

## Forces on the climber (extended mass model)

Summing forces along  $x$  and  $y$  and assuming equilibrium

$$f_s + F_H \cos \alpha - mg \sin \theta = 0 \quad (\text{A})$$

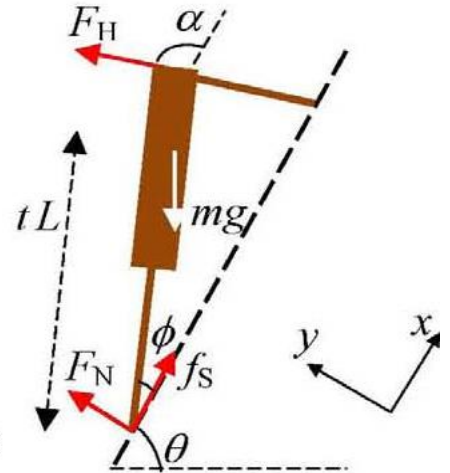
$$F_N + F_H \sin \alpha - mg \cos \theta = 0 \quad (\text{B})$$

Taking torque about the climber's feet:

$$\Sigma \tau(\text{feet}): F_H L \sin(\alpha - \phi) - mgtL \cos(\phi + \theta) = 0 \quad (\text{C})$$

Equation (C) yields directly:

$$F_H = \frac{mgt \cos(\theta + \phi)}{\sin(\alpha - \phi)} \quad (\text{6 of manuscript})$$



From equations (B) and (6)

$$F_N = mg \cos \theta - F_H \sin \alpha = mg \cos \theta - \frac{mgt \cos(\theta + \phi)}{\sin(\alpha - \phi)} \sin \alpha = mg \left( \cos \theta - \frac{t \cos(\theta + \phi)}{\sin(\alpha - \phi)} \sin \alpha \right) \quad (\text{7 of manuscript})$$

From equations (A) and (6)

$$f_s = mg \sin \theta - F_H \cos \alpha = mg \sin \theta - \frac{mgt \cos(\theta + \phi)}{\sin(\alpha - \phi)} \cos \alpha = mg \left( \sin \theta - \frac{t \cos(\theta + \phi)}{\sin(\alpha - \phi)} \cos \alpha \right) \quad (\text{8 of manuscript})$$

## Stability – Finding $\phi_{\min}$

The maximum value of the static friction force is

$$f_{SM} = \pm \mu F_N \Rightarrow f_{SM} = \pm \mu mg \left( \cos \theta - \frac{t \cos(\theta + \phi)}{\sin(\alpha - \phi)} \sin \alpha \right)$$

When the friction force is at its maximum possible value (at  $\phi = \phi_s$ ),  $f_{SM} = f_s$ :

$$\Rightarrow \left( \sin \theta - \frac{t \cos(\theta + \phi_s)}{\sin(\alpha - \phi_s)} \cos \alpha \right) = \pm \mu \left( \cos \theta - \frac{t \cos(\theta + \phi_s)}{\sin(\alpha - \phi_s)} \sin \alpha \right)$$

Multiply both sides by  $\sin(\alpha - \phi_s)$ , expand out sines and cosines, and rearrange:

$$\begin{aligned} & \sin \theta \sin \alpha \cos \phi_s - \sin \theta \cos \alpha \sin \phi_s - t \cos \theta \cos \phi_s \cos \alpha + t \sin \theta \sin \phi_s \cos \alpha \\ & = \pm (\cos \theta \sin \alpha \cos \phi_s - \cos \theta \cos \alpha \sin \phi_s - t \cos \theta \cos \phi_s \sin \alpha + t \sin \theta \sin \phi_s \sin \alpha) \mu \end{aligned}$$

Divide both sides by  $\cos \theta \cos \alpha \cos \phi_s$  and rearrange to get the two solutions:

$$\tan \phi_s = \frac{\pm \mu(1-t) \tan \alpha + t - \tan \theta \tan \alpha}{\pm \mu(1-t \tan \theta \tan \alpha) - (1-t) \tan \theta} \quad (\text{the '+' gives equation 9 of manuscript})$$

The '+' solution provides a minimum value for  $\phi$  while the '-' solution (relevant when  $\alpha < 90^\circ$ ) provides a maximum value, see figure 6.

## Stability – Finding $\phi_H$

Maximum hand force  $|F_H| = amg$  ( $a > 0$ ). Setting  $F_H = \pm amg$  in equation (6) of manuscript:

$$\pm amg = tmg \cos(\theta + \phi_H) / \sin(\alpha - \phi_H)$$

$$\Rightarrow \pm a \sin \alpha \cos \phi_H \mp a \cos \alpha \sin \phi_H = t \cos \theta \cos \phi_H - t \sin \theta \sin \phi_H$$

Dividing both sides by  $\cos \phi_H$  and rearranging yields:

$$\tan \phi_H = \frac{\mp \sin \alpha + (t/a) \cos \theta}{\mp \cos \alpha + (t/a) \sin \theta} \quad (\text{the '+' is equation 10 of manuscript}).$$

The '+' solution is the only one that provides limits on  $\phi$  for the examples of this work.

## Maximum value of $\theta$ for stability when $\alpha = 90^\circ$

Maximum hand force  $|F_H| = amg$  ( $a > 0$ ). At the largest stable value of  $\theta$ ,  $\phi_s = \phi_H$  (see figure 6, middle panel on left). Selecting the positive signs in equations (9) and (10):

$$\tan \phi_s \Big|_{\alpha \rightarrow 90} = \frac{\mu(1-t) \tan \alpha + t - \tan \theta \tan \alpha}{\mu(1-t \tan \theta \tan \alpha) - (1-t) \tan \theta} \Big|_{\alpha \rightarrow 90} = \frac{\mu(1-t) - \tan \theta}{-\mu t \tan \theta}$$

$$\tan \phi_H \Big|_{\alpha \rightarrow 90} = \frac{\sin \alpha + t \cos \theta}{\cos \alpha + t \sin \theta} \Big|_{\alpha \rightarrow 90} = \frac{1 + t \cos \theta}{t \sin \theta}$$

$$\text{Setting } \phi_s = \phi_H : \frac{\mu(1-t) - \tan \theta_{\max}}{-\mu t \tan \theta_{\max}} = \frac{1 + t \cos \theta_{\max}}{t \sin \theta_{\max}}$$

$$\Rightarrow \mu(\cos \theta_{\max} + 1) = \sin \theta_{\max} \Rightarrow \mu = \frac{\sin \theta_{\max}}{\cos \theta_{\max} + 1} \equiv \tan(\theta_{\max} / 2)$$

$$\underline{\text{For } \mu = 2, \quad \theta_{\max} = 2 \arctan \mu = 127^\circ}$$

## Minimum value of $\alpha$ for stability when $\theta = 90^\circ$

Maximum hand force  $|F_H| = amg$  ( $a > 0$ ). At the smallest stable value of  $\alpha$ ,  $\phi_s = \phi_H$ :

$$\tan \phi_s \Big|_{\theta \rightarrow 90} = \frac{\mu(1-t) \tan \alpha + t - \tan \theta \tan \alpha}{\mu(1-t \tan \theta \tan \alpha) - (1-t) \tan \theta} \Big|_{\theta \rightarrow 90} = \frac{-\tan \alpha}{(t-1) - \mu t \tan \alpha}$$

$$\tan \phi_H \Big|_{\theta \rightarrow 90} = \frac{\sin \alpha + t \cos \theta}{\cos \alpha + t \sin \theta} \Big|_{\theta \rightarrow 90} = \frac{\sin \alpha}{\cos \alpha + t}$$

$$\text{Setting } \phi_s = \phi_H : \frac{-\tan \alpha_{\min}}{(t-1) - \mu t \tan \alpha_{\min}} = \frac{\sin \alpha_{\min}}{\cos \alpha_{\min} + t}$$

$$\Rightarrow \cos \alpha_{\min} + 1 = \mu \sin \alpha_{\min} \Rightarrow \mu = \frac{\cos \alpha_{\min} + 1}{\sin \alpha_{\min}} \equiv \frac{1}{\tan \alpha_{\min} / 2}$$

$$\underline{\text{For } \mu = 2, \quad \alpha_{\min} = 2 \arctan(1/\mu) = 53.1^\circ \text{ and at this value of } \alpha, \quad \phi = \sin \alpha / (\cos \alpha + t) = 32.3^\circ}$$