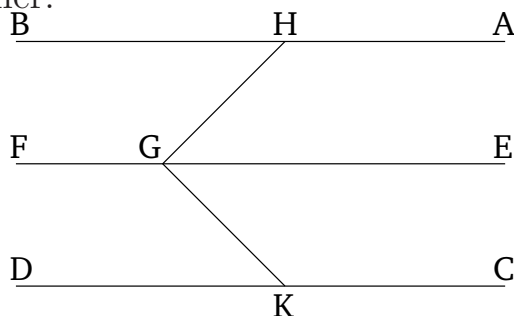


Book 11

Proposition 9

(Straight-lines) parallel to the same straight-line, and which are not in the same plane as it, are also parallel to one another.



For let AB and CD each be parallel to EF , not being in the same plane as it. I say that AB is parallel to CD .

For let some point G have been taken at random on EF . And from it let GH have been drawn at right-angles to EF in the plane through EF and AB . And let GK have been drawn, again at right-angles to EF , in the plane through FE and CD .

And since EF is at right-angles to each of GH and GK , EF is thus also at right-angles to the plane through GH and GK [Prop. 11.4]. And EF is parallel to AB . Thus, AB is also at right-angles to the plane through HGK [Prop. 11.8]. So, for the same (reasons), CD is also at right-angles to the plane through HGK . Thus, AB and CD are each at right-angles to the plane through HGK . And if two straight-lines are at right-angles to the same plane then the straight-lines are parallel [Prop. 11.6]. Thus, AB is parallel to CD . (Which is) the very thing it was required to show.