

Geometric Properties of Linear Functions

Chapter 1

Section 5

Interpreting Parameters of a Linear Function

With time, t , in years, the population of four towns P_A , P_B , P_C , and P_D are given by the following formulas: $P_A = 20,000 + 1600t$, $P_B = 50,000 - 300t$, $P_C = 650t + 45,000$, and $P_D = 15,000(1.07)^t$.

- 1) Which populations are represented by linear functions?
- 2) Describe in words what each linear model tells you about that town's population. Which town starts out with the most people? Which town is growing fastest?

The Effect of the Parameters

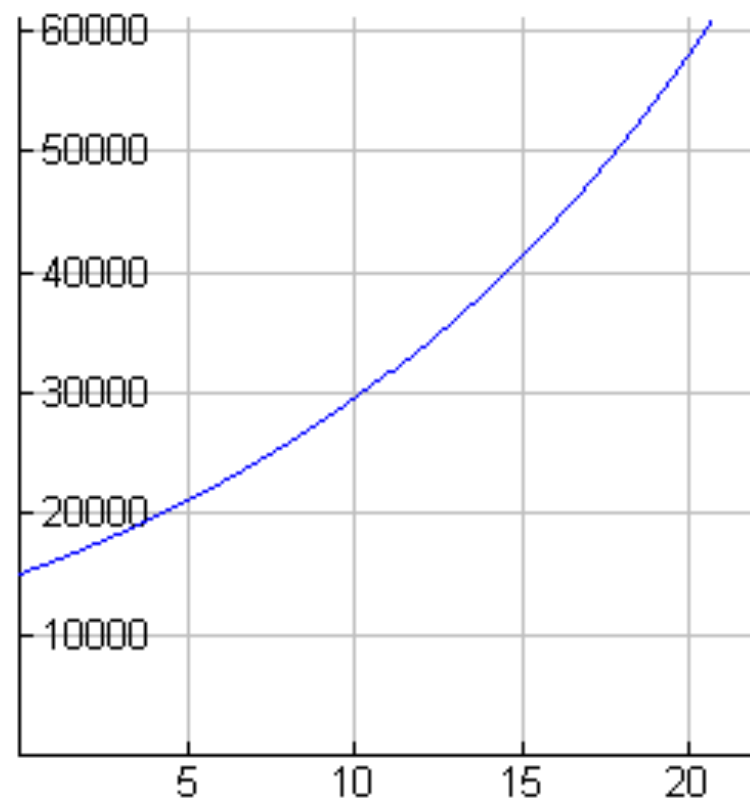
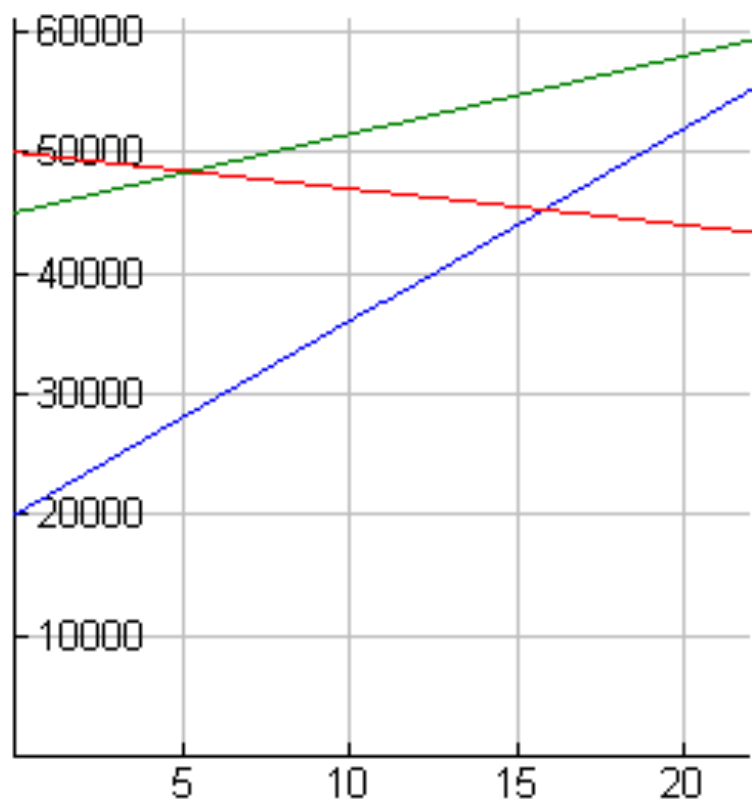
Let $y = b + mx$. Then the graph of y against x is a line.

- 1) The y -intercept, b , tells where the line crosses the y -axis.
- 2) If the slope, m , is positive, the line climbs from left to right. If the slope, m , is negative, the line falls from left to right.
- 3) The slope, m , tells how fast the line is climbing or falling.
- 4) The larger the magnitude of m (either positive or negative), the steeper the graph.

Using a Graph to Explain Population Data

$P_A = 20,000 + 1600t$, $P_B = 50,000 - 300t$, $P_C = 650t + 45,000$, and $P_D = 15,000(1.07)^t$.

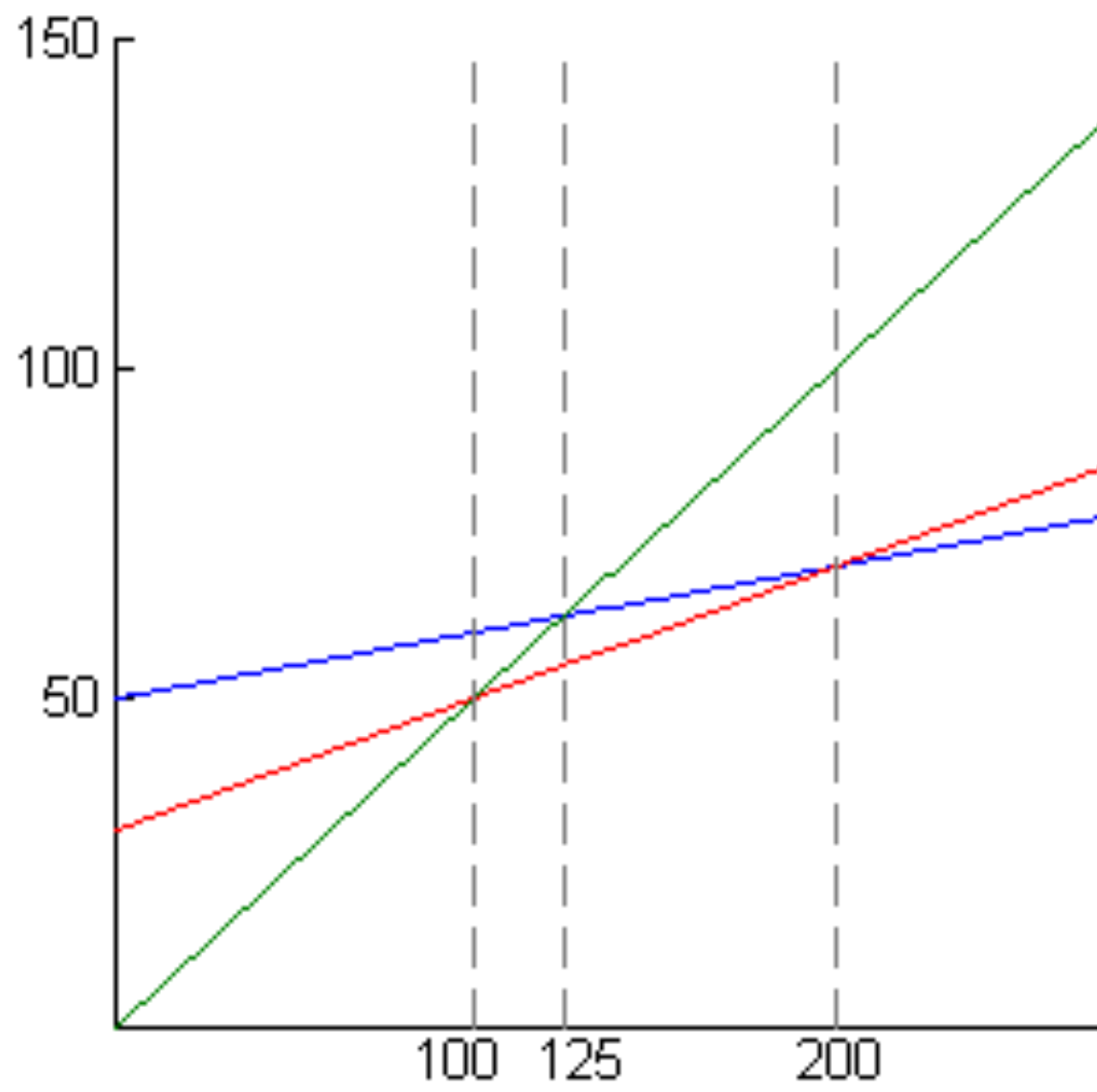
- 1) Graph P_A , P_B , and P_C and explain how to identify the values of b and m from the graph.
- 2) Graph P_D and explain how the graph shows that P_D is not a linear function.



Intersection of Two Lines

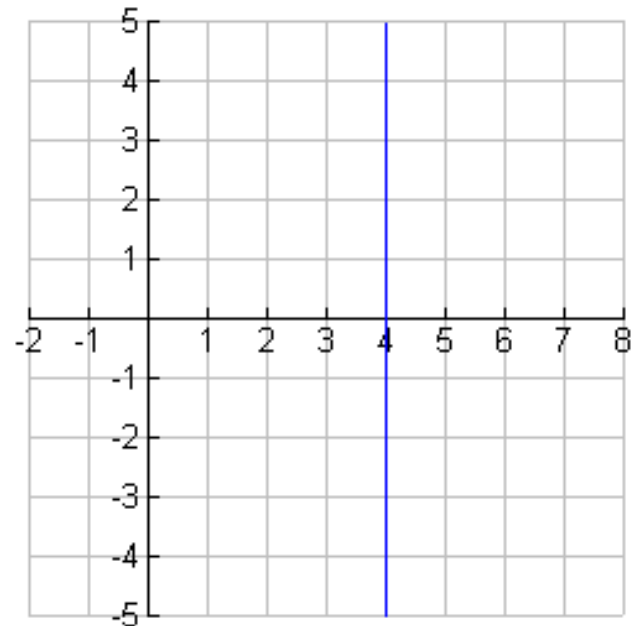
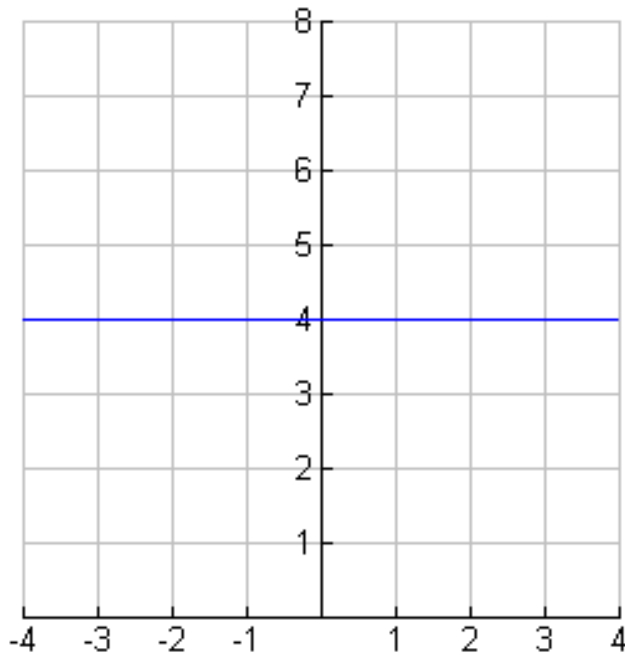
The cost in dollars of renting a car for a day from three different rental agencies and driving it d miles is given by the following functions: $C_1 = 50 + 0.10d$, $C_2 = 30 + 0.20d$, and $C_3 = 0.50d$.

- a) Describe in words the daily rental arrangements made by each of these three agencies.
- b) Which agency is cheapest?



Equations of Horizontal and Vertical Lines

Explain why the equation $y = 4$ represents a horizontal line and the equation $x = 4$ represents a vertical line.

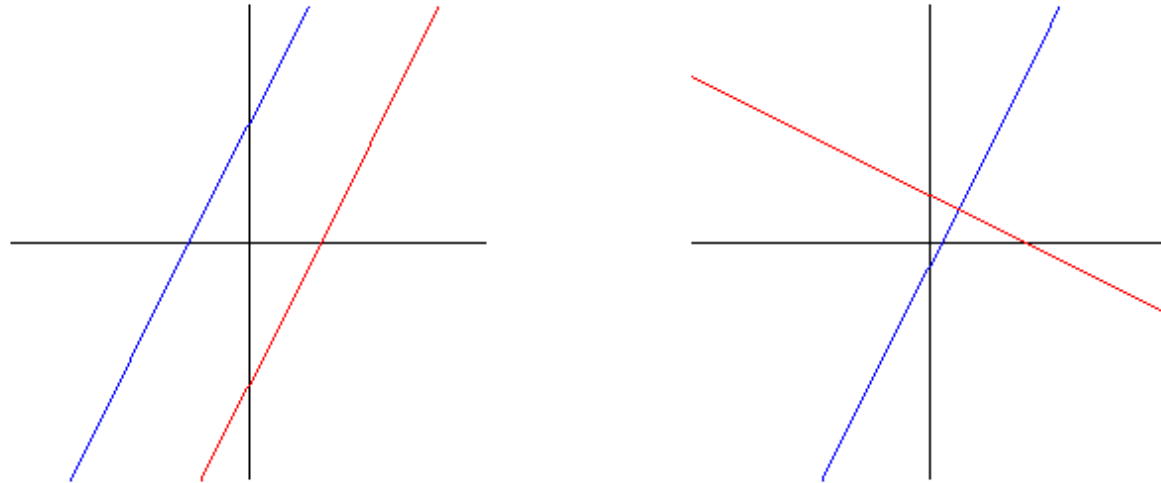


Horizontal and Vertical Summary

For any constant k :

- 1) The graph of the equation $y = k$ is a horizontal line and its slope is zero.
- 2) The graph of the equation $x = k$ is a vertical line and its slope is undefined.

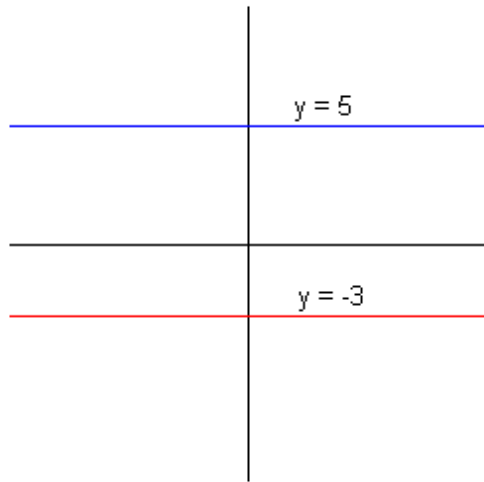
Slopes of Parallel and Perpendicular Lines



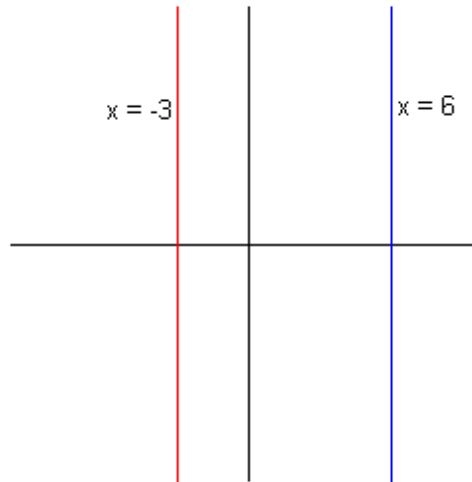
Two lines having slopes m_1 and m_2 .

- 1) The lines are parallel if and only if $m_1 = m_2$.
- 2) The lines are perpendicular if and only if $m_1 = -1/m_2$.

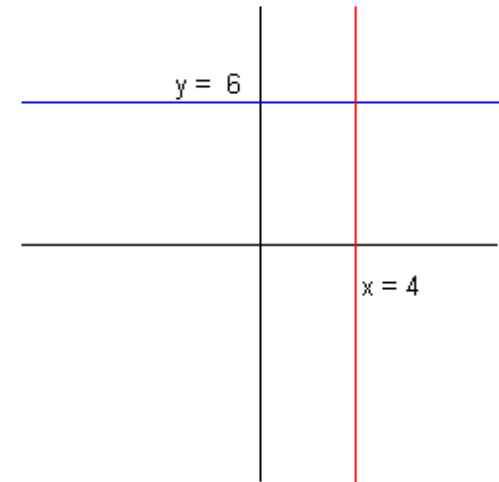
Some Observations



Any 2 horizontal lines are parallel



Any 2 vertical lines are parallel



Vertical lines are perpendicular to horizontal lines

Problem #15

Find the equations of the lines parallel to and perpendicular to the line $y + 4x = 7$, and through the point $(1, 5)$.

Problem #18

Find the equation of the line l_2 pictured to the right. Assume that l_1 and l_2 are perpendicular.

