

3.4 Images and inverse images

Exercise 3.4.1

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a bijective function, and let $f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$ be its inverse. Let V be any subset of Y . Prove that the forward image of V under f^{-1} is the same set as the inverse image of V under f ; thus the fact that both sets are denoted by $f^{-1}(V)$ will not lead to any inconsistency.

Proof. Suppose $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a bijective function, and $f^{-1}: Y \rightarrow X$ is its inverse, where V is any subset of Y . Let $f^{-1}(V)$ denote the inverse image of V , and let $(f^{-1})(V)$ denote the forward image of V under f^{-1} . We define

$$f^{-1}(V) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in V\}$$

$$(f^{-1})(V) = \{f^{-1}(y) \mid y \in V\}$$

1. First we show $f^{-1}(V) \subseteq (f^{-1})(V)$.
2. Let $z \in f^{-1}(V)$.
3. Then $z \in X$ and $f(z) \in V$.
4. Since f is bijective, for all y in $V \subseteq Y$, $y = f(x) = f(f^{-1}(y))$.
5. Thus $f(z) \in V \implies z \in V$.
6. Since f is bijective, for all x in X , $x = f^{-1}(y) = f^{-1}(f(x))$.
7. Thus $z \in X \implies z = f^{-1}(y)$.

□

Exercise 3.4.2

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a function from one set X to another set Y , let S be a subset of X , and let U be a subset of Y .

a. What, in general, can one say about $f^{-1}(f(S))$ and S ?

Answer. S is a subset of $f^{-1}(f(S))$, but S may not be equal to $f^{-1}(f(S))$.

Proof. (informal) Let x be an element of X . We have $f(S) = \{f(x) \mid x \in S\}$, and therefore $f^{-1}(f(S)) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in f(S)\}$.

Suppose $x \in S$, then $x \in X$ and $f(x) \in f(S)$, thus $x \in f^{-1}(f(S))$ for all $x \in S$, so S is a subset of $f^{-1}(f(S))$. Now instead suppose $x \notin S$. Since we have not stated that f is injective, it is still possible that $f(x) \in f(S)$. Once again $x \in X$ and $f(x) \in f(S)$, thus for some x not in S , x may still be in $x \in f^{-1}(f(S))$. Thus $f^{-1}(f(S))$ may contain more members of X than S does, so they may not be equal. \square

b. What about $f(f^{-1}(U))$ and U ?

Answer. $f(f^{-1}(U))$ is a subset of U , but the two sets may not be equal.

Proof. (informal) Let x be an element of X . We have $f^{-1}(U) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in U\}$. Then $f(f^{-1}(U)) = \{f(x) \mid x \in f^{-1}(U)\}$. Since f is not stated to be surjective, there may be some y in U for which $y \neq f(x)$ for all x . So when we take the forward image of $f^{-1}(U)$, every element of $f^{-1}(U)$ is in U , but there may be some y in U that are not in $f^{-1}(U)$. \square

c. What about $f^{-1}(f(f^{-1}(U)))$ and $f^{-1}(U)$?

Answer.

Proof. (informal) As before we have $f^{-1}(U) = \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in U\}$, and $f(f^{-1}(U)) = \{f(x) \mid x \in f^{-1}(U)\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1}(f(f^{-1}(U))) &= \{x \in X \mid f(f^{-1}(U)) \in U\} \\ &= x \in X \text{ and } f(f^{-1}(U)) \in U \\ &= x \in X \text{ and } \{f(x) \mid x \in f^{-1}(U)\} \in U \\ &= x \in X \text{ and } (\exists x \text{ such that } y = f(x) \text{ and } x \in f^{-1}(U)) \in U \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} f^{-1}(f(f^{-1}(U))) &= \{x \in X \mid f(f^{-1}(U)) \in U\} \\ &= \{x \in X \mid \{f(x) \mid x \in f^{-1}(U)\} \in U\} \\ &= \{x \in X \mid \{f(x) \mid x \in \{x \in X \mid f(x) \in U\}\} \in U\} \\ &= (x \in X) \text{ and } (f(x) \text{ is true and } (x \in (x \in X \text{ and } f(x) \in U)) \in U). \\ &= x \in X \text{ and } f(x) \in U \text{ (incomplete)} \end{aligned}$$

(good lord...)

\square

Exercise 3.4.3

Let A, B be two subsets of a set X , and let $f : X \rightarrow Y$ be a function. Show that

a. $f(A \cap B) \subseteq f(A) \cap f(B)$,

Proof. We prove this statement by showing every element of $f(A \cap B)$ is an element of $f(A) \cap f(B)$.

1. Let y be an arbitrary element of $f(A \cap B)$.
2. $A \subseteq X$ and $B \subseteq X \implies A \cap B \subseteq X$.
3. By definition the image of $A \cap B$ under f is $\{f(x) \mid x \in A \cap B\}$.
4. By the axiom of replacement (3.7) $y = f(x)$ for some $x \in A \cap B$.
5. $x \in A \cap B \implies x \in A$
6. $y = f(x)$ for some $x \in A$
7. $x \in A \cap B \implies x \in B$
8. $y = f(x)$ for some $x \in B$
9. $y = f(x)$ for some $x \in A$ and $y = f(x)$ for some $x \in B$
10. $y \in \{f(x) \mid x \in A\}$ and $y \in \{f(x) \mid x \in B\}$
11. $y \in f(A) \cap f(B)$, as desired.

□

b. $f(A) \setminus f(B) \subseteq f(A \setminus B)$,

Proof. We prove this statement by showing every element of $f(A) \setminus f(B)$ is an element of $f(A \setminus B)$.

1. Let $y \in f(A) \setminus f(B)$ be arbitrary. Conditional introduction
2. $y \in f(A)$ and $y \notin f(B)$.
3. $\exists x \in A \ y = f(x)$
4. Suppose x such that $x \in A$ and $y = f(x)$
 - 4.1. $x \in A$
 - 4.2. $y = f(x)$
 - 4.3. $\forall z \in B \ y \neq f(z)$
 - 4.4. $\forall z \ z \in B \implies y \neq f(z)$
 - 4.5. $\forall z \ y = f(z) \implies z \notin B$
 - 4.6. $y = f(x) \implies x \notin B$
 - 4.7. $x \notin B$
 - 4.8. $x \in A$, $x \notin B$, and $y = f(x)$.
 - 4.9. $y = f(x)$ and $x \in A \setminus B$.
- 4.10. $y \in \{y \mid y = f(x) \text{ for } x \in A \setminus B\}$.
5. $y \in f(A \setminus B)$ Existential elimination
6. $y \in f(A) \setminus f(B) \implies y \in f(A \setminus B)$ Conditional elimination

Thus $f(A) \setminus f(B) \subseteq f(A \setminus B)$. □

c. $f(A \cup B) = f(A) \cup f(B)$.

Proof. We prove this statement by showing every element of $f(A \cup B)$ is an element of $f(A) \cup f(B)$ and vice versa. First we do the forward direction:

1. Let $y \in f(A \cup B)$ be arbitrary.
2. $A \in X$
3. $B \in X$
4. $A \cup B \in X$

5. $y \in \{f(x) \mid x \in A \cup B\}$
6. $\exists x$ such that $x \in A \cup B$ and $y = f(x)$
7. Suppose x such that $x \in A \cup B$ and $y = f(x)$
 - 7.1. $y = f(x)$
 - 7.2. $x \in A \cup B$
 - 7.3. $x \in A$ or $x \in B$
 - 7.4. $(x \in A \text{ and } y = f(x)) \text{ or } (x \in B \text{ and } y = f(x))$
 - 7.4.1. test
 - 7.5. $y \in \{f(x) \mid x \in A\} \text{ or } y \in \{y = f(x) \mid x \in B\}$
 - 7.6. $y \in f(A) \text{ or } y \in f(B)$
 - 7.7. $y \in f(A) \cup f(B)$
8. $y \in f(A \cup B) \implies y \in f(A) \cup f(B)$
9. $f(A \cup B) \subseteq f(A) \cup f(B)$

Now in the backwards direction.

1. Let $y \in f(A) \cup f(B)$ be arbitrary.
2. $y \in f(A) \text{ or } y \in f(B)$
3. Case $y \in f(A)$
 - 3.1. $y \in \{f(x) \mid x \in A\}$
 - 3.2. $\exists x$ such that $(x \in A \text{ and } y = f(x))$
 - 3.3. Suppose x such that $(x \in A \text{ and } y = f(x))$
 - 3.3.1. $x \in A \text{ and } y = f(x)$
4. Case $y \in f(B)$
 - 4.1. $y \in \{y = f(x) \mid x \in B\}$
 - 4.2. $\exists x$ such that $(x \in B \text{ and } y = f(x))$
 - 4.3. Suppose x such that $(x \in B \text{ and } y = f(x))$
 - 4.3.1. $x \in B \text{ and } y = f(x)$
5. $(x \in B \text{ and } y = f(x)) \text{ or } (x \in A \text{ and } y = f(x))$
6. $y = f(x) \text{ and } (x \in A \text{ or } x \in B)$
7. $y = f(x) \text{ and } (x \in A \cup B)$
8. $y \in \{fx \mid x \in A \cup B\}$
9. $y \in f(A) \cup f(B) \implies y \in \{f(x) \mid x \in A \cup B\}$
10. $f(A) \cup f(B) \subseteq f(A \cup B)$

Distributivity

Thus we have $f(A \cup B) = f(A) \cup f(B)$. □

For the first two statements, is it true that the \subseteq relation can be improved to $=$?

Answer.

Proof. I want to first try to prove $f(A \cap B) = f(A) \cap f(B)$. Since I already have $f(A \cap B) \subseteq f(A) \cap f(B)$, I just need $f(A) \cap f(B) \subseteq f(A \cap B)$.

1. Suppose $y \in f(A) \cap f(B)$
2. $y \in f(A) \text{ and } y \in f(B)$

3. $y \in \{ f(x) \mid x \in A \}$
4. $\exists x$ st. $y = f(x)$ and $x \in A$
5. Suppose x st. $y = f(x)$ and $x \in A$
6. $y \in \{ f(x) \mid x \in B \}$
7. $\exists x$ st. $y = f(x)$ and $x \in A$

Next I'm going to try to prove $f(A) \setminus f(B) = f(A \setminus B)$. I already have $f(A) \setminus f(B) \subseteq f(A \setminus B)$ and I just need $f(A \setminus B) \subseteq f(A) \setminus f(B)$.

1. Suppose $y \in f(A \setminus B)$.
2. $\exists x$ such that $y = f(x)$ and $x \in A \setminus B$.
3. Suppose x such that $y = f(x)$ and $x \in A \setminus B$.
 - 3.1. $y = f(x)$
 - 3.2. $x \in A \setminus B$
 - 3.3. $x \in A$ and $x \notin B$
 - 3.4. $y = f(x)$ and $x \in A$
 - 3.5. $y \in \{ f(x) \mid x \in A \}$
 - 3.6. $y \in f(A)$
 - 3.7. $y = f(x)$ and $x \notin B$
 - 3.8. $y \in \{ f(x) \mid x \notin B \}$ (not useful!)

not sure where to go from here

□

Exercise 3.4.5

Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a function from one set X to another set Y .

- a. Show that $f(f^{-1}(S)) = S$ for every $S \subseteq Y$ if and only if f is surjective.

Proof.

□

- b. Show that $f^{-1}(f(S)) = S$ for every $S \subseteq X$ if and only if f is injective.

Proof.

□

Exercise 3.4.6

- a. Prove Lemma 3.4.10. (Hint: start with the set $\{0, 1\}^X$ and apply the replacement axiom, replacing each function f with the object $f^{-1}(\{1\})$. See also Exercise 3.5.11.)

(Lemma 3.4.10): Let X be a set. Then the set $\{ Y \mid Y \text{ is a subset of } X \}$ is a set. That is to say, there exists a set Z such that $Y \in Z \iff Y \subseteq X$.

Proof. We need to prove $\{Y \mid Y \subseteq X\}$ exists. We construct a set that we know exists, and then prove that it is equal to $\{Y \mid Y \subseteq X\}$.

1. Let X be an arbitrary set.
2. Let F be the set $\{0, 1\}^X$
3. $f \in F \iff f : X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ power set axiom
4. Let $P(f, a)$ such that $P(f, a) \iff a = f^{-1}(\{1\})$
5. Let Z be the set $\{a \mid P(f, a) \text{ is true for some } f \in F\}$
6. $z \in Z \iff P(f, z) \text{ is true for some } f \in F$. axiom of replacement
7. Suppose $Y \in Z$.
 - 7.1. $P(f, Y)$ is true for some $f \in F$ 5
 - 7.2. Suppose $g \in F$ such that $P(g, Y)$
 - 7.2.1. $Y = g^{-1}(\{1\})$ 3
 - 7.2.2. $Y \subseteq X$ def of inverse image
 - 7.3. $Y \subseteq X$
8. $\forall Y, Y \in Z \implies Y \subseteq X$
9. Suppose $Y \subseteq X$.
 - 9.1. Let $g : X \rightarrow \{0, 1\} = x \mapsto 1 \text{ for } x \in Y \text{ and } x \mapsto 0 \text{ otherwise.}$
 - 9.2. $g \in F$ 3
 - 9.3. $Y = g^{-1}(\{1\})$ 7.5.1
 - 9.4. $P(g, Y)$ 4
 - 9.5. $Y \in Z$ 6
10. $\forall Y, Y \subseteq X \implies Y \in Z$
11. $\forall z, z \in Z \iff z \subseteq X$. axiom of set equality
12. $Z = \{Y \mid Y \subseteq X\}$
13. $\{Y \mid Y \subseteq X\}$ is a set.

Let X be arbitrary. We need to prove $\{Y \mid Y \subseteq X\}$ exists. Let's proceed by creating a valid set and proving it is equal to $\{Y \mid Y \subseteq X\}$. Let F be the power set $\{0, 1\}^X$. Let Z be the set $\{a \mid P(f, a) \text{ is true for some } f \in F\}$, where $P(f, a)$ is $a = f^{-1}(\{1\})$. In order to show $Z = \{Y \mid Y \subseteq X\}$, we need to show $z \in Z \iff z \subseteq X$ is true. We will first prove the forward direction

Suppose $Y \in Z$. Then by the axiom of specification $P(f, Y)$ is true for some $f \in F$. Choose $g \in F$ such that $P(g, Y)$ is true. Then $Y = g^{-1}(\{1\})$. Since by definition $g^{-1}(\{1\})$ is in X , $Y \subseteq X$.

Conversely suppose $Y \subseteq X$. Let $g : X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ be the function $x \mapsto 1$ for $x \in Y$ and $x \mapsto 0$ otherwise. Since every function $X \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ is in F , g is in F . Since $x \mapsto 1$ for $x \in Y$, we know $Y = g^{-1}(\{1\})$, which means $P(g, Y)$ is true, and thus $Y \in Z$.

We've proved $Y \in Z \iff Y \subseteq X$, so $Z = \{Y \mid Y \subseteq X\}$ is true, and since Z exists, $\{Y \mid Y \subseteq X\}$ exists. □

- b. Conversely, show that Axiom 3.11 can be deduced from the preceding axioms of set theory if one accepts Lemma 3.4.10 as an axiom. (This may help explain why we refer to Axiom 3.11 as the "power set axiom".)**

Proof. □

Exercise 3.4.7

Let X, Y be sets. Define a partial function from X to Y to be any function $f : X' \rightarrow Y'$ whose domain X' is a subset of X , and whose codomain Y' is a subset of Y . Show that the collection of all partial functions from X to Y is itself a set. (Hint: use Exercise 3.4.6, the power set axiom, the replacement axiom, and the union axiom.)

Proof. We wish to show that $Y'^{X'}$ defined as $\{f' \mid f' : X' \rightarrow Y'\}$ exists.

1. Let X, Y be arbitrary sets.
2. For $X' \subseteq X$ and $Y' \subseteq Y$, $f' : X' \rightarrow Y'$
3. $\{f \mid f : X \rightarrow Y\}$ is a set. power set axiom
4. $\{X' \mid X' \subseteq X\}$ is a set. Lemma 3.4.10, see above
5. $\{Y' \mid Y' \subseteq Y\}$ is a set. Lemma 3.4.10, see above
- 6.
7. $\{f' \mid f' : X' \rightarrow Y\}$ is a set.
8. $\{f' \mid f' : X \rightarrow Y'\}$ is a set.
9. $\{f' \mid f' : X' \rightarrow Y\} \cup \{f' \mid f' : X \rightarrow Y'\}$ is a set. union axiom
10. $\forall a, a \in \{f' \mid f' : X' \rightarrow Y\} \cup \{f' \mid f' : X \rightarrow Y'\} \iff a \in X' \rightarrow Y \text{ and } a \in X \rightarrow Y'$ axiom of replacement
11. $a \in X' \rightarrow Y'$
12. $a \in \{f' \mid f' : X' \rightarrow Y'\}$ axiom of replacement
13. $\{f' \mid f' : X' \rightarrow Y'\}$ is a set.

□

not proved :(

Exercise 3.4.9

Show that if β and β' are two elements of a set I , and to each $\alpha \in I$ we assign a set A_α , then

$$\{x \in A_\beta : x \in A_\alpha \text{ for all } \alpha \in I\} = \{x \in A_{\beta'} : x \in A_\alpha \text{ for all } \alpha \in I\},$$

and so the definition of $\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha$ defined in (3.3) does not depend on β .

Proof.

□

Also explain why (3.4) is true.

Proof.

□

Exercise 3.4.10

Suppose that I and J are two sets, and for all $\alpha \in I \cup J$ let A_α be a set. Show that

$$\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha \cup \bigcup_{\alpha \in J} A_\alpha = \bigcup_{\alpha \in I \cup J} A_\alpha.$$

Proof. We need to show that every element of $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha \cup \bigcup_{\alpha \in J} A_\alpha$ is also in $\bigcup_{\alpha \in I \cup J} A_\alpha$ and vice versa. We begin in the forward direction.

1.

Now in reverse:

1.

□

If I and J are non-empty, show that

$$\bigcap_{\alpha \in I} A_\alpha \cap \bigcap_{\alpha \in J} A_\alpha = \bigcap_{\alpha \in I \cup J} A_\alpha.$$

Proof.

□