

# NUCLEAR PHYSICS (2)

→ UNDERSTANDING PHYSICS IN TERMS OF SCALES

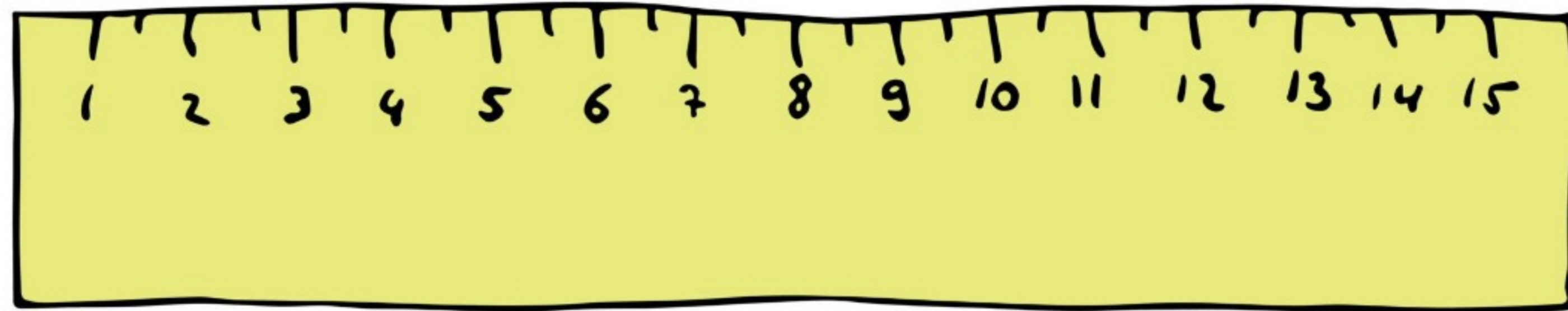
1) THE HYDROGEN ATOM

2) THE BOILING POINT OF CESIUM

## RECAP OF PREVIOUS LESSON

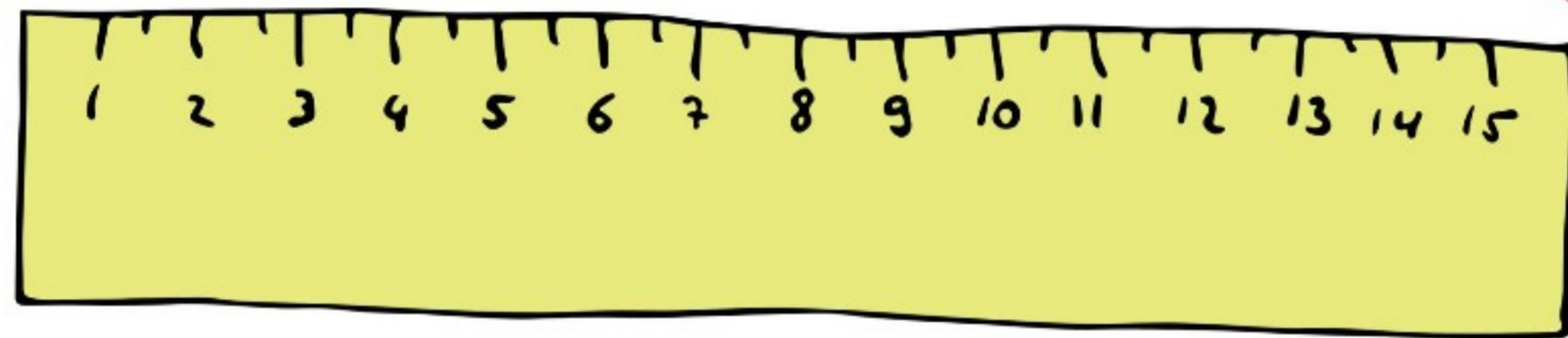
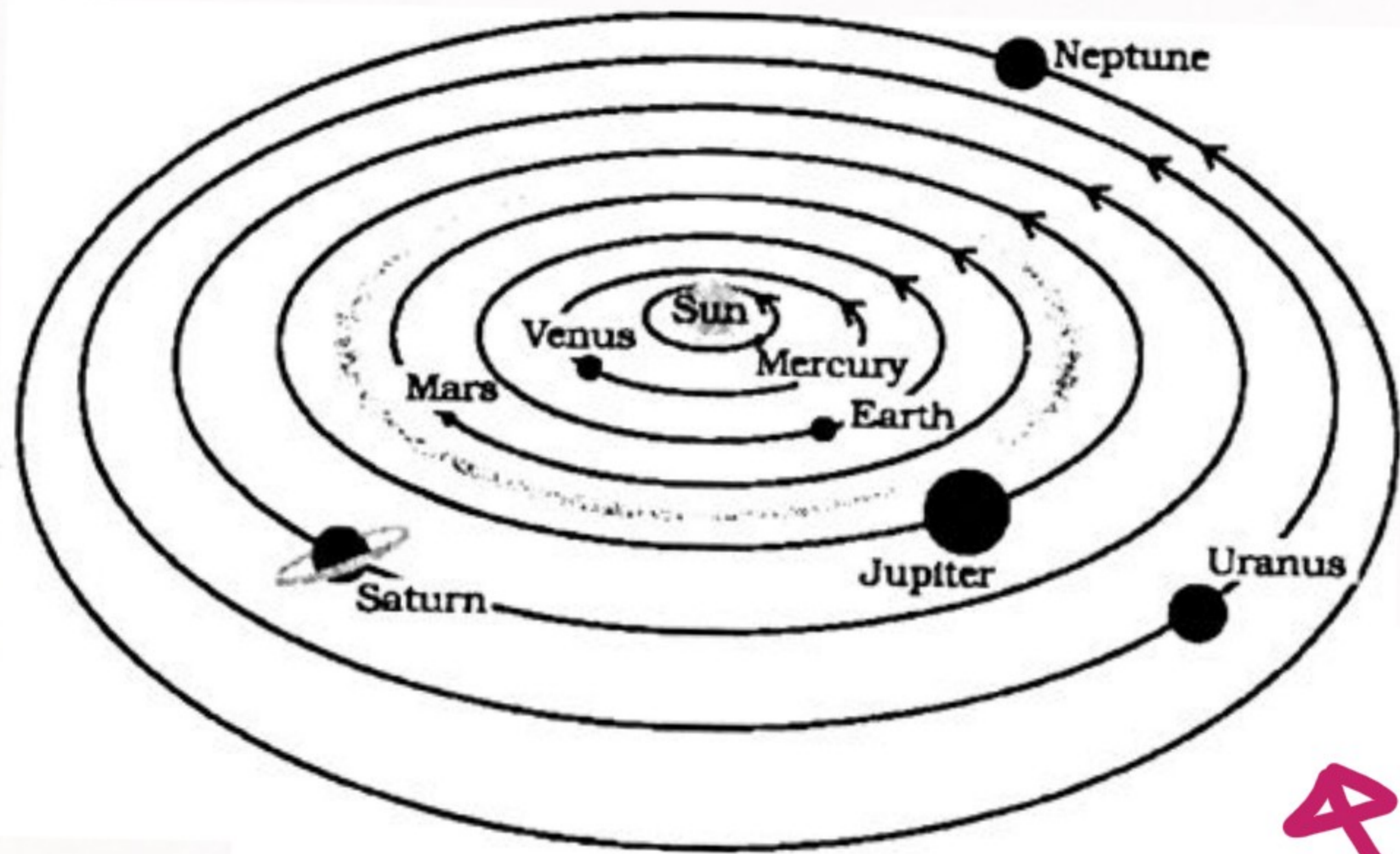
→ Our understanding of nature depends on the scale we are looking at

→ Which ruler are we using?



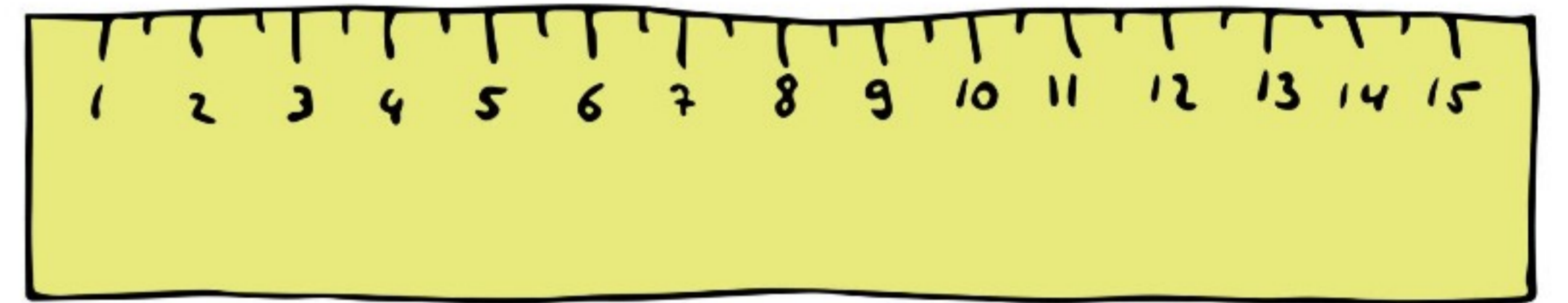
→ cm?

→ 8 years? km?



ruler in a.u. (Astronomical units)

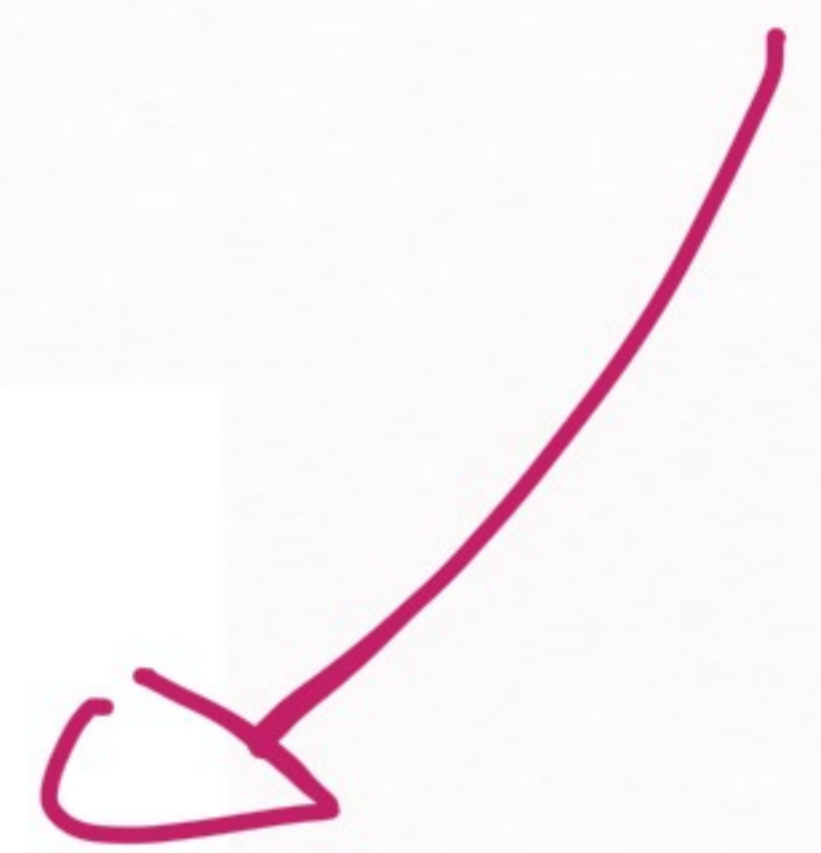
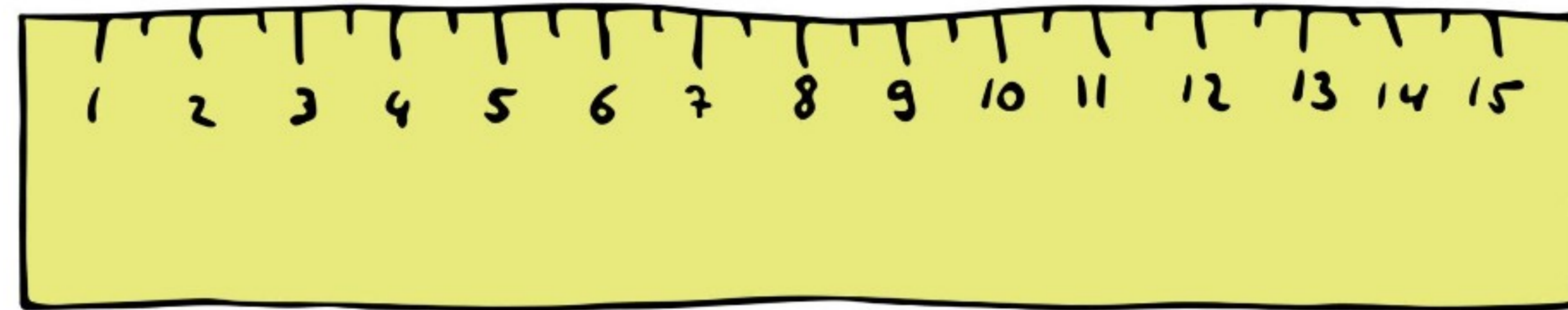
⇒ then nature might look like that



but if ruler in units of  $10^4$  light years

then nature will look different

Accordingly, the type of physics we use depends on the size of our ruler



3m

classical mechanics

1  $\mu$ m

→ microbiology

a few nm

→ chemistry

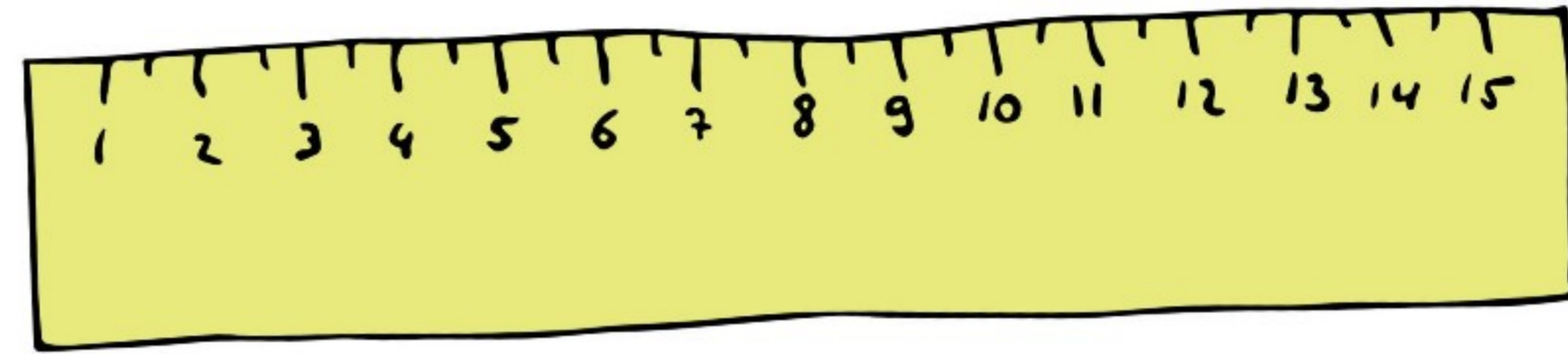
1 Å

→ atomic physics

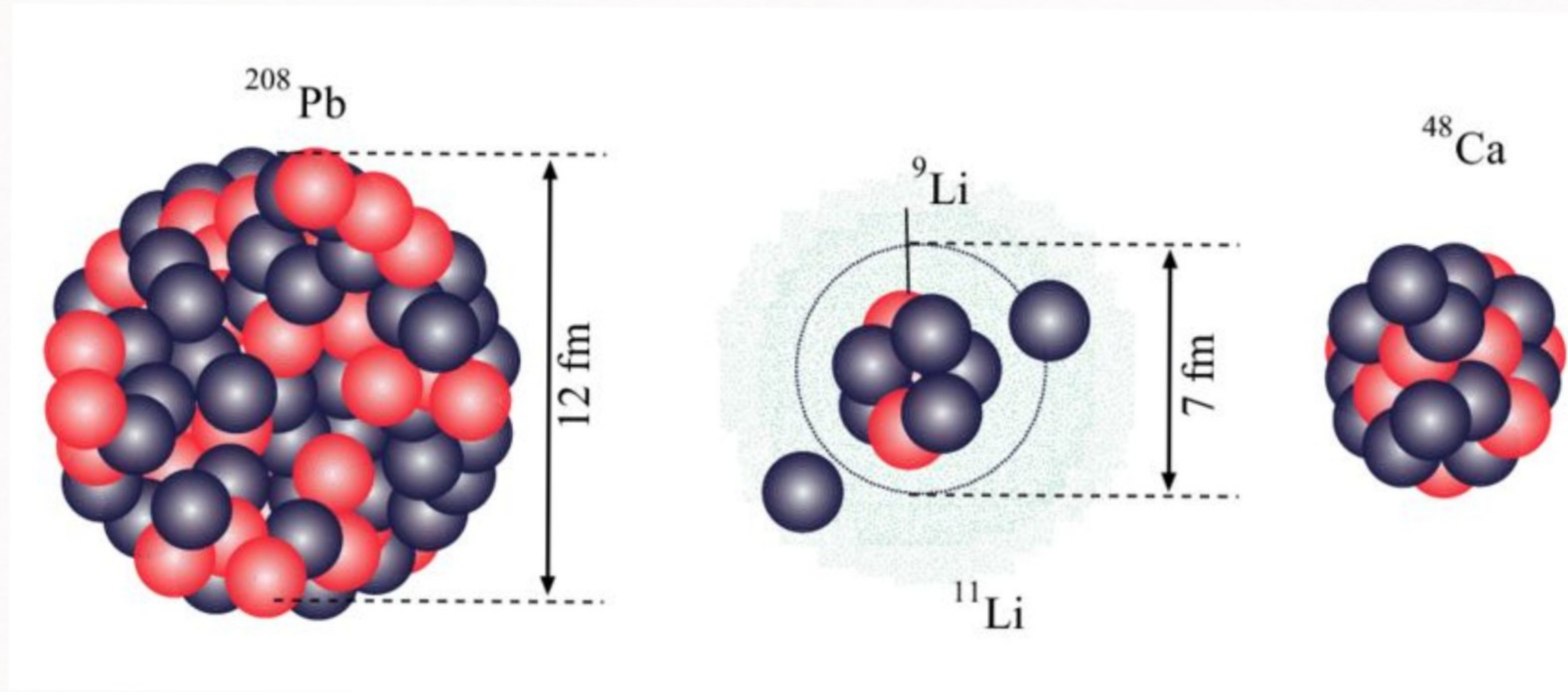
→ etc...

# NUCLEAR PHYSICS $\rightarrow$ D

(our course)



units  $\rightarrow$  fm (3 fm  
 $= 10^{-15}$  m)  
 $\checkmark$

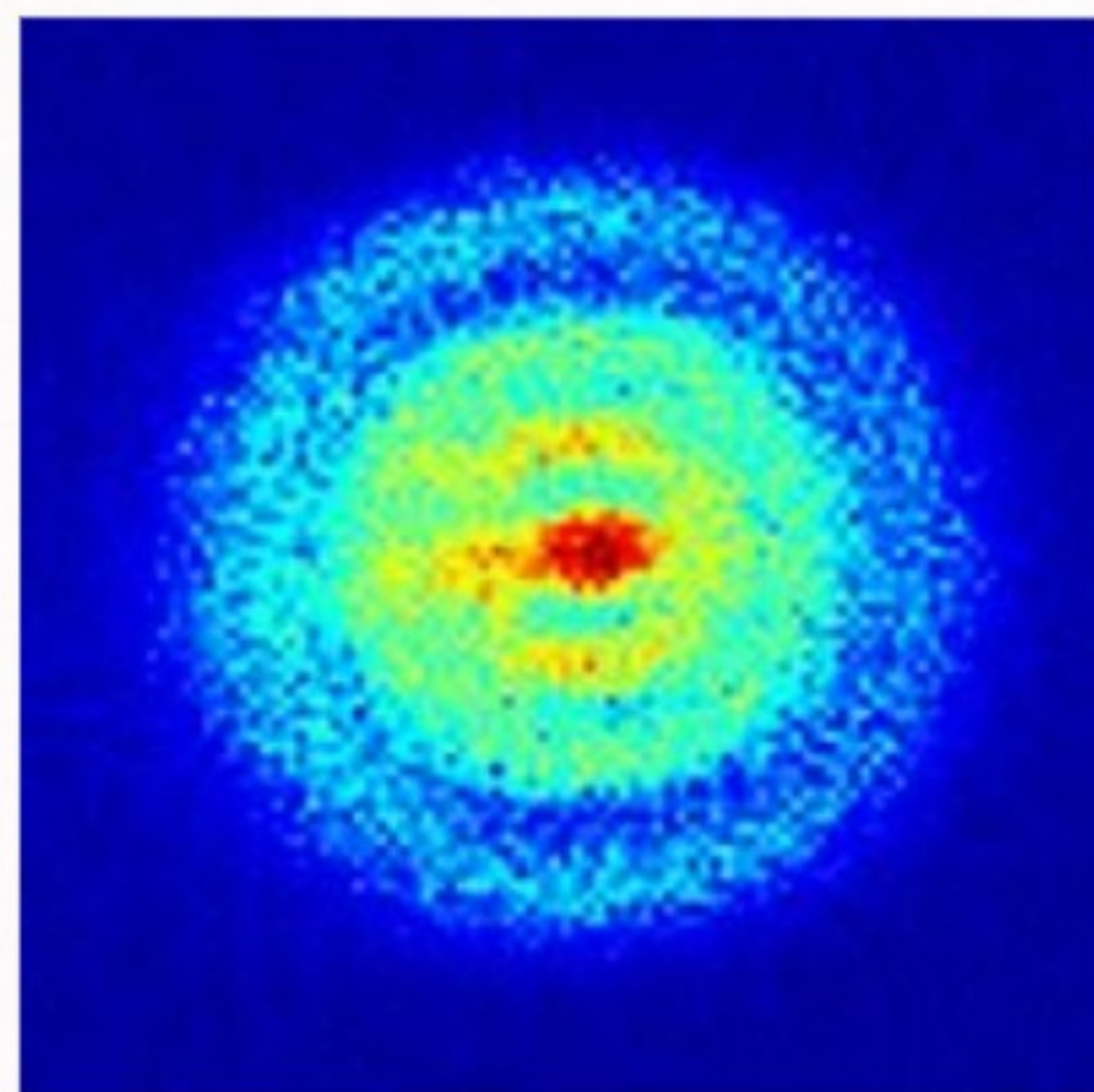
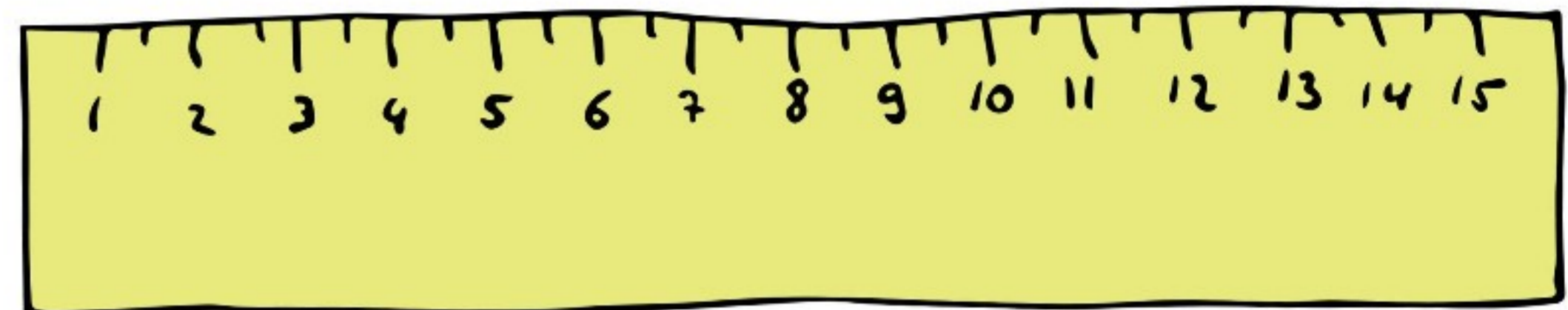


But before considering nuclear physics ...

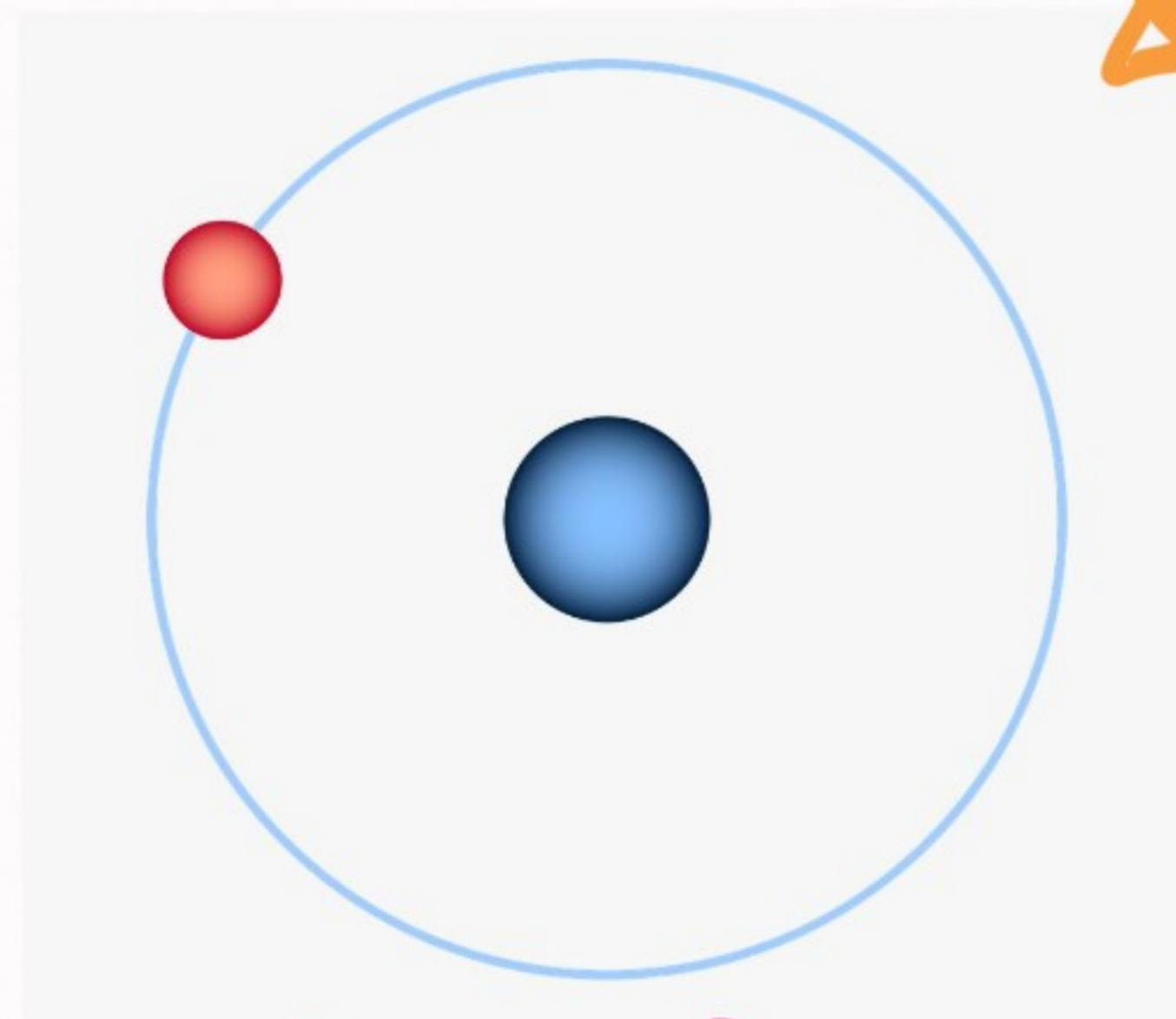
## ATOMIC PHYSICS

(introductory example)

units:  $3 \text{ \AA} (= 10^{-10} \text{ m})$

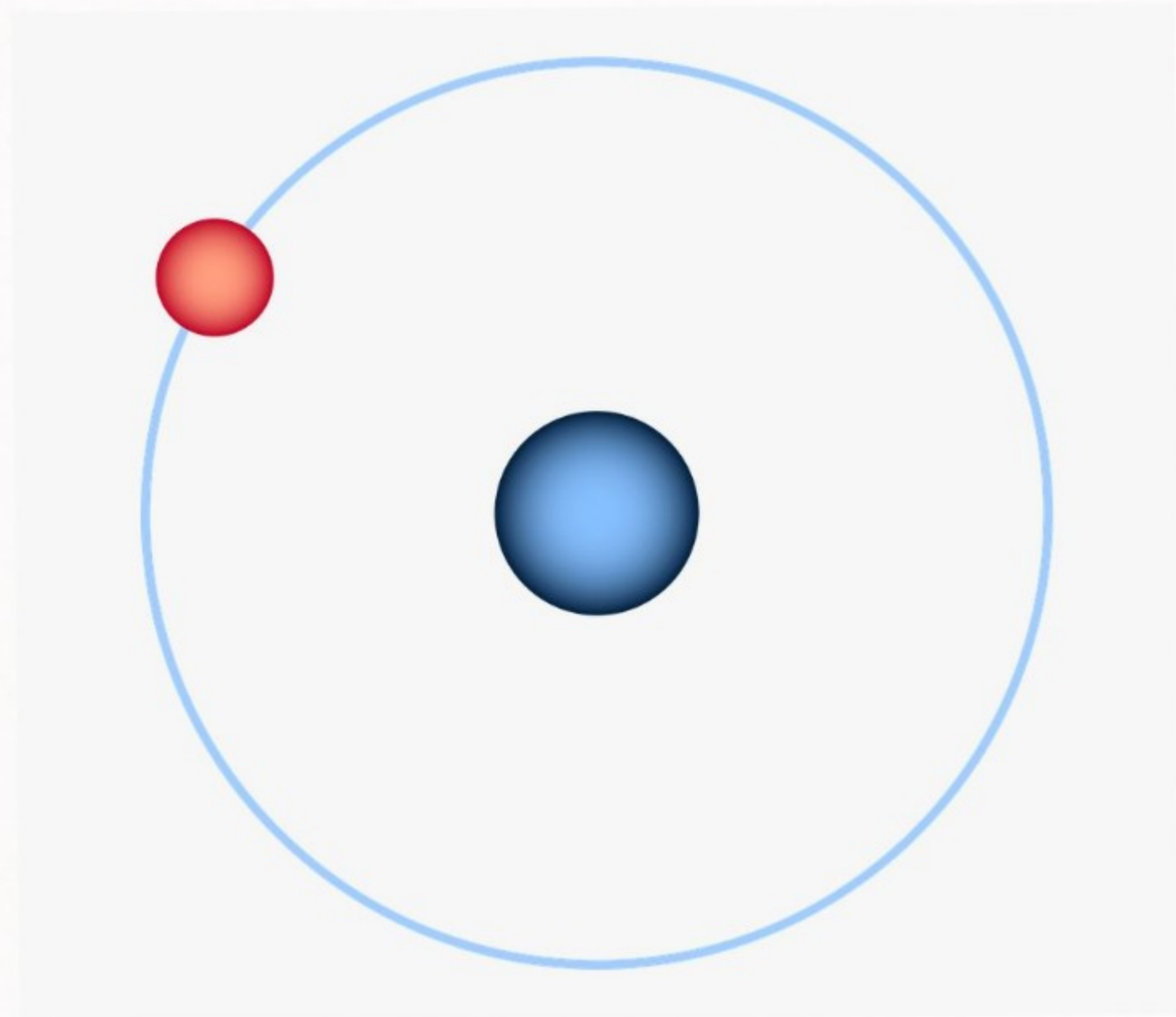


D



HYDROGEN ATOM  
(easy: you have probably studied it before)

⚡ (apparently a pic of a hydrogen atom)



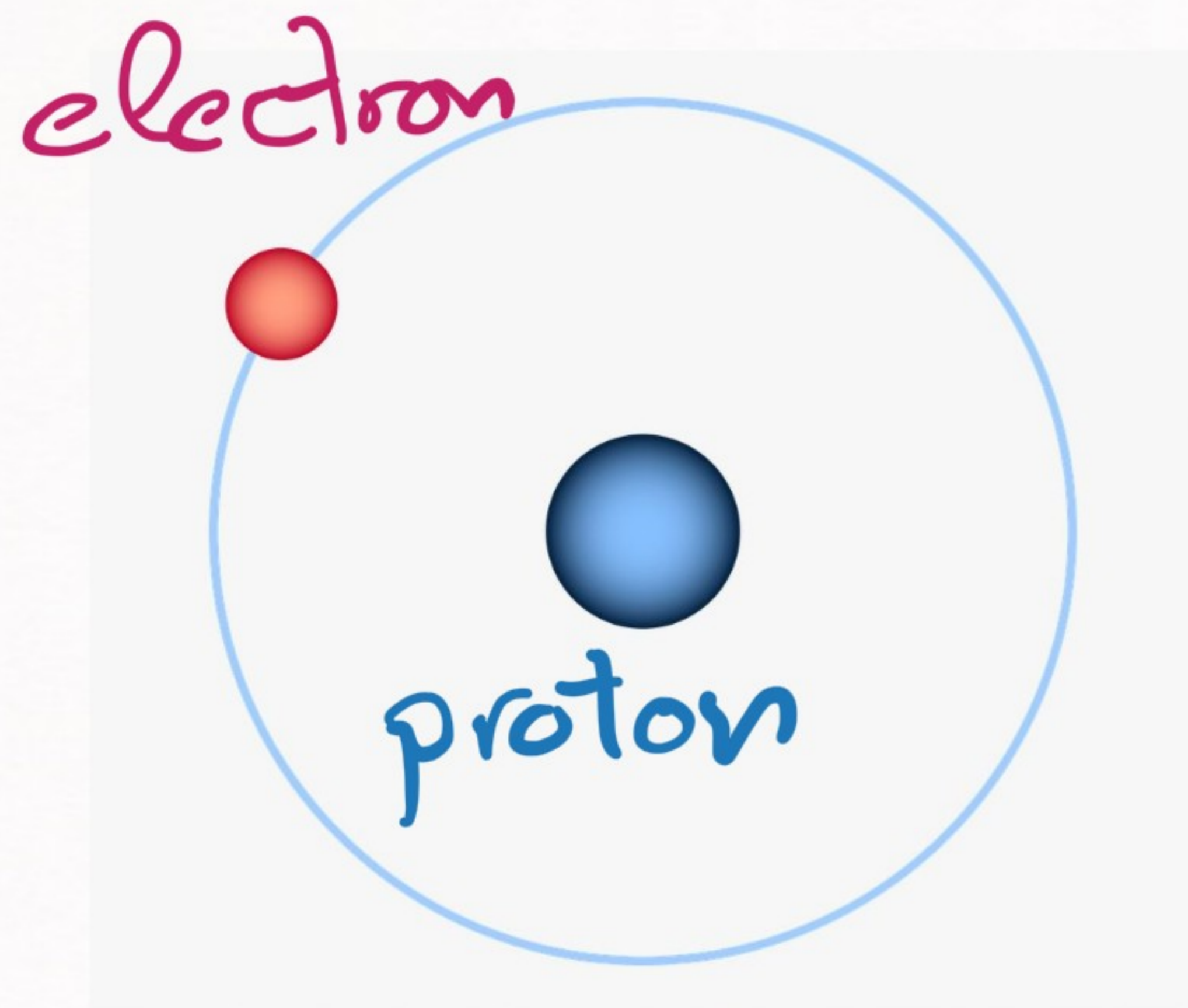
$\sim 1 \text{ \AA}$

We want to understand  
the hydrogen atom  
in terms of

[ its natural scales ]

What does that mean?

First, the hydrogen atom as you studied it  
in quantum mechanics (1)



$$V(r) = -\frac{\alpha}{r}$$

$$\alpha \approx \frac{1}{137}$$

electron-proton  
potential

(fine structure  
constant)

↘ ↘ Coulomb potential



→ We put the potential  
in the Schrödinger equation:

(2)

(We have to  
solve it)

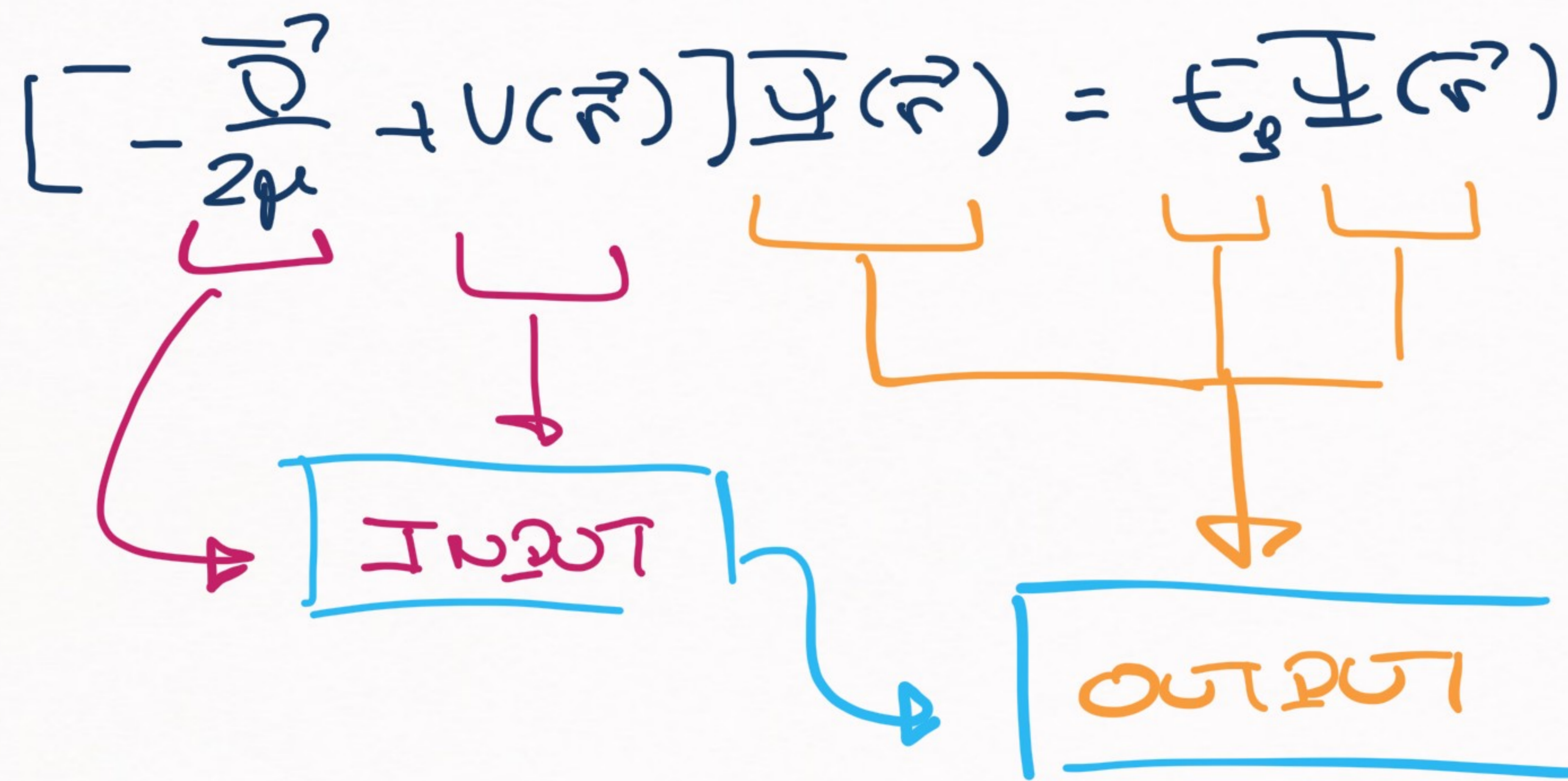
$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2\mu} + V(r) \right] \Psi(\vec{r}) = E_B \Psi(\vec{r})$$

reduced mass

$$\frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{1}{m_e} + \frac{1}{m_p} \leftarrow \frac{1}{m_e}$$

the wave  
function

energy of  
the bound  
states



3

A possible way to see this problem  
(input  $\rightarrow$  output)

Can you tell me what is  
mean square radius of the atom? (4)

$$\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} = \int d^3\vec{r} |\Psi(\vec{r})|^2 r^2 = \dots$$

→ not immediately (first → solve Schrödinger,  
then → calculate  $\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle}$ )

Answer: eventually, yes, but only after  
a few calculations

⑤

Same comment applies to the binding energy

→ [But can we do it without a calculation?]

Q: can we do it w/o calculations?

A: yes, we can!

①

THE HYDROGEN ATOM  
(FROM THE SCALE  
VIEWPOINT)

=>

# [ RETHINKING THIS PROBLEM ]

2

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2\mu} - \frac{\alpha}{r} \right] \psi(\vec{r}) = E_B \psi(\vec{r})$$



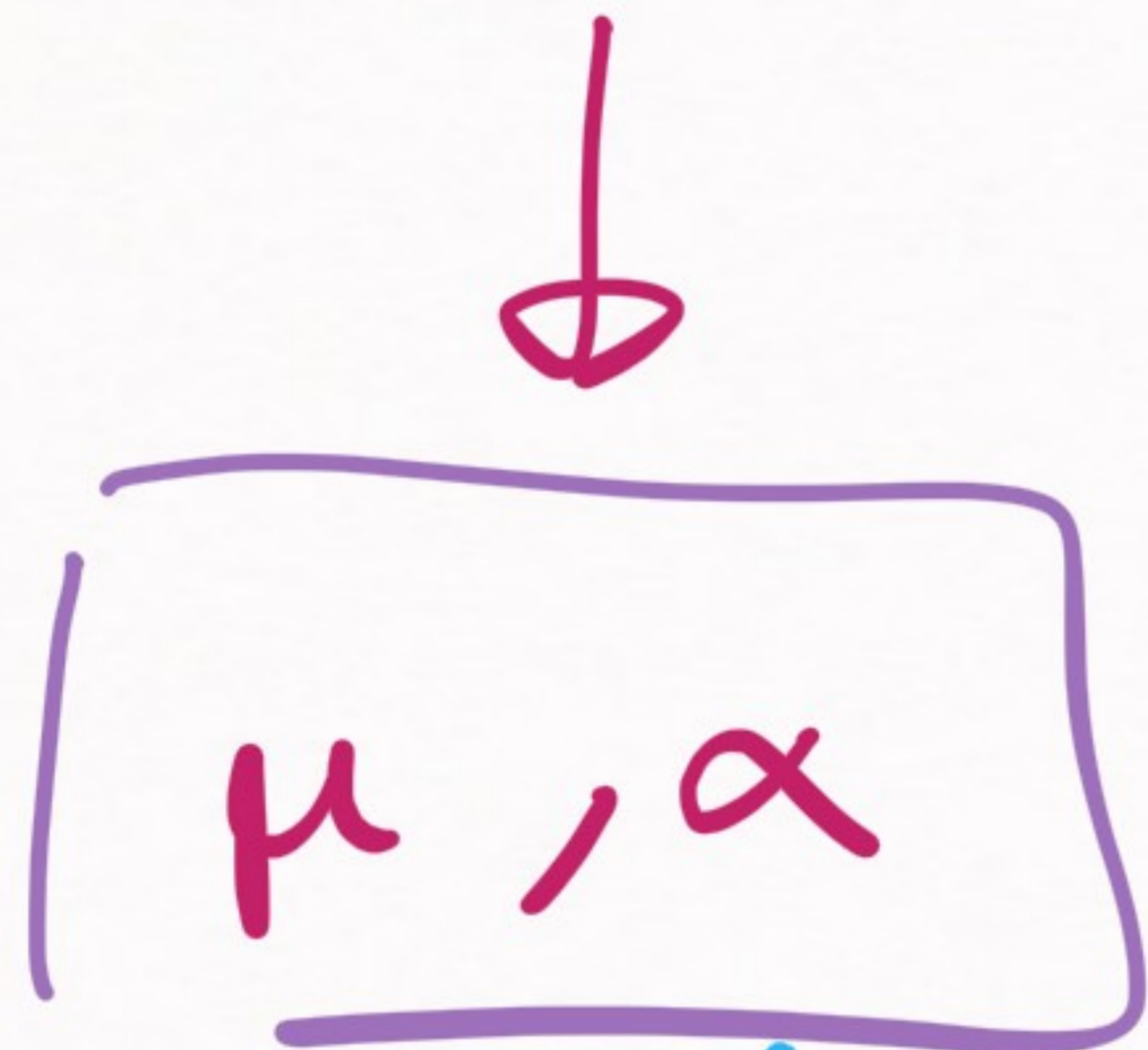
INPUT



OUTPUT



We go back to the input/output way of thinking



→ In principle, two parameters only

↳ fine structure constant  
↳ reduced mass

OUTPUT =  $f$ (INPUT)  $\leftarrow$  trivial observation (2)  
(the output is a function of the input)

FOR EXAMPLE :

$$E_B = E_B(\mu, \alpha)$$

$\Rightarrow$  binding energy : should be a function of  $\mu$  &  $\alpha$

The binding energy will only depend on  $\mu$  and  $\alpha$  (they are the only parameters)

But we can simplify further:

(3)

$$\left[ -\frac{\nabla^2}{2\mu} - \frac{\alpha}{r} \right] \psi(\vec{r}) = E_B \psi(\vec{r})$$

↓  $\times (\underline{2\mu})$

the equation  
will not change  
(\*)

$$\left[ -\nabla^2 - \frac{2\mu\alpha}{r} \right] \psi(\vec{r}) = 2\mu E_B \psi(\vec{r})$$

(\*) → homogeneous differential equation  
(INPUT →  $2\mu\alpha$ )



A few remarks :

(4)

1)  $\underline{2\mu E_B} = -\gamma^2$  ("the wave number") (just a definition)

$$E = \frac{k^2}{2\mu} \rightarrow E = -\frac{\gamma^2}{2\mu}$$

(for positive center-of-mass energy)

(for negative center-of-mass energy)

A few remarks :

2)  $\mu\alpha$  has units of inverse length ( $[L]^{-1}$ )

(5)

$$\mu\alpha = \frac{\hbar c}{a_B}$$

$\hbar c \rightarrow$  conversion factor  
from energy/momentum  
to inverse length

$a_B \rightarrow$  Bohr radius

$$[E] = [\mu] = [E] \quad \Rightarrow \quad [L]^{-1} = [T]^{-1}$$

$\rightarrow$  conversion factor:  $\hbar c$

$\hbar c$  → how it works? (conversion factor)

⑥

$$\hbar c = 1973.3 \text{ eV} \cdot \text{\AA}$$

(energy × length)

or

(eV → electron volt,

\AA → Angstrom or  $10^{-10} \text{ m}$ )

$$\hbar c = 197.33 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}$$

(MeV → megaelectronvolt,

fm → fermi or  $10^{-15} \text{ m}$ )

We will mostly use these units for  $\hbar c$

Example  $\rightarrow \mu\alpha$

$$\frac{1}{\mu} = \frac{1}{m_e} + \frac{1}{m_p} \approx \frac{1}{m_e} \quad \text{(reduced mass)} \quad \textcircled{7}$$

$$\alpha \approx \frac{1}{137} \quad \text{(pure number)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a_B &= \frac{\hbar c}{\mu\alpha} \approx \frac{197.33 \text{ MeV} \cdot \text{fm}}{0.5 \text{ MeV} \cdot \left(\frac{1}{137}\right)} \\ &\approx 5.3 \cdot 10^4 \text{ fm} \quad \text{or} \quad \underbrace{\approx m_e \text{ (electron mass)}}_{\boxed{0.53 \text{ \AA}}} \end{aligned}$$

Putting all the pieces together:

$$1) \quad \underline{2\mu E_B = -\gamma^2} \quad 2) \quad \underline{\mu\alpha = \frac{\hbar}{a_B}} \quad (\text{the usually } \textcircled{8} \text{ not indicated})$$

$$\Rightarrow \left[ -\nabla^2 - \frac{2}{a_B r} \right] \psi(\vec{r}) = -\gamma^2 \psi(\vec{r})$$

this is the only input parameter  
( $a_B \approx 0.53 \text{ \AA}$ )

This means that we can write everything as powers of  $a_B$  } only input parameter  $a$

Example:  $\gamma \rightarrow$  units of momentum ( $[L T^{-1}]$ )

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\gamma = \frac{c}{a_B}} \quad w/ c \text{ a number}$$

$\rightarrow \sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} \rightarrow$  units of length

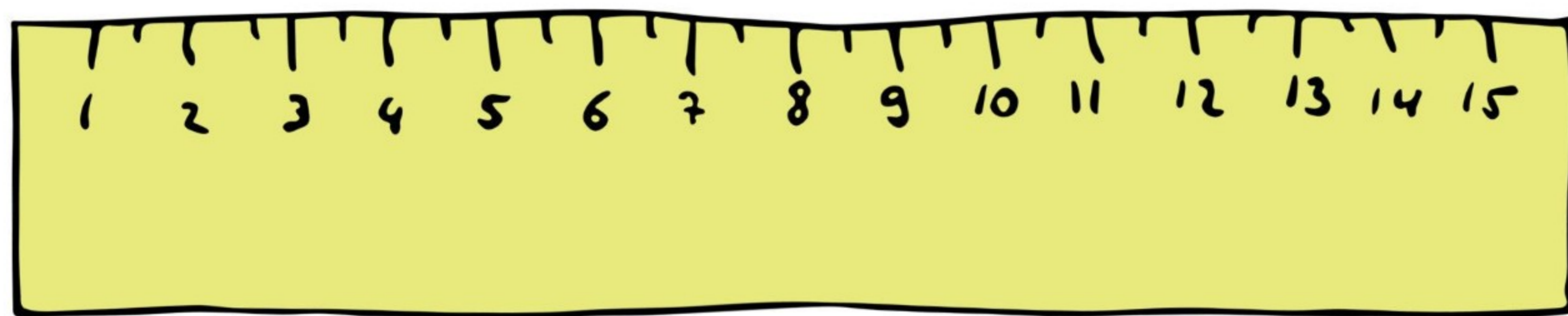
$$\Rightarrow \sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} = d a_B \quad w/ d \text{ a number}$$

Then, observables of the hydrogen atom  
can be expressed as a number  $\times$  (a.u.)<sup>dimensions</sup>

very easy

(30)

ruler for the hydrogen atom



$$\underline{\underline{1 \text{ a.u.}}} = [1 \text{ a.u. (atomic unit)}]$$

→ our ruler  
for the hydrogen  
atom has units  
of a.u.

But which is the size of the number?

(11)

$$\delta = \frac{c}{ab}, \quad \langle \sqrt{r^2} \rangle = d_{ab}$$

How large are  $c$  &  $d$ ?

HYPOTHESIS →

NATURALNESS

These numbers are of  $O(1)$

$$c \sim O(1), \quad d \sim O(1)$$



FOR EXAMPLE :

$r \approx \frac{h}{mv}$

$E_B \approx -\frac{1}{2\mu} \left(\frac{h}{a_B}\right)^2 \approx -\frac{me}{2} \left(\frac{h}{137}\right)^2$

$\approx -13.6 \text{ eV}$

AND, EXPERIMENTALLY

WE FIND :

$E_B = -13.6 \text{ eV}$

no calculation involved in this

our dimensional estimation (naturalness)

Another possibility is to solve Schrödinger:

13

$$\left[ -\nabla^2 - \frac{2}{a_B r} \right] \psi(\vec{r}) = -\gamma^2 \psi(\vec{r})$$

Solution:  $\gamma = \frac{1}{a_B}$

$$\psi(\vec{r}) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{4\pi}} \frac{2}{a_B^{3/2}} e^{-r/a_B}$$

↓

## HYDROGEN ATOM :

→ Do dimensional estimations to  
guesstimate observables

already  
done →  
see  $\sigma$   
(now  
 $\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle}$ )

→ Or we can do it the traditional way,  
that is, solving Schrödinger  
and then calculating  
observables

With this we can now compare  
what happens w/  $\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle}$

NATURALNESS:  $\boxed{\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} \approx a_B}$  ←  $\boxed{\text{Pretty close}}$

FULL CALCULATION:

$$\langle r^2 \rangle = \int d^3\vec{r} |\psi(\vec{r})|^2 r^2 = \frac{4}{a_B^3} \int_0^\infty dr r^4 e^{-2r/a_B}$$

$$= \frac{a_B^2}{8} \int_0^\infty dx x^4 e^{-x} = 3 a_B^2$$

4!

$$\boxed{\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{3} a_B}$$

To summarize :

$$\left[ \gamma_B = \frac{c}{a_B}, \sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} = d \cdot a_B \right] \quad \text{NATURALNESS}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} c = 1 \\ = \mathcal{O}(1) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{l} d = \sqrt{3} \\ = \mathcal{O}(1) \end{array} \quad \text{FULL CALCULATION}$$

Expectation & Reality similar  
(naturalness) (full calculation/experiment)

← When this happens we have

A NATURAL PROBLEM

3) There is a characteristic scale

EXAMPLE → in the hydrogen atom ↗ momentum scale

(electron mass  $\times$  fine structure constant)

$$Q_B \approx m_e \alpha = 3.7 \text{ keV} \rightarrow a_B = \frac{\hbar c}{Q_B} = 0.53 \text{ \AA}$$

2) Everything else is  $O(1)$  in terms of the characteristic scale

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle = \langle \psi | \hat{O} | \psi \rangle = [L]^n$$

NATURALNESS SAYS THAT

$$\langle \hat{O} \rangle \approx O(1) \text{ as } n$$

Additional example  $\rightarrow$  speed of an electron  $\text{\textcircled{e}}$   
inside a hydrogen atom

Hydrogen atom  $\rightarrow$  [ wave number ( $\sim$  binding energy)  
mean square radius ]

natural  
 $\sim$

$$\text{\textcircled{e}} \rightarrow \langle v \rangle = \left\langle \frac{p}{m_e} \right\rangle = \left\langle \psi \left| \frac{1}{m_e} p \right| \psi \right\rangle$$

$$\langle v \rangle \sim \frac{Q_B}{m_e} \sim \frac{3.7 \text{ keV}}{511 \text{ keV}} \sim 7 \cdot 10^{-3} \text{ c} \sim 2200 \text{ km/s}$$

$\uparrow$   
 $\text{\textcircled{about right}}$



NATURAL PROBLEM :

$$\gamma \approx \frac{1}{a_B}$$

$\leftrightarrow$

$$\gamma = \frac{1}{a_B}$$

$$\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} \approx a_B$$

$\leftrightarrow$

$$\sqrt{\langle r^2 \rangle} = \sqrt{3} a_B$$

$$\langle v \rangle \approx \frac{Q_B}{m_e} \approx \frac{1}{m_e a_B}$$

$\leftrightarrow$

$$\sqrt{\langle \sqrt{v^2} \rangle} = \frac{1}{m_e a_B} \quad (\text{please check})$$

$\searrow$

MORAL : NATURAL PROBLEMS  
ARE EASY

Let's see a more complex example ...

THE BOILING POINT OF CESIUM

Using only information about  
the scales!

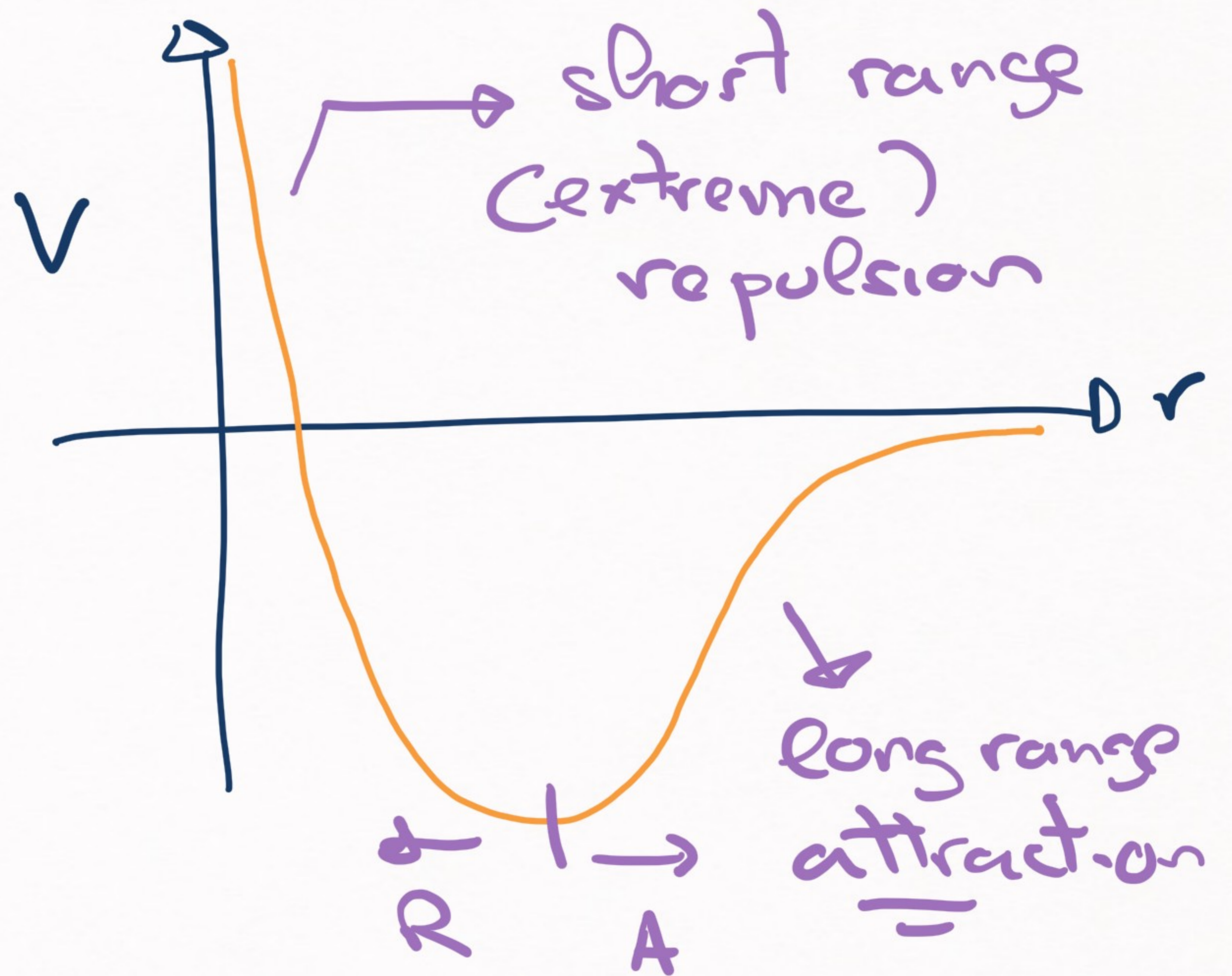
Useful to have more  examples of naturalness

# [ SOME INFORMATION ABOUT CESIUM ]

Cs  $\rightarrow$  atomic number 133  $\rightarrow m(\text{Cs}) \approx 130 \text{ GeV}$

(most common isotope  
in experiments)

Cs-Cs potential



# Qualitative features:



it becomes difficult to squeeze them too much

1) Short-range repulsion

→ exact form is not well-known

→ but details are not that important

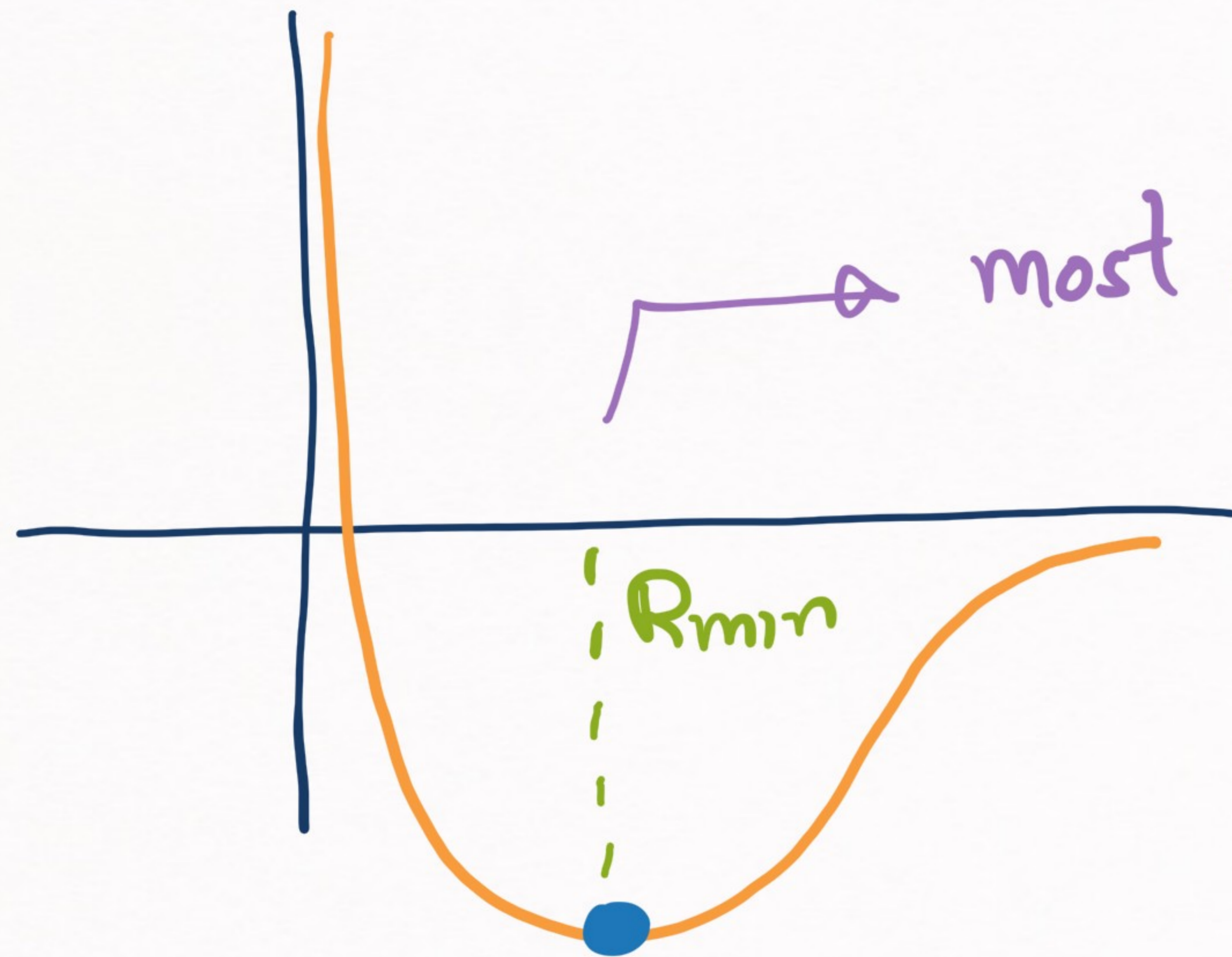
2) Long-range attraction → van der Waals force

$$V_{vdW}(r) = - \frac{C_6}{r^6} = \left[ - \frac{1}{2m} \frac{R_{vdW}^4}{r^6} \right]$$

we know this constant

→ different way of writing the potential

How to do the calculation?

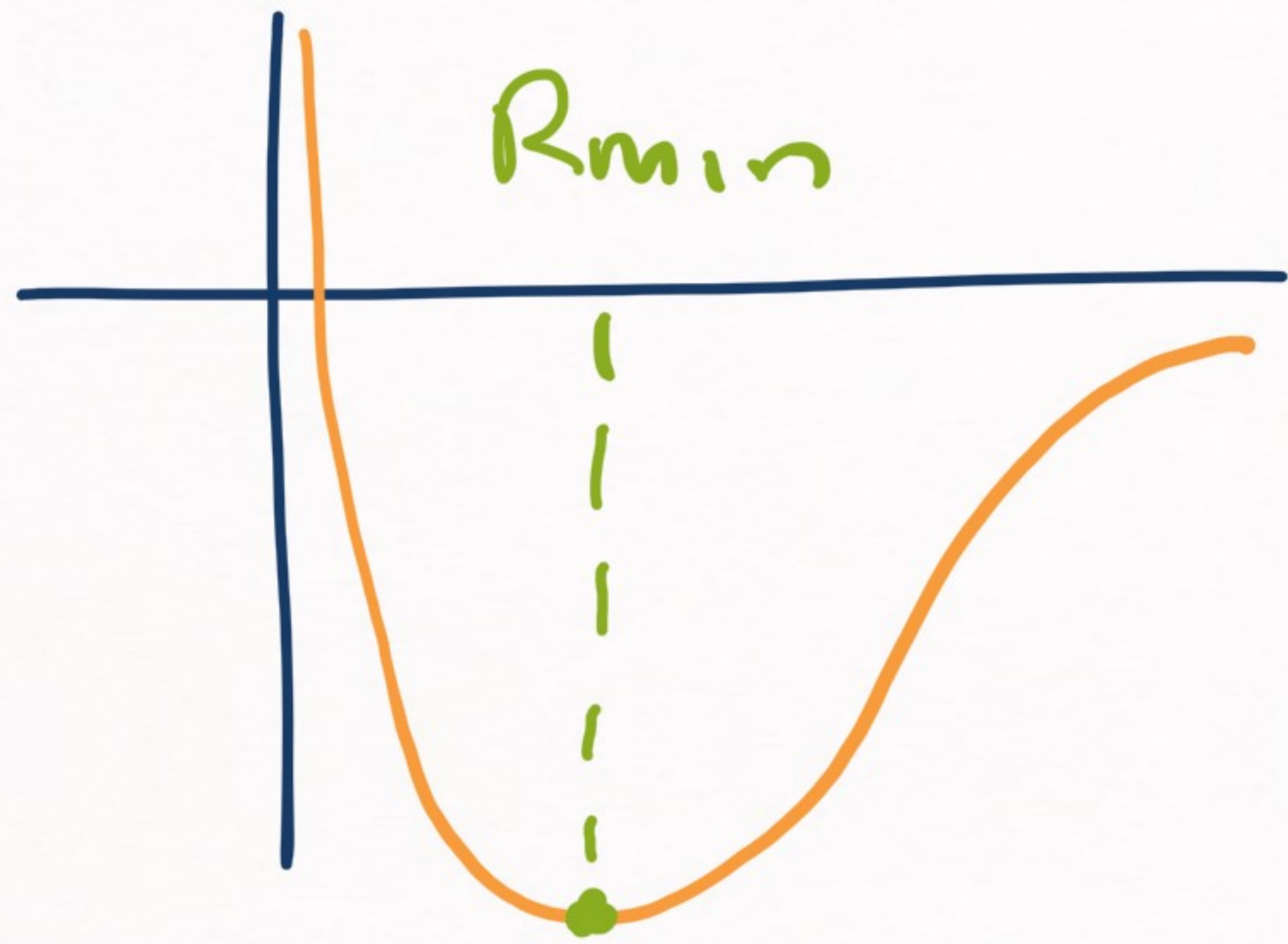


most atoms will be packed around the minimum

$R_{min}$   $\hat{=}$  average separation of Cs atoms

minimum of the potential

(virial theorem)



→  $(T_{\min} \approx U_{\min})$

We want to know  
the kinetic energy

$$T_{\min} = \frac{1}{2m} \left( \frac{1}{R_{cs}} \right)^2$$

similar kinetic  
& potential energies

(only interested in order  
of magnitude approx.)

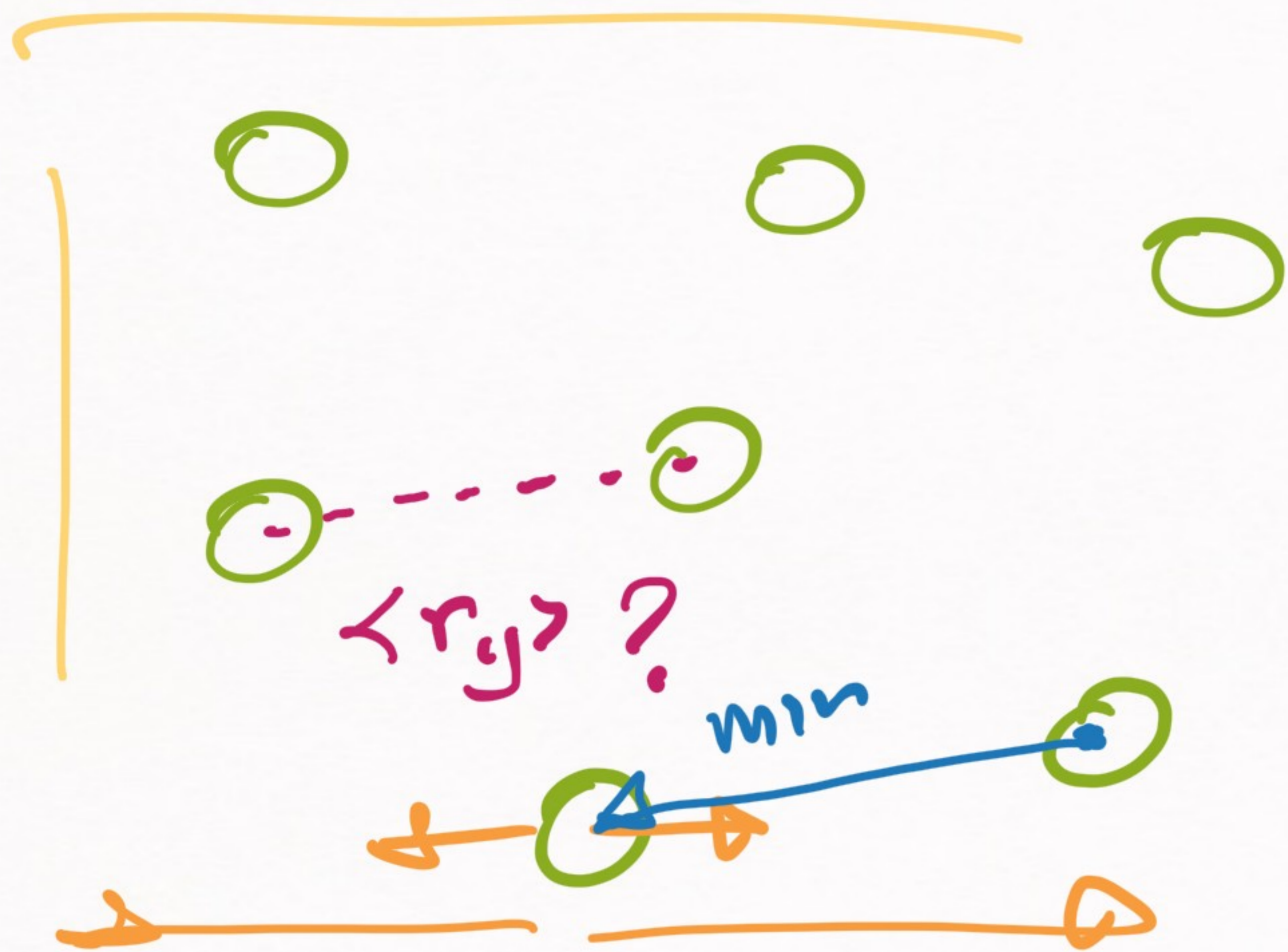
→  $R_{cs}$  the characteristic  
scale for Cs clusters

$$T_{\min} = \frac{\ell}{2m} \left( \frac{1}{R_{\text{Cs}}} \right)^2 = \frac{1}{2} m \langle v_{\text{Cs}} \rangle^2 \quad \leftarrow$$

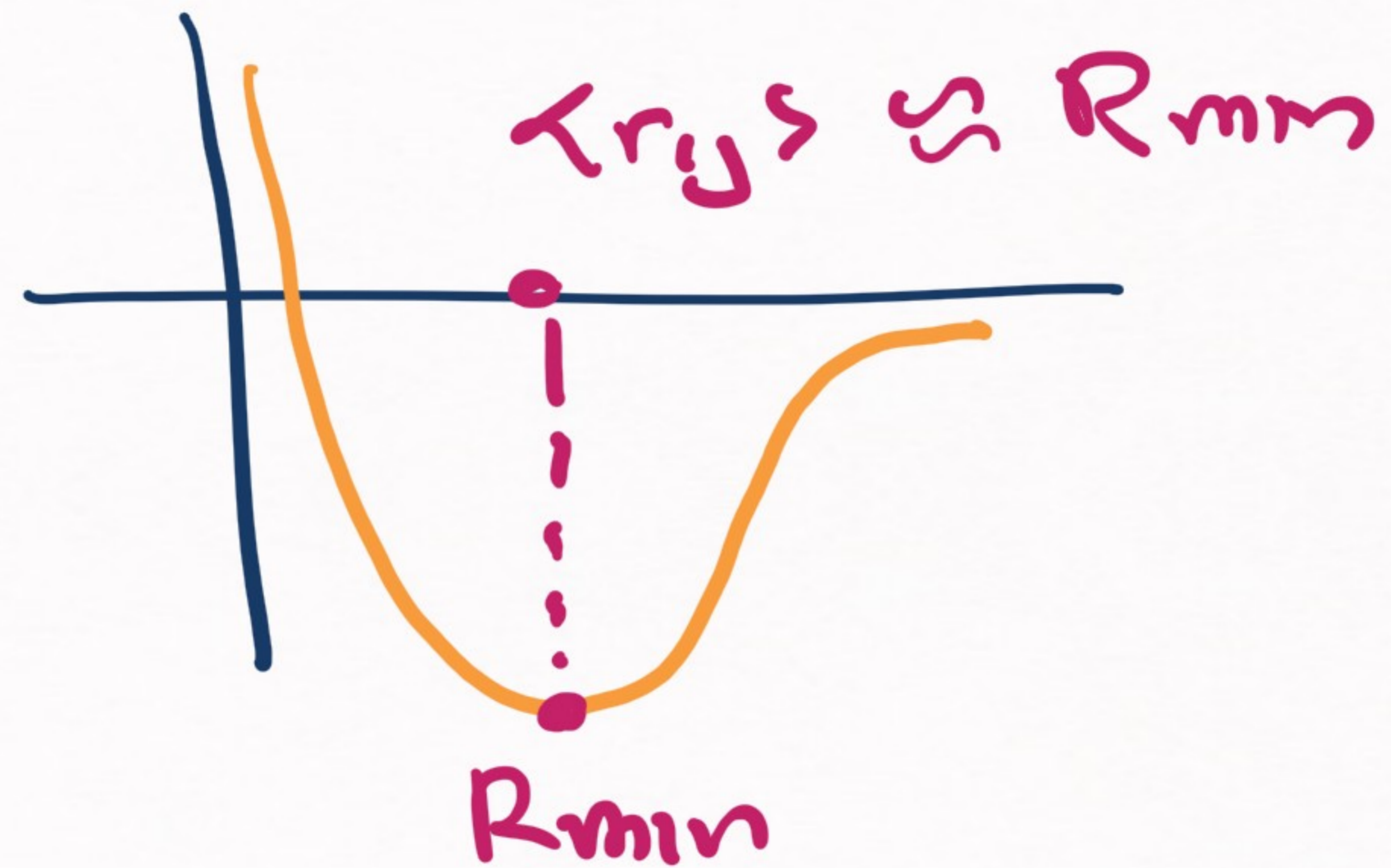
the average speed  
of Cesium atoms

Then when  $\langle v_{\text{thermal}} \rangle$  (if we don't  
is larger than  $\langle v_{\text{Cs}} \rangle$ , give heat to  
it will be impossible the system)  
for the atoms to cluster around the minimum

LIQUID



AVERAGE SEPARATION

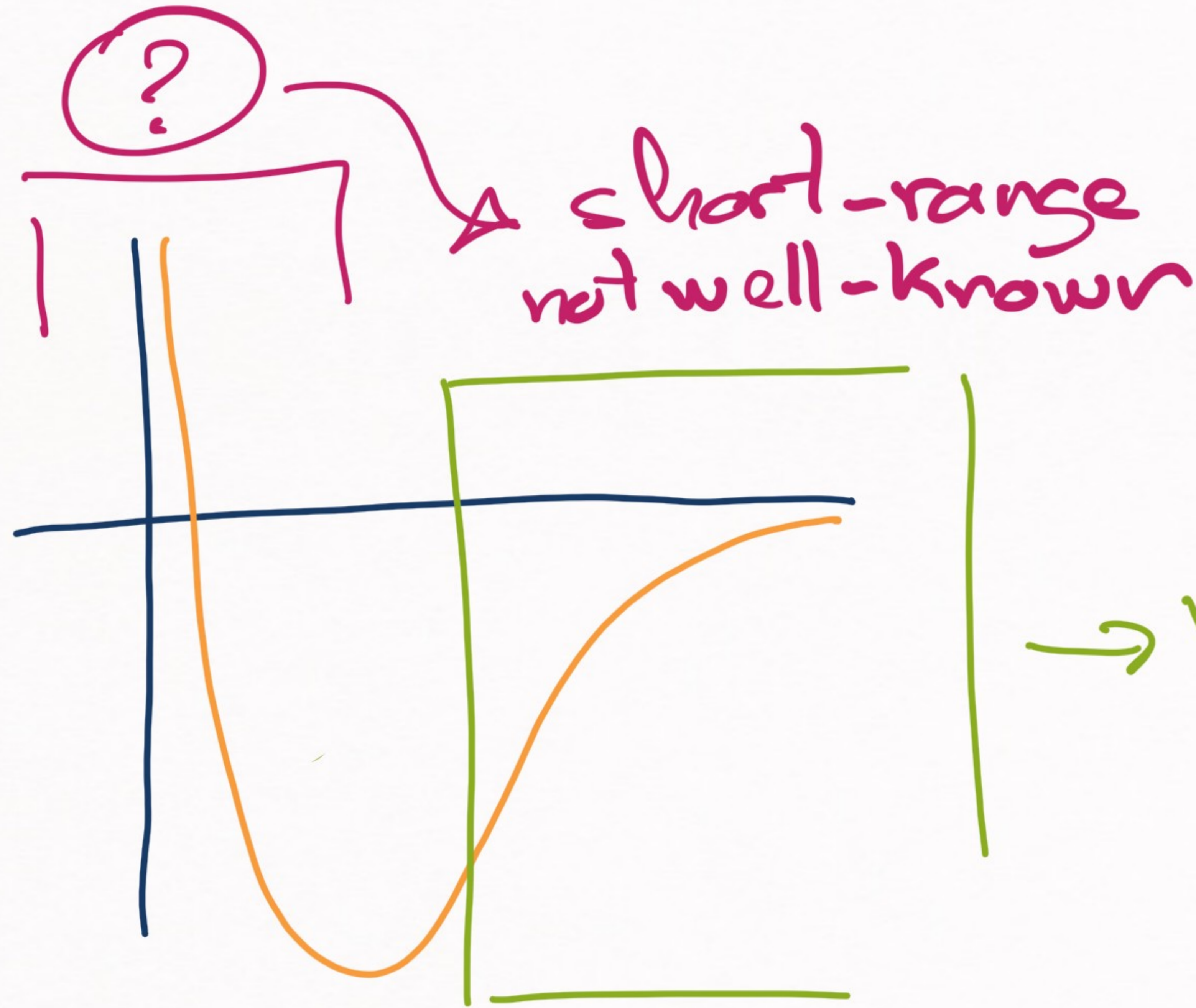


$T = 0^\circ K$   $\rightarrow \langle \bar{E}_{kin} \rangle \approx \langle V(R_{min}) \rangle$

$T \uparrow \uparrow \rightarrow \langle \bar{E}_{th} \rangle > \langle V(R_{min}) \rangle \rightarrow \boxed{\text{GAS}}$



How TO CALCULATE  $U_{\text{vwn}}$  ? (STEP 3 OF OUR CALCULATION)

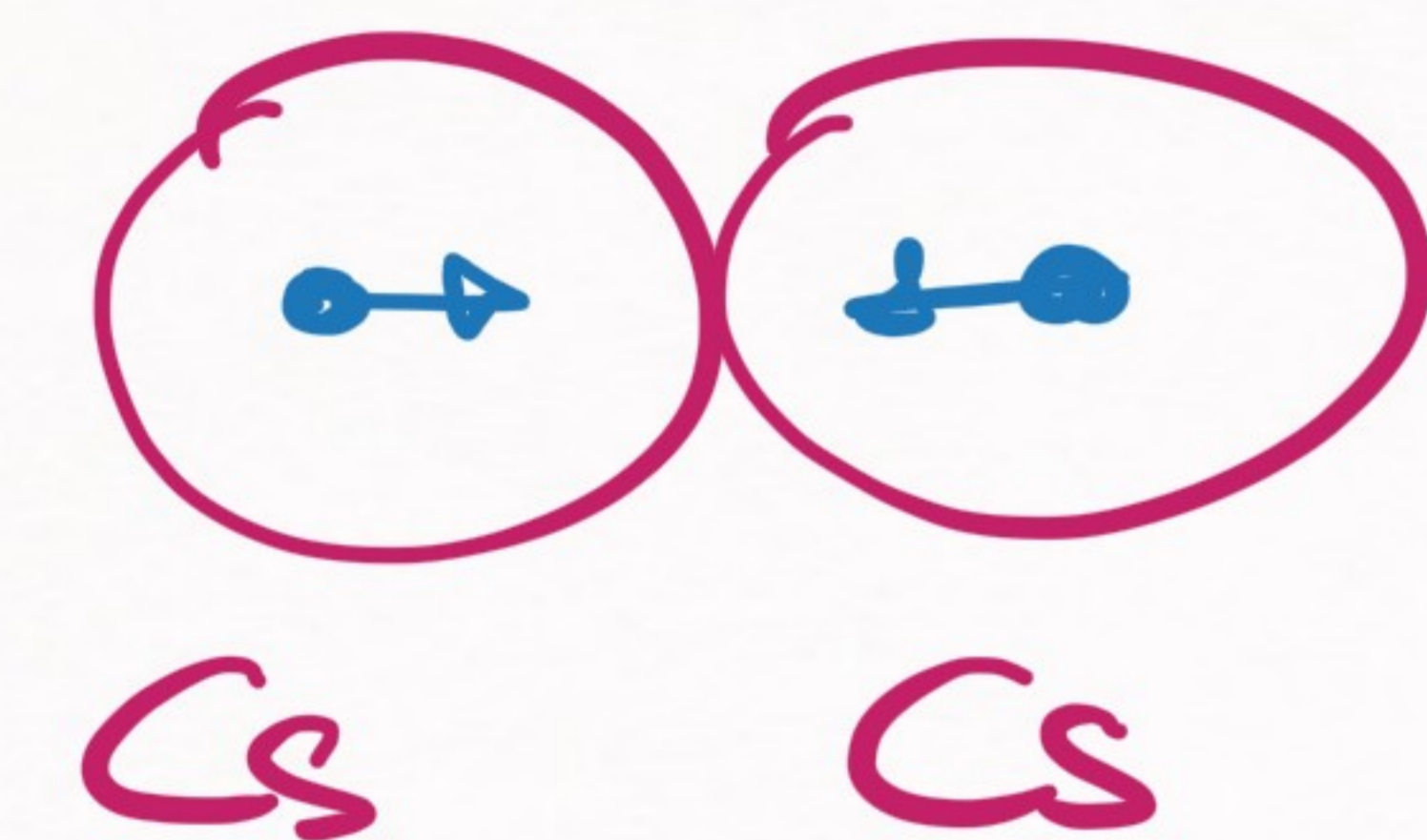


A short-range not well-known

van der Waals forces

→ We only know the tail of the potential!  
≈

But we also know that the short-range repulsion is related to the finite size

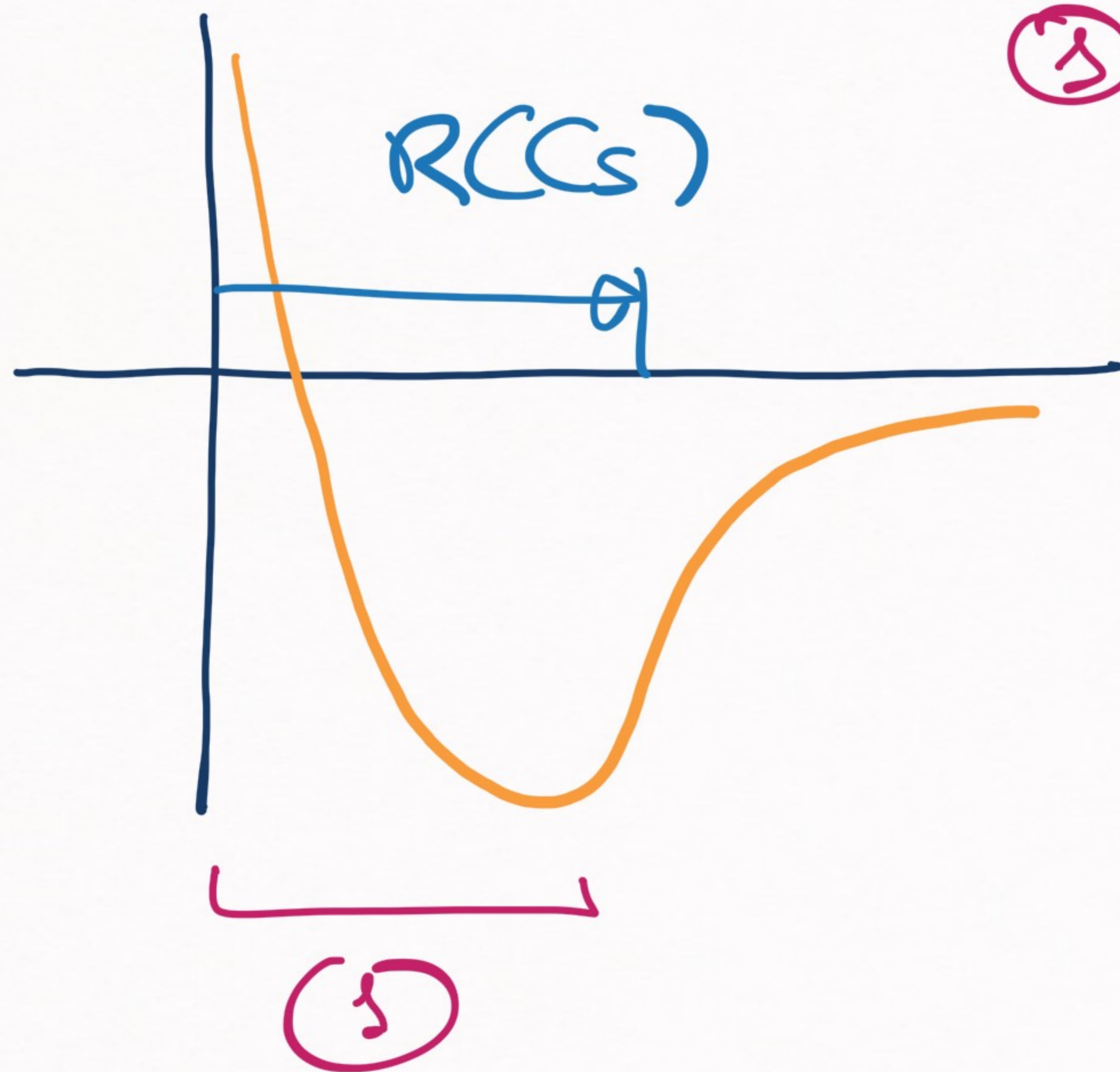


it's difficult to squeeze them for

Radius of Cesium atom  
( $\approx 7 \text{ \AA}$ )

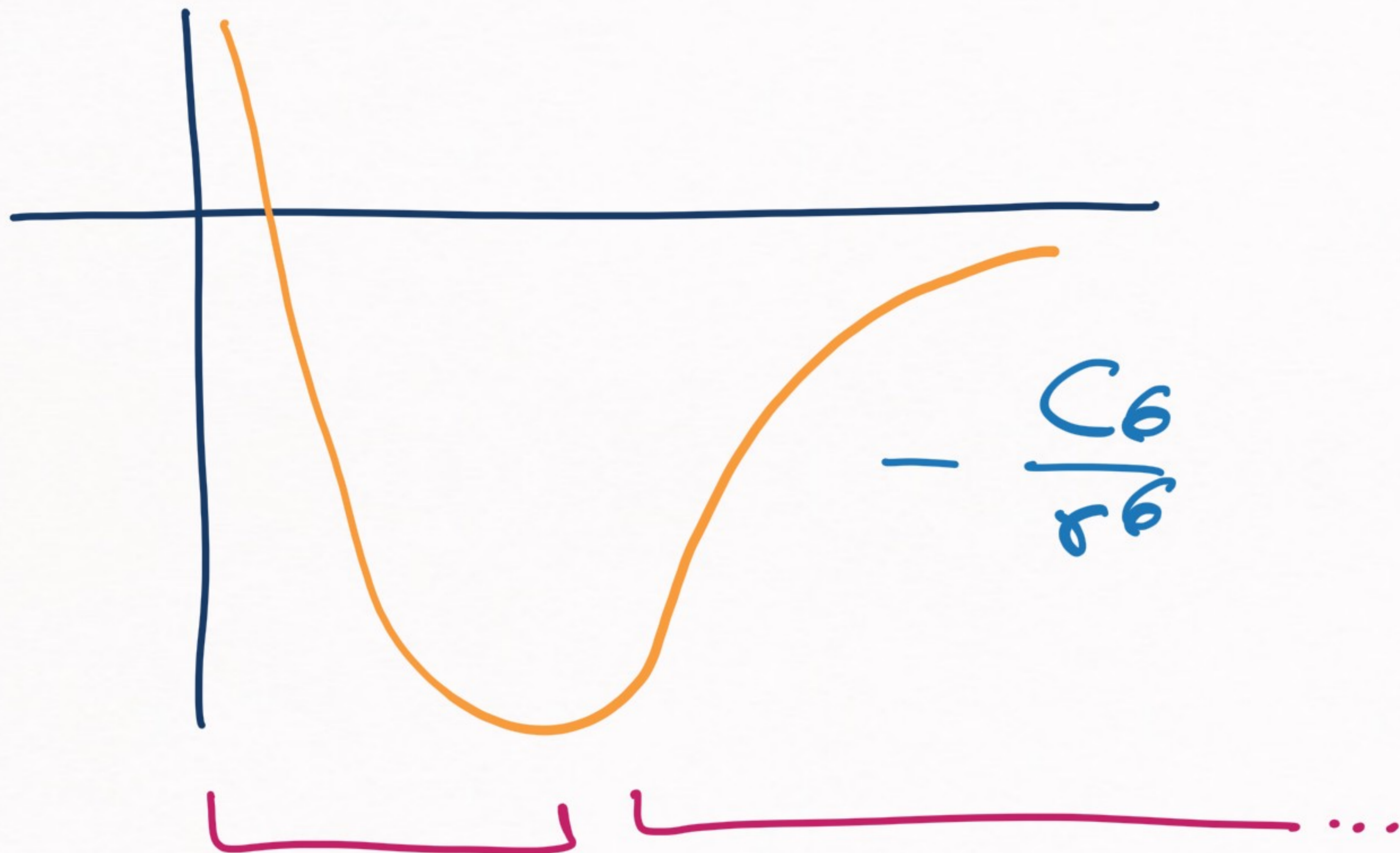
$R < \underline{\underline{R(\text{Cs})}}$

And this means that:



① → the repulsive region  
There is a consequence  
of the Cesium  
atom finite size





(3)  
Repulsion  
(unknown)

(2)  
Attraction

$C_6 / R_{vdW}$  is known:

$$\underline{\underline{R_{vdW} = 203 \text{ \AA}}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} V(r) &= - \frac{C_6}{r^6} \\ &= - \frac{1}{24} \frac{R_{vdW}^4}{r^6} \end{aligned}$$

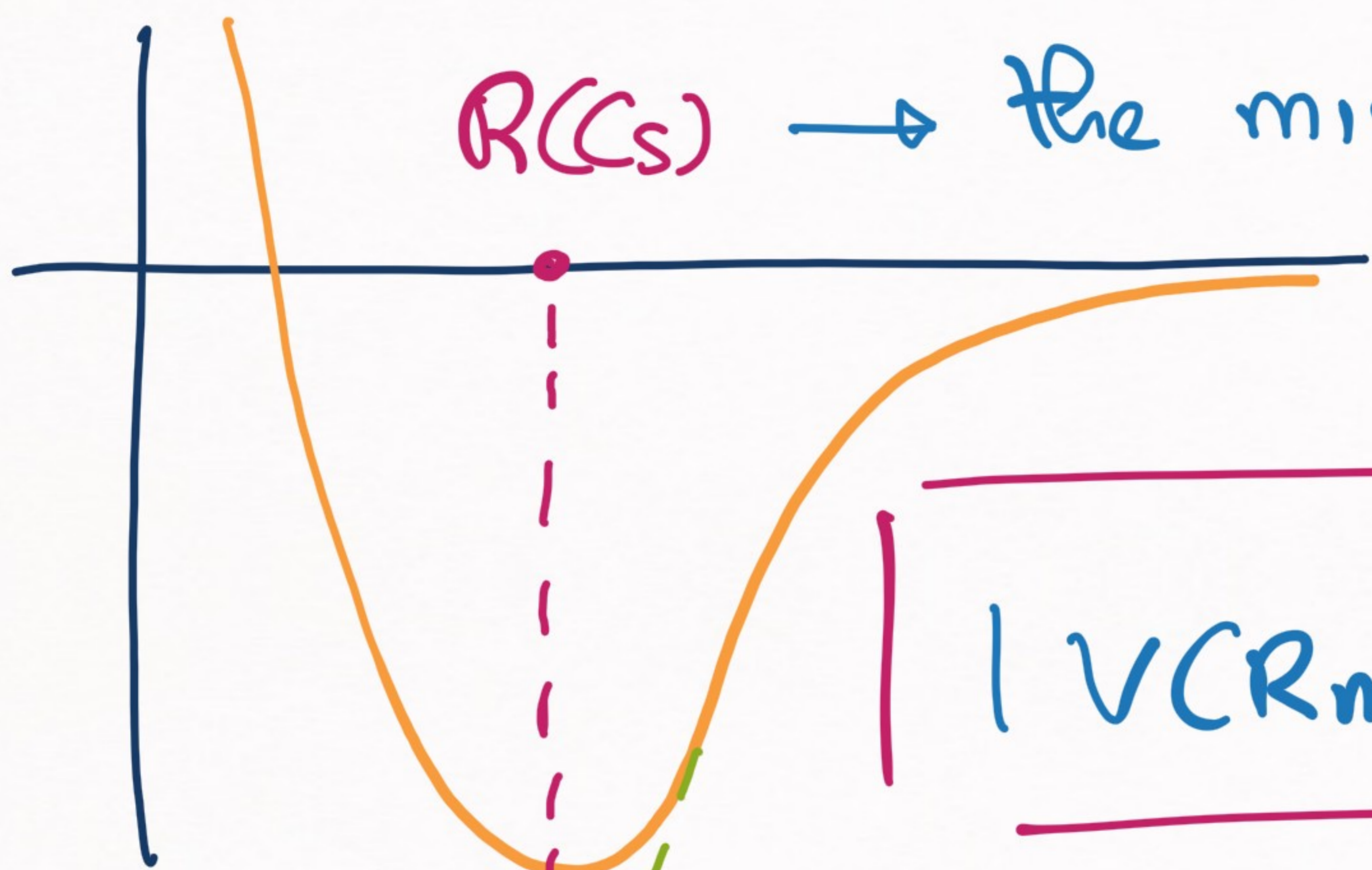
Two scales for the moment:

$$R(Cs) \approx 7 \text{ aB}$$

$$R_{\text{vdW}} \approx 203 \text{ aB}$$

But we still need to estimate  $V_{\text{mn}}$

How?

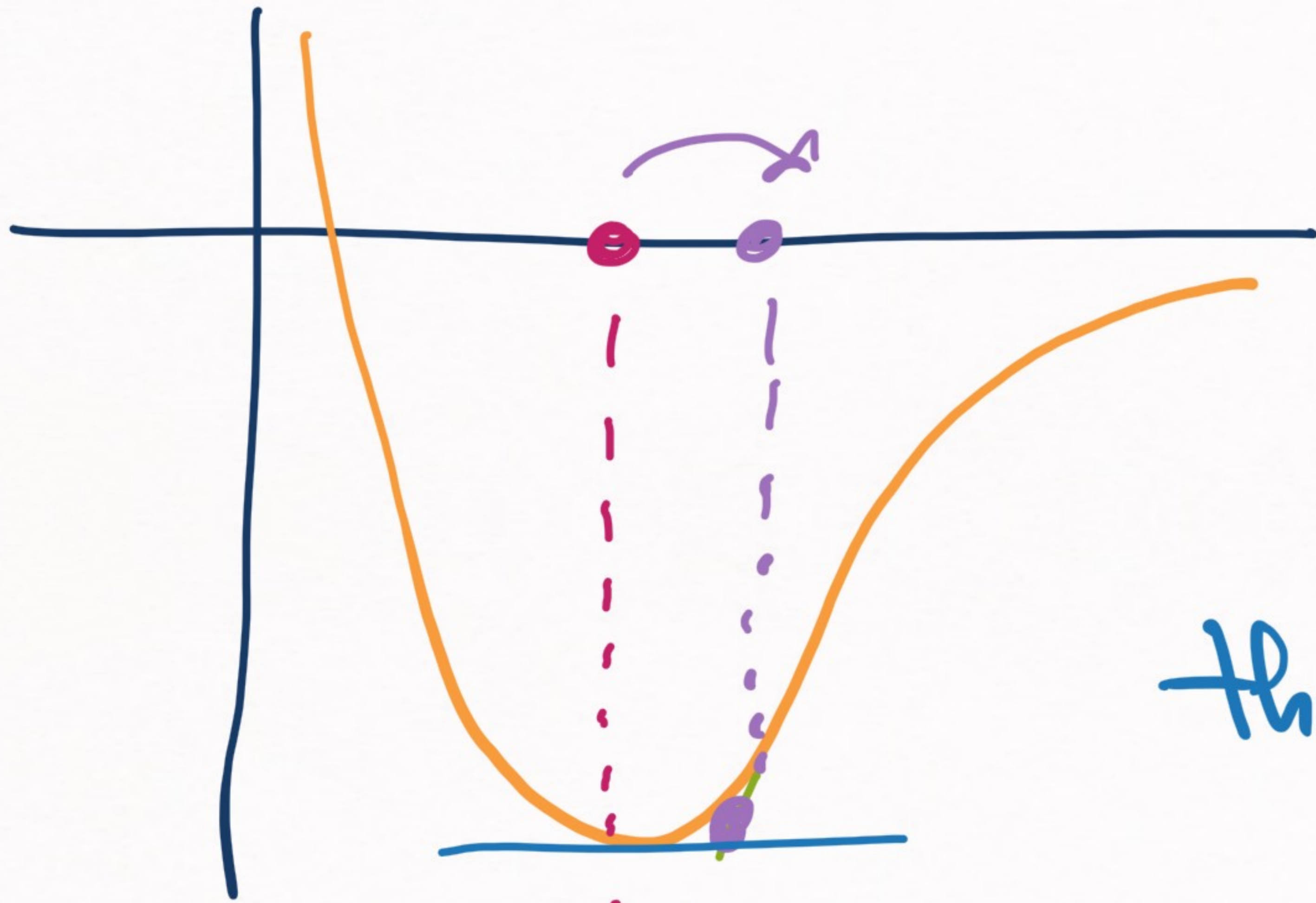


$R(Cs)$  → the minimum probably coincides w/ the size of the atoms

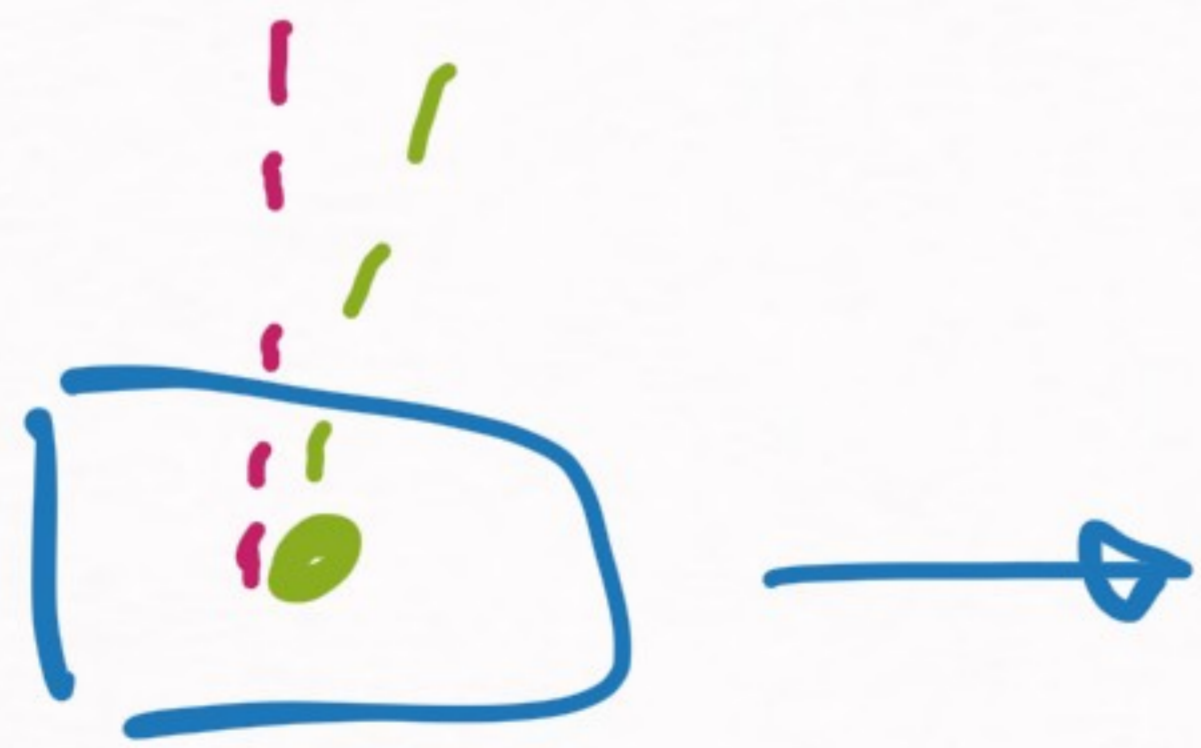
$$|V(R_{min})| < |V_{vdW}(R_{min})|$$

$$-\frac{C_6}{r^6}$$

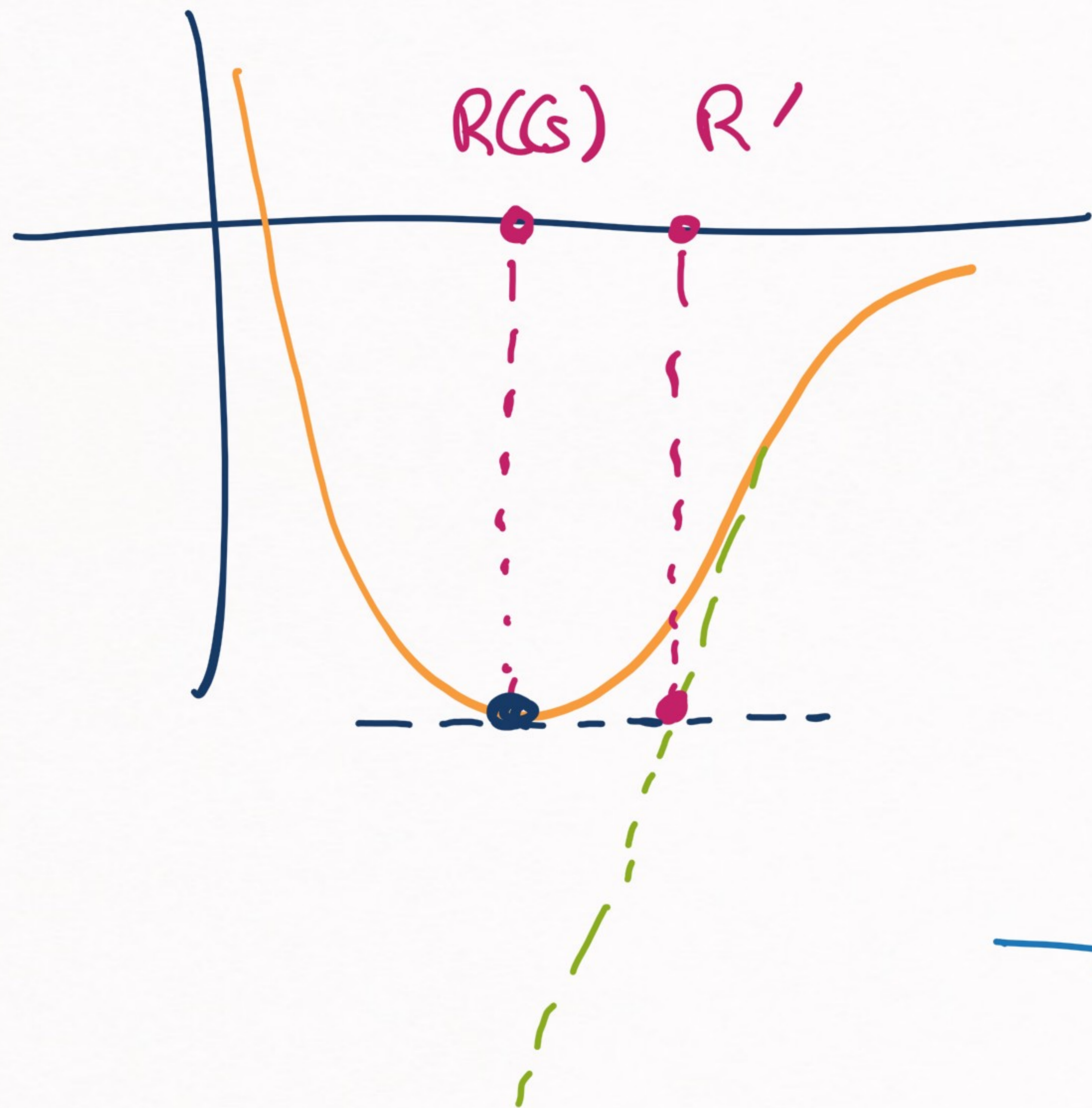
→ this is  $V_{vdW}(r)$ , the part of the potential we know



this approximation will  
be too small



$$V_{vdW}(R(G)) < V_{min}$$



But if we use  $R'$  a bit larger than  $R(G)$

$\Downarrow$

We might guess  $V_{min}$  right from

$$\rightarrow \left[ \underbrace{V_{dW}(R')} \leq \underbrace{V_{min}} \right]$$



$R(C_s) \approx 7 a_B \rightarrow R' \approx 10 a_B$  looks  
 $\approx$  like a good approx.

$$V_{\min} = -\frac{1}{24} \frac{R_{\text{vdW}}^4}{(R')^6} \quad \checkmark$$

And now we can try to obtain  $T_{\min}$ :

$$\frac{1}{2\mu} Q_{cs}^2 \approx \frac{1}{2\mu} \frac{R_{\text{dust}}^4}{(R')^6}$$

$$R' \approx 10 a_B$$

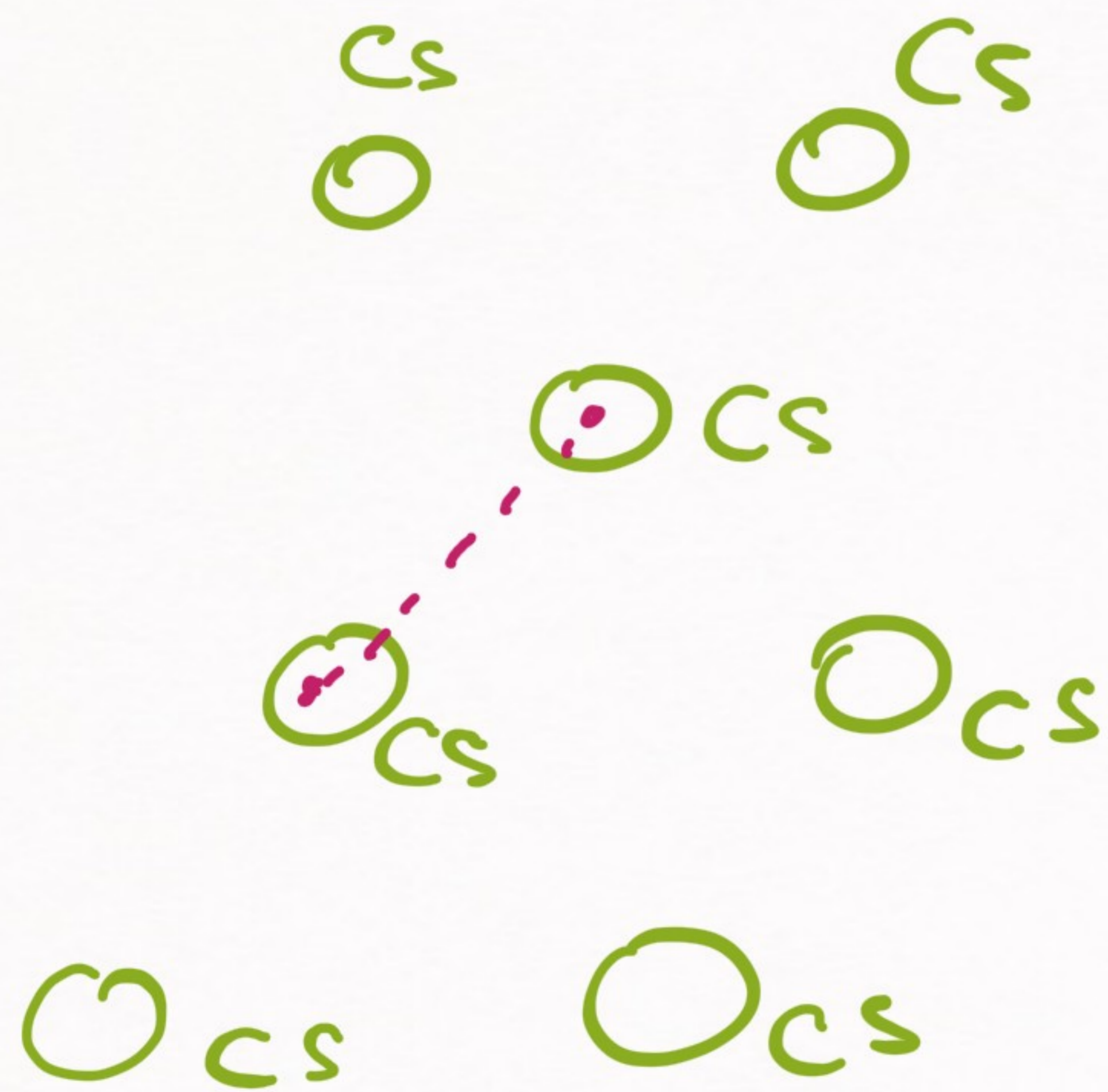
$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$   
 $T_{\min}$

$\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}$   
 $v_{\min}$

$$(Q_B \approx 3.7 \text{ keV})$$

$$\Rightarrow \left| Q_{cs} \approx 20 Q_B \approx \frac{20}{a_B} \right|$$

Then we check the expected speed of Cs atoms  
 (at zero temperature)



$$\langle r \rangle \sim R' \text{ (actually } R_{min})$$

$$\langle T \rangle_{kin} \sim \frac{1}{2\mu} Q_{Cs}^2$$

$$\langle v \rangle \sim \frac{Q_{Cs}}{m_{Cs}} \sim \underline{\underline{350 \text{ m/s}}}$$

$$(Q_{Cs} \approx 70 \text{ keV})$$

When  $\langle v_{\text{thermal}} \rangle \geq 350 \text{ m/s}$   $\Rightarrow$  the Cs atoms  
will disperse  
(boiling point)

how to calculate this?

$$E_{\text{thermal}} = k_B T$$

$k_B$ : Boltzmann constant  
 $T$ : temperature (in Kelvin)

$$k_B \sim \frac{1 \text{ eV}}{11000^\circ \text{K}} \rightarrow \text{Room temperature:}$$

$$T \sim 300^\circ \text{K}$$

Center of the sun:

$$\Rightarrow E_T \sim 50 \text{ meV}$$

$$T \sim 15 \cdot 10^6 \text{ }^\circ \text{K}$$

$$E_T \sim \frac{1 \text{ eV}}{11 \cdot 10^3} 1.5 \cdot 10^7 \sim 1.4 \cdot 10^3 \text{ eV}$$

$\sim \underline{\underline{1.4 \text{ keV}}}$

$$\frac{1}{2} m \langle v_{\text{thermal}} \rangle^2 = k_B T$$

$$\rightarrow T = \frac{\frac{1}{2} m \langle v \rangle^2}{k_B}$$

$$\text{If } \langle v \rangle \approx 350 \text{ m/s} \Rightarrow T(\text{Cs}) \approx 1000^\circ \text{K}$$

Reality:

$$T(\text{Cs}) \approx 944^\circ \text{K}$$

this would be our  
estimation of the Cs  
boiling point

In short...

Cs boiling point

Dimensional  
argument:

$$T(\text{Cs}) \approx 1000^\circ\text{K}$$

Experiment:

$$T(\text{Cs}) \approx 944^\circ\text{C}$$

IT WORKS REALLY WELL!

CONCEPT → NATURALNESS

→ very easy approximations for what is  
the value of observables in a few systems

→ hydrogen atom (easiest example)

→ boiling point of Cs (more elaborate  
example)



MORAL :

NATURAL PROBLEMS ADMIT  
REALLY DUMB APPROXIMATIONS



... AND THEY WILL WORK!



(PROBLEM → WHAT HAPPENS IF THERE  
ARE MULTIPLE SCALES?)

NEXT  
~

→ NATURAL PROBLEMS ARE EASY  
(usually only 1 relevant scale)

→ HOWEVER, MOST PHYSICAL  
PROBLEMS INVOLVE SEVERAL

SCALES

~  
(this will trigger corrections)

How DO WE DEAL W/ CORRECTIONS  
COMING FROM OTHER SCALES?

Let's see a well-known example:

[ THE HYDROGEN ATOM ]  
↘

HYDROGEN ATOM, SCALES :

1) most important scale is  $a_B \left( \approx \frac{1}{m_e \alpha} \right)$

2) but  $\exists$  other scales  $\underbrace{\text{electron \& proton}}_{\approx}$

proton is not point-like (composed of quarks)  
 $\hookrightarrow$  it has a size

electron is fundamental, but still will have some structure

THE TWO OTHER SCALES :

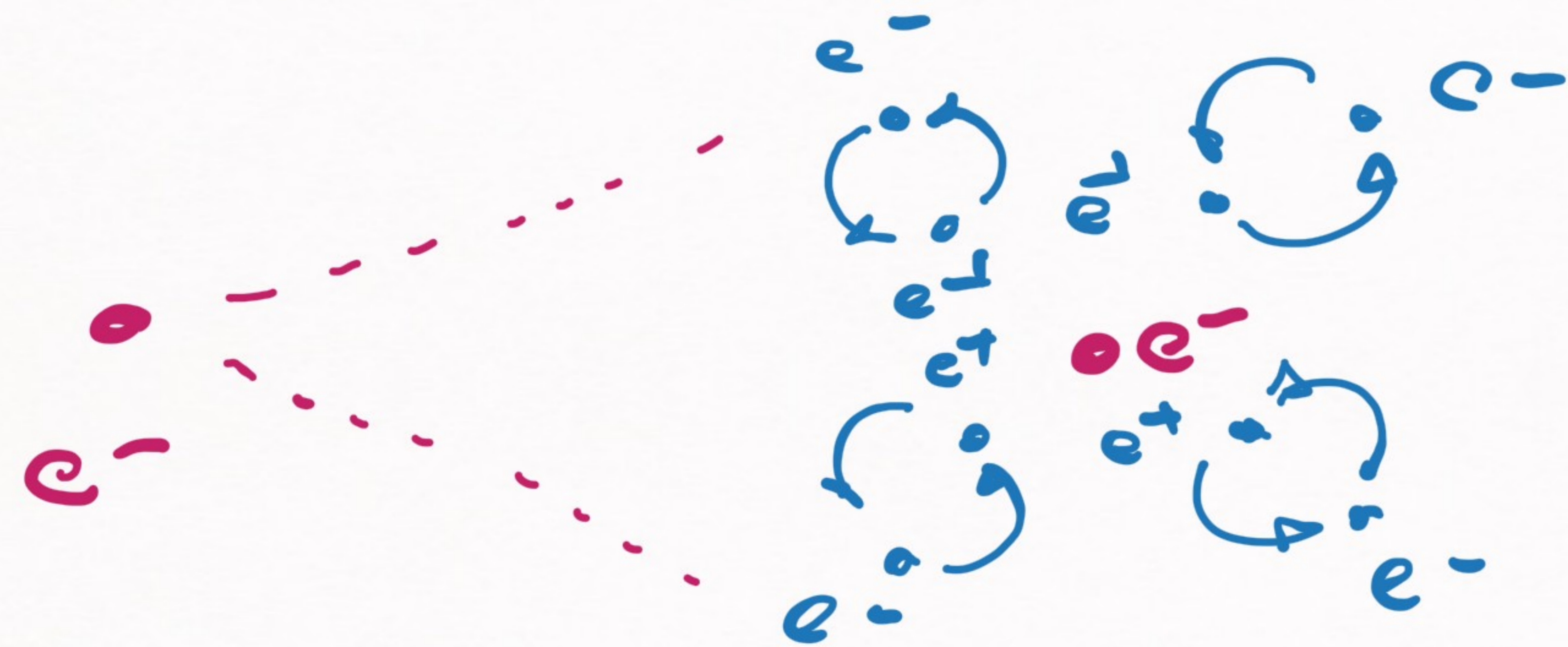
1) Electron size  $\rightarrow$  fine structure

2) Proton size  $\rightarrow$  hyperfine structure

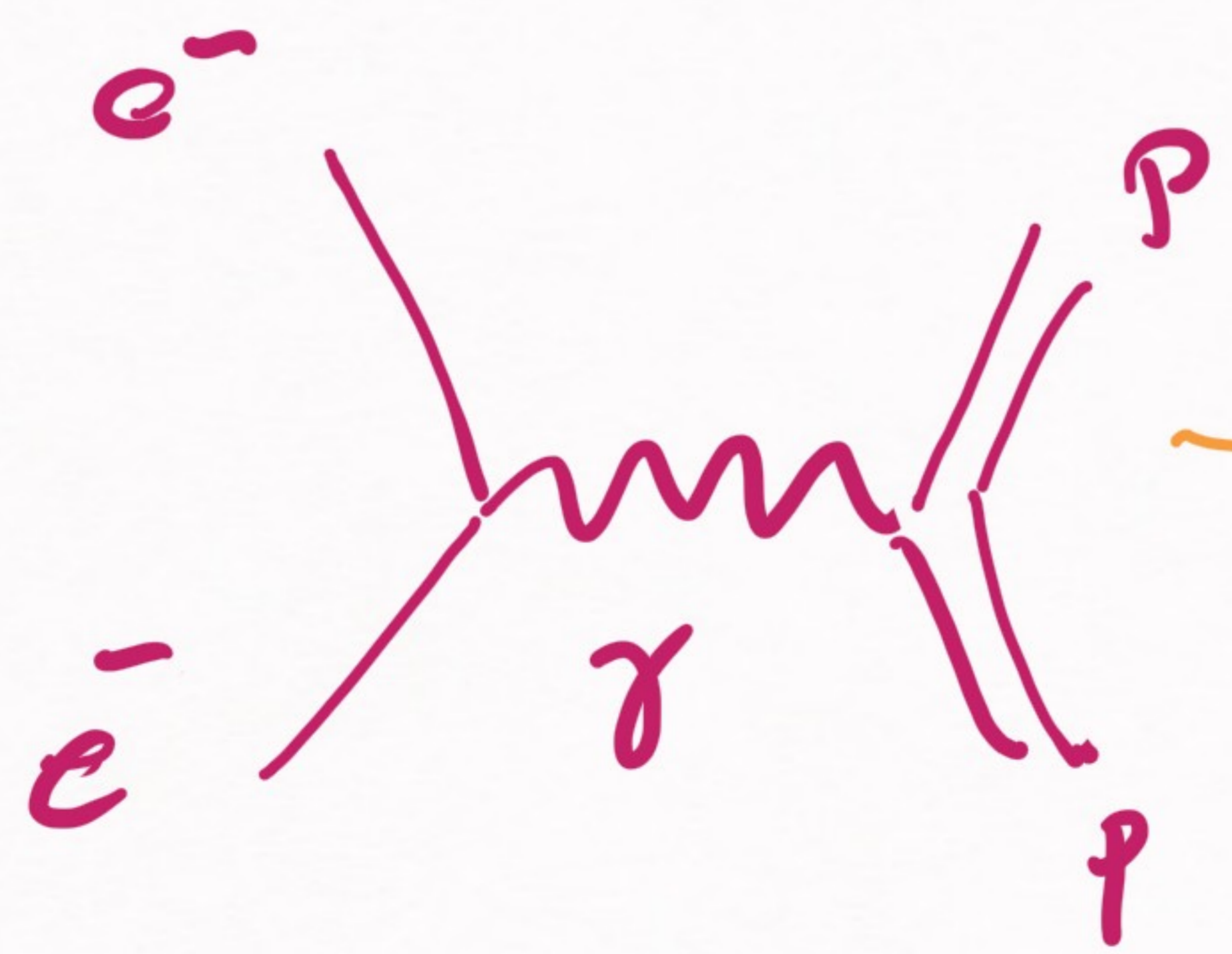
But, electron size?



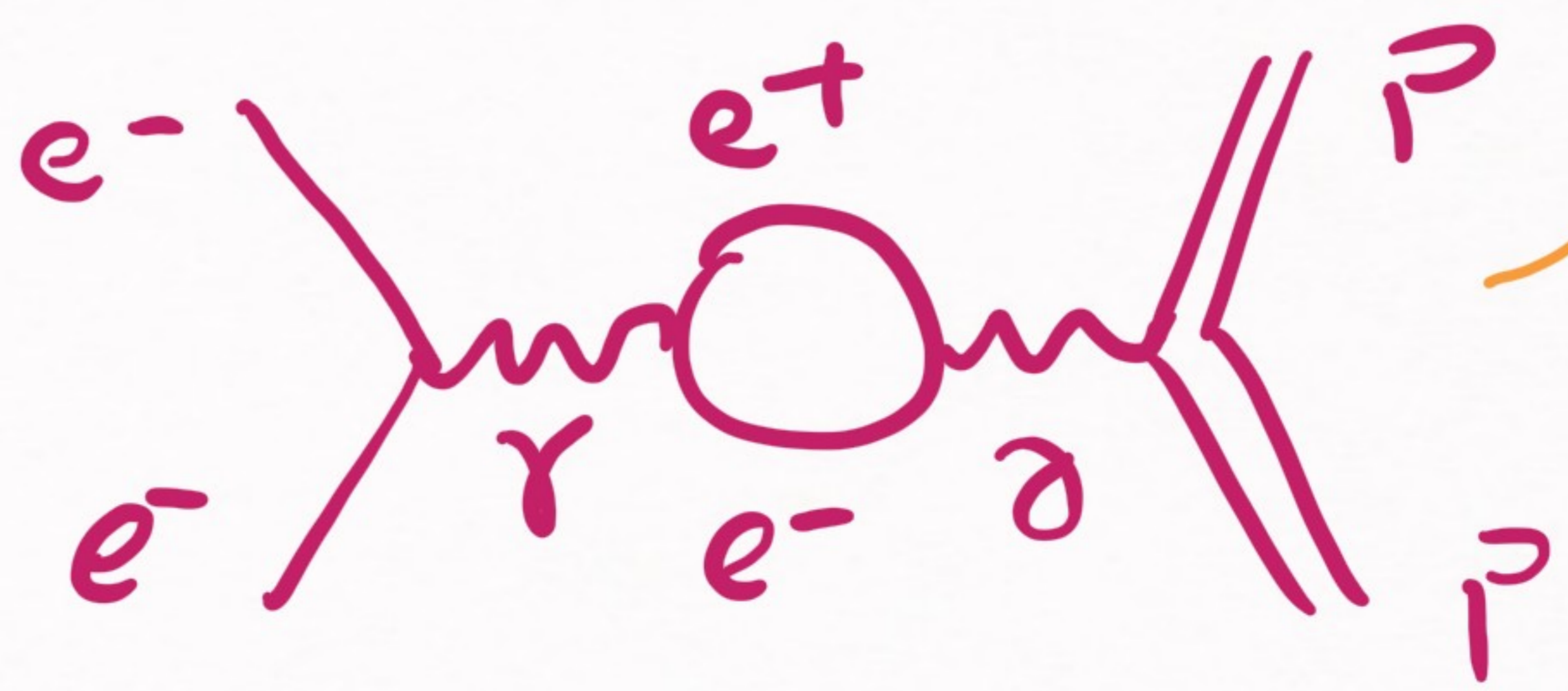
ELECTRON SIZE  $\rightarrow$  VACUUM POLARIZATION



Corrections to the Coulomb potential



Coulomb potential



→ What is vacuum polarization?

→ effect coming from QFT

(relativistic + quantum effect)

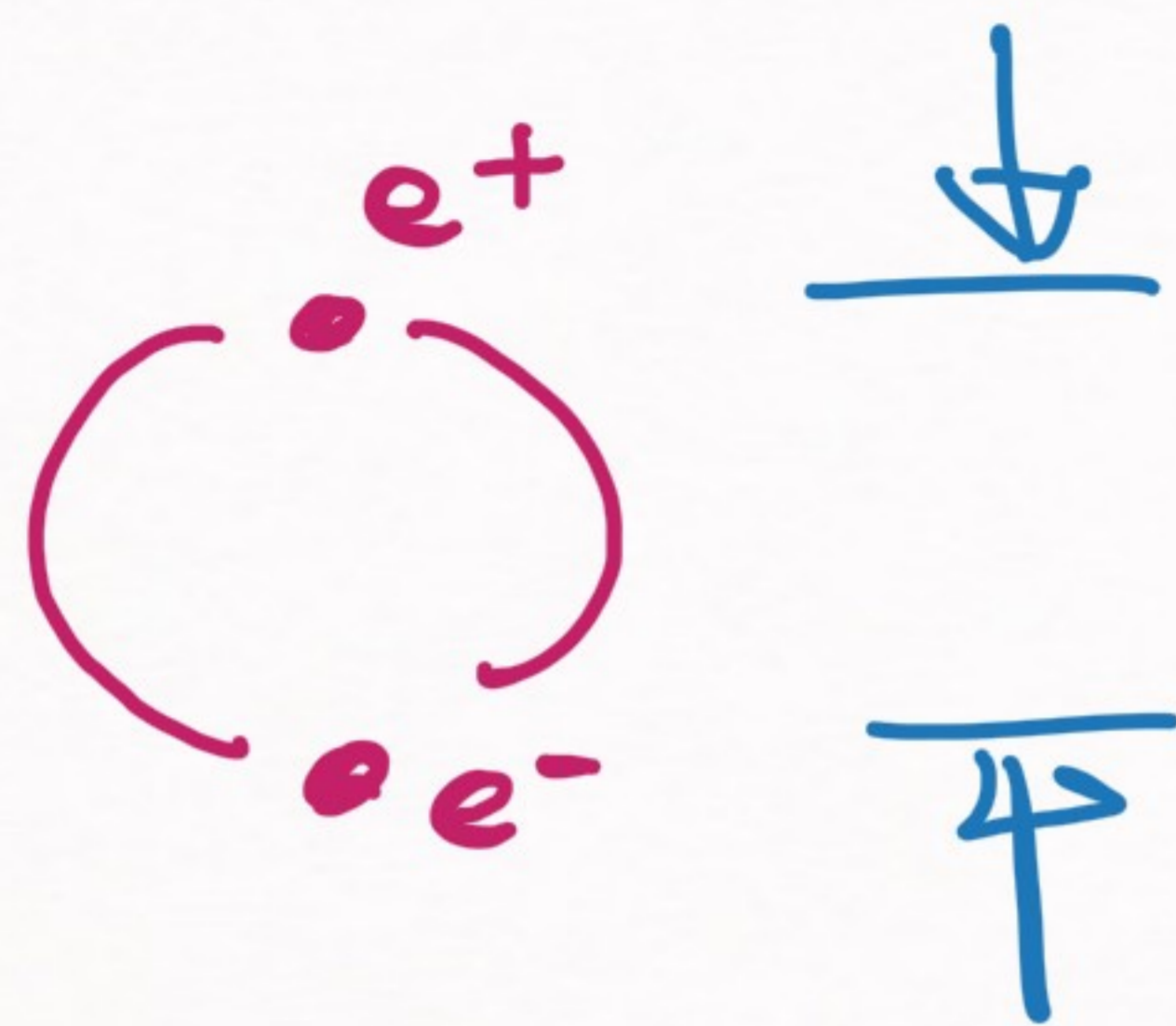
→ What is the size of this effect?

$$\rightarrow \Delta x \Delta p \sim \hbar c \quad \Delta p \sim m_e$$

$$\Delta x \sim \frac{\hbar c}{m_e}$$

$\Rightarrow$

$$r_e \sim \frac{\hbar}{m_e c}$$



which size?

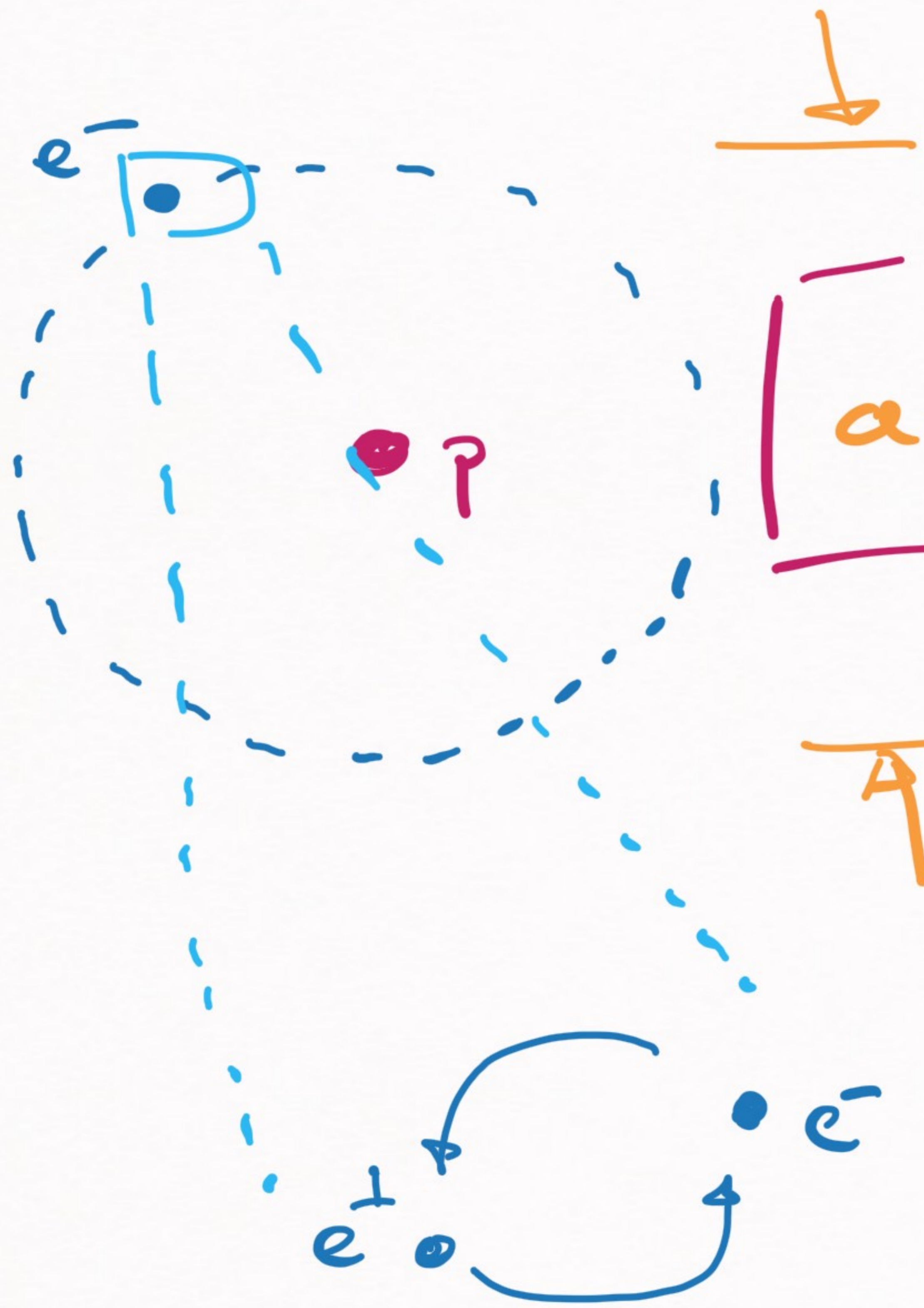
$$\Delta x \Delta p \sim \hbar \quad (\text{uncertainty principle})$$

$$\Delta x \sim \frac{\hbar c}{\Delta p}, \quad \Delta p \sim m_e v$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{\hbar}{m_e v} \left( = \frac{\hbar c}{m_e v c} \right) \sim 400 \text{ fm}$$

$$a_B = \frac{\hbar}{m_e \alpha c} \sim 137 \frac{\hbar}{m_e c} \sim 54000 \text{ fm}$$





↓

$a_B \approx 54000 \text{ \AA}$

↑

137 times bigger  
than this

↓

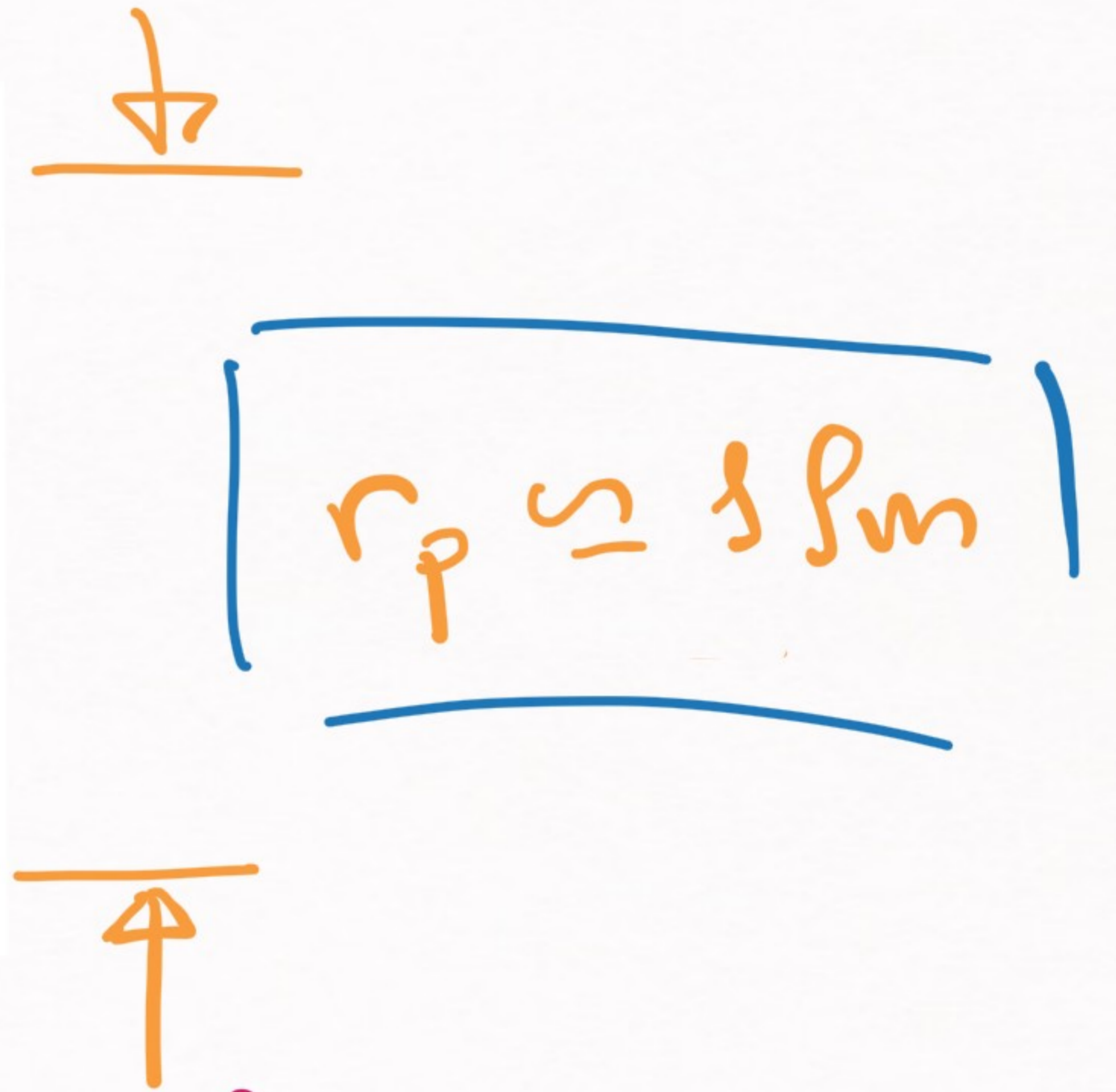
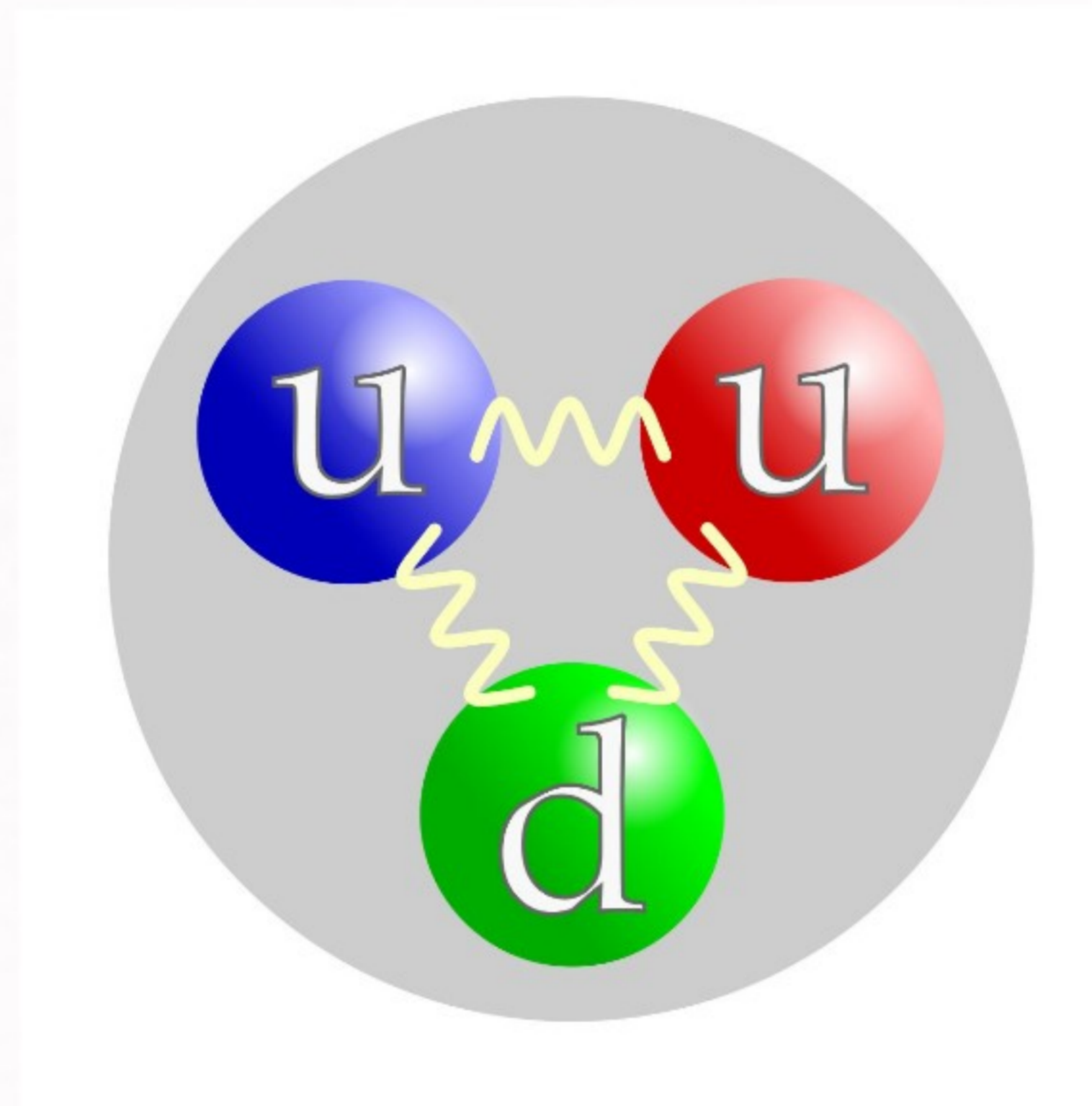
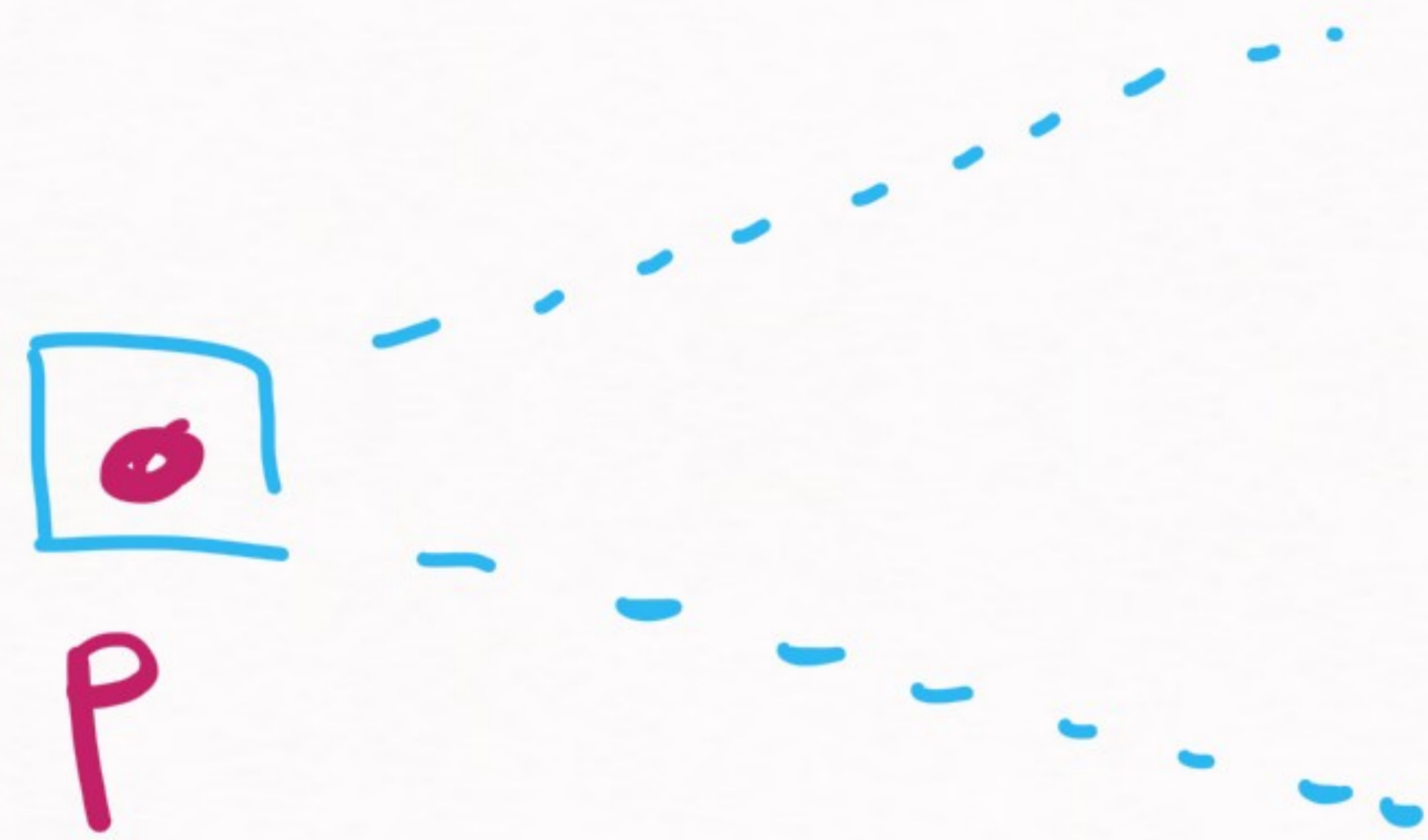
$\frac{\lambda}{m_e} \approx 400 \text{ \AA}$

↑

}

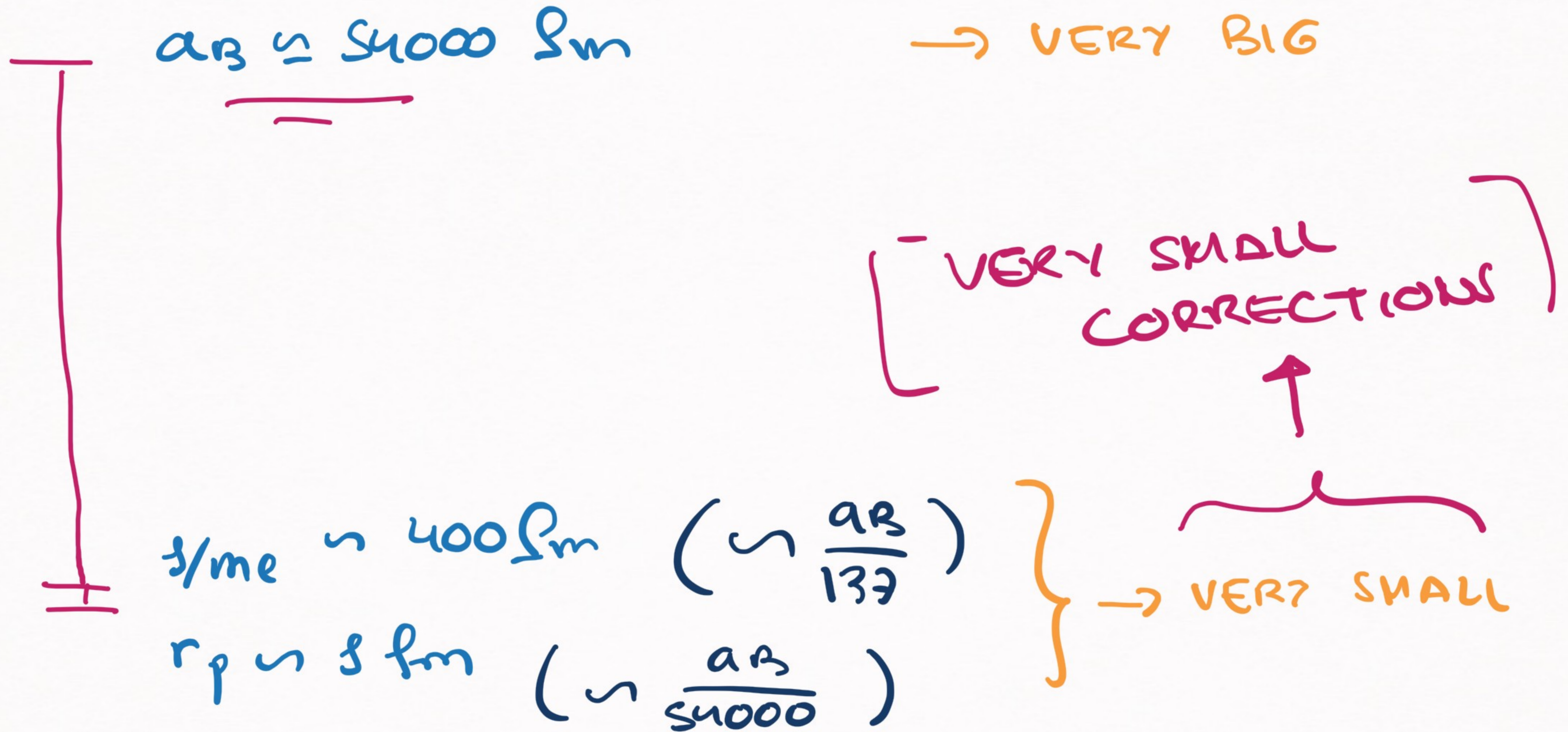
smaller  
than  $a_B$

next: size of the proton



this is unlike vacuum polarization  
because it represents the compositeness  
of the proton

# HYDROGEN ATOM $\rightarrow$ MULTISCALE PROBLEM



How DO WE DEAL WITH MULTIPLE SCALES?

1) BIGGER SCALE → identify it

→ give us the bulk properties of the system

2) SMALLER SCALES

→ gives us small corrections  
↘

WHAT ARE THE SIZE OF THESE CORRECTIONS?

→ Naively, we have  $(R_L)$  &  $(R_S)$

Bigger scale

Small or scale

and expect corrections of size  $\mathcal{O}\left(\frac{R_S}{R_L}\right)$

THIS WORKS FOR HYPERFINE CORRECTIONS:

1) PROTON SIZE EFFECTS:  $\frac{r_p}{a_B} \sim 2 \cdot 10^{-5}$

BUT NOT FOR FINE-STRUCTURE CORRECTIONS:

2) ELECTRON SIZE  $\rightarrow$  not a normal size, but a combination of quantum & relativistic effects

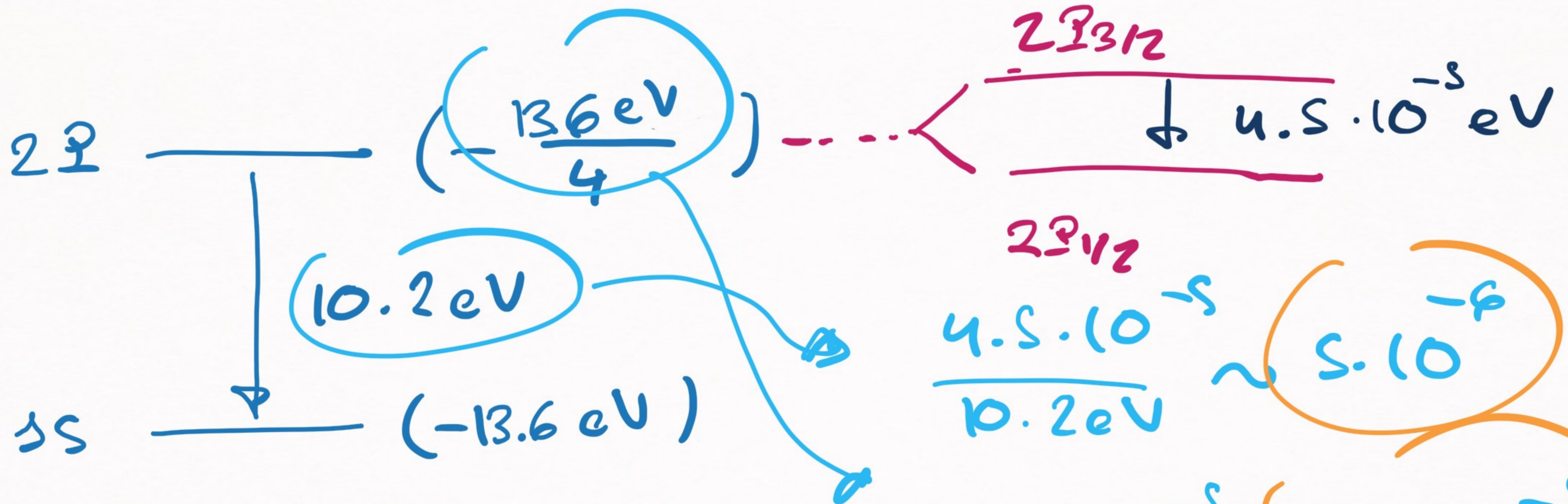
$$E_{un} = \frac{p^2}{2m} \left( 1 + O\left(\frac{p^2}{m^2}\right) \right)$$

$$\left(\frac{r_e}{a_B}\right)^2 \sim 5 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

How DO THIS COMPARE W/ REALITY?

1) FINE STRUCTURE EFFECTS

Expectation:  $5 \cdot 10^{-5}$



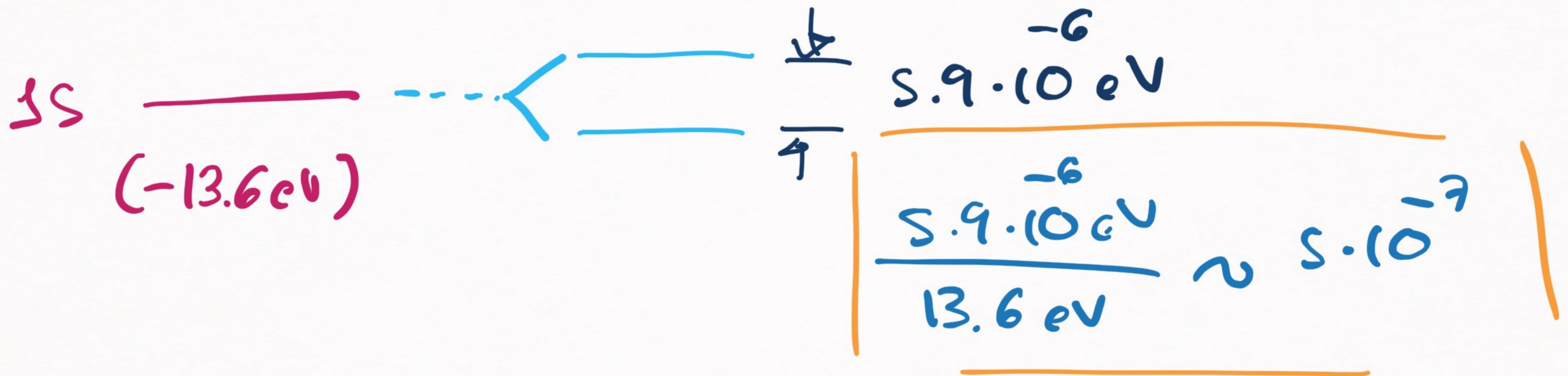
NOT PERFECT,  
BUT NOT BAD EITHER

$$3 \frac{4.5 \cdot 10^{-5}}{10.2 \text{ eV}} \sim 1.5 \cdot 10^{-5}$$

## 2) HYPERFINE STRUCTURE

$$\left( \frac{r_p}{a_B} \right) \sim 2 \cdot 10^{-6}$$

(Remember  $\rightarrow$  the nature of this effect is different from the "electron size")





TAKE-HOME MESSAGE :

PHYSICAL SYSTEMS THAT ARE

1) NATURAL ✓

2) HAVE A GOOD SEPARATION  
OF SCALES ✓

ARE VERY EASY TO DEAL WITH



COROLARY

SYSTEMS THAT

1) are not natural

2) have a poor separation of scales

ARE GOING TO BE A NIGHTMARE  
TO DEAL WITH

→ very difficult (not a bad thing,  
because they are good research projects)

## NEXT LESSON

### → NUCLEAR PHYSICS

1) IS NOT NATURAL

(deuteron size is very large)

2) HAS A POOR SEPARATION OF SCALES

size of the proton  $\sim 0.8 \text{ fm}$

range of the potential  $\sim 1.4 \text{ fm}$

SEE YOU ON TUESDAY

AT 15:50

