

# AFFINE GEOMETRY WITH S. DOWDY'S "TRAPEZOID" AS PRIMITIVE

ROBERT E. CLAY

In [1] S. Dowdy introduces an axiom system for affine geometry based on the primitive  $t(ABCD)$  which intuitively means that  $A, B, C, D$  are the vertices of a trapezoid. In this paper the system is first simplified and then altered slightly so that the defined terms which appear in the axioms can be eliminated and still produce a "reasonable" looking system. A system in which  $c(ABC)$ ,  $A, B, C$  are collinear, is the only relation which appears is then given.

The system  $T$  which appears in this paper is Dowdy's  $A^*$  in [1]. System  $T'$  is derived from  $T$  by the following simplifications: Two disjuncts are removed from  $D2$ , one conjunct is removed from the last disjunct of  $D3$ ,  $A3$  is eliminated, the equivalence in  $A4$  is replaced by an implication,  $A5$  is replaced by a shorter simpler axiom, and a conjunct is removed from the antecedent of  $A8$ . System  $T''$  is obtained from  $T'$  by shortening and at the same time strengthening the definition of collinearity so that  $A5'$ , the transitivity of collinearity, follows from  $A6$ , the transitivity of parallelism. The theses prefixed with an  $L$  are to be found in [1], pp. 245-255.

## 1. SYSTEM $T$

- $D1 \quad [A]: A \varepsilon \alpha . \equiv . [\exists BCD]. t(ABCD)$   
 $D2 \quad [AB]. \cdot . r(AB) . \equiv : [\exists CD]: t(ABCD) . \vee . t(ACBD) . \vee . t(CBAD)$   
 $D3 \quad [ABC]. \cdot . c(ABC) . \equiv : r(BC): A = B . \vee . A = C . \vee . [\exists XY]. t(BCXY) . t(BAXY) . t(CAXY)$   
 $A1 \quad [\exists ABCD]. t(ABCD)$   
 $A2 \quad [ABCD]: t(ABCD) . \supset . A \neq B$   
 $A3a \quad [ABCD]: t(ABCD) . \supset . t(DCAB)$   
 $A3b \quad [ABCD]: t(ABCD) . \supset . t(ABDC)$   
 $A4 \quad [ABC]: : A \varepsilon \alpha . B \varepsilon \alpha . C \varepsilon \alpha . \supset . \cdot . \sim c(CAB) . \equiv : [\exists D]. t(ABCD) . \vee . A = B$   
 $A5 \quad [ABCMN]: A \neq B . c(AMN) . c(BMN) . c(CMN) . \supset . c(CAB)$   
 $A6 \quad [ABCDEFG]: t(ABCD) . t(ABEF) . t(CDEG) . \supset . t(CDEF)$