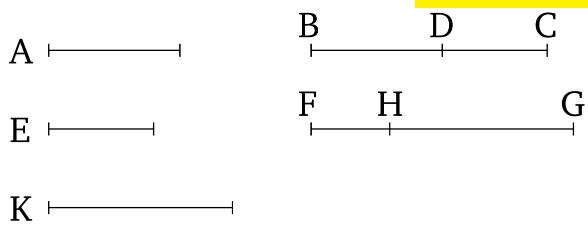
Book 10
Proposition 90

To find a sixth apotome.

Let the rational (straight-line) A, and the three numbers E, BC, and CD, not having to one another the ratio which (some) square number (has) to (some) square number, be laid down. Furthermore, let CB also not have to BD the ratio which (some) square number (has) to (some) square number. And let it have been contrived that as E (is) to BC, so the (square) on A (is) to the (square) on FG, and as BC (is) to CD, so the (square) on FG (is) to the (square) on GH [Prop. 10.6 corr.].



Therefore, since as E is to BC, so the (square) on A (is) to the (square) on FG, the (square) on A (is) thus commensurable with the (square) on FG [Prop. 10.6]. And the (square) on A (is) rational. Thus, the (square) on FG (is) also rational. Thus, FG is also a rational (straight-line). And since E does not have to BC the ratio which (some) square number (has) to (some) square number, the (square) on A thus does not have to the (square) on FG the ratio which (some) square number (has) to (some) square number either. Thus, A is incommensurable in length with FG [Prop. 10.9]. Again, since as BC is to CD, so the (square) on FG (is) to the (square) on GH, the (square) on FG (is) thus commensurable with the (square) on GH [Prop. 10.6]. And the (square) on FG (is) rational. Thus, the (square) on GH (is) also rational. Thus, GH (is) also rational. And since BC does not have to CD the ratio which (some) square number (has) to (some) square number, the (square) on FG thus does not have to the (square) on GH the ratio which (some) square (number) has to (some) square (number) either. Thus, FG is incommensurable in length with GH [Prop. 10.9]. And both are rational (straight-lines). Thus, FG and GH are rational (straight-lines which are) commensurable in square only. Thus, FH is an apotome [Prop. 10.73]. So, I say that (it is) also a sixth (apotome).

For since as E is to BC, so the (square) on A (is) to the (square) on FG, and as BC (is) to CD, so the (square) on FG (is) to the (square) on GH, thus, via equality, as E is to CD, so the (square) on A (is) to the (square) on GH [Prop. 5.22]. And E does not have to CD the ratio which (some) square number (has) to (some) square number. Thus, the (square) on A does not have to the (square) GH the ratio which (some) square number (has) to (some) square number either. A is thus incommensurable in length with GH [Prop. 10.9]. Thus, neither of FG and GH is commensurable in length with the rational (straight-line) A. Therefore, let the (square) on K be that (area) by which the (square) on FG is greater than the (square) on GH [Prop. 10.13 lem.]. Therefore, since as BC is to CD, so the (square) on FG (is) to the (square) on GH, thus, via conversion, as CB is to BD, so the (square) on FG (is) to the (square) on

K [Prop. 5.19 corr.]. And CB does not have to BD the ratio which (some) square number (has) to (some) square number. Thus, the (square) on FG does not have to the (square) on K the ratio which (some) square number (has) to (some) square number either. FG is thus incommensurable in length with K [Prop. 10.9]. And the square on FG is greater than (the square on) GH by the (square) on K. Thus, the square on FG is greater than (the square on) GH by the (square) on (some straight-line) incommensurable in length with (FG). And neither of FG and GH is commensurable in length with the (previously) laid down rational (straight-line) A. Thus, FH is a sixth apotome [Def. 10.16].

Thus, the sixth apotome FH has been found. (Which is) the very thing it was required to show.