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AN IMPROVED SYNTHESIS OF PERFLUOROALKYL ALDEHYDES BY
REACTION OF PERFLUOROALKYL IODIDES WITH
DIMETHYLFORMAMIDE

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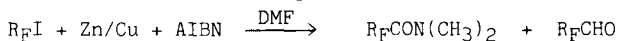
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This work involves the reactions of radical initiator activated perfluoroorgano-
zinc compounds R_FZnI ($R_F = C_nF_{2n+1}$) with dimethyl formamide, leading to the
formation of high yields of perfluoroalkyl aldehydes.

Usually, the perfluoroorganozinc compounds R_FZnI are prepared by a reaction of
perfluoroalkyl iodides R_FI in the presence of zinc-copper couple in dissociating
solvents [1], for example DMF. These organometallic derivatives which are
adsorbed on the metallic surface, show an important reactivity with different
substrates. But, in the presence of some radical initiators for example, azo-
bis-iso-butyronitrile (AIBN), a reaction of the R_FZnI has been observed with
the solvent, leading to the formation of perfluoroalkyl amide and perfluoro-
alkyl aldehyde, involving a C-alkylation reaction of the DMF.



After studying the influence of different parameters like the temperature,
the kind of initiator, the ratio DNF/ R_FI , etc... the perfluoroalkyl aldehyde
formation has been optimized to >90% yield [2].

The reactivity of R_FCHO and the influence of the radical initiator on the reaction
mechanism, have been studied and discussed.

This procedure has been applied to different amides, carbonyl compounds,
substrates and reactants. Many products have been obtained and can be
synthesized by this method.

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8 806 000 (1988).