Novel Synthesis of Fluoroalkylated α , β -Unsaturated Ketones by the Oxygenative Perfluoroalkylation of α -Chlorostyrenes

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The photochemical reaction of perfluoroalkyl iodide with α -chlorostyrenes in the presence of hexabutylditin under oxygen atmosphere produced fluoroalkylated α , β -unsaturated ketones in moderate to good yields.

For the synthesis of perfluoroalkylated organic molecules, the building-block strategy has now become one of the most convenient approaches, and considerable efforts have been devoted to the development of the synthesis of the fluorine-containing building blocks. The perfluoroalkylated α , β -unsaturated ketones **2** are expected to be important building blocks for various interesting fluoroalkylated heterocyclic compounds.^{1–3} Now, we have found a novel synthesis of the ketones **2** starting from α -chlorostyrenes **1** using perfluoroalkyl radicals and molecular oxygen (Scheme 1).



Previously, we found the photochemical reaction of perfluoroalkyl iodide with styrene in the presence of hexabutylditin under oxygen atmosphere to produce the fluoroalkylated alcohol mainly and the ketone 2 as a side product.⁴ In order to obtain the ketone 2 selectively, the reaction conditions and some olefins such as α -halostyrenes and α -trimethylsilylstyrenes were examined. Among the various attempts, in the reactions of α -chlorostyrene **1a** with perfluorohexyl iodide, fluoroalkylated ketones were obtained in good yield as a mixture of 2a, 3a and 4a (Scheme 2).^{5,6} Although three types of ketones (2a-4a) were produced in this reaction, the treatment of the reaction mixture consisting of 2a, 3a and 4a with NEt₂ and NaHCO₃ in ether gave 2a as the sole product in 60% overall yield. Thus, a practical one-pot procedure was carried out for the synthesis of 2a directly from α -chlorostyrene as shown in Scheme 2.

A solution of perfluoroalkyl iodide (0.40 mmol), α chlorostyrene **1a** (1.20 mmol), and (Bu₃Sn)₂ (0.44 mmol) in benzene (3 mL) was irradiated using a metal halide lamp (National Sky-beam MT-70) in a Pyrex tube under O₂ atmosphere for 5 h. In order to consume the perfluoroalkyl iodide completely, 1.1 eq of (Bu₃Sn)₂ was required. The reaction mixture was evaporated and the residue was dissolved in ether (2 mL). After treatment of the solution with Et₃N (0.1 mL) and NaHCO₃ (130 mg) for 2 h at room temperature, the ketone **2a** was isolated in 42% yield using a silica gel column chromatography, followed by gel permeation chromatography. Various α -chlorostyrenes and related compounds were further examined and the corresponding ketones (2) were obtained in moderate to good yields (Table 1). The length of the fluoroalkyl chains and the substituents on the benzene ring (*p*-Me and *p*-Cl) showed little effect on the yields of 2 (Table 1; entries 1-5). In 2-naph-thyl, the ketones 2 were obtained in nearly the same yields with those in phenyl (Table 1; entries 9-11), but the yields in 1-naphthyl were slightly lower (Table 1; entries 6-8). The present



Yield; 69% (2a: 3a: 4a = 25: 53: 22)

Scheme 2.

Fable	1.	Synthesis	of	2	from	α -chlorostyrene	s
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Entry	n of CF ₃ (CF ₂) _n l	Ar of ArC(CI)=CH ₂	Yield of 2 / % ^a
1	З	Ph	51
2	5		60
3	9 ^ь		56
4	5	<i>p</i> -CIC ₆ H ₄	50
5	5	p-MeC ₆ H ₄	53
6	З		49
7	5		51
8	9 b		44
9	З		61
10	5		66
11	9 ^ь		65

^aYields were determined by ¹⁹F-NMR based on $CF_3(CF_2)_nI$ using PhCF₃ as an internal standard. ^bChlorobenzene was used as a solvent for the low solubility of $CF_3(CF_2)_9I$ to benzene.

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reaction was only applicable to the olefins possessing an aromatic ring at the α -position; in the reaction with 2-chloro-1octene, the desired fluoroalkylated ketone was not produced.

The oxyfluoroalkylation described here is a very unique example for the formation of fluoroalkylated ketones directly from olefins using a perfluoroalkyl radical and molecular oxygen; the use of molecular oxygen for the selective oxidation of organic substrate is very attractive and challenging.^{7–9} As α -chlorostyrenes were readily synthesized from styrenes with PhSeCl₃ or acetophenones with PCl₅,^{10,11} this method is very convenient and practical for the synthesis of various perfluoroalkylated α , β -unsaturated ketones.

Interestingly, Et_3N is an effective reagent for the conversion of **3a** to **2a** (Scheme 2). Since Et_3N easily added to **3a** to form the Michael adduct **5a**, the more thermodynamically stable isomer **2a** was formed almost quantitatively via addition–elimination reactions (Scheme 3). Further studies on the reactions of **2a** are now in progress.



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References and Notes

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- 5 In this reaction, the saturated ketone 4a was produced at first, and then the elimination of HF from 4a occurred to give the unsaturated ketone 2a. The ketone 3a should be produced by the photoisomerization of 2a. When the isolated 2a was irradiated in benzene under similar conditions, the isomerization from 2a to 3a was observed; the ratio of 2a / 3a in photostationary state was 1 / 4.
- Spectral data. 2a: ¹H-NMR (500 MHz: CDCl₂) δ 6.73 (d, 1H, $J_{\rm HF}$ = 31.7 Hz), 7.50 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.62 (m, 1H, Ph), 7.89 (m, 2H, Ph); ¹³C-NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 110.67, 128.73, 129.00, 134.39, 136.23, 151.69 (d, J_{CE} = 284 Hz), 186.29; ¹⁹F-NMR (470.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm down field from external CF₃COOH) -5.92 (3F), -37.14 (1F), -43.43 (2F), -47.81 (4F), -51.32 (2F); HRMS, Found 418.0224. Calcd for C₁₄H₆F₁₂O 418.0226. 3a: ¹H-NMR (500 MHz: CDCl₃) δ 6.85 (d, 1H, $J_{\text{HF}} = 20.1$ Hz), 7.52 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.65 (m, 1H, Ph), 7.93 (m, 2H, Ph); ¹³C-NMR (125.7 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 116.24, 128.92, 129.14, 134.55, 135.76, 151.68 (d, $J_{\rm CF}$ = 302 Hz), 186.43; ¹⁹F-NMR (470.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm down field from external CF₃COOH) -5.92 (3F), -40.13 (2F), -41.36 (1F), -47.25 (2F), -47.99 (2F), -51.29 (2F). **4a**: ¹H-NMR (500 MHz: CDCl₃) δ 3.78 (t, 2H, J_{HF} = 17.7 Hz), 7.52 (m, 2H, Ph), 7.65 (m, 1H, Ph), 7.95 (m, 2H, Ph); ¹³C-NMR (100.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 38.69 (t, J_{CCF} = 21 Hz), 128.60, 128.93, 134.19, 136.43, 189.58; ¹⁹F-NMR (470.4 MHz, CDCl₃) δ (ppm down field from external CF₃COOH) -5.92 (3F), -36.10 (2F), -46.86 (2F), -47.87 (4F), -51.26 (2F); HRMS, Found 438.0263. Calcd for $C_{14}H_7F_{13}O$ 438.0289.
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