Euclid's Elements

Book VII

Definitions:

- A unit is that by virtue of which each of the things that exist is called one
- 2 A number is a multitude composed of units. (not one)
- A number is part of a number, the less of the greater, when it measures the greater
- 11 A prime number is that which is measured by a unit alone.
- 12 Numbers prime to one another are those which are measured by a unit alone as a common measure
- A number is said to multiply a number when that which is multiplied is added to itself as many times as there are units in the other, and thus some number is produced.
- Numbers are proportional when the first is the same multiple, or the same part, or the same parts, of the second that the third is of the fourth.

As long as algebra and geometry have been separated, their progress have been slow and their uses limited; but when these two sciences have been united, they have lent each mutual forces, and have marched together towards perfection.

Joseph-Louis Lagrange (1736 to 1813)



Table of Contents, Chapter 7

- 1 Determine if two numbers are relatively prime
- 2 Find the greatest common divisor for two numbers
- 3 Find the largest common divisor for three numbers
- 4 Given two natural numbers, A and B, either B is part of A, or there exists a natural number (a part) that can measure both A and B
- 5 If B = $(1/q)\cdot A$ and D = $(1/q)\cdot C$, then $(B+D) = (1/q)\cdot (A+C)$
- 6 If B = $(p/q)\cdot A$ and D = $(p/q)\cdot C$, then $(B+D) = (p/q)\cdot (A+C)$
- 7 If B = A/q and D = C/q, B>D, then (B-D) = (A-C)/q
- 8 If B = $(p/q)\cdot A$ and D = $(p/q)\cdot C$, B>D, then $(B-D) = (p/q)\cdot (A-C)$
- 9 If B = (1/q)·A and D = (1/q)·C, and If B = (r/s)·D, then A = (r/s)·C

- 10 If B = $(p/q)\cdot A$ and D = $(p/q)\cdot C$, and If B = $(r/s)\cdot D$, then A = $(r/s)\cdot C$
- 11 If A:B = C:D, then (A-C):(B-D) = A:B
- 12 If A:B = C:D, then (A+C):(B+C) = A:B
- 13 If A:B = C:D, then A:C = B:D
- 14 If A:B = D:E and B:C = E:F, then A:C = D:F
- 15 If B = i·1 and E = i·D, and if D = j·1 then E = j·B
- 16 $A \times B = B \times A$
- 17 If D = A × B and E = A × C then D:E = B:C
- 18 If D = B × A and E = C × A then D:E = B:C
- 19 If A:B = C:D then $A \times D = B \times C$ If $A \times D = B \times C$ then A:B = C:D
- 20 Given the ratio A:B and C,D are the smallest numbers such that A:B = C:D then A = n·C and B = n·D

- If A,B are relatively prime, then A,B are the smallest whole numbers that can be used to describe the ratio A:B
- 22 If A,B are the smallest whole numbers that can be used to describe the ratio A:B, then A,B are relatively prime
- 23 If A,B are relatively prime and if A = n·C, then B,C are relatively prime
- 24 If A,C are relatively prime and B,C are relatively prime then the A × B is relatively prime to C
- 25 If A,B are relatively prime then A²,B are relatively prime
- 26 If A is relatively prime to C and D, and if B is also relatively prime to C and D, then A × B is relatively prime to C × D
- 27 If A,B are relatively prime, then A²,B² are relatively prime, and A³,B³ are relatively prime, and so on



Table of Contents, Chapter 7

- 28 If A,B are relatively prime, then A,(A+B) are relatively prime
- 29 If A is prime, and B ≠ n·A, then A,B are relatively prime
- 30 If C = A×B and C = i·D where D is prime, then either A = j·D or B = j·D
- 31 If $A = B \times C$, then $A = j \cdot D$ where D is prime
- 32 If A is a number then it is either prime, or $A = j \cdot D$ where D is prime
- Find the smallest numbers X,Y,Z where the ratio X:Y:Z is equal to the given ratio A:B:C
- 34 Find the lowest common denominator of 2 numbers
- 35 If E is the lowest common denominator of A,B, and if C = n ·A = m·B, then C = i·E
- 36 Find the least common multiple of 3 numbers

- If $A = p \cdot B$, then $A = q \cdot C$ where $C = p \cdot 1$
- 38 If $A = (1/c) \cdot B$ and $C = c \cdot 1$ then $A = n \cdot C$
- Find the smallest number that has the fractions 1/a, 1/b, 1/c



Proposition 5 of Book VII

If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.



If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.

Definitions

3. A number is a 'part' of a number, the less of the greater, when it measures the greater

$$A = 10, B = 2,$$

B is part of A

$$A = B + B + B + B + B$$

4. but 'parts' when it does not measure it

$$A=10, B=6$$

Let the part of A be 2

$$p = 2$$
, $A = p + p + p + p + p$

B is a multiple of the part of A (B is parts of A)

$$B = p + p + p$$

A part of one number is the same as the part of another number if it is the same fraction

$$A = 10, B = 4$$

$$p_A = (1/2)A = 5$$

$$p_B = (1/2)B = 2$$

$$p_A$$
 same as p_B



If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.

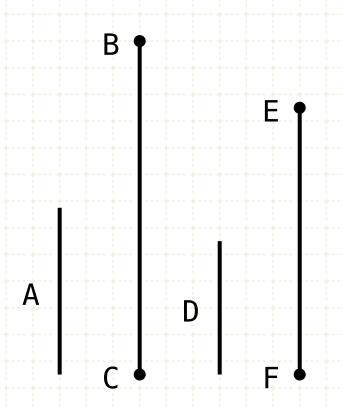
b =
$$(1/q)a$$

d = $(1/q)c$
 $\rightarrow (b+d) = (1/q)(a+c)$

In other words

If b is the same fraction of a as d is to c, then the sum b,d will also be the same fraction of the sum a,c

If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.



$$BC = q \cdot A, A = BC/q$$

 $EF = q \cdot D, D = EF/q$

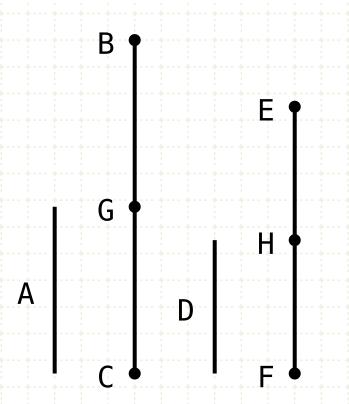
In other words

If b is the same fraction of a as d is to c, then the sum b,d will also be the same fraction of the sum a,c

Proof

Let the number A be part (fraction) of BC, and D be the same part (fraction) of EF

If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.



$$BC = q \cdot A$$
, $A = BC/q$
 $EF = q \cdot D$, $D = EF/q$

$$A = BG = GC$$

 $D = EH = HF$

In other words

If b is the same fraction of a as d is to c, then the sum b,d will also be the same fraction of the sum a,c

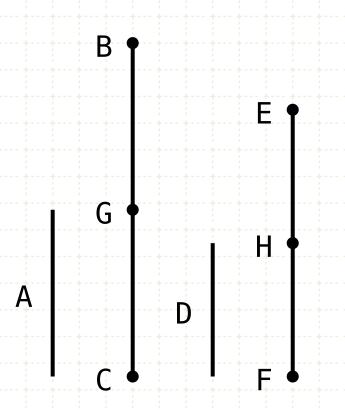
Proof

Let the number A be part (fraction) of BC, and D be the same part (fraction) of EF

Let BC be divided into the numbers equal to A, namely BG, GC

Let EF be divided into the numbers equal to D, namely EH, HF

If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.



$$BC = q \cdot A$$
, $A = BC/q$
 $EF = q \cdot D$, $D = EF/q$

$$A = BG = GC$$

 $D = EH = HF$

$$A + D = BG + EH$$

In other words

If b is the same fraction of a as d is to c, then the sum b,d will also be the same fraction of the sum a,c

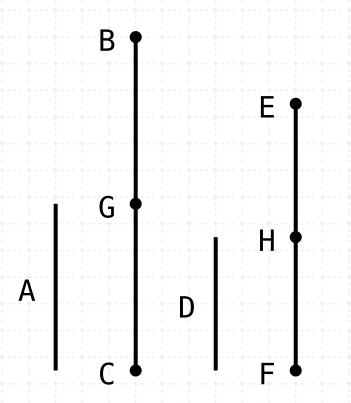
Proof

Let the number A be part (fraction) of BC, and D be the same part (fraction) of EF

Let BC be divided into the numbers equal to A, namely BG, GC

Let EF be divided into the numbers equal to D, namely EH, HF The sum of BG,EH equals the sum of A,D, since A equals BG, and D equals EH

If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.



$$BC = q \cdot A$$
, $A = BC/q$
 $EF = q \cdot D$, $D = EF/q$

$$A = BG = GC$$

 $D = EH = HF$

$$A + D = BG + EH$$

 $A + D = GC + HF$

In other words

If b is the same fraction of a as d is to c, then the sum b,d will also be the same fraction of the sum a,c

Proof

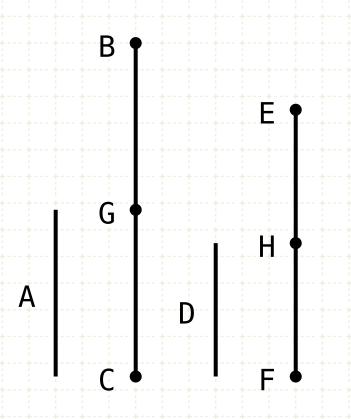
Let the number A be part (fraction) of BC, and D be the same part (fraction) of EF

Let BC be divided into the numbers equal to A, namely BG, GC

Let EF be divided into the numbers equal to D, namely EH, HF
The sum of BG,EH equals the sum of A,D, since A equals BG,
and D equals EH

Likewise, the sum of GC,HF equals the sum of A,D, since A equals GC, and D equals HF

If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.



$$BC = q \cdot A$$
, $A = BC/q$
 $EF = q \cdot D$, $D = EF/q$

$$A = BG = GC$$

 $D = EH = HF$

$$A + D = BG + EH$$
 $A + D = GC + HF$
 $BC = A + A + ... + A$
 $EF = D + D + ... + D$
 $BC+EF = A+D + A+D + ... + A+D$

In other words

If b is the same fraction of a as d is to c, then the sum b,d will also be the same fraction of the sum a,c

Proof

Let the number A be part (fraction) of BC, and D be the same part (fraction) of EF

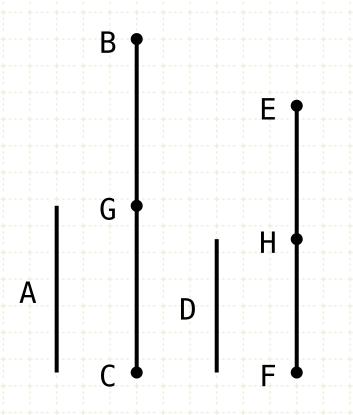
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Let EF be divided into the numbers equal to D, namely EH, HF The sum of BG,EH equals the sum of A,D, since A equals BG, and D equals EH

Likewise, the sum of GC,HF equals the sum of A,D, since A equals GC, and D equals HF

Given that BC and EF have the same number of parts, the previous process can be repeated for every part in BC and EF, repeatedly adding A,D

If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.



$$BC = q \cdot A$$
, $A = BC/q$
 $EF = q \cdot D$, $D = EF/q$

 $BC + EF = q \cdot (A+D),$

$$A = BG = GC$$

 $D = EH = HF$

In other words

If b is the same fraction of a as d is to c, then the sum b,d will also be the same fraction of the sum a,c

Proof

Let the number A be part (fraction) of BC, and D be the same part (fraction) of EF

Let BC be divided into the numbers equal to A, namely BG, GC

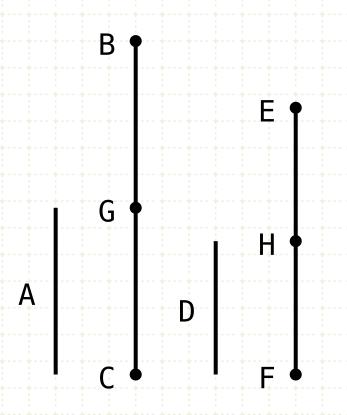
Let EF be divided into the numbers equal to D, namely EH, HF The sum of BG,EH equals the sum of A,D, since A equals BG, and D equals EH

Likewise, the sum of GC,HF equals the sum of A,D, since A equals GC, and D equals HF

Given that BC and EF have the same number of parts, the previous process can be repeated for every part in BC and EF, repeatedly adding A,D

Thus the sum of BC and EF will be the the sum of A and D, repeated as many times as there are parts D in EF

If a number be a part of a number, and another be the same part of another, the sum will also be the same part of the sum that the one is of the one.



$$BC = q \cdot A$$
, $A = BC/q$
 $EF = q \cdot D$, $D = EF/q$

$$A = BG = GC$$
 $D = EH = HE$

$$A + D = BG + EB$$
 $A + D = GC + HF$
 $BC = A + A + ... + A$
 $EF = D + D + ... + D$
 $BC + EF = A + D + A + D + ... + A + D$

$$A + D = (BC + EF)/q$$

In other words

If b is the same fraction of a as d is to c, then the sum b,d will also be the same fraction of the sum a,c

Proof

Let the number A be part (fraction) of BC, and D be the same part (fraction) of EF

Let BC be divided into the numbers equal to A, namely BG, GC

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Given that BC and EF have the same number of parts, the previous process can be repeated for every part in BC and EF, repeatedly adding A,D

Thus the sum of BC and EF will be the the sum of A and D, repeated as many times as there are parts D in EF

Thus the sum of A,D will be the same part (fraction) of BC,EF as A is to BC D is to EF



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