

General principles of modern physics. Energy minimum. Absolute speed (speed of light). Linear and angular momentum. Spin of the particle. Pauli exclusion principle. Entropy.

11.09.2020

Topics

- Speed of light and its importance
- Energy of a system
- Energy minimum principle
- Energy barriers and metastability
- Spin of a particle
- Pauli exclusion principle and how matter is formed
- Entropy

Speed of light

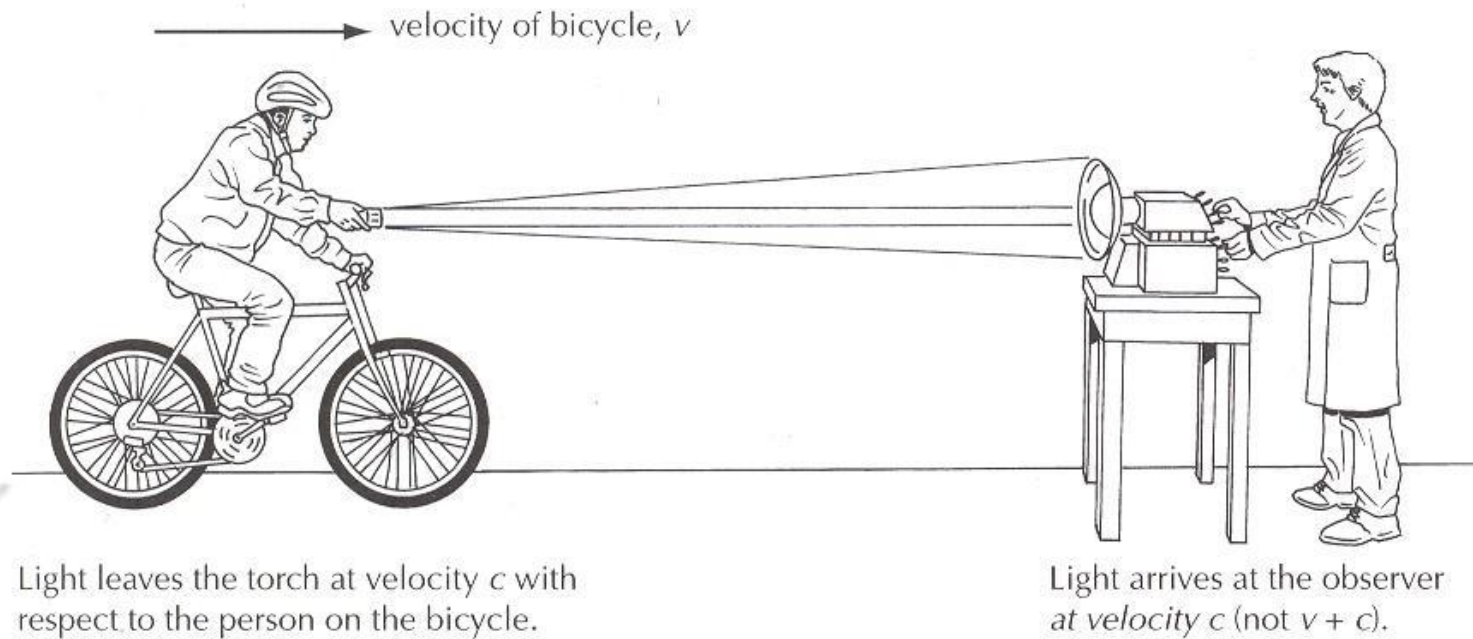
Speed of light – important facts

1. Speed of light is 3×10^8 m/s
2. Nothing (even information) can travel faster than the speed of light
3. Speed of light is independent from the frame of reference
4. Time is relative

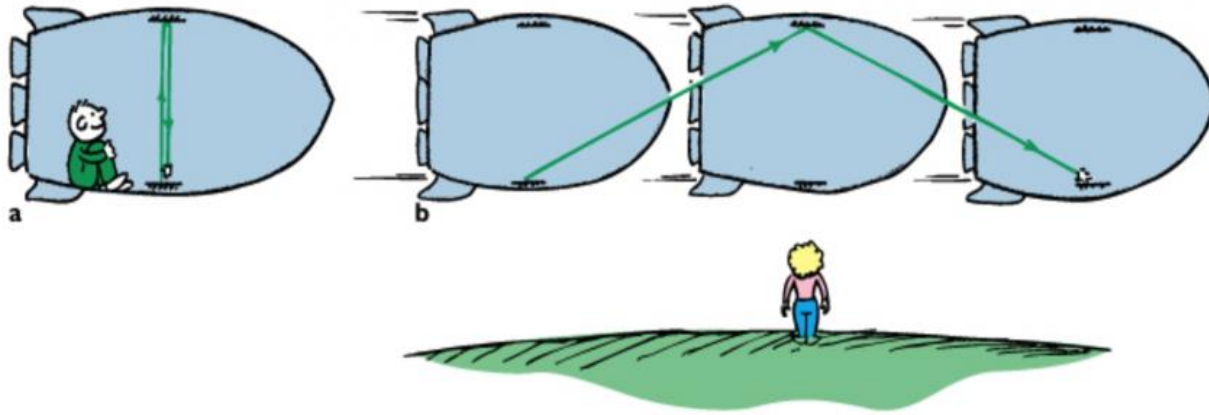
1. Speed of light

- 300 000 km/s equals to:
- $300\,000 / 40\,000 = 7,5$ roundtrips around the earth in 1 s.
- ~130 ms response (ping) time over internet when visiting a page in New-Zealand ;)
- Sun -> Earth distance at light speed is 8 minutes
- Nearest star is at distance of 4.3 light years (distance travelled by light in one year). How many km-s is it ?
- Most distant visible place in the universe is ~13 billion light years away

Nothing can go faster



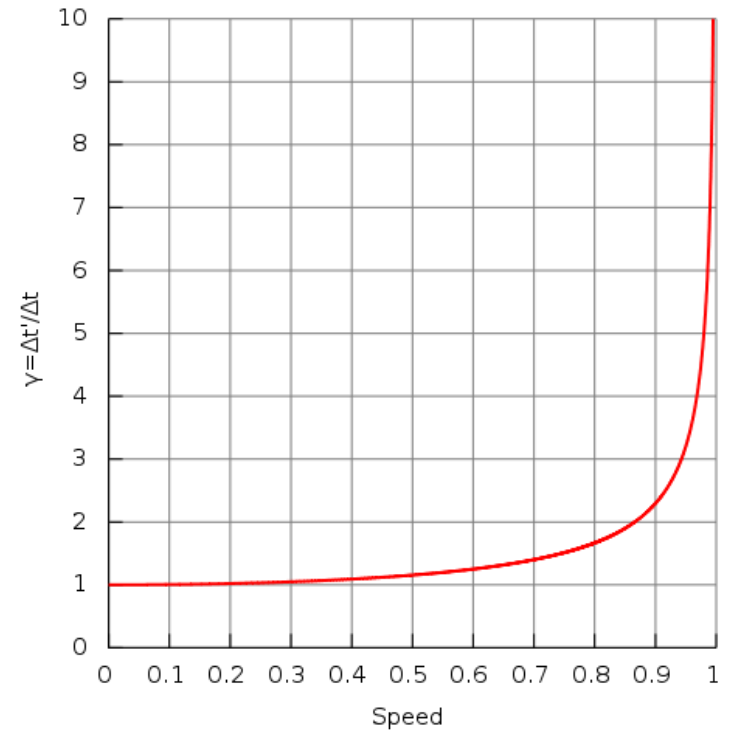
Time is relative – speed changes the preceived time



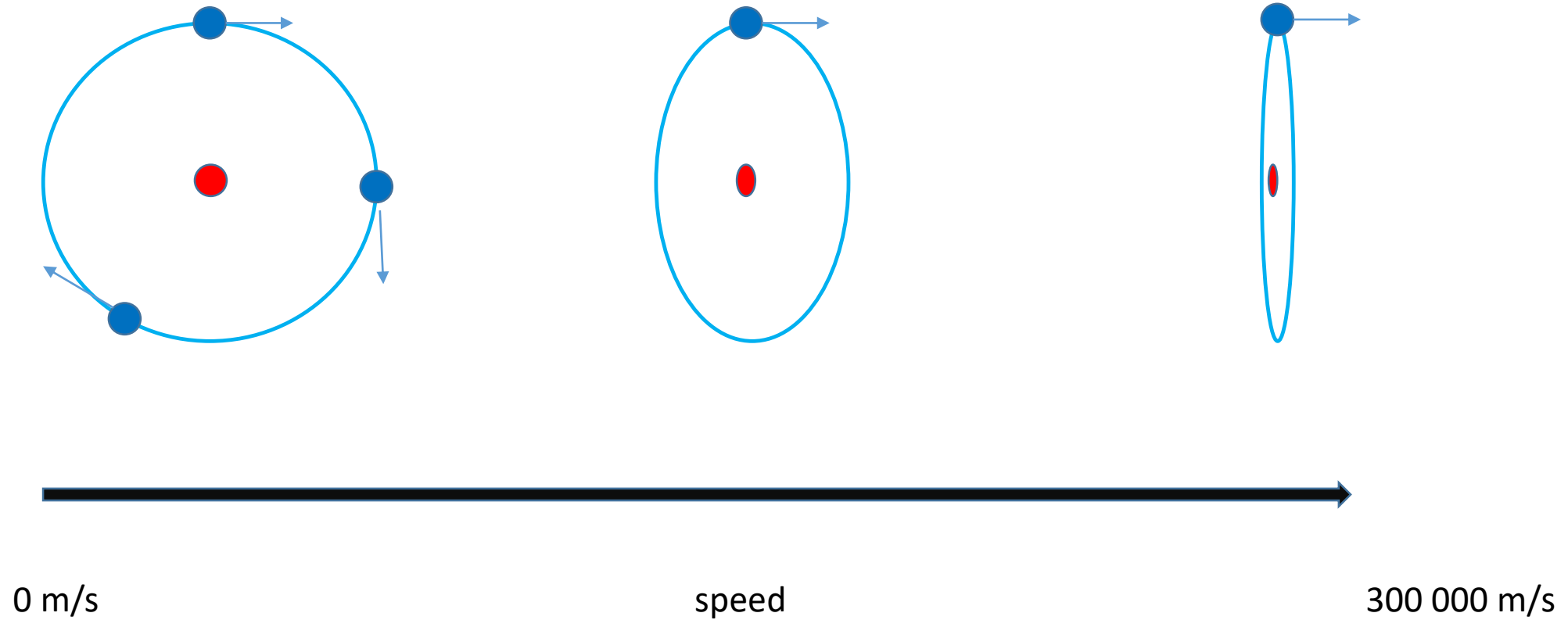
Hewitt, *Conceptual Physics*, Ninth Edition.
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$$t = \frac{t_0}{\sqrt{1 - \left(\frac{v}{c}\right)^2}}$$

$$\gamma \equiv \frac{1}{\sqrt{1 - v^2/c^2}}$$

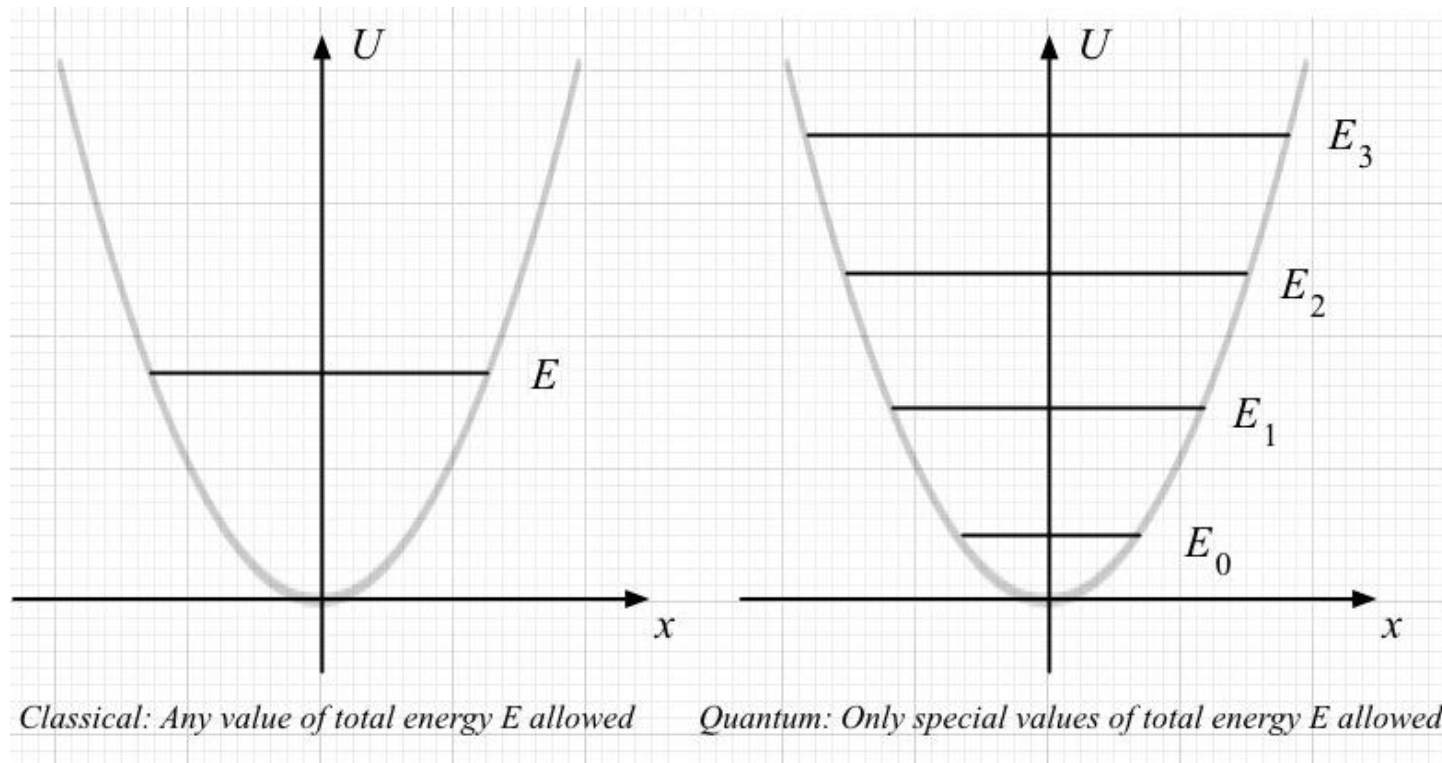


Time and space distortions



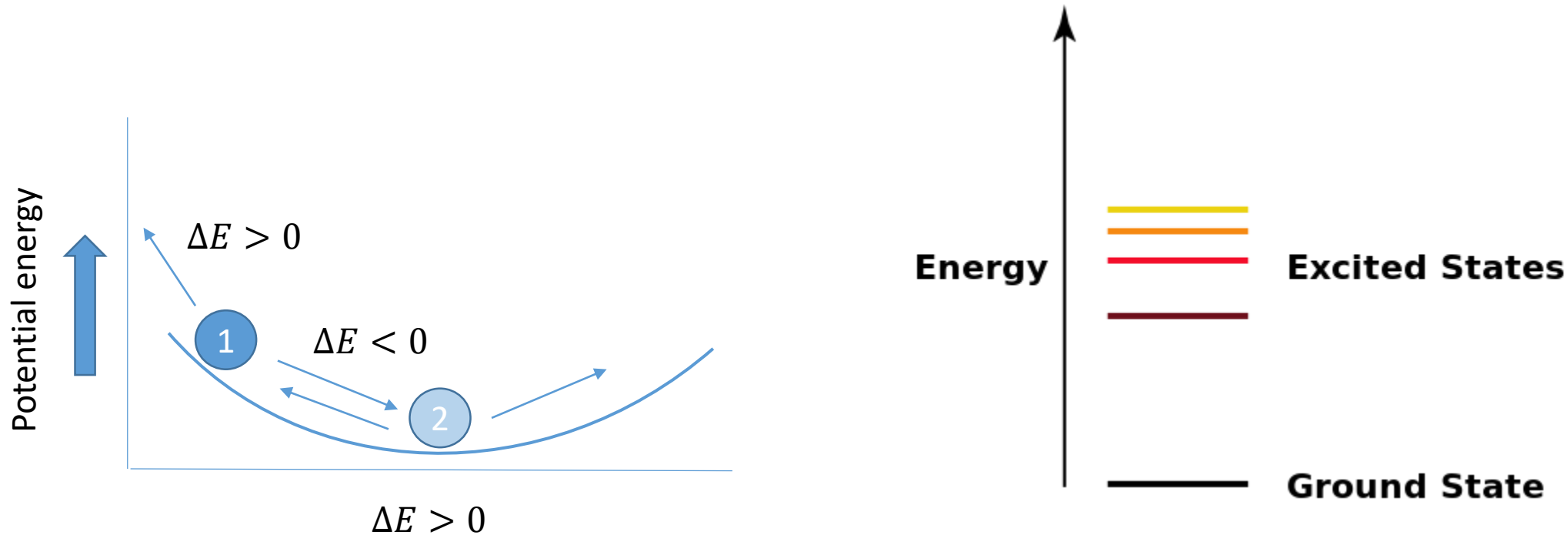
Energy levels

System energy levels: classical and quantum

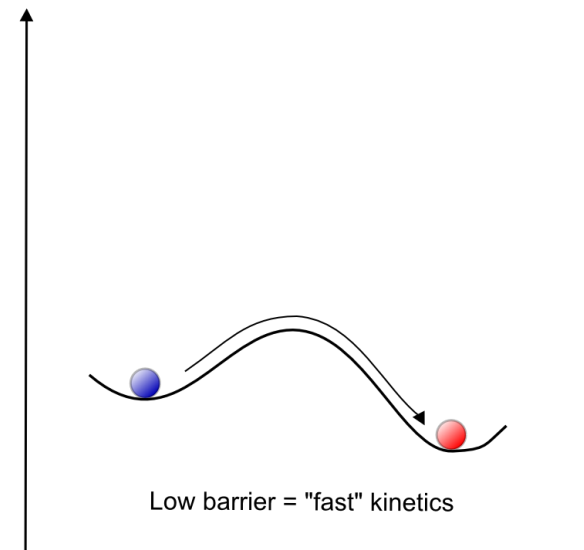
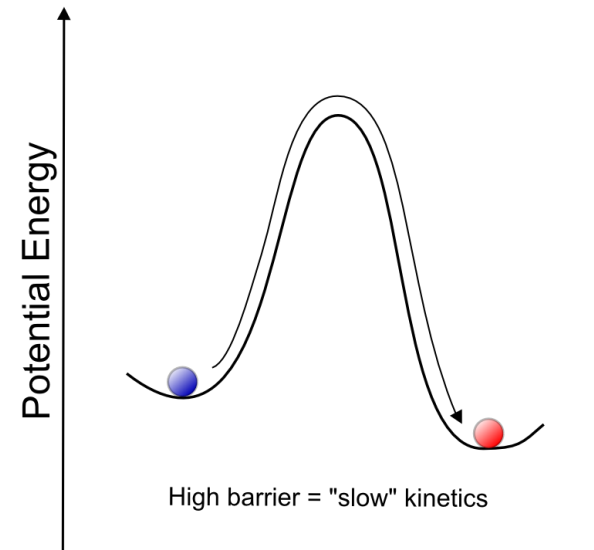
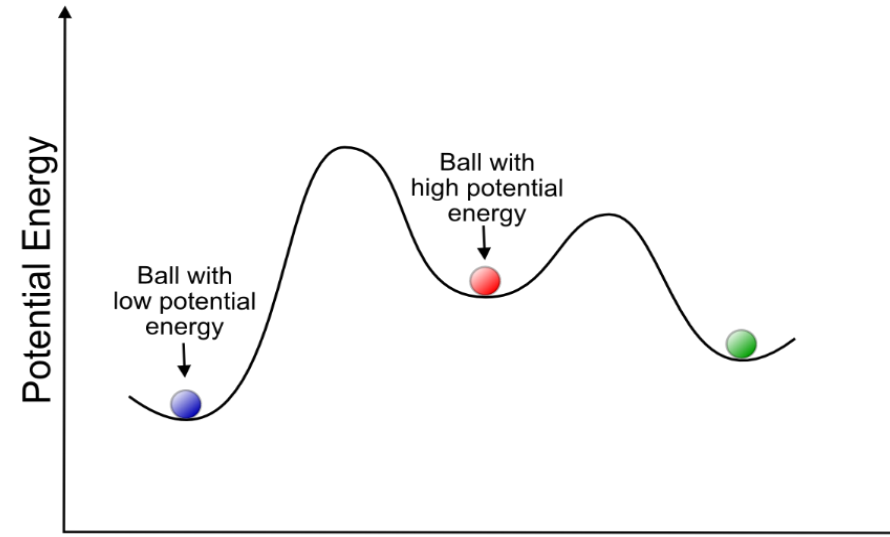
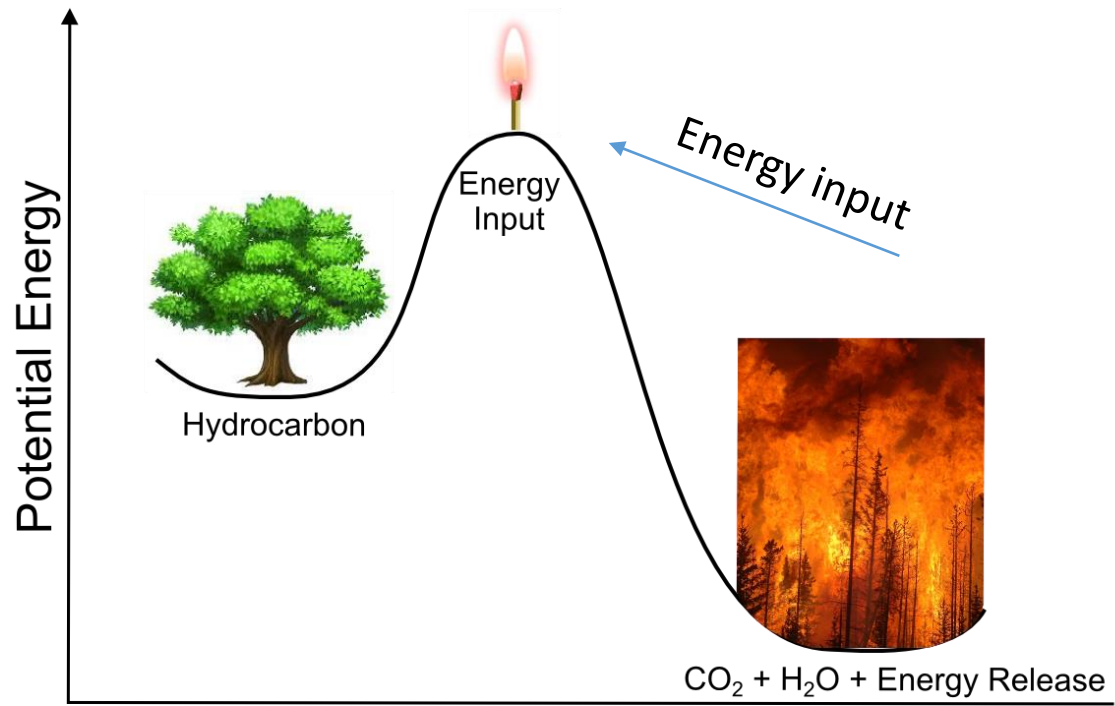


Energy minimum

- for a closed system, with constant external parameters and entropy, the internal energy will decrease and approach a minimum value at equilibrium.

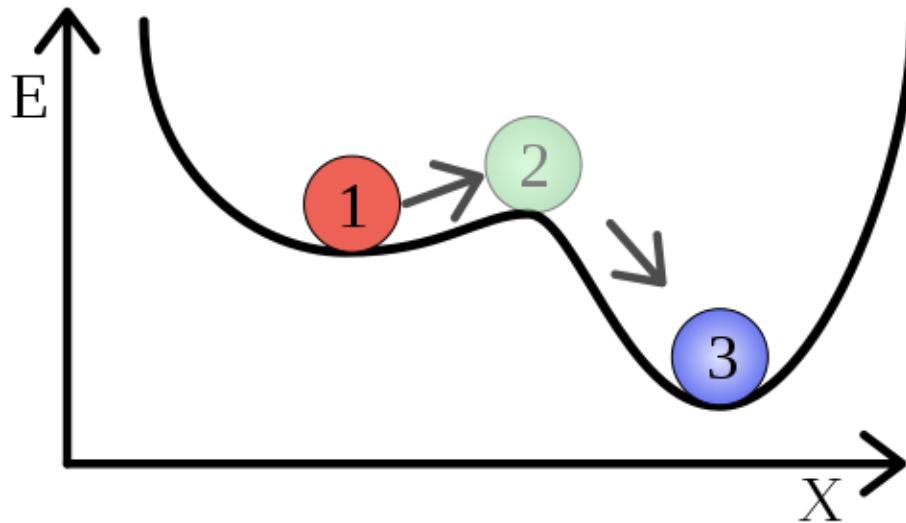


Energy barriers

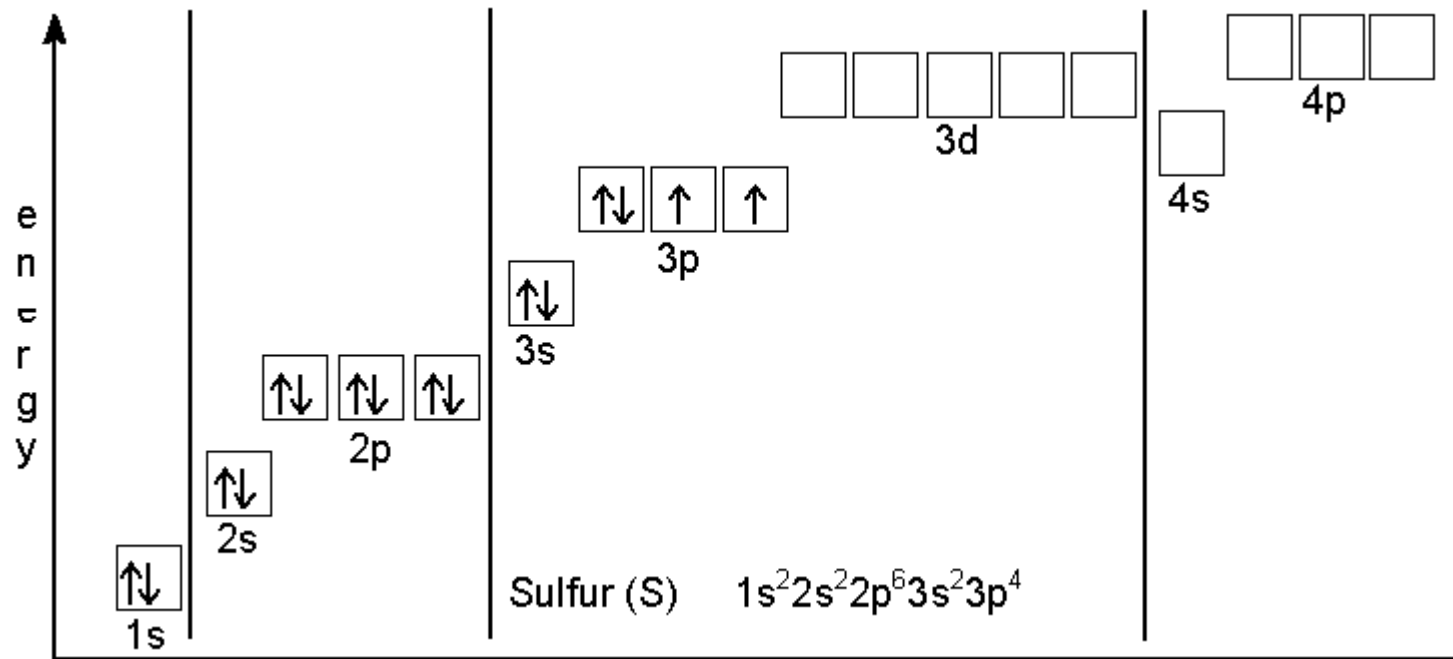


Meta-stability

Very small disturbances can cause state to transition into stable state.



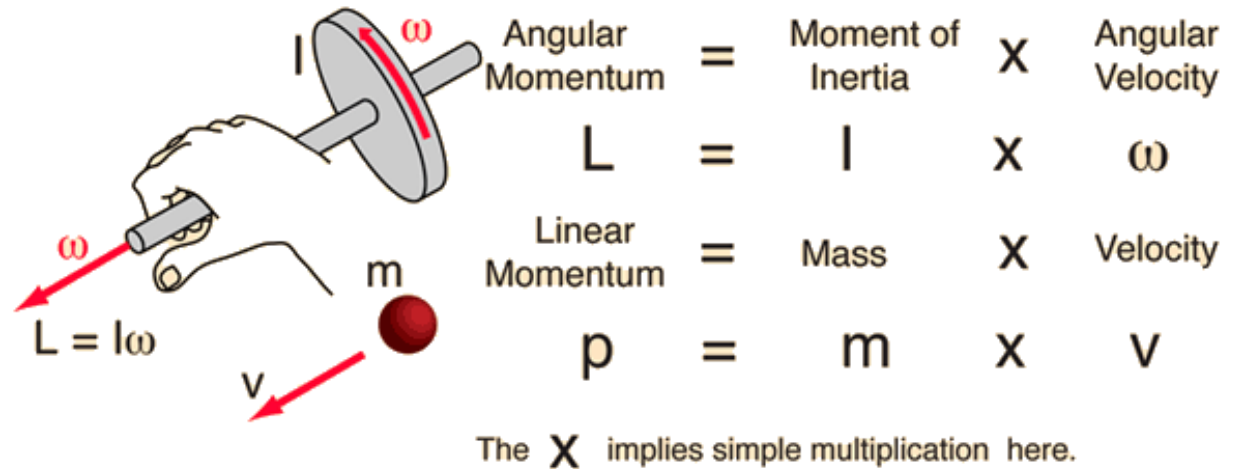
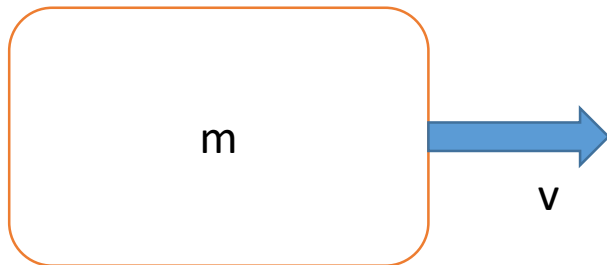
Energy levels of an atom – not a classical case



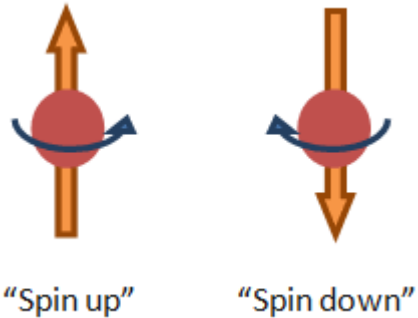
Pauli exclusion principle

Linear momentum <--> Angular momentum

$$p = m \cdot v \left[\frac{kg \cdot m}{s} \right]$$

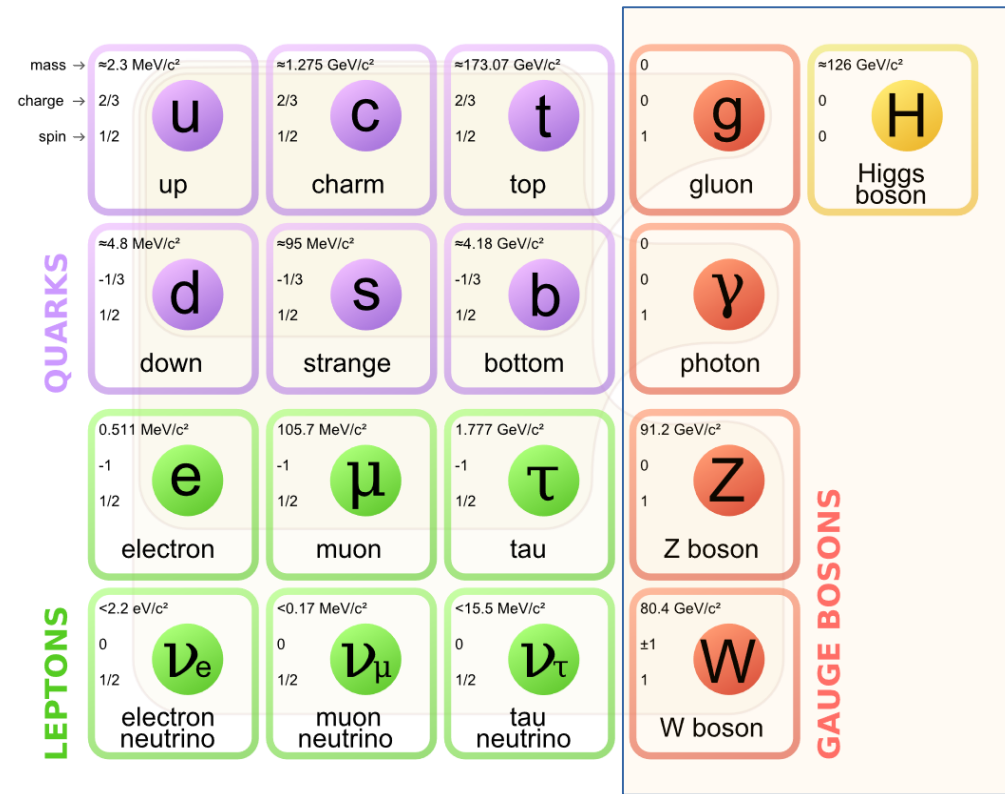


Spin of a particle



- Gives rise to magnetic moment, bigger than possible by approximation with a spinning object
- Can only take discrete values and orientations.
- Every fermion(electron) has a spin of $1/2$!
- Gives rise to Pauli exclusion principle

Spin 1

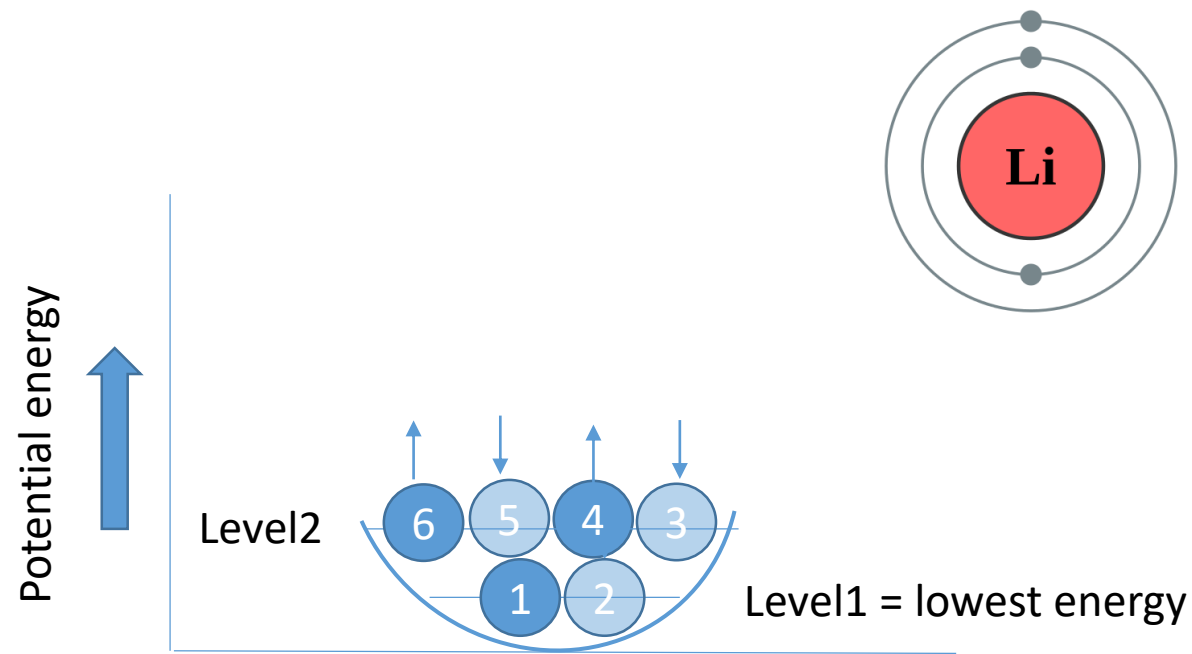


Spin $\frac{1}{2}$

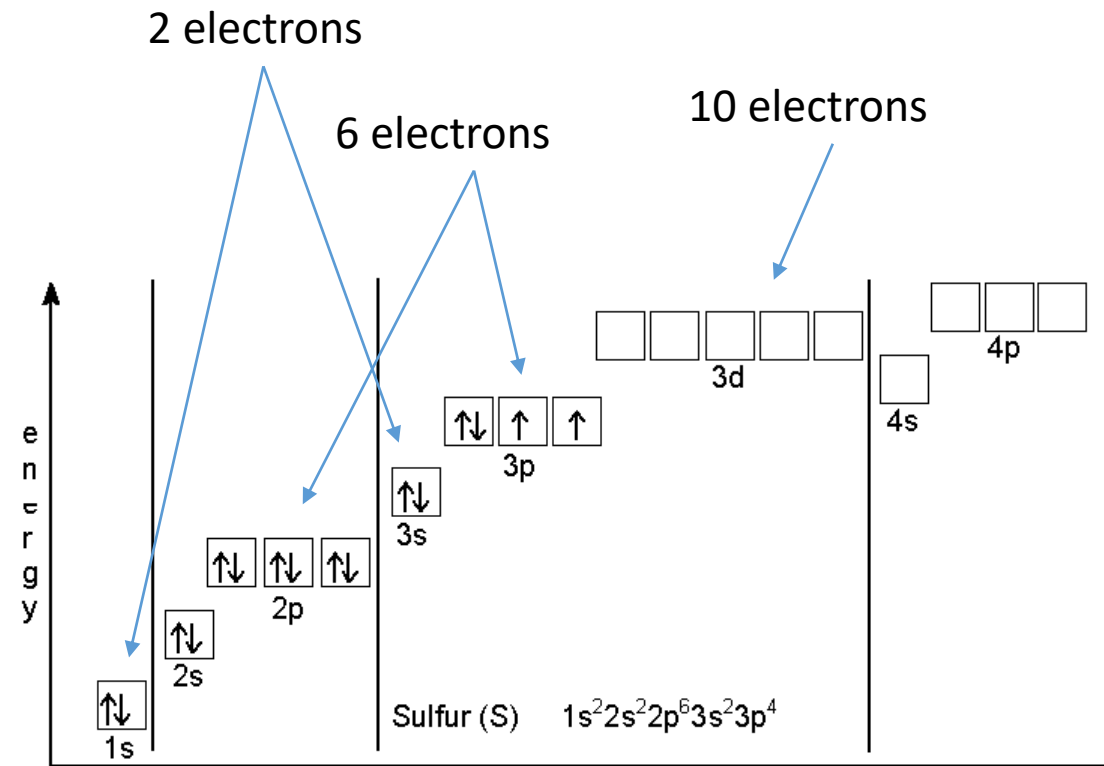


Pauli exclusion principle

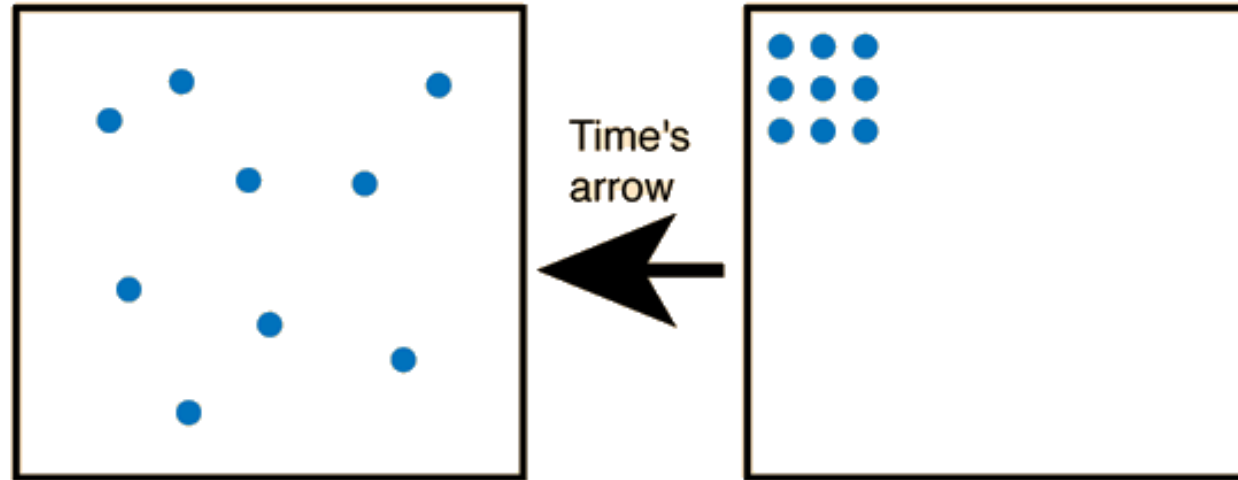
- Only maximum of two fermions with opposite spin states can occupy one energy state



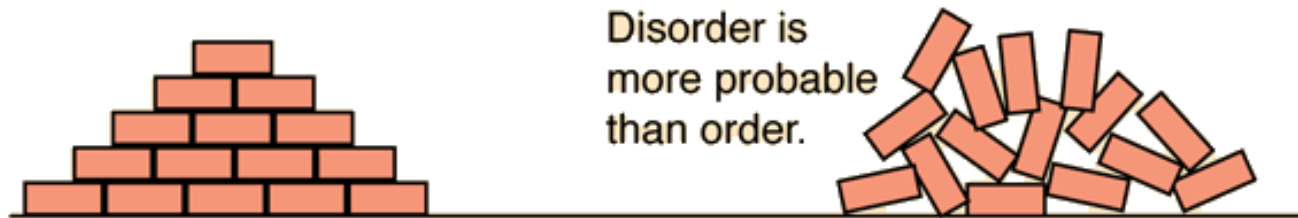
What if this principle didnt work ?



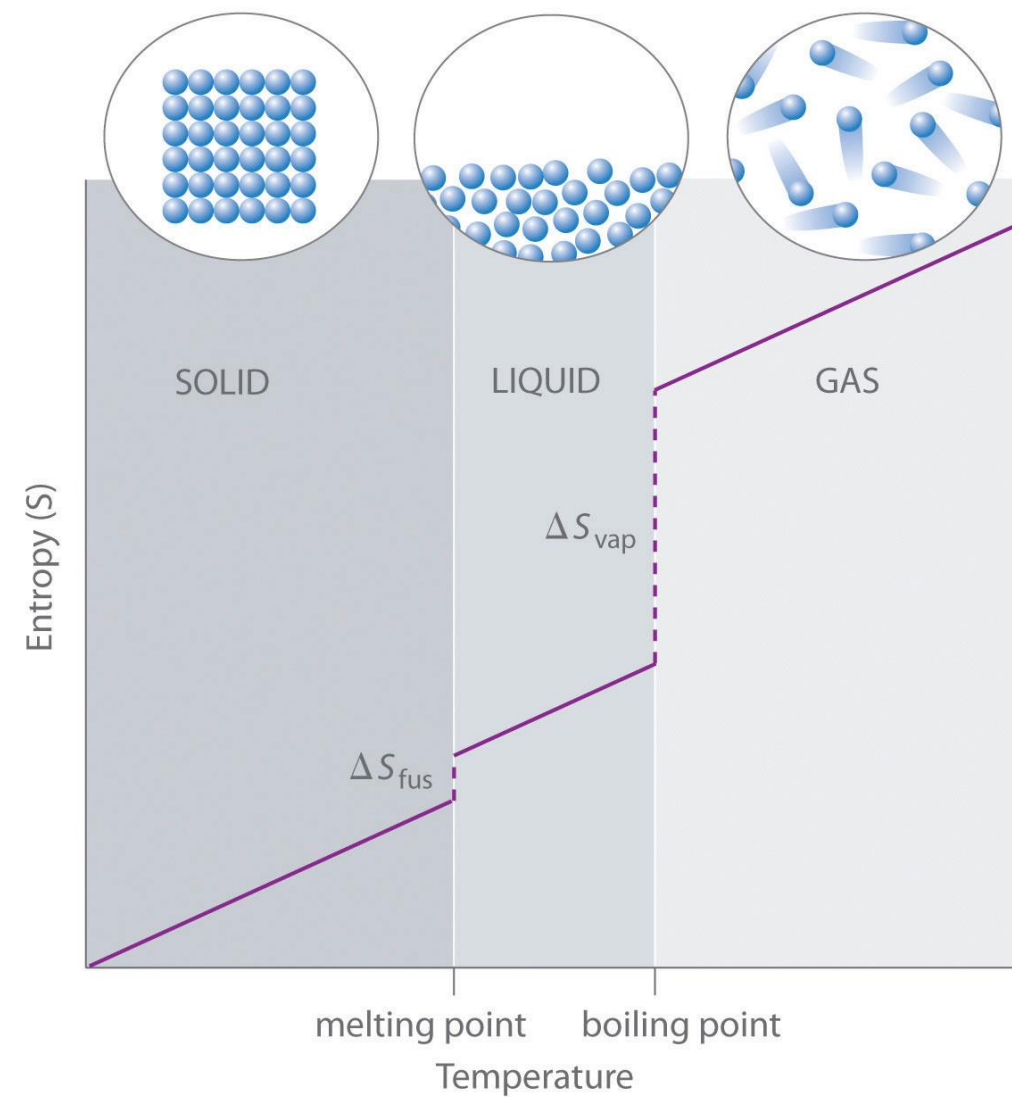
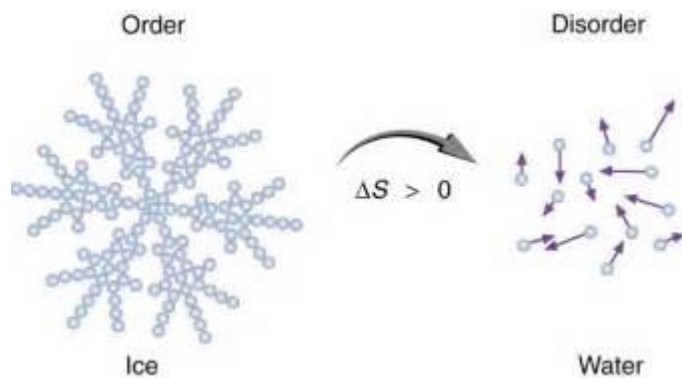
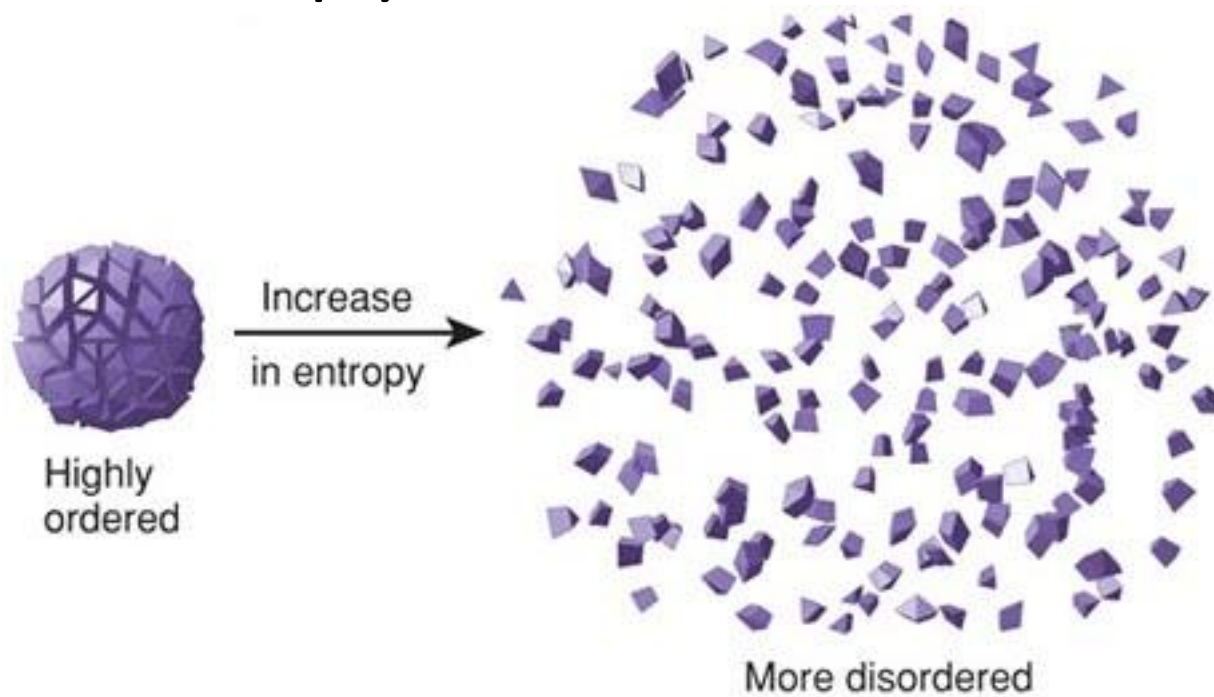
If the particles represent gas molecules at normal temperatures inside a closed container, which of the illustrated configurations came first?



If you tossed bricks off a truck, which kind of pile of bricks would you more likely produce?



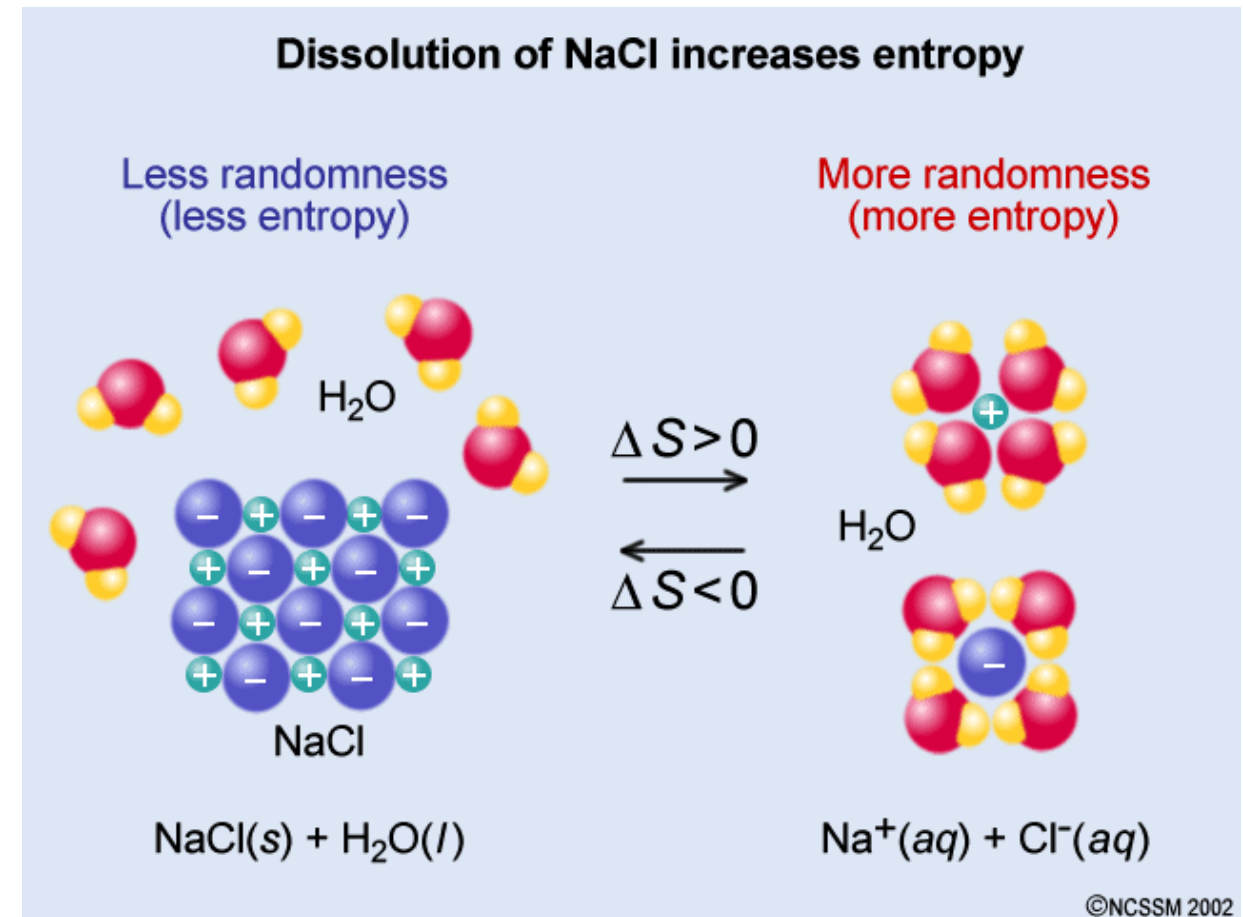
Entropy



Entropy increase by mixing substances

$$S = k \cdot \ln(W)$$

- Boltzmann constant $k = 1.38065 \times 10^{-23}$ J/K.
- W = number of possible microstates
- Natural processes move in the direction of entropy increase.
- System tries to find Macrostate with most number of Microstates



Why your room never turns to order spontaneously ?



ENTROPY

Organize all you want. It won't matter.