

## Elementary Dynamics Example #7: (2D Motion, Normal & Tangential Components)

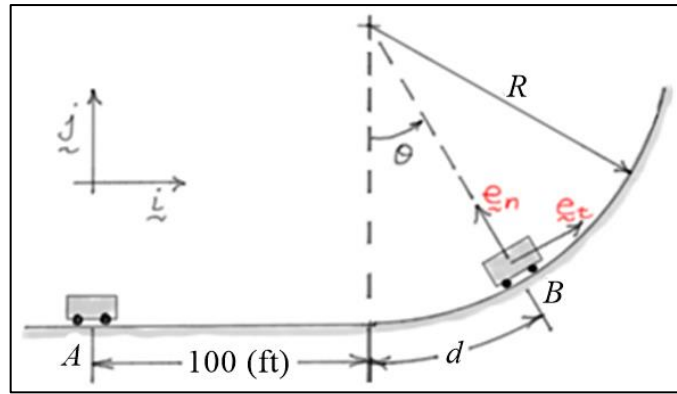
**Given:**  $R = 200$  (ft),  $d = 12$  (ft)

car starts from rest at  $A$

car accelerates at a constant rate of

$$\dot{v} = a_t = 10 \text{ (ft/s}^2\text{) from } A \text{ to } B$$

**Find:**  $v_B$  and  $a_B$  in ft/s and ft/s<sup>2</sup> using *normal* and *tangential* components.



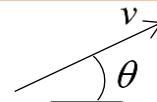
**Solution:**

**Velocity:** (given constant acceleration along the path)

$$v_B = \sqrt{v_A^2 + 2a_t \Delta s} = \sqrt{2(10)(112)} \approx 47.3286 \approx 47.3 \text{ (ft/s)} \Rightarrow v_B = 47.3 e_t \text{ (ft/s)}$$

**Acceleration:**

$$a_t = \dot{v} = 10 \text{ (ft/s}^2\text{)} \quad a_n = \frac{v^2}{\rho} = \frac{2(10)(112)}{200} = 11.2 \text{ (ft/s}^2\text{)}$$



$$a_B = 10 e_t + 11.2 e_n \text{ (ft/s}^2\text{)} \Rightarrow |a_B| = \sqrt{a_t^2 + a_n^2} \approx 15.0147 \approx 15.0 \text{ (ft/s}^2\text{)}$$

**Aside:**

We could also express these results in terms of the unit vectors  $\underline{i}$  and  $\underline{j}$ . For example,

$$\theta = d/R = (12/200)(180/\pi) \approx 3.43775 \approx 3.44 \text{ (deg)}$$

$$v_B = 47.3 e_t = 47.3(\cos(\theta) \underline{i} + \sin(\theta) \underline{j}) = 47.2 \underline{i} + 2.84 \underline{j} \text{ (ft/s)}$$

The acceleration could also be expressed in terms of the unit vectors  $\underline{i}$  and  $\underline{j}$  by noting

that:  $e_n = -\sin(\theta) \underline{i} + \cos(\theta) \underline{j}$ .