

Precalculus

Lecture 19

Todor Milev

`https://github.com/tmilev/freecalc`

2020

Outline

1 The Definition of a Function

- Function Domains
- The Vertical Line Test
- Piecewise Defined Functions
- Zeros of a function
- Symmetry
- Increasing and Decreasing Functions

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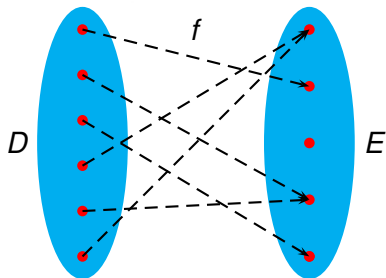
as long as you reasonably acknowledge the original project.

- Latest version of the .tex sources of the slides:

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

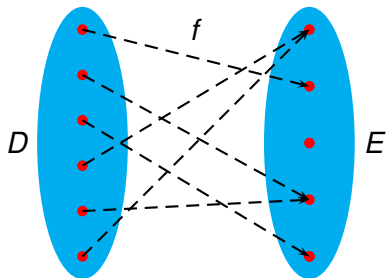
- Should the link be outdated/moved, search for “freecalc project”.
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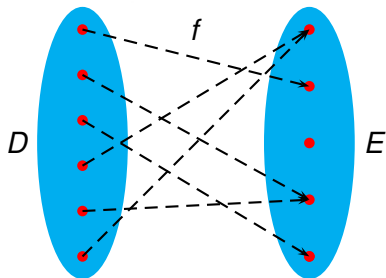
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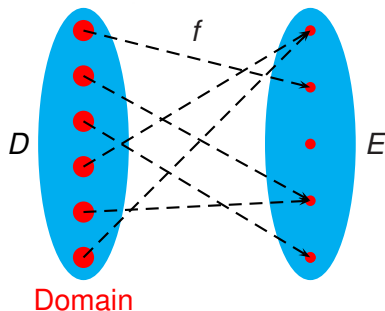
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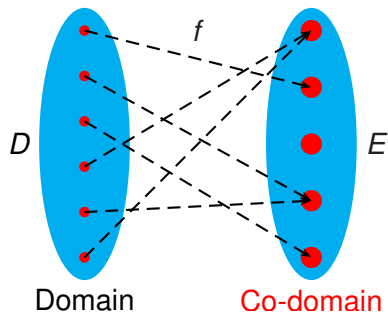
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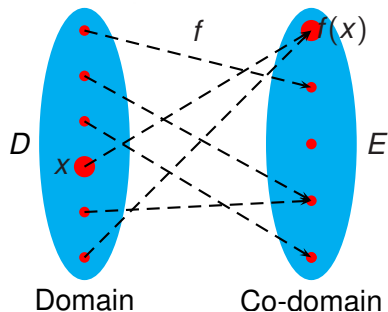


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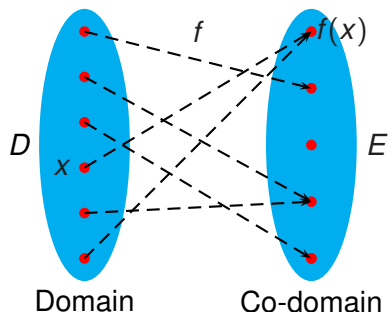


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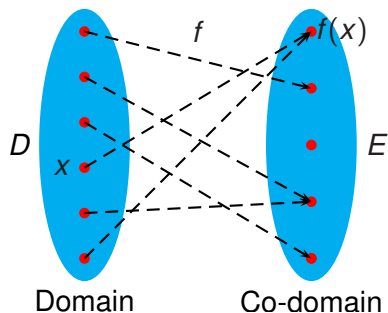
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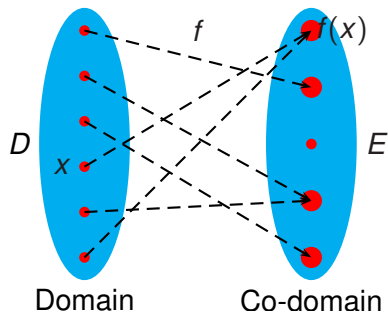
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- In the expression $f(x)$, x is referred to as the *argument* of f .

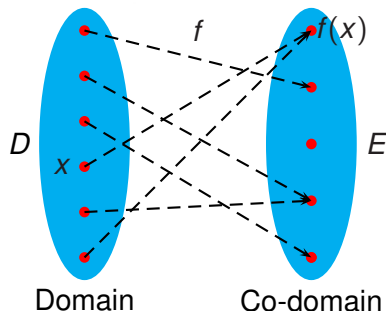


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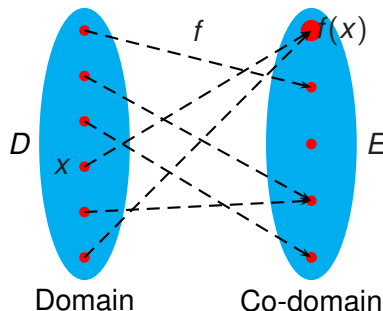
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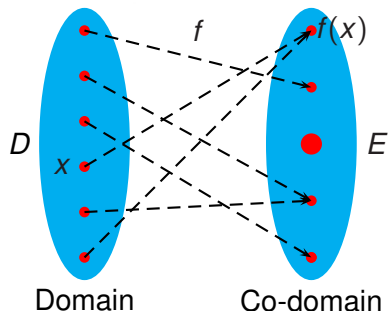
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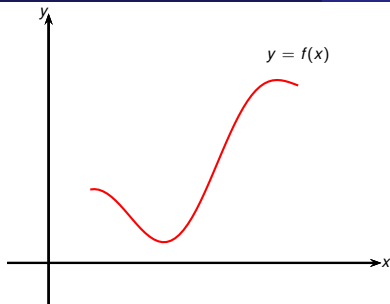
- A function has domain $D \Rightarrow$ there is exactly one arrow starting at each element of D .
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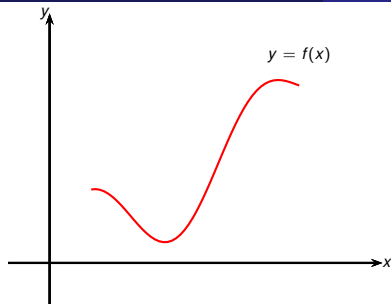
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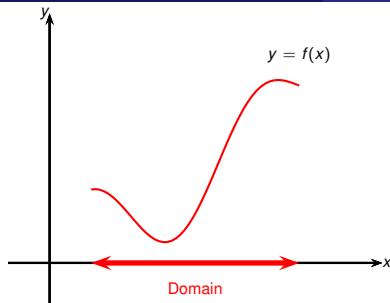
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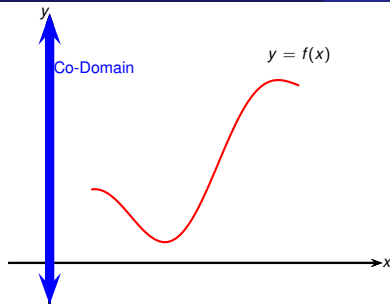
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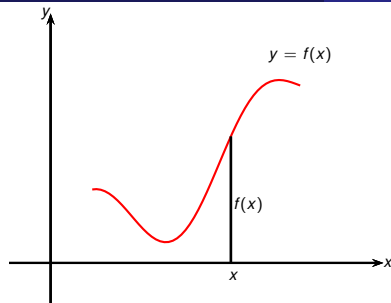


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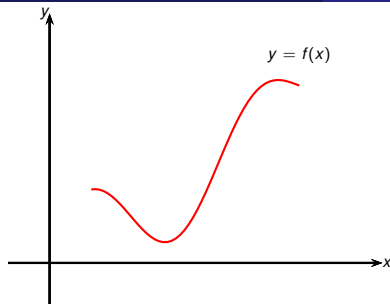


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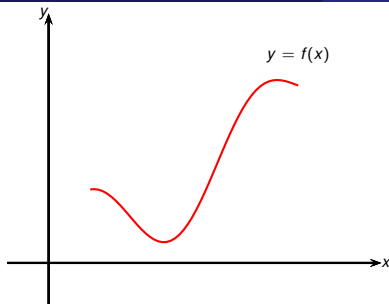
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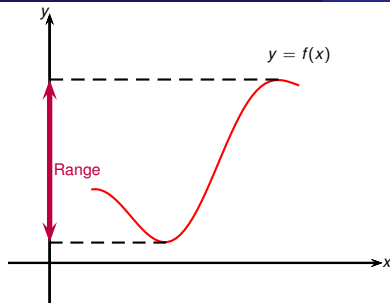
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- However if no such clarification is present (as often is the case in mathematical exercises/tests), the matter is up to the reader's intelligent interpretation.

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- In computer programming, the issues described here are addressed via “variable scope rules”.

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 \frac{f(2+h) - f(2)}{h} &= \frac{((2+h)^2 - (2+h) - 1) - (2^2 - 2 - 1)}{h} \\
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 &= \frac{h^2 + 3h}{h} \\
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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.

Example

Find the implied domains of the given functions.

$$f(x) = \sqrt[4]{x-2} + \sqrt[3]{6-x}$$

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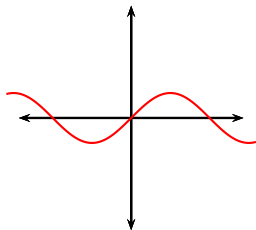
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Domain is all real numbers except 3 and -2 ; that is,
 $(-\infty, -2) \cup (-2, 3) \cup (3, \infty)$.

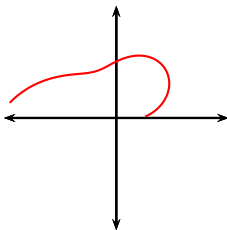
The Vertical Line Test

Question

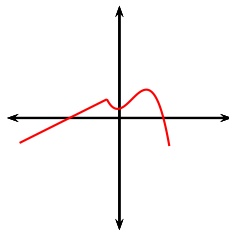
Given a curve in the plane, is it the graph of a function or not?



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The Vertical Line Test

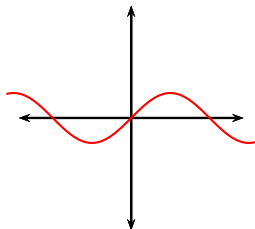
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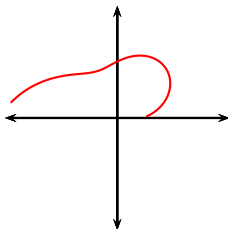
The answer is as follows.

Proposition (The Vertical Line Test)

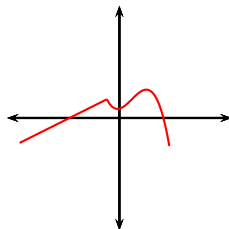
A curve in the plane is the graph of a function if and only if no vertical line intersects it more than once.



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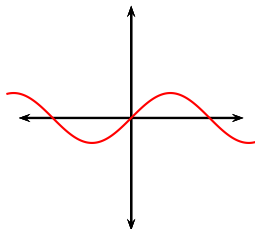
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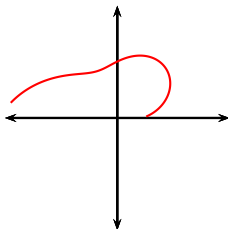
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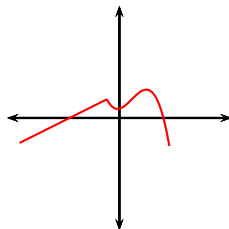
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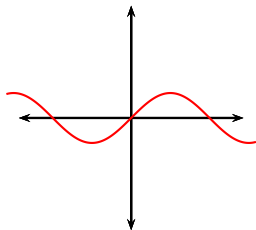
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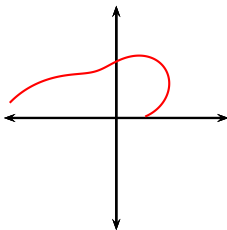
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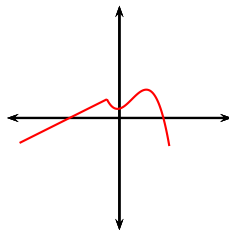
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Function



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The Vertical Line Test

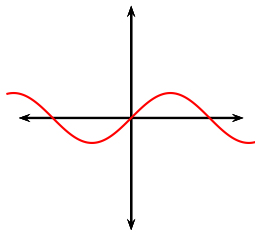
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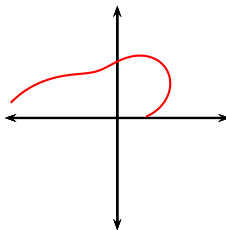
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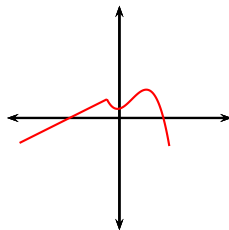
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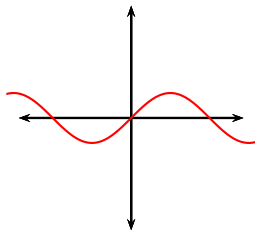
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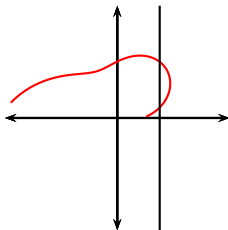
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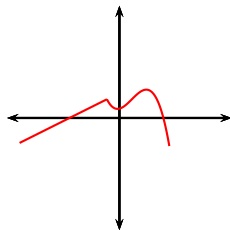
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Function



Not a function



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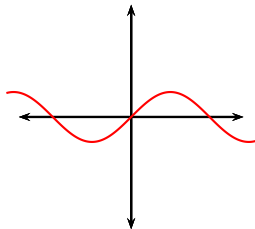
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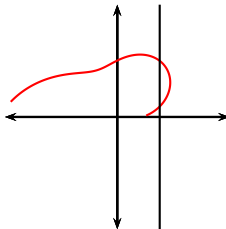
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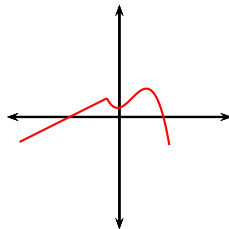
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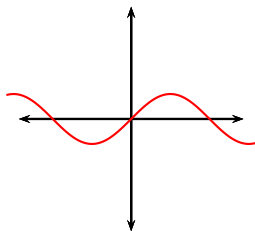
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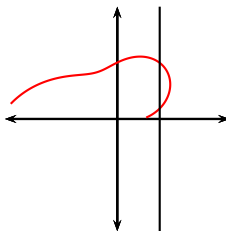
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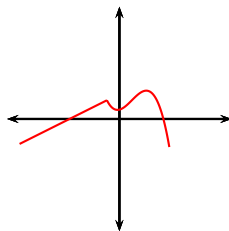
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Function



Not a function



Function

Piecewise Defined Functions

Definition (Piecewise Defined Function)

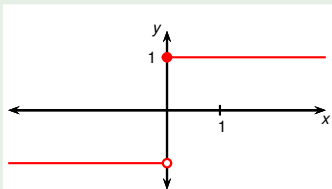
A piecewise defined function is a function that is defined by different algebraic formulas on different subsets of its domain.

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.

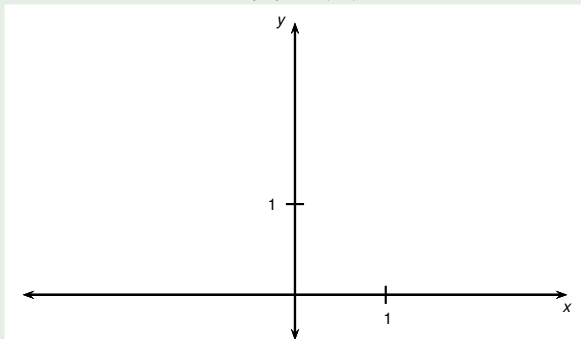
The open circle means $(0, -1)$ is not on the curve.

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 $f(x) = |x|$.

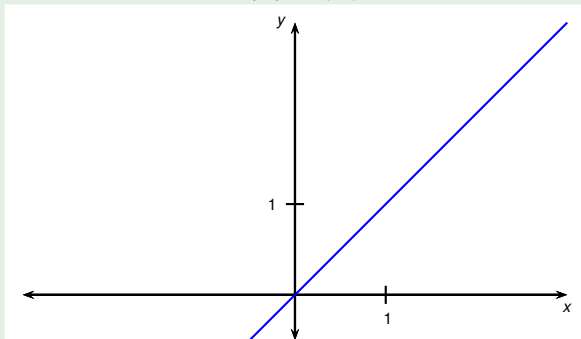


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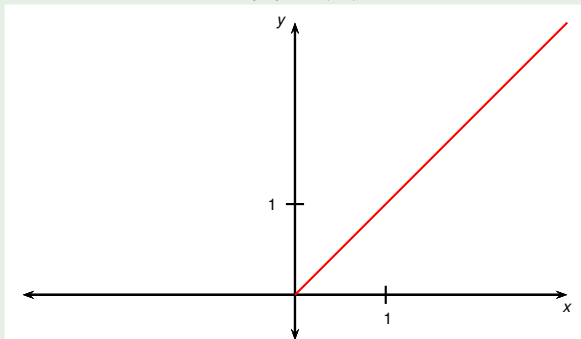


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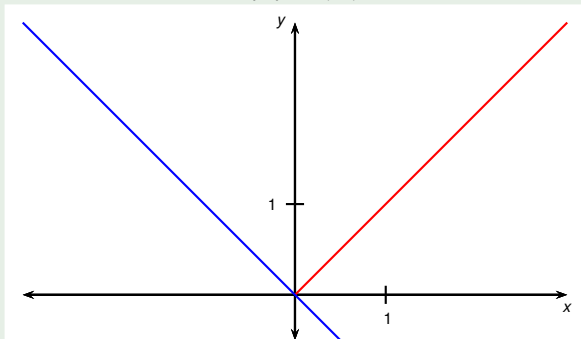


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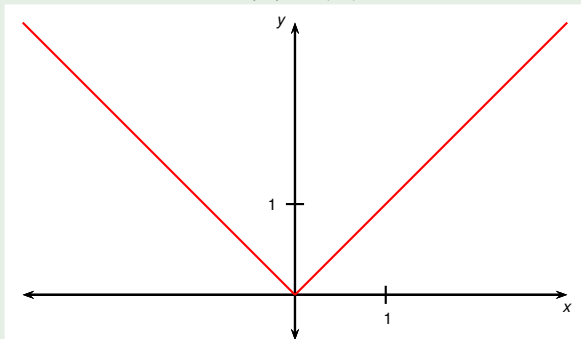


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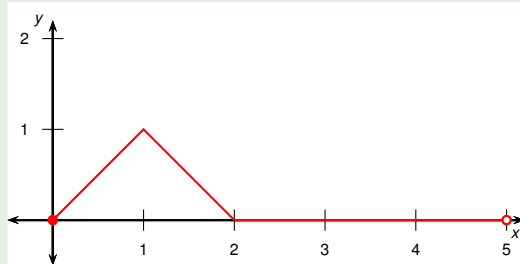
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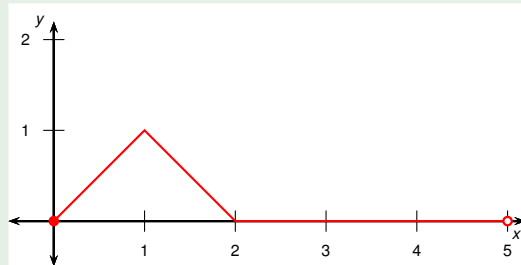
Example

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



Example

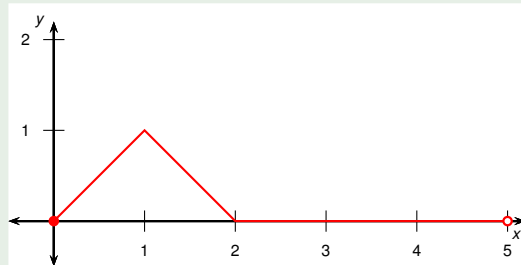
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Different formulas on $[0, 1)$, $[1, 2)$, and $[2, 5)$.

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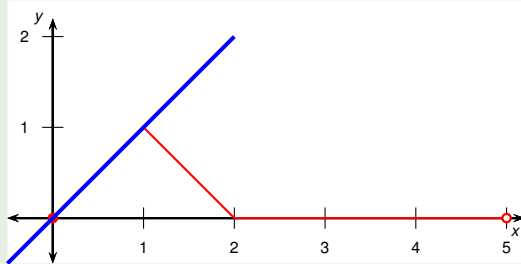


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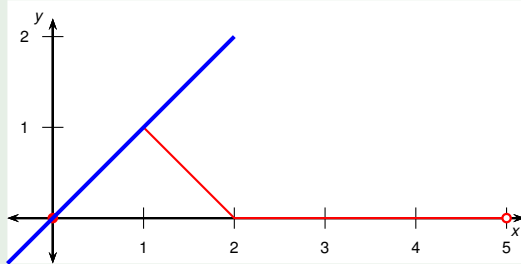


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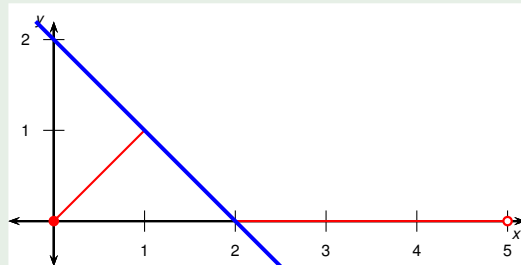


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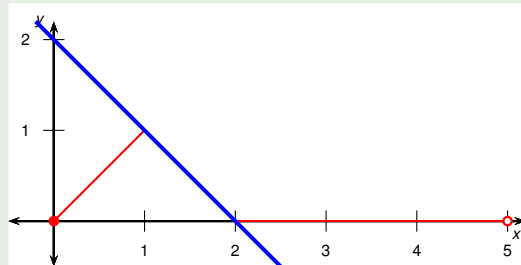


Different formulas on $[0, 1)$, $[1, 2)$, and $[2, 5)$.

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

Example

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

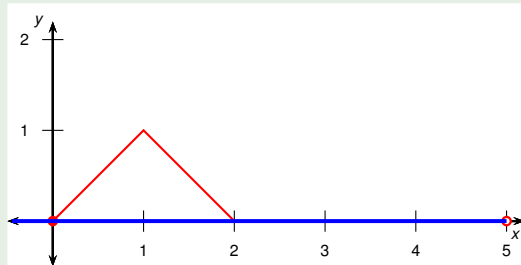


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$$f(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } 0 \leq x < 1 \\ 2 - x & \text{if } 1 \leq x < 2 \\ 0 & \text{if } 2 \leq x < 5 \end{cases}$$

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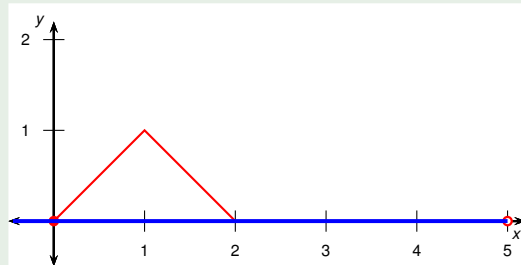


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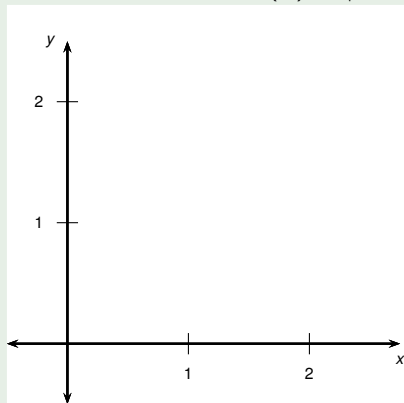


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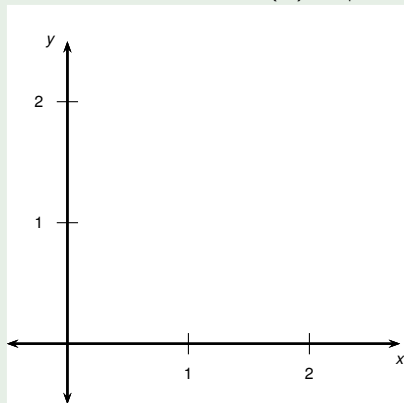
Example

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



Example

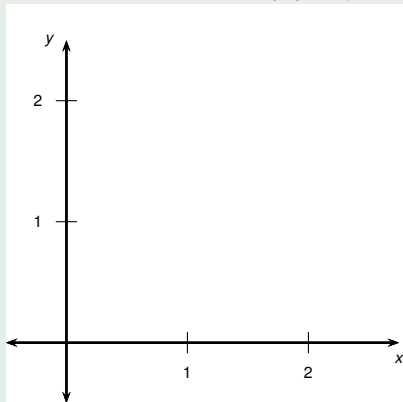
Sketch the function $f(x) = |2x - 3|$.



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

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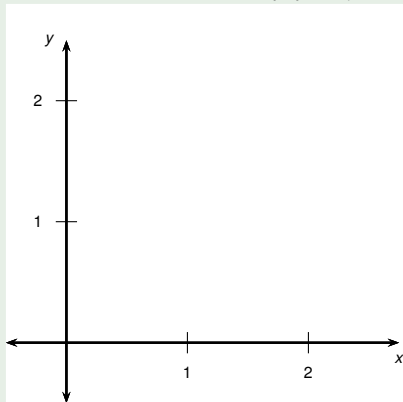


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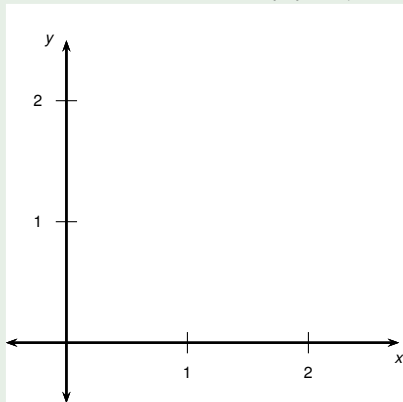
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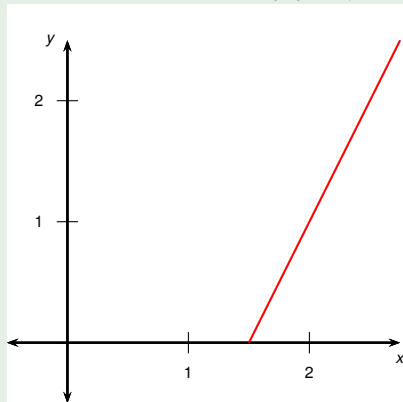
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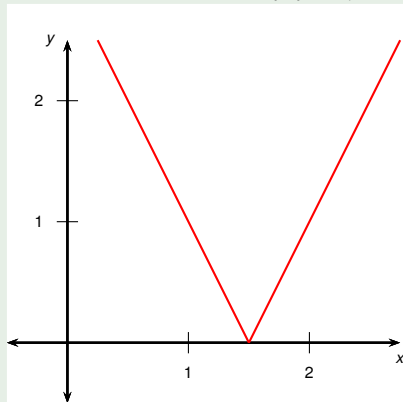
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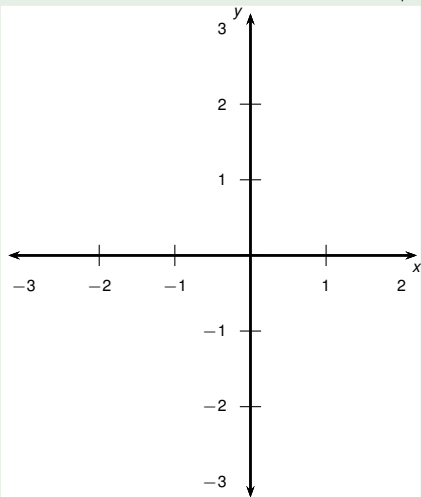
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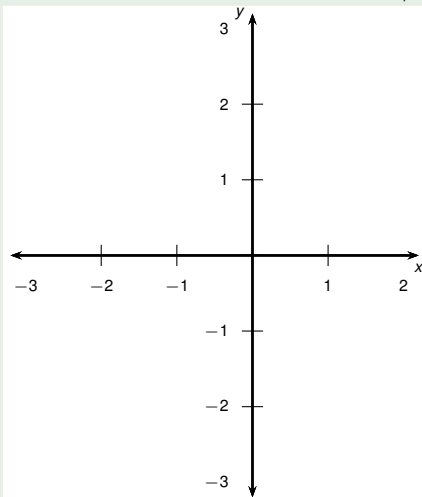
Example

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



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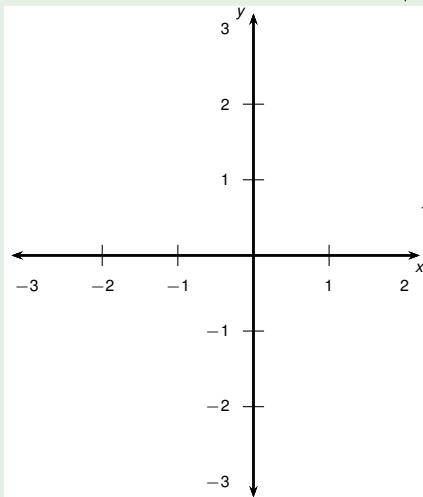
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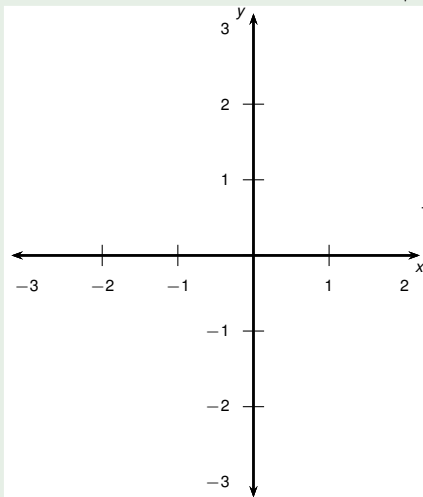


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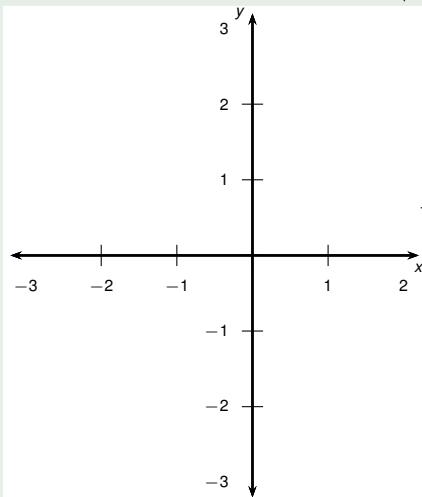
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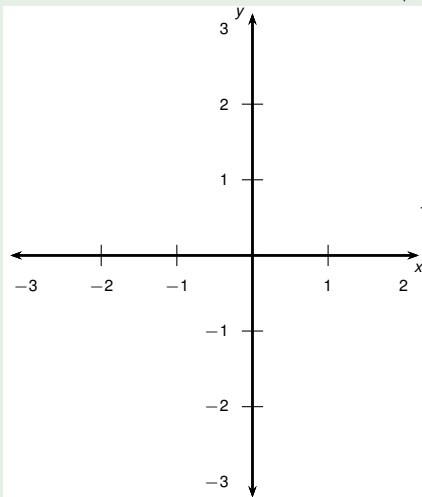
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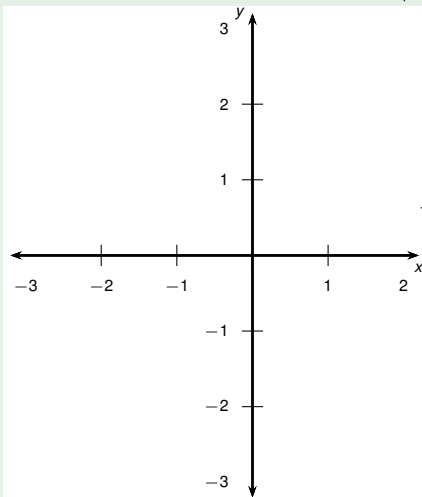


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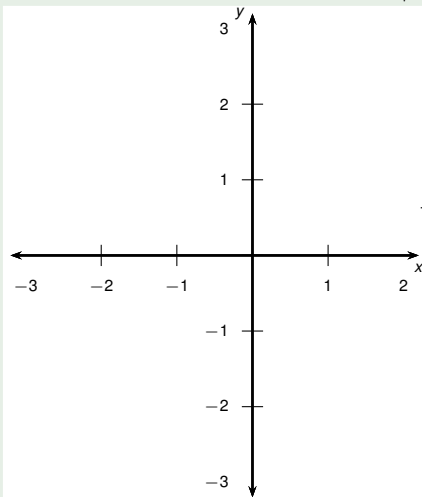


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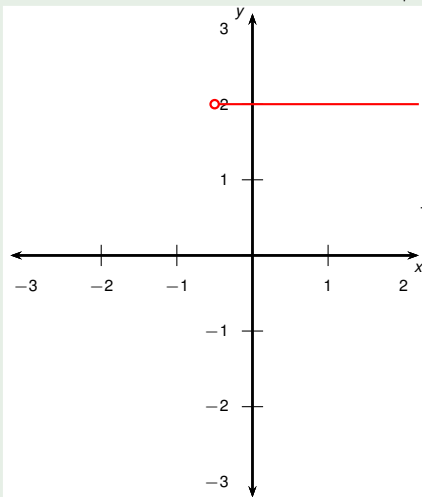
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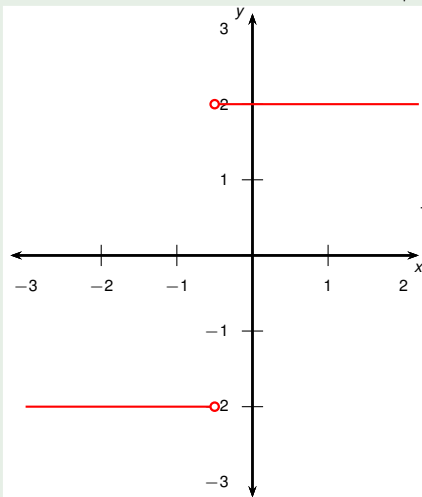
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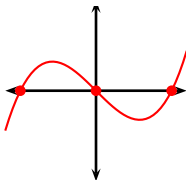
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Definition

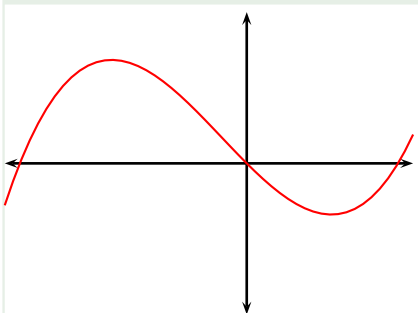
The zeros of a function f are the values of the argument x for which $f(x) = 0$.

Observation

The zeros of a function are the x -coordinates of the x intercepts of the graph of the function.

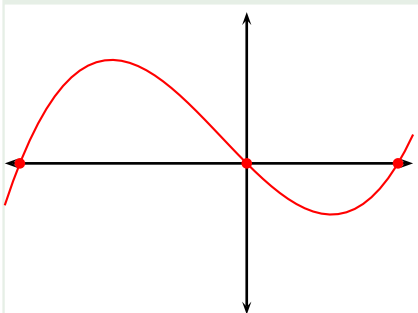


Example



Find the zeroes of
$$f(x) = \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{6}x^2 - x.$$

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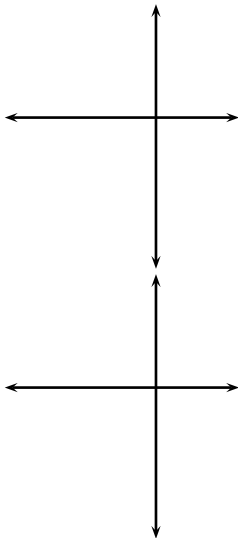
Example

- Find when $f(x) = g(x)$, where

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{6}x^3 + \frac{1}{6}x^2 \qquad g(x) = x$$

- Find the intersections of the graphs of f and g .

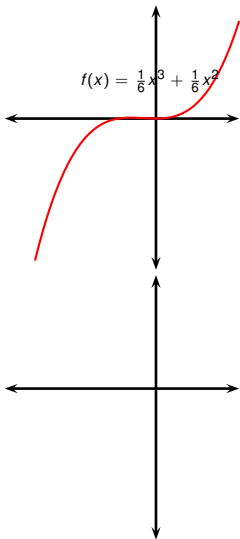
Let g of x and f of x be functions.



Observation

- *To solve $f(x) = g(x)$ means to find the x coordinates of the intersections of the graphs of f and g .*

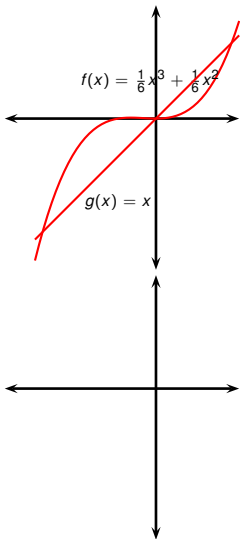
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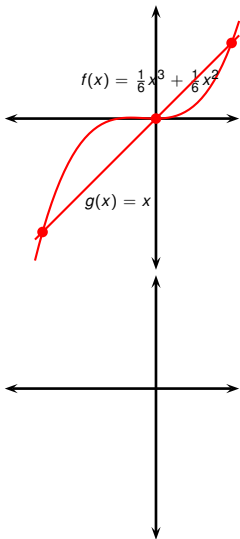
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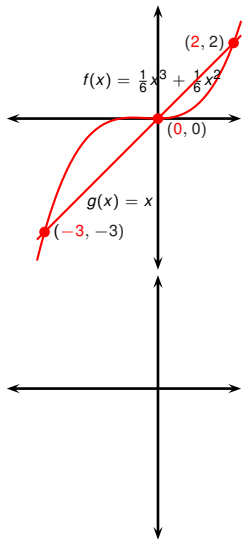
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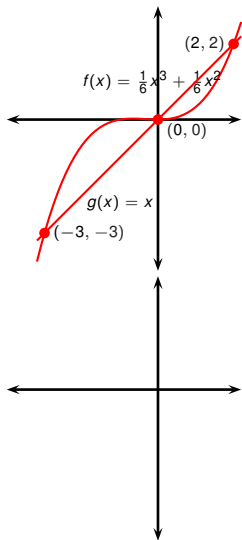
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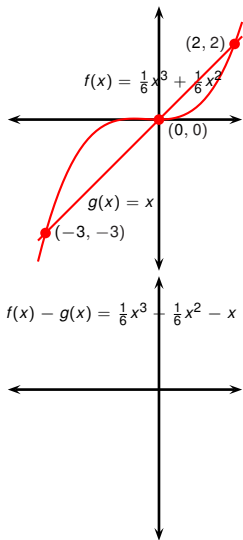
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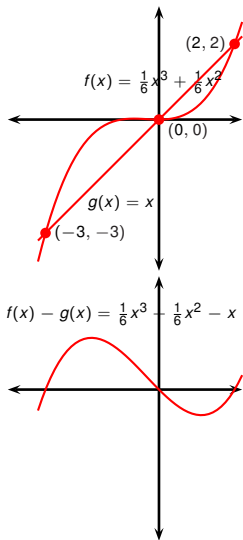
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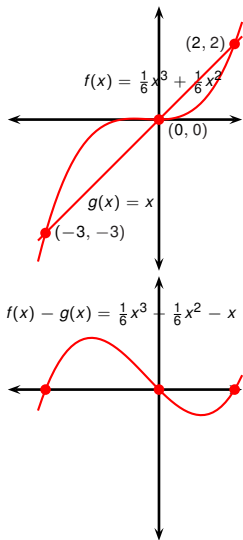
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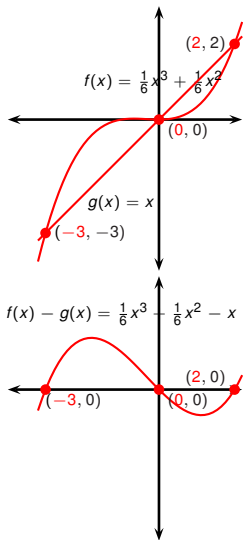
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- The x coordinates of the intersections of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$ coincide with the x coordinates of the x intercepts of $f(x) - g(x)$.

Symmetry

Definition (Even and Odd Functions)

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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$$g(-x) =$$

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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.

Example

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{aligned} f(-x) &= (-x)^5 + (-x) \\ &= -x^5 - x \\ &= -(x^5 + x) \end{aligned}$$

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Therefore f is odd.

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$$h(-x) =$$

Therefore g is even.

Therefore f is odd.

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Therefore f is odd.

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

Therefore g is even.

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

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

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Therefore f is odd.

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Therefore g is even.

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$$\begin{aligned} h(-x) &= 2(-x) - 1 \\ &= -2x - 1 \end{aligned}$$

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Therefore f is odd.

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

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

Therefore g is even.

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

$$\begin{aligned} h(-x) &= 2(-x) - 1 \\ &= -2x - 1 \\ &\neq h(x), -h(x) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore h is neither even nor odd.

Increasing and Decreasing Functions

Definition (Increasing and Decreasing Functions)

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 .

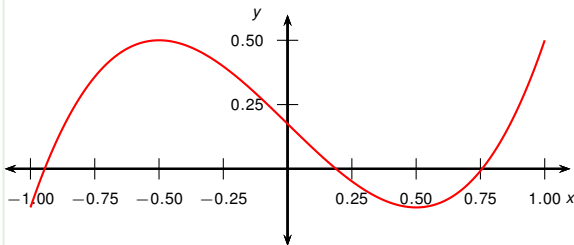
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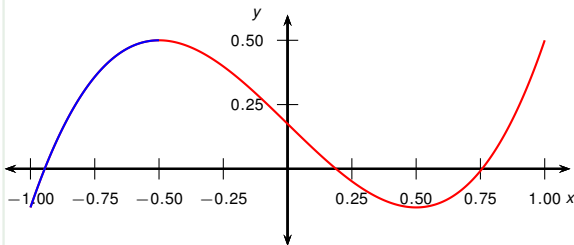
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Example (Increasing and Decreasing)



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

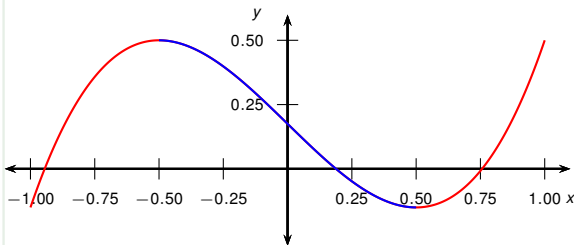
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Example (Increasing and Decreasing)



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

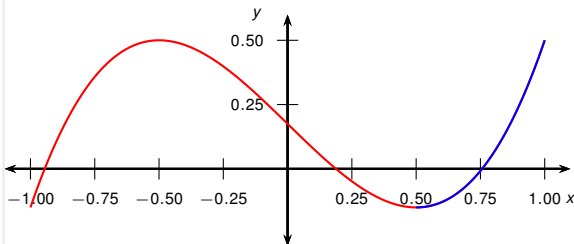
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Example (Increasing and Decreasing)



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