The following cation, which is a strong electrophile, is called the nitronium ion.

\[
\cdot\cdot\cdot^+\text{N}\cdot\cdot\cdot
\]

Salts of the nitronium ion are available commercially.

eg:

\[
^+\text{NO}_2^-\text{BF}_4
\]

The nitronium ion can be generated by the reaction of conc. nitric acid with conc. sulfuric acid.

\[
\text{H}_3\text{NO}_2 + \text{H}_2\text{SO}_4 \rightarrow \text{HNO}_3 + \text{H}_2\text{O}
\]

see also nitro group

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**Contributors**

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