

Name: _____

An astronaut's weight (in N) is:

$$w = \frac{3.2 \times 10^6}{6400+h},$$

where h is the height above sea level (in km).

If h is increasing at 7 km/s, how fast is w changing when $h = 1600$ km?

$$\frac{dh}{dt} = 7 \quad h = 1600$$

$$w = 3.2 \times 10^6 (6400+h)^{-1}$$

$$\frac{dw}{dt} = -3.2 \times 10^6 (6400+h)^{-2} \frac{dh}{dt}$$

$$= -3.2 \times 10^6 (6400+1600)^{-2} (7)$$

$$= -0.35 \frac{N}{s}$$