



*The Abdus Salam*  
**International Centre for Theoretical Physics**



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**Spring College on Computational Nanoscience**

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**Variational Principles, the Hellmann-Feynman Theorem, Density Functional Theory and Applications**

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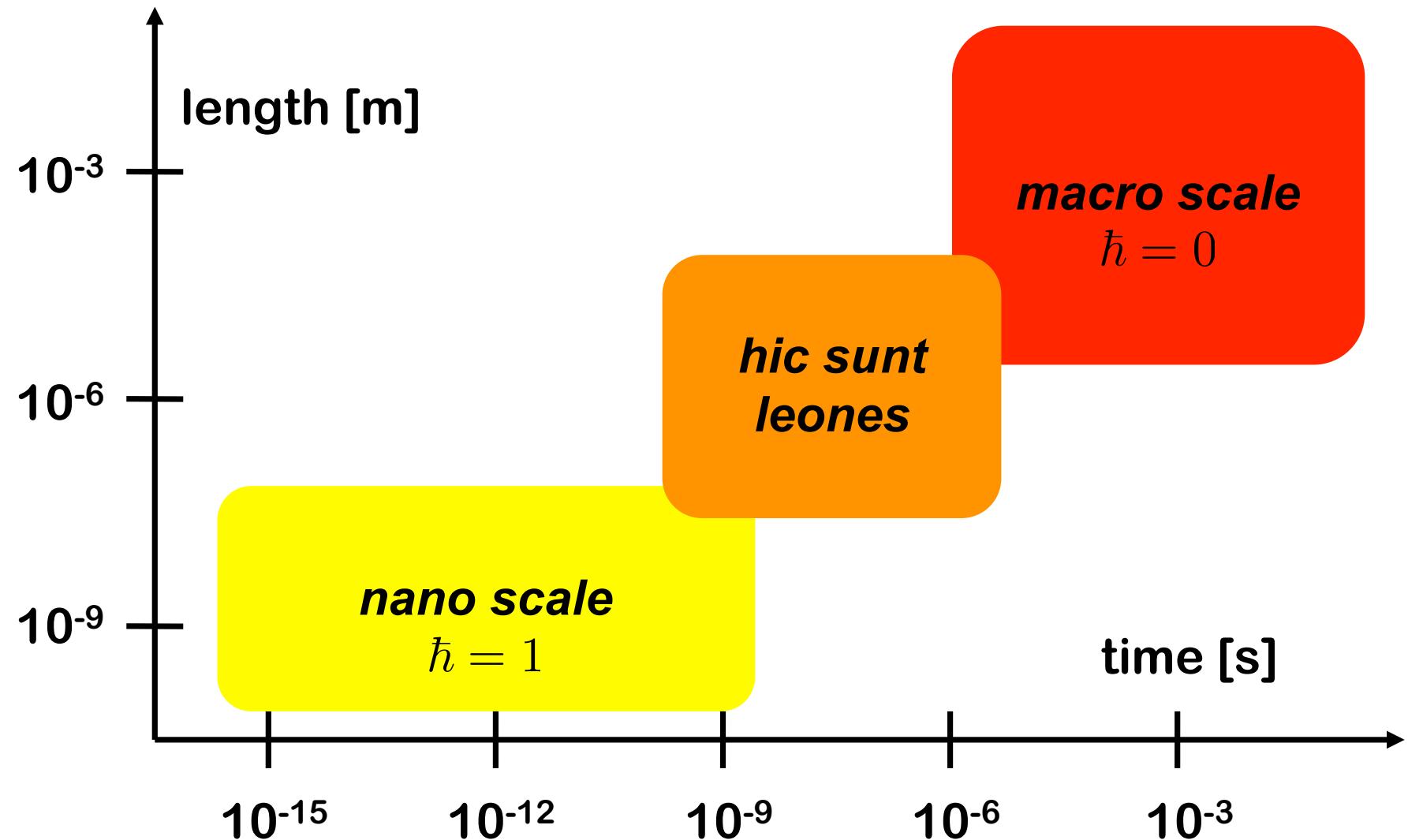
# variational principles, the Hellmann-Feynman theorem, density-functional theory

Stefano Baroni

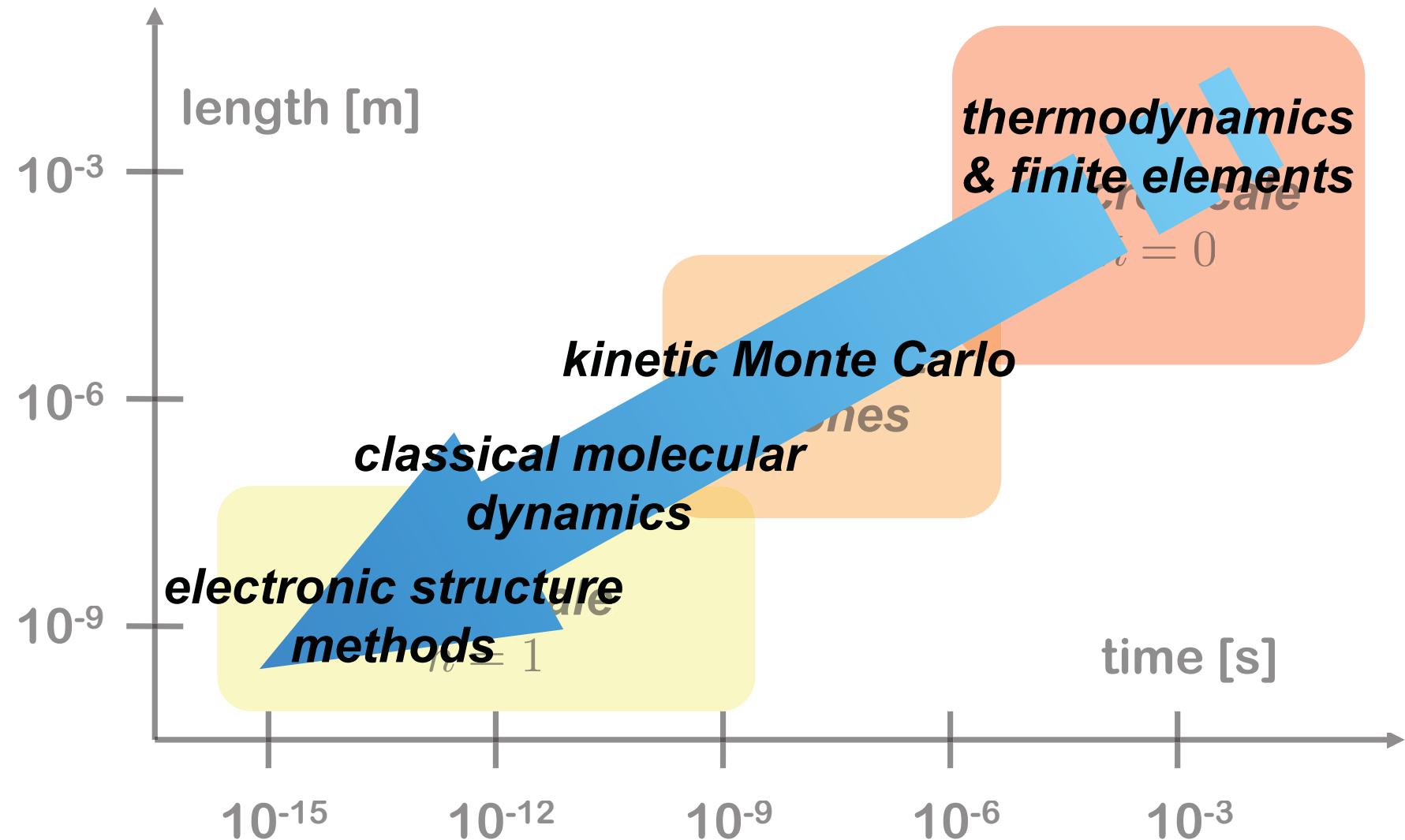
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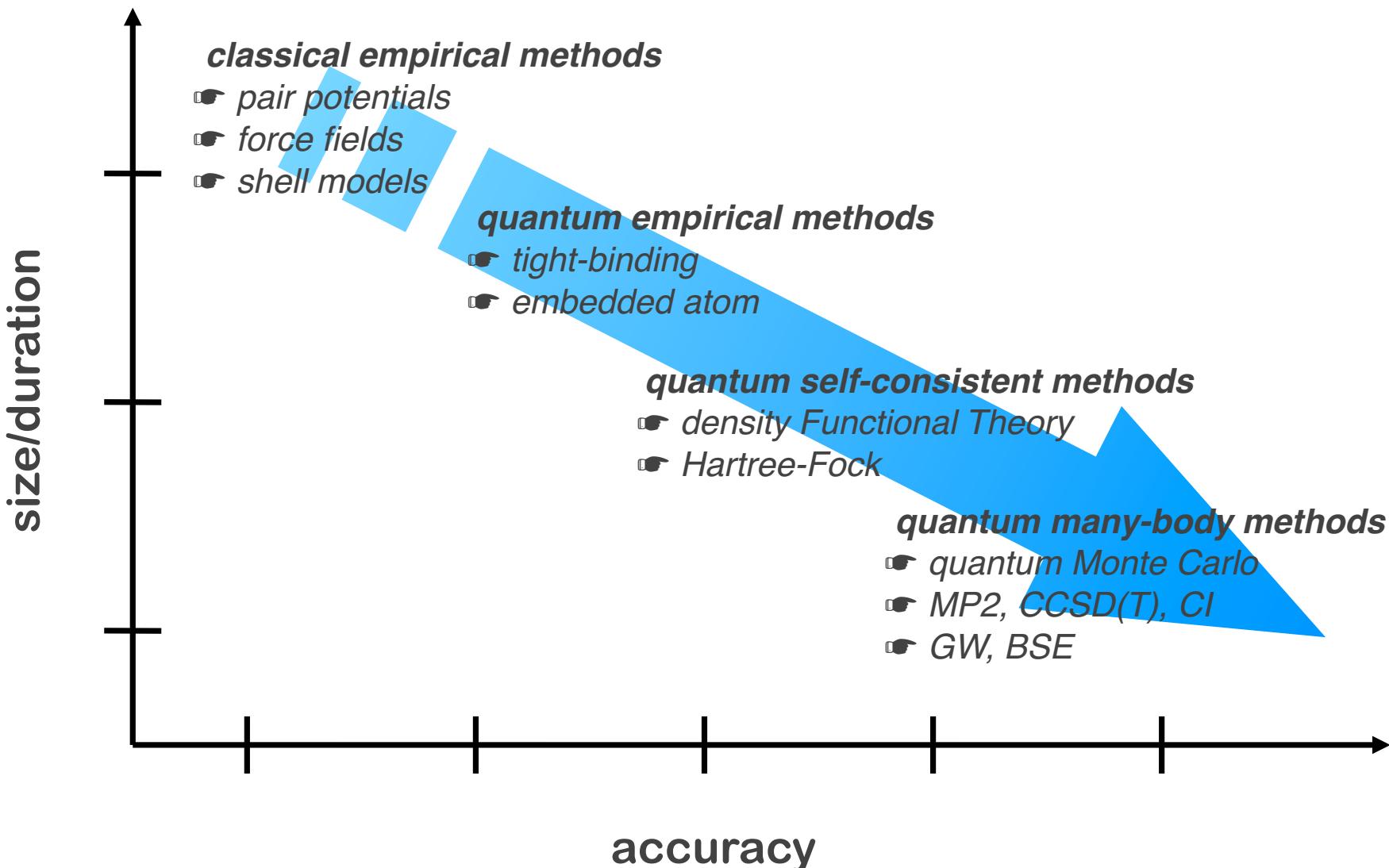
# the saga of time and length scales



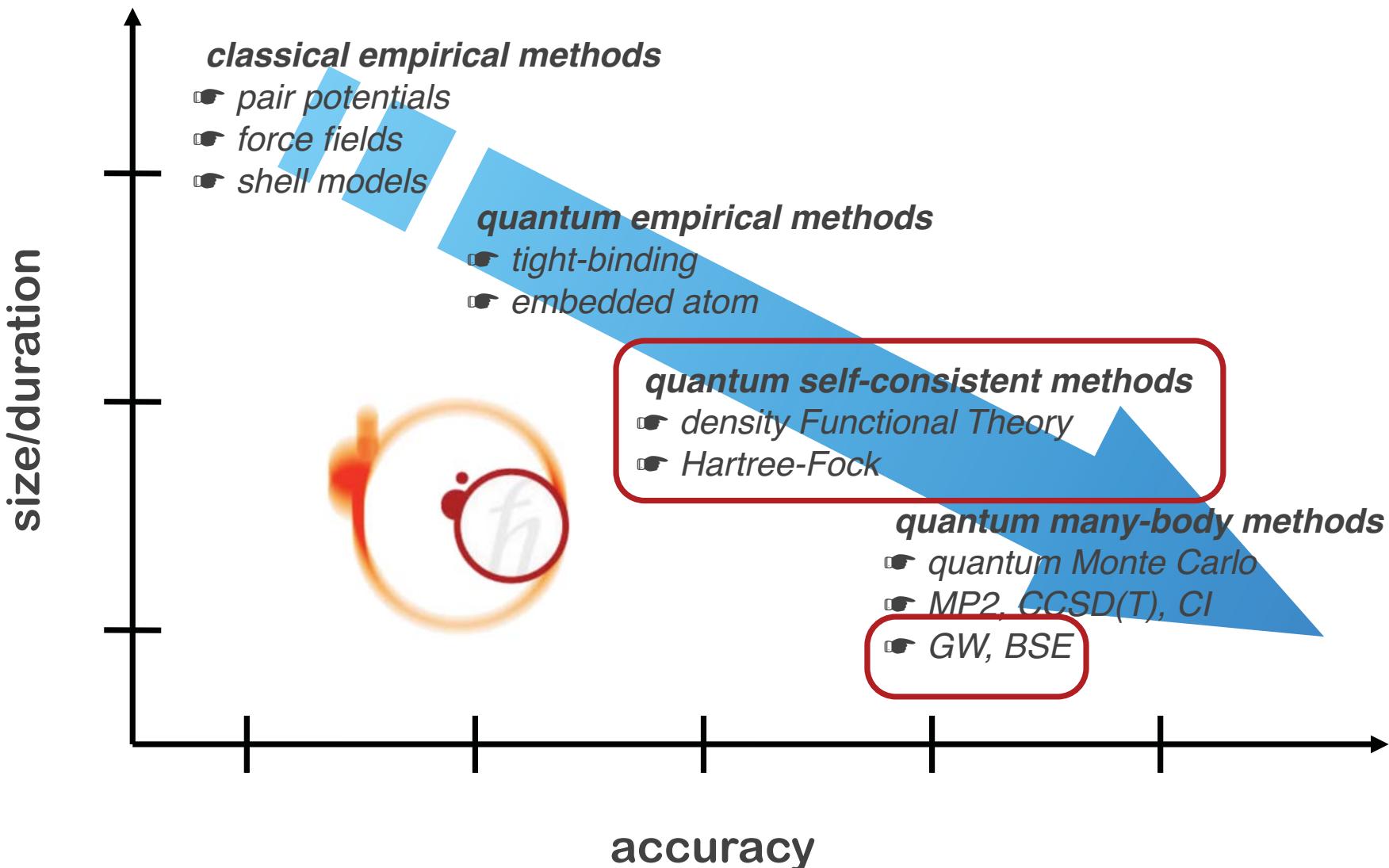
# the saga of time and length scales



# size vs. accuracy



# size vs. accuracy



# ab initio simulations

$$i\hbar \frac{\partial \Phi(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}; t)}{\partial t} = \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2M} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{R}^2} - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{r}^2} + V(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) \right) \Phi(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}; t)$$

The Born-Oppenheimer approximation ( $M \gg m$ )

$$\begin{aligned} M \ddot{\mathbf{R}} &= -\frac{\partial E(\mathbf{R})}{\partial \mathbf{R}} \\ \left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{r}^2} + V(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) \right) \Psi(\mathbf{r}|\mathbf{R}) &= E(\mathbf{R}) \Psi(\mathbf{r}|\mathbf{R}) \end{aligned}$$

# density-functional theory

$$V(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \frac{e^2}{2} \frac{Z_I Z_J}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|} - \frac{Z_I e^2}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{R}_I|} + \frac{e^2}{2} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|}$$

# density-functional theory

$$V(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) = \frac{e^2}{2} \frac{Z_I Z_J}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|} - \frac{Z_I e^2}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{R}_I|} + \frac{e^2}{2} \frac{1}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|}$$

↓ DFT

$$V(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) \rightarrow \frac{e^2}{2} \frac{Z_I Z_J}{|\mathbf{R}_I - \mathbf{R}_J|} + v_{[\rho]}(\mathbf{r})$$

Kohn-Sham  
Hamiltonian

$$\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_v |\psi_v(\mathbf{r})|^2$$

$$\left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{r}^2} + v_{[\rho]}(\mathbf{r}) \right) \psi_v(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_v \psi_v(\mathbf{r})$$

# functionals

examples:

$$G[f] : \{f\} \mapsto \mathbb{R}$$

$$G[f] = f(x_0)$$

$$G[f] = \int_a^b f^2(x) dx$$

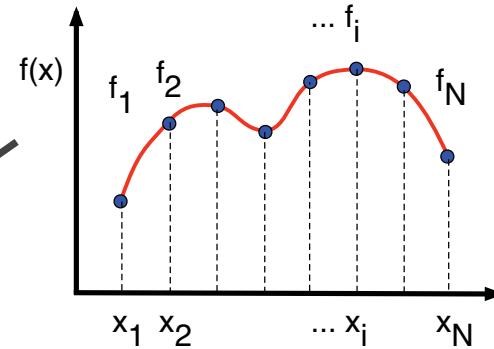
$$G[f] = \int_a^b |f'(x)|^2 dx$$

...

approximations:

$$G[f] \approx g(f_1, f_2, \dots, f_N)$$

$$G[f] \approx g(c_1, c_2, \dots, c_N)$$



$$f(x) \approx \sum_n c_n \phi_n(x)$$

# functional derivatives

$$G[f_0 + \epsilon f_1] = G[f_0] + \epsilon \int f_1(x) \left. \frac{\delta G}{\delta f(x)} \right|_{f=f_0} dx + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$$

$$\left. \frac{\delta G}{\delta f(x)} \right|_{f=f_0} \approx \frac{1}{h} \frac{\partial g}{\partial f_i}$$

$$\frac{\delta G}{\delta f(x)} \text{ “=} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{G[f(\bullet) + \epsilon \delta(\bullet - x)] - G[f(\bullet)]}{\epsilon}$$

# the Hellmann-Feynman theorem

$$\hat{H}_\lambda \Psi_\lambda = E_\lambda \Psi_\lambda$$

# the Hellmann-Feynman theorem

$$\hat{H}_\lambda \Psi_\lambda = E_\lambda \Psi_\lambda$$

$$\begin{aligned} E'_\lambda &= \frac{\partial}{\partial \lambda} \langle \Psi_\lambda | \hat{H}_\lambda | \Psi_\lambda \rangle \\ &= \langle \Psi_\lambda | \hat{H}'_\lambda | \Psi_\lambda \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$$E_\lambda = \min_{\{\Psi: \langle \Psi | \Psi \rangle = 1\}} \langle \Psi | \hat{H}_\lambda | \Psi \rangle$$

$$g(\lambda) = \min_x G[x, \lambda] \quad \longrightarrow \quad \left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} \right|_{x=x(\lambda)} = 0$$

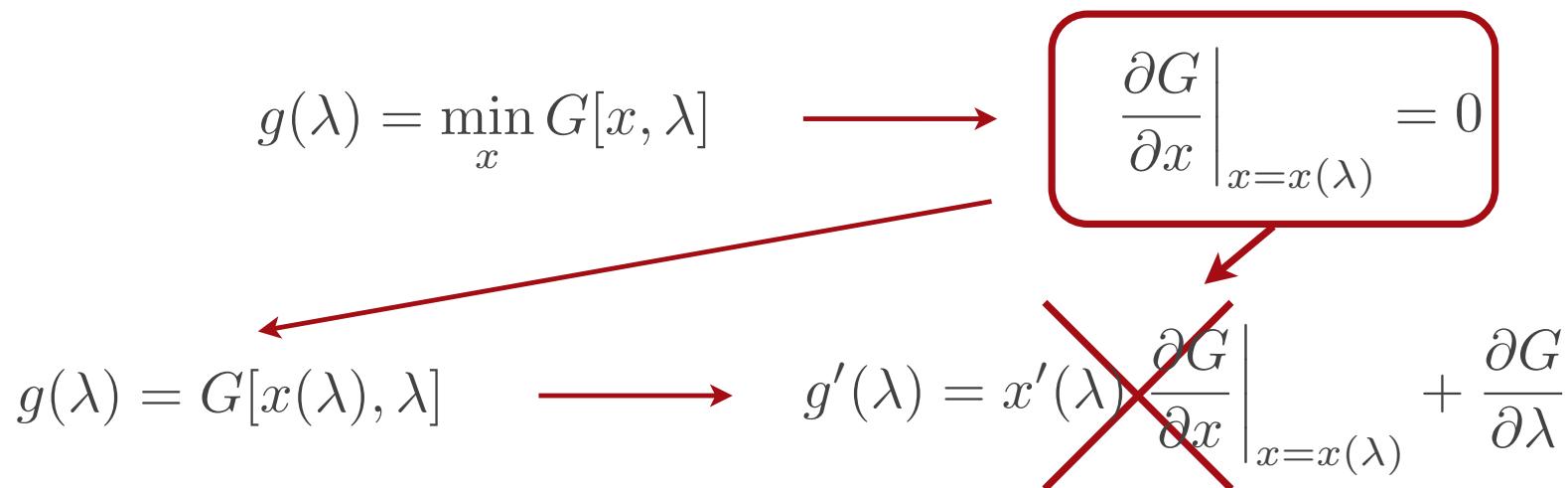
$$g(\lambda) = G[x(\lambda), \lambda] \quad \longrightarrow \quad g'(\lambda) = x'(\lambda) \left. \frac{\partial G}{\partial x} \right|_{x=x(\lambda)} + \frac{\partial G}{\partial \lambda}$$

# the Hellmann-Feynman theorem

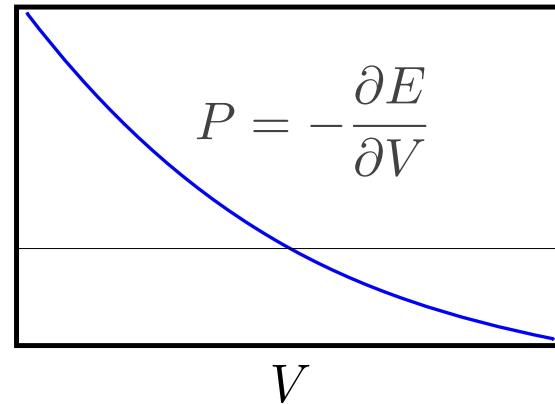
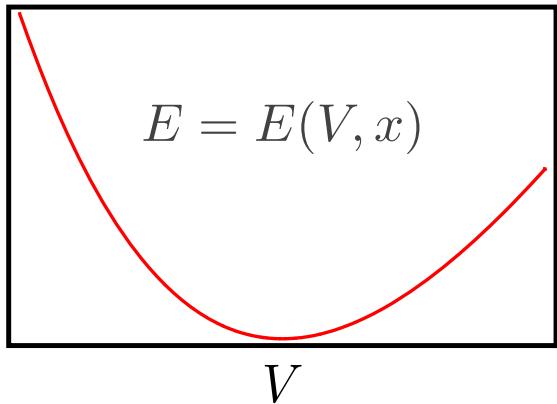
$$\hat{H}_\lambda \Psi_\lambda = E_\lambda \Psi_\lambda$$

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# conjugate variables & Legendre transforms



Legendre transform:  $H(P, x) = E + PV$

properties:

- $E$  convex  $\Rightarrow V \rightleftharpoons P$
- $H(P, x) = \max_V(E(V, x) + PV)$
- Hellmann-Feynman:  $\frac{\partial H}{\partial x} = \frac{\partial E}{\partial x}$
- $H$  concave
- $E(V, x) = \min_P(H(P, x) - PV)$

# Hohenberg-Kohn DFT

$$H = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \sum_i \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \mathbf{r}_i^2} + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \frac{e^2}{|\mathbf{r}_i - \mathbf{r}_j|} + \sum_i V(\mathbf{r}_i)$$
$$\begin{aligned} E[V] &= \min_{\Psi} \langle \Psi | \hat{K} + \hat{W} + \hat{V} | \Psi \rangle \\ &= \min_{\Psi} \left[ \langle \Psi | \hat{K} + \hat{W} | \Psi \rangle + \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) V(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} \right] \end{aligned}$$

properties:

- $E[V]$  is convex (requires some work to demonstrate)
- $\rho(\mathbf{r}) = \frac{\delta E}{\delta V(\mathbf{r})}$  (from Hellmann-Feynman)

consequences:

- $V(\mathbf{r}) \rightleftharpoons \rho(\mathbf{r})$  (1st HK theorem)
- $F[\rho] = E - \int V(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$  is the Legendre transform of  $E$
- $E[V] = \min_{\rho} \left[ F[\rho] + \int V(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} \right]$  (2nd HK theorem)

# Hohenberg-Kohn DFT

$$E[V] = \min_{\rho} \left[ F[\rho] + \int V(\mathbf{r})\rho(\mathbf{r})d\mathbf{r} \right]$$

# exchange-correlation energy functionals

- ▶ local-density approximation (LDA, Kohn and Sham, 1965)

$$E_{xc}[\rho] = \int \epsilon_{xc}(\rho(\mathbf{r})) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r}$$

- ▶ generalized-gradient approximation (GGA, Becke, Perdew, and Wang, 1986)

$$E_{xc} = \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) \epsilon_{GGA}(\rho(\mathbf{r}), |\nabla \rho(\mathbf{r})|) d\mathbf{r}$$

- ▶ DFT+U (Anisimov and others, early 90's)

$$E_{DFT+U}[\rho] = E_{DFT} + Un(n-1)$$

|

- ▶ meta-GGA (Perdew and others 2003)

$$\begin{aligned} E_{mGGA} &= \int \rho(\mathbf{r}) \times \\ &\epsilon_{mGGA}(\rho(\mathbf{r}), |\nabla \rho(\mathbf{r})|, \tau_s(\mathbf{r})) d\mathbf{r} \\ \tau_s(\mathbf{r}) &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_i |\nabla^2 \psi_i(\mathbf{r})|^2 \end{aligned}$$

- ▶ hybrid functionals (B3Lyp, PBE0, Becke 1993)

$$E_{hybr} = \alpha E_{HF}^x + (1 - \alpha) E_{GGA}^x + E^c$$

- ▶ ...

# KS equations from functional minimization

$$E[\{\psi\}, \mathbf{R}] = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \sum_v \int \psi_v^*(\mathbf{r}) \frac{\partial^2 \psi_v(\mathbf{r})}{\partial \mathbf{r}^2} d\mathbf{r} + \int V(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{R}) \rho(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} + \frac{e^2}{2} \int \frac{\rho(\mathbf{r}) \rho(\mathbf{r}')}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}'|} d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}' + E_{xc}[\rho]$$

$$E(\mathbf{R}) = \min_{\{\psi\}} (E[\{\psi\}, \mathbf{R}])$$

$$\int \psi_u^*(\mathbf{r}) \psi_v(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} = \delta_{uv}$$

# KS equations from functional minimization

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$$E(\mathbf{R}) = \min_{\{\psi\}} (E[\{\psi\}, \mathbf{R}])$$
$$\int \psi_u^*(\mathbf{r}) \psi_v(\mathbf{r}) d\mathbf{r} = \delta_{uv}$$

$$\frac{\delta E_{KS}}{\delta \psi_v^*(\mathbf{r})} = \sum_u \Lambda_{vu} \psi_u(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\left( -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m} \nabla^2 + v_{KS}[\rho](\mathbf{r}) \right) \psi_v(\mathbf{r}) = \epsilon_v \psi_v(\mathbf{r})$$

# solving the Kohn-Sham equations

$$\psi_v(\mathbf{r}) = \sum_j c(j, v) \varphi_j(\mathbf{r})$$

$$\psi_v(\mathbf{r}) \rightleftharpoons c(v, j)$$

$$\frac{\delta E_{KS}}{\delta \psi_v^*(\mathbf{r})} = \sum_{uv} \Lambda_{vu} \psi_u(\mathbf{r})$$
$$\sum_j h_{KS}[c](i, j) c(j, v) = \epsilon_v c(i, v)$$
$$\dot{c}(i, v) = - \sum_j h_{KS}[c](i, j) c(j, v) +$$
$$\sum_u \Lambda_{vu} c(i, v)$$

these slides at  
<http://talks.baroni.me>