

39. The magnitude of the acceleration of the cyclist as it rounds the curve is given by v^2/R , where v is the speed of the cyclist and R is the radius of the curve. Since the road is horizontal, only the frictional force of the road on the tires makes this acceleration possible. The horizontal component of Newton's second law is $f = mv^2/R$. If N is the normal force of the road on the bicycle and m is the mass of the bicycle and rider, the vertical component of Newton's second law leads to $N = mg$. Thus, using Eq. 6-1, the maximum value of static friction is $f_{s,\max} = \mu_s N = \mu_s mg$. If the bicycle does not slip, $f \leq \mu_s mg$. This means

$$\frac{v^2}{R} \leq \mu_s g \implies R \geq \frac{v^2}{\mu_s g} .$$

Consequently, the minimum radius with which a cyclist moving at $29 \text{ km/h} = 8.1 \text{ m/s}$ can round the curve without slipping is

$$R_{\min} = \frac{v^2}{\mu_s g} = \frac{8.1^2}{(0.32)(9.8)} = 21 \text{ m} .$$