# STABILITY AND TRIM OF MARINE VESSELS 

Acknowledgements to Lt. Greg Mitchell for Slides 15-37

## Concept of Mass Center for a Rigid Body



Centroid - the point about which moments due to gravity are zero:
$\Sigma \mathrm{gm} \mathrm{m}_{\mathrm{i}}\left(\mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{g}}-\mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{i}}\right)=0 \rightarrow$
$x_{g}=\Sigma m_{i} x_{i} / \Sigma m_{i}=\Sigma m_{i} x_{i} / M$

- Calculation applies to all three body axes: $x, y, z$
- $x$ can be referenced to any point, e.g., bow, waterline, geometric center, etc.
- "Enclosed" water has to be included in the mass if we are talking about inertia


## Center of Buoyancy

A similar differential approach with displaced mass: $\mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{b}}=\Sigma \Delta_{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{x}_{\mathrm{i}} / \Delta$, where $\Delta_{\mathrm{i}}$ is incremental volume,
$\Delta$ is total volume
Center of buoyancy is the same as the center of displaced volume: it doesn't matter what is inside the outer skin, or how it is arranged.


Calculating trim of a flooded vehicle: Use in-water weights of the components, including the water (whose weight is then zero and can be ignored). The calculation gives the center of in-water weight.

- For a submerged body, a sufficient condition for stability is that $z_{b}$ is above $z_{g}$.


Make $\left(z_{b}-z_{g}\right)$ large $\rightarrow$ the "spring" is large and:

- Response to an initial heel angle is fast (uncomfortable?)
- Wave or loading disturbances don't cause unacceptably large motions
- But this is also a spring-mass system, that will oscillate unless adequate damping is used, e.g., sails, anti-roll planes, etc.
- In most surface vessels, righting stability is provided by the waterplane area.


RECTANGULAR SECTION
Geometry:
$\mathrm{d} \Delta / \mathrm{dx}=\mathrm{bh}+\mathrm{bl} / 2 \quad$ or
$h=(d \Delta / d x-b l / 2) / b$
$\mathrm{l}=\mathrm{b} \tan \theta$

Vertical forces:
$d F_{G}=-\rho g d \Delta \quad$ (no shear)
$\mathrm{dF}_{\mathrm{B} 1}=\rho \mathrm{gbh} \mathrm{dx}$
$\mathrm{dF}_{\mathrm{B} 2}=\rho \mathrm{gb\mid dx} / 2$

Moment arms:
$\mathrm{y}_{\mathrm{G}}=\mathrm{KG} \sin \theta ; \mathrm{y}_{\mathrm{B} 1}=\mathrm{h} \sin \theta / 2 ; \mathrm{y}_{\mathrm{B} 2}=(\mathrm{h}+\mathrm{l} / 3) \sin \theta+\mathrm{b} \cos \theta / 6$
Put all this together into a net moment (positive anti-clockwise):

$$
\begin{array}{rll}
\mathrm{dM} / \rho \mathrm{gg}= & -\mathrm{KG} \mathrm{~d} \Delta \sin \theta+\mathrm{bh}^{2} \mathrm{dx} \sin \theta / 2+ & \\
& \mathrm{b} / \mathrm{dx}[(\mathrm{~h}+\mathrm{I} / 3) \sin \theta+\mathrm{b} \cos \theta / 6] / 2 & \\
\text { (valid until the corner out of the water) }
\end{array}
$$

Linearize ( $\sin \theta \sim \tan \theta \sim \theta$ ), and keep only first-order terms $(\theta)$ :
$\mathrm{dM} / \rho \mathrm{g} \mathrm{d} \Delta=\left[-\mathrm{KG}+\mathrm{h} / 2+\mathrm{b}^{2} / 12 \mathrm{~h}\right] \theta$

$$
=\left[-K G+A / 2 b+b^{3} / 12 A\right] \theta
$$

For this rectangular slice, the sum [h/2 + $\left.b^{2} / 12 h\right]$ must exceed the distance KG for stability. This sum is called KM - the distance from the keel up to the "virtual" buoyancy center M. M is the METACENTER, and it is as if the block is hanging from M!
$-K G+K M=G M$ : the METACENTRIC HEIGHT


How much GM is enough?
Around $2-3 \mathrm{~m}$ in a big boat

## Considering the Entire Vessel...

Transverse (or roll) stability is calculated using the same moment calculation extended on the length:
Total Moment = Integral on Length of $\mathrm{dM}(\mathrm{x})$, where (for a vessel with all rectangular cross-sections)

$$
d M(x)=\rho g\left[-K G(x) A(x)+A^{2}(x) / 2 b(x)+b^{3}(x) / 12\right] d x \theta
$$

First term: Same as $-\rho$ g KG $\Delta$, if $\Delta$ is the ship's submerged volume, and KG is the value referencing the whole vessel
Second term: Significant if $d>b$ (equivalent to $h^{2} b / 2$ )
Third term: depends only on beam - dominant for most monohulls

Longitudinal (or pitch) stability is similarly calculated, but it is usually secondary, since the waterplane area is very long $\rightarrow$ very high GM

## Weight Distribution and Trim

- At zero speed, and with no other forces or moments, the vessel has B (submerged) or M (surface) directly above G.

Too bad!


For port-stbd symmetric hulls, keep $G$ on the centerline using a tabulation of component masses and their centroid locations in the hull, i.e., $\Sigma \mathrm{m}_{\mathrm{i}} \mathrm{y}_{\mathrm{i}}=0$
Longitudinal trim should be zero relative to center of waterplane area, in the loaded condition.
Pitch trim may be affected by forward motion, but difference is usually only a few degrees.

## Rotational Dynamics Using the Centroid

Equivalent to

$$
\begin{aligned}
& F=m a \quad \text { in linear case is } \\
& \boldsymbol{T}=\boldsymbol{J}_{\mathbf{o}} * \boldsymbol{d}^{2} \boldsymbol{\theta} / \boldsymbol{d} \mathbf{t}^{2}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $T$ is the sum of acting torques in roll $J_{o}$ is the rotary moment of inertia in roll, referenced to some location O
$\theta$ is roll angle (radians)
$J$ written in terms of incremental masses $m_{i}$ :

$$
J_{o}=\Sigma m_{i}\left(y_{i}-y_{o}\right)^{2} \text { OR } J_{g}=\Sigma m_{i}\left(y_{i}-y_{g}\right)^{2}
$$

$J$ written in terms of component masses $m_{i}$ and their own moments of inertia $J_{i}$ (by the parallel axis theorem) :

$$
J_{g}=\Sigma m_{i}\left(y_{i}-y_{g}\right)^{2}+\Sigma J_{i}
$$

The $y_{i}$ 's give position of the centroid of each body, and $J_{i}$ 's are referenced to those centroids

## What are the acting torques $T$ ?

- Buoyancy righting moment - metacentric height
- Dynamic loads on the vessel - e.g., waves, wind, movement of components, sloshing
- Damping due to keel, roll dampers, etc.
- Torques due to roll control actuators

An instructive case of damping $D$, metacentric height $G M$ :

$$
J d^{2} \theta / d t^{2}=-D d \theta / d t-G M \rho g \Delta \theta \quad O R
$$

$$
\begin{array}{rlrl}
J d^{2} \theta / d t^{2}+ & D d \theta / d t+G M \rho g \Delta \theta & =0 \\
d^{2} \theta / d t^{2}+ & \text { a d } d \theta / d t+ & b \theta & =0 \\
d^{2} \theta / d t^{2}+2 \zeta \omega_{n} d \theta / d t+ & \omega_{n}^{2} \theta & =0
\end{array}
$$

A second-order stable system $\rightarrow$ Overdamped or oscillatory response from initial conditions

## Homogeneous Underdamped Second-Order Systems

$$
\begin{aligned}
& x^{\prime \prime}+a x^{\prime}+b x=0 ; \quad \text { write as } \quad x^{\prime \prime}+2 \zeta \omega_{n} x^{\prime}+\omega_{n}^{2} x=0 \\
& \text { Let } x=x e^{s t} \rightarrow \\
& \left(\mathrm{~s}^{2}+2 \zeta \omega_{n} s+\omega_{n}^{2}\right) \mathrm{e}^{s t}=0 \quad \text { OR } \quad s^{2}+2 \zeta \omega_{n} \mathrm{~s}+\omega_{n}^{2}=0 \rightarrow \\
& \mathrm{~s} \quad=\left[-2 \zeta \omega_{n}+/-\operatorname{sqrt}\left(4 \zeta^{2} \omega_{n}^{2}-4 \omega_{n}^{2}\right)\right] / 2 \\
& \quad=\omega_{n}\left[-\zeta+/-\operatorname{sqrt}\left(\zeta^{2}-1\right)\right] \quad \text { from quadratic equation }
\end{aligned}
$$

$\mathrm{s}_{1}$ and $\mathrm{s}_{2}$ are complex conjugates if $\zeta<1$, in this case:
$\mathrm{s}_{1}=-\omega_{\mathrm{n}} \zeta+\mathrm{i} \omega_{\mathrm{d}}, \mathrm{s}_{2}=-\omega_{\mathrm{n}} \zeta-\mathrm{i} \omega_{\mathrm{d}} \quad$ where $\omega_{\mathrm{d}}=\omega_{\mathrm{n}} \operatorname{sqrt}\left(1-\zeta^{2}\right)$
Recalling $\mathrm{e}^{r+i \theta}=\mathrm{e}^{r}(\cos \theta+\mathrm{i} \sin \theta)$, we have

$$
\begin{aligned}
\mathrm{X}=\mathrm{e}^{-\zeta \omega \operatorname{sont}}[ & \left(\mathrm{X}_{1}^{\mathrm{r}}+\mathrm{i} \mathrm{X}_{1}^{\mathrm{i}}\right)\left(\cos \omega_{\mathrm{d}} \mathrm{t}+\mathrm{i} \sin \omega_{\mathrm{d}} \mathrm{t}\right)+ \\
& \left.\left(\mathrm{X}_{2}^{\mathrm{r}}+\mathrm{i} \mathrm{X}_{2}^{\mathrm{i}}\right)\left(\cos \omega_{\mathrm{d}}^{\mathrm{t}}-\mathrm{i} \sin \omega_{\mathrm{d}} \mathrm{t}\right)\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\begin{aligned}
x^{\prime}=-\zeta \omega_{n} x+\omega_{d} e^{-\zeta \omega n t}[ & \left(X_{1}{ }^{r}+i X_{1}{ }^{i}\right)\left(-\sin \omega_{d} t+i \cos \omega_{d} t\right)+ \\
& \left.\left(X_{2}{ }^{r}+i X_{2}{ }^{i}\right)\left(-\sin \omega_{d} t-i \cos \omega_{d} t\right)\right]
\end{aligned}
$$

Consider initial conditions $x^{\prime}(0)=0, x(0)=1$ :
$x(t=0)=1$ means $\quad X_{1}{ }^{r}+X_{2}{ }^{r}=1 \quad$ (real part) and
$\mathrm{X}_{1}{ }^{\mathrm{i}}+\mathrm{X}_{2}{ }^{\mathrm{i}}=0 \quad$ (imaginary part)
$\mathrm{x}^{\prime}(\mathrm{t}=0)=0$ means $\quad \mathrm{X}_{1}{ }^{\mathrm{r}}-\mathrm{X}_{2}{ }^{\mathrm{r}}=0 \quad$ (imaginary part) and

$$
-\zeta \omega_{\mathrm{n}}+\omega_{\mathrm{d}}\left(\mathrm{X}_{2}{ }^{\mathrm{i}}-\mathrm{X}_{1}{ }^{\mathrm{i}}\right)=0 \quad \text { (real part) }
$$

Combine these and we find that

$$
\begin{aligned}
& \mathrm{X}_{1}^{\mathrm{r}}=\mathrm{X}_{2}^{\mathrm{r}}=1 / 2 \\
& \mathrm{X}_{1}{ }^{\mathrm{i}}=-\mathrm{X}_{2}^{\mathrm{i}}=-\zeta \omega_{\mathrm{n}} / 2 \omega_{\mathrm{d}}
\end{aligned}
$$

Plug into the solution for x and do some trig:
$\mathbf{x}=\mathbf{e}^{-\zeta \omega \mathrm{nt}} \sin \left(\omega_{\mathrm{d}} \mathbf{t}+\mathbf{k}\right) / \operatorname{sqrt}\left(1-\zeta^{2}\right)$, where $k=\operatorname{atan}\left(\omega_{\mathrm{d}} / \zeta \omega_{\mathrm{n}}\right)$
$\zeta=0.0$ has fastest rise time but no decay
$\zeta=0.2$ gives about 50\% overshoot
$\zeta=0.5$ gives about 15\% overshoot
$\zeta=1.0$ gives the fastest response without overshoot
$\zeta>1.0$ is slower

Response to I.C. of Second-Order System with Varying Damping Ratio


## STABILITY REFERENCE POINTS



## LINEAR MEASUREMENTS IN STABILITY



CL

## THE CENTER OF BUOYANCY

## WATERLINE



## CENTER OF BUOYANCY



## CENTER OF BUOYANCY



- The freeboard and reserve buoyancy will also change


## MOVEMENTS IN THE CENTER OF GRAVITY

G MOVES TOWARDS A WEIGHT ADDITION


## MOVEMENTS IN THE CENTER OF GRAVITY

G MOVES AWAY FROM A WEIGHT REMOVAL


## MOVEMENTS IN THE CENTER OF GRAVITY



G MOVES IN THE DIRECTION OF A WEIGHT SHIFT

## DISPLACEMENT = SHIP'S WIEGHT



METACENTER


$0^{\circ}-7 / 10^{\circ}$

+GM

$+G M$


## neutral GM

-GM


## MOVEMENTS OF THE METACENTER

THE METACENTER WILL CHANGE POSITIONS IN THE VERTICAL PLANE WHEN THE SHIP'S DISPLACEMENT CHANGES

THE METACENTER MOVES IAW THESE TWO RULES:<br>1. WHEN B MOVES UP, M MOVES DOWN. 2. WHEN B MOVES DOWN, M MOVES UP.



Righting Arm


## Righting Arm




## Righting Arm for Various Conditions



## THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Effects of:
- Weight addition/subtraction and movement
- Ballasting and loading/unloading operations
- Wind, Icing
- Damage stability
- result in an adverse movement of G or B
- sea-keeping characteristics will change
- compensating for flooding (ballast/completely flood a compartment)
- maneuvering for seas/wind


## References

- NSTM 079 v. I Buoyancy \& Stability
- NWP 3-20.31 Ship Survivability
- Ship’s Damage Control Book
- Principles of Naval Architecture v. I

MIT OpenCourseWare
http://ocw.mit.edu

### 2.017J Design of Electromechanical Robotic Systems

Fall 2009

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: http://ocw.mit.edu/terms.

