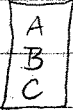


- Axiom 1 - There exist exactly 3 points.  
 2 - Every pair of points is on exactly one line.  
 3 - Every pair of lines is on at least one point.  
 4 - No 3 points are collinear.

b) Is the system independent? (Negate one axiom at a time.)

Negates #4



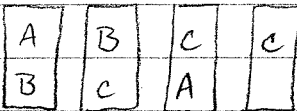
For a system to be independent, each axiom must be independent.

This means that a given axiom in a system cannot be derived

Model 1 from the other axioms in the system. To show this I used models that negated one axiom at a time (but allowed the remaining axioms to stand true). In the models,

lines are represented by boxes, and points are

Negates #3



represented by letters. In M1 there are exactly 3 points, and every pair of points, AB + BC, are on one line.

Model 2

This satisfies A1 + A2, and A3 is true "by default"

since it cannot be contradicted. But A4 is negated since the

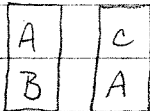
line has 3 collinear points. In model 2, there are only 3 points,

every pair of points is on exactly one line, and no 3 points are

on one line. But lines AB and C do not share a point,

so A3 is negated. In M3, only 3 points exist, every pair of

Negates #2



Model 3

lines shares a point, and no 3 points are in a line (satisfying axioms 1, 3 + 4

But the pair BC is not on a line, so A2 is negated.

In M4, no 3 points are collinear, the pair of lines

have one point in common, and the pair of points is

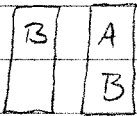
on only one line. These axioms (2, 3, 4) could even

be satisfied by the model 

A
B

. But model 4 does

Negates #1



Model 4

not satisfy axiom 1.

Consequently, the axiom system is independent

since each of the axioms in the system cannot be derived

from the other axioms, as is shown in these models.

I struggled with this problem, because when I read axioms that state "every pair of..." I want to assume that there does exist a pair then, but this is not necessarily true.

Just.