Math 229 Inequalities and Absolute Value 06/02/2008

A. Interval Notation

Finite Intervals:

Interval	Inequality	Graph	
Open: (a, b)	a < x < b	 a	—⊕ — ► b
Closed: $[a, b]$	$a \le x \le b$	e a	b
Half Open: $[a, b)$	_	a	►
(a,b]	$a < x \le b$		b
Infinite Intervals	:		
Interval	Inequality	Grap	oh
(a,∞)	a < x		→ →
$[a,\infty]$	$a \leq x$	a	> >
$(-\infty, b)$	x < b		b
$(-\infty, b]$	$x \leq b$		b b

B. Properties of Inequalities

- 1. If a < b and b < c then a < c [Transitivity]
- 2. If a < b, then a + c < b + c [Additive Shift]
- 3. If a < b and c > 0, then ac < bc [Positive Multiplication]
- 4. If a < b and c < 0, then ac > bc [Negative Multiplication Inequality Reversal!]

C. Solving Inequalities

Our goal is to use the properties of inequalities and other algebraic techniques to find which real numbers satisfy a given inequality.

Examples:

1. $3 - 2x < 5$		
3 - 2x < 5		
-3 -3		
-2x < 2		→ →
\-2 \-2	-1	
x > -1		
2. $3 < 4 - 2x \le 12$		
$3 < 4 - 2x \le 12$		
-4 -4 -4		
$-1 < -2x \leq 8$	•	
$\div -2 \div -2 \div -2$	-4	1/2
$\frac{1}{2} > x \geq -4$		

3. $2x^2 - x - 6 > 0$ – for this one, we will need to use "sign analysis"

	x = -	3/2	$\mathbf{x} = 2$	
(2x+3)(x-2) > 0 Solving the related linear equations: $2x+3=0 \rightarrow x=-\frac{3}{2}$			x=2 (+) (+)	$\frac{x-2}{2x+3}$
$x - 2 = 0 \rightarrow x = 2$	+	$\overline{\bigcirc}$	$\overline{+}$	Total
	-2	0	3	

Therefore, the solution to this inequality is: $(-\infty, -\frac{3}{2}) \cup (2, \infty)$

D. Absolute Value Definition:

$$|a| = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } a \ge 0\\ -a & \text{if } a < 0 \end{cases}$$

Examples: (a) |7| = 7

(b)
$$|-4| = 4$$

Properties:

- 1. |-a| = |a|
- 2. |ab| = |a||b|
- 3. $\left|\frac{a}{b}\right| = \frac{|a|}{|b|}$
- 4. $|a+b| \le |a|+|b|$

Evaluating Absolute Value Expressions:

 $\begin{aligned} &(i)|\pi - 3| = \pi - 3 \\ &(ii)\frac{|-4| - |7|}{|-4 - 7|} = \frac{4 - 7}{11} = \frac{-3}{11} \end{aligned}$

Absolute Value Equations and Inequalities:

Note: Since absolute value acts differently on positive numbers than it does on negative numbers, we will need to look at positive and negative cases in order to solve equations and inequalities involving absolute value.

Examples:

1. $ x+3 = 4$	
positive case:	negative case: -(x+3) = 4
x + 3 = 4	or
-3 - 3	x + 3 = -4
x = 1	-3 - 3
	x = -7
2. $ 2x - 3 \le 7$	
	negative case:
positive case:	$-(2x-3) \le 7$
$2x - 3 \le 7$	or
+3 +3	$2x - 3 \ge -7$
$2x \leq 10$	+3 +3
so $x \leq 5$	$2x \ge -4$
	so $x \ge -2$
Thus $-2 \le x \le 5$	
3. $ 3x+2 < -4$	
Solution: ??	