



A novel synthetic route to thiacyanine dyes containing a perfluorinated polymethine chain

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ABSTRACT

2-Iodobenzothiazole was reacted with tributyl(trifluorovinyl)tin and (2-chlorodifluorovinyl)tributyltin by the Stille reaction to yield 2-trifluorovinyl- and 2-(2-chlorodifluorovinyl)benzothiazole, respectively. The quaternary salt of 2-trifluorovinylbenzothiazole, when treated with fluoride ion, furnished the corresponding thiacarbocyanine dye containing a perfluorinated polymethine chain. The reaction involved nontrivial cleavage of the C–C bond to provide an energetically advantageous conjugated perfluoropolyenic system.

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1. Introduction

Organic molecules containing a perfluorinated conjugated chain (F-chromophore) belong to the family of artifacts created by fluorine chemistry. Such systems are classified with two types, both synthesized and investigated by our research group [1–5]. These are perfluoropolyenes (mainly α,ω -diaryl substituted molecules such as $\text{Ar}(\text{CF}=\text{CF})_n\text{Ar}$, $n = 2\text{--}6$) and cyanine dyes with the perfluorinated chain, the latter being limited to the only example of thiacarbocyanine. In the course of these studies, we established a significant possibility of transmitting electronic effects through the perfluorinated conjugated chain. A surprising and remarkable fact was also revealed: the fluorine atom, the most electronegative one, influences absorption maxima like an electron-donor substituent. Thus, according to the Foerster–Dewar–Knott rule, the absorption maximum is significantly shifted to longer wavelengths by fluorine atoms at the α - and γ -positions of the polymethine chain and to shorter wavelengths by fluorine atoms at the β -position [6,7], just as is the case with typical electron-donor groups.

2. Results and discussion

Though the dyes with the perfluorinated trimethine and longer conjugated chains show much promise, e.g., in colour theory of

organic compounds and in nonlinear optics, the methods to synthesize them have yet to be developed.

Such dyes can be obtained starting from 2-trifluorovinyl- and 2-(2-chlorodifluorovinyl)-substituted benzothiazoles **1** and **2**. The former compound was obtained previously by the condensation of *o*-aminothiophenol and tetrafluorosuccinic anhydride followed by the decarboxylation of sodium benzothiazolyl-2-tetrafluoropropionate [8]. An alternative synthetic route to **1** implies condensation of 2-iodobenzothiazole with labile trifluorovinylzinc chloride [4]. Benzothiazole derivative **2** was obtained by the condensation of 2-benzothiazolyl lithium with chlorotrifluoroethylene [9]. However, stable yields of compounds **1** and **2** are afforded by none of these methods.

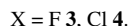
We have developed a novel synthetic route to the compounds of this kind that involves the Stille reaction of 2-iodobenzothiazole with tributyl(trifluorovinyl)tin **3** and (2-chlorodifluorovinyl)tributyltin **4** [10].

Trifluorovinyltin derivative **3** was synthesized by the procedure [11] and its properties completely agree with the literature data [12,13]; to the best of our knowledge, there is no evidence about chlorodifluorovinyl analogue **4** in the literature. Tin derivatives **3** and **4** are stable for heating and storage.

The previously described [4] thiacarbocyanine **7** containing the perfluorinated polymethine chain and *N*-methyl groups was obtained on reacting 2-(2-chlorodifluorovinyl)benzothiazolium tetrafluoroborate with 2-fluoromethylbenzothiazolium tetrafluoroborate in the presence of *p*-diethylaminotoluene. In order to perform X-ray diffraction analysis, we also prepared analogous *N*-ethyl-substituted dye **8** using the same scheme (Scheme 1).

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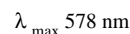


The structure of dyes **7** and **8** has been determined by the X-ray diffraction method. The bond lengths and angles in the perfluorinated chain are virtually the same as in the polymethine chain of the corresponding thiacyanocyanine 3-ethyl-2-[3-(3-ethyl-2,3-dihydrobenzothiazolyliden-2)-propenyl]benzothiazolium tetrafluoroborate **10** [15,16].

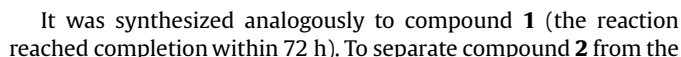
The molecular structure of dye 8

The following table summarizes bond lengths in the polymethine chain of dyes **7**, **8**, and **10**

Dye no.	N-alkyl	Conjugated chain C ₈ –C ₁₀	C ₁ –C ₈	C ₈ –C ₉	C ₉ –C ₁₀	C ₁₀ –C ₁₁
7	–CH ₃	–CF=CF–CF=	1.401(5)	1.376(5)	1.393(5)	1.392(5)
8	–C ₂ H ₅	–CF=CF–CF=	1.399(3)	1.384(3)	1.378(4)	1.411(3)
10	–C ₂ H ₅	–CH=CH–CH=	1.391(4)	1.383(4)	1.384(4)	1.393(4)



Scheme 1.



oil formed on extraction with pentane, the fraction with boiling point under 120 °C (0.2 mm Hg) was collected and chromatographed on silica gel with the mixture hexane:ethyl acetate (10:1) used as eluent. Product **2** was isolated as a *cis*–*trans* isomer mixture. On recrystallization from hexane, the *trans* isomer was obtained. Yield: 1.2 g (52%); m.p. 113–114 °C. δ_{H} (299.5 MHz; CDCl_3 ; Me_4Si) 7.43–8.15 (4H, m, Ar); δ_{F} (188.1 MHz; CDCl_3 ; CFCl_3) *cis* isomer: –92.4 (1F, d, $J = 11.7$ Hz), –135.6 (1F, d, $J = 11.7$ Hz); *trans* isomer: –106.3 (1F, d, $J = 125.5$ Hz), –149.2 (1F, d, $J = 125.5$ Hz). Element analysis for $\text{C}_9\text{H}_4\text{ClF}_2\text{NS}$ Calc.: C, 46.65; H, 1.72; Cl, 15.33; found: C, 46.70; H, 1.75; Cl 15.4%.

3.4. Tetrafluoroborates of 2-(2-chloro-1,2-difluorovinyl)-3-methylbenzothiazolium (**5a**), 2-(2-chloro-1,2-difluorovinyl)-3-ethylbenzothiazolium (**5b**) and 3-methyl-2-(1,2,2-trifluorovinyl)benzothiazolium (**9**)

To an ice-cooled solution of base **1** (0.86 g, 4 mmol) or **2** (0.926 g, 4 mmol) and an appropriate alkyl iodide (12 mmol) in dichloroethane (20 ml), AgBF_4 (1.1 g, 5.6 mmol) was added as a single portion. After stirring the mixture at room temperature for 24 h, dichloroethane was evaporated in vacuo at 30 °C, and the residue was dried in vacuo (0.5 mm Hg) for 1 h. Then nitromethane (7 ml) was added and AgI was filtered off. The filtrate was concentrated in vacuo to a volume of 2–2.5 ml, and the quaternary salt was precipitated with anhydrous ether (20 ml). The solvent was decanted and the salt was again recrystallized from CH_3NO_2 (2 ml) with ether (10 ml). After decanting the solvent, the salt was dried in vacuo (0.5 mm Hg) at 30 °C for 4 h.

Yield of product **5a**: 0.81 g (60.6%); m.p. 216–218 °C (dec). δ_{H} (299.5 MHz; CD_3COCD_3 ; Me_4Si) 4.7 (3H, s, CH_3), 8.01–8.67 (4H, m, Ar); δ_{F} (188.1 MHz; CD_3COCD_3 ; CFCl_3) *trans*: –92.5 (1F, d, $J = 129.8$ Hz), –144.3 (1F, d, $J = 129.8$ Hz), –150.5 (4F, s, BF_4). Element analysis for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_7\text{BClF}_6\text{NS}$ Calc.: F, 34.18; found: F, 34.25%.

Yield of product **5b**: 0.76 g (54.5%); m.p. 130 °C (dec). δ_{H} (299.5 MHz; CD_3COCD_3 ; Me_4Si) 1.8 (3H, t, $J = 7.3$ Hz, CH_3) 5.18 (2H, m, CH_2), 7.58–8.67 (4H, m, Ar); δ_{F} (188.1 MHz; CH_3NO_2 ; CFCl_3) –91.2 (1F, d, $J = 129.9$ Hz), –147.0 (1F, d, $J = 129.9$ Hz), –151.8 (4F, s, BF_4). Element analysis for $\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_9\text{BClF}_6\text{NS}$ Calc.: C, 37.98; H, 2.58; found: C, 36.69; H, 2.30%.

Yield of product **9**: 0.73 g (57.9%); m.p. 130–132 °C (dec). δ_{H} (188.1 MHz; CH_3NO_2 ; CFCl_3) –87.1 (1F, dd, $J = 40.6$ Hz, $J = 31.5$ Hz), –101.2 (1F, dd, $J = 115.8$ Hz, $J = 40.6$ Hz), –150.9 (4F, s, BF_4), –168.2 (1F, dd, $J = 115.8$ Hz, $J = 31.5$ Hz). Element analysis for $\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_7\text{BF}_7\text{NS}$ Calc.: C, 37.85; H, 2.20; found: C, 37.31; H, 2.58%.

3.5. 3-Methyl-2-[3-(3-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzothiazolyliden-2)-1,2,3-trifluoropropenyl]benzothiazolium tetrafluoroborate (**7**)

A solution of **9** (0.1 g, 0.31 mmol) in CH_3CN (2 ml) and anhydrous CsF (0.024 g, 0.15 mmol) were stirred for 3 h at room temperature. Compound **7** was precipitated with anhydrous ether (15 ml) and purified by chromatographing on silica gel. After washing away an impurity of CHCl_3 , **7** was eluted with the mixture CHCl_3 : CH_3NO_2 (10:4). Yield: 0.05 g (30%); m.p. 225–227 °C (dec). λ_{max} (CH_3CN)/nm 578; ϵ 13.75×10^4 l/(mol cm) in CH_3CN . δ_{H} (299.5 MHz; DMSO ; Me_4Si) 4.69 (6H, s, $2 \times \text{CH}_3$), 8.0–8.5 (8H, m, $2 \times \text{Ar}$); δ_{F} (188.1 MHz; DMSO) –130.0 (1F, t, $J = 85.8$ Hz, CF), –152.1 (4F, s, BF_4), –169.8 (2F, d, $J = 85.8$ Hz, $2 \times \text{CF}$); δ_{C} (125.76 MHz; DMSO ; Me_4Si) 37.80 (t, $^4J_{\text{CF}} = 6.6$ Hz), 114.74 (s), 123.64 (s), 126.50 (s), 126.72 (d, $^4J_{\text{CF}} = 10.7$ Hz), 129.02 (s), 128.79 ($2 \times \text{dd}$, $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 232.5$ Hz, $^2J_{\text{CF}} = 37.0$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{CF}} = 8.6$ Hz), 142.20 (s), 153.43 (m), 154.05 ($2 \times \text{t}$, $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 245.5$ Hz, $^2J_{\text{CF}} = 32.7$ Hz). Element analysis for $\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{BF}_7\text{N}_2\text{S}_2$ Calc.: C, 47.69; H, 2.93; found: C, 47.69; H, 3.14%.

3.5.1. Crystal structure determination of compound (**7**)

Crystal data and data collection parameters. $[\text{C}_{19}\text{H}_{14}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{S}_2]^+ \cdot [\text{BF}_4]^- \cdot \text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$, $M = 539.30$, triclinic, $a = 6.9579(3)$, $b = 11.3770(5)$, $c = 15.0344(5)$ Å, $\alpha = 71.961(3)$, $\beta = 81.873(3)$, $\gamma = 76.195(3)^\circ$, $V = 1096.00(8)$ Å³, (by least-squares refinement on 1720 reflections, $3.0 \leq \theta \leq 25.7^\circ$), $T = 173$ K, space group $P-1$, $Z = 2$, $D_c = 1.63$ Mg m^{–3}, $F(000) = 548$, violet needles with dimensions $0.80 \times 0.10 \times 0.09$, $\mu(\text{Mo K}_\alpha) = 0.328$ mm^{–1}, SADABS absorption correction (the ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission is 0.69); Bruker Smart Apex II CCD area-detector diffractometer with graphite-monochromatized Mo K_α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å), data collection range $1.9 \leq \theta \leq 26.5^\circ$, $-8 \leq h \leq 8$, $-13 \leq k \leq 11$, $-16 \leq l \leq 18$; 6898 reflections measured, 4327 independent ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.02$), 2720 reflections ($I > 3.00\sigma(I)$) were used in calculations.

Structure solutions and refinement. The structure was solved by direct methods and subsequent Fourier difference techniques, and refined anisotropically, by the full-matrix least-squares technique, on F (CRYSTALS program package) [20]. Hydrogen atoms were located in the difference Fourier maps and refined isotropically. The Chebyshev weighting scheme [21] was applied with parameters 1.44, 0.902, 1.06. The final $R = 0.046$ and $R_w = 0.053$, GOF = 1.108 for 384 parameters (obs/var ratio 7.08); $\Delta\rho_{\text{min}} = -0.48$ e Å^{–3}, $\Delta\rho_{\text{max}} = 0.66$ e Å^{–3}. CCDC 669465.

3.6. 3-Ethyl-2-[3-(3-ethyl-2,3-dihydrobenzothiazolyliden-2)-1,2,3-trifluoropropenyl]benzothiazolium tetrafluoroborate (**8**)

N-Ethyl-2-fluoromethylbenzothiazolium tetrafluoroborate [14] (0.142 g, 0.5 mmol) was mixed with *p*-diethylaminotoluene (0.163 g, 1 mmol) in CH_3NO_2 (2 ml) and added to a solution of salt **5b** (0.175 g, 0.5 mmol) in CH_3NO_2 (2 ml). After stirring for 10 min, dye **8** was precipitated with dry ether (20 ml). The solvent was decanted and product **8** was purified by chromatographing on silica gel using the mixture CHCl_3 : CH_3NO_2 (20:6) as eluent. Yield: 0.16 g (79%); m.p. 205–208 °C (dec). λ_{max} (CH_3CN)/nm 578; ϵ 12.91×10^4 l/(mol cm) in CH_3CN . δ_{H} (299.5 MHz; DMSO ; Me_4Si) 1.48 (6H, t, $J = 6.9$ Hz, $2 \times \text{CH}_3$), 4.58 (4H, q, $J = 7.2$ Hz, $J = 14.4$ Hz, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 7.50–8.14 (8H, m, $2 \times \text{C}_6\text{H}_4$); δ_{F} (188.1 MHz; DMSO) –132.3 (1F, t, $J = 84.0$ Hz, CF), –148.8 (4F, s, BF_4), –173.3 (2F, d, $J = 84.0$ Hz, $2 \times \text{CF}$); δ_{C} (125.7 MHz; DMSO ; Me_4Si) 14.78 (s), 46.01 (t, $^4J_{\text{CF}} = 6.4$ Hz), 114.40 (s), 123.76 (s), 126.56 (s), 126.91 (d, $^4J_{\text{CF}} = 12.7$ Hz), 129.15 (s), 129.16 ($2 \times \text{dd}$, $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 238.1$ Hz, $^2J_{\text{CF}} = 36.72$ Hz, $^3J_{\text{CF}} = 11.6$ Hz), 141.13 (s), 152.06 (m), 155.16 ($2 \times \text{t}$, $^1J_{\text{CF}} = 243.8$ Hz, $^2J_{\text{CF}} = 33.6$ Hz). Element analysis for $\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{BF}_7\text{N}_2\text{S}_2$ Calc.: C, 49.80; H, 3.55; found: C, 50.38; H, 3.71%.

3.6.1. Crystal structure determination of compound (**8**)

Crystal data and data collection parameters. $[\text{C}_{21}\text{H}_{18}\text{F}_3\text{N}_2\text{S}_2]^+ \cdot [\text{BF}_4]^- \cdot \text{CH}_3\text{NO}_2$, $M = 506.32$, triclinic, $a = 10.3748(2)$, $b = 10.6115(2)$, $c = 11.1250(2)$ Å, $\alpha = 105.897(2)$, $\beta = 93.336(2)$, $\gamma = 113.771(1)^\circ$, $V = 1058.04(4)$ Å³, (by least-squares refinement on 2872 reflections, $2.2 \leq \theta \leq 28.4^\circ$), $T = 123$ K, space group $P-1$, $Z = 2$, $D_c = 1.59$ Mg m^{–3}, $F(000) = 516$, violet bricks with dimensions $0.38 \times 0.16 \times 0.13$, $\mu(\text{Mo K}_\alpha) = 0.326$ mm^{–1}, SADABS absorption correction (the ratio of minimum to maximum apparent transmission is 0.85); Bruker Smart Apex II CCD area-detector diffractometer with graphite-monochromatized Mo K_α radiation ($\lambda = 0.71073$ Å), data collection range $1.9 \leq \theta \leq 28.5^\circ$, $-12 \leq h \leq 13$, $-14 \leq k \leq 13$, $-14 \leq l \leq 14$; 9063 reflections measured, 4744 independent ($R_{\text{int}} = 0.02$), 3168 reflections ($I > 3.00\sigma(I)$) were used in calculations.

Structure solutions and refinement. The structure was solved by direct methods and subsequent Fourier difference techniques, and refined anisotropically, by the full-matrix least-squares technique, on F (CRYSTALS program package) [20]. Hydrogen atoms were located in the difference Fourier maps and refined isotropically. The

Chebyshev weighting scheme [21] was applied with parameters 0.607 0.360 0.304. The final $R = 0.038$ and $R_w = 0.043$, $GOF = 1.129$ for 366 parameters (obs/var ratio 8.66); $\Delta\rho_{\min} = -0.42 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$, $\Delta\rho_{\max} = 0.58 \text{ e } \text{\AA}^{-3}$. CCDC 669464.

3.7. 2-[1,2-Difluoro-2-[2,3,6,7-tetrahydro-1H,5H-pyrido[3,2,1-ij]quinol-9-yl]vinyl]-3-methylbenzothiazolium tetrafluoroborate (**11**)

From a solution of salt **5a** (0.121 g, 0.36 mmol) and julolidine (0.124 g, 0.72 mmol) in CH_3NO_2 (2 ml) allowed to stand for 24 h, dye **11** was precipitated with ether (20 ml) and purified analogously to dye **12**. Yield: 0.13 g (77.4%); m.p. 201 °C (dec). $\lambda_{\max}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})/\text{nm}$ 563; ϵ $6.68 \times 10^4 \text{ l}/(\text{mol cm})$ in CH_3CN . δ_{H} (299.5 MHz; CD_3COCD_3 ; Me_4Si) 2.01 (4H, m, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 2.8 (4H, m, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 3.5 (4H, t, $J = 5.8 \text{ Hz}$, $2 \times \text{CH}_2$), 4.5 (3H, d, $J = 4.1 \text{ Hz}$, CH_3), 7.5 (2H, s, $2 \times \text{CH Ar}$), 7.7–8.3 (4H, m, Ar); δ_{F} (188.1 MHz; CD_3COCD_3 ; CFCl_3) –116.2 (1F, d, $J = 109.2 \text{ Hz}$), –151.0 (4F, s, BF_4), –161.0 (1F, d, $J = 109.2 \text{ Hz}$). Element analysis for $\text{C}_{22}\text{H}_{21}\text{BF}_6\text{N}_2\text{S}$ Calc.: C, 56.17; H, 4.46; found: C, 56.20; H, 4.37%.

3.8. 2-[1,2-Difluoro-2-(3-methyl-2,3-dihydrobenzothiazol-2-ylidene)ethylidene]malononitrile (**12**)

To a solution of $\text{CH}_2(\text{CN})_2$ (0.099 g, 1.5 mmol) in anhydrous CH_2Cl_2 (20 ml), NaH (60%, 0.12 g, 3 mmol) was added; 30 min later, the mixture was cooled to –25 °C, followed by adding compound **5a** (0.5 g, 1.5 mmol) and stirring at this temperature for 1 h and at room temperature for 2 h. The resulting precipitate was filtered off and recrystallized from CHCl_3 to obtain merocyanine **12** (0.1 g). On chromatographing the mother solution in CH_2Cl_2 on silica gel, with the mixture $\text{CHCl}_3:\text{CH}_3\text{CN}$ (10:1) used as eluent, another portion of

dye **12** (0.07 g) was obtained. Yield: 0.17 g (41.46%); m.p. 275–278 °C (dec). $\lambda_{\max}(\text{CH}_3\text{CN})/\text{nm}$ 449; ϵ $8.5 \times 10^4 \text{ l}/(\text{mol cm})$ in CH_3CN . δ_{H} (299.5 MHz; DMSO; Me_4Si) 4.0 (3H, d, $J = 4.5 \text{ Hz}$, CH_3), 7.4–8.0 (4H, m, Ar); δ_{F} (188.1 MHz; DMSO; CFCl_3) –106.4 (1F, d, $J = 91.7 \text{ Hz}$, CF), –170.2 (1F, d, $J = 91.7 \text{ Hz}$, CF). Element analysis for $\text{C}_{13}\text{H}_7\text{F}_2\text{N}_3\text{S}$ Calc.: C, 56.72; H, 2.54; found: C, 56.60; H, 2.55%.

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