

#### IYPT — AUSTRALIA QUESTION 17: CRAZY SUITCASE

Reporter: Jeong Han Song

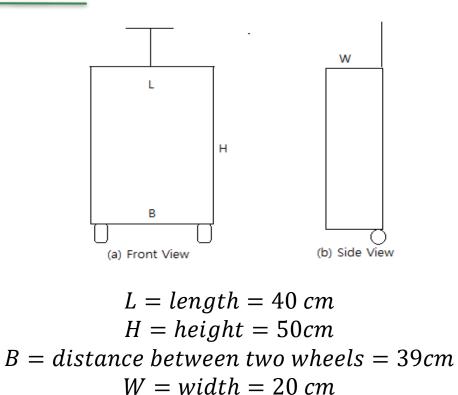
## PROBLEM

When one pulls along a **two wheeled suitcase**, it can under certain circumstances **wobble so strongly** from side to side that it can **turn over**. Investigate this phenomenon. Can one **suppress** or **intensify** the effect by **varied packing** of the luggage?



# **TERMS & DEFINITIONS**

When one pulls along a two wheeled suitcase, it can under certain circumstances wobble so strongly from side to side that it can turn over. Investigate this phenomenon. Can one suppress or intensify the effect by varied packing of the luggage?



$$au = Fd$$
  
Detachment of both wheels

**Different Positions of Centre of mass** 

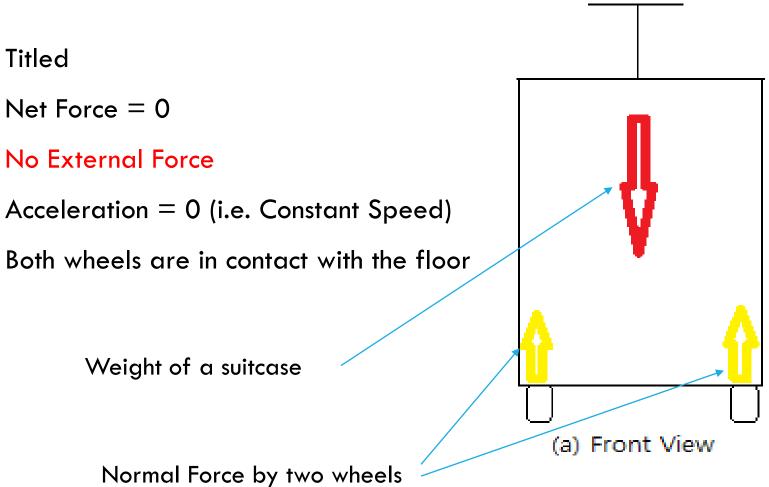
#### **FLOW CHART** Qualitative Additional Quantitative Experiment Analysis circumstances Analysis Net Torque Walking Stages of Measurement of ٠ ٠ Equation frequency motion of the angular Coefficient of displacement wobbling ٠ Human Effect Restitution ٠ suitcase (Literature Different mass • Computational Condition of Review) density Analysis • Angle of tilt • overturn Graphical ٠ Angular • Simulation Acceleration (Theoretical (Derivation of **Prediction**) force) **Relevant Condition for Overturn**



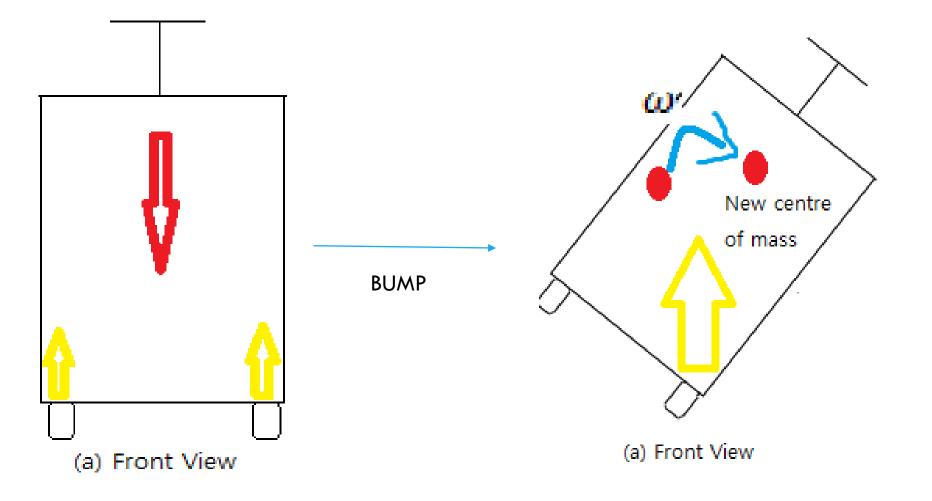
## QUALITATIVE ANALYSIS

- Cases for different effective height
- Five different phases

## STAGE 1: INITIAL CONDITION



## STAGE 2: EFFECT OF INITIAL DISTURBANCE



# STAGE 2: EFFECT OF INITIAL DISTURBANCE (TORQUE)

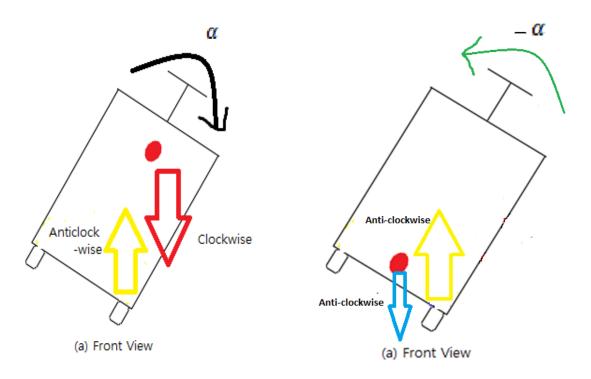
•Different effect depending on the position of weight

#### •Case 1: High weight

- Centre of mass now causes rotation about the supporting wheel
- Torque created by the center of mass
- Angular acceleration is present

#### •Case 2: Low weight

- Low centre of mass acts as a restoring force that opposes the original torque created by the initial disturbance
- Diminishes the wobble effect

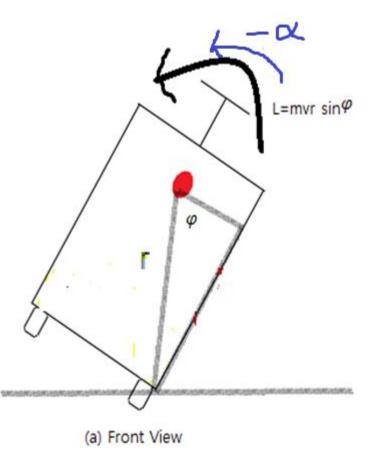


## STAGE 3: HUMAN RESPONSE

Human exerts a periodic force that opposes the disturbance created by the weight.

Opposite direction to the torque created by the weight

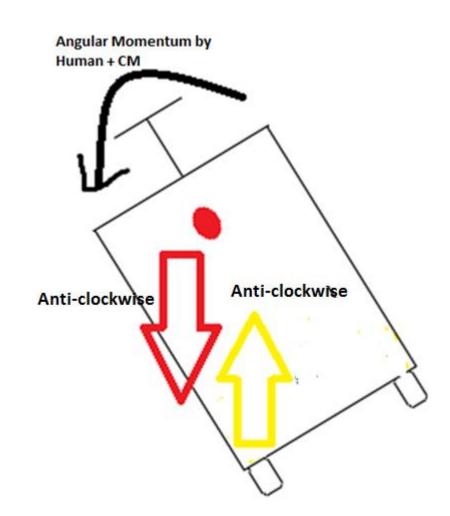
Effect of inertia



## STAGE 4: POINT OF INSTABILITY

#### The restoring force overshoots

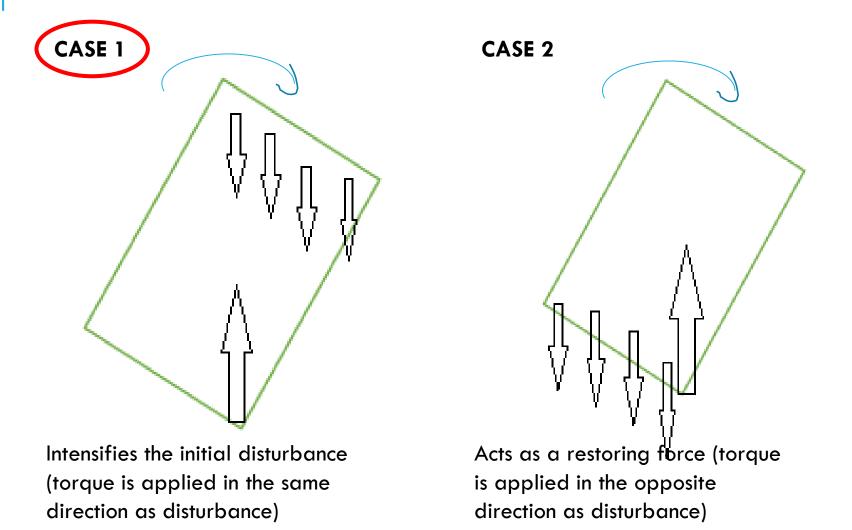
Overcompensation of restoring force would lead to the rather sharp increase in the oscillation.



## STAGE 5: REPETITION AND AMPLIFICATION

When a suitcase meets a critical amplitude that exceeds what human can counteract, it overturns.

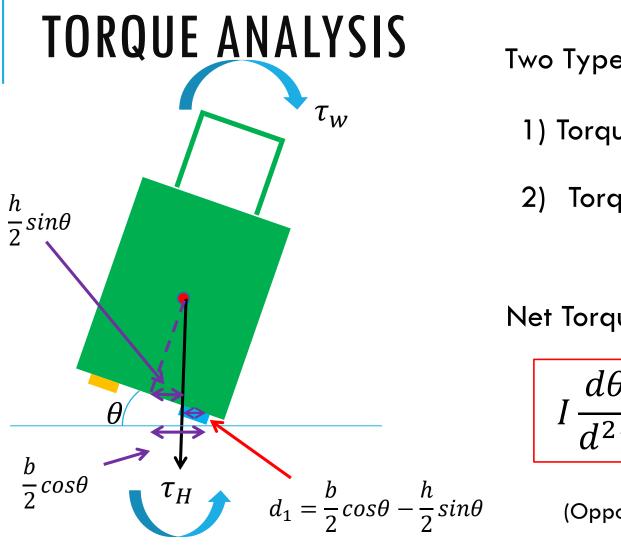
## QUALITATIVE MODEL – SUMMARY





## QUANTITATIVE ANALYSIS

- Net Torque Equation
- Literature Review: Suherman's model
- Theoretical Prediction (Graphical Simulation)



Two Types of torque:

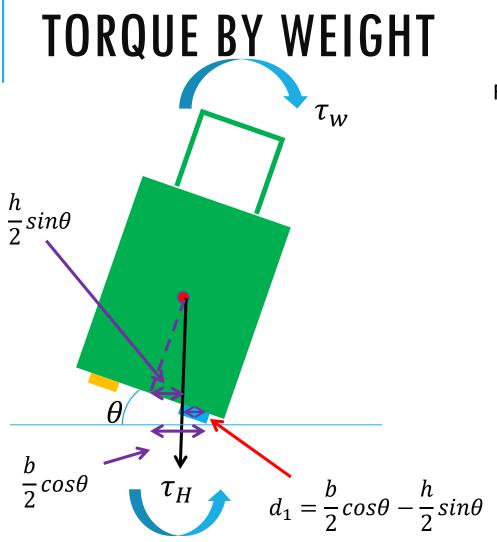
1) Torque by Weight

2) Torque by Human

Net Torque Equation:

$$I\frac{d\theta}{d^2t} = \tau_H - \tau_w$$

(Opposite Direction)



From basic torque equation:

$$\tau = F \times d_1$$

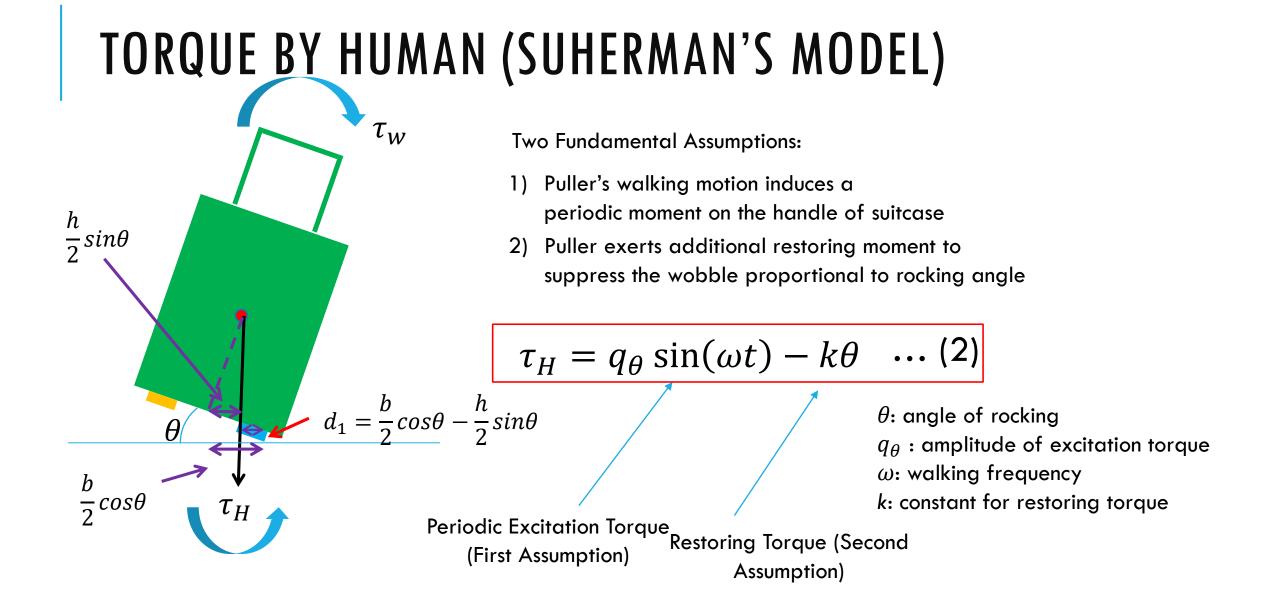
Force is equivalent to the weight

F = mg

Shortest distance is:

$$\Rightarrow \frac{b}{2}\cos\theta - \frac{h}{2}\sin\theta$$

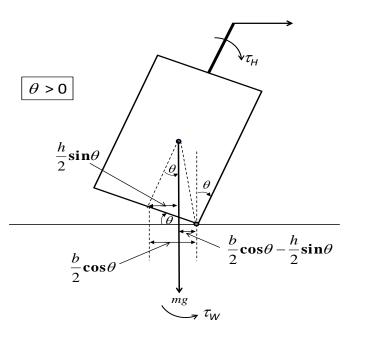
$$\therefore \tau_w = mg(\frac{b}{2}\cos\theta - \frac{h}{2}\sin\theta) \dots (1)$$



# NET TORQUE EQUATION

Combining Equation 1 & 2:

$$I\frac{d\theta}{d^2t} = \tau_H - \tau_w$$



$$I\frac{d\theta}{d^2t} = q_0\sin(\omega t) - k\theta - mg\left(\frac{b}{2}\cos\theta - \frac{h}{2}\sin\theta\right) \quad \dots \theta > 0$$

Or

$$I\frac{d\theta}{d^{2}t} = q_{0}\sin(\omega t) - k\theta + mg\left(\frac{b}{2}\cos\theta + \frac{h}{2}\sin\theta\right) \quad \dots \theta < 0$$

## FINAL NET TORQUE EQUATION

Define: 
$$S = +1$$
, if  $\theta > 0$   $S = -1$ , if  $\theta < 0$   
Final Equation: ACCURATE

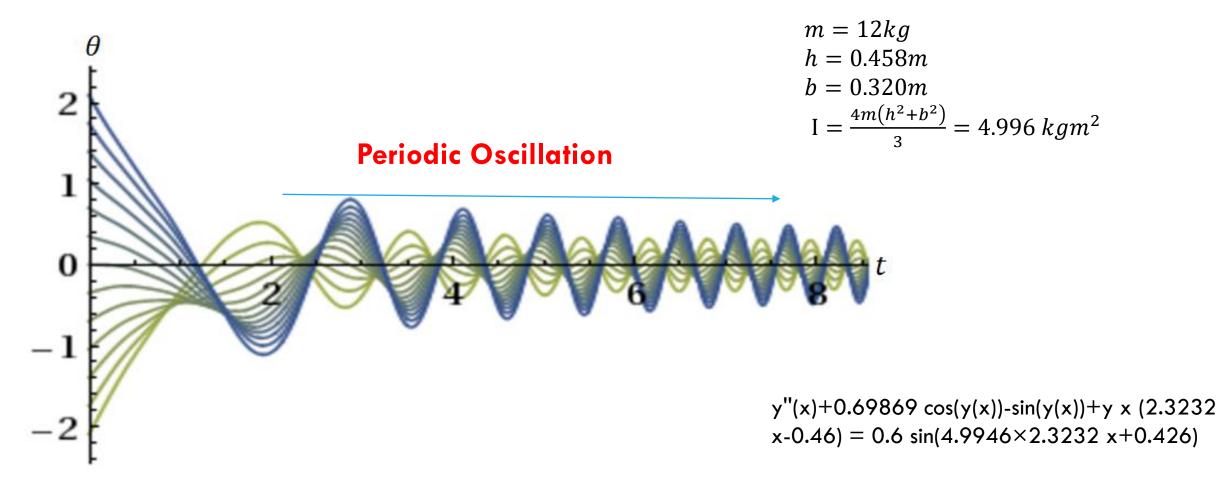
$$I\frac{d^{2}\theta}{dt^{2}} = q_{0}\sin(\omega t) - k\theta - Smg\frac{b}{2}\cos\theta + mg\frac{h}{2}\sin\theta$$

b: bottom length of a suitcase h: effective height  $\theta$ : angle of rocking  $q_{\theta}$  : amplitude of excitation torque  $\omega$ : walking frequency k: constant for restoring torque

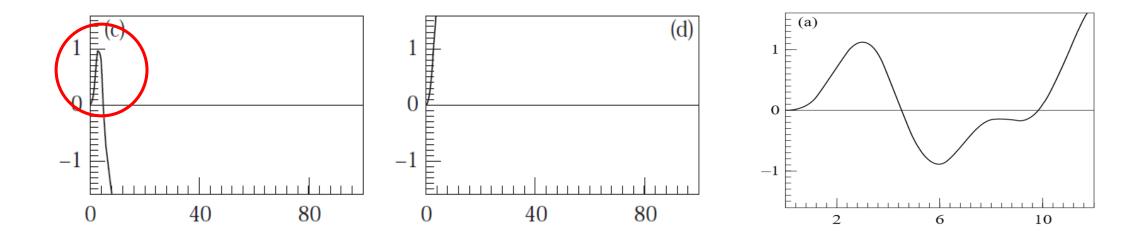
As effective height increases, net torque increases!

## THEORETICAL PREDICTION — WOBBLE

Sample Graph from our computer simulation (wolfram alpha) using values below:



## LITERATURE REVIEW: SUHERMAN'S RESULTS OVERTURN OF A SUITCASE



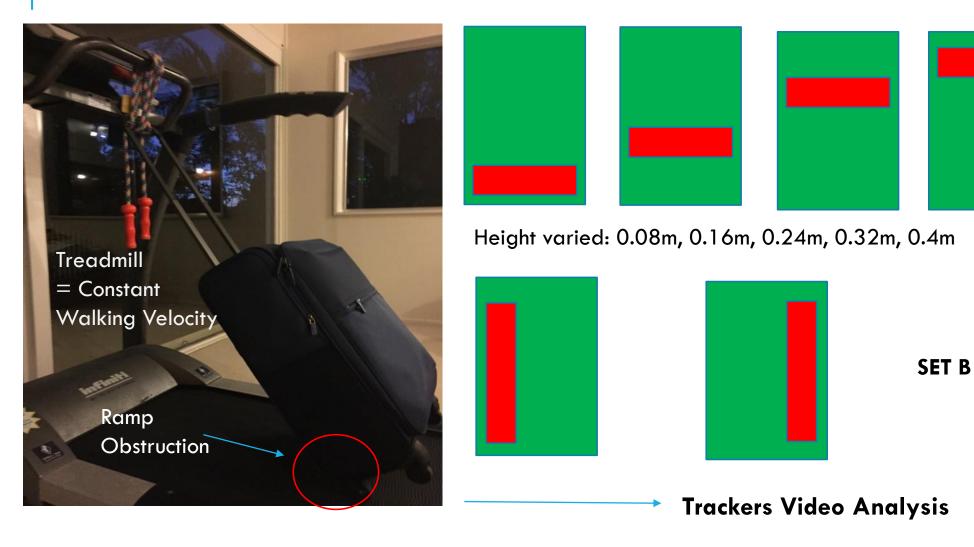
- 1. Sharp change in angular displacement
- 2. No wobble during the overturn

ROCKING ANGLE v TIME OVERTURN ( $\theta > \frac{\pi}{2}$ )

- Experimental Setup
- Angular displacement vs. time
- Computational Analysis

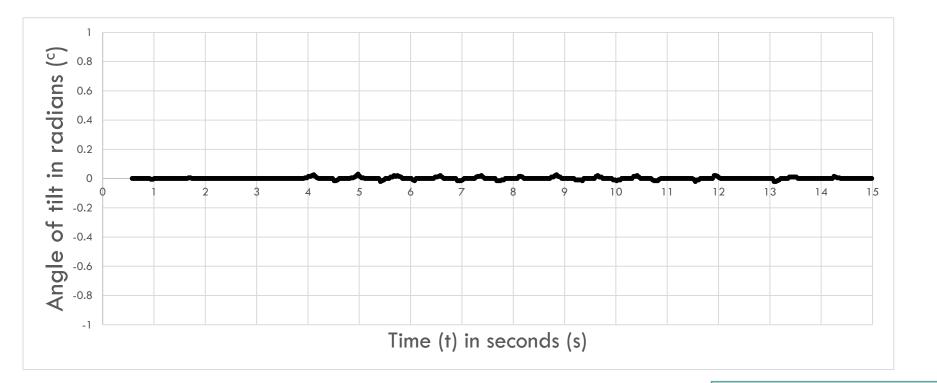
# EXPERIMENT

## **EXPERIMENTAL SETUP**



SET A

## **RESULT 1: 0.08M EFFECTIVE HEIGHT OF CM**



- Very minimal angular displacement
- Inaccurate measurement (interval: 0.1s)
- Hard to observe trend or data



#### **Fast Fourier Transform**

## SIMULATING THE EQUATION

```
In [2]: import numpy
```

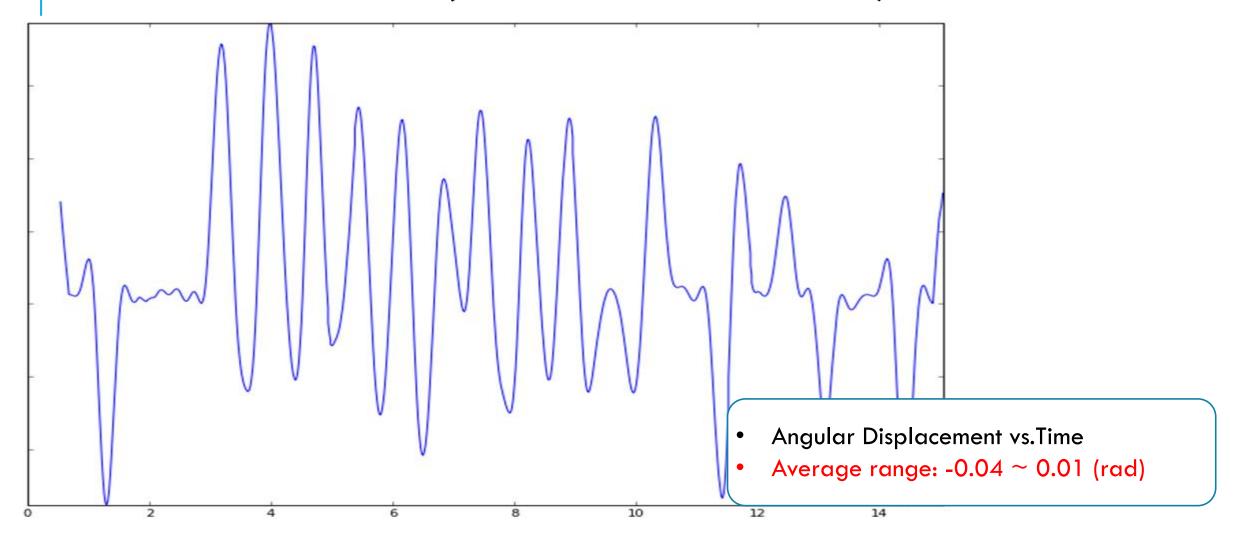
```
(0.0793870251769-0.0343400073869j)*numpy.exp(0.0054347826087j*x)+(0.128171884923+0.114165718316j)*numpy.exp(0.0067934
data = numpy.genfromtxt(txt file name)
                                                                         7826087j*x)+(-0.0789217710141+0.0506876519715j)*numpy.exp(0.00815217391304j*x)+(-0.313683719822+0.177882753422j)*nump
y_data = numpy.genfromtxt(txt_file_name, usecols=1)
                                                                         y.exp(0.00951086956522j*x)+(-0.405657156874-0.341040410623j)*numpy.exp(0.0108695652174j*x)+(0.169831208229-0.27419970
                                                                         4291j)*numpy.exp(0.0122282608696j*x)+(-0.212322076372-0.0533675435594j)*numpy.exp(0.0135869565217j*x)+(-0.16271467461
Coef = numpy.fft.fft(y_data)
                                                                         5+0.0991007955451j)*numpy.exp(0.0149456521739j*x)+(-0.237838649698+0.49273818019j)*numpy.exp(0.0163043478261j*x)+(0.2
Freq = numpy.fft.fftfreq(len(y data))
                                                                         43829604558-0.0486385296346j)*numpy.exp(0.0176630434783j*x)+(-0.122470662683-0.0720897431264j)*numpy.exp(0.0190217391
                                                                         304j*x)+(-0.353615922653-0.0570099119301j)*numpy.exp(0.0203804347826j*x)+(0.086710240439+0.322257867439j)*numpy.exp
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
                                                                         (0.0217391304348j*x)+(0.369227221677-0.553337430946j)*numpy.exp(0.023097826087j*x)+(-0.690435890344-1.1958190939j)*nu
Abs Coef = numpy.abs(Coef)
                                                                         mpy.exp(0.0244565217391j*x)+(0.83962513333+0.98398930061j)*numpy.exp(0.0258152173913j*x)+(-0.374196414629-0.172350054
                                                                         05j) *numpy.exp(0.0271739130435j*x) + (-0.102805844489+0.122797370408j) *numpy.exp(0.0285326086957j*x) + (-0.246036407108+
%matplotlib inline
                                                                         0.240798462224j)*numpy.exp(0.0298913043478j*x)+(-0.175279918721+0.255500269622j)*numpy.exp(0.03125j*x)+(-0.1068959771
#plt.plot(Freq[:int(len(Freq)/2)], Abs Coef[:int(len(.22-0.0193382571159j)*numpy.exp(0.0326086956522j*x)+(0.179287240967+0.0884711698517j)*numpy.exp(0.0339673913043j*x)+
                                                                          (-0.0727410577482-0.327913795246j)*numpy.exp(0.0353260869565j*x)+(0.0594506899557-0.241614151812j)*numpy.exp(0.036684
Pop Coef = Coef[:equation length]
                                                                         7826087j*x)+(0.193100984027+0.151369795795j)*numpy.exp(0.0380434782609j*x)+(-0.234993893334+0.0313281826602j)*numpy.e
Pop Freq = Freq[:equation length]
                                                                         xp(0.039402173913j*x)+(-0.365722068985+0.0285545452021j)*numpy.exp(0.0407608695652j*x)+(-0.470760261804-0.13846995373
                                                                         7j)*numpy.exp(0.0421195652174j*x)+(-0.289941859819-0.034611296911j)*numpy.exp(0.0434782608696j*x)+(0.00716723958308+
def graph(formula, x range):
                                                                         0.306363818756j)*numpy.exp(0.0448369565217j*x)+(0.111570601653-0.476449285374j)*numpy.exp(0.0461956521739j*x)+(-0.064
     x = numpy.array(x range)
                                                                         5311911822+0.151879156556j)*numpy.exp(0.0475543478261j*x)+(0.0789154712737+0.123058886322j)*numpy.exp(0.0489130434783
     y = eval(formula)
                                                                         j*x)+(0.308350822225-0.321986251638j)*numpy.exp(0.0502717391304j*x)+(-0.205330549438+0.060822552661j)*numpy.exp(0.051
                                                                         6304347826j*x)+(-0.111432762432-0.196002257036j)*numpy.exp(0.0529891304348j*x)+(-0.186147288585+0.0571708417067j)*num
     plt.plot(x, y)
                                                                         py.exp(0.054347826087j*x)+(-0.3143266197-0.105088205018j)*numpy.exp(0.0557065217391j*x)+(0.190001549056+0.11156075631
                                                                         8j)*numpy.exp(0.0570652173913j*x)+(-0.138072497087+0.112684426125j)*numpy.exp(0.0584239130435j*x)+(-0.057339368746+0.
     plt.show()
                                                                         212359713763j)*numpy.exp(0.0597826086957j*x)+(-0.233019181104+0.341870946377j)*numpy.exp(0.0611413043478j*x)+(0.28190
                                                                         923794-0.443785641915j)*numpy.exp(0.0625j*x)+(-0.0952119988175-0.0444826831503j)*numpy.exp(0.0638586956522j*x)+(-0.24
Pop Freq complex = Pop Freq.view(dtype=numpy.complex1:5611700998-0.0661981914326j)*numpy.exp(0.0652173913043j*x)+(0.175441186289+0.0283829135648j)*numpy.exp(0.066576086956
                                                                         5i*x)
equation = str(0)
for i in range(0, len(Pop Coef)):
     equation = equation + '+' + str(Pop Coef[i]) + '*numpy.exp(' + str(Pop Freq[i]) + 'j*x)'
```

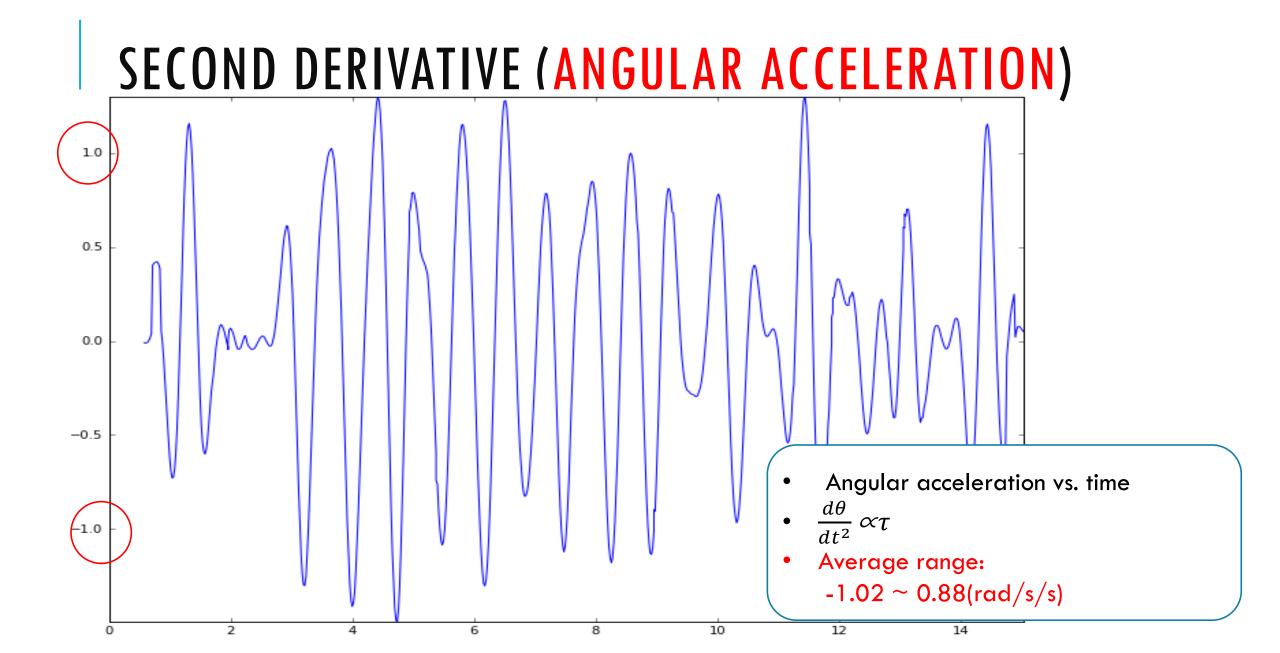
```
#graph(equation, range(0, graph_length))
print('')
print('The equation of the original graph:')
print('')
print('')
```

The equation of the original graph:

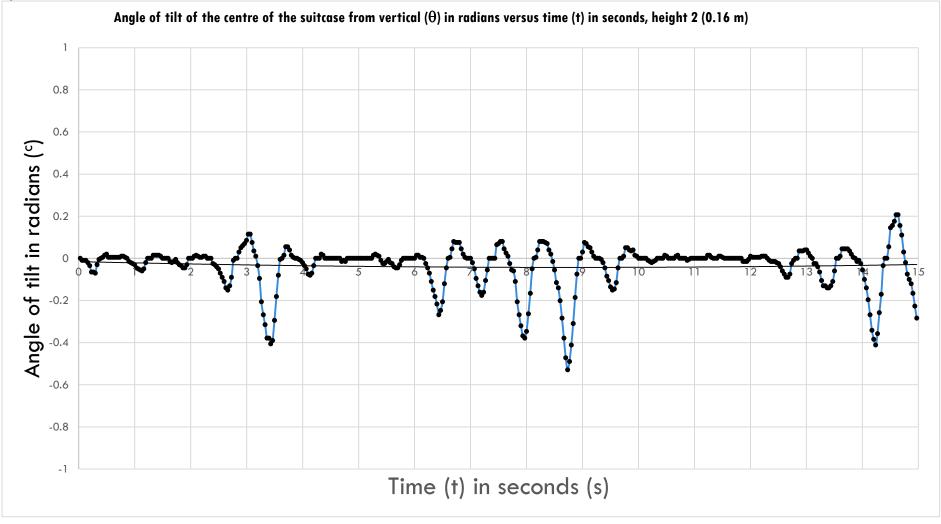
0+(1.67571644042+0j) \*numpy.exp(0.0j\*x)+(-0.39338130797-0.228859443672j) \*numpy.exp(0.00135869565217j\*x)+(-0.2407771180 86+0.294098934776j) \*numpy.exp(0.00271739130435j\*x)+(0.160951518353+0.292344341302j) \*numpy.exp(0.00407608695652j\*x)+

### **ORIGINAL GRAPH (MAGNIFIED VERSION)**

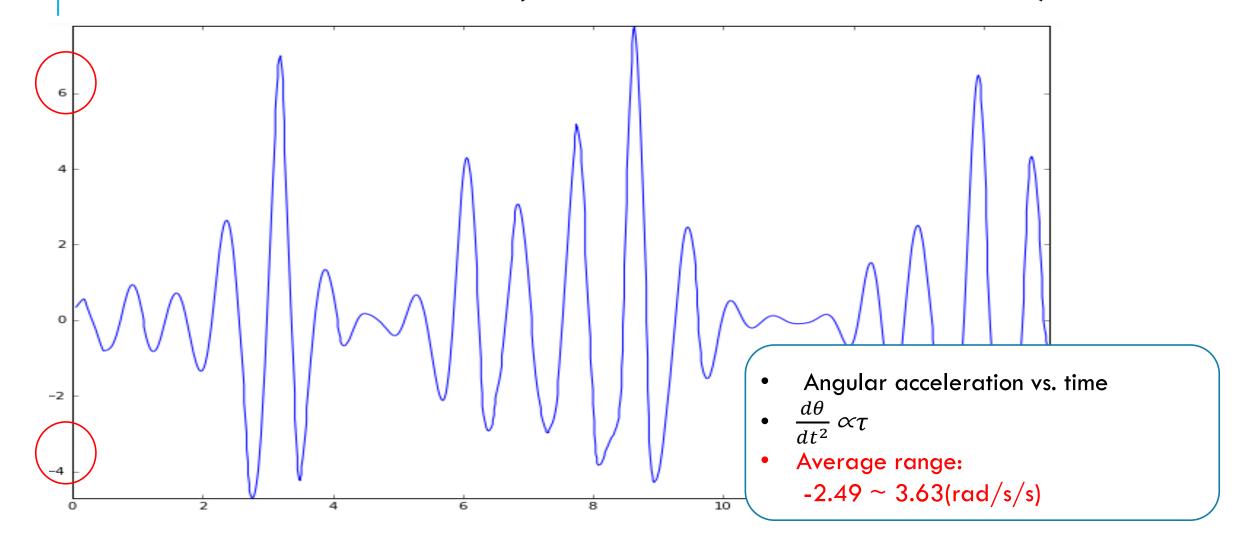




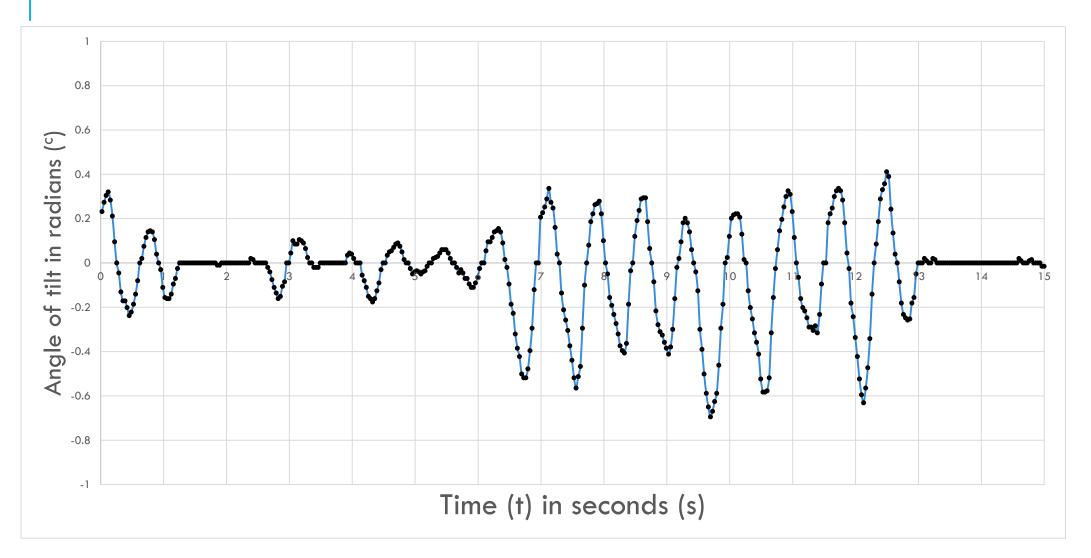
## RESULT 2: 0.16M EFFECTIVE HEIGHT OF CM



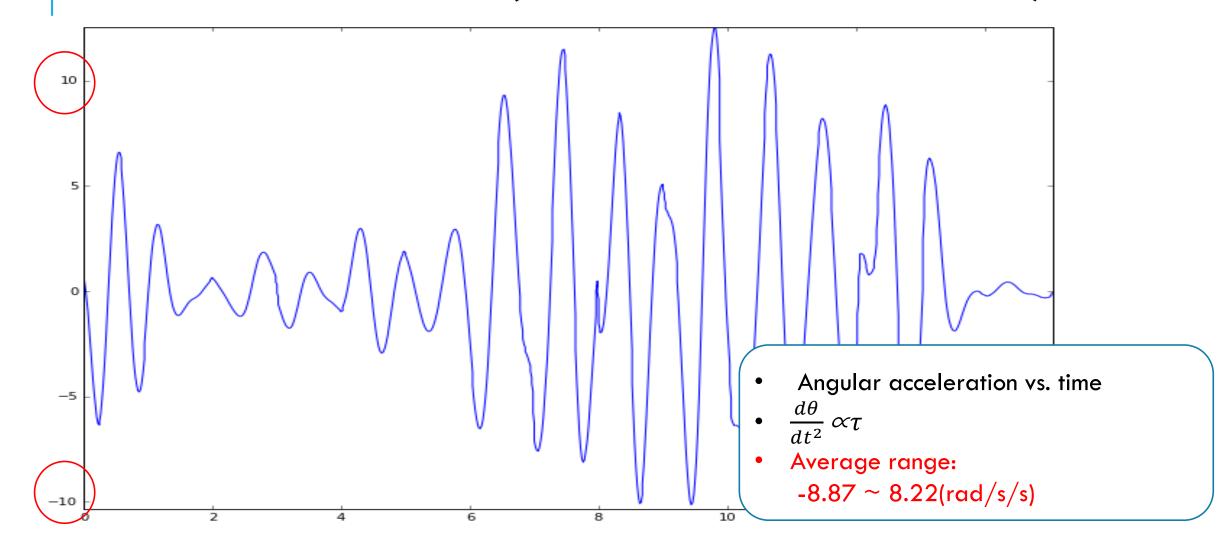
## SECOND DERIVATIVE (ANGULAR ACCELERATION)



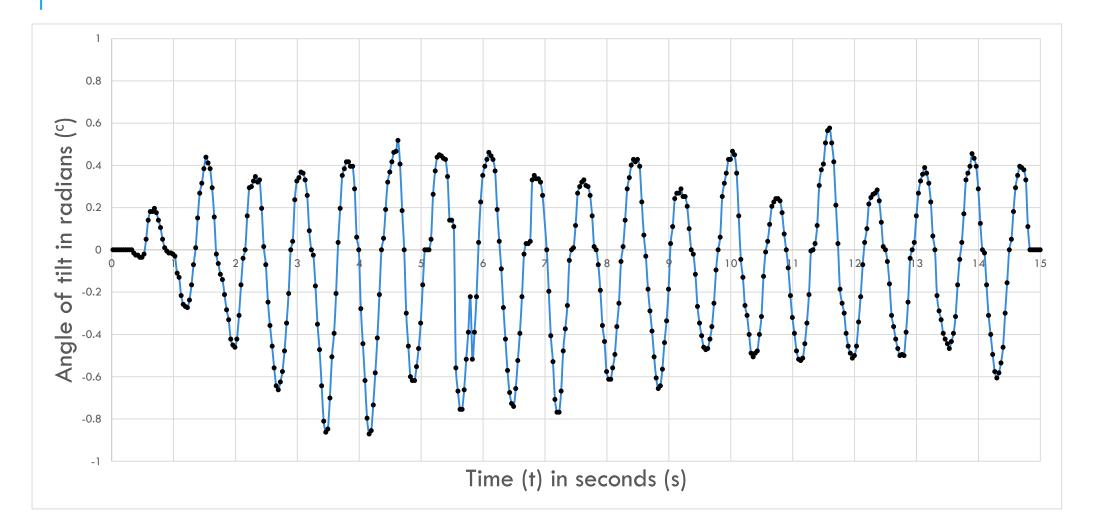
## RESULT 3: 0.24M EFFECTIVE HEIGHT OF CM



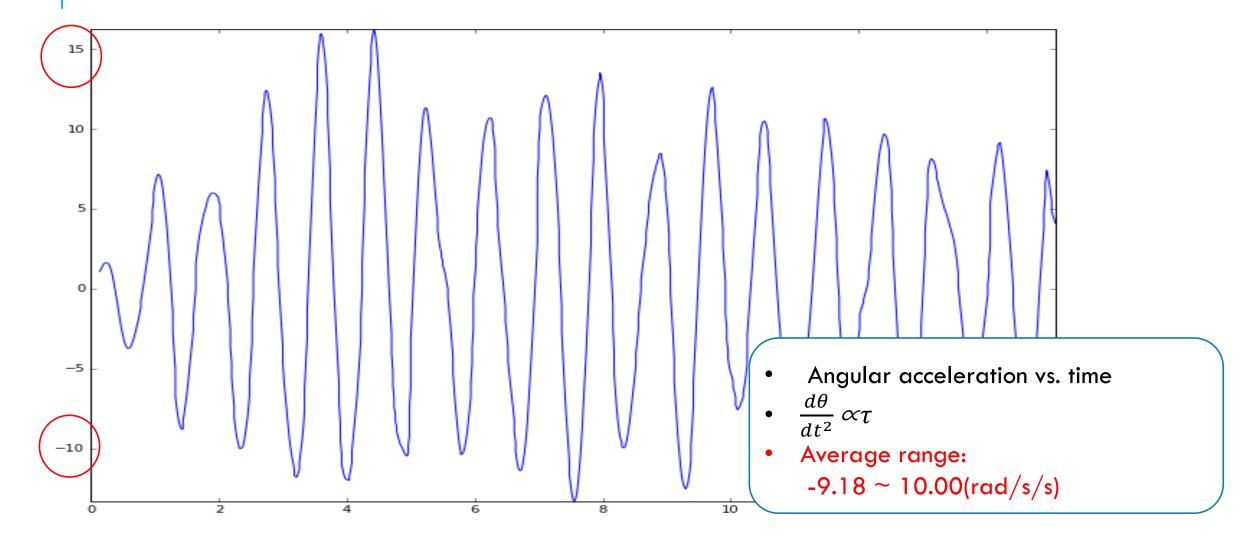
## SECOND DERIVATIVE (ANGULAR ACCELERATION)



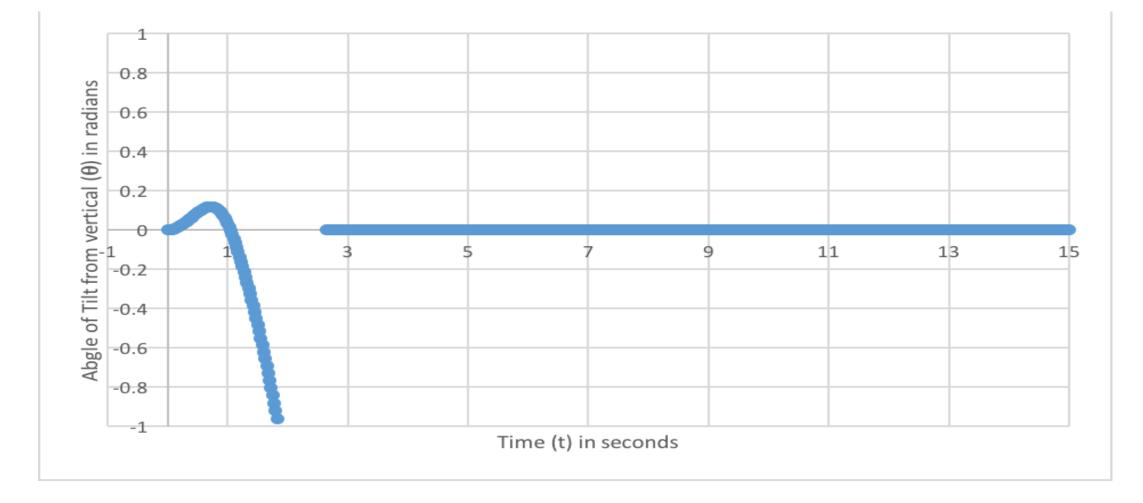
## **RESULT 4: 0.32M EFFECTIVE HEIGHT OF CM**



## SECOND DERIVATIVE (ANGULAR ACCELERATION)



# RESULT 5: 0.40M EFFECTIVE HEIGHT OF CM (OVERTURN)



#### SECOND DERIVATIVE (ANGULAR ACCELERATION) 8 6 4 2 0 -2 Angular acceleration vs. time Chaotic & sharp beginning • -4(Overshooting of restoring force) Constant zero torque once the ۲ -6

8

2

4

6

suitcase overturns

# SUMMARY OF EXPERIMENTAL RESULT (SET A)

Effective Height (m)	Range of angular acceleration (rad/s/s)	Average angular acceleration (rad/s/s)
0.08	-1.02 ~ 0.88	0.95
0.16	-2.49 ~ 3.63	3.06
0.24	-8.87 ~ 8.22	8.54
0.32	-9.18 ~ 10.00	9.59
0.40	Overturn	N/A

#### As effective height increases:

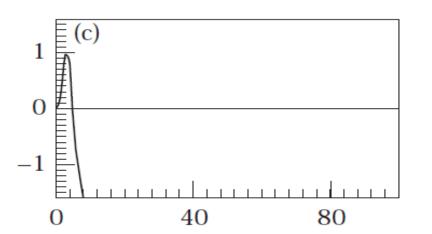
=Increase in angular acceleration

- = Increase in torque
- = Increase in wobble
- = MORE LIKELY TO OVERTURN

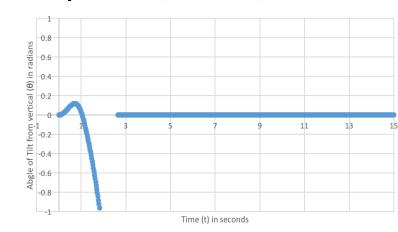
## **COMPARISON TO THEORETICAL PREDICTION**

#### Theory (Oscillation) **Experiment (Oscillation)** 2 0.8 Angle of tilt the suitcase from vertical ( $\theta$ ) in radians (<sup>c</sup>) 0.6 0.4 0 -0. -0.4 - 1 -0.6 -0.8 $^{-2}$ -1 Time (t) in seconds (s)

#### **Experiment (Overturn)**



Theory (Overturn)





Verified!

# SUMMARY OF EXPERIMENTAL RESULT (SET B)

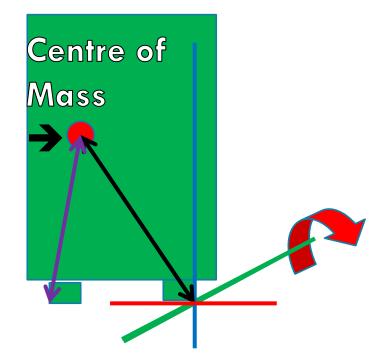
					$\bigcirc$						/	$\langle \rangle$
Weight Dist.	Speed (m/s)	Angle	Wobbles	Ove	turn	Ŵ	Veight Dist.	Speed (m/s)	Angle	Wobbles (	Dve	rturn
Pivot wheel		70°	1		1	d	bstructed wheel		70°	0		0
-			1		1					0		0
			1		1					0		0
		60°	1		1				60°	0		0
			1		1					0		0
			1		1					0		0
		50°	5		0				50°	0		0
			2		1					0		0
			1		1					0		0
		40°	1		1							
			1		1		Potential outlier $@~50^\circ$ for opposite wheel					
			1		\ 1	/						
					$\backslash$	/						$\smile$

# **RESULTS DISCUSSION (SET B)**

The closer the centre of mass to the obstructed wheel the less wobbles/overturns the suitcase will have (Parallel axis Theorem).

Having the centre of mass closer to the pivot wheel causes more instability.

$$I = I_{CM} + md^2$$





## FURTHER CIRCUMSTANCES OF OVERTURN

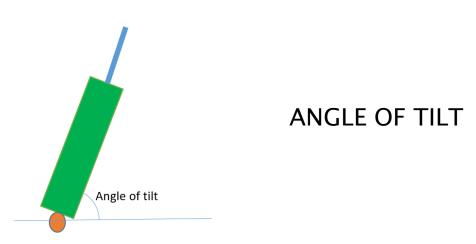
- Walking speed
- Angle of tilt
- Mass density
- Coefficient of Restitution

#### 1) Angle of tilt vs Walking speed

Degree of tilt	0.81 m/s	<b>0.92</b> m/s	1.04 m/s
70°	0	0	0
60°	Ν	0	0
50°	Ν	0	0
40°	Ν	Ν	Ν



### APP FOR WALKING SPEED



### At 0.81 m/s, stable until high angles. At 1.04 m/s, stability reduced (high variations in $\tau_H$ )

### 2) LOW WEIGHT:

#### Mass density vs Walking speed

No added mass	0.92 m/s			
70°	0			
60°	0			
50°	Ν			
40°	Ν			
1.5 kg mass	0.92 m/s			
70°	0			
60°	0			
50°	Ν			
40°	Ν			
3 kg mass	0.92 m/s			
70°	0			
60°	Ν			
50°	Ν			
40°	Ν			
30°	Ν			

### 3) HIGH WEIGHT:

#### Mass density vs Walking speed

No added mass	0.92 m/s				
70°	0				
60°	0				
50°	0				
40°	Ν				
1.5 kg mass	0.92 m/s				
70°	0				
60°	Ν				
50°	Ν				
40°	Ν				
3 kg mass	0.92 m/s				
70°	Ν				
60°	Ν				
50°	Ν				
40°	Ν				
30°	Ν				

For low weight: As mass is increased, stability increases.

 $\tau_w \downarrow$ 

For high weight: As mass is increased, stability decreases.

 $\tau_w$  1

#### 4) COR vs Walking speed

Indoor (COR 0.35)	0.81 m/s	0.92 m/s	1.04 m/s	Outdoor (COR 0.68)	0.81 m/s	0.92 m/s	1.04 m/s
70°	0	0	0	70°	0	0	0
60°	Ν	0	0	60°	0	0	0
50°	Ν	0	0	50°	0	0	0
40°	Ν	Ν	Ν	40°	0	-	-

- At lower walking frequency, suitcase was less stable for trials outdoors, due to higher COR and less energy loss.
- At higher walking frequency, energy loss is less significant due to balancing effect of higher walking frequency.

# CONCLUSION

Investigated circumstances when suitcase wobbles and turns over.

- 1. Developed mathematical simulation to model the wobble (FFT)
- 2. Simulation verified -> Comparison to theory
- 3. Studied effect of varied packing of the luggage
  - A. Significance of effective height of CM
  - B. Effect of other positions of CM vs. Wheel Position
- 4. Considered other factors that influence the wobble
  - A. Walking Frequency
  - B. Angle of tilt
  - C. Coefficient of Restitution
  - D. Different mass density

## REFERENCE

(n.d.). Retrieved from What is torque?:

https://www.physics.uoguelph.ca/tutorials/torque/Q.torque.intro.html

csep. (n.d.). Retrieved from Conservation of Angular Momentum: http://csep10.phys.utk.edu/astr161/lect/solarsys/angmom.html

Davis, D. (2002). Eastern Illinoi University. Retrieved from Tangential and Radial Acceleration: http://www.ux1.eiu.edu/~cfadd/1150/03Vct2D/accel.html

Nave, R. (n.d.). Center of mass. Retrieved from Hyper Physics: http://hyperphysics.phy-astr.gsu.edu/hbase/cm.html

Plaunt, R. (1996). Rocking Instability of a pulled suitcase with two wheels. ACTA MECHANIA, 165-179.

TutorVista. (n.d.). Retrieved from Angular Acceleration Formula: http://formulas.tutorvista.com/physics/angular-acceleration-formula.html

# ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Thanks for your time

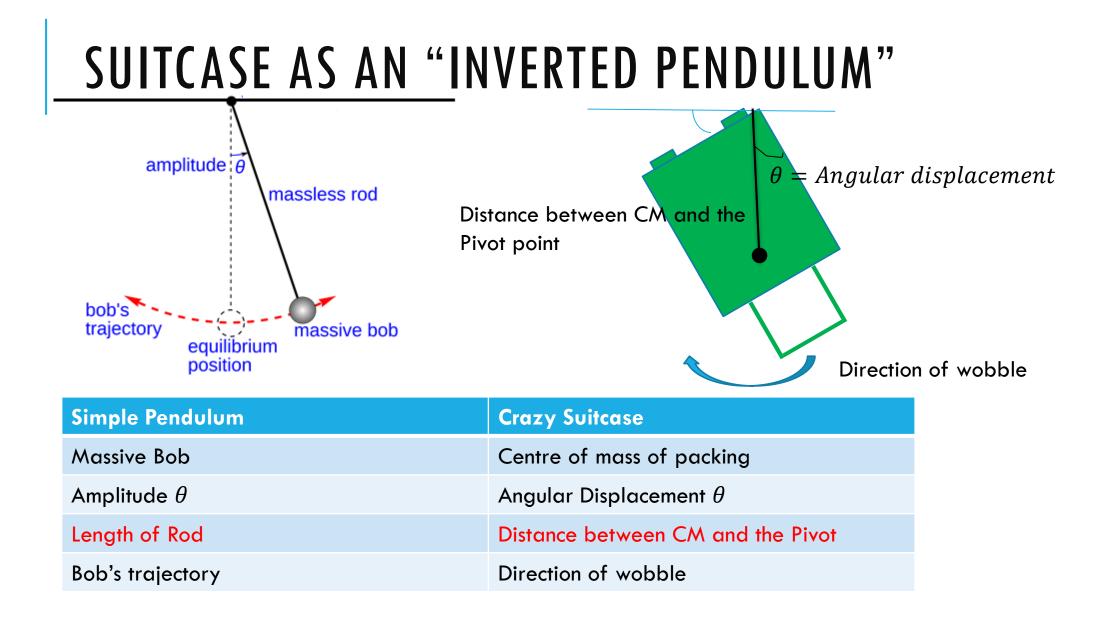
Mr Richard Jones

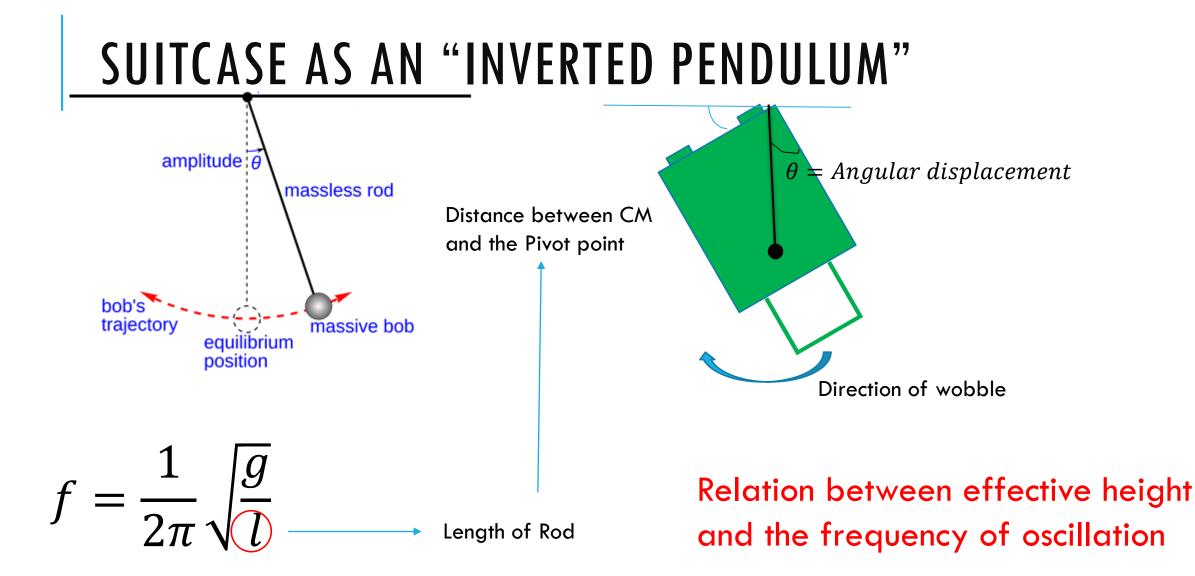
Finn Connolly



### THANK YOU!

Team of Australia Reporter: Jeong Han Song





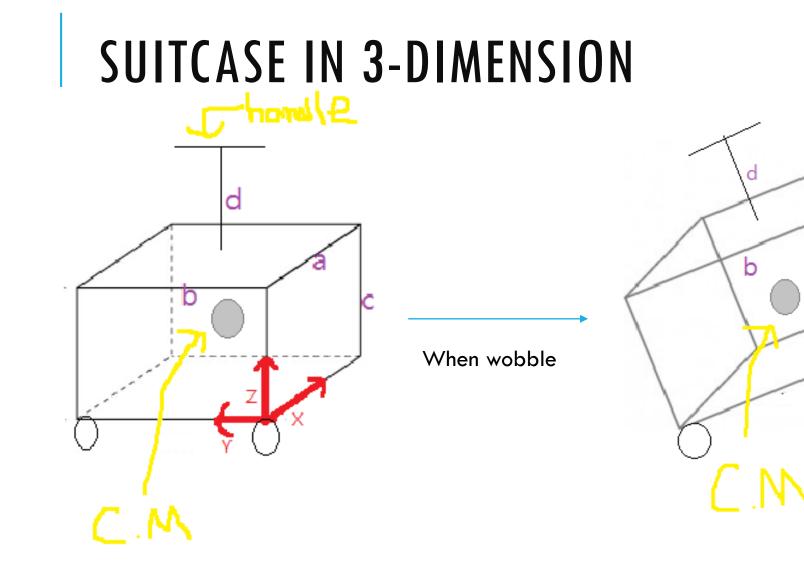
# ASSUMPTIONS

**1.**A constant initial disturbance was employed to start the wobble (e.g. instability) of a suitcase.

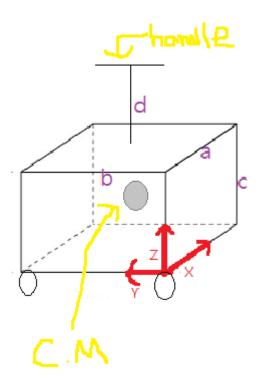
2. The suitcase and its wheels were regarded as rigid bodies.

**3.**Human always responded to the instability by exerting restoring torques that were **just enough** to stabilise the motion

4. Human response time was always constant



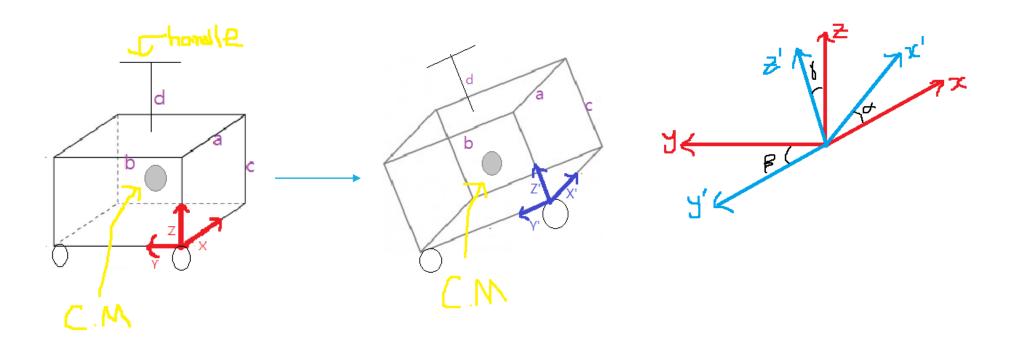
## **SUITCASE IN 3-DIMENSION**



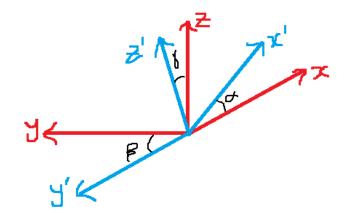
$$CM \rightarrow \left(\frac{a}{2}, \frac{b}{2}, c\right) = (x, y, z)$$
  
Handle  $\rightarrow \left(\frac{a}{2}, \frac{b}{2}, c+d\right) = (X, Y, Z)$ 

## **SUITCASE IN 3-DIMENSION**

Change in co-ordinate when tilted



# SUITCASE IN 3-DIMENSION



When a suitcase is initially pulled by a person, there will be a rotation about y-axis.

This rotation is followed by x-axis and z-axis.

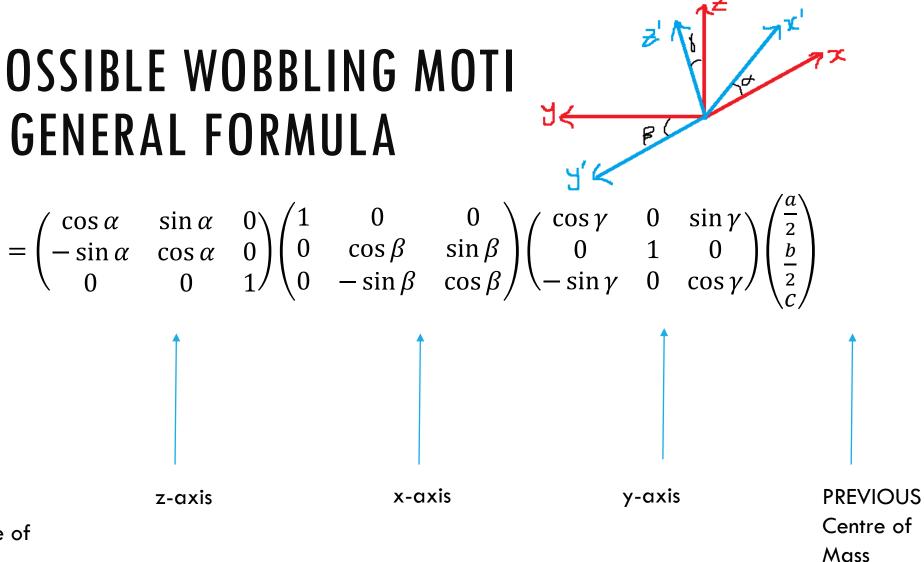
# **POSSIBLE WOBBLING MOTI** - GENERAL FORMULA

z-axis

NEW

Mass

Centre of

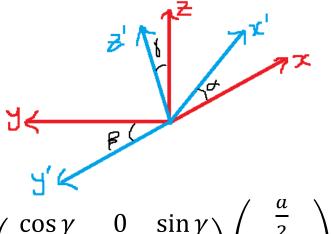


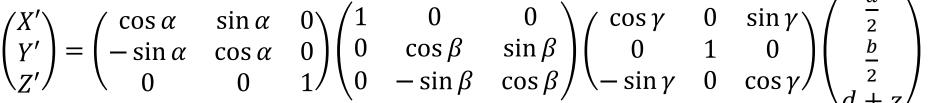
SHIFT IN CENTRE OF MASS OF AN OBJECT

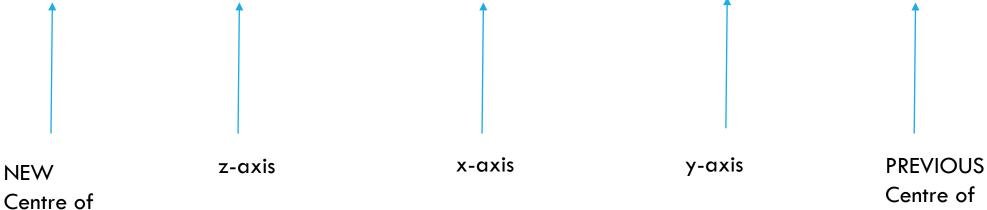
x-axis

# POSSIBLE WOBBLING MOTI - GENERAL FORMULA

Mass







Mass

#### SHIFT IN CENTRE OF MASS OF A HANDLE

## POSSIBLE WOBBLING MOTIONS - GENERAL FORMULA

 $R_{z}R_{x}R_{y} = \begin{pmatrix} \cos\alpha & \sin\alpha & 0\\ -\sin\alpha & \cos\alpha & 0\\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0\\ 0 & \cos\beta & \sin\beta\\ 0 & -\sin\beta & \cos\beta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\gamma & 0 & \sin\gamma\\ 0 & 1 & 0\\ -\sin\gamma & 0 & \cos\gamma \end{pmatrix}$  $= \begin{pmatrix} \cos a & \sin\alpha \cos\beta & \sin\alpha \sin\beta\\ -\sin a & \cos\alpha \cos\beta & \cos\alpha \sin\beta\\ 0 & -\sin\beta & \cos\beta \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \cos\gamma & 0 & \sin\gamma\\ 0 & 1 & 0\\ -\sin\gamma & 0 & \cos\gamma \end{pmatrix}$  $= \begin{pmatrix} \cos a \cos\gamma - \sin a \sin\beta \sin\gamma & \sin\alpha \cos\beta & \cos a \sin\gamma + \sin a \sin\beta \cos\gamma\\ -\cos a \sin\beta \sin\gamma - \sin a \cos\gamma & \cos\alpha \cos\beta & \cos a \sin\beta \sin\gamma - \sin a \sin\gamma\\ -\cos\beta \sin\gamma & -\sin\beta & \cos\beta \cos\gamma \end{pmatrix}$