PHYS2581 Foundations 2A: QM2.5 solution

(a) Probability of being in the volume between r=0 to $r_{\rm p}$ is

$$\int_0^{r_p} \psi^* \psi \, 4\pi r^2 dr = \int_0^{r_p} R^* R \, r^2 dr = \int_0^{r_p} 4a^{-3} e^{-2r/a} r^2 dr \approx \frac{4}{a^3} \left[\frac{r^3}{3} \right]_0^{r_p} = \frac{4}{3} \frac{r_p^3}{a^3}$$
$$= \frac{4}{3} \left(1.9 \times 10^{-5} \right)^3 = 9.1 \times 10^{-15}$$

[2 marks]

(b) We need $\langle r \rangle$ for each of n, l, m of (2,0,0), (2,1,-1), (2,1,0) and (2,1,1)

$$\langle r \rangle_{nlm} = \int \int \int r R_{nl}^2 Y_{lm}^* Y_{lm} r^2 \sin\theta d\theta d\phi = \int r^3 R_{nl}^2 dr$$

so this can only depend on n and l not m and so we just have two cases to evaluate

$$\langle r \rangle_{200} = \int r^3 \frac{1}{2a^3} \left(1 - \frac{r}{2a} \right)^2 e^{-r/a} dr = \frac{1}{2a^3} \int r^3 \left(1 - \frac{r}{a} + \frac{r^2}{4a^2} \right) e^{-r/a} dr$$

$$= \frac{1}{2a^3} \left[\int r^3 e^{-r/a} dr - \frac{1}{a} \int r^4 e^{-r/a} dr + \frac{1}{4a^2} \int r^5 e^{-r/a} dr \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2a^3} \left[\frac{3!}{(1/a)^4} - \frac{1}{a} \frac{4!}{(1/a)^5} + \frac{1}{4a^2} \frac{5!}{(1/a)^6} \right]$$

$$= \frac{1}{2a^3} (6a^4 - 24a^4 + 30a^4) = \frac{a}{2} 12 = 6a.$$

[2 marks]

$$\langle r \rangle_{21m} = \int r^3 \frac{1}{24a^3} \frac{r^2}{a^2} e^{-r/a} dr = \frac{1}{24a^5} \int r^5 e^{-r/a} dr = \frac{1}{24a^5} \frac{5!}{(1/a)^6}$$

= $\frac{a}{24} (5.4.3.2) = 5a$.

 \Rightarrow Higher l lead to smaller radii.

[2 marks]

(c) For n, l = 2, 0, the probability of being in the volume from r = 0 to $r_{\rm p}$ is

$$\int_0^{r_{\rm p}} \frac{1}{2} a^{-3} \left(1 - \frac{r}{2a} \right)^2 e^{-r/a} r^2 dr \approx \frac{1}{2a^3} \int_0^{r_{\rm p}} r^2 dr = \frac{1}{2a^3} \frac{r_{\rm p}^3}{3} = \frac{(r_{\rm p}/a)^3}{6} = 1.1 \times 10^{-15}$$

[2 marks]

For n, l = 2, 1, the probability of being in the volume from r = 0 to $r_{\rm p}$ is

$$\int_{0}^{r_{\rm p}} \frac{1}{24a^3} \left(\frac{r}{a}\right)^2 e^{-r/a} r^2 dr \approx \frac{1}{24a^5} \frac{r_{\rm p}^5}{5} = \frac{(r_{\rm p}/a)^5}{120} = 2.0 \times 10^{-26}$$

[2 marks]