



EASTERN UNIVERSITY, SRI LANKA  
FIRST EXAMINATION IN SCIENCE – 2003/2004(Repeat)  
SECOND SEMESTER

(June/July-2005)

CH104 ORGANIC REACTION MECHANISM AND CHEMICAL KINETICS

Answer all questions

Time: 01 hour

1) a(I) Distinguish between a transition state and an intermediate  
(II) Compare  $S_N^1$  and  $S_N^2$  reaction mechanism with respect to

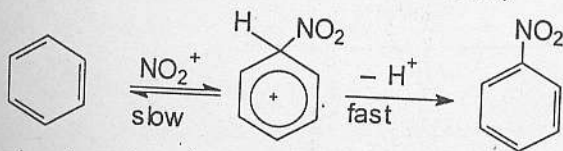
- Order
- Number of steps
- Rate and concentration of substrate and reactants
- Stereochemistry
- Nucleophile
- Rearrangements

(III) Explain why the rate of an  $S_N^1$  reaction decreases as follows



b. (I) Give two examples for strong and weak nucleophile respectively

(II) The nitration of benzene can be represented as follows,



(i) On the basis of mechanism draw and fully label the graph of free energy VS reaction co-ordinate for above reaction. Label the position of reactants, transition state(s), intermediate, product(s)

(ii) Write a rate law for this reaction

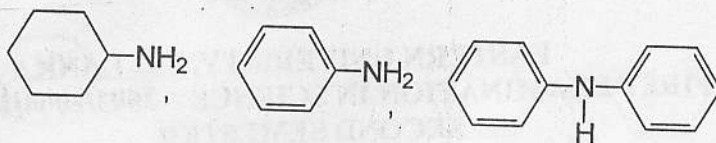
(iii) On the same graph in (i) draw then free energy profile for

- The nitration of toluene
- The nitration of benzoic acid

c. Arrange the following compounds in order by increasing basic strength

(I) Ammonia, Methyl amine, Dimethyl amine, Chloroamine

(II)



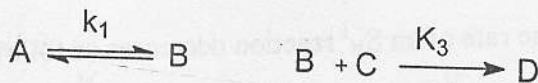
2)a(i) What is meant by the term half-life of a reaction

(ii) A nuclear decomposition follows first order kinetics; a certain radioactive product of a nuclear reaction must be stored until it is 99.9% decomposed if its half life is 5000 years, for how long it must be stored.

(iii) The thermal decomposition of  $N_2O_5$  is first order kinetics if the rate constant at  $25^\circ C$  is  $1.7 \times 10^{-5} \text{ sec}^{-1}$  at what rate does  $N_2O_5$  decompose at this temperature (Partial pressure is 50.0 KPa, Gas constant  $(R) = 8,314 \text{ Jmol}^{-1} K^{-1}$ )

b(i). What is meant by the term steady state approximation in chemical kinetics.

(ii).



Determine the rate of expression for above reaction in terms of rate constants  $K_1, K_2$  and the  $P_A, P_B, P_C$  &  $P_D$  ( $P_A, P_B, P_C$  and  $P_D$  are partial pressure of A, B, C and D respectively). If the concentration of B is small compared with the concentration of A, C, D, show that this reaction may follow 1<sup>st</sup> order equation at high pressure and 2<sup>nd</sup> order equation at low pressure.

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