Project: Bridge

Description: This tutorial will guide you in quickly building a cool curvy bridge! You'll learn some more advanced tools to speed up your modeling, such as patterns, curves, and offset planes. If you need help, message one of the instructors!



- 1. Build the support square
 - a. Sketch -> Rectangle -> 2-Point Rectangle: Place one corner at the origin and the other 50x50 away (50x50)
 - b. Sketch -> Rectangle -> 2-Point Rectangle: Place one corner 10x10 away from the origin, enclosing the previous rectangle (70x70)
 - c. Right click each of the automatic constraints, and select 'Delete'



- d. Sketch -> Sketch Dimension: Define one edge of the smaller rectangle as 50; define one edge of the larger rectangle as 70
- e. Sketch Palette -> Constraints -> Perpendicular: Add four perpendicular constraints. This will allow us to fully define our support square

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			Perpendicular	<
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			Tangent	6
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1			Symmetry	C]

- f. Create -> Extrude: Extrude the border in the Z direction by 10
- g. Sketch -> Line: Draw two lines in an 'X' shape on the original rectangle sketch
- h. Create -> Web: Curve: Select the two lines from the previous step to turn them into supports
 - i. Note: If 'Depth' field does not appear, change 'Depth Options' to 'To Next', then change it back to 'Depth', and it should appear (F360 is buggy)



- 2. Build two support columns
 - a. Create -> Pattern -> Rectangular pattern: Repeat your support square to get a column



- b. Modify -> Combine: Combine the three bodies into one
- c. Right click your body -> Move/Copy: Rotate support column to stand up (y, 90), remember to select the bottom-most edge when selecting your pivot edge



d. Create -> Pattern -> Rectangular Pattern: Copy your column, so that you have two of them. For 'Direction', select the axis perpendicular to your column's face.



- 3. Build the bridge platform
 - a. Construct -> Offset plane: Create an offset plane from the side of your support column at a distance of 100



- b. Sketch -> Spline: Draw the bridge's profile-shape on the construction plane
 - i. Place endpoints of your spline on the ground level
 - ii. Be careful to have a smooth spline, otherwise you'll get errors ("Body would intersect itself") later!
- c. Construct -> Plane Along Path: Prepare a construction plane for you to sketch the profile of the bridge platform on
 - i. Add a construction plane perpendicular to your spline. You can do this by clicking the starting point of your spline



- d. Sketch -> 2-Point Rectangle: Draw a reasonable shape on the construction plane that is tangent to your spline. We will 'sweep' this shape across the entire spline!
- e. Create -> Sweep: Sweep your shape across your spline to create the platform
 - i. For 'Path', select your spline

- ii. For 'Profile', select your reasonable shape
- iii. For 'Operation', select 'Join'



- 4. Add a cool railing to your bridge!
 - a. Sketch -> Spline: Sketch a spline on the construction plane you just made. Be sure that the ends of your spline meet! (Mine is vaguely supposed to look like ocean waves)



- b. Create -> Extrude: Extrude your closed-spline shape into a 3D railing (10)
- 5. Add the second side of your bridge, using the mirror tool!
 - a. Create -> Mirror: Mirror your bridge, so that you have two sides!
 - i. For 'Pattern Type', choose 'Body'
 - ii. For 'Objects', select your bridge
 - iii. For 'Mirror plane', select the side of bridge without the railing



- 6. Create the ground plane
 - a. Sketch -> Rectangle -> 2-Point Rectangle: Draw a rectangle all around your bridge
 - b. Create -> Extrude: Extrude that rectangle downwards
 - i. For 'Distance', enter -10
 - ii. For 'Operation', choose 'Join'
- 7. Finished! This tutorial has hopefully taught you the following skills:
 - a. Modelling efficiently using patterns and mirrors
 - b. Utilizing offset planes to place sketches in effective locations
 - c. Using sweeps to quickly create large curved platforms
 - d. Modelling irregular shapes using splines
- 8. Extra credit! (Not really)
 - a. Try modeling a roller coaster!
 - b. Use the Pattern tool to create square support columns
 - c. Use the sweep tool with different shapes and splines