Reactions of Polyfluorinated 3-Substituted 2,4-Cyclohexadienones with Alkynes

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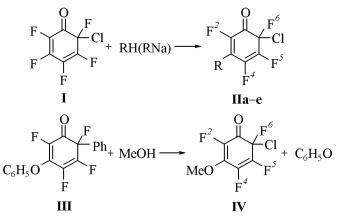
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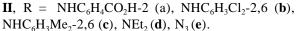
Abstract—Reactions of 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoro-6-chloro-2,4-cyclohexadienone with anthranylic acid, 2,6-dichloro- and 2,6-dimethylaniline, diethylamine, sodium azide, and also the reaction of 6-phenyl-3-pentafluorophenoxy-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-2,4-cyclohexadienone with methanol afford 3-substituted 2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-2,4-cyclohexadienones. The 3-methoxy-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6-chloro-2,4-cyclohexadienone and 3-methoxy-6-phenyl-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-2,4-cyclohexadienone form cycloadducts with 1-hexyne and propargyl alcohol that under treatment with propyl alcohol in the presence of potassium carbonate undergo ring cleavage to furnish propyl arylfluorochloroacetates and diarylacetates. The reaction between 3-azido-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6-chloro-2,4-cyclohexadienone and phenylacetylene gives rise to 4-oxo-2-phenyl-3,5,6,7-tetrafluoro-5-chlorobicyclo[4.1.0]hept-2-ene-7-carbonitrile.

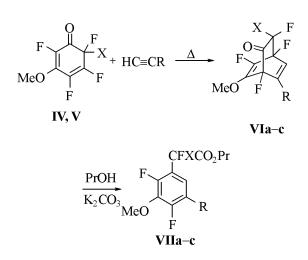
Derivatives of arylacetic acids are physiologically active compounds and are contained in quite a number of drugs [1]. Fluorine atoms introduced into these compounds often increase the activity simultaneously reducing their toxicity and enhancing stability [2-4]. We showed formerly that the polyfluorinated 2,4-cyclohexadienones reacted with substituted acetylenes under relatively mild conditions affording in a high yield cycloadducts that under treatment with alcohols or amines underwent ring opening to furnish fluoro-containing derivatives of arylacetic acids [5]. The possibility of introduction by nucleophilic reactions of various substituents into 3 position of 2,4-cyclohexadienones, the use of diverse alkynes, and alcohols or amines for cleavage of bicyclic adducts provide extensive opportunities for preparation of fluoro-containing derivatives of arylacetic acids. Formerly to cycloaddition were applied as a rule 2,4-cyclohexadienes containing in 3 position a fluorine atom or C_6F_5O group [5]. It is known that the polyfluorinated 2,4-cyclohexadienes with the other substituent, e.g., MeO group, undergo cycloaddition with dehydrobenzene [6] but not with fluorostyrenes [7].

We report here on the synthesis of polyfluorinated 2,4-cyclohexadienones containing in *3* position methoxy, carboxy-, 2,6-dimethylanilino- and 2,6-dichloroanilino, diethylamino, and azido groups, and on their reactions with alkynes (1-hexyne, propargyl alcohol, and phenylacetylene). In reactions of 2,3,4,5,6-pentafluoro-6-chloro-2,4cyclohexadienone (**I**) with anthranylic acid, 2,6-dichloro- and 2,6-dimethylaniline, diethylamine, and sodium azide, were obtained 3-substituted 2,4,5,6tetrafluoro-2,4-cyclohexadienones (**IIa-e**); and the reaction of 6-phenyl-3-pentafluorophenoxy-2,4,5,6tetrafluoro-2,4-cyclohexadienone (**III**) with methanol afforded 3-methoxy-6-phenyl-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-2,4cyclohexadienone (**IV**).

The composition and structure of 3-substituted tetrafluoro-2,4-cyclohexadienones **IIa-e** and **IV** were derived from the data of elemental analyses and from comparison of the ¹⁹F NMR spectra (see table) with the published spectra of polyfluorinated 2,4-cyclo-







IV, **V** = Ph; **V** = Cl; **VI**, **VII**, X = Cl, R = Bu (a); X = Cl, R = CH₂OH (b); X = Ph, R = Bu (c).

hexadienones [8]. Azidodienone **IIe** that we also prepared by reaction of dienone **I** with trimethylsilyl azide was stable only in solution and decomposed on removing the solvent.

We showed previously that dienone **IV** did not react with fluorostyrenes and instead underwent isomerization into 3-methoxy-6-phenyl-2,4,4,5-tetrafluoro-2,5-cyclohexadienone [7]. The cycloaddition of 3-methoxy-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6-chloro-2,4-cyclohexadienone (**V**) with dehydrobenzene occurred with low yield (37%) [6]. In order to overcome this difficulty we used excess acetylenes in reactions with methoxy-2,4-cyclohexadienones.

The reaction of 3-methoxy-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6chloro-2,4-cyclohexadienone (**V**) with excess 1-hexyne was carried out at 70°C, with excess propargyl alcohol at 110°C. From the reaction mixtures were isolated the corresponding fluorocontaining bicyclo[2.2.2]octadienones **VIa**, **b**.

The heating in 1-hexyne to 70° C of a mixture containing dienone **IV** and pentafluorophenol that was obtained by treating dienone **III** with methanol gave rise to a products mixture that was subjected to chromatography on silica gel to isolate cycloadduct **VIc**.

The cleavage of cycloadducts VIa-c by 1-propanol in the presence of freshly calcined potassium carbonate afforded fluorocontaining propyl esters of aryland diarylacetic acids VIIa-c.

The composition and structure of cycloadducts **VIa-c** and esters **VIIa-c** were established from elemental analyses and from comparison of their ¹H

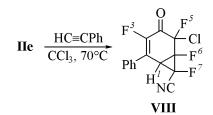
¹⁹F NMR spectra of 3-substituted tetrafluoro-2,4-cyclohexadienones **IIa-e**, **IV**

Compd. no. (solvent)	Chemical shifts, δ_F , ppm (from C_6F_6)			
	F^2	F^4	F^5	F^{6}
IIa (CDCl ₃)	11.1	12.4	14.3	40.9
IIb (CDCl ₃)	-8.6	0	12.4	31.1
IIc (CH ₃ CN)	-12.5	10.7	16.5	40.8
IId (CCl_4)	-2.3	15.8	16.5	39.3
IIe (CH ₃ CN)	11.9	11.8	15.1	37.5
IV (CCl ₄)	-5.7	7.0	19.9	2.5

and ¹⁹F NMR spectra with the published spectra of model compounds [5].

The reaction of dienone **IId** with 1-hexyne and propargyl alcohol yields complex mixtures where are lacking in the spectra the fluorine signals characteristic of cycloaddition products (from fluorine atoms F^1 and F^4 in the region -39...-45 ppm). The reaction of dienone **IIc** with 1-hexyne also did not yield cycloaddition products.

The lack of cycloaddition products in reactions of dienones **IId**, **c** with alkynes may be caused either by instability of these products under reaction conditions or by generally decreasing reactivity toward cyclo-addition at introducing electron-donor substituents into *3* position of polyfluorinated 2,4-cyclohexadienone. We hoped that with less electron-donor substituent, namely, with azido group, we would succeed in obtaining cycloaddition products of reaction between dienone **IIe** and phenylacetylene. However the heating of dienone **IIe** with phenylacetylene in CCl₄ to 70°C gave rise to a reaction mixture, from which we isolated as a prevailing product 4-oxo-2-phenyl-3,5,6,7-tetrafluoro-5-chlorobicyclo[4.1.0]-hept-2-ene-7-carbonitrile (**VIII**).



The composition and structure of compound **VIII** are confirmed by elemental analysis, IR, ¹H, ¹⁹F, and ¹³C NMR spectra.

In its IR spectrum appears a weak absorption band of CN group vibrations at 2240 cm⁻¹. In the ¹H NMR spectrum (recorded in CCl₄) are present signals in the

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region 7.2–7.4 ppm (Ar–H), and a signal at 3.4 ppm, d.d.d (H¹, J_{HF} 19.7, 17.0, 4.0 Hz).

The ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (in CCl₄) of compound **VIII** contains 4 signals of equal intensity. The signals at -28.0 ppm, d.d.d.d (J_{HF} 17.0, J_{FF} 7.2, ~3.0, ~2.0 Hz) and -42.3 ppm, d.d.d (J_{HF} 19.7, J_{FE} 13.0, ~2.0 Hz) we assigned to atoms F⁶ and F⁷. The resonances at 34.8 ppm, d.d (J_{HF} 4.0, J_{FF} ~3.0 Hz) and 52.8 ppm, d.d (J_{FF} 13.0, 7.2 Hz) were assigned to F³ and F⁵ respectively. Two large vicinal coupling constants J_{HF} 19.7 and 17.0 Hz in the ¹H and ¹⁹F spectra suggest reciprocal *cis*-position of atoms H¹, F⁶ and F⁷ in the cyclopropane ring for the *trans*-vicinal coupling constant of atoms H and F in the fluorinated cyclopropanes is commonly small (J_{HF} ~1-2 Hz) [9].

In the ¹³C NMR spectrum (in acetone- d_6) of compound VIII recorded with wide-band decoupling from protons appear 12 signals at 34.12, 73.52, 79.77, 100.27, 109.77, 129.96, 130.15, 130.89, 132.01, 133.10, 148.44, 173.74 ppm. The signal at 34.21 ppm, d.d.d (${}^{2}J_{CF}$ 14.4, ${}^{2}J_{CF}$ 11.9, ${}^{3}J_{CF}$ 4.1 Hz) is coupled with two neighboring fluorine atoms (F⁶, F'), and we assigned the signal to the nodal carbon C^{I} . In the spectrum recorded in monoresonance mode to this signal corresponds also a coupling constant $J_{\rm CH}$ 174.5 Hz. The signals at 73.52 ppm, d.d.d.d (${}^{1}J_{\rm CF}$ 254.2, ${}^{2}J_{\rm CF}$ 12.3, $J_{\rm CF}$ 6.0, $J_{\rm CF}$ 3.7 Hz) and 79.77 ppm, d.d.d.d (${}^{1}J_{\rm CF}$ 265.4, ${}^{2}J_{\rm CF}$ 24.9, ${}^{2}J_{\rm CF}$ 10.4, ${}^{4}J_{\rm CF}$ 1.5 Hz), coupled both with the directly bonded fluorine atoms and with those attached to the neighboring carbons we ascribed to carbon atoms C^7 and C^7 respectively. The signal at 100.27 ppm, d.d.d.d (${}^{1}J_{CF}$ 249.4, ${}^{2}J_{CF}$ 16.4, ${}^{3}J_{CF}$ 6.0, ${}^{3}J_{CF}$ 2.6 Hz) was assigned to C^5 atom from the CFCl group (cf. with chemical shifts of carbon in the CFCl group of acetylene cycloaddition products to 2,4-cyclohexadienones, ~93-95 ppm [10]). The resonance at 109.77 ppm, d.d.d (${}^{2}J_{CF}$ 32.8, J_{CF} 2.8, $J_{\rm CF} \sim 1$ Hz) coupled with a single neighboring fluorine atom was assigned to the carbon of cyano group in agreement with the chemical shifts of ^{13}C in nitriles [11]. The signals at 129.96 d (J_{CF} 6.0 Hz), 130.16 s, 130.89 d ($J_{CF} \sim 3$ Hz) and 133.10 s, ppm we ascribed to the carbon atoms of the phenyl ring. The signals at 132.01 ppm, d (${}^{2}J_{CF}$ 13.0 Hz) and 148.44 ppm, d.d.d $({}^{1}J_{CF} 270.2, J_{CF} 3.4, J_{CF} 1.5 \text{ Hz})$ were regarded as belonging to the carbon atoms of the bond $C^{2}=C^{3}$ respectively. The signal at 173.74 ppm, t.d $({}^{1}J_{CF})$ 22.7, J_{CF} 3.3 Hz) was considered to be C⁴ of the carbonyl group.

We believe that formation of cyclopropane derivative **VIII** may be described by the following scheme.

At the first stage of the reaction arose the product of normal [4+2]-cycloaddition **IX** of phenylacetylene to the diene system of dienone **IIe**. We tried to detect the formation of cycloadduct **IX** changing the reaction conditions. For instance, after keeping an equimolar mixture of dienone **IIe** and phenylacetylene in acetonitrile at room temperature for 3 days we observed in the ¹⁹F NMR spectrum of the reaction mixture ~67% of dienone **IIe**, ~20% of cycloadduct **IX**, and traces of compound **VIII**. In three weeks the amounts of dienone **IIe** and compounds **IX** and **VIII** became about equal; after eight week standing the reaction mixture contained ~70% of compound **VIII**.

In the ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (in MeCN) of cycloadduct **IX** we observed 4 signals of equal intensity at -34.3 d.d (F⁴, $J_{FH(FF)}$ 7.2, $J_{F^4F^1}$ 2.7 Hz), -33.8 d.d.d.d (F¹, $J_{F^1F^7}$ 14.4, $J_{FH(FF)}$ 11.7, $J_{FH(FF)}$ 4.5, $J_{F^1F^4}$ 2.7 Hz), 16.8 m (F⁶), 53.1 d (F⁷, $J_{F^7F^4}$ 14.4 Hz) ppm. Both by the chemical shifts and signal patterns the ¹⁹F spectrum of cycloadduct **IX** is similar to those for the cycloadduct described earlier and obtained in reaction of 2,4-cyclohexadienones with acetylenes [5].

The further skeleton transformation of cycloadduct **IX** may be represented as cycloaddition of the azido group to the double bond of the "acetylene" moiety of the molecule providing an intermediate compound **X** that decomposes with nitrogen liberation affording cyclopropane derivative **VIII**. It is also presumable that compound **VIII** forms from cycloadduct **IX** by concerted mechanism and through intermediately arising nitrene.

The cyclopropane intermediates formation was formerly suggested to rationalize the pathway of "nitrene" insertion into a C-C bond in the reaction of norbornadiene with $PhSO_2N_3$ [12] and $ArOSO_2N_3$ [13].

EXPERIMENTAL

¹H and ¹⁹F NMR spectra were registered on spectrometer Bruker WP-200 (for ¹H operating frequency 200.00 MHz, internal reference HMDS, δ 0.04 ppm; for ¹⁹F operating frequency 188.28 MHz, internal reference C₆F₆). ¹³C NMR spectrum of compound **VIII** was recorded on spectrometer Bruker AC-400 (operating frequency 100.61 MHz, internal reference acetone- d_6 , δ_C 29.80 ppm). IR spectrum of compound **VIII** was measured on Specord M-80 instrument from solution in CCl₄. Molecular weights were determined with high resolution GC/MS instrument Finnigan MAT 8200 and by vapor-phase osmometry.

3-(2-Carboxyanilino)-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6chloro-2,4-cyclohexadienone (IIa). To a boiling solution of 1.4 g of 2-aminobenzoic acid in 10 ml of acetone was added dropwise within 15 min a solution of 2.2 g of dienone **I** in 10 ml of CH_2Cl_2 . The mixture was boiled for 15 min more, then the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was recrystallized from benzene. We obtained 3.2 g (94%) of yellow compound **IIa**, mp 158–160°C. Found, %: C 46.48; H 1.83; Cl 10.80; F 22.43; N 4.05. *M* 334. $C_{13}H_6ClF_4NO_3$. Calculated, %: C 46.50; H 1.79; Cl 10.58; F 22.65; N 4.17. *M* 335.5.

3-(2,6-Dichloroanilino)-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6chloro-2,4-cyclohexadienone (IIb). To a solution of 0.66 g of dienone I in 10 ml of CCl_4 was added dropwise a solution of 0.9 g of 2,6-dichloroaniline in 3 ml of CCl_4 . On completion of addition (in 10 min) the mixture was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (eluent CCl_4). We obtained 0.64 g (77%) of orange compound IIb, mp 150–152.5°C. Found, %: C 39.87; H 1.25; Cl 29.49; F 21.56; N 3.64. *M* 359. $C_{12}H_4Cl_3F_4NO$. Calculated, %: H 39.94, H 1.11; Cl 29.54; F 21.08; N 3.88. *M* 360.5.

3-(2,6-Dimethylanilino)-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6chloro-2,4-cyclohexadienone (IIc). To a solution of 0.66 g of dienone I in 5 ml of CCl_4 was added dropwise a solution of 0.36 g of 2,6-dimethylaniline in 5 ml of \$CCl4. On completion of addition (in 10 min) the separated precipitate (0.75 g) was filtered off. After purification by chromatography on silica gel (eluent CCl_4) and recrystallization from CCl_4 we obtained 0.44 g (45%) of orange compound IIc that quickly got dark in the air, mp 166°C (decomp.). Found $[M]^+$ 319.03891. $C_{14}H_{10}ClF_4NO$. Calculated *M* 319.03870.

3-Diethylamino-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6-chloro-2,4cyclohexadienone (IId). To a solution of 0.55 g of dienone I in 10 ml of CH_2Cl_2 was added 0.36 g of diethylamine. On completion of addition the mixture was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (eluent CCl_4). We obtained 0.48 g (70%) of compound **IId** as a red-orange viscous fluid. Found [*M*]⁺ 271.03869. $C_{10}H_{10}ClF_4NO$. Calculated *M* 271.03868.

3-Azido-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6-chloro-2,4-cyclohexadienone (IIe). To a solution of 0.44 g of dienone I in 10 ml of CCl_4 was added at stirring 0.13 g of sodium azide in 2 ml of water. The emulsion obtained was stirred for 1 h and then it was applied to a column packed with silica gel. Elution in succession with CCl_4 and $CHCl_3$ afforded 0.42 g (86%) of compound **He** as brown viscous fluid decomposing on keeping at 20–25°C.

3-Methoxy-6-phenyl-2,4,5,6-tetrafluoro-6-chloro-2,4-cvclohexadienone (IV). A solution of 2 g of dienone III in 20 ml of methanol was heated to 60°C for 4 h. On distilling off the solvent we obtained 2.2 g of mixture containing according to ¹⁹F NMR data equimolar amounts of dienone IV and pentafluorophenol. By chromatography on a column packed with silica gel (eluent CCl_4) we isolated 1.1 g (86%) of compound IV as a viscous yellow fluid that partially crystallized on standing at 20-25°C. Found $[M]^+$ 272.04632. $C_{13}H_8F_4O_2$. Calculated М 272.04603.

7-Butyl-6-methoxy-1,3,4,5-tetrafluoro-3-chlorobicyclo[2.2.]octa-5,7-dien-2-one (VIa). A mixture of 0.46 g of dienone V and 3 g of 1-hexyne was heated at reflux (70°C) for 20 h. On distilling off the excess 1-hexyne we obtained 0.64 g (97%) of reaction product containing according to ¹⁹F NMR data 90% of compound VIa. After purification by chromatography on silica gel (eluent CCl₄) compound VI was light-yellow viscous fluid. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (CCl₄), $\delta_{\rm F}$, ppm: -40.8 (F¹), -39.1 (F⁴), 2.6 (F⁵), 49.3 (F³). Found [M]⁺ 312.05405. C₁₃H₁₃ClF₄O₂. Calculated *M* 312.05401.

7-Hydroxymethyl-6-methoxy-1,3,4,5-tetrafluoro-3-chlorobicyclo[2.2.]octa-5,7-dien-2-one (VIb). To a solution of 0.85 g of dienone V in 5 ml of toluene was added 0.45 g of propargyl alcohol, and the mixture was refluxed for 12 h. On distilling off the solvent and excess propargyl alcohol we obtained 1.13 g of reaction mixture containing according to ¹⁹F NMR data 80% of compound VIb that was subsequently purified by chromatography on silica gel (eluent CH₂Cl₂). We isolated 0.95 g (835%) of viscous orange compound VIb. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (CCl₄), $\delta_{\rm F}$, ppm: -44.4 (F¹), -38.9 (F⁴), 2.7 (F⁵), 49.9 (F³). Found, %: C 41.32; H 2.35; Cl 12.10; F 26.54. [*M*]⁺ 286. C₁₀H₇ClF₄O₃. Calculated, %: C 41.91; H 2.46; Cl 12.37; F 26.51. *M* 286.

7-Butyl-6-methoxy-3-phenyl-1,3,4,5-tetrafluorobicyclo[2.2.]octa-5,7-dien-2-one (VIc). A solution of 0.84 g of dienone **III** in 10 ml of methanol was heated to 60° C for 4 h. The residue after methanol distillation was dissolved in 6 ml of 1-hexyne and heated at reflux (70° C) for 70 h. After evaporation of excess hexyne the reaction mixture was subjected to column chromatography on silica gel. Elution with CCl_4 afforded 0.35 g (49%) of compound Vc as viscous yellow fluid. ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (CCl₄), δ_F , ppm: -42.1 (F¹), -38.1 (F⁴), 2.1 (F⁵), 23.6 (F³). Found, %: C 64.58; H 5.08; F 20.98. *M* 362. $C_{19}H_{18}F_4O_2$. Calculated, %: C 64.41; H 5.08; F 21.47. *M* 354.

Propyl (5-butyl-3-methoxy-2,4-difluorophenyl)fluorochloroacetate (VIIa). To compound VIa prepared by heating 0.46 g of dienone V with 3 ml 1-hexyne to 70°C for 20 h on removing excess 1-hexyne was added 6 ml of 1-propanol and 1 g of freshly calcined K₂CO₃. The mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature, 50 ml of diluted hydrochloric acid was added, and the product was extracted into dichloromethane $(3 \times 50 \text{ ml})$. The extract was dried with calcium chloride, the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was subjected to chromatography on silica gel. Elution with CCl₄ afforded 0.35 g of ester VIIa (50% with respect to dienone V) as viscous light fluid. ¹H NMR spectrum (CCl₄), δ, ppm: 6.9 (1H, Ar-H), 3.8 (OCH₂), 3.5 (OCH₂), 2.2, 1.5–0.7 (4CH₂), 0.5 (2CH₃). ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (CCl₄), $\delta_{\rm F}$, ppm: 32.2 and 33.9 (F² and F⁴), 58.8 (α -F). Found $[M]^+$ 352.10529. C₁₆H₂₀ClF₃O₃. Calculated *M* 352.10500.

Propvl (5-hvdroxymethyl-3-methoxy-2,4-difluorophenyl)fluorochloroacetate (VIIb). To compound **VIb** prepared by heating 0.46 g of dienone **V** with 0.23 g of propargyl alcohol in 5 ml of toluene to 115°C for 10 h on evaporating in a vacuum was added 5 ml of 1-propanol and 2 g of freshly calcined K₂CO₃. The mixture was stirred for 2 h at room temperature, then 50 ml of diluted HCl was added, and the product was extracted into dichloromethane $(3 \times 50 \text{ ml})$. The extract was dried with calcium chloride, the solvent was evaporated, and the residue was subjected to chromatography on silica gel. Elution with CHCl₃ afforded 0.25 g of ester VIIb (78% with respect to dienone V). 1 H NMR spectrum (CCl₄), δ, ppm: 7.5 (1H, Ar-H), 4.6 (CH₂OH), 4.2 (OCH₂), 3.9(OCH₃), 3.5(OH), 1.7(CH₂), 0.9(CH₃). ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (CCl₄), $\delta_{\rm F}$, ppm: 32.2 and 34.0 $(F^2 \text{ and } F^4)$, 57.3 (α -F). Found $[M]^+$ 326.05326. $C_{13}H_{14}ClF_{3}O_{4}$. Calculated *M* 326.05326.

Propyl (5-butyl-3-methoxy-2,4-difluorophenyl)phenylfluoroacetate (VIIc). To a solution of 0.35 g of compound **VIc** in 3 ml of 1-propanol was added 1.4 g of freshly calcined K_2CO_3 . The reaction mixture was stirred for 50 h at room temperature, then filtered, and 1-propanol was evaporated in a vacuum. The residue was subjected to chromatography on silica gel. Elution with CHCl₃ afforded 0.33 g (85%) of ester **VIIc** as viscous light-yellow fluid. ¹H NMR spectrum (CCl₄), δ , ppm: 7.3–7.5 (C₆H₅), 6.3 (1H, Ar-H), 4.2 (OCH₂), 3.9 (OCH₃), 2.4, 1.7–1.2 (4CH₂), 0.8 (2CH₃). ¹⁹F NMR spectrum (CCl₄), $\delta_{\rm F}$, ppm: 18.7 (α -F), 31.6 and 33.2 (F² and F⁴). Found [*M*]⁺ 394.17562. C₂₂H₂₅F₃O₃. Calculated *M* 394.17556.

4-Oxo-2-phenyl-3,5,6,7-tetrafluoro-5-chlorobicyclo[4.1.0]hept-2-ene-7-carbonitrile (VIII). (a) To a solution of 0.42 g of azidodienone IIe in 10 ml of CCl_4 was added 0.4 g of phenylacetylene, and the mixture was heated to 70°C for 8 h. The solution was applied to a column packed with silica gel and on successive elution with CCl₄ and CHCl₃ we separated 0.24 g (44%) of nitrile VIII. After two recrystallizations from hexane we obtained 0.14 g of compound **VIII**, (VIII), mp 67–69°C. IR spectrum, v, cm⁻¹: 3042 w (C-H), 2240 w (C=N), 1722 s (C=O), 1625 m, 1447 m, 1418 m, 1331 m, 1309 m, 1249 m, 1190 m, 1162 m, 1080 m, 1023 m, 993 m, 914 m, 878 s, 835 s. Found, %: C 53.19; H 2.07; N 4.54. $[M]^+$ 315.00733. C₁₄H₆ClF₄NO. Calculated, %: C 53.25; H 1.90; N 4.44. M 315.00740.

(b) To a solution of 0.5 g of dienone I in 10 ml of acetonitrile was added 0.3 g of trimethylsilyl azide, and the mixture was maintained at room temperature for 30 min. According to ¹⁹F NMR data the resulting mixture contained equal amounts of azidodienone IIe and trimethylfluorosilane. To this mixture was added 0.23 g of phenylacetylene, and the resulting solution was kept for 8 weeks with intermittent registering of ¹⁹F NMR spectra. The spectra showed that after 3 days the reaction mixture contained ~67% of dienone IIe, ~20% of cycloadduct IX, and trace amounts of nitrile VIII. In 3 weeks these compounds were contained in equal amounts, and in 8 weeks in the reaction mixture was 80% of compound VIII.

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