Quantumly:**  $P^2M = O(n^{1-2/k})$

$$\text{1 pass + memory } \mathbf{M} = \frac{n^{1-2/k}}{P^2}$$

||

1 **quantum** sample\*  $S_X$  from a r.v.  $X$  with

$$\mathbf{E(X)} \approx \mathbf{F_k} \text{ and } \mathbf{E(X^2)/E(X)^2} \leq \mathbf{(P \cdot F_k)^2}$$

\*  $S_X^{-1}$  can be done in one pass also

## Application 3: counting the number of triangles in a graph

---

More complicated than edges... [\[Eden, Levi, Ron'15\]](#) [\[Eden, Levi, Ron, Seshadhri'17\]](#)

**Main subroutine:** estimator  $X$  for the number of triangles adjacent to any vertex  $v$

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**Variable-time Amplitude Estimation:** estimate the amplitude when some “branches” of the computation stop earlier than the others

**Result:**

$$\widetilde{\Theta} \left( \frac{\sqrt{n}}{t^{1/6}} + \frac{m^{3/4}}{\sqrt{t}} \right) \quad \text{quantum queries for triangle counting}$$

vs.  $\widetilde{\Theta} \left( \frac{n}{t^{1/3}} + \frac{m^{3/2}}{t} \right) \quad \text{classical queries}$