

# Islander 36 clinic

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**HEAVY BOATS**

**LIGHT BOATS**

Righting Moment

# HEAVY BOATS

Longer waterline

More momentum

Greater righting moment

(increased waterplane & more weight)

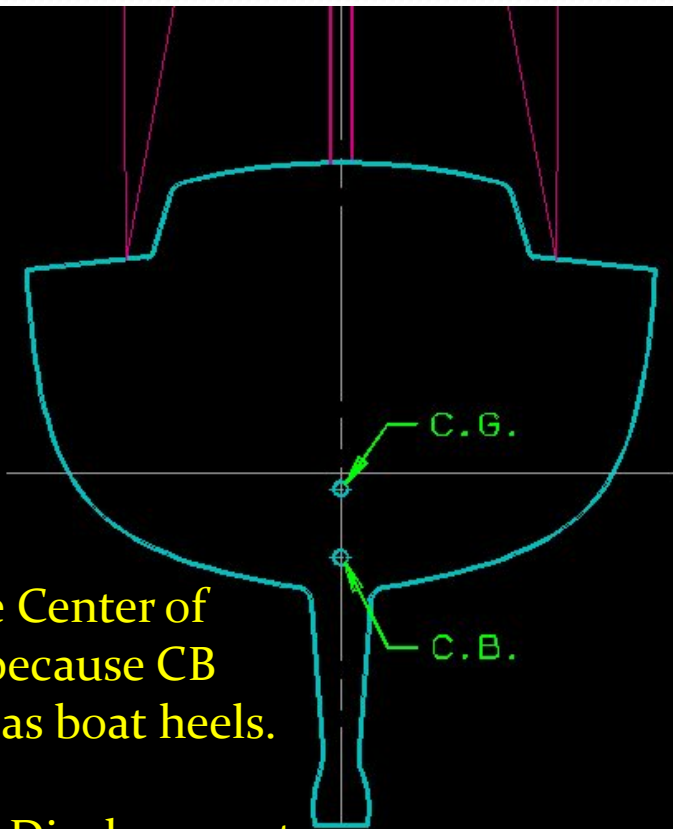
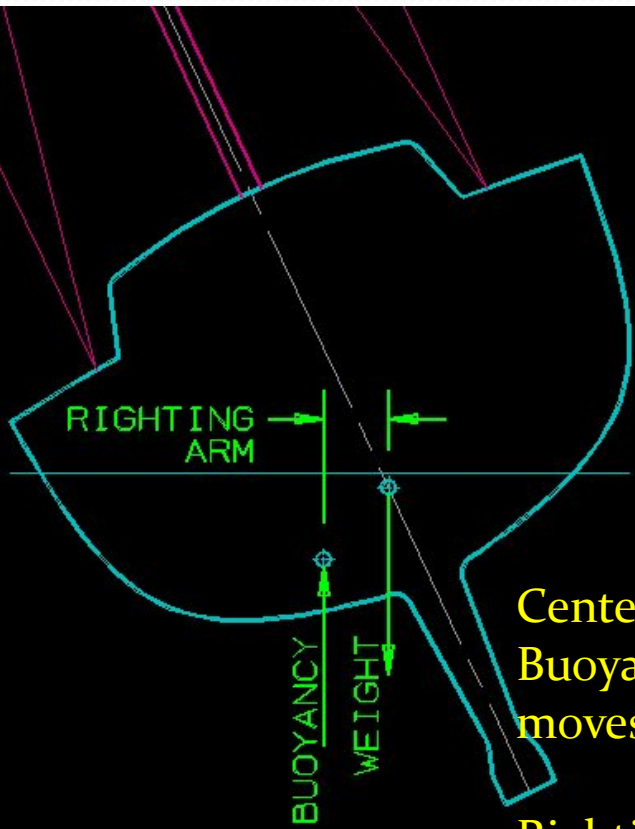
Generally faster upwind and power reaching  
moderate to heavy winds

# LIGHT BOATS

Less drag

Generally faster upwind in light air

And downwind always



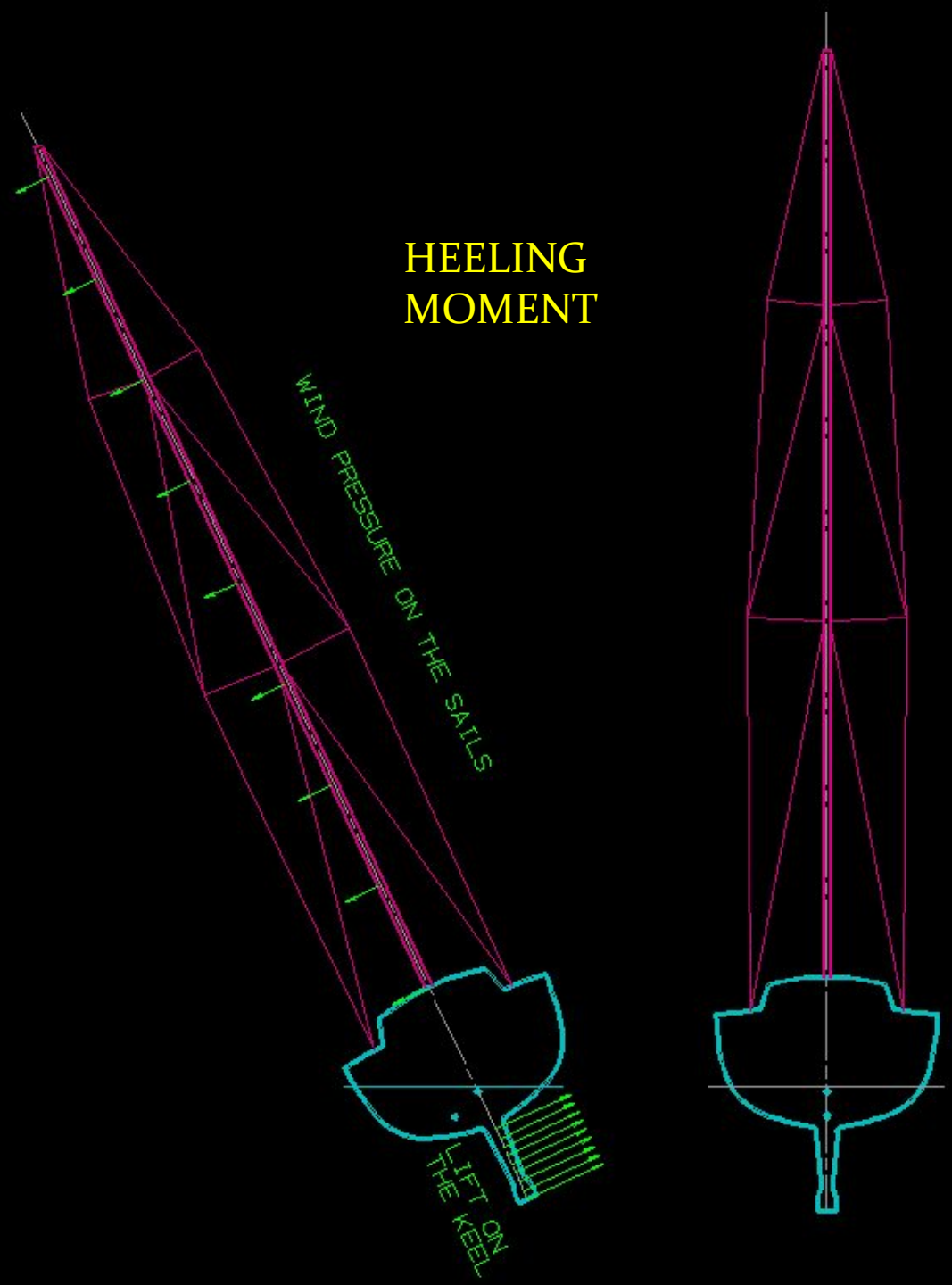
Center of Gravity is above Center of Buoyancy. Boat is stable because CB moves rapidly to leeward as boat heels.

Righting moment is  $RA \times Displacement$



RIGHTING MOMENT  
RESISTS  
HEELING MOMENT.

More RM from higher  
displacement or crew on the rail  
means more power in high winds,  
better sail carrying ability.





LEAD KEEL HAS LOWER C.G., MORE R.M.

# Weight Distribution



Almost everything has a natural rhythm,  
a resonant frequency.

(Notice how different areas of your deck, gear, or rigging vibrate as engine RPM changes?)

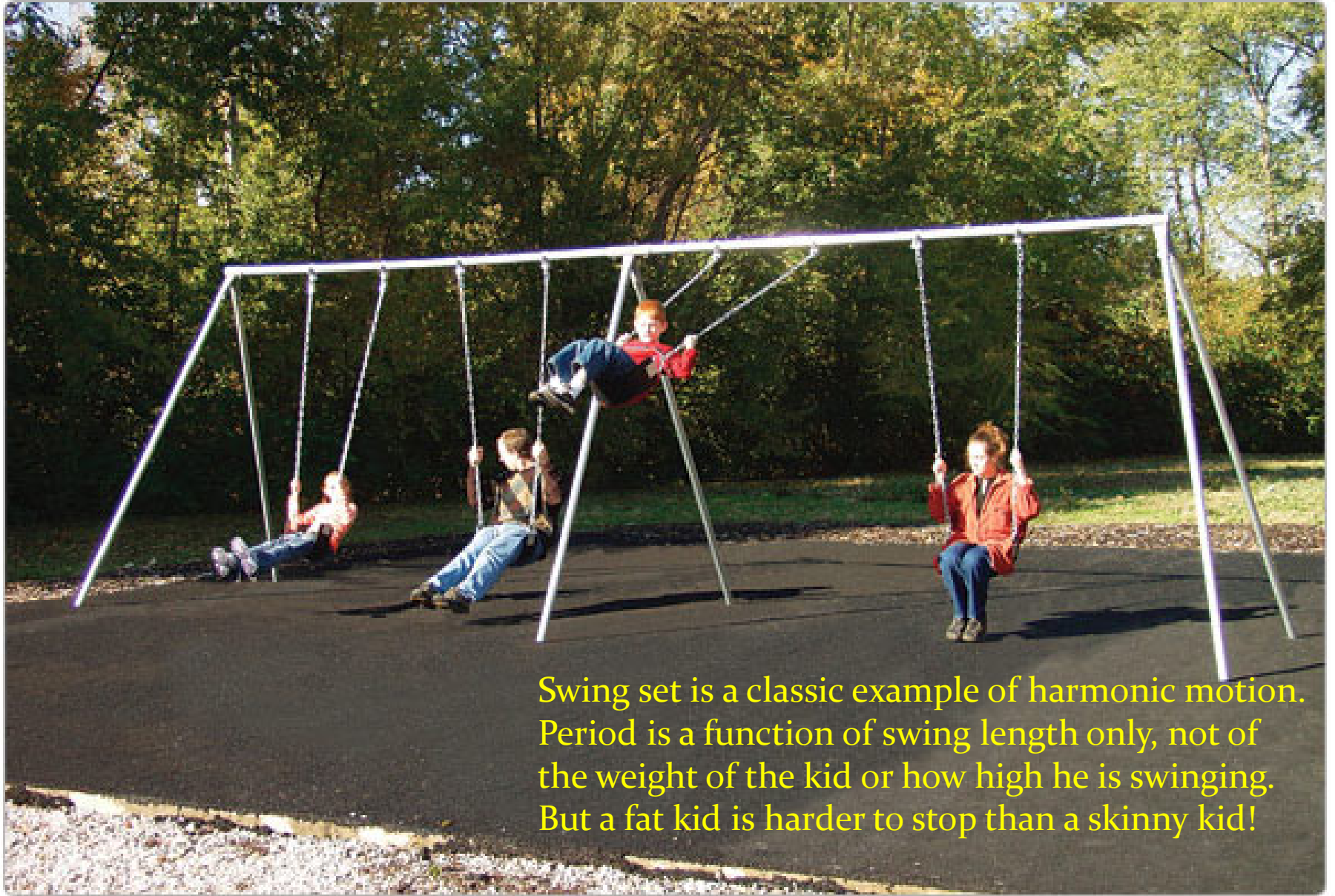
T = period in seconds

L = pendulum length

or radius of gyration of a boat

$$T = 2 * \pi * (L / g)^{.5}$$

(Note that L is the only variable.)

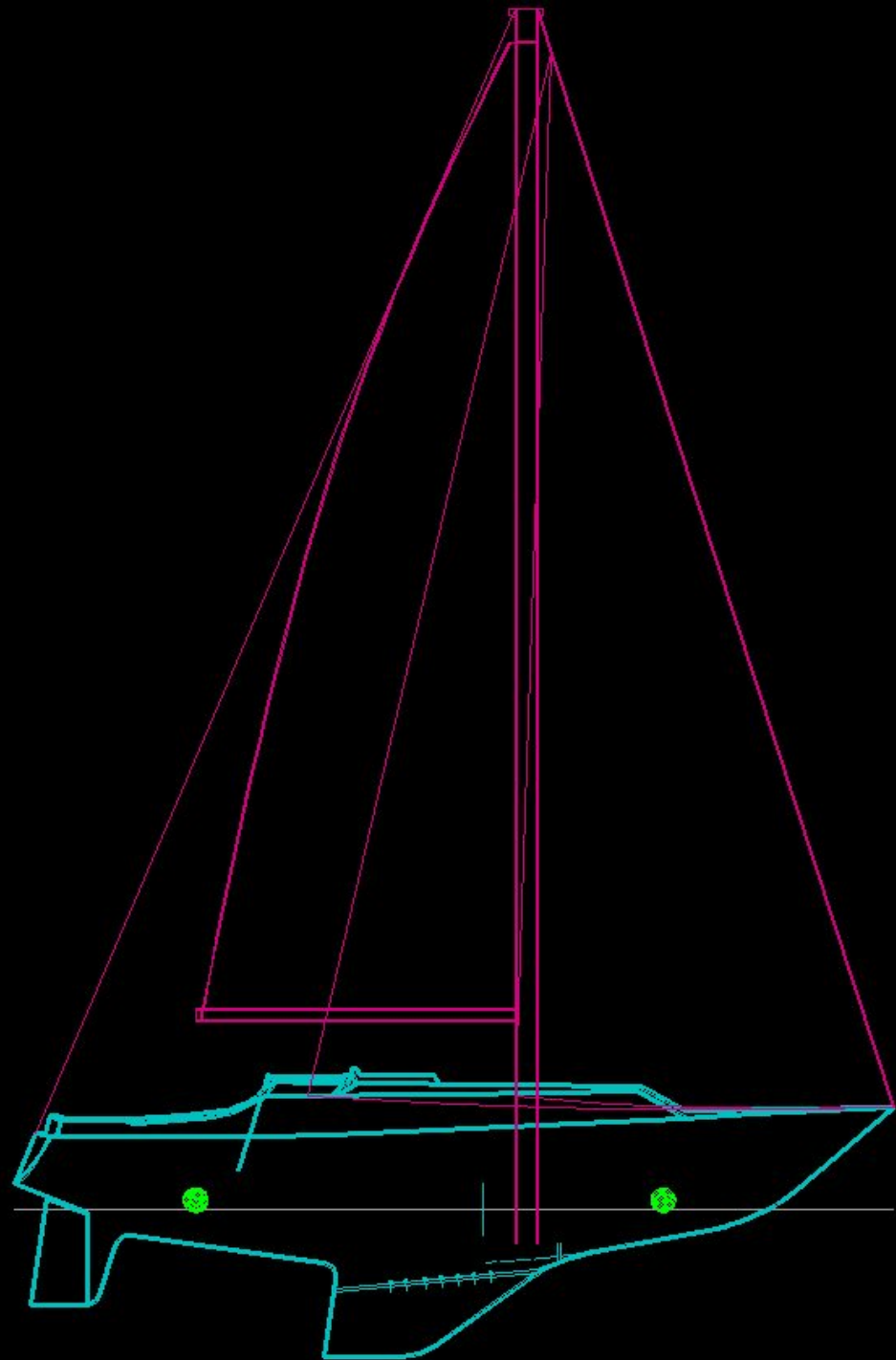


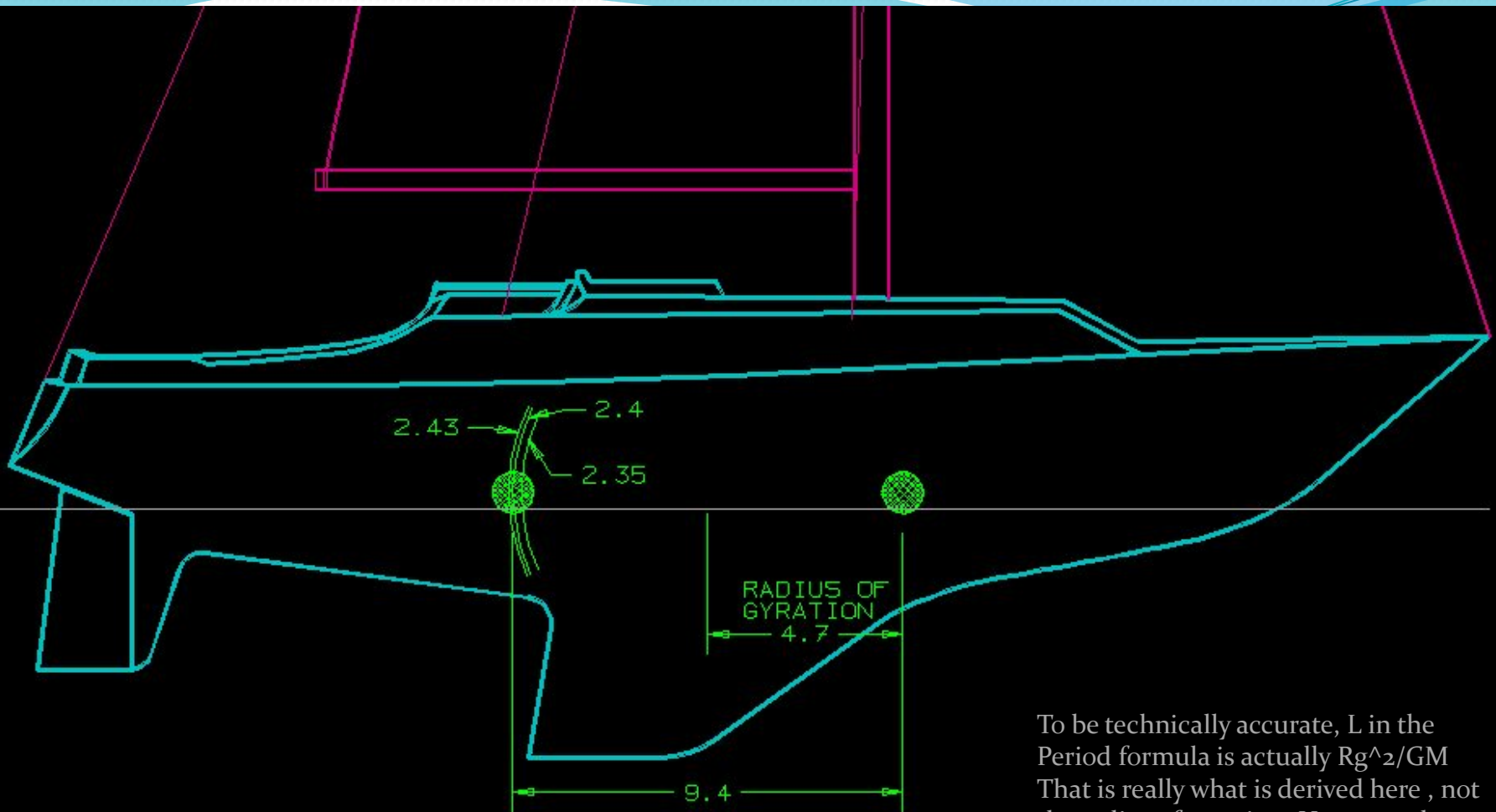
Swing set is a classic example of harmonic motion. Period is a function of swing length only, not of the weight of the kid or how high he is swinging. But a fat kid is harder to stop than a skinny kid!

IMAGINE ALL WEIGHT IN THE BOAT AVERAGED INTO TWO WEIGHTS SEPARATED BY A DISTANCE.

THE RADIUS OF GYRATION IS SIMILAR TO THE LENGTH OF A SWING OR PENDULUM.

THE RADIUS OF GYRATION IS HALF THE DISTANCE BETWEEN THE TWO IMAGINARY WEIGHTS

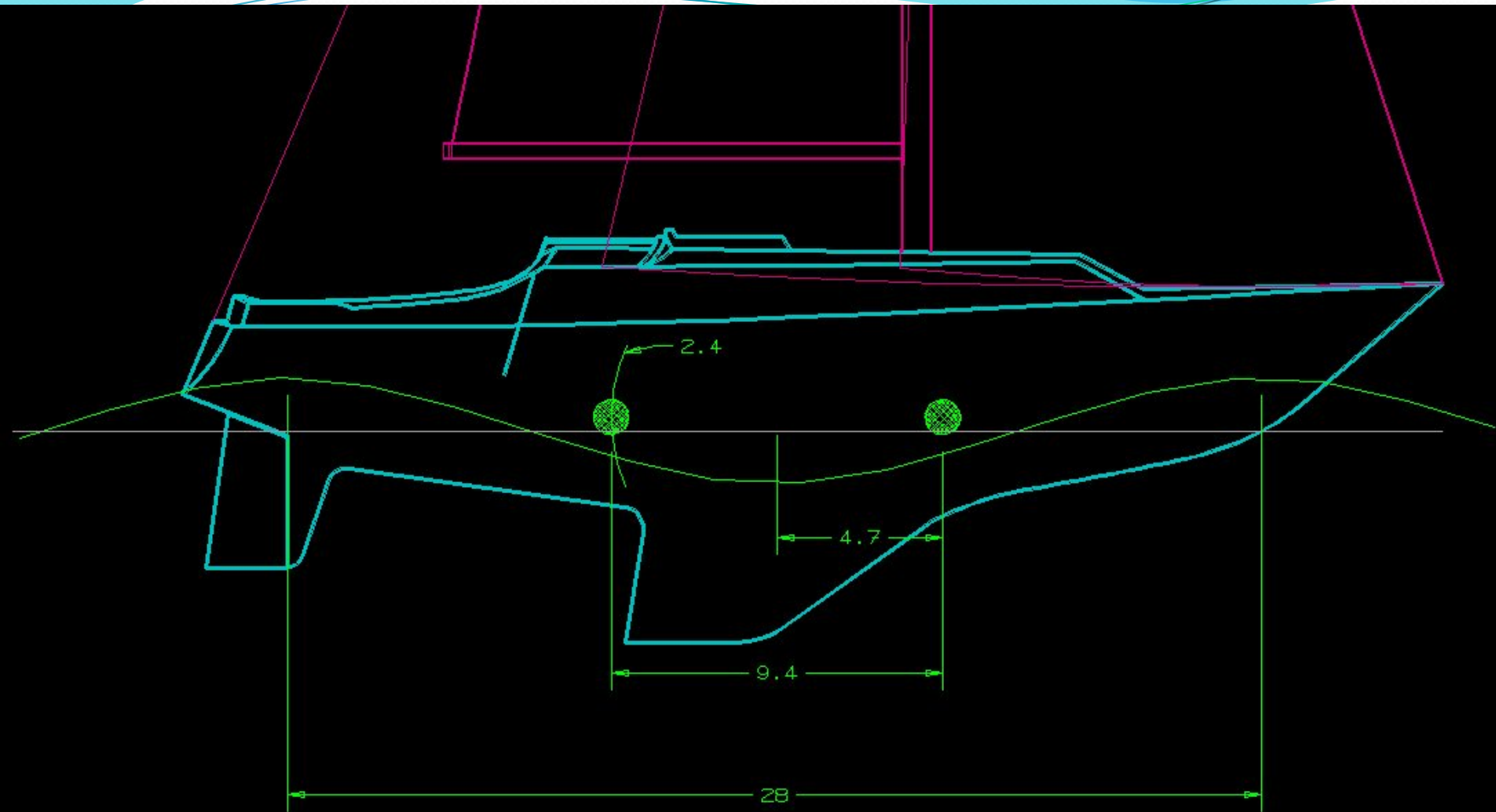




To be technically accurate,  $L$  in the Period formula is actually  $Rg^2/GM$ . That is really what is derived here, not the radius of gyration. However, the message is the same.

Pitch period of 3 Islander 36s measured at 2.35, 2.40, 2.43 seconds.  
 Arc shows relative Radius of Gyration derived for the 3 boats,  
 Radius of Gyration = 4.7 feet for 2.4 second period  
 Shorter period better in most waves – get the weight out of the ends!





Boats generally pitch most when wave length is close to boat length. Wave period matches boat's natural pitching period. Worst case probably when wave period is twice boat period, so bow is rising when stern is falling.

28' wave travels at 7.1 knots. Wave period is 2.4 sec

Radius of gyration of Islander 36 is about  $9.4'/2 = 4.7$  feet

Resonant frequency = 2.4 sec so boat will pitch dramatically at anchor when wave length matches waterline.

A boat going upwind may be slowed by big waves, and if slowed until wave period is close to the boat's natural pitching period: hobby horse city!

A lighter boat, or a boat with less weight in the ends will pitch less vigorously and will be faster.



Happy cruisers: crew weight is concentrated aft in the cockpit and is not on the rail (but maximizing speed is not a concern here).







Observations- Previous slide

*They look really happy! Having Fun!*

Crew could be hiking more aggressively.

Sails look terrible

Bottom looks good

Helm seems balanced

Headstay sag? or just not unfurled jib

Anchor on bow

Aft lower spring??

# Bottom's up

Just because you aren't looking at it doesn't mean your bottom is unimportant.

Keel and rudder foils just as important as sail shape, and are in use 100% of the time!







**SPEED AS A FUNCTION OF SAILING CONDITION:**

VTW	OPTIMUM BEAT			
	BTW	V	VMG	HEEL
6	46	4.152	2.859	4
8	45	5.092	3.572	8
10	44	5.777	4.127	15
12	42	6.032	4.468	19
14	41	6.175	4.687	21
16	40	6.272	4.829	23
20	39	6.388	4.971	27

BTW	OPTIMUM RUN	
	V	VMG
142	4.032	3.181
145	4.965	4.067
149	5.675	4.888
163	5.932	5.668
169	6.39	6.281
173	6.79	6.737
175	7.473	7.44

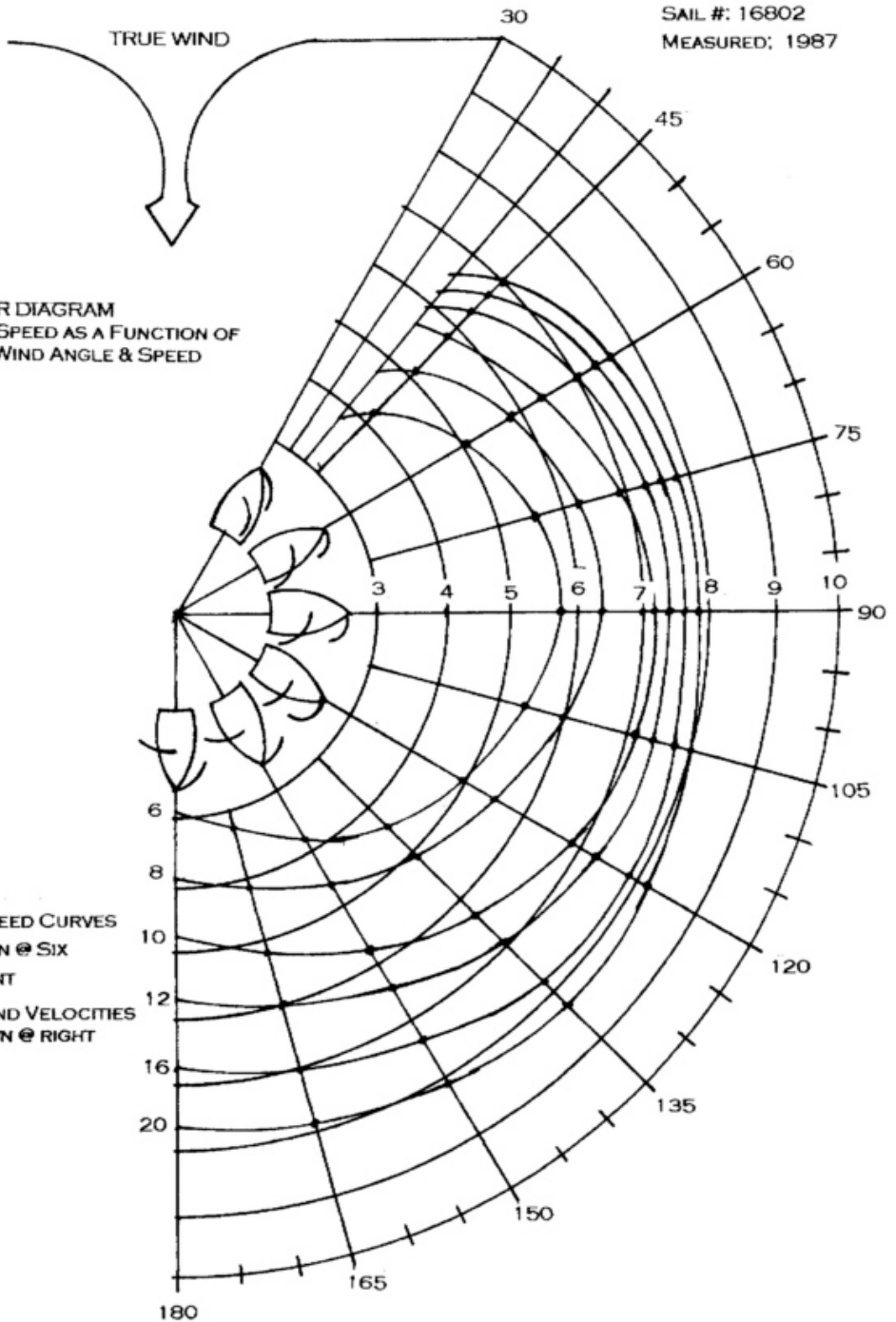
REACH BTW=45	
VTW	V
6	4.043
8	5.052
10	5.829
12	6.246
14	6.473
16	6.624
20	6.773

REACH BTW=90	
V	HEEL
5.646	5
6.558	10
7.01	16
7.31	22
7.515	27
7.653	30
7.875	20

REACH BTW=135	
V	HEEL
4.403	1
5.573	2
6.411	3
6.905	3
7.295	4
7.637	6
8.239	10

REACH BTW=180	
V	
2.915	
3.827	
4.694	
5.512	
6.215	
6.703	
7.417	

FROM I36 YACHT "LIGHTING"  
SAIL #: 16802  
MEASURED: 1987



POLAR DIAGRAM  
BOAT SPEED AS A FUNCTION OF  
TRUE WIND ANGLE & SPEED

BOAT SPEED CURVES  
ARE GIVEN @ SIX  
DIFFERENT  
TRUE WIND VELOCITIES  
AS SHOWN @ RIGHT

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