

## L1: STEADY STATE APPROXIMATION

### P1: INTRODUCTION TO KINETICS

Steady state Approximation (SSA) can turn a complex mechanism into a very simple equation for the rate formation of a product. Take



5  $O_2$  molecules don't just suddenly collide w/ a molecule of propane  $\rightarrow$  mechanism is made up of smaller intermediate steps.

Consider elementary step



$$\text{Rate of Elementary Step} = \frac{d[C]}{dt} = k[A][B], k, t > 0$$

\* orders in rate equation = coefficients in balanced reactions  
ONLY when elementary step!

$$\text{Arrhenius Equation} \quad k = A e^{\frac{-E_a}{RT}}$$

$$\text{Then } k_1 = A e^{\frac{-E_a}{RT_1}} \quad \text{and} \quad k_2 = A e^{\frac{-E_a}{RT_2}} \quad (t = \text{time}, T = \text{temperature})$$

$$\ln k_1 = \ln A + \left( \frac{-E_a}{RT_1} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad \ln k_2 = \ln A + \left( \frac{-E_a}{RT_2} \right)$$

$$\ln A = \ln k_1 + \frac{E_a}{RT_1} \quad \text{and} \quad \ln A = \ln k_2 + \frac{E_a}{RT_2} \quad R = 8.314 \frac{J}{mol \cdot K}$$

$$\ln k_1 + \frac{E_a}{RT_1} = \ln k_2 + \frac{E_a}{RT_2}$$

$$\frac{E_a}{RT_1} - \frac{E_a}{RT_2} = \ln k_2 - \ln k_1$$

$$\ln \left( \frac{k_2}{k_1} \right) = \frac{-E_a}{R} (T_2 - T_1)$$

A assumed to be temperature independent over  $(T_1, T_2)$

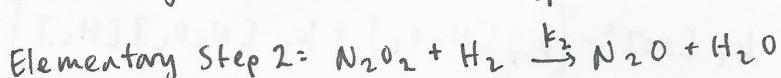
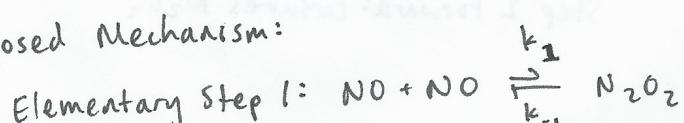
### P2: STEADY STATE APPROXIMATION

Purpose: to identify rate law even when there is no obvious rate-limiting step.

ex.



Proposed Mechanism:



$k_1, k_{-1}, k_2$   
= rate constants

Derive a rate law for the formation of  $N_2O$ .

Which step is rate-limiting?

Case 1: Step 1 is RDS  $\rightarrow \frac{d[N_2O]}{dt} = k_1 [NO]^2$

Rate is determined by how fast  $N_2O_2$  intermediate can be produced.

Why is  $[NO]$  squared in the rate law?

For every moment in time, there are  $\binom{n}{2} = \frac{n(n-1)}{2}$  collisions possible

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{n(n-1)}{2} \approx \frac{1}{2} n^2 \text{ for sufficiently large } n$$

$\therefore$  rate proportional to  $n^2 = [NO]^2$

Case 2: Step 2 is RDS + Step 1 in rapid equilibrium  $\rightarrow k_2 [N_2O_2][H_2] = \frac{d[N_2O]}{dt}$

Rewrite in terms of  $[NO]$  and  $[H_2]$  since  $N_2O_2$  is an intermediate.

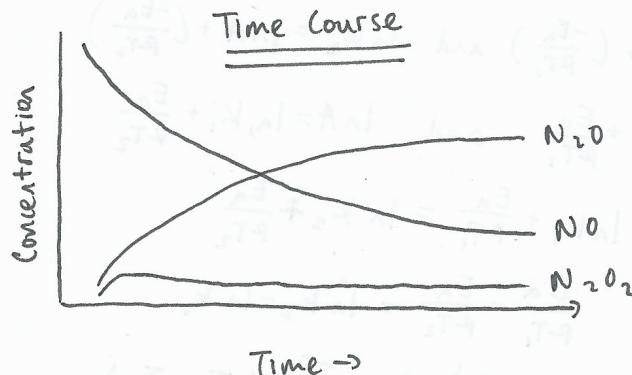
Since Step 1 is in equilibrium,

$$k_1 [NO]^2 = k_{-1} [N_2O_2] \quad (k_1 \neq k_{-1})$$

$$[N_2O_2] = \frac{k_1}{k_{-1}} [NO]^2$$

$$\therefore \frac{d[N_2O]}{dt} = \frac{k_2 k_1}{k_{-1}} [NO]^2 [H_2]$$

Two cases have two rate laws  $\rightarrow$  combine them using SSA to approximate rate law.



SSA:  $\frac{d[\text{intermediate}]}{dt} \approx 0 \rightarrow$  any intermediate produced is almost immediately consumed

$$\text{Net Rate of Formation of } N_2O_2 = \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Production} \\ \text{Rate of } N_2O_2 \end{array} \right) - \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Consumption} \\ \text{Rate of } N_2O_2 \end{array} \right) \approx 0$$

Step 1 Forward: produces  $N_2O_2$       Step 1 Reverse: consumes  $N_2O_2$

Step 2 Forward: consumes  $N_2O_2$

So, we have

$$k_1 [NO]^2 - \left[ k_{-1} [N_2O_2] + k_2 [N_2O_2][H_2] \right] = 0$$

$$k_1 [NO]^2 = [N_2O_2] (k_{-1} + k_2 [H_2])$$

$$[N_2O_2] = \frac{k_1 [NO]^2}{k_{-1} + k_2 [H_2]}$$

Plug back into  $\frac{d[N_2O]}{dt} = k_2 [N_2O_2][H_2]$

$$\boxed{\frac{d[N_2O]}{dt} = \frac{k_1 k_2 [NO]^2 [H_2]}{k_{-1} + k_2 [H_2]}}$$

Suppose Step 1 (For., Rev.) is very slow. ( $k_1, k_{-1} \ll k_2$ )

Then  $k_{-1} + k_2 [H_2] \approx k_2 [H_2]$

You CANNOT cancel  $k_1$  from numerator since it is multiplication and you don't know how much smaller  $k_1$  is than  $k_2$ .

Then  $\frac{d[N_2O]}{dt} \approx \frac{k_1 k_2 [NO]^2 (H_2)}{k_2 [H_2]} = k_1 [NO]^2$

↳ same as Case 1!

Suppose Step 2 is very slow ( $k_2 \ll k_1, k_{-1}$ )

Then  $k_{-1} + k_2 [H_2] \approx k_{-1}$  ↳ same as Case 2!

$$\frac{d[N_2O]}{dt} \approx \frac{k_1 k_2 [NO]^2 (H_2)}{k_{-1}} = \frac{k_2 k_1}{k_{-1}} [NO]^2 [H_2]$$

SSA interpolates b/w two extremes → it's a far more powerful + general approach to kinetics, as it doesn't matter which step is slow.

Also, notice,

$$\frac{1}{\frac{d[N_2O]}{dt}} = \frac{1}{k_1 [NO]^2} + \frac{1}{\frac{k_2 k_1}{k_{-1}} [NO] [H_2]}$$

The steady state result is the harmonic sum of the rates obtained by assuming each step was slow.

Steady State Summary :

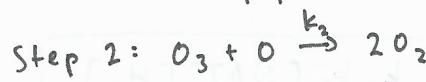
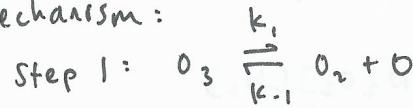
1. Write a rate law for intermediates if necessary.
2. Write a steady state equation for your intermediates by considering rates of production + consumption.
3. Use the equations to eliminate intermediates from the rate law.

### P3: CRANKING IT UP

ex. consider the depletion of atmospheric ozone:



proposed mechanism:



Derive  $\frac{-d[O_3]}{dt}$ . Assume steady state for all intermediates.

$$\frac{-d[O_3]}{dt} = \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Rate of Decomposition} \\ \text{of } O_3 \end{array} \right) - \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Rate of Production} \\ \text{of } O_3 \end{array} \right)$$

$$= k_1 [O_3] + k_2 [O_3][O] - k_{-1} [O_2][O]$$

[O] is an intermediate. Get rid of it using SSA.

$$\frac{d[O]}{dt} = \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Rate of Production} \\ \text{of } O \end{array} \right) - \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{Rate of Consumption} \\ \text{of } O \end{array} \right)$$

$$\frac{d[O]}{dt} = k_1 [O_3] - (k_{-1} [O_2][O] - k_2 [O_3][O]) = 0$$

$$[O] (k_{-1} [O_2] + k_2 [O_3]) = k_1 [O_3]$$

$$[O] = \frac{k_1 [O_3]}{k_{-1} [O_2] + k_2 [O_3]} \rightarrow \text{Plug into expression for } \frac{-d[O_3]}{dt}.$$

$$\frac{-d[O_3]}{dt} = k_1 [O_3] + k_2 [O_3][O] - k_{-1} [O_2][O]$$

$$= k_1 [O_3] + [O] (k_2 [O_3] - k_{-1} [O_2])$$

$$= k_1 [O_3] + \frac{k_1 [O_3]}{k_{-1} [O_2] + k_2 [O_3]} (k_2 [O_3] - k_{-1} [O_2])$$

$$= k_1 [O_3] \left( \frac{k_1 [O_2] + k_2 [O_3]}{k_{-1} [O_2] + k_2 [O_3]} \right) + \frac{k_1 [O_3]}{k_{-1} [O_2] + k_2 [O_3]} (k_2 [O_3] - k_{-1} [O_2])$$

$$= \frac{k_1 k_{-1} [O_3] [O_2] + k_1 k_2 [O_3]^2 + k_1 k_2 [O_3]^2 - k_1 k_{-1} [O_3] [O_2]}{k_{-1} [O_2] + k_2 [O_3]}$$

$$\boxed{\frac{-d[O_3]}{dt} = \frac{2k_1 k_2 [O_3]^2}{k_{-1} [O_2] + k_2 [O_3]}}$$

take notes  
on signs!

Note that this rate law doesn't have any integer orders if you try to put it in the form  $\frac{-d[O_3]}{dt} = k [O_2]^m [O_3]^n$

$[O_2]$  is in the denominator  $\rightarrow O_2$  acts as an inhibitor of ozone depletion. As  $O_2$  builds up, it competes w/  $O_3$  in looking for free oxygen atoms to bind with.

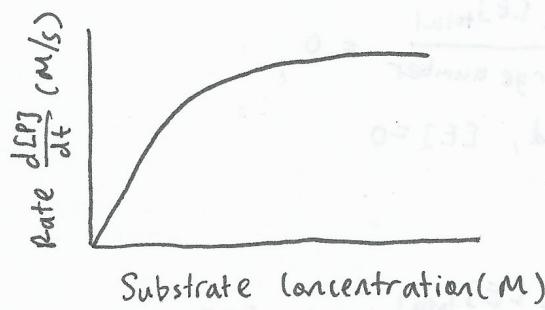
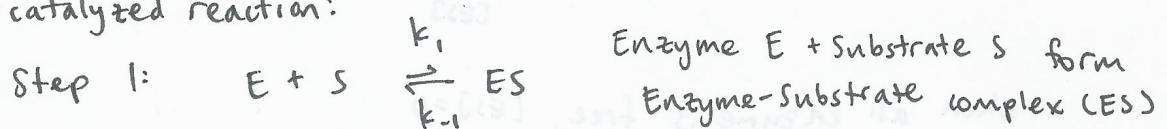
Also, since

$$\frac{-d[O_2]}{2dt} = \frac{d[O_2]}{3dt}$$

$$\frac{d[O_2]}{dt} = \frac{3k_1 k_2 [O_3]^2}{k_{-1}[O_2] + k_2 [O_3]}$$

#### P4: ENZYME KINETICS - MICHAELIS-MENTEN EQUATION

Basic enzyme-catalyzed reaction:



1.  $\frac{d[P]}{dt}$  eventually plateaus as active sites are saturated.
2.  $\frac{d[P]}{dt}$  is linear when substrate concentration is small.

GOAL: DERIVE RATE LAW FOR FORMATION OF P

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d[P]}{dt} &= (\text{Net formation rate of } P) - (\text{Net consumption rate of } P) \\ &= k_2 [ES] - 0 = k_2 [ES] \end{aligned}$$

We don't know  $[E]$  or  $[ES]$  at any given time because we don't know exactly how many free enzymes and how many substrate-bound enzymes there are. We only  $[E]_{\text{TOTAL}}$  because that's the amount we added to the reaction.

$$[E]_{\text{total}} = [E] + [ES]$$

$$[E]_{\text{total}}$$

$$\frac{[E]_{\text{total}}}{[E] + [ES]} = 1$$

$$\frac{d[P]}{dt} = k_2 [ES] \cdot 1 = k_2 [ES] \frac{[E]_{\text{total}}}{[E] + [ES]}$$

$$= \frac{k_2 [E]_{\text{total}}}{\frac{[E]}{[ES]} + 1}$$

$$= \frac{k_2 [E]_{\text{total}}}{\frac{[E]}{[ES]} + 1} = \frac{0.02 \text{ h}^{-1}}{\frac{1}{2} \text{ h}^{-1}}$$

Since  $k_2$ ,  $[E]_{\text{total}}$ , and 1 are all constants,

$$\frac{d[P]}{dt} \propto \frac{1}{\frac{[E]}{[ES]}}$$

when all enzyme is free,  $[ES] = 0$

$$\lim_{[ES] \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{[E]}{[ES]} \rightarrow \infty$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{d[P]}{dt} = \frac{k_2 [E]_{\text{total}}}{\text{large number}} = 0$$

When all enzyme is bound,  $[ES] = 0$

$$\frac{[E]}{[ES]} = 0$$

$$\text{Hence, } \frac{d[P]}{dt} = \frac{k_2 [E]_{\text{total}}}{0+1} = k_2 [E]_{\text{total}}$$

SSA for  $[ES]$  intermediate:

$$\frac{d[ES]}{dt} = 0 = (\text{Net production rate of ES}) - (\text{Net consumption rate of ES})$$

$$0 = k_1 [E][S] - k_{-1}[ES] - k_2 [ES] = 0$$

$$[ES](k_{-1} + k_2) = k_1 [E][S]$$

$$\frac{[E]}{[ES]} = \frac{k_{-1} + k_2}{k_1 [S]}$$

↑ plug this into rate law obtained earlier.

$$\begin{aligned}\frac{d[P]}{dt} &= \frac{k_2 [E]_{\text{total}}}{1 + \frac{[E]}{[ES]}} = \frac{k_2 [E]_{\text{total}}}{1 + \frac{k_{-1} + k_2}{k_1 [S]}} \cdot \frac{[S]}{[S]} \\ &= \frac{k_2 [E]_{\text{total}} [S]}{[S] + \frac{k_{-1} + k_2}{k_1}}\end{aligned}$$

We define  $K_m = \frac{k_{-1} + k_2}{k_1}$ , where  $K_m$  is the "Michaelis constant".

We have also seen that maximum rate of product

formation is  $\frac{d[P]}{dt} = k_2 [E]_{\text{total}}$  (all enzymes substrate bound)

So, we refer to  $k_2 [E]_{\text{total}} = V_{\max}$

$\therefore$  Michaelis-Menten Equation :  $\frac{d[P]}{dt} = \frac{V_{\max} [S]}{[S] + K_m}$

At low substrate concentration,  $[S] \ll K_m$ , so

$$\frac{d[P]}{dt} \approx \frac{V_{\max} [S]}{K_m} \rightarrow \text{linear relationship}$$

At high substrate concentration,  $[S] \gg K_m$ , so

$$\frac{d[P]}{dt} \approx \frac{V_{\max} [S]}{[S]} = V_{\max}$$

$$\lim_{[S] \rightarrow \infty} \frac{d[P]}{dt} = V_{\max}$$

When  $[S] = K_m$ ,  $\frac{d[P]}{dt} = \frac{V_{\max} [S]}{2[S]} = \frac{1}{2} V_{\max}$

$K_m$  = substrate concentration at which enzyme is operating at half of its maximum rate

END