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*Mohammad Hossein Keshavarz,  
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# THE PROPERTIES OF ENERGETIC MATERIALS

SENSITIVITY, PHYSICAL AND THERMODYNAMIC  
PROPERTIES



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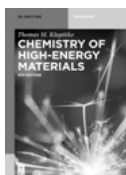
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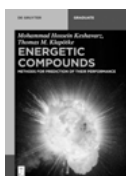


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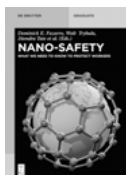


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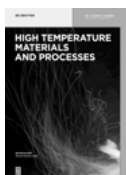


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Mohammad H. Keshavarz, Thomas M. Klapötke

# **The Properties of Energetic Materials**

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Sensitivity, Physical and Thermodynamic Properties

**DE GRUYTER**

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## Preface

For a chemist who is concerned with the synthesis of new energetic compounds, it is essential to be able to assess physical and thermodynamic properties, as well as the sensitivity of possible new energetic compounds before synthesis is attempted. Various approaches have been developed to predict important aspects of the physical and thermodynamic properties of energetic materials including (but not exclusively): crystal density, heat of formation, melting point, enthalpy of fusion and enthalpy of sublimation of an organic energetic compound. Since an organic energetic material consists of metastable molecules capable of undergoing very rapid and highly exothermic reactions, many methods have been developed to estimate the sensitivity of an energetic compound with respect to detonation-causing external stimuli such as heat, friction, impact, shock, and electrostatic discharge. This book introduces these methods and demonstrates those methods which can be easily applied.



## About the authors

**Mohammad Hossein Keshavarz**, born in 1966, studied chemistry at Shiraz University and received his BSc in 1988. He also received a MSc and PhD at Shiraz University in 1991 and 1995. From 1997 until 2008, he was Assistant Professor, Associate Professor and Professor of Physical Chemistry at the University of Malek-ashtar in Shahin-shahr of Iran. Since 1997 he is Lecturer and researcher at the Malek-ashtar University of Technology, Iran. He is the editor of two research journals in the Persian language. Keshavarz has published over 250 scientific papers in international peer reviewed journals, 3 book chapters and five books in the field of the assessment of energetic materials (four books in Persian language and one book in English language).

**Thomas M. Klapötke** received his PhD in 1986 (TU Berlin), post-doc in Fredericton, New Brunswick, habilitation in 1990 (TU Berlin). From 1995 until 1997 Klapötke was Ramsay Professor of Chemistry at the University of Glasgow in Scotland. Since 1997 he has held the Chair of Inorganic Chemistry at LMU Munich. In 2009 Klapötke was appointed a Visiting Professor at CECD, University of Maryland and in 2014 he was appointed a Adjunct Professor at the University of Rhode Island. Klapötke is a Fellow of the RSC (C.Sci., C.Chem. F.R.S.C.), a member of the ACS and the Fluorine Division of the ACS, a member of the GDCh, and a Life Member of both the IPS and the National Defense Industrial Association. Most of Klapötke's scientific collaborations are between LMU and ARL (US Army Research Laboratory) in Aberdeen, MD and ARDEC (Armament Research Development and Engineering Center) in Picatinny, NJ. Klapötke also collaborates with ERDC in Champaign, IL. And Prof Ang, How-Ghee (NTU, Singapore). He is the executive editor of *Zeitschrift für Anorganische und Allgemeine Chemie*, the Subject Editor in the area of explosives synthesis of the *Central European Journal of Energetic Materials* and an editorial board member of *Propellants, Explosives and Pyrotechnics (PEP)*, *Journal of Energetic Materials*, the *Engineering Journal of The Military Technical College (EJMTC)*, the *Chinese Journal of Explosives and Propellants* and the *International Journal of Energetic Materials and Chemical Propulsion (IJEMCP)*. Klapötke has published over 750 papers, 30 book chapters and 12 books.





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# 1 Crystal density

The crystal density and condensed phase heat of formation of an energetic compound are two important physicochemical properties, and are essential values in order to be able to predict the detonation performance using a thermodynamic equilibrium code such as CHEETAH [1], or through empirical methods [2–10]. The performance characteristics of energetic compounds are proportional to their densities, e.g. the Chapman–Jouguet pressure is proportional to the square of the initial density [2, 3]. Thus, it is essential to use suitable methods such as gas pycnometry or low-temperature single crystal x-ray diffraction to determine the crystal density of an energetic compound. New molecules which are candidates for possible use as energetic materials can be synthesized, characterized, and formulated by reliable predictive methods, and theoretical molecular design may be used to develop new energetic materials before synthesis is attempted. The synthesis of molecules with significantly increased energy in comparison with current materials, as well as the synthesis of very insensitive materials which have reasonable energies, have been two important goals for scientists in recent years. Since it is essential to have reliable methods to predict the density of energetic compounds, different approaches have been developed to assess the crystal density of an energetic compound at 25 °C.

Attempts have been made to predict the crystal densities of proposed new energetic compounds with satisfactory accuracy. A predicted crystal density that differs by less than 0.03 g/cm<sup>3</sup> from the experimentally obtained value should be defined as “excellent”. A value that deviates between 0.03 and 0.05 g/cm<sup>3</sup> from the experimental value is still “informative” [11]. Quantum-mechanically determined molecular volumes [12–15], group additivity [16–18], empirical methods [19–22], quantitative structure–property relationships (QSPR) based on complex descriptors [23, 24] and molecular dynamics (MD) [25] are usual different approaches which have developed to predict the crystal densities of different types of C<sub>a</sub>H<sub>b</sub>N<sub>c</sub>O<sub>d</sub> energetic compounds. The group additivity method is a simple approach because it requires only a set of atoms and group volumes that can be summed to obtain an estimate of the effective molecular volume using a simple computer code [17]. Tedious investigations have been undertaken over the last 30 years or so to expand the list of atom and functional group volumes [17, 18]. Although group additivity methods are simple to use with low cost, the predicted value which is obtained may show very large deviation from the experimentally obtained value for some energetic compounds. Moreover, such methods can only be used for those energetic compounds for which the values of all groups contained in the compound have been specified. Quantum mechanical and empirical methods (or QSPR) based on the structures of energetic compounds are more reliable approaches to estimate the density of an energetic compound. The QSPR methods are based on complex descriptors which develop a mathematical relationship connecting a macroscopic property of a series of compounds to microscopic descriptors derived

from their molecular structures using an experimental data set. They require computer codes and expert users, as well as complex descriptors. The descriptors used in QSPR models can be empirical, or computed on the basis of the molecular structure. Various statistical tools including multilinear regression (MLR), nonlinear regression (NLR), partial least squares (PLS), artificial neural network (ANN), genetic algorithm (GA) or support vector machine (SVM) are frequently used to derive the mathematical equations (or algorithms) linking the property and descriptors [26, 27]. MD is a computer simulation of the physical movements of atoms and molecules in the context of N-body simulation. Due to the higher reliability of quantum mechanical and empirical methods (or QSPR) based on molecular/ionic structures, these approaches have been developed in recent years for neutral and ionic liquid energetic compounds, which are described in this chapter.

## 1.1 Quantum mechanical approach

Quantum mechanical computations require high-speed computers to conduct complicated calculations, and can be used for energetic molecules with simple molecular structures [11, 13–15, 28]. Rice et al. [29] reviewed different quantum mechanical approaches for the prediction of crystal densities of neutral molecular and ionic molecular crystals. Qiu et al. [14] introduced a very direct approach to estimate the crystal densities of nitramines based on the ratio of the molecular mass and the volume of the isolated gas phase molecule. Rice et al. [13] developed the method of Qiu et al. [14] for primarily nitroaromatics, nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatics. They presented a method for estimating the densities of neutral and ionic molecular crystals using the quantum-mechanically determined molecular volume of an isolated molecule or formula unit within the crystal as

$$\rho = \frac{M}{V_m}, \quad (1.1)$$

where  $\rho$  is the crystal density of energetic compound;  $M$  is the molecular mass of the molecule in g/molecule and  $V_m$  is the volume inside the 0.001 a.u. isosurface of electron density surrounding the molecule which is calculated using density functional theory (DFT) at the B3LYP/ 6-31G\*\* level with the Gaussian program package. Politzer et al. [15] improved the procedure presented by Rice et al. [13] by adding corrections for electrostatic interactions, in order to better represent the intermolecular interactions in both neutral and ionic molecular crystals. Rice et al. [29] used a suitable DFT method based on the Politzer et al. method [15] for calculating the density of energetic compounds through the interaction index  $v\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2$  as

$$\rho = \alpha_1 \left( \frac{M}{V_m} \right) + \beta_1 (v\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2) + \gamma_1, \quad (1.2)$$

where  $\rho$  is in  $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ ;  $\sigma_{\text{tot}}^2$  and  $\nu$  are the total variance of the electrostatic potential on the 0.001 a.u. molecular surface and the degree of balance between the positive and negative potentials on the molecular surface, respectively. Details of the coefficients  $\alpha_1$ ,  $\beta_1$  and  $\gamma_1$  (which can be found by least square fitting with experimental data), are given elsewhere [29]. For example, the calculated crystal densities of some newly designed derivatives of tetrazole, namely, 5,5'-((1Z,5Z)-3,4-dinitrohexaaza-1,5-diene-1,6-diyl)bis(1-nitro-1H-tetrazole), 5,5'-((1Z,5Z)-3,4-diaminohexaaza-1,5-diene-1,6-diyl)bis(1-nitro-1H-tetrazole), 5,5'-((1Z,5Z)-3,4-dinitrohexaaza-1,5-diene-1,6-diyl)bis(1H-tetrazol-1-amine), 3,3'-dinitro-3,3a,3',3'a-tetrahydro-7H,7'H-[6,6'-bitetrazolo[1,5-e]pentazine]-7,7'-diamine, 3,3',7,7'-tetranitro-3,3a,3',3'a-tetrahydro-7H,7'H-6,6'-bitetrazolo[1,5-e]pentazine are 1.95, 1.84, 1.86, 1.90 and 1.92  $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$ , respectively [30].

For ionic molecular crystals, Rice et al. [29] reparameterized the equation of Politzer et al. [15] as follows:

$$\rho = \alpha \frac{M}{V_m} + \beta \sum \left( \frac{\bar{V}_s^+}{A_s^+} \right) + \gamma \sum \left( \frac{\bar{V}_s^-}{A_s^-} \right) + \delta, \quad (1.3)$$

where the contributions from every ionic molecule in the formula unit are summed over the two ionic contribution terms. In this equation,  $\bar{V}_s^+$  is the average of the positive values of  $V_s$  and  $A_s^+$  is the portion of the cation surface that has a positive electrostatic potential. Furthermore,  $\bar{V}_s^-$  is the average of the negative values of  $V_s$  and  $A_s^-$  is the portion of the anion surface that has a negative electrostatic potential. Rice et al. [29] obtained the values of  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  and  $\delta$  through best fit parameters and have the following values: 1.1145, 0.02056  $\text{g A}^2/(\text{cm}^3 \text{ kcal/mol})$ ,  $-0.0392 \text{ g A}^2/(\text{cm}^3 \text{ kcal/mol})$  and  $-0.1683 \text{ g}/\text{cm}^3$ , respectively.

## 1.2 Empirical methods for the calculation of the crystal density of different classes of energetic materials

Different simple empirical methods have recently been introduced which enable the reliable prediction of the crystal density of important classes of energetic compounds at room temperature. These methods are reviewed here.

### 1.2.1 Nitroaromatic energetic compounds

It has been shown that the following general equation is suitable for most nitroaromatic high explosives [20]:

$$\rho' = \frac{10.57a + 0.1266b + 30.38c + 35.18d}{Mw}, \quad (1.4)$$

where  $\rho'$  is the uncorrected crystal density in  $\text{g}/\text{cm}^3$  (it can also be corrected for some compounds in which the molecular structure or intermolecular forces can result in a



reduction or expansion of the volume of the compound),  $a$ ,  $b$ ,  $c$  and  $d$  are the number of carbon, hydrogen, nitrogen, and oxygen atoms respectively, and  $Mw$  is the molecular weight of the desired nitroaromatic energetic compound. This equation provides core correlation for estimation of the crystal density for a large number of nitroaromatic explosives. The corrected crystal density correlations can be expressed for some nitroaromatic energetic compounds according to the following:

- (1) attachment of  $-N_3$  or  $-N_2^+$  groups to an aromatic ring,

$$\rho = -0.0238 + 0.9615\rho', \quad (1.4a)$$

- (2) presence of positive and negative charges on nitrogen:

$$\rho = 1.3022 + 0.3261\rho', \quad (1.4b)$$

- (3) existence of N-oxide in a heterocyclic aromatic structure:

$$\rho = 1.3958 + 0.2657\rho', \quad (1.4c)$$

- (4) attachment of an aromatic ring ( $-Ar$ ) to  $-OR$  or  $-OAr'$  where  $R$  and  $Ar'$  are alkyl and aromatic groups, respectively:

$$\rho = -0.5139 + 1.2532\rho', \quad (1.4d)$$

- (5) the attachment of more than two  $-OH$  or  $-NH_2$  groups to the aromatic ring:

$$\rho = 1.1024\rho', \quad (1.4e)$$

- (6) attachment of one  $-OH$  or two  $-OH$ , or two  $-NH_2$  groups to an aromatic ring:

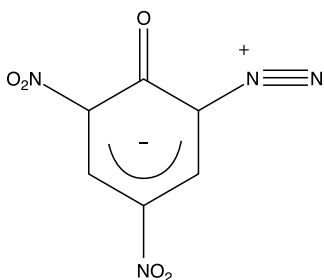
$$\rho = 0.2332 + 0.8872\rho', \quad (1.4f)$$

- (7) direct attachment of an aromatic ring to another aromatic ring ( $Ar-Ar$ ):

$$\rho = -0.2164 + 1.093\rho'. \quad (1.4g)$$

For any nitroaromatic compounds, the order in which the equations should be applied is from equations (1.4a)–(1.4g).

**Example 1.1.** Equation (1.4a) should be used rather than equation (1.4f) to calculate the crystal density of diazodinitrophenol (with the following molecular structure) because of the presence of the  $-N_2^+$  group.



Thus, the crystal density of diazodinitrophenol ( $C_6H_2N_4O_5$ ) is calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho' &= \frac{10.57a + 0.1266b + 30.38c + 35.18d}{Mw} \\ &= \frac{10.57(6) + 0.1266(2) + 30.38(4) + 35.18(5)}{210.1} \\ &= 1.720 \text{ g/cm}^3 \\ \rho &= -0.0238 + 0.9615\rho' \\ &= -0.0238 + 0.9615(1.720) \\ &= 1.630 \text{ g/cm}^3.\end{aligned}$$

The calculated value is the same as the measured value of  $1.63 \text{ g/cm}^3$  [31].

### 1.2.2 Acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic compounds

A study of nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic systems shows that the atomic composition and number of special functional groups can be inserted into an empirical formula to predict the uncorrected crystal density of these compounds according to the following equation [19]:

$$\rho' = \frac{47.97a - 19.29b + 26.53c + 26.00d - 25.32n_{\text{COO}} - 0.6358n_0 + 11.54n_{\text{OH}}}{Mw}, \quad (1.5)$$

where  $n_{\text{COO}}$ ,  $n_0$  and  $n_{\text{OH}}$  are the number of ester, ether and alcohol functional groups, respectively.

The corrected crystal densities for some particular examples of acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters, and nitroaliphatic compounds can be obtained based on the molecular structure as follows:

(1) mononitroalkanes:

$$\rho = 0.4170 + 0.5970\rho', \quad (1.5a)$$

(2) the attachment of two  $-\text{NO}_2$  groups to one carbon (which has no additional  $-\text{COO}-$ ,  $-\text{O}-$  or  $-\text{OH}$  functional groups):

$$\rho = 0.1233 + 0.8373\rho', \quad (1.5b)$$

(3) the attachment of three  $-\text{NO}_2$  groups to one carbon:

$$\rho = \begin{cases} 3.033 - \rho' & \text{if } n_{\text{CH}_2} \geq 1.5n_{\text{NO}_2}, \\ -0.3788 + 1.2569\rho' & \text{if } n_{\text{CH}_2} \leq 0.6n_{\text{NO}_2}. \end{cases} \quad (1.5c)$$

For those molecules that satisfy both conditions (2) and (3), equation (1.5c) rather than (1.5b) should be used

- (4) for nitrate compounds (without cyclic ring attachment), if  $n_{\text{CH}_2\text{ONO}_2} + n_{\text{CHONO}_2} \geq 4$  then

$$\rho = 0.1745 + 0.9235\rho'; \quad (1.5d)$$

- (5) cage and cyclo nitro compounds in which only one  $-\text{NO}_2$  (not more) is attached to a carbon atom:

$$\rho = -0.0515 + 0.9142\rho'. \quad (1.5e)$$

For cyclic nitramines and nitramine compounds in which  $\text{N}-\text{NO}_2$  is attached to an aromatic ring (such as in Tetryl), as well as polycyclic energetic compounds that contain no more than one oxygen atom in the ring, the crystal density can be calculated by

$$\rho = \frac{13.15a - 5.303b + 39.72c + 29.34d}{Mw}. \quad (1.6)$$

For acyclic nitramines, the following correlation is used:

$$\rho = \frac{66.86a - 27.37b + 52.96c + 12.81d}{Mw}. \quad (1.7)$$

**Example 1.2.** The calculated density of octanitrocubane ( $\text{C}_8\text{N}_8\text{O}_{16}$ ) can be obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho' &= \frac{47.97a - 19.29b + 26.53c + 26.00d - 25.32n_{\text{COO}} - 0.6358n_{\text{O}} + 11.54n_{\text{OH}}}{Mw} \\ &= \frac{47.97(8) - 19.29(0) + 26.53(8) + 26.00(16) - 25.32(0) - 0.6358(0) + 11.54(0)}{464.1} \end{aligned}$$

$$= 2.181 \text{ g/cm}^3$$

$$\rho = -0.0515 + 0.9142\rho'$$

$$= -0.0515 + 0.9142(2.181)$$

$$= 1.943 \text{ g/cm}^3.$$

The calculated value is close to the measured value which is reported to be  $1.979 \text{ g/cm}^3$  [32].

### 1.2.3 Improved method for the prediction of the crystal densities of nitroaliphatics, nitrate esters and nitramines

For various nitroaliphatics, nitrate esters and nitramines, a more reliable general correlation for predicting the densities of acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic compounds than correlations (1.5), (1.6) and (1.7) was established, and can be written as follows [21]:

$$\rho = 1.521 + \frac{6.946a - 11.53b + 20.10c}{Mw} - 0.1559E_D + 0.1325E_I, \quad (1.8)$$

where  $E_I$  and  $E_D$  are specific structural parameters that can increase or decrease the value of the crystal density, and the values of which are based on the molecular structure as follows:

(1) Nitroaliphatics and nitrate esters

- (a)  $C(H)_{4-n}(NO_2 \text{ or } ONO_2)_n$ : for nitro or nitrate derivatives of methane, the values of  $E_D$  and  $E_I$  are 1.70 and 0.0, respectively.
- (b)  $C_nH_{2n+1}(NO_2 \text{ or } ONO_2)$ : The values of  $E_D$  and  $E_I$  depend on the number of carbon atoms in the alkyl substituents of mononitro- or mononitrate-alkanes:
  - (i) if  $n = 2$ , then  $E_D = 1$  and  $E_I = 0$ ;
  - (ii) if  $n = 3$ , then  $E_D = 0.5$  and  $E_I = 0$ ;
  - (iii) if  $n = 4$ , then  $E_D = 0$  and  $E_I = 0$ ;
  - (iv) if  $n = 5$ , then  $E_D = 0$  and  $E_I = 0.5$ ;
  - (v) if  $n \geq 6$ , then  $E_D = 0$  and  $E_I = 0.75$ .
- (c)  $C_nH_{2n}(NO_2 \text{ or } ONO_2)_2$ : The values of  $E_D$  depend on the position of attachment of the nitro or nitrate groups in dinitro- or dinitrate-alkanes:
  - (i) if two nitro or nitrate groups are attached to the same  $-CH_2-$  group,  $E_D = 1.5$  and  $E_I = 0$ ;
  - (ii) if two nitro or nitrate groups are attached to one  $>CH-$  group,  $E_D = 1.0$  and  $E_I = 0$ ;
  - (iii) for the other cases,  $E_D = 0.75$  and  $E_I = 0$ .
- (d) If the OH group is present in nitro or nitrate compounds:  $E_I = 0.4$  and  $E_D = 0.0$ .
- (e) Nitrate compounds without OH groups:
  - (i)  $E_I = 1.0$  and  $E_D = 0$  for  $(CH_2ONO_2)_4C$ ;
  - (ii)  $E_I = 0.5$  and  $E_D = 0$  for compounds that contain  $(CH_2ONO_2)_3-$  or two  $(CH_2ONO_2)_2$ -fragments.

(2) Nitramines

- (a)  $(C_nH_{2n+1})_2NNO_2$ :
  - (i) if  $n = 1$ , then  $E_D = 1.5$  and  $E_I = 0.0$ ;
  - (ii) if  $n = 2$ , then  $E_D = 0.5$  and  $E_I = 0.0$ ;
  - (iii) if  $n = 3$ , then  $E_D = 0.0$  and  $E_I = 0.0$ ;
  - (iv) if  $n \geq 4$ , then  $E_D = 0.0$  and  $E_I = 0.75$ .
- (b) The presence of specific molecular entities:
  - (i) if an aromatic ring is present then  $E_D = 0.5$  and  $E_I = 0.0$ ;
  - (ii) if the  $NH-NO_2$  functional group is present then  $E_D = 1.5$  and  $E_I = 0.0$ ;
  - (iii) for cyclic ethers  $E_I = 1.0$  and  $E_D = 0.0$ ;
  - (iv) if the  $-C(NO_2)_3$  group is present then  $E_I = 0.5$  and  $E_D = 0.0$ .

**Example 1.3.** The value of the calculated density for  $O_2NOCH_2CH_2ONO_2$  can be obtained as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= 1.521 + \frac{6.946a - 11.53b + 20.10c}{Mw} - 0.1559E_D + 0.1325E_I \\ &= 1.521 + \frac{6.946(2) - 11.53(4) + 20.10(2)}{152.1} - 0.1559(0.75) + 0.1325(0) \\ &= 1.457 \text{ g/cm}^3.\end{aligned}$$

It should be pointed out that this compound follows part (iii) of condition (1) (c). The estimated value is close to the measured value which is  $1.48 \text{ g/cm}^3$  [16].

### 1.2.4 Reliable correlation for the prediction of the crystal densities of polynitro arenes and polynitro heteroarenes

From studying the crystal densities of various polynitro arenes and polynitro heteroarenes, it has been shown that it is possible to correlate the crystal density with the elemental composition, as well as to establish the positive and negative contributions of some specific structural parameters using the following equation [22]:

$$\rho = -1.609 + \frac{29.20a + 1.515b + 53.06c + 61.30d}{Mw} + 0.0703C_{PG} - 0.0751C_{NG}, \quad (1.9)$$

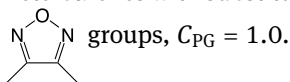
where  $C_{PG}$  and  $C_{NG}$  are the positive and the negative contributions of some specific structural fragments, which can be specified according to the following.

#### Prediction of $C_{PG}$

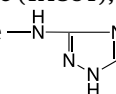
(1) The presence of  $n_{OH} \geq 1$  or  $n_{NH_x} \geq 2$  without extra further substituents such as the methyl group:

$$C_{PG} = \begin{cases} 1.0 & \text{if } n_{NO_2} - n_{OH} = 1 \text{ or } n_{NO_2} - n_{NH_x} \geq 1; \\ 2.0 & \text{if } n_{NO_2} - n_{NH_x} = 0; \\ 0.5 & \text{if } n_{NO_2} - n_{OH} > 1. \end{cases}$$

(2) For polynitro benzene compounds containing a center of symmetry, or polynitro heteroarenes with substituent N-oxide or the explosive containing more than two



(3) For explosives that contain positive and negative charges on nitrogens, such as tetranitrodibenzo tetraazapentalene (TACOT),  $C_{PG} = 2.0$ .

(4) For polynitro arenes containing the  group,  $C_{PG} = 3.0$ .

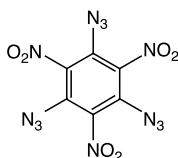
**Estimation of  $C_{NG}$** 

(1) If the nitrate group is present:

$$C_{NG} = \begin{cases} 1.0 & \text{for } n_{NO_3} = 1 \\ 2.0 & \text{for } n_{NO_3} \geq 2. \end{cases}$$

- (2) For polynitroaromatics with  $-N_3$  or  $-N_2$  substituents, or polynitro arenes containing more than two alkyl substituents, the value of  $C_{NG}$  is 1.0.
- (3) If a polynitro arene cycle with only nitro substituents is directly attached to another  $-Ar$ ,  $-OR$  and  $-OAr$  or  $-NHAr$  (where R and Ar are alkyl and aromatic groups), the values of  $C_{NG}$  are 1.5, 1.0 and 0.75, respectively.
- (4) For polynitro heteroarenes containing amino groups and in which more than two heteroatoms are present per ring, the value of  $C_{NG}$  is 1.0.

**Example 1.4.** 1,3,5-triazido-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene has the following structure:



The use of equation (1.9) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= -1.609 + \frac{29.20a + 1.515b + 53.06c + 61.30d}{Mw} + 0.0703C_{PG} - 0.0751C_{NG} \\ &= -1.609 + \frac{29.20(6) + 1.515(0) + 53.06(12) + 61.30(6)}{336.1} + 0.0703(0) - 0.0751(1) \\ &= 1.826 \text{ g/cm}^3. \end{aligned}$$

The measured crystal density is  $1.805 \text{ g/cm}^3$  [31]. Thus, the percent of deviation (%Dev) of the new method from the measured value is 1.24. The calculated crystal density which is obtained by the group additivity method of Ammon [17] is  $1.630 \text{ g/cm}^3$  (%Dev =  $-9.70$ ).


### 1.2.5 The extended correlation for the prediction of the crystal density of energetic compounds

It was found that it is possible to establish a general correlation to predict the crystal density of different classes of energetic compounds including various polynitroarenes, polynitroheteroarenes, nitroaliphatics, nitrate esters and nitramines as follows [33]:

$$\rho = 1.753 + \frac{-10.24b + 9.908c}{Mw} + 0.0992IMP - 0.0845DMP, \quad (1.10)$$

where *IMP* and *DMP* are two correcting functions that depend on intermolecular interactions for increasing and decreasing the second and third terms in equation (1.10), respectively. For different classes of energetic compounds, the values of *IMP* and *DMP* can be specified based on the molecular structure according to the rules which are outlined in the following subsections.

### Structural parameters affecting *IMP*

- (1)  $-\text{OH}$  or  $-\text{ONH}_4$ : The value of *IMP* is 1.0. This condition cannot be applied for the attachment of further alkyl groups to polynitroarenes.
- (2) The attachment of both  $-\text{NH}_x$  and nitro groups to carbocyclic aromatic molecular fragments: For those compounds that follow the conditions  $1 \leq n_{\text{NO}_2} - n_{\text{NH}_x} < 0$  and  $n_{\text{NO}_2} - n_{\text{NH}_x} = 0$ , the values of *IMP* are 0.9 and 1.8, respectively.
- (3) The presence of  $\text{N}^+-\text{O}^-$ ,  $-\text{N}-\text{N}-\text{N}$  or more than two  groups: If these molecular fragments are present, the value of *IMP* is 1.0, except if the  $-\text{NH}-$  group is present between two aromatic rings, i.e.  $\text{Ar}-\text{NH}-\text{Ar}$ .
- (4) Cyclic nitramines: The value of *IMP* is 1.0.
- (5)  $(\text{CH}_2\text{ONO}_2)_4\text{C}$  and two groups  $(\text{CH}_2\text{ONO}_2)_3-$ : if the  $(\text{CH}_2\text{ONO}_2)_4\text{C}$  or two groups  $(\text{CH}_2\text{ONO}_2)_3-$  are present, the values of *IMP* are 1.5 and 0.5 respectively.
- (6) Nonaromatic cyclic compounds containing nitro groups: The value of *IMP* equals 0.9.

### Structural moieties affecting *DMP*

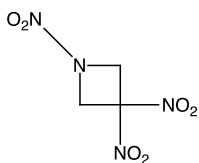
- (1) Nitrobenzenes: For nitrobenzenes which contain only one benzene ring, *DMP* = 0.5, except for those compounds in which  $b = 0$ . If the two nitrobenzene rings are connected to each other through an  $-\text{O}-$  or  $-\text{N}=\text{N}-$  group, the values of *DMP* are 2.3 and 1.0, respectively.
- (2)  $\text{CH}_{4-n}(\text{NO}_2 \text{ or } \text{ONO}_2)_n$  or the presence of the  $-\text{N}_3$  group: The value of *DMP* is 3.3.
- (3)  $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}(\text{NO}_2 \text{ or } \text{ONO}_2)_2$ :
  - (a) if two nitro or nitrate groups are attached to the same carbon atom, *DMP* = 2.2;
  - (b) if two nitro or nitrate groups are attached to two different carbon atoms, *DMP* = 1.5.
- (4) Nonaromatic nitro and nitrate compounds in which  $-\text{NO}_2$  or  $-\text{ONO}_2$  groups are attached to a  $-\text{CH}_2-$  group: The value of *DMP* is 0.6 for the following conditions:
  - (a) additional oxygen atoms are present in addition to those present in the  $-\text{NO}_2$  or  $-\text{ONO}_2$  groups in those energetic compounds with general formula  $\text{R}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{NO}_2 \text{ or } \text{ONO}_2)$  or  $\text{R}-\text{CH}_2-(\text{NO}_2 \text{ or } \text{ONO}_2)_2$ ;
  - (b) more than two  $-\text{NO}_2$  or  $-\text{ONO}_2$  groups are present.

**Structural moieties affecting both *DMP* and *IMP***

- (1)  $C_{n+1}H_{2n+3}(NO_2 \text{ or } ONO_2)$ : The values of *IMP* and *DMP* depend on the number of carbon atoms in the alkyl substituents:
- if  $n = 1$ , then  $DMP = 1.9$ ;
  - if  $n = 2$ , then  $DMP = 1.0$ ;
  - if  $n = 3$ , then  $DMP = 0.0$ ;
  - if  $n \geq 4$ , then  $IMP = 1.0$ .
- (2)  $(C_nH_{2n+1})_2NNO_2$ : The number of carbon atoms is important for the prediction of *IMP* and *DMP* in acyclic nitramines:
- if  $n = 1$ , then  $DMP = 2.1$ ;
  - if  $n = 2$ , then  $DMP = 0.0$ ;
  - if  $n \geq 3$ , then  $IMP = 1.4$ .

This method is more complex than previous methods.

**Example 1.5.** 1,3,3-Trinitroazetididine (TNAZ) is a melt-cast explosive with the following molecular structure:



The present method can be applied as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= 1.753 + \frac{-10.24b + 9.908c}{M_w} + 0.0992IMP - 0.0845DMP \\ &= 1.753 + \frac{-10.24(4) + 9.908(4)}{192.1} + 0.0992(1) - 0.0845(0) \\ &= 1.845 \text{ g/cm}^3. \end{aligned}$$

The predicted value is close to the measured value of  $1.84 \text{ g/cm}^3$  [32].

**1.2.6 Energetic azido compounds**

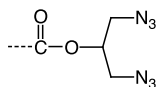
It has been shown that the molecular structures of energetic azido compounds can be used to evaluate the density using the following correlation [34]:

$$\rho = 1.2 + 0.01c + 0.26 \frac{d}{a} - 0.1 \frac{a}{c} + 0.04\rho_{\text{azide}}^+ - 0.52\rho_{\text{azide}}^- \quad (1.11)$$

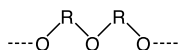
The two correcting parameters  $\rho_{\text{azide}}^+$  and  $\rho_{\text{azide}}^-$  are defined on the basis of the presence of certain molecular fragments as follows.



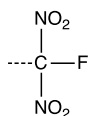
- (1) The value of  $\rho_{\text{azide}}^-$  is 0.1 if two substituents of the following form are present:



- (2) The value of  $\rho_{\text{azide}}^-$  is 0.5 if the following molecular moiety is present in the compound, where R is an alkyl group:

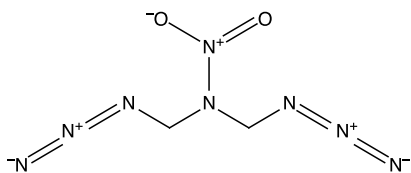


- (3) The value of  $\rho_{\text{azide}}^+$  is 1.0 if the following fragment is present:



- (4) The value of  $\rho_{\text{azide}}^+$  is 2.0 if the  $-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-$  fragment is present.  
 (5) If more than two  $-\text{NNO}_2$  groups are present, the values of  $\rho_{\text{azide}}^+$  are 0.5 and 2.0 for acyclic and cyclic nitramines, respectively.

**Example 1.6.** Using this method to calculate the density of 1,3-diazido-2-nitro-2-azapropane with the following structure gives



$$\begin{aligned} \rho &= 1.2 + 0.01c + 0.26 \frac{d}{a} - 0.1 \frac{a}{c} + 0.04\rho_{\text{azide}}^+ - 0.52\rho_{\text{azide}}^- \\ &= 1.2 + 0.01(8) + 0.26 \frac{2}{2} - 0.1 \frac{2}{8} + 0.04(0) - 0.52(0) \\ &= 1.52 \text{ g/cm}^3. \end{aligned}$$

If the complex quantum mechanical method is used, a value of  $1.45 \text{ g/cm}^3$  is obtained [34], while the experimental determined value is  $1.43 \text{ g/cm}^3$  [35].

### 1.3 Empirical methods for the assessment of the crystal density of hazardous ionic molecular energetic materials using the molecular structures

There are two empirical methods which can be used to predict the crystal density of ionic molecular energetic materials, and which are demonstrated here.

#### 1.3.1 Two general empirical methods

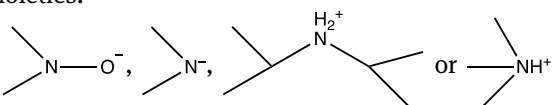
It was shown that the elemental composition of an ionic molecular energetic compound with general formula  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$  can be used to predict its crystal density as follows [36]:

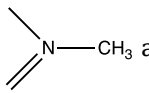
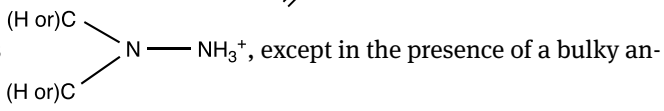
$$\rho = 2.148 - \frac{7.767a + 6.261b + 4.154c}{Mw} \quad (1.12)$$

The presence of some specific molecular moieties may enhance or reduce the molecular packing in ionic molecular energetic materials. Equation (1.12) can be improved by considering the effects of two correcting functions for increasing and decreasing density ( $\rho^+$  and  $\rho^-$ ) as

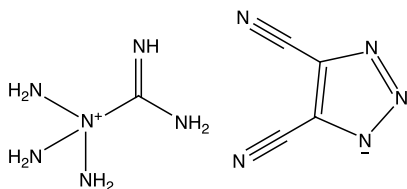
$$\rho = 2.137 - \frac{8.653a + 6.273b + 3.561c}{Mw} + 0.1241\rho^+ - 0.09772\rho^-, \quad (1.13)$$

where  $\rho^+$  and  $\rho^-$  are two correcting functions that are equal to 1.0 for the presence of the following specific molecular moieties:

(1)  $\rho^+$ : the molecular fragments  are present in a cyclic structure.

(2)  $\rho^-$ : the molecular moieties (N or)C=NH<sup>+</sup> and  are present in a cyclic structure, as well as , except in the presence of a bulky anion such as picrate.

**Example 1.7.** Triaminoguanidinium 4,5-dicyano-1,2,3-triazolate has the following structure, and the measured crystal density of this compound is 1.48 g/cm<sup>3</sup> [29]:



The use of equation (1.12) and (1.13) gives

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= 2.148 - \frac{7.767(5) + 6.261(9) + 4.154(11)}{223.2} \\ &= 1.517 \text{ g/cm}^3 \quad (\% \text{Dev} = 2.5); \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= 2.137 - \frac{8.653(5) + 6.273(9) + 3.561(11)}{223.2} + 0.1241(0) - 0.09772(0) \\ &= 1.515 \text{ g/cm}^3 \quad (\% \text{Dev} = 2.3). \end{aligned}$$

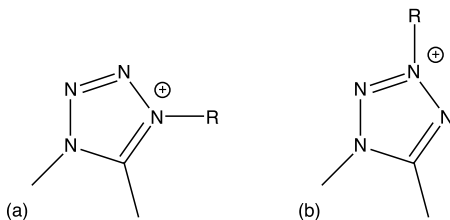
The calculated values which have been obtained by two quantum mechanical methods reported by Rice et al. [13, 29] are 1.503 (%Dev = 1.5) and 1.428 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (%Dev = -3.5), respectively.

### 1.3.2 The effects of various substituents on the density of tetrazolium nitrate salts

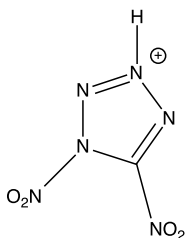
It was found that the effect of various substituents such as N<sub>3</sub>, NO<sub>2</sub>, NH<sub>2</sub>, NF<sub>2</sub>, CN and CH<sub>3</sub> on the density of tetrazolium nitrate salts with general formula C<sub>a</sub>H<sub>b</sub>N<sub>c</sub>O<sub>d</sub>F<sub>e</sub> can be shown by calculating the density using [37]:

$$\begin{aligned}\rho &= 1.592 + 0.015c + 0.077e + 0.068P_{F_2} + 0.143P_{NO_2} - 0.081P_{CH_3} \\ &\quad - 0.072\rho_{\text{tetrazolium nitrate}}^-, \end{aligned} \quad (1.14)$$

where  $P_{F_2}$ ,  $P_{NO_2}$  and  $P_{CH_3}$  indicate the presence of the -NF<sub>2</sub>, -NO<sub>2</sub>, and -CH<sub>3</sub> groups in the salts, respectively. The value of  $\rho_{\text{tetrazolium nitrate}}^-$  is 1.0 if the following structures are present:



**Example 1.8.** The crystal density of the 1,5-dinitro-3H-tetrazolium nitrate salt containing the following cation



can be calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \rho &= 1.592 + 0.015c + 0.077e + 0.068P_{F_2} + 0.143P_{NO_2} - 0.081P_{CH_3} \\
 &\quad - 0.072\rho_{\text{tetrazolium nitrate}}^- \\
 &= 1.592 + 0.015(7) + 0.077(0) + 0.068(0) + 0.143(1) - 0.081(0) \\
 &\quad - 0.072(0) \\
 &= 1.840 \text{ g/cm}^3.
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured crystal density of this compound is  $1.87 \text{ g/cm}^3$  [37].

## Summary

Different empirical methods have been introduced in this chapter to predict the crystal densities of important classes of neutral and ionic molecular energetic compounds. For neutral energetic compounds, equations (1.4) to (1.7) are very simple approaches in comparison with other correlations, but their reliabilities are lower. Due to the high complexity of equation (1.10), it is recommended to use equations (1.8) and (1.9) to assess the crystal densities of various classes of energetic compounds, including polynitroarenes, polynitroheteroarenes, nitroaliphatics, nitrate esters, and nitramines with the general formula  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$ . For energetic azido compounds with general formula  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$ , equation (1.11) is a suitable relationship which can be used to predict the crystal density. For ionic molecular energetic compounds with general formula  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$ , the use of equation (1.13) is recommended to calculate the crystal densities. Finally, equation (1.14) provides a good correlation for predicting the crystal densities of tetrazolium nitrate salts with general formula  $C_aH_bN_cO_dF_e$ .



## 2 Heat of formation

The presence of certain energetic groups in organic compounds results in unstable compounds since the heats of detonation/combustion depend upon the presence of these functional groups [2, 3, 38]. Organic compounds containing energetic groups can decompose, ignite, or explode on exposure to external stimuli such as heat, impact, shock or an electric spark. Thus, the search for new organic energetic compounds with superior performance and lower sensitivity to undesired stimuli is important in both modern civil and military applications.

The condensed (solid or liquid) phase heat (or enthalpy) of formation of an energetic substance at 298.15 K is a measure of its energy content. It is an important factor to consider in the design, assessment and thermochemical stability of energetic compounds because knowledge of this value is essential in order to allow the evaluation of the performance properties of explosives and propellants such as the detonation pressure, heat of detonation, and specific impulse using theoretical methods [39–41]. Calorimetry is usually used to measure the condensed phase heat of formation of energetic compounds, but it is a time-consuming and destructive technique. Since it requires extremely pure samples [42], calorimetric measurements also have problems that can increase the uncertainty, e.g. completeness of the reaction or the production of undesired products [43]. Various computer codes which are used to calculate the detonation and combustion properties of energetic compounds such as EXPLO5 [44], EDPHT [45–47] and NASA-CEC-71 [48] require the value for the condensed phase heat of formation. Appendix A shows the measured values of the condensed phase heats of formation for well-known pure and composite explosives.

### 2.1 Condensed and gas phase heats of formation of energetic compounds

Different methods have been used to predict the condensed phase heat of formation of compounds containing energetic groups. Prediction of the condensed phase heat of formation can be achieved using different computational methods, in particular: group additivity values (GAV), molecular mechanics (MM), quantum mechanical (QM) and empirical methods, or quantitative structure property relationships (QSPR) based on the molecular structure [49, 50].

#### 2.1.1 QM, MM and GA approaches

Density functional theory (DFT) can provide highly accurate values for quantities such as bond strengths and heats of formation of energetic compounds. Sana et al. [51] in-

roduced the term stabilization energy, which measures special effects such as bond interaction and electron dislocation. It was shown that  $-\text{NO}_2$  groups result in a high destabilization energy. Different QM methods can predict the gas phase heats of formation of energetic compounds. [39] The determination of the geometries and enthalpies of formation of molecules using MM is widely used for large chemical systems. Thus, MM2 [52], MM3 [53] and MM4 [54] have been parametrized [55]. The MM2 method has been used for the prediction of the gas phase heats of formation of nitro compounds [56]. MM methods are fast and inexpensive, however, due to the lack of reliable parameters for some compounds, their application is limited [42, 57]. Several semiempirical QM methods have been parametrized to enable the prediction of the energies and enthalpies of formation. In contrast to MM methods, parametrization of the semiempirical methods has been performed over a wide range of atoms and compounds. A more general parametrization leads to an increase in the uncertainties of the semiempirical methods [42]. Thus, several modifications such as AM1 [58], PM3 [59], PM6 [60] and PM7 [61] have been introduced to extend the domain, as well as to increase the accuracy. AM1 and PM3 methods have been used to predict the gas phase heats of formation of aromatic and aliphatic nitro compounds [62]. The PM3 method has also been used for the indirect prediction of the condensed phase heats of formation of nitroaromatic compounds [63].

Hess's law can be used to calculate the solid and liquid phase heats of formation using the predicted heats of vaporization and sublimation. Akutsu et al. [56] combined the heats of vaporization and sublimation using the additivity rule with the calculated gas phase heats of formation data from the PM3 and MM2 methods to calculate the condensed phase heats of formation. It was shown that there is a correlation between the statistically-based quantities of electrostatic potentials mapped onto isodensity surfaces of isolated molecules and their heats of sublimation and vaporization [64]. Rice and coworkers [65, 66] used the 6-31G\* basis set and the hybrid B3LYP density functional to convert quantum mechanical energies of molecules into gas phase heats of formation. They used the surface electrostatic potentials of individual molecules for computation of the heats of sublimation and vaporization.

Group additivity methods can be used to estimate the ideal gas phase heats of formation, using, for example, the methods of Benson, Yoneda and Joback [67]. For these methods, assemblies of adjacent atoms are defined as groups, so that the enthalpy of the molecule is calculated by the summation of the contributions of the groups. Further parameters may be used to consider the effects of strain, resonance and conjugation. Group additivity methods can also be used to calculate the condensed phase heat of formation for some specific classes of energetic compounds. Due to the presence of different molecular interactions, molecular packing, and polymorphism in some solid compounds, prediction of the condensed phase heat of formation is more difficult than of the gas phase heat of formation [68]. Several group additivity methods have been used to predict the condensed phase heat of formation of common CHNO energetic materials [68, 69]. For example, Bourasseau [70] applied the group additivity

method to predict the standard heats of formation at 298 K of aliphatic and alicyclic polynitro compounds. Salmon and Dalmazzone [69] also introduced a group contribution method that can be applied to large classes of CHNO energetic compounds to predict enthalpies of formation in the solid state (at 298.15 K). However, group additivity methods have some restrictions, e.g.

- (1) they cannot be used for energetic materials which exist in the liquid state at 298.15 K,
- (2) the group contributions of some functional groups have not yet been defined in the models, and
- (3) for compounds which exhibit unusual chemical structures, additivity methods cannot be used.

### 2.1.2 Empirical approaches or QSPR methods on the basis of structural parameters

There are several methods which can be used to predict the condensed phase heats of formation of some classes of energetic compounds. Among these methods, there is a complex method in which the solid phase heat of formation of a desired CHNO explosive in the range  $Q_{\text{corr}} > 4602$  kJ/g [71] ( $Q_{\text{corr}}$  is the corrected heat of detonation on the basis of Kamlet's method [72]), can be predicted based on its approximate detonation temperature. The other methods use the molecular structures of energetic compounds, and are reviewed here.

#### Simple procedure for nitroaromatic energetic materials

It was shown that that the following general equation is suitable for calculating the condensed phase heat of formation for most nitroaromatic and benzofuroxan-based energetic compounds with general formula  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$  [73]:

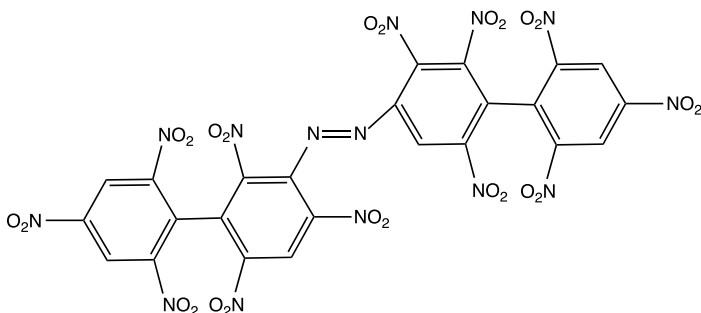
$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_f H^\theta(c) = & 32.76a - 33.96b + 69.12c - 116.32d \\ & + 124.8n_{\text{NO}_2} - 65.10n_{\text{Ar-NH}} - 93.64n_{\text{OH}} - 202.3n_{\text{COOH}} \\ & + 13.56(n_{\text{Ar}} - 1) + 121.4n_{\text{-N=N-}} + 223.2n_{\text{cyclo-N-O-N}}, \end{aligned} \quad (2.1)$$

where  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  is the standard heat of formation of a specific compound in the condensed phase (solid or liquid) in kJ/mol;  $n_{\text{NO}_2}$ ,  $n_{\text{OH}}$  and  $n_{\text{COOH}}$  are the number of nitro, hydroxyl, and carboxyl functional groups, respectively;  $n_{\text{Ar-NH}}$  is the number of NH (or  $\text{NH}_2$ ) functional groups attached to aromatic rings,  $n_{\text{Ar}}$  is the number of aromatic rings,  $n_{\text{-N=N-}}$  is the number of non-cyclic  $\text{-N=N-}$  groups and  $n_{\text{cyclo-N-O-N}}$  is the number

of  (in benzofuroxan compounds) groups.



**Example 2.1.** The condensed phase heat of formation of



is calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= 32.76a - 33.96b + 69.12c - 116.32d \\
 &\quad + 124.8n_{\text{NO}_2} - 65.10n_{\text{Ar-NH}} - 93.64n_{\text{OH}} - 202.3n_{\text{COOH}} \\
 &\quad + 13.56(n_{\text{Ar}} - 1) + 121.4n_{\text{-N=N-}} + 223.2n_{\text{cyclo-N-O-N}} \\
 &= 32.76(24) - 33.96(6) + 69.12(14) - 116.32(24) \\
 &\quad + 124.8(12) - 65.10(0) - 93.64(0) - 202.3(0) \\
 &\quad + 13.56(4 - 1) + 121.4(1) + 223.2(0) \\
 &= 417.8 \text{ kJ/mol.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  of this compound is 480.3 kJ/mol [74].

### More reliable approach for nitroaromatic energetic materials

It was shown that a more reliable approach can be used to calculate the condensed phase heat of formation for nitroaromatic compounds that have complex and different molecular structures according to [75]:

$$\Delta_f H^\theta(c) = \frac{2.690a - 2.896b + 2.876c - 2.784d - 1.701(n'_{\text{Ar}} - 1) - 1.607 \left( \frac{n_{\text{NO}_2}}{n_{\text{DFG/SP}}} \times E \right) + 3.246 \left( \frac{n_{\text{HFG/SP}}}{n_{\text{NO}_2}} \times F \right)}{Mw \times 10^{-4}}, \quad (2.2)$$

where  $Mw$  is the molecular weight of nitroaromatic compound. Three variables  $n'_{\text{Ar}}$ ,  $E$  and  $F$  can be predicted based on the following situations:

- (1)  $n'_{\text{Ar}}$ : The value of  $n'_{\text{Ar}}$  is equal to  $n_{\text{Ar}}$ . Therefore, for the presence of one and two aromatic rings,  $n'_{\text{Ar}}$  is equal to one and two, respectively. In the case of  $n_{\text{Ar}} \geq 3$ ,  $n'_{\text{Ar}}$  equals  $n_{\text{Ar}}$  except if there is one nitro group (e.g. in 2,2',2'',4,4',4'',6,6',6''-nona-nitro-1,1':3',1''-terphenyl) or nitrogen atom (e.g. in 2,4,6-tripicryl-1,3,5-triazine) between two aromatic rings in which  $n'_{\text{Ar}} = 0$ . If the  $\text{-N=N-}$  group is attached to an aromatic ring, the value of  $n'_{\text{Ar}}$  is also equal to zero.

- (2)  $n_{\text{DFG/SP}}$  and  $E$ : The ratio  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{DFG/SP}}$  and  $E$  are defined for different functional groups or structural parameters as follows:
- $n_{\text{DFG/SP}} = n_{\text{OH}}$ : For  $n_{\text{NO}_2} = 1$ ,  $E$  is equal to 1.0. However, if  $n_{\text{NO}_2} > 1$ , then  $E = 0.5$  and 1.75 for  $n_{\text{OH}} = 1$  and 2, respectively.
  - $n_{\text{DFG/SP}} = n_{\text{NH}_x}$ : For  $n_{\text{NO}_2} = 1$ ,  $E$  is equal to 0.0. However, if  $n_{\text{NO}_2} > 1$ ,  $E = 0.75$  and 0.667 for  $n_{\text{NH}_x} = 1$  and  $> 1$ , respectively. For the presence of a ring containing  $>\text{NH}$  group attached to two aromatic rings (e.g. tetranitrocarbazole),  $E = 1.25$ .
  - $n_{\text{DFG/SP}} = n_{-\text{C}(=\text{O})-}$ : If the  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{OH}$  group is present,  $E = 1.75$ . The value of  $E = 0.875$  for the attachment one  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$  to two aromatic rings (e.g. (2,4-dinitrophenyl)(2,4,6-trinitrophenyl)methanone).
  - Polynitro naphthalene:  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{DFG/SP}} \times E = 2.0$ .  
The higher value of  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{DFG/SP}} \times E$  can be used for the presence of multiple types of functional groups, e.g.  $-\text{OH}$  and  $-\text{NH}_2$ . Thus,  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{DFG/SP}} \times E = 0.75$  in 2-amino-4,6-dinitro-phenol.
- (3)  $n_{\text{IFG/SP}}$  and  $F$ : The ratio  $n_{\text{IFG/SP}}/n_{\text{NO}_2}$  can be used to predict the values of  $F$  as follows:
- $n_{\text{IFG/SP}} = n_{-\text{R}/-\text{OR}}$ : on attachment of  $-\text{R}$  or  $-\text{OR}$  to an aromatic ring,  $F = 2.0$ .
  - $n_{\text{IFG/SP}} = n_{-\text{NH}-\text{NH}_2}$ : on attachment of hydrazine to an aromatic ring,  $F = 1.0$ .
  - $n_{\text{IFG/SP}} = n_{-\text{N}=\text{N}-}$ : If the ratio  $n_{-\text{N}=\text{N}-}/n_{\text{NO}_2} \geq 0.167$ ,  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{DFG/SP}} \times F = 12.0$ . For other nitro compounds containing  $-\text{N}=\text{N}-$  groups,  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{DFG/SP}} \times F = 6.0$ .

**Example 2.2.** The condensed phase heat of formation of the compound given in Example 2.1 is calculated as

$$\Delta_f H^\theta(c) = \frac{2.690a - 2.896b + 2.876c - 2.784d - 1.701(n'_{\text{Ar}} - 1) - 1.607\left(\frac{n_{\text{NO}_2}}{n_{\text{DFG/SP}}}\right) \times E + 3.246\left(\frac{n_{\text{IFG/SP}}}{n_{\text{NO}_2}}\right) \times F}{Mw \times 10^{-4}}$$

$$= \frac{2.690(24) - 2.896(6) + 2.876(14) - 2.784(24) - 1.701(0) - 1.607(0) + 3.246(6)}{874.4 \times 10^{-4}}$$

$$= 458.7 \text{ kJ/mol.}$$

Since the measured  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  of this compound is 480.3 kJ/mol [74], the predicted  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  result obtained using equation (2.2) is close to the value obtained from the experimental data.

### Using the estimated gas phase enthalpies of formation from the PM3 and B3LYP methods

For nitroaromatic energetic compounds, it was found that the estimated gas phase heat of formation can be used to predict the condensed phase heat of formation. Two

suitable correlations on the basis of the B3LYP/6-31G\* and PM3 as follows [63]:

$$\Delta_f H^\theta(c) = 0.874[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{B3LYP/6-31G}^*} + 35.575a - 22.59b - 31.947d + 30.5n_{\text{NO}_2} - 141.91n_{\text{Ar}}, \quad (2.3)$$

$$\Delta_f H^\theta(c) = 0.911[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{PM3}} - 10.8b + 26.968d + 46.17n_{\text{NO}_2} - 101.14n_{\text{N}_2} - 319.129n_{\text{TRs}}, \quad (2.4)$$

where  $[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{B3LYP/6-31G}^*}$  and  $[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{PM3}}$  are the calculated gas phase heats of formation in kJ/mol using the B3LYP/6-31G\* and PM3 methods, respectively;  $n_{\text{N}_2}$  is the number of  $-\text{N}=\text{N}-$  or  $-\text{N}\equiv\text{N}$  groups; the  $n_{\text{TRs}}$  is the number of the attachment of three aromatic rings. These correlations are more complex than equations (2.1) and (2.2) because they require quantum mechanical computations.

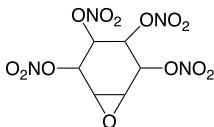
### Simple method for nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatics

From studying various nitramines, nitrate esters, nitroaliphatics and related energetic compounds, it could be shown that the following equation can provide a suitable pathway for obtaining  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  [76]:

$$\Delta_f H^\theta(c) = 29.68a - 31.85b + 144.2c - 90.71d - 88.84n_{\text{OH}} - 39.14n_{\text{N-NO}_2} - 45.62n_{>\text{C}=\text{O}} + 256.3n_1^0 - 380.5n_{=\text{C}<\text{N}} + 30.20n_{\text{O-NO}_2}, \quad (2.5)$$

where  $n_{\text{OH}}$ ,  $n_{\text{N-NO}_2}$ ,  $n_{>\text{C}=\text{O}}$  and  $n_{\text{O-NO}_2}$  are the number of specified functional groups,  $n_1^0 = 0$  if hydrogen is present in the molecule, and  $n_1^0 = 1$  for hydrogen-free compounds;  $n_{=\text{C}<\text{N}}$  is the number of  $=\text{C}<\text{N}$  structural moieties present in the energetic compound.

**Example 2.3.** The condensed phase heat of formation of the following compound



is calculated as

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= 29.68a - 31.85b + 144.2c - 90.71d \\ &\quad - 88.84n_{\text{OH}} - 39.14n_{\text{N-NO}_2} - 45.62n_{>\text{C}=\text{O}} + 256.3n_1^0 \\ &\quad - 380.5n_{=\text{C}<\text{N}} + 30.20n_{\text{O-NO}_2} \\ &= 29.68(6) - 31.85(6) + 144.2(4) - 90.71(13) \\ &\quad - 88.84(0) - 39.14(0) - 45.62(0) + 256.3(0) \\ &\quad - 380.5(0) + 30.20(4) \\ &= -494.6 \text{ kJ/mol.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  of this compound is  $-444.3$  kJ/mol [74].

### More reliable method for acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic energetic compounds

It was shown that a more reliable correlation than that of equation (2.5) can be established, which is based on the molecular structure of energetic compounds. This correlation can be formulated as follows [77]:

$$\Delta_f H^\theta(c) = 39.10a - 37.89b + 96.73c - 66.07d + 215.4 \sum_i n_{i,DE} - 217.6 \sum_j n_{j,IE} \quad (2.6)$$

The factors  $n_{DE}$  and  $n_{IE}$  are the number of some specific functional groups or structural parameters, which may decrease or increase the value of  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$ , respectively. The values of  $n_{DE}$  and  $n_{IE}$  can be determined as follows.

#### (1) Prediction of $n_{DE}$

- OH group: If the ratio of the number of hydroxyl groups to the number of nonaromatic nitro or nitrate groups ( $n_{OH}/n_{NO_2 \text{ or } ONO_2}$ )  $\geq 1$ , then  $n_{DE} = n_{OH}/n_{NO_2 \text{ or } ONO_2} \times 0.5$  (e.g. for 2-hydroxymethyl-2-nitro-propane-1,3-diol,  $n_{OH}/n_{NO_2 \text{ or } ONO_2} = 3$  and  $n_{DE} = 1.5$ ). For  $n_{OH}/n_{NO_2 \text{ or } ONO_2} < 1$ ,  $n_{DE} = 0.25$  (e.g. for 2,2,2-trinitro-ethanol,  $n_{OH}/n_{NO_2 \text{ or } ONO_2} = 0.33$ ).
- >C=O group: For compounds containing the >C=O group,  $n_{DE} = n_{>C=O} \times 0.6$  (e.g. for 4,4,4-trinitro-butyric acid 2,2,2-trinitro-ethyl ester,  $n_{DE} = 0.6$ ).
- Cyclic and acyclic ether functional groups: For six-membered cyclic ether rings only,  $n_{DE} = 0.25$ . If there is an ether functional group of the type  $ROCH_2CH_2OR'$ ,  $n_{DE} = 0.5$  (e.g. 1-nitrooxy-2-[2-(2-nitrooxy-ethoxy)-ethoxy]-ethane). The value of  $n_{DE}$  is found to be 0.25 for other types of acyclic ethers (e.g. 1-nitrooxy-2-(2-nitrooxy-ethoxy)-ethane).

- Some specific molecular structures: if the  $\begin{array}{c} \text{N} \\ \parallel \\ \text{N} \end{array}$ ,  $\begin{array}{c} \text{NO}_2 \\ | \\ \text{N} \end{array}$  or  $-\text{NH}-\text{NO}_2$  molecular fragments are present, the values of  $n_{DE}$  correspond to 1.0, 0.5 and 0.2, respectively. For example, there are two  $\begin{array}{c} \text{N} \\ \parallel \\ \text{N} \end{array}$  and one  $-\text{NH}-\text{NO}_2$  molecular fragments in 1-nitro-3-guanidino-urea which gives  $\sum_i n_{DE} = 2 + 0.2 = 2.2$ .

#### (2) Prediction of $n_{IE}$

- Acyclic and cyclic nitramines containing only one C–N(NO<sub>2</sub>)–C fragment: The value of  $n_{IE} = 0.3$  (e.g. N-ethyl-N-nitro-ethanamine).
- The number of nitro groups attached to cubane (C<sub>8</sub>H<sub>8</sub>): The value of  $n_{IE}$  is 0.2. For example,  $\sum_i n_{IE} = 8 \times 0.2 = 1.6$  for octanitrocubane.
- Hydrogen-free nitroalkanes: The value of  $n_{IE} = 1.0$  (e.g. tetranitromethane).

**Example 2.4.** The condensed phase heat of formation of the compound given in Example 2.3 is calculated as

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= 39.10a - 37.89b + 96.73c - 66.07d \\ &\quad + 215.4 \sum_i n_{i,DE} - 217.6 \sum_j n_{j,IE} \\ &= 39.10(6) - 37.89(6) + 96.73(4) - 66.07(13) \\ &\quad + 215.4(0) - 217.6(0) \\ &= -464.7 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

Since the measured  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  of this compound is  $-444.3$  kJ/mol [74], the predicted  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  obtained using equation (2.4) is close to the value obtained from experimental data.

**Prediction of the condensed phase heats of formation of polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic compounds**

For polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters, and nitroaliphatic compounds, the following correlation can be used to predict the condensed phase heat of formation [78]:

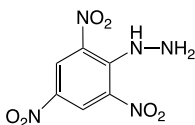
$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= 32.33a - 39.49b + 92.41c - 63.85d \\ &\quad + 105.0\Delta_f H_{IEC}^\theta - 106.6\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta,\end{aligned}\tag{2.7}$$

where  $\Delta_f H_{IEC}^\theta$  and  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta$  are two correcting functions which can be specified based on the presence or absence of some groups, which are described in the following situations.

- (1) Prediction of  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta$ :
  - (a)  $-\text{OH}$  group: The values of  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta$  are 1.4 and 1.0 for energetic compounds containing the  $-\text{OH}$  group as  $\text{Ar}-\text{OH}$  and  $\text{R}-\text{OH}$ , respectively (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta = 2 \times 1.4 = 2.8$  for 2,4,6-trinitrobenzene-1,3-diol).
  - (b)  $-\text{NH}_x$  groups: If the  $-\text{NH}_2$  or  $>\text{NH}$  (or  $-\text{NH}-\text{NH}_2$ ) group is present in the energetic compound, the value of  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta$  is equal to 0.7 (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta = 3 \times 0.7 = 2.1$  for 2,4,6-trinitrobenzene-1,3,5-triamine).
  - (c) Acyclic and cyclic ether functional groups: The values of  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta$  are 0.5 and 0.9 (except cyclic ethers with three-membered rings), respectively (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta = 1 \times 0.5 = 0.5$  for 2-methoxy-1,3,5-trinitrobenzene).
  - (d) Other specific polar groups: If the  $-\text{COOH}$  (or  $-\text{O}^-\text{NH}_4^+$ ,  $-\text{COCO}-$  and  $-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-$ ),  $-\text{N}-\text{CO}-\text{N}-$ ,  $-\text{COO}-$  (or acyclic  $-\text{CO}-$ ),  $-\text{CO}-\text{H}$ , cyclic  $-\text{CO}-$  or  $-\text{NH}-\text{NO}_2$  functional groups are present, the contributions of these groups to  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta$  correspond to 2.8, 2.4, 1.4, 1.0, 0.5 and 0.3, respectively (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta = 1 \times 2.8 = 2.8$  for 3,5-dinitrobenzoic acid).

- (e) The number of nitrogen heteroatoms in six-membered rings: For nitroaromatics containing more than one six-membered aromatic ring, the contribution of each nitrogen heteroatom in the six-membered ring is 0.33 (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{DEC}}^\theta = 3 \times 0.33 = 0.99$  for 2,4,6-tris(2,4,6-trinitrophenyl)-1,3,5-triazine)
- (2) Prediction of  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta$ :
- (a) Cyclic and acyclic nitramines: The values of  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta$  are 0.5 and 0.8 for the acyclic and cyclic functional groups, respectively (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 0.5$  for 1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazinane).
- (b) R-NO<sub>2</sub> (or R-ONO<sub>2</sub>) and Ar-N<sub>3</sub>: The value of  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta$  is 0.3 for the attachment of an -NO<sub>2</sub> or -ONO<sub>2</sub> group to a nonaromatic carbon atom, and for the attachment of the -N<sub>3</sub> group to an aromatic ring, (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 0.3$  for 1,1-dinitropropane). There are some exceptions:
- (i) if the -C(NO<sub>2</sub>)<sub>3</sub> group is present,  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 0.8$  (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{DEC}}^\theta = 1.0$  and  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 0.8$  for 2,2,2-trinitroethanol);
- (ii) for linear mono-nitroalkanes ( $a \geq 4$ ),  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 0.6$  (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 0.6$  for 1-nitrobutane);
- (iii) for hydrogen-free nitroalkanes,  $\Delta_f H_{\text{DEC}}^\theta = 2.2$  (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 2.2$  for tetranitromethane);
- (iv) for symmetric linear di-nitroalkanes,  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 0.0$  (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{DEC}}^\theta = 0.0$  for 1,2-dinitroethane).
- (c) -N=N- and  $\begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \text{N} \\ \diagdown \end{array}$ -O: For the molecular fragments  $\begin{array}{c} \diagup \\ \text{N} \\ \diagdown \end{array}$ -O and -N=N-, the contributions to  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta$  are 0.7 and 0.8, respectively ( $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 3 \times 0.7 = 2.1$  for benzenetrifuroxan).
- (d) Number of carbocyclic aromatic rings ( $n_{\text{Ar,car}}$ ): For energetic compounds which only contain carbocyclic aromatic rings, the contribution to  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta$  is  $(n_{\text{Ar,car}} - 1) \times 0.3$  (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta$  is  $(2 - 1) \times 0.3 = 0.3$  for 2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexanitro-biphenyl).
- (e) Attachment of alkyl groups to an aromatic ring: The values of  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta$  are 0.2 and 0.8 for the attachment of methyl and longer carbon chain alkyl groups (or -CH=CH-) to aromatic rings, respectively (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 0.2$  for 1-methyl-2,4-dinitrobenzene). If  $n_{\text{Ar,car}} > 1$ , it is not necessary to include condition (d).
- (f) Nitro groups attached to non-aromatic four-membered rings:  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 0.45 \times$  the number of -NO<sub>2</sub> groups attached to a non-aromatic four-membered ring (e.g.  $\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta = 8 \times 0.45$  for octanitrocubane).

**Example 2.5.** The value of  $\Delta_f H^\theta$  (c) for the following molecular structure is calculated as



$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= 32.33a - 39.49b + 92.41c - 63.85d + 105.0\Delta_f H_{\text{IEC}}^\theta - 106.6\Delta_f H_{\text{DEC}}^\theta \\ &= 32.33(6) - 39.49(5) + 92.41(5) - 63.85(6) + 105.0(0) - 106.6(0.7) \\ &= 0.8 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The measured  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  of this compound is 36.5 kJ/mol [74].

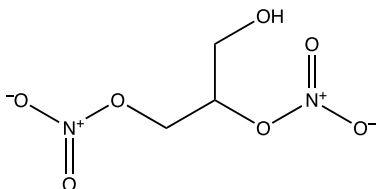
### General correlation for organic energetic materials

It has been established that the following general correlation can be used for organic energetic compounds containing different types of energetic groups such as  $-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $-\text{ONO}_2$ ,  $-\text{ON}=\text{O}$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{O}-$  and  $-\text{N}_3$  [79]:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= -111.4 + 33.11a - 28.84b + 86.80c - 62.03d \\ &\quad - 79.25(\Delta_f H_{\text{add,DHC}}^\theta + \Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd,DHC}}^\theta) \\ &\quad + 153.3(\Delta_f H_{\text{add,IHC}}^\theta + \Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd,IHC}}^\theta),\end{aligned}\quad (2.8)$$

whereby the subscripts DHC and IHC in the  $\Delta_f H_{\text{add,DHC}}^\theta$ ,  $\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd,DHC}}^\theta$ ,  $\Delta_f H_{\text{add,IHC}}^\theta$  and  $\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd,IHC}}^\theta$  show decreasing and increasing heat contents in the compounds, respectively. Tables 2.1 to 2.4 summarize the values of  $\Delta_f H_{\text{add,DHC}}^\theta$ ,  $\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd,DHC}}^\theta$ ,  $\Delta_f H_{\text{add,IHC}}^\theta$  and  $\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd,IHC}}^\theta$  for various different functional groups and molecular fragments.

**Example 2.6.** Glycerol-1,2-dinitrate has the following molecular structure:



Applying equation (2.8) gives the condensed phase heat of formation as

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= -111.4 + 33.11a - 28.84b + 86.80c - 62.03d \\ &\quad - 79.25(\Delta_f H_{\text{add,DHC}}^\theta + \Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd,DHC}}^\theta) \\ &\quad + 153.3(\Delta_f H_{\text{add,IHC}}^\theta + \Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd,IHC}}^\theta) \\ &= -111.4 + 33.11(3) - 28.84(6) + 86.80(2) - 62.03(7) \\ &\quad - 79.25(1 + 0) + 153.3(0 + 0.1) \\ &= -509.6 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The measured  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  of this compound is  $-472.4$  kJ/mol [74].

**Tab. 2.1:** Summary of the correcting function  $\Delta_f H_{\text{add,DHC}}^\beta$ .



Molecular moieties	Compound	$\Delta_f H_{\text{add,DHC}}^\beta$	Example	Exception
Hydroxyl group	Ar-OH	1.2	$2 \times 1.2 = 2.4$ for 4,6-dinitroresorcinol	
	R-OH	1.0	$3 \times 1.0 = 3.0$ for 2-(hydroxymethyl)-2-nitro-1,3-propanediol	
$-\text{NH}_2$ or $>\text{NH}$ group	More than one $-\text{NH}_2$ or C-NH-group	0.6	$3 \times 0.6 = 1.8$ for 2,4,6-trinitrobenzene-1,3,5-triamine	The value of $\Delta_f H_{\text{add,DHC}}^\beta = 0.7$ and 1.4 for the presence of Ar-NH-Ar and 1,2,4-triazole molecular fragments, respectively.
Specific polar groups	$-\text{COOH}$ (or $-\text{ONH}_2$ , $-\text{NHCOO}-$ , $-\text{NHCONH}-$ , $-\text{NHCOC}-$ and $-\text{COCO}-$ )	2.8	2.8 for 3,5-dinitrobenzoic acid	
	$-\text{COOOCO}-$	2.5	2.5 for bis(1-oxobutyl) peroxide	
	$-\text{NHC}(=\text{NH})\text{NH}-$	1.7	1.7 for nitroguanidine (NO)	
	$-\text{COO}-\text{C}$	1.4	1.4 for butanoic acid, 4,4,4-trinitro-, 2,2,2-trinitroethyl ester	
	Cyclic or acyclic ketone	1.2	1.2 for tetramethylcyclopentanone tetranitrate	
Alkyl or aryl halide	Fluorine atoms attached to non-aromatic carbon atoms	$6n_{\text{CF}_2} - 2$ , where $n_{\text{CF}_2}$ is the number of $\text{CF}_2$ groups	$6 \times 2 - 2 = 10$ for 1,1,2,2-tetrafluoro-1,2-dinitroethane	
	Nitrate salts	$-\text{CH}_n-\text{NH}_2$ (or $-(\text{CH}_n)_2-\text{NH}$ , cyclic $-(\text{CH}_n)_3-\text{N}$ , $-\text{NH}_n-\text{NH}_2$ and $\text{NH}_n^+$ ) $-\text{C}(=\text{O} \text{ or } \text{NH})-\text{NH}_2$	1.5 4.2	$2 \times 1.5 = 3.0$ for ethylenediamine dinitrate (EDD) 4.2 for guanidine nitrate



Tab. 2.2: Summary of the correcting function  $\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd, DHC}}^\theta$ .

Molecular moieties	Compound	$\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd, DHC}}^\theta$	Example	Exception
Ether	Acyclic ether	0.5	2,2'-[Oxybis(methylene)]bis[2-(nitrooxy)methyl]propane-1,3-diy]] tetranitrate	Ar-O-Ar and Ar-O-R where R is an alkyl group with more than one carbon atom
	Six member cyclic ether	1.7	D-glucopyranose pentanitrate	
	-O-C-O-C-O-	3.4	Saccharose octanitrate	
Alkyl fluoride	Monofluoro derivative of R-F	2	Fluorotritromethane	

Tab. 2.3: Summary of the correcting function  $\Delta_f H_{\text{add, IHC}}^\theta$ .

Molecular moieties	Compound	$\Delta_f H_{\text{add, IHC}}^\theta$	Example	Exception
Molecular fragments -N=N- (or -N-N-N- and -N-N-N-N-) and -N-N-N-N-),  (or azido group)	-N=N- (or -N-N-N- and -N-N-N-N-)	0.6	$2 \times 0.6 = 1.2$ for 2,6-bis(picrylazo)- 3,5-dinitropyridine	
	 (or azido group)	0.7	$3 \times 0.7 = 2.1$ for benzo[1,2-c:3,4-c':5,6-c'']tris[1,2,5]oxadiazole, 1,4,7-trioxide (benzenetrifuroxan)	
Nitro groups attached to a non-aromatic four- membered ring	Attachment of -NO <sub>2</sub> groups to a non-aromatic four-membered ring	0.45	$8 \times 0.45 = 3.6$ for octanitrocubane	
Number of carbocyclic aromatic rings ( $n_{Ar}$ )	For energetic compounds con- taining only carbocyclic aromatic rings	$(n_{Ar} - 1) \times 0.3$	$(2 - 1) \times 0.3 = 0.3$ for 2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexanitrobiphenyl rings	

Tab. 2.4: Summary of the correcting function  $\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd, IHC}}^\beta$ .

Molecular moieties	Compound	$\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd, IHC}}^\beta$	Example	Exception
Cyclic and acyclic nitramine (or nitroso amine) functional groups	Acyclic nitramine	0.5	N-Methyl-N-nitro-methanamine	
	Cyclic nitramine (or nitroso amine)	0.8	1,4-Dinitropiperazine	
R-NO <sub>2</sub> , R-ONO <sub>2</sub> , R-CN, mono and polynitro-benzene, -NH-NO <sub>2</sub> (or -NF-NO <sub>2</sub> ), -ONO (nitrite), -O-OH and azide derivatives of carbocyclic aromatic compounds or R-N <sub>3</sub>	Attachment of more than one -NO <sub>2</sub> group to non-aromatic carbon atom(s)	0.6	1,1-Dinitropropane	(a) for the presence -C(NO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>3</sub> , $\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd, IHC}}^\beta = 0.8$ (e.g. 2,2,2-trinitroethanol);
	Attachment of the -N <sub>3</sub> group to a carbocyclic aromatic ring (or R-N <sub>3</sub> )	0.7	(Azidomethyl)-benzene	(b) for linear mono-nitroalkanes, $\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd, IHC}}^\beta = 0.6$ (e.g. 1-nitrobutane);
	R-ONO <sub>2</sub> (other functional groups except the -NO <sub>2</sub> group are absent)	0.5	Ethylene glycol, dinitrate (nitro-glycol)	(c) for hydrogen-free nitroalkanes, $\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd, IHC}}^\beta = 2.2$ (e.g. for tetranitromethane)
	R-ONO <sub>2</sub> (in the presence of the other functional groups)	0.1	N-Butyl-N-(2-nitroxyethyl)nitramine (BuNENA)	
Mono and polynitrobenzene	-ONO (nitrite)	0.5	Propyl nitrite	
	-O-OH	0.5	tert-Butyl hydroperoxide	
	-CN	0.4	Trinitroacetoneitrile	
	-NH-NO <sub>2</sub> (or -NF-NO <sub>2</sub> )	0.2	Ethylenedinitramine (EDNA)	

Tab. 2.4: (continued)

Molecular moieties	Compound	$\Delta_f H_{\text{nonadd, IHC}}^\theta$	Example	Exception
Furan derivatives and cyclic ethers smaller than a six membered ring	Furan derivatives	0.25	2-Nitrofuran	
	Cyclic ethers smaller than a six membered ring	0.5	$\alpha$ -Epoxyconduritole tetranitrate	
Attachment of alkyl groups to aromatic ring	Attachment of methyl groups to an aromatic ring	0.5	2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene (TNT)	
	Attachment of longer carbon-chain alkyl groups (or $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$ ) to an aromatic ring	0.6	1-Ethyl-2-nitrobenzene	
Cyclic and acyclic peroxide	Cyclic and acyclic peroxide with general formula $\text{R}_1-\text{O}-\text{R}_2$ in which $\text{R}_1$ or $\text{R}_2$ has four or less carbon atoms	0.7	Hexamethylenetriperoxide Di-amine (HMTD)	
Alkyl or aryl halide	Monochloro derivative of Ar-Cl	0.2	1-Chloro-2-nitrobenzene	
	Monochloro derivative of R-Cl	0.5	1-Chloro-1,1-dinitroethane	
	Monobromo derivative of R-Br	0.8	Bromotrinitromethane	
	Moniodo derivative of R-I	1.2	Iodotrinitromethane	

## 2.2 Energetic compounds with high nitrogen contents

Significant amounts of solid carbon and nonoxidized organic species are produced during the detonation of common high explosives because of the negative oxygen balance of these compounds. However, the energy that nitrogen-rich explosives liberate is due to their high positive heats of formation rather than as a result of the oxidation of the carbon backbone [80]. The main detonation product of materials with high nitrogen contents is  $N_2$  gas, which means that the detonation process is clean [81]. High-nitrogen materials have high densities and good oxygen balances because they have a low carbon and hydrogen content [82]. Common nitramine high explosives have nitrogen contents of up to 38% (in RDX, HMX and Cl-20), while some derivatives of triazole, tetrazole, triazine, tetrazine, furazan and organic nitrogen-containing chains have up to 88% nitrogen-contents. High-nitrogen materials have been defined as those containing more than 50% w/w nitrogen in their molecular structure [83]. High-nitrogen compounds are suitable candidates for insensitive high explosives [84], gun propellants [85, 86], and clean gas generators in vehicle airbags [87]. Two different empirical methods are introduced here for the calculation of the condensed phase heat of formation of these compounds.

### 2.2.1 Using the molecular structure

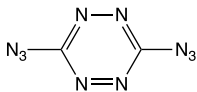
It has been shown that the molecular structure of high-nitrogen materials can be used to predict their condensed phase heat of formation as follows [88]:

$$\Delta_f H^\theta(c) = 39.24a - 40.01b + 83.63c - 49.61d + 115.5 \sum_i IF_i - 177.4 \sum_j DF_j, \quad (2.9)$$

where  $IF$  and  $DF$  are correcting factors, which can be estimated as follows.

- (1) Azido group: For the attachment of the  $-N_3$  group to a tetrazole or tetrazine ring, as well as to aliphatic N-containing compounds,  $IF$  is the number of azido groups. Meanwhile, the contribution of  $-N_3$  for high-N compounds containing only triazole and triazine rings is zero.
- (2) Azo and azoxy groups: In tetrazine, triazine, triazole and furazan derivatives which contain  $-N=N-$  or  $-N=N^+O^-$  bridges,  $IF = 1.5$ . For tetrazole derivatives,  $IF = 0.2$ .
- (3) Guanidino, carbonyl and hydroxide groups: if any of these functional groups are present,  $DF = 1.2 \times$  the number of these groups in the molecule.
- (4) Amino groups:  $DF(-NH_2) = 0.6 \times$  (the number of  $-NH_2$  groups) and  $DF(-NH-) = 0.3 \times$  (the number of  $-NH-$  groups).

**Example 2.7.** The condensed phase heat of formation of 3,6-diazo-1,2,4,5-tetrazine with the following molecular structure is calculated as



$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= 39.24a - 40.01b + 83.63c - 49.61d + 115.5 \sum_i IF_i - 177.4 \sum_j DF_j \\ &= 39.24(2) - 40.01(0) + 83.63(10) - 49.61(0) + 115.5(2) - 177.4(0) \\ &= 1146 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The experimental  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  was reported to be 1101 kJ/mol [89].

### 2.2.2 Gas phase information

It was shown that the value of  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  can be calculated using the  $\Delta_f H^\theta(g)$  value obtained from either the B3LYP/6-31G\* or PM6 method as follows [90]:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= -57.28 + 0.9350[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{B3LYP/6-31G}^*} \\ &\quad + 27.86 \sum_i ICF_i - 30.06 \sum_j DCF_j\end{aligned}\quad (2.10)$$

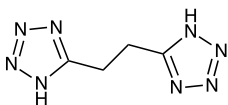
$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= -34.99 + 0.8692[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{PM6}} \\ &\quad + 30.64 \sum_i ICF_i - 25.95 \sum_j DCF_j,\end{aligned}\quad (2.11)$$

where *ICF* and *DCF* are increasing and decreasing correcting factors, respectively, which are estimated according to the following.

- (1) Azido group: The value of *ICF* equals two times the number of azido groups in the molecule.
- (2) Azo and azoxy groups: The value of *ICF* equals the total number of  $\text{-N=N-}$  or  $\text{-N=N}^+\text{O}^-$  bridges.
- (3) Hydrogen bonding effect: The value of *DCF* is the number of hydrogen bonds in each molecule.
- (4) Ethylene groups: The value of *DCF* is two times the total number of ethylene groups in the molecule.

Appendix B shows the calculated  $[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{B3LYP/6-31G}^*}$  and  $[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{PM6}}$ .

**Example 2.8.** The calculated gas phase heat of formation of 1,2-di(1H-tetrazol-5-yl) ethane with the following molecular structure is  $[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{B3LYP/6-31G}^*} = 639.5 \text{ kJ/mol}$  and  $[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{PM6}} = 613.9 \text{ kJ/mol}$ :



The use of equations (2.10) and (2.11) gives the values of  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  as

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= -57.28 + 0.9350[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{B3LYP/6-31G}^*} + 27.86 \sum_i ICF_i - 30.06 \sum_j DCF_j \\ &= -57.28 + 0.9350(639.5)_{\text{B3LYP}} + 27.86(0) - 30.06(2 + 2) \\ &= 420.4 \text{ kJ/mol,} \\ \Delta_f H^\theta(c) &= -34.99 + 0.8692[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{\text{PM6}} + 30.64 \sum_i ICF_i - 25.95 \sum_j DCF_j \\ &= -34.99 + 0.8692(613.9)_{\text{PM6}} + 30.64(0) - 25.95(2 + 2) \\ &= 398.4 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The experimental  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  value was reported to be 444.4 kJ/mol [91].

## Summary

This chapter has introduced different empirical methods for the prediction of the condensed phase heat of formation of important classes of energetic compounds, as well as of high-nitrogen compounds (i.e. compounds with more than 50 % w/w nitrogen in their molecular structure). Equations (2.1) and (2.5) provide the simplest approaches for the prediction of the  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  values of nitroaromatics, and also for nitramines, nitrate esters, nitroaliphatics and related energetic compounds. The other correlations outlined in Section 2.1.2 give more reliable predictions, but they are considerably more complex. Among the correlations which were introduced, equation (2.8) provides the best method for the reliable calculation of  $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  for different types of energetic compounds containing different types of energetic groups, i.e.  $-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $-\text{ONO}_2$ ,  $-\text{NNO}_2$ ,  $-\text{ON}=\text{O}$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{O}-$  and  $-\text{N}_3$ . For high-nitrogen compounds, equation (2.10) is simpler than equation (2.11). The reliability of both correlations is good, but equation (2.11) should be used preferably for high-nitrogen compounds containing unfamiliar molecular fragments.



### 3 Melting point

The search for new energetic compounds with “ideal” physical properties is a problem of the utmost importance to both research chemists and chemical industry. Since the melting point is one of the fundamental physical properties which is used in the identification and purification of a chemical, and is also highly valuable for the calculation of other important physicochemical properties such as the vapor pressure and aqueous solubility, it is important to have reliable methods which can be used to predict the melting point of an energetic compound. GAV, QSPR, quantum mechanical and empirical methods are all different approaches which have been developed to enable prediction of the melting points of different classes of organic compounds. Some simple and reliable empirical methods are discussed in detail in this chapter, and the other methods are also briefly described.

#### 3.1 GAV, QSPR and quantum mechanical methods

Among the different approaches which can be used to predict the melting points of organic compounds, GAV methods are widely used [67]. The GAV methods can predict the melting point of a desired organic compound by summing the number of each group multiplied by its contribution [67]. Although they are simple and provide quick estimations, many have questionable accuracy and their reliability with respect to the prediction of melting points of organic energetic compounds is unknown. The Joback–Reid [92] approach for the estimation of the melting points of pure compounds is the simplest GAV method. The estimated melting points ( $T_m$ ) from the Joback–Reid GAV method [92] can be estimated as follows:

$$T_m = 122.5 + \sum n_i \text{GAV}_i, \quad (3.1)$$

where  $T_m$  is in K;  $n_i$  is the number of groups of type  $i$  and  $\text{GAV}_i$  is the group contribution of the melting points of group  $i$  in the molecule. It was found that the results predicted using the group-contribution method of Joback–Reid [92] show an average deviation of 37.6 % for 60 carbocyclic nitroaromatic compounds which were considered [93]. Thus, the group contribution method can only be used to obtain a very approximate guess. Some of the other GAV methods include those of Lydersen [94], Ambrose [95], Klinecicz and Reid [96], Lyman et al. [97], Constantinou et al. [98–101], Marrero-Morejón and Pardillo-Fontdevilla [102], and Marrero and Gani [103]. In contrast to other physicochemical properties, melting points are not well estimated by the GAV methods [94, 104–106].



Quantum mechanical calculations are another approach that has been used for simulating solid to liquid phase transitions in energetic materials, in order to predict their melting points [107–110]. Molecular dynamics is a complex method which can be used to simulate solid to liquid phase transitions in energetic materials to predict their melting points [107–110]. Due to the free energy barrier for the formation of a liquid-solid interface, estimation of the melting point can be considered difficult problems through molecular dynamics. This situation can cause superheating in a perfect crystal, which results in an overestimation of the melting point. Various ways of performing the simulations have been investigated in order to determine the most practical one for use for energetic materials [107–110]. Methods of QSPR have been developed for organic molecules – including a number of drugs and/or homologous series [110–113].

### 3.2 Simple empirical methods on the basis of molecular structure

Several simple correlations have recently been introduced to predict the melting points of certain classes of energetic compounds. If impurities are present in the energetic compounds, or if the energetic compound exhibits thermal instability, experimental determination of the melting point may be thwarted. It is important to select a reliable predictive model for organic compounds containing energetic functional groups such as Ar-NO<sub>2</sub>, C-NO<sub>2</sub>, C-ONO<sub>2</sub> or N-NO<sub>2</sub>. According to Carnelley's rule [114, 115], the more symmetrical the organic isomer is, the higher its melting point. The dipole moment is one of the factors which directly controls the melting point. Thus, the sum of all of the local dipole moments has a more pronounced effect than the net dipole moment on the melting point. Due to interactions between local dipole moments of neighboring atoms or groups, molecular interactions can result in close proximity of the molecules in the crystal. It can be expected that the more symmetrical paraisomers and the local dipole moments of some polar groups have a distinct effect in increasing the melting point. The presence of alkyl and alkoxy groups attached to nitroaromatic rings can decrease the planarity of the molecules, which in turn reduces the packing efficiency of molecules in the crystals. This results in a decrease in the interaction between local dipole moments of neighboring nitro groups. Although the attachment of a polar nitramine group may increase the molecular interactions, the presence of an alkyl substituent can change its effect because it can make the molecule less planar. The molecules become further apart if an alkyl nitramine group is introduced. In this section, some of the best available, simple methods for predicting melting points for several selected classes of energetic compounds will be reviewed.

### 3.2.1 Nitroaromatic compounds

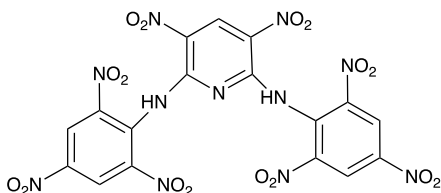
The study of various carbocyclic nitroaromatic organic compounds with general formula  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$  has shown that the following equation can be used to predict the melting point [93]:

$$T_m = 282.96 - 2.7543b + 46.570c + 94.318T_{\text{SFG}} + 54.752T_{\text{o,p}}, \quad (3.2)$$

where  $T_{\text{SFG}}$  is the contribution of a specific functional group and  $T_{\text{o,p}}$  is a parameter that can be applied to disubstituted benzene rings. The values of  $T_{\text{SFG}}$  and  $T_{\text{o,p}}$  are predicted based on the following conditions:

- (1)  $T_{\text{SFG}}$ : If  $-\text{OH}$  and  $-\text{NH}_2$  are *ortho* to the  $-\text{NO}_2$  group, the value of  $T_{\text{SFG}}$  equals zero, whereas if the the  $-\text{NH}_2$  and  $-\text{OH}$  groups in are *meta* or *para* positions relative to the  $-\text{NO}_2$  group then  $T_{\text{SFG}}$  has the value 0.3.  $T_{\text{SFG}} = 1.0$  if the  $-\text{COOH}$ ,  $-\text{CON}-$  or  $-\text{COO}-$  functional groups are present.  $T_{\text{SFG}}$  also has the value  $-1.2$  if the nitramine ( $\text{N}-\text{NO}_2$ ) functional group is present.
- (2)  $T_{\text{o,p}}$ : The value of  $T_{\text{o,p}} = 1.0$  for *para* disubstituted benzene rings. The presence of alkyl ( $-\text{R}$ ) or alkoxy ( $-\text{OR}$ ) groups in *ortho* positions relative to the  $-\text{NO}_2$  group may result in a decrease in the melting point and therefore  $T_{\text{o,p}}$  is equal to  $-0.7$ .

**Example 3.1.** 2,6-Bis(picrylamino)-3,5-dinitropyridine (PYX) has the following molecular structure:



The use of equation (3.2) gives  $T_m$  as

$$\begin{aligned} T_m &= 282.96 - 2.7543b + 46.570c + 94.318T_{\text{SFG}} + 54.752T_{\text{o,p}} \\ &= 282.96 - 2.7543(7) + 46.570(11) + 94.318(0) + 54.752(0) \\ &= 775.95 \text{ K.} \end{aligned}$$

The experimental  $T_m$  was reported to be 733 K [74].

### 3.2.2 Polynitro arene and polynitro heteroarene compounds

Another correlation has recently been introduced that can be applied to a wider classes of energetic compounds, including polynitro arenes and polynitro heteroarenes, and is as follows [116]:

$$T_m = 355.0 + 3.33a - 5.63b + 14.57c + 90.83ISSP - 63.75DSSP, \quad (3.3)$$

where *ISSP* and *DSSP* are increasing and decreasing effects of some specific structural features, which can be specified according to the following situations.

### **ISSP**

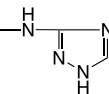
(1) The presence of  $-\text{NH}_2$  groups:

(a) Polynitro arenes: The value of *ISSP* is 0.5 if  $n_{\text{NH}_2}/n_{\text{NO}_2} < 0.5$  except for mononitro anilines, in which *ISSP* is equal to 0.5 and 0.0 for *para* nitro aniline and *ortho* (or *meta*) aniline, respectively. If  $n_{\text{NH}_2}/n_{\text{NO}_2} \geq 0.5$ , *ISSP* equals 2.0 for the attachment of  $-\text{NH}_2$  groups to carbocyclic nitroaromatic compounds.

(b) Polynitro heteroarenes: If amino groups are attached to heterocyclic aromatic compounds, *ISSP* = 1.0.

Since the participation of a functional group in intramolecular hydrogen bonding reduces its ability to form intermolecular hydrogen bonds, the presence of  $n_{\text{NO}_2}$  in *ortho* positions or in positions close to  $n_{\text{NH}_2}$  groups has no appreciable effect, e.g. in *o*-nitroaniline.

(2) The presence of certain functional groups: The value of *ISSP* = 1.0 if one  $-\text{COOH}$  group or two  $-\text{OH}$  functional groups are attached to an aromatic ring.




(3) The existence of specific structural parameters: If the  or  $-\text{C}=\text{C}-$  groups are attached to an aromatic ring, *ISSP* equals 1.0.

(4) The presence of some specific groups in disubstituted benzene rings (in *para* position with respect to an  $-\text{NO}_2$  group): If the  $-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{R}_2\text{N}-$  or  $-\text{N}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$  groups are located in the *para* position with respect to the nitro group, *ISSP* equals 1.0.

### **DSSP**

(1) The attachment of only alkyl or alkoxy groups to nitroaromatic rings: If  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{R,OR}} \leq 1/3$  (where  $n_{\text{R,OR}}$  is the number of  $-\text{R}$  or  $-\text{OR}$  groups attached to a nitroaromatic ring), then *DSSP* = 0.0. For  $1/3 < n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{R,OR}} \leq 1$ , the value of *DSSP* is equal to 1.0. The *DSSP* value is also 0.5 for  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{R,OR}} > 1$ .

(2) The presence of alkyl nitramine groups attached to aromatic rings: For the presence of  $\text{R}-\text{N}-\text{NO}_2$ , *DSSP* =  $0.7 \times n_{\text{RNNO}_2}$ , where  $n_{\text{RNNO}_2}$  is the number of alkyl nitramine groups.

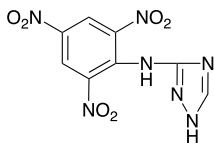
(3) The presence of specific structural parameters: For the   $\text{N}^+-\text{O}^-$  (or ) and  rings, the values of *DSSP* are 1.0 and 2.0, respectively.

(4) Mononitro substituted carbocyclic aromatic compounds: The value of *DSSP* is equal to 1.0 only for mononitro substituted carbocyclic aromatic compounds.

**Different effects of *ISSP* and *DSSP* in polycyclic nitroaromatic compounds**

The presence of more than two nitroaromatic rings can result in different situations. If three aromatic rings are present and if  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{Ar}} > 2.5$ , then *ISSP* equals 2.0. However, if four aromatic rings are present and if  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{Ar}} > 2.5$ , then *DSSP* is 1.0.

**Example 3.2.** Consider the following molecular structure:



The calculated  $T_m$  by equation (3.3) is as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} T_m \text{ (K)} &= 355.0 + 3.33a - 5.63b + 14.57c + 90.83ISSP - 63.75DSSP \\ &= 355.0 + 3.33(8) - 5.63(5) + 14.57(7) + 90.83(1) - 63.75(0) \\ &= 546.3 \text{ K.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $T_m$  value was reported to be 583 K [117].

**3.2.3 Nitramines, nitrate esters, nitrate salts and nitroaliphatics**

The following equation is the simplest approach to predict the melting points of nitramines, nitrate esters, nitrate salts and nitroaliphatics [118]:

$$T_m = 220.47 + 30.220c + 24.780d - 68.691C_{\text{SFG}} - 25.891n_{\text{N-NO}_2}, \quad (3.4)$$

where  $n_{\text{N-NO}_2}$  is the number of nitramine groups in the energetic compound and  $C_{\text{SFG}}$  is the contribution of specific functional groups, which can be specified as follows:

- (1) Nitrate salt:  $C_{\text{SFG}} = 0$ .
- (2) Nitrate groups:  $C_{\text{SFG}}$  has the values 2.0, 2.5 and 3.5 for nitrated energetic compounds, which have one, two, and three or four  $-\text{O}-\text{NO}_2$  groups, respectively.
- (3) Hydroxyl group:  $C_{\text{SFG}} = -1.0$  for nitro or nitrated energetic compounds that have at least one  $-\text{OH}$  functional group.
- (4)  $-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)_3$  group:  $C_{\text{SFG}}$  has the values 3.0 and 4.0 for the presence of one and more than one  $\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)_3$  group, respectively.
- (5) Mononitro compounds:  $C_{\text{SFG}} = 1.5$  for mono nitro compounds which have the general formula  $\text{R}'\text{CH}-\text{RCH}-\text{NO}_2$  ( $\text{R}$  or  $\text{R}' = -\text{H}$ , alkyl).

**Example 3.3.** For  $\text{HOCH}_2\text{C}(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NO}_2$ , the predicted melting point using equation (3.4) is calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} T_m &= 220.47 + 30.220c + 24.780d - 68.691C_{\text{SFG}} - 25.891n_{\text{N-NO}_2} \\ &= 220.47 + 30.220(1) + 24.780(3) - 68.691(-1) - 25.891(0) \\ &= 393.72 \text{ K.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $T_m$  value was reported to be 361.7 K [74].

### 3.2.4 Nonaromatic energetic compounds

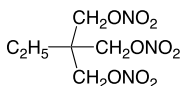
It was found that the elemental composition, as well as positive ( $T^+$ ) and negative ( $T^-$ ) correcting terms are important factors to include for nonaromatic energetic compounds, since this results in a more reliable correlation than equation (3.4). The new correlation is given as follows [106]:

$$T_m = 281.7 + 28.97a - 12.08b + 29.75c - 9.966d + 102.92T^+ - 110.11T^-. \quad (3.5)$$

The values of  $T^+$  and  $T^-$  depend on some functional groups and structural parameters that are specified as follows.

- (1) Nitroaliphatics and nitrate esters:
  - (a)  $\text{C}_n\text{H}_{2n+1}(\text{NO}_2 \text{ or } \text{ONO}_2)_{m=1 \text{ or } 2}$ : The values of  $T^-$  depend on the number of carbon atoms in the alkyl group of mononitro or mononitrate alkanes:
    - (i) if  $n = 1$ , then  $T^- = 1.0$ ;
    - (ii) if  $n \geq 2$ , then  $T^- = 0.6$ . For  $m = 2$ , the value of  $T^-$  depends on the molecular structure of the energetic compound. The value of  $T^-$  equals 0.40 in this case, except if two nitro groups are attached to one carbon, in which case  $T^- = 0.0$ .
  - (b) The presence of the  $-\text{OH}$  group: If the hydroxyl group is present,  $T^+$  is equal to 1.0.
- (2) Energetic compounds with  $-\text{N-NO}_2$ ,  $-\text{NH-NO}_2$  and  $-\text{NHNO}_3$  groups
  - (a) The presence of  $-\text{N-NO}_2$  groups: The ratio of the number of  $-\text{N-NO}_2$  to  $-\text{CH}_2$  (or  $-\text{CH}_3$ ) groups has different effects:
    - (i) if the ratio  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}_2 \text{ or } 3} \geq 0.5$ , then  $T^+ = 0.5$ ;
    - (ii) if the ratio  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}_2 \text{ or } 3} \leq 0.2$ , then  $T^- = 0.6$ . For other ratios of  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}_2 \text{ or } 3}$ ,  $T^+$  and  $T^-$  equal zero.
  - (b) The presence of  $-\text{NH-NO}_2$  and  $-\text{NHNO}_3$  groups: The value of  $T^+$  is equal to 1.0.

**Example 3.4.** Consider the following nonaromatic energetic compound:



The melting point is calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} T_m &= 281.7 + 28.97a - 12.08b + 29.75c - 9.966d + 102.92T^+ - 110.11T^- \\ &= 281.7 + 28.97(6) - 12.08(11) + 29.75(3) - 9.966(9) + 102.92(0) - 110.11(0) \\ &= 322.2 \text{ K.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured melting point of this compound is 324.15 K [31]. If equation (3.4) is used instead, a value of 293.7 K is obtained, which illustrates that the deviation of (3.4) from the experimental value is larger for such compounds.

### 3.2.5 Improved method for predicting the melting points of energetic compounds

For various aromatic and nonaromatic energetic compounds containing Ar-NO<sub>2</sub>, C-NO<sub>2</sub>, C-ONO<sub>2</sub> or N-NO<sub>2</sub> groups, an improved method has been introduced which expresses the melting points of these compounds as additive and nonadditive parts. The new correlation has the following form [119]:

$$T_m = 326.9 + 5.524T_{\text{add}} + 101.2T_{\text{nonadd}}, \quad (3.6)$$

where

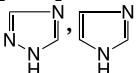
$$T_{\text{add}} = a - 0.5049b + 2.643c - 0.3838d, \quad (3.7)$$

$$T_{\text{nonadd}} = T_{\text{PC}} - 0.6728T_{\text{NC}}. \quad (3.8)$$

Two correcting functions  $T_{\text{PC}}$  and  $T_{\text{NC}}$  were chosen based on the deviations of  $T_{\text{add}}$  from the measured values and are discussed in the following sections.

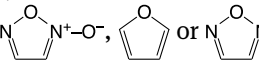
#### $T_{\text{PC}}$

- (1) -NH<sub>2</sub> group: The presence of amino groups can not only enhance the thermal stability of energetic compounds [117], but also can increase their safety by decreasing their sensitivity to external stimuli such as impact [39, 40]. The effect of amino groups on the melting point of a compound can be classified as follows:
  - (a) The number of amino groups per aromatic ring in polynitro arenes or nonaromatic energetic compounds: If one -NH<sub>2</sub> group is present in this type of energetic compound (for example in 2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexanitrobiphenyl-3,3'-diamine), the value of  $T_{\text{PC}}$  is 0.5. One exception to this is *o*-nitroaniline, because intramolecular hydrogen bonding may cancel the effect of the amino group. The value of  $T_{\text{PC}}$  equals 2.0 if a larger number of amino groups is present in such compounds, e.g. 1,1-diamino-2,2-dinitroethylene and 1,3,5-triamino-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene.
  - (b) Polynitro heteroarenes: The value  $T_{\text{PC}}$  equals 1.0 if amino groups are attached to heterocyclic aromatic compounds, e.g. 4-amino-5-nitro-1,2,3-triazole.

- (2) The presence of some specific polar groups and molecular fragments: The presence of certain special functional groups such as  $-\text{COOH}$  can increase the melting points of these compounds because of their ability to form reinforced intermolecular hydrogen bonds. The effects of these functional groups and molecular fragments in different energetic compounds can be classified as follows:
- (a) Nitroaromatic: If  $-\text{COOH}$ ,  $-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-$  and at least two  $-\text{OH}$  groups are attached to the aromatic ring,  $T_{\text{PC}}$  is 0.75.  $T_{\text{PC}}$  equals 0.75 if  $-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{R}_2\text{N}-$  or  $-\text{N}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$  are present in the *para* position relative to the nitro group. Moreover, the value of  $T_{\text{PC}}$  is 1.0 if the  or  $-\text{C}=\text{C}-\text{Ar}$  groups are present.
- (b) Nonaromatic energetic compounds: The value of  $T_{\text{PC}}$  is 1.0 for the existence of some specific polar groups or molecular fragments including  $-\text{NH}-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{NH}_4^+$ , more than one  $-\text{OH}$ , one cyclic ether or carbocyclic cage energetic compounds.

### $T_{\text{NC}}$

For polynitro arenes and polynitro heteroarenes, the presence of alkyl and alkoxy groups attached to nitroaromatic rings can reduce the planarity of the molecules. The ratio of the number of nitro groups to the number of alkyl or alkoxy groups ( $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{R,OR}}$ ) may be important. For the nitramine polar group, the presence of an alkyl substituent can change its effect, because it can affect the nonplanarity of the nitroaromatic molecules. The attachment of certain heterocycles to a central aromatic ring in polynitro heteroarenes may result in a reduction of the symmetry and planarity of these compounds. Mononitro substitution in aromatic compounds may decrease the melting point compared to polynitro substituted compounds. The effects of various structural parameters on  $T_{\text{NC}}$  are as follows.

- (1) Nitroaromatics: Four different situations can be considered for polynitro arenes and polynitro heteroarenes.
- (a) Alkyl or alkoxy substituted nitroaromatics: For the ratios  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{R,OR}} \leq 1$  and  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{R,OR}} > 1$ , the values of  $T_{\text{NC}}$  equal 1.0 and 0.5, respectively.
- (b) Alkyl nitramine groups attached to aromatic rings: The value of  $T_{\text{NC}}$  is equal to 0.7 times the number of alkyl nitramine groups.
- (c) Specific structural factors: If  are present, the value of  $T_{\text{NC}}$  is equal to 1.0.
- (d) Mononitro substituted aromatic compounds: The value of  $T_{\text{NC}}$  is equal to 1.0.
- (2) Nonaromatic energetic compounds: For those nitro and nitrate energetic compounds with general formula  $-\text{CH}-(\text{NO}_2 \text{ or } \text{ONO}_2)_n$ , the values of  $T_{\text{NC}}$  are as follows:
- (a) if  $n = 1$ , then  $T_{\text{NC}} = 2.0$ ;
- (b) if  $n = 2$  or  $3$ , then  $T_{\text{NC}} = 1.0$ .

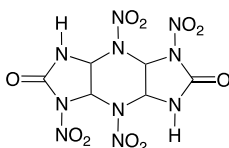
### Different behavior of some molecular structures

Due to the complex effects of symmetry, planarity and local dipole moments, some specific molecular moieties can have different effects with respect to increasing or decreasing the melting point. The guidelines are as follows:

- (1) Polycyclic nitroaromatic compounds: If three aromatic rings are present and if  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{Ar}} > 2.5$ , then  $T_{\text{PC}} = 2.0$ . However, if four aromatic rings are present and if  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{Ar}} > 2.5$ , then  $T_{\text{NC}} = 1.0$ .
- (2) Cyclic nitramines containing methylene units: The ratio of  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}$  to the number of methylene units ( $n_{\text{CH}_2}$ ) has different effects:
  - (a) if the ratio  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}_2} \geq 1.0$ , then  $T_{\text{PC}} = 0.5$ ;
  - (b) if the ratio  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}_2} \leq 0.2$ , then  $T_{\text{NC}} = 1.2$ .

A summary of the above conditions is given in Tables 3.1 and 3.2.

**Example 3.5.** Use equation (3.6) to calculate the melting point of the following compound:

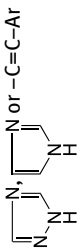


$$\begin{aligned}
 T_{\text{add}} &= a - 0.5049b + 2.643c - 0.3838d \\
 &= 6 - 0.5049(6) + 2.643(10) - 0.3838(10) \\
 &= 25.56 \\
 T_{\text{m}} &= 326.9 + 5.524T_{\text{add}} + 101.2T_{\text{nonadd}} \\
 &= 326.9 + 5.524(25.56) + 101.2(0) \\
 &= 468.1 \text{ K.}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since the measured melting point of this compound is 498.15 K [38], the percent deviation of the calculated melting point from the measured melting point (−6.0%) is much lower than the two GAV methods of Joback–Reid [92] (1260.8 K, %Dev = 153.1) and Jain–Yalkowsky [111] (772.8 K, %Dev = 55.1).

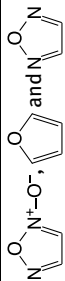


Tab. 3.1: Summary of predicted values of  $T_{PC}$ .

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{PC}$	Comments
Polynitro arene or non-aromatic	-NH <sub>2</sub> group (the number of amino groups per ring in polynitro arene)	0.5	One amino group (except <i>o</i> -nitroaniline)
		2.0	More than one amino group
Polynitro heteroarene	-NH <sub>2</sub> group	1.0	—
Nitroaromatic	-COOH, -NH-CO- and at least two -OH groups	0.75	—
	-NO <sub>2</sub> , R <sub>2</sub> N- or -N-C(=O)- in <i>para</i> position with respect to the nitro group		
		1.0	
Non-aromatic	-NH-NO <sub>2</sub> , NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> and more than one -OH as well as one cyclic ether or carbo-cyclic cage energetic compound	1.0	—
	Cyclic nitramine containing methylene units	0.5	$\eta_{\text{NNO}_2} / \eta_{\text{CH}_2} \geq 1.0$
Polycyclic nitroaromatic	Presence of three aromatic rings	2.0	$\eta_{\text{NO}_2} / \eta_{\text{Ar}} > 2.5$

Tab. 3-2: Summary of predicted values of  $T_{NC}$ .

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{NC}$	Comments
Nitroaromatic	Alkyl or alkoxy substituted nitroaromatics	1.0	$n_{NO_2}/n_{R,OR} \leq 1$
		0.5	$n_{NO_2}/n_{R,OR} > 1$
Non-aromatic	Alkyl nitramine groups attached to aromatic rings	0.7 × the number of alkyl nitramine groups	—
		1.0	—
Non-aromatic	Mononitro substituted aromatic compound	—CH-(NO <sub>2</sub> or ONO <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>n</sub>	$n = 1$
			$n = 2, 3$
			$n = 1$
Polycyclic nitroaromatic	Cyclic nitramine-containing methylene units	1.2	$n_{NNO_2}/n_{CH_2} \leq 0.2$
		1.0	$n_{NO_2}/n_{Ar} > 2.5$



### 3.2.6 Organic molecules containing hazardous peroxide groups

The study of various organic compounds containing peroxide groups has shown that it is possible to calculate the melting points of these compounds using core and correcting functions as follows [120]:

$$T_{m,\text{peroxide}} = 280.5 + 5.159T_{\text{core}} + 38.90T_{\text{correcting}}, \quad (3.9)$$

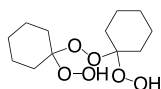
$$T_{\text{core}} = a - 0.556b + 2.064d, \quad (3.10)$$

$$T_{\text{correcting}} = T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^+ - 1.345T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^-, \quad (3.11)$$

where  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}$ ,  $T_{\text{core}}$  and  $T_{\text{correcting}}$  are the melting point of the peroxide compound, and the core and correcting functions, respectively;  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^+$  and  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^-$  are the positive and negative contributions of structural parameters in  $T_{\text{correcting}}$ , respectively. For the presence of several molecular moieties, the values of  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^+$  and  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^-$  can be specified as follows:

- (1)  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^+$ : The values of  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^+$  are 2.0 and 0.5 for the presence of more than one peroxy acid (without any functional groups) and  $-\text{OH}$  groups, respectively.
- (2)  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^-$ : For some organic molecules including those containing  $-(\text{CO})\text{OO}-$  or  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{OO}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$  groups, the crystal packing efficiency of molecules may be reduced, which in turn, can decrease the interaction between local dipole moments of neighboring polar groups. If only one  $-(\text{CO})\text{OO}-$  or  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{OO}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-$  group in the form  $\text{R}_1-(\text{CO})\text{OO}-\text{R}_1$  or  $\text{R}_1-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{OO}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{O}-\text{R}_1$  is present (in which  $\text{R}_1$  should be the same on both sides of the organic molecule), the value of  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^-$  is 1.0. For  $\text{R}-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OOH}$ , the value of  $T_{m,\text{peroxide}}^-$  is 1.0 if the number of carbon atoms in the R group is less than five.

**Example 3.6.** Consider the following peroxide:



1,1'-peroxybis(1-hydroperoxycyclohexane)

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\text{core}} &= a - 0.556b + 2.064d \\ &= 12 - 0.556(22) + 2.064(6) \\ &= 12.2 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} T_{m,\text{peroxide}} &= 280.5 + 5.159T_{\text{core}} + 38.90T_{\text{correcting}} \\ &= 280.5 + 5.159(12.2) + 38.90(0) \\ &= 343.4 \text{ K.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured melting point of this compound is 356 K [74]. The percent deviation of the calculated melting point using the above method is 3.5%, which is much lower than that of the two GAV methods of Joback–Reid [92] (619 K, %Dev = 74.2) and Jain–Yalkowsky [111] (454 K, %Dev = -27.4).

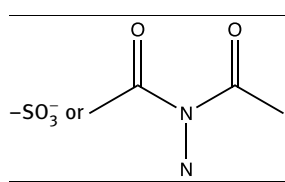
### 3.2.7 Organic azides

For organic azides, the following correlation has been introduced [121]:

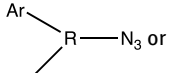
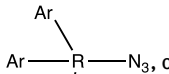
$$T_m = 264.63 + 10.09a - 3.86b + 18.38c - 47.53n_{\text{azide}} + 45.76SPG - 65.58IPF, \quad (3.12)$$

where  $n_{\text{azide}}$  is the number of azide groups;  $SPG$  is the contribution of specific polar groups;  $IPF$  is the inefficient packing factor. Table 3.3 shows different  $SPG$  values containing a list of polar functional groups and molecular fragments. Table 3.4 shows different situations in which the effects of  $IPF$  can be considered.

**Tab. 3.3:** The values of specific polar groups ( $SPG$ ).

Polar groups	$SPG$	Exception
-COOH	1.8	Ortho phenoxy molecular moiety (-O-Ar)
-CONH <sub>2</sub> or -SO <sub>2</sub> NH <sub>2</sub>	2	—
-OH	0.6 × the number of -OH groups	Disubstituted benzene containing only -N <sub>3</sub> and -OH or -CH <sub>2</sub> OH
-SO <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> or 	1	—
-NH-CO-NH-, -NH-CO-CH <sub>3</sub> , cyclic -NH-CO-, -CO-NH-N	1.2	—
Cyclic -NH-	0.8	—
Ar-NH <sub>2</sub>	0.2 × the number of -NH <sub>2</sub>	N-NH <sub>2</sub>

**Tab. 3.4:** The values for the inefficient packing factor (*IPF*).

Compound	Illustration	<i>IPF</i>	Condition
Benzene and naphthalene derivatives	One or two separated benzene rings in form  or $\alpha$ -azidonaphthalene	1.2	No polar groups are present
	$\beta$ -azidonaphthalene derivatives, or three separated benzene rings in form  or two benzene rings in form Ar–Ar	0.6	
R–N <sub>3</sub>	—	1.8	
Azides containing silicon	—	1.8	No polar groups are present and the silicon atom is directly attached to the azide group
	—	0.5	No polar groups are present

**Example 3.7.** The use of equation (3.12) for 1-azidonaphthalene (C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>3</sub>) gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_m &= 264.63 + 10.09a - 3.86b + 18.38c - 47.53n_{\text{azide}} + 45.76SPG - 65.58IPF \\
 &= 264.63 + 10.09(10) - 3.86(7) + 18.38(3) - 47.53(1) + 45.76(0) - 65.58(1.2) \\
 &= 267.4 \text{ K.}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since the measured melting point of this compound is 285.16 K [122], the percent deviation of the melting point calculated by this method from that of the measured melting point is 6 %.

### 3.2.8 General method for the prediction of melting points of energetic compounds including organic peroxides, organic azides, organic nitrates, polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic compounds

Investigations of the effects of different structural features in energetic compounds (including organic peroxides, organic azides, organic nitrates, polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic compounds) on the melting point of a compound has indicated that it is possible to express the melting points of these compounds as a function of additive and nonadditive parts in the following form [123]:

$$T_m = 323.0 + 5.511T_{\text{add,elem}} + 101.2T_{\text{corr,struct}}, \quad (3.13)$$

$$T_{\text{add,elem}} = a - 0.5251b + 2.402c, \quad (3.14)$$

$$T_{\text{corr,struct}} = T_{\text{struct}}^+ - 0.6470T_{\text{struct}}^-, \quad (3.15)$$

where  $T_{\text{add,elem}}$  shows the contribution of the elemental composition as an additive part, whereas the parameter  $T_{\text{corr,struct}}$  indicates the nonadditive part of the melting point.  $T_{\text{corr,struct}}$  is a complex function that can be specified on the basis of the molecular structure because some specific polar groups such as  $-\text{COOH}$ ,  $-\text{NH}_2$  and  $-\text{OH}$  as well as other molecular moieties may enhance intermolecular interactions (and which are specified later). However, the presence of some specific molecular fragments can decrease the molecular attractions which are present. Large positive and negative deviations of the calculated  $T_{\text{add,elem}}$  from the experimental data can be adjusted by the parameter  $T_{\text{corr,struct}}$  in equation (3.13) through the related variables  $T_{\text{struct}}^+$  and  $T_{\text{struct}}^-$  in equation (3.15). The values of  $T_{\text{struct}}^+$  and  $T_{\text{struct}}^-$  are discussed in the following sections.

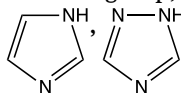
### 3.2.8.1 $T_{\text{corr,struct}}$

The contributions of different structural parameters of energetic compounds in  $T_{\text{corr,struct}}$  can be specified through some specific polar groups and molecular fragments.

#### $T_{\text{struct}}^+$

- (1) Peroxide group: The intermolecular hydrogen bonding effects of  $-\text{OH}$ ,  $-\text{COOH}$ ,  $-\text{O}-\text{OH}$  and  $\text{COOOH}$  (peroxy acid group) without further functional groups results in the following conditions:
  - (a) more than one  $-\text{O}-\text{OH}$ : The value of  $T_{\text{struct}}^+ = 0.5$ ;
  - (b) two or more hydroxyl groups as well as an  $-\text{O}-\text{O}-$  group:  $T_{\text{struct}}^+ = 0.4$ ;
  - (c) the presence of both  $\text{COOH}$  and  $\text{COOOH}$  groups: The value of  $T_{\text{struct}}^+ = 0.5$ .
- (2) Amino group: The melting points of different classes of energetic compounds may be increased by the introduction of amino groups. This can be accounted for as follows:
  - (a) Nitroarenes and non-aromatic compounds: The value of  $T_{\text{struct}}^+ = 0.5$  for one  $-\text{NH}_2$  group (e.g. 2,2',2'',4,4',4'',6,6',6''-nonanitro-1,1':3',1''-terphenyl), except for *o*-nitroaniline. If more than one amino group is present in this category of compound (e.g. 2,2-dinitroethene-1,1-diamine) then the value of  $T_{\text{struct}}^+ = 2.0$ .
  - (b) Poly- and mono-nitro heteroarenes: The value of  $T_{\text{struct}}^+ = 1.0$  if amino groups are attached to heterocyclic aromatic compounds (e.g. 7-amino-4,6 dinitrobenzo[*c*][1,2,5]oxadiazole 1-oxide).
- (3) Specific polar groups and molecular fragments: The influence of the molecular fragments and functional groups on different classes of energetic compounds can be classified as follows.

- (a) Nitroaromatic energetic compounds:  $T_{\text{struc}}^+ = 0.75$  if  $-\text{COOH}$  or  $-\text{NH}-\text{CO}-$  and at least two  $-\text{OH}$  groups are attached to the aromatic ring. If  $-\text{NO}_2$ ,  $\text{R}_2\text{N}-$  and  $-\text{N}-\text{C}(\text{O})-$  groups are attached to the ring in *para* positions with respect to the nitro group, then  $T_{\text{struc}}^+$  is also equal to 0.75. The value of  $T_{\text{struc}}^+ = 1.0$  if the



or  $-\text{C}=\text{C}-\text{Ar}$  molecular moieties are present.

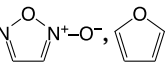

- (b) Non-aromatic energetic compounds: if  $-\text{NH}-\text{NO}_2$ , more than one  $-\text{OH}$  group, one cyclic ether or carbocyclic cage energetic compound is present, the value of  $T_{\text{struc}}^+ = 1.0$ . Furthermore,  $T_{\text{struc}}^+ = 0.5$  if  $\text{NH}_4^+$  is present in salts of nitro nonaromatic compounds.

### $T_{\text{struc}}^-$

For some organic compounds which contain the  $-(\text{CO})\text{OO}-$  or  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{OO}-(\text{CO})-\text{O}-$  groups, the  $T_{\text{add,elem}}$  values are higher than those from experimental data. These groups may reduce the packing efficiency of molecules in crystals because they can decrease the interactions between local dipole moments of neighboring polar groups. The presence of alkyl and alkoxy groups attached to nitroaromatic rings can also reduce the planarity of polynitro arenes and polynitro heteroarene molecules. This non-planarity not only decreases the packing efficiency of molecules in the crystal lattice, but it can also reduce the interactions between local dipole moments of neighboring nitro groups.

If polar nitramine groups are present, alkyl substituents can reduce the polar effect of these groups because alkyl groups can result in a reduction in the planarity of nitroaromatic molecules. The attachment of heterocycles to the central aromatic ring may result in a reduction of the symmetry in polynitro heteroarenes. Since there are larger attractive forces in polynitro substituted compounds than in mononitro substituted carbocyclic aromatic compounds, the latter have lower melting points. The effects of various structural parameters on  $T_{\text{struc}}^-$  may be categorized as follows.

- (1) The presence of  $-(\text{CO})\text{OO}-$  or one  $-\text{O}-\text{O}-$  group: If only one  $-(\text{CO})\text{OO}-$  or  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{OO}-(\text{CO})-\text{O}-$  is present in the form  $\text{R}_1-(\text{CO})\text{OO}-\text{R}_1$  or  $\text{R}_1-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{O})-\text{OO}-(\text{CO})-\text{O}-\text{R}_1$ , the value of  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 1.0$  ( $\text{R}_1$  should be the same on both sides of the organic molecule). The  $T_{\text{struc}}^-$  value is 1.0 and 0.5 for  $\text{R}-(\text{CO})\text{OOH}$  and  $\text{R}'-(\text{CO})\text{OH}$  (or  $\text{R}'-\text{OO}-\text{R}'$ ), respectively, however, the number of carbon atoms in  $\text{R}$  and  $\text{R}'$  should be less than five.
- (2) The attachment of  $-\text{N}_3$  to alkyl or aryl groups: The value of  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 1.4$ .
- (3) Nitroaromatic compounds: The following conditions can be considered for nitro arenes and nitro heteroarenes.
  - (a) Alkyl or alkoxy substituted nitroaromatics: For nitroaromatics containing alkyl or alkoxy groups with ratios of  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{R,OR}} \leq 1$  and  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{R,OR}} > 1$ , the values of  $T_{\text{struc}}^-$  are 1.0 and 0.5, respectively.

- (b) Alkyl nitramine groups attached to aromatic rings:  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 0.7 \times$  the number of alkyl nitramine groups.
- (c) Specific structural factors in nitroaromatic compounds: If the , or  molecular moieties are present,  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 1.0$ .
- (d) Mononitro substituted aromatic compounds:  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 1.0$ .
- (e) Nitro heteroarenes: The value of  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 0.5$ .
- (4) Nitro and nitrate nonaromatic energetic compounds: For those nitro and nitrate energetic compounds with general formula  $-\text{CH}-(\text{NO}_2 \text{ or } \text{ONO}_2)_n$ :
- if  $n = 1$ , then  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 2.0$ ;
  - if  $n = 2$  or  $3$ , then  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 1.0$ .

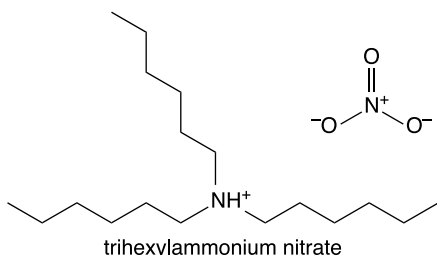
### Polycyclic nitroaromatic compounds as well as cyclic nitramines with methylene units

In polycyclic nitroaromatic compounds as well as cyclic nitramines which contain methylene units, there are complex effects related to symmetry, planarity, and local dipole moments. Thus, the following conditions should be applied:

- Polycyclic nitroaromatic compounds: If three or four aromatic rings are present, the ratio of  $n_{\text{NO}_2}$  to  $n_{\text{Ar}}$  can estimate the contribution of  $T_{\text{struc}}^+$  and  $T_{\text{struc}}^-$ . If  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{Ar}} > 2.5$ , the value of  $T_{\text{struc}}^+$  is 2.0 if three aromatic rings are present, whereas if four aromatic rings are present,  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 1.0$  if  $n_{\text{NO}_2}/n_{\text{Ar}} > 2.5$ .
- Cyclic nitramines containing methylene units: Two situations are encountered based on the ratio of  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}$  to the number of methylene units ( $n_{\text{CH}_2}$ ):
  - if the ratio  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}_2} \geq 1.0$ ,  $T_{\text{struc}}^+ = 0.5$ ;
  - if the ratio  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}_2} \leq 0.2$ ,  $T_{\text{struc}}^- = 1.2$ .

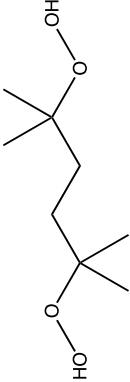
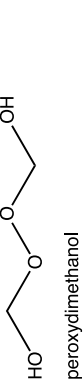
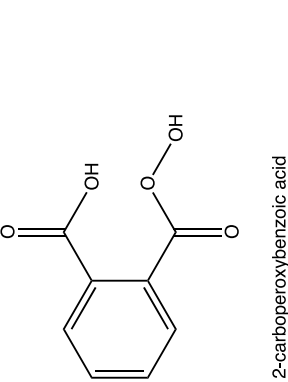
Tables 3.5 and 3.6 summarize the predicted values of  $T_{\text{struc}}^+$  and  $T_{\text{struc}}^-$  which are obtained by applying the above conditions.

**Example 3.8.** The use of this method for the following compound

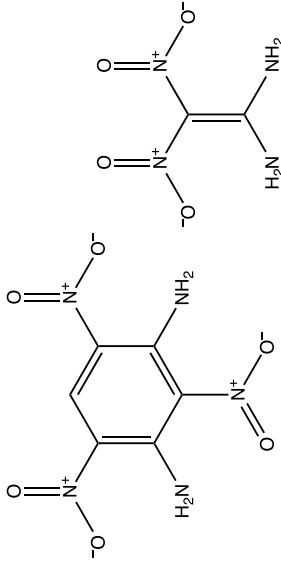
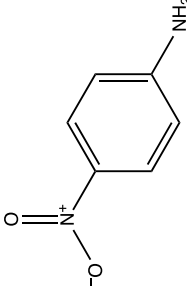




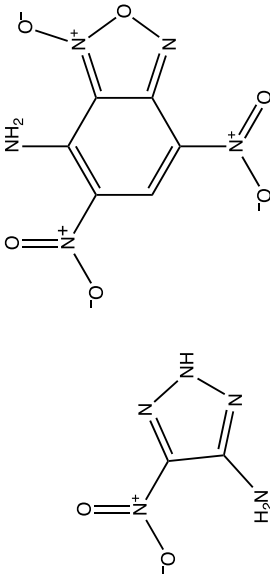
Tab. 3.5: Summary of predicted values of  $T_{\text{struc}}^+$ .

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^+$	Condition	Example
Peroxide	O–OH group	0.5	More than one hydroperoxy group	 2,5-dihydroperoxy-2,5-dimethylhexane
	OH group	0.4	Two or more hydroxy groups	 peroxydimethanol
	COOH and COOOH groups	0.5	The presence of two similar groups	 2-carboxybenzoic acid

Tab. 3.5: (continued)

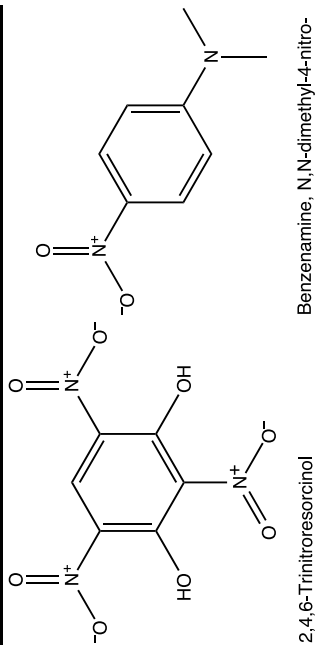
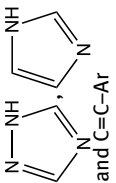
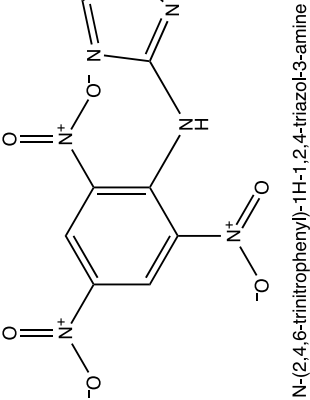
Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$\tau_{\text{struc}}^+$	Condition	Example
Nitro arenes or non-aromatics containing amino groups	-NH <sub>2</sub> group	2.0	More than one amino group	 <p>2,4,6-trinitrobenzene-1,3-diamine</p> <p>2,2-dinitroethene-1,1-diamine</p>
	-NH <sub>2</sub> group	0.5	One amino group (except <i>o</i> -nitroaniline)	 <p>p-Nitroaniline</p>

Tab. 3.5: (continued)

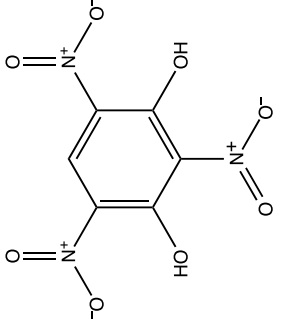
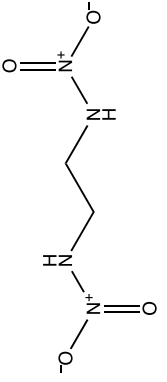
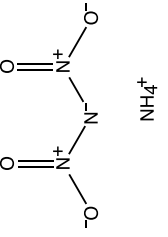
Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^+$	Condition	Example
Poly and mononitro heteroarene	-NH <sub>2</sub> group	1.0	—	 <p>The example column contains two chemical structures. The first is 5-nitro-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-amine, a five-membered ring with two nitrogen atoms and one NH group, with an amino group (-NH<sub>2</sub>) at position 4 and a nitro group (-NO<sub>2</sub>) at position 5. The second is 7-amino-4,6-dinitrobenzo[c][1,2,5]oxadiazole 1-oxide, a benzene ring fused to a five-membered oxadiazole ring, with an amino group (-NH<sub>2</sub>) at position 7 and nitro groups (-NO<sub>2</sub>) at positions 4 and 6 of the benzene ring.</p>

5-nitro-2H-1,2,3-triazol-4-amine 7-amino-4,6-dinitrobenzo[c][1,2,5]oxadiazole 1-oxide

Tab. 3.5: (continued)

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^+$	Condition	Example
Nitro aromatic	-COOH, -NH-CO, at least two -OH groups, -NO <sub>2</sub> , R <sub>2</sub> N- or -N-C(O)- in <i>para</i> position relative to the nitro group	0.75	-	 <p>2,4,6-Trinitroresorcinol</p> <p>Benzenamine, N,N-dimethyl-4-nitro-</p>
	 <p>1,2,4-triazole and C=C-Ar</p>	1.0	-	 <p>N-(2,4,6-trinitrophenyl)-1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-amine</p>

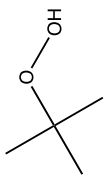
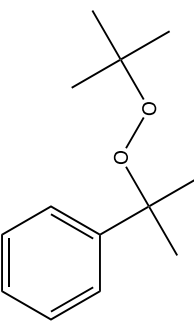
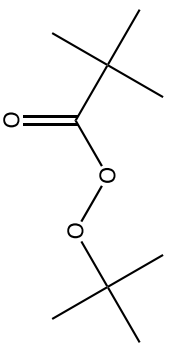
Tab. 3.5: (continued)

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{stuc}^+$	Condition	Example
Nitro non-aromatic	Cyclic nitramines containing methylene units	0.5	$r_{NO_2}/r_{CH_2} \geq 1.0$	 <p>2,4,6-Trinitroresorcinol</p>
	-NH-NO <sub>2</sub> and more than one -OH, as well as one cyclic ether group	1.0	-	 <p>N,N'-(ethane-1,2-diyl)dinitramide</p>
	NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	0.5	-	 <p>N-nitronitramide, ammonium salt</p>

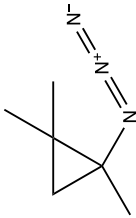
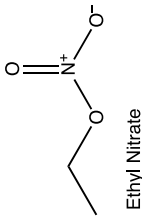
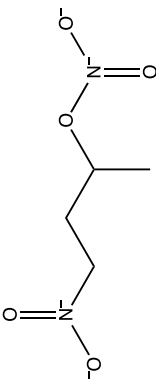
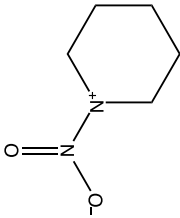
Tab. 3.5: (continued)

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^+$	Condition	Example
Polycyclic nitro-aromatics	The presence of three aromatic rings	2.0	$n_{\text{NO}_2} / n_{\text{Aromatic ring}} > 2.5$	<p style="text-align: center;">3,5-dinitro-N<sub>2</sub>,N<sub>6</sub>-bis(2,4,6-trinitrophenyl)pyridine-2,6-diamine</p>

Tab. 3.6: Summary of predicted values of  $T_{\text{struc}}^-$ .

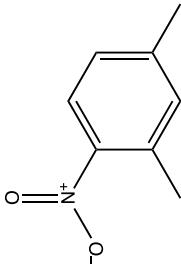
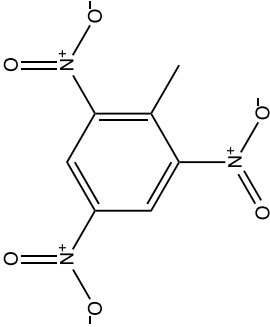
Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^-$	Condition	Example
Peroxide	O-OH group	0.5	One hydroperoxy group	
				2-hydroperoxy-2-methylpropane
	O-O group	0.5	One group without any other group present	
				(2-( <i>tert</i> -butylperoxy)propan-2-yl)benzene
	(CO)OH, (CO)OO group	1.0	Only one group without other groups present	
				<i>tert</i> -butyl 2,2-dimethylpropaneperoxoate

Tab. 3.6: (continued)

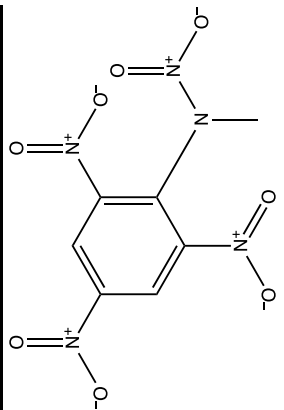
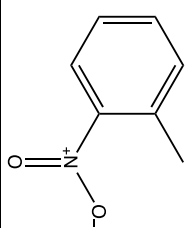
Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^-$	Condition	Example
Azide	$N_3$	1.4	The presence of $N_3$ group except ionic azides	
Nitro non-aromatic	$-\text{CH}-(\text{NO}_2 \text{ or } \text{ONO}_2)_n$	2.0	$n = 1$	 <p>Ethyl Nitrate</p>
		1.0	$n = 2, 3$	 <p>4-nitrobutan-2-yl nitrate</p>
	Cyclic nitramines containing methylene units	1.2	$n_{\text{NNO}_2} / n_{\text{CH}_2} \leq 0.2$	 <p>Piperidine, 1-nitro</p>



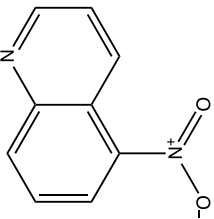
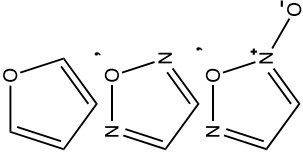
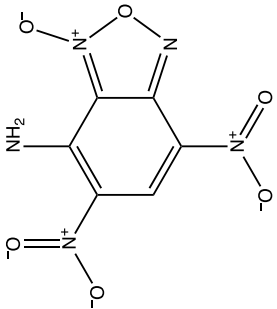
Tab. 3.6: (continued)

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^-$	Condition	Example
Nitroaromatic	Alkyl or alkoxy substituted nitroaromatics	1.0	$n_{\text{NO}_2} / n_{\text{R,OR}} \leq 1$	 <p>Benzene, 2,4-dimethyl-1-nitro</p>
		0.5	$n_{\text{NO}_2} / n_{\text{R,OR}} > 1.0$	 <p>Benzene, 2-methyl-1,3,5-trinitro-</p>

Tab. 3.6: (continued)

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^-$	Condition	Example
Alkyl nitramine groups attached to aromatic rings	$0.7 \times A$		$A$ is the number of alkyl nitramine groups	
Mononitro substituted aromatic compounds	1.0	—		

Tab. 3.6: (continued)

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^-$	Condition	Example
The presence of one $\text{NO}_2$ group in two ring-fused heteroarenes	0.5	—		
	1.0	5-nitroquinoline		
7-amino-4,6-dinitrobenzo[c][1,2,5]oxadiazole 1-oxide				

Tab. 3.6: (continued)

Energetic compound	Specific groups or molecular moieties	$T_{\text{struc}}^-$	Condition	Example
Polycyclic nitro-aromatic	$n_{\text{NO}_2} / n_{\text{Aromatic ring}} > 2.5$	1.0	The presence of four aromatic rings	

2,4,6-trinitro-N1,N3,N5-tris(2,4,6-trinitrophenyl)benzene-1,3,5-triamine

predicts the melting point as

$$\begin{aligned}
 T_{\text{add,elem}} &= a - 0.5251b + 2.402c \\
 &= 18 - 0.5251(39) + 2.402(2) \\
 &= 2.325, \\
 T_{\text{m}} &= 323.0 + 5.511T_{\text{add,elem}} + 101.2T_{\text{corr,struct}} \\
 &= 323.0 + 5.511(2.325) + 101.2(0) \\
 &= 335.8 \text{ K.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The predicted melting point of this compound is close to the experimentally determined value of 345 K [74].

## Summary

Several empirical methods have been introduced for predicting the melting points of organic compounds containing energetic functional groups. For polynitro arenes and polynitro heteroarenes, the reliability of equation (3.3) may be better than that of (3.2). For nonaromatic energetic compounds, the use of equation (3.5) is recommended rather than equation (3.4). Equations (3.6) to (3.8) can be applied to various aromatic and non-aromatic energetic compounds containing Ar-NO<sub>2</sub>, C-NO<sub>2</sub>, C-ONO<sub>2</sub> or N-NO<sub>2</sub> groups. Equations (3.9) to (3.11) and (3.12) can be used to predict the melting points of those energetic compounds which only contain peroxide and azide groups, respectively. Equations (3.13) to (3.15) provide a general approach for the prediction of melting points of various energetic compounds, including those of organic peroxides, organic azides, organic nitrates, polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic compounds. aromatic ring, *ISSP* equals 1.0.

## 4 Enthalpy and entropy of fusion

Thermal analysis of energetic compounds shows that they decompose at specific temperatures. Their exothermic decomposition can inhibit the explosive charge from being able to dissipate the applied heat [124]. The decomposition reaction begins usually above or during the melting process, so that energetic materials with higher melting points show high thermal stability. The enthalpy – or heat of fusion ( $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$ ) – is the enthalpy change which occurs in the transition from the most stable form of the solid to the liquid state of high energy compounds. It is related to the entropy of fusion ( $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S$ ) and the melting point or fusion temperature, i.e.  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = T_m\Delta_{\text{fus}}S$ . To measure the  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  of explosive materials, differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) can be used [125]. In this chapter, different approaches for the prediction of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  and  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S$  will be reviewed.

### 4.1 Different approaches for the prediction of the enthalpy of fusion

Zeman et al. [126–129] have introduced some relationships between  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  and the impact sensitivity – as well as with the electric spark sensitivity – of nitramines and polynitro compounds. Therefore, the prediction of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  provides a better insight into the intermolecular interactions and sensitivity of energetic molecules which have not yet been synthesized.

QSPR [130], quantum mechanics [131], GAV methods [132, 133], artificial neural networks [134] and simple correlations based on molecular structures [135–141] are all suitable methods for predicting  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$ . QSPR methods need special computer codes and the databank set should cover a large number of compounds with different molecular structures in order to obtain suitable results for compounds with similar molecular structures as those included in the test library. Furthermore, they require complex molecular descriptors. However, such methods have often been used to predict the thermodynamic properties of particular families of compounds [142]. The GAV methods have also been developed to predict the values of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  for different types of organic compounds [104, 143–146]. However, it has been shown that they may give  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  values which show large deviation from the expected values for some organic energetic compounds [105, 130]. Quantum mechanical methods were used to study the phase change properties of some energetic compounds [131, 147, 148], however, they require high-speed computers and specific computer codes. Some simple methods have also been developed for the prediction of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  values [135–139] based on the molecular structures of energetic compounds. These methods will be demonstrated in the following sections.

### 4.1.1 Nitroaromatic carbocyclic energetic compounds

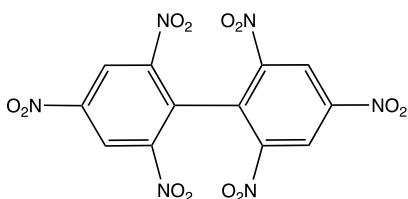
The study of the  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  values for various nitroaromatic carbocyclic compounds with general formula  $C_aH_bN_c(O \text{ or } S)_d$  has shown a new approach can be used to derive a useful equation for predicting  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  as follows [137]:

$$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 1.197 + 1.681a + 6.793c - 2.143d'' + 8.526C_{\text{SPG}}, \quad (4.1)$$

where  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  is in kJ/mol and  $C_{\text{SPG}}$  is the contribution of specific polar groups attached to an aromatic ring. As is seen in equation (4.1), the  $C_{\text{SPG}}$  coefficient has a positive sign which can result in an increase in the value of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$ . The value of  $C_{\text{SPG}}$  is determined as follows.

- (1) Hydroxyl groups:  $C_{\text{SPG}}$  corresponds to the number of hydroxyl groups attached to an aromatic ring, e.g.  $C_{\text{SPG}} = 2.0$  for 1,3-dihydroxy-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene.
- (2) Amino group: The value of  $C_{\text{SPG}}$  equals 2.0 for nitroaromatic carbocyclic compounds which have more than two amino ( $-\text{NH}_2$ ) groups attached to the aromatic ring, e.g.  $C_{\text{SPG}} = 2.0$  for 1,3,5-triamino-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene (TATB).
- (3) Other polar groups: The value of  $C_{\text{SPG}}$  is 1.0 if at least one  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{O}-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$  or  $-\text{S}(\text{O})_2-$  (sulfone) is attached to an aromatic ring, whereas  $C_{\text{SPG}}$  is 2.0 if at least one  $-\text{COOH}$  functional group is attached to an aromatic ring. For example,  $C_{\text{SPG}} = 1.0$  for 4-nitrophthalic anhydride and  $C_{\text{SPG}} = 2.0$  for 2-nitrobenzoic acid.
- (4) Disubstituted nitroaromatic compounds: The value of  $C_{\text{SPG}}$  is 1.0 for disubstituted nitroaromatic compounds that contain only two nitro groups attached to aromatic rings, e.g. 1,8-dinitronaphthalene.

**Example 4.1.** The use of equation (4.1) for 2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexanitrobiphenyl with the following structure gives



$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_{\text{fus}}H &= 1.197 + 1.681a + 6.793c - 2.143d'' + 8.526C_{\text{SPG}} \\ &= 1.197 + 1.681(12) + 6.793(6) - 2.143(12) + 8.526(0) \\ &= 36.41 \text{ kJ/mol} \end{aligned}$$

The predicted value is close to the experimental value of 37.44 kJ/mol [127].

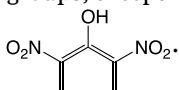
### 4.1.2 Nitroaromatic energetic compounds

Since equation (4.1) may show relatively large deviations in the predicted results from the experimentally determined values for some halogenated and different isomers of nitroaromatics, a more reliable correlation of the following form has been introduced [139]:

$$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 3.817 + 1.196a + 5.8471c - 1.382d + 7.898C_{\text{SSP}}, \quad (4.2)$$

where the  $C_{\text{SSP}}$  factor can correct the predicted results on the basis of  $a$ ,  $c$  and  $d$ . For the presence of some polar groups and isomers, positive  $C_{\text{SSP}}$  values can increase the predicted  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  on the basis of  $a$ ,  $c$  and  $d$ . In contrast, the attachment of tertiary and secondary amines as well as Ar–O– to nitroaromatic rings can result in the reverse situation being observed. The two opposite effects of the  $C_{\text{SSP}}$  can be specified according to the following conditions.

- (1) Increasing effects of  $C_{\text{SSP}}$ : Increasing the number of hydroxyl (–OH) groups that are attached to an aromatic ring can increase the value for the enthalpy of melting because the strong hydrogen bonding which can result leads to a much more efficient crystal packing. Thus, the  $C_{\text{SSP}}$  value is equal to the number of –OH groups, except in the case of one hydroxyl group located between two nitro groups

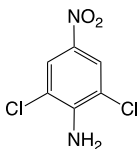


- (a) Or if the hydroxyl group is *ortho* to the alkyl group, in which cases the value of  $C_{\text{SSP}}$  is 0.35.
- (b) Polar groups  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$  and  $-\text{S}(\text{O})_2-$  as well as  $-\text{COOH}$ : The values of  $C_{\text{SSP}}$  are 1.0 and 1.5 for the presence of  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$  (or  $-\text{S}(\text{O})_2-$ ) and  $-\text{COOH}$  groups, respectively.
- (c) Amino ( $-\text{NH}_2$ ) groups: if amino groups are present in nitroaromatic compounds, the predicted  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  can be higher. If one or two amino groups are present,  $C_{\text{SSP}} = 0.5$ , except if there is an amino group in the *ortho* position with respect to the nitro group in mononitro derivatives. If more than two amino groups are attached to the aromatic ring,  $C_{\text{SSP}} = 2.5$ .
- (d) Some polar groups in the *para* position relative to the nitro group in benzene rings: If  $-\text{OH}$  and  $-\text{NH}_2$  groups are in the *para* position relative to a nitro group in disubstituted or halogenated benzene rings, the corresponding values for  $C_{\text{SSP}}$  from parts (a) and (c) should be replaced by 1.5 and 1.0, respectively.
- (e) Two nitro groups: in nitroaromatic compounds which contain only two nitro groups, the values of  $C_{\text{SSP}}$  are 0.50 and 1.5 for the *ortho* (or *meta*) and other positions, respectively.
- (f) If more than one alkyl group is attached to one benzene ring (or to two benzene rings that are not directly attached to each other):  $C_{\text{SSP}} = 4/n_{\text{R}}$  in which  $n_{\text{R}}$  is the number of alkyl groups. Increasing  $n_{\text{R}}$  can decrease the planarity of the molecule and hence the molecular attractions.



- (2) Decreasing effects of  $C_{SSP}$ : The value of  $C_{SSP}$  is  $-1.0$  if tertiary, secondary amines or  $Ar-O-$  are attached to a nitroaromatic ring. This is because the presence of these groups can decrease the planarity of the molecules, as well as reduce the interactions between local dipole moments of neighboring nitro groups.

**Example 4.2.** Using equation (4.2) for the following structure gives



$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\text{fus}}H &= 3.817 + 1.196a + 5.8471c - 1.382d + 7.898C_{SSP} \\ &= 3.817 + 1.196(6) + 5.8471(2) - 1.382(2) + 7.898(1.0) \\ &= 27.82 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The predicted value is closer to the value from the experimental data (32.64 kJ/mol [74]) than equation (4.1) and GAV method [111] are, which give values of 20.58 and 18.29 kJ/mol, respectively.

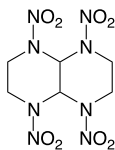
#### 4.1.3 Nonaromatic energetic compounds containing nitramine, nitrate and nitro functional groups

A simple correlation to predict the  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  of acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic energetic compounds can be written as follows [136]:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\text{fus}}H &= 16.81 + 1.896d + 4.186n_{\text{EDNA}} \\ &\quad + 17.51(n_{\text{NNO}_2}^{>3,\text{linear}} - 2) - 11.52C_{-\text{NO}_2(-\text{ONO}_2)},\end{aligned}\quad (4.3)$$

where  $n_{\text{EDNA}}$  is the number of  $N,N'$ -(ethane-1,2-diyl)dinitramide (EDNA) moieties ( $\text{O}_2\text{NNCH}_x\text{CH}_x\text{NNO}_2$ ) in cyclic nitramines;  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}^{>3,\text{linear}}$  is the number of  $-\text{NNO}_2$  groups for those acyclic linear nitramines containing more than three nitramine groups, and  $C_{-\text{NO}_2(-\text{ONO}_2)}$  is a parameter. The value of  $C_{-\text{NO}_2(-\text{ONO}_2)}$  is 1.0 for those compounds which contain less than four  $-\text{NO}_2$  and  $-\text{ONO}_2$  groups, and is  $C_{-\text{NO}_2(-\text{ONO}_2)} = -0.75$  for those compounds with four or more  $-\text{NO}_2$  and  $-\text{ONO}_2$  groups. The value of  $n_{\text{EDNA}}$  is zero for the simultaneous presence of  $\text{O}_2\text{NNCH}_x\text{CH}_x\text{NNO}_2$  and  $\text{O}_2\text{NNCH}_x\text{CH}_x\text{NNO}_2$  units in nitramine compounds (e.g. 1,3-dinitroimidazolidine (CPX)), which may be due to the lowering of the symmetry in these compounds.

**Example 4.3.** 1,4,5,8-Tetranitrodecahydropyrazino[2,3-b]pyrazine (TNAD) is a high performance explosive with the following molecular structure:



Using equation (4.3) for TNAD gives

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\text{fus}}H &= 16.81 + 1.896d + 4.186n_{\text{EDNA}} \\ &+ 17.51(n_{\text{NNO}_2}^{>3,\text{linear}} - 2) - 11.52C_{-\text{NO}_2(-\text{ONO}_2)} \\ &= 16.81 + 1.896(8) + 4.186(3) + 17.51(0) - 11.52(0) \\ &= 44.54 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The measured  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  for TNAD is 46.4 kJ/mol [125]. The predicted  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  using the GAV method is 42.66 kJ/mol [111], which shows a larger deviation from the experimentally measured value than the value obtained using equation (4.2).

#### 4.1.4 Improved method for the reliable prediction of the enthalpy of fusion of energetic compounds

It was found that the following correlation can be used to obtain reliable predictions of the enthalpy of fusion of energetic compounds with the general formula  $\text{C}_a\text{H}_b\text{N}_c(\text{O or S})_d(\text{halogen})_k$  [135]:

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\text{fus}}H &= 0.542a + 1.490b + 2.044c + 1.252d'' + 1.839k \\ &+ 9.848\Delta H_{\text{Inc,fus}} - 11.675\Delta H_{\text{Dec,fus}},\end{aligned}\quad (4.4)$$

where  $\Delta H_{\text{Inc,fus}}$  and  $\Delta H_{\text{Dec,fus}}$  are two correcting functions which are described in the following sections.

#### The presence of some specific polar groups

Polar groups such as  $-\text{COOH}$ ,  $-\text{OH}$  and  $-\text{NH}_2$  may result in the presence of strong hydrogen bonding and consequently much more efficient packing as a result of the attractive forces. For acyclic nitamines, increasing the number of polar nitamine groups can result in enhancement of the electrostatic attractions. The contributions of  $\Delta H_{\text{Inc,fus}}$  for these polar groups are:

- (1) The effects of  $-OH$  and  $-COOH$  groups: The value of  $\Delta H_{Inc,fus}$  is 0.4 for the presence of these functional groups, except in the case of a single hydroxyl group located between two nitro groups  $O_2N-C_6H_2(NO_2)-OH$ , or in an *ortho* position relative to an alkyl group for which cases the value of  $\Delta H_{Inc,fus} = 0.0$ .
- (2) The influence of  $-NH_2$  groups: If one or two amino groups are present, the value of  $\Delta H_{Inc,fus}$  is 0.7, except if there is an amino group in an *ortho* position relative to the nitro group for mononitro derivatives in which case  $\Delta H_{Inc,fus} = 0.0$ . The value of  $\Delta H_{Inc,fus}$  is 2.6 if more than two amino groups are attached to an aromatic ring.
- (3) The number of  $-NNO_2$  groups in acyclic nitramines  $n_{NNO_2}^{acycl}$ : If more than three nitramine groups are present,

$$\Delta H_{Inc,fus} = n_{NNO_2}^{acycl} - 2.$$

### Disubstituted nitroaromatics

Molecular interactions such as interactions between local dipole moments of neighboring atoms or groups in certain compounds can be responsible for the close proximity of molecules in the crystal. The value of  $\Delta H_{Inc,fus}$  is 1.1 for dinitronaphthalene and also for disubstituted benzene derivatives in which polar groups such as  $-OH$  and  $-NO_2$  are located *para* to the nitro group.

### Structural parameters affecting $\Delta H_{Dec,fus}$

- (1) Nitroaromatics with more than one benzene ring: The value of  $\Delta H_{Dec,fus}$  is equal to 0.5, except if sulfur is present between two benzene rings.
- (2) Cyclic nitramines with rings which are larger than six membered rings and which contain only carbon and nitrogen atoms ( $m_{cyc}^{>6}$ ):

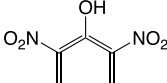
$$\Delta H_{Dec,fus} = \frac{m_{cyc}^{>6} - 6}{4} + 0.5.$$

### Different effects of $-NO_2$ and $-ONO_2$ groups in nonaromatics

Intermolecular interactions may be increased if a larger number of  $-NO_2$  and  $-ONO_2$  groups are present. Furthermore, the presence of a lower number of  $-NO_2$  and  $-ONO_2$  groups can result in a reduction in the molecular packing. The values of  $\Delta H_{Dec,fus}$  and  $\Delta H_{Inc,fus}$  are 0.4 and 1.1 if three or less  $-NO_2$  (or  $-ONO_2$ ) groups and more than three  $-NO_2$  (or  $-ONO_2$ ) groups are present, respectively.

The predicted values of  $\Delta H_{Inc,fus}$  and  $\Delta H_{Dec,fus}$  using the above conditions are summarized in Tables 4.1, 4.2 and 4.3.

**Tab. 4.1:** Summary of the correcting function  $\Delta H_{\text{Inc},\text{fus}}$ .

	Polar groups	$\Delta H_{\text{Inc},\text{fus}}$	Condition	Exception
The presence of some specific polar groups	The effects of –OH and –COOH groups	0.4	—	One hydroxyl group between two nitro groups  or <i>ortho</i> position to alkyl group
	The influence of –NH <sub>2</sub> groups	0.7	If one or two amino groups are present	If an amino group is in the <i>ortho</i> position relative to nitro group for mononitro derivatives
		2.6	If more than two amino groups are attached to an aromatic ring	—
	The number of –NNO <sub>2</sub> groups in acyclic nitramines $n_{\text{NNO}_2}^{\text{acycl}}$	$n_{\text{NNO}_2}^{\text{acycl}} - 2$	For more than three nitramine groups	—
Disubstituted nitroaromatics	—	1.1	For dinitronaphthalene or if polar groups such as –OH and –NO <sub>2</sub> are present in <i>para</i> positions to nitro group in disubstituted benzene derivatives	—

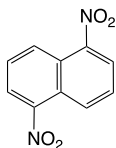
**Tab. 4.2:** Summary of the correcting function  $\Delta H_{\text{Dec},\text{fus}}$ .

	$\Delta H_{\text{Dec},\text{fus}}$	Condition	Exception
Nitroaromatics	0.5	More than one benzene ring	Sulfur is present between two benzene rings
Cyclic nitramines	$\frac{m_{\text{cyc}}^>6 - 6}{4} + 0.5$	Rings larger than six membered rings which contain only carbon and hydrogen atoms ( $m_{\text{cyc}}^>6$ )	—

**Tab. 4.3:** Different effects of  $-\text{NO}_2$  and  $-\text{ONO}_2$  groups in  $\Delta H_{\text{Inc,fus}}$  and  $\Delta H_{\text{Dec,fus}}$ .

	$\Delta H_{\text{Inc,fus}}$	$\Delta H_{\text{Dec,fus}}$	Condition
Non-aromatics	1.1	—	More than three $-\text{NO}_2$ (or $-\text{ONO}_2$ ) groups
	—	0.4	Three or less $-\text{NO}_2$ (or $-\text{ONO}_2$ ) groups

**Example 4.4.** The use of equation (4.4) for the following molecular structure gives the following:



$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta_{\text{fus}}H &= 0.542a + 1.490b + 2.044c + 1.252d'' + 1.839k \\
 &\quad + 9.848\Delta H_{\text{Inc,fus}} - 11.675\Delta H_{\text{Dec,fus}} \\
 &= 0.542(10) + 1.490(6) + 2.044(2) + 1.252(4) + 1.839(0) \\
 &\quad + 9.848(1.1) - 11.675(0) \\
 &= 34.29 \text{ kJ/mol.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  for this compound is 33.03 kJ/mol [127]. The use of equation (4.2) gives a value of 33.79 kJ/mol, whereas the predicted  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  by the GAV method is 17.14 kJ/mol [111], which shows a much larger deviation from the measured value.

#### 4.1.5 A reliable method to predict the enthalpy of fusion in energetic materials

The following improved simple approach has been introduced to enable prediction of the values of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$  in large classes of energetic compounds – including polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters, nitroaliphatics, cyclic and acyclic peroxides, as well as nitrogen rich compounds [141]:

$$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{add}} + 7.567(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}} - 8.784(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}}, \quad (4.5)$$

where

$$(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{add}} = 0.6047a + 0.6211b + 2.750c + 1.424d'' + 3.048k. \quad (4.6)$$

$(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  and  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}}$  are also nonadditive contributions corresponding to the increasing and decreasing effects of specific groups. The presence of polar groups results in an increase in the intermolecular attractions of a molecule with its neighboring molecules. The values of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  and  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}}$  are described in the following sections.

$(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$ 

- (1) –OH and –COOH groups in aromatic compounds: The value of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  is equal to 0.7, except if an –OH group is located between two nitro groups in an aromatic structure for which the value of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  is zero.
- (2) –NH<sub>2</sub> group: The value of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  is 0.5 if one or two amino groups are present in aromatic or non-aromatic compounds. The value of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  equals 2.6 if more than two amino groups are attached to aromatic rings. For mononitro derivatives, if the nitro group is located in the *ortho* position with respect to the amino group,  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  is zero.
- (3) >NH group: if the >NH fragment is present,  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  equals 0.5.
- (4) >N–NO<sub>2</sub> group in acyclic nitramines: if more than three >N–NO<sub>2</sub> groups are present,  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  is  $(n_{\text{NNO}_2}^{\text{acyclic}} - 2)$  where  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}^{\text{acyclic}}$  is the number of >N–NO<sub>2</sub> groups in acyclic nitramines.
- (5) –N(C=O)N– group: The value of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  is 1.5.

 $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}}$ 

- (1) Ar–X–Ar nitroaromatics: The value of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}}$  is 0.5, except for Ar–S–Ar structures for which it is zero.
- (2) Cyclic nitramines:

$$(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}} = \frac{m_{\text{cyc}} - 6}{4} + 0.5$$


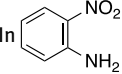
for cyclic nitramines in which the ring(s) are larger than six-membered rings and which contain only carbon and nitrogen atoms ( $m_{\text{cyc}} > 6$ ).

- (3) –NO<sub>2</sub> group in non-aromatic compounds: The value of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}}$  is 1.0 for the presence of nitro groups in acyclic and cyclic alkanes.
- (4) –N–N=O group: The value of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}}$  is 2.0 if the nitroso group is present.

Table 4.4 summarizes some functional groups and molecular fragments which can be used to determine the values of  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$  and  $(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}}$ .

**Example 4.5.** The use of equations (4.5) and (4.6) for different classes of energetic compounds, including acyclic nitramines, cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters, polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, nitroaliphatics, nitroaromatics, cyclic peroxides, acyclic peroxides and nitrogen rich compounds, is given in Table 4.5.

**Tab. 4.4:** Correcting functions which are used for the presence of different molecular fragments.

Molecular moieties	Effect on predicted $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$		Comment
	$(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Inc}}$	$(\Delta_{\text{fus}}H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{Dec}}$	
-OH and -COOH groups	0.7		In aromatic compounds
	0.0		In  fragments
-NH <sub>2</sub> group	0.5		For one or two -NH <sub>2</sub> groups
	2.6		For more than two -NH <sub>2</sub> groups
	0.0		In  fragments
>NH group	0.5		—
>NNO <sub>2</sub> group	$n_{\text{NNO}_2} - 2$		In acyclic nitramines
-N(C=O)N- fragment	1.5		—
Ar-X-Ar nitroaromatics		0.5	—
		0.0	where X is S
Cyclic nitramines		$\frac{m_{\text{cyc}} - 6}{4} + 0.5$	Rings which are larger than six membered rings
-NO <sub>2</sub> group		1.0	Nitroalkanes
-N=N=O group		2.0	—

## 4.2 Different methods to predict the entropy of fusion

The entropy of fusion ( $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S$ ) is an important property for predicting the melting point and solubility of organic compounds [143]. The value of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S$  based on Walden's rule is constant with a value of  $56.5 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$  [149] for aromatic compounds with little variation. The effect of molecular rotational symmetry ( $\sigma$ ) can be incorporated into Walden's rule as follows [150]:

$$\Delta_{\text{fus}}S = 56.5 - R \ln \sigma. \quad (4.7)$$

Equation (4.7) can be modified to include the flexibility number ( $\Phi$ ) as [151]:

$$\Delta_{\text{fus}}S = 50 - R \ln \sigma + R \ln \Phi. \quad (4.8)$$

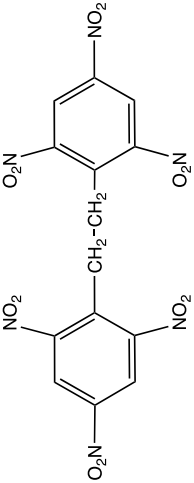
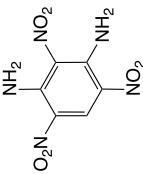
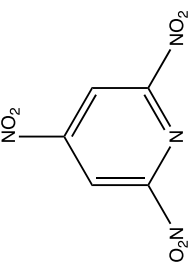
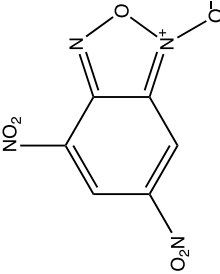
To predict  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S$  of nitroaromatic compounds, a suitable correlation based on the elemental composition has been used [152]. The reliability of this method is higher than that of the method of Jain and Yalkowsky [111], which is based on equation (4.8) for 61 nitroaromatic compounds. This method has been restricted to nitroaromatic

**Tab. 4.5:** Several examples for the use of equations (4.5) and (4.6) in some classes of energetic compounds.


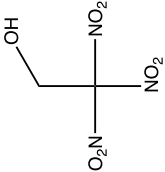
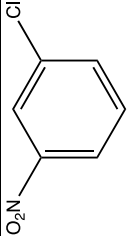
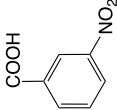
Class of compound	Molecular structure	The calculated $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$
Acyclic nitramine		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(1) + 0.6211(2) + 2.750(2) + 1.424(2) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 9.97 \text{ kJ/mol}$
Cyclic nitramine		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(2) + 0.6211(6) + 2.750(4) + 1.424(4) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0.5) - 8.784(0) = 24.94 \text{ kJ/mol}$
		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(6) + 0.6211(6) + 2.750(12) + 1.424(12) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 56.18 \text{ kJ/mol}$
		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(4) + 0.6211(8) + 2.750(8) + 1.424(8) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(1) = 31.10 \text{ kJ/mol}$
Nitrate ester		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(4) + 0.6211(8) + 2.750(2) + 1.424(7) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 22.35 \text{ kJ/mol}$
		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(5) + 0.6211(8) + 2.750(4) + 1.424(12) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 35.29 \text{ kJ/mol}$



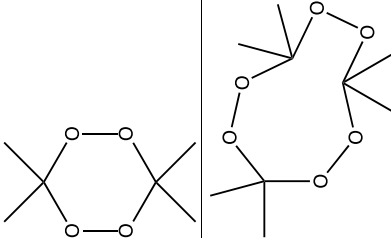
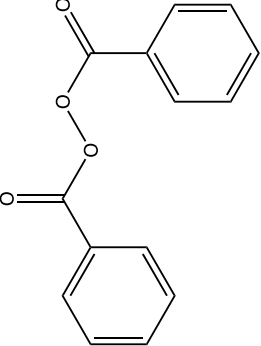
Tab. 4.5: (continued)

Class of compound	Molecular structure	The calculated $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$
Polynitro arene		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(14) + 0.6211(8) + 2.750(6) + 1.424(12) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(0.5) = 45.99 - 4.39 = 41.60 \text{ kJ/mol}$
		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(6) + 0.6211(5) + 2.750(5) + 1.424(6) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0.5) - 8.784(0) = 32.17 \text{ kJ/mol}$
Polynitro heteroarene		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(5) + 0.6211(2) + 2.750(4) + 1.424(6) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 23.29 \text{ kJ/mol}$
		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(6) + 0.6211(2) + 2.750(4) + 1.424(6) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 23.88 \text{ kJ/mol}$

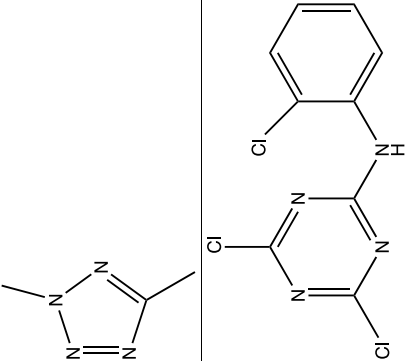
Tab. 4.5: (continued)

Class of compound	Molecular structure	The calculated $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$
Nitroaliphatic		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(1) + 0.6211(3) + 2.750(1) + 1.424(2) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 7.89 \text{ kJ/mol}$
		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(2) + 0.6211(3) + 2.750(3) + 1.424(7) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(1) = 12.04 \text{ kJ/mol}$
Nitroaromatic		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(6) + 0.6211(4) + 2.750(1) + 1.424(2) + 3.048(1)] + 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 14.43 \text{ kJ/mol}$
		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(7) + 0.6211(5) + 2.750(1) + 1.424(4) + 3.048(0)] + 7.567(0.7) - 8.784(0) = 20.73 \text{ kJ/mol}$

Tab. 4.5: (continued)

Class of compound	Molecular structure	The calculated $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$
Cyclic peroxide		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(6) + 0.6211(12) + 2.750(0) + 1.424(4) + 3.048(0)]$ $+ 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 16.41 \text{ kJ/mol}$
Acyclic peroxide		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(14) + 0.6211(10) + 2.750(0) + 1.424(4) + 3.048(0)]$ $+ 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 19.93 \text{ kJ/mol}$

Tab. 4.5: (continued)

Class of compound	Molecular structure	The calculated $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H$
Nitrogen-rich compound		$\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(3) + 0.6211(6) + 2.750(4) + 1.424(0) + 3.048(0)]$ $+ 7.567(0) - 8.784(0) = 16.18 \text{ kJ/mol}$ $\Delta_{\text{fus}}H = 0.9781[0.6047(9) + 0.6211(5) + 2.750(4) + 1.424(0) + 3.048(3)]$ $+ 7.567(0.5) - 8.784(0.5) = 27.46 \text{ kJ/mol}$

compounds because it may give values which show large deviation from the expected values for some of the other classes of energetic compounds. For nitroaromatics, Evan and Yalkowsky [113] have improved the reliability of the method of Jain and Yalkowsky [111] by introducing the molecular eccentricity ( $\epsilon$ ):

$$\Delta_{\text{fus}}S = 50 - R \ln \sigma + R \ln \Phi + R \ln \epsilon. \quad (4.9)$$

A general new method for predicting the entropy of fusion for various types of energetic compounds – including polynitro arene, acyclic and cyclic nitramine, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic compounds – has been introduced as additive ( $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{add}}$ ) and nonadditive ( $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{nonadd}}$ ) functions [153]:

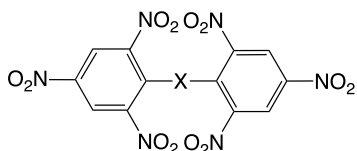
$$\Delta_{\text{fus}}S = \Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{add}} - 23.86\Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{nonadd}}, \quad (4.10)$$

where

$$\Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{add}} = 39.99 + 5.88c + 1.22d. \quad (4.11)$$

The values of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{nonadd}}$  can be specified as follows.

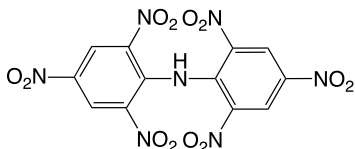
- (1) Ar–N(NO<sub>2</sub>)– and –R–OH molecular moieties: The values of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{nonadd}}$  are 1.0 and 1.7 respectively, for the presence of these molecular fragments.
- (2) 1,3,5-Trinitrobenzene derivatives: if 1,3,5-trinitrobenzene, 2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexanitro-biphenyl or two rings of 1,3,5-trinitrobenzene in the form



are present, the value of  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{nonadd}}$  is 1.0 if X is a single atom or unsaturated molecular fragment (except –N=N– connecting two 1,3,5-trinitrobenzene rings).

- (3) Cyclic nitramines containing more than three –NNO<sub>2</sub> groups:  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{nonadd}} = 1.5$ .

**Example 4.6.** The use of equations (4.10) and (4.11) for the following molecular structure



gives the following value:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{add}} &= 39.99 + 5.88c + 1.22d \\
 &= 39.99 + 5.88(7) + 1.22(12) \\
 &= 95.79 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}, \\
 \Delta_{\text{fus}}S &= \Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{add}} - 23.86\Delta_{\text{fus}}S_{\text{nonadd}} \\
 &= 95.79 - 23.86(1) \\
 &= 71.93 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S$  for this compound is  $72.8 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$  [31]. The predicted  $\Delta_{\text{fus}}S$  using equation (4.9) is  $55.9 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$ , which deviates considerably from the measured value.

## Summary

Different empirical methods have been reviewed which can be used to predict the enthalpy and entropy of fusion. Among the different methods for predicting the enthalpy of fusion, equations (4.5) and (4.6) provide a simple pathway for large classes of energetic compounds – including polynitro arene, polynitro heteroarene, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters, nitroaliphatic, cyclic and acyclic peroxides, as well as nitrogen-rich compounds. Equations (4.10) and (4.11) also provide a new general method for predicting the entropy of fusion for various types of energetic compounds including polynitro arenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters and nitroaliphatic compounds.



## 5 Heat of sublimation

Sublimation properties can help to understand the coarsening process which occurs [154, 155]. Knowledge of the heat of sublimation and the vapor pressure of organic explosives can also help to enable the design of new technology for the detection of explosive particles from concealed devices [156]. The sublimation properties of organic explosives have long-term effects on soil, water and air. Since secondary explosives are widely used, understanding their sublimation properties is necessary in order to be able to study their toxic effects in the environment during storage [157].

The heat – or enthalpy – of sublimation is the best parameter to characterize the strength of intermolecular interactions within a crystal. The gas phase heat of formation ( $\Delta_f H(g)$ ) and the heat of sublimation ( $\Delta_{\text{sub}} H$ ) can be used to evaluate the solid phase heats of formation ( $\Delta_f H(s)$ ) as follows [158]:

$$\Delta_f H(s) = \Delta_f H(g) - \Delta_{\text{sub}} H. \quad (5.1)$$

The  $\Delta_f H(s)$  value of an energetic compound is important in order to enable the prediction of its performance using various computer codes such as CHEETAH [159], ISPBKW [160], LOTUSES [161] and EDPHT [45]. It can also be calculated by combining the predicted heat of sublimation and gas phase heat of formation according to equation (5.1).

The value of  $\Delta_{\text{sub}} H$  for a specific compound can be considered to be the sum of its heat of fusion and its heat of vaporization, even if the liquid cannot exist at the pressure and temperature in question. Since the sublimation pressure at the melting point is only rarely known, it is difficult to use the Clausius–Clapeyron equation to obtain the heat of sublimation from the vapor pressure data [143].

There are a variety of approaches which can be used to predict the gas phase heats of formation of energetic compounds [49, 50, 63, 90, 143, 148, 162], but few methods have been reported to predict the heat of sublimation of energetic compounds. Moreover, experimental data for the heats of sublimation of energetic compounds are rare because these values have not yet been published for many energetic materials. In this chapter, some methods for the prediction of  $\Delta_{\text{sub}} H$  for several classes of energetic compounds will be reviewed.

### 5.1 Quantum mechanical and complex approaches for predicting the heat of sublimation

Several quantum mechanical calculations have been introduced to predict the heats of sublimation of energetic compounds [65, 163–167], and with which Politzer and coworkers have achieved significant success [163]. They used three quantum mechanical parameters in their calculations:



- (1) the surface area of the 0.001 electron/bohr<sup>3</sup> isosurface of the electron density of the molecule,
- (2) a measure of the variability of electronic potential on the surface,
- (3) the degree of balance between the positive and negative charges on the isosurface.

Rice et al. [65] further improved this method to generate surface electrostatic potentials of individual molecules. Byrd and Rice [164] have modified previous methods by incorporating group additivity and by the use of the more complicated 6-311++G(2df,2p) basis set. Hu and coworkers [165] have also used the empirical relations of Politzer et al. [163] to predict the heats of sublimation of the condensed phases of energetic materials. There are also some relationships between the heats of sublimation of some polynitro compounds and lattice energies [168].

## 5.2 The use of structural parameters

There are several simple methods for predicting  $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H$  which are based on structural features [47, 169–171]. These methods can be applied for selected classes of energetic compounds and are demonstrated here.

### 5.2.1 Nitroaromatic compounds

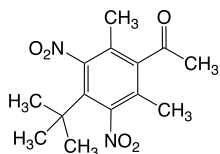
For nitroaromatics, the following optimized correlation can be used to predict  $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H$  according to [169]:

$$\Delta_{\text{sub}}H = 64.51 + 4.555a - 2.763b + 10.32c + 16.51C_{\text{SG}}, \quad (5.2)$$

where  $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H$  is in kJ/mol and the variable  $C_{\text{SG}}$  shows the contribution of certain polar groups. The different values of  $C_{\text{SG}}$  for various polar groups attached to nitroaromatic rings are specified as follows:

- (1) Alkoxy group (–OR) attached to a nitroaromatic ring:  $C_{\text{SG}} = 1.0$ , e.g. 2-methoxy-1,3,5-trinitrobenzene.
- (2) Carbonyl in form of –C(=O)NRR' or –C(=O)–R attached to an aromatic ring in which R and R' are alkyl groups:  $C_{\text{SG}} = 0.75$ , e.g. 3-nitroacetophenone.
- (3) Carboxylic acid functional group, two hydroxyl groups, or three amino groups:  $C_{\text{SG}} = 2.0$ . In the case of two hydroxyl groups, nitro groups should be separated from –OH by at least one –CH– group, e.g. 4-nitrobenzene-1,2-diol.

**Example 5.1.** The use of equation (5.1) for the following molecular structure gives



$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\text{sub}}H &= 64.51 + 4.555a - 2.763b + 10.32c + 16.51C_{\text{SG}} \\ &= 64.51 + 4.555(14) - 2.763(18) + 10.32(2) + 16.51(0.75) \\ &= 111.6 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The measured  $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H$  value for this compound is 107.9 kJ/mol [172].

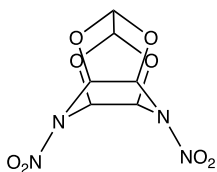
### 5.2.2 Nitramines

It was found that the molecular weight and structural parameters are sufficient to establish a new correlation as follows [169]:

$$\Delta_{\text{sub}}H = 15.62 + 0.3911Mw + 10.36n_{\text{O}_2\text{NNCH}_2\text{NNO}_2}, \quad (5.3)$$

where  $Mw$  is the molecular weight of the nitramine and  $n_{\text{O}_2\text{NNCH}_2\text{NNO}_2}$  is the number of  $-\text{CH}_2-$  groups between two nitramine functional groups in cyclic and noncyclic nitramines. Equation (5.3) cannot be used for cyclic nitramines with  $n_{\text{O}_2\text{NNCH}_2\text{NNO}_2} \geq 5$ .

**Example 5.2.** 4,10-Dinitro-2,6,8,12-tetraoxa-4,10-diazaisowurtzitane (TEX) has the following molecular structure:



Equation (5.3) predicts  $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H$  to be

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\text{sub}}H &= 15.62 + 0.3911Mw + 10.36n_{\text{O}_2\text{NNCH}_2\text{NNO}_2} \\ &= 15.62 + 0.3911(262.13) + 10.36(0) \\ &= 118.1 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The measured  $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H$  for TEX is 123.4 kJ/mol [128].

### 5.2.3 Nitroaromatics, nitramines, nitroaliphatics and nitrate esters

For nitroaromatics, nitramines, nitroaliphatics and nitrate esters, the molecular weight and the contribution of some specific functional groups, as well as structural features can be combined by a general equation as follows [170]:

$$\Delta_{\text{sub}}H = 53.74 + 0.2666Mw' + 13.99C_{\text{In}} - 15.58C_{\text{De}}, \quad (5.4)$$

where  $Mw'$  is the molecular weight of the nitro compound (except halogenated nitroaromatics and hydrogen-free nitro compounds in which the contribution of halogen atoms in the calculation of the molecular weight should be neglected),  $C_{\text{In}}$  is the contribution of specific polar groups attached to aromatic rings and  $C_{\text{De}}$  shows the presence of some molecular moieties. The values of  $C_{\text{In}}$  and  $C_{\text{De}}$  are specified according to the following conditions.

(1) Nitroaromatics:

(a) Prediction of  $C_{\text{In}}$ :

(i)  $-\text{COOH}$  and  $-\text{OH}$  functional groups:  $C_{\text{In}} = 2.0$  for the compounds that contain the carboxylic acid functional group or two hydroxyl groups. Since the participation of a group in intramolecular hydrogen bonding can reduce its ability to form intermolecular hydrogen bonds, the presence of a nitro group in the *ortho* position relative to the  $-\text{OH}$  group can cancel its effect. If two hydroxyl groups are attached to the aromatic ring, nitro groups should be separated from  $-\text{OH}$  groups by at least one  $-\text{CH}-$  group, e.g. 4-nitrobenzene-1,2-diol.

(ii) Amino groups: the value of  $C_{\text{In}}$  is equal to the number of amino groups in such compounds, i.e.  $C_{\text{In}} = n_{\text{NH}_2}$ .

(iii) The presence of a carbonyl group in the form of an amide  $\text{Ar}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{N}$  or ketone  $\text{Ar}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{R}$ :  $C_{\text{In}} = 0.75$ . Since carbonyl groups are in resonance with the aromatic ring, they can likely promote co-planarity and rigidity in some cases.

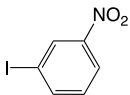
(b) Prediction of  $C_{\text{De}}$ : The presence of alkyl groups – especially bulky groups such as tert-butyl – can decrease the intermolecular interactions for high ratios of  $n_{\text{R}}/n_{\text{NO}_2}$ . For  $n_{\text{R}}/n_{\text{NO}_2} \geq 1$ , the contribution of  $C_{\text{De}}$  should be considered. The values of  $C_{\text{De}}$  are 2.0 and 3.0 for the presence of one and more than one bulky group, respectively. If only small alkyl groups such as methyl groups are present,  $C_{\text{De}} = 1.0$ .

(2) Nitramines: The contributions of  $C_{\text{In}}$  and  $C_{\text{De}}$  depend on the number of  $\text{N}-\text{NO}_2$  groups in cyclic and acyclic nitramines. For five membered (or larger) cyclic nitramines that have only the fragments  $\text{H}_2\text{C}-\overset{\text{NO}_2}{\text{N}}-\text{CH}_2$  and for acyclic nitramines,  $C = 1.75n_{\text{NNO}_2} - 4$ . If  $C < 0$  and  $C > 0$ , then  $C$  will become  $C_{\text{De}}$  and  $C_{\text{In}}$ , respectively.

For nitramines with the molecular fragment  $\text{HN}=\text{C}=\text{NH}$ , appreciable molecular interactions are present so that  $C_{\text{In}} = 4.25$ .

(3) Nitroaliphatic compounds: For nitroaliphatic compounds,  $C_{\text{De}} = 3.0$ .

**Example 5.3.** The use of equation (5.4) for the following molecular structure gives



$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\text{sub}}H &= 53.74 + 0.2666Mw + 13.99C_{\text{In}} - 15.58C_{\text{De}} \\ &= 53.74 + 0.2666(122.10) + 13.99(0) - 15.58(0) \\ &= 86.29 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The measured value of  $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H$  is 83.0 kJ/mol [74].

### 5.2.4 General method for polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters, nitroaliphatics, cyclic and acyclic peroxides, as well as nitrogen-rich compounds



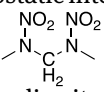
The following correlation can be used to predict  $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H$  for a wide range of energetic compounds, including polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters, nitroaliphatics, cyclic and acyclic peroxides, as well as nitrogen-rich compounds [171]:

$$\Delta_{\text{sub}}H = 52.89 + 0.2689Mw' + 15.13F_{\text{attract}} - 13.29F_{\text{repul}}, \quad (5.5)$$

where  $F_{\text{attract}}$  and  $F_{\text{repul}}$  are two parameters which take into account attractive and repulsive intermolecular forces. The values of  $F_{\text{attract}}$  and  $F_{\text{repul}}$  are specified according to the following conditions, depending on the presence of various functional groups and molecular moieties:

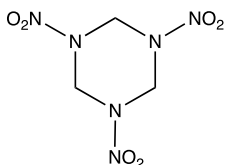
(1)  $-\text{COOH}$ ,  $-\text{OH}$ ,  $\text{N}=\text{O}$ ,  $\text{N}^+-\text{O}^-$ ,  $-\text{NH}_2$  (or  $-\text{NH}-$ ) and  $\text{HN}=\text{C}=\text{NH}$  polar groups: The values of  $F_{\text{attract}}$  are as follows:

(a)  $F_{\text{attract}} = 2.0$  for compounds containing at least one  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OH}$ , or two  $-\text{OH}$  functional groups. For nitroaromatics containing two  $-\text{OH}$  groups, nitro groups should be separated from  $-\text{OH}$  at least by one  $=\text{CH}-$  group, e.g. 4-nitrobenzene-1,2-diol. The presence of a nitro group in the *ortho* position with respect to the  $-\text{OH}$  group can cancel this condition so that  $F_{\text{attract}} = 0.0$  in these compounds, e.g. 2,4,6-trinitro-1,3-benzenediol (styphnic acid).

- (b) The value of  $F_{\text{attract}}$  is equal to the number of  $-\text{NH}_2$ ,  $-\text{NH}-$  or  groups.
- (c) For nitramines or organic polynitrogen compounds which contain a  molecular fragment, there is a large intermolecular attraction so that  $F_{\text{attract}} = 4.7$ .
- (2) Nitramines:
- (a) Direct electrostatic interactions are dominant in polynitramine crystals which contain the  molecular fragment. Thus,  $F_{\text{attract}}$  is 1.0 and 2.0 in acyclic and cyclic nitramines, respectively.
- (b) For other acyclic nitramines,  $F_{\text{repu}} = 2.6$ .
- (3) Nitroaliphatic compounds: The value of  $F_{\text{repu}}$  is equal to 2.6 in these compounds.
- (4) Alkylated nitroaromatics:  $F_{\text{repu}} = 1.0$  in substituted nitroaromatics containing small alkyl groups such as methyl groups. However,  $F_{\text{repu}} = 2.0$  for bulky groups such as the t-butyl group. These conditions can be applied if  $n_{\text{R}}/n_{\text{NO}_2} \geq 1$ .
- (5) Peroxides: For acyclic and cyclic peroxides,  $F_{\text{repu}} = 2.0$ .
- (6) Intramolecular hydrogen bonding (H-bonding):  $F_{\text{repu}} = 0.5$ , e.g. 1,3-diamino-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene (DATB).

The conditions listed above are summarized in Table 5.1.

**Example 5.4.** 1,3,5-Trinitro-1,3,5-triazinane (RDX) has the following molecular structure:

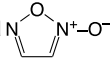
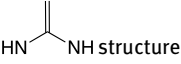
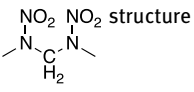
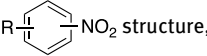


The use of equation (5.5) for the following molecular structure gives

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{\text{sub}}H &= 52.89 + 0.2689M_{\text{rev}} + 15.13Mw' - 13.29F_{\text{repu}} \\ &= 52.89 + 0.2689(222.12) + 15.13(2.0) - 13.29(0) \\ &= 142.9 \text{ kJ/mol.}\end{aligned}$$

The deviation of the predicted value from the experimentally determined value (134.3 kJ/mol [173]), i.e. 8.3 kJ/mol, is lower than that of the values obtained from the two complex quantum mechanical calculations of Rice et al. [65] ( $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H = 102.5$  kJ/mol; Dev = 31.8) and [164] ( $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H = 97.9$  kJ/mol; Dev = 36.4).

**Tab. 5.1:** Summary of correcting functions  $F_{\text{attract}}$  and  $F_{\text{reput}}$ .

Molecular moieties	Effect on predicted $\Delta_{\text{sub}}H$		Comment
	$F_{\text{attract}}$	$F_{\text{reput}}$	
–OH and –COOH groups	2.0	–	(a) For one or more –COOH groups (b) For two –OH groups
–NH <sub>2</sub> , –NH– and  groups	No. of groups	–	–
 structure	4.7	–	–
 structure	1.0	–	In acyclic nitramines
	2.0	–	In cyclic nitramines
–NO <sub>2</sub> and >NNO <sub>2</sub> groups	–	2.6	In nitroaliphatics and acyclic nitramines which are not included in the conditions two rows above
 NO <sub>2</sub> structure, $n_{\text{R}}/n_{\text{NO}_2} \geq 1$	–	1.0	For small alkyl groups
	–	2.0	For bulky alkyl groups
C–O–O–C group	–	2.0	–
Intermolecular H-bonding	–	0.5	Intermolecular hydrogen bonding forms a 6-membered ring

## Summary

This chapter has introduced different empirical methods for the prediction of the heats of sublimation of important classes of energetic compounds. Equations (5.1) and (5.3) provide two simple and reliable approaches to estimate the heat of sublimation of nitroaromatics and nitramines, respectively. Equations (5.4) and (5.5) provide more complex empirical methods which can be applied to a wide range of organic compounds containing important energetic functional groups. Equation (5.5) is the best method because it can be used for a wide range of energetic compounds, including polynitro arenes, polynitro heteroarenes, acyclic and cyclic nitramines, nitrate esters, nitroaliphatics, cyclic and acyclic peroxides, as well as nitrogen-rich compounds.



## 6 Impact sensitivity

An organic energetic compound is metastable molecule, which is capable of undergoing very rapid and highly exothermic reactions. Thus, prediction of its sensitivity is a complex matter. Several properties contribute to a materials response to the stimulus in a sensitivity test, and which are a consequence of the kinetics and thermodynamics of the thermal decomposition of the explosive. They include

- (1) the ease with which a detectable reaction of any kind can be initiated in an energetic compound;
- (2) the tendency a small reaction can grow to destructive properties;
- (3) the ease with which a higher order detonation can also be established in an energetic compound.

There are several reviews in literature which describe the calculation of the sensitivity of energetic compounds [39, 174–179]. Zeman and Jungová [179] have given an overview of the main developments in the study of the sensitivity of energetic materials to impact, shock, friction, electric spark, laser beams and heat in the period 2006–2015.

The safe handling of an energetic compound is one of the most important issues to the scientists and engineers who handle energetic molecules. Some stimuli can cause detonation of an energetic compound, including impact, shock, heat, electrostatic charge and friction. Of these stimuli, impact is probably the most well-known out of the many kinds of sensitivity because the drop-weight impact test is extremely easy to implement. Impact is one of the important factors in assessing an energetic compound since it provides information on the vulnerability of an energetic material to detonation due to accidental impact. Therefore, the impact sensitivity is closely related and highly relevant to many accidents in work places.

The drop hammer is one of the usual tests which is used for the evaluation of impact sensitivity. In this test, milligram quantities of an explosive material are placed between the flat tool steel anvil and flat surface of the tool striker. It typically involves dropping a 2.5 kg mass from a predetermined height onto the striker plate. The impact drop height ( $H_{50}$ , cm) is the height from which there is a 50 % probability of causing an explosion, where  $1 \text{ cm} = 0.245 \text{ J (Nm)}$  with a 2.5 kg dropping mass. Since the sensitivity is inversely proportional to  $H_{50}$ , impact sensitivity is shown in terms of the value of  $H_{50}$ . Although the impact sensitivity test is itself is extremely easy to implement, obtaining reliable experimental data is known to be relatively difficult. Since there is some difficulty associated with the initiation mechanism of explosion caused by mechanical impact, it can be assumed that hot spots in the material contribute to initiation in the drop weight impact test. The results of impact sensitivity are often not reproducible because factors in the test that might affect the formation and growth of hot spots can strongly affect the measurements. Moreover, the experimental



data are extremely sensitive to the conditions under which the tests are performed. Despite all of the uncertainties associated with the impact sensitivity test, there are many different methods have been developed to correlate the impact sensitivity with other properties of energetic compounds, e.g. maximum heat of detonation [180], crystal lattice compressibility/free space [181], the available free space per molecule in the unit cell [182],  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR chemical shifts [183], nucleus-independent chemical shifts for aromatic explosives [184] and activation energy of thermal decomposition [185]. In recent years, some new correlations have been introduced to predict the impact sensitivity of different categories of energetic compounds, which are based on structural moieties [186–188], quantitative structure–property relationships (QSPR) [189–194], artificial neural networks and genetic algorithms [195, 196]. Some of these approaches are reviewed and illustrated in this chapter.

## 6.1 Complex methods

High speed computers allow quantum mechanical calculations of impact sensitivities of different classes of energetic compounds. Since the molecular surface of electrostatic potentials of the nitroaromatic molecules have positively charged regions over the C–NO<sub>2</sub> bonds, some authors have used computed partial atomic charges [197, 198], heats of reaction [199] and heats of explosion [200] in order to estimate impact sensitivities of some classes of explosives.

Brinck et al. [201] introduced the term “polarity index” ( $\Pi$ ), which can measure local polarity, and demonstrated its relationship to the dielectric constant. For nitroaromatics, there is a relationship between  $\Pi$  and their impact sensitivities. Xiao and coworkers [202] proposed the thermodynamic criteria of “the smallest bond order”, “the principle of the easiest transition” and the kinetic criterion of “the reaction activation energy of pyrolysis initiation” to judge the impact sensitivity. These methods are only used to qualitatively compare the relative magnitudes of impact sensitivity.

Politzer et al. [203] have identified a few features of electrostatic potentials for  $\text{C}_a\text{H}_b\text{N}_c\text{O}_d$  explosives that appear to be related to their sensitivity to impact. Owen et al. [197] investigated the electrostatic potential over the C–NO<sub>2</sub> bonding region, which reflects a degree of instability in the C–NO<sub>2</sub> bond. For 18 nitroaromatics (excluding hydroxynitroaromatic molecules), Murray et al. [198] also introduced a correlation between impact sensitivity measurements and an approximation of the electrostatic potential at the midpoint of the C–N bond. Rice and Hare [204] used approximations of the electrostatic potential at midpoints, statistical parameters of these surface potentials and the property-structure relation method “generalized interaction property function” (GIPF) or computed heats of detonation to predict the impact sensitivity of  $\text{C}_a\text{H}_b\text{N}_c\text{O}_d$  explosives. The impact sensitivities of  $\text{C}_a\text{H}_b\text{N}_c\text{O}_d$  explosives have some dependence on the degree of internal charge imbalance within the molecule [205]. For nitramines, rupture of N–NO<sub>2</sub> bond is a key step in the decomposition process initiated

by heat, shock and impact [206]. Edwards et al. [207] also used model IV of Rice and Hare [204] to calculate the heat of detonation of several nitramines using quantum mechanical theory, in which it was shown that there was a correlation between the exponential decrease of the HOMO and LUMO energies versus sensitivity at the DFT level of theory.

Zhang et al. [208] derived some relationships between impact sensitivity and nitro group charges. They used the general gradient approximation (GGA) as well as the Beck hybrid functional and DNP basis set to calculate the Mulliken charges, which could be correlated with the impact sensitivity of nitro compounds. It was found that nitro compounds may be sensitive ( $H_{50} \leq 40$  cm) when the nitro group has a negative charge of less than about 0.23. Since the charges on the nitro group can be used to estimate the bond strength, oxygen balance and molecular electrostatic potential, compounds with higher Mulliken net charges at the nitro groups will be insensitive and show large  $H_{50}$  values. The method of Zhang et al. [208] can be applied to nitro compounds when the C–NO<sub>2</sub>, N–NO<sub>2</sub> or O–NO<sub>2</sub> bond is the weakest in the molecule. Zeman and Jungová [179] have also reviewed some further publications which used quantum mechanical approaches.

Neural network architectures have been recently used as prediction methodology for impact sensitivity. Cho and coworkers [209] utilized 17 molecular descriptors, which were composed of compositional and topological descriptors in an input layer and two hidden neurons in a hidden layer. Some structural parameters have also been used to predict impact sensitivity using an artificial neural network model by choosing only 10 molecular descriptors [210]. The final neural structure consists of the three layers input, output, and hidden. The network is composed of: 10 input nodes, fifteen hidden-layer neurons and a single output neuron corresponding to the impact sensitivity of explosive. The ten structural descriptors include (1)  $a/MW$ ; (2)  $b/MW$ ; (3)  $c/MW$ ; (4)  $d/MW$ ; indicator variables for (5) aromaticity; (6, 7) heteroaromaticity (N and O); (8) N–NO<sub>2</sub>; (9)  $\alpha$ -hydrogen; (10) salt. The connection weights of the network were adjusted iteratively using back propagation algorithm. The predictive ability of the artificial neural network was checked with 275 experimental data. Impact sensitivities of 14 explosives in the test set were also compared with five quantum mechanical models of Rice and Hare [204]. It was shown that this model can provide better predictions compared to the quantum mechanical models of Rice and Hare [204].

Wang et al. [211] used the QSPR model by combining both the electronic and topological characteristics (ETSI approach) of the molecules under analysis. Since they used mixed data from very different structures, their predictions are, at best, just an indication. Xu et al. [194] performed a QSPR study for the entire set of 156 structurally different energetic compounds to estimate the impact sensitivity of new energetic materials. These QSPR approaches however, do not allow an evaluation of the chemical physics of initiation.

## 6.2 Simple methods on the basis of molecular structure

In contrast to complex methods, simple empirical correlations have the advantages that neither complex quantum chemistry software, nor high speed computers need to be available for tedious computation. There are some simple relationships that relate impact sensitivities with measured and predicted molecular properties, e.g. the oxygen balance of the molecules [212, 213], molecular electronegativities [214, 215], vibrational states [216], parameters related to oxidation numbers [217], <sup>15</sup>N NMR chemical shifts and heat of fusion [128, 174, 218], as well as elemental composition and molecular structures [186, 188, 219–223]. Several simple correlations, which can be applied to different classes of energetic compounds, are reviewed in the following sections.

### 6.2.1 Oxygen balance correlations

Kamlet and Adolph [212, 213] found reasonable linear correlations between the oxygen balance and  $\log H_{50}$  for some classes of high energy molecules with similar decomposition mechanisms:

(1) Nitroaromatic:

$$\log H_{50} = 1.73 - 0.32OB_{100} \quad (6.1)$$

(2) Nitroaromatic with  $\alpha$ -CH linkage (e.g. TNT):

$$\log H_{50} = 1.33 - 0.26OB_{100} \quad (6.2)$$

(3) Nitroaliphatic:

$$\log H_{50} = 1.74 - 0.28OB_{100} \quad (6.3)$$

(4) Nitramine:

$$\log H_{50} = 1.37 - 0.17OB_{100} \quad (6.4)$$

where  $OB_{100} = 100(2d' - b' - 2a' - 2n'_{\text{COO}})$  in which  $d'$ ,  $b'$ ,  $a'$  and  $n'_{\text{COO}}$  are the number of oxygen, hydrogen, carbon and carboxylate entities in the molecule divided by molecular weight of the explosive.

### 6.2.2 Elemental composition and molecular moieties

#### 6.2.2.1 Polynitroaromatics (and benzofuroxans) and polynitroaromatics with $\alpha$ -CH and $\alpha$ -N-CH (e.g. tetryl) and nitramines

It was shown that the following simple equations are suitable for polynitroaromatics (and benzofuroxans) and polynitroaromatics with  $\alpha$ -CH and  $\alpha$ -N-CH (e.g. tetryl), as well as for nitramines [219]:

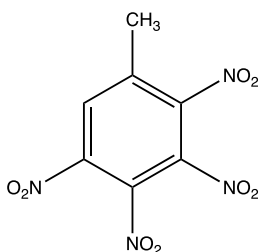
(1) Polynitroaromatics (and benzofuroxans):

$$\log H_{50} = 11.8a' + 61.72b' + 26.9c' + 11.5d'. \quad (6.5)$$

(2) Polynitroaromatics with  $\alpha$ -CH and  $\alpha$ -N-CH (e.g. tetryl) and nitramines:

$$\log H_{50} = 47.3a' + 23.5b' + 2.36c' - 1.11d'. \quad (6.6)$$

**Example 6.1.** Consider 2,3,4,5-Tetranitrotoluene (2,3,4,5-TetNT) with the following molecular structure:



Since it is a nitroaromatic compound with a  $\alpha$ -CH linkage, equation (6.6) can be used, which gives

$$\begin{aligned} \log H_{50} &= 47.3a' + 23.5b' + 2.36c' - 1.11d' \\ &= (47.3(7) + 23.5(4) + 2.36(4) - 1.11(8))/272.13 \\ &= 1.565 \\ H_{50} &= 37 \text{ cm.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $H_{50}$  for this compound is 15 cm [204].

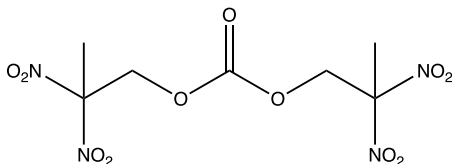
### 6.2.2.2 Nitroaliphatics, nitroaliphatics containing other functional groups and nitrate explosives

For nitroaliphatics, nitroaliphatics containing other functional groups and nitrate explosives, the following correlation can be used to predict their impact sensitivity [221]:

$$\begin{aligned} \log H_{50} &= 2.5 + 0.371[100(a' + b'/2 - d')] \\ &\quad - 0.485(100c') + 0.185n_{\text{R-C(NO}_2)_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}}, \end{aligned} \quad (6.7)$$

where  $n_{\text{R-C(NO}_2)_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}}$  is the number of  $\text{R-C(NO}_2)_2\text{-CH}_2\text{-}$  groups attached to the oxygen atom of carboxylate functional groups (R is an alkyl group).

**Example 6.2.** The use of equation (6.7) for bis-(2,2-dinitropropyl) carbonate with the following molecular structure gives



$$\begin{aligned}
 \log H_{50} &= 2.5 + 0.371[100(a' + b'/2 - d')] \\
 &\quad - 0.485(100c') + 0.185n_{R-C(NO_2)_2-CH_2-} \\
 &= 2.5 + 0.371[100(7 + 10/2 - 11)/326.17] \\
 &\quad - 0.485(100 \times 4/326.17) + 0.185(2) \\
 &= 2.389 \\
 H_{50} &= 228 \text{ cm.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $H_{50}$  for this compound is 300 cm [224]. If equation (6.3) is used, there is a large deviation between the predicted value and the experimental value of 121 cm (Dev = 179 cm).

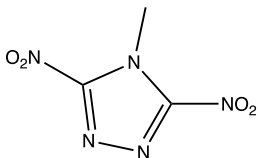
### 6.2.2.3 Nitroheterocycles

For nitroheterocyclic energetic compounds including nitropyridines, nitroimidazoles, nitropyrazoles, nitrofurazanes, nitrotriazoles and nitropyrimidines, the following general equation can be used for various types of  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$  nitro heterocycles [220]:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log H_{50} &= 46.29a' + 35.63b' - 7.700c' + 7.943d' \\
 &\quad + 44.42n'_{-CNC-} + 102.3n'_{-CNNC-}, \quad (6.8)
 \end{aligned}$$

where  $n'_{-CNC-}$  and  $n'_{-CNNC-}$  are the number of  $-CNC-$  and  $-CNNC-$  moieties in the aromatic ring divided by the molecular weight of the explosive.

**Example 6.3.** If equation (6.8) is used for 4-methyl-3,5-dinitro-1,2,4-triazole with the following molecular structure,



the value of  $H_{50}$  is calculated as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\log H_{50} &= 46.29a' + 35.63b' - 7.700c' + 7.943d' \\ &\quad + 44.42n'_{\text{-CNC-}} + 102.3n'_{\text{-CNNC-}} \\ &= (46.29(3) + 35.63(3) - 7.700(5) + 7.943(4) \\ &\quad + 44.42(1) + 102.3(1))/173.09 \\ &= 2.229 \\ H_{50} &= 169 \text{ cm.}\end{aligned}$$

The measured  $H_{50}$  for this compound is 155 cm [224]. It was found that the complex neural network [209] approach results in a larger deviation between the predicted value and experimental data, i.e. 64 cm (Dev = 91 cm).

#### 6.2.2.4 Polynitroheteroarenes

An improved correlation with respect to equation (6.8) has been introduced to predict the impact sensitivity of different types of polynitroheteroarenes including nitropyridine, nitroimidazole, nitropyrazole, nitrofurazane, nitrooxadiazole, nitro-1,2,4-triazole, nitro-1,2,3-triazole and nitropyrimidine explosives as [222]:

$$\log H_{50} = 52.13a' + 31.80b' + \frac{117.6 \sum SSP_i}{Mw}, \quad (6.9)$$

where  $SSP_i$  are specific structural parameters that can decrease or increase impact sensitivity. The values of  $SSP_i$  are specified according to the molecular structures as follows:

- (1) Amino derivatives as substituents in heteroarene: Amino derivatives (Ar-NH- or R-NH-) can decrease the impact sensitivity of some explosives [117]. For heteroarenes containing tetrazole derivatives or three consecutive nitrogen atoms (e.g. 1,2,3-triazole derivatives) or the nitropyrimidine group attached to an aromatic ring via nitrogen (e.g. 1-picryl-2-picrylamino-1,2-dihydropyrimidine), the presence of amino groups has no notable effect and the value of  $SSP_i$  is zero. For the presence of amino groups in nitropyridine, nitrofurazane (or nitrooxidazole) and nitro-1,2,4-triazole (or nitropyrimidine) explosives, the values of  $SSP_i$  are 0.5, 0.6 and 2.5 respectively. For other nitroheteroarenes which have only nitrogen as a heteroatom,  $SSP_i$  is 2.0 in the presence of amino derivatives.
- (2) The attachment of an aromatic ring (e.g. picryl) to nitrogen and the presence of one nitro group in a specific position:
  - (a) The values of  $SSP_i$  are equal to 1.0 and 0.6 for the attachment of an aromatic ring to nitrogen in imidazole (or only in mononitro imidazol) and nitropyrazole explosives, respectively.
  - (b) If only two aromatic substituents are attached to the heteroarene ring without further substituents,  $SSP_i = 2$ .

- (c) If the polynitrophenyl group is attached to the nitrogen atom at the 4-position in 1,2,4-triazole explosives (e.g. 4-(2,4-dinitrobenzyl)-3,5-1,2,4-triazole),  $SSP_i = 0.7$ .
- (d) The values of  $SSP_i$  are 0.6, 0.8 and 1.0 for the presence of one nitro group in positions of 2 in 3 (or 5) in nitropyrazole, nitroimidazole and in position 3 in nitro-1,2,4-triazole explosives, respectively. This condition is valid for nitroimidazoles up to only disubstituted nitroimidazole explosives.

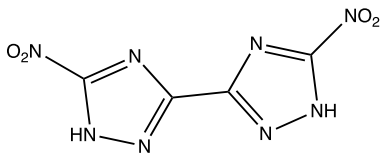
As an illustrative example for this section,  $\sum SSP_i$  is equal to 1.8 for 2-nitro-1-picryl-imidazole, whereas the  $\sum SSP_i$  value is 1.0 for the isomer 4-nitro-1-picryl-imidazole.

Less sensitive materials could be designed if the “trigger linkage” could be identified and avoided [225]. Ammonium salts are “unusually stable” because when an acid is converted to its ammonium salt. Thus, the ammonium salt will be less sensitive than the parent acid [224]. Since sensitivity of 1,2,4-triazoles are usually low, it appears that the ammonium counterion in ammonium 3,5-dinitro-1,2,4-triazolate provides no special insensitivity. For less sensitive derivatives of nitroimidazole, nitropyrazole, and nitro-1,2,4-triazole explosives, the insensitivity of the explosive is, in fact, a consequence of the chemistry proceeding the rate determining step. Due to considerable charge delocalization through  $-N=N-$  and  $-C=C-$  double bonds, the insensitivity to impact may be accounted for in some isomers of polynitroheteroarenes including nitroimidazole, nitropyrazole and nitro-1,2,4-triazole explosives.

- (3) Nitro-1,2,3-triazole explosives: For the attachment of an aromatic ring to a nitrogen atom in position 1, the value of  $SSP_i$  is equal to  $-1.0$ . As was mentioned in part (1), this condition is valid for compounds which are not amino derivatives. The sensitivity to impact and instability varies from isomer to isomer in nitro-1,2,3-triazole explosives. Since there are large differences in the impact sensitivities of 1-picryl-1,2,3-triazole compared to 2-picryl-1,2,3-triazole, and of 4-nitro-1-picryl-1,2,3-triazole compared to 4-nitro-1-picryl-1,2,3-triazole, it is possible that this is due to the facile loss of nitrogen in the 1-picryl isomers [226].

For the presence of another more active site to initiate decomposition, e.g.  $R-NO_2$ , the value of  $\sum SSP_i$  is taken as zero.

**Example 6.4.** 5,5'-Dinitro-1H,1'H-3,3'-bi(1,2,4-triazole) has the following molecular structure:



If equation (6.9) is used for this compound, it gives

$$\begin{aligned}\log H_{50} &= 52.13a' + 31.80b' + \frac{117.6 \sum SSP_i}{Mw} \\ &= (52.13(4) + 31.80(2))/226.11 + \frac{117.6(2)}{226.11} \\ &= 2.243 \\ H_{50} &= 175 \text{ cm.}\end{aligned}$$

The measured  $H_{50}$  for this compound is 153 cm [224]. It was found that two complex neural networks of Cho et al. [209] and Keshavarz–Jafari [210] result in larger deviations between the predicted value and experimental data, i.e. 73 cm (Dev = 80 cm) and 200 cm (Dev = 47 cm), respectively. The use of equation (6.8) also results in a larger deviation, i.e. 200 cm (Dev = 47 cm).

#### 6.2.2.5 Nitroaromatics, benzofuroxans, nitroaromatics with $\alpha$ -CH, nitramines, nitroaliphatics, nitroaliphatics containing other functional groups and nitrate energetic compounds

A simple correlation has been introduced to predict the impact sensitivity of nitroaromatics, benzofuroxans, nitroaromatics with  $\alpha$ -CH, nitramines and nitroaliphatics, as well as nitroaliphatics containing other functional groups and nitrate explosives as [223]

$$\begin{aligned}\log H_{50} &= 48.81a' + 25.94b' + 13.73c' - 4.786d' \\ &\quad + \frac{111.6DSSPH - 132.3ISSPH}{Mw},\end{aligned}\tag{6.10}$$

where  $DSSPH$  and  $ISSPH$  are decreasing and increasing sensitivity structural parameters, respectively, which can be specified based on the molecular structures as follows.

##### (1) Prediction of $DSSPH$

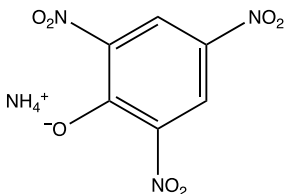
(a) Nitroaromatics and bezofuroxanes: Since the presence of some special electron donating substituents which have an electron pair located on the atom which attaches to the aromatic ring (such as  $-\text{NH}_2$  and  $-\text{OCH}_3$ ), or the presence of double and triple bonds involving the carbon atom which is attached to an aromatic ring (e.g.  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$  and  $-\text{CN}$ ) can decrease the sensitivity, the effects of these substituents can be predicted based on the molecular structure.

- (i)  $-\text{NH}_2$  group:  $DSSPH$  equals 0.7, 1.2 and 1.7 for  $n_{\text{NH}_2} = 1, 2$  and 3 per aromatic ring, respectively, if  $n_{\text{NO}_2} \leq 3$  per aromatic ring.
- (ii) Only  $-\text{OH}$  groups: If  $n_{\text{NO}_2} = n_{\text{OH}}$ , then  $DSSPH = 0.9$ .
- (iii) Benzofuroxans:  $DSSPH = 0.6$ .
- (iv)  $-\text{OR}$  and  $-\text{O}^-$  groups attached to aromatic ring:  $DSSP$  is 0.7 and 0.5, respectively. If an  $-\text{NH}_2$  group is also attached to the same aromatic ring, the value of  $DSSPH$  is 1.2.



- (v) Double and triple bonds involving the carbon atom attached to the aromatic ring (e.g.  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})-$  and  $-\text{CN}$ ): If  $n_{\text{NO}_2} \geq 3$  in the aromatic ring, then  $DSSPH = 1$ . If the 2,2-dinitropropyl group is attached to the  $-\text{COO}-$  functional group,  $DSSPH = 2$ .
- (vi) Nitroaromatic explosives that contain one methyl group: For the presence of one phenyl or one  $-\text{OH}$  group in the meta position with respect to the methyl group,  $DSSPH = 0.8$ .
- (b) Nitramines: For nitramines which contain the  $=\text{C}-\text{N}-\text{NO}_2$  group,  $DSSPH = 0.45$ .
- (c) Nitroaliphatics: For nitroaliphatics containing the  $-\text{COO}-$  functional group, the number of 2,2-dinitropropyl and nitroisobutyl groups attached to  $-\text{COO}-$  can increase the value of  $DSSPH$  since the value of  $DSSPH$  equals the number of 2,2-dinitropropyl and nitroisobutyl groups.
- (2) Prediction of  $ISSPH$
- (a) Nitroaromatics
- (i) If an  $\alpha\text{-CH}$  linkage is attached to a nitroaromatic ring,  $ISSPH = 0.5$ . It should be mentioned that condition (1) (a) (vi) cannot be used here.
- (ii) For those nitroaromatics containing azido or diazo functional group,  $ISSPH = 0.7$ .
- (b) Nitramines:  $ISSPH = 0.5$ . The presence of the molecular structure given in condition (1) (b) has the reverse effect.

**Example 6.5.** Consider ammonium nitrate with the following molecular structure:



The use of equation (6.9) gives

$$\begin{aligned} \log H_{50} &= 48.81a' + 25.94b' + 13.73c' - 4.786d' \\ &\quad + \frac{111.6 DSSPH - 132.3 ISSPH}{Mw} \\ &= (48.81(6) + 25.94(6) + 13.73(4) - 4.786(7))/246.13 \\ &\quad + \frac{111.6(0.5) - 132.3(0)}{246.13} \\ &= 2.136 \\ H_{50} &= 137 \text{ cm.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $H_{50}$  for this explosive is 135 cm [224].

### 6.2.2.6 An improved simple model for the prediction of the impact sensitivity of different classes of energetic compounds

An improved simple model with respect to equation (6.10) has been introduced to predict the impact sensitivity of nitropyridines, nitroimidazoles, nitropyrazoles, nitrofurazanes, nitrotriazoles, nitropyrimidines, polynitro arenes, benzofuroxans, polynitro arenes with  $\alpha$ -CH, nitramines, nitroaliphatics, nitroaliphatics containing other functional groups and nitrate energetic compounds as [186]:

$$(\log H_{50})_{\text{core}} = -0.584 + 61.62a' + 21.53b' + 27.96c' \quad (6.11)$$

$$\log H_{50} = (\log H_{50})_{\text{core}} + 84.47 \frac{F^+}{Mw} - 147.1 \frac{F^-}{Mw}. \quad (6.12)$$

The parameters  $F^+$  and  $F^-$  in equation (6.12) are two correcting functions, which are described in the following sections.

#### Molecular fragments affecting $F^+$

- (1)  $-\text{NH}_2$  groups and amino derivatives as substituents:
  - (a) Polynitro hetroarenes: The values of  $F^+$  are 0.4, 0.6 and 3.0 for the presence of amino derivatives ( $\text{Ar}-\text{NH}-$  or  $\text{R}-\text{NH}-$ ) in nitropyridine, nitrofurazane (or nitrooxidazole) and nitro-1,2,4-triazole (or nitropyrimidine) explosives, respectively.
    - (i) For amino derivatives of other nitroheteroarenes which contain only nitrogen as heteroatoms,  $F^+ = 2.3$ .
    - (ii) For heteroarenes which contain four nitrogen atoms (e.g. 1,2,3,4-tetrazole derivatives) or three nitrogens (e.g. 1,2,3-triazole derivatives) attached consecutively in one ring, or nitropyrimidine explosives in which an aromatic ring is attached to a nitrogen atom (e.g. 1-picryl-2-picrylamino-1,2-dihydropyrimidine),  $F^+ = 0.0$
  - (b) Polynitro arenes: For  $n_{\text{NO}_2} \leq 3$  per aromatic ring,  $F^+ = 0.7, 1.6$  and  $2.2$  for  $n_{\text{NH}_2} = 1, 2$  and  $3$  per aromatic ring, respectively.
- (2) Molecular fragments that increase insensitivity:
  - (a) Polynitro hetroarenes: The attachment of an aromatic ring (e.g. picryl) to nitrogen, or if one nitro group is present in a specific position.
    - (i) The value of  $F^+$  is equal to 1.1 and 0.6 for the attachment of an aromatic ring to nitrogen in imidazole (or only in mononitro imidazole) and nitro-pyrazole explosives, respectively.
    - (ii) If only two aromatic substituents are present and attached to a heteroarene ring without further substituents,  $F^+ = 2.8$ .
    - (iii) If the polynitrophenyl group is attached to the nitrogen atom at the 4-position in 1,2,4-triazole explosives (e.g. 4-(2,4-dinitrobenzyl)-3,5-1,2,4-triazole),  $F^+ = 0.7$ .

- (iv) The values of  $F^+$  are 0.6, 0.9 and 1.0 if one nitro group is present in position 2 of nitroimidazoles, 3 (or 5) in nitropyrazoles and 3 in nitro-1,2,4-triazole explosives, respectively. This situation is valid for nitroimidazoles up to only disubstituted nitroimidazole explosives. For the presence of one carbonyl group, or the attachment of two 5-nitro-1,2,4-triazole rings in nitro-1,2,4-triazole explosives, the value of  $F^+$  is equal to 1.4.
- (b) Polynitro arenes:
- (i) If only  $-OH$  groups are attached and if  $n_{NO_2} = n_{OH}$ , then  $F^+ = 1.25$ .
- (ii) If  $-OR$  and  $-O^-$  groups are attached to the aromatic ring,  $F^+ = 0.7$  and  $0.5$ , respectively. If an  $-NH_2$  group is also attached to the aromatic ring,  $F^+ = 1.2$ .
- (iii) If the carbon attached to the aromatic ring participates in double or triple bonds (e.g.  $-C(=O)-$  and  $-CN$ ), and  $n_{NO_2} \geq 3$  for the aromatic ring, then  $F^+ = 1.0$ . The value of  $F^+$  equals 2.0 for the attachment of the 2,2-dinitropropyl group directly to  $-COO-$  functional group.
- (iv) For the attachment of one methyl group, if there is one phenyl or one OH group in the meta position with respect to the methyl group,  $F^+ = 0.8$ .
- (c) Benzofuroxanes:  $F^+ = 0.6$ .
- (d) Nitramines: For nitramines containing the group  $=C-N-NO_2$ ,  $F^+ = 0.7$ .
- (e) Nitroaliphatics: For nitroaliphatics containing the  $-COO-$  functional group, the value of  $F^+$  is equal to the number of 2,2-dinitropropyl and nitroisobutyl groups attached to the  $-COO-$  group multiplied by 1.4. For 2,2-dinitropropanediol,  $F^+ = 2.8$ .
- (3) Prediction of  $F^-$ :
- (a) Nitro-1,2,3-triazole explosives: If an aromatic ring is attached to nitrogen in position 1, the value of  $F^-$  equals 1.0. This condition is valid for nonamino derivatives.
- (b) Polynitro arenes:
- (i) The presence of an  $\alpha$ -CH linkage attached to carbocyclic nitroaromatic ring may increase the sensitivity, and therefore,  $F^- = 0.5$ . It should be mentioned that condition (2) (b) (iv) is an exception, that can decrease impact sensitivity.
- (ii) For those polynitro arenes that contain azido or diazo functional group,  $F^- = 0.7$ .
- (c) Nitramines: If the  $N-NO_2$  functional group is present,  $F^- = 0.5$ . For nitramines that contain the  $=C-N-NO_2$  group, condition (2) (d) does not apply.

The values of  $F^+$  and  $F^-$  are summarized in Tables 6.1 and 6.2.

Tab. 6.1: Prediction of  $F^+$ .

Molecular moieties	Compound	$F^+$	Illustration	Exception
Presence of $-NH_2$ groups and amino derivatives as substituents	Polynitro heteroarenes	0.4	Nitropyridine	For central heteroarenes which contain four nitrogens (e.g. 1,2,3,4-terazole derivatives) and three nitrogens attached consecutively in one ring (e.g. 1,2,3-triazole derivatives), or nitropyrimidine explosives in which an aromatic ring is attached to nitrogen (e.g. 1-picryl-2-picrylamino-1,2-dihydropyrimidine), the presence of amino derivatives has no notable effect and the value of $F^+$ can be taken as zero
		0.6	Nitrofurazane (or nitrooxidazole)	
		3.0	Nitro-1,2,4-triazole (or nitropyrimidine)	
		2.3	Other nitroheteroarenes which contain only nitrogen as hetero atoms	
Molecular fragments which increase insensitivity	Polynitro arenes (if $n_{NO_2} \leq 3$ per each aromatic cycle)	0.7	$n_{NH_2} = 1$ per each aromatic cycle	
		1.6	$n_{NH_2} = 2$ per each aromatic cycle	
		2.2	$n_{NH_2} = 3$ per each aromatic cycle	
	Nitroimidazole, nitropyrazole and nitro-1,2,4-triazole explosives	0.6	The attachment of aromatic ring to nitrogen in nitropyrazole	
		1.1	The attachment of aromatic ring to nitrogen in imidazole (or in mononitro imidazole)	
		2.8	If only two aromatic substituents are attached to a heteroarene ring without further substituents	
	1,2,4-Triazole explosives	0.7	If polynitrophenyl is attached to the nitrogen atom at the 4-position (e.g. 4-(2,4-dinitrobenzyl)-3,5-1,2,4-triazole)	—
	Nitroimidazole	0.6	Presence of one nitro group in position 2	This condition is valid for nitroimidazole and disubstituted nitroimidazole explosives

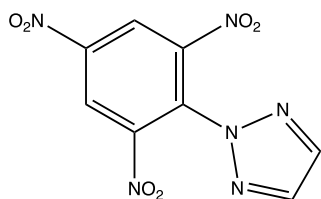
Tab. 6.1: (continued)

Molecular moieties	Compound	$F^+$	Illustration	Exception
Molecular fragments which increase insensitivity	Nitropyrazole	0.9	One nitro group is present in position 3 (or 5)	
	Nitro-1,2,4-triazole	1.0	One nitro group is present in position 3	One carbonyl group is present, or the direct attachment of only two 5-nitro-1,2,4-triazole rings, the value of $F^+$ is equal to 1.4
	Polynitro arenes	1.25	Only one –OH group is attached: if $n_{\text{NO}_2} = n_{\text{OH}}$	–
		0.7	–OR is present	If –NH <sub>2</sub> group has been attached also to aromatic ring simultaneously, the value of $F^+$ becomes 1.2
		0.5	–O <sup>–</sup> is present	
		1.0	The carbon atom which is attached to the aromatic ring participates in double or triple bonds (e.g. –C(=O)– and –CN), and if $n_{\text{NO}_2} \geq 3$ in aromatic ring	The value of $F^+$ is equal to 2.0 for the presence of 2,2-dinitropropyl attached to the –COO– functional group
		0.8	For the attachment of one methyl group, if there is one phenyl or one –OH group in the <i>meta</i> position with respect to methyl group	
	Benzofuroxanes	0.6		
	Nitroaliphatics		For nitroaliphatics that contain the –COO– functional group, the value of $F^+$ is equal to the number of 2,2-dinitropropyl and nitroisobutyl groups attached to –COO– times 1.4	If the 2,2-dinitropropanediol group is present, $F^+ = 2.8$

**Tab. 6.2:** The value of  $F^-$  for specific molecular groups.

Compound	$F^-$	Illustration	Exception
Nitro-1,2,3-triazole	1.0	The attachment of an aromatic ring to nitrogen in position 1	This condition is valid in the absence of amino groups
Polynitro arenes	0.5	The presence of an $\alpha$ -CH linkage attached to carbocyclic nitro-aromatic ring	For the attachment of one methyl group, if there is one phenyl or one -OH group in the <i>meta</i> position with respect to the methyl group then $F^+ = 0.8$
	0.7	For those polynitro arenes that contain the azido or diazo functional group	
Nitramines	0.5		For nitramines that contain the group $=C-N-NO_2$ , $F^+ = 0.7$

**Example 6.6.** For 2-picryl-1,2,3-triazole with the following molecular structure, the use of equations (6.11) and (6.12) gives



$$\begin{aligned}
 (\log H_{50})_{\text{core}} &= -0.584 + 61.62a' + 21.53b' + 27.96c' \\
 &= -0.584 + (61.62(8) + 21.53(4) + 27.96(6))/280.15 \\
 &= 2.082
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \log H_{50} &= (\log H_{50})_{\text{core}} + 84.47 \frac{F^+}{Mw} - 147.1 \frac{F^-}{Mw} \\
 &= 2.082 + 84.47 \frac{0}{280.15} - 147.1 \frac{0}{280.15} \\
 &= 2.082
 \end{aligned}$$

$$H_{50} = 121 \text{ cm.}$$

The experimental value of  $H_{50}$  for this compound is 200 cm [224]. It was found that the complex neural network method of Keshavarz-Jafari [210] give a value which showed a larger deviation between the predicted value and experimental data, i.e. 57 cm (Dev = 143 cm).

## Summary

This chapter demonstrates several simple empirical methods for the prediction of the impact sensitivity of important classes of energetic compounds. Equations (6.5), (6.6) and (6.7) are suitable correlations for predicting the impact sensitivity of

- (1) Polynitroaromatics (and benzofuroxans),
- (2) Polynitroaromatics with  $\alpha$ -CH and  $\alpha$ -N-CH linkages (e.g. tetryl) and nitramines,
- (3) Nitroaliphatics, nitroaliphatics containing other functional groups and nitrate explosives.

For nitroheterocyclic energetic compounds containing nitropyridines, nitroimidazoles, nitroimidazoles, nitropyrazoles, nitrofurazanes, nitrotriazoles or nitropyrimidines, equation (6.8) is a simple method for estimating the impact sensitivity of these classes of nitro heterocycles. Equation (6.9) is an improved correlation of equation (6.8), which can be used not only for the previously mentioned classes of polynitroheteroarenes, but also for two further important classes of energetic compounds, namely, nitro-1,2,4-triazole and nitro-1,2,3-triazole derivatives. Equation (6.10) is an extended correlation for the prediction of the impact sensitivity of nitroaromatics, benzofuroxans, nitroaromatics with  $\alpha$ -CH linkages, nitramines and nitroaliphatics, as well as nitroaliphatics containing other functional groups and nitrate explosives. Finally, equations (6.11) and (6.12) introduce a general correlation that can be used for a wide range of the above-mentioned classes of energetic compounds, including: nitropyridines, nitroimidazoles, nitropyrazoles, nitrofurazanes, nitrotriazoles, nitropyrimidines, polynitro arenes, benzofuroxans, polynitro arenes with  $\alpha$ -CH linkages, nitramines, nitroaliphatics, nitroaliphatic containing other functional groups and nitrate energetic compounds.

## 7 Electric spark sensitivity

The electrostatic or electric spark sensitivity ( $E_{ES}$ ) of an energetic compound is an important aspect for estimating its safety in an electrostatic discharge environment – and could be helpful in reducing accidents. It can be defined as the degree of sensitivity to an electrostatic discharge. It represents the ease with which an explosion can be initiated by an electrostatic spark.

### 7.1 Measurement of electric spark sensitivity

Electric spark sensitivity is determined by subjecting an energetic compound to a high-voltage discharge from a capacitor. The required energy is calculated from the known capacitance  $C$  (in F) of the circuit and voltage  $U$  (in V) at the condenser as

$$E_{ES} = 0.5CU^2. \quad (7.1)$$

Since the value of  $E_{ES}$  depends on the configuration of the electrodes and structure of the circuit, it can be expected that various results should be obtained by different test specifications of the electrode energy used by different authors [227]. Some of the important parameters for the determination of the  $E_{ES}$  include:

- (1) the surface area of the tip of the electrode can affect the energy density of the spark;
- (2) the structure of the electrical circuit will affect the shape and duration of the electrical pulse, which in turn influences the rate and duration of the delivery of energy to the sample;
- (3) confinement of the sample (or lack thereof) can have a dramatic effect on the measured electrostatic sensitivity because of the tendency of some samples to form dust clouds when unconfined.

To determine the values of the electric spark sensitivity of some secondary explosives, Zeman and coworkers [227, 228] used an instrument marked as RDAD, which was constructed in the R&D Department of Zbrojovka Indet, Inc., Vsetín, Czech Republic [227] for this purpose. Furthermore, they have measured the electric spark sensitivity for a large set of polynitro secondary explosives. The capacitance of the capacitor in the RDAD instrument is chosen so as to allow measurements in the voltage range of 8 to 14 kV. If the initiation of the explosive is successful, the next measurement is carried out at a voltage which is 0.2 kV lower. Whereas, if initiation was unsuccessful, the voltage is increased by the same value (up and down method). Fortunately, there is a linear relationship between the measured data obtained using the RDAD instrument with some of those obtained by other experimental methods used to determine the electric spark sensitivity in other recognized laboratories [227]. Since the RDAD



instrument is not suitable for determining the sensitivity of primers and pyrotechnics [63], another instrument marked as ESZ KTTV has also been developed, with financial support from Czech Ministry of Industry and Commerce [228]. The ESZ KTTV instrument is suitable for both primary and secondary explosives. Details of the apparatus and procedures for the RDAD and ESZ KTTV instruments were described elsewhere [227–229].

## 7.2 Different methods for predicting electric spark sensitivity

For some classes of the secondary explosives, there are some correlations between the electric spark sensitivity and some characteristics, such as the detonation velocity and the Piloyan activation energy of decomposition which is obtained from differential thermal analysis (DTA) [230–234]. Zeman et al. [230, 234, 235] have indicated that there is a linear relationship between the electric spark sensitivity and the square of the detonation velocity for some specific categories of explosives. Wang et al. [236, 237] used quantum chemistry methods to optimize the molecular geometries and electronic structures for some explosives. They have shown that there are quantitative relationships between the experimental electrostatic spark sensitivity values and the predicted detonation velocity and pressure for some special groups of explosives. Some new correlations have also been developed which use the maximum obtainable detonation pressure (or velocity) as well as some specific molecular fragments to predict the electric spark sensitivity [238–241]. These methods have the advantage that there is no need to use the crystal density and heat of formation of an explosives to predict its detonation pressure and velocity. A simple method was also introduced to correlate the electric spark and impact sensitivities of nitroaromatic compounds [242].

Türker [243] has used quantum chemistry to derive some correlations between the computational data obtained from ionic nitramine salts and their electric spark sensitivity values. Zhi et al. [244] used the lowest unoccupied molecular orbital energy and Mulliken charges of the nitro group, as well as the number of the aromatic rings and certain substituents on polynitroaromatic compounds to predict their electric spark sensitivity. Yan and Zeman [178] as well as Zeman and Jungová [179] have reviewed some predictive methods for the prediction of the electric spark sensitivity of some classes of explosives.

## 7.3 Simple methods for predicting electrostatic spark sensitivity

There are several simple methods for predicting the electric spark sensitivity of polynitroaromatic and nitramine explosives, which are described in the following sections.

### 7.3.1 Polynitroaromatic compounds

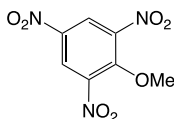
For polynitroaromatic compounds, the following equation can be used to predict the electric spark sensitivity from structural parameters as [245]:

$$E_{ES} = 4.60 - 0.733a + 0.724d + 9.16(b/d) - 5.14C_{R,OR}, \quad (7.2)$$

where  $E_{ES}$  is in J;  $C_{R,OR}$  represents the presence of alkyl (-R) or alkoxy (-OR) groups according to the following conditions:

- (1) The value of  $C_{R,OR}$  is 1.0 for alkyl groups attached to a nitroaromatic ring, e.g. 2-methyl-1,3,5-trinitrobenzene.
- (2) The value of  $C_{R,OR}$  equals -2.0 for the attachment of an alkoxy group to a nitroaromatic ring, e.g. 2-methoxy-1,3,5-trinitrobenzene.

**Example 7.1.** The use of equation (7.2) for 2-methoxy-1,3,5-trinitrobenzene (TNA) with the following molecular structure



gives

$$\begin{aligned} E_{ES} &= 4.60 - 0.733a + 0.724d + 9.16(b/d) - 5.14C_{R,OR} \\ &= 4.60 - 0.733(7) + 0.724(7) + 9.16(5/7) - 5.14(-2) \\ &= 21.36 \text{ J.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured value of  $E_{ES}$  is 28.59 J [234].

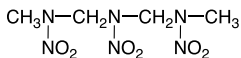
### 7.3.2 Cyclic and acyclic nitramines

It was found that the ratio of carbon to oxygen atoms, the presence of methylenenitramine units (-CH<sub>2</sub>NNO<sub>2</sub>-) in cyclic nitramines, as well as -COO- (or amide) groups can be used to predict the electrostatic sensitivity of cyclic and acyclic nitramines as follows [246]:

$$E_{ES} = 3.460 + 6.504(a/d) - 4.059C_{\text{CH}_2\text{NNO}_2 \geq 3, \text{C}(=\text{O})(\text{O or NH})}, \quad (7.3)$$

where  $C_{\text{CH}_2\text{NNO}_2 \geq 3, \text{C}(=\text{O})(\text{O or NH})}$  is either the number of methylenenitramine groups greater than two in cyclic nitramines or the presence of -COO- (or -CONH-) functional groups.

**Example 7.2.** If equation (7.3) is used for 2,4,5-trinitro-2,4,6-triazaheptane (ORDX) with the following molecular structure,



it gives

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{ES}} &= 3.460 + 6.504(a/d) - 4.059C_{\text{CH}_2\text{NNO}_2 > 2, \text{C(=O)(O or NH)}} \\ &= 3.460 + 6.504(4/6) - 4.059(0) \\ &= 7.80 \text{ J.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured value of  $E_{\text{ES}}$  equals 8.08 J [247].

### 7.3.3 General correlation for polynitroaromatics as well as cyclic and acyclic nitramines

For various nitroaromatic and nitramine compounds, it was shown that the following correlation can be used to prediction the electric spark sensitivity [177]:

$$E_{\text{ES}} = 5.12 + 2.323 \left( \frac{a}{d} \right) + 1.513 \left( \frac{b}{d} \right) + 7.519E_{\text{ES}}^+ - 3.637E_{\text{ES}}^-, \quad (74)$$

where  $E_{\text{ES}}^+$  and  $E_{\text{ES}}^-$  are correcting functions that can increase and decrease the predicted results, based on the ratios of the number of carbon and hydrogen to oxygen atoms, respectively. The values of  $E_{\text{ES}}^+$  and  $E_{\text{ES}}^-$  can be given as

- (1) Prediction of  $E_{\text{ES}}^+$ :
  - (a) For nitroaromatic energetic compounds, the values of  $E_{\text{ES}}^+$  are 2.0, 1.0 and 0.75 in the presence of  $-\text{OR}$ , three  $-\text{NH}_2$  and two  $-\text{OH}$  groups, respectively;
  - (b) For nitramines, if the  $-\text{COO}-$ ,  $\text{C}-\text{O}-\text{C}$  or tertiary amine ( $\text{NR}_1\text{R}_2\text{R}_3$ ) groups are present, the value of  $E_{\text{ES}}^+$  is 0.75;
  - (c) For both nitroaromatics and nitramines,  $E_{\text{ES}}^+$  is 1.0 in the presence of the amide group ( $-\text{NH}-\text{OC}-$ ).
- (2) Prediction of  $E_{\text{ES}}^-$ : The value of  $E_{\text{ES}}^-$  equals 1.0 for:
  - (a) the attachment of only one  $\text{CH}_x-$  or  $\text{Ar}-$  to an aromatic ring in the case of nitroaromatic compounds;
  - (b) if the number of methylenenitramine ( $\text{CH}_2\text{NNO}_2$ ) moieties is greater than, or equal to three in cyclic nitramines (except for cage nitramines), e.g. 2,4,6,8,10,12-hexanitro-2,4,6,8,10,12-hexaazaisowurtzitane (HNIW).

**Example 7.3.** The use of equation (7.4) for both compounds given in previous examples gives

$$E_{\text{ES}} = 5.12 + 2.323 \left( \frac{a}{d} \right) + 1.513 \left( \frac{b}{d} \right) + 7.519E_{\text{ES}}^+ - 3.637E_{\text{ES}}^-$$

TNA:

$$\begin{aligned} &= 5.12 + 2.323 \left( \frac{7}{7} \right) + 1.513 \left( \frac{5}{7} \right) + 7.519(2) - 3.637(0) \\ &= 23.56 \text{ J} \end{aligned}$$

ORDX:

$$\begin{aligned} &= 5.12 + 2.323 \left( \frac{4}{6} \right) + 1.513 \left( \frac{10}{6} \right) + 7.519(0) - 3.637(0) \\ &= 9.19 \text{ J.} \end{aligned}$$

Thus, the deviation of the predicted results of TNA and ORDX from the measured values are 5.03 and  $-1.11$  J, respectively. Meanwhile, the use of the complex quantum mechanical method of Wang et al. [236, 237] gives 6.01 J (Dev = 22.58 J) and 9.09 J (Dev =  $-1.01$  J) for TNA and ORDX, respectively.

## 7.4 Some aspects of predictive methods

The currently available predictive methods cannot predict electrostatic sensitivity versus the grain size because the electric spark sensitivity depends on the size and shape of crystals. For some isomers, the difference in the sensitivities may be large, and this can be attributed to the different behavior of nitro groups in different positions, e.g. electric spark sensitivity for 1,3-dinitrobenzene and 1,4-dinitrobenzene are 3.15 and 18.38 J [234], respectively. Since experimental data of the electric spark sensitivity of different isomers is rare, use of the predictive methods which are available may result in large deviations for some isomers. Fortunately, equations (7.2) to (7.4) can predict the electric spark sensitivity which is close to the average value. For example, equation (7.4) predicts a value of 10.11 J for both 1,3-dinitrobenzene and 1,4-dinitrobenzene and this is close to the average value of the measured values for the two isomers.

## Summary

Some developments for the prediction of the electric spark sensitivity of secondary explosives have been reviewed in this chapter. Since different factors can influence the sensitivity resulting from different stimuli, the main intent in this work was to illustrate the best available simple methods to evaluate the electrostatic sensitivity of energetic compounds. Three simple equations (7.2), (7.3) and (7.4) can be easily used to theoretically predict the magnitude of the electrostatic sensitivity of

polynitroaromatics, nitramines, and also of both nitroaromatics and nitramines, respectively. Thus, these equations are useful models in terms of their accuracy and simplicity because they require only knowledge of the molecular structure of energetic compounds, which is always known. Due to the different behavior – in terms of the electric spark sensitivity – of nitramines and nitroaromatic compounds, equation (7.4) has the advantage that it can be applied to nitroaromatic compounds which contain  $-N-NO_2$  groups, e.g. 1-(methylnitramino)-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene (TETRYL).

## 8 Shock sensitivity

Gap test data is useful to indicate the shock sensitivity of an explosive, and it is nowadays widely used to determine the shock sensitivity of a desired explosive. Different gap tests have been used to qualitatively measure the shock wave amplitude which is required to initiate detonation in explosives, e.g. at Naval Surface Warfare Center (NSWC) and Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL). Large scale and small scale gap tests are two convenient methods for measuring shock sensitivity [224]. In contrast to the results of impact sensitivity – which are often not reproducible because factors in the impact experiment that might affect the formation and growth of hot spots can strongly affect the measurements – reliable shock sensitivity tests exist. Furthermore, the reported data of impact sensitivities are extremely sensitive to the conditions under which the tests are performed.

There are several reviews in which different methods for predicting the shock sensitivity of different pure and composite explosives have been considered [175, 177, 179]. Price [248] has studied different important factors in shock wave sensitivity tests. For five explosives with closely related structures, i.e. TNB, DIPAM, MATB, DATB and TATB, Storm et al. [224] have shown that there is a linear correlation between the impact and shock sensitivity under specified conditions. Due to the dependence of the results of impact sensitivity tests on the conditions of the experiment, they used the impact sensitivity as measured at LANL and/or NSWC using the Bruceton method, type 12 tools, 2.5 kg weight, 40 mg sample, 5/0 sand paper and 25 trials. For seven polynitroaromatics, Owen et al. [197] also found that the measured impact and shock sensitivities can correlate with an approximation of the electronegativity potential at the midpoint of the C–N bond for the longest C–NO<sub>2</sub> bond in each molecule. Tan et al. [249] used quantum mechanical calculations (DFT/BLYP/DNP) to calculate the bond dissociation energies of X–NO<sub>2</sub> (X = C, N, O) and Mulliken charges of nitro groups for 14 examples of nitro compounds. Among the different approaches for the prediction of the shock sensitivity, there are two simple methods based on simple structural parameters, which are discussed in this chapter.

### 8.1 Small-scale gap test

Studies of the shock sensitivity as measured using the NSWC small scale gap test shows that three special structural parameters may affect their values including:

- (1) the distribution of oxygen between carbon and hydrogen;
- (2) the existence of nitramine groups or a  $\alpha$ -CH linkage in nitroaromatic compounds;
- (3) the difference in the number of amino and nitro groups in aminoaromatic (Ar–NH<sub>2</sub>) energetic compounds.

Thus, the following general equation can be applied to  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$  explosives [250]:

$$P_{90\% \text{ TMD}} = 16.79 + 2.262(a + b/2 - d) - 6.314E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0 + 17.72(1.93n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2})_{\text{pure}}, \quad (8.1)$$

$$P_{95\% \text{ TMD}} = 21.96 + 2.479(a + b/2 - d) - 6.3677E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0 + 32.92(1.93n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2})_{\text{pure}}, \quad (8.2)$$

$$P_{98\% \text{ TMD}} = 25.45 + 2.211(a + b/2 - d) - 4.162E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0 + 46.39(1.93n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2})_{\text{pure}}, \quad (8.3)$$

where  $P_{90\% \text{ TMD}}$ ,  $P_{95\% \text{ TMD}}$  and  $P_{98\% \text{ TMD}}$  are the pressures in kbar which are required to initiate material pressed to 90 %, 95 % and 98 % of theoretical maximum density (TMD);  $a + b/2 - d$  is a parameter that shows the distribution of oxygen between carbon and hydrogen;  $E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0$  is a parameter that indicates the existence of a  $\alpha$ -CH linkage in nitroaromatic compounds, or a N-NO<sub>2</sub> functional group;  $(1.93n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2})_{\text{pure}}$  is the difference in the number of amino and nitro groups in aminoaromatic energetic compounds when  $1.93n_{\text{NH}_2} \geq n_{\text{NO}_2}$ . The value of  $E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0$  equals 1.0 for nitramines or for the presence of a  $\alpha$ -CH linkage in nitroaromatic compounds, e.g. TNT. The parameter  $a + b/2 - d$  may affect the sensitivity of different classes of explosives. Since the presence of the N-NO<sub>2</sub> functional group and  $\alpha$ -CH linkage in nitroaromatic compounds can increase the sensitivity of these compounds, the coefficient of  $E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0$  has a minus sign. The attachment of amino groups to an aromatic ring may enhance the stability of an energetic compound, while the addition of electron withdrawing groups (such as NO<sub>2</sub> groups) leads to a reduction in the stabilization of the aromatic ring. Thus, amino groups partially counteract the electron withdrawing effect of nitro groups which enhances the stabilization of the aromatic ring through the parameter  $(1.93n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2})_{\text{pure}}$ .

The deviation of the values obtained from equations (8.1) to (8.3) from the measured values becomes large for very fine particle sizes because small particle size can reduce the shock sensitivity at high density.

**Example 8.1.** The use of equations (8.1) to (8.3) to calculate the results of small-scale gap test of 3,3'-diamino-2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexanitrobiphenyl ( $C_{12}H_6N_8O_{12}$ ) gives

$$\begin{aligned} P_{90\% \text{ TMD}} &= 16.79 + 2.262(a + b/2 - d) - 6.314E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0 \\ &\quad + 17.72(1.93n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2})_{\text{pure}} \\ &= 16.79 + 2.262(12 + 6/2 - 12) - 6.314(0) + 17.72(0) \\ &= 23.58 \text{ kbar}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{95\% \text{ TMD}} &= 21.96 + 2.479(a + b/2 - d) - 6.3677E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0 \\
 &\quad + 32.92(1.93n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2})_{\text{pure}} \\
 &= 21.96 + 2.479(12 + 6/2 - 12) - 6.3677(0) + 32.92(0) \\
 &= 29.40 \text{ kbar},
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 P_{98\% \text{ TMD}} &= 25.45 + 2.211(a + b/2 - d) - 4.162E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0 \\
 &\quad + 46.39(1.93n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2})_{\text{pure}} \\
 &= 25.45 + 2.211(12 + 6/2 - 12) - 4.162(0) + 46.39(0) \\
 &= 32.08 \text{ kbar}.
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured values of  $P_{90\% \text{ TMD}}$ ,  $P_{95\% \text{ TMD}}$  and  $P_{98\% \text{ TMD}}$  are 25.11, 29.71 and 33.04 kbar [224], respectively.

## 8.2 Large-scale gap test

Different gap tests were used to qualitatively measure the shock wave amplitude required to initiate detonation in an explosive. In the large-scale gap test, a shock pressure of uniform magnitude is produced by a detonating charge of high explosive, which is transmitted to the test explosive through an attenuating inert barrier or gap. Since the thickness of the barrier between the donor and test (acceptor) explosives can be varied, one can determine the barrier thickness required to inhibit detonation in the test explosive half of the time ( $G_{50}$ ). Two test configurations were used by LANL, in which the diameter of the cylinder acceptor charge in the small-scale test is 12.7 mm and in the large-scale is 41.3 mm [251]. An explosive in the small-scale test, whose detonation failure diameter is near to or greater than the diameter of the acceptor charge cannot be tested. The large-scale has an advantage over the small-scale it can be tested in this situation. For the large-scale, the test method is to fire a few preliminary shots to determine the spacer thickness that allows detonation in the test explosive. When the shots are fired with the spacer thickness being alternately increased and decreased, the spacer thickness that allows a 50% detonation probability in the acceptor explosive is determined. The dent produced in a witness plate can ascertain detonation of the acceptor charge. Thus, a deep defined dent in the steel witness plate shows detonation of the test explosive has occurred.

Large-scale shock sensitivities of various explosives rely on physical and chemical structural parameters, and for various explosives depend on four main essential parameters:



- (1) initial density;
- (2) percent void;
- (3) distribution of oxygen between carbon and hydrogen;
- (4) structural parameter C–N(NO<sub>2</sub>)–C for pure nitramine explosives.

Pure nitramines containing the C–N(NO<sub>2</sub>)–C linkage are more sensitive than other pure explosives containing only the C–NO<sub>2</sub> linkage. The following general equation can be used for the prediction of the large-scale shock sensitivities of various types of C<sub>a</sub>H<sub>b</sub>N<sub>c</sub>O<sub>d</sub> pure and mixed explosives [252]:

$$G_{50} = 171.47 - 69.10\rho_0 - 2.61(a + b/2 - d) - 0.961Void_{\text{theo}} + 12.32(\text{C-N(NO}_2\text{)-C})_{\text{pure}}, \quad (8.4)$$

where  $G_{50}$  is in mm,  $Void_{\text{theo}}$  is theoretical calculated percent of voids that can be obtained from

$$\frac{(1/\rho_0 - 1/\rho_{\text{TM}})}{1/\rho_0} \times 100,$$

where  $\rho_{\text{TM}}$  is the theoretical maximum density.

Equation (8.4) can be applied to pure and composite mixtures that are prepared under vacuum cast, cast, hot-pressed and pressed conditions because deviations may be large for creamed, granular and flake situations.

**Example 8.2.** PBX-9007 has the composition 90/9.1/0.5/0.4 RDX/Polystyrene/DOP/Rosin (C<sub>1.97</sub>H<sub>3.22</sub>N<sub>2.43</sub>O<sub>2.44</sub>). If the values of  $\rho_0$  and  $\rho_{\text{TM}}$  are 1.646 and 1.697 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, respectively, the use of equation (8.4) gives

$$Void_{\text{theo}} = \frac{(1/\rho_0 - 1/\rho_{\text{TM}})}{1/\rho_0} \times 100 = \frac{(1/1.646 - 1/1.697)}{1/1.646} \times 100 = 3.005$$

$$\begin{aligned} G_{50} &= 171.47 - 69.10\rho_0 - 2.61(a + b/2 - d) \\ &\quad - 0.961Void_{\text{theo}} + 12.32(\text{C-N(NO}_2\text{)-C})_{\text{pure}} \\ &= 171.47 - 69.10(1.646) - 2.61(1.97 + 3.22/2 - 2.44) \\ &\quad - 0.961(3.005) + 12.32(0) \\ &= 51.87 \text{ mm.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured values of  $G_{50}$  for PBX-9007 is 52.91 mm [251].

## Summary

This chapter introduced different approaches for the predicting shock sensitivity of pure and composite explosives using small- and large-scale gap tests. The simple equations (8.1) to (8.4) have two major advantages with respect to the impact sensitivity correlations given in Chapter 6, and which are:

- (1) since a high percentage of errors are usually attributed to the reported experimental measurements from different sources for impact sensitivities, there is a large uncertainty in the different methods of impact sensitivity predictions as compared to equations (8.1) to (8.4) for small and large-scale gap thickness shock sensitivity;
- (2) different correlations for the impact sensitivity can only be applied for pure explosives, but equations (8.1) to (8.4) can be used for both pure and composite explosives.



## 9 Friction sensitivity

Friction is one of the stimuli that can cause explosions and fires in pyrotechnic compositions and explosives [178]. It is important to investigate important aspects of friction sensitivity because it shows the behavior of an energetic compound with respect to friction stimuli. The BAM large friction tester can be used to determine the friction sensitivity of a sample, in which approximately 30 mg of the sample is placed on a porcelain plate [253]. Therefore, the BAM friction tester is widely accepted as a standard friction tester in Europe. The surfaces of both the porcelain plates and pegs have uniform roughness, so that the porcelain pin is lowered onto the sample and a weight is placed on the arm to produce the desired load. The tester is activated and the porcelain plate is moved once forward and backwards. The results of friction sensitivity are observed as either a reaction in form of a flash, smoke, and/or audible report, or no reaction.

In contrast to impact, electric spark, and shock sensitivity, friction sensitivity does not attract the attention of theoretical chemists/physicists because of the shortcomings of the influence of the results of friction sensitivity on experimental data. Zeman and Jungová [179] have reviewed several methods that have been used to predict the friction sensitivity of energetic materials. Jungov et al. [254] indicated that there is a relationship between the friction sensitivity of nitramines and their thermal decomposition parameters. Friedl et al. [255] showed the relationship between the friction sensitivity and surface electronic potentials of nitramines. Jungov et al. [255] also compared the friction sensitivity of nitramines with their impact sensitivities and heats of fusion. For some classes of nitramines [256], there is a semi logarithmic relationship between the impact and friction sensitivities. For the safe handling of energetic compounds, knowledge of the friction sensitivity may be important because friction is frequently encountered during mixing, pouring, sieving, priming and consolidation operations [257].

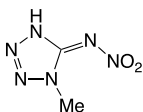
For nitramines, BAM friction or Julius Peters friction apparatus can be used to determine their friction sensitivity. In these experimental methods, the explosive sample is held between a porcelain plate and a porcelain peg under a given load. Frictional forces are applied by the horizontal movement of the porcelain plate. The relative sensitivity to friction is indicated by the lowest load which leads to ignition, crackling or explosion. It was shown that the friction sensitivity of nitramines can be related to their molecular structure as [258]:

$$FS = 600.8 - \frac{2428.6b + 6481.4c + 9560.9d}{Mw} + 54.5P_{FS}^+ - 77.8P_{FS}^-, \quad (9.1)$$

where  $FS$  is the friction sensitivity in N;  $P_{FS}^+$  and  $P_{FS}^-$  are two parameters that can be predicted on the basis of the molecular structure of the nitramines as follows.

- (1) Acyclic nitramines: For those compounds containing more than two repetitive  $[-\text{CH}_2\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-]$  units, the value of  $P_{FS}^+$  equals 1.0, whilst the value of  $P_{FS}^-$  is 0.5 for the presence of the  $-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}_2-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-$  molecular fragment. The value of  $P_{FS}^+$  depends on the number of separate molecular  $\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{C}=\text{}$  moieties ( $n_{\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{C}=\text{}}$ ). It is equal to  $P_{FS}^+ = 5 - 2n_{\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{C}=\text{}}$  except for  $n_{\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{C}=\text{}} \geq 3$  in which  $P_{FS}^+ = 0$ .
- (2) Cyclic nitramines: For cyclic nitramines containing equal numbers of nitramine and methylene groups, the value of  $P_{FS}^+$  equals 1.0. For cyclic nitramines containing five membered rings, the values of  $P_{FS}^-$  are 0.75 and 1.25 for the presence of two and one  $-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-$  groups per ring, respectively.
- (3) The attachment of a  $-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-$  group to a tetrazole ring: For 5-nitriminotetrazole salts, the values of  $P_{FS}^+$  and  $P_{FS}^-$  are 0.5 in the presence of ammonium and hydroxyl-ammonium cations, respectively. The values of  $P_{FS}^-$  and  $P_{FS}^+$  equal 1.25 and 0.5 for 5-nitriminotetrazole and its methyl derivatives, respectively.

**Example 9.1.** The use of equation (9.1) for the following energetic compound



gives its friction sensitivity as

$$\begin{aligned}
 FS &= 600.8 - \frac{2428.6b + 6481.4c + 9560.9d}{Mw} + 54.5P_{FS}^+ - 77.8P_{FS}^- \\
 &= 600.8 - \frac{2428.6(4) + 6481.4(6) + 9560.9(2)}{144.09} + 54.5(0.5) - 77.8(0) \\
 &= 158.0 \text{ N.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured friction sensitivity for this compound is 160 N [259].

## Summary

This chapter introduced a simple but reliable correlation between the friction sensitivity of nitramines and their molecular structures, which may be interesting for chemists and chemical industry. Equation (9.1) assumes that the friction sensitivity of a nitramine with the general formula  $\text{C}_a\text{H}_b\text{N}_c\text{O}_d$  can be expressed as a function of its elemental composition and structural parameters. Since equation (9.1) confirms that the initiation reactivity of energetic compounds is intimately related to their chemical character and molecular structures, it can help to elucidate the mechanism of initiation in energetic materials by friction stimuli.

## 10 Heat sensitivity

An ideal energetic compound shows high performance, low sensitivity and a good shelf life. The heat sensitivity and thermal stability of energetic materials are two important features in their shelf life and safety because knowledge of these properties is important in order to avoid undesirable decomposition or self-initiation during their handling, storage and application. Prediction of the thermal stability of a desired compound is an important starting point in the evaluation of its stability.

The thermolysis of energetic compounds can be used to estimate their thermal stability [260, 261]. The thermal stability of an energetic compound can be measured by various types of thermal analysis and gasometry, or by a variety of methods based on thermal explosions [262–264]. Among the different experimental methods, differential thermal analysis (DTA), differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) and thermogravimetric analysis methods are the thermoanalytical methods that are most widely used to examine the kinetic parameters of the thermolysis of energetic materials. The Soviet manometric method (SMM) is a suitable isothermal manometric method for energetic compounds, and uses a glass-compensating manometer of the Bourdon type to examine the kinetics of the thermolysis of energetic materials in vacuum. The data obtained by this method can be used to obtain the Arrhenius parameters of the non-autocatalyzed thermal decomposition of energetic materials. Experimental data from DTA and DSC can be converted to SMM data if a relationship such as a calibration curve exists between the results of the DTA and DSC with the results of SMM [265–270]. Since various factors affect the experimental data of the activation energies in the thermolysis of energetic materials, there is no uniform classification of a large majority of results obtained in various laboratories all over the world. In this chapter, some of the different methods for predicting parameters related to the thermal stability and heat sensitivity of energetic compounds – such as the activation energy and deflagration temperature – are reviewed. Some of the simple correlations which are based on the molecular structures of different classes of energetic compounds are also demonstrated.

### 10.1 Thermal kinetics correlations

Thermoanalytical methods such as DTA, DSC and thermogravimetry (TGA) can be used to determine Arrhenius parameters. Experimental critical temperatures for explosives of a given size and geometry can be obtained by a variety of tests, such as isothermal cook-off, slow cook-off, one-liter cook-off, and the isothermal time-to-explosion (Henkin test), in which the explosive may be confined or unconfined. Yan and Zeman [178], as well as Zeman and Jungová [179] have reviewed some methods for predicting the kinetic parameters of some classes of explosives. Several approaches are given here.

In the thermolysis of nitramines, homolysis of the N–NO<sub>2</sub> bond is a primary step for secondary nitramines, whereas the homolysis of primary nitramines is a bimolecular autoprotolytic reaction [271]. Nitramine groups contribute strongly to the intermolecular potential in the crystalline state because the longest N–N bonds are responsible for the homolytic reactivity of nitramines [272]. There are some linear relationships between the activation energies of nitramine decomposition with the <sup>15</sup>N NMR chemical shifts of nitrogen atoms of nitramino groups [174], heats of detonation, or the electronic charges at nitrogen atoms of the nitramines [273, 274]. A Mulliken population analysis of the electron densities using the DFT B3LYP/6-31G\*\* method can be used to calculate the electronic charges at the nitrogen atoms of nitramines [274]. Crystal lattice energies of nitramines do not generally differ from those of polynitroaromatics [262]. The activation energy (which corresponds to the slope in the Kissinger relationship) [275] can be used to evaluate the results of nonisothermal differential thermal analysis. Zeman [276] has used the modified Evans–Polanyi–Semenov (E–P–S) equation to interpret the chemical micromechanism governing the initiation of the detonation of energetic materials. Zeman [276] has used the heat of explosion and activation energy of the low temperature thermal decomposition to obtain the modified E–P–S equation for energetic materials. There are several simple correlations for the prediction of the activation energy of the thermolysis of several important classes of energetic compounds on the basis of their molecular structures, which are discussed in the following sections.

### 10.1.1 Nitroparaffins

A suitable relationship has been derived to predict the activation energies for the low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis ( $E_a$ ) of nitroparaffins and the results of SMM as [277]:

$$\ln E_a = \frac{0.4190a + 0.1793b + 1.1914d}{Mw} \times 100. \quad (10.1)$$

**Example 10.1.** The use of equation (10.1) for 2,2-dinitropropane (C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>4</sub>) gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \ln E_a &= \frac{0.4190a + 0.1793b + 1.1914d}{Mw} \times 100 \\ &= \frac{0.4190(3) + 0.1793(6) + 1.1914(4)}{134.09} \times 100 \\ &= 5.294 \end{aligned}$$

$$E_a = 199.1 \text{ kJ/mol.}$$

The measured value for this compound is 198.74 kJ/mol [278].

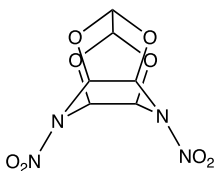
### 10.1.2 Nitramines

The elemental composition and structural parameters of nitramines can be used to derive a suitable correlation for predicting  $E_a$  as follows [279].

$$\ln E_a = 0.5385 + 0.8951(5.012 - 0.0367a + 0.0255b - 0.0304c + 0.0407d) + 0.1698P_{>5} \quad (10.2)$$

where  $P_{>5}$  is equal to 1.0 for cyclic nitramines that contain rings which are larger than five membered rings, as well as nitramine cages.

**Example 10.2.** 4,10-Dinitro-2,6,8,12-tetraoxa-4,10-diazaisowurtzitane (TEX) has the following molecular structure:



The use of equation (10.2) for TEX gives

$$\begin{aligned} \ln E_a &= 0.5385 + 0.8951(5.012 - 0.0367a + 0.0255b - 0.0304c + 0.0407d) \\ &\quad + 0.1698P_{>5} \\ &= 0.5385 + 0.8951(5.012 - 0.0367(6) + 0.0255(6) - 0.0304(4) + 0.0407(8)) \\ &\quad + 0.1698 \\ &= 5.317 \end{aligned}$$

$$E_a = 203.8 \text{ kJ/mol.}$$

The experimental value for TEX is 202.5 kJ/mol [271].

### 10.1.3 Polynitro arenes

It was found that in order to be able to predict the  $E_a$  of polynitro arenes several parameters are important, which include

- (1) the contribution of the elemental composition;
- (2) the number of  $-\text{NH}(\text{C}=\text{O})-\text{C}(\text{=O})\text{NH}-$  groups (e.g. *N,N'*-bis (2,4,6-trinitrophenyl) oxamide) or more than one  $-\text{NH}_2$  groups (e.g. 2,4,6-trinitrobenzene-1,3-diamine);
- (3) the existence of either one  $\alpha\text{-CH}$  (e.g. 2,4,6-trinitrotoluene), or methoxy group attached to one aromatic ring, or  $\text{CH}_3\text{O}-[\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)]$  – which has the opposite effect with respect to the second parameter.

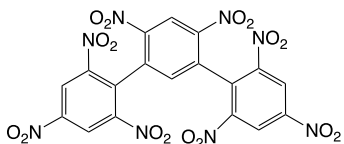


The number of amino groups can affect the sensitivity and performance as well as physicothermal properties of nitroaromatic compounds [8, 45, 46]. Thus, the presence of amino groups can affect the value of the activation energy when more than one amino group is attached to aromatic rings. For polynitroaromatics with  $\alpha$ -CH, it was indicated in previous chapters that their sensitivities with respect to different stimuli show different behaviors. It was found that the presence of one  $\alpha$ -CH or  $\text{CH}_3\text{O}-[\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)]$  group in the molecular structure of polynitro arenes can influence the value of  $E_a$ . The value of  $E_a$  is a function of the aforementioned parameters, and which can be expressed by the following equation [280]:

$$\log(E_a) = 2.25 + 0.0337OEC + 0.146n_{\text{NHCOCONH,NH}_2>1} + 0.124P_{\alpha\text{-CH or CH}_3\text{O}-[\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)]}, \quad (10.3)$$

where  $OEC$ ,  $n_{\text{NHCOCONH,NH}_2>1}$  and  $P_{\alpha\text{-CH or CH}_3\text{O}-[\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)]}$  are the contributions of the elemental composition, the second and the third structural parameters, respectively. The value of  $P_{\alpha\text{-CH or CH}_3\text{O}-[\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)]}$  is 1.0 for the presence of either one  $\alpha$ -CH (e.g. 2,4,6-trinitrotoluene) or methoxy group attached to one aromatic ring, or  $\text{CH}_3\text{O}-[\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)]$  group. The value of  $OEC$  is the optimized elemental composition of polynitro arenes with general formula  $\text{C}_a\text{H}_b\text{N}_c\text{O}_d$ , which can be obtained by  $OEC = 2.74a - 1.48b - 2.31c - d$ .

**Example 10.3.** 2,2',2'',4,4',6,6',6''-Octanitro-1,1':3',1''-terphenyl (ONT) has the following molecular structure:



If equation (10.3) is used, the result is given as

$$\begin{aligned} OEC &= 2.74a - 1.48b - 2.31c - d \\ &= 2.74(18) - 1.48(6) - 2.31(8) - 16 \\ &= 5.96, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \log(E_a) &= 2.25 + 0.0337OEC + 0.146n_{\text{NHCOCONH,NH}_2>1} \\ &\quad + 0.124P_{\alpha\text{-CH or CH}_3\text{O}-[\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)]} \\ &= 2.25 + 0.0337(42.92) + 0.146(0) + 0.124(0) \\ &= 2.451 \end{aligned}$$

$$E_a = 282.4 \text{ kJ/mol.}$$

The measured value of  $E_a$  is 281.58 kJ/mol [276].

### 10.1.4 Organic energetic compounds

For various organic energetic compounds, the results show that the important factors for predicting  $E_a$  can be grouped into additive and nonadditive structural parameters as follows [281]:

$$E_a = 166.36 + 2.85a - 21.2n_{\text{OH}} + 31.98E_{\text{nonadd}}^+ - 44.93E_{\text{nonadd}}^-, \quad (10.4)$$

where  $n_{\text{OH}}$  represents the number of hydroxyl groups; two functions  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  and  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  show the increasing and decreasing contribution of nonadditive structural parameters, respectively.

#### $E_{\text{nonadd}}^+$

The presence of some structural parameters can increase the activation energy and enhance the thermal stability of energetic compounds.

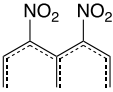

(1) Cyclic nitramines: The value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  is 1.0 for cyclic nitramines which correspond to one of the following conditions:

- ring is larger than a six-membered ring and contains two  $-\text{NNO}_2$  groups;
- ring larger than a four-membered ring;
- bicyclic ring with only two  $-\text{NNO}_2$  groups per ring.

These conditions are consistent with the correlation of activation energy in which the activation energies increase with increasing ring size [279].

(2) Nitroalkanes: For nitroalkanes containing molecular moieties  $\text{R}-\text{CH}_2\text{NO}_2$  and  $\text{R}-\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)_2-\text{R}'$ , the values of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  equal 2.0 and 1.0, respectively.

(3) Nitroaromatics:

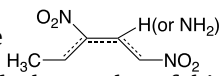
- If the amino pyridine derivative, , triazine ring or four adjacent nitrogens in nitroaromatics are present, the value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  is 1.0;
- The value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  is 2.0 for the presence of the PNT--TNP molecular fragment where TNP is 2,4,6-trinitrophenyl.

#### $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$

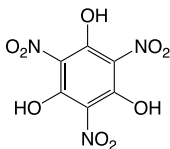
(1) Acyclic nitramines and cyclic nitramines containing small rings: For acyclic nitramines which contain only one  $-\text{NNO}_2$  group in the form  $\text{Ar}(\text{or H})-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)\text{CH}_3$ , the value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  is 0.75. The value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  is equal to 0.4 for cyclic nitramines containing rings which are smaller than five membered rings, or five membered rings with more than one  $\text{N}-\text{NO}_2$  group.

(2) Nitroaromatics:

- If the molecular moieties  $-\text{O}(\text{or S})-\text{R}(\text{or Ar})$  are present, the value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  equals 1.5;

- (b) If the  molecular fragment is present, the value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  equals the number of this molecular moiety;
- (c) The values of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  equal 1.5, 1.0 and 0.75 for the compound TNP-X where X is -Cl, -NH- and -N<, respectively;
- (d) For energetic compounds of the type TNP-Y-TNP where Y are -N=N-, -CH<sub>2</sub>-CH<sub>2</sub>- and -SO<sub>2</sub>-, the value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  is 2.0.
- (3) Presence of the nitrate group: if the -ONO<sub>2</sub> group is present, the value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  is 0.3.
- (4) The presence of the nitroso group: The value of  $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  is equal to 0.75.

**Example 10.4.** If equation (10.4) is applied to 2,4,6-trinitrobenzene-1,3,5-triol (TNPg) with the following molecular structure



it gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 E_a &= 166.36 + 2.85a - 21.2n_{\text{OH}} + 31.98E_{\text{nonadd}}^+ - 44.93E_{\text{nonadd}}^- \\
 &= 166.36 + 2.85(6) - 21.2(3) + 31.98(0) - 44.93(0) \\
 &= 119.9 \text{ kJ/mol.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured value of  $E_a$  is 114.16 kJ/mol [276].

## 10.2 Heat of decomposition and temperature of thermal decomposition

Thermal analysis methods can be used to study the heat of decomposition and onset temperature [40, 117, 178, 282]. DSC [3, 283] is a typical example of an experimental screening test, which provides heats of decomposition with uncertainties in the measurement of about 5–10% [284]. The exothermic onset temperature (the temperature at which the first deflection from the baseline is observed), thermal decomposition temperature and the temperature at which maximum mass loss occurs are three important parameters for assessing the heat sensitivity of different kinds of energetic compounds, and which give better reproducibility than the heats of decomposition. In the following sections, some methods for the prediction of these parameters are discussed.

### 10.2.1 Heat of decomposition of nitroaromatics

Some QSPR studies were undertaken to predict the heats of decomposition of nitroaromatic compounds. For 19 nitrobenzene derivatives, Saraf et al. [285] introduced a correlation based on the number of nitro groups ( $n_{\text{NO}_2}$ ) with a fitting error of 8%. Fayet et al. [286–288] used a series of preliminary multilinear models to derive some correlations from a data set of 22 molecules using some quantum chemical descriptors. Fayet et al. [289, 290] found very robust models by analyzing a more extended data set of 77 nitrobenzene derivatives. A suitable model was introduced for the whole diverse list of structures using a qualitative decision tree with high reliability [290]. For some nitrobenzenes which have no substituent in located in the *ortho* position to the nitro group, another complex model was introduced based on quantum mechanical calculations [290]. Three multilinear models were introduced for nitrobenzenes which have no substituents in the *ortho* position relative to the nitro group using a set of complex descriptors [291]. These methods are complex because they require special computer codes and expert users.

A simple correlation on the basis of  $n_{\text{NO}_2}$  has been introduced to calculate the heat of decomposition by considering inter- and intramolecular interactions rather using complex molecular descriptors as follows [292]:

$$-\Delta H_{\text{decom}} = -53.32 + 362n_{\text{NO}_2} - 99.33\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^- + 108.9\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^+, \quad (10.5)$$

where  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}$  is the heat of decomposition in  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ ;  $n_{\text{NO}_2}$  is the number of nitro groups; and  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^+$  and  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^-$  are two correcting functions. The presence of some molecular moieties can influence the values of the heat of decomposition and are referred to as  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^+$  and  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^-$ , and described in the following sections.

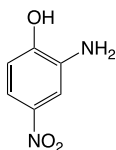
#### $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^-$

- (1) Some molecular fragments in nitrobenzene:
  - (a) Intramolecular hydrogen bonding: The value of  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^-$  is 1.5 for the presence of only  $-\text{OH}$  or  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{COOH}$  groups *ortho* to the nitro group (or another hydrogen bonding group such as  $-\text{NH}_2$ ).
  - (b) Mono methyl derivatives: The value of  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^-$  is 1.5. It was shown that the presence of intramolecular hydrogen bonding or a methyl group may decrease the heats of sublimation in nitroaromatic compounds [36, 169].
- (2) The presence of halogens (or  $-\text{CF}_3$ ) beside nitro groups in halogenated derivatives of nitrobenzene or polynitrobenzene: The value of  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^-$  equals 3.0.
- (3) The existence of  $-\text{COOH}$  beside nitro groups in polynitrobenzene: The value of  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^-$  is 4.0.

$\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^+$ 

- (1) Some specific molecular moieties in nitrobenzene: if the (Cl or H)-C=O, -SCN, (NHNH<sub>2</sub>)-C=O or -C=C- groups are present, the values of  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^+$  are 0.8, 2.0, 1.5 and 1.7, respectively.
- (2) Some molecular fragments in polynitrobenzene: The values of  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^+$  are 4.0, 3.0 and 2.0 for the presence of the -C(=O)NH<sub>2</sub>, halogen and methyl groups, respectively.

**Example 10.5.** For 2-amino-4-nitrophenol with the following molecular structure



equation (10.5) gives

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta H_{\text{decom}} &= -53.32 + 362.0n_{\text{NO}_2} - 99.33\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^- + 108.9\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^+ \\ &= -53.32 + 362.0(1) - 99.33(1.5) + 108.9(0) \\ &= 159.6 \text{ kJ/mol.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured value of  $-\Delta H_{\text{decom}}$  is 130 kJ/mol [284]. The calculated value by complex QPRR model of Fayet et al. [290] is 238 kJ/mol (Dev = 108 kJ/mol).

### 10.2.2 Heats of decomposition of organic peroxides

Several QSPR methods containing complex descriptors were applied to explore:

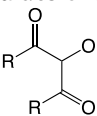
- (1) the relationship between the heat and temperature of decomposition of organic peroxides and their quantum mechanical descriptors [293, 294];
- (2) the correlation between the self-accelerating decomposition temperature (SADT) of organic peroxides and their molecular structures [295] or their quantum mechanical properties [296]. These methods require specific computer codes and expert users.

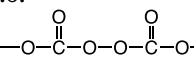
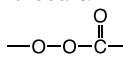
It was found that molecular structures of organic peroxides can be used to predict the heat of decomposition of these compounds as follows [297]:

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta H'_{\text{decom}} &= 1551.45 - 41.13\alpha + 1014.05P_{(\text{HO}-\text{O}\dots-\text{O}-\text{OH})} \\ &\quad + 640.13\alpha + 857.68\beta, \end{aligned} \tag{10.6}$$

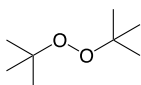
where  $\Delta H'_{\text{decom}}$  is the heat of decomposition in  $\text{J g}^{-1}$ ;  $P_{(\text{HO}-\text{O}\dots-\text{O}-\text{OH})}$  is 1.0 for the presence of two hydroperoxy functional groups in the molecular structure. The parameters  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are nonadditive structural parameters, which can be specified as follows.

Definition of  $\alpha$ : if aromatic rings, nonaromatic rings and nonaromatic rings containing methyl substituents are present, the values of  $\alpha$  are 0.1, 0.2 and 0.6, respectively.

If the organic peroxide contains the  fragment in its structure, the value of  $\alpha$  equals 2.0.

Definition of  $\beta$ : if the  molecular fragment is present in acyclic peroxides,  $\beta$  is 0.5. If two ( $-\text{O}-\text{O}-\text{R}$ ) or  fragments are present, the value of  $\beta$  is 0.4 and 0.6, respectively.

**Example 10.6.** Di-tert-butyl peroxide has the following molecular structure.



The use of equation (10.6) gives

$$\begin{aligned} -\Delta H'_{\text{decom}} &= 1551.45 - 41.13a + 1014.05P_{(\text{HO}-\text{O}\dots-\text{O}-\text{OH})} + 640.13\alpha + 857.68\beta \\ &= 1551.45 - 41.13(8) + 1014.05(0) + 640.13(0) + 857.68(0) \\ &= 1222.4 \text{ J/g.} \end{aligned}$$

There are two measured values of  $-\Delta H'_{\text{decom}}$ , i.e. 1082.5 [298] and 1175.0 J/g [296].

### 10.2.3 Onset and maximum loss temperatures

Since experimental data has been reported for the onset and maximum temperature of thermal decomposition for selected classes of energetic compounds, it has been possible to develop different methods to predict these values for other explosives. These methods are discussed in the following sections.

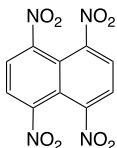
#### Onset temperature of polynitro arenes

For some subgroups of polynitro arenes, there are some relationships between the onset temperature and detonation characteristics [235, 266]. Using the DFT B3LYP/6-3-31G\*\* method, it was found that there is a linear relationship between the onset temperature of thermal decomposition and the electronic charges of nitrogen atoms of selected subgroups of polynitro arenes [273]. For polynitro arenes, it has been shown that the following correlation can be used [299]:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\text{onset}} &= 571.17 + 30.63a - 21.29b + 32.57c - 43.11d \\ &\quad + 15.98(n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2}) + 50.69(|n_{\text{TNB}} - 2| - P_{\text{TNB}-\text{CH}_2-\text{TNB}}), \end{aligned} \quad (10.7)$$

where  $T_{\text{onset}}$  is the onset temperature in K;  $(n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2})$  is the difference between the number of amino and nitro groups in energetic compounds containing amino groups;  $|n_{\text{TNB}} - 2|$  is the absolute value of the number of 1,3,5-trinitrobenzene rings minus two;  $P_{\text{TNB-CH}_2\text{-TNB}}$  is equal to one or zero for the presence or absence of  $-\text{CH}_2-$  between two 1,3,5-trinitrobenzene aromatic rings, respectively.

**Example 10.7.** The use of equation (10.7) for the following energetic compound



gives:

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\text{onset}} &= 571.17 + 30.63a - 21.29b + 32.57c - 43.11d \\ &\quad + 15.98(n_{\text{NH}_2} - n_{\text{NO}_2}) + 50.69(|n_{\text{TNB}} - 2| - P_{\text{TNB-CH}_2\text{-TNB}}) \\ &= 571.17 + 30.63(10) - 21.29(4) + 32.57(4) - 43.11(8) \\ &\quad + 15.98(0) + 50.69(0) \\ &= 577.7 \text{ K.} \end{aligned}$$

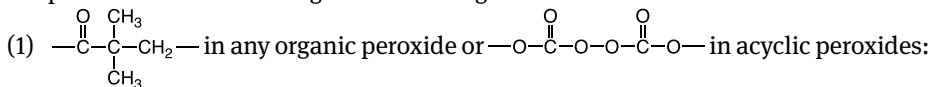
The measured  $T_{\text{onset}}$  is 578.8 K [266].

### Onset temperature of organic peroxides

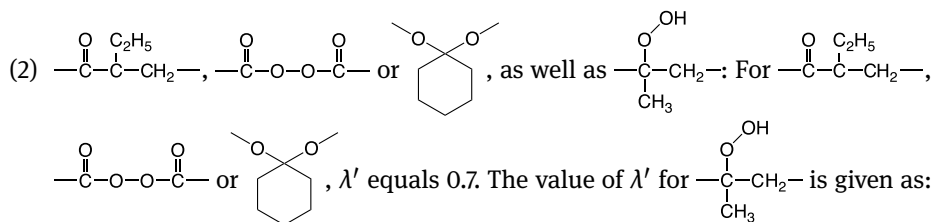
For organic peroxides, it has been shown that the decomposition onset temperature can be expressed as a function of several structural parameters as [297]:

$$T_{\text{onset}} = 438.96 - 4.92d - 29.11P_{\text{C=O}} - 14.02\lambda_{\text{sym}} - 30.81\lambda', \quad (10.8)$$

where  $P_{\text{C=O}}$  is 1.0 for the presence of the carbonyl group; and  $\lambda_{\text{sym}}$  is 1.0 for those peroxides that have the same fragments attached to each side of the  $-\text{O}-\text{O}-$  bond, i.e.  $\text{R}-\text{O}-\text{O}-\text{R}'$  where  $\text{R}=\text{R}'$ . The presence of some molecular fragments may also affect the values of  $T_{\text{Dec}}$ , which are incorporated as correcting factors. The parameter  $\lambda'$  represents the positive and negative contributions of various structural features which allows more reliable  $T_{\text{onset}}$  values to be obtained, and which can be defined based on the presence of the following molecular fragments:



The value of  $\lambda'$  is 1.0.



$$\lambda' = 0.7 \times \text{the number of } -\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}(\text{OH})-\overset{\text{CH}_3}{\text{C}}-\text{CH}_2-, \text{ in molecular structure of peroxide.}$$

- (3)  $-\text{O}-\text{C}(\text{R})(\text{R}')-\text{O}-$ : For the presence of this molecular fragment, where R and R' can be  $-\text{CH}_3$  or  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{CO}$ , or  $-\text{C}(\text{CO})_2$  in their molecular structures,  $\lambda' = -1.0$ .

**Example 10.8.** If equation (10.8) is used for the peroxide shown in Example 10.6, it gives

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\text{onset}} &= 438.96 - 4.92d - 29.11\lambda_{\text{C=O}} - 14.02\lambda_{\text{sym}} - 30.81\lambda' \\ &= 438.96 - 4.92(2) - 29.11(0) - 14.02(1) - 30.81(0) \\ &= 415.1 \text{ K.} \end{aligned}$$

There are two measured values of  $T_{\text{onset}}$ , i.e. 412.85 [298] and 426.15 K [296].

### Temperature of maximum mass loss of organic azides

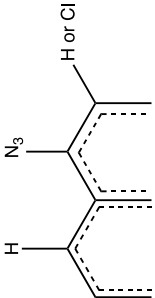
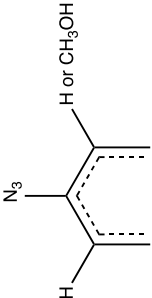
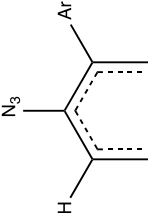
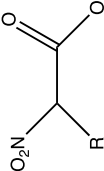
For different of organic azides, it was shown that the temperatures of maximum mass loss ( $T_{\text{dmax}}$ ) can be given by [300]:

$$T_{\text{dmax}} = 405.57 + 1.3959b + 4.3222c + 33.670T_{\text{dmax}}^+ - 32.515T_{\text{dmax}}^-, \quad (10.9)$$

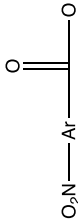
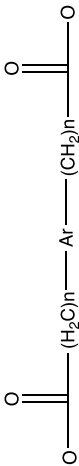
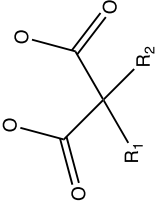
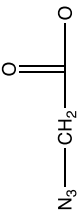
where  $T_{\text{dmax}}$  is in K;  $T_{\text{dmax}}^+$  and  $T_{\text{dmax}}^-$  are two correcting functions which are used to show the increasing and decreasing contribution of nonadditive structural parameters, respectively. The values of  $T_{\text{dmax}}^+$  and  $T_{\text{dmax}}^-$  are given in Tables 10.1 and 10.2 for different molecular fragments. As shown in Tables 10.1 and 10.2, the position of the azide group in an aromatic ring, neighboring groups and the presence of some specific functional groups are important parameters in predicting the values for  $T_{\text{dmax}}^+$  and  $T_{\text{dmax}}^-$ . Since the attachment of  $\text{Cl}$ -,  $-\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$  and  $-\text{Ar}$  *ortho* to  $-\text{N}_3$  group may increase thermal stability, the contribution of  $T_{\text{dmax}}^+$  should be considered. The effect of  $T_{\text{dmax}}^+$  has also been considered for the presence of the  $-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{O}-$  group under certain conditions, and also for the attachment of the  $-\text{N}_3$  group to tertiary carbon. The presence of the  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}(\text{cyclic})$  molecular moiety, the existence of  $\text{Cl}$  *ortho* to the nitro group and the presence of  $-\text{CO}-$  *ortho* to the  $-\text{N}_3$  group can decrease the thermal stability. Therefore, the presence of some molecular fragments or specific groups in an organic azide is responsible for increasing and decreasing the thermal stabilities.



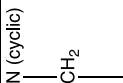
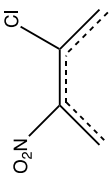
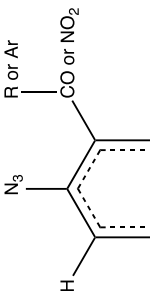
Tab. 10.1: Summary of the contributions of  $T_{dmax}^+$ 

Molecular fragment	Condition	$T_{dmax}^+$	Example
		0.7	2-azido-2H-chromen-2-one
		0.9	3-(3-azidophenyl)-6-chloropyridazin-4-ol
tertiary carbon $\rightarrow$ N <sub>3</sub>		1.0	3-azido-7-methyl-phenylquinoline-2,4-(1H,3H)-dione
		0.7	4-azido-2-chloro-3-phenylquinoline
		1.0	4-azido-3-nitro-2H-chromen-2-one

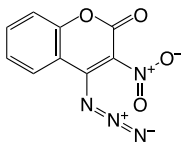
Tab. 10.1: (continued)

Molecular fragment	Condition	$T_{dmax}^+$	Example
		1.5	1,3-diazidopropan-2-yl 3,5-dinitrobenzoate
	$n \geq 0$	1.0	8-azidooctyl 2-(2-((8-azidooctyl)oxy)-2-oxoethyl)
		1.2	bis(1,3-diazidopropan-2-yl)-1H-indene-2,2(3H)-dicarboxylate)
		1.5	1,3-bis(azidoacetoxy)-2-azidoacetoxymethyl-2-ethylpropane

Tab. 10.2: Summary of the contributions of  $T_{dmax}^-$ .

Molecular moieties	$T_{dmax}^-$	Example
		
	1.0	7-azido-5-oxo-2,3-dihydro-1H,5H-pyrido[3,2,1-ij]quinoline-6-carbaldehyde
	1.0	4-azido-2-chloro-6-methyl-3-nitropyridine
	0.8	1-(2-azidophenyl)-1-ethanone

**Example 10.9.** The use of equation (10.9) for 4-azido-3-nitro-2H-chromen-2-one with the following molecular structure



gives

$$\begin{aligned} T_{\text{dmax}} &= 405.57 + 1.3959b + 4.3222c + 33.670T_{\text{dmax}}^+ - 32.515T_{\text{dmax}}^- \\ &= 405.57 + 1.3959(4) + 4.3222(4) + 33.670(1.0) - 32.515(0) \\ &= 462.11 \text{ K.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured value of  $T_{\text{dmax}}$  is 463.15 K [301].

## 10.3 Deflagration temperature

The deflagration temperature is defined as the temperature at which a small sample of an energetic compound gets ignited [302]. This can be determined by heating 0.02 g of sample in a glass tube in a Wood's metal bath at a heating rate of 5 °C/min. Since various inter- and intramolecular parameters may affect the value of the deflagration temperature, a suitable correlation for estimating the deflagration temperature of energetic compounds containing  $-\text{NNO}_2$ ,  $-\text{ONO}_2$  or  $-\text{CNO}_2$  groups was established as [47, 303]:

$$DT = 476.6 + 13.08a - 6.21d + 103.7F_{\text{nonadd}}^+ - 103.1F_{\text{nonadd}}^-, \quad (10.10)$$

where  $DT$  is the deflagration temperature in K; two functions  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  and  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  show the increasing and decreasing contribution of nonadditive structural parameters, respectively, which are specified in the following sections.

### 10.3.1 $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$

- (1) Cyclic nitramines containing rings which are larger than six-membered rings or carbocyclic nitroaromatics with

$$\frac{1}{3} \leq \frac{n_{\text{NH}_2}}{n_{\text{NO}_2}} \leq 1,$$

where  $n$  is the number of specified groups: The value of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  is 1.0.

- (2) Carbocyclic nitroaromatic compounds containing only alkyl substituents: The value of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  is 0.5.

- (3) The existence of other specific polar groups: The value of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  equals 0.5 for the presence of a nitrate salt,  $-\text{NHCONH}-$  group, or cyclic energetic compounds containing  $>\text{N}-\text{CO}-\text{N}<$ , two  $>\text{N}-\text{CO}-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-$  or two  $-(\text{O}_2\text{N})\text{N}-\text{CO}-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-$  groups. For the presence of a tertiary amine (or  $-\text{O}^-\text{NH}_4^+$ ), the value of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  equals 0.8.

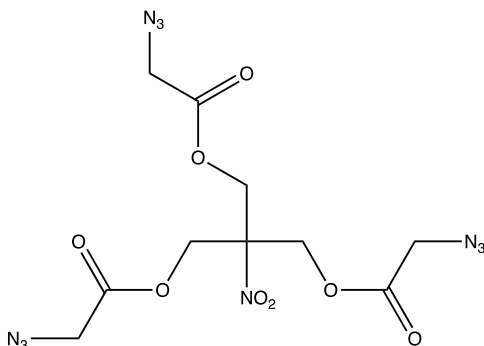
### 10.3.2 $F_{\text{nonadd}}^-$

- (1) The presence of azido,  $-\text{N}-\text{OH}$ , cyclic ether groups, as well as the presence of both  $>\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)_2$  and  $-\text{OH}$ : For the presence of the  $-\text{N}_3$ ,  $-\text{N}-\text{OH}$  or cyclic ether groups and the presence of both of  $>\text{C}(\text{NO}_2)_2$  and  $-\text{OH}$  groups, the values of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  equal 0.7, 0.5, 0.3 and 1.0, respectively.
- (2) Substituents containing  $>\text{NNO}_2$  or  $-\text{NHNO}_2$  groups attached to carbocyclic nitroaromatic compounds: For the presence of  $>\text{NNO}_2$  and  $-\text{NHNO}_2$  groups, the values of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  equal 0.5 and 1.0, respectively.

### 10.3.3 Energetic compounds containing both $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$ and $F_{\text{nonadd}}^-$

- (1) Carbocyclic nitroaromatic compounds containing both nitrate and ether groups in their substituents: For the presence of one nitrate group, the value of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  equals 0.5. The value of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  equals 0.5 for the presence of more than one nitrate group.
- (2) Energetic compounds  $\text{Ar}-\text{NH}-\text{Ar}'$ : For secondary amines attached to two aromatic rings if Ar and Ar' contain the  $\text{N}-\text{O}-\text{N}$  group as well as one nitro group or tetrazole ring, the value of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  is 1.0. Meanwhile, if Ar' contains more than one nitro group, the value of  $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  is 0.5.

**Example 10.10.** If equation (10.10) is used for azido-acetic-acid-3-(2-azido-acetoxy)-2-(2-azido-acetoxymethyl)-2-nitropropylester with the following molecular structure



it gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 DT &= 476.6 + 13.08a - 6.21d + 103.7F_{\text{nonadd}}^+ - 103.1F_{\text{nonadd}}^- \\
 &= 476.6 + 13.08(10) - 6.21(8) + 103.7(0) - 103.1(0.7) \\
 &= 488.5 \text{ K.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured value of  $T_{\text{dmax}}$  is 487 K [304].

## Summary

This chapter introduced different methods for predicting: the activation energies of low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis, heats of decomposition, exothermic onset temperatures, thermal decomposition temperatures of polynitro arenes and the temperature at which the maximum loss of mass occurs, as well as the deflagration temperature. Equations (10.1), (10.2), (10.3) and (10.4) were used to predict the activation energies of low-temperature, non-autocatalyzed thermolysis of nitroparaffins, nitramines and organic energetic compounds, respectively. Equation (10.4) is a general correlation, which can be applied to a wide range of energetic compounds including those energetic compounds that satisfy equations (10.1) to (10.3), but it is more complex. Equations (10.5) and (10.6) are used for the prediction of the decomposition temperatures of polynitro arenes and organic peroxides, respectively. Equations (10.7) and (10.8) can be applied for prediction of onset temperature of polynitro arenes and organic peroxides, respectively. Equation (10.9) is used to estimate the temperatures at which maximum mass loss occurs for organic azides. Finally, equation (10.10) is a simple, reliable correlation for the prediction of the deflagration temperature of organic energetic compounds containing the  $-\text{NNO}_2$ ,  $-\text{ONO}_2$  or  $-\text{CNO}_2$  functional groups.



# 11 Relationships between different sensitivities

In previous chapters, different methods for the prediction of the impact, shock, electric spark, friction and heat sensitivities have been discussed. Among different sensitivity tests, the impact sensitivity test is extremely easy to implement. Since the results of the impact sensitivity test greatly depend on the conditions under which the tests are performed, the experimental data from impact sensitivity tests is not often reproducible. Hot spots in an energetic compound may contribute to initiation in the drop weight impact test. Due to the large number of impact sensitivity data which has been reported, some efforts have been undertaken to correlate the impact sensitivity of selected classes of energetic compounds to the other sensitivities [185, 242, 305–309]. Wu and Huang [310] used a complex micro-mechanics model to describe hot spot formation in the energetic crystal powders of the two well-known explosives HMX and PETN subjected to drop-weight impact. Many attempts have been undertaken to illustrate the mechanism of initiation an energetic material by impact stimulus, but this feature is not yet fully understood. In this chapter, several simple relationships between different sensitivities are demonstrated.

## 11.1 Relationship between impact sensitivity of energetic compounds and activation energies of thermal decomposition

It was indicated that initiation of the decomposition of an energetic compound containing  $-\text{NNO}_2$ ,  $-\text{ONO}_2$  and  $\text{R}-\text{NO}_2$  (or  $\text{Ar}-\text{NO}_2$ ) groups through impact and heat stimuli can be related as follows [185]:

$$E_{\text{IS}} = 18.07 - 0.1130E_{\text{a}} + 14.68(b/d) + 22.65E_{\text{IS}}^{++} - 11.30E_{\text{IS}}^{--}, \quad (11.1)$$

where  $E_{\text{a}}$  is the activation energy of low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis in  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ ;  $E_{\text{IS}}$  is the impact sensitivity in J; two correcting functions  $E_{\text{IS}}^{++}$  and  $E_{\text{IS}}^{--}$  show the increasing and decreasing contribution of nonadditive structural parameters, respectively. The presence of some molecular moieties can increase or decrease the impact sensitivity values of different classes of energetic compounds through  $E_{\text{IS}}^{++}$  and  $E_{\text{IS}}^{--}$ , which are described in the following sections.



### 11.1.1 Nitroaromatics

- (1)  $-\text{NH}_2$  group: If per aromatic ring, then the values of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{++}$  are 0.9, 3.2 and 4.8 for  $n_{\text{NH}_2} = 1, 2$  and 3 per aromatic ring, respectively.
- (2) One 2,4,6-trinitrophenyl (TNP) in form TNP-X: The values of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{++}$  equal 0.5, 1.0, 1.5 for  $X = -\text{NH}-\text{R}$  (or  $-\text{OH}$ ),  $-\text{R}$  and  $-\text{OR}$ , respectively.
- (3) Two aromatic rings in form Ar-X-Ar or Ar-Ar: The value of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{--}$  equals 0.5 for  $X = -\text{S}-$  and  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{R}-$  except for 2,2',4,4',6,6'-hexanitro-1,1'-biphenyl (HNB).
- (4) Polynitrobenzene containing more than one alkyl group: The value of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{--}$  is 1.0.
- (5) Polynitronaphthalene: The value of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{++}$  is 0.5.

### 11.1.2 Nitramines

- (1) Cyclic nitramines: For rings containing up to six ring atoms where , the value of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{++}$  is 0.5. For cyclic nitramines which have rings larger than six membered ring and in which

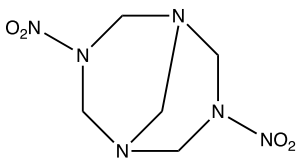
$$0.75 \leq \frac{n_{\text{NNO}_2}}{n_{\text{CH}_2}} < 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \frac{n_{\text{NNO}_2}}{n_{\text{CH}_2}} < 0.75,$$

the values of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{--}$  equal 1.0 and 2.0, respectively. The value of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{--}$  is equal to 0.5 for cyclic nitramines which are smaller than six membered rings and in which

$$\frac{n_{\text{NNO}_2}}{n_{\text{CH}_2}} \geq 1.$$

- (2) Acyclic nitramines: For acyclic nitramines in which the number of  $-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-$  groups  $> 1$  and  $\leq 1$ , the values of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{--}$  and  $E_{\text{IS}}^{++}$  equal 0.75 and 1.75, respectively. The value of  $E_{\text{IS}}^{--}$  equals 1.0 for the presence of the  $-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{CH}_2-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-$  molecular fragment.

**Example 11.1.** 1,5-Endomethylene-3,7-dinitro-1,3,5-tetraazacyclooctane (DPT) has the following molecular structure:



The measured  $E_a$  is 192.3 kJ/mol [276]. The use of equation (11.1) gives

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{IS}} &= 18.07 - 0.1130E_a + 14.68(b/d) + 22.65E_{\text{IS}}^{++} - 11.30E_{\text{IS}}^{--} \\ &= 18.07 - 0.1130(192.3) + 14.68(10/4) + 22.65(0.5) - 11.30(0) \\ &= 10.44 \text{ J.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $E_{\text{IS}}$  is 10.20 J [305].

## 11.2 Relationship between electric spark sensitivity and impact sensitivity of nitroaromatics

For nitroaromatics, it was shown that the electric spark and impact sensitivities can be correlated as

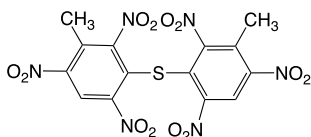
$$E_{ES} = 6.17 + 0.0797E_{IS} + 10.1E_{cor}^+ - 3.21E_{cor}^-, \quad (11.2)$$

where  $E_{ES}$  is the electric spark sensitivity in J;  $E_{cor}^+$  and  $E_{cor}^-$  are two correcting functions that have been used to adjust large deviations of  $E_{ES}$  and  $E_I$ , and which can be specified as follows.

$E_{cor}^+$ : The values of  $E_{cor}^+$  are 1.8, 0.5 and 0.9 for the presence of the -OR group, two -OH groups and the attachment of more than one nitroaromatic ring to another nitroaromatic ring, respectively.

$E_{cor}^-$ : The value of  $E_{cor}^-$  equals 1.0 for the attachment of only one  $CH_x-$  or  $Ar-$  to the aromatic ring in the case of CHNO nitroaromatics.

**Example 11.2.** If equations (6.11) and (6.12) are used to predict the impact sensitivity of 2-methyl-4-[(3-methyl-2,4,6-trinitrophenyl)thio]-1,3,5-trinitrobenzene (DIMEDIPS) with the following molecular structure



$E_{IS} = 26.05$  J is obtained. The use of this value in equation (11.2) gives

$$\begin{aligned} E_{ES} &= 6.17 + 0.0797E_{IS} + 10.1E_{cor}^+ - 3.21E_{cor}^- \\ &= 6.17 + 0.0797(26.05) + 10.1(0) - 3.21(0) \\ &= 8.25 \text{ J.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $E_{ES}$  is 8.57 J [11].

## 11.3 Relationship between electric spark sensitivity and activation energy of the thermal decomposition of nitramines

For various nitramines, it has been shown that the mechanism of spark energy transfer can be related to the activation energy of low-temperature nonautocatalyzed thermolysis as [308]:

$$E_{ES} = 9.826 - 0.047E_a + 7.432(a/d) + 7.680E_{ES,corr}^+, \quad (11.3)$$

where  $E_{ES,corr}^+$  is an increasing factor. The value of  $E_{ES,corr}^+$  equals 1.0 for the presence of the following molecular fragment or condition:

- (1) cyclic  $-O-$ ,  $>N-$  and  $-C(=O)-N-$ ;
- (2) acyclic  $-C(=O)-O-$ ;
- (3) acyclic nitramines with more than one  $N-NO_2$  functional group in which

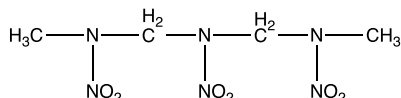
$$\frac{n_{NNO_2}}{n_{CH_2}} \geq 2;$$

- (4) for cyclic nitramines with more than one  $N-NO_2$  group in which

$$\frac{n_{NNO_2}}{n_{NCH_2CH_2N}} \leq 1,$$

where  $n_{NCH_2CH_2N}$  is the number of  $-NCH_2CH_2N-$  groups.

**Example 11.3.** The molecular structure of 2,4,6-trinitro-2,4,6-triazheptane (ORDX) is given as



If the measured  $E_a$  of ORDX is 179.2 kJ/mol [271], the use of equation (11.3) gives

$$\begin{aligned} E_{ES} &= 9.826 - 0.047E_a + 7.432(a/d) + 7.680E_{ES,corr}^+ \\ &= 9.826 - 0.047(179.2) + 7.432(4/6) + 7.680 \\ &= 6.36 \text{ J.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $E_{ES}$  is 8.08 J [247].

### 11.4 Correlation of the electrostatic sensitivity and activation energies for the thermal decomposition of nitroaromatics

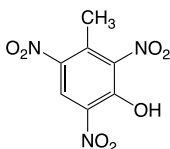
It was shown that the following equation can be introduced as a suitable correlation for predicting the relationship between the electric spark sensitivity and activation energy of low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis [306]:

$$E_{ES} = -9.72 + 0.034E_a + 7.41 \left( \frac{c+d}{a} \right) + 3.49E_{ES,Ar}^+ - 2.50E_{ES,Ar}^- \quad (11.4)$$

where the functions  $E_{ES,Ar}^+$  and  $E_{ES,Ar}^-$  show increasing and decreasing contribution of structural parameters, respectively, which depend on the attachment of some groups to TNP which increase and decrease the electrostatic sensitivity. They are defined as follows.

- (1) One TNP: For compounds with general structure  $\text{TNP}(\text{X})_2$  or  $\text{TNP}(\text{X})_3$ , where X is  $-\text{CH}_3$ ,  $-\text{NH}_2$  or  $-\text{OH}$ , the values of  $E_{\text{ES,Ar}}^+$  equal 1.75, 0.75 and 1.25, respectively. If  $-\text{Cl}$  is present, the value of  $E_{\text{ES,Ar}}^-$  equals 2.0.
- (2) Two TNP: For energetic compounds with general formula  $\text{TNP}-\text{Y}-\text{TNP}$ , where Y is  $-\text{SO}_2-$ ,  $-\text{HN}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\overset{\text{O}}{\parallel}{\text{C}}-\text{NH}-$  or TNP, the value of  $E_{\text{ES,Ar}}^+$  equals 1.40. If the  $-\text{NH}-$  or  $-\text{S}-$  groups are present, or if two TNP groups are directly attached together, the value of  $E_{\text{ES,Ar}}^-$  equals 1.25.

**Example 11.4.** 1-Methyl-3-hydroxy-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene (TNCr) has the following molecular structure:



The measured  $E_a$  is 192.46 kJ/mol [247]. The use of equation (11.4) gives

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{ES}} &= -9.72 + 0.034E_a + 7.41 \left( \frac{c+d}{a} \right) + 3.49E_{\text{ES,Ar}}^+ - 2.50E_{\text{ES,Ar}}^- \\ &= -9.72 + 0.034(192.46) + 7.41 \left( \frac{3+7}{7} \right) + 3.49(0) - 2.50(0) \\ &= 7.41 \text{ J.} \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $E_{\text{ES}}$  is 5.21 J [247].

## 11.5 Relationship between the activation energy of thermolysis and friction sensitivity of cyclic and acyclic nitramines

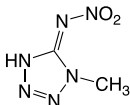
The elemental composition and some structural parameters can be used to correlate friction sensitivity with the activation energy of thermolysis for cyclic and acyclic nitramines as [307]

$$\begin{aligned} FS &= 212.0 + 32.67a - 10.21c - 14.50d - 85.07E_a/M_w \\ &\quad + 81.92FS^+ - 48.19FS^-, \end{aligned} \quad (11.5)$$

where functions  $FS^+$  and  $FS^-$  show the presence of some structural parameters that can increase and decrease the predicted friction sensitivity values on the basis of the elemental composition and  $E_a/M_w$ . For cyclic and cage nitramines as well as acyclic nitramines, the correcting functions  $FS^+$  and  $FS^-$  are defined as follows.

- (1) Cyclic and cage nitramines: If the ratio of the number of  $-\text{NNO}_2$  groups to the number of  $-\text{CH}_2-$  groups, i.e.  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}_2}$ , in cyclic nitramines equals 1.0, the value of  $FS^+$  is 0.8. The value of  $FS^-$  equals 0.7 for those compounds in which the ratios of  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}_2}$  in cyclic nitramines and  $n_{\text{NNO}_2}/n_{\text{CH}}$  in cage or unsaturated nitramines are less than 1.0, where  $n_{\text{CH}}$  is the number of  $>\text{CH}-$  or  $=\text{CH}-$  groups.
- (2) Acyclic nitramines:
- For compounds with general formula  $\text{TNP}-\text{N}(\text{NO}_2)-\text{R}$ ,  $FS^+ = 1.4$ .
  - For compounds containing the neutral tetrazole molecular moieties, the values of  $FS^-$  and  $FS^+$  are equal to 0.8 and 1.0 for the absence and presence of the  $\text{R}-\text{N}<$  group attached to the tetrazole ring, respectively.
  - For compounds with general formula  $-\text{RN}-(\text{CH}_2)_n-\text{NR}-$ ,  $FS^- = 1.4$ .

**Example 11.5.** 1-Methyl-5-nitriminotetrazole has the following molecular structure:



The calculated  $E_a$  is 189.16 kJ/mol [281]. The use of equation (11.5) gives

$$\begin{aligned}
 FS &= 212.0 + 32.67a - 10.21c - 14.50d - 85.07E_a/Mw \\
 &\quad + 81.92FS^+ - 48.19FS^- \\
 &= 212.0 + 32.67(2) - 10.21(6) - 14.50(2) - 85.07(189.16/144.09) \\
 &\quad + 81.92(1.0) - 48.19(0) \\
 &= 157.3 \text{ N.}
 \end{aligned}$$

The measured  $FS$  using the BAM friction tester is 160 N [255].

## Summary

The relationships between the impact, electric spark, friction sensitivities and activation energies of low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis were discussed in this chapter. Equation (11.1) correlates the impact sensitivity of an energetic compound containing  $-\text{NNO}_2$ ,  $-\text{ONO}_2$  or  $\text{R}-\text{NO}_2$  (or  $\text{Ar}-\text{NO}_2$ ) groups with its activation energy of low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis. Equation (11.2) gives another correlation between the electric spark sensitivity and impact sensitivity of nitroaromatics. Equations (11.3) and (11.4) introduce suitable relationships between the electric spark sensitivity and activation energy of low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis of nitramines and nitroaromatics, respectively. Finally, equation (11.5) relates the friction sensitivity of nitramines with the activation energies of low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis.

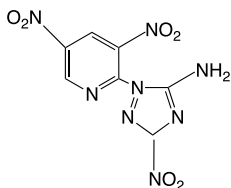
# Problems

(Hint: the necessary information for some problems are given in Appendix A)

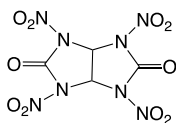
## Chapter 1

Use the following equations to calculate the crystal density of the specified energetic compounds:

(1) Equations (1.4) and (1.4a) to (1.4g):

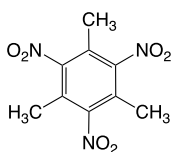


(2) Equations (1.5) and (1.5a) to (1.5e) or (1.6) or (1.7):

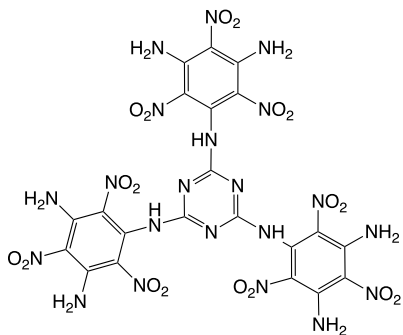


(3) Equation (1.8):  $C(NO_2)_3CH_2CO_2(CH_2)_3CO_2CH_2C(NO_2)_3$

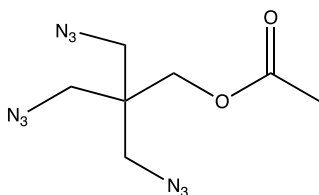
(4) Equation (1.9):



(5) Equation (1.10):



(6) Equation (1.11):



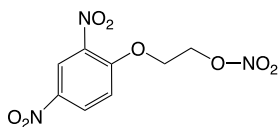
(7) Equations (1.12) and (1.13): Aminoguanidinium nitroformate

(8) Equation (1.14): 5-Azido-4-methyltetrazolium nitrate

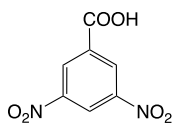
## Chapter 2

Use the following equations to calculate the condensed phase heat of formation for the specified energetic compounds:

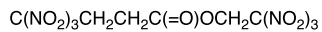
(1) Equation (2.1):



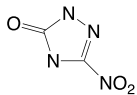
(2) Equation (2.2):



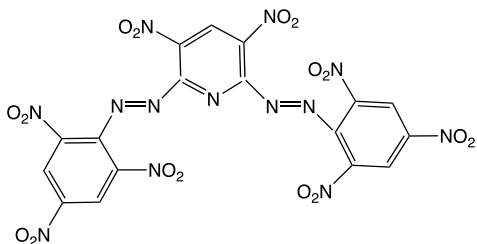
(3) Equation (2.5):



(4) Equation (2.6):

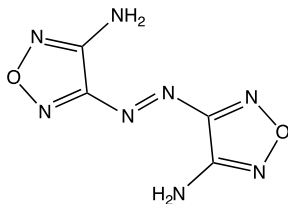


(5) Equation (2.7):



(6) Equation (2.8): 4-Nitrocinnamic acid

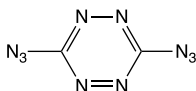
(7) Equation (2.9):



(8) Equations (2.10) and (2.11) with

$$(\Delta_f H^\theta(\text{g}))_{\text{B3LYP}} = 1077.4 \text{ kJ/mol} \quad \text{and} \quad (\Delta_f H^\theta(\text{g}))_{\text{PM6}} = 1039.5 \text{ kJ/mol},$$

respectively:

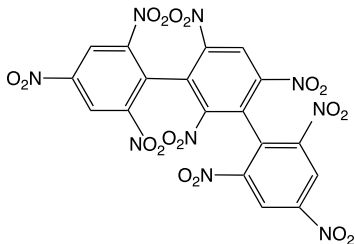




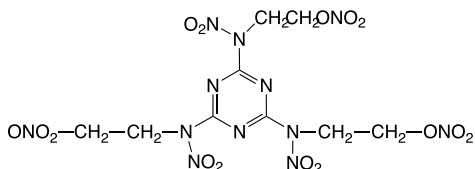
### Chapter 3

Use the following equations to calculate the melting point of the specified energetic compounds:

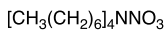
(1) Equation (3.2):



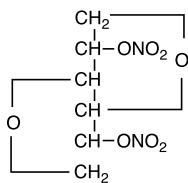
(2) Equation (3.3):



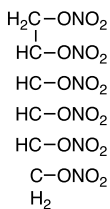
(3) Equation (3.4):



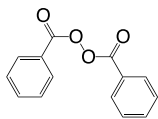
(4) Equation (3.5):



(5) Equations (3.6) to (3.8):

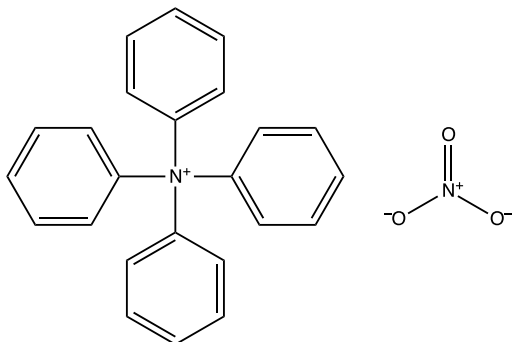


(6) Equations (3.9) to (3.11):



(7) Equation (3.12): 4-Chlorobenzoyl azide

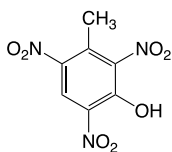
(8) Equations (3.13) to (3.15):



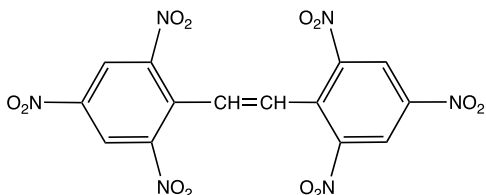
## Chapter 4

Use the following equations to calculate the enthalpy and entropy of fusion for the specified energetic compounds:

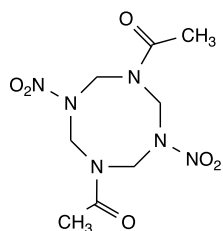
(1) Equation (4.1):



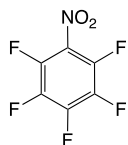
(2) Equation (4.2):



(3) Equation (4.3):

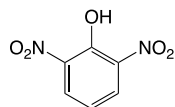


(4) Equation (4.4):



(5) Equations (4.5) and (4.6): 1,7-Diazido-2,4,6-trinitro-2,4,6-triazaheptane

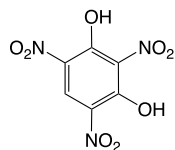
(6) Equations (4.10) and (4.11):



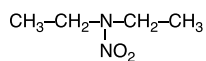
## Chapter 5

Use the following equations to calculate the heat of sublimation for the specified energetic compounds:

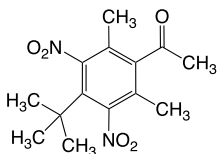
(1) Equation (5.1):



(2) Equation (5.3):



(3) Equation (5.4):



(4) Equation (5.5): N-(4-Nitrophenyl)-N-phenylamine

## Chapter 6

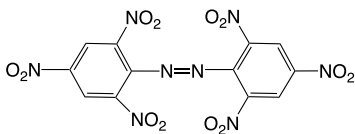
Use the following equations to calculate the impact sensitivity for the specified energetic compounds:

- (1) Equations (6.5) or (6.6): N-(2-propyl)-trinitroacetamide
- (2) Equations (6.7): Bis-(2,2-dinitropropyl)-carbonate
- (3) Equation (6.8): 1-Picrylimidazole
- (4) Equation (6.9): 5-Nitro-1-picryl-4-picrylaminopyrazole
- (5) Equation (6.10): N-Nitro-N-(3,3,3-trinitropropyl)-2,2,2-trinitroethyl carbamate
- (6) Equations (6.11) and (6.12): Trinitroethyl-bis-(trinitroethoxy)-acetate

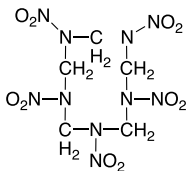
## Chapter 7

Use the following equations to calculate the electric spark sensitivity of the specified energetic compounds:

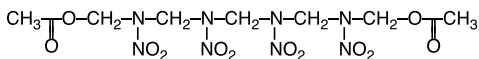
(1) Equations (7.2):



(2) Equations (7.3):



(3) Equation (7.4):



## Chapter 8

Use the following equations to calculate the electric spark sensitivity of the specified energetic compounds:

- (1) Equations (8.1) to (8.3): Octol-75/25
- (2) Equations (8.4), if the values of  $\rho_0$  and  $\rho_{\text{TM}}$  are 1.682 and 1.72 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, respectively: PBX-9205

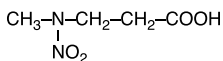
## Chapter 9

- (1) Use equation (9.1) to calculate the friction sensitivity of 1-(2-nitratoethylnitramino)-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene.

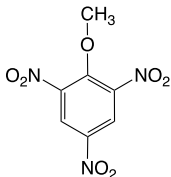
## Chapter 10

Use the following equations to calculate the activation energies of low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis, heat of decomposition, onset temperature and deflagration temperature for the specified energetic compounds:

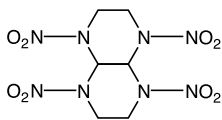
- (1) Equation (10.1): 1,1,1-Trinitrobutane
- (2) Equation (10.2):



- (3) Equation (10.3):



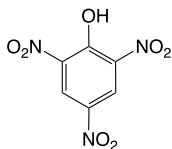
(4) Equation (10.4):



(5) Equation (10.5): 3,5-Dinitrobenzoic acid

(6) Equation (10.6): Tert-amyl peroxy-2-ethylhexyl carbonate

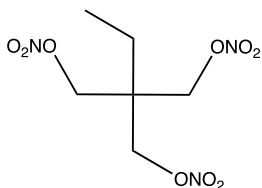
(7) Equation (10.7):



(8) Equation (10.8): Ethyl-3,3-di-(tert-amyl peroxy) butyrate

(9) Equation (10.9): 4-Azido-1-methyl-2-oxo-1,2-dihydroquinoline-3-carbaldehyde

(10) Equation (10.10):

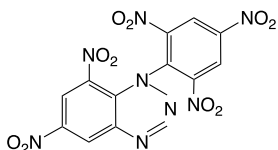


## Chapter 11

Use the following equations to calculate the relationships between the sensitivities of the specified energetic compounds:

(1) Equation (11.1) if  $E_a$  is 186.2 kJ/mol: 1,4-Dinitro-1,4-diazabutane (EDNA)

(2) Equation (11.2) if  $E_{IS} = 8.58$  J:



(3) Equation (11.3) if  $E_a$  is 178.8 kJ/mol: N,N-dimethyl-N,N-dinitroethanediamide

(4) Equation (11.4): 1,3-Dichloro-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene (DCTB)

(5) Equation (11.5) if  $E_a$  is 140 kJ/mol: 1,3,5-Trinitro-2-oxo-1,3,5-triazacyclohexane (keto-RDX)



# Answers to Problems

## Chapter 1

- (1) 1.736 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- (2) 2.028 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- (3) 1.669 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- (4) 1.467 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- (5) 1.996 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- (6) 1.29 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- (7) 1.755 and 1.754 g/cm<sup>3</sup>
- (8) 1.631 g/cm<sup>3</sup>

## Chapter 2

- (1) -77.6 kJ/mol
- (2) -440.2 kJ/mol
- (3) -463.2 kJ/mol
- (4) -135.1 kJ/mol
- (5) 664.7 kJ/mol
- (6) -398.5 kJ/mol
- (7) 527.0 kJ/mol
- (8) 1094.4 and 1095.2 kJ/mol

## Chapter 3

- (1) 688 K
- (2) 358.3 K
- (3) 355.2 K
- (4) 441.7 K
- (5) 387.1 K
- (6) 367 K
- (7) 337 K
- (8) 423.9 K



## Chapter 4

- (1) 26.87 kJ/mol
- (2) 39.06 kJ/mol
- (3) 28.19 kJ/mol
- (4) 17.00 kJ/mol
- (5) 47.86 kJ/mol
- (6)  $57.9 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

## Chapter 5

- (1) 114.49 kJ/mol
- (2) 61.77 kJ/mol
- (3) 115.5 kJ/mol
- (4) 125.6 kJ/mol
- (5) 47.86 kJ/mol
- (6)  $57.9 \text{ J K}^{-1} \text{ mol}^{-1}$

## Chapter 6

- (1) 95 cm
- (2) 72 cm
- (3) 284 cm
- (4) 9 cm
- (5) 9 cm
- (6) 9 cm

## Chapter 7

- (1) 7.54 J
- (2) 2.65 J
- (3) 14.51 J

## Chapter 8

- (1)  $P_{90\% \text{ TMD}} = 11.34 \text{ kbar}$ ,  $P_{95\% \text{ TMD}} = 16.54 \text{ kbar}$  and  $P_{98\% \text{ TMD}} = 22.13 \text{ kbar}$
- (2) 50.80 mm

## Chapter 9

- (1) 326.1 N

## Chapter 10

- (1) 185.41 kJ/mol  
(2) 175.48 kJ/mol  
(3) 113.12 kJ/mol  
(4) 215.44 kJ/mol  
(5) 671 kJ/mol  
(6) -975.6 J/g  
(7) 487.0 K  
(8) 411.1 K  
(9) 401.51 K  
(10) 499 K

## Chapter 11

- (1) 7.43 J  
(2) 6.85 J  
(3) 6.48 J  
(4) 2.51 J  
(5) 97.8 N



# List of symbols

- a* Number of carbon atoms
- a'* Number of carbon atoms divided by molecular weight of explosive
- $A_5^+$  Portion of the cation surface that has a positive electrostatic potential
- $A_5^-$  Portion of the anion surface that has a negative electrostatic potential
- AM1 Semi-empirical method
- ANN Artificial neural network
- b* Number of hydrogen atoms
- b'* Number of hydrogen atoms divided by molecular weight of explosive
- c* Number of nitrogen atoms
- c'* Number of nitrogen atoms divided by molecular weight of explosive
- C* Capacitance
- $C_{CH_2NNO_2 \geq 3, C(=O)(O \text{ or } NH)}$  Presence of methylenenitramine greater than, or equal to three in cyclic nitramines or the presence of COO or CONH functional groups in equation (7.3)
- CHEETAH Thermochemical computer code
- $C_{De}$  Contribution of specific polar groups attached to aromatic rings in equation (5.4)
- $C_{In}$  Presence of some molecular parameters in equation (5.4)
- $C_{PG}$  Positive contribution of structural fragments of crystal density in equation (1.9)
- $C_{NG}$  Negative contribution of structural parameter of crystal density in equation (1.9)
- $C_{-NO_2(-ONO_2)}$  Correcting function for the enthalpy of fusion in equation (4.3)
- $C_{R,OR}$  Presence of alkyl (–R) or alkoxy groups (–OR) in equation (7.2)
- $C_{SFG}$  Contribution of specific functional groups in equation (3.4)
- $C_{SG}$  Contribution of certain polar groups in equation (5.1)
- $C_{SPG}$  Contribution of specific polar groups attached to an aromatic ring in equation (4.1)
- $C_{SSP}$  Contribution of specific groups in equation (4.2)
- d* Number of oxygen atoms
- d'* Number of oxygen atoms divided by molecular weight of explosive
- d''* Number of oxygen or sulfur atoms in equations (4.1) and (4.4)
- DCF* Variable for decreasing the heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.11)
- DF* Variable for decreasing the heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.9)
- DFT Density functional theory
- DMP* Diminishing intermolecular interaction for decreasing crystal density in equation (1.10)
- DSC Differential scanning calorimetry
- DT* Deflagration temperature
- DTA Differential thermal analysis
- DSSP* Decreasing effects of melting point of some specific structural features in equation (3.3)
- DSSPH* Decreasing sensitivity structural parameter in equation (6.10)
- e* Number of fluorine atoms
- E* Variable for decreasing heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.2)
- $E_a$  Activation energy of low-temperature non-autocatalyzed thermolysis

- $E_{\text{cor}}^+$  Correcting function for increasing  $E_{\text{ES}}$  in equation (11.2)  
 $E_{\text{cor}}^-$  Correcting function for decreasing  $E_{\text{ES}}$  in equation (11.2)  
 $E_{\text{D}}$  Decreasing structural parameter of crystal density in equation (1.8)  
 $E_{\text{ES}}$  Electrostatic or electric spark sensitivity  
 $E_{\text{IS}}^{++}$  Correcting function for increasing  $E_{\text{IS}}$  in equation (11.1)  
 $E_{\text{IS}}^{--}$  Correcting function for decreasing  $E_{\text{IS}}$  in equation (11.1)  
 $E_{\text{ES,Ar}}^+$  Correcting function for increasing  $E_{\text{ES}}$  in equation (11.4)  
 $E_{\text{ES,Ar}}^-$  Correcting function for decreasing  $E_{\text{ES}}$  in equation (11.4)  
 $E_{\text{ES,corr}}^+$  Increasing electric spark sensitivity factor in equation (11.3)  
 $E_{\text{I}}$  Increasing structural parameter of crystal density in equation (1.8)  
 $E_{\text{IS}}$  Impact sensitivity in J  
 $E_{\text{IS}}^+$  Correcting function for increasing  $E_{\text{ES}}$  in equation (7.4)  
 $E_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  Contribution of nonadditive structural parameters for increasing  $E_{\text{a}}$  in equation (10.4)  
 $E_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  Contribution of nonadditive structural parameters for decreasing  $E_{\text{a}}$  in equation (10.4)  
 $E_{\alpha\text{CH}/\text{NNO}_2}^0$  A parameter that indicates the existence of  $\alpha\text{-CH}$  in nitroaromatic compounds or the N-NO<sub>2</sub> functional group  
EDPHT Computer code based on empirical correlations  
E-P-S Evans-Polanyi-Semenov  
ESZ KTTV An instrument for measuring electric spark sensitivity  
EXPLO5 Thermochemical computer code  
 $f$  Number of chlorine atoms  
 $F$  Variable for increasing the heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.2)  
 $F^+$  Existence of specific molecular moieties for increasing value of  $(\log H_{50})_{\text{core}}$   
 $F^-$  Existence of specific molecular moieties for decreasing value of  
 $F_{\text{attract}}$  Attractive intermolecular forces in equation (5.5)  
 $F_{\text{nonadd}}^+$  Contribution of nonadditive structural parameters for increasing the deflagration temperature of equation (10.10)  
 $F_{\text{nonadd}}^-$  Contribution of nonadditive structural parameters for decreasing the deflagration temperature of equation (10.10)  
 $F_{\text{reput}}$  Repulsive intermolecular forces in equation (5.5)  
 $FS$  Friction sensitivity  
 $FS^+$  Correcting function for increasing friction sensitivity in equation (11.5)  
 $FS^-$  Correcting function for decreasing friction sensitivity in equation (11.5)  
 $g$  Number of aluminum atoms  
 $G_{50}$  Barrier thickness required to inhibit detonation in the test explosive half the time for gap test  
GA Genetic algorithm  
GAV Group additivity values  
GIPF Generalized interaction property function  
 $H_{50}$  Impact drop height  
 $ICF$  Variable for increasing heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.10)  
 $IF$  Variable for increasing heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.9)  
 $IMP$  Increment of intermolecular interaction for increasing crystal density in equation (1.10)

- IPF* Inefficient packing factor in equation (3.12)
- ISPBKW Computer code for calculation of the specific impulse using BKW-EOS
- ISSP* Increasing effects of melting point of some specific structural features in equation (3.3)
- ISSPH* Increasing sensitivity structural parameter in equation (6.10)
- LANL Los Alamos National Laboratory
- M* Molecular mass of the molecule in g/molecule
- MD Molecular dynamics
- MLR Multilinear regression
- MM (MM2, MM3, ...) Molecular mechanics methods
- Mw* Molecular weight of the desired energetic compound
- Mw'* Molecular weight of the desired energetic compound under certain conditions in equations (5.4) and (5.5)
- $n_x$  The number of  $x$
- $n'_x$  Number of  $x$  divided by molecular weight of explosive
- $n'_{Ar}$  The number of aromatic rings under certain conditions for equation (2.2)
- $n_{NNO_2}^{>3,linear}$  Number of  $-NNO_2$  groups for those acyclic linear nitramines containing more than three nitramine groups in equation (4.3)
- NASA-CEC-71 Computer program for calculation of complex chemical equilibrium compositions
- NLR Nonlinear regression
- NSWC Naval Surface Warfare Center
- OB*<sub>100</sub> Oxygen balance
- $P_{FS}^+$  Correcting parameter for increasing friction sensitivity in equation (9.1)
- $P_{FS}^-$  Correcting parameter for decreasing friction sensitivity in equation (9.1)
- $P_x$  Presence of  $x$
- $P_{90\% TMD}$  Pressure in kbar required to initiate material pressed to 90 % of theoretical maximum density
- $P_{95\% TMD}$  Pressure in kbar required to initiate material pressed to 95 % of theoretical maximum density
- $P_{98\% TMD}$  Pressure in kbar required to initiate material pressed to 98 % of theoretical maximum density
- $P_{>5}$  Existence of cyclic nitramines that contain more than five member ring as well as cage nitramines
- PLS Partial least squares
- PM3, PM6, PM7, ... Semi-empirical methods
- $Q_{corr}$  The corrected heats of detonation on the basis of Kamlet's method
- QM Quantum mechanical method
- QSPR Quantitative Structure–Property Relationships
- RDAD An instrument for measuring electric spark sensitivity
- $V_m$  Volume inside the 0.001 a.u. isosurface of electron density surrounding the molecule
- SADT Self-accelerating decomposition temperature
- SPG* Contribution of specific polar groups of melting point in equation (3.12)
- SMM Soviet manometric method

- SSP Contribution of structural parameters in equation (3.12)
- SVM Support vector machine
- $T^+$  Increasing parameter of melting point in equation (3.5)
- $T^-$  Decreasing parameter of melting point in equation (3.5)
- $T_{\text{add}}$  Additive function of melting point of equation (3.6)
- $T_{\text{add,elem}}$  Contribution of the elemental composition as an additive part in equation (3.13)
- $T_{\text{core}}$  Core contribution of elemental composition for prediction of melting point in equation (3.9)
- $T_{\text{corr, struc}}$  Nonadditive part of the melting point in equation (3.13)
- $T_{\text{correcting}}$  Correcting function of melting point in equation (3.9)
- $T_{\text{dmax}}$  Temperature of maximum mass loss
- $T_{\text{dmax}}^+$  Correcting function for increasing  $T_{\text{dmax}}$  in equation (10.9)
- $T_{\text{dmax}}^-$  Correcting function for decreasing  $T_{\text{dmax}}$  in equation (10.9)
- $T_{\text{m}}$  Melting point
- $T_{\text{m,peroxide}}$  Melting point of peroxide compound
- $T_{\text{nonadd}}$  Non-additive function of melting point of equation (3.6)
- $T_{\text{o,p}}$  A parameter of equation (3.2) that can be applied in disubstituted benzene ring
- $T_{\text{onset}}$  Onset temperature
- $T_{\text{SFG}}$  Contribution of a specific functional group in equation (3.2)
- $T_{\text{struc}}^+$  Increasing structural parameters of melting point in equation (3.15)
- $T_{\text{struc}}^-$  Decreasing structural parameters of melting point in equation (3.15)
- $T_{\text{PC}}$  Increasing nonadditive parameter of melting point in equation (3.8)
- $T_{\text{NC}}$  Decreasing nonadditive parameter of melting point in equation (3.8)
- TGA Thermogravimetry
- TMD Theoretical maximum density
- $U$  Voltage
- $V_s$  Electrostatic potential on the surface
- $\bar{V}_s^+$  Average of the positive values of  $V_s$
- $\bar{V}_s^-$  Average of the negative values of  $V_s$
- $\text{Void}_{\text{theo}}$  Theoretical calculated percent void
- $(\log H_{50})_{\text{core}}$  Impact drop height on the basis of elemental composition in equation (6.12)
- $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}$  Heat of decomposition in kJ/mol
- $\Delta H'_{\text{decom}}$  Heat of decomposition in J/g
- $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^+$  Contribution of nonadditive structural parameters for increasing  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}$  in equation (10.5)
- $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}^-$  Contribution of nonadditive structural parameters for decreasing  $\Delta H_{\text{decom}}$  in equation (10.5)
- $\Delta H_{\text{inc, fus}}$  Contribution of structural parameter for increasing enthalpy of fusion in equation (4.4)
- $\Delta H_{\text{Dec, fus}}$  Contribution of structural parameter for decreasing enthalpy of fusion in equation (4.4)
- $(\Delta_{\text{fus}} H)_{\text{add}}$  Additive contribution of elemental composition in equation (4.5)
- $(\Delta_{\text{fus}} H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{inc}}$  Nonadditive contribution for increasing effects of specific groups in equation (4.5)
- $(\Delta_{\text{fus}} H)_{\text{nonadd}}^{\text{dec}}$  Nonadditive contribution for decreasing effects of specific groups in equation (4.5)
- $\Delta_f H(\text{g})$  Gas phase heat of formation

- $\Delta_f H(s)$  Solid phase heat of formation
- $\Delta_f H_{EC}^\theta$  Correcting function for increasing heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.7)
- $\Delta_f H_{DEC}^\theta$  Correcting function for decreasing heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.7)
- $\Delta_f H_{add,DHC}^\theta$  Correcting additive function for decreasing heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.8)
- $\Delta_f H_{nonadd,DHC}^\theta$  Correcting nonadditive function for decreasing heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.8)
- $\Delta_f H_{add,IHC}^\theta$  Correcting additive function for increasing heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.8)
- $\Delta_f H_{nonadd,IHC}^\theta$  Correcting nonadditive function for increasing heat content of an energetic compound in equation (2.8)
- $\Delta_f H^\theta(g)$  Standard heat of formation of a specific compound in the gas phase
- $[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{B3LYP/6-31G^*}$  Gas phase heat of formation in kJ/mol using the B3LYP/6-31G\* method
- $[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{PM3}$  Gas phase heat of formation in kJ/mol using the PM3 method
- $[\Delta_f H^\theta(g)]_{PM6}$  Gas phase heat of formation in kJ/mol using the PM6 method
- $\Delta_f H^\theta(c)$  Standard heat of formation of a specific compound in the condensed phase (solid or liquid)
- $\Delta_{fus}H$  Enthalpy or heat of fusion
- $\Delta_{sub}H$  Heat of sublimation
- $\Delta_{fus}S$  Entropy of fusion
- $\Delta_{fus}S_{add}$  Additive contribution of entropy of fusion in equation (4.10)
- $\Delta_{fus}S_{nonadd}$  Nonadditive contribution of entropy of fusion in equation (4.10)
- $\rho$  Crystal density in  $g/cm^3$
- $\rho'$  Uncorrected crystal density in  $g/cm^3$
- $\rho^+$  Increasing crystal density parameter in equation (1.13)
- $\rho^-$  Decreasing crystal density parameter in equation (1.13)
- $\rho_0$  Loading density
- $\rho_{azide}^+$  Increasing crystal density parameter of azide compounds in equation (1.11)
- $\rho_{azide}^-$  Decreasing crystal density parameter of azide compounds in equation (1.11)
- $\rho_{tetrazolium\ nitrate}^-$  Decreasing structural parameter in tetrazolium nitrate salts
- $\rho_{TM}$  Theoretical maximum density
- $\sigma$  Molecular rotational symmetry
- $\sigma_{tot}^2$  Total variance of the electrostatic potential on the 0.001 a.u. molecular surface
- $v$  Degree of balance between the positive and negative potentials on the molecular surface
- $\varepsilon$  Molecular eccentricity
- $\Phi$  Flexibility number
- $(C-N(NO_2)-C)_{pure}$  Contribution of C-N(NO<sub>2</sub>)-C linkage in pure nitramines
- $P_{FS}^+$  Correcting parameter of increasing friction sensitivity in equation (9.1)
- $P_{FS}^-$  Correcting parameter of decreasing friction sensitivity in equation (9.1)
- $|n_{TNB} - 2|$  Absolute value of the number of 1,3,5-trinitrobenzene minus two in equation (10.7)
- $\lambda'$  Positive and negative contributions of various structural parameters to obtain more reliable  $T_{onset}$  in equation (10.8)
- $\lambda_{sym}$  Peroxides containing the same fragments attached to the -O-O- bond in equation (10.8)





# A Glossary of compound names and heats of formation for pure as well as composite explosives

Abbreviation	Full name or composition	Chemical formula	$\Delta_f H^\ominus(c)$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
ABH	Azobis (2,2',4,4',6,6'-Hexanitrobiphenyl)	C <sub>24</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>14</sub> O <sub>24</sub>	485.34 [311]
Alex 20	44/32/20/4 RDX/TNT/Al/Wax	C <sub>1.783</sub> H <sub>2.469</sub> N <sub>1.613</sub> O <sub>2.039</sub> Al <sub>0.7335</sub>	-7.61
Alex 32	37/28/31/4 RDX/TNT/Al/Wax	C <sub>1.647</sub> H <sub>2.093</sub> N <sub>1.365</sub> O <sub>1.744</sub> Al <sub>1.142</sub>	-9.33
AMATEX-20	42/20/38 AN/RDX/TNT	C <sub>1.44</sub> H <sub>1.38</sub> N <sub>1.04</sub> O <sub>1.54</sub> (AN) <sub>0.53</sub>	-95.77
AMATEX-40	21/41/38 AN/RDX/TNT	C <sub>1.73</sub> H <sub>1.95</sub> N <sub>1.61</sub> O <sub>2.11</sub> (AN) <sub>0.26</sub>	-197.49
AMATOL80/20	80/20 AN/TNT	C <sub>0.62</sub> H <sub>0.44</sub> N <sub>0.26</sub> O <sub>0.53</sub> (AN) <sub>1</sub>	-371.25
AN	Ammonium nitrate	NH <sub>4</sub> NO <sub>3</sub> or H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	-365.14 [251]
AN/Al (90/10)	-	Al <sub>0.37</sub> (AN) <sub>1.125</sub> or H <sub>4.5</sub> N <sub>2.25</sub> O <sub>3.37</sub> Al <sub>0.37</sub>	-412.42
AN/Al (80/20)	-	Al <sub>0.74</sub> (AN) <sub>1</sub> or H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> Al <sub>0.74</sub>	-368.32
AN/Al (70/30)	-	Al <sub>1.11</sub> (AN) <sub>0.875</sub> or H <sub>3.5</sub> N <sub>1.75</sub> O <sub>2.62</sub> Al <sub>1.11</sub>	-324.55
BTf	Benzotris(1,2,5-oxadiazole-1-oxide)	C <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	602.50 [311]
COMP A-3	91/9 RDX/WAX	C <sub>1.87</sub> H <sub>3.74</sub> N <sub>2.46</sub> O <sub>2.46</sub>	11.88 [311]
COMP B	63/36/1 RDX/TNT/wax	C <sub>2.03</sub> H <sub>2.64</sub> N <sub>2.18</sub> O <sub>2.67</sub>	5.36 [251]
COMP C-3	77/4/10/5/1/3 RDX/TNT/DNT/MNT/NC/Tetryl	C <sub>1.90</sub> H <sub>2.83</sub> N <sub>2.34</sub> O <sub>2.60</sub>	-26.99 [311]
COMP C-4	91/5.3/2.1/1.6 RDX/TNT/MNT/NC	C <sub>1.82</sub> H <sub>3.54</sub> N <sub>2.46</sub> O <sub>2.51</sub>	13.93 [311]
Cyclotol-50/50	50/50 RDX/TNT	C <sub>2.22</sub> H <sub>2.42</sub> N <sub>2.01</sub> O <sub>2.67</sub>	0.04
Cyclotol-60/40 (or COMP B-3)	60/40 RDX/TNT	C <sub>2.04</sub> H <sub>2.50</sub> N <sub>2.15</sub> O <sub>2.68</sub>	4.81 [251]
Cyclotol-65/35	65/35 RDX/TNT	C <sub>1.96</sub> H <sub>2.53</sub> N <sub>2.22</sub> O <sub>2.68</sub>	8.33
Cyclotol-70/30	70/30 RDX/TNT	C <sub>1.87</sub> H <sub>2.56</sub> N <sub>2.29</sub> O <sub>2.68</sub>	11.13
Cyclotol-75/25	75/25 RDX/TNT	C <sub>1.78</sub> H <sub>2.58</sub> N <sub>2.36</sub> O <sub>2.69</sub>	13.4 [251]
Cyclotol-77/23	77/23 RDX/TNT	C <sub>1.75</sub> H <sub>2.59</sub> N <sub>2.38</sub> O <sub>2.69</sub>	14.98
Cyclotol-78/22	78/22 RDX/TNT	C <sub>1.73</sub> H <sub>2.59</sub> N <sub>2.40</sub> O <sub>2.69</sub>	15.52
DATB	1,3-Diamino-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-98.74 [311]
Destex	74.766/18.691/4.672/1.869 TNT/Al/Wax/Graphite	C <sub>2.791</sub> H <sub>2.3121</sub> N <sub>0.987</sub> O <sub>1.975</sub> Al <sub>0.6930</sub>	-34.39
DIPAM (Dipicramide)	2,2',4,4',6,6'-Hexanitro-[1,1-biphenyl]-3,3'-diamine	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>12</sub>	-14.90 [312]
DIPAM (Dipicramide)	2,2',4,4',6,6'-Hexanitro-[1,1-biphenyl]-3,3'-diamine	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>12</sub>	-28.45 [311]
EXP D	Ammonium picrate or Explosive D	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>7</sub>	-393.30 [311]
EDC-11	64/4/30/1/1 HMX/RDX/TNT/Wax/Trylene	C <sub>1.986</sub> H <sub>2.78</sub> N <sub>2.23</sub> O <sub>2.63</sub>	4.52
EDC-24	95/5 HMX/Wax	C <sub>1.64</sub> H <sub>3.29</sub> N <sub>2.57</sub> O <sub>2.57</sub>	18.28

Abbreviation	Full name or composition	Chemical formula	$\Delta_f H_f^\circ$ (C) (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
HBX-3	31/29/35/5/0.5 RDX/TNT/AL/WAX/CaCl <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>1,66</sub> H <sub>2,18</sub> N <sub>1,21</sub> O <sub>1,60</sub> Al <sub>1,29</sub> Ca <sub>0,005</sub> Cl <sub>0,009</sub>	-8.71 [313]
HMX	Cyclotetramethylenetetranitramine	C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	74.98 [311]
HMX/Al (80/20)	—	C <sub>1,08</sub> H <sub>2,16</sub> N <sub>2,16</sub> O <sub>2,16</sub> Al <sub>0,715</sub>	20.21
HMX/Al (70/30)	—	C <sub>0,944</sub> H <sub>1,888</sub> N <sub>1,888</sub> O <sub>1,888</sub> Al <sub>1,11</sub>	17.66
HMX/Al (60/40)	—	C <sub>0,812</sub> H <sub>1,624</sub> N <sub>1,624</sub> O <sub>1,624</sub> Al <sub>1,483</sub>	15.19
HMX/Exon (90.54/9.46)	—	C <sub>1,43</sub> H <sub>2,61</sub> N <sub>2,47</sub> O <sub>2,47</sub> F <sub>0,15</sub> Cl <sub>0,10</sub>	-1026.80
HNAB	2,2',4,4',6,6'-Hexanitroazobenzene	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>12</sub>	284.09 [311]
Liquid TNT	—	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-53.26
LX-04	85/15 HMX/Viton	C <sub>5,485</sub> H <sub>9,2229</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>8</sub> F <sub>1,747</sub>	-89.96 [251]
LX-07	90/10 HMX/Viton	C <sub>1,48</sub> H <sub>2,62</sub> N <sub>2,43</sub> O <sub>2,43</sub> F <sub>0,35</sub>	-51.46 [251]
LX-09	93/4.6/2.4 HMX/DNPA/FEFO	C <sub>1,43</sub> H <sub>2,74</sub> N <sub>2,59</sub> O <sub>2,72</sub> F <sub>0,02</sub>	8.38 [251]
LX-10	95/5 HMX/Viton	C <sub>1,42</sub> H <sub>2,66</sub> N <sub>2,57</sub> O <sub>2,57</sub> F <sub>0,17</sub>	-13.14 [251]
LX-11	80/20 HMX/Viton	C <sub>1,61</sub> H <sub>2,53</sub> N <sub>2,16</sub> O <sub>2,16</sub> F <sub>0,70</sub>	-128.57 [251]
LX-14	95.5/4.5 HMX/Estane 5702-F1	C <sub>1,52</sub> H <sub>2,92</sub> N <sub>2,59</sub> O <sub>2,66</sub>	6.28 [311]
LX-15	95/5 HNS-1/Kel-F 800	C <sub>3,05</sub> H <sub>1,29</sub> N <sub>1,27</sub> O <sub>2,53</sub> Cl <sub>0,04</sub> F <sub>0,3</sub>	-18.16 [251]
LX-17	92.5/7.5 TATB/Kel-F 800	C <sub>2,29</sub> H <sub>2,18</sub> N <sub>2,15</sub> O <sub>2,15</sub> Cl <sub>0,054</sub> F <sub>0,2</sub>	-100.58 [251]
MEN-II	72.2/23.4/4.4 Nitromethane/Methanol/Ethylene diamine	C <sub>2,06</sub> H <sub>7,06</sub> N <sub>1,33</sub> O <sub>3,10</sub>	-310.87 [251]
MINOL-2	40/40/20 AN/TNT/Al	C <sub>1,23</sub> H <sub>0,88</sub> N <sub>0,53</sub> O <sub>1,06</sub> Al <sub>0,74</sub> (AN) <sub>0,5</sub>	-194.26 [251]
NM	Nitromethane	C <sub>1</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>1</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	-112.97 [311]
NONA	2,2',2'',4,4',4'',6,6',6''-Nonanitro-m-terphenyl	C <sub>18</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>9</sub> O <sub>18</sub>	114.64 [311]
NQ	Nitroguanidine	CH <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	-92.47 [251]
NM/UP (60/40)	60/40 Nitromethane/UP; UP = 90/10 CO(NH <sub>2</sub> ) <sub>2</sub> HClO <sub>4</sub> /H <sub>2</sub> O	C <sub>1,207</sub> H <sub>4,5135</sub> N <sub>1,432</sub> O <sub>3,309</sub> Cl <sub>0,2341</sub>	11.51
Octol-76/23	76.3/23.7 HMX/TNT	C <sub>1,76</sub> H <sub>2,58</sub> N <sub>2,37</sub> O <sub>2,69</sub>	12.76
Octol-75/25	75/25 HMX/TNT	C <sub>1,78</sub> H <sub>2,58</sub> N <sub>2,36</sub> O <sub>2,69</sub>	11.63 [251]
Octol-60/40	60/40 HMX/TNT	C <sub>2,04</sub> H <sub>2,50</sub> N <sub>2,15</sub> O <sub>2,68</sub>	4.14
PBX-9007	90/9.1/0.5/0.4 RDX/Polystyrene/DOP/Resin	C <sub>1,97</sub> H <sub>3,22</sub> N <sub>2,43</sub> O <sub>2,44</sub>	29.83 [311]
PBX-9010	90/10 RDX/Kel-F	C <sub>1,39</sub> H <sub>2,43</sub> N <sub>2,43</sub> O <sub>2,43</sub> Cl <sub>0,09</sub> F <sub>0,26</sub>	-32.93 [251]
PBX-9011	90/10 HMX/Estane	C <sub>1,73</sub> H <sub>3,18</sub> N <sub>2,45</sub> O <sub>2,61</sub>	-16.95 [311]
PBX-9205	92/6/2 RDX/Polystyrene/DOP	C <sub>1,83</sub> H <sub>3,14</sub> N <sub>2,49</sub> O <sub>2,51</sub>	24.31 [311]
PBX-9407	94/6 RDX/Exon 461	C <sub>1,41</sub> H <sub>2,66</sub> N <sub>2,54</sub> O <sub>2,54</sub> Cl <sub>0,07</sub> F <sub>0,09</sub>	3.39 [251]

Abbreviation	Full name or composition	Chemical formula	$\Delta_f H^\theta$ (C) (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
PBX-9501	95/2.5/2.5 HMX/Estane/BDNPA-F	C <sub>1.47</sub> H <sub>2.86</sub> N <sub>2.60</sub> O <sub>2.69</sub>	9.62 [311]
PBX-9502	95/5 TATB/Kel-F 800	C <sub>2.3</sub> H <sub>2.23</sub> N <sub>2.21</sub> O <sub>2.21</sub> Cl <sub>0.04</sub> F <sub>0.13</sub>	-87.15 [251]
PBX-9503	15/80/5 HMX/TATB/KEL-F 800	C <sub>2.16</sub> H <sub>2.28</sub> N <sub>2.26</sub> O <sub>2.26</sub> Cl <sub>0.038</sub>	-74.01 [251]
PBXC-9	75/20/5 HMX/Al/Viton	C <sub>1.15</sub> H <sub>2.14</sub> N <sub>2.03</sub> O <sub>2.03</sub> F <sub>0.17</sub> Al <sub>0.74</sub>	113.01
PBXC-116	86/14 RDX/Binder	C <sub>1.968</sub> H <sub>3.7463</sub> N <sub>2.356</sub> O <sub>2.4744</sub>	4.52
PBXC-117	71/17/12 RDX/Al/Binder	C <sub>1.65</sub> H <sub>3.1378</sub> N <sub>1.946</sub> O <sub>2.048</sub> Al <sub>0.6303</sub>	-65.56
PBXC-119	82/18 HMX/Binder	C <sub>1.817</sub> H <sub>4.1073</sub> N <sub>2.2149</sub> O <sub>2.6880</sub>	18.28
Pentolite-50/50	50/50 TNT/PETN	C <sub>2.33</sub> H <sub>2.37</sub> N <sub>1.29</sub> O <sub>3.22</sub>	-100.01
PETN	Pentaerythritol tetranitrate	C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>12</sub>	-538.48 [251]
PF	1-Fluoro-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub> F	-224.72
RDX	Cyclomethylenetrinitramine	C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	61.55 [251]
RDX/Al (90/10)	—	C <sub>1.215</sub> H <sub>2.43</sub> N <sub>2.43</sub> O <sub>2.43</sub> Al <sub>0.371</sub>	24.89
RDX/Al (80/20)	—	C <sub>1.081</sub> H <sub>2.161</sub> N <sub>2.161</sub> O <sub>2.161</sub> Al <sub>0.715</sub>	22.13
RDX/Al (70/30)	—	C <sub>0.945</sub> H <sub>1.89</sub> N <sub>1.89</sub> O <sub>1.89</sub> Al <sub>1.11</sub>	19.37
RDX/Al (60/40)	—	C <sub>0.81</sub> H <sub>1.62</sub> N <sub>1.62</sub> O <sub>1.62</sub> Al <sub>1.483</sub>	16.61
RDX/Al (50/50)	—	C <sub>0.675</sub> H <sub>1.35</sub> N <sub>1.35</sub> O <sub>1.35</sub> Al <sub>1.853</sub>	13.85
RDX/TFNA (65/35)	—	C <sub>1.54</sub> H <sub>2.64</sub> N <sub>2.2</sub> O <sub>2.49</sub> F <sub>0.44</sub>	-823.83
RDX/Exon (90.1/9.9)	—	C <sub>1.44</sub> H <sub>2.6</sub> N <sub>2.44</sub> O <sub>2.44</sub> F <sub>0.17</sub> Cl <sub>0.11</sub>	-195.48
TATB	1,3,5-Triamino-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene	C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-154.18 [251]
TATB/HMX/Kel-F (45/45/10)	—	C <sub>1.88</sub> H <sub>2.37</sub> N <sub>2.26</sub> O <sub>2.26</sub> F <sub>0.28</sub> Cl <sub>0.06</sub>	-478
Tetryl	N-Methyl-N-nitro-2,4,6-trinitroaniline	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>8</sub>	19.54 [251]
TFENA	2,2,2-Trifluoroethylnitramine	C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> F <sub>3</sub>	-694.54
TFET	2,4,6-Trinitrophenyl-2,2,2-trifluoroethylnitramine	C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>8</sub> F <sub>3</sub>	-576.8
TNT	2,4,6-Trinitrotoluene	C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	-67.07 [31]
TNTAB	Trinitrotriazidobenzene	C <sub>6</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	1129.68 [311]
TNT/Al (89.4/10.6)	—	C <sub>2.756</sub> H <sub>1.969</sub> N <sub>1.181</sub> O <sub>2.362</sub> Al <sub>0.393</sub>	-24.73
TNT/Al (78.3/21.7)	—	C <sub>2.414</sub> H <sub>1.724</sub> N <sub>1.034</sub> O <sub>2.069</sub> Al <sub>0.804</sub>	-21.63
Toluene/Nitromethane(14.5/85.5)	—	C <sub>2.503</sub> H <sub>5.461</sub> N <sub>1.4006</sub> O <sub>2.8013</sub>	-160.71
TorpeX	42/40/18 RDX/TNT/Al	C <sub>1.8</sub> H <sub>2.015</sub> N <sub>1.663</sub> O <sub>2.191</sub> Al <sub>0.6674</sub>	-0.17
Tritonal	80/20 TNT/Al	C <sub>2.465</sub> H <sub>1.76</sub> N <sub>1.06</sub> O <sub>2.11</sub> Al <sub>0.741</sub>	-23.64



## B Calculation of the gas phase standard enthalpies of formation

The gas phase standard enthalpies of formation at 298 K, for  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$  species, can be obtained by correcting the standard enthalpies of formation at 0 K (equation (B.1)) [162, 314].

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_f H^\theta(\text{g})(C_aH_bN_cO_d, 298 \text{ K}) &= \Delta_f H^\theta(\text{g})(C_aH_bN_cO_d, 0 \text{ K}) \\ &+ [H^\theta(C_aH_bN_cO_d, 298 \text{ K}) - H^\theta(C_aH_bN_cO_d, 0 \text{ K})] \\ &- a \cdot [H^\theta(\text{C}, 298 \text{ K}) - H^\theta(\text{C}, 0 \text{ K})]_{\text{St}} \\ &- b \cdot [H^\theta(\text{H}, 298 \text{ K}) - H^\theta(\text{H}, 0 \text{ K})]_{\text{St}} \\ &- c \cdot [H^\theta(\text{N}, 298 \text{ K}) - H^\theta(\text{N}, 0 \text{ K})]_{\text{St}} \\ &- d \cdot [H^\theta(\text{O}, 298 \text{ K}) - H^\theta(\text{O}, 0 \text{ K})]_{\text{St}}, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.1})$$

whereby the terms in the square brackets are the heat capacity corrections and indicate the enthalpy changes due to raising the temperature from 0 K to 298 K. The  $[H^\theta(298 \text{ K}) - H^\theta(0 \text{ K})]$  corrections for  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$  molecules can be extracted from the output of Gaussian program package [315] and were taken from CRC Handbook [316] for the standard states of elements.

The standard enthalpies of formation at 0 K were calculated by subtracting the calculated values of the atomization energies of  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$  compounds from the experimental enthalpies of formation of the isolated atoms (equation (B.2)) [162, 314].

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_f H^\theta(C_aH_bN_cO_d, 0 \text{ K}) &= a \cdot \Delta_f H^\theta(\text{C}, 0 \text{ K}) \\ &+ b \cdot \Delta_f H^\theta(\text{H}, 0 \text{ K}) \\ &+ c \cdot \Delta_f H^\theta(\text{N}, 0 \text{ K}) \\ &+ d \cdot \Delta_f H^\theta(\text{O}, 0 \text{ K}) \\ &- \Delta_a H^\theta(C_aH_bN_cO_d, 0 \text{ K}). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.2})$$

The  $\Delta_f H^\theta(\text{atom}, 0 \text{ K})$  values, i.e. the atomic enthalpies of formation of the elements in their standard states at 0 K, were obtained from standard thermodynamic tables [317, 318]. The  $\Delta_a H^\theta(C_aH_bN_cO_d, 0 \text{ K})$  values, i.e. the atomization (dissociation) energies of  $C_aH_bN_cO_d$  compounds, were obtained by subtracting the quantum mechanical energy of the molecule (electronic energy + zero-point energy) from the quantum mechanical energies (electronic energies) of the atoms (equation (B.3)) [162, 314]:

$$\begin{aligned} \Delta_a H^\theta(C_aH_bN_cO_d, 0 \text{ K}) &= a \cdot E_e(\text{C}) + b \cdot E_e(\text{H}) + c \cdot E_e(\text{N}) + d \cdot E_e(\text{O}) \\ &- E_0(C_aH_bN_cO_d). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{B.3})$$

The  $E_e(\text{atom})$  and  $E_0(C_aH_bN_cO_d)$  values were extracted from the output of Gaussian program package [315].

Tab. B.1: The B3LYP/6-31G\* calculated total energies and formation enthalpies (at 0 K) for 100 energetic materials with high nitrogen contents.

Formula	Name	$E_e$ (Hartrees) <sup>a</sup>	$E_0$ (Hartrees) <sup>b</sup>	$H_{298}^\theta - H_0^\theta$ (kJ/mol) <sup>c</sup>	$\Delta_f H^\theta$ (g) (0 K) (kJ/mol) <sup>d</sup>
CHN <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Nitro-1H-tetrazole	-462.73092	-462.68250	20.3	381.2
CHN <sub>7</sub>	5-Azido-1H-tetrazole	-421.83034	-421.78146	20.9	694.1
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	Cyanamide	-148.78006	-148.74651	13.6	166.1
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	1H-Tetrazole	-258.25090	-258.20483	14.0	347.6
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O	1H-Tetrazol-5-ol	-333.47117	-333.42062	16.8	187.1
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Nitroguanilazide	-518.07074	-518.00826	27.4	435.0
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Nitroaminotetrazole	-518.08423	-518.01890	24.1	407.1
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Nitriminotetrazole	-518.08498	-518.01950	23.7	405.5
CH <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	1H-Tetrazol-5-amine	-313.60883	-313.54613	18.5	360.7
CH <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	1H-Tetrazol-1-amine	-313.57178	-313.50903	18.3	458.1
CH <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1-Nitroguanidine	-409.83771	-409.76022	23.9	134.9
CH <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	1H-Tetrazol-1,5-diamine	-368.93317	-368.85361	22.5	462.5
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	Guanidine	-205.36258	-205.28765	18.0	88.0
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	N-Nitro-N'-aminoguanidine	-465.15588	-465.06137	27.8	253.4
C <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	5,6-(3,4-Furazano)-1,2,3,4-tetrazine-1,3-dioxide	-630.05517	-630.00396	24.0	726.6
C <sub>2</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	3,6-Diazido-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	-623.50507	-623.44884	29.7	1110.1
C <sub>2</sub> HN <sub>5</sub>	1H-Tetrazole-5-carbonitrile	-350.48131	-350.43683	18.2	521.9
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-Azido-1H-1,2,4-triazole	-405.83770	-405.77581	21.6	541.1
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	1H,1'H-5,5'-Bitetrazole	-515.31771	-515.24441	24.2	695.6
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	1H-1,2,3-Triazole	-242.22232	-242.16432	14.9	286.1
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	1H-1,2,4-Triazole	-242.24927	-242.19042	14.9	217.6
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Amino-3-nitro-1H-1,2,4-triazole	-502.09665	-502.01906	26.0	238.8
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Nitro-1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-amine	-502.09856	-502.02088	25.7	234.0
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	N-Nitro-1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-amine	-502.08080	-502.00273	25.2	281.7
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>7</sub>	3-Azido-4H-1,2,4-triazol-4-amine	-461.14442	-461.06652	26.3	687.0
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>9</sub>	di(1H-Tetrazol-5-yl)amine	-570.66899	-570.57935	28.5	725.3

Tab. B.1: (continued)

Formula	Name	$E_e$ (Hartrees) <sup>a</sup>	$E_0$ (Hartrees) <sup>b</sup>	$H_{298}^\theta - H_0^\theta$ (kJ/mol) <sup>c</sup>	$\Delta_f H^\theta$ (g) (0 K) (kJ/mol) <sup>d</sup>
$C_2H_4N_4$	1H-1,2,4-Triazole-3-amine	-297.60778	-297.53239	19.2	228.9
$C_2H_4N_4$	4H-1,2,4-Triazol-4-amine	-297.55301	-297.47836	19.2	370.7
$C_2H_4N_4$	1-Methyl-1H-tetrazole	-297.56746	-297.49387	20.0	330.0
$C_2H_4N_4$	5-Methyl-1H-tetrazole	-297.57591	-297.50238	19.8	307.7
$C_2H_4N_4$	2-Methyl-2H-tetrazole	-297.57441	-297.50014	19.5	313.6
$C_2H_4N_4$	Dicyandiamide	-297.59010	-297.51710	22.3	269.0
$C_2H_4N_4O$	5-Methoxy-1H-tetrazole	-372.77902	-372.70045	22.4	193.7
$C_2H_4N_4O$	3,4-Diaminofurazan	-372.75583	-372.67773	23.4	253.3
$C_3H_4N_6$	1,2,4,5-tetrazine-3,6-diamine	-407.05804	-406.97417	24.4	453.8
$C_2H_4N_6O_2$	3,6-Diamino-1,2,4,5-tetrazine 1,4-dioxide	-557.40466	-557.31215	29.1	378.5
$C_2H_4N_6O_2$	1-Methyl-5-nitriminotetrazole	-557.40420	-557.31112	29.6	381.2
$C_2H_4N_6O_2$	2-Methyl-5-nitraminotetrazole	-557.40175	-557.30855	30.1	387.9
$C_2H_4N_8O_2$	1,3-Diazido-2-nitro-2-azapropene	-666.81480	-666.71334	37.1	709.9
$C_2H_4N_{10}$	5,5'-Hydrazotetrazole	-625.97430	-625.86810	32.7	876.4
$C_3H_5N_5$	1-Methyl-1H-tetrazol-5-amine	-352.92560	-352.83517	24.1	343.1
$C_2H_5N_5$	2-Methyl-1H-tetrazol-5-amine	-352.93288	-352.84193	23.8	325.3
$C_2H_5N_5$	2-Methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-amine	-352.93288	-352.84193	23.8	325.3
$C_2H_5N_5$	5-Methylamino-1H-tetrazole	-352.91787	-352.82735	23.9	363.6
$C_2H_5N_7$	5-Guanylaminotetrazole	-462.44641	-462.34413	27.7	391.6
$C_2H_6N_8$	3,6-Dihydrazino-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	-517.66931	-517.55236	33.7	754.1
$C_3N_{12}$	2,4,6-Triazido-1,3,5-triazine	-771.15932	-771.08616	37.1	1129.5
$C_3HN_{11}O_2$	6-Nitroamino-2,4-diazido[1,3,5]triazine	-867.39800	-867.30913	41.4	880.4
$C_3H_2N_6$	Tetrazolo[1,5-b][1,2,4]triazine	-443.91956	-443.85135	20.2	650.5
$C_3H_2N_6O_2$	2-(5-Nitro-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)acetoneitrile	-594.26953	-594.19472	29.7	561.1
$C_3H_3N_5$	2-Methyl-2H-tetrazole-5-carbonitrile	-389.80767	-389.73514	23.9	480.0
$C_3H_3N_9O_2$	5-((5-Nitro-2H-tetrazol-2-yl)methyl)-1H-tetrazole	-759.10801	-759.00420	35.8	729.7



Tab. B.1: (continued)

Formula	Name	$E_e$ (Hartrees) <sup>a</sup>	$E_0$ (Hartrees) <sup>b</sup>	$H_{298}^{\theta} - H_0^{\theta}$ (kJ/mol) <sup>c</sup>	$\Delta_f H^{\theta}$ (g) (0 K) (kJ/mol) <sup>d</sup>
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	5,8-Dihydrotriazolo[1,5-b][1,2,4]triazine	-445.10641	-445.01526	24.2	653.7
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-Azido-5-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazole	-445.16235	-445.07337	28.1	501.1
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	4-Nitro-5,6-dihydro-4H-imidazo[1,2-d]tetrazole	-595.48066	-595.38046	29.3	506.9
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	5,8-Dinitro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrotriazolo[1,5-b][1,2,4]triazine	-855.27837	-855.16010	39.2	656.8
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1-Nitroguanyl-3-nitro-5-amino-1,2,4-triazole	-855.37877	-855.26092	42.5	392.1
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O	5-Acetamidotetrazole	-466.26538	-466.16560	28.9	189.3
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O	4,6-Diamino-1,3,5-triazin-2(1H)-one	-466.35186	-466.24972	28.5	-31.5
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>7</sub>	3-Azido-5-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazol-4-amine	-500.46950	-500.36435	32.5	646.3
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	1,5-Dimethyl-1H-tetrazole	-336.89210	-336.79098	25.4	291.2
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	2,5-Dimethyl-2H-tetrazole	-336.89818	-336.79677	25.6	276.1
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	1,3,5-Triazine-2,4,6-triamine	-446.49172	-446.37702	29.5	137.4
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	5,6,7,8-Tetrahydrotriazolo[1,5-b][1,2,4]triazine	-446.33547	-446.22037	26.5	548.7
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1,6-Dimethyl-5-nitraminotetrazole	-596.71121	-596.59053	35.2	388.9
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	1-(2-Azidoethyl)-1H-tetrazol-5-amine	-555.81867	-555.69632	35.5	683.9
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1,5-Diazido-2,4-dinitro-2,4-diazapentane	-965.95284	-965.80396	52.5	784.6
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	1-Methyl-5-methylaminotetrazole	-392.23449	-392.11628	29.6	346.3
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	5-(Dimethylamino)-tetrazole	-392.22789	-392.10972	29.1	363.6
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O	2-(5-Amino-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)ethan-1-ol	-467.44441	-467.32120	32.0	214.3
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	5,5'-Dinitro-3,3'-azoxy-1,2,4-triazole	-1076.90170	-1076.78507	47.5	681.0
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	4,4'-Azobis-1,2,4-triazole	-592.68104	-592.57609	31.4	873.8
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	3,3'-Diamino-4,4'-azofurazan	-743.06077	-742.94723	38.2	711.4
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	3,3'-Diamino-4,4'-azoxyfurazan	-818.23777	-818.11919	40.4	665.9
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>12</sub>	6,6'-(Diazene-1,2-diy)bis(1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-amine)	-811.63562	-811.51265	43.5	1184.5
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>14</sub>	3,6-Bis(1H-1,2,3,4-tetrazol-5-ylamino)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	-921.17726	-921.03922	44.7	1186.8
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	2-Methyl-5-vinyl-2H-tetrazole	-374.97864	-374.87194	27.2	386.5
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-Azido-5-ethyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole	-484.45817	-484.34170	32.8	537.9

Tab. B.1: (continued)

Formula	Name	$E_e$ (Hartrees) <sup>a</sup>	$E_0$ (Hartrees) <sup>b</sup>	$H_{298}^\theta - H_0^\theta$ (kJ/mol) <sup>c</sup>	$\Delta_f H^\theta$ (g) (0 K) (kJ/mol) <sup>d</sup>
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-(5-Amino-1H-tetrazol-1-yl) propanenitrile	-484.47524	-484.35765	32.9	496.1
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-(5-Amino-2H-tetrazol-2-yl) propanenitrile	-484.48380	-484.36570	32.6	474.9
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	1,2-Di(1H-tetrazol-5-yl)ethane	-593.94862	-593.81921	34.8	669.0
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	4,4'-Hydrazobis-(1,2,5-oxadiazol-3-amine)	-744.28136	-744.14276	40.3	631.6
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	(cis)1,1'-Dimethyl-5,5'-azotetrazole	-703.38229	-703.24518	41.3	935.4
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	(trans)1,1'-Dimethyl-5,5'-azotetrazole	-703.38843	-703.25123	41.6	919.5
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	2,2'-Dimethyl-5,5'-azotetrazole	-703.39638	-703.25871	41.5	899.9
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	3,6-Bis(nitroguanil)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	-1113.66254	-1113.49599	56.3	660.3
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	5-Amino-1-(2-propenyl)-1H-tetrazole	-430.31587	-430.19265	31.2	453.6
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	5-Amino-2-(2-propenyl)-2H-tetrazole	-430.32384	-430.20011	30.9	434.0
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>9</sub>	bis(2-Methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)amine	-649.31166	-649.16587	40.0	668.0
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1,5-Diazido-3-nitro-3-azapentane	-745.44366	-745.28588	47.8	689.3
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	3,6-Diguandino-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	-704.68475	-704.52319	44.5	639.0
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1,6-Diazido-2,5-dinitro-2,5-diazahexane	-1005.26729	-1005.09000	57.5	774.9
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	1,7-Diazido-2,4,6-trinitro-2,4,6-triazahexane	-1265.08978	-1264.89317	67.0	863.0
C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> N <sub>9</sub>	N,2-Dimethyl-N-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-2H-tetrazol-5-amine	-688.61739	-688.44403	45.8	679.0
C <sub>6</sub> N <sub>20</sub>	4,4',6,6'-Tetra(azido)azo-1,3,5-triazine	-1323.37055	-1323.24159	63.9	1933.0
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>20</sub>	4,4',6,6'-Tetra(azido)hydrazo-1,3,5-triazine	-1324.63571	-1324.48119	65.9	1737.4
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	2,2'-Diethyl-5,5'-azotetrazole	-782.03174	-781.83751	50.7	862.9
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>16</sub>	1,2-bis(4,6-Dihydrazinyl-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)hydrazine	-1112.97843	-1112.70251	74.8	987.7
C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>9</sub>	3-Azido-6-(3,5-dimethylpyrazol-1-yl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	-763.55913	-763.40099	46.9	974.1
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>16</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	Bis[4-aminofurazanyl-3-oxylazofurazan	-1634.00217	-1633.80967	75.4	1590.5

**a** Electronic energy at 0 K. The  $E_e$  energies for atoms (in Hartrees) were calculated as: C(-37.846280), H(-0.500273), N(-54.584489), O(-75.060623).

**b** Molecular energy with zero-point energy correction.

**c** Enthalpy difference from 298 K to 0 K. The  $[H^\theta(298\text{ K}) - H^\theta(0\text{ K})]_{\text{st}}$  for atoms (in kJ/mol) were obtained as: C(1.050), H(4.234), N(4.335), O(4.340) [316].

**d** Enthalpy of formation at 0 K. The  $\Delta_f H^\theta$  for atoms in their standard states at 0 K (in kJ/mol) were obtained as: C(711.38), H(216.03), N(470.57), O(246.84) [317, 318].

**Tab. B.2:** Predicted gas phase standard enthalpies of formation for 100 energetic materials with high nitrogen content.

Formula	Name	Predicted $\Delta_f H^\theta$ (g)(298 K) (kJ/mol)	
		B3LYP/6-31G*	PM6
CHN <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Nitro-1H-tetrazole	365.8	386.2
CHN <sub>7</sub>	5-Azido-1H-tetrazole	679.4	672.6
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>2</sub>	Cyanamide	161.5	147.7
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	1H-Tetrazole	334.7	336.3
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O	1H-Tetrazol-5-ol	172.7	177.2
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	Nitroguanylazide	418.2	365.8
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Nitroaminotetrazole	387.0	367.6
CH <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Nitriminotetrazole	385.0	366.7
CH <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	1H-Tetrazol-5-amine	343.7	345.0
CH <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	1H-Tetrazol-1-amine	440.9	424.8
CH <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1-Nitroguanidine	114.8	77.0
CH <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	1H-Tetrazol-1,5-diamine	441.1	430.7
CH <sub>5</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	Guanidine	70.8	68.8
CH <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	N-Nitro-N'-aminoguanidine	228.7	176.3
C <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	5,6-(3,4-Furazano)-1,2,3,4-tetrazine-1,3-dioxide	709.5	682.7
C <sub>2</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	3,6-Diazido-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	1094.4	1095.2
C <sub>2</sub> HN <sub>5</sub>	1H-Tetrazole-5-carbonitrile	512.1	510.4
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-Azido-1H-1,2,4-triazole	526.1	569.3
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	1H,1'H-5,5'-Bitetrazole	674.6	688.8
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	1H-1,2,3-Triazole	273.2	251.2
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub>	1H-1,2,4-Triazole	204.6	220.2
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Amino-3-nitro-1H-1,2,4-triazole	219.7	264.3
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-Nitro-1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-amine	214.5	266.5
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	N-Nitro-1H-1,2,4-triazol-3-amine	261.7	257.2
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>7</sub>	3-Azido-4H-1,2,4-triazol-4-amine	668.1	644.4
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>9</sub>	di(1H-Tetrazol-5-yl)amine	700.0	727.7
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	1H-1,2,4-Triazole-3-amine	211.7	229.9
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	4H-1,2,4-Triazol-4-amine	353.6	316.5
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	1-Methyl-1H-tetrazole	313.6	326.5
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	5-Methyl-1H-tetrazole	291.1	289.4
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	2-Methyl-2H-tetrazole	296.7	325.4
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	Dicyandiamide	254.9	244.7
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O	5-Methoxy-1H-tetrazole	175.3	185.8
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O	3,4-Diaminofurazan	236.0	238.4
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	1,2,4,5-tetrazine-3,6-diamine	433.2	398.9
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	3,6-Diamino-1,2,4,5-tetrazine 1,4-dioxide	353.8	391.9
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1-Methyl-5-nitriminotetrazole	357.1	356.5
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	2-Methyl-5-nitraminotetrazole	364.2	374.0
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1,3-Diazido-2-nitro-2-azapropane	684.6	620.3
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	5,5'-Hydrazotetrazole	846.7	814.6
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	1-Methyl-1H-tetrazol-5-amine	322.3	337.2
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	2-Methyl-1H-tetrazol-5-amine	304.2	338.1

Tab. B.2: (continued)

Formula	Name	Predicted $\Delta_f H^\theta(\text{g})(298\text{ K})$ (kJ/mol)	
		B3LYP/6-31G*	PM6
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	2-Methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-amine	304.2	338.1
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	5-Methylamino-1H-tetrazole	342.6	342.0
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>7</sub>	5-Guanylaminotetrazole	365.7	387.6
C <sub>2</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	3,6-Dihydrazino-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	725.6	564.8
C <sub>3</sub> N <sub>12</sub>	2,4,6-Triazido-1,3,5-triazine	1111.4	1236.2
C <sub>3</sub> HN <sub>11</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	6-Nitroamino-2,4-diazido[1,3,5]triazine	858.1	933.3
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	Tetrazolo[1,5-b][1,2,4]triazine	633.1	661.0
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	2-(5-Nitro-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)acetonitrile	544.5	542.2
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	2-Methyl-2H-tetrazole-5-carbonitrile	466.4	494.5
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>3</sub> N <sub>9</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	5-((5-Nitro-2H-tetrazol-2-yl)methyl)-1H-tetrazole	702.0	738.1
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	5,8-Dihydrotetrazolo[1,5-b][1,2,4]triazine	631.9	561.6
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-Azido-5-methyl-1H-1,2,4-triazole	483.2	521.8
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	4-Nitro-5,6-dihydro-4H-imidazo[1,2-d]tetrazole	481.4	457.5
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	5,8-Dinitro-5,6,7,8-tetrahydrotetrazolo[1,5-b][1,2,4]triazine	623.8	568.4
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1-Nitroguanyl-3-nitro-5-amino-1,2,4-triazole	362.5	355.1
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O	5-Acetamidotetrazole	167.9	140.3
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O	4,6-Diamino-1,3,5-triazin-2(1H)-one	-53.3	-35.7
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>5</sub> N <sub>7</sub>	3-Azido-5-methyl-4H-1,2,4-triazol-4-amine	624.1	601.4
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	1,5-Dimethyl-1H-tetrazole	270.8	282.4
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	2,5-Dimethyl-2H-tetrazole	255.8	284.4
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	1,3,5-Triazine-2,4,6-triamine	112.3	177.8
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	5,6,7,8-Tetrahydrotetrazolo[1,5-b][1,2,4]triazine	520.6	473.8
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1,6-Dimethyl-5-nitraminotetrazole	360.8	355.5
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	1-(2-Azidoethyl)-1H-tetrazol-5-amine	656.1	645.9
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1,5-Diazido-2,4-dinitro-2,4-diazapentane	747.9	642.3
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	1-Methyl-5-methylaminotetrazole	321.4	335.1
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	5-(Dimethylamino)-tetrazole	338.2	337.3
C <sub>3</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub> O	2-(5-Amino-1H-tetrazol-1-yl)ethan-1-ol	187.5	132.2
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	5,5'-Dinitro-3,3'-azoxy-1,2,4-triazole	650.8	760.0
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	4,4'-Azobis-1,2,4-triazole	849.4	800.7
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	3,3'-Diamino-4,4'-azofurazan	685.1	730.3
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>3</sub>	3,3'-Diamino-4,4'-azoxyfurazan	637.5	676.2
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>12</sub>	6,6'-(Diazene-1,2-diy)bis(1,2,4,5-tetrazin-3-amine)	1154.9	1075.4
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>14</sub>	3,6-Bis(1H-1,2,3,4-tetrazol-5-ylamino)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	1149.7	1164.4
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>4</sub>	2-Methyl-5-vinyl-2H-tetrazole	366.7	386.6
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-Azido-5-ethyl-4H-1,2,4-triazole	515.1	488.9
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-(5-Amino-1H-tetrazol-1-yl) propanenitrile	473.3	456.0
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>6</sub>	3-(5-Amino-2H-tetrazol-2-yl) propanenitrile	451.9	456.2
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub>	1,2-Di(1H-tetrazol-5-yl)ethane	639.5	613.9
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	4,4'-Hydrazobis-(1,2,5-oxadiazol-3-amine)	598.9	593.8
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	(cis)1,1'-Dimethyl-5,5'-azotetrazole	903.8	927.9
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	(trans)1,1'-Dimethyl-5,5'-azotetrazole	888.2	929.1

Tab. B.2: (continued)

Formula	Name	Predicted $\Delta_f H^\theta$ (g)(298 K) (kJ/mol)	
		B3LYP/6-31G*	PM6
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	2,2'-Dimethyl-5,5'-azotetrazole	868.4	948.9
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>6</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	3,6-Bis(nitroguanyl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	617.6	572.9
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	5-Amino-1-(2-propenyl)-1H-tetrazole	429.3	403.5
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>5</sub>	5-Amino-2-(2-propenyl)-2H-tetrazole	409.4	409.3
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>9</sub>	bis(2-Methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)amine	635.2	722.3
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>8</sub> O <sub>2</sub>	1,5-Diazido-3-nitro-3-azapentane	655.7	584.2
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	3,6-Diguanidino-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	602.1	604.3
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>10</sub> O <sub>4</sub>	1,6-Diazido-2,5-dinitro-2,5-diazahexane	733.6	626.7
C <sub>4</sub> H <sub>8</sub> N <sub>12</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	1,7-Diazido-2,4,6-trinitro-2,4,6-triazaheptane	813.9	675.7
C <sub>5</sub> H <sub>9</sub> N <sub>9</sub>	N,2-Dimethyl-N-(2-methyl-2H-tetrazol-5-yl)-2H-tetrazol-5-amine	642.4	724.6
C <sub>6</sub> N <sub>20</sub>	4,4',6,6'-Tetra(azido)azo-1,3,5-triazine	1903.9	2102.8
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>2</sub> N <sub>20</sub>	4,4',6,6'-Tetra(azido)hydrazo-1,3,5-triazine	1701.9	1898.1
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>10</sub> N <sub>10</sub>	2,2'-Diethyl-5,5'-azotetrazole	821.6	884.9
C <sub>6</sub> H <sub>14</sub> N <sub>16</sub>	1,2-bis(4,6-Dihydrazinyl-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)hydrazine	927.6	816.2
C <sub>7</sub> H <sub>7</sub> N <sub>9</sub>	3-Azido-6-(3,5-dimethylpyrazol-1-yl)-1,2,4,5-tetrazine	944.9	914.3
C <sub>8</sub> H <sub>4</sub> N <sub>16</sub> O <sub>6</sub>	Bis[4-aminofurazanyl-3-azoxy]azofurazan	1545.1	1625.4

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