B G G D H

Euclid's Elements

Book III

A circle is a round straight line with a hole in the middle.

Mark Twain

quoting a schoolchild in "-English as She Is Taught-"

If people stand in a circle long enough, they'll eventually begin to dance.

George Carlin, Napalm and Silly Putty (2001)



Table of Contents, Chapter 3

- 1 To find the centre of a circle
- 2 A chord of a circle always lies inside the circle
- A line through the centre of a circle bisects a chord, and vice versa
- 4 A line not through the centre of a circle does not bisect a chord
- 5 If two circles cut one another, they will not have the same center
- 6 If two circles touch one another, they will not have the same center
- 7 Consider two lines from a point inside a circle to the edge, the longer one will be the one closest to the longest part of the diameter passing through the original point
- 8 Consider two lines from a point outside a circle to the edge, the line closest to the centre will be longer on the concave side and shorter on the convex side

- 9 If three lines, starting at a point 'A' and touching the circle, are all equal, then 'A' is the centre of the circle
- 10 A circle does not cut a circle at more points than two
- 11 Point of contact between two internal circles, and their centres, are collinear
- 12 Point of contact between two external circles, and their centres, are collinear
- 13 A circle does not touch a circle at more points than one, whether it touch it internally or externally.
- In a circle equal straight lines are equally distant from the centre, and those which are equally distant from the centre are equal to one another.
- The longest line in a circle is its diameter, shorter the farther away from the diameter
- 16 A line on the circle, perpendicular to the diameter, lies outside the circle

- 17 From a given point to draw a straight line touching a given circle
- 18 If line touches a circle, then it is perpendicular to the diameter that touches that point
- 19 If line touches a circle, then the centre of the circle lies on a line perpendicular to the original
- The angle at the centre of a circle is twice that from an angle from the circumference
- In a circle the angles in the same segment are equal to one another
- The opposite angles of quadrilaterals in circles are equal to two right angles
- On the same straight line there cannot be constructed two similar and unequal segments of circles on the same side
- 24 Similar segments of circles on equal straight lines are equal to one another



Table of Contents, Chapter 3

- 25 Given a segment of a circle, to describe the complete circle of which it is a segment.
- 26 In equal circles equal angles stand on equal circumferences
- 27 In equal circles angles standing on equal circumferences are equal to one another
- 28 In equal circles equal straight lines cut off equal circumferences
- 29 In equal circles equal circumferences are subtended by equal straight lines
- 30 To bisect a given circumference
- In a circle the angle in the semicircle is right ...
- 32 The angle between a tangent and a straight line cutting a circle is equal to the angle in the alternate segment
- 33 Construct a circle segment on a given line, such that the angle within the segment is equal to a given angle

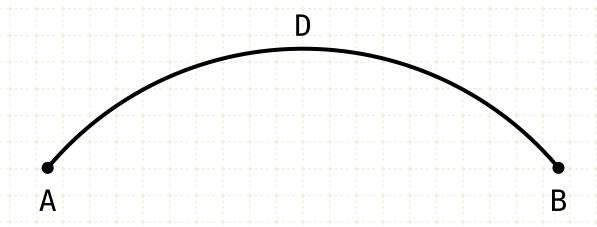
- 34 Construct a circle segment on a given circle, such that the angle within the segment is equal to a given angle
- 35 If two circle chords intersect, the segments on one multiplied together equals the segments of the other multiplied together
- 36 Secant-tangent law
- 37 Converse of the secant-tangent law



Proposition 30 of Book III To bisect a given circumference.



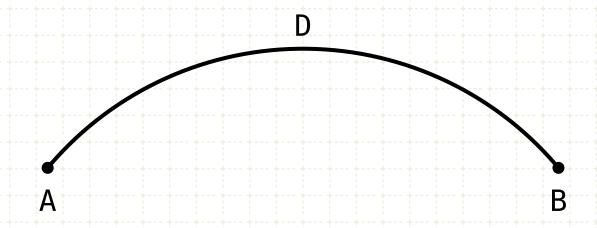
Proposition 30 of Book III To bisect a given circumference.



In other words

Describe the necessary steps to bisect the circumference

To bisect a given circumference.

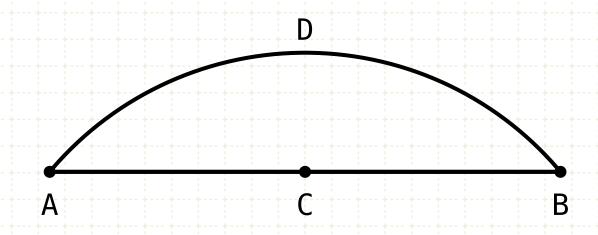


In other words

Describe the necessary steps to bisect the circumference ADB

Construction

To bisect a given circumference.



$$AC = CB$$

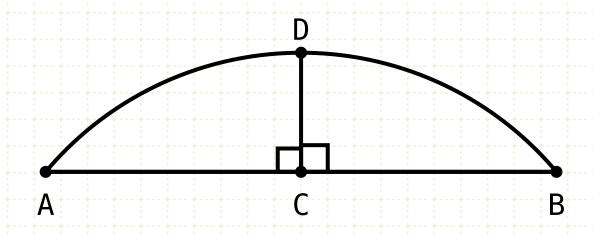
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Describe the necessary steps to bisect the circumference ADB

Construction

Draw line AB, and bisect at point C

To bisect a given circumference.



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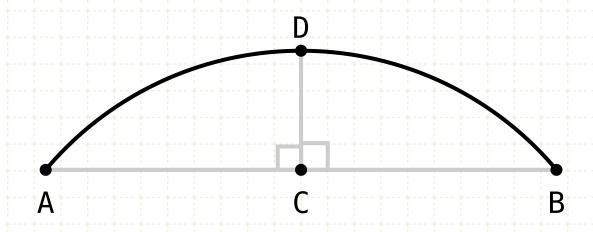
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Construction

Draw line AB, and bisect at point C

Draw a line perpendicular to AB, and label the intersection of the circumference point D

To bisect a given circumference.



$$AC = CB$$
 $\sigma AD = \sigma DB$

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Describe the necessary steps to bisect the circumference ADB

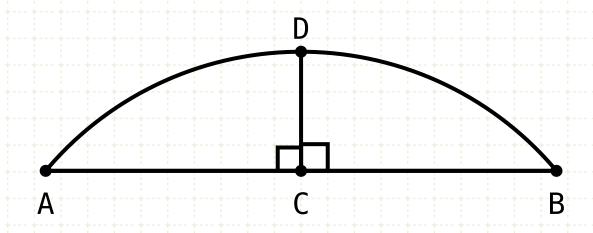
Construction

Draw line AB, and bisect at point C

Draw a line perpendicular to AB, and label the intersection of the circumference point D

The point D bisects the circumference ADB

To bisect a given circumference.



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Describe the necessary steps to bisect the circumference ADB

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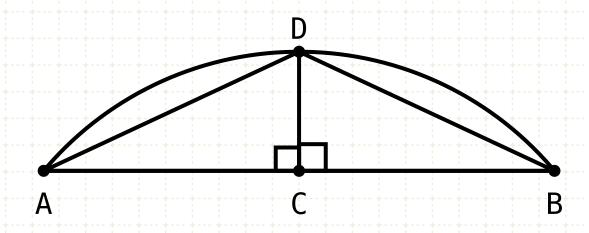
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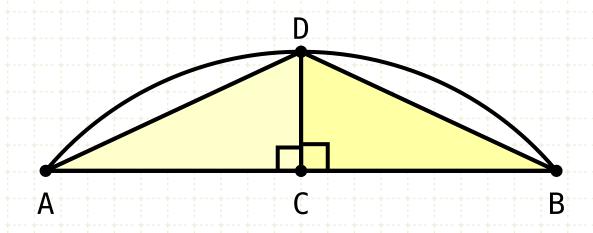
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Draw the lines AD and DB

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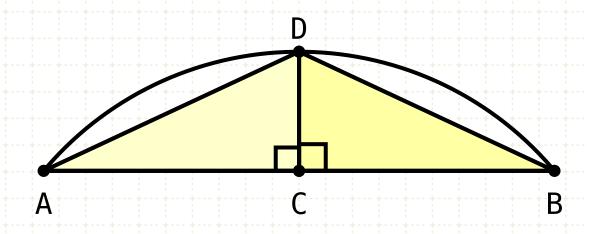
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Since the two triangles ACD and DCB have two sides equal to two sides respectively, and the angles between them are also equal (side-angle-side), then the two triangles are equal in all respects (I·4)

To bisect a given circumference.



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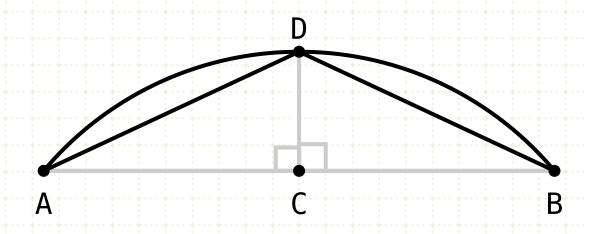
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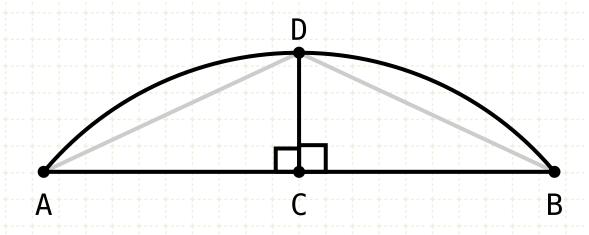
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But equal straight lines cut off equal circumferences (III-28), therefore the circumference AD equals DB

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