

# For The Function $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$ , What Is The Range Of $F(x)$ For The Domain $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ ?

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Understanding the range of a function is a fundamental concept in algebra and calculus that helps us analyze how the output values ( $F(x)$ ) behave over a specific set of input values (domain). In this article, we will explore the function  $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$ , focusing on determining its range when the domain is restricted to the set  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ . This investigation not only enhances comprehension of functions but also provides practical insights into how domain restrictions affect the range.

## What Is the Function $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$ ?

Before delving into the specific domain of  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ , it is essential to understand the nature of the given function.

### Quadratic Function Overview

- The function  $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$  is a quadratic function, characterized by the squared term  $x^2$ .
- The general form of a quadratic function is  $ax^2 + bx + c$ , where  $a$ ,  $b$ , and  $c$  are constants. Here,  $a=1$ ,  $b=4$ ,  $c=-1$ .
- Quadratic functions graph as parabolas, which can open upward or downward depending on the sign of  $a$ . Since  $a=1 > 0$ , the parabola opens upward.

### Vertex of the Parabola

- The vertex of the parabola provides the minimum point for functions opening upward.
- The x-coordinate of the vertex is given by  $-b/(2a)$ . For our function:

$$x_{\text{vertex}} = -4 / (2 \cdot 1) = -4 / 2 = -2$$

- The y-coordinate of the vertex is obtained by substituting  $x_{\text{vertex}}$  back into the function:

$$F(-2) = (-2)^2 + 4(-2) - 1 = 4 - 8 - 1 = -5$$

- Therefore, the vertex is at  $(-2, -5)$ , which is the minimum point on the parabola.

## Understanding the Domain: $\{-2, 0, 1\}$

- The domain specifies the set of input values for which we evaluate the function.
- In this case, the domain is limited to three points:  $-2$ ,  $0$ , and  $1$ .
- Analyzing the function over this restricted domain helps us understand how the output varies for these specific inputs.

## Calculating $F(x)$ for Each Domain Element

To determine the range over the domain  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ , we need to compute  $F(x)$  at each point.

### $F(-2)$

- As previously calculated:

$$F(-2) = (-2)^2 + 4(-2) - 1 = 4 - 8 - 1 = -5$$

### $F(0)$

- Calculation:

$$F(0) = 0^2 + 4(0) - 1 = 0 + 0 - 1 = -1$$

### $F(1)$

- Calculation:

$$F(1) = 1^2 + 4(1) - 1 = 1 + 4 - 1 = 4$$

Summary of evaluations:

- $F(-2) = -5$
- $F(0) = -1$

- $F(1) = 4$

### Determining the Range for the Given Domain

The range of a function over a specific domain is the set of output values corresponding to each input in that domain. For our case, the outputs are:

- -5 (from  $x = -2$ )
- -1 (from  $x = 0$ )
- 4 (from  $x = 1$ )

Thus, the range of  $F(x)$  for the domain  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$  is  $\{-5, -1, 4\}$ .

## Key Concepts in Finding the Range of a Restricted Domain

Understanding why the range over a restricted domain is different from the range over the entire real number line is crucial.

### Full Domain vs. Restricted Domain

- The full domain of a quadratic function with a positive leading coefficient is all real numbers, and its range is from the vertex's y-value upward.
- When the domain is restricted, the range is limited to the output values at those specific points.

### Importance of Domain Restriction

- Domain restrictions often come from context, such as real-world constraints or problem-specific limitations.
- Analyzing the function over a restricted domain requires evaluating the function at each point and compiling the output values.

## Visualizing the Function and Its Domain

Graphical analysis provides a visual understanding of how the function behaves over the specified domain.

## Plotting the Parabola

- The vertex at (-2, -5) marks the lowest point.
- The parabola opens upward, rising on either side of the vertex.
- Evaluating the function at  $x=0$  and  $x=1$  shows how the output values increase as we move away from the vertex.

## Significance of the Evaluated Points

- -2: The minimum point (-5).
- 0: The value (-1) is higher, indicating the parabola rises as  $x$  moves from -2 to 0.
- 1: The value (4) is even higher, consistent with the upward opening of the parabola.

## Implications for Students and Educators

Understanding how to find the range of a quadratic function over a restricted domain has practical applications in various fields, including mathematics, physics, and economics.

## Educational Benefits

- Reinforces understanding of quadratic functions, vertex form, and parabola properties.
- Develops skills in evaluating functions at specific points.
- Enhances comprehension of how domain restrictions influence output values.

## Application in Real-World Contexts

- In scenarios where inputs are limited (e.g., time constraints, physical limitations), knowing the possible output values helps in decision-making.
- For example, in physics, restricting the domain could represent a time interval during which a certain process occurs.

## Conclusion: Range of $F(x)$ over the Domain $\{-2, 0, 1\}$

In summary, for the quadratic function  $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$ , when the domain is

limited to  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ , the range consists of the output values at these specific points:

- $F(-2) = -5$
- $F(0) = -1$
- $F(1) = 4$

Therefore, the range of  $F(x)$  over this domain is  $\{-5, -1, 4\}$ . Recognizing how to evaluate functions at specific points and interpret the resulting outputs is fundamental in algebra, providing a basis for more advanced topics such as calculus and real-world problem solving. Whether you are a student learning about quadratic functions or an educator designing exercises, understanding how to determine the range over restricted domains is a valuable skill that enhances mathematical proficiency.

## Frequently Asked Questions

### What is the function given in the problem?

The function is  $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$ .

### What is the domain specified in the problem?

The domain is the set  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ .

### How do we find the range of $F(x)$ for the given domain?

By evaluating  $F(x)$  at each element of the domain and collecting the resulting values.

### What is the value of $F(-2)$ ?

$$F(-2) = (-2)^2 + 4(-2) - 1 = 4 - 8 - 1 = -5.$$

### What is the value of $F(0)$ ?

$$F(0) = 0^2 + 4(0) - 1 = 0 + 0 - 1 = -1.$$

### What is the value of $F(1)$ ?

$$F(1) = 1^2 + 4(1) - 1 = 1 + 4 - 1 = 4.$$

**What are the values of  $F(x)$  for each element in the domain?**

$F(-2) = -5$ ,  $F(0) = -1$ ,  $F(1) = 4$ .

**What is the range of  $F(x)$  for the domain  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ ?**

The range is the set  $\{-5, -1, 4\}$ .

**Is the range of  $F(x)$  for the given domain continuous?**

No, since the domain is a finite set, the range consists of discrete values.

**How can understanding the range help in analyzing the function?**

It helps identify the possible output values for the specified inputs, which is useful in understanding the function's behavior over that domain.

## **Additional Resources**

Function Analysis

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## **Understanding the Function $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$**

When delving into the world of quadratic functions, the function  $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$  presents an intriguing case study. Quadratic functions, characterized by their parabolic graphs, are fundamental in algebra, calculus, and numerous applied fields. To analyze the range of this specific function over a given domain, it's essential to understand its structure, properties, and how the domain influences the outputs.

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## **Breaking Down the Function's Structure**

### **Standard Form and Vertex**

The function  $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$  is expressed in standard quadratic form:

$$F(x) = ax^2 + bx + c$$

where  $a = 1$ ,  $b = 4$ , and  $c = -1$ .

The graph of this quadratic is a parabola opening upwards because  $a > 0$ .

To understand the behavior of the function, especially its minimum or maximum, identifying the vertex is crucial. The vertex form of a quadratic is:

$$F(x) = a(x - h)^2 + k$$

where  $(h, k)$  is the vertex.

Calculating the vertex:

$$h = -\frac{b}{2a} = -\frac{4}{2 \times 1} = -2$$

Substituting  $h = -2$  into the function to find  $k$ :

$$F(-2) = (-2)^2 + 4(-2) - 1 = 4 - 8 - 1 = -5$$

Thus, the vertex is at  $(-2, -5)$ .

**Key Point:** Since the parabola opens upward, the vertex represents the minimum point of the function on the entire real line, with the minimum value  $-5$  at  $x = -2$ .

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## Analyzing the Domain: $\{-2, 0, 1\}$

The problem specifies a limited domain:  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ . Unlike a continuous domain, this discrete set restricts us to only three input values, making the calculation of the range straightforward but still meaningful.

Why is this important? Because the range over this domain is simply the set of function values at these points:

$$\text{Range} = \{F(-2), F(0), F(1)\}$$

Calculating each:

1. For  $x = -2$ :

$$F(-2) = (-2)^2 + 4(-2) - 1 = 4 - 8 - 1 = -5$$

2. For  $x = 0$ :

$$F(0) = 0^2 + 4(0) - 1 = 0 + 0 - 1 = -1$$

3. For  $x = 1$ :

$$F(1) = 1^2 + 4(1) - 1 = 1 + 4 - 1 = 4$$

Result: The outputs are  $\{-5, -1, 4\}$ .

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## Understanding the Range over the Domain

The range of a function over a specific domain is the set of all possible output values. Here, with the domain  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ , the range is simply the set:

$$\boxed{\{-5, -1, 4\}}$$

This set reflects the function's behavior at these points:

- The minimum value in the set is -5 at  $(x = -2)$ .
- The intermediate value is -1 at  $(x = 0)$ .
- The maximum value is 4 at  $(x = 1)$ .

Because the domain is discrete, the range does not form an interval but a set of distinct points. If the domain were continuous, the analysis would involve identifying the minimum and maximum across an interval, but here, we are limited to these three specific inputs.

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## In-Depth Analysis of the Function's Behavior at Given Points

While the calculation above is straightforward, understanding why the function yields these values enriches our grasp of quadratic functions.

### At $x = -2$ :

- This point coincides with the vertex of the parabola.
- The vertex represents the minimum of the parabola.
- The value -5 is the lowest point on the entire parabola, confirming the

function's minimum over the whole real line.

### At $x = 0$ :

- Substituting 0 into the function gives -1.
- This point is to the right of the vertex, and since the parabola opens upward, the function value increases as we move away from the vertex.

### At $x = 1$ :

- Substituting 1 yields 4.
- This is farther from the vertex on the right side, and the function value continues to grow.

This pattern aligns with the general shape of a parabola opening upward: the function decreases until reaching the vertex, then increases afterward.

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## Graphical Interpretation and Visualization

Understanding the function visually enhances comprehension. The parabola's key features:

- Vertex at  $((-2, -5))$ : the lowest point.
- Points at  $x = 0$  and  $x = 1$ : correspond to the outputs -1 and 4, respectively.
- The graph passes through these points, illustrating the upward opening shape.

Plotting these points:

| x  | F(x) |
|----|------|
| -2 | -5   |
| 0  | -1   |
| 1  | 4    |

The points form a parabola with the vertex at  $((-2, -5))$ , confirming the function's behavior at these specific domain points.

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# Implications and Broader Understanding

While the range over this discrete domain is simply  $\{-5, -1, 4\}$ , this exercise emphasizes several important concepts:

1. Quadratic vertex and symmetry: The vertex at  $(-2, -5)$  indicates the minimum point, and the parabola's symmetry suggests that points equidistant from  $(-2)$  should yield the same value if they are on the parabola. For instance, at  $(x = -3)$ :

$$F(-3) = 9 - 12 - 1 = -4$$

which is close to the value at  $(x = -1)$ :

$$F(-1) = 1 - 4 - 1 = -4$$

This symmetry confirms the parabola's shape and helps understand its behavior beyond the given domain.

2. Effect of domain restrictions: When analyzing functions over limited domains, the concepts of minima and maxima are confined to those specific points, which may differ from the global extrema.

3. Application in real-world contexts: Discrete data points often arise in applied scenarios such as data sampling, experimental measurements, and computational models. Understanding how to evaluate the function at specific points and interpret the results is crucial in such contexts.

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## Summary and Final Thoughts

In conclusion, the function  $F(x) = x^2 + 4x - 1$  exhibits classic quadratic behavior with a vertex at  $(-2, -5)$ . When restricted to the domain  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ , the range is explicitly the set  $\{-5, -1, 4\}$ .

This analysis highlights the importance of understanding the structure of quadratic functions, the significance of their vertices, and the impact of domain restrictions on the range. Whether for educational purposes, testing understanding, or applying to real-world problems, such detailed exploration provides a robust foundation for further study in algebra and calculus.

Key Takeaways:

- The vertex of the parabola is at  $(-2, -5)$ , representing the minimum over the entire real line.
- Over the domain  $\{-2, 0, 1\}$ , the range is simply  $\{-5, -1, 4\}$ .
- The function values increase as  $x$  moves away from the vertex, consistent

with the parabola's shape.

- Understanding these principles aids in analyzing more complex functions and real-world data.

By mastering the analysis of such functions, students and professionals alike can develop a deeper intuition for the behavior of quadratic models and their applications across diverse fields.

## **For The Function $F(x) = x^2 - 4x + 1$ What Is The Range Of $F(x)$ For The Domain $[2, 0, 1]$**

For The Function  $F(x) = x^2 - 4x + 1$  What Is The Range Of  $F(x)$  For The Domain  $[2, 0, 1]$

## **Related Articles**

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