CONCEPT: GAUSS'S LAW

• GAUSS'S LAW = the NET flux through a closed surface depends ONLY on the charge within the surface.

 $\Phi_{NET} = -$

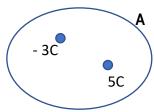
- Remember, $\varepsilon_0 = 8.85 \times 10^{-12}$



• There are three common problems where you'll need to use Gauss's Law:

Given Q(s), asked for Φ

EXAMPLE: What is the net flux through surface A?



Given Φ , asked for Q(s)

EXAMPLE: The flux through 4 sides of a closed pyramid are given. How much charge is enclosed within the pyramid?

$$\Phi_1 = 10 \ Nm^2/C$$
 $\Phi_2 = 20 \ Nm^2/C$ $\Phi_3 = 8 \ Nm^2/C$ $\Phi_4 = -15 \ Nm^2/C$

Given $\mathbf{Q}(\mathbf{s})$, asked for (\mathbf{E})

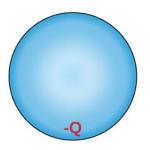
EXAMPLE: Use Gauss's Law to write an expression for \vec{E} due to a point charge Q at any distance r.



- When solving for \vec{E} , choose an imaginary "Gaussian surface" with symmetry where \vec{E} will be _____ everywhere.
 - In *most* problems, your Gaussian surface will be a box, cylinder, or sphere.

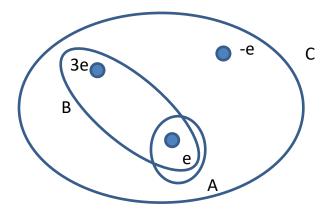
EXAMPLE: ELECTRIC FIELD WITHIN SPHERICAL CONDUCTOR

Using Gauss's law, find the electric field *inside* a spherical conductor with some charge -Q.



PRACTICE: FLUX THROUGH MULTIPLE SURFACES

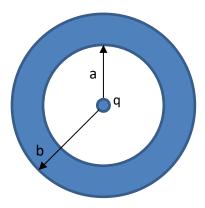
Rank the flux through surfaces A, B and C in the figure below from greatest to smallest.



EXAMPLE: ELECTRIC FIELD DUE TO A HOLLOW SHELL

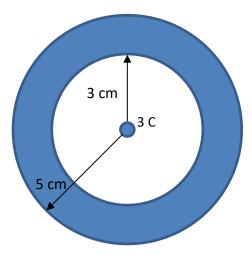
What is the electric field in the following three regions due to the conducting spherical shell:

- a) r < a
- b) a < r < b
- c) r > b



EXAMPLE: SURFACE CHARGE DENSITIES

What is the surface charge density on the inner and outer surface of the hollow shell in the following figure?



PRACTICE: ELECTRIC FIELD DUE TO A SHELL

A spherical, thin conducting shell of radius 8cm has a charge of –6C. If a 4C charge were placed at the center of the shell, what is the electric field 4 cm from the center? At 12 cm?

