

AIM: 10/5

How is matter and energy classified based on its quality?

Low Quality Matter:

- disorganized
- dilute
- difficult to extract
- deep underground or dispersed in air/water

Matter Quality:

how useful matter is based on availability and concentration

Entropy: **measure of disorder of a system**

lower entropy – more order

High Quality Matter:

- organized
- concentrated
- easier to extract
- found near surface



Energy Quality:

measure of an energy source's ability to perform useful work

Forms of Energy:

Potential Energy
v.
Kinetic Energy
(yet again ...)

High Quality Energy:

organized, concentrated, useful

Examples

- a. electricity
- b. coal
- c. gasoline
- d. concentrated sunlight
- e. nuclei in radioactive elements
- f. concentrated heat

Electromagnetic Radiation:

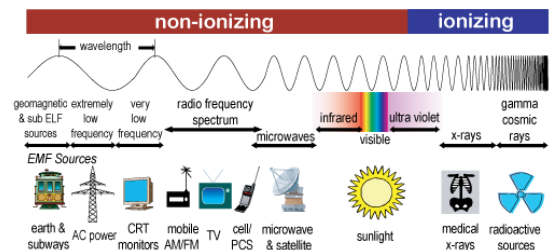
form of kinetic energy consisting of oscillating transverse waves

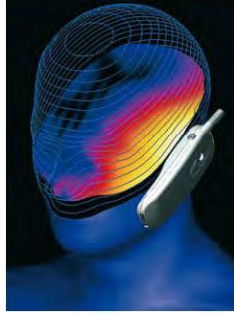
Low Quality Energy:

disorganized, dispersed

Example: heat dispersed in the atmosphere or ocean

THE ELECTROMAGNETIC SPECTRUM





Ionizing Radiation:
radiation with enough energy to knock electrons from atoms and make them positive ions
dangerous to living cells – potentially cancer-causing

