

# Axioms and Definitions of Transformational Geometry

## Incidence Axioms:

**Primitive terms:** point, line

- I.1** Given two different points, the points lie on one and only one line.
- I.2** Each line contains at least three distinct points.
- I.3** There are at least three noncollinear points.

## Perpendiculars:

**Primitive terms:** perpendicular

- P.1** Let  $l$  and  $m$  be lines. If  $l$  is perpendicular to  $m$ , then  $m$  is perpendicular to  $l$ .
- P.2** If  $P$  is any point and  $l$  is any line, then there is a line  $m$  containing  $P$  such that  $l$  is perpendicular to  $m$ . If the point  $P$  is on  $l$ , then  $m$  is uniquely determined.
- P.3** If  $l$  is perpendicular to  $m$ , then  $l$  and  $m$  intersect in a single point.

## Motions:

**Definition:** Let  $l$  be a line. A reflection  $R_l$  (in  $l$ ) is a one-to-one mapping of the plane onto itself with the following properties:

- a. Lines are mapped onto lines.
- b. If two lines are perpendicular, then their reflected images are perpendicular.
- c. Every point of  $l$  is mapped onto itself.
- d. There is a point of the plane which is not mapped onto itself.

For a point  $P$  in the plane, we let  $R_l(P)$  denote the image  $P$  under  $R_l$ . The line  $l$  is called the axis of  $R_l$ .

- M.1** Every line is the axis of one and only one reflection.
- M.2** If  $R_l$  maps the point  $P$  to the point  $P'$ , then  $R_l$  maps  $P'$  onto  $P$ .

**Definition:** A mapping  $M$  from the plane to itself is called a *rotation* if there are two intersecting lines  $u$  and  $v$  such that  $M = R_u R_v$  (i.e.,  $M$  is the composition of two reflections). The point where  $u$  and  $v$  intersect is called a *center* of the rotation.

**M.3** Consider a rotation  $M$  with center  $P$ . If  $l$  is a line containing  $P$ , then there is a reflection  $R_m$ , with  $P$  on  $m$ , that  $R_m(Q) = M(Q)$  for every  $Q$  on  $l$ .

**Definition:** A mapping  $M$  from the plane to itself is called a *translation* if there are two nonintersecting lines  $u$  and  $v$  both perpendicular to a line  $t$  such that  $M = R_u R_v$  (i.e.,  $M$  is the composition of two reflections  $R_u$  and  $R_v$ ). In this case  $M$  is called a translation along  $t$ .

**M.4** Consider a translation  $M$  along a line  $t$ . If  $l$  is a line perpendicular to  $t$ , then there is a reflection  $R_m$  with  $m$  perpendicular to  $t$ , such that  $R_m(P) = M(P)$  for every  $P$  on  $l$ .

## Parallels

**Euclid** Given a line  $l$  and a point  $P$  not on  $l$ , there is a unique line containing  $P$  that does not intersect  $l$ .

**Elliptic** Any two lines intersect.

**Hyperbolic** Given a line  $l$  and a point  $P$  not on  $l$ , there are at least two different lines containing  $P$  that do not intersect  $l$ .

## Betweenness and Separation

**Primitive terms:** between.  $P - Q - R$  denotes  $Q$  is between  $P$  and  $R$

- B.1** Let  $P, Q$ , and  $R$  be points. If  $P - Q - R$ , then  $R - Q - P$ .
- B.2** Given three distinct collinear points, exactly one is between the other two.
- B.3** Any four points can be named in an order  $P, Q, R$ , and  $S$  in such a way that  $P - Q - R - S$ .
- B.4** If  $P$  and  $R$  are any two points, then a) there is a point  $X$  such that  $P - R - X$  and b) there is a point  $Y$  such that  $P - Y - R$ .
- B.5** If  $P, Q$ , and  $R$  are points and  $P - Q - R$ , then  $P, Q$ , and  $R$  are collinear.
- B.6** If  $R_m$  is a reflection and  $P, Q$ , and  $S$  are points such that  $P - Q - S$ , then  $R_m(P) - R_m(Q) - R_m(S)$

**Plane Separation** Given a line and a plane containing it, the set of all points in the plane can be written as the disjoint union of the line and two convex sets with the property that if  $P$  belongs to one of the convex sets and  $Q$  belongs to the other, then the line segment with endpoints  $P$  and  $Q$  intersects the line.