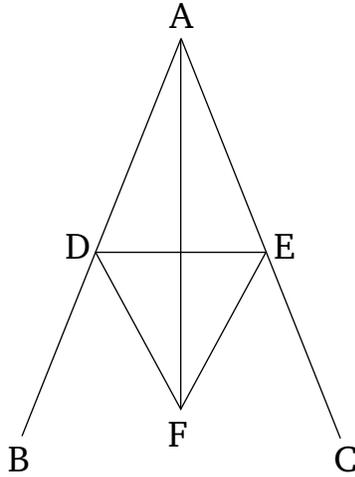


Book 1

Proposition 9

To cut a given rectilinear angle in half.



Let BAC be the given rectilinear angle. So it is required to cut it in half.

Let the point D have been taken at random on AB , and let AE , equal to AD , have been cut off from AC [Prop. 1.3], and let DE have been joined. And let the equilateral triangle DEF have been constructed upon DE [Prop. 1.1], and let AF have been joined. I say that the angle BAC has been cut in half by the straight-line AF .

For since AD is equal to AE , and AF is common, the two (straight-lines) DA , AF are equal to the two (straight-lines) EA , AF , respectively. And the base DF is equal to the base EF . Thus, angle DAF is equal to angle EAF [Prop. 1.8].

Thus, the given rectilinear angle BAC has been cut in half by the straight-line AF . (Which is) the very thing it was required to do.