



Modelling human balancing tasks

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**joint work with Balázs A. Kovács, Gergely Buza, László Bencsik, Ambrus Zelei,
Csenge A. Molnár, John Milton, Gábor Stépán**



Virtual stick balancing

Ball and beam

and

Pendulum-cart and beam

Balance board



Stick balancing

stick length

reaction time delay

sensory uncertainty

~ critical length?



Stick balancing on fingertip



Different human balancing tasks



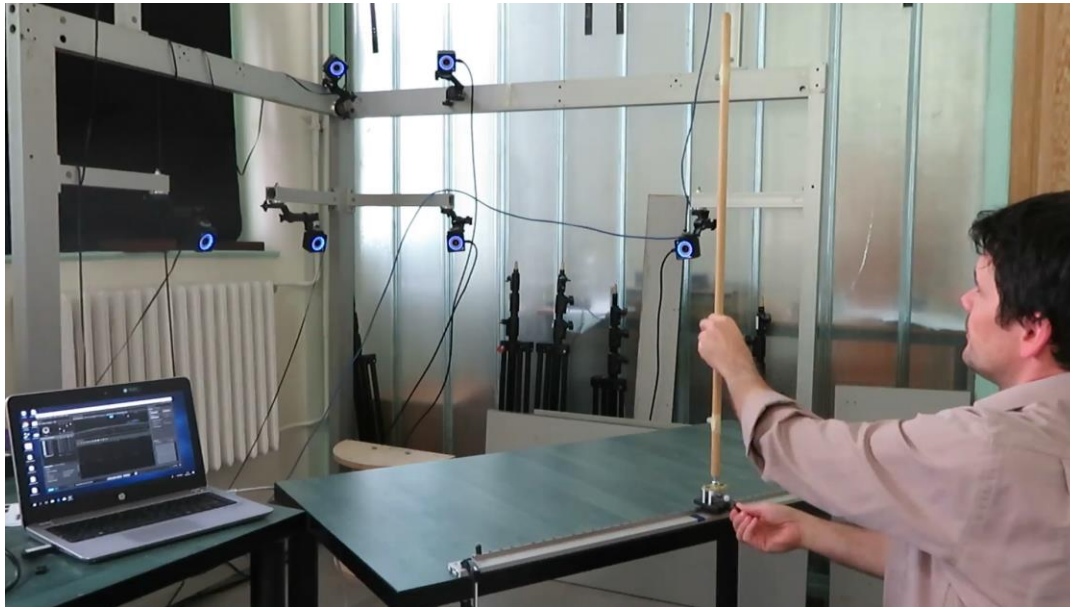
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Stick balancing on pingpong racket





Balancing a linearly driven stick



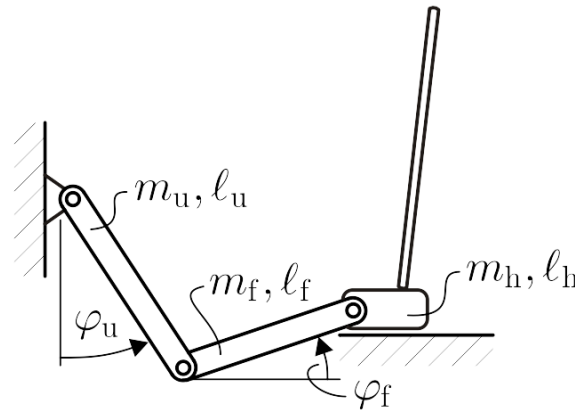
Stick balancing on the fingertip



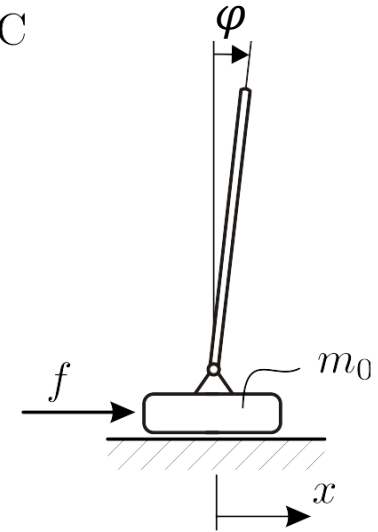
A



B



C

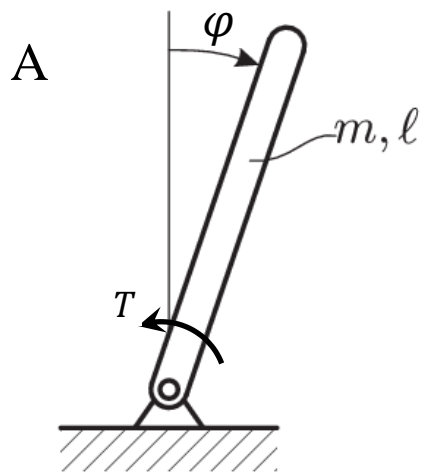


segment	mass	length
upper arm	$m_u = 1.775\text{kg}$	$l_u = 0.2874\text{m}$
forearm	$m_f = 1.015\text{kg}$	$l_f = 0.2666\text{m}$
hand	$m_h = 1.015\text{kg}$	$l_h = 0.0821\text{m}$

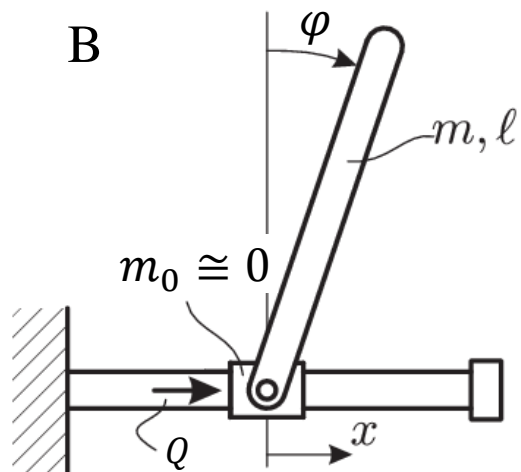
$$\Rightarrow m_0 \cong 2.3\text{kg}$$

(de Leva, 1996)

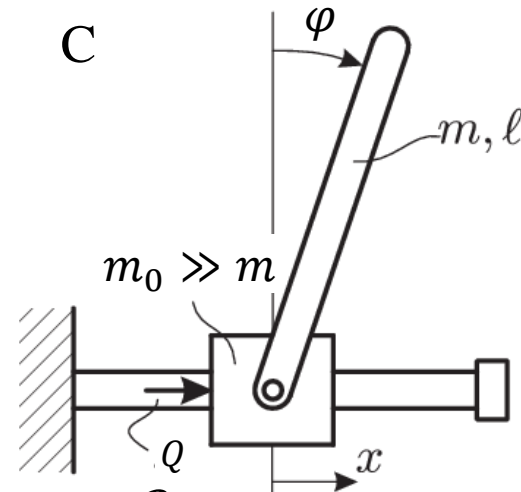
Stick balancing model



$$\ddot{\varphi} - \frac{3g}{2l} \varphi = c_A T$$

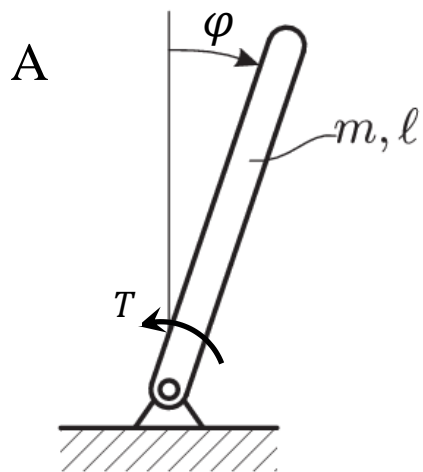


$$\ddot{\varphi} - \frac{6g}{l} \varphi = c_B Q$$

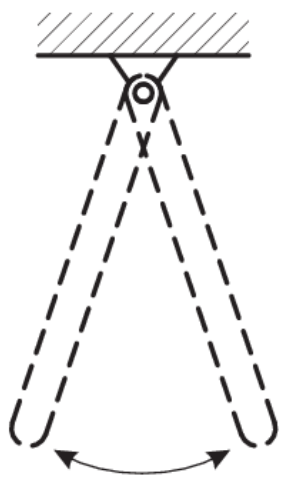


$$\ddot{\varphi} - \frac{3g}{2l} \varphi = c_C Q$$

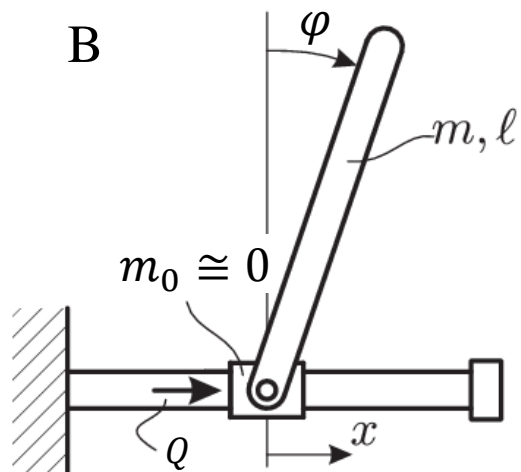
Stick balancing model



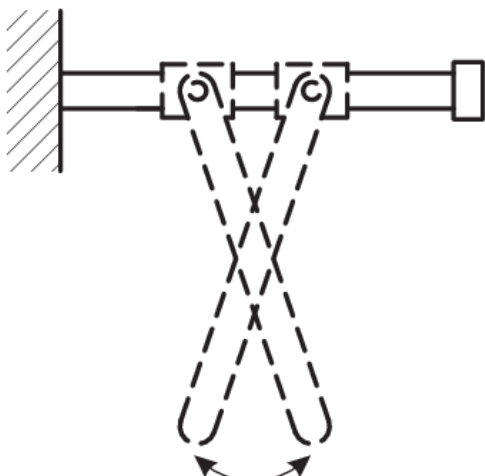
$$\ddot{\varphi} - \frac{3g}{2l} \varphi = c_A T$$



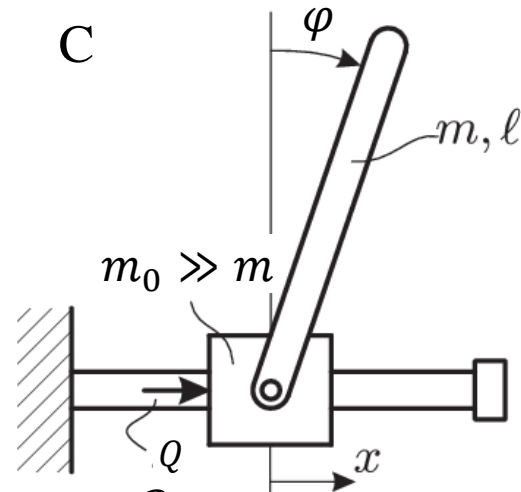
$$T_A = 2\pi\sqrt{2l/(3g)}$$



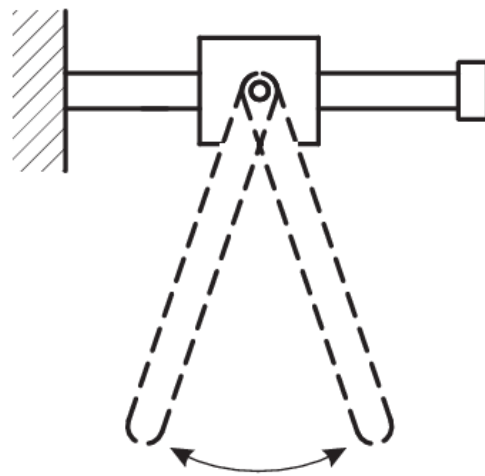
$$\ddot{\varphi} - \frac{6g}{l} \varphi = c_B Q$$



$$T_B = 2\pi\sqrt{l/(6g)} = T_A/2$$



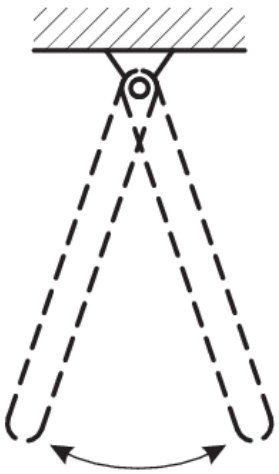
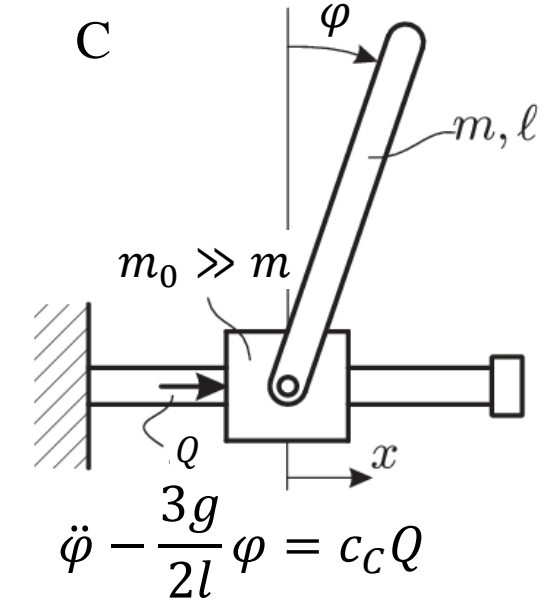
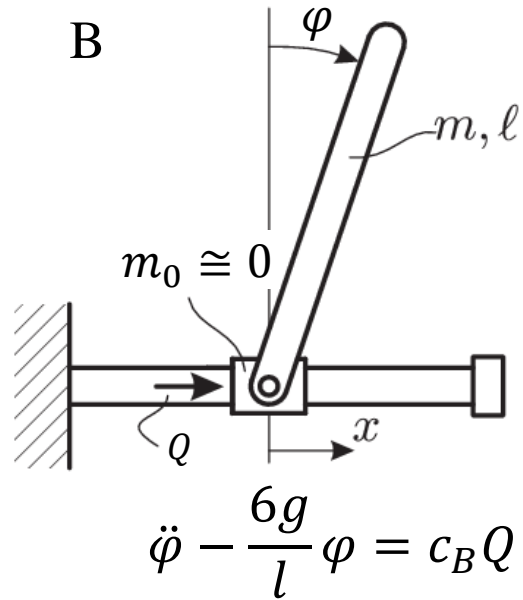
$$\ddot{\varphi} - \frac{3g}{2l} \varphi = c_C Q$$



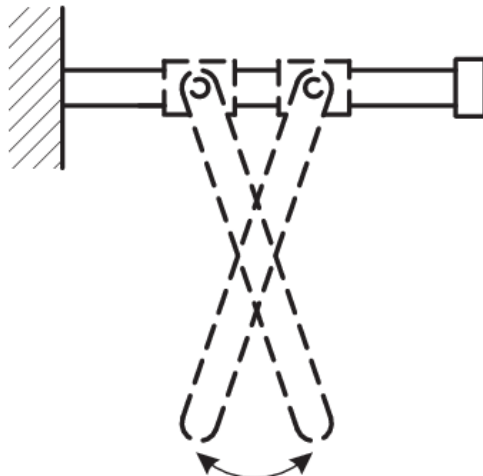
$$T_C = 2\pi\sqrt{2l/(3g)} = T_A$$



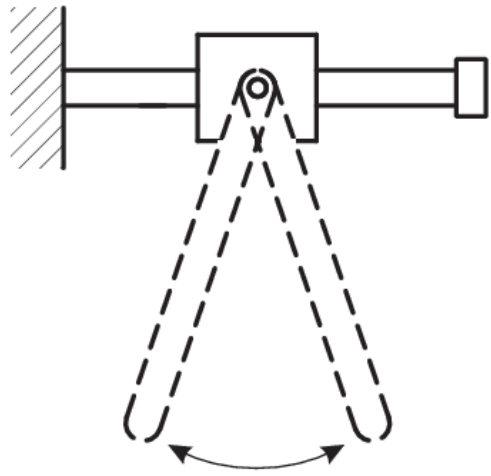
odel



$$T_A = 2\pi\sqrt{2l/(3g)}$$



$$T_B = 2\pi\sqrt{l/(6g)} = T_A/2$$



$$T_C = 2\pi\sqrt{2l/(3g)} = T_A$$

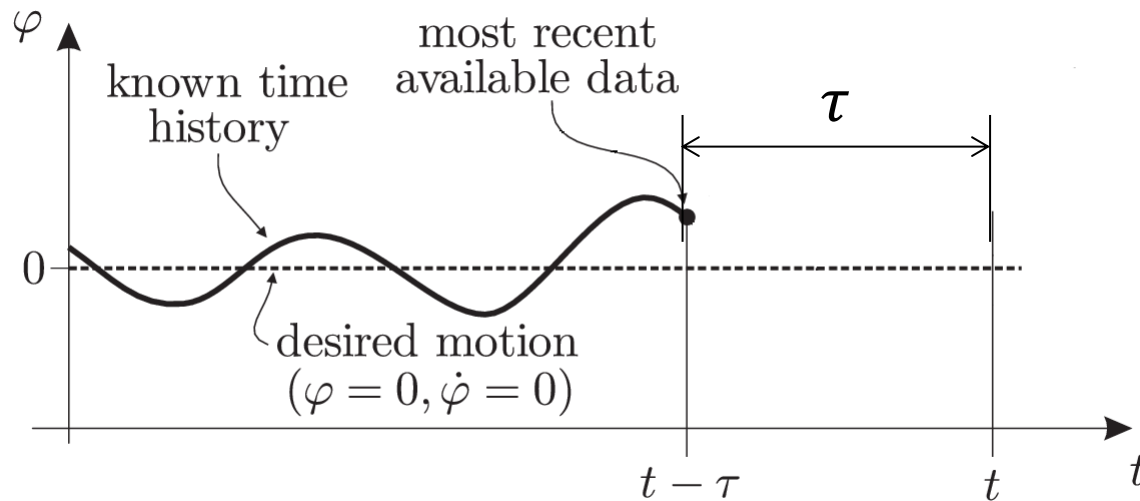
Reaction delay



$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) - \frac{3g}{2l}\varphi(t) = -\frac{6}{ml}Q(t)$$

$$Q(t) = f(\varphi(\vartheta), \dot{\varphi}(\vartheta), \ddot{\varphi}(\vartheta)) \quad \vartheta \in [0, t - \tau]$$

$$\text{For example } Q(t) = -k_p\varphi(t - \tau) - k_d\dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$



delay for visual tracking

Nasher (1976): 150~250ms

Miall (1993): 200~250ms

Jordan (1996): 100~200ms

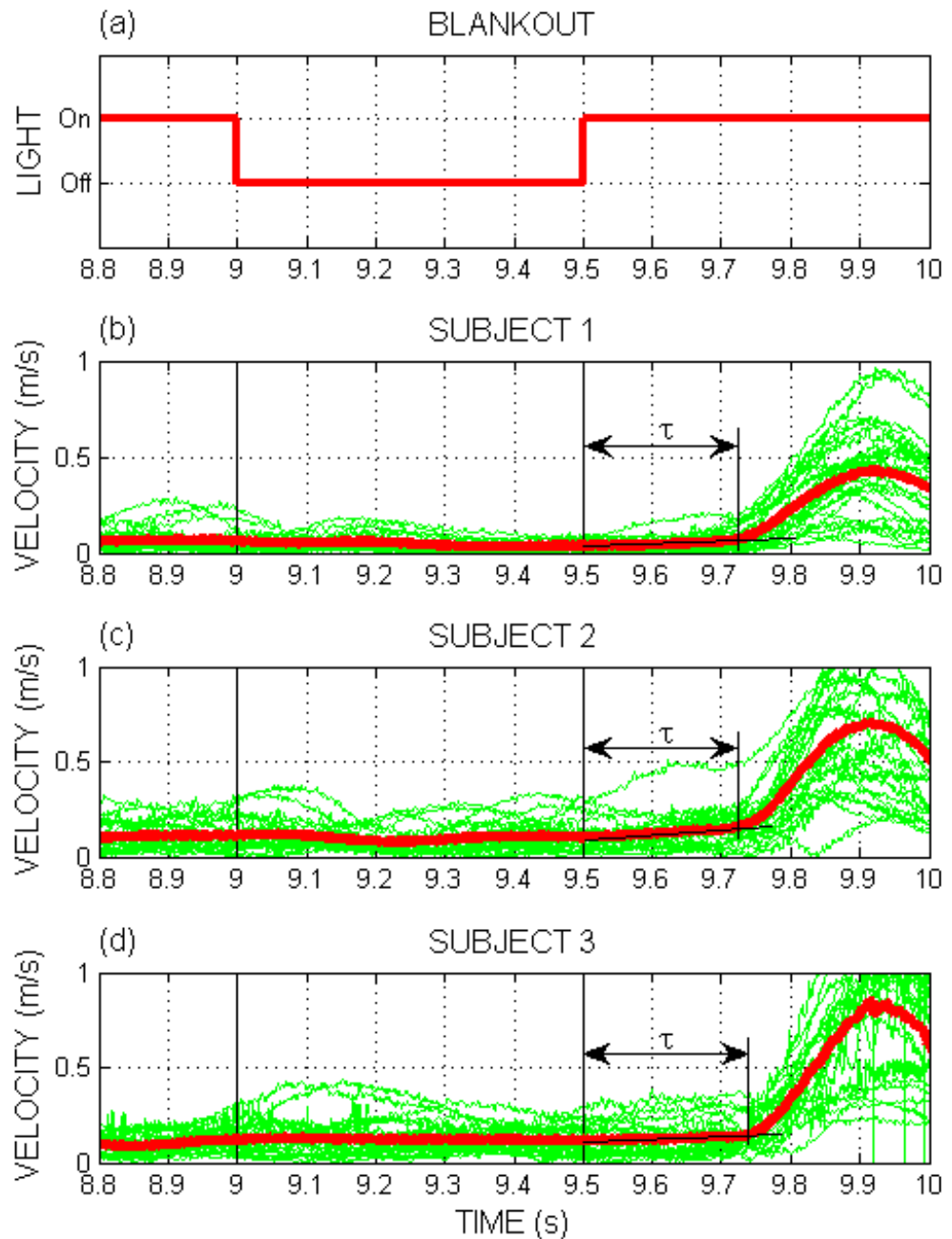
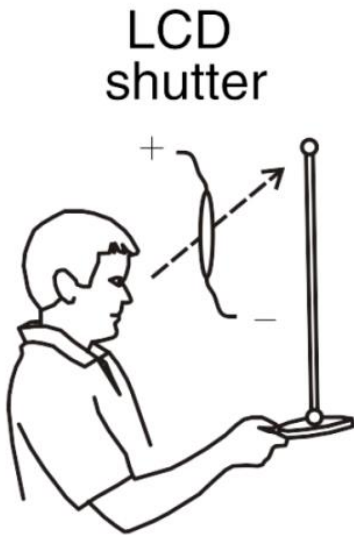
Kawato (1999): 150~250ms

delay for stick balancing using cross-correlation:

Cabrera, Milton (2004): 80~200ms

Reaction delay

blankout tests:
Milton (2011):
 $\tau \approx 230\text{ms}$



Delayed PD feedback



$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) - a\varphi(t) = -k_p\varphi(t - \tau) - k_d\dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$

$$a = \frac{3g}{2l}$$

D-subdivision:

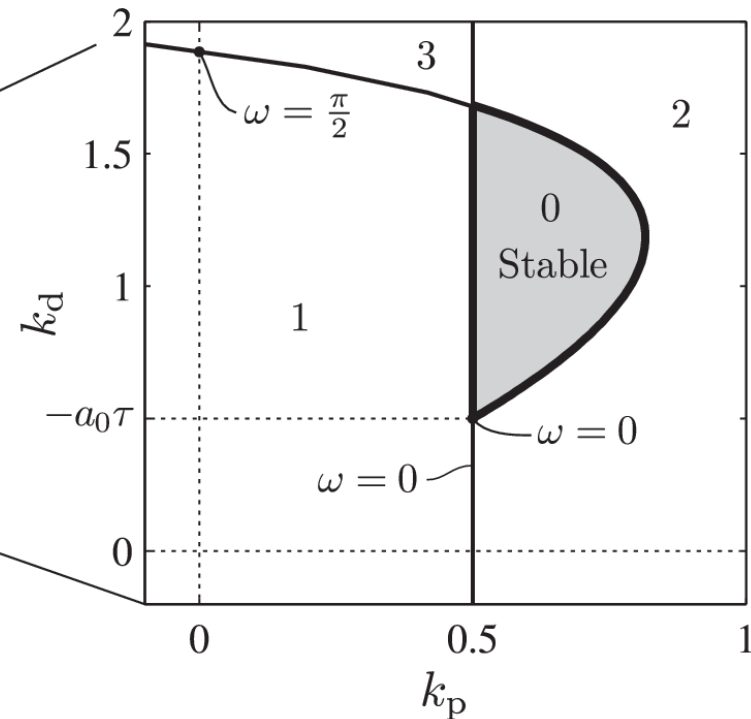
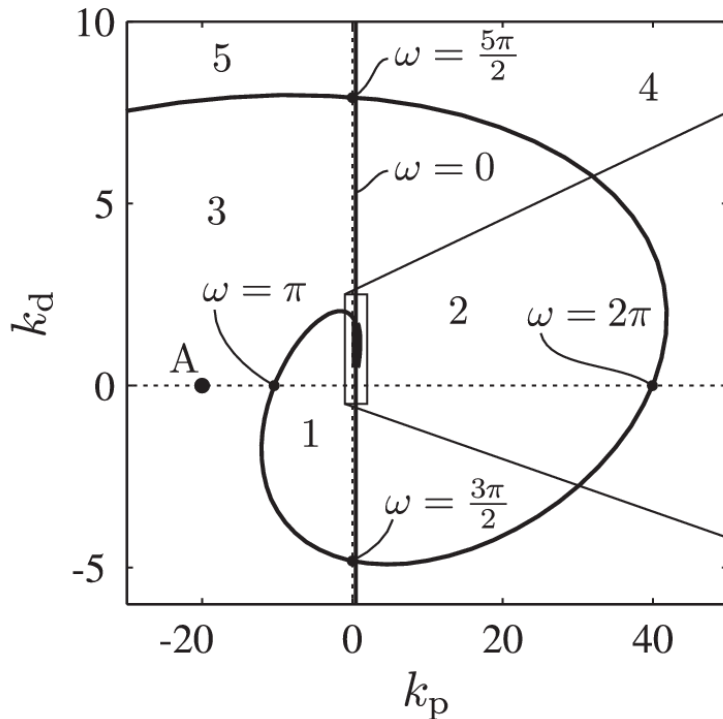
$$\omega = 0: k_p = a$$

(system parameter)

$$\omega \neq 0: k_p = (\omega^2 + a) \cos(\omega\tau)$$

$$k_d = \frac{\omega^2 + a}{\omega} \sin(\omega\tau)$$

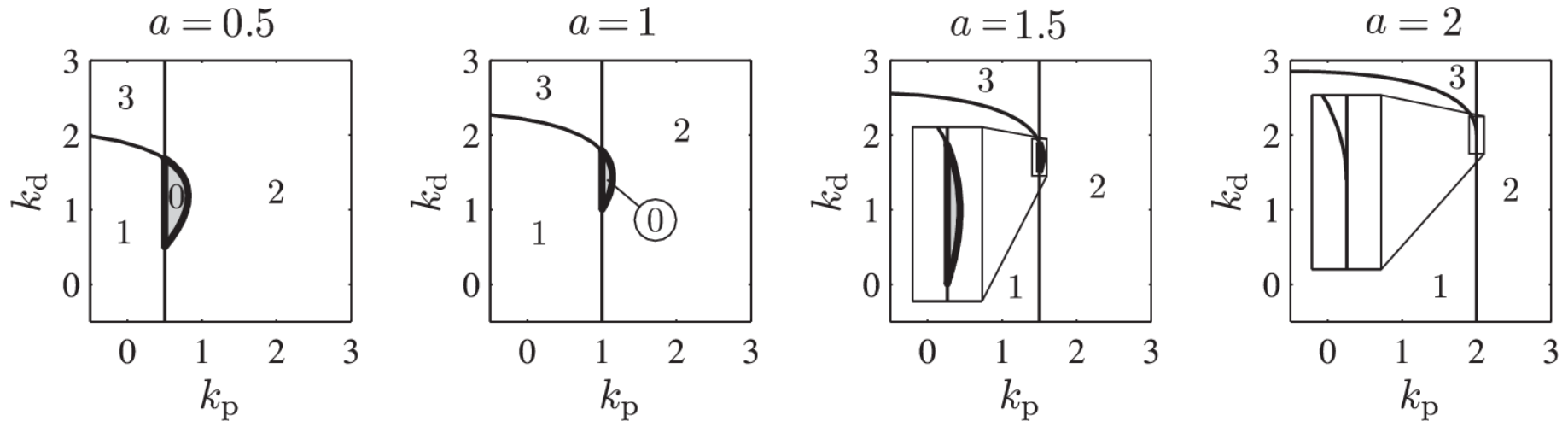
$\tau = 1, a = 0.5$





$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) - a\varphi(t) = -k_p\varphi(t - \tau) - k_d\dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$

$\tau = 1$



$$a_{\text{crit}} = \frac{2}{\tau^2} \quad (\text{Schürer, 1948})$$

$$\text{Or, for fixed } a, \tau_{\text{crit}} = \sqrt{\frac{2}{a}} = \frac{T_p}{\pi\sqrt{2}},$$

T_p : downward oscillation period

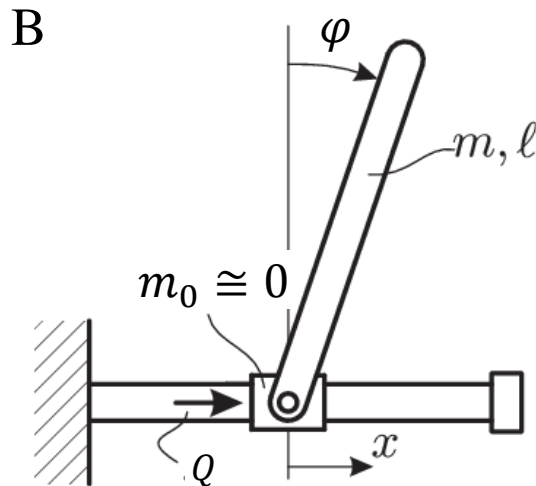
(Stepan, 2009)

Stick balancing model



$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) - a\varphi(t) = -k_p\varphi(t - \tau) - k_d\dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$

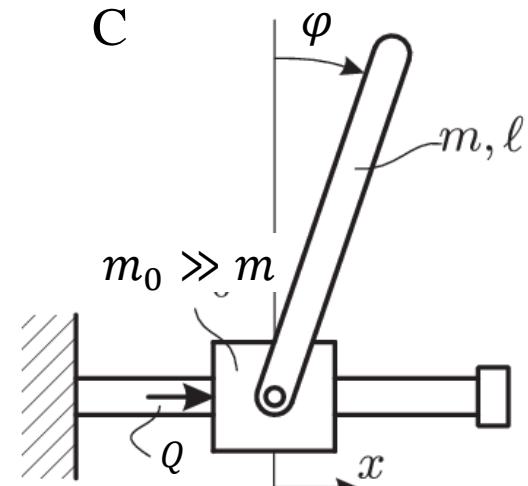
$$\tau = 230\text{ms}$$



$$a = \frac{6g}{l}$$

$$l_{\text{crit-B}} = 3g\tau^2 = 156\text{cm}$$

$$a_{\text{crit}} = \frac{2}{\tau^2}$$

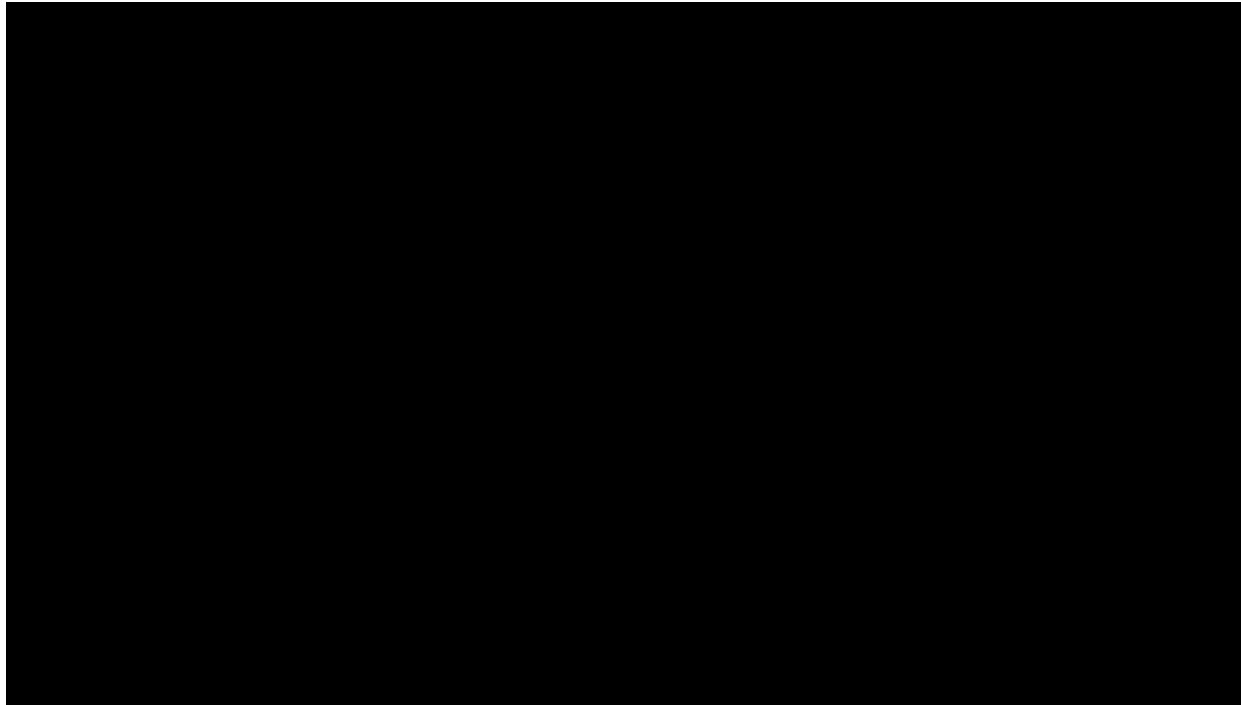


$$a = \frac{3g}{2l}$$

$$l_{\text{crit-C}} = \frac{3}{4}g\tau^2 = 39\text{cm}$$

Experiments: $l_{\text{crit}} = 25 \sim 30\text{cm}$ (Milton et al., 1990-)

Stick balancing model



$$l_{\text{crit-C}} = \frac{3}{4} g \tau^2 = 39\text{cm}$$

Experiments: $l_{\text{crit}} = 25 \sim 30\text{cm}$ (Milton et al., 1990–)



Another video

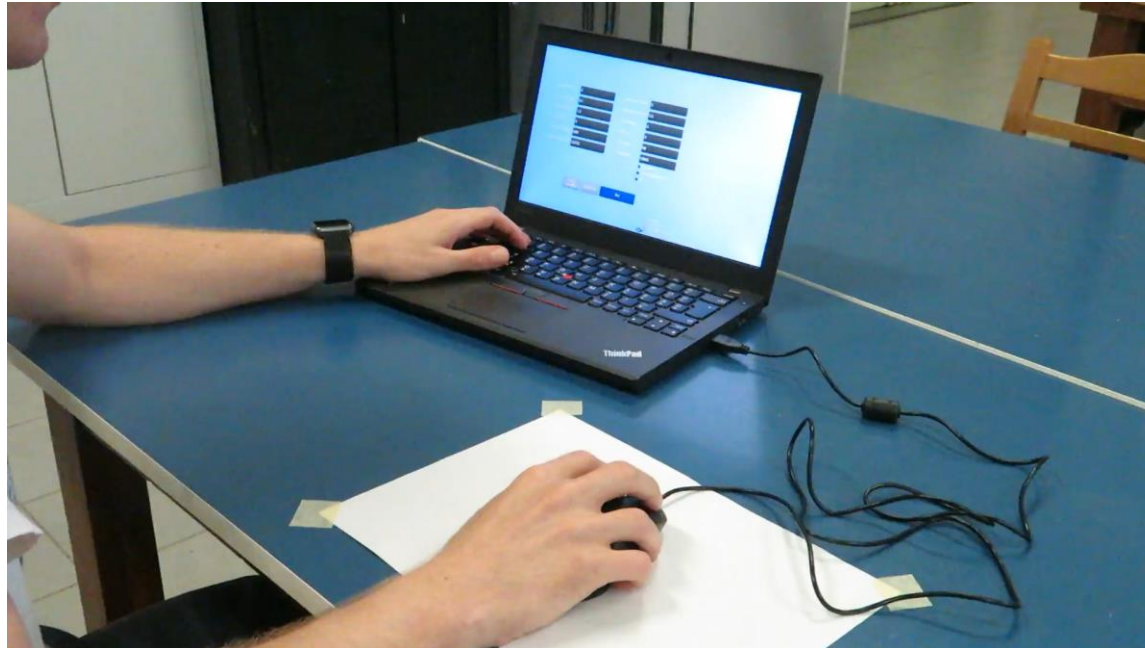
$$l_{\text{crit-C}} = \frac{3}{4} g \tau^2 = 39\text{cm}$$

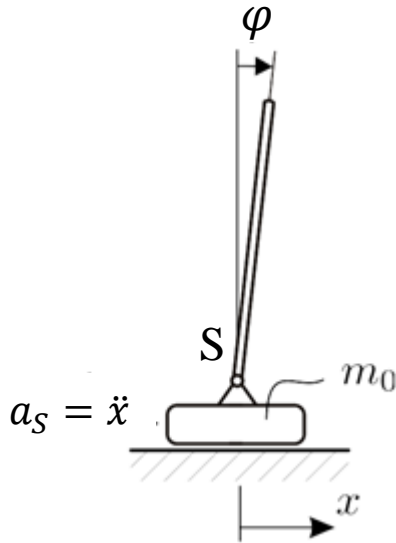
Experiments: $l_{\text{crit}} = 25 \sim 30\text{cm}$ (Milton et al., 1990–)

Virtual stick balancing



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$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) - \frac{3g}{2l} \varphi(t) = -\frac{3}{2l} a_S(t)$$

a_S : acceleration of stick's bottom

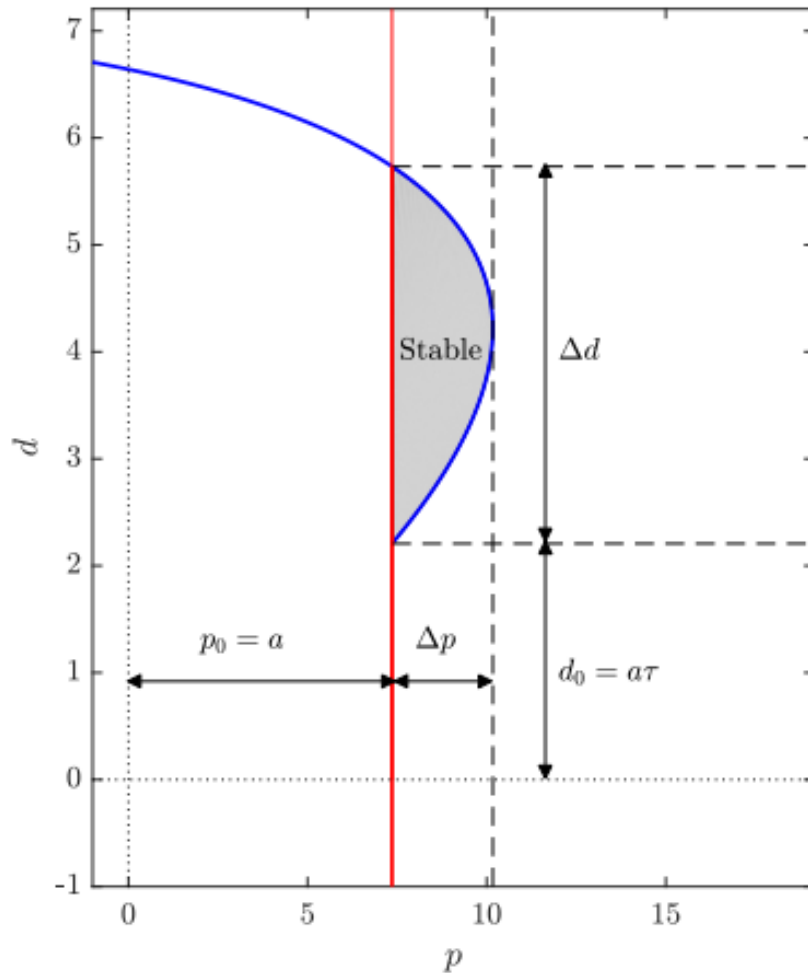
$$a_S(t) = -k_p \varphi(t - \tau) - k_d \dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$

$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) - a\varphi(t) = -p \varphi(t - \tau) - d \dot{\varphi}(t - \tau) \quad a = \frac{3g}{2l}$$

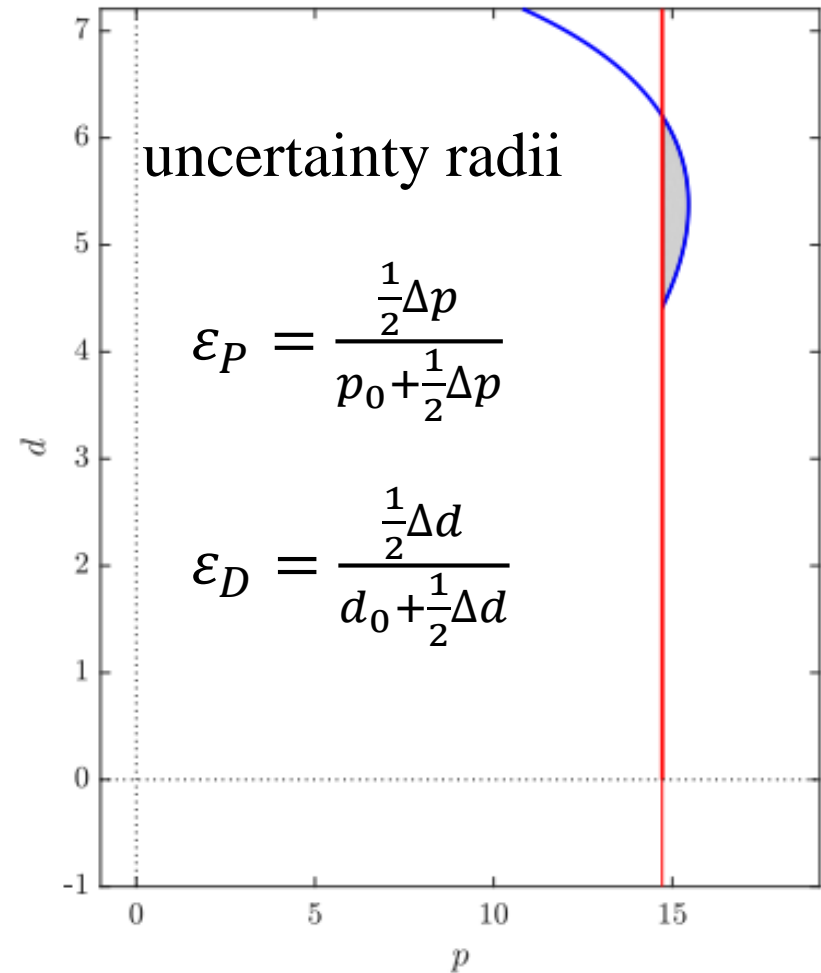


$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) - a\varphi(t) = -p\varphi(t - \tau) - d\dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$

$\tau = 0.3, L = 2.0$



$\tau = 0.3, L = 1.0$

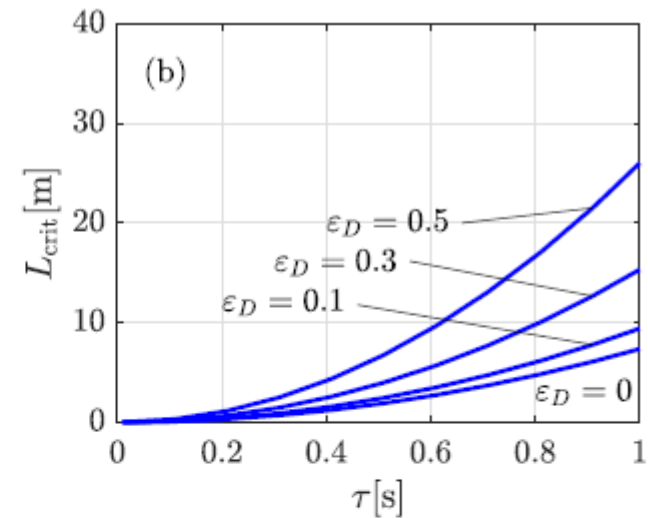
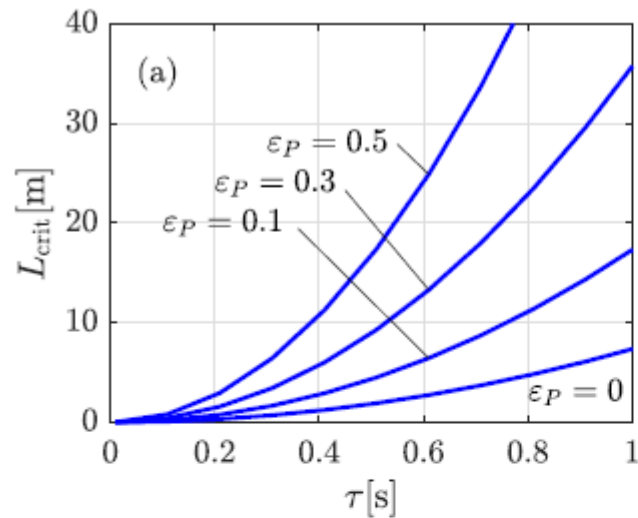




$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) - a\varphi(t) = -p\varphi(t - \tau) - d\dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$

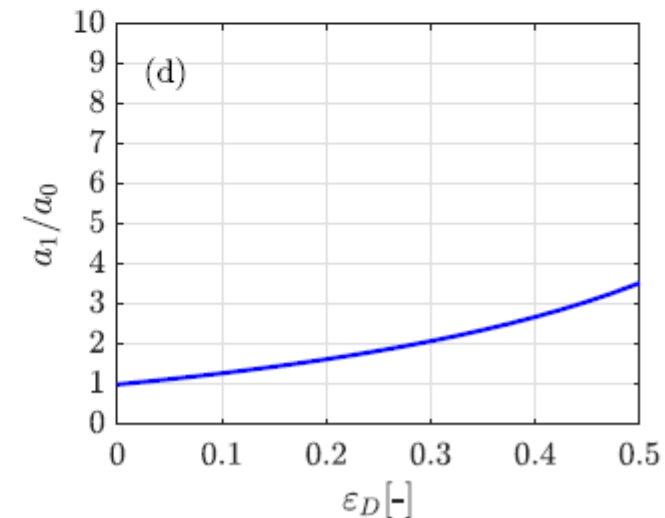
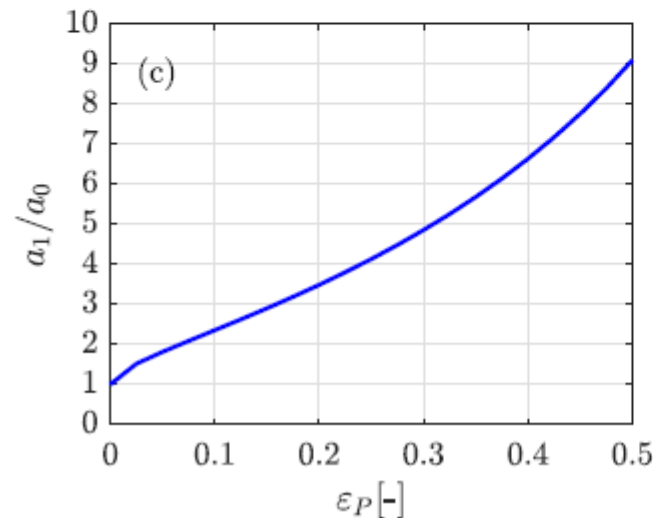
$$l_{\text{crit}} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} = a_0 \tau^2$$

$$a_0 = \frac{3}{4}g$$

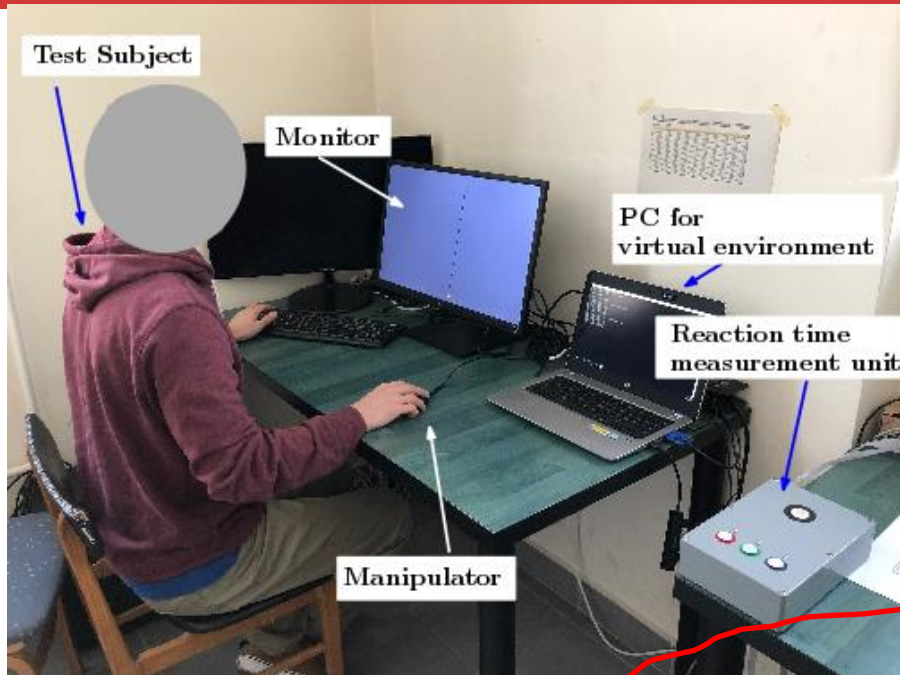


$$l_{\text{crit}} \Big|_{\varepsilon>0} = a_1 \tau^2$$

$$\frac{a_1}{a_0} = ?$$

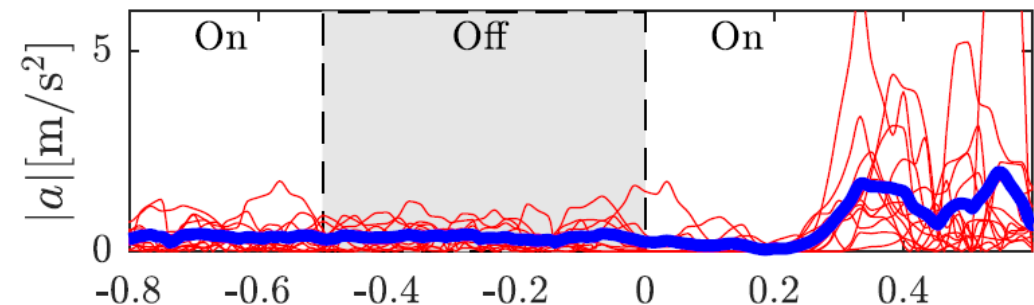


Virtual stick balancing



$$\tau = \tau_{\text{Machine}} + \tau_{\text{Neural}} + \tau_{\text{Added}}$$

122 ms ~250 ms $k \times 50$ ms





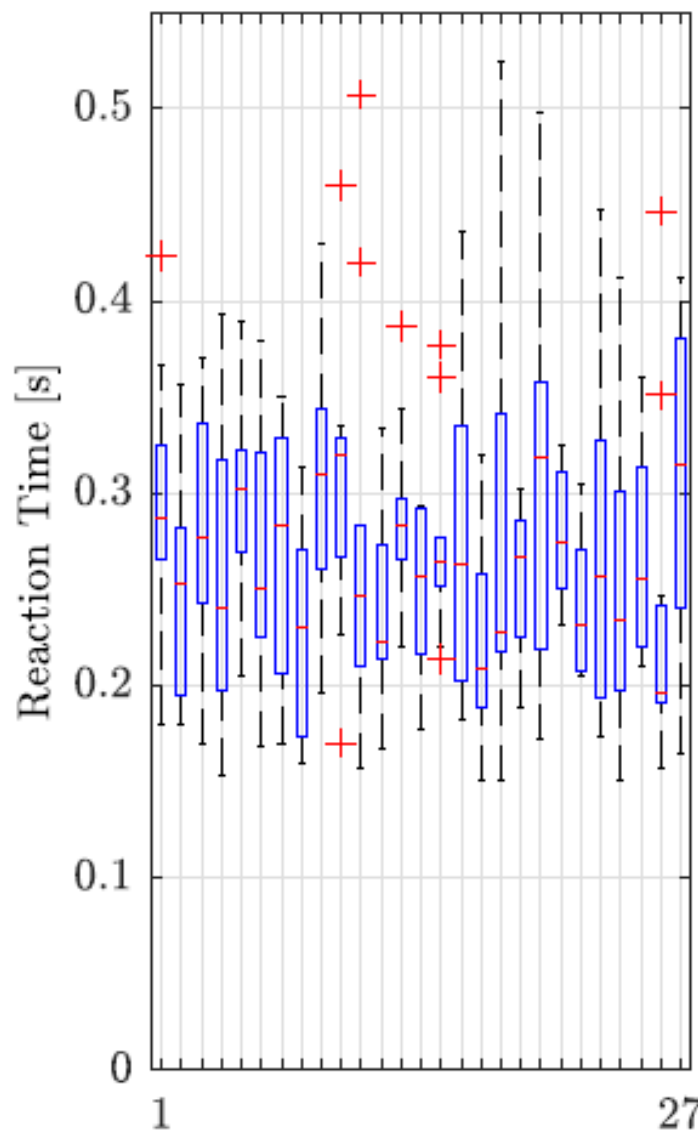
SINGLE



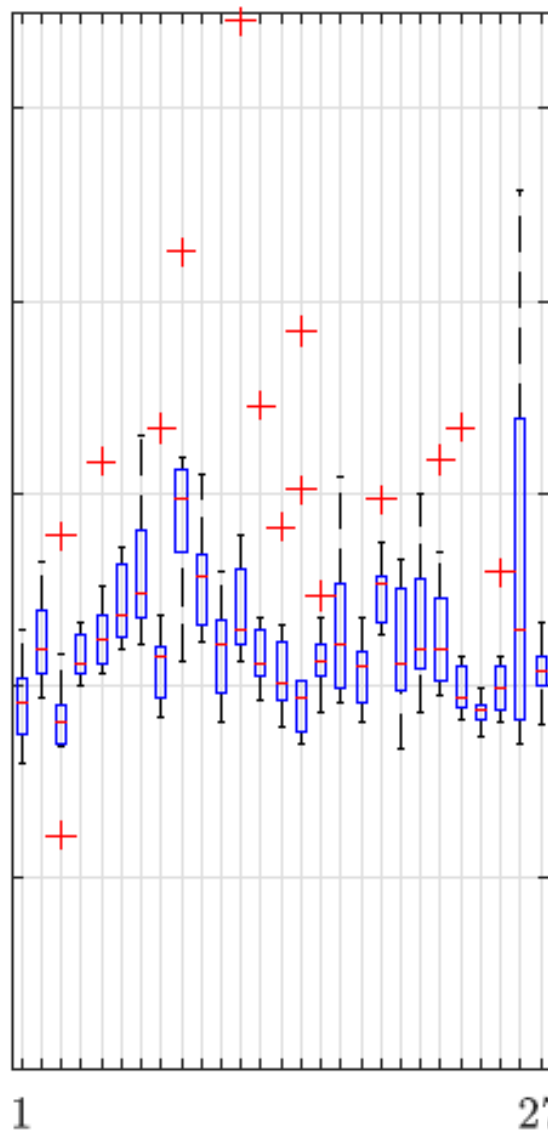
INDIVIDUAL



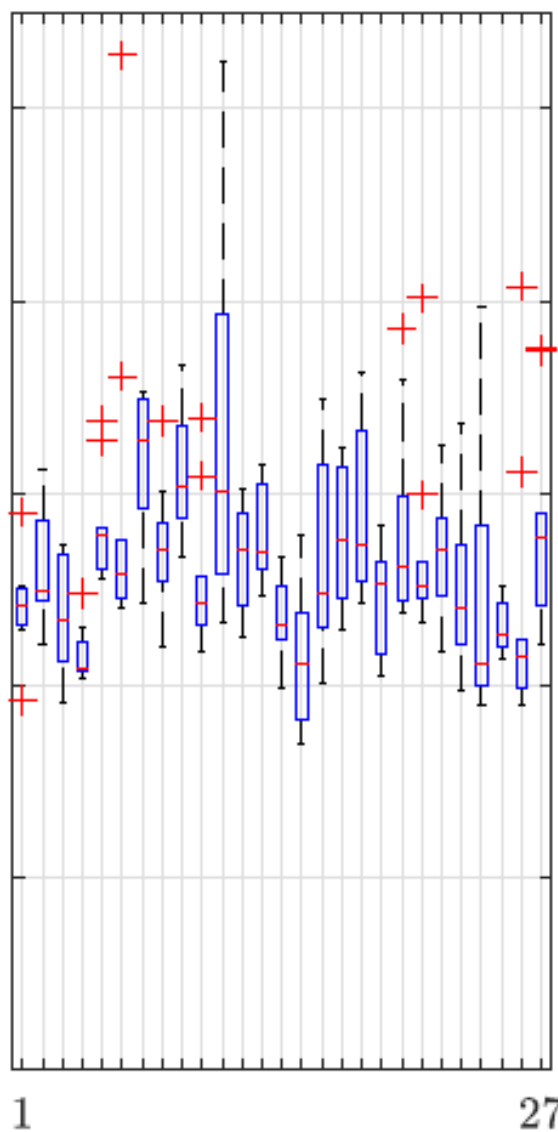
BLANK OUT



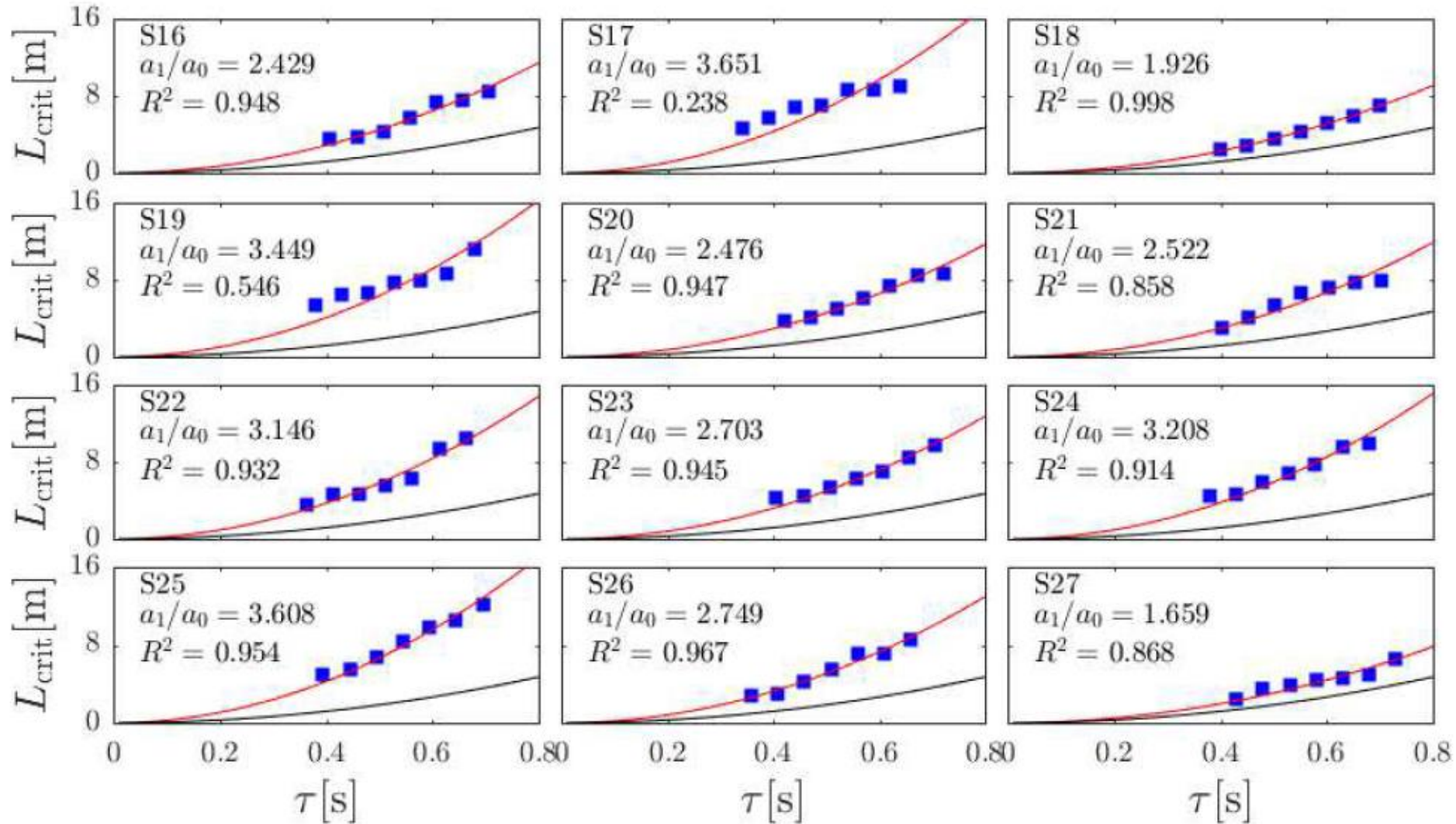
SINGLE



INDIVIDUAL



Virtual stick balancing



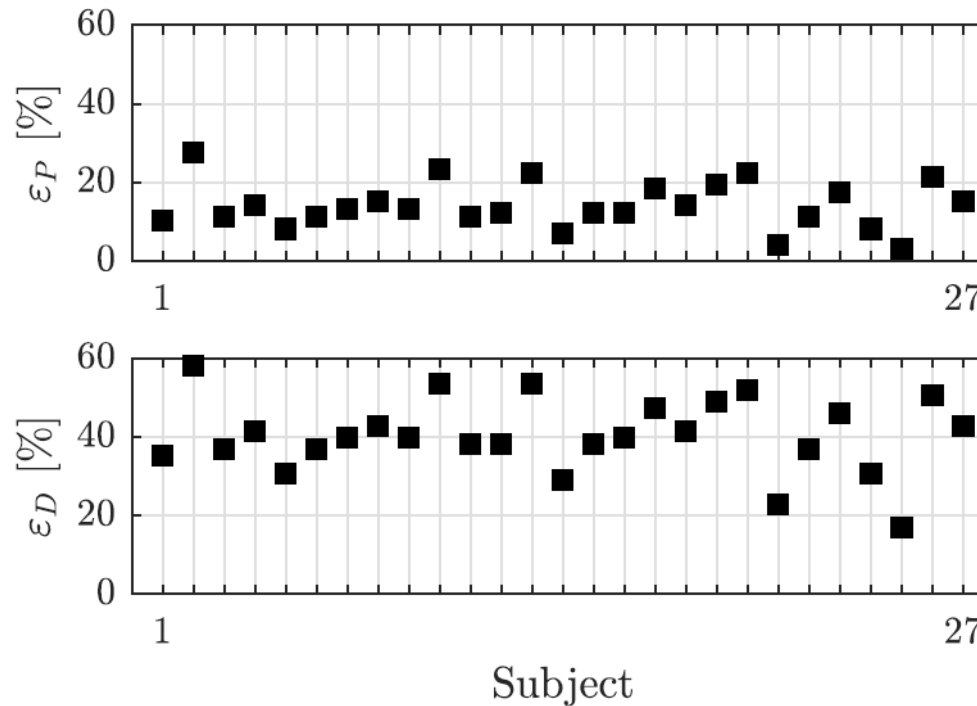
$$l_{\text{crit}} \Big|_{\varepsilon=0} = a_0 \tau^2$$

$$l_{\text{crit}} \Big|_{\varepsilon>0} = a_1 \tau^2$$





Uncertainty radii



3.1~27.6%
mean: 14.1%

16.8~58.2%
mean: 40.3%

Different human balancing tasks



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Ball and beam (rolling cart on a see-saw)

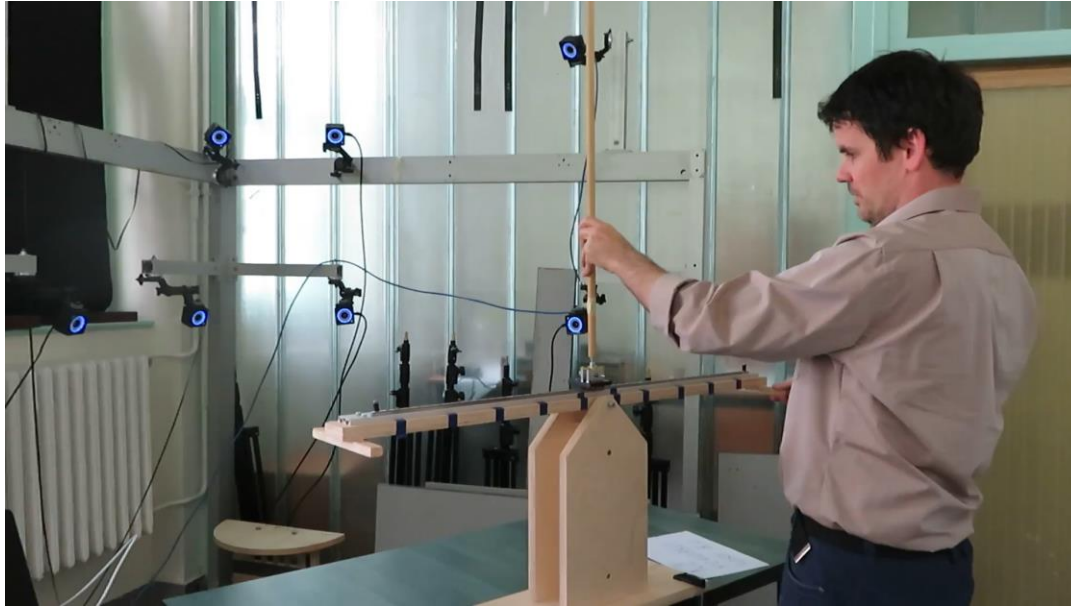


Different human balancing tasks



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Pendulum-cart and beam (pendulum-cart rolling on a see-saw)



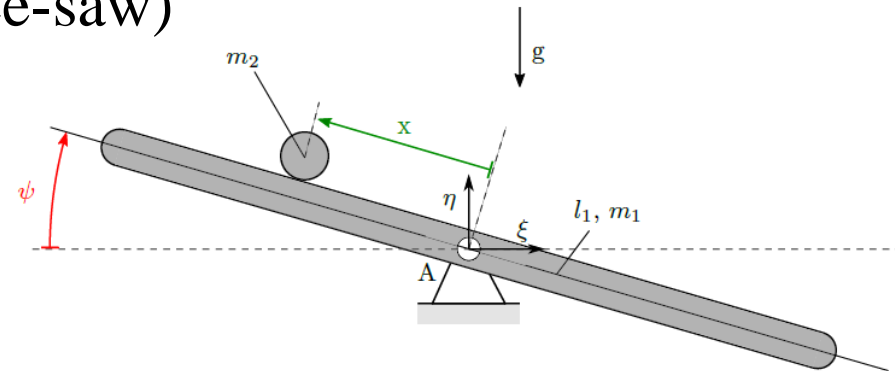
Two balancing tasks



1, Ball and beam (rolling cart on a see-saw)

Manipulated variable:

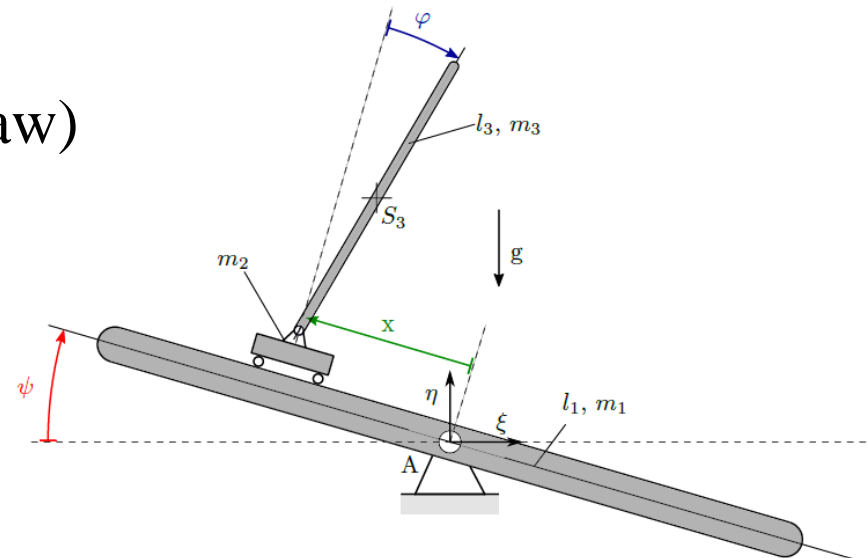
- 1.1. angle
- 1.2. angular velocity
- 1.3. angular acceleration
- 1.4. torque



2, Pendulum-cart and beam (pendulum-cart rolling on a see-saw)

Manipulated variable:

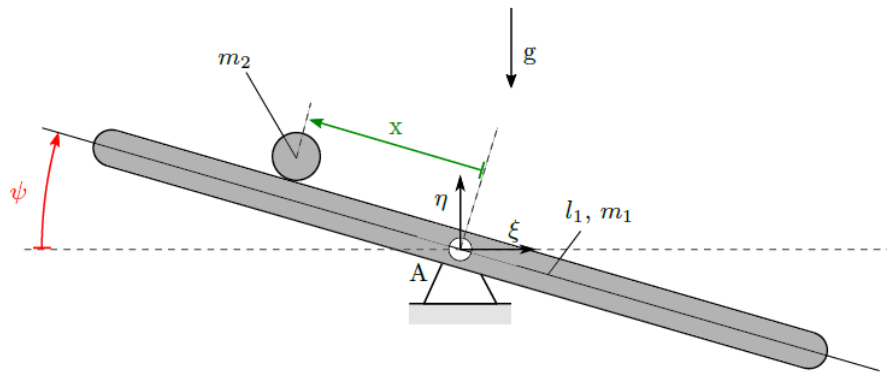
- 2.1. angle
- 2.2. angular velocity
- 2.3. angular acceleration
- 2.4. torque



Ball and beam ~ angle

$$\ddot{x}(t) = -g\psi(t) \quad \psi(t) = P_x x(t) + D_x \dot{x}(t)$$

$$\ddot{x}(t) + gD_x \dot{x}(t) + gP_x x(t) = 0$$

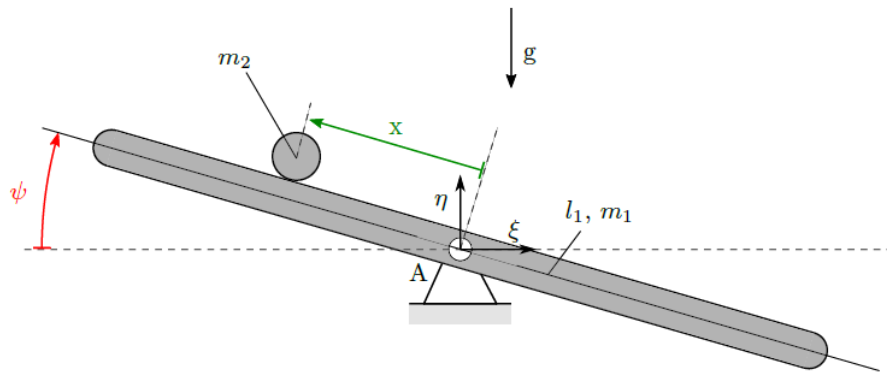


Ball and beam ~ angle

with reaction delay

$$\ddot{x}(t) = -g\psi(t) \quad \psi(t) = P_x x(t - \tau) + D_x \dot{x}(t - \tau)$$

$$\ddot{x}(t) + gD_x \dot{x}(t - \tau) + gP_x x(t - \tau) = 0$$

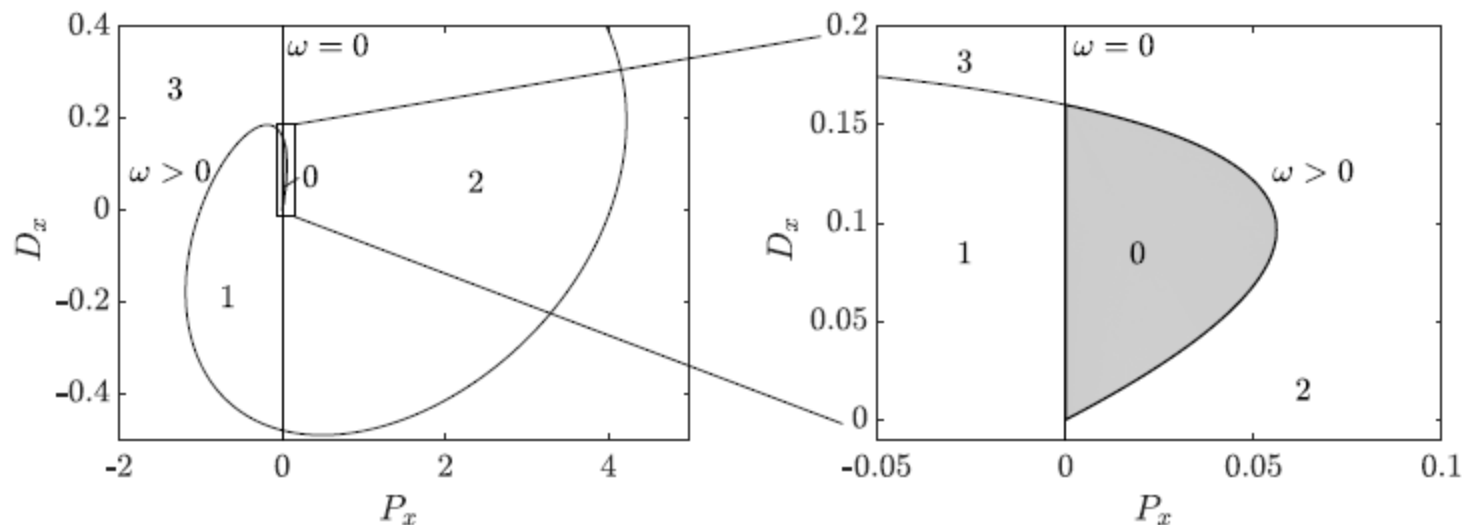


Ball and beam ~ angle

with reaction delay

$$\ddot{x}(t) = -g\psi(t) \quad \psi(t) = P_x x(t - \tau) + D_x \dot{x}(t - \tau)$$

$$\ddot{x}(t) + gD_x \dot{x}(t - \tau) + gP_x x(t - \tau) = 0$$



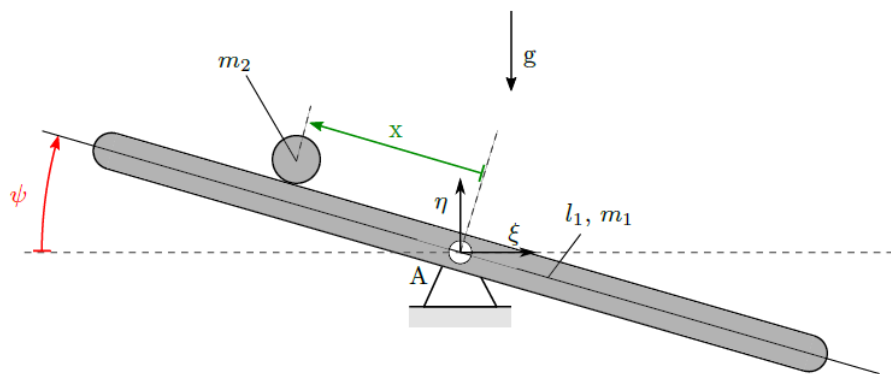
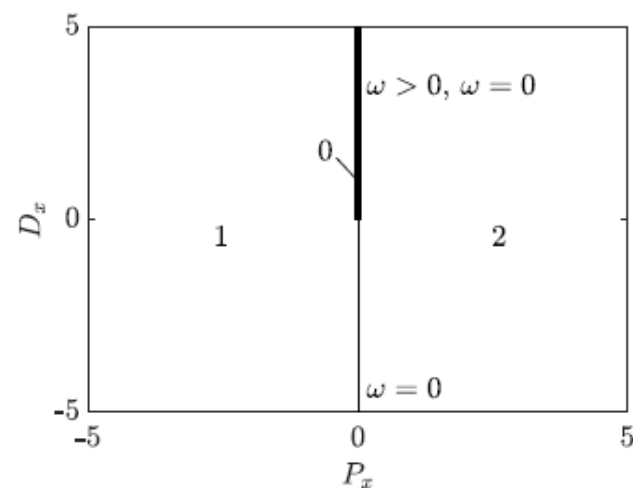
$$\tau_{\text{crit}} = \infty$$

Ball and beam ~ angular velocity

$$\ddot{x}(t) = -g\dot{\psi}(t) = -g\omega(t)$$

$$\omega(t) = P_x x(t) + D_x \dot{x}(t)$$

$$\ddot{x}(t) + gD_x \dot{x}(t) + gP_x x(t) = 0$$





Ball and beam ~ angular velocity

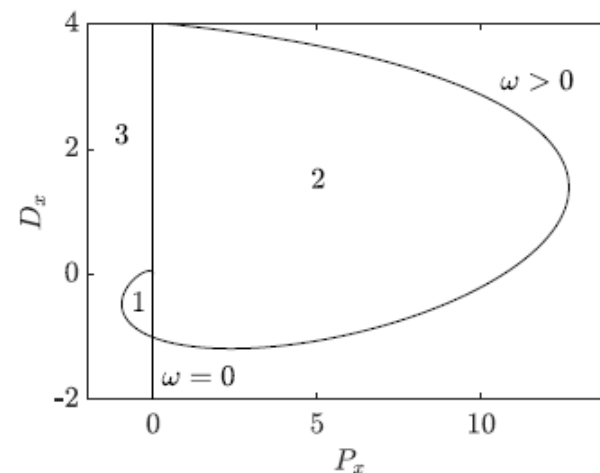
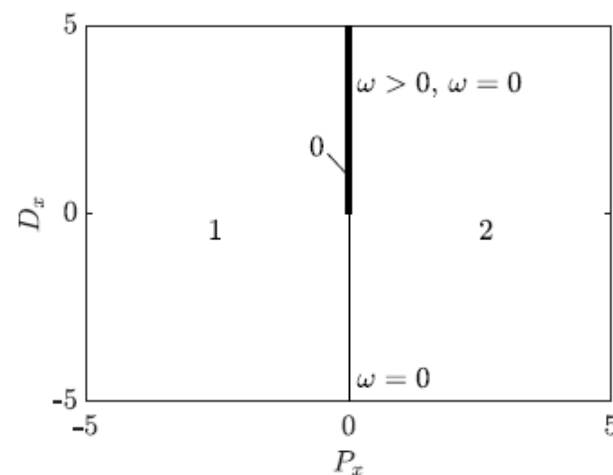
$$\ddot{x}(t) = -g\dot{\psi}(t) = -g\omega(t)$$

$$\omega(t) = P_x x(t) + D_x \dot{x}(t)$$

$$\ddot{x}(t) + gD_x \dot{x}(t) + gP_x x(t) = 0$$

with reaction delay

$$\ddot{x}(t) + gD_x \dot{x}(t - \tau) + gP_x x(t - \tau) = 0$$



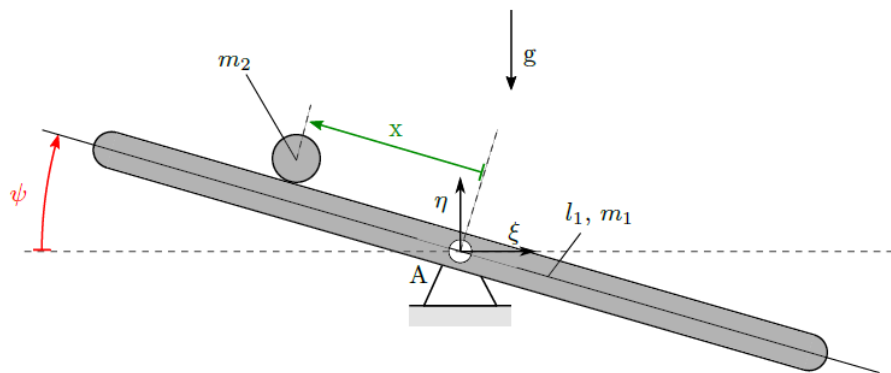
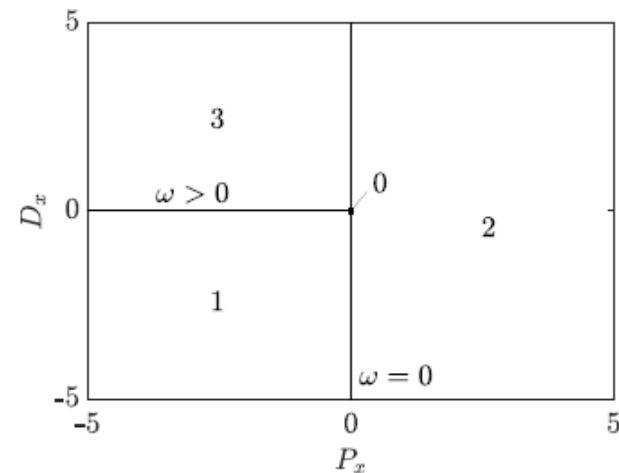


Ball and beam ~ angular acceleration

$$x^{(iv)}(t) = -g\ddot{\psi}(t) = -g\varepsilon(t)$$

$$\varepsilon(t) = P_x x(t) + D_x \dot{x}(t)$$

$$x^{(iv)}(t) + gD_x \dot{x}(t) + gP_x x(t) = 0$$





Ball and beam ~ angular acceleration

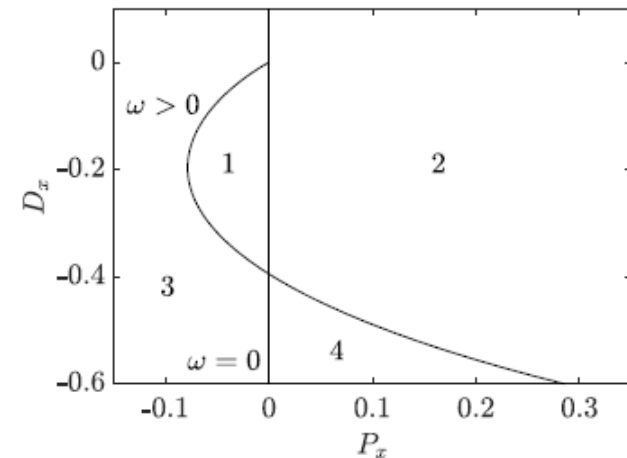
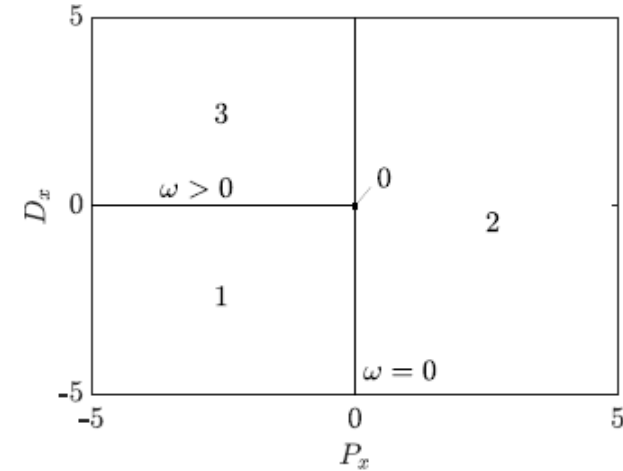
$$x^{(iv)}(t) = -g\ddot{\psi}(t) = -g\varepsilon(t)$$

$$\varepsilon(t) = P_x x(t) + D_x \dot{x}(t)$$

$$x^{(iv)}(t) + gD_x \dot{x}(t) + gP_x x(t) = 0$$

with reaction delay

$$x^{(iv)}(t) + gD_x \dot{x}(t - \tau) + gP_x x(t - \tau) = 0$$



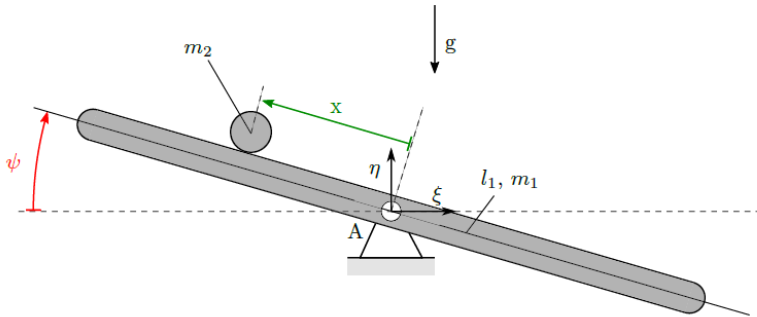
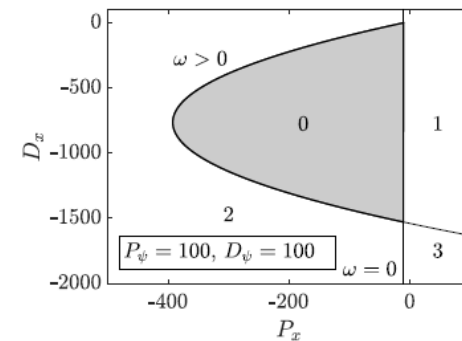
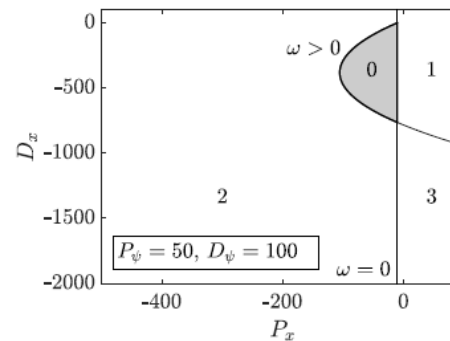
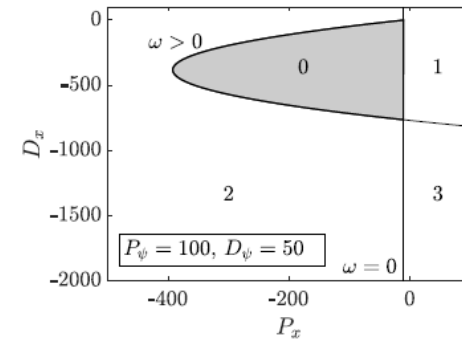
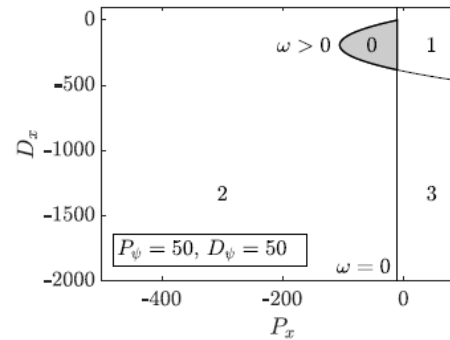


Ball and beam ~ torque (2 DoF)

$$\mathbf{q}(t) = (x(t), \psi(t))^T$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_2 & 0 \\ 0 & \theta_1 \end{pmatrix} \ddot{\mathbf{q}}(t) + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_2 g \\ m_2 g & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{q}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -Q(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$Q(t) = P_x x(t) + D_x \dot{x}(t) + P_\psi \psi(t) + D_\psi \dot{\psi}(t)$$





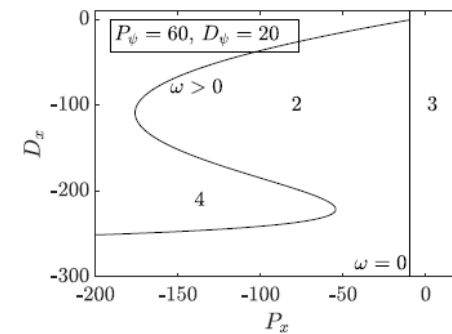
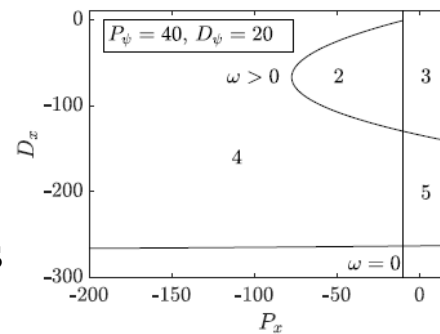
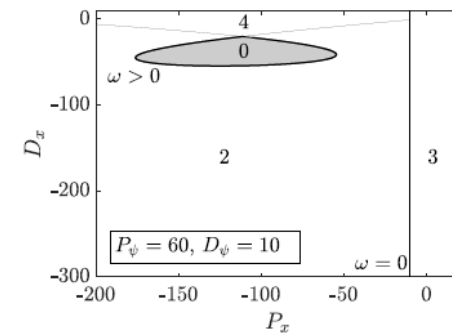
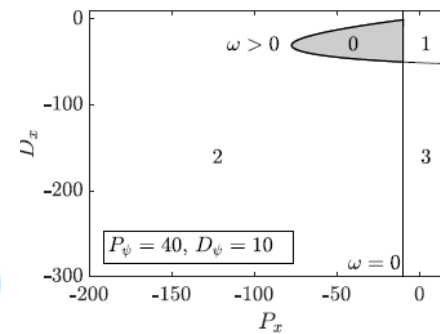
Ball and beam ~ torque (2 DoF)

$$\mathbf{q}(t) = (x(t), \psi(t))^T$$

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_2 & 0 \\ 0 & \theta_1 \end{pmatrix} \ddot{\mathbf{q}}(t) + \begin{pmatrix} 0 & m_2 g \\ m_2 g & 0 \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{q}(t) = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ -Q(t) \end{pmatrix}$$

with reaction delay

$$Q(t) = P_x x(t - \tau) + D_x \dot{x}(t - \tau) + P_\psi \psi(t - \tau) + D_\psi \dot{\psi}(t - \tau)$$



$$\tau_{\text{crit}} = 180 \text{ ms}$$



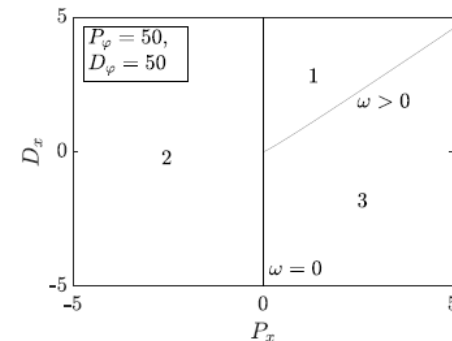
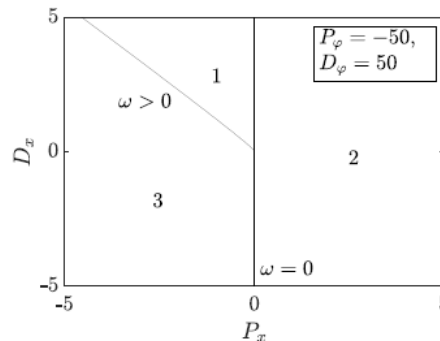
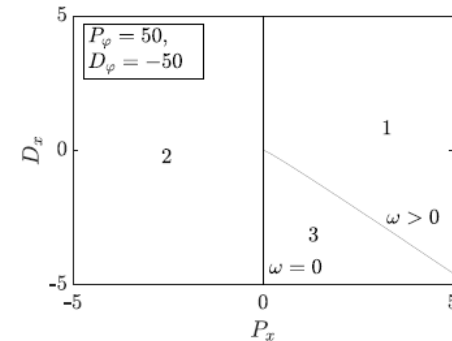
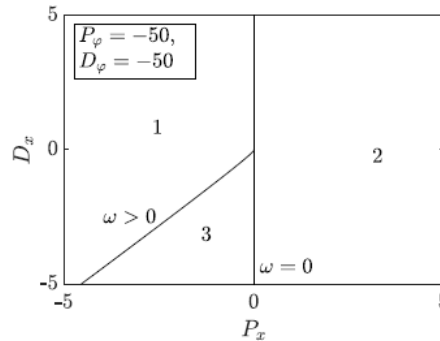
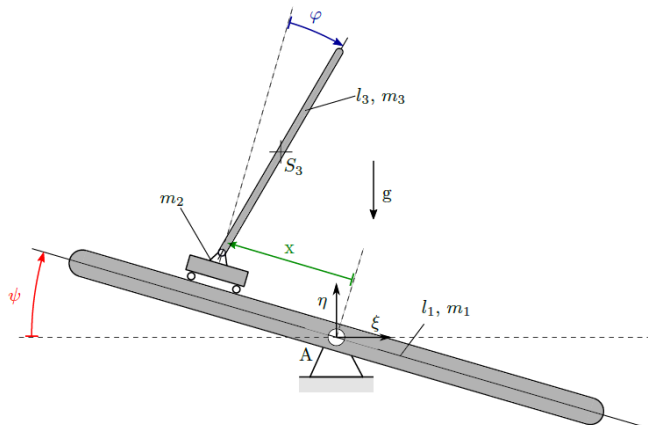
Pendulum-cart and beam ~ angle (2 DoF)

$$\ddot{x}(t) = a\varphi(t) - g\psi(t)$$

$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) = b\varphi(t) - \ddot{\psi}(t)$$

$$\psi(t) = P_x x(t) + D_x \dot{x}(t) + P_\varphi \varphi(t) + D_\varphi \dot{\varphi}(t)$$

$$a = \frac{3m_3g}{m_3 + 4m_2}, \quad b = \frac{6g(m_2 + m_3)}{l_3(m_3 + 4m_2)}$$





Pendulum-cart and beam ~ angle (2 DoF)

$$\ddot{x}(t) = a\varphi(t) - g\psi(t) \qquad a = \frac{3m_3g}{m_3 + 4m_2}, \quad b = \frac{6g(m_2 + m_3)}{l_3(m_3 + 4m_2)}$$

$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) = b\varphi(t) - \ddot{\psi}(t)$$

with reaction delay

$$\psi(t) = P_x x(t - \tau) + D_x \dot{x}(t - \tau) + P_\varphi \varphi(t - \tau) + D_\varphi \dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$

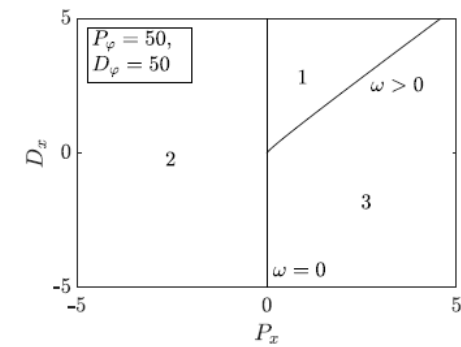
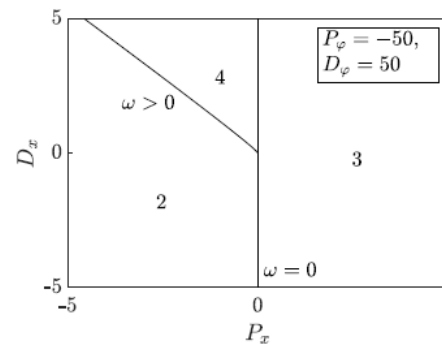
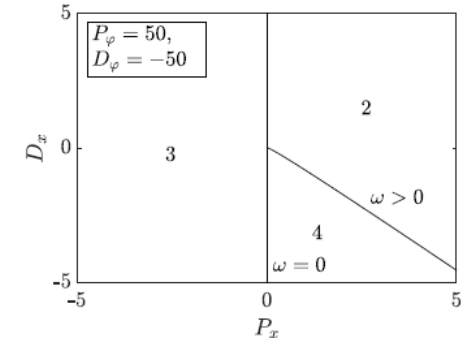
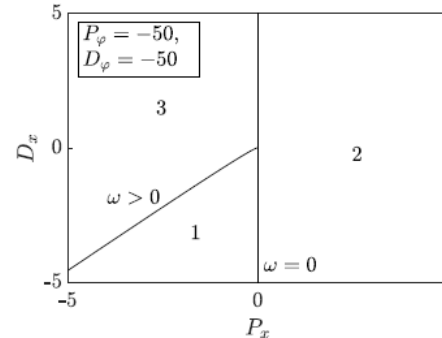
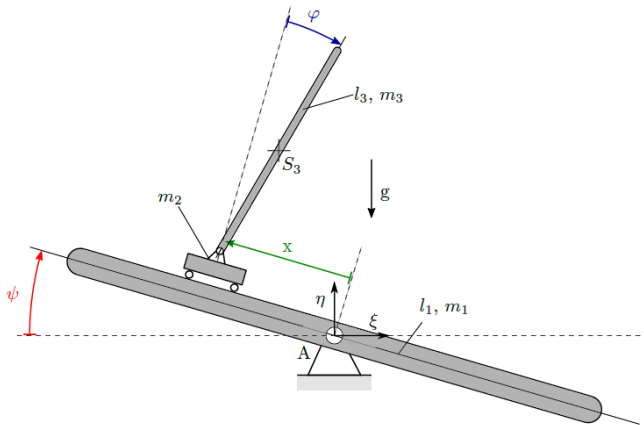
Advanced functional differential equation

$$D(\lambda) = D_\varphi \lambda^5 e^{-\lambda\tau} + (P_\varphi e^{-\lambda\tau} + 1)\lambda^4 + (a + g)D_x \lambda^3 e^{-\lambda\tau} + [(a + g)P_x e^{-\lambda\tau} - b] \lambda^2 - bgD_x \lambda e^{-\lambda\tau} - bgP_x e^{-\lambda\tau}$$

Pendulum-cart and beam ~ angular velocity (2 DoF)

$$\ddot{x}(t) = a\dot{\varphi}(t) - g\omega(t)$$

$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) = b\varphi(t) - \dot{\omega}(t)$$



$$\omega(t) = \dot{\psi}(t) = P_x x(t) + D_x \dot{x}(t) + P_\varphi \varphi(t) + D_\varphi \dot{\varphi}(t)$$



Pendulum-cart and beam ~ angular velocity (2 DoF)

$$\ddot{x}(t) = a\dot{\varphi}(t) - g\omega(t)$$

$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) = b\varphi(t) - \dot{\omega}(t)$$

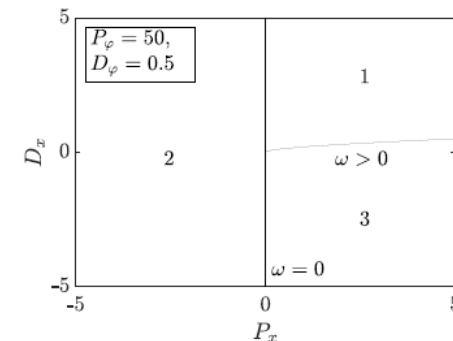
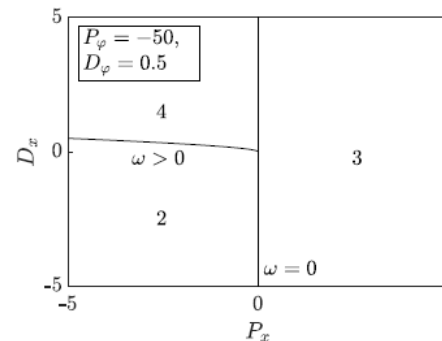
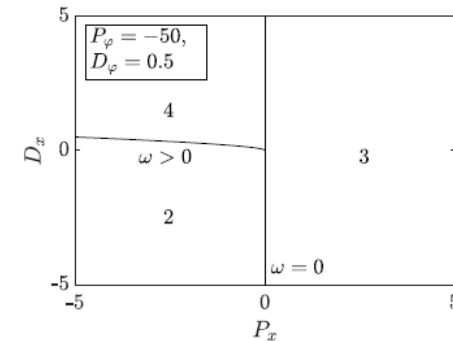
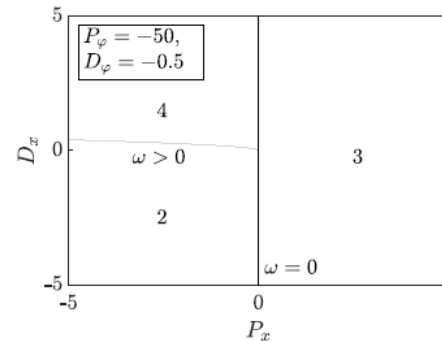
with reaction delay

$$\omega(t) = P_x x(t - \tau) + D_x \dot{x}(t - \tau) + P_\varphi \varphi(t - \tau) + D_\varphi \dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$

Neutral functional diff. eq.

strong stability: $|D_\varphi| > 1$

$$D(\lambda) = (1 + D_\varphi e^{-\lambda\tau})\lambda^5 + P_\varphi \lambda^4 e^{-\lambda\tau} - b\lambda^3 + [(a + g)\lambda^2 - bg] (P_x + \lambda D_x) e^{-\lambda\tau}$$

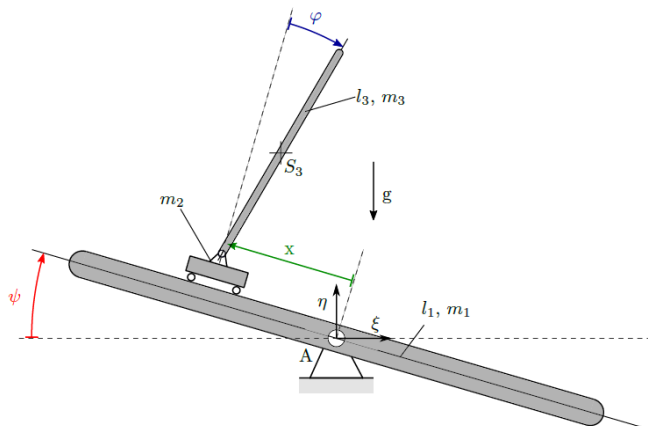


Pendulum-cart and beam ~ angular acceleration (2 DoF)

$$x^{(iv)}(t) = a\ddot{\varphi}(t) - g\varepsilon(t)$$

$$\ddot{\varphi}(t) = b\varphi(t) - \varepsilon(t)$$

Not controllable!

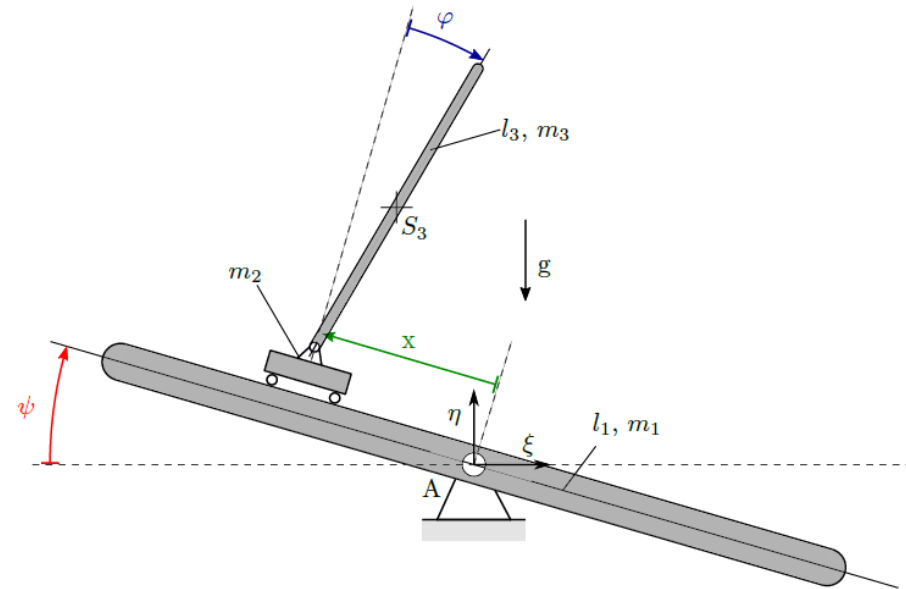


Pendulum-cart and beam ~ torque (3 DoF)

$$M\ddot{\mathbf{q}}(t) + \mathbf{S}\mathbf{q}(t) = \mathbf{Q}^*(t)$$

$$\mathbf{Q}^*(t) = (0, -Q(t), 0)^T$$

$$\mathbf{q} = (x(t), \psi(t), \varphi(t))^T$$



$$\mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & g(m_2 + m_3) & 0 \\ g(m_2 + m_3) & -\frac{1}{2}gl_3m_3 & -\frac{1}{2}gl_3m_3 \\ 0 & -\frac{1}{2}gl_3m_3 & -\frac{1}{2}gl_3m_3 \end{pmatrix}$$

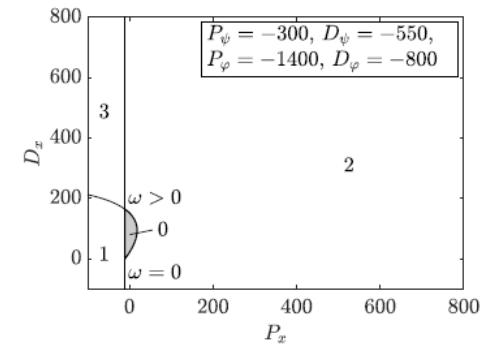
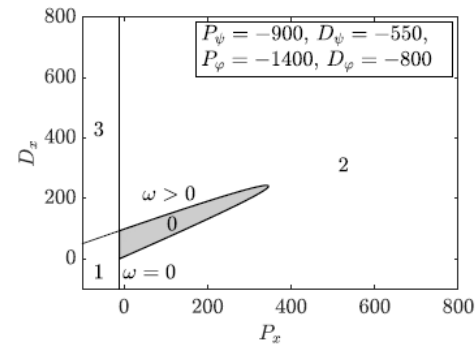
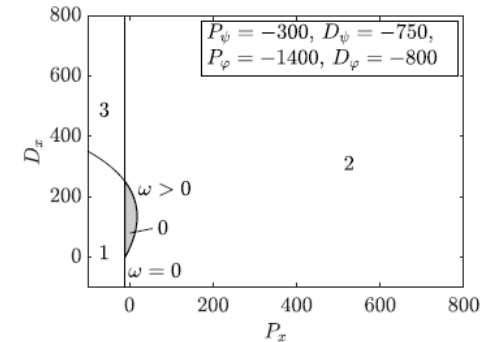
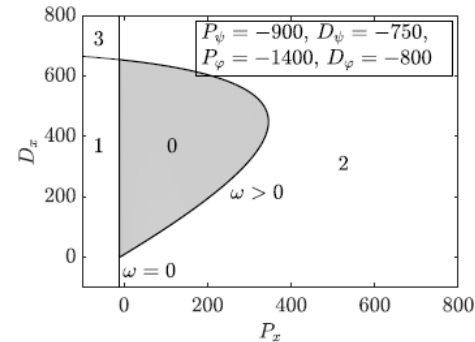
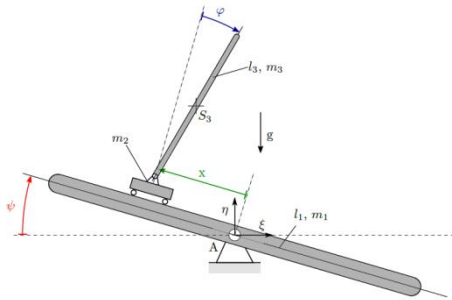
$$\mathbf{M} = \begin{pmatrix} m_2 + m_3 & -\frac{l_3m_3}{2} & -\frac{l_3m_3}{2} \\ -\frac{l_3m_3}{2} & \frac{1}{12}(l_1^2m_1 + 4l_3^2m_3) & \frac{l_3^2m_3}{3} \\ -\frac{l_3m_3}{2} & \frac{l_3^2m_3}{3} & \frac{l_3^2m_3}{3} \end{pmatrix}$$

Pendulum-cart and beam ~ torque (3 DoF)

$$M\ddot{q}(t) + S\dot{q}(t) = Q^*(t)$$

$$Q^*(t) = (0, -Q(t), 0)^T$$

$$q = (x(t), \psi(t), \varphi(t))^T$$



$$Q(t) = P_x x(t) + D_x \dot{x}(t) + P_\psi \psi(t) + D_\psi \dot{\psi}(t) + P_\varphi \varphi(t) + D_\varphi \dot{\varphi}(t)$$

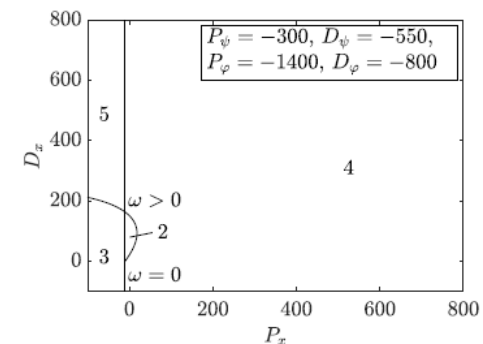
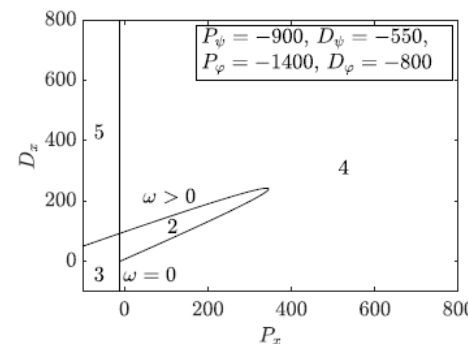
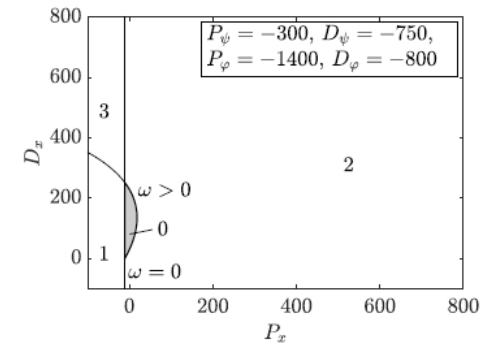
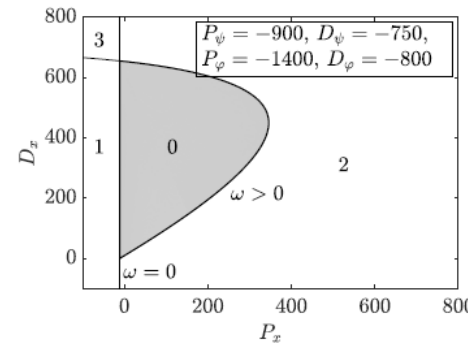


Pendulum-cart and beam ~ torque (3 DoF)

$$M\ddot{\mathbf{q}}(t) + \mathbf{S}\mathbf{q}(t) = \mathbf{Q}^*(t)$$

$$\mathbf{Q}^*(t) = (0, -Q(t), 0)^T$$

$$\mathbf{q} = (x(t), \psi(t), \varphi(t))^T$$



with reaction delay

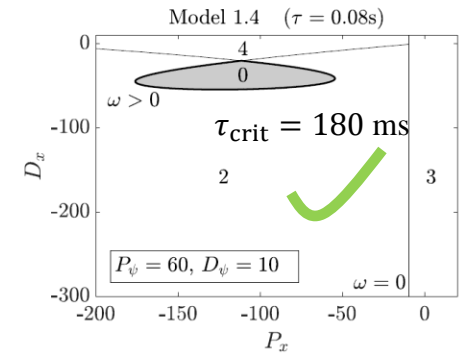
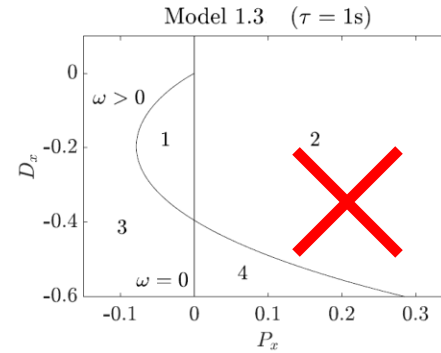
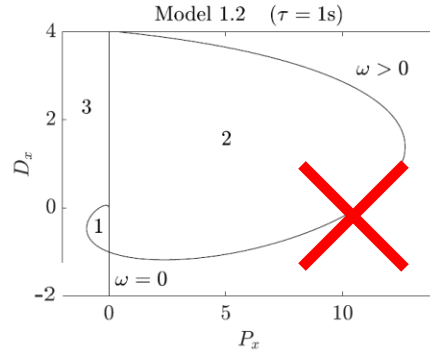
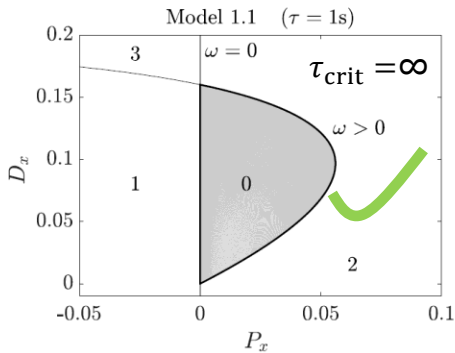
$$Q(t) = P_x x(t - \tau) + D_x \dot{x}(t - \tau) + P_\psi \psi(t - \tau) + D_\psi \dot{\psi}(t - \tau) + P_\varphi \varphi(t - \tau) + D_\varphi \dot{\varphi}(t - \tau)$$

$$\tau_{\text{crit}} = 5 \text{ ms}$$

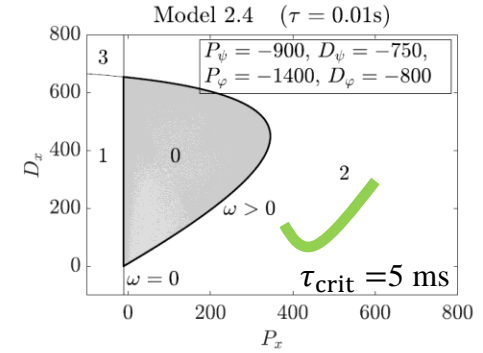
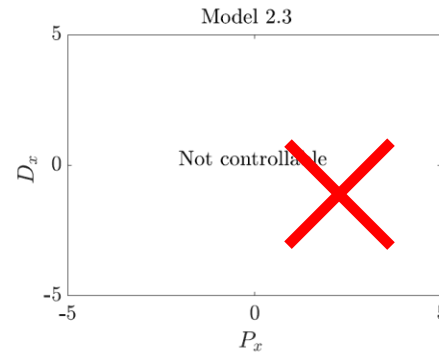
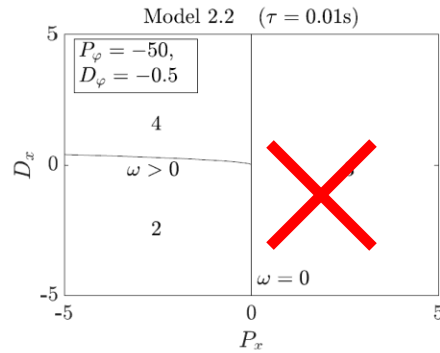
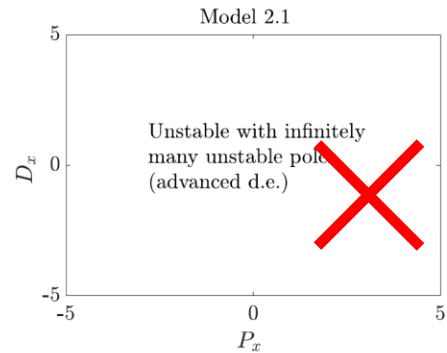
Comparison



Ball and beam



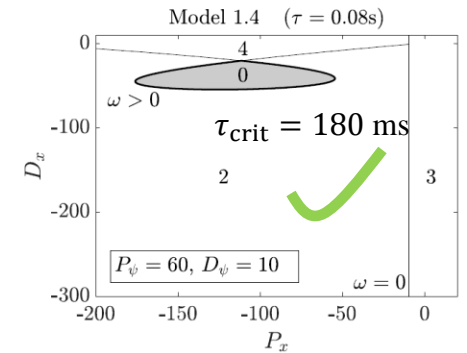
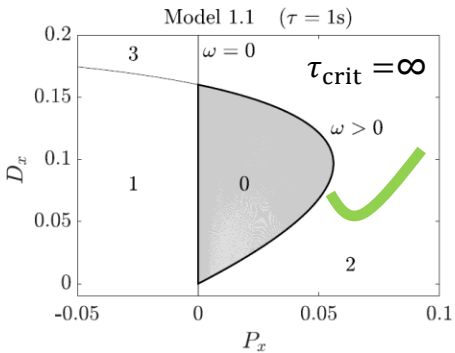
Pendulum-cart and beam



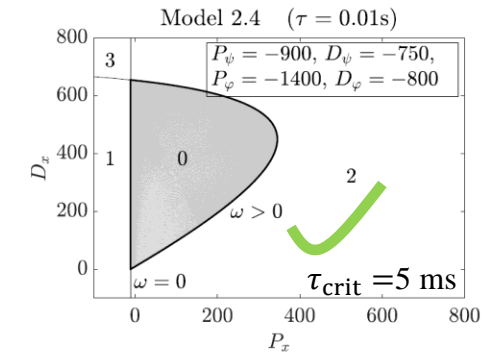
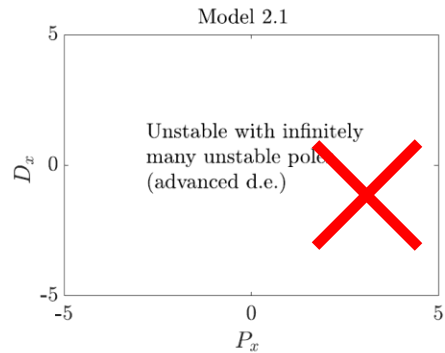
Comparison



Ball and beam

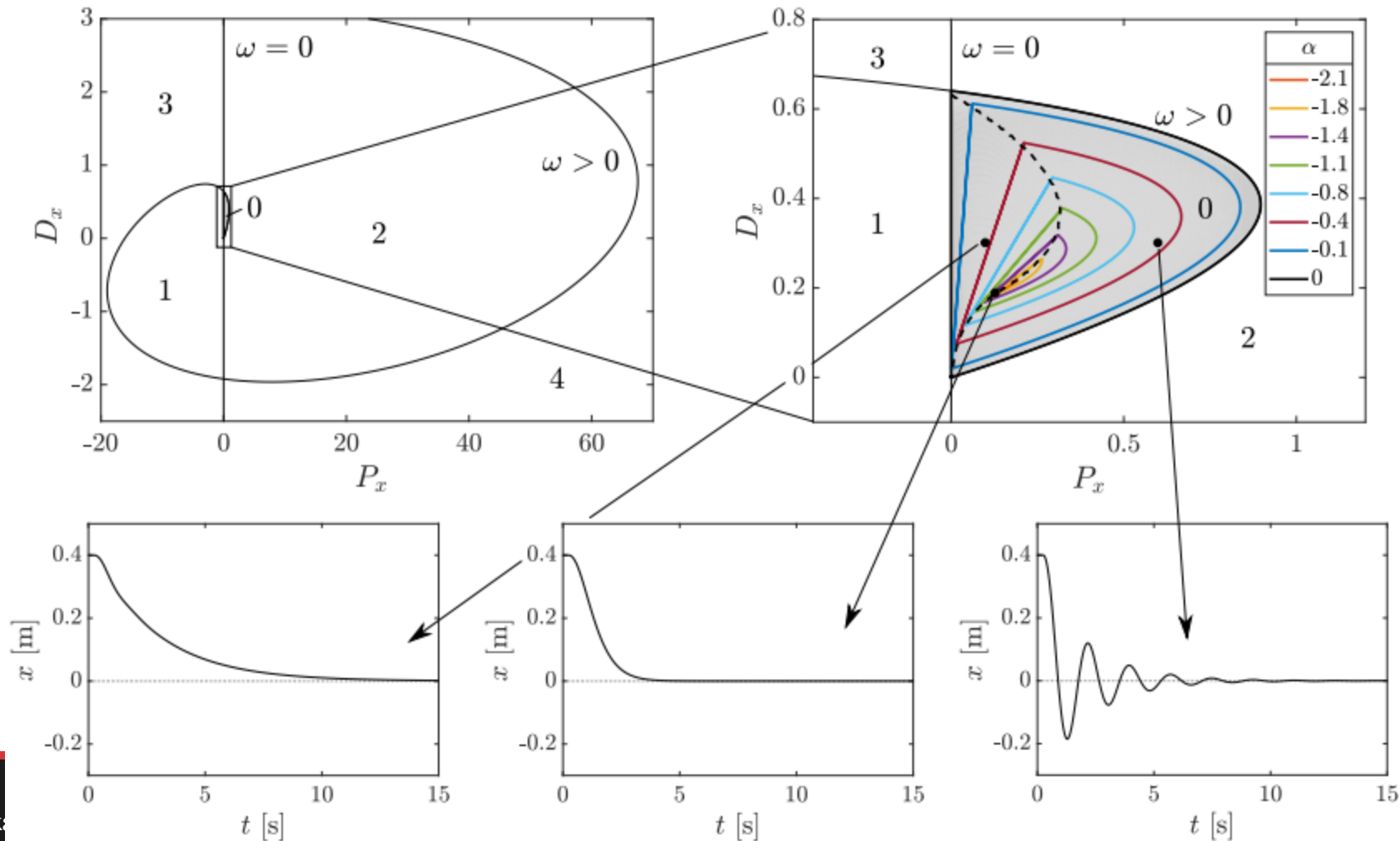


Pendulum-cart and beam





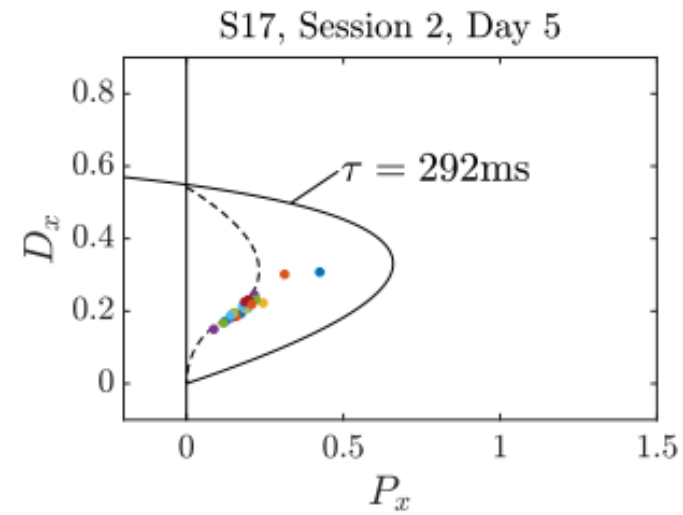
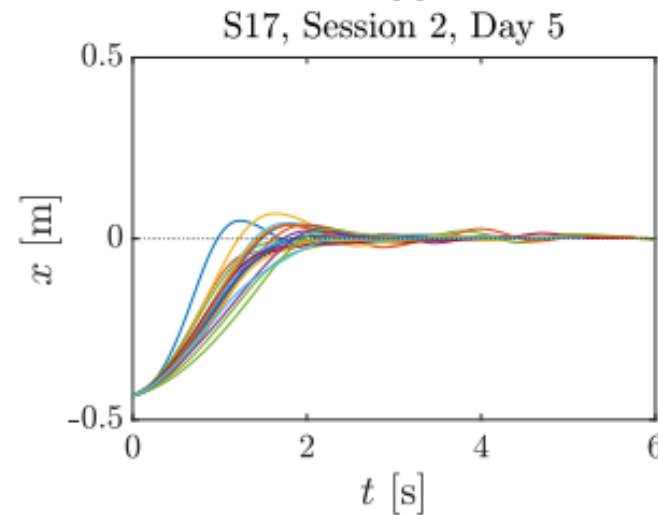
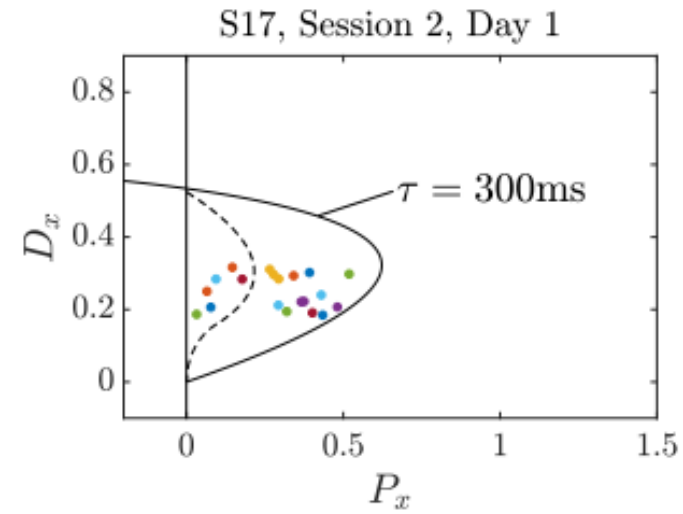
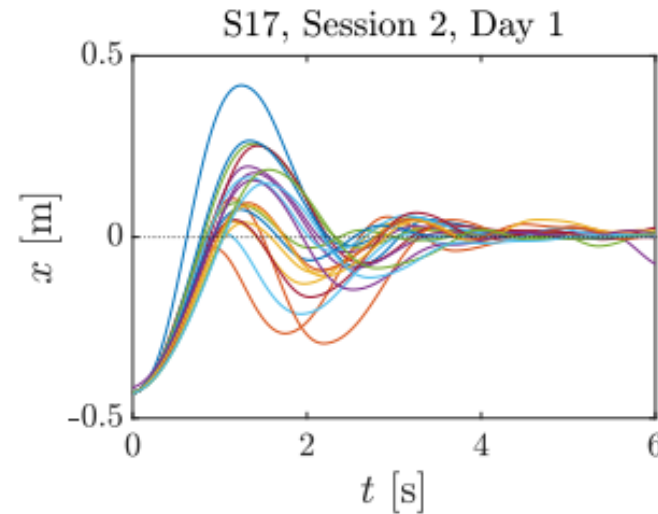
$$\ddot{x}(t) + gD_x\dot{x}(t - \tau) + gP_x x(t - \tau) = 0$$



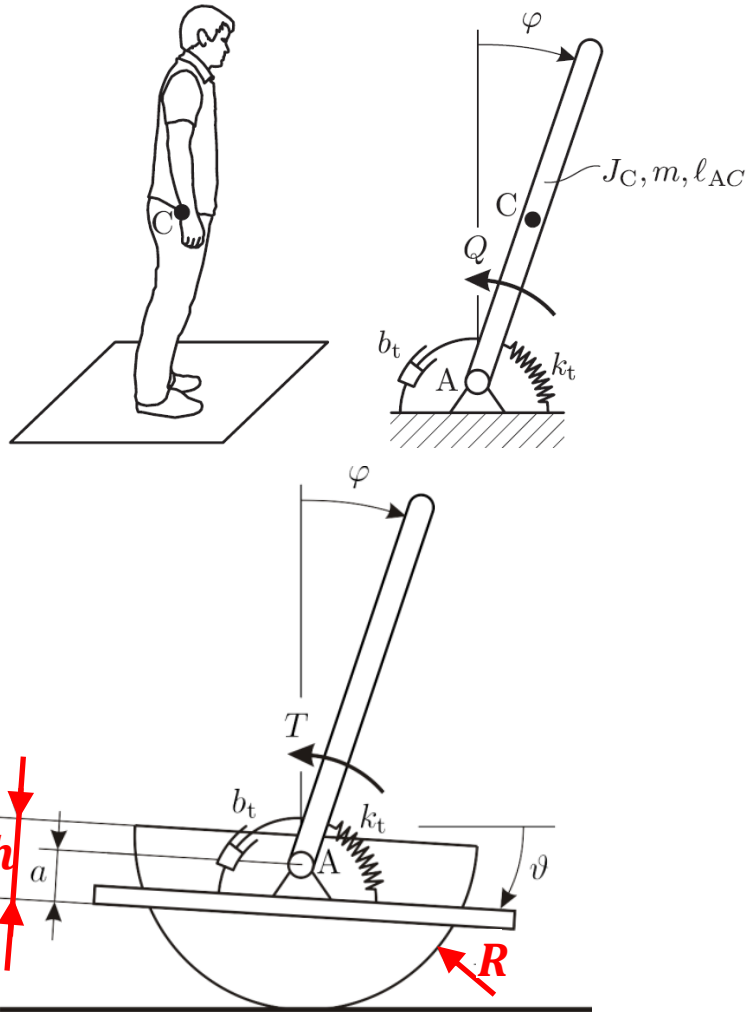
Experiments



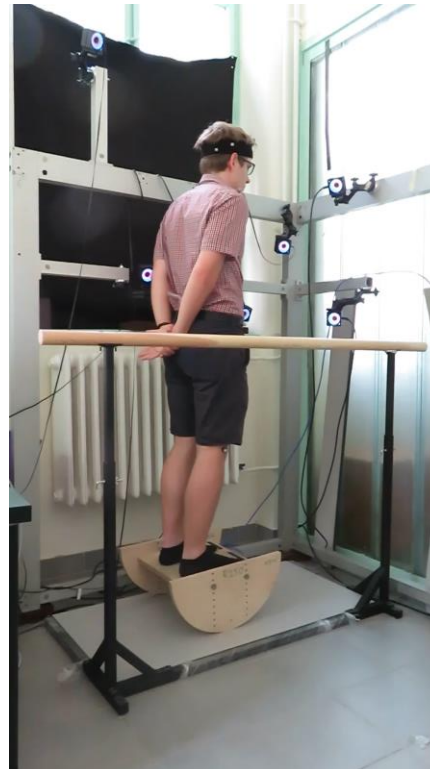
- Tests by 22 subjects
- 5-day test series
- 20 trials per day
- Settling time decreases
- Overshoot decreases



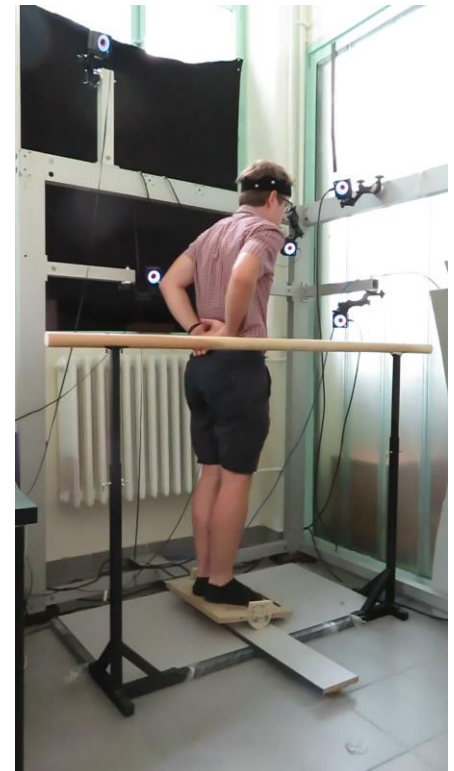
Balance Board



„easy”



„difficult”



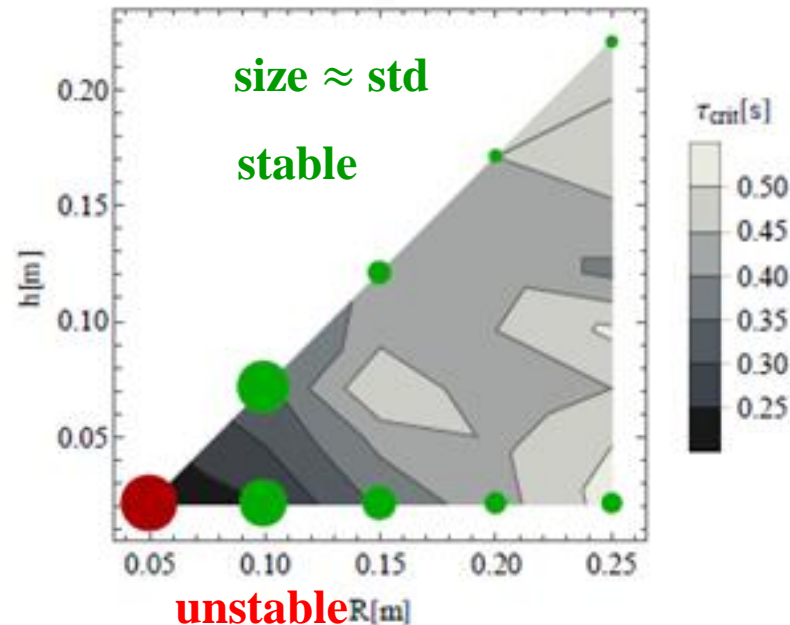
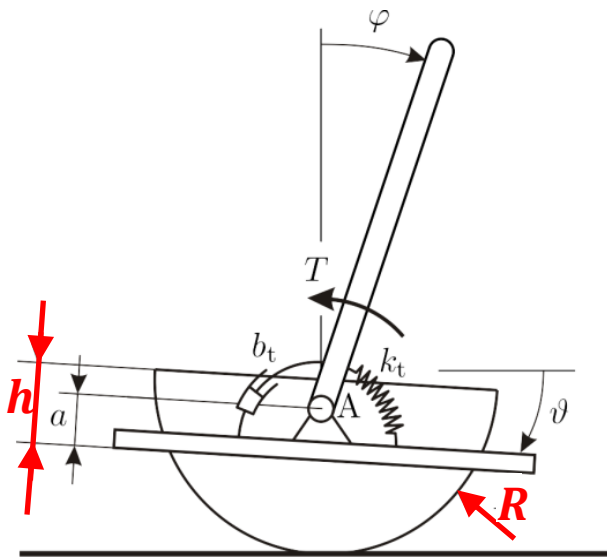
Balance Board



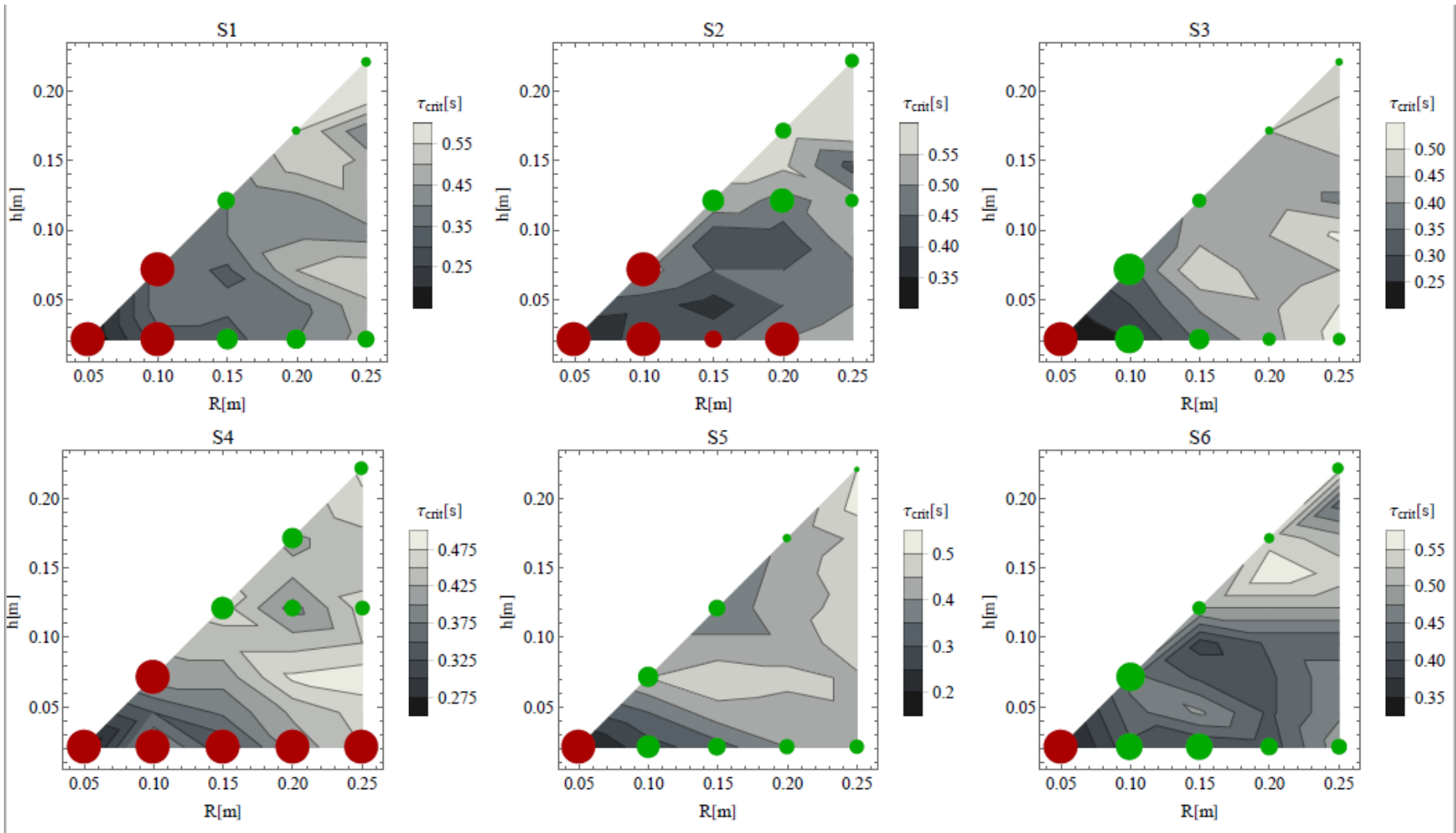
$$\left(\frac{1}{4}l^2m_h + J_h\right)\ddot{\varphi} + b_t\dot{\varphi} + \left(k_t - \frac{1}{2}glm_h\right)\varphi + \left(\frac{1}{2}lm_hR + \frac{1}{2}alm_h - \frac{1}{2}hlm_h\right)\ddot{\vartheta} - b_t\dot{\vartheta} - k_t\vartheta = -T$$

$$\left(\frac{1}{2}lm_hR + \frac{1}{2}alm_h - \frac{1}{2}hlm_h\right)\ddot{\varphi} - b_t\dot{\varphi} - k_t\varphi + (m_bR^2 + J_b + m_hR^2 + a^2m_h - 2ahm_h + h^2m_h + l_b^2m_b + 2am_hR - 2hm_hR)\ddot{\vartheta} + b_t\dot{\vartheta} + (-agm_h + ghm_h - gl_bm_b + gm_bR + k_t)\vartheta = T$$

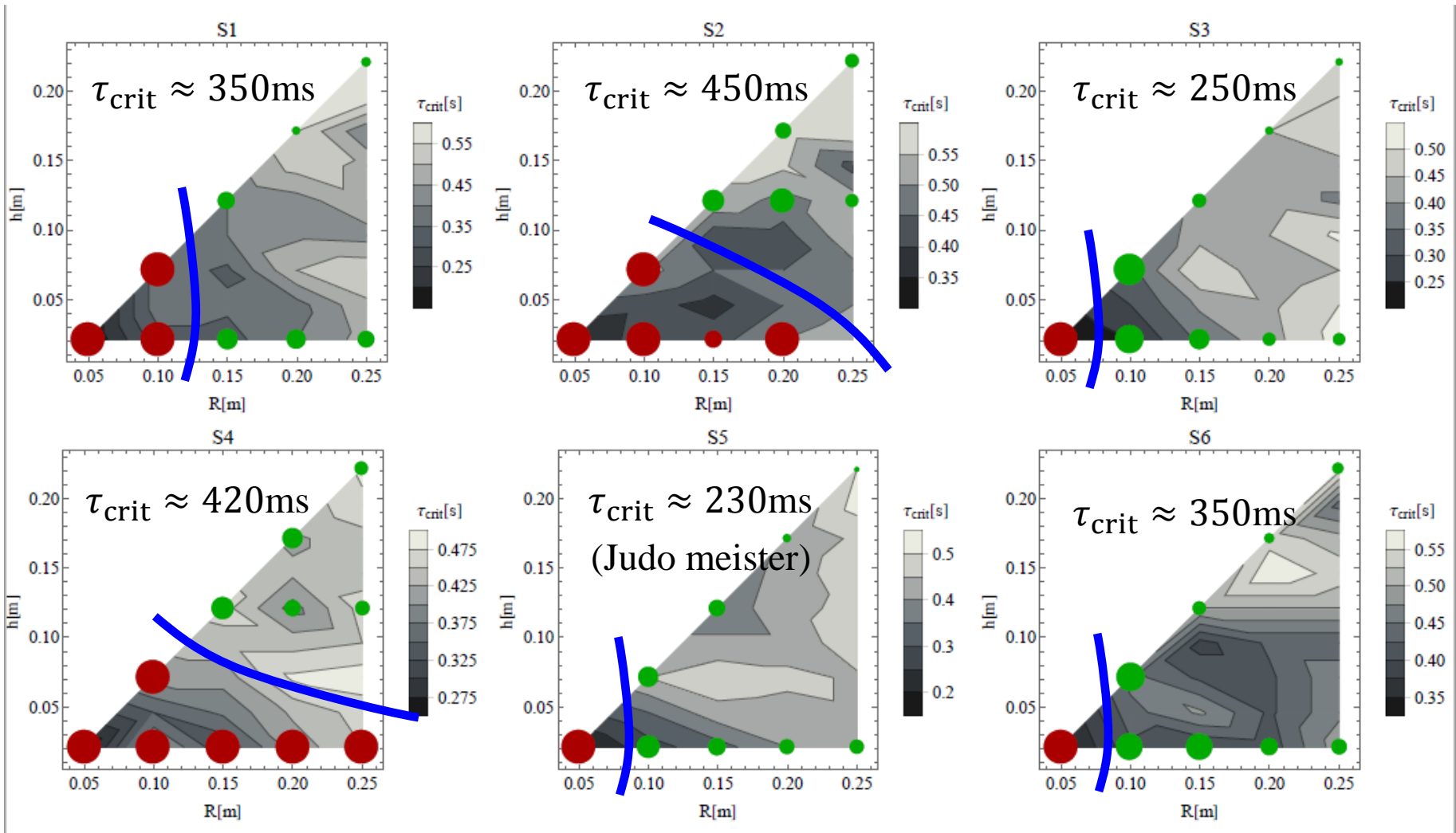
$$T = P_\varphi\varphi(t - \tau) + D_\varphi\dot{\varphi}(t - \tau) + P_\vartheta\vartheta(t - \tau) + D_\vartheta\dot{\vartheta}(t - \tau)$$



Balance Board



Balance Board





Thank you!