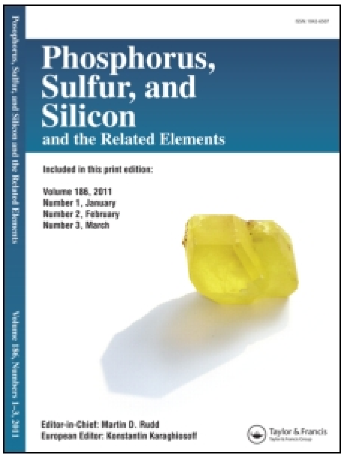

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# New Perspective for the Synthetic Application of Some α-Sulfenylated Benzylic Sulfones, Synthesis of Vinyl Sulfides

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# NEW PERSPECTIVE FOR THE SYNTHETIC APPLICATION OF SOME α-SULFENYLATED BENZYLIC SULFONES, SYNTHESIS OF VINYL SULFIDES.

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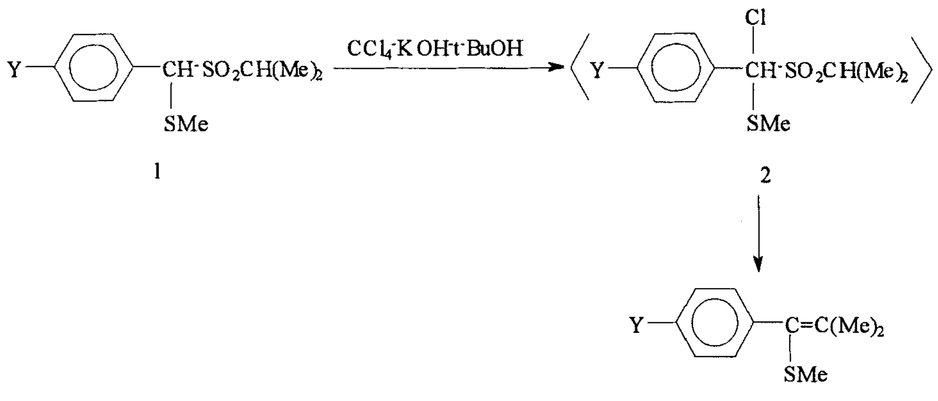
Abstract - Some α-sulfenylated para-substituted benzylic sulfones, obtained by sulfenylation of the corresponding sulfones, were submitted to reaction with $CCl_4$-KOH-t-BuOH to give the corresponding para-substituted α-methylthio-dimethyl styrenes.

This communication describes the sulfenylation reactions of some new para-substituted benzyl i-propyl sulfones, employing the procedures described previously.[1-3] The influence of the electronic effects of the substituents is discussed.

α-Methylthio benzyl i-propyl sulfones (1a-e) are reported to undergo the Ramberg-Bäcklund rearrangement under Meyers[4] conditions, in which the corresponding α-chloro sulfones (2a-e) are formed *"in situ"* to give the corresponding vinyl sulfides (3a-e).

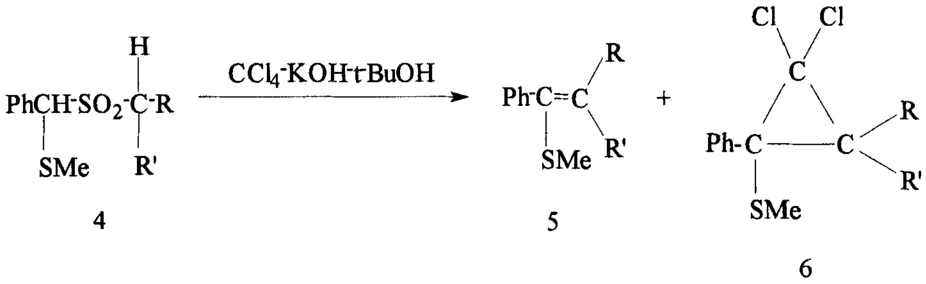


Y = H (a), Me(b), OMe(c), Cl(d), $NO_2$(e)

3

The reactivity of the sulfones (1a-e) is discussed considering the mechanistic steps of the reaction.[5]

In order to check the generality of this reaction some other a-sulfenylated benzyl sulfones (4a-c) were investigated. In all cases the corresponding alkene-dichlorocarbene adducts were identified, in 4b and 4c as secondary products (6b) and (6c) besides the vinyl sulfides (5a) and (5b) but in the case of (4a) as the only reaction product (6a).



R = R' = H(a); R = H, R' = CH$_3$(b); R = H, R' = Ph(c)

These results are different from those for the non-sulfenylated sulfones[5] and may be explained by electronic interaction between double bond and SMe group.

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