# THEORETICAL STUDIES ON DIACETONEDIPEROXIDE DERIVATIVES AND COMPARISONS WITH OTHER MULTI-PEROXIDIC COMPOUNDS

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Diacetonediperoxide (DADP) derivatives were investigated with density functional theory (DFT) methods at the DFT-B3LYP and M06-2X/6-311++G (d, p) levels and were also compared with other multi-peroxidic compounds. The investigated derivatives were 3,6-dimethyl-3,6-diamine-1,2,4,5-tetraoxane (DADPNH<sub>2</sub>), 3,6-dimethyl-3,6-dinitro-1,2,4,5-tetraoxane (DADPNO<sub>2</sub>), and 3,6-dimethyl-3,6-bis(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4,5-tetraoxane (DADP3F). The investigations were focused on detonation performance and stability which were determined according to geometrical and electronic structure. The results of the simulation revealed that DADP derivatives are less sensitive than some other organic peroxidic compounds. In addition, detonation performance, including explosion heat (Q), detonation velocity (D), and detonation pressure (P), was estimated according to density and heat of formation using EXPLO 5 software. The results revealed that DADPNO<sub>2</sub> has better detonation performance (Q = 5543 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup>, P = 23.7 GPa, D = 7631 m s<sup>-1</sup>) compared with traditional explosive 2,4,6-trinitrotoluene (TNT; Q = 5418 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup>, P = 19.0 GPa, D = 6950 m s<sup>-1</sup>). Therefore, it is a novel candidate for use as an energetic material.

Keywords: DADP; theoretical studies; multi-peroxidic compounds.

# INTRODUCTION

Energetic materials can be used as explosives, propellants, pyrotechnic agents and so on.<sup>1-3</sup> Traditional energetic materials include 2,4,6-trinitrotoluene (TNT),<sup>4</sup> 1,3,5-trinitro-1,3,5-triazacyclohexane (RDX),<sup>5</sup> 1,3,5,7-tetranitro-1,3,5,7-tetraazacyclooctane (HMX),<sup>6</sup> 2,4,6,8,10,12-hexanitro-2,4,6,8,10,12-hexaazaisowurtzitane (CL-20),<sup>7</sup> 1,3,5-triamino-2,4,6-trinitrobenzene (TATB)<sup>8</sup> and other poly-nitrogen oxygen-rich compounds. <sup>9,10</sup>

TATP (triacetonetriperoxide) and its derivatives have been reported to be novel energetic materials,<sup>11</sup> while DADP (diacetonediperoxide), whose structure is shown in Figure 1, is another promising energetic material in the multi-peroxidic compound family.<sup>12,13</sup> TATP has been extensively used by terrorists in terrorist attacks because of its low cost and simple production process. However, DADP, a by-product of TATP, has lower sensitivity, more affluent oxygen content, higher detonation velocity and pressure than TATP.<sup>14,15</sup> When used as an explosive, DADP is also much more sensitive and has much lower energy than TNT. Therefore, further study and modification are required for DADP to achieve a superior performance. Landenberger *et al.* have reported that the introduction of cocrystals to DADP could be an effective means to this end.<sup>16</sup> In addition, it could also be effective in introducing other energetic substituents.



Figure 1. Chemical structure of DADP

Many fused rings, such as azasydnone<sup>17</sup> and oxadiazole,<sup>18</sup> can become the building blocks of energetic compounds, but they have poor oxygen balance. The skeleton of DADP is a relatively stable six-membered ring containing four oxygen atoms, and there have been few investigations on its novel oxygen-rich backbone.

Nitro (-NO<sub>2</sub>), amino (-NH<sub>2</sub>), and trifluoromethyl (-CF<sub>3</sub>) are common functional groups. For example, TNT consists of three -NO<sub>2</sub> groups, while TATB consists of three -NO<sub>2</sub> groups and three -NH<sub>2</sub> groups.<sup>4.8</sup> Trifluoromethyl is an inert group widely used in aluminum-containing propellants.<sup>19</sup> Therefore, these three energetic and stable substituents could be introduced to DADP to great effect.

In this paper, we propose adding  $-CF_3$ ,  $-NO_2$ , and  $-NH_2$ individually to the rich oxygen skeleton of DADP in order to lower its sensitivity and to enhance its detonation performance. The resulting compounds are 3,6-dimethyl-3,6-diamine-1,2,4,5-tetraoxane (DADPNH<sub>2</sub>), 3,6-dimethyl-3,6-dinitro-1,2,4,5-tetraoxane (DADPNO<sub>2</sub>), 3,6-dimethyl-3,6-bis(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4,5-tetraoxane (DADP3F), respectively. The three new compounds were used to compare DADP and other organic peroxides (shown in Figure 2) to screen out the compounds with the best comprehensive performance.

The properties of these three new compounds were studied through theoretical calculation. This paper presents crystal density ( $\rho_{cry}$ ) and heat of formation ( $\Delta H_f$ ) to calculate detonation performance of the compounds, including explosion heat (Q), detonation velocity (D), and detonation pressure (P). Furthermore, this paper also presents their molecular structures, electrostatic potential analysis (ESP), and energy gap ( $\Delta E_{LUMO-HOMO}$ ) to calculate their sensitivity. These results will provide theoretical support for screening out high energy organic peroxides.

#### **COMPUTATIONAL METHODS**

The calculations were performed with the *Gaussian 09* package.<sup>20</sup> The DFT-B3LYP and M06-2X methods with the 6-311G++ (d, p)

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Figure 2. Chemical structures of some multi-peroxidic compounds

basis set<sup>21-23</sup> were used to optimize the molecular structures and to predict the heats of formation. Previous studies have shown that the 6-311G++ (d, p) basis set is an effective tool for precisely predicting the molecular structures and energies of energetic materials.<sup>24,25</sup> All of the structures were identified to be local energy minima on potential energy surfaces without imaginary frequencies.

Three parameters were used to predict the stability of the compounds. The first, bond length was one of the major focuses of the calculations, especially for O–O bonds. These bond lengths were used for comparison with those of some organic peroxides. In general, bond length is closely related to bond stability; the smaller a bond, the more stable it is.<sup>26</sup>

The energy gap  $\Delta E_{LUMO-HOMO}$  between the highest occupied molecular orbital (HOMO) and the lowest occupied molecular orbital (LUMO) was also used as a parameter of energetic materials to predict kinetic stability. However, it is worth noting that this stability refers only to the stability of the compound during its photoinitiated electron-transfer processes, as the gap indicates that the intramolecular charges transfer from the electron donor to the electron acceptor.<sup>27</sup> In most cases, the higher the magnitude of the energy gap, the more stable the compound is.

Electrostatic potential (ESP) is another important parameter of energetic materials that can be used to predict stability. This parameter can even be used to predict nucleophilic and electrophilic sites. The theoretical basis of these predictions is that molecules always tend to approach one another.<sup>28,29</sup> ESP will be shown on a map in which blue and red spheres correspond to electrophilic and nucleophilic ESP surfaces, respectively. With the help of the *Multiwfn* (multifunctional wave analyzer) program,<sup>30</sup> the ESP surface areas can be plotted in a map. The *Multiwfn* program founded by Tian Lu is an extremely powerful wave function analysis program, supporting almost all of the most important wave function analysis methods. More importantly, results generated by the program can be visualized directly. Most of the plotting parameters are controllable in an interactive interface, so the wave function analysis procedure is remarkably simplified, especially for studying distribution of real space functions.<sup>30</sup>

Their detonation performances depends on crystal density and heat of formation. In this study, crystal density was predicted using Equation (1), which includes consideration of the intermolecular interactions in the crystals. In Equation (1), M is the molecular weight, and  $V_m$  is the molecular volume defined as inside a contour of 0.001 au density that was evaluated using the Monte Carlo integration. What's more,  $\sigma^2_{tot}$  and  $\nu$  are the total variance on the molecular surface and the electrostatic balance, respectively. These parameters were obtained

using the *Multiwfn* program.<sup>30</sup> Traditional density was calculated using the formula  $M/V_m$ , but these results showed a slight deviation from the measured values. Politzer *et al.*<sup>31</sup> propose introducing  $v\sigma_{tot}^2$  into the formula  $M/V_m$  to reflect the features of the electrostatic potentials on the molecules' surface. This includes the strengths, the variabilities and the degrees of balance of the positive and negative electrostatic potentials computed on the surfaces of the isolated molecules. They also suggest using the correction parameters  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$ .<sup>31</sup> They compared experimental and calculated densities of 36 compounds, revealing that  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  are 0.9183, 0.0028, and 0.0443, respectively.

$$\rho = \alpha \left(\frac{M}{V_m}\right) + \beta \left(\upsilon \sigma_{tot}^2\right) + \gamma \tag{1}$$

The heat of formation was predicted by the isodesmic reactions, as shown in Scheme 1. Equation (2) was used to calculate the gas phase heats of formation of compounds where  $\Delta_t H_p$  and  $\Delta_t H_R$  are the heat of formation of the products and the reactants in the isodesmic reactions, respectively.  $\Delta E_0$  is the change in total energy between the products and the reactants at 0 K,  $\Delta E_{ZPE}$  is the difference between the zero-point energy ( $E_{ZPE}$ ) of the products and the reactants, and  $\Delta H_T$  is the thermal correction from 0 to 298 K. Finally, the value of  $\Delta nRT$  here is zero.<sup>32</sup>

$$\Delta_{r}H_{298} = \sum \Delta_{f}H_{P} - \sum \Delta_{f}H_{R}$$

$$= \Delta E_{0} + \Delta E_{ZPE} + \Delta H_{T} + \Delta nRT$$
(2)

$$\Delta_f H(c) = \Delta_f H(g) - \Delta H_{sub} \tag{3}$$

$$\Delta H_{sub} = a \left(A_s\right)^2 + b \left(\nu \sigma_{tot}^2\right)^{0.5} + c \tag{4}$$

The condensed phase heat of formation was calculated by Equation (3) and (4), in which  $\Delta_f H(c)$ ,  $\Delta_f H(g)$ , and  $\Delta H_{sub}$  are the condensed phase heat of formation, the gas phase heat of formation, and the enthalpy of sublimation, respectively. Here the meaning and value of v and  $\sigma^2_{tot}$  are the same as in Equation (1), and  $A_s$  is the molecular surface area. Politzer has reported that a, b, and c in Equation (4) are 0.000267, 1.650087, and 2.966078, respectively.<sup>33</sup>

The program *EXPLO 5* (v6.01) has been widely applied to computing detonation performance, including explosion heat (Q), detonation velocity (D) and detonation pressure (P).<sup>34,35</sup> The builtin theoretical models consist of the Becker–Kistiakowsky–Wilson (BKW) gaseous detonation products, the Jacobs–Cowperthwaite– Zwisler (JCZ3) equations of state, the ideal gas equation of state,



Scheme 1. Isodesmic reactions of DADP derivatives

the virial equation of state and the Murnaghan equation of state. Kamlet and Jacobs<sup>36</sup> also used empirical Equations (5) and (6) to predict detonation pressure and detonation velocity. Both methods have a variety of advantages and disadvantages. The Kamlet–Jacobs equation is relatively simple; however, the EXPLO program makes more accurate calculations even in fluorine-containing explosives. Therefore, the latter was used in the present study.

$$D = 1.01 \left( NM^{\frac{1}{2}}Q^{\frac{1}{2}} \right)^{\frac{1}{2}} \left( 1 + 1.30\rho \right)$$
(5)

$$P = 1.558 N M^{\frac{1}{2}} Q^{\frac{1}{2}} \rho^2$$
 (6)

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

#### **Geometrical structures**

The optimized geometries of the most stable conformers were calculated using the B3LYP and M06-2X by the 6-311G++ (d, p)

method. The optimized structures of DADP and its derivatives compounds were shown in Figure 3. Tables 1S-3S show all their harmonic frequencies as well as a summary of their output parameters. It is well known that peroxides can be easily decomposed from weak O-O bonds.<sup>37</sup> The bond length is closely related to the bond stability; therefore, we focused on the O--O bond lengths of the title compounds and then compared these with the TATP counterparts, as shown in Table 1. Generally speaking, the shorter the bond, the more stable it was. From Figure 3 and Table 1, it can be seen that the two O-O bonds in the same molecular structure were almost equal. The sequence of the bond lengths was DADP3F > DADP >  $DADPNH_2 > DADPNO_2$ , which is the reverse order compared with that of the compound stability. Since the electron-withdrawing -NO<sub>2</sub> groups can decrease electron cloud densities of O-O bonds and then reduce the distance, the bond lengths in DADPNO<sub>2</sub> were all lower than the minimum of the bond lengths in the TATP derivatives.<sup>11</sup> Tables 4S-7S summarize the detailed information on the standard orientation of each atom.

#### **Electronic structure**

The electronic structure, which mainly consists of energy gap  $\Delta E_{LUMO-HOMO}$  and ESP in the paper, reflects photochemistry stability. Explosives with high photochemical stability will not be decomposed under bright light. The ESP maps, the surface areas in each ESP range, and the HOMOs and LUMOs (which were plotted by the DFT method) were depicted in Figures 4, 5, and 6, respectively. In Figure 4,



Figure 3. The optimized structures of some multi-peroxidic compounds

Table 1. The O–O bond lengths  $(\text{\AA})$  of some multi-peroxidic compounds

Compound	04–06		05–07 (	O5–O15) <sup>a</sup>	O10–O11ª	
Compound	B3LYP	M06-2X	B3LYP	M06-2X	B3LYP	M06-2X
DADP	1.45828	1.42519	1.45827	1.42518	-	-
DADP3F	1.46157	1.42798	1.46158	1.42798	-	-
DADPNH <sub>2</sub>	1.45813	1.42464	1.45813	1.42464	-	-
DADPNO <sub>2</sub>	1.45018	1.41876	1.45461	1.42291	-	-
TATP <sup>b</sup>	1.46170	1.46170	1.45879	1.45879	1.45879	1.45879
TATP3F <sup>b</sup>	1.46140	1.46104	1.46923	1.45923	1.46485	1.45485
TATPNH <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	1.46549	1.46549	1.46054	1.46054	1.45975	1.45975
TATPNO <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	1.46247	1.46247	1.45909	1.45909	1.45539	1.45539

<sup>a</sup>The bond is the peroxide one in TATP derivatives. <sup>b</sup>The values calculated with B3LYP come from Reference 11.

red represents positive phase, and blue represents negative phase. It can be seen from Figure 5 that a large portion of the compounds had a small ESP value ranging from -20 to +30 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup>. The electron densities of DADP3F and DADPNO2 seem to be distributed more evenly over the surface of the molecules, and then have lower impact sensitivity than other two molecules. The six-membered rings of DADP and DADPNH<sub>2</sub> tend to be red, indicating electrophilic sites. O--O bonds in DADP and DADPNH2 are easily attracted by electrophilic reagents, which mean that their rings are fragile enough to be easily broken.

The frontier molecular orbitals, particularly the HOMO and LUMO, are very important because they relate not only to the charge transfer properties but also to their photophysical properties of these complexes. Figure 6 shows that the LUMOs were mainly located in the substituted groups, which is consistent with other multi-peroxidic compounds.11 The HOMOs were almost distributed evenly throughout the atoms. The intramolecular charges transfer from the electron donor to the electron acceptor, substituted groups. Additionally, compared with DADP, the nitro and trifluoromethyl (which is the electron-withdrawing group) makes the orbital energy levels LUMO all down significantly. Whereas nitro group makes the orbital energy levels of HOMO down slightly, suggesting it yield a greatly stabilize, whether on DADP or TATP.

Energy gap of title compounds and some organic peroxides were presented in Table 2. In the table, some values coming from previous work were obtained by the same methods and basis set as in this



Figure 4. ESP maps of title compounds











DADP3F



DADPNO<sub>2</sub>

Figure 5. The surface areas in each ESP range of title compounds

LUMO





Figure 6. HOMO and LUMO orbital of DADP and its derivatives. (Red and green of the molecular orbitals means positive and negative value of wave function, respectively)

paper. The values of DADP and its derivatives are higher than those of TATP counterparts, respectively. Their values ranged from 0.20 to 0.26 au at the B3LYP level and 0.30 to 0.38 au at the M06-2X level. Six-membered ring is more stable than other rings because of less bond tension in the ring, so the calculation agrees with that theory. The sequence of energy gap is DADP > DADP3F > DADPNH<sub>2</sub> > DADPNO<sub>2</sub> at the B3LYP level, but DADP3F > DADP > DADPNO<sub>2</sub> > DADPNH<sub>2</sub> at the M06-2X level, which is the same as that of the stability in order. Nitro and amino introducing the rings enhanced their photochemical activity, so the rings are more vulnerable to decompose in bright light. DADP and DADP3F both have a good stability, but it is not contradictory with the geometrical structures because the energy gap  $\Delta E_{LUMO-HOMO}$  only reflects photochemistry stability.

## **Detonation performance**

Detonation performance is proportional to enthalpy of formation and density squared.<sup>38</sup> The crystal density parameters of DADP and its derivatives were calculated in Table 3. The density of DADP is 1.30 g cm<sup>-3</sup> at the B3LYP level and close to experimental one (1.31 g cm<sup>-3</sup>),<sup>16</sup> which proves that the B3LYP methods are effective. The densities of DADP3F, DADPNH<sub>2</sub> and DADPNO<sub>2</sub> are 1.90, 1.35 and 1.59 g cm<sup>-3</sup> at the B3LYP level respectively. These values are approximately equal to their TATP congeners<sup>11</sup> (shown in Table 5), because they all have the same carbon, hydrogen, oxygen, nitrogen and fluorine content. DADP3F and TATP3F both have higher density than others because of the fluorine atom and trifluoromethyl, which

Compounds	LUMO (au)		HOM	O (au)	$\Delta E (au)^a$	
Compounds	B3LYP	M06-2X	B3LYP	M06-2X	B3LYP	M06-2X
DADP	-0.01855	-0.00159	-0.27747	-0.34477	0.25892	0.34318
DADP3F	-0.06716	-0.00079	-0.31362	-0.38259	0.24646	0.38180
DADPNH <sub>2</sub>	-0.01653	-0.00391	-0.24235	-0.30439	0.22582	0.30048
DADPNO <sub>2</sub>	-0.09980	-0.04245	-0.30610	-0.37291	0.20630	0.33046
TAT <sup>P</sup> b	-0.00798	-0.00798	-0.24687	-0.24687	0.23889	0.23889
TATP3F <sup>b</sup>	-0.05756	-0.05756	-0.29778	-0.29778	0.24022	0.24022
TATPNH <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	-0.02056	-0.02056	-0.23978	-0.23978	0.21922	0.21922
TATPNO <sub>2</sub> <sup>b</sup>	-0.09867	-0.09867	-0.29314	-0.29314	0.19447	0.19447

Table 2.	Energy	gap $\Delta E$	of some	organic	peroxides
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<sup>a</sup>The energy gap between LUMO and HOMO. <sup>b</sup>The values calculated with B3LYP come from Reference 11.

Table 3.	The crystal	densities of	DADP	and its	derivatives	compounds
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Compounds		$V_{m}^{b}(cm^{3} mol^{-1})$		$v\sigma_{tot}^{2}$ c ([kc	$\nu \sigma^{2}_{tot} c ([kcal mol^{-1}]^2)$		ρ <sub>crv</sub>	
	$M^{a}(g \text{ mol}^{-1})$	B3LYP	M06-2X	B3LYP	M06-2X	B3LYP	M06-2X	
DADP	148	111.560	114.287	12.46767872	12.3373357	1.30	1.27	
DADP3F	256	128.221	127.169	9.205787454	9.7443544	1.90	1.92	
DADPNH <sub>2</sub>	178	133.922	132.511	29.27625695	28.3081145	1.35	1.36	
DADPNO <sub>2</sub>	238	149.981	145.29	31.90940345	32.7198802	1.59	1.64	

<sup>a</sup>The molecular weight. <sup>b</sup>The molecular volume defined as inside a contour of 0.001 au density that was evaluated through a Monte Carlo integration. <sup>c</sup>The total variance on the molecular surface multiply the electrostatic balance parameter.

Table 4. Condensed phase heat of formation of DADP and its derivatives basing on B3LYP level

Comp	E <sub>zpe</sub> <sup>a</sup> (au)	H <sub>T</sub> <sup>b</sup> (au)	E <sub>0</sub> <sup>c</sup> (au)	$\Delta H_{\rm f}(g)^{\rm d}$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	As <sup>e</sup> (Å <sup>2</sup> )	$\begin{array}{c} H_{sub}{}^{f} \\ (kJ \ mol^{-1}) \end{array}$	$\Delta H_{\rm f}(c)^{\rm g}$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )
DADP	0.18607	0.006468	-536.7496623	-355.140	184.23031	17.9	- 373 (-43240)
$CH_4$	0.044539	0.003813	-40.53396275	$-74.6^{41}$	-	-	-
CH <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>	0.049653	0.005281	-245.0916544	$-81.0^{41}$	-	-	-
CH <sub>3</sub> NH <sub>2</sub>	0.063782	0.004380	-95.89388879	$-23.5^{41}$	-	-	-
CHF <sub>3</sub>	0.024939	0.004429	-338.3492076	$-697.1^{41}$	-	-	-
DADPNO <sub>2</sub>	0.187485	0.016436	-945.8479467	-327.7	231.58893	26.6	-354
$DADPNH_2$	0.214845	0.013398	-647.4668093	-256.1	209.61526	23.6	-280
DADP3F	0.133795	0.015914	-1132.364964	-1573.0	206.28177	19.3	-1592

<sup>a</sup>The zero-point energy. <sup>b</sup>The thermal correction from 0 K to 298 K. <sup>c</sup>Total energy at 0 K. <sup>d</sup> $\Delta H_{f}(g)$  is the gas phase heat of formation. The values of DADP, CH<sub>4</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>NO<sub>2</sub>, CH<sub>3</sub>NH<sub>2</sub> and CHF<sub>3</sub> are the experimental ones, and other values were calculated by DFT-B3LYP methods with the 6-311G++ (d, p) basis set. <sup>e</sup>Molecular surface area. <sup>i</sup>Enthalpy of sublimation. <sup>g</sup> $\Delta H_{f}(c)$  is the condensed phase heat of formation which calculated by DFT-B3LYP methods with the 6-311G++ (d, p) basis set, while the value in parenthesis is the experimental one.

is usually used to enhance the density of energetic compounds.<sup>39</sup>

The condensed phase heats of formation of DADP and its derivatives basing on B3LYP level were shown in Table 4. DADP's calculation and measurement are -373 and -432 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> respectively, but this difference is not significant in energetic compounds.<sup>40</sup> Just like TATP and its derivatives, energetic substituted groups -NH<sub>2</sub> and -NO<sub>2</sub> can increase heats of formation of parent, and -CF<sub>3</sub> group will decrease it. It can be seen that heats of formation of DADP and its derivatives are all higher than those of TATP counterpart.<sup>11</sup>

Nitro, amino and trifluoromethyl are important group in energetic materials. Nitro and amino group can improve density and heat of formation, while trifluoromethyl will reduce heat of formation but increase density dramatically.<sup>40</sup> It is interesting to compare parent and derivatives with that three groups in detonation performance. This performance includes explosion heat, detonation velocity and detonation pressure, shown in Table 5. The calculation shows that Q, D, and P ranged from 2138 to 5543 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup>, 6416 to 7631 m s<sup>-1</sup>, and 12.6 to 23.7 GPa, respectively. Their detonation performance is close to TATP and derivatives because of their small differences in density. DADP3F and TATP3F both have very high density but poor detonation performance since their heat of formation is quite low. TATPNO<sub>2</sub> and DADPNO<sub>2</sub> both have excellent performance than other organic peroxides and TNT (Q = 5418 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup>, P = 19.0 GPa, D = 6950 m s<sup>-1</sup>).<sup>42</sup> In terms of the chemistry of explosives, they release

Table 5. Detonation parameters of some organic peroxides

Compounds	$\begin{array}{c} \rho_{cry}{}^{a} \\ (g \ cm^{-3}) \end{array}$	$\Delta H_{\rm f}(c)^{\rm b}$ (kJ mol <sup>-1</sup> )	Q <sup>c</sup> (kJ kg <sup>-1</sup> )	$D^d$ (m s <sup>-1</sup> )	P <sup>f</sup> (GPa)
DADP	1.30 (1.3111)	-373	4293	6674	12.6
DADPN <sub>H</sub> 2	1.35	-280	4341	6771	14.2
DADPNO <sub>2</sub>	1.59	-354	5543	7631	23.7
DADP3F	1.90	-1592	2138	6416	18.0
TATP <sup>10</sup>	1.28	-664	3843	6107	10.0
TATPNH <sub>2</sub> <sup>10</sup>	1.35	-465	4179	6725	14.0
TATPNO <sub>2</sub> <sup>10</sup>	1.62	-586	5424	7699	23.7
TATP3F <sup>10</sup>	1.93	-2412	2123	6458	18.1
TNT <sup>39</sup>	1.64	-63	5418	6950	19.0

 ${}^{a}\rho_{cry}$  is the crystal density, and the value in parenthesis is experimental one.  ${}^{b}\Delta H_{f}(c)$  is the condensed phase heat of formation, which calculated by DFT-B3LYP methods with the 6-311G++ (d, p) basis set. Explosion heat. dDetonation velocity. Detonation pressure. energy based on a redox reaction. The  $-NO_2$  group is able to offer oxygen atoms to the redox reaction, which means that that DADPNO<sub>2</sub> and TATPNO<sub>2</sub> had the best detonation performance.

## Synthetic routes

It is well known DADP can be prepared from acetone and hydrogen peroxide.<sup>37</sup> Therefore, DADP3F can be easily prepared from 1,1,1-trifluoroacetone and hydrogen peroxide in the same way. Similarly, bromopropanone reacts with hydrogen peroxide to produce an intermediate, and then to produce DADPNH<sub>2</sub> and DADPNO<sub>2</sub>. The possible synthetic routes are shown in Figure 7, and the key raw materials 1,1,1-trifluoroacetone and bromopropanone are both available commercially.

The above crude products can be recrystallized from acetone by heating acetone solvent with an adjusted pH. Because the DADP crystallize into the P2/c, monoclinic space group and its polymorphism was not observed,<sup>43</sup> its title derivatives DADP3F, DADPNH<sub>2</sub> and DADPNO<sub>2</sub> may form the same state as itself.

#### CONCLUSIONS

Some organic peroxidic compounds are special explosives which are popular among terrorists. TATP is a typical representative as a consequence of its low-cost and simple production process. DADP is a by-product of TATP but has better performance. In spite of this, DADP cannot replace other energetic materials due to its sensitivity and detonation performances. Therefore, three groups, -CF<sub>3</sub>, -NH<sub>2</sub> and -NO<sub>2</sub>, were linked to DADP to improve it. DADP and its derivatives, DADP3F, DADPNH<sub>2</sub>, and DADPNO<sub>2</sub>, were investigated in detail. In this paper, we focused on their geometrical and electronic structures, crystal density, and heat of formation to present their stability and detonation performances. Besides, these parameters were also compared with those of TATP and its derivatives to screen organic peroxidic compounds with the best comprehensive performance.

The calculation reveals that DADPNO<sub>2</sub> and TATPNO<sub>2</sub> both have the highest explosion heat, detonation velocity and detonation pressure. However, the DADP derivatives are all more stable than their TATP counterparts, including DADPNO<sub>2</sub>. What's more special is that the detonation performance of TATPNO<sub>2</sub> (Q = 5543 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup>, P = 23.7 GPa, D = 7631 m s<sup>-1</sup>) is higher than that of the traditional explosive TNT (Q = 5418 kJ kg<sup>-1</sup>, P = 19.0 GPa, D = 6950 m s<sup>-1</sup>). Considering all of its properties comprehensively, such as detonation



# a) The possible synthetic route of DADP3F



# b) The possible synthetic routes of DADPNH<sub>2</sub> and DADPNO<sub>2</sub>

Figure 7. The possible synthetic routes of DADP3F (a) DADPNH<sub>2</sub> and DADPNO<sub>2</sub> (b)

performance, stability, availability, and rich-oxygen, DADPNO<sub>2</sub> is a promising candidate for use as an energetic materials.

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Tables 1S to 7S are freely available at http://quimicanova.sbq. org.br, in PDF format.

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