

Density-Functional Theory for Practitioners - Lecture 2

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Revision

At your table, reflect on last week's lecture and tutorial:

- What did we cover and what did you learn?
- Do you have any questions about the DFT calculations in the tutorial?
- Did the tutorial exercises help you to understand DFT better?

This lesson

| Must know | Should know | Nice to know |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| DFT ground-state energies | Potential energy surfaces | Conformers and isomers |
| Energy derivatives (forces) | Structure relaxation | Hellman-Feynman theorem |

Learning outcomes

After completion of this class you

- are familiar with the electronic ground state.
- know how to use the ground state to calculate certain materials properties.
- know how to determine the equilibrium structure of a molecule/material with DFT.



Recap - The three *principles* of DFT


1: DFT is in principle an exact ground state theory.



**2: The energy is a functional of the density.
The ground state energy is attained at the ground state density.**

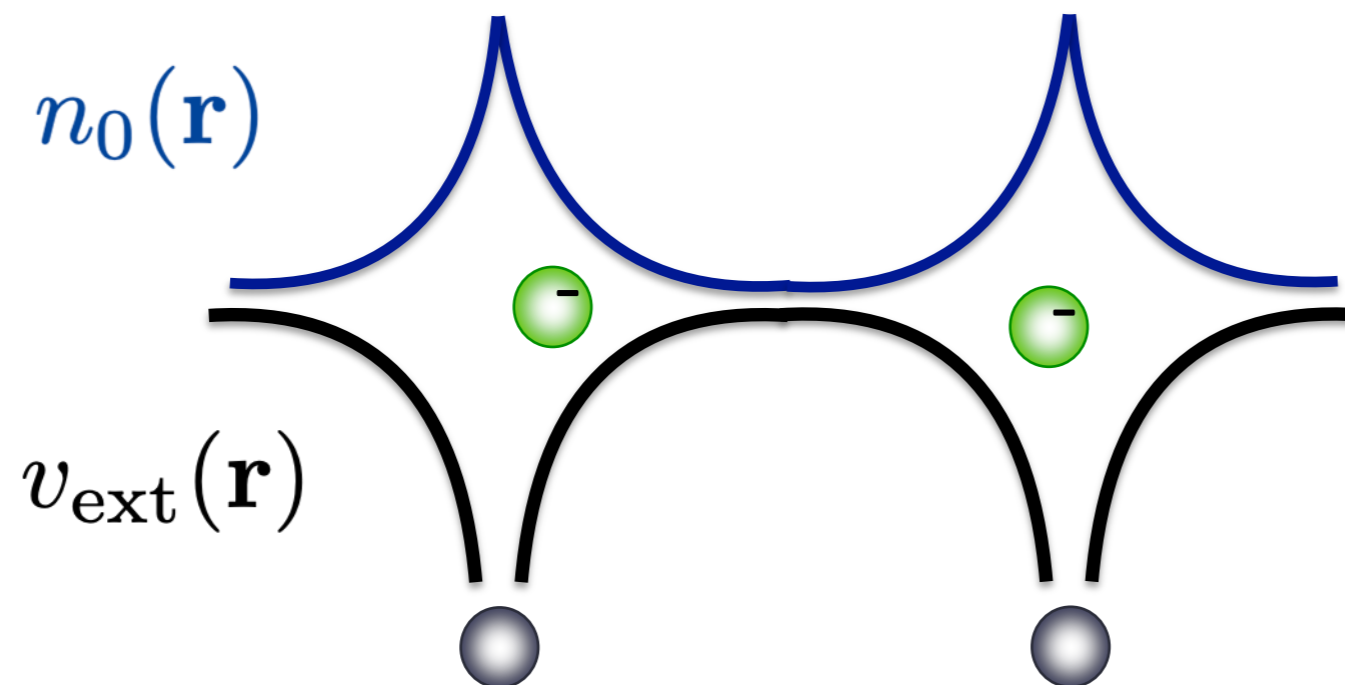
3: The energy functional needs to be approximated in practice.



External potential and density

$$v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_{J=1}^{N_n} \frac{-Z_J}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{R}_J|} \Leftrightarrow n_0(\mathbf{r})$$




Note:
bold \mathbf{r} means \vec{r}
small letters – 
large letters – 

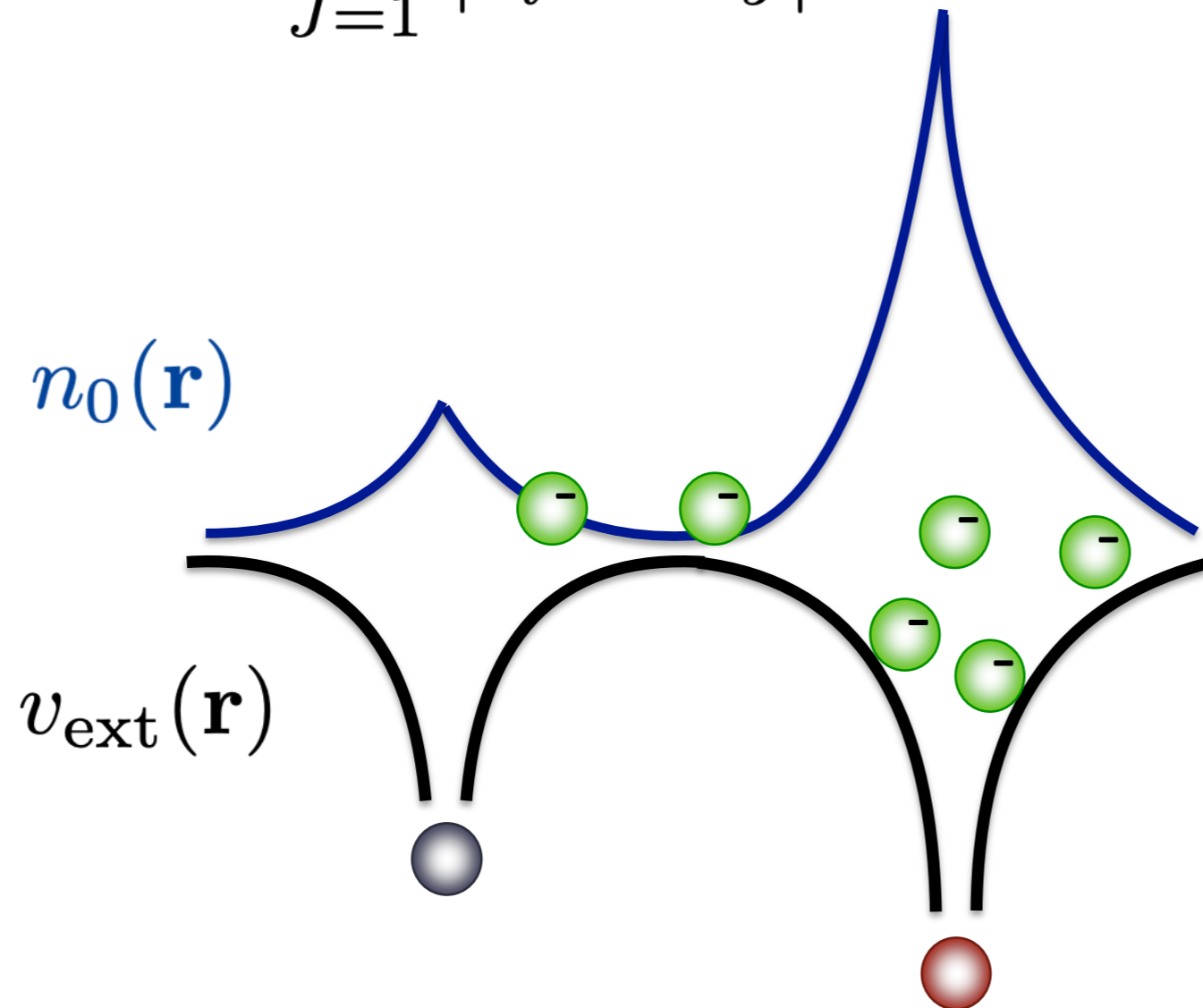


e.g. H₂ molecule

The external potential

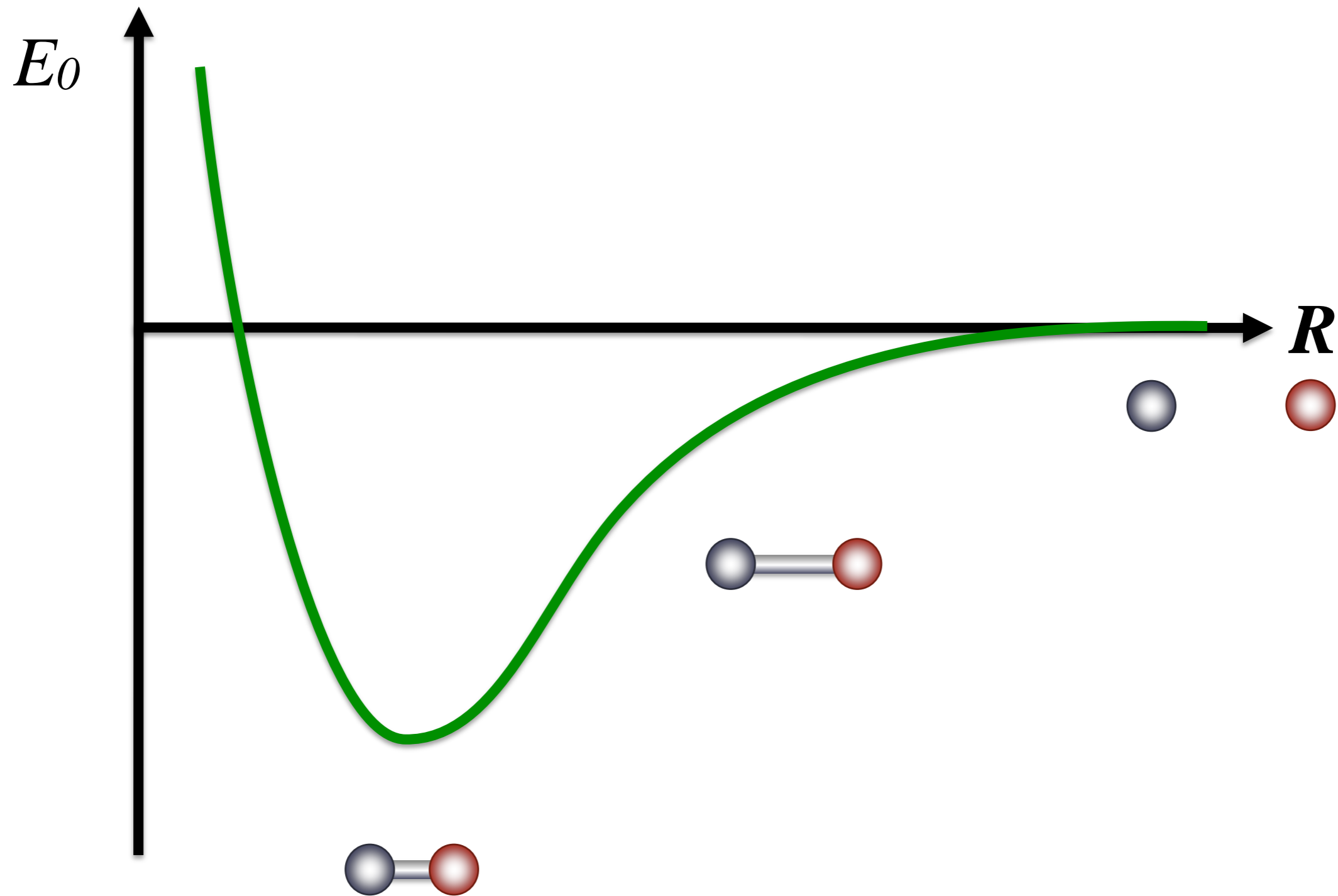
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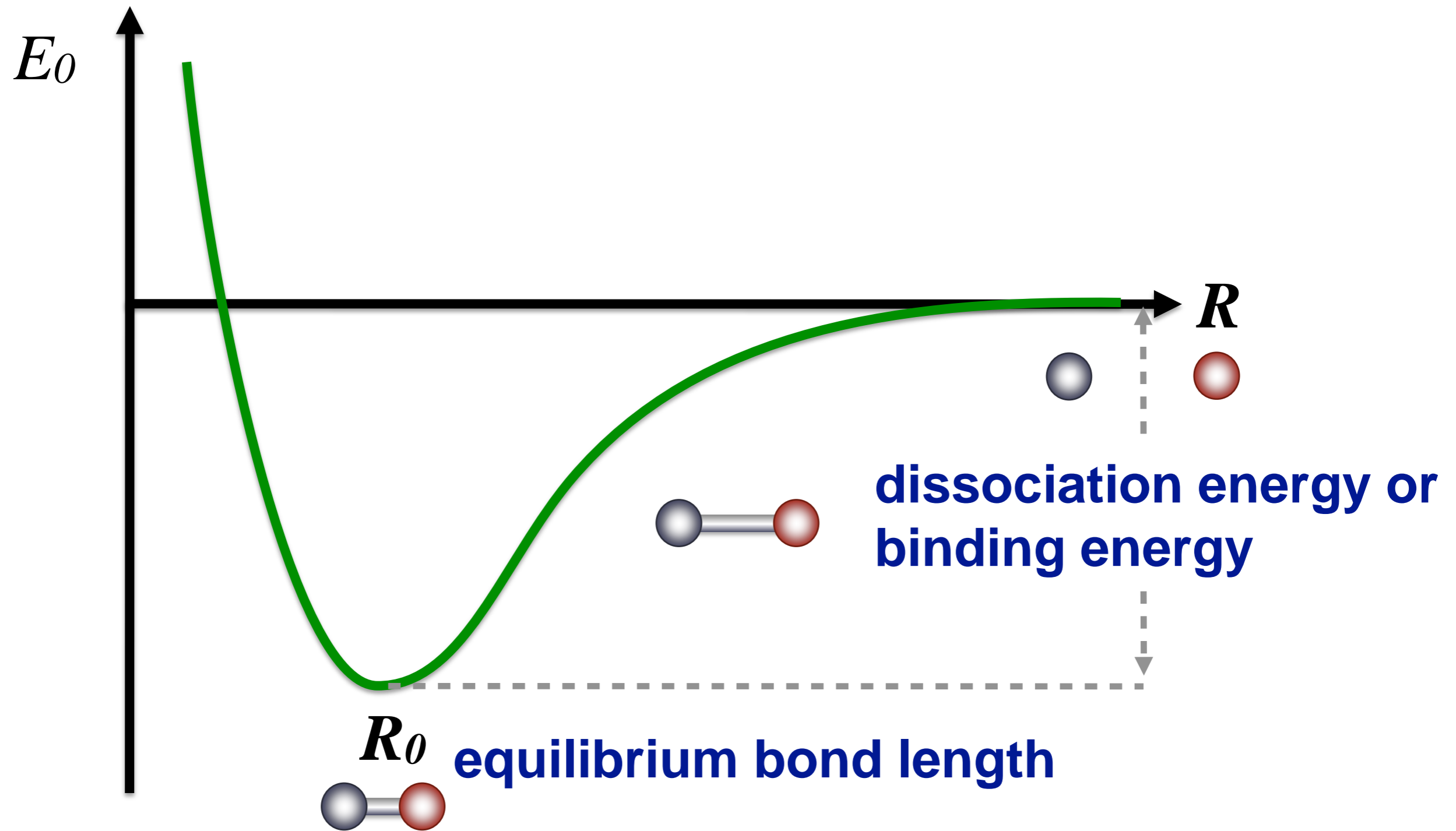


or HF molecule

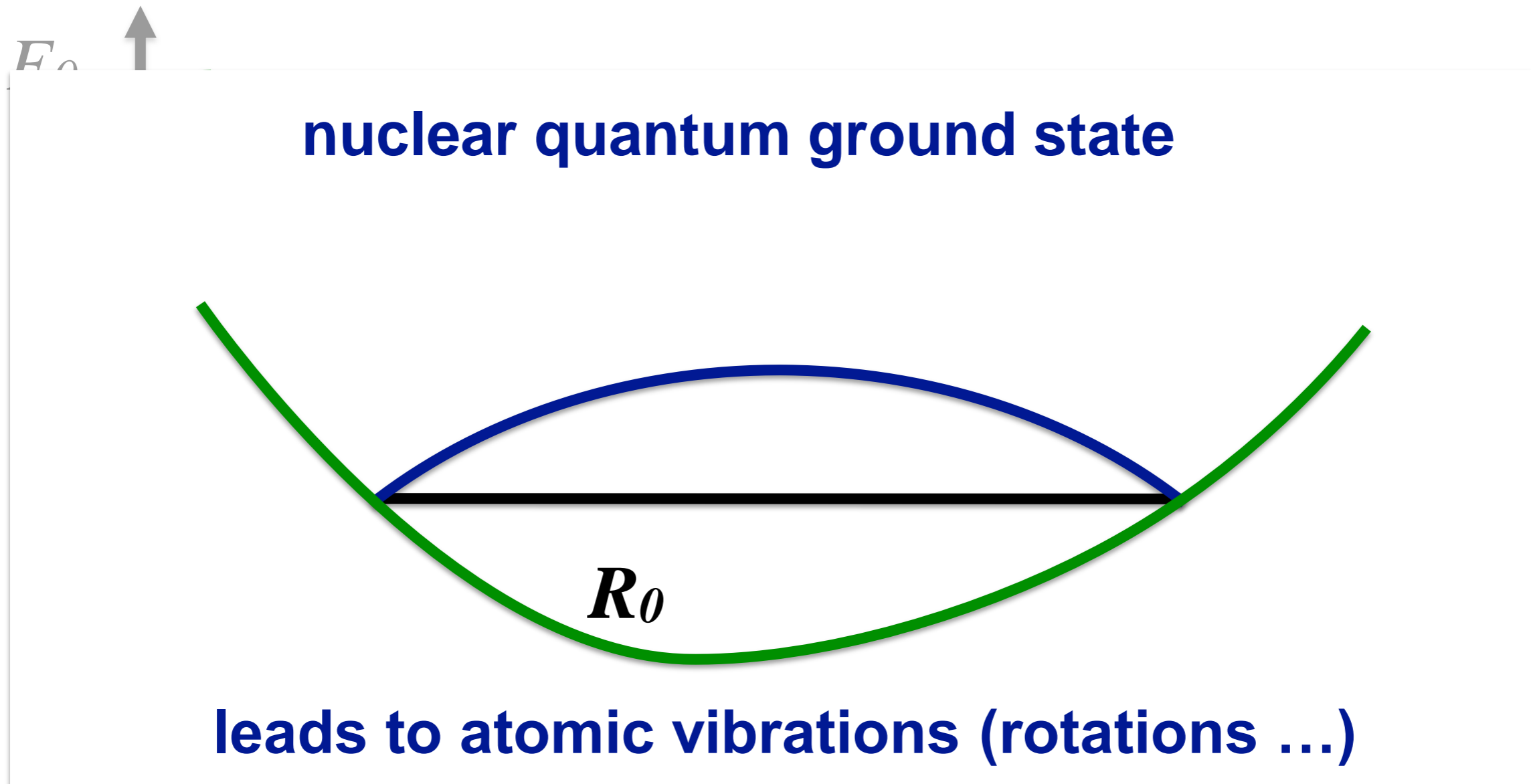
Binding energy curve



Binding energy curve



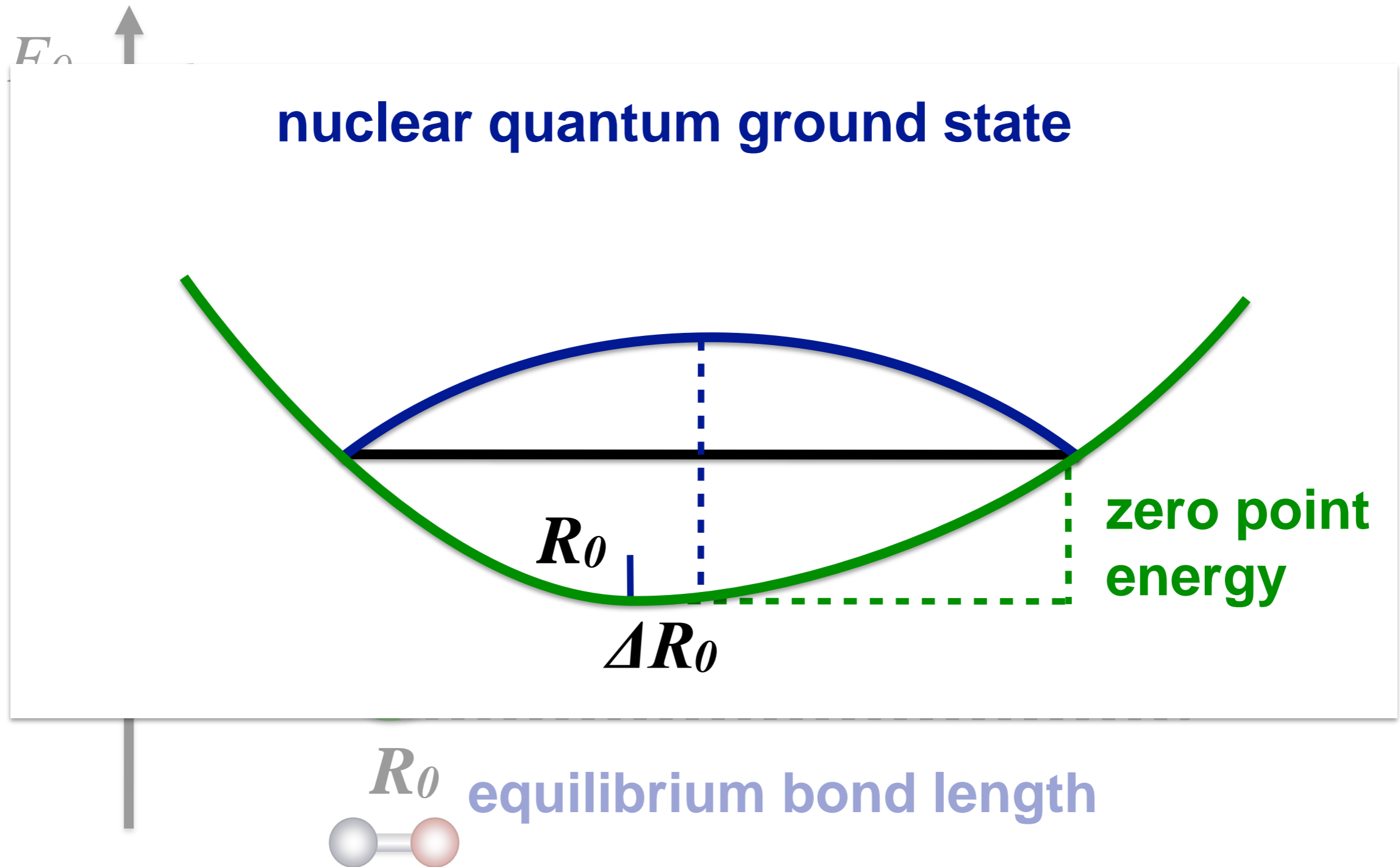
Binding energy curve



R_0 equilibrium bond length



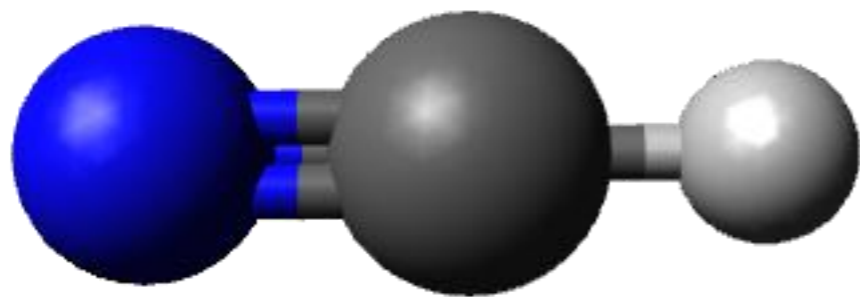
Binding energy curve



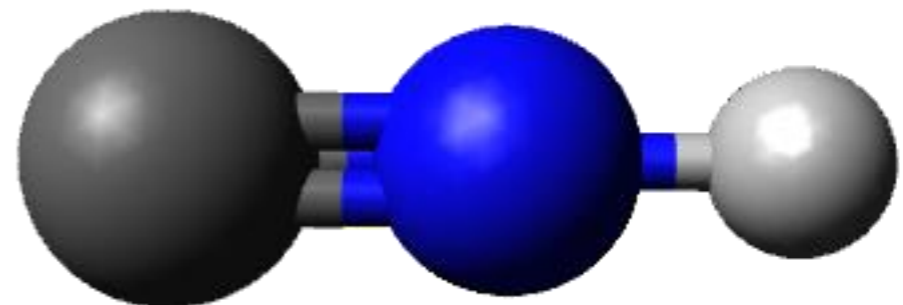
Potential energy of isomers

Isomer: molecules with the same chemical formula, but different atomic structure

**Which one is more stable?
(and thus is usually more abundant)**

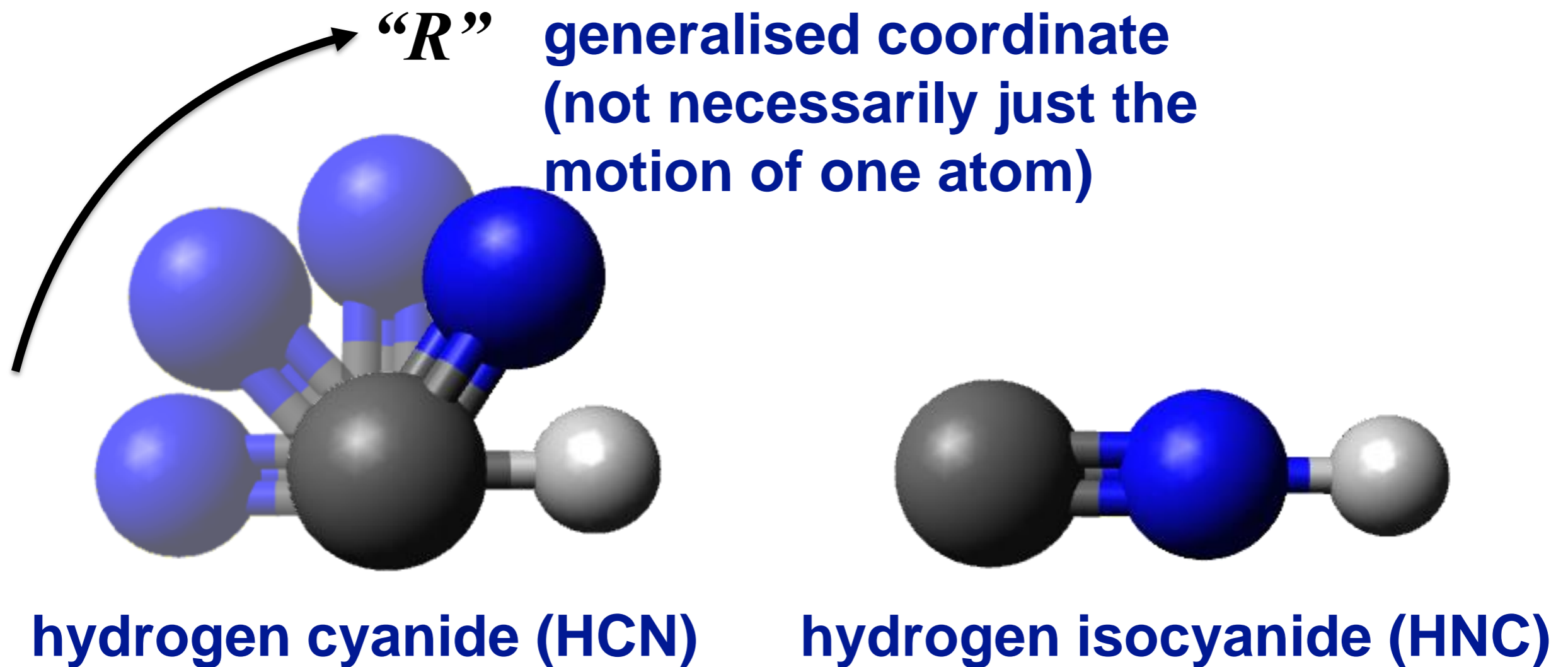


hydrogen cyanide (HCN)

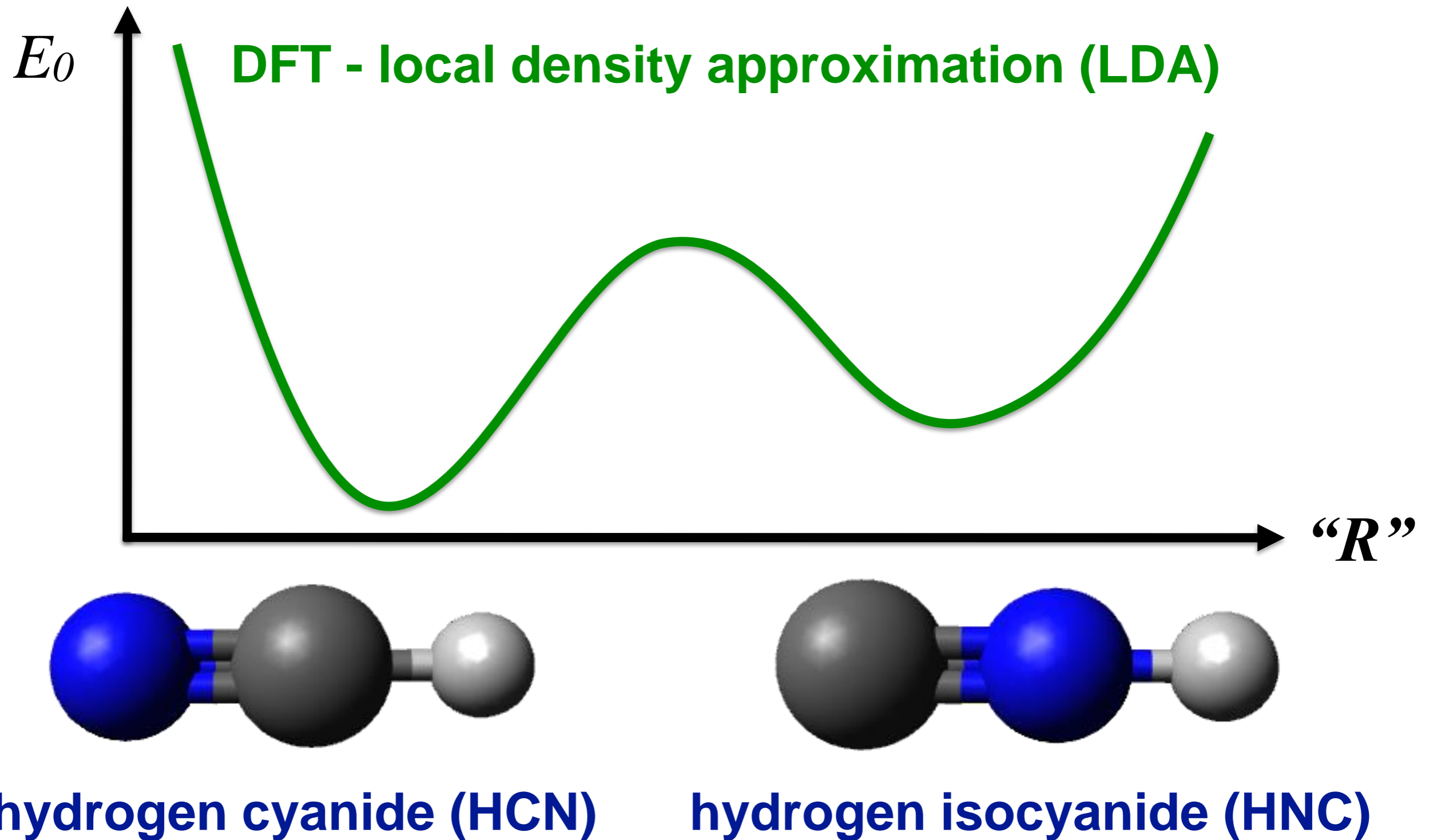


hydrogen isocyanide (HNC)

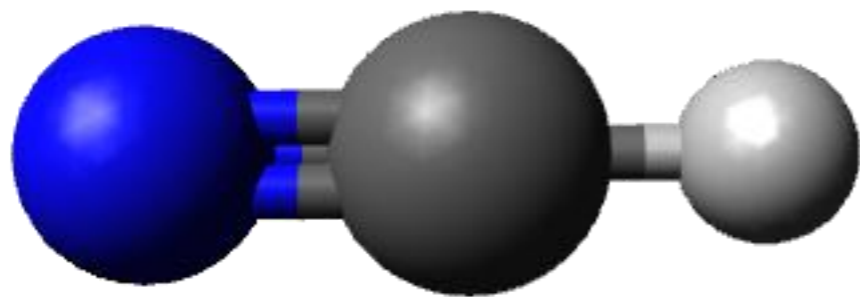
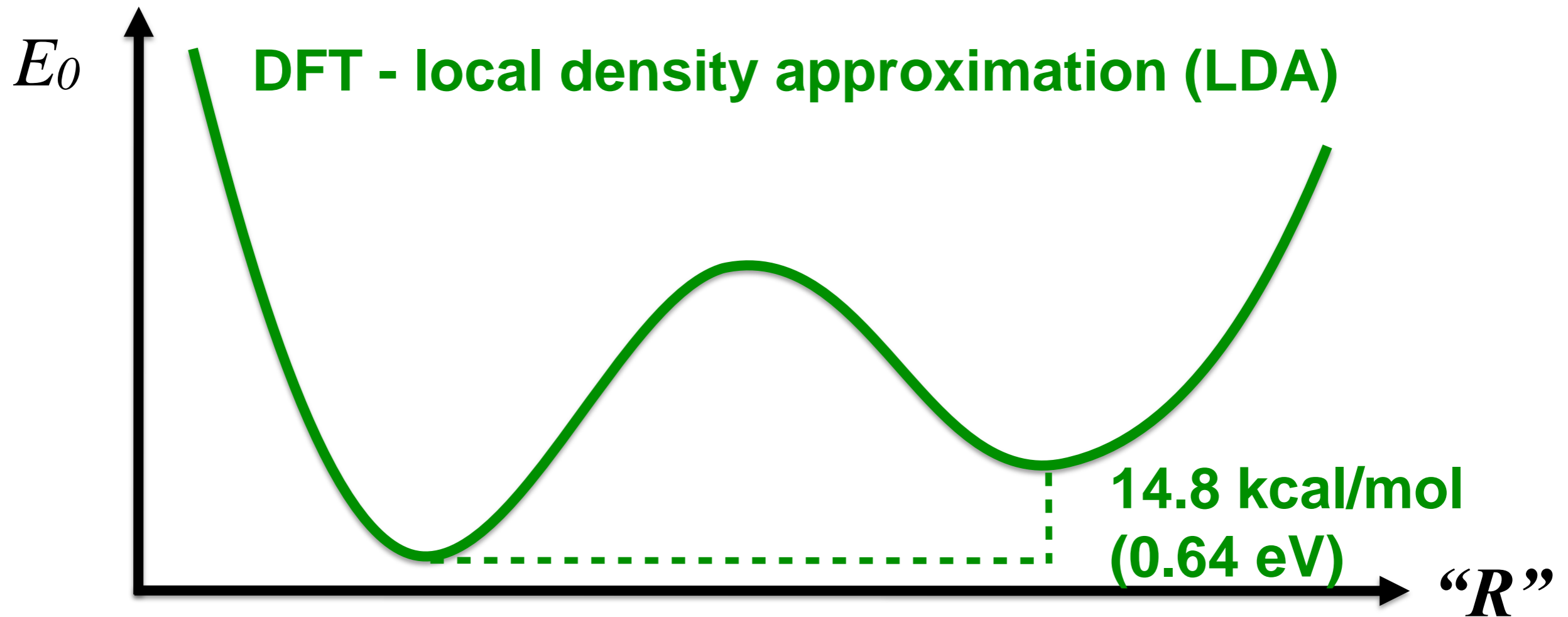
Potential energy of isomers



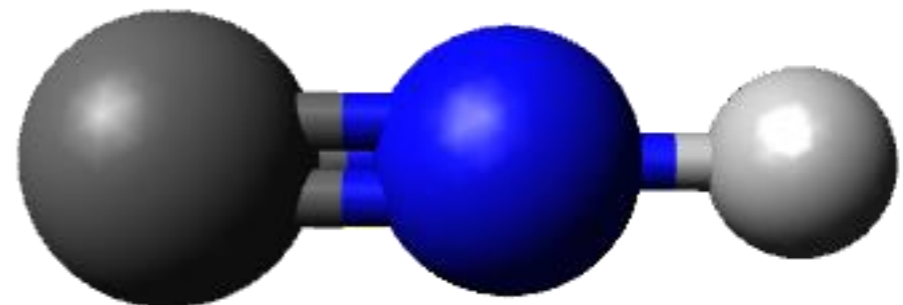
Potential energy of isomers



Potential energy of isomers

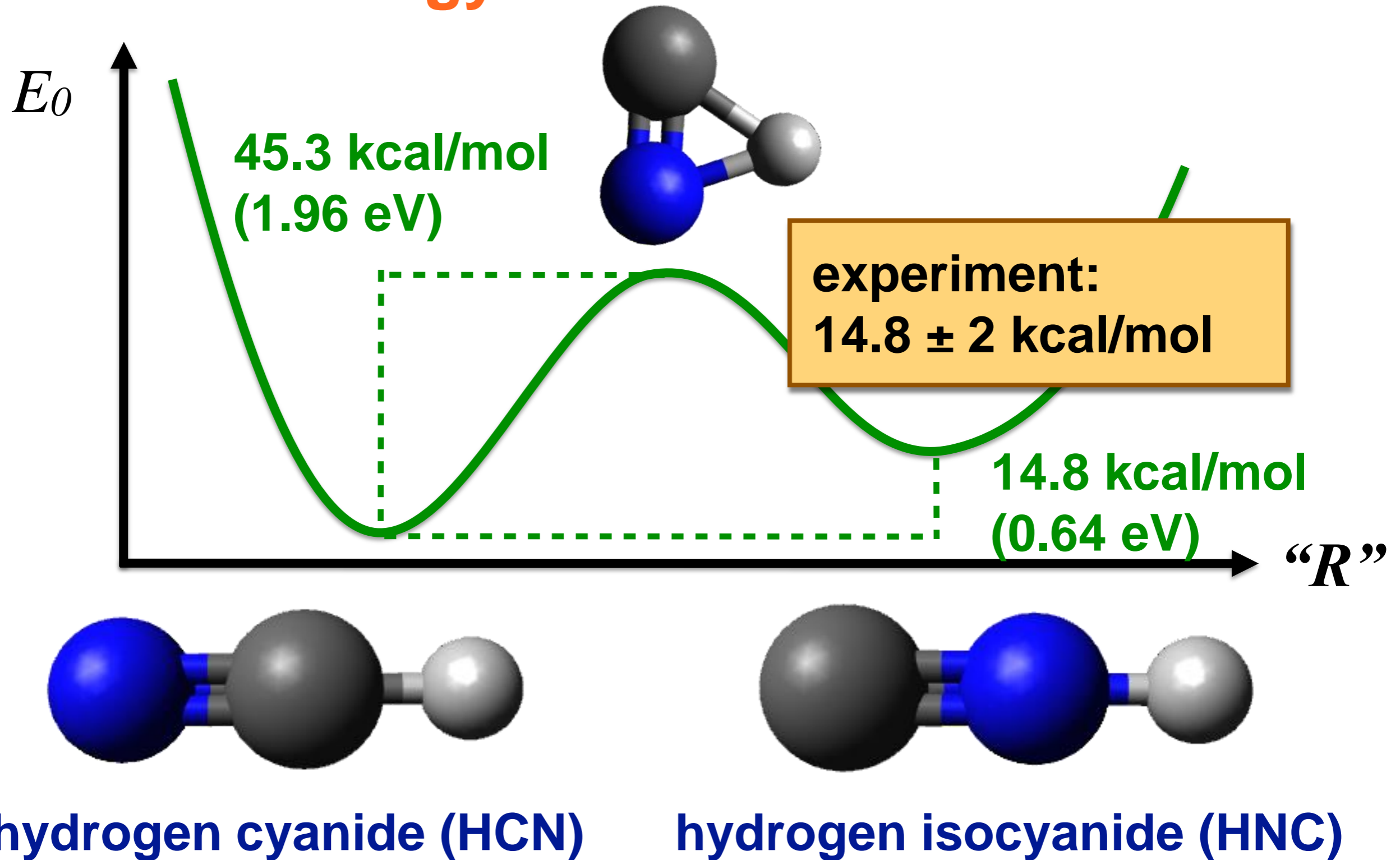


hydrogen cyanide (HCN)



hydrogen isocyanide (HNC)

Potential energy of isomers



Free energy

In principle: we should consider free energies!

Helmholtz free energy*:

$$F = E - TS$$

*In reaction, we have given number of particles and size. (NVT)

Free energy

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Helmholtz free energy:

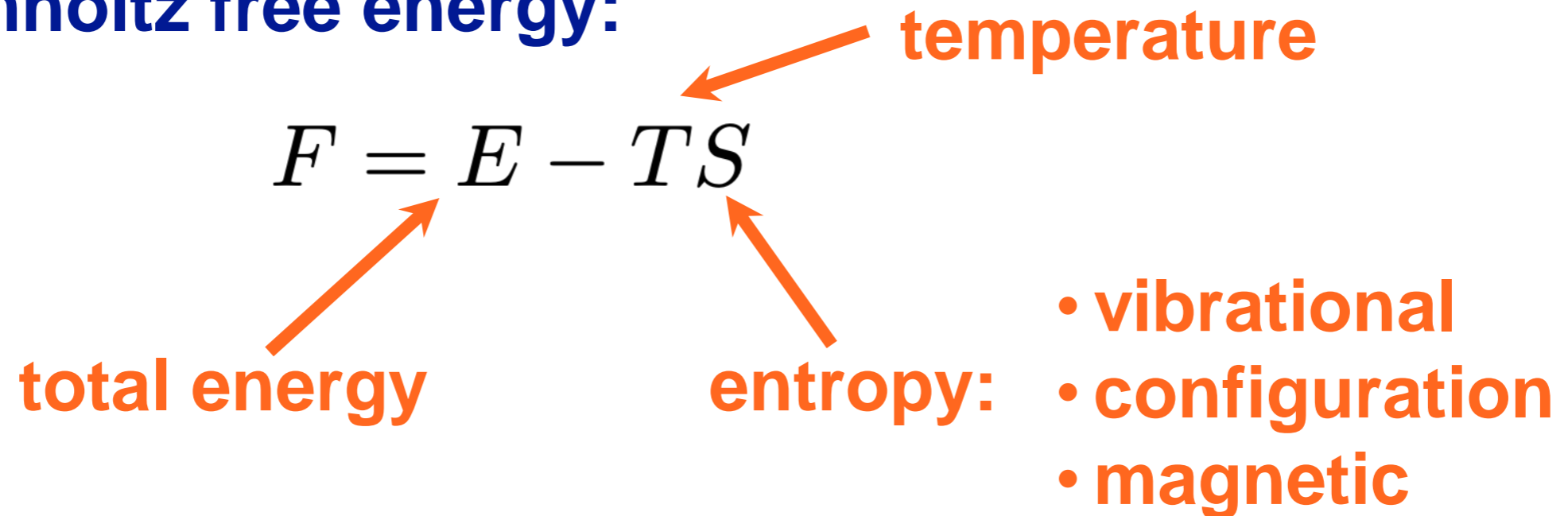
$$F = E - TS$$

total energy

temperature

entropy:

- vibrational
- configuration
- magnetic



Free energy

In principle: we should consider free energies!

Helmholtz free energy:

$$F = E - TS$$

Gibbs free energy[†]:

$$G = E - TS + pV$$

volume

pressure

[†] In reaction, we have given number of particles and pressure. (NPT)

Free energy

In principle: we should consider free energies!

Helmholtz free energy:

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volume

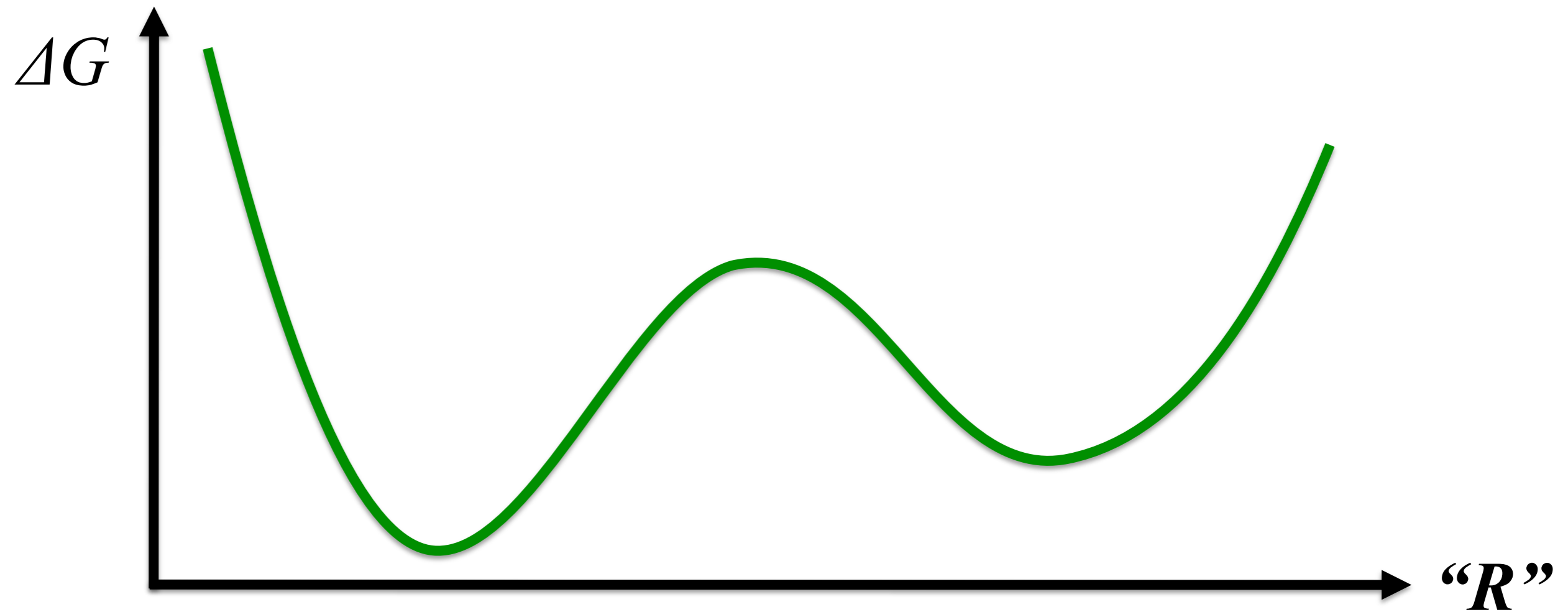
pressure

Enthalpy[‡]:

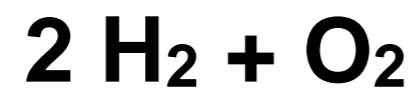
$$H = E + pV$$

[‡] In reaction, we have given number of particles, pressure (1 bar) and standard temperature 298K for reactants and products = standard heat of reaction

Chemical reactions



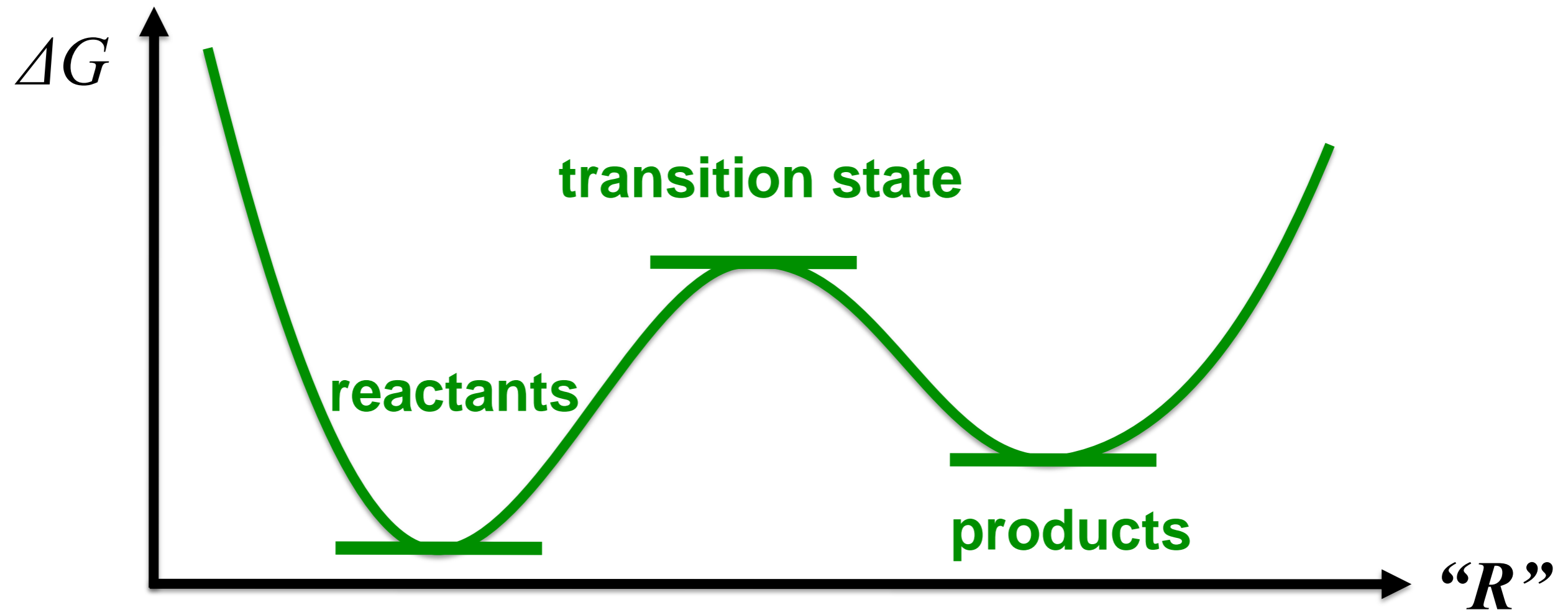
reactants:



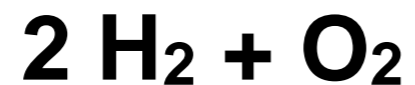
products:



Chemical reactions



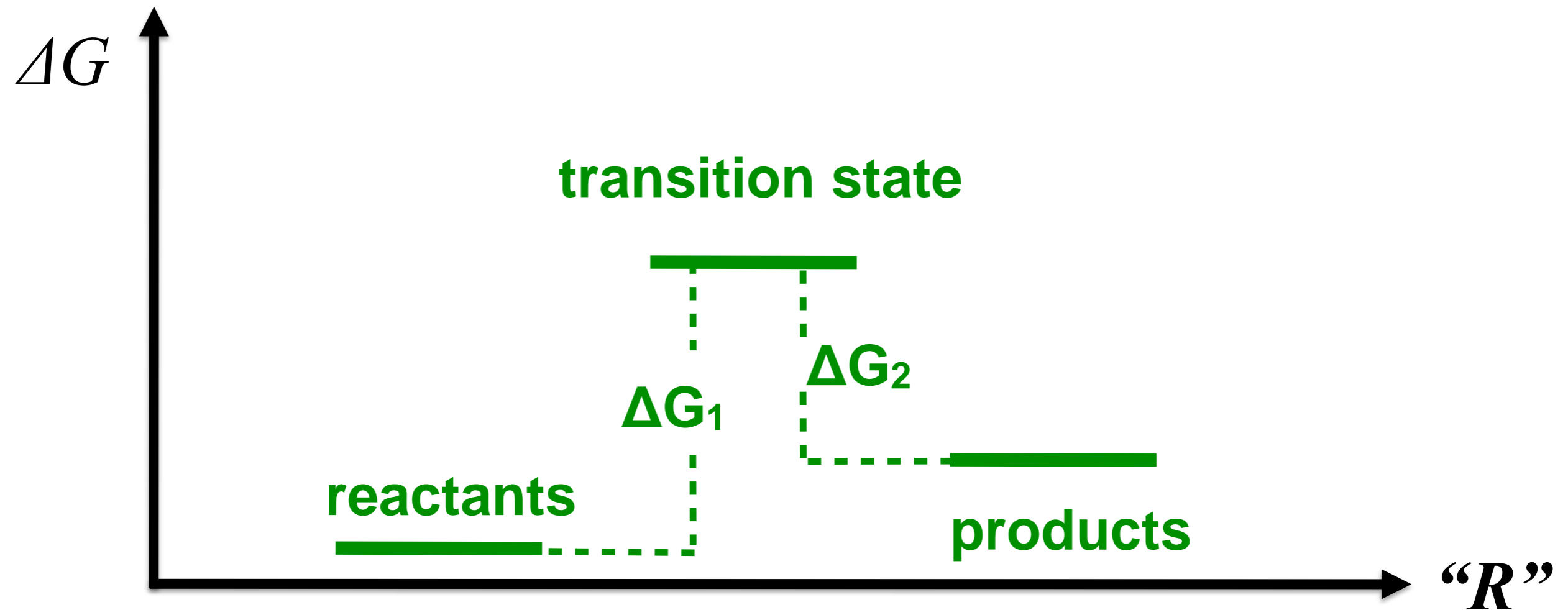
reactants:



products:



Chemical reactions



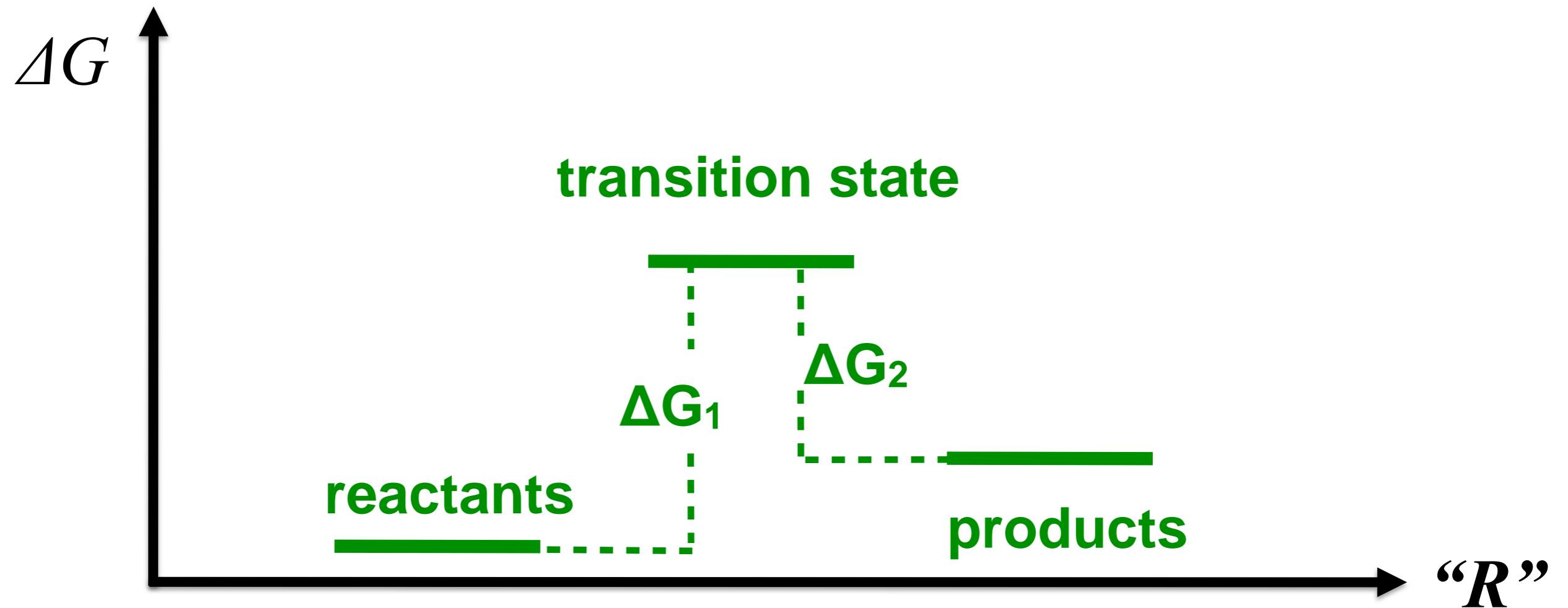
reactants:



products:



Chemical reactions

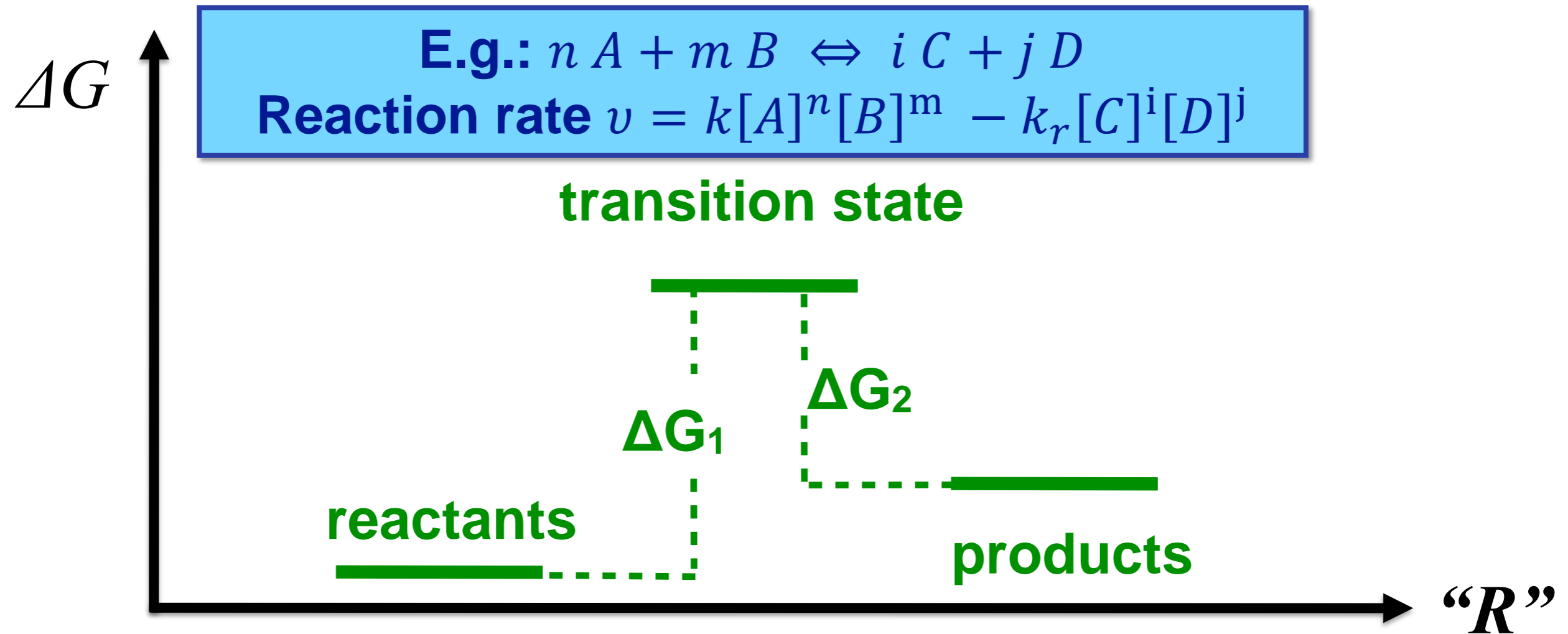


$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S \leftarrow \text{change in entropy}$$

change of enthalpy or
heat of reaction

due to bond breaking or creation

Chemical reactions



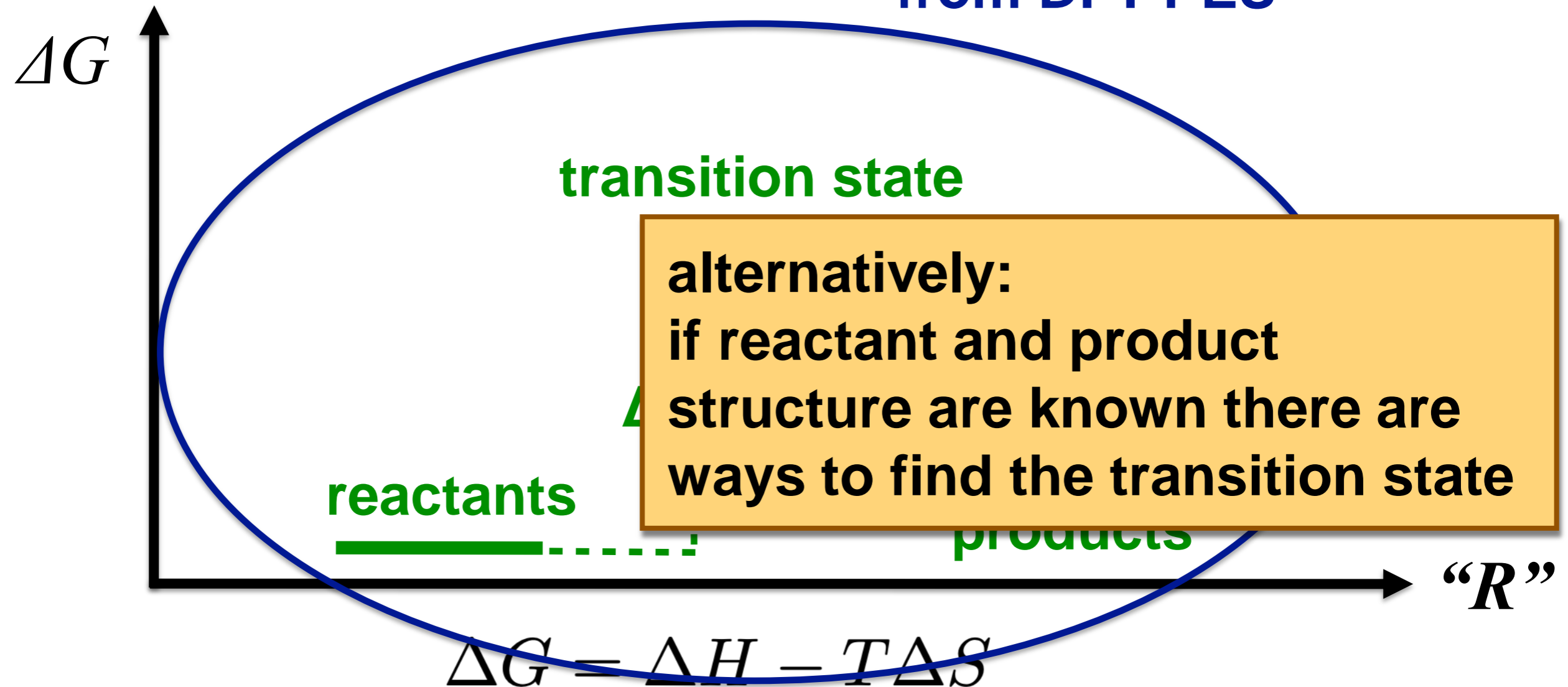
$$\Delta G = \Delta H - T\Delta S$$

$$\rightarrow k = \gamma(T)k_B T e^{\frac{\Delta G(T)}{k_B T}}$$

speed of the chemical process

Chemical reactions

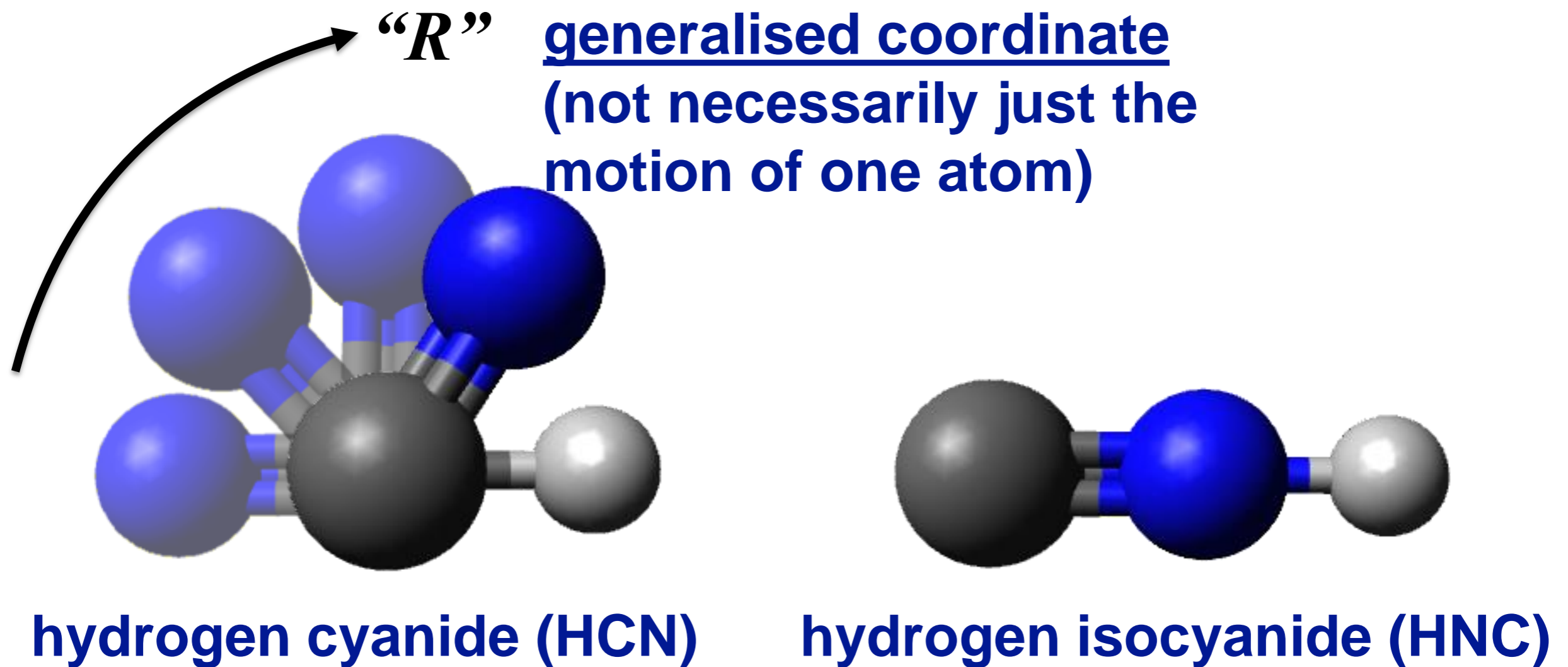
from DFT PES



alternatively:
if reactant and product
structure are known there are
ways to find the transition state

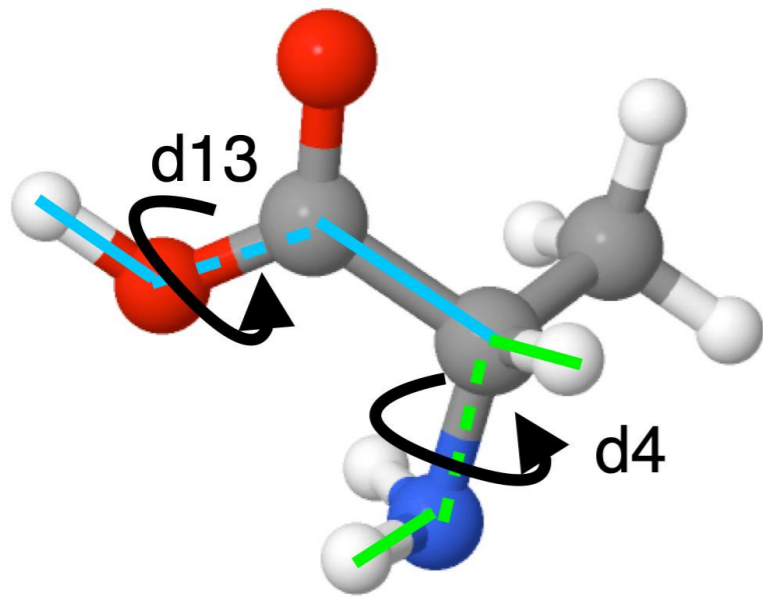
DFT $\approx \Delta H$
 $\approx \Delta E + p\Delta V$

Back to the potential energy



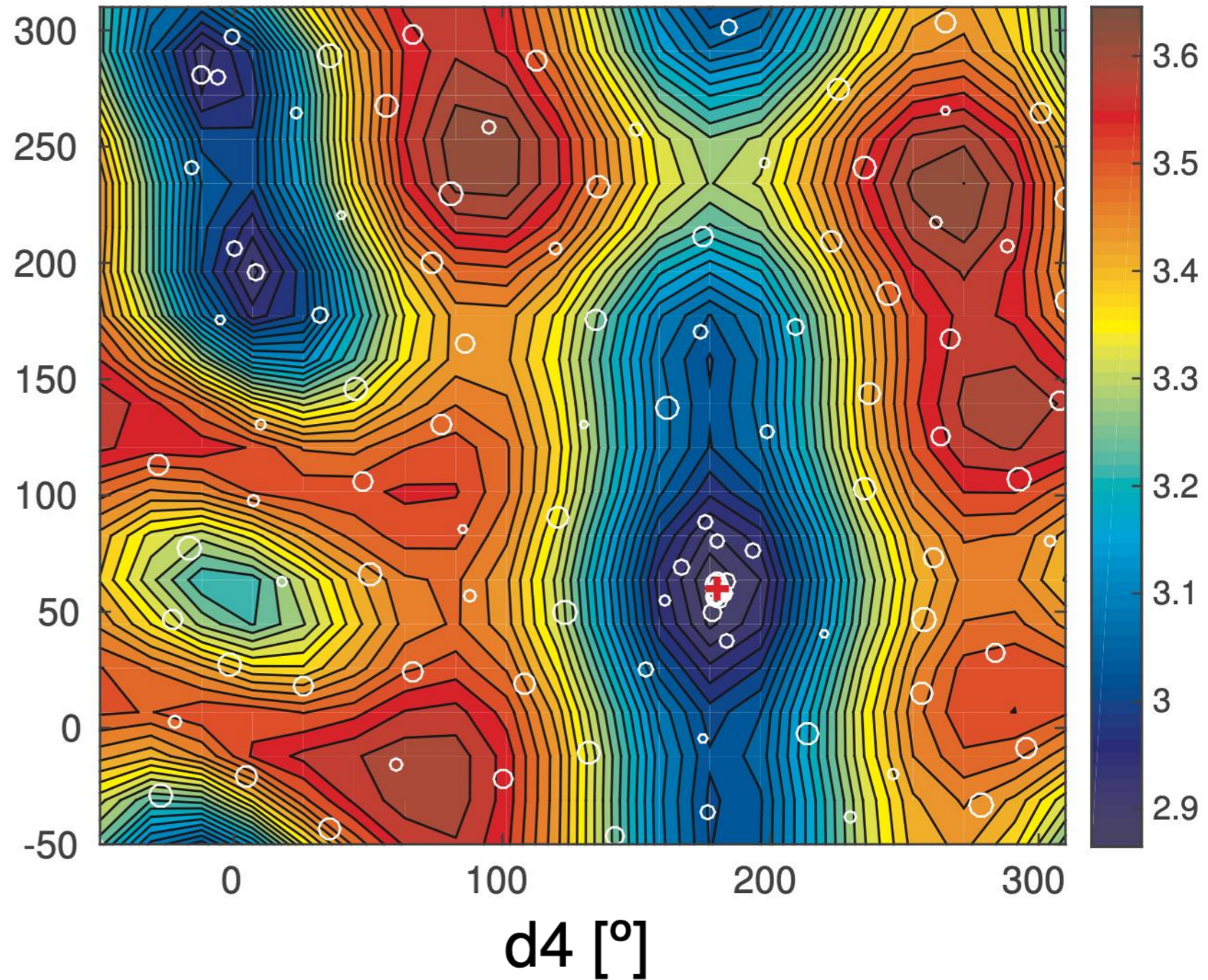
Alanine - an amino acid

kcal/
mol

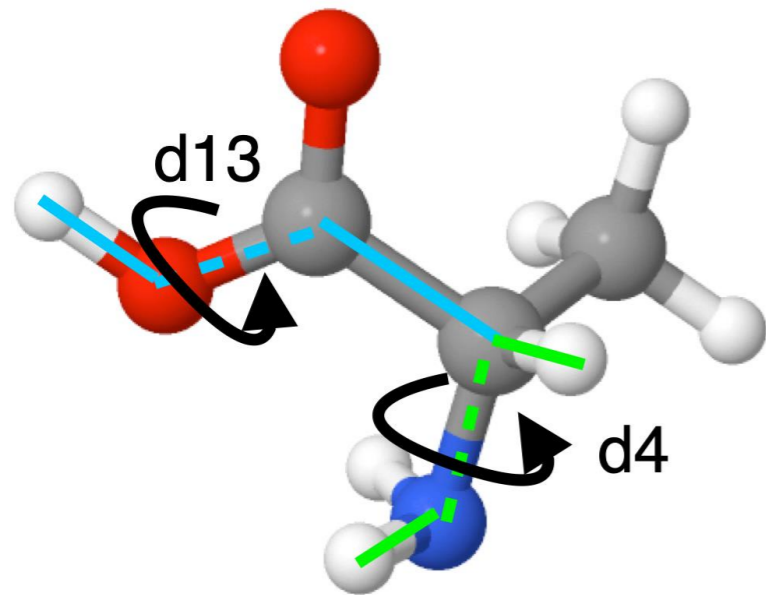


d13 [°]

potential energy
surface



Potential energy surface



$$v_{\text{ext}}(\mathbf{r}, \text{grey sphere, grey sphere, red sphere, } \dots \text{, grey sphere, blue sphere})$$



density-functional theory

$$E_{\text{tot}}(\text{grey sphere, grey sphere, red sphere, } \dots \text{, grey sphere, blue sphere})$$

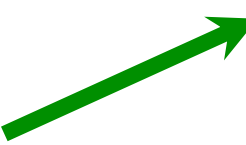
Potential energy surface (PES):

- total energy in terms of the atomic positions
- the minima are the stable conformers/isomers

Potential energy surface

Conformer:

- an isomer generated exclusively by rotations


$$E_{\text{tot}}(\text{●} \text{●} \text{●} \dots \text{●} \text{●})$$

Potential energy surface (PES):

- total energy in terms of the atomic positions
- the minima are the stable conformers/isomers

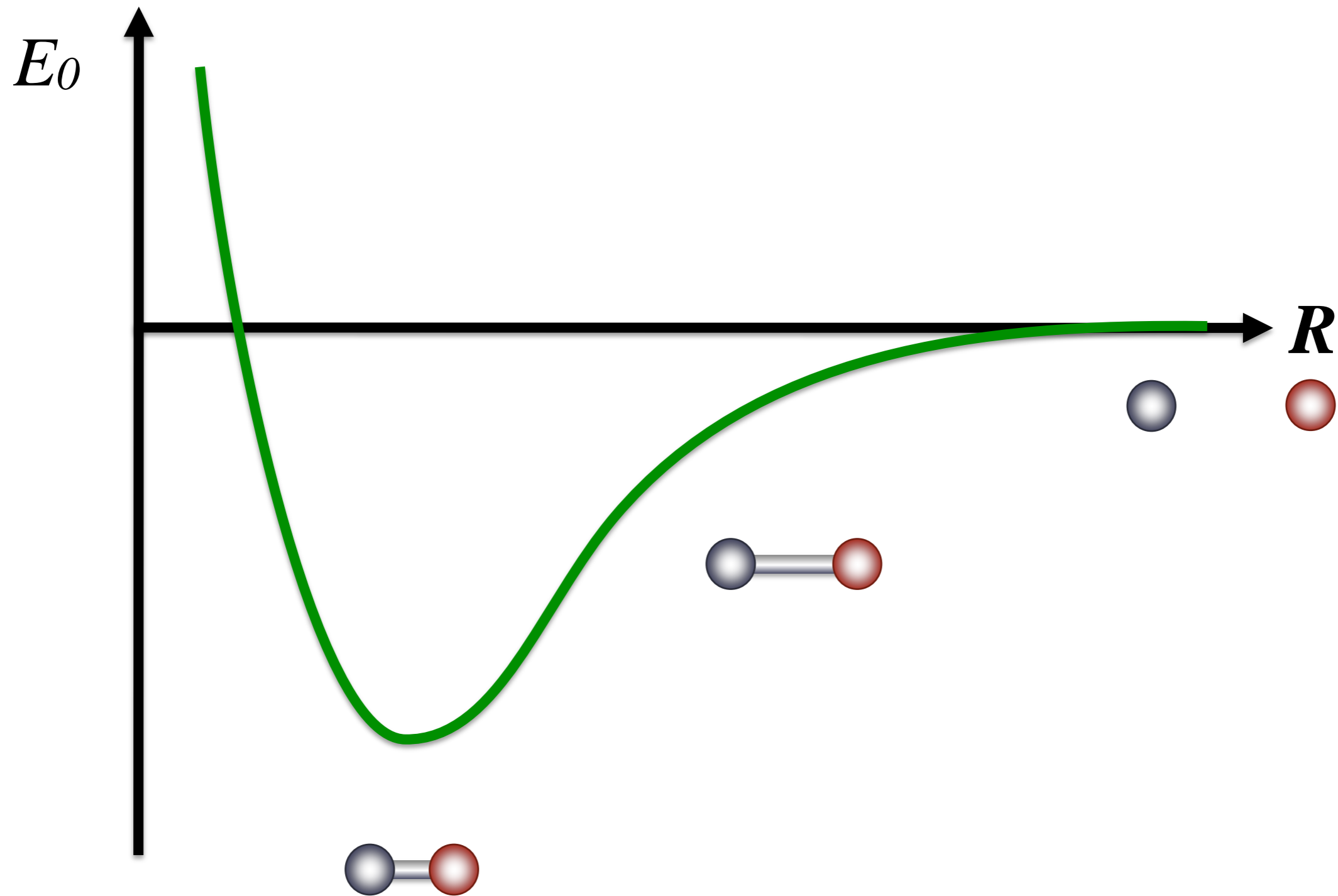
Conformers of alanine

DFT can:

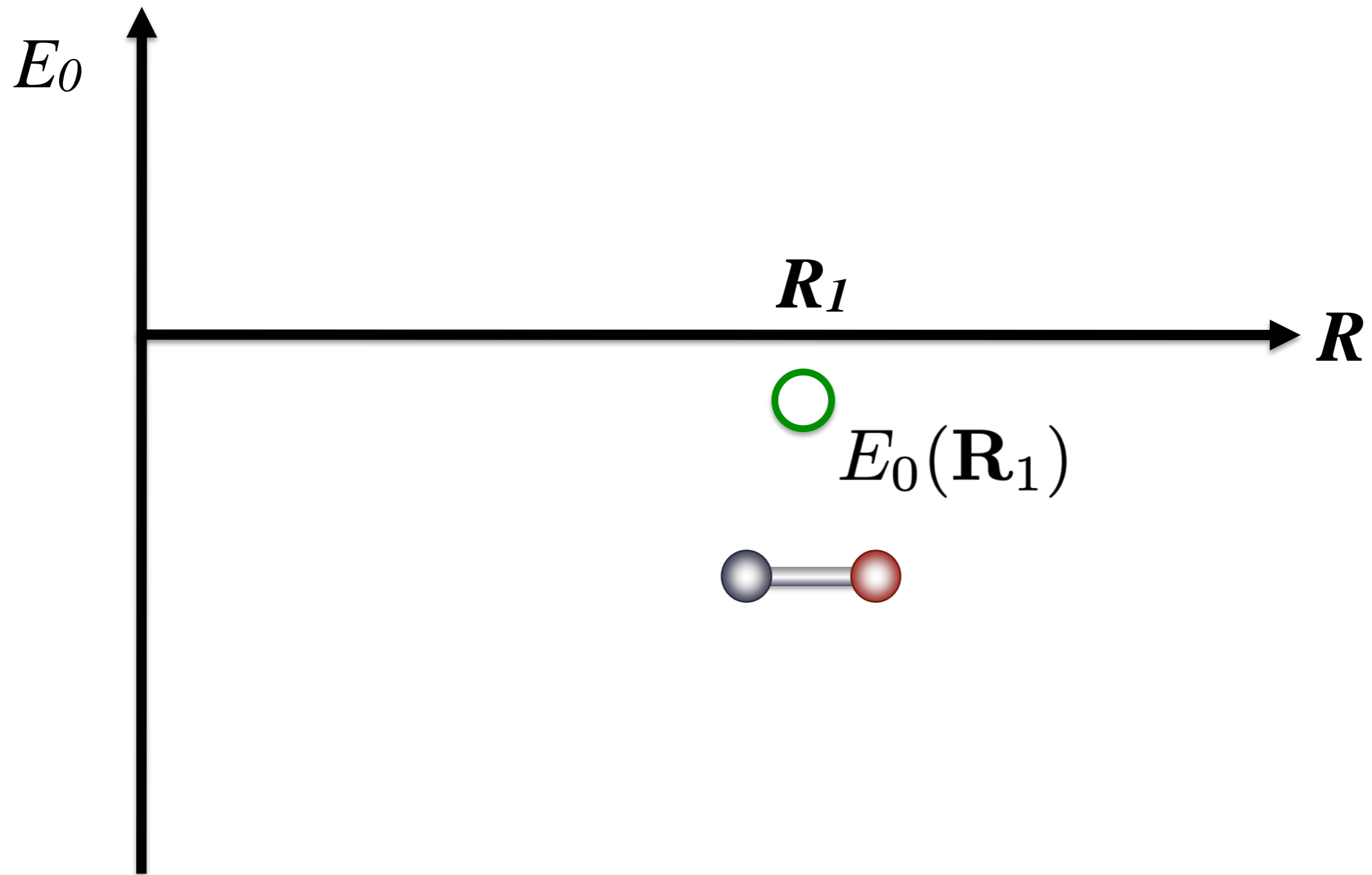
- help us generate conformers via the PES
- tell us the structure of stable conformers

How do we find the structure of the conformers?

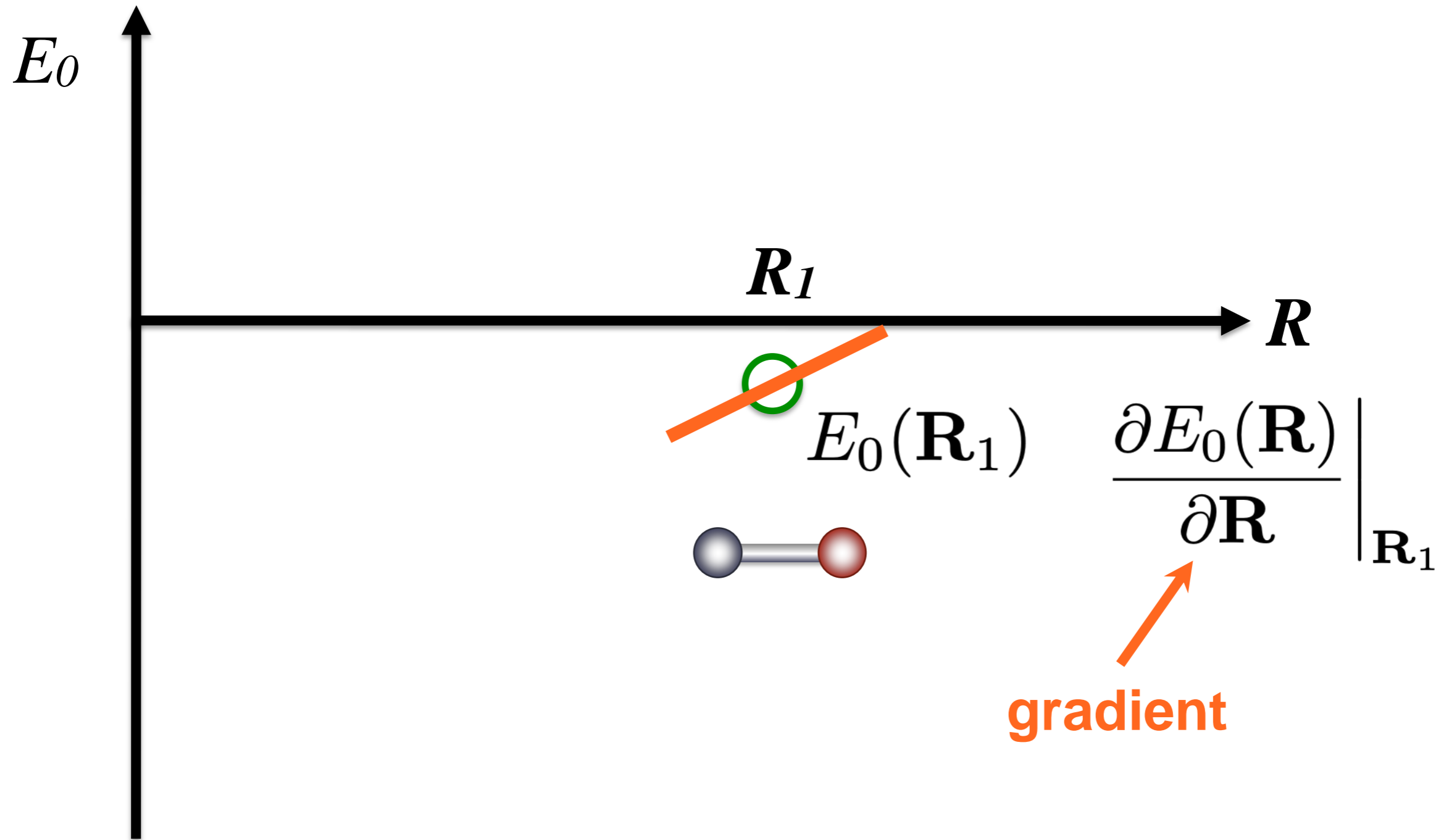
Revisit the binding energy curve



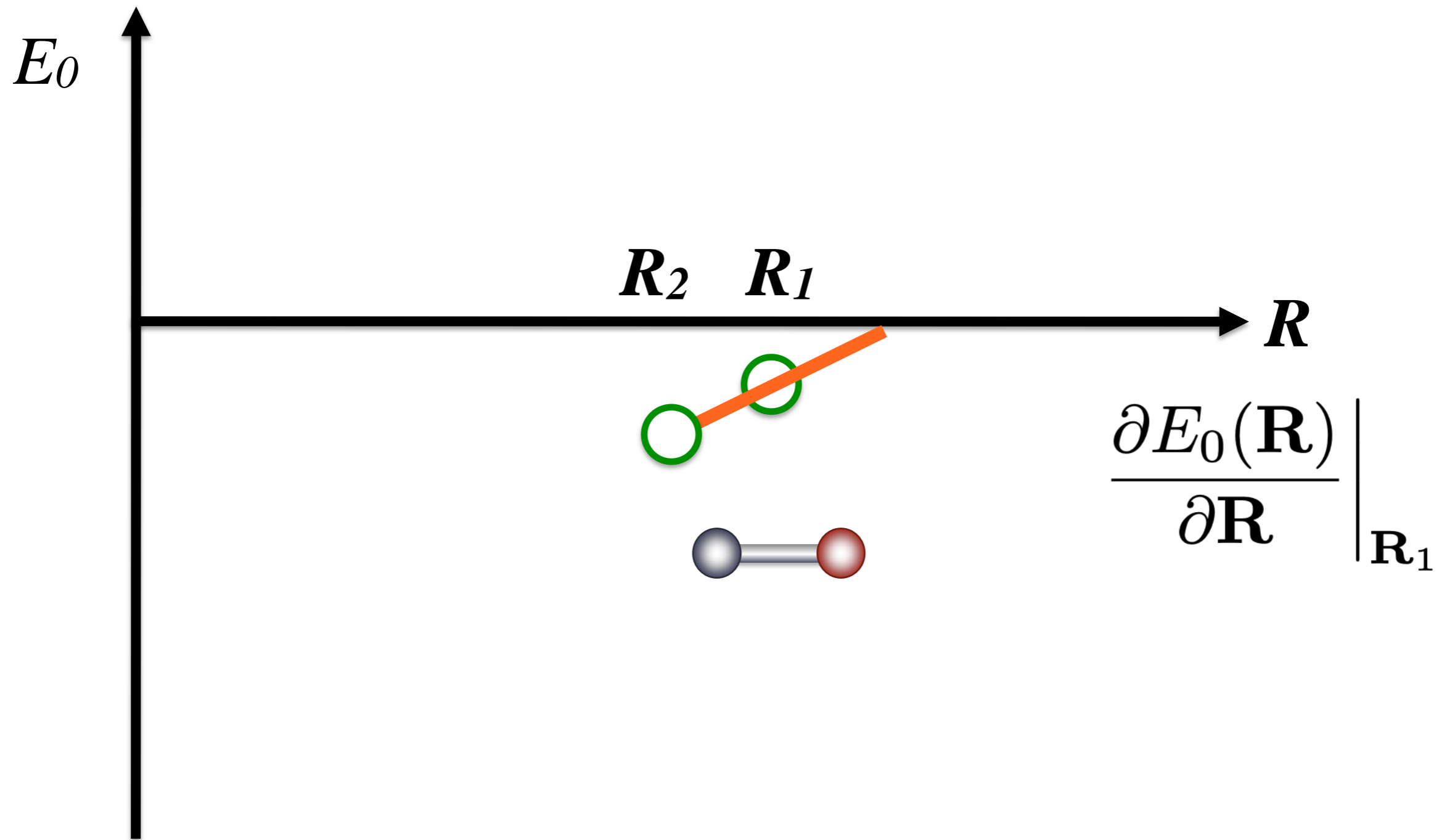
Revisit the binding energy curve



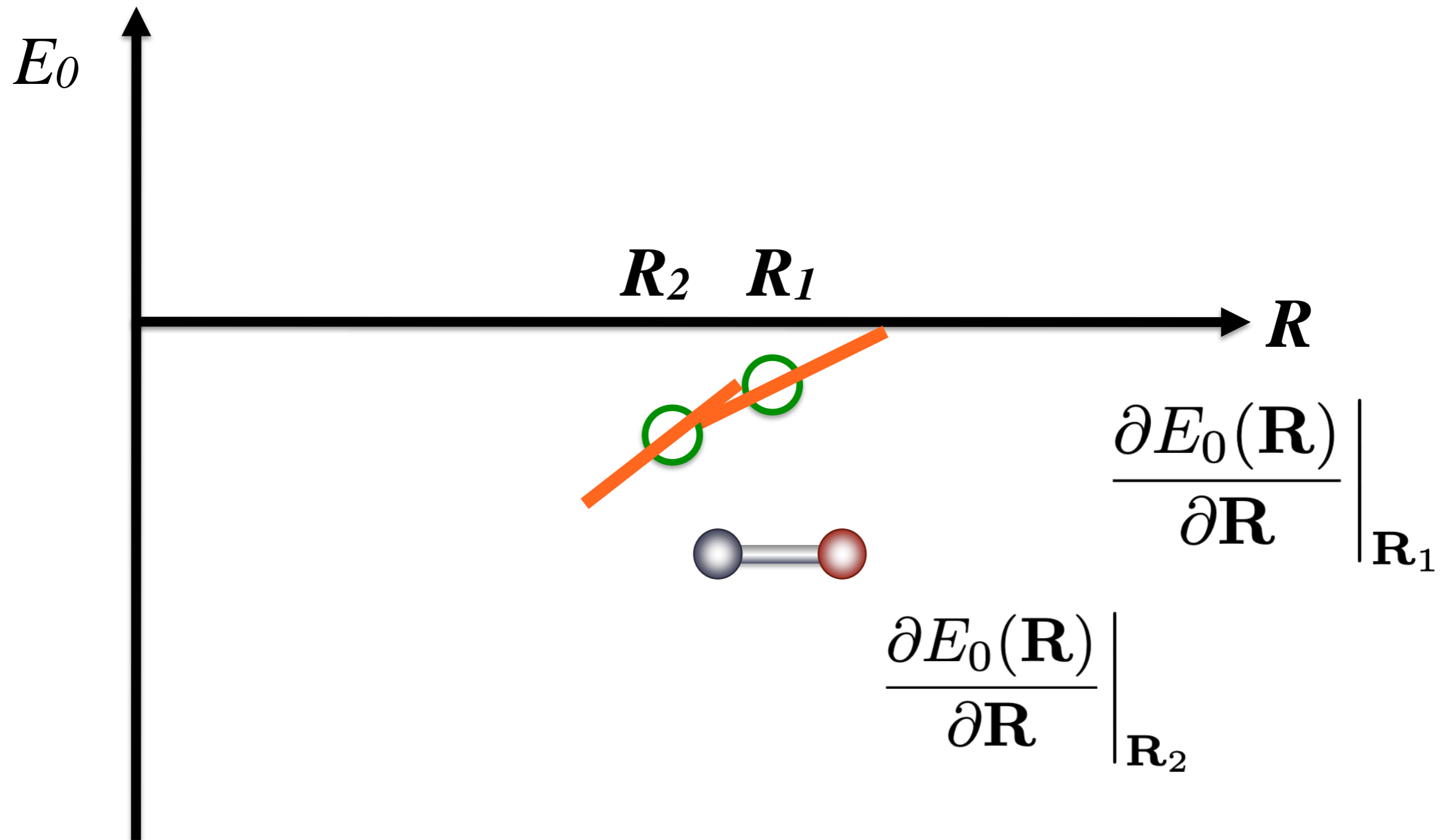
Revisit the binding energy curve



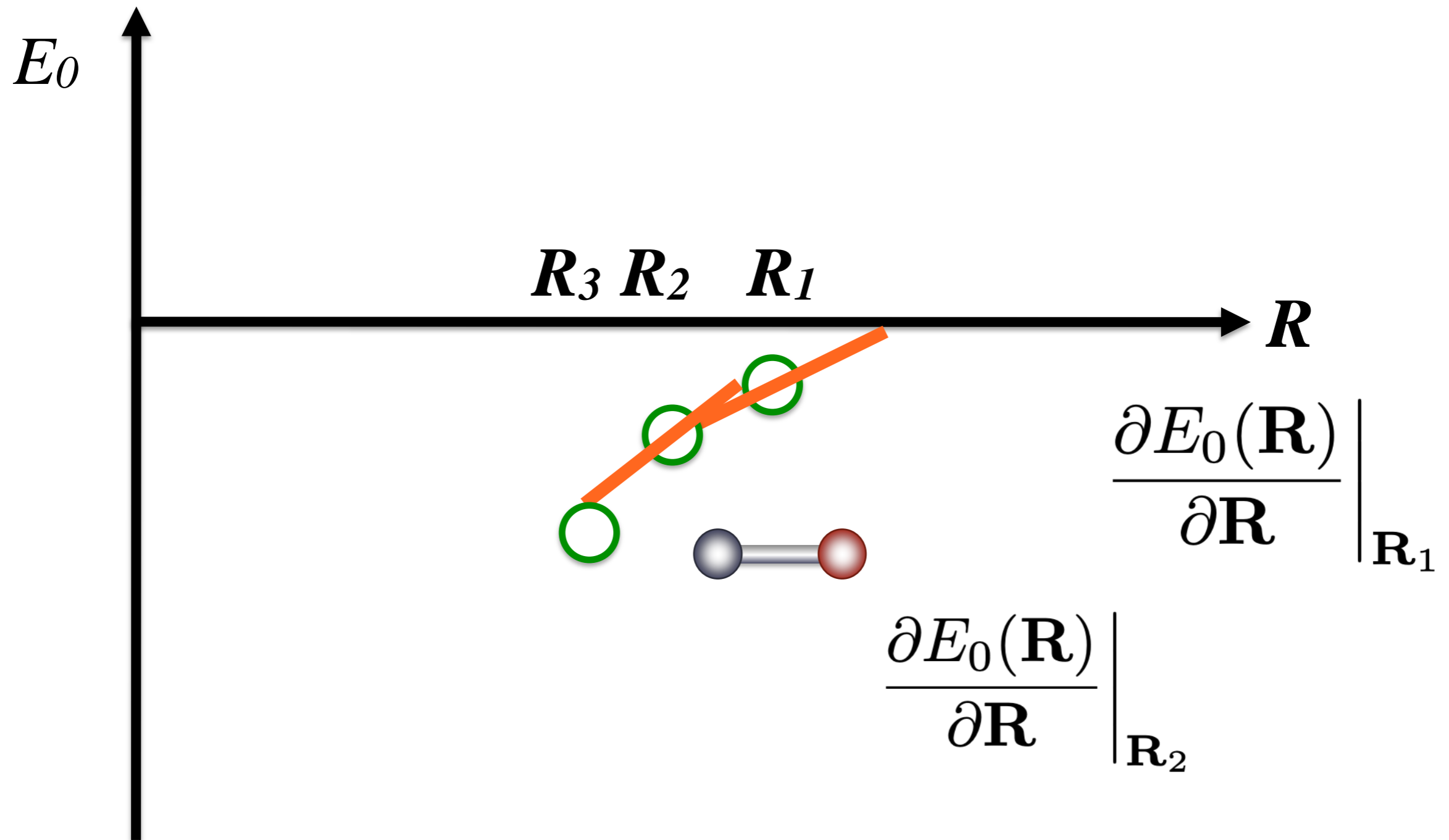
Revisit the binding energy curve



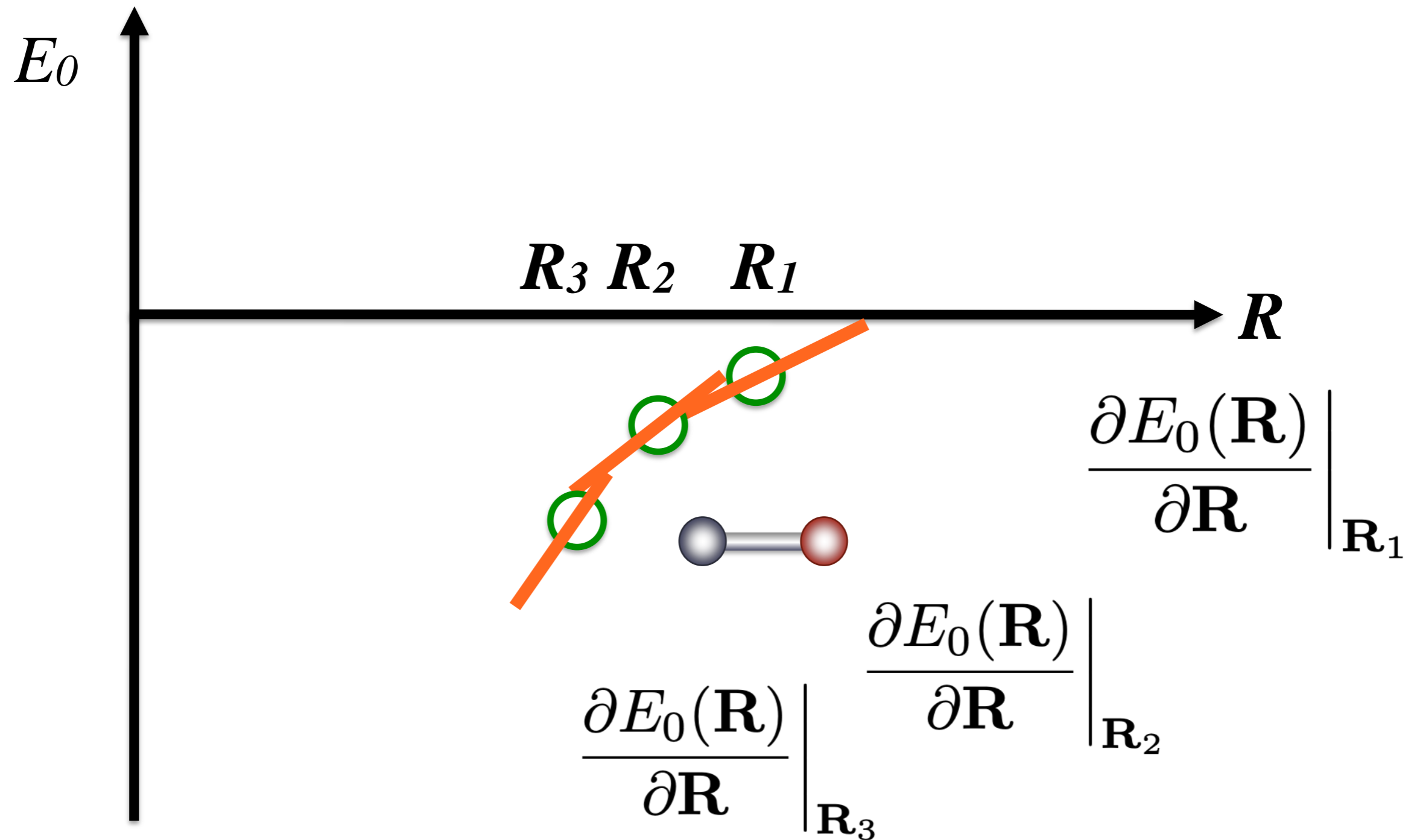
Revisit the binding energy curve



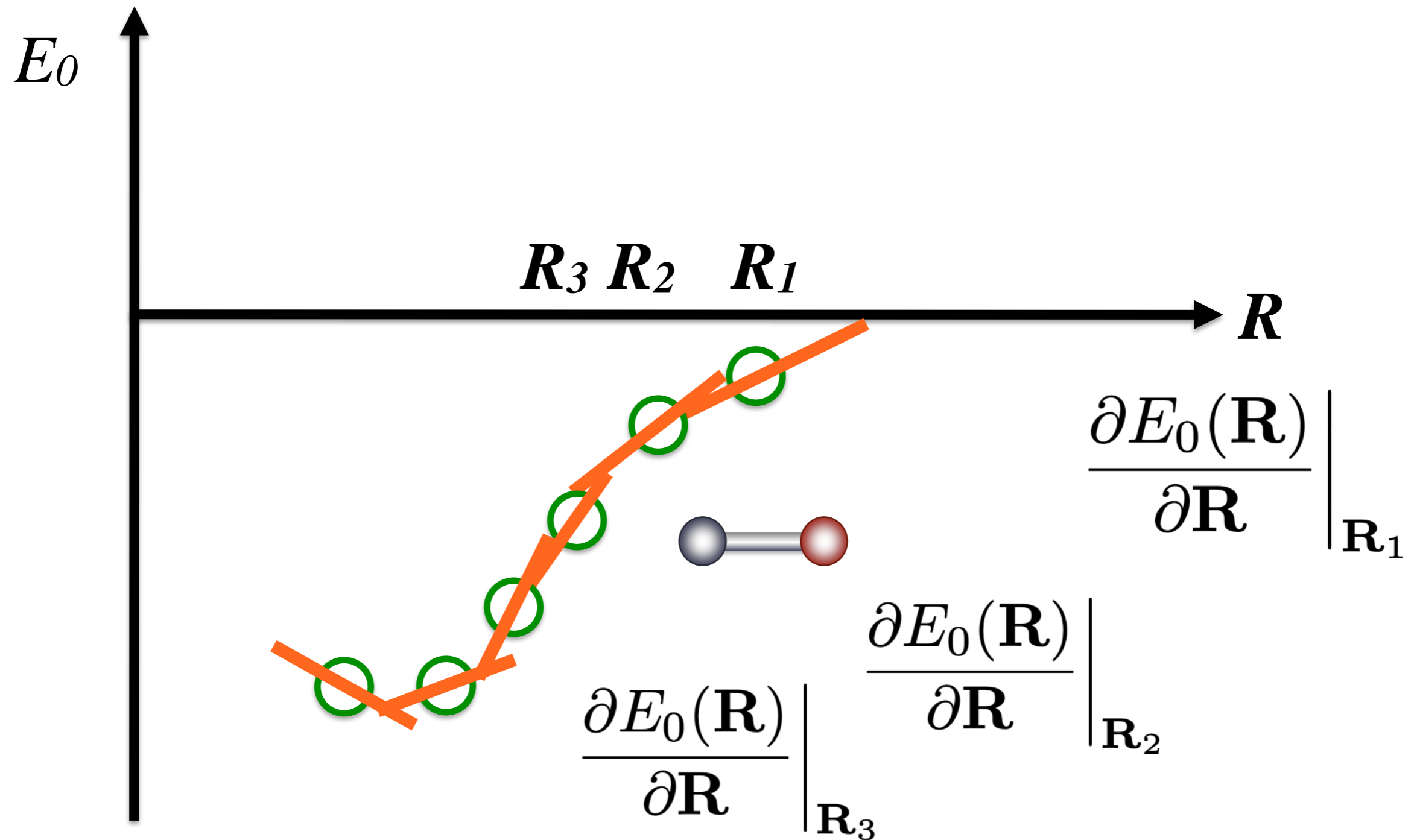
Revisit the binding energy curve



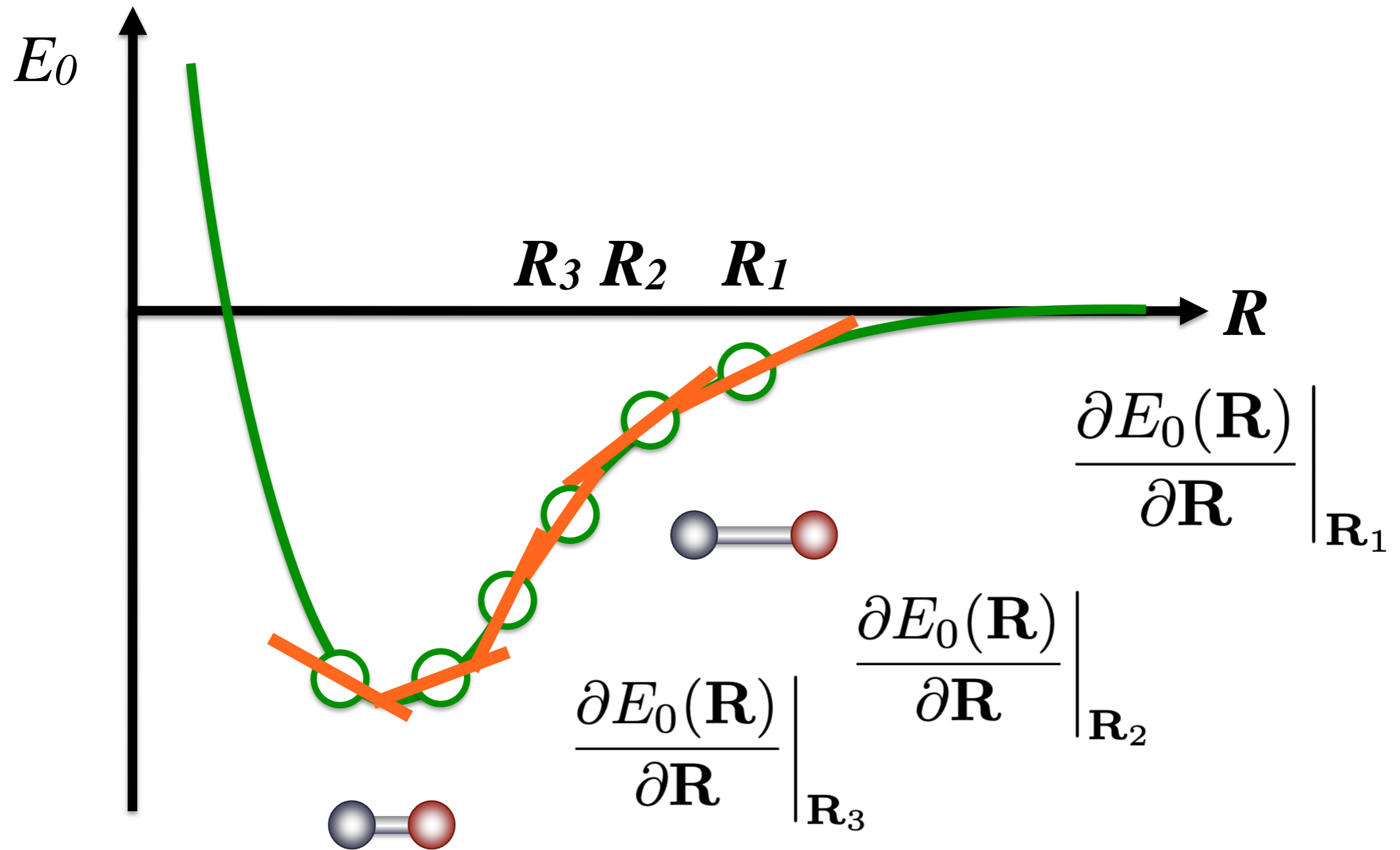
Revisit the binding energy curve



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Revisit the binding energy curve



Revisit the binding energy curve

Forces in DFT :

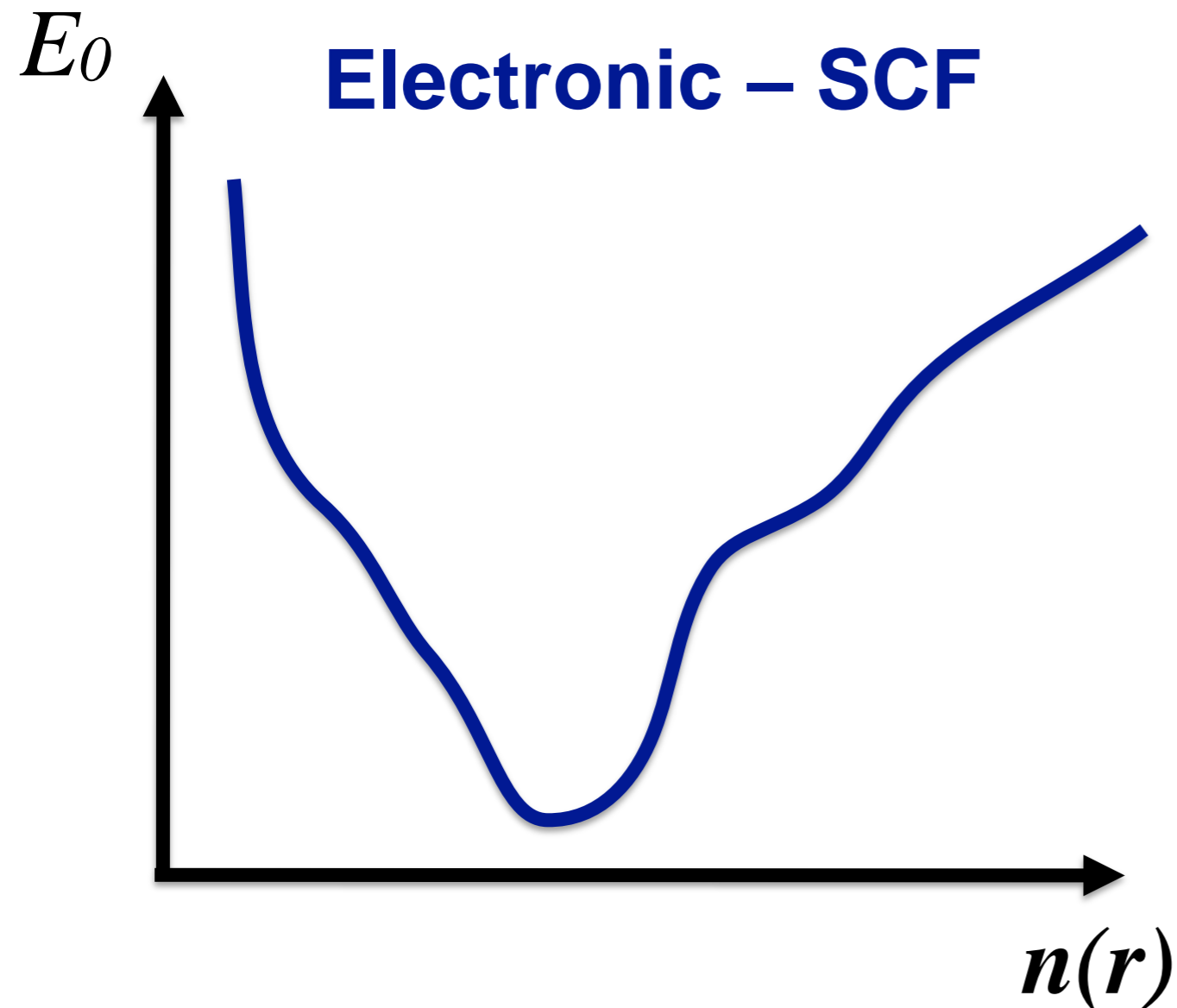
$$\mathbf{F}_I = -\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}_I} E_0$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}_I} E_0 = \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}_I} E_0^e + \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{R}_I} \sum_{I=1}^{N_n} \sum_{J>I}^{N_n} \frac{Z_I Z_J}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}'_J|}$$

Equilibrium structure:

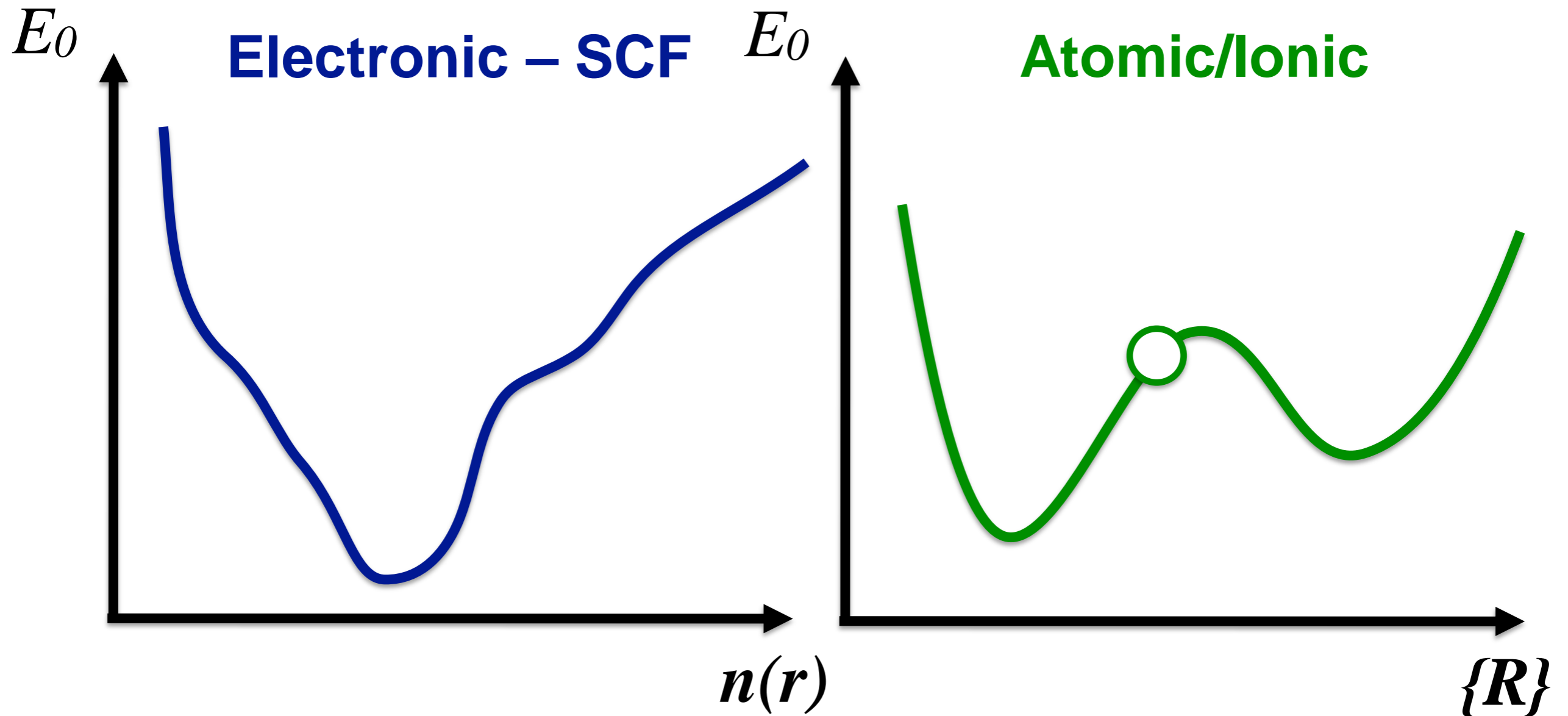
- obtained when forces are zero
- find it by moving atoms according to forces

Two minimisations in DFT structure search



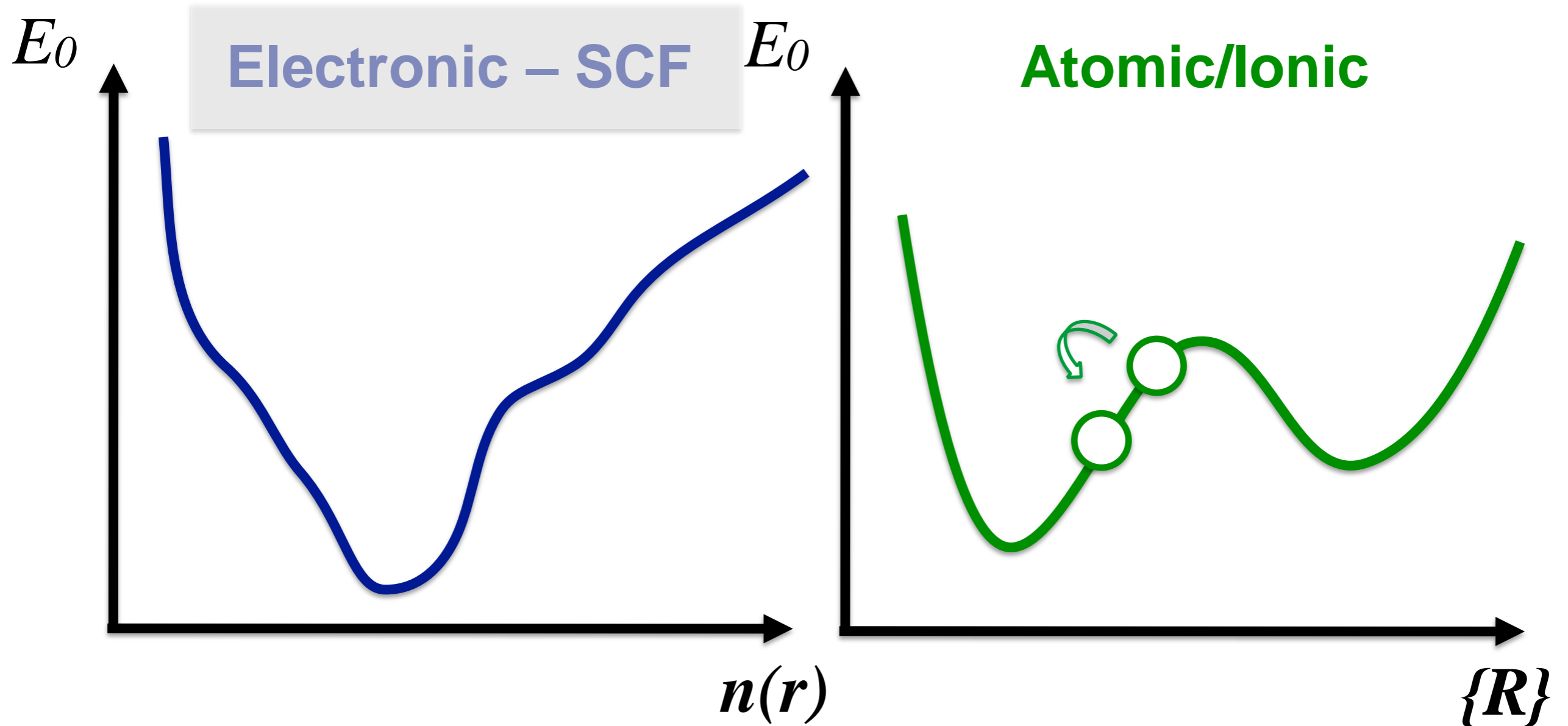
1. take input atomic positions $\{R\}$
2. minimise electronic total energy

Two minimisations in DFT structure search



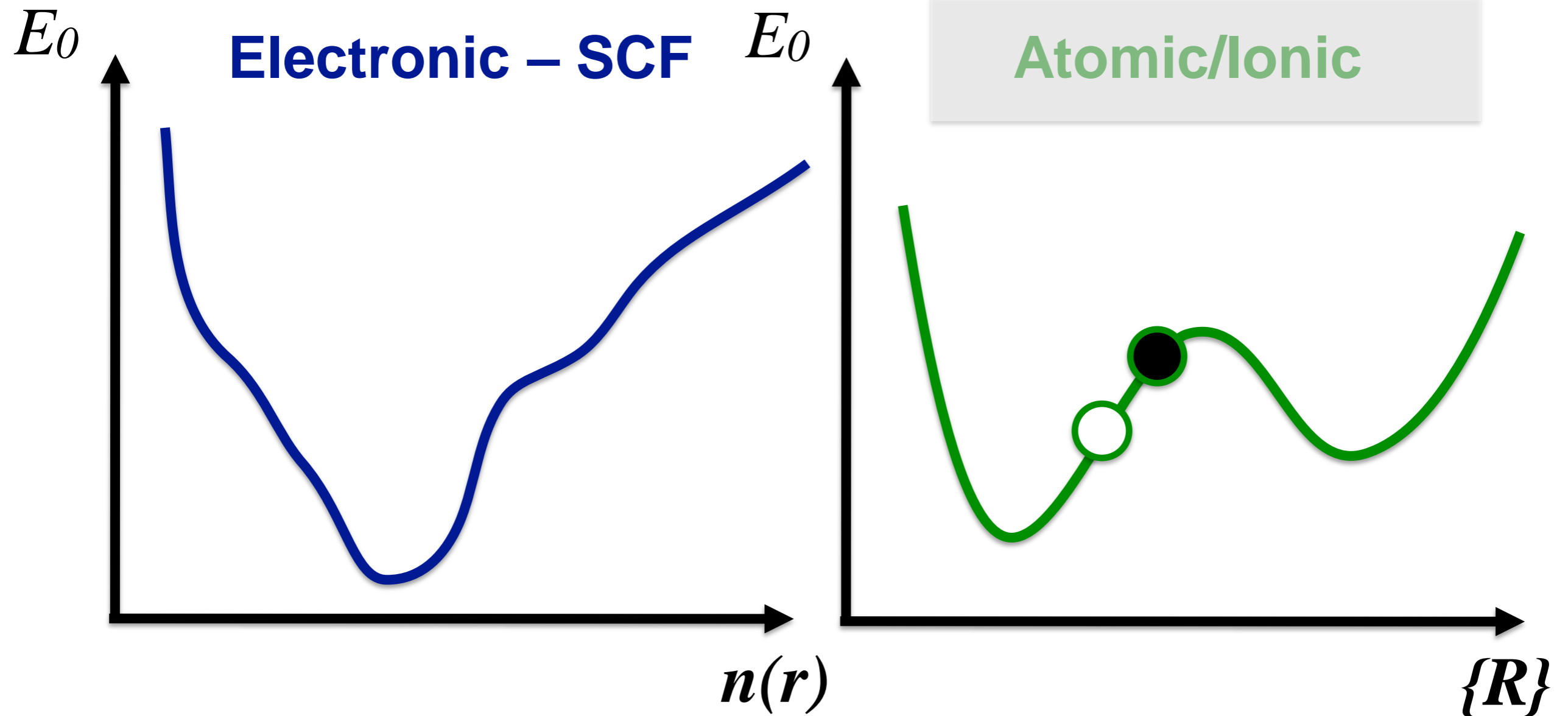
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Two minimisations in DFT structure search



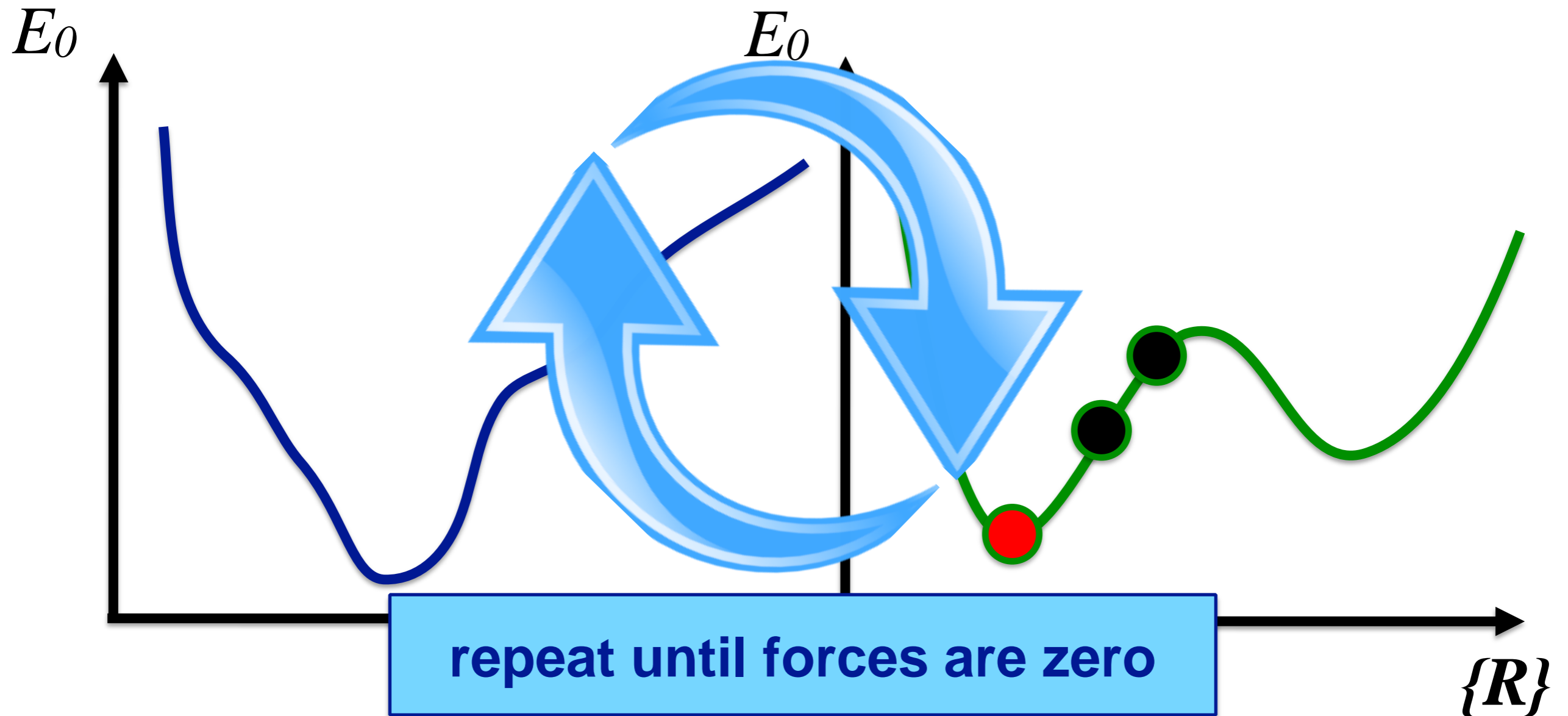
3. calculate forces
4. move atoms

Two minimisations in DFT structure search



5. new input atomic positions $\{R\}$
6. minimise electronic total energy

Two minimisations in DFT structure search



5. new input atomic positions $\{R\}$
6. minimise electronic total energy

Questions, comments, ideas?

- **Chat:** <https://preemo.aalto.fi/dftpractitioner2022>
- Some material about different types of geometry optimization methods – absolutely voluntary:
 - Atomic Simulation Environment:
<https://wiki.fysik.dtu.dk/ase/ase/optimize.html>



Molecular foundry - build your own alanine

