

MOMENT OF A COUPLE

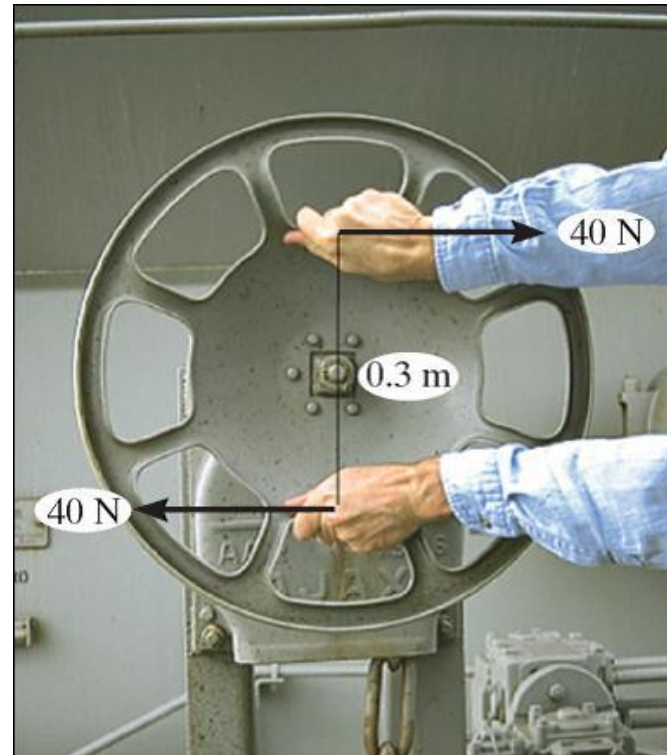
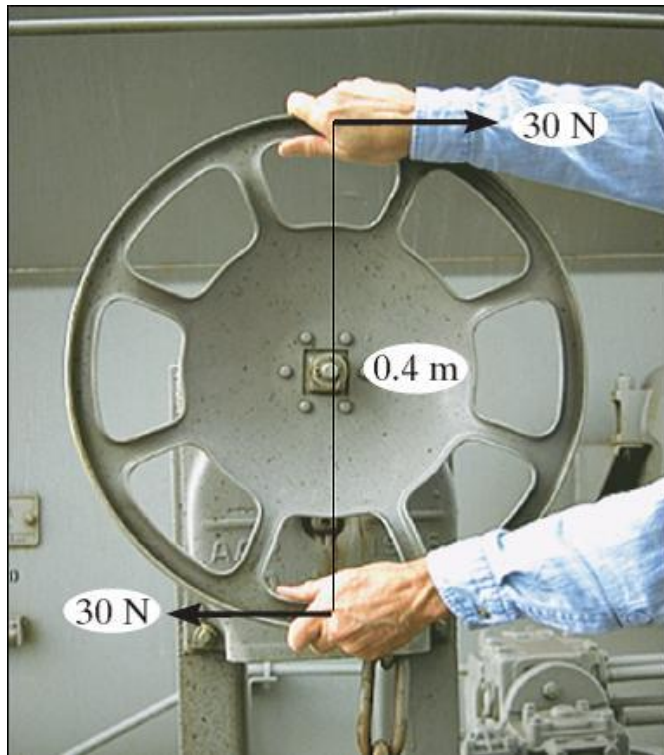
Objectives:

You will be able to

- a) define a couple, and,
- b) determine the moment of a couple.



APPLICATIONS



A torque or moment of $12 \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$ is required to rotate the wheel. Why does one of the two grips of the wheel above require less force to rotate the wheel?

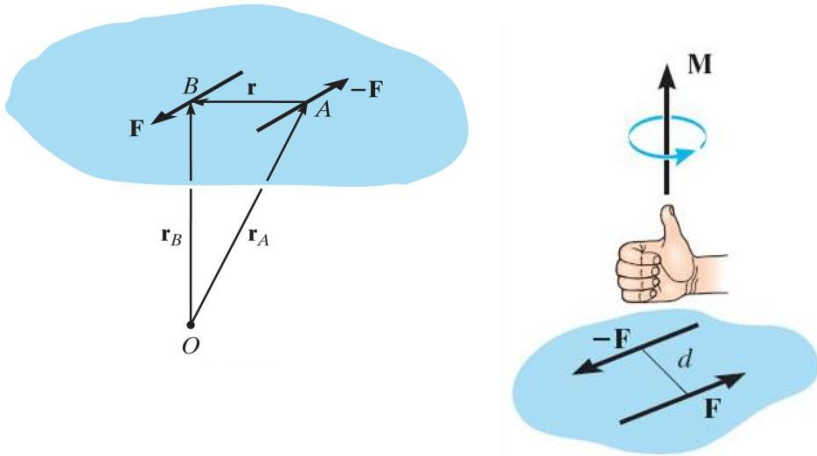
APPLICATIONS (continued)



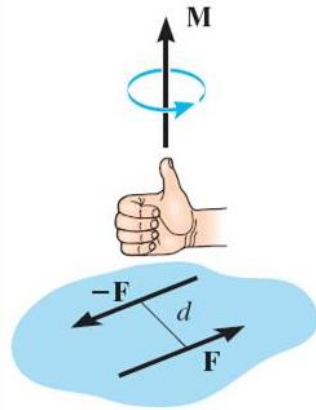
When you grip a vehicle's steering wheel with both hands and turn, a couple moment is applied to the wheel.

Would older vehicles without power steering have needed larger or smaller steering wheels?

MOMENT OF A COUPLE



A couple is defined as two parallel forces with the same magnitude but opposite in direction separated by a perpendicular distance “d.”



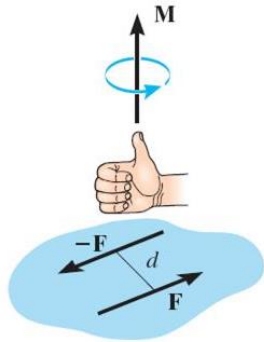
The moment of a couple is defined as

$M_O = F d$ (using a scalar analysis) or as

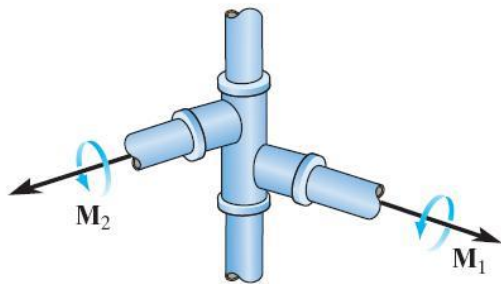
$\mathbf{M}_O = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F}$ (using a vector analysis).

Here \mathbf{r} is any position vector from the line of action of $-\mathbf{F}$ to the line of action of \mathbf{F} .

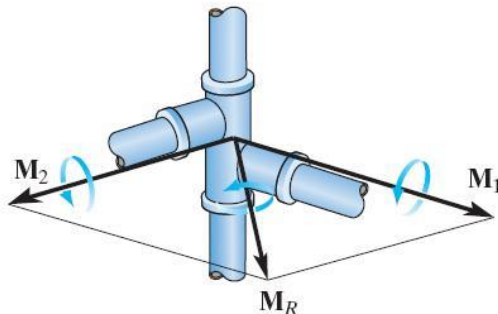
MOMENT OF A COUPLE (continued)



The net external effect of a couple is that the net force equals zero and the magnitude of the net moment equals $F \cdot d$.

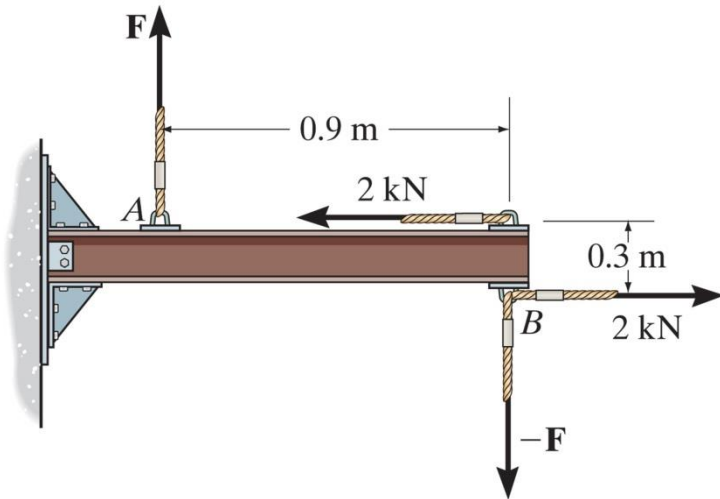


Since the moment of a couple depends only on the distance between the forces, the moment of a couple is a **free vector**. It can be moved anywhere on the body and have the same external effect on the body.



Moments due to couples can be added together using the same rules as adding any vectors.

EXAMPLE VII : SCALAR APPROACH



Given: Two couples act on the beam with the geometry shown.

Find: The magnitude of F so that the resultant couple moment is $1.5 \text{ kN}\cdot\text{m}$ clockwise.

Plan:

- 1) Add the two couples to find the resultant couple.
- 2) Equate the net moment to $1.5 \text{ kN}\cdot\text{m}$ clockwise to find F .

EXAMPLE VII : SCALAR APPROACH (continued)

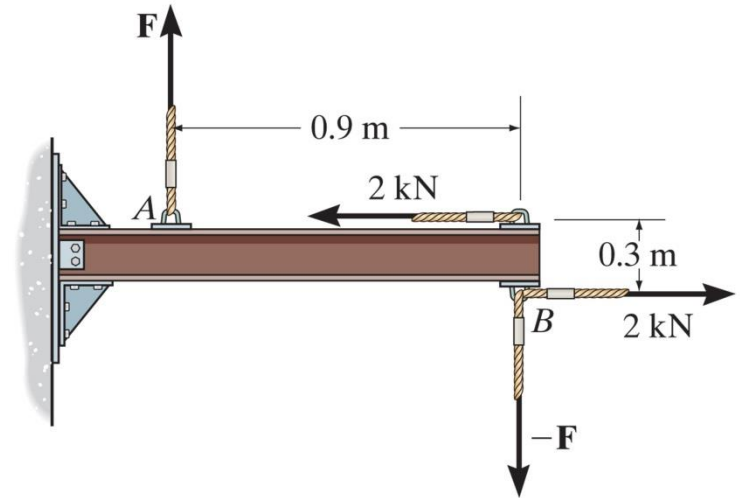
Solution:

The net moment is equal to:

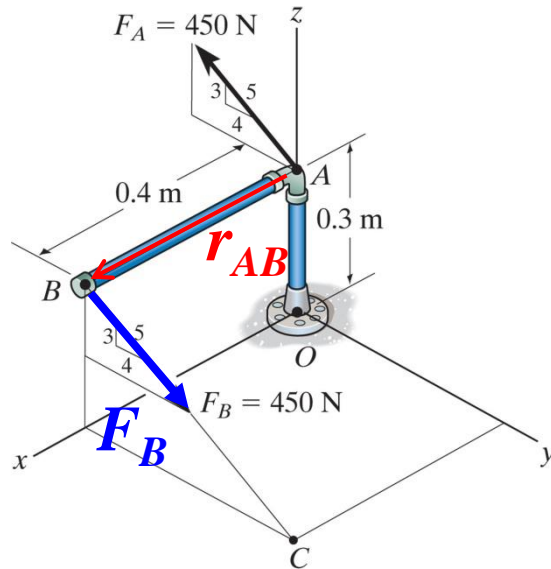
$$\begin{aligned}\curvearrowleft + \Sigma M &= -F(0.9) + (2)(0.3) \\ &= -0.9F + 0.6 \\ -1.5 \text{ kN}\cdot\text{m} &= -0.9F + 0.6\end{aligned}$$

Solving for the unknown force F , we get

$$\underline{F = 2.33 \text{ kN}}$$



EXAMPLE VIII : VECTOR APPROACH



Given: A 450 N force couple acting on the pipe assembly.

Find: The couple moment in Cartesian vector notation.

Plan:

- 1) Use $\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{r} \times \mathbf{F}$ to find the couple moment.
- 2) Set $\mathbf{r} = \mathbf{r}_{AB}$ and $\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{F}_B$.
- 3) Calculate the cross product to find \mathbf{M} .

EXAMPLE VIII: VECTOR APPROACH (continued)

Solution:

$$\mathbf{r}_{AB} = \{ 0.4 \mathbf{i} \} \text{ m}$$

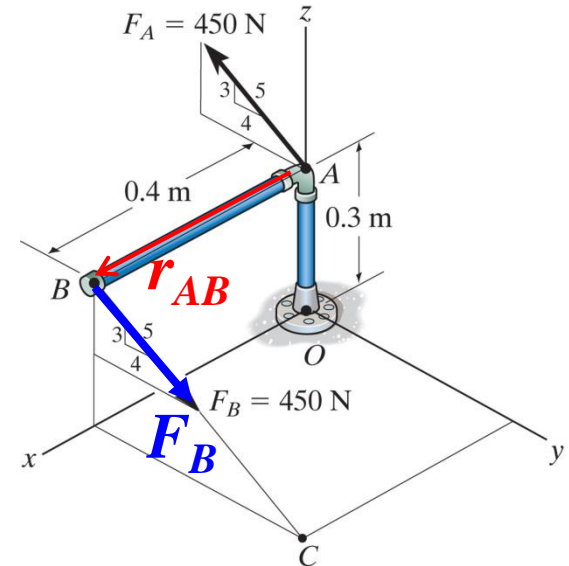
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{F}_B &= \{ 0 \mathbf{i} + 450(4/5) \mathbf{j} - 450(3/5) \mathbf{k} \} \text{ N} \\ &= \{ 0 \mathbf{i} + 360 \mathbf{j} - 270 \mathbf{k} \} \text{ N} \end{aligned}$$

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{r}_{AB} \times \mathbf{F}_B$$

$$= \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 0.4 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 360 & -270 \end{vmatrix} \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$$

$$= [\{ 0(-270) - 0(360) \} \mathbf{i} - \{ 4(-270) - 0(0) \} \mathbf{j} + \{ 0.4(360) - 0(0) \} \mathbf{k}] \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$$

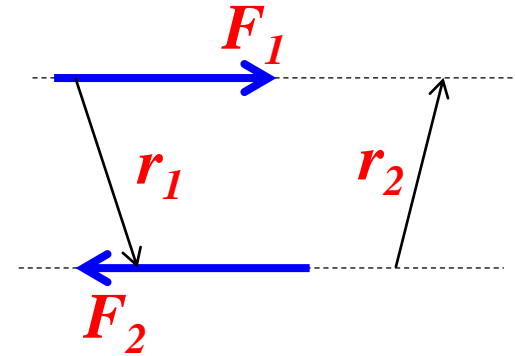
$$= \{ \underline{0 \mathbf{i}} + \underline{108 \mathbf{j}} + \underline{144 \mathbf{k}} \} \text{ N}\cdot\text{m}$$



CONCEPT QUIZ

1. F_1 and F_2 form a couple. The moment of the couple is given by ____ .

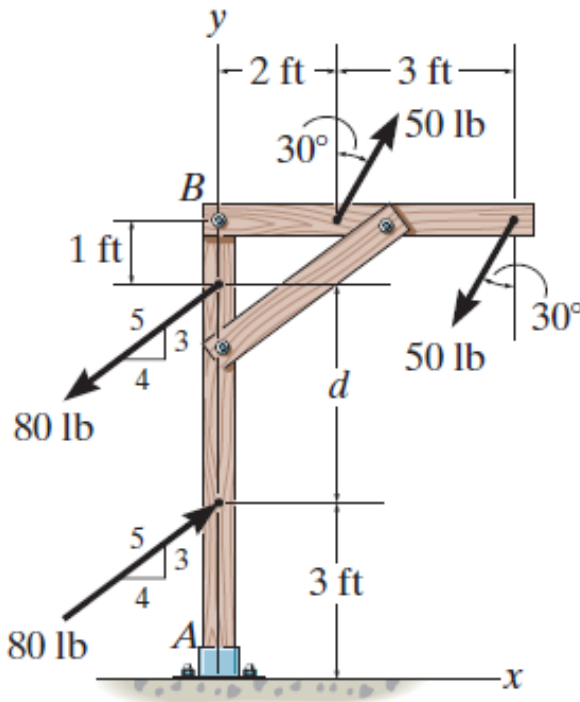
- A) $r_1 \times F_1$ B) $r_2 \times F_1$
C) $F_2 \times r_1$ D) $r_2 \times F_2$



2. If three couples act on a body, the overall result is that

- A) The net force is not equal to 0.
B) The net force and net moment are equal to 0.
C) The net moment equals 0 but the net force is not necessarily equal to 0.
D) The net force equals 0 but the net moment is not necessarily equal to 0 .

EXAMPLE IX



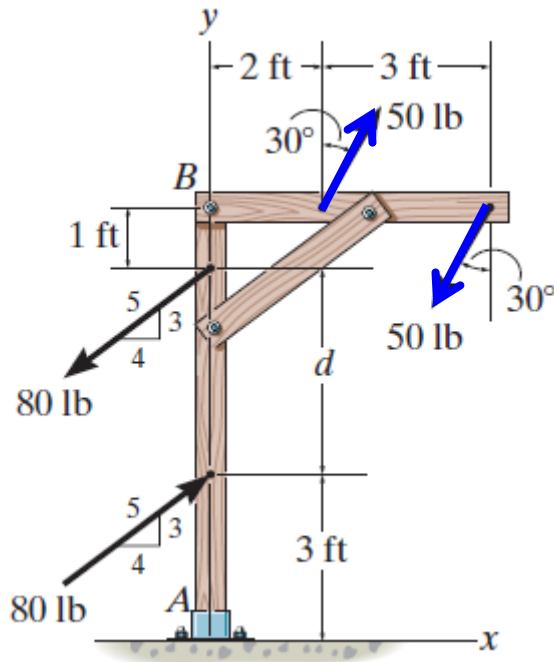
Given: Two couples act on the beam with the geometry shown and $d = 4$ ft.

Find: The resultant couple

Plan:

- 1) Resolve the forces in x and y-directions so they can be treated as couples.
- 2) Add these two couples to find the resultant couple.

EXAMPLE IX (continued)



The x and y components of the upper-left 50 lb force are:

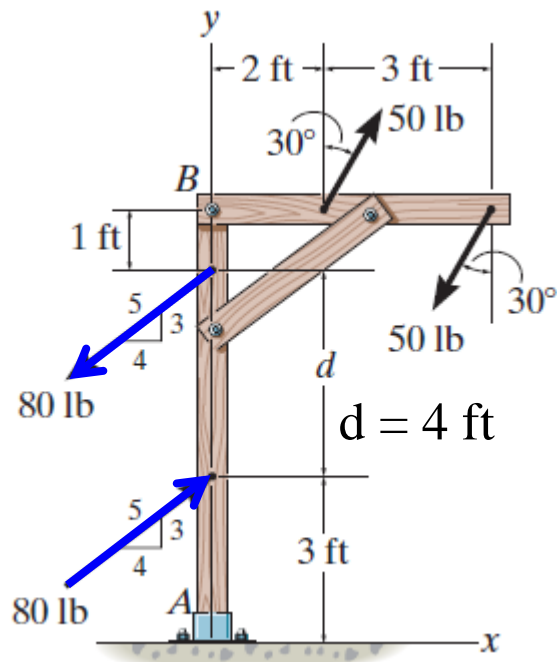
$50 \text{ lb} (\cos 30^\circ) = 43.30 \text{ lb}$ vertically up

$50 \text{ lb} (\sin 30^\circ) = 25 \text{ lb}$ to the right

Do both of these components form couples with their matching components of the other 50 force?

No! Only the 43.30 lb components create a couple. Why?

EXAMPLE IX (continued)



Now resolve the lower 80 lb force:

$(80 \text{ lb}) (3/5)$, acting up

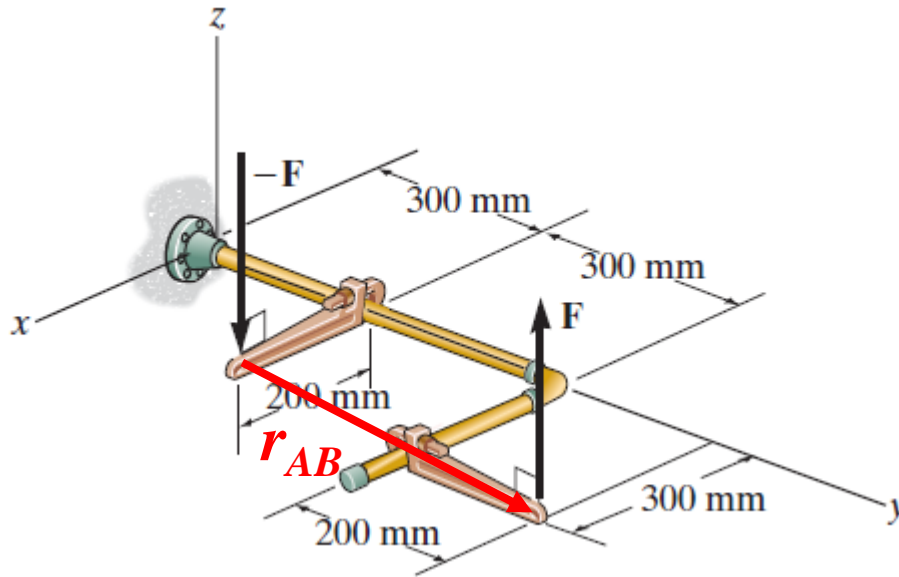
$(80 \text{ lb}) (4/5)$, acting to the right

Do both of these components create a couple with components of the other 80 lb force?

The net moment is equal to:

$$\begin{aligned}
 + \left(\sum M = - (43.3 \text{ lb})(3 \text{ ft}) + (64 \text{ lb})(4 \text{ ft}) \right. \\
 \left. = - 129.9 + 256 = \underline{126 \text{ ft}\cdot\text{lb CCW}} \right)
 \end{aligned}$$

EXAMPLE X



Given: $F = \{80 \mathbf{k}\}$ N and

$$-F = \{-80 \mathbf{k}\} \text{ N}$$

Find: The couple moment acting on the pipe assembly using Cartesian vector notation.

Plan:

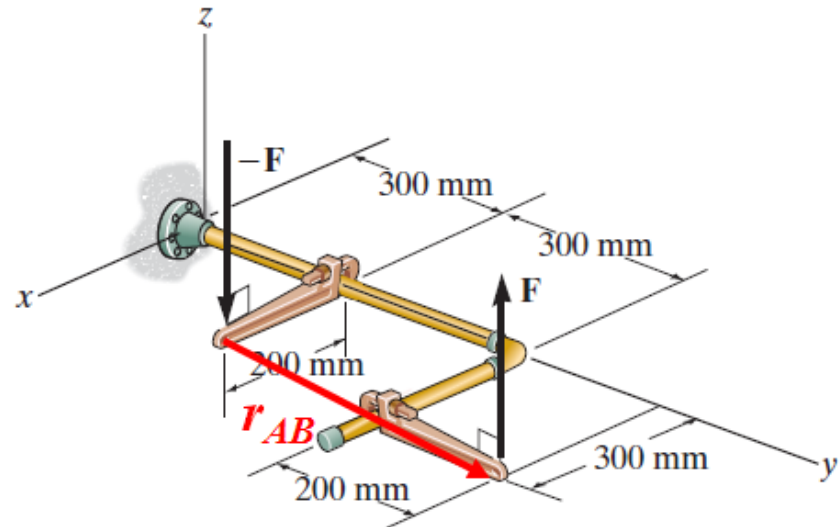
- 1) Use $M = r \times F$ to find the couple moment.
- 2) Set $r = r_{AB}$ and $F = \{80 \mathbf{k}\}$ N.
- 3) Calculate the cross product to find M .

EXAMPLE X (continued)

$$\mathbf{r}_{AB} = \{ (0.3 - 0.2) \mathbf{i} + (0.8 - 0.3) \mathbf{j} + (0 - 0) \mathbf{k} \} \text{ m}$$

$$= \{ 0.1 \mathbf{i} + 0.5 \mathbf{j} \} \text{ m}$$

$$\mathbf{F} = \{ 80 \mathbf{k} \} \text{ N}$$



$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{r}_{AB} \times \mathbf{F} = \begin{vmatrix} \mathbf{i} & \mathbf{j} & \mathbf{k} \\ 0.1 & 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 80 \end{vmatrix} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$

$$= \{ (40 - 0) \mathbf{i} - (8 - 0) \mathbf{j} + (0) \mathbf{k} \} \text{ N} \cdot \text{m}$$

$$= \{ \underline{40 \mathbf{i} - 8 \mathbf{j}} \} \underline{\text{N} \cdot \text{m}}$$