

[Print version](#)

CEE 690K ENVIRONMENTAL REACTION KINETICS

Lecture #9

Reaction Mechanisms: Acid Catalysis
Brezonik, Chapter 4

David A. Reckhow

Introduction

Mechanisms: Haloform Reaction

2

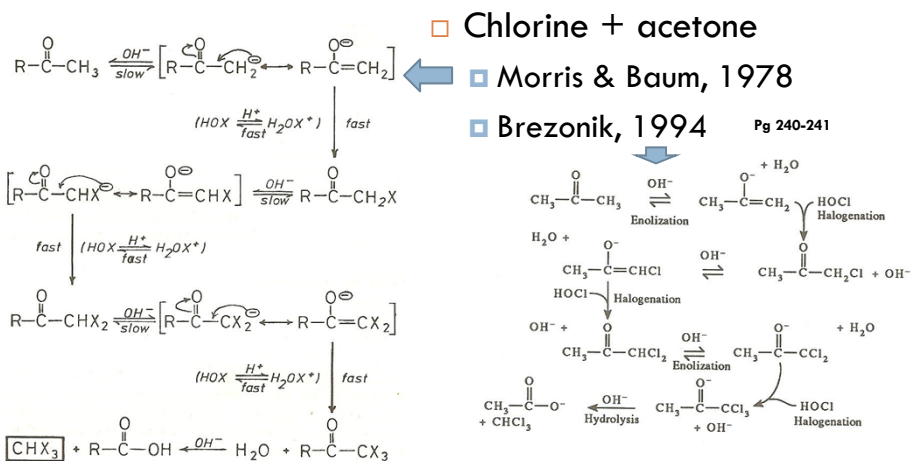


Figure 1. The reaction pathway of the haloform reaction.

Haloform reaction: initial step

3

- Three potential pathways to enolate
 - Reaction with water (K_O), hydroxide (K_{OH}), and proton (K_H)
 - $k_f = K_O + K_{OH}[\text{OH}^-] + K_H[\text{H}^+]$
 - For acetone, the OH pathway dominates above pH 5.5

Table I. Rates of Ionization of Ketones^{3,4}

Substance	pK _a	K _O sec ⁻¹	K _{OH} 1/mol, sec	K _H 1/mol, sec	t ₅₀ pH 7, hr	t ₅₀ , pH 8.3, hr
Acetone	20	4.7 × 10 ⁻¹⁰	0.25	2.9 × 10 ⁻⁵	7500	385
Chloroacetone	16.5	5.3 × 10 ⁻⁸	93	6.3 × 10 ⁻⁵	21	1.0
as-Dichloroacetone	15	7.3 × 10 ⁻⁶	450	1.1 × 10 ⁻⁵	3.7	0.21
Pyruvic acid ⁶		4.5 × 10 ⁻⁷				
Ethyl pyruvate ⁶	16	4.7 × 10 ⁻⁷				
Acetylacetone	9.0	1.1 × 10 ⁻²				
Ethyl acetoacetate	10.7	1.2 × 10 ⁻³				
Malonic acid		1.7 × 10 ⁻¹				

$$K_a = \frac{k_f}{k_r} = \frac{[\text{H}^+][\text{A}^-]}{[\text{HA}]}$$

What is k_f ?

CEE690K Lecture #09

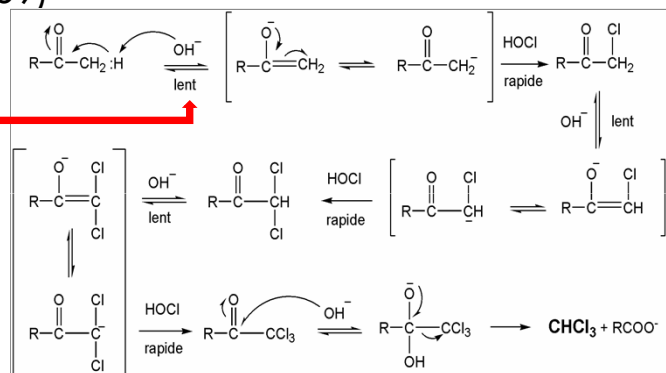
David A. Reckhow

Haloform: Doré's diagram

4

- Doré (1989)

RLS is the first one



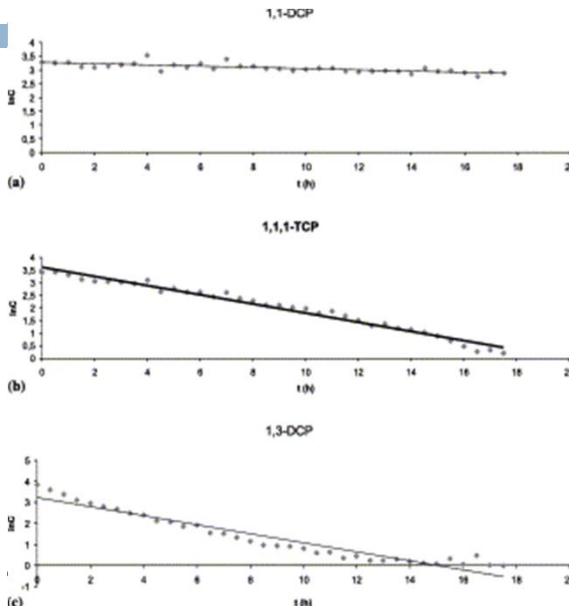
CEE690K Lecture #09

David A. Reckhow

Loss of intermediates in lab water

5

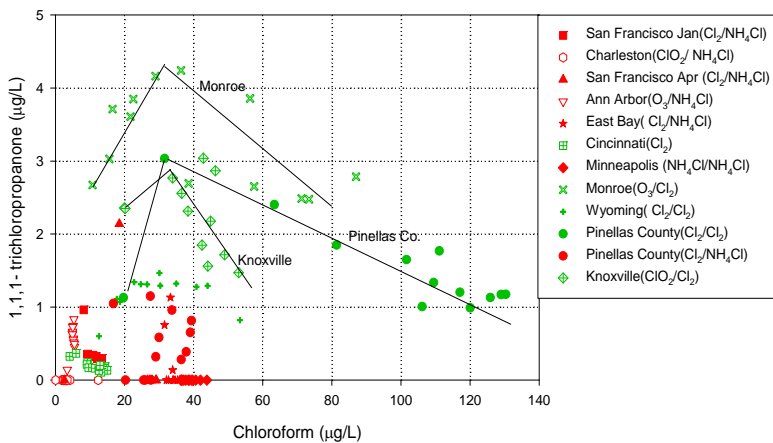
- 21C, ultrapure water
- (Nikolaou et al., 2001)



Profile of TCP in water systems

6

- 1,1,1-Trichloropropanone concentrations compared to the corresponding TTHM concentration for all samples

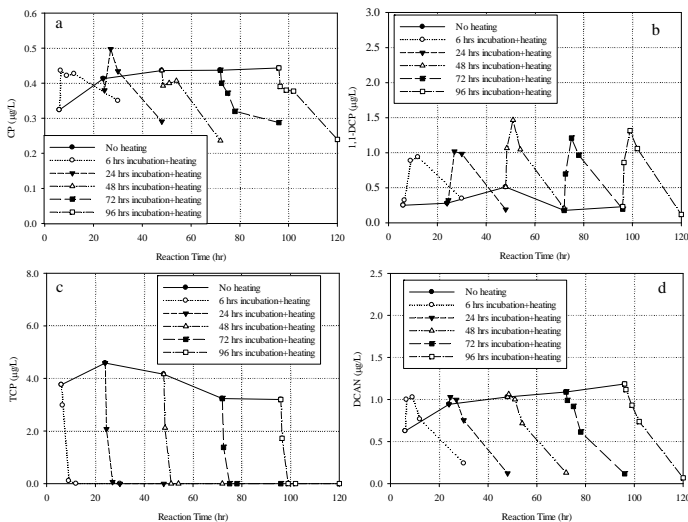


Reckhow

Loss in water heaters

7

- Liu et al., 2013
- In review



Case Study: TCP

8

- Observed loss of 1,1,1-trichloropropanone in distribution systems
- Lab studies show that chloroform is the product
- Logically presumed to be a simple hydrolysis

Note: both TCP and TCAC refer to the 1,1,1-trichloropropanone

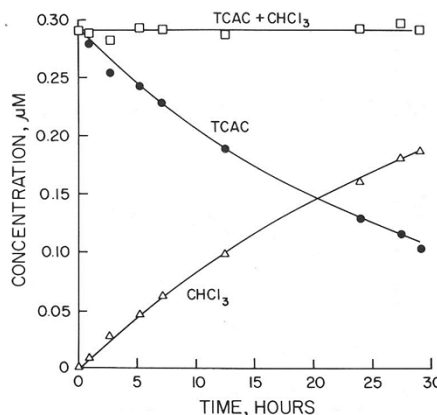


Figure 6. Chlorination of 1,1,1-trichloroacetone (TCAC). Conditions: 20.4 mg/L applied HOCl, [PO₄]_T = 0.0145 M, pH 7.0, 20°C.

Reckhow & Singer, 1985
 "Mechanisms of Organic Halide Formation During Fulvic Acid Chlorination and Implications with Respect to Preozonation", In Jolley et al., *Water Chlorination: Chemistry, Environmental Impact and Health Effect*, Volume 3, Lewis.

CEE690K Lecture #09

David A. Reckhow

TCP (cont.)

9

□ Ionic strength effects

$$\ln k_H = -4.81 - 1.4\sqrt{I}$$

$$\log k_H = -2.08 - 0.6\sqrt{I}$$

□ Rate with chlorine

■ Increases greatly

■ High intercept

$$k_T = 0.024 + 32[HOCl]_T$$

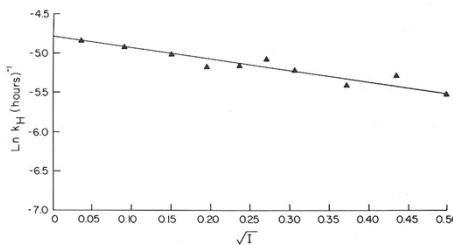


Figure 8. Pseudo first-order reaction rate constants for the hydrolysis of 1,1,1-trichloroacetone as a function of ionic strength. Conditions: pH 7.0, 20°C, no added chlorine.

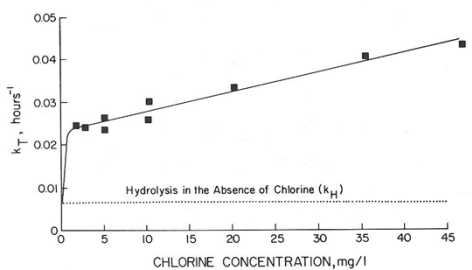


Figure 9. Pseudo first-order reaction rate constants for the disappearance of 1,1,1-trichloroacetone as a function of chlorine dose. Conditions: pH 7.0, 20°C, $[PO_4] = 0.0145 M$.

Disagreement with prior study

10

□ Gurol & Suffet showed 10x higher rate constants

□ Phosphate?

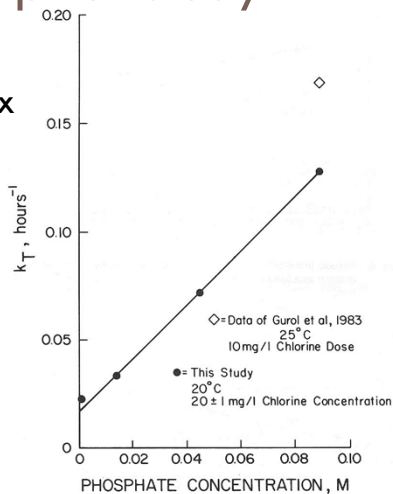
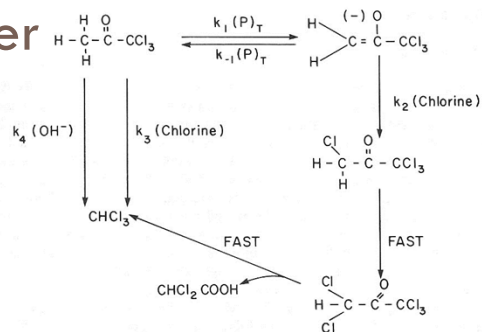


Figure 7. Pseudo first-order reaction rate constants for the chlorination of 1,1,1-trichloroacetone as a function of phosphate concentration at pH 7.0.

Putting it together

11



$$k_T = \frac{k_1 k_2 (\text{Chlorine}) (P)_T}{k_{-1} (P)_T + k_2 (\text{Chlorine})} + k_3 (\text{Chlorine}) + k_4 (\text{OH}^-)$$

where $k_1 = 1.25 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ hr}^{-1}$ $k_{-1} = 1.6 \times 10^{-7} / k_{\text{TCAC}}$
 $k_3 = 32 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ hr}^{-1}$ $k_2 > 10^9 / k_{\text{TCAC}}$
 $k_4 = 64,000 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ hr}^{-1}$

$$k_{\text{TCAC}} = \frac{(\text{Enolate}) (\text{H}^+)}{(\text{Keto-enol})}$$

Figure 12. Hypothetical mechanism for the decomposition of trichloroacetone to chloroform in the presence of intermediate concentrations of phosphate at pH 7.

CEE690K Lecture #09

David A. Reckhow

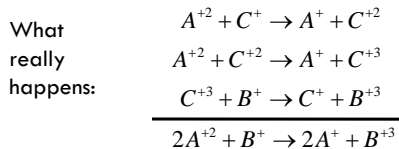
Catalysis

12

□ Homogeneous Catalysis

□ Definition

- Liquid-phase substances which react with the main reactants or intermediates thereby providing an alternative pathway to products with a lower activation energy or a higher frequency factor. Catalysts are often regenerated over the course of the reaction.



"C" serves as a sort of charge-transfer facilitator, since "B" does not exist in a divalent state

CEE690K Lecture #09

David A. Reckhow

13

□ Summary

Table 4-1. Mechanisms of Acid-Base Catalysis

Type	Mechanism	Rate expression	Comments
I. Specific H ⁺	$S + HA \xrightleftharpoons[k_2]{k_1} SH^+ + A^-$ $SH^+ + H_2O \xrightarrow[\text{slow}]{k_3} P + H_3O^+$	$P = k_1 k_3 [S][HA] / k_2 [A^-]$ $= (k_1 k_3 / k_2 K_a) [S][H^+]$ where $K_a = [H^+][A^-]/[HA]$	For protolytic case, expression applies when $k_3 \gg k_2 [A^-]$; rate-controlling step is formation of intermediate SH ⁺ . P written for presence of several Bronsted acids in system.
II. General acid	$S + HA \xrightleftharpoons[k_2]{k_1} SH^+ + A^-$ $SH^+ + H_2O \xrightarrow[\text{fast}]{k_3} P + H_3O^+$	$P = [S](\sum k_i [HA])$	Expression applies when $k_3 \gg k_2 [A^-]$; rate-controlling step is formation of intermediate SH ⁺ . P written for presence of several Bronsted acids in system.
III. General acid	$S + HA \xrightleftharpoons[k_2]{k_1} SH^+ + A^-$ $SH^+ + A^- \xrightarrow{k_3} P + HA$	$P = \frac{k_1 k_3 [S][HA]}{(k_2 + k_3)}$ or $P = k' [S][HA]$	Prototropic mechanism yields general acid catalysis regardless of relative sizes of k_2 and k_3 .
IV. Specific OH ⁻	$HS + B \xrightleftharpoons[k_2]{k_1} S^- + BH^+$ $S^- + H_2O \xrightarrow[\text{slow}]{k_3} P + OH^-$	$P = k_1 k_3 [S^-][B][OH^-]$ $= (k_1 k_3 / K_a) [S][B][OH^-]$	For protolytic case, expression applies when $k_3 \gg k_2 [BH^+]$ regardless of nature of proton acceptor in first step.
V. General base	$HS + B \xrightleftharpoons[k_2]{k_1} S^- + BH^+$ $S^- + H_2O \xrightarrow[\text{fast}]{k_3} P + OH^-$	$P = k_1 [HS][B]$ $P = [HS](\sum k_i [B])$	Expression applies when $k_3 \gg k_2 [BH^+]$; rate-controlling step is formation of S ⁻ ; P written for presence of several Bronsted bases.
VI. General base	$HS + B \xrightleftharpoons[k_2]{k_1} S^- + BH^+$ $S^- + BH^+ \xrightarrow{k_3} P + B$	$P = \frac{k_1 k_3 [S][HA]}{(k_2 + k_3)}$ or $P = k' [S][HA]$	Prototropic case yields general base catalysis regardless of relative sizes of k_2 and k_3 .

CEE69

Adapted from Laidler, K. J., *Chemical Kinetics*, McGraw-Hill, New York, 1965.

14

□ To next lecture

CEE690K Lecture #09

David A. Reckhow