# **ME-Project Report**

# <u>about</u>

# **Quad-rotors & Payload system dynamics and stability**

By: Ran, Oct 2017

#### **Abstract**

This report is the summary of my research work as part of Master of Engineering in Autonomous Systems and Robotics ( TASP ).

In this research, I am investigating the stability of payload carried by a 2 quadrotors 'array', under certain conditions. This case is in interest because of possible payload delivery mission required by companies such 'Amazon' and others, to deliver a relatively big-size and heavy payload – a mission that is not always possible for 1 quadrotor alone.

I'll show the model equations of motion, analytical investigation and a numerical investigation results for comparison.

This report will show the system bifurcation structure, and highlight interesting parameters thresholds.

# **Table of Contents**

A	bstract	1
1.	Introduction	3
2.	Nomenclature	5
3.	Problem formulation and system dynamics	6
	model assumptions	6
	Coordinate systems, and general coordinates	7
	The Lagrangian of the system	8
	non-conservative forces	9
	Equations of Motion (dimensional)	9
	Non-dimensional Equations of Motion	10
	further analysis assumptions	11
4.	Equilibrium analysis	11
	Equilibrium points:	11
	Linearizing about that equilibrium point	11
	Reducing order of the system dynamics to 2DOF	12
5.	Asymptotic analysis	13
	Maneuvers	13
6.	Numerical analysis	14
7.	Discussion	14
Sι	ummary	15
A	cknowledgements	15
Re	eferences	16
A	ppendices	18
	Appendix 1 –Limiting case dynamics – elastic pendulum	18
	Linearization around the equilibrium point	19
	Appendix A –Equations of Motion for 9D.O.F case	21
	Appendix B –Linearization, and natural frequencies	22
	Appendix C –system parameters vs. natural frequencies	25
	Appendix D – reducing system's DOF	27

## 1. Introduction

There is a growing amount of interest in the controlled autonomous behavior of collectively operating unmanned aerial vehicles. An example is an array of autonomous quadrotors which are under consideration for a variety of missions including surveillance [Acevedo et al., 2012], heavy payload delivery [Bernard et al, 2011], and assembly of structures [Kumar and Michael, 2012]. While there is an abundance of documentation of multi-agent behavior of very large groups (or swarms) such as flocks of birds and schools of fish which can quickly adapt to a complex terrain [Shklarsh et al, 2011] or environmental conditions [Elor and Bruckstein, 2011; Agmon et al, 2011], and an uncertain and changing environment in nature [Young et al, 2013], there is limited research on small size arrays of autonomous elements that continue to maneuver collectively under severe environmental conditions.

Documented research on single quadrotor dynamics, stability and control consists of rigid-body dynamical systems models augmented by angular rotor dynamics [Leishman 2006]. Investigations include nonlinear control for take-off, hovering and landing [Kendoul et al, 2007] and to overcome path following uncertainties [Raffo et al, 2010] and disturbances [Schoellig et al., 2012]. Control of aggressive maneuvers such as flying through a narrow gap [Mellinger et al, 2012] have been implemented, and investigations include robustness analysis applied to wind gusts [Alexis et al, 2011; Escareno et al, 2013], and control of cable suspended payload has been proposed [Sreenath et al, 2013].

Recently, there is increasing interest in payload carried by more than 1 vehicle, investigating better controls and better flight structure to get better performance for flight stability and distance [J. Enciu 2017].

Motivated by simulation studies of decision making in animal groups in motion, the stability of multiagent particle dynamical systems models have been analyzed to reveal cohesive behavior [Liu and Passino, 2005] and separation of fast and slow time scales reflecting a local bifurcation structure indicative of a compromise by individual elements with conflicting preferences [Nabet et al., 2009]. Symmetrical and asymmetrical bifurcations have been shown in a swarm robotics test bed [Garnier et al, 2013] and a noise intensity threshold was shown to govern swarm transition from a misaligned state into an aligned state [Mier et al, 2012]. Furthermore, nonlinear multi-agent swarm models exhibit existence of periodic limit-cycles culminating with non-stationary chaotic solutions [Das et al, 2012], and stochastic bifurcations [Ebeling and Schimansky-Geier, 2008].

In the light of the current scientific background the behavior in severe environmental conditions is yet unresolved. Thus, this paper's aim is to derive a consistent dynamical systems model for a 2-element 'array' of quadrotors which can withstand severe and unsteady aerodynamic disturbances. Investigating the nonlinear array dynamics asymptotically and numerically, culminating with a system bifurcation structure highlighting parameters thresholds to stability.

This approach can help to bridge the gap between documented stable operations and large time-dependent perturbations expected in a changing non-stationary environment.

The paper contains: i) derivation of 2-element-with-payload system dynamic model ii) the model will be investigated via the asymptotic multiple-scales method to yield stability thresholds for synchronous and non-stationary dynamics, iii) numerical stability analysis of the dynamical system to validate the asymptotic stability thresholds, iv) conclusions and summary.

## 2. Nomenclature

i : index for object {1,2,p} regarding: quad #1, quad #2, Payload, or: cable #1, cable #2.

 $k_i$ : returning force constant of the linear spring i

 $L0_i$ : free spring length (not loaded)

 $l_i$ : current length of the loaded spring

 $m_i$ : mass of object i

 $x_i, y_i$ : location of the i'th mass center, in inertial coor.system

 $\theta_p$  : rotation angle around  $\widehat{Z}_I$  axis, of the rigid body payload, relative to the Inertial frame.

 $w_p$ : geometric (half) length of the payload rigid body

 $h_p$ : geometric (half) height of the payload rigid body

 $R_p^I$ : rotation matrix from payload to Inertial coordinate frame

 $I_i$ : moment of inertia, around axis  $\widehat{Z}_I$ , for object i

L : Lagrangian of the system

T: kinetic energy

V : potential energy

u : air velocity in global framework, in X direction

v : air velocity in global framework, in Y direction

 $\rho$  : air density. Treated as constant

 $C_D$ : drag coefficient of the payload. Taken as equal for both directions of X, Y.

#### <u>Acronyms</u>

DOF: Degreed of Freedom

EOM : Equations of motion

## 3. Problem formulation and system dynamics

The examined system is composed of 2 units of quadrotors, and 1 rigid body payload which is connected to each of the quadrotors by cables connected to the anchor points.

The system is described and investigated in the 2D world.

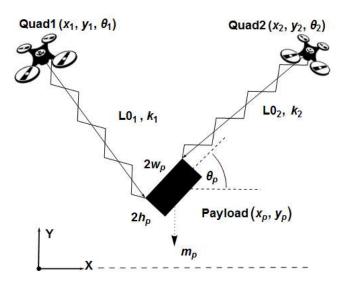


Figure 1 - system setup

## model assumptions

#### Quadrotor:

- 1. Quad body and parts are **rigid**. *No* elasticity is included.
- 2. Geometry structure is **symmetrical** in relation to the principal axes. And the mass distribution is **uniform**. Hence the Inertia matrix is taken as pure diagonal.
- 3. **quads motion is treated as given!** Hence the quad pure dynamics and control are not considered here, and they are mentioned only to give a better perspective for the problem in hand.

#### Payload & cable construction:

- 4. The 'cable' which the payload is connected to, is modeled as a **lumped mass linear** spring, with initial length  $L0_i$ , and a linear returning force coefficient  $k_i$ .
- 5. The cable is connected to the quadrotor exactly in its center of mass (C.G). There is no friction and moment actuated through those hanging points.
- 6. In the payload hanging points there is an arbitrary **structural dumping**  $c_i$  (resultant of hanging point friction and spring dumping).
- 7. The payload is a **rectangular box**, similar to a 'CONEX' cargo container, characterized by width of  $(2 w_p)$ , and height of  $(2 h_p)$ , and with inertia matrix  $I_p$ .
- 8. There is no consideration in possible aerodynamic drag of the cables.

9. **Simplified aerodynamic forces** (lift and drag) on the payload are considered – will be addressed in the non-conservative forces section.

### Coordinate systems, and general coordinates

I – inertial coordinates frame. It is the global reference point for the problem.

Its' axes are : 
$$(\widehat{X_I}, \widehat{Y}_I, \widehat{Z}_I)^T$$

P – Payload coordinate frame. The origin is located at the C.G of that rigid body.

Since we are looking at 2D problem, for each system element we have 3D.O.F which are planar position and pitch angle. For the full 2D problem, we have the general coordinates as:

$$q = (x_1, y_1, \theta_1, x_2, y_2, \theta_2, x_p, y_p, \theta_p)^T$$
 (1)

which is a 9 D.O.F problem.

#### The problem's geometry

Schematics of the system, in accordance with the nomenclature listed above:

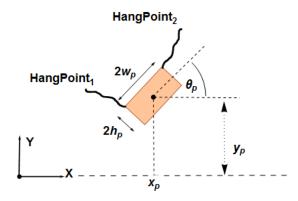


Figure 2 - detailed sketch for hanging points geometry

Where

$$\begin{aligned} \text{HangPoint}_1 &= (x_p, y_p)^T + \mathbf{R}_p^I (-w_p, +h_p)^T \\ \text{HangPoint}_2 &= (x_p, y_p)^T + \mathbf{R}_p^I (+w_p, +h_p)^T \\ \mathbf{R}_p^I &= \begin{pmatrix} \cos(\theta_p) & -\sin(\theta_p) \\ \sin(\theta_p) & \cos(\theta_p) \end{pmatrix} \end{aligned}$$

 $2w_p$  is the width of the payload.  $2h_p$  is the height of the payload.

### The Lagrangian of the system

By definition of the Lagrangian L=T-V , we construct the system Lagrangian:

$$L = T_{\text{quad}\#1} + T_{\text{quad}\#2} + T_{\text{payload}} - \left(V_{\text{quad}\#1} + V_{\text{quad}\#2} + V_{\text{payload}} + V_{\text{spring}\#1} + V_{\text{spring}\#2}\right)$$
(3)

Where

$$\begin{split} T_{\text{payload}} &= \frac{1}{2} m_p (\dot{x_p}^2 + \dot{y_p}^2) + \frac{1}{2} I_p \dot{\theta_p}^2 & V_{\text{payload}} &= g m_p y_p \\ V_{\text{quad#1}} &= \frac{1}{2} m_1 (\dot{x_1}^2 + \dot{y_1}^2) + \frac{1}{2} I_1 \dot{\theta_1}^2 & V_{\text{quad#1}} &= g m_1 y_1 \\ V_{\text{quad#2}} &= g m_2 y_2 & V_{\text{spring#2}} &= \frac{1}{2} k_2 (L_2 - L 0_2)^2 \\ T_{\text{quad#2}} &= \frac{1}{2} m_2 (\dot{x_2}^2 + \dot{y_2}^2) + \frac{1}{2} I_2 \dot{\theta_2}^2 & \\ L_1 &= \sqrt{\left( w_p \cos(\theta_p) + h_p \sin(\theta_p) - (x_p - x_1) \right)^2 + \left( -h_p \cos(\theta_p) + w_p \sin(\theta_p) - (y_p - y_1) \right)^2} \\ L_2 &= \sqrt{\left( -w_p \cos(\theta_p) + h_p \sin(\theta_p) - (x_p - x_2) \right)^2 + \left( -h_p \cos(\theta_p) - w_p \sin(\theta_p) - (y_p - y_2) \right)^2} \end{split}$$

The Lagrange equations will be calculated using the next equation (while using the common fact that V is not dependent on  $\dot{q}_i$  for mechanical systems):

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} \right) - \frac{\partial L}{\partial q_i} = \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left( \frac{\partial T}{\partial \dot{q}_i} \right) - \frac{\partial T}{\partial q_i} + \frac{\partial V}{\partial q_i} = Q_i \qquad ; \quad i = 1 \div 9 \tag{4}$$

 $Q_i$  – are the non-conservative forces.

*Note:* If I would consider the inner dynamics of each of the quads and their controllers – I would need to consider at least those 9 Equations Of Motion.

Because this is a 'Research project' and not a full research work - I will focus my desired analysis on the payload stability, and I will limit myself to deal with  $\begin{pmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \\ \theta_p \end{pmatrix}$ , while  $(x_1, y_1, \theta_1, x_2, y_2, \theta_2)$  are treated as given.

The dimensional 9 EOM are described in Appendix A for reference.

#### non-conservative forces

we consider the next general forces (for the payload-related general coordinates):

#### - structural dumping

As described briefly in the assumptions section above. It is related to the relative movement of the payload to each of the quadrotors, and will be written as:

$$Q_{c} = -\begin{pmatrix} c_{x}(\dot{x_{p}} - \dot{x_{1}}) + c_{x}(\dot{x_{p}} - \dot{x_{2}}) \\ c_{y}(\dot{y_{p}} - \dot{y_{1}}) + c_{y}(\dot{y_{p}} - \dot{y_{2}}) \\ c_{\theta}\dot{\theta_{p}} \end{pmatrix} ; c_{i} > 0$$
 (5)

#### - aerodynamic forces

While the desire is to use simple terms for the aerodynamic contribution, I will assume just drag forces in x,y directions. Furthermore, I'll assume  $C_D$  which is like ones' of 'CONEX' cargo container.

$$F_{xp} = \frac{1}{2} \rho \dot{x_p}^2 (2h_p) C_{F_{x_\alpha}} \theta_p \sim \rho h_p C_D (\dot{x_p} - u)^2$$

$$F_{y_p} = \frac{1}{2} \rho \dot{y_p}^2 (2w_p) C_{F_{y_\alpha}} (\pi - \theta_p) \sim \rho w_p C_D (\dot{y_p} - v)^2$$

$$C_D = 1.1$$

$$Q_{Aero} = \begin{pmatrix} -F_x \\ -F_y \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
(6)

u,v are the air velocities in the relevant directions.

#### Equations of Motion (dimensional)

As mentioned above, from now on we deal with only 3D.O.F – for the general coordinates of the payload.

From (4), using (3),(5),(6), and rearranging, we can get the *dimensional* equations of motion for the payload:

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_{p}\ddot{x_{p}} = k_{1}\frac{\mathrm{dx_{1}}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{1}^{2}+dy_{1}^{2}-Lo_{1}}}\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{1}^{2}+dy_{1}^{2}}} + k_{2}\frac{\mathrm{dx_{2}}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{2}^{2}+dy_{2}^{2}-Lo_{2}}}\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{2}^{2}+dy_{2}^{2}}}} - c_{x}\left(\dot{x_{p}} - \dot{x_{1}}\right) - c_{x}\left(\dot{x_{p}} - \dot{x_{2}}\right) - \rho C_{D}h_{p}\dot{x_{p}}^{2}} \\ m_{p}\ddot{y_{p}} = -k_{1}\frac{\mathrm{dy_{1}}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{1}^{2}+dy_{1}^{2}-Lo_{1}}}\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{1}^{2}+dy_{1}^{2}}}} - k_{2}\frac{\mathrm{dy_{2}}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{2}^{2}+dy_{2}^{2}-Lo_{2}}}\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{2}^{2}+dy_{2}^{2}}}} - gm_{p} - c_{y}\left(\dot{y_{p}} - \dot{y_{1}}\right) - c_{y}\left(\dot{y_{p}} - \dot{y_{2}}\right) - \rho C_{D}w_{p}\dot{y_{p}}^{2}} \\ I_{p}\ddot{\theta_{p}} = k_{1}\frac{\mathrm{term1}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{1}^{2}+dy_{1}^{2}-Lo_{1}}}\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{1}^{2}+dy_{1}^{2}}}} - k_{2}\frac{\mathrm{term2}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{2}^{2}+dy_{2}^{2}-Lo_{2}}}\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_{2}^{2}+dy_{2}^{2}}}} - c_{\theta}\dot{\theta_{p}} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(7)$$

Where:

$$dx_{1} = w_{p} c(\theta_{p}) + h_{p} s(\theta_{p}) - x_{p} + x_{1}$$

$$dy_{1} = h_{p} c(\theta_{p}) - w_{p} s(\theta_{p}) + y_{p} - y_{1}$$

$$dx_{2} = -w_{p} c(\theta_{p}) + h_{p} s(\theta_{p}) - x_{p} + x_{2}$$

$$dy_{2} = h_{p} c(\theta_{p}) + w_{p} s(\theta_{p}) + y_{p} - y_{2}$$

$$term1 = h_{p} (c(\theta_{p}) (x_{p} - x_{1}) + (y_{p} - y_{1}) s(\theta_{p})) + w_{p} ((y_{p} - y_{1}) c(\theta_{p}) + s(\theta_{p}) (x_{1} - x_{p}))$$

$$term2 = h_{p} (c(\theta_{p}) (x_{2} - x_{p}) + (y_{2} - y_{p}) s(\theta_{p})) + w_{p} ((y_{p} - y_{2}) c(\theta_{p}) + s(\theta_{p}) (x_{2} - x_{p}))$$
(8)

### Non-dimensional Equations of Motion

Scaling the dimensional variables according to these relations:

$$\widetilde{x_p} = \frac{x_p}{L0_1}; \ \widetilde{y_p} = \frac{y_p}{L0_1}; \ \tau = t \omega_s; \ \omega_s^2 = \frac{k_1}{m_p}$$

$$\widetilde{h_p} = \frac{h_p}{L0_1}; \ \widetilde{w_p} = \frac{w_p}{L0_1}$$
(9)

This results also in:

$$\vec{dx}_{i} = \frac{dx_{i}}{L0_{1}} ; \vec{dy}_{i} = \frac{dy_{i}}{L0_{1}} ; term_{i} = \frac{term_{i}}{L0_{1}^{2}} ; \tilde{F}_{i} = \frac{F_{i}}{L0_{1}^{3}\omega_{s}^{2}} ; \tilde{x}_{i}\tilde{c}_{i} = \frac{\dot{x}_{i}c_{i}}{L0_{1}\omega_{s}}$$

So the non-dimensional equations can be written in matrix form in the following way:

$$\ddot{\mathcal{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix} DX_1 \, \mathcal{V}_1 + \kappa \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\alpha \end{pmatrix} DX_2 \, \mathcal{V}_2 - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \mathcal{A} - \mathcal{D} \tag{10}$$

Where (all notations are removed for brevity):

$$\mathcal{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \\ \theta_p \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad ; \quad \mathrm{DX}_1 = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx}_1^2 + \mathrm{dy}_1^2}} \qquad \qquad ; \quad \mathrm{DX}_2 = 1 - \frac{1}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx}_2^2 + \mathrm{dy}_2^2}} \mathcal{L}$$

$$\mathcal{V}_1 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathrm{dx}_1 \\ \mathrm{dy}_1 \\ \mathrm{term}_1 \end{pmatrix} \qquad \qquad ; \quad \mathcal{V}_2 = \begin{pmatrix} \mathrm{dx}_2 \\ \mathrm{dy}_2 \\ \mathrm{term}_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{A} = Q_{\rm Aero} * ({\rm L}0_1^3 \omega_s^2) \ ; \ \mathcal{D} = \begin{pmatrix} ({\rm L}0_1 \omega_s) & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & ({\rm L}0_1 \omega_s) & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & (\omega_s) \end{pmatrix} Q_c$$

$$\mathcal{L} = \frac{\text{LO}_2}{\text{LO}_1} \quad ; \quad \kappa = \frac{k_2}{k_1} \quad ; \quad \gamma = \frac{gm_p}{\text{LO}_1 k_1} \quad ; \quad \alpha = \frac{k_1}{I_p \omega_s^2}$$

<sup>\*</sup> note: 'c' is for Cos(), 's' is for Sin()

### further analysis assumptions

in order to simplify the analysis continuation and to focus on the method, I'll assume the geometry of the system is symmetric. Hence:  $\mathcal{L} = 1$ ,  $\kappa = 1$  from here next.

Moreover  $I_p$  (around the payloads' Z axis, in center of gravity) is the one relevant for a rectangular shape which is:

$$I_p = \frac{1}{3} m_p \left( h_p^2 + w_p^2 \right) \rightarrow \alpha = \frac{3}{\left( \left( \frac{h_p}{w_p} \right)^2 + 1 \right)} \left( \frac{Lo_1}{w_p} \right)^2$$
 (11)

I'll check only for the case where quadrotors inputs are:

$$x_1 = y_1 = 0$$
 ;  $x_2 = 2w_p$ ,  $y_2 = 0$  (12)

Limiting case test of elastic pendulum is shown in Appendix 1.

## 4. Equilibrium analysis

### Equilibrium points:

We find the equilibrium possible states by setting all time derivatives to zero ( $\dot{q} = \ddot{q} = 0$ ).

It results with all accelerations, aerodynamic forces, and dumping forces and moments are zeroed.

The solutions are:

$$\mathcal{X}_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} w_{p} \\ -\left(\frac{1}{2}\gamma + h_{p} + 1\right) \end{pmatrix} \quad ; \quad \mathcal{X}_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} w_{p} \\ -\left(\frac{1}{2}\gamma + h_{p} - 1\right) \end{pmatrix}$$
(13)

• From now on I'll relate only to  $\mathcal{X}_1$  because this is the case of the quads can take the payload. The  $2^{nd}$  case can be related to similar case of inverted pendulum.

## Linearizing about that equilibrium point

The goal now is to find the natural frequencies of the system. it is done by looking on the effect of small deviations around the equilibrium point, while the aerodynamic and dumping forces are zeroed. Using perturbations syntax:

$$x_p \to \delta x + x_{p_0}$$
 ;  $y_p \to \delta y + y_{p_0}$  ;  $\theta_p \to \delta \theta + \theta_{p_0}$  (14)

Detailed derivation of the equations is in Appendix B.

The linearized equation, in B7, lead to:

$$\omega_y^2 = 2$$
 ;  $\omega_1^2 = \frac{\zeta - \sqrt{\beta}}{2(2+\gamma)(h_p^2 + w_p^2)}$  ;  $\omega_2^2 = \frac{\zeta + \sqrt{\beta}}{2(2+\gamma)(h_p^2 + w_p^2)}$  (15)

Where

$$\beta = -24\gamma(2+\gamma)\left(h_p^2 + w_p^2\right)\left(\gamma h_p + 2w_p^2\right) + \left(3\gamma(2+\gamma)h_p + 8\gamma h_p^2 + 4(3+2\gamma)w_p^2\right)^2$$

$$\zeta = 6\gamma h_p + 3\gamma^2 h_p + 8\gamma h_p^2 + 12w_p^2 + 8\gamma w_p^2$$

It can be verified that for  $h_p, w_p, \gamma > 0$  we always get  $\beta > 0$ ,  $\zeta > 0$ , and  ${\omega_i}^2 > 0$ .

## Reducing order of the system dynamics to 2DOF

It can be shown (detailed in Appendix C) that, for certain parameters, we can get:

$$\omega_1 \sim \omega_x < \sqrt{2} \quad ; \quad \omega_2 \sim \omega_\theta \gg \omega_v = \sqrt{2}$$
 (16)

While  $\omega_{\theta}$  is larger than  $\omega_{y}$  we can neglect the dynamics of  $\theta$  and relate only to the dynamics of general coordinates of x, y.

We return to the full non-dimensional equations of motion and set  $\ddot{\theta} = \dot{\theta} \cong \mathbf{0} \to \theta = \theta_0 + \delta\theta$  where  $\theta_0 = \mathbf{0}$ .

Looking at the 3<sup>rd</sup> equation from (10):

$$0 = \alpha \, DX_1 \, \mathcal{V}_{13} - \alpha \, DX_2 \, \mathcal{V}_{23} \tag{17}$$

and term for  $\theta_p = f(h_p, w_p, x_i, y_i)$  , where i = 1, 2, p can be extracted.

further details are elaborated in *Appendix D*.

the resultant 2DOF equations (of  $x_p, y_p$ ) are:

$$\ddot{\mathcal{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{A} \right) \mathcal{V}_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{B} \right) \mathcal{V}_2 - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix} - C \dot{\mathcal{X}} - \begin{pmatrix} Fx \\ Fy \end{pmatrix}$$
(18)

Where:

$$\mathcal{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \sqrt{(h_p \theta_p + w_p - x_p + x_1)^2 + (-h_p + \theta_p w_p - y_p + y_1)^2}$$

$$B = \sqrt{(h_p \theta_p - w_p - x_p + x_2)^2 + (-h_p - \theta_p w_p - y_p + y_2)^2}$$

$$V_1 = \begin{pmatrix} w_p + x_1 - x_p + h_p \theta_p \\ -h_p + y_1 - y_p + w_p \theta_p \end{pmatrix}; \quad V_2 = \begin{pmatrix} -w_p + x_2 - x_p + h_p \theta_p \\ -h_p + y_2 - y_p - w_p \theta_p \end{pmatrix}; \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} c_1 & 0 \\ 0 & c_2 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\theta_p = \frac{a_{12}b_{11}(\sqrt{a_{11}} - a_{11}) + a_{11}b_{12}(\sqrt{b_{11}} - b_{11})}{a_{12}^2b_{11} + a_{11}b_{12}^2 - a_{12}b_{12}(\sqrt{a_{11}} - a_{11} + \sqrt{b_{11}} - b_{11}) - b_{11}c_{11}(\sqrt{a_{11}} - a_{11}) - a_{11}c_{12}(\sqrt{b_{11}} - b_{11})}$$

$$a_{11} = (-h_p + y_1 - y_p)^2 + (w_p + x_1 - x_p)^2$$

$$a_{12} = h_p(x_1 - x_p) + w_p(y_1 - y_p)$$

$$b_{11} = (-h_p + y_2 - y_p)^2 + (-w_p + x_2 - x_p)^2$$

$$b_{12} = h_p(x_2 - x_p) - w_p(y_2 - y_p)$$

$$c_{11} = h_p(y_1 - y_p) - w_p(x_1 - x_p)$$

$$c_{12} = h_p(y_2 - y_p) + w_p(x_2 - x_p)$$

## 5. Asymptotic analysis

\*for selected limiting cases that reveal a Hopf bifurcation and/or an orbital instability

#### Maneuvers

Planned maneuvers to test the system are:

- 1. hover
- 2. translation of payload from points A to B, in a straight line. With equal or different quads heights.

Trajectory can be described for example as:

(a) 
$$\tau = 0$$
:  $\ddot{y} = 1 \, m/s^2 \, \text{until} y_1 = y_2 = 10 \, \text{LO}_1$ 

(b) 
$$\ddot{y} = -1 \, m/s^2 \, \text{until} \, \dot{y_1} = \dot{y_2} = 0$$

(b) 
$$\ddot{y} = -1 \, m/s^2$$
 until  $\dot{y}_1 = \dot{y}_2 = 0$   
(c)  $\ddot{x}_1 = \ddot{x}_2 = 1 \, m/s^2$  until  $\dot{x}_1 = \dot{x}_2 = 2 \, m/s$ 

(\*) disterbunce can be input by  $x_1 += 5 L0_1$  over  $\frac{1}{100\sqrt{\omega_s}}$  [sec]

## 6. Numerical analysis

\*for asymptotic validation vs general maneuver

## 7. Discussion

<u>TBD</u>

## **Summary**

I described the 2D dynamics of system of 2 quadrotors and 1 connected rigid body payload.

I verified against limiting cases of:

1. elastic pendulum

Non-dimensional equations were submitted, and equilibrium analysis was done.

Soon I will do the asymptotic analysis in order to find the stability criteria for the system.

Numerical analysis is done and will be displayed to verify the theoretical findings.

# **Acknowledgements**

Thanks for my instructor professor Oded G. for his patience and the detailed guidance through this work.

## References

- 1. Aghdam, Abdulghafoor Salehzadeh et al. "Cooperative Load Transport with Movable Load Center of Mass Using Multiple Quadrotor UAVs." 2016 4th International Conference on Control, Instrumentation, and Automation, ICCIA 2016. Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers Inc., 2016. 23–27.
- 2. Bouabdallah, S. "Design and Control of Quadrotors With Application To Autonomous Flying." École Polytechnique Fédérale De Lausanne, À La Faculté Des Sciences Et Techniques De L'Ingénieur 3727.3727 (2007): 61.
- 3. Sadr, S. et al. "Dynamics Modeling and Control of a Quadrotor with Swing Load." Journal of Robotics 2014. December (2014): 1–12. Journal of Robotics. Web.
- 4. Zhicheng H. Et Al, "A survey on the formation control of multiple quadrotors", Ubiquitous Robots and Ambient Intelligence (URAI), 2017 14th International Conference on.
- 5. J. Enciu and J. F. Horn. "Flight Performance Optimization of a Multilift Rotorcraft Formation", Journal of Aircraft, Vol. 54, No. 4 (2017), pp. 1521-1538. https://doi.org/10.2514/1.C034111
- 6. Acevedo JJ, Arue BC, Maza I, and Ollero A, Cooperative large area surveillance with a team of aerial mobile robots for large endurance missions, J. Intell. Robotic Systems, 70, 329-345, 2013.
- 7. Aginsky Z. and Gottlieb, O., Nonlinear bifurcation structure of panels subject to periodic acoustic fluid-structure interaction, AIAA Journal, 50 (9), 1979-1992, 2012.
- 8. Agmon, N, Urieli D and Stone P, Multiagent patrol generalized to complex environmental conditions, Proc. 25<sup>th</sup> AAAI Conf. Artificial Intelligence, 1090-1095, 2011
- 9. Alexis K, Nikolakopoulos G, Tzes A, Switching model predictive attitude control for a quadrotor helicopter subject to atmospheric disturbances, Control Eng. Practice, 19, 1195–1207, 2011.
- 10. Bernard M, Kondak K, Maza I and Ollero A, Autonomous transportation and deployment with aerial robots for search and rescue missions, J. Field Robotics, 28, 914-931, 2011.
- 11. Das S, Halder U, and Maity D, Chaotic dynamics in social foraging of swarms an analysis, IEEE Trans. Systems, Man, and Cybernetics B, 42, 1288-1293, 2012.
- 12. Ebeling W, and Schimansky-Geier L, Swarm dynamics, attractors and bifurcations of active Brownian motion, Eur. Phys. J., Special Topics, 157, 17-31, 2008.
- 13. Elor Y. and Bruckstein F, Uniform multi-agent deployment in a ring, Theoretical Computer Sci. 412, 783-795, 2011.
- 14. Escareno J, Salazar S, Romero H, and Lozano R, Trajectory control of a quadrotor subject to 2D wind disturbances, J. Intelligent Robotic Systems, 70, 51-63, 2013.
- 15. Garnier S, Combe M, Jost, C and Theraulaz G, Do ants need to estimate the geometrical properties of trail bifurcations to find an efficient route? A swarm robotics test bet, PLoS Comp. Biology, 9, e1002903, 1-12, 2013.
- 16. Gottlieb, O. and Habib G, Nonlinear model-based estimation of quadratic and cubic damping mechanisms that govern the dynamics of a chaotic spherical pendulum, J. Vibration and Control, 18, 4, 536-547, 2012.
- 17. Gutschmidt S. and Gottlieb O, Nonlinear dynamic behavior of a microbeam array subject to parametric actuation at low medium and large DC-voltages, Nonlinear Dynamics, 67, 1-36, 2012.
- 18. Hoffmann GM, Huang H, Waslander SL, and Tomlin CJ, Precision flight control for a multi-vehicle quadrotor helicopter test bed", Control Engineering Practice, 19, 1023–1036, 2011.

- 19. Kendoul F, David L, Fantoni I, and Lozano R, Real-time nonlinear embedded control for an autonomous quadrotor helicopter, AIAA J. Guidance Control Dynamics, 30, 1049-1061, 2007
- 20. Kevorkian J, and Cole JD, Multiple Scale and Singular Perturbation Methods, Springer, 1995.
- 21. Kumar V and Michael N, Opportunities and challenges with autonomous micro aerial vehicles, Int. J. Robotics Res. 31, 1279-1291, 2012.
- 22. Leishman JG, Principles of Helicopter Aerodynamics, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed., Cambridge University Press, 2006.
- 23. Liu YF, and Passino KM, Cohesive behaviors of multiagent systems with information flow constraints, IEEE Trans. Automatic Control, 51, 1734-1748, 2006.
- 24. Mazal L, and Gurfil P, Cluster flight algorithms for disaggregated satellites, J. Guidance Control and Dynamics, 36, 124-135, 2013.
- 25. Mellinger D, Michael N, and Kumar V, Trajectory generation and control for precise aggressive maneuvers with quadrotors, J. Robotics Research, 31, 664-67, 2012.
- 26. Mier-y-Teran-Romero L, Forgoston E, and Schwartz I, Coherent pattern prediction in swarms
- 27. of delay-coupled agents, IEEE Trnas. Robotics, 28, 1034-1044, 2012.
- 28. Nabet B, Leonard NE, Couzin ID, Levin SA, Dynamics of Decision Making in Animal Group Motion, J Nonlinear Science, 19, 399–435, 2009.
- 29. Nayfeh AH and Balachandran B, Applied Nonlinear Dynamics, Wiley, 1996.
- 30. Nijmeijer H, and van der Schaft A, Nonlinear Dynamical Control Systems, Springer, 2010.
- 31. Oung R and D'Andrea, The distributed flight array, Mechatorincs, 21, 908-917, 2011.
- 32. Raffo GV, Ortega GM, and Rubio FR, An integral predictive/nonlinear H∞ control structure for quadrotor helicopter, Automatica, 46, 29–39, 2010.
- 33. Ribak G, Rand D, Weihs D, and Ayali A, Role of wing pronation in evasive steering of locusts, J Comp Physiol, A 198, 541–555, 2012.
- 34. Schoellig AP, Mueller FL, D'Andrea R, Optimization-based iterative learning for precise quadrocopter trajectory tracking, Autonomous Robot., 33, 103-127, 2012.
- 35. Shklash A, Ariel G, Shneiderman E., and Ben-Jacob E, Smart swarms of bacteria inspired agents with performance adaptable interactions, PLoS Comput. Biol 7, e1002177, 1-11, 2011.
- 36. Sreenath K and Kumar V, Dynamics, control and planning for cooperative manipulation of payloads suspended by cables from multiple quadrotor robots, Proc. Robotics Science and Systems Conf., 1-8, Berlin, Germany June 24-28, 2013.
- 37. Sreenath K. Michael N, and Kumar V, Trajectory generation and control of a quadrotor with a cable-suspended load, a differentially-flat hybrid system, Proc. IEEE Int. Conf. Robotics and Automation, 4873-4880, Karlsruhe, Germany, May, 2013.
- 38. Young GF, Scardovi L, Cavagna A, Giardina, and Leonard NE, Starling flock networks mange uncertainty in consensus at low cost, PLOS Computational Biology, 9, e1002894, 2013.
- 39. https://www.mendeley.com/library/

## **Appendices**

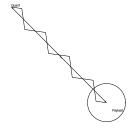
### Appendix 1 –Limiting case dynamics – elastic pendulum

Reminding about the full problem equations of motion, from (10):

$$\ddot{\mathcal{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix} DX_1 \, \mathcal{V}_1 + \kappa \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\alpha \end{pmatrix} DX_2 \, \mathcal{V}_2 - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \mathcal{A} - \mathcal{D}$$

When looking on elastic pendulum for lumped mass, we can assume:

- (1)  $w_p o 0$  ,  $h_p o 0$  for the lumped mass (hence  $heta_p$  doesn't matter any more)
- (2)  $k_2 \to 0$  for the connection, only to the first base, and not the 2<sup>nd</sup> one  $(\kappa \to 0)$
- (3) Arbitrarily I will assume  $x_1 \to 0$ ,  $y_1 \to 0$  which means also the 1<sup>st</sup> base is static



The equations of motion become:

$$x_p \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_p^2 + y_p^2}} - 1 \right) = x_p'' \tag{1.1}$$

$$y_p \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{x_p^2 + y_p^2}} - 1 \right) - \frac{g}{Lo_1} \frac{m_p}{k_1} = y_p''$$
 (1.2)

Finding the equilibrium point - we set the derivatives of  $x_p$  ,  $y_p$  to 0 :

$$\begin{cases}
 x_p = 0 \\
 y_p = -1 - \frac{g}{L_{0_1}} \frac{m_p}{k_1}
\end{cases}, \begin{cases}
 x_p = 0 \\
 y_p = 1 - \frac{g}{L_{0_1}} \frac{m_p}{k_1}
\end{cases}$$
(1.3)

The 1<sup>st</sup> option is the relevant one, for the considered state of  $y_p < 0$ .

We can also note that if considering  $k_1 \to Inf: y_{p_{equib}} = -L0_1$ , which fits to a problem of a simple pendulum, hanged on a rod and not a spring.

assumption is y<sub>p</sub>>0 fits to  $y_p \to \frac{k_1 \text{L} 0_1 - g m_p}{k_1} = \text{L} 0_1 - \frac{g m_p}{k_1}$  , so  $\text{L} 0_1 > \frac{g m_p}{k_1}$  otherwise it means the spring  $k_1$  is to small and weak.

assumption is y<sub>p</sub><0 fits to  $y_p \rightarrow -\left(1 + \frac{g}{\text{Lo}_1} \frac{m_p}{k_1}\right)$ 

### Linearization around the equilibrium point

**1**st order linearization is : 
$$\sqrt{f[x,y]} = \sqrt{f[0,0]} + \frac{f^{(1,0)}[0,0]}{2\sqrt{f[0,0]}}x + \frac{f^{(0,1)}[0,0]}{2\sqrt{f[0,0]}}y + O[x]^2 + O[y]^2$$

Near equilibrium:

$$x_p = x_{p_0} + \delta x_p \; ; \; y_p = y_{p_0} + \delta y_p$$
 
$$\sqrt{x_p^2 + y_p^2} = \sqrt{x_{p_0}^2 + y_{p_0}^2} + \frac{2x_{p_0}}{2\sqrt{x_{p_0}^2 + y_{p_0}^2}} \delta x_p + \frac{2y_{p_0}}{2\sqrt{x_{p_0}^2 + y_{p_0}^2}} \delta y_p$$

Testing for the 1st equilibrium point of:

$$y_{p_0} = -\left(1 + \frac{g}{L_{0_1}} \frac{m_p}{k_1}\right) = -(1 + \gamma) \; ; \quad x_{p_0} = 0 \quad ; \quad \gamma > 0$$

$$\to \qquad \sqrt{x_p^2 + y_p^2} = \pm (y_{p_0} + \delta y_p) \tag{1.4}$$

The equations are written as:

$$\left(\frac{\mathbf{x}_{\overline{p_0}} + \delta \mathbf{x}_p}{\mathbf{1} \pm (y_{p_0} + \delta \mathbf{y}_p)}\right) = \mp (y_{p_0} + \delta \mathbf{y}_p)\delta\ddot{\mathbf{x}}_p$$
$$\left(y_{p_0} + \delta \mathbf{y}_p\right)\left(\mathbf{1} \pm (y_{p_0} + \delta \mathbf{y}_p)\right) = \mp (y_{p_0} + \delta \mathbf{y}_p)(\gamma + \delta\ddot{\mathbf{y}}_p)$$

 $\Rightarrow$  Using (1.4) and neglecting small terms such as  $(\delta x_p^2)$ ,  $(\delta \ddot{y}_p \delta x_p)$ :

$$(\delta x_p)(1 + y_{p_0}) = -\delta \ddot{x}_p(y_{p_0})$$

$$(y_{p_0})(1 + y_{p_0}) + (\delta y_p)(1 + 2y_{p_0} + \gamma) = -(\delta \ddot{y}_p)(y_{p_0}) - \gamma(y_{p_0})$$
(1.5)

 $\Rightarrow$  Using the relation from equilibrium above  $(\pm 1 - y_{p_0}) = \gamma$  to eliminate o(1) terms  $\Rightarrow$ 

$$\begin{pmatrix} \delta \ddot{\mathbf{x}}_{p} \\ \delta \ddot{\mathbf{y}}_{p} \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1+1/\gamma} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \delta \mathbf{x}_{p} \\ \delta \mathbf{y}_{p} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$
 (1.6)

It is equivalent to the matrix notation:

$$M\ddot{x} + C\dot{x} + Kx == F \tag{1.7}$$

Where:

$$M = \text{IdentityMatrix}_{2x2}$$
 ;  $C = \{0\}$  ;  $K = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{1+1/\gamma} & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$  ;  $F = \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ 

Where we know to find the natural frequencies by the requirement of:

$$det|K - \omega^2 M| = 0 \tag{1.8}$$

It is an equation of  $4^{th}$  order for  $\omega$ , the relevant solutions are:

$$\omega_x^2 = \frac{1}{1+1/\gamma} < 1 \; ; \qquad \omega_y^2 = 1$$
 (1.9)

rescaling result for comparison to literature:

$$\omega_y \omega_S = \sqrt{\frac{k_1}{m_p}}$$

$$\omega_{\scriptscriptstyle X}\omega_{\scriptscriptstyle S} = \sqrt{\frac{\gamma}{1+\gamma}}\sqrt{\frac{k_1}{m_p}} = \sqrt{\frac{gk_1}{k_1{\rm L}0_1+gm_p}}$$
 , where **expecting**  $\omega_{\scriptscriptstyle X}\omega_{\scriptscriptstyle S} = \sqrt{\gamma}\sqrt{\frac{k_1}{m_p}} = \sqrt{\frac{g}{{\rm L}0_1}}$ 

If reformatting the above to  $\sqrt{\frac{g}{\text{L}0_1+\frac{gm_p}{k_1}}}$  it is equivalent to the natural frequency of simple pendulum with a constant length of  $\text{L}0_1+\frac{gm_p}{k_1}$ !

Extra Limiting cases:

When  $k_1\to\infty$  it affects  $\gamma\to 0$  and we get  $\omega_y=0$  and  $\omega_x=\sqrt{\frac{g}{{\rm L0}_1}}$  which is similar to  $\omega_{\rm simple\_pendulum}$ 

### Appendix A – Equations of Motion for 9D.O.F case

From (4), using (3), we get the *dimensional* equations of motion for the 2 quads and the payload:

$$\begin{pmatrix} m_1\ddot{x_1} = -k_1 \frac{\mathrm{dx_1}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_1\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}}} \\ m_1\ddot{y_1} = k_1 \frac{\mathrm{dy_1}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_1\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}}} - m_1g \\ I_1\ddot{\theta_1} = 0 \\ m_2\ddot{x_2} = -k_2 \frac{\mathrm{dx_2}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_2\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}}} \\ m_2\ddot{y_2} = \frac{\mathrm{dy_2}k_2\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_2\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}}} - m_2g \\ I_2\ddot{\theta_2} = 0 \\ m_p\ddot{x_p} = k_1 \frac{\mathrm{dx_1}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_1\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}}} + k_2 \frac{\mathrm{dx_2}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_2\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}}} \\ m_p\ddot{y_p} = -k_1 \frac{\mathrm{dy_1}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_1\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}}} - k_2 \frac{\mathrm{dy_2}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_2\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}}} - gm_p \\ I_p\ddot{\theta_p} = k_1 \frac{\mathrm{term1}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_1\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_1^2} + \mathrm{dy_1^2}}} - k_2 \frac{\mathrm{term2}\left(\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}} - \mathrm{L}0_2\right)}{\sqrt{\mathrm{dx_2^2} + \mathrm{dy_2^2}}} \end{pmatrix}$$

Where:

$$dx_1 = w_p c(\theta_p) + h_p s(\theta_p) - x_p + x_1$$

$$dy_1 = h_p c(\theta_p) - w_p s(\theta_p) + y_p - y_1$$

$$dx_2 = -w_p c(\theta_p) + h_p s(\theta_p) - x_p + x_2$$

$$dy_2 = h_p c(\theta_p) + w_p s(\theta_p) + y_p - y_2$$

$$term1 = h_p (x_1(-c(\theta_p)) + x_p c(\theta_p) + (y_p - y_1) s(\theta_p)) + w_p ((y_p - y_1) c(\theta_p) + x_1 s(\theta_p) - x_p s(\theta_p))$$

$$term2 = h_p (x_2 c(\theta_p) - x_p c(\theta_p) + (y_2 - y_p) s(\theta_p)) + w_p ((y_p - y_2) c(\theta_p) + x_2 s(\theta_p) - x_p s(\theta_p))$$

<sup>\*</sup> no non-conservative forces are included here.

### Appendix B –Linearization, and natural frequencies

In this section, I'll linearize the equations of motion, and find the natural frequencies of the free non forced system.

Reminding the non-dimensional equations from (10):

$$\ddot{\mathcal{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix} DX_1 \mathcal{V}_1 + \kappa \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\alpha \end{pmatrix} DX_2 \mathcal{V}_2 - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} - \mathcal{A} - \mathcal{D}$$

We set

$$x_p = \delta x + x_{p_0}$$
;  $y_p = \delta y + y_{p_0}$ ;  $\theta_p = \delta \theta + \theta_{p_0}$  (B1)

$$\ddot{x_p} = \ddot{\delta x}$$
 ;  $\ddot{y_p} = \ddot{\delta y}$  ;  $\ddot{\theta_p} = \ddot{\delta \theta}$ 

While

$$x_{p_0} = w_p$$
 ;  $y_{p_0} = -\left(\frac{1}{2}\gamma + h_p + 1\right)$  ;  $\theta_{p_0} = 0$  (B2)

I'll manipulate the equations before further calculation:

Defining:

$$A = -\frac{1}{(DX_1 - 1)} = \sqrt{dx_1^2 + dy_1^2}$$
 ;  $B = -\frac{1}{(DX_2 - 1)} = \sqrt{dx_2^2 + dy_2^2}$  (B3)

And eliminating  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  to 0 for this analysis, getting:

$$\ddot{\mathcal{X}}AB = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix} (A-1)BV_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -\alpha \end{pmatrix} A(B-1)V_2 - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} AB$$
 (B4)

Later on I'll use small angles rounding:

$$\cos(\delta\theta) \to 1, \sin(\delta\theta) \to \delta\theta$$
 (B5)

and neglecting multiplications of the small perturbations elements (i.e.  $\delta y \delta \theta$ ,  $\delta \theta^2$ , etc.).

Remember that quads locations are also given, as in (12).

I would like to develop the A, B terms by a Taylor series expansion.

$$A = \frac{2+\gamma}{2} - \delta y + \delta \theta w_p$$

$$B = \frac{2+\gamma}{2} - \delta y - \delta \theta w_p$$
(B6)

 $\mathcal{V}_i$  after small angle assumption is:

$$\mathcal{V}_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} -\delta \mathbf{x} + h_{p}\delta\theta \\ -1 - \frac{\gamma}{2} + \delta \mathbf{y} - w_{p}\delta\theta \\ -\frac{1}{2}(2 + \gamma)w_{p} + h_{p}\delta \mathbf{x} + w_{p}\delta \mathbf{y} + \left(-\frac{1}{2}(2 + \gamma)h_{p} - h_{p}^{2} - w_{p}^{2}\right)\delta\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathcal{V}_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} -\delta \mathbf{x} + h_{p}\delta\theta \\ -1 - \frac{\gamma}{2} + \delta \mathbf{y} + w_{p}\delta\theta \\ -\frac{1}{2}(2 + \gamma)w_{p} - h_{p}\delta \mathbf{x} + w_{p}\delta\mathbf{y} + \left(\frac{1}{2}(2 + \gamma)h_{p} + h_{p}^{2} + w_{p}^{2}\right)\delta\theta \end{pmatrix}$$

After implementing (B6) in (B4), and eliminating more small elements multiplications:

$$\begin{pmatrix}
\frac{1}{4}(\gamma+2)^{2}\delta x''(t) \\
\frac{1}{4}(\gamma+2)^{2}\delta y''(t) \\
\frac{1}{4}(\gamma+2)^{2}\delta \theta''(t)
\end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix}
\frac{1}{2}\gamma(\gamma+2)h_{p}\delta\theta(t) - \frac{1}{2}\gamma(\gamma+2)\delta x(t) \\
-\frac{1}{2}(\gamma+2)^{2}\delta y(t) \\
\frac{3\gamma(\gamma+2)h_{p}\delta x(t)}{2(h_{p}^{2}+w_{p}^{2})} - \frac{3(\gamma+2)(2\gamma h_{p}^{2}+\gamma(\gamma+2)h_{p}+2(\gamma+2)w_{p}^{2})\delta\theta(t)}{4(h_{p}^{2}+w_{p}^{2})}
\end{pmatrix}$$
(B7)

Or setting in the matrix form of Mx'' + Cx' + Kx = F which gives:

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \frac{1}{4} (\gamma + 2)^{2} \qquad ; \qquad F = \{0\} \; ; \; C = \{0\}$$

$$K = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{1}{2} \gamma (\gamma + 2) & 0 & -\frac{1}{2} \gamma (\gamma + 2) h_{p} \\ 0 & \frac{1}{2} (\gamma + 2)^{2} & 0 \\ -\frac{3\gamma (\gamma + 2) h_{p}}{2 (h_{z}^{2} + w_{z}^{2})} & 0 & \frac{3(\gamma + 2)(2\gamma h_{p}^{2} + \gamma (\gamma + 2) h_{p} + 2(\gamma + 2) w_{p}^{2})}{4 (h_{z}^{2} + w_{z}^{2})} \end{pmatrix}$$
(B8)

Where the natural frequencies are calculated from:

$$Det(K - \omega^2 M) = 0 \quad \Longrightarrow \quad \omega_{1,2,3} \tag{B9}$$

For the y component we get uncoupled frequency as:

$$\omega_{\nu}^2 = 2 \tag{B10}$$

For  $\theta$ , x components we get coupled frequencies as :

$$\omega_1^2 = \frac{\zeta - \sqrt{\beta}}{2(2+\gamma)(h_p^2 + w_p^2)}$$
 ;  $\omega_2^2 = \frac{\zeta + \sqrt{\beta}}{2(2+\gamma)(h_p^2 + w_p^2)}$  (B11)

Where

$$\begin{split} \beta &= -24\gamma(2+\gamma)\big(h_p^2+w_p^2\big)\big(\gamma h_p + 2w_p^2\big) + \big(3\gamma(2+\gamma)h_p + 8\gamma h_p^2 + 4(3+2\gamma)w_p^2\big)^2 \\ &= 24\gamma^2(2+\gamma)h_p^3 + 64\gamma^2h_p^4 + 24\gamma(6+5\gamma+\gamma^2)h_pw_p^2 + 16(3+\gamma)^2w_p^4 + \\ &\quad \gamma h_p^2\big(9\gamma(2+\gamma)^2 + 16(6+5\gamma)w_p^2\big) > 0 \\ \zeta &= 6\gamma h_p + 3\gamma^2h_p + 8\gamma h_p^2 + 12w_p^2 + 8\gamma w_p^2 \end{split}$$

Conditions for  $\omega_i^2 > 0$ :

$$\beta > 0$$
 ,  $\zeta - \sqrt{\beta} > 0$  (B12)

For  $h_p, w_p, \gamma > 0$  it is straight forward that also  $\beta, \zeta > 0$ .

 $\zeta^2>\beta$  gives  $\gamma(2+\gamma)\left(h_p^2+w_p^2\right)\left(\gamma h_p+2w_p^2\right)>0$  which is also always true.

## Appendix C –system parameters vs. natural frequencies

As continuation to Appendix B natural frequencies – I'll show here the change of  $\omega_y$ ,  $\omega_x$ ,  $\omega_\theta$  and their relations as functions of the parameters  $\gamma$ ,  $h_p$ ,  $w_p$ .

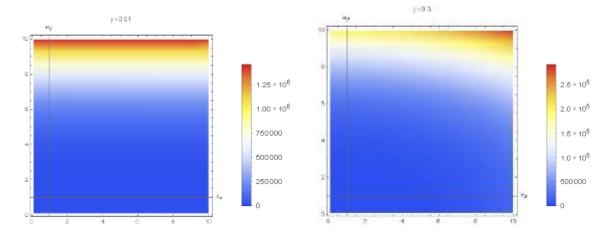
The assumed characteristic values range of those variables are:

$$h_p, w_p = 0.1 \ to \ 10$$
 ;  $\gamma = 0.01 \ to \ 0.9$  \*

\* in accordance with estimation of  $L0_1$  as 0.1 to 10 meters

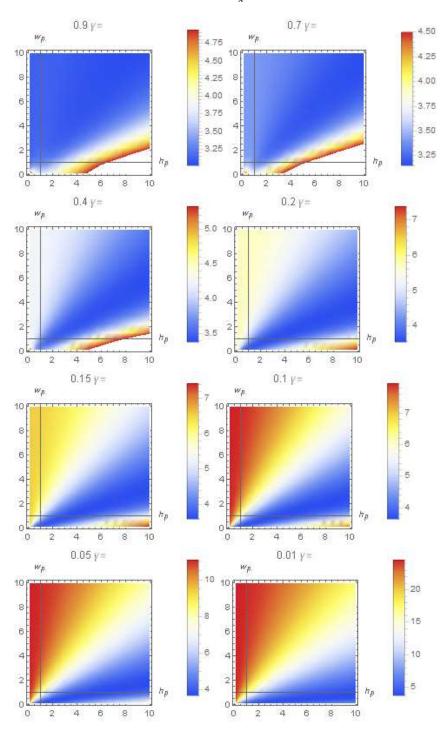
If referring to  $\beta$  from (B11) we see it should be a big number in order to get  $\frac{\omega_2}{\omega_1} \sim \frac{\omega_\theta}{\omega_x} >> 1$ .

 $\beta$  behavior can be seen by:



It is expected that for  $\gamma < 0.1$ , for  $w_p > 9$ , without any seen dependency on  $h_p$ , we'll get high ratio between the frequencies.

Verifying for the relation itself  $\,\varOmega=rac{\omega_{ heta}}{\omega_{x}}\,$  we note few working areas:



It is noted that for small  $\gamma$  we get high values of  $\Omega$  (higher then 10).

#### Numeric examples:

γ	$w_p$	$h_p$	$\omega_{ heta}$	$\omega_{x}$	Ω
0.01	10	2	2.40	0.0997	24.08
0.25	10	2	2.41	0.47	5.12
0.01	2	2	1.738	0.0995	17.47
0.05	2	2	1.764	0.218	8.08

For given  $w_p\gg h_p$  it is noted that  $\gamma$  affects, almost, only on  $\omega_x$ .

For given  $w_p \ll h_p$  ,  $\varOmega$  is not high enough to neglect  $\theta$  as part of the system degrees of freedom.

### Appendix D – reducing system's DOF

For the case of  $\omega_{\theta} \gg \omega_{y}$ , I would like to neglect  $\theta$  by setting  $\ddot{\theta} = \dot{\theta} \cong 0 \rightarrow \theta = \theta_{0} + \delta\theta$ , where  $\theta_{0} = 0$ .

Back to the starting 3DOF EOM (10) I will isolate  $\theta = \delta\theta$  using the 3<sup>rd</sup> equation, in order to get  $\theta = f(x, y)$  and use it back in 1<sup>st</sup> two equations of x,y. and by that getting 2DOF dynamics to investigate asymptotically.

#### The procedure is:

From 3<sup>rd</sup> equation of (10):

$$0=(-lpha)\left(1-rac{1}{A}
ight)\mathcal{V}_{13}+\kappa(-lpha)\left(1-rac{1}{B}\mathcal{L}
ight)\mathcal{V}_{23}$$
 , where  $\kappa=\mathcal{L}=1$ 

we write it as:

$$\mathbf{0} = \left(\mathbf{B}\left(\mathbf{A} - \mathbf{1}\right)\right) \mathcal{V}_{13} + \mathbf{A}\left(\left(\mathbf{B} - \mathbf{1}\right)\right) \mathcal{V}_{23} \tag{D1}$$

In order to extract  $\theta_p \;$  we use first order approximation:

$$\cos(\theta_p) \to 1 \; ; \; \sin(\theta_p) \to \theta_p$$
 (D2)

to get:

$$V_{13} = a_{12} + c_{11}\theta_n$$
 ;  $V_{23} = b_{12} + c_{12}\theta_n$  (D3)

And use Taylor series (around  $\theta_0=0$ ) for A,B :

$$A = \sqrt{a_{11}} + \frac{a_{12}}{\sqrt{a_{11}}} \theta_p$$
 ;  $B = \sqrt{b_{11}} + \frac{b_{12}}{\sqrt{b_{11}}} \theta_p$  (D4)

Where:

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{11} \\ a_{12} \\ b_{11} \\ b_{12} \\ c_{11} \\ c_{12} \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \left(-h_p + y_1 - y_p\right)^2 + \left(w_p + x_1 - x_p\right)^2 \\ h_p(x_1 - x_p) + w_p(y_1 - y_p) \\ \left(-h_p + y_2 - y_p\right)^2 + \left(-w_p + x_2 - x_p\right)^2 \\ h_p(x_2 - x_p) - w_p(y_2 - y_p) \\ h_p(y_1 - y_p) - w_p(x_1 - x_p) \\ h_p(y_2 - y_p) + w_p(x_2 - x_p) \end{pmatrix} = f(h_p, w_p, y_p, y_1, y_2, x_p, x_1, x_2)$$

Setting (4,5) into (2) and eliminating  $\mathbf{2}^{\text{nd}}$  and  $\mathbf{3}^{\text{rd}}$  order elements of  $\boldsymbol{\theta}_p$ , getting the relation :

$$\theta_p = \frac{a_{12}b_{11}(\sqrt{a_{11}} - a_{11}) + a_{11}b_{12}(\sqrt{b_{11}} - b_{11})}{a_{12}^2b_{11} + a_{11}b_{12}^2 - a_{12}b_{12}\left(\sqrt{a_{11}} - a_{11} + \sqrt{b_{11}} - b_{11}\right) - b_{11}c_{11}(\sqrt{a_{11}} - a_{11}) - a_{11}c_{12}(\sqrt{b_{11}} - b_{11})} \tag{\textbf{D5}}$$

 $\theta_p$  is therefore a function of  $\{h_p, w_p, x_i, y_i\}$ ; i = 1, 2, p

#### Next step is:

Using (3) for the 1<sup>st</sup> two equations of (1) and getting new equations for a 2D.O.F problem, to asymptotically investigate:

Non-dimensional 2D.O.F Equations of motion are:

$$\ddot{\mathcal{X}} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{A} \right) \mathcal{V}_1 + \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \left( 1 - \frac{1}{B} \right) \mathcal{V}_2 - \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \gamma \end{pmatrix} - C \dot{\mathcal{X}} - \begin{pmatrix} Fx \\ Fy \end{pmatrix} \dot{\mathcal{X}}^2 \tag{D6}$$

Where:

$$\mathcal{X} = \begin{pmatrix} x_p \\ y_p \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A = \sqrt{(h_p \theta_p + w_p - x_p + x_1)^2 + (-h_p + \theta_p w_p - y_p + y_1)^2}$$

$$B = \sqrt{(h_p \theta_p - w_p - x_p + x_2)^2 + (-h_p - \theta_p w_p - y_p + y_2)^2}$$

$$\mathcal{V}_{1} = \begin{pmatrix} w_{p} + x_{1} - x_{p} + h_{p}\theta_{p} \\ -h_{p} + y_{1} - y_{p} + w_{p}\theta_{p} \end{pmatrix}; \quad \mathcal{V}_{2} = \begin{pmatrix} -w_{p} + x_{2} - x_{p} + h_{p}\theta_{p} \\ -h_{p} + y_{2} - y_{p} - w_{p}\theta_{p} \end{pmatrix}; \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} c_{1} & 0 \\ 0 & c_{2} \end{pmatrix}$$