

Simplification of the bungee cord equation

$$v^2 = -\frac{gk}{W}s^2 + 2g\left(1 + \frac{lk}{W}\right)s - \frac{gk}{W}l^2$$

when the jumper first stops,  $v^2=0$  we calculate the maximum length ( $s_{max}$ ) as,

$$-\frac{gk}{W}s_{max}^2 + 2g\left(1 + \frac{lk}{W}\right)s_{max} - \frac{gk}{W}l^2 = 0$$

$$s_{max}^2 - 2\left(l + \frac{W}{k}\right)s_{max} + l^2 = 0$$

$$s_{max} = \sqrt{\left(\frac{W}{k}\right)^2 + 2\frac{Wl}{k} + \frac{W}{k}} + l$$

since the minimum distance to the bottom is  $h_{min} = H - s_{max}$

$$h_{min} = H - \sqrt{\left(\frac{W}{k}\right)^2 + 2\frac{Wl}{k} + \frac{W}{k}} + l = (H - l) - \frac{W}{k}\left(1 + \sqrt{1 + 2\frac{kl}{W}}\right)$$

For simplification, if  $l=0$  and if we have number of bungee cord strands =  $\sigma$ , we obtain,

$$h_{min} = H - \frac{2W}{\sigma k} = H - \frac{2Mg}{\sigma k}$$

which is the equation used in Saltelli's exercise.

