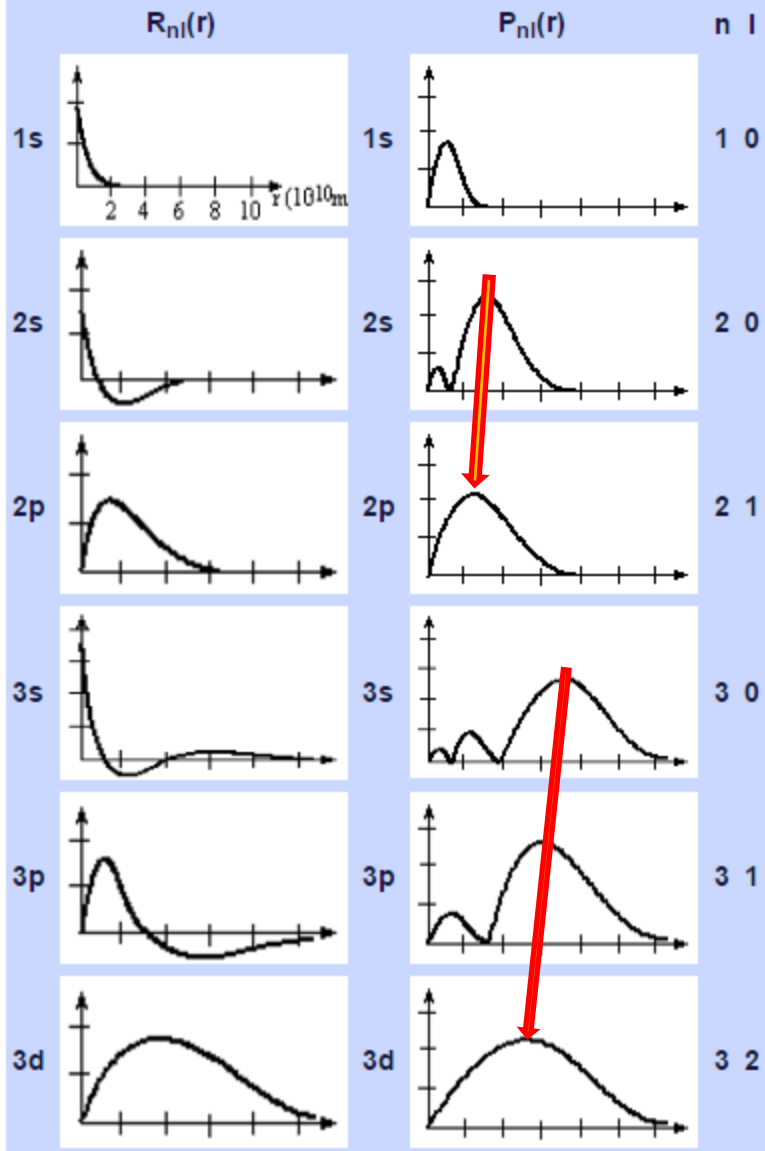


Hydrogen Orbital Radial Probability Density

This following box shows the shapes of the radial wavefunctions, $R_{nl}(r)$, and the radial distribution functions, $P_{nl}(r)$, of the atomic orbitals.



$$\frac{d^2(rR_{n\ell})}{dr^2} = -\frac{2m}{\hbar^2} [E - V_{eff}] (rR_{n\ell})$$

$$V_{eff}(r) = -\frac{e^2}{4\pi\epsilon_0 r} + \frac{\ell(\ell+1)\hbar^2}{2mr^2}$$

$$P_{n\ell}(r) = 4\pi r^2 |R_{n\ell}(r)|^2$$

$$\int_0^{\infty} P_{n\ell}(r) dr = 1$$

Note the shift of probability density inward with increasing ℓ for given n . This results in increased Coulomb repulsion with the core electrons, which favors the filling of smaller- ℓ orbitals before higher ℓ .