

## Inorganic Asymmetric Synthesis: Asymmetric Synthesis of a Two-Bladed Propeller, Octahedral Metal Complex

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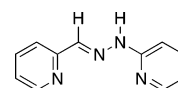
A  $C_2$  hexadentate, in which two pyridine-2-aldehyde 2'-pyridylhydrazone (PAPHY) groups are linked to a chiral auxiliary derived from (*R,R*)-tartaric acid, (*R,R*)-**1**, reacts with iron(II) benzenesulfonate to give the two-bladed propeller, octahedral complex ( $P_{Fe}$ )-[Fe{(R,R)-**1**}](PhSO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> with complete diastereoselectivity, as determined by <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectroscopy and X-ray crystallography. Saponification of the ester linkages and deprotonation of the hydrazone-NH groups in the configurationally pure diastereomer affords the complex ( $P_{Fe}$ )-[Fe(5-HOCH<sub>2</sub>PAPY)<sub>2</sub>] with 85% retention of configuration at the iron stereocenter, as determined by reprotonation of the neutral complex with enantiomerically pure (*aR*)-binaphthyl phosphoric acid and analysis of the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum of the mixture of diastereomeric salts produced. This is the first asymmetric synthesis of a two-bladed propeller, octahedral metal complex by the classical organic methodology of chiral auxiliary-directed, asymmetric synthesis.

### Introduction

There are now modifications available for nearly every standard organic reaction for converting achiral precursors into chiral products; when combined with modern purification techniques, this has allowed the synthesis and isolation of chiral organic molecules in almost complete enantiomeric purity for many reaction types. The field of inorganic asymmetric synthesis is far less developed, despite the importance of configurationally pure metal complexes in biology and for the elucidation of inorganic rearrangements and reaction mechanisms. For example, the bacterial siderophore enterobactin, a naturally occurring hexadentate in which three chelating catecholamide groups are suspended from a  $C_3$ -chiral triserine lactone scaffold, chelates iron(III) to give a single diastereomer of a remarkably stable complex in which the three-bladed propeller, octahedral, tris(catecholato)iron(III) stereocenter has the  $\Delta$  configuration; structurally similar corynebactin, however, which has a  $C_3$ -chiral threonine lactone scaffold and glycine spacers between the three catechol groups and the lactone ring, sequesters iron(III) to give a complex in which the iron(III) stereocenter has the  $\Lambda$  configuration.<sup>1</sup> The  $C_3$ -scaffold methodology has been applied to the diastereoselective synthesis of tris(hydroxamato)-

chromium(III) and tris(bipyridine)ruthenium(II) complexes by the incorporation of three (*S*)-alanine groups into the backbones of appropriate  $C_3$  hexadentate ligands<sup>2</sup> and to the syntheses of di- and trinuclear copper(I) helicates containing 2,2'-bipyridine units with use of  $C_2$  scaffolds derived from enantiomerically pure spirocycles and atropisomers.<sup>3</sup> In these diastereoselective reactions, the chiral scaffolds, be they the 12-membered lactone rings in the natural siderophores or the chiral centers or axes in the artificial systems, remain in the products containing the newly created chiral metal stereocenters. For a true asymmetric synthesis, the chiral auxiliary must be removed from the product. This has not been achieved in the above chiral-scaffold syntheses, although there is in the literature a report of the asymmetric synthesis of  $\Delta$ -[Co(bpy)<sub>3</sub>](NO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>3</sub> by the silver nitrate oxidation of an equilibrating mixture of cobalt(II) complexes containing boronic acid-substituted bipyridine ligands in the presence of (*R*)-allose.<sup>4</sup>

The unsymmetrical tridentate pyridine-2-aldehyde 2'-pyridylhydrazone (PAPHY) is a powerful chelating agent



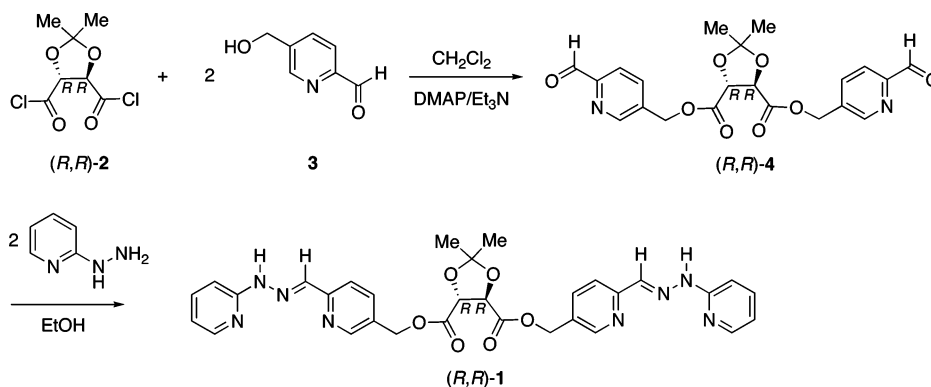
PAPHY

for most first-row, divalent, transition metal ions, forming stable two-bladed propeller, octahedral complexes of the type

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Scheme 1

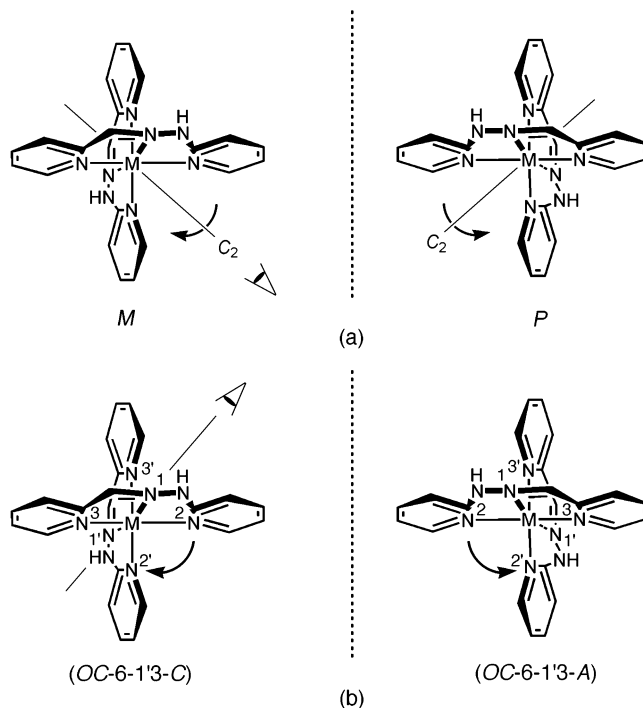


$(\pm)\text{-}[\text{M}(\text{PAPHY})_2]\text{X}_2$ .<sup>5,6</sup> A characteristic of the cations in these complexes is the ready deprotonation of the hydrazone-NH groups in the coordinated ligands to give intensely colored, neutral, complexes of the type  $(\pm)\text{-}[\text{M}(\text{PAPY})_2]$ , where PAPY represents the anionic deprotonated form of the neutral PAPHY ligand. The neutral complexes are soluble in most of the usual organic solvents, a property that has been used to extract them (and hence the metals) from aqueous solutions and that has been exploited for analytical procedures and for the use of the complexes as acid–base indicators<sup>7</sup> and reservoir sensors.<sup>8</sup>

Here we report the results of our work concerning the asymmetric synthesis of two-bladed propeller, octahedral complexes of the type  $(\pm)\text{-}[\text{Fe}(\text{PAPHY})_2]\text{X}_2$  and  $(\pm)\text{-}[\text{Fe}(\text{PAPY})_2]$  by the chiral auxiliary-directed methodology and follow our recent work on the asymmetric transformation of a cationic, double-stranded, dicopper(I) helicate containing achiral bis(bidentate) Schiff bases in the presence of  $\Delta\text{-}(-)\text{-tris}(\text{catecholato})\text{arsenate}(\text{V})$ .<sup>9</sup>

## Results and Discussion

**Stereochemical Considerations.** The configurations of chiral cations of the type  $(\pm)\text{-}[\text{M}(\text{PAPHY})_2]^{2+}$  can be assigned by viewing the molecules as helices down their principal  $C_2$  axes, which bisect the terminal N–M–N angles (Figure 1a). The twists of the ligand blades when viewed down this axis (from either direction) give the *actual* twist or helicity of the two-bladed propeller complex; a clockwise twist is assigned the *P* (plus) configuration and the anticlockwise twist the *M* (minus) configuration.<sup>10</sup> The *P* and *M* descriptors obtained by application of the helix nomenclature, however, have a negative correlation with the



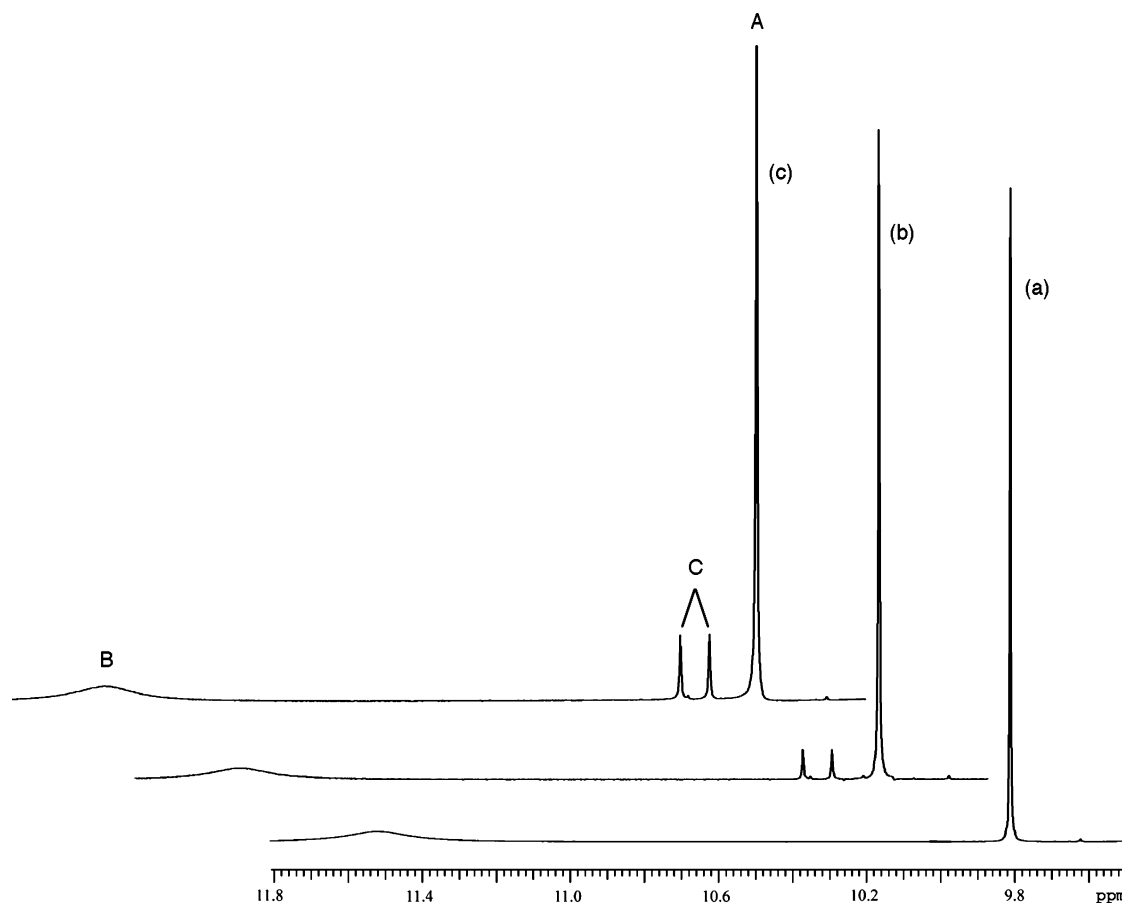
**Figure 1.** Configurational descriptors for enantiomers of  $(\pm)\text{-}[\text{M}(\text{PAPHY})_2]^{2+}$ : (a) helix nomenclature *M* and *P*; (b) stereochemical descriptors  $(OC\text{-}6\text{-}1'3\text{-}C)$  and  $(OC\text{-}6\text{-}1'3\text{-}A)$ .

chirality symbols *A* (anticlockwise) and *C* (clockwise) within the configuration indices obtained for octahedral bis(tridentate)metal complexes with use of the IUPAC convention where the molecules are viewed down the principal axis (which contains the ligand of the highest Cahn–Ingold–Prelog (CIP) priority 1) and noting the direction of the priority sequence for the four ligating atoms in the square plane, orthogonal to the principal axis (Figure 1b).<sup>11,12</sup>

**Ligand Syntheses.** The Schiff bases PAPHY and 6-Me-PAPHY were prepared by the literature methods.<sup>6</sup> The 5-methyl- and 5-hydroxymethyl-substituted ligands 5-Me-PAPHY and 5-HOCH<sub>2</sub>PAPHY were also prepared by the condensation of the appropriate aldehydes with pyridine-2-hydrazine. The  $C_2$  hexadentate  $(R,R)\text{-}1$  was synthesized as

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 (12) *Nomenclature of Inorganic Chemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 2005)*; Royal Society of Chemistry: Cambridge, 2005; pp 189–190.

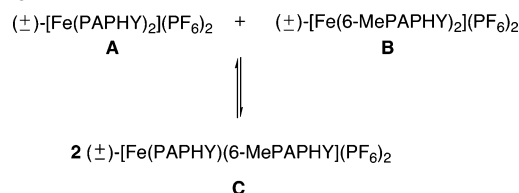


**Figure 2.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (500 MHz, acetone- $d_6$ , 25 °C) of  $(\pm)$ -[Fe(PAPHY) $_2$ ](PF $_6$ ) $_2$  (**A**) and  $(\pm)$ -[Fe(6-MePAPHY) $_2$ ](PF $_6$ ) $_2$  (**B**) showing ligand crossover product  $(\pm)$ -[Fe(PAPHY)(6-MePAPHY)](PF $_6$ ) $_2$  (**C**) at (a) 5 min, (b) 30 h, and (c) 70 h.

shown in Scheme 1 and was isolated as pale yellow microcrystals having mp 190–201 °C,  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{18} = -26.7$  ( $c$  1.1, DMSO). The diacid chloride ( $R,R$ )-**2** was synthesized in two steps by the literature procedure.<sup>13</sup> The intermediate, 5-(hydroxymethyl)pyridine-2-aldehyde (**3**), was prepared from 2,5-pyridinedimethanol in modest yield (54%) by the literature procedure.<sup>14</sup> Condensation of ( $R,R$ )-**2** with 2.2 equiv of **3** in the presence of triethylamine and 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (DMAP) in dichloromethane gave the dialdehyde ( $R,R$ )-**4** as a colorless solid in 64% yield after column chromatography (Scheme 1). Condensation of ( $R,R$ )-**4** with 2.3 equiv of pyridine-2-hydrazine in ethanol furnished the bis(hydrazone) ( $R,R$ )-**1** as yellow microcrystals. Yield: 80%.

**Iron(II) Complexes. Configurational Stability.** The configurational stability of the chiral iron(II) stereocenter in complexes of the type  $(\pm)$ -[Fe(PAPHY) $_2$ ]X $_2$  and the deprotonated complexes  $(\pm)$ -[Fe(PAPY) $_2$ ] was investigated by examining the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of pairs of closely related complexes, where the appearance of resonances in the spectra for the corresponding crossover complexes would indicate intermolecular ligand exchange and loss of configurational integrity at iron (Scheme 2). In order for these experiments to be conducted, however, pairs of soluble complexes were

#### Scheme 2



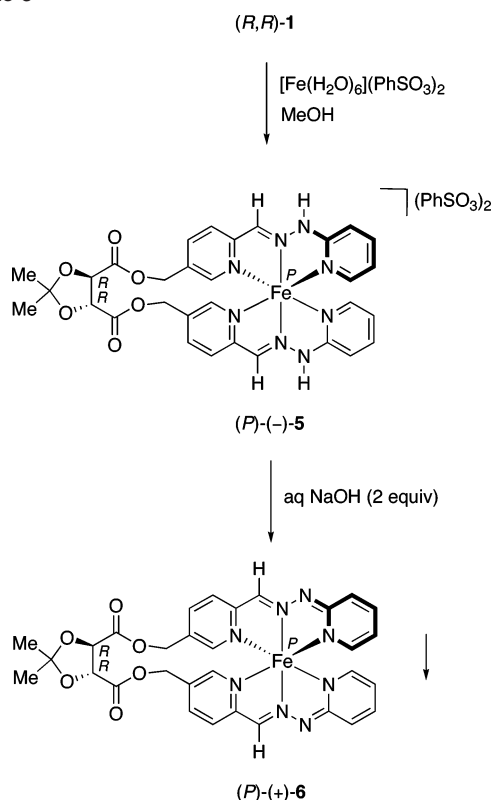
required that exhibited in their  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra, sharp and well-separated resonances for the diagnostic azomethine- $H$  atoms in the protonated and neutral crossover complexes. These considerations eliminated from the investigation complexes derived from 5-methyl- and 5-HOCH $_2$ PAPHY. Thus,  $(\pm)$ -[Fe(PAPHY) $_2$ ](PF $_6$ ) $_2$  (**A**) and  $(\pm)$ -[Fe(6-MePAPHY) $_2$ ](PF $_6$ ) $_2$  (**B**) were prepared and equimolar solutions of the two complexes in acetone- $d_6$  mixed together at 25 °C: the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra were recorded after 5 min, 30 h, and 70 h. The spectra in the azomethine- $H$  region are shown in Figure 2. The azomethine- $H$  resonances for **A** and **B** occur at 9.81 and 11.52 ppm, respectively; the broad, downfield peak for the azomethine- $H$  protons in **B** is consistent with the small degree of paramagnetism observed for the complex in acetone, viz 0.38  $\mu_{\text{B}}$  at 25 °C (Evans method<sup>15</sup>). The literature value for the magnetic moment of the corresponding perchlorate salt in the solid state is 0.9  $\mu_{\text{B}}$  at 20 °C.<sup>6</sup> In

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Scheme 3



2,2':6,6''-terpyridine (tpy) complexes of the type  $[\text{Fe}(\text{tpy})_2]\text{X}_2$ , substituents in the 6 and 6' positions of the pyridine rings, which are adjacent to the nitrogen atoms in these rings and weaken the Fe–N bonds, favor the high-spin forms of the complexes.<sup>16</sup> On the basis of the NMR data, it was estimated that the half-life for intermolecular ligand exchange for the system  $\mathbf{A} + \mathbf{B} \rightleftharpoons \mathbf{2C}$  in acetone- $d_6$  is 200 h at 25 °C. Ligand exchange between the deprotonated forms of **A** and **B** was not discernible within this period under similar conditions.

**Diastereoselective Synthesis.** The complex  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)- $[\text{Fe}\{(\text{R},\text{R})\text{-1}\}](\text{PhSO}_3)_2$ ,  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5**, was prepared by the addition of a methanol solution of hexaaquairon(II) benzene-sulfonate to a suspension of an equimolar quantity of  $(R,R)$ -**1** in the same solvent (Scheme 3). Upon the addition of the iron(II) salt, the reaction mixture turned vibrant red. The solution was stirred for 2 h at room temperature; the product was isolated from the solution by evaporation of the solvent. The high-resolution electrospray mass spectrum of the crude product indicated the exclusive formation of the 1:1 metal-to-ligand complex  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5** ( $m/z = 665.16$   $[\text{M} - \text{H}]^+$ ). The complex crystallized from 95% methanol–diethyl ether as dark red prisms having mp = 227–230 °C and  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{18} = -838$  ( $c$  0.014, MeOH). The addition of 2 equiv of 10% aqueous sodium hydroxide to an aqueous solution of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5** generated the corresponding dark brown, neutral, deprotonated complex  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)- $[\text{Fe}(\text{R},\text{R})\text{-1-2H}]$ ,  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)-

**6**, which was extracted into dichloromethane. The pure complex was obtained as a dark brown powder by the addition of *n*-hexane to the dichloromethane extract. Yield: >95%; mp > 250 °C;  $[\alpha]_{\text{D}}^{18} = +1474$  ( $c$  0.026, MeOH). Both forms of the complex are air-stable solids.

**<sup>1</sup>H NMR Spectroscopy.** The <sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR spectra of  $(R,R)$ -**1** and  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5** were recorded in chloroform- $d$  and methanol- $d_4$  at 25 °C, respectively. Upon complexation of iron(II), the diagnostic azomethine-*H* resonance for the ligand at 7.92 ppm shift downfield by ca. 1.6 ppm (Figure 3). The diastereotopic  $\beta$ -picolyl- $\text{CH}_2$  protons in  $(R,R)$ -**1** resonate as an AB spin system centered at 5.30 and 5.36 ppm, but at 4.70 and 5.21 ppm in the protonated complex and at 3.34 and 4.50 ppm in the deprotonated complex. The spectra of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5** and  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)-**6** are consistent with the formation of a single diastereomer of the complex in each case (>99% diastereoselectivity).

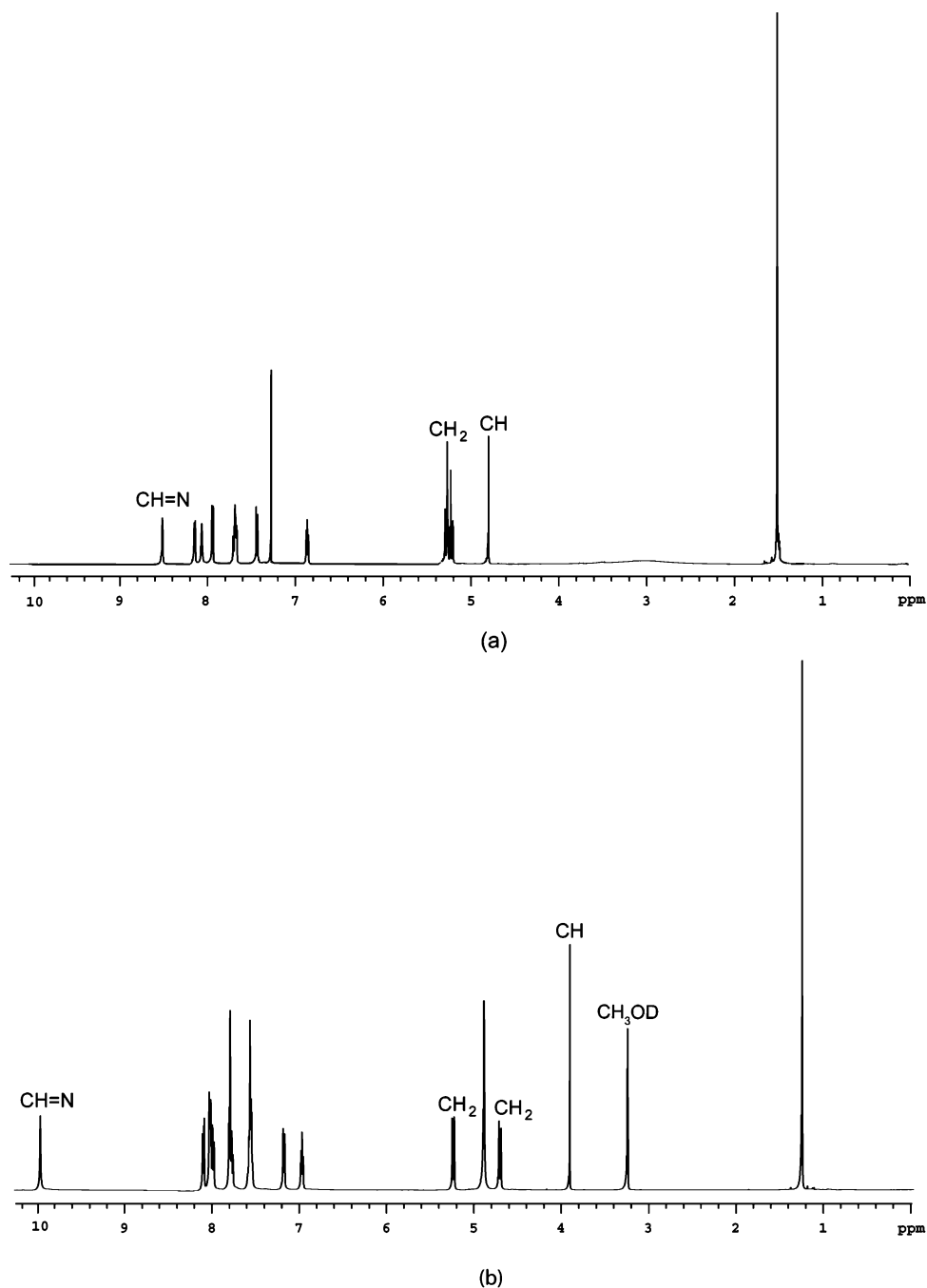
**Circular Dichroism Spectra.** The CD spectra of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5** and  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)-**6** in methanol at 18 °C are shown in Figure 4. In the visible region,  $\Delta\epsilon$  has highest magnitude of ca. 24 and 33  $\text{M}^{-1} \text{cm}^{-1}$  for  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5** and  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)-**6**, respectively; the peaks are associated with the absorption maxima for the metal-to-ligand charge transfer (MLCT) transitions in the complexes at 380 and 480 nm. Cotton effects observed at shorter wavelengths for the complexes are associated with the chiral auxiliary and are not shown in the figure. The free ligand shows no absorptions in the MLCT region.

**Crystal and Molecular Structure of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5**·2CH<sub>3</sub>OH·3H<sub>2</sub>O.** The solvate  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5**·2CH<sub>3</sub>OH·3H<sub>2</sub>O crystallized as dark red needles following the slow diffusion of diethyl ether into a concentrated solution of the crude complex in 95% aqueous methanol. The solvate crystallizes in the monoclinic space group  $P2_1$  with one chiral cation, two anions and five solvent molecules in the crystallographic asymmetric unit (Table 1). There is disorder in the chiral auxiliary region of the ligand extending from O217 (O2171) to and including the five-membered dioxolane ring. Interatomic bond lengths and angles around the iron(II) stereocenter are given in Table 2. The structures of the two conformers of the configurationally pure cation are depicted in Figure 5.

The two terminal and the two inner pyridine Fe–N distances in the cation at 1.974(2) Å av (terminal) and 1.972(2) Å av (inner) are similar to those for the terminal Fe–N bonds in low-spin  $[\text{Fe}(\text{tpy})_2](\text{ClO}_4)_2 \cdot 0.5\text{H}_2\text{O}$ , viz. 1.988 Å av.<sup>17</sup> The central hydrazone Fe–N distances of 1.885(2) and 1.873(2) Å in the cation are also similar to those in the tpy complex, viz. 1.889 Å av. Each of the PAPHY groups in the complex is essentially planar, with the substituted pyridine rings at the auxiliary end of the ligand being bent slightly toward one another. This deviation from strictly octahedral coordination is reflected in the bite angle of 86.47(9)° for N115–Fe–N215 and the N–Fe–N angles between

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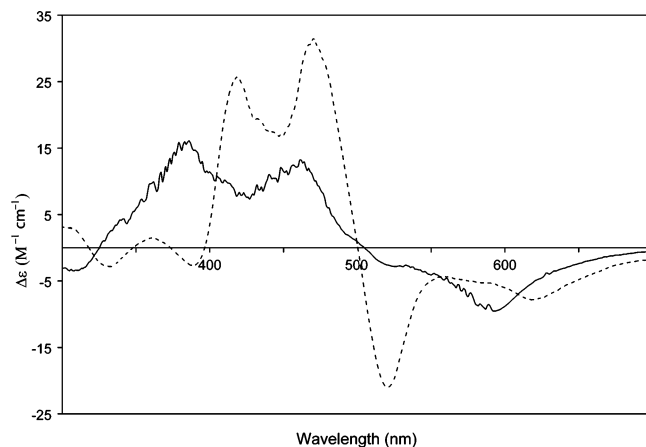
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**Figure 3.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (500 MHz, 25  $^\circ\text{C}$ ): (a)  $(R,R)$ -**1** ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ ); (b)  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5** ( $\text{CD}_3\text{OD}$ ).

opposite vertexes, which are  $161.45(8)^\circ$  and  $161.40(9)^\circ$  (for the terminal and inner end pairs) and  $177.04(11)^\circ$  (for the central pair). The major conformer of the cation (60%), Figure 5a, has overall  $C_1$  symmetry with the ester-carbonyl- $O$  atoms O119 and O219 having a cis disposition; in the minor conformer of the cation (40%), Figure 5b, the corresponding oxygen atoms O119 and O2191 have a trans relationship in which the overall symmetry of the cation is  $C_2$ . A view indicating the absolute configurations of the three chiral stereocenters in the minor conformer of the configurationally pure cation of  $C_2$  symmetry and emphasizing the two-bladed propeller structure of the iron(II) stereocenter is given in Figure 6.

**Removal of the Chiral Auxiliary.** Removal of the chiral auxiliary from the complex was achieved by saponification (Scheme 4). Thus, an aqueous solution of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5** was treated with 4 equiv of 10% aqueous sodium hydroxide. The solution instantaneously turned dark brown–black, and a fine solid separated over 30 min. The dark brown–black precipitate was insoluble in most solvents, but spectroscopic data were obtained in methanol- $d_4$  and DMSO- $d_6$ . The structure of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)-[Fe(5-HOCH<sub>2</sub>PAPY)<sub>2</sub>],  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)-**7**, was confirmed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy in methanol- $d_4$ : the spectrum of the complex was identical to that of the corresponding racemate ( $\pm$ )-**7**, which had been independently characterized. Analytical and mass spectral data for the



**Figure 4.** CD spectra of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5** (—) and  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)-**6** (---) in methanol at 18 °C.

**Table 1.** Crystallographic Data and Experimental Parameters for the X-ray Crystal Structure Analysis of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5**·2CH<sub>3</sub>OH·3H<sub>2</sub>O

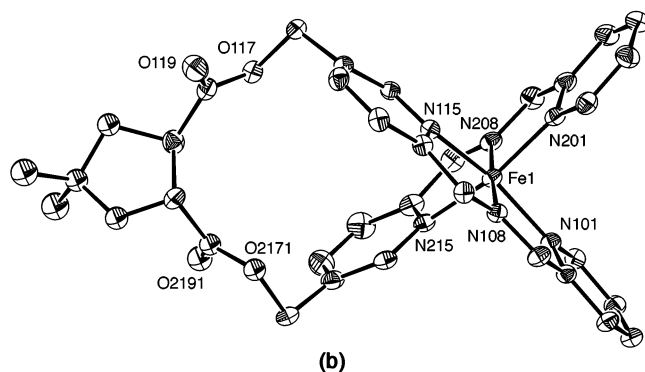
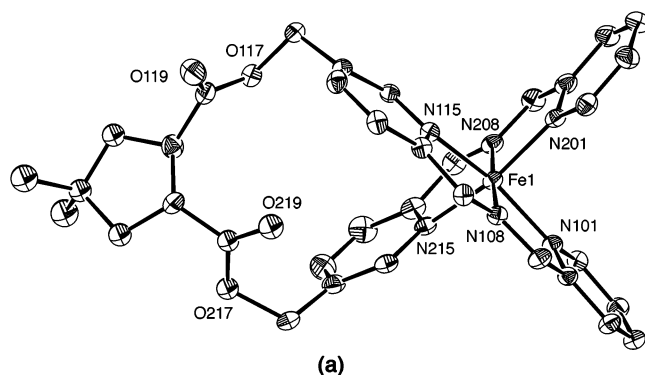
formula	C <sub>45</sub> H <sub>54</sub> FeN <sub>8</sub> O <sub>17</sub> S <sub>2</sub>
fw, g mol <sup>-1</sup>	1098.95
cryst color, habit	red, prism
cryst size, mm <sup>3</sup>	0.29 × 0.17 × 0.16
space group	<i>P</i> 2 <sub>1</sub>
cryst syst	monoclinic
<i>a</i> , Å	9.1842(1)
<i>b</i> , Å	19.8044(3)
<i>c</i> , Å	14.2977(2)
β, deg	101.8508(10)
<i>V</i> , Å <sup>3</sup>	2545.14(6)
<i>Z</i>	2
<i>d</i> <sub>calcd</sub> , g cm <sup>-3</sup>	1.434
μ, cm <sup>-1</sup>	4.57
instrument	Nonius Kappa CCD
radiation	Mo Kα
no. unique reflns	11 626
no. reflns obsd	8221 ( <i>I</i> > 3.00σ( <i>I</i> ))
2θ range, deg	5–55
scan technique	φ and ω scans with CCD
temp, K	200
struct refinement	CRYSTALS <sup>22</sup> /maXus <sup>23</sup>
final <i>R</i> , <i>R</i> <sub>w</sub>	0.0341, 0.0401

**Table 2.** Selected Bond Distances (Å) and Angles (deg) for the Cation of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5**·2CH<sub>3</sub>OH·3H<sub>2</sub>O

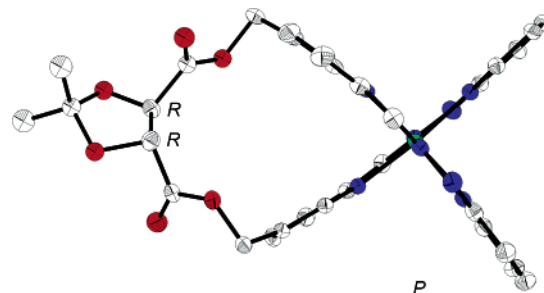
Fe–N101	1.974(2)	Fe–N201	1.973(2)
Fe–N108	1.885(2)	Fe–N208	1.873(2)
Fe–N115	1.970(2)	Fe–N215	1.974(2)
N101–Fe–N108	81.26(9)	N108–Fe–N215	102.14(10)
N101–Fe–N115	161.45(8)	N115–Fe–N201	92.64(8)
N101–Fe–N201	93.56(9)	N115–Fe–N208	100.42(9)
N101–Fe–N208	97.79(9)	N115–Fe–N215	86.47(9)
N101–Fe–N215	93.08(9)	N201–Fe–N208	81.20(10)
N108–Fe–N115	80.72(9)	N201–Fe–N215	161.40(9)
N108–Fe–N201	96.04(10)	N208–Fe–N215	80.69(10)
N108–Fe–N208	177.04(11)		

complex were also consistent with the formulation [Fe(5-HOCH<sub>2</sub>PAPY)<sub>2</sub>].

**Determination of Enantiomeric Purity.** Conventional methods for determining enantiomeric purity failed because of the poor solubility of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)-**7** in appropriate solvents. Thus, the attempted use of CD spectroscopy and the lanthanide shift reagent Eu(hfa)<sub>3</sub>, the chiral ion-pairing agent TRISPHAT,<sup>18</sup> and the derivatization of the deprotonated complex with chiral alkylating agents were unsuccessful. The reprotonation of the  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(+)-**7** with 1.5 equiv (*aR*)-

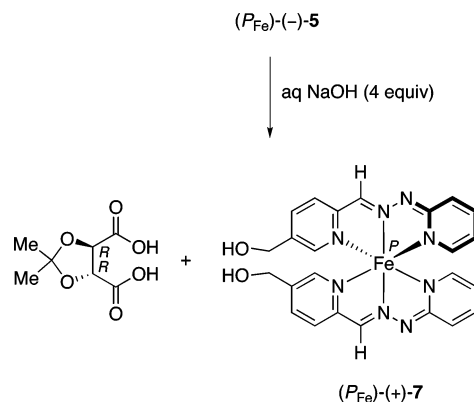


**Figure 5.** Molecular structure of the major (a) and minor (b) conformers of the cation of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5**·2CH<sub>3</sub>OH·3H<sub>2</sub>O (30% probability ellipsoids shown for non-hydrogen atoms).

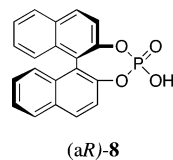


**Figure 6.** Molecular structure of the minor conformer of the cation of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})$ -(-)-**5**·2CH<sub>3</sub>OH·3H<sub>2</sub>O indicating absolute configurations of chiral centers and emphasizing the two-bladed propeller structure of the iron(II) stereocenter (30% probability ellipsoids shown for non-hydrogen atoms).

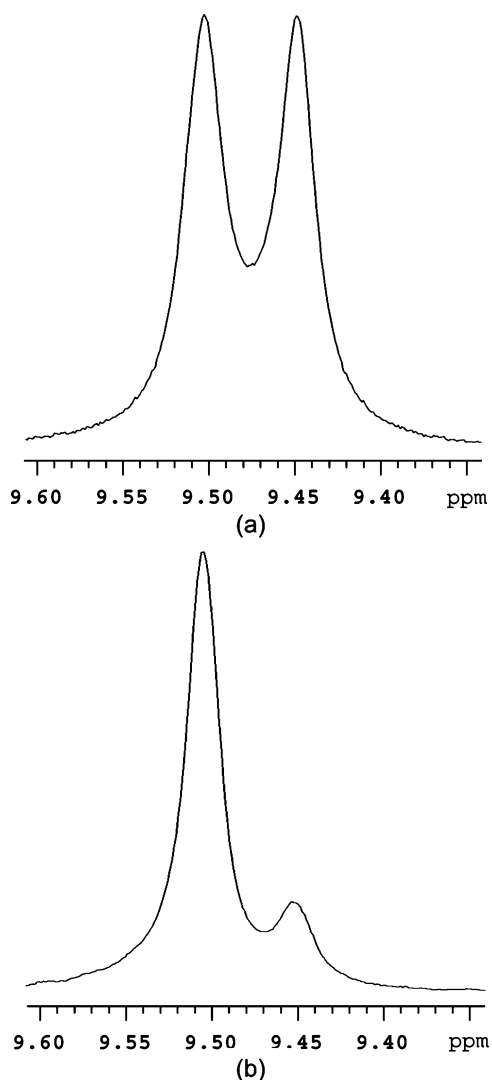
#### Scheme 4



binaphthyl phosphoric acid, (*aR*)-**8**, however, gave a product that exhibited in the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectrum in dichloromethane-*d*<sub>2</sub> clear splittings of the resonances for the azomethine



protons of the equimolar mixture of diastereomeric salts. The addition of  $>2$  equiv of (aR)-8 to the complex also gave a solid that was soluble in dichloromethane, but the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of the complex was broad. Thus, the deprotonated form of the *racemic* complex ( $\pm$ )-7 was dissolved in the minimum quantity of methanol and 1.5 equiv of solid (aR)-8 was added—the brown solution of the deprotonated complex instantly turned dark red. The solution was stirred for 15 min, and then dichloromethane and water were added. After being stirred for a further 30 min, the organic layer was separated, dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ), evaporated to dryness, and the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of the residue was recorded (Figure 7a). The corresponding spectrum of the *optically active* complex ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(+)-7 in the presence of 1.5 equiv of (aR)-8 is shown in Figure 7b. Although complete baseline separation was not



**Figure 7.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 500 MHz, 25 °C): (a) ( $\pm$ )- $[\text{Fe}(\text{5-HOCH}_2\text{PAPY})_2]$  in the presence of 1.5 equiv of (aR)-8; (b) ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(+)- $[\text{Fe}(\text{5-HOCH}_2\text{PAPY})_2]$  in the presence of 1.5 equiv of (aR)-8.

achieved in the spectra, curve-fitting established that the main peak in the spectrum of the optically active complex corresponded to an 85:15 =  $P_{\text{Fe}}/M_{\text{Fe}}$  mixture of the diastereomeric salts. Since the protonation step is quantitative, as indicated by the observation of equal intensities for the two peaks corresponding to the two diastereomers arising from the protonation of the racemate, and the knowledge that the diastereomer from which the ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(+)-7 was derived by hydrolysis was diastereomerically pure, the racemization observed must have occurred during the saponification step. Optical rotations of a sample of ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(+)-7 obtained from the asymmetric synthesis were measured in methanol over 3 days: no change in the specific rotation was observed over this period. A solution of ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(+)-7 in methanol, however, when treated with a trace of solid sodium hydroxide immediately lost optical activity. It was therefore evident that the apparent loss of enantioselectivity in the asymmetric synthesis was due to racemization during the saponification step.

## Conclusion

The enantiomerically pure ligand (*R,R*)-1 chelates iron(II) to furnish the complex ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(-)-5 with complete diastereoselectivity. The presence of a single diastereomer of the complex in solution was confirmed by  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectroscopy and the configuration at the iron(II) stereocenter (*P*) by a single crystal X-ray structure determination. Saponification of the chiral auxiliary from configurationally pure ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(-)-5 afforded the deprotonated complex ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(+)-7 in 85% enantioselectivity. The enantiomeric purity of ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(+)-7 was established by reprotonation with 1.5 equiv of the enantiomerically pure acid (aR)-8 in dichloromethane- $d_2$ ; the appearance in the  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectrum of the sample of two, well-defined azomethine-*H* resonances for the two possible diastereomers of the protonated complex in the ratio 85:15 indicated 85% enantioselectivity for the hydrolysis step. The asymmetric synthesis of ( $P_{\text{Fe}}$ )-(+)-7 is the first example of an inorganic asymmetric synthesis using the classical organic methodology of chiral auxiliary-directed, asymmetric synthesis.

## Experimental Section

**General Methods.** Reactions involving air-sensitive compounds were performed under a positive pressure of nitrogen using Schlenk techniques. Dry, degassed solvents were obtained by distillation over appropriate drying agents. Routine NMR spectra were measured on Varian INOVA spectrometers operating at 300 and 500 ( $^1\text{H}$ ) and 75 and 125 MHz ( $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$ ). Chemical shifts ( $\delta$ ) are reported in ppm relative to the internal TMS for  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra recorded in chloroform- $d$ , or relative to the residual solvent peak for other solvents. For  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra, the chemical shifts are reported relative to the solvent peak. Melting points were determined with use of a Reichert hot-stage melting point apparatus. Optical rotations were measured on the specified solutions at 18 °C with a Perkin-Elmer Model 241 polarimeter. Specific rotations are within  $\pm 0.05$  deg  $\text{cm}^2 \text{g}^{-1}$ . The rotations of the metal complexes

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were measured on solutions in 1 or 5 cm cells at 18 °C with use of a Jobin Yvon Model CD6 spectrophotometer operating in the ORD mode. Circular dichroism measurements were recorded in methanol on the same instrument. Elemental analyses were performed and mass spectra measured by staff within the Research School of Chemistry. The Schiff base PAPHY,<sup>6</sup> (a*R*)-binaphthyl phosphoric acid,<sup>19</sup> and hexaquaairon(II) benzenesulfonate<sup>20</sup> were prepared by the literature methods.

**2,5-Pyridinedimethanol.** This compound was prepared by the literature procedure with the following modifications.<sup>21</sup> 2,5-Bis-(methoxycarbonyl)pyridine (5.03 g, 0.03 mol) was suspended in ethanol (70 mL), and the mixture was cooled to 0 °C in an ice bath. Sodium borohydride (4.53 g, 0.12 mol) was added in small portions to the mixture. After the reaction mixture was stirred for 1 h at 0 °C, the ice bath was removed; the ongoing exothermic reaction caused the solution to warm and boil under reflux. Stirring of the mixture was continued for 3 h, and then it was heated overnight under reflux. The solvent was removed by distillation, and the residue was dissolved in acetone (70 mL). Saturated aqueous potassium carbonate (70 mL) was added, and the mixture was heated at boiling temperature for 1 h. This resulted in a yellow layer separating from the reaction mixture, which was isolated and extracted continuously with chloroform (ca. 14 h) to yield the product as a yellow oil. Yield: 3.07 g (84%) [lit.<sup>21</sup> 79%]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (D<sub>2</sub>O, 300 MHz): δ 4.68 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.72 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.51 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.8 Hz, pyH), 8.43 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.1 Hz, pyH), 8.45 (s, 1 H, pyH-6).

**5-(Hydroxymethyl)pyridine-2-aldehyde (3).** This compound was prepared from 2,5-pyridinedimethanol and was isolated as an almost colorless solid by the literature procedure.<sup>14</sup> Yield: 54%; mp = 75 °C [lit.<sup>14</sup> 75 °C]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz): δ 4.88 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.92 (t, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.0 Hz, pyH), 7.98 (d, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, pyH), 8.78 (s, 1 H, pyH-6), 10.09 (s, 1 H, CHO).

**5-Methylpyridine-2-aldehyde 2'-Pyridylhydrazone (5-Me-PAPHY).** This compound was prepared by condensation of 5-methylpyridine-2-aldehyde with pyridine-2-hydrazine in a manner similar to that reported for PAPHY; the pure compound crystallized as fine yellow needles from hot ethanol. Yield: 94%; mp = 169–172 °C. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub>: C, 67.9; H, 5.7; N, 26.4. Found: C, 67.8; H, 5.8; N, 26.3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz): δ 2.36 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.82 (t, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 5.0 Hz, pyH), 7.41 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.7 Hz, pyH), 7.52 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.4 Hz, pyH), 7.64 (t, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.9 Hz, pyH), 7.89 (s, 1 H, CH=N), 7.91 (d, 1 H, pyH), 8.19 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 4.9 Hz, pyH), 8.40 (s, 1 H, pyH-6), 9.41 (s, 1 H, NH). LR ESI-MS: *m/z* = 213.1 amu (100, [M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

**5-(Hydroxymethyl)pyridine-2-aldehyde 2'-Pyridylhydrazone (5-HOCH<sub>2</sub>PAPHY).** This compound was prepared by condensation of 5-(hydroxymethyl)pyridine-2-aldehyde with pyridine-2-hydrazine in a manner similar to that reported for PAPHY; the pure compound crystallized as fine yellow needles from hot ethanol. Yield: 96%; mp = 195–198 °C. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>12</sub>H<sub>12</sub>N<sub>4</sub>O: C, 63.2; H, 5.3; N, 24.6. Found: C, 63.1; H, 5.6; N, 24.3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 300

MHz): δ 4.67 (s, 2 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.85 (t, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz, pyH), 7.35 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.5 Hz, pyH), 7.69 (t, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.0 Hz, pyH), 7.85 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.5 Hz, pyH), 8.00 (s, 1 H, CH=N), 8.08 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, pyH), 8.10 (t, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz, pyH), 8.43 (s, 1 H, pyH-6), 9.41 (s, 1 H, NH). LR ESI-MS: *m/z* = 251.0 (22, [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>), 229.0 amu (100, [M + H]<sup>+</sup>).

**6-Methylpyridine-2-aldehyde 2'-Pyridylhydrazone (6-Me-PAPHY).** This compound was prepared from 6-methylpyridine-2-aldehyde and pyridine-2-hydrazine by the literature procedure; the pure compound crystallized as a pale yellow powder from the hot ethanol.<sup>6</sup> Yield: 92%; mp = 206–208 °C [lit.<sup>6</sup> 208–210 °C]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.49 (s, 3 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.80 (t, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz, pyH), 7.14 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz, pyH), 7.39 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, pyH), 7.64–7.68 (m, 2 H, pyH), 7.85 (d, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, pyH), 8.10 (s, 1 H, CH=N), 8.12 (t, 1 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, pyH), 10.10 (s, 1 H, NH).

**Bis[(6-formylpyridin-3-yl)methyl] (4*R*,5*R*)-2,2-Dimethyl-[1,3]-dioxolane-4,5-dicarboxylate ((*R*,*R*)-4).** A solution of (*R*,*R*)-2 (2.95 g, 13 mmol) in dichloromethane (50 mL) was added slowly at 0 °C to solution of 5-(hydroxymethyl)pyridine-2-aldehyde, **3** (3.84 g, 28 mmol), triethylamine (5.6 mL, 40 mmol), and 4-(dimethylamino)pyridine (DMAP) (cat.) in the same solvent (50 mL). The reaction mixture was warmed to room temperature, and then it was stirred for 2 h. The resulting solution was washed with water, the organic layer separated and dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and the filtrate evaporated to dryness. The residue was subjected to flash chromatography on silica (1:3 v/v ethyl acetate–dichloromethane) to afford the desired compound (*R<sub>f</sub>* = 0.3) and unreacted 5-(hydroxymethyl)pyridine-2-aldehyde (*R<sub>f</sub>* = 0.2). The pure product crystallized as colorless needles upon concentration of the eluate containing the band having *R<sub>f</sub>* = 0.3. Yield: 3.56 g (64%); mp = 77–81 °C; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>18</sup> = –26.9 (c 1.0, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>21</sub>H<sub>20</sub>N<sub>2</sub>O<sub>8</sub>: C, 58.9; H, 4.7; N, 6.5. Found: C, 58.6; H, 4.8; N, 6.2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 300 MHz): δ 1.45 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.84 (s, 2 H, CH), 5.33 (s, 4 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 7.85 (d, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 9.8 Hz, pyH), 7.95 (d, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.7 Hz, pyH), 8.77 (s, 2 H, pyH-6), 10.10 (s, 2 H, CHO).

**Bis[(6-(*E*)-(pyridine-2-hydrazinylmethylene)pyridin-3-yl)methyl-(4*R*,5*R*)-2,2-dimethyl-[1,3]-dioxolane-4,5-dicarboxylate ((*R*,*R*)-1).** Pyridine-2-hydrazine (1.53 g, 14 mmol) was dissolved in ethanol (100 mL) and added to (*R*,*R*)-4 (2.57 g, 6 mmol). The reaction mixture was heated under reflux for 30 min, and then it was cooled; after 12–15 h, the solution deposited the yellow microcrystalline product, which was isolated by filtration, washed with diethyl ether, and dried under vacuum. Yield: 2.93 g (80%); mp = 198–201 °C; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>18</sup> = 26.7 (c 1.1, DMSO). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>30</sub>N<sub>8</sub>O<sub>6</sub>: C, 61.0; H, 5.0; N, 18.4. Found: C, 61.1; H, 5.1; N, 18.2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 1.54 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 4.80 (s, 2 H, CH), 5.30 (d, 2 H, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 13.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.36 (d, 2 H, <sup>2</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 13.0 Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.82 (t, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz, pyH), 7.22 (d, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.5 Hz, pyH), 7.41 (d, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 9.0 Hz, pyH), 7.64–7.68 (m, 4 H, pyH), 7.84 (d, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 8.0 Hz, pyH), 7.92 (s, 2 H, CH=N), 8.12 (d, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 6.5 Hz, pyH). LR ESI-MS: *m/z* = 611.4 (32, [M]<sup>+</sup>), 633.4 amu (100, [M + Na]<sup>+</sup>).

**(±)-[Fe(PAPHY)<sub>2</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub>.** A solution of (hexaqua)iron(II) sulfate-1-hydrate (0.08 g, 0.27 mmol) and ammonium hexafluorophosphate (0.4 g, 2.5 mmol) in water (25 mL) was treated with a solution of PAPHY (0.1 g, 0.5 mmol) in ethyl methyl ketone (20 mL). After 2 h, the bright red organic phase was separated and evaporated to dryness. The pure product crystallized as dark red prisms from hot ethyl methyl ketone. Yield: 0.17 g (91%); mp = 246 °C (dec). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>22</sub>H<sub>20</sub>F<sub>12</sub>FeN<sub>8</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C, 35.6; H, 2.7; N, 15.1. Found: C, 35.3; H, 2.5; N, 15.2. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 6.87 (t, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub> = 7.0 Hz, pyH), 7.22 (t, 2 H, <sup>3</sup>J<sub>HH</sub>

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= 6.5 Hz, pyH), 7.24 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.73 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 9.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.83 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.88 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.5$  Hz, pyH), 8.03 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.0$  Hz, pyH), 8.06 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.5$  Hz, pyH), 9.79 (s, 2 H, CH=N). LR ESI-MS:  $m/z = 451.2$  (100, [M + H]<sup>+</sup>), 226.2 amu (81, [M]<sup>2+</sup>).

**The Following Complexes were Prepared Similarly.** (±)-[Fe-(5-MePAPHY)<sub>2</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub>: dark red needles from hot ethyl methyl ketone; mp = 245 °C (dec); 96% yield. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>F<sub>12</sub>FeN<sub>8</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C, 37.4; H, 3.1; N, 14.5. Found: C, 36.5; H, 3.4; N, 14.0. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 300 MHz): δ 2.11 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.85 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.3$  Hz, pyH), 7.20 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.4$  Hz, pyH), 7.68–7.72 (m, 4 H, pyH), 7.78 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.1$  Hz, pyH), 7.88 (s, 2 H, pyH-6), 7.94 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.1$  Hz, pyH), 9.72 (s, 2 H, CH=N). LR FAB-MS:  $m/z = 480.2$  (33, [M]<sup>+</sup>), 479.1 amu (100, [M + H]<sup>+</sup>). (±)-[Fe(6-MePAPHY)<sub>2</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub>: dark red prisms from hot ethyl methyl ketone; mp = 246–249 °C; 96% yield. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>F<sub>12</sub>FeN<sub>8</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C, 37.4; H, 3.2; N, 14.4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.57 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 7.37 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, pyH), 7.86 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.5$  Hz, pyH), 8.62 (br s, 2 H, pyH), 8.71 (br s, 2H, pyH), 9.14 (br s, 2H, pyH), 9.29 (br s, 2 H, pyH), 11.55 (br s, 2 H, CH=N), 15.53 (br s, 2 H, NH). LR ES-MS:  $m/z$  479.2 (75, [M-H]<sup>+</sup>), 213.2 amu (100, [(6-MePAPHY) + H]<sup>+</sup>). (±)-[Fe(5-HOCH<sub>2</sub>PAPHY)<sub>2</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (±)-7: dark red needles from hot ethyl methyl ketone; mp > 250 °C; 90% yield. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>24</sub>F<sub>12</sub>FeN<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>P<sub>2</sub>: C, 35.9; H, 3.0; N, 14.0. Found: C, 34.9; H, 3.4; N, 13.3. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (acetone-*d*<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 4.45 (s, 4 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.86 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.0$  Hz, pyH), 7.23 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.72 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.81 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.0$  Hz, pyH), 7.83 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.97 (s, 2 H, pyH-6), 8.03 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, pyH), 9.79 (s, 2 H, CH=N). LR ESI-MS:  $m/z = 511.1$  (100, [M - H]<sup>+</sup>), 256.1 amu (76, [M - H]<sup>2+</sup>).

(±)-[Fe(PAPY)<sub>2</sub>]. The protonated complex (±)-[Fe(PAPHY)<sub>2</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.37 g, 0.50 mmol) in water (10 mL) was treated with 10% aq sodium hydroxide (0.44 mL, 1.10 mmol). Dichloromethane (10 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 2 h, after which time the organic phase was separated, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and filtered; removal of the solvent from the filtrate afforded the crude product, which was recrystallized from dichloromethane-*n*-hexane. The pure complex formed green-black prisms. Yield: 0.20 g (87%); mp > 250 °C [lit.<sup>6</sup> >250 °C]. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 6.10 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.5$  Hz, pyH), 6.48 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.0$  Hz, pyH), 6.71 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, pyH), 7.01–7.03 (m, 4 H, pyH), 7.15–7.19 (m, 4 H, pyH), 7.43 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.5$  Hz, pyH), 9.02 (s, 2 H, CH=N).

**The Following Compounds were Prepared Similarly.** (±)-[Fe(5-MePAPY)<sub>2</sub>]: green-black prisms from dichloromethane-*n*-hexane; mp > 250 °C; 92% yield. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>FeN<sub>8</sub>: C, 60.3; H, 4.6; N, 23.4. Found: C, 60.4; H, 4.6; N, 22.9. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 1.98 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.00 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.5$  Hz, pyH), 6.54 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, pyH), 6.93–6.89 (m, 4 H, pyH), 7.02 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.08 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.24 (s, 2 H, pyH-6), 8.89 (s, 2 H, CH=N). LR ESI-MS:  $m/z = 478$  (100, [M]<sup>+</sup>), 267 amu (45, [Fe + (5-MePAPHY)]<sup>+</sup>). (±)-[Fe(6-MePAPY)<sub>2</sub>]: green-black prisms from dichloromethane-*n*-hexane; mp > 250 °C [lit.<sup>6</sup> > 250 °C]; 90% yield. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CDCl<sub>3</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 2.46 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 6.09 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.0$  Hz, pyH), 6.31 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.5$  Hz, pyH), 6.73 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.5$  Hz, pyH), 6.82 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.5$  Hz, pyH), 6.96–7.00 (m, 4 H, pyH), 7.16 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, pyH), 9.34 (s, 2 H, CH=N).

(±)-[Fe(5-HOCH<sub>2</sub>PAPY)<sub>2</sub>]. The protonated complex (±)-[Fe(5-HOCH<sub>2</sub>PAPHY)<sub>2</sub>](PF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub> (0.40 g, 0.5 mmol) was dissolved in

methanol (20 mL), and the solution was treated with 10% aq sodium hydroxide (0.44 mL, 1.10 mmol). The dark green-black solution was concentrated to afford the crude product as a fine brown-black powder, which was recrystallized from hot methanol. The pure complex was thus obtained as a brown-black, microcrystalline powder. Yield: 0.23 g (92%); mp > 250 °C. Anal. Calcd for C<sub>24</sub>H<sub>22</sub>FeN<sub>8</sub>O<sub>2</sub>: C, 56.5; H, 4.3; N, 22.0. Found: C, 56.2; H, 4.4; N, 21.8. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 500 MHz): δ 4.25 (s, 4 H, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.18 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.5$  Hz, pyH), 6.64 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.09–7.12 (m, 4 H, pyH), 7.27 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, pyH), 7.34 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 7.0$  Hz, pyH), 7.46 (s, 2 H, pyH-6), 9.08 (s, 2 H, CH=N). LR ESI-MS:  $m/z = 510.1$  (82, [M]<sup>+</sup>), 256.1 amu (100, [M]<sup>2+</sup>).

(P<sub>Fe</sub>)-(–)-[Fe{(R,R)-1}](PhSO<sub>3</sub>)<sub>2</sub> ((P<sub>Fe</sub>)-(–)-5). Hexaaquairon(II) benzenesulfonate (0.12 g, 0.25 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (80 mL), and the solution was added dropwise over 1 h to a suspension of (R,R)-1 (0.15 g, 0.25 mmol) in the same solvent (200 mL). The solution was stirred for 2 h at room temperature, and then it was filtered. Removal of the solvent from the filtrate under reduced pressure afforded the crude product as a red solid, which crystallized as red needles from ethanol-water-diethyl ether. Yield: 0.24 g (97%); mp = 227–230 °C; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>18</sup> = –838 (c 0.014, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>43</sub>H<sub>38</sub>FeN<sub>8</sub>O<sub>12</sub>S<sub>2</sub>: C, 52.8; H, 3.9; N, 11.5. Found: C, 52.6; H, 4.4; N, 11.4. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 500 MHz): δ 1.41 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.94 (s, 2 H, CH), 4.70 (d, 2 H,  $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 11.0$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.21 (d, 2 H,  $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 11.0$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 6.86 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.06 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.5$  Hz, pyH), 7.41–7.44 (m, 4 H, pyH and PhSO<sub>3</sub><sup>–</sup>), 7.94 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.5$  Hz, pyH), 9.71 (s, 2 H, CH=N). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 125 MHz): δ 26.3, 64.6, 78.3, 108.6, 115.2, 121.0, 125.8, 126.8, 127.0, 129.4, 131.4, 135.2, 141.1, 141.4, 147.2, 150.1, 155.3, 159.6, 160.8, 168.8. HR ESI-MS:  $m/z = 665.1576$  (calcd 665.1559) amu [M - H]<sup>+</sup>. Crystals of the mixed solvate (P<sub>Fe</sub>)-(–)-5·2CH<sub>3</sub>OH·3H<sub>2</sub>O were obtained by the diffusion of diethyl ether into a concentrated solution of the complex in 95% aq methanol; the crystals were suitable for X-ray crystallography.

(P<sub>Fe</sub>)-(+) -[Fe{(R,R)-1-2H}]] ((P<sub>Fe</sub>)-(+) -6). The protonated complex (P<sub>Fe</sub>)-(–)-5 (0.20 g, 0.20 mmol) was suspended in water (5 mL), and 10% aq sodium hydroxide (0.16 mL, 0.40 mmol) was added. Dichloromethane (5 mL) was added, and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The organic layer was separated, dried (MgSO<sub>4</sub>), and the solvent was removed from the filtrate to furnish the deprotonated complex as a green-brown solid. Yield: 0.13 g (97%); mp > 250 °C; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>18</sup> = +1474 (c 0.026, MeOH). Anal. Calcd for C<sub>31</sub>H<sub>28</sub>FeN<sub>8</sub>O<sub>6</sub>: C, 56.0; H, 4.3; N, 16.9. Found: C, 56.8; H, 4.6; N, 15.1. <sup>1</sup>H NMR (C<sub>6</sub>D<sub>6</sub>, 500 MHz): δ 1.37 (s, 6 H, CH<sub>3</sub>), 3.34 (d, 2 H,  $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 11.5$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 4.24 (s, 2 H, CH), 4.50 (d, 2 H,  $^2J_{\text{HH}} = 11.5$  Hz, CH<sub>2</sub>), 5.79 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 6.5$  Hz, pyH), 6.21 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, pyH), 6.56 (t, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.0$  Hz, pyH), 6.66 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 8.5$  Hz, pyH), 6.97 (d, 2 H, pyH) (obscured by singlet at 6.99), 6.99 (s, 2 H, pyH-6), 7.46 (d, 2 H,  $^3J_{\text{HH}} = 5.5$  Hz, pyH), 9.15 (s, CH=N). HR ESI-MS:  $m/z = 665.1526$  (calcd 665.1559) amu [M + H]<sup>+</sup>.

**Saponification of (P<sub>Fe</sub>)-(–)-5: (P<sub>Fe</sub>)-(+) -7.** The pure diastereomer (P<sub>Fe</sub>)-(–)-5 (0.5 g, 0.5 mmol) was dissolved in water (30 mL), and the solution was treated with 10% aq sodium hydroxide (0.80 mL, 2 mmol). The dark brown-black precipitate of the saponified product (P)-(+)-7 that precipitated was isolated by filtration, washed with water and diethyl ether, and dried in vacuo. Yield: 0.22 g (85%); mp > 250 °C; [α]<sub>D</sub><sup>18</sup> = +601 (c 0.009, MeOH) (No change in this value was observed over 3 days). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (CD<sub>3</sub>OD, 500 MHz): identical with spectrum of corresponding racemate.

**Determination of Enantiomeric Purity of  $(P_{\text{Fe}})-(+)-7$ .** The racemic complex  $(\pm)-7$  (0.012 g, 0.023 mmol) was dissolved in methanol (1 mL), and 1.5 equiv of  $(aR)-8$  (0.012 g, 0.035 mmol) was added. After 15 min, dichloromethane (5 mL) and water (5 mL) were added and the mixture was stirred for 30 min. The two phases were separated, the dichloromethane phase washed with water, dried ( $\text{MgSO}_4$ ), and filtered. Evaporation of the filtrate afforded the *protonated racemate* as a pink powder.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CD}_2\text{-Cl}_2$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  9.50 (s, 2 H,  $\text{CH}=\text{N}$ ,  $P_{\text{Fe}}$ ), 9.45 (s, 2 H,  $\text{CH}=\text{N}$ ,  $M_{\text{Fe}}$ ). The corresponding reaction with the product of the asymmetric synthesis,  $(P_{\text{Fe}})-(-)-7$ , afforded a similar solid.  $^1\text{H NMR}$  ( $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 500 MHz):  $\delta$  9.50 (s, 2 H,  $\text{CH}=\text{N}$ ,  $P_{\text{Fe}}$ ) (85%), 9.45 (s, 2 H,  $\text{CH}=\text{N}$ ,  $M_{\text{Fe}}$ ) (15%).

**Crystal Structures.** Crystal data and experimental parameters for  $(P_{\text{Fe}})-(-)-5 \cdot 2\text{CH}_3\text{OH} \cdot 3\text{H}_2\text{O}$  are given in Table 1. The absolute configuration of the complex was established by refinement of the Flack parameter, final value  $-0.010$  (11), and knowledge of the absolute configuration of the  $(2R,3R)-(+)$ -tartaric acid used for the synthesis of the ligand  $(R,R)-1$ .

**Supporting Information Available:** Additional crystallographic data in CIF format. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

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