



Chemical Reaction Engineering

Reaction Mechanisms

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Content



- Active intermediates and non-elementary rate laws
- Finding the Reaction Mechanism
- Chain Reactions
- Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals
- Inhibition of Enzyme Reactions



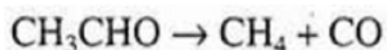
Active intermediates and nonelementary rate laws

power law models,

$$-r_A = kC_A^n$$

where n was an integer of 0, 1, or 2 corresponding to a zero-, first-, and second-order reaction.

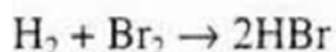
➤ For the reaction



$$-r_{\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}} = kC_{\text{CH}_3\text{CHO}}^{3/2}$$

The order is noninteger

➤ For the reaction



$$r_{\text{HBr}} = \frac{k_1 C_{\text{H}_2} C_{\text{Br}_2}^{3/2}}{C_{\text{HBr}} + k_2 C_{\text{Br}_2}}$$

➤ **Rate laws of this form usually involve a number of elementary reactions and at least one active intermediate**

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Active intermediates and nonelementary rate laws

- An active intermediate is a high-energy molecule that reacts virtually as fast as it is formed.
- It is present in very small concentrations.
- The net rate of formation of an active intermediate (e.g. A^*) is zero

$$r_{A^*} \equiv 0$$

Pseudo-Steady-State Hypothesis

If the active intermediate appears in n reactions, then

$$r_{A^*} = \sum_{i=1}^n r_{iA^*} = 0$$

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Example

gas-phase decomposition of azomethane, AZO,



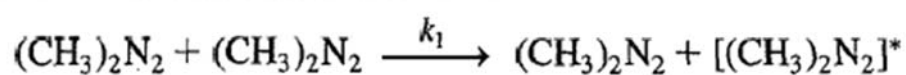
at pressures greater than 1 atm

$$r_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_6} \propto C_{\text{AZO}}$$

at pressures below 50 mmHg (low concentrations):

$$r_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_6} \propto C_{\text{AZO}}^2$$

propose the following mechanism



R1

An activated molecule,

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Example Cont.

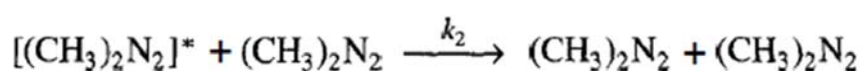
- The reaction is elementary, the rate of formation of the active intermediate

$$r_{1\text{AZO}^*} = k_{1\text{AZO}^*} C_{\text{AZO}}^2$$



- The active intermediate (activated complex) may

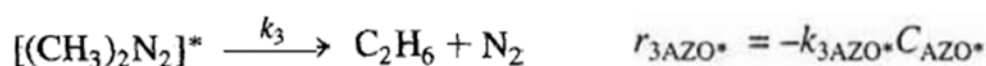
- Become deactivated through collision with another molecule



R2

$$r_{2\text{AZO}^*} = -k_{2\text{AZO}^*} C_{\text{AZO}^*} C_{\text{AZO}}$$

- Decomposes spontaneously to form ethane and nitrogen:

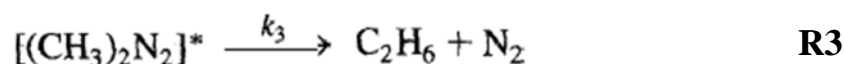


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Example Cont.

Nitrogen and ethane are only formed in the reaction



$$r_{\text{N}_2} = k_3 C_{\text{AZO}^*} \quad r_{\text{C}_2\text{H}_6} = k_3 C_{\text{AZO}^*}$$

The concentration of the active intermediate, AZO^* , is very difficult to measure, because it is highly reactive and very short-lived ($\sim 10^{-9}$ s).

the rate of formation of species j occurring in n different reactions as

$$r_j = \sum_{i=1}^n r_{ji}$$

Because the active intermediate, AZO^* , is present in all three reactions in the decomposition mechanism, the net rate of formation of AZO^* is the sum of the rates of each of the reaction equations,

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Example Cont.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{net rate} & & & & & & \\ \text{of} & & & & & & \\ \text{formation} & = & \text{rate of} & + & \text{rate of} & + & \text{rate of} \\ \text{of AZO}^* & & \text{formation} & & \text{formation} & & \text{formation} \\ & & \text{of AZO}^* \text{ in} & & \text{of AZO}^* \text{ in} & & \text{of AZO}^* \text{ in} \\ & & \text{R1} & & \text{R2} & & \text{R3} \end{array}$$

$$r_{\text{AZO}^*} = r_{1\text{AZO}^*} + r_{2\text{AZO}^*} + r_{3\text{AZO}^*}$$

$$r_{\text{AZO}^*} = k_1 C_{\text{AZO}}^2 - k_2 C_{\text{AZO}} C_{\text{AZO}^*} - k_3 C_{\text{AZO}^*}$$

Use the pseudosteady-state hypothesis (PSSH)

$$r_{\text{AZO}^*} \equiv 0.$$

$$r_{\text{AZO}^*} = k_1 C_{\text{AZO}}^2 - k_2 C_{\text{AZO}} C_{\text{AZO}^*} - k_3 C_{\text{AZO}^*} = 0$$

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Example Cont.



Solving for C_{AZO^*} $\rightarrow C_{AZO^*} = \frac{k_1 C_{AZO}^2}{k_3 + k_2 C_{AZO}}$

$\rightarrow r_{N_2} = \frac{k_1 k_3 C_{AZO}^2}{k_3 + k_2 C_{AZO}}$

At low concentrations $k_2 C_{AZO} \ll k_3$

for which case we obtain the following second-order rate law:

$$r_{N_2} = k_1 C_{AZO}^2$$

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Example Cont.



At high concentrations $k_2 C_{AZO} \gg k_3$

in which case the rate expression follows first-order kinetics,

$$r_{N_2} = \frac{k_1 k_3}{k_2} C_{AZO} = k C_{AZO}$$

General Considerations.

1. The active intermediate, AZO^* , collides with azomethane, AZO [Reaction 2], resulting in the concentration of AZO in the denominator.
2. AZO^* decomposes spontaneously [Reaction 3], resulting in a constant in the denominator of the rate expression.

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Example Cont.



3. The appearance of AZO in the numerator suggests that the active intermediate AZO^* is formed from AZO. Referring to Reaction 1,

- In describing reaction orders for **this equation**, one would say **the** reaction is apparent **first order** at high **azomethane** concentrations and **apparent second order** at **low** azomethane concentrations

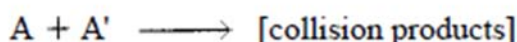


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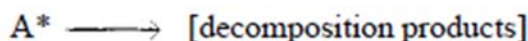


➤ RULES OF THUMB FOR DEVELOPMENT OF A MECHANISM

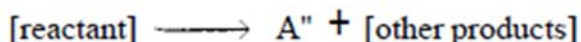
1. Species having the concentration(s) appearing in the denominator of the rate law probably collide with the active intermediate, e.g.,



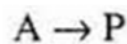
2. If a constant appears in the denominator, one of the reaction steps is probably the spontaneous decomposition of the active intermediate, e.g.,



3. Species having the concentration(s) appearing in the numerator of the rate law probably produce the active intermediate in one of the reaction steps, e.g.,

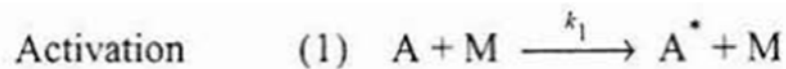


Example



$$-r_A = kC_A$$

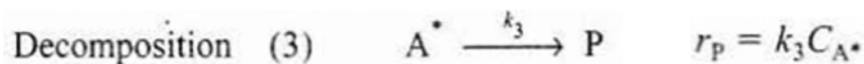
- The reaction is first order but the reaction is not elementary.
- The reaction proceeds by first forming an active intermediate A^* , from the collision of the reactant molecule and an inert molecule of M



- This wildly oscillating active intermediate is deactivated by collision with inert M



- Or it decomposes to form product.



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Example Cont.



using the PSSH to find the concentrations of A^*

$$r_p = -r_A = \frac{k_3 k_1 C_A C_M}{k_2 C_M + k_3}$$

Because the concentration of the inert M is constant,

$$k = \frac{k_1 k_3 C_M}{k_2 C_M + k_3}$$



$$-r_A = kC_A$$

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Finding the Reaction Mechanism

- To propose a mechanism that is consistent with the rate law which has been synthesized from the experimental data.
1. Assume an activated intermediate(s).
 2. Postulate a mechanism, utilizing the rate law obtained from experimental data, if possible.
 3. Model each reaction in the mechanism sequence as an elementary reaction.
 4. After writing rate laws for the rate of formation of desired product, write the rate laws for each of the active intermediates.
 5. Use the PSSH.
 6. Eliminate the concentration of the intermediate species in the rate laws by solving the simultaneous equations developed in steps 4 and 5.
 7. If the derived rate law does not agree with experimental observation, assume a new mechanism and/or intermediates and go to step 3. A strong background in organic and inorganic chemistry is helpful in predicting the activated intermediates for the reaction under consideration

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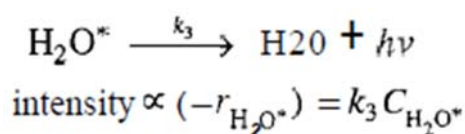
Example

Light is given off when a high-intensity ultrasonic wave is applied to water. This light results from micro-size bubbles (0.1 mm) being formed by the wave and then being compressed by it. During the compression stage of the wave, the contents of the bubble (e.g., water and whatever is dissolved in the water CS_2 , O_2 , N_2) are compressed adiabatically.

This compression gives rise to high temperatures, which generate active intermediates and cause chemical reactions to occur in the bubble.



The intensity of the light given off, I , is proportional to the rate of deactivated and activated water molecule that has been formed in the micro-bubble

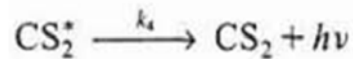


An order-of-magnitude increase in the intensity of sonoluminescence is observed when either carbon disulfide or carbon tetrachloride is added to the water. The intensity of luminescence, I , for the reaction

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Example Cont.



is

$$I \propto (-r_{\text{CS}_2^*}) = k_4 C_{\text{CS}_2^*}$$

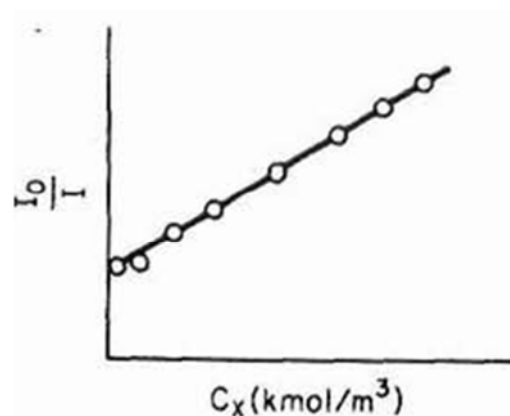
A similar result exists for CCl_4 .

However, when an aliphatic alcohol, X, is added to the solution, the intensity decreases with increasing concentration of alcohol. The data are usually reported in terms of a Stern–Volmer plot in which relative intensity is given as a function of alcohol concentration, C_X . (See Figure E7-1.1, where I_0 is the sonoluminescence intensity in the absence of alcohol and I is the sonoluminescence intensity in the presence of alcohol.) Suggest a mechanism consistent with experimental observation.

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Example Cont.



Ratio of luminescence intensities as a function of Scavenger concentration.

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Example Cont.



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Example Cont.



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➤ A chain reaction consists of the following sequence

1. *Initiation*: formation of an active intermediate.
2. *Propagation or chain transfer*: interaction of an active intermediate with the reactant or product to produce another active intermediate.
3. *Termination*: deactivation of the active intermediate to form products.

Example

The thermal decomposition of ethane to ethylene, methane, butane, and hydrogen is believed to proceed in the following sequence:

Initiation:

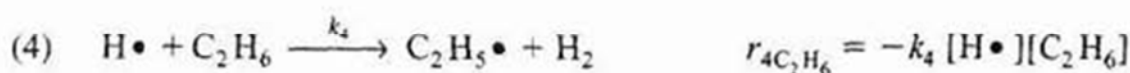
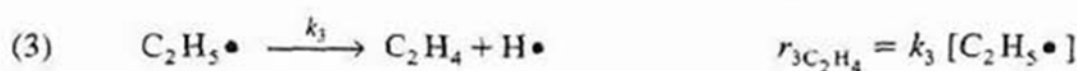
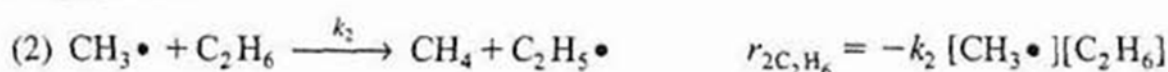


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Example Cont.

Propagation:



Termination:



$$\text{Let } k_5 \equiv k_{5\text{C}_2\text{H}_5\bullet}$$

- (a) Use the PSSH to derive a rate law for the rate of formation of ethylene.
- (b) Compare the PSSH solution in Part (a) to that obtained by solving the complete set of ODE mole balances.

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Example Cont.



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Example Cont.



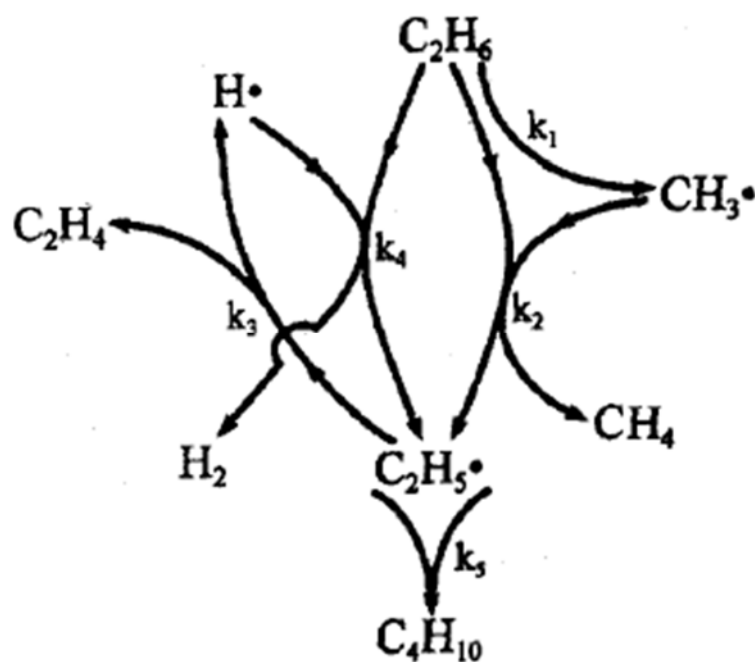
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Example Cont.



Pathway of ethane cracking.



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Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals

- An enzyme is a high-molecular-weight protein or protein-like substance that acts on a substrate (reactant molecule) to transform it chemically at a greatly accelerated rate, usually 10^3 to 10^{17} times faster than the uncatalyzed rate.
- Enzymes are usually present in small quantities and are not consumed during the course of the reaction nor do they affect the chemical reaction equilibrium.
- Enzymes provide an alternate pathway for the reaction to occur thereby requiring a lower activation energy,
- Enzymatic pathways have lower activation energies, enhancements in reaction rates can be enormous
- An important property of enzymes is that they are specific; that is. *One* enzyme can usually catalyze only one type of reaction

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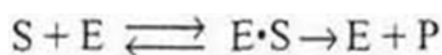


Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals

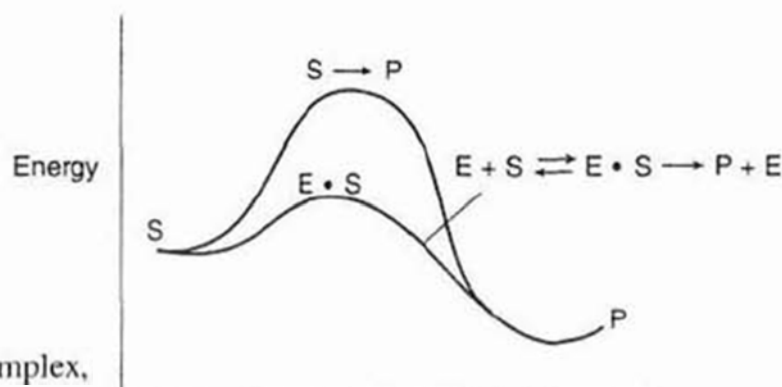
Uncatalyzed reaction



Catalyzed reaction

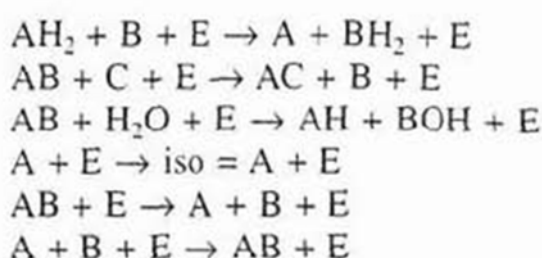


$(E \cdot S)$, *active intermediate*
the enzyme-substrate complex,



There are six classes of enzymes and only six:

1. Oxidoreductases
2. Transferases
3. Hydrolases
4. Isomerases
5. Lyases
6. Ligases



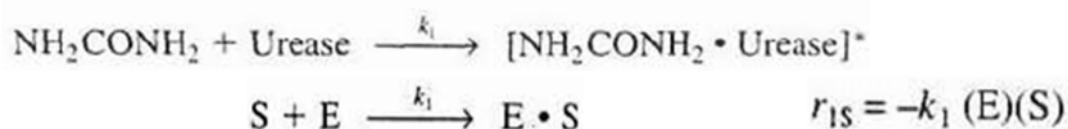
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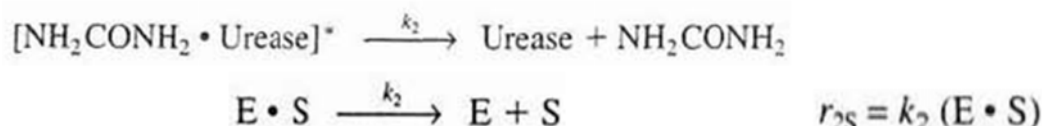
Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals

Mechanisms

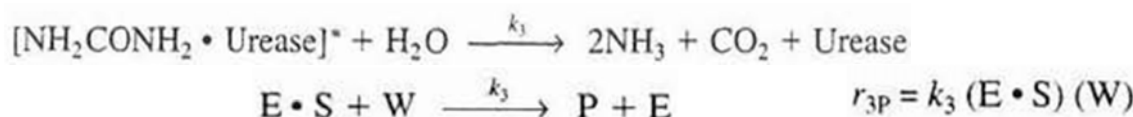
1. The enzyme urease (E) reacts with the substrate urea (S) to form an enzyme–substrate complex (E • S).



2. This complex (E • S) can decompose back to urea (S) and urease (E):



3. Or it can react with water (W) to give the products (P) ammonia and carbon dioxide, and recover the enzyme urease (E).



Where $\text{P} = 2\text{NH}_3 + \text{CO}_2$. partment | University of Jordan | Amman 11942, Jordan
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Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals

The net rate of disappearance of the substrate, $-r_{\text{S}}$, is

$$-r_{\text{S}} = k_1(\text{E})(\text{S}) - k_2(\text{E} \cdot \text{S})$$

The net rate of formation of the enzyme–substrate complex is

$$r_{\text{E} \cdot \text{S}} = k_1(\text{E})(\text{S}) - k_2(\text{E} \cdot \text{S}) - k_3(\text{W})(\text{E} \cdot \text{S})$$

Using the PSSH, $r_{\text{E} \cdot \text{S}} = 0$,

$$(\text{E} \cdot \text{S}) = \frac{k_1(\text{E})(\text{S})}{k_2 + k_3(\text{W})}$$



$$-r_{\text{S}} = k_1(\text{E})(\text{S}) - k_2 \frac{k_1(\text{E})(\text{S})}{k_2 + k_3(\text{W})}$$

Simplifying

$$-r_{\text{S}} = \frac{k_1 k_3 (\text{E})(\text{S})(\text{W})}{k_2 + k_3(\text{W})}$$



Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals



In the absence of enzyme denaturization,

$$(E_t) = (E) + (E \cdot S) \quad (\text{kmol/m}^3 \text{ or } \text{g/dm}^3).$$

(E), Concentrations of the free or unbonded enzyme

(E_t): total concentration of the enzyme *in the system*

(E • S): the enzyme–substrate complex.

$$\Rightarrow (E_t) = (E) + \frac{k_1(E)(S)}{k_2 + k_3(W)}$$

$$\Rightarrow (E) = \frac{(E_t)(k_2 + k_3(W))}{k_2 + k_3(W) + k_1(S)}$$

$$\Rightarrow -r_s = \frac{k_1 k_3(W)(E_t)(S)}{k_1(S) + k_2 + k_3(W)}$$

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Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals



Assuming the concentration of water is constant and dividing the numerator and denominator by k_1

$$-r_s = \frac{k_{\text{cat}}(E_t)(S)}{(S) + K_M} \quad \text{Where} \quad k_{\text{cat}} = k_3(W) \quad \text{and} \quad K_M = \frac{k_{\text{cat}} + k_2}{k_1}$$

Michaelis–Menten equation.

K_M (mol/dm³) is the Michaelis constant *affinity constant*
a measure of the attraction of the enzyme for its substrate,

k_{cat} is also referred to as the *turnover number*.

It is the number of substrate molecules converted to product in a given time on a single-enzyme molecule when the enzyme is saturated with substrate (i.e., all the active sites on the enzyme are occupied, $S \gg K_M$).

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Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals



let V_{\max} represent the maximum rate of reaction for a given total enzyme concentration,

$$V_{\max} = k_{\text{cat}}(E_t)$$

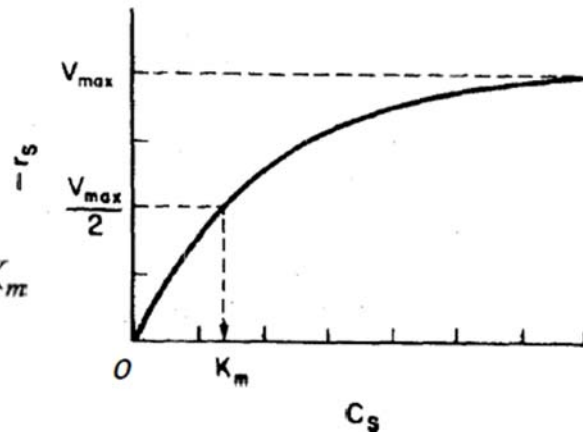
$$\rightarrow -r_s = \frac{V_{\max}(S)}{K_m + (S)}$$

At low substrate concentration,

$$-r_s \cong \frac{V_{\max}(S)}{K_m}$$

At high substrate concentration, $(S) \gg K_m$

$$-r_s \cong V_{\max}$$



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Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals



Consider the case when the substrate concentration is such that the reaction rate is equal to one-half the maximum rate,

$$-r_s = \frac{V_{\max}}{2} \rightarrow \frac{V_{\max}}{2} = \frac{V_{\max}(S_{1/2})}{K_m + (S_{1/2})}$$

the Michaelis constant $K_m = (S_{1/2})$

For Evaluation of Michaelis-Menten Parameters

$$\frac{1}{-r_s} = \frac{(S) + K_M}{V_{\max}(S)} = \frac{1}{V_{\max}} + \frac{K_M}{V_{\max}} \frac{1}{(S)}$$

Lineweaver-Burk

$$\frac{(S)}{-r_s} = \frac{K_M}{V_{\max}} + \frac{1}{V_{\max}}(S)$$

Eadie-Hofstee form,

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Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals



| C_{urea} (kmol/m ³) | $-r_{\text{urea}}$ (kmol/m ³ ·s) | $1/C_{\text{urea}}$ (m ³ /kmol) | $1/-r_{\text{urea}}$ (m ³ ·s/kmol) |
|---|--|---|--|
| 0.20 | 1.08 | 5.0 | 0.93 |
| 0.02 | 0.55 | 50.0 | 1.82 |
| 0.01 | 0.38 | 100.0 | 2.63 |
| 0.005 | 0.20 | 200.0 | 5.00 |
| 0.002 | 0.09 | 500.0 | 11.11 |

| S (kmol/m ³) | $-r_s$ (kmol/m ³ ·s) | $1/S$ (m ³ /kmol) | $1/-r_s$ (m ³ ·s/kmol) | $S/-r_s$ (s) | $-r_s/S$ (1/s) |
|-------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------|
| 0.20 | 1.08 | 5.0 | 0.93 | 0.185 | 5.4 |
| 0.02 | 0.55 | 50.0 | 1.82 | 0.0364 | 27.5 |
| 0.01 | 0.38 | 100.0 | 2.63 | 0.0263 | 38 |
| 0.005 | 0.20 | 200.0 | 5.00 | 0.0250 | 40 |
| 0.002 | 0.09 | 500.0 | 11.11 | 0.0222 | 45 |

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Enzymatic Reaction Fundamentals

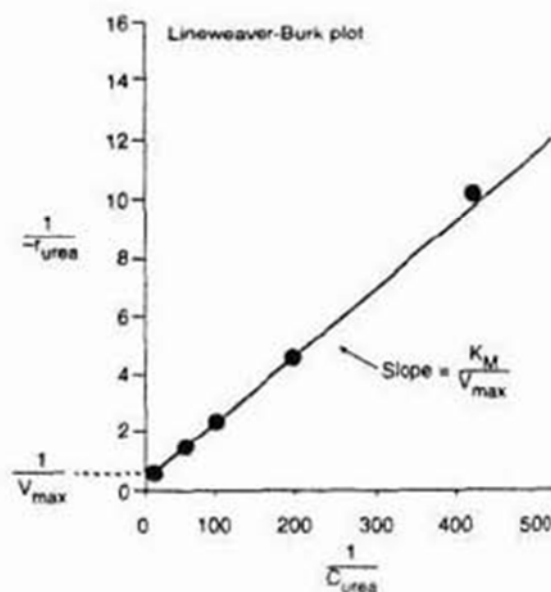
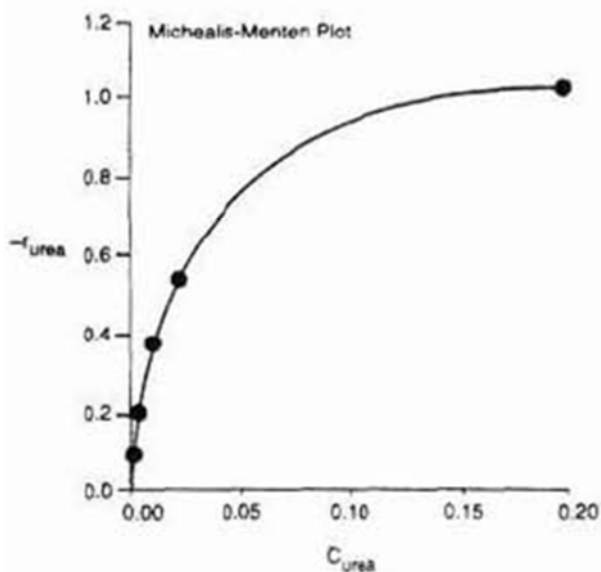


Figure E7-3.1 (a) Michaelis-Menten plot; (b) Lineweaver-Burk plot.

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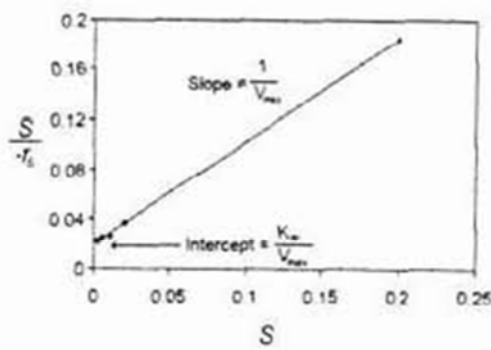


Figure E7-3.2 Hanes-Woolf plot.

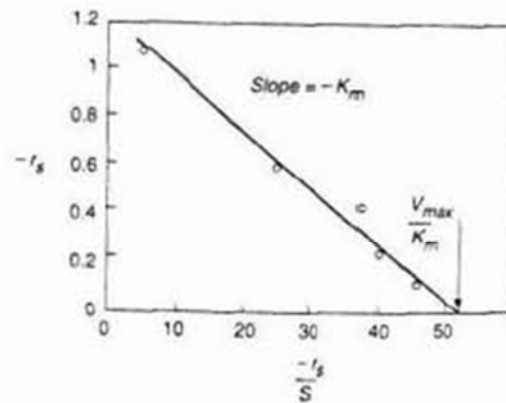


Figure E7-3.3 Eadie-Hofstee plot.



Batch Reactor Calculations for Enzyme Reactions

Batch Reactor Calculations for Enzyme Reactions

$$-\frac{dN_{\text{urea}}}{dt} = -r_{\text{urea}}V \quad \rightarrow \quad -\frac{dC_{\text{urea}}}{dt} = -r_{\text{urea}}$$

The rate law for urea decomposition is

$$-r_{\text{urea}} = \frac{V_{\text{max}} C_{\text{urea}}}{K_M + C_{\text{urea}}}$$



$$t = \int_{C_{\text{urea}}}^{C_{\text{urea0}}} \frac{dC_{\text{urea}}}{-r_{\text{urea}}} = \int_{C_{\text{urea}}}^{C_{\text{urea0}}} \frac{K_M + C_{\text{urea}}}{V_{\text{max}} C_{\text{urea}}} dC_{\text{urea}}$$

$$t = \frac{K_M}{V_{\text{max}}} \ln \frac{C_{\text{urea0}}}{C_{\text{urea}}} + \frac{C_{\text{urea0}} - C_{\text{urea}}}{V_{\text{max}}}$$



Batch Reactor Calculations for Enzyme Reactions



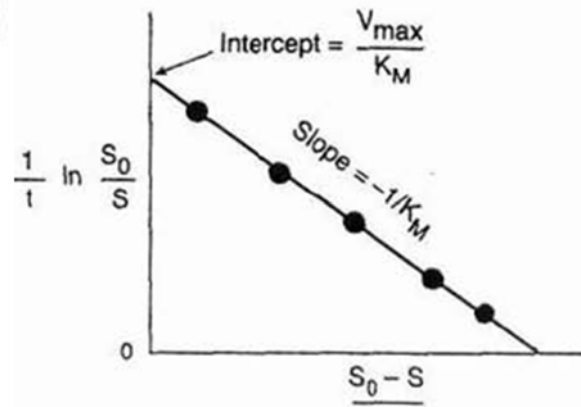
$$C_{\text{urea}} = C_{\text{urea}0}(1 - X)$$

$$\rightarrow t = \frac{K_M}{V_{\max}} \ln \frac{1}{1-X} + \frac{C_{\text{urea}0}X}{V_{\max}}$$

$$\frac{1}{t} \ln \frac{1}{1-X} = \frac{V_{\max}}{K_M} - \frac{C_{\text{urea}0}X}{K_M t}$$

in terms of the substrate concentration S:

$$\frac{1}{t} \ln \frac{S_0}{S} = \frac{V_{\max}}{K_M} - \frac{S_0 - S}{K_M t}$$



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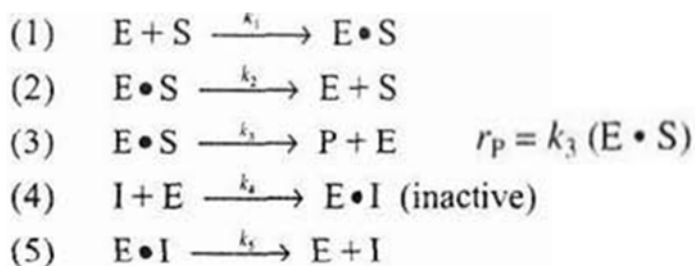


Inhibition of Enzyme Reactions



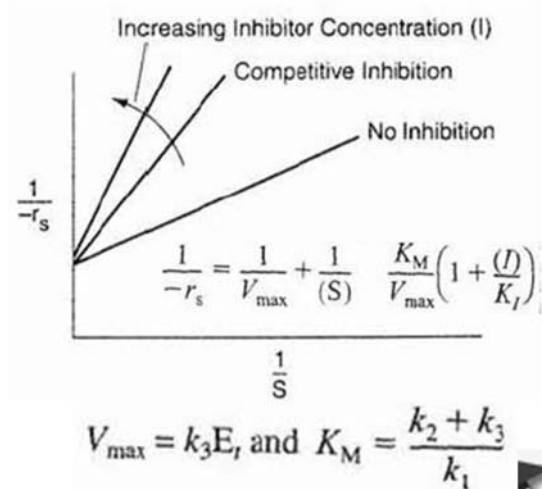
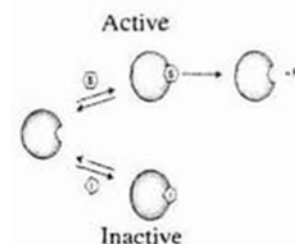
Competitive Inhibition

- In competitive inhibition another substance, I, competes with the substrate for the enzyme molecules to form an inhibitor-enzyme complex



$$r_p = -r_s = \frac{V_{\max}(S)}{S + K_M \left(1 + \frac{I}{K_I}\right)}$$

the inhibition constant K_I (mol/dm³) is $K_I = \frac{k_5}{k_4}$



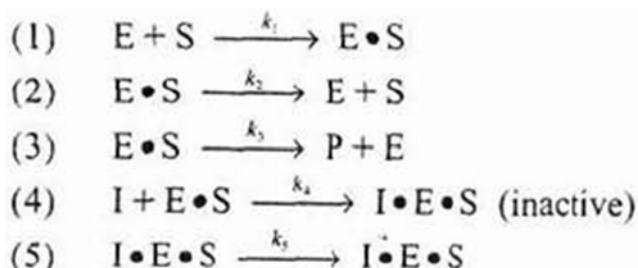
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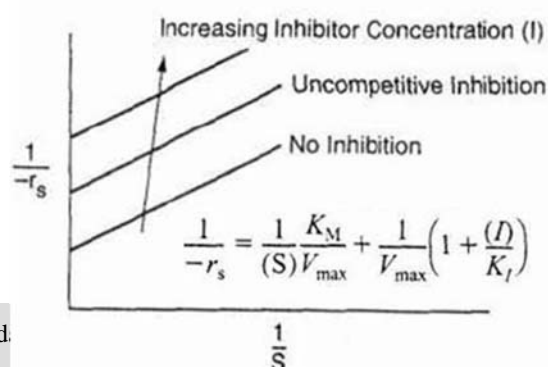
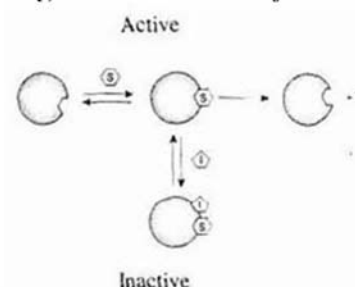
Inhibition of Enzyme Reactions

Uncompetitive Inhibition

- The inhibitor has no affinity for the enzyme itself and thus does not compete with the substrate for the enzyme; instead it ties up the enzyme-substrate complex by forming an inhibitor-enzyme-substrate complex. (I.E.S) which is inactive.



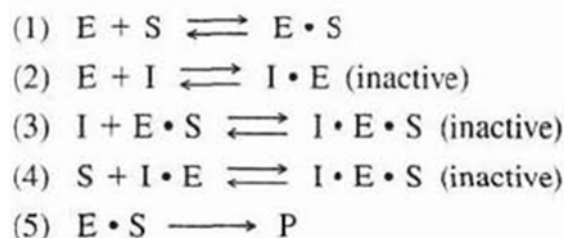
$$-r_s = r_p = \frac{V_{\max}(S)}{K_M + (S) \left(1 + \frac{(I)}{K_I} \right)} \quad \text{where } K_I = \frac{k_5}{k_4}$$



Inhibition of Enzyme Reactions

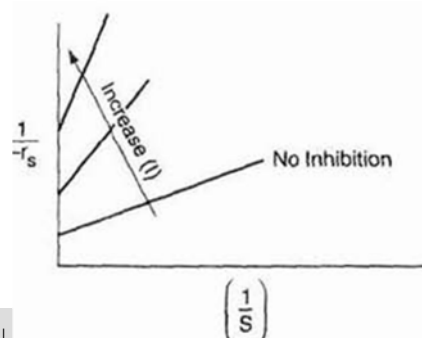
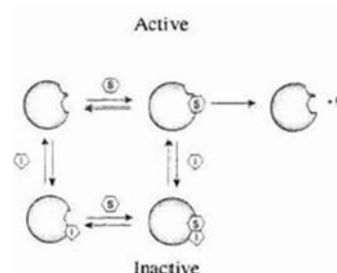
Noncompetitive Inhibition (Mixed Inhibition)

- In noncompetitive inhibition, also called mixed inhibition, the substrate and inhibitor molecules react with different types of sites on the enzyme molecule. Whenever the inhibitor is attached to the enzyme it is inactive and cannot form products



$$-r_s = \frac{V_{\max}(S)}{((S) + K_M) \left(1 + \frac{(I)}{K_I} \right)}$$

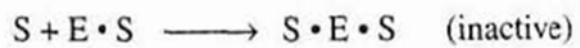
$$\frac{1}{-r_s} = \frac{1}{V_{\max}} \left(1 + \frac{(I)}{K_I} \right) + \frac{1}{(S)} \frac{K_M}{V_{\max}} \left(1 + \frac{(I)}{K_I} \right)$$



Inhibition of Enzyme Reactions

Substrate Inhibition

the substrate itself can act as a inhibitor.



$$-r_s = \frac{V_{\max} S}{K_M + S + \frac{S^2}{K_I}}$$

