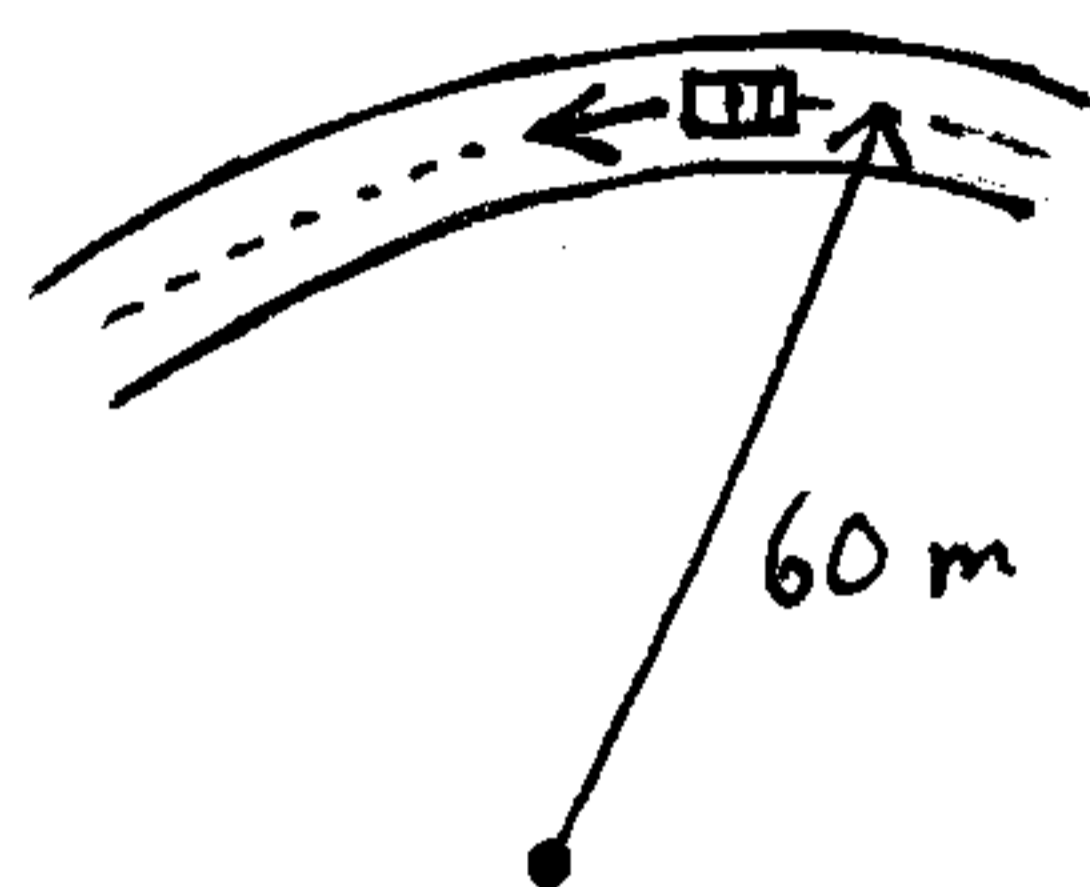
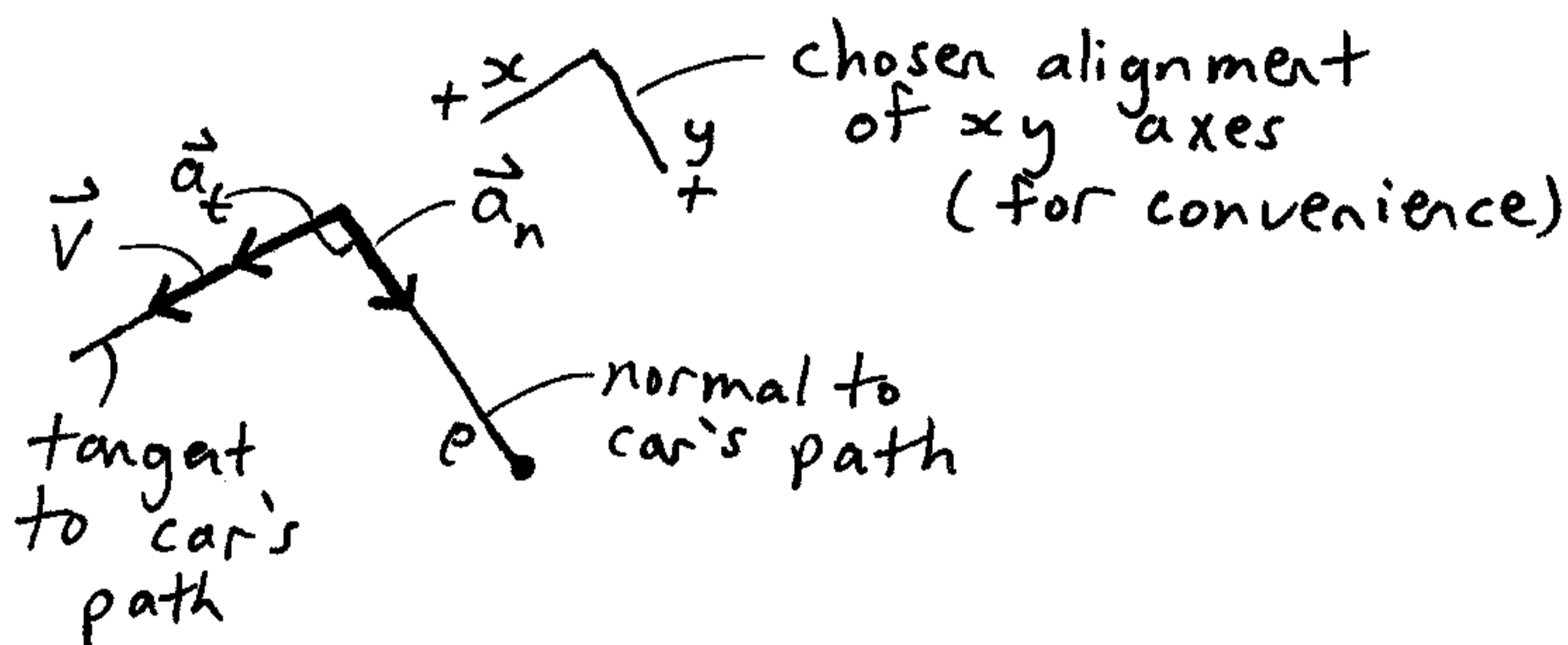


This is a curvilinear motion problem involving normal and tangential components (engineering mechanics).



A car travels at a speed of 8 m/s along a circular road which has a radius of 60 m . Starting from a time of $t=0$, in seconds, the car increases its speed by $\dot{v} = (0.6t) \text{ m/s}^2$. Calculate the speed of the car and the magnitude of its acceleration when $t = 5 \text{ s}$.

Solution:



The magnitude of the normal acceleration is:

$$a_n = \frac{v^2}{\rho} \quad (a_n \text{ is the magnitude of the acceleration vector } \vec{a}_n, \text{ normal to the path at any given instant})$$

The magnitude of the tangential acceleration is:

$$a_t = \frac{dv}{dt} = \dot{v} = 0.6t \quad (\text{magnitude of the acceleration vector } \vec{a}_t, \text{ tangent to the path at any given instant})$$

We need to find an expression for the speed, v , as a function of t . Note that v is the speed of the car, which is the magnitude of the velocity vector \vec{v} , tangent to the path at any given instant.

Given, $\frac{dv}{dt} = 0.6t$

Integrate:

$$v = 0.3t^2 + C, \quad \text{where } C \text{ is the constant of integration}$$

At $t=0$, $v = 8 \text{ m/s}$

Substitute:

$$8 = 0.3(0)^2 + C$$

$$C = 8$$

Then, $v = 0.3t^2 + 8$

When $t = 5 \text{ s}$, $v = 0.3(5)^2 + 8 = 15.5 \text{ m/s}$ (speed of the car) (answer)

and $a_t = 0.6(5) = 3 \text{ m/s}^2$

The horizontal component of the resultant acceleration is:

$$a_x = a_t = 3 \text{ m/s}^2 \quad (\text{at } t = 5 \text{ s})$$

The vertical component of the resultant acceleration is:

$$a_y = a_n = \frac{v^2}{R} = \frac{(15.5)^2}{60} = 4.0 \text{ m/s}^2 \quad (\text{at } t = 5 \text{ s})$$

The magnitude of the resultant acceleration is: $\sqrt{(3)^2 + (4)^2} = 5.0 \text{ m/s}^2$
(answer)