



# Bernstein-Vazirani Problem

PHYS/CSCI 3090

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<https://home.cs.colorado.edu/~alko5368/indexCSCI3090.html>

# Homework

- HW 3 will be out soon, due next Monday at noon.
- Typo on HW2, we will re-ask this problem on HW3.

# Come see us!

- Alexandra Kolla/ Graeme Smith: Friday 3:00-4:00 pm, JILA X317.
- Ariel Shlosberg: Tu/Th 2:00-4:00pm, DUANG2B90 (physics help room)
- Steven Kordonowy: Th 11am-12pm, ECAE 124.

# Last Class

- Deutsch's problem
- Simplest example of quantum tradeoff that sacrifices particular information to get relational information.
- First "Quantum supremacy" result

# Today

- Bernstein-Vazirani
- Another “Quantum supremacy” result

# Bitwise Inner Product

Let  $x = (x_0, \dots, x_n)$  and  $a = (a_0, \dots, a_n)$  be two integers, represented as  $n$ -bit strings.

The bitwise inner product of  $x$  and  $a$ , denoted  $x \cdot a$  modulo 2 is

$$x_0 a_0 \oplus x_1 a_1 \oplus \dots \oplus x_n a_n$$

# Binary arithmetic test

Let  $a = a_n \dots a_0$  be an  $n$ -bit binary string. What is the number  $a$  expressed in the decimal system?

A)  $a_n \cdot 2^0 + a_{n-1} \cdot 2^1 + \dots + a_0 \cdot 2^n$     B)  $a_n \cdot 2^n + a_{n-1} \cdot 2^{n-1} + \dots + a_0 \cdot 2^0$

C) *I don't know*

D)  $a_n \cdot 10^0 + a_{n-1} \cdot 10^1 + \dots + a_0 \cdot 10^n$

# Integers and Binary Representations

- What is the  $m$ -th bit of  $a$ ?

A)  $a \cdot 2^m$

B)  $a \oplus 2^m$

C)  $a \cdot m$

D)



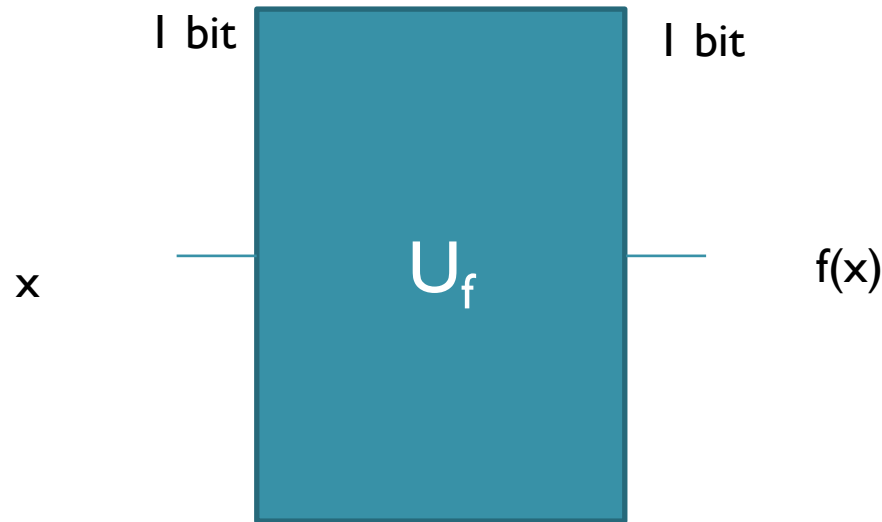
# Bernstein-Vazirani

- Let  $a$  be an unknown non-negative integer less than  $2^n$ .
- Represent it as an  $n$ -bit string
- Let  $f(x) = a \cdot x = x_0 a_0 \oplus x_1 a_1 \oplus \dots \oplus x_n a_n$
- Suppose we have an oracle (subroutine) that when you ask  $x$ , it gives you  $f(x)$ .
- How many times do we need to call the oracle to determine  $a$ ?

# Bernstein-Vazirani

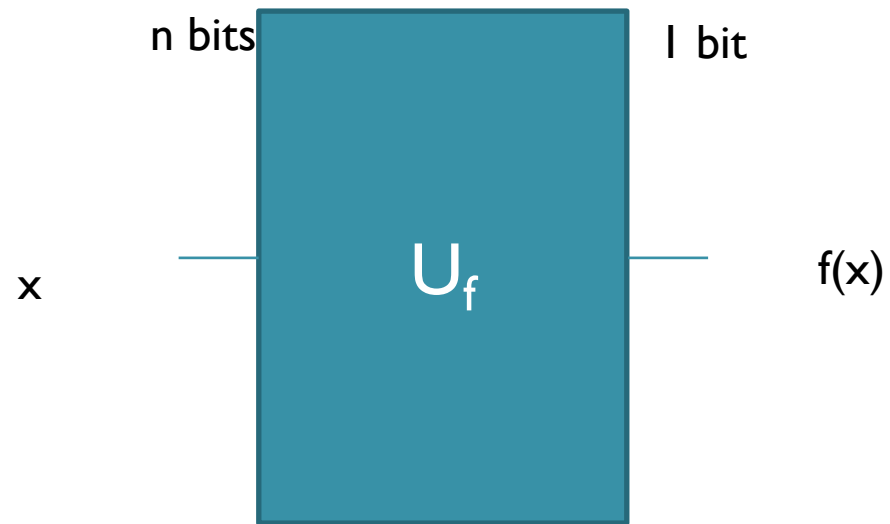
- Classically?
- We could learn the  $n$  bits of  $a$  by applying  $f$  to the  $n$  values  $x = 2^m, 0 \leq m < n$ .
- $n$  invocations of the subroutine!
- With quantum we can ask **once**.

# The setup last week

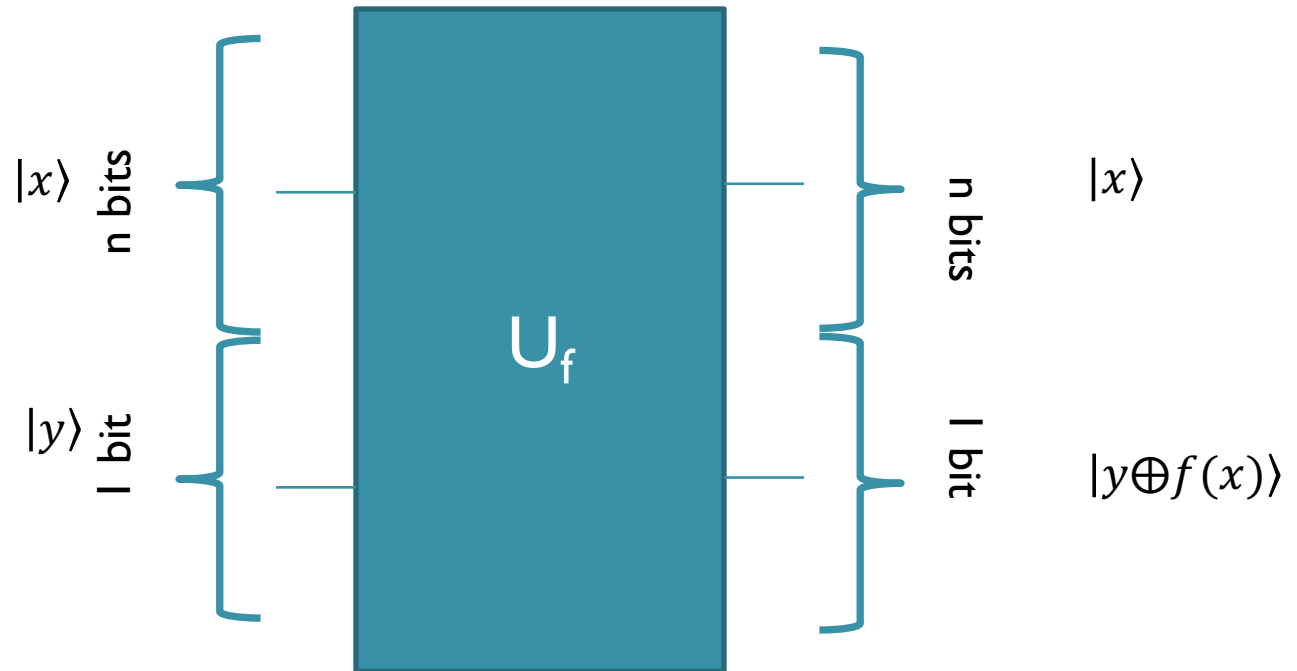


- Both input and output registers contain one bit.
- Functions  $f$  that take one bit to one bit
- Two different ways to think about such  $f$ .

# The setup now

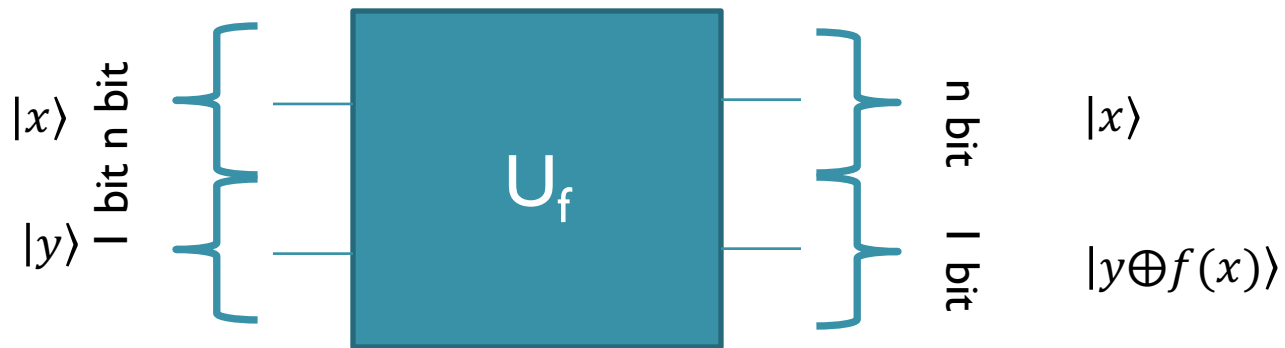


# The setup, in quantum



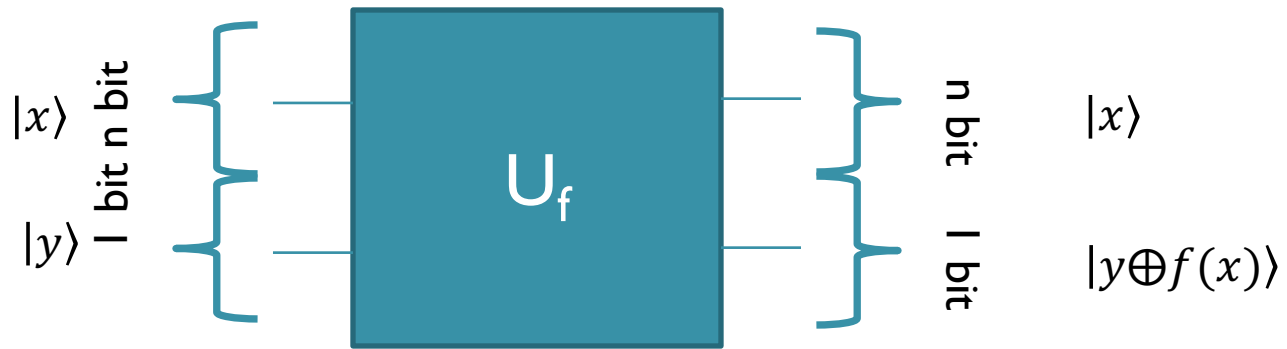
$U_f$  applied to the computational basis state  $|x\rangle_n |y\rangle_1$  flips the value  $y$  of the output register iff  $f(x)=1$ .

# The Trick



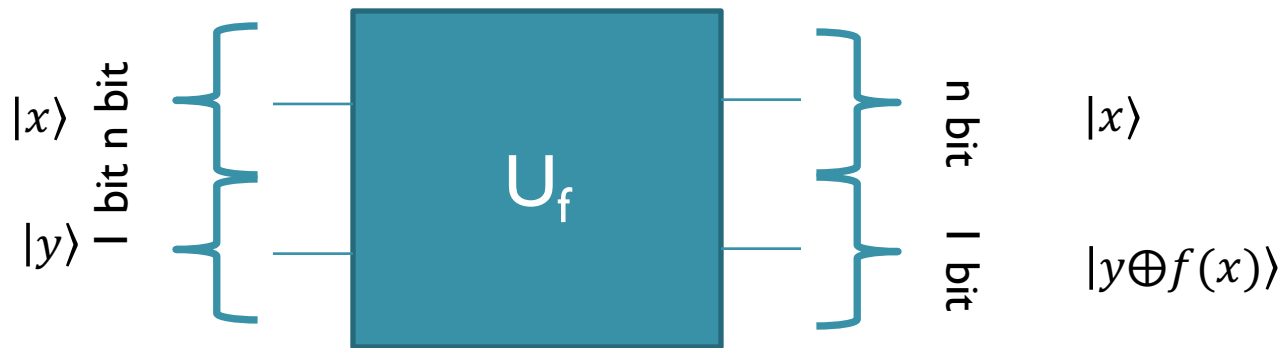
- $U_f |x\rangle_n \otimes |0\rangle = |x\rangle_n \otimes |0 \oplus f(x)\rangle =$   
 $-|x\rangle_n \otimes |0\rangle, \text{ if } f(x) = 0$   
 $-|x\rangle_n \otimes |1\rangle, \text{ if } f(x) = 1$
- $U_f |x\rangle_n \otimes |1\rangle = |x\rangle_n \otimes |1 \oplus f(x)\rangle =$   
 $-|x\rangle_n \otimes |1\rangle, \text{ if } f(x) = 0$   
 $-|x\rangle_n \otimes |0\rangle, \text{ if } f(x) = 1$

# The Trick



- $U_f |x\rangle_n \otimes (|0\rangle + |1\rangle) = ??$
- $U_f |x\rangle_n \otimes (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) = ??$

# The Trick



- $$U_f |x\rangle_n \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) = (-1)^{f(x)} |x\rangle_n \otimes \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$$

So taking the  $1$ -qubit output register to be  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$ , we convert a bit flip to a sign change!



# The Second Trick

- Recall:  $H^{\otimes n} |0\rangle_n = \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n} |x\rangle_n$

# Hadamard

- What is  $H|x\rangle_1$ , where  $x$  is either in the  $|0\rangle$  or  $|1\rangle$  state?

A)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + |1\rangle)$

B)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$

C)  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(|0\rangle + (-1)^x|1\rangle)$

D)  $|x\rangle$

# The Second Trick

- Recall:  $H^{\otimes n} |0\rangle_n = \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n} |x\rangle_n$
- By previous slide,  
$$H|x\rangle_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{y=0,1} (-1)^{xy} |y\rangle$$
- Generalizing to n qubits:

# The Second Trick

$$H|x\rangle_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle + (-1)^x |1\rangle) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{y=0,1} (-1)^{xy} |y\rangle$$

- Generalizing to 2 qubits:

$$H^{\otimes 2} |x\rangle_2 =$$

# Hadamard, II

- What is  $H^{\otimes n} |x\rangle_n$ , where  $x$  is in one of the  $2^n$  basis states of  $n$  qubits?

A)  $\frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n} |x\rangle_n$

B)  $-\frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n} |x\rangle_n$

C)  $\frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{y=0}^{2^n-1} (-1)^{y \cdot x} |y\rangle_n$

D)  $|x\rangle_n$

# The Second Trick

- Recall:  $H^{\otimes n} |0\rangle_n = \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n} |x\rangle_n$
- By previous slide,

$$H|x\rangle_1 = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \sum_{y=0,1} (-1)^{xy} |y\rangle$$

- Generalizing to n qubits:

$$H^{\otimes n} |x\rangle_n = \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{y=0}^{2^n-1} (-1)^{y \cdot x} |y\rangle_n$$

Because (-1) is raised to the power  $\sum x_i y_i$ , all that matters is its value mod 2.

# Putting everything together (the algorithm)

1. Prepare the input and output registers:
2. Apply the function oracle:

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$$(H^{\otimes n} \otimes H) |0\rangle_n |1\rangle_1 = \left( \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n} |x\rangle_n \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$$

2. Apply the function oracle:

$$\begin{aligned} U_f (H^{\otimes n} \otimes H) |0\rangle_n |1\rangle_1 &= \\ U_f \left( \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n} |x\rangle_n \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) &= \\ \left( \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n} (-1)^{f(x)} |x\rangle_n \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) & \end{aligned}$$



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3. Apply Hadamard to the input register:

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# Putting everything together (the algorithm)

1. Prepare the input and output registers:

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$$\begin{aligned} (H^{\otimes n} \otimes 1) U_f (H^{\otimes n} \otimes H) |0\rangle_n |1\rangle_1 &= \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n, 0 < y \leq 2^n} (-1)^{f(x) + x \cdot y} |y\rangle_n \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n, 0 < y \leq 2^n} (-1)^{a \cdot x + x \cdot y} |y\rangle_n \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) \\ &= \left( \frac{1}{2^{n/2}} \sum_{0 < x \leq 2^n, 0 < y \leq 2^n} (-1)^{x \cdot (y+a)} |y\rangle_n \right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) \end{aligned}$$

# Math stuff

Let  $a = (a_1, a_2)$ ,  $y = (y_1, y_2)$  be arbitrary 2-bit strings such that  $y$  is not the same as  $x$ . Let  $f(x) = a \cdot x$ . What is  $\sum_{x_1, x_2=0}^1 (-1)^{(a+y) \cdot x}$ ?

A) 0

B) 4

C) -4

D)  $a \cdot y$

## More Math stuff

$$\sum_{x=0}^{2^n-1} (-1)^{(a+y)\cdot x} = \prod_{j=1}^n \sum_{x_j=0}^1 (-1)^{(a_j+y_j)x_j}$$

If  $a$  and  $y$  are different, then the sum vanishes!!

Meaning, the final state of the algorithm is:

$$\sum_y \sum_x (-1)^{x\cdot(y+a)} |y\rangle_n \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle) =$$
$$|a\rangle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} (|0\rangle - |1\rangle)$$

Measure input register, learn  $a$  in one query!