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The Dakin-West Reaction of *N*-Alkoxy carbonyl-*N*-alkyl- -amino Acids Employing Trifluoroacetic Anhydride

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Abstract. The Dakin-West reaction of *N*-alkyl-*N*-alkoxy carbonyl- -amino acids (1a-j) with trifluoroacetic anhydride in the presence of pyridine gave -amido trifluoromethyl ketones (2a-j), in which probable intermediates were mesoionic 1,3-oxazolium-5-olates (munchnones) (3). The diastereoselective reduction of 2a-f with NaBH₄ gave the threo-aminoalcohols (5a-f), which may be explained by the Felkin-Anh model. This was confirmed by converting 5a-f into trans-5-trifluoromethyl-2-oxazolidinones (6a-f) in good yields.

