

transition species

Any intermediate species in an elementary reaction. An activated complex is an example of a transition species, but the latter term also includes other intermediate species. Transition species have also been called transition states, but there is then danger of confusion with a true activated complex, which is also commonly known as a transition state.

Source:

PAC, 1996, 68, 149 (*A glossary of terms used in chemical kinetics, including reaction dynamics (IUPAC Recommendations 1996)*) on page 190