

composite reaction

A *chemical reaction* for which the expression for the rate of disappearance of a reactant (or rate of appearance of a product) involves rate constants of more than a single *elementary reaction*. Examples are ‘opposing reactions’ (where rate constants of two opposed chemical reactions are involved), ‘parallel reactions’ (for which the rate of disappearance of any reactant is governed by the rate constants relating to several simultaneous reactions to form different respective products from a single set of reactants), and *stepwise reactions*.

1994, 66, 1098; 1993, 65, 2293