

Senior Project “Project”

“Let’s go to the movies...!!”

Your physics expertise is needed to analyze the physics in three Disney/Pixar¹ and/or Marvel² movie clips of your choosing. You will use your supernatural physics powers to analyze and evaluate the realism of the animation and/or special effects in your movie clips.

Project Requirements:

1. Choose **THREE** different movie clips that demonstrate **at least two interacting physics** models (e.g., “Kinematics and Energy”, “Force and Energy”, “Momentum and Kinematics”, etc.) as you have seen in AP-style problems. One of the three video clips may analyze a scene that clearly (or subtly) defies the laws of physics; your AP-style solution will quantitatively prove “why” and/or “how” the laws of physics are being defied.
2. For each clip, provide the following:
 - a. a detailed **qualitative description** of the physics models present in the scene.
 - b. a color OR black-and-white **student hand-drawn** rendition of the scene,
 - c. a student-authored “AP-style” problem statement requiring TWO quantitative solutions and ONE qualitative solution. For example,
 - (a) calculate Lightning McQueen’s velocity after accelerating at 3 m/s^2 for 4 s.*
 - (b) calculate the magnitude of the frictional force acting on McQueen when his tire blows out and he “skids” along the ground.*
 - (c) briefly explain how would McQueen’s velocity would be affected if there were no friction between his tire and the ground.*
 - d. solve each problem using a full “Given, Find, Solution” problem solving format.
3. Slopes and Areas - The following must be addressed in one or more of the problem statements:
 - a. one or more problem requires an analysis of the slope/derivative in its graphical solution ($v = dx/dt$, $a = dv/dt$, $F = -dU/dx$)
 - b. one or more problem requires an analysis of the area under a curve in its graphical solution (area under F vs. x graph, area under F vs. t graph)
4. Each model (Kinematics, Force, Energy, Momentum) must be addressed at least once and solved using its full problem-solving format (i.e., Kinematic Model, Force Model, Energy Model, Momentum Model).
5. A typed debrief that addresses each of the following questions:
 - a. What was the FUN level of the project on a scale of 1-10 (10 most fun)? Why?
 - b. What was the DIFFICULTY level of the project on a scale of 1-10 (10 most difficult)? Why?
 - c. Describe **in detail** ONE Physics concept that was clarified or solidified for you in this project?
 - d. Describe **in detail** ONE Physics concept that is still unclear/confusing to you.
 - e. What did you think of this project overall (now that you have completed it)? Why?
6. This project will be worth a test grade for the Spring Semester.

¹ Disney/Pixar movies strictly adhere to the law of physics, hence the realistic movement/motion in their movies

² Please ensure that the clip is “PG-13”...no blood and guts, please.