- 1) A
- 2) C
- 3) D
- 4) B
- 5) C
- 6) C
- 7) D 8) B
- 9) D
- 10) E

11) E (We also accepted A and C, although in the lab workshop we stated that either I or III follow the rules we gave)

12) D



above. Show your work and explain any assumptions.

Because of the symmetry of the Gaussian surface we drew, we can write the flux through the surface as EA, where E is the electric field at point P and A is the surface area given in 16). From Gauss's law the flux is given by

Therefore

- 4 mir

## **Tutorial Questions**

1. [5 pts] Case 1: Consider two small, charged spheres, sphere A and sphere B. Sphere A has charge  $+Q_0$  and sphere B has charge  $-Q_0$ . Sphere A is hung from a light inextensible string, and sphere B is placed on the ground directly below sphere A. The tension in the string is  $T_0$ .

Case 2: Charge B is replaced with three small, charged spheres, each with charge  $-Q_0/3$ .



Is the magnitude of the tension in the string in case 2 greater than, less than, or equal to  $T_0$ ? Explain your reasoning.

There are three forces exerted on sphere A in case 1, (1) a downward gravitational force  $(F_g)$  by the Earth, (2) a downward electric force  $(F_e)$  by sphere B, and (3) an upward tension force  $(T_0)$  by the string. Since sphere A is at rest, we can write:  $T_0 = F_g + F_{e,1}$ . In case 2, the small sphere directly below sphere A exerts a force on magnitude  $F_e/3$  on sphere A since it has one-third of the charge of sphere B and it located the same distance s from sphere A. The two small spheres to the right and left of the center  $-Q_0/3$  charge in case 2 exert a force on sphere A with magnitude less than  $F_e/3$ , since they are located a distance greater than s and  $F_e \propto 1/r^2$ . Additionally, in case 2, the x-components of the forces exerted by the left and right charges cancel due to the symmetry in their positions. As a result, the electric force on sphere A in case 2 is less than that in case 1. This means the tension in the string in case 2 is less than  $T_0$ .

2. [5 pts] In case 3, charge B from case 1 has been replaced with an insulating rod with charge  $-Q_0$ . The charge on the rod is uniformly distributed.

Is the magnitude of the tension in the string in case 3 greater than, less than, or equal to  $T_0$ ? Explain your reasoning.

The insulating rod in case 2 can be thought of as a continuous distribution of charge segments, each with a small amount of charge dQ. Each of the charge segments exerts an electric force on sphere A. For



each segment on the right-half of the rod, we can pair it with a segment on the left-half of the rod such that the summation of forces exerted on sphere A by this pair would result in the cancellation of their x-components. Additionally, as we move farther from the middle of the rod, the force exerted by each charge segment weakens, as the distance to sphere A increases. As a result, the electric force exerted by the rod in case 2 is smaller in magnitude than the electric force exerted by sphere B in case 1. We can therefore conclude that the tension in the string in case 2 is less than T<sub>0</sub>. 3. [5 pts] In case 1, it is known that the tension in the string  $(T_0)$ , is twice the magnitude of the gravitational force exerted on sphere A

In case 4, the string attached to sphere A has been shortened such that the distance to sphere B is now 2s.

In case 4, what is the magnitude of the tension in the string in terms of  $T_0$ ? Explain your reasoning.

From question 18, we can state:  $T_0 = F_g + F_{e,1}$ . In

Q20, it states that the tension is equal to twice the magnitude of the gravitational force. We can therefore conclude that the electric force in case 1 is equal in magnitude to the gravitational force.

$$T_0 = F_g + F_{e,1} = 2F_g$$
$$F_{e,1} = F_g$$

In case 4, the electric force is  $F_{e,1}/4$  since  $F_e \propto 1/r^2$ . Sphere A is at rest in both cases, so we can state:

$$T_4 = F_g + F_{e,4} = F_g + \frac{F_{e,1}}{4}$$

Noting that  $F_{e,1} = F_g$ , we can write:

$$T_4 = F_g + \frac{F_g}{4} = \frac{5}{4}F_g$$

The last step is to write  $F_g$  in terms of  $T_0$ :

$$T_4 = \frac{5}{4}F_g = \frac{5}{4}\frac{T_0}{2} = \frac{5}{8}T_0$$



