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A convenient preparative method for α -trifluoromethyl amines

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Abstract

 α -Trifluoromethyl amines (IV) were prepared in three steps: preparation of α -trifluoromethyl ketones (I), their conversion to benzyloximes (II), and reduction of the oximes (II) with lithium aluminium hydride and sodium methoxide. For example, α -trifluoromethyltridecylamine was obtained from the reduction of trifluoromethyl dodecyl ketone benzyl oxime. © Elsevier Science S.A.

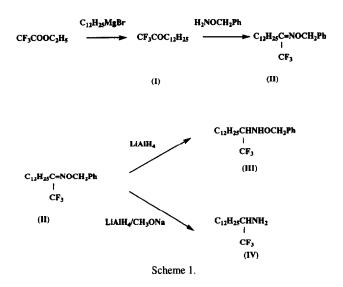
Keywords: Ethyl trifluoroacetate; Grignard reagent; Trifluoromethylketone; Benzyloxime; Reduction with LiAlH₄; Sodium methoxide; α -Trifluoromethylamine

1. Introduction

The utility of compounds containing trifluoromethyl groups as bioactive materials and synthetic intermediates for functionalized materials has received extensive attention in recent years [1,2]. We have reported syntheses of optically active γ -lactones as intermediates for liquid crystals [3] and trifluoromethylation of terpenoid carbonyl compounds [4]. However, a general preparative method for amines containing α -trifluoromethyl groups has not been described. Only the synthesis of 1,3-diamino alcohols from β -hydroxy ketones has been reported [5,6]. In this paper, we describe a convenient method for preparing various α -trifluoromethylamines from ethyl trifluoroacetate as the starting material.

2. Results and discussion

 α -Trifluoromethylamines were prepared in three steps as shown in Scheme 1. As the first step, various α -trifluoromethyl ketones were prepared by the reaction of ethyl trifluoroacetate with Grignard reagents. Trifluoromethyl phenyl ketone is commercially available, but other trifluoromethyl ketones are not. A few methods for their preparation have been reported. The substitution reaction of the magnesium bromide salt of trifluoroacetic acid with a Grignard reagent was attempted [7]. The lithium salt of trifluoroacetic acid



was treated with a Grignard reagent to produce the desired ketones [8]. Chlorodifluoromethyl ketones can be prepared by the reactions of chlorodifluoroacetic acid with Grignard reagents under careful control of the reaction temperature (<-5 °C) [9,10]. We prepared trifluoromethyl ketones by reacting ethyl trifluoroacetate with various Grignard reagents. In this reaction, it is essential to keep the reaction temperature below -40 °C and to use diethyl ether as the solvent. For example, the reaction of ethyl trifluoroacetate with dodecyl-magnesium bromide in diethyl ether gave trifluoromethyl dodecyl ketone (I) in 54.5% yield. Other results are shown in Table 1.

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Esters	RMgX	Trifluoromethyl ketones (C	F ₃ COR) ^a	
	R	b.p. (°C/mmHg)	Yield (%)	¹⁹ F NMR δ (ppm)
CF ₃ COOEt	C ₈ H ₁₇	73/18	62.5	-2.0 (s)
CF ₃ COOEt	C ₉ H ₁₉	60-63/2	55.5	-3.9(s)
CF ₃ COOEt	$C_{10}H_{21}$	78-79/4-5	52.0	-2.0 (s)
CF ₃ COOEt	$C_{12}H_{25}$	95-96/2	48.5	-0.83 (s)
CF ₃ COOEt	C ₆ H ₅	60-62/3	23	b
CHF ₂ COOEt	C ₆ H ₁₃	71-73/35	64	-46.3 (d, $J_{\rm EH}$ = 50.0 Hz)
CHF ₂ COOEt	C ₈ H ₁₇	94-96/22	80	-47.0 (d, $J_{\rm FH} = 52.8$ Hz)
CHF ₂ COOEt	$C_{10}H_{21}$	94-97/3	51	-51.6 (d, $J_{\rm FH} = 53.4$ Hz)
CHF ₂ COOEt	CH ₂ Ph	82-83/10	77	$-46.0 (d, J_{\rm FH} = 50.0 \text{Hz})$

 Table 1

 Preparation of trifluoromethyl and difluoromethyl ketones

^a IR spectra of these ketones showed the absorptions of carbonyl group at ca. 1770–1740 cm⁻¹. Satisfactory microanalyses (C, $\pm 0.04\%$; H, $\pm 0.4\%$) were obtained for each of the mentioned products. These compounds showed one spot in thin layer chromatography with Kiesel gel (Merck Art 5735) using a mixture of hexane and ethylacetate (10: 1, v/v) as a solvent, and one peak in gas chromatography (column: Silicone DC-200 on Celite 545, 3 m). ^b This compound was identified with an authentic sample.

In the second step, benzyl oximes of type (II) were obtained from the reactions of ketones (I) with benzylhy-droxylamine hydrochloride.

The third step was the reduction of the oximes to amines. Since the syntheses of 1,3-diamino alcohols from β -hydroxy ketone benzyloximes have been reported [5,6], we examined analogous reductions of our benzyloximes (II) possessing the trifluoromethyl group. Reduction of compound (II) with lithium aluminium hydride alone gave α -trifluoromethyl Nbenzyl-oxtridecylamine (III) instead of the desired α -trifluoromethyl tridecylamine (IV). The reduction of compound (II) with lithium aluminium hydride and sodium methoxide afforded α -trifluoromethyltridecylamine (IV) in 60.5% yield. It is suspected that the addition of sodium methoxide accelerates the reduction of lithium aluminium hydride [5]. The structures of compounds (III) and (IV) were determined by spectral methods as shown in Section 3. Reduction of other oximes were carried out in the same way and the results are shown in Table 2.

3. Experimental details

3.1. General procedure

Ethyl trifluoroacetate was commercially available. NMR spectra were recorded at 60 or 200 MHz for ¹H NMR and 56.4 MHz or 470 MHz for ¹⁹F NMR in CDCI₃. ¹⁹F NMR chemical shifts are reported in parts per millions (ppm) relative to trifluoroacetic acid (δ 0.00) as an external standard, low field positive. ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded by using a GSX-500 spectrometer. Yields were those of the products actually isolated.

3.2. Reaction of ethyl trifluoroacetate with dodecylmagnesium bromide

To a solution of ethyl trifluoroacetate (14.2 g, 0.1 mol) in diethyl ether (110 ml), dodecylmagnesium bromide pre-

pared from dodecyl bromide (24.9 g, 0.1 mol) and magnesium (2.4 g, 0.1 mol) in diethyl ether (200 ml) was added slowly at -78 °C under an atmosphere of nitrogen. After 5 h stirring at -40 °C, the mixture was quenched with 1 N HCl and then oily materials were extracted with diethyl ether. The ethereal extract was washed with brine, and then dried over $MgSO_4$. On removal of the solvent, fractional distillation afforded the following fractions; (1), b.p. $\approx 82 \text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}/2 \text{ mmHg}$, (1.5 g); (2), b.p. 82-90 °C/2 mmHg, (16.9 g). Fraction (2) was chromatographed on a silica gel column using nhexane and ethyl acetate (9:1 v/v) to give pure trifluoromethyl dodecyl ketone (I) (14.5 g, yield 54.5%). This eluate showed one peak on gas chromatography and one spot on thin layer chromatography. The compound exhibited the following spectral data; IR (cm⁻¹) (liq. film): 1765 (-C=O); ¹⁹F NMR δ: -0.830 (3F, s, CF₃); ¹H NMR δ: 0.883 (3H, t, J = 6.78 Hz, CH₃), 1.26 (18H, s, -CH₂-×9), 1.68 (2H, m, $-CH_{2}-$), 2.71 (2H, t, J=7.32 Hz, $-COCH_{2}-$); ¹³C NMR δ : 14.16 (14-C), 29.46 (9-C), 36.46 (3-C), 115.69 (q, $J_{CF} = 292.2 \text{ Hz}, 1-CF_3$, 191.72 (q, $J_{CF} = 34.7 \text{ Hz}, 2-CO$) ppm.

C¹F₃C²C³C⁴C⁵C⁶C⁷C⁸C⁹C¹⁰C¹¹C¹²C¹³C¹⁴ II O

3.3. Preparation of benzyl oxime (II) of trifluoromethyl dodecyl ketone (I)

A mixture of trifluoromethyl dodecylketone (I, 0.60 g, 0.00225 mol), benzylhydroxylamine hydrochloride (0.432 g, 0.00271 mol), pyridine (2 ml) and ethanol (30 ml) was refluxed for 4 h. The reaction mixture was extracted with diethyl ether. The ether extracts were washed with water, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate, and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed over a silica gel column using a mixture of *n*-hexane and ethyl acetate as a solvent to give 0.52 g (62.3% yield) of the benzyl oxime (II) of the compound (I) (an oily product). This product

Table 2 Reduction of benzyl	Table 2 Reduction of benzyloximes of α -trifluoromethylketones	omethylketones				
	Reducing agent		Products ^b	5		
Benzyloximes R-C=NOCH2Ph CF.		R-CH-NHOCH2Ph CF3	R-CH-NH2 CF3	¹⁹ F NMR	'H NMR & (ppm)	¹³ C NMR δ (ppm)
ŝ		Yield (%) ^a	Yield (%) ^a			
$\mathbf{R} = C_8 H_{17}$	LАН	61.3		3.4545 (d, <i>J</i> _{FH} =6.1 Hz)	0.813(3H, t, J = 6.60 Hz, CH ₃) 1.191 (12H, s, -CH ₂ ×6) 1.504 (2H, m, -CH ₂ -) 3.10 (1H, m, -CF ₃ CH-) 4.64 (2H, AB quartet, J _{HH} = 11.48 Hz, -OCH ₂ Ph) 5.58 (1H, d, J = 4.12 Hz, -NH) 7.32	14.145, 22.69, 25.58, 25.83, 29.23, 29.34, 31.86, 62.26 (q, $J_{CF} = 20.9$ Hz, CF ₃ CH) 77.69 (OCH ₂ Ph) 126.01 (q, $J_{CF} = 282.9$ Hz, CF ₃) 137.36, 128.64, 128.83, 128.01 (aromatic carbons)
C ₆ H ₁₉	LАН	60.0	1	J.4825 (d, J _{FH} = 7.63Hz)	(5H, S, aromatic protons) 0.884 (3H, t, $J = 7.07$ Hz, CH ₃) 1.260 $(14H, s, -CH_2 \times 7)$ 1.530 (2H, m, $-CH_2 - 1$) 3.27 (1H, m, $CF_3 - 0 + 7.11$ (2H, AB quartet, $J_{HH} = 11.71$ Hz, $-0CH_2$ Ph) 5.61 (1H, $d_1 J = 4.11$ Hz, $-N$ H) 7.34 5.61 (2H, $d_2 J = 4.11$ Hz, $-N$ H) 7.34 5.61 (2H, $d_2 J = 4.11$ Hz, $-N$ H) 7.34	14.09, 22.66, 25.56, 25.79, 29.26, 29.28, 29.32, 31.86, 62.221 (q. J _{CF} = 33.0 Hz, CF ₃ CH-) 76.91 (OCH ₂ Ph) 126.2 (q. J _{CF} = 281.9 Hz, CF ₃) 127.97, 128.39, 128.58, 137.31 (aromatic carbons)
C ₁₀ H ₂₁	LАН	65.1	1	0.671(d, <i>J_{FH}=</i> 7.63Hz)	Curr, 3, containe products $(-31, 4) = 7.09 \text{ Hz}$, $(-31, 4) = 7.09 \text{ Hz}$, $(-13, -1262) = 0.886$ (3H, $t_J = 7.09 \text{ Hz}$, $(-13, -1164) = 3.128$ (1H, m, CF_3CH) 4.72 (2H, AB quartet, $J_{\text{HH}} = 11.68 \text{ Hz}$, $-OCH_2\text{Ph}$) 5.60 (1H, d, -4.31 Hz, $-N\text{H}$) 7.33 (5H, s, accountify protocol.	14.08, 22.93, 25.65, 25.81, 29.46, 29.38, 29.32, 31.53, 31.96, 62.24 (q, $J_{\rm CF} = 28.0$ Hz, CF ₃ CH) 77.03 (OCH ₂ Ph) 126.03 (q, $J_{\rm CF} = 282.8$ Hz, CF ₃) 127.81, 128.63, 128.71, 137.21 (accounsity carbons)
C ₁₂ H ₂₅	ГАН	69.3	ı	2.978 (d, <i>J</i> _{FH} = 6.10 Hz)	a domatry protons) 0.88 (3H, t, $J = 6.77$ Hz, CH ₃) 1.26 (20H, s, $-CH_{2}-X10$) 1.55 (2H, m, $-$ $CH_{2}-3.28$ (1H, m, $CF_{3}CH-3.71$) (2H, AB quartet, $J_{HH} = 11.54$ Hz, $-$ $OCH_{2}Ph$) 5.60 (1H, d, $J = 4.22$ Hz, $-$ NH) 7.33 (5H, s, aromatic protons)	(atomatic caroous) 14.557, 23.16, 26.08, 26.12, 26.15, 26.19, 26.278, 29.81, 30.08, 30.12, 32,398 (3-C) 62.75 (q, $J_{\rm CF} = 27.3$ Hz, 2- C), 77.48 (15-C), 126.4 (q, $J_{\rm CF} = 569.2$ Hz, 1-CF ₃), 128.4 (19-C), 128.85 (18, 18'-C), 129.04 (17', 17'-C), 27.26.7 (5.7)
C,H,	LAH	50.2	1	3.653 (d, <i>J</i> _{FH} = 6.1 Hz)	4.50 (1H, m, CF ₃ -CH) 4.69 (2H, AB quartet, $J_{HH} = 11.3$ Hz, $-OCH_2Ph$) 5.79 (1H, d, $J = 4.63$ Hz, $-NH$) 7.36 (5H, s, aromatic protons) 7.39 (5H, s, aromatic	137.80 (10-C.) 66.43 (NOC-Ph) 66.71 (q, $J = 29.3$ Hz, CF ₃ C) 126.4 (q, $J_{cf} = 281.7$ Hz, 1-CF ₃) 128.725, 128.695, 129.397, 128.404, 132.141, 128.273, 136.928, 128.069
C ₈ H ₁₇	LAH, CH ₃ ONa	I	80	— 1.664 (d, Ј _{FH} = 7.62 Hz)	$\begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \end{array}\\ $	(atomic carons) 14.12, 22.71, 25.70, 29.30, 29.42, 29.84, 31.89, 53.76 (q. $J_{CF} = 28.5$ Hz, CF ₃ CH) 126.89 (q. $J_{CF} = 281.6$ Hz, CF ₃)
C ₆ H ₁₉	LAH, CH ₃ ONa	1	76	– 3.641 (d, J _{FH} = 7.63 Hz)	(111, broad m, Cr $_{2}$ CH, 1 = 6.83 Hz, CH ₃) 1.266 (14H, broad s, $-CH_{2}-\times7$) 1.57 (2H, m, $-CHCH_{2}$) 1.70 (2H, m, $-NH_{2}$) 3.11 (1H, broad m, CF ₃ CH)	14.03, 22.62, 25.59, 29.26 29.29, 29.36, 29.50, 29.74, 31.84, 53.67 (q. J _{CF} = 28.0 Hz, CF ₃ CH) 128.79 (q. J _{CF} = 279.7 Hz, CF ₃) (continued)

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C ₁₀ H ₂₁	LAH, CH ₃ ONa –	11	-3.641 (d, $J_{\rm FH} = 7.63$ Hz)	0.882 (3H, t, $J = 7.07$ Hz, CH ₃) 1.266 14.071, 22.66, 25.28, 28.39, 29.028, (16H, s, $-CH_{z} - \times 8$) 1.545 (2H, m, $-$ 29.324, 29.390, 29.530, 29.554, 31.874 CH ₂ $-$) 1.702 (2H, m, NH ₂) 3.10 (1H, m, 53.70 (q, $J_{CF} = 28.0$ Hz, $CF_{3}CH$) 126.83	14.071, 22.66, 25.28, 28.39, 29.028, 29.324, 29.390, 29.530, 29.554, 31.874 53.70 (q. J _{CF} = 28.0 Hz, CF ₃ CH) 126.83
C ₁₂ H ₂₅	LAH, CH ₃ ONa –	60.5	−3.603 (d, J _{FH} = 7.63 Hz)	CF ₃ CH) 0.884 (3H, t, $J = 6.60$ Hz, CH ₃) 1.267 (20H, s, $-CH_2 - \times 10$) 1.58 (2H, m, $-$ CH ₂) 1.70 (2H, m, $-NH_2$) 3.10 (1H, m,	(q. J _{CF} = 112.0 Hz, CF ₃ CH) 14.05 (14-C), 22.87, 25.63, 29.70, 29.72, 29.73, 29.75, 29.77, 29.78, 29.79, 29.80, 31.90 (3-C), 53.69 (q. J _{CF} = 28.35 Hz. 2-
C ₆ H ₅	LAH, CH ₃ ONa –	35.2	– 1.383 (d, Ј _{ғн} = 7.63 Нz)	CF ₃ CH-) 4.40 (1H, m, CF ₃ CH) 2.50 (2H, m, NH ₂) 7.35 (2H, s, aromatic protons) 7.38 (3H,	C), 126.81 (q, $J_{cF} = 280.15$ Hz, 1-C) 66.51 (q, $J = 28.3$ Hz, CF_3C) 125.3 (q, $J = 281.5$ Hz, CF_3) 128.41, 132.13,
p-CH ₃ C ₆ H ₅	LAH, CH ₃ ONa –	52.9	0.4875 (d, <i>J</i> _{FH} = 7.63 Hz)	s, aromatic protons) 2.35 (3H, s, CH ₃) 2.52 (2H, m, -NH ₂) 4.40 (1H, m, CF ₃ CH) 7.40 (4H, AB quar-	128.28, 136.93 20.9, 66.52 (q, $J = 282.2 \text{ Hz}$, CF_3C) 125.2 (q, $J = 282.5 \text{ Hz}$, CF_3) 128.28,
				$(e_1, J_{HH} = 9.33)$ f12, arotinauc protons)	120.42, 132.23, 130.03

^b These compounds showed one spot in thin layer chromatography with Kieselgel 60 (Merck Art 5735) using a mixture of hexane and dichloromethane (10: 1, v/v) or a mixture of hexane and ethylacetate (1:1, v/v) as a solvent. Satisfactory microanalyses (N, $\pm 0.15\%$) were obtained for each of the mentioned products ' Yields were isolated yields

showed one spot (Rf = 0.7) in thin layer chromatography on Kieselgel 60 (Merck Art 5735) using a mixture of hexane and dichloromethane (95:5, v/v) as a solvent. This compound exhibited the following spectral data: IR (cm⁻¹) (liq. film): 1636 (-C=N-O), 752.1 and 697.1 (mono substituted); ¹⁹F NMR δ : +8.234 (3F, s, CF₃); ¹H NMR δ : 0.884 (3H, t, *J* = 6.76 Hz, CH₃--), 1.248 (18H, s, -CH₂-×9), 1.55 (2H, m, -CH₂-), 2.42 (2H, m. -N=C-CH₂-), 5.197 (2H, s, -CH₂-ph), 7.343 (5H, s, aromatic protons); ¹³C NMR δ : 14.12 (14-C), 29.688 (9-C), 31.979 (3-C), 77.561 (15-C), 121.027 (q, *J*_{CF} = 274.7 Hz, 1-CF₃), 128.265 (19-C), 128.333 (18 and 18'-C), 128.505 (17 and 17'-C), 136.631 (16-C), 150.011 (q, *J*_{CF} = 31.5 Hz, 2-C=N) ppm. Other oximes were prepared in the similar way.

$$\begin{array}{c} C^{1}F_{3}C^{2}C^{3}C^{4}C^{5}C^{6}C^{7}C^{8}C^{9}C^{10}C^{11}C^{12}C^{13}C^{14}\\ \parallel & 1^{7} & 1^{8}\\ N\text{-}OC^{15} & \overbrace{16}^{15} & 1^{9}\\ & 1^{7} & 1^{8}\end{array}$$

3.4. Reduction of the benzyl oxime (II) of trifluoromethyl dodecyl ketone (I) with lithium aluminium hydride

A solution of the oxime (II) (1.08 g, 0.0029 mol) in dry diethyl ether (20 ml) was added dropwise to a suspension of $LiAIH_4$ (0.34 g) in dry diethyl ether (30 ml) under nitrogen at 0 °C. The mixture was stirred for 4 h at 0 °C and then hydrolyzed with a saturated solution of aqueous NH₄Cl. It was extracted with ether, the ether extracts washed with water, dried over anhydrous sodium sulfate and concentrated. The residue was chromatographed over a silica gel column using a mixture of hexane and dichloromethane as a solvent to give 0.75 g (69.3% yield) of α -trifluoromethyl N-benzyloxytridecylamine (III) (an oily product). This product showed one spot (Rf=0.55) in thin layer chromatography on Kiesel gel 60 (Merck Art 5735) using a mixture of hexane and dichloromethane (10:1 v/v) as a solvent. The compound exhibited the following spectral data: IR (cm^{-1}) (liq. film): 3,276 (-NH), 747 and 698 (mono substituted); ¹⁹F NMR δ : +2.978 (3F, d, J = 6.10 Hz, CF₃); ¹H NMR δ : 0.882 (3H, t, J = 6.77 Hz, CH₃-), 1.261 (20H, s, -CH₂-×10), 1.55 (2H, m, -CH₂-), 3.28 (1H, m, CF₃-CH-), 4.707 (2H, AB quartet, $J_{HH} = 11.54$ Hz, $-O-CH_2-$ Ph), 5.6025 (1H, d, J =4.22 Hz, -NH), 7.334 (5H, s, aromatic protons); ¹³C NMR δ: 14.557 (14-C), 26.278 (9-C), 32.3985 (3-C), 62.7525 $(q, J_{CF} = 27.3 \text{ Hz}, 2-C), 77.4810 (15-C), 126.4 (q, q)$ $J_{CF} = 269.2 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{-}CF_3$, 128.433 (19-C), 128.858 (18, 18'-C), 129.042 (17, 17'-C), 137.861 (16-C) ppm. Other oximes were reduced in a similar way.

 $C^{1}F_{3}C^{2}C^{3}C^{4}C^{5}C^{6}C^{7}C^{8}C^{9}C^{10}C^{11}C^{12}C^{13}C^{14}$ \downarrow $N-OC^{15} \xrightarrow{16} \underbrace{}_{17}^{18}$ 1917 18'

3.5. Reduction of the oxime (II) with lithium aluminium hydride in the presence of sodium methoxide

A solution of the oxime (II) (0.933 g, 0.0025 mol) in THF (15 ml) was added drop by drop to a suspension of LiAlH₄ (1.42 g, 0.0375 mol) and CH₃ONa (1.62 g, 0.030 mol) in dry THF (135 ml) under nitrogen at -78 °C. The mixture was stirred for 6 h at -78 °C and for 12 h at 0 °C. The mixture was then hydrolyzed with saturated aqueous Na₂SO₄ solution, extracted with diethyl ether and worked up in the same manner as before. The residue was chromatographed over silica gel column using a mixture of hexane and methanol as a solvent to give 0.404 g (60.5% yield) of α -trifluoromethyltridecylamine (IV). This product showed one spot (Rf=0.2) in thin layer chromatography on Kiesel gel 60 (Merck Art 5235) using a mixture of hexane and ethylacetate (50:50 v/v) as a solvent, and exhibited the following spectral data: IR (cm^{-1}) (liq. film): 3400, 3320 $(NH_2 -)$; ¹⁹F NMR δ: -3.603 (3F, d, $J_{\rm FH} = 7.63$ Hz, CF₃); ¹H NMR δ: 0.884 $(3H, t, J = 6.60 \text{ Hz}, CH_3), 1.267 (20H, s, -CH_2 - \times 10), 1.58$ (2H, m, -CH₂-), 1.70 (2H, m, -NH₂), 3.10 (1H, m, CF₃-CH); ¹³C NMR δ: 14.053 (14-C), 31.901 (3-C), 53.6885 $(q, J_{CF} = 28.35 \text{ Hz}, 2\text{-C}), 126.8145 (q, J_{CF} = 280.15 \text{ Hz}, 1\text{-}$ C) ppm. Other oximes were reduced in a similar manner.

 $C^{1}F_{3}C^{2}C^{3}C^{4}C^{5}C^{6}C^{7}C^{8}C^{9}C^{10}C^{11}C^{12}C^{13}C^{14}$

 NH_2

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