tone- d_6) δ 1.0 (d, 3 H, CH₃), 1.4–1.9 (br m, 3 H, CHCH₂COOH), 2.3 (s, 3 H, Ar CH₃), 2.9 (m, 2 H, SCH₂), 7.3 (A₂'X'₂, 4 H, Ar H), 8.3 (s, 1 H, COOH). Anal. Calcd for C₁₂H₁₆O₂S: C, 64.26; H, 7.19. Found: C, 64.23; H, 7.18.

4-[3,4-(Methylenedioxy)phenyl]butanoic Acid. The organoborane (10 mmol) was carbonylated and oxidized as shown in the general procedure to yield 1.76 g (84%); mp 69-72 °C; 13 C NMR (acetone- d_6) δ 175.3; MS, m/e 209 (calcd 209); ¹H NMR (acetone-d₆) δ 2.0 (m, 2 H, ArCH₂CH₂), 2.2-2.8 (m, 4 H, ArCH₂, CH₂COOH), 5.9 (s, 2 H, OCH₂O), 6.6 (s, 3 H, Ar H), 9.3 (s, 1 H, COOH). Anal. Calcd for $C_{11}H_{12}O_4$: C, 63.46; H, 5.81. Found: C, 63.42; H, 5.99.

Decanol. Decanal (5 mmol) prepared and purified as outlined in the general procedure was reduced with BH₃ THF to yield 0.71 g (90%); 3,5-dinitrobenzoate derivative mp 57.5-58.5 °C (lit.²² 57.7 °C); ¹³C NMR (CCl₄) δ 60.1; ¹H NMR (CCl₄) δ 0.9 (br t , 3 H, CH₃), 1.3 (br s, 14 H, aliphatic CH₂), 2.4 (s, 1 H, OH), 3.5 (t, 2 H, CH₂OH).

Cyclohexanemethanol. Cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde (5 mmol) was reeduced with BH₃·THF as described in the general procedure to yield 0.5 g (88%); 3,5-dinitrobenzoate derivative mp 91–92 °C (lit.²³ 94 °C); ¹³C NMR (CDCl₃) δ 54.9; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.0-2.0 (br m, 11 H, CH₂, CH), 3.2 (s, 1 H, OH), 3.4 (d, 2 H, CH₂OH).

1,12-Dodecanediol. 12-Hydroxydodecanal (5 mmol) was reduced with BH₃·THF as described in the general procedure to yield 0.94 g (93%); mp 80-81 °C (lit.²⁴ 80.5-81 °C); 3,5-dinitrobenzoate derivative mp 89-90 °C; ¹³C NMR (CCl₄) δ 60.3; ¹H NMR (CCl₄) δ 1.3 (br, 20 H, aliphatic CH₂), 3.6 (t, 2 H, CH₂OH).

4-(p-Tolylthio)-3-methylbutanol. 4-(p-Tolylthio)-3methylbutanal (5 mmol) was reduced with BH3. THF as described in the general procedure to yield 0.94 g (90%); 3,5-dinitrobenzoate derivative mp 81.5-82.5 °C; ¹³C NMR (CCl₄) δ 59.8; ¹H NMR (acetone- d_6) δ 1.0 (d, 3 H, CH₃), 1.3–2.0 (m, 3 H, CH₂CHCH₃), 2.3 (s, 3 H, Ar CH₃), 2.6 (s, 1 H, OH), 2.8 (m, 2 H, SCH₂), 3.6 (t, 2 H, CH₂OH), 7.2 ($A_2'X_2'$, 4 H, Ar H). Anal. Calcd for C₁₉H₂₀O₆SN₂: C, 56.43; H, 4.98; N, 6.93. Found: C, 56.26; H, 5.02; N, 6.82.

4-[3,4-(Methylenedioxy)phenyl]butanol. 4-[3,4-(methylenedioxy)phenyl]butanal (5 mmol) was reduced with BH3'THF as described in the general procedure to yield 0.95 g (98%); 3,5-dinitrobenzoate derivative mp 82-83 °C; ^{13}C NMR (CCl₄) δ 61.7; ¹H NMR (CDCl₃) δ 1.5 (m, 4 H, ArCH₂CH₂CH₂), 2.4 (m, 2 H, ArCH₂), 3.4 (t, 2 H, CH₂OH), 5.8 (s, 2 H, OCH₂O), 6.6 (s, 3 H, Ar H). Anal. Calcd for C₁₈H₁₆O₈N₂: C, 55.67; H, 4.15; N, 7.21. Found: C, 55.57; H, 4.02; N, 7.16.

Acknowledgment. We thank the Department of Energy (DE-AS05-90EV10363) for support of this research.

Registry No. 1-Nonene, 124-11-8; cyclohexene, 110-83-8; safrole, 94-59-7; 3-(p-tolylthio)-2-methylpropene, 54844-24-5; 10-undecen-1-ol, 112-43-6; decanal-¹³C, 87803-55-2; cyclo-hexanecarboxaldehyde-¹³C, 87803-56-3; 4-[3,4-(methylenedioxy)phenyl]butanal-¹³C, 87803-57-4; 4-(p-tolylthio)-3-methylbutanal-13C, 87803-58-5; 12-hydroxydodecanal-13C, 87803-59-6; decanoic-¹³C acid, 84600-66-8; cyclohexanecarboxylic-¹³C acid, 50530-16-0; 4-[3,4-(methylenedioxy)phenyl]carboxylic- ^{13}C acid, 84600-67-9; 4-(p-tolylthio)-3-methylbutanoic-¹³C acid, 84600-68-0; 12-hydroxydecanoic-¹³C acid, 84600-69-1; 1-decanol-¹³C, 87803-60-9; cyclohexanemethanol-¹³C, 65305-14-8; 4-[3,4-(methylene-dioxy)phenyl]-1-butanol-¹³C, 87803-61-0; 4-(p-tolylthio)-3methyl-1-butanol-13C, 87803-62-1; 1,12-dodecanediol-13C, 87803-63-2; decanal-¹³C 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone, 87803-64-3; cyclohexanecarboxaldehyde- ^{13}C 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone, 87803-65-4; 12-hydroxydodecanal-¹³C 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone, 87803-66-5; 4-(p-tolylthio)-3-methylbutanal-13C 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone, 87803-67-6; 4-[3,4-(methylenedioxy)phenyl]butanal-13C 2,4-dinitrophenylhydrazone, 87803-68-7; 1-decanol-13C 3,5-dinitrobenzoate, 87803-69-8; cyclohexanemethanol- ^{13}C 3,5dinitrobenzoate, 87803-70-1; 1,12-dodecanediol-13C 3,5-dinitrobenzoate, 87803-71-2; 4-(p-tolylthio)-3-methylbutanal-13C 3,5dinitrobenzoate, 87803-72-3; 4-[3,4-(methylenedioxy)phenyl]butanol-13C 3,5-dinitrobenzoate, 87803-73-4; 9-BBN, 280-64-8.

Convenient and Stereospecific Synthesis of Deoxy Sugars. Reductive Displacement of Trifluoromethanesulfonates

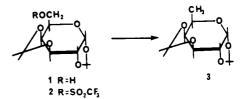
Ernie-Paul Barrette¹ and Leon Goodman*

Department of Chemistry, University of Rhode Island, Kingston, Rhode Island 02881

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The replacement of sugar hydroxyls by hydrogen, the preparation of deoxy sugars, is important in natural products chemistry where deoxy sugars are frequently encountered as constituents of these materials. Most of the preparative methods that have been introduced recently involve photolysis²⁻⁴ or other free-radical reactions.⁵ Although these latter reactions can be quite stereoselective, they tend not to be stereospecific,⁶ and further, they sometimes⁵ give poor yields when primary hydroxyls are converted to methyl groups. Deoxygenation via $S_N 2$ reaction by hydride reagents, which would not be subject to the above disadvantages, has seen little use in sugar chemistry because, ordinarily, the inconvenient reagent lithium aluminum hydride is required for the displacements which are limited to the overall conversion of primary hydroxyls to methyl groups; ordinarily activated secondary sugar hydroxyls are too unreactive to be displaced by lithium aluminum hydride but rather suffer O-S cleavage.⁷ The introduction into sugar chemistry of the triflate leaving group by Maradufu and Perlin⁸ and elaborated by Hall and Miller⁹ has provided a leaving group that permits many displacement reactions to be carried out smoothly at secondary sugar carbons,^{10,11} and we describe below the reaction of sugar triflates, both primary and secondary, with sodium borohydride which, in many cases, can be carried out under very mild conditions and which can be used, by employing sodium borodeuteride, to stereospecifically introduce deuterium into sugars.

The reaction of the triflate 2¹² of 1,2:3,4-di-O-isopropylidene- α -D-galactopyranose (1) gave, with excess sodium borohydride in acetonitrile at room temperature, an excellent yield of the 6-deoxy sugar 3. By contrast, the



tri-n-butylstannane reduction of 6-O-(imidazolylthio-

(1) Senior undergraduate research student, 1981-1982. Present address: Department of Chemistry, Harvard University, Cambridge, MA 02138

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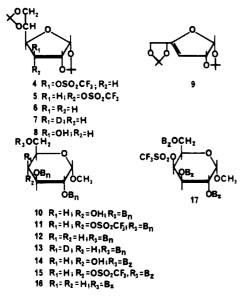
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carbonyl)-1,2:3,4-di-O-isopropylidene- α -D-galactopyranose gave 31% of 3 and 57% of 1.5

When the allose triflate 5^9 was treated under the above conditions, an excellent yield of the 3-deoxy sugar 6 was



obtained. Further, when sodium borodeuteride was used as the displacing agent, a quantitative yield of product was obtained whose ¹H spectrum was in excellent agreement with that presented by Patroni and Stick⁶ for the substitution of the exo hydrogen by deuterium; i.e., the product was that of the S_N^2 reaction, 7. Only traces of 6 were present. The proton-decoupled ¹³C spectrum showed C-3 as a triplet as expected.

The reduction of the glucose triflate 4^9 pointed up some of the limitations of the process. Compound 4 is much less reactive toward displacement reactions than 5 and is known to be prone to the elimination of triflic acid. Indeed, upon reaction with sodium borohydride, the minor product (15% yield) was 6 accompanied by 23% of the elimination product 9 and 42% of the product of attack at sulfur, compound 8. This latter type of cleavage is the usual reaction when secondary sugar mesylates and tosylates are reduced with lithium aluminum hydride.^{7,13}

The tri-O-benzyl sugar 10^{14} was converted to its triflate 11 and subjected to the standard reaction conditions. Again, a quantitative yield of the 4-deoxy sugar 12 was obtained whose ¹H spectrum showed two well-separated one-proton multiplets upfield from the methoxyl singlet. The large couplings of the more upfield multiplet clearly identified it as the axial hydrogen. When the reduction of 11 was repeated with sodium borodeuteride, a good yield of the S_N^2 product 13 was obtained. The ¹H and ¹³C spectra showed the high degree of conversion to 13; only traces of 12 could be noted in the spectra.

An attempt to apply the reduction to the triflate of a benzoate-blocked sugar, 17,¹⁵ was not successful. A large number of products were formed according to TLC, probably as a result of elimination and/or deacylation. Attempts to carry out displacements on this triflate with weak nucleophiles (e.g., CN⁻) have given similar results.¹⁶ However, the reaction can tolerate O-benzoates since the reduction of the triflate 15 of the 6-O-benzoyl sugar 14,¹⁷

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where O-benzyl groups appear at C-2 and C-3, gave the 4-deoxy sugar 16. The ¹H spectrum showed almost the identical pattern for the protons at C-4 that was seen in the spectrum of 12, and the retention of the O-benzoyl group was clear.

Aside from the obvious limitations of the reduction that were seen with 4 and 17, the low rate of the reaction under the conditions used is a disadvantage. Undoubtedly, a higher temperature could be used with most of the compounds without complicating the reduction, and possibly more advantageous solvents could be employed. We effected the reduction in DMF, but solvent removal was troublesome with the oils that were encountered in this work. It is also possible that sodium cyanoborohydride might be a better reducing agent for these triflates than sodium borohydride since that reagent has been used to reduce tosylates under mild conditions.¹⁸

Experimental Section

General Methods. Melting points were determined with a Meltemp apparatus (Laboratory Devices, Cambridge, MA) and are uncorrected. NMR spectra were recorded with Varian EM-360A (¹H), EM-390 (¹H), and CFT-20 (¹³C) spectrometers, for solutions in CDCl₃ with Me₄Si as an internal standard unless otherwise noted. Chemical shifts are reported in δ units. Optical rotations of 1% solutions in chloroform were measured with a Perkin-Elmer Model 141 automatic polarimeter at the sodium D line (literature citations also refer to the D line). Flash chromatography¹⁹ was performed with Woelm 32-63 silica gel. Thin-layer chromatography (TLC) separations were performed by using Brinkman Polygram SiL G/UV₂₅₄ plates, sometimes employing a short bed/continuous development chamber (Regis, Morton Grove, IL). Spots were detected with UV light or with a 20% aqueous sulfuric acid spray, followed by carbonization. The solvent system used was ethyl acetate/hexane (5/95 to 60/40 v/v)unless otherwise noted. The general workup procedure for most products isolated after acylation was to pour the reaction mixture into ice-cold saturated sodium bicarbonate solution, extract into chloroform or dichloromethane (10-15 mL/g), wash with cold 3 N aqueous hydrochloric acid (often omitted in the triflate preparation), cold saturated sodium bicarbonate, and cold water, and dry over anhydrous magnesium sulfate followed by evaporation in vacuo, generally below 40 °C. Elemental analyses were obtained from Micro-Analysis, Inc. (Wilmington, DE).

1,2:3,4-Di-O-isopropylidene-6-O-triflyl- α -D-galactopyranose (2). The general procedure of Hall and Miller⁹ was employed except that 2,6-dimethylpyridine, rather than pyridine, was used as the acid acceptor. A mixture of 2.72 g (10.45 mol) of 1,2:3,4-di-O-isopropylidene- α -D-galactopyranose (1) and 1.85 mL (15.88 mmol) of dry 2,6-dimethylpyridine in 40 mL of dry dichloromethane was treated with 2.50 mL (14.86 mmol) of triflic anhydride. A conventional workup gave 3.40 g (83%) of product, recrystallization of which from hexane gave colorless crystals: mp 48.5-50 °C; $[\alpha]^{27}$ -49.9°; ¹H NMR 5.49 (d, 1 H, J = 4.5, H₁), 4.67-4.53 (2 d, H₃ and H₆), 4.42-4.03 (m, 3 H, H₂, H₄, and H₆), 1.51, 1.42, 1.33 (3 s, 12 H, Ip).

6-Deoxy-1,2:3,4-di-O-isopropylidene- α -D-galactopyranose (3). A mixture of 2.63 g (6.70 mmol) of 2, 0.688 g (18.19 mmol) of powdered sodium borohydride, and 30 mL of dry acetonitrile was stirred at room temperature for 48 h when TLC (10/90 v/v, continuous development) showed that no triflate was present. The solvent was evaporated, the residue was dissolved in 50 mL of water, and the solution was extracted with two 30-mL portions of dichloromethane. The extracts were dried and evaporated to leave 1.50 g (92%) of a syrup that was chromatographically homogeneous. The syrup was chromatographed on 90 g of silica gel with ethyl acetate/hexane (10/90 v/v) for elution to give 1.01 g (68% recovery) of product: mp 33-34 °C; $[\alpha]^{13}$ -50.0° [lit.³ mp 33-35 °C, $[\alpha]^{19}$ -53.6° (c 1.2, CHCl₃)]; ¹H NMR spectrum consistent with the literature.³

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3-Deoxy-1,2:5,6-di-O-isopropylidene- α -D-*ribo*-hexofuranose (6). A mixture of 0.67 g (17.7 mmol) of powdered sodium borohydride, 2.30 g (5.86 mmol) of the allose triflate 5,⁹ and 30 mL of dry acetonitrile was stirred at room temperature for 95 h when TLC showed the disappearance of 5. A workup as for 3 yielded 1.24 g (87%) of a chromatographically homogeneous syrup. Chromatography of this material over 90 g of silica gel with ethyl acetate/hexane (15/85 v/v) for elution gave a 90% recovery of material that crystallized upon refrigeration and had $[\alpha]^{25}$ -5.60° [lit.³ $[\alpha]^{21}$ -6.3° (c 1.9, CHCl₃)] and ¹H and ¹³C spectra that agreed with the recorded^{3,6} descriptions.

3-Deoxy-1,2:5,6-di-O-isopropylidene- α -D-[3-²H]glucofuranose (7). The above experiment was repeated with 1.51 g (3.85 mmol) of 5,⁹ 0.50 g (11.9 mmol) of sodium borodeuteride, and 30 mL of dry acetonitrile, and a quantitative yield of a chromatographically homogeneous product was obtained. The material was purified by flash chromatography¹⁹ over 30 g of silica gel to give an 84% yield of material that was used for the NMR studies. In the ¹H spectrum, H_{3endo} appeared as a singlet at 2.17, and H_{3ero} appeared as a trace signal. In the decoupled ¹³C spectrum, C₃ appeared as a triplet centered at δ 35.86.

Reaction of 1,2:5,6-Di-O-isopropylidene-3-O-triflyl-a-Dglucofuranose (4) with Sodium Borohydride. A mixture of 2.50 g (6.37 mmol) of 4,9 0.72 g (19.03 mmol) of sodium borohydride, and 45 mL of acetonitrile was heated at 60 for 9 days when TLC [ethyl acetate-hexane (5/95 v/v)] showed only a trace of 4. The solvent was evaporated and the residue partitioned between water (150 mL) and dichloromethane (125 mL). The organic solution was dried and evaporated to give 1.47 g of a yellow solid whose TLC showed several spots. Flash chromatography¹⁹ of a portion (0.62 g) of the residue on about 50 g of silica gel with ethyl acetate/hexane (40/60 v/v) for elution gave, after separation of a small amount of 4, partial separation of the three major reaction products 6, 8, and 9. Rechromatography of fractions that contained more than one component eventually gave 0.15 g (23%) of 9 [mp 48.5-49.5 °C (lit.²⁰ mp 50-52 °C)], 0.10 g (15%) of 6, and 0.30 g (42%) of 8 (mp 105.5-106.5 °C, undepressed on mixture with authentic 8), listed in the order of elution. All three materials had ¹H NMR spectra that duplicated those of authentic samples.

Methyl 2,3,6-Tri-O-benzyl-4-O-triflyl- α -D-glucopyranoside (11). The standard processing⁹ of a mixture of 0.50 g (1.08 mmol) of methyl 2,3,6-tri-O-benzyl- α -D-glucopyranoside (10),¹⁴ 0.15 mL (1.86 mmol) of pyridine, 0.26 mL (1.55 mmol) of triflic anhydride, and 20 mL of dry dichloromethane yielded 0.60 g (93%) of a yellow oil that, after being recrystallized from 95% ethanol, had a melting point of 80 °C. Anal. Calcd for C₂₉H₃₁F₃O₈S: C, 58.38; H, 5.24. Found: C, 58.60; H, 5.46.

Methyl 2,3,6-Tri-O-benzyl-4-deoxy-a-D-xylo-hexopyranoside (12). A slurry of 2.0 g (3.35 mmol) of the triflate 11, 0.80 g (21.2 mmol) of powdered sodium borohydride, and 160 mL of acetonitrile was stirred at room temperature for 72 h when TLC [ethyl acetate-hexane (5/95 v/v), continuous development] showed the disappearance of the starting material 11. A workup as for 3 yielded 1.50 g (100%) of a colorless oil. A portion (0.50 g) of the residue was subjected to flash chromatography¹⁹ over about 50 g of silica gel using ethyl acetate/hexane (15/85 v/v)for elution. The collected fractions that showed a single spot upon TLC were evaporated to give 0.50 g of colorless oil: $[\alpha]^{26} + 27.4^{\circ}$; ¹H NMR 7.26 (s, 15, Ar), 4.85–4.09 (m, 7, H₁ and ArCH₂), 4.07–3.63 (m, 2 H, H₃ and H₅), 3.57-3.17 (m, 6 H, H₂, H₆ and CH₃), 2.15-1.89 (m, 1 H, H_{4eq}), 1.65–1.13 (m, 1 H, H_{4ax}); ¹³C NMR 99.07 (C₁), 66.75 (C_6) , 55.14 (CH₃), 33.96 (C₄), plus signals for aromatic carbons, for the benzyl carbons, and for C2 and C3 which showed some overlapping with the benzyl resonances. Anal. Calcd for C₂₈H₃₂O₅: C, 74.98; H, 7.19. Found: C, 75.23; H, 7.15. Compound 12 was unstable and became yellow on storage at room temperature.

Methyl 2,3,6-Tri-O-benzyl-4-deoxy- α -D-[4-²H]galactopyranoside (13). The above reaction conditions were repeated by using 1.70 g (2.85 mmol) of 11, 0.98 g (23.3 mmol) of sodium borodeuteride, and 140 mL of acetonitrile stirred at room temperature for 48 h to give 1.35 g (105%) of a chromatographically homogeneous oil. Flash chromatography¹⁹ of 0.5 g of the residue, using the above procedure, yielded 0.4 g of an oil whose ¹H spectra (as compared to that of 12) showed the disappearance of the H_{4ax} signal, the simplification of the H_{4eq} signal to an approximate doublet, and some simplification of the H_3, H_5 multiplet. The only change in the $^{13}\mathrm{C}$ spectrum was the conversion of the δ 33.96 signal to a low-intensity symmetrical triplet.

Methyl 6-O-Benzoyl-2,3-di-O-benzyl-4-O-triflyl- α -Dglucopyranoside (15). Triflation of 1.50 g (3.13 mmol) of methyl 6-O-benzoyl-2,3-di-O-benzyl- α -D-glucopyranoside (14)¹⁷ by the conventional method gave 1.8 g of residue that crystallized on standing. Recrystallization from hot petroleum ether (60-80 °C) gave 1.05 g of white solid, mp 85-90 °C dec. The material was unstable, and the melting point varied with the temperature of insertion and the rate of heating. A second recrystallization from hot hexane gave material with the following: mp 90-91 °C (insertion at 85 °C and heating rate 2 °C/min); ¹H NMR 8.02 (d of d, 2 H, H₂ and H₆ of benzoyl), 7.52-7.14 (m, 13 H, Ar), 5.08-4.00 (m, 10 H, benzyl CH₂, H₁, H₃, H₄, H₅, H₆), 3.62 (d of d, 1 H, H₂), 3.37 (s, 3 H, OCH₃).

Methyl 6-O-Benzoyl-2,3-di-O-benzyl-4-deoxy-a-D-xylohexopyranoside (16). Reaction of 0.40 g (0.66 mmol) of 15 with 0.20 g (5.3 mmol) of sodium borohydride in 40 mL of acetonitrile for 18 h resulted in an apparent consumption of the triflate 15 according to TLC [ethyl acetate-hexane (5/95 v/v)]. A conventional workup gave 0.23 g of residue which was subjected to flash chromatography¹⁹ over about 50 g of silica gel with ethyl acetate-hexane (15/85 v/v) for elution. A single material (0.075 g) as a colorless oil was collected from the earlier fractions, and later fractions yielded 0.10 g of unchanged 15, demonstrating that the reaction had not gone to completion. For the oil: ¹H NMR 8.02 (d of d, 2 H, H₂ and H₆ of benzoyl), 7.54-7.12 (m, 13 H, Ar), 4.96-4.59 (m, 5 H, benzyl CH₂, H₁), 4.48-3.79 (m, 4 H, H₃, H₅, H₆), 3.46 (d of d, 1 H, H₂), 3.36 (s, 3 H, OCH₃), 2.26–1.99 (m, 1 H, H_{4eq}), 1.83–1.24 (m, 1 H, H_{4ax}); mass spectrum, m/e 463.2123 (M^+) (calcd. for $C_{28}H_{30}O_6$, 463.2121).

Acknowledgment. We are grateful to Dr. L. A. Reed, III, who first prepared the triflate 11, obtained 270-MHz NMR spectra for 6 and 7 and made arrangements for the high-resolution mass spectrum of 16. We are also grateful to Professor E. Abushanab, who obtained the ¹³C spectra and advised us on their interpretation, to D. F. Sears, who obtained many of the ¹H spectra, and to Dr. H. A. Scoble, who measured the mass spectrum of 16.

Registry No. 1, 4064-06-6; 2, 71001-09-7; 3, 4026-27-1; 4, 55951-93-4; 5, 55951-90-1; 6, 4613-62-1; 7, 70005-84-4; 8, 582-52-5; 9, 2774-28-9; 10, 19488-48-3; 11, 87871-03-2; 12, 87871-04-3; 13, 87871-05-4; 14, 66781-85-9; 15, 87871-06-5; 16, 87871-07-6; 17, 79580-70-4.

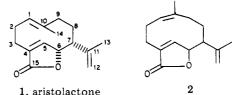
Structures of the Germacranolides Isoaristolactone and Pyroaristolactone

Gordon L. Lange* and Paul Galatsis

Guelph-Waterloo Centre for Graduate Work in Chemistry, Department of Chemistry, University of Guelph, Guelph, Ontario, N1G 2W1 Canada

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In 1964 the germacranolide aristolactone was assigned structure 1 (relative stereochemistry of the substituents at C-6 and C-7 was left undefined), and structure 2 was



suggested for isoaristolactone, which was obtained from

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