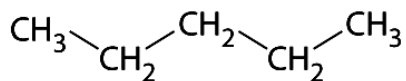
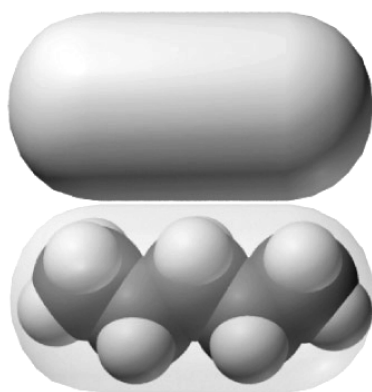
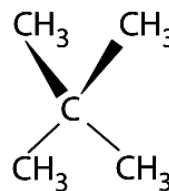
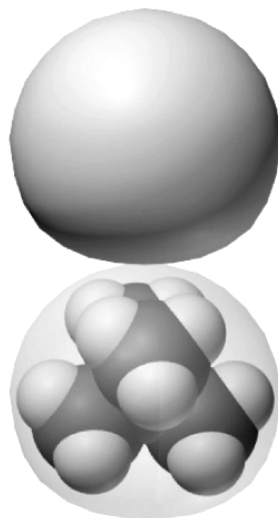


Comparing Dispersion  
Forces in Isotopes

*n*-Pentane, bp = 36.1°C



Neopentane, bp = 9.5 °C

Both types of molecules have five carbon atoms and 12 hydrogen atoms but their shapes are quite different. London (dispersion) forces are greater between the linear molecules than between the spherical molecules. This explains the difference in their boiling points.