



**SEMMELWEIS UNIVERSITY**

Dept. of Biophysics and Radiation Biology,  
Laboratory of Nanochemistry



**Laboratory of  
soft matters**

**Bio-thermodynamics, entropy,  
equilibrium and processes**

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## Looking back

**Internal energy** is the energy of an object or substance due to the molecular **kinetic** and **potential** energies associated with the random motions of all the particles that make it up.

**1st law of thermodynamics:**  $\Delta U = T\Delta S - p\Delta V + \sum_{i=1}^K \mu_i \Delta n_i + \dots +$   
(Conservation of energy)

During spontaneous processes entropy increases.  
Thermodynamic equilibrium is characterized by entropy maximum.

**2nd law of thermodynamics:**  
(Non-conservation of entropy)

**3rd law of thermodynamics:**  
(Absolute scale of entropy)

The entropy of one-component, crystallizing material at 0 K temperature is 0

**enthalpy**

$$H = U + PV$$



heat

**free energy**

$$F = U - TS$$



work

**free enthalpy**

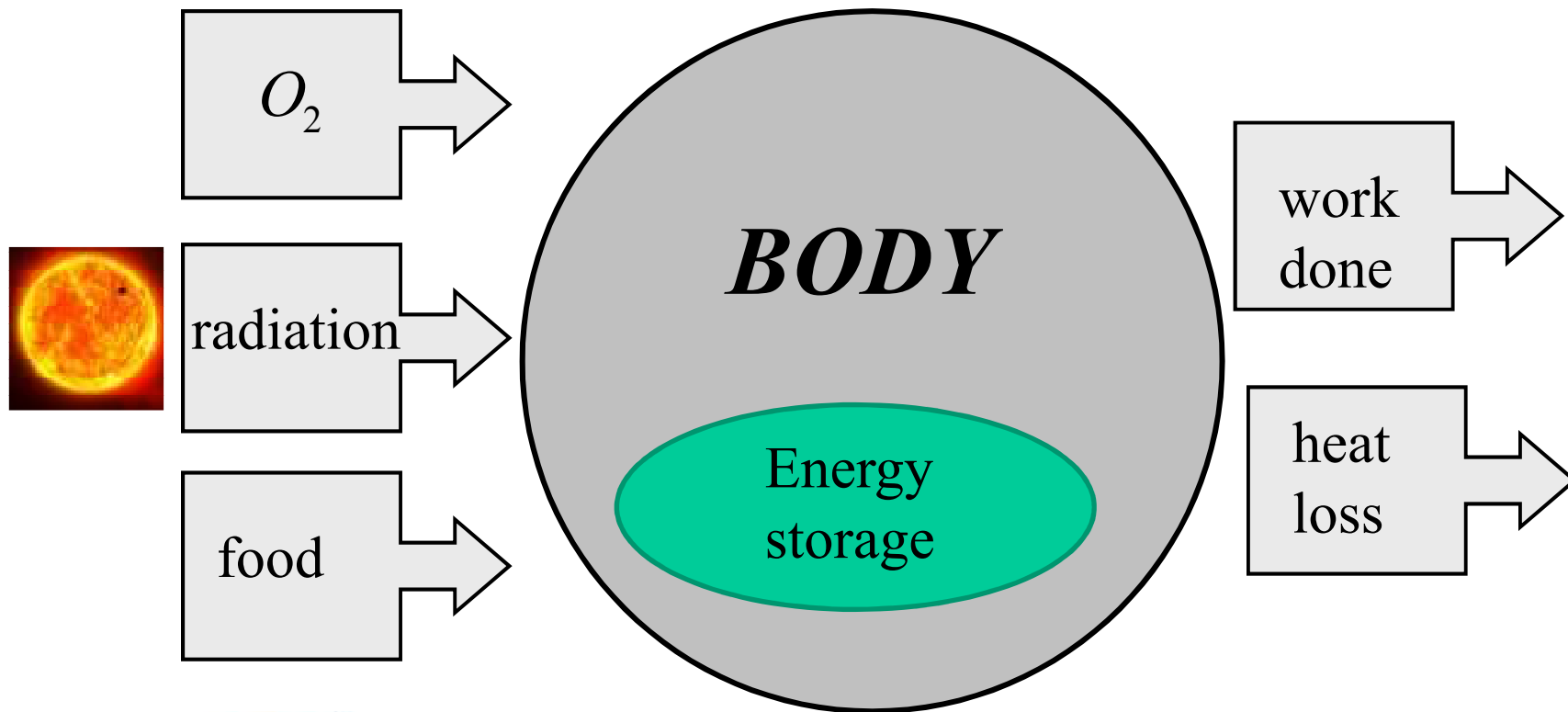
$$G = H - TS$$



chemistry

(Gibbs free energy)

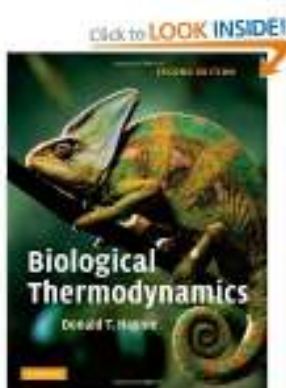
# BIO-THERMODYNAMIC SYSTEM



Energy flow into and from the body.

**Heat has unique role in biology !**

$0\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C} \longrightarrow T \longrightarrow 42\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$



# *First law of bio-thermodynamics*



change in  
stored energy

$$\Delta U = \Delta Q + \Delta W_{mech} + \Delta W_{chem}$$

heat of metabolism

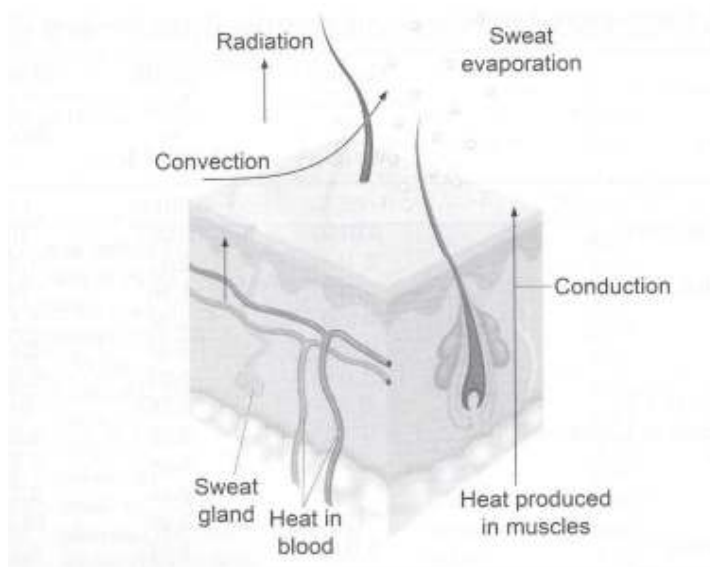
heat loss

bio-synthesis

Mechanical work

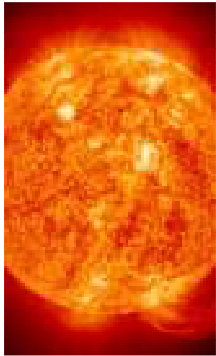
physical

biological



$$\Delta W_{mech} < 0$$

# Primary source of energy



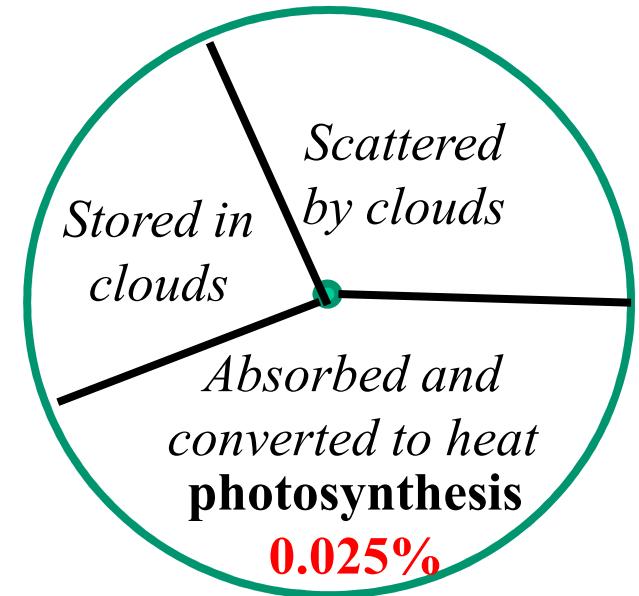
$5 \cdot 10^{18} \text{ MJ / year}$



$1.7 \cdot 10^{17} \text{ J / s}$



**LIFE**



*Biological macromolecules*



*starch*

*glycogen*

*cellulose*





Light,  
 $H_2O$ ,  
 $CO_2$



carbohydrates,  
plant  
tissues



fat,  
animal  
tissues

**Metabolism** is a term that is used to describe all chemical reactions involved in maintaining the living state of the cells and the organism. Metabolism can be conveniently divided into two categories:



synthesis

**anabolism**

the synthesis of all compounds  
needed by the cells



breakdown

**catabolism**

the breakdown of molecules to  
obtain energy

**Anabolism:** The set of metabolic pathways that construct complex materials of living tissue from smaller units:

**phototropism**

simple inorganic material

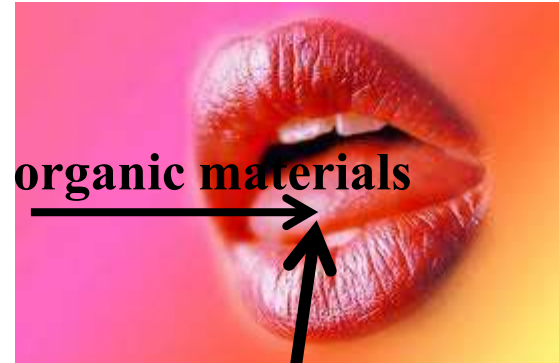


complex organic materials



**chemotropism**

**organic materials**



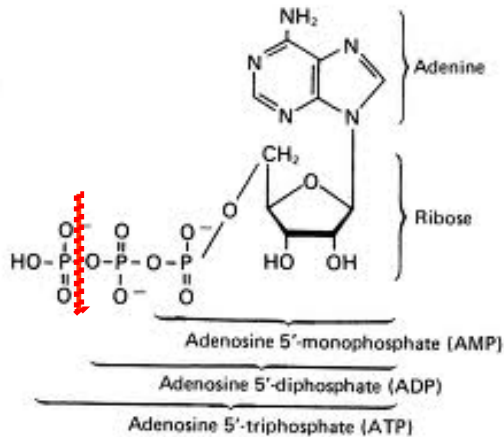


**Catabolism:** The breakdown of molecules to obtain energy.

polysacharides,  
lipids,  
proteins,  
nucleic acids



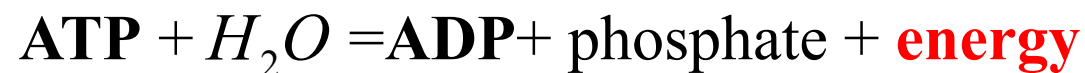
monosacharides,  
fat acids,  
nucleotides,  
amino acids



Q

ADP

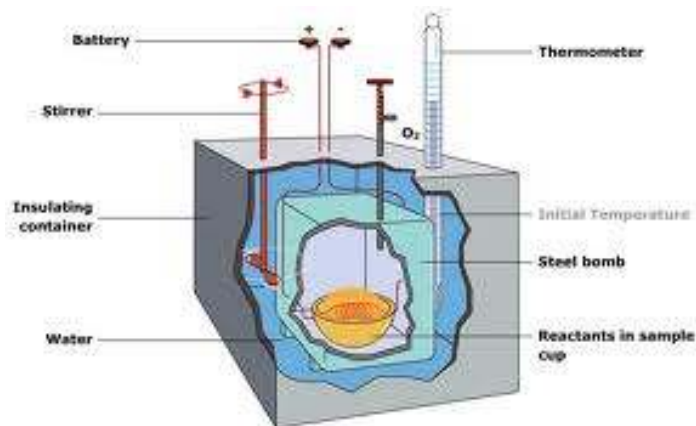
CH<sub>3</sub>-CH(OH)-COOH  
acetic acid  
ammonium  
carbamide



58 - 59 kJ/mol

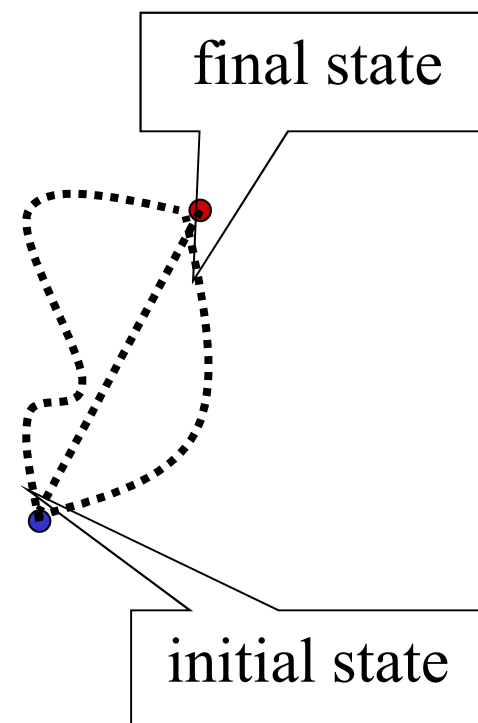


# Direct calorimetry



$$\Delta S_{term} = 0 \quad Q = \Delta H > 0$$

Hess law:



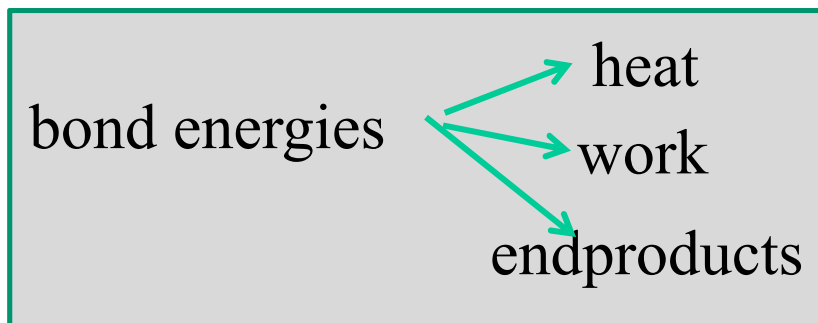
chemical fuel	calorimetric energy kJ/g
carbohydrate	17.1
protein	23.6
ethanol	29.7
fat	39.6

# Energy content of body fuel

Chemical fuel	Storage energy density [J/Kg]
ATP	$1.0 \cdot 10^5$
$H_2$ gas at $10^3$ atm.	$1.2 \cdot 10^8$
glycin (amino acid)	$6.5 \cdot 10^6$
fat	$3.9 \cdot 10^7$
carbohydrate	$1.7 \cdot 10^7$
<b>glucose</b>	<b><math>1.6 \cdot 10^7</math></b>

Metabolizable energy (ME):  $U_{food} - U_{endproducts}$   
*apparently digested energy*

$$\Delta U = \underset{+}{\Delta(ME)} + \underset{-}{\Delta Q} + \underset{+}{\Delta U}_{stored} \underset{-}{+} \underset{-}{\Delta W}_{mechanical}$$



$$\Delta(ME) = 0 \implies \Delta U < 0$$

# Measurement of biological heat flow

Direct calorimetry

$$\Delta Q = Q_{\text{metabolic}} + Q_{\text{loss}}$$

Indirect calorimetry

Rate of heat is proportional to the rate CO<sub>2</sub> production or rate O<sub>2</sub> consumption.

$$Q_{\text{loss}} = Q_{\text{radiation}} + Q_{\text{convective}} + Q_{\text{conductive}} + Q_{\text{evaporation}} + Q_{\text{respiration}}$$

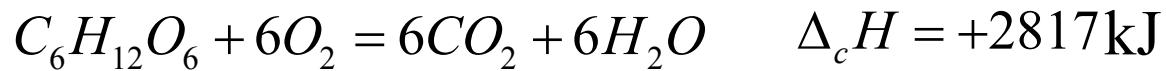
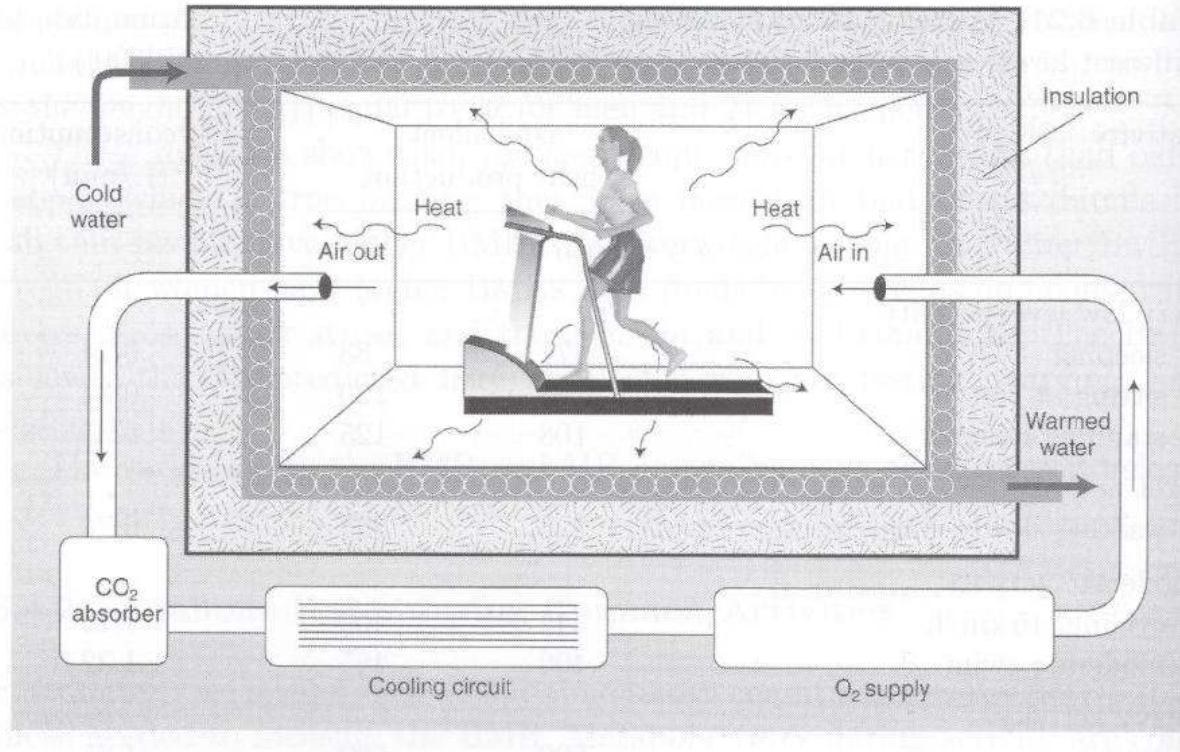
54-60 %

25 %

7 %

14 %

## Direct and indirect calorimetry

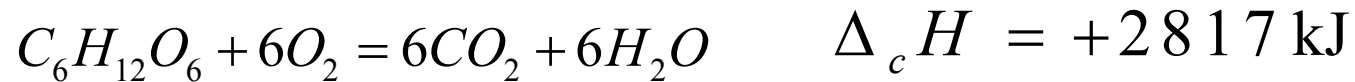


$$\eta = 61 - 65 \%$$

calorimetric > metabolic  
(V=const.) (p=const.)

## Indirect calorimetry

1 mol glucose + 6 mol = 134,46 l oxygen!



### Oxygen energia equivalence:

1 l oxygen corresponds to 21 kJ energy !

Body fuel	Calorimertic energy kJ/g	Oxygen equivalence kJ/l	Carbondioxide equivalence kJ/l
carbohydrate	17.1	21.1	21.1
protein	23.6	18.7	23.3
ethanol	29.7	20.3	30.3
fat	39.6	19.8	27.9

**Basal metabolic rate : BMR**

$$BMR = \left. \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t} \right|_{at \text{ rest}}$$



$$BMR \propto m_b^{3/4}$$

Kleiber law

**BMR** *depends on age*

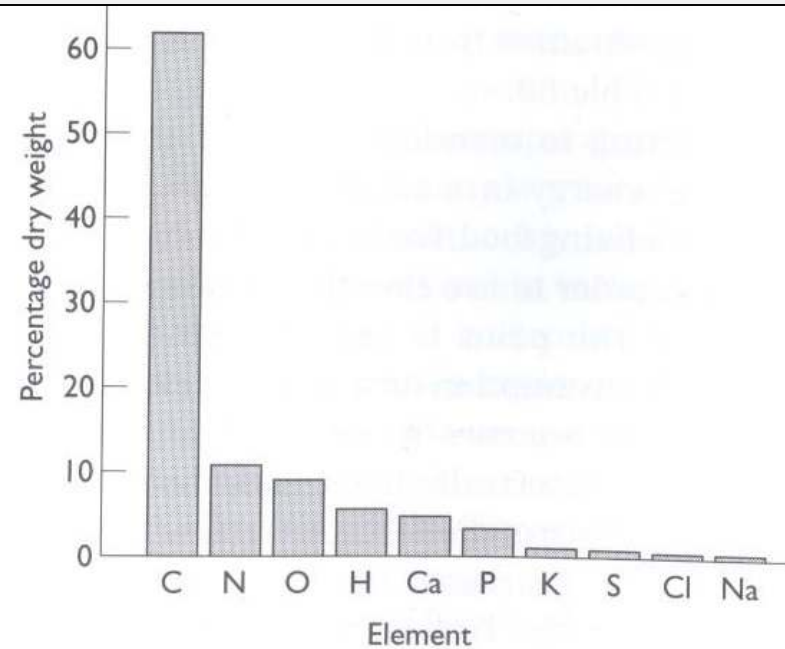
$m_b = 70$  kg    7029 kJ/day    293 kJ/hour    81 W man  
60 W women

**Metabolic rate : (MR) and oxygen consumption**

sleeping	83 W	$O_2$ :	0.24 l/min
walking	265 W	$O_2$ :	0.76 l/min
cycling	400 W	$O_2$ :	1.13 l/min

# Average human body, average composition and thermal characteristics:

Composition of the human body. Protein accounts for about half of the dry mass of the body. On the level of individual elements, carbon is by far the largest component, followed by nitrogen, oxygen, hydrogen and other elements. It is interesting that the elements contributing the most to the dry mass of the body are also the major components of air, earth, water, and carbon-based combustible matter. Based on data from Freiden (1972).



**Specific heat:** 3.47 kJ/kgK

70 kg human **heat capacity:** 243 kJ/ C°

$$Q = C \cdot m_b \cdot \Delta T \quad \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t} = C \cdot m_b \cdot \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta t} \quad \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{C \cdot m_b} \cdot \frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t} = \frac{1}{C \cdot m_b} \cdot BMR$$

$$\boxed{\frac{\Delta T}{\Delta t} = \frac{BMR}{C \cdot m_b}} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \frac{\Delta T}{\Delta t} = 1.2 \text{ C}^\circ/\text{h} \quad \text{If there were no heat loss!}$$



During physical activities



$$\frac{\Delta Q}{\Delta t} = f \cdot B M R$$

$$\frac{\Delta T}{\Delta t} = f \cdot \frac{B M R}{C \cdot m_b} \approx 1.2 f C^\circ / h$$

$$0 < f < 20$$

*exercise*

activity	$f$
sleeping	1
sitting	1.5
standing	1.7
walking	4.7

## Eating és heat production at rest

	Big eater	Small eater	ratio
weight (kg)	54.2	52.7	1.03
Food energy (kJ/day)	9916	6485	1.54
Daily heat production (kJ/day)	9079	5815	1.55
Heat production by night (kJ/day)	7196	4602	1.56

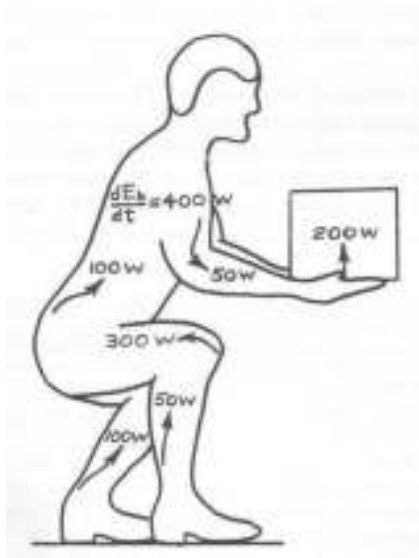
but....

$$\frac{dQ}{dt} = f \cdot BMR$$

$$0 < f < 20$$

*Physical activity*

## Energy flow and movement



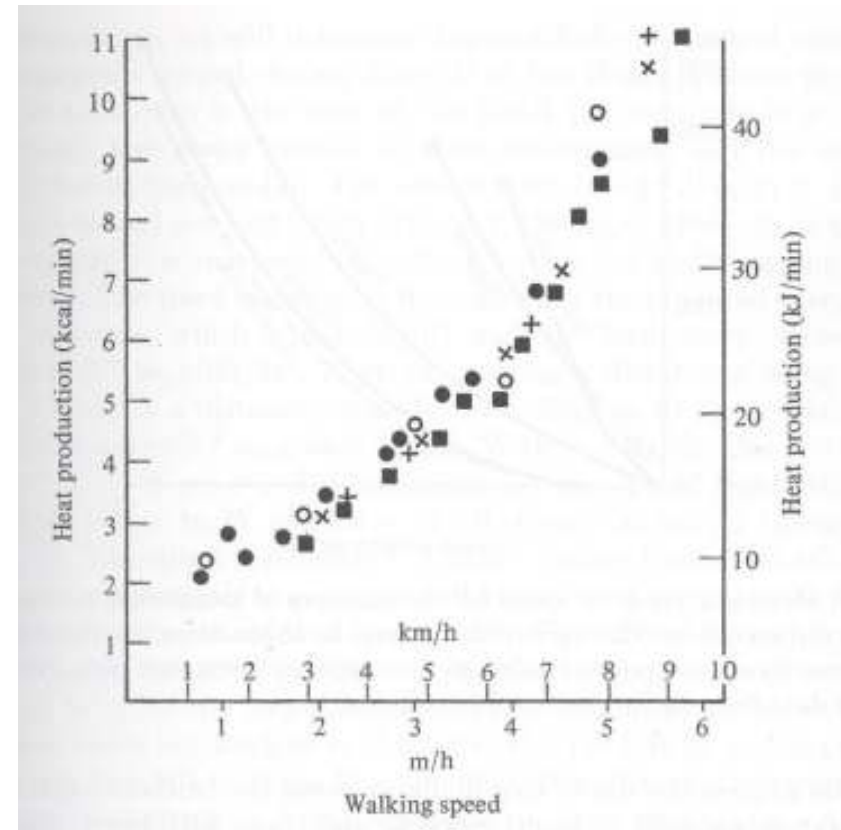
work(*physical*)  $\neq$  work(*biological*)

external

internal

$$\Delta W_{mech} < 0$$

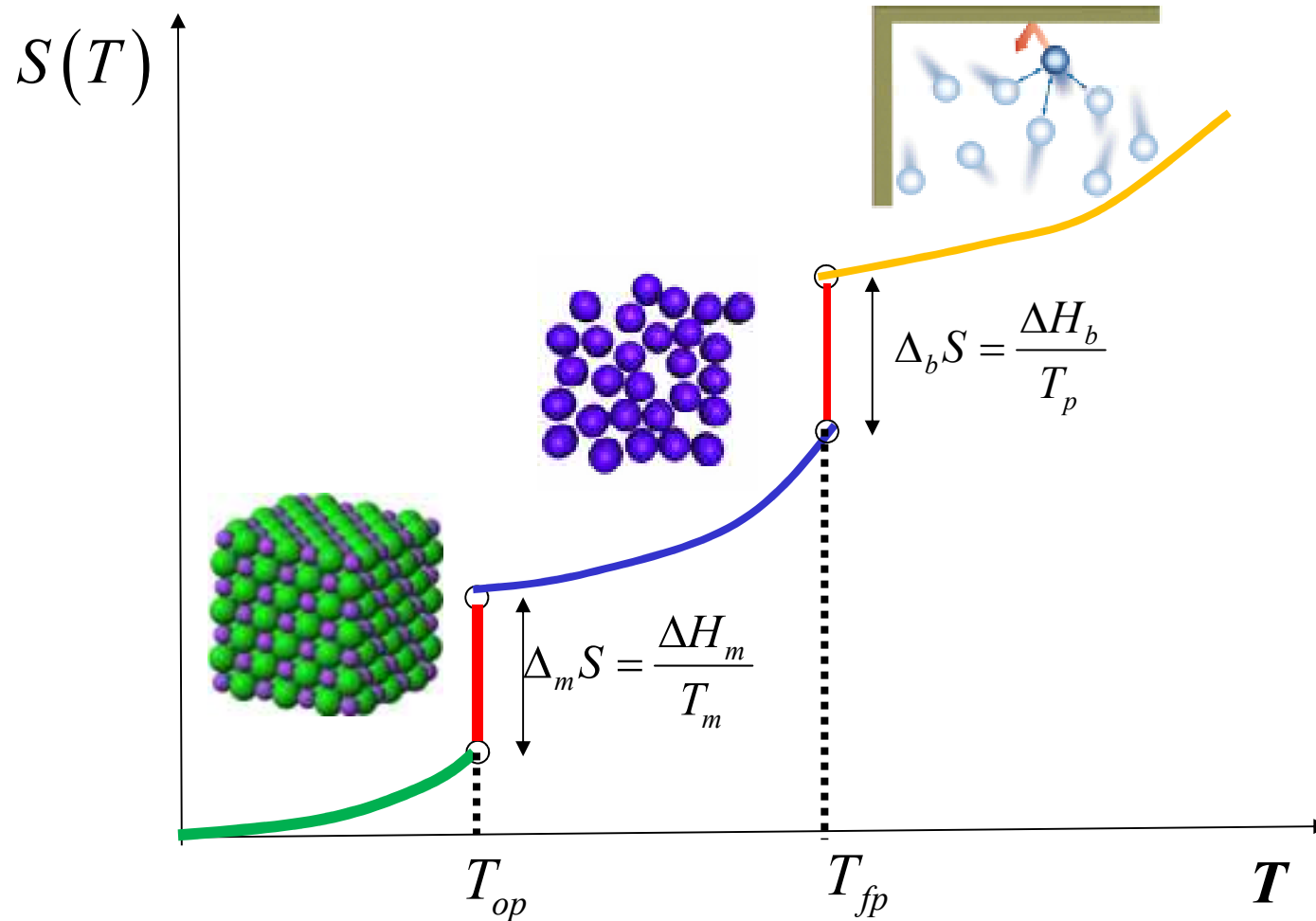
Dependence of released heat on the walking speed.



At 8.6 km/h speed the metabolic power needed to run is 14% less than that needed to walk.

## Back to thermodynamics

*Dependence of **entropy** on the temperature*



Entropy increases



Related to order – disorder transition?

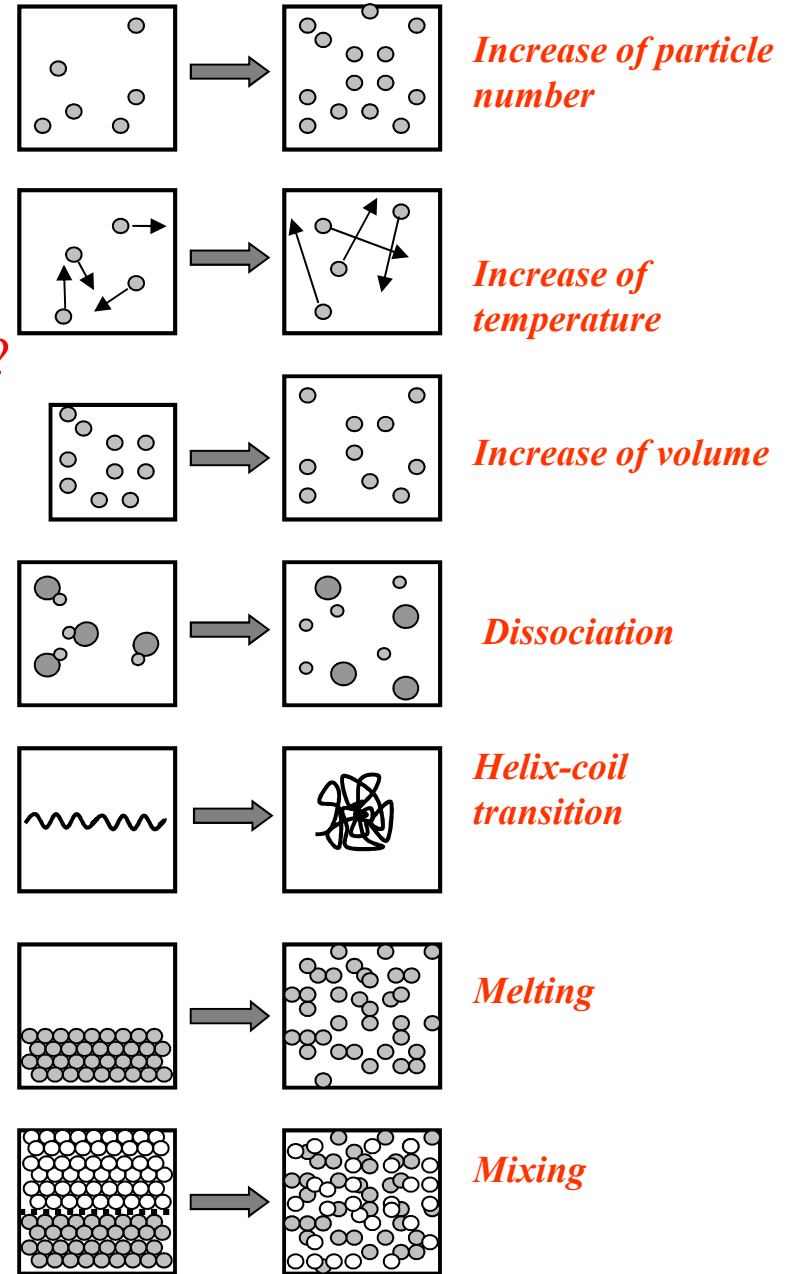
YES!

Boltzmann equation:

$$S = k_B \ln W$$

$$k_B = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K} \longrightarrow k_B = \frac{R}{N_{Av}}$$

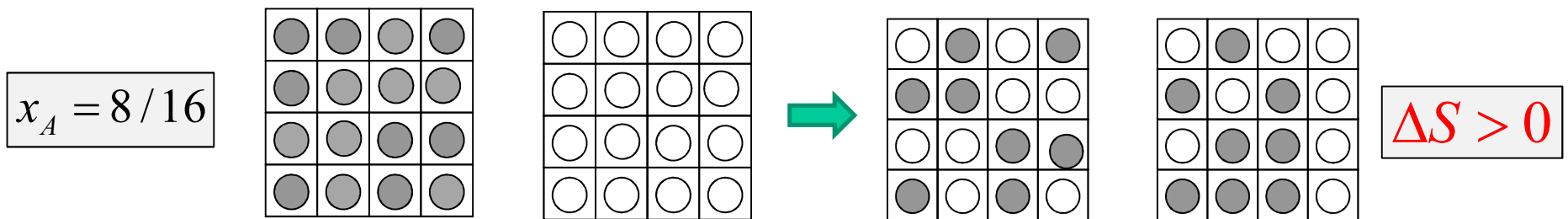
$W$ : thermodynamic probability



**$W$**  thermodynamic probability gives the number of microstates for a given macrostate.

1. example: **macrostate**: concentration  
**microstate**: No. of arrangement

$$W = \frac{16!}{8!8!} = 12870$$

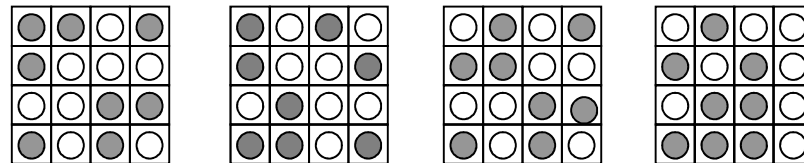


$$S = k_B \ln W$$

$$W_A = 1 \quad W_B = 1 \quad W_{A,B} = 12870$$

$$S_A = 0 \quad S_B = 0 \quad S_{A,B} = k_B T \ln(12870)$$

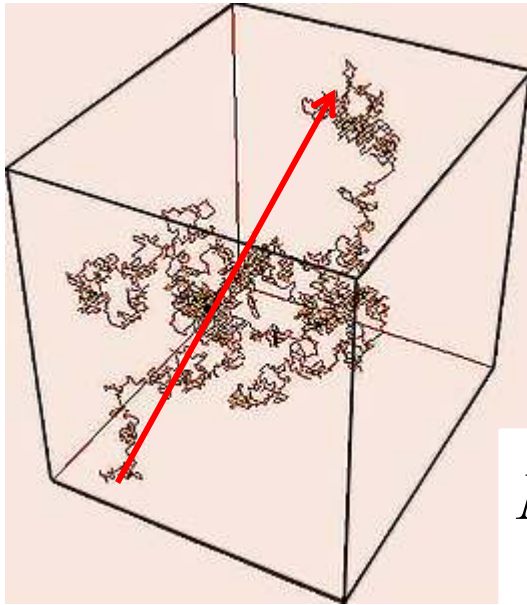
$$W_{A,B} = \frac{(N_A + N_B)!}{N_A! N_B!} = \frac{16!}{8!8!} = 12870$$



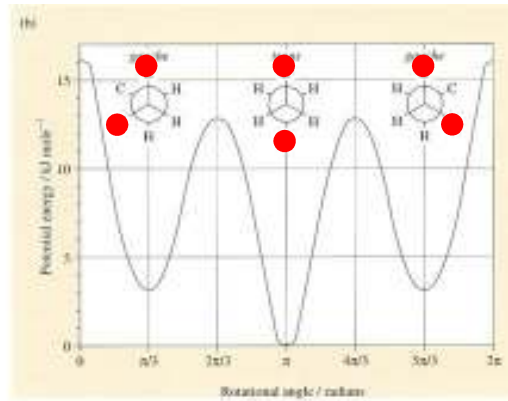
Four possible microstates form the overall 12870 states.

$W$  thermodynamic probability gives the number of microstates for a given macrostate.

2. example: **macrostate** : end-to-end distance  
**microstate**: number of conformation



coiled,  $c$

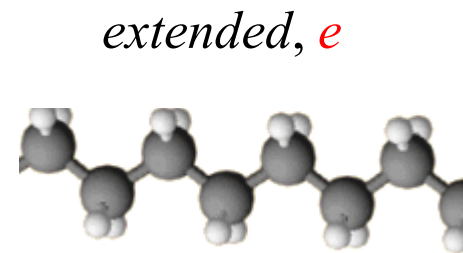


$$N_{C-C} = 10^4$$

$$W_c = 3^{10000}$$

$$S_g = k_B T \ln(3^{10000})$$

$$S_c = 10^4 k_B T \ln 3$$



extended,  $e$

$$N_{C-C} = 10^4$$

$$W_e = 1$$

$$S_{ny} = k_B T \ln 1$$

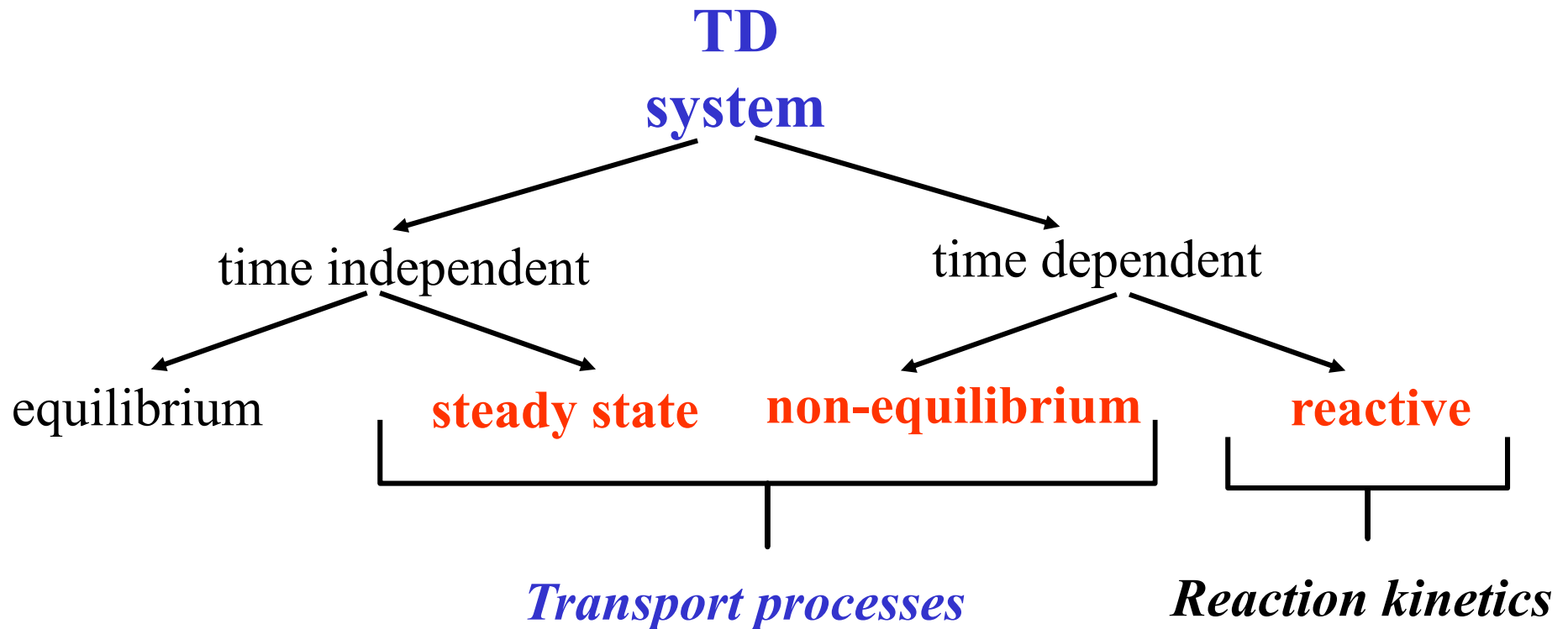
$$S_e = 0$$

$$\Delta S > 0$$

$$S = k_B \ln W$$



# THERMODYNAMICS OF A SYSTEM



Driving force: **going to equilibrium**

**During spontaneous process**     $\Delta S > 0$

$\Delta F < 0$   
 $F = U - TS$

$\Delta G < 0$   
 $G = H - TS$

# Driving force of chemical and biochemical reactions

$$\Delta_r G < 0$$

$$\Delta_r G = \Delta_r H - T\Delta_r S$$

Heat of reaction

Entropy of reaction

endotherm

exotherm

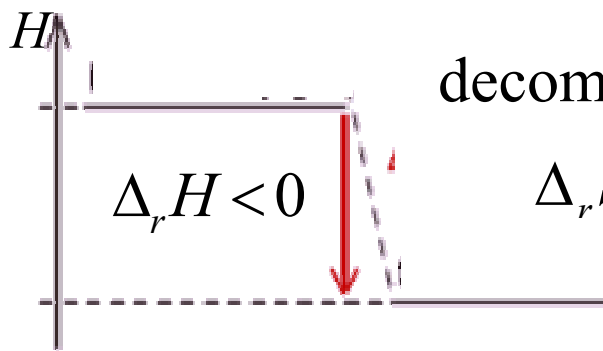
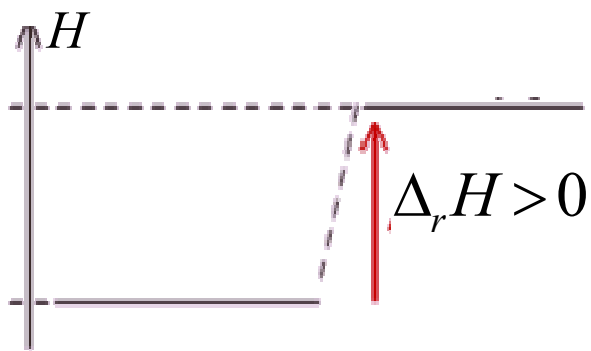
Change in molecular  
order

decomposition

ring formation

$$\Delta_r S > 0$$

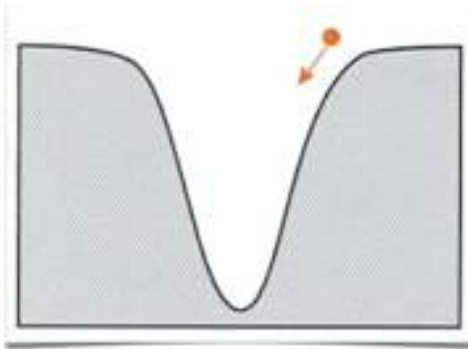
$$\Delta_r S < 0$$



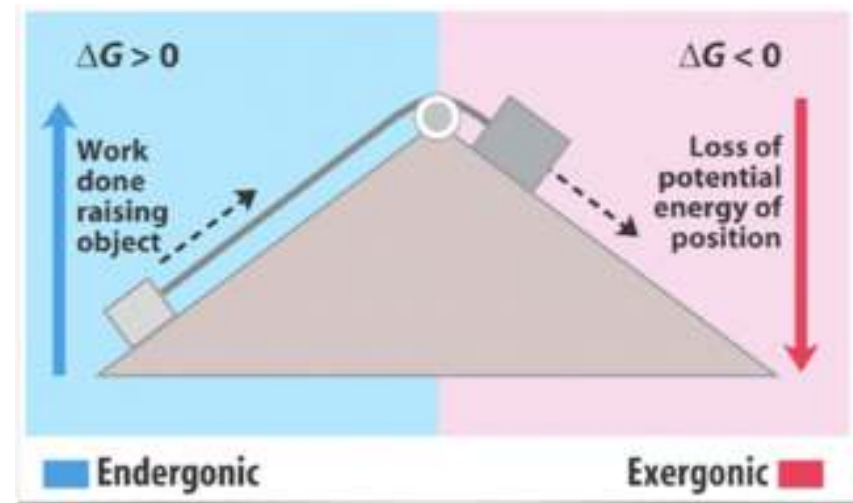
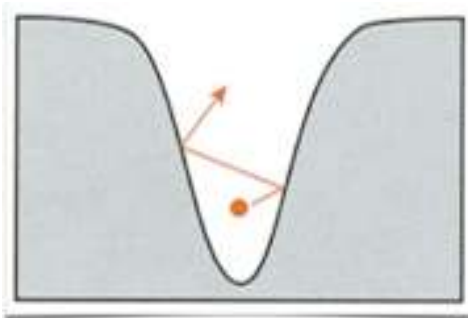
# Significance of entropy and gibbs Free energy

- Spontaneous processes are those, during which Gibbs free energy decreases ( $\Delta G < 0$ ) and the entropy of the universe increases ( $S_{\text{tot}} > 0$ ).

Decrease in free energy: stabilizes



Increase in entropy: randomizes



- Useful work is done by exergonic processes.
- Endergonic processes can be driven by coupling to exergonic processes.
- Entropy can be decreased locally.
- Life consumes entropy (its entropy is decreased at the expense of increasing total entropy).

# CHEMICAL COUPLING

**endergonic reaction**

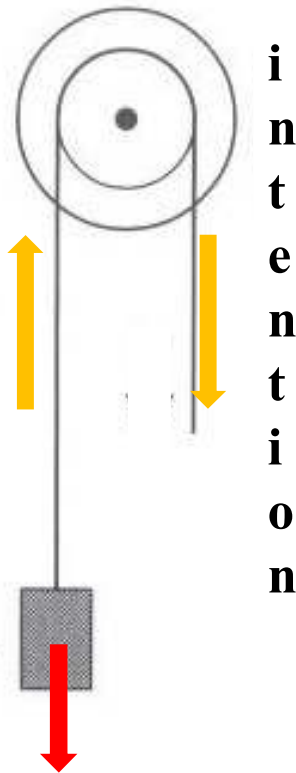
$$\Delta_r G_1 > 0$$

**exergonic reaction**

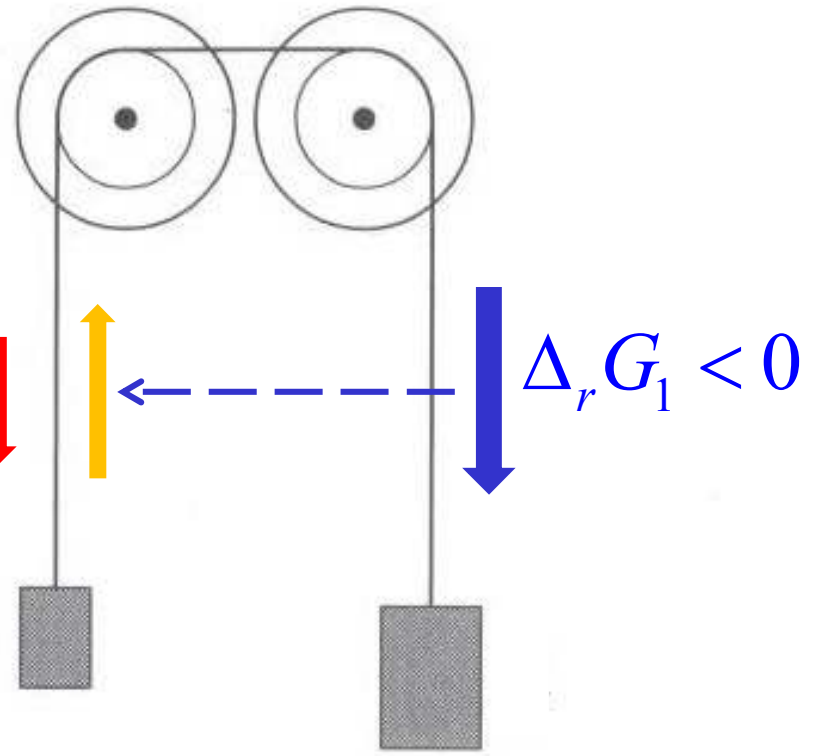
$$\Delta_r G_1 + \Delta_r G_2 < 0$$

idea

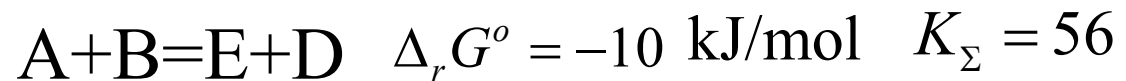
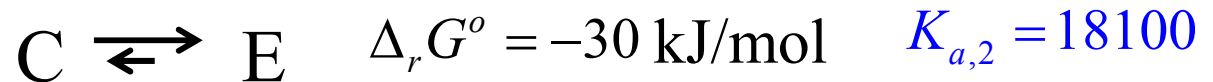
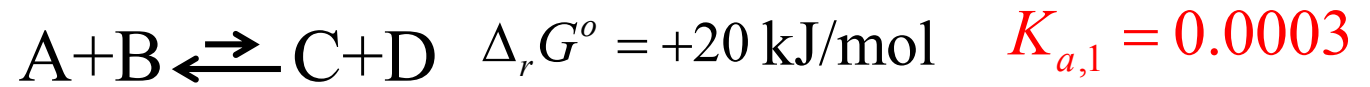
*mechanical coupling*



$$\Delta_r G_1 > 0$$



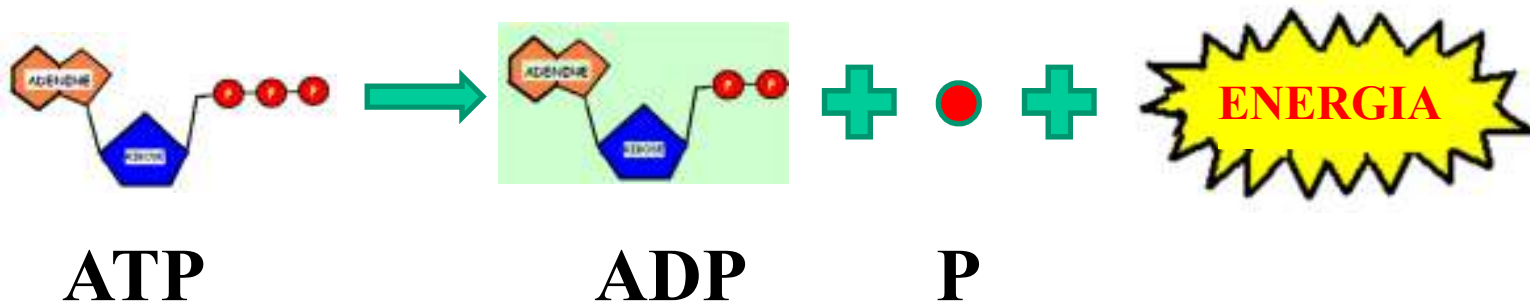
## Coupled chemical reactions



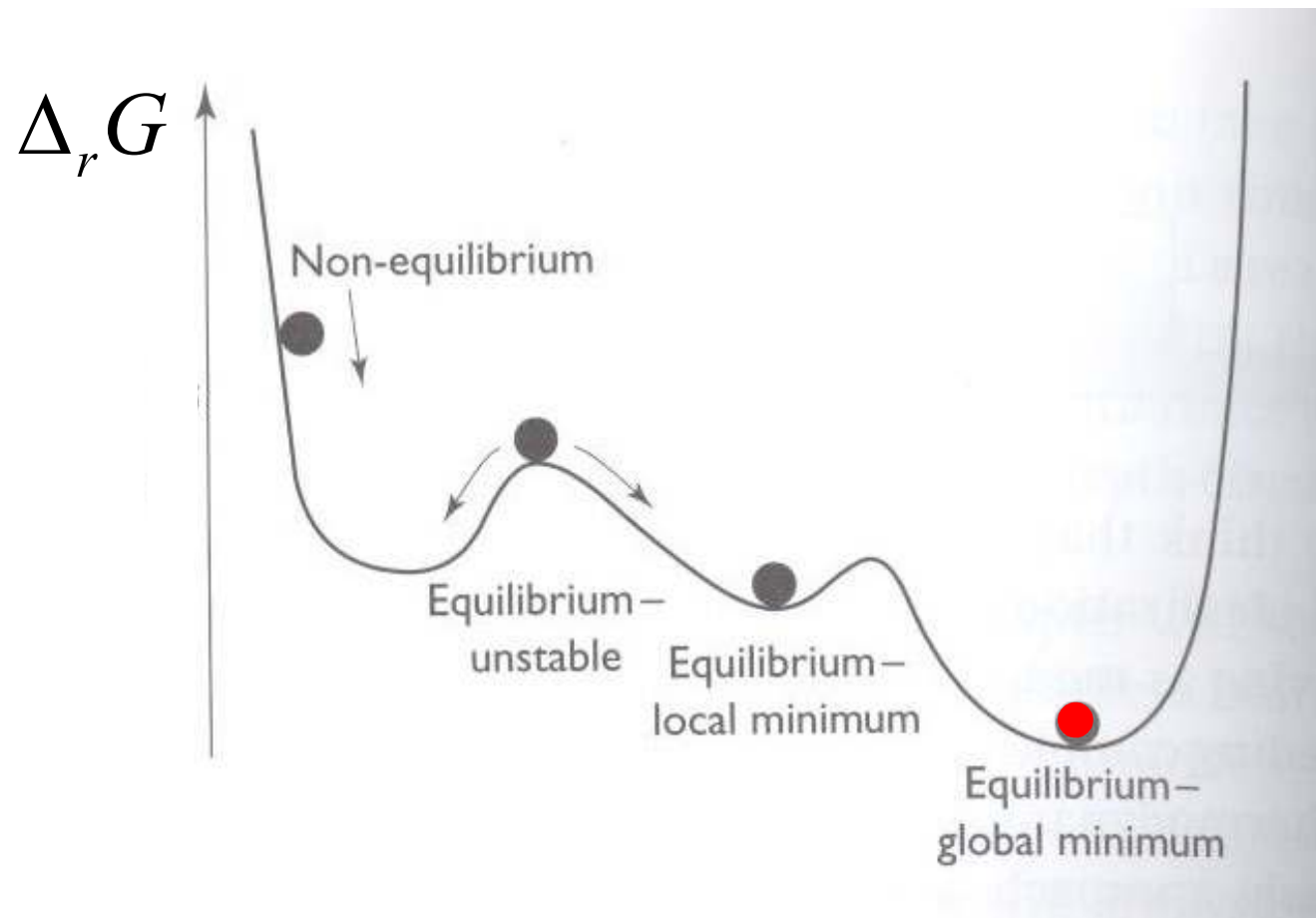
Thermodynamically unfavorable endergonic reaction  $\Delta_r G > 0$  can be powered by an exergonic reaction  $\Delta_r G < 0$  if the two reactions are chemically coupled.



## Biochemical process

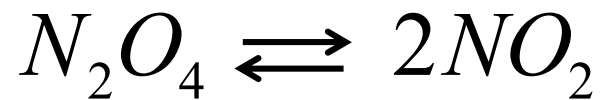


## Stable and nonstable equilibrium condition



## Equilibrium condition

$$\Delta_r G = \Delta_r H - T \Delta_r S < 0$$

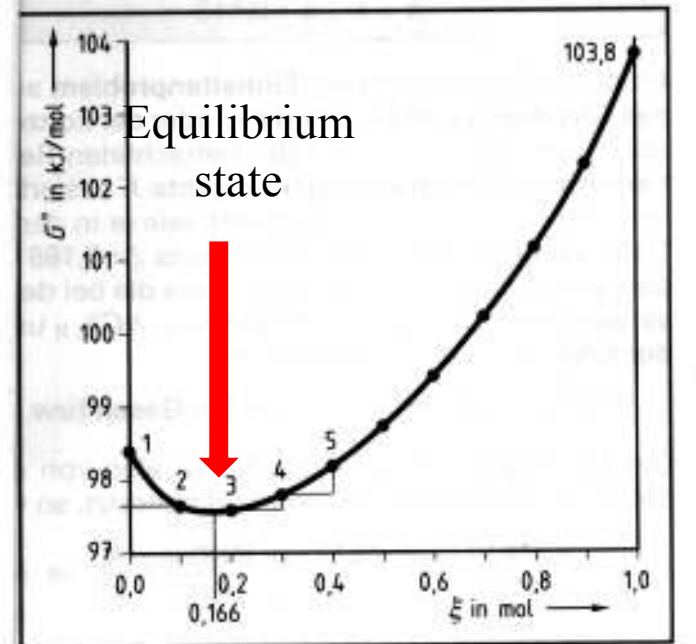


$$\Delta_r G = \Delta_r G^\circ + RT \ln \frac{[NO_2]^2}{[N_2O_4]}$$



Equilibrium const.

$$K = \frac{[NO_2]^2}{[N_2O_4]}$$





# DRIVING FORCE OF MIXING

$$\Delta_e G < 0$$

$$\Delta_e G = \Delta_e H - T\Delta_e S$$

heat of mixing

endother

$$\Delta_e H > 0$$

athermic

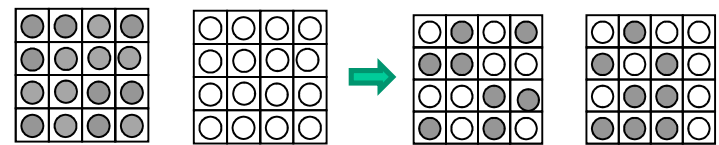
$$\Delta_e H = 0$$

exotherm

$$\Delta_e H < 0$$

entropy of mixing

Change in molecular  
order



$$\Delta_e S > 0$$

# Why do small molecules dissolve better than macromolecules?

$$\Delta_e G = \Delta_e H - T \Delta_e S$$

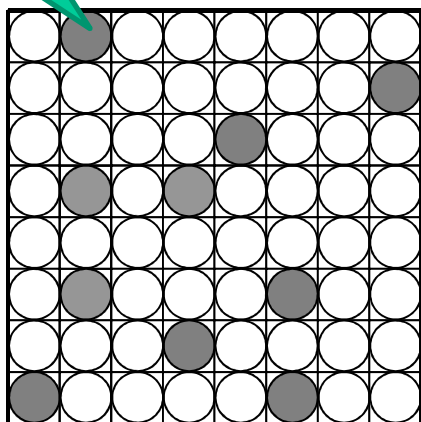
Athermic solution:  $\Delta_e G \cong -T \Delta_e S$

monomer

$$S = k_B \ln W$$

polymer

$$c = \frac{10}{64}$$



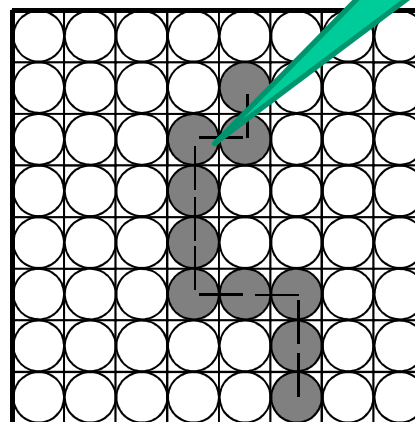
$$W_{A,B} = \frac{(N_A + N_B)!}{N_A! N_B!} = \frac{64!}{10! 54!} = 1.51 \cdot 10^{11}$$

$$S_{A,B} = k_B \ln(1.51 \cdot 10^{11})$$

$$\Delta G_{A,B} = -k_B T \ln(1.51 \cdot 10^{11})$$

**Bigger TD driving force !**

$$c = \frac{10}{64}$$



$$W_{A,B} = 64 \cdot 4 \cdot 3^8 = 6144$$

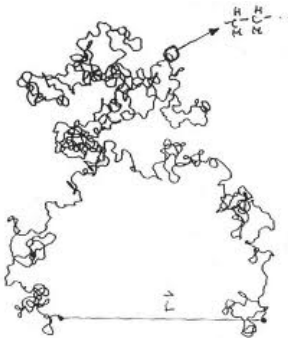
$$S_{P,A} = k_B \ln(6144)$$

$$\Delta G_{P,A} = -k_B T \ln(6144)$$

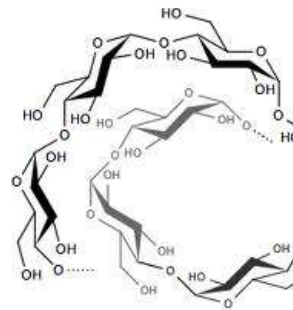
**Smaller TD driving force !**

# Conformation and entropy

*constitution - configuration - conformation*



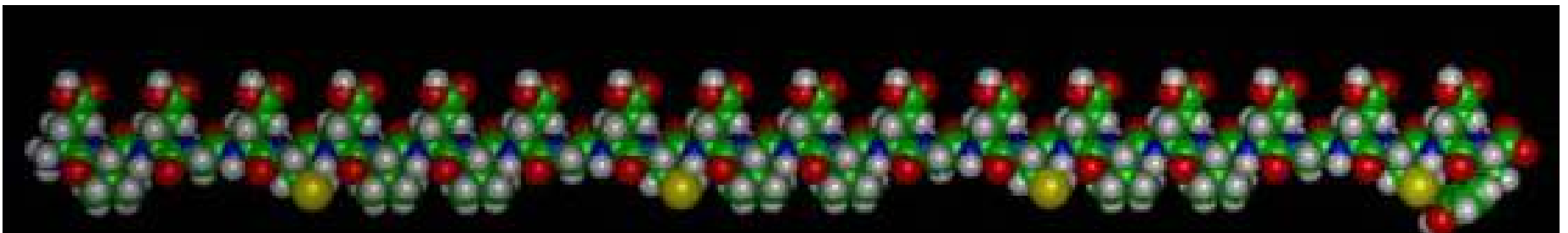
Random coil



Ordered conformations

**Higher conformational entropy**

**Much smaller conformational entropy**



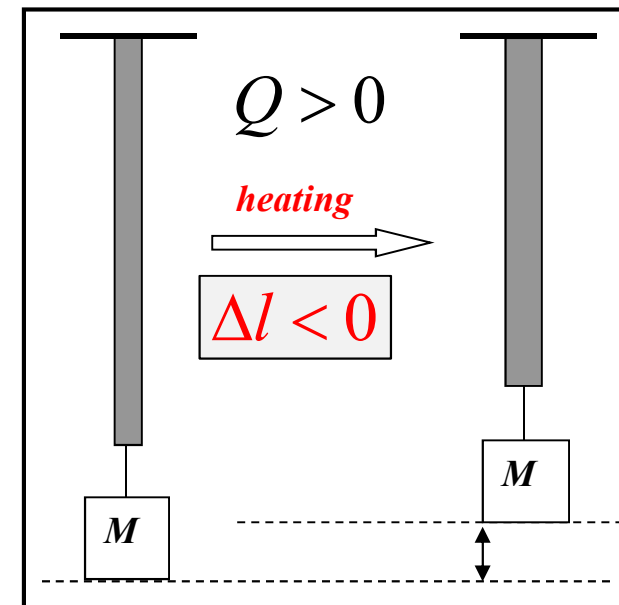
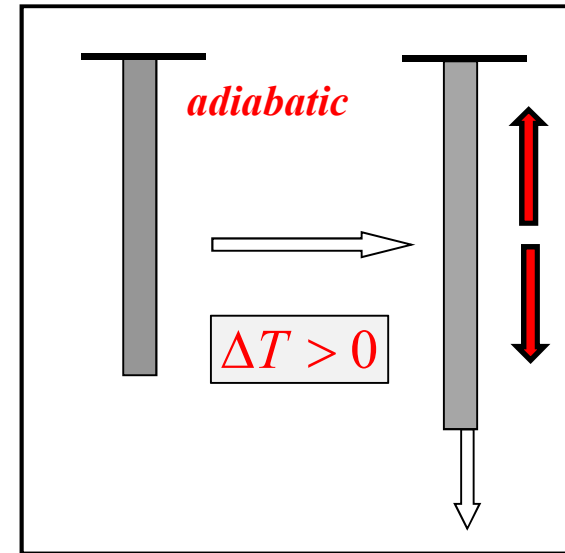
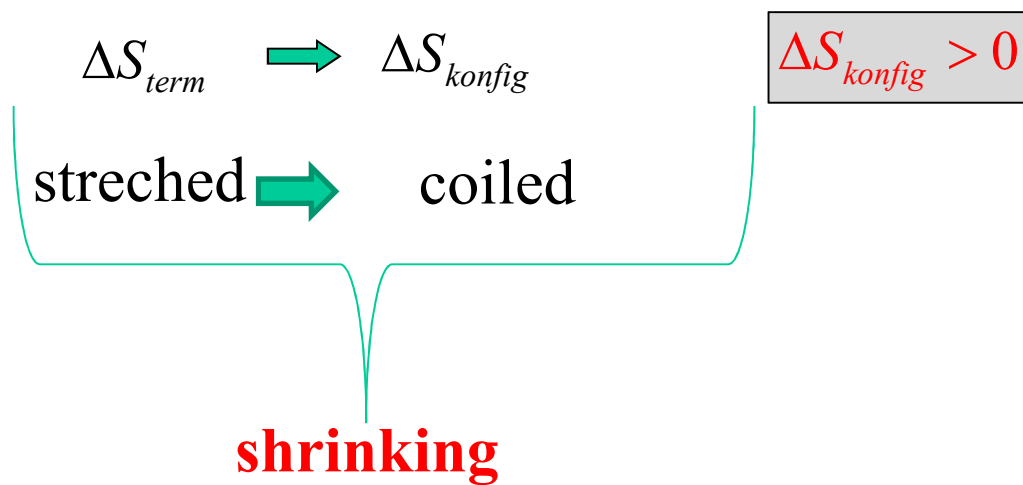
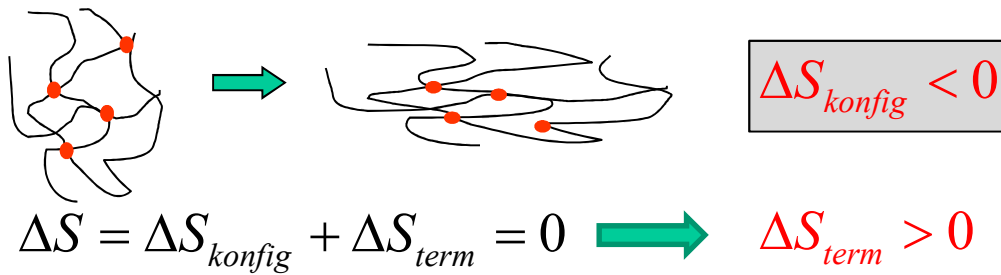
$W=1$

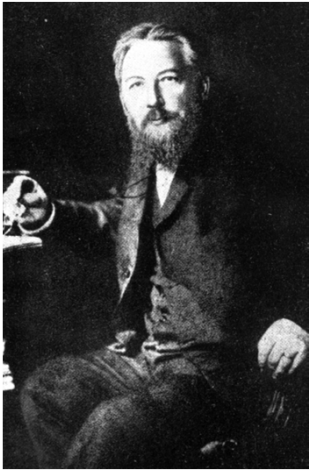


$$S_{konf} = 0$$

# Flexibility of macromolecules

## Entropic elasticity





## Thermodynamics of happiness (*W. Ostwald*):

$B$ : Measure of happiness (like entropy)

$E_o$ : Optional energy

$E_{no}$ : Non optional energy

$(E_o + E_{no})$  total energy

$(E_o - E_{no})$  Energy for happiness

$$B = (E_o + E_{no})(E_o - E_{no}) = E_o^2 - E_{no}^2$$

$$B \rightarrow \infty$$

Ultimate goal!