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# THE SULFUR FUNCTIONALIZATION OF ACTIVE METHYLENE COMPOUNDS

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#### THE SULFUR FUNCTIONALIZATION OF ACTIVE METHYLENE COMPOUNDS

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Thiolsulfonates  $\underline{1}$  are reagents which can sulfenylate simple aliphatic ketones and other active methylene compounds under remarkably mild conditions. The reported synthesis of  $\underline{1}^1$  has been improved considerably.

$$(RSO_2)_2CH-S-SO_2R + CH_2 \xrightarrow{X}$$
  $(RSO_2)_2CH-S-CH \xrightarrow{X} + RSO_2H$ 

The disulfides  $\underline{2}$  derived from active methylene compounds can be cleaved with  $\mathrm{SO}_2\mathrm{C}\ell_2$  (or  $\mathrm{C}\ell_2$ ) to yield sulfenyl chlorides  $\underline{3}$  which may react further to the corresponding thiocarbonyl compounds  $\underline{4}$  which, in turn, are subject to a variety of addition and/or fragmentation reactions.

Typical end products accessible via these routes are thioamides,  $\alpha$ -chlorosulfenamides, and 1,3-oxathioles.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>N.H.NILSSON, C.JACOBSEN, and A.SENNING, <u>Chem.Comm</u>. <u>1970</u>, 658.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>A.SENNING, <u>Bull.Soc.Chim.Belges</u> 86 (1977) 675.