

Synthetic Communications

An International Journal for Rapid Communication of Synthetic Organic Chemistry

ISSN: 0039-7911 (Print) 1532-2432 (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/lcyc20>

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To cite this article: In Howa Jeong , Young Sam Park , Min Wook Chung & Bum Tae Kim (2001) A NEW METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF 2,3-DIARYL-1,1-DIFLUORO-1,3-BUTADIENES, Synthetic Communications, 31:15, 2261-2270, DOI: [10.1081/SCC-100104825](https://doi.org/10.1081/SCC-100104825)

To link to this article: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1081/SCC-100104825>



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SYNTHETIC COMMUNICATIONS, 31(15), 2261–2270 (2001)

A NEW METHOD FOR THE PREPARATION OF 2,3-DIARYL-1,1-DIFLUORO-1,3- BUTADIENES

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ABSTRACT

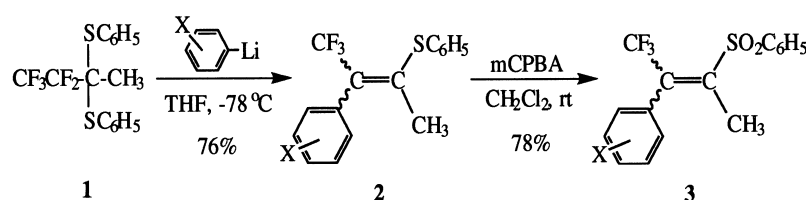
Reactions of 1-trifluoromethyl-1,2-diarylvinyl sulfones **3** with aryllithium afforded aryl substituted adduct **4**. Bromination of **4** with NBS, followed by debromofluorination with Mg, provided 2,3-diaryl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadienes (**6**) in good yields.

1,3-Butadienes are important compounds in organic synthesis. For example, Diels-Alder reactions of these compounds with dienophiles are widely used for the preparation of various six-membered rings.^{1,2} The electrocyclic reaction of 1,3-butadienes under the photochemical condition is a useful synthetic method for the preparation of cyclobutene ring systems.³ Although various synthetic methods for the preparation of nonfluorinated 1,3-butadienes and their application have been well established,^{4–7} the

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methods for the synthesis of fluorinated 1,3-butadienes, especially 1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadienes, have been quite limited in previous literatures.⁸⁻¹² The reaction of commercially available 4-bromo-1,1,2-trifluoro-1-butene with potassium hydroxide in the presence of phase-transfer catalyst afforded 1,1,2-trifluoro-1,3-butadiene.⁸ The versatile transformations of this compound are very useful synthetic tools to give a variety of functionalized monofluoroalkene compounds.^{8,13} 4-Phenyl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadiene was obtained in low yield from the reaction of 3,3-difluoroallyltriphenylphosphonium bromide with benzaldehyde in the presence of potassium carbonate.⁹ 4-Phenyl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadiene can be also prepared from the reaction of 1,3-dibromo-1,1-difluoro-compounds, which were synthesized by adding dibromodifluoromethane to olefins, with DBU.¹⁰ Reaction of 4-phenyl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadiene with 4-phenyl-1,2,4-triazoline-3,5-dione provided cycloadduct.¹⁰ 1,1-Difluoro-2-triphenylsiloxy-1,3-butadiene was also prepared from the reaction of trifluoroacetyltriphenylsilane with vinylmagnesium bromide.¹¹ This compound also undergoes Diels-Alder reaction with various dienophiles.¹² However, several previous methods for the synthesis of 1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadienes can not be applied to prepare 2,3-diaryl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadienes. In this communication we will describe a new method for the preparation of 2,3-diaryl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadienes.

1,1,1-Trifluoro-2-aryl-3-phenylsulfonyl-2-butenes (**3**) (*E:Z* = 45:55) can be easily prepared from the oxidation of 1,1,1-trifluoro-2-aryl-3-phenylthio-2-butenes (**2**), which were synthesized from the reaction of 3,3-bis(phenylthio)-1,1,1,2,2-pentafluorobutane (**1**)¹⁴ with 2.5 equiv. of substituted phenyllithium compounds.



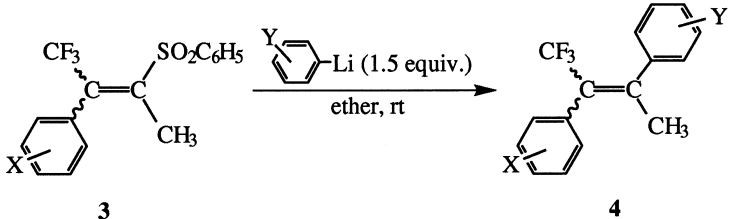
The reaction pathway for the formation of **2** seems likely that the initial reaction of **1** with phenyllithium compounds *via* attack of sulfur atom provides the carbanions bearing a pentafluoroethyl group, which quickly undergoes β -defluorination to give the β -fluoro- β -trifluoromethylvinyl sulfides. These compounds are so reactive that they quickly undergo addition-elimination reaction with phenyllithium compounds presented in solution as soon



as they were formed. The treatment of **3** with another 1.5 equiv. of substituted phenyllithium compounds resulted in the formation of *E* and *Z* isomeric mixture (*E:Z* = 35:65) of 2,3-diaryl-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-butenes (**4**) in good yields. Assignment of isomers for **4** was based on the chemical shift of CH₃ in each isomer. We observed that the chemical shift (δ = 1.84 ppm) of CH₃ which is arranged to the same side of CF₃ group is lower than the chemical shift (δ = 2.35 ppm) of CH₃ which is arranged to the opposite side of CF₃ group.¹⁵ The results for the formation of **4** are summarized in Table 1.

Allylic bromination of **4** was carried out with N-bromosuccinimide (NBS). Several solvents such as CCl₄, CH₂Cl₂, CH₃CN and benzene were examined in this reaction. The optimized condition was established by refluxing of **4** with NBS (3–5 equiv.) in CH₃CN for 12–24 h. Therefore, the reaction of **4a** with NBS (3 equiv.) in CH₃CN at reflux temperature for 24 h afforded allylic bromide **5a** (*E:Z* = 60:40) in 78% yield. The similar treatment of **4d** and **4e** with NBS resulted in the formation of allylic bromides **5d** and **5e** in 71% and 73% yields, respectively. When **4b** was reacted with NBS (4 equiv.) in CH₃CN for 12 h, however, allylic bromide **5b** was obtained in only 40% yield. The major side product was benzylic

Table 1. Preparation of 2,3-Diaryl-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-butenes (**4**)

			
Compound No.	X	Y	4 , Yield(%) ^{a,b}
4a	H	H	80
4b	H	CH ₃	71
4c	H	OCH ₃	68
4d	H	Cl	65
4e	Cl	H	82
4f	CH ₃	H	76
4g	CH ₃	CH ₃	81
4h	CH ₃ O	H	77
4i	CH ₃ O	CH ₃	82
4j	CH ₃ O	OCH ₃	83



brominated compound **5k**. The similar results were obtained from the reactions of **4f**, **4g** and **4i** with NBS, in which allylic bromides **5f**, **5g** and **5i** were formed in 41%, 57% and 34% yields, respectively. The reactions of **4c** and **4h** with NBS also provided allylic bromides **5c** and **5h** in relatively low yields, in which alkoxy brominated compounds **5l** and **5m** were formed as a major side product, respectively. To make matters worse, the treatment of **4j** with NBS resulted in the formation of a messy reaction mixture. The results for the formation of **5** are summarized in Table 2.

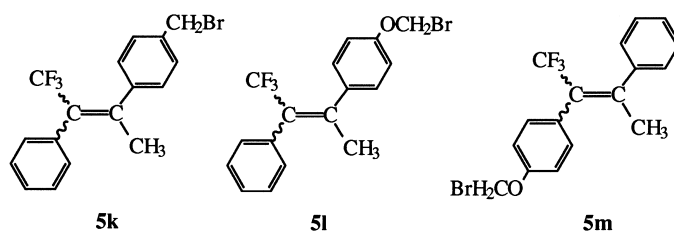
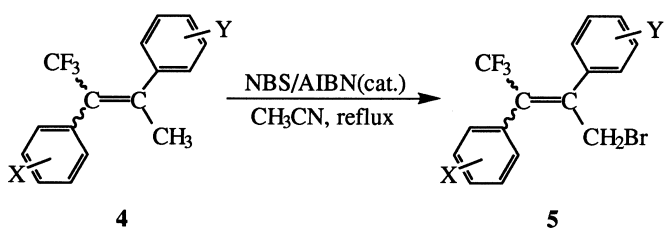


Table 2. Preparation of 2,3-Diaryl-4-bromo-1,1,1-trifluoro-2-butenes (**5**)

			
Compound No.	X	Y	5 , Yield(%) ^{a,b}
5a	H	H	78
5b	H	CH ₃	40
5c	H	OCH ₃	42
5d	H	Cl	71
5e	Cl	H	73
5f	CH ₃	H	41
5g	CH ₃	CH ₃	57
5h	CH ₃ O	H	40
5i	CH ₃ O	CH ₃	34
5j	CH ₃ O	OCH ₃	— ^c



First of all, we examined the debromofluorination of **5** with metals, such as Zn, activated Zn, Zn(Cu) and Mg, to give 1,1-difluorodienes **6**. The use of Zn, activated Zn or Zn(Cu) in this reaction did not afford a desired product **6**, but the reaction of **5a** with Mg (1.5 equiv.) in the presence of catalytic amount of I₂ provided 2,3-diphenyl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadiene (**6a**) in 81% yield. Therefore, we decided to use Mg (1.5 equiv.) and I₂ (cat.) in this type of reaction. When **5b-i** was treated with Mg (1.5 equiv.) in the presence of catalytic amount of I₂, 1,1-difluorodiene **6b-i** was synthesized in 42% to 74% yields. The reaction pathway for the formation of **6** seems likely that the initial reaction of **5** with Mg affords oxidative insertion intermediate between vinyl carbon and bromine bond, which quickly undergoes δ -defluorination to give 2,3-diaryl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadienes (**6**) *via* six-membered ring transition state [I]. The results of the elimination reaction of **5** with Mg are summarized in Table 3.

In conclusion, the present method provides a new and general procedure for the preparation of various 2,3-diaryl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadienes which can not be prepared from the several previous methods. Diels-Alder reactions of **6** with dienophiles are now in progress.

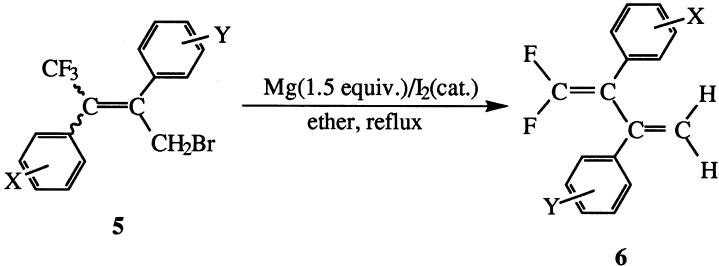
EXPERIMENTAL

Synthesis of 3,3-Bis(phenylthio)-1,1,1,2,2-pentafluorobutane (1)

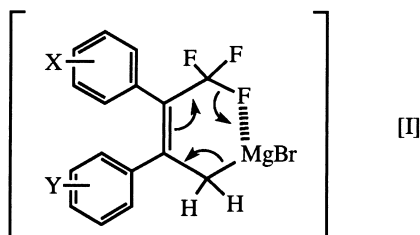
A 500 mL three-neck round bottom flask equipped with a septum, a solid addition tube filled with AlCl₃ (6.09 g, 0.05 mol), a magnetic stir bar and a nitrogen tee connected to a source of argon, was charged with 3,3,4,4,4-pentafluoro-2-butanone (8.1 g, 0.05 mol), thiophenol (11.0 g, 0.1 mol) and 300 mL of dry CH₂Cl₂. The reaction mixture was cooled to -78°C and AlCl₃ was added in several portions *via* a solid addition tube. After stirring at -78°C for 20 h, the reaction mixture was quenched with water at -78°C. The mixture was poured into 200 mL of H₂O, extracted with CH₂Cl₂ (300 mL $\times$ 2). After washing with saturated NaCl water solution, CH₂Cl₂ layer was dried with anhydrous Na₂CO₃. Column chromatography (n-hexane) afforded 15.5 g (85% yield) of 3,3-bis(phenylthio)-1,1,1,2,2-pentafluorobutane (**1**). **1**: oil; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 7.68–7.25 (m, 10H), 1.34 (s, 3H); ¹⁹F NMR (CDCl₃) δ -109.86 (s, 2F), -75.68 (s, 3F); MS, m/z (relative intensity) 364 (M⁺, 3), 255 (100), 215 (33), 177 (10), 165 (9), 134 (10), 109 (61), 77 (13), 65 (10); IR (neat) 3062, 3003, 2944, 1474, 1440, 1315, 1215, 1184, 1148, 1069, 991, 751, 691 cm⁻¹.



Table 3. Preparation of 2,3-Diaryl-1,1-difluoro-1,3-butadienes (**6**)



Compound No.	X	Y	6 , Yield(%) ^a
6a	H	H	81
6b	H	CH ₃	60
6c	H	OCH ₃	65
6d	H	Cl	74
6e	Cl	H	72
6f	CH ₃	H	58
6g	CH ₃	CH ₃	42
6h	CH ₃ O	H	61
6i	CH ₃ O	CH ₃	45



Synthesis of 1,1,1-Trifluoro-2-phenyl-3-phenylthio-2-butene (**2**)

A 250 mL two-neck flask equipped with a septum, a magnetic stir bar and a nitrogen tee connected to a source of argon, was charged with 3,3-bis(phenylthio)-1,1,1,2,2-pentafluorobutane (3.64 g, 0.01 mol) and 50 mL of dry THF. The reaction mixture was cooled to -78°C and phenyllithium (1.8 M solution, 11.2 mL) was added dropwise at -78°C , followed by slow warming to ambient temperature. The reaction mixture was quenched with water (50 mL) and extracted with ether (50 mL $\times$ 2). After the ether layer was



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dried with anhydrous MgSO_4 , column chromatography (n-hexane) afforded 2.23 g (76% yield) of (*E*) and (*Z*) isomeric mixture (*E*:*Z* = 45:55) of 1,1,1-trifluoro-2-phenyl-3-phenylthio-2-butene (**2**). **2**: oil; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 7.54–7.14 (m, 10H), 2.09 (q, J = 2.4 Hz, 3H, *Z* isomer), 1.67 (q, J = 2.0 Hz, 3H, *E* isomer); ^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3) δ –56.05 (s, 3F, *Z* isomer), –56.58 (s, 3F, *E* isomer); MS, m/z (relative intensity) 294 (M^+ , 100), 279 (10), 225 (17), 165 (25), 115 (45), 77 (31), 59 (43); IR (neat) 3062, 3026, 2927, 1607, 1475, 1441, 1310, 1214, 1170, 1115, 1016, 758, 707 cm^{-1} .

Synthesis of 1,1,1-Trifluoro-2-phenyl-3-phenylsulfonyl-2-butene (**3**)

To a mixture of 1,1,1-trifluoro-2-phenyl-3-phenylthio-2-butene (2.0 g, 6.8 mmol) and 30 mL of CH_2Cl_2 was added *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (50% technical grade, 27.2 mmol) at 0°C and then the mixture was stirred at ambient temperature for 12 h. After quenching the reaction mixture with saturated NaHCO_3 solution and 10% NaHSO_3 , the mixture was extracted with CH_2Cl_2 (20 mL $\times$ 2) and then dried over anhydrous Na_2CO_3 . After evaporation of solvent, the crude product was recrystallized (n-hexane: methylene chloride = 1:1) to provide 1.73 g (78% yield) of (*E*) and (*Z*) isomeric mixture (*E*:*Z* = 45:55) of 1,1,1-trifluoro-2-phenyl-3-phenylsulfonyl-2-butene (**3**). **3**: mp $112\text{--}114^\circ\text{C}$; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 7.98–6.89 (m, 10H), 2.44 (q, J = 2.3 Hz, 3H, *Z* isomer), 1.81 (q, J = 1.6 Hz, 3H, *E* isomer); ^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3) δ –54.04 (s, 3F, *E* isomer), –59.45 (s, 3F, *Z* isomer); MS, m/z (relative intensity) 326 (M^+ , 24), 307 (9), 201 (100), 165 (75), 145 (35), 125 (60), 115 (90), 77 (62), 51 (42); IR (KBr) 3067, 2963, 1799, 1548, 1447, 1335, 1161, 1011, 764 cm^{-1} .

Synthesis of 1,1,1-Trifluoro-2,3-diphenyl-2-butene (**4a**)

To a mixture of 1,1,1-trifluoro-2-phenyl-3-phenylsulfonyl-2-butene (0.652 g, 2.0 mmol) and 5 mL of ether was added phenyllithium (1.8 M solution, 7.0 mmol) at room temperature and then the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 1 h. After quenching the reaction mixture with saturated NaCl solution, the mixture was extracted with ether (10 mL $\times$ 2) and then dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 . After evaporation of solvent, the crude product was chromatographed (n-hexane) to provide 0.419 g (80% yield) of (*E*) and (*Z*) isomeric mixture (*E*:*Z* = 35:65) of 1,1,1-trifluoro-2,3-diphenyl-2-butene (**4a**). **4a**: oil; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 7.51–6.88 (m, 10H), 2.35 (q, J = 2.8 Hz, 3H, *Z* isomer), 1.84 (q, J = 2.2 Hz, 3H, *E* isomer); ^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3) δ –56.28 (s, 3F, *E* isomer), –56.68 (s, 3F, *Z* isomer); MS,



m/z (relative intensity) 262 (M^+ , 96), 193 (53), 184 (98), 178 (28), 115 (34), 103 (100), 91 (17), 77 (48), 51 (12); IR (neat) 3060, 3027, 2957, 2925, 2854, 1638, 1492, 1443, 1331, 1264, 1208, 1162, 1116, 1029, 761, 699 cm^{-1} .

Synthesis of 4-Bromo-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,3-diphenyl-2-butene (5a)

A mixture of 1,1,1-trifluoro-2,3-diphenyl-2-butene (0.393 g, 1.5 mmol), N-bromosuccinimide (0.68 g, 4.5 mmol), AIBN (cat.) and 5 mL of CH_3CN was heated to reflux for 24 h. After cooling to room temperature and then evaporating solvent, the crude mixture was chromatographed on SiO_2 to give 0.40 g (78% yield) of (*E*) and (*Z*) isomeric mixture (*E*:*Z* = 60:40) of 4-bromo-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,3-diphenyl-2-butene (**5a**). **5a**: oil; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 7.58–7.05 (m, 10H), 4.51 (s, 2H, *E* isomer), 3.91 (s, 2H, *Z* isomer); ^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3) δ –57.03 (s, 3F, *Z* isomer), –57.45 (s, 3F, *E* isomer); MS, m/z (relative intensity) 342 (M^+ , Br-81, 16), 340 (M^+ , Br-79, 16), 261 (48), 221 (22), 191 (34), 183 (100), 133 (15), 115 (8), 77 (8), 51 (8); IR (neat) 3059, 3025, 2927, 1491, 1444, 1329, 1269, 1206, 1168, 1117, 898, 762, 698 cm^{-1} .

Synthesis of 1,1-Difluoro-2,3-diphenyl-1,3-butadiene (6a)

A mixture of 4-bromo-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,3-diphenyl-2-butene (0.408 g, 1.2 mmol), Mg (0.044 g, 1.8 mmol), iodine (cat.) and 5 mL of ether was heated to reflux for 1 h. After cooling to room temperature and quenching the reaction mixture with 10% HCl solution, the mixture was extracted with ether (10 mL $\times$ 2) and then dried over anhydrous MgSO_4 . After evaporation of solvent, the crude product was chromatographed (n-hexane) to provide 0.235 g (81% yield) of 1,1-difluoro-2,3-diphenyl-1,3-butadiene (**6a**). **6a**: oil; ^1H NMR (CDCl_3) δ 7.48–7.18 (m, 10H), 5.88 (s, 1H), 5.40 (s, 1H); ^{19}F NMR (CDCl_3) δ –84.60 (d, J = 29.5 Hz, 1F), –88.34 (d, J = 29.6 Hz, 1F); MS, m/z (relative intensity) 242 (M^+ , 100), 221 (71), 191 (18), 178 (21), 164 (23), 127 (59), 115 (19), 91 (14), 77 (21), 51 (16); IR (neat) 3058, 3027, 2942, 1707, 1495, 1445, 1264, 1234, 1035, 967, 912, 763, 696 cm^{-1} .

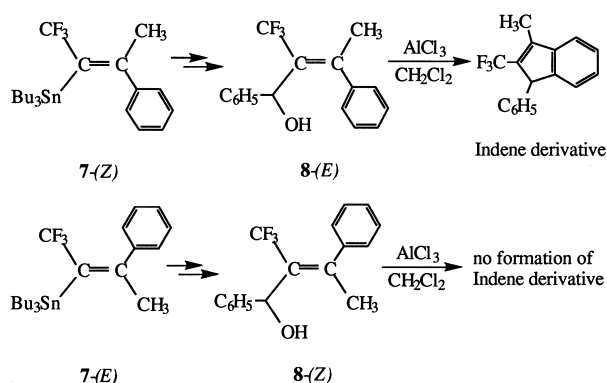
ACKNOWLEDGMENT

This work was supported by Korea Research Foundation Grant (KRF-1999-015-DP0218).



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15. Authentic samples of (*E*) and (*Z*)-1,1,1-trifluoro-2,3-diphenyl-2-butenes (**4a**) were prepared from the cross-coupling reaction of separable (*E*) and (*Z*)-2-tributylstannyl-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-phenyl-2-butenes (**7**) with iodobenzene in the presence of (PPh₃)₄Pd (10 mol%) and CuI (10 mol%). (*E*) and (*Z*)-2-tributylstannyl-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-phenyl-2-butenes (**7**) were figured out *via* occurrence of cyclization of (*E*) and (*Z*)-2-trifluoromethyl-1,3-diphenyl-2-buten-1-ols (**8**) which can be prepared from the cross-coupling reaction of each (*E*) and



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(*Z*)-2-tributylstannyl-1,1,1-trifluoro-3-phenyl-2-butenes(**7**) with benzoyl chloride, followed by reduction with LiAlH_4 .¹⁶ The (*E*) isomer of **8** underwent Friedel-Craft's type of cyclization to give indene derivative in the presence of AlCl_3 , but the (*Z*) isomer of **8** did not undergo cyclization.

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Received in Japan July 18, 2000



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