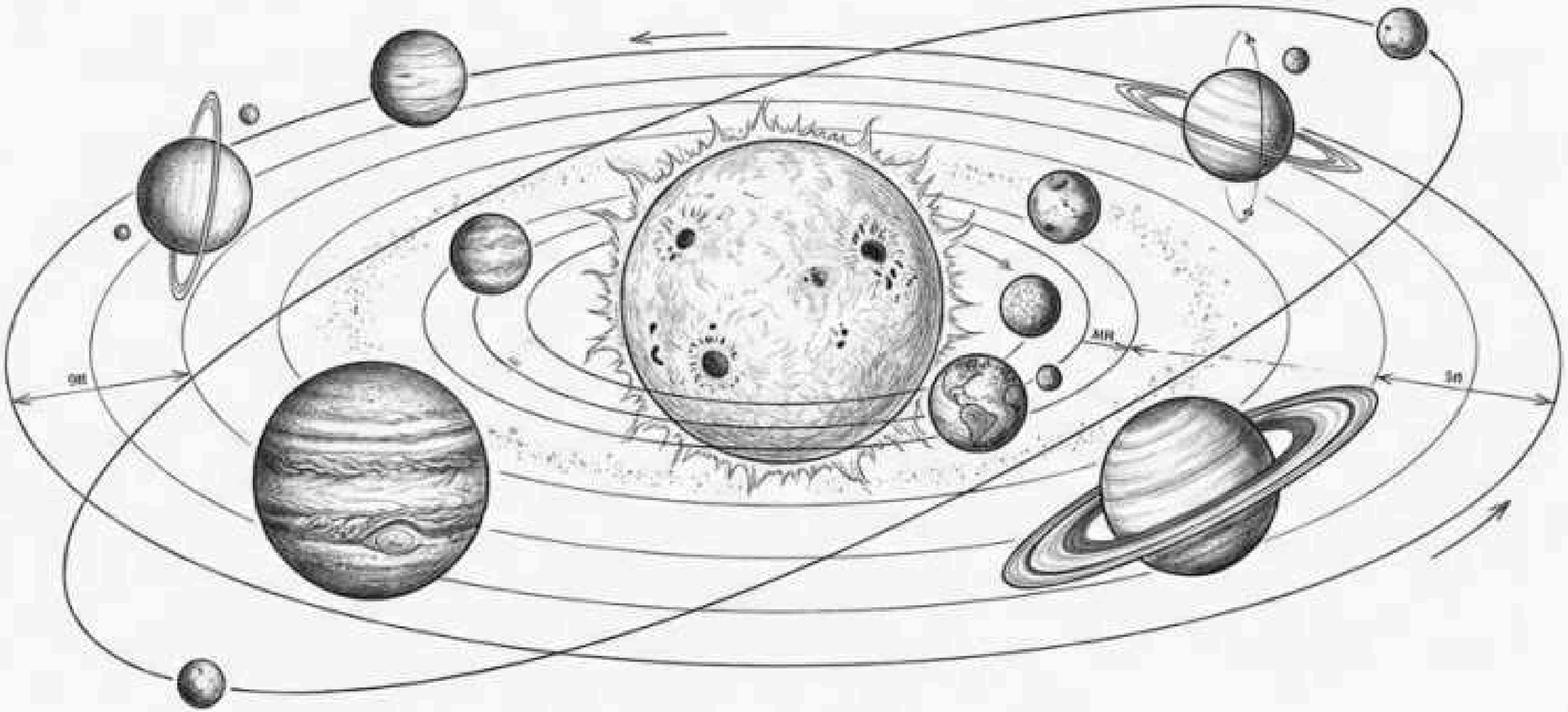
ASTR 101 B: Course Overview

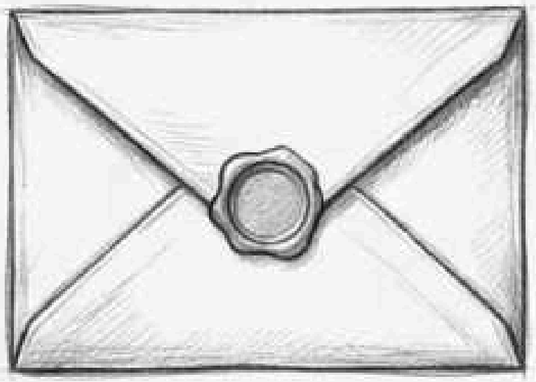


Anderson Academy — The Science of the Sky

Gemini Notebook

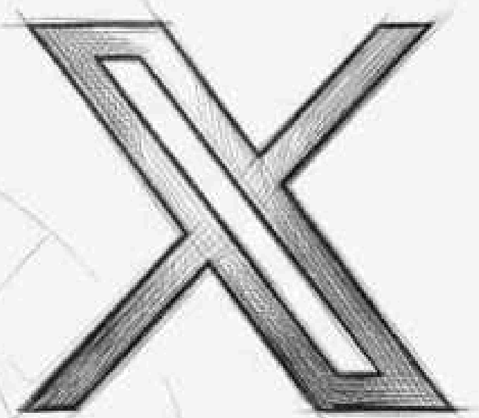
The Open Line

¶ 0.1



---------- Questions and feedback are always welcome.

Email: garyanderson@mail.grokbot.com



---------- X: @garyanderson



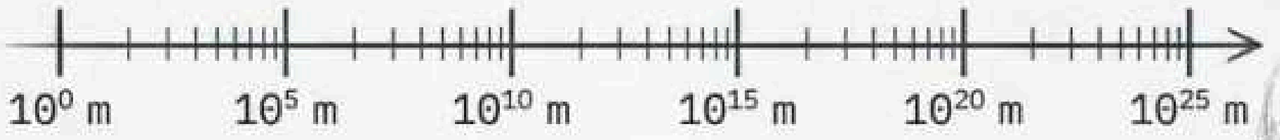
Gemini Notebook

The Scope of the Sky

¶ 0.2

~1 Hour Total







The Platform:	The Format:	The Time:	The Goal:
Anderson Academy (free university-level courses)	ASTR 101 B (B = Brief). Overview + 6 short lectures.	~1 Hour Total	Build a working picture of the universe, Moon to galaxies.

Gemini Notebook

From Calendars to Cosmology

¶ 0.3

The Oldest Science



Watched the sky to keep calendars, plan planting, and navigate oceans.

Modern Philosophy via Measurement



Asking how big, how old, and how the universe began.

Every claim rests on measurement: light that someone collected and studied.

Gemini Notebook

The Untouchable Puzzle

¶ 0.4



$$E = hf$$



Astronomers cannot touch their objects, pick up a star, or bring a galaxy into a lab.

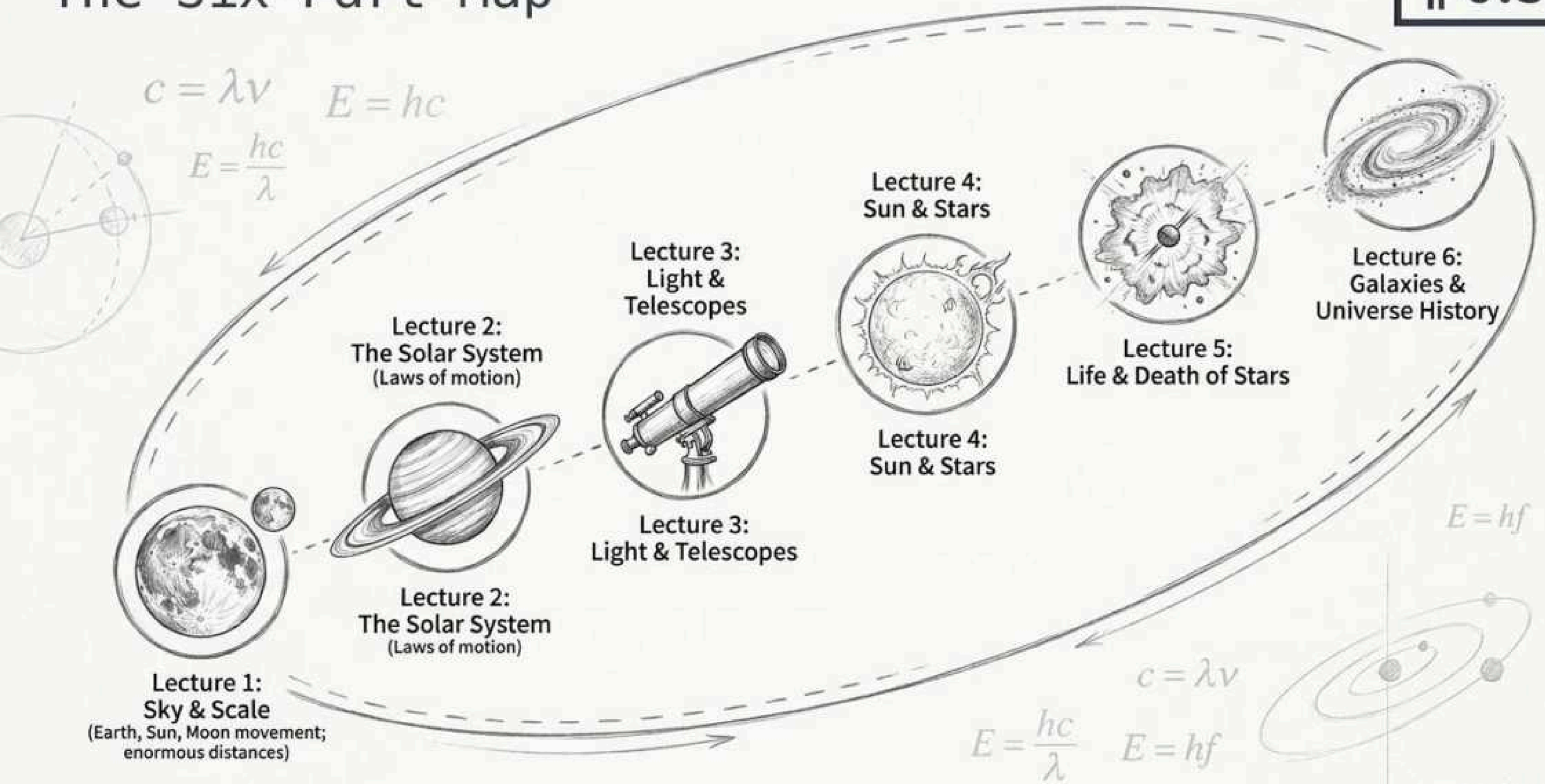
They rely entirely on collecting light and distant radiation.

How much can be learned from light alone? Nearly everything.

Gemini Notebook

The Six-Part Map

¶ 0.5



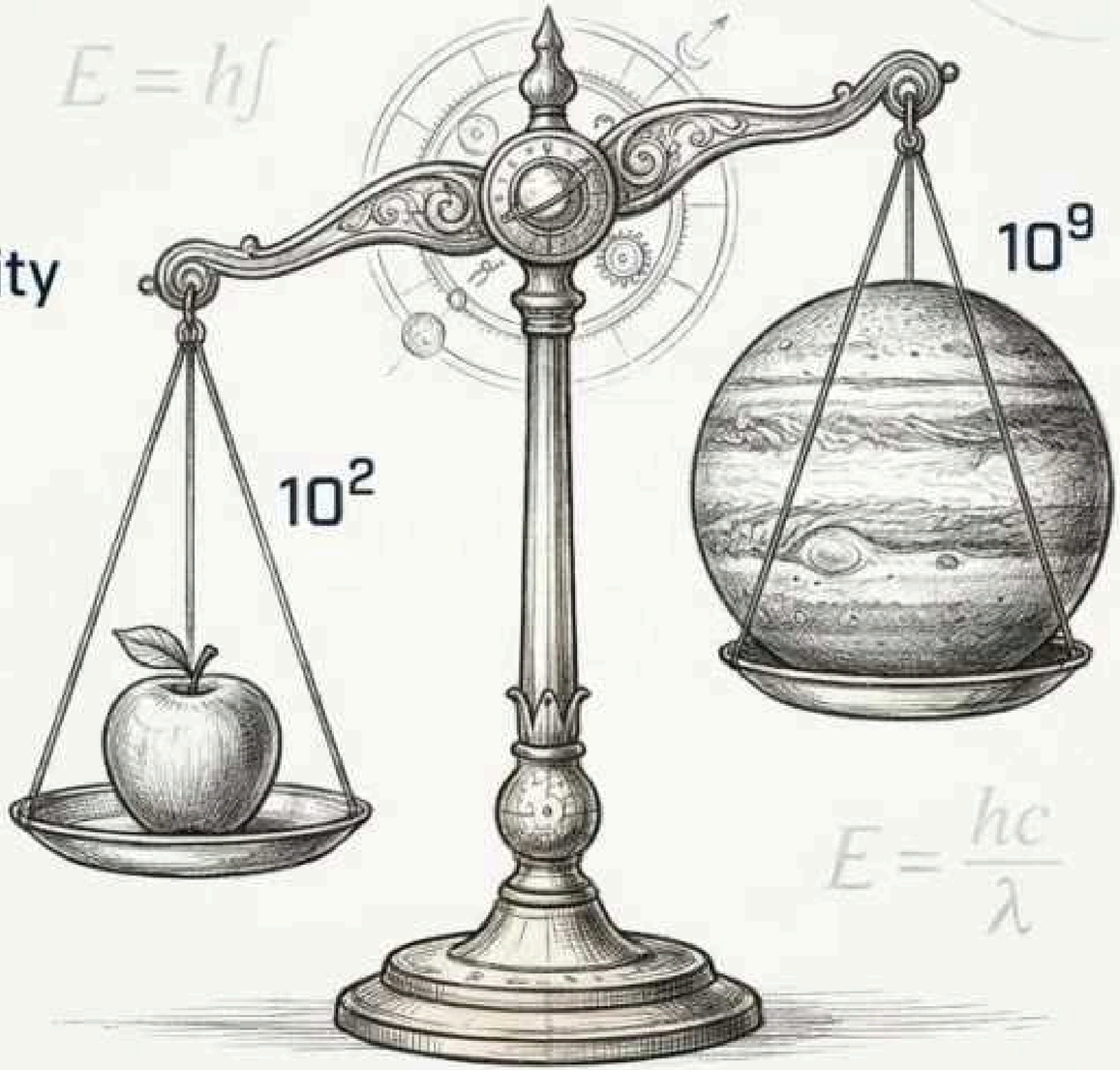
Gemini Notebook

The Mindset of Scale

¶ 0.6

No special mathematics needed—just curiosity and holding large numbers in mind.

Core tools: Ratios and Powers of Ten.



The Golden Rule:

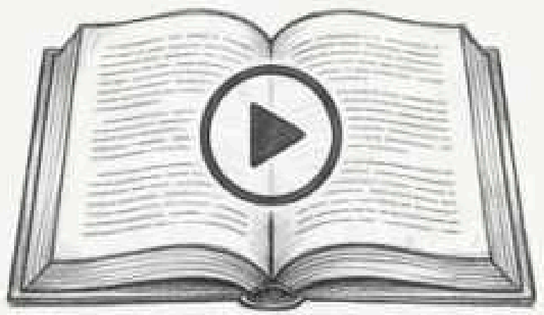
Ask of every number: how does this compare with something I already know?

Comparison makes size feel real.

Gemini Notebook

The Anatomy of a Lecture

¶ 0.7



1. Consume: Watch the video, read the transcript, or both.



2. Track: Note paragraph numbers (e.g., Lecture 3, paragraph 5 = 3.5).



3. Test: Take the 5-question quiz (answers point back to numbered paragraphs).

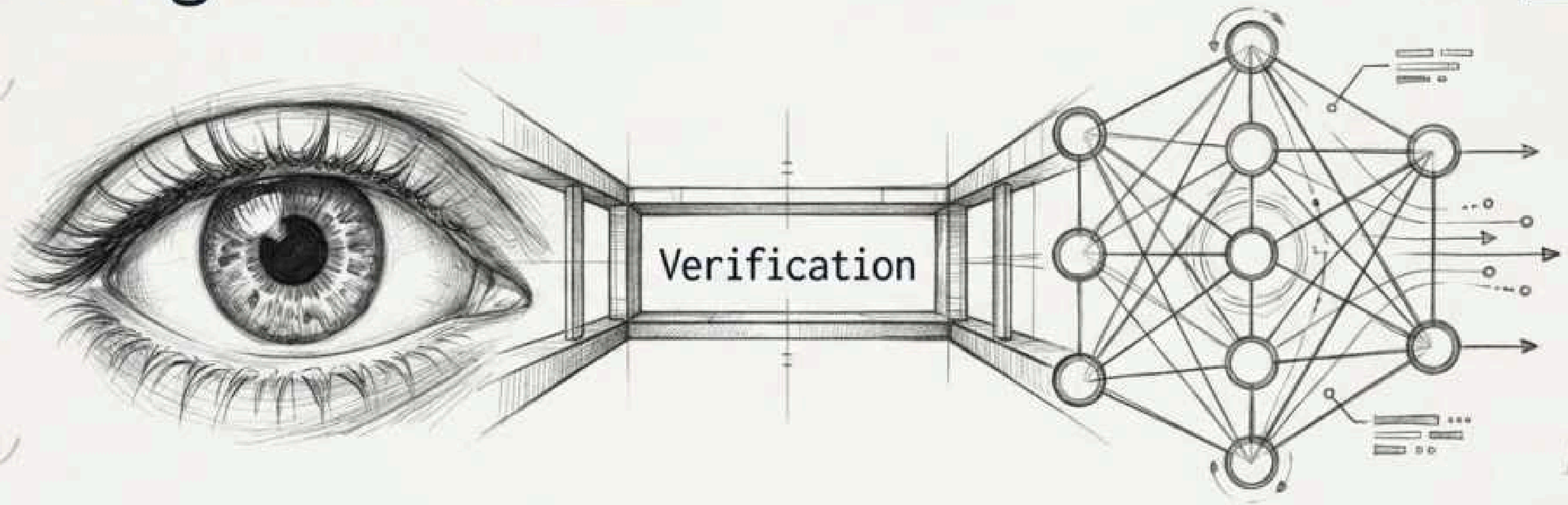


4. Reflect: Ponder the closing thought question before moving on.

Gemini Notebook

A Living Curriculum

¶ 0.8



Developed via Artificial Intelligence, guided by a human teacher.

Figures checked against standard sources, but science constantly refines numbers.

Actionable Advice

If a number matters to you, look up the latest value.

Find a mistake? Report it easily using the paragraph numbers.

Gemini Notebook

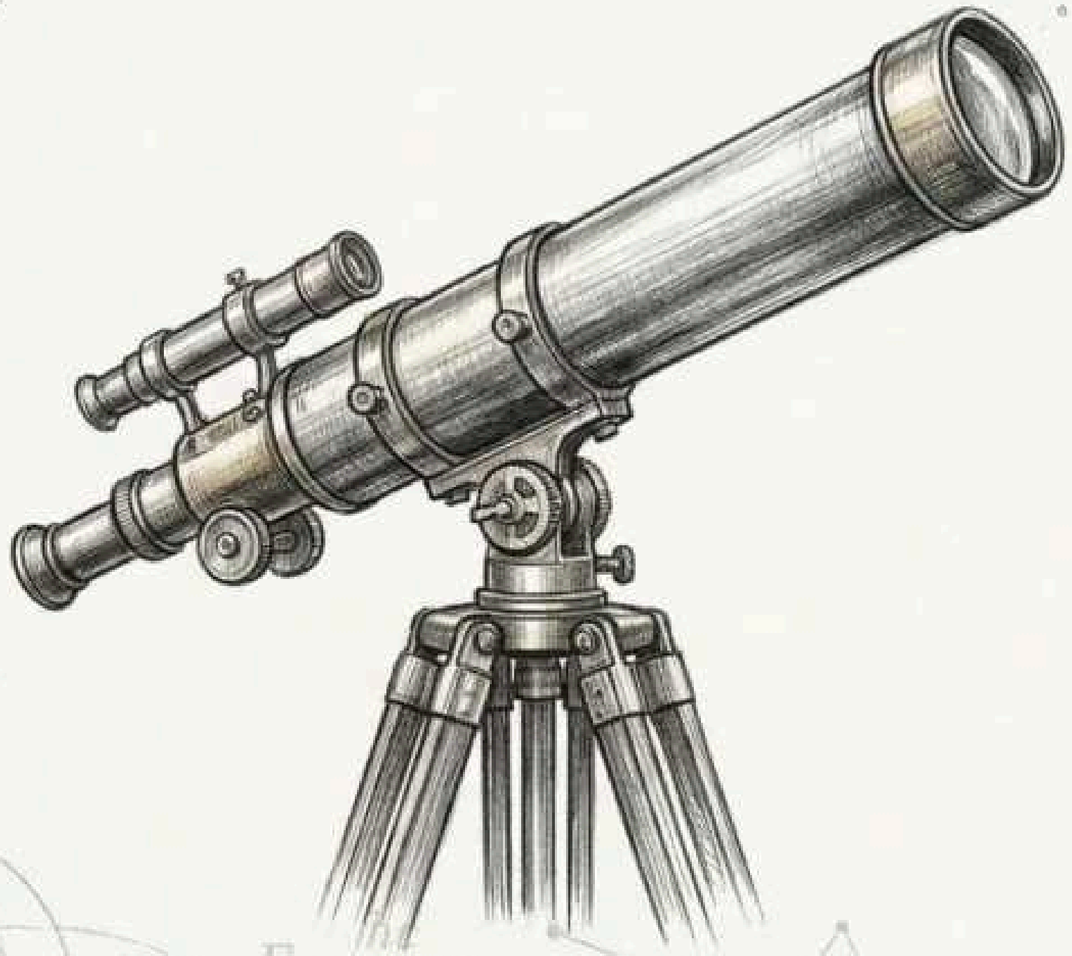
The Assessment Ecosystem

All assessments are formative—designed to help you learn, not to grade you.

Quizzes	5 questions per lecture. Points back to source text.
Final Exam	50 questions encompassing the course.
The Tripos	6 essay questions. Strategy: Try first, then compare against provided model answers.
AI Tutor	Interactive quizzing directly from transcripts.

Gemini Notebook

Looking Up



Now let us begin where every astronomer begins, by looking up, in lecture one.

garyanderson@mail.grokbot.com | X: @garyanderson

Gemini Notebook