

# Number Theory

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## **THIS DOCUMENT COVERS**

- ◆ Definitions
  - ◆ Factors, Divisibility and modulo arithmetic
  - ◆ Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic
  - ◆ HCF/LCM
  - ◆ Euclids Algorithm
  - ◆ Floor Ceiling Functions
-

## Factors, divisibility and Modulo arithmetic

## Definitions

Divisor

If  $p|q$  we say  $p$  is a *factor* or *divisor* of  $q$  and  $q$  is *divisible* by  $p$ .  $P$  is a multiple of  $q$

Fundamental theorem of Arithmetic

Any integer can be expressed as the product of prime factors  $x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$

Highest Common Factor

The highest number that is a divisor of two number. Given two integers  $x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$ , and  $y = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$  we can calculate the highest common factor as  $hcm(x, y) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n)}$

Lowest Common Multiple

The lowest number which is a multiple of two numbers

Relating HCM and LCM

$$lcm(x, y) = \frac{x \times y}{hcf(x, y)}$$

Euclids Algorithm

$$gcd(a, b) = gcd(b, a \% b) \#(10)$$

Floor

$$floor : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

$$floor(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor = \max\{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a \leq x\}$$

Ceiling

$$ceiling : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

$$ceiling(x) = \lceil x \rceil = \max\{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a \leq x\}$$

# Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic

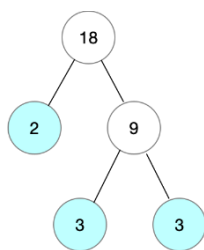
Any integer is either prime itself or can be expressed as a product of prime factors

$$x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$$

Where  $p_1 \dots p_n$  are successive primes and  $a_1 \dots a_n$  are powers of that prime. For any given  $p$ , the corresponding  $a$  can be zero. We can find the prime factors of any given number by continually dividing through. The following shows how to extract the prime factors of 18

$$18 = 2^1 \times 3^2$$

Figure 1 Prime Factorisation of 18



## Testing for Primes

### NAÏVE IMPLEMENTATION

The following naïve implementation is  $O(n)$

```
public static bool IsPrimeNaive(int n)
{
    if (n <= 1) return false;

    for (int i = 2; i < n; i++)
    {
        if (n % i == 0)
            return false;
    }
    return true;
}
```

## SIMPLE OPTIMISATION

We can optimise our naïve algorithm by observing that we only need to test factors up to  $\sqrt{n}$  for the simple reason that any factors greater than  $\sqrt{n}$  must have a corresponding factor less than  $\sqrt{n}$  that we will have already tested by the time we get to  $\sqrt{n}$

```
// Question: Write a is prime with square root optimisation
public bool IsPrimeUsingSquareRoot(int n)
{
    if (n < 2)
        return false;

    if (n == 2)
        return true;

    // The definition of a prime is an integer x
    // which is not exactly divisible by any
    // number other than itself and one. If a
    // number x is not prime it can be written as
    // the product of two factors a x b. If both
    // a and b were greater than the square root of
    // x then a x b would also be greater than x and hence
    // a x b is not x. SO testing all factors up to floor(root(x))
    // is sufficient as if one factor is floor(root(x)) the other factor must
    // be less than that

    // hence test the n-2 integers from
    // 2,..., Floor(Root(N))
    return Enumerable.Range(2, (int)Math.Floor(Math.Sqrt(n)))
        .All(i => n % i > 0);
}
```

# Questions – Fundamental Theorem of Arithmetic

## IS PRIME NAÏVE

**Calculate is prime using simple brute force. What is the runtime?**

The following naïve implementation is  $O(n)$

```
public static bool IsPrimeNaive(int n)
{
    if (n <= 1) return false;

    for (int i = 2; i < n; i++)
    {
        if (n % i == 0)
            return false;
    }
    return true;
}
```

*The runtime is  $O(N)$*

## IS PRIME SIMPLE OPTIMISATION

**Optimise it. What is the runtime?**

```
public bool IsPrimeUsingSquareRoot(int n)
{
    if (n < 2)
        return false;

    if (n == 2)
        return true;

    // The definition of a prime is an integer x
    // which is not exactly divisible by any
    // number other than itself and one. If a
    // number x is not prime it can be written as
    // the product of two factors a x b. If both
    // a and b were greater than the square root of
    // x then a x b would also be greater than x and hence
    // a x b is not x. SO testing all factors up to floor(root(x))
    // is sufficient as if one factor is floor(root(x)) the other factor must
    // be less than that

    // hence test the n-2 integers from
    // 2,..., Floor(Root(N))
    return Enumerable.Range(2, (int)Math.Floor(Math.Sqrt(n)))
        .All(i => n % i > 0);
}
```

The runtime is  $O(\text{Root}(n))$

## FUNDAMENTAL THEOREM OF ARITHMETIC

### What is the fundamental theorem of arithmetic?

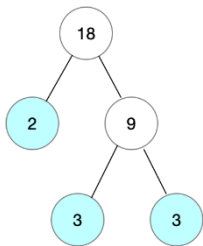
*Any integer is either prime itself or can be expressed as a product of prime factors*

$$x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$$

*Where  $p_1 \dots p_n$  are successive primes and  $a_1 \dots a_n$  are powers of that prime. For any given  $p$ , the corresponding  $a$  can be zero.*

### How do we find the prime factorisation?

*By continually dividing through*



$$18 = 2^1 \times 3^2$$

## HCF/LCM

### Highest Common Factor (HCF)

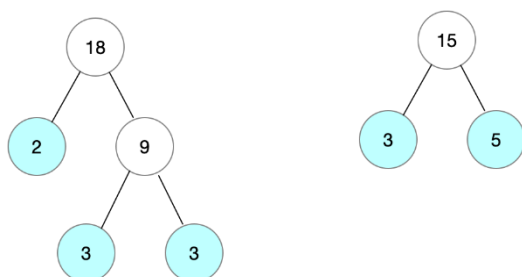
Given two integers  $x$  and  $y$  and their corresponding prime factorisations

$$x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$$

$$y = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$$

We can calculate the highest common factor as

$$hcf(x, y) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n)}$$



$$18 = 2^1 \times 3^2, 15 = 2^0 \times 3^1 \times 5^1$$

$$hcf(15, 18) = 2^{\min(0, 1)} \times 3^{\min(1, 2)} \times 5^{\min(0, 1)} = 3$$

### Lowest Common Multiple (LCM)

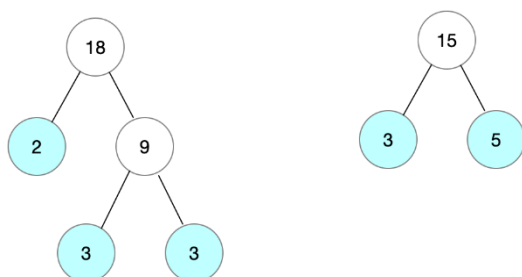
Given two integers  $x$  and  $y$  and their corresponding prime factorisations

$$x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$$

$$y = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$$

We can calculate the lowest common multiple as

$$lcm(x, y) = p_1^{\max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\max(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\max(a_n, b_n)}$$





$$18 = 2^1 \times 3^2$$

$$15 = 2^0 \times 3^1 \times 5^1$$

$$lcm(15,18) = 2^{\max(0,1)} \times 3^{\max(1,2)} \times 5^{\max(0,1)} = 2 \times 3^2 \times 5^1 = 90$$

## Relating HCF and LCM

Given two integers x and y and their corresponding prime factorisations

$$x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$$

$$y = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$$

We can show there is a relationship between lcm and hcf.

$$lcm(x, y) = p_1^{\max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\max(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\max(a_n, b_n)}$$

$$hcf(x, y) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n)}$$

$$hcf(x, y) \times lcm(x, y) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1) \times \max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2) \times \max(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n) \times \max(a_n, b_n)}$$

$$hcf(x, y) \times lcm(x, y) = p_1^{a_1 \times b_1} p_2^{a_2 \times b_2} \dots p_n^{a_n \times b_n} = x \times y$$

So we now know that

$$lcm(x, y) = \frac{x \times y}{hcf(x, y)}$$

This is very powerful as we have efficient algorithms for calculating the hcf, whereas we do not have efficient algorithms for carrying out prime factorisation.

## Euclid's Algorithm for GCD

### PROOF

Show that  $\gcd(a,b)$  is a divisor of  $a-b$

By the definition of a divisor we know that

$$a = x \times \gcd(a, b) \quad (1)$$

$$b = y \times \gcd(a, b) \quad (2)$$

$$a - b = (x - y) \times \gcd(a, b) \quad (3)$$

Show that  $\gcd(a,b)$  is a common divisor of  $b$  and  $a-b$

In the previous step we showed that  $\gcd(a,b)$  is a divisor of  $a-b$  and by definition  $\gcd(a,b)$  is a divisor of  $b$ . We hence know that  $\gcd(a,b)$  is a common divisor of  $a$  and  $a-b$ . We know that  $\gcd(a,b)$  must be less than or equal to  $\gcd(b,a-b)$  by the definition of  $\gcd(b,a-b)$  as the **greatest** common divisor

$$\gcd(a, b) \leq \gcd(b, a - b) \quad (4)$$

Show that  $\gcd(b,a-b)$  is a divisor of  $a$

By the definition of a divisor we know that

$$a - b = m \times \gcd(b, a - b) \quad (5)$$

$$b = n \times \gcd(b, a - b) \quad (6)$$

$$a = (m + n) \times \gcd(b, a - b) \quad (8)$$

Show that  $\gcd(b,a-b)$  is a common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$

By definition  $\gcd(b,a-b)$  is a divisor of  $b$  and we have shown that  $\gcd(b,a-b)$  is a divisor of  $a$ . So we know that  $\gcd(b,a-b)$  is a common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$ . Because  $\gcd(a,b)$  is the **greatest** common divisor of  $a$  and  $b$  we know that

$$\gcd(a, b) \geq \gcd(b, a - b) \quad (9)$$

Taken (4) and (9) together we have shown that  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a - b)$

Show that  $\gcd(b, a-b) = \gcd(b, a \% b)$

We have shown that  $\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a - b) = \gcd(a - b, b)$ . We can apply the formula multiple times

$$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a - b, b) = \gcd(a - 2b, b) = \gcd(a - qb, b) \quad (10)$$

The definition of the % operator is

$$a \% b = a - \left(\frac{a}{b}\right) \times b \quad (11)$$

Letting  $q = \frac{a}{b}$  and substituting into the right hand side of (10) we have

$$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(a - b, b) = \gcd(a - 2b, b) = \gcd(a \% b, b) = \gcd(b, a \% b) \quad (10)$$

We have now proved Euclids algorithm that

$$\gcd(a, b) = \gcd(b, a \% b) \quad (10)$$

## IMPLEMENTATION (C#)

```
/// <summary>
/// Implementation of Euclids algorithm
/// </summary>
/// <param name="a"></param>
/// <param name="b"></param>
/// <returns></returns>
public static int HighestCommonFactor(int a, int b)
{
    if (a < b)
    {
        return HighestCommonFactor(b, a);
    }
    else
    {
        int remainder = a % b;

        if (remainder == 0)
        {
            return b;
        }
        else
        {
            return HighestCommonFactor(b, remainder);
        }
    }
}
```

## Questions – HCF/LCM

## HIGHEST COMMON FACTOR

**What is the HCF of x and y?**

*The biggest integer that divides into x and y*

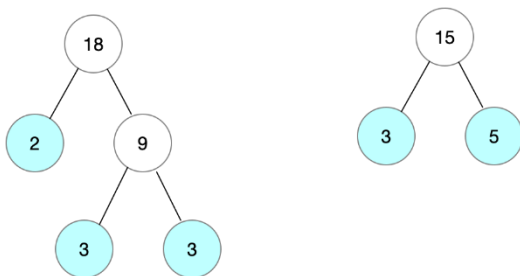
**Give a definition of HCF in term of prime numbers?**

$$x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$$

$$y = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$$

$$hcm(x, y) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n)}$$

**Calculate HCF of 18 and 15**



$$18 = 2^1 \times 3^2, 15 = 2^0 \times 3^1 \times 5^1$$

$$hcf(15, 18) = 2^{\min(0, 1)} \times 3^{\min(1, 2)} \times 5^{\min(0, 1)} = 3$$

## LOWEST COMMON MULTIPLE

**What is the LCM of x and y?**

The smallest number that is a product of both x and y

**Give a definition of LCM in term of prime numbers?**

Given two integers x and y and their corresponding prime factorisations

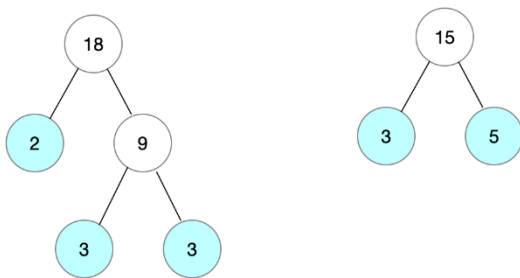
$$x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$$

$$y = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$$

We can calculate the lowest common multiple as

$$lcm(x, y) = p_1^{\max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\max(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\max(a_n, b_n)}$$

**Calculate the LCM of 18 and 15**



$$18 = 2^1 \times 3^2$$

$$15 = 2^0 \times 3^1 \times 5^1$$

$$lcm(15, 18) = 2^{\max(0, 1)} \times 3^{\max(1, 2)} \times 5^{\max(0, 1)} = 2 \times 3^2 \times 5^1 = 90$$

## RELATING HCF AND LCM

### Give an expression relating HCF and LCM

$$lcm(x, y) \times hcf(x, y) = x \times y$$

### Prove it

Given two integers x and y and their corresponding prime factorisations

$$x = p_1^{a_1} p_2^{a_2} \dots p_n^{a_n}$$

$$y = p_1^{b_1} p_2^{b_2} \dots p_n^{b_n}$$

We can show there is a relationship between lcm and hcf.

$$lcm(x, y) = p_1^{\max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\max(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\max(a_n, b_n)}$$

$$hcf(x, y) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n)}$$

$$hcf(x, y) \times lcm(x, y) = p_1^{\min(a_1, b_1) \times \max(a_1, b_1)} p_2^{\min(a_2, b_2) \times \max(a_2, b_2)} \dots p_n^{\min(a_n, b_n) \times \max(a_n, b_n)}$$

$$hcf(x, y) \times lcm(x, y) = p_1^{a_1 \times b_1} p_2^{a_2 \times b_2} \dots p_n^{a_n \times b_n} = x \times y$$

So we now know that

$$lcm(x, y) = \frac{x \times y}{hcf(x, y)}$$

### Why is this useful?

*We have efficient algorithms for calculating the hcf, whereas we do not have efficient algorithms for carrying out prime factorisation*

### What is the basis for Euclid's algorithm for HCF?

$$gcd(a, b) = gcd(b, a \% b)$$

## HIGHEST COMMON FACTOR

**Implement Euclids algorithm for HCF. What is the runtime?**

```
/// <summary>
/// Implementation of Euclids algorithm
/// </summary>
/// <param name="a"></param>
/// <param name="b"></param>
/// <returns></returns>
public static int HighestCommonFactor(int a, int b)
{
    if (a < b)
    {
        return HighestCommonFactor(b, a);
    }
    else
    {
        int remainder = a % b;

        if (remainder == 0)
        {
            return b;
        }
        else
        {
            return HighestCommonFactor(b, remainder);
        }
    }
}
```

## LOWEST COMMON MULTIPLE

**Calculate LCM using the algorithm from the previous section?**

$$lcm(x, y) = \frac{x \times y}{hcf(x, y)}$$

# Floor/Ceiling Functions

## Definitions

**Floor** – The greatest integer less than  $x$

$$\text{floor} : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

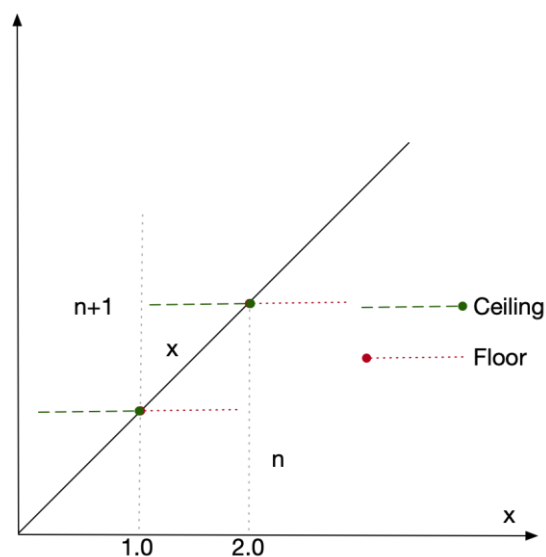
$$\text{floor}(x) = \lfloor x \rfloor = \max\{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a \leq x\}$$

**Ceiling** – The smallest integer less than  $x$

$$\text{ceiling} : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

$$\text{ceiling}(x) = \lceil x \rceil = \max\{a \in \mathbb{Z} \mid a \leq x\}$$

**FIGURE 2 FLOOR/CEILING**



## LISTING 1 EXAMPLES

- ◆  $\lfloor 1.0 \rfloor = \lceil 1.0 \rceil = 1$
- ◆  $\lfloor 1.0000001 \rfloor = 1$
- ◆  $\lceil 1.0000001 \rceil = 2$
- ◆  $\lfloor 1.9999999 \rfloor = 1$
- ◆  $\lceil 1.9999999 \rceil = 2$

## Fractional Part

The floor gives the integer part of a real and subtracting the floor from the real gives the fractional part

$$\{x\} = x - \lfloor x \rfloor$$



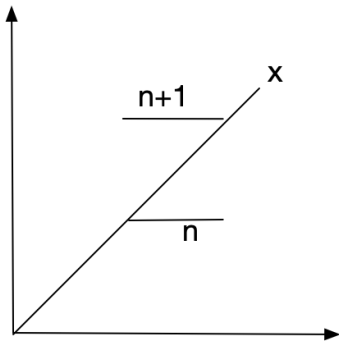
We can use this notation to calculate possible values of  $\lfloor x + y \rfloor$

## Property Summary

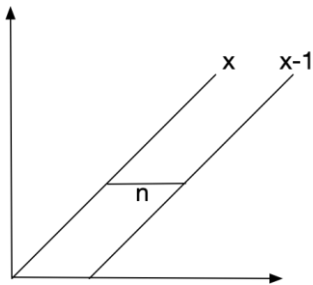
1.  $\lfloor x \rfloor = \lceil x \rceil = x \leftrightarrow x \in \mathbb{Z}$
2.  $x - 1 < \lfloor x \rfloor \leq \lceil x \rceil < x + 1, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$
3.  $\lfloor -x \rfloor = -\lceil x \rceil, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$
4.  $-\lfloor x \rfloor = \lceil -x \rceil, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$
5.  $\lfloor x \rfloor - \lceil x \rceil = 0 \leftrightarrow x \in \mathbb{Z}$
6.  $\lfloor x \rfloor - \lceil x \rceil = 1 \leftrightarrow x \notin \mathbb{Z}$
7.  $\lfloor x \rfloor = n \leftrightarrow n \leq x < n + 1, x \notin \mathbb{R}, n \notin \mathbb{Z}$
8.  $\lceil x \rceil = n \leftrightarrow n - 1 < x \leq n, x \notin \mathbb{R}, n \notin \mathbb{Z}$
9.  $\lfloor x \rfloor = n \leftrightarrow x - 1 < n \leq x, x \notin \mathbb{R}, n \notin \mathbb{Z}$
10.  $\lceil x \rceil = n \leftrightarrow x \leq n < x + 1, x \notin \mathbb{R}, n \notin \mathbb{Z}$
11.  $\left\lfloor \frac{x}{2} \right\rfloor + \left\lceil \frac{x}{2} \right\rceil = x$
12.  $\lfloor x + n \rfloor = \lfloor x \rfloor + n$ , if  $n$  is an integer and  $x$  a real
13.  $\lceil x + n \rceil = \lceil x \rceil + n$ , if  $n$  is an integer and  $x$  a real
14.  $x < n \rightarrow \lfloor x \rfloor < n$ , if  $n$  is an integer and  $x$  a real
15.  $n < x \rightarrow n < \lceil x \rceil$  if  $n$  is an integer and  $x$  a real
16.  $\lfloor f(\lfloor x \rfloor) \rfloor = \lfloor f(x) \rfloor$  if  $f$  is continuous, monotonically increasing with the property that if  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}$  then  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$

## Property Detail

**PROPERTY 7**  $\lfloor x \rfloor = n \leftrightarrow n \leq x < n + 1, x \notin \mathbb{R}, n \notin \mathbb{Z}$



**PROPERTY 8**  $\lceil x \rceil = n \leftrightarrow n - 1 < x \leq n, x \notin \mathbb{R}, n \notin \mathbb{Z}$



## PROPERTY 16

If we define function

$$f: \mathbb{R}' \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \mathbb{R}' \subseteq \mathbb{R} \text{ is the domain of } f$$

where  $f$  is **continuous** and **monotonically increasing** and where  $f$  has the following special property

**Property P:** if  $f(x) \in \mathbb{Z}$  then  $x \in \mathbb{Z}$

Then for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}'$  for which the property P holds

$$[f([x])] = [f(x)]$$

## PROOF

In the simple case where  $x = [x]$  we have nothing to do. We hence focus on the case where  $x \neq [x]$ .

$$x \neq [x] \rightarrow x \leq [x]$$

*From the definition of the ceiling function*

$$x \leq [x] \rightarrow f(x) \leq f([x])$$

*Because  $f$  is monotonically increasing*

$$f(x) \leq f([x]) \rightarrow [f(x)] \leq [f([x])]$$

*Because ceiling is non decreasing*

Assume

$$[f(x)] < [f([x])]$$

$$[f(x)] < [f([x])] \rightarrow [f([x])] - [f(x)] \geq 1$$

*Because ceiling only deals in integers*

This means the monotonically increasing function  $f$  must increase above  $[f(x)]$  in order to make it possible for  $[f([x])] - [f(x)] \geq 1$ . This means that the following two things must be true

$$\forall y \mid x \leq y < [x]$$

$$f(y) = [f(x)]$$

The special property P means that  $y$  must be an integer as  $[f(x)]$  is by definition an integer. But there cannot be an integer between  $x$  and  $[x]$  so we have a contradiction and hence it is not possible for

$$[f(x)] < [f([x])] \text{ and hence } [f(x)] = [f([x])]$$

## Questions – Floor/Ceiling Functions

