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(1) Let $\{I_n\}$ be a non-increasing sequence of non-empty closed intervals of \mathbb{R} .
 Prove that $\bigcap_n I_n \neq \emptyset$

Pf: Let $I_n = [a_n, b_n]$. By hypothesis $a_n \leq b_n$ and $\begin{cases} a_n \leq a_{n+1} \leq \dots \\ b_n \geq b_{n+1} \geq \dots \end{cases}$
 Consider the set $S = \{a_n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$. This set is not empty since by hypothesis $I_n \neq \emptyset$ for any n . Also, this set is bounded above since $b_1 \geq a_n$ for all n .
 therefore, S has a least upper bound. Let $x = \sup S$.

By properties of being an upper bound we have that $x \geq a_n$ for all n .
 Moreover, since $b_n \geq a_n$ for all n , b_n is an upper bound. But x is the least upper bound so $b_n \geq x$. Combining these two inequalities we get

$$a_n \leq x \leq b_n \Rightarrow x \in I_n, \text{ for any } n.$$

therefore, $x \in \bigcap_n I_n$ and so $\bigcap_n I_n \neq \emptyset$. \square

(2) Prove that a set A is infinite iff there exists a proper subset B of A such that $B \sim A$.

Pf: (\Leftarrow) Suppose that there exists a proper subset B of A s.t. $B \sim A$.
 Also, suppose for a contradiction that A is finite with $|A| = n$.
 Since $B \sim A$, we know of the existence of a 1-1, onto function $f: B \rightarrow A$.
 Now, since A is finite and B is a proper subset of A , we can conclude that B is finite. Let $|B| = m \leq n-1$. Then, consider the cardinality of the image of

$$n = |A| = |\text{Im}(f)| = |\{f(b_1), f(b_2), \dots, f(b_m)\}| = m \leq n-1$$

\uparrow
 f is onto
 f is 1-1

Since f is 1-1, the set $\{f(b_1), f(b_2), \dots, f(b_m)\}$ contains distinct elements
 ($b_1, b_2 \in B : f(b_1) = f(b_2) \Rightarrow b_1 = b_2$, conversely $b_1 \neq b_2 \Rightarrow f(b_1) \neq f(b_2)$).
 But f is onto and so every element of A has a pre image under f .
 This justifies our reasoning before but this leads to a clear contradiction
 $n \leq n-1$

therefore, A is not a finite set, which means that A is infinite (countable or uncountable).

⇒ Suppose that A is infinite.

Claim: A contains a countable infinite subset.

Proof (claim): Since A is infinite and not empty, pick $a_0 \in A$ (any element). Now that you have a_0 , pick another element $a_1 \in A \setminus \{a_0\}$. There is another element to pick since A is infinite. Proceed inductively by picking the next element a_k from $A \setminus \{a_0, a_1, \dots, a_{k-1}\}$. Then the subset $\{a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k, \dots\}$ is clearly countable by the mapping $f: \{a_0, a_1, \dots, a_k, \dots\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ given by $f(a_i) = i$. end of claim

By previous claim, since A is infinite, it has a countable infinite subset.

Let $A_0 = \{a_0, a_1, a_2, \dots\}$ be such that $A_0 \subset A$. Now, we can prove that A is equivalent to $A \setminus \{a_1, a_3, a_5, \dots\}$, which is clearly a proper subset of A .

Consider the 1-1, onto mapping $f: A \rightarrow A \setminus \{a_1, a_3, a_5, \dots\}$ given by:

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} a_{2i} & \text{if } x = a_i; \text{ for } i = 0, 1, 2, \dots \text{ (this maps } a_0 \rightarrow a_0, a_1 \rightarrow a_2, a_2 \rightarrow a_4, \dots) \\ x & \text{otherwise (for all other elements use the identity).} \end{cases}$$

This is clearly a one-to-one and onto mapping. This is obvious when we use the identity map. For all other elements f maps integer indices to even integer indices ($f(a_i) = a_{2i}$), a map which we proved in class to be 1-1 and onto. Therefore, f is a bijection from A to $A \setminus \{a_1, a_3, a_5, \dots\}$ which is a proper subset of A , showing that $A \sim A \setminus \{a_1, a_3, a_5, \dots\}$.

Exhibit explicit 1-1, onto functions f, g s.t.: $f: (0,1) \rightarrow [0,1]$ and $g: (0,1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

Solution: First, consider the function $g: (0,1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ given by

$$g(x) = \tan\left(\left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi\right)$$

trigonometric properties of the tangent function, $\tan(x)$ is a 1-1 and onto function from $(-\frac{\pi}{2}, \frac{\pi}{2})$ to \mathbb{R} . By taking $\tan\left(\left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi\right)$, we have shifted and scaled the function to be a bijection from $(0,1)$ to \mathbb{R} . An alternative $\mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0,1)$ is $g(x) = \frac{\arctan(x) + \frac{1}{2}}{\pi}$, which is also a bijection for similar reasons.

Finally, let us show

g is 1-1: Let $x, y \in (0,1)$ be such that $g(x) = g(y) \Leftrightarrow$

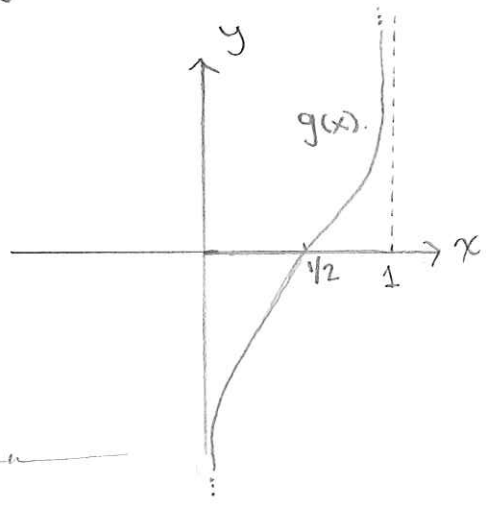
$\tan\left(\left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi\right) = \tan\left(\left(y + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi\right)$; apply \arctan to both sides \Leftrightarrow

$$\arctan\left(\tan\left(\left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi\right)\right) = \arctan\left(\tan\left(\left(y + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi\right)\right) \Leftrightarrow \left(x + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi = \left(y + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi \Leftrightarrow x + \frac{1}{2} = y + \frac{1}{2} \Leftrightarrow \boxed{x = y}$$

g is onto: Let $y \in \mathbb{R}$. Take $x = \frac{\arctan(y)}{\pi} - \frac{1}{2}$. Then,

$$g(x) = g\left(\frac{\arctan(y)}{\pi} - \frac{1}{2}\right) = \tan\left(\left(\frac{\arctan(y)}{\pi} - \frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2}\right)\pi\right) = \tan(\arctan(y)) = y.$$

Graphically, g is:



Second, for a function $f: (0,1) \rightarrow [0,1]$, consider the following:

Since $[0,1]$ is an infinite set, we know from (2) that it is equivalent to some proper subset $B \subset [0,1]$. In fact, $[0,1] \sim (0,1)$. To prove this claim, use the fact proved in class that \mathbb{Q} is countable. Since $(0,1) \cap \mathbb{Q} \supset \{ \frac{1}{n}, n \in \mathbb{N} \}$ is infinite and $(0,1) \cap \mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{Q}$, by theorem proved in class we know that $(0,1) \cap \mathbb{Q}$ is countable. therefore, we can list its elements $(0,1) \cap \mathbb{Q} = \{ r_1, r_2, r_3, \dots, r_n, \dots \}$.

Now consider the mapping $f: [0,1] \rightarrow (0,1)$ given by:

$$f(0) = r_1, f(1) = r_2, f(r_1) = r_3, f(r_2) = r_4, f(r_3) = r_5, \dots, f(r_i) = r_{i+2}, i = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

$$f(x) = x \text{ for all other irrational numbers.}$$

this map is clearly 1-1 and onto, therefore $[0,1] \sim (0,1)$.

this shows the result we wanted but in an implicit form. However, we can use this idea to develop the following explicit, 1-1 and onto mapping $f: [0,1] \rightarrow (0,1)$

let $x \in [0,1]$. then,

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1/2 & \text{if } x = 0 \\ 1/3 & \text{if } x = 1 \\ 1/n+2 & \text{if } x = \frac{1}{n}, n > 1 \\ x & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

claim: this is a 1-1, onto mapping. clearly, when f acts as the identity,

the map is 1-1, onto. For other cases:

1-1: take $x, y \in [0,1]$ with $f(x) \neq x$ and $f(y) \neq y$ (nothing to show there).
 Suppose $f(x) = f(y)$. then, either $x = y = 0$ or $x = y = 1$ or
 $f(x) = f(y) \Leftrightarrow f(\frac{1}{n}) = f(\frac{1}{m}), m, n > 1 \Leftrightarrow \frac{1}{n+2} = \frac{1}{m+2} \Leftrightarrow n+2 = m+2 \Leftrightarrow n = m$

Hence, f is 1-1.

onto: Let $y \in (0, 1)$. If $y \neq \frac{1}{n+2}, n \geq 1$ then take $x = y$ to get $f(x) = f(y) = y$.
 Otherwise, if $y = \frac{1}{n+2}, n \geq 1$ take $x = \frac{1}{n}$ then $f(x) = f(\frac{1}{n}) = \frac{1}{n+2} = y$.

Hence, f is onto.

Since f is 1-1 and onto where $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow (0, 1)$; f is a bijection and so we know of the existence of $f^{-1}: (0, 1) \rightarrow [0, 1]$. In this case the inverse is easily stated as:

$$f^{-1}(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x = \frac{1}{2} \\ 1 & \text{if } x = \frac{1}{3} \\ \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } x = \frac{1}{n+2}, n \geq 1 \\ x & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and this is the function we wanted.

The whole point here was to take a countable sequence out of $(0, 1)$, shift it by 2 to make room for 0 and 1, and send all others outside the sequence to themselves.]

