

Re: Ultimate debunking of Cantor's Theory

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- *From:* Calvin <crice5@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
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On Jul 11, 11:24 pm, "Peter Webb"
<webbfam...@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

But set theory minus the Axiom of infinity is a perfectly valid set theory.
The advantage for the poster is that Cantor's diagonal construction of the
Reals doesn't exist, or indeed any form of the diagonal argument applied to
infinite sets. ...

I assume that by 'Cantor's diagonal construction' you mean considering a hypothetical countable list of all of the decimal expansions of the real numbers between 0 and 1, then going down the diagonal, changing each digit to any digit other than the one at each diagonal position, and then noticing that the real number so constructed by using the changed diagonal elements cannot be in the original list. Thus the existence of a countable list of decimal expansions of the reals between 0 and 1 is disproven.

A variation of that which I subjectively like is making it a list of binary expansions instead of decimal. Then it is only necessary to 'flip' the diagonal, changing all ones to zeros and all zeros to ones.

Are there other noteworthy forms of the diagonal argument?

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