

**Problem 10.** Give an example of a family of intervals  $A_n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, \dots$ , such that  $A_{n+1} \subset A_n$  for all  $n$  and  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$  consists of a single real number. Prove that your example has the stated property.

*Proof.* Let the set  $A_n$  be defined as  $[0, \frac{1}{n}]$

For  $n = 1$ ,

$$A_1 = [0, 1]$$

For  $n + 1$  i.e.  $n = 2$ ,

$$A_2 = [0, \frac{1}{2}]$$

Since  $[0, \frac{1}{2}] \subset [0, 1]$ , i.e.  $A_2 \subset A_1$ ,  $A_{n+1} \subset A_n$  holds.

As  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $\frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$ . So  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = [0, 0]$

Since, the interval is inclusive,  $0 \in A_n$ . The expression  $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$  will hence equate to 0.  
 $0 \in \mathbb{R}$

Therefore, the example given has the required stated properties.

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