

# Structure of 1,5-benzodiazepinones in the solid state and in solution: Effect of the fluorination in the six-membered ring

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## Full Research Paper

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Dedicated to our friend Professor Wolfgang Holzer from the University of Vienna.

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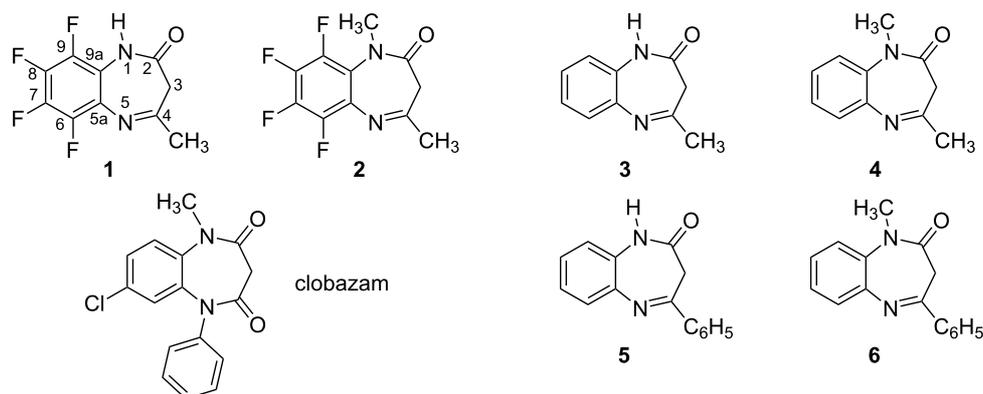
## Abstract

Two novel tetrafluorinated 1,5-benzodiazepinones were synthesized and their X-ray structures determined. 6,7,8,9-Tetrafluoro-4-methyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-1,5-benzodiazepin-2-one crystallizes in the monoclinic  $P2_1/c$  space group and 6,7,8,9-tetrafluoro-1,4-dimethyl-1,3-dihydro-2*H*-1,5-benzodiazepin-2-one in the triclinic  $P\bar{1}$  space group. Density functional theory studies at the B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level were carried out on these compounds and on four non-fluorinated derivatives, allowing to calculate geometries, tautomeric energies and ring-inversion barriers, that were compared with the experimental results obtained by static and dynamic NMR in solution and in solid state.

## Introduction

In our previous paper [1] we already reported the relevance of 1,5-benzodiazepine derivatives in central nervous system pathologies as well as for other applications in medicinal chemistry [2-6], the most important is clobazam (7-chloro-1-methyl-5-phenyl-1*H*-1,5-benzodiazepine-2,4(3*H*,5*H*)-dione, Figure 1).

As a continuation of our research program on the synthesis, spectroscopic and biological properties of 1,5-benzodiazepine derivatives as well as their calculated parameters, we report in the present publication the experimental and theoretical studies of 1,5-benzodiazepinones **1–6**; note that only compounds **1** and



**Figure 1:** The six 1,5-benzodiazepinones discussed in this paper together with clobazam.

**2** are new; for compounds **3–6** we used literature data together with new computational results.

## Results and Discussion

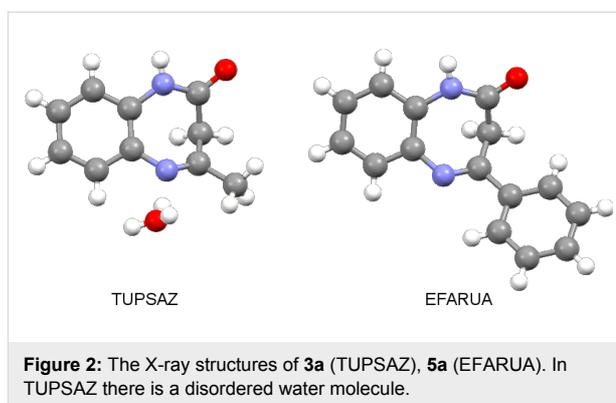
### Synthesis

6,7,8,9-Tetrafluoro-4-methyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodiazepin-2-one (**1**) was prepared in 63% yield by the reaction of 1,2-diamino-3,4,5,6-tetrafluorobenzene with ethyl acetylacrylate (ethyl 3-oxobutanoate) following the literature procedure to prepare **3** [7] (Scheme 1). Further treatment with iodomethane under basic conditions afforded 6,7,8,9-tetrafluoro-1,4-dimethyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodiazepin-2-one (**2**) in 80% yield.

### Geometries

The geometries of two related structures together with their codes as reported in the Cambridge Structural Database [8,9] are shown in Figure 2.

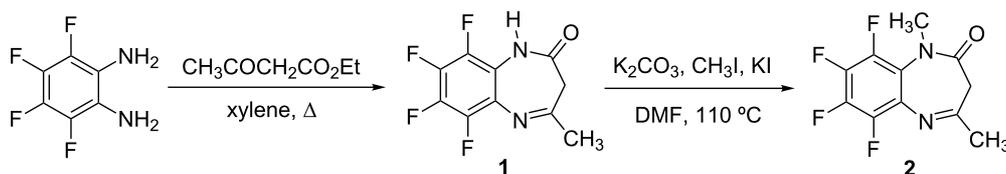
Compound **1** crystallizes in the monoclinic  $P2_1/c$  space group containing one molecule per asymmetric unit (Figure 3; the numbering used in the crystallographic part is different from that of Figure 1). The bonding distances and angles agree with the electronic distribution according to one amide group on the C1 atom and one double bond, C3–N2, (tautomer **a** in Figure 7). The molecule is not planar due to the folding of the seven-membered ring with C1, C2 and C3 out of the plane defined by



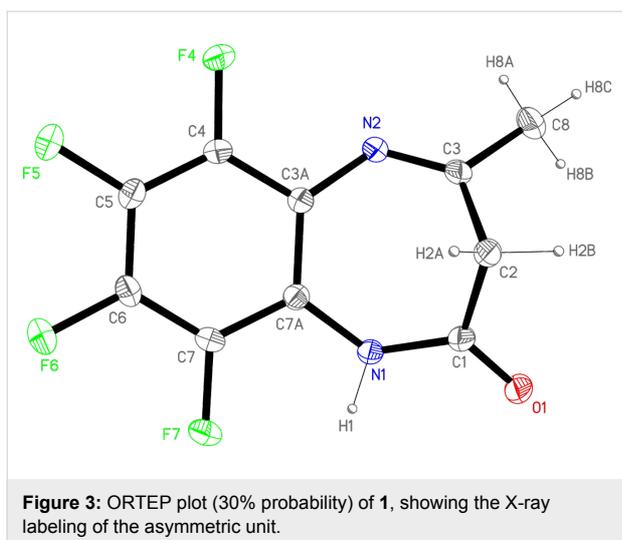
**Figure 2:** The X-ray structures of **3a** (TUPSAZ), **5a** (EFARUA). In TUPSAZ there is a disordered water molecule.

the aromatic ring and the nitrogen atoms. The dihedral angles between this plane and those formed by the C1N1O1 and N2C3C8 atoms are  $35.4(2)^\circ$  and  $41.7(2)^\circ$ , respectively.

These molecules are linked forming dimers by symmetric hydrogen bonds between the amide group and the carbonyl oxygen atom of an adjacent one (distances  $N1H1 \cdots O1'$  1.932(2) Å and  $N1 \cdots O1'$  2.877(2) Å; angle NHO  $162.7(1)^\circ$ ). These dimers interact by double intermolecular F–F contacts between the F5 of a molecule and the F6 of a neighboring one (distance 2.875(2) Å) giving rise to a zigzag chain in the [10-1] direction (Figure 4). These chains are stacked by a partial  $\pi$ – $\pi$  overlapping between the aromatic rings with a shortest distance of 3.19(1) Å.

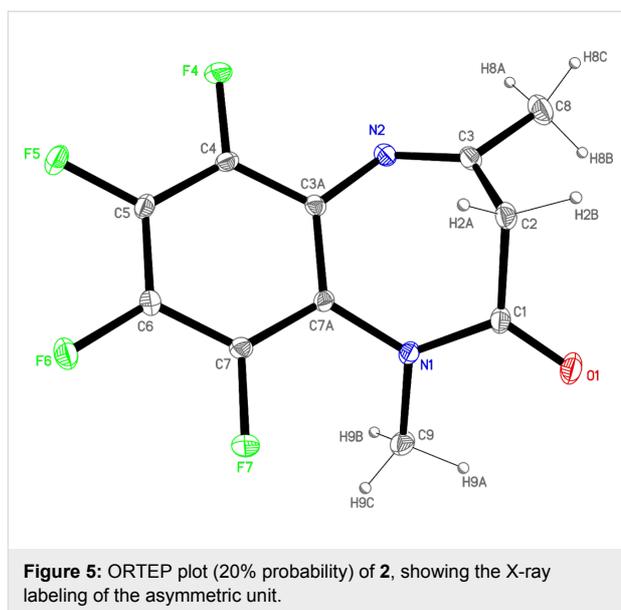


**Scheme 1:** Synthesis of compounds **1** and **2**.



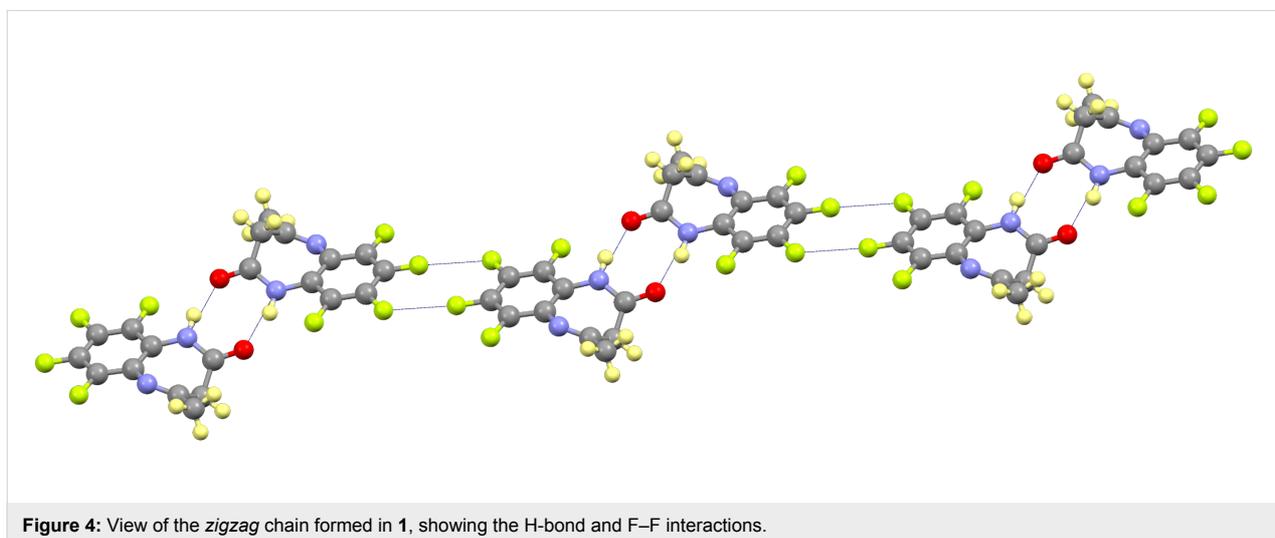
Compound **2** crystallizes in the triclinic  $P\bar{1}$  space group containing one molecule per asymmetric unit (Figure 5). As for compound **1**, the molecular geometry corresponds to tautomer **a**. The seven-membered ring is also folded with dihedral angles between the aromatic ring and C1N1O1 of  $44.1(3)^\circ$  and with N2C3C8 of  $43.2(3)^\circ$ . This higher values compared to compound **1** indicate a greater deformation in the seven-membered ring owing to the presence of the *N*-methyl substituent.

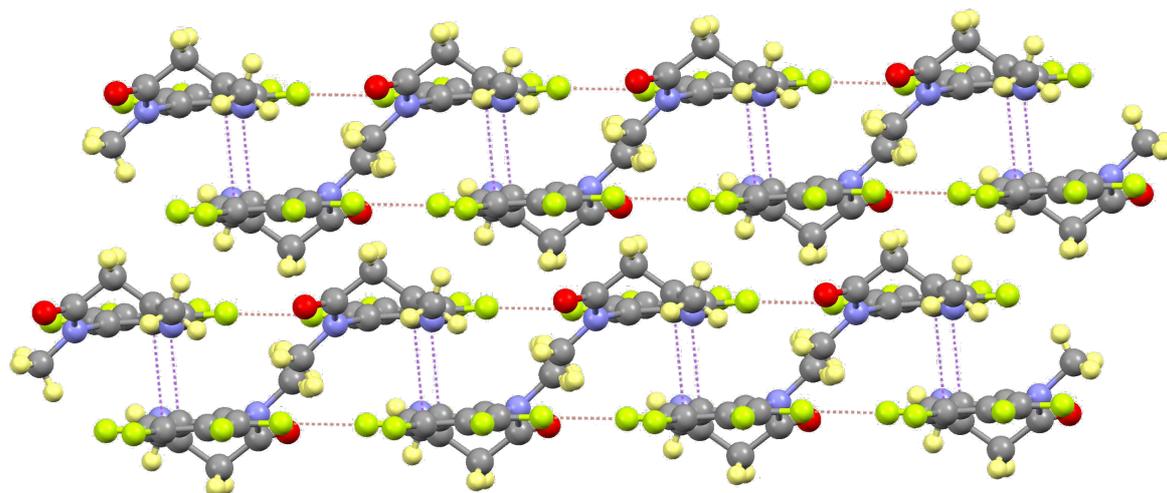
The *N*-methylation prevents the dimerization by hydrogen bonding leading to a very different packing. Therefore, the most significant intermolecular interaction is the F–F contact between the F4 and F7 atoms of adjacent molecules (distance  $2.669(3)$  Å) giving rise to chains along the *b* axis (Figure 6). Each chain is placed antiparallel to the following one in order to minimize the steric hindrance of the groups out of plane. The two chains interact by  $\pi$ – $\pi$  overlapping between their aromatic



rings, with a shortest distance of  $3.35(1)$  Å. The so formed double chains are isolated because of the above-mentioned steric reasons.

We compared the geometries of compounds **3** (TUPSAZ) [8,10] and **5** (EFARUA) [8-10] (Figure 2) with those determined in the present work, **1** and **2**. To describe the folding of the seven-membered ring we used the distance  $d$  in Å between the methylene carbon and the plane defined by the benzene ring. These values are  $1.36$  Å (**3**),  $1.26$  Å (**5**),  $1.33$  Å (**1**) and  $1.57$  Å (**2**), thus the 1,5-benzodiazepinone with a 4-methyl ring, **3**, is more bent than that with a 4-phenyl ring, **5**. More significant for the present work, the *N*-methyl substituent folded considerably the ring, compare **2** with **1**, this being related to the inversion process discussed below.



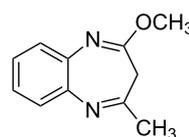


**Figure 6:** Packing of **2** showing the F–F contacts along the chain (orange) and the  $\pi$ – $\pi$  interactions that form the double chain (violet).

## Energies and tautomerism

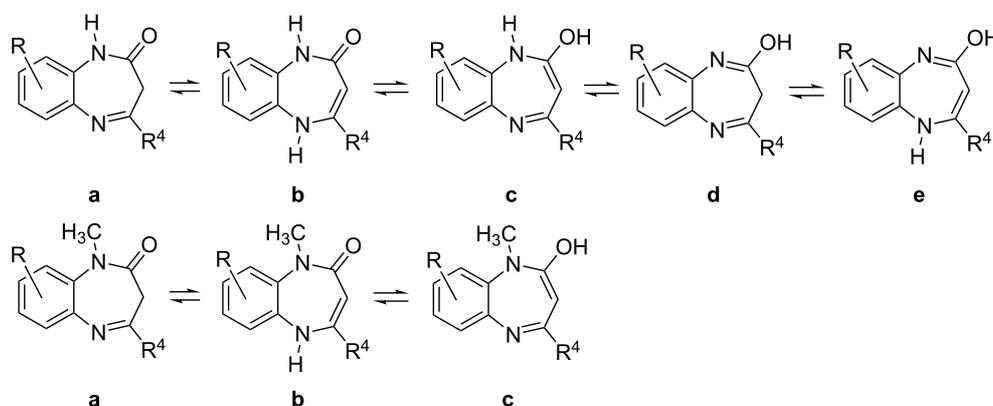
For the *1H*-derivatives five possible tautomers exist while for the *N*-methyl ones only three different tautomers are possible (Figure 7).

Mannschreck et al. already concluded in 1967 that **3** has the structure **3a** based on a methylene signal at 3.14 ppm [11]. This is also compatible with tautomer **3d** but considering that amides never exist as imidic acids, Mannschreck's conclusion is certainly right. Varma et al. reported in 2008 that the reaction between *o*-phenylenediamine and methyl acetylacetae yields the methoxy derivative **7** (Figure 8) without any reported proof [12]. In a subsequent paper they reported that the reaction of *o*-phenylenediamine using ethyl acetylacetae instead of methyl acetylacetae yielded the expected diazepinone that they represent using the tautomer **3d** again without any reported proof, neither in the main text nor in the supplementary data [13].



**Figure 8:** 2-Methoxy-4-methyl-3*H*-1,5-benzodiazepine (**7**).

A comprehensive theoretical study of the tautomerism of **3** was carried out by Okovytyy et al. in 2010, including monoethanol and diethanol solvates as well as dimeric forms [14] (they do not consider tautomer **3e**). In the gas phase their relative energies (in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>) are: **3a** (0.0) > **3b** (14.6) > **3d** (48.5) > **3c** (93.4) and with an ethanol molecule they are: **3a** (0.0) > **3b** (0.6) > **3d** (51.3) > **3c** (70.0). The great stabilization of **3b** due to ethanol does not correspond to that observed by



**Figure 7:** The different tautomers in the *1H* and 1-methyl series.

Mannschreck in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  [11]. Our calculations (gas phase) are reported in Table 1.

**Table 1:** Relative stabilities in  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$  of the different tautomers of compounds shown in Figure 1 and Figure 7.

Compound	a	b	c	d	e
<b>1</b>	0.0	9.0	90.0	45.8	55.0
<b>2</b>	0.0	18.6	99.7	–	–
<b>3</b>	0.0	14.7	96.5	48.6	64.0
<b>4</b>	0.0	22.5	105.7	–	–
<b>5</b>	0.0	16.6	96.6	48.4	66.2
<b>6</b>	0.0	24.4	105.1	–	–

Our results agree with those of Okovytyy et al. [14] now including **3e**: **3a** (0.0) > **3b** (14.7) > **3d** (48.6) > **3e** (64.0) > **3c** (96.5). For the remaining compounds always is **a** (0.0) > **b** (18  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$  in average), the other tautomers having considerably higher energies. Always tautomer **b** is destabilized by *N*-methylation (in average, 8.4  $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ ) probably due to a steric effect; the conjugated tautomer **b** tends to be planar and this is indeed the case for *1H*-derivatives **1b**, **3b** and **4b**. The introduction of an *N*-methyl group, derivatives **2b**, **4b** and **6b**, fold the seven-membered ring with a concomitant destabilization of these tautomers.

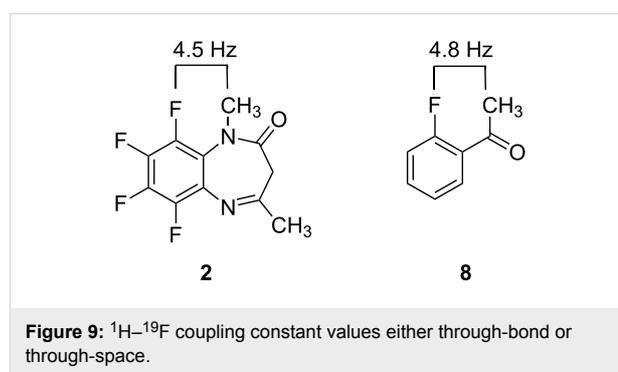
The tautomerism between **a** and **b** implies the breaking/formation of a C–H bond. This is similar to the case of acetylacetone (diketo and ketoenol tautomers) that when both tautomers are present, both can be observed by NMR because the tautomerization barrier is high enough. Therefore, if a  $\text{CH}_2$  group is observed in  $^1\text{H}$  or in  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR in the case of 1,5-benzodiazepinones only tautomer **a** is present in solution.

## Chemical shifts and spin–spin coupling constants (SSCC)

Mannschreck et al. reported the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR chemical shifts ( $\delta$  in ppm) of **3a** in  $\text{CDCl}_3$ : 2.38 ( $\text{CH}_3$ ), 3.14 ( $\text{CH}_2$ ) and 9.99 (NH) [11]. Benasi et al. reported those of **5a** ( $\delta_A = 3.08$ ,  $\delta_B = 4.25$ ,  $J_{AB} = 12.00$  Hz) and **6a** ( $\delta_A = 3.02$ ,  $\delta_B = 4.15$ ,  $J_{AB} = 12.00$  Hz;  $\text{CH}_3$ , 3.34) in acetone [15]. Those of **5a** in  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$  are 3.87 and 4.62 ppm [16]. A paper by Bernardini et al. reports all the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR chemical shifts and some  $^1\text{H}$ – $^{13}\text{C}$  coupling constants for compounds **3–6** [17].

We report in Table 2 ( $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR data) and Table 3 ( $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR data) the results we have obtained for compounds **1** and **2** in different solvents and in the solid state together with the theoretical calculated values.

There are several interesting results concerning the data reported in Table 2. One of them is the  $J_{\text{HF}}$  coupling constant present in the *N*-methyl group of compound **2**. This coupling constant, of about 4.5 Hz, identifies unambiguously F9, i.e. it is a  $^5J_{\text{HF9}}$  because all the calculated values for the coupling constants between the *N*-methyl protons and the fluorine atoms are very small (about 0.1 Hz) except that with F9 (calculated 6.6 Hz). In the literature (Figure 9), there is a related coupling constant present in 2-fluoroacetophenone (**8**) [18]. Note that this  $^1\text{H}$ – $^{19}\text{F}$  coupling can be through-bonds, i.e. a  $^5J$  or through-space, a common problem involving  $^{19}\text{F}$  [19,20]. Starting from the F9 assignment, the ( $^{19}\text{F}$ – $^{19}\text{F}$ ) COSY experiments permitted to establish the correlation F9–F8–F7–F6, in both compounds.



Another interesting coupling is the geminal  $^2J_{\text{HH}} \approx 12$  Hz of the methylene group in the case of compound **2**. This coupling is well reproduced by the calculations  $\approx -10.5$  Hz. Next, we compared the experimental and calculated chemical shifts (Table 2). For  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  all together, ( $n = 44$  values in solution) the correlations are very good ( $R^2 = 1.000$ ) but this is due to the fact that these nuclei appear at very different chemical shifts. Considering only the protons and not including the NH protons ( $n = 20$ ), the regressions are good, for instance,  $\delta_{\text{CDCl}_3} = -(0.4 \pm 0.1) + (1.26 \pm 0.04) \delta_{\text{Calcd}}$   $R^2 = 0.995$ .

The part concerning  $^{19}\text{F}$  chemical shifts is less satisfactory. There are 32 values including those determined in the solid state. Imposing the intercept to be 0 (and considering that the calculations do not reproduce well the chemical shifts of F6 and F9, we found  $\delta^{19}\text{F} = (1.005 \pm 0.003) \delta_{\text{Calcd}} - (4.4 \pm 0.7) \text{F6} + (4.0 \pm 0.7) \text{F9} + (2.7 \pm 0.7) \text{CPMAS}$ . The worse points are **1**  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ , F9 exp.  $-151.1$ , fitted  $-155.8$ ; **2**  $\text{toluene}-d_8$ , F9 exp.  $-146.3$ , fitted  $-142.9$ . The reason of this anomaly concerning the fluorine atoms closer to the nitrogen atoms remains unclear.

In what concerns the FF coupling constants,  $^3J_{\text{FF}}$  and  $^5J_{\text{FF}}$  agree with the calculated values; the average values being: experimental  $|21.4|$  ( $^3J_{\text{F}}$ ) and  $|9.1|$  ( $^3J_{\text{F9}}$ ) and calculated  $-22.0$  ( $^3J_{\text{F}}$ ) and 11.1 Hz ( $^3J_{\text{F9}}$ ).

**Table 2:**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  chemical shifts ( $\delta$ , ppm,  $\Delta\delta = \delta_{\text{eq}} - \delta_{\text{ax}}$ ) and SSCC ( $^1\text{H}-^1\text{H}$ ;  $^1\text{H}-^{19}\text{F}$ ;  $^{19}\text{F}-^{19}\text{F}$  Hz) of compounds **1** and **2** at 300 K together with the calculated values in ppm and Hz.

Comp.	Conditions	CH <sub>3</sub>	CH <sub>2</sub>	NR	F6	F7	F8	F9
<b>1</b>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>	2.46	3.24 $\Delta\delta = 0.00$	R = H 8.08	-147.8 $^3J_{\text{F7}} = 21.6$ $^5J_{\text{F9}} = 9.6$	-161.9 $^3J_{\text{F8}} = 21.6$	-159.7 $^3J_{\text{F9}} = 21.6$	-154.5
<b>1</b>	toluene- <i>d</i> <sub>8</sub>	1.83	2.39 $\Delta\delta = 0.00$	R = H 7.80	-148.5 $^3J_{\text{F7}} = 21.7$ $^5J_{\text{F9}} = 9.6$	-163.8 $^3J_{\text{F8}} = 21.7$	-161.7 $^3J_{\text{F9}} = 21.7$	-154.8
<b>1</b>	DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub>	2.32	3.24 $\Delta\delta = 0.00$	R = H 10.66	-149.8 $^3J_{\text{F7}} = 22.7$ $^5J_{\text{F9}} = 7.5$	-164.6 $^3J_{\text{F8}} = 22.7$	-162.5 $^3J_{\text{F9}} = 22.7$	-151.1
<b>1</b>	solid state <sup>a</sup>	–	–	–	-144.9	-161.5	-159.0	-150.6
<b>1</b>	calculated	2.31	2.49 (ax) 3.23 (eq) $\Delta\delta = 0.74$ $J_{\text{ae}} = -10.6^{\text{b}}$	R = H 6.71	-142.8 $^3J_{\text{F7}} = -22.0$ $^4J_{\text{F8}} = -1.5$ $^5J_{\text{F9}} = +11.6$	-163.0 $^3J_{\text{F8}} = -21.9$ $^4J_{\text{F9}} = -6.0$	-160.0 $^3J_{\text{F9}} = -22.0$	-159.0 $^4J_{\text{F7}} = -6.0$
<b>2</b>	CDCl <sub>3</sub>	2.43	2.93 (ax) 3.53 (eq) $\Delta\delta = 0.60$ $J_{\text{ae}} = 11.7$	R = Me 3.30 (d) $^5J_{\text{F9}} = 4.2$	-148.5 $^3J_{\text{F7}} = 20.7$ $^5J_{\text{F9}} = 8.8$	-159.7 $^3J_{\text{F8}} = 20.7$	-159.8 $^3J_{\text{F9}} = 20.7$	-145.2 <sup>b</sup>
<b>2</b>	toluene- <i>d</i> <sub>8</sub>	1.85	2.03 (ax) 2.86 (eq) $\Delta\delta = 0.83$ $J_{\text{ae}} = 11.6$	R = Me 2.88 (d) $^5J_{\text{F9}} = 4.4$	-148.7 $^3J_{\text{F7}} = 21.4$ $^5J_{\text{F9}} = 8.4$	-161.3 $^3J_{\text{F8}} = 21.4$	-161.6 $^3J_{\text{F9}} = 21.4$	-146.3 $^4J_{\text{F7}} = 8.4$ $^5J_{\text{CH3}} = 4.4$
<b>2</b>	DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub>	2.31	3.19 (ax) 3.45 (eq) $\Delta\delta = 0.27$ $J_{\text{ae}} = 12.1$	R = Me 3.18 (d) $^5J_{\text{F9}} = 4.6$	-150.0 <sup>c</sup>	-162.1 <sup>c</sup>	-162.1 <sup>c</sup>	-144.7 <sup>c</sup>
<b>2</b>	solid state <sup>a</sup>	–	–	–	-146.0	-156.8	-160.9	-142.1
<b>2</b>	calculated	2.27	2.47 (ax) 3.20 (eq) $\Delta\delta = 0.73$ $J_{\text{ae}} = -10.3$	R = Me 3.13 (d) $^5J_{\text{F9}} = 6.6$	-144.3 $^3J_{\text{F7}} = -22.2$ $^4J_{\text{F8}} = -2.8$ $^5J_{\text{F9}} = +10.6$	-160.4 $^3J_{\text{F8}} = -22.1$ $^4J_{\text{F9}} = -3.3$	-160.7 $^3J_{\text{F9}} = -21.6$	-146.1 $^4J_{\text{F7}} = -3.3$

<sup>a</sup>Obtained using the hpdec.av sequence; <sup>b</sup>This coupling constant agrees with the experimental one found at 193 K in toluene-*d*<sub>8</sub> (see Barriers section); <sup>c</sup>Complex multiplet.

Table 3 reports the  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR data; here the situation is more difficult because the  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR signals of the benzene ring carbons are coupled with all the fluorine atoms giving rise to multiplets, which have been analyzed using the Mnova 8.1.0 NMR software [21] for spin simulation, and when needed by irradiation of the  $^1\text{H}$  nuclei to simplify the spectra. In the gs-HMBC ( $^1\text{H}-^{13}\text{C}$ ) spectra, a correlation between the C4–CH<sub>3</sub> protons and C4 permitted to assign to the latter the chemical shifts at 168.7 ppm for **1** and 170.9 for **2**, in accordance with the calculated values. However, the  $^{13}\text{C}$  CPMAS signals corresponding to carbon atoms C6 to C9 could not be properly analyzed, and only the centers of the multiplets are given (138.1 and 138.6 ppm for **1** and **2**, respectively). Some couplings involving the fluorine atoms are not well reproduced by the calculations, this is particularly apparent for the  $^1J_{\text{CF}}$ , that are overestimated, in absolute value, by about 68 Hz. The overestimation and difficulty to calculate coupling constants involving  $^{19}\text{F}$  has been reported several times [20,22,23].

Concerning the  $^{15}\text{N}$  experimental spectra all nitrogen atoms appear as singlets in solution as well as in the solid state, only small coupling constants with the fluorine substituents have been theoretically calculated so most probably the width of the experimental signals mask them.

In Table S1 in Supporting Information File 1 the experimental (from references [11,15-17]) and calculated  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR chemical shifts ( $\delta$ , ppm) of compounds **3a** to **6a** are reported. The agreement between experimental and calculated values is either good or excellent.

### Barriers (all in $\text{kJ mol}^{-1}$ )

The experimental inversion barriers of **3a**, **5a** (twice) and **6a** have been determined and are given in Table 4. We have calculated those of **1a** and **2a**. The barriers for an AB system that become an A<sub>2</sub> one depend on three values: i) the coalescence temperature  $T_C$ ; ii) the difference in Hz of the protons of the AB

**Table 3:**  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR chemical shifts ( $\delta$ , ppm) and some coupling constants (Hz) of compounds **1** and **2** in solution and in the solid state together with the calculated values (ppm and Hz).

Comp.	Conditions	C2	C3	C4	4-CH <sub>3</sub>	N-CH <sub>3</sub>	C5a	C9a
<b>1</b>	DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub>	165.3	44.6	168.7	27.6	–	126.6 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> = 9.9	117.1 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> = 13.1
<b>1</b>	CPMAS	167.1	44.4	169.2	25.6	–	125.2	116.5
<b>1</b>	<i>Calcd</i>	161.4	44.5	165.8	27.9	–	126.5 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>F6</sub> = 4.0	116.2 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>F9</sub> = 3.4
<b>2</b>	DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub>	165.0	43.7	170.9	27.4	35.8 <sup>4</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>F9</sub> = 8.7	128.4 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> = 11.2	121.2 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> = 8.9
<b>2</b>	CPMAS	165.8	42.6	173.3	27.3	36.2	128.7	121.5
<b>2</b>	<i>Calcd</i>	162.3	44.1	168.9	27.4	36.9 <sup>4</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>F9</sub> = 8.5	129.8 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>F6</sub> = 2.7	122.2 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>F9</sub> = 2.1
		C6	C7	C8	C9	N1	N5	
<b>1</b>	DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub>	140.9 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = 246.0 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> = 10.5 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> = 3.7	136.3 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = 245.3 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> ≈ 13.5 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> ≈ 11.6 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> = 3.8	137.3 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = 246.0 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> ≈ 14.0 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> ≈ 13.2 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> = 4.4	138.2 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = 245.3 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> = 11.8 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> = 3.8	–254.3	–86.9	
<b>1</b>	CPMAS	138.1 <sup>a</sup>	138.1 <sup>a</sup>	138.1 <sup>a</sup>	138.1 <sup>a</sup>	–249.6	–85.0	
<b>1</b>	<i>Calcd</i>	145.2 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = –316.6	139.8 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = –314.4	140.7 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = –316.7	139.1 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = –303.3	–256.7 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>N1F9</sub> = –1.9	–82.0 <sup>4</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>N5F7</sub> = 1.5 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>N5F6</sub> = 5.2	
<b>2</b>	DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub>	140.6 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = 251.4 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> = 12.1 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> = 5.0	137.3 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = 248.3 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> ≈ 16.2 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> ≈ 15.4 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> = 4.8	137.3	140.2 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = 241.8 <sup>2</sup> <i>J</i> = 14.6 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> = 4.9	–264.3	–90.5	
<b>2</b>	CPMAS	138.6 <sup>a</sup>	138.6 <sup>a</sup>	138.6 <sup>a</sup>	138.6 <sup>a</sup>	–259.2	–90.2	
<b>2</b>	<i>Calcd</i>	143.8 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = –316.1	140.7 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = –315.5	140.3 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = –315.3	142.8 <sup>1</sup> <i>J</i> = –310.3	–256.2 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>N1F9</sub> = –2.1	–85.0 <sup>4</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>N5F7</sub> = 1.4 <sup>3</sup> <i>J</i> <sub>N5F6</sub> = 5.2	

<sup>a</sup>Very complex multiplet.**Table 4:** Experimental and calculated inversion barriers (kJ mol<sup>–1</sup>).

	<b>1a</b>	<b>2a</b>	<b>3a</b>	<b>4a</b>	<b>5a</b>	<b>6a</b>
$\Delta G^\ddagger_{\text{exp.}}$	toluene- <i>d</i> <sub>8</sub> <i>T</i> <sub>C</sub> = 230 K $\Delta\nu_{\text{AB}}$ = 450.0 Hz <i>J</i> <sub>AB</sub> = 10.9 Hz 42.6	DMSO- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> <i>T</i> <sub>C</sub> = 373 K $\Delta\nu_{\text{AB}}$ = 103.5 Hz <i>J</i> <sub>AB</sub> = 12.1 Hz 75.0 toluene- <i>d</i> <sub>8</sub> <i>T</i> <sub>C</sub> = 363 K $\Delta\nu_{\text{AB}}$ = 303.1 Hz <i>J</i> <sub>AB</sub> = 11.6 Hz 69.8	pyridine- <i>d</i> <sub>5</sub> /CDCl <sub>3</sub> 39.8 [11]	–	acetone- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> 41.8 [15] 52.7 [16]	acetone- <i>d</i> <sub>6</sub> 65.3 [15]
$\Delta G^\ddagger_{\text{calcd.}}$	36.7	81.7	42.4	61.9	38.2	63.8

system ( $\Delta\nu_{\text{AB}}$ ), and iii) the geminal coupling constant,  $J_{\text{AB}}$  (or  $J_{\text{ae}}$ ). The inversion rate at the coalescence temperature for an AB system is given by  $k_{\text{C}} = \pi/\sqrt{2} \cdot \sqrt{\Delta\nu^2 + 6 J_{\text{AB}}^2}$  [11] and the barrier by the modified Eyring equation [24–26],  $\Delta G^\ddagger = 19.12 \cdot T_{\text{C}} (10.32 + \log T_{\text{C}}/k_{\text{C}})$  [18–20]. From the values in

Table 4 we have determined the corresponding experimental inversion barriers.

The agreement between experimental and calculated values is satisfactory: using for **2a** the 75.0 kJ mol<sup>–1</sup> and for **5a** the

41.8 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> values we obtained by linear regression (no intercept)  $\Delta G_{\text{exp}}^{\ddagger} = (0.99 \pm 0.04) \Delta G_{\text{calcd}}^{\ddagger}$ ,  $n = 5$ ,  $R^2 = 0.993$ . This equation predicts for **4a** 61.0 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>. Note the increase between toluene and DMSO that corresponds to the raise of inversion barriers with that of the solvent polarity; a similar behavior has been reported for diazepam (7-chloro-1,3-dihydro-1-methyl-5-phenyl-2H-1,4-benzodiazepin-2-one) [27].

When using calculated values it is possible to analyze the main effects on the barriers that in the present case are three: i) *N*-methylation; ii) 6,7,8,9-tetrafluorination; iii) the substituent at position 4 (CH<sub>3</sub> or C<sub>6</sub>H<sub>5</sub>). This last effect is negligible, the other two interact, then a product term (i · ii) is necessary to model the behavior. The regression corresponds to the following equation (all values in kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>):

$$\text{Calculated barrier} = (40.3 \pm 1.6) + (22.6 \pm 2.3) \text{NMe} - (3.6 \pm 2.8) \text{C}_6\text{F}_4 + (22.5 \pm 4.0) \text{NMe} \cdot \text{C}_6\text{F}_4, n = 6, R^2 = 0.993$$

The average barrier is 40.3 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>. *N*-Methylation increases the barrier 22.6 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> in average; the introduction of four F atoms produces a small effect of 3.6 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup> but when there is simultaneously an *N*-methyl group and four F atoms (compound **2a**), the increase of the barrier is considerable (22.5 kJ mol<sup>-1</sup>). An examination of the TS for **2a** shows that the protons of the *N*-methyl group are very close to F9 (Figure 10).

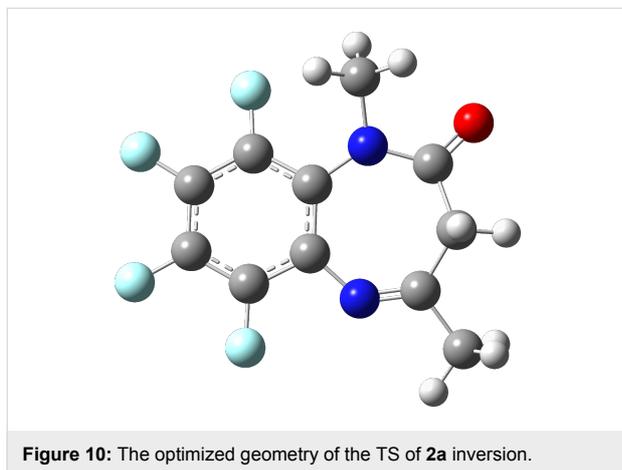


Figure 10: The optimized geometry of the TS of **2a** inversion.

## Conclusion

A clearer picture of the behavior of 1,5-benzodiazepinones emerges from the present paper. Concerning tautomerism, our results confirm previous studies while extending them to the 6,7,8,9-tetrafluoro derivatives. The folding of the structures in the solid-state is general, the *N*-methyl group having a marked effect. An exhaustive NMR study of the tetrafluoro derivatives, together with literature data on four other non-fluorinated 1,5-benzodiazepinones, lead to values of the chemical shifts that

compare well with GIAO calculated ones with the exception of F6 and F9. Finally, the inversion barrier of the seven-membered ring of the new compounds has been determined and compared with theoretically calculated values, illustrating the considerable effect of the *N*-methylation particularly when there is a fluorine atom on C9.

## Experimental

**General Information.** All chemicals cited in the synthetic procedures are commercial compounds. Melting points were determined by DSC with a SEIKO DSC220C connected to a model SSC5200H disk station. Thermograms (sample size 0.004 g) were recorded with a scan rate of 5.0 °C. Column chromatography was performed on silica gel (Merck 60, 70–230 mesh) and elemental analyses using a Perkin-Elmer 240 apparatus.

**6,7,8,9-Tetrafluoro-4-methyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodiazepin-2-one (1).** 1,2-Diamino-3,4,5,6-tetrafluorobenzene (0.50 g, 2.78 mmol) and ethyl acetylacacetate (0.36 mL, 2.85 mmol) were heated at 120 °C in anhydrous xylene (5 mL) for 6 hours. The mixture was cooled and then a solid precipitated. This residue was washed with diethyl ether to give compound **1** (0.43 g, 63%); white solid; mp 155.2 °C. Anal. calcd for C<sub>10</sub>H<sub>6</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O: C, 48.79; H, 2.46; N, 11.38; found: C, 48.04; H, 2.60; N, 11.41.

**6,7,8,9-Tetrafluoro-1,4-dimethyl-1,3-dihydro-2H-1,5-benzodiazepin-2-one (2).** A solution of **1** (0.40 g, 1.62 mmol) in DMF (2 mL) was heated at 110 °C in the presence of iodomethane (0.11 mL, 1.79 mmol), K<sub>2</sub>CO<sub>3</sub> (0.27 g, 1.95 mmol) and a catalytic quantity of KI for 90 min. The mixture was cooled, treated with cold water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The ethyl acetate was evaporated and the crude was purified by column chromatography (hexane/ethyl acetate 7:3) to afford compound **2** (0.34 g, 80%); pale yellow solid; mp 132.2 °C. Anal. calcd for C<sub>11</sub>H<sub>8</sub>F<sub>4</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O: C, 50.78; H, 3.10; N, 10.77; found: C, 50.91; H, 3.15; N, 10.76.

**X-ray data collection and structure refinement.** Data collection for all compounds was carried out at room temperature on a Bruker Smart CCD diffractometer using graphite-monochromated Mo K $\alpha$  radiation ( $\lambda = 0.71073$  Å) operating at 50 kV and 30 mA for **1** and **2**. In all cases, data were collected over a hemisphere of the reciprocal space by combination of three exposure sets. Each exposure was of 20 s covered 0.3 in  $\omega$ . The cell parameter were determined and refined by a least-squares fit of all reflections. The first 100 frames were recollected at the end of the data collection to monitor crystal decay, and no appreciable decay was observed. A summary of the fundamental crystal and refinement data is given in Table 5.

The structures were solved by direct methods and refined by full-matrix least-square procedures on  $F^2$  (SHELXL-97) [28]. All non-hydrogen atoms were refined anisotropically.

The hydrogen atoms were included in their calculated positions and refined riding on the respective carbon atoms with the exception of hydrogen H1 bonded to N1 for **1** that was located in a Fourier synthesis and refined riding on the respective bonded atom.

Further crystallographic details for the structure reported in this paper may be obtained from The Cambridge Crystallographic Data Center, on quoting the depository numbers CCDC 946878 and 946879. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to The Director, CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB2 1EZ, UK (Fax: int. code +(1223)336-0333; email: [deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk](mailto:deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk)).

**Theoretical calculations.** The geometry of the molecules has been fully optimized with the hybrid HF/DFT B3LYP [29-31] computational method and the 6-31G(d) basis set [32]. Frequency calculations have been carried out at the same computational level to verify that the structures obtained correspond to energetic minima. A further optimization has been

carried out at the B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) level [33,34]. These geometries have been used for the calculations of the absolute chemical shieldings with the GIAO method [35,36] and the B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) computational level. All the calculations have been carried out with the Gaussian-09 package [37].

The literature equations shown in Figure 11 have been used to transform absolute shieldings into chemical shifts.

## Experimental NMR

Solution spectra were recorded on a Bruker DRX 400 (9.4 Tesla, 400.13 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$ , 100.62 MHz for  $^{13}\text{C}$ , 40.56 MHz for  $^{15}\text{N}$  and 379.50 MHz for  $^{19}\text{F}$ ) using a 5 mm QNP direct-detection probehead equipped with a z-gradient coil, at 300 K. Chemical shifts ( $\delta$  in ppm) are given from internal solvent, DMSO- $d_6$  2.49 for  $^1\text{H}$  and 39.5 for  $^{13}\text{C}$ ;  $\text{CDCl}_3$  7.26 for  $^1\text{H}$  and toluene- $d_8$  2.09 for  $^1\text{H}$ , and for  $^{15}\text{N}$  and  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR, nitromethane (0.00) and one drop of  $\text{CFCl}_3$  in  $\text{CDCl}_3$  (0.00) were used as external references.

Typical parameters for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were spectral width of 4800 Hz and pulse width of 10.25  $\mu\text{s}$  at an attenuation level of  $-3.0$  dB. Typical parameters for  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were spectral width of 21 kHz, pulse width of 8.75  $\mu\text{s}$  at an attenuation

**Table 5:** Crystal data and refinement data for **1** and **2**.

Crystal Data	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>
Empirical formula	$\text{C}_{10}\text{H}_6\text{F}_4\text{N}_2\text{O}_1$	$\text{C}_{11}\text{H}_8\text{F}_4\text{N}_2\text{O}_1$
Formula wt	246.17	260.19
Crystal system. Space group	Monoclinic $P2_1/c$	Triclinic $P-1$
$a/\text{\AA}$	5.2821(5)	7.224(4)
$b/\text{\AA}$	18.255(1)	8.064(4)
$c/\text{\AA}$	10.2102(9)	10.478(5)
$\alpha/^\circ$		77.136(9)
$\beta/^\circ$	100.93(1)	76.311(9)
$\gamma/^\circ$		68.510(8)
$V/\text{\AA}^3$	966.6(1)	545.5(5)
Z	4	2
$D_c/\text{g/cm}^3$	1.692	1.584
$\mu(\text{Mo K}\alpha)/\text{mm}^{-1}$	0.164	0.150
F(000)	496	264
$\theta$ range/ $^\circ$	2.23 to 25.01	2.02 to 25.00
Index ranges	-6, -18, -8 to 6, 21, 12	-8, -9, -12 to 7, 9, 12
Reflections collected	4110	4184
Unique reflections [Rint]	1709 [Rint = 0.0233]	1869 [R(int) = 0.0350]
Completeness to theta	100%	97.0%
Data/restraints/params	1709/0/155	1869/0/163
Goodness-of-fit on $F^2$	1.006	0.999
R1 (reflns obsd) [ $I > 2\sigma(I)$ ] <sup>a</sup>	0.0386 (1267)	0.0443 (1306)
wR2 (all data) <sup>b</sup>	0.0935	0.1539

<sup>a</sup> $R1 = \sum||F_o| - |F_c||/\sum|F_o|$ . <sup>b</sup> $wR2 = \{\sum[w(F_o^2 - F_c^2)^2]/\sum[w(F_o^2)^2]\}$ .

$$\delta \text{ } ^1\text{H} = 31.0 - 0.97 \cdot \sigma^1\text{H} \quad \text{equation 1 (reference TMS, 0.00 ppm) [38]}$$

$$\delta \text{ } ^{13}\text{C} = 175.7 - 0.963 \cdot \sigma^{13}\text{C} \quad \text{equation 2 (reference TMS, 0.00 ppm) [39]}$$

$$\delta \text{ } ^{15}\text{N} = -152.0 - 0.946 \cdot \sigma^{15}\text{N} \quad \text{equation 3 (external reference neat MeNO}_2\text{, 0.00 ppm) [39]}$$

**Figure 11:** Equations used to transform absolute shieldings into chemical shifts [38,39].

level of  $-3$  dB and relaxation delay of 2 s, WALTZ-16 used for broadband proton decoupling; the FIDS were multiplied by an exponential weighting ( $lb = 1$  Hz) before Fourier transformation. Typical parameters for  $^{19}\text{F}$  NMR spectra were spectral width of 55 kHz, pulse width of 13.75  $\mu\text{s}$  at an attenuation level of  $-6$  dB and relaxation delay of 1 s. WALTZ-16 was used for broadband proton decoupling  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$ , the FIDS were multiplied by an exponential weighting ( $lb = 1$  Hz) before Fourier transformation. Homonuclear  $^{19}\text{F}$ – $^{19}\text{F}$  experiment does not require any modification of the standard *gs*-COSY pulse sequences; selected parameters for  $^{19}\text{F}$  COSY spectra were: spectral width of 55 KHz, TD1 = 512 for  $F_1$  domain, spectral width of 55 KHz, TD1 = 1024 for  $F_2$  domain, number of scans 4, dummy scans DS = 2 and relaxation delay of 1 s.

Inverse proton detected heteronuclear shift correlation spectra, ( $^1\text{H}$ – $^{13}\text{C}$ ) *gs*-HMBC, were acquired and processed using standard Bruker NMR software and in nonphase-sensitive mode. Gradient selection was achieved through a 5% sine truncated shaped pulse gradient of 1 ms.

Inverse proton-detected heteronuclear shift correlation spectra, ( $^1\text{H}$ – $^{15}\text{N}$ ) *gs*-HMQC and ( $^1\text{H}$ – $^{15}\text{N}$ ) *gs*-HMBC, were acquired and processed using standard Bruker NMR software and in nonphase-sensitive mode. Gradient selection was achieved through a 5% sine truncated shaped pulse gradient of 1 ms. Selected parameters for ( $^1\text{H}$ – $^{15}\text{N}$ ) *gs*-HMQC and ( $^1\text{H}$ – $^{15}\text{N}$ ) *gs*-HMBC spectra were spectral width of 3500 Hz for  $^1\text{H}$  and 12.5 kHz for  $^{15}\text{N}$ , 1024 x 256 data set, number of scans 4, relaxation delay of 1 s, 37–60 ms delay for evolution of the  $^{15}\text{N}$ – $^1\text{H}$  long-range coupling. The FIDs were processed using zero filling in the  $F_1$  domain and a sine-bell window function in both dimensions was applied prior to Fourier transformation.

Variable temperature was performed using a Bruker BVT3000 temperature unit to control the temperature of the cooling gas stream and an exchanger to achieve low temperatures. To avoid problems at low temperatures caused by air moisture, pure nitrogen was used as bearing, driving and cooling gas.

Solid state  $^{13}\text{C}$  (100.73 MHz) and  $^{15}\text{N}$  (40.60 MHz) CPMAS NMR spectra have been obtained on a Bruker WB 400 spectrometer at 300 K using a 4 mm DVT probehead. Samples were carefully packed in 4 mm diameter cylindrical zirconia rotors with Kel-F end-caps. Operating conditions involved 2.9  $\mu\text{s}$   $90^\circ$   $^1\text{H}$  pulses and decoupling field strength of 86.2 kHz by TPPM sequence.  $^{13}\text{C}$  NMR spectra were originally referenced to a glycine sample and then the chemical shifts were recalculated to the  $\text{Me}_4\text{Si}$  (for the carbonyl atom  $\delta$  (glycine) = 176.1 ppm) and  $^{15}\text{N}$  NMR spectra to  $^{15}\text{NH}_4\text{Cl}$  and then converted to nitromethane scale using the relationship:  $\delta \text{ } ^{15}\text{N}(\text{nitromethane}) = \delta \text{ } ^{15}\text{N}(\text{ammonium chloride}) - 338.1$  ppm.

The typical acquisition parameters for  $^{13}\text{C}$  CPMAS were: spectral width, 40 kHz; recycle delay, 5 s; acquisition time, 30 ms; contact time, 2 ms; and spin rate, 12 kHz. In order to distinguish protonated and unprotonated carbon atoms, the NQS (non-quaternary suppression) experiment by conventional cross-polarization was recorded; before the acquisition the decoupler is switched off for a very short time of 25  $\mu\text{s}$  [40–42]. And for  $^{15}\text{N}$  CPMAS were: spectral width, 40 kHz; recycle delay, 5 s; acquisition time, 35 ms; contact time, 6 ms; and spin rate, 6 kHz.

Solid-state  $^{19}\text{F}$  (376.94 MHz) NMR spectra have been obtained on a Bruker WB 400 spectrometer using a MAS DVT BL2.5 X/F/H triple resonance probehead. Samples were carefully packed in 2.5 mm diameter cylindrical zirconia rotors with Kel-F end-caps. Samples were spun at the magic angle at rates of 25 kHz and the experiments were carried out at ambient probe temperature.

Typical parameters for single pulse  $^{19}\text{F}$  MAS NMR spectra were: spectral width, 75 KHz; pulse width, 2.5  $\mu\text{s}$ ; recycle delay, 10 s; scans, 128; and spin rate, 25 kHz.

The typical acquisition parameters  $^{19}\text{F}\{^1\text{H}\}$  MAS were: spectral width, 75 kHz; recycle delay, 10 s; pulse width, 2.5  $\mu\text{s}$  and proton decoupling field strength of 100 kHz by SPINAL-64

sequence; recycle delay, 10 s; acquisition time, 25 ms; 128 scans; and spin rate, 25 kHz.

The  $^{19}\text{F}$  spectra were referenced to ammonium trifluoroacetate sample and then the chemical shifts were recalculated to the  $\text{CFCl}_3$  [ $\delta$  ( $\text{CF}_3\text{COONH}_4^+$ ) =  $-72.0$  ppm]

## Supporting Information

Variable temperature  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra,  $^{13}\text{C}$ ,  $^{15}\text{N}$ ,  $^{19}\text{F}$  solid state NMR spectra; Table S1 containing calculated and some experimental  $^1\text{H}$ ,  $^{13}\text{C}$  and  $^{15}\text{N}$  chemical shifts ( $\delta$ , ppm) of compounds **3a** to **6a**; Geometry ( $\text{\AA}$ ), energy (hartree) and number of imaginary frequencies of the different tautomers calculated at the B3LYP/6-311++G(d,p) computational level.

### Supporting Information File 1

Additional material.

[<http://www.beilstein-journals.org/bjoc/content/supplementary/1860-5397-9-253-S1.pdf>]

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