CONTENTS

INTRODUCTION *page* vii

1 INCIDENCE 1

Incidence structures in the real plane – Definition of an arbitrary affine plane (Axioms A1, A2, A3) – Parallelism – Directions – Finite planes – Cardinality of a line, of lines through a point – Plane as cartesian product of two lines – Latin squares – Projective and affine planes – Cyclic difference sets – Duality – Incidence matrix – Non-existence of plane of order 6

2 PARALLEL PROJECTION 23

Composite of two parallel projections called an affinity – Definition of addition and multiplication on the points of a line from affinities – Affinities doubly transitive on a line – Axiom $A4_1$: affinities on a line from parallel projections in two directions form a group – $A4_1$ equivalent to coordinate near-field – Analysis of commutative multiplication – Two near-field planes of order 9

3 DILATATIONS 38

Translations and enlargements in arbitrary planes – Translations in two directions abelian – Characteristic – Translation planes – $A4_1$ implies translation plane – Involutory dilatations – Half-turns – Hilbert's and Moulton's non-Desarguesian planes – Transitive groups of enlargements – Dual of plane with $A4_1$ characterised by enlargements – Example of infinite near-field

4 DESARGUESIAN PLANES 56

Axiom $A4_2$: enlargements with every centre transitive – $A4_2$ equivalent to coordinate skew-field – $A4_2$ equivalent to embeddability in 3-space – $A4_2$ implies $A4_1$ – Embedding of dilatations in projective planes and relation to Desargues' theorem – Quaternions

5 COLLINEATIONS 67

Line of fixed points implies direction of fixed lines – Compressions and shears – Validity of $A4_1$ independent of choice of line – Collineation group of Desarguesian plane 2-transitive, transitive on triangles – Collineations of Desarguesian planes and semi-linear transformations – Embedding of compressions and shears in central collineations of projective planes – Desarguesian projective planes and subspaces of 3-dimensional vector spaces

6 PAPPIAN PLANES 80

Axiom $A4_3$: commutative multiplication from all affinities – $A4_3$ equivalent to coordinate field – $A4_3$ implies $A4_2$

7 REFLECTIONS 84

Commutativity of collineations – Orthogonality – Commuting reflections – Commuting reflections and half-turns – Product of three parallel reflections – Product of three half-turns – Reflections in Pappian planes with orthogonality embeddable in a linear collineation – Orthogonality requires non-square in the coordinate field – Group of collineations generated by reflections represented as permutations of extended field – Rotations and glide-reflections – Reflections in projective planes – Polarities – Real projective plane

8 AXIOMS FOR GEOMETRY 100

A comparison of the contributions of D. Hilbert, G. D. Birkhoff, E. E. Moise, H. Levi, A. W. Bell, G. Choquet, J. Dieudonné, G. Papy, O. Veblen, L. M. Blumenthal, F. Klein, F. Bachmann, H. W. Guggenheimer and E. Artin

APPENDIX 109

REFERENCES 116

INDEX 119