

A uniform rod AB of length 2x and weight W rests on the smooth rim of a fixed hemispherical bowl of radius a. The end B of the rod is in contact with the rough inner surface of the bowl. The coefficient of friction between the rod and the bowl at B is  $\frac{1}{3}$ . A particle of weight  $\frac{1}{4}W$  is attached to the end A of the rod. The end B is about to slip upwards when AB is inclined at an angle  $\theta$  to the horizontal, where  $\tan \theta = \frac{3}{4}$  (see diagram).

the rod at $B$ is $\frac{3}{4}W$ . [5]

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Find $x$ in terms of $a$ .
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