



SEMMELWEIS UNIVERSITY

Department of Biophysics and  
Radiation Biology,  
Laboratory of Nanochemistry

Thermodynamics in Biophysics  
(Bio-thermodynamics)



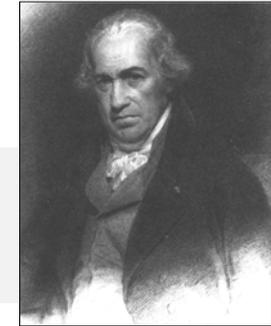
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$$\Delta U = \Delta Q + \Delta W$$



**Thermodynamics**, initially applied for **heat engines** to study thermal processes, has become the science of **energy exchange and equilibria**.

*James Watt (1736-1819) Scot inventor*

**Classical thermodynamics** was developed in the first half of the nineteenth century by Carnot, Clausius, Joule, Kelvin, and Mayer (and others), is a **phenomenological** theory, dealing with thermal phenomena.

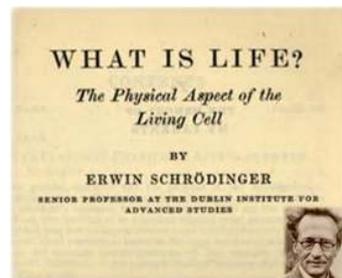


(A.L. Lavoisier 1743-1794)



Rubner stated in 1894 for the first time that laws of thermodynamics apply to living systems.

“...respiration is nothing but a slow combustion of carbon and hydrogen...”



### Phenomenological- and statistical thermodynamics

Thermodynamics can provide a useful way of thinking about many different processes including biological processes.

The beauty of thermodynamics is that a **relatively small number of postulates** are used to develop the description of rather complex systems and utilization of internal energy,

**Main issues:** identification of the

- ✓ **Direction of energy exchange,**
- ✓ **driving forces,** and
- ✓ **influencing the efficiency and direction**

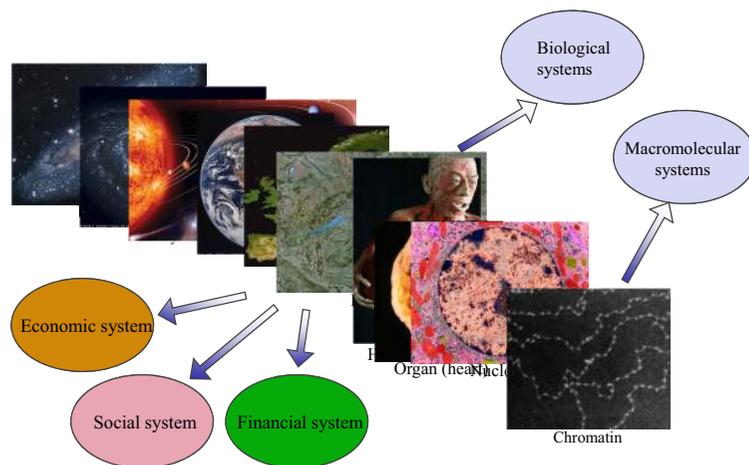
of changes and processes occurring during interactions of a system with its surroundings.

**Generalized laws apply to**

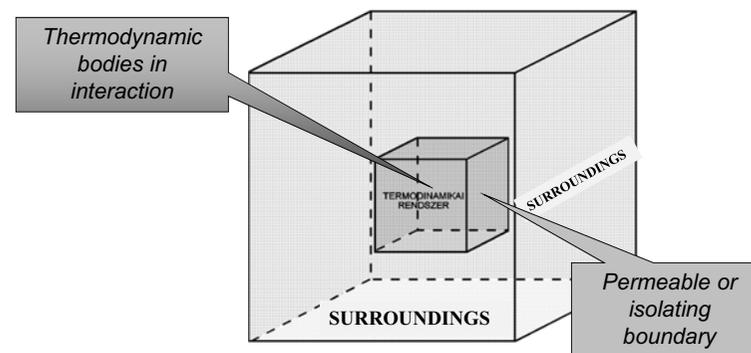
**biological**, societal, economical, monetary and other... systems.

## Thermodynamics today

General theory of energetic interactions providing useful relationships developed from the laws, that describe the **interchange of energy** and condition of **equilibria** in physical processes and chemical reactions

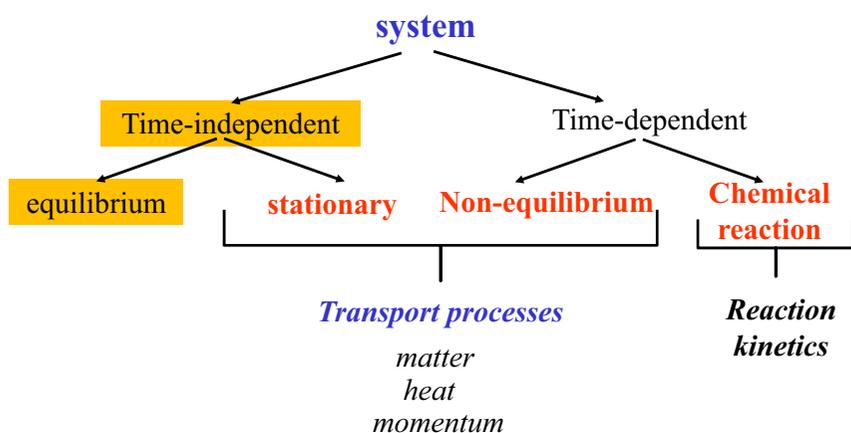


## THERMODYNAMIC SYSTEM



**Heat and dynamics have no more primary importance today!**

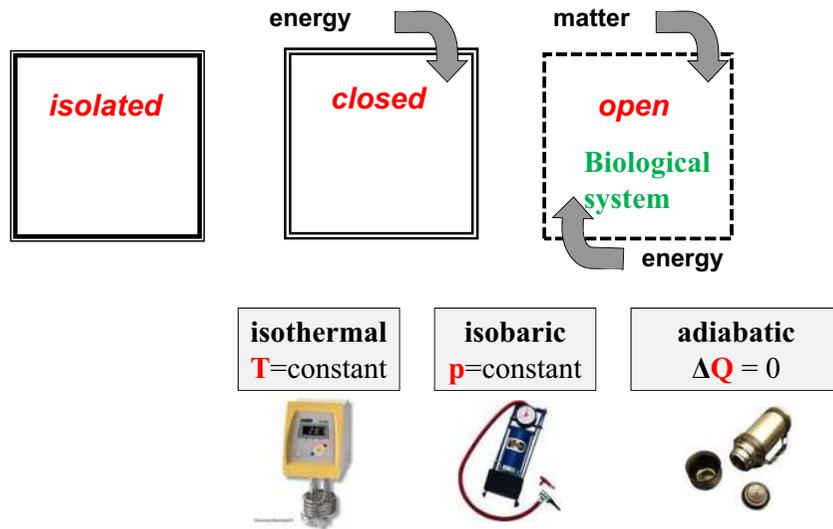
## TYPE OF THERMODYNAMIC SYSTEMS



Spontaneous process → **equilibrium**

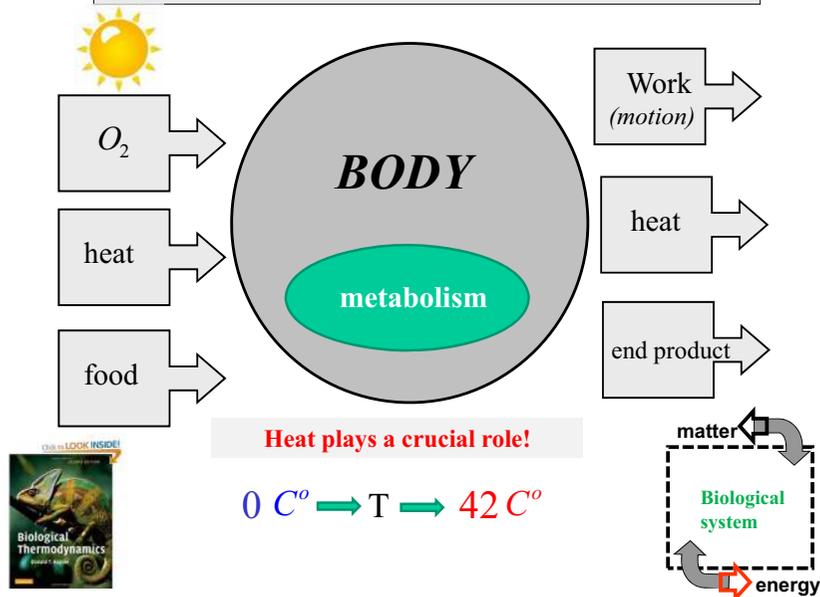
- **In equilibrium state** the properties of the system do not change with time.
- In many cases, in **equilibrium state** the intensive variables are uniform throughout the system.
- In **non-equilibrium state** the intensive variables vary in space and/or time.

## Thermodynamic systems and their surroundings



- An **isobaric** process is one in which the pressure is constant.
- An **isochoric** process is one in which the volume is constant.
- An **isothermal** process is one in which the temperature is constant.
- An **adiabatic** process is one in which no heat enters or leaves the system; i.e.  $Q = 0$ .
- **Thermodynamic variables** are the observable macroscopic variables of a system, such as  $P$ ,  $V$  and  $T$ . If they are used to describe an equilibrium state of the system, they are known as **state variables**.
- **Extensive variables** depend on the size of the system; e.g. energy, mass, volume, charge, entropy,...
- **Intensive variables** do not depend on size; e.g. pressure, temperature, concentration,...

## BIOLOGICAL THERMODYNAMIC SYSTEM



## Law of conservation of energy



**Leibniz** (1676-1689) has observed that for many mechanical systems, the kinetic energy is conserved.

**Newton** and **Descartes** have postulated the law of conservation of impulse.

**Rumford** has noted in 1798 that the drilling of gun barrel leads to the formation of heat: mechanical work can be transformed into heat!

**Mayer** realized that heat and work are two forms of energy.

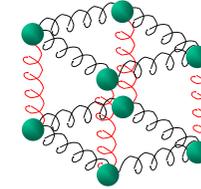
**Joule** has carried out experiments to determine the work equivalent of heat in 1843.

**Helmholtz** has stated the law of energy conservation in 1847.

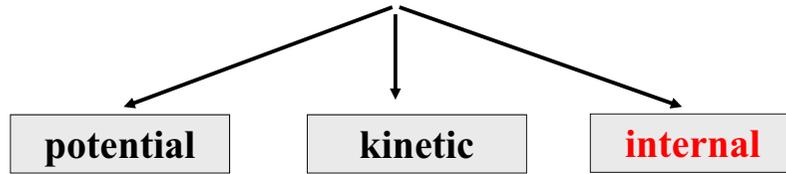
## Internal energy

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

The kinetic energy is due to the motion of the particles. The potential energy is due to interactions between atoms, ions and molecules.



## ENERGY

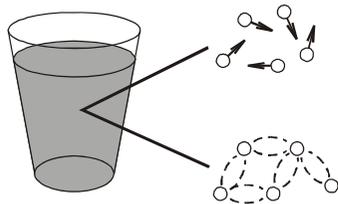


$$E = E_{pot} + E_{kin} + U$$

$$E = E_{pot} + E_{kin} + U$$

Microscopic characterization: **internal energy (U)**

**Macroscopic** potential- and kinetic energies are not included in the internal energy.



**Molecular potential- and kinetic energies are in the internal energy.**

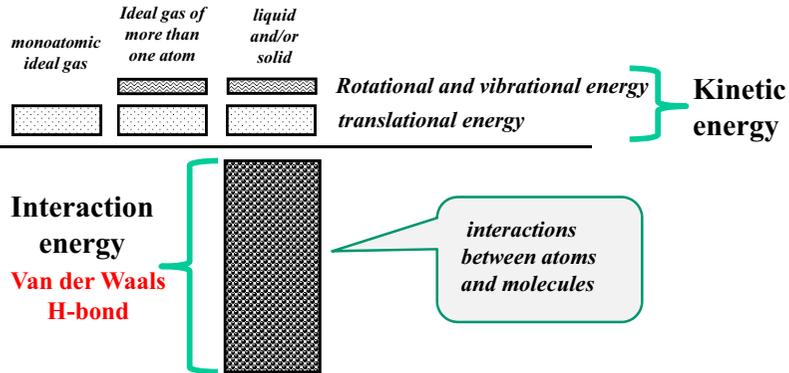
*Internal energy does not contain the potential and kinetic energy of the macroscopic body.*

*internal energy*

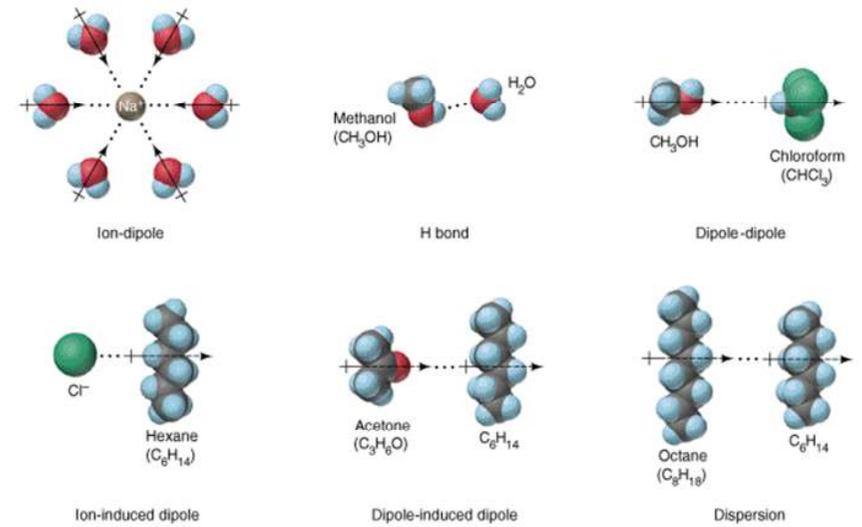
**Internal energy is the sum of chemical structure-related molecular kinetic and interaction energy.**

## Forms of internal energy compared at equal temperature

Standardised internal energy

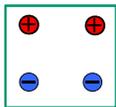


## Basic molecular interactions

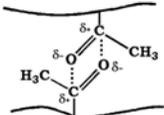


## Basic molecular interactions

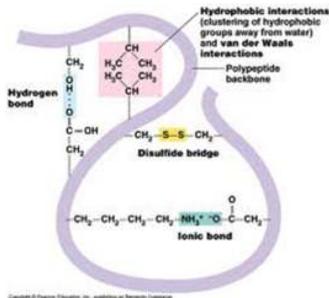
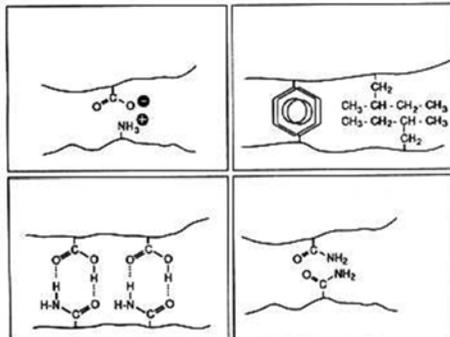
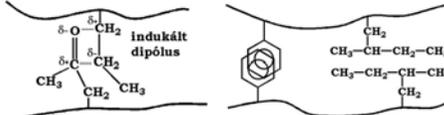
ionic



dipole



induced dipole



Interaction

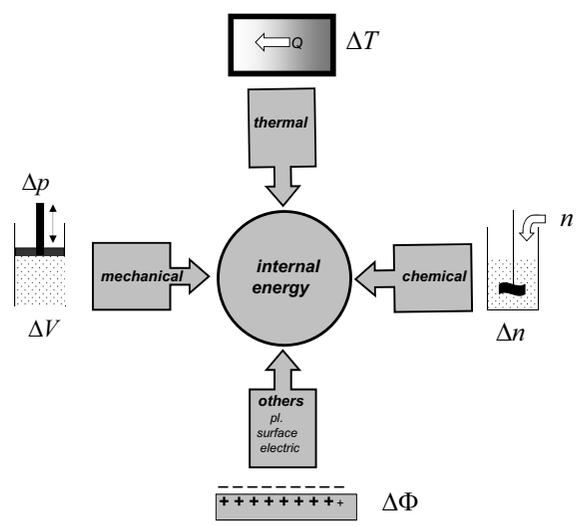
interaction energy in RT units

Interaction	interaction energy in RT units
Chemical reaction	40 - 200
ion-ion	80 - 100
ion - dipole	10 - 20
H-bond	10 - 15
dipole - dipole	0.5 - 2
induced dipole - dipole	0.3 - 2
induced dipole - induced dipole	0.2 - 2

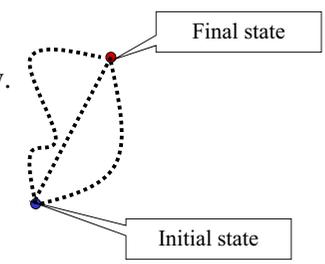
The molar internal energy of an ideal gas (in RT units):

$$U_m = \frac{3}{2} RT$$

### Change of internal energy



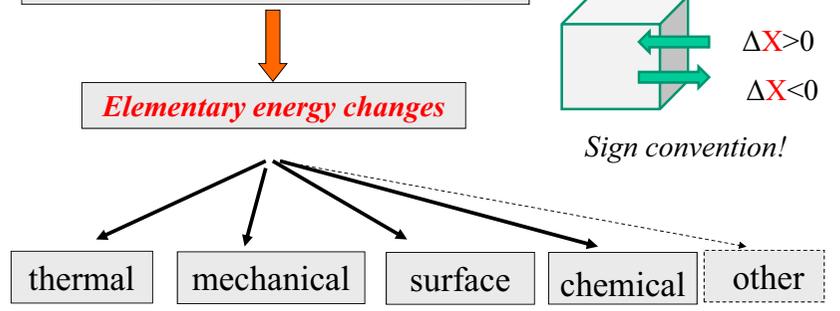
Internal energy is an **extensive** quantity.  
 Internal energy is a **state function**.



The absolute value of internal energy is **unknown**.

- Internal energy changes when**
- temperature changes,
  - molecular structure or the phase changes,
  - intermolecular interactions occur,
  - electron orbital gets into an excited state.

### Change of internal energy

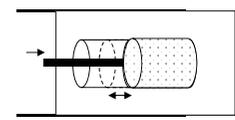


The internal energy change is the sum of individual energy changes (as many as there are interactions between the body and surroundings).

$$\Delta U = \Delta Q + \sum_i \Delta W_i$$

### Mechanical interactions (1)

- *mechanikai work*



$$W_{mech} = -f(x) \cdot \Delta x$$

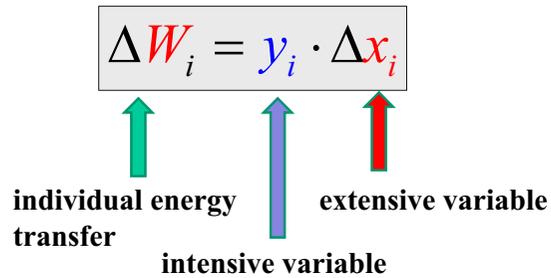
- *Volumetric work*



$$f(x) = p(V) \cdot A_s$$

$$W_{vol} = -p A_s \Delta x = -p \Delta V$$

Each elementary energy exchange can be described as a product of *intensive* and *extensive* variable.



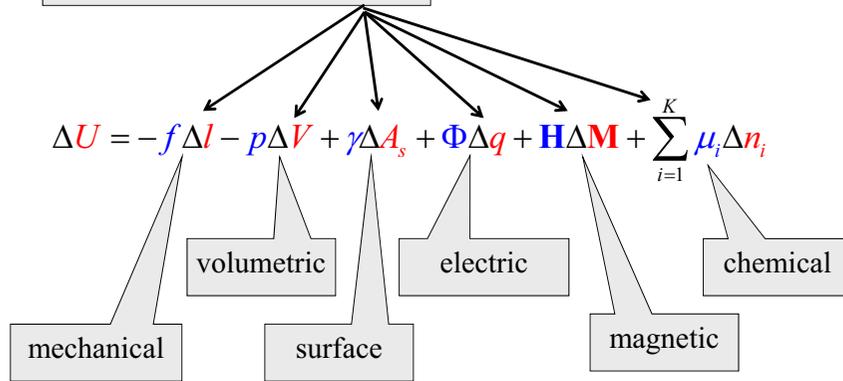
Elementary energy exchanges:  $W_i = y_i \cdot \Delta x_i$

Extensive variable	Intensive variable	Product: energy change
Volume ( $V$ )	Pressure ( $p$ )	Volumetric work ( $p\Delta V$ )
Matter ( $n$ )	Chemical potential ( $\mu$ )	Work of material transport ( $\mu\Delta n$ )
Charge ( $Q$ )	Electric potential ( $\varphi$ )	Heat ?????
?????	Temperature ( $T$ )	Heat ?????

$$\Delta U = -p\Delta V + \Phi\Delta q + H\Delta M + E\Delta P + \sum_{i=1}^K \mu_i \Delta n_i + \text{thermal} ???$$

$$\Delta U = \sum_i \Delta W_i = \sum_i y_i \cdot \Delta x_i$$

$y$  : intensive variable  
 $x$  : extensive variable



Where is thermal interaction???  $y = T$   $x = ?$

$$\Delta U = -p\Delta V + \gamma\Delta A_s + \sum_{i=1}^K \mu_i \Delta n_i + ? \Delta ?$$

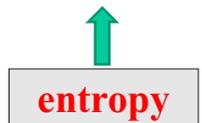


Rudolf Clausius  
1822-1888

Internal energy may also change independently of mentioned extensive variables. This „inherent change of the internal energy” is preferably to be described similarly to previous elementary energy exchanges (product of extensive \* intensive variable).

- thermal interaction  $\Delta U_Q = Q = T\Delta S$

$$\Delta U = -p\Delta V + T\Delta S + \dots +$$



## First law of thermodynamics

$$\Delta U = T\Delta S - p\Delta V + \sum_{i=1}^K \mu_i \Delta n_i + \dots +$$

↑  
The universal form of internal energy change.

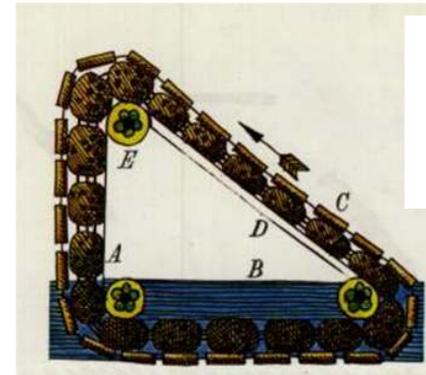
$$\Delta U = \Delta Q + \Delta W_{mech} + \Delta W_{chem} + \dots + \Delta W_i$$

$$\Delta W_{mech} = \Delta U - \Delta Q - \sum_i \Delta W_i$$

A thermodynamic system is capable to work ( $\Delta W_{mech} < 0$ ) if it lowers its internal energy ( $\Delta U < 0$ ), or takes heat from its surroundings ( $\Delta Q > 0$ ), or gain other form of energy ( $\Delta W_i > 0$ ).

A hypothetical machine that produces work without external energy input is called, **perpetuum mobile of first kind**. According to the first law of thermodynamics, perpetuum mobile of first kind can not exist.

A smart proposition for perpetuum mobile, whose disfunction is explained by the first law.



## The first law of biothermodynamic

Change of the stored energy

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

metabolic heat

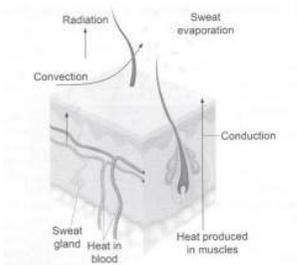
loss

mechanical work

biosynthesis

external

internal



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

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

$$\Delta U < 0$$



$$\Delta W_{kém} > 0$$

$$\Delta U > 0$$

Characteristics of thermal interactions:

temperature and entropy

$$\Delta Q = T\Delta S$$

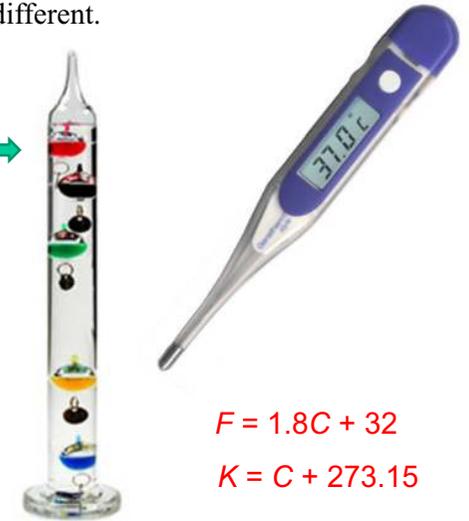
Characteristics of thermal interactions:  
 temperature and entropy

$$\Delta Q = T \Delta S$$

- The notion of *temperature* derives from the sensation of warmth and cold.
- Crucial distinction: *heat and temperature are not identical.* (Joseph Black Scot chemist)
- First temperature sensor constructed by Galileo Galilei
- Jean Rey French doctor framed the thermometer in 1631
- Conception of temperature scale by Anders Celsius (1742). Boiling point of water was 0°C, melting point was 100°C.
- Inversion of Celsius scale by Carl von Linne.



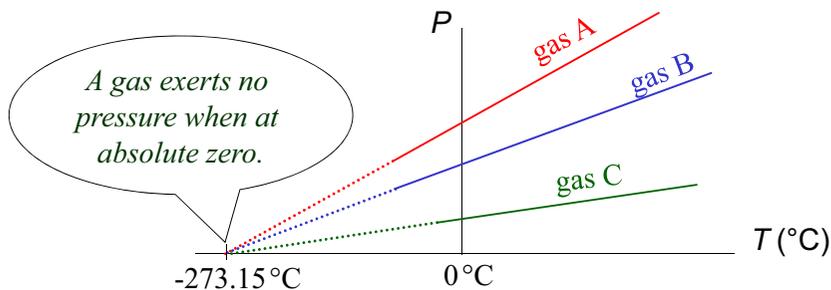
- Temperature and heat are different. (Joseph Black)
- First thermometer (Galileo Galilei)
- First clinical thermometer (Jean Rey 1631)
- Early temperature scale (Anders Celsius 1742).
- Temperature scale (Carl von Linne)



$$F = 1.8C + 32$$

$$K = C + 273.15$$

The Kelvin scale is setup so that its zero point is the coldest possible temperature--absolute zero, at which point a substance would have zero internal energy. This is -273.15°C. Absolute zero can never be reached, but there is no limit to how close we can get to it.



Entropy is a non-conserved extensive quantity!

Isolated system

Energy is a conserved quantity

Thermally and mechanically isolating wall

$\Delta S_1 = \frac{1}{T_1} \Delta U_1$

$T_1$   
 $U_1$   
 $S_1$

$\leftarrow Q \rightarrow$

$T_2$   
 $U_2$   
 $S_2$

$\Delta S_2 = \frac{1}{T_2} \Delta U_2$

Heat transfer allowed

$\Delta U = 0$        $\Delta U_1 = -\Delta U_2$

$S = S_1 + S_2 = ?$      $\Delta S = \Delta S_1 + \Delta S_2 = ?$      $\Delta S = \frac{1}{T_1} \Delta U_1 + \frac{1}{T_2} \Delta U_2 = \frac{T_2 - T_1}{T_2 T_1} \cdot \Delta U_1 \neq 0$

if  $T_2 > T_1$  then  $\frac{T_2 - T_1}{T_2 T_1} > 0$  and  $\Delta U_1 > 0$      $\rightarrow \Delta S > 0$

if  $T_2 < T_1$  then  $\frac{T_2 - T_1}{T_2 T_1} < 0$  and  $\Delta U_1 < 0$      $\rightarrow \Delta S > 0$

if  $T_2 = T_1$  then  $\frac{T_2 - T_1}{T_2 T_1} = 0$  and  $\Delta U_1 = 0$      $\rightarrow \Delta S = 0$

Due to temperature equilibration, the total entropy of the system increases!

## Entropy change in isolated system when the pressure equalizes

$$\Delta U = T\Delta S - p\Delta V + \sum_{i=1}^K \mu_i \Delta n_i + \dots \quad \longrightarrow \quad \Delta S = \frac{\Delta U}{T} + \frac{p}{T} \Delta V - \sum_{i=1}^K \frac{\mu_i}{T} \Delta n_i + \dots$$

$$\Delta S = \left( \frac{1}{T_1} - \frac{1}{T_2} \right) \Delta U_1 + \left( \frac{p_1}{T_1} - \frac{p_2}{T_2} \right) \Delta V_1 - \left( \frac{\mu_1}{T_1} - \frac{\mu_2}{T_2} \right) \Delta n_1$$

*Isotherm equalisation process :*

ha  $p_1 > p_2$  akkor  $\frac{p_1}{T} - \frac{p_2}{T} > 0$  és  $\Delta V_1 > 0$   $\longrightarrow \Delta S > 0$

ha  $p_1 < p_2$  akkor  $\frac{p_1}{T} - \frac{p_2}{T} < 0$  és  $\Delta V_1 < 0$   $\longrightarrow \Delta S > 0$

ha  $p_1 = p_2$  akkor  $\frac{p_1}{T} - \frac{p_2}{T} = 0$  és  $\Delta V_1 = 0$   $\longrightarrow \Delta S = 0$

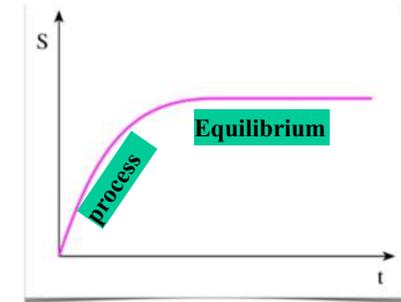
In isolated system during temperature and/or pressure equalization process the entropy increases!

## Second Law of Thermodynamics

- The entropy of an isolated system never decreases; i.e.

$$\Delta S \geq 0,$$

approaching equilibrium,  $S \rightarrow S_{\max}$ .



- Examples of real processes:
  - temperature equalization;
  - mixing of gases;

## Direction and driving force of spontaneously occurring processes

The internal energy is not necessarily minimized during spontaneously occurring thermodynamic processes!

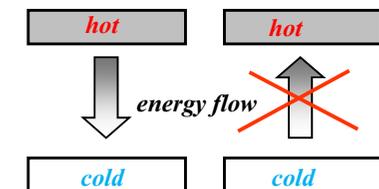
**Exapmle:** Melting of ice. The internal energy of water at nearly 0°C is larger than that of ice. However, ice at 1°C is spontaneously melting at atmospheric pressure. The energy change of the melting is +4,2 kJ/mol.

### Direction of spontaneous processes

In isolated system  $\Delta S > 0$

## Second law of thermodynamics

- During spontaneous processes entropy increases. Thermodynamic equilibrium is characterized by entropy maximum.
- Heat flows spontaneously from regions of high to low temperature.
- In an isolated system only such processes occur spontaneously which tend to equilibrate the respective intensive variables. .
- Spontaneous processes proceed towards the most probably state.

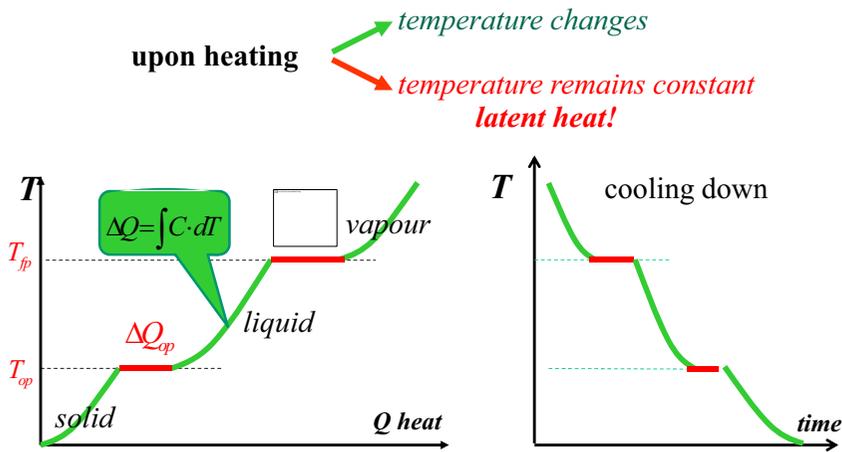


The essentially endless heat content of oceans cannot be used to spontaneously produce useful work.

entropy  $\longrightarrow$  arrow of time

Entropy was introduced through the changes in temperature, but.....

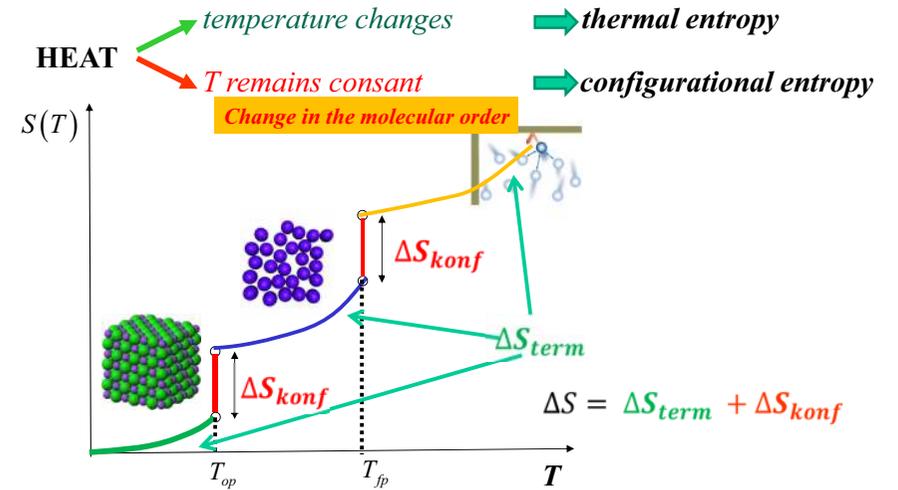
**two forms of heat effects**



Entropy was introduced through the changes in temperature, but...

**Two forms of heat**

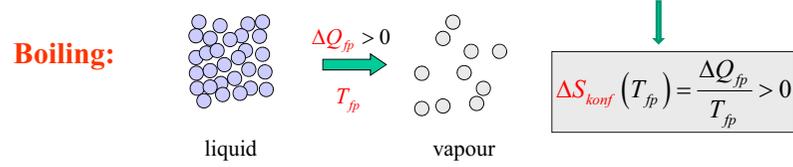
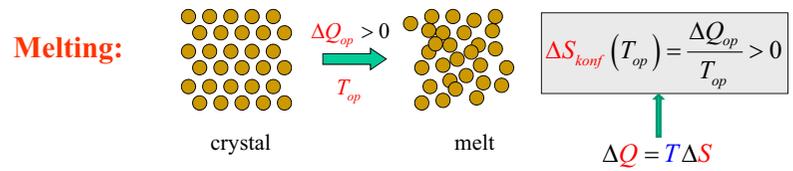
**Two forms of entropy**



**entropy**

- thermal entropy (temperature changes)
- configurational entropy (temperature does **not** change)

$\Delta S = \Delta S_{term} + \Delta S_{konf}$



During phase transition at constant temperature the **entropy increases together with the increase of disorder.**

**Entropy is a measure of molecular scale order or disorder**

Entropy increases



Related to order – disorder transition?

**YES!**

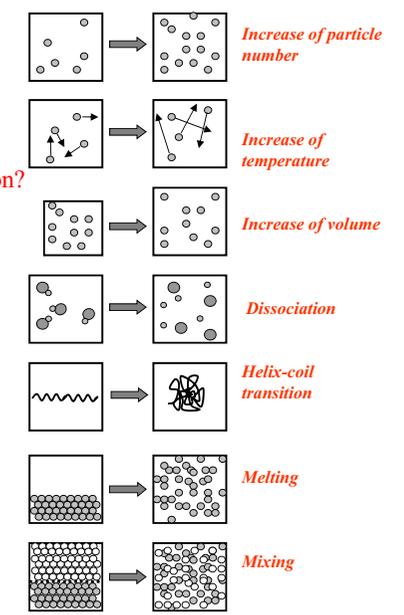


Boltzmann equation:

$$S = k_B \ln W$$

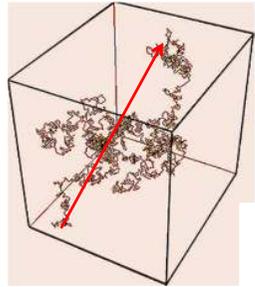
$$k_B = 1.38 \cdot 10^{-23} \text{ J/K} \rightarrow k_B = \frac{R}{N_{Av}}$$

$W$ : thermodynamic probability



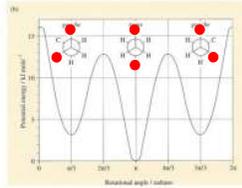
**W** thermodynamic probability defines the **number of microscopic states** belonging to a **macroscopic state**.

**example:** **makroscopic state:** distance of the extremities of a chain  
**microscopic states:** all the possible conformations



coil, *g*

$$S = k_B \ln W$$



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

$$W_g = 3^{10000}$$

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

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

All trans, *ny*



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

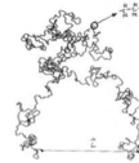
$$W_{ny} = 1$$

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

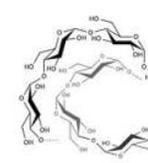
$$S_{ny} = 0$$

## Configuration and conformational entropy

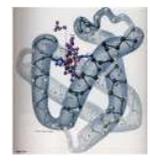
constitution - configuration - conformation



Random coil

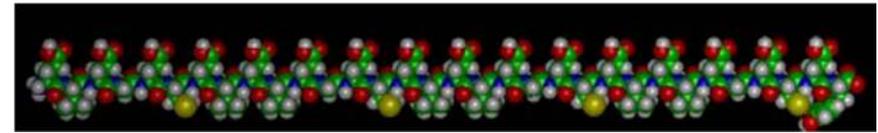


Ordered structure



Large conformational entropy

Much lower conformational entropy



$W=1$



$$S_{konf} = 0$$

## Third law of thermodynamics

Entropy of pure crystalline materials at the absolute zero:

$$\lim_{T \rightarrow 0} S(T) = 0$$

determined by Nernst experimentally and by Planck theoretically (based on the statistical approach)



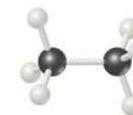
The third law enables the introduction of an **absolute scale of entropy**

A complex molecule has large standard entropy

Standard entropy at 298 K of selected materials  
 unit: J/molK



Methane,  $\text{CH}_4$   
 $S^\circ = 186.3 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$



Ethane,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_6$   
 $S^\circ = 229.6 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$



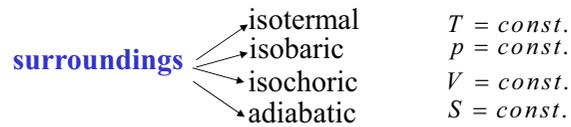
Propane,  $\text{C}_3\text{H}_8$   
 $S^\circ = 270.3 \text{ J mol}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$

TABLE 19.2 Standard Molar Entropies of Selected Substances at 298 K

Substance	$S^\circ$ , J/mol-K
<b>Gases</b>	
$\text{H}_2(\text{g})$	130.6
$\text{N}_2(\text{g})$	191.5
$\text{O}_2(\text{g})$	205.0
$\text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{g})$	188.8
$\text{NH}_3(\text{g})$	192.5
$\text{CH}_3\text{OH}(\text{g})$	237.6
$\text{C}_6\text{H}_6(\text{g})$	269.2
<b>Liquids</b>	
$\text{H}_2\text{O}(\text{l})$	69.9
$\text{CH}_3\text{OH}(\text{l})$	126.8
$\text{C}_6\text{H}_6(\text{l})$	172.8
<b>Solids</b>	
$\text{Li}(\text{s})$	29.1
$\text{Na}(\text{s})$	51.4
$\text{K}(\text{s})$	64.7
$\text{Fe}(\text{s})$	27.23
$\text{FeCl}_3(\text{s})$	142.3
$\text{NaCl}(\text{s})$	72.3

	solid	liquid	vapour
C diamond	2,4	benzene 173,3	benzene 269,3
C graphite	5,7	water 69,9	water 188,8

**Environmental effects**



Part of the internal energy is devoted to maintain the constancy of environmental conditions!

Usable energy  $\neq$  Change in the internal energy

**The useful part of internal energy under given conditions:**

Isobaric case: **H enthalpy**

Isothermal case: **F free energy**

Isothermal-isobaric case: **G free enthalpy**

**Useable part of internal energy at constant pressure:**

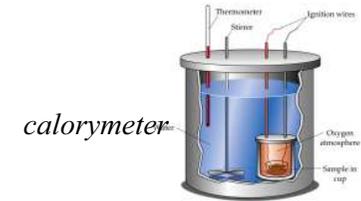
In order to maintain the constancy of pressure in isobaric situation there is energy exchange with the environment.

The remaining useable part of internal energy is called: **enthalpy**.

**H enthalpy**  $\rightarrow H = U + pV$

$$\Delta H = \Delta U + p\Delta V$$

$$\Delta H = T\Delta S - p\Delta V + p\Delta V = T\Delta S = Q \leftarrow \text{Heat!}$$



The enthalpy is the useable part of internal energy at constant pressure.

$$\Delta H = Q$$

**Useable part of internal energy at constant temperature:**

In order to maintain the constancy of temperature in isotherm process there is energy exchange with the environment.

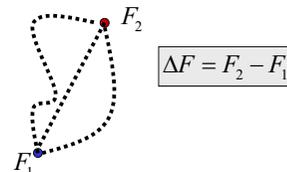
The remaining useable part of internal energy is called: **free energy**

**free energy**  $\rightarrow F = U - TS$

extenzív mennyiség

$$\Delta F = \Delta U - T\Delta S$$

$$\Delta F = T\Delta S - p\Delta V - T\Delta S = -p\Delta V = W_{mech}$$



The free energy is the useable part of internal energy at constant temperature.

$$\Delta F = W_{mech}$$

**Useable part of internal energy at constant temperature and pressure:**

In order to maintain the constancy of temperature and pressure of the environment, there is energy exchange with the environment.

The remaining useable part of internal energy is called: **free enthalpy** or **Gibbs free energy**.

**free enthalpy**  $\rightarrow G = H - TS$

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

$$\Delta G = \sum_i \mu_i \Delta n_i = W_{kém}$$

chemical potential

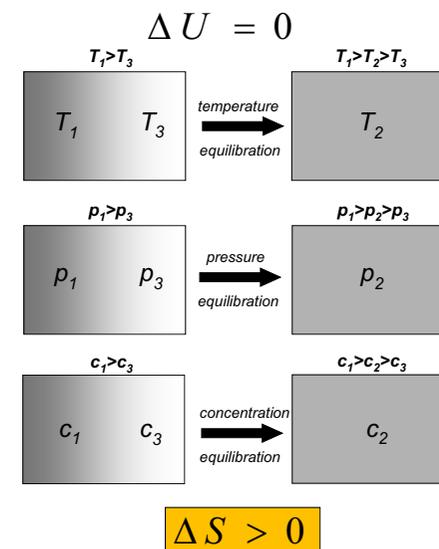
## Direction and driving force of spontaneously occurring processes

The internal energy is not necessarily minimized during spontaneously occurring thermodynamic processes!

**Expamle:** Melting of ice. The internal energy of water at nearly 0°C is larger than that of ice. However, ice at 1°C is spontaneously melting at atmospheric pressure. The energy change of the melting is +4,2 kJ/mol.

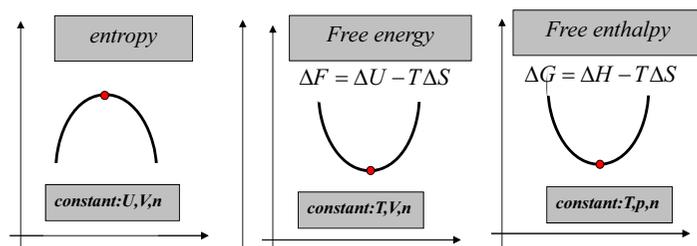
<b>Thermodynamic functions</b>	Isolated system	$\Delta S > 0$
$\Delta F = \Delta U - T\Delta S$	→ Isothermal system	$\Delta F < 0$
$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$	→ Isothermal - isobaric system	$\Delta G < 0$

## Spontaneously occurring processes in isolated systems

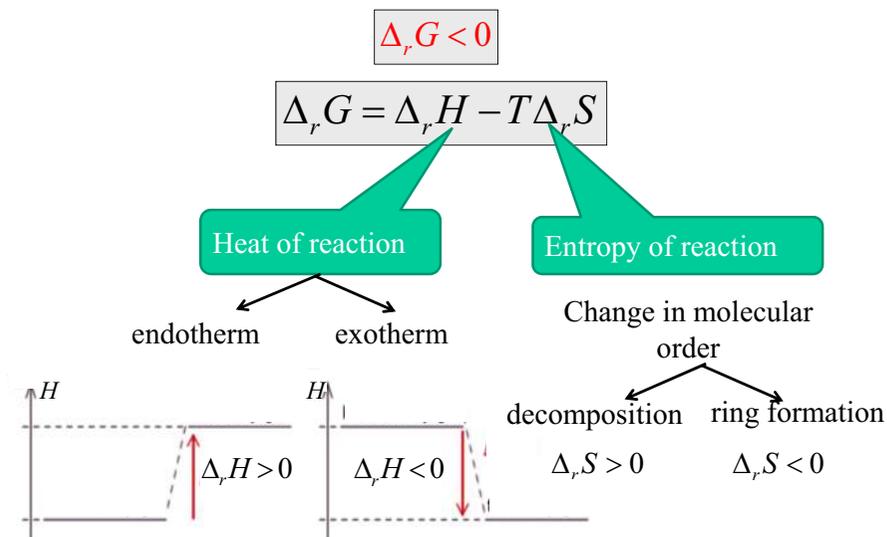


## Condition of thermodynamic equilibrium

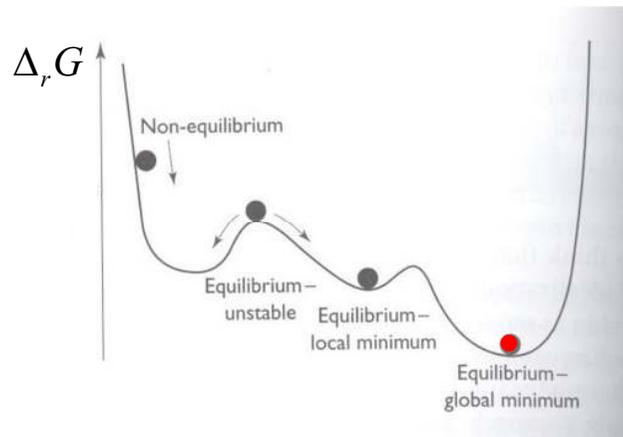
characteristic function	interaction with surroundings	extremity of the equilibrium	spontaneously occurring process
$S(U, V, n)$	isolated	maximum	$\Delta S > 0$
$F(T, V, n)$	thermal	minimum	$\Delta F < 0$
$G(T, p, n)$	mechanical and thermal	minimum	$\Delta G < 0$



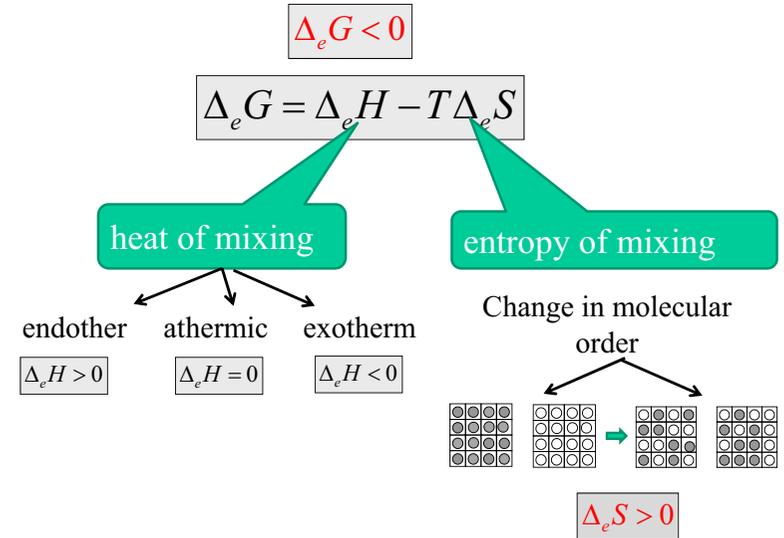
## Driving force of chemical and biochemical reactions



### Stable and nonstable equilibrium condition

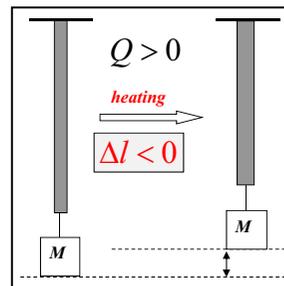
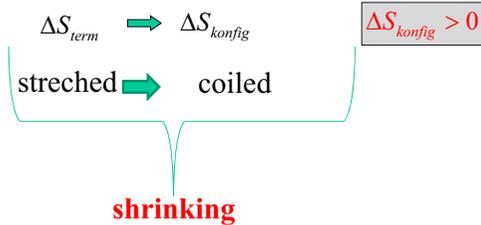
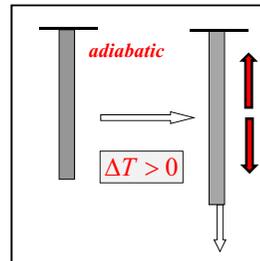
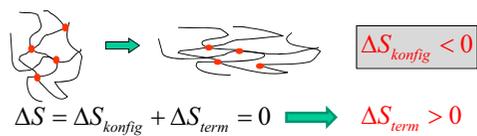


### DRIVING FORCE OF MIXING



### Flexibility of macromolecules

#### Entropic elasticity



### 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)

**2nd law of thermodynamics:** Thermodynamic equilibrium is characterised by entropy maximum.  
(Non-conservation of entropy)

**3rd law of thermodynamics:** The entropy of one-component, crystallizing material at 0 K temperature is 0  
(Absolute scale of entropy)

<b>enthalpy</b>	$H = U + PV$	$\rightarrow$	heat
<b>free energy</b>	$F = U - TS$	$\rightarrow$	work
<b>free enthalpy</b>	$G = H - TS$	$\rightarrow$	chemistry
<i>(Gibbs free energy)</i>			