## 38.

## Problem 13.2E (HRW)

A certain nut is known to require forces of 40 N exerted on its shell from both sides to crack it. What force component $F_{\perp}$, perpendicular to the handles, will be required when the nut is placed in the nutcracker?

## Solution:



As the nut breaks when a force of 40 N is applied on it from each side, force $F_{\perp}$ will have to be applied at ends of each handle in order that a force of 40 N develops on the nut. This force will develop because the torque about the joint of the nutcracker has to be zero.

$$
\begin{aligned}
& F_{\perp} \times 12 \mathrm{~cm}=40 \times 2.6 \mathrm{~N} \mathrm{~cm} \\
& \text { or, } \\
& F_{\perp}=8.7 \mathrm{~N}
\end{aligned}
$$



