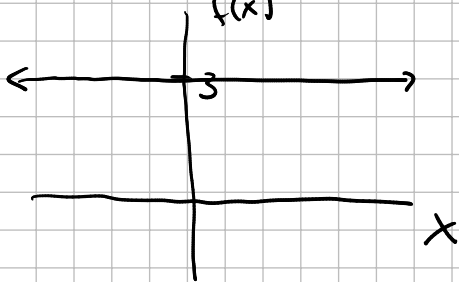


Example

$f(x) = 3$



Find the x 's which will ~~maximize~~ ^{minimize} the value of f .

$f(x) = 3$

$f(0) = 3, f(1) = 3, \dots$

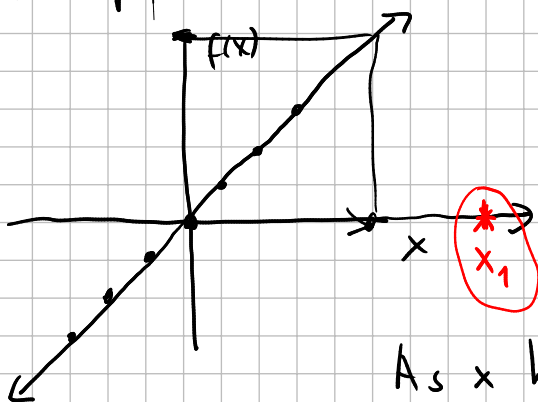
for any x , $f(x)$ will always be equal to 3.

Any value of x will ~~maximize~~ ^{minimize} f .

⇒ infinite number of ~~maximizers~~ ^{minimizers}.

Example

$f(x) = x$



→ Linear function.

x	$f(x)$
0	$f(0) = 0$
1	$f(1) = 1$
\vdots	\vdots

* Find the x 's which maximize f .

→ There is no maximizer for f .

NOTE infinity is not a number
→ "concept"

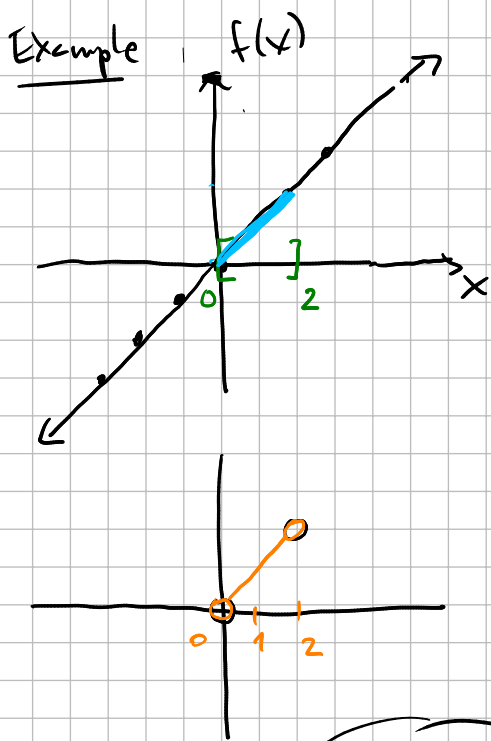
As x becomes large, $f(x)$ also becomes large.

$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} f(x) = \infty$

$\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} f(x) = -\infty$

If you say x_1 is a maximizer of f , you will find that there is another value of x , namely $x_1 + 1$, which will give a larger value of f . (for example)

$f(x_1 + 1) = x_1 + 1 > x_1$



$$f(x) = x$$

What could we do to at least guarantee that there would be a maximizer (a minimizer of f)?

Find the x 's which will ~~maximize~~ ^{minimize} f over $x \in [0, 2]$.
 $\Rightarrow x=2$ maximizes f over $x \in [0, 2]$.
 restriction constraint

$$x \in [0, 2] \Leftrightarrow 0 \leq x \leq 2$$

$$x \in (0, 2) \Leftrightarrow 0 < x < 2$$

$$\Rightarrow x=0 \text{ minimizes } f \text{ over } x \in [0, 2]$$

1.000001

0.0000005
0.00000005

$[0, 2]$

attain/reach

$x=0, x=2$

$(0, 2)$

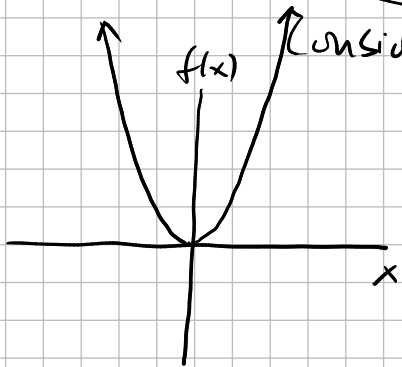
\nearrow

Approach

$x < 0, x = 2$

Example 1 (a)

$$f(x) = 3 - (x-2)^2$$



Consider

$$f(x) = x^2$$

x	$f(x)$
-3	9
-2	4
-1	1
0	0
1	1
2	4
3	9

Here $x=0$ is a minimizer of $f(x) = x^2$.

There is no maximizer of f .

maximizer/minimizer
max value/min value