

Direct Proof and Counterexample 6: Floor and Ceiling

Floor of x :

$$\lfloor x \rfloor \geq n \Leftrightarrow n \leq x < n+1$$

$$x \in \mathbb{R}, n \in \mathbb{Z}$$

Ceiling of x :

$$\lceil x \rceil = n \Leftrightarrow n-1 < x \leq n$$

For x :

$$\left\lfloor \frac{25}{4} \right\rfloor = \lfloor 6.25 \rfloor = 6$$

$$\lceil 6.25 \rceil = 7$$

Theorems:

1) For every real number x and every integer m ,
$$\lfloor x+m \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + m$$

2) For any integer n ,

$$\left\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \right\rfloor = \begin{cases} n/2 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \\ \frac{n-1}{2} & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \end{cases}$$

3) If n is any integer and d is positive integer, and if $q = \lfloor n/d \rfloor$ and $r = n - d \cdot \lfloor \frac{n}{d} \rfloor$ then,
$$n = dq + r \text{ and } 0 \leq r < d$$

Problems:

1) To prove,

$$\forall x \in \mathbb{R}, \lfloor x-1 \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor - 1$$

$$\text{Let } \lfloor x \rfloor = n$$

$$n \leq x < n+1$$

$$n-1 \leq x-1 < n$$

$$\lfloor x-1 \rfloor = n-1$$

$$\text{Since, } n = \lfloor x \rfloor$$

$$\lfloor x-1 \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor - 1$$

Hence, proved.