## Construction 5: Book I, Proposition 10

To bisect a given finite straight line.
I.10:2. Let AB be the given finite straight line.

I.10:4. Let the equilateral triangle ABC be constructed on it, [I.1]

## GOSUB I.1.


I.1:7. With centre A and distance AB let the circle BCD be described; [Post.3]

I.1:10. again, with centre $B$ and distance BA let the circle ACE be described; [Post.3]

I.1:13. and from the point C , in which the circles cut one another, to the points $\mathrm{A}, \mathrm{B}$ let the straight lines CA, CB be joined.

RETURN to I. 10 at line 4.

I.10:6. and let the angle ACB be bisected by the straight line CD; [I.9]

GOSUB I.9. However, notice that we have the construction of I. 9 nearly complete here. We relabel as in I. 9 figure 8, and go on to the next step, figure 9 of I. 9 .

I.9:13. and from the point c , in which the circles cut one another, to the points $\mathrm{a}, \mathrm{b}$ let the straight lines ca, cb be joined. [Post.1]


RETURN to I. 9 at line 6, cleanup, and relabel. (Otherwise, this is figure 10 of I.9.)
I.9:8. Let af be joined.

NOTE: We could have drawn this line immediately after figure 3 in this construction.

RETURN to I .10 at line 6 and relabel.
I.10:8. I say that the straight line AB has been bisected at the point D.
Q.E.F.
a
d



