

32. The phrase “loosely bolted” means that there is no torque exerted by the bolt at that point (where  $A$  connects with  $B$ ). The force exerted on  $A$  at the hinge has  $x$  and  $y$  components  $F_x$  and  $F_y$ . The force exerted on  $A$  at the bolt has components  $G_x$  and  $G_y$  and those exerted on  $B$  are simply  $-G_x$  and  $-G_y$  by Newton’s third law. The force exerted on  $B$  at its hinge has components  $H_x$  and  $H_y$ . If a horizontal force is positive, it points rightward, and if a vertical force is positive it points upward.

- (a) We consider the combined  $A \cup B$  system, which has a combined weight of  $Mg$  where  $M = 122$  kg and the line of action of that downward force of gravity is  $x = 1.20$  m from the wall. The vertical distance between the hinges is  $y = 1.80$  m. We compute torques about the bottom hinge and find

$$F_x = -\frac{Mgx}{y} = -797 \text{ N} .$$

If we examine the forces on  $A$  alone and compute torques about the bolt, we instead find

$$F_y = \frac{m_A g x}{\ell} = 265 \text{ N}$$

where  $m_A = 54.0$  kg and  $\ell = 2.40$  m (the length of beam  $A$ ).

- (b) Equilibrium of horizontal and vertical forces on beam  $A$  readily yields  $G_x = -F_x = 797$  N and  $G_y = m_A g - F_y = 265$  N.
- (c) Considering again the combined  $A \cup B$  system, equilibrium of horizontal and vertical forces readily yields  $H_x = -F_x = 797$  N and  $H_y = Mg - F_y = 931$  N.
- (d) As mentioned above, Newton’s third law (and the results from part (b)) immediately provide  $-G_x = -797$  N and  $-G_y = -265$  N for the force components acting on  $B$  at the bolt.