A. <u>Given</u>:



Alternatively...



- B. Steady State Approximation:
 - 1. Rate Equation:

Assuming $[B_0] \gg [A_0]$ and <u>C</u> does not become observable...

 $d[P]/dt = k_2[A] + k_3[C]$

Since...

$$d[\mathbf{C}]/d\mathbf{t} = k_1[\mathbf{A}][\mathbf{B}] - k_{-1}[\mathbf{C}] - k_3[\mathbf{C}] \approx \mathbf{0}$$

Then...

$$[C] = \frac{k_1}{(k_{-1} + k_3)} [A][B]$$



and...

$$d[P]/dt = \frac{k_1 k_3}{(k_{-1} + k_3)} [A][B] + k_2 [A]$$

Alternatively...

$$d[P]/dt = k_{obsd}[A]$$

such that...

$$k_{\text{obsd}} = \frac{k_1 k_3}{(k_{-1} + k_3)} [B] + k_2$$



The mechanism reduces to...



 $A + B \longrightarrow P$

2. Graphics:



• The linearity shows 1st order in \underline{B} . The non-zero intercept confirms the existence of a significant zeroth-order dependence.

• Be careful to include (0,0) origins on all plots of k_{obsd} vs. reagent concentrations to ensure detection of non-zero intercepts.

C. Equilibrium Approximation:

1. Rate Equation:

If we assume that \underline{C} may become observable at sufficiently high [B], then we apply the alternative equilibrium approximation...

$$d[P]/dt = k_2[A] + k_3[C]$$
(1)

Since...

 $[A_T] = [A] + [C] =$ total concentration of <u>A</u> in all forms

and, by the definition of equilibrium,...

$$k_1[A][B] = k_{-1}[C]$$
 (2)

Substituting for [A] in eq (2)...

 $k_1[B]\{[A_T] - [C]\} = k_{-1}[C]$

and solving for [C]...

$$[\mathbf{C}] = \frac{k_1 [\mathbf{B}] [\mathbf{A}_T]}{k_{-1} + k_1 [\mathbf{B}]}$$



Similarly, substituting for [C] in eq (2) and solving for [A]...

$$\left[\mathbf{A}\right] = \frac{k_{-1}\left[\mathbf{A}_{\mathrm{T}}\right]}{\mathbf{k}_{-1} + k_{\mathrm{I}}\left[\mathbf{B}\right]}$$

Therefore...

$$d[P]/dt = \frac{k_{-1}k_2[A_T] + k_1k_3[A_T][B]}{k_{-1} + k_1[B]}$$

or...

$$d[P]/dt = k_{obsd}[A_T]$$

such that...

$$k_{\text{obsd}} = \frac{k_{-1}k_2 + k_1k_3[\mathbf{B}]}{k_{-1} + k_1[\mathbf{B}]}$$



Alternatively,...

$$k_{\text{obsd}} = \frac{k_2 + k_3 K_{\text{eq}} [B]}{1 + K_{\text{eq}} [B]}$$

$$(\mathbf{K}_{\mathsf{eq}}[\mathbf{B}] = [\mathbf{C}]/[\mathbf{A}])$$

2. Graphics:



The data are fit according to...

$$f(x) = \frac{a+bx}{1+cx}$$

such that...

$$f(x) = k_{obsd}$$
 $x = [B]$ $a = k_2$ $b = k_3 K_{eq}$ $c = K_{eq}$

 $k_1[\mathbf{B}]$

k₋₁

 $k_2 + k_3 K_{eq}$

1 **+** K

k₃

 k_2



In the limit that $k_3 = 0$ (i.e., the complexed form is unreactive)...



D. Addendum: The Curtin-Hammett Principle

The case study described above is loosely under the jurisdiction of what is commonly known as the Curtin-Hammett Principle. It is instructive to digress for a moment and look at the Curtin-Hammett Principle from the perspective of a kineticist.

1. Given

$$A \xrightarrow{k_1} C$$

$$k_2 \downarrow \qquad \downarrow \qquad k_{-1} \downarrow k_3$$

$$P_1 \qquad P_2$$

2. Early Articulation of the Curtin-Hammett Principle:

"Given two rapidly equilibrating species such that each can react to give their respective products, the product ratio depends only on the relative energy of the transition states...and will be independent of the position of the equilibrium."



Only $\Delta\Delta G^{\neq}$ matters according to the early articulation. However...

 $\Delta \Delta G^{\neq} = \Delta G^{\neq}_{C} - \Delta G^{\neq}_{A} - \Delta G^{0}$

such that ΔG_{A}^{\neq} and ΔG_{C}^{\neq} reflect the relative reactivities of <u>A</u> and <u>C</u>, and ΔG^{0} reflects the relative stabilities (concentrations) of <u>A</u> and <u>C</u>.

3. <u>Rate Equations</u>:

 $d[\mathbf{P}_1]/d\mathbf{t} = k_2[\mathbf{A}]$

 $d[\mathbf{P}_2]_{/}d\mathbf{t} = k_3[\mathbf{C}]$



To describe the product distribution we establish the proportions of the relative rates. Thus...

$$\frac{\left[\mathbf{P}_{1}\right]}{\left[\mathbf{P}_{2}\right]} = \frac{d\left[\mathbf{P}_{1}\right]/dt}{d\left[\mathbf{P}_{2}\right]/dt} = \frac{k_{2}\left[\mathbf{A}\right]}{k_{3}\left[\mathbf{C}\right]}$$

Since $[C]/[A] = k_1/k_{-1}...$

$$\frac{\left[\mathbf{P}_{1}\right]}{\left[\mathbf{P}_{2}\right]} = \frac{k_{2}}{k_{3}} \cdot \frac{k_{2}}{k_{1}}$$

4. New and Improved Articulation of the Curtin-Hammett Principle:

"Given two rapidly equilibrating species such that each can react to give their respective products, the product ratio depends on their relative proportions <u>and</u> their relative reactivities."

• See Seeman, J. I. J. Chem. Educ. 1986, 63, 42.