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Abstract for an Invited Paper
for the 4CF06 Meeting of
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High Pressure Physics: Thinking Outside the Box

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I will present examples where thinking outside the box has led to unexpected developments, economic success, and new understanding of the underlying physics. As example of economic success I will present the development of a multipass Brillouin interferometer, which has revolutionized solid state Brillouin scattering experiments. Scientific examples discussed will be alkali cyanides and Chromium alloys.