

# A New Case of Chiral Recognition between Isotopomers. Preparation and Study of (*R*) and (*S*) Perdeuterio 2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(1-pyrenyl)ethanol

Anna Muñoz,<sup>†</sup> Marta Sánchez,<sup>†</sup> Thomas Junk,<sup>‡</sup> and Albert Virgili<sup>\*†</sup>

Unitat de Química Orgànica, Departament de Química, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, 08193 Bellaterra, Barcelona, Spain, and Department of Chemistry, University of Louisiana at Monroe, Monroe, Louisiana 71209-0530

albert.virgili@uab.es

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## Introduction

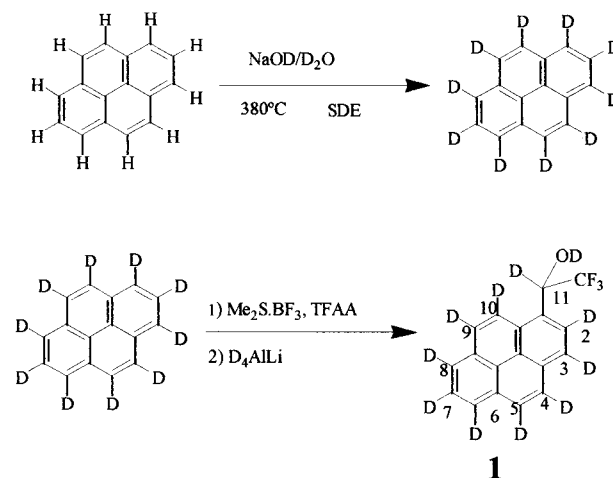
The analysis of enantiomers using a chiral solvating agent<sup>1</sup> (CSA) is becoming a very common methodology in the observation and determination of the enantiomer composition of a compound. Recently we reported<sup>2</sup> the preparation and use of the perdeuterio 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-(9-anthryl)ethanol (**3**), which is the result of replacing proton atoms by the deuterium atoms in the Pirkle alcohol, the most common of the CSA's. Compound **3** is the first compound of this type that does not present signals in the NMR spectra (<sup>1</sup>H and <sup>13</sup>C), affording the advantage that we can see the NMR spectrum of each enantiomer alone, without interfering signals. We have also demonstrated<sup>2</sup> that this compound (**3**), besides being a very useful CSA, can distinguish two enantiomers of Pirkle alcohol (**4**). This is the first time that this phenomenon has been described.

In the present paper we describe a second case of this particular enantio-differentiation, that demonstrates, at least in the area of used compounds, the generalization of this "chiral self-discrimination":<sup>3</sup> the chiral recognition of a compound by the same perdeuterated enantiopure compound. A more extensive overview would require the study of several molecules where the association would be governed by other binding forces.

## Results and Discussion

Scheme 1 affords the preparation (74% yield) of racemic compound **1**.<sup>4</sup> The deuteration of pyrene was carried out by supercritical deuterium exchange<sup>5</sup> (SDE) using NaOD/D<sub>2</sub>O as deuterium source. The intermediate ketone was isolated, purified, and reduced to racemic alcohol. The chiral HPLC allowed us to obtain the separated enantiomers.

## Scheme 1. Preparation of Compound 1



The absolute configuration was established by comparison of the optical activity with that described<sup>6</sup> for the perprotio compound. The first enantiomer eluted was *S*(+) ( $[\alpha]^{25}_D = +20^\circ$ ,  $c = 0.5$ , CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) and the second was *R*(-) ( $[\alpha]^{25}_D = -20^\circ$ ,  $c = 0.5$ , CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>).

The perprotio compound<sup>4</sup> (**2**) was obtained in the same way and used as racemic compound.

Proton NMR spectra of **2** (5 mg, 0.017 mmol,  $4.2 \times 10^{-2}$  M) containing varying amounts of perdeuterated enantiomers **1S** or **1R** were recorded at 400 MHz in CDCl<sub>3</sub>, under saturation of the exchanging hydroxyl signal (Figure 1). The two enantiomers of **2** were distinguished by the presence of the enantiomer **1S**. This is observed by the protons H<sub>9</sub>, H<sub>10</sub>, and H<sub>11</sub>, and it increases with the ratio **1S**/**2**. As the concentration of **1S** increases, the doublets corresponding to H<sub>9</sub> and H<sub>10</sub> split into two doublets and the H<sub>11</sub> quartet split into two quartets. No more signals other than those corresponding to **2** are observed. Therefore, the spectra obtained correspond to the each enantiomer. Similar results were achieved when **1R** is used. When we used known nonracemic mixtures of **2** we assigned the signals of each enantiomer as indicated in Figure 1.

Lowering of the temperature resulted in a considerable increase in chemical shift differences. Figure 2 shows the <sup>1</sup>H NMR spectra of racemic **2** at four temperatures in the presence of 3 equiv of perdeuterated **1S**, and values are plotted in Figure 3. At low temperature the protons H<sub>5</sub> and H<sub>7</sub> are also enantio-differentiated, and even at 270 K the H<sub>2</sub> is duplicated. The arrangement of Figure 4, a hypothetical dimer in a head-to-tail, face-to-face  $\pi$ - $\pi$  stacking association, could explain the shifts observed in the protons, as happens in Pirkle alcohol.<sup>2</sup> As in this case of isotopomeric chiral recognition<sup>2</sup> of Pirkle alcohol, when **1S** is used, protons of enantiomer **2S** are shifted to higher field than enantiomer **2R**. This means that the associated complex **1S2S** could be more stable than the associated **1S2R**. In the same way, using **1R**, the complex **1R2R** is more shielded (more stable too) than **1R2S**.

For comparison, if the two compounds were the same isotopomer, the SS or RR association between two identi-

<sup>†</sup> Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.

<sup>‡</sup> University of Louisiana at Monroe.

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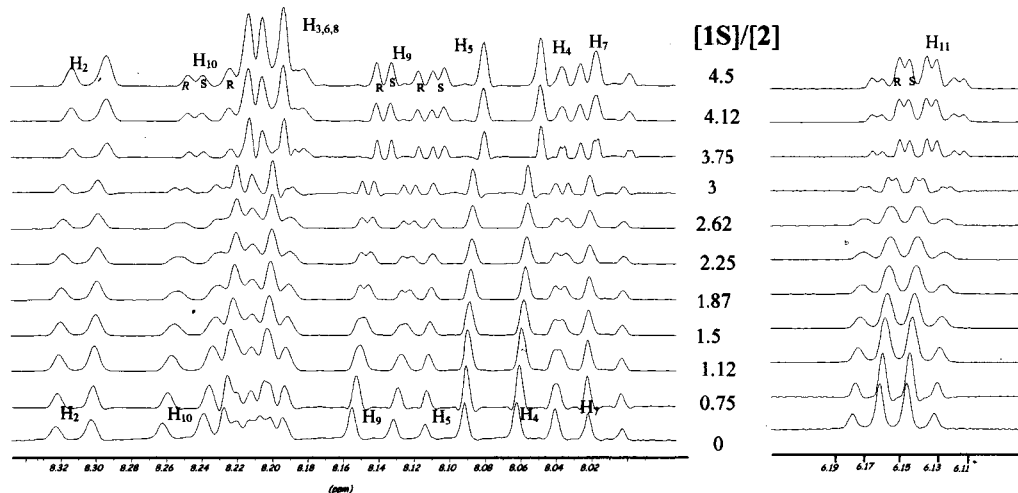
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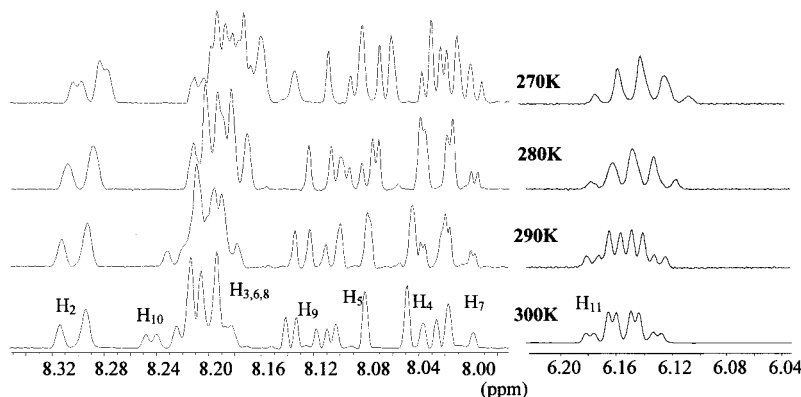
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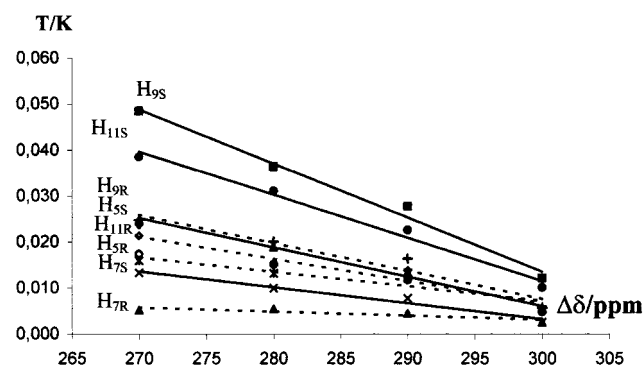
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**Figure 1.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra (300 K) of racemic 2,2,2-trifluoro-1-(1-pyrenyl)ethanol (**2**) in the presence of (*S*)-perdeuterated-2,2,2-trifluoro-1-(1-pyrenyl)ethanol (**1S**) at several  $[\text{1S}]/[\text{2}]$  ratios.



**Figure 2.**  $^1\text{H}$  NMR spectra of chiral recognition of enantiomers of **2** by **1S** (3 equiv) at several temperatures.

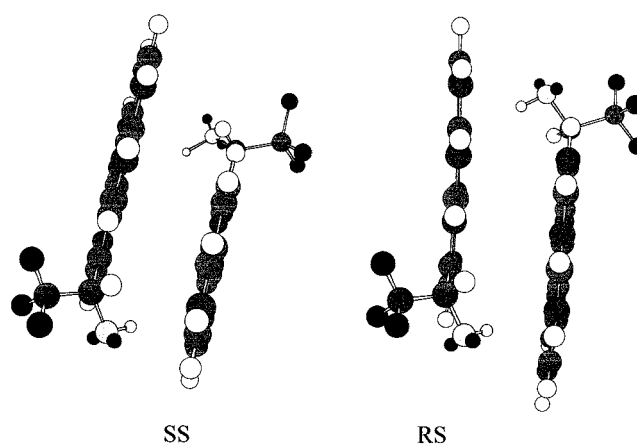


**Figure 3.** Variation with the temperature of the chemical shifts of protons of each enantiomer of **2** when 3 equiv of **1S** was added.

cal molecules, would be more stable than the SR one. Only the fast and averaged equilibrium hinder the separation of signals when a nonracemic mixture is studied.

### Experimental Section

NMR spectra were recorded with at 400.13 MHz for  $^1\text{H}$  and 61.40 MHz for  $^2\text{H}$ . The temperature was controlled to 0.1  $^\circ\text{C}$ . Chemical shift are reported in ppm relative to internal TMS for the proton and to external  $\text{CDCl}_3$  for the deuterium. Chiral semipreparative HPLC is carried out using a (R,R) Whelko-O1 column (250 mm  $\times$  10 mm). The elemental analysis could be



**Figure 4.** Proposed dimers of **2** SS and RS associations obtained by Molecular Mechanics.

modified by the presence of the residual molecules with some hydrogen atoms.

Simple Molecular Mechanics calculations were carried out with CS Chem-3D Pro (v. 5) program using the internal standard conditions

**Perdeuterio Pyrene.** A 1.1 g (5.4 mmol) amount of pyrene was placed in a Hastelloy C-22 autoclave with 1 mL of a solution of  $\text{Na}(\text{OD})/\text{D}_2\text{O}$  (1 mM). The mixture is heated to 380  $^\circ\text{C}$  for 24 h. Perdeuterated pyrene was isolated after extraction with dichloromethane and purified by flash chromatography. The compound (1.1 g, 5.2 mmol, 96% yield) was characterized by GC/MS, and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (of residual proton-containing compound).

**Perdeuterio 2,2,2-Trifluoro-1-(1-pyrenyl)ethanol (1).** At 195 K and under argon atmosphere a solution of 1.64 g (7.76 mmol) of trifluoroacetic anhydride in 1 mL of anhydrous methylene chloride is added to a solution of 1.01 g (7.76 mmol) of boron trifluoride–methyl sulfide complex ( $\text{Me}_2\text{S}\cdot\text{BF}_3$ ) in 5.2 mL of the same solvent. After 15 min of gently stirring the mixture is added to a solution of 0.40 g (1.94 mmol) of perdeuterio pyrene in 1.2 mL of anhydrous methylene chloride, and the resulting solution was stirred at 195 K for an additional 15 min. The solution was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for 24 h. After a conventional treatment ( $\text{NaHCO}_3$  and  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  extraction), the mixture was purified by flash chromatography. A 0.22 g (0.73 mmol) amount (38% yield) of perdeuterio-1-pyrenyltrifluoromethyl ketone was obtained, and 0.21 g (0.99 mmol) of deuteriopyrene was recovered: mp 125–126 °C; IR (KBr) 2260, 1690  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; residual  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 8.01 ( $\text{H}_4$ , s, 1%), 8.07 ( $\text{H}_7$ , s, 10%), 8.12 ( $\text{H}_3$ , s, 26%), 8.18 ( $\text{H}_5$ , s, 1%), 8.25–8.26 ( $\text{H}_{6,8,9}$ , w, 51%), 8.50 ( $\text{H}_2$ , s, 11%), 9.10 ( $\text{H}_{10}$ , s, 1%); MS (EI) *m/e* (%) 307 (48), 306 (28), 238

(100). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{D}_9\text{F}_3\text{O}$ : C, 70.35; D 5.90. Found: C, 70.38; D, 5.76.

A solution of 0.15 g (0.49 mmol) of obtained ketone in 25 mL of anhydrous ethylic ether was added, under nitrogen at 0 °C, to 0.06 g (1.46 mmol) of  $\text{AlLiD}_4$  in 15 mL of the same solvent. After 30 min the mixture was treated with ethyl acetate and water. The organic phase was dried with  $\text{MgSO}_4$ , evaporated and crystallized with EtOAc/pentane, obtaining 0.14 g (0.45 mmol) (90% yield) of **1**: mp 138–139 °C; IR (KBr) 2279, 1244, 1195  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ; residual  $^1\text{H}$  NMR ( $\text{CDCl}_3$ )  $\delta$  (ppm) 6.14 ( $\text{H}_{11}$ , s, 1%), 8.02 ( $\text{H}_7$ , s, 9%), 8.05 ( $\text{H}_4$ , s, 2%), 8.10 ( $\text{H}_5$ , s, 2%), 8.14 ( $\text{H}_9$ , s, 2%), 8.20 ( $\text{H}_6$ ,  $\text{H}_8$ , s, 23%), 8.21 ( $\text{H}_3$ , s, 50%), 8.240 ( $\text{H}_{10}$ , s, 1%), 8.31 ( $\text{H}_2$ , s, 11%). MS (EI) *m/e* (%) 310 (84), 309 (46), 241 (93), 211 (100). Anal. Calcd for  $\text{C}_{18}\text{HD}_{10}\text{F}_3\text{O}$ : 69.66% C, 6.81% (D + H). Found: 69.67% C, 6.96% (D + H).

Enantiomers of **1** were obtained by chiral HPLC using hexane/2-propanol 92/8 as liquid phase.  $\lambda = 290$  nm, flow 2.8 mL/min.  $K_S = 6.8$ ,  $K_R = 8.8$ ,  $\alpha = 1.3$ .

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