## Physics 131- Fundamentals of Physics for Biologists I



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## 9/19/2012

-How can we describe motion (Kinematics)

 What is responsible for motion (Dynamics)

Movie of the Day
My grad student flying
on the "vomit comet"



## **Outline**

- Switch in office hours
  - Thu 10.30-12.15
  - Thu 1.30-3
- Important Forces in Life Sciences?
- Quiz 2 review
- What is responsible for motion (Dynamics)
  - Newton's Laws

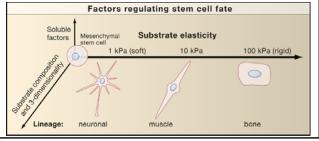
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"Since this is physics for life sciences what's the most important force our bodies exert (inside or out)?"

We hope you will help in answering this question in your future career! Researchers are only now realizing that forces are VERY important in cell and developmental biology

One example: It had been well known that Stem Cells differentiate into, e.g. brain, or muscle or bone cells given the right chemical differentiation signals. In 2006 it was discovered that stem cells can also differentiate in response to the mechanics of their surroundings without any chemical signals —they differentiate in such a way as to match the mechanical properties of their environment. For example, when grown in soft gel, stem cells can turn into

neurons.



Engler, ..., Discher Cell 2005

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Quiz 2 review

Average 4.1

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