

**Lemma 1.** Suppose  $\lfloor x \rfloor = \lfloor n + \psi \rfloor$  where  $n \in \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $n \leq x < n + 1$ , and  $\psi \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $0 \leq \psi < 1$ . Then  $\lfloor x \rfloor = n + \lfloor \psi \rfloor = n + 0 = n$ .

**Theorem 1.** Let  $x$  be a real number. Then  $\lfloor 3x \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor$ .

*Proof.* There are three cases under consideration for this proof.

(i) :  $0 \leq \psi < \frac{1}{3}$ .

In this case we find that  $0 \leq 3\psi < 1$ ,  $\frac{1}{3} \leq \psi + \frac{1}{3} < \frac{2}{3}$ , and  $\frac{2}{3} \leq \psi + \frac{2}{3} < 1$ . Thus,  $\lfloor 3\psi \rfloor = 0$ ,  $\lfloor \psi + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor = 0$ , and  $\lfloor \psi + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor = 0$ . Consequently,  $\lfloor 3x \rfloor = 3n + 0$ ,  $\lfloor x + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor = n + 0$ , and  $\lfloor x + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor = n + 0$ . By Lemma 1,  $\lfloor x \rfloor = n$ . Since  $3n + 0 = n + (n + 0) + (n + 0)$ , it follows that  $\lfloor 3x \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor$ , if  $0 \leq \psi < \frac{1}{3}$ .

(ii) :  $\frac{1}{3} \leq \psi < \frac{2}{3}$ .

In this case we find that  $1 \leq 3\psi < 2$ ,  $\frac{2}{3} \leq \psi + \frac{1}{3} < 1$ , and  $1 \leq \psi + \frac{2}{3} < 1\frac{1}{3}$ . Thus,  $\lfloor 3\psi \rfloor = 1$ ,  $\lfloor \psi + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor = 0$ , and  $\lfloor \psi + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor = 1$ . Consequently,  $\lfloor 3x \rfloor = 3n + 1$ ,  $\lfloor x + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor = n + 0$ , and  $\lfloor x + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor = n + 1$ . By Lemma 1,  $\lfloor x \rfloor = n$ . Since  $3n + 1 = n + (n + 0) + (n + 1)$ , it follows that  $\lfloor 3x \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor$ , if  $\frac{1}{3} \leq \psi < \frac{2}{3}$ .

(iii) :  $\frac{2}{3} \leq \psi < 1$ .

In this case we find that  $2 \leq 3\psi < 3$ ,  $1 \leq \psi + \frac{1}{3} < 1\frac{1}{3}$ , and  $1\frac{1}{3} \leq \psi + \frac{2}{3} < 1\frac{2}{3}$ . Thus,  $\lfloor 3\psi \rfloor = 2$ ,  $\lfloor \psi + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor = 1$ , and  $\lfloor \psi + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor = 1$ . Consequently,  $\lfloor 3x \rfloor = 3n + 2$ ,  $\lfloor x + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor = n + 1$ , and  $\lfloor x + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor = n + 1$ . By Lemma 1,  $\lfloor x \rfloor = n$ . Since  $3n + 2 = n + (n + 1) + (n + 1)$ , it follows that  $\lfloor 3x \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor$ , if  $\frac{2}{3} \leq \psi < 1$ .

The theorem is true  $\forall \psi \in [0, 1)$   $\therefore$  If  $x = n + \psi \in \mathbb{R}$ , then  $\lfloor 3x \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{1}{3} \rfloor + \lfloor x + \frac{2}{3} \rfloor$ . ■