

Calculus I

Lecture 0

Representing Functions

Todor Milev

<https://github.com/tmilev/freecalc>

2020

Outline

- 1 Ways to Represent a Function
 - The Definition of a Function
 - The Vertical Line Test
 - Piecewise Defined Functions
 - Symmetry
 - Increasing and Decreasing Functions
 - A Note on Domains of Functions

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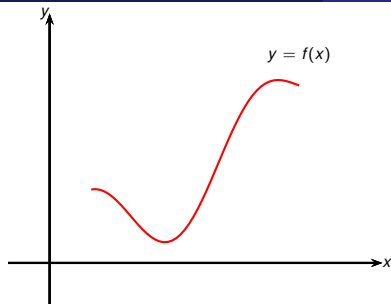
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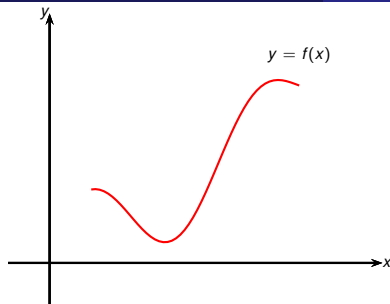
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Definition (Function)

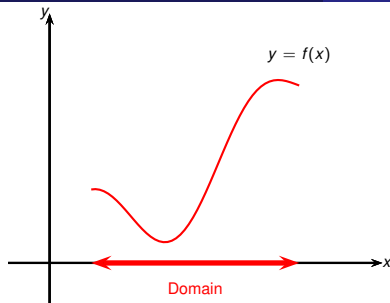
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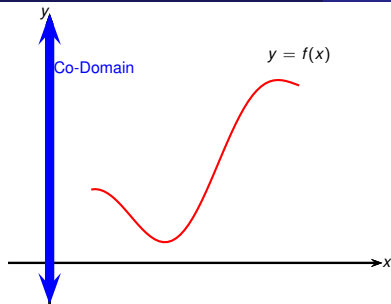
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Definition (Domain)

The set D in the definition of f is called the domain of f .

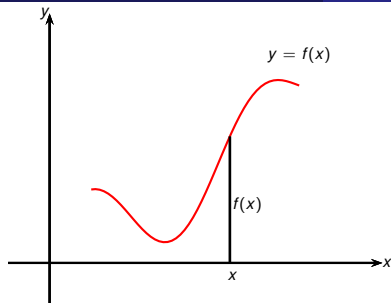


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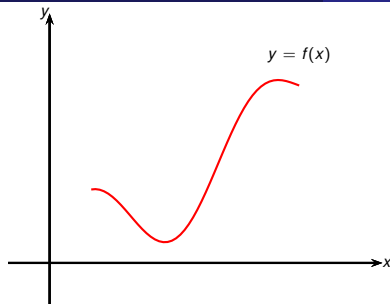


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The number $f(x)$ is called *the value of f at x* and is read “ f of x ”.



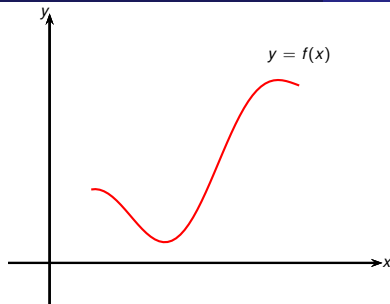
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- The value of f at x is also called the image of x under the map f .



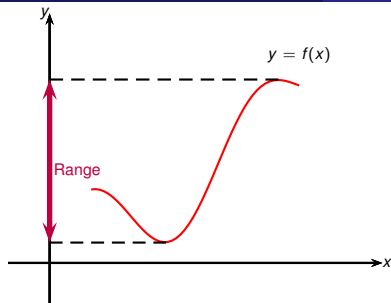
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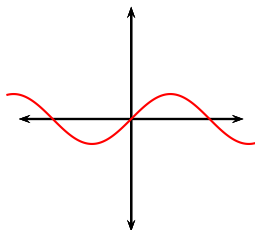
Definition (Range)

The set of all possible values taken by $f(x)$ as the element x runs over elements of D is called the range of f .

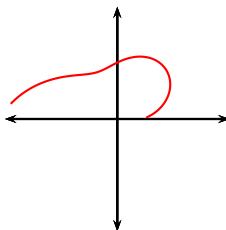
The Vertical Line Test

Question

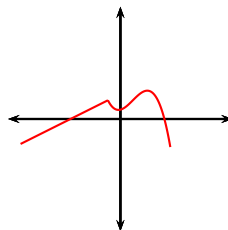
Given a curve in the plane, is it the graph of a function or not?



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The Vertical Line Test

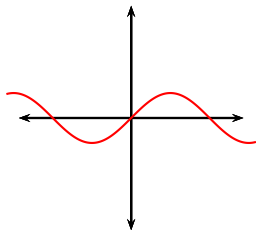
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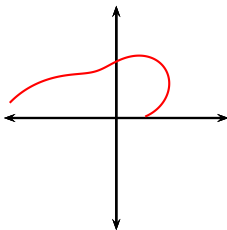
The answer is as follows.

Proposition (The Vertical Line Test)

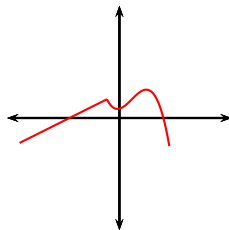
A curve in the plane is the graph of a function if and only if no vertical line intersects it more than once.



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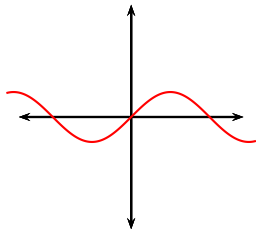
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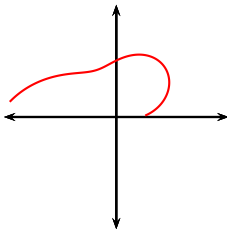
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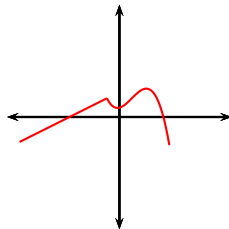
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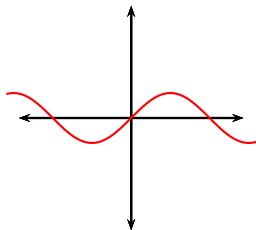
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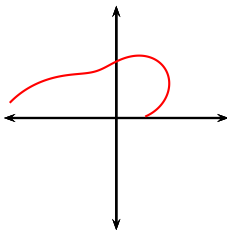
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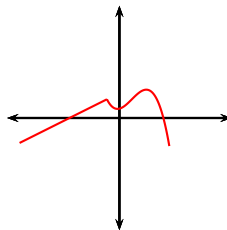
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Function



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The Vertical Line Test

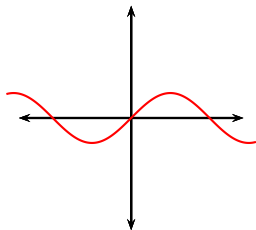
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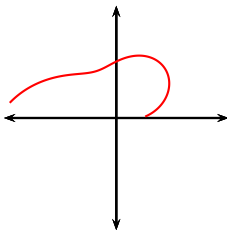
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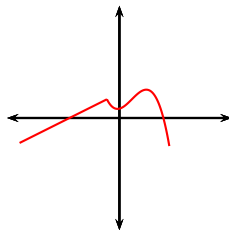
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Function



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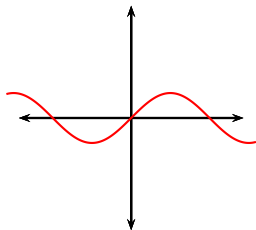
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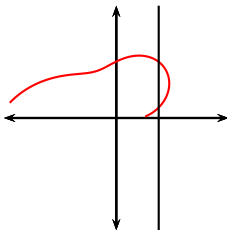
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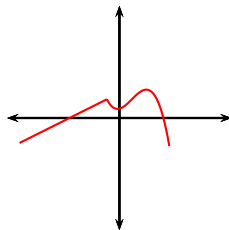
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Function



Not a function



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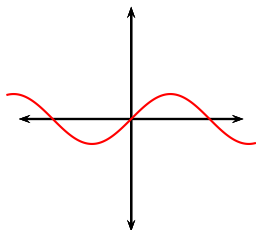
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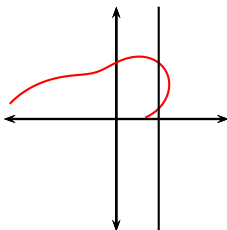
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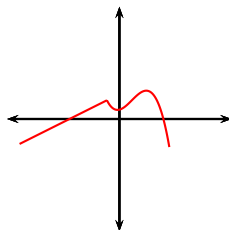
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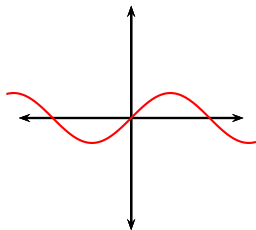
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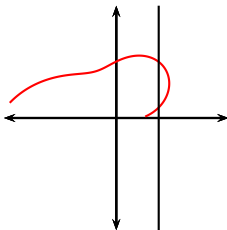
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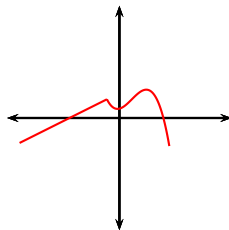
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Function

Piecewise Defined Functions

Definition (Piecewise Defined Function)

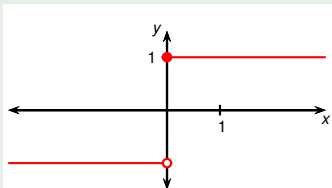
A piecewise defined function is a function that is defined by different algebraic formulas on different subsets of its domain.

Piecewise Defined Functions

Definition (Piecewise Defined Function)

A piecewise defined function is a function that is defined by different algebraic formulas on different subsets of its domain.

Example



$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -1 & \text{if } x < 0 \end{cases}$$

The filled red circle means $(0, 1)$ is on the curve.

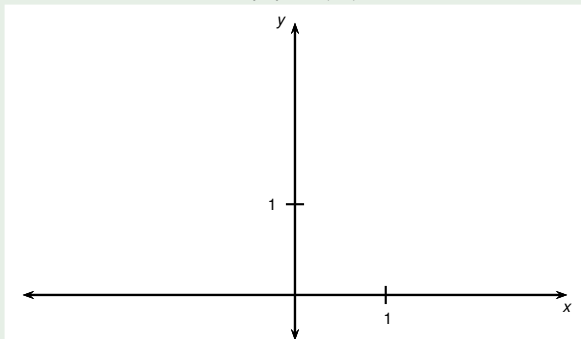
The open circle means $(0, -1)$ is not on the curve.

Example

The absolute value $|x|$ of a number a is defined to be

$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

Sketch a graph of the function $f(x) = |x|$.

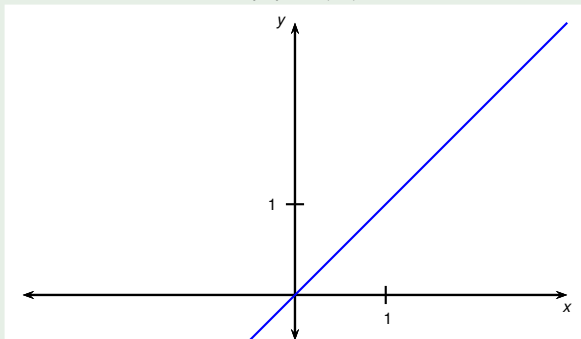


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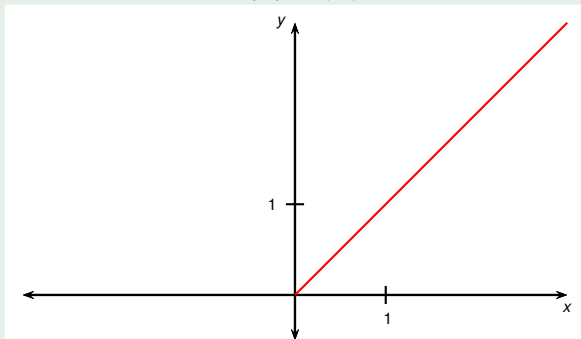


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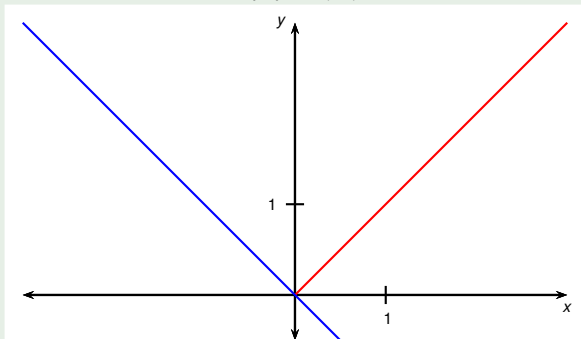


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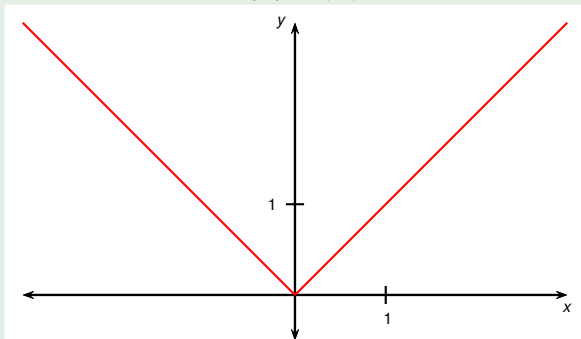


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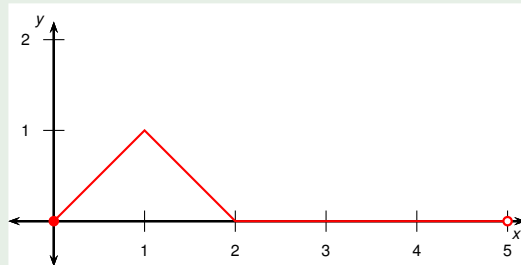
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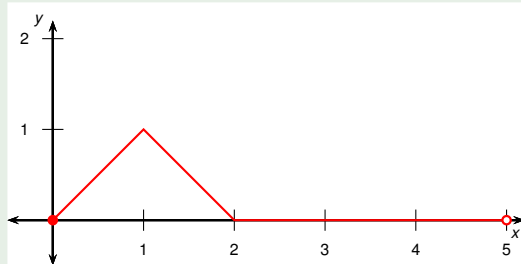
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Find a formula for the function f whose graph is given below.



Example

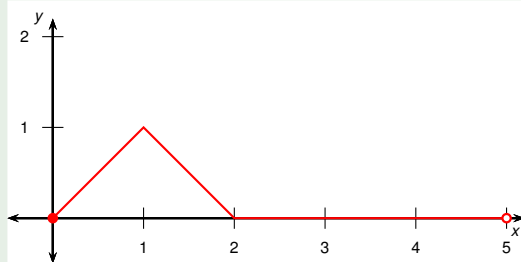
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Different formulas on $[0, 1)$, $[1, 2)$, and $[2, 5)$.

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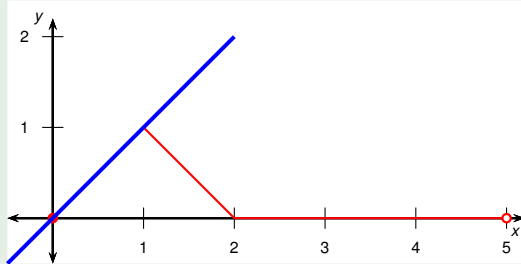


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$$f(x) = \begin{cases} & \text{if } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ & \text{if } 1 \leq x < 2 \\ & \text{if } 2 \leq x < 5 \end{cases}$$

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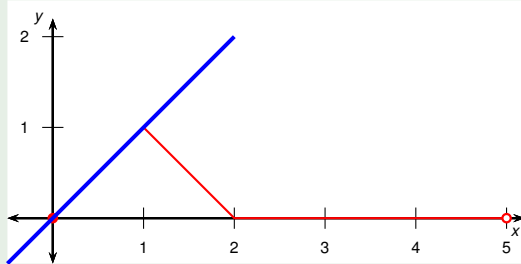


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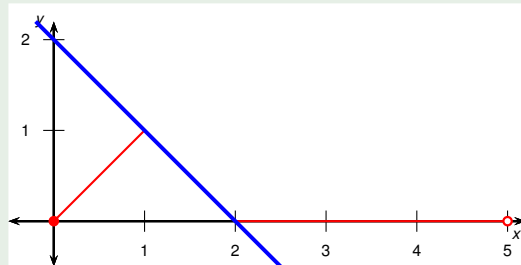


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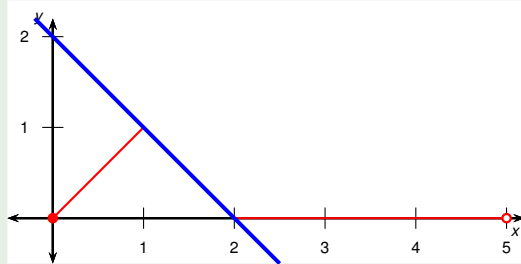


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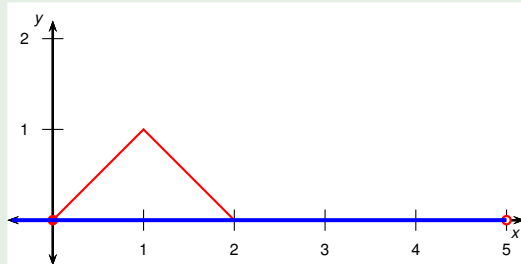


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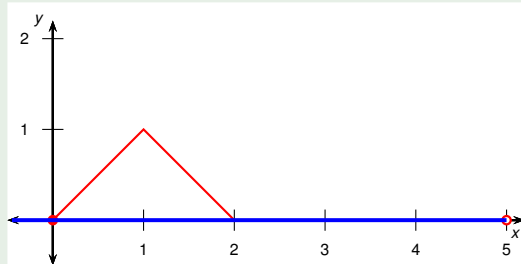


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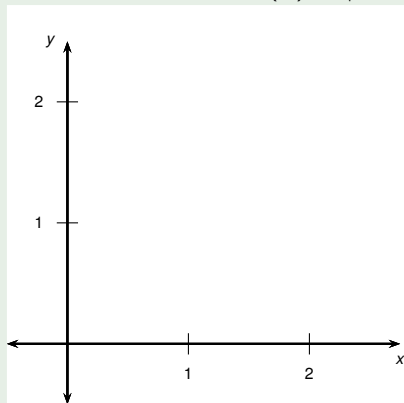


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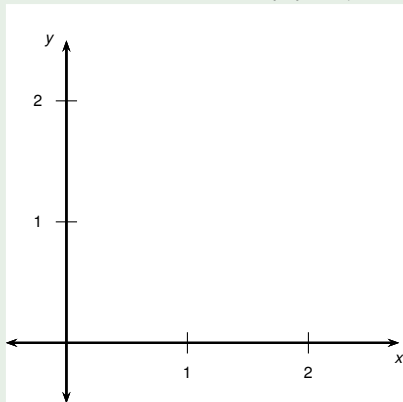
Example

Sketch the function $f(x) = |2x - 3|$.



Example

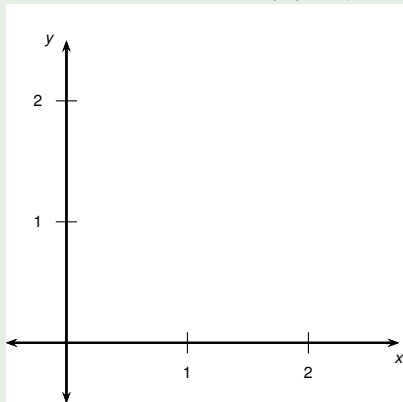
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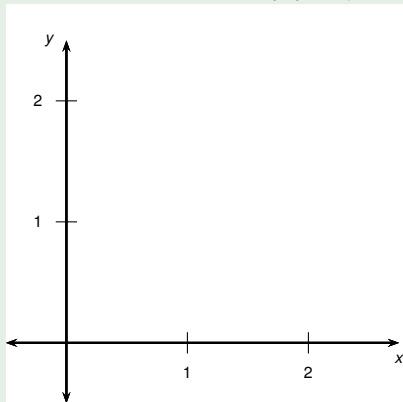


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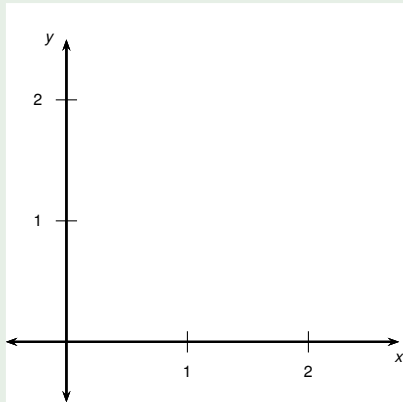
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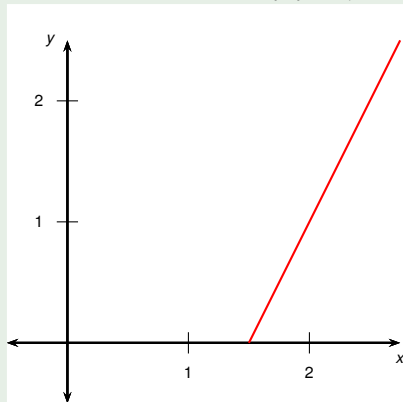
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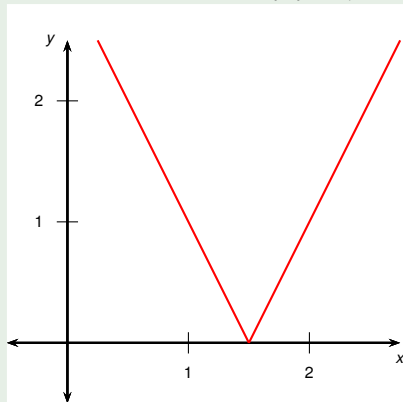
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$$= \begin{cases} 2x - 3 & \text{if } 2x \geq 3 \\ -2x + 3 & \text{if } 2x < 3 \end{cases}$$

$$= \begin{cases} 2x - 3 & \text{if } x \geq 3/2 \\ -2x + 3 & \text{if } x < 3/2. \end{cases}$$

Example

Sketch the function $f(x) = |2x - 3|$.



$$|x| = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } x \geq 0 \\ -x & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

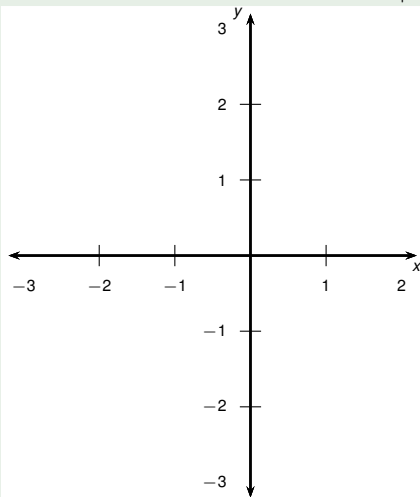
$$|2x - 3| = \begin{cases} 2x - 3 & \text{if } 2x - 3 \geq 0 \\ -(2x - 3) & \text{if } 2x - 3 < 0 \end{cases}$$

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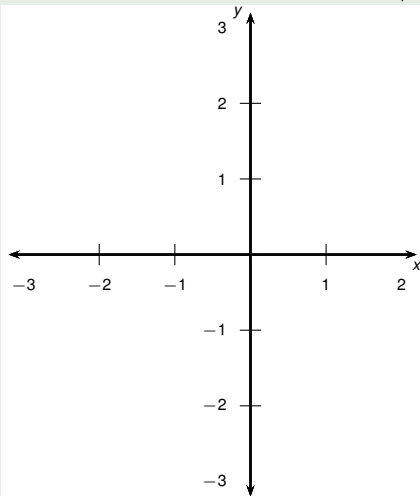
Example

Sketch the function $f(x) = \frac{|4x + 2|}{2x + 1}$.



Example

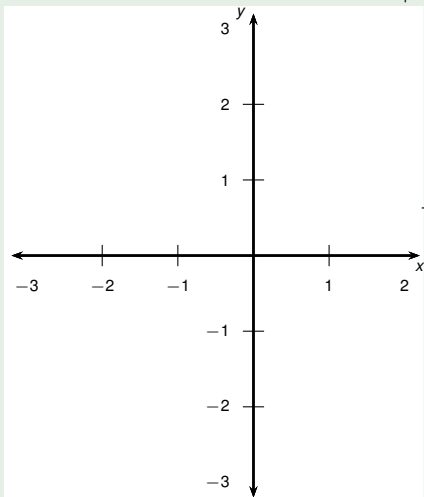
Sketch the function $f(x) = \frac{|4x + 2|}{2x + 1}$.



$$|u| = \begin{cases} u & \text{if } u \geq 0 \\ -u & \text{if } u < 0. \end{cases}$$

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Sketch the function $f(x) = \frac{|4x + 2|}{2x + 1}$.

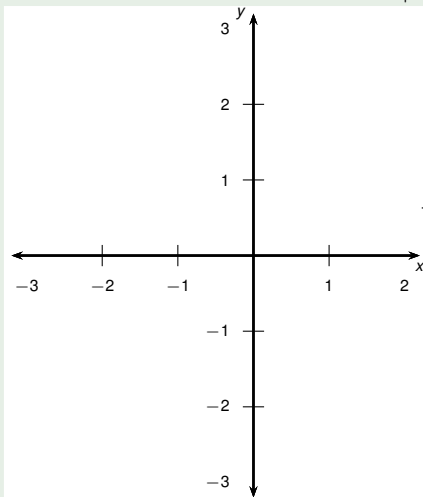


$$|u| = \begin{cases} u & \text{if } u \geq 0 \\ -u & \text{if } u < 0. \end{cases}$$

$$\frac{|4x + 2|}{2x + 1} = \begin{cases} \frac{4x+2}{2x+1} & \text{if } 4x + 2 > 0 \\ \frac{-(4x+2)}{2x+1} & \text{if } 4x + 2 < 0 \end{cases}$$

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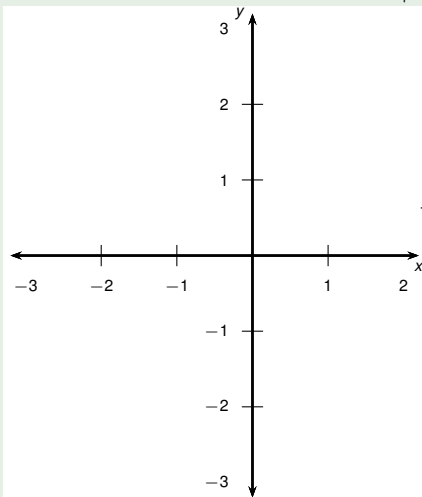
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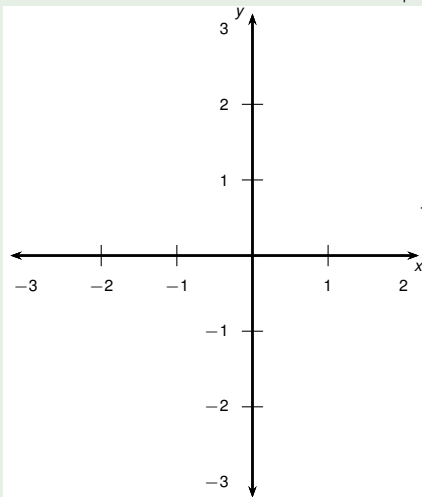
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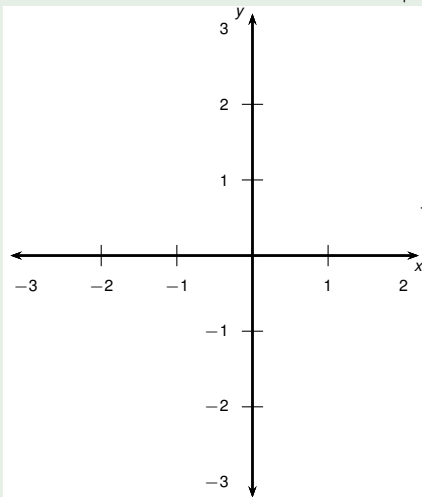
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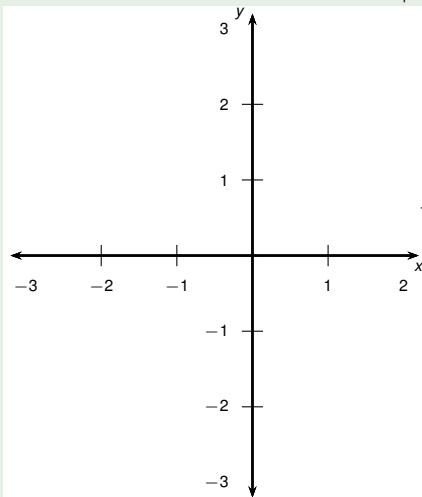
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$$\frac{|4x + 2|}{2x + 1} = \begin{cases} \frac{4x+2}{2x+1} & \text{if } 4x + 2 > 0 \\ \frac{-\color{red}{(4x+2)}}{2x+1} & \text{if } 4x + 2 < 0 \end{cases}$$

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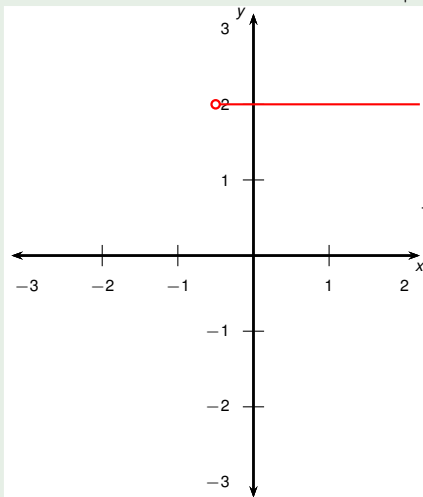
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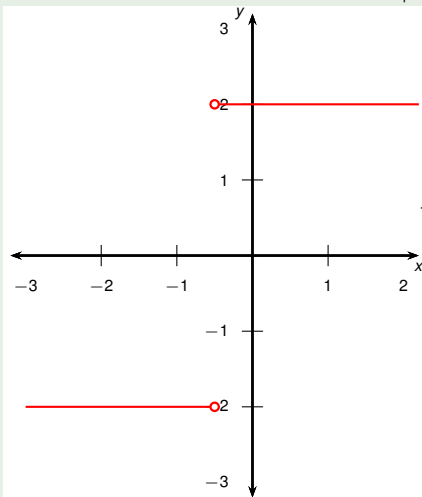
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A function f is called even if $f(-x) = f(x)$ for all x in its domain. A function f is called odd if $f(-x) = -f(x)$ for all x in its domain.

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Determine whether each of the following functions is even, odd, or neither even nor odd.

$$f(x) = x^5 + x$$

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Therefore f is odd.

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Therefore g is even.

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Therefore f is odd.

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Therefore f is odd.

$$g(x) = 1 - x^4$$

$$\begin{aligned} g(-x) &= 1 - (-x)^4 \\ &= 1 - x^4 \\ &= g(x) \end{aligned}$$

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$$h(x) = 2x - 1$$

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Therefore h is neither even nor odd.

Increasing and Decreasing Functions

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A function f is called increasing on an interval I if $f(x_1) < f(x_2)$ whenever $x_1 < x_2$ in I .

It is called decreasing on the interval I if $f(x_1) > f(x_2)$ whenever $x_1 < x_2$ in I .

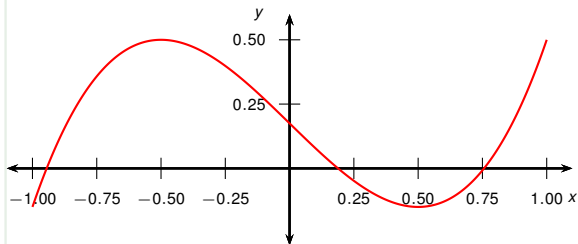
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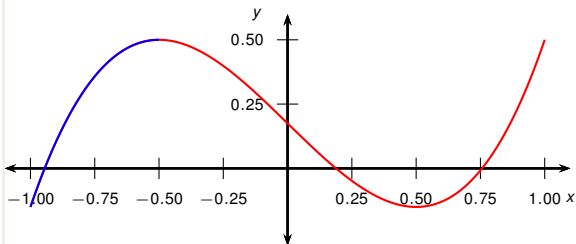
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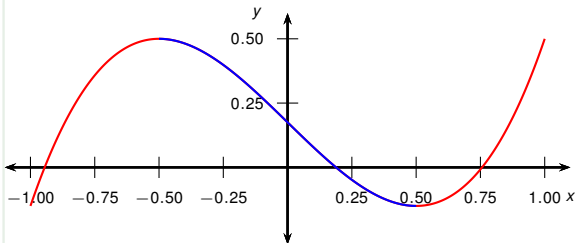
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- f is decreasing on $[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$.

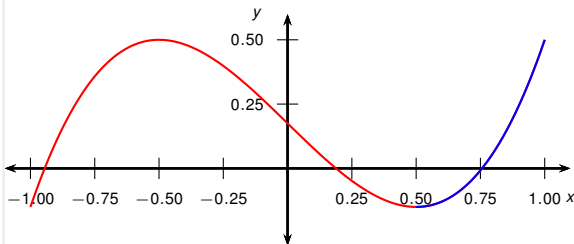
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- f is increasing on $[-1, -\frac{1}{2}]$.
- f is decreasing on $[-\frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{2}]$.
- f is increasing on $[\frac{1}{2}, 1]$.

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If the domain of a function isn't specified, it is implied to be all numbers x for which the formula $f(x)$ is defined. There are some restrictions to consider:

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- Taking $\log x$ if $x \leq 0$ is not allowed in this course; taking $\log 0$ is not allowed in any course.