

Given an integer array `nums`, return the **third distinct maximum** number in this array. If the third maximum does not exist, return the **maximum** number.

**Example 1:**

**Input:** `nums = [3,2,1]`

**Output:** 1

**Explanation:**

The first distinct maximum is 3.

The second distinct maximum is 2.

The third distinct maximum is 1.

**Example 2:**

**Input:** `nums = [1,2]`

**Output:** 2

**Explanation:**

The first distinct maximum is 2.

The second distinct maximum is 1.

The third distinct maximum does not exist, so the maximum (2) is returned instead.

**Example 3:**

**Input:** `nums = [2,2,3,1]`

**Output:** 1

**Explanation:**

The first distinct maximum is 3.

The second distinct maximum is 2 (both 2's are counted together since they have the same value).

The third distinct maximum is 1.

**Constraints:**

- $1 \leq \text{nums.length} \leq 10^4$
- $-2^{31} \leq \text{nums}[i] \leq 2^{31} - 1$

**Follow up:** Can you find an  $O(n)$  solution?