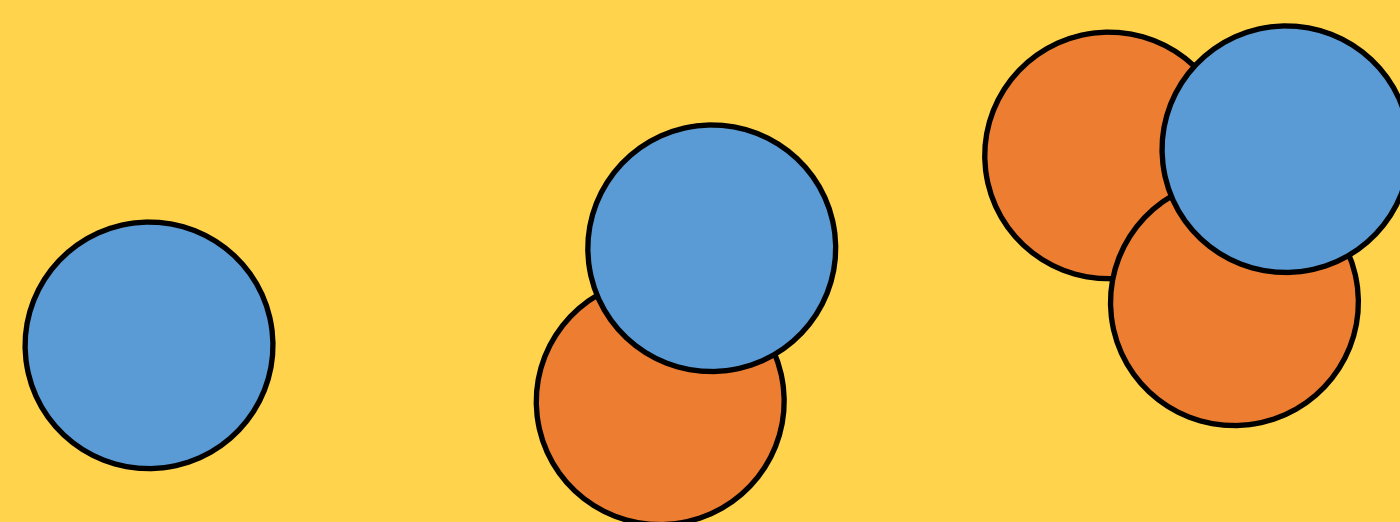




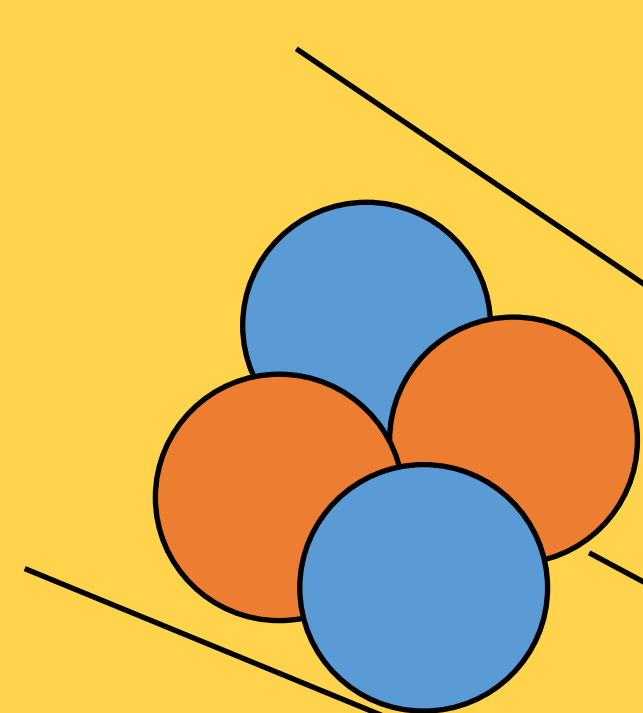
Radioactivity

Isotopes are atoms with a different physical form than those found in the periodic table, they have a different number of neutrons in their nucleus.

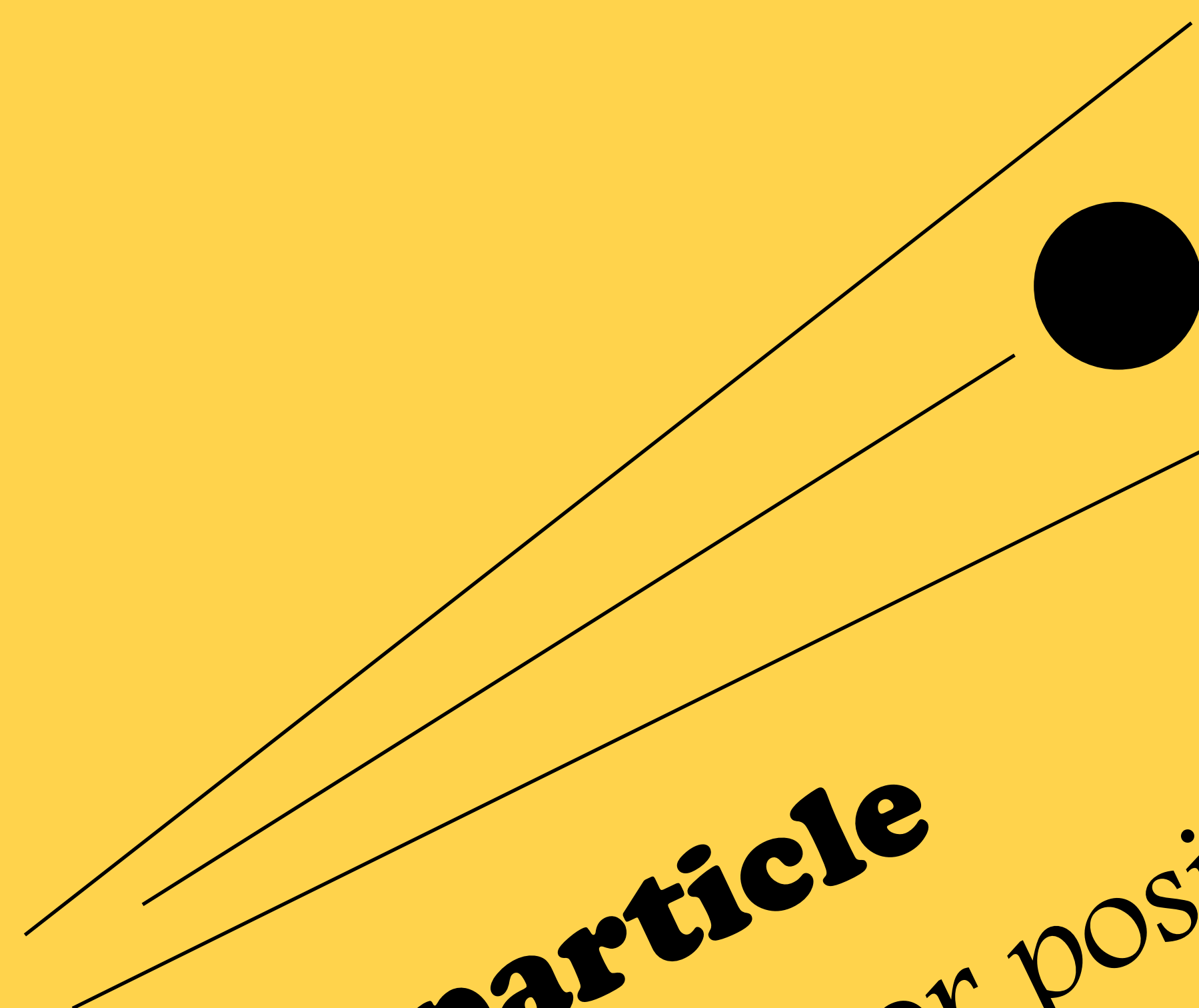
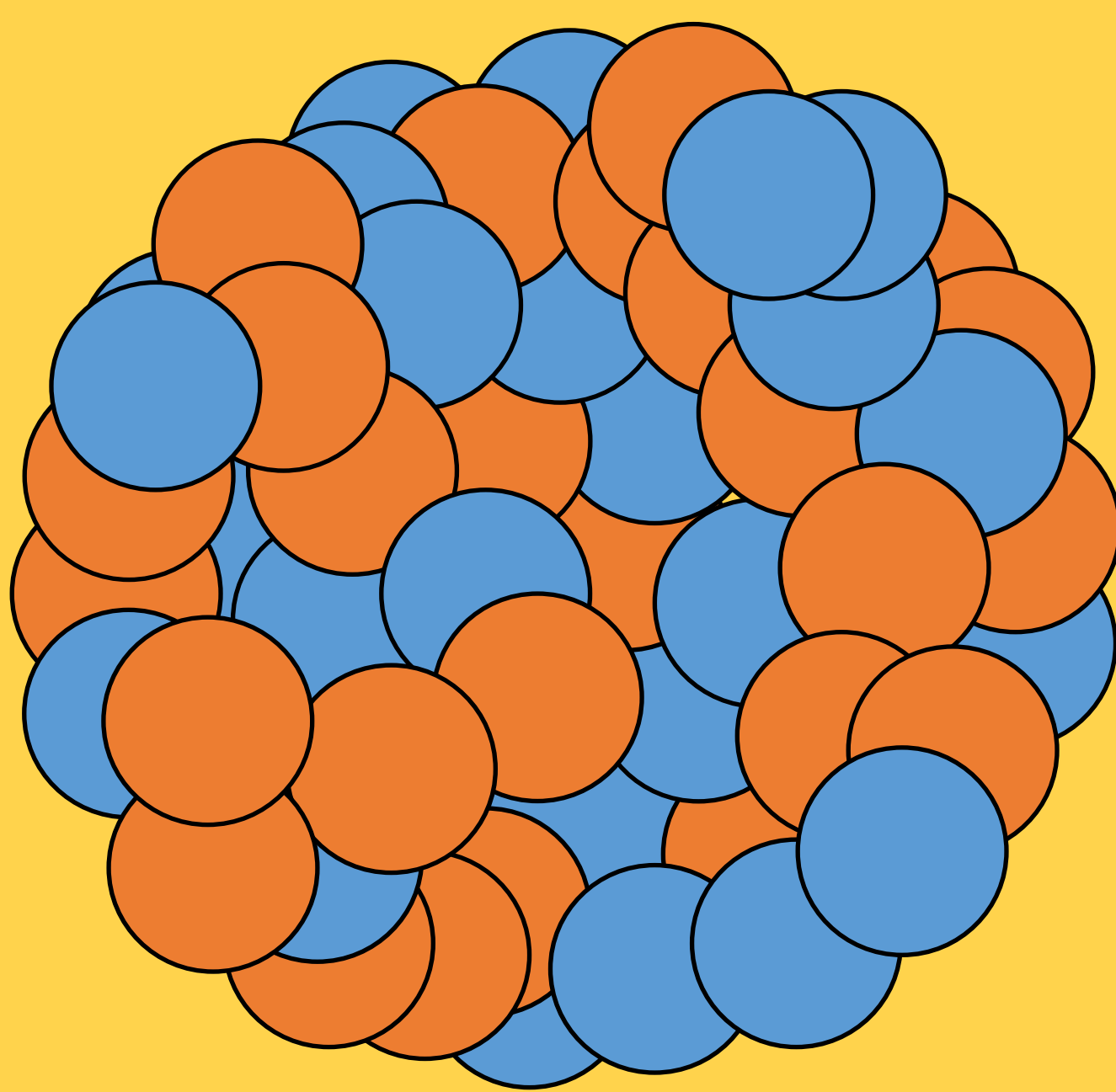


Hydrogen, Deuterium and Tritium are all the same element, but clearly they are different isotopes.

Some isotopes are unstable and radioactive, this means they release radiation from their nucleus; the three main types of radiation are shown below:



Alpha particle
Same as Helium nucleus
2 Protons + 2 Neutrons



Beta particle
A fast electron or positron

Gamma ray

High energy electromagnetic wave with a short wavelength

