

## 4 Plane Separation

Here is a summary of the material in Section 2.6 of Kay.

**Definition:** A set  $K$  of points is *convex* if, for all distinct points  $A, B \in K$ ,  $\overline{AB} \subseteq K$ .

**Axiom H-1: Plane Separation Postulate:** Let  $\ell$  be any line in any plane  $P$ . The set of points of  $P$  not on  $\ell$  consists of the union of two subsets  $H_1, H_2$  of  $P$  such that:

1.  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are convex sets.
2.  $H_1 \cap H_2 = \emptyset$ .
3. If  $A \in H_1$  and  $B \in H_2$  then  $\ell \cap \overline{AB} \neq \emptyset$ .

**Definition:** In the above situation  $H_1$  and  $H_2$  are *half-planes*, are called the two *sides* of  $\ell$ , and we write  $H_1 = H(A, \ell)$  and  $H_2 = H(B, \ell)$ .

**Exercise 4.0.2** Determine whether or not Axiom H-1 holds in each of the geometric worlds  $\mathbf{E}^2$ ,  $\mathbf{S}^2$ ,  $\mathbf{U}^2$ , and  $\mathbf{H}^2$ .

**Lemma:** If  $B \in \ell$ ,  $A \in H_1$  (one of the two sides of  $\ell$ ), and  $A-B-C$ , then  $C$  is in the opposite side of  $\ell$ .

**Lemma:** Half-planes are nonempty.

**Definition:**

1.  $\overleftrightarrow{AB} = \{X : A-X-B\}$ , *open segment*. The book uses the notation  $(\overline{AB})$ .
2.  $\overrightarrow{AB} = \{X : X = B, A-X-B, \text{ or } A-B-X\}$ , *open ray*. The book uses the notation  $(AB]$ .
3.  $[H_1] = H_1 \cup \ell$ , where  $H_1 = H(P, \ell)$ , *closed half-plane*.

**Theorem 2.6.1:** If one point of a segment or ray lies in a half-plane  $H_1$  determined by some line  $\ell$ , and the endpoint of the segment or ray itself lies on  $\ell$ , then the entire open segment or open ray lies in  $H_1$ . (This is Theorem 1 of Kay, Section 2.6.)

**Corollary:** Let  $B$  and  $F$  lie on opposite sides of a line  $\ell$  and let  $A$  and  $G$  be any two distinct points on  $\ell$ . Then  $\overrightarrow{GB} \cap \overrightarrow{AF} = \emptyset$ .

**Theorem 2.6.2 (Postulate of Pasch):** Suppose  $A$ ,  $B$ , and  $C$  are any three distinct noncollinear points in a plane, and  $\ell$  is any line which also lies in that plane and passes through an interior point  $D$  of segment  $\overline{AB}$  but not through  $A$ ,  $B$ , nor  $C$ . Then  $\ell$  meets either  $\overline{AC}$  at some interior point  $E$ , or  $\overline{BC}$  at some interior point  $F$ , the cases being mutually exclusive. (This is Theorem 2 of Kay, Section 2.6.)

**Definition:**  $\text{int}\angle ABC = H(A, \overleftrightarrow{BC}) \cap H(C, \overleftrightarrow{BA})$ . I.e., the *interior* of  $\angle ABC$  is the set of all points  $X$  which simultaneously lie on the  $A$ -side of  $\overleftrightarrow{BC}$  and on the  $C$ -side of  $\overleftrightarrow{BA}$ .

**Theorem 2.6.3:** If  $A$  and  $C$  lie on the sides of  $\angle B$ , then, except for endpoints, segment  $\overline{AC} \subseteq \text{int}\angle B$ . If  $D \in \text{int}\angle B$ , then, except for  $B$ ,  $\overrightarrow{BD} \subseteq \text{int}\angle B$ . (This is Theorem 3 of Kay, Section 2.6.)