

## $\ell S$ -gradient: defined

*Wm. Axsom*

To clarify notation within this continuum, we designate the first emergent low-entropy condition above the 0-Point Information State as the  $\ell S$ -gradient. This term distinguishes the nearest-possible, minimally entropic asymmetry from generic thermodynamic gradients. The  $\ell S$ -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 →  $\ell S$ -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.