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## **TOPIC:** FIRST ORDER COMPLEX REACTION

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## **Complex Reaction:**

- It is a Multi-step reaction.
- These are reactions involving simultaneous breakdown by a sequence of reaction steps.
- Slowest step of complex reaction is called rate determining step.
- E.g. A K B C B is a reaction intermediate.
- Three types of reaction;
  - a) **OPPOSING REACTION (REVERSIBLE)**
  - b) SIDE REACTIONS (PARALLEL)
  - c) CONSECUTIVE REACTIONS

### a) OPPOSING REACTION (REVERSIBLE):

• The simplest case is, in which both reactions are of first order



 Here the reacting substance can be removed by two or more reactions occurring simultaneously,

EXAMPLE:

b)

 Purified insulin degrades by two mechanismsdeamidation and polymerization.

#### c) CONSECUTIVE REACTIONS:

- Simplest is one where both the reaction is of first order.
- If K2 > K1 then B can be considered as unstable intermediate and rate determining step for overall reaction would be conversion of A to B.



Degradation of chlorbenzodiazepine by hydrolysis to lactam

form and further to benzophenone.

## Order of Reaction:

- This is the number of concentration terms that determine the rate.
- Consider the reaction:

#### $A + B \longrightarrow C + D$

- The overall equation is,
  Rate = k [A]<sup>x</sup> [B]<sup>y</sup>
- The overall order of reaction is **x+y**

- Reactions may be classified according to the order of reaction, which is the number of reacting species whose concentration determines the rate at which the reaction occurs.
- Types of order of reaction:
- 1. Zero order reaction
- 2. First order reaction
- 3. Second order reaction
- 4. Third order reaction & Higher
- 5. Pseudo order reaction
- 6. 28-5 Complex reactions

## 1<sup>st</sup> order reaction:

 When the reaction rate depends on the first power of concentration of a single reactant, it is considered to be first order.

 $K = \frac{2.303}{t} \log (a/a-x)$ 

• Unit of K for first order is time<sup>-1</sup> i.e. SI unit is (sec)<sup>-1</sup>.

## First Order Complex Reactions:

- The complex reactions in which reaction rate depends on a single reactant, are known as first order complex reactions.
- Radioactive decay processes are all first order.
- Complex reactions may or may not have reaction orders equal to their stoichiometric coefficients.
- Reaction orders can be determined only by experiment.

- There is no detectable difference between first order and zero order at less than 15% decomposition.
- Many companies take the attitude of plotting by first order in situation where the order is unknown.
- Establishing the true order of reaction can often be difficult, due to the fact that strength changes at 25°c are small and that unit-to -unit and assay variation make such a distinction difficult

## EXAMPLE :

 The reaction between Trimethylbromomethane (tert-butyl bromide) and the hydroxide ions from sodium hydroxide solution is first order complex reaction :



• The overall reaction replaces the bromine atom in the organic compound by an OH group.

- The reaction takes place in two elementary steps :
- 1. In the first elementary step
- Trimethylbromomethane breaks to give ions :



Carbon-bromine bonds are reasonably strong, so this is a slow change .

 In the second elementary step ,tert-butyl radical reacts with hydroxide ion to give "Butyl Alcohol" :



Because carbon-oxygen bonds are strong, once the OH group has attached to the carbon atom, it tends to stay attached. The reaction is fast, & Butyl Alcohol is the final product.

- The tert-butyl radical is the reaction intermediate.
- The slow step of a reaction is known as the *rate determining step*. SO,

rate = k [
$$C_4H_9Br$$
]

• The reaction is first order with respect to the organic compound.

# Summary:

- Complex reaction is a Multi-step reaction.
- Order of reaction is the number of concentration terms that determine the rate.
- first order complex reactions are those in which reaction rate depends on a single reactant.
- Reaction orders can be determined only by experiment.
- There is no detectable difference between first order and zero order at less than 15% decomposition.

