

1. Explain each of the following in your own words:

- (a) What is an axiomatic system?  
See course notes.
- (b) What is required for an axiomatic system to be consistent?  
See course notes.
- (c) What is required for an axiomatic system to be independent?  
See course notes.
- (d) What is required for an axiomatic system to be complete?  
See course notes.
- (e) What is required for an axiomatic system to satisfy the principle of duality?  
See course notes.

2. Is there a projective plane of order 1? If there is, how many points and lines are in the geometry? If not, why not?

No. If there were a projective plane of order  $n = 1$ , then, by definition, it would have at least one line with exactly  $n + 1 = 1 + 1 = 2$  points on it. This contradicts axiom  $P3$ , which states that every line has at least 3 points incident with it.

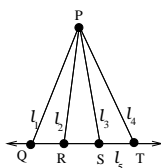
3. Is there a projective plane of order 11? If there is, how many points and lines are in the geometry? If not, why not?

Yes. O. Veblen and W. Bussey proved that there are projective planes of order  $p^m$  for any prime number  $p$  and any integer  $m$ . By theorem  $P5$ , there are exactly  $n^2 + n + 1$  points and  $n^2 + n + 1$  lines in a projective plane of order  $n$ . Therefore, there are  $11^2 + 11 + 1 = 121 + 11 + 1 = 133$  points and 133 lines in a projective plane of order 11.

4. Consider the following axiomatic system:

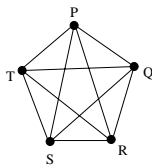
- $A1$  : For any two distinct points, there is exactly one line incident with both points.
- $A2$  : For any two distinct lines, there is at most one point incident with both lines.
- $A3$  : Every line is incident with at least two points.
- $A4$  : There are 5 points in this geometry.
- $A5$  : No point is incident with every line.

- (a) State the undefined terms in this axiomatic system.  
The undefined or primitive terms in this axiomatic system are: *point, line, incident*.
- (b) Find a model for this geometry. Be sure to explain how you know that each axiom holds.  
One potential model for this geometry is:



I will leave it to you to verify that this model satisfies the axioms.

- (c) Is this axiomatic system consistent? Justify your answer.  
Notice that since we are able to give a model for this axiomatic system that satisfies all of the axioms, this system must be consistent.
- (d) Find a second model for this geometry that is not isomorphic to your previous model. Be sure to explain how you know that each axiom holds and how you know this it is not isomorphic to your previous model.  
A second potential model for this geometry is:



I will leave it to you to verify that this model satisfies the axioms.

Notice that our first model had 5 points and 5 lines while our second model has 5 points and 10 lines. Since the cardinality of these sets are not the same, there cannot be a bijection between them, so these models cannot be isomorphic.

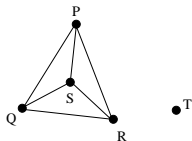
- (e) Is this axiomatic system complete? Justify your answer.

This axiomatic system is not complete. Since there are two non-isomorphic models, there are statements about this axiomatic system that cannot be proved or disproved. For example, the statement: “There are exactly 5 lines in this geometry” cannot be proven and cannot be disproved.

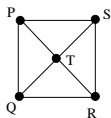
- (f) Which of the axioms in this model are independent? Justify your answer.

I claim that the axioms  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_4$  and  $A_5$  are independent, while  $A_3$  is a consequence of the other axioms.

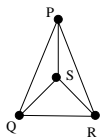
To see the independence of  $A_1$ , I claim that the following model satisfies the axioms  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$ ,  $A_4$  and  $A_5$  but does not satisfy  $A_1$ . You should verify this claim.



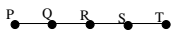
To see the independence of  $A_2$ , I claim that the following model satisfies the axioms  $A_1$ ,  $A_3$ ,  $A_4$  and  $A_5$  but does not satisfy  $A_2$ . You should verify this claim.



To see the independence of  $A_4$ , I claim that the following model satisfies the axioms  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_4$  and  $A_5$  but does not satisfy  $A_4$ . You should verify this claim.



To see the independence of  $A_5$ , I claim that the following model satisfies the axioms  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_3$  and  $A_4$  but does not satisfy  $A_5$ . You should verify this claim.



Proving that  $A_3$  is a consequence of axioms  $A_1$ ,  $A_2$ ,  $A_4$  and  $A_5$  is an extra credit problem that will be due on Monday, January 25th.

- (g) Prove the theorem  $T_1$ : There are at least five lines in this geometry.

By  $A_4$ , there are 5 points in this geometry. Call them  $A, B, C, D$ , and  $E$ , respectively. By  $A_1$ , there is exactly one line  $\ell_1$  that is incident with both  $A$  and  $B$ . By  $A_5$ , there is at least one point that is not incident with  $\ell_1$ . Without loss of generality, suppose that  $E$  is not incident with  $\ell_1$ .

By  $A_1$ , there are lines  $\ell_2$  and  $\ell_3$  incident with the pairs of points  $A, E$  and  $B, E$  respectively. Notice that  $\ell_2$  and  $\ell_3$  are distinct from  $\ell_1$  since  $E$  is not on  $\ell_1$ . Also  $\ell_2$  and  $\ell_3$  are distinct, since if  $\ell_2 = \ell_3$ , there would be two lines incident with the pair of points  $A, B$ , which contradicts axiom  $A_2$ .

Next, consider the point  $C$ .

Case 1: Suppose  $C$  is not incident with  $\ell_1$  or  $\ell_2$  or  $\ell_3$ , then, by axiom  $A_1$ , there must be lines  $\ell_4, \ell_5, \ell_6$  incident with the pairs of points  $A, C, B, C$ , and  $E, C$  respectively. As above, by axiom  $A_2$  these lines must all be distinct, so there are at least 5 lines in this geometry which concludes the proof in this case.

Case 2a: Suppose  $C$  is incident with  $\ell_1$ . Then, by axiom  $A_2$ ,  $C$  is not incident with  $\ell_2$  or  $\ell_3$ . Therefore, by axiom  $A_1$ , there is exactly one line incident with the pair of points  $E, C$ . Call it  $\ell_4$ . As above, by axiom  $A_2$  this line must be distinct from the previous lines.

Case 2b: Suppose  $C$  is incident with  $\ell_2$ . Then, by axiom A2,  $C$  is not incident with  $\ell_1$  or  $\ell_3$ . Therefore, by axiom A1, there is exactly one line incident with the pair of points  $B, C$ . Call it  $\ell_4$ . As above, by axiom A2 this line must be distinct from the previous lines.

Case 2c: Suppose  $C$  is incident with  $\ell_3$ . Then, by axiom A2,  $C$  is not incident with  $\ell_1$  or  $\ell_2$ . Therefore, by axiom A1, there is exactly one line incident with the pair of points  $A, C$ . Call it  $\ell_4$ . As above, by axiom A2 this line must be distinct from the previous lines.

In all of these cases, we have shown that there are four distinct lines in this geometry.

Now consider the point  $D$ .

Subcase (i) If  $D$  is not incident with  $\ell_1, \ell_2, \ell_3$ , or  $\ell_4$ , then, by axiom A1, there must be lines  $\ell_5, \ell_6, \ell_7, \ell_8$  incident with the pairs of points  $A, D, B, D$ , and  $C, D$ , and  $E, D$  respectively. As above, by axiom A2 these lines must all be distinct, so there are at least 8 lines in this geometry which concludes the proof in this case.

Subcase (iia) Suppose  $D$  is incident with  $\ell_1$ . Then, by axiom A2,  $D$  is not incident with  $\ell_2, \ell_3$  or  $\ell_4$ . Therefore, by axiom A1, there is exactly one line incident with the pair of points  $E, D$ . Call it  $\ell_5$ . As above, by axiom A2 this line must be distinct from the previous lines, so there are at least 5 lines in this geometry.

Subcase (iib) Suppose  $D$  is incident with  $\ell_2$ . Then, by axiom A2,  $D$  is not incident with  $\ell_1, \ell_3$  or  $\ell_4$ . Therefore, by axiom A1, there is exactly one line incident with the pair of points  $B, D$ . Call it  $\ell_5$ . As above, by axiom A2 this line must be distinct from the previous lines, so there are at least 5 lines in this geometry.

Subcase (iic) Suppose  $D$  is incident with  $\ell_3$ . Then, by axiom A2,  $D$  is not incident with  $\ell_1, \ell_2$  or  $\ell_4$ . Therefore, by axiom A1, there is exactly one line incident with the pair of points  $A, D$ . Call it  $\ell_5$ . As above, by axiom A2 this line must be distinct from the previous lines, so there are at least 5 lines in this geometry.

Subcase (iid) Suppose  $D$  is incident with  $\ell_4$ . Then, by axiom A2,  $D$  is not incident with  $\ell_1, \ell_2$  or  $\ell_3$ . Therefore, by axiom A1, there is exactly one line incident with the pair of points  $D$  and whichever point among  $A, B, E$  is not on  $\ell_4$ . Call this line  $\ell_5$ . As above, by axiom A2 this line must be distinct from the previous lines, so there are at least 5 lines in this geometry.

Since all possible cases result in there being at least 5 lines in the geometry, the statement is proven.  $\square$

- (h) Write the duals to A3 and A5. Are these dual statements true statements in this axiomatic system?

A3': Every point is incident with at least two lines.

Claim: the dual of A3 is true.

Proof: Let  $P$  be a point. Let  $P'$  be a point distinct from  $P$  (A4 guarantees the existence of this point). By A1, there is exactly one line  $\ell_1$  incident with  $P$  and  $P'$ . By A5, no point is incident with every line, so there must be at least one line  $\ell_2$  that is not incident with  $P$ . By A2, there is exactly one point incident with both  $\ell_1$  and  $\ell_2$ . By A3, there are at least two points incident with the line  $\ell_2$ . In particular, there must be a point  $P''$  not on  $\ell_1$  and incident with  $\ell_2$ . Therefore, since  $P$  is not incident with  $\ell_2$  and  $P''$  is not incident with  $\ell_1$ , by A1, there must be a third line  $\ell_3$  that is incident with both  $P$  and  $P''$ . Hence there are two distinct lines incident with  $P$ . Since  $P$  was arbitrary, this proves the statement.  $\square$

A5': No line is incident with every point.

Claim: the dual of A5 is true.

Proof: Suppose, to obtain the contradiction, that there is a line  $\ell$  such that the points  $A, B, C, D, E$  are all incident with this line. By A5, there is at least one line that is not incident with point  $A$ . Call this line  $\ell'$ . Notice that  $\ell$  and  $\ell'$  are distinct since  $A$  is incident with  $\ell$  but not with  $\ell'$ . By A3, there are at least two points incident with the line  $\ell'$ , so there must be a second point  $P$  on  $\ell'$ . However, since there are only 5 points in the geometry,  $P$  must be equal to one of  $B, C, D, E$ . However, this means that both  $\ell$  and  $\ell'$  are incident with the same pair of points, contradicting A1. This completed the proof of the statement.  $\square$

- (i) Does this axiomatic system satisfy the principle of duality? Why or why not?

Notice that A1 and A2 are dual statements. Also, from part (h) above, the duals of A3 and A5 hold. What remains is to consider the dual of axiom A4, which is the statement: There are 5 lines in this geometry.

Recall that in part (d) above, we found a model for this geometry that has more than 5 lines. In fact, we discussed the fact that the statement: "There are 5 lines in this geometry" cannot be proved in this model. Therefore, this axiomatic system does not satisfy the principle of duality.