

20. (a) The sign is attached in two places: at  $x_1 = 1.00$  m (measured rightward from the hinge) and at  $x_2 = 3.00$  m. We assume the downward force due to the sign's weight is equal at these two attachment points: each being *half* the sign's weight of  $mg$ . The angle where the cable comes into contact (also at  $x_2$ ) is  $\theta = \tan^{-1}(4/3)$  and the force exerted there is the tension  $T$ . Computing torques about the hinge, we find

$$T = \frac{\frac{1}{2}mgx_1 + \frac{1}{2}mgx_2}{x_2 \sin \theta} = \frac{\frac{1}{2}(50.0)(9.8)(1.00) + \frac{1}{2}(50.0)(9.8)(3.00)}{(3.00)(0.800)} = 408 \text{ N} .$$

- (b) Equilibrium of horizontal forces requires the (rightward) horizontal hinge force be  $F_x = T \cos \theta = 245 \text{ N}$ .
- (c) And equilibrium of vertical forces requires the (upward) vertical hinge force be  $F_y = mg - T \sin \theta = 163 \text{ N}$ .