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A New Entry to Triazoles from Carbohydrates

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Reaction of the 4-methanesulphonate of 1,1-diethylsulphonyl-2,3-O-isopropylidene- α -D-lyxo-pyranosylmethane¹ (I) with sodium azide in NN-dimethylformamide did not yield the expected 4-azido-derivative but gave, by more extensive reaction and rearrangement, a crystalline triazole

derivative (II), with m.p. 195° and $[\alpha]_D+95^\circ$ (pyridine), in 70% yield.

Mass spectrometry, kindly carried out by Dr. W. A. Wolstenholme of A.E.I. Ltd., confirmed the molecular formula as $C_{11}H_{17}N_3O_5S$ and revealed that it readily forms an $(M+1)^+$ ion and, as

¹L. Hough and A. C. Richardson, J. Chem. Soc., 1962, 1024.

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expected, loses CH3. Clearly, two of the sulphonyl groups in (I) had been eliminated and n.m.r. showed that one ethylsulphonyl group had been retained. An infrared spectrum revealed the absence of an azido-group and the presence of sulphonyl and hydroxyl groups; benzoylation afforded a mono-ester. No reaction was observed when the product was treated with Ranev nickel under forcing conditions, suggesting the presence of a stable triazole ring. Acid hydrolysis gave a triol $C_8H_{18}N_3O_5S\{[\alpha]_D + 31^\circ (H_2O)\},$ due to removal of the isopropylidene group and subsequent periodate oxidation and reduction with sodium borohydride gave an optically inactive triol (IV), C₈H₁₅N₃O₅S, without any loss of carbon. These results are consistent with the presence of a ring system containing an $\alpha\beta$ -diol and an exocyclic hydroxymethyl group. Further oxidation with alkaline potassium permanganate gave the carboxylic acid (V), C₅H₉N₅O₅S, which on decarboxylation afforded 4-ethylsulphonyl-1,2,3-triazole (VI). The latter was identical with the product synthesised by the route outlined below in which the thiadiazole³ (VII) was converted into the triazole by the method of Kindt-Larsen and Pedersen.4

The n.m.r. spectrum of the monobenzoate of (II) was consistent with the structure assigned, (1S)-hydroxymethyl-(2R, 3S)-O-isopronamely pylidenepyrrolido [1,2-c]-4-ethylsulphonyl [1,2,3]triazole, and revealed that inversion of configuration had occurred at C-4 of (I) during the elimination of the mesyloxy-group. The triazole (II) probably arises by 1,3-dipolar addition to the hex-1-ene (Ia) followed by the elimination of the mesyloxy and ethylsulphonyl groups.

(Received, April 26th, 1965.)

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