

## Closing Thoughts

In closing, I wish to make the ill-advised shift back to the first person because the following are my personal reflections. When I began the work that forms the foundation for this thesis, I dreamed of measuring the rate of bubble nucleation precisely enough to show that the addition of cyclopentane leads to a qualitatively different pathway to nucleation, as predicted by the string method model developed by Dr. Huikuan Chao. While I have presented evidence in support of this prediction, I consider this dream unrealized. I still long to investigate further, to extend my personal pier of understanding ever farther out into the ocean of knowledge. The delight from fixing each new rock in place along the pier's perimeter continues to compel me to seek the next; the dream of discovery beckons me onward.

Why stop?

“To every thing there is a season, and a time to every purpose under the heaven: A time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up that which is planted.”<sup>1</sup> My dream remains beyond arm’s reach because God calls me to the next chapter in the story. He calls me not because the knowledge I had sought was not valuable, but because the understanding I have gained was *enough*.

But perhaps not for you. Perhaps your time to plant begins today. To that, I say, wonderful: the harvest truly is plenteous<sup>2</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup>Book of Ecclesiastes Chapter 3, verses 1–2, King James Version.

<sup>2</sup>The Gospel of Matthew, Chapter 8, verse 37, King James Version.