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Are Intermediate, Activated Complex, Transition State And Adduct The Same? And What Does The Reaction Coordinate Mean? A One Hour Class-Room Lecture For Graduate Students

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ABSTRACT

As a physical organic chemistry student and as a teacher nearly for the last three and half decades teaching to undergraduate and post-graduate students, it is often observed that still an excellent class room teaching is an art and a good teacher should note that the fundamentals should be taught comprehensively. As kineticists we can say that chemical kinetics continues to move ahead on many fronts, one of them in which kineticists are increasingly interested is the Physical Organic Chemistry. Though physical organic chemistry teachers often teach the description of the intermediate, activated complex, transition state and adduct in a class-room of organic reaction mechanism and chemical kinetics with differences in their meanings, still the average and above average students conceive them that they always convey the same meaning.

Keywords: Intermediate, activated complex, transition state, adduct.