Inequalities

Finite Math

14 March 2019

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There are 4 types of linear inequalities



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$$Ax + By \ge C$$

$$Ax + By > C$$

$$Ax + By \leq C$$

$$Ax + By < C$$

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There is a simple procedure to graphing any of these. If equality is not allowed in an inequality, we call it a *strict inequality*, otherwise we simply call it an inequality.

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- Graph the line Ax + By = C as a dashed line if the inequality is strict. Otherwise, graph it as a solid line.
- 2 Choose a test point anywhere in the plane, as long as it is not on the line.
- 3 Plug the point from step (2) into the inequality. Is the inequality true? Shade in the side of the line with that point. If the inequality is false, shade in the other side.

Example

Graph the inequality

$$6x - 3y \ge 12$$

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Graph the inequality

$$6x - 3y \ge 12$$

Example

Graph the inequality

$$4x + 8y < 32$$



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Now You Try It!

Example

Graph the inequality

$$2y \le 10$$

Example

Graph the inequality

$$2x - 5y > 10$$

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Solving Systems of Linear Inequalities Graphically

Definition (Solution Region/Feasible Region)

Given a system of inequalities, the solution region or feasible region consists of all points (x, y) which simultaneously satisfy all of the inequalities in the system.

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Example

Solve the following system of linear inequalities graphically:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 3x & + & y & \leq & 21 \\ x & - & 2y & \leq & 0 \end{array}$$



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Now You Try It!

Example

Solve the following system of linear inequalities graphically:



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Corner Points

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Definition (Corner Point)

A corner point of a solution region is a point in the solution region that is the intersection of two boundary lines.

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A corner point of a solution region is a point in the solution region that is the intersection of two boundary lines.

Example

Solve the following system of linear inequalities graphically and find the corner points:

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
x & + & y & \leq & 10 \\
5x & + & 3y & \geq & 15 \\
-2x & + & 3y & \leq & 15 \\
2x & - & 5y & \leq & 6
\end{array}$$

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Now You Try It!

Example

Solve the following system of linear inequalities graphically and find the corner points:

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Bounded and Unbounded Regions

Definition (Bounded/Unbounded)

A solution region of a system of linear inequalities is bounded if it can be enclosed within a circle. If it cannot be enclosed within a circle, it is unbounded.

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Question

Which of the regions in examples 1-4 are bounded? Which are unbounded?

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