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# Synthesis and reactions of the first fluoroalkylated 1,3-bis(trimethylsilyloxy)-1,3-butadienes

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#### ABSTRACT

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Organofluorine compounds play an important role in medicinal and agricultural chemistry, due to their stereoelectronic properties, solubility, bioavailability, and metabolic stability.<sup>1</sup> Prominent clinically used fluorinated molecules include, for example, 5-fluorouracil (an antineoplastic agent),<sup>2</sup> ciprofloxacin and flurithromycin (antibiotics), fluoxetine (prozac, an antidepressant), faslodex (an antitumor drug), and efavirenz (an antiviral drug).<sup>3,4</sup> Several perfluoroalkyl-substituted molecules show amphiphilic properties and represent promising liquid crystals.<sup>5</sup> Fluoroalkylated compounds are also used as ligands<sup>6</sup> in catalytic reactions, as organocatalysts,<sup>7</sup> and as substrates in palladium catalyzed reactions.<sup>8</sup>

Direct fluorination reactions of arenes and heteroarenes often suffer from low chemo- and regioselectivity or multiple fluorination. An alternative approach to fluorinated molecules relies on the application of a building block strategy. For example, aryl fluorides have been prepared by [4+2] cycloaddition reactions of fluorinated dienes.<sup>9</sup> The synthesis of fluorophenols by annulation reactions of 2,2-difluoro-1,5-diketones has been developed by Portella and co-workers.<sup>10</sup> In recent years, we have studied<sup>11,12</sup> the synthesis of fluorinated arenes based on cyclocondensation reactions of 1,3-bis(trimethylsilyloxy)-1,3-butadienes.<sup>13</sup> Herein, we report the synthesis and reactions of what are, to the best of our knowledge, the first fluoroalkylated 1,3-bis(trimethylsilyloxy)-1,3-butadienes. In this context we also report chain elongation reactions of fluoroalkylated 1,3-diketones by reaction of their dia-

The first fluoroalkylated 1,3-bis(silyloxy)-1,3-butadienes have been prepared. Their reaction with oxalyl chloride provides a convenient approach to fluoroalkylated  $\gamma$ -alkylidenebutenolides.

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nions with alkyl halides. The cyclization of the new dienes with oxalyl chloride provides a convenient approach to fluoroalkylated  $\gamma$ -alkylidenebutenolides. While butenolides are of considerable pharmacological relevance,<sup>14,15</sup> the fluoroalkylated derivatives reported herein have not been prepared so far. It can be anticipated that they are not readily available by other methods.

The silylation of commercially available 1,1,1-trifluoro-pentane-2,4-dione (**1a**) with trimethylsilyl-trifluoromethanesulfonate (Me<sub>3</sub>SiOTf), using the conditions reported by Simchen and coworkers for the silylation of acetylacetone,<sup>16,17</sup> afforded the novel diene **2a** in high yield (Scheme 1). The reaction of the dianion of **1a**, generated by means of LDA (2.3 equiv), with various alkyl



**Scheme 1.** Synthesis of diketones **1b**-g and dienes **2a**-g: (i) (1) LDA (2.3 equiv), THF, 0 °C, 1 h; (2) R-I, 78 °C $\rightarrow$ 20 °C, 16 h; (ii) NEt<sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv), TMSOTf (3.0 equiv), Et<sub>2</sub>O, 20 °C, 72 h.



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Table 1	
Synthesis of diketones 1b-g and c	lienes <b>2b–g</b>

1,2	R	% ( <b>1</b> ) <sup>a</sup>	% ( <b>2</b> ) <sup>a</sup>
b	nBu	33	98
с	nHex	42	96
d	nOct	59	75
e	nDec	41	95
f	nDodec	55	94
g	CH <sub>2</sub> Ph	40	91

<sup>a</sup> Yields of isolated products.

iodides afforded the novel trifluoromethylated 1,3-diketones **1b–g**.<sup>18,19</sup> Diketones **1b–g** were transformed into the dienes **2b–g** in high yields<sup>17</sup> (Table 1).

The reaction of the dianion of **1a** with alkyl halides has, to the best of our knowledge, not been previously reported.<sup>20,21</sup> Röschenthaler and co-workers reported the condensation of **1a** with esters by application of a sequential deprotonation protocol (use of LiH).<sup>22</sup> However, the application of these conditions to the synthesis of **1b–g** proved to be unsuccessful.

Perfluoroalkylated molecules are of relevance as building blocks for the synthesis of liquid crystals and of ligands in fluorinated solvent systems.<sup>5–7</sup> The perfluoroalkylated 1,3-diketones **1h–l** were prepared, following a modified known procedure,<sup>20</sup> by Claisen reaction of the fluorinated esters **3a–d** with acetone (**4a**, R = H) or butan-2-one (**4b**, R = Et) in 48–80% yield (Scheme 2, Table 2). The synthesis of derivatives **1h–k** has been previously reported.<sup>20,23</sup> Diketones **1h–l** were transformed into the novel dienes 2h–l in 73–97% yield.<sup>17</sup> 1,3-Diketones **1a–l** exist exclusively in their enol tautomeric form. Dienes **2a–l** exist as inseparable mixtures of *E/Z* isomers.

The reaction of dienes **2a–l** with oxalyl chloride in the presence of Me<sub>3</sub>SiOTf (0.5 equiv) afforded the novel fluoroalkylated  $\gamma$ -alkylidenebutenolides **5a–l** (Scheme 3, Table 3).<sup>24–26</sup> In contrast, the reaction of the monoanions or dianions of 1,3-diketones **1a–l** with oxalyl derivatives (oxalyl chloride or diethyl oxalate) failed. During the optimization, it proved to be important to use 2.0 equiv of the diene. Butenolides **5a** and **5i**, containing a hydrogen atom located at carbon atom C-4 of the butenolide, were isolated as *E*-configured isomers. The other derivatives, containing an alkyl group located at carbon atom C-4, were isolated as *Z*-configured isomers, due to the steric effect of the alkyl group. The configuration of the products was established based on NOESY experiments. All products were isolated in moderate to good yields (except for **5f**). No systematic trend of the yields could be observed.

In conclusion, we have reported the synthesis of the first fluoroalkylated 1,3-bis(silyloxy)-1,3-butadienes and their application to the synthesis of fluoroalkylated  $\gamma$ -alkylidenebutenolides. Our current studies are directed toward the application of perflu-



**Scheme 2.** Synthesis of diketones **1h**–I and dienes **2h**–I: (i) Na, MeOH,  $0\rightarrow 20$  °C, 16 h; (ii) NEt<sub>3</sub> (3.0 equiv), TMSOTf (3.0 equiv), Et<sub>2</sub>O, 20 °C, 72 h.

Table 2

Synthesis of diketone	<b>1h-l</b> and dienes <b>2h-l</b>
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3	4	1,2	R <sub>F</sub>	R	% ( <b>2</b> ) <sup>a</sup>
a	b	h	$C_2F_5$	Et	80
b	a	i	$C_3F_7$	Н	97
b	b	j	$C_3F_7$	Et	80
с	b	k	C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>13</sub>	Et	77
d	b	1	C <sub>7</sub> F <sub>15</sub>	Et	73

Yields of isolated products.



Scheme 3. Synthesis of butenolides 5a–I: (i) TMSOTf (0.5 equiv), CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -78 °C $\rightarrow$  20 °C, 16 h.

Table 3Synthesis of butenolides 5a-1

5	R <sub>F</sub>	R	% ( <b>5</b> ) <sup>a</sup>
a	CF <sub>3</sub>	Н	54
b	CF <sub>3</sub>	nBu	67
с	CF <sub>3</sub>	nHex	60
d	CF <sub>3</sub>	nOct	35
e	CF <sub>3</sub>	nDec	42
f	CF <sub>3</sub>	nDodec	20
g	CF <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub> Ph	52
h	$C_2F_5$	Et	53
i	C <sub>3</sub> F <sub>7</sub>	Н	68
j	C <sub>3</sub> F <sub>7</sub>	Et	50
k	C <sub>6</sub> F <sub>13</sub>	Et	40
1	C <sub>7</sub> F <sub>15</sub>	Et	54

<sup>a</sup> Yields of isolated products.

oroalkylated dienes in other cyclocondensation and cycloaddition reactions.

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- 17. General procedure for the synthesis of 1,3-bis(silyloxy)-1,3-butadienes 2a-1: To a stirred diethyl ether solution (2 mL per 1.0 mmol of 1) of 1a-1 (1.0 equiv) were added triethylamine (3.0 equiv) and TMSOTf (3.0 equiv) at 0 °C under an argon atmosphere. The solution was stirred for 30 min at 0 °C. The temperature of the reaction mixture was allowed to rise to 20 °C and the stirring was continued for 3 days. A liquid salt layer separated at the bottom of the flask. The upper layer (ether solution containing the product) was transferred to a dry flask by syringe under argon atmosphere. Diethyl ether (1.5 mL per 1.0 mmol of 1) was added to the liquid salt layer, the mixture was stirred for 2 min and the layers were allowed to separate by standing for 2 h. The combined ether solutions were concentrated in vacuo to give the pure dienes 2a-1. Due to their unstable nature, the products had to be immediately used after their preparation.
- 18. General procedure for the synthesis of diketones **1b-g**: To a solution of *n*-butyllithium (2.3 equiv) in THF (3 mL per 1.0 mmol of **1a**) was added

diisopropylamine (2.3 equiv) at 0 °C and the mixture was stirred for 30 min followed by dropwise addition of **1a** (1.0 equiv) and subsequent stirring for 1 h at 0 °C. The mixture was cooled to -78 °C and the iodoalkane (1.0 equiv) was added. The temperature of the reaction mixture was allowed to rise to 20 °C during 14 h and, subsequently, hydrochloric acid (10%, 40 mL) was added. The organic layer was separated and extracted with diethylether (3 × 40 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by column chromatography (silica gel, *n*-heptane/EtOAc = 20:1) or by distillation.

- 19. 1,1,-Trifluoro-6-phenyl-2,4-hexanedione (**2g**): Starting with **1a** (1.541 g, 10 mmol), benzyl bromide (1.710 g, 10 mmol), *n*-butyllithium (9.2 mL of a 2.5 M solution in hexanes), and diisopropylamine (3.2 mL, 23 mmol) in THF (30 mL), **2g** was isolated as a colorless liquid (0.966 g, 40%) by distillation; bp = 113–115 °C/1.1 Torr; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (250 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 2.73–2.82 (m, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.99 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.6 Hz, 2H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.90 (s, 1H, CH), 7.15–7.38 (m, 5H, ArH); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (235 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 7.76.6 (CF<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-d<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 31.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 40.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 96.1 (q, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 2.0 Hz, CH), 117.0 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J* = 282.3 Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 126.6 (CH), 128.2 (CH), 128.7 (CH), 139.6 (C), 174.9 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 36.5 Hz, COCF<sub>3</sub>), 196.4 (CO); IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>): v = 3109 (w), 3088 (w), 3065 (w), 3030 (w), 2932 (w), 2866 (w), 1593 (m), 1497 (w), 1454 (m), 1275 (m), 1196 (s), 1146 (s), 1105 (s), 1077 (m), 1030 (w); MS (EI, 70 eV): m/z (%) = 244 (M<sup>\*</sup>, 16), 175 (28), 139 (12), 105 (20), 91 (100); HRMS (EI, 70 eV): calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>11</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>2</sub> (M<sup>+</sup>): 244.07057, found 244.06985.
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- 25. General procedure for the synthesis of butenolides 5a-1: To a CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> solution (10 mL) of oxalyl chloride (1.0 mmol) and 2a-1 (2.0 mmol) was added TMSOTF (0.5 mmol) at -78 °C under argon atmosphere. The temperature of the reaction mixture was allowed to rise to 20 °C during 14 h, and, subsequently, a saturated aqueous solution of ammonium chloride (50 mL) was added. The organic layer was separated and extracted with diethylether (3 × 50 mL). The combined organic layers were dried (Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>), filtered, and the filtrate was concentrated in vacuo. The residue was purified by washing with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> or by crystallization.
- 26. (*Z*)-4-(*n*-Butyl)-3-hydroxy-5-(3,3,3-trifluoro-2-oxopropylidene)furan-2(5*H*)one (**5b**): Starting with oxalyl chloride (0.296 g, 2.33 mmol), **2b** (1.702 g, 4.8 mmol), and TMSOTf (0.22 mL, 1.2 mmol), **5b** was obtained as a yellowish solid (0.415 g, 67%): mp = 185-187 °C; <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 0.87 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.1 Hz, 3H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 1.23-1.44 (m, 4H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.70 (t, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 7.4 Hz, 2H, CCH<sub>2</sub>), 7.08 (s, 1H, CH); <sup>19</sup>F NMR (282 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = -70.3 (CF<sub>3</sub>); <sup>13</sup>C NMR (75 MHz, DMSO-*d*<sub>6</sub>):  $\delta$  = 1.3.7 (CH<sub>3</sub>), 22.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 23.3 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 30.2 (CH<sub>2</sub>), 113.5 (q, <sup>3</sup>*J* = 2.4 Hz, CH), 118.3 (q, <sup>1</sup>*J* = 273.9 Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 133.2 (C), 150.0 (C), 150.4 (q, <sup>2</sup>*J* = 39.2 Hz, COCF<sub>3</sub>), 161.3 (COH), 177.8 (CO); IR (ATR, cm<sup>-1</sup>):  $\tilde{\nu}$  = 3078 (w), 2959 (m), 2934 (w), 2875 (w), 2747 (w), 2437 (w), 1881 (w), 1721 (m), 1657 (m), 1585 (m), 1468 (w), 1423 (m), 1360 (m), 1328 (w), 1273 (m), 1236 (s), 1229 (s), 1215 (s), 1173 (s), 1154 (s), 1103 (m), 1070 (m), 1029 (m); MS (EI, 70 eV): *m*/*z* (%) = 264 (M<sup>+</sup>, 68), 247 (26), 235 (20), 219 (100); HRMS (ESI, TOF/ MS): calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>12</sub>F<sub>3</sub>O<sub>4</sub> ([M+H]<sup>+</sup>): 265.06822, found 265.06809.