CONTENTS

Preface xi

How to use the workbooks, exercises, and problems xvii

Chapter 1 Generalities about the rates of chemical reactions 1

Introduction 1

Chemical kinetics: what is it? 1

The rate of a chemical reaction 4

How to define the rate of a reaction 4

The extent of reaction 4

The evolution of the extent of reaction 6

The reaction rate 6

Mass conservation in a chemical reaction 8

Example: rate of decomposition of uranyl nitrate 9

The general scheme of kinetics 11

Let us add some theory: a phenomenological approach 13

Testing the equation and determining the rate constant 14

Supplement 1.1 Concentration 16
Supplement 1.2 A summary of what you need to know about differential equations 18
A differential equation has an infinite number of solutions 19
The initial condition 20
How to solve differential equations: a practical guide 21
Systems of differential equations 21

Chapter 2 Irreversible first-order reactions 23
Introduction 23
What is an irreversible first-order reaction? 23
Unimolecular irreversible reactions 23
The rate equation 24
Not all unimolecular reactions have a first-order rate 24
Solution of the rate equation 25
The extent of reaction 25
Solving the rate equation to calculate $\eta(t)$ 27
The concentrations 27
Test whether Eq. 2.10 fits the data and determine the constant $k(T,p)$ 28
A crude fitting method 28
The least-squares method for fitting the data 30

Chapter 3 The temperature dependence of the rate constant: the Arrhenius formula 33
Introduction 33
The Arrhenius formula 34
How to determine the parameters in the Arrhenius formula 35
How to determine k_0*, E, and n* 35
How to determine the constants in the Arrhenius equation: the data 36
A graphic method for using the Arrhenius formula 36
A crude determination of k_0 *and E in the Arrhenius formula* 37

The determination of k_0 and E by least-squares fitting 38
The activation energy 40
Determination of the Arrhenius parameters: a more realistic example 40
Fitting the data to determine k_0 and E 41
How do we use these results? 45
The decay rate 47
Where do these equations come from? 47
Why the rate law is $dA/dt = -kA$? 48
Why the Arrhenius law? 48

Chapter 4 Irreversible second-order reactions 51

Introduction 51
The rate equation for an irreversible, bimolecular reaction 52
The rate equation for the reaction $A + B \rightarrow C + D$ 52
The rate equation for the reaction $2A \rightarrow C + D$ 53
The rate equation for the reaction $A + B \rightarrow C + D$ in terms of the extent of reaction 53
The dependence of $\eta(t)$ on time 54
The evolution of the concentrations 55
How to use these kinetic equations in practice 57
An example: the problem and the data 57
An example: setting up the equations 58
An example: numerical analysis of the kinetics 59
What controls the decay time 61
How to analyze kinetic data for second-order reactions 63
An example of analysis 64
Method I. Calculating k for each data point 66
Method II. Using a least-squares fitting 66

Chapter 5 Reversible first-order reactions 69

Introduction 69
The rate equation and its solution 72
The rate equation for concentration 72
The evolution of the concentrations 74

    - *The change of the extent of reaction and concentration: an example* 74
    - *Understanding the numerical results in the example* 76
- The connection to thermodynamic equilibrium 78
    - *Equilibrium concentration by taking the long time limit in the kinetic theory* 78
- Data analysis: an example 80
    - *The conversion of 4-hydroxybutanoic acid to its lactone* 80
    - *The equations used in analysis* 81
    - *A method of analysis* 84

Chapter 6 Reversible second-order reactions 87

- Introduction 87
- The rate equations 88
    - *The equilibrium conditions* 89
    - *Mass conservation* 90
    - *The rate equations in terms of the extent of reaction* 91
- A general equation for the rate of change of $\eta(t)$ 92
- The solution of the general rate equation for $\eta(t)$ 94
    - *The solution provided by* ***Mathematica*** 95
    - *Solving the differential equation for* $\eta(t)$ *by using the methods learned in calculus* 96
- Calculate $\eta(t)$ for the four types of reaction 97
- The use of these equations 98
- Analysis of the reaction $2HI \rightleftharpoons H_2 + I_2$ 100
    - *A summary of the equations needed for analysis* 102
    - *Using the equilibrium information* 103
    - *Fitting the data to find* k_b 105
    - *How to use the results of this analysis* 106

Chapter 7 Coupled reactions 109

- Introduction 109
- First-order irreversible parallel reactions 111
    - *The rate equations* 111
    - *Independent variables: the extents of the reactions* 111

The change of concentration: mass conservation 112
The rate equations in terms of η_1 *and* η_2 113
Solving the rate equations for $\eta_1(t)$ *and* $\eta_2(t)$ 114
First-order irreversible consecutive reactions 116
The rate equations 116
Mass conservation 117
The rate equations for η_1 *and* η_2 118
Solving the rate equations to obtain $\eta_1(t)$ *and* $\eta_2(t)$ 118
The evolution of the concentrations 119
The analysis of the results 120
The steady-state approximation 122
Why this is called the steady-state approximation 124
Testing how well the approximation works 125

Chapter 8 An example of a complex reaction: chain reactions 129

Introduction 129
The correct rate equation 130
The reaction mechanism: chain reactions 130
Another chain reaction: nuclear reactors and nuclear bombs 132
The rate equations for the reactions involved in the mechanism 134
The rate of change of [HBr] 134
The rate of change of [Br] 135
The net rate of change for HBr 136
Using the five rate equations 137
The temperature dependence 138

Chapter 9 Enzyme kinetics 141

Introduction 141
The Michaelis–Menten mechanism: exact numerical solution 143
The rate equations 143
The extents of reaction 145

Mass conservation 145
The rate equations for $\eta_1(t)$ and $\eta_2(t)$ 146
The solution of the rate equations 147
The Michaelis–Menten mechanism: the steady-state approximation 149
The differential equation for $R(t)$ 151
The differential equation for the evolution of $P(t)$ 152
Practical use of the steady-state approximation to determine K_m and $k_2E(0)$ 152
The evolution of the concentrations in the steady-state approximation 155
The evolution of $R(t)$ 155
The evolution of $P(t)$ in the steady-state approximation 156
The concentration of the complex and of the enzyme in the steady-state approximation 156
The Michaelis–Menten mechanism: how good is the steady-state approximation? 156

Further reading 161
Index 163