

Measuring Rate

Chemistry

The practical methods, and what each suits.

Method against reaction type.

Method	Measures	Suits
Gas syringe	Volume of gas	Gas-producing reactions
Mass loss	Mass on a balance	Gas escaping
Colorimetry	Absorbance	Coloured reactant or product
Titrating samples	Concentration over time	Quenched aliquots
Disappearing cross	Time to obscure	Precipitate forming
pH probe	Hydrogen ion concentration	Acid-base reactions

The initial rate is the gradient of the tangent at $t = 0$. That is where the concentration is known exactly.