

# Sums of floors and ceilings of consecutive fractions

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The formulas in this paper are used in derivation of a more exact form of the Master Theorem.

## 1 A sum of floors of consecutive fractions

**Theorem 1.1** *For every natural number  $n$  and every positive natural number  $m$ ,*

$$\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left\lfloor \frac{n+i}{m} \right\rfloor = n.$$

**Proof.** Let  $n = km + l$ , where  $0 \leq l < m$ .

We have

$$\left\lfloor \frac{n+i}{m} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor \frac{km+l+i}{m} \right\rfloor = \left\lfloor k + \frac{l+i}{m} \right\rfloor = k + \left\lfloor \frac{l+i}{m} \right\rfloor.$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left\lfloor \frac{n+i}{m} \right\rfloor = mk + \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left\lfloor \frac{l+i}{m} \right\rfloor = mk + \sum_{i=m-l}^{m-1} \left\lfloor \frac{l+i}{m} \right\rfloor = mk + \sum_{i=m-l}^{m-1} 1 = mk + l = n.$$

## 2 A sum of ceilings of consecutive fractions

**Theorem 2.1** *For every natural number  $n$  and every positive natural number  $m$ ,*

$$\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left\lceil \frac{n-i}{m} \right\rceil = n.$$

**Proof.** Let  $n = km + l$ , where  $0 \leq l < m$ .

We have

$$\left\lceil \frac{n-i}{m} \right\rceil = \left\lceil \frac{km+l-i}{m} \right\rceil = \left\lceil k + \frac{l-i}{m} \right\rceil = k + \left\lceil \frac{l-i}{m} \right\rceil.$$

Therefore,

$$\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left\lceil \frac{n-i}{m} \right\rceil = mk + \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} \left\lceil \frac{l-i}{m} \right\rceil = mk + \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} \left\lceil \frac{l-i}{m} \right\rceil = mk + \sum_{i=0}^{l-1} 1 = mk + l = n.$$