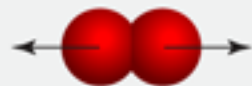


# Lennard Jones Interatomic Potential

$$U_{LJ} = 4\epsilon \left( \left( \frac{\sigma}{R} \right)^{12} - \left( \frac{\sigma}{R} \right)^6 \right)$$

strong repulsive  
forces

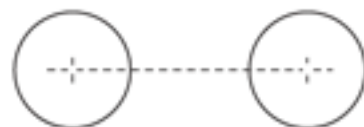


$R < \sigma$

separation at  
energy minimum



$R = 1.12\sigma$



$R$

weak attractive  
force



$R = 2\sigma$

$U_{LJ}$  (arbitrary units of energy)

$\frac{R}{\sigma}$

0.9 1.0 1.1 1.2 1.3 1.4 1.5 1.6 1.7 1.8 1.9 2.0

repulsion



attraction

