

# **stochastics and probability**

## **Lecture 10**

**Dr. Johannes Pahlke**

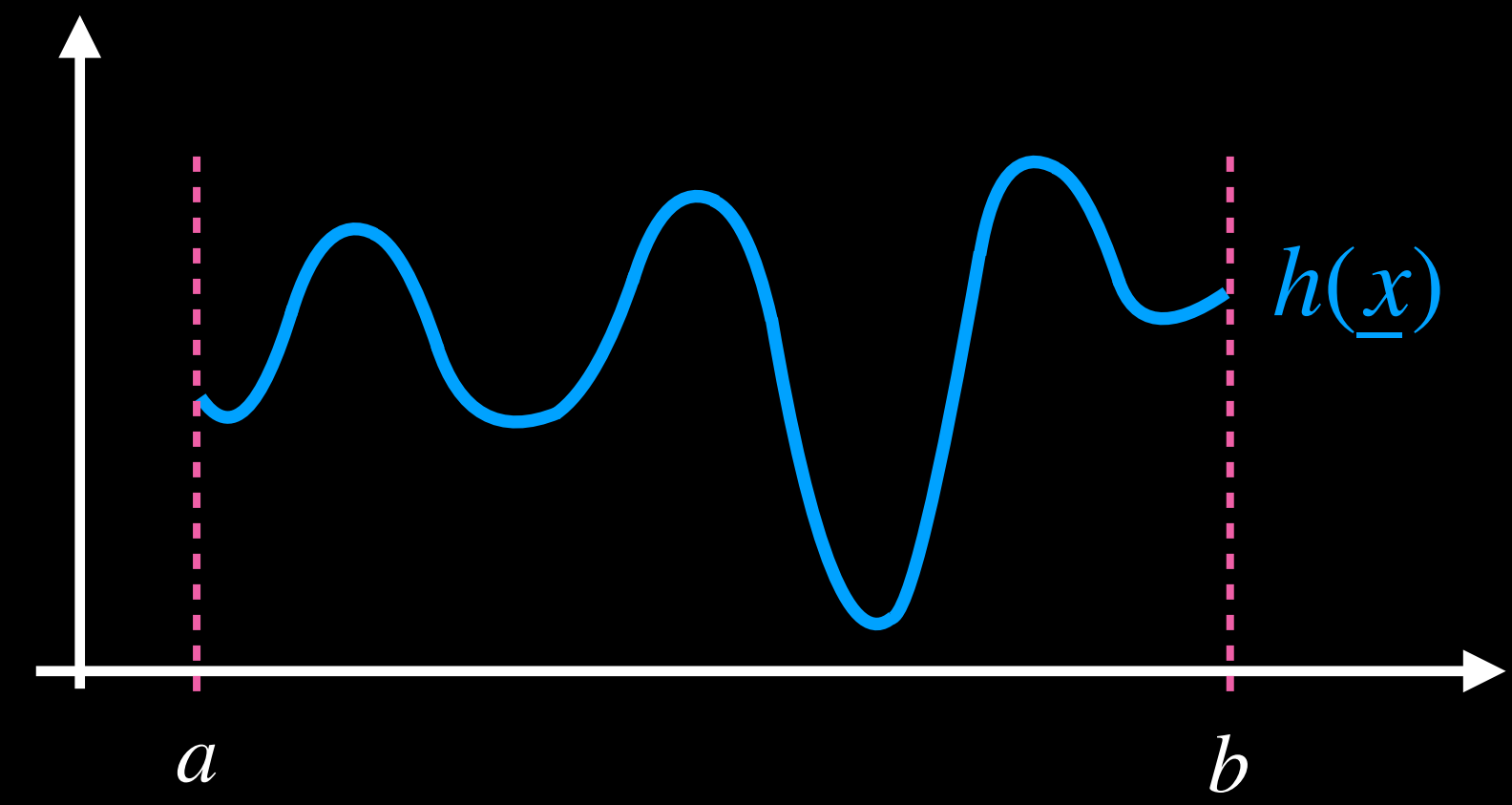
# optimization

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Goal:

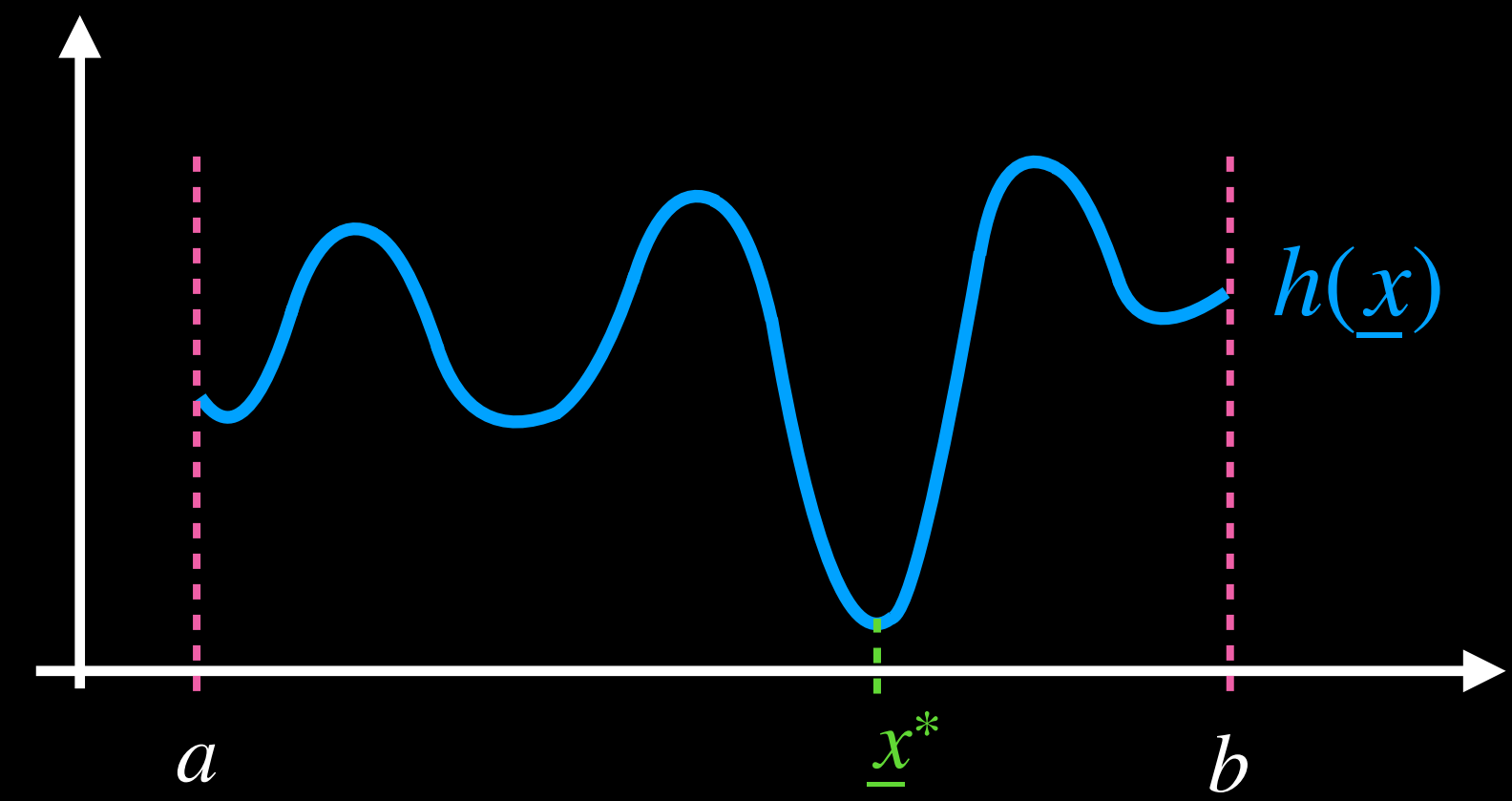
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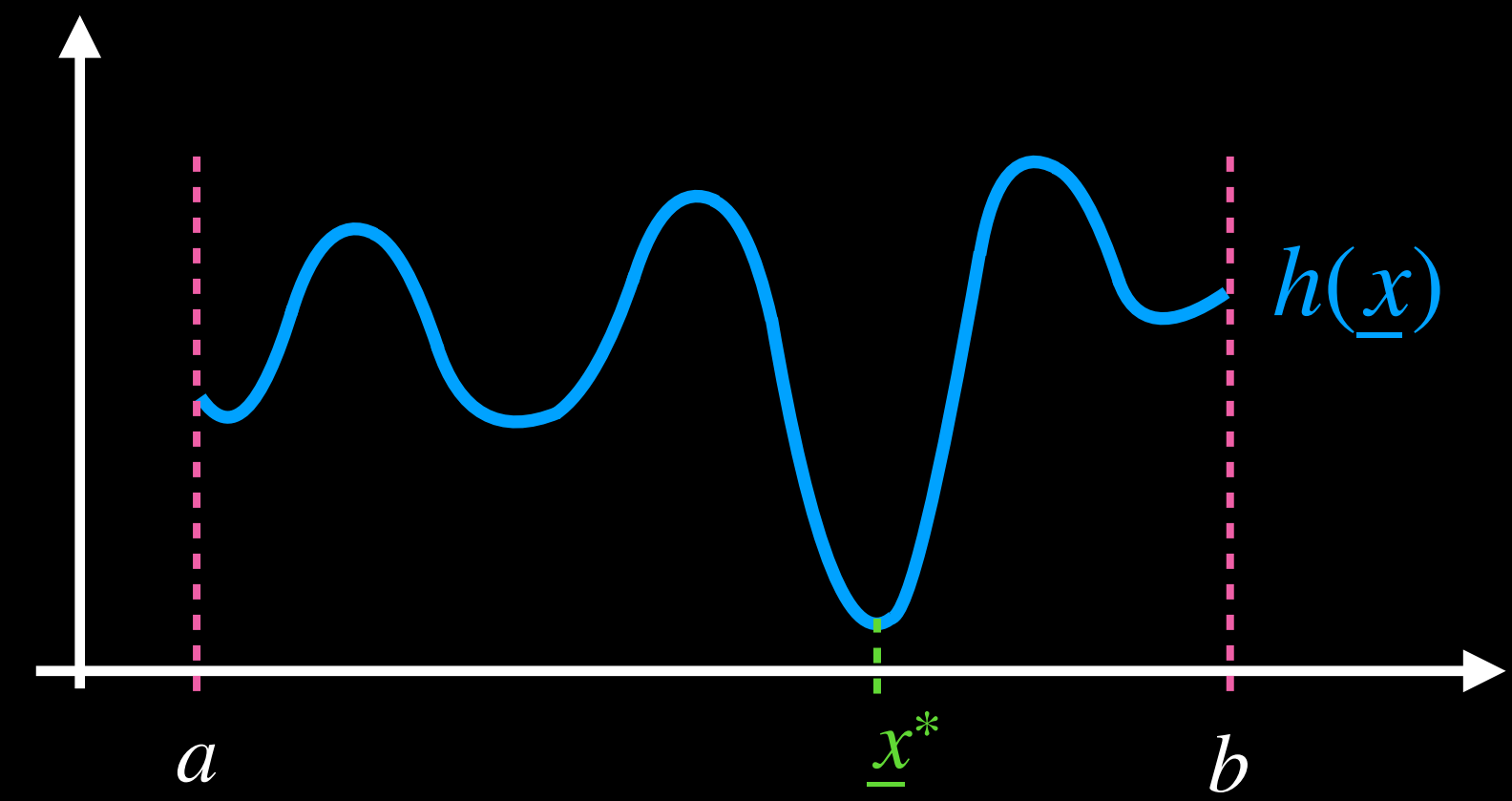
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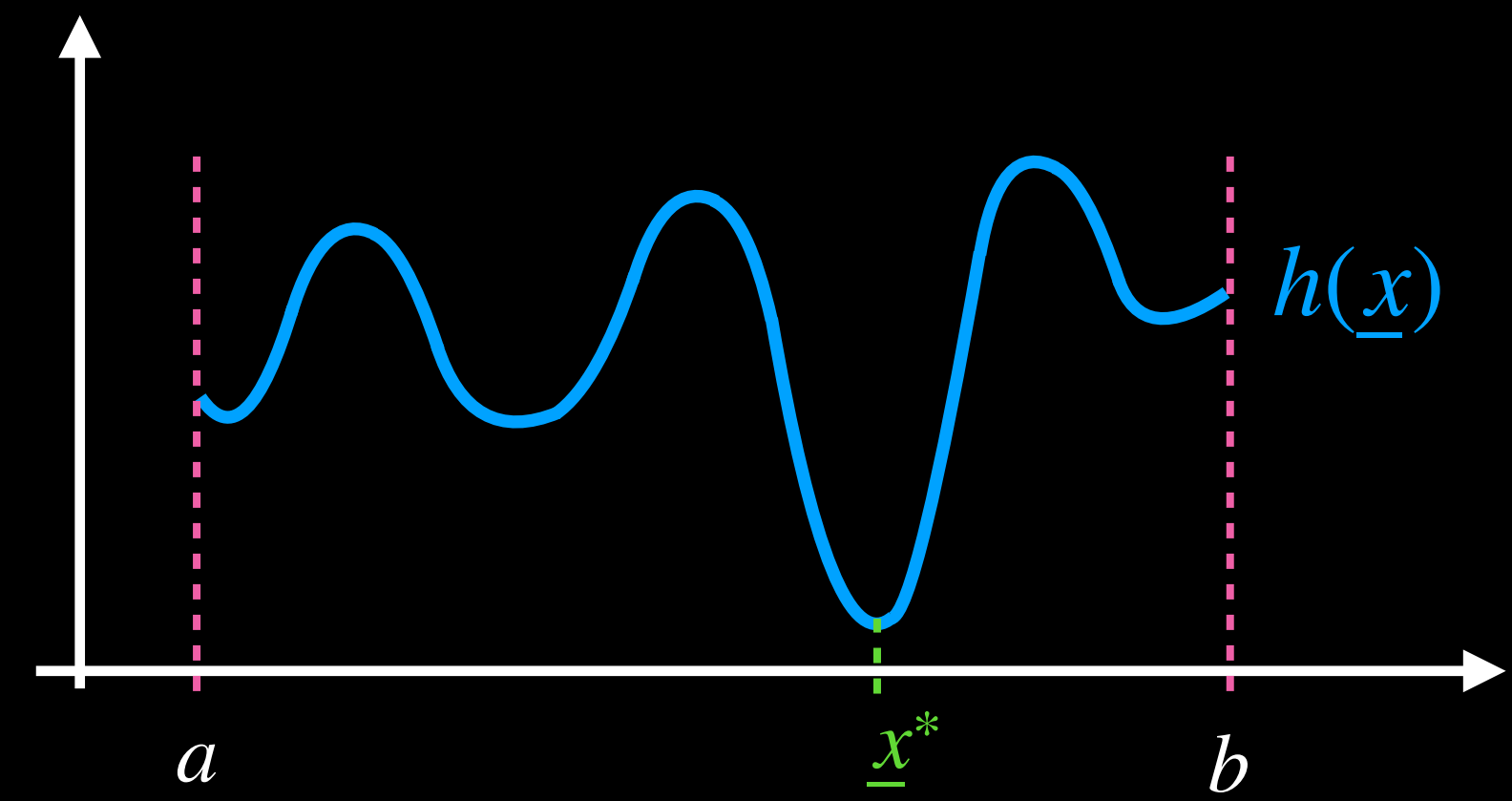
$$\underline{x}^* :=$$



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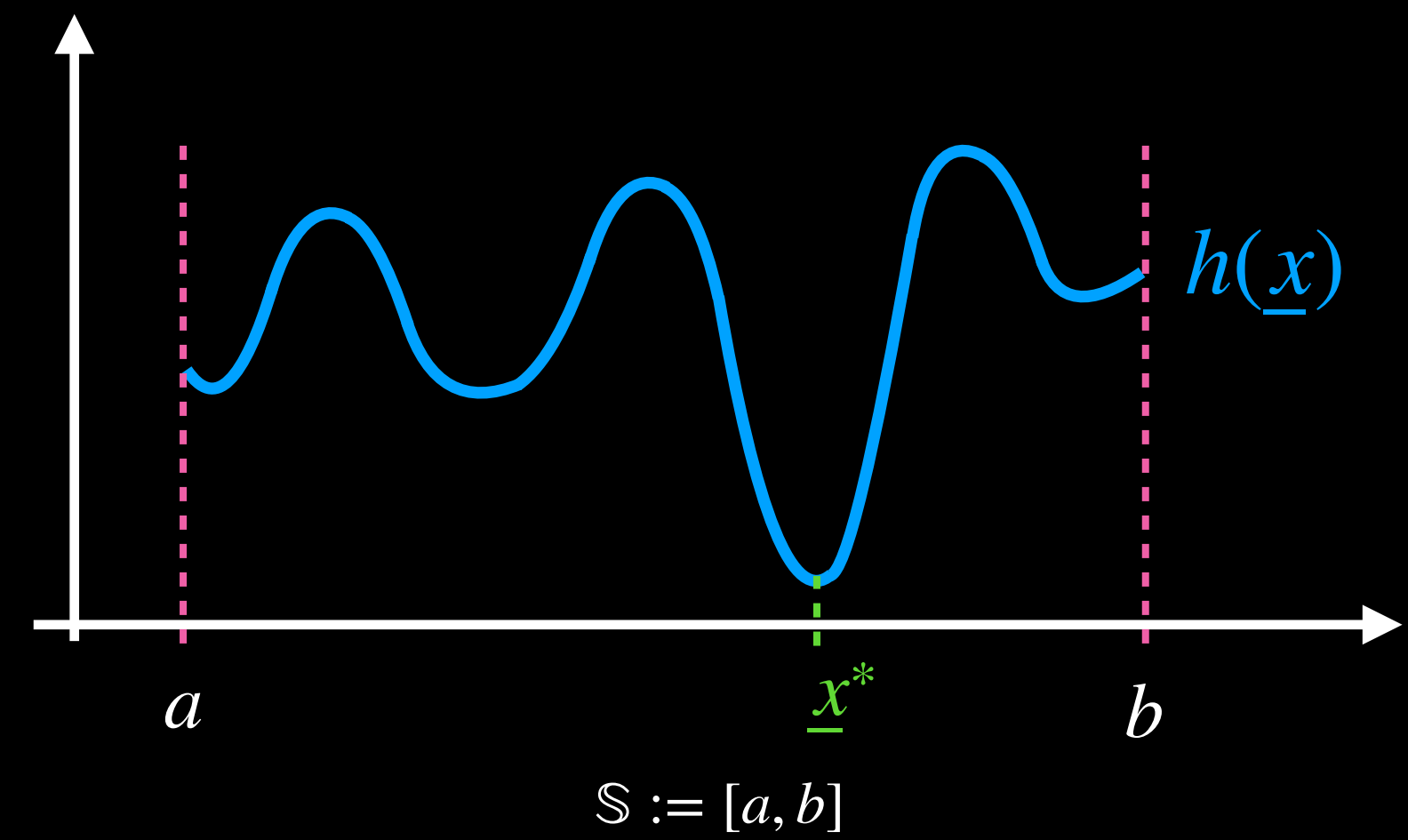
$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in S} (h(\underline{x}))$$



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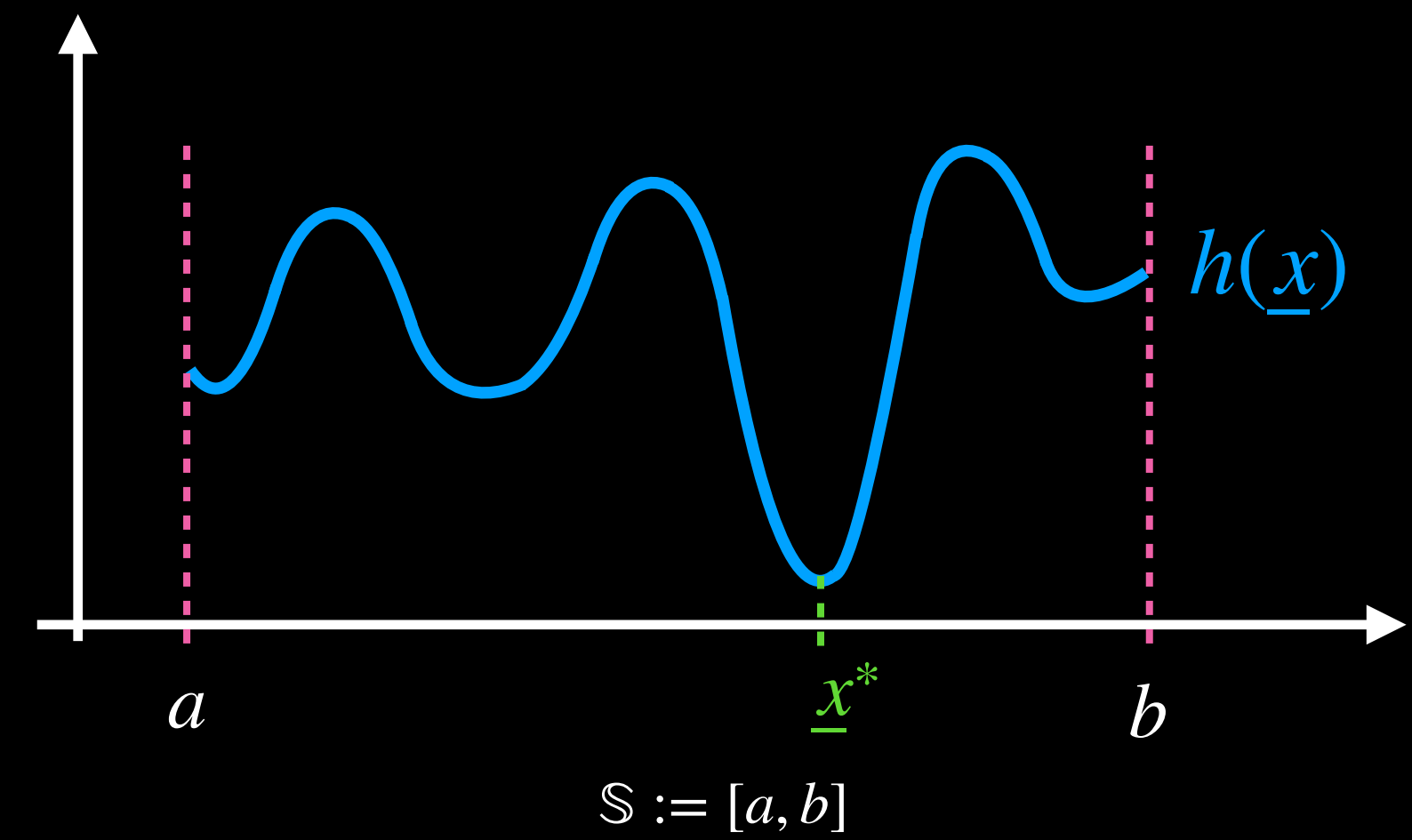




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Goal:

$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x})) \quad \left( \longleftrightarrow \quad h(\underline{x}^*) = \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x})) \right)$$

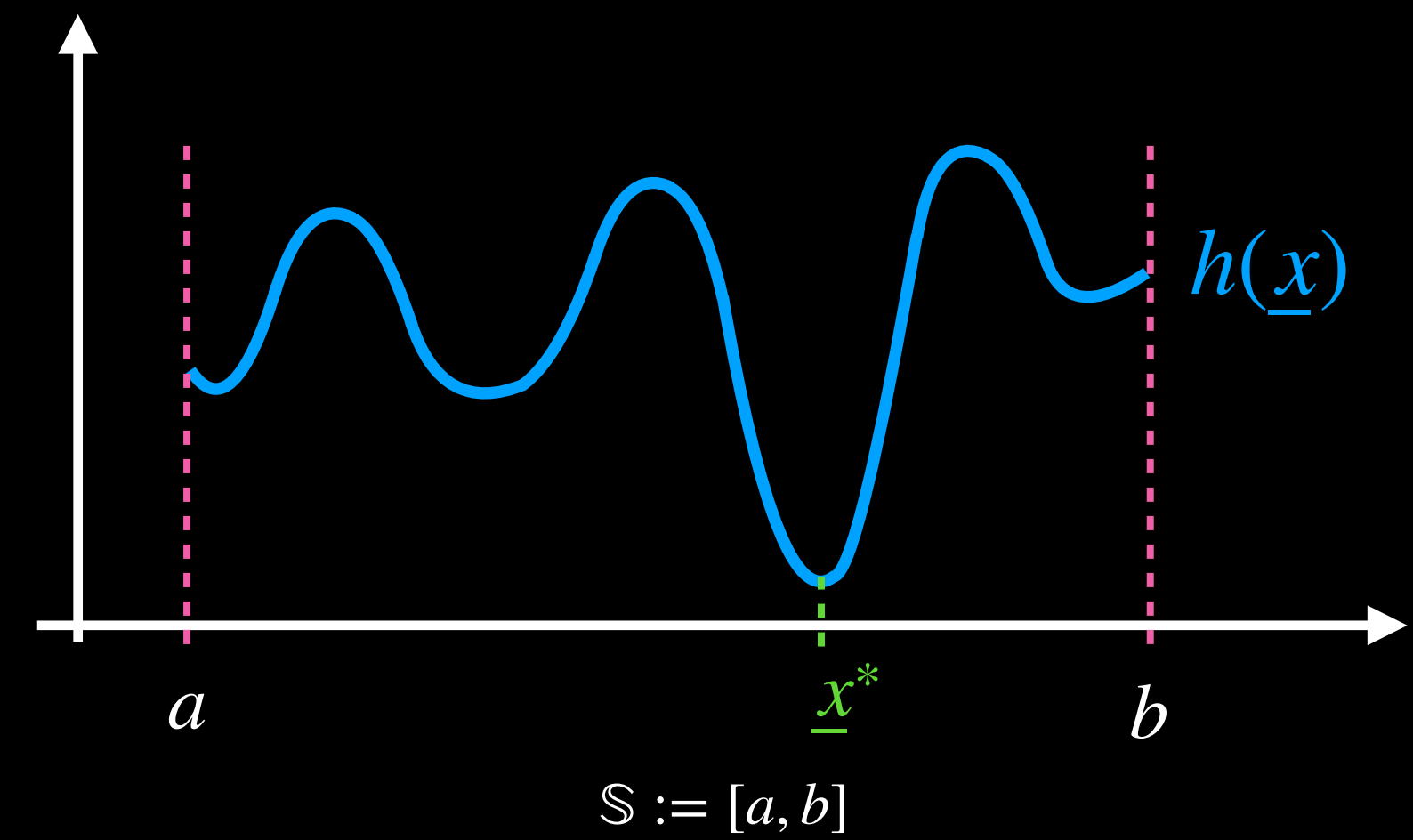


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Challenges:



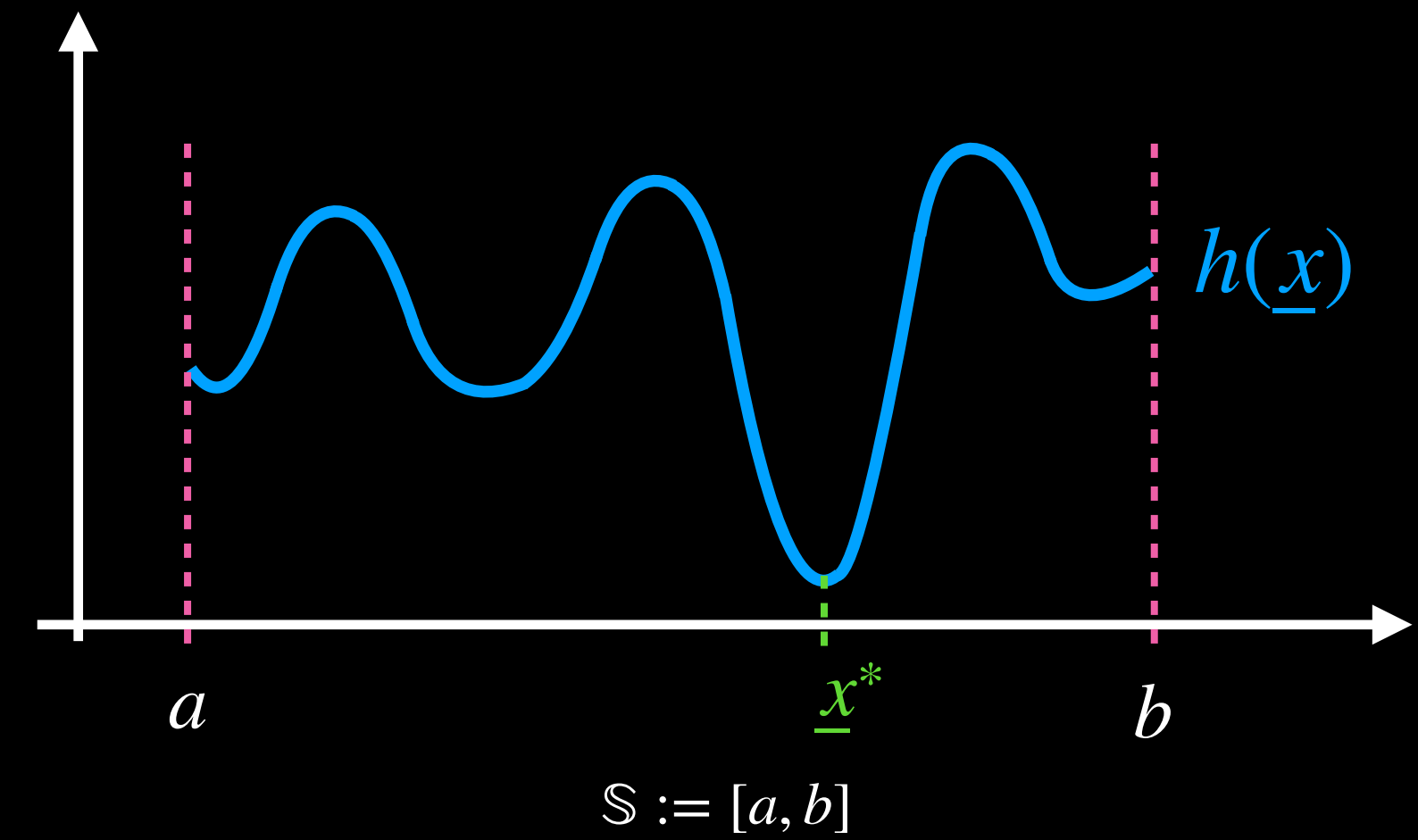
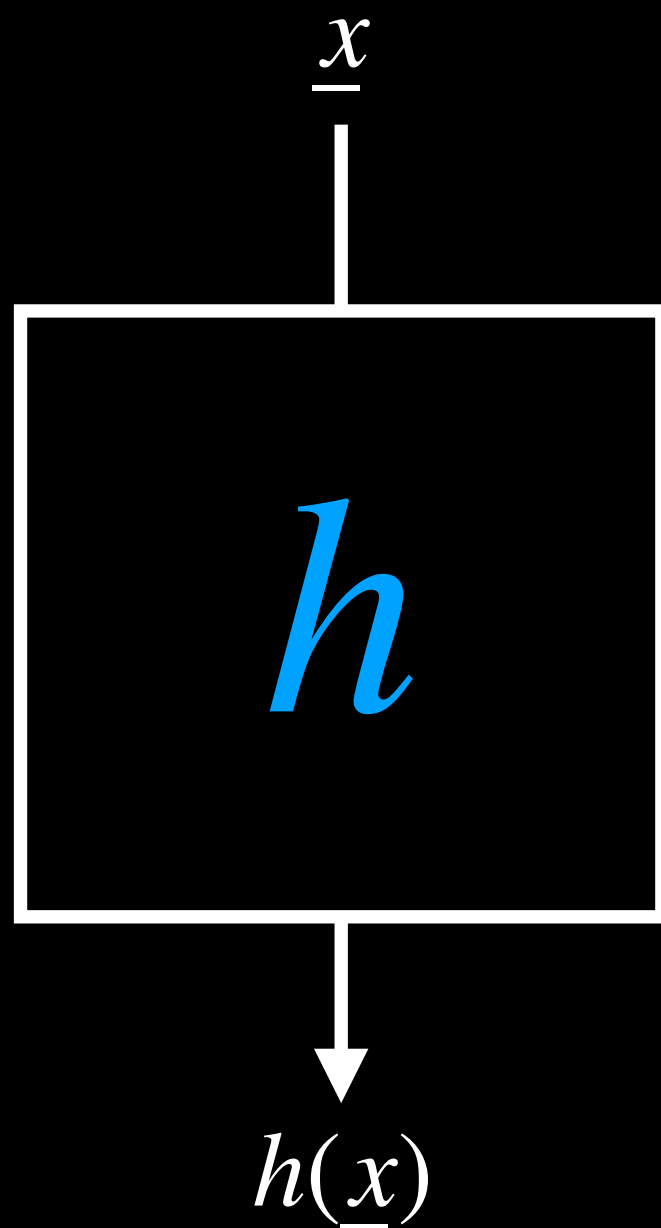
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Challenges:

black box



# optimization

Goal:

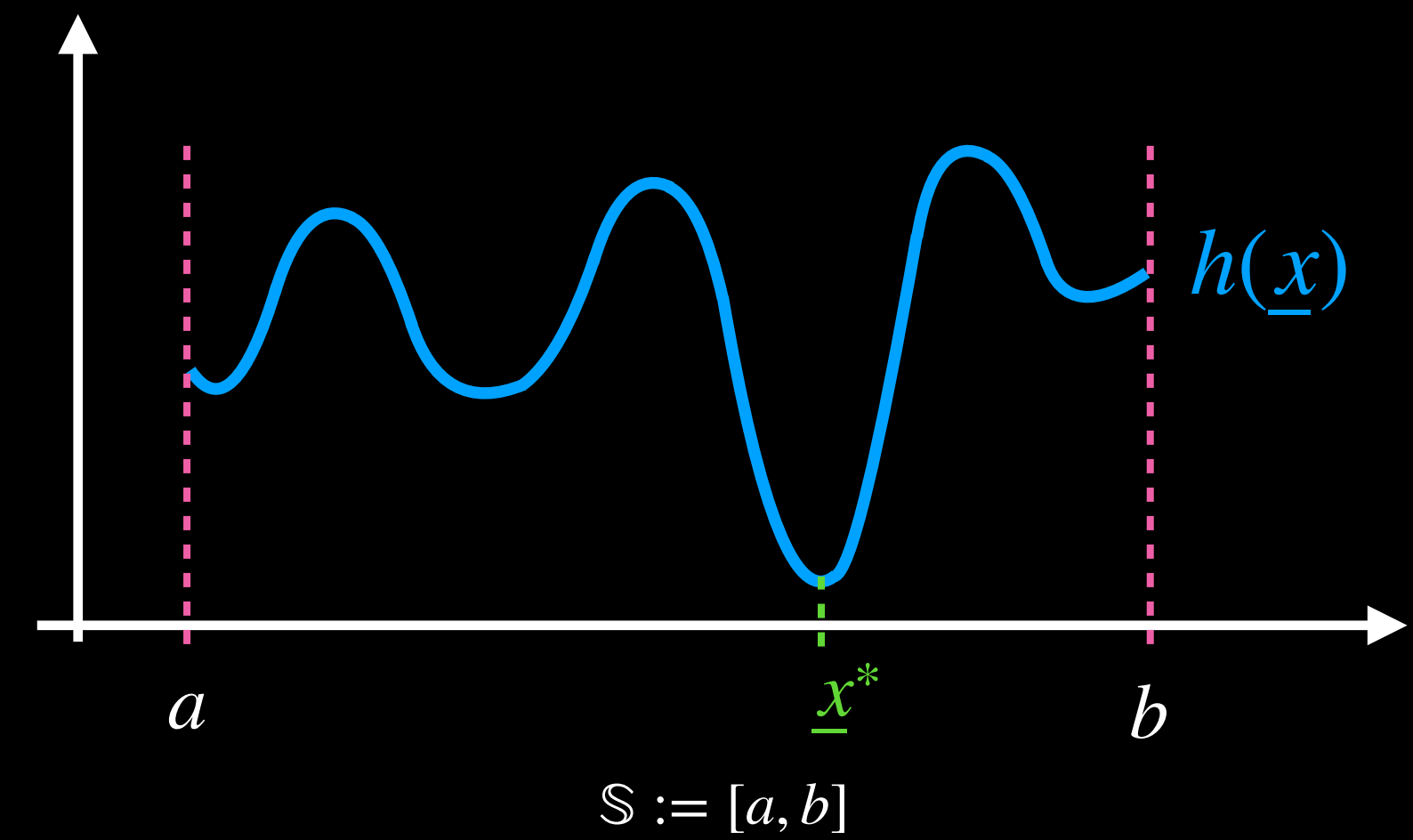
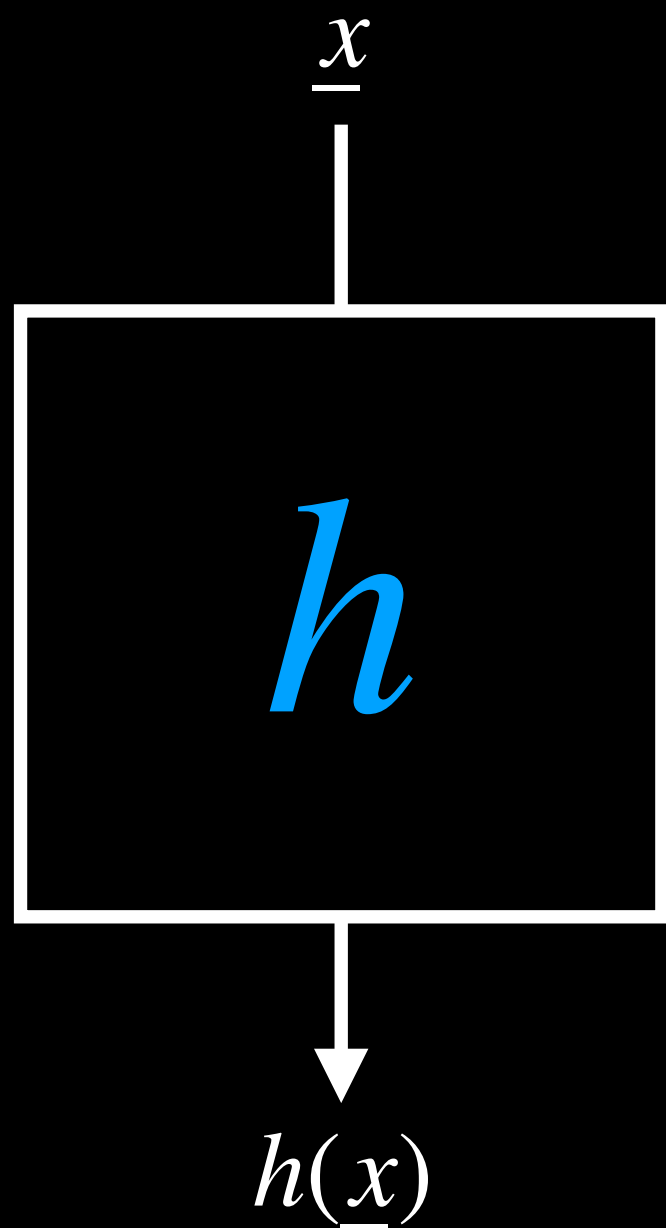
$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x})) \quad \left( \longleftrightarrow \quad h(\underline{x}^*) = \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x})) \right)$$

Challenges:

black box

high dimensional

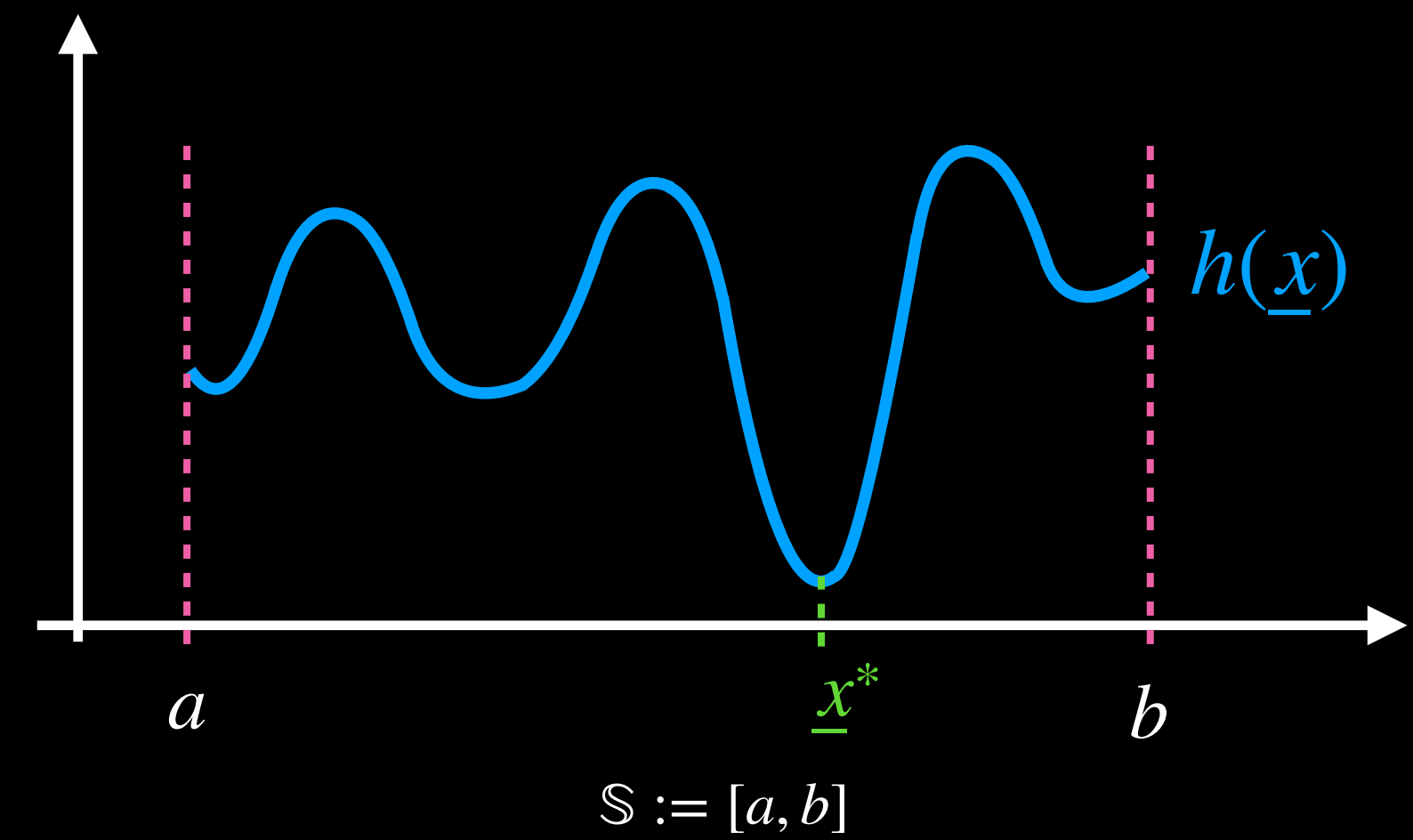
$$h(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{100})$$



# optimization

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$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x})) \quad \left( \longleftrightarrow \quad h(\underline{x}^*) = \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x})) \right)$$



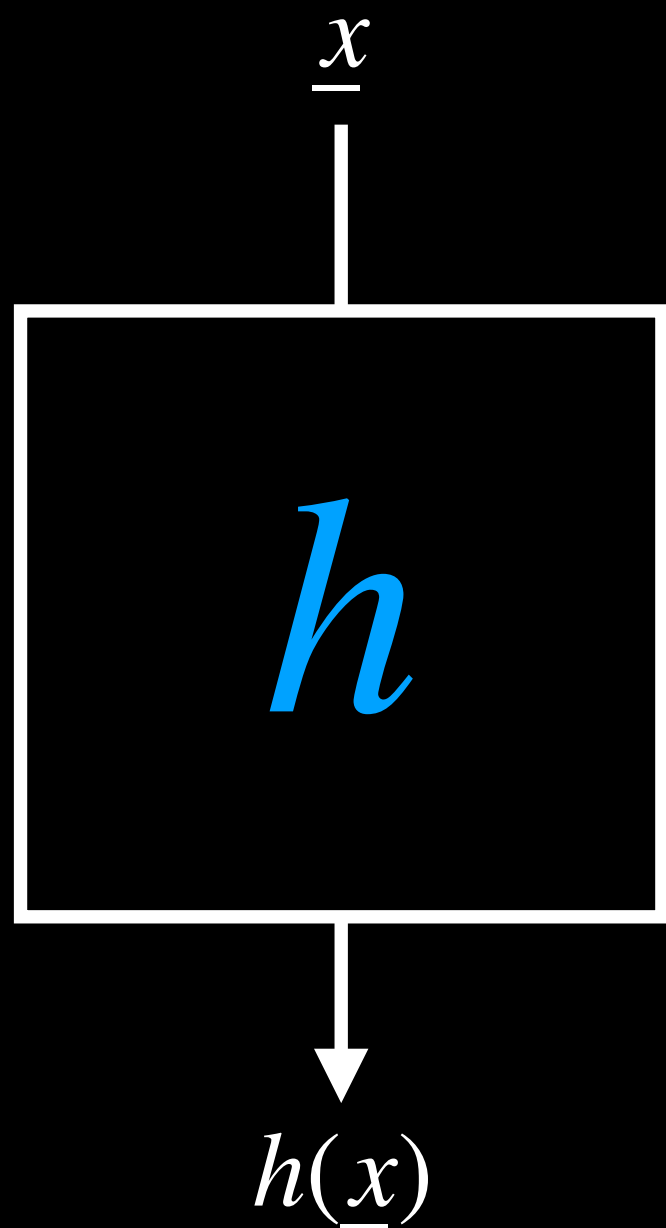
Challenges:

black box

high dimensional

$$h(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{100})$$

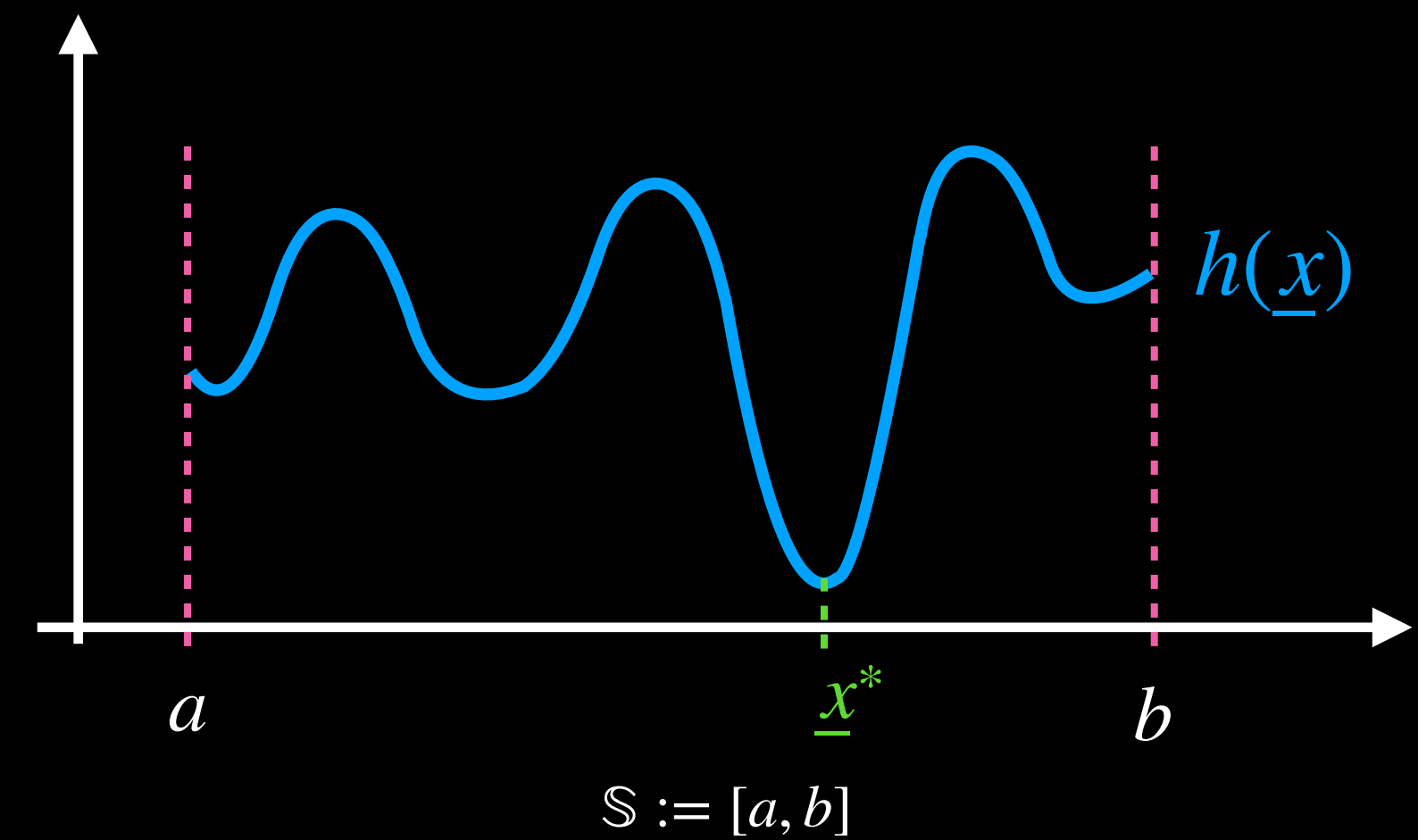
function evaluation are expensive



# optimization

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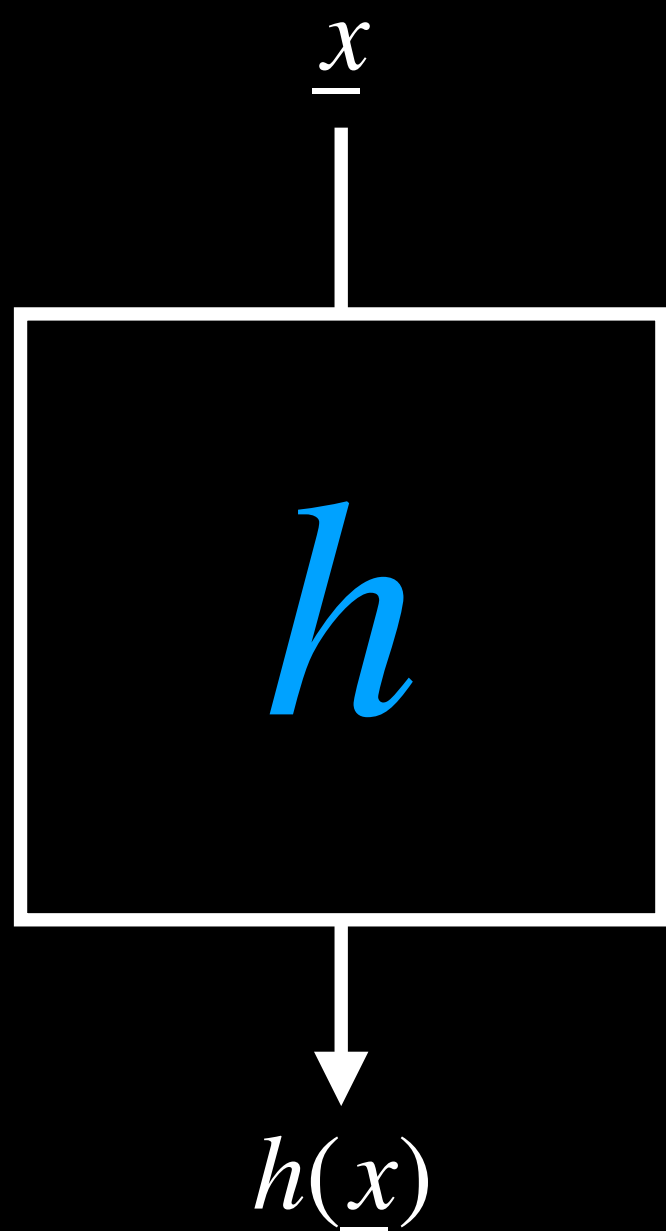
Challenges:

black box

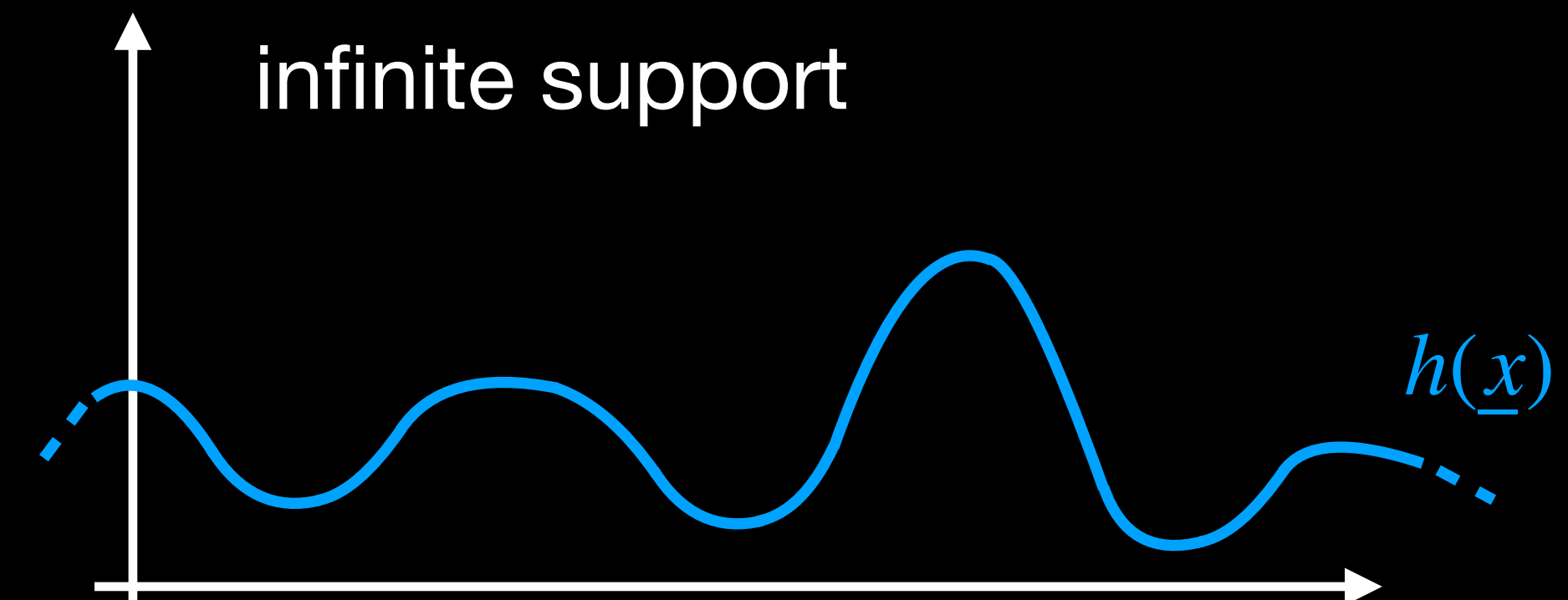
high dimensional

$$h(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{100})$$

function evaluation are expensive



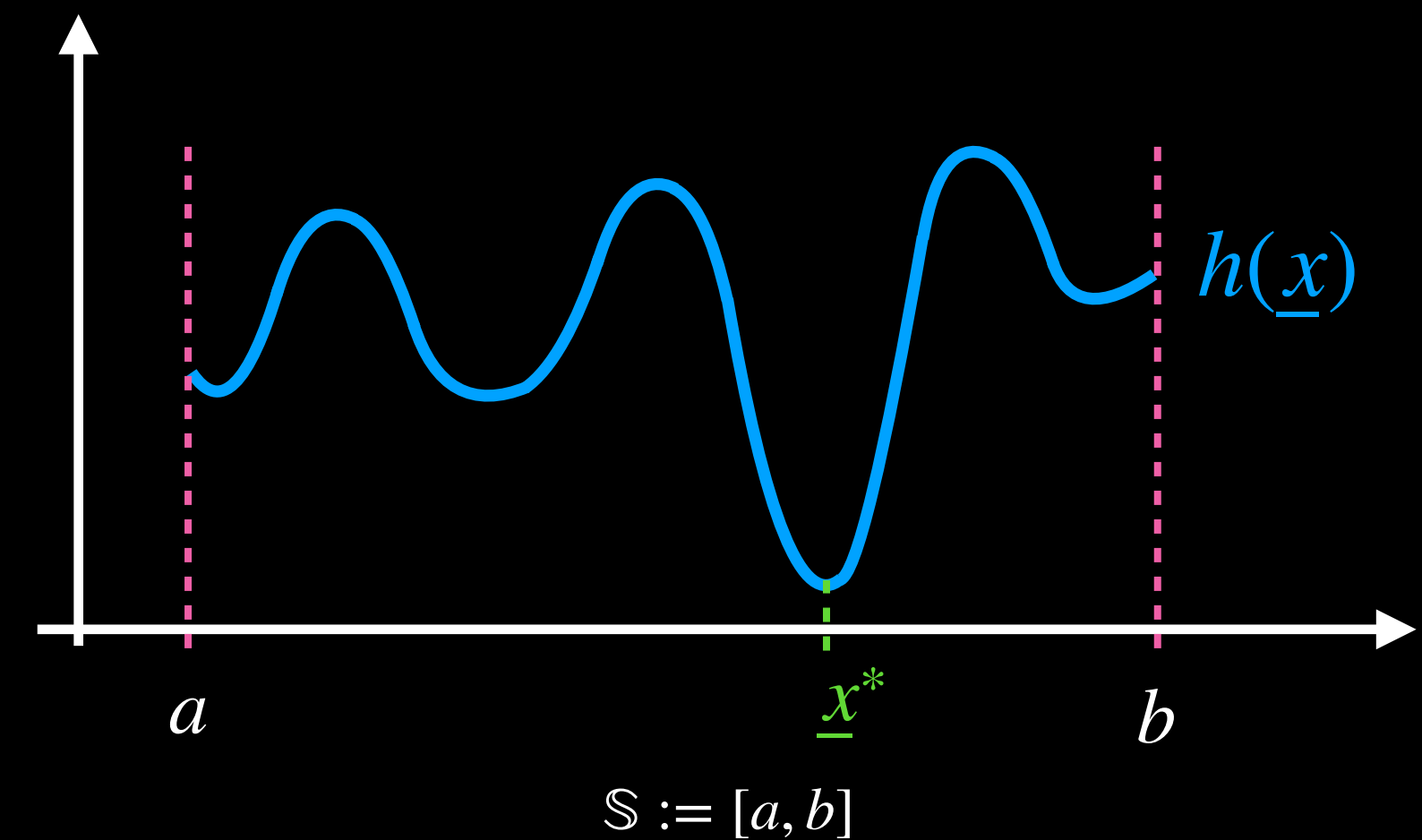
infinite support



# optimization

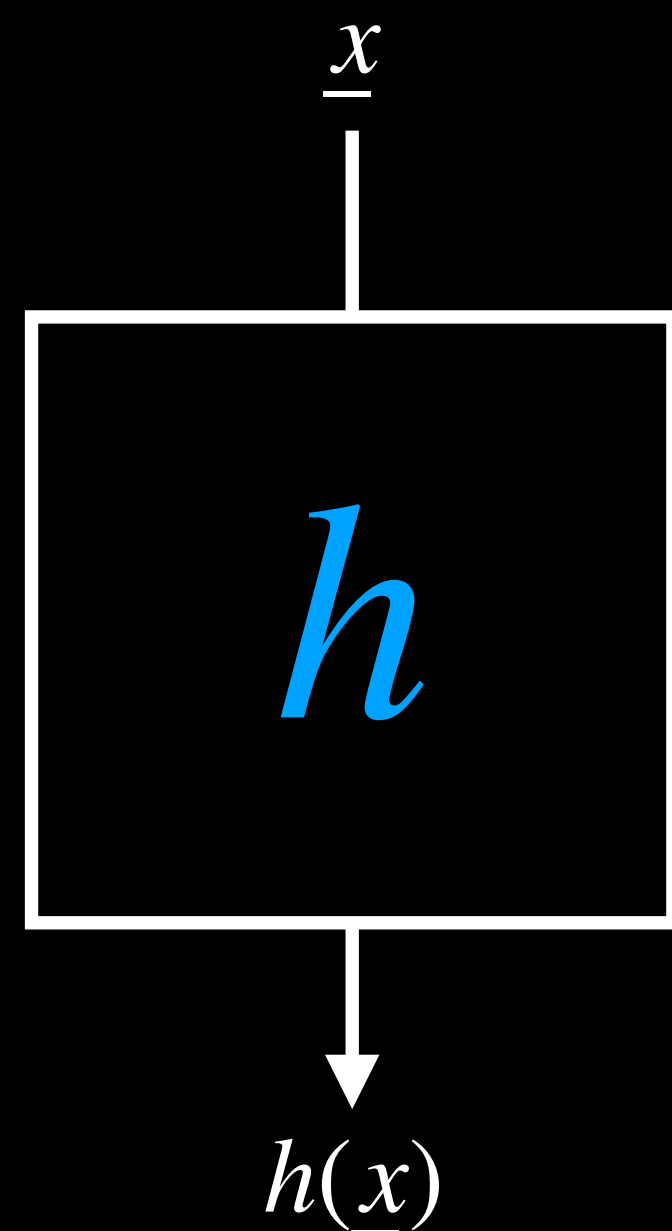
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Challenges:

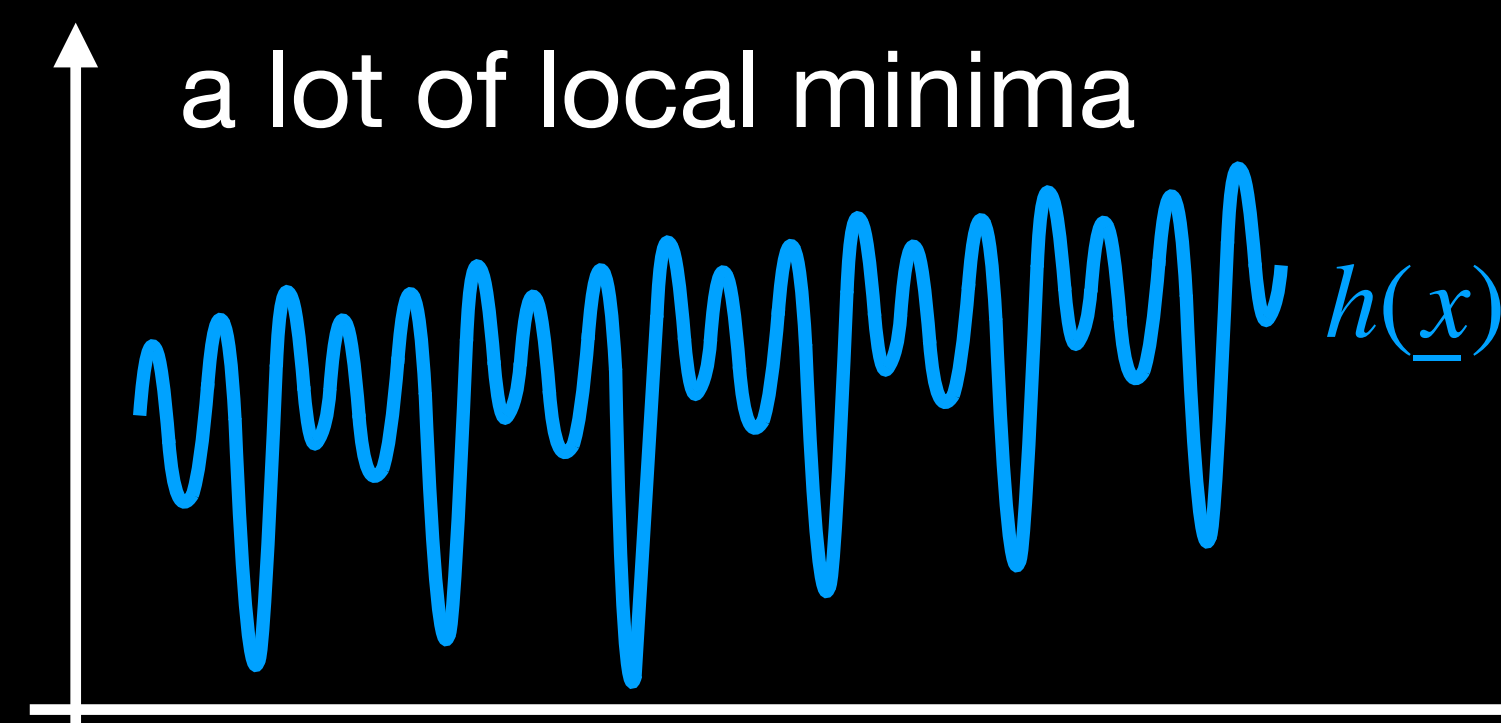
black box



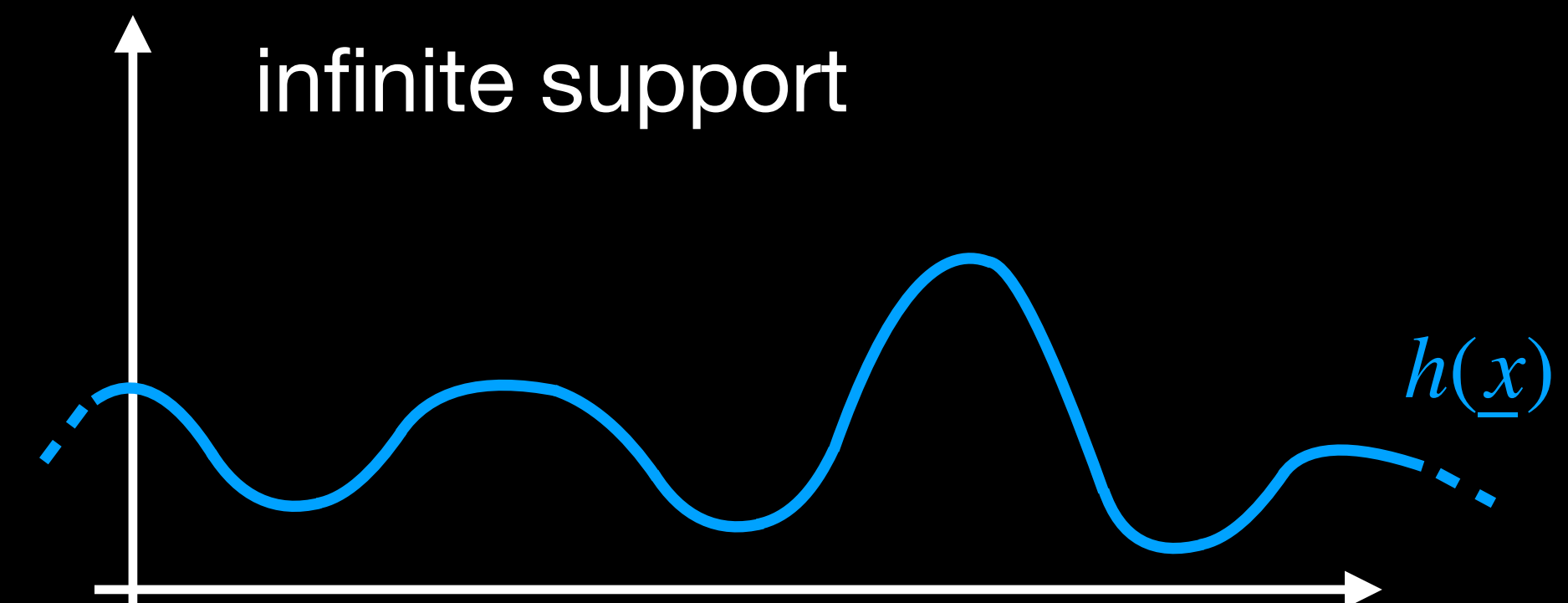
high dimensional

$$h(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{100})$$

function evaluation are expensive



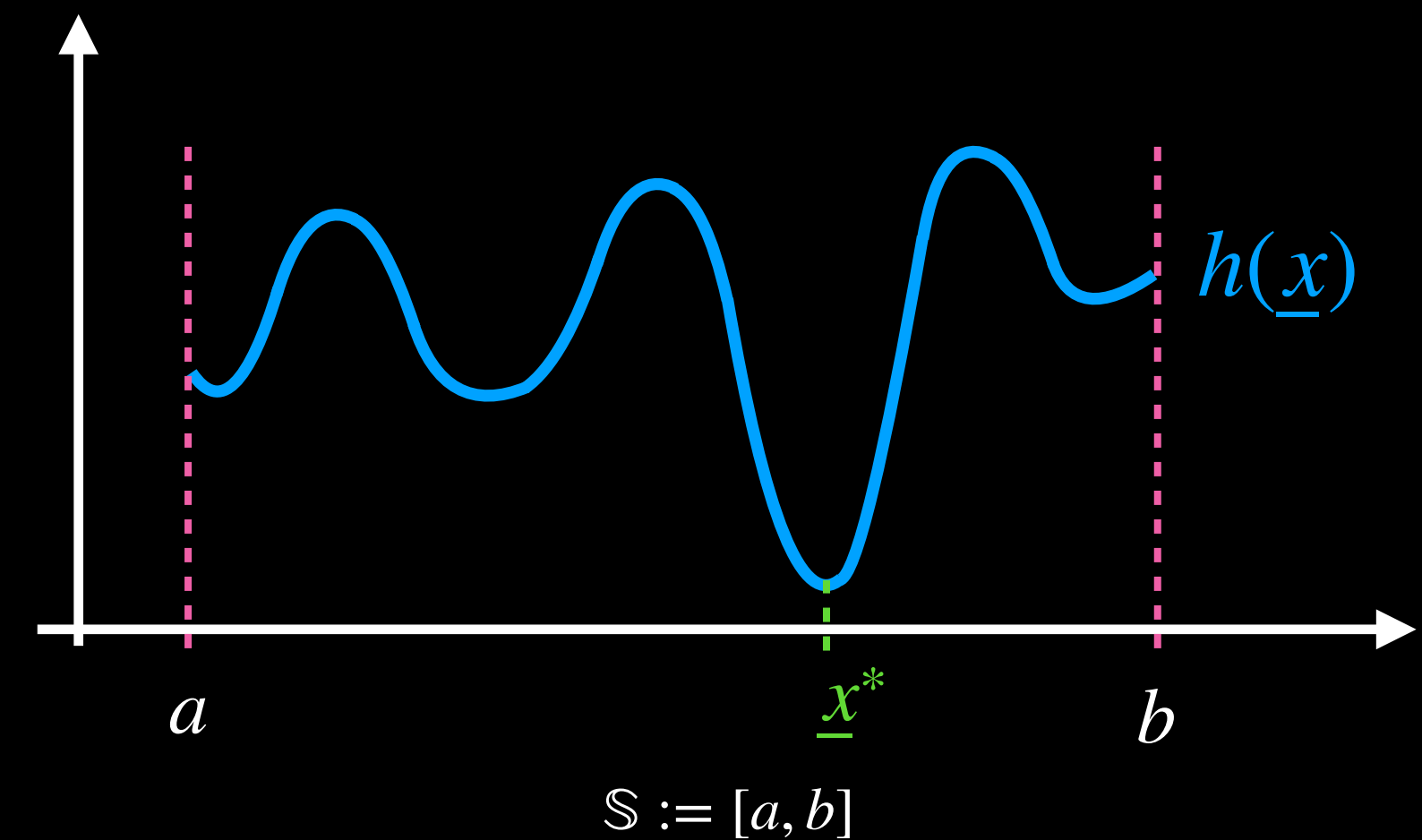
infinite support



# optimization

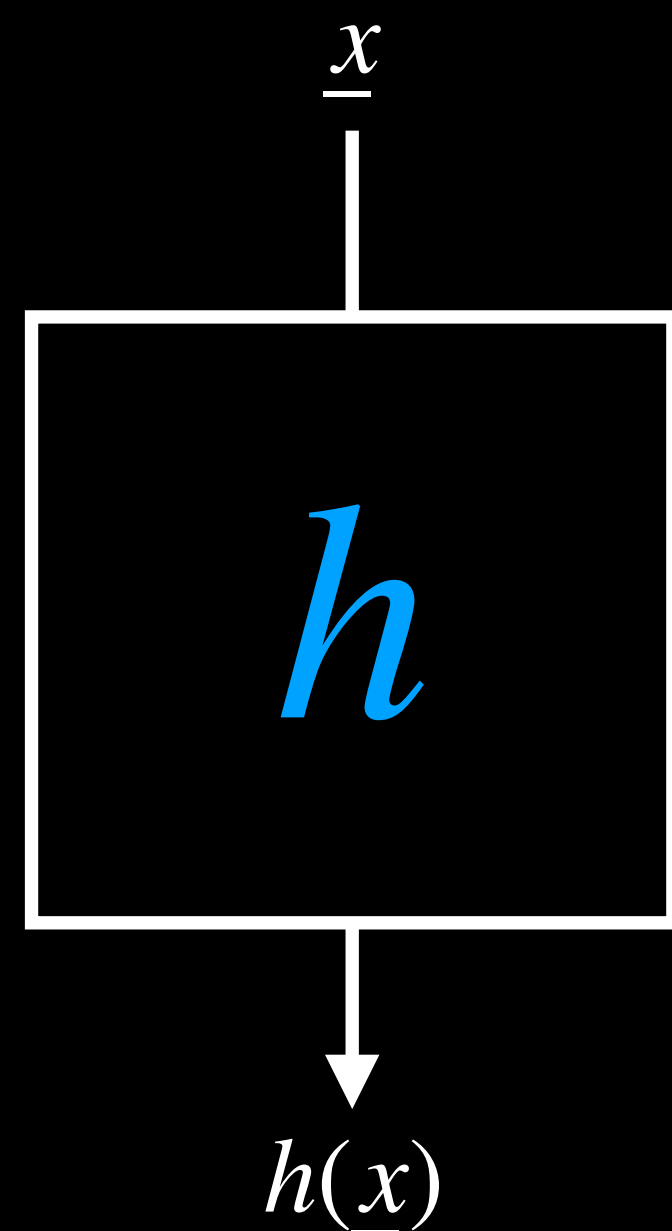
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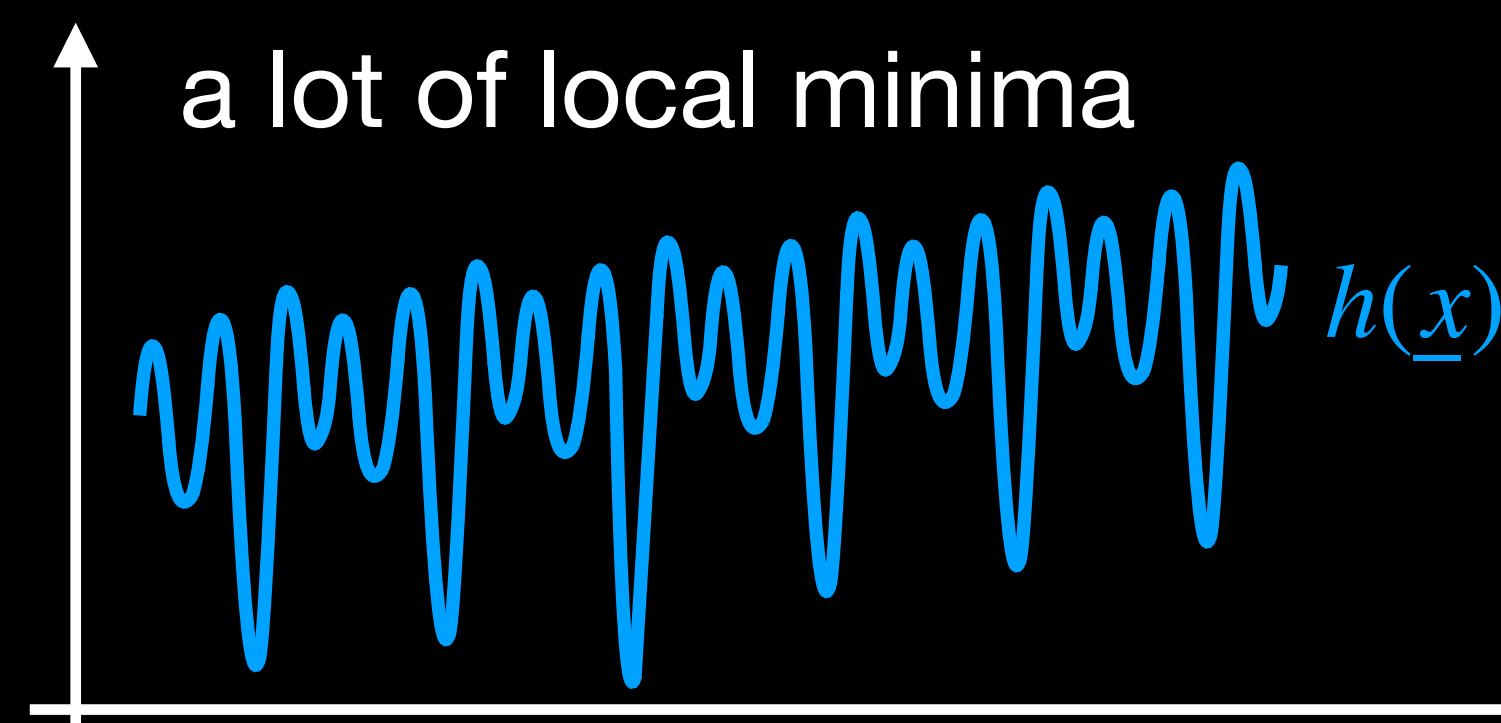
black box



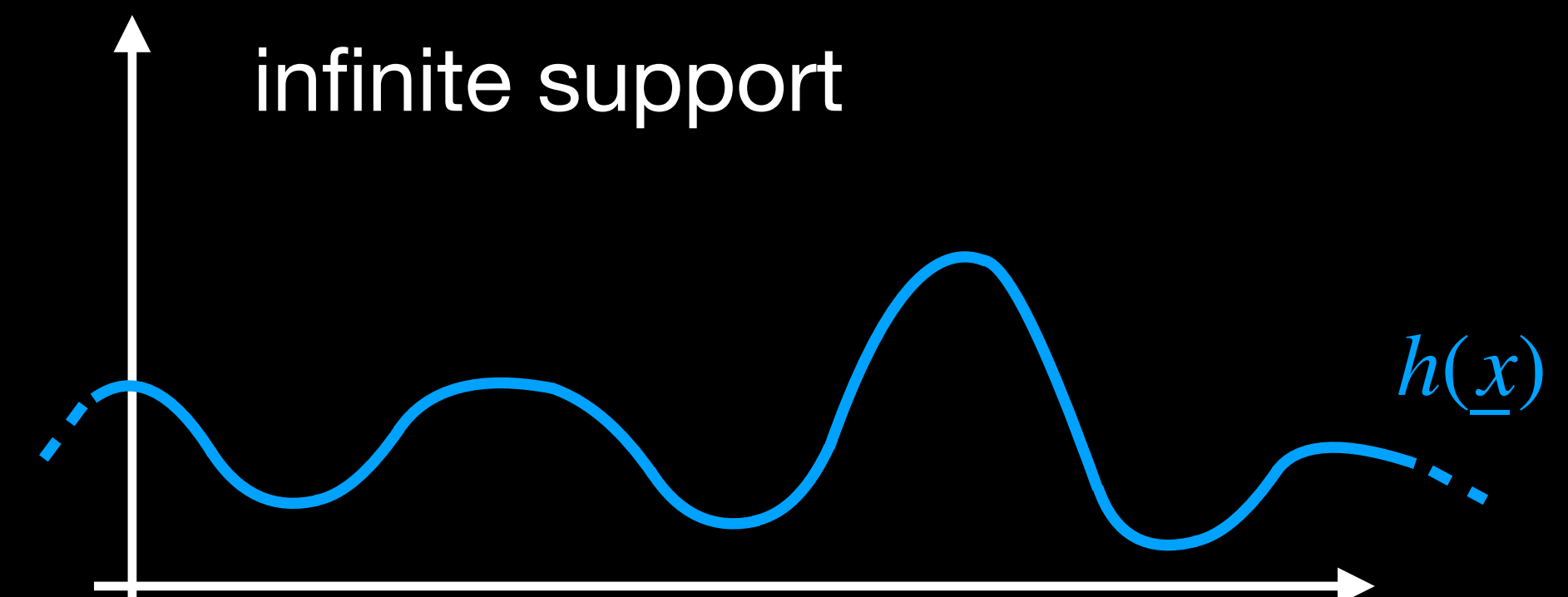
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$$h(x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots, x_{100})$$

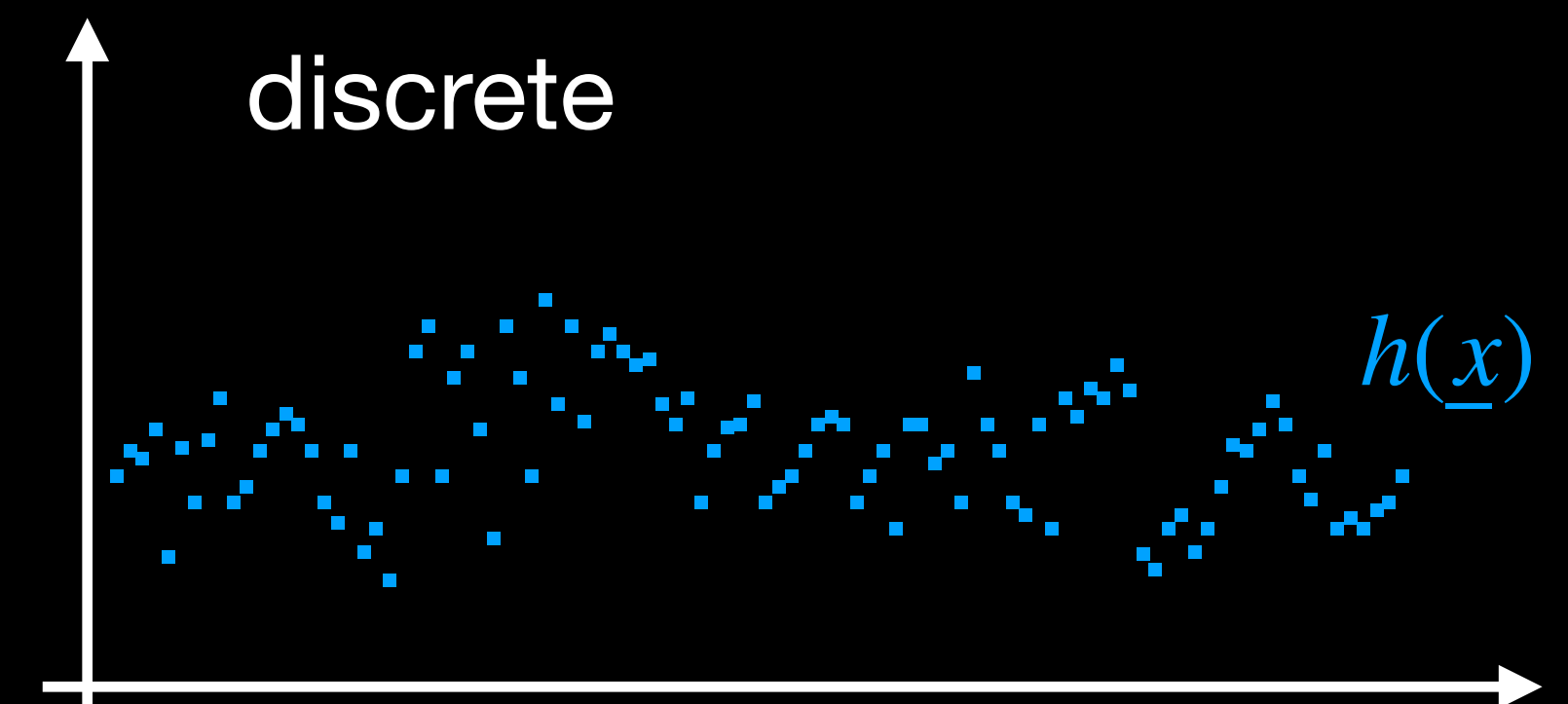
function evaluation are expensive



infinite support



discrete





# algorithm 1: stochastic exploration

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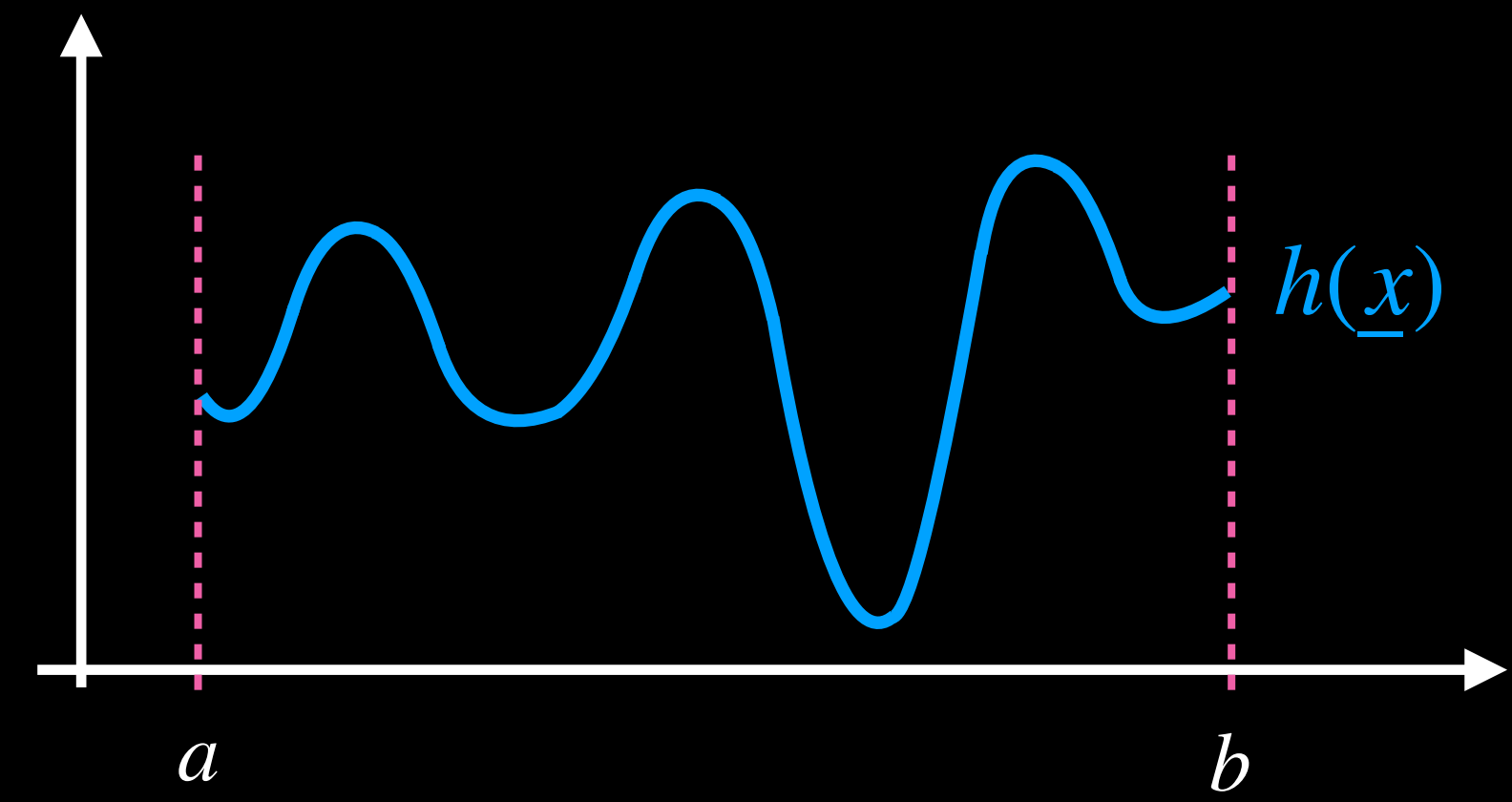
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$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x}))$$

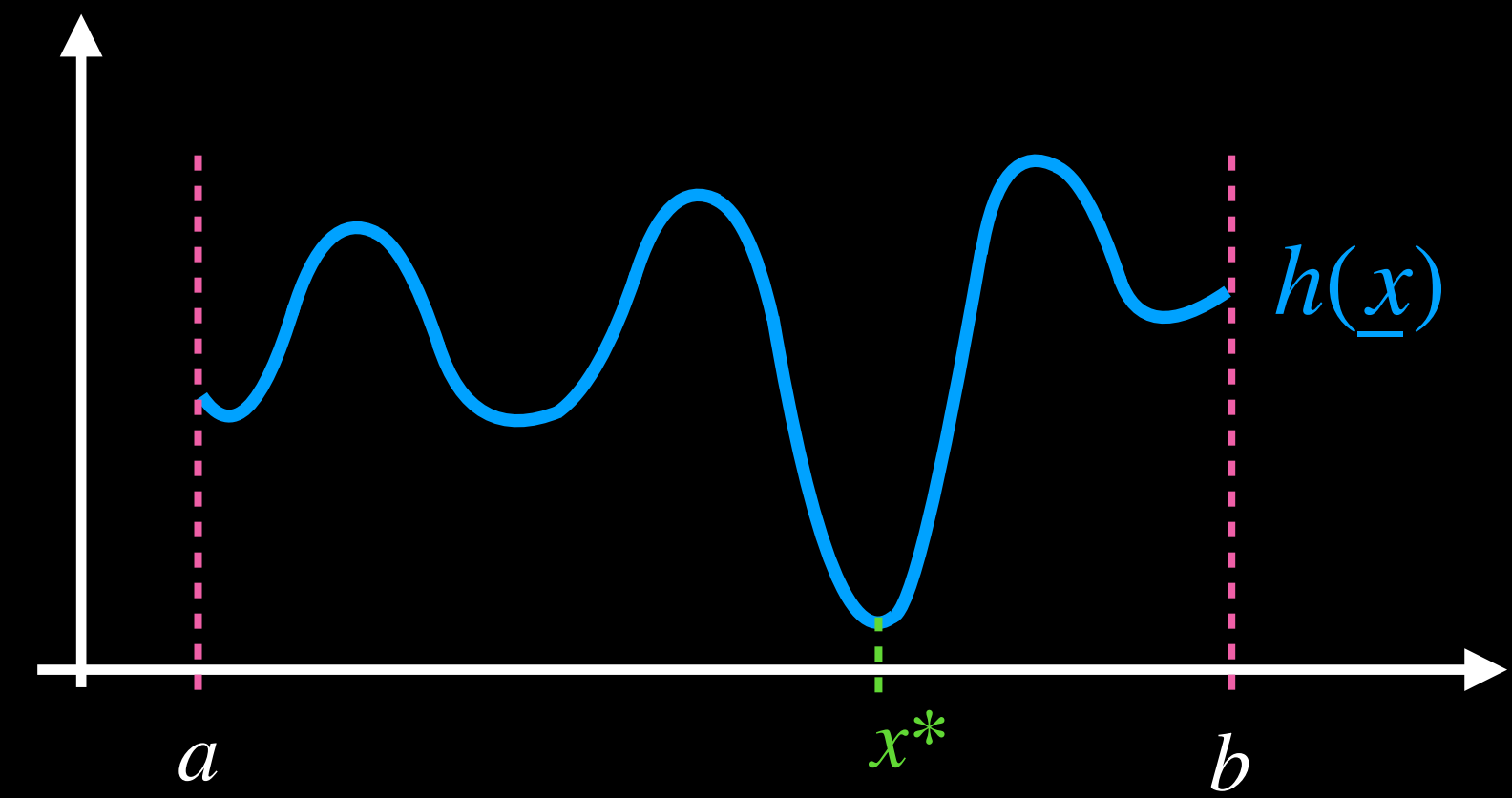
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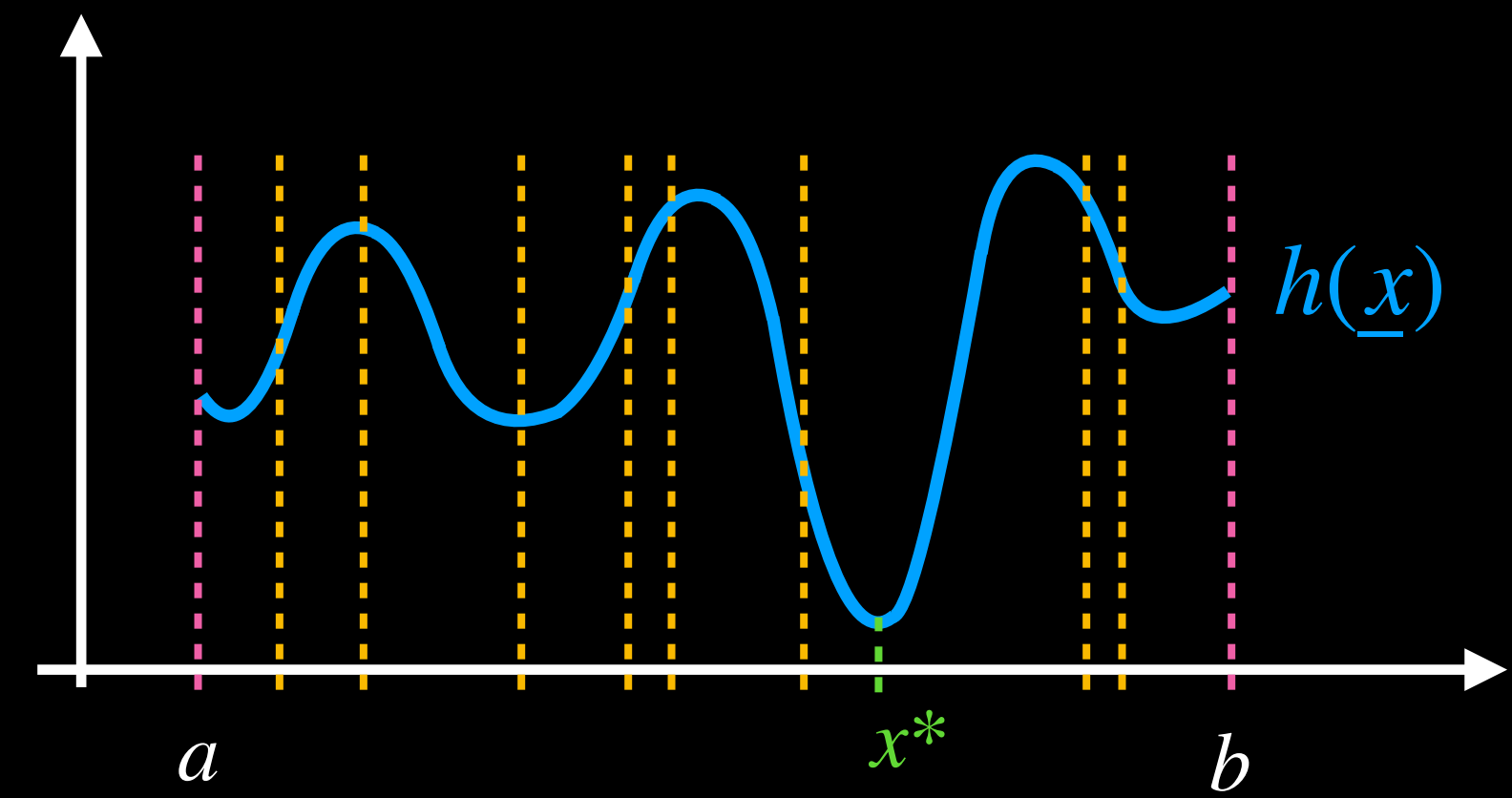
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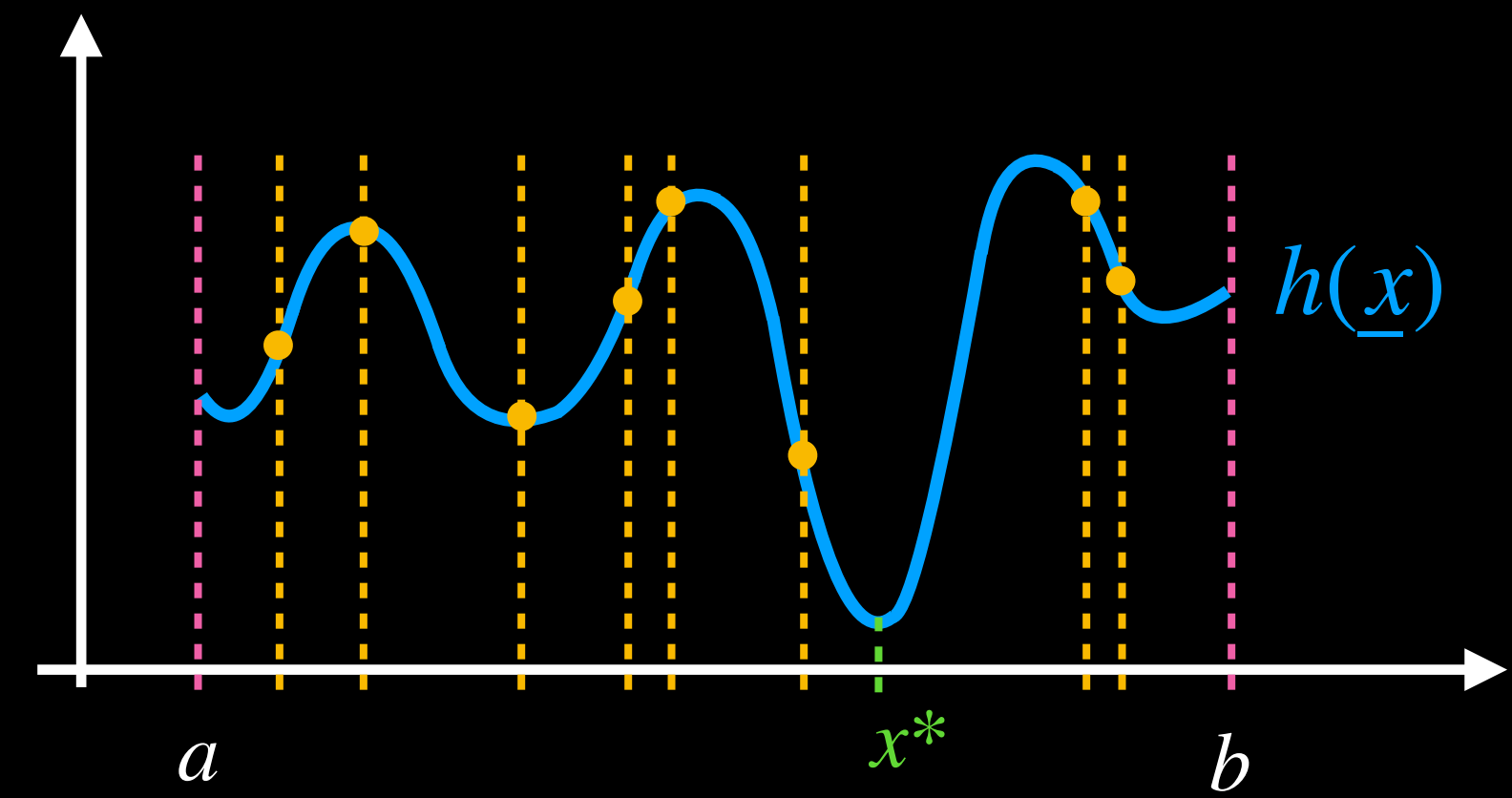
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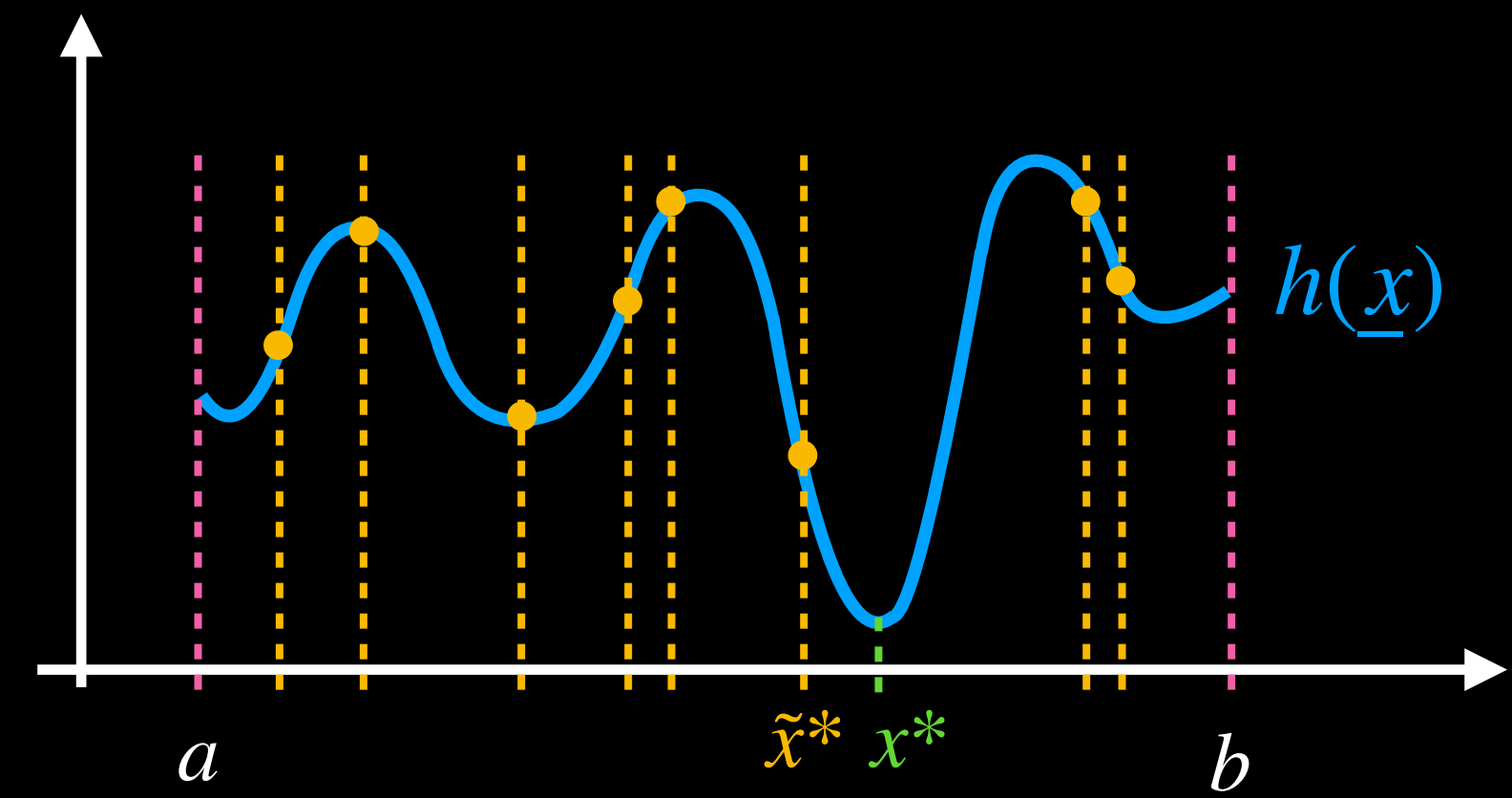
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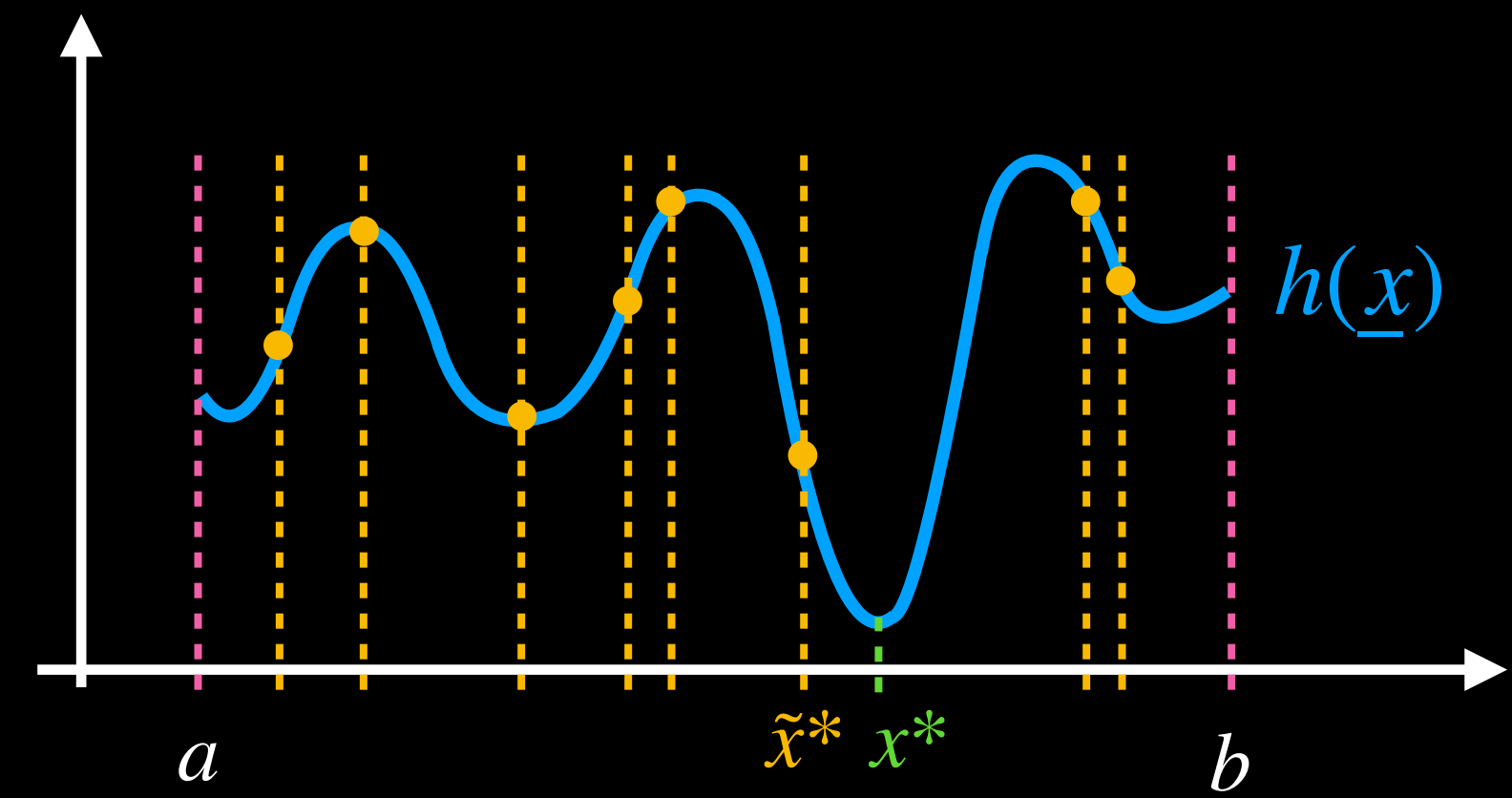
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# algorithm 1: stochastic exploration

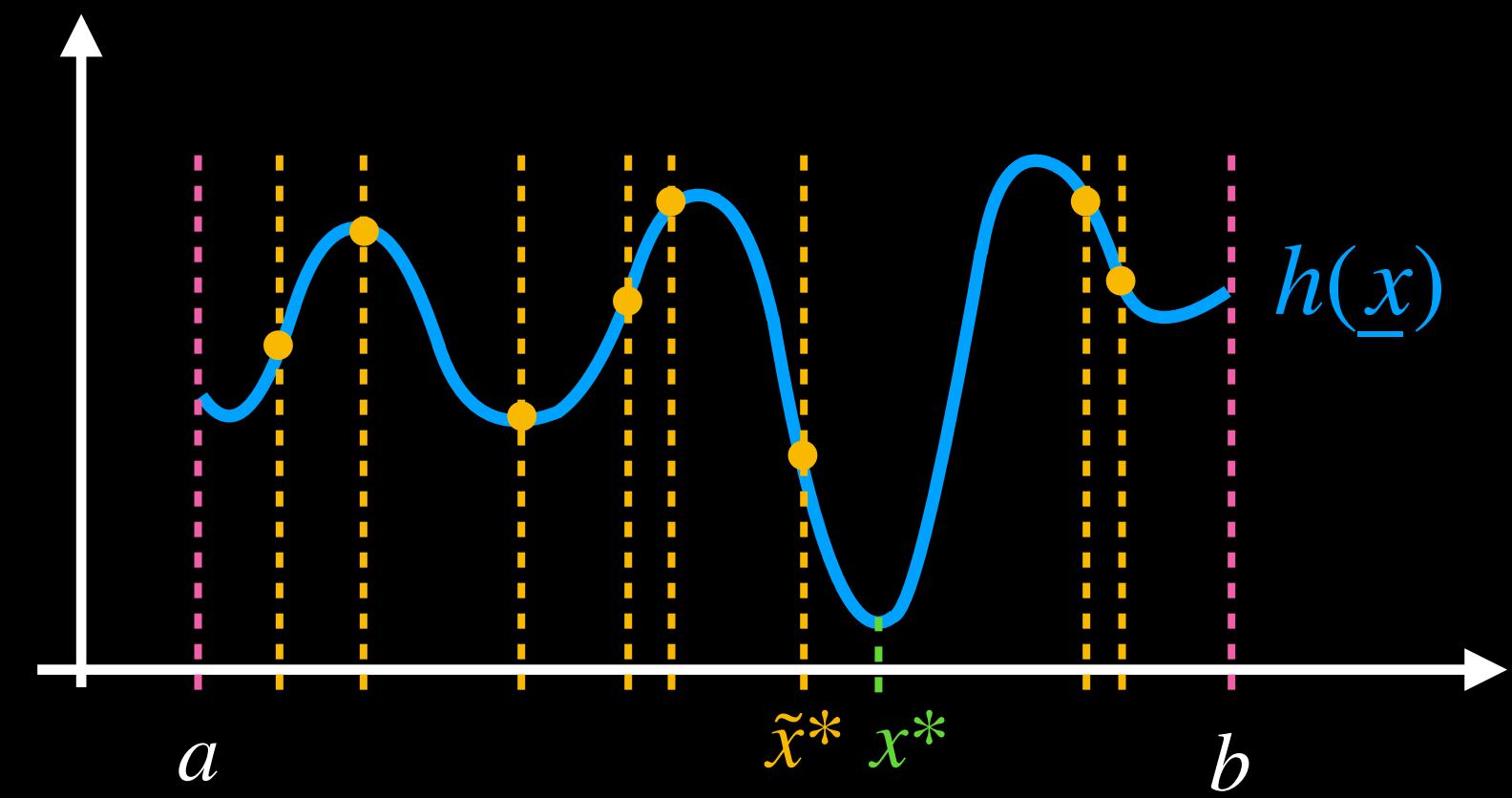
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$$\underline{X}_t : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$$

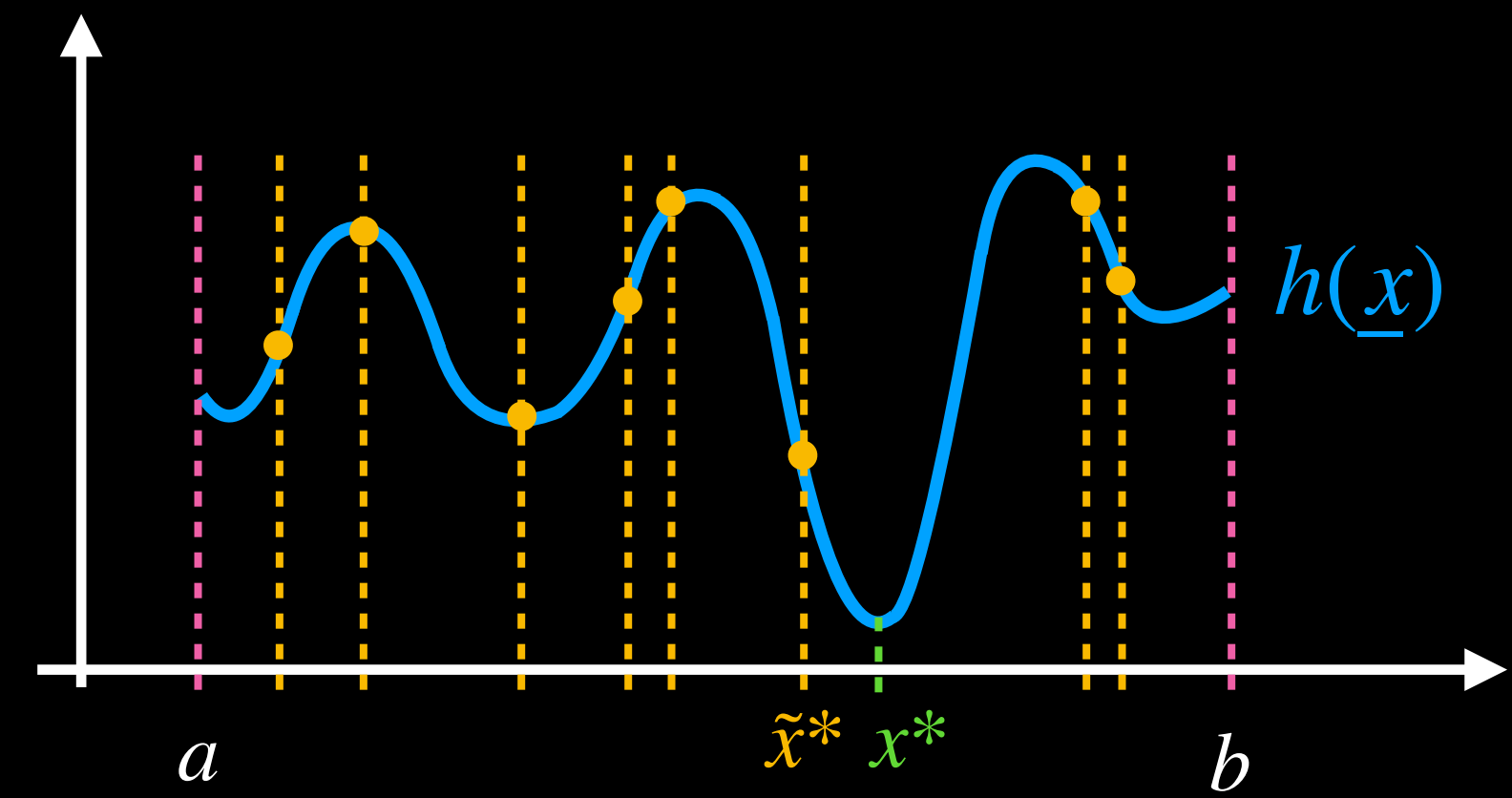


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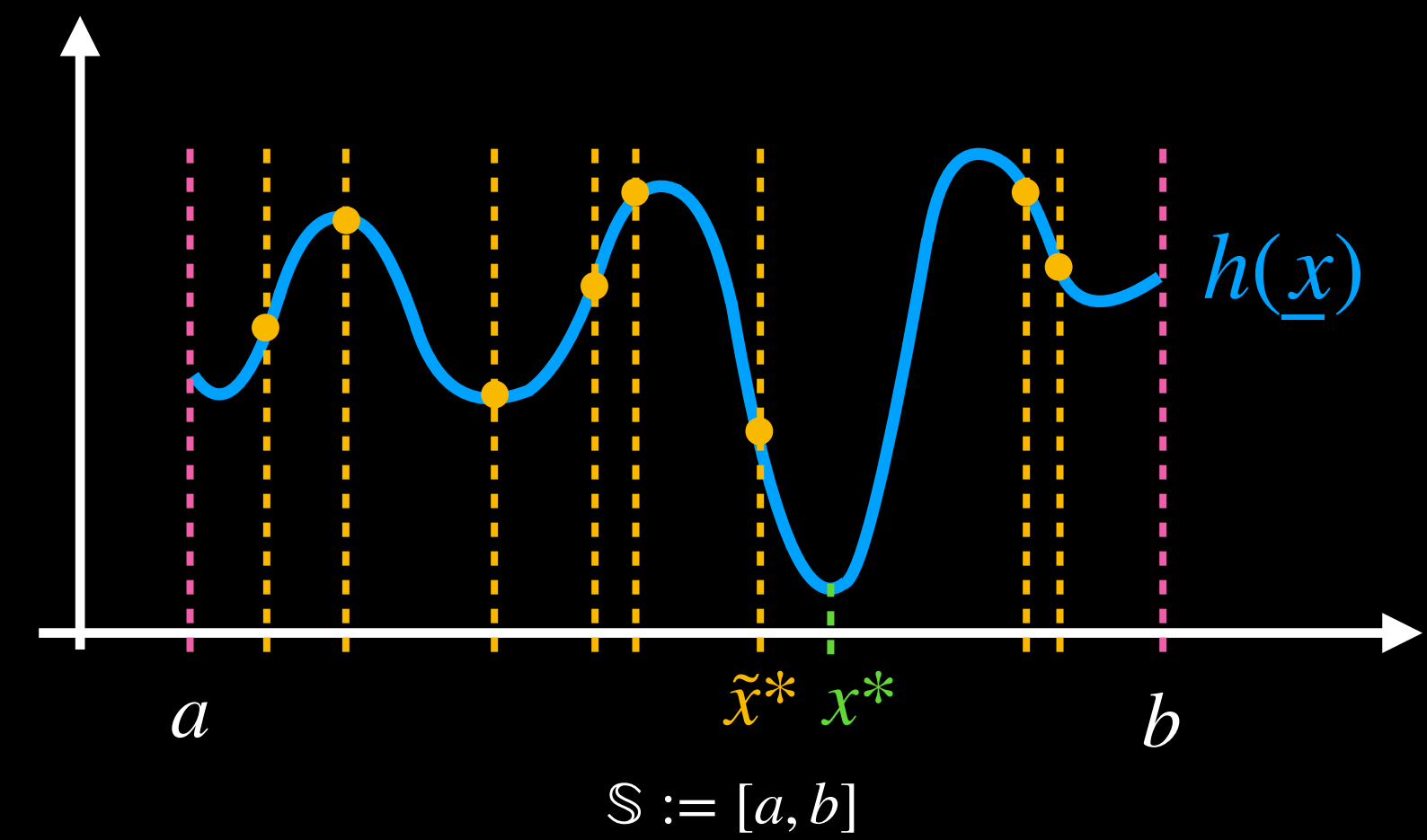


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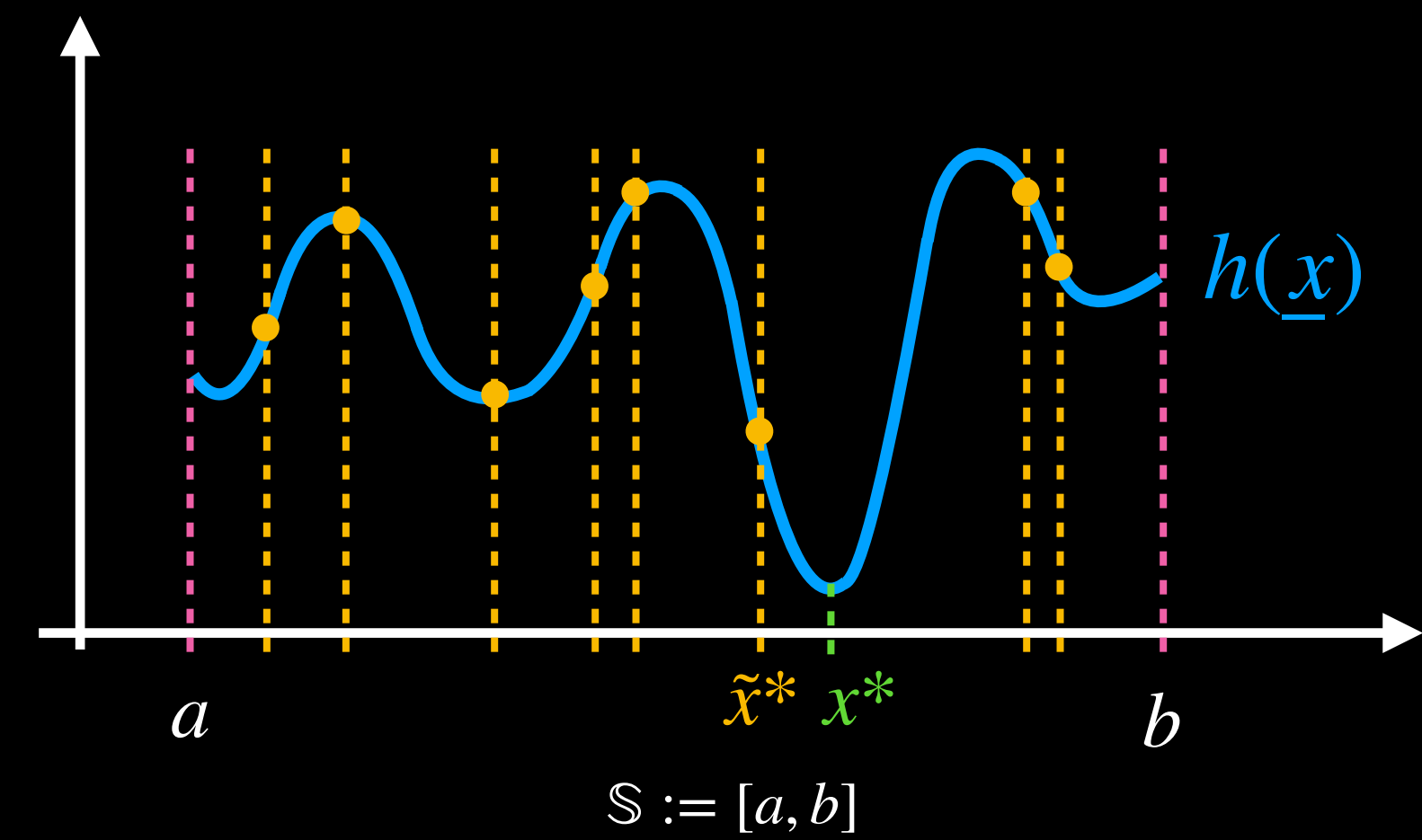
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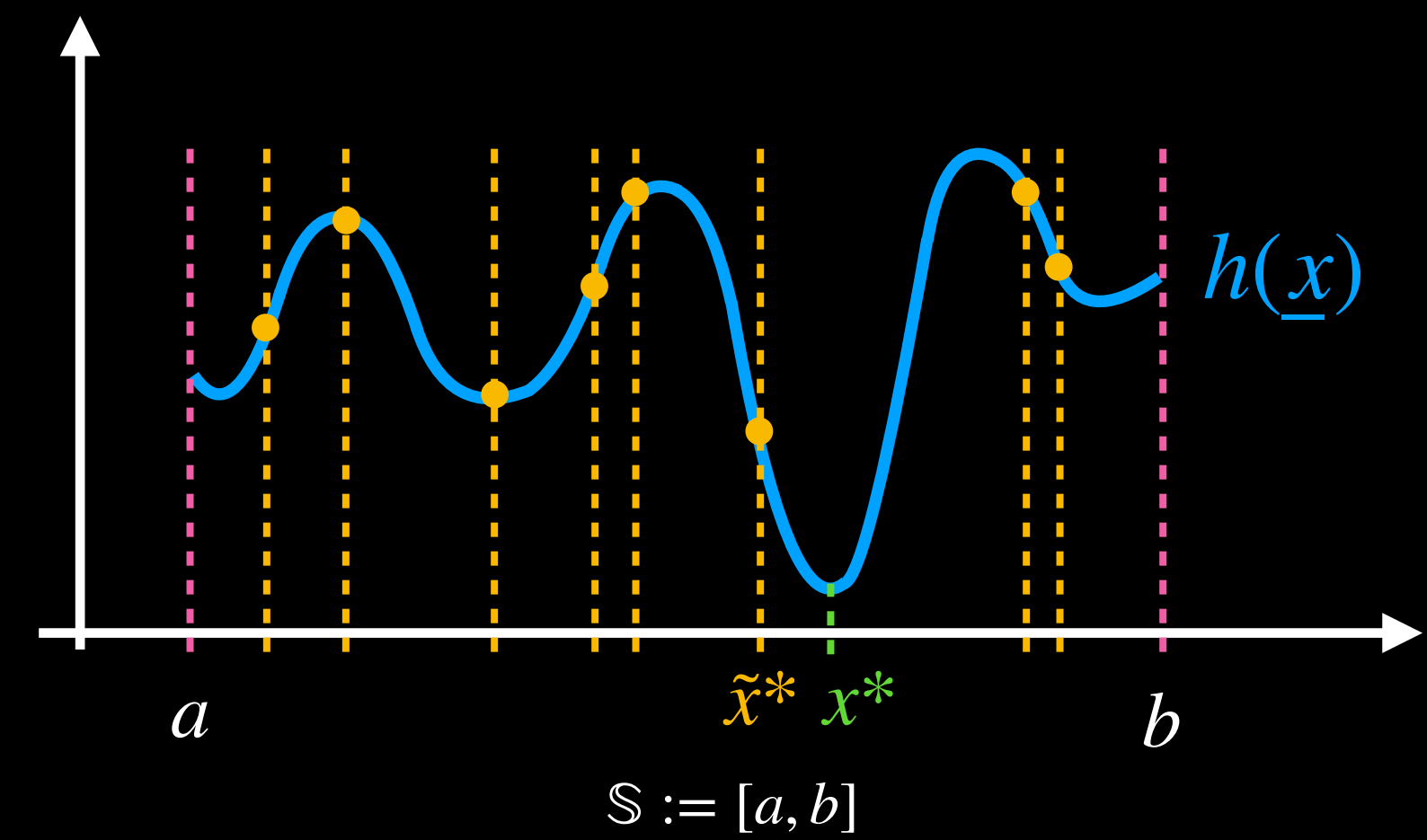
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global convergence:

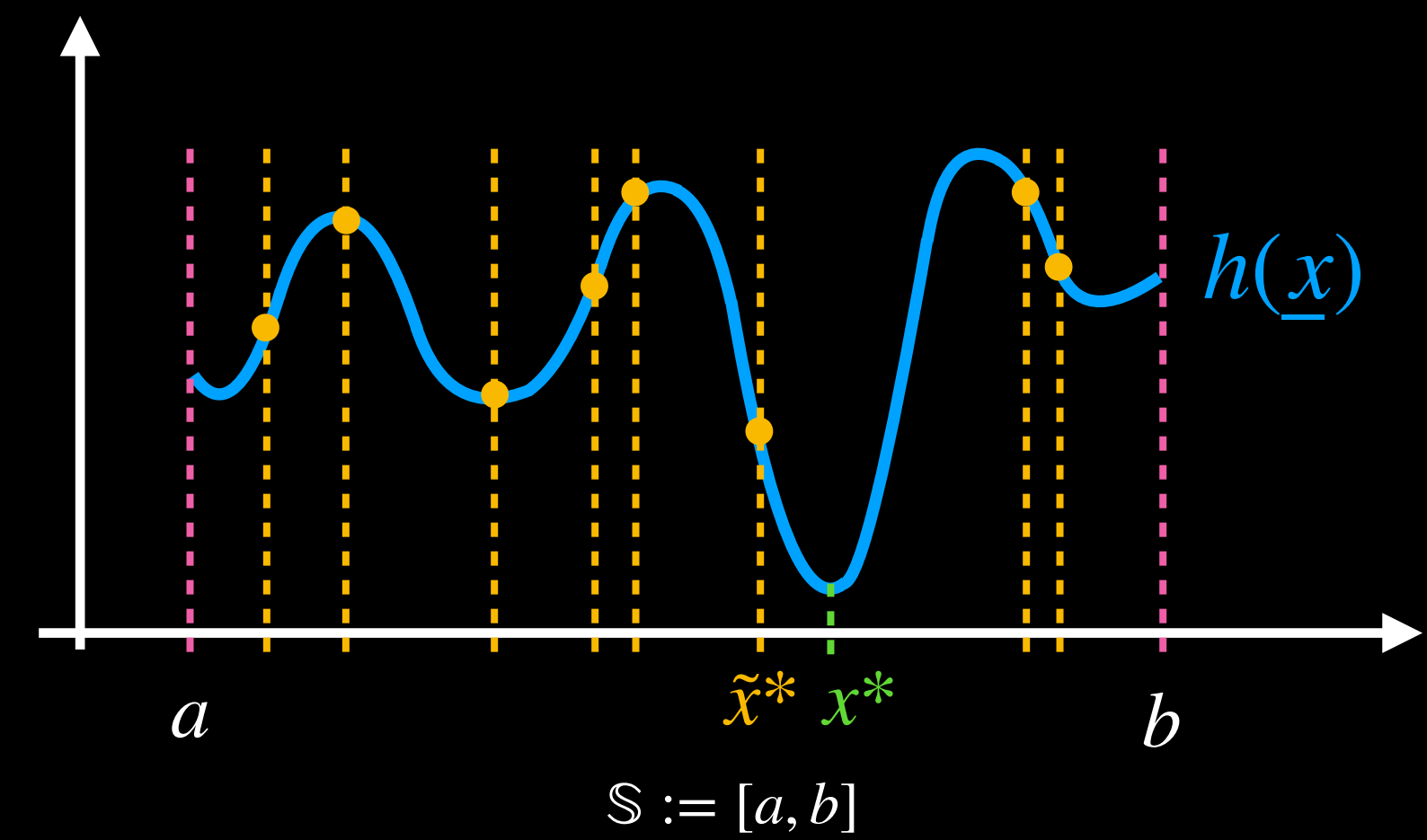


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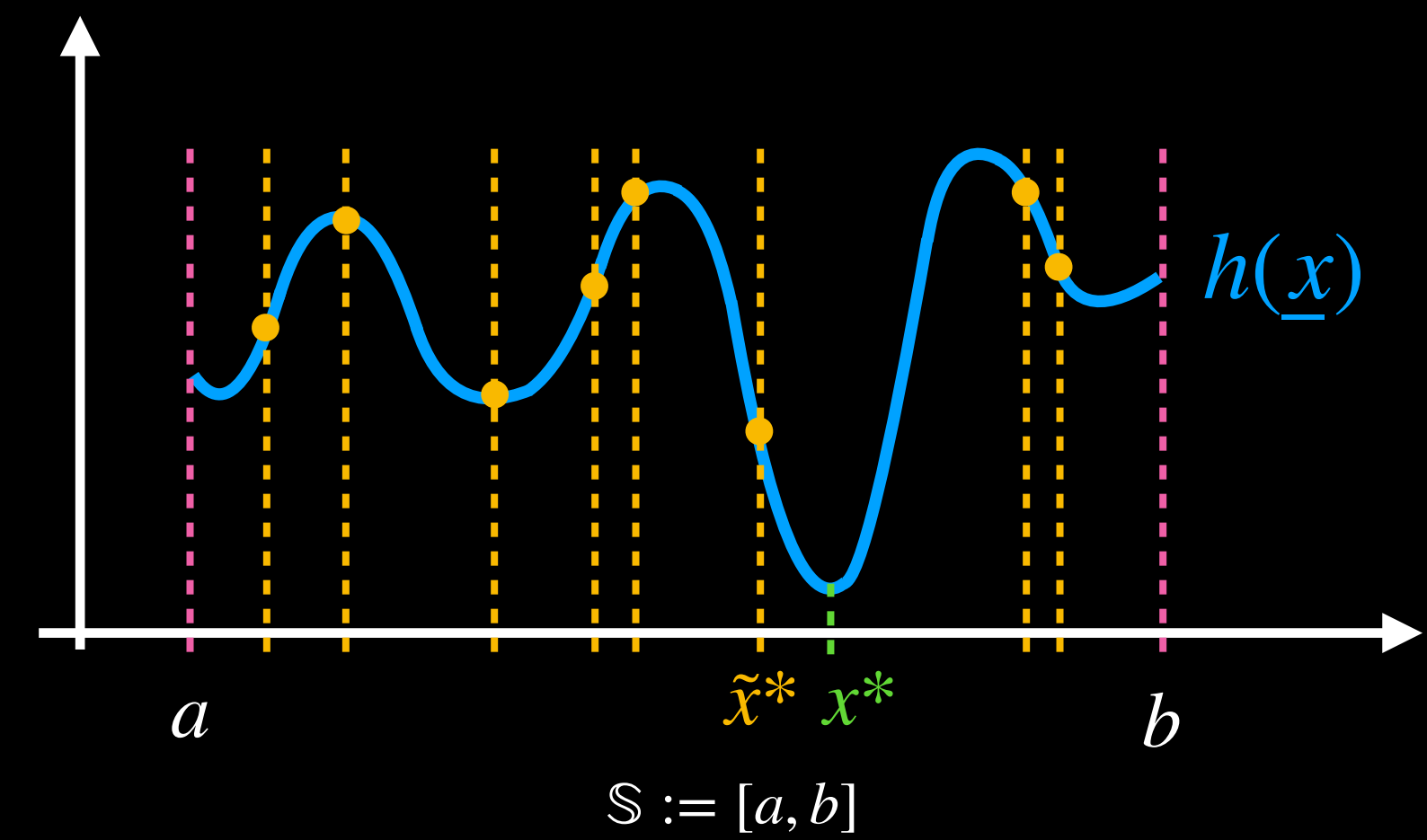


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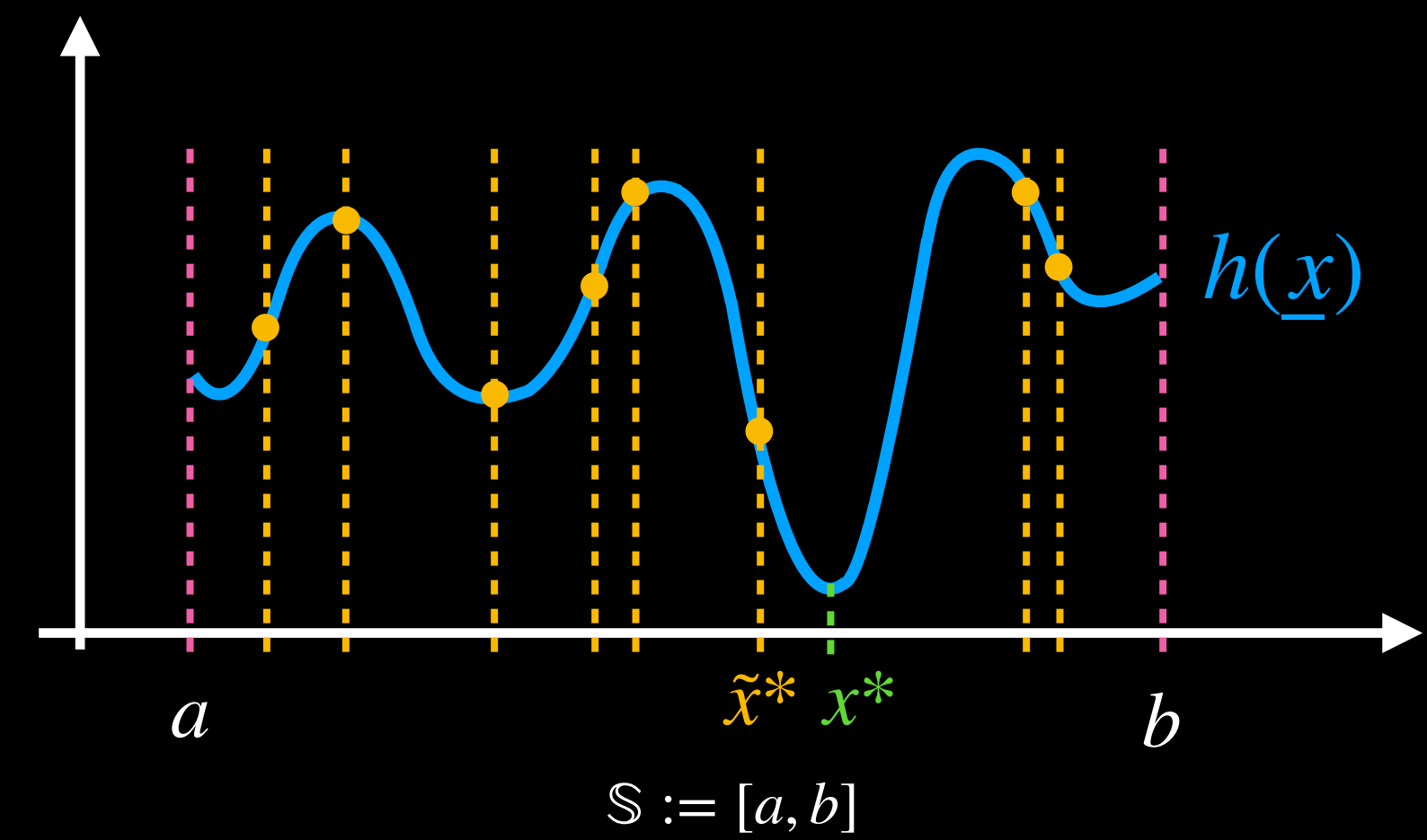
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1d:



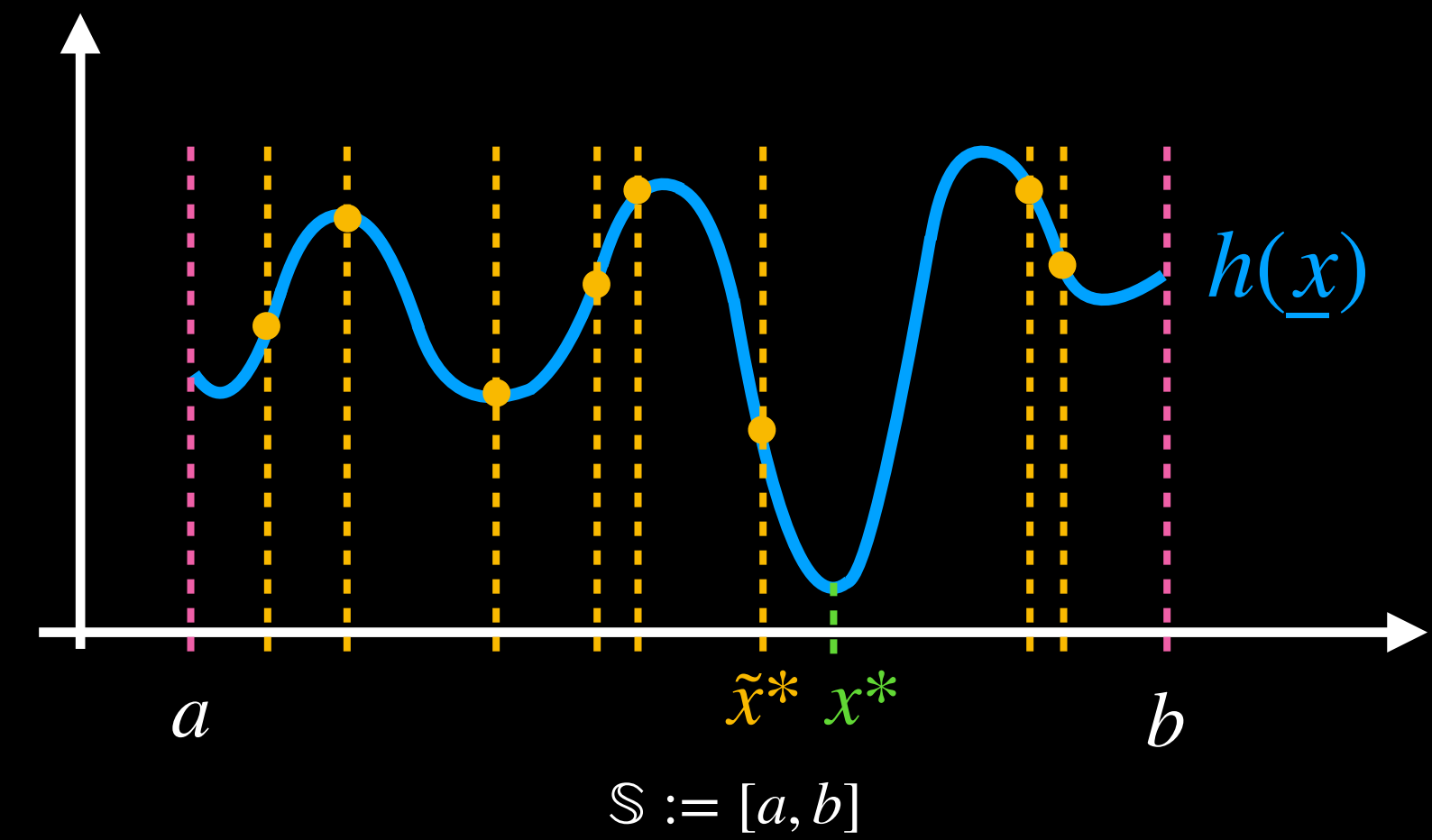
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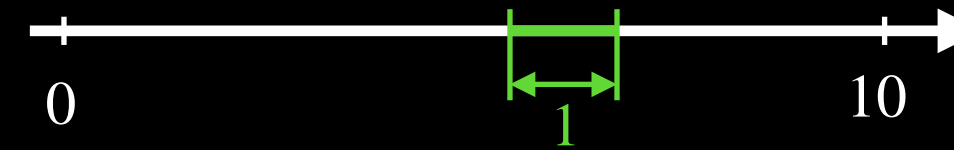
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1d:

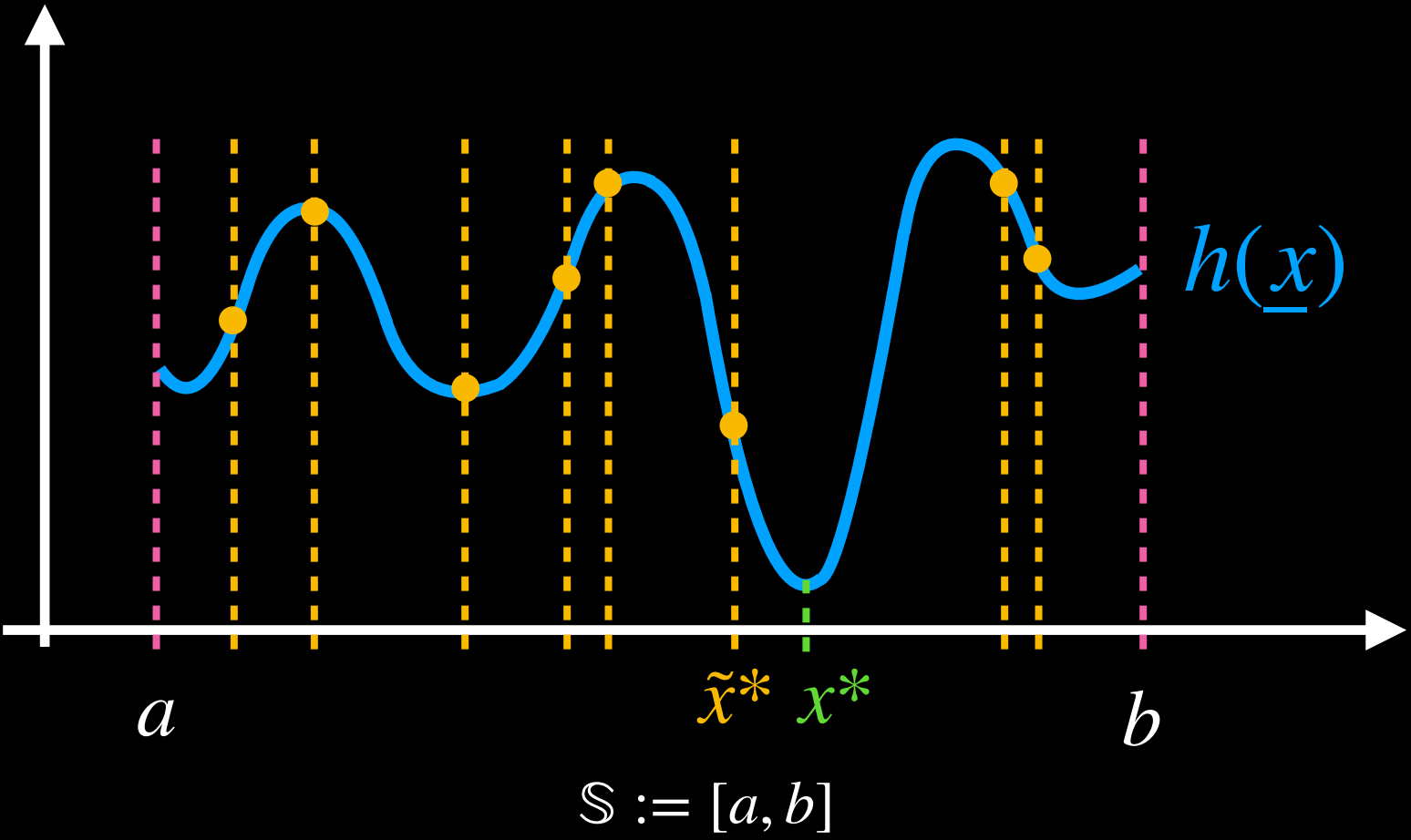


# algorithm 1: stochastic exploration

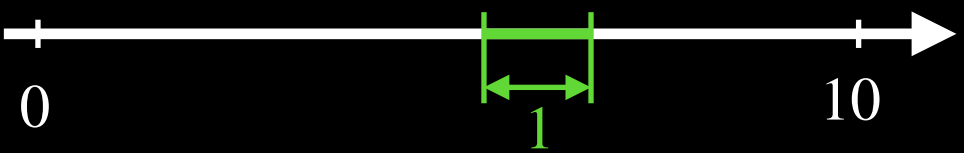
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1d:



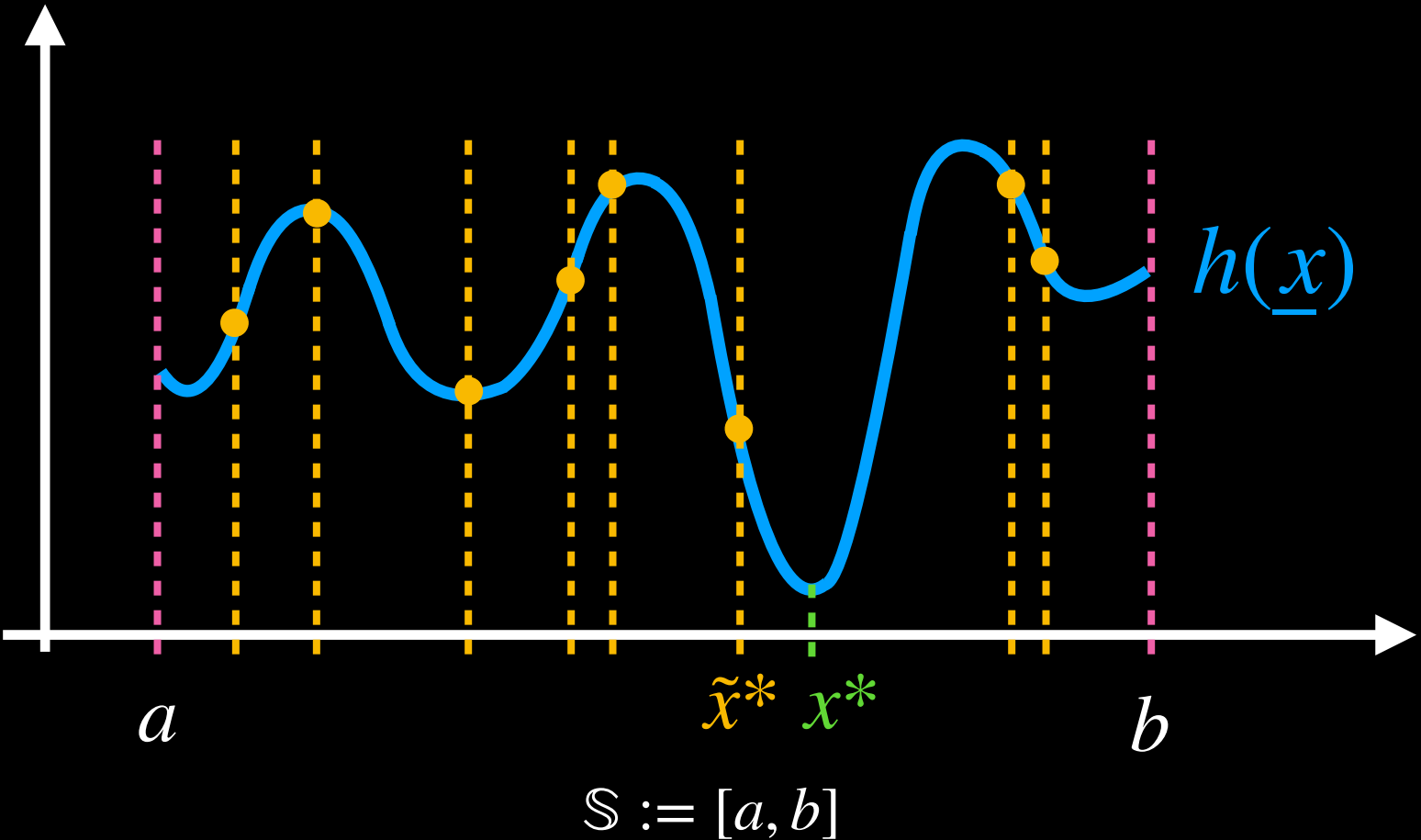
$$P(X \in \text{---}) =$$

# algorithm 1: stochastic exploration

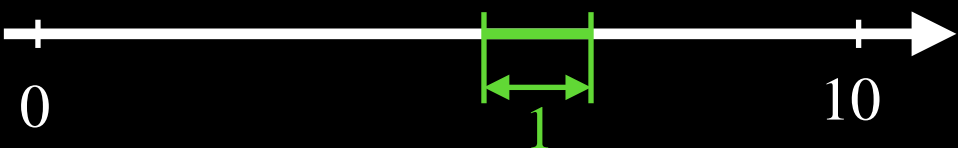
$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x})) \approx \arg \min (h(\underline{X}_1), \dots, h(\underline{X}_n)) =: \underline{\tilde{X}}_n^* \quad \underline{X}_t : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$   
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global convergence:

$$\underline{x}^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underline{\tilde{X}}_n^*$$



1d:



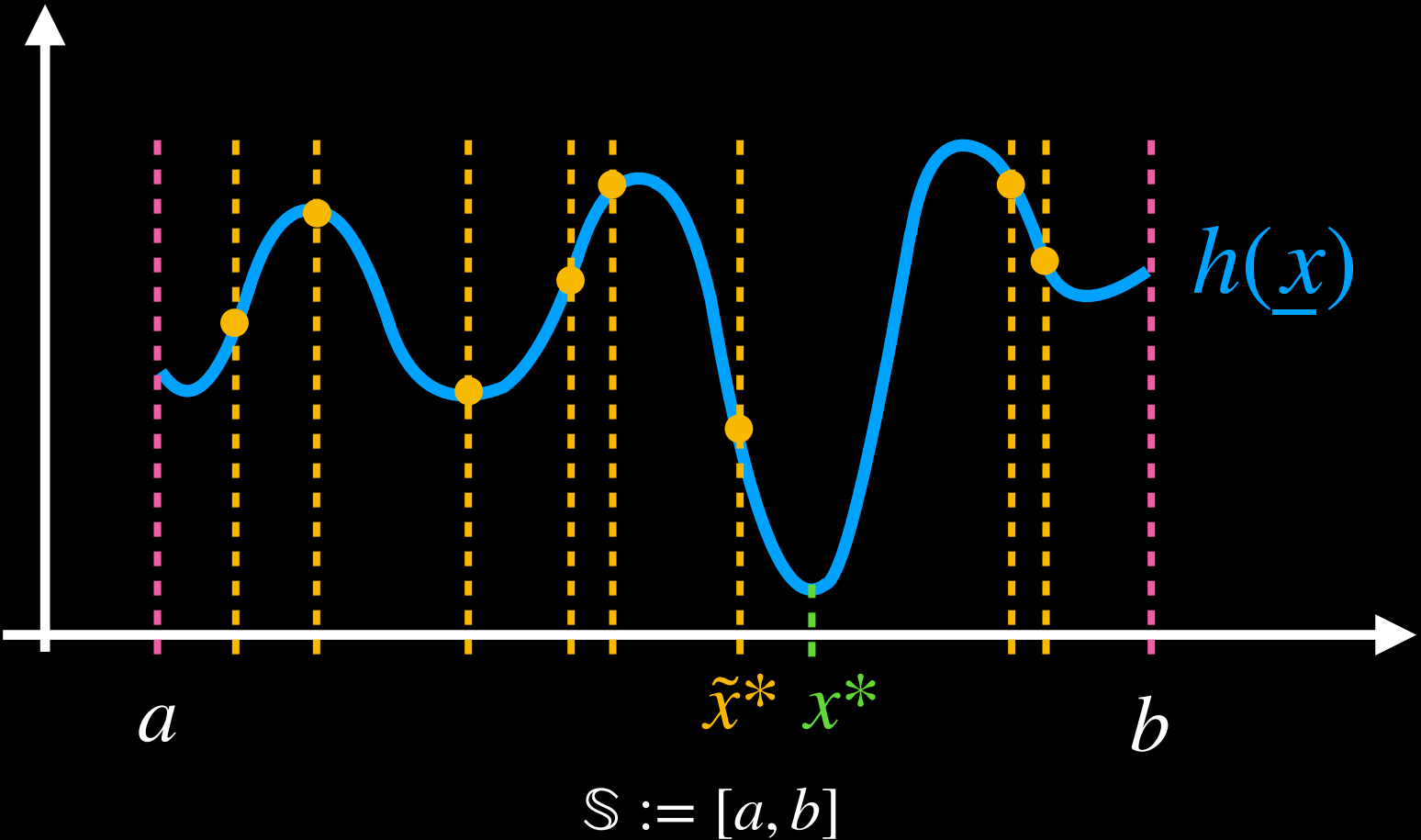
$$P(X \in \text{---}) = \frac{1}{10}$$

# algorithm 1: stochastic exploration

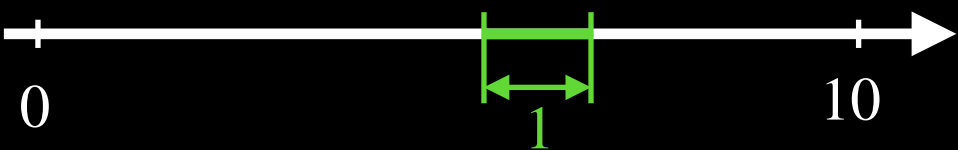
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global convergence:

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1d:



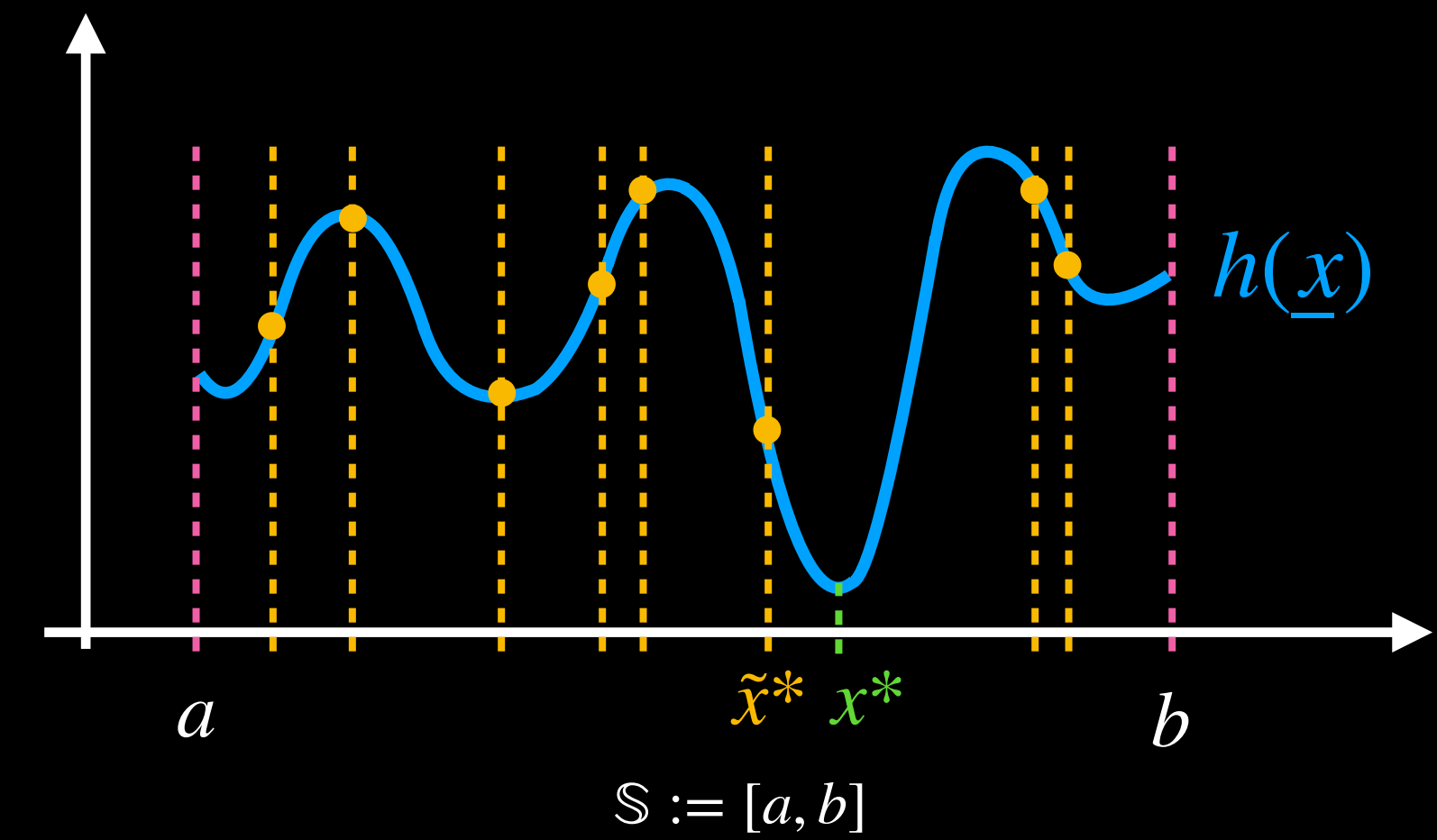
$$P(X \in \text{---}) = \frac{1}{10}$$

2d:

# algorithm 1: stochastic exploration

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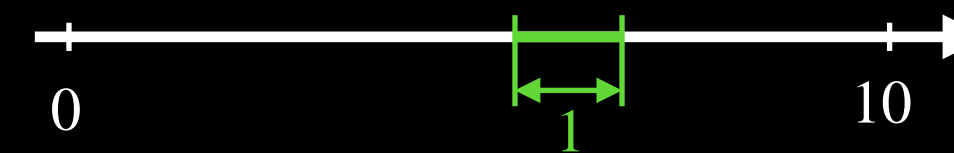
$$\underline{X}_t \sim \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{S})$$



global convergence:

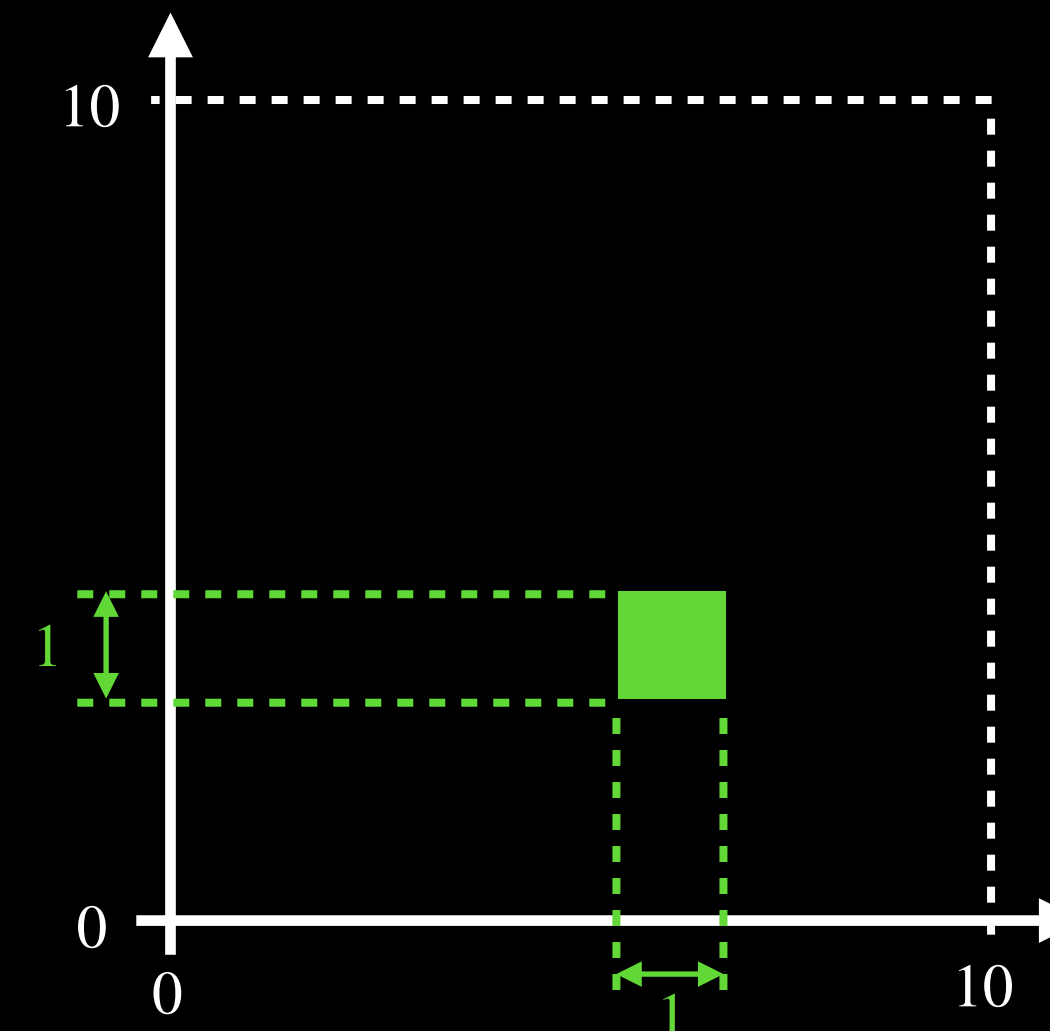
$$\underline{x}^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \underline{\tilde{X}}_n^*$$

1d:



$$P(X \in \text{—}) = \frac{1}{10}$$

2d:

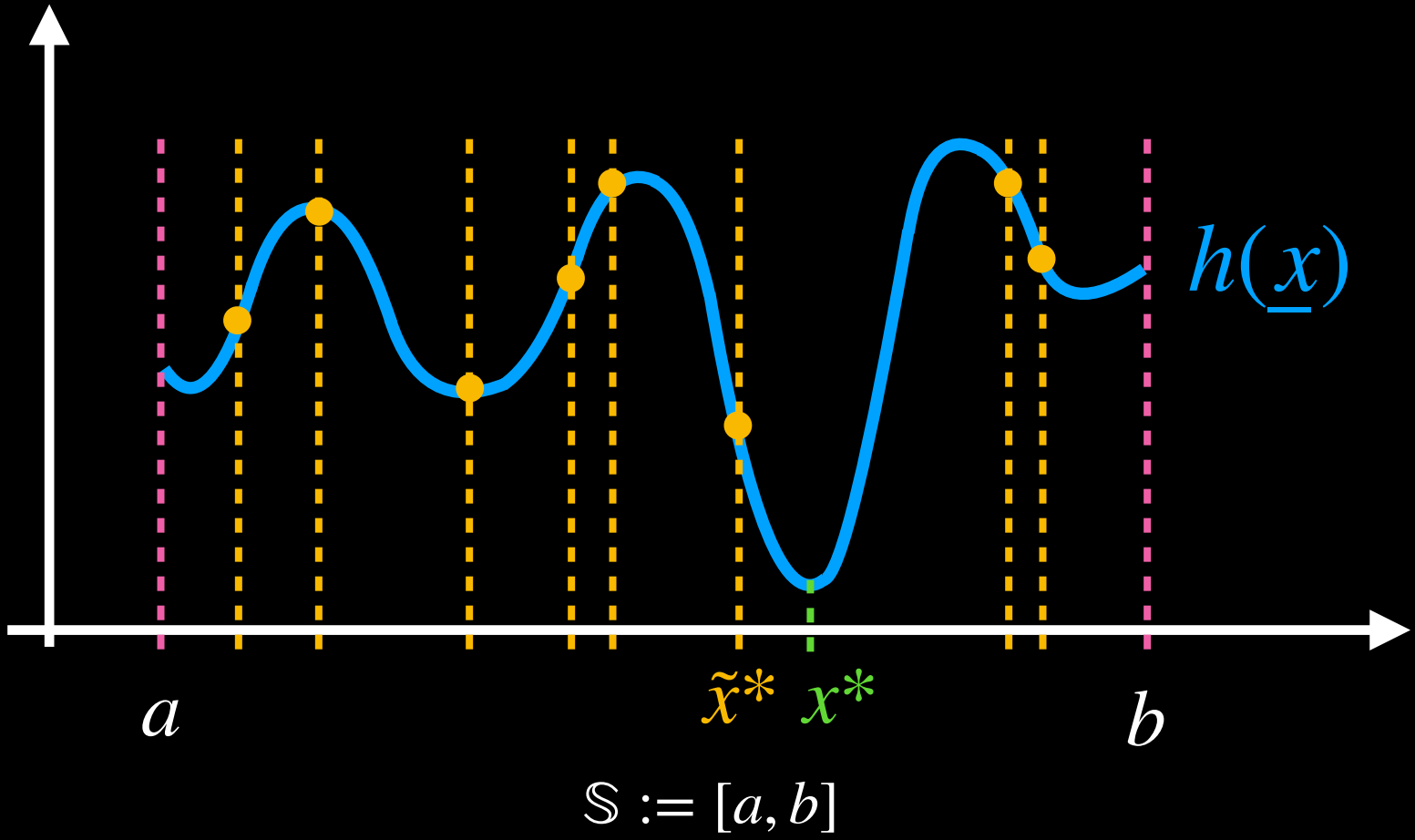


# algorithm 1: stochastic exploration

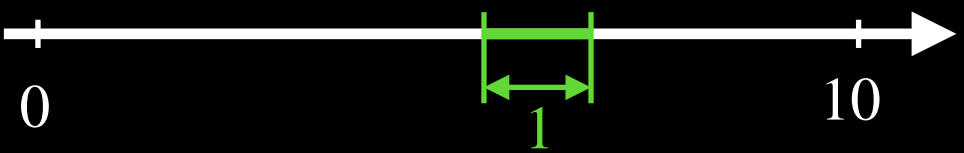
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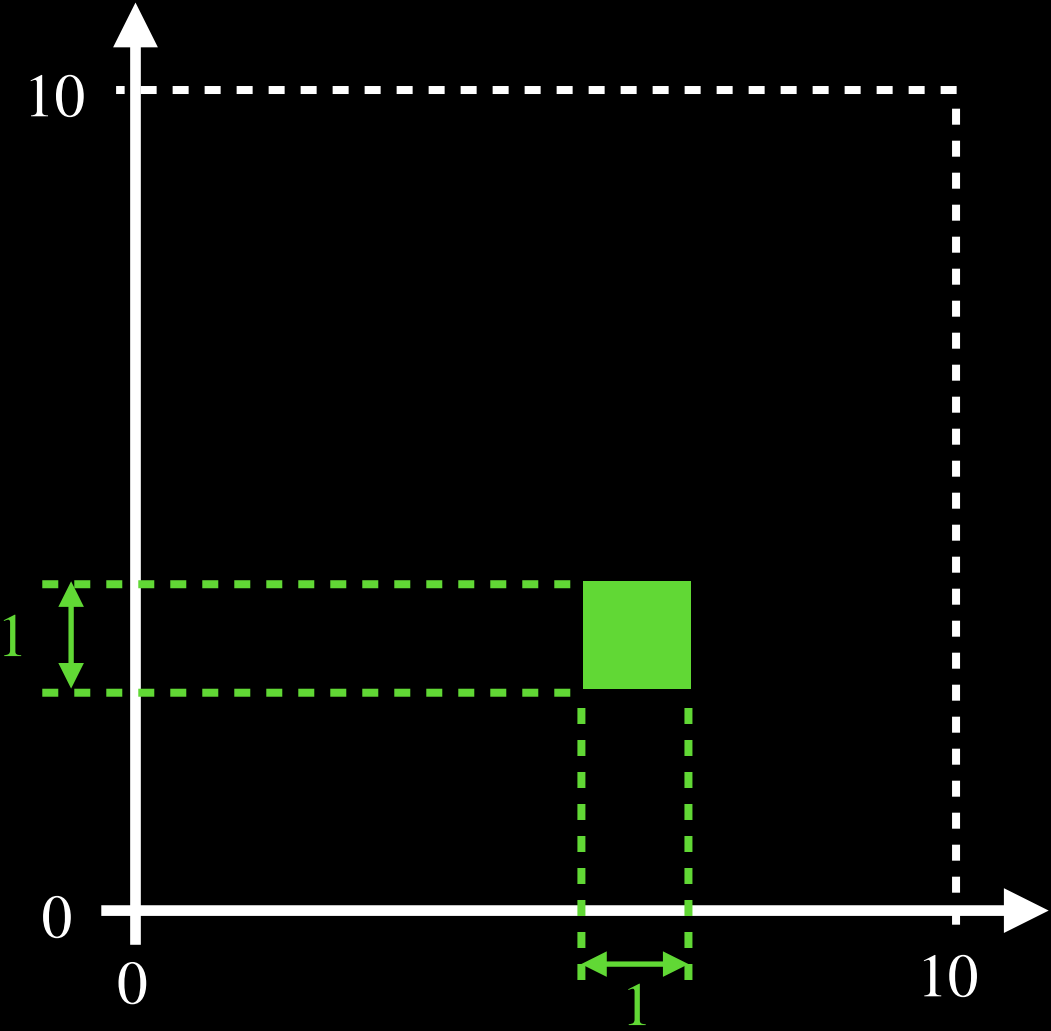


1d:



$$P(X \in \text{---}) = \frac{1}{10}$$

2d:

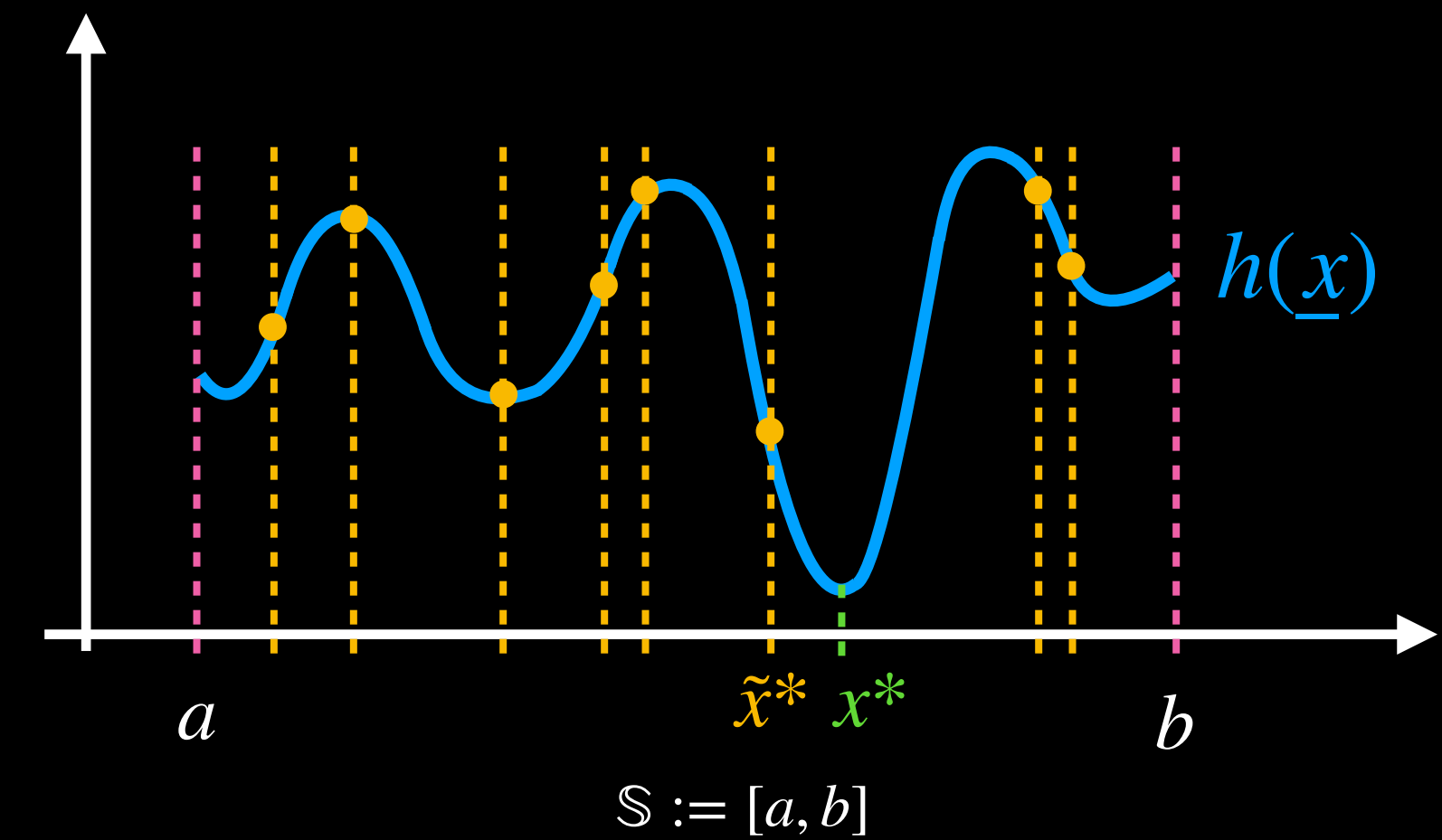


$$P(X \in \blacksquare) =$$

# algorithm 1: stochastic exploration

$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x})) \approx \arg \min (h(\underline{X}_1), \dots, h(\underline{X}_n)) =: \tilde{\underline{X}}_n^* \quad \underline{X}_t : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{S} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$$

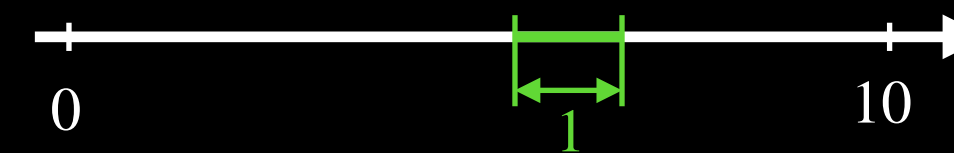
$$\underline{X}_t \sim \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{S})$$



global convergence:

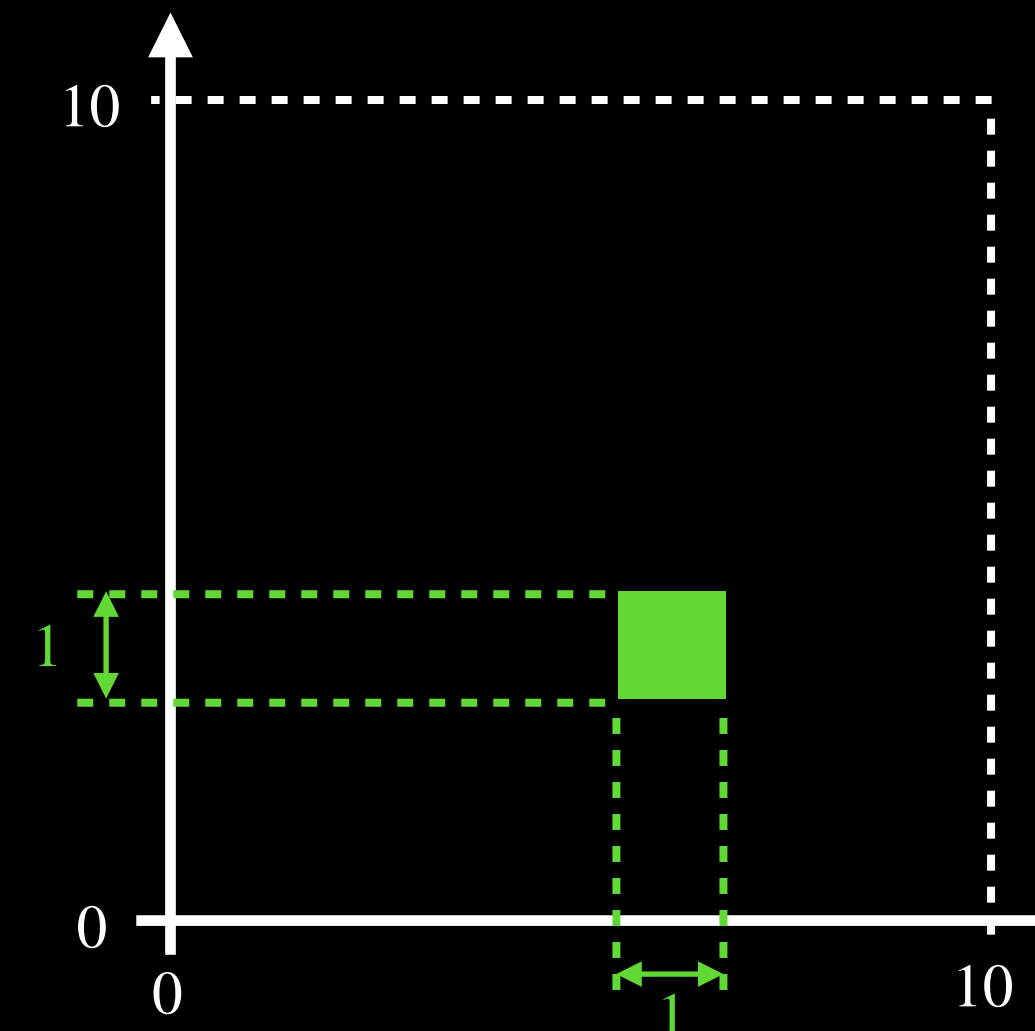
$$\underline{x}^* = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \tilde{\underline{X}}_n^*$$

1d:



$$P(X \in \text{—}) = \frac{1}{10}$$

2d:



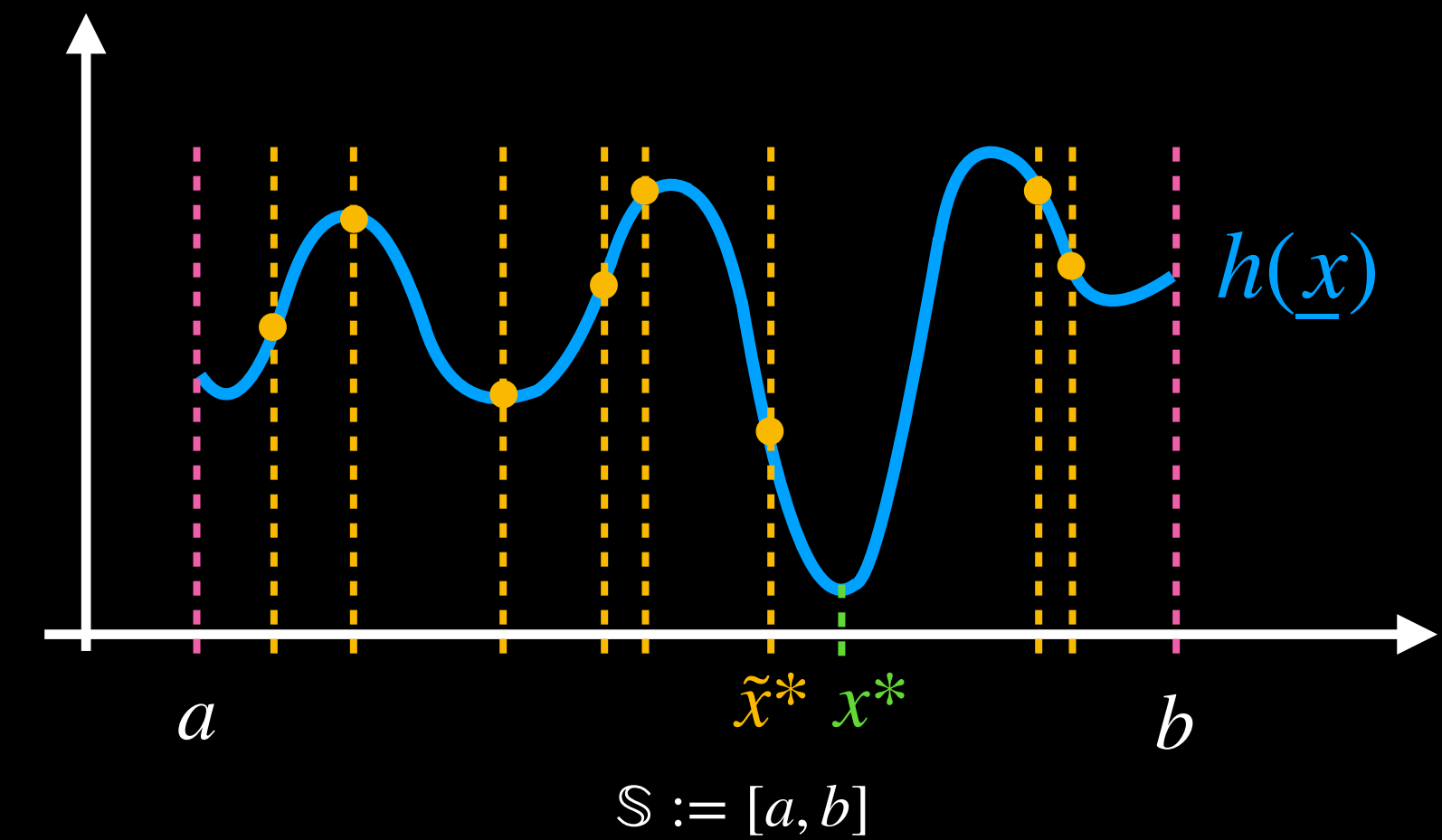
$$P(X \in \blacksquare) = \frac{1}{10^2}$$



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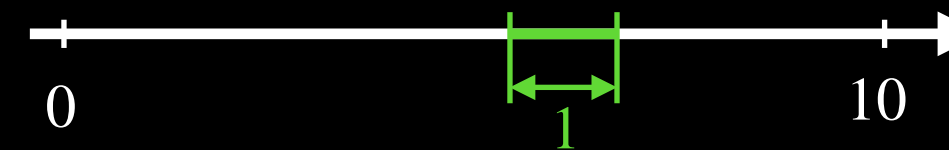
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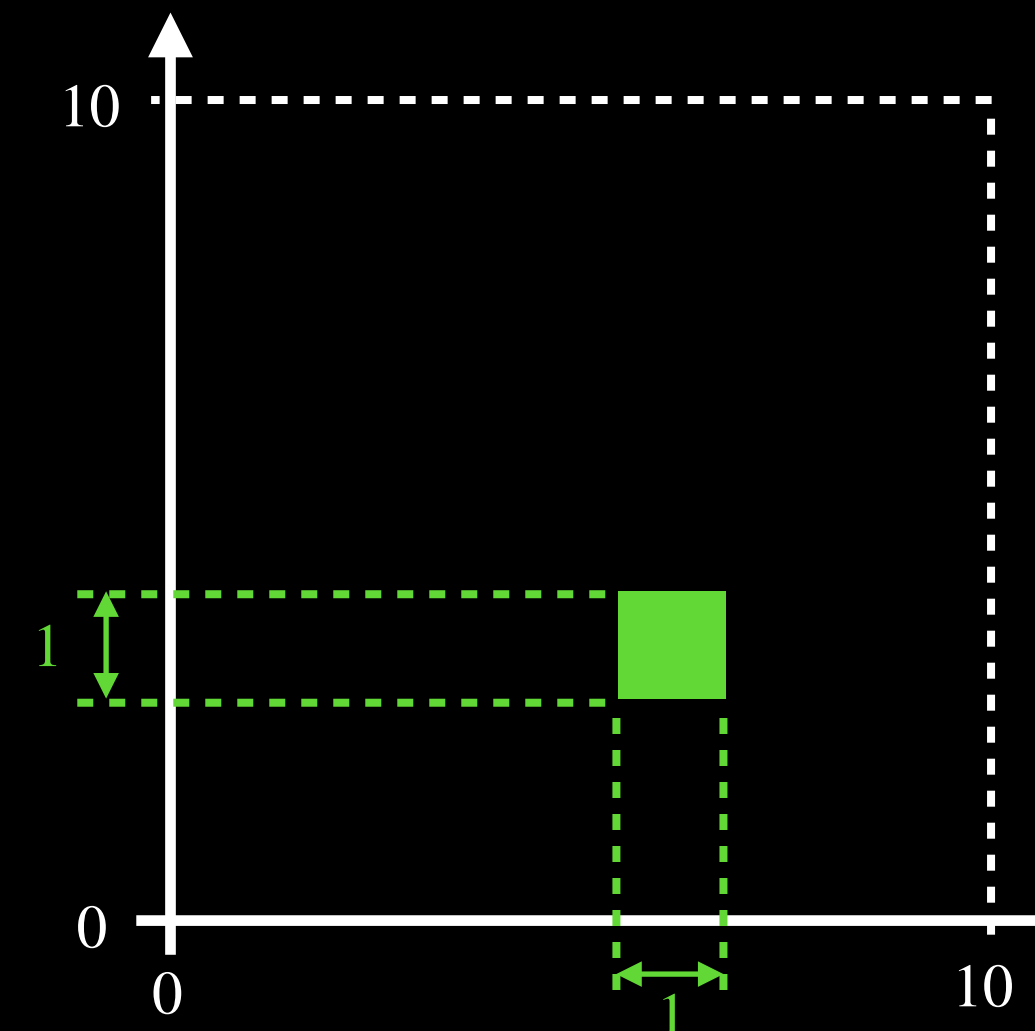
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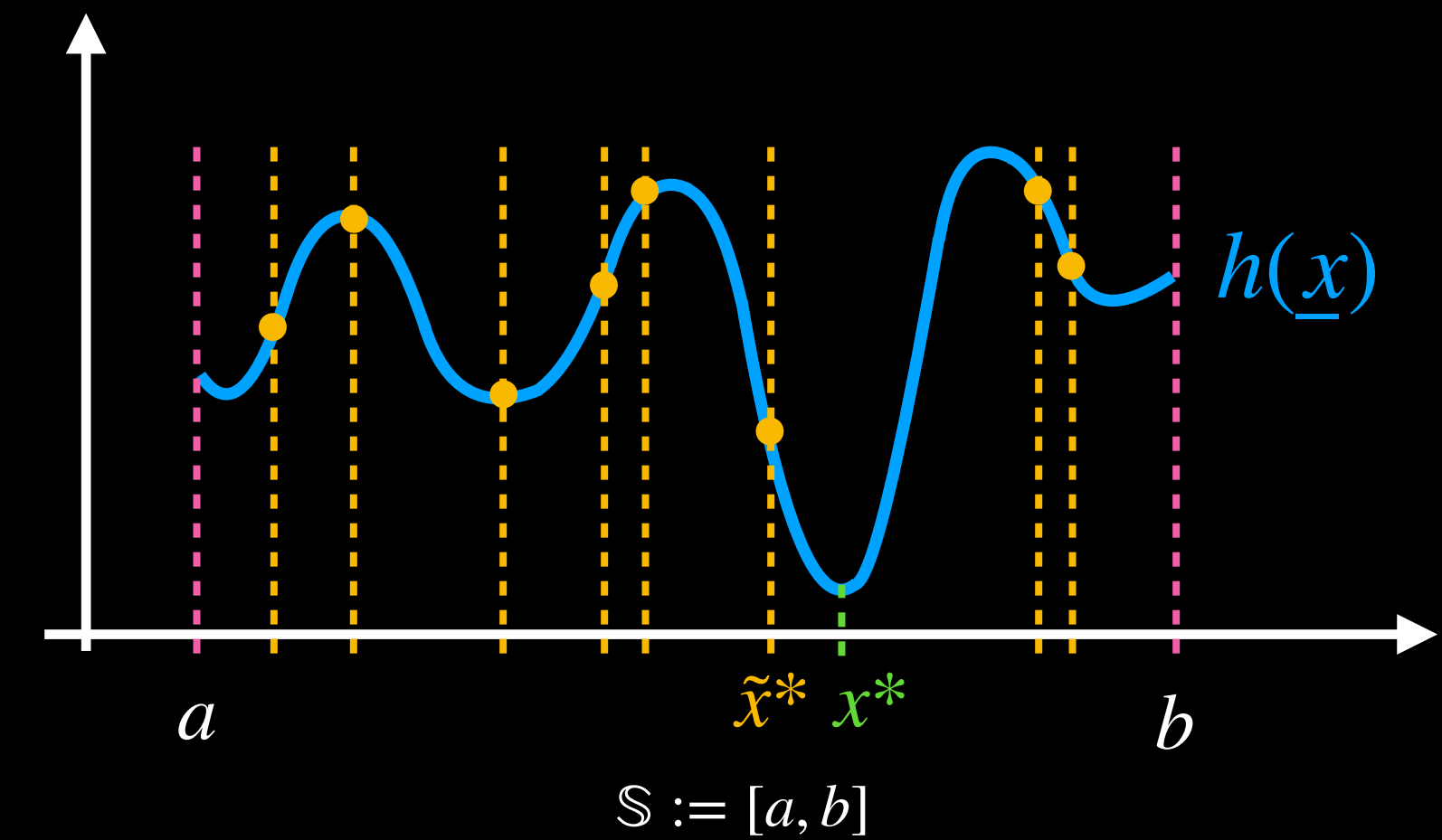
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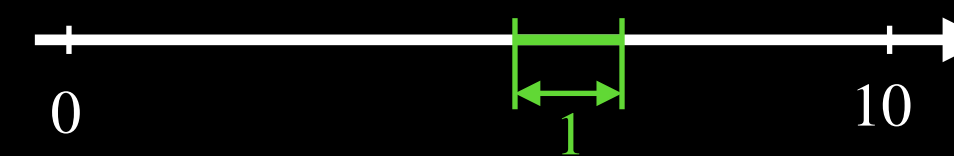
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global convergence:

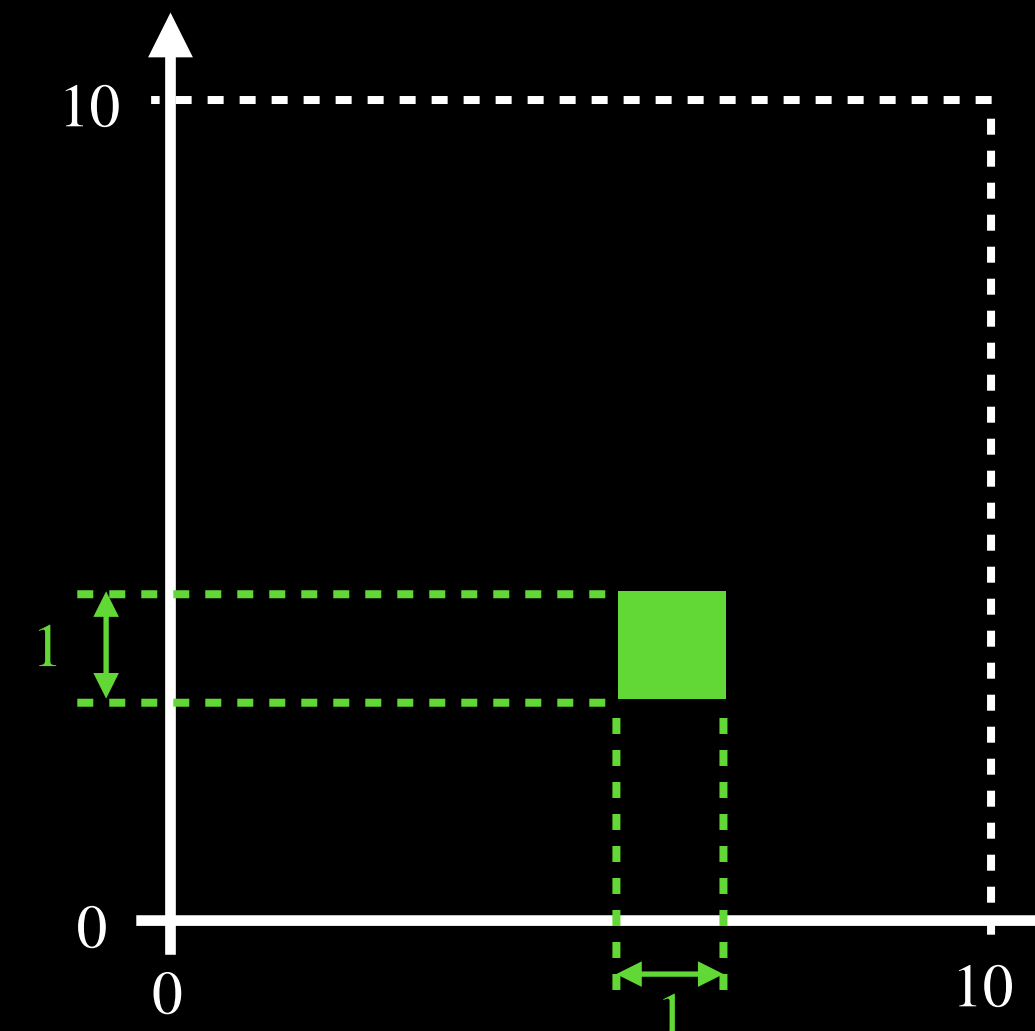
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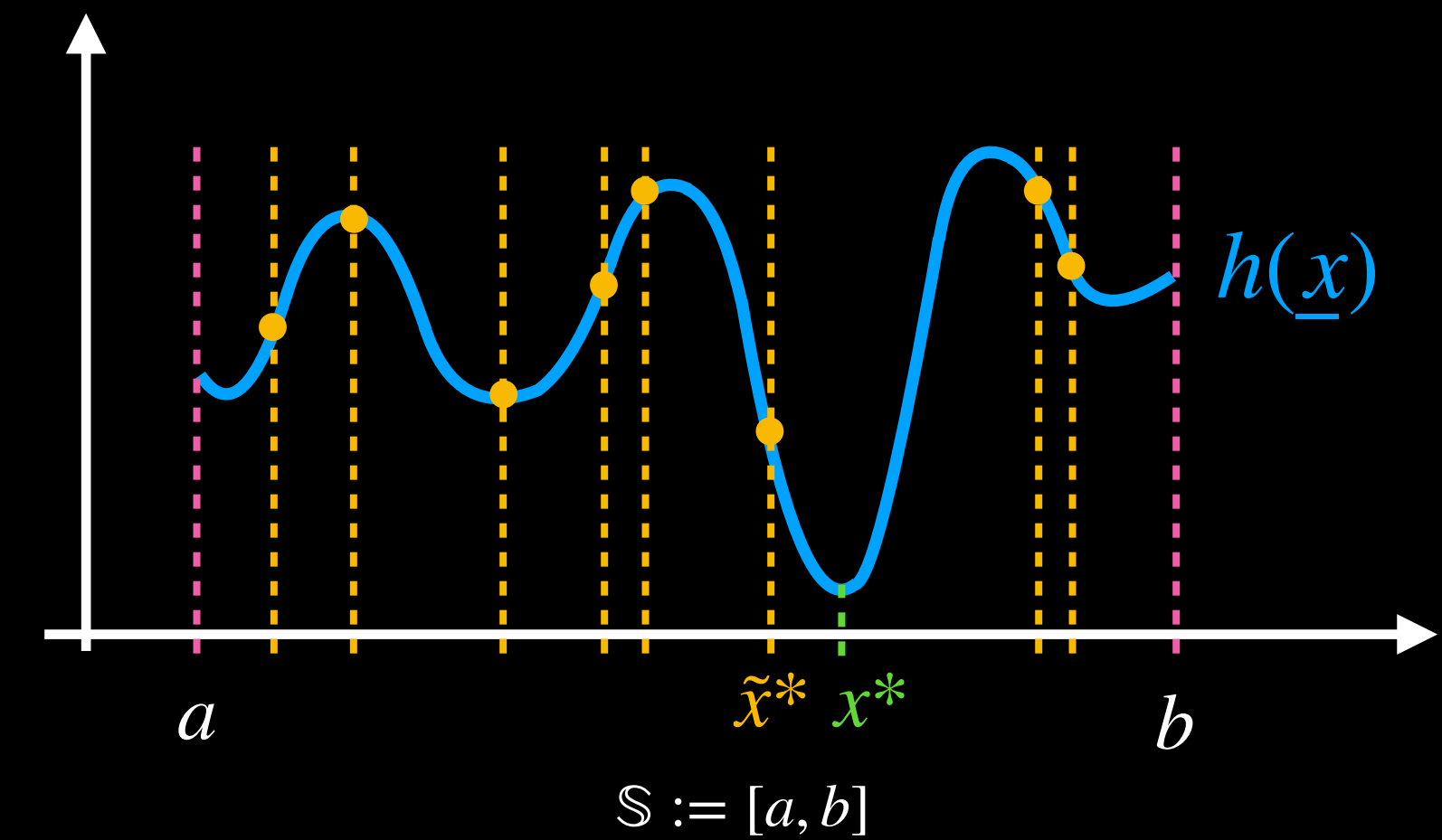
properties:

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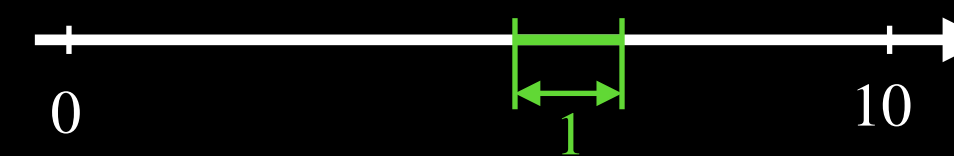


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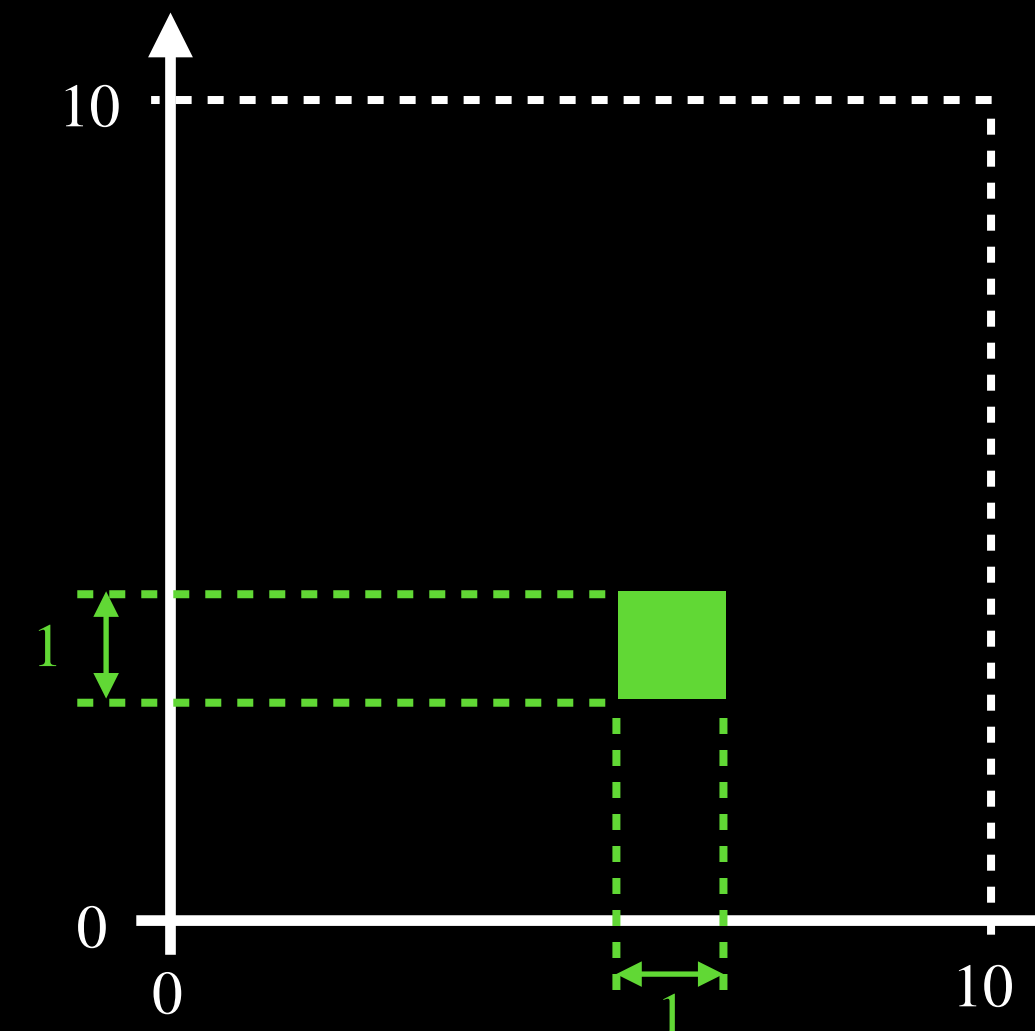
properties:  
• very simple

1d:



$$P(X \in \text{—}) = \frac{1}{10}$$

2d:



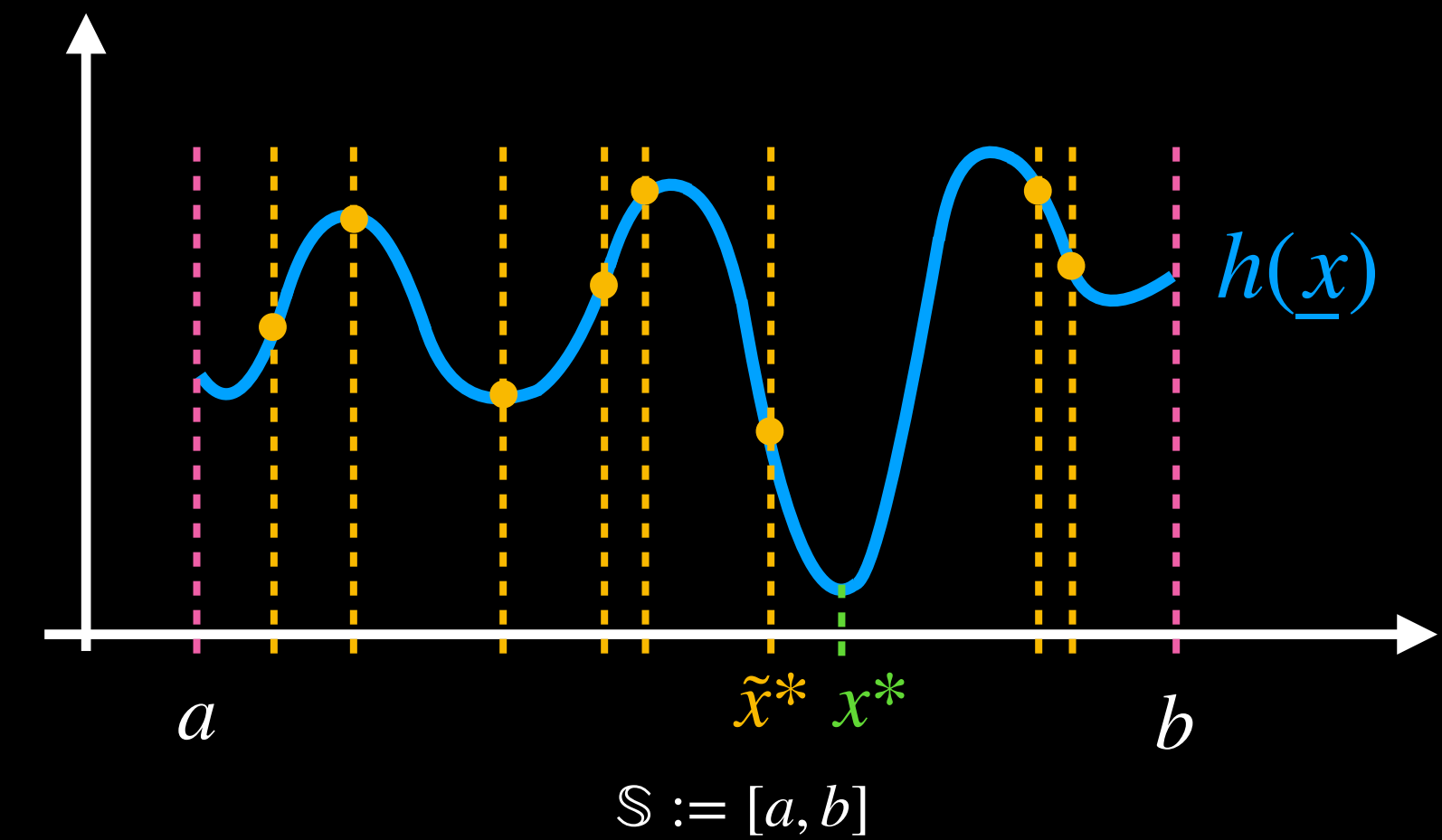
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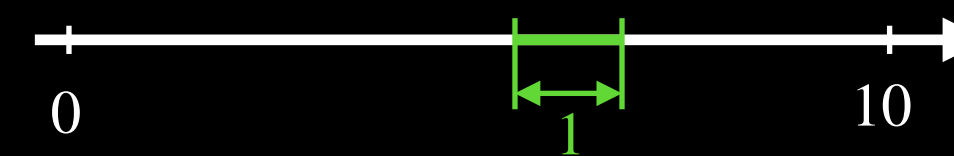
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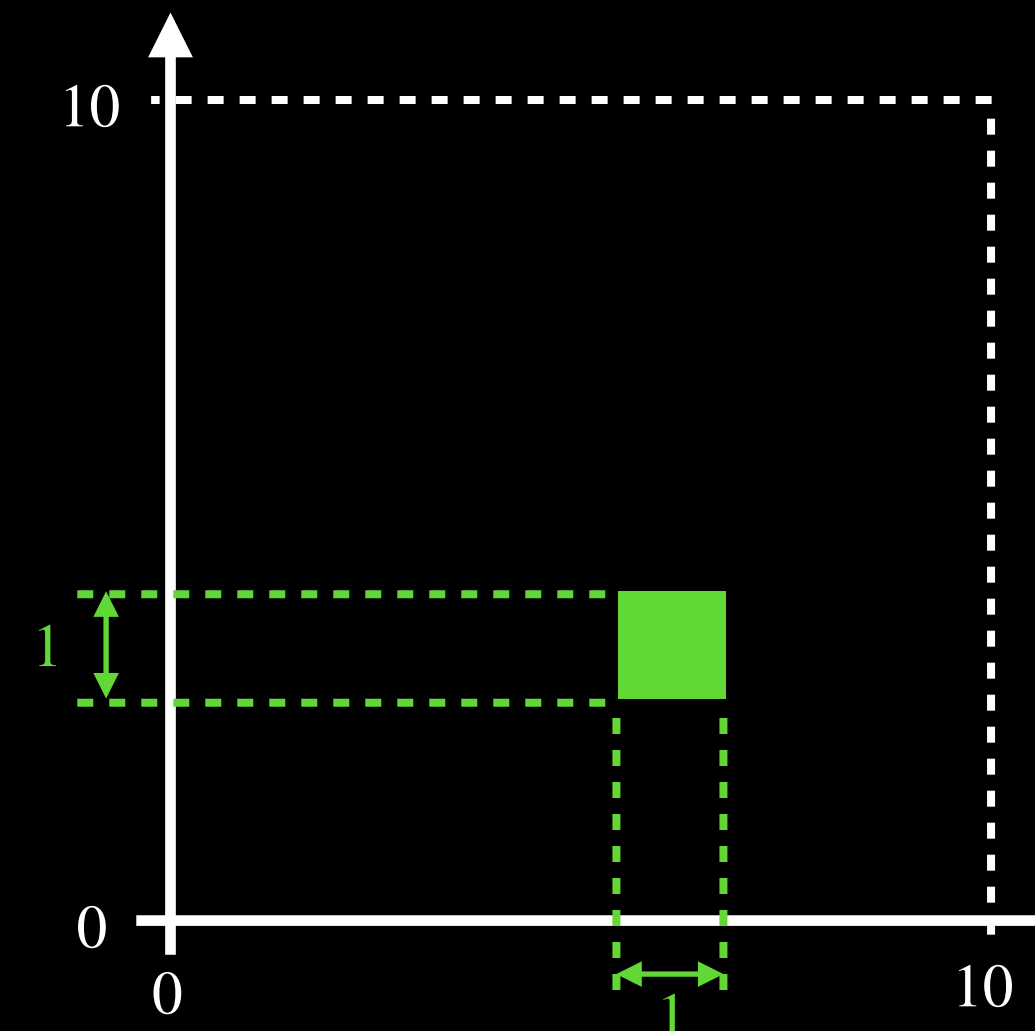
- very simple
- converges to  $\underline{x}^*$

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2d:



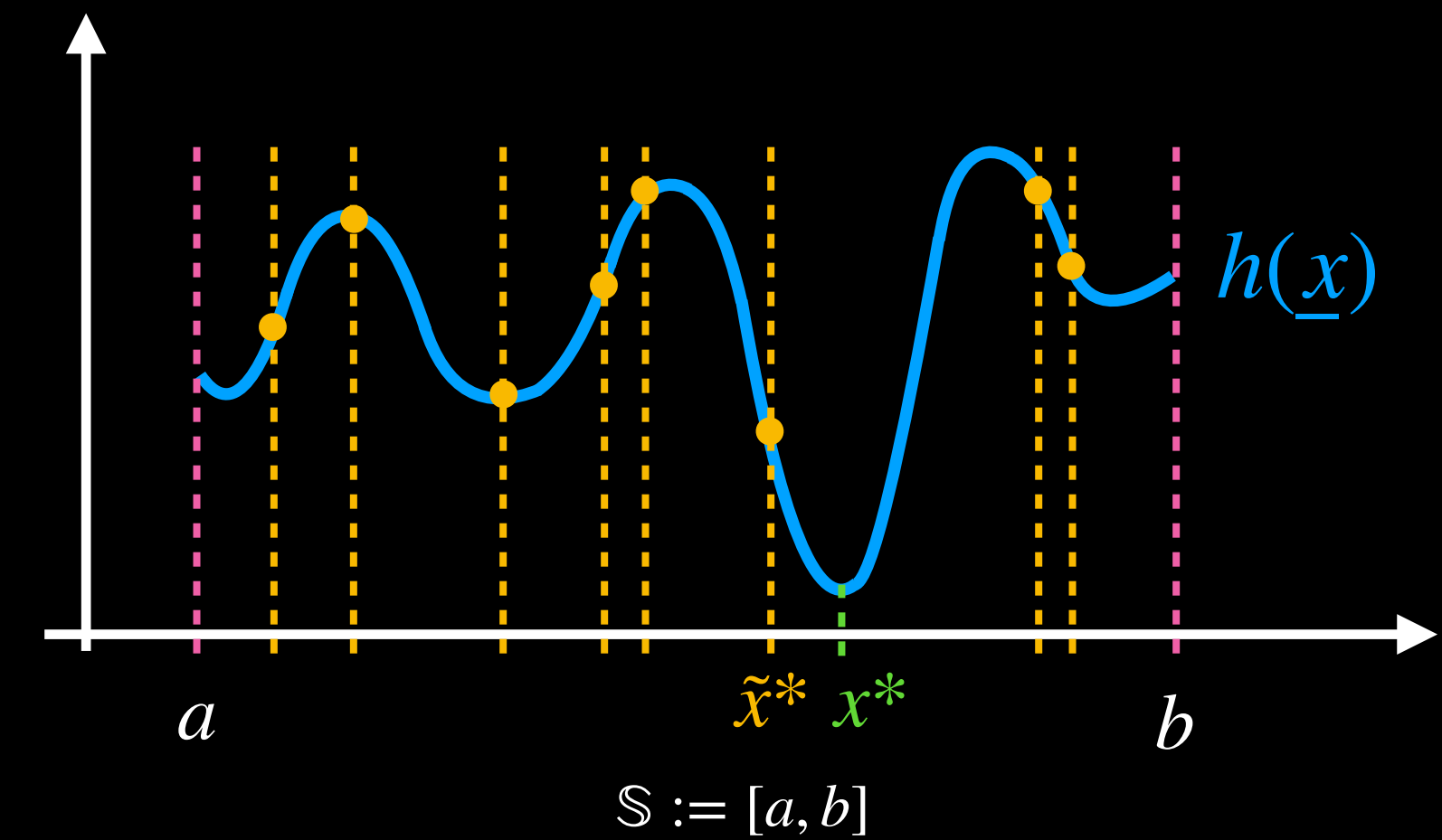
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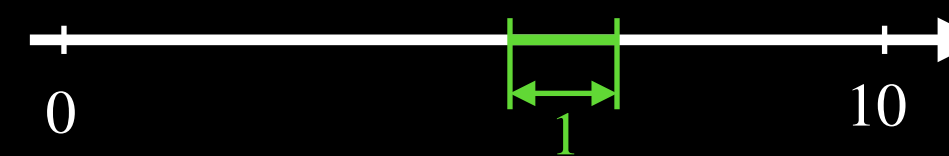
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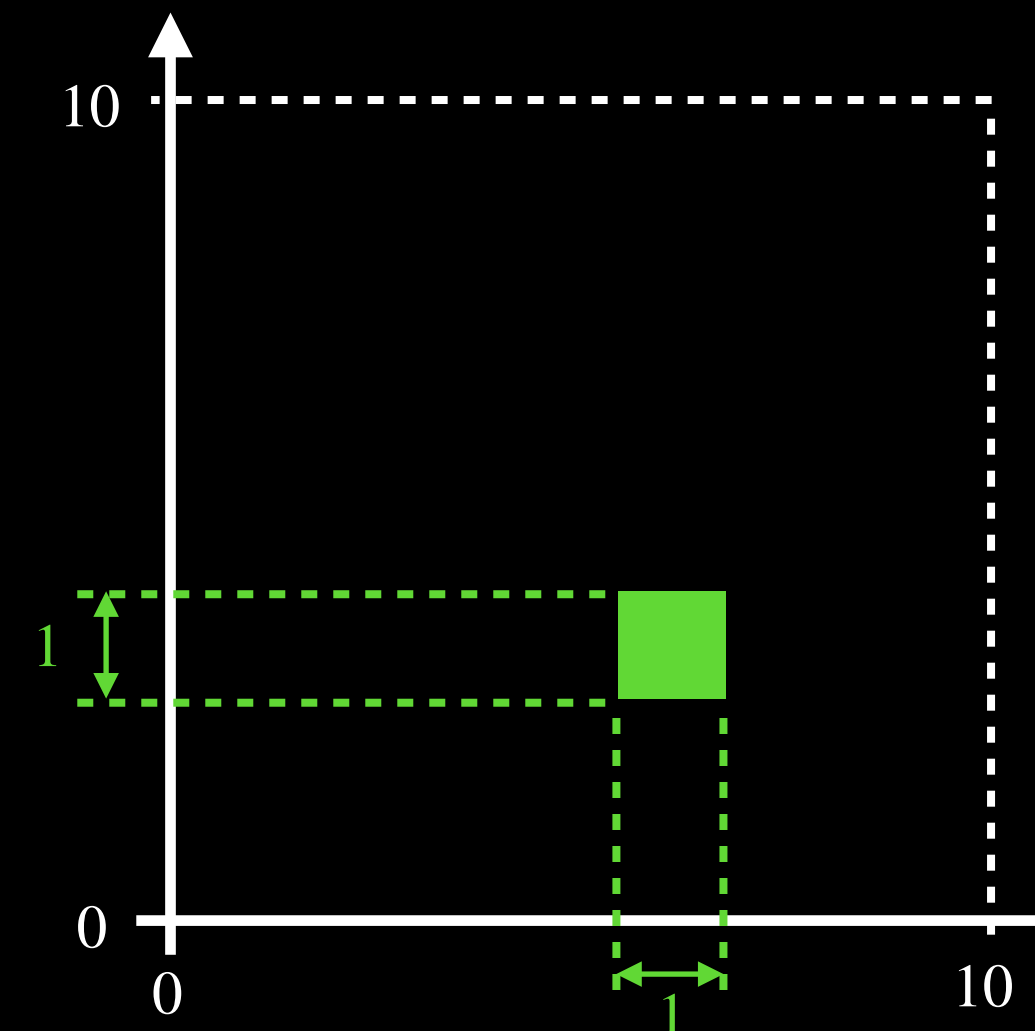
useful if:

1d:



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2d:



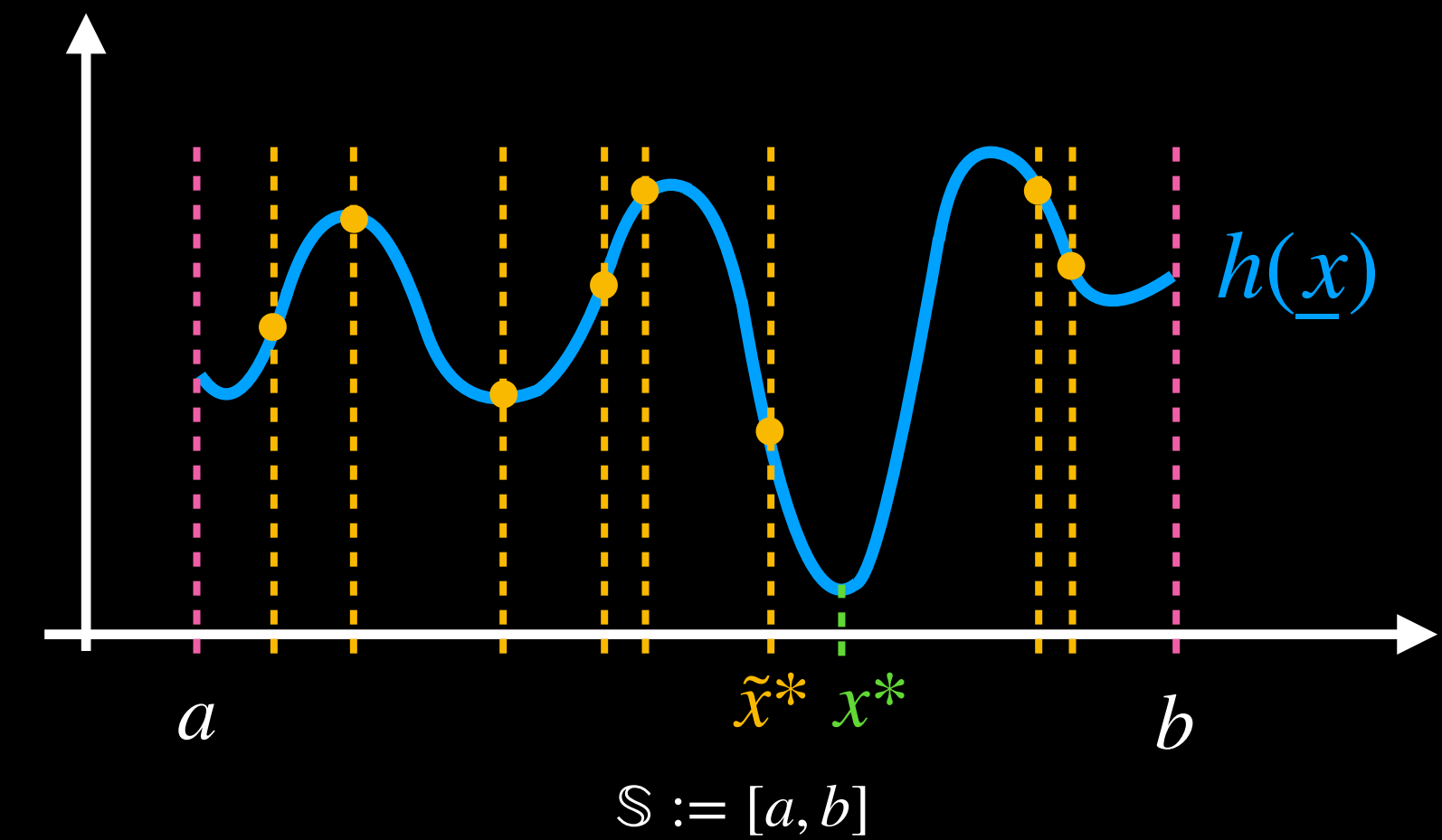
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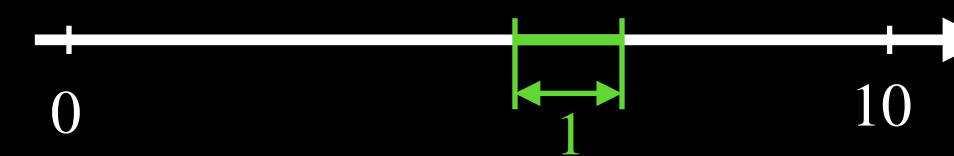
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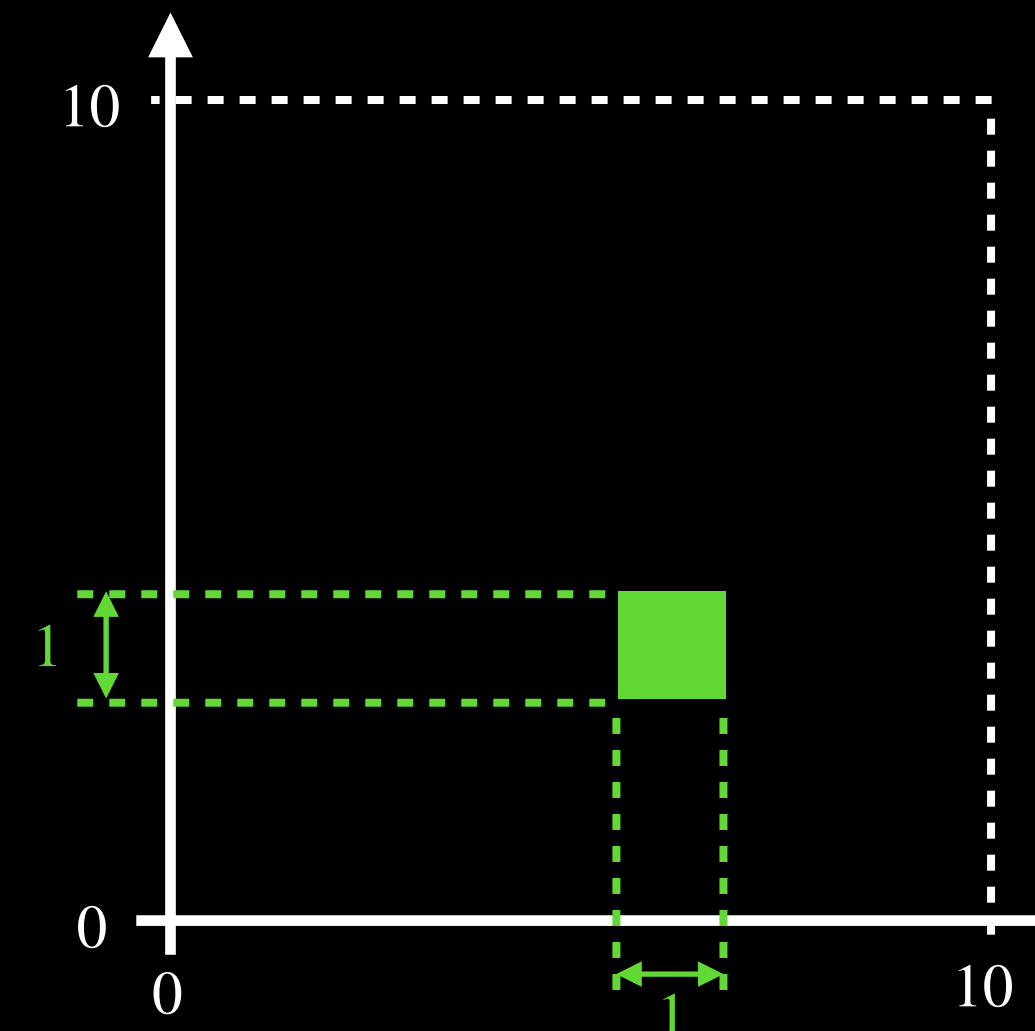
- $\mathbb{S}$  is low-dimensional and bounded

1d:



$$P(X \in \text{—}) = \frac{1}{10}$$

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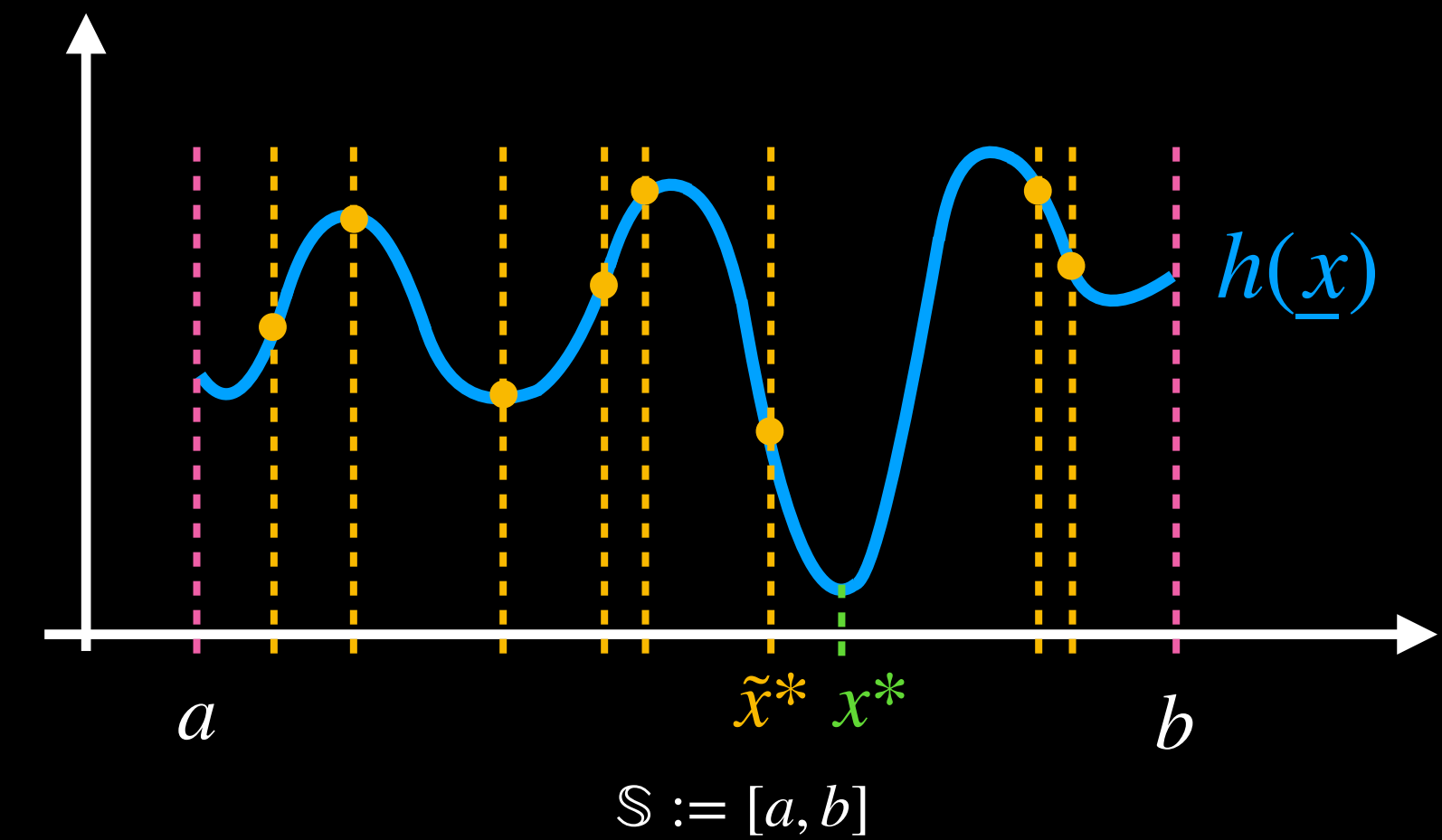
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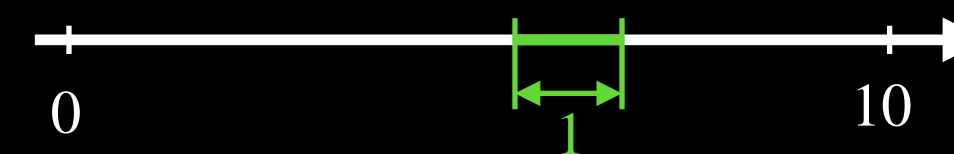
properties:

- very simple
- converges to  $\underline{x}^*$

useful if:

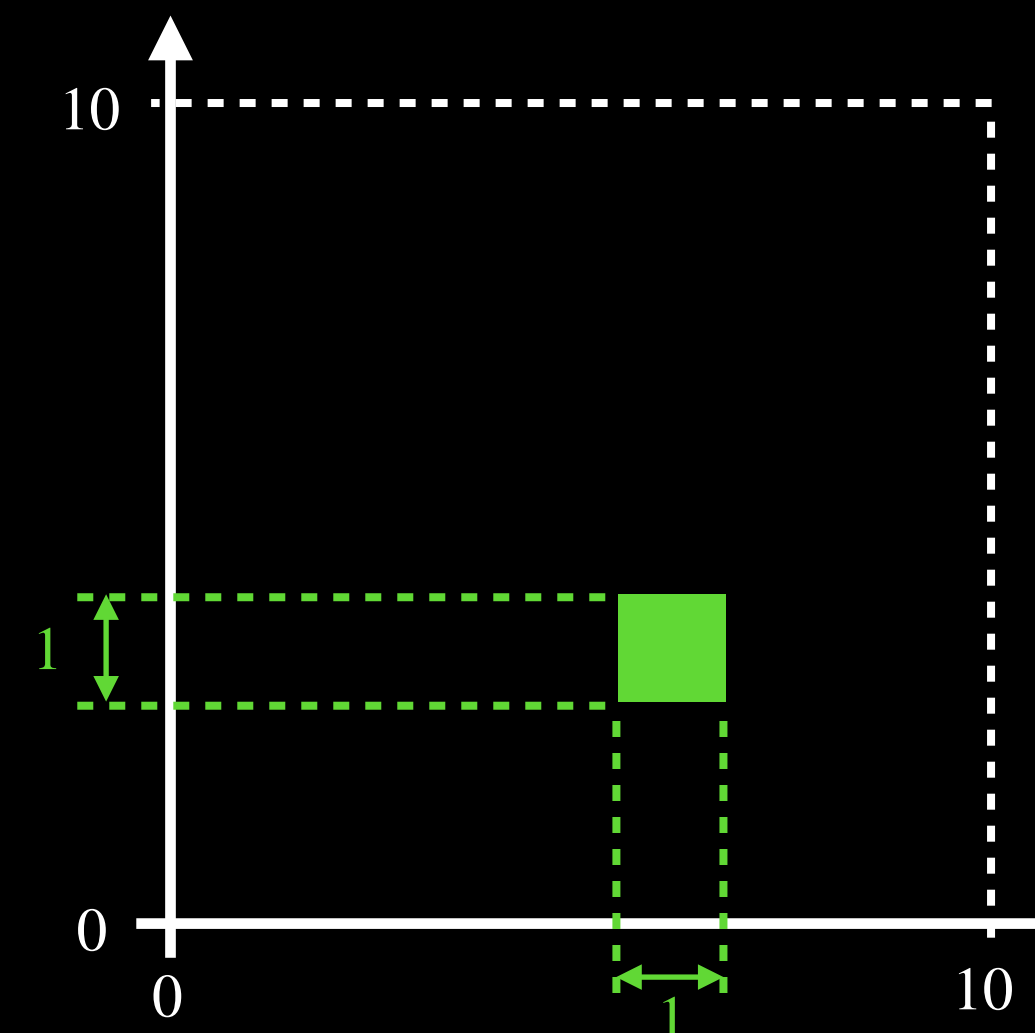
- $\mathbb{S}$  is low-dimensional and bounded
- ( $h$  is cheap to evaluate for higher dimensions)

1d:



$$P(X \in \text{—}) = \frac{1}{10}$$

2d:



$$P(X \in \blacksquare) = \frac{1}{10^2}$$

$$\text{error} \propto n^{-\frac{1}{d}}$$

## algorithm 2: stochastic descent

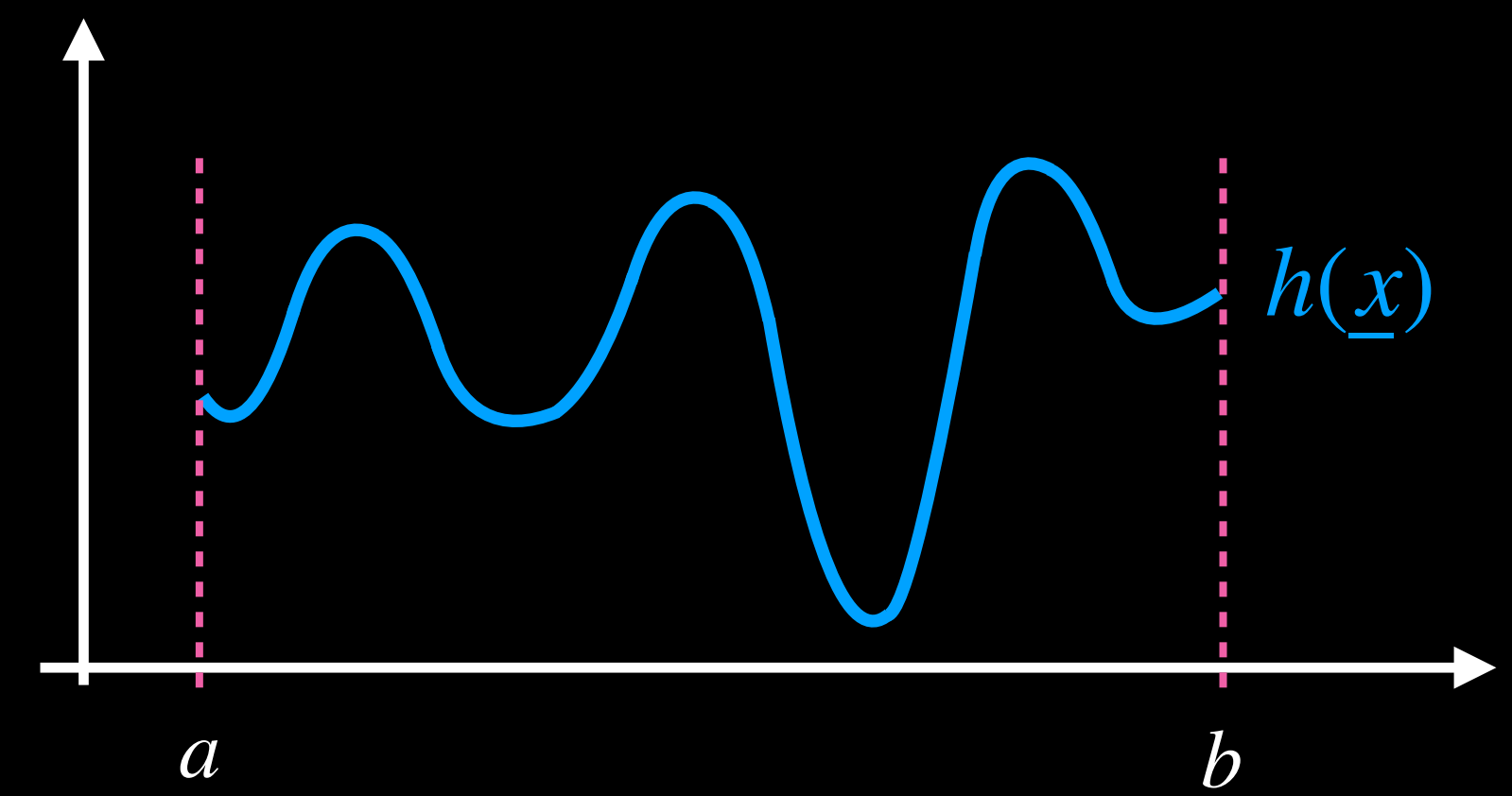


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$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathcal{S}} (h(\underline{x}))$$

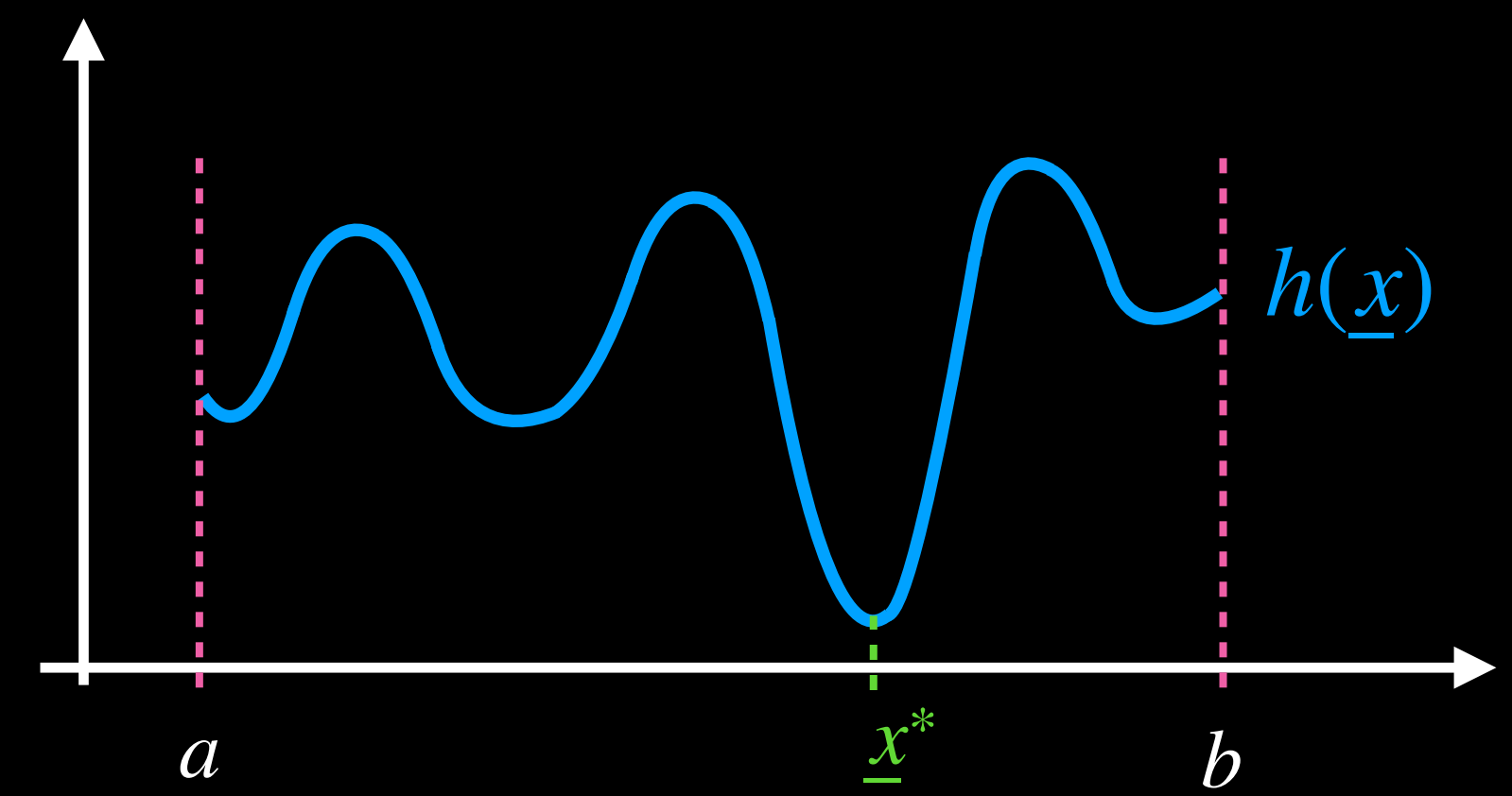
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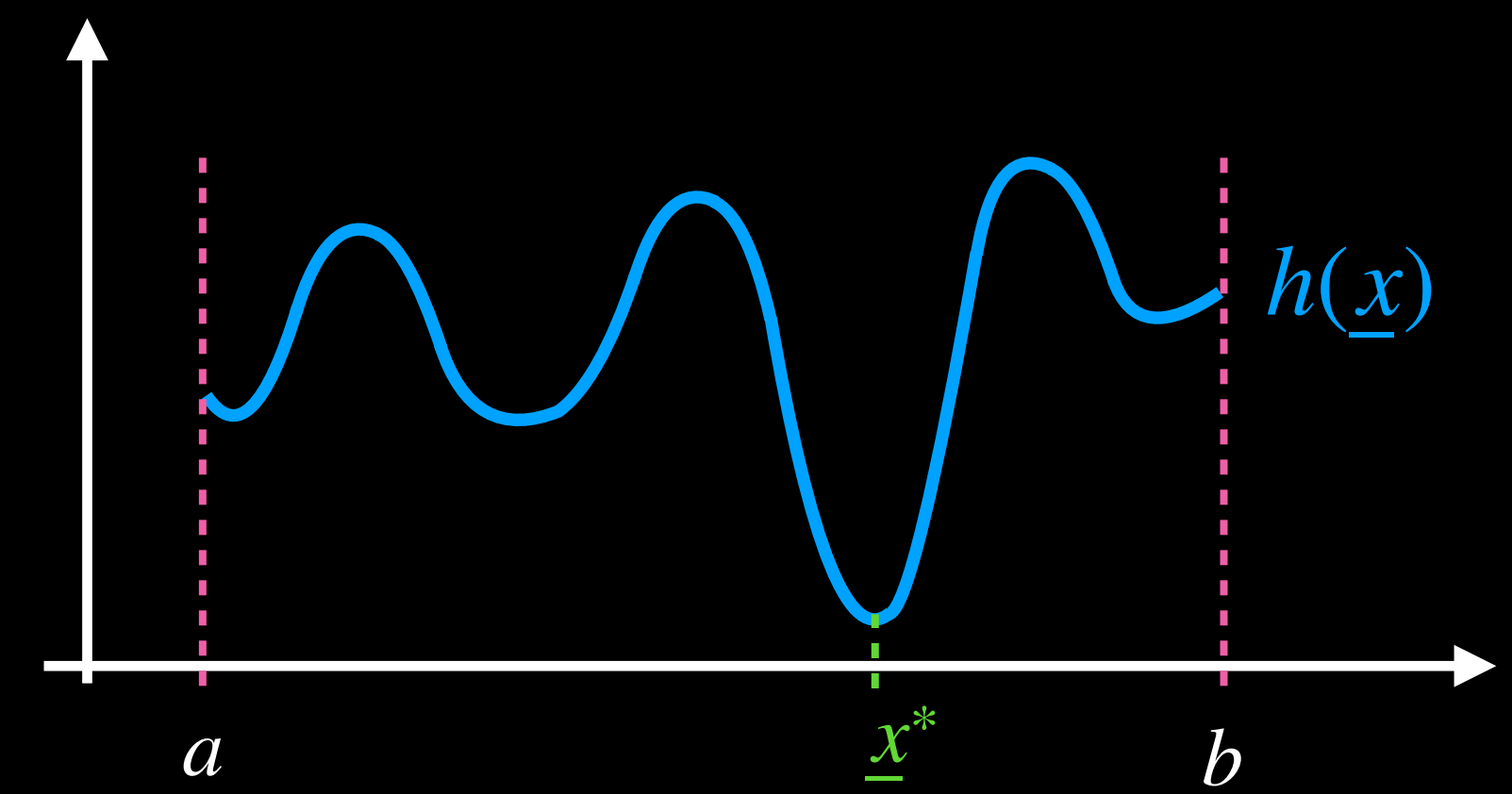
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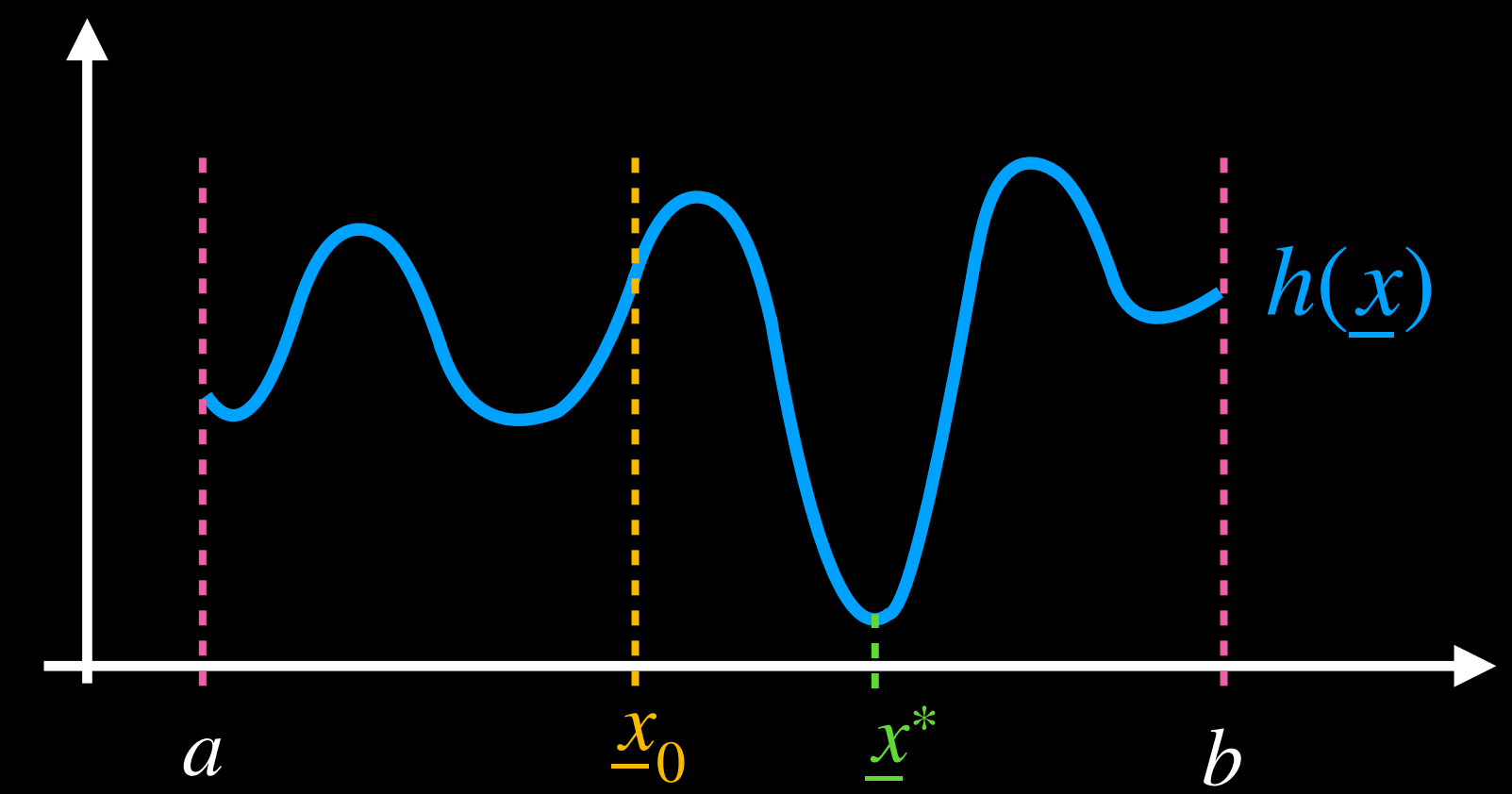
gradient descent:



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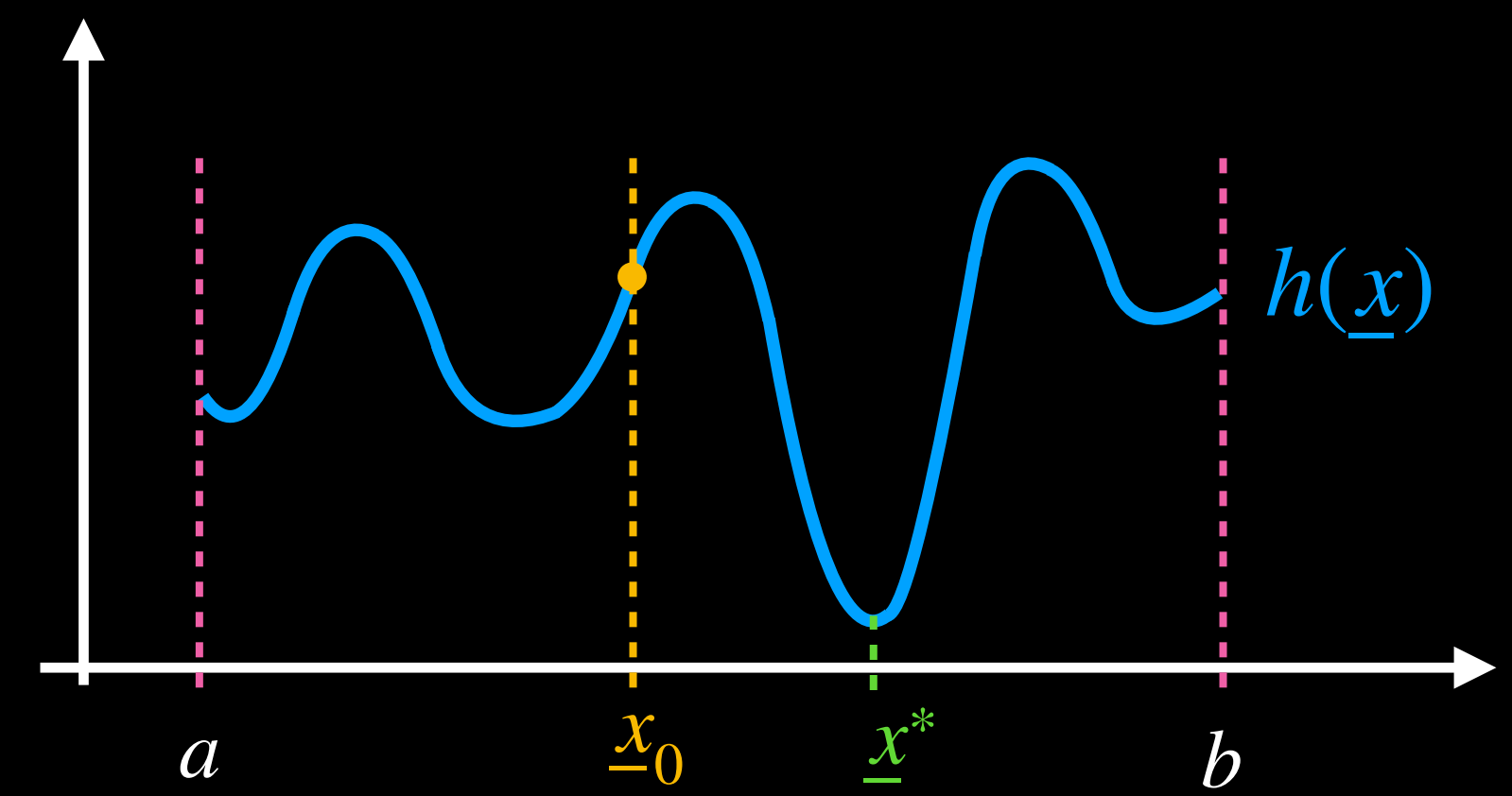
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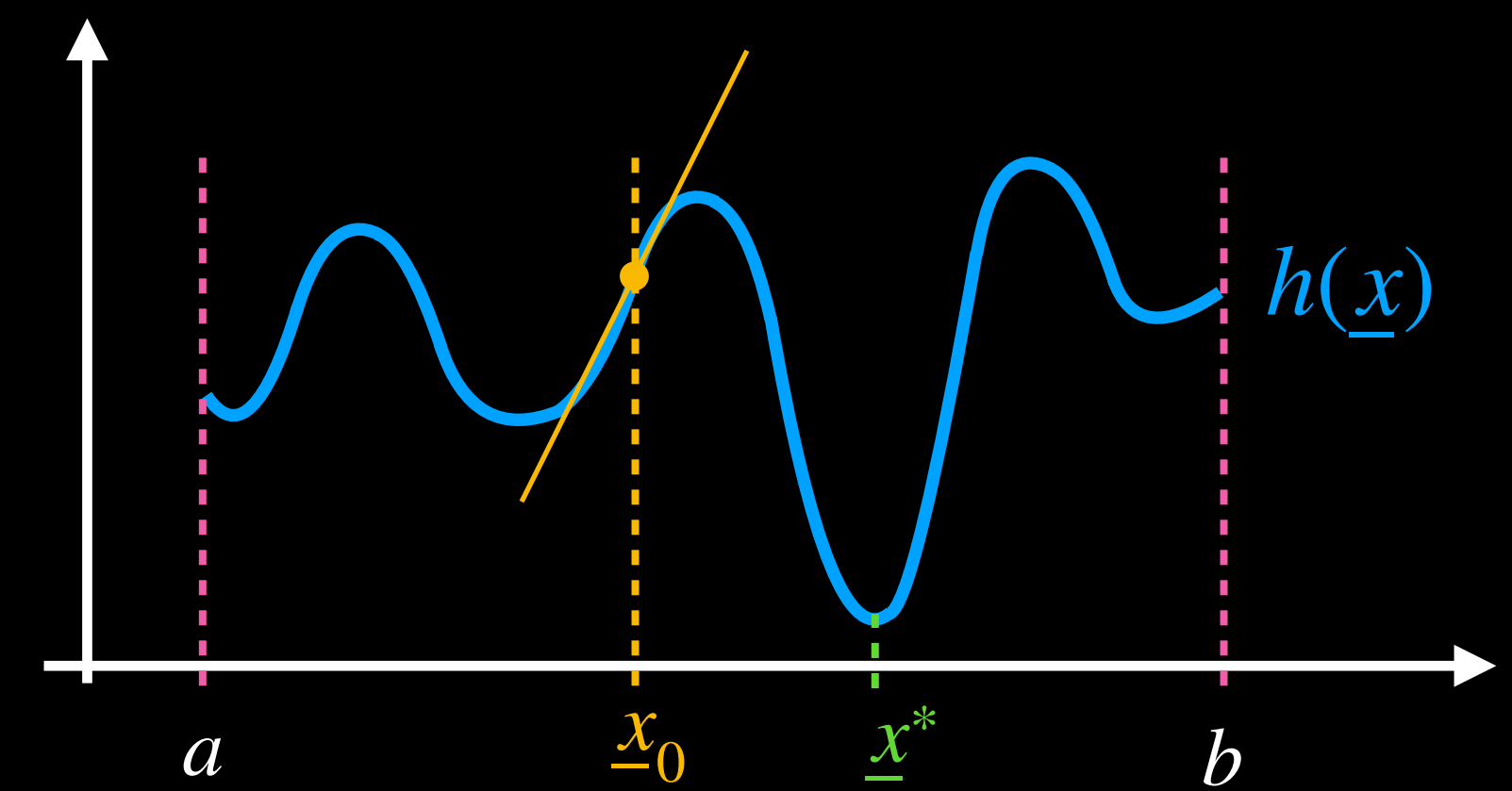
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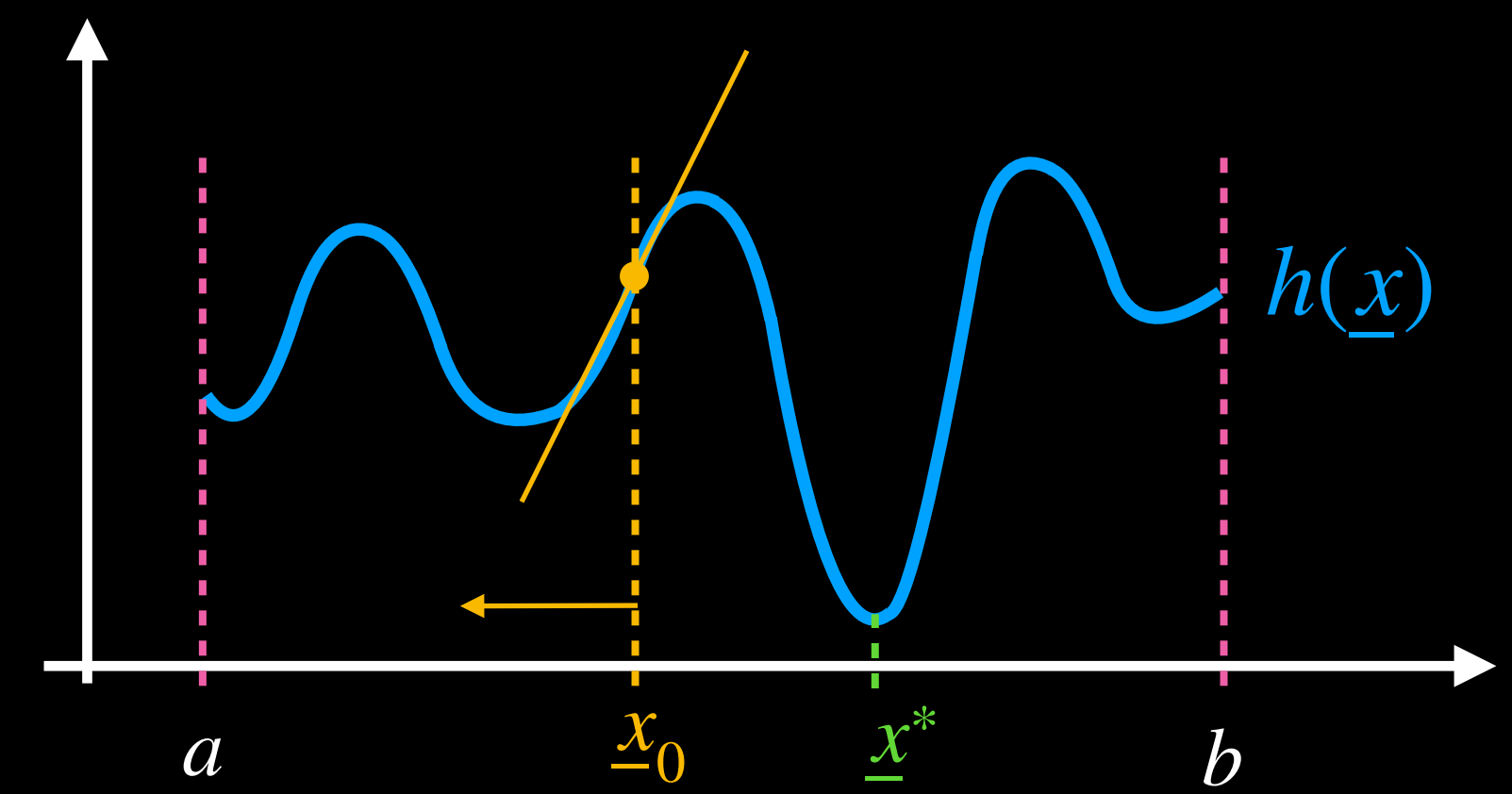
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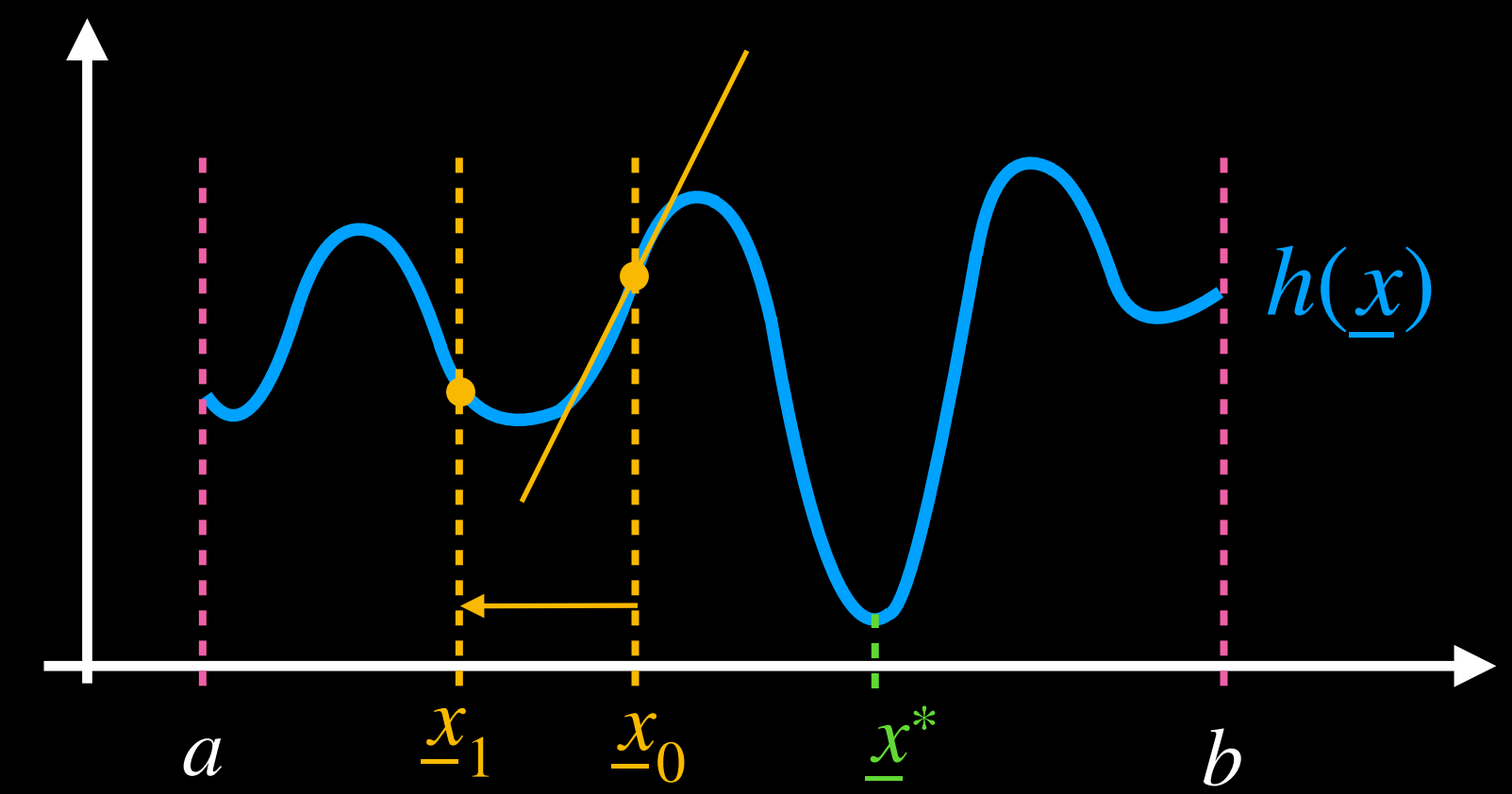




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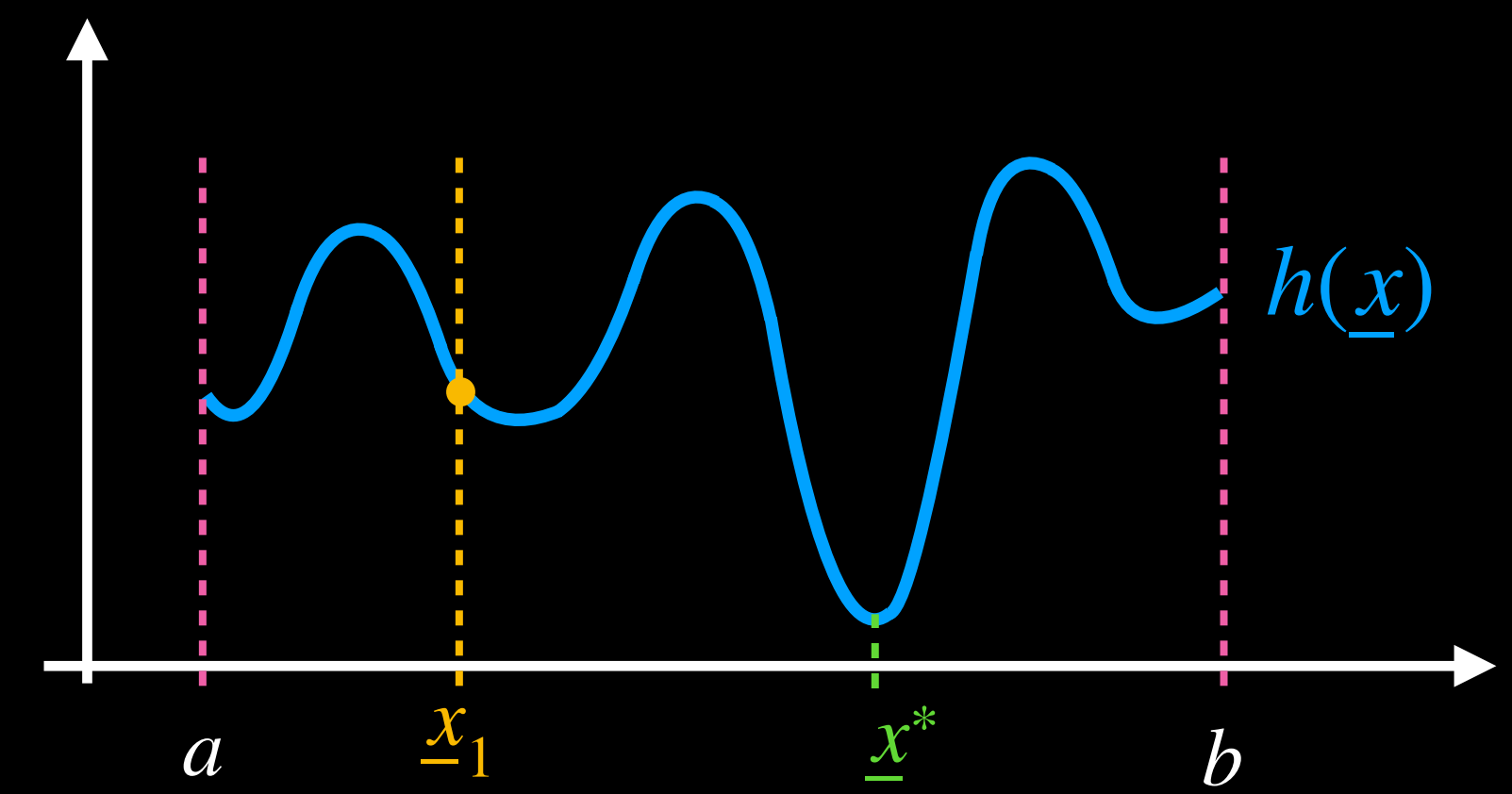
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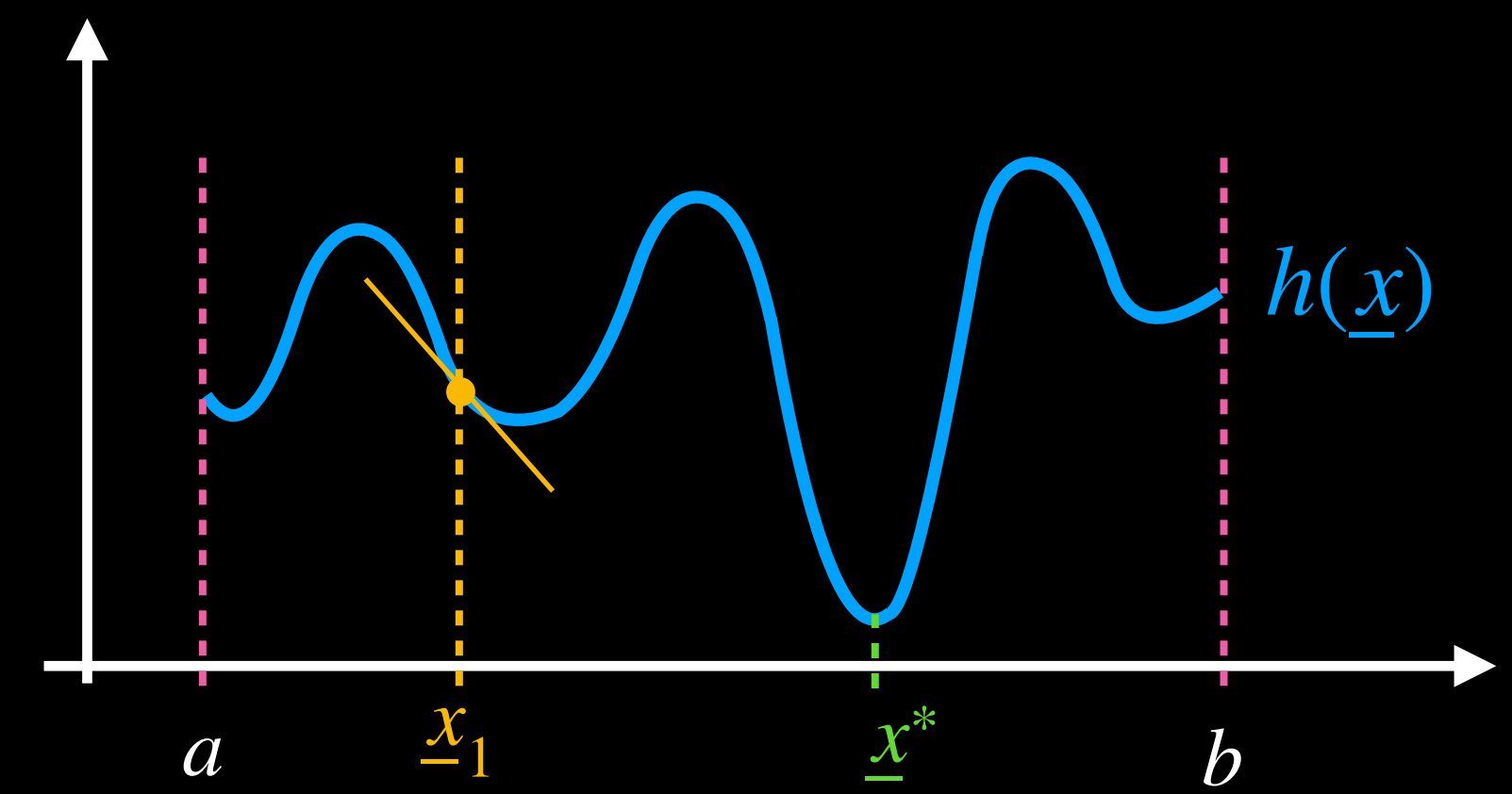
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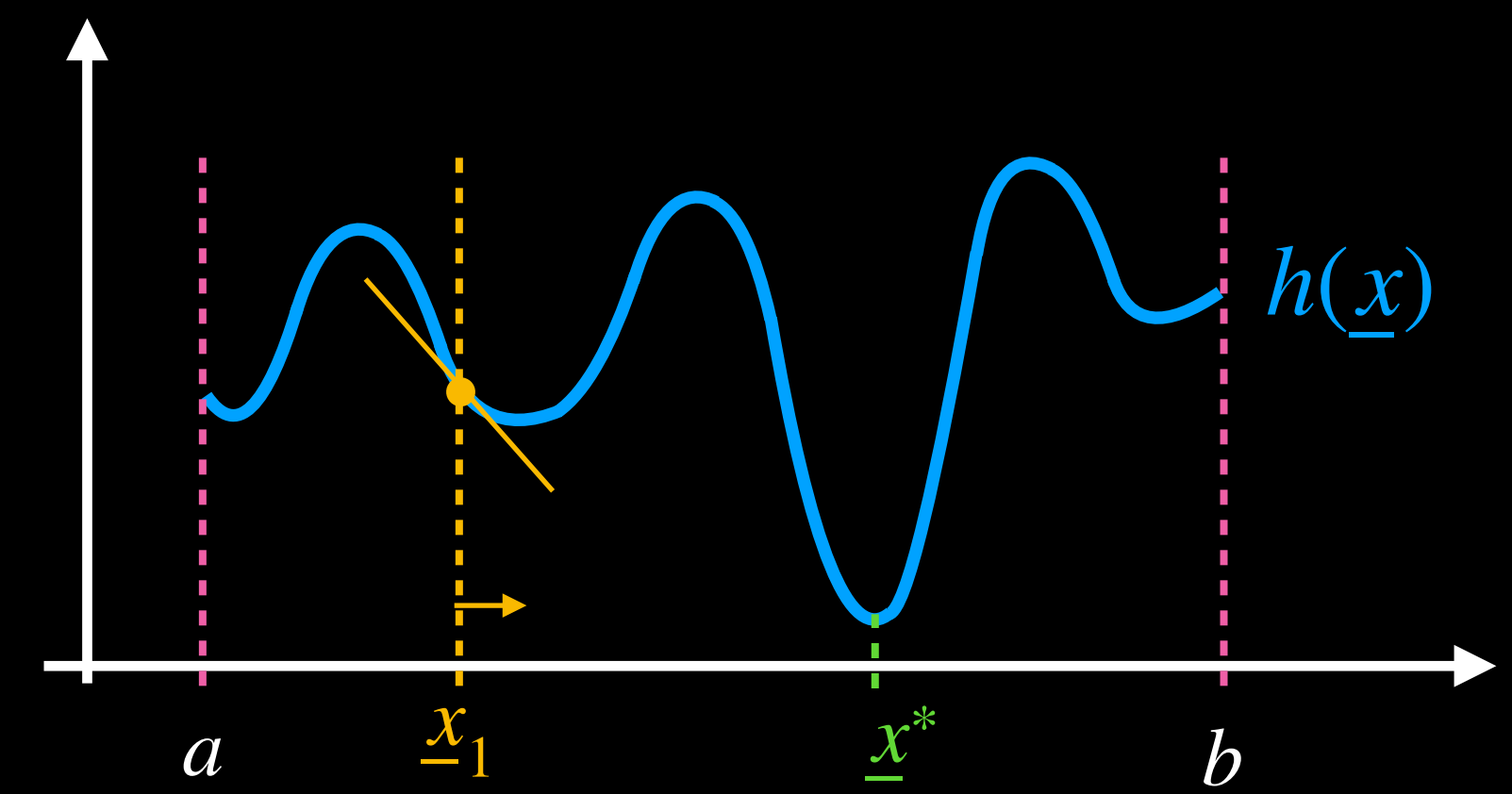
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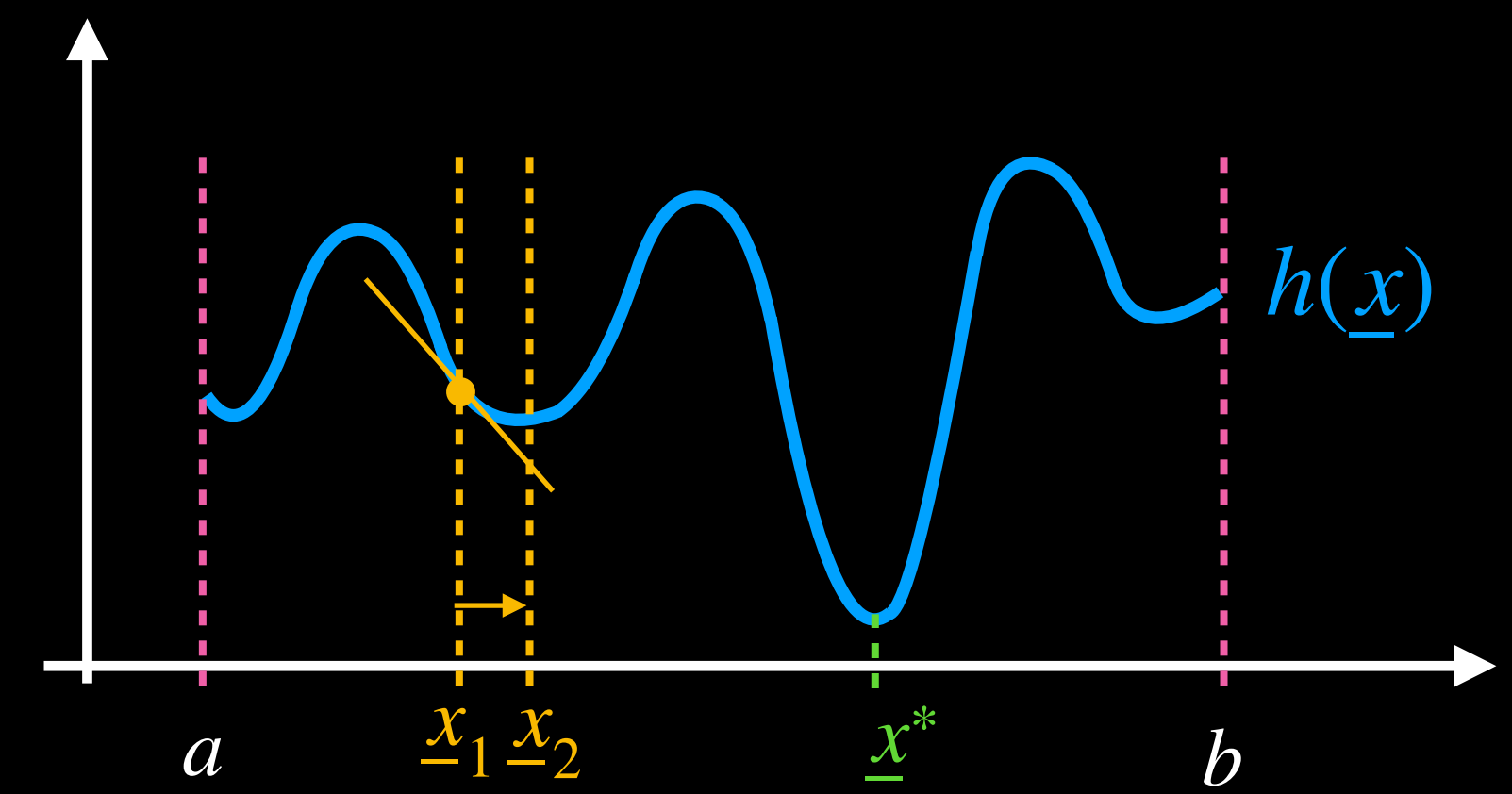
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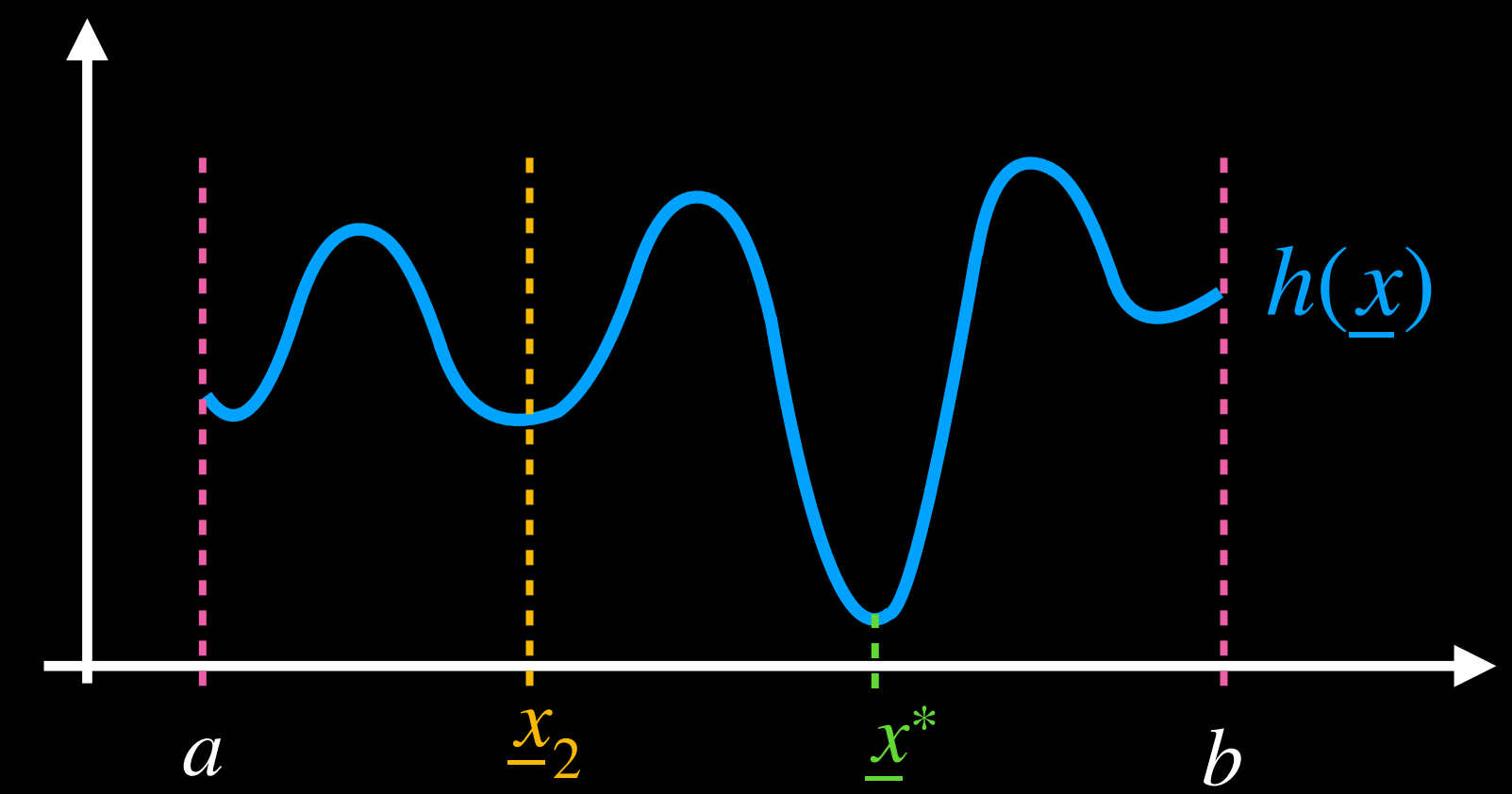
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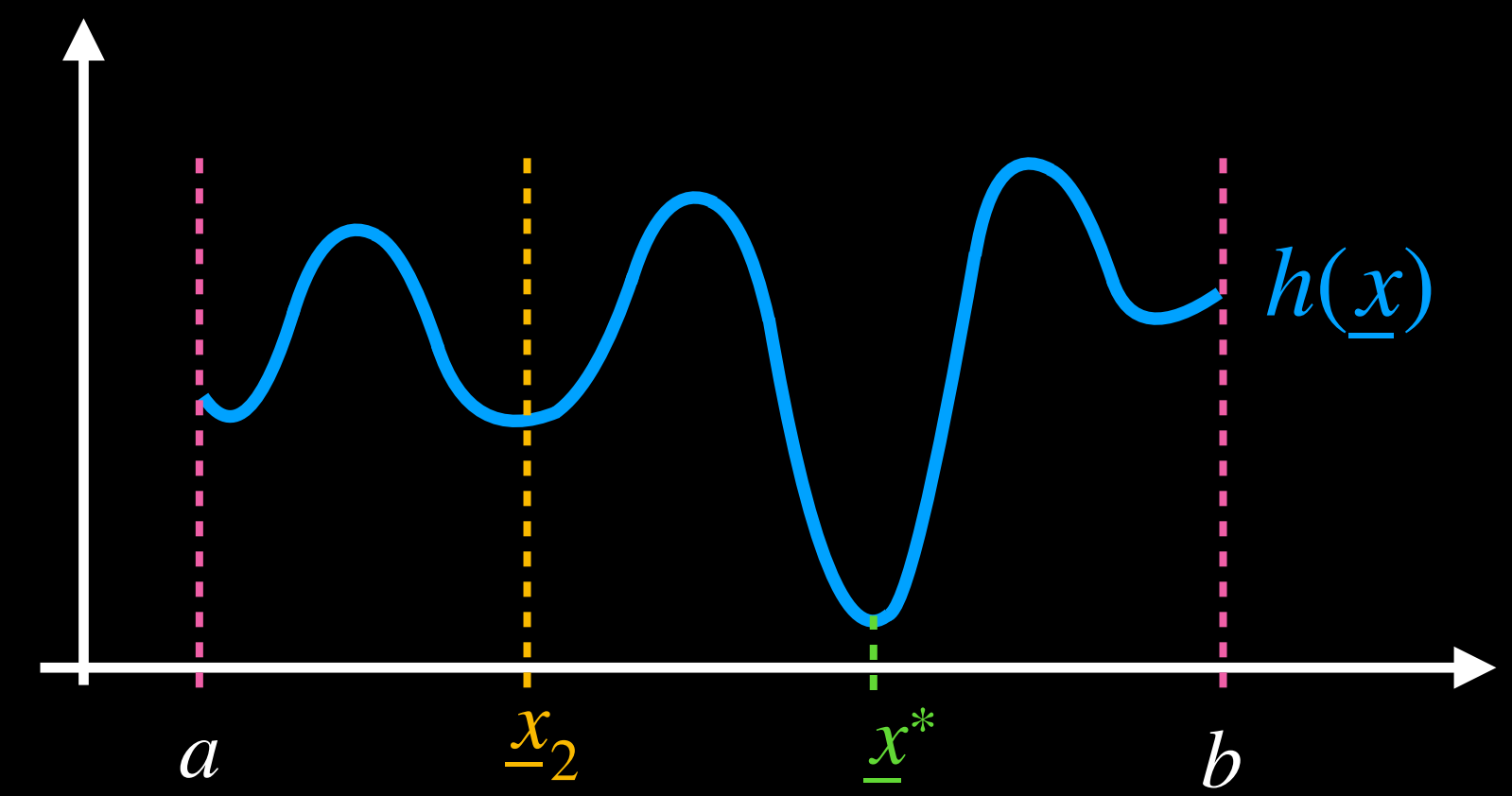
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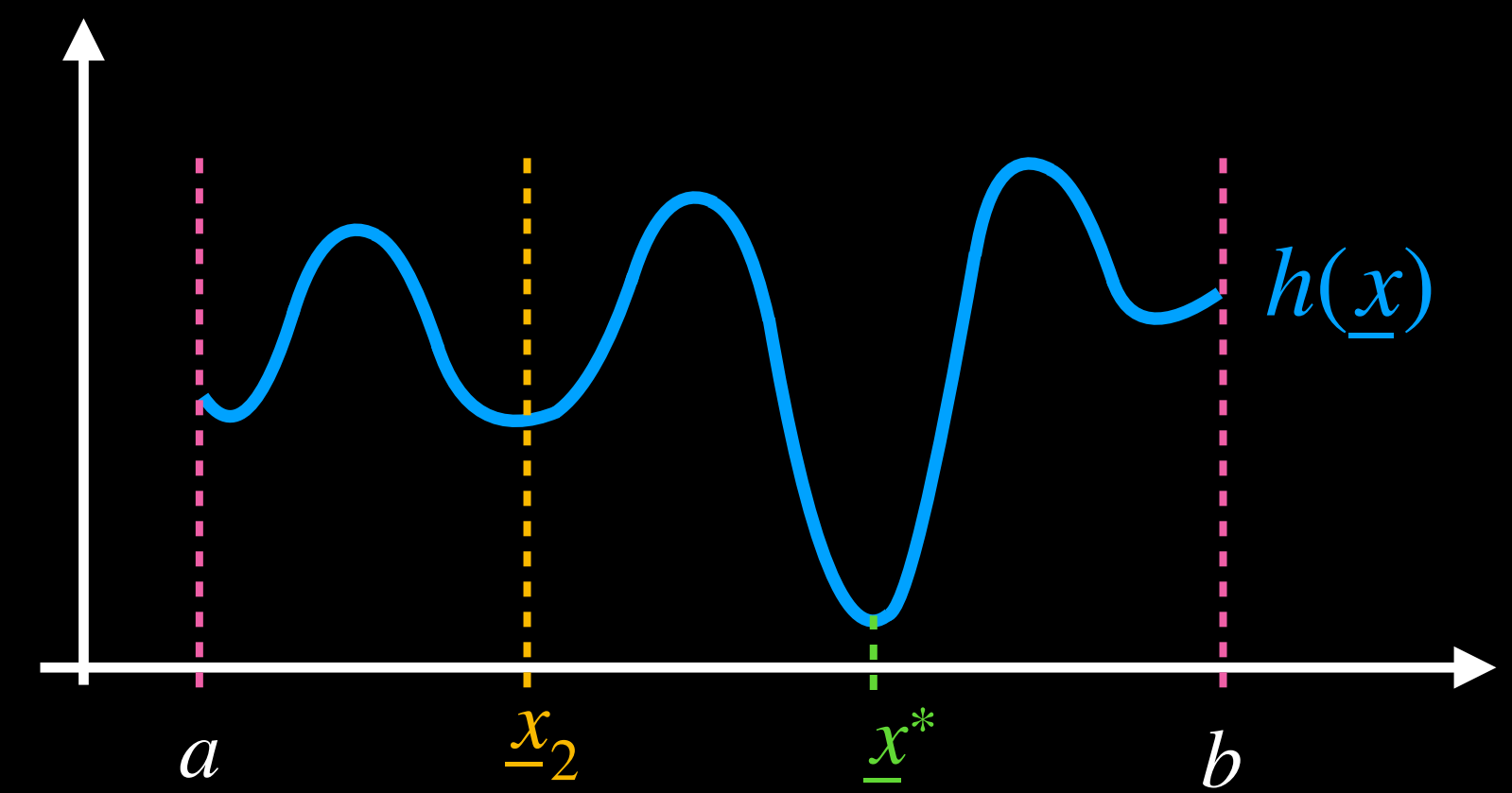
gradient descent:  $\underline{x}_{t+1}$



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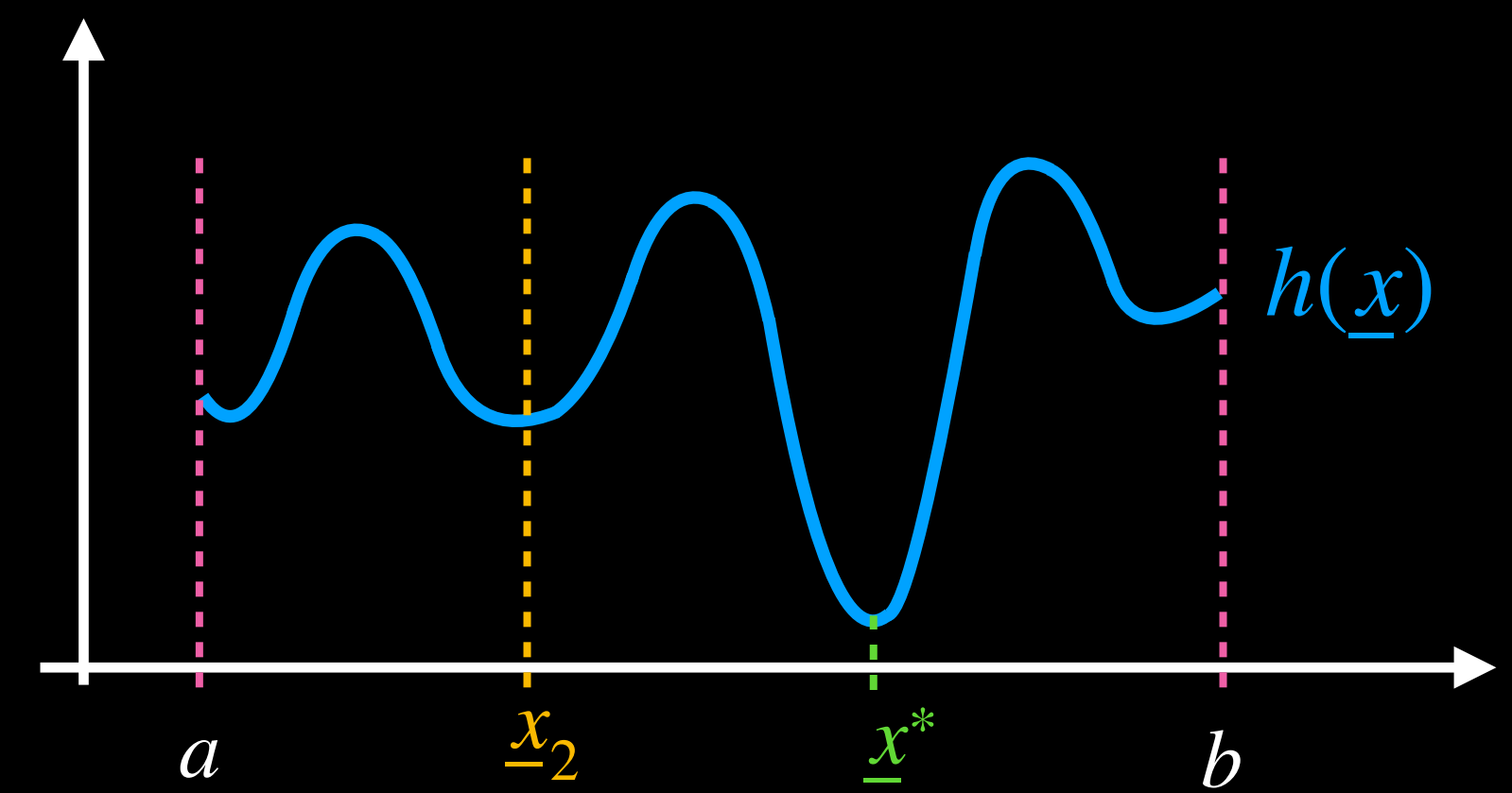


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$t \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  steps

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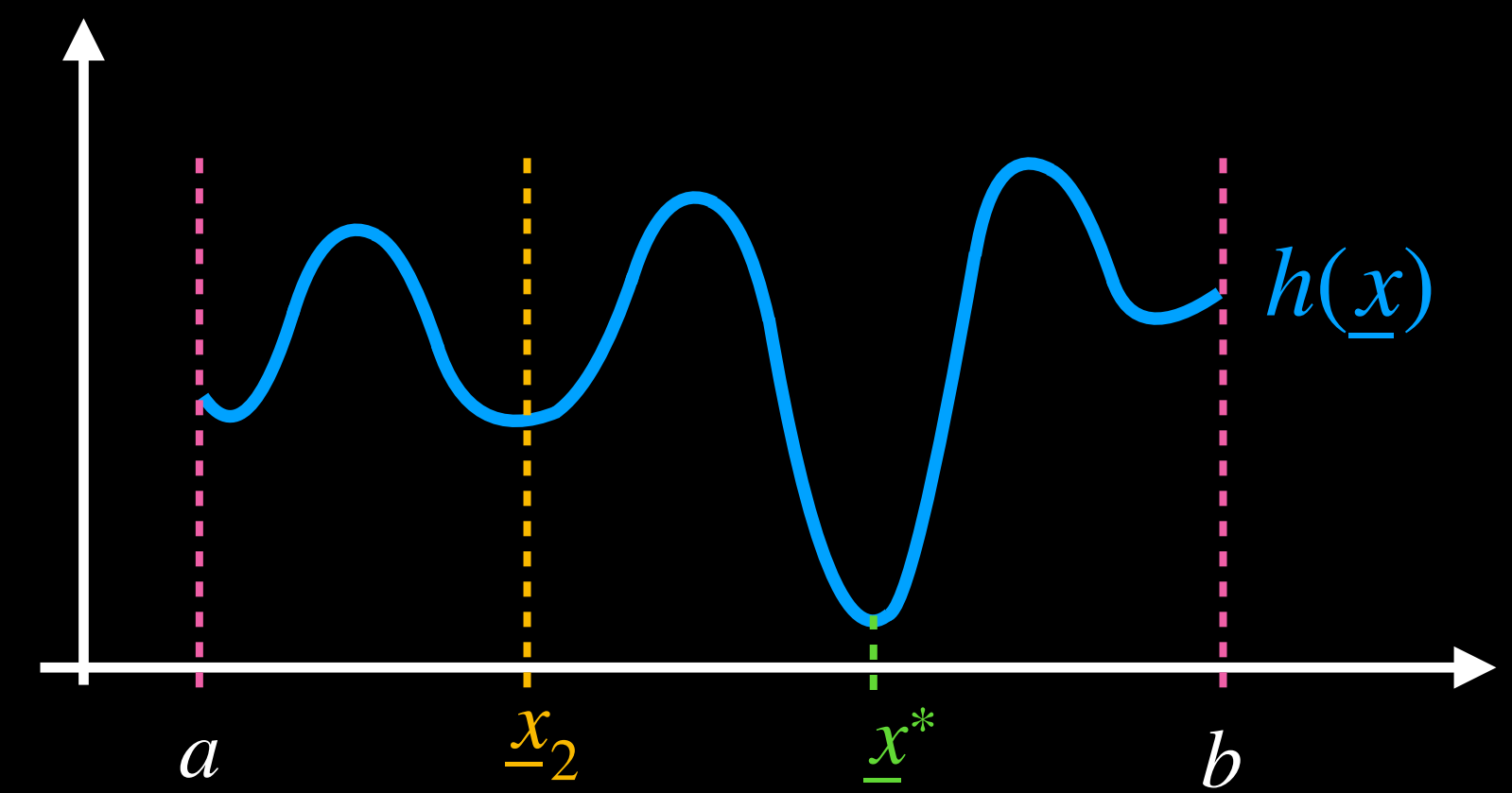
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$\alpha_t > 0$  step size

gradient descent:  $\underline{x}_{t+1} = \underline{x}_t - \alpha_t \nabla h(\underline{x}_t)$



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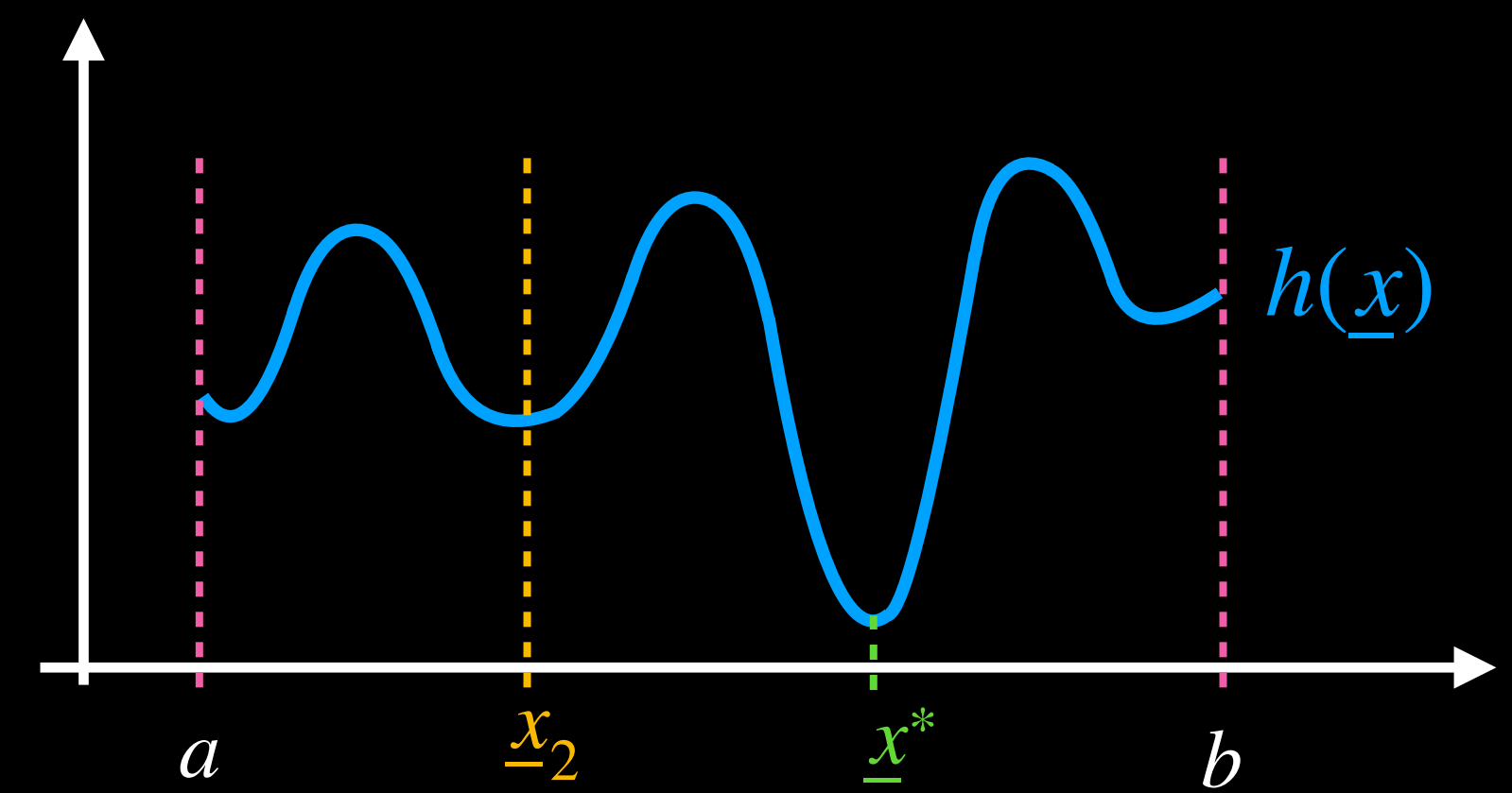
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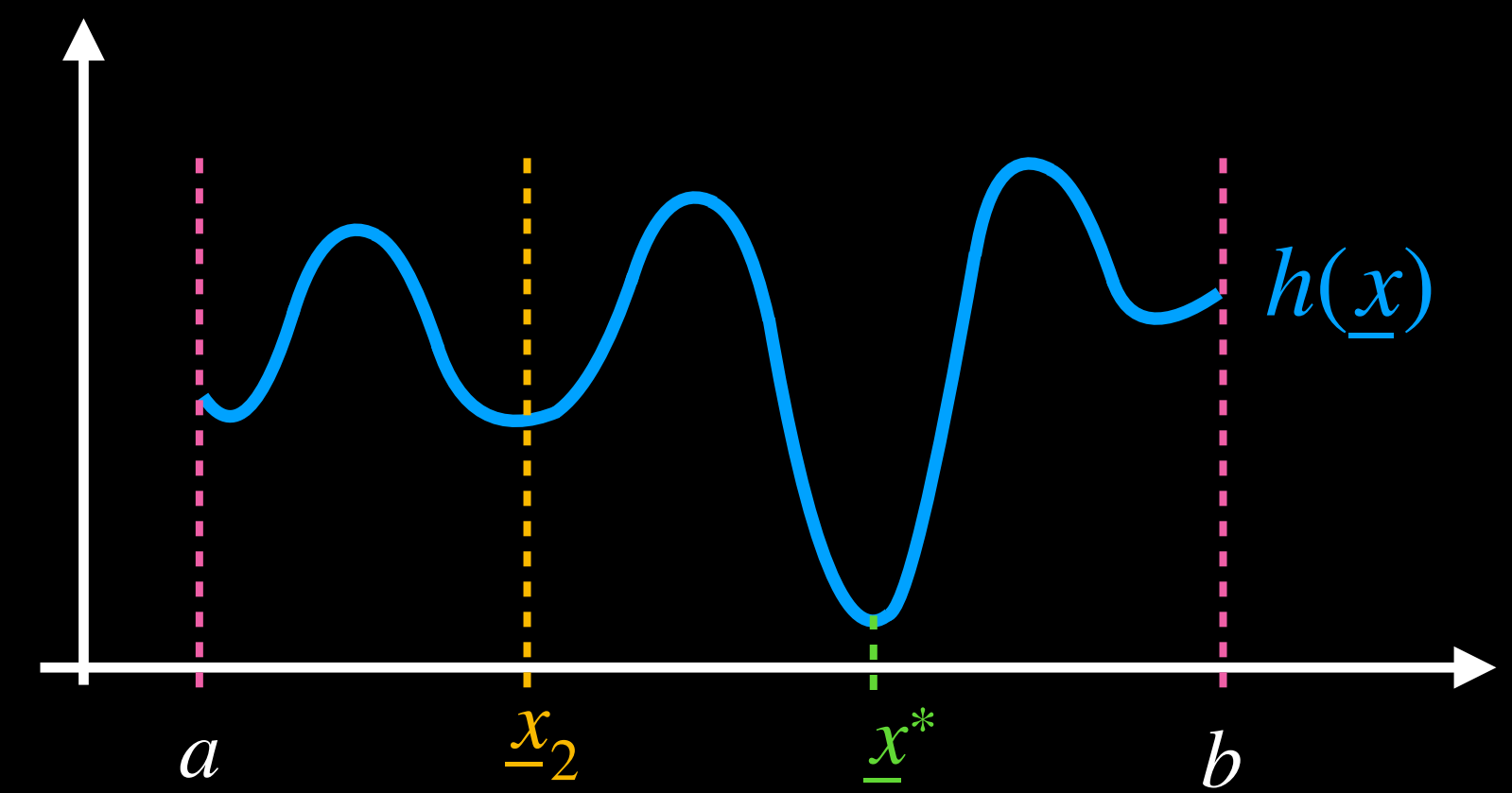
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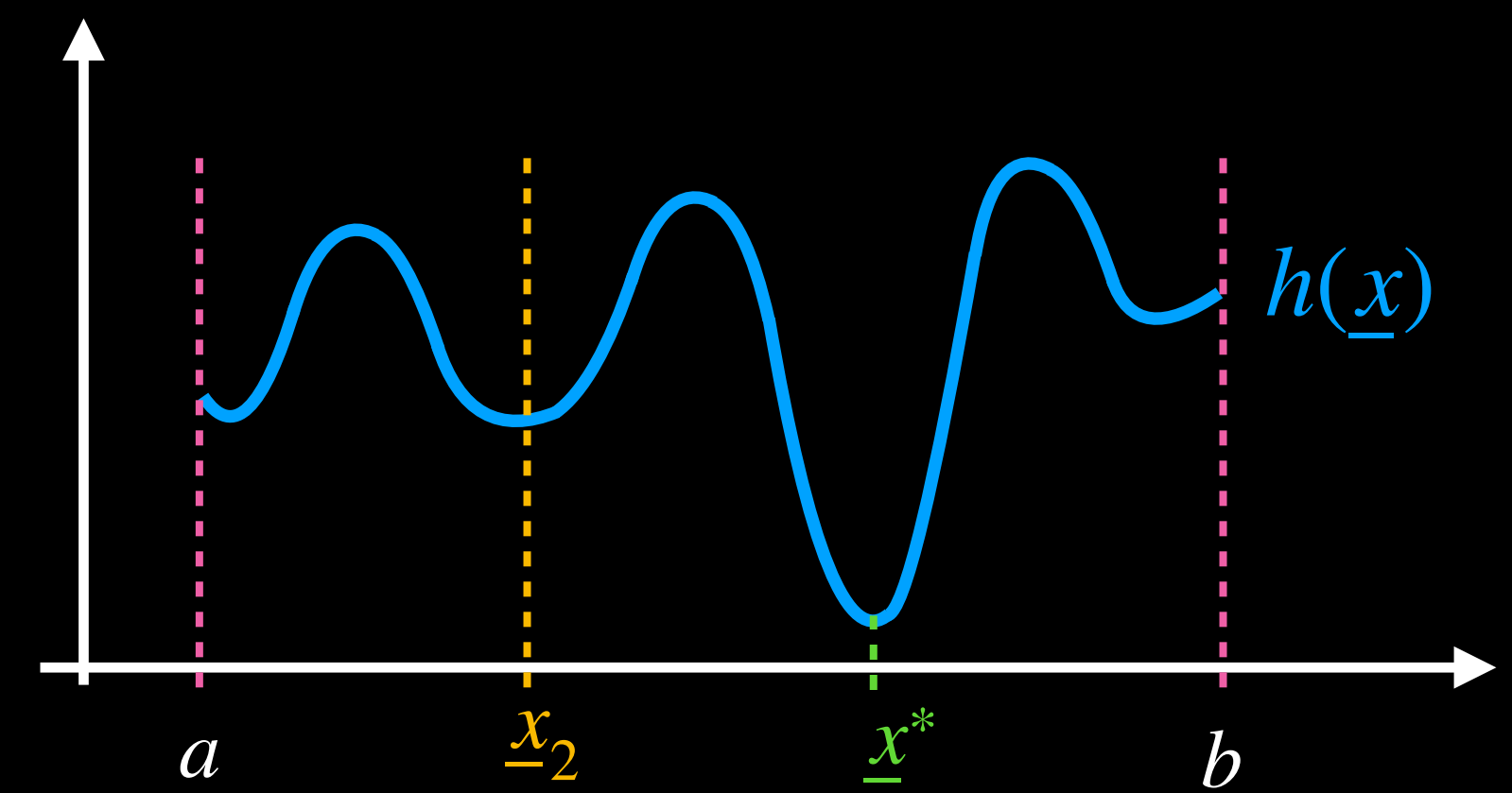


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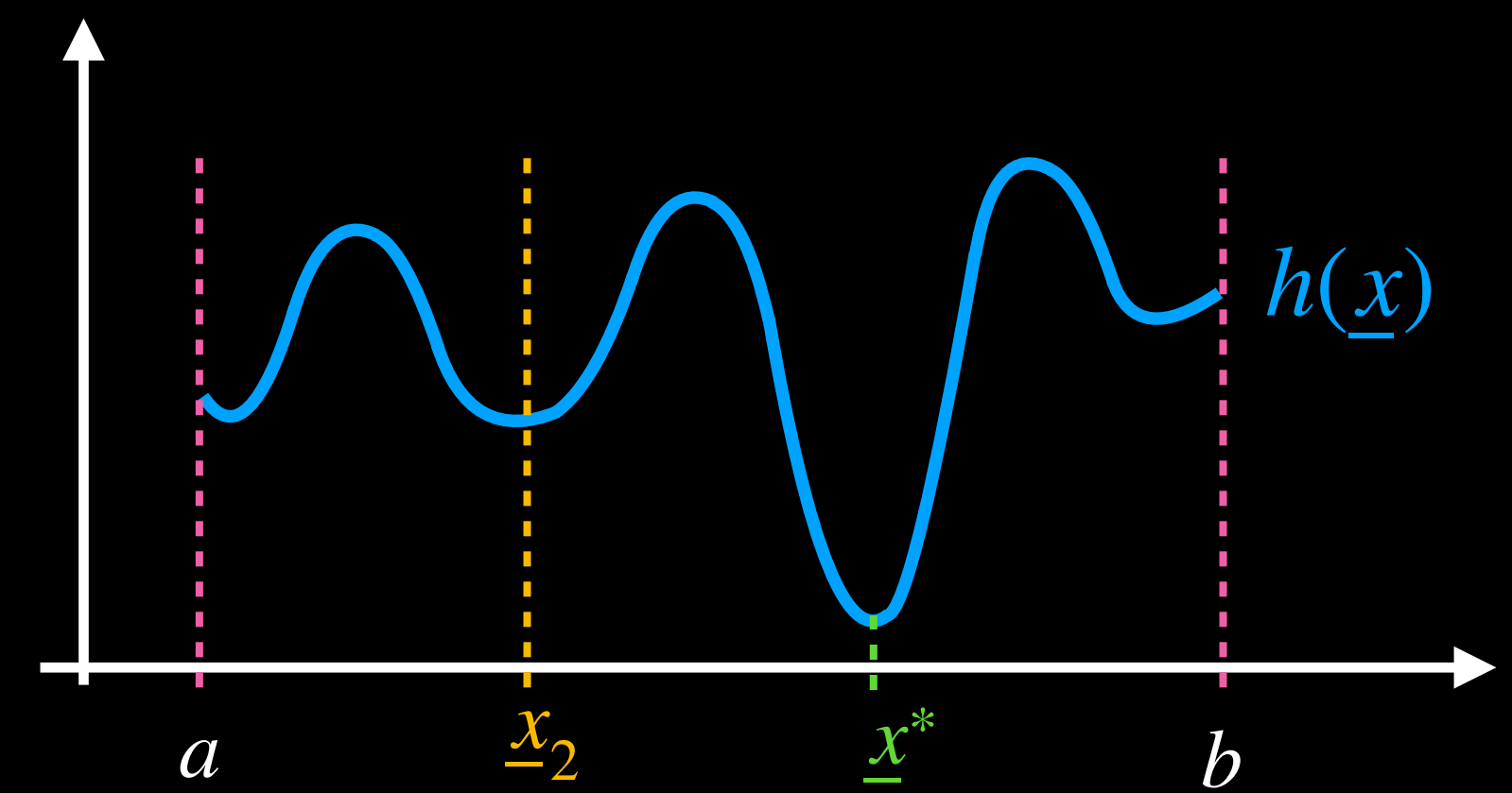
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gradient:



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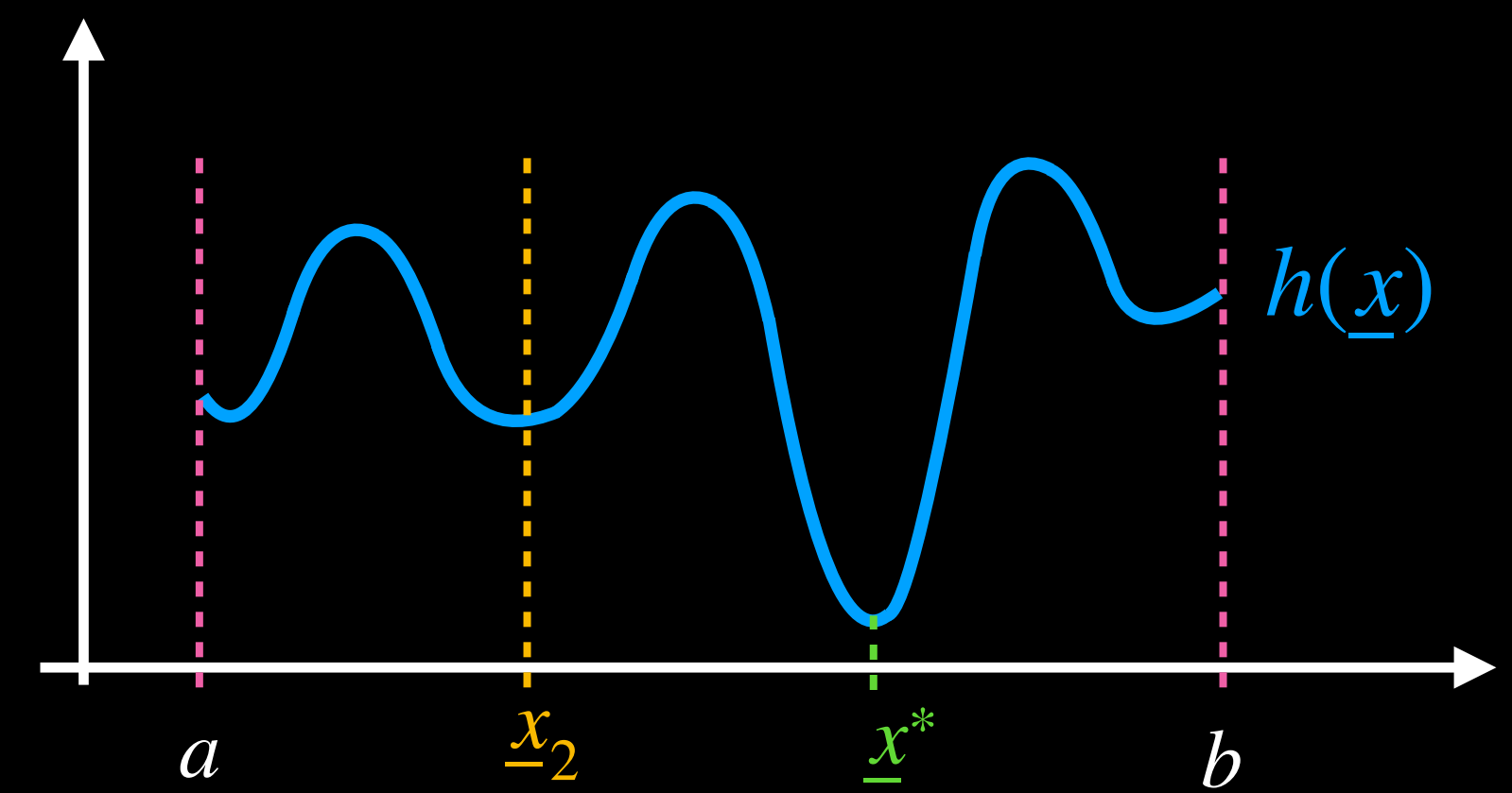
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gradient:

$$\nabla h(\underline{x}) := \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} h(\underline{x}) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_d} h(\underline{x}) \end{pmatrix},$$



# algorithm 2: stochastic descent

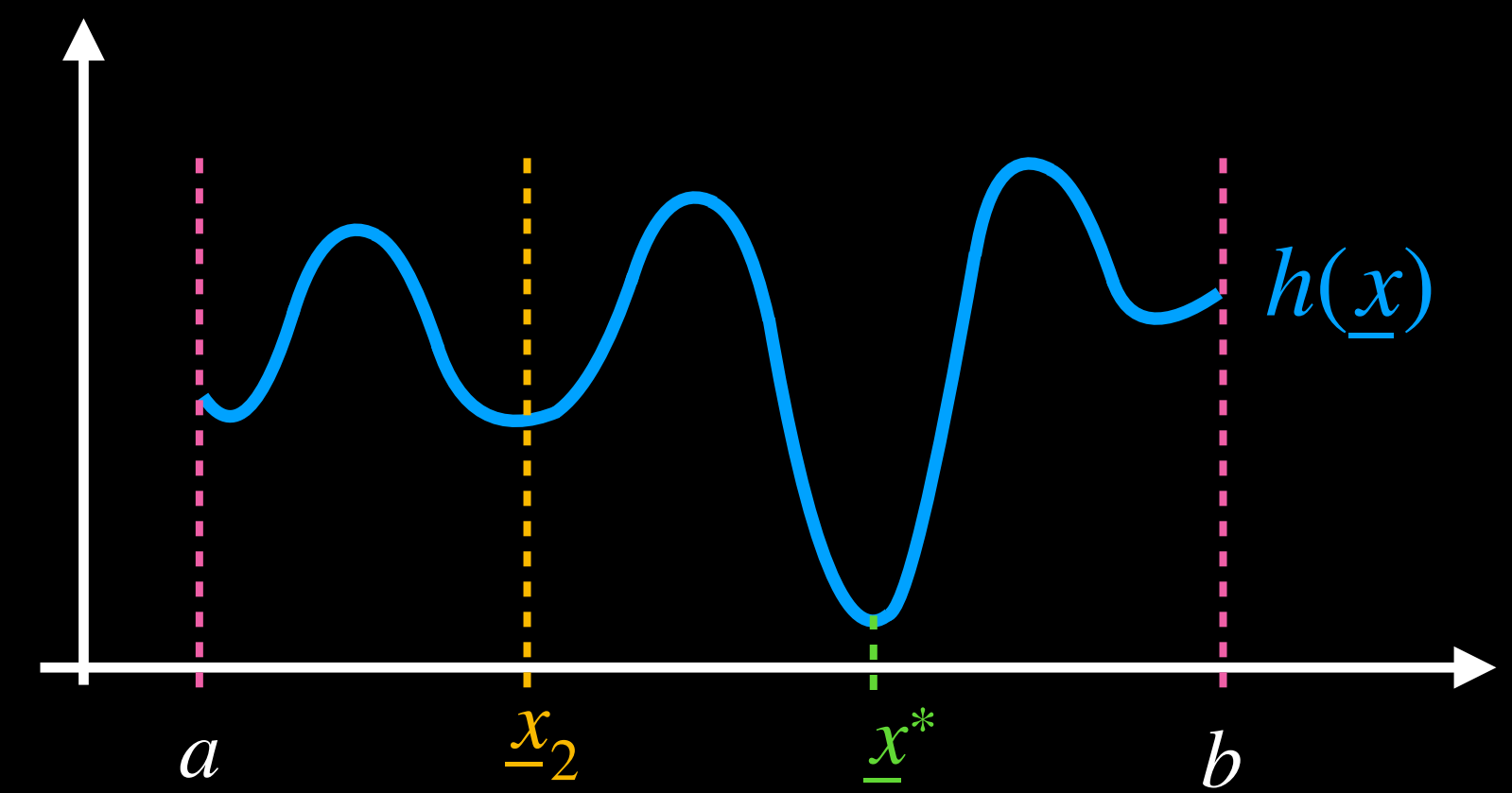
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**gradient descent:**  $\underline{x}_{t+1} = \underline{x}_t - \alpha_t \nabla h(\underline{x}_t)$

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# algorithm 2: stochastic descent

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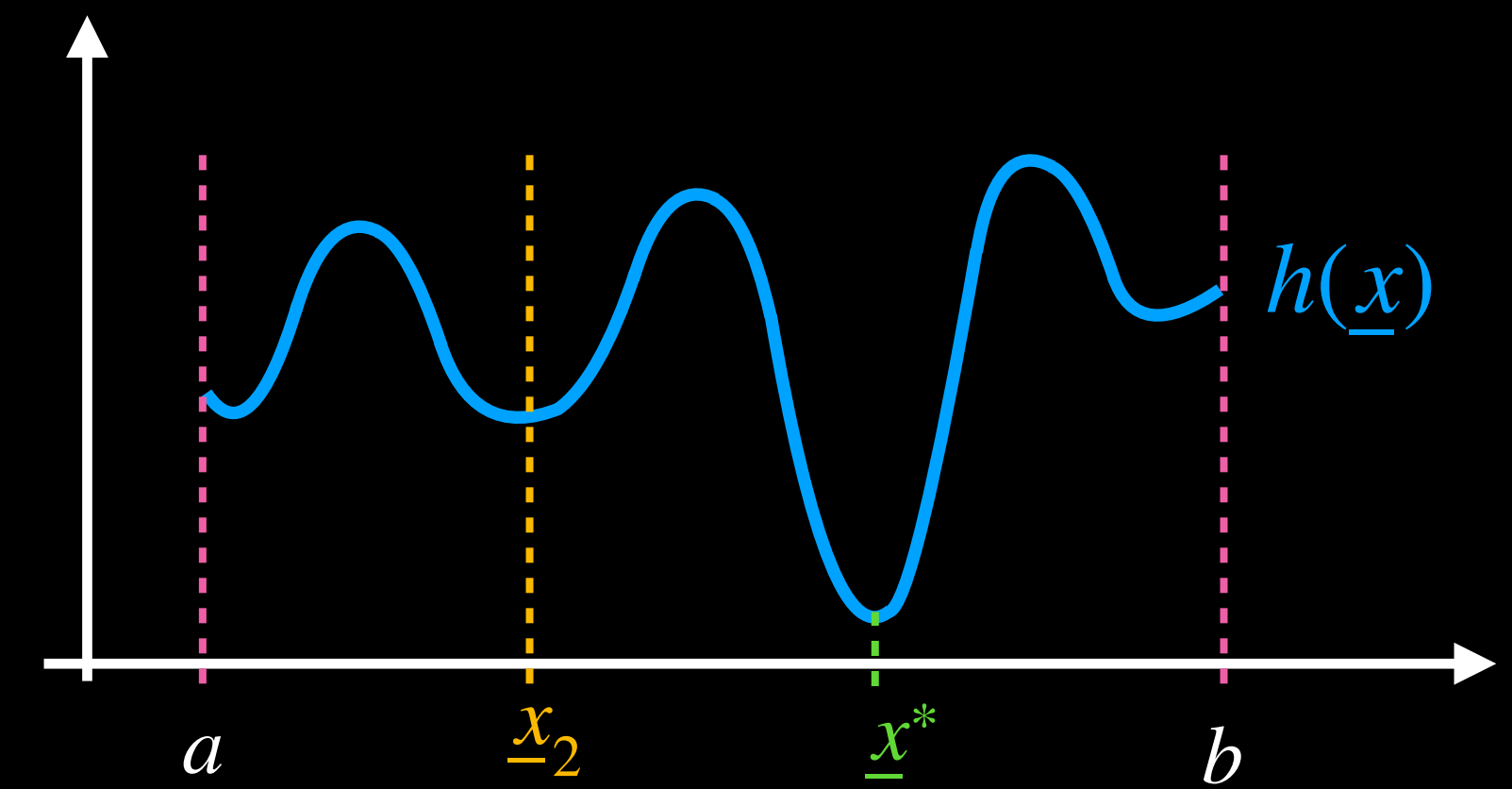
**gradient descent:**  $\underline{x}_{t+1} = \underline{x}_t - \alpha_t \nabla h(\underline{x}_t)$

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 $-\nabla h(\underline{x}_t)$  vector of steepest decrease  
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gradient:

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→ approximating  $\nabla h(\underline{x})$  has  $2d$  evaluations of  $h$  (expensive)



# algorithm 2: stochastic descent

$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x}))$$

gradient descent:  $\underline{x}_{t+1} = \underline{x}_t - \alpha_t \nabla h(\underline{x}_t)$

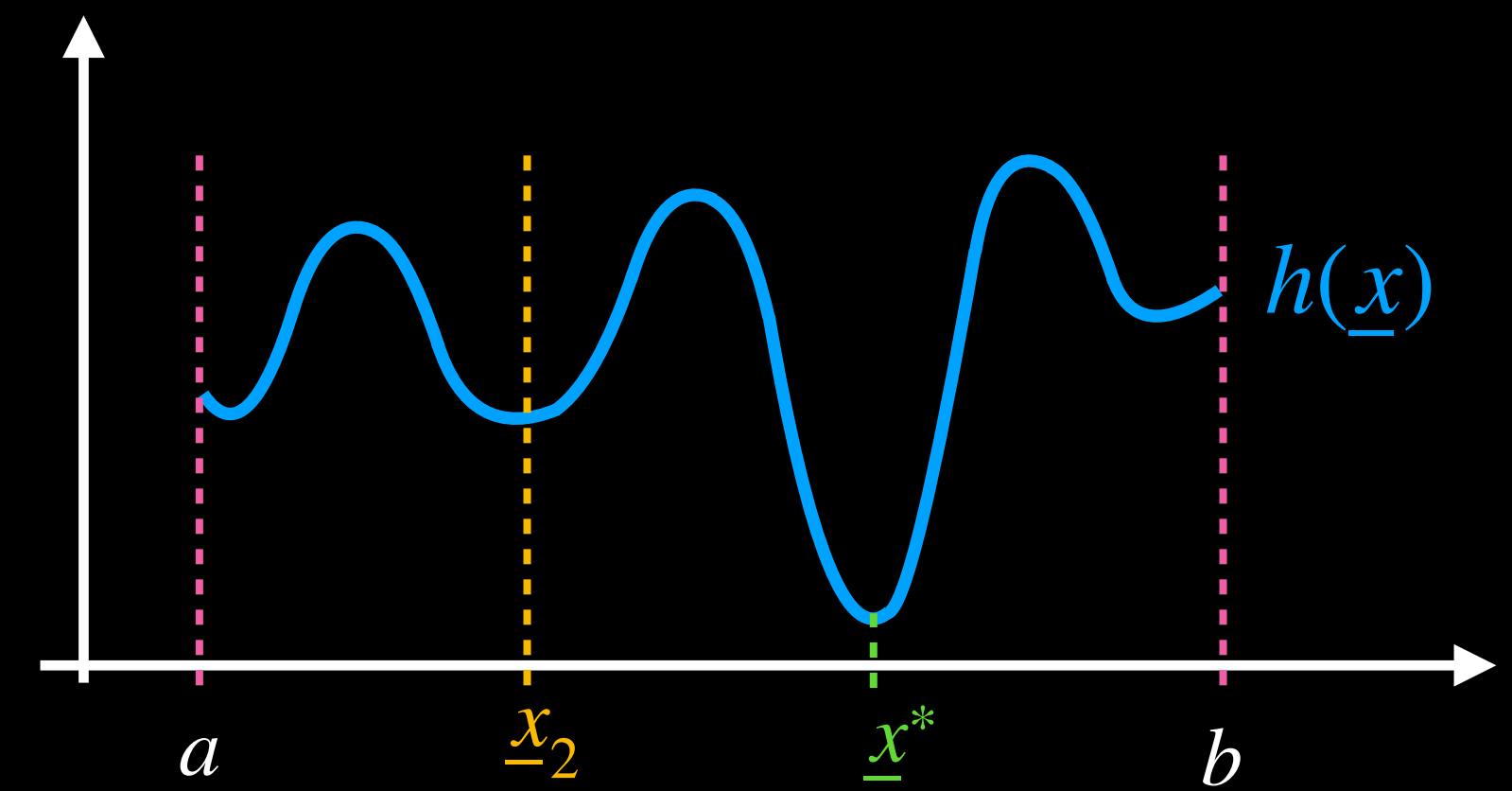
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 $\underline{x}_0$  starting point

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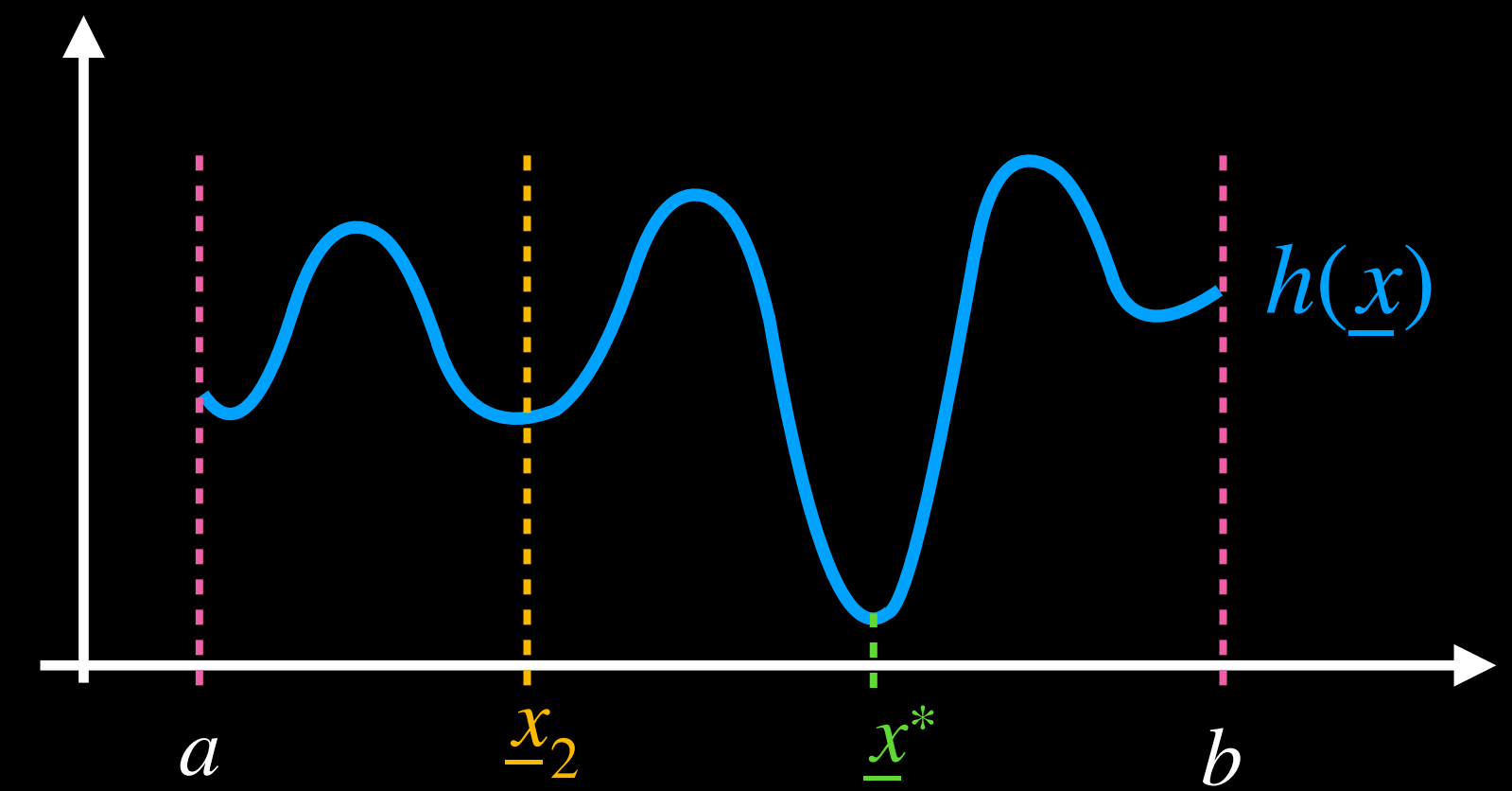
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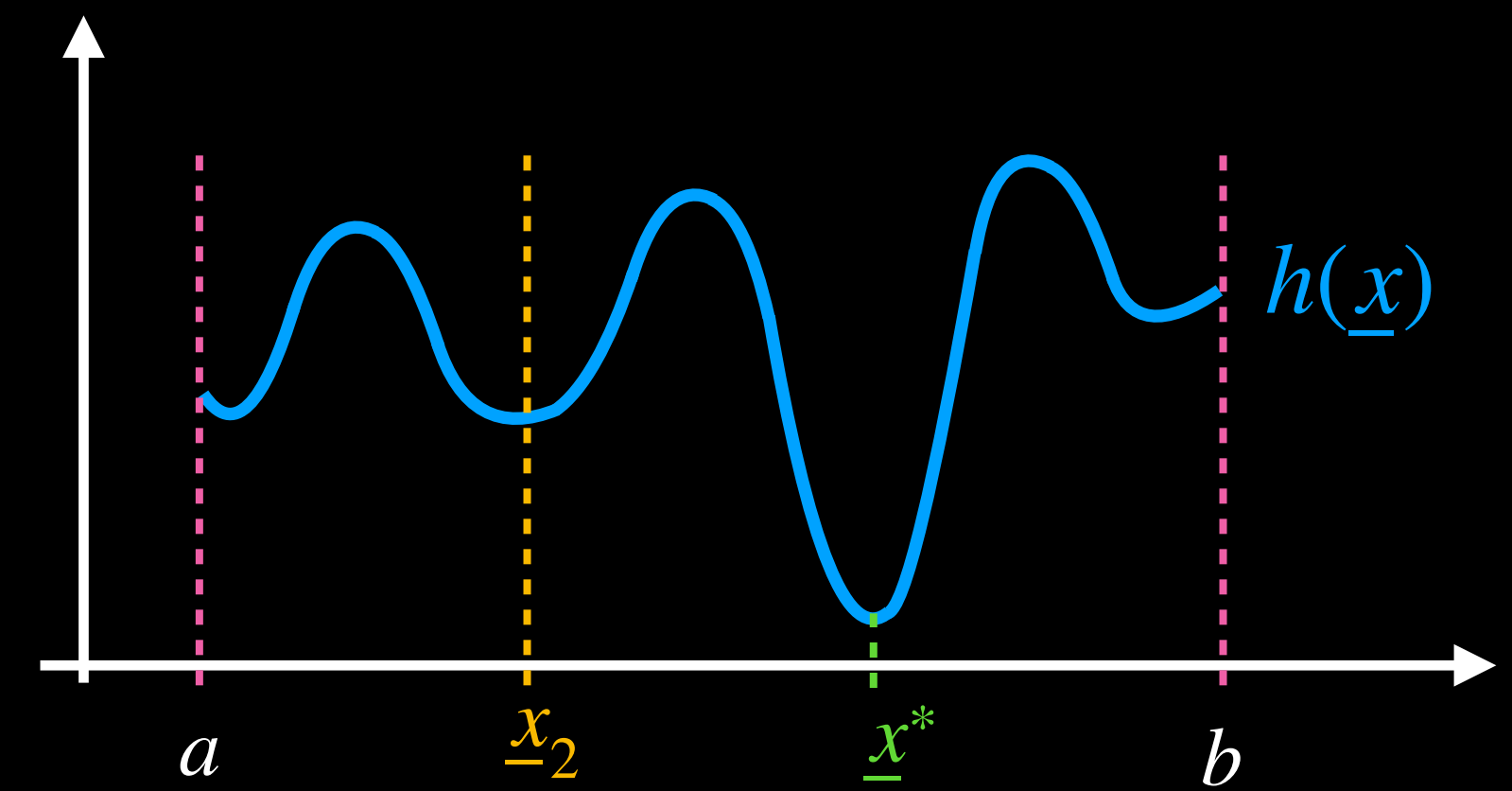
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$$\underline{X}_{t+1} = \underline{X}_t + \alpha_t \underline{U}_t$$



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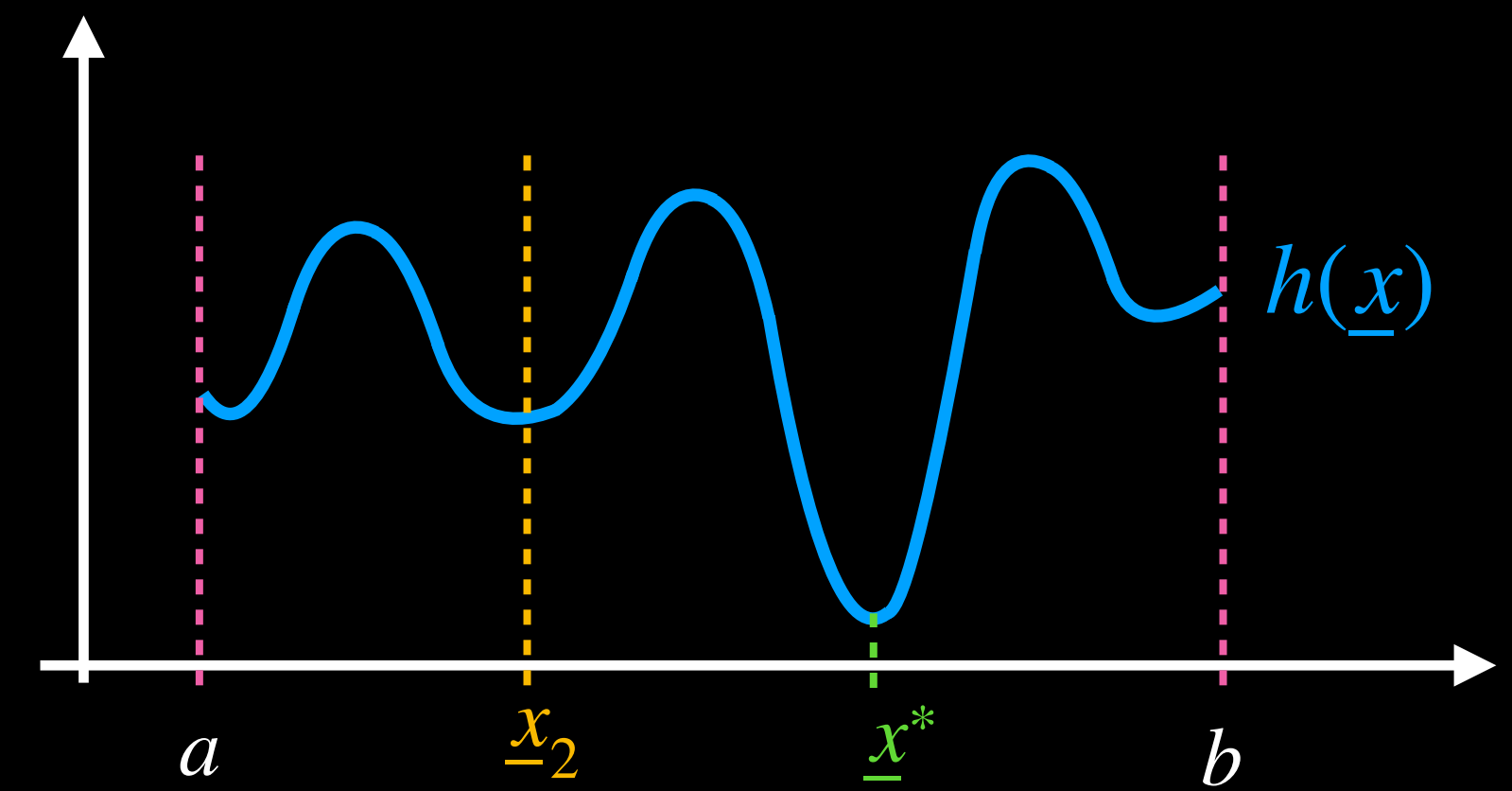
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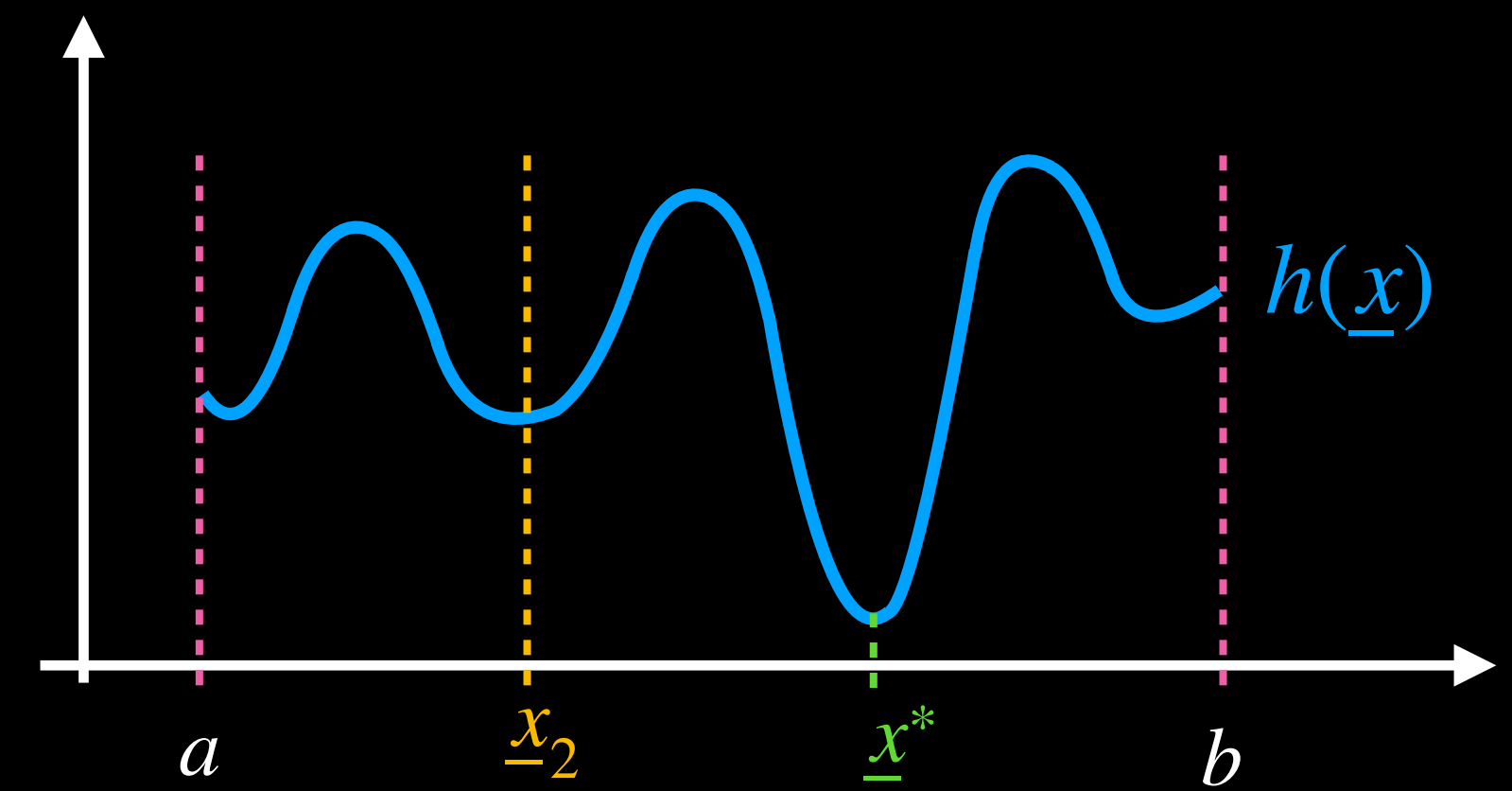
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$\mathbb{S}$  be the  $d$ -dimensional unit sphere



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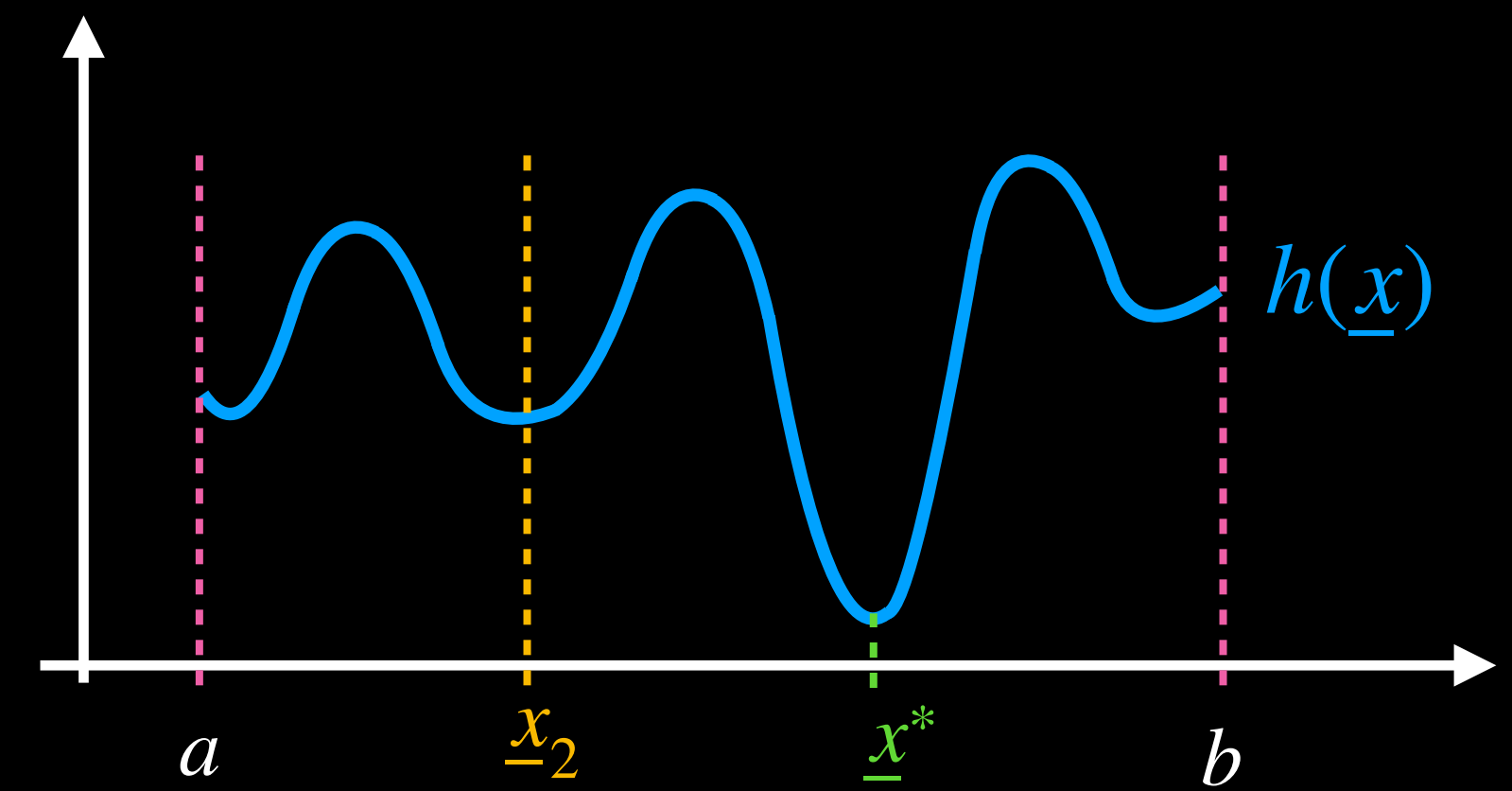
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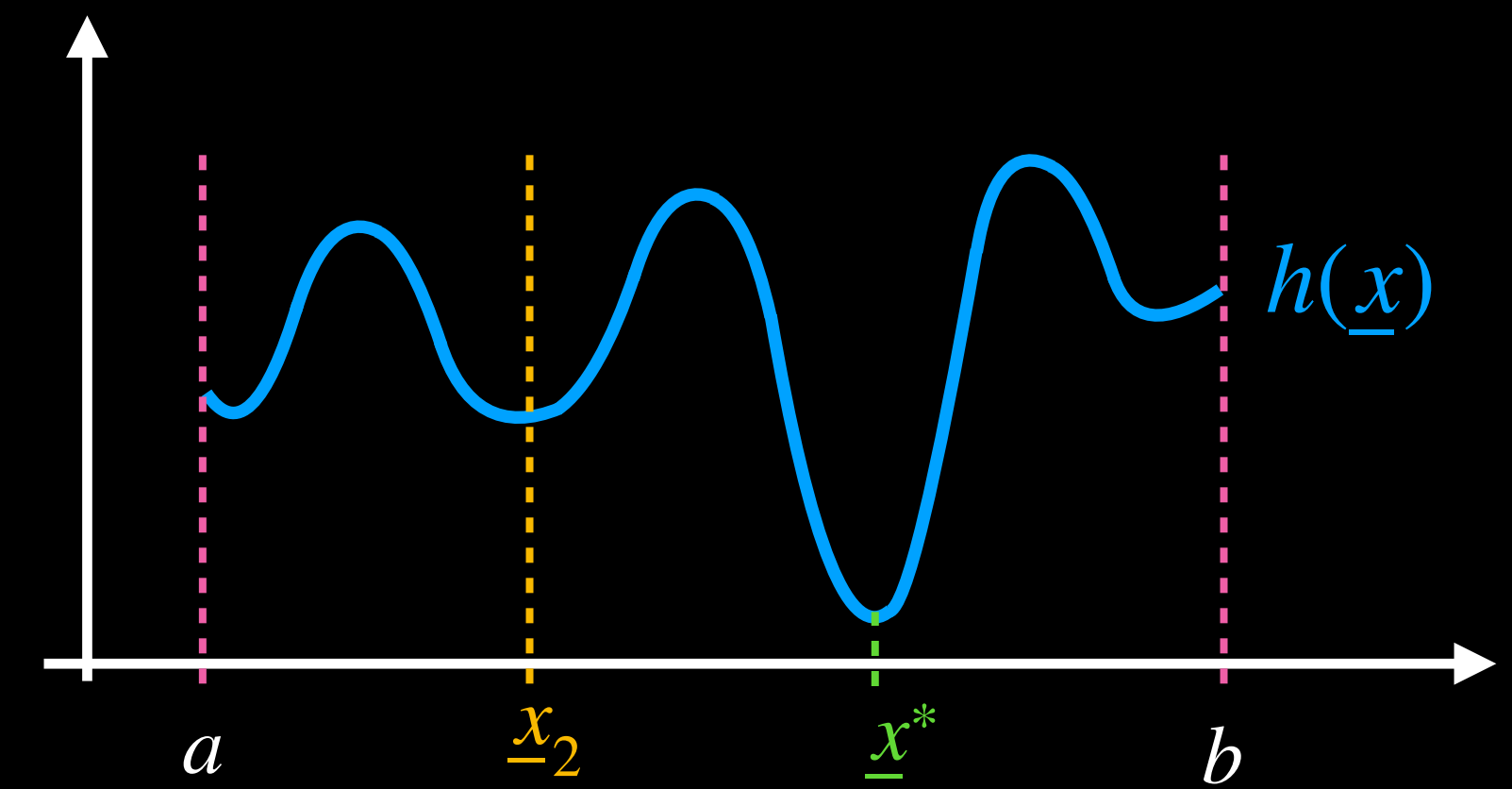
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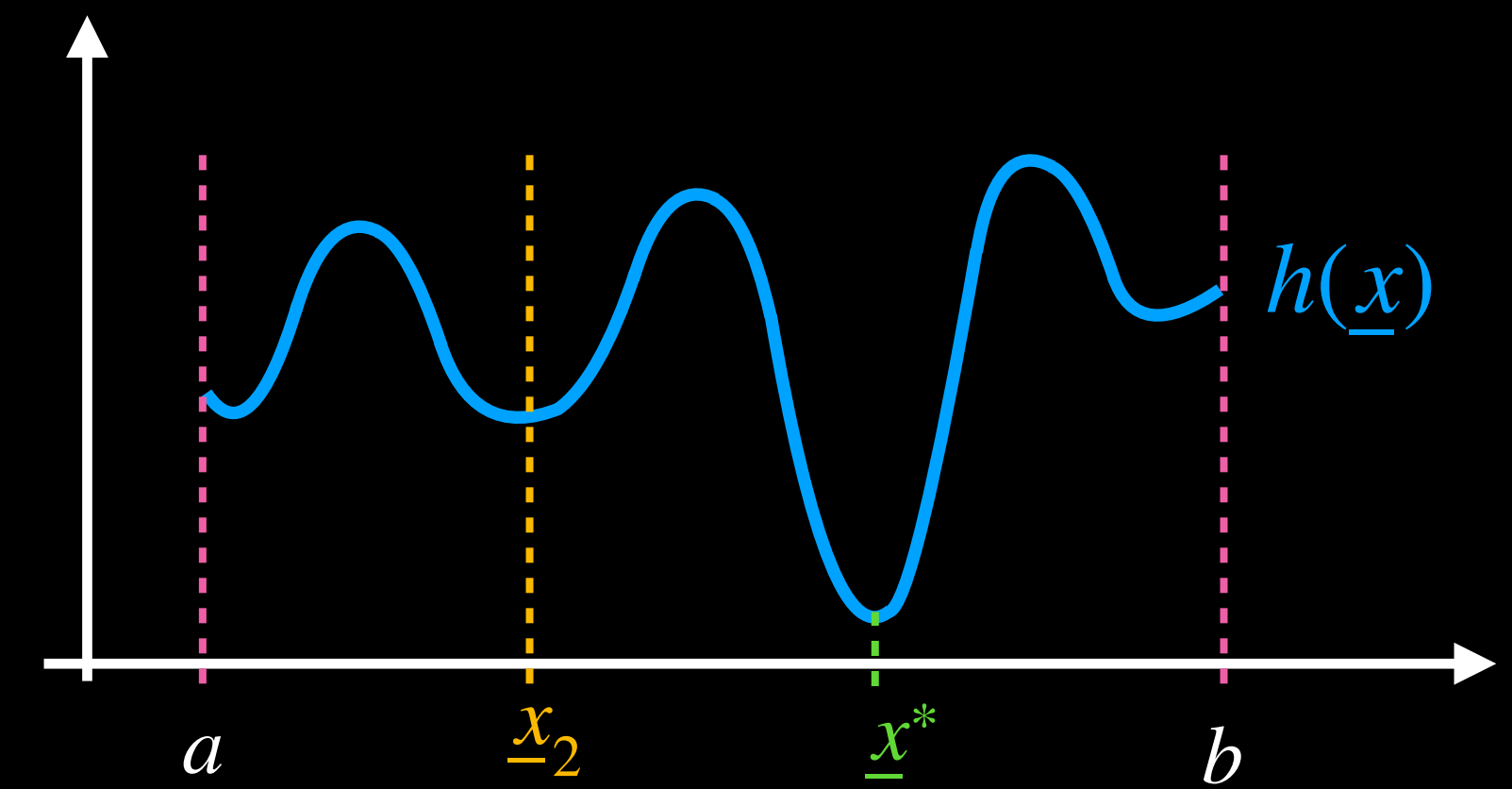
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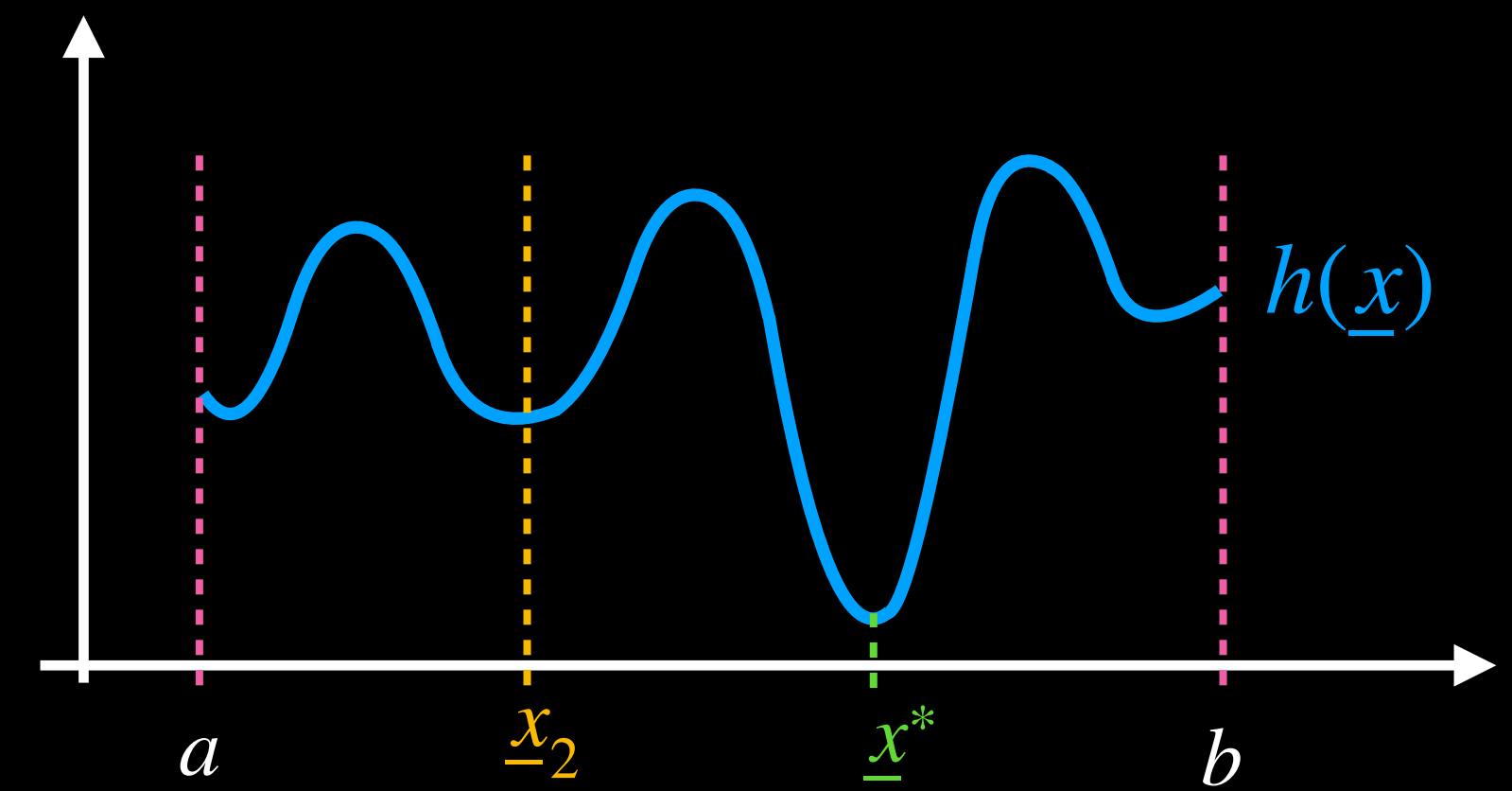
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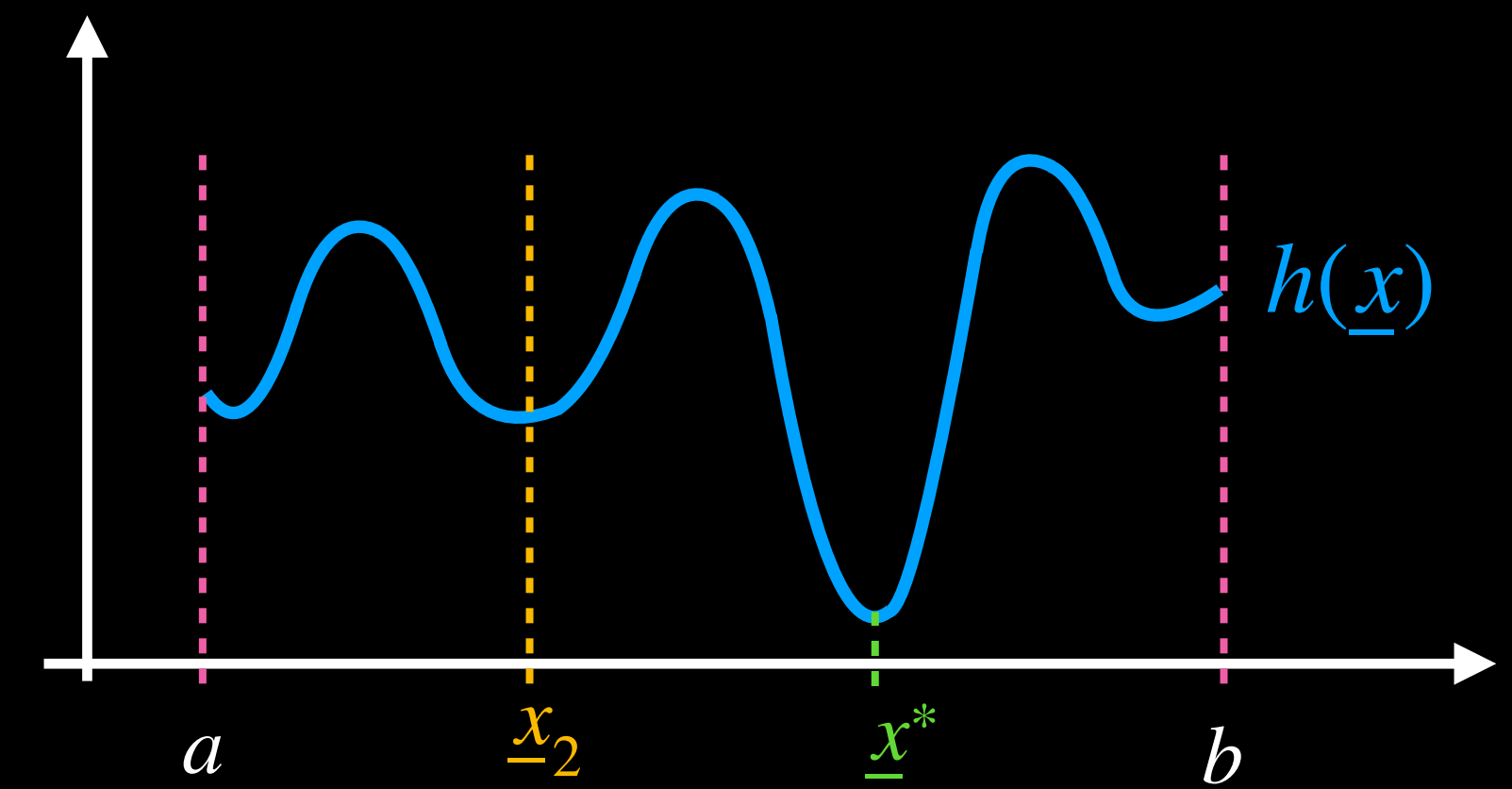
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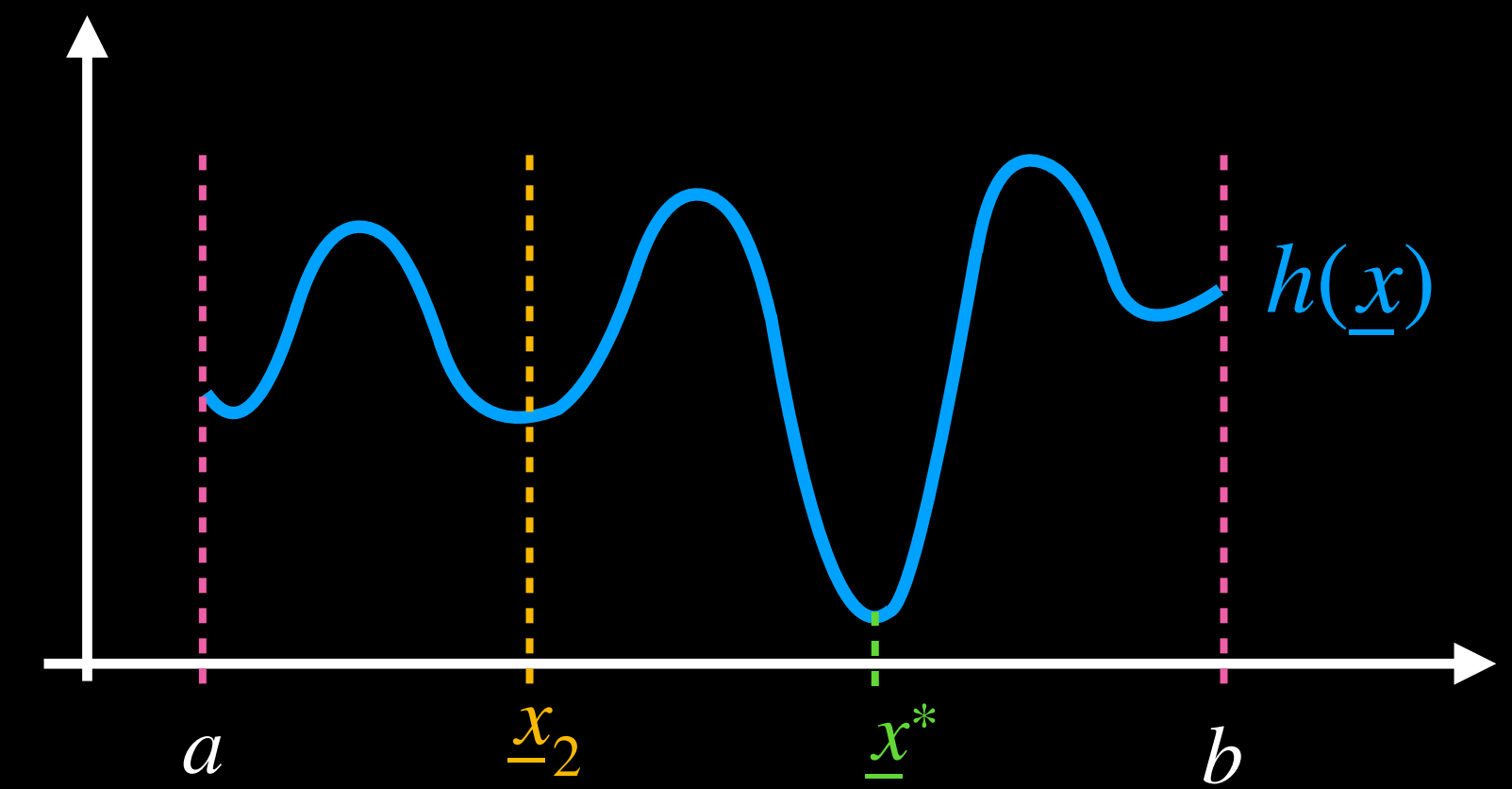
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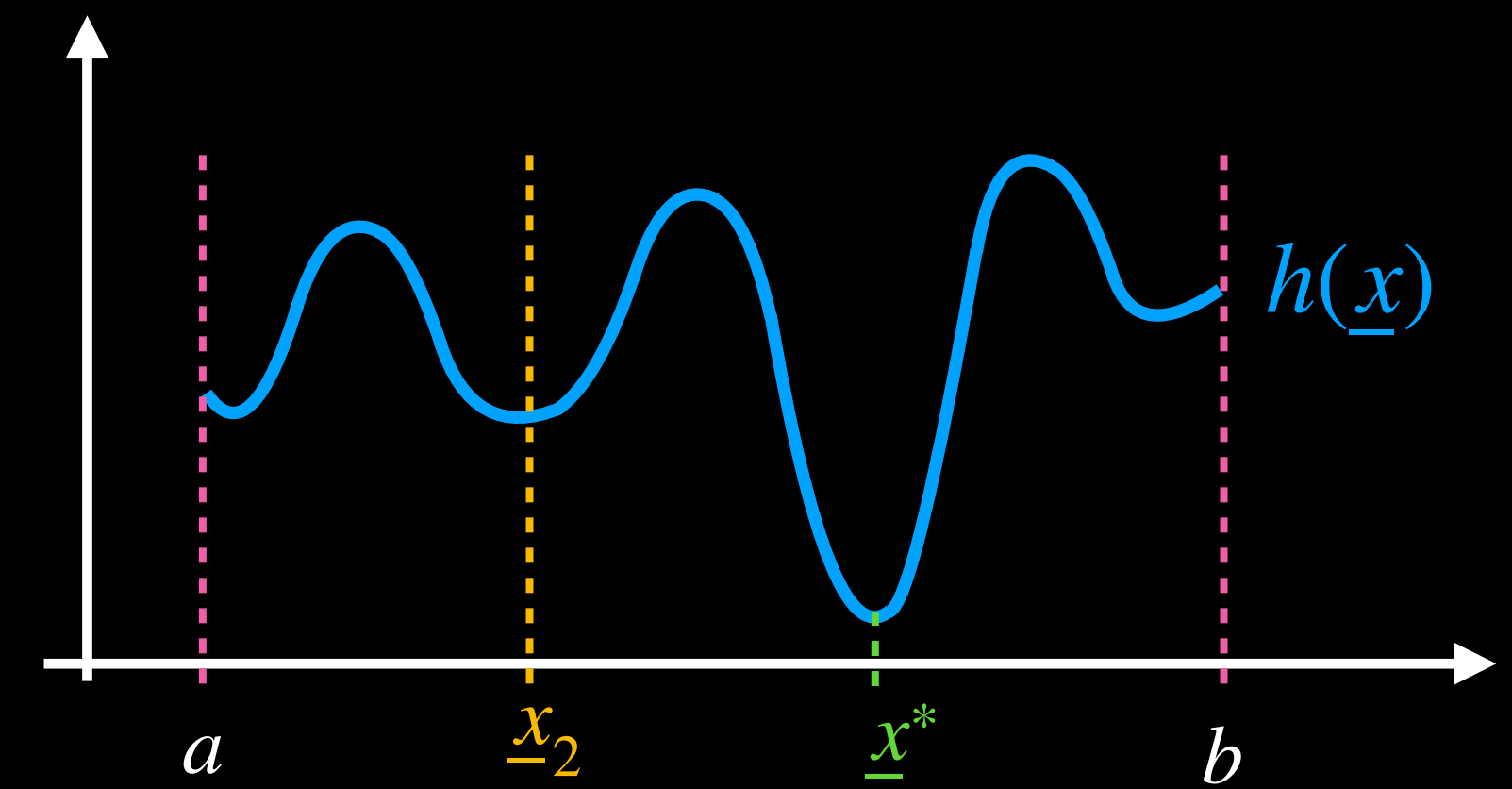
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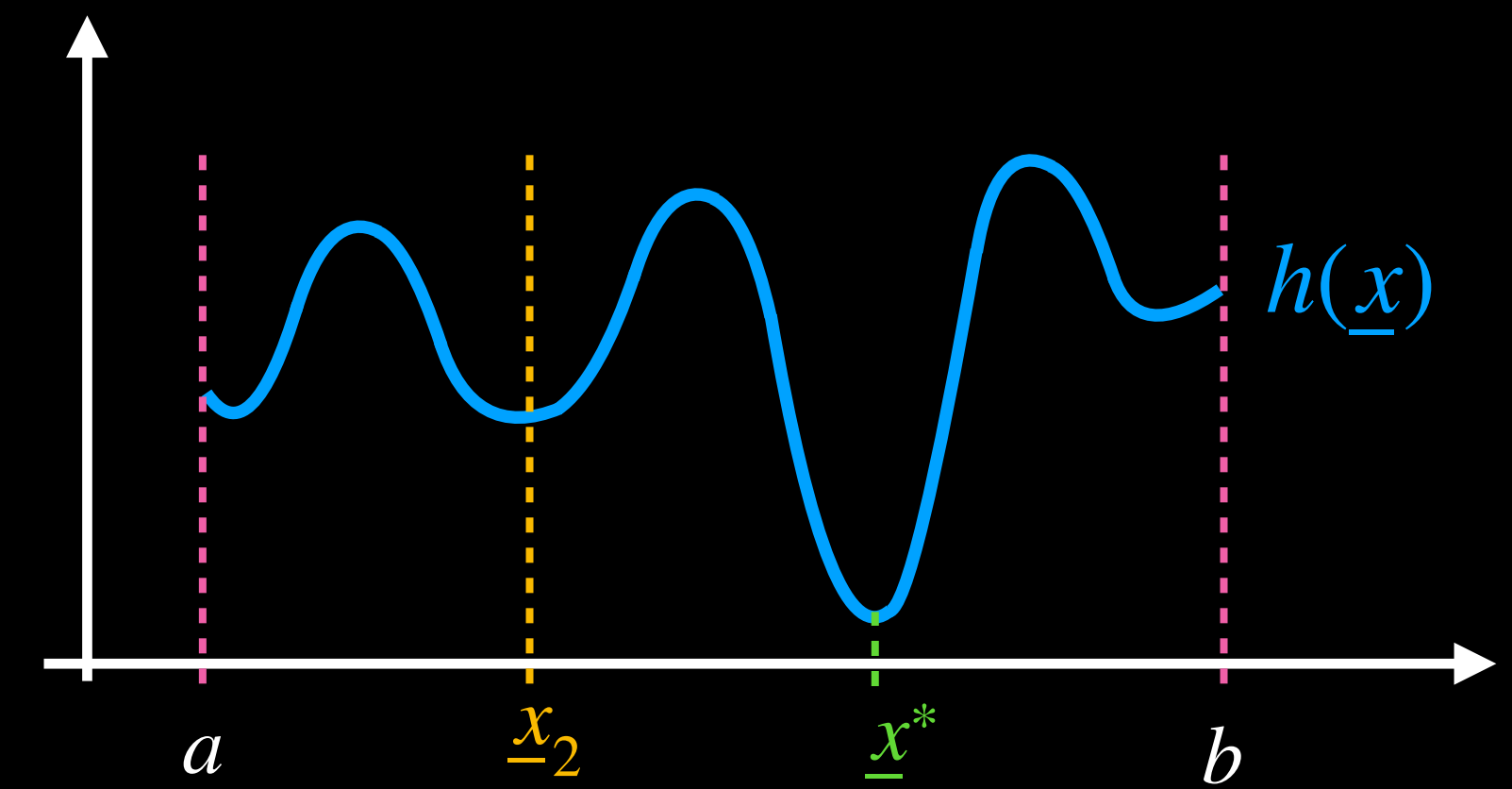
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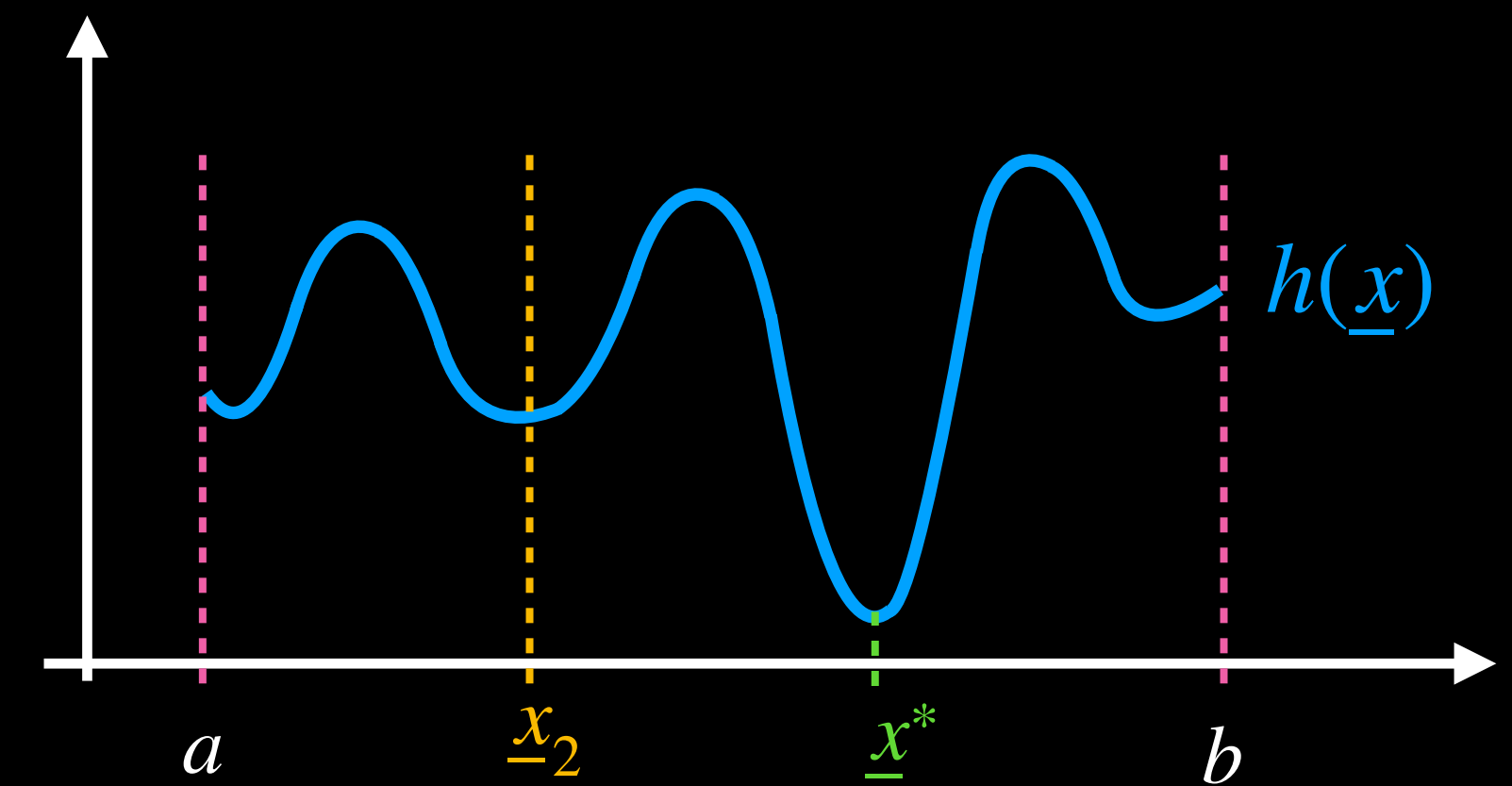
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→ approximation has 2 evaluations of  $h$  (cheaper)



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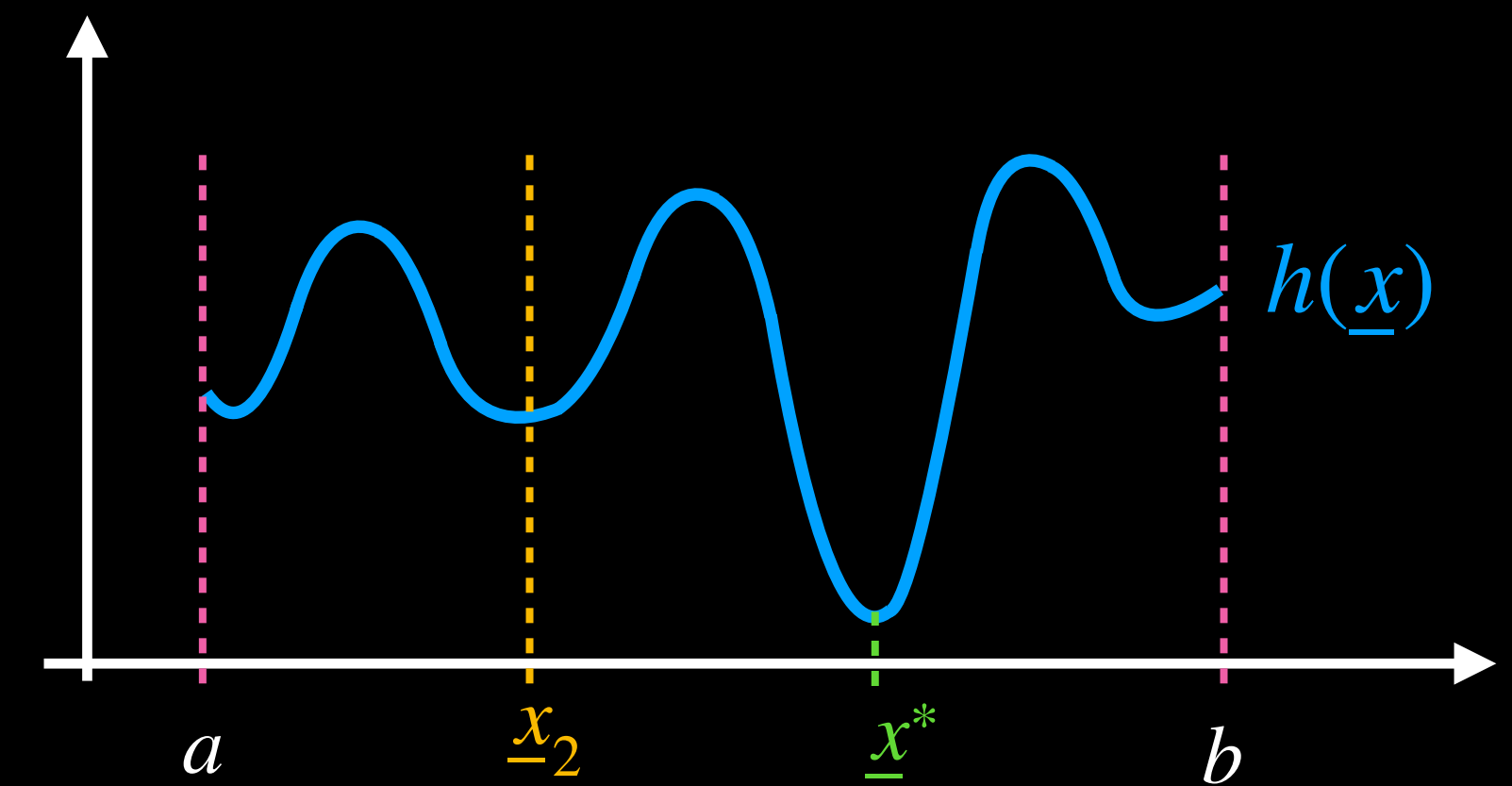
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# algorithm 2: stochastic descent

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 $\alpha_t > 0$  step size  
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gradient:

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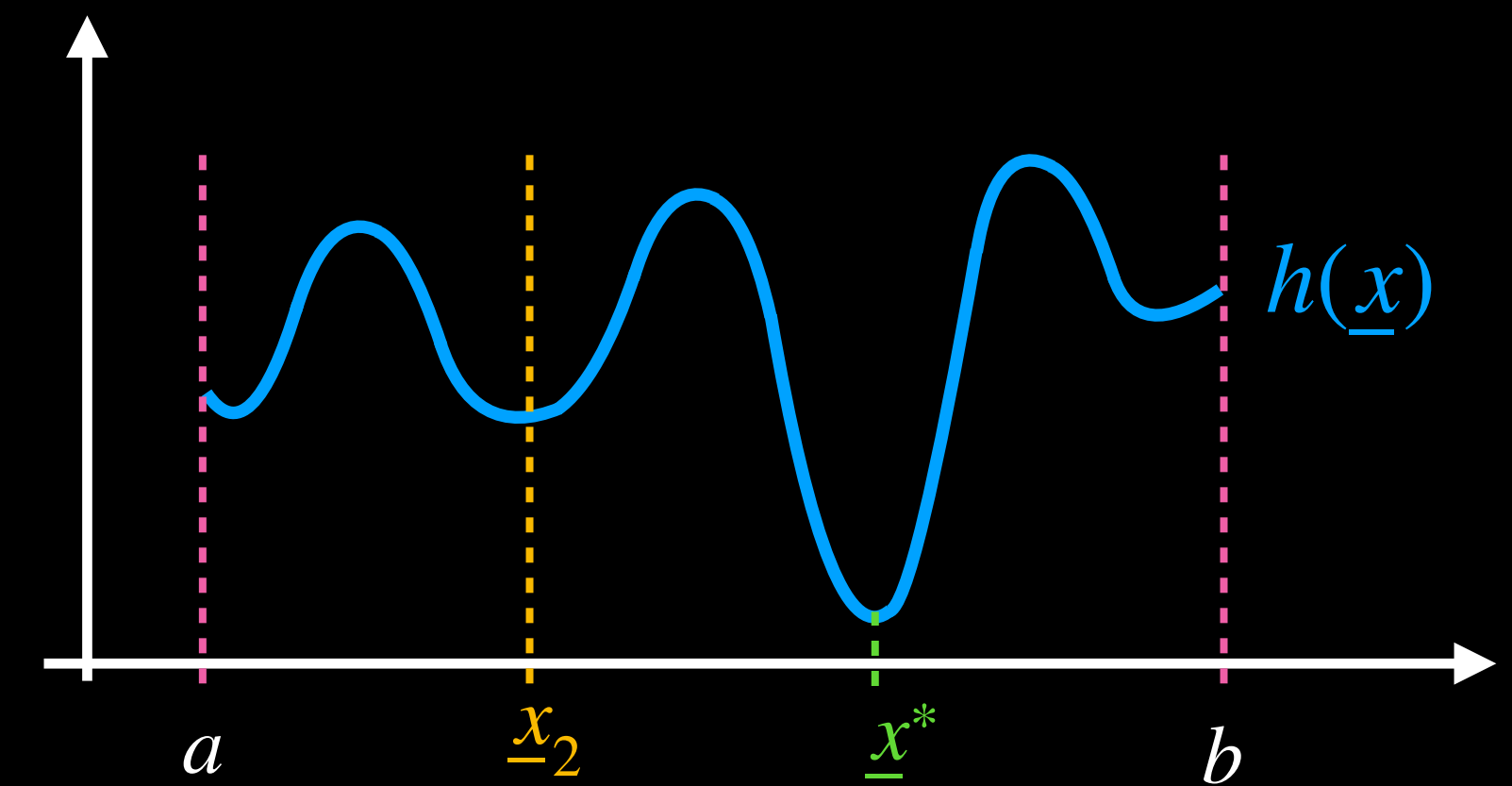
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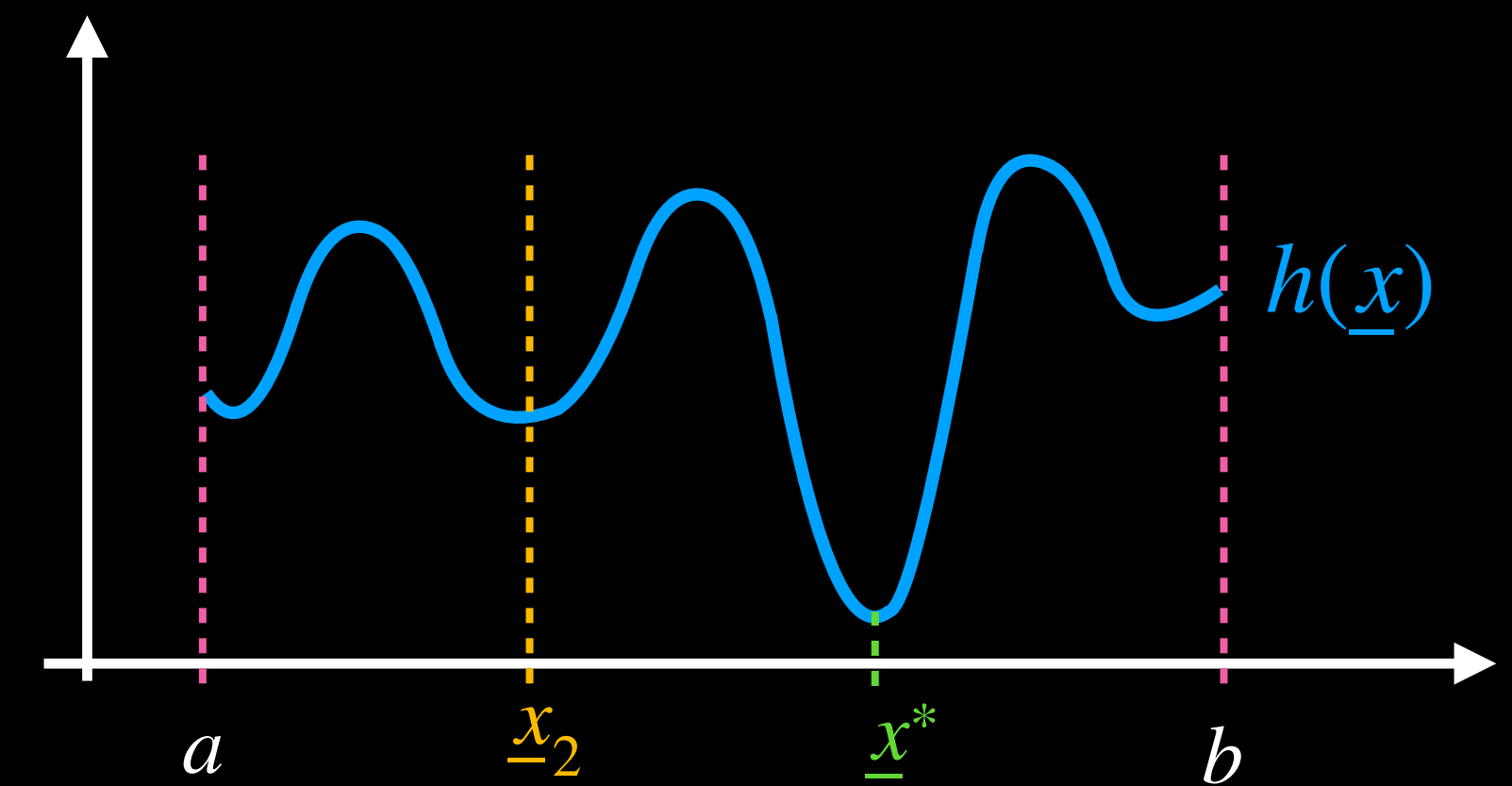
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properties:



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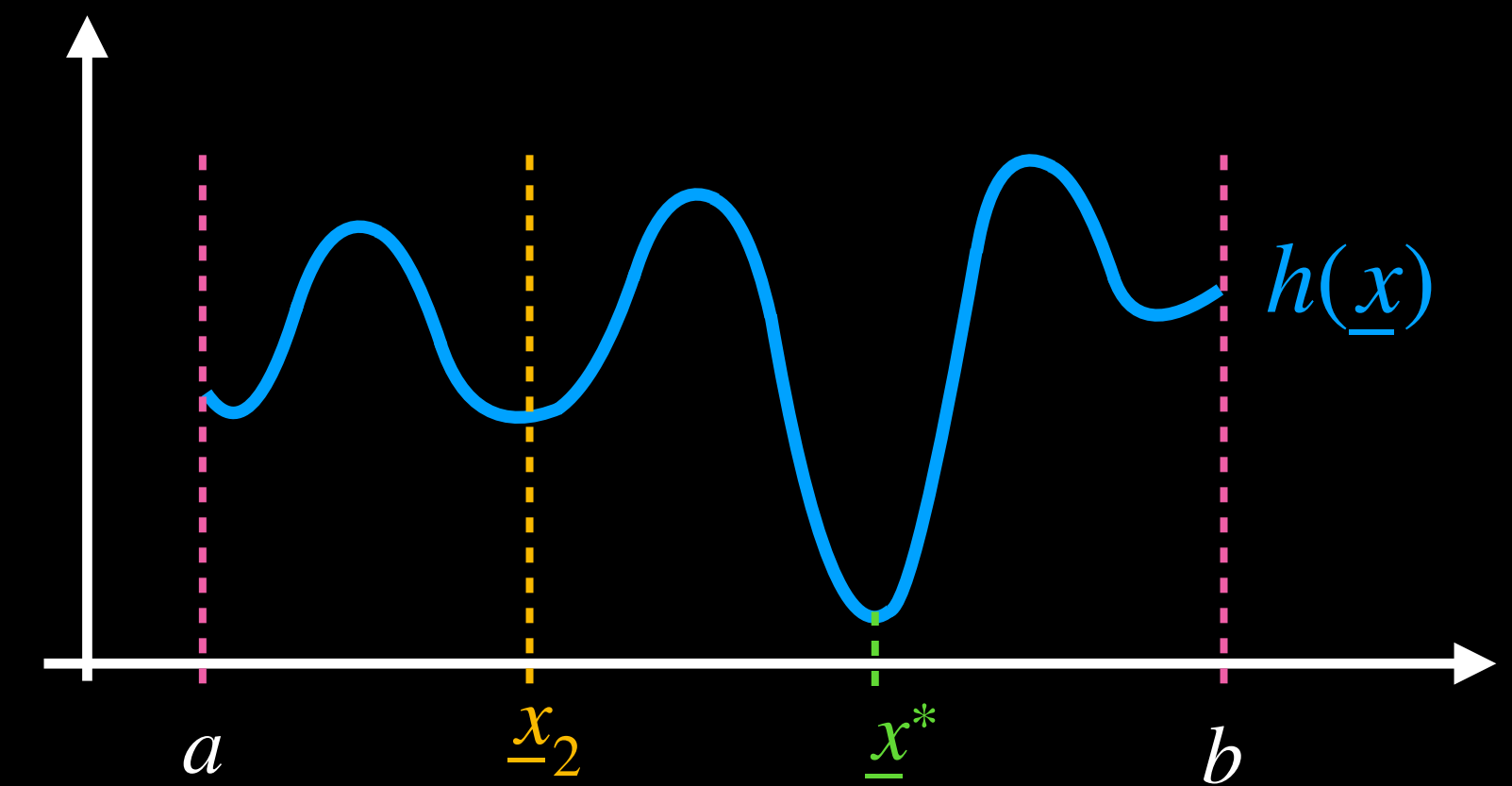
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properties:

- simple



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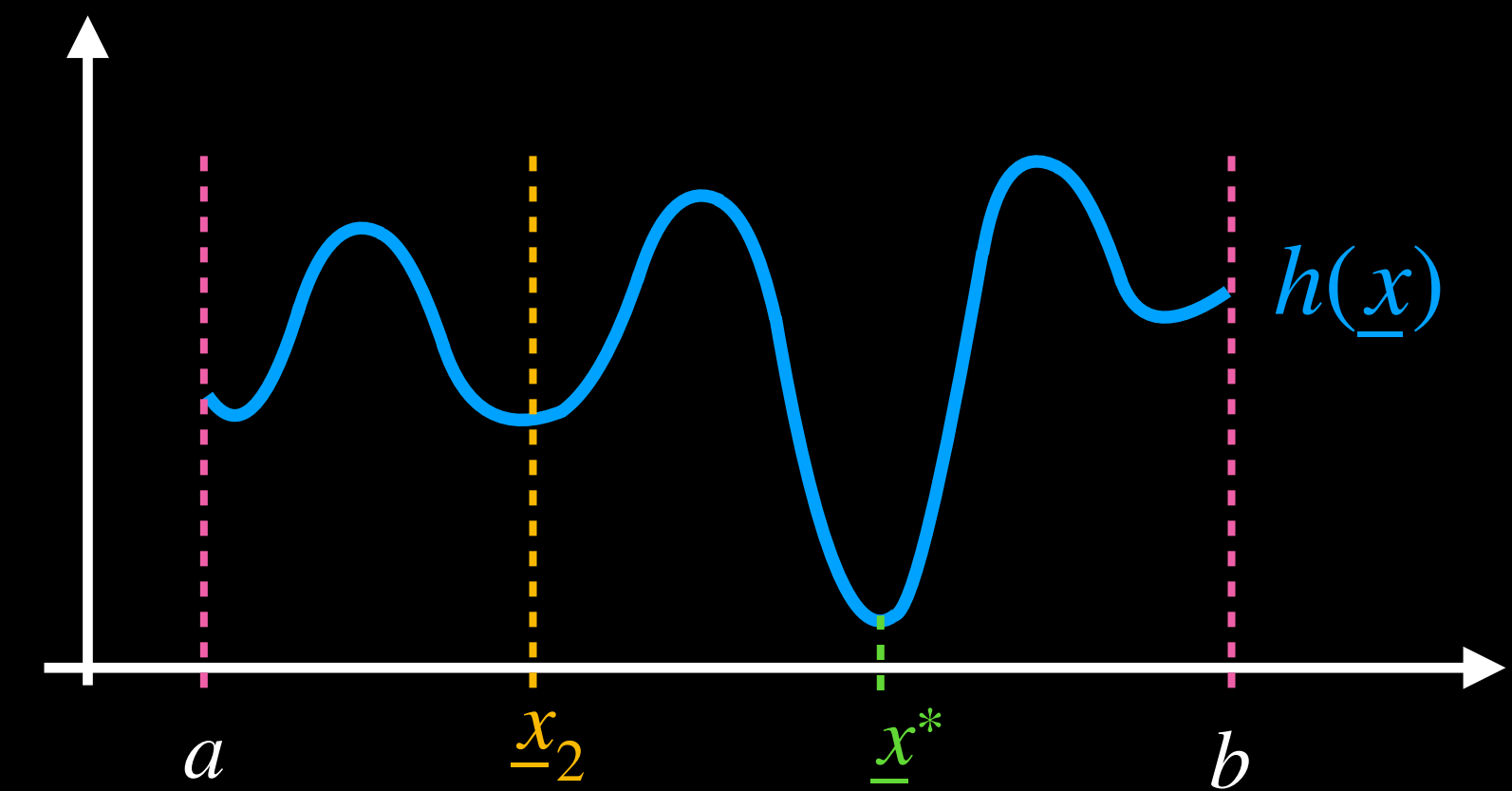
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properties:

- simple
- no global convergence guarantee



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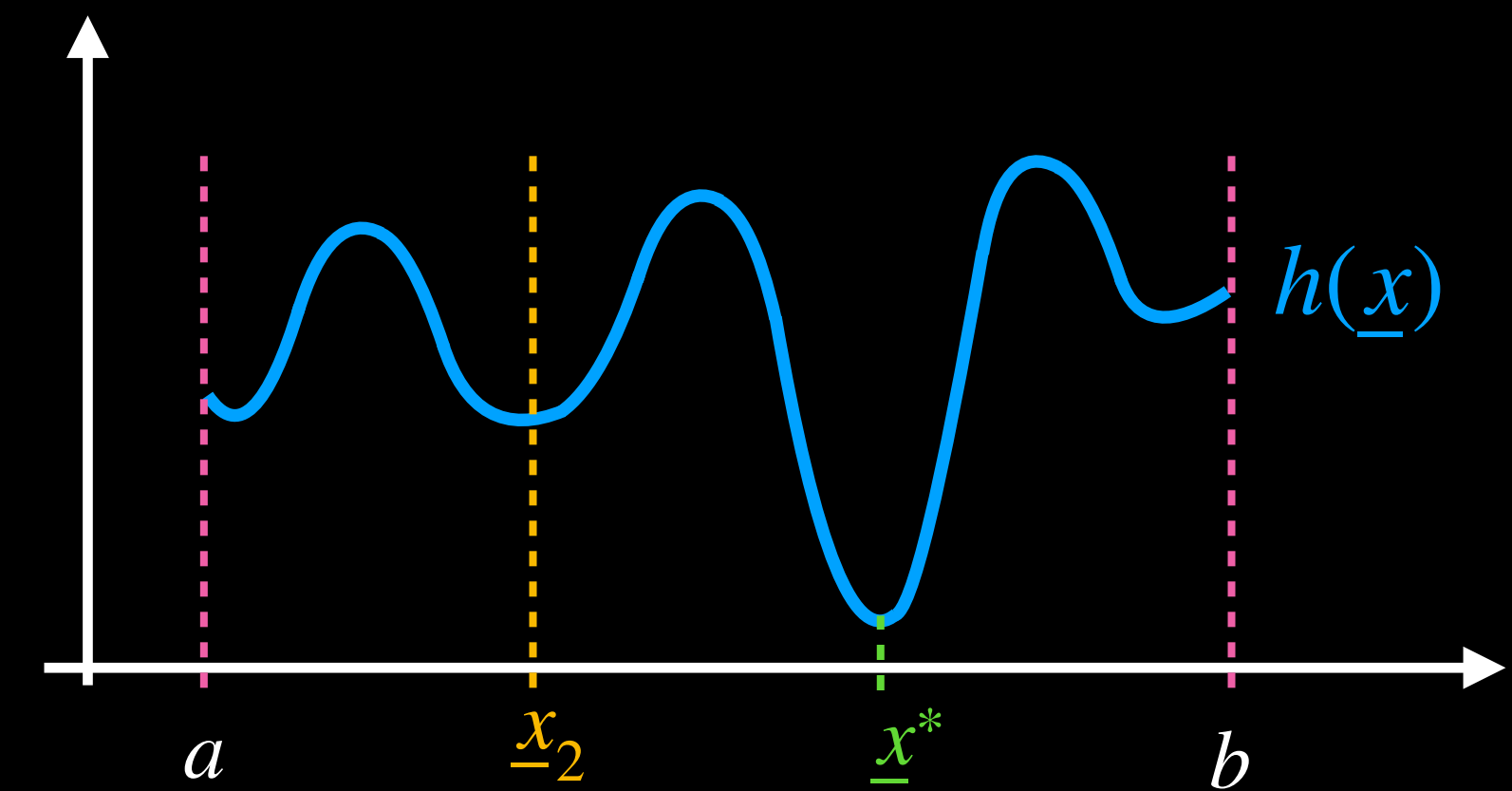
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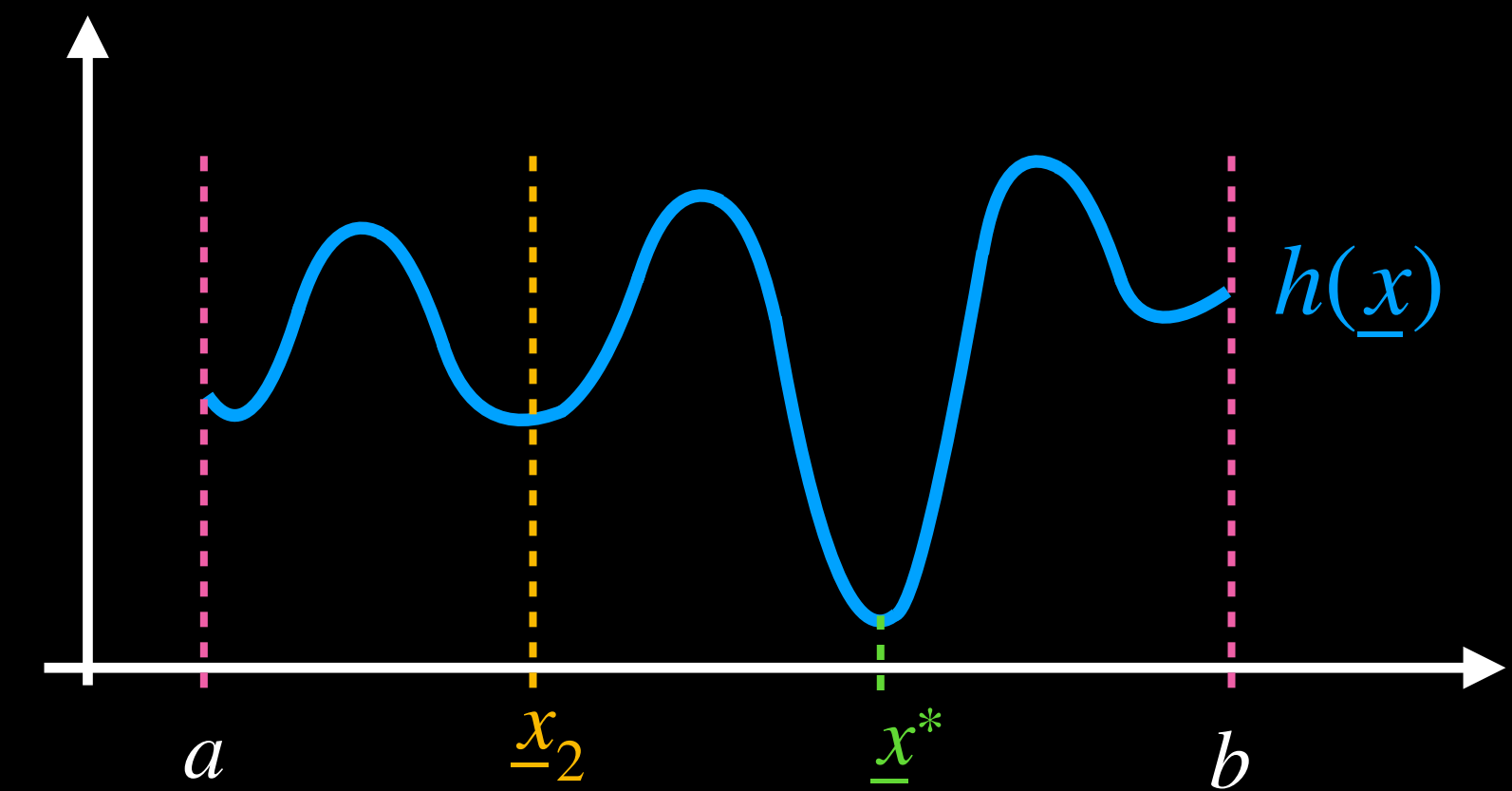
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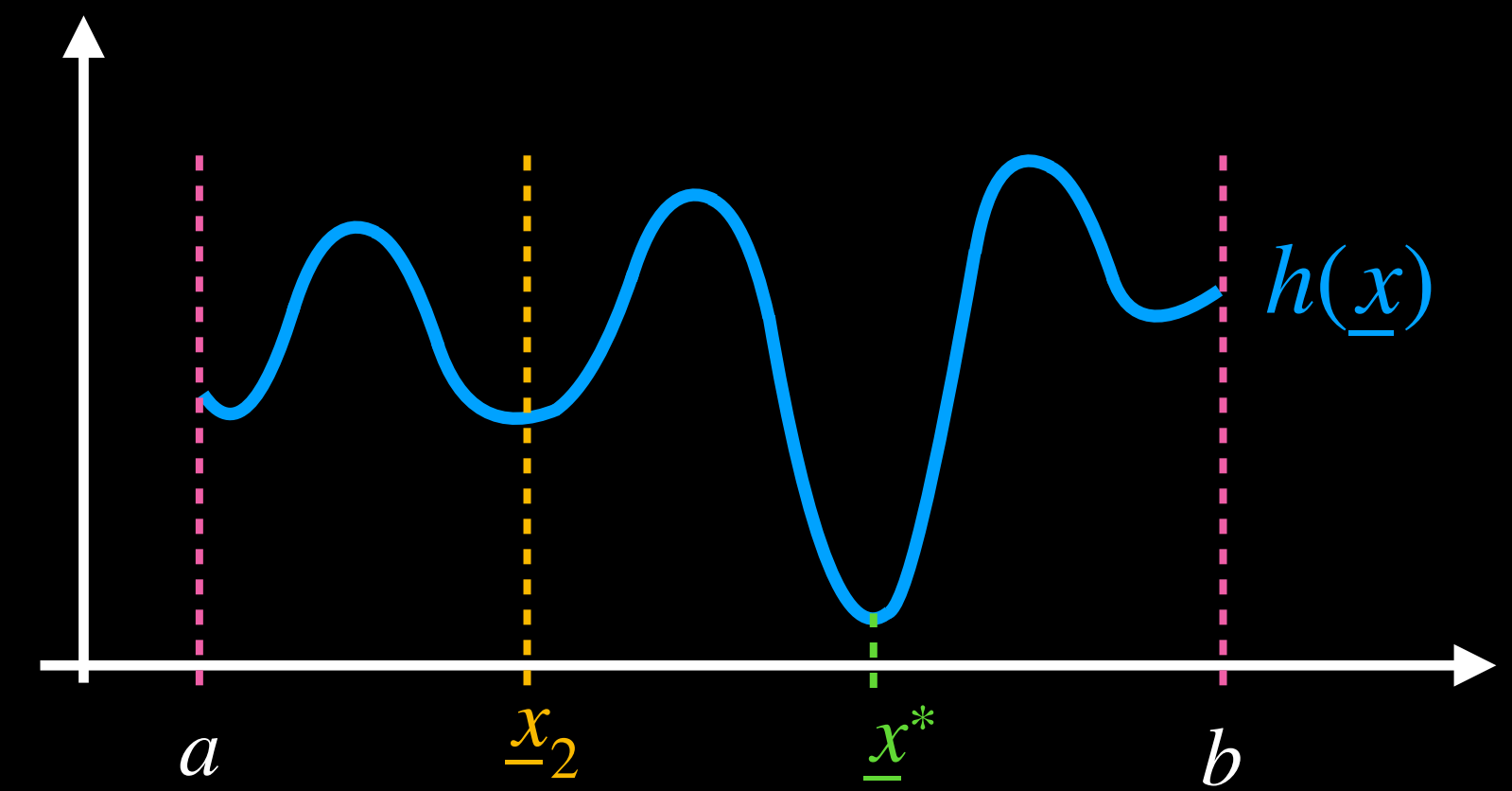
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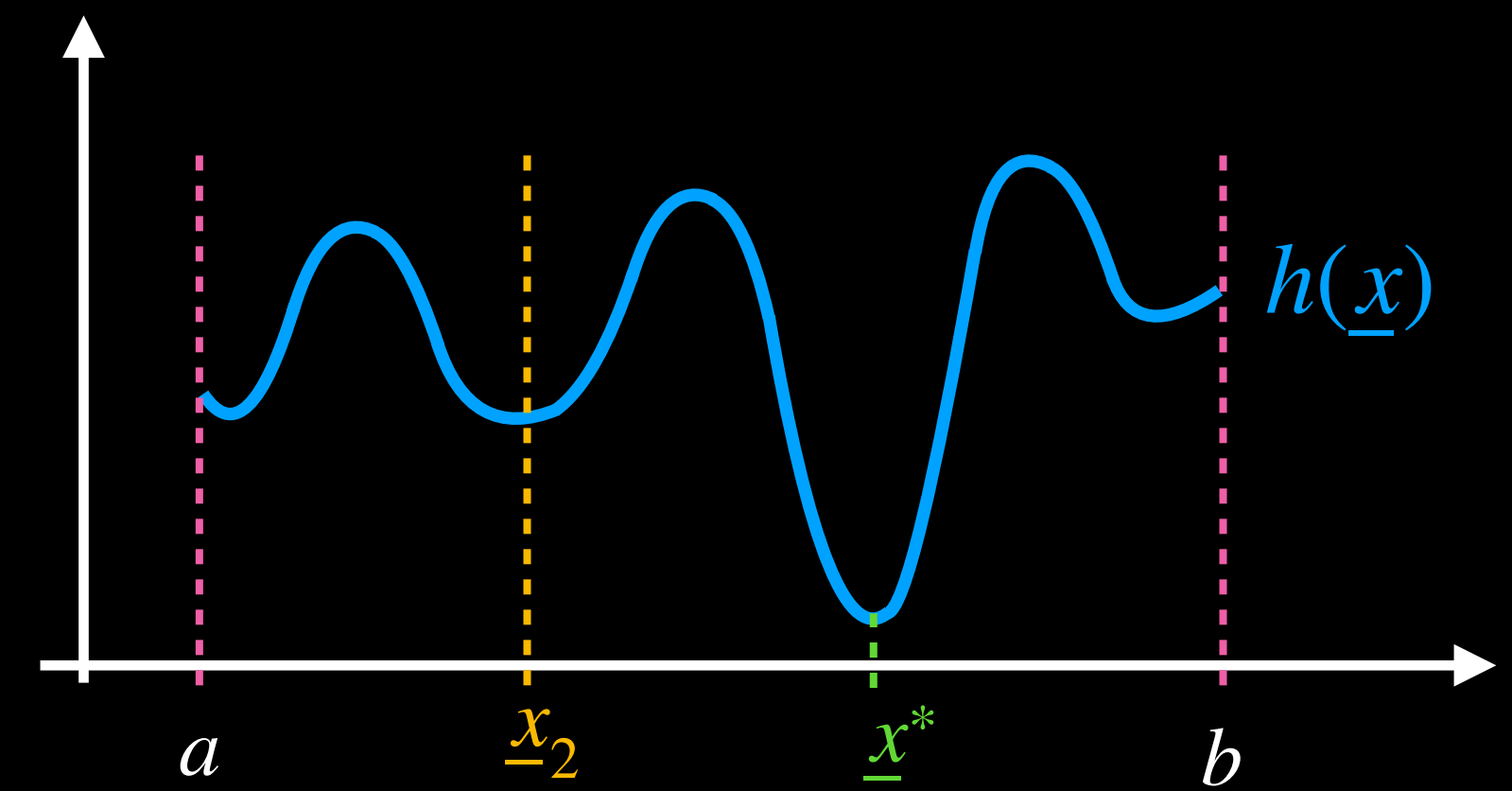
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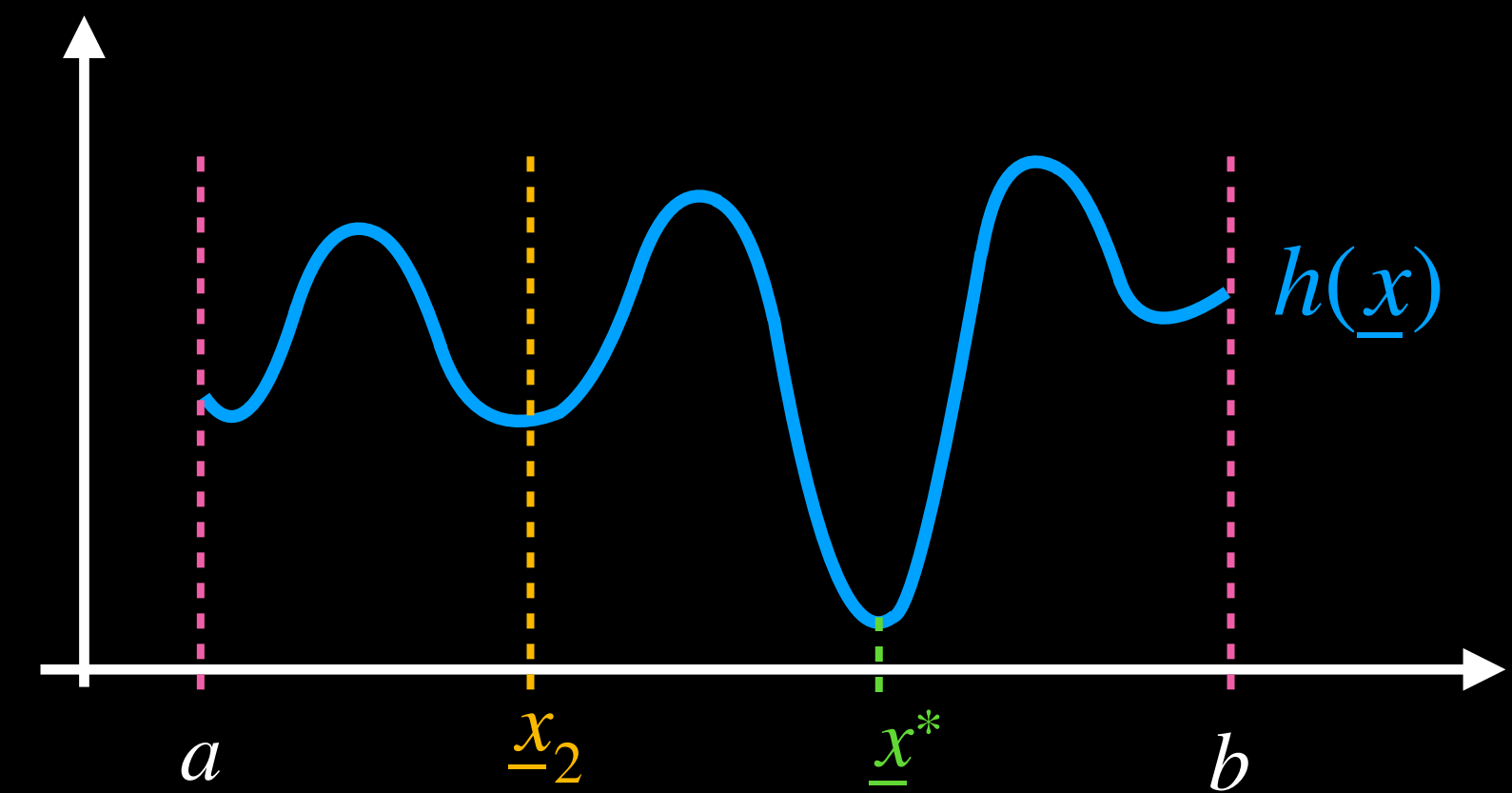
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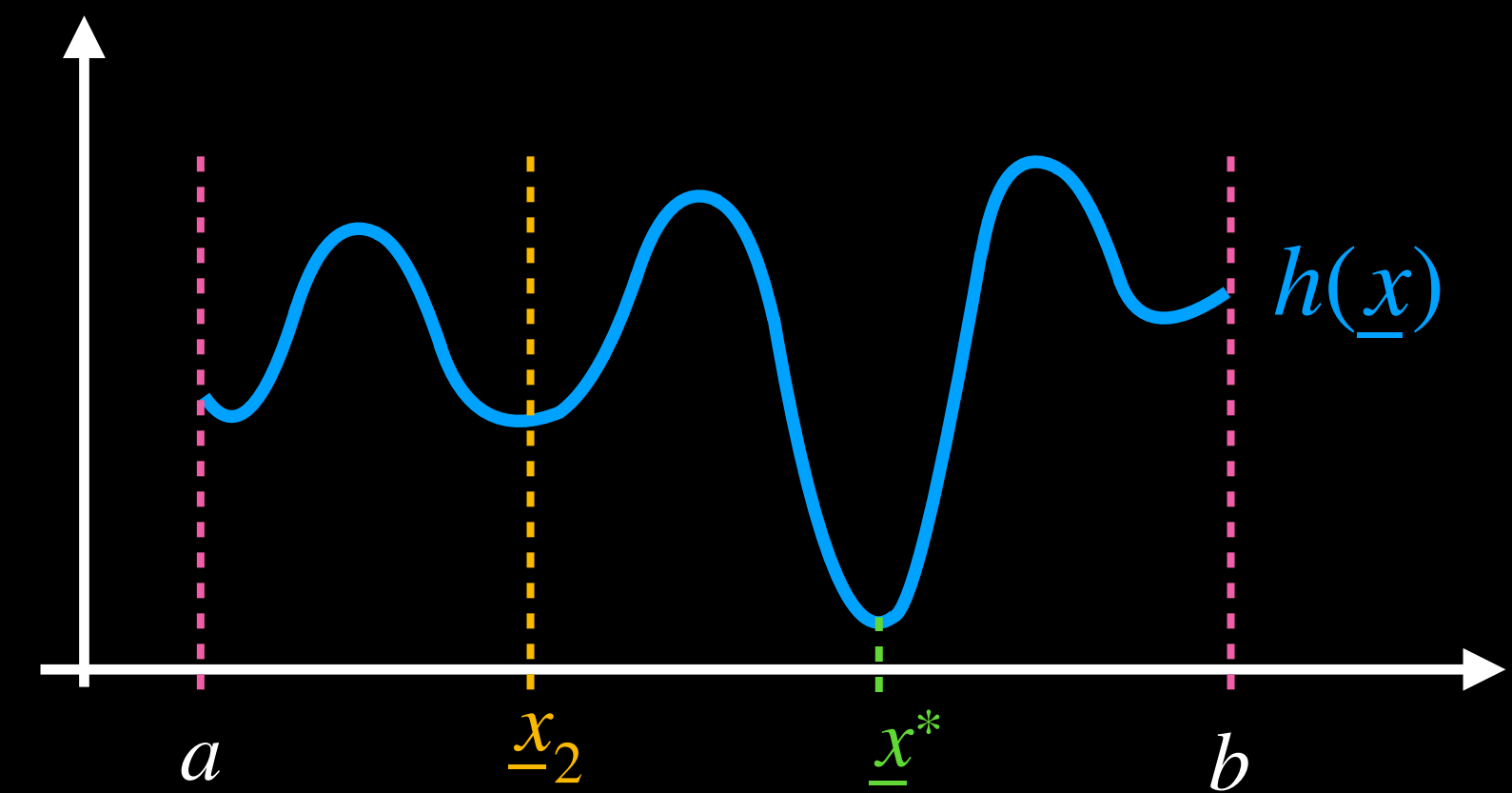
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useful if:

- $\mathbb{S}$  is high-dimensional and unbounded

# algorithm 2: stochastic descent

$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} h(\underline{x})$$

gradient descent:  $\underline{x}_{t+1} = \underline{x}_t - \alpha_t \nabla h(\underline{x}_t)$

$t \in \{1, \dots, n\}$  steps  
 $\alpha_t > 0$  step size  
 $-\nabla h(\underline{x}_t)$  vector of steepest decrease  
 $\underline{x}_0$  starting point

gradient:

$$\nabla h(\underline{x}) := \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} h(\underline{x}) \\ \vdots \\ \frac{\partial}{\partial x_d} h(\underline{x}) \end{pmatrix}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} h(\underline{x}) \approx \left( h \begin{pmatrix} x_1 + \Delta x \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{pmatrix} - h \begin{pmatrix} x_1 - \Delta x \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{pmatrix} \right) \cdot \frac{1}{2\Delta x}$$

→ approximating  $\nabla h(\underline{x})$  has  $2d$  evaluations of  $h$  (expensive)

## stochastic descent:

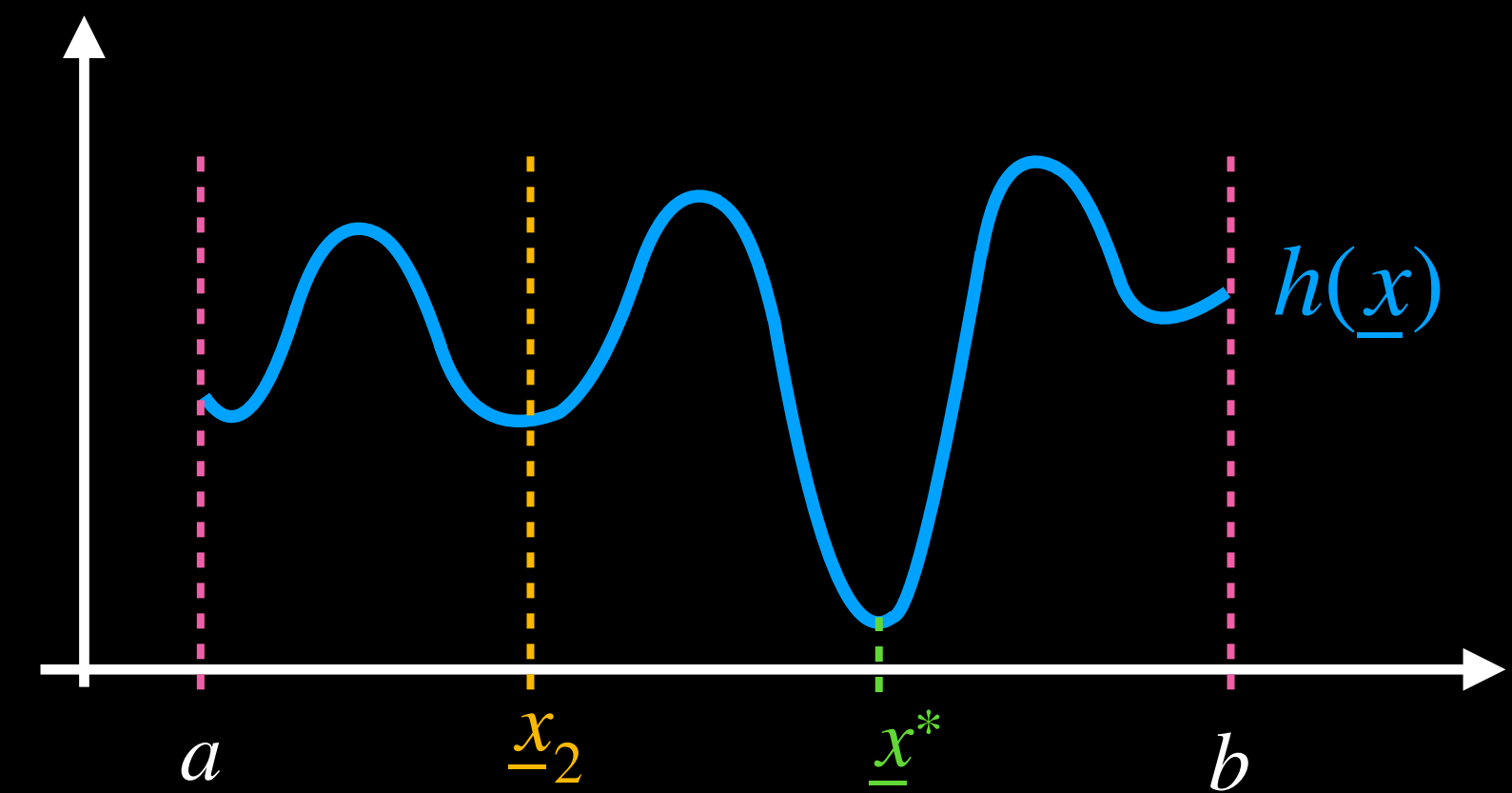
$$\underline{X}_{t+1} = \underline{X}_t - \frac{\alpha_t}{2\beta_t} \Delta h(\underline{X}_t, \beta_t \underline{U}_t) \underline{U}_t$$

$$\underline{U}_t \sim \mathcal{U}(\mathbb{S})$$

$\mathbb{S}$  be the  $d$ -dimensional unit sphere  
 $\beta_t$  sampling radius

properties:

- simple
- no global convergence guarantee
- local convergence if  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \alpha_n = 0$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\alpha_n}{\beta_n} = \text{const.}$
- converges fast ( $\propto \frac{1}{n}$ )
- needs uniform random numbers on the unit sphere
- need to choose  $\alpha_t, \beta_t, \underline{X}_0$



dot product:  $\underline{x} \cdot \underline{y} = \begin{pmatrix} x_1 \\ \vdots \\ x_d \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} y_1 \\ \vdots \\ y_d \end{pmatrix} = x_1 y_1 + \dots + x_d y_d$

directional derivative:

$$\nabla h(\underline{x}) \cdot \frac{\underline{y}}{|\underline{y}|} \approx \frac{\Delta h(\underline{x}, \underline{y})}{2|\underline{y}|}, \quad \Delta h(\underline{x}, \underline{y}) := h(\underline{x} + \underline{y}) - h(\underline{x} - \underline{y})$$

→ approximation has 2 evaluations of  $h$  (cheaper)

useful if:

- $\mathbb{S}$  is high-dimensional and unbounded
- $h$  is convex or  $\underline{X}_0$  is close to  $\underline{x}^*$

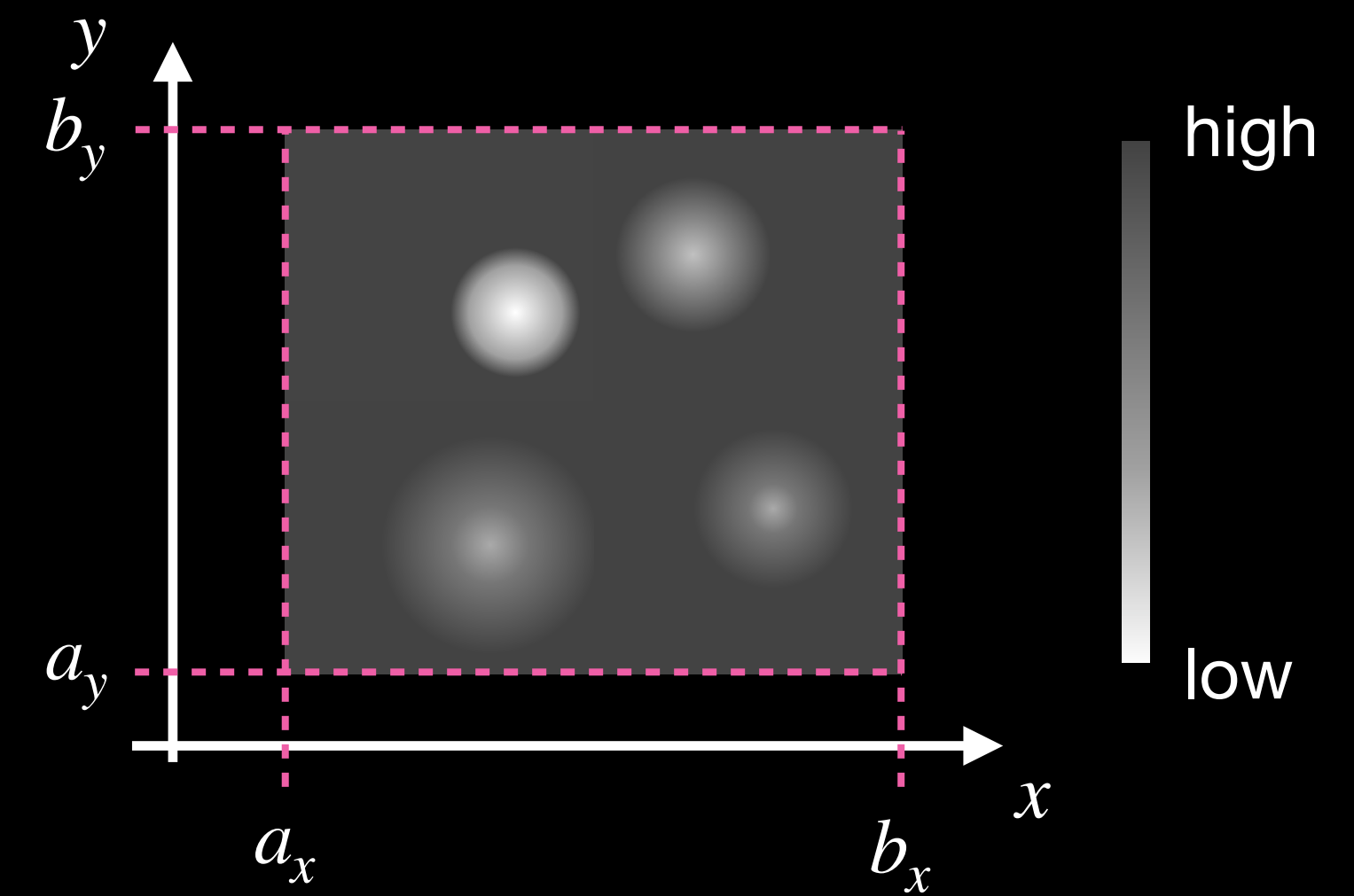
# algorithm 3: random pursuit

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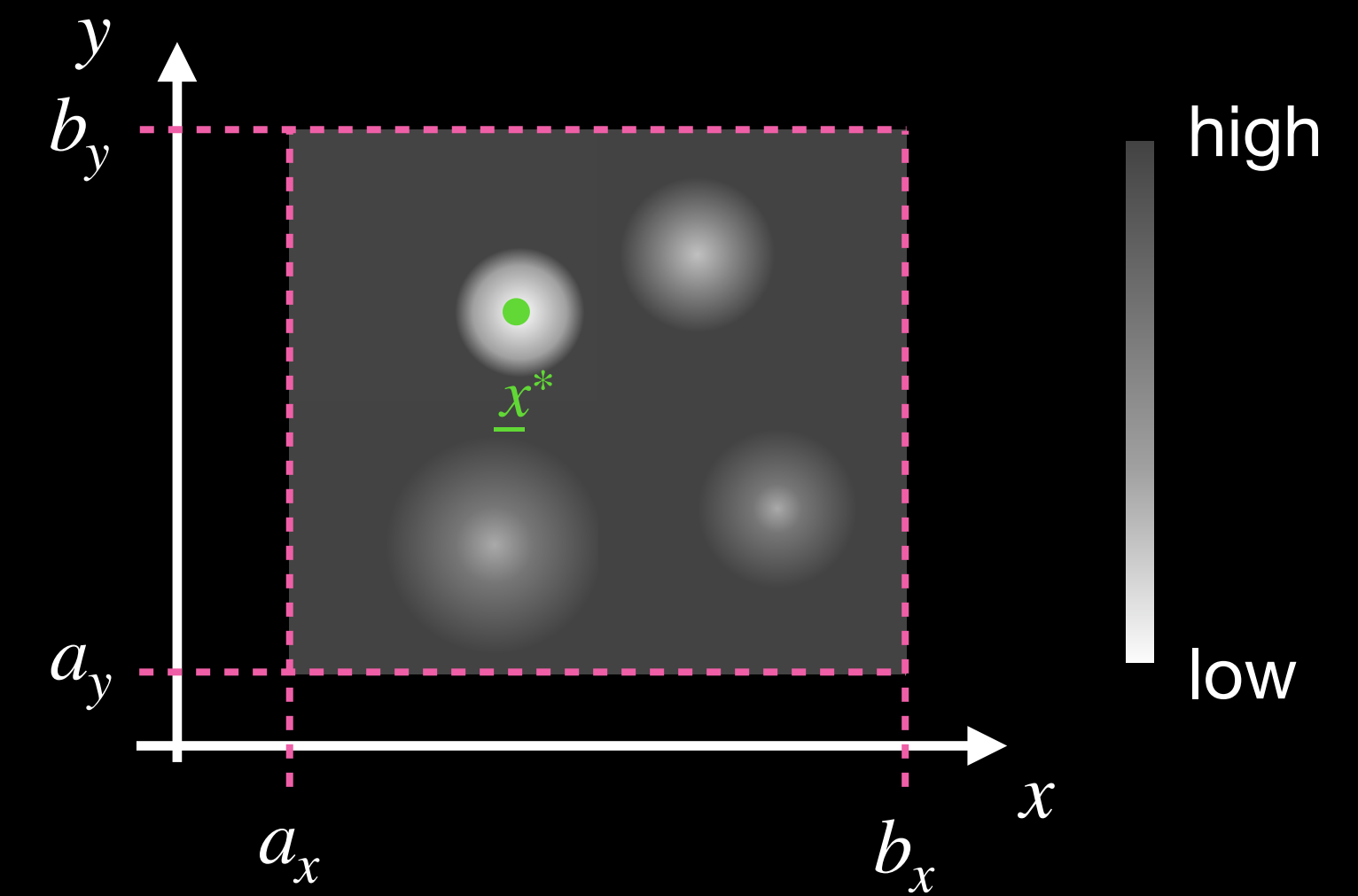
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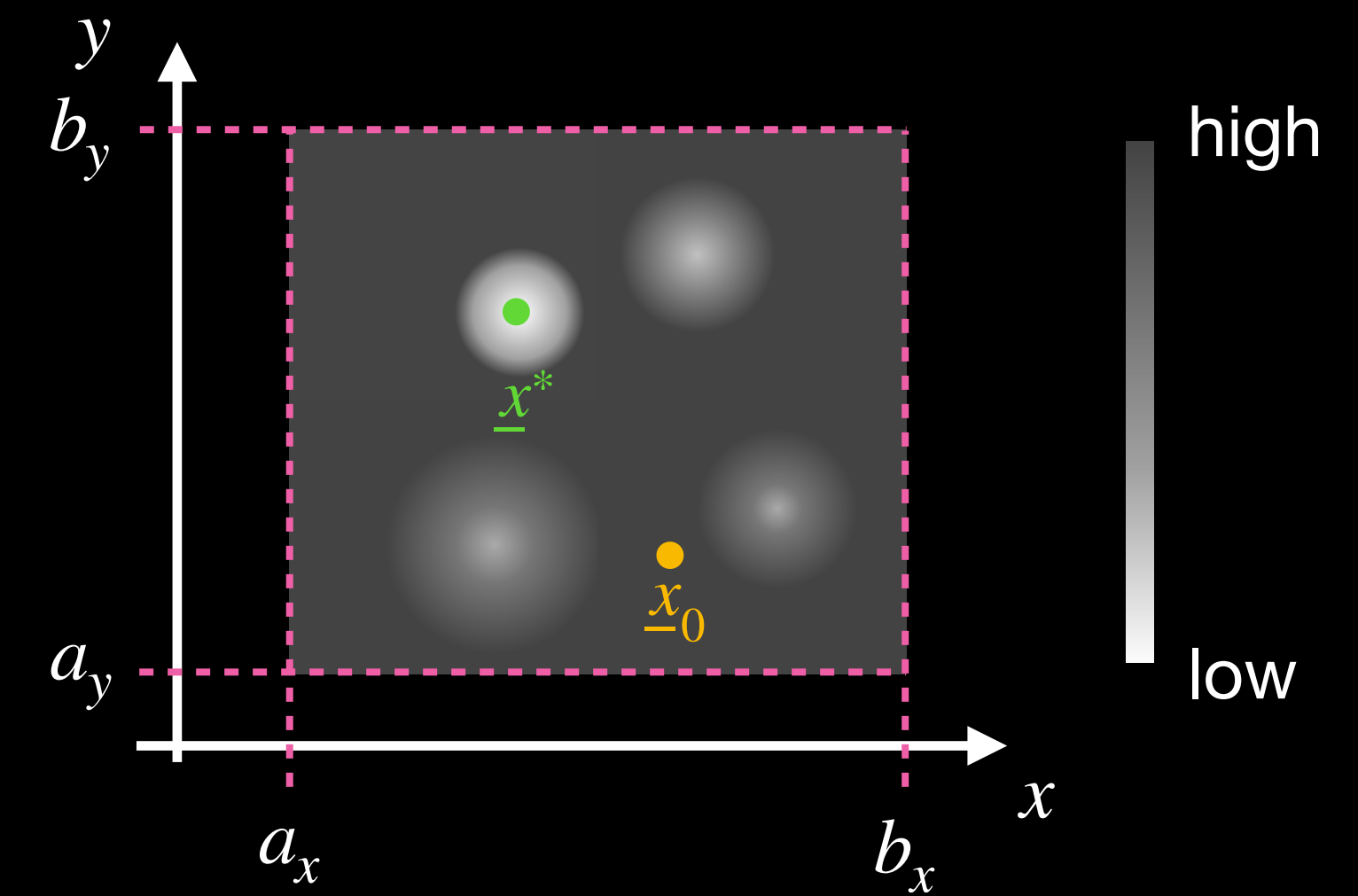
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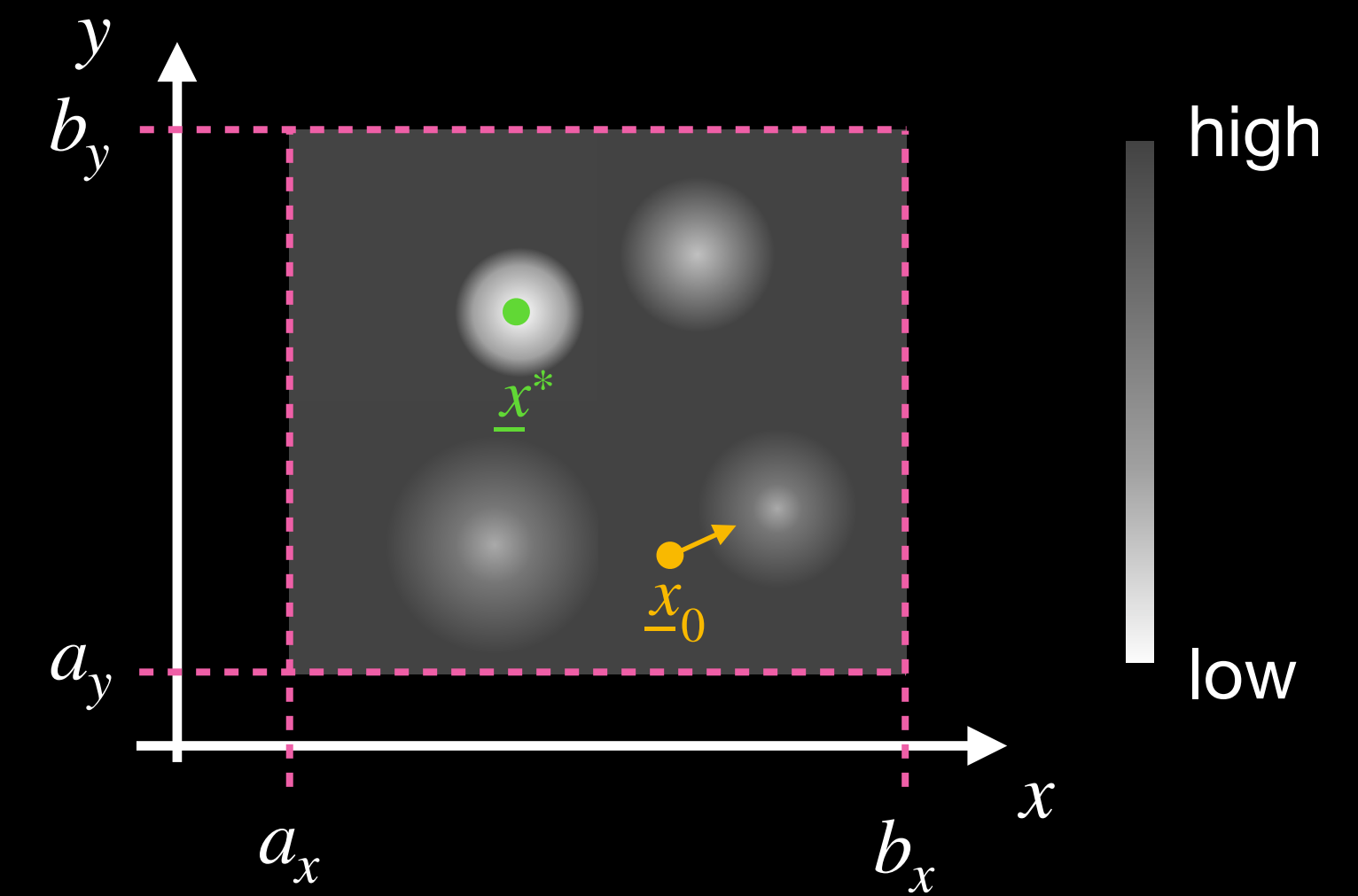
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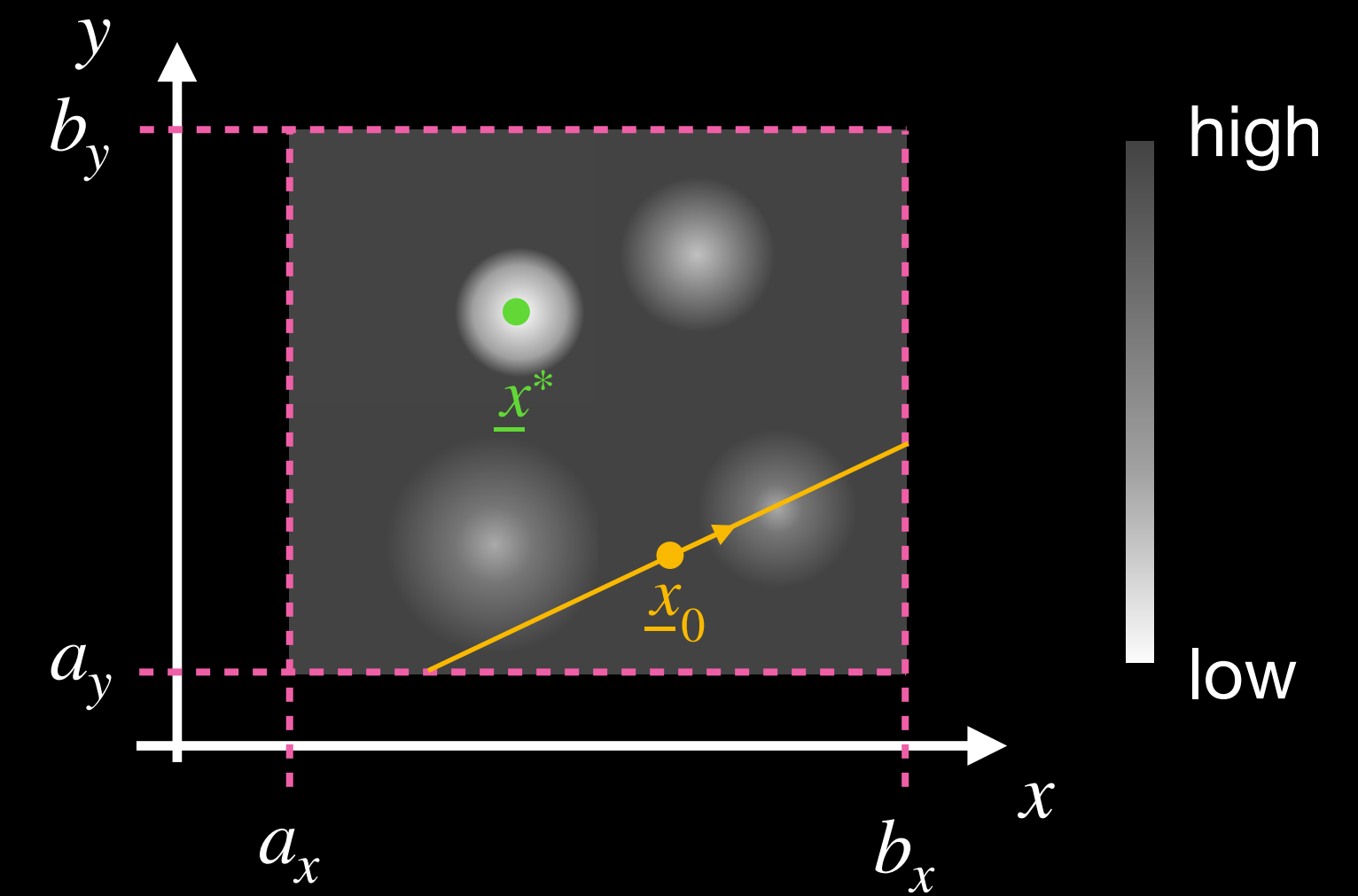
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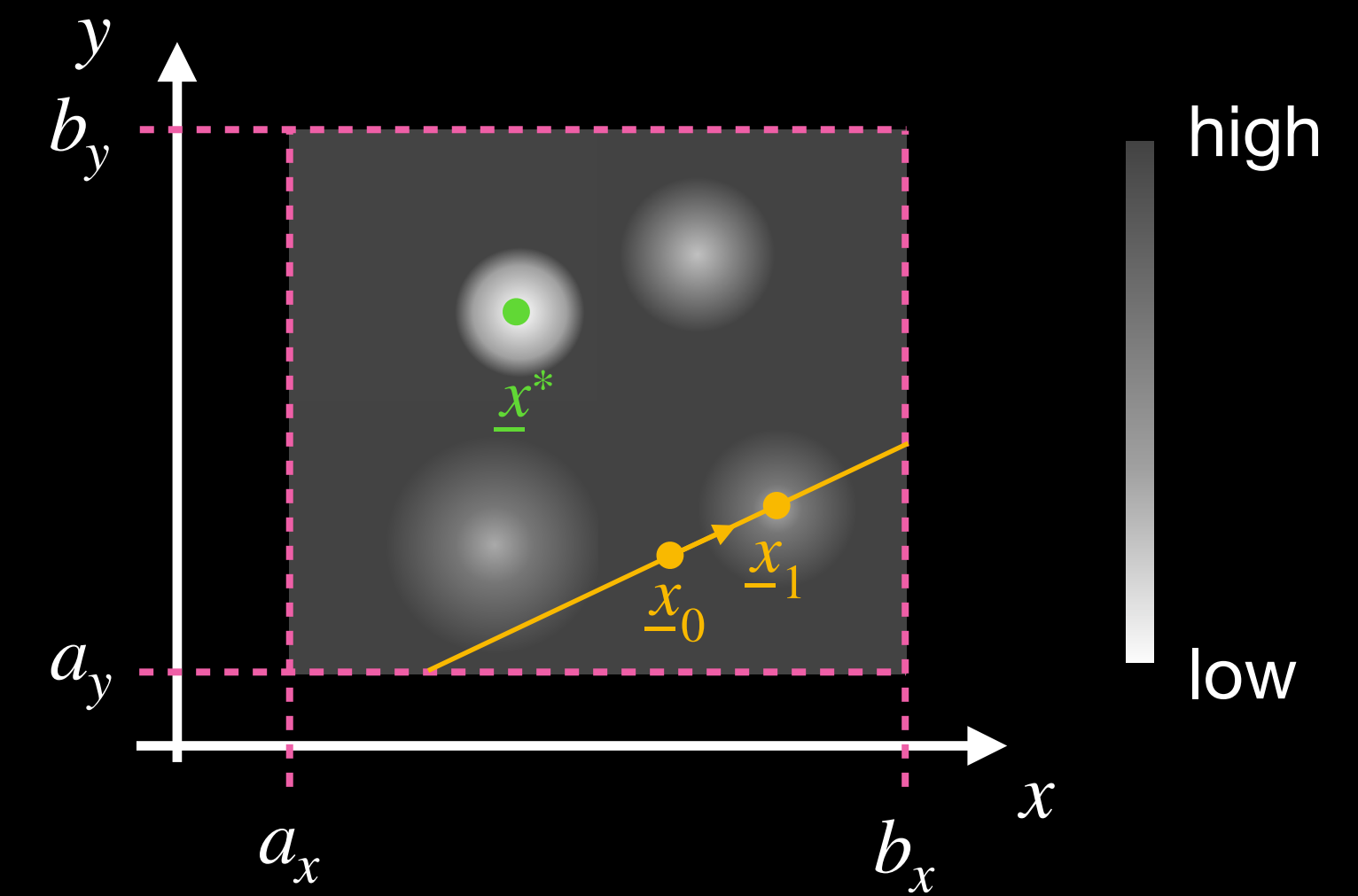
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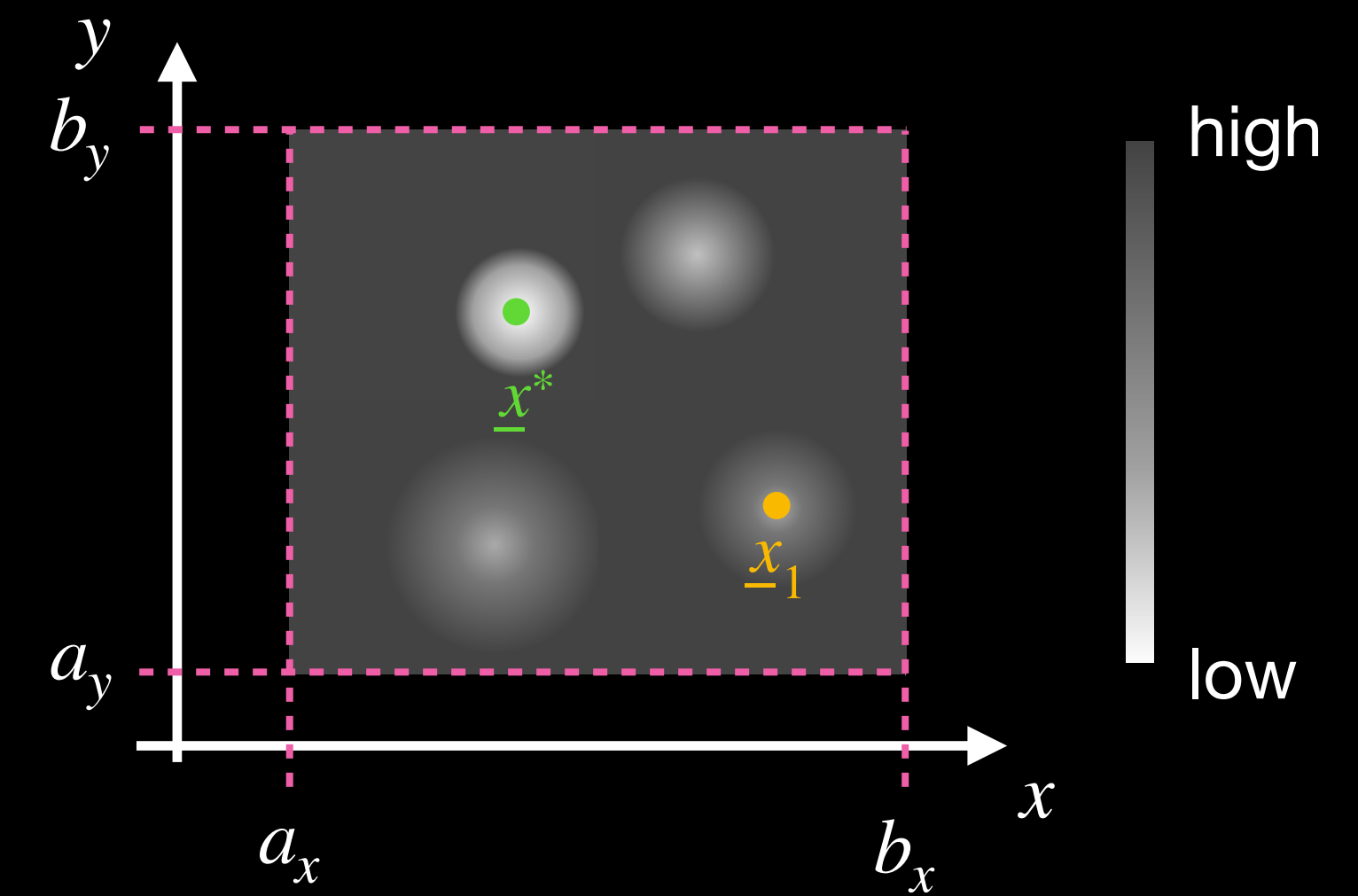
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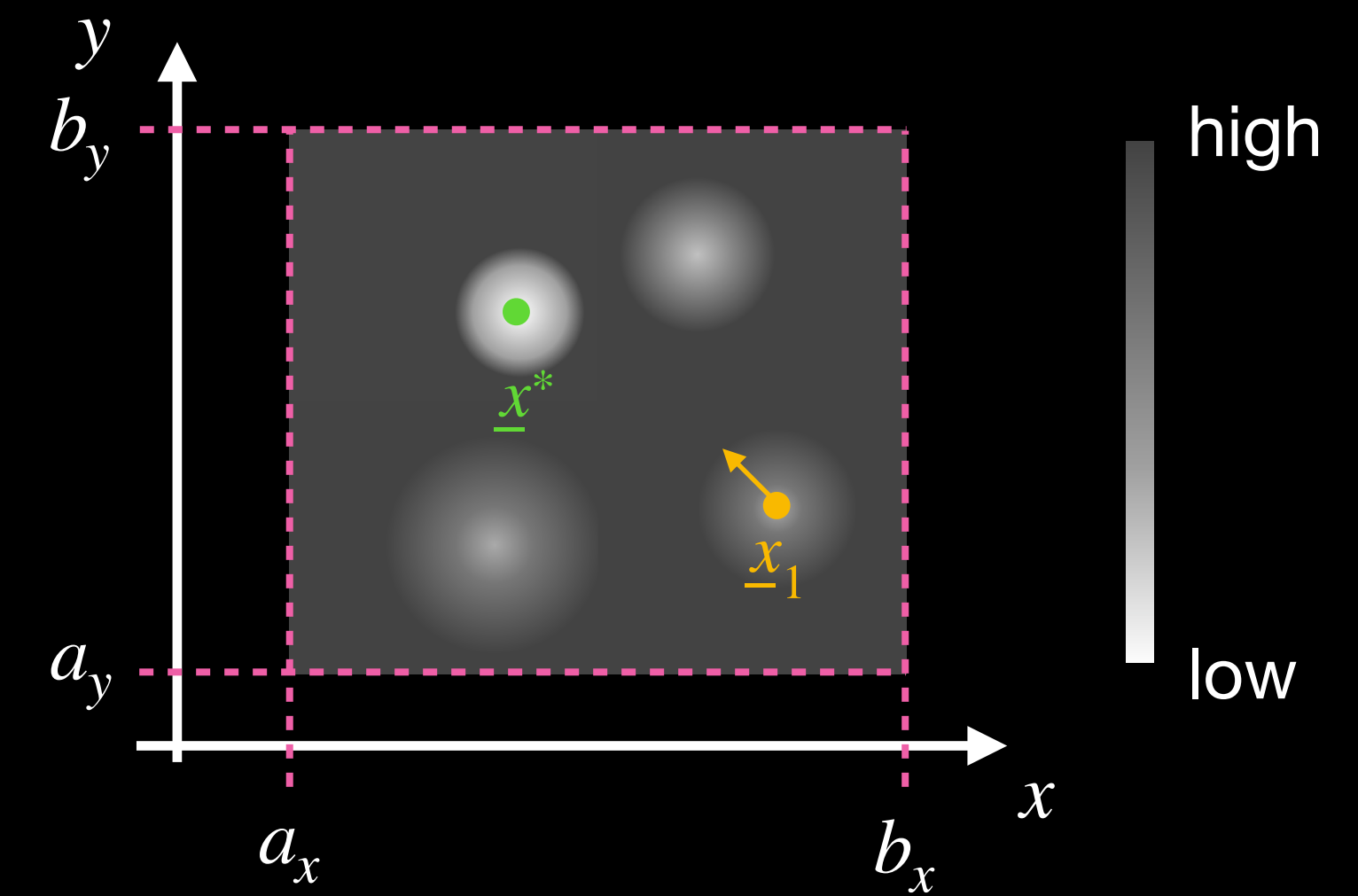
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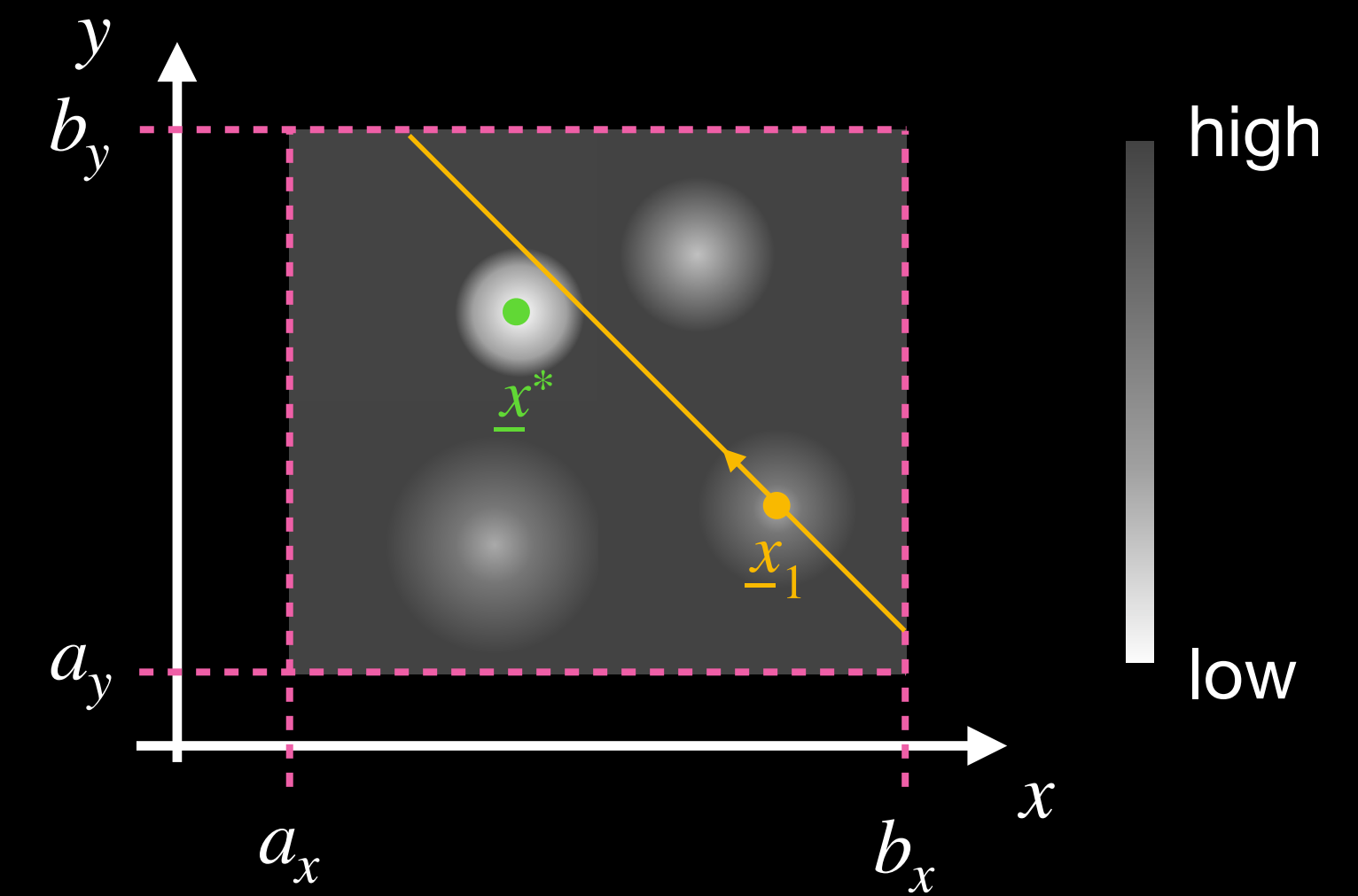
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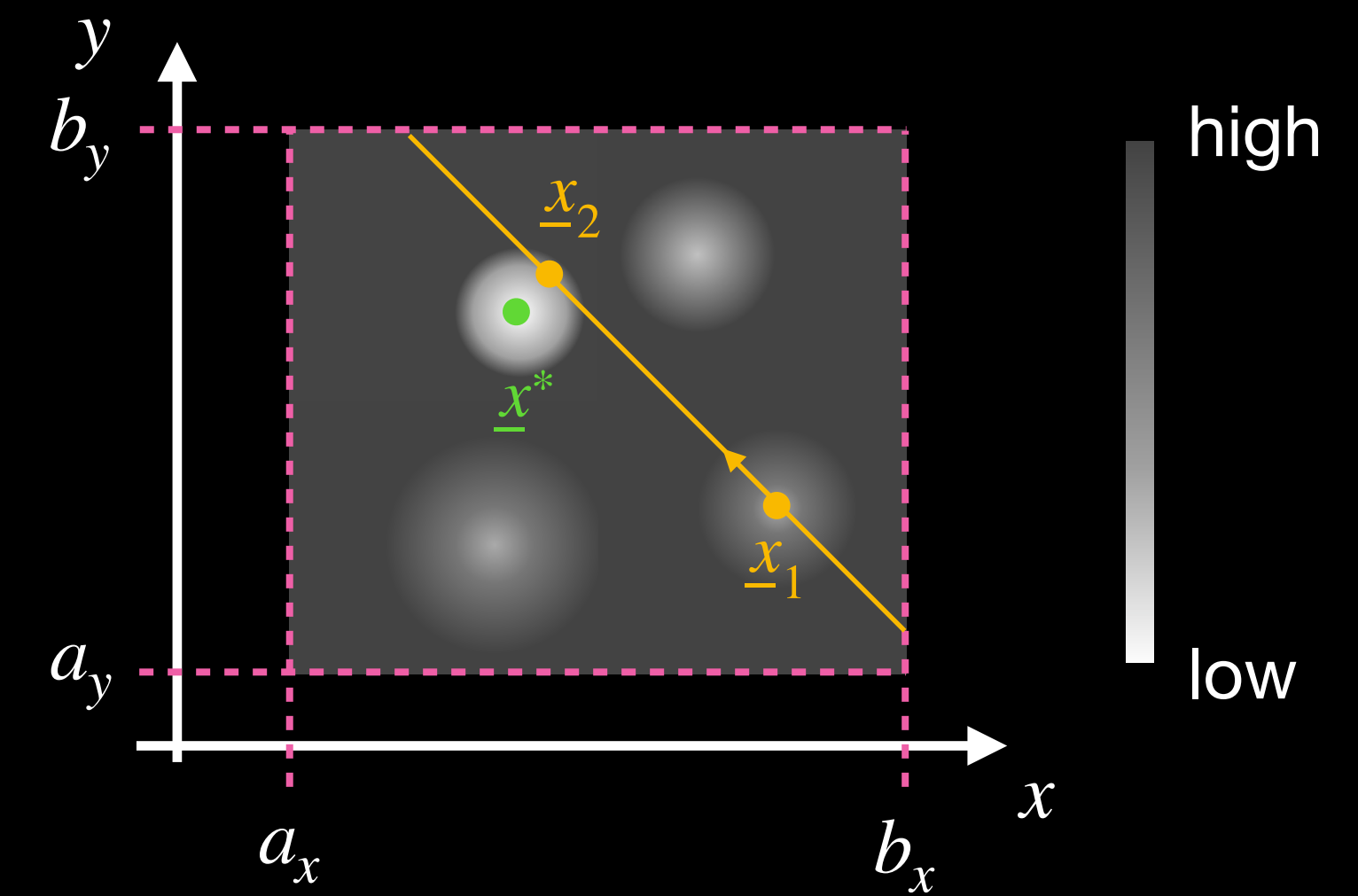
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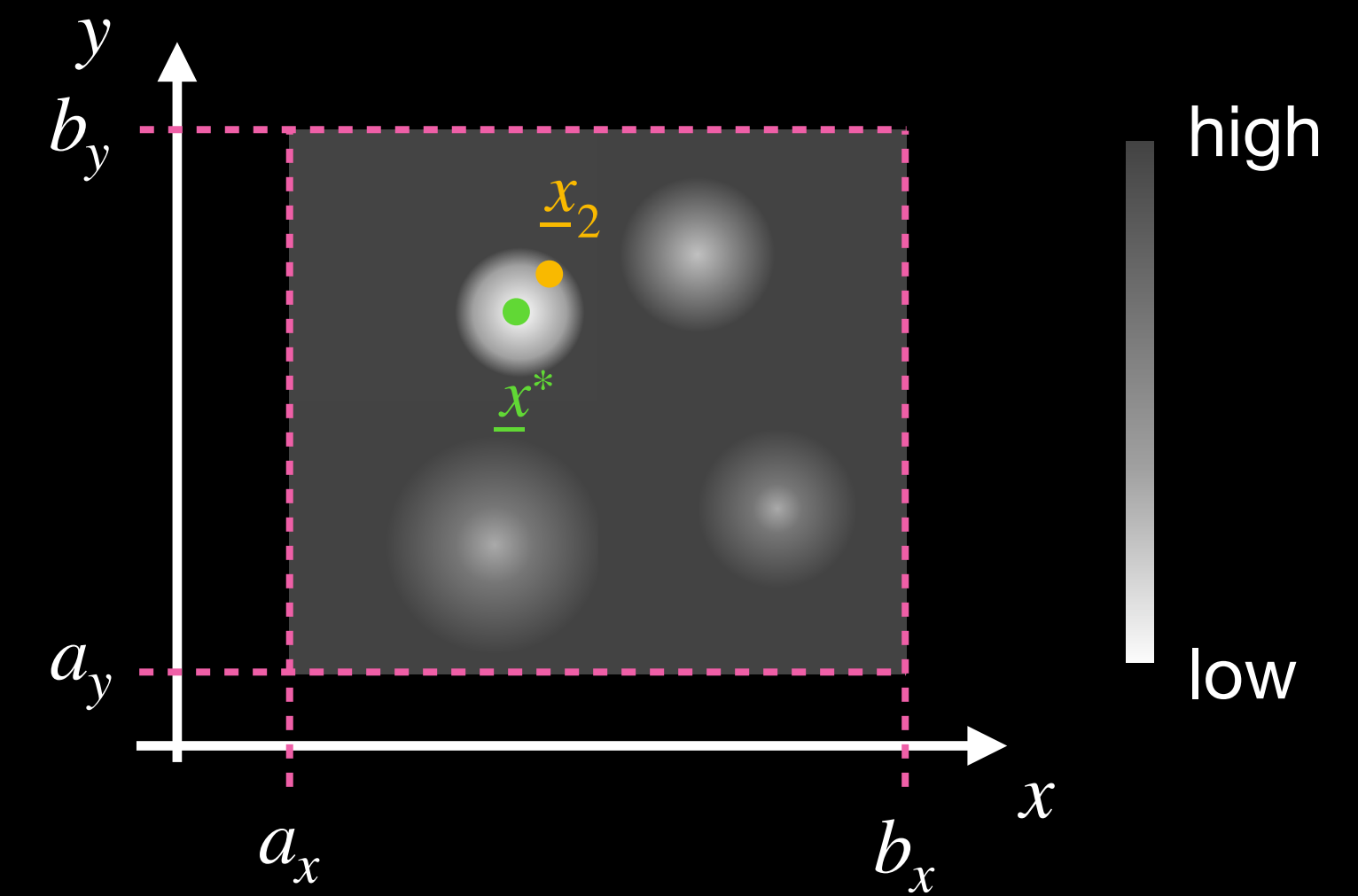
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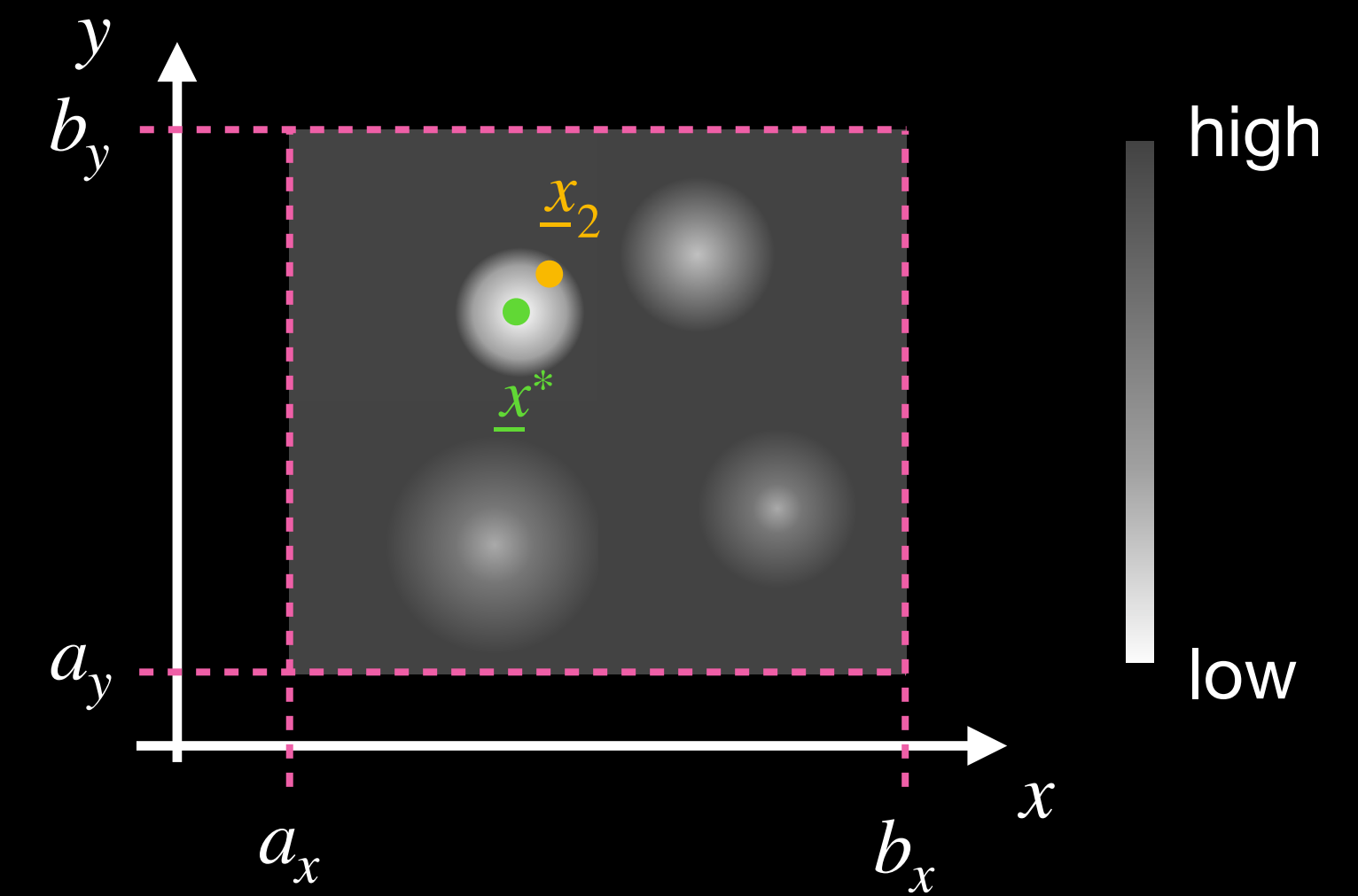




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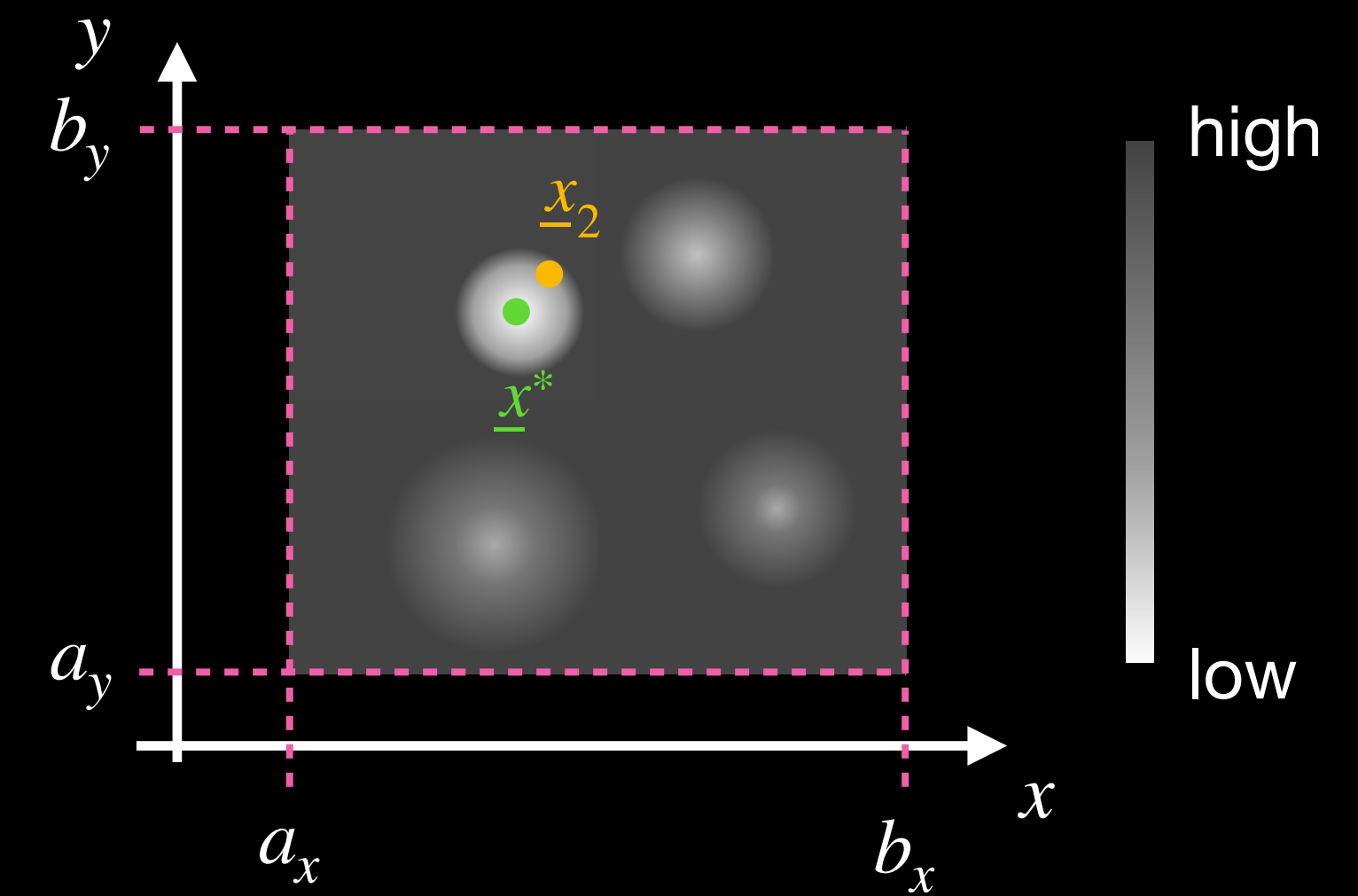
$\underline{X}_{t+1}$



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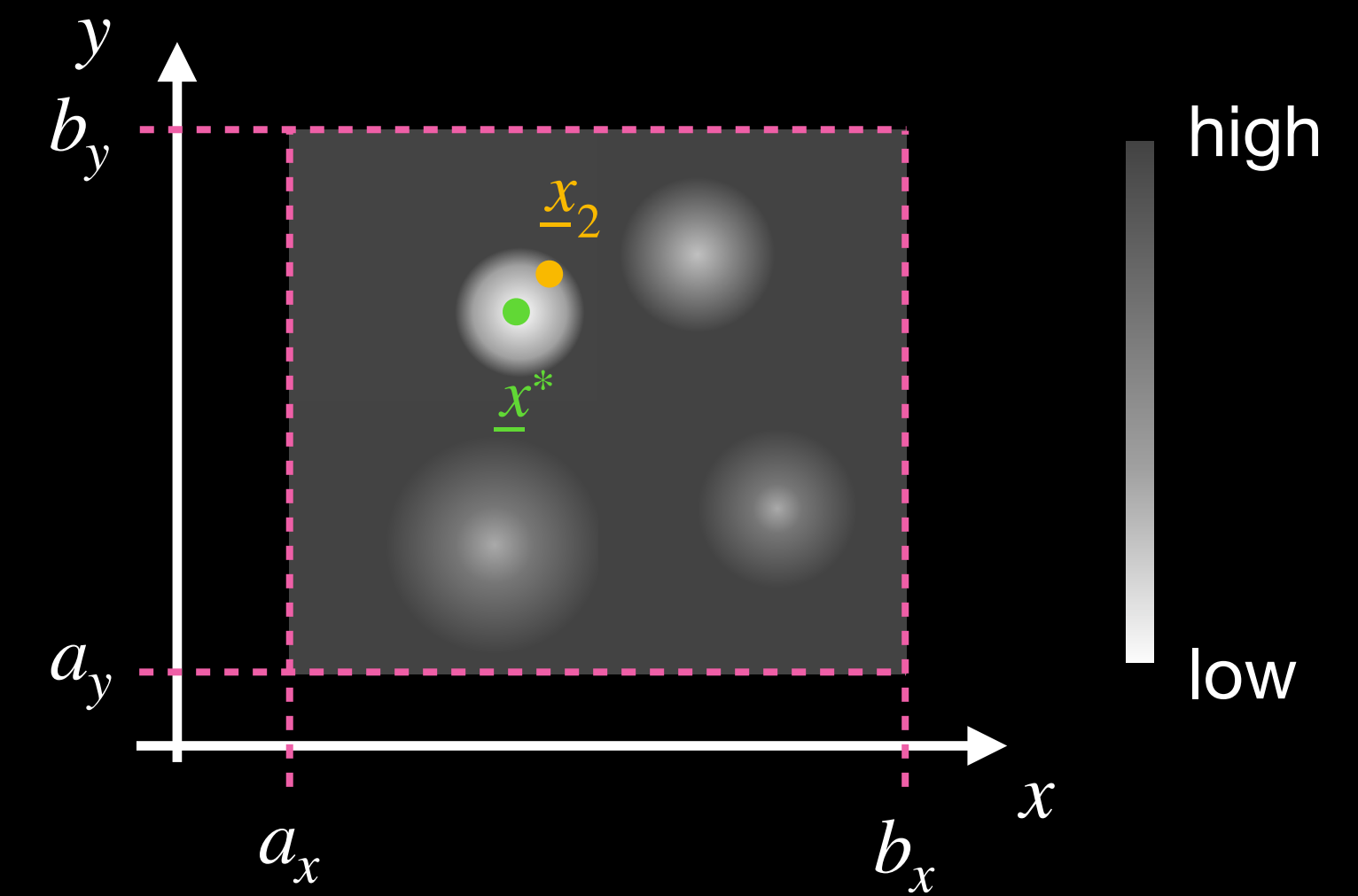
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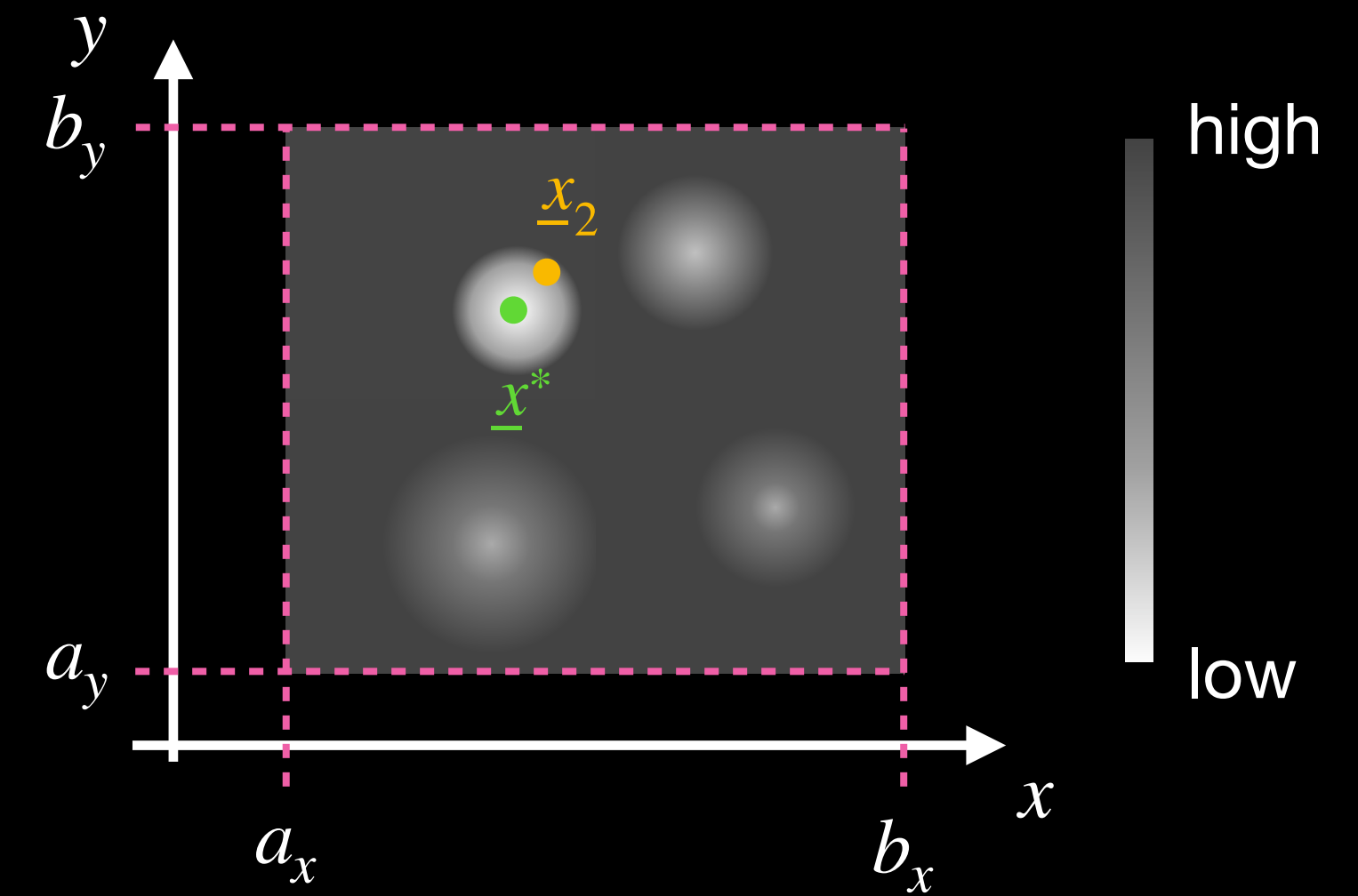
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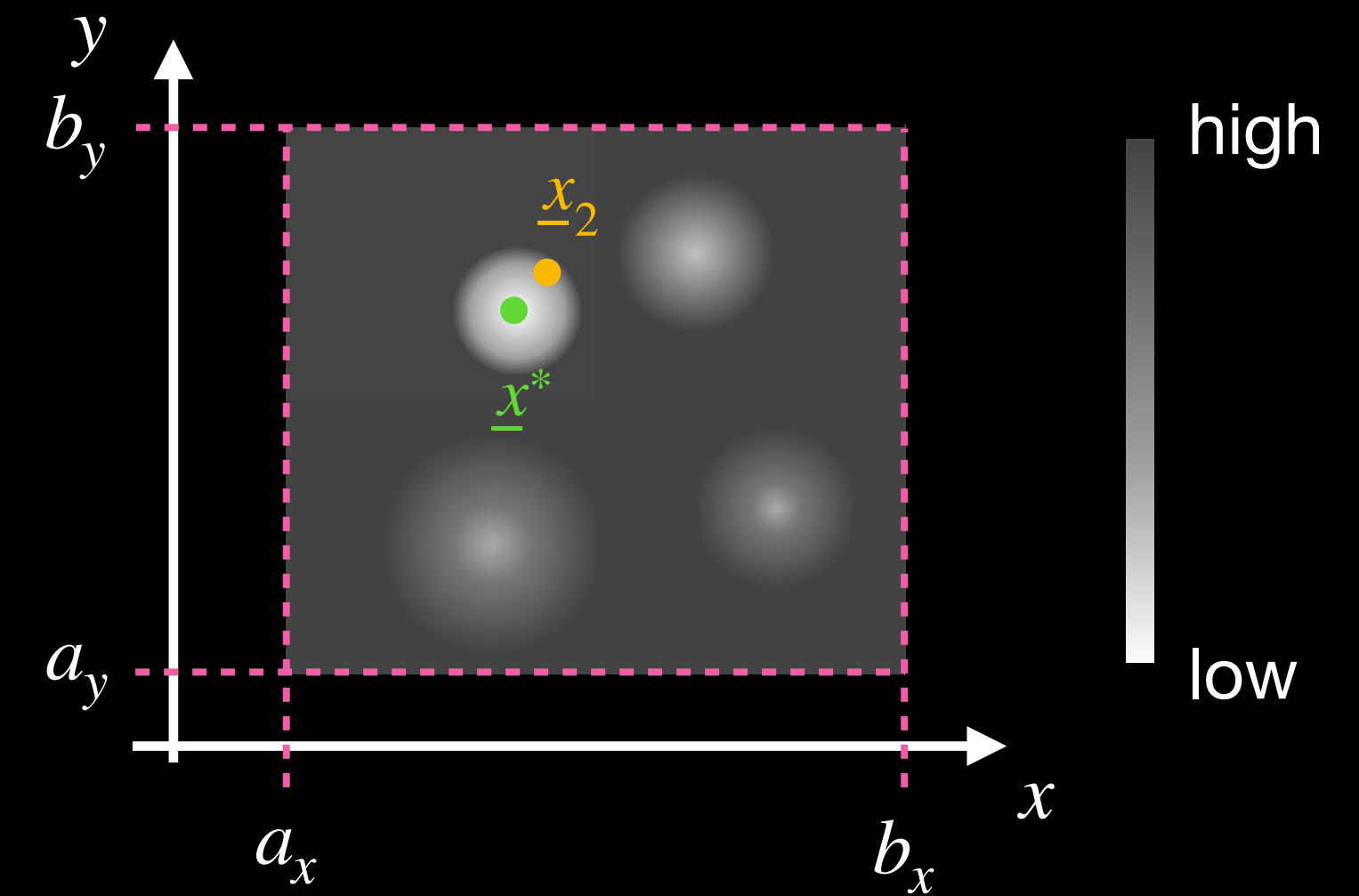
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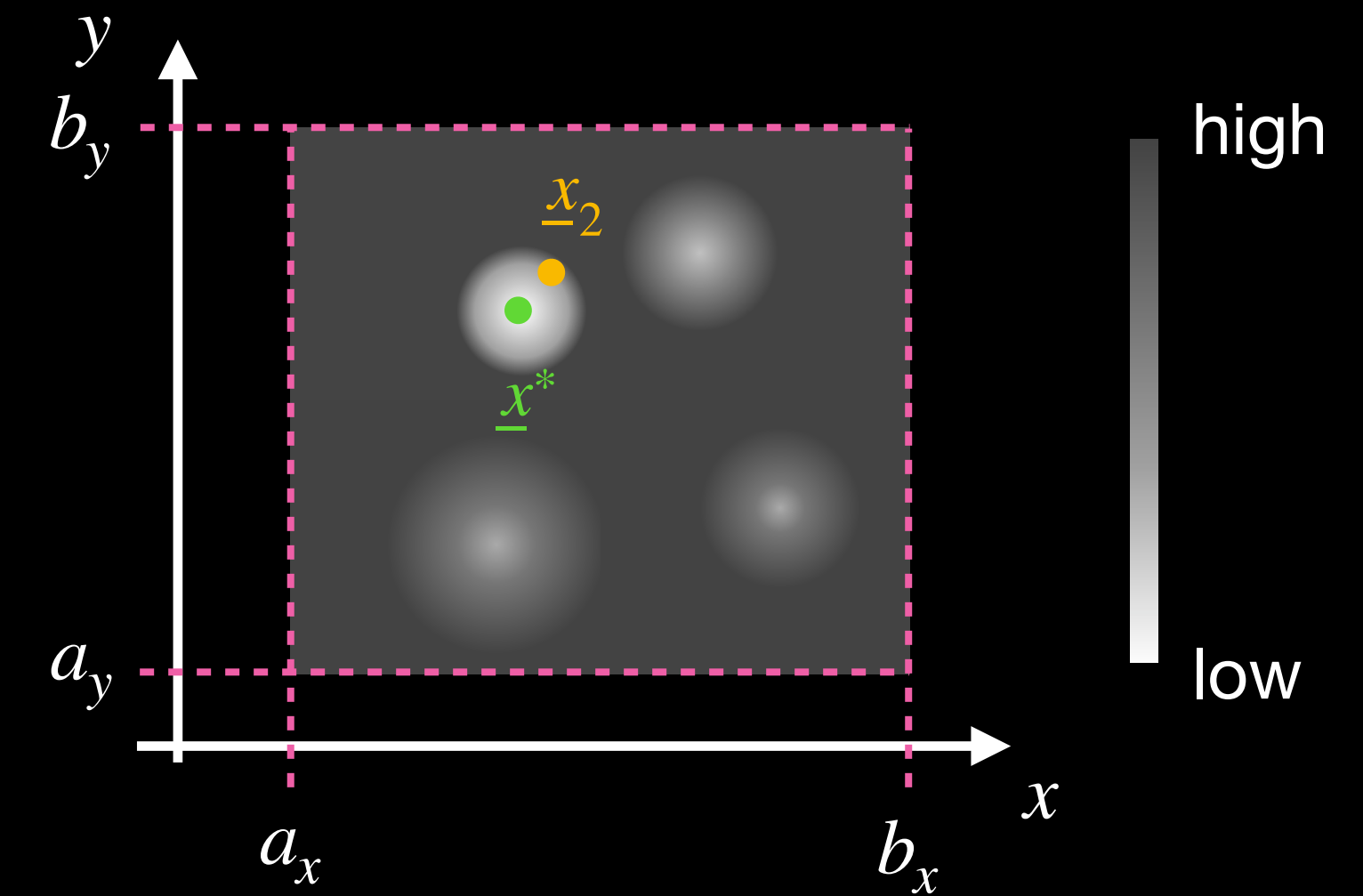
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$\beta$  is distance between  $X_t$  and  $X_{t+1}$



# algorithm 3: random pursuit

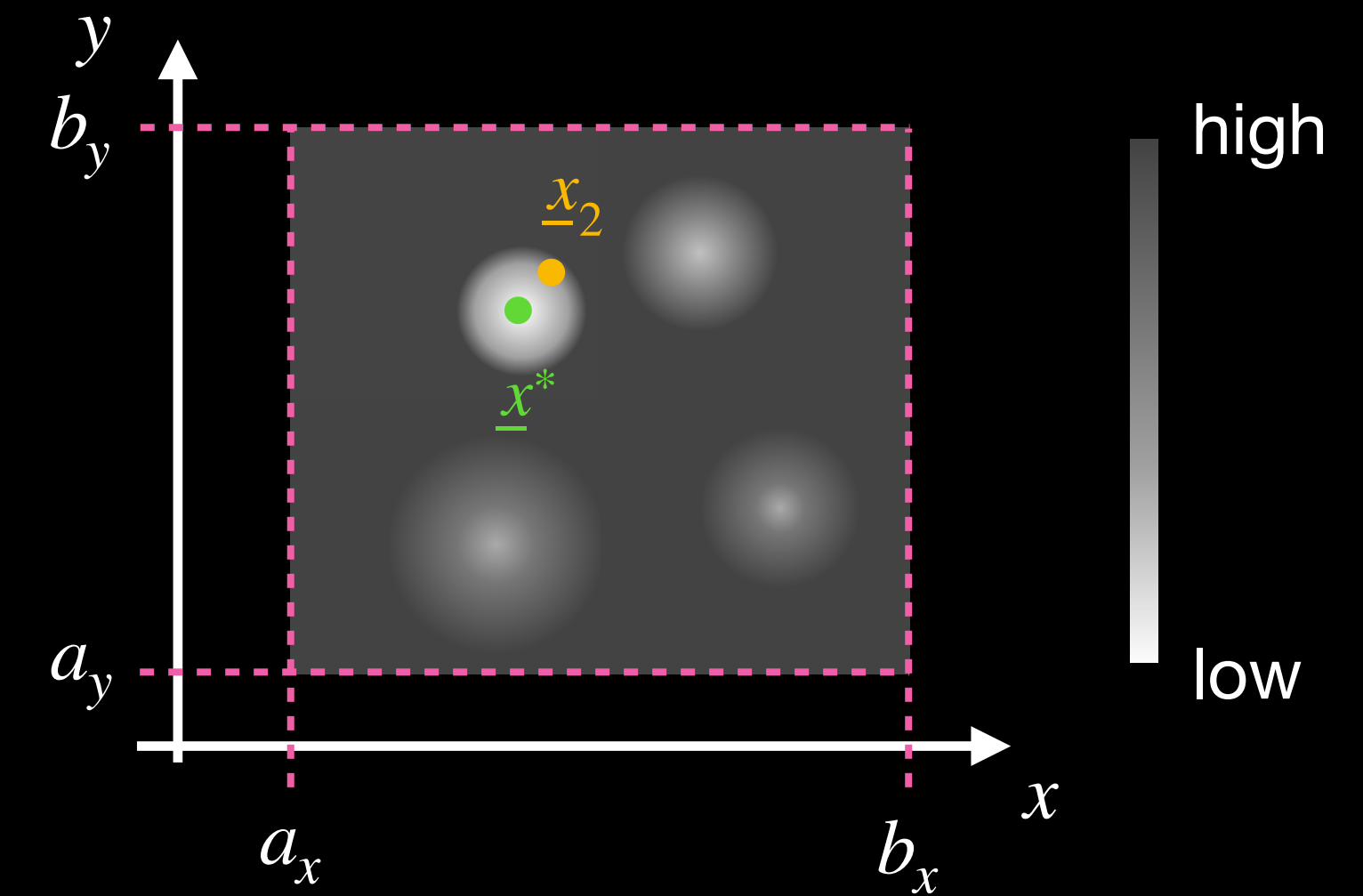
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(finds the vector to the point with minimal value on the line that goes through  $\underline{X}_t$  in the direction  $\underline{U}_t$ )



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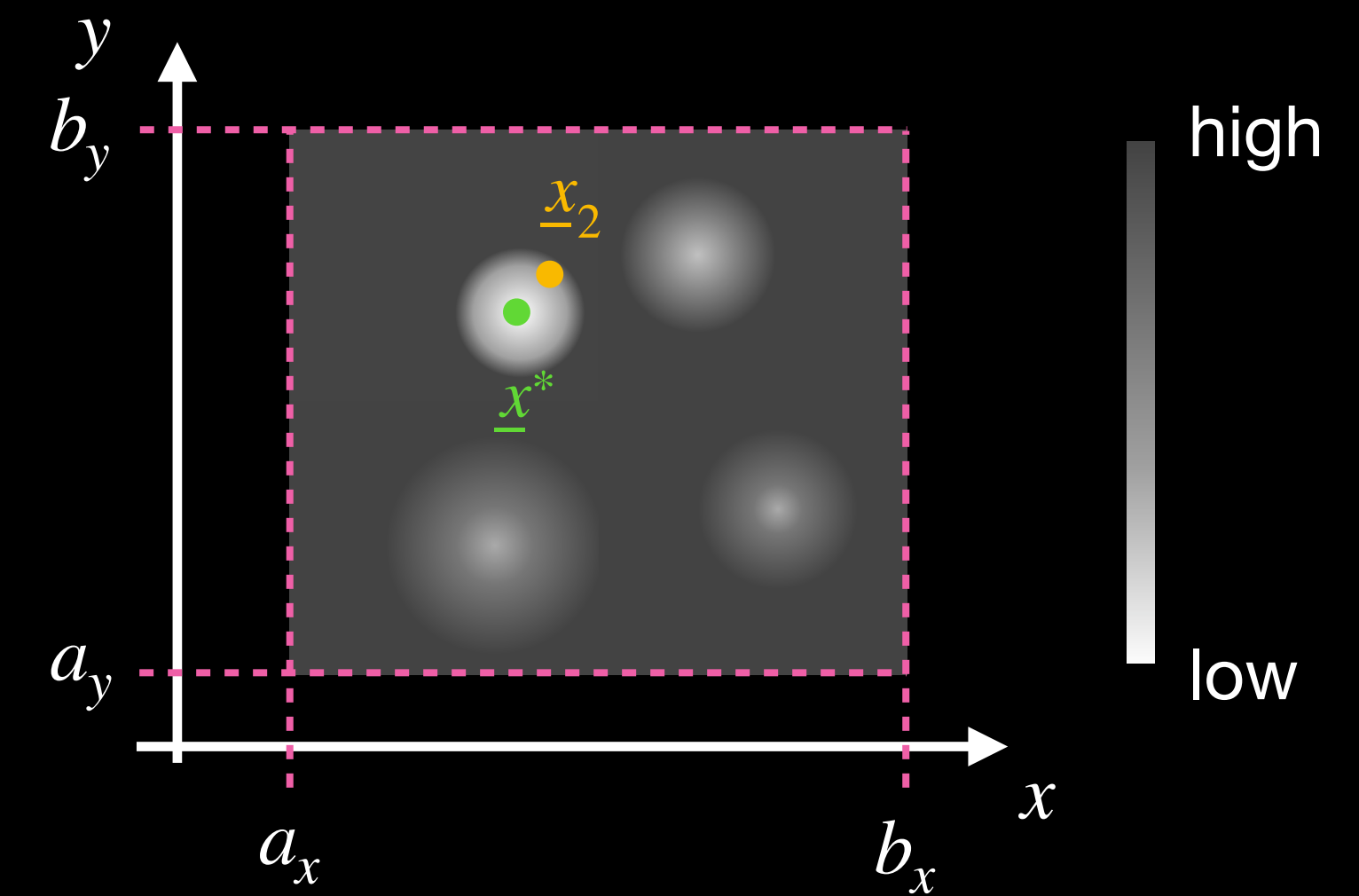
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→ reduction to 1d-optimisation problem





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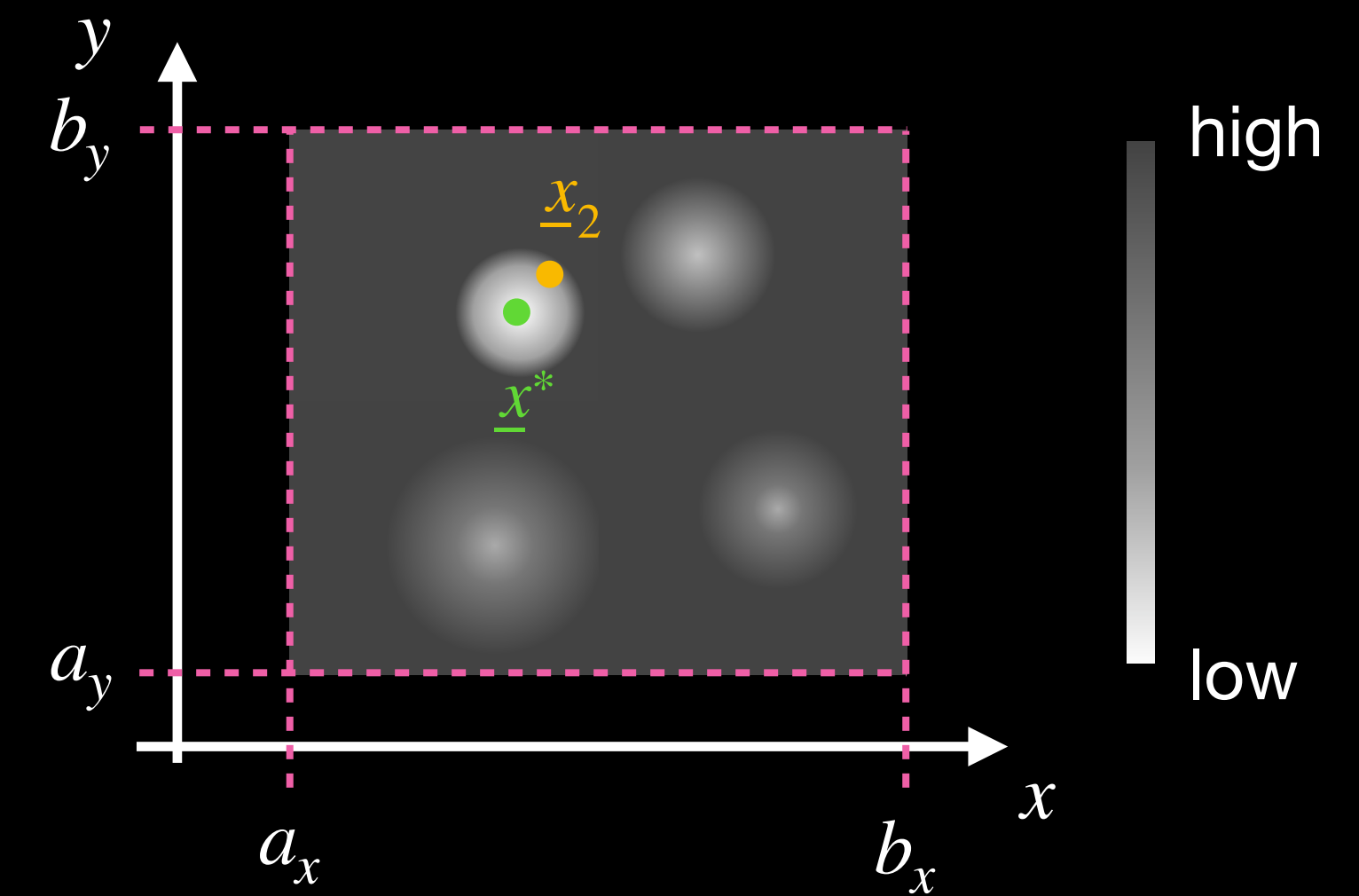
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properties:



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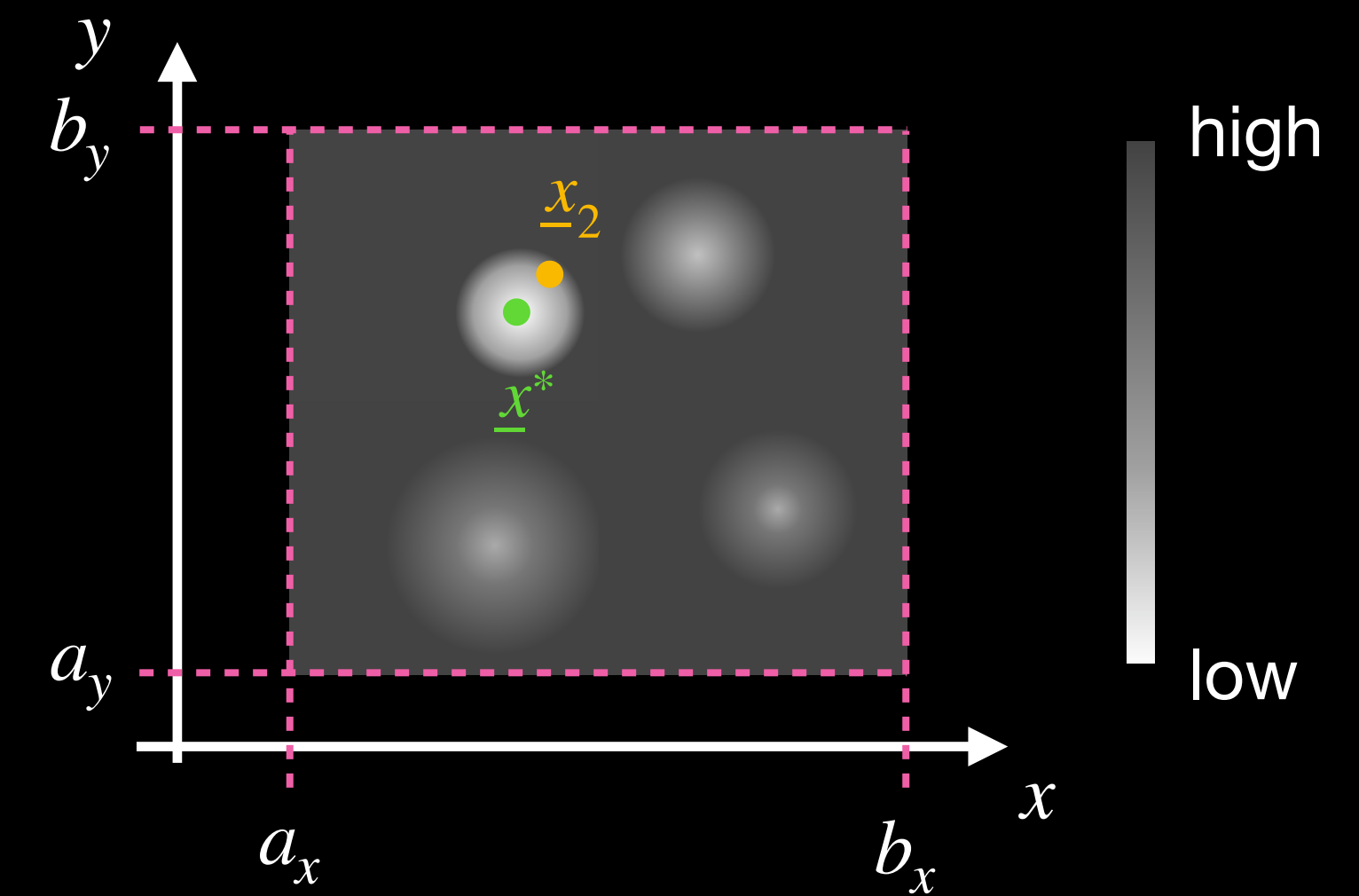
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→ reduction to 1d-optimisation problem

properties:

- global convergence guarantee



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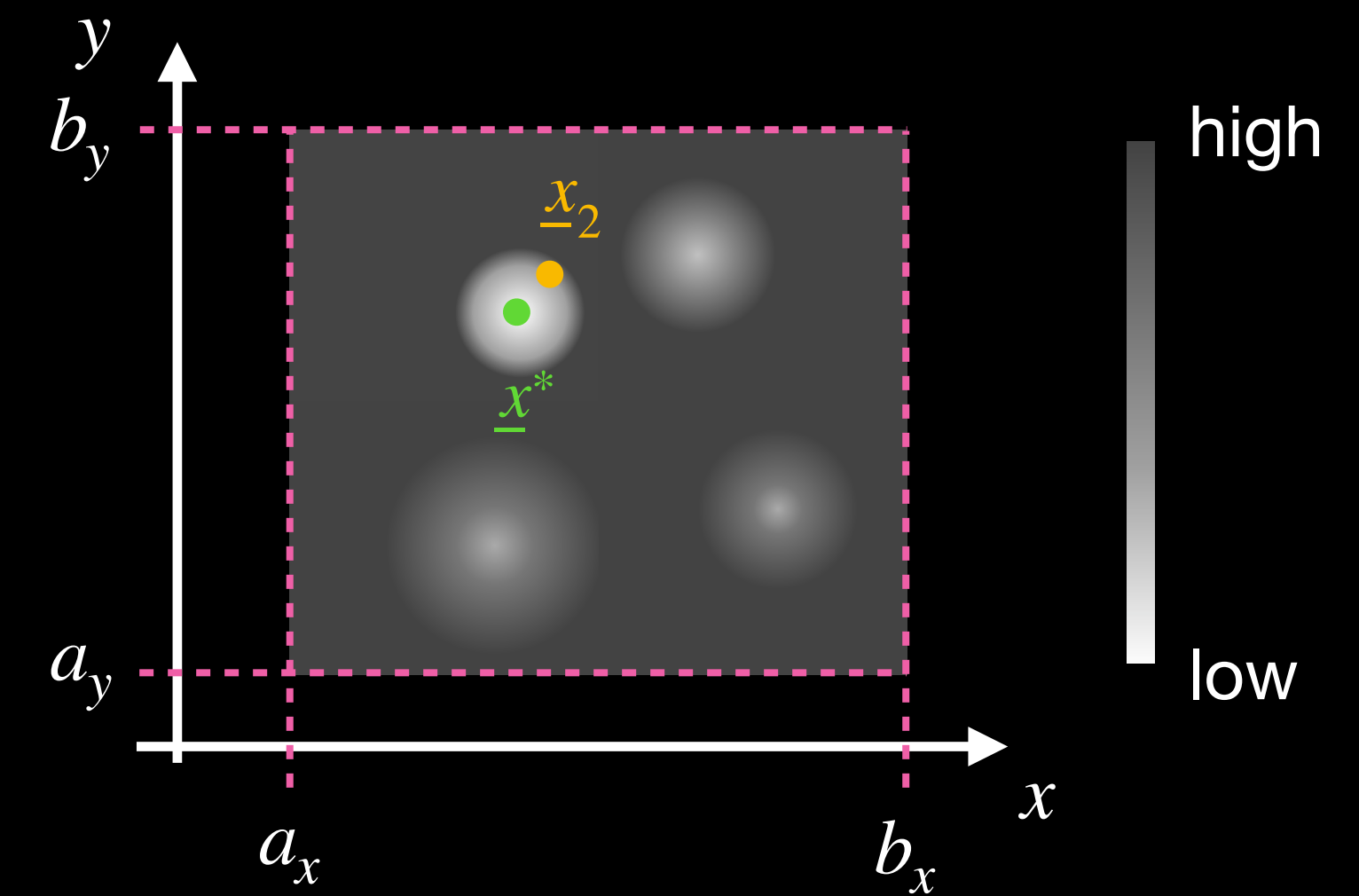
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→ reduction to 1d-optimisation problem

properties:

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- converges fast



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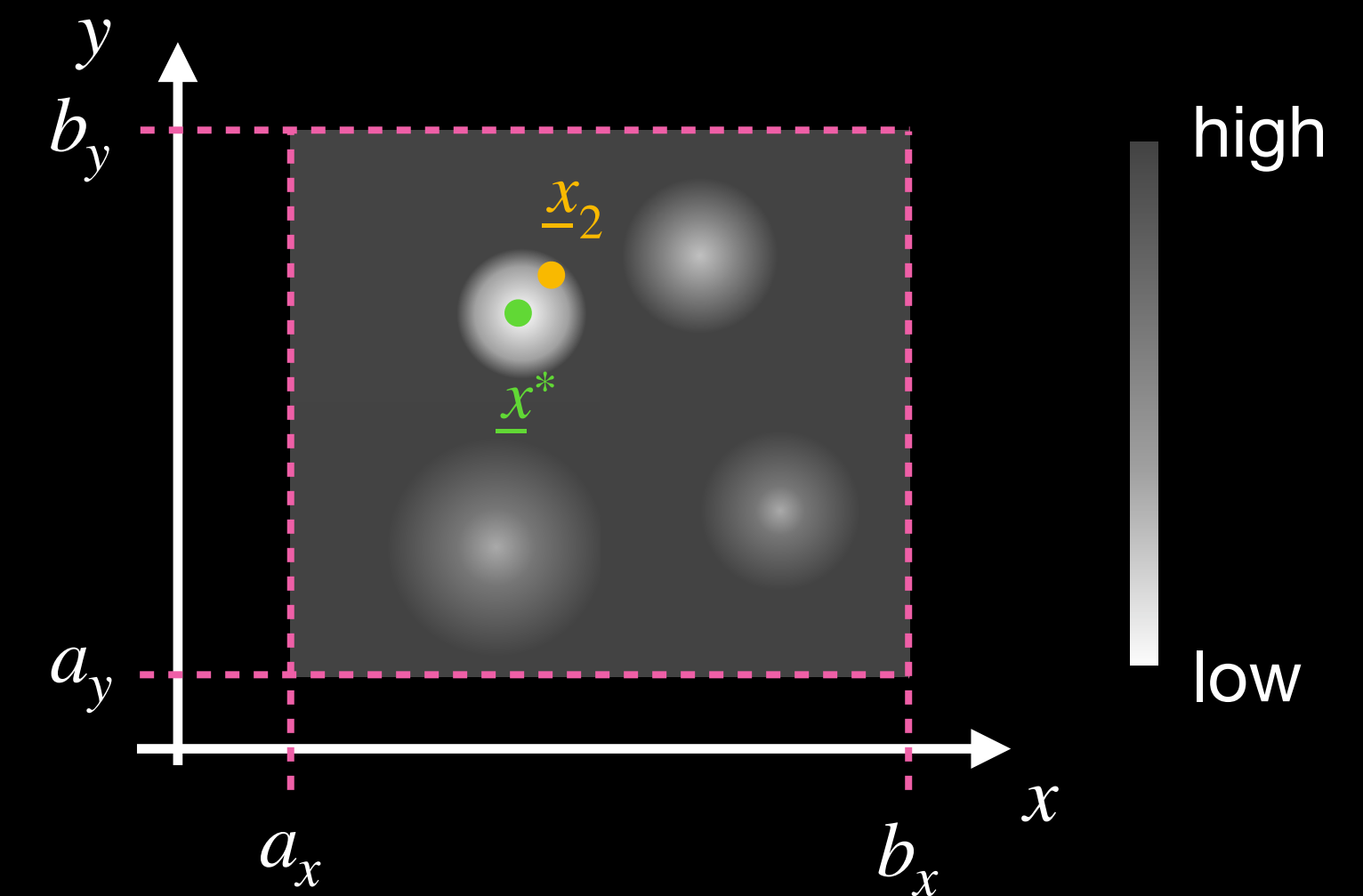
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→ reduction to 1d-optimisation problem

properties:

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- converges fast
- needs uniform random numbers (on the unit sphere)



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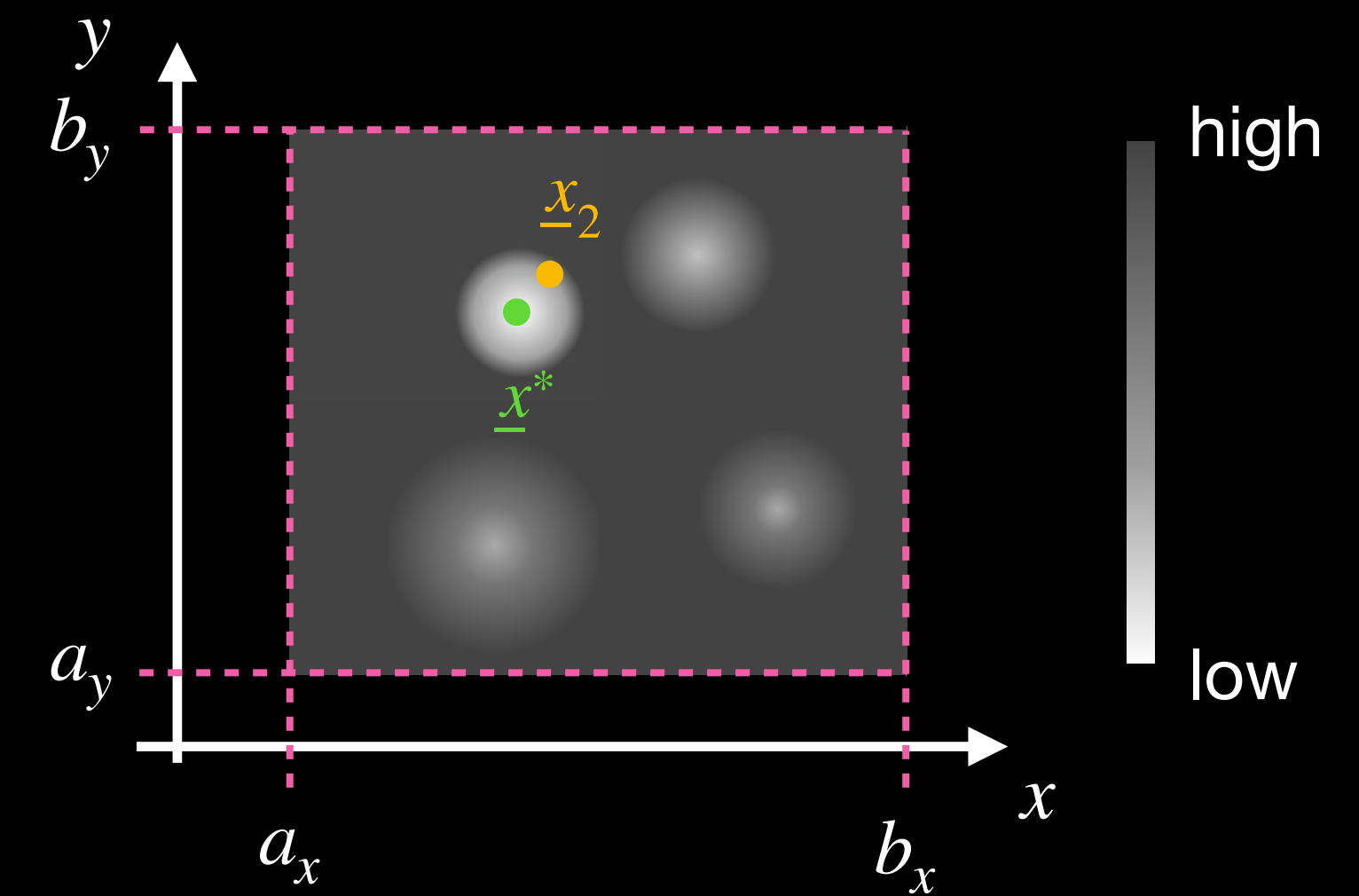
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→ reduction to 1d-optimisation problem

properties:

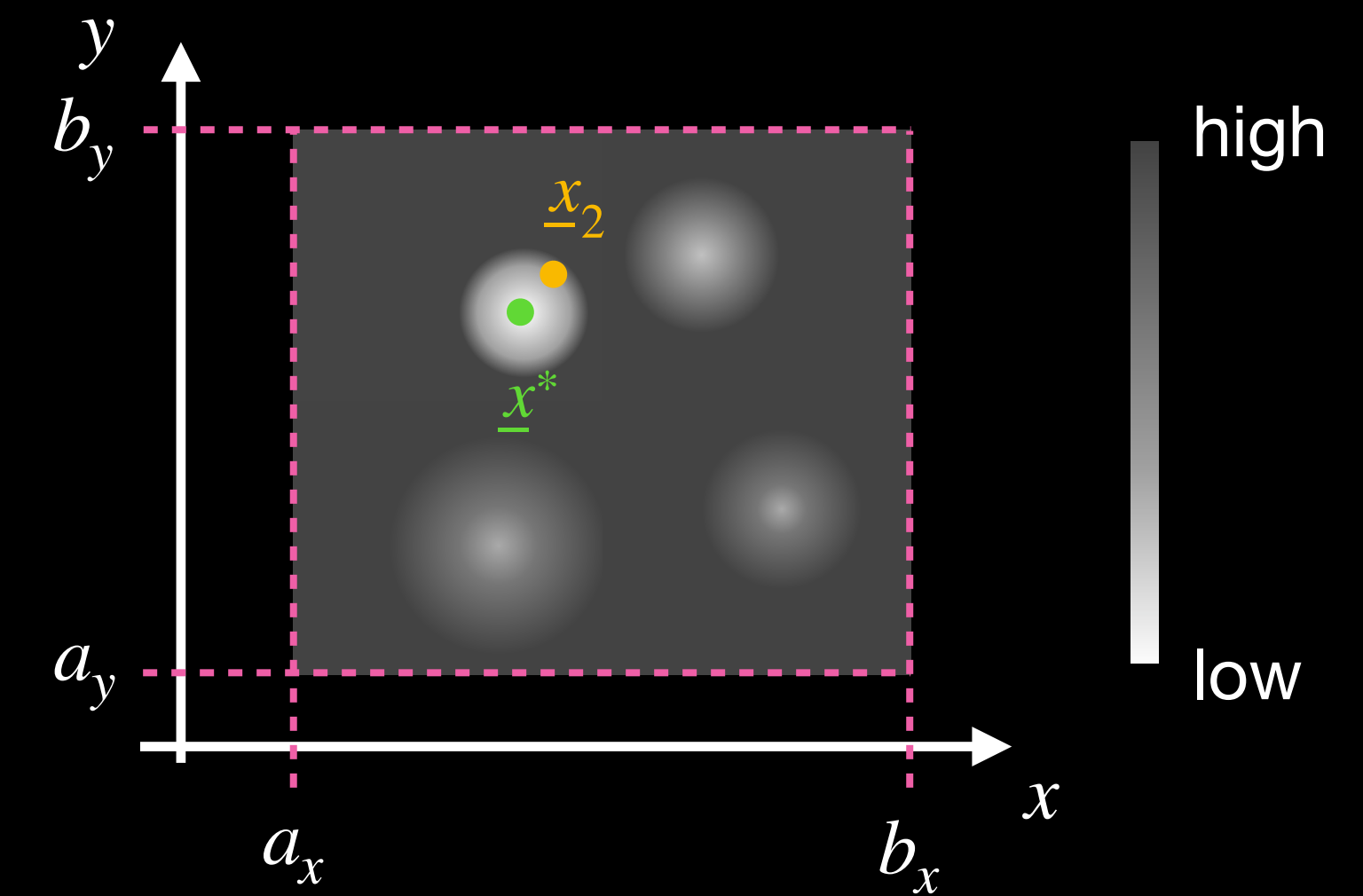
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useful if:



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properties:

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- converges fast
- needs uniform random numbers (on the unit sphere)

useful if:

- $\mathbb{S}$  is high-dimensional and bounded

# algorithm 4: simulated annealing

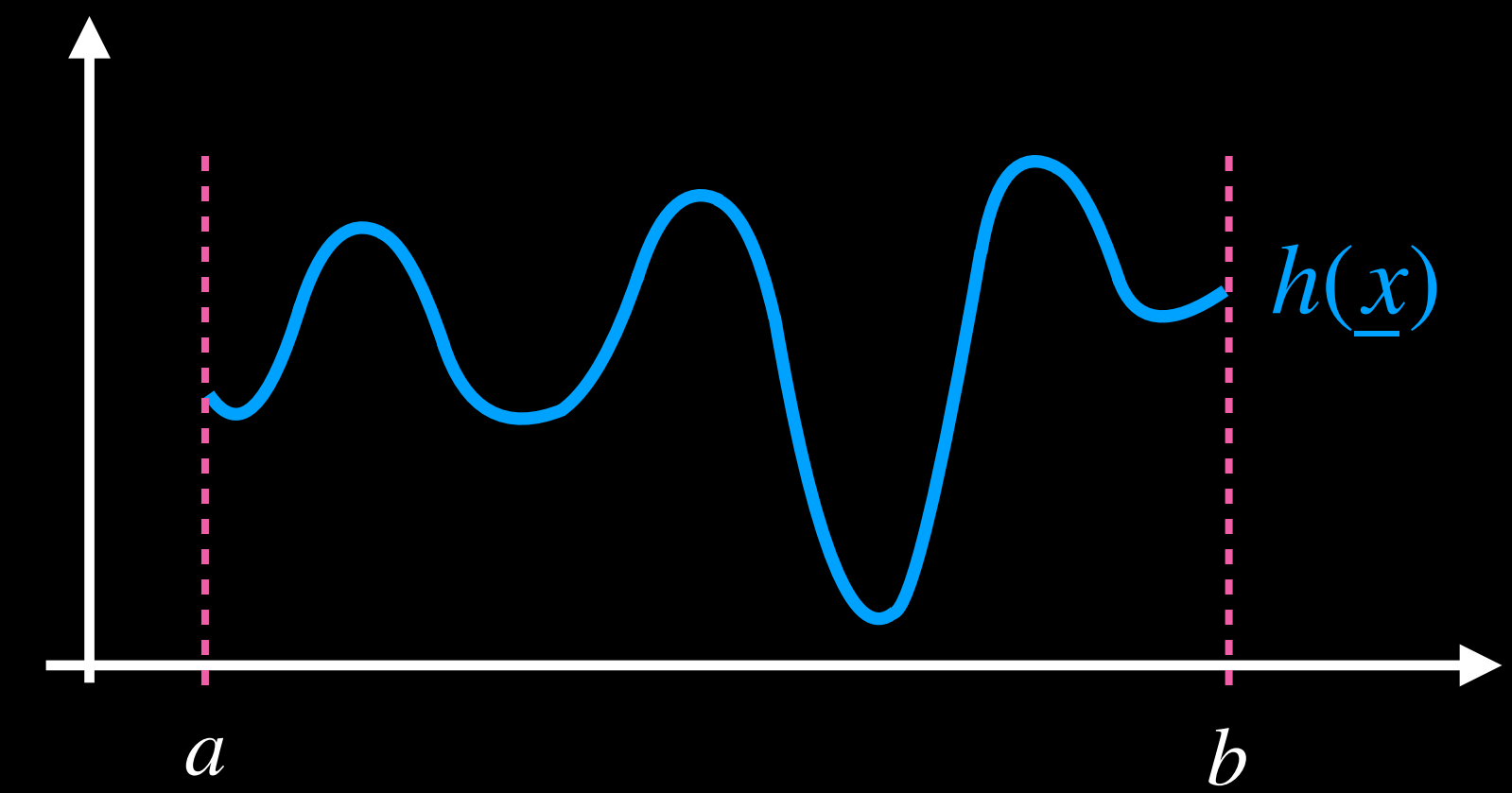
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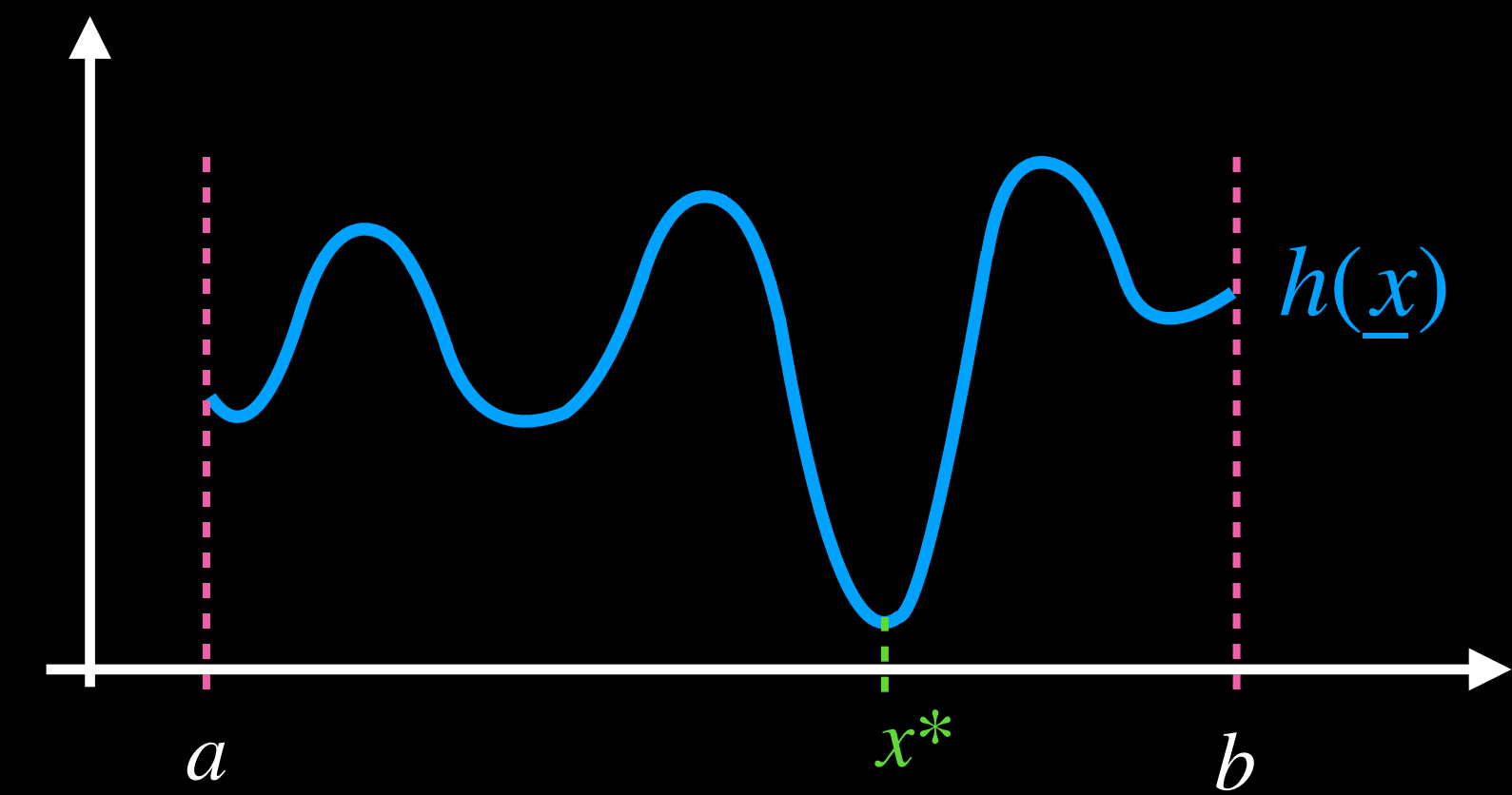
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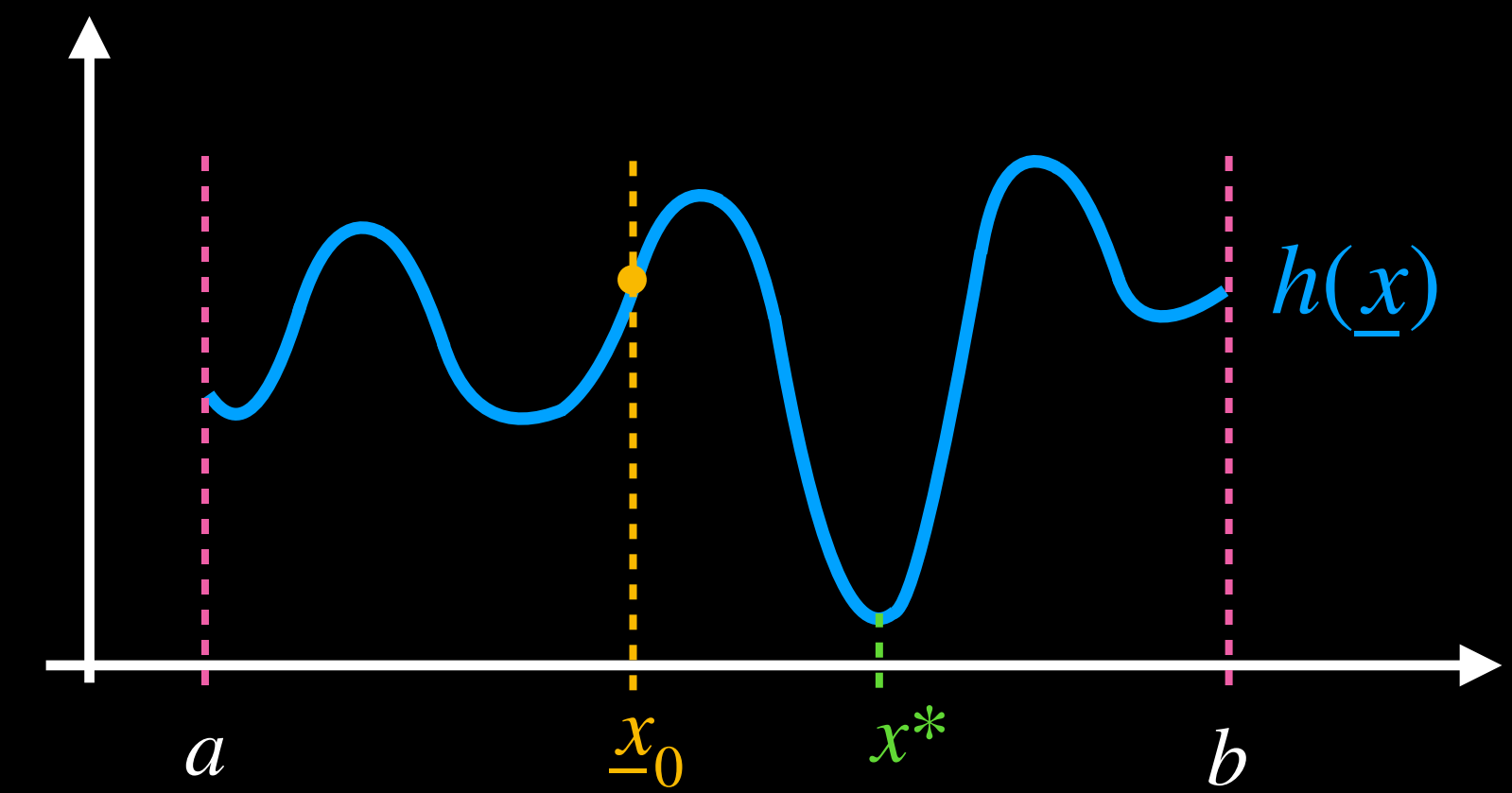
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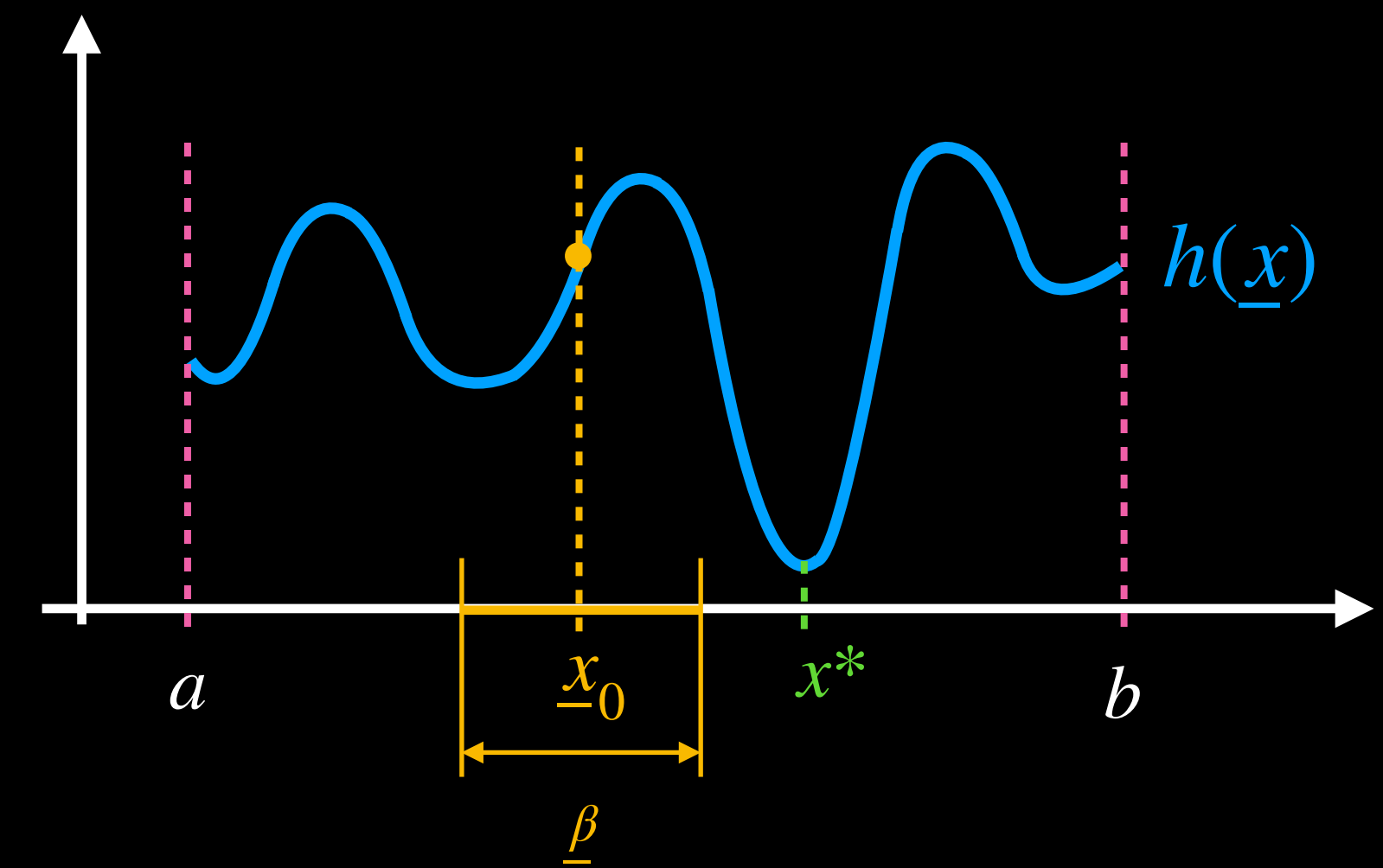
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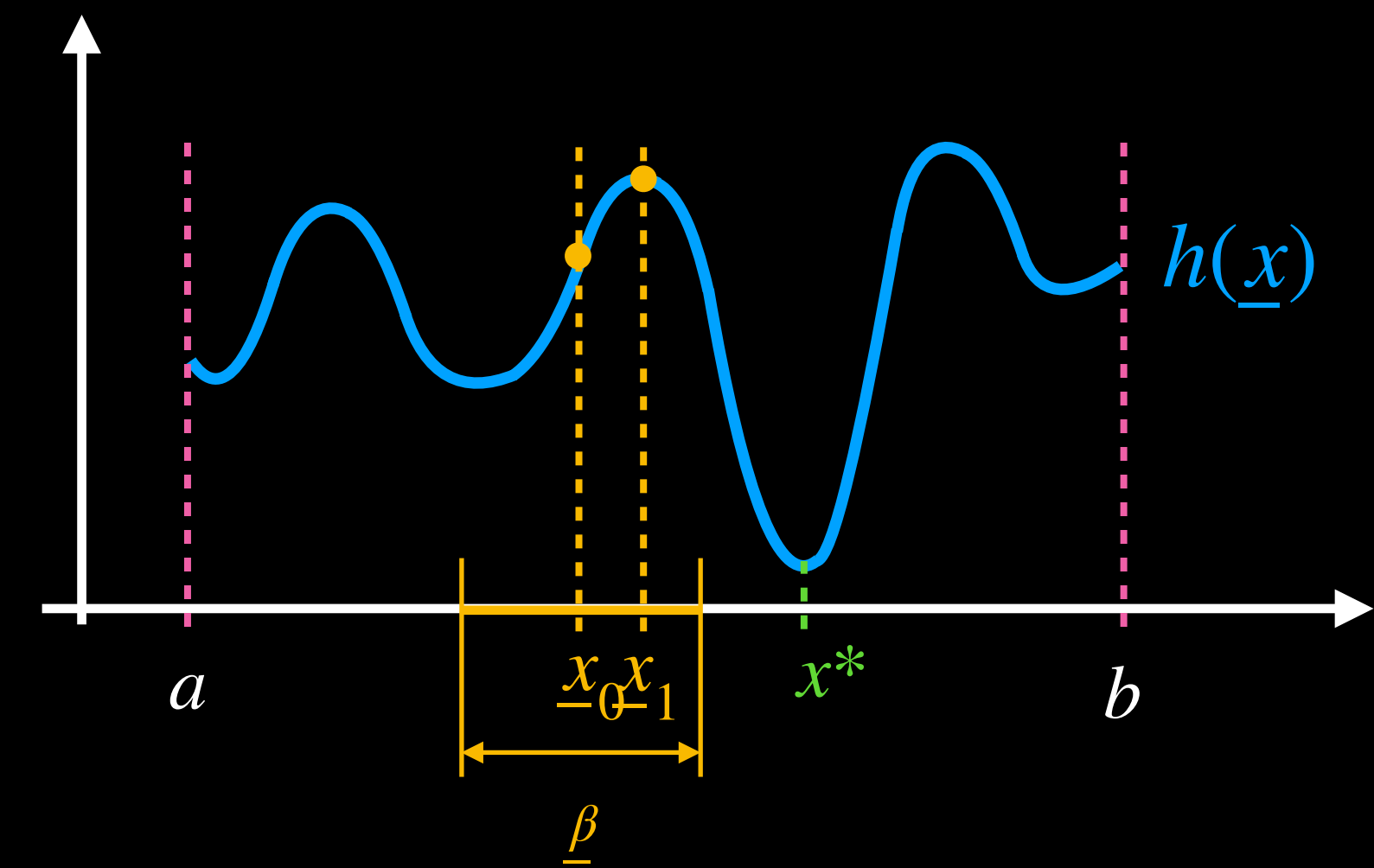
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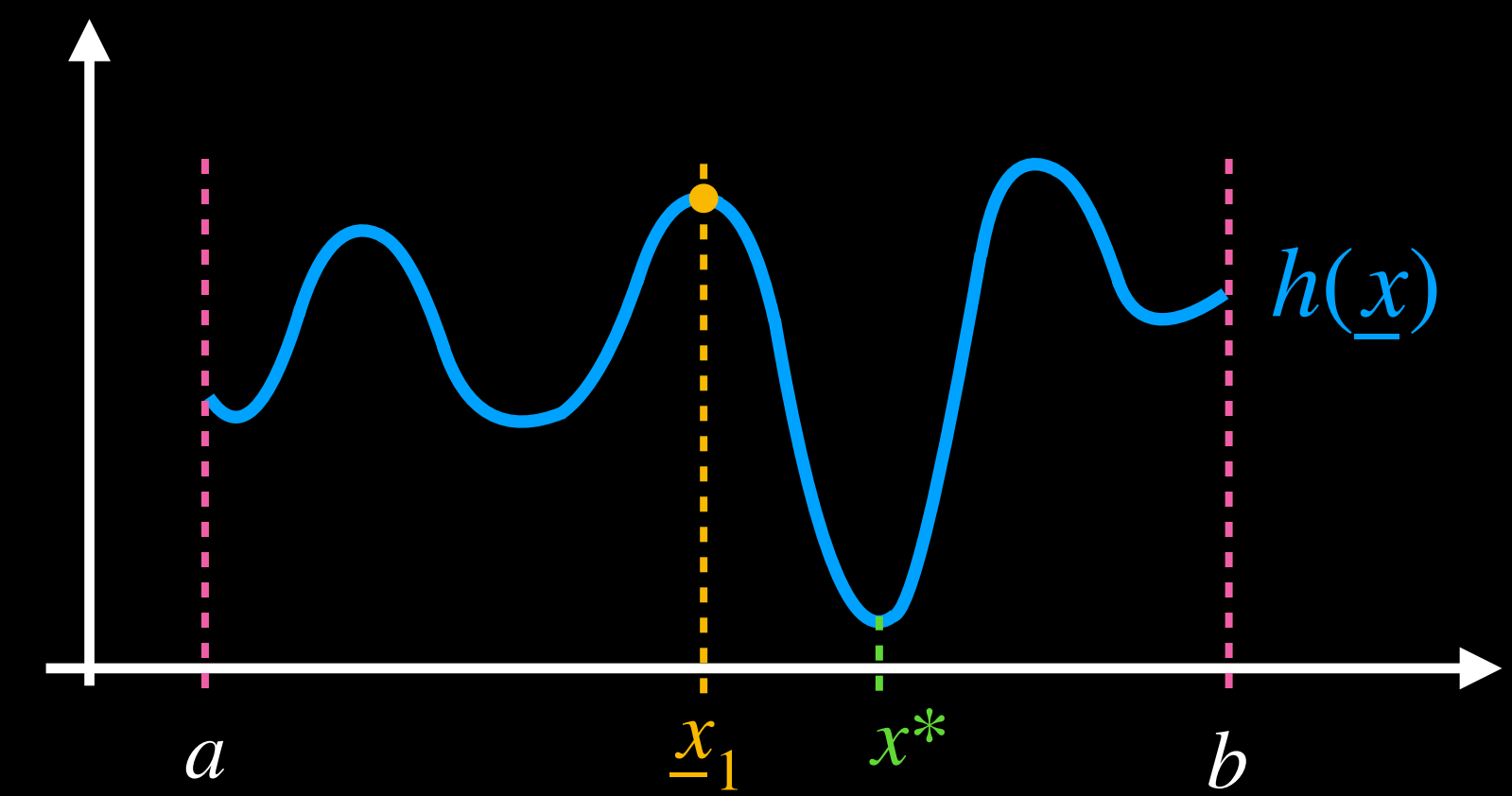
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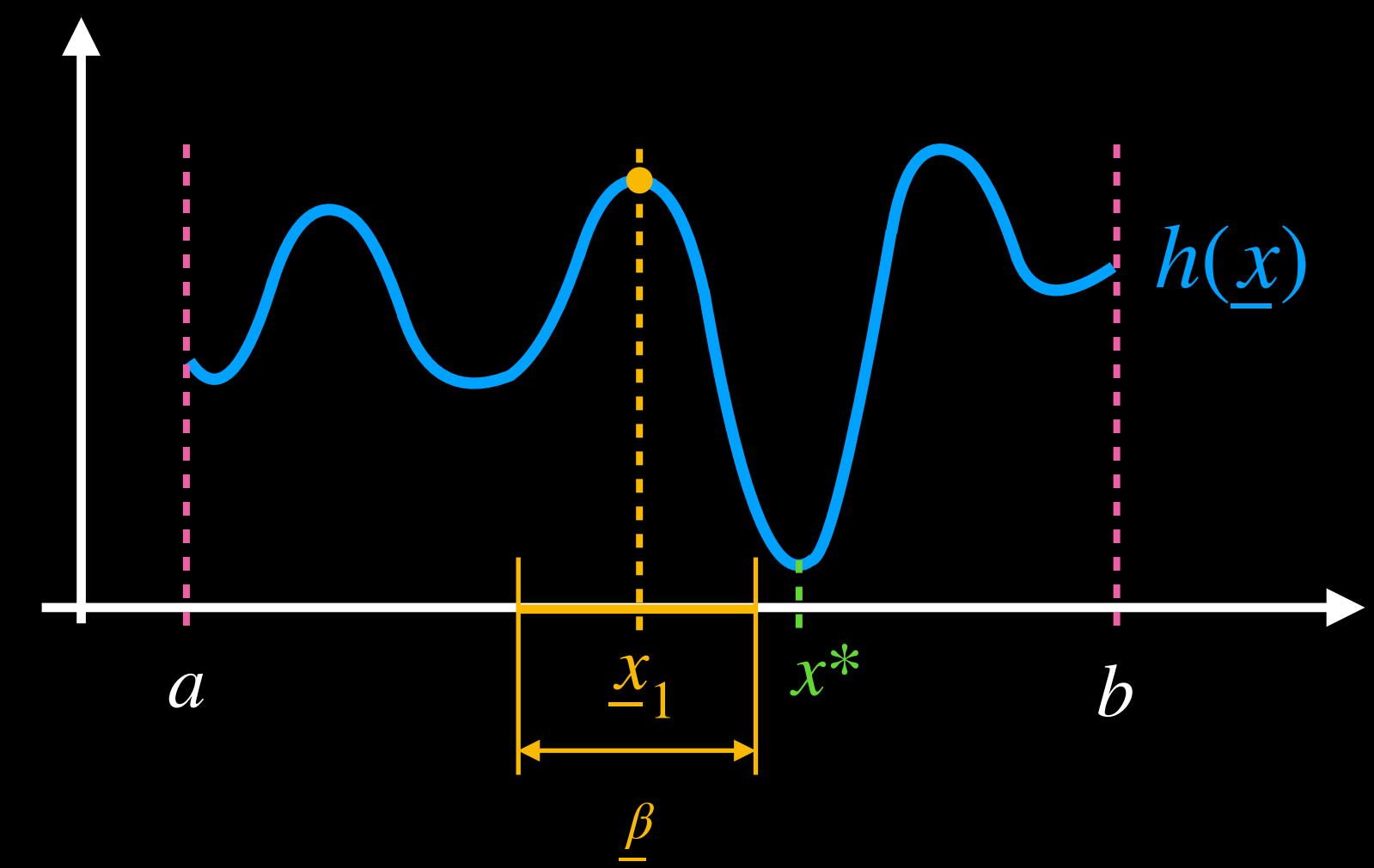
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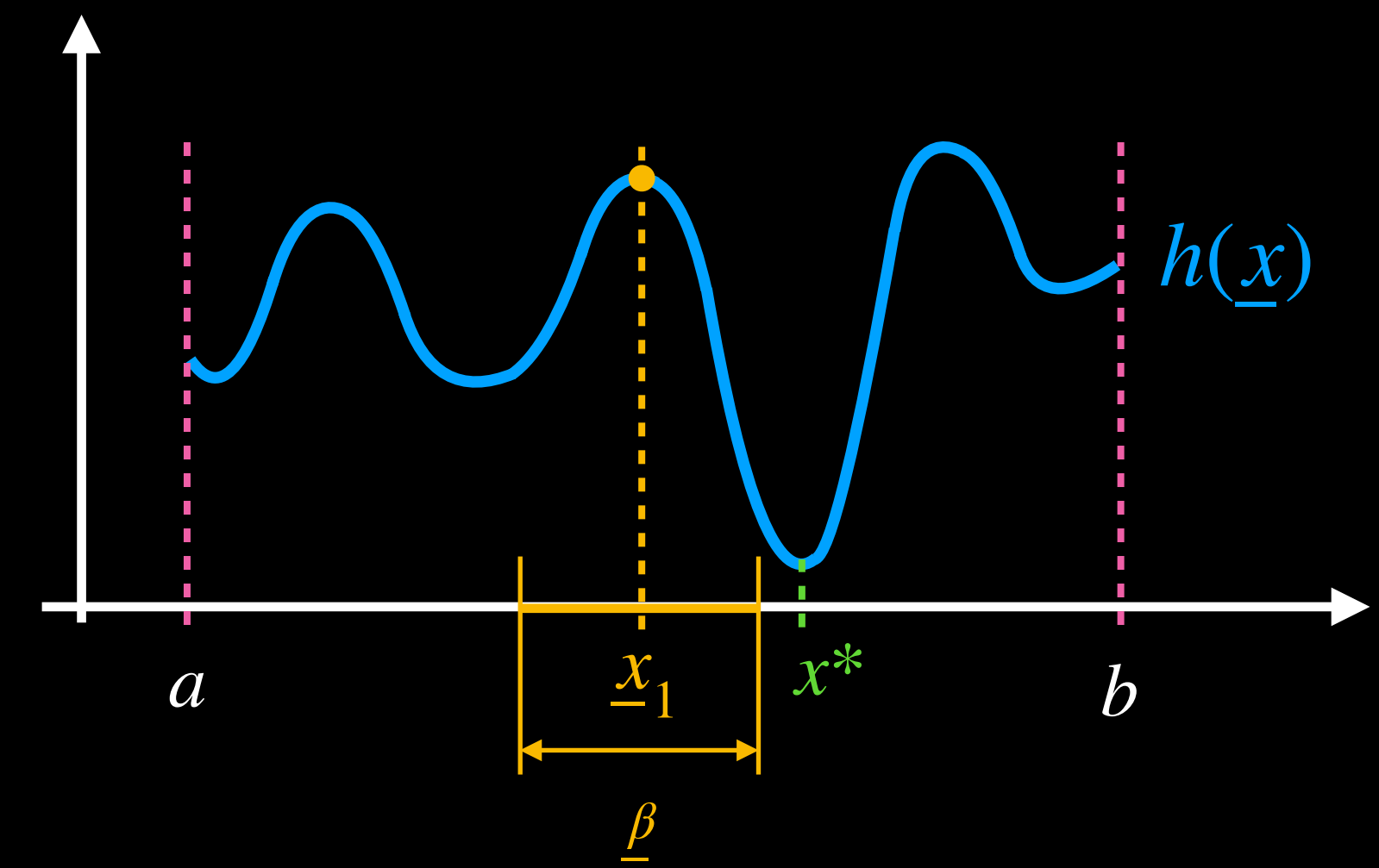
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$$\underline{x}_{t+1}$$



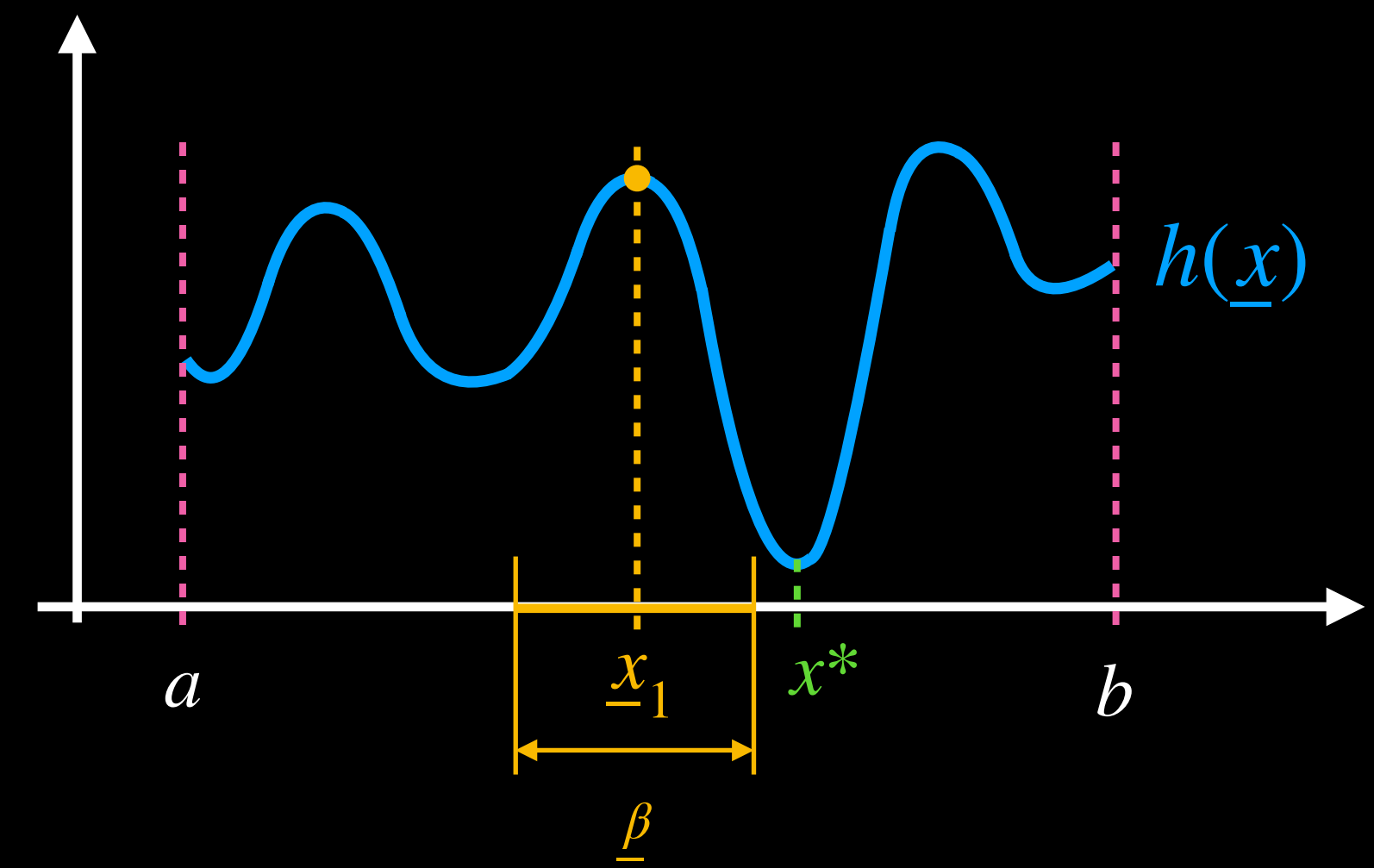


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$$U_t \sim \mathcal{U}(0,1)$$



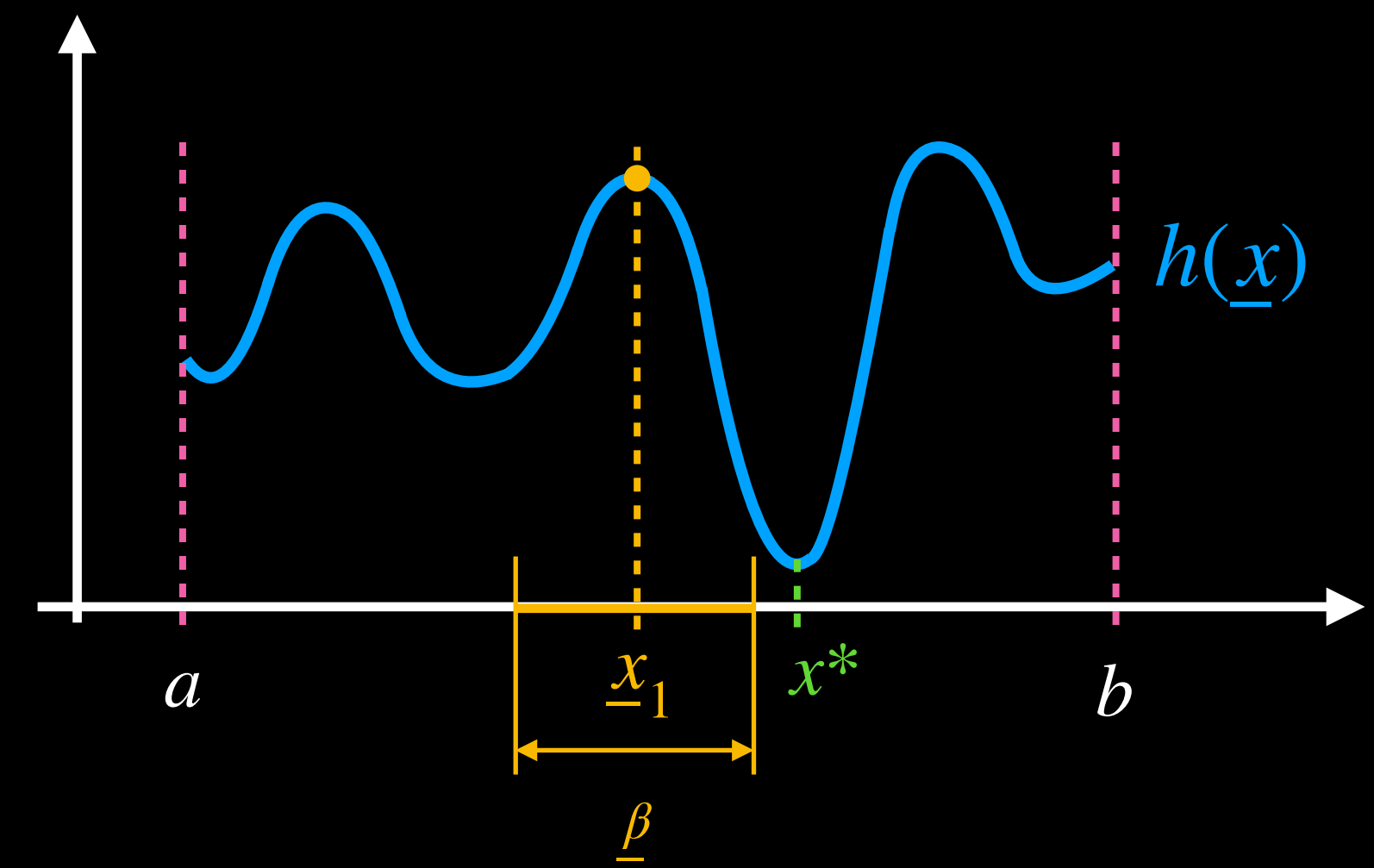
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$$\underline{U}_t^\beta \sim \mathcal{U}(-\frac{1}{2}\underline{\beta}, \frac{1}{2}\underline{\beta})$$



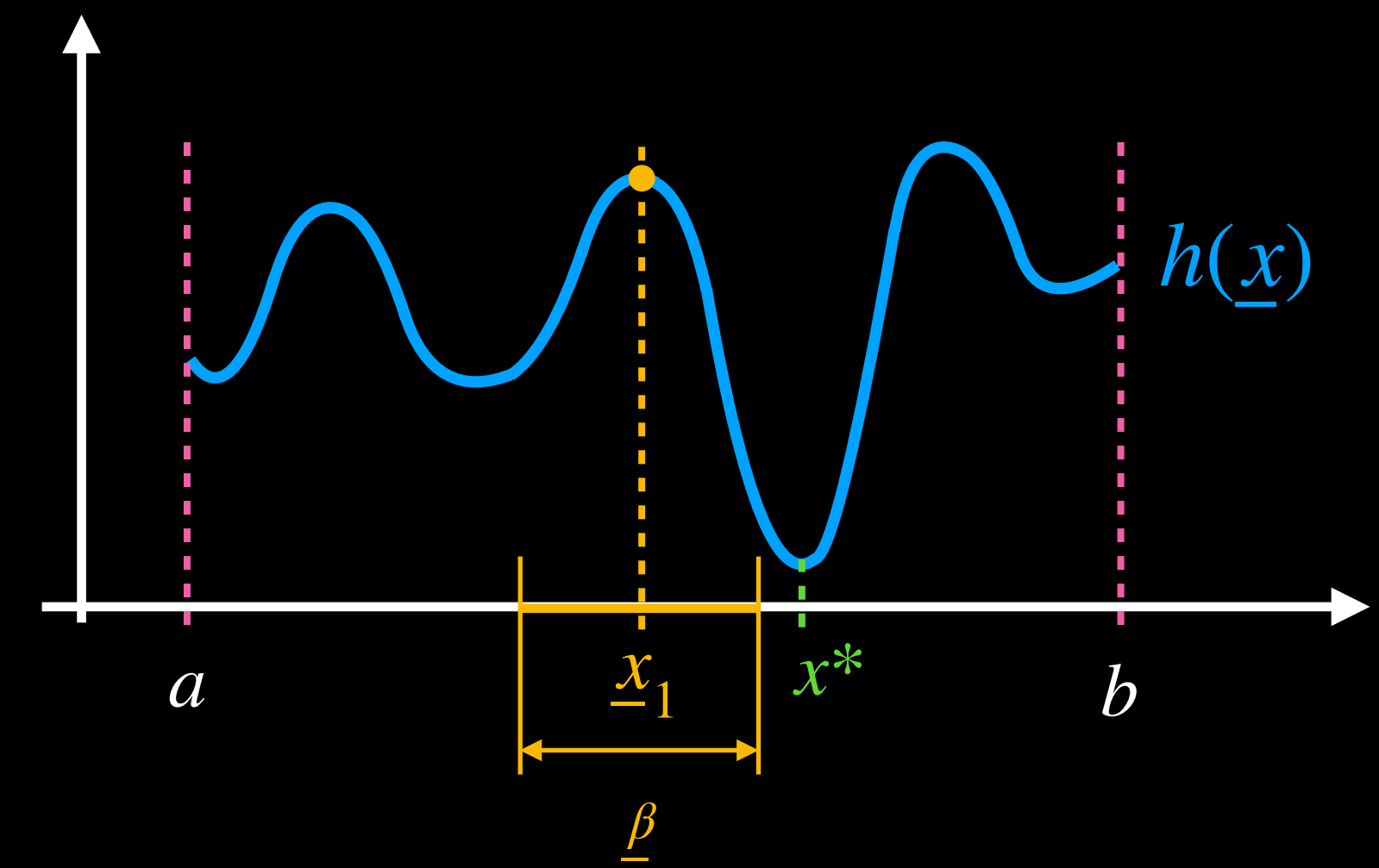
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$$\underline{X}_{t+1} := \begin{cases} \underline{X}_t + \underline{U}_t^\beta & \text{if } U_t < e^{-\frac{h(\underline{X}_t) - h(\underline{X}_t + \underline{U}_t^\beta)}{T_t}} \\ \underline{X}_t & \text{else} \end{cases}$$

$$U_t \sim \mathcal{U}(0,1)$$

$$\underline{U}_t^\beta \sim \mathcal{U}\left(-\frac{1}{2}\underline{\beta}, \frac{1}{2}\underline{\beta}\right)$$

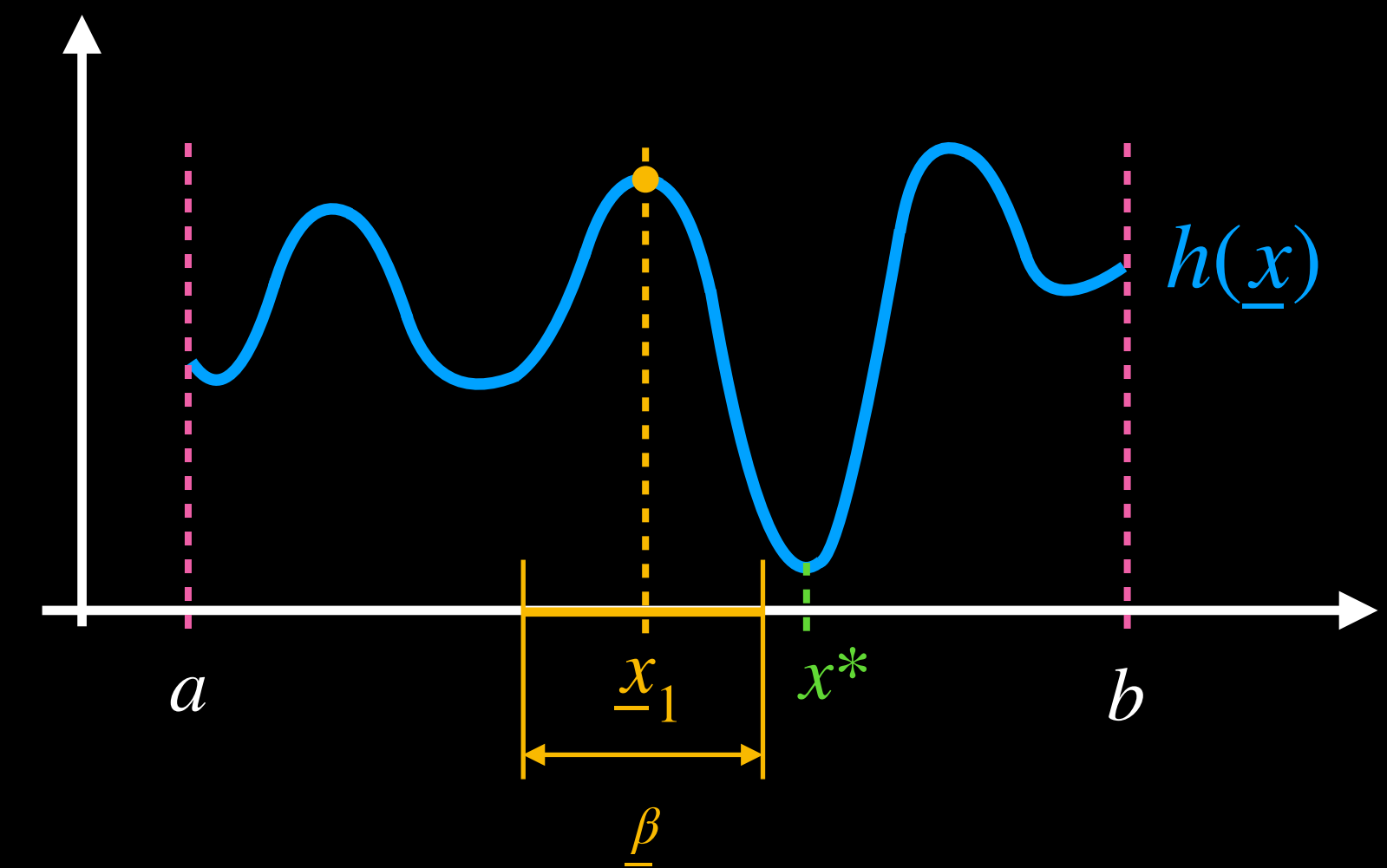


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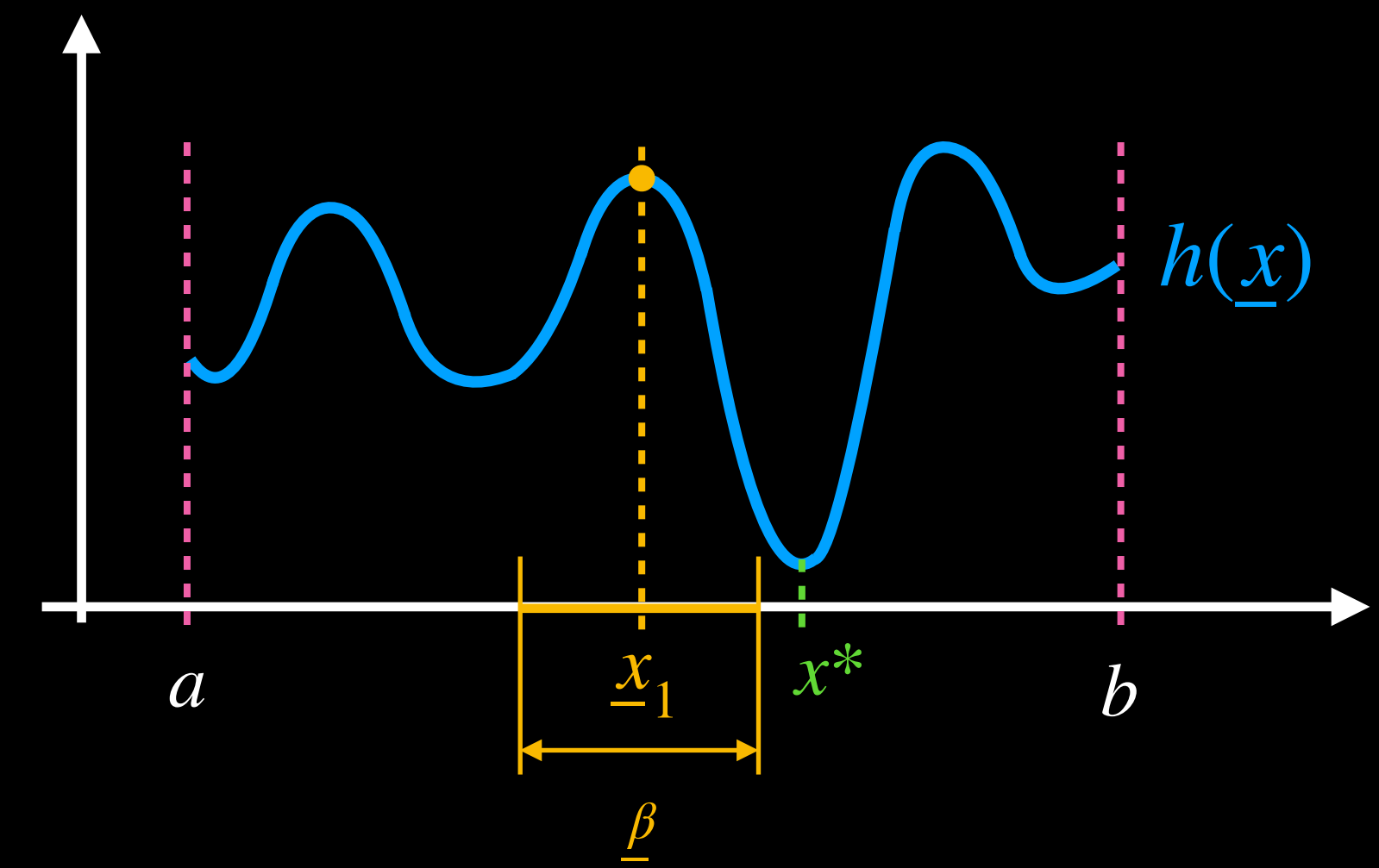
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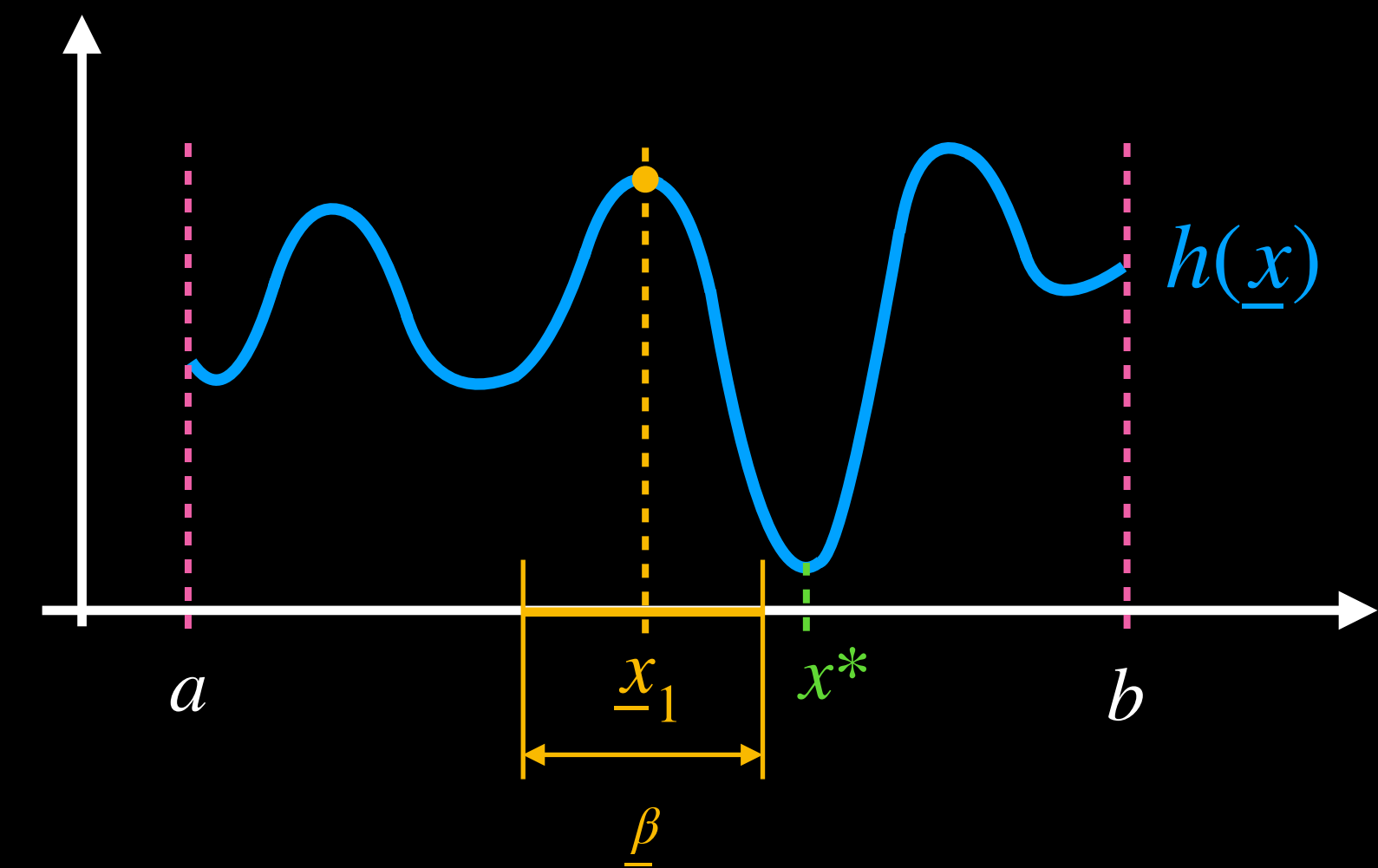
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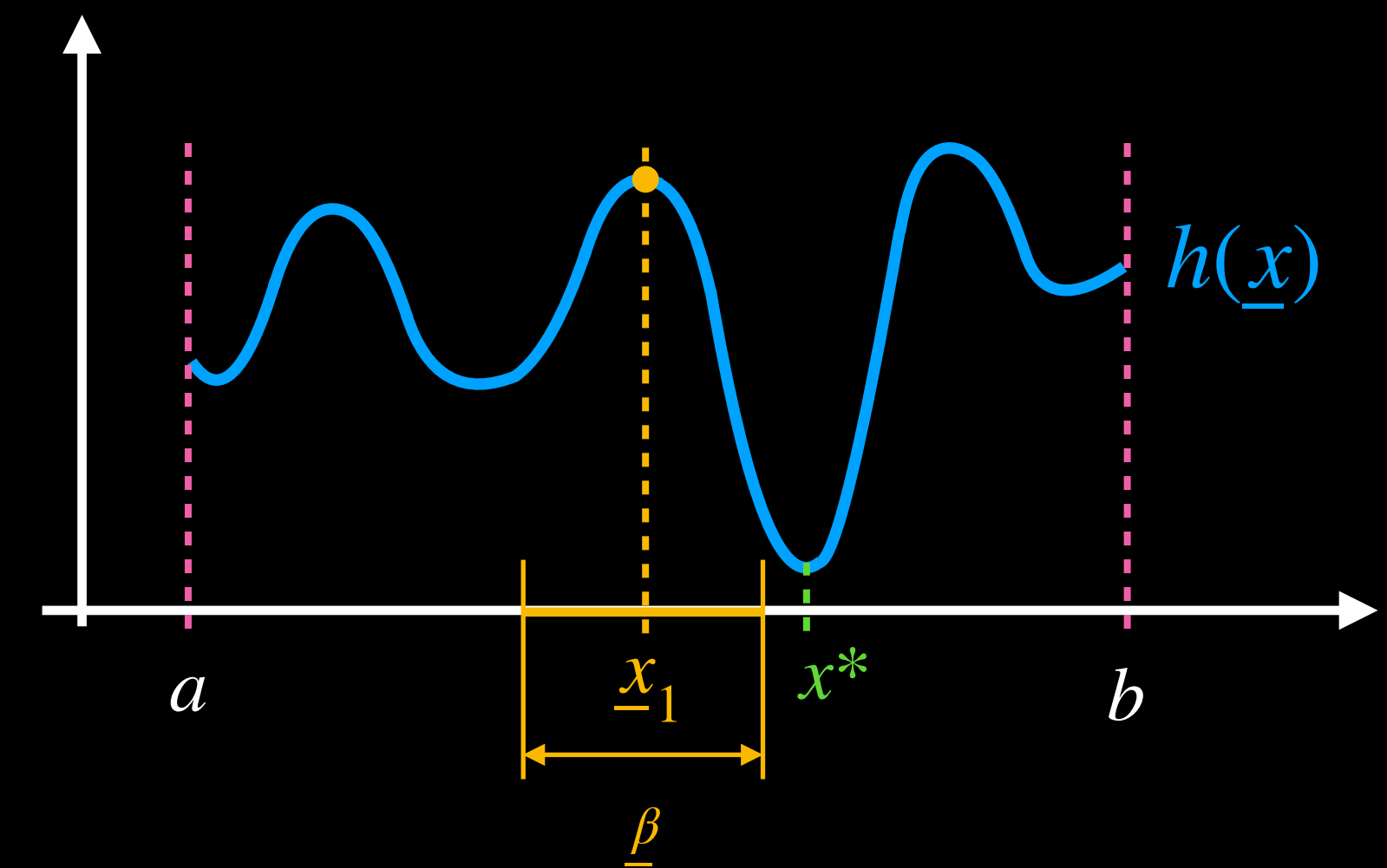
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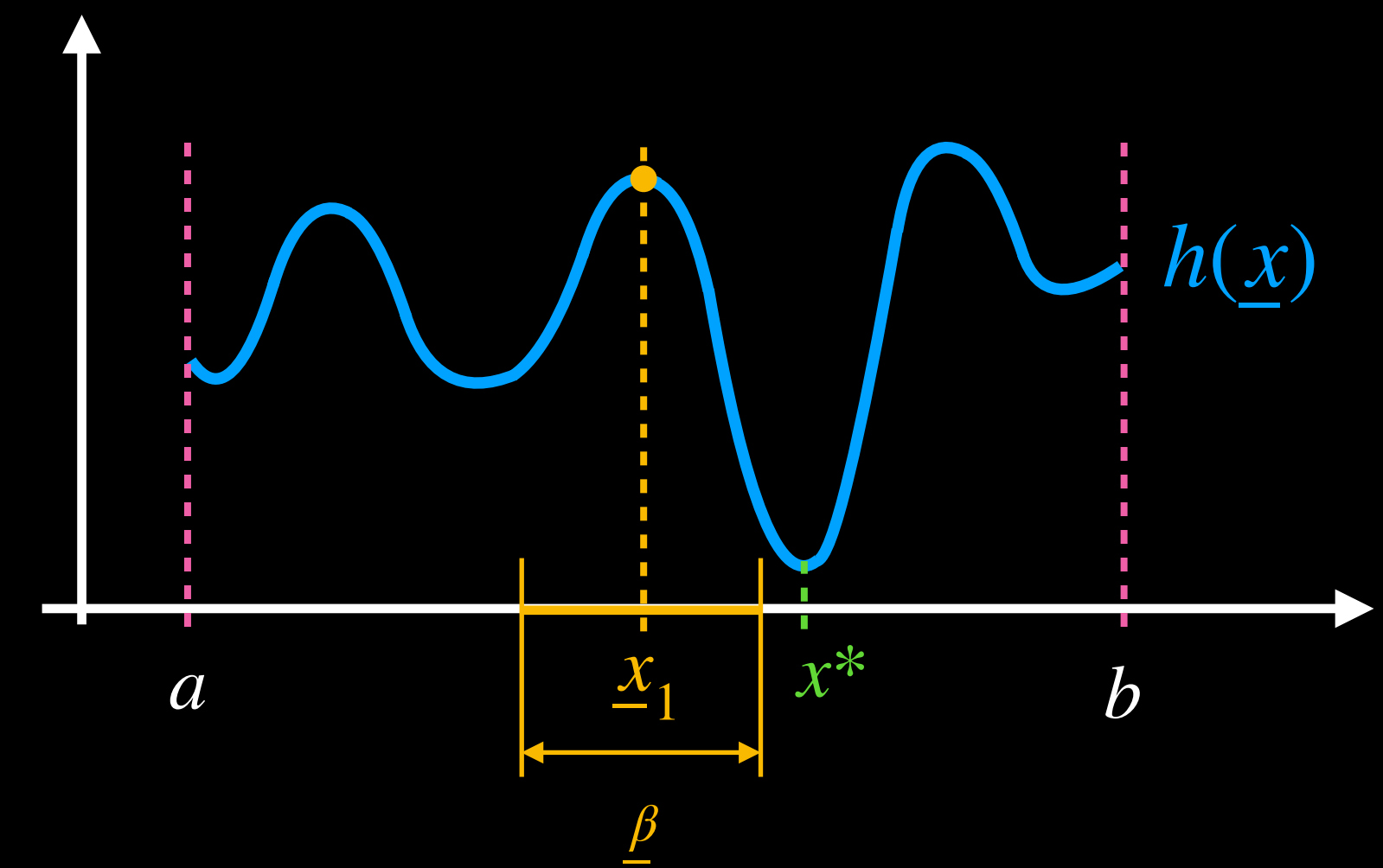
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properties:

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- convergence to a local minimum





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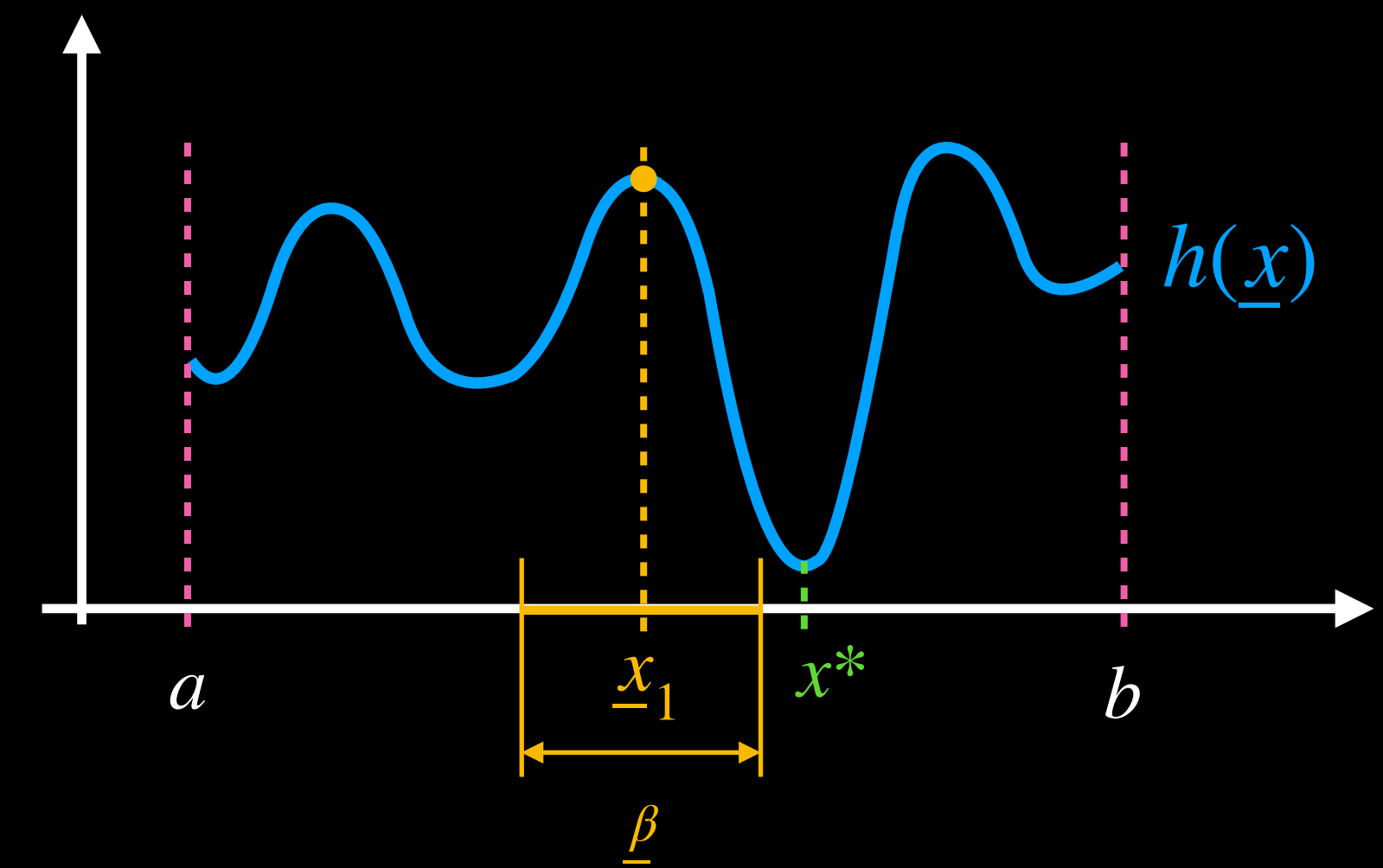
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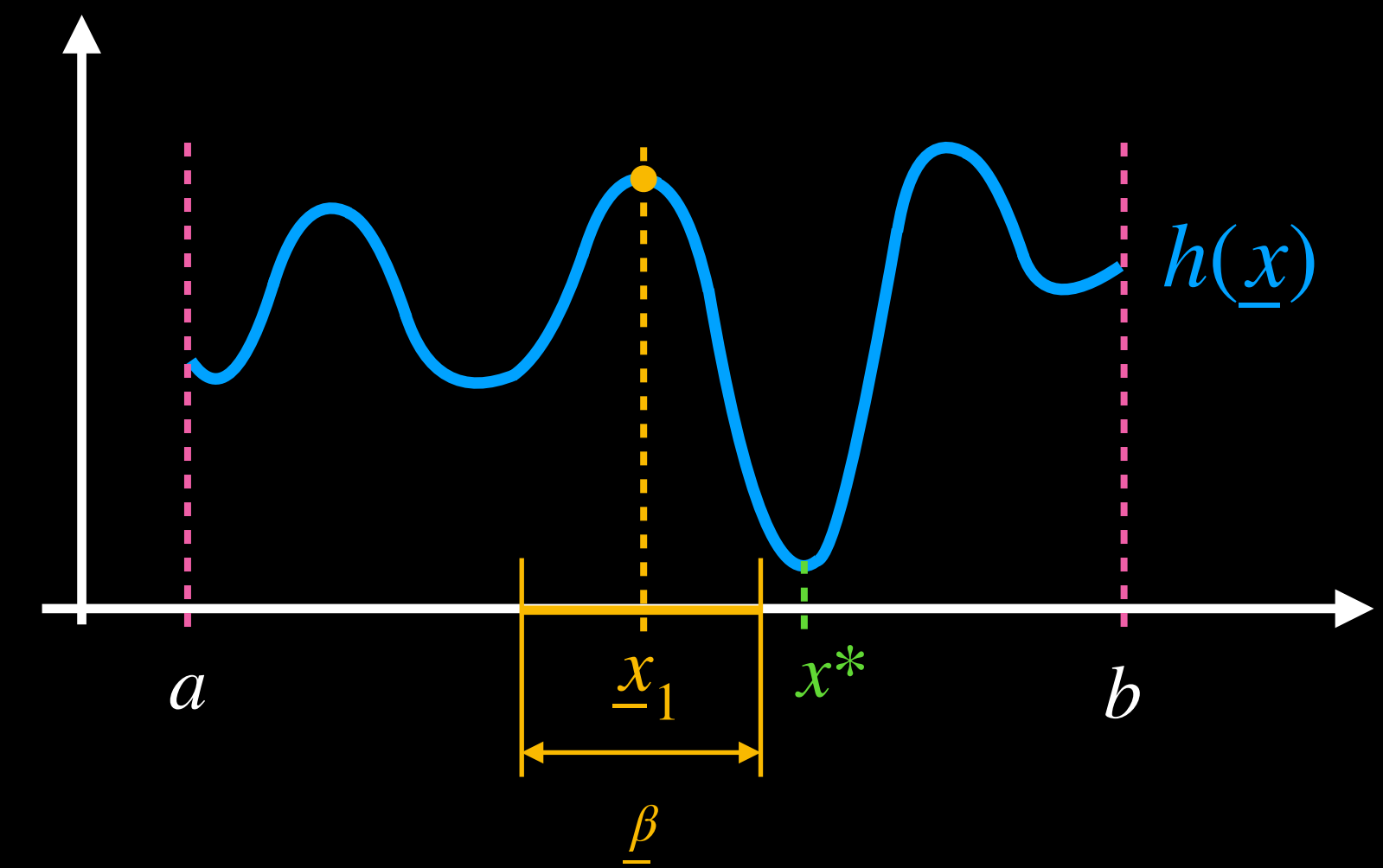
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properties:

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- convergence to a local minimum
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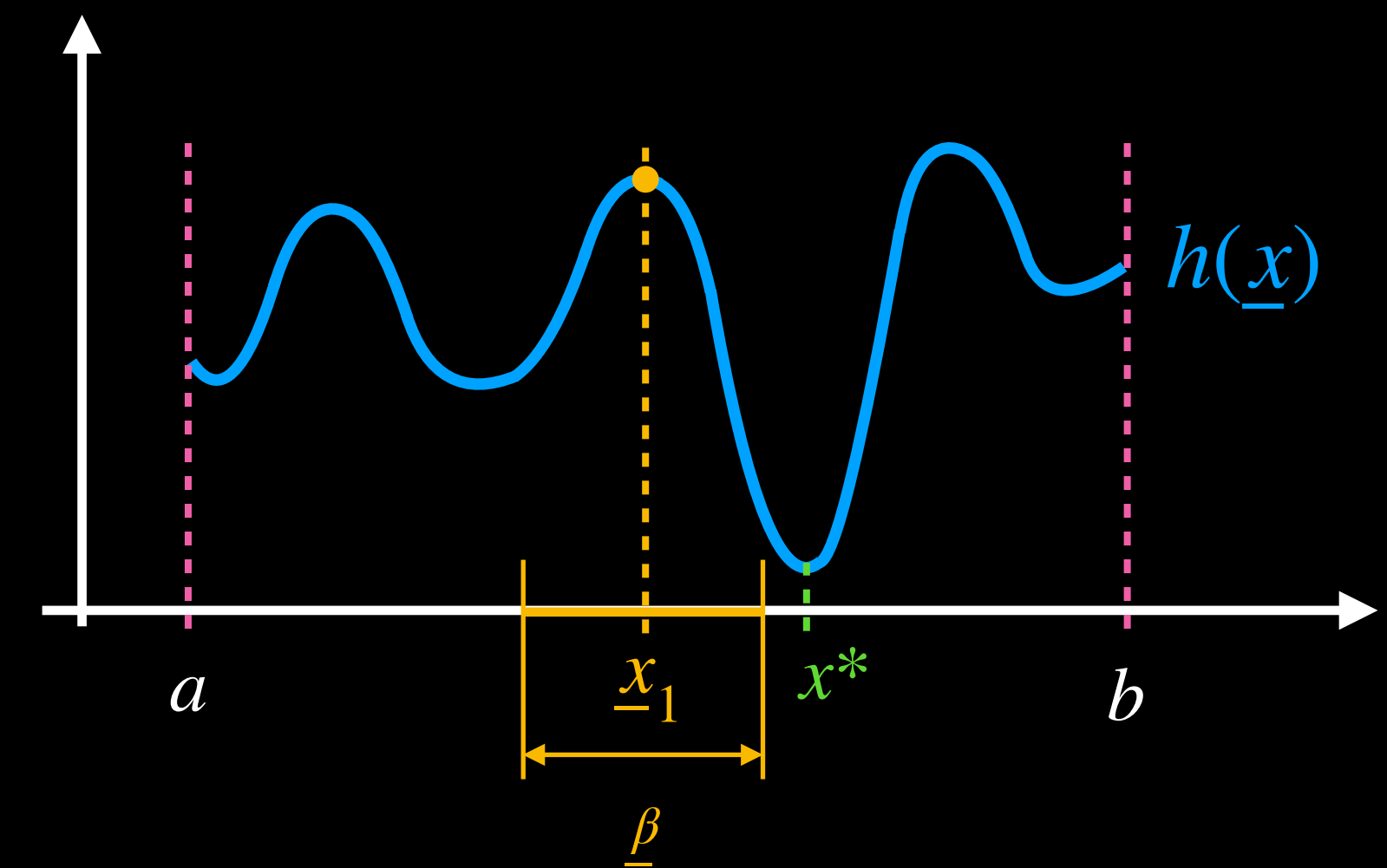
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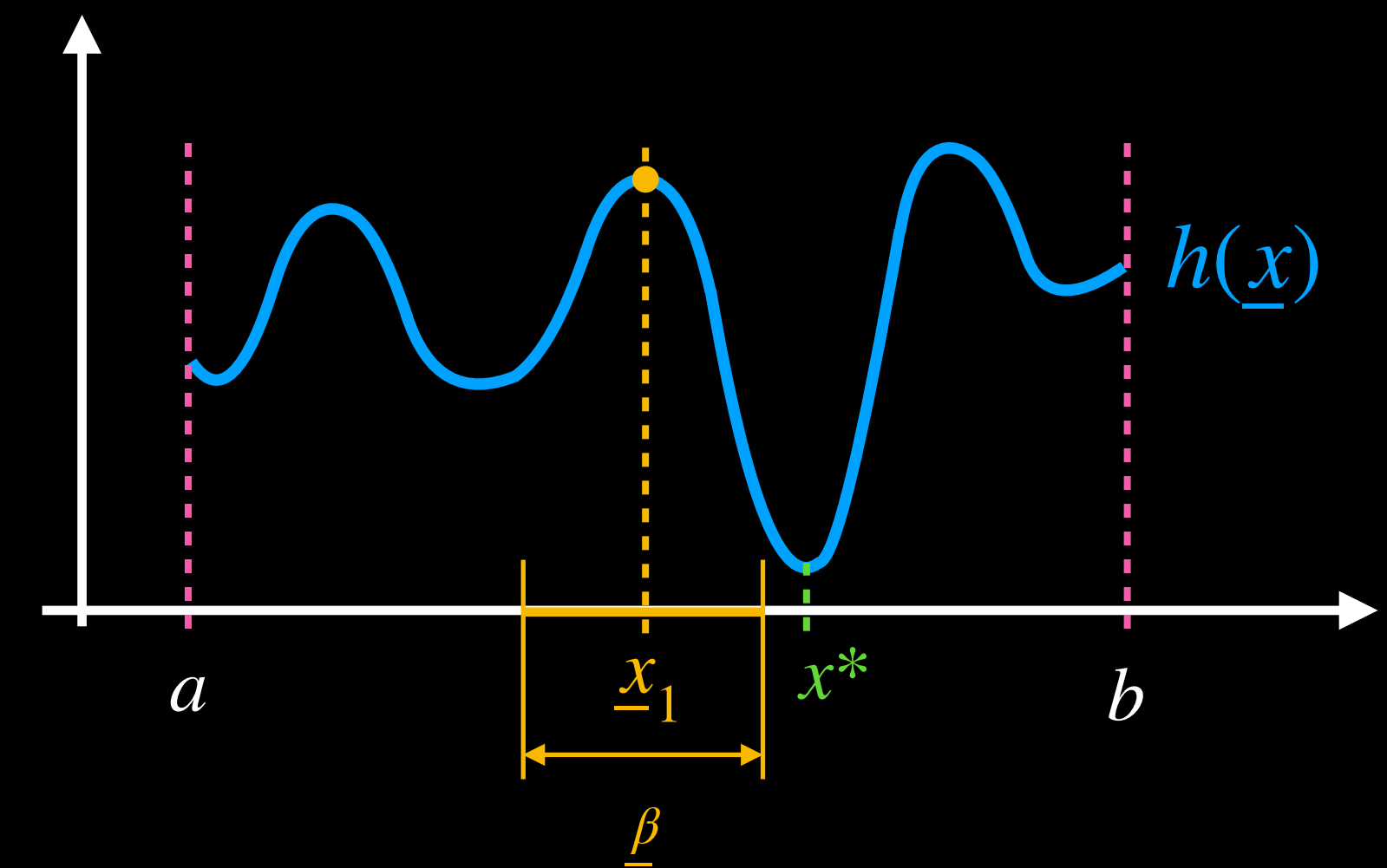
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useful if:

- $\mathbb{S}$  is high-dimensional



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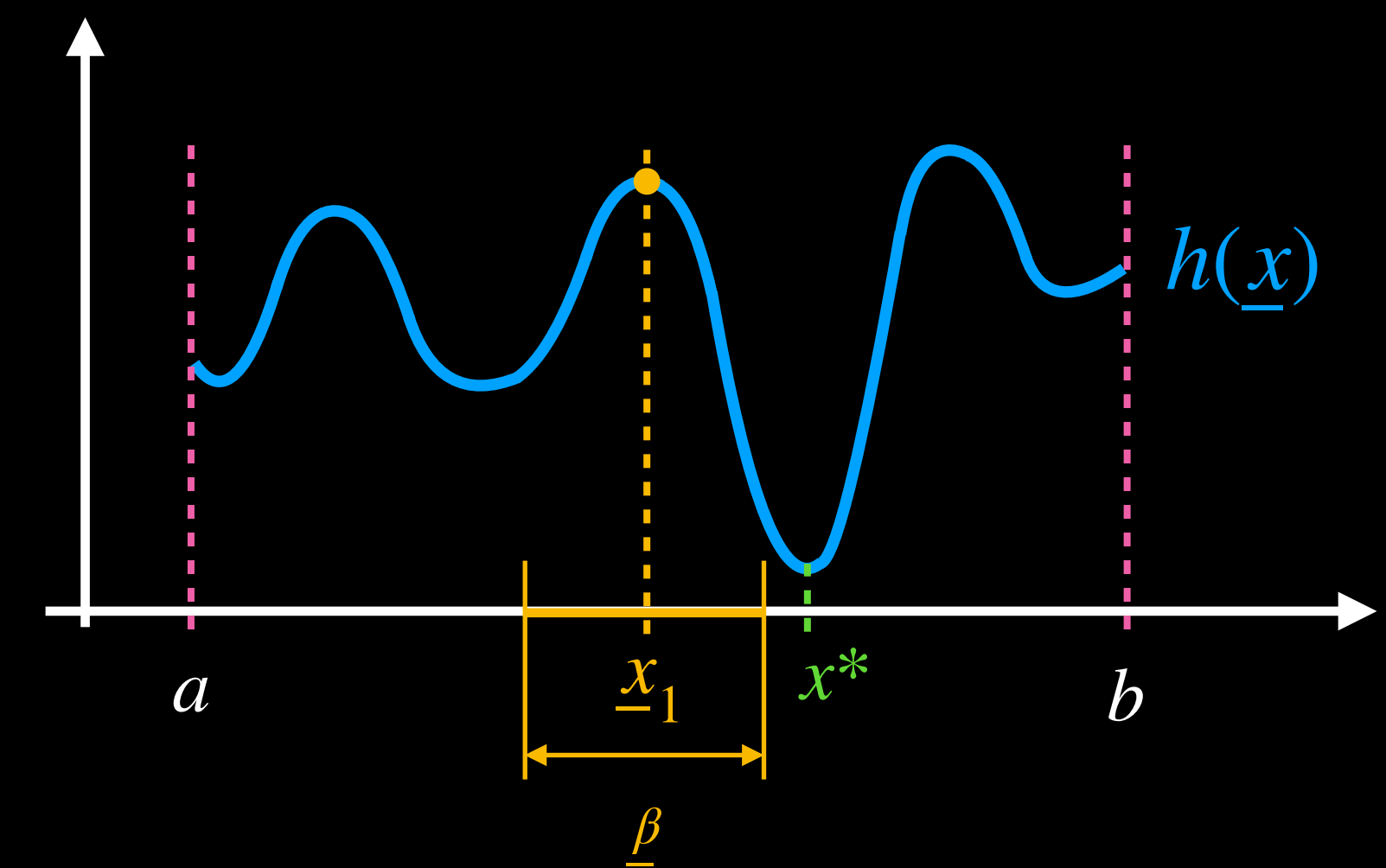
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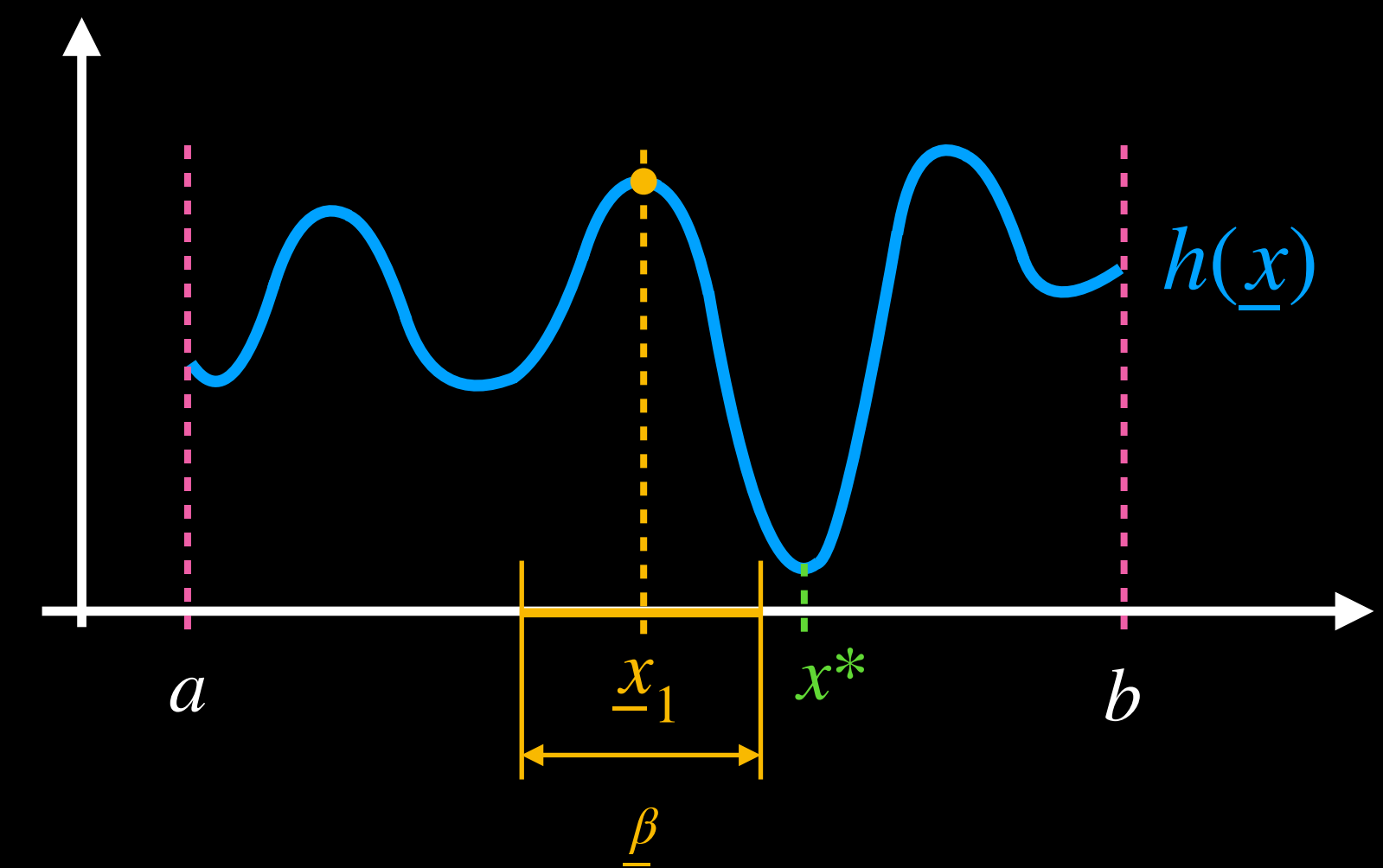
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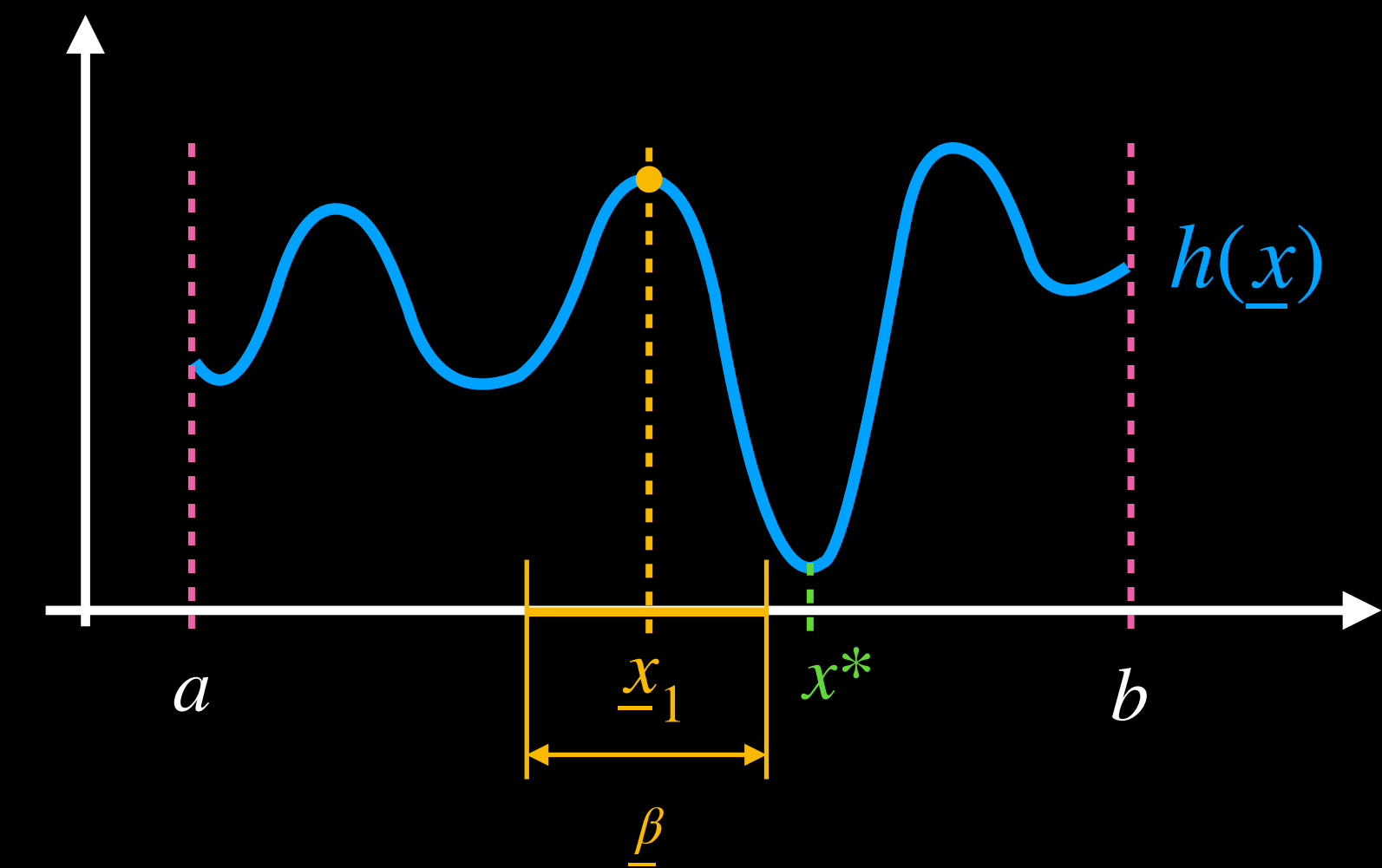
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useful if:

- $\mathbb{S}$  is high-dimensional
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- $h$  is discrete



# algorithm 5: evolutionary algorithms



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$$(\underline{Y}'_{t,1}, \dots, \underline{Y}'_{t,\lambda})$$

# algorithm 5: evolutionary algorithms

$$\underline{x}^* := \arg \min_{\underline{x} \in \mathbb{S}} (h(\underline{x}))$$

**(1+1)-ES:** (ES = Evolution Strategy)

$$\underline{Y}_t = \underline{X}_t + \underline{N}_t \quad \underline{N}_t \sim \mathcal{N}(\underline{0}, \underline{\Sigma})$$

$$\underline{X}_{t+1} = \arg \min (h(\underline{Y}_t), h(\underline{X}_t))$$

$\underline{Y}_t$  child  
 $\underline{X}_t$  parent  
 $\underline{N}_t$  mutation  
 $\mathcal{N}(\underline{0}, \underline{\Sigma})$  multivariate Gaussian  
 $\underline{\Sigma}$  co-variance matrix

**(1+ $\lambda$ )-ES:**

$$\underline{Y}_{t,k} = \underline{X}_t + \underline{N}_{t,k} \quad \underline{N}_{t,k} \sim \mathcal{N}(\underline{0}, \underline{\Sigma})$$

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**( $\mu, \lambda$ )-ES & ( $\mu + \lambda$ )-ES :**

$$(\underline{Y}'_{t,1}, \dots, \underline{Y}'_{t,\lambda}) = \textit{recombination}(\underline{X}_{t,1}, \dots, \underline{X}_{t,\mu})$$

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properties:

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useful if:

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improvement by  
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end