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SFISM Swiss Federal Institute of Sport Magglingen

# Does speed influence time to exhaustion at maximal aerobic power in treadmill cycling?

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#### Introduction Training



Assos

Variation in speed with and without motorpacing while producing the **same power output** 



Assos



#### Introduction Testing



Predefined speed via flywheel mass and treadmill speed





- Does the predefined speed in the lab influence performance?
  - → Effect of Speed on Time to Exhaustion (TTE) at Maximal Aerobic Power (MAP) in Treadmill Cycling





Step 1: Adjust  $m_{eq}$  during coasting until equilibrium is achieved

$$\vec{F}_{eq} = \vec{F}_{grad} + \vec{F}_{Rr}$$



Step 2: Add m<sub>2</sub> to generate desired power output (Watt)

$$P\eta = F_2 v$$

 $\eta$  : Drive train efficiency

Maier, T., Schmid, L., Müller, B., Steiner, T., & Wehrlin, J. P. (2017). Accuracy of Cycling Power Meters against a Mathematical Model of Treadmill Cycling. *International journal of sports medicine*, *38*(6), 456–461. https://doi.org/10.1055/s-0043-102945



How to achieve the same power output with two different treadmill speeds

Low Speed (4 m/s)

High Speed (11 m/s)





MAP  $\eta = v_4 m_4 g$ 

MAP  $\eta = v_{11} m_{11} g$ 



- 20 subjects
- 2 conditions: low (4 m/s) and high (11 m/s) speed
- 2 TTE tests at individual MAP
- Randomized order
- Within 2 weeks, at least 24h rest between trials
- Own bikes and self-selected cadence



### Subjects n = 20 (f = 5, m = 15)

Variable	mean ± SD	min - max
Age [y]	22.4 ± 7.3	15.1 - 37.9
Height [cm]	173.7 ± 7.4	159.5 - 188.9
Body Weight [kg]	64.8 ± 9.0	50.3 - 86.9
MAP [W]	349 ± 56	250 - 450
VO <sub>2</sub> max <sup>1</sup> [mL min <sup>-1</sup> kg <sup>-1</sup> ]	$64.5 \pm 5.4$	57.1 - 74.6

Abbrevations: MAP, maximal aerobic power;  $VO_2max$ , maximal oxygen consumption.

<sup>1</sup> Sitko, S., Cirer-Sastre, R., Corbi, F., & López-Laval, I. (2022). Five-Minute Power-Based Test to Predict Maximal Oxygen Consumption in Road Cycling. International journal of sports physiology and performance, 17(1), 9–15. https://doi.org/10.1123/ijspp.2020-0923





Variable	mean $\Delta \pm SD$	р
TTE [%]	-0.4 ± 11.9	0.88
HRmax [bpm]	-1.2 ± 5.1	0.31
Borg	$0.2 \pm 0.5$	0.19
Cadence [rpm]	-13.5 ± 9.5	<0.001
Abbrevations: $\Lambda =$ slow trial – fast	trial. TTE time to exhaustion. HRmax ma	aximal heart rate

Note: Individual measurements shown as transparent points, mean values shown as black points





- On average no difference
- Large individual differences

Note: Individual measurements shown as transparent points, mean values shown as black points





• Significant difference in selfselected cadence

Note: Individual measurements shown as transparent points, mean values shown as black points



- Effect of Speed on ...
  - TTE
    - On average no effect
    - Large individual differences why?
  - Cadence
    - On average significant difference in self-selected cadence
    - Lower cadence for low speed condition
      - $\rightarrow$  more force per pedalstroke at low speed trial
    - $\rightarrow$  Choose flywheel mass / speed with consideration



## Thank you for your attention!











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