

Prove that $\lceil x \rceil + \lceil y \rceil - \lceil x + y \rceil = (0 \vee 1)$, whenever x and y are real numbers.

Proof. There are three cases under consideration: $(x \oplus y) \in \mathbb{Z}$, $(x \wedge y) \in \mathbb{Z}$, and $(x \wedge y) \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Z}$.

Suppose the case $(x \oplus y) \in \mathbb{Z}$, and $x \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $y \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Z}$, and $\lceil y \rceil = \lceil n + \epsilon \rceil$ where $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $n < y < n + 1$, and $\epsilon \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $0 < \epsilon < 1$. It follows that $\lceil x \rceil + \lceil y \rceil - \lceil x + y \rceil = (x + n + 1) - (x + n + 1) = 0$. Without loss of generality, this holds whenever $x, y = y, x$.

Suppose the case that $x, y \in \mathbb{Z}$. Then $\lceil y \rceil = \lceil n + \epsilon \rceil$ where $n, \epsilon \in \mathbb{Z}$ such that $y = n$, and $\epsilon = 0$. It follows that $\lceil x \rceil + \lceil y \rceil - \lceil x + y \rceil = (x + n + 0) - (x + n + 0) = 0$.

Now consider the case where $(x \wedge y) \in \mathbb{R} - \mathbb{Z}$. This means that $\lceil x \rceil + \lceil y \rceil - \lceil x + y \rceil = \lceil m + \epsilon \rceil + \lceil n + \sigma \rceil - \lceil m + n + \epsilon + \sigma \rceil$, where $m, n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $\epsilon, \sigma \in \mathbb{R}$, such that $m < x < m + 1$, $n < y < n + 1$, $0 < \epsilon < 1$, and $0 < \sigma < 1$. Within this case, there are two cases to consider: $\epsilon + \sigma > 1$, and $\epsilon + \sigma \leq 1$.

If $\epsilon + \sigma > 1$, then $\lceil m + \epsilon \rceil + \lceil n + \sigma \rceil - \lceil m + n + \epsilon + \sigma \rceil = (m + 1) + (n + 1) - (m + n + 2) = 0$.
Because $\lceil \epsilon + \sigma \rceil = 2$, whenever $\epsilon + \sigma > 1$.

If $\epsilon + \sigma \leq 1$, then $\lceil m + \epsilon \rceil + \lceil n + \sigma \rceil - \lceil m + n + \epsilon + \sigma \rceil = (m + 1) + (n + 1) - (m + n + 1) = 1$.
Because $\lceil \epsilon + \sigma \rceil = 1$, whenever $\epsilon + \sigma \leq 1$.

$\therefore \lceil x \rceil + \lceil y \rceil - \lceil x + y \rceil = (0 \vee 1)$, whenever x and y are real numbers. ■