

## A NEW SYNTHESIS OF TRIFLUOROMETHANESULFONIC ACID

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A chemical synthesis of triflic acid is described. A suspension of a metal (Zn, Al, Mn or Cd) in DMF is placed under vacuum. Successive introduction of SO<sub>2</sub> and CF<sub>3</sub>Br under slight pressure leads to the formation of a trifluoromethylsulfinate which is isolated as sodium salt. Oxidation by hydrogen peroxide followed by hydrolysis gives trifluoromethanesulfonic acid monohydrate.

The mechanism of formation of the trifluoromethylsulfinate is discussed