

# PREPARATION AND REACTIONS OF PERFLUOROHALOGENOORGANOSULFENYL HALIDES\*

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## I. Introduction

Perfluorohalogenoorganosulfenyl halides are, like thiols, mercaptides, and thioketones, key compounds for the synthesis of new perfluorohalogenoorganomercurio derivatives. The high reactivity of the S—X bond (X = Cl, Br) toward electrophilic as well as nucleophilic reagents causes them to be highly valued starting materials for the synthesis of new derivatives. The chemistry of the not very stable sulfenyl fluorides has

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hardly been investigated. However, the easily accessible and relatively stable sulfenyl chlorides have been studied extensively (42, 105, 106, 109).

Particularly worth mentioning is the application of sulfenyl compounds in plant preservation. Of primary importance in this respect are the reactions of sulfenyl chlorides with secondary amines, which, with proper choice of the starting materials, lead to compounds with good fungicidal properties. The reactions of  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NSO}_2\text{N}(\text{C}_6\text{H}_5)\text{H}$ ,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NSO}_2\text{N}(p\text{-CH}_3\text{—C}_6\text{H}_4)\text{NH}$  (107), phthalimide (10, 108), and other secondary amines with the sulfenyl chlorides,  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SCl}$  (107) and  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CClSCl}$  (108), furnish sulfenyl amides of great effectiveness.

## II. Perfluorohalogenoorganosulfenyl Fluorides

### A. PREPARATION

Evidence for the existence of this type of compound appeared only in 1967. Seel, Gombler, and Budenz (145) reacted trihalomethanesulfenyl chlorides with active potassium fluoride (prepared through degradation of potassium fluorosulfinate) at 150°C in the gas phase:



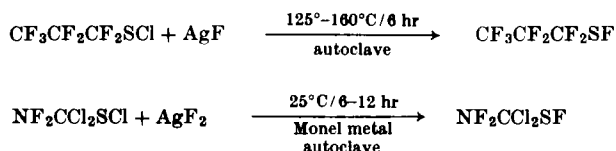
The products were identified by  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectroscopy. The chemical shifts  $\delta$  (using  $\text{CFCl}_3$  as an external standard) and spin-spin coupling constants  $J$  of liquid fluorides are listed in Table I. Compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}$

TABLE I  
CHEMICAL SHIFTS AND COUPLING CONSTANTS FOR LIQUID  
SULFENYL FLUORIDES

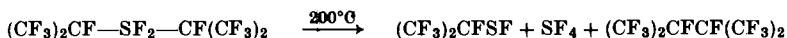
Compound	$\delta(\text{R}_t)$ (ppm)	$\delta(\text{SF})$ (ppm)	$J_{\text{F-F}}$ (Hz)
$\text{CCl}_3\text{SF}$	—	249	—
$\text{CFCl}_2\text{SF}$	31 (Doublet)	265 (Doublet)	4.85
$\text{CF}_2\text{ClSF}$	45 (Doublet)	297 (Triplet)	6.85
$\text{CF}_3\text{SF}$	58 (Doublet)	351 (Quartet)	27

could additionally be characterized by means of its infrared [ $\nu(\text{S—F}) = 808\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ] and mass spectra (among other fragments:  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}^+$ ,  $\text{CF}_3^+$ ,  $\text{SF}^+$ ) (144). The liquid product of the reaction between  $\text{CCl}_3\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{HgF}_2$  or  $\text{AgF}$ , formulated in a previous publication (102) as  $\text{CCl}_3\text{SF}$ , proved later to be the isomeric  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SCl}$  (73, 99, 150).

The best method for the preparation of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}$  is the reaction of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  with  $\text{HgF}_2$  in a nickel or platinum apparatus at  $130^\circ\text{C}$ , followed by removal of the reaction products by condensation in liquid nitrogen (144). Analogous reactions with metal fluorides lead to other sulfenyl fluorides (102, 189):

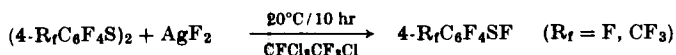


The compound isomeric with perfluoropropane-1-sulfenyl fluoride is formed by the pyrolysis of  $[(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CF}]_2\text{SF}_2$  (136):



Difluorodifluoroaminomethanesulfenyl fluoride,  $\text{NF}_2\text{CF}_2\text{SF}$ , is formed among other products by the fluorination of  $\text{AgSCN}$  or  $\text{KSCN}$  (32). Perfluorooctanesulfenyl fluoride,  $\text{CF}_3(\text{CF}_2)_7\text{SF}$ , is obtained by electrolytic fluorination of the appropriate thiol (152).

A further reaction of general importance, the cleavage of disulfanes by means of a fluorinating agent, provides in the case of perfluoroaryl disulfanes the sulfenyl fluorides in good yield (33):



## B. PROPERTIES

All compounds, except the slightly green  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CFSF}$ , are colorless liquids or colorless gases above their boiling points. The sulfenyl fluorides,  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SF}$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2, 3$ ), are stable for some time in the liquid phase at  $-50^\circ\text{C}$  and in the gaseous state at low pressures ( $\sim 10$  torr,  $20^\circ\text{C}$ ).

However, even at room temperature a fast isomerization takes place to sulfenyl chlorides containing the appropriately fluorinated trihalomethane:



The speed of the fluorine-chlorine exchange at the sulfur atom decreases with increasing degree of fluorination at the carbon atom (145). Compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}$  does not undergo exchange reactions at all; however, in the liquid phase it exists in equilibrium with the dimeric compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}_2\text{SCF}_3$ . Both the monomer and the dimer are converted in a matter of a few hours into  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}_3$ , particularly in the presence of potassium fluoride (144):



The  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}$  reacts with both base (e.g., Mg) and noble metals (e.g., Cu, Hg) to give the metal fluoride and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$ . Only pure nickel made inert by treatment with  $\text{SF}_4$  is somewhat stable toward  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}$  (144).

The dihalodifluoroaminomethanesulfonyl fluorides,  $\text{NF}_2\text{CX}_2\text{SF}$  ( $\text{X} = \text{Cl}, \text{F}$ ), are relatively stable substances. The dichloro compound is stable at  $20^\circ\text{C}$  toward isomerization and decomposition in metal containers; it reacts with oxygen to give  $\text{NF}_2\text{CCl}_2\text{S}(\text{O})\text{F}$  (189). On heating to  $100^\circ\text{C}$  in Pyrex containers, it decomposes to  $\text{SO}_2$ ,  $\text{FN}=\text{CCl}_2$ ,  $\text{SiF}_4$  and minor quantities of  $\text{NF}_2\text{CCl}_2\text{S}(\text{O})\text{F}$ . The difluoro compound hydrolyzes in water and bases and also shows oxidizing properties; in alcoholic solution iodine is liberated from an aqueous potassium iodide solution, sulfur being deposited at the same time (32).

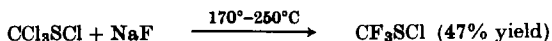
### III. Perfluorohalogenoorganosulfonyl Chlorides

#### A. PREPARATION

This class of compound has experienced considerable growth of interest in recent years through numerous new publications. Several common approaches for the preparation are discussed in the following.

##### 1. Fluorination with Metal Fluorides or HF

The reaction of  $\text{CCl}_3\text{SCl}$  with an alkali metal fluoride ( $\text{NaF}$ ) in a high-boiling polar solvent, e.g., tetramethylenesulfone or acetonitrile, leads in good yield to the important trifluoromethanesulfonyl chloride,  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  (158, 159):



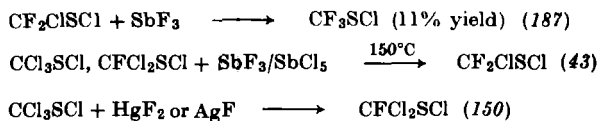
Among the by-products obtained in this reaction are minor quantities of  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClSCl}$  as well as the compounds  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}(\text{O})\text{F}$  (resulting from the reaction of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}_3$  and  $\text{SiO}_2$ ); this can be explained only by the intermediate formation of the acid fluoride,  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}$  (43). This compound disproportionates into  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}_3$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$ :



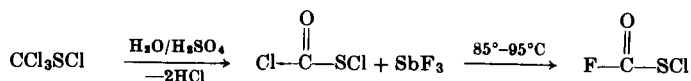
This indirect proof of the appearance of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SF}$  leads to the conclusion that fluorination of sulfonyl chlorides of the series  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SCl}$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2$ ) with alkali metal fluorides follows the mechanism observed in the formation of sulfonyl fluorides: the initial chlorine-fluorine exchange at the sulfur atom is followed by isomerization to the sulfonyl chloride containing the corresponding more highly fluorinated methyl group.

In accord with this mechanism, trichloromethanethiosulfonyl chloride,  $\text{CCl}_3\text{SSCl}$ , cannot be fluorinated under analogous reaction conditions (44). Plainly, the isomerization is here impossible on steric grounds because of the additional sulfur atom.

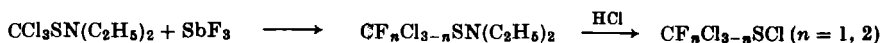
Further, the metal fluorides  $\text{SbF}_3$  (with admixture of small quantities of  $\text{SbCl}_5$ ),  $\text{HgF}_2$ , and  $\text{AgF}$  are also found suitable for the fluorination of sulfonyl halides, e.g.,



The bifunctional chlorocarbonylsulfonyl chloride, obtainable through partial hydrolysis of trichloromethanesulfonyl chloride (162), is fluorinated by  $\text{SbF}_3$  at the carbonyl group (66, 67):



On fluorinating  $\text{CCl}_3\text{SN}(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_2$  (prepared from  $\text{CCl}_3\text{SCl}$  and diethylamine) (185), a mixture of the mono- and difluoro compounds is obtained. The following cleavage with  $\text{HCl}$  provides the corresponding sulfonyl chlorides (128, 185):



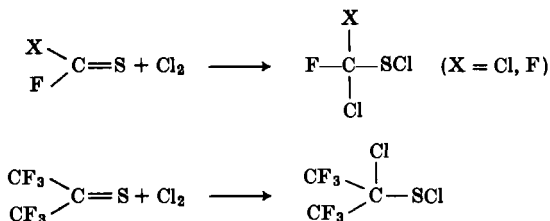
In a direct reaction of the amide with hydrogen fluoride only  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SCl}$  is obtained (128). This points again to an isomerization of the  $\text{CCl}_3\text{SF}$  formed initially. The reaction between  $\text{CCl}_3\text{SCl}$  and an excess of anhydrous hydrogen fluoride leads to the same product (128). This reaction is also feasible on a technical scale if the reagents are vigorously mixed and pressure as well as high temperature are applied. Under such conditions small quantities of  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClSCl}$  are also formed (109). According to a patented procedure (141), gas-phase fluorination with hydrogen fluoride at  $180^\circ\text{C}$  in the presence of a chromium oxide-fluoride catalyst [prepared by fluorination of chromium(III) hydroxide] furnishes  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  in 74% yield.

## 2. Addition of Chlorine or Chlorine Monofluoride to the $\text{C}=\text{S}$ Double Bond of Perhalogenothiocarbonyl Compounds

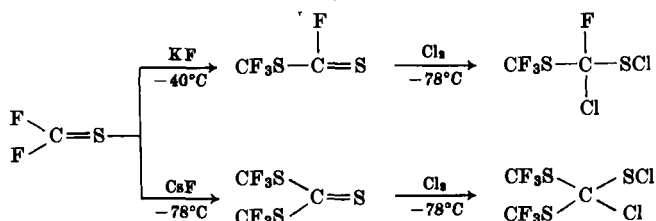
An important and widely applicable method for the synthesis of perfluorohalogenosulfonyl halides is based on the ability of the halogens

(Cl<sub>2</sub>, Br<sub>2</sub>) and interhalogen compounds (ClF) to add to C=S double bonds.

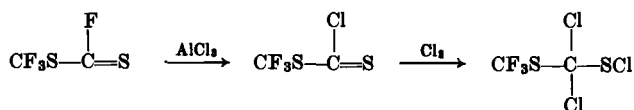
By this method of addition of chlorine to fluorothiocarbonyl chloride, thiocarbonyl difluoride (109), or hexafluorothioacetone (120), the respective sulfenyl chlorides are obtained:



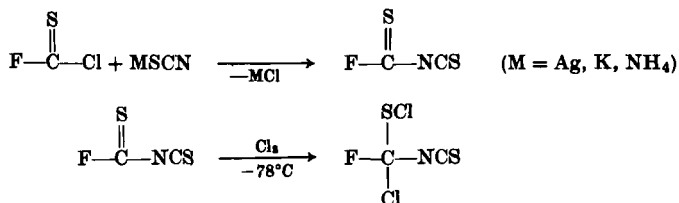
Analogously, it is possible to react the linear compounds CF<sub>3</sub>SC(X)S (X = F, SCF<sub>3</sub>), obtainable through catalytic dimerization or trimerization, in order to produce new sulfenyl chlorides (51, 53):



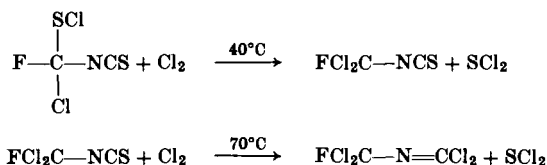
Trifluoromethylthiocarbonyl fluoride can be converted to the chloride by halogen exchange with aluminum trichloride. By chlorine addition this compound furnishes another sulfenyl chloride (55):



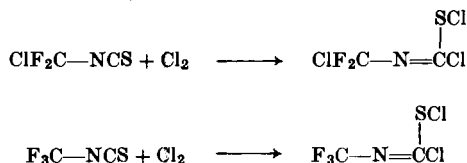
It is worth mentioning that fluorothiocarbonyl isothiocyanate, produced by the reaction of CSFCl with metal thiocyanates (52), combines with chlorine quantitatively at low temperatures at the C=S double bond, without suffering an attack on the isothiocyanate group (21):



Only at elevated temperatures is the isothiocyanate group also attacked by further addition of chlorine with simultaneous elimination of sulfur dichloride. It is thus converted into the isocyanide dichloride group, without isolation of an intermediate:

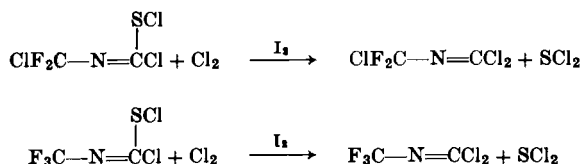


The more highly fluorinated isothiocyanates,  $\text{F}_2\text{ClC}-\text{NCS}$  and  $\text{F}_3\text{C}-\text{NCS}$ , even at  $80^\circ\text{C}$  with chlorine yield only the iminochloromethanesulfonyl chlorides (21):

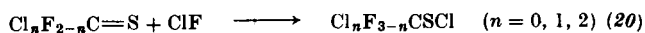


It may be assumed, therefore, that highly electronegative groups, such as  $\text{CF}_2\text{Cl}$  or  $\text{CF}_3$ , stabilize the imino compounds. Similar observations were made with aliphatic and aromatic iminochloromethanesulfonyl chlorides; the former are very unstable, but the latter are stable to some degree (190).

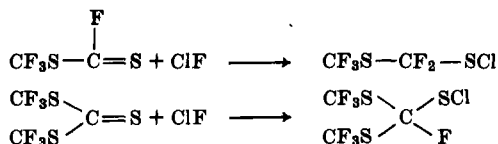
In the presence of catalytic quantities of iodine, chlorination again proceeds further to the isocyanide dichlorides (21):



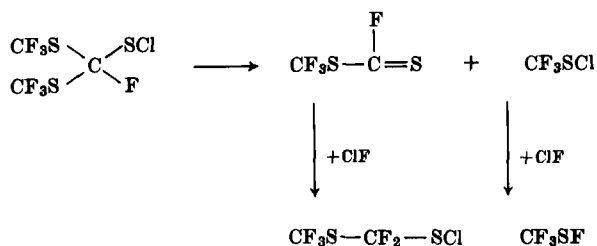
Chlorine monofluoride combines smoothly with thiocarbonyl compounds. For instance, the sulfonyl chlorides of the series  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}-\text{SCl}$  ( $n = 1, 2, 3$ ), which were already prepared by other methods, are obtained in good yield:



Addition of  $\text{ClF}$  to the dimeric and trimeric thiocarbonyl difluoride furnishes sulfonyl chlorides which were not accessible for a long time (20):



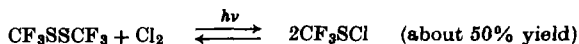
In the latter reaction, rather large quantities of the disulfane,  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CFSSCF}_3$ , are formed, as well as the decomposition products  $\text{CF}_3\text{SC}(\text{S})\text{F}$ ,  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$ , and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCF}_2\text{SCl}$ . Formation of these compounds is probably due to decomposition of the  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CFSCl}$  initially formed to  $\text{CF}_3\text{SC}(\text{S})\text{F}$  and to  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and the subsequent reactions with excess of  $\text{ClF}$ :



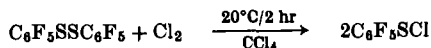
The relatively stable sulfenyl fluoride eventually combines in a competing reaction with unreacted  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{C}=\text{S}$  to give  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{C}(\text{F})\text{SSCF}_3$ .

### 3. Chlorolysis of Perfluorohalogenoorganodisulfanes

Chlorolysis of the corresponding disulfanes is a favorable procedure for the preparation of aliphatic, aromatic, and heterocyclic sulfenyl chlorides under not too demanding conditions [low temperature; mild chlorinating agents, such as  $\text{SO}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (14) or  $\text{CH}_3\text{SCl}_3$  (15)]. Perfluorinated sulfenyl chlorides can also be prepared by this procedure in special cases: a mixture of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  and chlorine reacts in a Pyrex Carius tube under UV irradiation to form sulfenyl chloride in an equilibrium reaction (84):

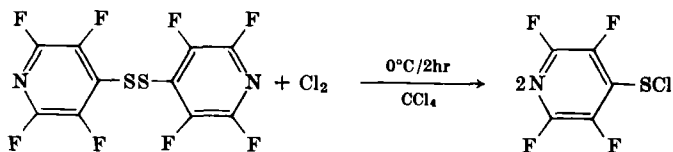


The chlorination of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{SSC}_6\text{F}_5$  in an inert solvent furnishes the perfluorobenzene sulfenyl chloride (137):

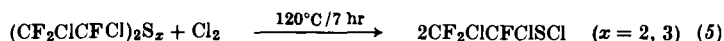
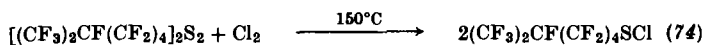
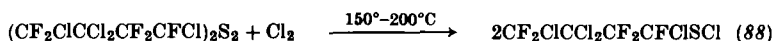
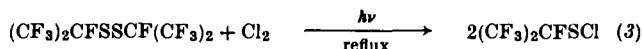
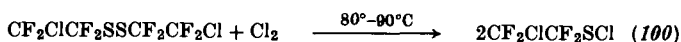
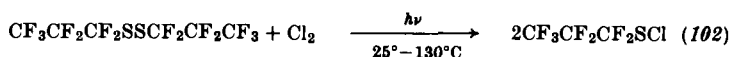


By passing an  $\text{HCl}$ -free stream of chlorine into a cooled solution of bis(2,3,5,6-tetrafluoropyridyl)disulfane, the sulfenyl chloride is obtained in 73% yield (6):



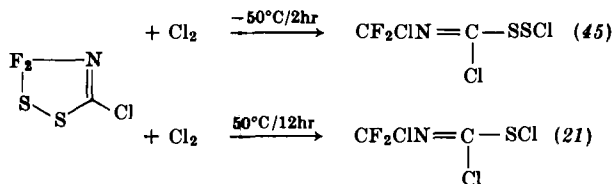


By the use of higher temperatures as well as by partial UV irradiation, it is possible to cleave the longer-chain disulfanes, e.g.,

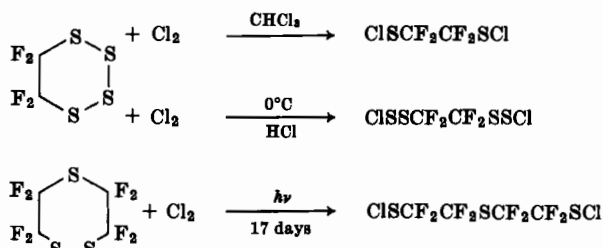


On heating the sulfane mixture  $[\text{C}_4\text{F}_9\text{CF}(\text{CF}_3)_2]_2\text{S}_n$  (average sulfur chain length  $n = 2.5$ ) with chlorine for 125 hr at  $105^\circ\text{C}$ , the perfluorohexane-2-sulfonyl chloride is formed in appreciable yield (86, 127). The patent literature (5, 19, 87-89, 127) abounds with long-chain sulfonyl chlorides prepared according to this latter procedure, but physical data are lacking.

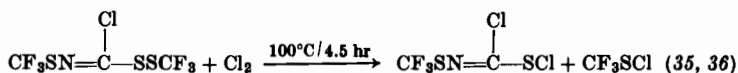
Cyclic disulfanes also undergo cleavage reactions. 5,5-Difluoro-3-chloro-1,2,4-dithiazole reacts with chlorine to give various sulfonyl chlorides depending on temperature:



Bifunctional sulfonyl chlorides are obtained in the reaction of 5,5,6,6-tetrafluoro-1,2,3,4-tetrathiane or perfluoro-1,2,5-trithiepane (104):



Cleavage with chlorine can also lead to the formation of fragments of different size, e.g.,

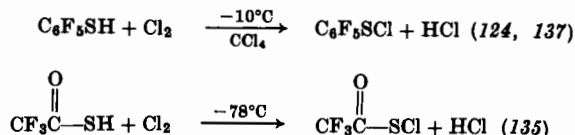


To some extent this reaction is followed by one yielding an isocyanide dichloride:



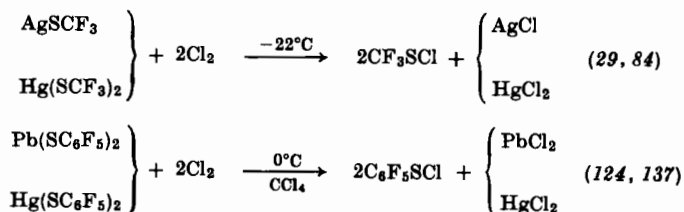
#### 4. Reactions of Perfluorohalogenoorganothiols or -mercaptides with Chlorine

Chlorination of thiols serves for the preparation of temperature-sensitive sulfenyl halides, since the main reaction products are easily separated from the side products by fractional condensation, e.g.,



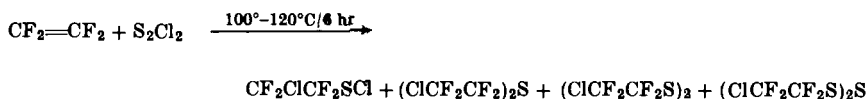
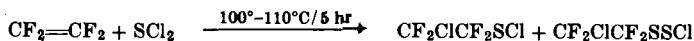
The reactions take place in several steps (115). First, the thiol is chlorinated to the appropriate sulfenyl chloride; then the latter reacts further with additional thiol to give the disulfane; finally, chlorolysis of the disulfane takes place.

A similar reaction occurs when heavy metal mercaptides are cleaved with chlorine, e.g.,

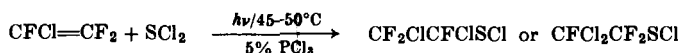
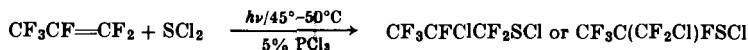


### 5. Photolytically Initiated Addition of Sulfur Chlorides to Perfluorohalogenoolefins

Addition of sulfur chlorides to perfluoroolefins furnishes a series of interesting sulfenyl chlorides (100):



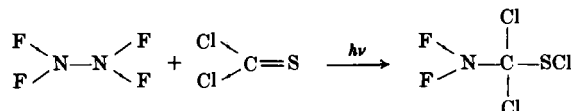
The reaction with  $\text{SCl}_2$  can be effected advantageously under UV irradiation in the presence of phosphorus trichloride (127), e.g.,



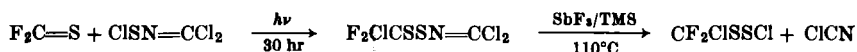
The mixture of isomers formed in any of these reactions could not be separated.

### 6. Other Reactions

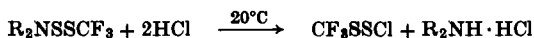
Photolysis of a mixture of  $\text{N}_2\text{F}_4$  and thiophosgene results in a remarkable addition; from a mixture of several compounds dichlorodifluoroaminomethanesulfenyl chloride can be separated (188):



Finally, it should be mentioned that in the meantime the series of the chlorodithioperfluorohalogenomethanes,  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SSCl}$  ( $n = 1, 2, 3$ ), has been completed, although by very different means:  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SSCl}$ , together with  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{S}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , can be obtained by chlorination of bis(fluorodichloro)methane polysulfides,  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{S}_n\text{CFCl}_2$  ( $n > 2$ ) (119). The polysulfides are produced by warming  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SCl}$  with sulfur, or, alternatively, as side products in the industrial synthesis of  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SCl}$  from  $\text{CCl}_3\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{HF}$  (109). Compound  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClSSCl}$  is formed in an attempt to fluorinate the isocyanide dichloride  $\text{F}_2\text{ClCSSN}=\text{CCl}_2$ ; the isocyanide dichloride is an addition product of thiocarbonyl difluoride and  $\text{ClSN}=\text{CCl}_2$  (35, 36):



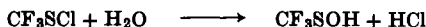
The mechanism of this reaction is unknown. Compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCl}$  can be prepared in 93% yield by splitting the disulfanes,  $\text{R}_2\text{NSSCF}_3$  ( $\text{R} = \text{CH}_3$ ,  $\text{C}_2\text{H}_5$ ), that are obtained from *N,N*-dialkylaminosulfenyl chloride and  $\text{Hg}(\text{SCF}_3)_2$ , with hydrogen chloride (16):



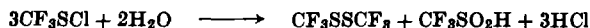
## B. PROPERTIES

The sulfenyl chlorides are yellow or slightly yellow colored liquids, with the exception of  $\text{C}_3\text{F}_7\text{SCl}$ , which is orange (102) and  $\text{ClSCF}_2\text{CF}_2\text{SCF}_2\text{CF}_2\text{SCl}$ , which is colorless (104). They are air-stable at room temperature. The photolysis by irradiation for 14 days of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  in a quartz tube leads to the formation of sulfur,  $\text{CF}_3\text{Cl}$ ,  $\text{S}_2\text{Cl}_2$ ,  $\text{SCl}_2$ , and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  (84). These compounds are water-stable for several hours at room temperature, but they are decomposed by bases (85). They are freely soluble in most organic solvents, but immiscible with water.

Hydrolysis, which has been extensively studied in the case of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  (85), is more complicated than implied by the equation



On shaking  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  with an excess of water for 3 hr at  $20^\circ\text{C}$ , the yellow coloration disappears. After additional shaking for 9 hr, 55–60%  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  and  $\text{COS}$  are obtained as well as  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_2\text{H}$ . The solution, when made alkaline, also contains fluoride ions, the concentration of which corresponds to a 6% hydrolysis. The formation of the compounds isolated is best interpreted by the equation:



However, on shaking  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  with water for 12 to 24 hr, starting with too little and gradually increasing the amount of water until a fourfold excess is present,  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSO}_2\text{CF}_3$  can also be isolated in an amount equivalent to that of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$ :



The alkaline hydrolysis with a 15%  $\text{NaOH}$  solution generally proceeds as follows:

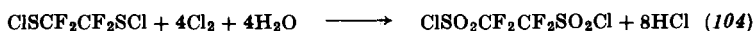
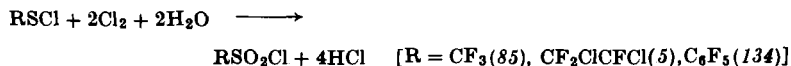


If the reaction is run at  $70^\circ\text{C}$ , then  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  hydrolyzes to sulfur,  $\text{S}^{2-}$ ,  $\text{F}^-$ , and  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ . At  $95^\circ\text{C}$  a complete hydrolysis of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_2\text{Na}$  takes place producing  $\text{CHF}_3$ .

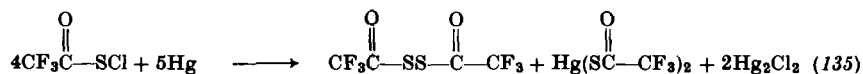
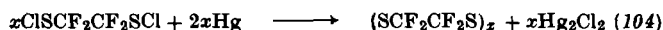
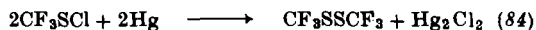
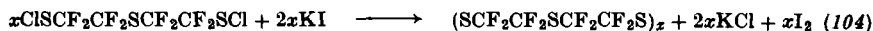
The hydrolysis of  $\text{CF}_3\text{—C(O)SCl}$  proceeds as follows (159):



Sulfenyl chlorides can be oxidized by means of chlorine water or hydrogen peroxide to sulfonyl chlorides:



On shaking sulfenyl chlorides with mercury or a solution of potassium iodide, disulfanes are produced:



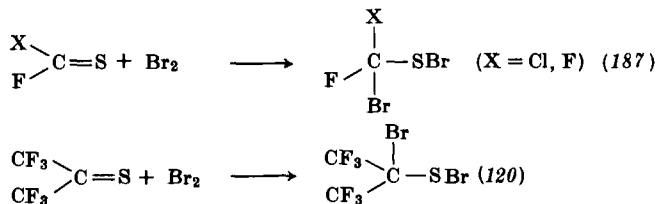
No reaction occurs between  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{CO}$  within 8 hr at  $100^\circ\text{C}$ . However, on irradiation of a mixture of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{CO}$  with Pyrex-filtered light ( $\lambda > 300 \text{ nm}$ ), predominantly  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  and  $\text{COCl}_2$  are formed, as well as minor amounts of  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{Cl}$  (157).

Investigations of the halogen exchange between solid  $\text{AgCl}$  and liquid sulfenyl chlorides of the type  $\text{R}_1\text{R}_2\text{R}_3\text{CSCl}$  ( $\text{R}_1, \text{R}_2, \text{R}_3 = \text{F}, \text{Cl}, \text{CF}_3, \text{CF}_3\text{S}$ ) with the aid of radioactive  $^{36}\text{Cl}$  (12) indicate that highly electronegative substituents induce polarization of the  $\text{S}-\text{Cl}$  bond and thereby increase the heterolytic reactivity of this bond.

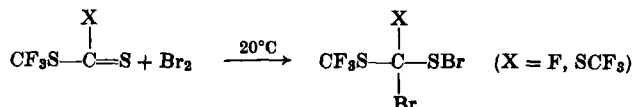
#### IV. Perfluorohalogenoorganosulfenyl Bromides

Relatively few perfluorohalogenoalkanesulfenyl bromides are presently known. These are orange-to-red colored substances which are prepared with difficulty and are too unstable to arouse interest. Apart from a few specific syntheses they may be obtained by the methods used for the preparation of sulfenyl chlorides.

Thiocarbonyl compounds add bromine to the  $\text{C}=\text{S}$  double bond, e.g.,

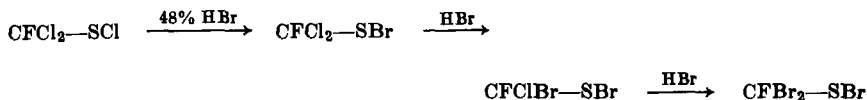


Dimeric and trimeric thiocarbonyl fluorides react in the same manner (53):



Compound  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CBrSBr}$  could not be obtained in the pure state:  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra have shown that in this case an equilibrium reaction takes place, which moves to the right only to the extent of 90%.

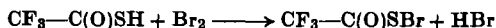
A chlorine-bromine exchange in fluorodichloromethanesulfonyl chloride by means of hydrogen bromide provides a route to additional sulfonyl bromides (109). After the initial halogen exchange at the sulfur, further addition of hydrogen bromide causes stepwise substitution at the methyl group:



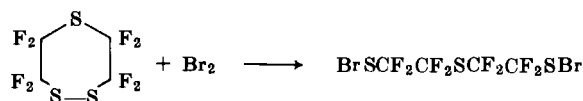
Several methods are available for the synthesis of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SBr}$ . Either  $\text{CF}_2\text{BrSBr}$  is fluorinated at  $100^\circ\text{C}$  with antimony trifluoride (186) or  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  is reacted with bromine cyanide over activated carbon at  $70^\circ\text{C}$  (36). Apart from that it is obtained always contaminated with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  in the reaction between  $\text{Hg}(\text{SCF}_3)_2$  and bromine (31) these compounds react at  $0^\circ\text{C}$  to give a mixture composed of 55%  $\text{CF}_3\text{SBr}$  and 45%  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$ .

The complete disproportionation of  $\text{CF}_3\text{S(O)Br}$  to  $\text{CF}_3\text{SBr}$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_2\text{Br}$  can also be regarded as a method for synthesizing  $\text{CF}_3\text{SBr}$ , since it can easily be separated from the sulfonyl bromide (131).

Trifluoroacetylsulfonyl bromide is obtained in a way analogous to that for the corresponding sulfonyl chloride, by bromination of the thiol (135):



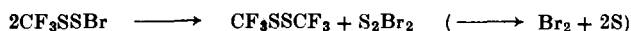
Bromine, too, causes the fission of cyclic sulfanes (104), e.g.,



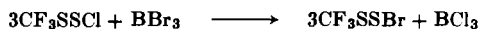
Like  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCl}$ , although in lower yield,  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSBr}$  can be prepared, by fission of the S—N bond in *N,N*-dialkylaminotrifluoromethyl disulfanes with HBr (16):



The decrease in yield can be accounted for by partial decomposition of the quite unstable  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSBr}$ :



Bromination of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCl}$  with boron tribromide proceeds considerably better:

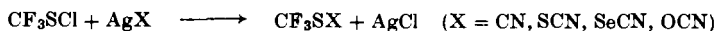


From this reaction  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSBr}$  can be isolated in 65% yield.

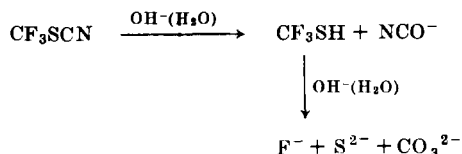
## V. Reactions of Perfluorohalogenoorganosulfenyl Halides and Related Reactions

### A. WITH PSEUDOHALIDES

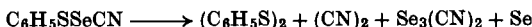
The reaction of perfluorohalogenoalkanesulfenyl halides with silver pseudohalides leads to a group of compounds capable of undergoing a host of chemical changes. The first substances prepared in this way were the derivatives of trifluoromethanesulfenyl chloride (28):



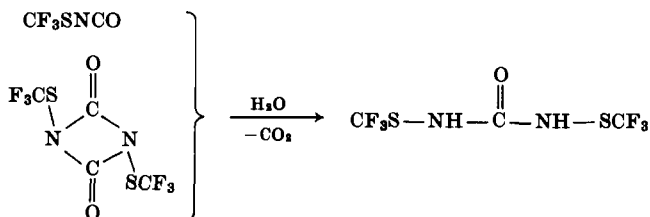
The thiocyanate is stable toward water for some period of time. However, the alkaline hydrolysis, in analogy with normal thiocyanates (156), causes rapid decomposition. Intermediates  $\text{CF}_3\text{SH}$  and  $\text{HNCO}$  are formed through cleavage of the  $\text{CF}_3\text{S—C}$  bond, but whereas the cyanate remains intact, the trifluoromethanethiol hydrolyzes further (85):



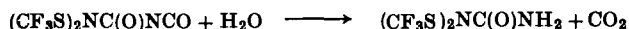
The thermally unstable  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCN}$  decomposes readily at room temperature within a few minutes to  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  and polythiocyanate (85, 116, 117). The selenocyanate, on the other hand, is stable up to  $300^\circ\text{C}$  and its decomposition at  $500^\circ\text{C}$  yields selenium quantitatively. By contrast, phenylsulfenylselenocyanate decomposes readily at  $175^\circ\text{C}$  according to the equation:



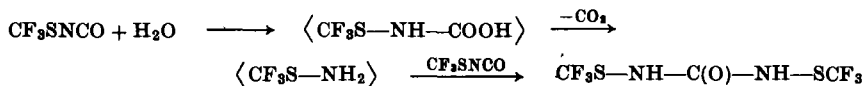
The isocyanate has been investigated more intensively than the other pseudohalides (39). In its preparation from  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{AgOCN}$ , the linear dimeric  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{NC(O)NCO}$  is also formed in 25% yield, besides  $\text{CF}_3\text{SNCO}$  (75%). A cyclic dimer is obtained by heating the monomer to  $100^\circ\text{C}$  for several hours. As has been shown in spectroscopic investigations (24, 40), it has the structure of a planar uretidine-1,3-dione ring with *trans*- $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  groups. Hydrolysis of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SNCO}$  and of uretidine-1,3-dione furnishes a symmetrically disubstituted urea and carbon dioxide:



By contrast, the linear dimer gives an unsymmetrically substituted urea:



Hydrolysis of the monomer also furnishes symmetrically disubstituted urea, in contrast to that of  $\text{CF}_3\text{NCO}$  (7):



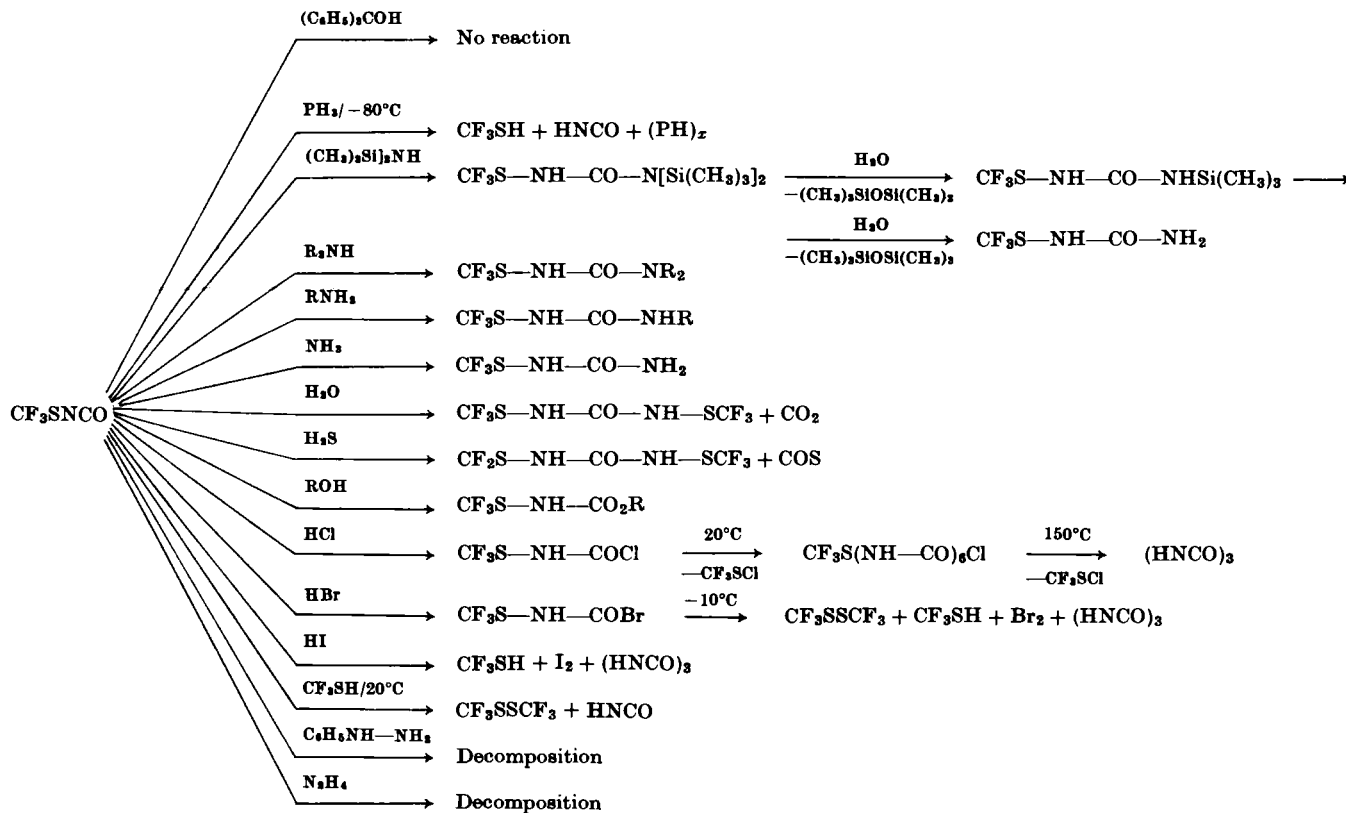
The IR spectra of the  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  derivatives of urea, as well as of the deuterated compound, have been discussed at great length (71).

In the presence of catalytic quantities of anhydrous sodium acetate, the cyclic trimer, tris(trifluoromethylmercapto) isocyanurate, is obtained at  $100^\circ\text{C}$  (28, 40).

Compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{SNCO}$  undergoes further reactions typical of organic isocyanates with hydrogen halides (41), amines (28), and other species (39, 69), as is shown in Table II.



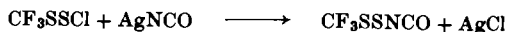
TABLE II  
REACTION OF  $\text{CF}_3\text{SNCO}$  WITH VARIOUS COMPOUNDS



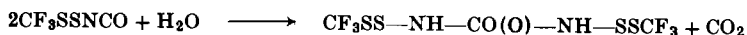


The chemical behavior of the cyclic dimer is quite analogous to that of other uretidine diones (69). Some characteristic reactions are summarized in Table III. As can be seen in Table III the mechanism of the reactions with ammonia and hydrogen chloride is not quite clear. The isolated products can be obtained either via a uretidine-dione or via a linear intermediate.

In the reaction of trifluoromethylmercaptosulfenyl chloride with AgNCO the formation of only the monomeric isocyanate is observed (in 87% yield) (16):

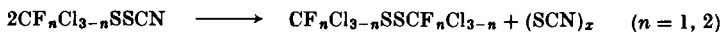


The additional sulfur atom seems to reduce the reactivity of the S—Cl bond to nucleophilic attack only to a slight extent. Hydrolysis yields, here too, the symmetrically disubstituted *N,N'*-bis(trifluoromethylmercaptosulfenyl) urea:



Difluorochloro- and fluorodichloromethanesulfenyl chlorides react directly with AgOCN to give the monomeric isocyanates,  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClSNCO}$  and  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SNCO}$ , whereas in benzene solution the corresponding isocyanurates are formed (61). Freshly prepared  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClSNCO}$  either trimerizes or dimerizes to a uretidine dione within a month when kept at 20°C.

The sulfenylthiocyanates  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClSSCN}$  and  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SSCN}$  are formed as monomers in benzene but are very unstable and decompose readily to the disulfane and polythiocyanate:

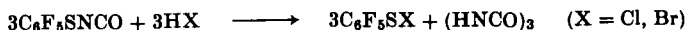


Compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{S—CFCl—SCl}$  (53) reacts with AgCN, AgSCN, and AgOCN to give the corresponding pseudohalides, which differ only very slightly in their chemical properties from the respective  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{S}$  derivatives. It is noteworthy that  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CCl—SCl}$  does not react under any circumstances with metal pseudohalides; by contrast,  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CCl—SCl}$  (120) yields the compounds  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CCl—SCN}$  and  $(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{CCl—SSCN}$ . The sulfenylthiocyanate is remarkably stable: even at 135°C no polythiocyanate separates out.

Pentafluorobenzene sulfenyl chloride,  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{SCl}$ , forms a very stable thiocyanate, as well as the compounds  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{SSCN}$  (a yellow polymeric substance of variable composition) and  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{SSeCN}$  (decomposes quantitatively at 50°C), neither of which could be isolated in the pure state at room temperature (124).

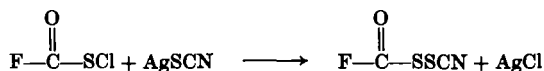
The isocyanate prepared in benzene solution (123, 124) consists, according to osmometric measurements, of a mixture of the dimer and

trimer. It does not react with compounds containing active hydrogen through addition to the  $N=C$  double bond, but, instead, through the formation of a sulfenyl halide and cyanuric acid:

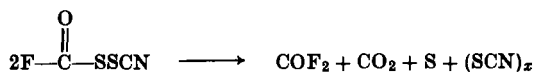


The mass spectrum shows the molecular ion of the monomer only; the  $C_6F_5S^+$  ion is also present in relatively high intensity. These findings suggest that the  $S-N$  bond in the polymeric  $C_6F_5SNCO$  is very weak and consequently the compound depolymerizes quite readily.

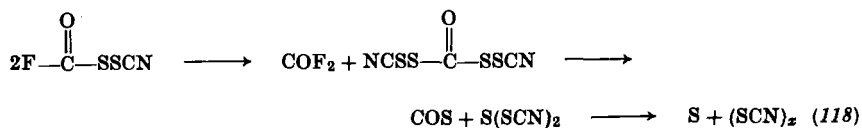
When reacting fluorocarbonyl sulfenyl chloride with silver pseudohalides (66, 67), it is observed that it reacts only monofunctionally in contrast to the bifunctional chloro compound, e.g.,



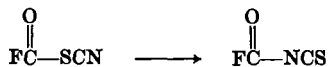
The sulfenyl thiocyanate is unstable and decomposes at  $20^\circ C$  within a few days in a remarkable way:



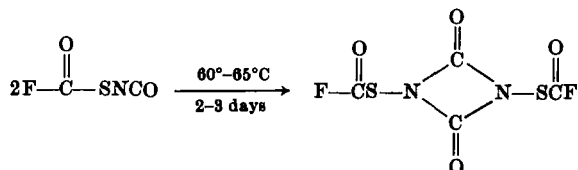
Presumably  $COF_2$  is split off initially from 2 moles of sulfenylthiocyanate and the remaining decomposition products are formed in additional intermediate steps:



Of interest is the reaction with silver cyanide: at low temperatures ( $-80^\circ C$ ) the thiocyanate forms initially and then, as shown by  $^{19}F$  NMR measurements, it undergoes a slow transmutation at  $30^\circ C$  into the isothiocyanate (67):

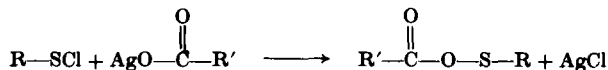


Compound  $FC(O)SNCO$  shows the well-known chemical properties of an isocyanate; it also dimerizes to a uretidine dione:

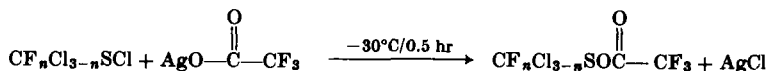
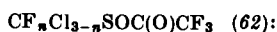


## B. WITH SILVER PERFLUOROHALOGENOCARBOXYLATES

In the reaction of sulfenyl chlorides with silver carboxylates mixed anhydrides are formed; they are known as sulfenyl carboxylates (90, 130):



The reaction of sulfenyl chlorides,  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SCl}$  ( $n = 1, 2, 3$ ) with silver trifluoroacetate furnishes stable halogenated sulfenyl carboxylates of the general formula



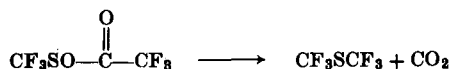
These colorless liquids are stable indefinitely at room temperature.

Trifluoromethanesulfenyl trifluoroacetate decomposes after a short time on irradiation with UV light to the symmetrical anhydrides  $[\text{CF}_3\text{C}(\text{O})]_2\text{O}$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SOSCF}_3$ ; the latter is unstable and disproportionates:

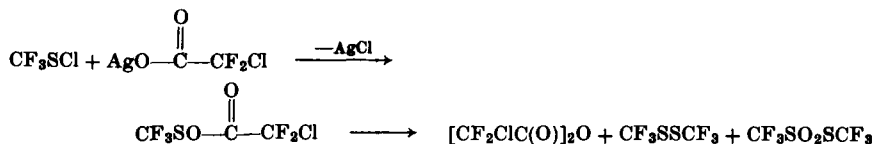


By contrast,  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClSOC}(\text{O})\text{CF}_3$ , and  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SOC}(\text{O})\text{CF}_3$  decarboxylate after a short UV irradiation with formation of the sulfanes,  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClSCF}_3$  (154) and  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SCF}_3$  (62), respectively.

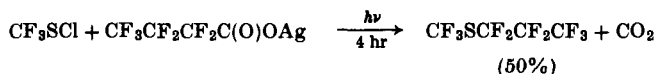
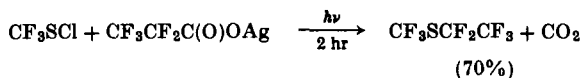
Thermal decomposition at  $170^\circ\text{C}$  (2 days) of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SOC}(\text{O})\text{CF}_3$  proceeds also with splitting off of  $\text{CO}_2$ :



If a chlorine atom is substituted for a fluorine atom in the acetate, the corresponding sulfenyl carboxylate cannot be isolated; instead, only decomposition products are obtained:

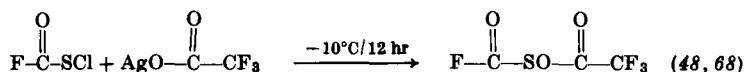


The reaction of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  with silver salts of higher perfluorocarboxylic acids likewise does not lead to sulfenyl carboxylates, but to the carboxylic anhydride,  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_2\text{SCF}_3$  (62). However, upon irradiation of the reaction mixture with UV light, without attempting to isolate the sulfenyl carboxylate, the corresponding sulfanes are obtained (139):



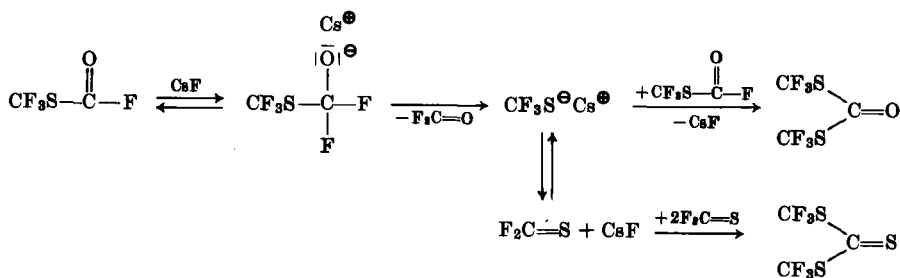
These examples show unmistakably that the substituent at the carboxyl group also influences the stability of the sulfenyl carboxylate.

Fluorocarbonylsulfenyl chloride reacts in the following manner with silver trifluoroacetate:



The sulfenyl carboxylate is, on complete exclusion of moisture, a stable, colorless liquid, which on irradiation with UV light decomposes to  $\text{FC}(\text{O})\text{SCF}_3$  and  $\text{CO}_2$ . The sulfane is a good starting material for the synthesis of additional perfluoro compounds: By means of fluorine-chlorine substitution with  $\text{BCl}_3$  ( $20^\circ\text{C}$ , 2 days), it is possible to obtain  $\text{ClC}(\text{O})\text{SCF}_3$ , whose existence previously could be shown only by mass spectrometric study of the products of irradiation of a mixture of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{CO}$  (157). As an acid chloride,  $\text{ClC}(\text{O})\text{SCF}_3$  can be esterified with alcohols, but hydrolysis to the free acid fails.

Treatment of  $\text{FC}(\text{O})\text{SCF}_3$  with  $\text{CsF}$  affords bis(trifluoromethyl)-dithiocarbonate,  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CO}$ , with the evolution of  $\text{COF}_2$ ;  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CS}$  is also formed as a by-product. The following reaction mechanism explains the formation of the products isolated:

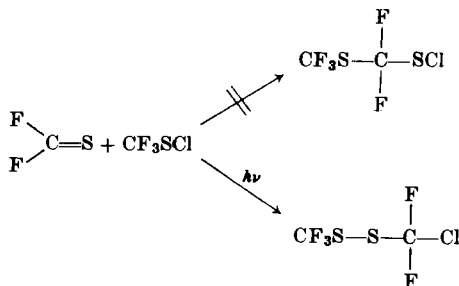


The primary step in this reaction scheme—the addition of alkali metal fluorides to  $\text{C}=\text{O}$  double bonds—was first observed with perfluorocarbonyl fluorides and hexafluoroacetone (132).

## C. WITH PERFLUOROHALOGENOTHIOKETONES

Addition of halogens or interhalogens to perfluorohalogenothioketones, as already described, represents an important method for the preparation of complex sulfenyl halides.

In an attempt to add sulfenyl halides to the  $C=S$  double bond, only the unsymmetrical disulfanes are formed, instead of mercapto-substituted sulfenyl halides (54, 56, 72), e.g.,



This reaction has been carefully studied since the well-known syntheses of perhalogenated disulfanes have always led to symmetric products.

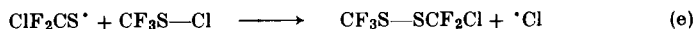
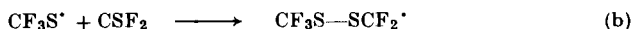
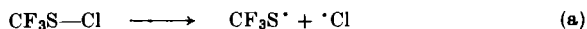
Various factors suggest a free-radical mechanism:

1. Sulfenyl halides do not react with thiocarbonyls unless irradiated with UV light.

2. Compounds such as  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  decompose when irradiated (84):

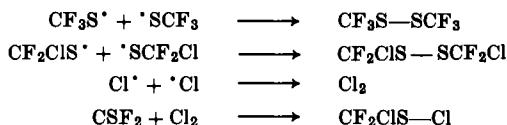


3. There are always products present that are formed through the combination of two  $\text{R}_f\text{S}$  radicals. For example, the reaction of  $\text{CSF}_2$  with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  proceeds by the following photochemical mechanism (84):

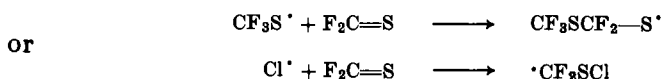


According to the first reaction, the  $\text{S}-\text{Cl}$  bond is homolytically cleaved. The radicals thus formed react [Eqs. (b) and (d)] to give the precursor of the end product, which is produced according to Eqs. (c) and (e) together with the newly formed radicals of reaction (a). The appearance of the free radicals  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}^\bullet$ ,  $\text{Cl}^\bullet$ , and  $\text{ClF}_2\text{CS}^\bullet$  is supported by the presence

of the by-products  $\text{CF}_3\text{S—SCF}_3$ ,  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClS—SCF}_2\text{Cl}$ , and  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClS—Cl}$ , as proved unequivocally by the  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectrum. The following equations illustrate the method of their formation:



Since no compound is found of the formula  $\text{CF}_3\text{S—SCF}_2\text{Cl}$ , it is unlikely that  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}^\cdot$  and  $\text{Cl}^\cdot$  react according to



Other disulfanes can be prepared similarly, as summarized in Table IV. The yields are substantially higher when sulfenyl halides of the formula  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SX}$  ( $\text{X} = \text{Cl}, \text{Br}$ ) are reacted. Within a homologous series the

TABLE IV  
PREPARATION OF DISULFANE COMPOUNDS

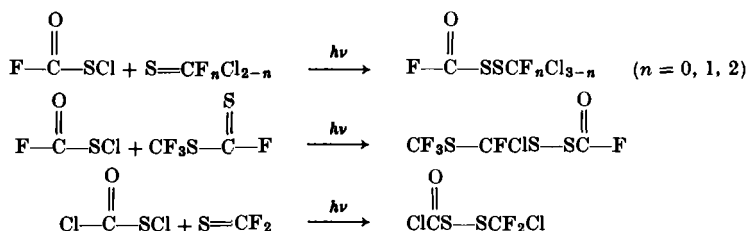
Disulfane	Starting materials		Reaction time (hr)	Yield (%)
	Thiocarbonyl compound	Sulfenyl halide		
$\text{CF}_3\text{S—SCF}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{CSF}_2$	$\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$	0.3	67
$\text{CF}_3\text{S—SCFCl}_2$	$\text{CSFCl}$	$\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$	36	56
$\text{CF}_2\text{ClS—SCFCl}_2$	$\text{CSF}_2$	$\text{CFCl}_2\text{SCl}$	20	62
$\text{CF}_2\text{BrS—SCF}_2\text{Br}$	$\text{CSF}_2$	$\text{CF}_2\text{BrSBr}$	0.3	100
$\text{CF}_2\text{BrS—SCBrClF}$	$\text{CSF}_2$	$\text{CFClBrSBr}$	2	78
$\text{CFClBrS—SCBrClF}$	$\text{CSFCl}$	$\text{CFClBrSBr}$	6	75
$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CClFS—SCF}_3$	$\text{CF}_3\text{SC(S)F}$	$\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$	24	29
$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CCl}_2\text{S—SCF}_3$	$\text{CF}_3\text{SC(S)Cl}$	$\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$	24	24
$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CClFS—SCF}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{CSF}_2$	$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CClFSCl}$	16	33
$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CClFS—SCFCl}_2$	$\text{CSFCl}$	$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CClFSCl}$	22	60.5
$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CCl}_2\text{S—SCF}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{CSF}_2$	$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CCl}_2\text{SCl}$	71	32.6
$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CCl}_2\text{S—SCFCl}_2^a$	$\text{CSFCl}$	$\text{CF}_3\text{S—CCl}_2\text{SCl}$	62	—
$(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{—CClS—SCF}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{CSF}_2$	$(\text{CF}_3)_2\text{—CClSCl}$	9	25
$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFS—SCF}_2\text{Cl}$	$\text{CSF}_2$	$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFSCl}$	4	30
$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFS—SCFCl}_2$	$\text{CSFCl}$	$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFSCl}$	150	25
$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFS—SCCl}_3$	$\text{CSCl}_2$	$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFSCl}$	250	15
$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFS—SCFCl—SCF}_3$	$\text{CF}_3\text{SC(S)F}$	$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFSCl}$	150	25
$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFS—SCCl}_2\text{—SCF}_3$	$\text{CF}_3\text{SC(S)Cl}$	$(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{—CFSCl}$	150	20

<sup>a</sup> This compound was not obtained in the pure state.

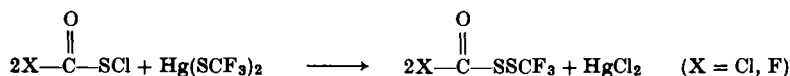


reactions become faster with increasing degree of fluorination of the starting compound.

The same reaction can also be applied to halogenocarbonylsulfenyl chlorides and affords perhalogenated disulfanes with interesting functional groups (68):

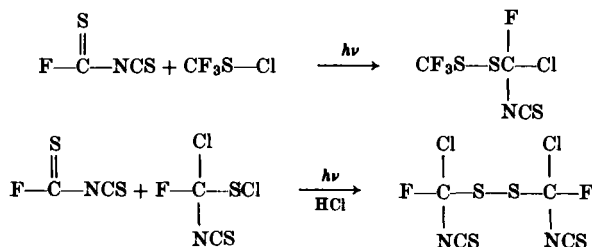


Compound  $\text{ClC}(\text{O})\text{SSCCl}_3$  is obtained from  $\text{FC}(\text{O})\text{SSCCl}_3$  through fluorine-chlorine exchange with  $\text{BCl}_3$ ;  $\text{ClC}(\text{O})\text{SSCF}_3$  and  $\text{FC}(\text{O})\text{SSCF}_3$  are formed as follows:



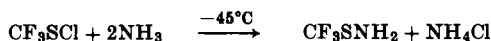
In the homologous series  $\text{ClC}(\text{O})\text{SSCF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}$  ( $n = 0-3$ ), compound  $\text{ClC}(\text{O})\text{SSCFCl}_2$  is missing: it cannot be synthesized either directly from  $\text{ClC}(\text{O})\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{CSFCl}$  nor through halogen exchange in  $\text{FC}(\text{O})\text{SSCFCl}_2$ , since in this case the fluorine atom of the halomethyl group is also exchanged (48).

The fluorothiocarbonyl isothiocyanates may also be reacted successfully in place of the thiocarbonyl compounds (21), e.g.,



#### D. WITH AMMONIA, PRIMARY AND SECONDARY AMINES, AND AMIDES

In the reaction between stoichiometric quantities of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and ammonia in a Carius tube at low temperature the trifluoromethyl-mercaptoamine is formed (30):

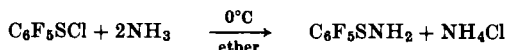


This reaction can also be carried out in an autoclave at  $10^\circ\text{C}$  (70) or, in high yield, by introducing  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  into liquid ammonia at  $-80^\circ\text{C}$  (64, 70).

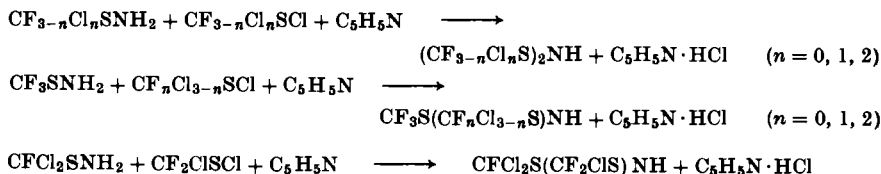
The mixed amines,  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SNH}_2$  ( $n = 1, 2$ ), are synthesized from the corresponding sulfenyl chlorides and ammonia at  $-60^\circ\text{C}$  with the use of a perhalogenated solvent (58):



The corresponding pentafluorobenzene derivative is obtained by adding the sulfenyl chloride dropwise to a saturated solution of ammonia in diethyl ether (138):

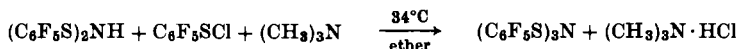


A more complete substitution of the trihalomethylmercaptoamines is achieved most readily at  $-60^\circ\text{C}$  in *n*-pentane or  $\text{CFCl}_3$  solution in the presence of pyridine as an  $\text{HCl}$  acceptor and with an additional mole of sulfenyl chloride (58):

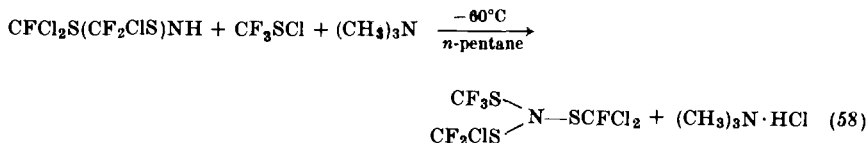


Compound  $(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{S})_2\text{NH}$  too, like the monosubstituted amine, is obtained by adding  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{SCl}$  dropwise to a solution of  $\text{NH}_3$  in ether (138). In this case the concentration of ammonia is kept slightly lower. This compound is also formed as the sole product of the direct reaction of  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{SCl}$  and ammonia in a Carius tube (123).

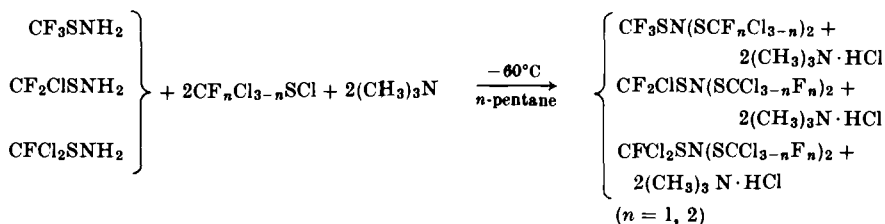
All bis(mercapto)amines can be converted into the corresponding tris(mercapto)amines in the presence of, for example, trimethylamine as  $\text{HCl}$  acceptor. In this way it is possible to prepare  $(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{S})_3\text{N}$  from  $(\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{S})_2\text{NH}$  and  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{SCl}$  (138):



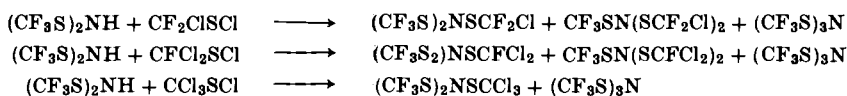
A trihalomercaptoamine with three different substituents is formed as follows:



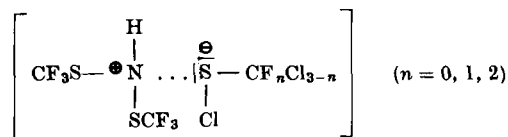
For the synthesis of other triply sulfenylated amines, it is best to start with the primary ones:



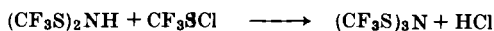
In an attempt to prepare tris(mercapto)amines of the type  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{NSCF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2$ ) from  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{NH}$  and the appropriate sulfenyl chloride, it was observed that, besides the expected bis(trifluoromethylmercapto)derivatives, other products were also formed (57):



A comparison of yields showed that formation of  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_3\text{N}$  is favored with growing degree of chlorination of the sulfenyl chlorides, whereas the nucleophilic substitution at the sulfenyl sulfur is reduced by the imide nitrogen. It is, therefore, to be assumed that with increasing content of chlorine, the elimination of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  rather than  $\text{HCl}$  from the intermediate is favored on energetic and steric grounds:

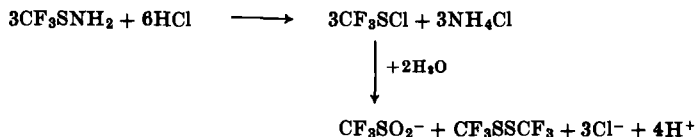


The  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  thus formed affords in the competing reaction

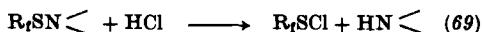


tris(trifluoromethylmercapto)amine, whereas the intermediate  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})\text{NH}(\text{SCF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n})$  reacts either with  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SCl}$  to give  $\text{CF}_3\text{SN}(\text{SCF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n})_2$  or with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  to give  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{NSCF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}$ .

All amines so far prepared are stable toward humid air; they are also rather insensitive toward hydrolysis, as can be demonstrated by the reaction of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SNH}_2$  with water (30). However, alkaline and acid aqueous solutions completely destroy these molecules. In hydrochloric acid,  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  are formed initially from  $\text{CF}_3\text{SNH}_2$ ;  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  then reacts further:

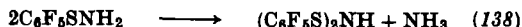


The  $\text{R}_f\text{SN}$  compounds react quite readily with hydrogen chloride through fission of the S—N bond; in this reaction the electronegative chlorine moves to the electropositive sulfur and the proton joins the negative nitrogen:

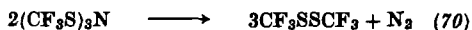


Compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{SNH}_2$  is incompletely decomposed by bases at  $20^\circ\text{C}$  to give  $\text{F}^-$ ,  $\text{CO}_3^{2-}$ ,  $\text{S}^{2-}$ ,  $\text{NH}_3$ , and  $\text{CHF}_3$ ; at  $75^\circ\text{C}$ , however, hydrolysis is complete, and the products contain additionally sulfur, but no  $\text{CHF}_3$  (30). Compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{SNH}_2$  is not stable towards UV light and the products of irradiation include  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$ ,  $\text{NH}_4\text{F}$ ,  $\text{NH}_4\text{SCN}$ , and hydrazinium fluoride. It is to be assumed that the initial step of the photolysis is the homolytic fission of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SNH}_2$  to  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}^\bullet$  and  $^\bullet\text{NH}_2$ .

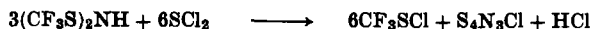
Compound  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{SNH}_2$  is not very stable and decomposes in a short time:



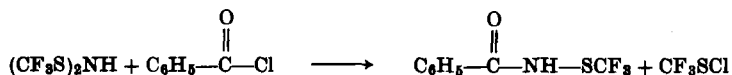
Compound  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_3\text{N}$  even if it contains only minor impurities decomposes quantitatively when heated under reflux:



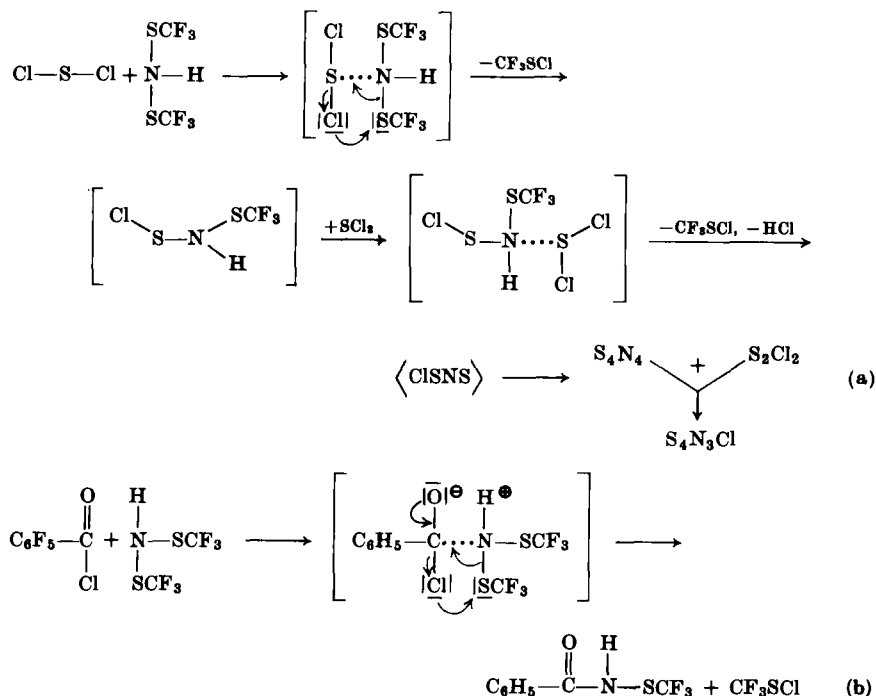
Condensation reactions of  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{NH}$  have been thoroughly studied (57): with  $\text{SCl}_2$  compound  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{NSN}(\text{SCF}_3)_2$  is not formed—in analogy with the formation of  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{NSN}(\text{CH}_3)_2$  from dimethylamine (11)—but rather  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$ , among other compounds, is obtained:



The reaction with benzoyl chloride proceeds like a substitution reaction:

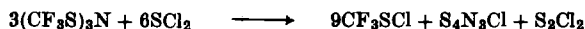


In both cases it may be assumed that the electron-withdrawing effect of both  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  groups lowers the nucleophilic character of the imide nitrogen to such an extent that it is no longer able to attack—as is the rule with amines—the electrophilic reaction partner (sulfur or carbonyl carbon), but instead forms a weak bond with it. From this intermediate, as is the case with the reactions of  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SCl}$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2$ ), compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and the substitution product can be formed as shown in Scheme 1.



SCHEME 1

These same considerations apply to the reaction of  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_3\text{N}$  with  $\text{SCl}_2$ :



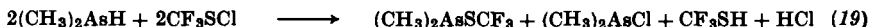
The disubstituted amines form with pyridine and trimethylamine 1:1 adducts, the stability of which increases with the degree of fluorination (59).

Thus, for example,  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{NH} \cdot \text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{NH} \cdot \text{NC}_5\text{H}_5$  are stable and can be distilled without decomposition; similarly  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}(\text{CF}_2\text{ClS})_2\text{NH} \cdot \text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_3$  and  $(\text{CF}_2\text{ClS})_2\text{NH} \cdot \text{NC}_5\text{H}_5$  are also stable. For the higher chlorinated  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}(\text{CFCl}_2\text{S})\text{NH}$ , the pyridine adduct only is stable up to  $0^\circ\text{C}$ .

Condensation reactions between perfluorohalogenosulfenyl chlorides and amides as well as primary and secondary amines have been thoroughly investigated. Compounds  $\text{RNH}_2$  and  $\text{RR}'\text{NH}$  react with sulfenyl chlorides in the presence of an excess of the amine to give  $\text{RN(H)SR}_f$  or  $\text{RR}'\text{NSR}_f$ , respectively. Amides condense only in the presence of a tertiary amine, such as  $(\text{CH}_3)_3\text{N}$ ,  $(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_3\text{N}$ , or pyridine. These reactions can be performed in inert organic solvents but afford just as satisfactory yields without any solvent. Substances synthesized up to the present, as well as their physical data and biological activity, have been summarized (42).

#### E. WITH ARSINES, ALCOHOLS, THIOALCOHOLS, SULFINATES, AND CARBONYL COMPOUNDS

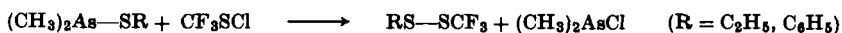
Perfluorohalogenoalkanesulfenyl halides readily undergo condensation reactions with numerous types of compounds; this is due to their polarization  $\text{R}_f\text{S}^{\delta+}-\text{Hal}^{\delta-}$  caused by the strong electron-withdrawing action of the fluorine atoms. Thus, the reaction of dimethylarsine with trifluoromethanesulfenyl chloride affords  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{AsSCF}_3$ ,  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{AsCl}$ , and trifluoromethanethiol:



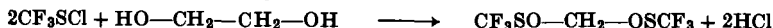
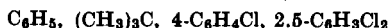
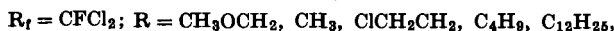
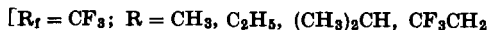
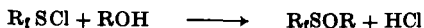
Tetramethyldiarsine is cleaved by  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  at the As—As bond:



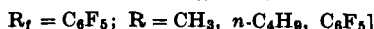
Compounds containing As—S bonds react similarly:



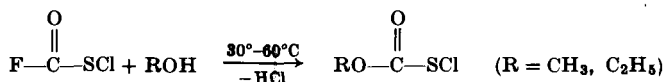
The reaction with hydrogen sulfide leads to the formation of trisulfanes (84). Condensations with alcohols proceed very smoothly to thioperoxides (3, 110):



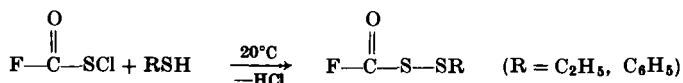
and those with thiols to disulfanes (4, 19, 84, 110, 123):



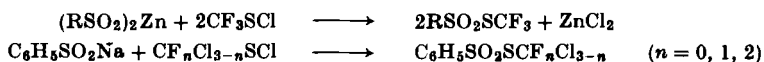
In all these reactions, HCl acceptors, such as pyridine (3) or triethylamine (110), are used. In this respect fluorocarbonylsulfenyl chloride behaves quite extraordinarily (48): with alcohols it reacts at the fluorocarbonyl group with formation of alkoxy carbonylsulfenyl chlorides.



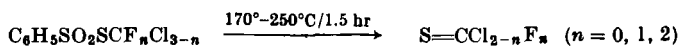
By contrast, thiols, even in excess, react to furnish exclusively alkyl- or arylhalocarbonyl disulfanes:



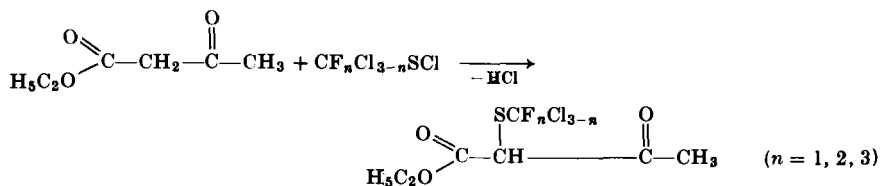
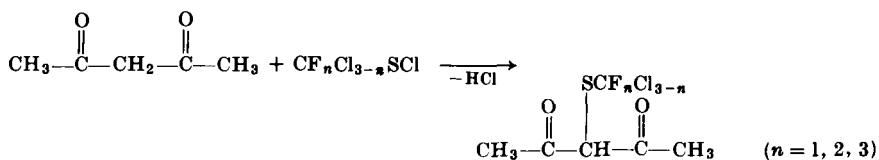
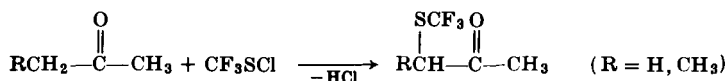
Sulfenyl chlorides react with zincalkyl (or -aryl) sulfinates and also with sodium benzene sulfinate to yield the corresponding esters of thiosulfonic acid (13, 111, 161):



On thermolysis the latter are reduced to thiocarbonyldihalides:

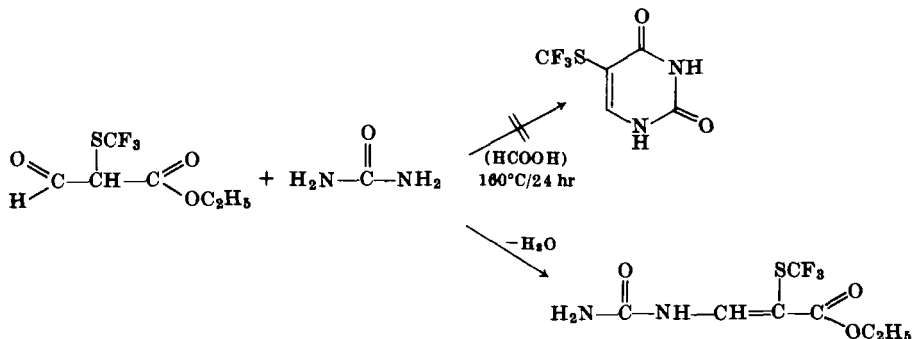


The products of the reactions of perfluorohalogenomethanesulfenyl chlorides with ketones, diketones, and ketoesters are monosubstituted trihalomethylmercapto derivatives, as shown in the following examples (8):









#### F. WITH ALKANES, ALKENES, ALKYNES, AND NITRILES

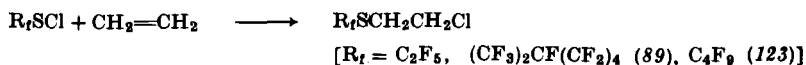
Addition reactions of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  to olefins and nitriles were intensively studied. It has been shown that these reactions have to be either initiated with UV light or carried out in a strongly polar solvent.

The UV-initiated addition of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  to  $\text{CHF}=\text{CF}_2$  leads to  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCFHCF}_2\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCF}_2\text{CHFCl}$ , the latter being the main product (76). The additions of  $\text{CFCl}=\text{CF}_2$  (25, 76),  $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHCl}$  (76), and  $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHC}(\text{O})\text{OCH}_3$  (80) proceed analogously.

Irradiation of a mixture of  $\text{CF}_2=\text{CFX}$  ( $\text{X} = \text{CF}_3, \text{OCH}_3$ ) and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  affords the main products  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCFXCF}_2\text{Cl}$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCF}_2\text{CFCIX}$ , together with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_3$  and  $\text{Cl}_2$ . The chlorine thus liberated competes with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  in combining with the  $\text{C}=\text{C}$  double bond of the starting materials.

Compound  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  combines in a polar solvent, e.g., tetramethylenesulfone, at  $20^\circ$  to  $25^\circ\text{C}$  with  $\text{CH}_2=\text{CHCl}$  to produce  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCH}_2\text{CHCl}_2$  in 67% yield (2). Analogously,  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCHClCHCl}_2$  is formed in 80% yield from  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and  $\text{CHCl}=\text{CHCl}$  (1). At  $80^\circ$  to  $100^\circ\text{C}$ ,  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  reacts with  $\text{CH}_2=\text{CH}_2$  in tetramethylenesulfone to give  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}$  in 80% yield (101).

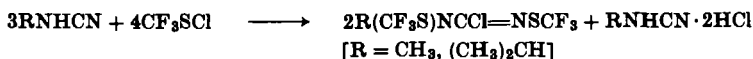
Under the influence of UV light  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  can be made to combine with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCH}=\text{CH}_2$  to yield  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CHCH}_2\text{Cl}$  and  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CHCH}_2\text{SCF}_3$  (75, 79). Similarly, other sulfenyl chlorides can also be added to  $\text{C}=\text{C}$  double bonds, e.g.,



Sulfenyl chlorides combine also with  $\text{C}\equiv\text{N}$  triple bonds. The reaction of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  with  $(\text{CN})_2\text{C}=\text{C}(\text{CN})_2$  in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  in the presence of  $[(\text{C}_2\text{H}_5)_4\text{N}]\text{Cl}$  results in  $(\text{CN})_2\text{C}=\text{C}(\text{CN})\text{CCl}=\text{NSCF}_3$  (82, 83). Reactions between  $\text{R}_2\text{NCN}$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  take a similar course (65):



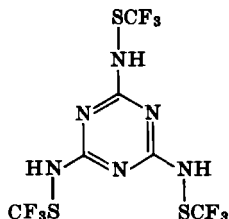
Addition as well as condensation reactions occur with some mono-substituted derivatives:



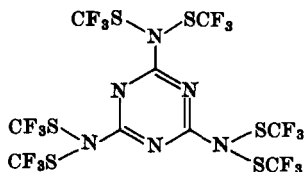
With (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CN(H)CN only the condensation product, (CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>CN(SCF<sub>3</sub>)-CN, is formed.

Both addition and substitution are also observed in the reaction of H<sub>2</sub>NCN with CF<sub>3</sub>SCl. If the reaction is carried out in ether at 0°C, CF<sub>3</sub>SN(H)CCl=NSCF<sub>3</sub>, results; however without a solvent and at 20°C, 23% (CF<sub>3</sub>S)<sub>2</sub>NCCl=NSCF<sub>3</sub> and 1% CF<sub>3</sub>SN(H)CN are additionally formed. The latter can be prepared in better yield (17%) from H<sub>2</sub>HCN and CF<sub>3</sub>SN(H)CCl=NSCF<sub>3</sub>.

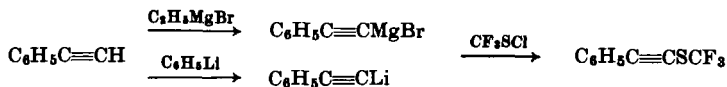
The acidic proton of the amine can be substituted in aqueous acetone by reaction with AgNO<sub>3</sub> to give CF<sub>3</sub>SN(Ag)CN. The silver salt reacts with CF<sub>3</sub>SCl to yield hexabis(trifluoromethylmercapto)melamine, which can also be synthesized from (CF<sub>3</sub>S)<sub>2</sub>NCCl=NSCF<sub>3</sub> or CF<sub>3</sub>SN(H)CCl=NSCF<sub>3</sub> and amines [(CH<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub>N, pyridine]. Melamine itself reacts with CF<sub>3</sub>SCl in acetonitrile and in the presence of pyridine to give



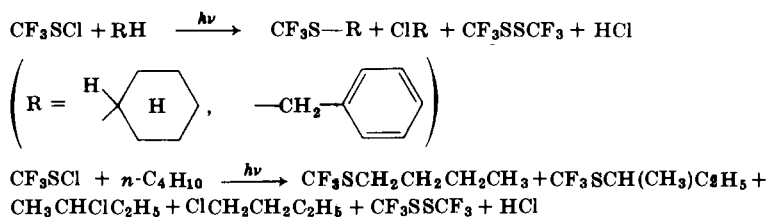
only. Here, too, the hydrogen atoms are acidic and can be substituted with silver nitrate in aqueous acetone to give the trisilver salt. In the reaction with CF<sub>3</sub>SCl it affords likewise the compound



Alkynes react with CF<sub>3</sub>SCl only via prior metallation with a Grignard reagent or C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>Li (81):



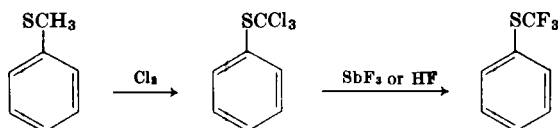
Under the influence of UV light, condensations between  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and hydrocarbons are also possible (77, 78), e.g.,



Other sulfenyl chlorides react analogously (77).

#### G. WITH AROMATICS AND HETEROAROMATICS

The introduction of the perfluorohalogenosulfenyl group into aromatic compounds was accomplished long before the preparation of sulfenyl halides. The  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$ -substituted compounds have been synthesized largely by chlorination of the side chain in arylmethylthioethers followed by chlorine-fluorine exchange. This method was applied for the first time in the synthesis of trifluoromethylmercaptobenzene (92, 140, 172):

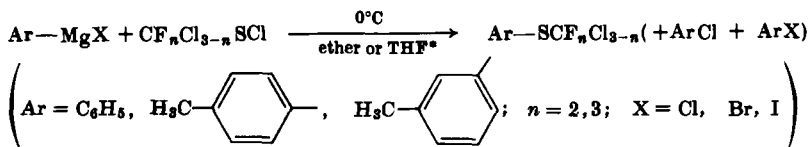


This reaction is also feasible if the benzene ring contains substituents, such as halogens or methyl, carboxyl, and nitro groups.

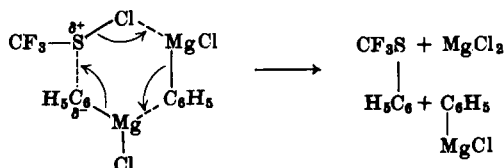
These compounds can be oxidized without difficulty to the corresponding sulfoxides or sulfones (92, 95, 140, 142, 167, 172, 176). On the other hand, the trihalomethylmercapto group is noticeably inert toward chemical changes in the aromatic ring, such as halogenation (92), nitration (174), reduction of nitro groups, diazotation of amino groups, and hydrolysis of nitrile groups (172).

Numerous derivatives play a considerable role as fungicides, insecticides, and pharmaceuticals (93, 95, 125, 153) as well as serving as intermediates in the syntheses of dyes (22, 94, 95, 165, 166, 168, 169, 171, 173-175, 177-182).

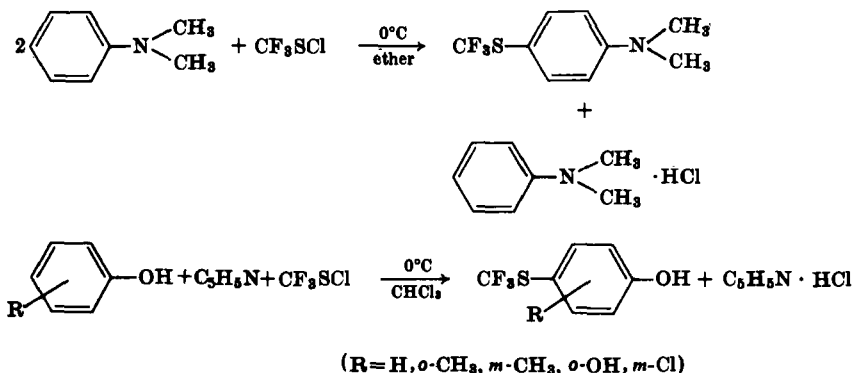
The reaction of aryl magnesium halides with perfluorohalogenosulfenyl chlorides takes place under considerably milder conditions (47, 148):



The perfluorohalogenomethylmercapto compound is formed in about 50% yield, the by-products being aryl halides from the Grignard reagent in 5–15% yield. It is assumed that the reaction follows an  $\text{S}_{\text{N}}2$  mechanism with a cyclic intermediate state in analogy with the reaction of Grignard reagents with alkyl halides (98, 155), e.g.,



Aromatic compounds with electron-donor substituents, such as  $-\text{N}(\text{CH}_3)_2$  or  $-\text{OH}$ , also react with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  via direct condensation (4, 133):

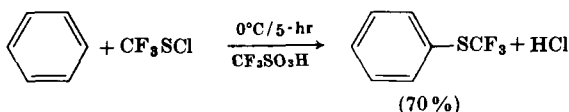


In the case of phenol derivatives, the intermediate formation of sulfenates  $\text{ArOSCF}_3$ , with subsequent rapid conversion to the cyclic substituted product is discussed elsewhere (3).

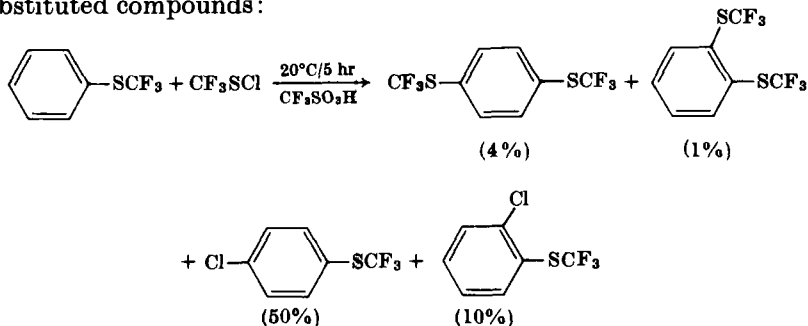
In the presence of Friedel-Crafts catalysts ( $\text{BF}_3$ ,  $\text{FeCl}_3$ , and others), comparatively less reactive compounds, such as benzene ( $50^\circ\text{C}$ , 2 hr) and toluene ( $100^\circ\text{C}$ , 4 hr), can be reacted in an autoclave with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  to give  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5-\text{SCF}_3$  or a mixture of *m*- and *p*- $\text{CF}_3\text{S}-\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{CH}_3$ , respectively. Chloro- and bromobenzene react under more vigorous conditions ( $200^\circ\text{C}$ , 2 hr) with the formation of a mixture of ortho-, meta-, and para-

\* THF, tetrahydrofuran.

isomers, the catalyst being anhydrous hydrogen fluoride (4). Compound  $C_6F_5SCl$  reacts with pentafluorobenzene in the presence of  $SbF_5$  to give  $C_6F_5SC_6F_5$  in 95% yield (184). Trifluoromethane sulfonic acid, introduced by Effenberger and Eppe (27) for Friedel-Crafts acylations of aromatic compounds, seems to act as a particularly suitable catalyst. It is assumed that the perfluorosulfonic acid-carbonic acid anhydrides initially formed are responsible for the catalytic influence. On addition of 0.1 mole  $CF_3SO_3H$  the reaction of benzene with  $CF_3SCl$  may be carried out under mild conditions in high yield (47):



In the reaction of trifluoromethylmercaptobenzene with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  in the presence of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SO}_3\text{H}$ , chlorine-substituted products are obtained primarily beside small quantities of bis(trifluoromethylmercapto)-substituted compounds:



No investigations have as yet been undertaken to elucidate the mechanism of these reactions, although ordinary electrophilic aromatic substitutions are the most likely. The attacking species is apparently  $R_3S^+$  or an "activated complex" formed through coordination of the perfluorohalogenosulfonyl chloride with a Lewis or a Brønsted acid (4).

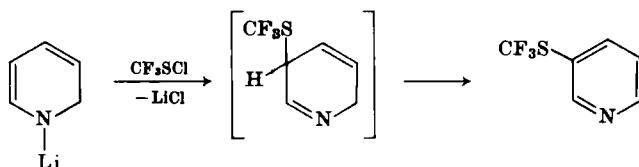
Hydroquinone reacts with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  to afford, not as expected  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$ -substituted compounds, but chlorohydroquinones instead (143). However, carrying out the reaction with 4-methoxyphenol in the presence of a threefold excess of pyridine and an excess of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$ , 2,6-bis(trifluoromethylmercapto)-4-methoxyphenol is formed in good yield. With concentrated nitric acid it can be oxidatively cleaved to 2,6-bis(trifluoromethylmercapto)-1,4-benzoquinone. This, in turn, reacts with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SH}$  on addition of pyridine to give 2,3,5-tris(trifluoromethylmercapto)hydroquinone, which is converted to the respective quinone by oxidation with  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  in dichloromethane in the presence of  $\text{MgSO}_4$ .

The reaction scheme illustrates the synthesis of 2,4,6-tris(trifluoromethylthio)phenol and its derivatives. It begins with the reaction of 4-methoxyphenol with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  in the presence of  $3\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{N}$  to form 2,4,6-tris(trifluoromethylthio)phenol. This intermediate is then nitrated with  $\text{HNO}_3$  at  $30^\circ\text{--}35^\circ\text{C}$  to yield 2,4,6-tris(trifluoromethylthio)benzoquinone. This quinone can be reduced to 2,4,6-tris(trifluoromethylthio)phenol using  $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_4$  or oxidized back to the quinone using  $\text{Na}_2\text{O}_4$ . Alternatively, the quinone reacts with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SH}$  and  $\text{C}_6\text{H}_5\text{N}$  to form 2,4,6-tris(trifluoromethylthio)phenol. The phenol can be further nitrated with  $\text{N}_2\text{O}_4$  and  $\text{MgSO}_4$  to produce 2,4,6-tris(trifluoromethylthio)benzoquinone. Finally, the quinone reacts with  $(\text{CH}_3)_2\text{SO}_4$  to form 2,4,6-tris(trifluoromethylthio)anisole.

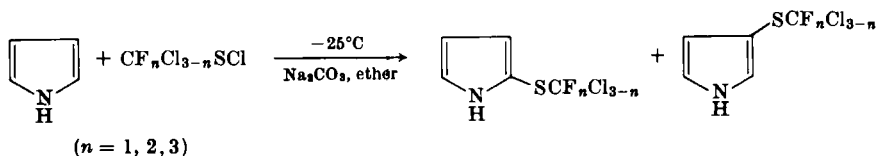
### SCHEME 2

Heteroaromatics are subdivided, according to the electron influence of the heteroatom, into  $\pi$ -electron-deficient compounds and compounds with an excess of  $\pi$  electrons on the ring carbon atoms. The typical  $\pi$ -electron-deficient compound pyridine has so far been made to react only in one case: the reaction of lithium tetrakis(*N*-dihydropyridyl)-aluminate (LDPA) (112-114), obtainable from pyridine and lithium aluminum hydride, with trifluoromethanesulfonyl chloride in an excess of pyridine affords 3-trifluoromethylmercaptopyridine in low yield (13%) (60). This reaction probably occurs through sulfenylation of the 1,2-dihydropyridyl moiety of the LDPA with the formation of a 2,5-

dihydropyridine; this is followed by oxidation to the 3-substituted pyridine (34):

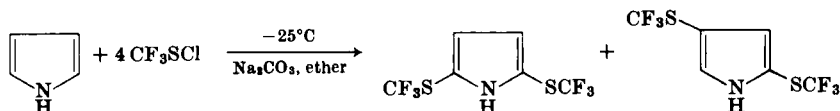


Compounds with excess of  $\pi$  electrons, as for example, pyrrole and thiophene, form a large number of substitution products in their reactions with perfluorohalogenosulfenyl halides (47, 60). Thus pyrrole reacts with an equimolar quantity of a sulfenyl chloride of the series  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{-SCl}$  ( $n = 1, 2, 3$ ) with the formation of a mixture of isomers of mono-substituted compounds:



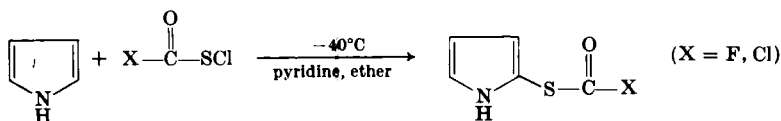
The yields decrease with decreasing degree of fluorination and at the same time the proportion of 2-substituted compounds increases.

An excess of sulfenyl chloride leads to disubstituted products only in the case of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$ :

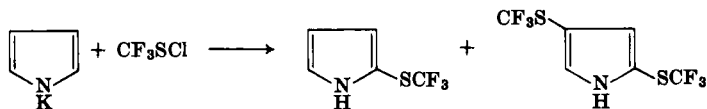


The reaction proceeds quantitatively in the direction shown only with a 1:4 excess of the sulfenyl chloride; the reaction in the stoichiometric ratio of 1:2 affords a mixture of mono- and disubstituted products.

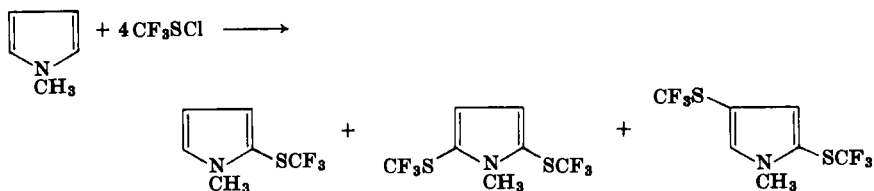
With halogenocarbonylsulfenyl chlorides, 2-substituted compounds are formed exclusively:



Attempts to N-substitute the pyrrole result exclusively in C-substituted products, e.g.,

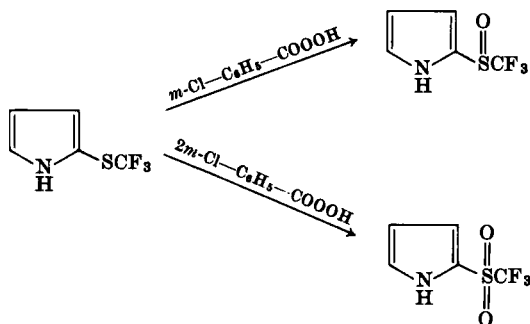


Numerous N-substituted pyrroles undergo at elevated temperatures a conversion to C-substituted compounds. However, an analogous reaction course is not feasible since *N*-methylpyrrole also reacts with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  to give C-substituted derivatives:

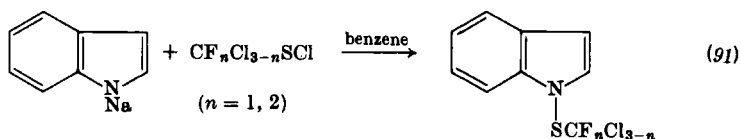


Owing to the extreme sensitivity of the pyrrole to acids, all reactions have to be carried out in high dilution and in presence of an HCl acceptor. The products can be kept for a prolonged period of time only in an extremely purified state.

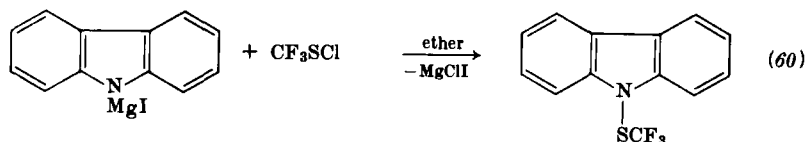
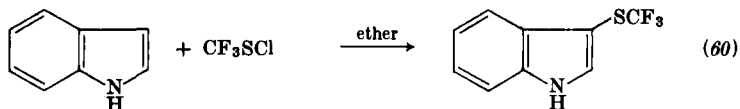
Oxidation to the sulfoxide or sulfone proceeds selectively with the aid of *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid:



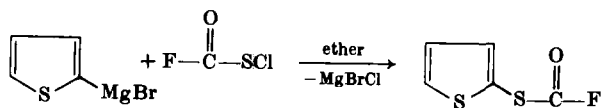
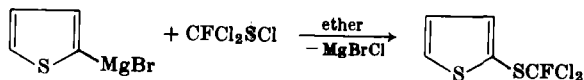
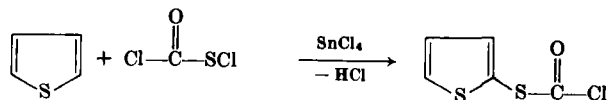
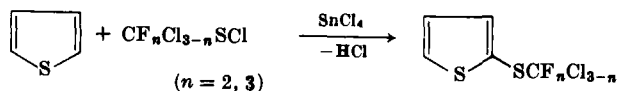
Indole and carbazole, which can be regarded theoretically as derivatives of pyrrole through its anellation with one or two benzene rings, show variable behavior toward sulfonyl halides:





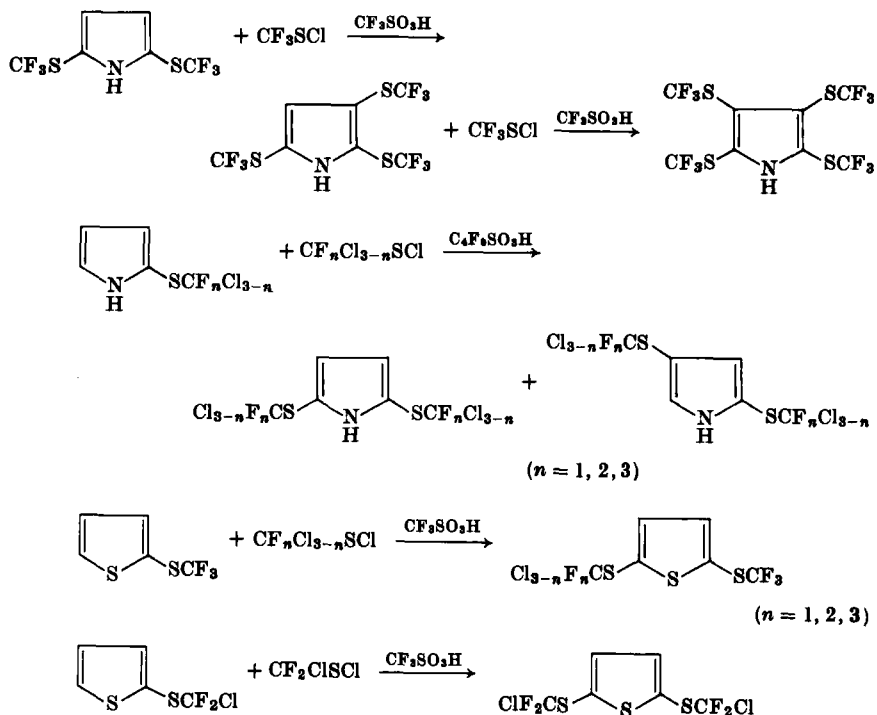


Electrophilic substitutions on thiophene, like those on benzene, can be carried out only in the presence of catalysts. In reactions with sulfenyl halides,  $\text{SnCl}_4$  proved to be particularly suitable; in the case of the less reactive sulfenyl halides, Grignard reactions lead to the desired products:

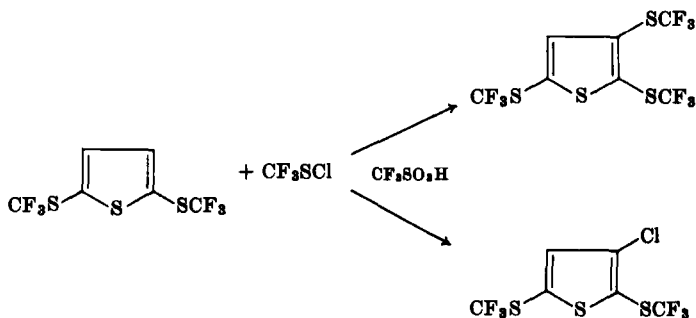


The reaction with fluorocarbonylsulfenyl chloride has to be carried out via the Grignard reagent, since, if  $\text{SnCl}_4$  is used, a fluorine-chlorine exchange occurs.

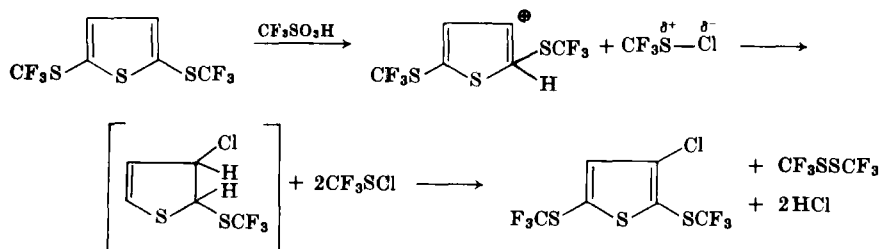
The thiophene derivatives are relatively stable in the pure state. The fluorine atoms of the trifluoromethylmercapto group can be quantitatively substituted with chlorine by boron trichloride; with  $\text{H}_2\text{O}_2$ , oxidation to the sulfone takes place. Further substitution is achieved in both cases in the presence of perfluorosulfonic acids:



An interesting effect can be observed in the further reaction of 2,5-bis(trifluoromethylmercapto)thiophene with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$ : beside the small quantities of 2,3,5-tris(trifluoromethylmercapto)thiophene (1%), the main reaction product is 2,5-bis(trifluoromethylmercapto)-3-chlorothiophene:

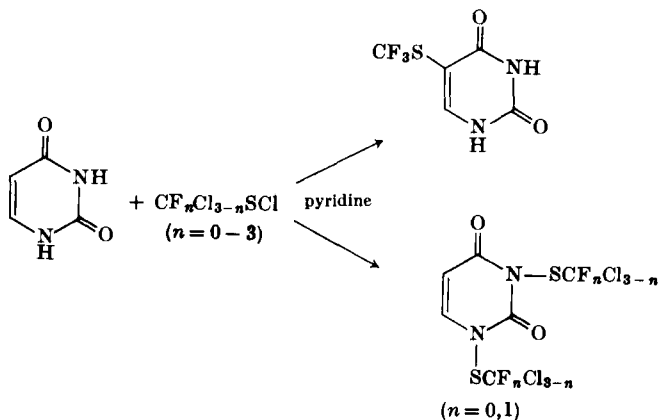


The latter reaction proceeds presumably through protonation of the starting material as follows:



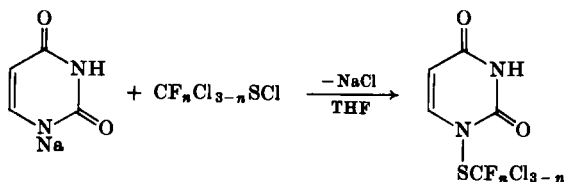
Reactions of uracil and structurally analogous compounds have been thoroughly studied (49, 50). Uracil (2,4-dihydroxypyrimidine), a component of the nucleic acids, can be classified as a heteroaromatic compound only with reserve, since the keto form dominates in the tautomeric equilibrium.

With  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  and in the presence of pyridine as  $\text{HCl}$  acceptor, a reaction takes place to give 5-trifluoromethylmercaptouracil. Under identical reaction conditions the sulfenyl halides  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SCl}$  ( $n = 0, 1$ ) afford dinitrogen-substituted products:



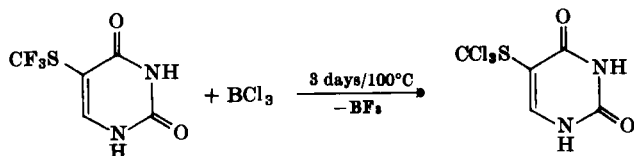
A theoretical interpretation of this different behavior is not yet available. In any case, the most obvious possibility that all sulfenyl halides attack initially at the nitrogen as the most electron abundant site (160), and that the  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  compound is then converted to the more stable 5-substituted product, is to be disregarded, since 1,3-dimethyluracil, with both nitrogen atoms blocked, gives with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  the 5-substituted compounds in high yield.

Mononitrogen-substituted derivatives are obtained from sodium uracil and sulfenyl halides  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SCl}$  ( $n = 0, 1, 2$ ) (49, 96):

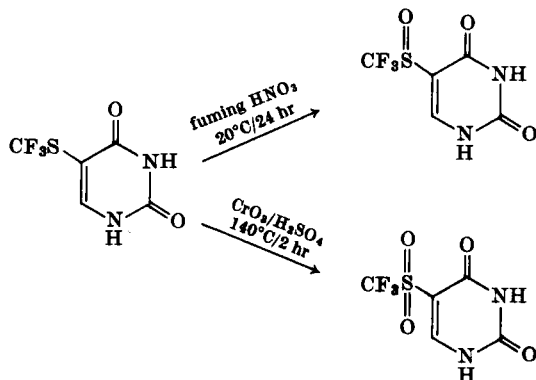


The yield decreases with increasing degree of fluorination of the reactant sulfonyl halides. In the reaction with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$ , no appreciable quantity of the desired product could be isolated. Although in the mass spectrum of the reaction mixture a peak was observed corresponding to the molecular ion  $M^+ = 212$ , the position of the substituent could not be unequivocally determined.

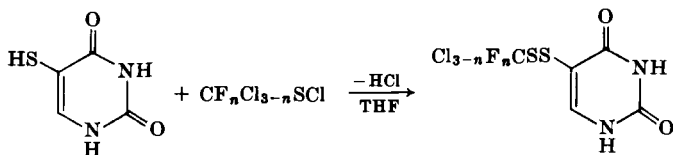
All derivatives, sulfonylated at the nitrogen atom, are stable for a prolonged period of time only at low temperature. 5-Trifluoromethylmercaptouracil is an extraordinarily stable compound. In contrast to 5-bromouracil (129), the substituent cannot be exchanged by amines. Nevertheless, a complete fluorine-chlorine exchange can be brought about with the aid of boron trichloride, just as with other aromatic  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  compounds (170):



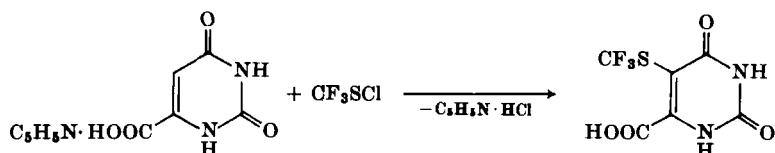
Oxidation to sulfoxide occurs with fuming nitric acid, whereas the sulfone is formed in sulfochromic acid:



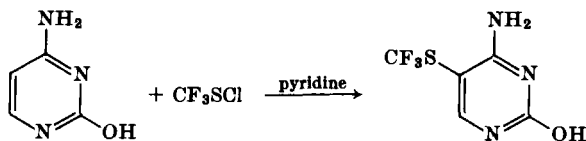
Perhalogenated sulfanes can be obtained by condensation of 5-mercaptouracil with sulfonyl halides,  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SCl}$  ( $n = 1, 2, 3$ ):



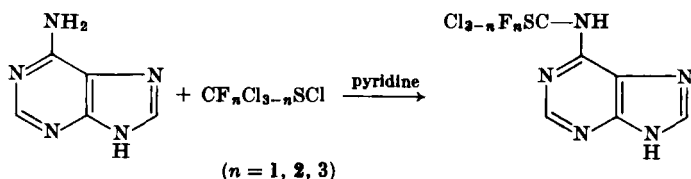
Orotic acid (uracil-6-carboxylic acid), an intermediate in the biosynthesis of uracil, also reacts smoothly with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  in pyridine to give the 5-substituted compound. The pyridinium salt initially formed can be easily cleaved with dilute hydrochloric acid:



The nucleic acid building stone, cytosine (4-amino-2-hydroxypyrimidine), again affords, under the same conditions, a 5-substituted product:



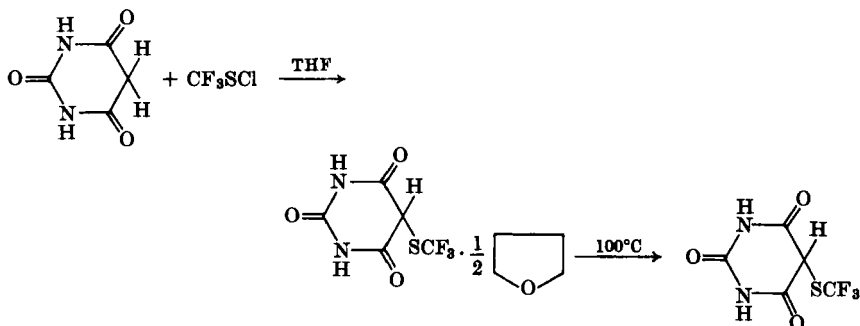
The result is surprising, as with the structurally quite similar adenine (6-aminopurine), N-substitution occurs only at the amino group (46):



However, NMR studies provide an explanation for the course of this reaction. They show that cytosine exists, at least in polar solvents, in the form of a zwitterion (103) and the electrophilic  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  group can no longer attack at the positively charged nitrogen.

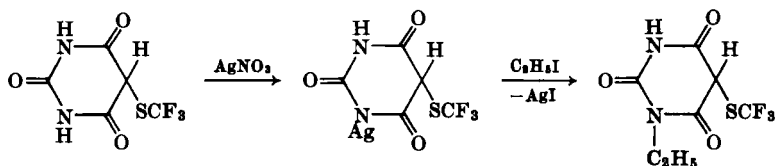
Barbituric acid, a 2,4,5-trihydroxypyrimidine, which exists in the triketo form, is also able to react with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$ . Owing to the strong acidity of the methylene group, the reaction can take place in this case without

an HCl acceptor as well in a suspension in THF. The 2:1 etherate formed initially splits off the solvent quantitatively on heating to 100°C:

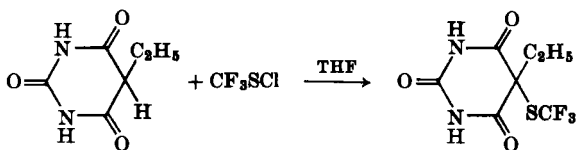


The IR spectrum suggests that the compound exists partly in the enolic form, just like the anhydrous 5-nitrobarbituric acid (121).

The proton remaining in the 5-position is evidently very unreactive. Metallation attempts with  $\text{AgNO}_3$  lead only to the substitution of a nitrogen proton, as can be shown by the following ethylation:

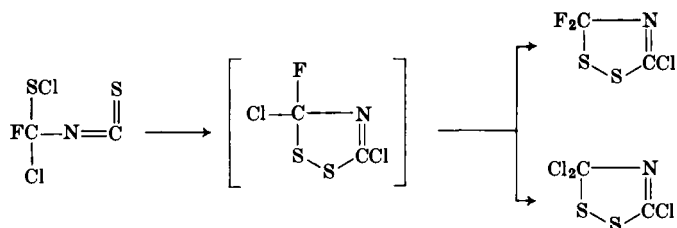


The latter compound differs considerably in its physical properties from the product resulting from a direct reaction of 5-ethylbarbituric acid and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$ :

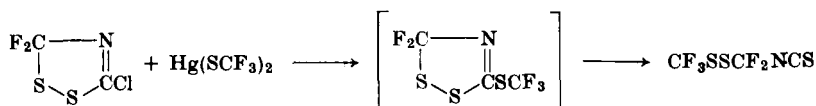


#### H. CYCLIZATIONS, CONVERSIONS AND REACTIONS OF SULFENYL CHLORIDES WITH METAL CARBONYLS

Heating  $\text{FCIC}(\text{NCS})\text{SCl}$  with exclusion of moisture (6–8 hr at  $70^\circ\text{C}$ ) leads to the cyclic compounds 3-chloro-5,5-difluoro- and 3,5,5-trichloro-1,2,4-dithiazole. Presumably this ring-closure reaction takes place through the nonisolated 3,5-dichloro-5-fluoro-1,2,3-dithiazole (20, 21):



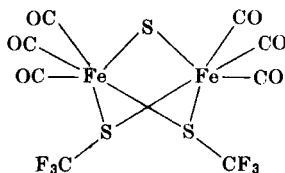
Attempts to react the difluoro-substituted ring with  $\text{Hg}(\text{SCF}_3)_2$  did not lead to displacement of the chlorine by the  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  group, but instead  $\text{CF}_3\text{SSCF}_2\text{NCS}$  was formed quantitatively (21):



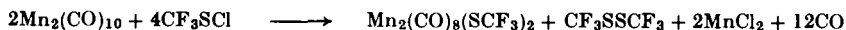
Similar conversions were also observed when an attempt was made to fluorinate the compounds  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCFClSCl}$  or  $(\text{CF}_3\text{S})_2\text{CClSCl}$  with  $\text{HgF}_2$  or  $\text{HgCl}_2$ . Here, too, only disulfanes resulted (20):



Reactions of  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  with metal carbonyls have been investigated only to a minor extent. A reaction between  $\text{Fe}(\text{CO})_5$  and  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  takes place to give in poor yield the following binuclear complex, that exists in two isomeric forms (37):



Reactions of  $\text{Mn}_2(\text{CO})_{10}$  with  $\text{CF}_3\text{SCl}$  take the following course (38):



## Vl. Characteristics of PerfluorohalogenoorganomerCapto Groups

Characteristic physical data can be attributed to some perfluorohalogenomerCapto groups in the large number of compounds synthesized. The most comprehensive data material applies to the following groups:  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}-$ ,  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClS}-$ ,  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{S}-$ , and  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{S}-$ .

Systematic IR spectroscopic studies furnish the following characteristic frequencies for the  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{S}-$  ( $n = 3, 2, 1$ ) and  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{S}$  groups:

1.  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  group (122):  $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{C—F}) = 1205\text{--}1155\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu_{\text{s}}(\text{C—F}) = 1135\text{--}1095\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\delta_{\text{s}}(\text{CF}_3) = 765\text{--}750\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\delta_{\text{as}}(\text{CF}_3) = 540\text{--}510\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu(\text{C—S}) = 495\text{--}445\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

2.  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClS}$  group (61):  $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{C—F}) = 1200\text{--}1090\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu_{\text{s}}(\text{C—F}) = 1090\text{--}1050\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu(\text{C—Cl}) = 900\text{--}850\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\delta_{\text{s}}(\text{CF}_2) = 680\text{--}600\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\delta_{\text{as}}(\text{CF}_2) = 550\text{--}500\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu(\text{C—S}) = 480\text{--}400\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

3.  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{S}$  group (61):  $\nu(\text{C—F}) = 1055\text{--}1020\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu_{\text{as}}(\text{C—Cl}) = 850\text{--}800\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu_{\text{s}}(\text{C—Cl}) = 760\text{--}670\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\delta_{\text{s}}(\text{C—F}) = 570\text{--}520\text{ cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu(\text{C—S}) = 450\text{--}430\text{ cm}^{-1}$ .

4.  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{S}$  group\* (9, 10):  $1630\text{ (m)}$   $1510\text{ (vs)}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu(\text{ring}) = 1475\text{ (vs)}$ ,  $1395\text{ (m-s)}$ ,  $1360\text{ (w)}$ ,  $1350\text{ (w)}$ ,  $1270\text{ (w-m)}$ ,  $1125\text{ (m)}$ ,  $1080\text{ (vs)}$ ,  $1055\text{ (w)}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu(\text{C—F}) = 970\text{ (vs)}$ ,  $905\text{ (w)}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ;  $\nu(\text{C—S}) = 860\text{ (vs)}$ ,  $715\text{ (w-m)}$   $\text{cm}^{-1}$ . Bands with the intensity (w-m) do not appear in all compounds containing the  $\text{C}_6\text{F}_5\text{S}$  group.

The  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR chemical shifts of the  $\text{CF}_n\text{Cl}_{3-n}\text{SN}$  compounds (61) are all observed to be within very narrow limits: for  $\text{CF}_3\text{SN—}$ ,  $\delta = 51 \pm 4$  ppm; for  $\text{CF}_2\text{ClSN—}$ ,  $\delta = 38 \pm 3$  ppm; and for  $\text{CFCl}_2\text{SN—}$ ,  $\delta = 26 \pm 3$  ppm (relative to  $\text{CFCl}_3$  as standard).

The electronegativity of the  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  group derived by different methods is found almost always to be 2.7 on Pauling's scale (12, 23, 28, 97). The Hammett-Taft and the Dewar constants obtained from  $\text{p}K_{\text{a}}$  values or from  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR shifts for  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$ -substituted benzoic acids, anilines, and phenols or fluorobenzenes show that the  $\text{CF}_3\text{S}$  group has the highest electron affinity of all substituents containing divalent sulfur (17, 18, 26, 126, 146, 147, 149, 151, 163, 164, 183).

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\* Intensities: weak (w); medium (m); strong (s); very strong (vs).



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