

**10.** (8 points) We shall investigate a well-known physical phenomenon, called the “Doppler Effect”. When an electromagnetic signal (e.g. a ray of light) with frequency  $F_e$  is emitted from a source moving away with velocity  $v > 0$  with respect to a receiver at rest, then the received frequency  $F_r$  is different from  $F_e$ . The relationship linking the emitted frequency  $F_e$  and the received frequency  $F_r$  is the Doppler Law:

$$F_r = \sqrt{\frac{1 - v/c}{1 + v/c}} F_e, \quad \text{where } c \text{ is a constant, the speed of light.}$$

For this problem, you might find useful to know that the Taylor series for the function  $\sqrt{\frac{1+x}{1-x}}$  near  $x = 0$  is  $1 + x + \frac{x^2}{2} + \frac{x^3}{2} + \dots$ .

**(a)** On Earth, nearly all objects travel with velocities  $v$  much smaller than the speed of light  $c$ , i.e. the ratio  $v/c$  is very small. Use this fact to obtain the approximation to the Doppler Law for slow-moving emitters:

$$F_r \simeq \left(1 - \frac{v}{c}\right) F_e.$$

**(b)** The relationship in part **(a)** is *not* exact, and an error is made when it is used to approximate the Doppler Law. Find an expression for the “error”, in terms of  $v$ ,  $c$  and  $F_e$ . Is the approximation accurate within 1% of  $F_e$  if the velocity is at most 20% of the speed of light  $c$ ? *Explain.*