

Stability of Relative Equilibria in Simple Mechanical Systems with Symmetry

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Outline

1 Hamiltonian Systems and Relative Equilibria

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- 2 Simple Mechanical Systems and Cotangent Bundle Geometry

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- 3 Relative Equilibria for Mechanical Systems

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$$\omega(\xi_{\mathcal{P}}, \cdot) = \langle \mathbf{d}\mathbf{J}(\cdot), \xi \rangle \quad \forall \xi \in \mathfrak{g}$$

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- $h \in C^\infty(\mathcal{P})$ is a G -invariant function (the **Hamiltonian**).

$$h(g \cdot z) = h(z)$$

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- Noether's Theorem: (G -invariance of h)

$$\mathbf{J}(\phi_{X_h}^t(z)) = \mathbf{J}(z)$$

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A point $z \in \mathcal{P}$ is a relative equilibrium if

$$\phi_{X_h}^t(z) \subseteq G \cdot z$$

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Important Properties

- If z is a RE with $\mathbf{J}(z) = \mu$ then $\exists \xi \in \mathfrak{g}_\mu$ s.t.

$$\phi_{X_h}^t(z) = \exp(t\xi) \cdot z$$

$$G_\mu = \{g \in G : \text{Ad}_g^* \mu = \mu\} \quad \mathfrak{g}_\mu = \text{Lie } G_\mu$$

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- If z is a relative equilibrium then all points in $G \cdot z$ are also RE
- A point $z \in \mathcal{P}$ with $\mathbf{J}(z) = \mu$ is a RE iff $[z] \in \mathbf{J}^{-1}(\mu)/G_\mu$ is a **fixed point** for the Hamiltonian continuous flow induced by $\phi_{X_h}^t$.

Isotropy

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$$\xi + \xi'$$

is another velocity for z , where $\xi' \in \mathfrak{g}_z = \text{Lie } G_z$.

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- By equivariance of $\mathbf{J} : \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathfrak{g}^*$, $G_z \subset G_\mu$.
- Therefore in the case of singular Hamiltonian actions the same relative equilibrium can be assigned several velocities at a given point.

Examples of Relative Equilibria

- Kepler's Problem:

$$\mathcal{P} = T^*\mathbb{R}^3, \quad G = \text{SO}(3), \quad h = \frac{|\mathbf{p}|^2}{2m} + V(|\mathbf{x}|).$$

RE correspond to circular orbits.

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- Spherical Pendulum:

$$\mathcal{P} = T^*S^2, \quad G = S^1, \quad h = \frac{|\mathbf{p}|^2}{2m} - mgl\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{e}_3.$$

RE correspond to circular motions with constant θ .

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- Riemann Ellipsoids (self-gravitating figures of equilibrium)

Stability of Relative Equilibria

Definition (G. Patrick)

Let $z \in \mathcal{P}$ be a relative equilibrium of the symmetric Hamiltonian system $(\mathcal{P}, \omega, G, \mathbf{J}, h)$ with momentum $\mu = \mathbf{J}(z)$.

The relative equilibrium z is (nonlinearly) *stable modulo G_μ* if for every G_μ -invariant neighborhood $G_\mu \cdot z \subset V$ there is a neighborhood $z \in U$ such that

$$\phi_{X_h}^t(U) \subset V \quad \forall t \in I.$$

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- Nonlinear stability \Rightarrow (\neq) Spectral (or linear) stability.
- Notion related to the Lyapunov stability of the corresponding fixed point in the reduced space.

Existence Conditions

Let $z \in \mathcal{P}$ with $\mathbf{J}(z) = \mu$ and fix an element $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}_\mu$. Assume in the following that G_μ is compact.

Definition

The *augmented Hamiltonian* is the function defined by

$$h_\xi(z) = h(z) - \langle \mathbf{J}(z), \xi \rangle.$$

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Theorem

Let $z \in \mathcal{P}$ with $\mathbf{J}(z) = \mu$ and let $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}_\mu$. Then z is a RE with velocity ξ if and only if

$$\mathbf{d}h_\xi(z) = 0.$$

Stability Conditions

Construct the following G_z -invariant complements:

$$\ker T_x \mathbf{J} = \mathfrak{g}_\mu \cdot z \oplus N, \quad \text{and} \quad \mathfrak{g}_\mu = \mathfrak{g}_z^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{g}_z.$$

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Theorem (Energy-Momentum Method. Lerman, Singer '98; Ortega, Ratiu 99)

Let $z \in \mathcal{P}$ be a R.E. with $\mathbf{J}(z) = \mu$ and velocity $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}_\mu$. Let ξ^\perp be the projection of ξ onto \mathfrak{g}_z^\perp . Then ξ^\perp is also a velocity for the z . If the bilinear form

$$\mathbf{d}_z^2 h_{\xi^\perp} \Big|_N$$

is definite, then z is stable modulo G_μ .

Note: N is called the **symplectic normal space**, and ξ^\perp an **orthogonal velocity**.

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- The **phase space** $\mathcal{P} = T^*M$ has a canonical symplectic structure and the lifted action of G to T^*M is Hamiltonian with momentum map

$$\langle \mathbf{J}(p_x), \xi \rangle = \langle p_x, \xi_M(x) \rangle.$$

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- The hamiltonian function $h \in C^\infty(T^*M)$

$$h(p_x) = \frac{1}{2}|p_x|^2 + V(x)$$

is invariant by the lifted action of G on T^*M .

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For that, we need to re-express

- (i) The augmented hamiltonian h_ξ .
- (ii) The symplectic normal space N .
- (iii) The restricted Hessian $\mathbf{d}_z^2 h_\xi|_N$.

in terms of the data $(M, \ll \cdot, \cdot \gg, V, G)$.

Existence of Relative Equilibria

Proposition (Abraham, Marsden '78)

Relative Equilibria for the SMS $(M, \ll \cdot, \cdot \gg, V, G)$ are characterized by

$$dV_{\xi}(x) = 0, \quad x \in M, \xi \in \mathfrak{g}$$

where

$$V_{\xi}(x) = V(x) - \frac{1}{2} \langle \xi, \mathbb{I}(x)\xi \rangle$$

is the *augmented potential*, and

$$\langle \xi, \mathbb{I}(x)\eta \rangle = \ll \xi_M(x), \eta_M(x) \gg \quad \forall x \in M, \xi, \eta \in \mathfrak{g}$$

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The solutions (x, ξ) define a relative equilibrium $p_x \in T_x^*M$ by

- $p_x = \ll \xi_M(x), \cdot \gg \in T_x^*M$.
- velocity of the RE is ξ .
- momentum $\mu = \mathbb{I}(x)\xi \in \mathfrak{g}^*$.

A normal form for N

We first need like a realization of the symplectic normal space N adapted to the geometric structure of simple mechanical systems.

Let $p_x \in T_x^*M$ be a relative equilibrium with configuration x , velocity ξ and momentum $\mu = \mathbb{I}(x)\xi$.

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Step 1: Since $G_{p_x} = G_x \cap G_\mu$ is compact we can obtain a G_{p_x} -invariant splitting of \mathfrak{g} :

$$\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_x \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t} \quad \text{with} \quad \mathfrak{g}_\mu = \mathfrak{g}_{p_x} \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp \quad \text{and} \quad \langle \mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp, \mathbb{I}(x)\mathfrak{t} \rangle = 0.$$

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Step 2: Let $\xi^\perp = \mathbb{P}_{\mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp}(\xi)$ the **orthogonal velocity** of the RE. Define

$$\mathbf{S} := (\mathfrak{g} \cdot x)^\perp \subset T_x M$$

$$\mathfrak{q}^\mu := \{ \lambda \in \mathfrak{t} : \text{ad}_\lambda^* \mu \in \mathfrak{g}_x^\circ \} \subset \mathfrak{g}$$

$$\Sigma_{\text{int}} := \left\{ \lambda_M(x) + a : \lambda \in \mathfrak{q}^\mu, a \in \mathbf{S}, (\mathbf{D}\mathbb{I} \cdot (\lambda_M(x) + a))(\xi^\perp) \in \mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^{\perp *} \right\} \subset T_x M$$

Step 3: Let $\hat{\mathbb{I}}_0 : (\mathfrak{g}_{\rho_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}) \times (\mathfrak{g}_{\rho_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be the restriction of $\mathbb{I}(x)$. It is non-degenerate. Define the **singular Arnold form** $\text{Ar} : \mathfrak{q}^\mu \times \mathfrak{q}^\mu \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ as

$$\langle \lambda_1, \text{Ar} \lambda_2 \rangle = \langle \text{ad}_{\lambda_1}^* \mu, \hat{\mathbb{I}}_0^{-1}(\text{ad}_{\lambda_2}^* \mu) + \mathbb{P}_{\mathfrak{g}_{\rho_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}} \left[\text{ad}_\lambda \left(\hat{\mathbb{I}}_0^{-1} \mu \right) \right] \rangle \quad \forall \lambda_1, \lambda_2 \in \mathfrak{q}^\mu$$

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Proposition (M.R.-O., 2006)

At a relative equilibrium with configuration $x \in M$, $\xi \in \mathfrak{g}$ and momentum μ , if the singular Arnold form is non-degenerate, then there is a linear isomorphism

$$\varphi : \mathfrak{q}^\mu \oplus \Sigma_{\text{int}} \oplus \mathbf{S}^* \rightarrow N \in T_{\rho_x}(T^*M).$$

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1. The **Sasaki metric** on T^*M allows to write down an isomorphism

$$T_x M \oplus T_x^* M \rightarrow T_{p_x}(T^*M)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Ver}_{p_x} &= T_{p_x}(T_x^*M) \simeq T_x^*M \\ \text{Hor}_{p_x} &= \text{Ver}_{p_x}^{\perp \text{Sasaki}} \simeq T_x M \end{aligned}$$

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The horizontal space can also be defined as

$$\text{Hor}_{p_x} = \ker K_{p_x},$$

where $K_{p_x} : T_{p_x}(T^*M) \rightarrow T_x M$ is the **connection map** of the Ehreshman connection on T^*M associated to the Levi-Civita connection on M .

The connection map is defined by

$$K(Y) = \left. \frac{D^\nabla \hat{c}(t)}{Dt} \right|_{t=0},$$

where

- $Y \in T_{p_x}(T^*M)$
- $\left. \frac{dc(t)}{dt} \right|_{t=0} = Y$
- $\hat{c}(t) = \tau_M(c(t)) \in M$
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2. The splitting $\mathfrak{g} = \mathfrak{g}_x \oplus \mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}$ and the metric $\ll \cdot, \cdot \gg$ allows us to write down the following isomorphism

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}) \oplus \mathbf{S} &\rightarrow T_x M \\ ((\xi_1, \xi_2), a) &\mapsto (\xi_1 + \xi_2)_M(x) + a \end{aligned}$$

3. Then we can identify

$$N \subset (\mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}) \oplus \mathbf{S} \oplus (\mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t})^* \oplus \mathbf{S}^* \simeq T_{p_x}(T^*M)$$

3. Then we can identify

$$N \subset \underbrace{(\mathfrak{g}_{\rho_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}) \oplus \mathbf{S}}_{T_x M} \oplus \underbrace{(\mathfrak{g}_{\rho_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t})^* \oplus \mathbf{S}^*}_{T_{\rho_x}^*(T^*M)} \simeq T_{\rho_x}(T^*M)$$

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 T_x M \oplus T_x^* M &\simeq T_{\rho_x}(T^*M)
 \end{aligned}$$

4. Let $\xi^\perp = \mathbb{P}_{\mathfrak{g}_{\rho_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}} \xi$ (the orthogonal velocity). The explicit isomorphism of the Proposition is given by

$$\begin{aligned}
 \mathfrak{q}^\mu \oplus \Sigma_{\text{int}} \oplus \mathbf{S}^* &\rightarrow N \subset (\mathfrak{g}_{\rho_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}) \oplus \mathbf{S} \oplus (\mathfrak{g}_{\rho_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t})^* \oplus \mathbf{S}^* \\
 (\lambda_1, ((\lambda_2)_M(x) + a), \gamma) &\mapsto (\lambda_1 + \lambda_2, a, N_3, \gamma)
 \end{aligned}$$

with

$$N_3 = \frac{1}{2} \mathbb{P}_{\mathfrak{g}_{\rho_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}^*} \left[(\mathbf{D}\mathbb{I} \cdot \xi_M^\perp(x))(\lambda_1 + \lambda_2) + \text{ad}_{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}^* \mu - (\mathbf{D}\mathbb{I} \cdot a)(\xi^\perp) \right]$$

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Stability of Relative Equilibria

M. R.-O. “Stability of Relative Equilibria with Singular Momentum Values in Simple Mechanical Systems”. *Nonlinearity* **19** (2006) 853–877.

Stability of Relative Equilibria

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In this adapted coordinates we can express the Hessian of the augmented Hamiltonian (stability test) as

$$\mathbf{d}_{p_x}^2 h_{\xi^\perp}|_N = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Ar} & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & (\mathbf{d}_x^2 V_{\xi^\perp} + \text{corr}_{\xi^\perp})|_{\Sigma_{\text{int}}} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \llcorner \cdot, \cdot \lrcorner \end{pmatrix}$$

with

$$\text{corr}_{\xi^\perp}(v_1, v_2) = \langle \mathbb{P}_{\mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}} \left[(\mathbf{D}\mathbb{I} \cdot v_1)(\xi^\perp) \right], \hat{\mathbb{I}}_0^{-1} \left(\mathbb{P}_{\mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp \oplus \mathfrak{t}} \left[(\mathbf{D}\mathbb{I} \cdot v_2)(\xi^\perp) \right] \right) \rangle$$

for every $v_1, v_2 \in T_x M$.

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for every $v_1, v_2 \in T_x M$.

Since $\ll \cdot, \cdot \gg$ is positive-definite, $\mathbf{d}_{p_x}^2 h_{\xi^\perp}|_N$ is definite if both Ar and $(\mathbf{d}_x^2 V_{\lambda, \xi^\perp} + \text{corr}_{\xi^\perp})|_{\Sigma_{\text{int}}}$ are **positive definite**.

Theorem (M.R.-O., 2006)

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Suppose that A_r is non-degenerate and let $\xi^\perp = \mathbb{P}_{\mathfrak{g}_{p_x}^\perp}(\xi)$ the orthogonal velocity. If

- 1 $A_r > 0$, and
- 2 $(\mathbf{d}_x^2 V_{\xi^\perp} + \text{corr}_{\xi^\perp})|_{\Sigma_{\text{int}}} > 0$

then the relative equilibrium is (nonlinearly) G_μ -stable.

The case of a degenerate Arnold form

If the Arnold form is degenerate, the same techniques still produce a (less) optimal normal form for N

$$\varphi : \mathfrak{q}^\mu \oplus \mathbf{S} \oplus \mathbf{S}^* \longrightarrow N \subset T_{p_x}(T^*M),$$

In this case we have a block-diagonalization for the Hessian:

$$\mathbf{d}_{p_x}^2 h_{\xi^\perp} \Big|_N = \begin{array}{cc} & \begin{array}{c} \Sigma \\ \mathbf{S}^* \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \left(\mathbf{d}_x^2 V_{\xi^\perp} + \text{corr}_{\xi^\perp}(x) \right) \Big|_\Sigma \\ 0 \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} 0 \\ \ll \cdot, \cdot \gg \end{array} \end{array}$$

where

$$\Sigma = \{ \lambda_Q(x) + a : \forall \lambda \in \mathfrak{q}^\mu, a \in \mathbf{S} \} \simeq \mathfrak{q}^\mu \times \mathbf{S}.$$

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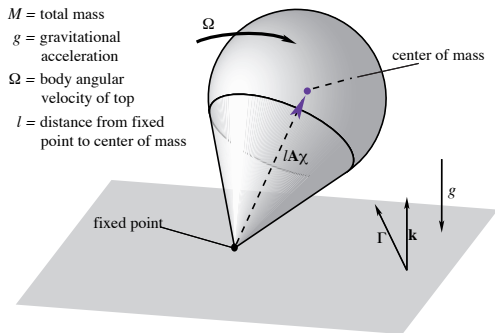
$$(\mathbf{d}_x^2 V_{\xi^\perp} + \text{corr}_{\xi^\perp})|_{\Sigma} > 0$$

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Example: The Sleeping Lagrange Top

The Lagrange top (axisymmetric rigid body with fixed point in uniform gravity field).

- $M = \text{SO}(3)$, $G = \mathbb{T}^2 = S^1 \times S^1$
- $h(\Lambda, \pi) = \frac{1}{2} \pi \cdot E_{\Lambda}^{-1} \pi + mg/l \mathbf{e}_3 \cdot \mathbf{e}_3$, with $\Lambda \in \text{SO}(3)$, $\pi \in \mathbb{R}^3 \simeq \mathfrak{so}(3)$
- $E = \text{diag}(I_1, I_1, I_3)$ and $E_{\Lambda} = \Lambda E \Lambda^t$.



- $\Lambda = I, \xi = (\lambda, 0) \in \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} = \mathfrak{t}^2$ is a R.E. (sleeping Lagrange top).
- $p_x = (I, \lambda I_3 \mathbf{e}_3)$, $G_{p_x} = S^1$, $G_\mu = \mathbb{T}^2$.
- Orthogonal velocity (choices parametrized by k):

$$\xi^\perp = \lambda \left(\frac{1}{1+k}, -\frac{k}{1+k} \right)$$

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Using the general Energy-Momentum Method:

Figure: Ortega, Ratiu, *Nonlinearity* '99

Now set $(\alpha_1, \alpha_2) = v_c(k)$ and combine the expressions (38) and (39) to obtain the following matrix of the Hessian $d^2(h - \mathbf{J}^{v_c(k)})(z)$ restricted to W

$$\begin{pmatrix} -mgl - \lambda^2 I_3 \left(\frac{1}{1+k} - \frac{I_3}{I_1} \right) & 0 & 0 & \lambda \left(\frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_1} + \frac{k}{1+k} \right) \\ 0 & -mgl - \lambda^2 I_3 \left(\frac{1}{1+k} - \frac{I_3}{I_1} \right) & -\lambda \left(\frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_1} + \frac{k}{1+k} \right) & 0 \\ 0 & -\lambda \left(\frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_1} + \frac{k}{1+k} \right) & \frac{1}{I_1} & 0 \\ \lambda \left(\frac{I_3 - I_1}{I_1} + \frac{k}{1+k} \right) & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{I_1} \end{pmatrix},$$

whose eigenvalues are

$$\sigma_\pm = A \pm \sqrt{-4I_1(1+k)^2 B + A^2},$$

with

$$A = (1+k)^2 - mgl I_1 (1+k)^2 + I_3 \lambda^2 (I_3(1+2k) - I_1(1+k))$$

$$B = \lambda^2 (I_3 k + I_3 - I_1) - mgl (1+k)^2.$$

It is clear that $d^2(h - \mathbf{J}^{v_c(k)})(z)$ is positive definite iff $B > 0$, that is

$$\lambda^2 > mgl \frac{(1+k)^2}{I_3 k + I_3 - I_1},$$

Using the method adapted to SMS

- $t = 0 \Rightarrow \mathbf{q}^\mu = 0 \Rightarrow \Sigma = \mathbf{S}$.
- Augmented potential (trivial correction term):

$$V_{\xi^\perp}(\Lambda) = mgl\Lambda \mathbf{e}_3 \cdot \mathbf{e}_3 - \frac{\lambda^2}{2(1+k)^2} [\mathbf{e}_3 \cdot E_\Lambda \mathbf{e}_3 + 2kl_3 \mathbf{e}_3 \cdot \Lambda \mathbf{e}_3 + k^2 l_3].$$

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- $(\mathbf{d}_I^2 V_{\xi^\perp} + \text{corr}_{\xi^\perp})|_{\Sigma} = \left(\frac{(kl_3 + l_3 - l_1)\lambda^2}{(1+k)^2} - mgl \right) \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$.
- Stability condition:

$$\lambda^2 > \frac{(1+k)^2 mgl}{kl_3 + l_3 - l_1}.$$

(same one)