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Fluorinated ketene dithioacetals. Part 9: Synthesis and some chemical properties of new fluorinated 3*H*-1,2-dithiole-3-thiones

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Abstract—4-Fluoro-5-perfluoroalkyl-3H-1,2-dithiole-3-thiones were prepared by heating the corresponding ketene dithioacetals with magnesium bromide and elemental sulfur. They reacted as dienophiles and 1,3-dipoles in cycloaddition reactions to give new fluorinated organosulfur compounds. © 2002 Elsevier Science Ltd. All rights reserved.

3H-1,2-Dithiole-3-thiones **1** have attracted significant attention due to their wide spectrum of biological activity. Derivatives of this class were reported to display antioxidant, chemotherapeutic and radioprotective properties.¹ Dithiolethiones appear to be one of the most promising types of potential chemopreventive agents based on their efficacy in a wide variety of tumour models.² Some of their representatives have been developed for clinical applications. In particular, Tritio anetole (R¹=*p*-MeOC₆H₄, R²=H) (Fig. 1) has been extensively used as a choleretic and sialogogue,³ Oltipraz[®] (R¹=2-pyrazinyl, R²=Me) as a chemopreventive agent⁴ and as an inhibitor of HIV-1 virus replication.⁵

Apart from bioactive properties, 1,2-dithiole-3-thiones are also interesting from the material chemistry viewpoint. They have been used as precursors for the preparation of vinylogues of tetrathiafulvalene with increased dimensionality or nonlinear optical (NLO) properties,⁶



Figure 1.

as π -donor moiety for obtaining photoconductive materials, which can be used as electron transport materials for hologram recording.⁷

Due to the great variety of applications, development of convenient methods for synthesising dithiolethiones and expanding their structure diversity remains a subject of active research. The simplest and commonly employed method for the preparation of 1,2-dithiole-3thiones is thiation of 3-oxoesters with P_4S_{10} or Lawesson's reagent, first giving poor to fair yields,⁸ but recently improved.⁹ The dithiolethione ring system was also prepared by treatment of β -oxothioic acid or its K-salt, resulting from condensation of CS_2 with ketones, with polysulfanes¹⁰ or hexamethyldisilathiane.¹¹

Among the wide variety of 3H-1,2-dithiole-3-thiones which have been synthesised, several examples are known with fluoro- or polyfluoroalkyl substituents. 5-Polyfluoroalkyl substituted dithioles 1 (R¹=HCF₂, HCF₂CF₂, R²=H, Cl, Br) were synthesised from the corresponding esters of β-ketoacids by treatment with P₄S₁₀ in the presence of elemental sulfur in poor to moderate yields.¹² Compounds 1 (R¹=H, R²=F, CF₃) were prepared by reaction of 2-fluoropropene or 2-(trifluoromethyl)propene with elemental sulfur in gas phase at 500°C with 46% yields.¹³

In this communication we wish to report a simple and efficient route to new fluorine containing 3H-1,2-dithiole-3-thiones, starting from perfluoroketene dithioacetals, and some of their chemical properties.

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We recently reported the preparation of β -bromo- β trifluoromethyl dithiocrotonic ester **3a** by heating of perfluoroketene diethylthioacetal **2a** with MgBr₂.¹⁴ Heating at 240°C for 4 min induced the formation of a minor amount (5%) of a side-product which had lost the Et group. After 5 min heating at this temperature, this compound became the unique isolable product. According to full analytical and spectrometrical studies, it proved to be 4-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-3*H*-1,2-dithiole-3-thione **4a** (Scheme 1). These observations prompted us to investigate this reaction in more detail.

Control of the conversion of 2a into the crotonic derivative 3a was observed to be easier by lowering the reaction temperature to 180°C. Assuming that the thermal decomposition of the dithioester 3a released the elemental sulfur necessary to afford the thermodynamic product 4a, a mixture of pure 3a and elemental sulfur was heated at 210°C and gave dithiolethione 4a in almost quantitative yield. Conveniently, excellent yield of 4a (92%) was obtained in a one-pot procedure by direct heating of a mixture of 2a, magnesium bromide and elemental sulfur. Similarly, the higher homologue 4b was prepared in 80% yield from the corresponding ketene dithioacetal 2b, showing the generality of this transformation.¹⁵

Having a good method for the preparation of dithiolethiones **4**, it was interesting to investigate their chemical properties. As far as they can be considered as cyclic analogues of polyfluoroalkyl dithiocarboxylates, which are good dienophiles,¹⁶ and taking into account that 1,2-dithiole-3-thiones can act as 1,3-dipoles,¹⁷ we examined cycloaddition reactions of compounds **4** with 2,3dimethylbutadiene (DMB) and dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate (DMAD).

Compounds 4 react slowly with DMB at 30°C in diethyl ether to give cycloadducts 5 (Scheme 2). According to ¹⁹F NMR monitoring, 4 was totally and cleanly converted within 48 h into 5 (>90% in the crude reaction mixture). Unfortunately, 5 is too unstable to be purified by silica gel chromatography. Nevertheless cycloadducts 5a,b have been unambiguously identified by NMR spectrometry.¹⁸ In ¹³C NMR spectra, the







appearance of a quaternary carbon atom signal at 70 ppm (${}^{2}J_{CF}$ =22 Hz) and the disappearance of signal for C=S carbon at 198 ppm (${}^{2}J_{CF}$ =28 Hz) confirmed the cycloaddition on C=S double bond. ¹H NMR spectra displayed two AB systems for CH₂ groups due to asymmetric carbon atom.

As 1,3-dipole, compounds **4** reacted effectively at room temperature in dichloromethane with DMAD for 3–5 h, giving thicketone derivatives **6** as dark red crystals in 55–59% isolated yields.¹⁹ Here too, compounds **6** partially decomposed during purification by column chromatography (petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂, 1:1). It was also observed that their solutions became colourless in standing on light for 2–3 days.

Unusual ¹³C NMR features of compound **6** deserves some comment. The C=S carbon usually appears at >200 ppm; on the other hand, the CS₂ carbon signal is expected in the 125–130 ppm region.²⁰ The spectra of compounds **6** exhibit an important upfield shifts for C=S carbon (175.0 ppm for **6a**; 177.6 ppm for **6b**) and downfield shift for CS₂ carbon (149.7 ppm for **6a**; 150.0 ppm for **6b**). This phenomenon can be explained taking into account the highly conjugated character of **6**, and the charge distribution according to the canonical forms described in Scheme 3.²¹



Scheme 3.

The presence of the thiocarbonyl group in compounds 6 was confirmed by cycloaddition reactions with 1,3diene. Treatment of 6 with DMB in diethyl ether at room temperature for 1 h afforded 1:1 cycloadducts 7 in almost quantitative yields (Scheme 2). The initial dark red colour of reaction mixture turned to yellow as observed for usual cycloaddition reactions of this type. The products 7 displayed in ¹H NMR spectra²² two AB systems for CH_2 groups. The appearance in ${}^{13}C$ NMR spectra of quaternary atoms at 52.6 ppm (quartet of doublets for 7a) and 52.7 ppm (doublet of triplets for **7b**) with coupling constants ${}^{2}J(C-CF_{3})$ and ${}^{2}J(C-CF)$ between 23 and 28 Hz as well as disappearance of C=S carbon signal of starting 6 clearly showed cycloaddition to thiocarbonyl group. The CS_2 carbon (122 ppm) has recovered a normal chemical shift.²⁰

In conclusion, we have described a new application of perfluoroketene dithioacetals, which are effectively converted to new fluorinated 3H-1,2-dithiole-3-thiones. These compounds react as dienophiles with 2,3-dimethylbutadiene. As 1,3-dipoles, they react with dimethyl acetylenedicarboxylate providing a new fluorinated thioketone derivatives, chemical properties of which are currently under investigation.

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- 15. Typical procedure: preparation of 4-fluoro-5-trifluoromethyl-3H-1,2-dithiole-3-thiones 4a. Flask containing the mixture of ketene dithioacetal 2a (1.0 g, 3.52 mmol), anhydrous magnesium bromide (0.68 g, 3.70 mmol) and fine powdered elemental sulfur (0.12 g, 3.75 mmol) was placed in oil bath preheated to 210°C and kept at this temperature for 5 min. The flask was fitted with small distillation adopter and product was quickly sublimated in vacuum (0.3 mbar). The product was washed out from adopter with diethyl ether and solvent was evaporated in vacuum to give pure (according with GC-MS and NMR data) red crystals of dithiolethione 4a. Yield 92%; mp 88–90°C; ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm/CCl₃F): -59.51 (d, 3F, ${}^{4}J_{FF} = 11.4$ Hz, CF₃), -104.34 (q, 1F, ${}^{4}J_{FF} = 11.4$ Hz, CF); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 119.90 (qd, J_{CF} =274.7, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 3.9$ Hz, CF₃), 136.93 (qd, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 39.4$, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 20.7$ Hz, C₅), 156.15 (dq, $J_{CF} = 276.1$, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 2.9$ Hz, CF), 198.21 (d, ${}^{2}J_{CF}$ = 27.6 Hz, C=S); IR (KBr) v (cm⁻¹): 1368, 1271, 1257, 1170, 1037, 690, 510; GC-MS (m/e): 220 (M⁺, 100%), 144 (M^+ -CS₂), 100 (M^+ -CS₂-CS). Anal. calcd for C₄F₄S₃: C, 21.82; S, 43.68. Found: C, 21.84; S, 43.27%. Compound 4b: yield 80%, red crystals; mp 68-70°C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 6.10 (tm, ²J_{HF} = 53.0 Hz, HCF₂); ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm/CCl₃F): -105.64 (pentet, 1F, ${}^{4}J_{\rm FF} = 9.5$ Hz, CF), -110.64 (m, 2F, CF₂), -134.23 (dm, 2F, ${}^{2}J_{\text{FH}}$ =53.5 Hz, CF₂H); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 108.83 (ttd, $J_{\rm CF} = 253.6$, ${}^{2}J_{\rm CF} = 38.6$, ${}^{4}J_{\rm CF} = 2.1$ Hz, HCF₂), 112.86 (ttd, $J_{CF} = 254.6$, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 31.1$, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 4.3$ Hz, CF₂), 137.81 (td, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 29.6$, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 21.1$ Hz, C₅), 156.38 (dt, $J_{CF} = 272.9$, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 4.3$ Hz, CF), 198.38 (d, $^{2}J_{CF} = 27.9$ Hz, C=S); IR (KBr) v (cm⁻¹): 1393, 1350, 1250, 1102, 1028, 952; GC-MS (m/e): 252 (M⁺, 100%), 201 (M^+-HCF_2) , 176 (M^+-CS_2) , 157, 137, 119.
- For some cycloaddition reactions of polyfluoroalkyl dithiocarboxylates, see: (a) Ref. 14; (b) Shermolovich, Yu. G.; Slusarenko, Ye. I.; Timoshenko, V. M.; Rozhenko, A. B.; Markovski, L. N. J. Fluorine Chem. 1991, 55, 329–333; (c) Portella, C.; Shermolovich, Yu. G.; Tschenn, O. Bull. Soc. Chim. Fr. 1997, 134, 697–702.
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- 18. Selected data for cycloadducts 5a,b. Compound 5a: yellow crystals; mp 76–78°C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 1.92 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.99 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.80 (AB, 2H, $J_{AB} = 15.8 \text{ Hz}, \text{ CH}_2$), 3.26 (*AB*, 2H, $J_{AB} = 15.4 \text{ Hz}, \text{ CH}_2$); $^{19}\mathrm{F}$ NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm/CCl₃F): –59.82 (d, 3F, $^4J_{\mathrm{FF}} =$ 15.5 Hz, CF₃), -112.90 (q, 1F, ${}^{4}J_{FF}$ =15.5 Hz, CF); ${}^{13}C$ NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 19.08 (s, CH₃), 20.57 (s, CH₃), 32.36 (s, CH₂), 41.39 (s, CH₂), 69.90 (d, ${}^{2}J_{CF}$ =21.5 Hz, $C_{\text{quaternary}}$), 110.83 (qd, ${}^{2}J_{\text{CF}} = 37.6$, ${}^{2}J_{\text{CF}} = 18.8$ Hz, C₅), 120.12 (qd, $J_{CF}=272.4$, ${}^{3}J_{CF}=3.2$ Hz, CF₃), 125.85 (s, C-CH₃), 125.99 (s, C-CH₃), 156.35 (dq, J_{CF} =299.8, ${}^{3}J_{\rm CF} = 3.7$ Hz, CF); GC-MS (*m*/*e*): 270 (*M*⁺–S), 269 (M^+-HS) , 268 (M^+-H_2S) , 253 $(M^+-H_2S-CH_3, 100\%)$. Compound **5b**: ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 1.79 (s, 6H, CH₃), 2.84 (*AB*, 2H, *J*_{AB}=16.5 Hz, CH₂), 3.26 (*AB*, 2H, $J_{AB} = 15.5$ Hz, CH₂), 5.93 (tm, 1H, ${}^{2}J_{HF} = 53.4$ Hz, HCF₂); ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm/CCl₃F): -111.36 (m, 2F, CF₂), -114.31 (m, 1F, CF), -135.75 (ddq, 2F, ${}^{2}J_{\text{FH}}$ = 53.4, ${}^{3}J_{FF} = 19.0$, ${}^{5}J_{FF} = 6.9$ Hz, HCF₂); ${}^{13}C$ NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 19.15 (s, CH₃), 20.62 (s, CH₃), 32.44 (s, CH₂), 41.56 (s, CH₂), 70.18 (d, ${}^{2}J_{CF}=22.1$ Hz, $C_{quaternary}$), 105.45 (m, =C-CF₂), 109.20 (tm, J_{CF} =252.8 Hz, HCF₂), 113.67 (m, CF₂), 125.78 (s, C-CH₃), 126.08 (s, C-CH₃), 156.36 (d, J_{CF} = 297.8 Hz, CF).
- 19. Selected data for compounds 6a,b. Compound 6a: yield 59%, dark red crystals; $R_{\rm f}$ 0.5 (petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂, 1:1); mp 102–104°C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 3.97 (s, 6H, 2×CH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm/CCl₃F): -64.85 (d, 3F, ${}^{4}J_{FF} = 18.1$ Hz, CF₃), -102.35 (q, 1F, ${}^{4}J_{FF} = 18.1$ Hz, CF); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 54.18 (s, CH₃), 54.35 (s, CH₃), 118.79 (qd, $J_{CF} = 278.3$, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 3.2$ Hz, CF₃), 132.75 (s, C-C=O), 135.32 (s, C-C=O), 149.73 (d, $^{2}J_{\rm CF} = 29.0$ Hz, CS₂), 150.96 (d, $J_{\rm CF} = 250.4$ Hz, CF), 158.63 (s, C=O), 159.31 (d, ${}^{5}J_{CF} = 1.8$ Hz, C=O), 175.01 (qd, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 36.3$, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 13.4$ Hz, C=S); IR (KBr) v (cm⁻¹): 1748 (C=O), 1711 (C=O), 1581, 1465, 1439, 1393, 1301, 1238, 1191, 1135, 1079; GC-MS (m/e): 362 (M^+) , 303 $(M^+-\text{COOCH}_3)$, 293 $(M^+-\text{CF}_3)$, 220 $(M^+-\text{DMAD})$, 100%). Compound **6b**: yield 55%, dark red crystals; $R_{\rm f}$ 0.4 (petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂, 1:1); mp 70–72°C; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 3.94 (s, 6H, 2×CH₃), 6.23 (tt, 1H, $^{2}J_{\rm HF} = 53.1$, $^{3}J_{\rm HF} = 5.1$ Hz, HCF₂); 19 F NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm/CCl_3F) : -101.41 (tt, 1F, ${}^4J_{FF} = 25.0$, ${}^5J_{FF} = 6.9$ Hz, CF), -111.77 (dtd, 2F, ${}^{4}J_{FF}=25.0$, ${}^{3}J_{FF}=8.6$, ${}^{3}J_{FH}=5.1$ Hz, CF₂), -136.00 (dq, 2F, ${}^{2}J_{\rm FH}$ =53.1, ${}^{3}J_{\rm FF}$ =8.6 Hz, HCF₂); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 54.09 (s, CH₃), 54.27 (s, CH₃), 109.41 (ttd, $J_{CF} = 252.5$, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 34.4$, ${}^{4}J_{CF} = 3.8$ Hz, HCF₂), 112.53 (ttd, $J_{CF} = 255.7$, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 26.9$, ${}^{3}J_{CF} =$ 4.8 Hz, CF₂), 132.49 (s, C-C=O), 135.20 (d, ${}^{4}J_{CF}$ = 2.7 Hz, C-C=O), 150.03 (d, ${}^{2}J_{CF}$ = 29.5 Hz, CS₂), 151.22 (d, J_{CF} = 249.3 Hz, CF), 158.54 (s, C=O), 159.25 (d, ${}^{5}J_{CF} = 2.7$ Hz,

C=O), 177.57 (td, ${}^{2}J_{CF}$ =26.9, ${}^{2}J_{CF}$ =12.9 Hz, C=S); IR (KBr) ν (cm⁻¹): 2963, 1734 (C=O), 1715 (C=O), 1570, 1460, 1438, 1298, 1276, 1233, 1187, 1112, 1088, 1057; GC-MS (m/e): 394 (M^+), 293 (M^+ -HCF₂CF₂), 252 (M^+ -DMAD, 100%).

20. For example, signals of carbon of CS_2 moiety for the starting ketene dithioacetals **2** were observed at 126.4–126.6 ppm and the chemical shift for CS_2 carbons for the model compound **8** (unpublished result) is at 128.6 ppm.

- 21. For examples of the intramolecular S…S 1,5-bonding interactions in the related unfluorinated series, see Ref. 6a.
- 22. Selected data for cycloadducts 7a,b. Compound 7a: yield 93%, yellow slowly crystallised oil; $R_{\rm f}$ 0.6 (petroleum ether/ether, 1:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 1.68 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.73 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.62 (AB, 2H, J_{AB}=16.6 Hz, CH₂), 3.09 (*AB*, 2H, J_{AB} = 16.7 Hz, CH₂), 3.80 (s, OCH₃), 3.81 (s, OCH₃); ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm/CCl₃F): -73.89 (d, 3F, ${}^{4}J_{FF}=2.8$ Hz, CF₃), -97.53 (q, 1F, ${}^{4}J_{\text{FF}} = 2.8$ Hz, CF); 13 C NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 19.09 (s, CH₃), 20.11 (s, CH₃), 30.94 (s, CH₂), 33.20 (d, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 5.9$ Hz, CH₂), 52.57 (qd, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 28.4$, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 23.9$ Hz, Cquaternary), 53.34 (s, OCH₃), 53.40 (s, OCH₃), 122.37 (d, $^{2}J_{CF} = 35.6$ Hz, CS₂), 122.69 (s, C-CH₃), 124.14 (s, C-CH₃), 125.71 (qd, J_{CF} = 285.2, ${}^{3}J_{CF}$ = 4.0 Hz, CF₃), 129.82 (d, ⁴*J*_{CF}=4.2 Hz, *C*-C=O), 133.00 (s, *C*-C=O), 138.30 (d, $J_{\rm CF} = 254.3$ Hz, CF), 160.00 (d, ${}^{5}J_{\rm CF} = 2.5$ Hz, C=O), 160.01 (s, C=O); GC-MS (m/e): 444 (M^+), 362 (M^+ -DMB), 220 (*M*⁺–DMB–DMAD, 100%). Compound 7b: yield 99%, yellow oil; R_f 0.5 (petroleum ether/CH₂Cl₂, 1:1); ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 1.70 (s, 3H, CH₃), 1.75 (s, 3H, CH₃), 2.66 (AB, 2H, J_{AB} =17.2 Hz, CH₂), 3.11 $(AB, 2H, J_{AB} = 17.0 \text{ Hz}, CH_2), 3.83 \text{ (s, OCH}_3), 3.84 \text{ (s,}$ OCH₃); 5.91 (tt, 1H, ${}^{2}J_{HF} = 52.5$, ${}^{3}J_{HF} = 5.4$ Hz, HCF₂); ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm/CCl₃F): -95.28 (s, 1F, CF), -119.83 (AB, J_{AB}=267.5 Hz, CF₂), -133.68 (AB ddt, $J_{AB} = 301.1, {}^{2}J_{FH} = 52.5, {}^{3}J_{FF} = 7.0, {}^{5}J_{FF} = 3.0 \text{ Hz}, \text{ HCF}_2);$ $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ NMR (CDCl₃) δ (ppm): 19.13 (s, CH₃), 20.20 (s, CH₃), 30.90 (s, CH₂), 33.02 (m, CH₂), 52.74 (dt, ${}^{2}J_{CF} =$ 24.0, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 23.0$ Hz, C_{quaternary}), 53.37 (s, OCH₃), 53.43 (s, OCH₃), 109.29 (tt, $J_{CF} = 253.5$, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 33.6$ Hz, HCF₂), 116.35 (ttd, $J_{CF} = 261.0$, ${}^{2}J_{CF} = 25.0$, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 3.8$ Hz, CF₂), 122.37 (s, C-CH₃), 122.60 (d, ${}^{2}J_{CF}$ = 35.5 Hz, CS₂), 124.29 (s, C-CH₃), 129.79 (d, ${}^{4}J_{CF}$ = 4.3 Hz, C-C=O), 133.04 (s, C-C=O), 138.54 (dtt, $J_{CF} = 253.4$, ${}^{3}J_{CF} = 1.4$, ${}^{4}J_{CF} = 0.9$ Hz, CF), 159.96 (s, C=O), 160.02 (s, C=O); MS (m/e): 476 (M⁺, 100), 445 (M⁺-OCH₃), 394 (M⁺-DMB), 375 (M⁺- HCF_2CF_2), 293 (*M*⁺–DMB– HCF_2CF_2).