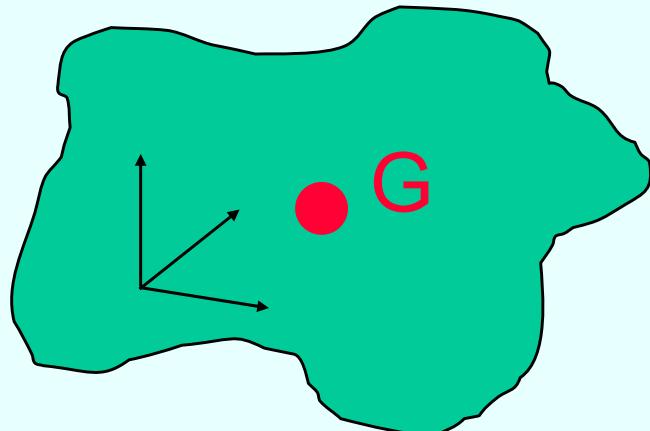


# **STABILITY AND TRIM OF MARINE VESSELS**

# Concept of Mass Center for a Rigid Body



*Centroid* – the point about which moments due to gravity are zero:

$$\sum g m_i (x_g - x_i) = 0 \rightarrow$$

$$x_g = \sum m_i x_i / \sum m_i = \sum m_i x_i / M$$

- Calculation applies to all three body axes: x,y,z
- x can be referenced to any point, e.g., bow, waterline, geometric center, etc.
- “Enclosed” water has to be included in the mass if we are talking about inertia

# Center of Buoyancy

A similar differential approach with *displaced mass*:

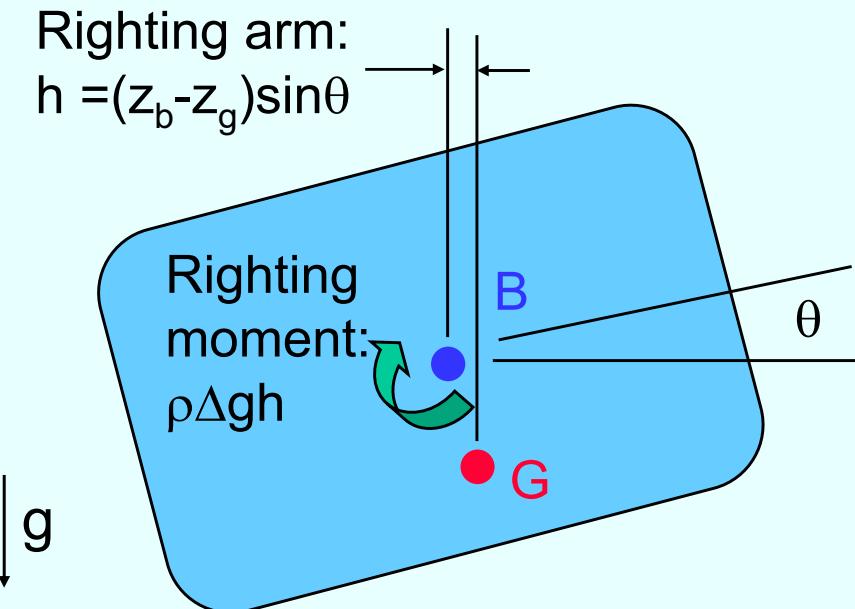
$$\mathbf{x}_b = \sum \Delta_i \mathbf{x}_i / \Delta, \text{ where } \Delta_i \text{ is incremental volume,}$$
$$\Delta \text{ is total volume}$$

Center of buoyancy is the  
same as the center of  
displaced volume: it doesn't  
matter what is inside the  
outer skin, or how it is  
arranged.

Images removed for copyright reasons.

*Calculating trim of a flooded vehicle: Use in-water weights of the components, including the water (whose weight is then zero and can be ignored). The calculation gives the center of in-water weight.*

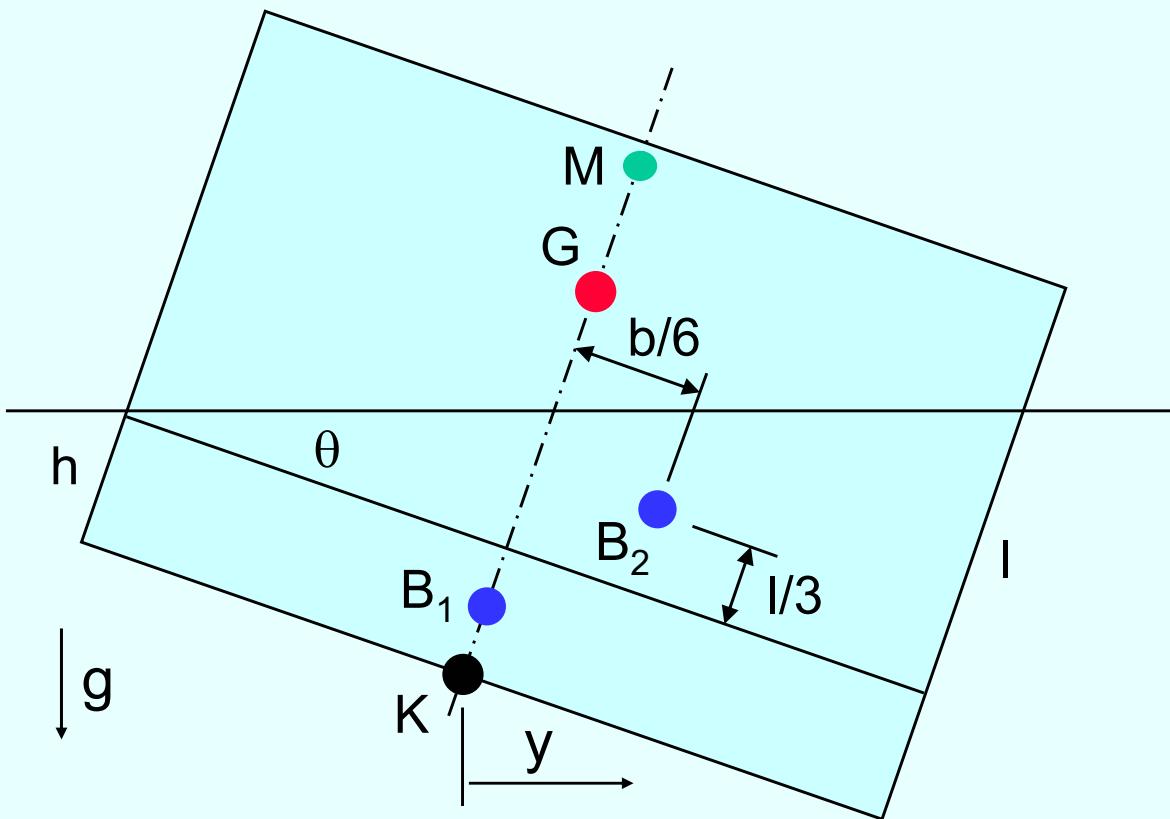
- For a submerged body, a sufficient condition for stability is that  $z_b$  is *above*  $z_g$ .



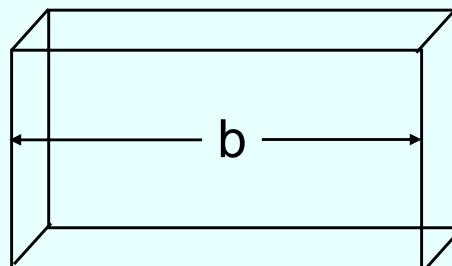
Make  $(z_b - z_g)$  large  $\rightarrow$  the “spring” is large and:

- Response to an initial heel angle is fast (uncomfortable?)
- Wave or loading disturbances don't cause unacceptably large motions
- But this is also a spring-mass system, that will oscillate unless adequate damping is used, e.g., sails, anti-roll planes, etc.

- In most surface vessels, righting stability is provided by the *waterplane area*.

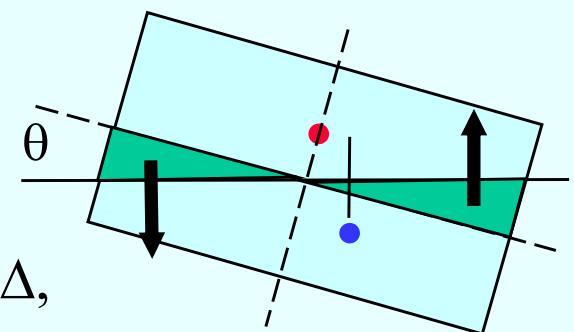


slice thickness  $dx$



submerged volume  $d\Delta$ ,  
 $d\Delta = Adx$

intuition: wedges



## RECTANGULAR SECTION

Geometry:

$$d\Delta/dx = bh + bl/2 \quad \text{or}$$

$$h = (d\Delta/dx - bl/2) / b$$

$$l = b \tan\theta$$

Vertical forces:

$$dF_G = \rho g d\Delta \quad (\text{no shear})$$

$$dF_{B_1} = \rho g b h dx$$

$$dF_{B_2} = \rho g b l dx / 2$$

Moment arms:

$$y_G = KG \sin \theta ; y_{B1} = h \sin \theta / 2 ; y_{B2} = (h + l/3) \sin \theta + b \cos \theta / 6$$

Put all this together into a net moment (positive anti-clockwise):

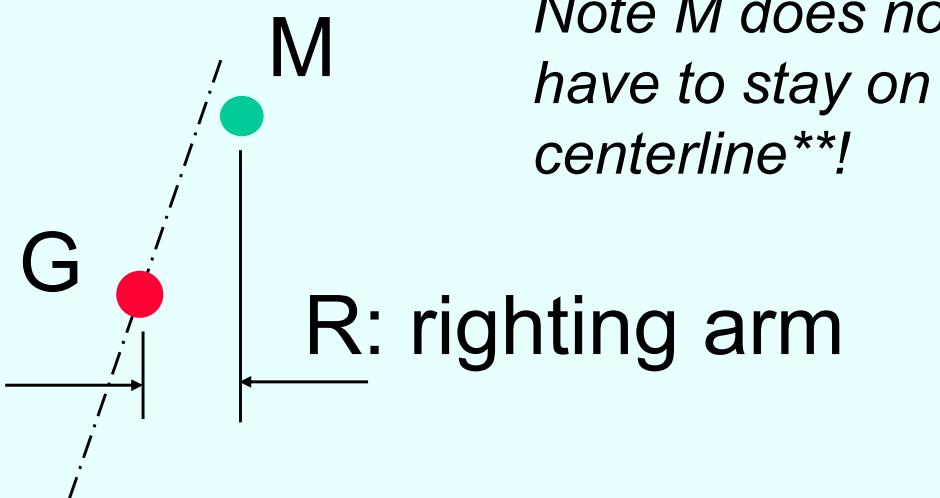
$$dM/\rho g = -KG d\Delta \sin \theta + bh^2 dx \sin \theta / 2 + b l dx [ (h+l/3) \sin \theta + b \cos \theta / 6] / 2 \quad (valid \ until \ the \ corner \\ comes \ out \ of \ the \ water)$$

Linearize ( $\sin \theta \sim \tan \theta \sim \theta$ ), and keep only first-order terms ( $\theta$ ):

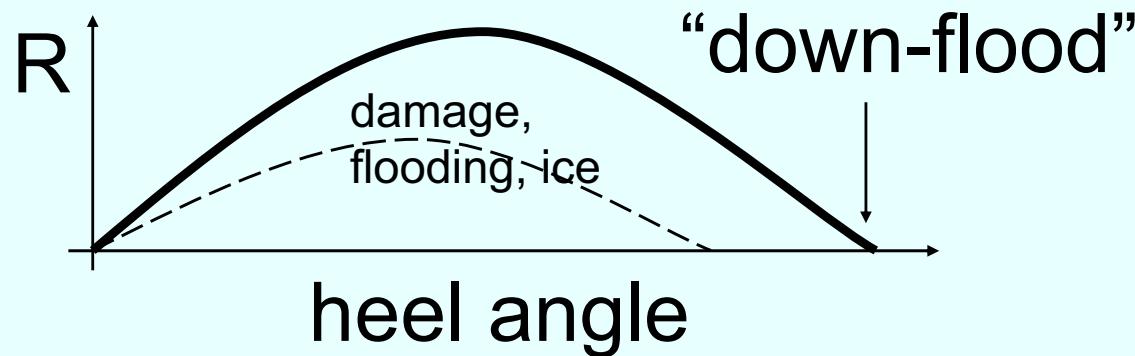
$$dM / \rho g d\Delta = [ -KG + d\Delta / 2 b dx + b^3 dx / 12 d\Delta ] \theta$$

For this rectangular slice, *the sum  $[d\Delta / 2 b dx + b^3 dx / 12 d\Delta]$  must exceed the distance  $KG$  for stability.* This sum is called KM – the distance from the keel up to the “virtual” buoyancy center M. M is the METACENTER, and it is as if the block is hanging from M!

$-KG + KM = GM$  : the METACENTRIC HEIGHT



*Note M does not have to stay on the centerline\*\*!*



Images removed for copyright reasons.  
Ships in stormy waves.

How much GM is enough?  
Around 2-3m in a big boat

# Considering the Entire Vessel...

*Transverse (or roll) stability* is calculated using the same moment calculation extended on the length:

Total Moment = Integral on Length of  $dM(x)$ , where (for a vessel with all rectangular cross-sections)

$$dM(x) = \rho g [ -KG(x) d\Delta(x) + d\Delta^2(x) / 2 b(x) dx + b^3(x) dx / 12 ] \theta \quad \text{or}$$

$$dM(x) = \rho g [ -KG(x) A(x) dx + A^2(x) dx / 2 b(x) + b^3(x) dx / 12 ] \theta$$

First term: Same as  $-\rho g KG \Delta$ , where  $\Delta$  is ship's submerged volume, and  $KG$  is the value referencing the whole vessel.

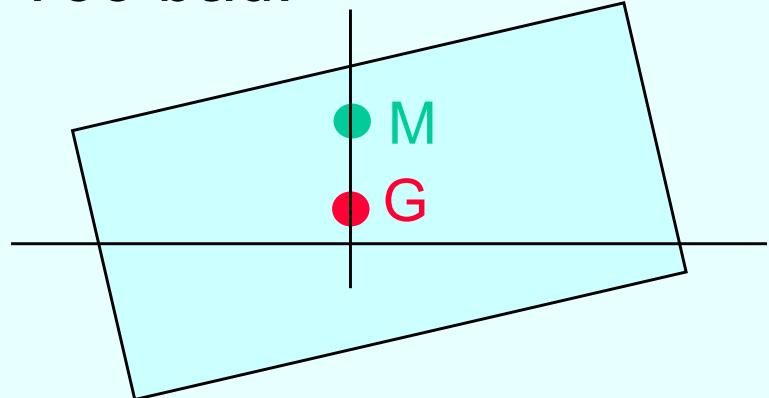
Second and third terms: Use the fact that  $d\Delta$  and  $b$  are functions of  $x$ . Notice that the area and the beam count, but not the draft!

*Longitudinal (or pitch) stability* is similarly calculated, but it is usually secondary, since the waterplane area is very long → very high GM

# Weight Distribution and Trim

- At zero speed, and with no other forces or moments, the vessel has B (submerged) or M (surface) *directly above G*.

Too bad!



For port-stbd symmetric hulls, keep G on the centerline using a tabulation of component masses and their centroid locations in the hull, i.e.,  $\Sigma m_i y_i = 0$

Longitudinal trim should be zero relative to center of waterplane area, in the loaded condition.

Pitch trim may be affected by forward motion, but difference is usually only a few degrees.

# Rotational Dynamics Using the Centroid

Equivalent to

$$F = ma \quad \text{in linear case is}$$

$$T = J_o * d^2\theta / dt^2$$

where  $T$  is the sum of acting torques in roll

$J_o$  is the rotary moment of inertia in roll,  
referenced to some location O

$\theta$  is roll angle (radians)

$J$  written in terms of incremental masses  $m_i$ :

$$J_o = \sum m_i (y_i - y_o)^2 \quad \text{OR} \quad J_g = \sum m_i (y_i - y_g)^2$$

$J$  written in terms of component masses  $m_i$  and their own moments of inertia  $J_i$  (by the parallel axis theorem) :

$$J_g = \sum m_i (y_i - y_g)^2 + \sum J_i$$

The  $y_i$ 's give position of the centroid of each body, and  $J_i$ 's are referenced to those centroids

# What are the acting torques $T$ ?

- Buoyancy righting moment – metacentric height
- Dynamic loads on the vessel – e.g., waves, wind, movement of components, sloshing
- Damping due to keel, roll dampers, etc.
- Torques due to roll control actuators

An instructive case of damping  $D$ , metacentric height  $GM$ :

$$J d^2\theta / dt^2 = -D d\theta / dt - GM \rho g \Delta \theta \quad OR$$

$$J d^2\theta / dt^2 + D d\theta / dt + GM \rho g \Delta \theta = 0$$

$$d^2\theta / dt^2 + a d\theta / dt + b\theta = 0$$

$$d^2\theta / dt^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n d\theta / dt + \omega_n^2\theta = 0$$

A second-order stable system  $\rightarrow$  Overdamped or oscillatory response from initial conditions

# Homogeneous Underdamped Second-Order Systems

$$x'' + ax' + bx = 0; \quad \text{write as} \quad x'' + 2\zeta\omega_n x' + \omega_n^2 x = 0$$

Let  $x = X e^{st} \rightarrow$

$$(s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2) e^{st} = 0 \quad \text{OR} \quad s^2 + 2\zeta\omega_n s + \omega_n^2 = 0 \rightarrow$$
$$\begin{aligned} s &= [-2\zeta\omega_n \pm \sqrt{4\zeta^2\omega_n^2 - 4\omega_n^2}] / 2 \\ &= \omega_n[-\zeta \pm \sqrt{\zeta^2-1}] \quad \text{from quadratic equation} \end{aligned}$$

$s_1$  and  $s_2$  are complex conjugates if  $\zeta < 1$ , in this case:

$$s_1 = -\omega_n\zeta + i\omega_d, \quad s_2 = -\omega_n\zeta - i\omega_d \quad \text{where } \omega_d = \omega_n \sqrt{1-\zeta^2}$$

Recalling  $e^{r+i\theta} = e^r (\cos\theta + i \sin\theta)$ , we have

$$x = e^{-\zeta\omega_n t} \left[ (X_1^r + iX_1^i)(\cos\omega_d t + i\sin\omega_d t) + (X_2^r + iX_2^i)(\cos\omega_d t - i\sin\omega_d t) \right] \quad \text{AND}$$

$$x' = -\zeta \omega_n x + \omega_d e^{-\zeta \omega_n t} [ (X_1^r + iX_1^i)(-\sin \omega_d t + i \cos \omega_d t) + (X_2^r + iX_2^i)(-\sin \omega_d t - i \cos \omega_d t) ]$$

Consider initial conditions  $x'(0) = 0, x(0) = 1$ :

$$x(t=0) = 1 \text{ means } X_1^r + X_2^r = 1 \quad (\text{real part}) \text{ and}$$

$$X_1^i + X_2^i = 0 \quad (\text{imaginary part})$$

$$x'(t=0) = 0 \text{ means } X_1^r - X_2^r = 0 \quad (\text{imaginary part}) \text{ and}$$

$$-\zeta \omega_n + \omega_d (X_2^i - X_1^i) = 0 \quad (\text{real part})$$

Combine these and we find that

$$X_1^r = X_2^r = \frac{1}{2}$$

$$X_1^i = -X_2^i = -\zeta \omega_n / 2 \omega_d$$

Plug into the solution for  $x$  and do some trig:

$$x = e^{-\zeta \omega_n t} \sin(\omega_d t + k) / \sqrt{1 - \zeta^2}, \text{ where } k = \arctan(\omega_d / \zeta \omega_n)$$

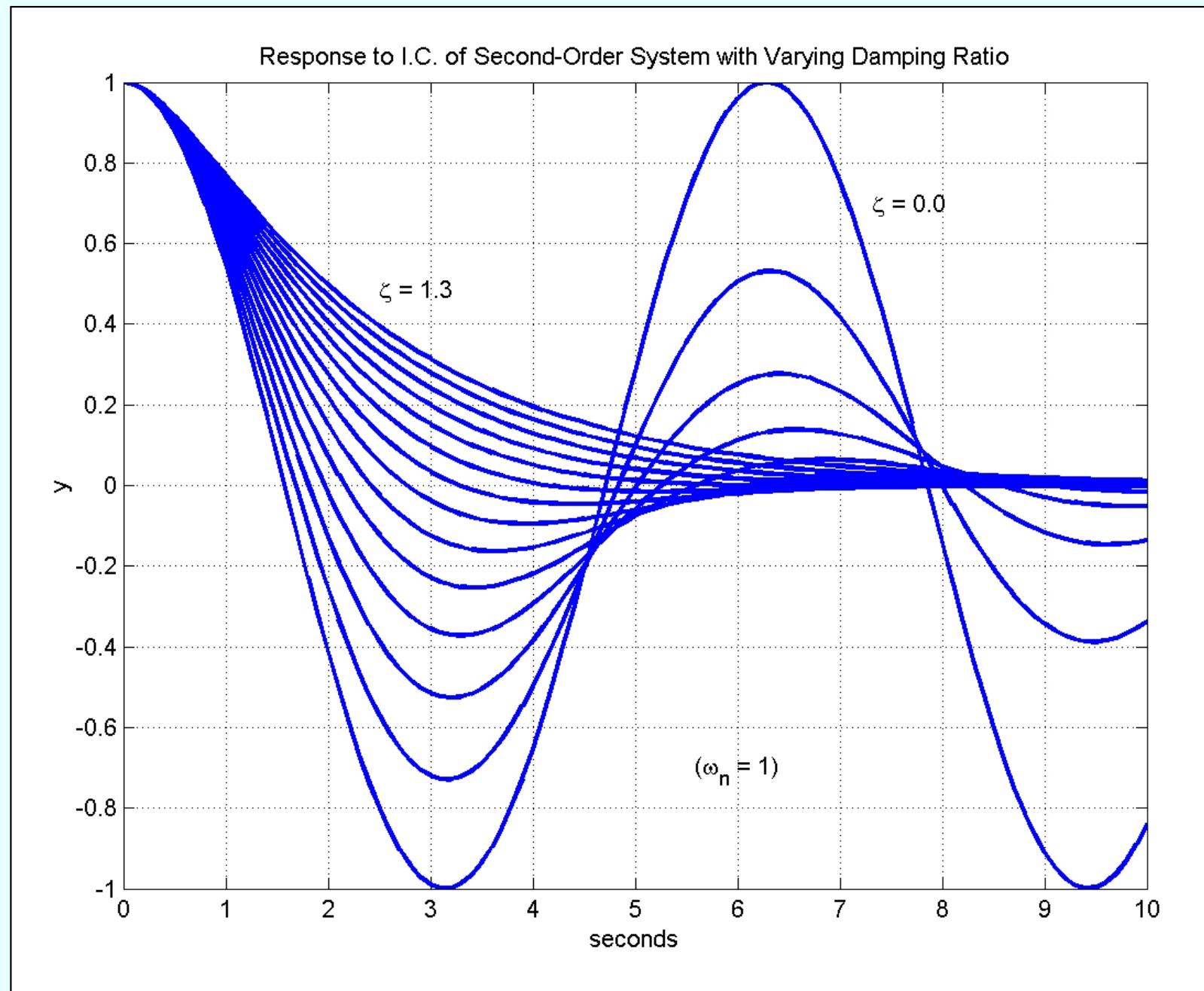
$\zeta = 0.0$  has  
fastest rise time  
but no decay

$\zeta = 0.2$  gives  
about 50%  
overshoot

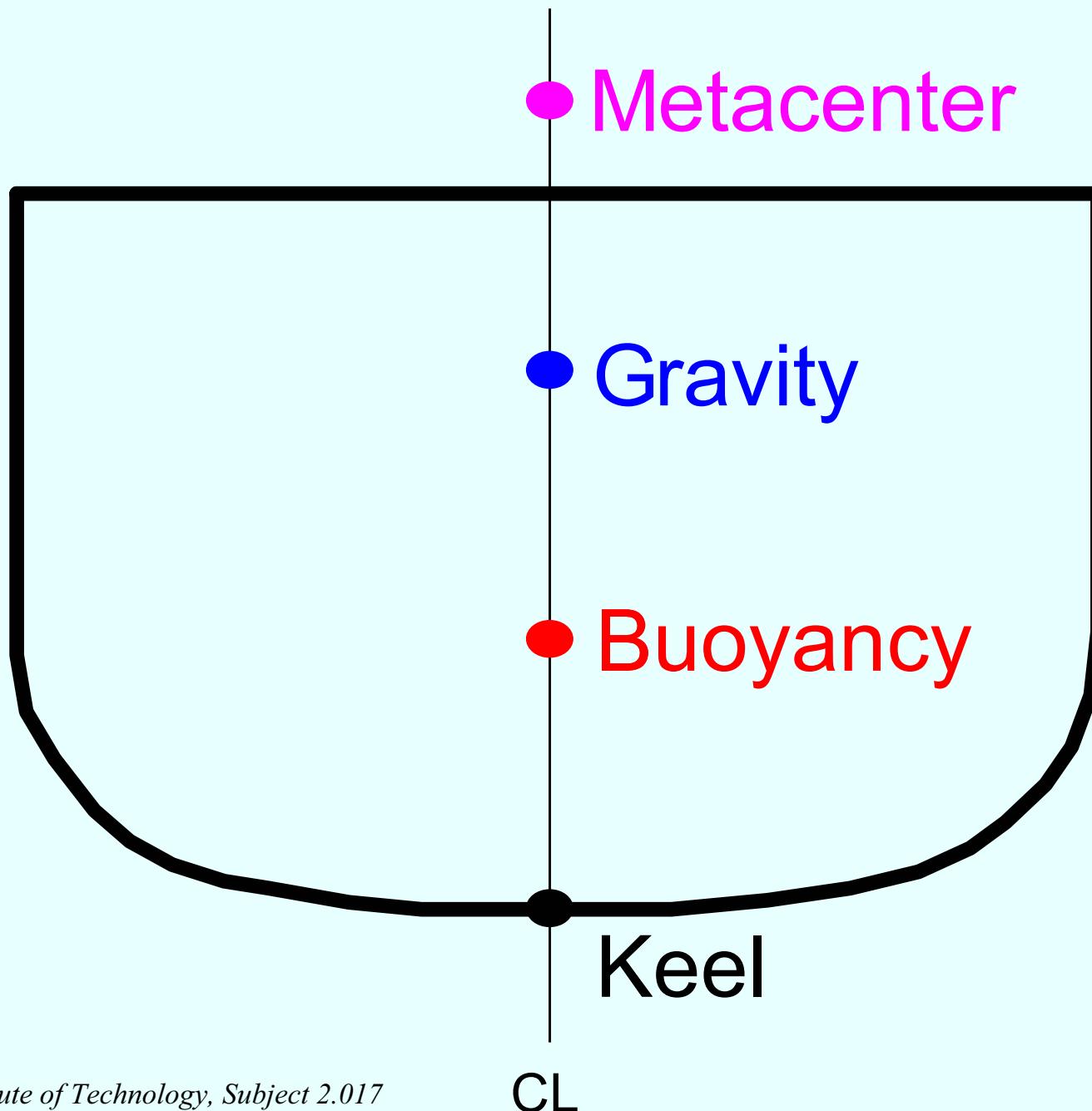
$\zeta = 0.5$  gives  
about 15%  
overshoot

$\zeta = 1.0$  gives  
the fastest  
response  
without  
overshoot

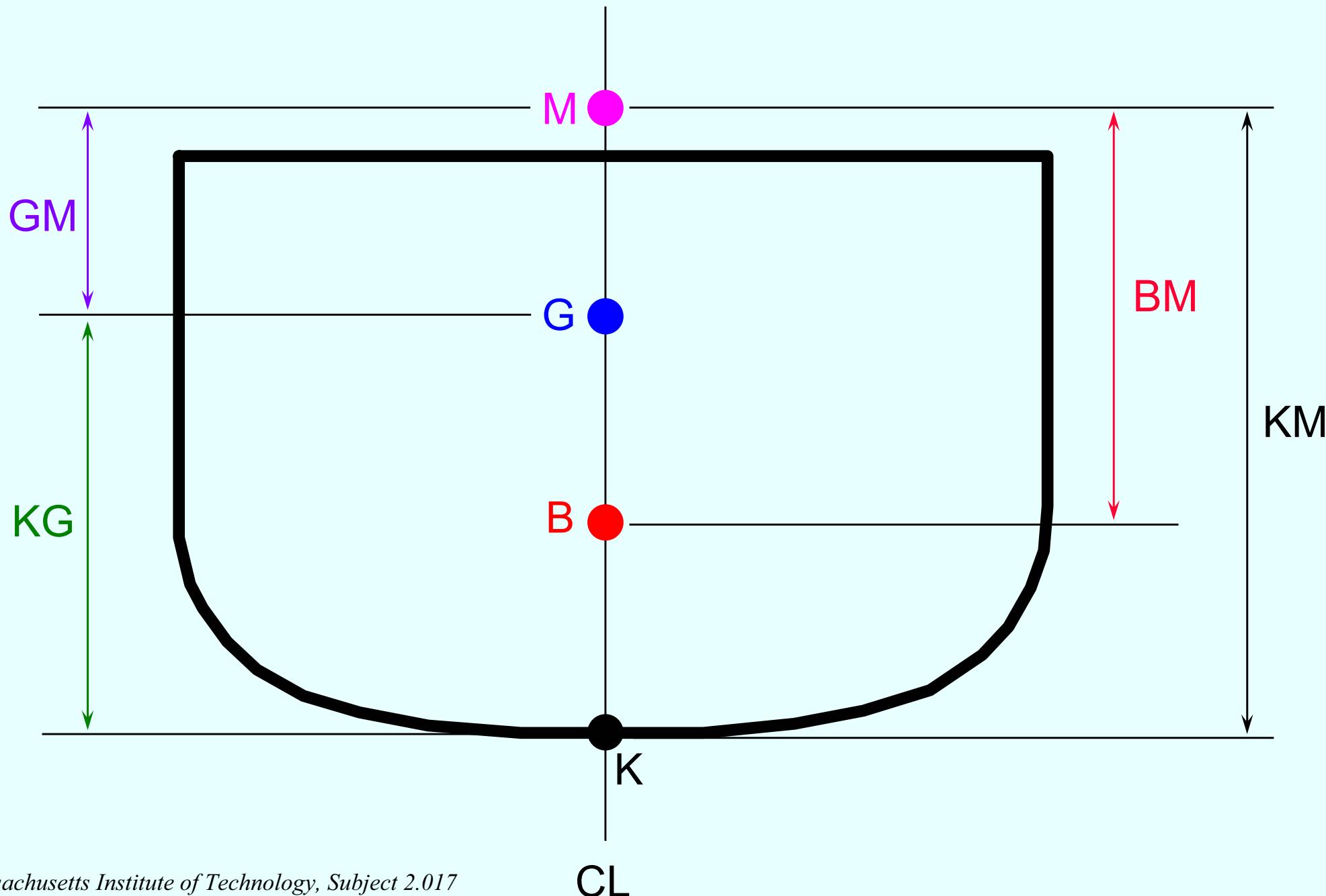
$\zeta > 1.0$  is  
slower



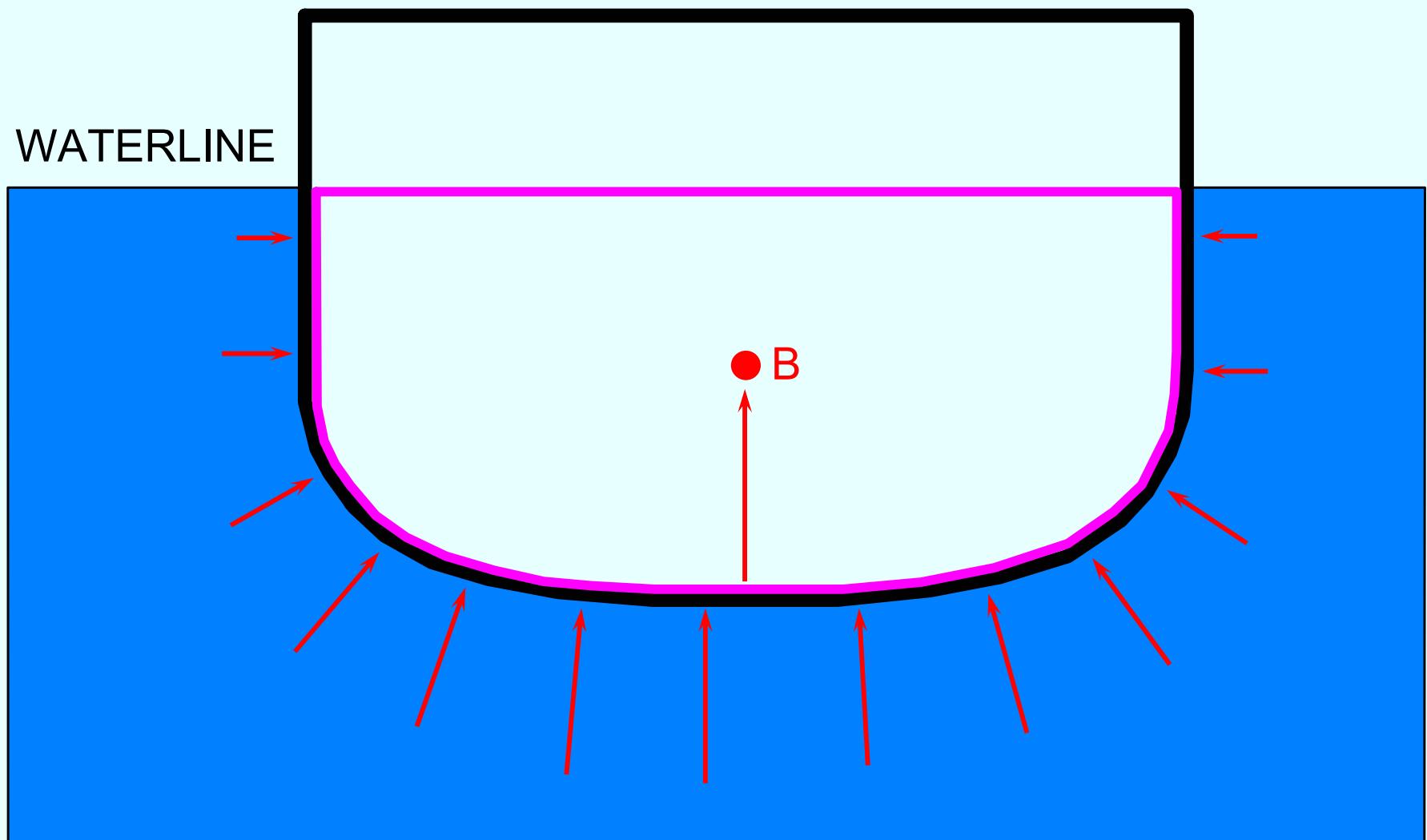
# STABILITY REFERENCE POINTS



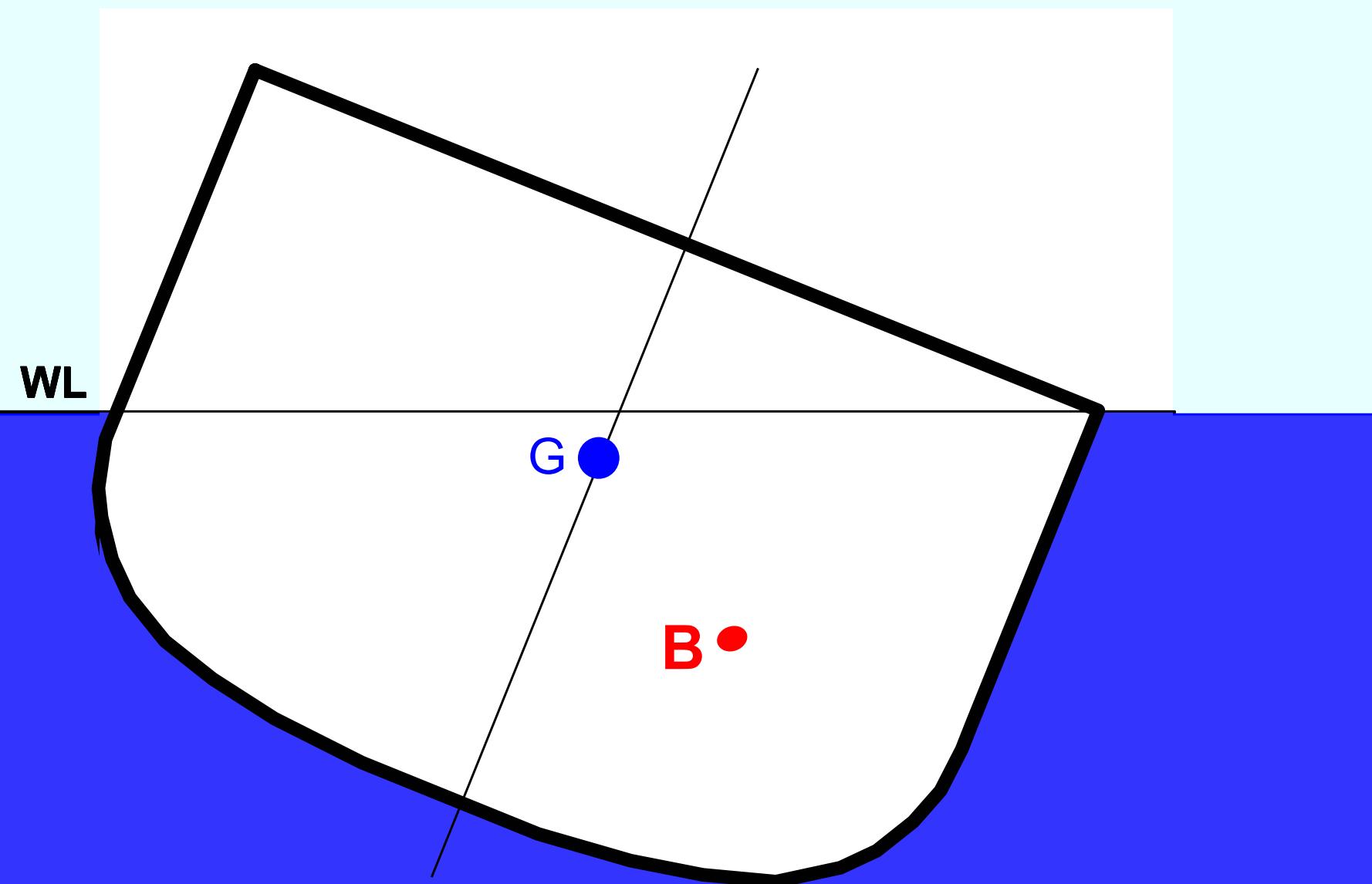
# LINEAR MEASUREMENTS IN STABILITY



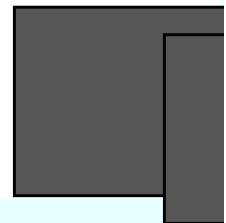
# THE CENTER OF BUOYANCY



# CENTER OF BUOYANCY



# CENTER OF BUOYANCY



Reserve Buoyancy

Freeboard

Draft

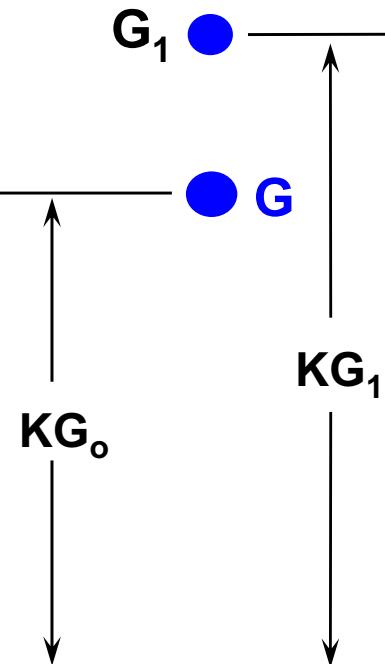
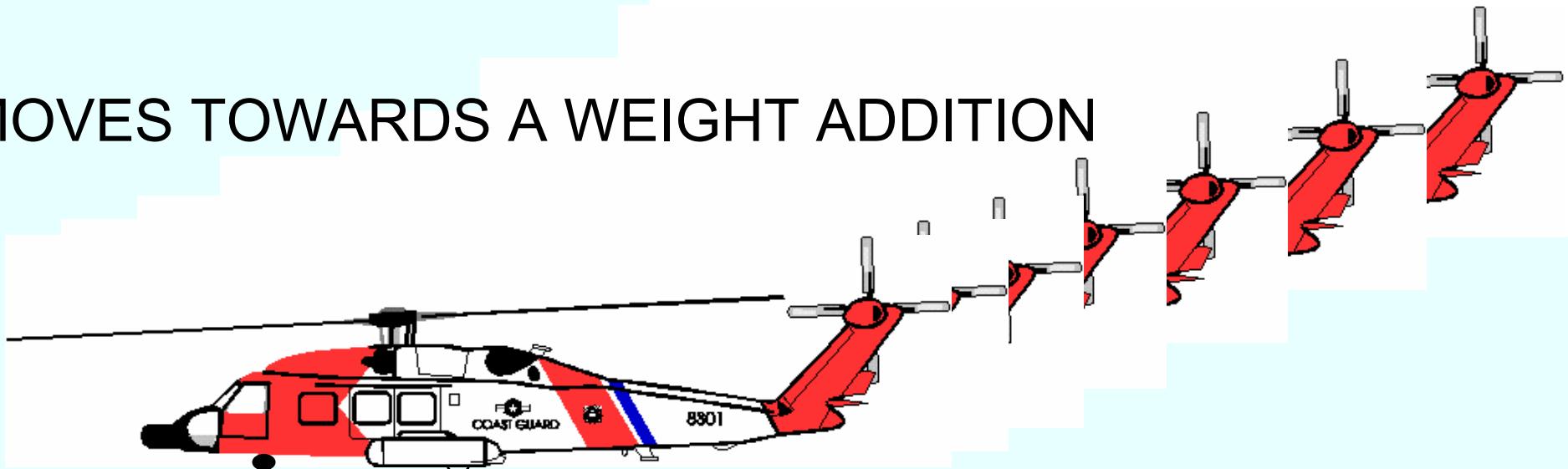
B

B

- The freeboard and reserve buoyancy will also change

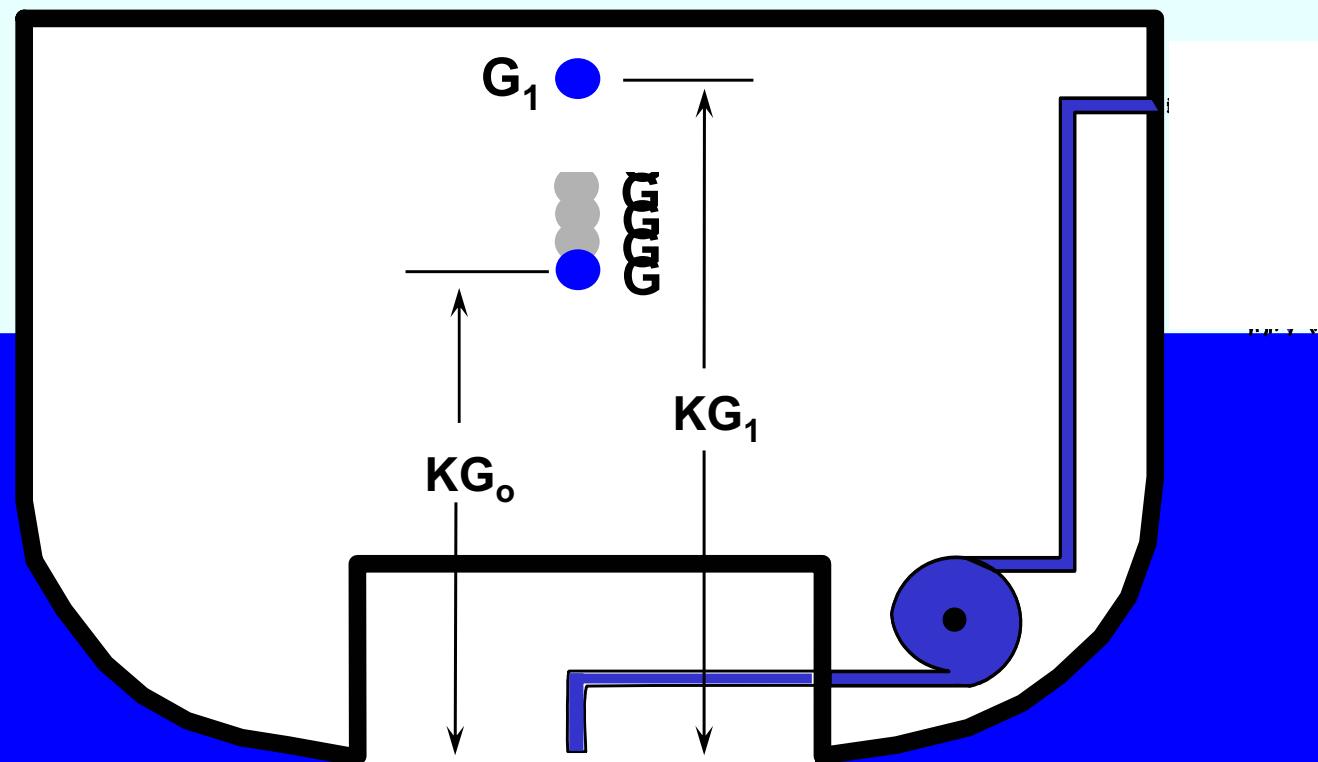
# MOVEMENTS IN THE CENTER OF GRAVITY

G MOVES TOWARDS A WEIGHT ADDITION

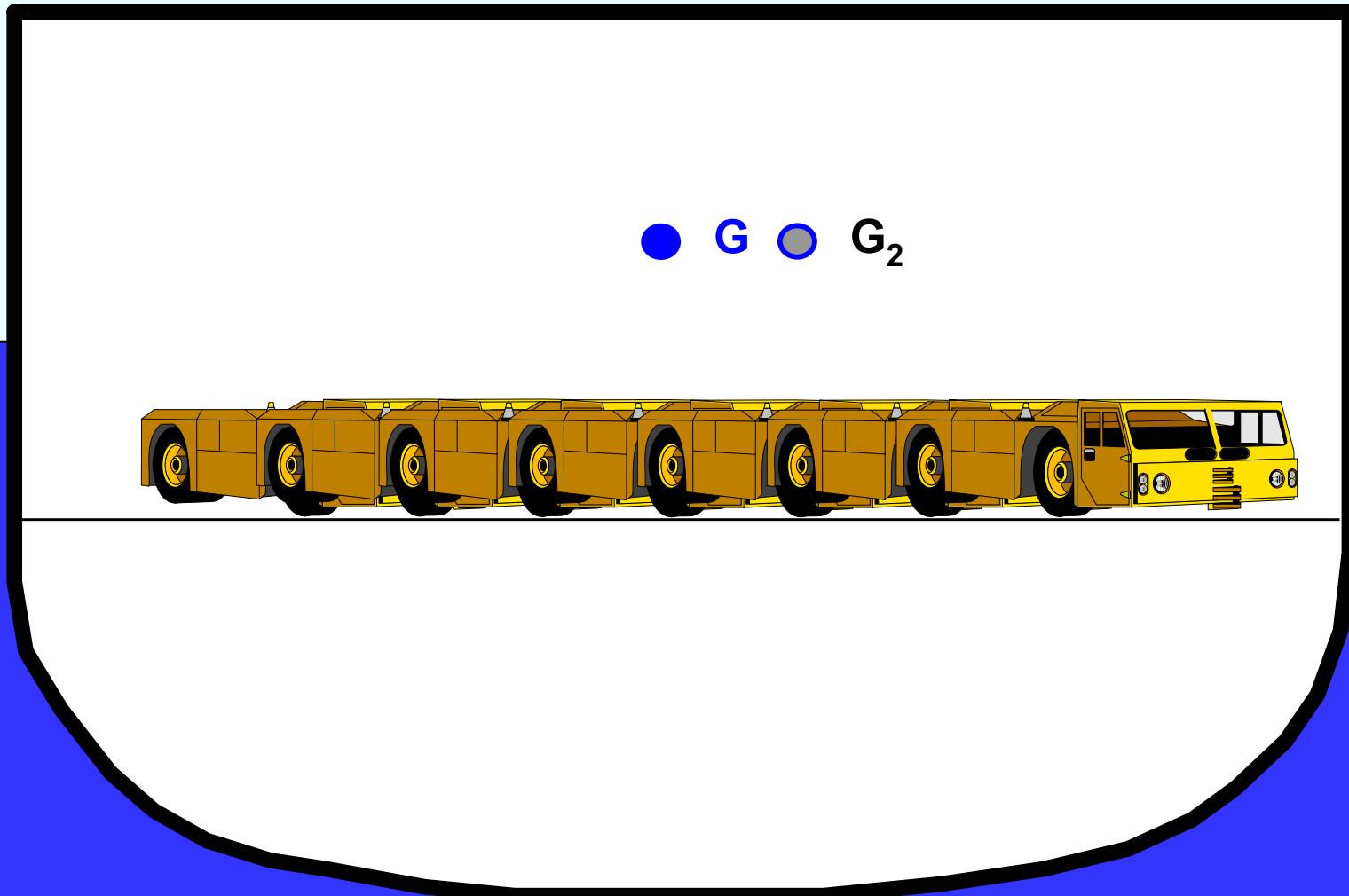


# MOVEMENTS IN THE CENTER OF GRAVITY

G MOVES AWAY FROM A WEIGHT REMOVAL

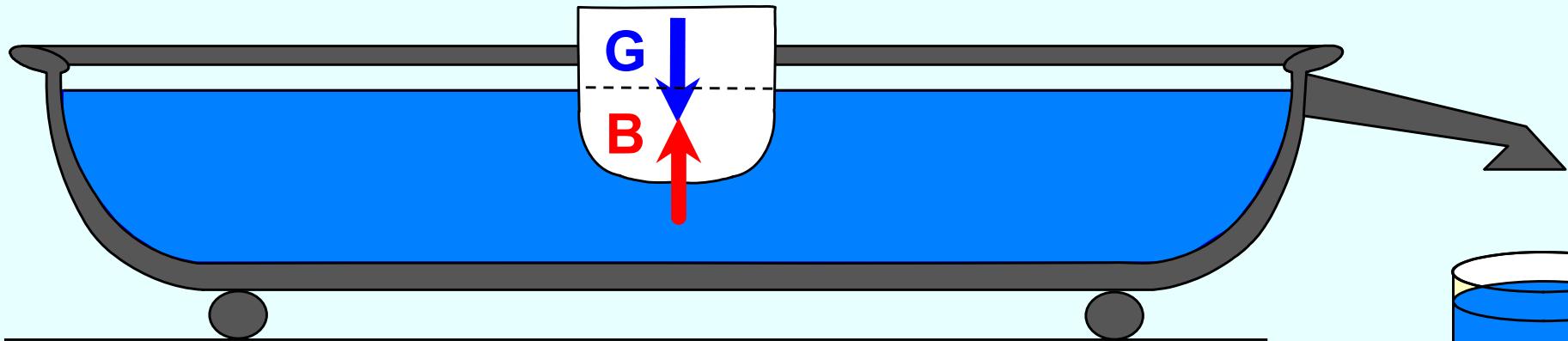


# MOVEMENTS IN THE CENTER OF GRAVITY

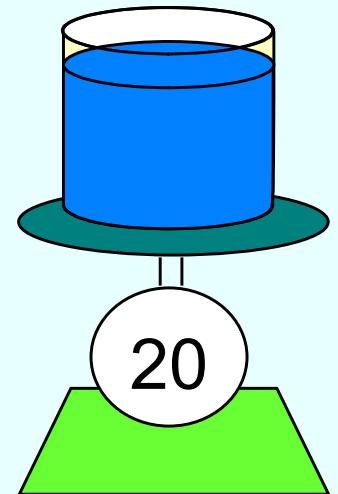


G MOVES IN THE DIRECTION OF A WEIGHT SHIFT

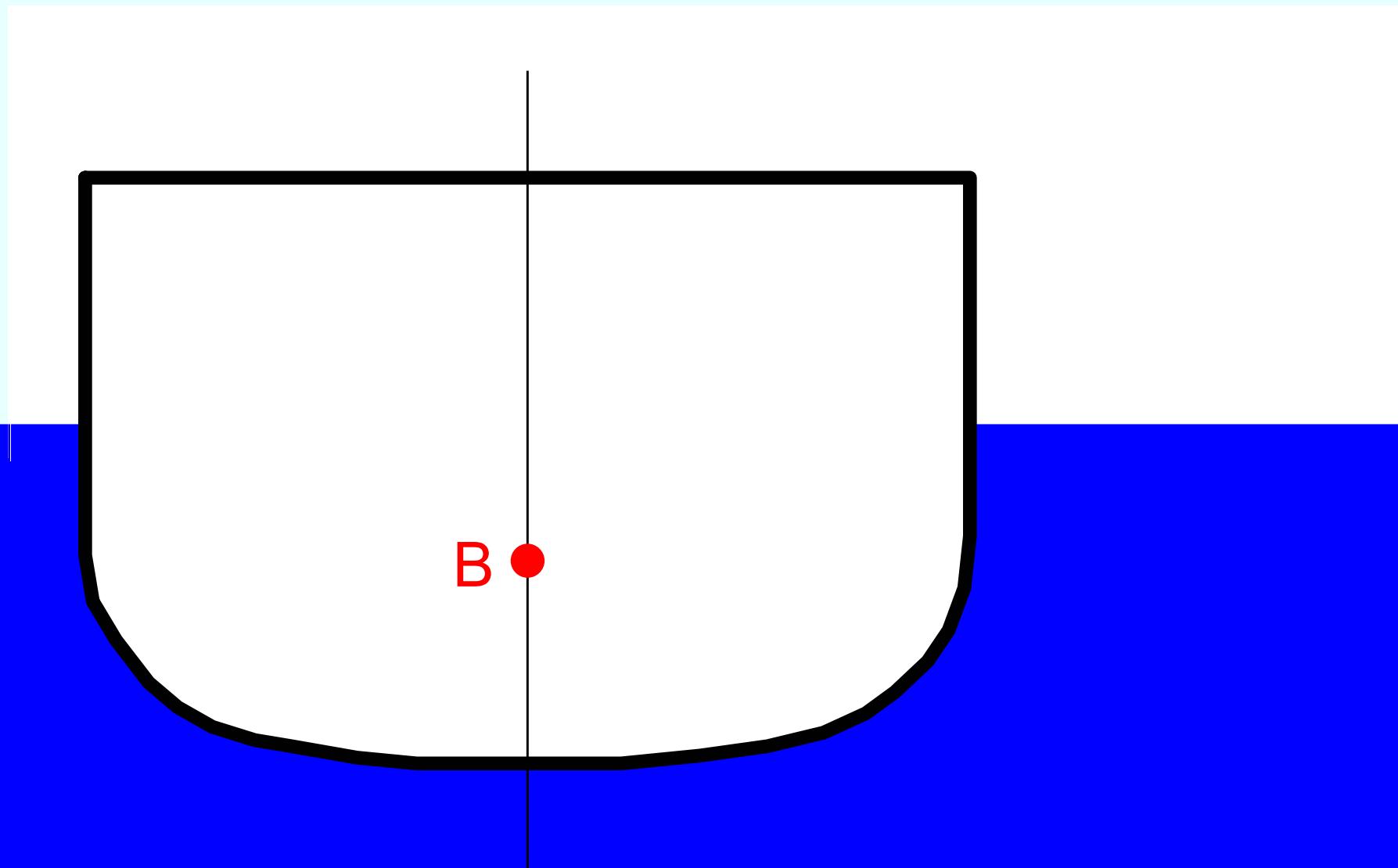
# DISPLACEMENT = SHIP'S WEIGHT



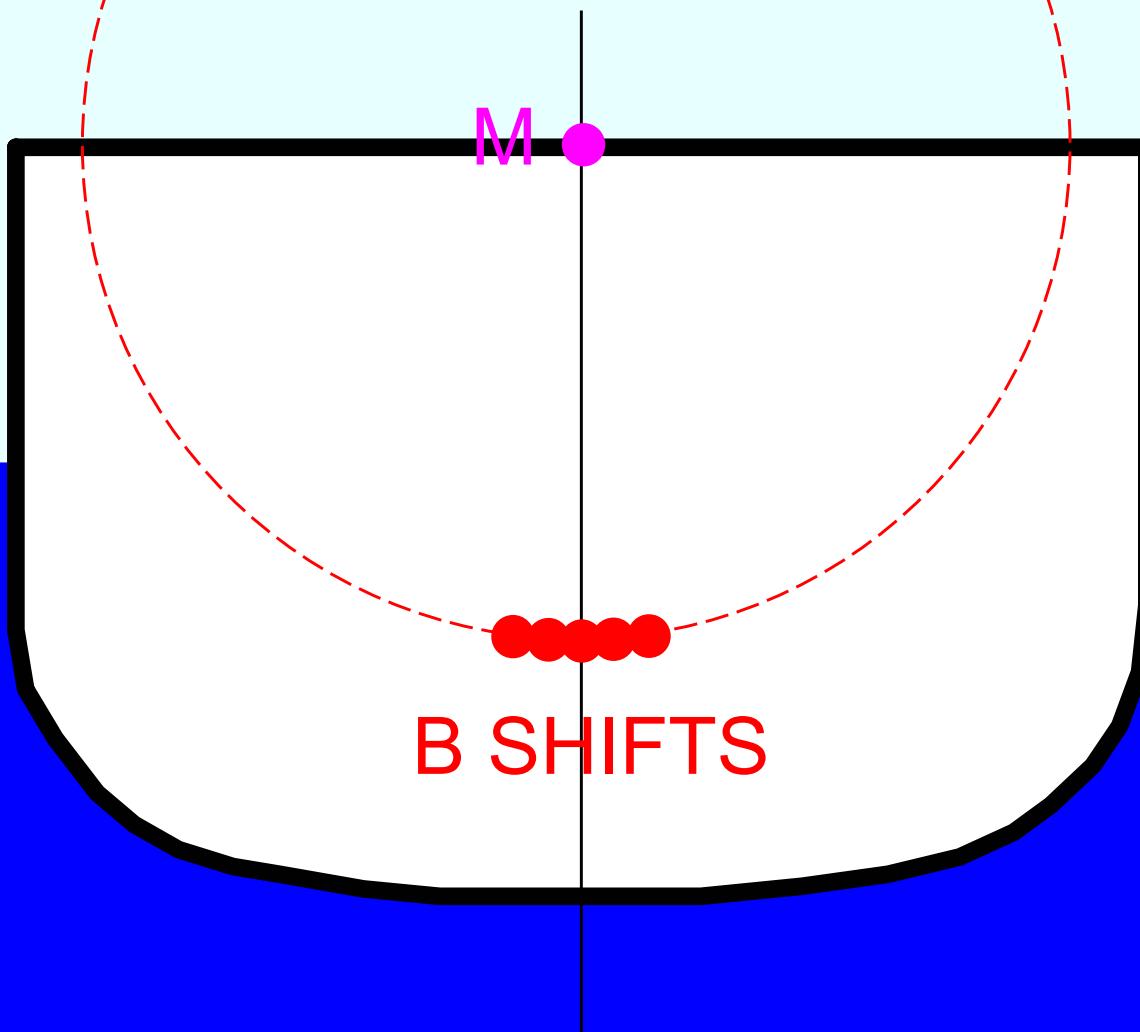
- if it floats, **B** always equals **G**



# METACENTER

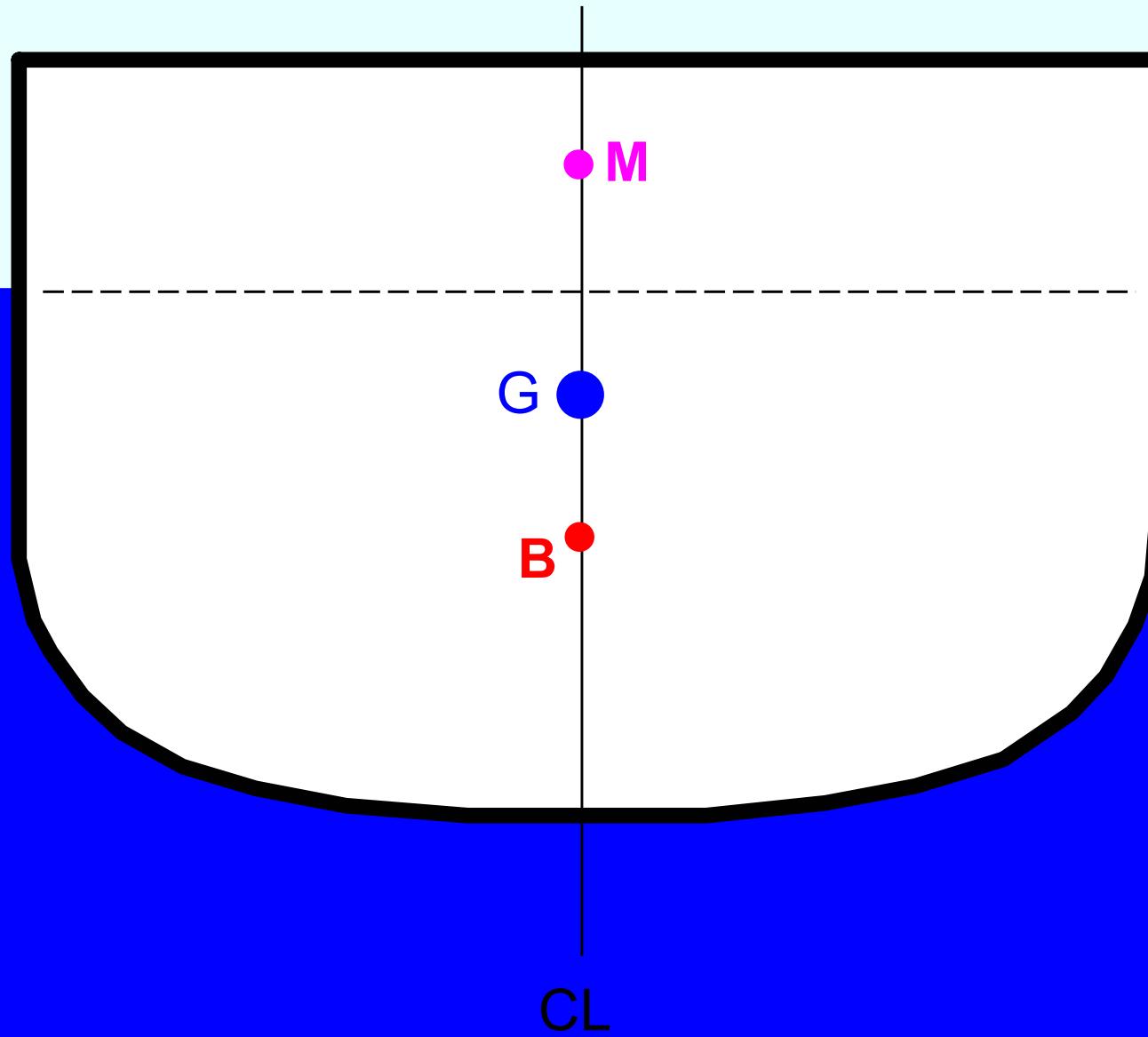


# METACENTER

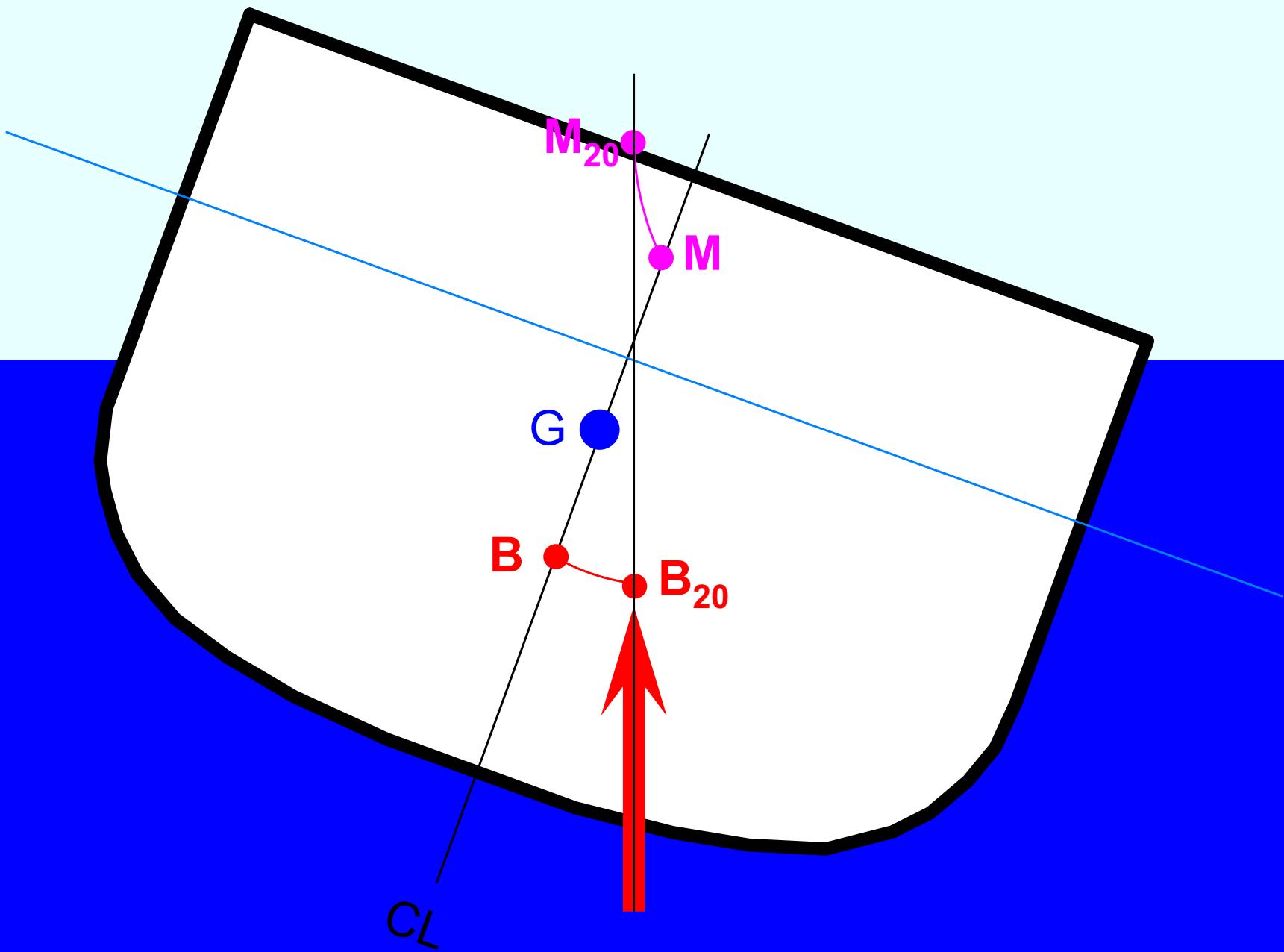


+GM

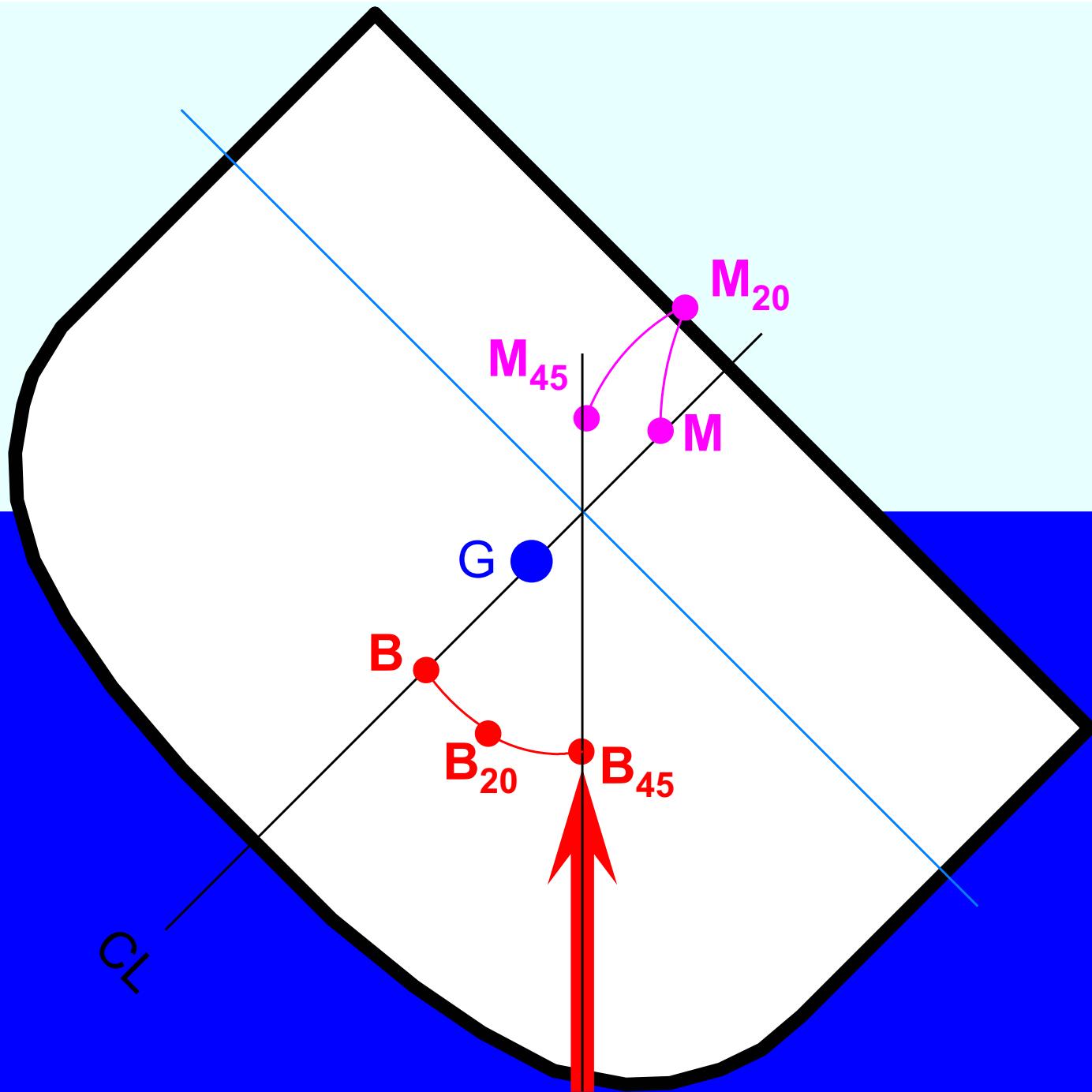
**0°-7/10°**



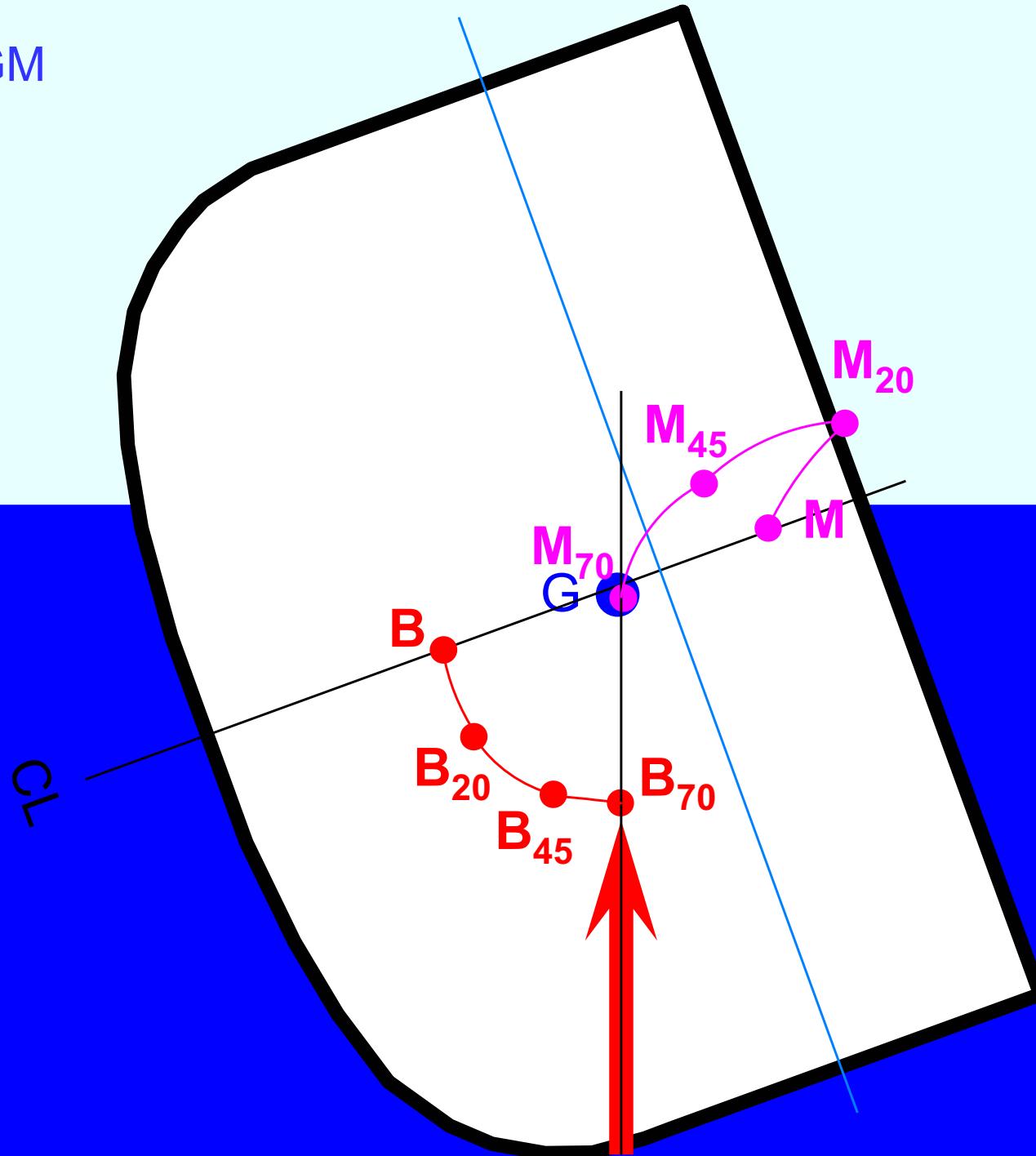
+GM



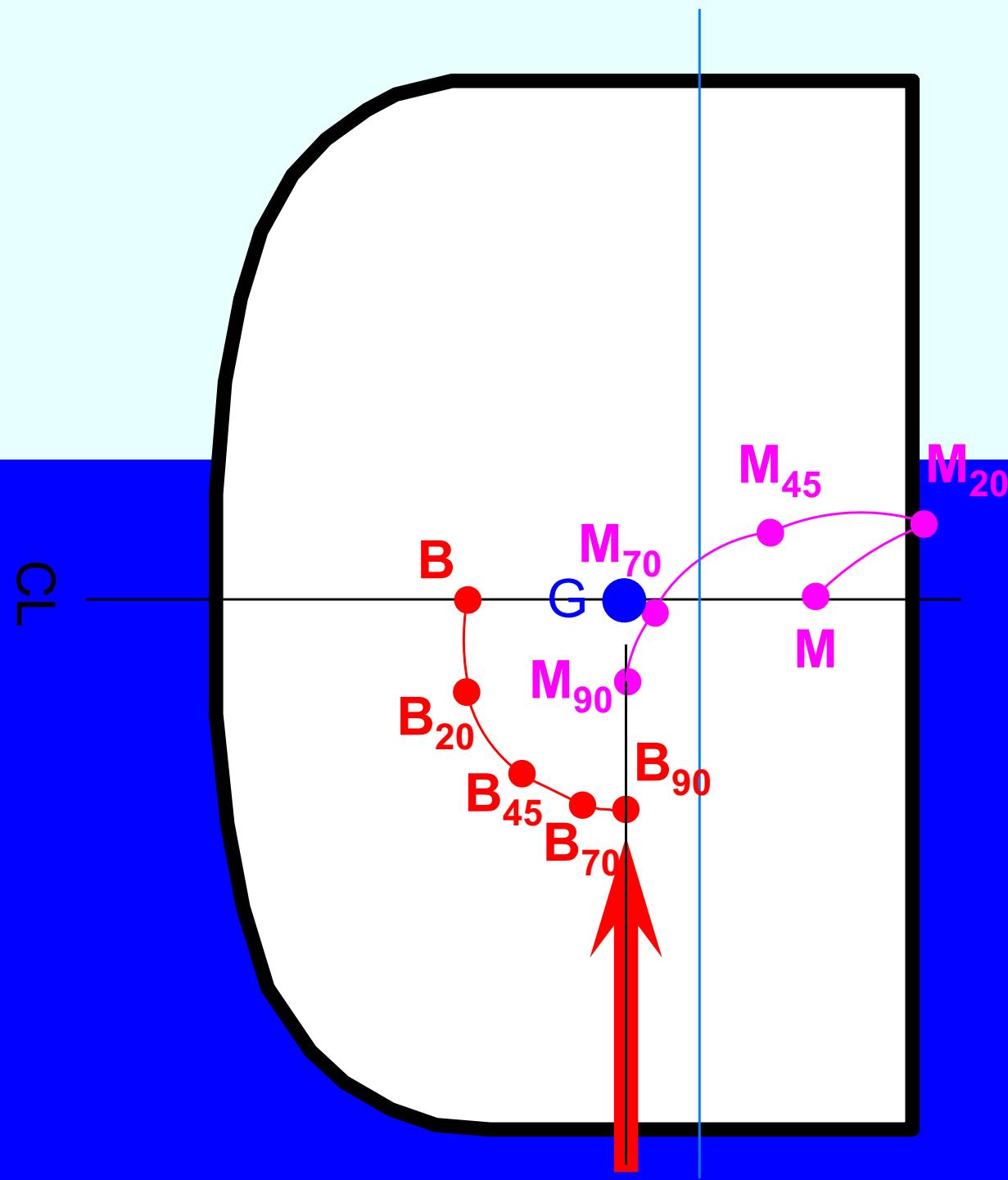
+GM



neutral GM



-GM

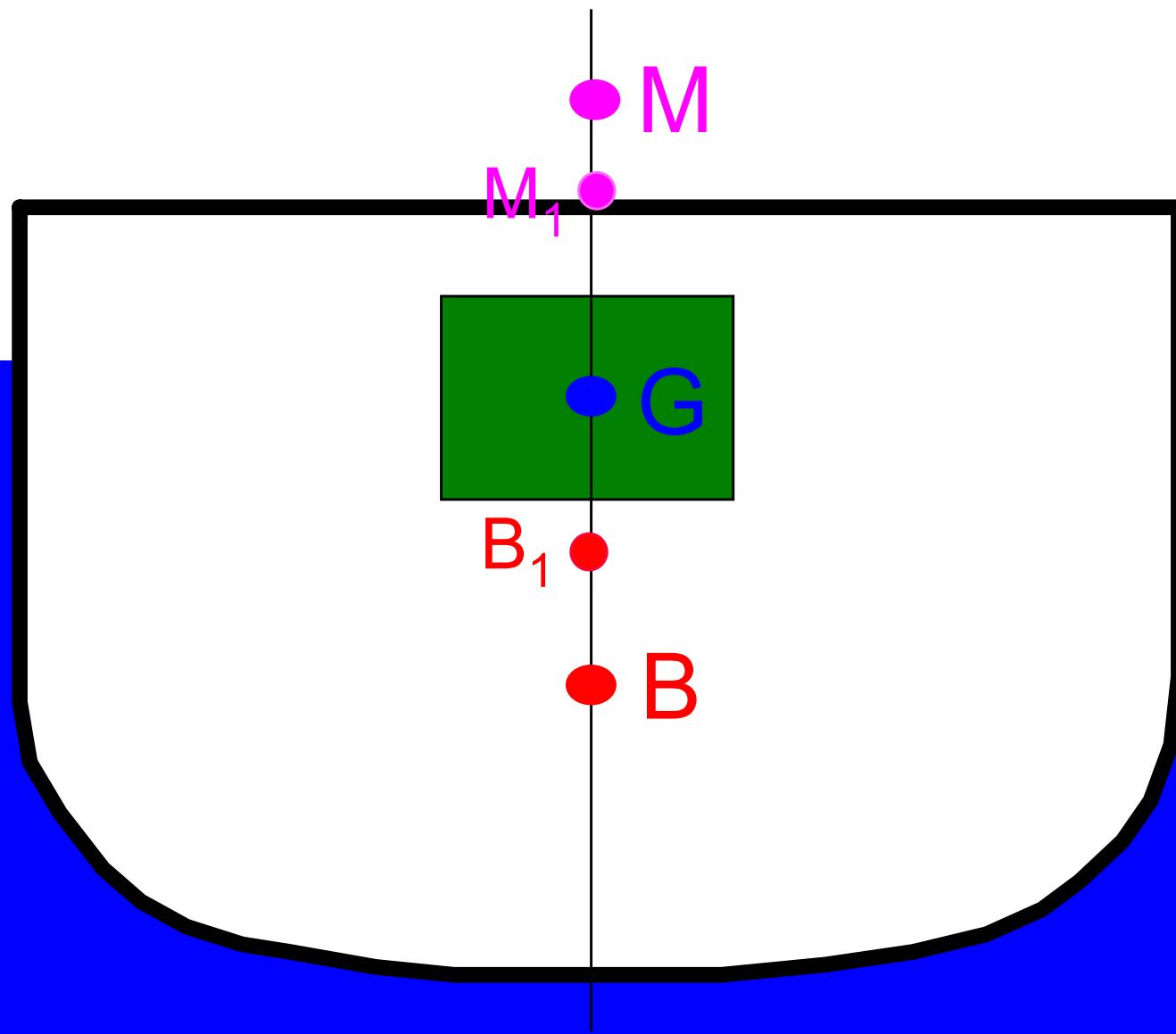


# **MOVEMENTS OF THE METACENTER**

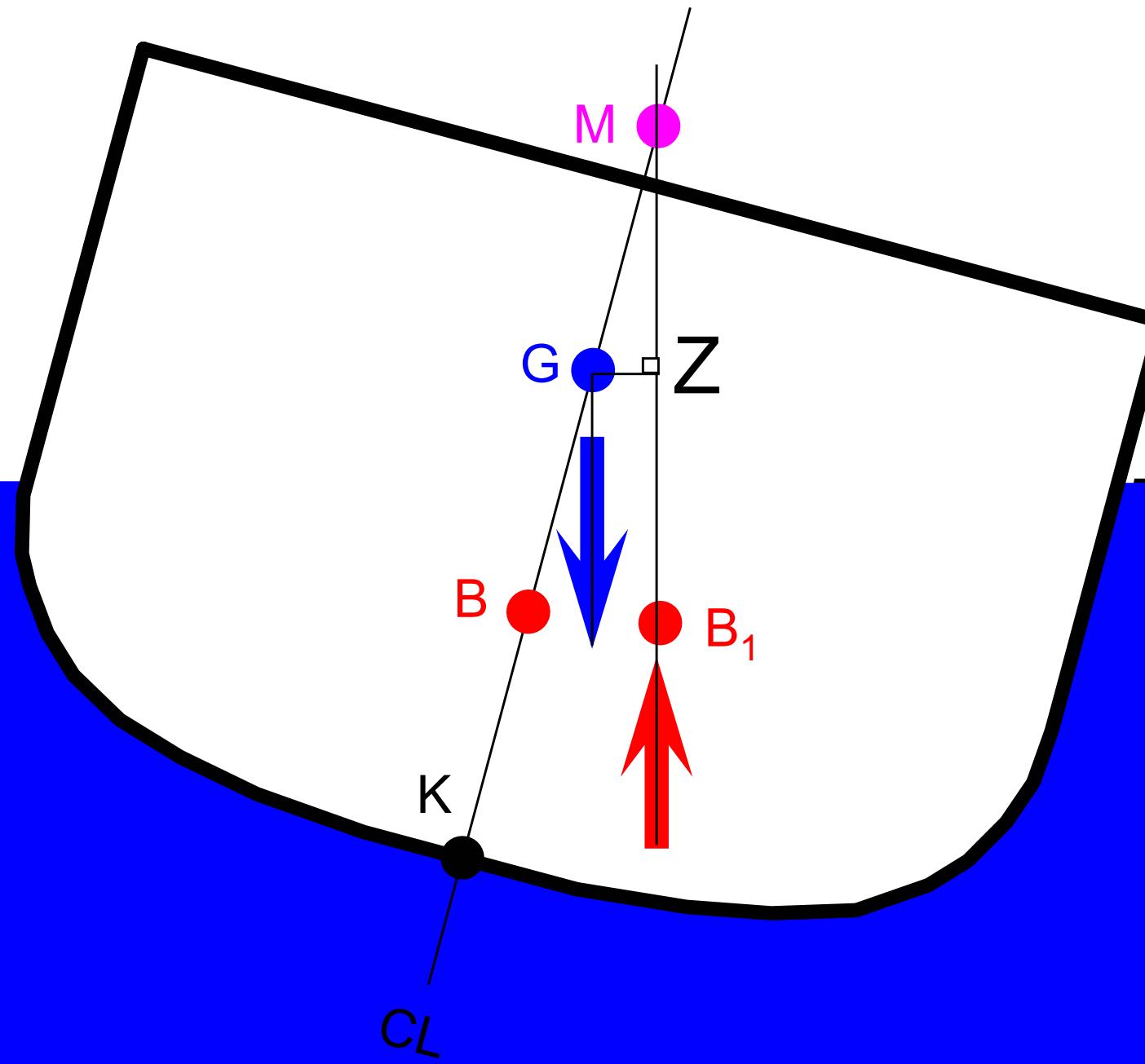
THE METACENTER WILL CHANGE POSITIONS IN THE VERTICAL PLANE WHEN THE SHIP'S DISPLACEMENT CHANGES

***THE METACENTER MOVES IAW THESE TWO RULES:***

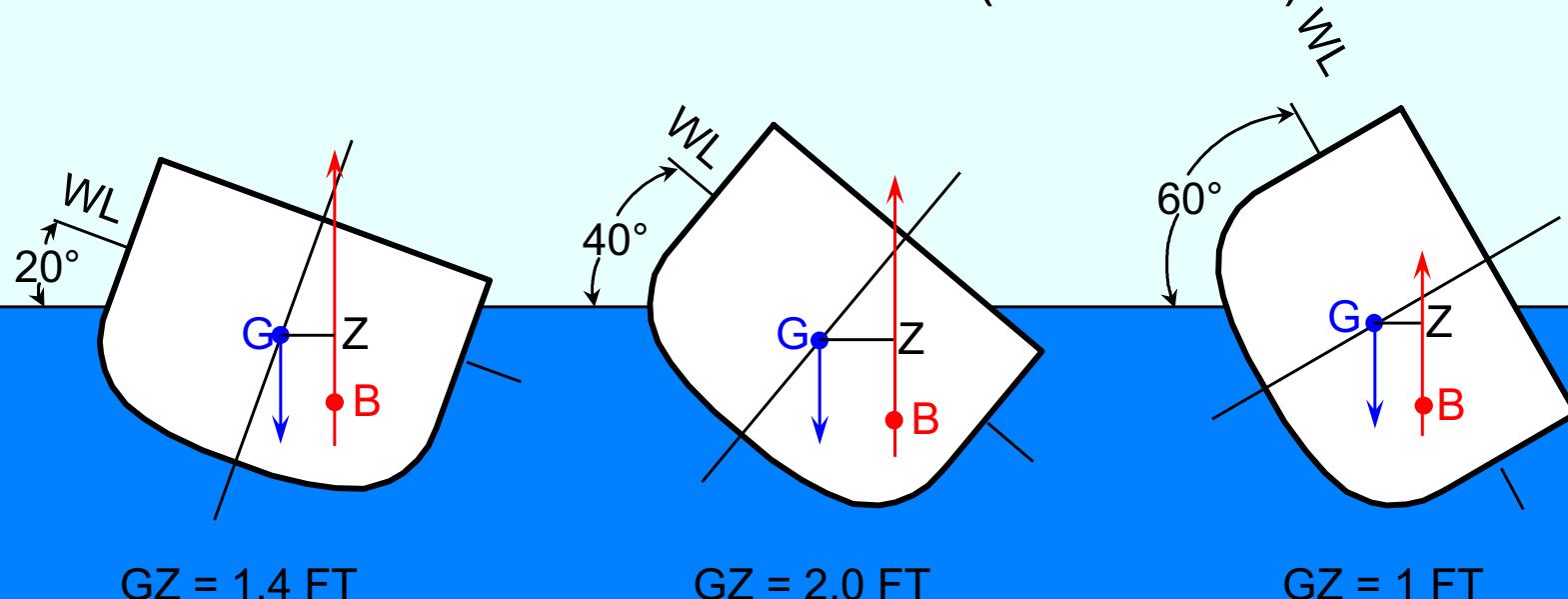
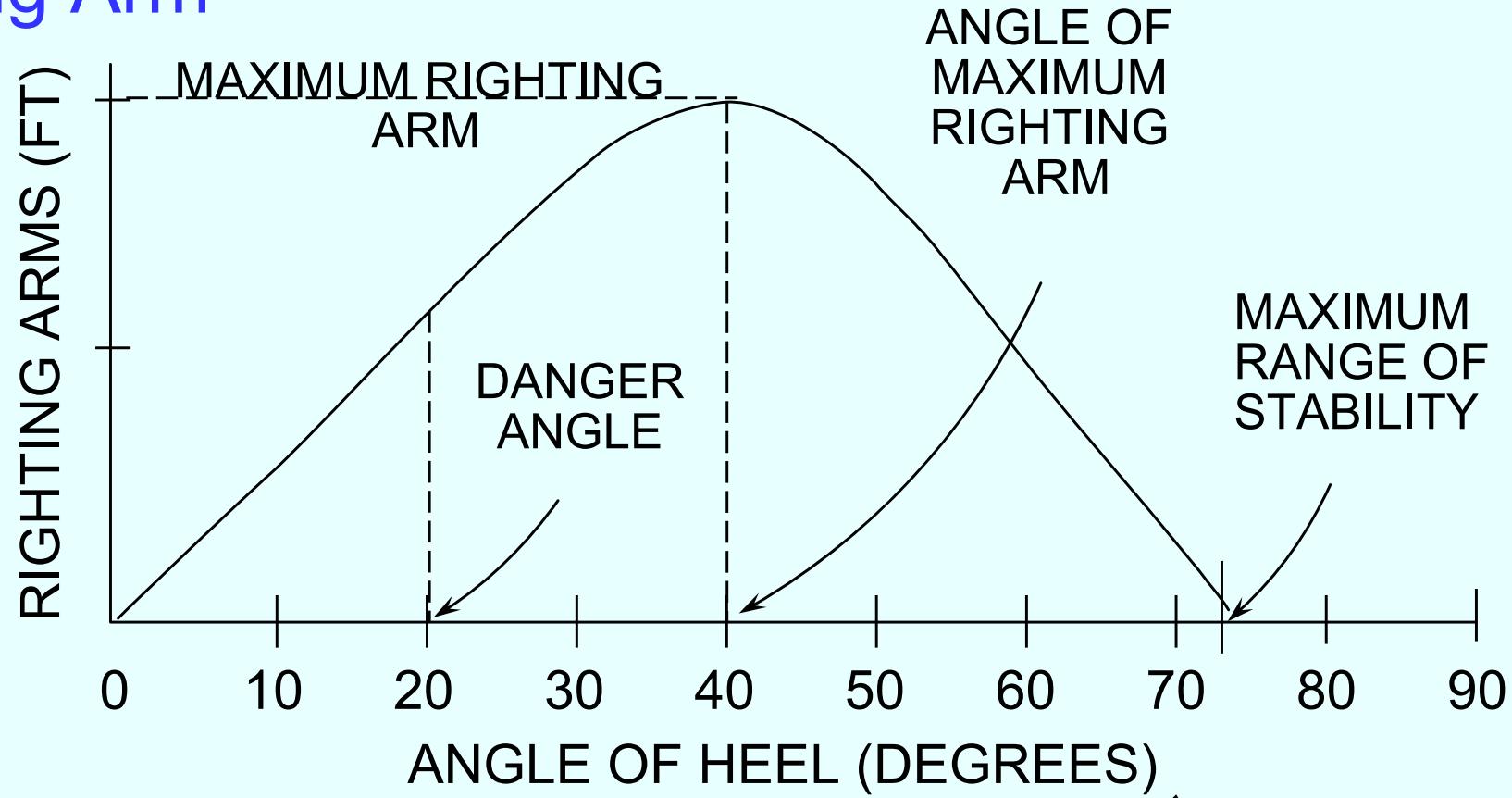
- 1. WHEN B MOVES UP M MOVES DOWN.**
- 2. WHEN B MOVES DOWN M MOVES UP.**



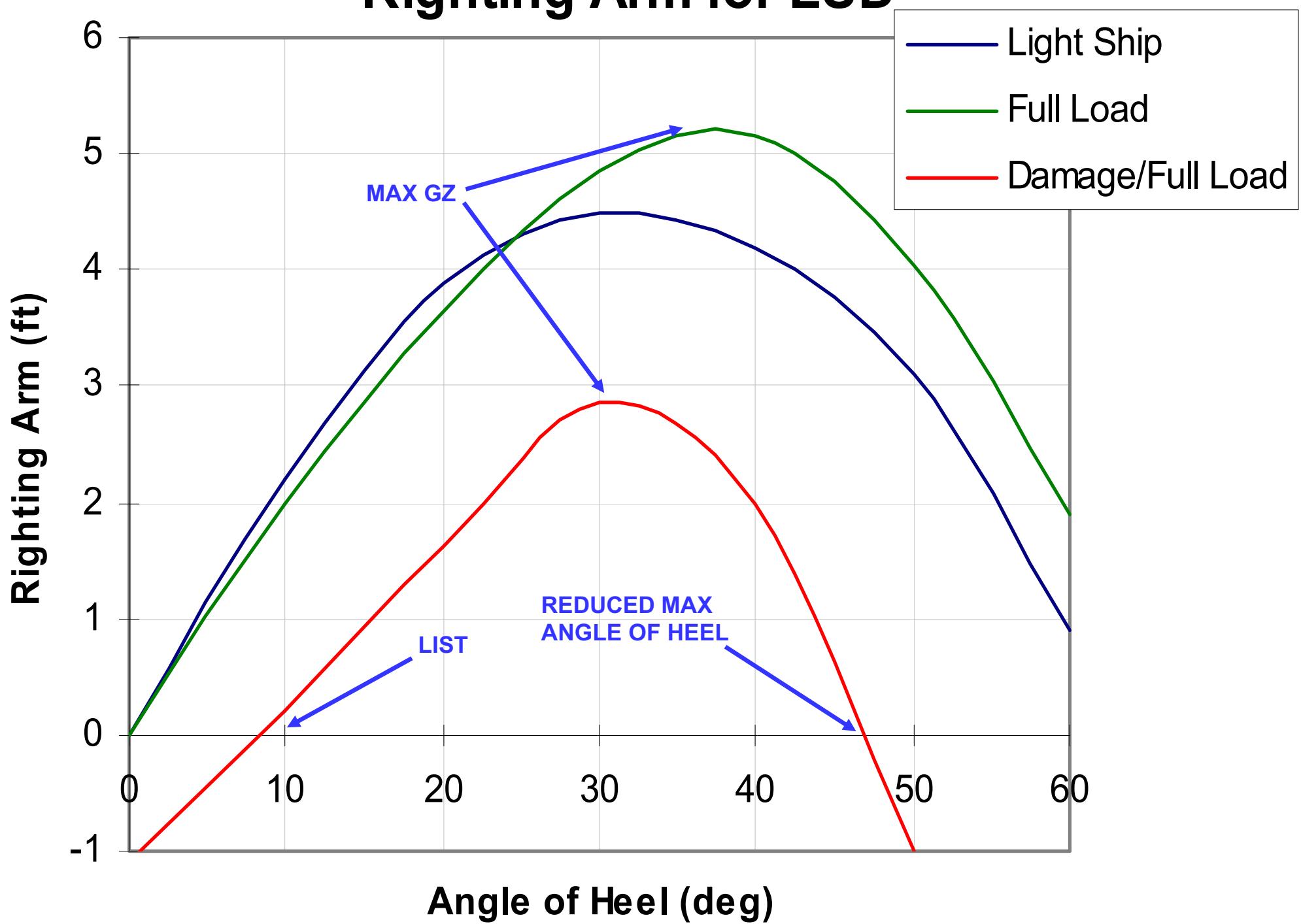
# Righting Arm



# Righting Arm



# Righting Arm for LSD



# THINGS TO CONSIDER

- Effects of:
  - Weight addition/subtraction and movement
  - Ballasting and loading/unloading operations
  - Wind, Icing
  - Damage stability
    - result in an adverse movement of G or B
    - sea-keeping characteristics will change
    - compensating for flooding (ballast/completely flood a compartment)
    - maneuvering for seas/wind

# References

- NSTM 079 v. I Buoyancy & Stability
- NWP 3-20.31 Ship Survivability
- Ship's Damage Control Book
- Principles of Naval Architecture v. I