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**Title:** Making waves.

**Authors:** [Townes, C. H.](#)

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### Abstract

The author takes the reader on a behind-the-scenes tour of his way of working. Along the way, one learns about how the author came upon his surprising findings and how he managed to avoid obstacles in his path. He introduces the reader to the wonders of the universe, from the submicroscopic, most minute - the workings of atoms and the even smaller particles that make them up - to the vast outer reaches of space. His tour takes one along paths Townes pioneered: quantum electronics, microwave spectroscopy and the frontiers of our galaxy where he explored

the dark, rarefied clouds of gas and dust where new stars form. The book concludes with a uniquely personal coda in which Townes suggests that science and religion occupy the same terrain.

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