

In the arc definition of the degree of curvature, length is measured along the arc, as shown in view A of figure 11-8:

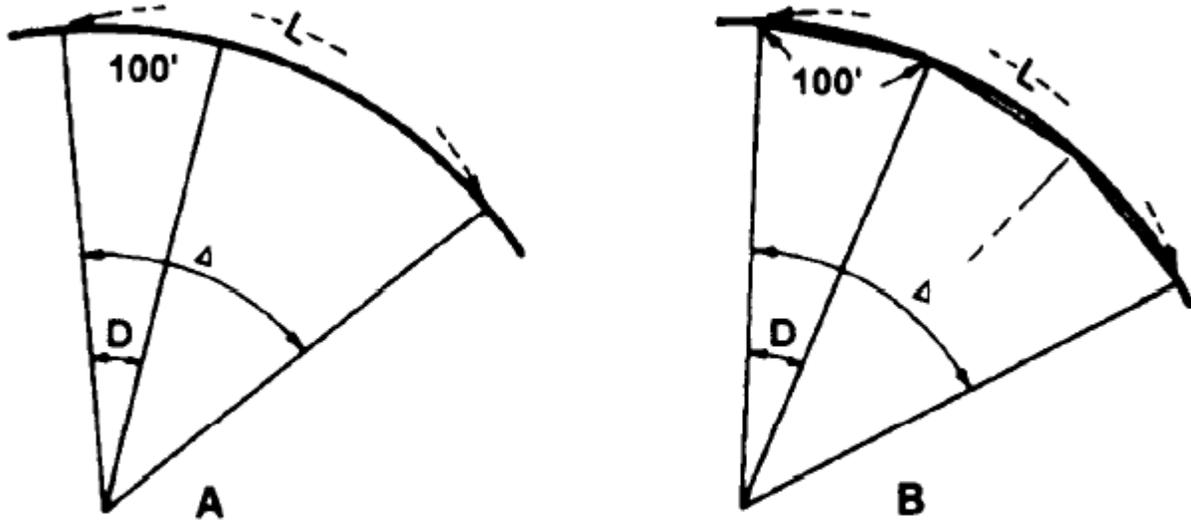


Figure 11-8.-Length of curve.

In this figure the relationship between D , & L , and a 100-foot arc length may be expressed as follows:

$$\frac{L}{100} = \frac{\Delta}{D}$$

Then, solving for L ,

$$L = 100 \frac{\Delta}{D}$$

This expression is also applicable to the chord definition. **However, L , in this case, is not the true arc length, because under the chord definition, the length of curve is the sum of the chord lengths** (each of which is usually 100 feet or 100 meters), As an example, if, as shown in view B, figure 11-8, the central angle (A) is equal to three times the degree of curve (D), then there are three 100-foot chords; and the length of "curve" is 300 feet.