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# Oxygen replacement by fluorine in carbonyl derivatives of perfluoroaromatic compounds and isomerization of perfluoroindan-1, 3-dione to perfluoro-3-methylenephthalide under the action of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub><sup>☆</sup>

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Dedicated to the Centenary of Academician, Professor I.L. Knunyants.

#### Abstract

When acted upon by HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> at 95 °C, carbonyl groups of perfluorinated acetophenone (**10**), 3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one (**8**), 2,3dihydronaphthalene-1,4-dione (**9**), benzocyclobutenone (**6**), benzocyclobutenedione (**7**) and indan-1-one (**1**) are converted into diffuoromethylene groups to give the corresponding perfluoroaromatic products. Perfluoroindan-2-one (**5**), under the same conditions, is transformed to bis(perfluoroindan-2-yl) ether (**21**). On heating with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>, perfluoroindan-1,3-dione (**2**) isomerizes into perfluoro-3-methylenephthalide (**4**) at 95 °C, and gives 4,5,6,7-tetrafluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phthalide (**14**) at 130 °C. Compound **4** in the absence of a solvent dimerizes giving perfluorodispiro[phthalide-3,1'-cyclobutane-2',3"-phthalide] (**18**), and when heated with SbF<sub>5</sub> at 130 °C, it is converted into perfluoro-3-methylphthalide (**3**). When acted upon by HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> at 95 °C, perfluorinated benzoic acid (**12**) and phthalic anhydride (**13**) give the corresponding products with trifluoromethyl groups.

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#### 1. Introduction

Previously, cationoid skeletal transformations of perfluorinated benzocyclobutene, indan, tetralin and their perfluoroalkyl and perfluoroaryl derivatives under the action of antimony pentafluoride have been found and investigated, see for example articles [2–5] and references [1–7] cited in article [3]. Recently, we have found that carbon framework of perfluoroketones can also change under the action of SbF<sub>5</sub> [6]. Thus, perfluoroindan-1-one (1) heated with SbF<sub>5</sub> and then treated with water, gives perfluoro-2-ethylbenzoic acid together with the products of ketone 1 disproportionation–perfluoroindan and perfluoroindan-1,3-dione (2). The latter is

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transformed to perfluoro-3-methylphthalide (3), for example, via the intermediate complex 2a and perfluoro-3-methyle-nephthalide (4) according to Scheme 1 [6].

We have now investigated the behaviour of the protonated diketone **2**, which is a cationic analog of complex **2a**, ketone **1** and other perfluoroaromatic carbonyl derivatives in superacid medium with the aim of studying the possibility of their cationoid skeletal transformations. This work describes the behaviour of compounds **1**, **2**, perfluorinated indan-2-one (**5**), benzocyclobutenone (**6**), benzocyclobutenedione (**7**), 3,4-dihy-dronaphthalen-1(2H)-one (**8**), 2,3-dihydronaphthalene-1,4-dione (**9**), acetophenone (**10**), benzaldehyde (**11**), benzoic acid (**12**) and phthalic anhydride (**13**), in the system of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>.

#### 2. Results and discussion

When heated with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> at 95  $^{\circ}$ C for 3 h, indandione 2 isomerizes to phthalide 4. The reaction mixture also contains

<sup>\*</sup> Preliminary communication see [1].

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small amounts of 4,5,6,7-tetrafluoro-3-trifluoromethylphthalide (14), indanone 1 and unchanged compound 2 (Scheme 2). Increase in the reaction time (43 h) leads to the formation of a mixture contained phthalides 3, 4, 14 and small amounts of perfluoroindan (15). Phthalide 14 is the main product of the reaction of indandione 2 with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> at 130 °C. As far as we know, transformation of indandione 2 to phthalide 4 is the first example of isomerization of fluorinated indandiones into 3methylenephthalides. However, earlier it was reported that 2,2-diphenylindan-1,3-dione under the action of trifluoromethanesulfonic acid isomerizes to 3-(diphenylmethylene)phthalide [7].

The probable mechanism for the isomerization of indandione 2 to phthalide 4 can be formulated as shown in Scheme 2. Initially, protonation of compound 2 gives 1-hydroxy-perfluoroindan-3-one-1-yl cation (2c). Opening of the five-membered ring in ion 2c leads to cation 16. Intramolecular cyclization of the latter and subsequent deprotonation gives phthalide 4. Compound 4 adds HF to form phthalide 14, apparently, with intermediate generation of 1-hydroxy-perfluoro-3-methylenephthalan-1-yl cation (4c) (its formation will be discussed below) according to Scheme 2.

When heated with SbF<sub>5</sub> at 125 °C, compound **4** is fluorinated to give phthalide **3**. Compound **4**, treated with dibromine, forms 3-bromo-3-(bromodifluoromethyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrafluorophthalide (**17**) (Scheme 2). In the absence of a solvent, compound **4** cyclodimerizes to give perfluorodispiro[phthalide-3,1'-cyclobutane-2',3"-phthalide] (**18**) rather than its isomer with a 1,3disubstituted cyclobutane fragment. The formation of dimer **18** could be explained by the higher stability of the intermediate benzyl-benzyl diradical **18a** rather than **18b**, cf. [8].

Based on NMR data, dimer **18** is formed as a mixture of two isomers with the ratio of  $E:Z \sim 50:50$ . The <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectrum exhibits two signals at 116.9 (ddt, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CF} = 302$ , 297, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 27$  Hz) and 116.8 (tt, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CF} = 301$ , <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 27$  Hz) ppm, assigned to the CF<sub>2</sub> groups of 1,2-disubstituted cyclobutane fragment. At the same time these data exclude the structures with a 1,3-disubstituted cyclobutane fragment, for which signals of CF<sub>2</sub> groups should not have <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF}$ -

The <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum exhibits signals of two *pseudo*-ABsystems at -116.3 (2F, ddm, J = 224, 19 Hz) and -120.4 (2F, ddm, J = 224, 31 Hz); -117.2 (2F, dtm, J = 224, 34 Hz) and -122.7 (2F, dm, J = 224 Hz) ppm assigned to the CF<sub>2</sub> groups of E-18 and Z-18, respectively. The fine structures of the *pseudo*-AB-system signals indicate that each fluorine atom of the CF<sub>2</sub> groups of E-18 has spatial proximity to one benzene fluorine atom. For Z-18, one fluorine atom of every CF<sub>2</sub> groups has two closely located benzene fluorine atoms and the other fluorine atom of the CF<sub>2</sub> groups has no closely located benzene fluorine atoms.

According to a single crystal X-ray structure determination for *E*-18, distances (F-4)-(F-A), (F-4)-(F-B') are equal to 2.894(3), 2.786(3) Å, and (F-4")-(F-A'), (F-4")-(F-B) are equal to 2.936(3), 2.755(3) Å, respectively (Scheme 2, Fig. 1).

On heating at 180 °C Z-18 isomer is transformed into isomer *E*-18 apparently through the intermediate diradical 18a. Gas phase DFT (PBE/TZ2P, PRIRODA program [9]) calculations show that isomer *E*-18 is more stable by 6.1 kcal mol<sup>-1</sup> than Z-18. Attempts to trap diradical 18a with bromine were unsuccessful. Thus, when heated with dibromine at 180 °C the mixture of *E*-18 and Z-18 isomers was transformed into isomer *E*-18, which contained small amounts of phthalide 17. When the temperature was raised to 260 °C, dimer 18 was divided into parts to give phthalide 17 (Scheme 2).

Indanone 1 obtained in the reaction of diketone 2 with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>, apparently, is a product of oxygen replacement by fluorine in indandione 2 under the reaction conditions (Scheme 2). It has been found that when acted upon by HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> at 95 °C, the carbonyl group of indanone 1 is also converted into difluoromethylene group to give perfluoroindan (15). The reaction mixture also contains unchanged ketone 1 (Scheme 3). As far as we are aware, there are no previous reports of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> being used as a fluorinating agent for replacement of carbonyl oxygen by fluorine [10,11].

One possible route for the transformation of ketone 1 to indan 15 is presented in Scheme 3. Compound 1 is protonated to give the 1-hydroxy-perfluoroindan-1-yl cation (1c) (its formation will be discussed below), which adds fluoride anion to form perfluoroindan-1-ol (19). The protonation of the latter with subsequent elimination of water leads to the perfluoroindan-1-yl cation (15c), which adds fluoride anion to produce compound 15.

Another possible route for the transformation of ketone 1 to indan 15 is presented in Scheme 4. The initially generated cation 1c reacts with indanone 1 to give compound 20 after fluoride anion addition. The protonation of compound 20 with subsequent elimination of water leads to the perfluoro-1-(indan-1-yloxy)indan-1-yl cation (20c), which is split into indanone 1 and cation 15c. The latter adds fluoride anion to form indan 15.

When heated with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> at 95 °C, perfluoroindan-2-one (5) gives bis(perfluoroindan-2-yl) ether (21) and perfluoro-2-(indan-2-yloxy)indan-1-one (22) (Scheme 5). One can assume that ether 21 reacts with oxides, formed under the reaction conditions, to give product 22. The reaction mixture does not contain compounds 5 and 15. When the temperature is raised to



130 °C, a more complex mixture is obtained that contains products 14, 15, 21 and 22 together with unidentified impurities. It has been shown in a separate experiment that in an HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> solution at room temperature compound 5 exists as perfluoroindan-2-ol (23).

Formation of ether **21** may be represented by Scheme 5. The lower relative stability of cation **24c** than that of cation **15c** should hinder the cleavage of cation **21c** to indanone **5** and cation **24c** as compared with transformation of cation **20c** to indanone **1** and cation **15c**. As a result, cation **21c** adds fluoride anion to give ether **21**. On heating at 130 °C, compound **21** apparently undergoes acidic cleavage to form indan **15**.

The reaction of perfluorobenzocyclobutenone (6) with HF/ SbF<sub>5</sub> at 95  $^{\circ}$ C leads to the formation of perfluorobenzocyclobutene (25) together with o-H-perfluoroethylbenzene (26). The reaction mixture also contains unchanged compound 6 (Scheme 6). Fluorobenzene 26, apparently, is a product of opening of the four-membered ring of compound 25 with HF under the reaction conditions [12]. Perfluorobenzocyclobutenedione (7) also reacts with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> at 95 °C to give ketone 6 together with product 25 and unchanged compound 7 (Scheme 6).

When 3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)-one (8) is heated with  $HF/SbF_5$  at 95 °C, the carbonyl group is converted into difluoromethylene to form perfluorotetralin (27). The reaction mixture also contains small amounts of unchanged ketone 8 (Scheme 7). Under the same conditions 2,3-dihydronaphthalene-1,4-dione (9) gives compounds 8 and 27 together with starting diketone 9.



Fig. 1. Molecular structure of perfluorodispiro[phthalide-3,1'-cyclobutane-2',3"-phthalide] (*E*-**18**) in crystal. Thermal ellipsoids are drawn at the 25% probability level. Selected bond lengths (Å) and torsion angle (°): C3–C3" 1.581(3), C3–C10 1.569(3), C3"–C11 1.567(3), C10–C11 1.555(3), C10–C3–C3"–C11 8.4(2).

The reaction of perfluoroacetophenone (10) with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> at 95 °C leads to the formation of perfluoroethylbenzene (28) in good yield. In contrast, perfluorobenzaldehyde (11) under the reaction conditions gives difluoromethylpentafluorobenzene (29) in very low yield (Scheme 8).

Perfluorobenzoic acid (12) also reacts with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>. Thus, prolonged heating of acid 12 with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> at 95 °C with further treatment of the reaction mixture with water gives perfluorotoluene (30) together with perfluorobenzoyl fluoride (31). The mixture also contains acid 12 (Scheme 8). The interaction of tetrafluorophthalic anhydride (13) with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> leads to the formation of perfluoro-2-methylbenzoic acid (32), perfluoro-*o*-xylene (33) and perfluorophthalide (34) together with tetrafluorophthalic acid (Scheme 8).

The reactions of polyfluorinated carbonyl derivatives with  $HF/SbF_5$  seem to be reversible. For example, in the case of compounds 11 and 29 equilibrium apparently is shifted towards aldehyde 11 (Scheme 8). Indeed, when fluorotoluene 29 was added to a mixture of compound 28 and inorganic oxides [O<] formed in the reaction of ketone 10 with  $HF/SbF_5$  and the



resulting mixture was heated at 95 °C, fluorotoluene **29** was transformed mainly into aldehyde **11** (Scheme 9).

It was mentioned above that compound **5** in an HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> solution adds HF to form hydroxyindan **23** (Scheme 5). When dissolved in an HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> system, compound **1** is protonated to give equilibrium of indanone **1** and cation **1c**, shifted towards cation **1c**. Analogously to that, cation **4c**, 1-hydroxy-perfluorobenzocyclobuten-1-yl (**6c**) and 1-hydroxy-perfluorotetralin-1-yl (**8c**) cations were generated from compounds **4**, **6** and **8**, respectively (Schemes 2 and 10).

Assignment of signals in the <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of cations **1c**, **4c**, **6c** and **8c** was made by analogy with that for perfluorobenzocyclobuten-1-yl [13], 1-chlorooctafluoroindan-1-yl [14], perfluoro-3-methyleneindan-1-yl [15], perfluoro-1phenylbenzocycloalken-1-yl [16], polyfluorinated benzyl [17] and diphenylmethyl cations [18], for which changes in chemical shift in going from precursor to ion ( $\Delta\delta_F$ ) are attributed to direct participation of fluorine atoms in charge distribution and in an conjugation. It should be noted that for the benzene moiety of cations **1c**, **6c** and **8c** down-field  $\Delta\delta_F$ resemble those of perfluoro-1-phenylbenzocycloalken-1-yl cations [16], a smaller scale of  $\Delta\delta_F$  can be due to a less positive charge transfer onto ring.

The <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of indandione **2** solution in an HF/ SbF<sub>5</sub> medium exhibits three unresolved signals with equal intensities and  $\delta_{\rm F}$  -107.1, -110.8 and -112.5 ppm. This testifies that for cation **2c** there is an exchange of H<sup>+</sup> between two oxygen atoms of ion **2c** or/and there is the fast equilibrium between cation **2c** and dication **2dc** (Scheme 11).



Scheme 4



Using  $\Delta \delta_{\rm F}$  values of cation **1c** as increments, calculation of  $\Delta \delta_{\rm F}$  for cation **2c** gives  $\delta_{\rm F} -98.0({\rm F-5})$ , -102.4 (F-7), -123.3 (F-4), -128.1 (F-6), -113.4 (F-2) ppm. In the case of exchange of H<sup>+</sup> between the carbonyl groups of cation **2c** the signals should be situated at -113.0 (F-5, F-6), -112.8 (F-4, F-7), -113.4 (F-2) ppm. The spectrum of dication **2dc** should have signals, which are significantly shifted downfield from -113 ppm. These calculated and experimental data apparently testify that in an HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> solution there is the equilibrium between cation **2c** and dication **2dc**, shifted towards the former. Behaviour of diketones **7** and **9** in an HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> solution is similar to that of compound **2** under the same conditions.

#### 3. Experimental

IR spectra were taken on a Bruker Vector 22 IR spectrophotometer. UV spectra were measured on a Hewlett Packard 8453 UV spectrophotometer. <sup>19</sup>F and <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra were



recorded on a Bruker WP-200 SY instrument (188.3 and 200 MHz, respectively) whereas <sup>13</sup>C NMR spectra of compounds **14** and **18** were recorded on a Bruker AV 300 (75.5 MHz) and Bruker AM 400 (100.6 MHz) instruments, respectively. Chemical shifts are given in  $\delta$  ppm from CCl<sub>3</sub>F (<sup>19</sup>F) and TMS (<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C); C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>6</sub> (-162.9 ppm from CCl<sub>3</sub>F), (Me<sub>3</sub>Si)<sub>2</sub>O, CHCl<sub>3</sub> (0.04 and 7.24 ppm from TMS) and (CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO (29.8 ppm from TMS) were used as internal standards. GC–MS: Hewlett Packard G1081A, combined with Hewlett Packard 5890 with mass selective detector HP 5971 (EI 70 eV). The molecular masses of the compounds were determined by high-resolution mass spectrometry on a Finnigan Mat 8200 instrument (EI 70 eV). Contents (yields) of products in the reaction mixtures were established by GC–MS method and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectroscopic data.

The X-ray diffraction experiment was carried out on a Bruker P4 diffractometer (graphite-monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation) at room temperature. Intensity data were collected using  $\theta/2\theta$ -scan,  $2\theta < 60^{\circ}$ . Reflection intensities were corrected for absorption by integration method. The structure was solved by direct methods, using SHELXS-97 program and refined by anisotropic full-matrix least-squares against  $F^2$  of all reflections using SHELXL-97 program. Crystallographic data for the structure of *E*-**18** in this paper have been deposited at the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary



publication no. CCDC 611160. Copy of the data can be obtained, free of charge, on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK (fax: +44 122 3336033 or e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

The structures of the compounds were established by elemental analysis, HRMS and spectral characteristics. The structure of compound *E*-18 was confirmed by single crystal X-ray diffraction as well. Assignment of signals in the <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra was made on the basis of chemical shifts of the signals, their fine structure and integral intensities. Compounds 1–3, 6–13, 15, 25–31, 33 were identified by comparison of the <sup>19</sup>F NMR data with those for authentic samples.

Mixture of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1.8-2.15: 1) was used in all experiments.

## 3.1. Reaction of perfluoroindan-1,3-dione (2) with $HF/SbF_5$

1. A mixture of 0.8 g of compound **2**, 1.2 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of **2**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:2.7:1.5) was heated in a Teflon<sup>TM</sup> closed container (20 ml) at 95 °C for 3 h. The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solution



Scheme 10.

contained compounds **1**, **2**, **4** and **14** in the ratio 2:5:92:1 (<sup>19</sup>F NMR). The solution was washed with 5% hydrochloric acid (removal of **2**) and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.58 g of mixture, which contained compounds **1**, **4**, **14** and **18** (<5%). The mixture in a sealed ampoule was heated at 130 °C for 7 h to give 0.56 g (yield 70%) of compound **18** (*E*:*Z* ~ 50:50). Analytical sample of compound **18** (*E*:*Z* ~ 40:60) was prepared by crystallization (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>-hexane) and then sublimation (170 °C, 2 Torr).

*Perfluorodispiro*[*phthalide-3*, *l'-cyclobutane-2',3"-phthalide*] (**18**), mixture of two isomers, ratio *E:Z* ~ 40:60: mp 153–197 °C. UV (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{max}$ , nm (lg ε): 202 (4.56), 262 (3.84), 272 (3.86), 311 (3.53). IR (KBr)  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1821 (C=O); 1523, 1507 [fluorinated aromatic ring (FAR)].

*E-isomer*: NMR <sup>13</sup>C ((CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO):  $\delta$  160.8 (C-1, C-1"), 147-144 (C-4, C-4", C-5, C-5", C-6, C-6", C-7, C-7"), 120.7 and 112.8 (C-3a, C-3a" and C-7a, C-7a"), 116.9 (C-3', C-4'(CF<sub>2</sub>)), 89.7–89.5 (C-3, C-3"). NMR <sup>19</sup>F ((CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO):  $\delta$  –116.3 (2F, F-A, F-A'), –120.4 (2F, F-B, F-B'), –132.0 (2F, F-4, F-4"), –139.6 (2F, F-7, F-7"), –142.3 (2F, F-5, F-5"), –147.5 (2F, F-6, F-6"); *J*<sub>A,B</sub> = 224 Hz, *J*<sub>4,A</sub> = 19 Hz, *J*<sub>4,B'</sub> = 31 Hz *J*<sub>4,5</sub> = 20 Hz, *J*<sub>4,6</sub> = 7 Hz, *J*<sub>4,7</sub> = 17 Hz, *J*<sub>5,6</sub> = 18 Hz, *J*<sub>5,7</sub> = 9 Hz, *J*<sub>6,7</sub> = 20 Hz.

*Z-isomer*: NMR <sup>13</sup>C ((CD<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO):  $\delta$  161.4 (C-1, C-1"), 147-144 (C-4, C-4", C-5, C-5", C-6, C-6", C-7, C-7"), 121.4 and 112.2 (C-3a, C-3a", and C-7a, C-7a"), 116.8 (C-3', C-4' (CF<sub>2</sub>)), 89.7–89.5 (C-3, C-3"). NMR <sup>19</sup>F ((CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>CO):  $\delta$ –117.2 (2F, F-A, F-A'), –122.7 (2F, F-B, F-B'), –130.2 (2F, F-4, F-4"), –138.8 (2F, F-7, F-7"), –141.9 (2F, F-5, F-5"), –147.3 (2F, F-6, F-6");  $J_{A,B}$  = 224 Hz,  $J_{4,A}$  =  $J_{4,A'}$  = 34 Hz,  $J_{4,5} \sim 20$  Hz,  $J_{4,6} \sim 5$  Hz,  $J_{4,7} \sim 17$  Hz,  $J_{5,6} \sim 18$  Hz,  $J_{5,7} \sim 10$  Hz,  $J_{6,7} \sim 21$  Hz (spectrum is not of the first order). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>F<sub>12</sub>O<sub>4</sub>: M 508; C, 42.5%; Found (mixture of *E* and *Z*-isomers): M 506 (acetone); C, 42.8%.



Perfluoro-3-methylenephthalide (4): IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) v, cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1823, 1809 (C=O); 1734 (C=CF<sub>2</sub>); 1526, 1497 (FAR). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  -84.8 (1F, F-3t), -99.1 (1F, F-3c), -137.3 (1F, F-4), -138.1 (1F, F-7), -141.8 (1F, F-5), -150.2 (1F, F-6);  $J_{3c,3t} = 33$  Hz,  $J_{3c,4} = 54$  Hz,  $J_{3c,5} = 2$  Hz,  $J_{3c,6} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{3c,7} = 2$  Hz,  $J_{3t,4} = 7$  Hz,  $J_{3t,5} = 3$  Hz,  $J_{3t,6} = 8$  Hz,  $J_{4,5} = 19$  Hz,  $J_{4,6} = 4$  Hz,  $J_{4,7} = 19$  Hz,  $J_{5,6} = 18$  Hz,  $J_{5,7} = 10$  Hz,  $J_{6,7} = 20$  Hz.

- 2. In a nickel bomb (10 ml) analogously to the previous procedure, the reaction of indandione **2** (0.58 g), 1.46 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio, 1:4.9:2.5) gave (95 °C, 43 h) a solution (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), contained compounds **3**, **4**, **14** and **15** in the ratio 12:35:50:3 (<sup>19</sup>F NMR). The solvent was removed in vacuo at 20 °C to give 0.53 g of mixture of compounds **3**, **4**, **14** and **15** (yield 10, 30, 43, 3%, respectively).
- Analogously to procedure (1), the reaction of indandione 2 (0.77 g), 1.93 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio, 1:4.9:2.5) gave (130 °C, 11 h) a solution (CHCl<sub>3</sub>), contained compounds 3, 14 and 15 in the ratio 2:97:1 (<sup>19</sup>F NMR). The mixture was spontaneously evaporated in the air to dryness to give 0.72 g (yield 87%) of compound 14.

4,5,6,7-*Tetrafluoro-3-trifluoromethyl-phthalide* (14): mp 93.5–94.5 °C (hexane). UV (hexane)  $\lambda_{max}$ , nm (lg  $\varepsilon$ ): 225 (3.90), 231 (3.88), 277 (3.22). IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>)  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 2965 (CH); 1823, 1796 (C=O); 1520, 1504 (FAR). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CCl<sub>4</sub>):  $\delta$  5.77 (q,  $J_{H-CF_3} = 5$  Hz, H-3). <sup>13</sup>C NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  161.6 (s, C-1), 145.7 (ddd, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CF} = 266$  Hz, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 16$ , 13 Hz) and 142.7 (dt, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CF} = 262$  Hz, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 14$  Hz, C-5 and C-6), 144.9 (dd, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CF} = 268$  Hz, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 12$  Hz) and 142.5 (dd, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CF} = 260$  Hz, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 13$  Hz, C-4 and C-7), 122.2 (d, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 15$  Hz) and 110.2 (d <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 13$  Hz, C-3a and C-7a), 121.3 (q, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CF} = 281$  Hz, CF<sub>3</sub>), 74.0 (dq, <sup>1</sup> $J_{CH} = 162$  Hz, <sup>2</sup> $J_{CF} = 38$  Hz, C-3). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CCl<sub>4</sub>):  $\delta$  -77.7 (3F, CF<sub>3</sub>), -136.7 (1F, F-7), -138.9 (1F, F-4), -142.0 (1F, F-5), -148.0 (1F, F-6);  $J_{H-CF_3} = 5$  Hz,  $J_{CF_3F(4)} = 14$  Hz,  $J_{4,5} = 20$  Hz,  $J_{6,7} = 20$  Hz. HRMS *m*/*z*, 273.9855 (M<sup>+</sup>). Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>HF<sub>7</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 273.9865.

## 3.2. Reactions of perfluoro-3-methylenephthalide (4) with $SbF_5$ and $Br_2$

In a nickel bomb (10 ml) analogously to procedure (1) of the previous experiment, the reaction of indandione 2 (0.84 g), 1.3 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio, 1:3.2:1.5) gave (95 °C, 3 h) 0.74 g of mixture of compounds 1, 2, 4 and 14 in the ratio 11:8:79:2 (<sup>19</sup>F NMR). The mixture was heated at 125 °C for 3 h with 2.71 g of SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio, 4:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:3.8). The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted

with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.71 g of mixture, which contained (<sup>19</sup>F NMR) 30% (yield 22%) of 3-hydroxy-perfluoro-3-methylphthalide [6], 64% (47%) of **3**, 3% (2%) of **14**, 4% (2%) of perfluoro-2-ethylbenzoic acid [6].

2. A mixture of 1.44 g of compound **2**, 2.17 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of **2**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:2.7:1.5) was heated in a nickel bomb (10 ml) at 95 °C for 3 h. The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with CCl<sub>4</sub>. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. Dibromine (1.5 g) was added into the extract at room temperature and the mixture was kept at this temperature for 20 h. The mixture was washed with aqueous solutions of Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>, then with NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 1.96 g (yield 83%) of compound **17**, which was additionally purified by short-path distillation (90 °C, 3–4 Torr).

3-Bromo-3-(bromodifluoromethyl)-4,5,6,7-tetrafluorophthalide (17): liquid. IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>)  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1836 (C=O); 1522, 1505 (FAR). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  -55.1 (1F<sub>A</sub>) and -56.2 (1F<sub>B</sub>, CF<sub>2</sub>Br), -133.0 (1F, F-4), -135.4 (1F, F-7), -138.6 (1F, F-5), -145.1 (1F, F-6); J<sub>A,B</sub> = 170 Hz, J<sub>A,4</sub> = 32 Hz, J<sub>B,4</sub> = 13 Hz, J<sub>4,5</sub> = 20 Hz, J<sub>4,6</sub> = 8 Hz, J<sub>4,7</sub> = 19 Hz, J<sub>5,6</sub> = 18 Hz, J<sub>5,7</sub> = 11 Hz, J<sub>6,7</sub> = 20 Hz. HRMS *m*/*z*, 332.8945 (M<sup>+</sup>-Br). Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>BrF<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 332.8986. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>Br<sub>2</sub>F<sub>6</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: Br, 38.6; F, 27.5%. Found: Br; 38.8; F, 27.8%.

#### 3.3. Heating of dimer 18 with $Br_2$ and in its absence

1. 0.16 g of dimer **18** (*E:Z* ~ 50:50) in ampoule, sealed under argon, was heated at 180 °C for 21 h to give 0.16 g of compound *E*-**18** without *Z*-**18** (<sup>19</sup>F NMR).*E-Perfluorodispiro*[*phthalide*-3,1'-*cyclobutane*-2',3"'-*phthalide*] (E-**18**): mp 172–173 °C (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> – hexane). UV (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{max}$ , nm (lg  $\varepsilon$ ): 205 (4.54), 274 (3.73), 282 (3.71), 313 (3.27), 321 (3.27). IR (KBr)  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1820 (C=O); 1522, 1507 [fluorinated aromatic ring (FAR)]. Single crystals of compound *E*-**18** were grown by slow evaporation of a solvent from CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> – hexane solution.

Crystallographic data and refinement parameters:

Formula  $C_{18}F_{12}O_4$ , M = 508.18, monoclinic, space group Cc, a = 11.5028(10), b = 19.2746(11), c = 7.8848(5) Å,  $\beta = 94.855(6)^{\circ}$ , V = 1741.9(2) Å<sup>3</sup>, Z = 4,  $D_{calc} = 1.938$  g/ cm<sup>3</sup>,  $\mu = 0.219$  mm<sup>-1</sup>, 2842 total reflexions, 2655 unique reflexions ( $R_{int} = 0.0474$ ), R = 0.0300 for 2478  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ , 308 parameters,  $wR_2 = 0.0868$  and GOF = 1.049 for all data, max/min  $\Delta \rho$  0.217/-0.153.

2. A mixture of 0.17 g of dimer **18** ( $E:Z \sim 50:50$ ) with 0.6 g of Br<sub>2</sub> (molar ratio, 1:11) in a sealed ampoule was heated at

180 °C for 19 h. A mixture was dissolved in  $CH_2Cl_2$ , washed with aqueous solution of  $Na_2SO_3$  and dried over  $MgSO_4$ . The solvent was distilled off to give 0.16 g of a mixture of compounds *E*-18 and 17 in the molar ratio 95:5 (<sup>19</sup>F NMR), yield 90 and 2%, respectively.

3. Analogously to the previous procedure, the reaction of dimer **18** (0.06 g) with Br<sub>2</sub> (0.32 g) (molar ratio, 1:17) gave (260 °C, 9 h) 0.09 g of a mixture contained ~95% (yield 87%) of compound **17** (NMR <sup>19</sup>F).

#### 3.4. Reaction of perfluoroindan-1-one (1) with HF/ $SbF_5$

- 1. A mixture of 0.61 g of compound 1, 1.4 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of 1:HF:SbF5 = 1:4.9:2.5) was heated in a nickel bomb (10 ml) at 95 °C for 15.5 h. The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.52 g of mixture, which contained compounds 1 and 15 in the ratio 48:52 (yield 38 and 42%).
- 2. Analogously to the previous procedure, the reaction of indanone 1 (0.6 g) and HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (1.39 g) (molar ratio, 1:4.9:2.5) gave (95 °C, 43 h) 0.54 g of mixture, which contained compounds 1 and 15 in the ratio 14:86 (yield 12 and 72%).

#### 3.5. Reaction of perfluoroindan-2-one (5) with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>

- 1. To 0.89 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> placed in an ampoule with Teflon FEP inliner for recording of NMR spectra 0.38 g of ketone **5** (molar ratio, **5**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:5.4:2.5) was added. The mixture was stirred and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of the solution was recorded. The spectrum contained ill-resolved signals of compound **23**. <sup>19</sup>F NMR (188.3 MHz, C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>6</sub> was used as external standard):  $\delta$  -113.4 (2F<sub>A</sub>) and -124.8 (2F<sub>B</sub>,  $J_{A,B} = 250$  Hz, CF<sub>2</sub>-1,3); -132.9 (1F, F-2); -134.5 (2F, F-4, F-7); -143.9 (2F, F-5, F-6) ppm. The solution was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with ether. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.33 g (yield 93%) of 2,2-dihydrox-yperfluoroindan (<sup>19</sup>F NMR), which is hydrate form of ketone **5** [19].
- 2. A mixture of 0.6 g of compound **5**, 1.39 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of **5**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:4.9:2.5) was heated in a nickel bomb (10 ml) at 95 °C for 16 h. The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.52 g of mixture, which contained compounds **21** and **22** in the ratio 79:21 (yield 66 and 18%). The individual compounds **21** (0.34 g) and **22** (0.09 g) were isolated by silica gel column chromatography (CCl<sub>4</sub> as eluent) and then purified by sublimation (130 °C, 2 Torr).

*Bis*(*perfluoroindan-2-yl*) *ether* (**21**): mp 152–152.5 °C. UV (C<sub>2</sub>H<sub>5</sub>OH)  $\lambda_{max}$ , nm (lg ε): 267 (3.32). IR (KBr)  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1522 (FAR). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (376.4 MHz, ether):  $\delta$  –95.1 (4F<sub>A</sub>) and –112.7 (4F<sub>B</sub>,  $J_{A,B}$  = 264 Hz, CF<sub>2</sub>-1, CF<sub>2</sub>-3), –133.8 (2F, F-2), –138.5 (4F, F-4, F-7), –142.7 (4F, F-5, F-6). HRMS *m*/ *z*, 573.9662 (M<sup>+</sup>). Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>F<sub>18</sub>O = 573.9662. *Perfluoro-2-(indan-2-yloxy)indan-1-one* (**22**): mp 148.5– 150 °C. UV (hexane)  $\lambda_{max}$ , nm (lg ε): 215 (4.11), 243 (4.03), 251 (4.08), 269 (3.22), 293 (3.26). IR (KBr)  $\nu$ , cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1775 (C=O); 1519 (FAR). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (ether):  $\delta$  –95.5 and –96.5 (A-components of two AB-systems), –111.4 and –111.8 (B-components of two AB-systems, 2CF<sub>2</sub>,  $J_{A,B}$  = 263 Hz), –99.8 (1F<sub>A</sub>) and –110.8 (1F<sub>B</sub>,  $J_{A,B}$  = 267 Hz, CF<sub>2</sub>), –127.6 (1F, F-2), –132.9 (1F, F-7), –134.3 (1F, F-2'), –136.3 (1F, F-5), –137.7 (1F, F-4), –138.6 (2F, F-4', F-7'), –142.9 (2F, F-5', F-6'), –143.7 (1F, F-6);  $J_{4,3A}$  and  $J_{4,3B}$  = 6 and 8 Hz,  $J_{4,5}$  = 20 Hz,  $J_{4,6}$  = 8 Hz,  $J_{4,7}$  = 18 Hz,  $J_{5,6}$  = 18 Hz,  $J_{5,7}$  = 13 Hz,  $J_{6,7}$  = 20 Hz. HRMS m/z, 551.9641 (M<sup>+</sup>). Calcd for C<sub>18</sub>F<sub>16</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 551.9643.

3. Analogously to the previous procedure, the reaction of indanone 5 (0.56 g) and HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (1.29 g) (molar ratio, 1:4.9:2.5) gave (130 °C, 11 h) 0.42 g of mixture, which contained 15% of 14, 11% of 15, 17% of 21, 21% of 22 together with unidentified impurities (<sup>19</sup>F NMR, GC–MS).

3.6. Reaction of perfluorinated benzocyclobutenone (6), benzocyclobutenedione (7), 3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)one (8) and 2,3-dihydronaphthalene-1,4-dione (9) with HF/  $SbF_5$ 

- 1. A mixture of 0.5 g of compound **6**, 1.41 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of **6**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:4.9:2.5) was heated in a nickel bomb (10 ml) at 95 °C for 15.5 h. The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.47 g of mixture, which contained (<sup>19</sup>F NMR) compounds **6**, **25** and **26** in the ratio 50:39:11 (yield 44, 34 and 10%, respectively).
- 2. Analogously to the previous procedure, the reaction of compound 7 (0.37 g) and HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (1.14 g) (molar ratio, 1:4.9:2.5) gave (95 °C, 15.5 h) 0.35 g of mixture, which contained compounds **6**, **7** and **25** in the ratio 43:41:16 (yield 38, 36 and 14%, respectively).
- 3. Analogously to procedure (1), the reaction of compound **8** (0.59 g) and HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (1.15 g) (molar ratio, 1:4.9:2.5) gave (95 °C, 15.5 h) 0.53 g of mixture, which contained compounds **8**, and **27** in the ratio 10:90 (yield 8 and 76%, respectively).
- 4. A mixture of 0.59 g of compound **9**, 1.21 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of **9**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:4.9:2.5) was heated in a nickel bomb (10 ml) at 95 °C for 15.5 h. The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with ether. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off, the mixture obtained was dissolved in CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.51 g of mixture, which contained (<sup>19</sup>F NMR) compounds **8**, **9** and **27** in the ratio 41:44:15 (yield 35, 36 and 12%, respectively).

## 3.7. Reaction of perfluorinated acetophenone (10) and benzaldehyde (11) with $HF/SbF_5$

1. In a nickel bomb (10 ml) analogously to procedure (1) of the previous experiment, the reaction of compound **10** (0.62 g)

and HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (1.5 g) (molar ratio, 1:4.9:2.5) gave (95  $^\circ C$ , 15.5 h) 0.54 g (yield 80%) of compound **28**.

- 2. Analogously to the previous procedure, the reaction of compound **11** (0.45 g) and HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (1.45 g) (molar ratio, 1:4.9:2.5) gave (95 °C, 18 h) 0.35 g of mixture, which contained (<sup>19</sup>F NMR) compound **11** and small amount (<3%) of compound **29**.
- 3. A mixture of 0.74 g of compound **10**, 1.84 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of **10**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:5.4:2.5) was heated in a nickel bomb (10 ml) at 95 °C for 15.5 h. Then compound **29** (0.61 g, molar ratio of **10**:**29** = 1:1) was added to the reaction mixture. The resulting mixture was heated at 95 °C for 22 h and treated analogously to procedure (1). It was obtained 1.24 g of mixture, which contained (<sup>19</sup>F NMR) compounds **11**, **28** and **29** in the ratio 47:48:5 (yield 87, 88 and 10%, respectively).
- 4. A mixture of 0.38 g of compound **29**, 1.14 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of **29**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:5.4:2.5) was kept in a Teflon container at room temperature for 24 h. The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with  $CH_2Cl_2$ . The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solution contained compounds **11** and **29** in the ratio 33:67 (<sup>19</sup>F NMR).

## 3.8. Reaction of perfluorinated benzoic acid (12) and phthalic anhydride (13) with $HF/SbF_5$

- 1. A mixture of 0.56 g of acid **12**, 1.73 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of **12**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:5.4:2.5) was heated in a nickel bomb (10 ml) at 95 °C for 15 h. The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.43 g of mixture, which contained (<sup>19</sup>F NMR) compounds **12**, **30** and **31** in the ratio 31:57:12 (yield 22, 41 and 9%, respectively).
- 2. A mixture of 0.5 g of anhydride 13, 2.91 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio of 13:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:9.8:5) was heated in a nickel bomb (10 ml) at 95 °C for 62 h. The mixture was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and then with ether. The extracts were dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent from ether extract was distilled off to give 0.1 g of tetrafluorophthalic acid. The CH2Cl2 extract contained compounds 13, 32, 33 and 34 in the ratio 20:17:4:59 (<sup>19</sup>F NMR). This extract was washed with aqueous solution of NaHCO<sub>3</sub> and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.26 g of product containing compounds 13, 33 and 34 in the ratio 5:3:92 (<sup>19</sup>F NMR). Phthalide 34 was additionally purified by short-path distillation (110 °C, 40 Torr). The aqueous solution was acidified with HCl, extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> and dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.08 g (yield 13%) of acid 32, which was purified by sublimation (100 °C, 2 Torr).

*Perfluorophthalide* (**34**): liquid. IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) ν, cm<sup>-1</sup>: 1861, 1841 (C=O); 1523, 1508 (FAR). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>):  $\delta$  -76.7 (2F, F-3), -133.6 (1F, F-7), -137.5 (1F, F-4), -138.2 (1F, F-5), -143.3 (1F, F-6);  $J_{3,4}$  = 4 Hz,  $J_{3,6}$  = 2 Hz,  $J_{3,7}$  = 2 Hz,  $J_{4,5} = 20$  Hz,  $J_{4,6} = 8$  Hz,  $J_{4,7} = 19$  Hz,  $J_{5,6} = 17$  Hz,  $J_{5,7} = 12$  Hz,  $J_{6,7} = 20$  Hz. HRMS m/z, 241.9813 (M<sup>+</sup>). Calcd for C<sub>9</sub>F<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 241.9802. Tetrafluorophthaloyl diffuoride as acyclic isomer of compound **34** was characterized in Ref. [20].

Perfluoro-2-methylbenzoic acid (**32**): mp 90.5–92 °C. UV (hexane)  $\lambda_{max}$ , nm (lg ε): 212 (3.73), 268 (3.14). IR (CCl<sub>4</sub>) ν, cm<sup>-1</sup>: 3504, 3038 (OH); 1773, 1733 (C=O); 1530, 1487 (FAR). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CCl<sub>4</sub>): δ 11.19 (s, OH). <sup>19</sup>F NMR (CCl<sub>4</sub>): δ -58.4 (3F, CF<sub>3</sub>), -136.7 (1F, F-3), -139.3 (1F, F-6), -147.2 (1F, F-5), -150.1 (1F, F-4);  $J_{CF_3-F(3)} = 19$  Hz,  $J_{3,4} = 20$  Hz,  $J_{3,5} = 9$  Hz,  $J_{3,6} = 12$  Hz,  $J_{4,5} = 20$  Hz,  $J_{4,6} = 6$  Hz,  $J_{5,6} = 21$  Hz. HRMS m/z, 261.9879 (M<sup>+</sup>). Calcd for C<sub>8</sub>HF<sub>7</sub>O<sub>2</sub> = 261.9865.

#### 3.9. Protonation of perfluorinated indan-1-one (1), benzocyclobutenone (6) and 3,4-dihydronaphthalen-1(2H)one (8) with HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>

- 1. To 0.6 g of HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> placed in an ampoule with Teflon FEP inliner for recording of NMR spectra 0.26 g of ketone **1** (molar ratio, **1**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:4.9:2.5) was added. The mixture was stirred and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of the solution was recorded (Table 1), perfluoroindan (the most upfield signal 19.5 ppm from C<sub>6</sub>F<sub>6</sub>) was used as internal standard. The solution was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.23 g (yield 88%) of ketone **1** (<sup>19</sup>F NMR).
- 2. Analogously to the previous procedure, solution of compound **6** (0.26 g) in HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> was prepared and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum was measured, then compound **6** (0.22 g, yield 85%) was recovered.

Table 1

<sup>19</sup>F NMR spectra of ketones 1, 6, 8 (CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) and cations 1c, 6c, 8c (HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>)

	1	1c	6	6c	8	8c
δ (ppm)						
F-2	-132.4	-103.5	-125.9	-106.9	-132.7	-94.4
F-3	-142.6	-135.4	-140.8	-129.4	-144.0	-138.0
F-4	-134.7	-97.4	-133.9	-98.8	-137.7	-100.2
F-5	-136.5	-128.5	-133.4	-126.6	-134.0	-122.9
F-6	-109.0	-105.1	-96.8	-84.4	-106.8	-105.6
F-7	-125.2	-115.0	-	-	-133.7	-131.8
F-8	-	-	-	-	-127.6	-117.8
$J_{F,F}$ (Hz	)					
$J_{2,3}$	20	18	20	16	20	19
$J_{2,4}$	13	36	12	30	15	41
$J_{2,5}$	18	13	25	22	13	6
$J_{2,6}$	-	-	2	-	2	
$J_{3,4}$	18	17	17	17	20	19
$J_{3,5}$	9	12	8	13	9	13
$J_{3,6}$	2	-	-	-	2	-
$J_{4,5}$	20	19	20	18	20	19
$J_{5,6}$	7	6	3	-	22	25

3. Analogously to procedure (1), solution of ketone **8** (0.34 g) in HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> was prepared and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum was measured, then ketone **8** (0.3 g, yield 88%) was recovered.

3.10. Protonation of perfluorinated indan-1,3-dione (2), 3methylenephthalide (4), benzocyclobutenedione (7) and 2,3-dihydronaphthalene-1,4-dione (9) in  $HF/SbF_5$ 

- 1. Analogously to the previous experiments, solution of compound 2 (0.29 g) in an HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> (molar ratio, **2**:HF:SbF<sub>5</sub> = 1:4.9:2.5) was prepared and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum was recorded (spectrum of 2c is given in Section 2 of the paper). Then the solution was heated at 95 °C for 3 h and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum of solution of compound 4 in HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> was measured at r.t. The solution was poured into 5% hydrochloric acid and extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub>. The extract was dried over MgSO<sub>4</sub>. The solvent was distilled off to give 0.19 g of mixture. which contained (<sup>19</sup>F NMR) compounds 1, 4, 14 and 15 in the ratio 6:73:19:2 (yield 4, 46, 12 and 1%, respectively). <sup>19</sup>FNMR of 4c (HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>): δ-63.3 (1F, F-3t), -75.1 (1F, F-3c), -124.4 (1F, F-7), -125.2 (1F, F-5), -132.5 (1F, F-4), -144.4 (1F, F-6);  $J_{3c,3t} = 24$  Hz,  $J_{3c,4} = 41$  Hz,  $J_{3c,6} = 4$  Hz,  $J_{3t,4} = 7$  Hz,  $J_{3t,6} = 7$  Hz,  $J_{4,5} = 17$  Hz,  $J_{3t,5} = 4$  Hz,  $J_{4.6} = 8$  Hz,  $J_{47} = 17$  Hz,  $J_{56} = 17$  Hz,  $J_{57} = 19$  Hz,  $J_{67} = 18$  Hz.
- 2. Analogously to procedure (1) of the previous experiment, solution of compound **7** (0.26 g) in HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> was prepared and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum was measured, then compound **7** (0.19 g, yield 73%) was recovered. <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **7c** (HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>):  $\delta$  –109.3 (2F) and –111.8 (2F) (F-3, F-4, F-5, F-6).
- 3. Analogously to the previous experiments, solution of compound **9** (0.31 g) in HF/SbF<sub>5</sub> was prepared and <sup>19</sup>F NMR spectrum was recorded, then compound **9** (0.2 g, yield 65%) was recovered. <sup>19</sup>F NMR of **9c** (HF/SbF<sub>5</sub>): δ –103.4 (2F) and –115.6 (2F) (F-5, F-6, F-7, F-8), –119.9 (4F, 2F-2, 2F-3).

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