Statics, dynamics, and bungee jumping

Cormac Flynn

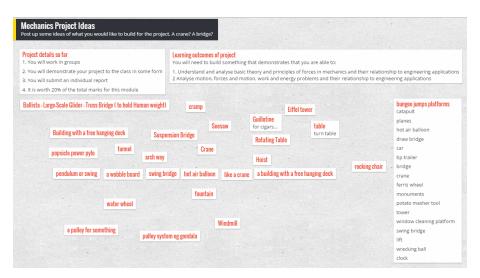
Wintec

February 11, 2016

Engineering Mechanics Project

- Worth 20% of total marks
- Associated learning outcomes
 - Understand and analyse basic theory and principles of forces in mechanics and their relationship to engineering applications
 - Analyse motion, forces and motion, work and energy problems and their relationship to engineering applications
- Traditional labs and lab report in the past
- Goal was to replace with a student-centred project

Students brainstormed project ideas

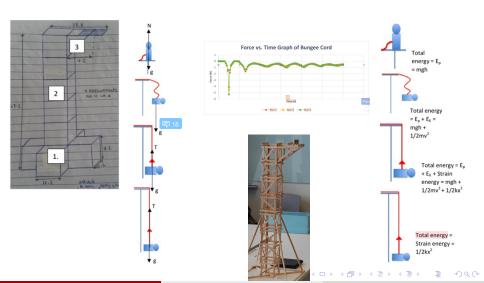


Project format

- Group size 3-4
- 1-2 hours per week in class
- Group presentation (25%) and individual report (75%)
- Some tower specifications
 - Minimum platform height 500 mm
 - 2 Minimum cantilever platform length 150 mm
- Performance criteria for competition

$$Tower\ Performance = \frac{Bungee\ jumper\ mass\ \times\ Platform\ height}{Tower\ mass}$$

Activities to achieve outcomes



Project outcomes

- Student feedback
 - Generally positive
 - A couple of minor issues with group dynamics
 - Introduce earlier so more time to design
 - Everyone hated the PVA glue
- Good engagement much better than for traditional labs
- Unintended learning outcome: adoration of tutor



