

$$\hat{H} = \hat{K}_{nucleus} + \hat{K}_{electron} + \hat{V} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_N} \nabla_N^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \nabla_e^2 - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_1} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z_1^2} \right) - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_2} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y_2^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z_2^2} \right) + [\hat{V}(x_1, y_1, z_1, x_2, y_2, z_2) - E] \psi = 0$$

$$\psi \equiv \psi(x_1, y_1, z_1, x_2, y_2, z_2); \quad \hat{V} = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 [(x_2 - x_1)^2 + (y_2 - y_1)^2 + (z_2 - z_1)^2]^{1/2}} = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

Since the force exerted by the proton and electron on each other are directed along the straight line joining them, the potential energy function depends only on the relative coordinates.

For simplicity, let's consider  $x = x_2 - x_1$ ,  $y = y_2 - y_1$ ,  $z = z_2 - z_1$

$$\text{COM:} \quad X = \frac{m_1 x_1 + m_2 x_2}{m_1 + m_2}, \quad Y = \frac{m_1 y_1 + m_2 y_2}{m_1 + m_2}, \quad Z = \frac{m_1 z_1 + m_2 z_2}{m_1 + m_2}$$

$$\frac{\partial \psi(x, y, z; X, Y, Z)}{\partial x_1} = \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial X} \frac{\partial X}{\partial x_1} + \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x} \frac{\partial x}{\partial x_1} = \left( \frac{m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \frac{\partial}{\partial X} - \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \right) \psi$$

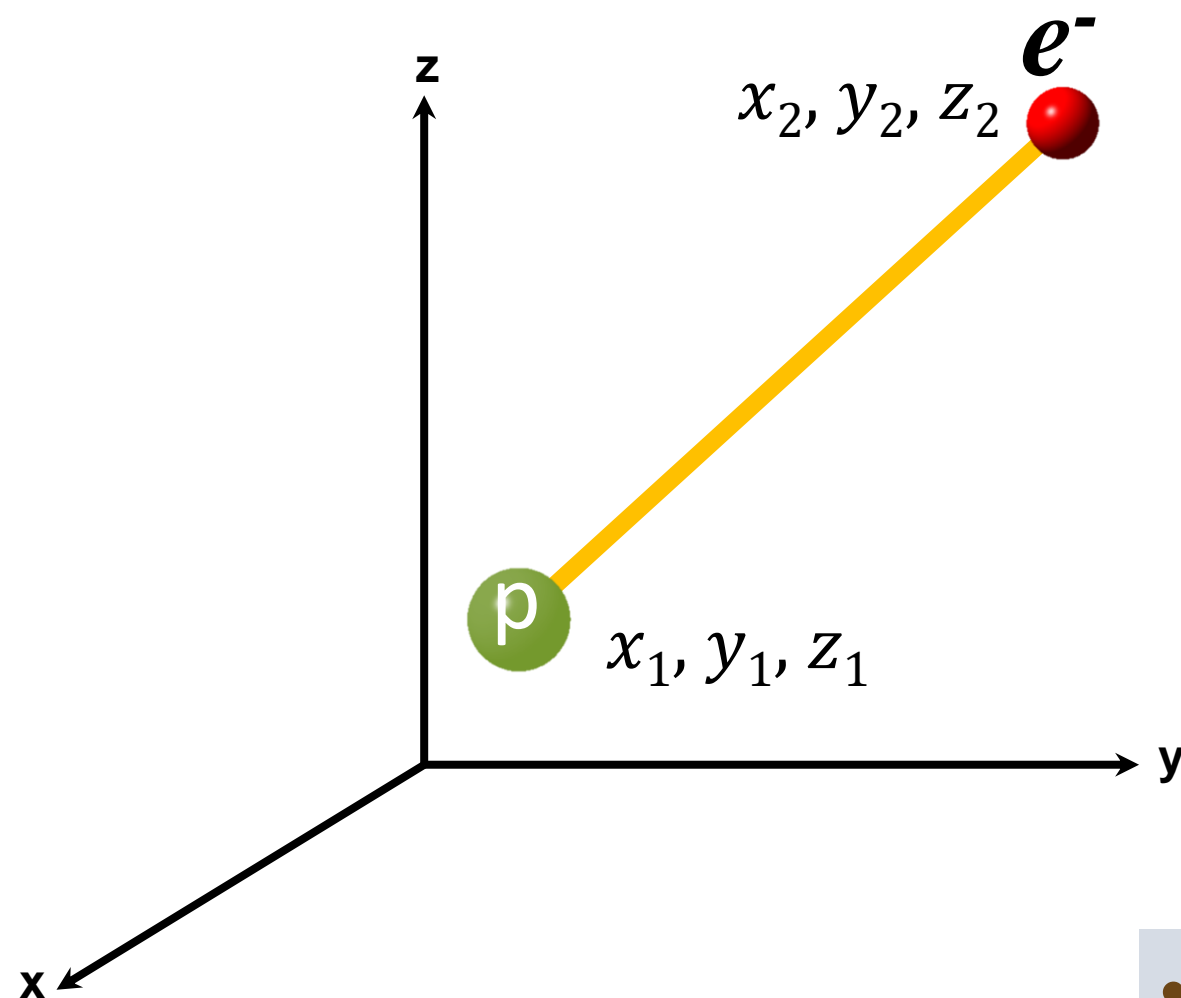
$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi(x, y, z; X, Y, Z)}{\partial x_1^2} = \left( \frac{m_1^2}{(m_1 + m_2)^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X^2} - \frac{2m_1}{m_1 + m_2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi,$$

$$\frac{\partial^2 \psi(x, y, z; X, Y, Z)}{\partial x_2^2} = \left( \frac{m_2^2}{(m_1 + m_2)^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X^2} + \frac{2m_2}{m_1 + m_2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi$$

⇒

$$\frac{1}{m_1} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{1}{m_2} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x_2^2} = \left( \frac{m_1}{(m_1 + m_2)^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X^2} - \frac{2}{m_1 + m_2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2}{m_1 \partial x^2} + \frac{m_2}{(m_1 + m_2)^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X^2} + \frac{2}{m_1 + m_2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X \partial x} + \frac{\partial^2}{m_2 \partial x^2} \right) \psi = \left( \frac{1}{m_1 + m_2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial X^2} + \left( \frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2} \right) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x^2} \right) \psi$$

Similarly for other terms.



Total mass:  $M_T = (m_1 + m_2)$  and reduced mass  $\frac{1}{\mu} = \left(\frac{1}{m_1} + \frac{1}{m_2}\right)$

$m_1 = m_N$  and  $m_2 = m_e$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2M_T} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial X^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial Y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial Z^2} \right) - \frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z^2} \right) + [\hat{V}(x, y, z) - E]\psi = 0$$

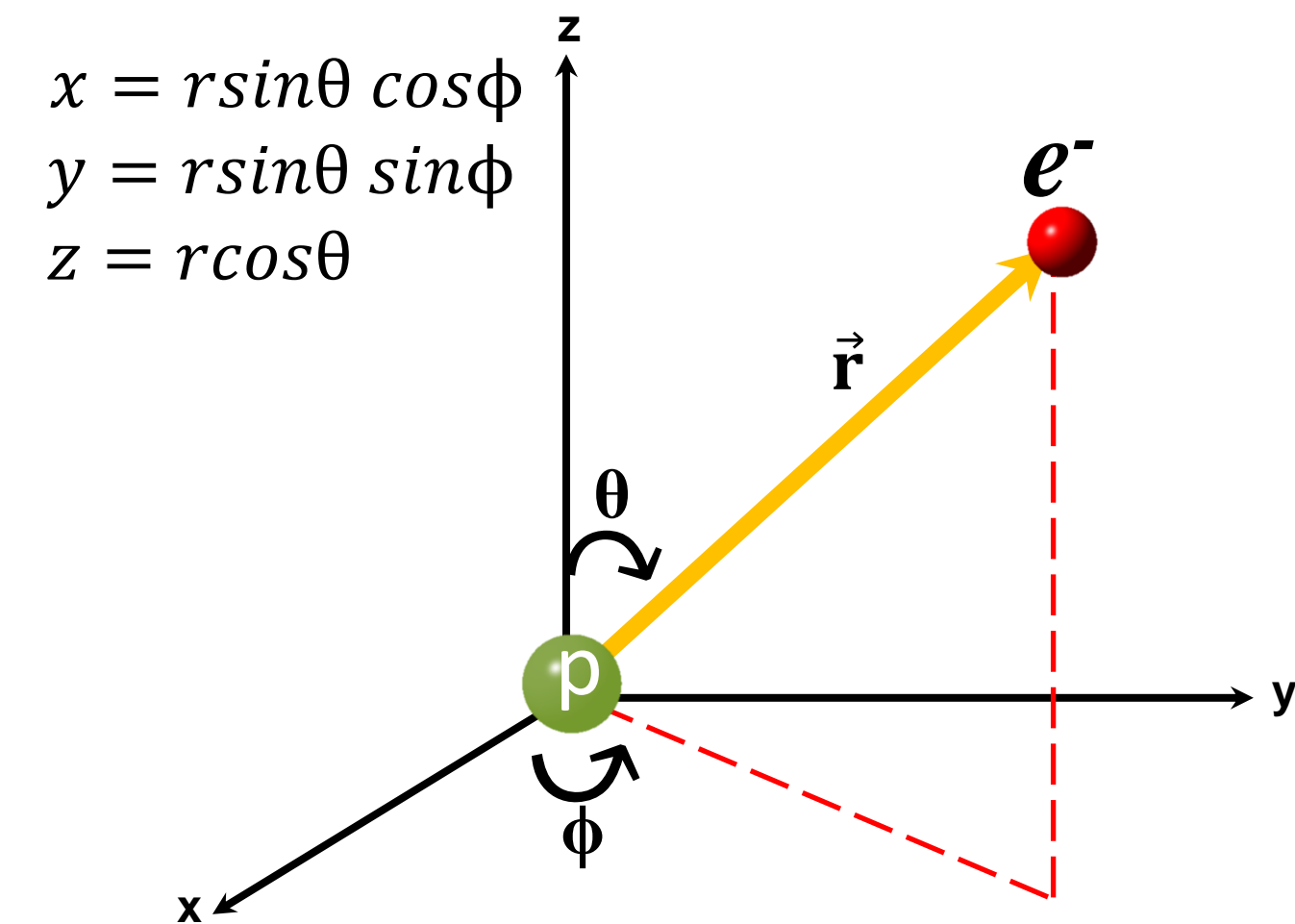
$$\hat{V}(r \equiv (x, y, z)) = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0(x^2 + y^2 + z^2)^{1/2}} = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

- If we assume that the centre-of-mass of the whole system is fixed, then the kinetic energy of the total system will become zero

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial y^2} + \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial z^2} \right) + [\hat{V}(x, y, z) - E]\psi = 0$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla^2 \psi + [\hat{V}(x, y, z) - E]\psi = 0$$

Schrödinger equation for a particle of reduced mass  $\mu (= \frac{m_e m_N}{m_e + m_N})$  moving around a fixed centre at  $x = y = z = 0$ .



$$\hat{H} = \hat{K}_{nucleus} + \hat{K}_{electron} + \hat{V} = -\frac{\hbar^2}{2m_N} \nabla_N^2 - \frac{\hbar^2}{2m_e} \nabla_e^2 - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}$$

- Since a hydrogenlike atom is spherically symmetric, it is more convenient to use spherical coordinates and write the Schrödinger equation as

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \nabla^2 \psi(r, \theta, \phi) + [\hat{V}(r) - E] \psi(r, \theta, \phi) = 0$$

$$\text{where } \nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \quad \text{[Laplacian operator]}$$

$$\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} - \frac{\hat{L}^2}{r^2 \hbar^2}$$

$$\hat{L}^2 = -\hbar^2 \left( \frac{1}{\sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{\sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2} \right)$$

[Operator for the square of angular momentum]

$$\Rightarrow -\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial r} \right) - \frac{\hat{L}^2 \psi}{r^2 \hbar^2} \right] + \left[ -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} - E \right] \psi = 0$$

- The angular dependence of the operator is contained in  $\hat{L}^2$ , whose eigenvalues and eigenfunctions are already known (through rigid rotor example).
- This clearly suggests us to solve the above Sch. Eq. by separation of variables by writing

$$\psi(r, \theta, \phi) = R(r)Y(\theta, \phi)$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left[ \left( \frac{\partial^2 [R(r)Y(\theta, \phi)]}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial [R(r)Y(\theta, \phi)]}{\partial r} \right) - \frac{\hat{L}^2 [R(r)Y(\theta, \phi)]}{r^2 \hbar^2} \right] + \left[ -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} - E \right] R(r)Y(\theta, \phi) = 0$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left[ \left( Y \frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial r^2} + Y \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) - R \frac{\hat{L}^2 Y}{r^2 \hbar^2} \right] + \left[ -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} - E \right] RY = 0$$

Multiplying both sides by  $r^2/RY$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left( \frac{r^2}{R} \frac{\partial^2 R}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2r}{R} \frac{\partial R}{\partial r} \right) + \underbrace{\frac{1}{Y} \frac{\hat{L}^2 Y}{2\mu}}_{\text{Only angular part}} + r^2 \left[ -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} - E \right] = 0$$

Only angular part

$$\Rightarrow \frac{1}{Y} \frac{\hat{L}^2 Y}{2\mu} = \text{constant} \quad \hat{L}^2 Y(\theta, \phi) = \ell(\ell + 1)\hbar^2 Y(\theta, \phi) \quad \text{where } \ell = 0, 1, 2 \dots$$

$$\Rightarrow \hat{L}^2 Y_\ell^{m_\ell}(\theta, \phi) = \ell(\ell + 1)\hbar^2 Y_\ell^{m_\ell}(\theta, \phi)$$

$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left( \frac{\partial^2 R(r)}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial R(r)}{\partial r} \right) + \left[ \frac{\ell(\ell + 1)\hbar^2}{2\mu r^2} - \frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} - E \right] R(r) = 0$$

Radial wave equation

Radial wave equation:

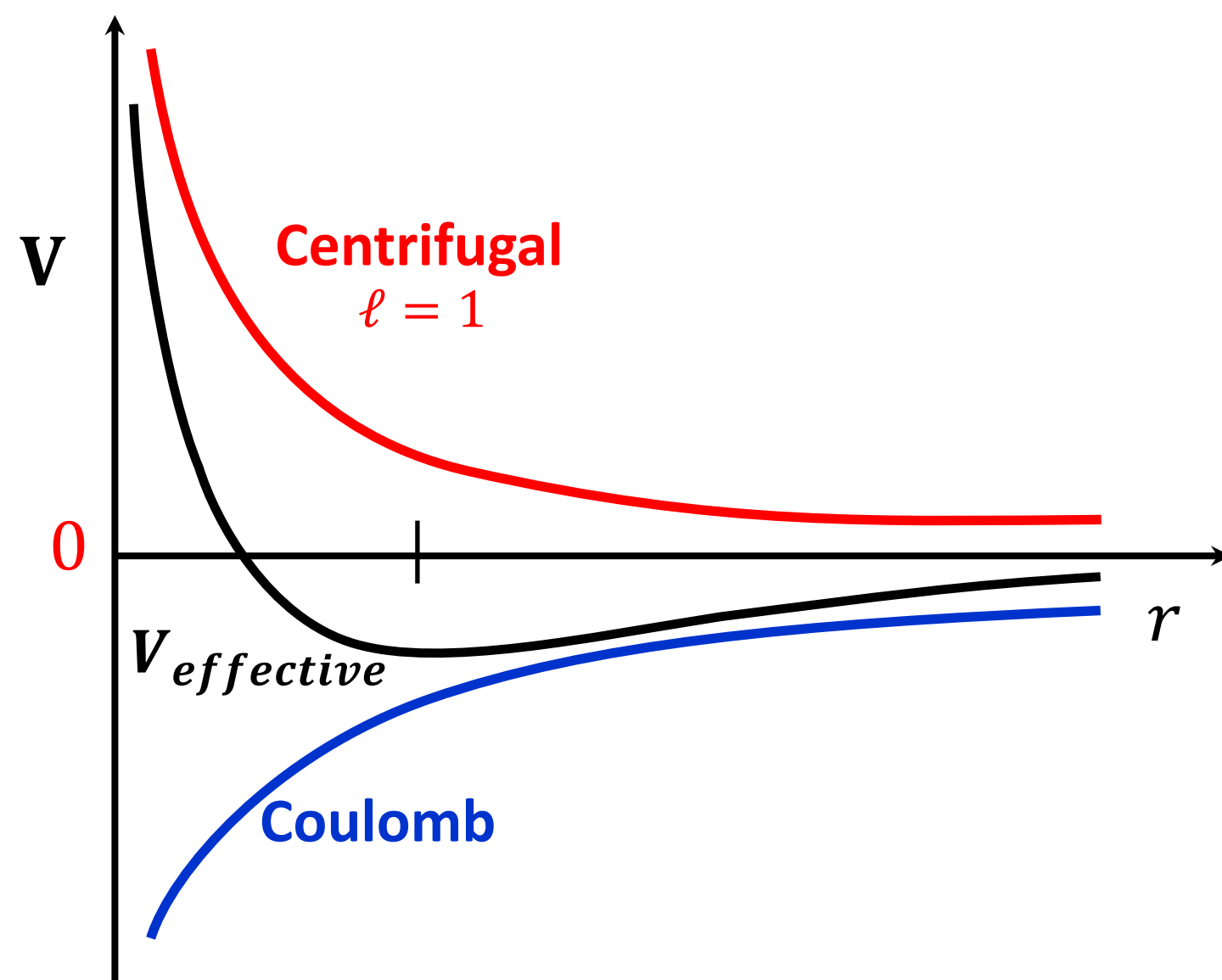
$$-\frac{\hbar^2}{2\mu} \left( \frac{\partial^2 R(r)}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial R(r)}{\partial r} \right) + [V_{effective} - E] R(r) = 0$$

$$V_{effective} = \underbrace{\frac{\ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2}{2\mu r^2}}_{\text{Repulsive}} - \underbrace{\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r}}_{\text{Attractive}}$$

Centrifugal potential energy function  
due to orbital motion of the electron

Coulomb potential energy function

- For  $\ell = 0$  only attractive part exists
- For  $\ell \neq 0$  both repulsive and attractive parts exist



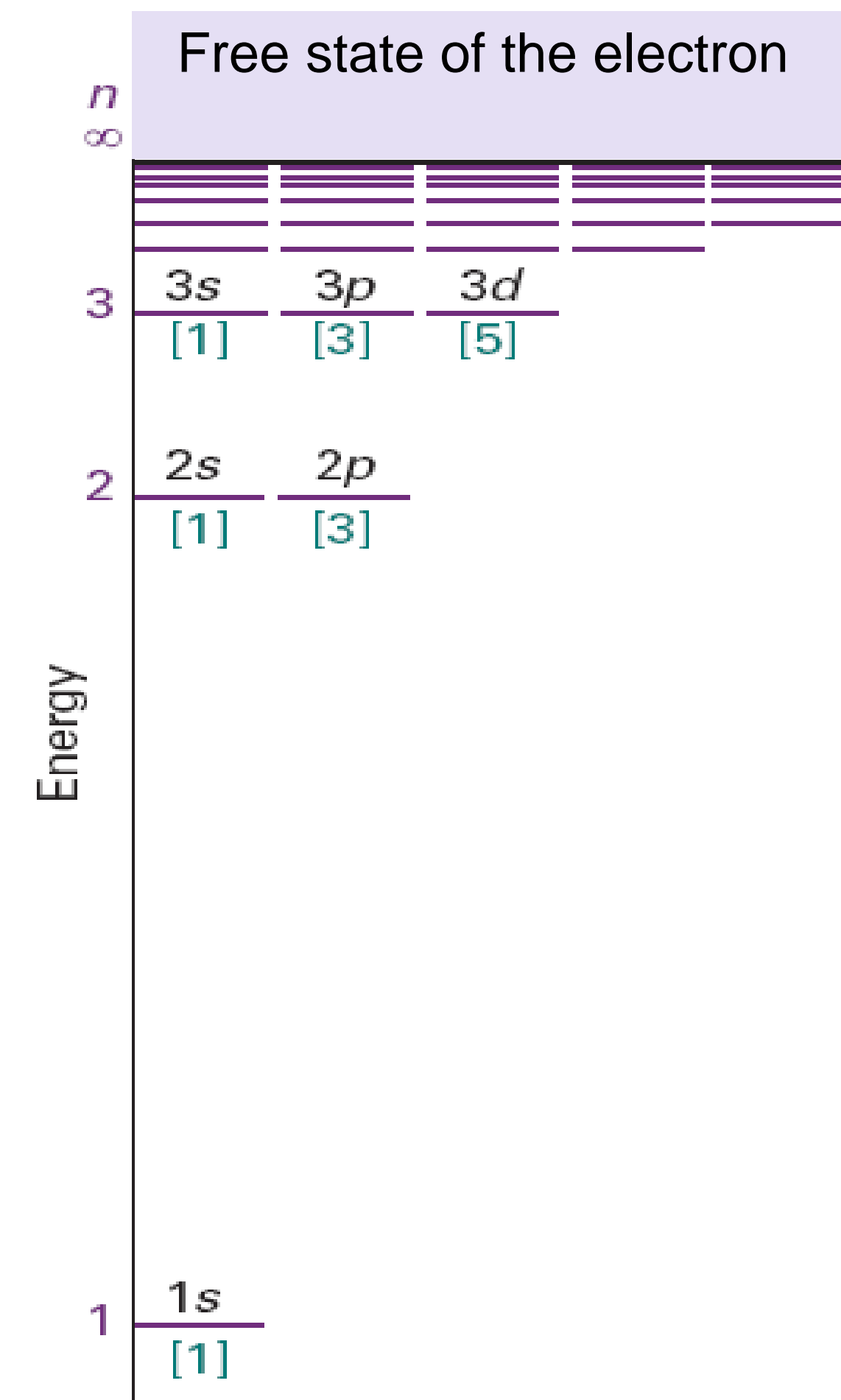
- The minimum of  $V_{effective}$  is at around  $1 \text{ \AA}$
- $r \rightarrow \infty$ , both the terms converge to zero
- $r \rightarrow 0$ , repulsive term dominates

# Solution of the Radial Wave Equation: Electronic Energy Levels

Radial wave equation can be solved for a well-behaved function near the nucleus and away from the nucleus. It turns out that with these boundary conditions, the expression for the energy eigenvalue is

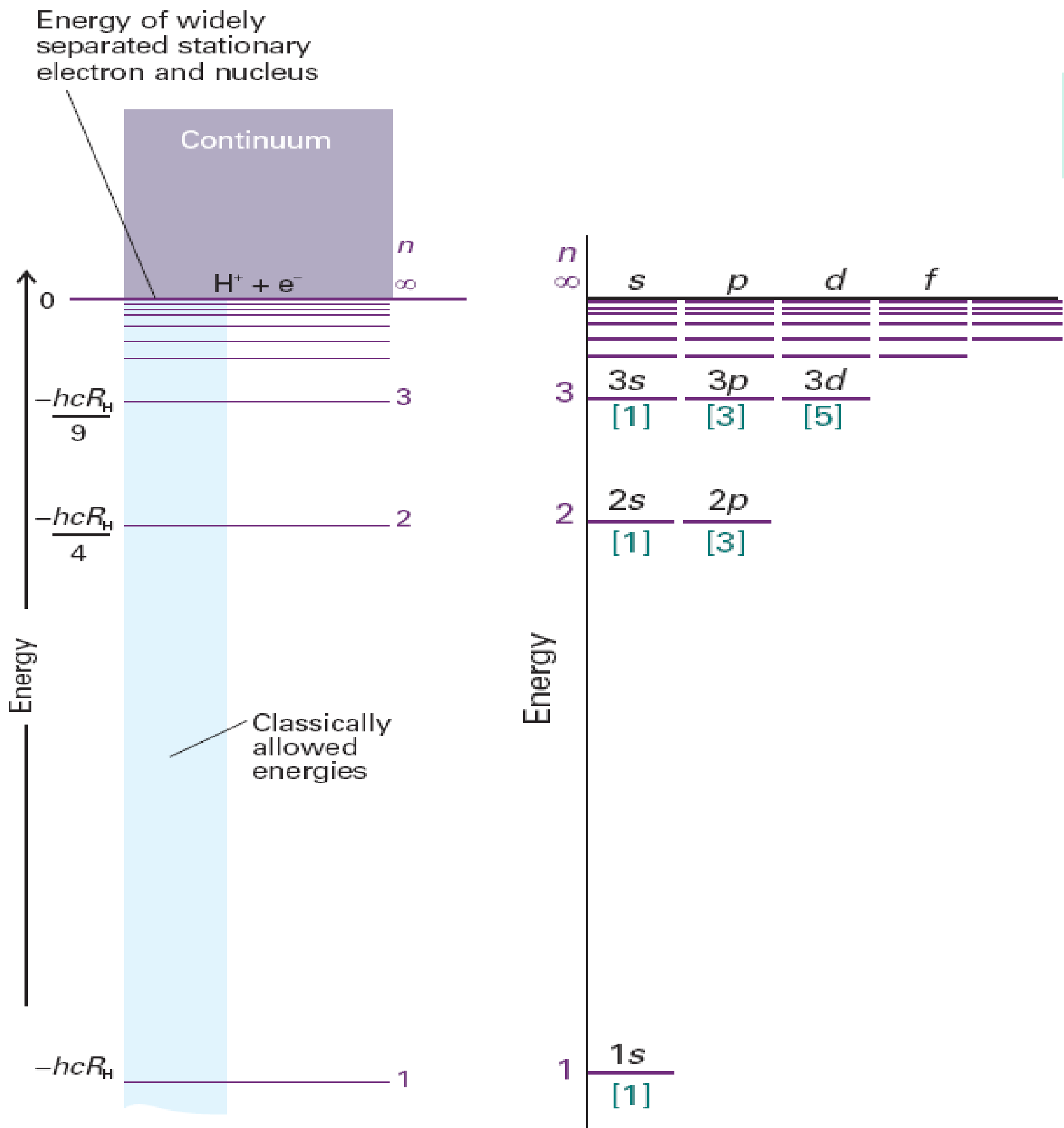
$$E_n = -\frac{\mu Z^2 e^4}{2(4\pi\epsilon_0)^2 \hbar^2} \frac{1}{n^2}$$

where  $n = 1, 2, 3 \dots \infty$  are the principal quantum numbers and  $Z = 1$  for H atom





Solution of the Radial Wave Equation: Electronic Energy Levels



$$\Delta E_n = E_{n_2} - E_{n_1} = -\frac{e^2}{2(4\pi\epsilon_0)a_0} \left[ \frac{1}{n_2^2} - \frac{1}{n_1^2} \right]$$

## Solution of the Radial Wave Equation: Shapes of the Wavefunctions

$$\psi_{n,\ell,m_\ell}(r, \theta, \phi) = \underbrace{R_{n,\ell}(r)}_{\text{Radial part}} \underbrace{Y_\ell^{m_\ell}(\theta, \phi)}_{\text{Angular part}}$$

$$R_{n,\ell}(r) = \underbrace{N_{n,\ell}}_{\substack{\text{Normalization} \\ \text{component}}} \underbrace{r^\ell e^{-\frac{r}{na_0}}}_{\substack{\text{Polynomial in } r \\ \text{Exponentially} \\ \text{decaying function}}} \underbrace{L_{n,\ell}}_{\text{Laguerre polynomial}}$$

## • Example: 1s orbital

$$\psi_{1s} = \frac{1}{(\pi a_0^3)^{1/2}} e^{-r/a_0}$$

- Asymptotic solution when  $r \rightarrow 0$  is  $r^l$
- Asymptotic solution when  $r \rightarrow \infty$  is  $e^{-\frac{r}{na_0}}$
- Polynomial  $L_{nl}$  of degree  $(n - l - 1)$  for intermediate  $r$

• The quantum numbers  $n$  and  $\ell$  can be determined from the form of the radial wavefunction

• Number of radial nodes  $(n - \ell - 1)$  is determined by degree of  $L_{n,\ell}$



## Solution of the Radial Wave Equation: Shapes of the Wavefunctions

$$\begin{aligned}
 R_{10} &= 2 \left( \frac{Z}{a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} e^{-Zr/a_0} \\
 R_{21} &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{3}} \left( \frac{Z}{2a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( \frac{Zr}{a_0} \right) e^{-Zr/2a_0} \\
 R_{20} &= 2 \left( \frac{Z}{2a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( 1 - \frac{Zr}{2a_0} \right) e^{-Zr/2a_0} \\
 R_{32} &= \frac{2\sqrt{2}}{27\sqrt{5}} \left( \frac{Z}{3a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( \frac{Zr}{a_0} \right)^2 e^{-Zr/3a_0} \\
 R_{31} &= \frac{4\sqrt{2}}{3} \left( \frac{Z}{3a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( \frac{Zr}{a_0} \right) \left( 1 - \frac{Zr}{6a_0} \right) e^{-Zr/3a_0} \\
 R_{30} &= 2 \left( \frac{Z}{3a_0} \right)^{\frac{3}{2}} \left( 1 - \frac{2Zr}{3a_0} + \frac{2(Zr)^2}{27a_0^2} \right) e^{-Zr/3a_0}
 \end{aligned}$$

● Radial node

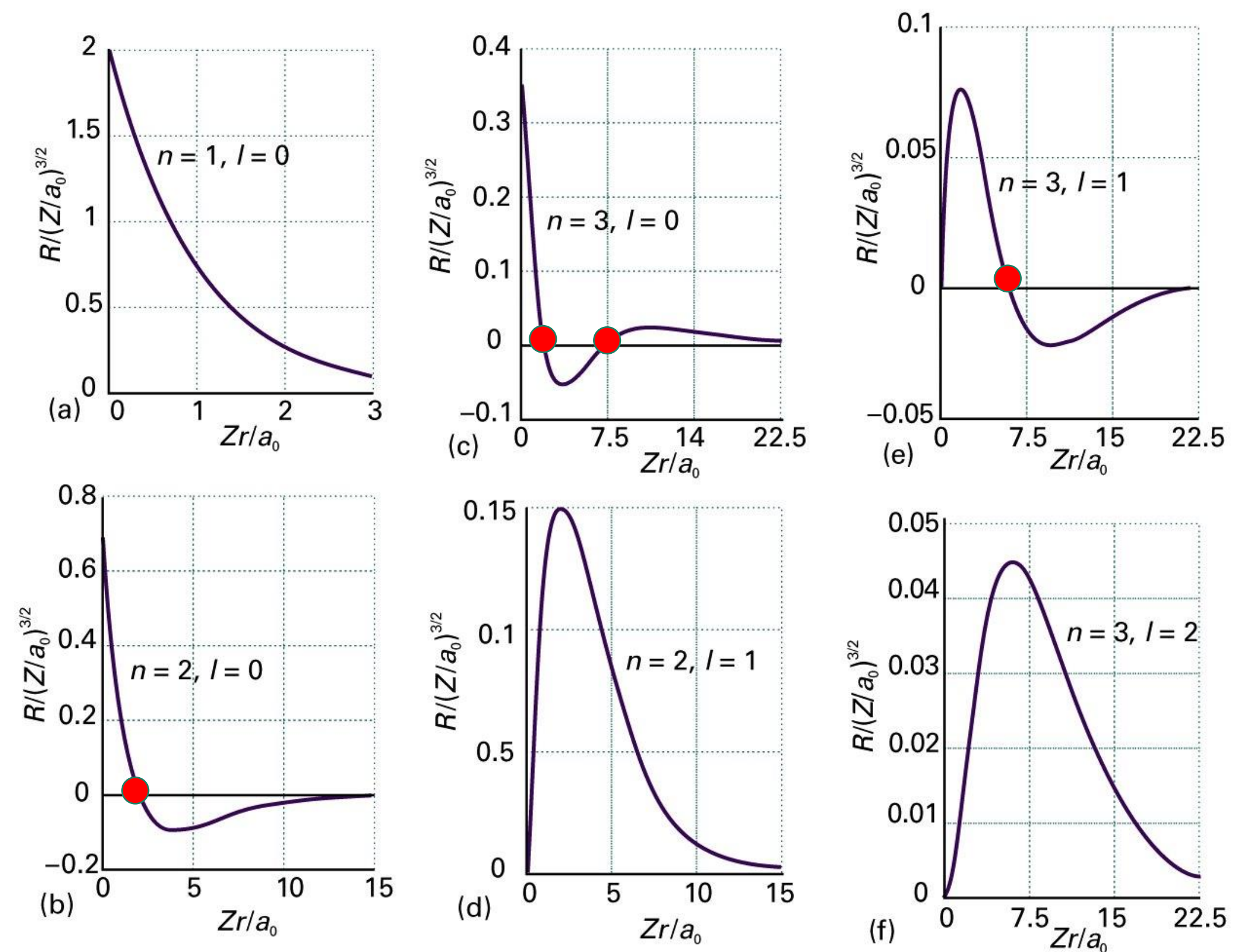


Figure 10-4  
 Atkins Physical Chemistry, Eighth Edition  
 © 2006 Peter Atkins and Julio de Paula

## Orthonormality of the Complete Wavefunction for H-atom

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_0^\infty \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \psi_{n,\ell,m_\ell}^*(r, \theta, \phi) \psi_{n',\ell',m_{\ell'}}(r, \theta, \phi) r^2 dr \sin \theta d\theta d\phi &= \delta_{n,n'} \delta_{\ell,\ell'} \delta_{m_\ell,m_{\ell'}} \\
 &= 1 \text{ when } n = n' \text{ and } \ell = \ell' \text{ and } m_\ell = m_{\ell'} \\
 &= 0 \text{ when } n \neq n' \text{ or } \ell \neq \ell' \text{ or } m_\ell \neq m_{\ell'}
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\psi_{n,\ell,m_\ell}(r, \theta, \phi) = R_{n,\ell}(r) Y_\ell^{m_\ell}(\theta, \phi)$$

$$\int_0^\infty \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} R_{n,\ell}^*(r) Y_\ell^{m_\ell*}(\theta, \phi) R_{n,\ell}(r) Y_\ell^{m_\ell}(\theta, \phi) r^2 dr \sin \theta d\theta d\phi = 1$$

$$\therefore \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} Y_\ell^{m_\ell*}(\theta, \phi) Y_\ell^{m_\ell}(\theta, \phi) \sin \theta d\theta d\phi = 1$$

$$\therefore \int_0^\infty R_{n,\ell}^*(r) R_{n,\ell}(r) r^2 dr = 1$$

## Probability that the electron described by $\psi_{n,\ell,m_\ell}(r, \theta, \phi)$ lies between $r$ and $r+dr$

- How probability is distributed radially?
- The radial distribution function  $P(r)$  gives the probability that the electron will be found anywhere in a shell of radius  $r$ .

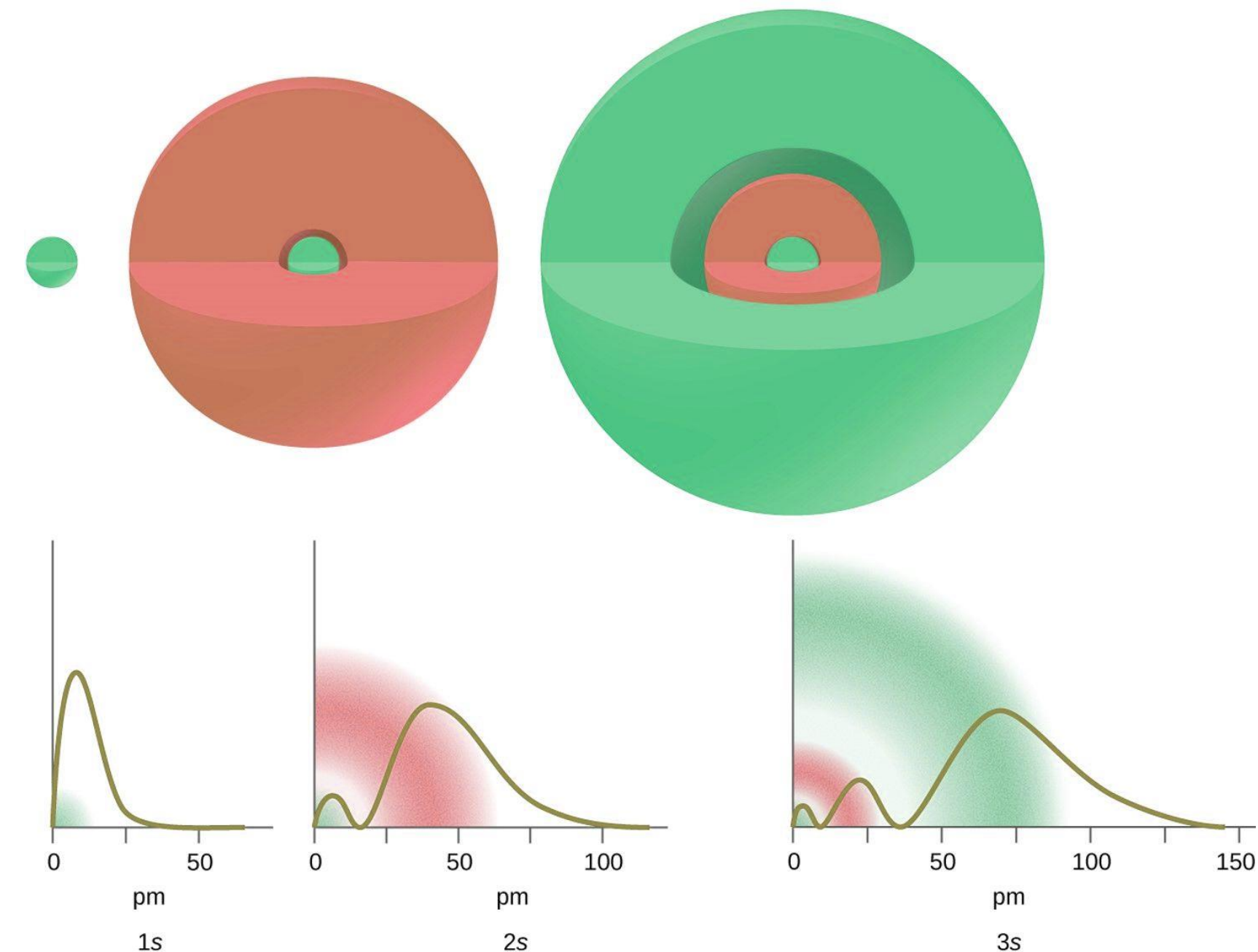
$$\begin{aligned}
 P(r)dr &= \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} \psi_{n,\ell,m_\ell}^*(r, \theta, \phi) \psi_{n,\ell,m_\ell}(r, \theta, \phi) r^2 dr \sin \theta d\theta d\phi \\
 &= \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} Y_\ell^{m_\ell*}(\theta, \phi) Y_\ell^{m_\ell}(\theta, \phi) \sin \theta d\theta d\phi |R_{n,\ell}(r)|^2 r^2 dr \\
 &\quad \because \int_0^\pi \int_0^{2\pi} Y_\ell^{m_\ell*}(\theta, \phi) Y_\ell^{m_\ell}(\theta, \phi) \sin \theta d\theta d\phi = 1
 \end{aligned}$$

$$|R_{n,\ell}(r)|^2 = R_{n,\ell}^*(r) R_{n,\ell}(r)$$

$$P(r)dr = |R_{n,\ell}(r)|^2 r^2 dr$$

$$\int_0^\infty P(r)dr = \int_0^\infty R_{n,\ell}^*(r) R_{n,\ell}(r) r^2 dr = \int_0^\infty |R_{n,\ell}(r)|^2 r^2 dr = 1$$

$$\text{Probability between } r_1 \text{ and } r_2 = \int_{r_1}^{r_2} P(r)dr = \int_{r_1}^{r_2} |R_{n,\ell}(r)|^2 r^2 dr$$

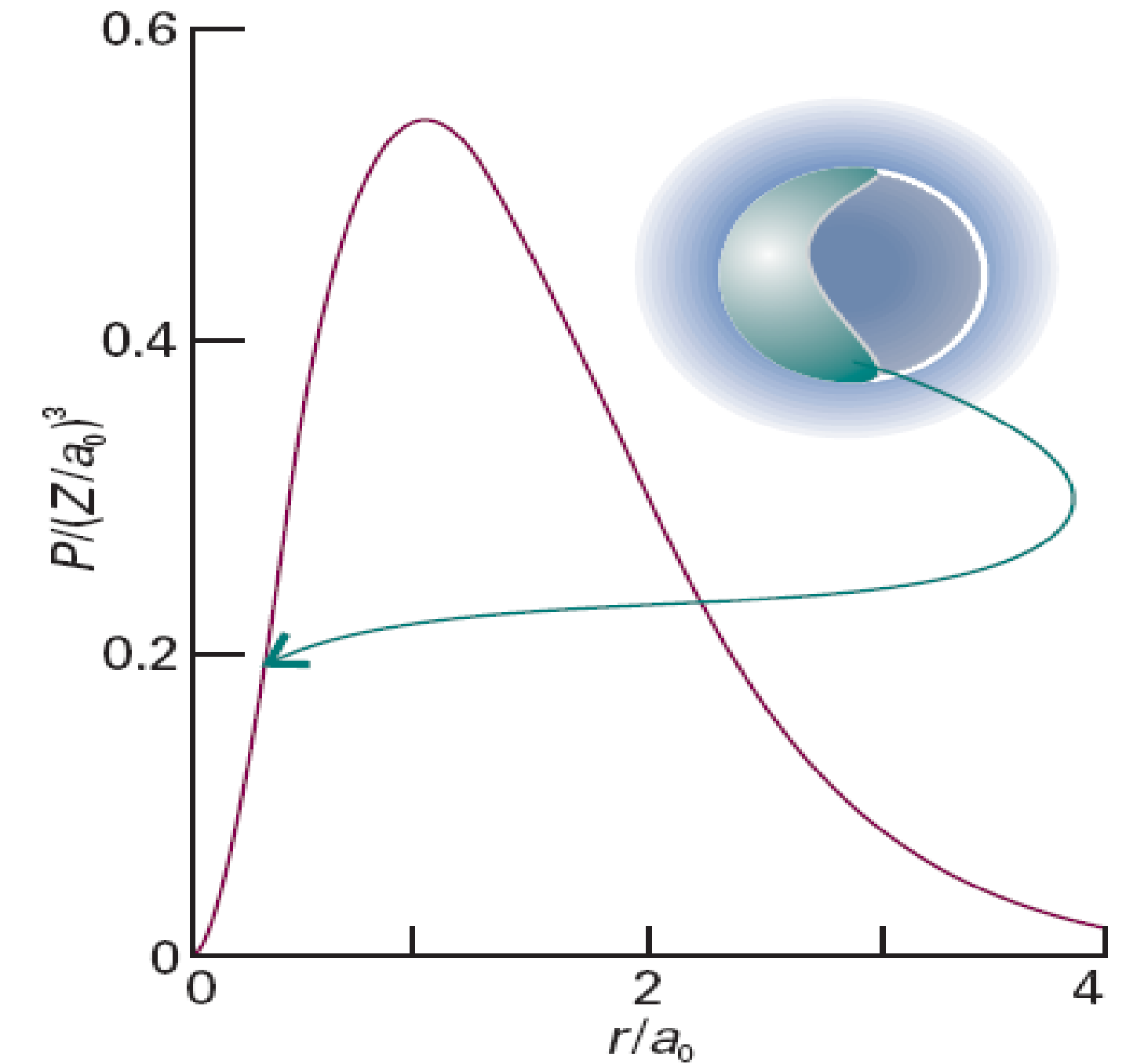


Probability that the electron described by  $\psi_{n,\ell,m_\ell}(r, \theta, \phi)$  lies between  $r$  and  $r+dr$

$$P(r) = \frac{4Z^3}{a_0^3} r^2 e^{-2Zr/a_0}$$

Let's interpret this expression:

- 1 Because  $r^2 = 0$  at the nucleus, at the nucleus  $P(0) = 0$ .
- 2 As  $r \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $P(r) \rightarrow 0$  on account of the exponential term.
- 3 The increase in  $r^2$  and the decrease in the exponential factor means that  $P$  passes through a maximum at an intermediate radius



For a  $1s$  electron in hydrogen,  $P$  is a maximum when  $r$  is equal to the Bohr radius  $a_0$ .



## Solution of the Radial Wave Equation: Shapes of the Wavefunctions

$$Y_0^0 = \frac{1}{(4\pi)^{1/2}}$$

$$Y_1^1 = -\left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin \theta e^{i\phi}$$

$$Y_2^0 = \left(\frac{5}{16\pi}\right)^{1/2} (3 \cos^2 \theta - 1)$$

$$Y_2^{-1} = \left(\frac{15}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin \theta \cos \theta e^{-i\phi}$$

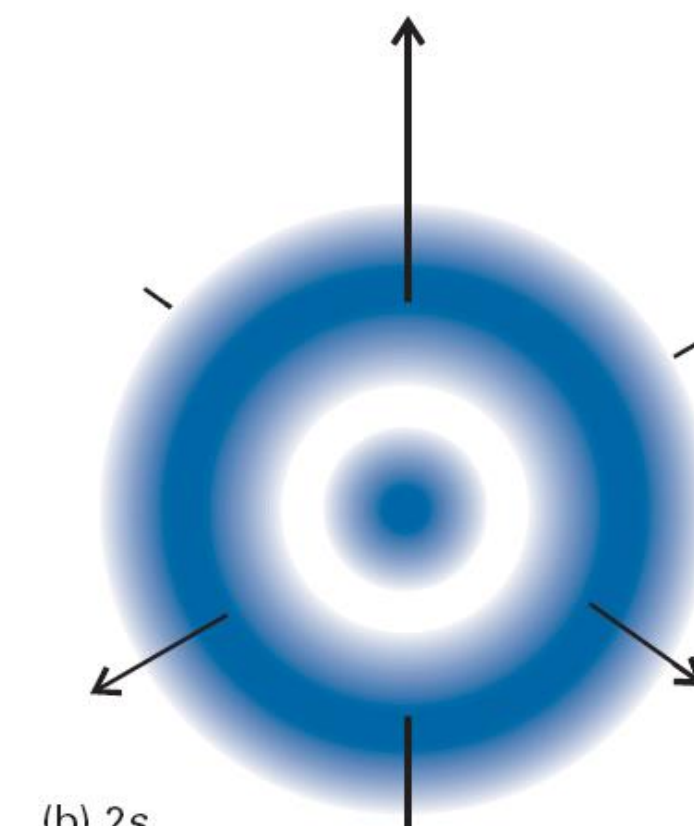
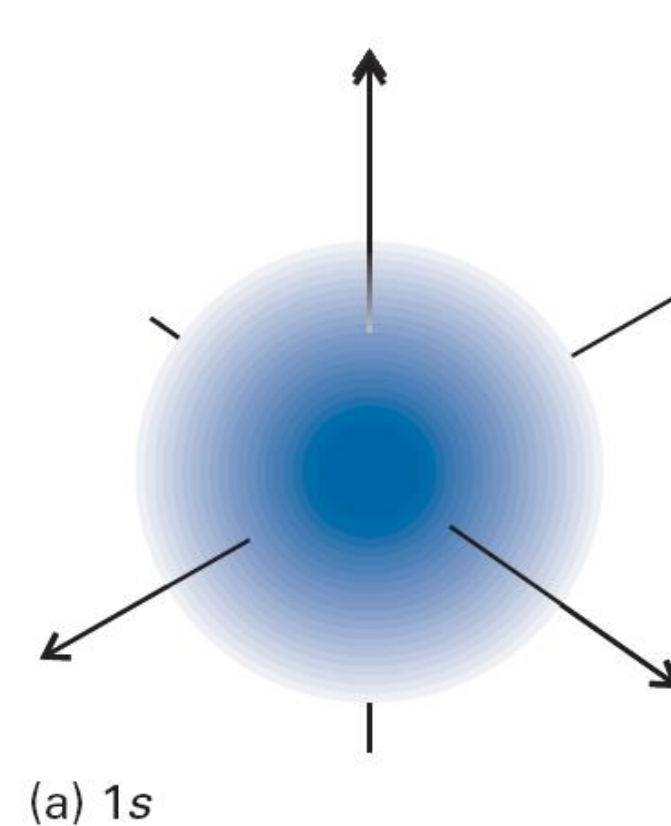
$$Y_2^{-2} = \left(\frac{15}{32\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin^2 \theta e^{-2i\phi}$$

$$Y_1^0 = \left(\frac{3}{4\pi}\right)^{1/2} \cos \theta$$

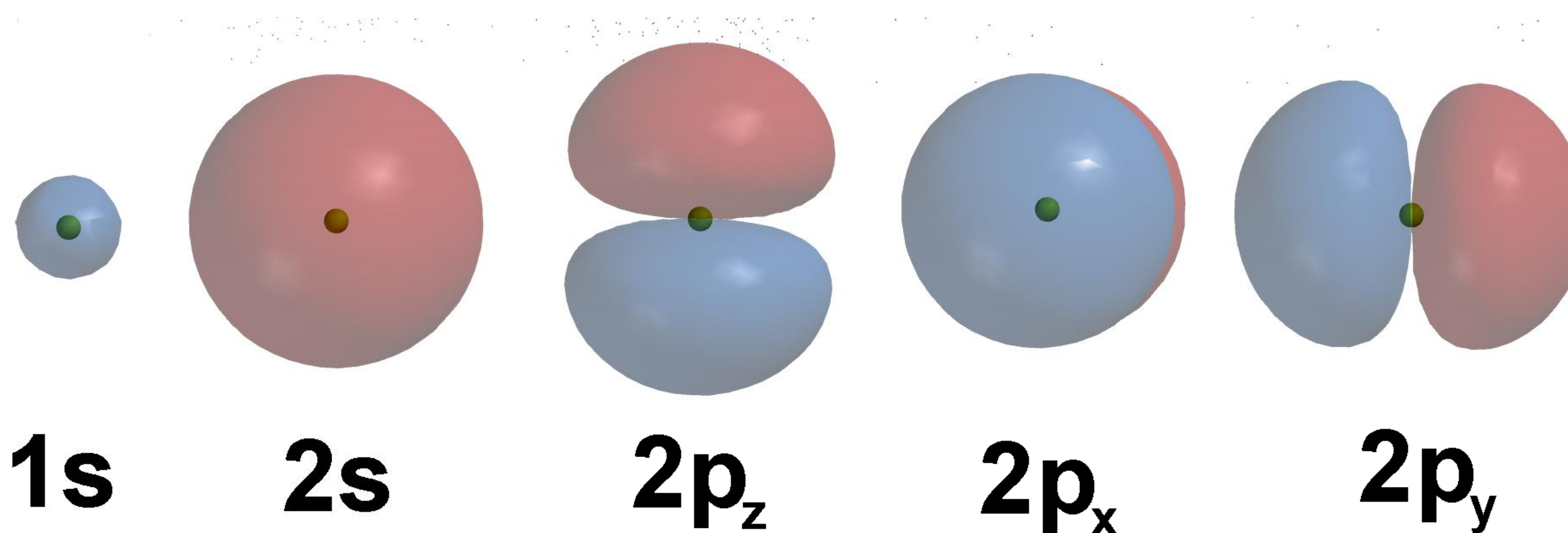
$$Y_1^{-1} = \left(\frac{3}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin \theta e^{-i\phi}$$

$$Y_2^1 = -\left(\frac{15}{8\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin \theta \cos \theta e^{i\phi}$$

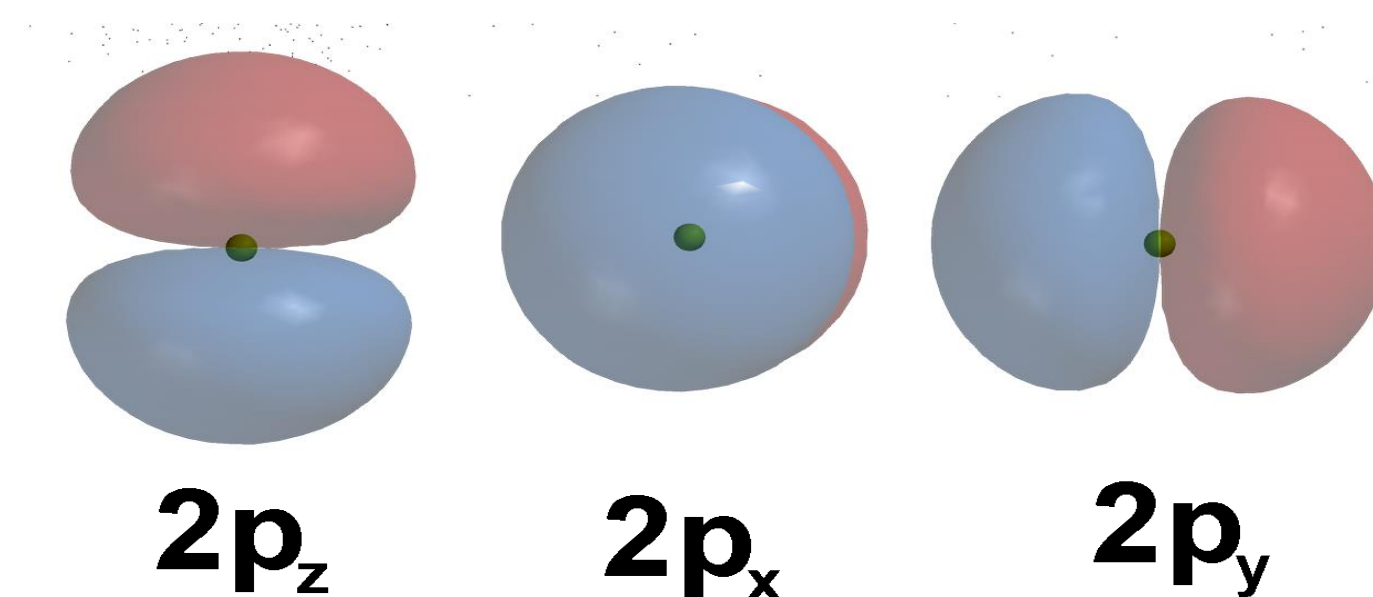
$$Y_2^2 = \left(\frac{15}{32\pi}\right)^{1/2} \sin^2 \theta e^{2i\phi}$$



Representations of the 1s and 2s hydrogenic atomic orbitals in terms of their electron densities (as represented by the density of shading)



## Solution of the Radial Wave Equation: Shapes of p orbitals [Self-study]

**(f) *p* Orbitals**

The three  $2p$  orbitals are distinguished by the three different values that  $m_l$  can take when  $l = 1$ . Because the quantum number  $m_l$  tells us the orbital angular momentum around an axis, these different values of  $m_l$  denote orbitals in which the electron has different orbital angular momenta around an arbitrary  $z$ -axis but the same magnitude of that momentum (because  $l$  is the same for all three). The orbital with  $m_l = 0$ , for instance, has zero angular momentum around the  $z$ -axis. Its angular variation is proportional to  $\cos \theta$ , so the probability density, which is proportional to  $\cos^2 \theta$ , has its maximum value on either side of the nucleus along the  $z$ -axis (at  $\theta = 0$  and  $180^\circ$ ). The wavefunction of a  $2p$ -orbital with  $m_l = 0$  is

$$Y_1^0 = \left( \frac{3}{4\pi} \right)^{1/2} \cos \theta$$

**Reference:** Peter Atkins and Julio De Paula, Elements of Physical Chemistry, 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> editions

## Solution of the Radial Wave Equation: Shapes of p orbitals [Self-study]

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{p_0} &= R_{2,1}(r)Y_{1,0}(\theta,\phi) = \frac{1}{4(2\pi)^{1/2}}\left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{5/2} r \cos \theta e^{-Zr/2a_0} \\ &= r \cos \theta f(r)\end{aligned}$$

where  $f(r)$  is a function only of  $r$ . Because in spherical polar coordinates  $z = r \cos \theta$ , this wavefunction may also be written

$$\psi_{p_z} = z f(r) \quad (10.23)$$

All  $p$  orbitals with  $m_l = 0$  have wavefunctions of this form regardless of the value of  $n$ . This way of writing the orbital is the origin of the name ' $p_z$  orbital': its boundary surface is shown in Fig. 10.15. The wavefunction is zero everywhere in the  $xy$ -plane, where  $z = 0$ , so the  $xy$ -plane is a **nodal plane** of the orbital: the wavefunction changes sign on going from one side of the plane to the other.

The wavefunctions of  $2p$  orbitals with  $m_l = \pm 1$  have the following form:

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{p_{\pm 1}} &= R_{2,1}(r)Y_{1,\pm 1}(\theta,\phi) = \mp \frac{1}{8\pi^{1/2}}\left(\frac{Z}{a_0}\right)^{5/2} r e^{-Zr/2a_0} \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi} \\ &= \mp \frac{1}{2^{1/2}} r \sin \theta e^{\pm i\phi} f(r)\end{aligned}$$

We saw in Chapter 8 that a moving particle can be described by a complex wavefunction. In the present case, the functions correspond to non-zero angular momentum about the  $z$ -axis:  $e^{+i\phi}$  corresponds to clockwise rotation when viewed from below, and  $e^{-i\phi}$  corresponds to counter-clockwise rotation (from the same viewpoint). They have zero amplitude where  $\theta = 0$  and  $180^\circ$  (along the  $z$ -axis) and maximum amplitude at  $90^\circ$ , which is in the  $xy$ -plane. To draw the functions it is usual to represent them as standing waves. To do so, we take the real linear combinations

$$\begin{aligned}\psi_{p_x} &= -\frac{1}{2^{1/2}}(p_{+1} - p_{-1}) = r \sin \theta \cos \phi f(r) = x f(r) \\ \psi_{p_y} &= \frac{i}{2^{1/2}}(p_{+1} + p_{-1}) = r \sin \theta \sin \phi f(r) = y f(r)\end{aligned} \quad (10.24)$$

These linear combinations are indeed standing waves with no net orbital angular momentum around the  $z$ -axis, as they are superpositions of states with equal and opposite values of  $m_l$ . The  $p_x$  orbital has the same shape as a  $p_z$  orbital, but it is directed along the  $x$ -axis (see Fig. 10.15); the  $p_y$  orbital is similarly directed along the  $y$ -axis.

**Reference:** Peter Atkins and Julio De Paula, Elements of Physical Chemistry, 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>/10<sup>th</sup> editions



## Calculating the mean radius of an orbital [Tutorial problem]

Average value of  $r$  (Mean radius):

$$\langle r \rangle = \int_{\text{all space}} \Psi^* r \Psi d\tau$$

Example: (i) For  $1s$   $e^-$  in H-atom

$$\begin{aligned} \langle r \rangle_{1s} &= \int \Psi_{1s}^* r \Psi_{1s} d\tau = \int_0^\infty r^3 |R_{10}(r)|^2 dr = \frac{4}{a_0^3} \int_0^\infty r^3 e^{-2r/a_0} dr \\ &= \frac{3}{2} a_0 \\ &= \frac{3}{2} \times 0.529 \text{ \AA} \\ &= 0.7935 \text{ \AA} \end{aligned}$$

(ii) For  $2s$   $e^-$  in H-atom

$$\Psi_{2s}(r, \theta, \phi) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{32\pi}} \frac{1}{a_0^{3/2}} \left(2 - \frac{r}{a_0}\right) e^{-r/2a_0}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \langle r \rangle_{2s} &= \int_0^{2\pi} d\phi \int_0^\pi \sin\theta d\theta \int_0^\infty dr r^2 \Psi_{2s}^* r \Psi_{2s} dr \\ &= \int_0^\infty r^3 |R_{20}(r)|^2 dr \\ &= 6a_0 \\ &= 3.174 \text{ \AA} \end{aligned}$$

On average  $2s$   $e^-$  is at much greater distance than a  $1s$   $e^-$ .

General Formula for  $ns$  electron in H-atom

$$\boxed{\langle r \rangle_{ns} = \frac{3}{2} a_0 n^2}$$

Radial Extent of Orbitals:

$$\langle r \rangle_{nl} = \frac{n^2 a_0}{Z} \left[ 1 + \frac{1}{2} \left( 1 - \frac{l(l+1)}{n^2} \right) \right] = \frac{a_0}{2Z} [3n^2 - l(l+1)]$$

For a given  $n$  &  $Z$

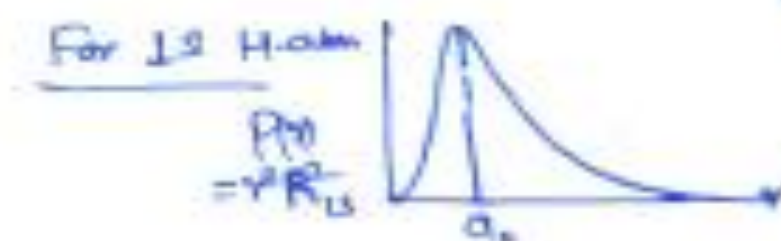
Ex:  $4s$   $e^-$  would  $\langle r \rangle_{4s}$  greater than  $4p$   $e^-$  due to the above eqn.

$$\boxed{\langle r \rangle_{4s} > \langle r \rangle_{4p}}$$

H.W: Calculate  $\langle r \rangle_{2s}$ ,  $\langle r \rangle_{2p}$ ,  $\langle r \rangle_{3s}$  and  $\langle r \rangle_{3p}$  and arrange in increasing order.

Most probable distance ( $r_{mp}$ ): Value of  $r$  for which  $P(r)$  is maximum

$$\text{i.e. } \frac{dP(r_{mp})}{dr} = 0$$



$$P(r) = r^2 R_{1s}^2 = \frac{4r^2}{a_0^3} e^{-2r/a_0}$$

$$\frac{dP(r_{mp})}{dr} = \frac{4}{a_0^3} \left[ r_{mp}^2 e^{-2r_{mp}/a_0} \left( -\frac{2}{a_0} \right) + 2r_{mp} e^{-2r_{mp}/a_0} \right] = 0$$

$$\Rightarrow \frac{r_{mp}}{a_0} e^{-2r_{mp}/a_0} = e^{-2r_{mp}/a_0}$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{r_{mp} = a_0}$$

General for Hydrogenic atom: ( $1s$   $e^-$ )

$$\boxed{r_{mp} = \frac{a_0}{Z}}$$