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(54) Titre : ESTERS FLUORES
(54) Title: FLUORINATED ESTERS

(57) **Abrégé/Abstract:**

A compound comprising Formula 2A, 2B, or 2 CA, $(R_a \text{ O-CO-})_2 Y$: Formula 2A, $R_a \text{ O-CO-Y-CO-O-(CH}_2\text{CH}_2)_n R_f$; Formula 2B, $R_a \text{ O-CO-Y-CO-O-R}$: Formula 2C wherein R_a is the group (i) $R_f(\text{CH}_2\text{CF}_2)_d(\text{C}_g\text{H}_{2g})_-$; (ii) $R_f\text{OCF}_2\text{CF}_2(\text{C}_g\text{H}_{2g})_-$; (iii) $R_f\text{OCFHCF}_2\text{O}(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{O})_v(\text{C}_g\text{H}_{2g})_-$; (iv) $R_f\text{OCFHCF}_2\text{O}(\text{C}_w\text{H}_{2w})_-$; (v) $R_f\text{OCF}(\text{CF}_3)\text{CONH}(\text{C}_g\text{H}_{2g})_-$; or (vi) $R_f(\text{CH}_2)_h[(\text{CF}_2\text{CF}_2)(\text{CH}_2\text{CH}_2)_j]_k$. each R_f is independently $\text{C}_c\text{F}_{(2c+1)}$; c is 2 to about 6; d is 1 to about 3; g is 1 to 4; v is 1 to about 4; w is from about 3 to about 12; h is 1 to about 6; i, j, and k are each independently 1, 2, or 3, or a mixture thereof; provided that the total number of carbon atoms in group (vi) is from about 8 to about 22; Y is a linear or branched diradical having olefinic unsaturation of the formula $-\text{C}_e\text{H}_{(2e-2)}-$ wherein e is 2 or 3; R is H or a linear or branched alkyl group $\text{C}_b\text{H}_{(2b+1)}-$; and b is from 1 to about 18.

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(54) Title: FLUORINATED ESTERS

(57) Abstract: A compound comprising Formula 2A, 2B, or 2 CA, (R_a-O-CO-)₂Y: Formula 2A, R_a-O-CO-Y-CO-O-(CH₂CH₂)R_f; Formula 2B, R_a-O-CO-Y-CO-O-R; Formula 2C wherein R_a is the group (i) R_f(CH₂CF₂)_d-(C_gH_{2g})₋; (ii) R_fOCF₂CF₂-(C_gH_{2g})₋; (iii) R_f OCFHCF₂O(CH₂CH₂O)_v-(C_gH_{2g})₋; (iv) R_fOCFHCF₂O(C_wH_{2w}

FLUORINATED ESTERS

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Historically, many fluoroalkyl surfactants were based on the
 5 perfluoroalkylethanols, $F(CF_2CF_2)_qCH_2CH_2OH$, the so-called “Telomer B
 alcohols”, where q was typically about 2 to 10. The Telomer B alcohols and
 their preparation are described by Kirchner et al. in US Patent 5,202,506. Other
 fluoroalkyl surfactants based on Telomer B alcohols have included “twin-tailed”
 anionic surfactants such as
 10 $F(CF_2CF_2)_q(CH_2CH_2)OCOCH_2CH(SO_3Na)COO(CH_2CH_2)(CF_2CF_2)_qF$,
 where q is as defined above, prepared by firstly reacting two moles of one or more
 perfluoroalkylethanols with one of maleic anhydride and, secondly, reacting the
 diester product with sodium hydrogen sulfite solution, as described, for instance,
 by Yoshino et al. in “Surfactants having polyfluoroalkyl chains. II. Syntheses of
 15 anionic surfactants having two polyfluoroalkyl chains including a trifluoromethyl
 group at each tail and their flocculation-redispersion ability for dispersed
 magnetite particles in water”, Journal of Fluorine Chemistry (1995), 70(2), 187-
 91. Yoshino et al. reported examples wherein q was 2, 3, and 4 for use in
 supercritical carbon dioxide. Yoshino et al. report twin-tailed surfactants
 20 wherein both end groups are limited to perfluoroalkyl groups.

Nagai et al. in US Patent Application 2008/0093582, describe twin-tailed
 surfactants of the structure $R_f-(CH_2)_{n1}-(X^1)_{p1}-CH(SO_3M)(X^2)_{q1}-R_h$
 wherein R_f is a fluoroalkyl group that may contain an ether bond, X^1 and X^2 are
 the same or different divalent linking groups; M is H, an alkali metal, half an
 25 alkaline earth metal, or ammonium; R_h is an alkyl group; $n1$ is an integer of 1 to
 10; and $p1$ and $q1$ are each 0 or 1.

One common route to perfluoroalkylethanols used to make such
 surfactants is a multi-step process using tetrafluoroethylene. Tetrafluoroethylene
 is a hazardous and expensive intermediate with limited availability. It is
 30 desirable to provide fluorinated surfactants that use less or no tetrafluoroethylene
 in their preparation. It is also desirable to provide new and improved fluorinated
 surfactants in which the perfluoroalkyl group of the prior art is replaced by
 partially fluorinated terminal groups that require less tetrafluoroethylene and show
 increased fluorine efficiency. By “fluorine efficiency” is meant the ability to use
 35 a minimum amount of fluorochemical to obtain a desired surface effect or
 surfactant properties, when applied to substrates, or to obtain better performance

using the same level of fluorine. A polymer having high fluorine efficiency generates the same or greater level of surface effect using a lower amount of fluorine than a comparative polymer. The present invention provides such improved fluorinated surfactants.

5

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention further comprises a compound comprising Formula 2A, 2B, or 2C



wherein

R_a is the group (i) $R_f(CH_2CF_2)_d-(C_gH_{2g})-$; (ii) $R_fOCF_2CF_2-(C_gH_{2g})-$; (iii) $R_fOCFHCF_2O(CH_2CH_2O)_v-(C_gH_{2g})-$; (iv) $R_fOCFHCF_2O(C_wH_{2w})-$; (v) $R_fOCF(CF_3)CONH-(C_gH_{2g})$; or (vi) $R_f(CH_2)_h[(CF_2CF_2)_i(CH_2CH_2)_j]_k$;

each R_f is independently $C_cF_{(2c+1)}$; c is 2 to about 6; d is 1 to about 3; g is 1 to about 4; v is 1 to about 4; w is from about 3 to about 12; h is 1 to about 6; i , j , and k are each independently 1, 2, or 3, or a mixture thereof; provided that the total number of carbon atoms in group (vi) is from about 8 to about 22;

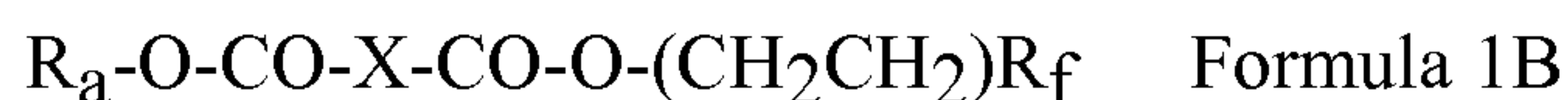
Y is a linear or branched diradical having olefinic unsaturation of the formula $-C_eH_{(2e-2)}-$

wherein e is 2 or 3; R is H or a linear or branched alkyl group $C_bH_{(2b+1)}-$; and b is from 1 to about 18.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION

Herein trademarks are shown in upper case.

The surfactants of the present invention have the structure of Formulae 1A, 1B, or 1C.

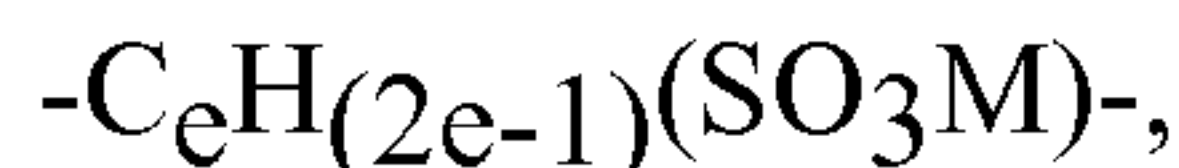


wherein

R is H or a linear or branched alkyl group $C_bH_{(2b+1)}$ - wherein b is from 1 to about 18, preferably from about 6 to about 18;

each R_f is independently $C_cF_{(2c+1)}$ having c of from about 2 to about 6, preferably from 2 to 4, and more preferably 4;

5 X is a linear or branched difunctional alkyl sulfonate group



wherein e is from 2 or 3, preferably 3; and M is a monovalent cation which is hydrogen, ammonium, alkali metal, or alkaline earth metal, and is preferably Na;

R_a is selected from the group consisting of structure (i) through (vi)
10 wherein R_f is as defined above, and g is 1 to about 4, preferably from 1 to 3, and more preferably 2:

(i) $R_f(CH_2CF_2)_d-(C_gH_{2g})-$ wherein d is 1 to about 3, preferably from 1 to 2, and more preferably 1;

(ii) $R_fOCF_2CF_2-(C_gH_{2g})-$;

15 (iii) $R_fOCFHCF_2O(CH_2CH_2O)_v-(C_gH_{2g})-$ wherein v is 1 to about 4, preferably from 1 to 2, and more preferably 2;

(iv) $R_fOCFHCF_2O(C_wH_{2w})-$ wherein w is from about 3 to about 12, preferably from 4 to 6, and more preferably 4;

(v) $R_fOCF(CF_3)CONH-(C_gH_{2g})-$; or

20 (vi) $R_f(CH_2)_h[(CF_2CF_2)_i(CH_2CH_2)_j]_k$ wherein h is 1 to about 6, preferably from 1 to 3, and more preferably 1; and i, j, and k are each independently 1, 2, or 3, or a mixture thereof, preferably 1 or 2, and more preferably 1; provided that the total number of carbon atoms in group (vi) is from about 8 to about 22.

25 The preferred R_a groups are (i), (ii), (iii), and (iv). Preferred embodiments of Formula 1A, 1B and 1C are those wherein R_a is group (i) $R_f(CH_2CF_2)_d-(C_gH_{2g})-$, (ii) $R_fOCF_2CF_2-(C_gH_{2g})-$; (iii) $R_fOCFHCF_2O(CH_2CH_2O)_v-(C_gH_{2g})-$; or (iv) $R_fOCFHCF_2O(C_wH_{2w})-$; when c is 3 or 4; and X is $CH_2CH(SO_3M)$, $CH_2CH(CH_2SO_3M)$, $CH(CH_3)CH(SO_3M)$,
30 $CH_2CH(SO_3M)CH_2$, or $CH_2CH(SO_3M)CH_2CH_2$. More specifically preferred embodiments of Formula 1A, 1B and 1C are when d is 1, g is 1 or 2, and R_f is C_3F_7 or C_4F_9 . Also specifically preferred are compounds wherein R_f is C_3F_7 or C_4F_9 and X is $C_3H_5(SO_3Na)$ or $CH_2CH(SO_3Na)$. The compound of Formula

1B wherein R_a is $C_4F_9CH_2CF_2CH_2CH_2$ or $C_3F_7CH_2CF_2CH_2CH_2$ and R_f is $(CF_2)_6F$ is also preferred.

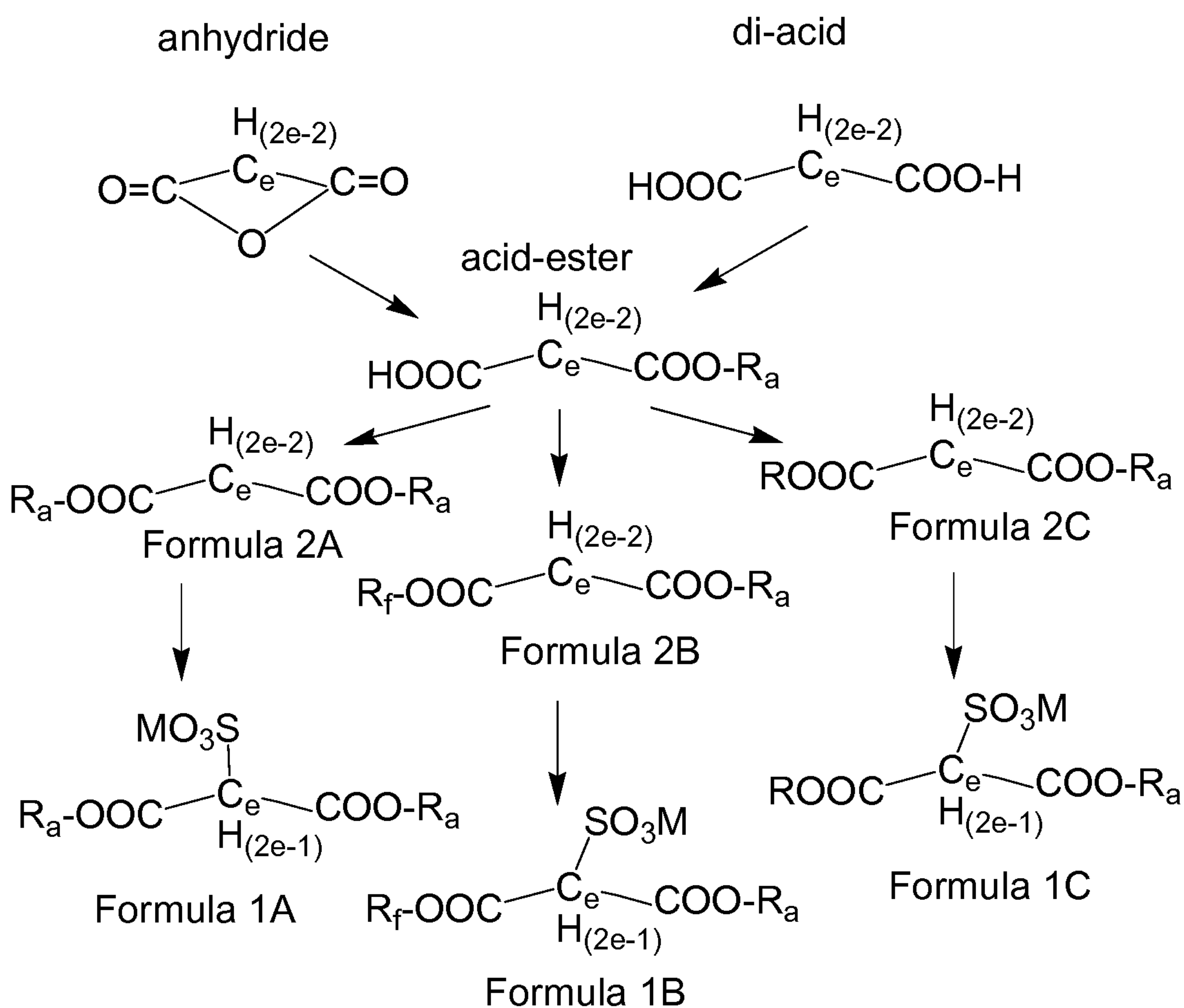
A preferred embodiment of Formula 1A ($R_aOCO-X-COOR_a$) is

$C_4F_9CH_2CF_2CH_2CH_2OC(O)C_3H_5(SO_3Na)C(O)OCH_2CH_2CF_2CH_2C_4F_9$. A

5 preferred embodiment of Formula 1B is $C_4F_9CH_2CF_2CH_2CH_2OC(O)CH_2-$
 $CH(SO_3Na)C(O)OCH_2CH_2(CF_2)_6F$. A preferred embodiment of Formula 1C is
 $C_4F_9CH_2CF_2CH_2CH_2OC(O)CH_2CH(SO_3Na)C(O)O(CH_2)_6H$.

10 The surfactants of Formulae 1A, 1B, and 1C economize on the use of tetrafluoroethylene in their preparation and provide comparable or improved surfactant properties, versus prior art surfactants derived from Telomer B alcohols.

The surfactants of Formulae 1A, 1B, and 1C are prepared via the unsaturated intermediates of Formulae 2A, 2B, and 2C according to the following Reaction Scheme A:



Scheme A

The unsaturated intermediates used in the preparation of Formula 1A, 1B and 1C are compounds of Formula 2A, 2B and 2C:



wherein

R_a is the group

- (i) $R_f(CH_2CF_2)_d-(C_gH_{2g})-$;
- (ii) $R_fOCF_2CF_2-(C_gH_{2g})-$;
- 10 (iii) $R_fOCFHCF_2O(CH_2CH_2O)_v-(C_gH_{2g})-$;
- (iv) $R_fOCFHCF_2O(C_wH_{2w})-$;
- (v) $R_fOCF(CF_3)CONH-(C_gH_{2g})-$; or
- (vi) $R_f(CH_2)_h[(CF_2CF_2)_i(CH_2CH_2)_j]_k-$

each R_f is independently $C_cF_{(2c+1)}$;

15 c is 2 to about 6, preferably from 2 to 4, more preferably 4;

d is 1 to about 3, preferably from 1 to 2, more preferably 1;

g is 1 to 4, preferably from 1 to 3, more preferably 2;

v is 1 to about 4, preferably from 2 to 3, more preferably 2;

w is from about 3 to about 12, preferably from 4 to 6, more preferably 4;

20 h is 1 to about 6, preferably from 1 to 3, more preferably 2;

i , j , and k are each independently 1, 2, or 3, or a mixture thereof, preferably 1 or 2, more preferably 1;

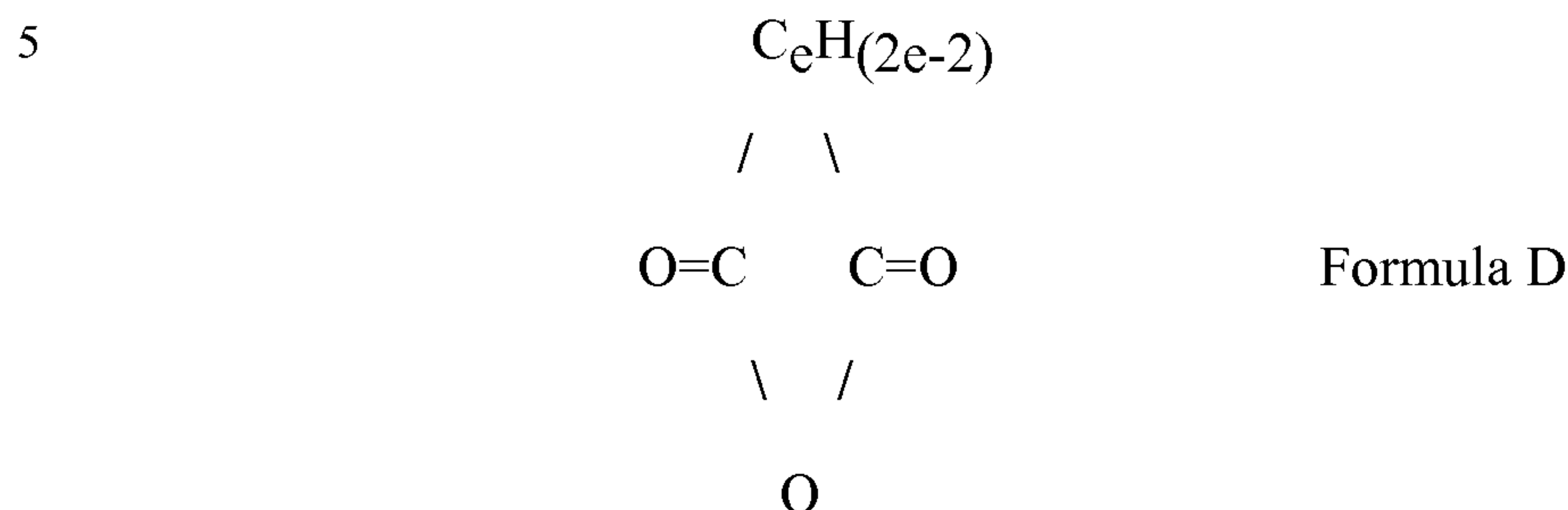
provided that the total number of carbon atoms in group (vi) is from about 8 to about 22;

25 Y is a linear or branched diradical having olefinic unsaturation of the formula $-C_eH_{(2e-2)}-$

wherein e is 2 or 3, preferably 2; R is H or a linear or branched alkyl group $C_bH_{(2b+1)}-$; and

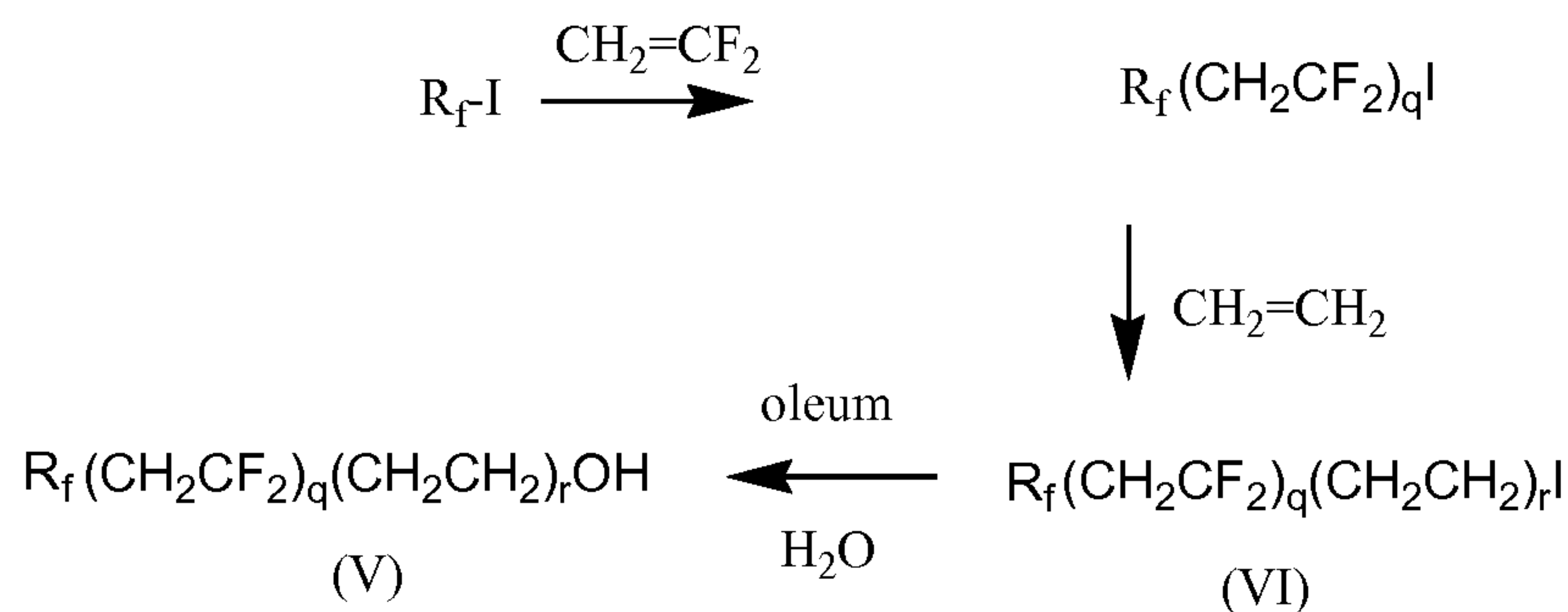
b is from 1 to about 18, preferably from 6 to 18.

The surfactants of Formula 1A are prepared by reacting two moles of fluoroalcohols of formula $R_a\text{-OH}$ wherein R_a is defined as above with one mole of an unsaturated linear or branched dibasic acid of the structure $C_eH_{(2e-2)}(COOH)_2$ or its anhydride of Formula D



wherein e is 2 or 3 to form the unsaturated diester of Formula 2A as an intermediate. Methods for carboxylic acid esterification are conventional as discussed by Jain and Masse in "Carboxylic acid esters: synthesis from carboxylic acids and derivatives" in Science of Synthesis (2006), 20b, 711-723. An acid catalyst or dehydrating agent is preferred when reacting the free acid groups with alcohols. An example of an acid catalyst is *p*-toluenesulfonic acid in toluene, and an example of a dehydrating agent is dicyclohexylcarbodiimide in methylene chloride. Preferred unsaturated dibasic acids and corresponding anhydrides are maleic, itaconic (methylenesuccinic acid), citraconic (methylmaleic acid), *trans*-glutaconic ($HOOCCH_2CH=CHCOOH$), and *trans-beta*-hydromuconic ($HOOCCH_2CH=CHCH_2COOH$) acids and anhydrides. The unsaturated diester of Formula 2A is then reacted with aqueous sodium hydrogen sulfite to form the sulfonic acid. Sulfonation techniques are described by Roberts in "Sulfonation Technology for Anionic Surfactant Manufacture", Organic Process Research & Development 1998, 2, 194-202, and by Sekiguchi et al. in US Patent 4,545,939. Alternatively, the olefinic precursors described above can be converted to the sulfonates of Formulae 1A, 1B, and 1C by the addition of sulfur trioxide to the double bond. The free sulfonic acid can be used as the surfactant, or the sulfonic acid can be converted to the ammonium salt, the alkali metal salt, or an alkaline earth metal salt, and preferably to the sodium salt. Those skilled in the art will recognize other sulfonation methods, such as those described by Roberts and Sekiguchi (above) are applicable and are included in the present invention.

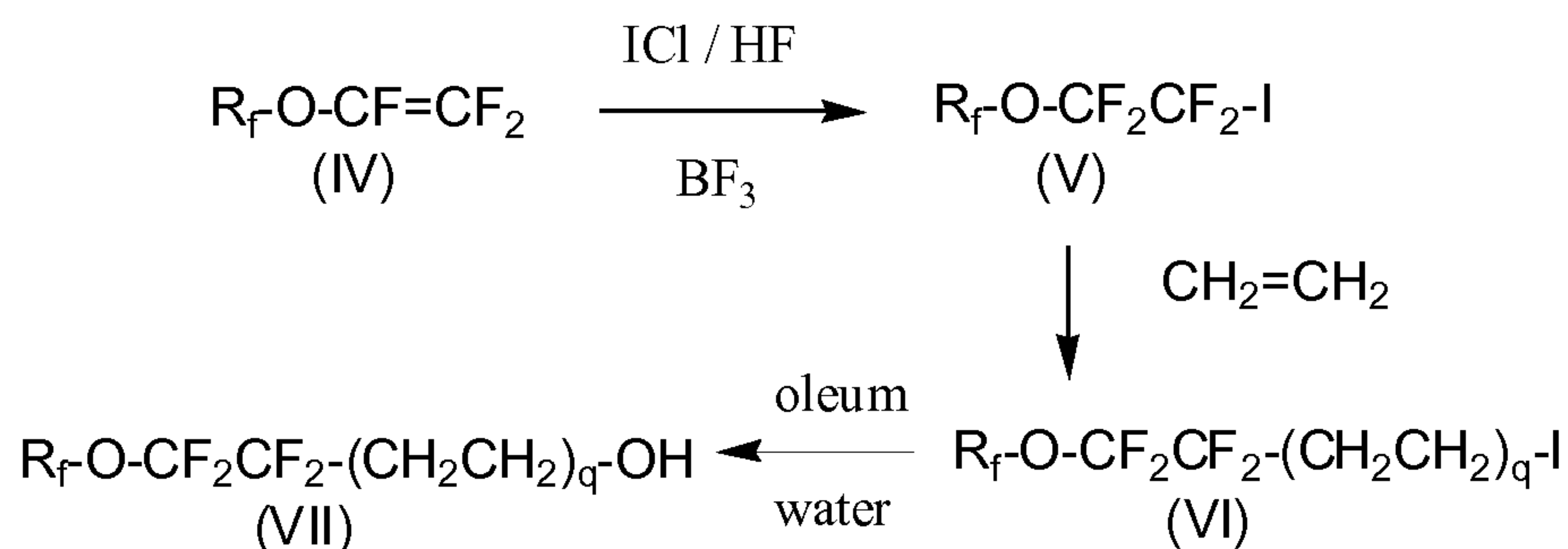
Addition of the sulfonate group across the double bond of Formulae 1A, 1B, and 1C to make the surfactants of Formulae 2A, 2B, and 2C results in the formation of stereo-isomers and regio-isomers. For the purposes of the present



Scheme 1

The telomerization of vinylidene fluoride with linear or branched perfluoroalkyl iodides produces compounds of the structure $\text{R}_f(\text{CH}_2\text{CF}_2)_q\text{I}$, wherein, q is 1 or more and R_f is a C_2 to C_6 perfluoroalkyl group. For example, see Balague, et al, "Synthesis of fluorinated telomers, Part 1, Telomerization of vinylidene fluoride with perfluoroalkyl iodides", J. Fluorine Chem. (1995), 70(2), 215-23. The specific telomer iodides are isolated by fractional distillation. The telomer iodides are treated with ethylene by procedures described in US Patent 3,979,469 to provide the telomer ethylene iodides (VI of Scheme 1) wherein r is 1 to 3 or more. The telomer ethylene iodides (VI of Scheme 1) are treated with oleum and hydrolyzed to provide the corresponding telomer alcohols (V of Scheme 1) according to procedures disclosed in WO 95/11877. Alternatively, the telomer ethylene iodides (VI of Scheme 1) can be treated with N-methyl formamide followed by ethyl alcohol/acid hydrolysis.

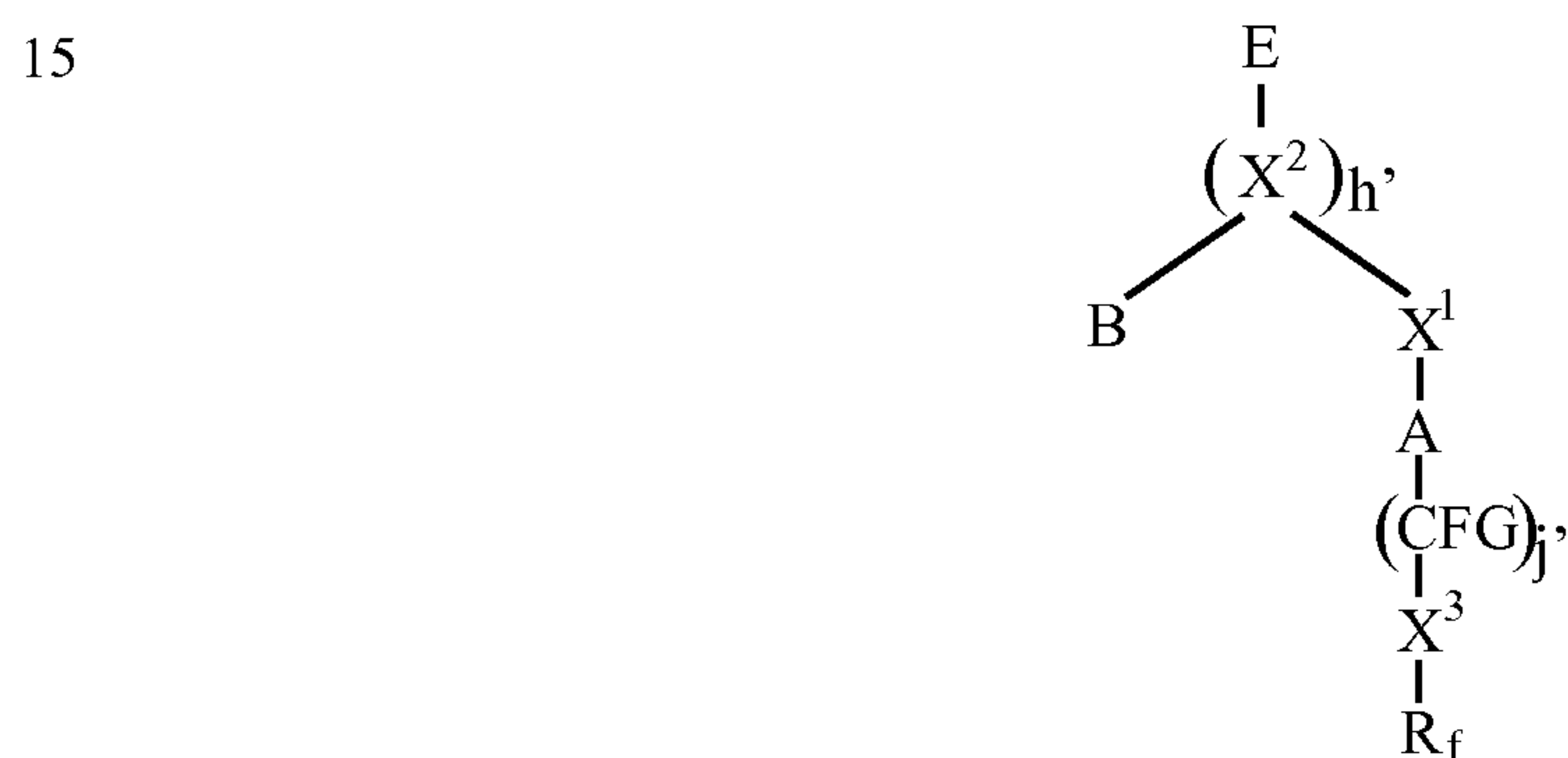
The R_a group of Formula (ii), $\text{R}_f\text{OCF}_2\text{CF}_2(\text{C}_g\text{H}_{2g})-$, is obtained by preparing fluoroalcohols of the formula $\text{R}_f\text{OCF}_2\text{CF}_2\text{-CH}_2\text{CH}_2\text{OH}$ which are available by the following series of reactions wherein R_f is a linear or branched C_2 to C_6 perfluoroalkyl optionally interrupted by one to three oxygen atoms and q is an integer of 1 to 3:



Scheme 2

The R_a group of Formula (iv) $R_f\text{OCFHCf}_2\text{O}(\text{C}_w\text{H}_{2w})-$ wherein w is from about 3 to about 12, is prepared by the reaction of a perfluorohydrocarbonvinyl ether with a diol in the presence of an alkali metal compound. Preferred ethers include those of formula $R_f\text{-O-CF=CF}_2$ wherein R_f is a perfluoroalkyl of two to six carbons. The diol is used at about 1 to about 15 mols per mol of ether, preferably from about 1 to about 5 mols per mol of ether. Suitable alkali metal compounds include an alkali metal, alkali earth metal, alkali hydroxide, alkali hydride, or an alkali amide. Preferred are alkali metals such as Na, K or Cs, or alkali hydrides such as NaH or KH. The reaction is conducted at a temperature of from about 40°C to about 120°C. The reaction can be conducted in an optional solvent, such as ether or nitrile.

The R_a group of Formula (v), $R_f\text{OCF}(\text{CF}_3)\text{CONH-CH}_2\text{CH}_2-$, is prepared by making a fluorinated alcohol of Formula 4:



wherein

R_f is a straight or branched perfluoroalkyl group having from about 2 to about 6 carbon atoms, or a mixture thereof,

X^3 is oxygen or X^1 ,

each X^1 is independently an organic divalent linking group having from about 1 to about 20 carbon atoms, optionally containing an oxygen, nitrogen, or sulfur, or a combination thereof,

G is F or CF_3 , A is an amide, j' is zero or positive integer,

X^2 is an organic linking group, h' is zero or one, B is H, and E is hydroxyl.

The compound of Formula 4 is prepared by reaction between a perfluorinated ester (prepared according to reported methods in US Patent 6,054,615 and US Patent 6,376,705 each herein incorporated by reference) with a

4. The compound of claim 1 wherein Y is CH=CH, CH₂C(=CH₂), C(CH₃)=CH₂, CH=CHCH₂, or CH₂CH=CHCH₂.
5. The compound of claim 2 wherein d is 1, g is 1 and R_f is C₃F₇ or C₄F₉.
- 5 6. The compound of claim 5 wherein Y is CH=CH, CH₂C(=CH₂), or C(CH₃)=CH₂.
7. The compound of claim 1 wherein R_a is C₄F₉CH₂CF₂CH₂CH₂ or C₃F₇CH₂CF₂CH₂CH₂ and R_f is (CF₂)₆F.