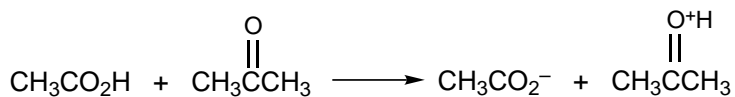


### proton transfer reaction

A *chemical reaction*, the main feature of which is the *intermolecular* or *intramolecular* transfer of a proton (*hydron*) from one *binding site* to another. For example:



In the detailed description of proton transfer reactions, especially of rapid proton transfers between electronegative atoms, it should always be specified whether the term is used to refer to the overall process (including the more-or-less *encounter-controlled* formation of a hydrogen bonded complex and the separation of the products; see *microscopic diffusion control*) or just to the proton transfer event (including solvent rearrangement) by itself.

See also *autoprotolysis*, *tautomerism*.  
1994, 66, 1153