

6. [14 points] The force  $F$  due to gravity on a body at height  $h$  above the surface of the earth is given by

$$F(h) = \frac{mgR^2}{(R+h)^2}$$

where  $m$  is the mass of the body,  $g$  is the acceleration due to gravity at sea level ( $g < 0$ ), and  $R$  is the radius of the earth.

- a. [3 points] Compute  $F'(h)$ .
- b. [3 points] Compute  $F''(h)$ .
- c. [5 points] Find the best linear approximation to  $F$  at  $h = 0$ .
- d. [3 points] Does your approximation from part (c) give an overestimate or an underestimate of  $F$ ? Why?