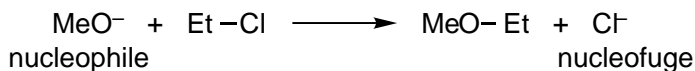


### **nucleophile (nucleophilic)**

A nucleophile (or nucleophilic reagent) is a reagent that forms a bond to its reaction partner (the *electrophile*) by donating both bonding electrons. A ‘nucleophilic substitution reaction’ is a *heterolytic* reaction in which the reagent supplying the entering group acts as a nucleophile. For example:



The term ‘nucleophilic’ is also used to designate the apparent polar character of certain *radicals*, as inferred from their higher relative reactivity with reaction sites of lower electron density.

Nucleophilic reagents are *Lewis bases*.

1994, 66, 1146