

**efficiency (of a step),  $\eta$**

The ratio between the useful energy delivered or bound and the energy supplied, i.e. energy output/energy input. It is also used in the sense of a quantitative measure of the relative rate of a given step involving a species with respect to the sum of the rates of all of the parallel steps which depopulate that species.

See also *quantum yield*.  
1996, 68, 2238