

Solving Polynomial Inequalities

Using the Graph

where does the function have "y" values greater than 0

A polynomial inequality, $x^3 + x^2 - 9x - 9 > 0$, can be solved by examining the graph of the corresponding polynomial function,

$$y = x^3 + x^2 - 9x - 9$$

① x int (y=0)

$$0 = (x^3 + x^2) - 9x - 9$$

$$0 = x^2(x+1) - 9(x+1)$$

$$0 = (x^2 - 9)(x+1)$$

$$0 = (x+3)(x-3)(x+1)$$

$$x = -3, -1, 3$$

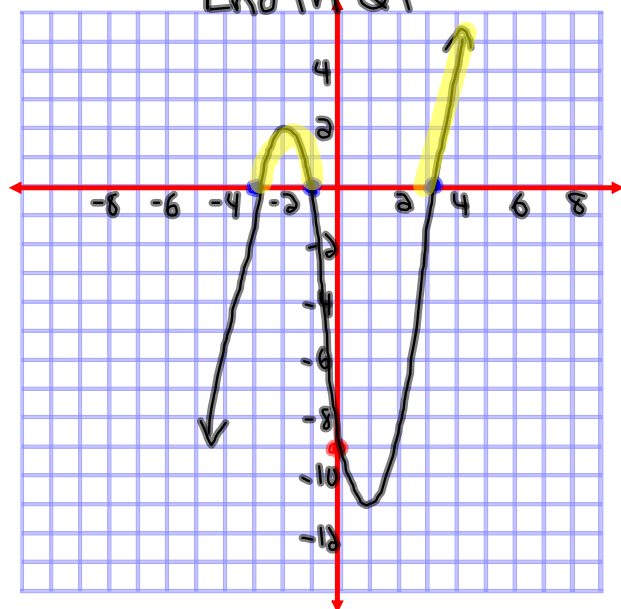
② y int (x=0)

$$y = (0)^3 + (0)^2 - 9(0) - 9$$

$$y = -9$$

③ Stretch factor

a=1 → Start in Q3
End in Q1



$$-3 < x < -1, x > 3$$

$$x \in (-3, -1), x \in (3, \infty)$$

$$x \in (-3, -1) \cup (3, \infty)$$

Interval Notation

The statement $-2 < x < 3$ can be written as $x \in (-2, 3)$; that is x belongs to the interval $(-2, 3)$. The round brackets mean that x is not equal to -2 or 3 .

The statement $-4 \leq x \leq 2$ can be written as $x \in [-4, 2]$. The square brackets mean that x may be equal to -4 or 2 .

Explain the meaning of the following interval notations.

$$x \in (-\infty, 2)$$

$$-\infty < x < 2 \rightarrow x < 2$$

$$x \in (-\infty, 2]$$

$$-\infty < x \leq 2 \rightarrow x \leq 2$$

$$x \in (3, \infty)$$

$$3 < x < \infty \rightarrow x > 3$$

$$x \in [3, \infty)$$

$$3 \leq x < \infty \rightarrow x \geq 3$$

Note: Infinity cannot be inclusive

Solving Polynomial Inequalities

Using the Number Line

Example: $x^3 + x^2 > 6x$

Step 1: State the Roots of the function

Step 2: Draw a number line and mark the roots of the equation. These roots separate the rest of the number line into three intervals.

Quadratic $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} x \in (-\infty, \text{small } x\text{-int}) \\ x \in (\text{small } x\text{-int}, \text{large } x\text{-int}) \\ x \in (\text{large } x\text{-int}, \infty) \end{array} \right.$

4 " \rightarrow Quadratic
5 " \rightarrow Cubic
5 " \rightarrow Quartic

Step 3: The value of the expression $x^3 + x^2 - 6x$ has the same sign throughout each interval in step 2 **because a function can only change signs at a root.** Therefore, choose a *test value of x* in each interval and evaluate the expression. Write a *plus or a minus* over that interval on the number line to indicate whether the expression is positive or negative.

Step 4: State the intervals for which $x^3 + x^2 - 6x > 0$

Using the Number Line

Example: $x^3 + x^2 > 6x$
 $x^3 + x^2 - 6x > 0$

Step 1: State the Roots of the function

$$y = x^3 + x^2 - 6x \quad x = -3, 0, 2$$

$$0 = x(x^2 + x - 6)$$

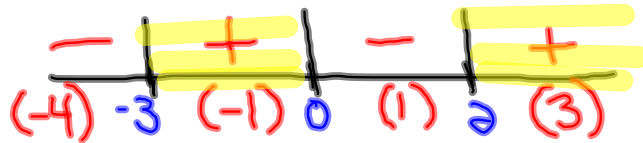
$$0 = (x)(x+3)(x-2)$$

Step 2: Draw a number line and mark the roots of the equation. These roots separate the rest of the number line into ~~three~~ intervals.

$$x \in (-\infty, \text{small } x\text{-int})$$

$$x \in (\text{small } x\text{-int}, \text{large } x\text{-int})$$

$$x \in (\text{large } x\text{-int}, \infty)$$



Step 3: The value of the expression $x^3 + x^2 - 6x$ has the same sign throughout each interval in step 2 **because a function can only change signs at a root.**

Therefore, choose a *test value* of x in each interval and evaluate the expression.

Write a *plus* or a *minus* over that interval on the number line to indicate whether the expression is positive or negative.

$y = x^3 + x^2 - 6x$ $y = (-4)^3 + (-4)^2 - 6(-4)$ $y = -64 + 16 + 24$ $y = -24$	$y = (-1)^3 + (-1)^2 - 6(-1)$ $y = -1 + 1 + 6$ $y = 6$	$y = (1)^3 + (1)^2 - 6(1)$ $y = 1 + 1 - 6$ $y = -4$
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Step 4: State the intervals for which $x^3 + x^2 - 6x > 0$

$$x \in (-3, 0) \cup (2, \infty)$$

Homework

$$x^3 - x^2 - 12x \leq 0$$

Solve using a graph then using a number line. Express answer in Interval Notation

Graphing

$$x^3 - x^2 - 12x \leq 0$$

Where are the y values less than or equal to 0. (Negative)

$$y = x^3 - x^2 - 12x$$

① xint (y=0)

$$0 = x(x^2 - x - 12)$$
$$0 = x(x-4)(x+3)$$
$$x = -3, 0, 4$$

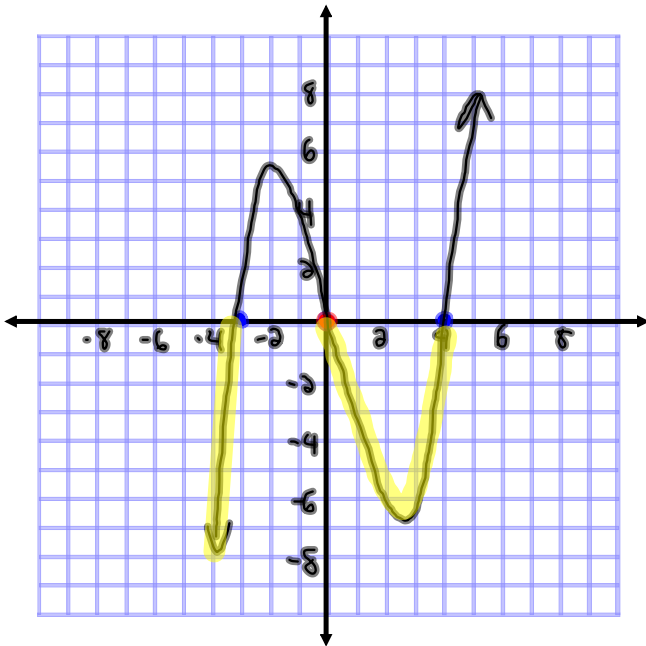
② yint (x=0)

$$y = x^3 - x^2 - 12x$$
$$y = (0)^3 - (0)^2 - 12(0)$$
$$y = 0$$

③ Stretch factor

$$y = x^3 - x^2 - 12x$$
$$a = 1$$

Starts in Q3
Ends in Q1



$$x \in (-\infty, -3] \cup [0, 4]$$

Number Line

$$x^3 - x^2 - 12x \leq 0$$

$$y = x^3 - x^2 - 12x$$

We are looking for negative y values
(See number line)

① Roots (y=0)

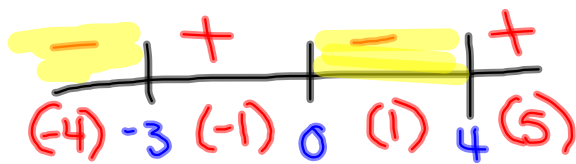
$$0 = x^3 - x^2 - 12x$$

$$0 = x(x^2 - x - 12)$$

$$0 = x(x-4)(x+3)$$

$$x = -3, 0, 4$$

②+③ Number Line / Test Values



④ State the Intervals

$$x \in (-\infty, -3] \cup [0, 4]$$

Homework

Do # 7 using a graph then using a number line

$$\textcircled{7} \text{ a) } x^3 + 5x^2 - 9x > 45$$

$$x^3 + 5x^2 - 9x - 45 > 0$$

$$y = x^3 + 5x^2 - 9x - 45$$

① Roots (y=0)

$$0 = (x^3 + 5x^2)(-9x - 45)$$

$$0 = x^2(x+5) - 9(x+5)$$

$$0 = (x+5)(x^2 - 9)$$

$$0 = (x+5)(x+3)(x-3)$$

$$x = -5, -3, 3$$