

### acyl species

Acyl *intermediates* include acyl anions, acyl radicals and acyl cations (synonym *acylium ions*) which are formally derived from *oxoacids*  $R_kE(=O)_l(OH)_m$  ( $l \neq 0$ ) by removal of a hydroxyl cation  $HO^+$ , a hydroxyl radical  $HO^\cdot$  or a hydroxyl anion  $HO^-$ , respectively, and replacement analogues of such intermediates. Acyl anions, radicals and cations can formally be represented by canonical forms having a negative charge, an unpaired electron or a positive charge on the acid-generating element of the oxoacid.

Acyl anions. E.g.  $RC^-(=O)$ ,  $RS^-(=O)_2$ ,  $RC^-(=S)$ ,  $RC^-(=NH)$ .

Acyl radicals. E.g.  $RC^\cdot(=O)$ ,  $RS^\cdot(=O)_2$ .

Acyl cations. E.g.  $RC^+(=O) \leftrightarrow RC \equiv O^+$ .

See also *acyl groups*.

1995, 67, 1312; see also 1993, 65, 1357