

proof that a finite collection of sets will not suffice

 $Canonical\ name \qquad Proof That AF in ite Collection Of Sets Will Not Suffice$

Date of creation 2013-03-22 14:38:46 Last modified on 2013-03-22 14:38:46

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Numerical id 4

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Entry type Proof Classification msc 28E99 Suppose that you cut [0,1] into $A_0, ..., A_n$. Displacing the parts is simply translating them; you can suppose that you leave A_0 in place and translate all the others to the right. Let ϵ be the smallest translation length: if after translation the union contains [0,1], necessarily $[0,\epsilon] \subset A_0$. A contradiction ensues.