

## degenerate chain branching

Sometimes chain branching is brought about by an intermediate which has a long lifetime compared with an ordinary free radical. If this intermediate can break down in different ways, only one of which leads to branching, there may be a relatively slow increase in the number of radicals, and there is said to be degenerate chain branching.

**Source:**

PAC, 1996, 68, 149 (*A glossary of terms used in chemical kinetics, including reaction dynamics (IUPAC Recommendations 1996)*) on page 162