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A simple approach to the fluorinated 1,5-benzoxazepine ring system is described. By reacting commercially accessible aminophenols **1** and the trifluoroacetylvinyl ether **2**, high yields of enaminones **3** were obtained. Functionalization of methyl group of compounds **3** gave rise to dieneamines **4** that were cyclized in acidic environment to benzoxazepine derivatives **5**.

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In recent years, increasing attention has been directed toward benzoxazepine derivatives due to their useful pharmacological activities as angiotensin receptor modulators [1], sedatives [2] and analgesics [3].

As the introduction of a fluorinated moiety onto a bioactive molecule generally improves its pharmacological properties, the development of simple methods for the synthesis of fluo-

ruinated compounds has become one of the goals in organic chemistry. In connection with our studies on fluorinated heterocycles [4,5] we became interested in the synthesis and study of benzoxazepines bearing a trifluoromethyl moiety. In the present paper a useful approach to the preparation of new trifluoroacetylmethylene-1,5-benzoxazepines is described, starting from commercially available *o*-aminophenols **1** and 4-methoxy-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-penten-2-one **2**.

The fact that nucleophilic *O-N* exchange at olefinic carbon atoms activated by a trifluoroacetyl group proceeds easily under mild conditions [6,7], high yields of the expected enaminones **3** were obtained, when equimolecular amounts of enolether **2** and aminophenol **1** were allowed to react at room temperature in acetonitrile solution.

Complete characterization of compounds **3** is given in Tables 1 and 2. The ir spectra show the stretching absorption near 3200-3450  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  due to NH and OH as well as that at 1620-1635  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  for the conjugated carbonyl group. The  $^1\text{H}$  nmr spectra of compounds **3** show two deuterium oxide exchangeable signals at 12.41-12.11 and 9.93-11.91 ppm that can be attributed to OH and NH groups and

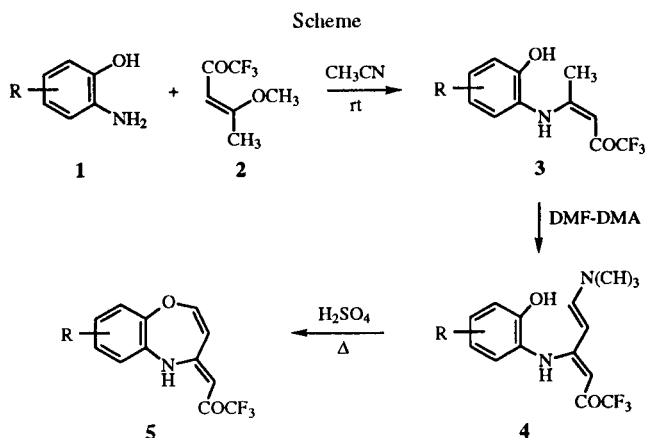
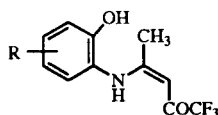


Table 1  
Physical and Analytical Data of Enaminones **3**

| Compound No. | R                | Yield (%) | mp ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ )<br>(Recrystallization Solvent) | Formula   | Analysis (%) |      |      |
|--------------|------------------|-----------|--|---|--------------|------|------|
|              |                  |           |  |   | C            | H    | N    |
| <b>3a</b>    | H                | 84        | 163-164  | $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_{10}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$       | 53.88        | 4.11 | 5.71 |
|              |                  |           | (Isopropyl ether)  |   | 53.83        | 4.09 | 5.78 |
| <b>3b</b>    | 5- $\text{CH}_3$ | 93        | 175-176  | $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$       | 55.60        | 4.67 | 5.40 |
|              |                  |           | (Benzene)  |   | 55.65        | 4.66 | 5.43 |
| <b>3c</b>    | 4- $\text{CH}_3$ | 97        | 182-183  | $\text{C}_{12}\text{H}_{12}\text{F}_3\text{NO}_2$       | 55.60        | 4.67 | 5.40 |
|              |                  |           | (Isopropyl ether)  |   | 55.54        | 4.68 | 5.38 |
| <b>3d</b>    | 5-Cl             | 98        | 186-187  | $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_9\text{ClF}_3\text{NO}_2$        | 47.24        | 3.24 | 5.01 |
|              |                  |           | (Isopropyl ether)  |   | 47.18        | 3.25 | 4.97 |
| <b>3e</b>    | 5- $\text{NO}_2$ | 91        | 214-215  | $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_9\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ | 45.52        | 3.12 | 9.65 |
|              |                  |           | (Benzene)  |   | 45.47        | 3.13 | 9.70 |
| <b>3f</b>    | 4- $\text{NO}_2$ | 89        | 207-208  | $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_9\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$ | 45.52        | 3.12 | 9.65 |
|              |                  |           | (2-Propanol)   |   | 45.57        | 3.11 | 9.62 |

Table 2  
IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data of Enaminones 3



| Compound No. | IR               | <sup>1</sup> H NMR   |
|--------------|------------------|--|
| <b>3a</b>    | 3300, 1620, 1585 | 2.12 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.58 (s, 1H, CH), 6.80, 6.96, 7.12, 7.28 (m, 4H, Ar), 10.24 (s, 1H, NH), 12.32 (s, 1H, OH)                           |
| <b>3b</b>    | 3320, 1620, 1575 | 2.07 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.13 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.52 (s, 1H, CH), 6.77, 6.87, 7.03 (m, 3H, Ar), 9.93 (s, 1H, NH), 12.24 (s, 1H, OH)  |
| <b>3c</b>    | 3210, 1615, 1570 | 2.08 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.19 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.54 (s, 1H, CH), 6.62, 6.74, 7.12 (m, 3H, Ar), 10.11 (s, 1H, NH), 12.25 (s, 1H, OH) |
| <b>3d</b>    | 3330, 1620, 1580 | 2.13 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.59 (s, 1H, CH), 6.94, 7.17, 7.40 (m, 3H, Ar), 10.55 (s, 1H, NH), 12.20 (s, 1H, OH)                                 |
| <b>3e</b>    | 3240, 1610, 1590 | 2.20 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.65 (s, 1H, CH), 7.08, 7.30, 8.05, 8.20 (m, 3H, Ar), 11.91 (s, 1H, NH), 12.24 (s, 1H, OH)                           |
| <b>3f</b>    | 3280, 1630, 1590 | 2.28 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.63 (s, 1H, CH), 7.50, 7.66 (m, 3H, Ar), 11.33 (s, 1H, NH), 12.41 (s, 1H, OH)                                       |

single signals at ~2 ppm for the methyl and at ~5.5 ppm for the olefinic protons. We can therefore affirm that only a geometrical isomer is present, in the *Z* configuration with intramolecular hydrogen bonding as indicated by the downfield NH resonance.

Further functionalization of enaminones **3** was achieved by heating with an excess of *N,N*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal. Thus the corresponding dieneamines **4**, in which the presence of a dimethylamino group should increase the reactivity, were easily obtained. In the reactions of compounds **3e** and **3f**, after dilution of the reaction mixture with water, dieneamines **4e** and **4f** were obtained as the main products. When the basic solutions were acidified further product separated which were identified as the corresponding *N*-methyl derivatives **4g** and **4h**.

The structure of compounds **4a-f** was assigned from the <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectra: the AB system with doublets at 4.83-5.11

and 7.82-8.04 ppm ( $J_{5,6} = 12.7$ ), the single signal at (5.7 ppm for H-3 and the much deshielded peak of amino proton by hydrogen bonding between NH and CO, account for the presence of a single geometrical isomer with 3,4 (*Z*)-5,6 (*E*) configuration.

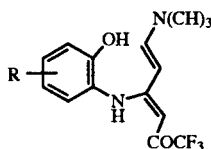
Cyclization of the resulting adducts **4a-f** with aqueous sulfuric acid, at 70°, occurred smoothly between C-6 and the phenolic group to give the fluorinated 1,5-benzoxazepine derivatives **5** in good yields.

Structural assignments were made on the basis of analytical and spectroscopic data. The ir spectrum of compound **5a** shows a broad signal at 2400-2500 cm<sup>-1</sup> and a sharp absorbance band at 1630 cm<sup>-1</sup>. In the <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectrum, a deuterium oxide exchangeable signal at 10.42 ppm due to NH and a singlet at 6.69 ppm due to the exocyclic proton are observed. Moreover an AB system with  $J = 7.3$  Hz at 7.64 and 6.28 ppm for H-2 and H-3 respectively was also present.

Table 3  
Physical and Analytical Data of Dieneamines 4

| Compound No. | R                 | Yield (%) | mp (°C)<br>(Recrystallization Solvent) | Formula  | Analysis (%)   |              |                |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------|--|--|----------------|--------------|----------------|
|              |                   |           |  |  | C              | H            | N              |
| <b>4a</b>    | H                 | 64        | 226-228<br>(Acetonitrile)              | C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>15</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>   | 56.00<br>56.08 | 5.04<br>5.09 | 9.33<br>9.23   |
| <b>4b</b>    | 5-CH <sub>3</sub> | 46        | 224-225<br>(2-Propanol)                | C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>17</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>   | 57.31<br>57.36 | 5.45<br>5.44 | 8.91<br>8.86   |
| <b>4c</b>    | 4-CH <sub>3</sub> | 76        | 214-215<br>(2-Propanol)                | C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>17</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub>   | 57.31<br>57.27 | 5.45<br>5.46 | 8.91<br>8.94   |
| <b>4d</b>    | 5-Cl              | 69        | 204-205<br>(2-Propanol)                | C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>14</sub> ClF <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> | 50.24<br>50.30 | 4.22<br>4.23 | 8.37<br>8.34   |
| <b>4e</b>    | 5-NO <sub>2</sub> | 56        | 216-217<br>(Ethanol)                   | C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>14</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>   | 48.70<br>48.76 | 4.09<br>4.13 | 12.17<br>12.21 |
| <b>4f</b>    | 4-NO <sub>2</sub> | 63        | 245-246<br>(Ethanol)                   | C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>14</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O <sub>4</sub>   | 48.70<br>48.63 | 4.09<br>4.06 | 12.17<br>12.13 |

Table 4  
IR and <sup>1</sup>H NMR Data of Dieneamines 4

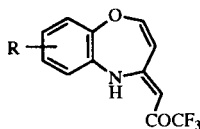


| Compound No. | IR               | <sup>1</sup> H NMR   |
|--------------|------------------|--|
| 4a           | 3120, 1630, 1570 | 2.66 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.11 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.85 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-5), 5.68 (s, 1H, H-3), 6.77, 6.93, 7.05 7.23 (m, 4H, Ar), 7.82 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-6), 9.94 (s, 1H, NH), 12.40 (s, 1H, OH)                            |
| 4b           | 3200, 1620, 1570 | 2.17 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.67 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.11 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.84 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-5), 5.66 (s, 1H, H-3), 6.83, 7.02 (m, 3H, Ar), 7.82 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-6), 9.64 (s, 1H, NH), 12.36 (s, 1H, OH)       |
| 4c           | 3040, 1620, 1570 | 2.22 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 2.68 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.12 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.83 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-5), 5.67 (s, 1H, H-3), 6.63, 6.75, 7.09 (m, 3H, Ar), 7.82 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-6), 9.80 (s, 1H, NH), 12.34 (s, 1H, OH) |
| 4d           | 3120, 1620, 1560 | 2.74 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.16 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.85 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-5), 5.72 (s, 1H, H-3), 6.94, 7.11, 7.36 (m, 3H, Ar), 7.90 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-6), 10.27 (s, 1H, NH), 12.41 (s, 1H, OH)                                |
| 4e           | 1630, 1600, 1570 | 2.74 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.16 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 4.99 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-5), 5.75 (s, 1H, H-3), 7.06-8.16 (m, 4H, Ar + H-6), 11.68 (s, 1H, NH), 12.52 (s, 1H, OH)  |
| 4f           | 3100, 1625, 1550 | 2.82 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 3.18 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 5.11 (d, J = 12.2, 1H, H-5), 5.77 (s, 1H, H-3), 7.59, 7.68, 7.85 (m, 3H, Ar), 8.04 (d, J = 12.2, 1H, H-6), 11.14 (brs, 1H, NH), 12.60 (s, 1H, OH)                              |

Table 5  
Physical and Analytical Data of 1,5-Benzoxazepines 5

| Compound No. | R                 | Yield (%) | mp (°C)<br>(Recrystallization Solvent) | Formula   | Analysis (%) |      |      |
|--------------|-------------------|-----------|--|---|--------------|------|------|
|              |                   |           |  |   | Calcd./Found | C    | H    |
| 5a           | H                 | 71        | 206-207                                | C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>8</sub> F <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>               | 56.47        | 3.16 | 5.49 |
|              |                   |           | (Isopropyl ether)                      |   | 56.52        | 3.15 | 5.43 |
| 5b           | 7-CH <sub>3</sub> | 56        | 177-178                                | C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>10</sub> F <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>              | 57.99        | 3.74 | 5.20 |
|              |                   |           | (2-Propanol)                           |   | 58.03        | 3.73 | 5.17 |
| 5c           | 8-CH <sub>3</sub> | 53        | 204-205                                | C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>10</sub> F <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>              | 57.99        | 3.74 | 5.20 |
|              |                   |           | (2-Propanol)                           |   | 57.93        | 3.75 | 5.23 |
| 5d           | 7-Cl              | 51        | 220-222                                | C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>7</sub> ClF <sub>3</sub> NO <sub>2</sub>             | 49.76        | 2.44 | 4.84 |
|              |                   |           | (2-Propanol)                           |   | 49.85        | 2.43 | 4.87 |
| 5e           | 7-NO <sub>2</sub> | 55        | 269-270                                | C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>7</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> | 48.01        | 2.35 | 9.33 |
|              |                   |           | (Ethanol)                              |   | 48.08        | 2.36 | 9.37 |
| 5f           | 8-NO <sub>2</sub> | 49        | 284-285                                | C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>7</sub> F <sub>3</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> | 48.01        | 2.35 | 9.33 |
|              |                   |           | (2-Propanol)                           |   | 47.95        | 2.34 | 9.28 |

Table 6  
IR and <sup>1</sup>H nmr Data of 1,5-Benzoxazepines 5



| Compound No. | IR                     | <sup>1</sup> H NMR  |
|--------------|------------------------|---|
| 5a           | 3080, 2500, 1630, 1555 | 6.28 (d, J = 7.3, 1H, H-3), 6.69 (s, 1H, H-1'), 6.86 - 7.66 (m, 5H, Ph + H-2), 10.42 (s, 1H deuterium oxide exchangeable)                                 |
| 5b           | 3060, 2560, 1635, 1560 | 2.20 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 6.28 (d, J = 6.3, 1H, H-3), 6.69 (s, 1H, H-1'), 6.87 - 7.66 (m, 4H, Ph + H-2), 10.14 (s, 1H deuterium oxide exchangeable) |
| 5c           | 3060, 2550, 1635, 1560 | 2.24 (s, 3H, CH <sub>3</sub> ), 6.25 (d, J = 7.3, 1H, H-3), 6.78 (s, 1H, H-1'), 6.65 - 7.59 (m, 4H, Ph + H-2), 10.25 (s, 1H deuterium oxide exchangeable) |
| 5d           | 3060, 2460, 1635, 1545 | 6.28 (d, J = 6.3, 1H, H-3), 6.68 (s, 1H, H-1'), 6.98 - 7.68 (m, 4H, Ph + H-2), 10.77 (s, 1H deuterium oxide exchangeable)                                 |

Table 6 (continued)

| Compound No. | IR                           | <sup>1</sup> H NMR  |
|--------------|------------------------------|---|
| 5e           | 3080, 2540, 1635, 1600, 1550 | 6.34 (d, J = 7.8, 1H, H-3), 6.74 (s, 1H, H-1'), 7.18 - 8.55 (m, 4H, Ph + H-2), 12.19 (brs, 1H deuterium oxide exchangeable) |
| 5f           | 3050, 2550, 1630, 1560       | 6.33 (d, J = 7.3, 1H, H-3), 6.74 (s, 1H, H-1'), 7.70 - 7.76 (m, 4H, Ph + H-2), 11.60 (s, 1H deuterium oxide exchangeable)   |

In conclusion, we have developed an effective route to obtain new fluorinated 1,5-benzoxazepines. Furthermore, we suggest that the enaminones **3** and dieneamines **4** could be usefully employed in synthetic procedures to other heterocyclic systems.

### EXPERIMENTAL

Melting points were determined on a Kofler hot stage and are uncorrected. The ir spectra were obtained in Nujol with a Perkin-Elmer 398 spectrophotometer. The <sup>1</sup>H nmr spectra were recorded in hexadeuteriodimethyl sulfoxide solution on a Varian Unity 300 spectrometer, the chemical shifts are given in δ (ppm) downfield from the internal standard hexamethyldisiloxane and coupling constants in Hz. Elemental analyses were carried out with a Carlo Erba Model 1106 Elemental Analyzer. Trifluoroacetylvinyl ether **2** was prepared by a previously described procedure [6].

General Procedure for the Preparation of 4-(2-Hydroxyarylamino)-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-penten-2-ones **3**.

A solution of *o*-aminophenol **1** (10 mmoles) and enol ether **2** (1.68 g, 10 mmoles) in dry acetonitrile (20 ml) was stirred at room temperature for 24 hours. The reaction mixture was then evaporated to dryness in *vacuo* and the residue collected and crystallized to give enaminones **3** (Tables 1 and 2).

General Procedure for the Preparation of 6-Dimethylamino-4-(2-hydroxyarylamino)-1,1,1-trifluoro-3,5-hexadien-2-ones **4**.

A mixture of compound **3** (5 mmoles) and *N,N*-dimethylformamide dimethyl acetal (2 ml, 15 mmoles) was stirred at 75-80° for 4 hours. After the reaction mixture was allowed to stand overnight at room temperature, water was added and the precipitate was filtered, dried and crystallized to give the dieneamines **4**. In the cases of enaminones **3e** and **3f** by acidification of the aqueous solution dieneamines **4g** and **4h** were also obtained respectively.

6-Dimethylamino-4-[methyl(2-hydroxy-5-nitrophenyl)amino]-1,1,1-trifluoro-3,5-hexadien-2-one (**4g**).

This compound was obtained in 36% yield, mp 248-250° (from acetonitrile); <sup>1</sup>H nmr: δ 2.74 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.16 (s, 3H,

CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.94 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.99 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-5), 5.76 (s, 1H, H-3), 7.32, 8.08, 8.11 (m, 3H, Ar), 7.98 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-6), 12.61 (s, 1H, OH); ir: 3140, 1625, 1595, 1500 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 50.14; H, 4.49; N, 11.69. Found: C, 50.19; H, 4.48; N, 11.72.

6-Dimethylamino-4-[methyl(2-hydroxy-4-nitrophenyl)amino]-1,1,1-trifluoro-3,5-hexadien-2-one (**4h**).

This compound was obtained in 21% yield, mp 214-215° (from ethanol); <sup>1</sup>H nmr: δ 2.83 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.19 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.96 (s, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.13 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-5), 5.81 (s, 1H, H-3), 7.70, 7.85 (m, 3H, Ar), 8.05 (d, J = 12.7, 1H, H-6), 12.63 (s, 1H, OH); ir: 1625, 1595, 1570 cm<sup>-1</sup>.

Anal. Calcd. for C<sub>15</sub>H<sub>16</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: C, 50.14; H, 4.49; N, 11.69. Found: C, 50.10; H, 4.48; N, 11.66.

General Procedure for the Preparation of 4,5-Dihydro-4-(trifluoroacetylmethylene)-1,5-benzoxazepines **5**.

A mixture of dieneamine **4a-f** (2 mmoles) in 5 ml of 6*M* sulfuric acid was stirred at 70° for 1.5 hours. After cooling, 10 ml of water was added and the mixture was neutralized with 10% sodium hydroxide solution. The precipitate was then filtered, dried and crystallized to give 1,5-benzoxazepines **5**.

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