

ℓS-gradient: defined

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To clarify notation within this continuum, we designate the first emergent low-entropy condition above the 0-Point Information State as the ℓS-gradient. This term distinguishes the nearest-possible, minimally entropic asymmetry from generic thermodynamic gradients. The ℓS-gradient represents the earliest writable deviation from 0PIS: a pre-thermal, informationally sparse distinction that precedes temperature and enables its emergence. By naming this specific regime, Protophysics preserves the correct ordering of expression—0PIS → ℓS-gradient → temperature → information → energy—and ensures that the continuum reflects the structural sequence by which the universe transitions from an informational floor into thermodynamic and energetic behavior.