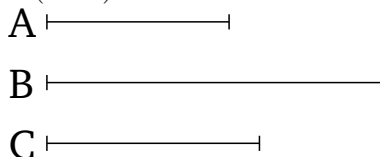


Book 9

Proposition 30

If an odd number measures an even number then it will also measure (one) half of it.



For let the odd number A measure the even (number) B . I say that (A) will also measure (one) half of (B) .

For since A measures B , let it measure it according to C . I say that C is not odd. For, if possible, let it be (odd). And since A measures B according to C , A has thus made B (by) multiplying C . Thus, B is composed out of odd numbers, (and) the multitude of them is odd. B is thus odd [Prop. 9.23]. The very thing (is) absurd. For (B) was assumed (to be) even. Thus, C is not odd. Thus, C is even. Hence, A measures B an even number of times. So, on account of this, (A) will also measure (one) half of (B) . (Which is) the very thing it was required to show.