

Synthesis of 4-Aryl-8-fluoro-3a,4,5,9b-tetrahydro-3H-cyclopenta[c]quinolines and Their Ozonides

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4-Aryl-8-fluoro-3a,4,5,9b-tetrahydro-3H-cyclopenta[c]quinolines are synthesized by acid-catalyzed ($\text{CF}_3\text{CO}_2\text{H}$) three-component cyclocondensation of 4-fluoroaniline with aromatic aldehydes and cyclopentadiene. Stable ozonides with (1*R**,4*S**,5*aR**,6*S**,11*bS**)-configurations are obtained by ozonolysis of corresponding trifluoroacetyl derivatives.

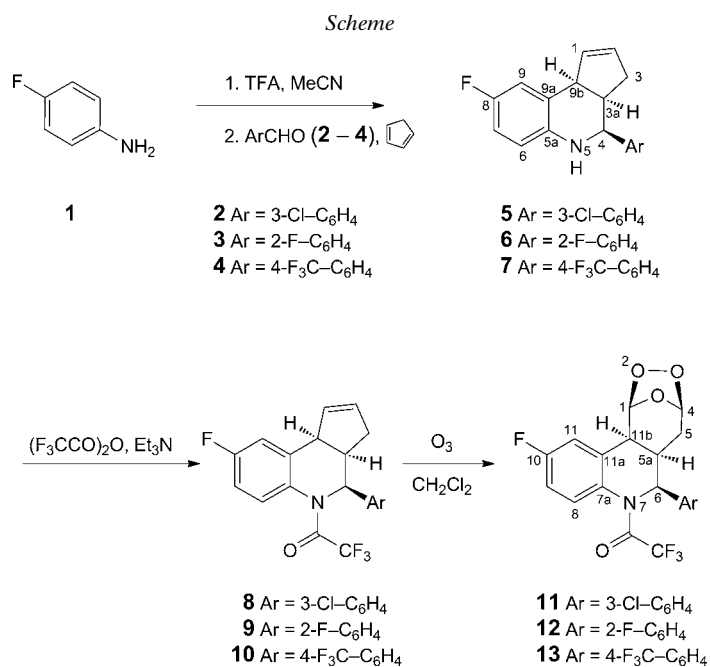
Introduction. – The tetrahydroquinoline skeleton is often used for the design of many synthetic compounds with diverse pharmacological properties. The fluorinated heterocyclic compounds possess a broad spectrum of biological activities [1][2]. A special interest is focused on derivatives of 6-fluoroquinolines. Due to interesting chemical or biological properties of F-bearing tetrahydroquinolines, the synthesis of this class of azaheterocyclic compounds has attracted broad interest [3–5].

The *aza-Diels–Alder* reaction (*Povarov* reaction; cyclocondensation of aromatic *Schiff* bases (anils) with electron-rich olefins) provides great opportunities in the formation of the quinoline skeleton [6][7]. One-step three-component reaction of substituted anilines with aldehydes and cyclopentadiene as a dienophile is one of the synthetically most attractive approaches [8]. This method opens a simple route to the synthesis of substituted tetrahydroquinolines [9].

Ozonolytic cleavage of the cycloalkenyl C=C bond in tetrahydroquinoline fused with cyclopentene affords the ozonides of aza-heterocycles [10]. To improve antimalaria or antiviral activity of synthetic peroxides and ozonides, their conjugates containing weakly basic functional groups and heterocycles were obtained [11].

Within this context, we report here a one-pot three-component cyclocondensation of 4-fluoroaniline with aromatic aldehydes and cyclopentadiene to synthesize 6-fluorotetrahydroquinoline annulated with cyclopentene for the following possibility to obtain their stable ozonides.

Result and Discussion. – The condensation of *in situ* generated trifluoroacetate of 4-fluorophenylammonium (prepared by mixing equimolar amounts of amine **1** and 2,2,2-trifluoroacetic acid (TFA)) with an equimolar amount of an aromatic aldehyde (3-chloro-, 2-fluoro-, and 4-(trifluoromethyl)benzaldehyde (**2–4**, resp.)) and the fivefold excess of cyclopentadiene under normal conditions occurs rapidly and quantitatively (*Scheme*; cf. [8][9]).



The H-atoms at the stereogenic centers C(3a), C(4), and C(9b) in the cycloadducts **5–7** are *cis*-oriented relative to each other, as deduced from their spin-spin coupling-constant values ($J(3a,9b) = 8.8$ and $J(4,3a) = 3.2–3.6$ Hz; *Table I*). The structure of the compound **5** was clearly confirmed by X-ray diffraction (*Fig. 1*) and shows a pseudo-equatorial position of the 4-Ar group. Since the spectra of the synthesized compounds **5–7** have convergence and similarity of the main signals, we consider that

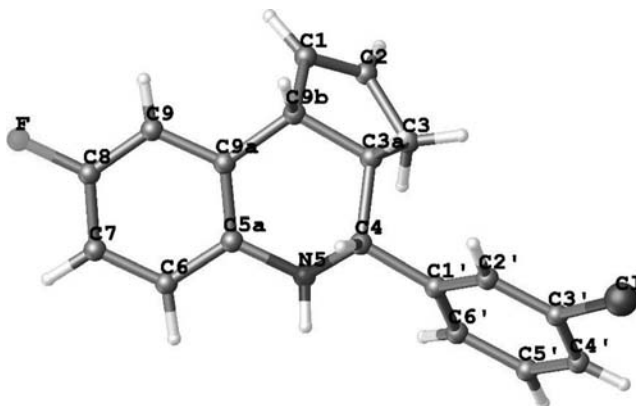


Fig. 1. The molecular structure of (3aR*,4S*,9bS*)-4-(3-chlorophenyl)-8-fluoro-3a,4,5,9b-tetrahydro-3H-cyclopenta[c]quinoline (**5**) in the crystal

Table 1. The ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR Data (δ in ppm, J in Hz) of Compounds 5–7

Position	Compound 5			Compound 6			Compound 7		
	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$		$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$		$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$	
1	5.88 (br. s)	133.5		5.86 (br. s)	133.6		5.85 (br. s)	133.3	
2	5.74 (br. s)	130.9		5.77 (br. s)	130.8		5.71 (br. s)	130.8	
3	1.88 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 16.0, 8.8$), 2.66 (<i>ddd</i> , $J = 16.0, 9.2, 2.0$)	31.5		1.92 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 16.0, 9.4$), 2.71 (<i>ddd</i> , $J = 16.0, 9.2, 2.0$)	31.8		1.82 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 16.0, 8.8$), 2.62 (<i>ddd</i> , $J = 16.0, 9.2, 2.4$)	31.3	
3a	3.03 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 8.8, 3.2$)	45.6		3.25 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 8.8, 3.2$)	43.1		3.03 (<i>dd</i> , $J = 8.8, 3.2$)	45.4	
4	4.59 (<i>d</i> , $J = 3.2$)	57.9		5.00 (br. s)	51.4		4.68 (<i>d</i> , $J = 3.2$)	58.1	
5a	–	141.4		–	141.7		–	141.1	
6	6.60–6.62 (<i>m</i>)	115.8 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 15.0$)		6.62 (<i>dd</i> , $^3J(\text{H,H}) = 8.8$, $^4J(\text{H,F}) = 4.8$)	115.3 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 16.0$)		6.62 (<i>dd</i> , $^3J(\text{H,H}) = 8.8$, $^4J(\text{H,F}) = 4.8$)	116.8 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 7.0$)	
7	6.79 (<i>ddd</i> , $J(\text{H,H}) = 8.4$, 2.6, $^3J(\text{H,F}) = 8.4$)	115.1 (<i>d</i> , $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 22$)		6.85 (<i>ddd</i> , $J(\text{H,H}) = 8.4$, 2.8, $^3J(\text{H,F}) = 8.4$)	115.1 (<i>d</i> , $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 18.0$)		6.75 (<i>ddd</i> , $J(\text{H,H}) = 8.4$, 2.8, $^3J(\text{H,F}) = 8.4$)	115.0 (<i>d</i> , $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 22$)	
8	–	156.7 (<i>d</i> , $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 235.0$)		–	156.8 (<i>d</i> , $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 235.0$)		–	156.7 (<i>d</i> , $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 236.0$)	
9	6.86 (<i>dd</i> , $J(\text{H,H}) = 2.4$, $^3J(\text{H,F}) = 9.2$)	113.2 (<i>d</i> , $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 22.0$)		6.89 (<i>dd</i> , $J(\text{H,H}) = 2.6$, $J(\text{H,F}) = 9.4$)	113.1 (<i>d</i> , $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 23.0$)		6.82 (<i>dd</i> , $J(\text{H,H}) = 2.8$, $J(\text{H,F}) = 9.2$)	113.6 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 22.0$)	
9a	–	125.5		–	129.9 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 12.0$)		–	125.5	
9b	4.13 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(9b,3a) = 8.8$)	46.6		4.17 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(9b,3a) = 8.8$)	46.5		4.13 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(9b,3a) = 8.8$)	46.6	
1'	–	144.9		–	124.3 (<i>d</i> , $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 3.0$)		–	146.7	
2'	7.52 (<i>s</i>)	130.0		–	160.2 (<i>d</i> , $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 245.0$)		7.59 (<i>d</i> , $J = 8.0$)	126.9	
3'	–	134.6		7.11–7.19 (<i>m</i>)	116.9 (<i>d</i> , $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 4.0$)		7.67 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(\text{H,H}) = 8.0$)	125.5	
4'	7.42 (br. s)	126.8		7.26–7.29 (<i>m</i>)	127.7 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 6.0$)		–	128.5	
5'	7.36–7.38 (<i>m</i>)	124.8		7.34–7.40 (<i>m</i>)	127.3 (<i>d</i> , $^4J(\text{C,F}) = 4.0$)		7.67 (<i>d</i> , $J = 8.0$)	125.5	
6'	7.36–7.38 (<i>m</i>)	127.5		7.68–7.72 (<i>m</i>)	128.9 (<i>d</i> , $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 11.0$)		7.59 (<i>d</i> , $J = 8.4$)	126.9	
CF ₃	–	–		–	–		–	125.0 (<i>q</i> , $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 272.0$)	

all obtained 4-aryl-8-fluoro-3a,4,5,9b-tetrahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]quinolines **5–7** have the relative configuration (3a*R**,4*S**,9b*S**).

In the next step, it was necessary to protect the *N*-atom of the tetrahydroquinoline core, because ozonolysis of **5–7** with a free amino group would lead to a complex mixture of unidentified products. *N*-Trifluoroacetyl derivatives **8–10** were obtained by the reaction of corresponding tetrahydroquinolines **5–7** with (CF₃CO)₂O in the presence of Et₃N in CH₂Cl₂ (*Scheme*).

According to the X-ray data of compound **10** (*Fig. 2*), the H-atoms at its stereogenic centers C(3a), C(4), and C(9b) are also *cis*-oriented with respect to each other. The similarity and convergence of main signals (¹H- and ¹³C-NMR) of compounds **8–10** evidence that all of them have the relative configuration (3a*R**,4*S**,9b*S**). The 4-Ar group in the crystal had a pseudo-axial orientation due to space barriers of the bulky *N*-trifluoroacetyl group, whereas, in amine **5**, the 4-Ar group is pseudo-equatorial.

Slow inversion between the conformers of heterocycles with the pseudo-axial and pseudo-equatorial 4-Ar group in compounds **8–10** with the bulky CF₃CO group leads to a broadening of signals of H–C(3), H–C(3a), and H–C(9b) (*Table 2*), whereas in **5–7** the inversion is fast, and the signals of corresponding H-atoms have a well-resolved structure (*Table 1*).

The ozonolysis of *N*-trifluoroacetyl derivatives **8–10** in CH₂Cl₂ at 0° occurred at the endocyclic C(1) = C(2) bond and led to the corresponding ozonides **11–13** (*Scheme*).

As noted earlier, according to the X-ray analysis, the formation of ozonides of substituted tetrahydrocyclopenta[*c*]quinolines occurs regio- and stereoselectively [12]. Instead of broadened signals of C(1) and C(2) in ¹³C-NMR spectra of the starting compounds (δ(C) 128.8–130.6 ppm), spectra of the compounds **11–13b** contained narrow signals in the typical field for ozonides (δ(C) 98.7–99.2 ppm) [12][13], confirming the transformation of the C=C bond into a 1,2,4-trioxolane ring. The cross-

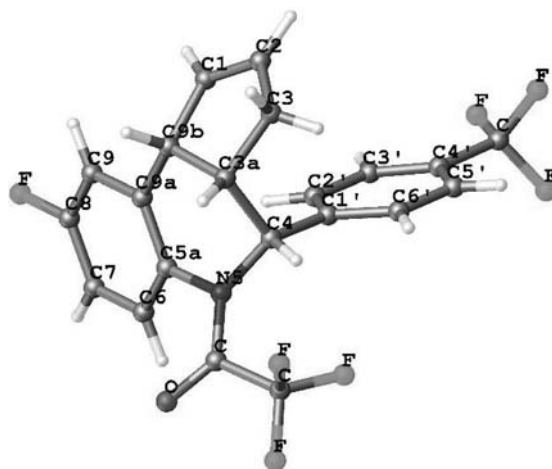


Fig. 2. The molecular structure of 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-[(3a*R**,4*S**,9b*S**)-8-fluoro-3,3a,4,9b-tetrahydro-4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-5*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]quinolin-5-yl]ethanone (**10**) in the crystal.

Table 2. The ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR Data (δ in ppm, J in Hz) of Compounds **8**–**10**

Position	Compound 8		Compound 9		Compound 10	
	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$
1	6.15 (br. s)	130.5	6.44 (br. s)	128.8	6.16 (br. s)	130.6
2	5.84 (br. s)	130.0	6.12 (br. s)	129.0	5.85 (br. s)	130.2
3	2.11 (br. s), 2.66 (br. s)	35.6	2.09 (br. s), 2.64 (br. s)	35.3	2.10 (br. s), 2.69 (br. s)	35.6
3a	3.63 (br. s)	39.9	3.70 (br. s)	40.1	3.69 (br. s)	39.8
4	4.86 (br. s)	58.4	5.01 (br. s)	50.8	4.96 (br. s)	58.2
5a	–	137.6	–	138.9	–	138.6
6	6.67 ($d, J = 7.2$)	116.4 ($d, {}^3J(\text{C,F}) = 23.0$)	6.72 ($d, J = 7.6$)	115.5 ($d, {}^3J(\text{C,F}) = 23.0$)	6.87 (br. s)	116.4 ($d, {}^3J(\text{C,F}) = 23.0$)
7	6.88 (br. s)	115.0 ($d, {}^3J(\text{C,F}) = 17.0$)	6.89 (br. s)	115.1 ($d, {}^3J(\text{C,F}) = 15.0$)	7.06 (br. s)	114.2 ($d, {}^3J(\text{C,F}) = 17.0$)
8	–	162.6 ($d, {}^1J(\text{C,F}) = 248.0$)	–	162.3 ($d, {}^1J(\text{C,F}) = 248.0$)	–	161.8 ($d, {}^1J(\text{C,F}) = 245.0$)
9	6.98 (s)	114.0 ($d, {}^2J(\text{C,F}) = 17.0$)	6.99 (s)	113.9 ($d, {}^2J(\text{C,F}) = 14.0$)	7.18 (s)	113.9 ($d, {}^2J(\text{C,F}) = 17.0$)
9a	–	127.4	–	127.6	–	127.4
9b	4.15 (br. s)	46.6	4.12 (br. s)	45.4	4.19 (br. s)	45.6
1'	–	137.0	–	123.3	–	139.7
2'	7.17–7.19 (m)	130.7	–	160.5 ($d, {}^1J(\text{C,F}) = 245.0$)	7.00 ($d, J = 8.0$)	129.4
3'	–	134.3	7.02–7.06 (m)	114.8	7.37 ($d, J = 8.0$)	125.0
4'	7.30–7.34 (m)	127.9	7.16–7.18 (m)	127.6	–	127.9
5'	7.04–7.06 (m)	126.9	7.32–7.35 (m)	127.6	7.37 ($d, J = 8.0$)	125.2
6'	7.08–7.10 (m)	129.5	7.36–7.37 (m)	130.6	7.00 ($d, J = 8.0$)	129.5
CF ₃	–	–	–	–	–	123.8 ($q, {}^1J(\text{C,F}) = 272.0$)
C=O	–	156.7 ($q, {}^3J(\text{C,F}) = 37.0$)	–	155.6 ($q, {}^3J(\text{C,F}) = 37.0$)	–	155.5 ($q, {}^3J(\text{C,F}) = 37.0$)
CF ₃	–	116.3 ($q, {}^1J(\text{C,F}) = 287.0$)	–	119.4 ($q, {}^1J(\text{C,F}) = 287.0$)	–	116.5 ($q, {}^1J(\text{C,F}) = 287.0$)

Table 3. The ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR Data (δ in ppm, J in Hz) of Ozonides **11–13**

Position	Compound 11			Compound 12			Compound 13		
	$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$		$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$		$\delta(\text{H})$	$\delta(\text{C})$	
1	6.32 (br. s)	98.7		6.42 (br. s)	99.2		6.33 (br. s)	98.8	
4	5.84 (br. s)	99.1		5.77 (br. s)	99.2		5.83 (br. s)	99.1	
5	1.78–1.82 (m), 2.28–2.32 (m)	30.2		1.99–2.15 (m), 2.29–2.35 (m)	29.7		1.76–1.80 (m), 2.30–2.32 (m)	30.1	
5a	3.28–3.31 (m)	29.4		3.29–3.33 (m)	31.8		3.33–3.37 (m)	29.3	
6	5.84 (d, $J(6,5a) = 12.0$)	58.1		5.00 (d, $J(6,5a) = 12.0$)	53.3		5.98 (d, $J(6,5a) = 12.0$)	57.9	
7a	–	131.5		–	134.2		–	141.9	
8	7.54–7.58 (m)	122.7	(d, $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 8.0$)	6.63–6.67 (m)	123.5	(d, $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 8.0$)	7.58 (d, $J = 8.0$)	116.5	(d, $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 23.0$)
9	7.10–7.12 (m)	116.1	(d, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 23.0$)	6.85–6.89 (m)	115.5	(d, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 22.0$)	7.00–7.10 (m)	113.9	(d, $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 24.0$)
10	–	160.5	(d, $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 248.0$)	–	162.3	(d, $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 242.0$)	–	160.2	(d, $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 253.0$)
11	7.15 (d, $J = 8.8$)	116.1	(d, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 23.0$)	6.95–6.98 (m)	114.0	(d, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 24.0$)	7.17 (d, $J = 8.0$)	113.7	(d, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 23.0$)
11a	–	134.6		–	128.3		–	134.4	
11b	3.56 (d, $J(11b,5a) = 10.8$)	38.6		3.54 (d, $J(11b,5a) = 10.0$)	38.5		3.59 (d, $J(11b,5a) = 10.8$)	38.6	
1'	–	136.8		–	124.2	(d, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 3.0$)	–	138.9	
2'	6.88–7.02 (m)	130.4		–	159.7	(d, $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 246.0$)	7.54–7.58 (m)	130.0	
3'	–	131.1		7.00–7.10 (m)	116.2	(d, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 22.0$)	7.58–7.62 (m)	125.1	
4'	6.73 (d, $J = 7.6$)	127.5		7.11–7.15 (m)	129.9	(d, $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 6.0$)	–	–	
5'	7.19–7.21 (m)	128.7		7.26–7.30 (m)	130.4	(d, $^3J(\text{C,F}) = 9.0$)	7.00–7.04 (m)	126.0	
6'	7.13–7.17 (m)	129.4		7.32–7.38 (m)	132.2		7.02–7.06 (m)	130.4	
CF ₃	–	–		–	–		–	–	
C=O	–	155.5	(q, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 37.0$)	–	155.7	(q, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 37.0$)	–	122.5	(q, $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 262.0$)
CF ₃	–	115.8	(q, $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 286.0$)	–	117.9	(q, $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 289.0$)	–	155.6	(q, $^2J(\text{C,F}) = 34.0$)
								117.9	(q, $^1J(\text{C,F}) = 235.0$)

peak in the HMBC spectrum of ozonide **11** between the signal at $\delta(\text{C})$ 98.7 ppm and that at $\delta(\text{H})$ 3.56 (H–C(11b)) was unambiguously assigned to C(1), as well as a signal at $\delta(\text{C})$ 99.1 ppm was attributed to C(4). Analogously, the significant signals of the tertiary C-atoms at $\delta(\text{C})$ 99.2 and 99.1 ppm for the ozonide cycle of **12** and **13** (Table 3) were assigned to C(4). Vicinal H-atoms at C(5a), C(6), and C(11b) of ozonides **11–13** were also *cis*-oriented relative to each other. This was suggested by their spin-spin coupling constants ($J(6,5a) = 12$, $J(11b,5a) = 10.0–10.8$ Hz). The $[M-H]^-$ ion peaks in ESI mass spectra of **11–13** provided their molecular weights. According to ^1H - and ^{13}C -NMR spectra, and the X-ray diffraction data reported earlier for related ozonides [10][12], the newly obtained ozonides **11–13** were identified as (1*R**,4*S**,5*aR**,6*S**,11*bS**)-6-aryl-10-fluoro-4,5,5*a*,6,7,11*b*-hexahydro-7-(trifluoroacetyl)-1*H*-1,4-epoxy-[1,2]dioxepino[5,4-*c*]quinolines (Table 3).

In conclusion, the new 4-aryl-8-fluoro-3*a*,4,5,9*b*-tetrahydro-3*H*-cyclopenta[*c*]quinolines were synthesized by an effective one-pot three-component cyclocondensation of 4-fluoroaniline with an aromatic aldehydes and cyclopentadiene. Their subsequent *N*-trifluoroacetylation and ozonolysis furnished new stable ozonides with a tetrahydroquinoline core.

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Experimental Part

General. The starting compounds were purchased from Acros Organics. Column chromatography (CC) and TLC: silica gel (<0.06 mm) and pre-coated silica gel plates (*Silufol*), resp.; visualization with the I_2 vapor. M.p.: *Boetius* hot-stage microscope. 1D- (^1H and ^{13}C) and 2D- (COSY, NOESY, HSQC, and HMBC) NMR spectra: of Bruker Avance-400 spectrometer (400.1 (^1H) and 100.6 MHz (^{13}C)), equipped with broadband observer probe; all recordings were set up with standard Bruker methods; chemical shifts in ppm with TMS as the internal standard. Electrospray ionization (ESI) MS: of HPLC mass spectrometer LCMS-2010EV (*Shimadzu*) in the negative-ion mode at the corona discharge needle ionizing electrode and ionizing cap potential of 4.5 kV and –3.5 kV, resp.; the temp. and voltage of the interface capillary under APCI (ESI) conditions, 230° and 5 (25) to –5 (–25) V, resp.; the nebulizer gas (N_2) low rate, 0.5 (1.5) l/min; the high-frequency lenses (Q-array) voltage, 5 to –5 V; sample soln. (direct syringe sample inlet) under APCI (ESI) conditions, in MeOH (MeCN); mobile phase, MeOH (MeCN/ H_2O , 75/25); the mobile phase flow rate, 20 (50) $\mu\text{l}/\text{min}$. Elemental analyses: Carlo Erba EA-1108 CHNS-O analyzer.

X-Ray Crystal-Structure Determination. Single crystals of **5** and **10** were grown from hexane/AcOEt 1:1 at r.t. X-Ray diffraction data were collected on a *XCalibur Eos* diffractometer with graphite monochromated MoK_α radiation (λ 0.71073 Å). Collection and processing of data was performed by using the program CrysAlis^{Pro}, Oxford Diffraction Ltd., Version 1.171.36.28. The structure was solved by direct methods as implemented in the program SHELXS-97 [14]. The refinement was carried out using SHELXL-97 [15]. The structure was refined by a full-matrix least-squares technique using anisotropic thermal parameters for non-H-atoms and a riding model for H-atoms. The X-ray crystallographic data have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center (CCDC).

Crystal Data of 5. $\text{C}_{18}\text{H}_{14}\text{FCIN}$, M_r 300.77, triclinic, $P\bar{1}$ (No. 2), $a = 9.2503(11)$ Å, $b = 9.7262(12)$ Å, $c = 9.9834(14)$ Å, $\alpha = 114.029(13)^\circ$, $\beta = 104.198(12)^\circ$, $\gamma = 104.749(11)^\circ$, $V = 728.81(16)$ Å³, $T = 293(2)$ K, $D_{\text{calc}} = 1.371$ mg/mm³, $Z = 2$; reflections collected, 5244; independent reflections, 3685 ($R(\text{int}) = 0.0147$), $R = 0.047$, $R_w = 0.162$; goodness-of-fit, 0.915; CCDC-970716.

Crystal Data of 10. $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{14}\text{NOF}_7$, $M_r = 410.33$, triclinic, $P\bar{1}$ (No. 2), $a = 9.5321(8)$ Å, $b = 10.3404(8)$ Å, $c = 10.8512(11)$ Å, $\alpha = 117.330(9)^\circ$, $\beta = 100.176(8)^\circ$, $\gamma = 91.626(7)^\circ$, $V = 927.86(14)$ Å³.

$T = 293(2)$ K, $D_{\text{calc}} = 1.469$ mg/mm³, $Z = 2$; reflections collected, 4387; independent reflections, 3099 ($R(\text{int}) = 0.0091$), $R = 0.047$, $R_w = 0.137$; goodness-of-fit 1.058; CCDC-964374. These data can be obtained free of charge from the *Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre* via www.ccdc.cam.ac.uk/data_request/cif.

General Procedure of Synthesis 4-Aryl-8-fluoro-3a,4,5,9b-tetrahydro-3H-cyclopenta[c]quinolines 5–7. CF₃COOH 0.23 ml (3 mmol) was added to a soln. of 4-fluoroaniline (**1**, 0.38 ml, 3.0 mmol) in anh. MeCN (20 ml), followed by an addition of freshly distilled cyclopentadiene (1.23 ml, 15 mmol) at 0 and aldehyde **2** (**3** or **4**) (3 mmol). The mixture was stirred for 0.5 h until starting **1** disappeared (TLC monitoring, hexane/AcOEt 3 : 1). The solvent was evaporated, and the residue was diluted with sat. aq. NaHCO₃ and extracted with AcOEt. The org. layer was concentrated and the residue was subjected to CC (hexane).

rel-(3*a*R,4*S*,9*b*S)-4-(3-Chlorophenyl)-8-fluoro-3a,4,5,9b-tetrahydro-3H-cyclopenta[c]quinoline (**5**). Yield: 80%. R_f (hexane/AcOEt 3 : 1) 0.69. M.p. 88–90° (from hexane). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 1. MALDI-TOF-MS: 300 ($[M + H]^+$). Anal. calc. for C₁₈H₁₅ClFN (299.77): C 72.12, H 5.04, N 4.67; found: C 72.32, H 5.21, N, 4.76.

rel-(3*a*R,4*S*,9*b*S)-8-Fluoro-4-(2-fluorophenyl)-3a,4,5,9b-tetrahydro-3H-cyclopenta[c]quinoline (**6**). Yield: 86%. R_f (hexane/AcOEt 3 : 1) 0.62. M.p. 60–62° (from hexane). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 1. MALDI-TOF-MS: 283 ($[M]^+$). Anal. calc. for C₁₈H₁₅F₂N (283.32): C 76.31, H 5.34, N 4.94; found: C 76.48, H 5.26, N 4.73.

rel-(3*a*R,4*S*,9*b*S)-8-Fluoro-3a,4,5,9b-tetrahydro-4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-3H-cyclopenta[c]quinoline (**7**). Yield: 96%. R_f (hexane/AcOEt 3 : 1) 0.70. M.p. 74–76° (from hexane). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 1. MALDI-TOF-MS: 332 ($[M - H]^+$). Anal. calc. for C₁₉H₁₅F₄N (333.32): C 68.46, H 4.54, N 4.20; found: C 68.98, H 4.58, N 4.33.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of 4-Aryl-8-fluoro-3,3a,4,9b-tetrahydro-5H-cyclopenta[c]quinolin-5-yl]-2,2,2-trifluoroethanones 8–10. (CF₃CO)₂O (0.34 ml, 2.4 mmol) and 0.33 ml (2.4 mmol) of Et₃N were added to a soln. of 2.0 mmol of **5** (**6** or **7**) in 10 ml of CH₂Cl₂. The mixture was stirred, until the starting was completely consumed (TLC), and poured into cold H₂O (5 ml). The product was extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml), and the extract was washed with a sat. aq. NaHCO₃ and then NaCl. The org. layer was concentrated, and the residue was subjected to CC (hexane).

rel-1-[3*a*R,4*S*,9*b*S)-4-(3-Chlorophenyl)-8-fluoro-3,3a,4,9b-tetrahydro-5H-cyclopenta[c]quinolin-5-yl]-2,2,2-trifluoroethanone (**8**). Amorphous. Yield: 97%. R_f (hexane/AcOEt 3 : 1) 0.61. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 2. MALDI-TOF-MS: 418 ($[M + Na]^+$). Anal. calc. for C₂₀H₁₄ClF₄NO (395.78): C 60.69, H 3.57, N 3.54; found: C 60.62, H 3.35, N 3.65.

rel-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-[3*a*R,4*S*,9*b*S)-8-fluoro-4-(2-fluorophenyl)-3,3a,4,9b-tetrahydro-5H-cyclopenta[c]quinolin-5-yl]ethanone (**9**). Amorphous. Yield: 97%. R_f (hexane/AcOEt 3 : 1) 0.60. ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 2. MALDI-TOF-MS: 378 ($[M - H]^-$). Anal. calc. for C₂₀H₁₄F₃NO (379.32): C 63.32, H 3.72, N 3.69; found: C 63.53, H 3.85, N 3.74.

rel-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-[3*a*R,4*S*,9*b*S)-8-fluoro-3,3a,4,9b-tetrahydro-4-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-5H-cyclopenta[c]quinolin-5-yl]ethanone (**10**). Yield: 95%. R_f (hexane/AcOEt 3 : 1) 0.61. M.p. 90–92° (from hexane). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 2. MALDI-TOF-MS: 430 ($[M + H]^+$). Anal. calc. for C₂₁H₁₄F₇NO (429.33): C 58.75, H 3.29, N 3.26; found: C 58.65, H 3.25, N 3.34.

General Procedure for the Synthesis of 1-[6-Aryl-10-fluoro-1,4,5,5a,6,11b-hexahydro-7H-1,4-epoxy[1,2]dioxepino[5,4-c]quinolin-7-yl]-2,2,2-trifluoroethanones 11–13. The O₂/O₃ mixture (the ozonator productivity was 30 mmol O₃/h) was passed through a soln. of **8** (**9** or **10**) (1.5 mmol in CH₂Cl₂ (20 ml)) at 0° with stirring, until the starting compound disappeared (ca. 3 min, TLC monitoring (CHCl₃)). The mixture was purged with Ar and concentrated. The residue was subjected to CC (CHCl₃).

rel-1-[1*R*,4*S*,5*a*R,6*S*,11*b*S)-6-(3-Chlorophenyl)-10-fluoro-1,4,5,5a,6,11b-hexahydro-7H-1,4-epoxy[1,2]dioxepino[5,4-c]quinolin-7-yl]-2,2,2-trifluoroethanone (**11**). Yield: 65%. M.p. 90–92° (from hexane). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 3. ESI-MS: 443 ($[M]^+$).

rel-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-[1*R*,4*S*,5*a*R,6*S*,11*b*S)-10-fluoro-6-(2-fluorophenyl)-1,4,5,5a,6,11b-hexahydro-7H-1,4-epoxy[1,2]dioxepino[5,4-c]quinolin-7-yl]ethanone (**12**). Yield: 68%. M.p. 115–116° (from hexane). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 3. ESI-MS: 426 ($[M - H]^-$).

rel-2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-*-(1R,4S,5aR,6S,11bS)*-10-fluoro-1,4,5,5a,6,11b-hexahydro-6-[4-(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]-7H-1,4-epoxy[1,2]dioxepino[5,4-c]quinolin-7-yl]ethanone (**13**). Yield: 60%. M.p. 49–51° (from hexane). ¹H- and ¹³C-NMR: see Table 3. ESI-MS: 476 ($[M - H]^-$).

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