

How I became a quantum optician

And the lessons for you

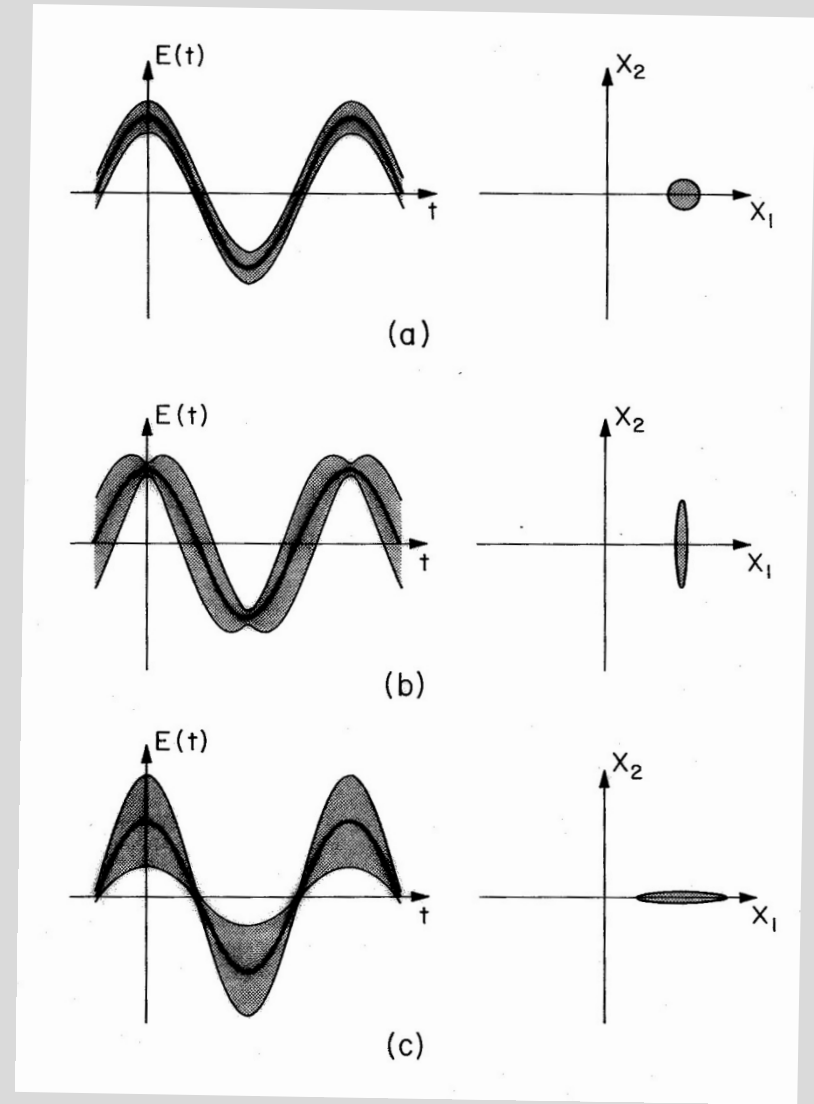
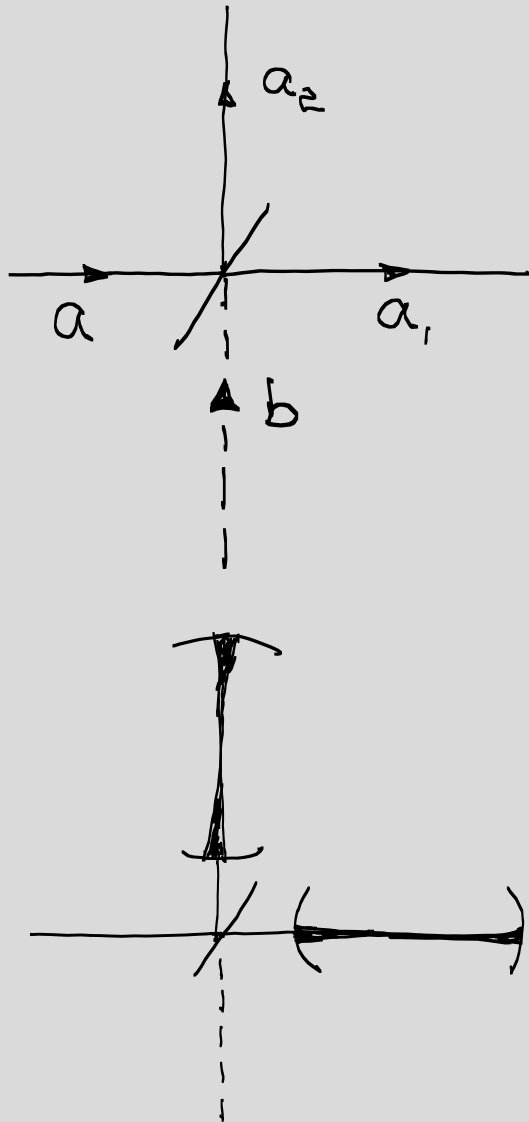
Carlton M. Caves

IYL Celebration, UNM, September 25, 2015

**Moo Stack and the Villians of Ure
Eshaness, Shetland**



How I became a quantum optician



All quantum opticians are now quantum information scientists.

Lessons for you?

When an old fart starts handing out advice, take cover.

Those who fail to learn from the past are condemned to repeat it.

Those who learn from the mistakes of the past are condemned to make different mistakes.

**Oljeto Wash
Southern Utah**



Join the international scientific community.

Let science and its quest for truth provide your identity and sense of purpose. Sublimate your national, religious, racial, ethnic, and gender identities within the universal scientific enterprise.

BE A SCIENTIST.

The truth shall make you free.



**Pinnacles National Park
Central California**

Have a passion,
and work on it.

If I am not for myself, who is for me?
But if I am only for myself, what am I?
And if not now, when?

Hillel

In the Sawtooth range
Central New Mexico



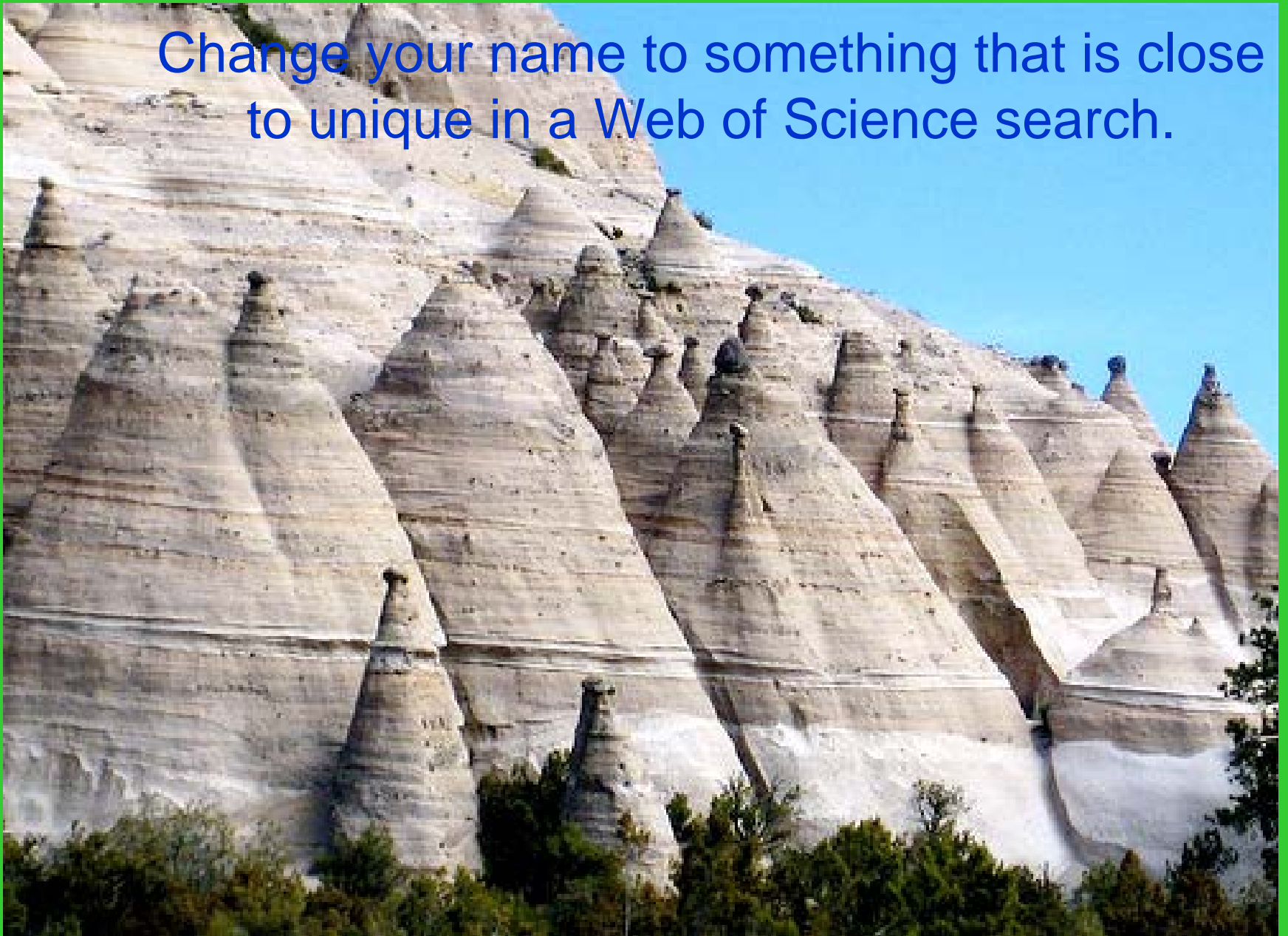
Have some heroes, and emulate them.

Kip S. Thorne, Roy J. Glauber, and E. T. Jaynes are mine.



**Holstrandir Peninsula overlooking Ísafjarðardjúp
Westfjords, Iceland**

Change your name to something that is close to unique in a Web of Science search.



Tent Rocks
Kasha-Katuwe National Monument
Northern New Mexico

Famous?

Be at the right place at the right time to work on a problem that is just about to become important.

Know enough, but not too much.

Talent? Luck? There is always some of both.

There are no guarantees. So keep at it.

Echidna Gorge
Bungle Bungle Range
Western Australia



See the beauty.

The beauty and complexity of the world around us is all part of the greatest story ever told, the scientific story. Sign up to write your part.



**Snow geese in a storm
Bosque del Apache, Central New Mexico**