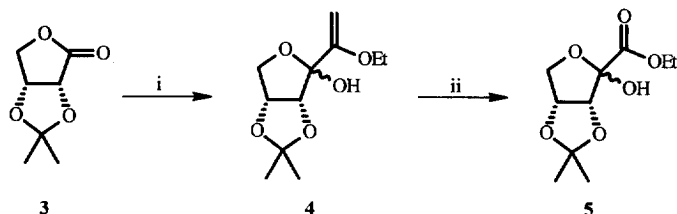
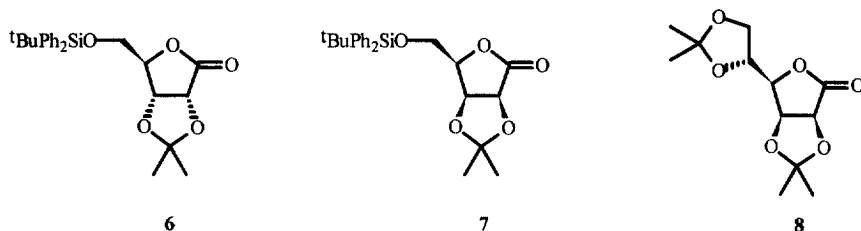


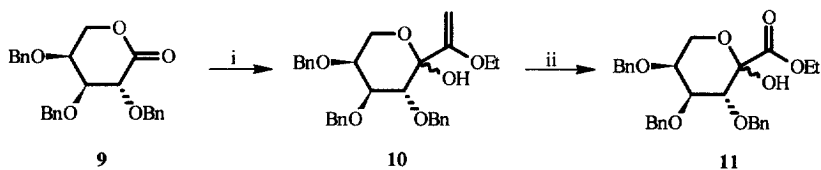
Our initial studies centred on the addition of 1-ethoxyvinyl lithium to 2,3-*O*-isopropylidene-D-erythrono-1,4-lactone **3**⁹ and the subsequent ozonolysis. The reaction of lactone **3** with 1-ethoxyvinyl lithium proceeded smoothly in THF at $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ to furnish the hemiacetal **4** as an anomeric mixture in 83% yield.¹⁰ Ozonolysis of lactol **4** in mixed solvents of dichloromethane and ethanol at $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ afforded the ethyl *D*-erythro-pent-2-ulosonate **5** in 88% yield (scheme 1).



Scheme 1 Reagents and conditions: i, 1-ethoxyvinyl lithium, THF, $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ (83%); ii, O_3 , CH_2Cl_2 , EtOH, $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$; then Me_2S (88%)



Following this success, we investigated the reactions of 1-ethoxyvinyl lithium with isopropylidene protected furanone lactones **6**,¹¹ **7**¹² and **8**.¹³ Thus 1-ethoxyvinyl lithium readily added to the lactones **6**, **7**, and **8** and the resulting hemiacetals were converted to the corresponding ethyl ulosonates. The hemiacetals derived from these lactones proved somewhat labile towards chromatography on silica gel. However, in all cases they were successfully isolated when the silica gel was deactivated with triethylamine and the chromatography was conducted rapidly. Subsequent cleavage of the double bond in the hemiacetals with ozone furnished the corresponding ethyl ulosonates as anomeric mixtures (Table 1).



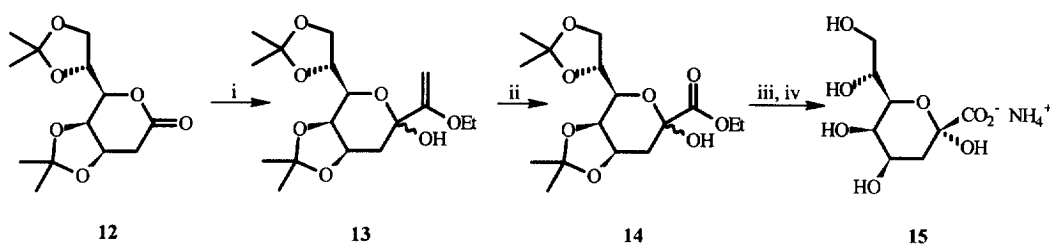
Scheme 2 Reagents and conditions: i, 1-ethoxyvinyl lithium, THF, $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ (67%); ii, O_3 , CH_2Cl_2 , EtOH, $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$; then Me_2S (74%)

Attention was then turned to the six-membered pyranone lactones. Treatment of 2,3,4-tri-*O*-benzyl-L-arabinono-1,5-lactone **9**¹⁴ with 1-ethoxyvinyl lithium in THF at $-78\text{ }^{\circ}\text{C}$ afforded the hemiacetal **10** in 67% yield as a mixture of anomers. Ozonolysis of **10** proceeded uneventfully and gave the ethyl ulosonate **11** in 74% yield with the β -anomer as the major isomer.

Table 1

Lactone	Yield of hemiacetal (%)	Yield of ethyl 2-ulosonate (%)
3	D-erythro hemiacetal 4 (83)	D-erythro 2-ulosonate 5 (88)
6	D-ribo hemiacetal (84)	D-ribo 2-ulosonate (80)
7	D-lyxo hemiacetal (85)	D-lyxo 2-ulosonate (85)
8	D-manno hemiacetal (86)	D-manno 2-ulosonate (84)
9	L-arabino hemiacetal (67)	L-arabino 2-ulosonate (74)

Application of this strategy to the pyranonolactone **12**^{2h} gave the corresponding hemiacetal **13** in 60% yield. Cleavage of the double bond in compound **13** with ozone afforded the ester **14**^{2d} (84% yield), $[\alpha]_D +49.4$ (c 0.57, CHCl₃). Deprotection of ethyl ulosonate **14** with aqueous trifluoroacetic acid, followed by treatment with aqueous ammonia gave the ammonium KDO **15**, the spectral and physical properties of which were in excellent agreement with those reported in the literature.^{2b,2j,15}



Scheme 3 Reagents and conditions: i, 1-ethoxyvinyl lithium, THF, -78 °C (60%); ii, O₃, CH₂Cl₂, EtOH, -78 °C; then Me₂S (84%); iii, aq. TFA (10%), 80 °C, 30 min; iv, aq. NH₃

In summary, we have demonstrated that 1-ethoxyvinyl lithium adds to a wide range of sugar derived lactones in an efficient manner and this strategy provides ready access to ulosonic acids in a short number of steps.

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 - All new compounds gave satisfactory spectral and microanalytical data. Selected data: **5**: Anomeric mixture (4:1); $[\alpha]_D -80.5$ (c 3.18, CHCl₃); ν_{\max} (neat film) 3432, 1743 cm⁻¹; δ_H (270 MHz) 1.34 (3H, t, *J* 7.25 Hz, major), 1.35 (3H, appt, *J* 7.25 Hz, minor), 1.30(3H, s, major), 1.40 (3H, s, minor), 1.45 (3H, s, major), 1.58 (3H, s, minor), 4.11 (1H, appdd, minor), 4.14 (1H, dd, *J* 10.56, 3.3 Hz, major), 4.30 (2H, q, *J* 7.26 Hz, major), 4.32 (2H, q, *J* 7.25 Hz, minor), 4.39 (1H, d, 1.98 Hz, minor, OH), 4.43 (1H, bs, OH), 4.68 (1H, d, *J* 5.94 Hz, major), 4.79 (1H, d, *J* 5.93 Hz, minor), 4.90 (1H, ddd, *J* 5.92, 3.93, 3.3 Hz, major, minor); δ_C (67.8 MHz) *major anomer* 13.94, 24.82, 25.81, 62.04, 72.17, 79.81, 86.69, 103.95, 113.15, 168.31; *minor anomer* 13.86, 24.74, 25.92, 61.96, 70.03, 80.01, 80.18, 103.95, 113.96, 168.45; m/z HRMS (CI, NH₃), Found MNH₄⁺, 250.1291, C₁₀H₂₀NO₆ requires MNH₄, 250.1291. **13**: mixture of anomers; ν_{\max} (neat film) 3498, 1612 cm⁻¹; δ_H (270 MHz) 1.14-1.57 (15H, m), 2.03-2.26 (2H, m), 3.09-3.39 (1.7H, m), 3.40-3.53 (0.3H, m), 3.60-3.80 (2H, m), 3.81-4.07 (3H, m), 4.08-4.22 (0.4H, m), 4.23-4.54 (2H, m), 4.56-4.77 (1H, m), 5.03-5.20 (0.6H, m); δ_C (67.8 MHz) *major anomer* 157.14, 109.07, 109.01, 95.60, 76.33, 75.55, 72.87, 69.95, 66.42, 63.60, 31.91, 26.56, 26.27, 25.14, 24.21, 14.04; *minor anomer* 162.00, 109.01, 107.43, 95.60, 74.05, 73.50, 72.54, 71.33, 67.05, 62.95, 33.59, 26.88, 25.92, 25.05, 24.07, 14.18; m/z HRMS (CI, NH₃), Found MH⁺, 345.1913 C₁₇H₂₉O₇ requires MH, 345.1913. **14**: $[\alpha]_D +49.4$ (c 0.57, CHCl₃); ν_{\max} (neat film) 3397, 1743 cm⁻¹; δ_C (67.8 MHz) *major anomer* 13.92, 25.29, 26.82, 26.96, 32.31, 66.19, 66.74, 69.86, 70.50, 71.25, 73.90, 94.32, 109.11, 109.28, 169.62; *minor anomer* 14.03, 24.18, 25.00, 25.29, 25.98, 30.89, 61.88, 67.07, 70.61, 72.28, 73.27, 73.81, 95.48, 109.28, 109.48, 169.62; m/z HRMS (CI, NH₃), Found MNH₄⁺, 364.1971, C₁₆H₃₀NO₈ requires MNH₄, 364.1971.
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