

Suppose that  $f$  is an invertible function from  $Y$  to  $Z$  and  $g$  is an invertible function from  $X$  to  $Y$ . Show that the inverse of the composition  $f \circ g$  is given by  $(f \circ g)^{-1} = g^{-1} \circ f^{-1}$ .

*Proof.* Since  $f:Y \rightarrow Z$ , and  $g:X \rightarrow Y$ , it follows from the definition of composition and from the definition of function that  $\forall x \exists y \exists z ( (x \in X, y \in Y, z \in Z) \rightarrow ((f \circ g)(x) = f(y) = z) )$ .  $f$  and  $g$  are invertible, so  $\forall x \exists y \exists z ( (x \in X, y \in Y, z \in Z) \rightarrow [(f^{-1}((f \circ g)(x))) = g(x) = y \wedge (g^{-1}(y) = x)] )$ . Hence,  $\forall z \exists x ( (z \in Z, x \in X) \rightarrow g^{-1}(f^{-1}(z)) = x )$ , and by the definition of composition,  $g^{-1}(f^{-1}) = g^{-1} \circ f^{-1}$ .

$(f \circ g)^{-1}((f \circ g)(x)) = \iota_x$ . Since  $\forall x ( \iota_x(x) = (g^{-1} \circ f^{-1})(x) = x )$ , it follows that  $\iota_x = g^{-1} \circ f^{-1}$ .

$\therefore (f \circ g)^{-1} = g^{-1} \circ f^{-1}$  ■