

**Theorem (3.2.1f).** *Let  $f$  be the function defined by  $f(x) = \lceil \frac{x}{2} \rceil$ .  $f(x)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(x)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $g$  be the function defined by  $g(x) = x$ . By the properties for ceiling functions there exists an integer  $\lceil \frac{x}{2} \rceil = n$  such that  $(2n-2) < x \leq 2n$ . Clearly,  $n \leq (2n-2)$  for all  $n \geq 2$ . Also,  $n = \lceil \frac{x}{2} \rceil \geq 2$  whenever  $x > 2$ . So we have  $\lceil \frac{x}{2} \rceil \leq (2n-2) < x$ , for all  $x > 2$ . From that, obviously  $\lceil \frac{x}{2} \rceil \leq x$ , for all  $x > 2$ , and since  $x > 2$  we know that  $|\lceil \frac{x}{2} \rceil| \leq 1|x|$  holds. By the definitions for  $f$  and  $g$  that is,  $|f(x)| \leq 1|g(x)|$ , for all  $x > 2$ . Therefore  $f(x)$  is  $\mathcal{O}(x)$  with constant witnesses  $C = 1$ , and  $k = 2$ . ■