### **Supporting Information (SI)**

# **Zwitterionic fused pyrazolo-triazole based high performing energetic materials**

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**Caution!** All the compounds investigated are potentially explosive, energetic materials. Although we have experienced no difficulties in syntheses and characterization of these compounds, manipulations must be carried out by using appropriate standard safety precautions. Eye protection and leather gloves must be always worn.

#### **General Methods**

Reagents were purchased from Ak Scientifics, Acros Organics or Aldrich as analytical grade and were used as received. <sup>1</sup>H NMR, <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra were recorded using JEOL DELTA (ECS) 500 ( <sup>1</sup>H, 500 MHz; <sup>13</sup>C, 126 MHz) nuclear magnetic resonance spectrometer. DMSO $d<sub>6</sub>$  was employed as the solvent and locking solvent. Chemical shifts are given relative to  $(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub>Si$  for <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C spectra. Decomposition temperatures (onset) were recorded using a dry nitrogen gas purge and at heating rate of 5 °C min−1 on a differential scanning calorimeter (SDT650) using compound in the range of 1.5- 2 mg. IR spectra were recorded using Zn-Se pellets with ECO-ATR spectrometer (Bruker Alpha II). Density was determined at room temperature by employing Anton Par Ultra5000 gas pycnometer in helium atmosphere. Impact and friction-sensitivity measurements were tested by employing a standard BAM Fall hammer and a BAM friction tester. The single-crystal X-ray data collection was carried out using Bruker APEX-II CCD diffractometer. The crystal was kept at 100 K during data collection.

#### **Experimental Section**:

*Synthesis of 3,5-dihydrazineyl-4-nitro-1H-pyrazole (1):* 4,6-dichloro-5-nitropyrimidine (2 g, 10.31 mmol) was taken in hydrazine monohydrate and heated at 120 °C for 4 hrs. The reaction mixture was cooled to room temperature and kept in refrigerator for overnight. The newly formed yellow precipitate was collected by filtration, washed with cold water, ethanol (30 mL) and dried in oven overnight at 60 ˚C to get compound **1** in 30% yield (536 mg, 3.09 mmol). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  (ppm) 4.33 (s, 4H), 6.05 (s, 1H), 7.6 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ(ppm) 106.12, 151.23. IR (ATR, ZnSe, cm<sup>-1</sup>): 723, 990, 1138, 1168, 1323, 1403, 1523, 1635, 3220, 3299. Elemental analysis: (%) calculated for C<sub>3</sub>H<sub>7</sub>N<sub>7</sub>O<sub>2</sub>(0.1 EtOH): C, 21.62; H, 4.31; N, 55.16. Found: C, 21.59; H, 4.43; N, 55.32.

*Synthesis of 3-amino-6-hydrazineyl-7-nitropyrazolo[5,1-c][1,2,4]triazol-2-ium-5-ide (2)* **:** Compound **1** (300 mg, 1.73 mmol) was taken in dil. HCl (1M, 20 ml) and stirred at room temperature for 2 to 3 minutes. To this, cyanogen bromide (276 mg, 2.5 mmol) was added, and reaction mixture was stirred at same temperature. It slowly started precipitating after one hour and same was continued for another 30 hours and monitored by thin layer chromatography (TLC). The newly formed light-yellow precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with cold water, dried in oven overnight at 60 ˚C to obtain pure compound **2** in  $86\%$  yield (296 mg, 1.5 mmol). T<sub>d</sub>(onset): 250 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm) 7.07 (br, 4H), 9.19 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d6): δ(ppm) 102.9, 141.4, 143.3, 154.7. IR (ATR, ZnSe, cm-1): 552, 744, 1079, 1143, 1197, 1345, 1439, 1500, 1646, 1689, 2652, 3106, 3294. Elemental analysis:  $(\%)$  calculated for C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>6</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub> 1.3HCl (198.14): C, 19.57; H, 3.00; N, 45.64; found C, 19.68; H, 3.42; N, 45.17.



*General procedure for the synthesis of salts 3-5:* Compound **2** (300 mg, 1.51 mmol) was taken in methanol (15 ml) and hydroxyl amine hydrate (95 µl, 2.2 mmol), hydrazine monohydrate (111 µl, 2.2 mmol), and 3,6,7-triamino-7*H*-[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-b][1,2,4]triazol-2-ium (TATOT) (279 mg, 1.81 mmol) was added in to it and stirred at room temperature for 12 hours. The formed precipitate was collected by filtration and washed with methanol and dried in oven overnight at 60 to 70 ˚C to get pure products in quantitative yields.

*Synthesis of hydroxylammonium-3-amino-6-hydrazineyl-7-nitropyrazolo[5,1*  $c/[1,2,4]$ triazol-5-ide (3) : Dark Yellow. Yield 88 % (308 mg, 1.33 mmol). T<sub>d</sub>(onset): 262 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm) 6.84 (s, 6H), 7.67 (s, 3H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d6): δ(ppm) 102.3, 141.3, 143.4, 159.2. IR (ATR, ZnSe, cm-1): 589, 805, 1114, 1173, 1309, 1517, 1561, 1696, 2796, 3193, 3296, 3381. Elemental analysis: (%) calculated for  $C_4H_9N_9O_3$  (231.17): C, 23.78; H, 3.22; N, 55.53; found C, 24.03; H, 3.15; N, 55.67.



*Synthesis of hydrazinium-3-amino-6-hydrazineyl-7-nitropyrazolo[5,1-c][1,2,4]triazol-5-ide (4) :* Dark yellow. Yield 93 % (325 mg, 1.41 mmol). T<sub>d</sub>(onset): 171 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm) 6.22 (br, 8H), 7.58 (s, 2H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ(ppm) 102.5, 143, 143.6, 159.5. IR (ATR, ZnSe, cm-1): 522, 804, 1109, 1173, 1309, 1508, 1559, 1626, 1694, 2955, 3187, 3296. Elemental analysis: (%) calculated for C<sub>4</sub>H<sub>10</sub>N<sub>10</sub>O<sub>2</sub>·0.1 MeOH (230.19): C, 21.10; H, 4.49; N, 60.01; found C, 21.89; H, 3.87.; N, 59.10.



*Synthesis of 3,6,7-triamino-7H-[1,2,4]triazolo[4,3-b][1,2,4]triazol-2-ium-3-amino-6 hydrazineyl-7-nitropyrazolo[5,1-c][1,2,4]triazol-5-ide (5):* Dark yellow. Yield 82% (437 g, 1.24 mmol). T<sub>d</sub>(onset): 240 °C. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (500 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>): δ (ppm) 5.72 (s, 2H), 6.8 (s, 4H), 6.99 (s, 2H), 7.72 (s, 1H). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (126 MHz, DMSO-d6): δ(ppm) 102.3, 141.5, 142.6, 143.3, 143.9, 148.4, 159.3. IR (ATR, ZnSe, cm-1): 524, 551, 666, 788 ,1044, 1134, 1310, 1350, 1433, 1520, 1593, 1651, 3007, 3297, 3396. Elemental analysis: (%) calculated for  $C_7H_{12}N_{16}O_2$  (352.28): C, 23.87; H, 3.43; N, 63.62; found C, 23.54; H, 3.48; N, 64.36.



**Figure S1**: Crystal packing (with weak interactions), interplanar distances and intramolecular and intermolecular H-bonding interaction of **2.**





Table 2: Fractional Atomic Coordinates (×10<sup>4</sup>) and Equivalent Isotropic Displacement Parameters  $(\hat{A}^2 \times 10^3)$  for 2. Ueq is defined as 1/3 of the trace of the orthogonalised UIJ tensor.



N <sub>009</sub>	4682(4)	4172(2)	5457(3)	19.8(6)
N <sub>00</sub> A	5543(4)	8174(2)	1670(3)	21.9(6)
C <sub>1</sub>	4977(4)	8423(3)	2964(3)	16.8(6)
C <sub>4</sub>	4053(4)	6270(3)	5511(3)	15.8(6)
C <sub>2</sub>	4079(4)	8288(3)	5199(3)	15.3(6)
C <sub>3</sub>	3672(4)	7395(2)	6223(3)	15.7(6)

**Table 3:** Anisotropic Displacement Parameters ( $\hat{A}^2 \times 10^3$ ) for 2. The Anisotropic displacement factor exponent takes the form:-2π2[h2a\*2U11+2hka\*b\*U12+…].



## **Table S4:** Bond Lengths for **2**.





**Table S5:** Bond Angles for **2**.



**Table S6:** Torsion Angles for **2.**



**Table S7:** Hydrogen Atom Coordinates (Å×10<sup>4</sup> ) and Isotropic Displacement Parameters  $(A^{2} \times 10^{3})$  for 2.



H00B	5940(50)	4310(40)	5170(40)	25(10)
H <sub>0</sub> 05	5110(80)	10130(60)	3130(70)	84(19)

**NMR, IR Spectra, HRMS & TG-DSC plots for 1-5.**



**Figure S2**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **1** in **DMSO-***d6***.**



**Figure S3**: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **1** in **DMSO-***d6***.**



**Figure S4**: IR spectrum of compound **1.**



**Figure S5**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **2** in **DMSO-***d6***.**



**Figure S6**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **2** in **D2O.**



**Figure S7**: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **2** in **DMSO-***d6***.**



**Figure S8**: IR spectrum of compound **2.**



**Figure S9**: DSC spectra of compound 2 at heating rate 5 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S10**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **3** in **DMSO-***d6*.



**Figure S11**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **3** in **D2O.**



**Figure S12**: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **3** in **DMSO-***d6***.**



**Figure S13**: IR spectrum of compound **3.**



**Figure S14**: DSC spectra of compound 3 at heating rate 5 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S15**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **4** in **DMSO-***d6*.



**Figure S16**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **4** in **D2O.**



**Figure S17**: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **4** in **DMSO-***d6***.**



**Figure S18**: IR spectrum of compound **4.**



TA Instruments Trios V5.5.0.323

**Figure S19**: DSC spectra of compound 4 at heating rate 5 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.



**Figure S20**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **5** in **DMSO-***d6***.**



**Figure S21**: <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of compound **5** in **D2O.**



**Figure S22**: <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum of compound **5** in **DMSO-***d6***.**



**Figure S23**: IR spectrum of compound **5.**



TA Instruments Trios V5.5.0.323

**Figure S24**: DSC spectra of compound 5 at heating rate 5 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.

#### **Computational details**

Computations were carried out using the Gaussian 09 program suite.**<sup>1</sup>** The structure optimizations are performed with M06-2X/def2-TZVPP level of theory and characterized to be true local energy minima on the potential energy surface and no imaginary frequencies were found. Heat of formation (HOF) is a measure of energy content of an energetic material that can decompose, ignite and explode by heat or impact. It enters into the calculation of explosive and propellant properties such as detonation velocity, detonation pressure, heat of detonation and specific impulse. However, it is impractical to determine the HOF of novel energetic materials because of their unstable intermediates and unknown combustion mechanism. The calculated total energies  $(E_0)$ , zero-point energies (ZPE), and thermal corrections  $(H_T)$  at the M06-2X/def2-TZVPP level for the reference compounds used in isodesmic reactions are listed in Table **S8**. Table **S9** lists the total energies  $(E_0)$ , zero-point energies (ZPE), and thermal corrections  $(H_T)$  for target compounds. HOF<sub>Gas</sub> has been predicted by designing appropriate isodesmic reactions (see Figure **S25**). In an isodesmic reaction, the number of each kind of formal bond is conserved according to bond separation reaction (BSR) rules. The target molecule is broken down into a set of heavy atom molecules containing same component bonds. BSR rules cannot be applied to the molecules with delocalized bonds and cage skeletons because of large, calculated errors of HOFs. In view of the above, present study involves the design of isodesmic reactions in which the numbers of all kinds of bonds keep invariable to decrease the calculation errors of HOF. Aromatic rings are kept intact while constructing isodesmic reactions.



**Figure S25.** Designed isodesmic reactions for the prediction of gas phase heat of formation  $(HOF<sub>Gas</sub>)$  of target compounds.

The usage of the HOF<sub>Gas</sub> in the calculation of detonation properties slightly overestimates the values of detonation velocity and detonation pressure, and hence, the solid phase HOF  $(HOF<sub>Solid</sub>)$  has been calculated which can efficiently reduce the errors. The  $HOF<sub>Solid</sub>$  is calculated as the difference between  $HOF<sub>Gas</sub>$  and heat of sublimation ( $HOF<sub>Sub</sub>$ ) as,

$$
HOFSolid = HOFGas - HOFSub
$$
 (1)

The heat of sublimation (HOF $_{Sub}$ ), which is required to convert the HOF $_{Gas}$  to the HOF $_{Solid}$ , was calculated from Equation (2),**<sup>2</sup>**

$$
HOF_{Sub} = 0.000267 A^{2} + 1.650087 \left(v\sigma_{tot}^{2}\right)^{0.5} - 2.966078
$$
\n<sup>(2)</sup>

Where A represents the surface area of the 0.001 electrons/bohr<sup>3</sup> isosurface of electronic density, *v* denotes the degree of balance between the positive and negative surface potentials, and  $\sigma_{tot}^2$  is the electrostatic potential variance. These molecular surface properties were tot obtained using the Multiwfn program**<sup>3</sup>** and listed in Table **S10**.

Based on the Born–Haber cycle (shown in Figure **S26**), the heat of formation of an ionic compound can be simplified by subtracting the lattice energy of the salt  $(H<sub>L</sub>)$  from the total heat of formation of salt (see Table **S11**) *i.e.* sum of the heats of formation of the cation and anion as shown in equation (3).

HOF (salt, 298 K) = HOF (cation, 298 K) + HOF (anion, 298 K) - H<sub>L</sub> (3)



**Figure S26**. Born-Haber cycle for the formation of energetic salts.

Lattice potential energy is the energy associated with the process in which a crystalline solid lattice, M*p*X*<sup>q</sup>* is converted into its constituent gaseous ions, *<sup>p</sup>*M*q+* (g) and *<sup>q</sup>*X*p−* (g). The lattice energy can be predicted with reasonable accuracy by using Jenkins' equation (4).**<sup>4</sup>**

$$
H_{L} = U_{POT} + [p(\frac{n_{M}}{2} - 2) + q(\frac{n_{X}}{2} - 2)]RT
$$
\n(4)

where *nM* and *nX* depend on the nature of the ions  $M_p^+$  and  $X_q^-$ , respectively, and are equal to 3 for monoatomic ions, 5 for linear polyatomic ions, and 6 for nonlinear polyatomic ions. When lattice potential energy ( $U_{POT}$ ), is incorporated and made part of a Born–Haber cycle, it needs to be converted into a lattice enthalpy term. This lattice enthalpy (H<sub>L</sub>) involves correction of the  $U_{POT}$  term by an appropriate number of RT terms. The  $U_{POT}$  (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) can be predicted from four different equation (5) as suggested by Jenkins et al.**<sup>4</sup>** using following equations,

$$
U_{POT} = \gamma \left(\frac{\rho}{M}\right)^{1/3} + \delta \tag{5}
$$

In above equation,  $\rho$  is the density (g cm<sup>-3</sup>).

Table S8. Calculated total energies at 298K (E<sub>0</sub>), zero-point energies (ZPE), and thermal corrections  $(H_T)$  and experimental  $HOF_{gas}$  of reference compounds used isodesmic reaction at the M06-2X/def2-TZVPP level.



<sup>a</sup>Calculated using G4 method.

**Table S9.** Calculated total energies (E<sub>0</sub>), zero-point energies (ZPE), and thermal corrections  $(H_T)$  for target compounds at the M06-2X/def2-TZVPP level.

Compd.	$E_0$ (a.u.)	<b>ZPE</b>	$H_T$	HOF <sub>gas</sub>	$\vert$ $\mathbf{HOF}_{\textbf{Sublimation}}$
		(au)	(au)	(kJ/mol)	(kJ/mol)

**Table S10**. Calculated molecular surface properties of target compounds.

Compd.	Surface area $(\AA^2)$	Volume $(\AA^3)$	$\sigma_{tot}$ (kcal/mol)	$\boldsymbol{\nu}$
NO <sub>2</sub> $+$ <sub>N</sub> <b>HN</b> NΗ NH <sub>2</sub> N NH <sub>2</sub>	201.55	200.77	593.53	0.2336

**Table S11**. Energy content of salts 3-5.



<sup>a</sup>Heat of formation of cation (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>). HOF<sub>c</sub> data for cations is obtained from Ref. 5. <sup>b</sup>Heat of formation of anion (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>). <sup>c</sup>Lattice potential energy (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>). <sup>d</sup>Lattice energy (kJ mol-<sup>1</sup>). <sup>e</sup>Heat of formation of salt (kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>).



**Figure S27.** Selective bond lengths (Å) and angles (˚) for **2**.



Figure S28. Selective bond lengths (Å) and angles ( $\degree$ ) for pyrazolo[5,1-c][1,2,4]triazol-2ium-5-ide.

**Table S12**. Optimized coordinates of **2** at M06-2X/def2-TZVPP level of theory.

6	$-0.861411000$	0.857168000	0.007839000
6	$-0.789269000$	$-0.572865000$	0.004394000
6	0.590048000	$-0.878273000$	$-0.004624000$
6	2.496155000	0.208537000	$-0.003694000$
7	1.184374000	0.372727000	$-0.008037000$
7	1.494674000	-1.828039000	0.004066000
7	2.674563000	$-1.114030000$	0.000173000
1	3.547146000	$-1.609570000$	$-0.041594000$
7	0.338379000	1.450711000	0.001759000
7	3.419949000	1.204015000	$-0.068452000$
1	3.025261000	2.121126000	0.085059000
1	4.289999000	1.046686000	0.413591000
7	-1.986464000	1.585257000	0.018639000
1	-2.871368000	1.106398000	$-0.006575000$
7	-1.970535000	2.977363000	$-0.013622000$
1	$-1.471422000$	3.315485000	0.802847000
1	$-1.440045000$	3.278530000	$-0.825269000$
7	-1.852802000	$-1.465057000$	0.001114000
8	$-1.607677000$	$-2.657444000$	$-0.003517000$
8	-2.993283000	$-0.995892000$	0.003389000

**Table S13**. Optimized coordinates of pyrazolo[5,1-c][1,2,4]triazol-2-ium-5-ide at M06- 2X/def2-TZVPP level of theory.



**Table S14**. Optimized coordinates of pyrazolo[5,1-c][1,2,4]triazol-2-ium-5-ide at G4 level of theory.





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