

Preliminary communication

Preparation and nucleophilic addition reactions of methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl- β -D-*erythro*-hex-2-enopyranoside; synthetic utility of α -sulfonylalkene intermediates in carbohydrate chemistry

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α -Sulfonylalkenes have potential utility for organic synthesis, because, for example, the sulfonyl group, after introduction of a nucleophile at its β -position, can be used as a means of introducing a carbonyl group¹ or a double bond², or be replaced by a hydrogen atom³. Despite such versatility, no studies of a sugar derivative having an α -sulfonylalkene moiety on a pyranose ring have been reported. Pyranose derivatives having a 2-phenylsulfonyl-2-trimethylsilylvinyl group at position 5 have been used as intermediates for the synthesis of maytansinoids⁴.

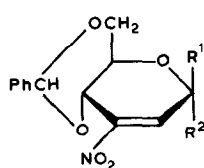
We now report the synthesis of some 2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl-2-enopyranosides, and the reaction of the title compound with several nucleophiles, including desulfonylation *via* the epoxide derivative **15**.

As already reported⁵, toluene-*p*-sulfinic acid reacts with methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-3-*C*-nitro- β -D-*erythro*-hex-2-enopyranoside (**1**) to give methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-3-*C*-nitro-2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl- β -D-glucopyranoside (**3**) in high yield. Treatment of **3** with triethylamine at room temperature afforded 90% of the desired methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl- β -D-*erythro*-hex-2-enopyranoside (**4**) {m.p. 149–150°, $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -81° (*c* 1.5, chloroform)}**. Methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-3-*C*-nitro- β -D-*threo*-hex-2-enopyranoside (**6**) provided methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-3-*C*-nitro-2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl- β -D-galactopyranoside (**8**) {91%, m.p. 239° (dec.), $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ $+17^\circ$ (*c* 1, acetone); $J_{1,2}$ 8.6, $J_{2,3}$ 12, and $J_{3,4}$ 4.5 Hz}. Elimination of nitrous acid from **8** with triethylamine gave 65% of methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl- β -D-*threo*-

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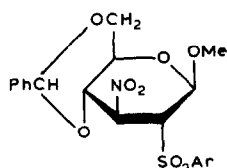
**Satisfactory elemental analyses were obtained for all new compounds.

hex-2-enopyranoside (**7**) {m.p. 154.5–155°, $[\alpha]_D^{25} -185^\circ$ (c 0.6, chloroform)}. Similar reaction of methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-3-*C*-nitro- α -D-*erythro*-hex-2-enopyranoside (**2**) gave methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-3-*C*-nitro-2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl- α -D-mannopyranoside (**9**) {86%, m.p. 175–176°, $[\alpha]_D^{25} \sim 0^\circ$ (c 1, chloroform); $J_{1,2}$ 0.7, $J_{2,3}$ 5.3, and $J_{3,4}$ 11 Hz}, which was similarly converted into ~55% of methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl- α -D-*erythro*-hex-2-enopyranoside (**5**) {m.p. 133–134°, $[\alpha]_D^{25} +226^\circ$ (c 1, chloroform)}; the yield depended on the conditions of the reaction.

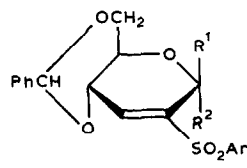
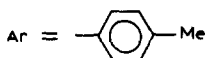


1 $R^1 = \text{OMe}, R^2 = \text{H}$

2 $R^1 = \text{H}, R^2 = \text{OMe}$

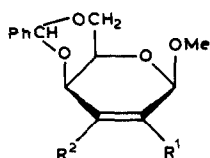


3



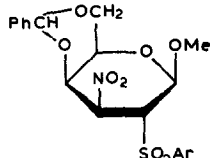
4 $R^1 = \text{OMe}, R^2 = \text{H}$

5 $R^1 = \text{H}, R^2 = \text{OMe}$

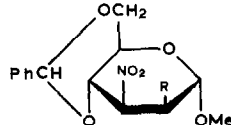


6 $R^1 = \text{H}, R^2 = \text{NO}_2$

7 $R^1 = \text{SO}_2\text{Ar}, R^2 = \text{H}$



8



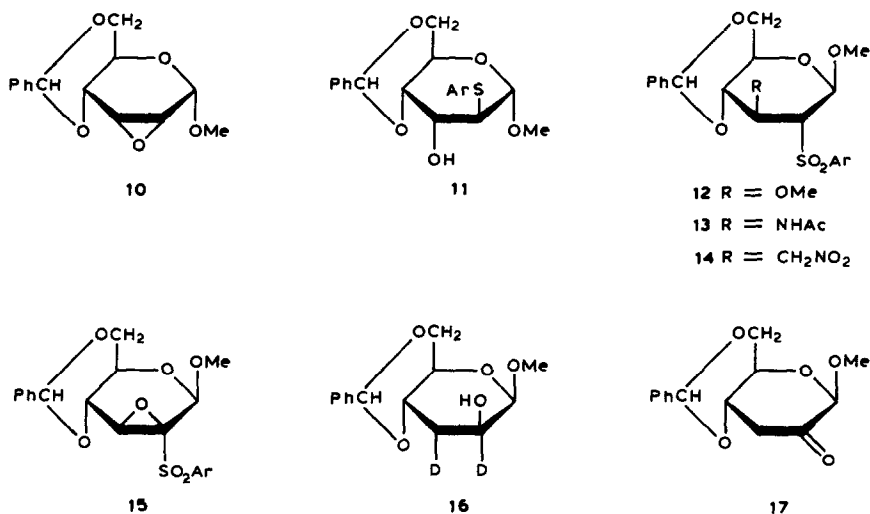
9 $R = \text{SO}_2\text{Ar}$

Compound **5** was also prepared by treatment⁶ of methyl 2,3-anhydro-4,6-*O*-benzylidene- α -D-allopyranoside (**10**) with sodium *p*-methylthiophenoxide to give methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2-thio-2-*S-p*-tolyl- α -D-altropyranoside (**11**, not isolated), oxidation of which with *m*-chloroperoxybenzoic acid, followed by *O*-mesylation and then elimination of methanesulfonic acid, gave **5** (47% from **10**).

Sulfonylalkenes thus prepared should be reactive toward nucleophiles. The β -anomer **4** reacted with methanol, in the presence of a catalytic amount of sodium methoxide, to give 82% of methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2-deoxy-3-*O*-methyl-2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl- β -D-glucopyranoside (**12**) {m.p. 130–130.5°, $[\alpha]_D^{25} -80^\circ$ (c 0.87, chloroform); $J_{1,2}$ 7.5, $J_{2,3} = J_{3,4} = 9.0$ Hz}. Reaction of **4** with aqueous ammonia in tetrahydrofuran, followed by acetylation, afforded a mixture of two products, from which 71% of methyl 3-acetamido-4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2,3-dideoxy-2-*C-p*-tolylsulfonyl- β -D-glucopyranoside (**13**) {m.p. 203–204°, $[\alpha]_D^{25} -61^\circ$ (c 0.87, chloroform); $J_{1,2}$ 8.3, $J_{2,3} = J_{3,4} = 10$ Hz} was isolated. Treatment of **4** in refluxing nitromethane containing triethylamine provided 78% of methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-

2,3-dideoxy-3-*C*-nitromethyl-2-*C*-*p*-tolylsulfonyl- β -D-glucopyranoside (**14**) {m.p. 185.5–186°, $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -54° (c 1, chloroform); $J_{1,2}$ 7.1, $J_{2,3} = J_{3,4} = 10.5$ Hz}. Treatment of **4** with hydrogen peroxide in the presence of sodium hydroxide gave 93% of methyl 2,3-anhydro-4,6-*O*-benzylidene-2-*C*-*p*-tolylsulfonyl- β -D-mannopyranoside (**15**) {m.p. 146–147°, $[\alpha]_D^{25}$ -80° (c 0.67, chloroform)}. The β -D-*manno* configuration of **15** was determined unequivocally by desulfonylation with lithium aluminium deuteride, leading to the alcohol **16**. Desulfonylation also occurred on treatment of **15** with methylmagnesium iodide (2.4 equiv.), giving 70% of known⁷ methyl 4,6-*O*-benzylidene-3-deoxy- β -D-*erythro*-hexopyranosid-2-ulose (**17**).

Thus, the α -sulfonylalkenes, readily prepared by two methods, have potential as synthetic intermediates in carbohydrate chemistry.



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