

**isotope effect**

The effect on the rate or equilibrium constant of two reactions that differ only in the isotopic composition of one or more of their otherwise chemically identical components is referred to as a *kinetic isotope effect* or a *thermodynamic* (or *equilibrium*) *isotope effect*, respectively.

1994, 66, 1130; 1994, 66, 2521; see also 1996, 68, 170