Supporting Information

Polynitramino Compounds Outperform PETN

Young-Hyuk Joo and Jean'ne M. Shreeve*

Safety Precautions: While we have experienced no difficulties with the shock instability of the polynitramino compounds 4–7 and polyazide compounds $10^{1a,b}$ 18^{1c} $23^{1b,e}$ and $28^{1b,e}$ they must be synthesized only in millimole amounts. Manipulations must be carried out in a hood behind a safety shield. Leather gloves must be worn.

General Methods.

¹H, ¹³C and ¹⁵N NMR spectra were recorded on a 300 MHz (Bruker AVANCE 300) and 500 MHz (Bruker AVANCE 500) Nuclear Magnetic Resonance spectrometer operating at 300.13, 75.48 and 50.69 MHz, respectively, by using DMSO[D₆] or CDCl₃ as solvent and locking solvent unless otherwise stated. The melting and decomposition points were obtained on a Differential Scanning Calorimeter (TA Instruments Company, Model: Q10) at a scan rate of 10 °C min⁻¹. IR spectra were recorded using KBr pellets for solids on BIORAD model 3000 FTS spectrometer. Densities of the polynitramines were obtained at room temperature by employing a Micromeritics Accupyc 1330 gas pycnometer. Elemental analyses were determined using an Exeter CE-440 elemental analyzer. Single crystal X-ray diffraction analysis data were collected on a Bruker three-circle platform diffractometer equipped with a SMART PLATINUM 135 CCD detector. Because they were hygroscopic, elemental analysis for polyamino compounds **11**, **19**, **24** and **29** were not successful.

General Procedure

- Hydrogenation

A solution of 12 mmol polyazide (Compound **18** should not be dried.) in 150 mL methanol (3.0 g) containing 5% palladium on carbon (this commercial Pd/C has included 50% water for safety, for 10% Pd/C 1.5 g) was exposed to hydrogen (hydrogen should be replenished two or three times in two weeks) at room temperature for two weeks. After filtration the reaction mixture was checked by NMR, and this showed that the reaction had gone to completion. The filtrate was evaporated in vacuo to yield the polyamine as a colorless oil which was not purified further.

- Synthesis of polyurethane

To a solution of 20 mmol polyamine in 100 mL water were dropped ethyl chloroformate [70 mmol for triamine, 90 mmol for tetraamine, 135 mmol for hexaamine, 175 mmol for octaamine] and 50 mL of an aqueous solution containing sodium hydroxide [60 mmol for triamine, 80 mmol for tetraamine, 120 mmol for hexaamine, 160 mmol for octaamine] at the same time under -5 °C. 10 drops ethyl chloroformate was added slowly to the stirred solution in the flask, and then the reminder was added simultaneously with the sodium hydroxide solution at such a rate that the temperature did not rise above 5 °C in an ice/sodium chloride salt bath. After the mixture had been stirred for another 15 hours, the white solid polyurethane was collected on a filter and washed with water. The polyurethane was dissolved in 500 mL ethyl acetate and washed five times (300 mL x 5) with water. The organic layer was dried with magnesium sulfate. After removal of the solvent in vacuo, the pure white solid remained.

- Synthesis of polynitrourethane

To a mixture of 20 mL 100% nitric acid and 10 mL trifluoroacetic anhydride was added slowly 10 mmol polyurethane at -5 °C. After the mixture had been stirred for another 24 hours at ambient temperature, the yellow reaction mixture was poured into 50 g ice and stirred 1 hour. The white gum was collected and was dissolved in 300 mL ethyl acetate and washed five times (300 mL x 5) with water. The organic layer was dried with magnesium sulfate. After removal of the solvent in vacuo, the colorless oil was obtained.

- Synthesis of polynitramine

A solution of 5.0 mmol polynitrourethane in 50 mL ethanol and 150 mL of 28% aqueous ammonia was heated slowly at 50–60 °C (oil bath) for one hour (careful! ammonia fumes) and then refluxed at 90 °C (oil bath) for 18 hours (for compound 14, 3 days are required). After cooling with ice, 36% hydrochloric acid was dropped into the reaction mixture until pH = 1. The aqueous layer was extracted three times with ethyl acetate (200 mL x 3). The combined organic extracts were washed five times (300 mL x 5) with water. The organic layer was dried with magnesium sulfate. After removal of the solvent in air, the white solid was obtained. The product was washed with acetonitrile.



Scheme S1. Nitration of 1,2,3-triamino-2-(aminomethyl)propane (11); A: H₂/Pd/C, B: ClCOOCH₂CH₃, C: 100% HNO₃/(CF₃CO)₂O, D: 28% aq. NH₃/36% HCl.



Scheme S2. Synthesis of tris(nitramino)propane 5.



Scheme S3. Synthesis of pentaerythrityl hexanitramine 6.





_NO₂ -NH

NH NO2

,NO₂

ŃΗ

HN O₂N

7

С

HN O₂N

O₂N ΗŇ

HN O₂N

2: White solid; Yield 84%; M.p. 169 °C (dec.); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3389, 2983, 2936, 1699, 1518, 1308, 1243, 1159, 1130, 1027; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): <math>\delta = 1.16$ (t, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 12H, CH₃), 2.87, (d, ³J = 6.5 Hz, 8H), 4.00 (q, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 8H), 6.77 (t, ³J = 6.4 Hz, 4H, NH); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 14.5, 41.5, 45.0, 60.1, 157.0;$ C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₁₇H₃₂N₄O₈ (420.46): C 48.56, H 7.67, N 13.33; found C 48.60, H 7.80, N 13.11.

3: Colorless oil; Yield 96%; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 2988, 2940, 1771, 1590, 1294, 1236, 1178, 986, 858; {}^{1}H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): <math>\delta = 1.29$ (t, ${}^{3}J = 7.1$ Hz, 12H, CH₃), 4.24 (s, 8H), 4.31 (q, ${}^{3}J = 7.1$ Hz, 8H); {}^{13}C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 13.5, 46.9, 51.1, 65.5, 151.6; {}^{14}N$ NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = -36.5$ (NO₂); {}^{15}N NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = -173.0, -36.8$ (t, {}^{3}J = 3.1 Hz, NO₂); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₅H₁₂N₈O₈ (312.20): C 34.00, H 4.70, N 18.66; found C 34.42, H 4.71, N 16.80.

4: Colorless crystal; Yield 64%; M.p. 183 °C (dec.); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3356, 2995, 2963, 1545, 1446, 1411, 1343, 1281, 1153, 1099, 861, 543; {}^{1}H NMR ([D_6]DMSO): \delta = 3.63 (s, 8H, CH_2), 12.02 (s, 4H, NH); {}^{13}C NMR ([D_6]DMSO): \delta = 42.2, 46.4; {}^{15}N NMR ([D_6]DMSO): \delta = -207.6, -23.1 (NO_2); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₅H₁₂N₈O₈ (312.20): C 19.24, H 3.87, N 35.89; found C 19.36, H 3.82, N 35.74.$

5: White crystal; Yield 77%; M.p. 133 °C, 183 °C (dec.); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3370, 3283, 2958, 1589, 1431, 1346, 1271, 1148, 1125, 752; {}^{1}H NMR ([D_6]DMSO): <math>\delta = 3.49 \text{ (dd, }^{2}J = 14.7 \text{ Hz}, {}^{3}J = 8.3 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 3.74 \text{ (dd, }^{2}J = 14.7, {}^{3}J = 4.5 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{H}), 4.47 \text{ (m, 1H)}, 12.20 \text{ (s, 3H, NH); }^{3}C NMR ([D_6]DMSO): <math>\delta = 44.4, 51.4; {}^{15}\text{N} \text{ NMR} ([D_6]DMSO): \delta = -202.1, -195.7, -19.6 (NO_2), -18.5 (NO_2); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C_3H_8N_6O_6 (224.13): C 16.08, H 3.60, N 37.50; found C 16.59, H 3.60, N 37.09.$

6: White crystal; Yield 79%; Density = 1.607 g cm⁻³; M.p. 181 °C (dec.); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3274, 3159, 2955, 2896, 1589, 1445, 1408, 1384, 1317, 1104; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): δ = 3.27 (s, 4H, CH₂), 3.60 (s, 12H, CH₂), 11.80 (br. s, 6H, NH); ³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): δ = 44.01, 46.12, 70.48; ¹⁵N NMR ([D₆]DMSO): δ = -202.3, -18.0 (NO₂); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₁₀H₂₂N₁₂O₁₃ (518.35): C 23.17, H 4.28, N 32.43; found C 23.83,

H 4.24, N 31.16.

7: White solid; Yield 90%; Density = 1.638 g cm⁻³; M.p. 185 °C (dec.); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3358, 3145, 2951, 2890, 1584, 1447, 1410, 1380, 1337, 1157, 1092; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): δ = 3.26 (s, 4H), 3.60 (s, 16H), 11.94 (br. s, 8H, NH); ³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): δ = 43.7, 44.9, 45.7, 46.0, 70.5; ¹⁵N NMR ([D₆]DMSO): δ = -202.1, -201.9, -18.0 (NO₂), -17.8 (NO₂); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₁₅H₃₂N₁₆O₁₈ (724.51): C 24.87, H 4.45, N 30.93; found C 24.67, H 4.48, N 30.80.

11: Extremely hygroscopic colorless liquid; Yield 99%; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3333$, 2920, 2637, 1575, 1475, 1385, 1322; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.18$ (s, 8H, NH₂), 2.56 (s, 6H, CH₂); ¹⁵N NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = -362.7, -342.2$.

12: White solid; Yield 70%; M.p. 145 °C; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3337$, 2985, 2934, 1699, 1528, 1263; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 1.16$ (t, ³J = 7.0 Hz, 12H, CH₃), 3.20 (d, ³J = 5.7 Hz, 6H, CH₂), 3.93 (q, ³J = 7.0 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 3.99 (q, ³J = 7.0 Hz, 6H, CH₂), 6.39 (s, 1H, NH), 6.93 (t, ³J = 6.0 Hz, 3H, NH); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 14.5$, 14.6, 41.4, 59.5, 60.1, 60.2, 154.6, 157.1; C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₁₆H₃₀N₄O₈ (406.43): C 47.28, H 7.44, N 13.79; found C 47.42, H 7.50, N 13.51.

13: Colorless oil; Yield 96%; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 1.13$ (t, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 1.28 (t, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 9H, CH₃), 3.93 (q, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 4.29 (q, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 6H, CH₂), 4.51 (s, 6H, CH₂), 6.74 (s, 1H, NH); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 13.6$, 14.4, 51.7, 59.7, 60.3, 65.3, 151.4, 155.0; ¹⁵N NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = -284.7$ (d, ¹J = 93 Hz), -169.7, -33.2 (NO₂); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₁₆H₂₆N₇O₁₄·H₂O (559.44): C 34.35, H 5.22, N 17.53; found C 34.50, H 4.79, N 16.73.

14: light brown gum; Yield 75%; M.p. 157–180 °C (dec.); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3377, 2985, 1703, 1585, 1528, 1412, 1382, 1318, 1255, 1080, 565; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): <math>\delta = 1.17$ (t, ³*J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 3.85 (s, 6H, CH₂), 3.97 (q, ³*J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H, CH₂), 7.18 (s, 1H, NH), 12.10 (s, 3H, NH); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 14.5, 46.1, 57.0, 59.8, 154.9; ^{15}N$

NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = -286.2$, -202.8, -18.5 (NO₂); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₇H₁₅N₇O₈·1/4C₄H₈O₂ (ethyl acetate) (325.24): C 27.67, H 4.93, N 28.23; found C 27.94, H 5.06, N 28.94.

15·H₂O: White solid; Yield 83%; M.p. 138 °C, 197–205°C (dec.); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3415$, 3336, 3269, 3202, 3063, 2981, 2713, 2629, 1705, 1613, 1547, 1449, 1418, 1340, 1281, 1262, 1078, 946; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 1.11$ (t, ³*J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, CH₃), 3.46 (s, 6H), 3.87 (q, ³*J* = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 6.41 (s, 1H, NH), 6.77 (br. s, 15H); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 14.7$, 54.0, 56.4, 59.2, 154.6; ¹⁵N NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = -323.9$, -282.8 (d, ¹*J* = 89 Hz), -131.8, -14.7 (NO₂); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₁₇H₂₇N₁₃O₈·H₂O (439.39): C 19.13, H 6.65, N 41.44; found C 19.24, H 6.61, N 41.88.

19: Extremely hygroscopic colorless liquid; Yield 73% (from tosylate **15**); IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu}$ = 3352, 1576, 1482, 1385, 1324; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 1.49 (br. s, 6H, NH₂), 2.38–2.44 (m, 2H, CH₂), 2.52–2.61 (m, 1H, CH), 2.62–2.68 (m, 2H, CH₂); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): δ = 46.3, 55.7.

20: White solid; Yield 34%; M.p. 110 °C; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3322$, 2983, 2939, 1686, 1545, 1288, 1261, 1156, 1071, 1034; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 1.14$ (t, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 9H, CH₃), 2.93–3.10 (m, 4H), 3.54 (sext, ³J = 6.5 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (q, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 2H), 3.96 (q, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 4H), 6.75 (d, ³J = 8.2 Hz, 1H, NH), 6.96 (t, ³J = 4.7 Hz, 2H, NH); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 14.57$, 14.61, 41.7, 51.0, 59.2, 59.7, 155.9, 156.5; C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₁₂H₂₃N₃O₆ (305.33): C 47.20, H 7.59, N 13.76; found C 47.25, H 7.75, N 14.32.

21: Colorless oil; Yield 97%; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 1.23$ (t, ³J = 6.9 Hz, 3H), 1.26 (t, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 6H), 4.24–4.34 (m, 6H), 4.47 (dd, ²J = 16.2 Hz, ³J = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 4.74 (dd, ²J = 16.2 Hz, ³J = 9.0 Hz, 2H), 5.16 (m, 1H); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 13.5$, 13.5, 47.9, 57.4, 65.0, 65.4, 149.3, 149.6; ¹⁵N NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = -169.9$, -167.8, -36.0 (NO₂), -35.4 (NO₂); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₁₂H₂₀N₆O₁₂ (440.32): C 32.73, H 4.58, N 19.09; found C 32.71, H 4.58, N 19.57.

24: Extremely hygroscopic colorless liquid; Yield 96%; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3295$, 3081, 2932, 1642, 1549, 1436, 1386, 1294; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 1.11$ (s, 12H, NH₂), 2.61 (s, 12H), 3.25 (s, 4H); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃): $\delta = 43.2, 43.7, 73.3$.

25: White solid; Yield 73%; M.p. 265 °C; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3331$, 2981, 2939, 2874, 1699, 1527, 1302, 1253, 1134, 1029; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 1.16$ (br. s, 18H), 2.93 (s, 4H), 3.34 (br. s, 12H), 4.00 (br. s, 12H), 6.88 (br. s, 6H, NH); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 14.6$, 41.0, 44.9, 60.2, 70.1, 157.1; C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₂₈H₅₂N₆O₁₃ (680.74): C 49.40, H 7.70, N 12.35; found C 49.41, H 7.71, N 12.23.

26: Colorless oil; Yield 95%; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 1.28$ (t, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 18H, CH₃), 3.25 (s, 4H, CH₂), 4.24 (s, 12H, CH₂), 4.30 (q, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 12H, CH₂); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 13.6$, 46.3, 50.4, 65.3, 72.0, 151.3; ¹⁵N NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = -169.1$, -32.2 (NO₂); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₂₈H₄₆N₁₂O₂₅ (950.73): C 35.37, H 4.88, N 17.68; found C 35.14, H 4.79, N 16.74.

29: Extremely hygroscopic colorless liquid; Yield 99%; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): δ = 1.92 (br. s, 16H, NH₂), 2.40 (s, 12H), 2.43 (s, 4H), 3.13 (s, 4H), 3.16 (s, 4H); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): δ = 42.8, 43.7, 44.3, 71.7, 72.7; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃): δ = 1.67 (s, 16H, NH₂), 2.39 (s, 16H), 3.13 (s, 4H), 3.16 (s, 4H); ¹⁵N NMR (CDCl₃): δ = -361.7 (s, NH₂).

30: White solid; Yield 81%; M.p. 266 °C; IR (KBr): $\tilde{\nu} = 3331$, 3073, 2980, 2938, 2875, 1699, 1523, 1302, 1253, 1134, 1028; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 1.16$ (s, 24H), 2.93 (s, 16H), 3.34 (s, 8H), 4.00 (s, 16H), 6.88 (s, 8H, NH); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 14.6$ (8C), 41.0 (8C), 44.9 (2C), 60.2 (8C), 70.1 (4C), 157.1 (8C); C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₃₉H₇₂N₈O₁₈ (941.03): C 49.78, H 7.71, N 11.91; found C 49.99, H 7.82, N 12.26.

31: Colorless oil; Yield 92%; ¹H NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 1.29$ (t, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 24H), 3.23 (s, 4H), 3.28 (s, 4H), 4.20 (s, 4H), 4.26 (s, 12H), 4.34 (q, ³J = 7.1 Hz, 16H); ¹³C NMR ([D₆]DMSO): $\delta = 13.5$ (8C), 45.5, 46.3, 50.6, 50.8, 65.1, 65.2, 71.3, 71.9, 151.2, 151.3; C,H,N analysis (%): calcd for C₃₉H₆₄N₁₆O₃₄ (1301.01): C 36.00, H 4.96, N 17.23; found C 35.94, H 5.01, N 16.95.

¹H, ¹³C, ¹⁴N and ¹⁵N NMR spectra



Figure S1. ¹⁵N NMR spectra of 4-7 in [D₆]DMSO.

Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Communications This journal is (c) The Royal Society of Chemistry 2009













Figure S9.





Figure S11.



Figure S13.



Figure S15.



Figure S17.



Figure S19.

Computational data

The remaining task is to determine the heats of formation of the polynitramines 4 and 5; these values were computed by using the method of isodesmic reactions (Scheme S5). Calculations were carried out by using the Gaussian 03 (Revision D.01) suite of programs.² The geometric optimization of the structures and frequency analyses were carried out by using the B3LYP functional with the 6-31+G** basis set, and single-point energies were calculated at the MP2/6-311++G** level.



Scheme S5

Calculated (B3LYP/6-31+ $G^{**}//MP2/6-311++G^{**}$) Total Energy (E₀), Zero Point Energy (ZPE), Values of Thermal correction (H_T), and Heats of Formation (gaseous state) (HoF) [kJ/mol] of the compounds.



References

- (a) D. D. Diaz, S. Punna, P. Holzer A. K., McPherson, K. B. Sharpless, V. V. Fokin, and M. G. Finn, J. Polym. Sci. Part A, 2004, 42, 4392. (b) Y.-H. Joo and J. M. Shreeve, Inorg. Chem., 2009, ASAP. DOI: 10.1021/ic901019p. (c) A. Zimmer, I. Müller, G. J. Reiß, A. Caneschi, D. Gatteschi and K. Hegetschweiler, Eur. J. Inong. Chem., 1998, 2079. (d) E. B. Fleischer, A. E. Gebala, A. Levey and P. A. Tasker, J. Org. Chem., 1971, 36, 3042. (e) W. S. Anderson and H. J. Hyer, CPIA Publ., 1981, 340, 387.
- 2 Gaussian 03 (Revision D.01): M. J. Frisch, G. W. Trucks, H. B. Schlegel, G. E. Scuseria, M. A. Robb, J. R. Cheeseman, J. A. Montgomery, Jr., T. Vreven, K. N. Kudin, J. C. Burant, J. M. Millam, S. S. Iyengar, J. Tomasi, V. Barone, B. Mennucci, M. Cossi, G. Scalmani, N. Rega, G. A. Petersson, H. Nakatsuji, M. Hada, M. Ehara, K. Toyota, R. Fukuda, J. Hasegawa, M. Ishida, T. Nakajima, Y. Honda, O. Kitao, H. Nakai, M. Klene, X. Li, J. E. Knox, H. P. Hratchian, J. B. Cross, V. Bakken, C. Adamo, J. Jaramillo, R. Gomperts, R. E. Stratmann, O. Yazyev, A. J. Austin, R. Cammi, C. Pomelli, J. W. Ochterski, P. Y. Ayala, K. Morokuma, G. A. Voth, P. Salvador, J. J. Dannenberg, V. G. Zakrzewski, S. Dapprich, A. D. Daniels, M. C. Strain, O. Farkas, D. K. Malick, A. D. Rabuck, K. Raghavachari, J. B. Foresman, J. V. Ortiz, Q. Cui, A. G. Baboul, S. Clifford, J. Cioslowski, B. B. Stefanov, G. Liu, A. Liashenko, P. Piskorz, I. Komaromi, R. L. Martin, D. J. Fox, T. Keith, M. A. Al-Laham, C. Y. Peng, A. Nanayakkara, M. Challacombe, P. M. W. Gill, B. Johnson, W. Chen, M. W. Wong, C. Gonzalez and J. A. Pople, Gaussian, Inc., Wallingford CT, 2004.