Euclid's Elements

Book I

If Euclid did not kindle your youthful enthusiasm, you were not born to be a scientific thinker.

Albert Einstein

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Proposition 36 of Book I

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.

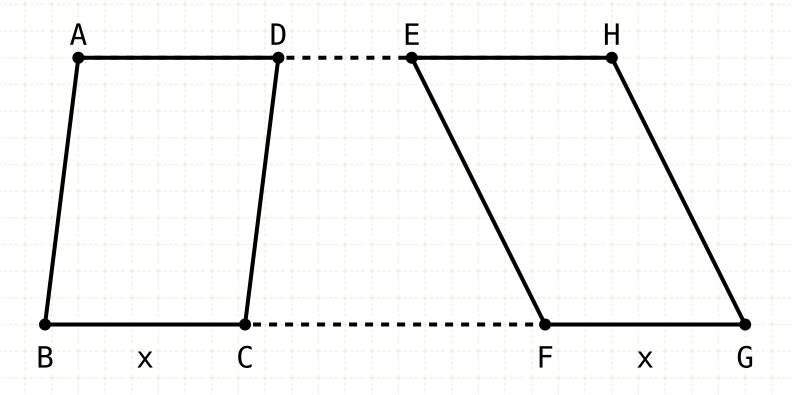
In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines



Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



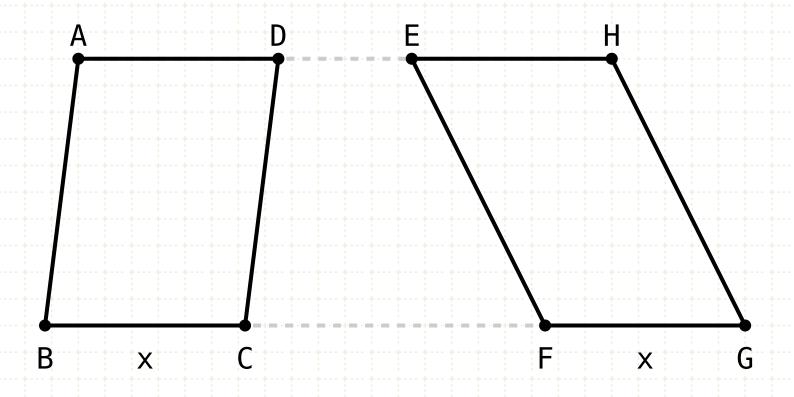
In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



In other words

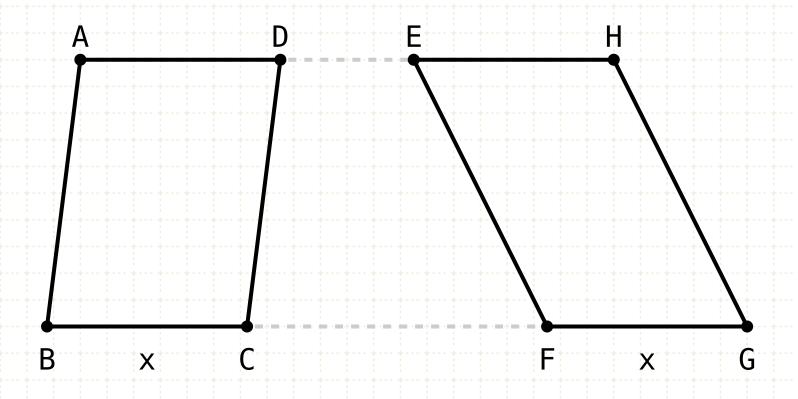
Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

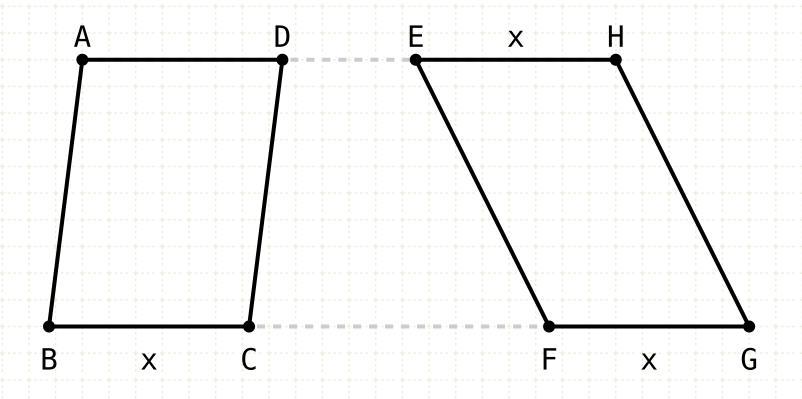
Given two parallel lines

Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

Proof

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



$$FG = EH = x$$

In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

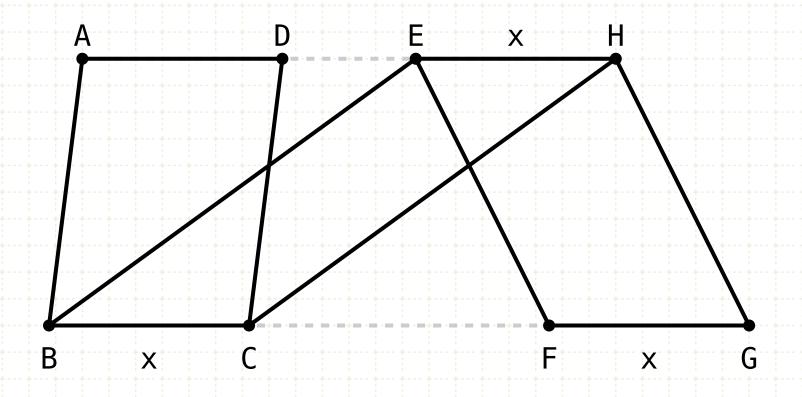
Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

Proof

FG equals EH since EFGH is a parallelogram (I·34)

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



$$FG = EH = x$$

In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

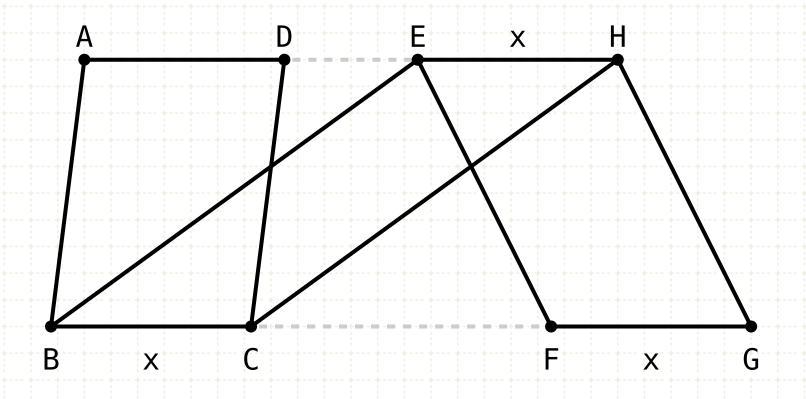
Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

Proof

FG equals EH since EFGH is a parallelogram (I-34)
Create lines BE and CH

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



$$FG = EH = X$$

 $BC = FG = EH = X$

In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

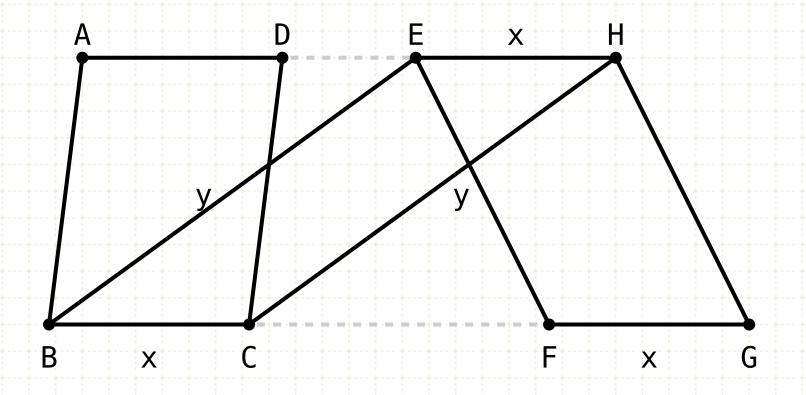
Proof

FG equals EH since EFGH is a parallelogram (I·34)

Create lines BE and CH

BC equals FG and FG equals EH, therefore BC equals EH

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



FG = EH =
$$x$$

BC = FG = EH = x
BC || EH :: BE || CH
BE = CH = y

In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

Proof

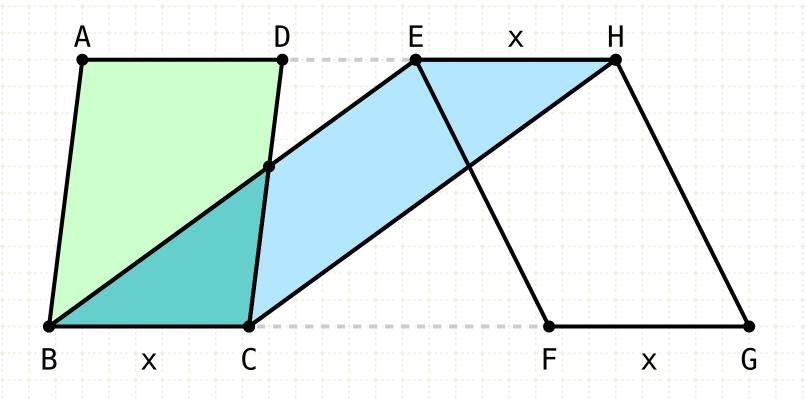
FG equals EH since EFGH is a parallelogram (I·34)

Create lines BE and CH

BC equals FG and FG equals EH, therefore BC equals EH

BC and EH are parallel, and equal, therefore the lines joining the endpoints are also equal and parallel (I·33), making EBCH a parallelogram

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



FG = EH =
$$x$$

BC = FG = EH = x

BC || EH : BE || CH

BE = CH = y

EBCH = ABCD

In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

Proof

FG equals EH since EFGH is a parallelogram (I·34)

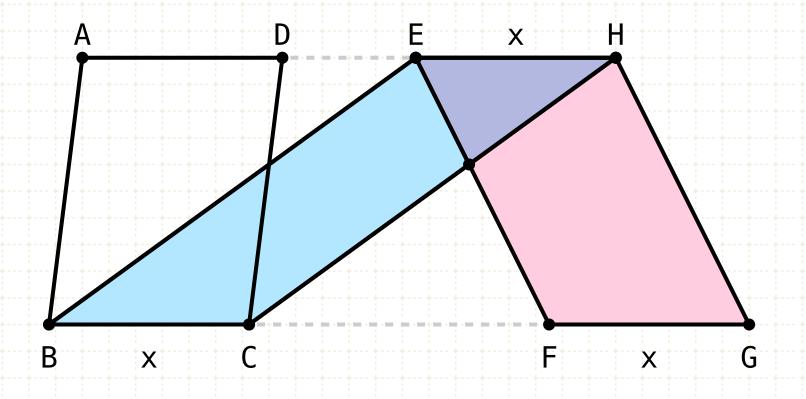
Create lines BE and CH

BC equals FG and FG equals EH, therefore BC equals EH

BC and EH are parallel, and equal, therefore the lines joining the endpoints are also equal and parallel (I·33), making EBCH a parallelogram

ABCD and EBCH are parallelograms which share the same base and are on the same parallels, so their areas are equal (I·35)

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.





In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

Proof

FG equals EH since EFGH is a parallelogram (I·34)

Create lines BE and CH

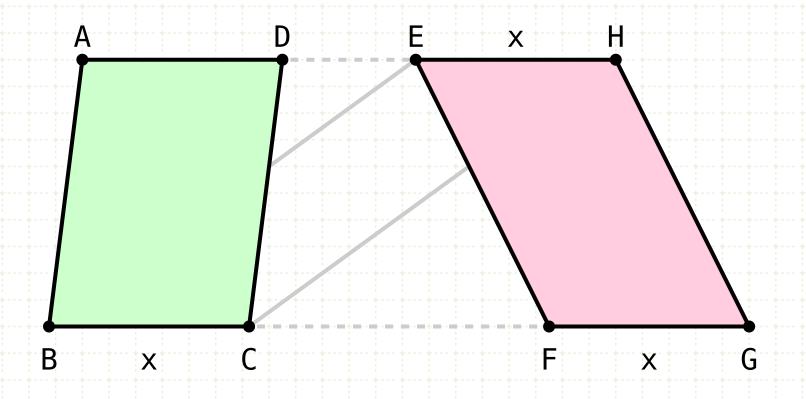
BC equals FG and FG equals EH, therefore BC equals EH

BC and EH are parallel, and equal, therefore the lines joining the endpoints are also equal and parallel (I·33), making EBCH a parallelogram

ABCD and EBCH are parallelograms which share the same base and are on the same parallels, so their areas are equal (I·35)

Similarly, EBCH and EFGH are parallelograms which share the same base and are on the same parallels, so their areas are equal (I·35)

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



$$BC = FG = EH = X$$

$$BE = CH = y$$

EBCH = ABCD

EFGH = EBCH

ABCD = EFGH



In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

Proof

FG equals EH since EFGH is a parallelogram (I·34)

Create lines BE and CH

BC equals FG and FG equals EH, therefore BC equals EH

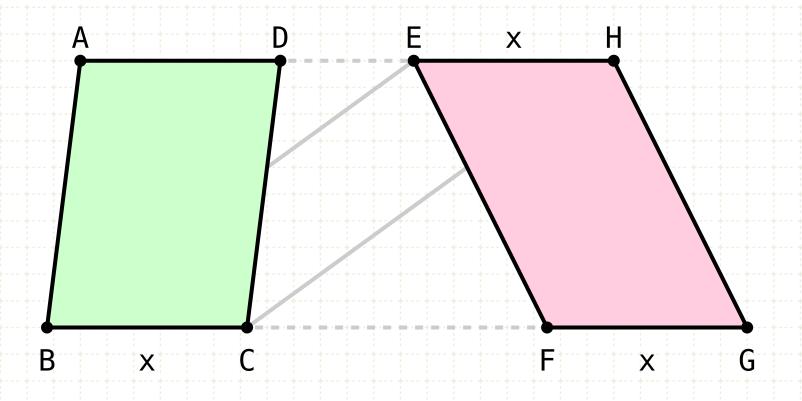
BC and EH are parallel, and equal, therefore the lines joining the endpoints are also equal and parallel (I·33), making EBCH a parallelogram

ABCD and EBCH are parallelograms which share the same base and are on the same parallels, so their areas are equal (I·35)

Similarly, EBCH and EFGH are parallelograms which share the same base and are on the same parallels, so their areas are equal (I·35)

Therefore ABCD is equal to EFGH

Parallelograms which are on equal bases and in the same parallels equal one another.



ABCD = EFGH



In other words

Parallelograms with equal bases and equal heights have equal area

Given two parallel lines

Let ABCD and EFGH be parallelograms with equal bases BC and FG on the same parallels AH and BG

The area ABCD is equal to EFGH

Proof

FG equals EH since EFGH is a parallelogram (I·34)

Create lines BE and CH

BC equals FG and FG equals EH, therefore BC equals EH

BC and EH are parallel, and equal, therefore the lines joining the endpoints are also equal and parallel (I·33), making EBCH a parallelogram

ABCD and EBCH are parallelograms which share the same base and are on the same parallels, so their areas are equal (I·35)

Similarly, EBCH and EFGH are parallelograms which share the same base and are on the same parallels, so their areas are equal (I·35)

Therefore ABCD is equal to EFGH

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