

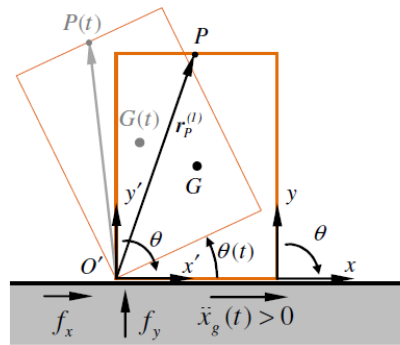
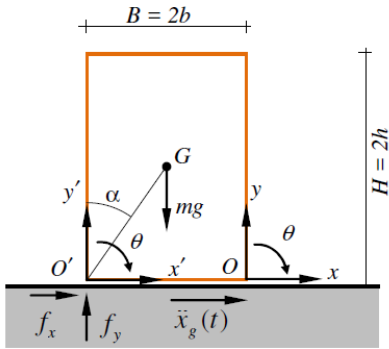
# Rocking of a rigid block freestanding on a flat pedestal

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*Keywords: Rigid body; Isolation; Statues; Friction; Rocking dynamics*

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# Single rocking block



$$r = 1 - \frac{3}{2} \sin^2 \alpha \quad \text{with } 0 < r < 1$$

$$\dot{\theta}^+(t) = r \dot{\theta}^-(t)$$

Square root of the Housner restitution coefficient

$$(I_o - 2 m r b \sin \alpha) \dot{\theta}^-(t) = I_o \dot{\theta}^+(t)$$

Conservation of angular momentum

$$|f_x| \leq \mu_s f_y$$

Friction force

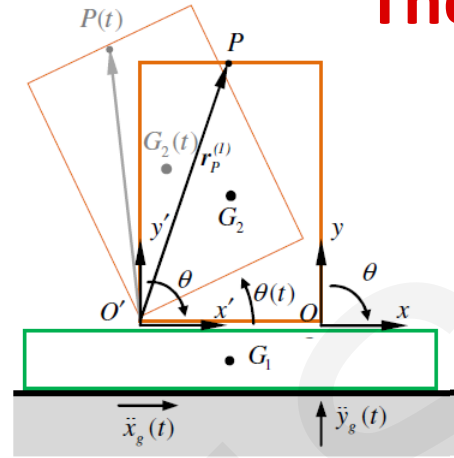
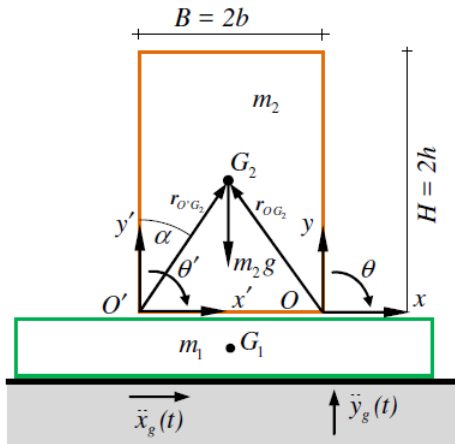
Equation of motion (clockwise positive)

$$I_o \ddot{\theta}(t) + m g R \sin(-\alpha - \theta(t)) = -m \ddot{x}_g(t) R \cos(-\alpha - \theta(t)) \quad , \quad \theta(t) < 0$$

$$I_o \ddot{\theta}(t) + m g R \sin(\alpha - \theta(t)) = -m \ddot{x}_g(t) R \cos(\alpha - \theta(t)) \quad , \quad \theta(t) > 0$$

$$\dot{\theta}^+(t) = r \dot{\theta}^-(t) \quad , \quad \theta(t) = 0$$

# The double block problem



$$T_1(t) = \frac{1}{2} m_1 \dot{\mathbf{x}}_{G_1} \cdot \dot{\mathbf{x}}_{G_1}$$

$$T_2(t) = \frac{1}{2} [J_{G_2} \dot{\theta}^2(t) + m_2 \dot{\mathbf{x}}_{G_2}(t) \cdot \dot{\mathbf{x}}_{G_2}(t)]$$

$$T(t) = T_1(t) + T_2(t)$$

$$V_1(t) = m_1 g \mathbf{x}_{G_1} \cdot \mathbf{j}$$

$$V_2(t) = m_2 g \mathbf{x}_{G_2} \cdot \mathbf{j}$$

$$V(t) = V_1(t) + V_2(t)$$

$$F_{\text{friction}} = -\mu_k (m_1 + m_2) (g + \ddot{y}_g) \ddot{x}_g \text{sgn}(\ddot{x}_g(t))$$

$$L(t) = T(t) - V(t)$$

$$q_1 = \theta(t), \quad q_2 = x_{G_1}$$

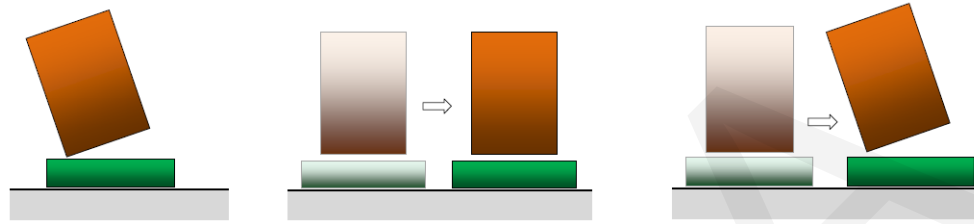
Lagrangian parameters

$$\frac{\partial^2 L(t)}{\partial t \partial \dot{q}_k} - \frac{\partial L(t)}{\partial q_k} = Q_k(t), \quad k = 1, 2$$

Contribute of  
nonconservative forces

# The double block problem: motion equations

(Mathematica©)



$$\begin{cases} J_O \ddot{\theta}(t) - m_2 R \cos[\alpha - |\theta|](\ddot{x}_g(t) + \ddot{x}_{G_1}(t)) + m_2 R g \operatorname{sgn}(\theta(t)) \sin[\alpha - |\theta|] = 0 & , \theta(t) \neq 0 \\ M(\ddot{x}_g(t) + \ddot{x}_{G_1}(t)) + \operatorname{sgn}(\theta(t)) \{-m_2 R [\sin(\alpha - |\theta|) \dot{\theta}^2(t) - \cos(\alpha - |\theta|) \ddot{\theta}(t)] + M \mu_k g\} = 0 & , \theta(t) \neq 0 \\ \dot{\theta}^+(t) = r \dot{\theta}^-(t) & , \theta(t) = 0 \end{cases}$$

$$J_O \ddot{\theta}(t) - m_2 R \cos(\alpha - |\theta|) \ddot{x}_g(t) + m_2 R g \operatorname{sgn}(\theta(t)) \sin(\alpha - |\theta|) = 0$$

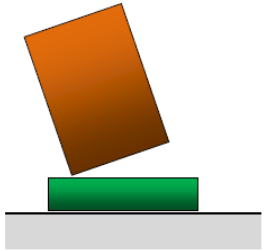
$$\ddot{x}_g(t) = A \cos \omega t$$

Double block problem

Single block problem  
(upper block rocking)

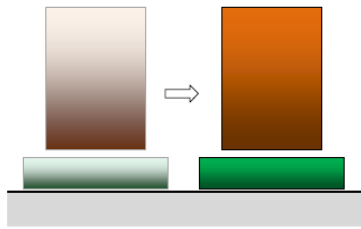
# The double block problem: possible motions

(Mathematica©)



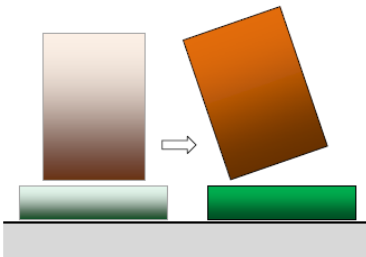
$$\begin{cases} M \ddot{x}_g(t) < \text{sgn}(\dot{x}_g(t)) M \mu_k g \\ \ddot{x}_{G_2}(t) h > g b. \end{cases}$$

$$t_a \Rightarrow \ddot{x}_{G_2}(t_a) h = g b$$



$$\begin{cases} M \ddot{x}_g(t) > \text{sgn}(\dot{x}_g(t)) M \mu_k g \\ \ddot{x}_{G_2}(t) h < g b. \end{cases}$$

$$t_b \Rightarrow M \ddot{x}_g(t_b) = \text{sgn}(\dot{x}_g(t_b)) M \mu_k g$$



$$\begin{cases} M \ddot{x}_g(t) > \text{sgn}(\dot{x}_g(t)) M \mu_k g \\ \ddot{x}_{G_2}(t) h > g b. \end{cases}$$

Lower block sliding stops when:

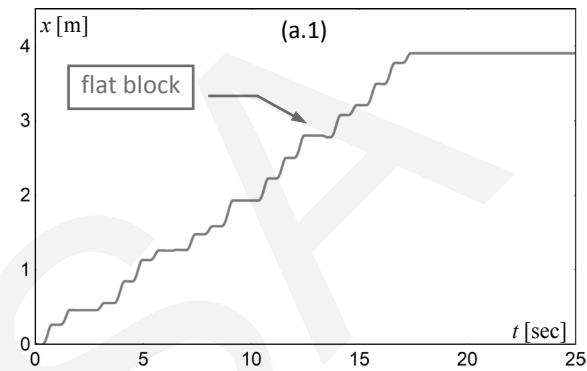
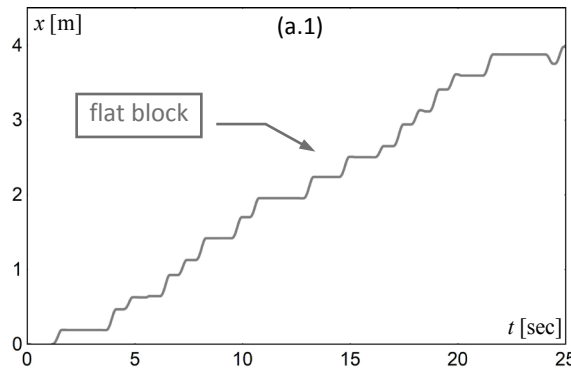
$$\dot{q}_1(t) = \dot{x}_{G_1}(t) = 0$$

$$M \ddot{x}_g(t) - m_2 R \text{sgn}(\theta(t)) \{ \sin(\alpha - |\theta(t)|) \dot{\theta}^2(t) - \cos(\alpha - |\theta(t)|) \ddot{\theta}(t) \} \geq \text{sgn}(\theta(t)) M \mu_s g$$

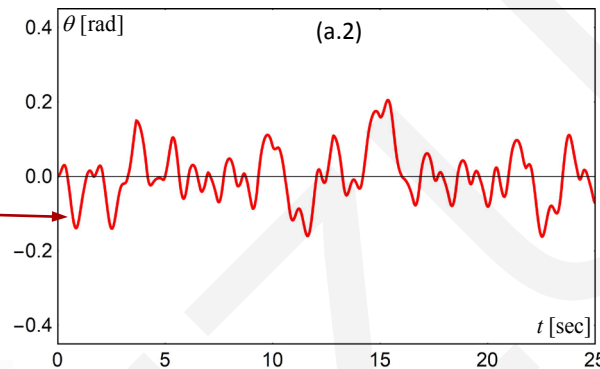
# The double block problem: top block slenderness variation

**H= 4B**

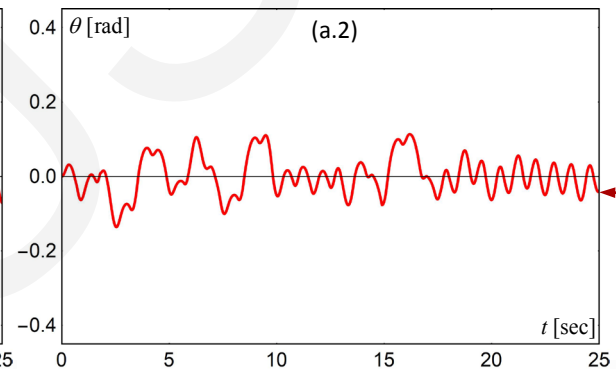
**H= 5B**



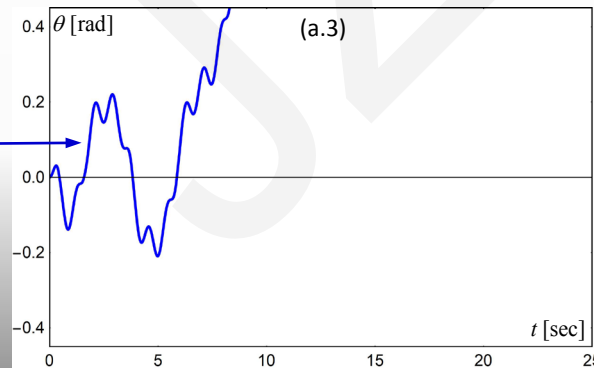
slender block  
with flat block:  
OVERTURNING  
ABSENT



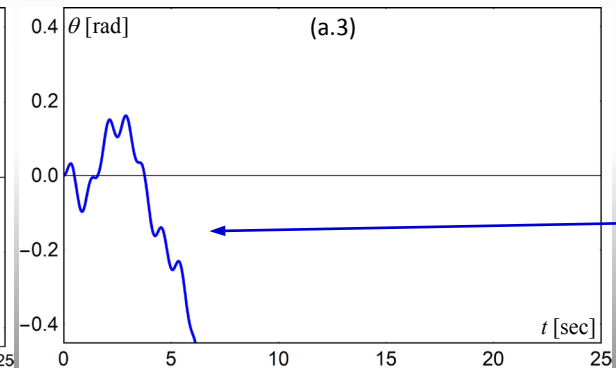
slender block  
with flat block:  
OVERTURNING  
ABSENT



slender block  
without flat block:  
OVERTURNING



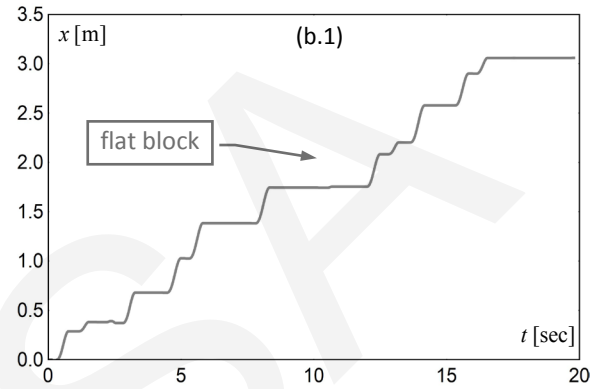
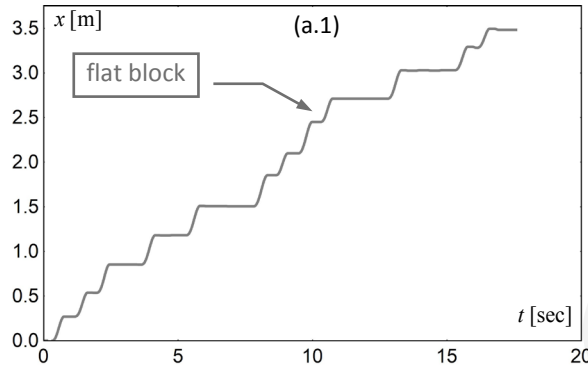
slender block  
without flat block:  
OVERTURNING



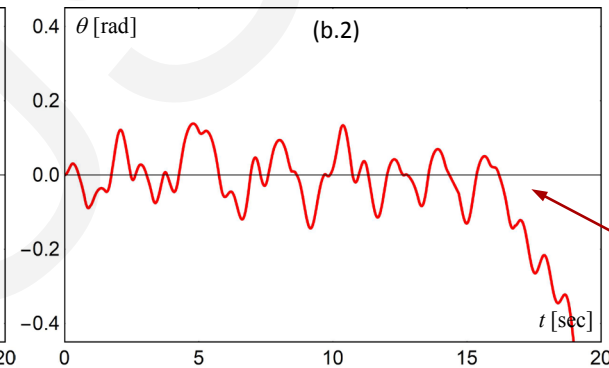
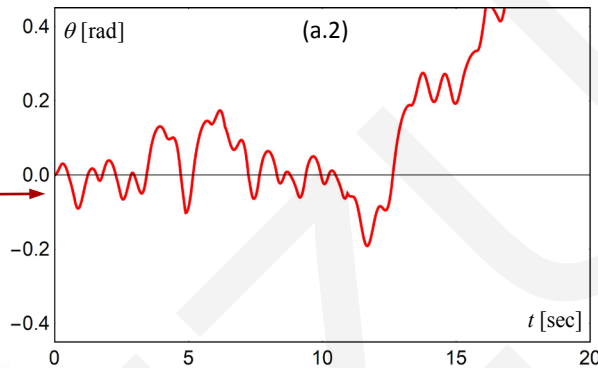
# The double block problem: mass variation

$$m_2 = 4m_1$$

$$m_2 = 6m_1$$

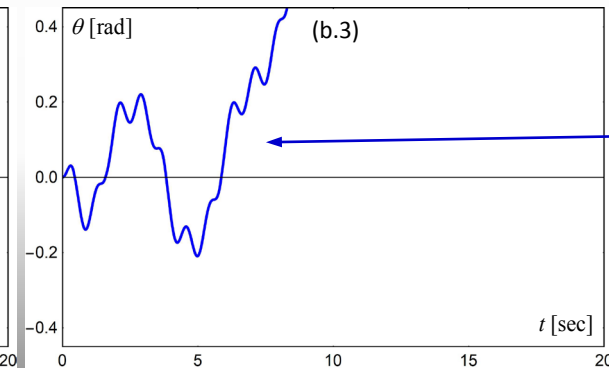
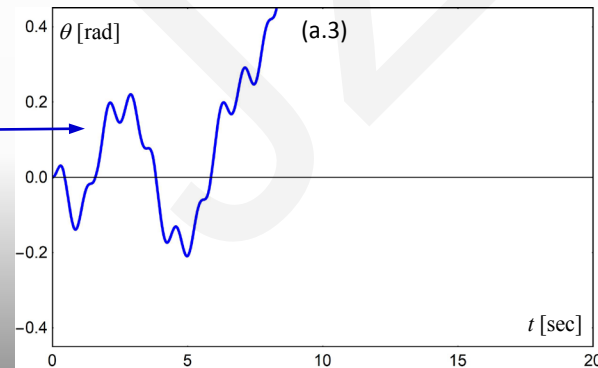


slender block with flat block



slender block with flat block

slender block without flat block: OVERTURNING



slender block without flat block: OVERTURNING

# Conclusions

- The real situation of a marble statue placed on a squat rigid base freestanding on a moving floor is presented in this paper.
- The motion patterns examined in this paper involve only the sliding motion for the lower flat block and rocking as the only possible motion for the stacked slender block.
- The solution of the differential equations system has been shown that the presence of a rigid surface delays and in some cases avoids the overturning of a slender rigid artifact.
- This is true especially for slender rocking blocks, and for increasing mass of the upper block. The numerical analysis can be a tool in the choice of the optimal design of the simple isolation system analyzed.