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regarding the sets A_n from the traveling hump sequence

 ${\bf Canonical\ name} \quad {\bf Regarding The Sets An From The Traveling Hump Sequence}$

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Entry type Proof Classification msc 28A20 In this entry, $\lfloor \cdot \rfloor$ denotes the floor function.

Following is a proof that, for every positive integer n, $\left[\frac{n-2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor}}{2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor}}, \frac{n-2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor}+1}{2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor}}\right] \subseteq [0,1].$

Proof. Note that this is http://planetmath.org/Equivalentequivalent to showing that, for every positive integer n,

 $n-2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor} \geq 0$ and $n-2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor}+1 \leq 2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor}$. This in turn is equivalent to showing that, for every positive integer $n, 2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor} \leq n$ and $n+1 \leq 2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor+1}$.

The first inequality is easy to prove: For every positive integer $n, 2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor} \leq 2^{\log_2 n} = n$.

Now for the second inequality. Let n be a positive integer. Let k be the unique positive integer such that

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$$2^{k-1} \le n \le 2^k - 1$$
. Then $n+1 \le 2^k = 2^{k-1+1} = 2^{\lfloor \log_2 2^{k-1} \rfloor + 1} = 2^{\lfloor \log_2 2^{k-1} \rfloor + 1} \le 2^{\lfloor \log_2 n \rfloor + 1}$.