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)



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- 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)·A and D = (p/q)·C, B>D, then (B-D) = (p/q)·(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



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- 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
- 33 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

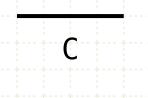
- If $A = p \cdot B$, then $A = q \cdot C$ where $C = p \cdot 1$
- 38 If $A = (1/c) \cdot B$ and $C = c \cdot 1$ then $A = n \cdot C$
- Find the smallest number that has the fractions 1/a, 1/b, 1/c

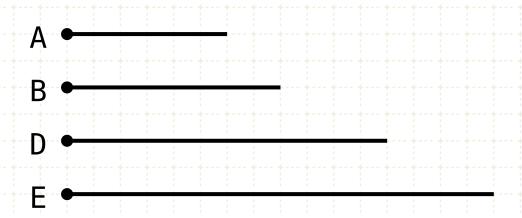


Proposition 18 of Book VII

If two numbers by multiplying any number make certain numbers, the numbers so produced will have the same ratio as the multipliers

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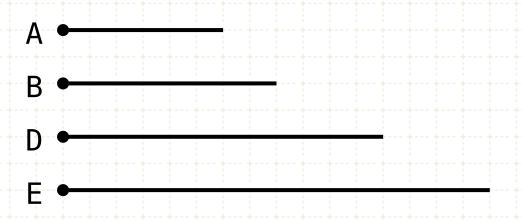




In other words

The ratio A to B is equal to the ratio as A times C to B times C

If two numbers by multiplying any number make certain numbers, the numbers so produced will have the same ratio as the multipliers



$$D = A \times C$$

 $E = B \times C$

In other words

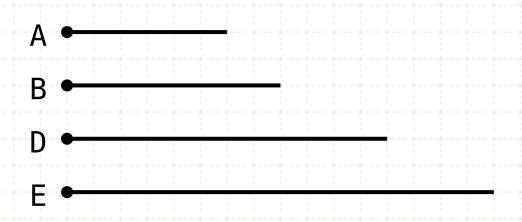
The ratio A to B is equal to the ratio as A times C to B times C

Proof

Let D be the result of A times C, and let E be the result of B times C

If two numbers by multiplying any number make certain numbers, the numbers so produced will have the same ratio as the multipliers

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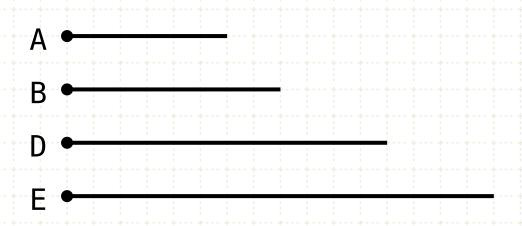
Proof

Let D be the result of A times C, and let E be the result of B times C

Since D is equal to A multiplied by C, D is also equal to C multiplied by A (VII-16)

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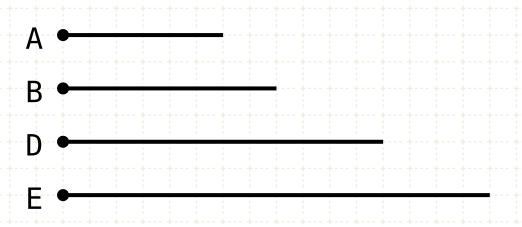
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Similarly, E is equal to C multiplied by B

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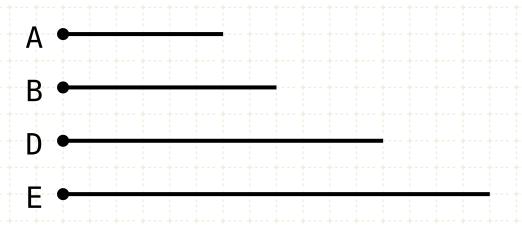
Since D is equal to A multiplied by C, D is also equal to C multiplied by A (VII-16)

Similarly, E is equal to C multiplied by B

Therefore, the numbers D,E have been made by multiplying C by A,B, and thus A is to B as D is to E (VII-17)

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