A New Synthesis of Vinyl Sulphides by Lewis Acid Promoted Reaction of [Chloro-(arylthio)methyl]trimethylsilanes with Trisubstituted Alkenes

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Treatment of the α -chloro- α -silyl sulphides (1) or (5) with trisubstituted alkenes (6) in the presence of SnCl₄ gave the vinyl sulphides (7) or (8), the formation of which involves a carbenium ion rearrangement controlled by the silyl group.

In our earlier work,¹ we showed that [chloro(4-chlorophenylthio)methyl]trimethylsilane (1) reacts with the terminal alkenes (2) in the presence of $SnCl_4$ to give the ene type products (4) via the cationic species (3). Here we report the sharply contrasting reaction of the chloride (1) or (5) with trisubstituted alkenes (6) which provides a high yield synthesis of the vinyl sulphides (7) or (8).

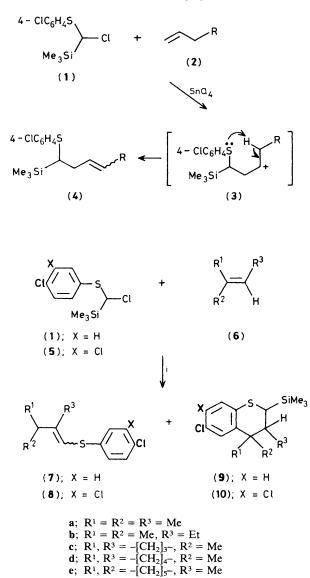
When a mixture of the chloride (1) and 2-methylbut-2-ene (6a) was treated with $SnCl_4$ (1 equiv.) in CH_2Cl_2 at -20 °C for 30 min, the vinyl sulphide (7a)† was obtained in 80% yield as a

single stereoisomer with the thiochroman derivative (9a) (13%) (Scheme 1). Formation of (9a) was suppressed by the use of the dichlorophenyl compound (5); reaction with (6a) gave the vinyl sulphide (8a) (see Table 1) and the thiochroman (10a) in 94 and 4% yields, respectively. Additional examples of the reactions of (5) with (6) are in Table 1.‡ A mechanistic rationalization of the formation of the vinyl sulphides (7) or (8) involves initial attack of the alkene (6), with the aid of SnCl₄, on the chloride (1) or (5) to form the carbenium ion intermediate (11) (Scheme 2). This is followed by a 1,2-

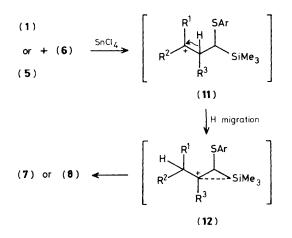
[†] Satisfactory elemntal analyses and spectroscopic data were obtained for all new compounds.

⁽⁷a), oil, δ (CDCl₃) 1.05 (6H, d, J 7 Hz), 1.80 (3H, br.s), 2.42 (1H, sept., J 7 Hz), 5.80–5.95 (1H, m), and 7.15 (4H, s).

 $[\]ddagger$ Reaction of (5) with cyclohexene also gave the vinyl sulphide (8), but in low yield (25%), along with the ene product (4) (30%). With methylenecyclohexane the thiochroman derivative (10) was obtained in 66% yield.

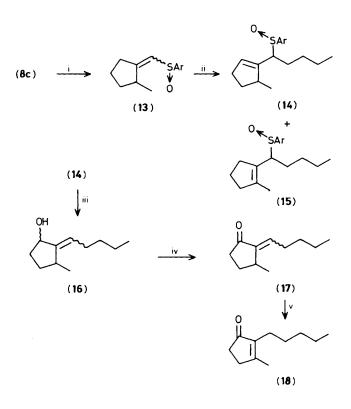


Scheme 1. Reagents and conditions: i, $SnCl_4$ (1 equiv.), CH_2Cl_2 , -20 °C, 30 min.



Vinyl sulphide (% yield)	Ratio of stereoisomers
(8a) (94)	ca. 100:0
(8b) (88)	<i>ca.</i> 2:1
(8c) (90)	<i>ca.</i> 2:1
(8d) (96)	<i>ca</i> . 4:1
(8e) (75)	<i>ca.</i> 10:1

^a The reactions of (5) with (6a), (6b), and (6e) formed a small amount of the thiochroman derivatives (10).



 $Ar = 3,4-Cl_2C_6H_3$

Scheme 3. Reagents: i, MCPBA, CH_2Cl_2 ; ii, LDA, hexamethylphosphoramide (HMPA), tetrahydrofuran (THF), -78 °C, then BuⁿI, -40 °C; iii, (MeO)₃P, Me₂NH₂Cl, THF-MeOH (3:1), 60 °C; iv, PCC, CH₂Cl₂; v, conc. HCl, BuⁿOH, 90 °C.

hydride shift to give the stabilised carbenium ion (12), which loses the trimethylsilyl group to furnish the vinyl sulphides (7) or (8). Apparently, the driving force for this 1,2-hydride shift arises from the powerful stabilising effect of the trimethylsilyl group on a β -carbenium ion.² On the other hand, the formation of the thiochromans (9) or (10) appears to be the result of intramolecular nucleophilic attrack by an aromatic ring of the arylthio group on the carbenium ion (11).³

Vinyl sulphides are useful intermediates in organic synthesis,⁴ and we have synthesised dihydrojasmone (18) from the sulphide (8c). Oxidation of (8c) with *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid

(MCPBA) gave a mixture of (E)- and (Z)-vinyl sulphoxides (13) in 91% total yield (Scheme 3). This mixture was deconjugated with lithium di-isopropylamide (LDA) and then quenched with n-butyl iodide to give two isomeric allyl sulphoxides (14) [δ 5.4—5.9 (1H, m, =CH)] and (15) in 46 and 26% yields. Compound (14) then underwent the allylic sulphoxide–sulphenate rearrangement⁵ in the presence of (MeO)₃P and Me₂NH₂Cl at 60 °C to give the allylic alcohol (16) in 94% yield. Pyridinium chlorochromate (PCC) oxidation of (16) gave, in 58% yield, the exocyclic methylene ketone (17), whose isomerisation to dihydrojasmone (18) with concentrated HCl has been reported.⁶

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