Foundations of Geometry

Chapter 2. Euclidean Geometry

2.6. Angles and Angle Measurement—Proofs of Theorems

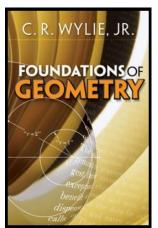


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Proof. Let H be a halfplane whose edge contains the ray $V\!A$ and let r is any number (strictly) between 0 and R. By the Protractor Postulate (Postulate 15), there is a one-to-one correspondence between all numbers x for which $0 \le x \le R$ and the set of rays \overrightarrow{VX} which lie in the union of H and its edge, so there is a ray \overrightarrow{VX} which corresponds to r.

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Theorem 2.6.3. The Angle-Construction Theorem. If H is a halfplane whose edge contains the ray \overrightarrow{VA} and if r is any number (strictly) between 0 and R, there is a unique ray \overrightarrow{VX} such that X is in H and $m_R \angle AVX = r$.

Proof. Let H be a halfplane whose edge contains the ray VA and let r is any number (strictly) between 0 and R. By the Protractor Postulate (Postulate 15), there is a one-to-one correspondence between all numbers x for which $0 \le x \le R$ and the set of rays \overrightarrow{VX} which lie in the union of H and its edge, so there is a ray \overrightarrow{VX} which corresponds to r. In the Protractor Postulate, \overrightarrow{VA} corresponds to the number 0 (by part (1) of the postulate) and the ray opposite VA corresponds the number R. Since the correspondence is one-to-one and 0 < r < R then the ray \overrightarrow{VX} cannot coincide with either ray VA nor the ray opposite VA. Therefore point Xmust lie in halfplane H (and not in the edge of the halfplane), as claimed.

Theorem 2.6.3. The Angle-Construction Theorem (continued)

Theorem 2.6.3. The Angle-Construction Theorem. If H is a halfplane whose edge contains the ray \overrightarrow{VA} and if r is any number (strictly) between 0 and R, there is a unique ray \overrightarrow{VX} such that X is in H and $m_R \angle AVX = r$.

Proof (continued). Now suppose \overrightarrow{VY} is a ray, where Y is in halfplane H, which also corresponds to the number r in the one-to-one correspondence of the Protractor Postulate. Since this correspondence is one-to-one, then it must be that ray \overrightarrow{VY} is the same as the ray \overrightarrow{VX} ; that is, ray \overrightarrow{VX} corresponding to number r is unique.