CH353 – Physical Chemistry I

Spring 2012, Unique 52135

Homework, Week 13

- 1. We have defined rates of reactions in terms of molar concentration.
 - a) What implicit assumption does this definition require?
 - b) Derive an expression for the rate of a reaction in terms of the molar concentration of reactant A for the case in which this assumption is not valid.
- 2. In biological systems, certain proteins called enzymes (E) catalyze the reaction of small molecules called substrates (S) to form the desired products (P). A proposed reaction mechanism involves two elementary steps; 1) one substrate binds to one enzyme in a slow step to form an enzyme-substrate complex (ES), and 2) the enzyme-substrate complex reacts quickly to form one product.
- a) Write the overall reaction and the elementary reactions described by this proposed mechanism.
- b) Assuming that the steady-state approximation holds, determine the rate law for the overall reaction, in terms of the concentration of reactants, concentration of products, and any rate constant.
- 3. Consider the following reaction:

$$Cr(H_2O)_6^{3+}(aq) + SCN^{-}(aq) \rightarrow Cr(H_2O)_5(SCN)^{2+}(aq) + H_2O(1)$$

The following initial rate data were obtained at 298 K:

$[Cr(H_2O)_6^{3+}]_0 \text{ (mol/L)}$	$[SCN^{-}]_{0} (mol/L)$	v_{θ} (mol/Ls)
1.21 x 10 ⁻⁴	1.05×10^{-5}	2.11×10^{-11}
1.46×10^{-4}	2.28×10^{-5}	5.53×10^{-11}
1.66×10^{-4}	1.02×10^{-5}	2.82×10^{-11}
1.83×10^{-4}	3.11×10^{-5}	9.44×10^{-11}

Determine the rate law and rate constant for this reaction. Assuming integer reaction orders.

4. Consider the reaction of A to form either product B:

$$A \rightarrow B$$

Derive an expression for [A] at any time as a function of the initial concentration [A] $_0$ and the rate constant of the reaction.

5. Suppose you could measure the concentration of species A, [A], at any time <i>t</i> along a reaction. Explain, in words and figures, how you would use the integrated rate law you derived in problem 4 to determine the rate constant of the reaction.		