To approximate an ellipse with circlular arcs.

The black ellipse is exact, and the red arcs are the approximation.

Let AC be the major axis and BN the minor. Draw the semicircle ADC with

O as centre. Divide BD into 3 equal parts and set off BE equal to 1 of these parts.

With A and C as centre and OE as radius, draw the circlular arcs KLM and FGH;

with G and L as centres, and the same radius, draw arcs FCH and KAM.

Through F and G draw the FP, and with P as centre draw the arc FBK.

Arc HNB is drawn in the same manner.