

### Category 1 – Geometric Structure

#### HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENT

Euclid published *The Elements* in 300 BC describing Euclidean geometry. His listing of assumptions, definitions, and logically proven statements provided a template for other geometries that describe real world and abstract phenomena.

**Axioms or postulates:** statements that are assumed to be true without proof  
**Example:** Segment Addition Postulate: If point  $B$  lies on  $AC$ , then  $AB + BC = AC$

**Theorem:** statement that has been proven true using only axioms or postulates, definitions, other theorems, and logic  
**Example:** Pythagorean Theorem

**geometric system:** consistent axiomatic system useful for describing spatial (location-based) properties and relationships (real world or abstract)

**Examples:** Architects use Euclidean geometry to design buildings, which contain many geometric shapes. Ship captains and airplane pilots use spherical geometry to find the shortest path from one point to another.

#### EUCLIDEAN AND NON-EUCLIDEAN GEOMETRIES

**Euclidean geometry:** consists today of many axioms or postulates, including:

1. Through any two points there is exactly one line.
2. A straight line can extend indefinitely from a given point.
3. A circle can be defined using a given point as its center and a radius.
4. Things which are equal to the same thing are **congruent** ( $\cong$ ) to each other.
5. **Parallel Postulate:** Two straight lines will cross at exactly one point if the sum of the interior angles on a side generated by a transversal is less than 180°.

**Non-Euclidean geometries:** geometries that do not adhere to the Parallel Postulate, such as hyperbolic or elliptical (spherical) geometries

Geometry	Line	Plane	Angles
Euclidean	straight	flat	add to 180°
spherical	great circle	spherical surface	add to 180°

#### GEOMETRIC CONSTRUCTIONS

**geometric constructions:** drawings made using a straightedge and compass

**conjecture:** unproven proposition that appears correct

**Example 1:** Find the midpoint of line segment  $AB$  ( $\overline{AB}$ ).  
**Example 2:** Why is the perpendicular bisector of a line segment a line?

1. Draw a circle with center  $A$  and radius  $AB$ .
2. Draw a circle with center  $B$  and radius  $AB$ .
3. Draw line between arc intersections with straightedge.
4. The midpoint is where line crosses  $\overline{AB}$ .

#### MAKING AND VALIDATING CONJECTURES

Use axiomatic, coordinate, or inductive approaches to make conjectures.

**Example 1:** Making a conjecture about  $\triangle ABC$  and  $\triangle A'B'C'$ .

Side	Length	Angle
$AB$	4	$90^\circ$
$BC$	3	$45^\circ$
$AC$	5	$45^\circ$
$A'B'$	4	$90^\circ$
$B'C'$	3	$45^\circ$
$A'C'$	5	$45^\circ$

**Example 2:** Make a conjecture about the relationship between the number of diameters drawn in a circle and the number of regions created.

Diameters	Regions
0	1
1	2
2	4
3	7
4	11

Property	Description
additive property	If $a = b$ and $c = d$ , then $a + c = b + d$ .
substitution property	If $a = b$ , then $a = c = b = c$ .
multiplication property	If $a = b$ , then $ac = bc$ .
division property	If $a = b$ and $c \neq 0$ , then $a \div c = b \div c$ .
reflexive property	For any real number $a$ , $a = a$ .
symmetric property	If $a = b$ , then $b = a$ .
transitive property	If $a = b$ and $b = c$ , then $a = c$ .
substitution property	If $a = b$ , then $a$ can be substituted for $b$ in any equation or expression.
distributive property	$a(b + c) = ab + ac$

**Example:** given:  $m\angle 3 = 90^\circ$  conjecture: If  $m\angle 1 = m\angle 2$ , then  $m\angle 2$  validity: True. By Triangle Sum of Angles Theorem  $m\angle 1 + m\angle 2 + m\angle 3 = 180^\circ$ . Given that  $m\angle 3 = 90^\circ$ , then by substitution property  $m\angle 1 + m\angle 2 + 90^\circ = 180^\circ$  and then by subtraction property  $m\angle 1 + m\angle 2 = 180^\circ - 90^\circ = 90^\circ$ . If  $m\angle 1 = m\angle 2$ , then by substitution property  $m\angle 2 + m\angle 2 = 90^\circ$ , and by distributive property  $2m\angle 2 = 90^\circ$ , and therefore by division property  $m\angle 2 = 45^\circ$ .

#### CONDITIONAL STATEMENTS AND REASONING

If a conditional statement is always true, then the **contrapositive** is always true.

Statement	Example	Definition of Statement's Validity
conditional (if $p$ then $q$ )	If $\angle A$ is a right angle, then $m\angle A = 90^\circ$ .	TRUE
converse (if $q$ then $p$ )	If $m\angle A = 90^\circ$ , then $\angle A$ is a right angle.	TRUE
inverse (if not $p$ then not $q$ )	If $\angle A$ is not a right angle, then $m\angle A \neq 90^\circ$ .	TRUE
contrapositive (if not $q$ then not $p$ )	If $m\angle A \neq 90^\circ$ , then $\angle A$ is not a right angle.	TRUE

#### INDUCTIVE REASONING

**inductive reasoning:** process of reasoning that starts with specific examples and leads to a general conclusion. Example: 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12 are even numbers. Conjecture: If a whole number is even, then it is divisible by 2.

#### DEDUCTIVE REASONING

**deductive reasoning:** process of reasoning that starts with a general statement and leads to a specific conclusion. Example: All mammals are warm-blooded. A dog is a mammal. Therefore, a dog is warm-blooded.

**Proved Statement**

If  $\angle A$  and  $\angle B$  are supplementary, then  $\angle A = 180^\circ - \angle B$ .

**Conjecture**

If  $\angle A$  and  $\angle B$  are complementary, then  $\angle A = 90^\circ - \angle B$ .

**Example:** Corresponding Angles Converse: If two lines are intersected by a transversal such that corresponding angles are congruent, then lines are parallel.

#### PROOF AND COUNTER-EXAMPLES

**proof:** written statements that show the deductive reasoning process that links given information, definitions, axioms, and theorems to create certain conclusions

**Example 1:** 2-column proof  
given:  $\angle C$  is a right angle  
prove:  $\angle A$  and  $\angle B$  are complementary

Statements	Reasons
1) $\angle C$ is a right angle	1) Given
2) $m\angle C = 90^\circ$	2) Definition of right angle
3) $m\angle A + m\angle B + m\angle C = 180^\circ$	3) Triangle Sum of Angles Theorem
4) $m\angle A + m\angle B + 90^\circ = 180^\circ$	4) Substitution property of equality
5) $m\angle A + m\angle B = 90^\circ$	5) Subtraction property of equality
6) $\angle A$ and $\angle B$ are complementary	6) Definition of complementary angles

**Example 2:** paragraph proof  
given:  $\angle 1 = \angle 2$   
prove: lines  $m$  and  $n$  are perpendicular (L)  
You are given that  $\angle 1 = \angle 2$ , so by the definition of congruent angles  $m\angle 1 = m\angle 2$ .

**counter example:** A statement that is not always true. Example: All triangles are right triangles. Counter example: An acute triangle.

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