

Determine all functions $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that

$$f(x - f(y)) = f(f(y)) + xf(y) + f(x) - 1$$

for all real numbers x, y .

i) let $x = f(0)$ and $f(0) = k$

$$f(-k) = f(k) + k - 1$$

$$f(k) = f(-k) + k - 1$$

$$\therefore k = 1$$

ii) let $x = f(y)$

$$f(0) = f(y) + y^2 + f(y) - 1$$

$$f(y) = \frac{y^2 - 1 - k}{2}$$

$f(y)$ is even ($\because f(y) = f(-y)$)

$$\therefore f(k) = f(1-k)$$

$$f(y) = \frac{2 - y^2}{2}$$

$$f(x - f(y)) = f(f(y)) + xf(y) + f(x) - 1$$

$$\text{LHS: } f\left(x - \frac{2 - y^2}{2}\right) = \frac{2 - \left(x - \frac{2 - y^2}{2}\right)^2}{2} = \cancel{\frac{x^2 - x(2 - y^2) + \frac{y^4 - 4y^2 + 4}{4}}{2}}$$

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$$\text{RHS: } 2 \cdot \frac{\left(\frac{2 - y^2}{2}\right)^2}{2} + x \cdot \frac{2 - y^2}{2} + \frac{2 - x^2}{2} - 1 = \cancel{\frac{y^4 - 4y^2 + 4}{2}} + \cancel{\frac{2x - xy^2}{2}} + \cancel{\frac{2 - x^2}{2}} + \cancel{1 - \frac{1}{2}}$$