

1.5 Solving inequalities

An inequality is of the form

$$Ax + B \geq C$$

Ex: $3x - 8 \leq 5x + 3$

Reminder: compound inequality

$$\underline{a < x < b}$$

means
same
as

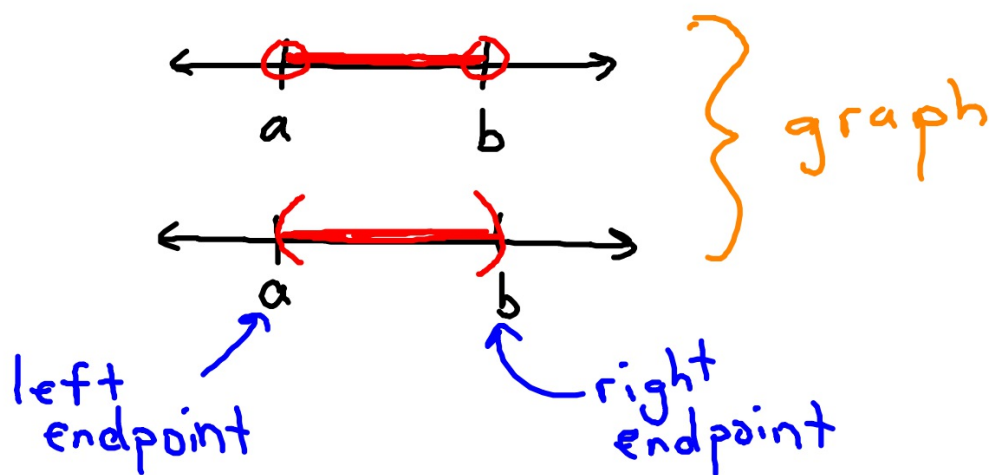
$$a < x \text{ and } x < b$$

$$x > a \text{ and } x < b$$

"intersection"

read "x is between a and b"

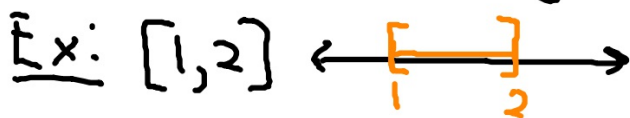
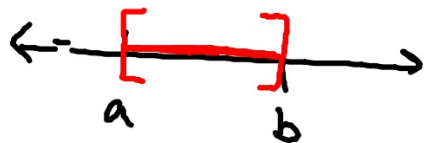
i) Open-interval: (a, b) interval notation
all real numbers between a and b
excluding endpoints a and b



$$a < x < b \text{ inequality}$$


② Closed interval: $[a, b]$

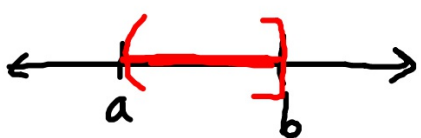
all real #s between a and b ,
including endpoints a and b .




$$a \leq x \leq b$$

③ Half-open, half-closed.

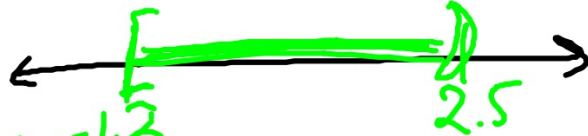
$[a, b)$  $a \leq x < b$

$(a, b]$  $a < x \leq b$

$[a, \infty)$  $x \geq a$

$(-\infty, a)$  $x < a$

Ex: Write the solution using interval notation and graph.

① $-1.3 \leq K < \frac{5}{2}$ 
 $[-1.3, 2.5)$

② $m \leq -2.6$ 
 $[-\infty, -2.6]$

③ $-6 > x$ 
 $(-\infty, -6)$

Properties for inequalities

① Non-negative property: $a^2 \geq 0$

② Addition/Subtraction property

If $a > b$, then $a + c > b + c$

If $a > b$, then $a - c > b - c$

③ Multiplication/division property

If $a > b$, then $a \cdot c > b \cdot c$

If $a > b$, then $\frac{a}{c} > \frac{b}{c}$

$c \geq 1$

true only if
 c is positive

If $a > b$, then $a \cdot c < b \cdot c$
if c is negative

Ex: $(-1) 5 > 3 (-1)$
 $-5 < -3$

Reciprocal properties ^{recip. $\frac{a}{b}$ is $\frac{b}{a}$}

① If $a > 0$, then $\frac{1}{a} > 0$

② If $a < 0$, then $\frac{1}{a} < 0$

③ If $\frac{1}{a} > 0$, then $a > 0$

④ If $\frac{1}{a} < 0$, then
 $a < 0$.

Ex: $\frac{2}{3} > 0, \frac{3}{2} > 0$