

Why we do research (and learn how to learn)

Our journey in the realm of science is personal in its essence, and one mode of journey, delightful to one, may be an intense discomfort to another. The modes are indeed diverse, and let them be.

The solitary journey in the course of this work has been often lightened by the distant echoes which seem to reverberate from the depth of Old Master Boltzmann's soul: **“Alas, without me for eternity, the sun will rise in the east and will set in the west. Why suffer the pains but for just even a glimpse of Nirvana?”**

One still hopes for the day of the ultimate privilege.

In preface of B. C. Eu's 1997 book 'Nonequilibrium Statistical Mechanics: Ensemble Method' (Kluwer Academic Publishers)