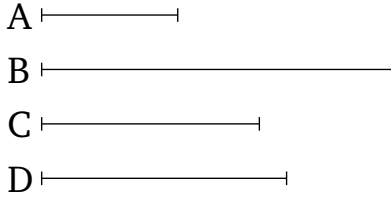


Book 10

Proposition 115

An infinite (series) of irrational (straight-lines) can be created from a medial (straight-line), and none of them is the same as any of the preceding (straight-lines).



Let A be a medial (straight-line). I say that an infinite (series) of irrational (straight-lines) can be created from A , and that none of them is the same as any of the preceding (straight-lines).

Let the rational (straight-line) B be laid down. And let the (square) on C be equal to the (rectangle contained) by B and A . Thus, C is irrational [Def. 10.4]. For an (area contained) by an irrational and a rational (straight-line) is irrational [Prop. 10.20]. And (C is) not the same as any of the preceding (straight-lines). For the (square) on none of the preceding (straight-lines), applied to a rational (straight-line), produces a medial (straight-line) as breadth. So, again, let the (square) on D be equal to the (rectangle contained) by B and C . Thus, the (square) on D is irrational [Prop. 10.20]. D is thus irrational [Def. 10.4]. And (D is) not the same as any of the preceding (straight-lines). For the (square) on none of the preceding (straight-lines), applied to a rational (straight-line), produces C as breadth. So, similarly, this arrangement being advanced to infinity, it is clear

that an infinite (series) of irrational (straight-lines) can be created from a medial (straight-line), and that none of them is the same as any of the preceding (straight-lines). (Which is) the very thing it was required to show.