

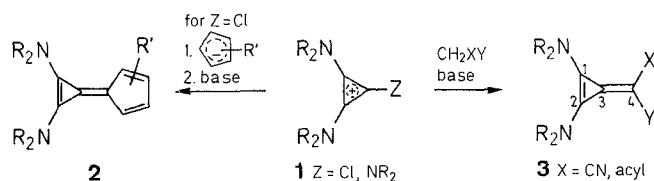
# Push-Pull Triafulvenes from 1,1'-Oxy-di[2,3-bis(dimethylamino)cyclopropenylium] and 1-[Bis(dimethylamino)cyclopropenylio]pyridinium Salts

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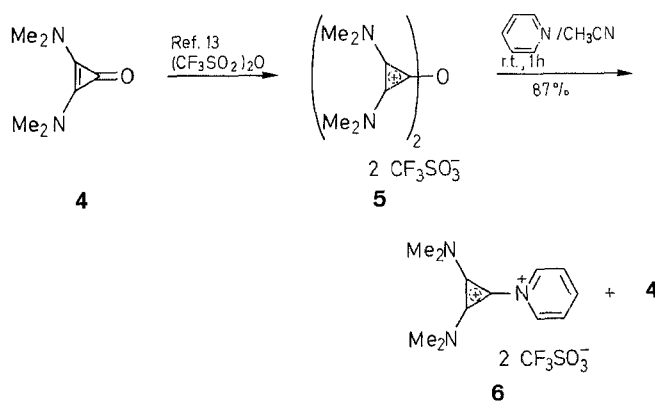
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1-[Bis(dimethylamino)cyclopropenylio]pyridinium salt **6** reacts with activated methylene compounds **7** in the presence of pyridine to give triafulvenes **8**. The use of 1,1'-oxy-di[2,3-bis(dimethylamino)cyclopropenylium] salt **5** for the same purpose is limited: with the ambident anions of 1,3-diketones, enol ether salts **9** are formed in some cases at the complete expense of triafulvenes **8**. Compound **8n**, however, can be obtained only from **5**.

Triafulvenes have attracted much interest since they represent the simplest cross-conjugated, cyclic hydrocarbons.<sup>1-3</sup> A variety of triafulvenes have been obtained, mainly by several classical olefin-forming reactions, e.g. the Wittig olefination of cyclopropanones<sup>4</sup> and the condensation of oxy-substituted cyclopropenylium salts with anions of activated methylene compounds<sup>5-7</sup> or with silyl-substituted anions.<sup>8</sup> However, only a few 1,2-diamino-triafulvenes have been prepared so far.<sup>2,3,9-11</sup> A rather general synthesis of push-pull triafulvenes **2** and **3** combines 1-chloro-2,3-diaminocyclopropenylium salts **1** (Z = Cl) with cyclopentadienides<sup>9</sup> and anions of activated methylene compounds.<sup>2,10</sup> With 1,3-diketones, however, C—O and C—C bond formation may compete with each other.<sup>10</sup> The use of triaminocyclopropenylium salts (**1**, Z = [NR<sub>2</sub>]) for the synthesis of **3** meets with serious limitations.<sup>12</sup>



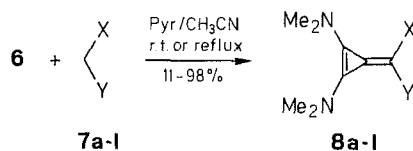
In this paper, we show that the cyclopropenylium salts **5** and **6** may be used as precursors to a variety of push-pull triafulvenes of type **3**. 1,1'-Oxy-di[2,3-bis(dimethylamino)cyclopropenylium] bis(trifluoromethanesulfonate) **5** is readily obtained from cyclopropanone **4** and trifluoromethanesulfonic anhydride.<sup>13</sup> Reaction of **5** with pyridine yields the 1-(diaminocyclopropenylio)pyridinium salt **6** as a crystalline, stable, though somewhat moisture-sensitive compound.



Reaction of **6** with activated methylene compounds **7a-m** in the presence of pyridine yields triafulvenes **8a-m** (Table 1).<sup>14</sup> The transformations proceed at room temperature, except for **8a, m**, where heating is required in order to avoid products from reversible nucleophilic attack at the pyridine ring of **6**. With the Meldrum's acid (**7n**) this reaction mode is irreversible,<sup>15</sup> and a triafulvene cannot be obtained (but see below). Electrophilic attack of **6** at the anion of **7m** occurs at both carbon ( $\rightarrow$  triafulvene **8m**, 21 %) and oxygen ( $\rightarrow$  **9m**, ca. 50 %). The enol ether salt **9m** hydrolyzes on work up, but its presence in the reaction solution is indicated by characteristic NMR signals [e.g.  $\delta$  (CH=) = 5.70], which are identical with those of an independently prepared sample (see below). One might assume that the low yields of triafulvenes **8c-e** are also due to concomitant electrophilic O-attack at the anions of **7c-e**, but the corresponding products were absent from the reaction solutions according to <sup>1</sup>H-NMR analysis.

The precursor of **6**, 1,1'-oxy-di[2,3-bis(dimethylamino)cyclopropenylium] salt **5**, can also be used to synthesize triafulvenes **8** directly (Scheme A), but only in some cases are the yields better than those of the two-step procedure **5**  $\rightarrow$  **6**  $\rightarrow$  **8**.

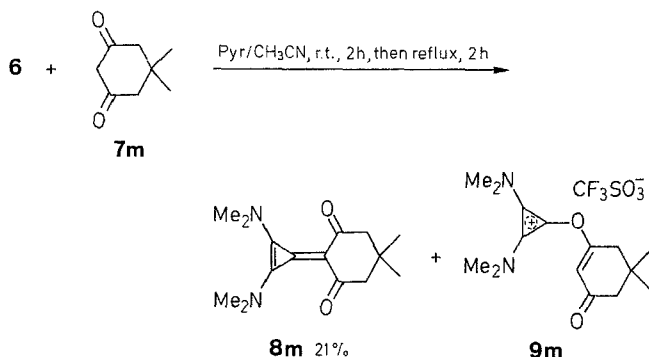
With pyridine as a base, the sequence  $5 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 8$  can be carried out as a one-pot procedure, i.e. without isolation of **6**. The synthesis of **8g** may serve as an example (see Experimental Part), but in other cases, the presence of the cyclopropenone **4** also formed may render the isolation of the triafulvene more difficult than in the two-step procedure.



7,8	a	b	c	d	e	f	g
X	CN	CN					
Y	CN	COPh					

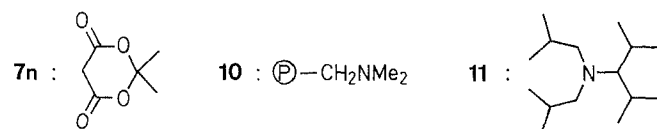
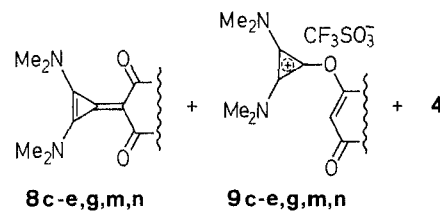
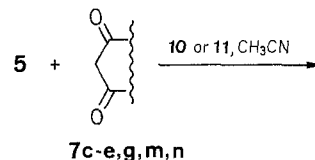
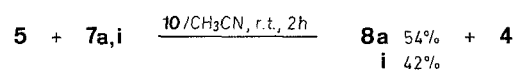
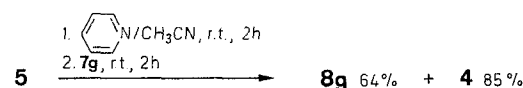
  

7,8	h	i	j	k	l
X					
Y					



The synthesis of 4,4-diacyltriafulvenes from 1,3-diketones will be limited if electrophilic *O*-attack at the ambident anion becomes a competing process, which leads to enol ether salts **9** (compare Refs. 10, 16). When the anions of **7c-e, m** are generated with the tertiary amine base **11**, the latter reaction mode occurs at the complete expense of triafulvenes. Only with the polymer-supported amine **10** are triafulvenes **8c, d** formed<sup>17</sup> along with the enol ether salts **9c, d**; with the anions of **7e, m**, triafulvene formation fails even under these conditions.<sup>18</sup> No enol ether salts are formed from 1,3-dicarbonyl compounds with a very low tendency to enolize (**7g, n**). In the case of **7a, i** no competing enol formation is possible; nevertheless, the yields of **8a, i** from **5** with polymer base **10** were inferior to those obtained by the two-step process ( $5 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 8$ ).

The triafulvenes **8** are characterized by strong IR absorptions at 1909–1937 and 1380–1429  $\text{cm}^{-1}$  (Table 1). These bands may be attributed to coupled vibrations of the methylenecyclopropene skeleton<sup>1</sup> with high contributions of the ring vibration in the former case, and presumably of the exocyclic (partial) double bond in the latter.



7-9	Base	Yield (%)	7-9	Base	Yield (%)
		<b>8</b> <b>9</b>			<b>8</b> <b>9</b>
<b>c</b>	<b>10</b>	33 66 <sup>a</sup>	<b>g</b>	<b>10</b>	24 -
	<b>11</b>	- - <sup>b</sup>		<b>11</b>	42 -
<b>d</b>	<b>10</b>	24 55 <sup>a</sup>	<b>m</b>	<b>10</b>	- 61
	<b>11</b>	- - <sup>b</sup>		<b>11</b>	- 54
<b>e</b>	<b>10</b>	- - <sup>b</sup>	<b>n</b>	<b>11</b>	42 -
	<b>11</b>	- - <sup>b</sup>			

<sup>a</sup> Not isolated, yield determined by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy of the reaction mixture.

<sup>b</sup> Detected by <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy, but not isolated (see Experimental Part).

The push-pull substitution of **8** allows a description of their ground-state electronic structure by the resonance  $8A \leftrightarrow 8B$ . The high contribution of **8B** is documented in the <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra, where the NCH<sub>3</sub> peak appears at values ( $\delta = 3.27\text{--}3.42$ , except for **8a, j**) that are typical for dimethylamino-cyclopropenyl cations such as **1, 5**, and **6**.<sup>19</sup> Moreover, the carbonyl absorptions in the IR spectrum of acylated triafulvenes **8c-h, i-m** are at considerably lower frequencies than those in the dicarbonyl compounds **7**, and even distinctly lower (ca.  $30\text{--}70\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ) than in analogous triafulvenes<sup>20</sup> having phenyl instead of dimethylamino groups.

The UV/VIS absorptions of the triafulvenes reported here display diverging behavior in differing solvents. (Table 2). Negative solvatochromism is observed for **8a-f, l, m, n**, where polar and hydrogen-donating solvents stabilize structure **8B** in the electronic ground state, which is more polar than the excited state. Positive solvatochromism is found for **8g, h** and, on the whole, for **8k**. For **8i** and **8j**, the longest-wavelength absorption does not change significantly with the solvent polarity, except for alcohols. No detailed rationalization for the diverging features of the indanedione derivatives **8g-j** will be attempted here.<sup>21</sup> We suggest, however, that the pseudo  $8\pi$  perimeter of the 1,3-indanedione anion may be responsible for a destabilizing (anti-

aromatic) contribution of the dipolar structure **8B** to the electronic ground state of **8g** (compare Ref. 10). Furthermore, we want to point out, that the longest-wavelength absorption of **8i** is a structured band that is similar, but not identical, in position and shape to that of the anion of 1,3-bis(dicyanomethylene)indane.<sup>22</sup>

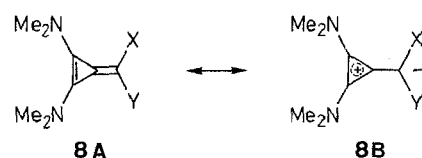


Table 1. Triafulvenes **8** from Salts **5** or **6**<sup>a</sup>

Compound	Yield from <b>6</b> <sup>b</sup> (%)	mp (°C) (solvent)	Molecular Formula <sup>c</sup>	IR (KBr) $\nu$ (cm <sup>-1</sup> )	UV/VIS (CH <sub>3</sub> CN) $\lambda_{\max}$ (nm) (lg $\epsilon$ )	<sup>1</sup> H-NMR (CDCl <sub>3</sub> /TMS) $\delta$ , J (Hz)
<b>8a</b>	60 (54)	287–289 (MeOH)	C <sub>10</sub> H <sub>12</sub> N <sub>4</sub> (188.2)	2180, 2155, 1953, 1420, 1391	218 (4.06), 279 (4.34)	3.13 (s)
<b>8b</b>	64	200 (acetone)	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>17</sub> N <sub>3</sub> O (267.3)	2170, 1937, 1588, 1559, 1404	223 (4.31), 336 (4.25)	3.28 (s, 12H); 7.27–7.53 (m, 3H); 7.70–7.97 (m, 2H)
<b>8c</b>	27 (33)	298–300 (EtOAc)	C <sub>12</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (220.3)	1932, 1584, 1429	255 (4.17), 302 (4.37), 312 (4.37)	2.43 (s, 4H); 3.42 (s, broadened, 12H)
<b>8d</b>	11 (24)	180 (EtOAc)	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (234.3)	1909, 1569, 1380	231 (3.87), 303 (4.23)	1.99 (q, 2H, <sup>3</sup> J = 6.1); 2.38 (t, 4H); 3.33 (s, 12H)
<b>8e</b>	19 (–)	206–207 (EtOAc)	C <sub>14</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (248.3)	1911, 1568, 1387	231 (3.90), 303 (4.26)	1.03 (d, broadened, 3H); 1.93–2.46 (m, 5H); 3.30 (s, 12H)
<b>8f</b>	96	316 (CH <sub>3</sub> CN)	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (278.3)	1923, 1680, 1620, 1387	207 (4.06), 303 (4.38)	3.34 (s, 6H); 3.40 (s, 12H)
<b>8g</b>	76 (42)	324 (MeOH)	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (268.3)	1929, 1628, 1581, 1421	219 (4.46), 280 (4.13), 290 (4.36), 341 (4.41), 355 (4.40) <sup>d</sup>	3.38 (s, 12H); 7.30–7.64 (m, 4H)
<b>8h</b>	78	271 (MeOH)	C <sub>19</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>4</sub> O (316.4)	2098, 1929, 1642, 1579, 1420	248 (4.39), 253 (4.38), 312 (4.34), 325 (4.38), 499 (3.88)	3.23 (s, 6H); 3.37 (s, 6H); 7.30–7.60 (m, 3H); 8.20–8.37 (m, 1H)
<b>8i</b>	92 (42)	297 (MeOH)	C <sub>22</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>6</sub> (364.4)	2096, 1929, 1405	255 (4.67), 367 (4.37), 572 (4.33)	3.27 (s, 6H); 3.33 (s, 6H); 7.33–7.53 (m, 2H); 8.28–8.42 (m, 2H)
<b>8j</b>	98	308 (MeOH)	C <sub>25</sub> H <sub>20</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (396.4)	1922, 1669, 1632, 1578, 1428	253 (4.66), 329 (4.39), 423 (3.80), 555 (4.19), ~610 (sh)	3.16 (s, 12H); 7.30–7.78 (m, 7H); 8.25–8.42 (m, 1H)
<b>8k</b>	67	307–308 (EtOAc)	C <sub>20</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (318.4)	1914, 1623, 1560, 1390	229 (4.75), 330 (4.55), 343 (4.47), 436 (3.35)	3.40 (s, 12H); 7.63 (dd, 2H); 8.03 (dd, 2H); 8.53 (dd, 2H)
<b>8l</b>	69	256 (EtOAc)	C <sub>16</sub> H <sub>16</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>3</sub> (284.3)	1916, 1610, 1518, 1405	217 (4.26), 270 (3.89), 342 (4.19)	3.40 (s, 12H); 7.10–7.60 (m, 3H); 8.03–8.23 (m, 1H)
<b>8m</b>	21 (–)	209 (MeOH)	C <sub>15</sub> H <sub>22</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>2</sub> (262.3)	1923, 1573, 1552, 1400	232 (3.89), 303 (4.31)	1.04 (s, 6H); 2.27 (s, 4H); 3.33 (s, 12H)
<b>8n</b>	– (42)	202 (CH <sub>3</sub> CN)	C <sub>13</sub> H <sub>18</sub> N <sub>2</sub> O <sub>4</sub> (266.3)	1927, 1652, 1559, 1404	231 (4.07), 288 (4.34)	1.67 (s, 6H); 3.33 (s, 12H)

<sup>a</sup> Melting points (uncorrected): heat block. UV/VIS spectra: GCA/Mc Pherson EU-700-32. IR spectra: Perkin-Elmer Infrared Spectrometer 397. <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectra: Varian EM 390 (90 MHz, TMS as standard). <sup>13</sup>C-NMR spectra: Bruker WP 200 (TMS as standard).

<sup>b</sup> In parentheses: Yields from **5** in the presence of base **10** or **11** (only highest value given, compare Scheme A).

<sup>c</sup> Satisfactory microanalyses obtained: C  $\pm$  0.4 (**8c**: –0.5; **8f**: –0.5; **8k**: –0.4); H  $\pm$  0.20; N  $\pm$  0.2 (**8g**: –0.4).

<sup>d</sup> Shoulder on long-wavelength side.

Table 2. UV/VIS Absorption Spectra of Triafulvenes **8** in Different Solvents<sup>a</sup>

Compound	Benzene	Dioxane	CH <sub>2</sub> Cl <sub>2</sub>	Solvent <sup>b</sup> Acetone	EtOH	CH <sub>3</sub> OH
<b>8a</b>	289 (4.30)	287 (4.38)	284 (4.34)		279 (4.38)	277 (4.31)
<b>8b</b>	343 (4.26)	340 (4.18)	340 (4.21)	340 (4.22)	336 (4.24)	335 (4.24)
<b>8c</b>	318 (4.05)	314 (4.28)	313 (4.32)		298 (4.33)	296 (4.33)
<b>8d</b>	317 (4.32)	314 (4.27)	306 (4.25)		290 (4.28)	289 (4.32)
<b>8m</b>	316 (4.33)	312 (4.69)	305 (4.32)		292 (4.32)	291 (4.38)
<b>8f</b>	317 (4.73)	314 (4.42)	306 (4.45)		303 (4.34)	302 (4.32)
<b>8n</b>	295 (4.39)	291 (4.39)	291 (4.34)		284 (4.35)	282 (4.38)
<b>8l</b>	346 (4.30)	345 (4.26)	345 (4.25)	344 (4.27)	336 (4.25)	336 (4.23)
<b>8g</b>	<sup>c</sup>	<sup>c</sup>	<sup>c</sup>	<sup>c</sup>	416 (3.21)	416 (3.17)
<b>8h</b>	493 (3.91)	497 (3.90)	498 (3.89)	497 (3.93)	500 (3.84)	502 (3.87)
<b>8i</b>	568 (4.33)	570 (4.28)	572 (4.39)	569 (4.30)	571 (4.22)	561 (4.24)
<b>8j</b>	556 (4.18)	553 (4.16)	558 (4.19)	555 (4.15)	550 (4.02)	544 (3.95)
<b>8k</b>	430 (3.36)	435 (3.41)	433 (3.39)	434 (3.33)	434 (3.40)	434 (3.43)

<sup>a</sup> Long-wavelength absorption,  $\lambda_{\max}$  (nm), lg  $\epsilon$  in parentheses.

<sup>b</sup> Solvents in the order of increasing  $E_T^N$  values; see Table 1 for values in CH<sub>3</sub>CN.

<sup>c</sup> Shoulder that cannot be located precisely ( $\lambda_{\max}$  < 416 nm).

Anhydrous acetonitrile was used. Compounds **7b**,<sup>23</sup> **7e**,<sup>24</sup> **7h**,<sup>25,26</sup> **7i**,<sup>27</sup> and **7k**<sup>28</sup> were prepared according to published methods.

**1-[2,3-Bis(dimethylamino)-1-cyclopropenyl]pyridinium Bis(trifluoromethanesulfonate) (6):**

Pyridine (0.158 g, 2.0 mmol) is added to a solution of **5**<sup>13</sup> (1.12 g, 2.0 mmol) in acetonitrile (20 mL). After stirring at room temperature for 1 h, **6** is precipitated by addition of ether. The solid is redissolved in acetonitrile and precipitated again with ether; yield: 0.87 g (87%); mp 184°C.

C<sub>14</sub>H<sub>17</sub>F<sub>6</sub>N<sub>3</sub>O<sub>6</sub>S<sub>2</sub> calc. C 33.54 H 3.42 N 8.38  
(501.4) found 33.4 3.51 8.5

IR (KBr):  $\nu$  = 1949 (s), 1658 (vs), 1471 (s), 1415 (s), 1289 (vs), 1257 (vs), 1223 (s), 1162 (s), 1139 (s), 1029 (vs) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\delta$  = 3.40 (s, 6 H, NCH<sub>3</sub>); 3.46 (s, 6 H, NCH<sub>3</sub>); 8.37 (dd, 2 H,  $J$  = 7.7, 1.4 Hz, H-3, 5); 8.90 (tt, 1 H,  $J$  = 7.7, 6.3 Hz, H-4); 9.15 (dd, 2 H,  $J$  = 6.3, 1.4 Hz, H-2, 6).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\delta$  = 44.2 (NCH<sub>3</sub>), 44.5 (NCH<sub>3</sub>), 125.6 (s, C-1'), 130.5 (d, C-3, 5), 131.7 (s, C-2', 3'), 146.0 (d, C-2, 6), 151.2 (d, C-4).

**Triafulvenes 8a–m from Salt 6; General Procedure:**

Salt **6** (1.50 g, 3.0 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (10 mL) is added to a solution of **7a–m** (3.0 mmol) and pyridine (0.475 g, 6.0 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (20 mL). The mixture is stirred at room temperature for 1 h (**7a**: reflux, 24 h; **7b**: r.t., 7 d, or reflux, 24 h; **7m**: r.t., 2 h, then reflux, 2 h). Work up is done by one of the following procedures:

Procedure A (**8f**): The solution is concentrated to ca. 10 mL, and the product is crystallized at –35°C.

Procedure B (**8h–j**): The solvent is replaced by CHCl<sub>3</sub> (200 mL). After extraction with aqueous ammonia (10%; 20 mL) and water (3 × 20 mL), the organic layer is dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>). The solvent is evaporated, and the residue is recrystallized from methanol.

Procedure C (**8a–e, g, k–m**): After work up according to Procedure B, the residue is subjected to column chromatography on silica gel (100 g) with methanol (600 mL) as eluent.

**Reaction of Salt 5 with Pyridine and 1,3-Indanedione (7g):**

A solution of salt **5** (0.563 g, 1.0 mmol) and pyridine (0.237 g, 3.0 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (30 mL) is stirred for 2 h. After addition of **7g** (0.146 g, 1.0 mmol), stirring is continued for 2 h. Work up as in Procedure C (see above) gives:

2,3-bis(dimethylamino)cyclopropenone (**4**); yield: 0.119 g (85%); mp and spectroscopic data agree with literature values<sup>29</sup>; and

2-[2,3-bis(dimethylamino)-2-cyclopropen-1-ylidene]-1,3-indanedione (**8g**); yield 0.173 g (64%).

**Reaction of Salt 5 with Methylene Compounds 7 in the Presence of Dimethylaminomethylpolystyrene (10):**

A solution of **5**<sup>13</sup> (1.12 g, 2.0 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (10 mL) is added dropwise to the mixture of methylene compound **7** (2.0 mmol) and amine **10** (1.43 g, 4.0 m-equiv) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (20 mL). After stirring at room temperature for 2 h, the polymer is filtered off and rinsed with CHCl<sub>3</sub> (30 mL). The filtrates are combined, and the solvent is removed at 30°C/12 Torr. Further work up is done individually:

3-Dicyanomethylene-1,2-bis(dimethylamino)cyclopropene (**8a**) from malononitrile (**7a**): Recrystallization from CH<sub>3</sub>CN gives colorless needles; yield: 0.203 g (54%); see Table 1.

2-[2,3-Bis(dimethylamino)-2-cyclopropen-1-ylidene]-1,3-cyclopentanedione (**8c**) from 1,3-cyclopentanedione (**7c**): Chromatography over silica gel (100 g) with methanol (400 mL) affords cyclopropenone **4** (0.335 g, 120% and triafulvene **8c** (0.145 g, 33%); see Table 1. Enol ether salt **9c** is present in the crude reaction mixture [<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  = 3.25 (s, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 5.99 (t,  $^4J$  = 1.3 Hz, =CH); yield: 66%], but is hydrolyzed to **4** and **7c** on chromatographic work up.

2-[2,3-Bis(dimethylamino)-2-cyclopropen-1-ylidene]-1,3-cyclohexanedione (**8d**) from 1,3-cyclohexanedione (**7d**): Chromatography over silica gel (100 g) with methanol (400 mL) affords cyclopropenone **4** (0.390 g, 140%) and triafulvene **8d** (0.113 g, 24%); see Table 1. Enol ether salt **9d** is found in the crude reaction mixture [<sup>1</sup>H-NMR data identical with an independently prepared sample (see below); yield: 55%], but is hydrolyzed on chromatographic work up.

1-[(5-Methyl-3-oxo-1-cyclohexen-1-yl)oxy]-2,3-bis(dimethylamino)cyclopropenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (**9**) from 5-methyl-1,3-cyclohexanedione (**7e**): In the reaction solution, **9e** and cyclopropenone

**4** are present practically exclusively according to <sup>1</sup>H-NMR analysis; separation, however, proved impossible.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\delta$  = 3.16 (s, 12 H); 5.72 (t, 1 H,  $^4J$  = 1.1 Hz).

2-[2,3-Bis(dimethylamino)-1-cyclopropen-1-ylidene]-1,3-indanedione (**8g**) from 1,3-indanedione (**7g**): Chromatography over silica gel (100 g) with methanol (400 mL) yields **8g** as orange needles; yield: 0.128 g (24%); see Table 1.

1,3-Bis(dicyanomethylene)-2-[2,3-bis(dimethylamino)-1-cyclopropen-1-ylidene]indane (**8i**) from 1,3-bis(dicyanomethylene)indane (**7i**): Recrystallization from methanol gives violet crystals; yield: 0.307 g (42%); see Table 1.

2,3-Bis(dimethylamino)-1-[(5,5-dimethyl-3-oxo-1-cyclohexen-1-yl)oxy]cyclopropenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (**9m**) from dimedone (**7m**): The residue is concentrated to ca. 10 mL, and ether (10 mL) is added to give **9m** as colorless crystals; yield: 0.500 g (61%); mp 157–158°C.

C<sub>16</sub>H<sub>23</sub>F<sub>3</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>S calc. C 46.60 H 5.62 N 6.79  
(412.4) found 46.3 5.55 7.0

IR (KBr):  $\nu$  = 1968 (C<sub>3</sub>-ring); 1628 (C=O); 1270, 1150, 1029 (CF<sub>3</sub>SO<sub>3</sub>) cm<sup>-1</sup>.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\delta$  = 1.06 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>); 2.22 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>); 2.53 (d, 2 H,  $^4J$  = 1.1 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>); 3.13 (s, 12 H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 5.70 (t, 1 H,  $^4J$  = 1.1 Hz, =CH).

<sup>13</sup>C-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\delta$  = 27.8 [C(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub>]; 33.0 (C-5); 40.9, 50.7 (C-4, C-6); 42.3 (N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 109.7 (C-2); 110.0 (C-1'); 127.2 (C-2', 3'); 198.7 (C=O).

**Reaction of Salt 5 with Methylene Compounds 7 in the Presence of 3-(2-Methylpropylamino)-2,4-dimethylpentane (11):**

The solution of **5**<sup>13</sup> (1.12 g, 2.0 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (10 mL) is added dropwise to a solution of **7** (2.0 mmol) and **11** (0.91 g, 4.0 mmol) in CH<sub>3</sub>CN (20 mL). After stirring for 2 h at room temperature, the solvent is evaporated at 30°C/12 Torr. The residue is worked up individually.

Enol ether salts **9c, e** from diketones **7c, e**: Separation of **9c, e** from also formed cyclopropenone **4** proved impossible. According to <sup>1</sup>H-NMR spectroscopy, **9** and **4** were the only products.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN): **9c**:  $\delta$  = 3.20 (s, 12 H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>); 5.90 (t, 1 H,  $^4J$  = 1.3 Hz, =CH); **9e**:  $\delta$  = 3.16 (s, 12 H, N-CH<sub>3</sub>), 5.72 (broad s, 1 H, =CH).

2,3-Bis(dimethylamino)-1-[3-oxo-1-cyclohexen-1-yl]oxy]cyclopropenyl trifluoromethanesulfonate (**9d**) from 1,3-cyclohexanedione (**7d**): The reaction solution is concentrated to ca. 10 mL. Salt **9d** is separated with ether (10 mL) as a viscous colorless oil (0.436 g, 57%), which cannot be purified further.

<sup>1</sup>H-NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>CN):  $\delta$  = 1.90–2.23 (m, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 2.40 (br t, 2 H,  $^3J$  = 6.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>); 2.67 (t, 2 H,  $^3J$  = 6.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>); 3.16 (s, 12 H, NCH<sub>3</sub>); 5.72 (t, 1 H,  $^4J$  = 0.9 Hz, =CH).

Enol ether Salt **9m** from dimedone (**7m**): The reaction solution is concentrated to ca. 10 mL. After addition of ether, **9m** is obtained as colorless crystals; yield: 54%. Physical and spectroscopic data, see above.

Triafulvene **8g** from 1,3-indanedione (**7g**): Recrystallization from methanol affords orange needles; yield: 0.226 g (42%); see Table 1 for physical and spectroscopic data.

2,2-Dimethyl-5-[2,3-bis(dimethylamino)-2-cyclopropen-1-ylidene]-1,3-dioxane-4,6-dione (**8n**) from Meldrum's acid (**7n**): Chromatography on silica gel (100 g) with acetone (400 mL) gives **8n**; yield: 0.224 g (42%); mp 202°C (colorless needles from acetonitrile); see Table 1.

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