# Lecture 36: Diagonalization argument

Math 345

Tuesday, November 30, 2010

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#### **Textbook**

This lecture discusses section 15 of the textbook.

### **Homework**

The homework is due Friday, December 3, 2010. From Section 15 of the textbook, do exercise 9.

## **Comparing cardinality**

To say that the cardinality of A is less than or equal to the cardinality of B means that A is equinumerous to a subset of B.

# **Diagonalization generally**

Suppose  $f: A \to P(A)$ . Then consider

$$S = \{ x \in A : x \not\in f(x) \}.$$

If S is in the range of f, then there is an  $a \in A$  so that S = f(a). Is  $a \in S$ ? If  $a \in S$ , then  $a \notin f(a) = S$ , and vice versa! So S cannot be in the range of f.