

# Gauss' Law

I'm confused with how to determine which gaussian surface is best suited to calculate an electric field

$$\int \vec{E} \cdot d\vec{A} = \frac{Q_{enc}}{\epsilon_0}$$

ALWAYS TRUE!

In cases with symmetry can pull  $E$  outside and get  $E = \frac{Q_{enc}}{A\epsilon_0}$

In General, integral to calculate flux is difficult.... and not useful!

To use **Gauss' Law** to calculate  $E$ , need to choose surface carefully!

1) Want  $E$  to be constant and equal to value at location of interest

OR

2) Want  $E \cdot A = 0$  so doesn't add to integral