

## Problem

Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be sets, let  $A$  and  $B$  be any subsets of  $X$ , and let  $C$  and  $D$  be any subsets of  $Y$ . Determine which of the properties are true for all functions  $F$  from  $X$  to  $Y$  and which are false for at least one function  $F$  from  $X$  to  $Y$ . Justify your answers.

Exercise

For all subsets  $C$  and  $D$  of  $Y$ ,

$$F^{-1}(C - D) = F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D).$$

## Step-by-step solution

## Step 1 of 3

Let  $F$  be a function from  $X$  to  $Y$ .

Assume that,  $C \subseteq D$  and  $D \subseteq y$  to prove,

$$F^{-1}(C - D) = F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D)$$

The proof can be divided into two parts.

$$\text{Part-1: } F^{-1}(C - D) \subseteq F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D)$$

$$\text{Part-2: } F^{-1}(C - D) \supseteq F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D)$$

## Step 2 of 3

Part -1:-

The proof of the part-1 is same as,

If  $x \in F^{-1}(C - D)$ , then  $x \in F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D)$ .

By the definition of inverse image,  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) \in C - D$

That means,  $x \in X$  such that  $f(x) \in C$  and  $f(x) \notin D$ .

By the definition of inverse image of the set,

$$x \in F^{-1}(C) \text{ and } x \notin F^{-1}(D)$$

By the definition of difference of two sets,

$$x \in F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D)$$

Hence,

$$F^{-1}(C - D) \subseteq F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D) \dots\dots (1)$$

## Step 3 of 3

Part II: -

The proof of the part-2 is same as,

If  $x \in (F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D))$ , then  $x \in F^{-1}(C - D)$ .

By the definition of difference of two sets and the inverse image,

$$x \in F^{-1}(C) \text{ and } x \notin F^{-1}(D)$$

$$F(x) \in C \text{ and } F(x) \notin D$$

By the definition of difference of two sets and the inverse image,

$$F(x) \in (C - D)$$

$$x \in F^{-1}(C - D)$$

Hence,

$$F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D) \subseteq F^{-1}(C - D). \dots\dots (2)$$

Therefore, by equation (1) and (2), it can be conclude that,

$$\boxed{F^{-1}(C - D) = F^{-1}(C) - F^{-1}(D)}.$$