

we would observe the planet Venus with a telescope of 60 feet, as the angle under which it appears to us is only 60 seconds, the ocular glass can only have four lines diameter; and if we make use of an objective of 120 feet, an ocular glass of eight lines diameter would suffice to unite the whole image which the objective forms to its focus.

Hence we see, that even if the rays of light were equally refrangible we could not make such strong telescopes to see the moon with as to see the other planets, and that the smaller a planet appears to our sight the more we can augment the length of the telescope, with which we can see it wholly. Hence it may be well conceived, that in this supposition of the rays, equally refrangible, there must be a certain length more advantageously determined than any other for each different planet, and that this length of the telescope depends not only on the angle under which the planet appears to our sight, but also on the quantity of light with which it is brightened.

In common telescopes the rays of light being differently refrangible, all that could be done in this mode to give them perfection would be of very little advantage, because, that under whatever angle the object, or planet, appears to our sight, and whatever intensity of light it
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