

## Supporting Information for:

### Speciation of the Products of and Establishing the Role of Water in the Reaction of TNT with Hydroxide and Amines: Structure, Kinetics, and Computational Results

Christopher A. Latendresse, Syrena C. Fernandes, Sangmin You, and William B. Euler\*  
University of Rhode Island Department of Chemistry, 51 Lower College Road, Kingston, RI  
02881, USA

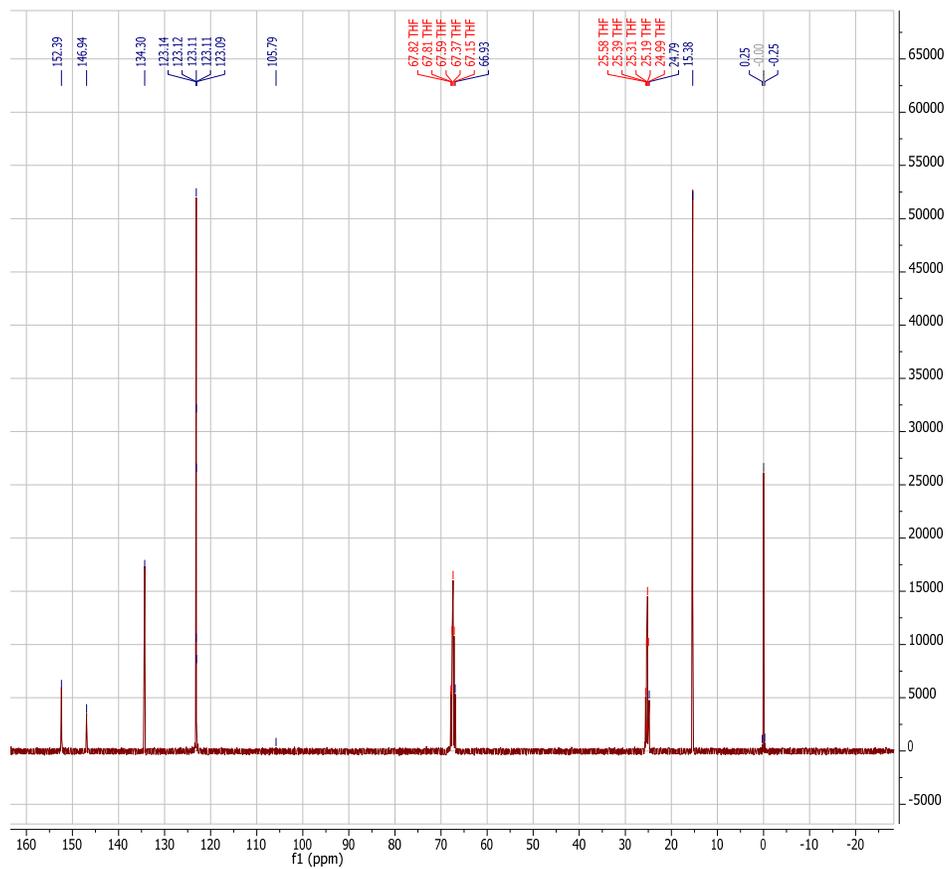
\* weuler@chm.uri.edu

**Table S1.** Thermodynamic parameters for explored bases and conjugate acids calculated at the B3LYP/6-31G\*\*/HF/6-311G\*\* level of theory in vacuum.

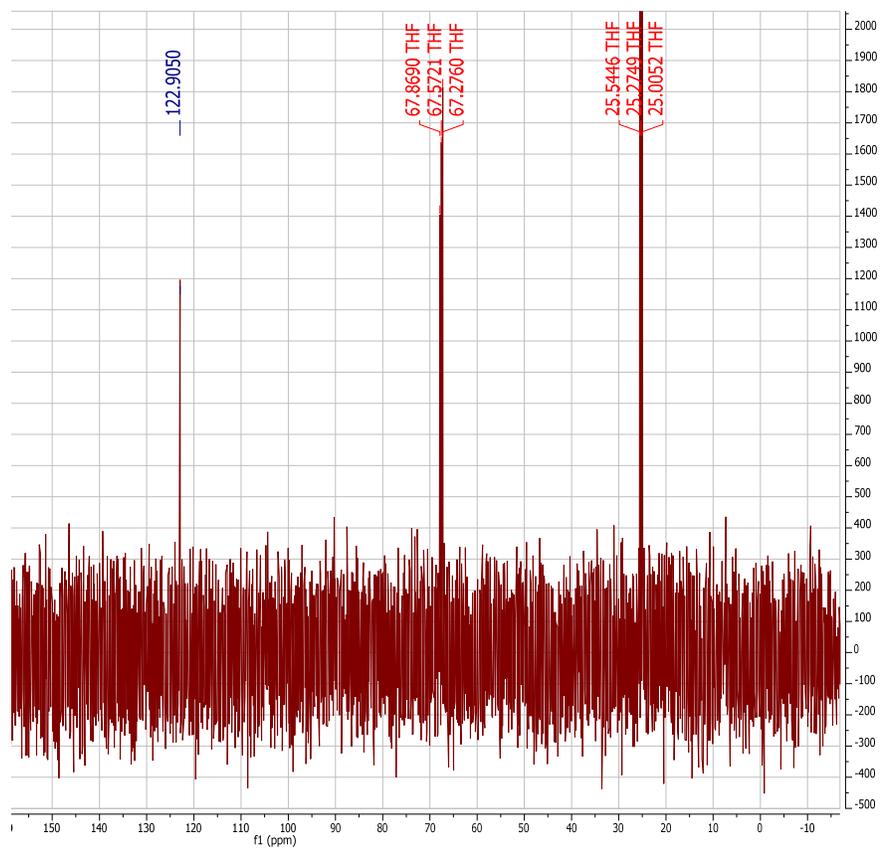
Species	$E^\circ$ (kJ/mol)	$G^\circ$ (kJ/mol)	$H^\circ$ (kJ/mol)	$S^\circ$ (J/mol·K)
OH <sup>-</sup>	-198800.88	-198818.23	-198766.98	171.87
H <sub>2</sub> O	-200607.82	-200594.42	-200538.35	188.06
MeO <sup>-</sup>	-302114.61	-302074.28	-302008.59	220.33
MeOH	-303804.09	-303727.93	-303656.21	240.55
NH <sub>3</sub>	-148464.02	-148418.43	-148361.11	192.26
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-149372.42	-149282.88	-149227.57	185.49
EA	-354885.93	-354709.00	-354626.88	275.42
H <sup>+</sup> -EA	-355849.87	-355632.36	-355549.64	277.42
DEA	-561308.42	-560991.27	-560893.68	327.33
H <sup>+</sup> -DEA	-562313.12	-561955.24	-561857.15	328.99
TEA	-767734.80	-767274.25	-767165.83	363.64
H <sup>+</sup> -TEA	-768758.73	-768256.17	-768147.38	364.89
TNT	-2323635.89	-2323372.85	-2323239.18	448.36
TNT <sup>-</sup>	-2322240.20	-2322009.11	-2321877.65	440.89
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C <sub>1</sub>	-2522923.85	-2522626.67	-2522486.23	471.07
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C <sub>3</sub>	-2522897.48	-2522599.74	-2522459.25	471.22
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C <sub>1</sub>	-2626098.64	-2625728.68	-2625583.02	488.53
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C <sub>3</sub>	-2626101.98	-2625730.52	-2625585.54	486.27
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	-2472083.14	-2471713.47	-2471572.26	473.60
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>3</sub>	-2472070.00	-2471700.81	-2471559.24	474.80
[NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> ][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-2472034.25	-2471677.78	-2471530.46	494.10
TNT-EA C <sub>1</sub>	-2678527.92	-2678013.89	-2677861.69	510.49
TNT-EA C <sub>3</sub>	-2678514.90	-2678000.44	-2677848.37	510.02
[H <sup>+</sup> -EA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-2678479.61	-2677974.95	-2677818.63	524.32
TNT-DEA C <sub>1</sub>	-2884907.43	-2884248.77	-2884085.42	547.90
TNT-DEA C <sub>3</sub>	-2884914.24	-2884255.68	-2884092.69	546.69
[H <sup>+</sup> -DEA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-2884920.78	-2884270.09	-2884103.72	558.02
[H <sup>+</sup> -TEA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-3091314.59	-3090518.53	-3090341.18	594.81

**Table S2.** Structural parameters from TNT products optimized at the HF/6-311+G\*\* level. Note that "B" refers to the bonding site of the nucleophile, and the nomenclature of parameters for C<sub>1</sub> adducts represents the nucleophile coming out of plane as shown in Scheme 1.

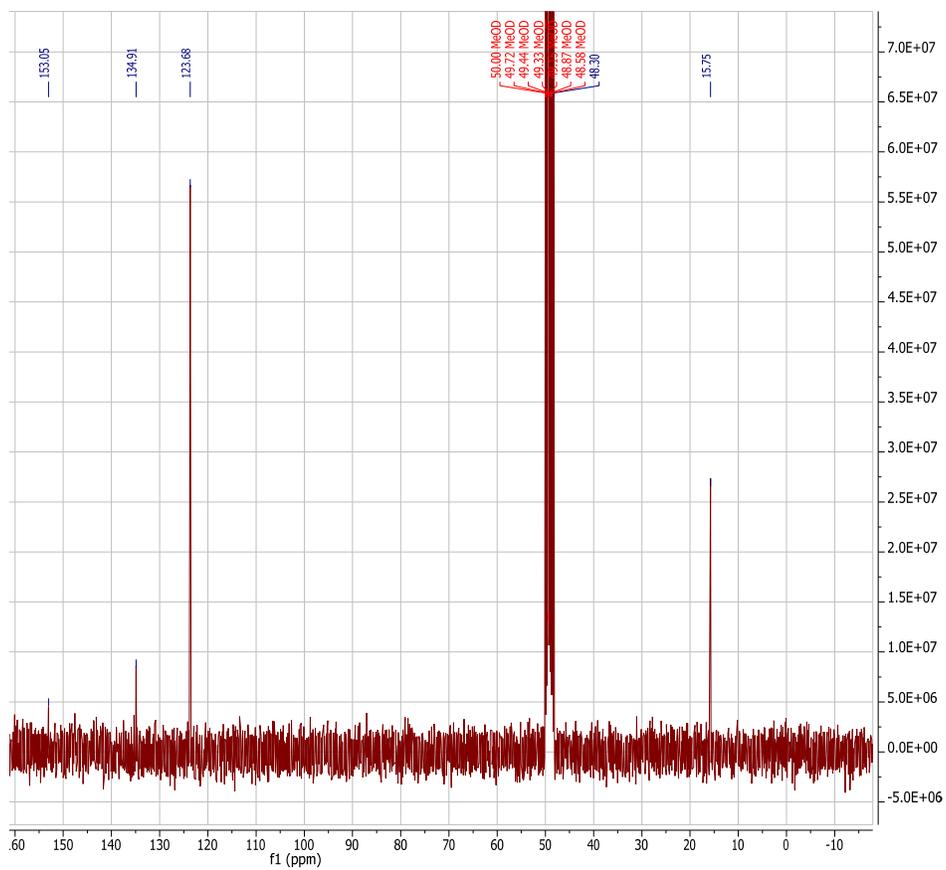
Species	Bond Lengths (Å)							
	B-C <sub>1</sub>	C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>7</sub>	C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub>	C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub>	C <sub>5</sub> -C <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>4</sub> -C <sub>5</sub>
TNT	-	1.513	1.395	1.395	1.378	1.378	1.376	1.376
TNT <sup>-</sup>	-	1.335	1.489	1.489	1.355	1.353	1.401	1.402
[NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> ][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-	1.331	1.477	1.477	1.361	1.361	1.399	1.399
[H <sup>+</sup> -EA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-	1.331	1.478	1.478	1.361	1.360	1.399	1.399
[H <sup>+</sup> -DEA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-	1.331	1.478	1.478	1.360	1.360	1.399	1.400
[H <sup>+</sup> -TEA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-	1.332	1.481	1.481	1.348	1.376	1.414	1.382
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C <sub>1</sub>	1.408	1.543	1.536	1.528	1.355	1.342	1.397	1.414
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C <sub>1</sub>	1.418	1.545	1.533	1.533	1.349	1.349	1.405	1.405
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	1.541	1.542	1.519	1.519	1.360	1.360	1.392	1.392
TNT-EA C <sub>1</sub>	1.540	1.545	1.522	1.522	1.359	1.359	1.393	1.393
TNT-DEA C <sub>1</sub>	1.597	1.544	1.521	1.528	1.357	1.361	1.395	1.389
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C <sub>3</sub>	1.422	1.517	1.352	1.448	1.508	1.405	1.493	1.350
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C <sub>3</sub>	1.420	1.516	1.374	1.430	1.509	1.411	1.494	1.344
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>3</sub>	1.561	1.514	1.383	1.419	1.495	1.396	1.480	1.354
TNT-EA C <sub>3</sub>	1.554	1.515	1.382	1.419	1.499	1.398	1.483	1.352
TNT-DEA C <sub>3</sub>	1.584	1.515	1.392	1.413	1.496	1.403	1.486	1.349
Species	Bond Angles (°)			Dihedral Angles (°)				
	C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>6</sub>	C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>4</sub>	O-N-O (C <sub>2</sub> )	O-N-O (C <sub>6</sub> )	O-N-O (C <sub>4</sub> )	C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub> -C <sub>4</sub>	C <sub>7</sub> -C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub>	B-C <sub>1</sub> -C <sub>2</sub> -C <sub>3</sub>
TNT	114.00	118.09	125.60	125.60	125.73	1.26	174.56	-
TNT <sup>-</sup>	110.38	120.91	122.20	122.28	122.49	4.90	162.29	-
[NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> ][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	110.07	119.51	121.91	121.92	123.97	10.41	143.96	-
[H <sup>+</sup> -EA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	110.14	119.63	122.02	122.07	123.89	10.22	144.94	-
[H <sup>+</sup> -DEA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	110.16	119.67	122.09	122.13	123.83	10.18	145.20	-
[H <sup>+</sup> -TEA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	110.33	119.73	123.04	120.98	123.77	8.07	149.96	-
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C <sub>1</sub>	106.59	120.86	121.66	122.59	122.31	3.67	112.27	124.86
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C <sub>1</sub>	106.37	121.11	122.09	122.10	122.24	1.44	112.76	121.44
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	107.88	121.24	122.72	122.72	124.22	4.74	91.70	126.68
TNT-EA C <sub>1</sub>	107.81	121.25	122.57	122.57	124.11	4.49	115.00	127.84
TNT-DEA C <sub>1</sub>	106.77	121.65	123.06	122.56	124.07	1.12	121.90	114.76
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C <sub>3</sub>	116.15	108.46	123.02	121.47	122.84	20.29	177.53	100.79
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C <sub>3</sub>	116.24	107.64	121.83	121.47	122.67	29.28	159.57	90.78
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>3</sub>	116.69	110.48	122.70	123.44	123.69	12.68	169.12	109.28
TNT-EA C <sub>3</sub>	116.67	110.15	122.49	123.32	123.51	13.37	168.87	110.81
TNT-DEA C <sub>3</sub>	116.57	109.06	122.43	123.29	123.74	24.13	164.56	97.53



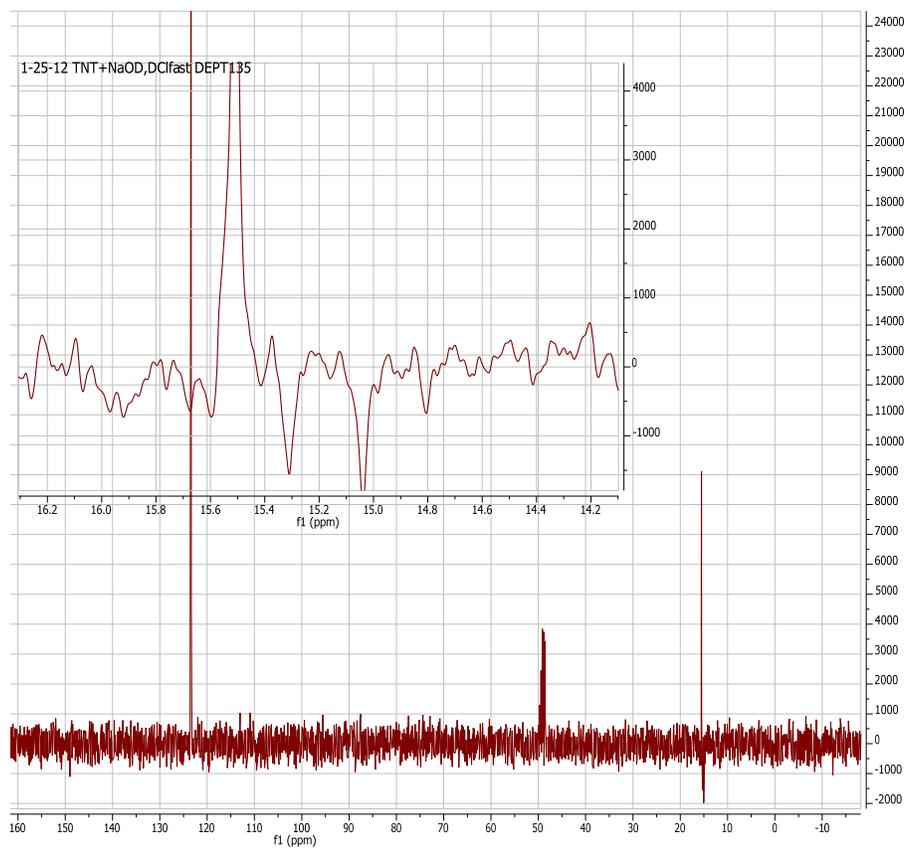
**Figure S1.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of TNT in  $d_8$ -THF prior to addition of base.



**Figure S2.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  DEPT 135 spectrum of TNT + excess NaOD in  $d_8$ -THF followed by addition of excess DCl.



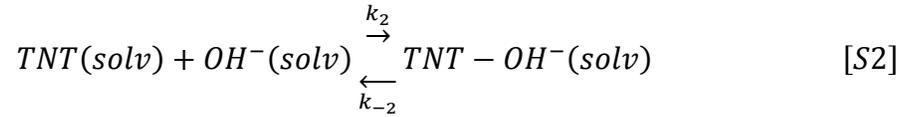
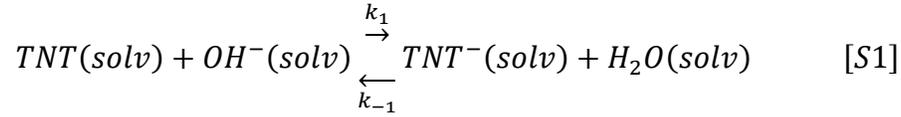
**Figure S3.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectrum of TNT in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$  before addition of base.



**Figure S4.**  $^{13}\text{C}$  DEPT 135 spectrum of TNT + excess NaOD followed by addition of excess DCl in  $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ . The inset is a zoomed view of the 14 ppm to 17 ppm region, where negative features can be observed consistent with the deprotonation and re-deuteration of TNT.

**Kinetic Model Derivation:**

For the competing equilibrium reactions between TNT and hydroxide (or methoxide):



We cannot assume one equilibrium is much faster than the other, because we observe both on a similar timescale. Therefore, they must be solved simultaneously.

The mass balance and charge balance conditions require:

$$[TNT]_o = [TNT] + [TNT^-] + [TNTOH^-] \quad [S3]$$

$$[OH^-]_o + [H_2O]_o = [OH^-] + [H_2O] + [TNTOH^-] \quad [S4]$$

$$[OH^-]_o = [OH^-] + [TNT^-] + [TNTOH^-] \quad [S5]$$

The latter two equations can be combined to show:

$$[H_2O] = [TNT^-] + [H_2O]_o \quad [S6]$$

The differential equations are:

$$\frac{d[TNT^-]}{dt} = k_1[TNT][OH^-] - k_{-1}[TNT^-][H_2O] \quad [S7]$$

$$\frac{d[TNTOH^-]}{dt} = k_2[TNT][OH^-] - k_{-2}[TNTOH^-] \quad [S8]$$

**Case 1:**  $[OH^-]_o \gg [TNT]_o$ , so that  $[OH^-] \sim [OH^-]_o$

Using S3 and S6 gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d[TNT^-]}{dt} = & k_1[OH^-]_o([TNT]_o - [TNT^-] - [TNTOH^-]) - k_{-1}[H_2O]_o[TNT^-] \\ & - k_{-1}[TNT^-]^2 \quad [S9] \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d[TNTOH^-]}{dt} = k_2[OH^-]_o([TNT]_o - [TNT^-] - [TNTOH^-]) - k_{-2}[TNTOH^-] \quad [S10]$$

Equation S4 and S6 is used to substitute for  $[TNTOH^-]$  and  $[H_2O]$ , respectively, in S9 and S5 is

used to substitute for  $[TNT^-]$  in S10:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d[TNT^-]}{dt} = & k_1[OH^-]_o([TNT]_o - [TNT^-] - ([OH^-]_o + [H_2O]_o - [OH^-] - [TNT^-] \\ & - [H_2O]_o)) - k_{-1}[H_2O]_o[TNT^-] - k_{-1}[TNT^-]^2 \quad [S11] \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d[TNTOH^-]}{dt} = & k_2[OH^-]_o([TNT]_o - ([OH^-]_o - [OH^-] - [TNTOH^-]) - [TNTOH^-]) \\ & - k_{-2}[TNTOH^-] \quad [S12] \end{aligned}$$

Collecting terms gives:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d[TNT^-]}{dt} = & k_1[OH^-]_o([TNT]_o - [OH^-]_o + [OH^-]) - k_{-1}[H_2O]_o[TNT^-] \\ & - k_{-1}[TNT^-]^2 \quad [S13] \end{aligned}$$

$$\frac{d[TNTOH^-]}{dt} = k_2[OH^-]_o([TNT]_o - [OH^-]_o + [OH^-]) - k_{-2}[TNTOH^-] \quad [S14]$$

$$\frac{d[TNT^-]}{dt} = k_1[OH^-]_o[TNT]_o - k_{-1}[H_2O]_o[TNT^-] - k_{-1}[TNT^-]^2 \quad [S15]$$

$$\frac{d[TNTOH^-]}{dt} = k_2[OH^-]_o[TNT]_o - k_{-2}[TNTOH^-] \quad [S16]$$

These solve to give

$$[TNT^-] = \frac{2k_1[OH^-]_o[TNT]_o}{k_{obs}(1 + e^{-k_{obs}t}) + k_{-1}[H_2O]_o(1 - e^{-k_{obs}t})} (1 - e^{-k_{obs}t}) \quad [S17]$$

$$[TNTOH^-] = \frac{k_2[OH^-]_o[TNT]_o}{k_{-2}} (1 - e^{-k_{-2}t}) \quad [S18]$$

where  $k_{obs} = \sqrt{k_{-1}^2[H_2O]_o^2 + k_1k_{-1}[OH^-]_o[TNT]_o}$

in the case  $k_{-1}^2[H_2O]_o^2 \gg k_1k_{-1}[OH^-]_o[TNT]_o$ , which is always the case in this work S17

becomes

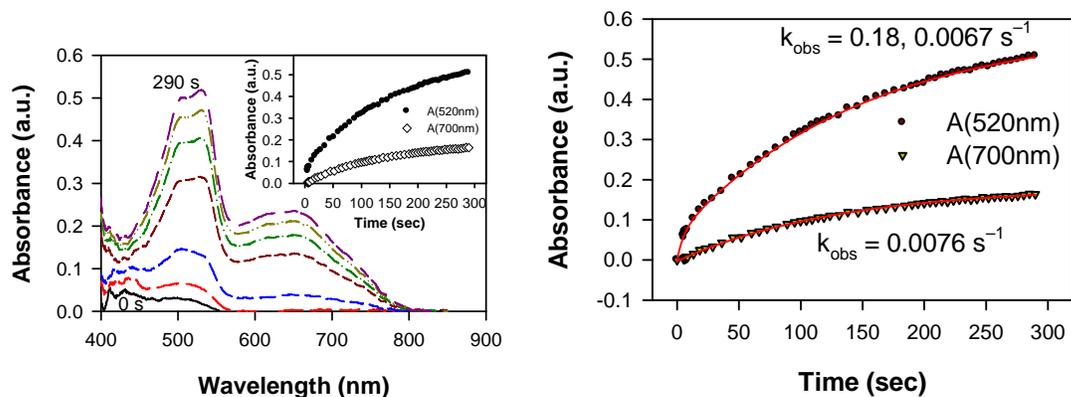
$$[TNT^-] = \frac{k_1[OH^-]_o[TNT]_o}{k_{obs}} (1 - e^{-k_{obs}t}) \quad [S19]$$

where  $k_{obs} = k_{-1}[H_2O]_o$ .

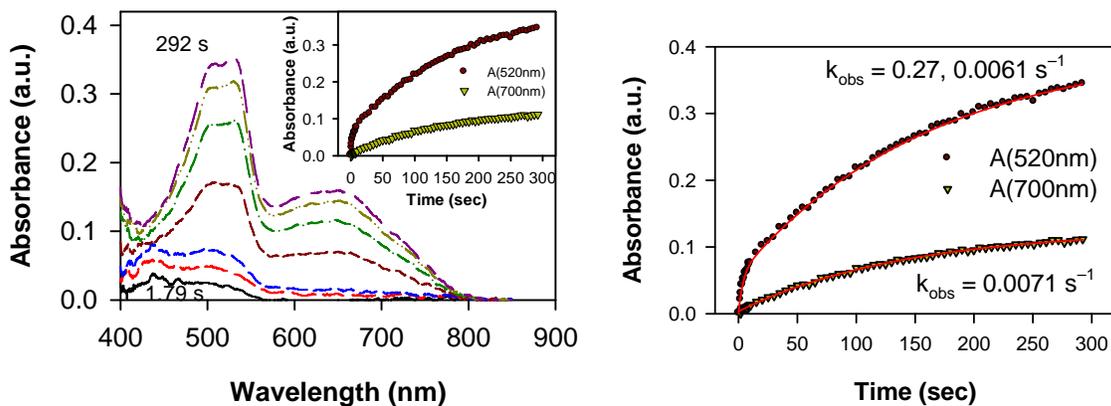
**Case 2:**  $[TNT]_o \gg [OH^-]_o$ , so that  $[TNT^-] \sim [TNT]_o$

Using S3 to substitute for  $[TNTOH^-]$  in S7, S4 to substitute for  $[OH^-]$  in S7 and S8, S3 to substitute for  $[H_2O]$  in S7 and collecting terms gives equations S15 and S16 and the same solutions as above.

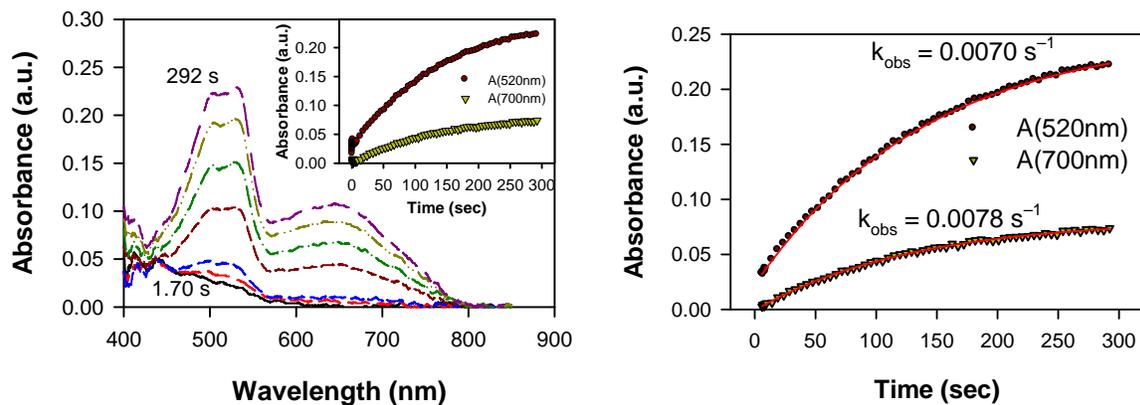
## TNT + NaOH in THF



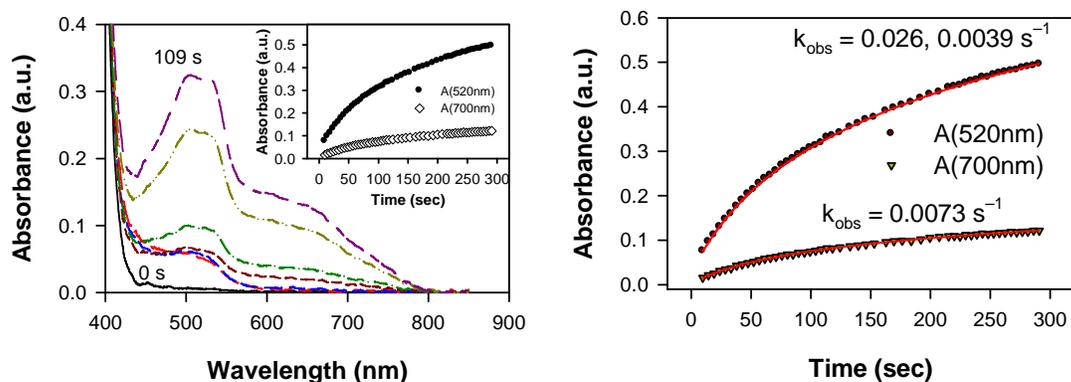
**Figure S5.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 1TNT + 100NaOH in THF, where  $[\text{TNT}] = 4.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$  and  $[\text{OH}^-] = 4.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products,  $\text{TNT-OH}^-$  and  $\text{TNT}^-$ . The right figure shows the absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.



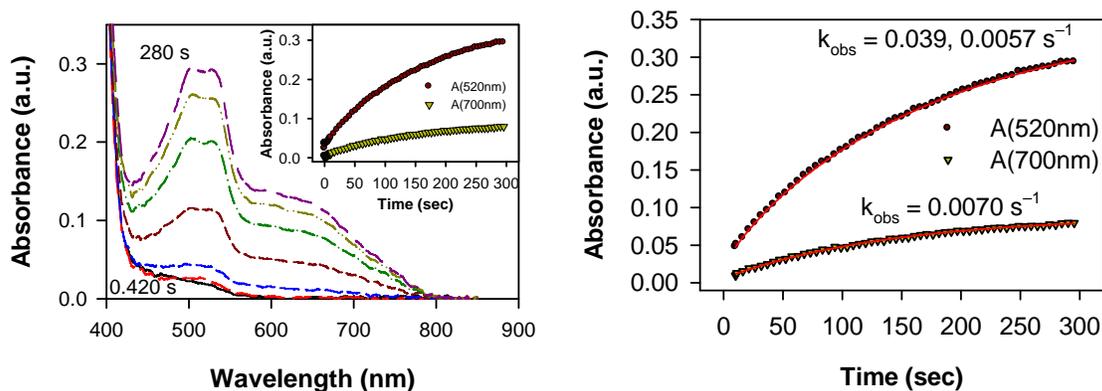
**Figure S6.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 1TNT + 100NaOH in THF, where  $[\text{TNT}] = 3.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$  and  $[\text{OH}^-] = 3.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products,  $\text{TNT-OH}^-$  and  $\text{TNT}^-$ . The right figure shows the absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.



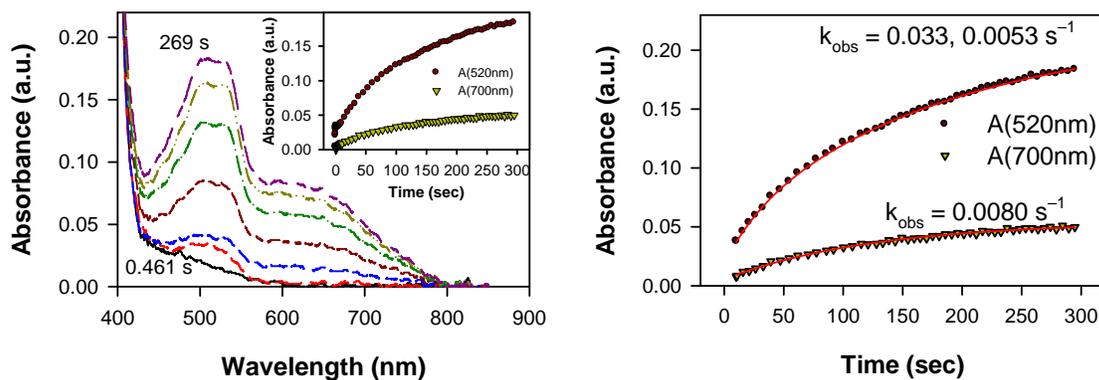
**Figure S7.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of  $1\text{TNT} + 100\text{NaOH}$  in THF, where  $[\text{TNT}] = 2.2 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$  and  $[\text{OH}^-] = 2.2 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products,  $\text{TNT-OH}^-$  and  $\text{TNT}^-$ . The right figure shows the absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.



**Figure S8.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 100TNT + 1NaOH in THF, where  $[TNT] = 2.2 \times 10^{-3}$  M and  $[OH^-] = 2.2 \times 10^{-5}$  M. The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products, TNT-OH<sup>-</sup> and TNT<sup>-</sup>. The right figure shows the absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.

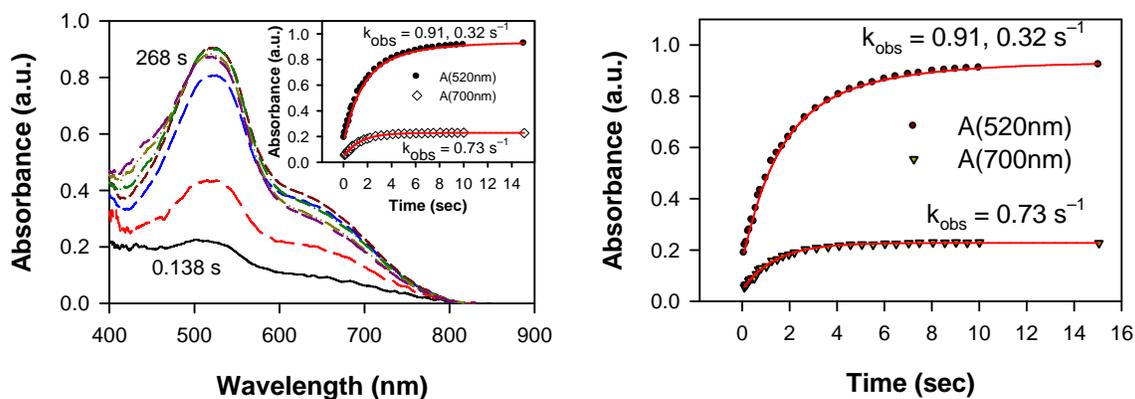


**Figure S9.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 100TNT + 1NaOH in THF, where  $[TNT] = 1.7 \times 10^{-3}$  M and  $[OH^-] = 1.7 \times 10^{-5}$  M. The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products, TNT-OH<sup>-</sup> and TNT<sup>-</sup>. The right figure shows the absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.

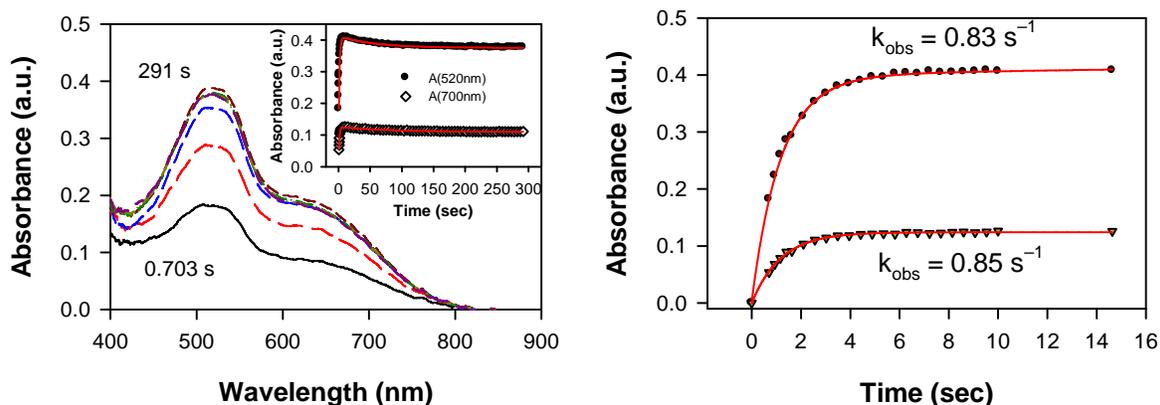


**Figure S10.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 100TNT + 1NaOH in THF, where  $[\text{TNT}] = 1.3 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}$  and  $[\text{OH}^-] = 1.3 \times 10^{-5} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products, TNT-OH<sup>-</sup> and TNT<sup>-</sup>. The right figure shows the absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.

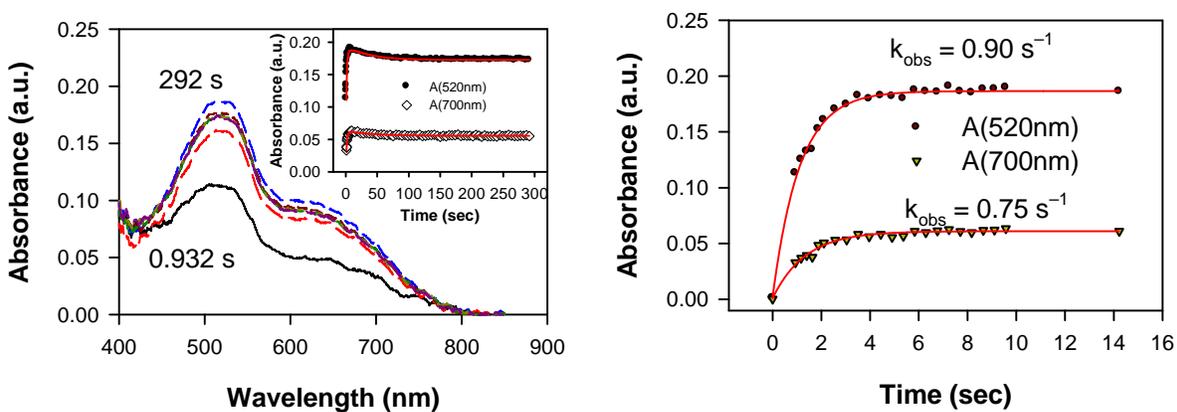
## TNT + NaOH in MeOH



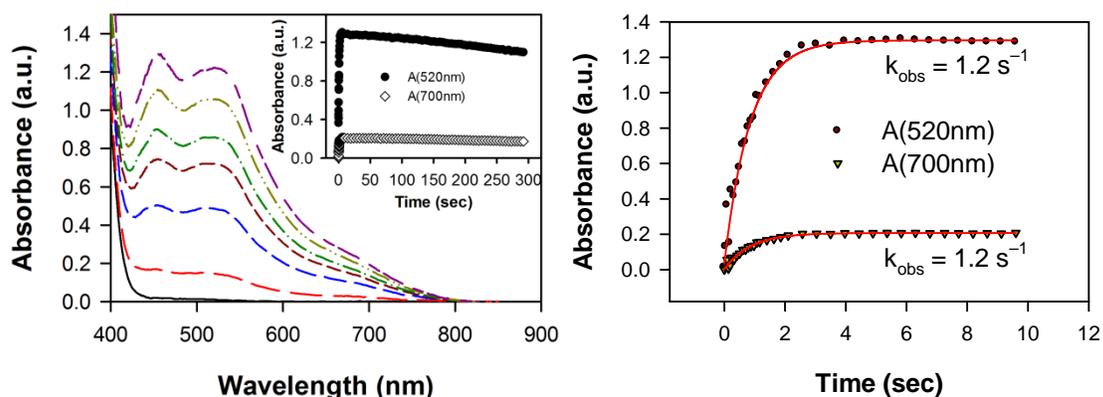
**Figure S11.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 1TNT + 100NaOH in MeOH, where  $[\text{TNT}] = 2.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$  and  $[\text{OH}^-] = 2.5 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products,  $\text{TNT-OH}^-$  and  $\text{TNT}^-$ . The left figure inset shows the phenomenological fit of the absorbance data at 520 nm and 700 nm over the first five minutes of reaction to a set of exponential rise and decay functions. The right figure shows the initial absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.



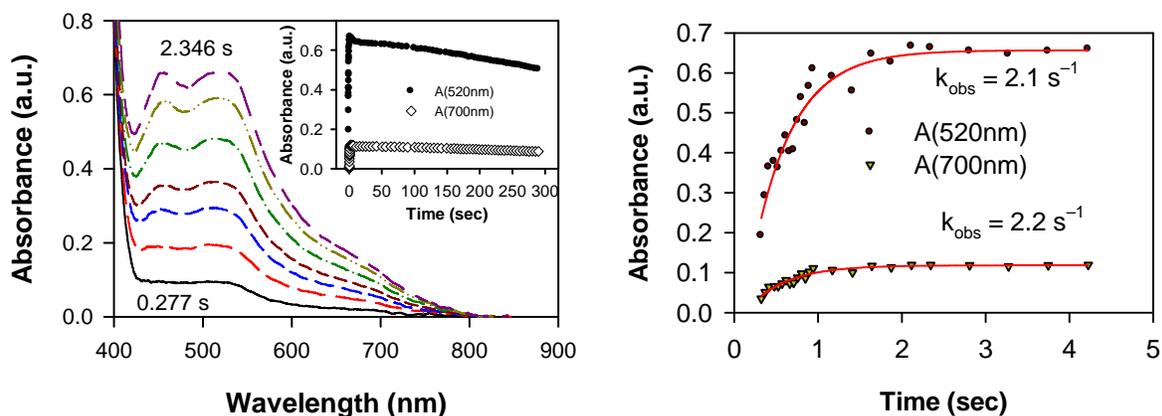
**Figure S12.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 1TNT + 100NaOH in MeOH, where  $[\text{TNT}] = 1.9 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$  and  $[\text{OH}^-] = 1.8 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products,  $\text{TNT-OH}^-$  and  $\text{TNT}^-$ . The left figure inset shows the phenomenological fit of the absorbance data at 520 nm and 700 nm over the first five minutes of reaction to a set of exponential rise and decay functions. The right figure shows the initial absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.



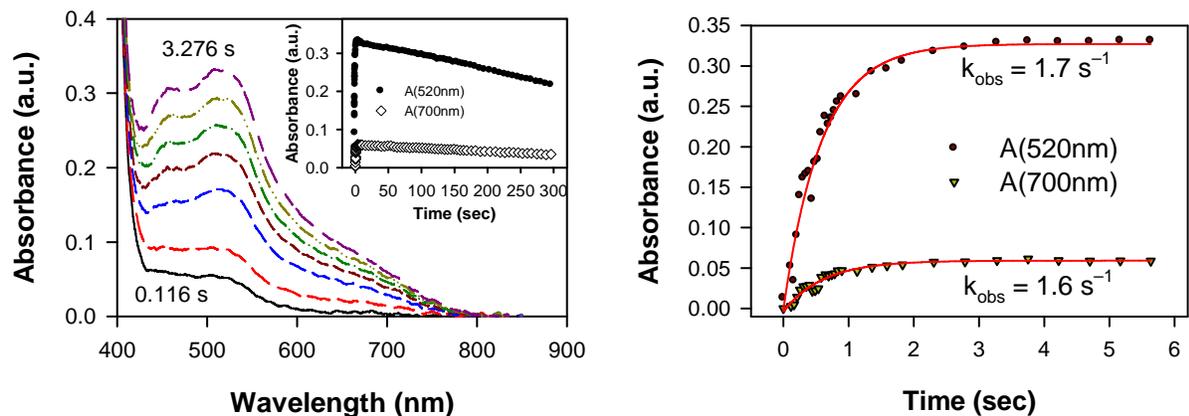
**Figure S13.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 1TNT + 100NaOH in MeOH, where  $[\text{TNT}] = 1.5 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$  and  $[\text{OH}^-] = 1.4 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products,  $\text{TNT-OH}^-$  and  $\text{TNT}^-$ . The left figure inset shows the phenomenological fit of the absorbance data at 520 nm and 700 nm over the first five minutes of reaction to a set of exponential rise and decay functions. The right figure shows the initial absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.



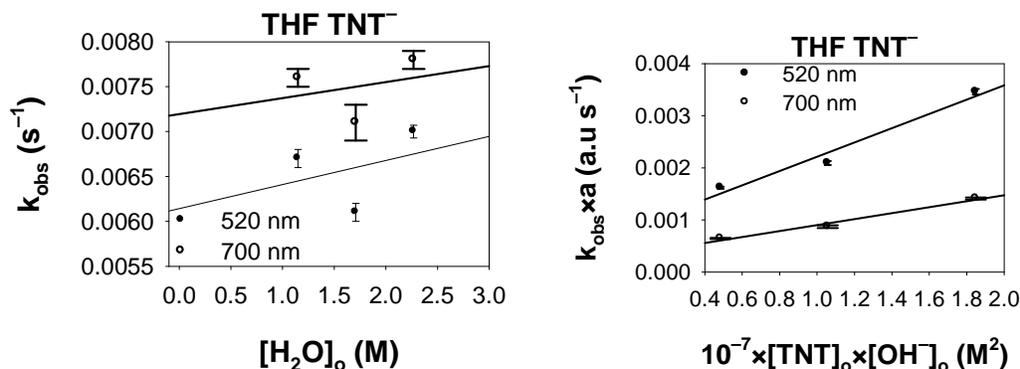
**Figure S14.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 100TNT + 1NaOH in MeOH, where  $[TNT] = 4.1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$ ,  $[OH^-] = 4.0 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products,  $TNT-OH^-$  and  $TNT^-$ . The left figure inset shows the absorbance data at 520 nm and 700 nm over the first five minutes of reaction. The right figure shows the initial absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.



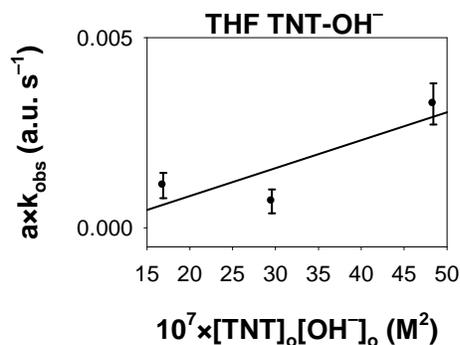
**Figure S15.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 100TNT + 1NaOH in MeOH, where  $[TNT] = 2.9 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$ ,  $[OH^-] = 2.9 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products,  $TNT-OH^-$  and  $TNT^-$ . The left figure inset shows the absorbance data at 520 nm and 700 nm over the first five minutes of reaction. The right figure shows the initial absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.



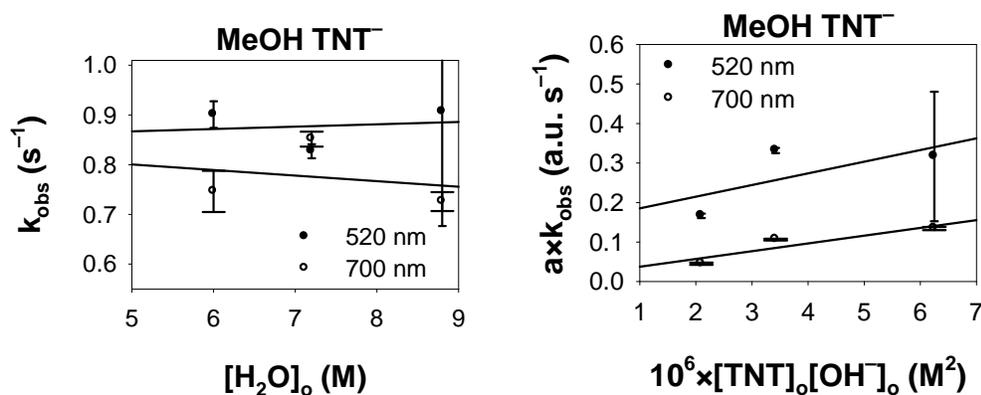
**Figure S16.** Absorbance evolution for the reaction of 100TNT + 1NaOH in MeOH, where  $[TNT] = 2.2 \times 10^{-2} \text{ M}$ ,  $[OH^-] = 2.2 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}$ . The left figure shows absorbance growth in the visible range comprised of two discernible products, TNT-OH<sup>-</sup> and TNT<sup>-</sup>. The left figure inset shows the absorbance data at 520 nm and 700 nm over the first five minutes of reaction. The right figure shows the initial absorbance data at 520 nm and at 700 nm as a function of time. The data have been fit to equations S18 and S19, with the observed rate constants indicated.



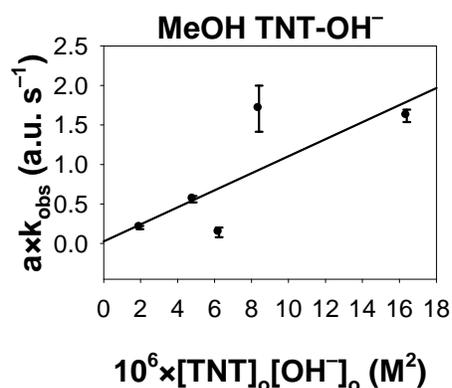
**Figure S17.** Plots of  $k_{\text{obs}}$  vs.  $[H_2O]_o$  (left) (slopes =  $2.7 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $1.8 \times 10^{-4} \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for 520 nm and 700 nm, respectively) and  $k_{\text{obs}} \times a$  vs.  $[TNT]_o [OH^-]_o$  (right) (slopes =  $1.3 \times 10^4 \text{ a.u. M}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  and  $5.6 \times 10^3 \text{ a.u. M}^{-2} \text{ s}^{-1}$  for 520 nm and 700 nm, respectively) for the data for TNT<sup>-</sup> in THF.



**Figure S18.** Plot  $k_{\text{obs}} \times a$  vs.  $[\text{TNT}]_o[\text{OH}]_o$  for the 520 nm data for  $\text{TNT-OH}^-$  in THF (slope =  $7.3 \times 10^2 \text{ a.u.} \cdot \text{M}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ).



**Figure S19.** Plots of  $k_{\text{obs}}$  vs.  $[\text{H}_2\text{O}]_o$  (left) (slope =  $4.8 \times 10^{-3} \text{ M}^{-1} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$  for 520 nm) and  $k_{\text{obs}} \times a$  vs.  $[\text{TNT}]_o[\text{OH}]_o$  (right) (slopes =  $3.0 \times 10^5 \text{ a.u.} \cdot \text{M}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$  and  $2.0 \times 10^5 \text{ a.u.} \cdot \text{M}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$  for 520 nm and 700 nm, respectively) for the data for  $\text{TNT}^-$  in MeOH. The negative slope found in the plot of  $k_{\text{obs}}$  (700 nm) vs.  $[\text{H}_2\text{O}]_o$  was not used in the determination of  $k_{-1}$ .



**Figure S20.** Plot  $k_{\text{obs}} \times a$  vs.  $[\text{TNT}]_o[\text{OH}]_o$  for the 520 nm data for  $\text{TNT-OH}^-$  in MeOH (slope =  $1.1 \times 10^5 \text{ a.u.} \cdot \text{M}^{-2} \cdot \text{s}^{-1}$ ).

**Table S3.** Energies for explored bases and conjugate acids calculated at the B3LYP/6-31G\*\*/HF/6-311G\*\* level of theory in implicit solvation models.

Species	E° (kJ/mol)							
	Vacuum	Hexane	THF	1-Propanol	MeOH	Formic Acid	Water	Formamide
OH <sup>-</sup>	-198800.88	-198956.81	-199093.78	-199227.72	-199261.18	-199259.10	-199274.68	-199269.77
H <sub>2</sub> O	-200607.82	-200618.97	-200628.84	-200638.52	-200641.18	-200635.38	-200644.50	-200640.00
MeO <sup>-</sup>	-302114.61	-302260.67	-302384.27	-302460.37	-302479.42	-302475.78	-302484.96	-302481.80
MeOH	-303804.09	-303811.09	-303816.19	-303821.32	-303823.22	-303817.69	-303823.00	-303819.18
NH <sub>3</sub>	-148464.02	-148468.54	-148474.84	-148479.16	-148480.51	-148482.03	-148481.64	-148478.99
NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup>	-149372.42	-149569.34	-149735.02	-149747.09	-149750.55	-149754.10	-149759.79	-149756.12
EA	-354885.93	-354895.74	-354898.52	-354902.63	-354904.09	-354903.69	-354901.48	-354900.23
H <sup>+</sup> -EA	-355849.87	-356017.27	-356154.14	-356164.23	-356167.54	-356167.29	-356168.93	-356168.67
DEA	-561308.42	-561322.19	-561322.21	-561325.89	-561327.46	-561325.05	-561320.42	-561321.25
H <sup>+</sup> -DEA	-562313.12	-562459.15	-562572.66	-562581.29	-562584.47	-562580.63	-562577.50	-562581.43
TEA	-767734.80	-767752.05	-767750.00	-767751.90	-767753.44	-767747.99	-767739.13	-767744.10
H <sup>+</sup> -TEA	-768758.73	-768887.95	-768982.29	-768990.60	-768993.83	-768987.54	-768979.96	-768987.45

**Table S4.** Energies for TNT and related products calculated at the B3LYP/6-31G\*\*//HF/6-311G\*\* level of theory in implicit solvation models.

Species	E° (kJ/mol)							
	Vacuum	Hexane	THF	1-Propanol	MeOH	Formic Acid	Water	Formamide
TNT	-2323635.89	-2323669.69	-2323674.65	-2323669.65	-2323670.82	-2323647.18	-2323657.42	-2323651.65
TNT <sup>-</sup>	-2322240.20	-2322333.57	-2322390.64	-2322414.85	-2322423.19	-2322401.50	-2322414.88	-2322407.29
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C <sub>1</sub>	-2522923.85	-2523018.15	-2523078.90	-2523107.75	-2523117.76	-2523094.80	-2523111.34	-2523102.47
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C <sub>3</sub>	-2522897.48	-2522897.48	-2523055.96	-2523087.80	-2523097.99	-2523073.86	-2523091.35	-2523082.65
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C <sub>1</sub>	-2626098.64	-2626191.22	-2626249.79	-2626281.60	-2626291.90	-2626270.10	-2626283.26	-2626275.29
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C <sub>3</sub>	-2626101.98	-2626195.03	-2626253.67	-2626284.05	-2626293.95	-2626271.32	-2626284.86	-2626277.19
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>1</sub>	-2472083.14	-2472138.62	-2472169.52	-2472183.76	-2472188.94	-2472168.77	-2472181.22	-2472172.27
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C <sub>3</sub>	-2472070.00	-2472129.43	-2472169.52	-2472176.57	-2472181.69	-2472161.26	-2472181.22	-2472165.34
[NH <sub>4</sub> <sup>+</sup> ][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-2472034.25	-2472104.81	-2472149.06	-2472162.78	-2472168.75	-2472148.07	-2472161.34	-2472151.84
TNT-EA C <sub>1</sub>	-2678527.92	-2678577.75	-2678597.24	-2678608.48	-2678613.61	-2678590.92	-2678598.44	-2678593.55
TNT-EA C <sub>3</sub>	-2678514.90	-2678567.44	-2678588.43	-2678599.97	-2678604.99	-2678581.94	-2678589.34	-2678585.09
[H <sup>+</sup> -EA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-2678479.61	-2678544.97	-2678577.11	-2678589.98	-2678595.74	-2678571.97	-2678581.24	-2678575.42
TNT-DEA C <sub>1</sub>	-2884907.43	-2884956.06	-2884971.72	-2884978.72	-2884983.53	-2884959.90	-2884963.91	-2884961.84
TNT-DEA C <sub>3</sub>	-2884914.24	-2884966.44	-2884984.78	-2884992.25	-2884997.09	-2884973.06	-2884976.71	-2884914.24
[H <sup>+</sup> -DEA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-2884920.78	-2884981.74	-2885005.19	-2885015.03	-2885020.66	-2884994.38	-2884999.18	-2884997.35
[H <sup>+</sup> -TEA][TNT <sup>-</sup> ]	-3091314.59	-3091380.26	-3091405.80	-3091416.06	-3091422.13	-3091395.38	-3091397.85	-3091397.62

**Table S5.** HOMO, LUMO, and TDDFT energies calculated at the B3LYP 6-311+G\*\*//HF 6-311G+\*\* level of theory.

Species	HOMO (eV)	LUMO (eV)	TDDFT wavelengths (nm)	TDDFT intensities
TNT	-8.77	-3.65	266.74 272.45 284.65 300.36 301.32 303.88	0.0001568 0.0022780 0.0000464 0.0365716 0.0058020 0.0000891
TNT <sup>-</sup>	-2.31	0.50	304.14 312.09 312.98 316.58 406.61 511.20	0.0000655 0.3115760 0.0176902 0.0473531 0.2093510 0.1756960
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C1	-6.66	-3.45	297.16 302.00 308.92 310.46 331.57 410.45	0.00148740 0.00000038 0.00020381 0.00066509 0.18512400 0.32474500
TNT-EA C1	-6.51	-3.33	298.91 302.58 308.20 311.32 331.05 412.28	0.000468252 0.000000334 0.000068890 0.004977040 0.225500000 0.319937000

TNT-DEA C1	-6.42	-3.16	297.47 299.91 304.61 312.53 330.58 409.40	0.0001177 0.0033573 0.0001008 0.0005805 0.2240990 0.2868690
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C1	-2.73	0.41	289.90 307.19 309.47 316.50 347.89 419.16	0.01677940 0.00021826 0.00043647 0.00480370 0.34054600 0.31516600
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C1	-2.67	0.54	305.71 308.95 313.39 318.55 349.00 413.22	0.0000092 0.0018620 0.0650377 0.0569989 0.2750790 0.3118780
TNT-NH <sub>3</sub> C3	-6.65	-3.31	292.99 297.03 300.75 307.64 338.09 403.32	0.02793840 0.00134577 0.01030340 0.01457890 0.16099800 0.28525500
TNT-EA C3	-6.50	-3.19	293.52 296.61 297.73 307.70 338.07 405.32	0.027287100 0.000568472 0.006270280 0.005044890 0.193170000 0.284345000
TNT-DEA C3	-6.45	-3.07	288.73 294.32 299.02 315.55 336.43 404.28	0.01581700 0.01266110 0.01869990 0.03954120 0.17331700 0.22514000
TNT-OH <sup>-</sup> C3	-2.75	0.69	278.05 301.55 306.58 309.04 351.08 401.08	0.10748400 0.01005880 0.01753140 0.01005180 0.31112500 0.23743800
TNT-OCH <sub>3</sub> <sup>-</sup> C3	-2.76	0.60	292.20 304.71 308.60 324.51 350.84 395.75	0.0851797 0.0080981 0.0184820 0.0218973 0.2646460 0.2980620