

Development of a Recyclable Fluorous Chiral Phase-Transfer Catalyst: Application to the Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis of α -Amino Acids

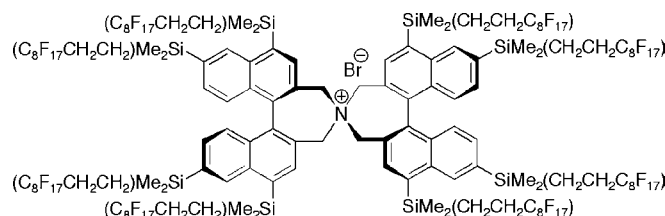
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Received February 16, 2004

ABSTRACT



A recyclable fluorous chiral phase-transfer catalyst was synthesized and successfully applied for the catalytic asymmetric synthesis of both natural and unnatural α -amino acids. The reaction involves alkylation of a glycine derivative followed by extractive recovery of the chiral phase-transfer catalyst using fluorous solvent.

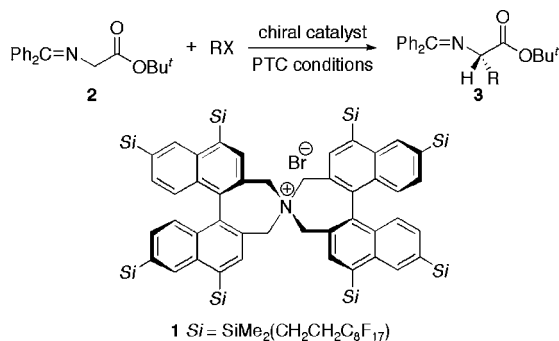
The development of chiral phase-transfer catalysts for the synthesis of optically active natural and unnatural α -amino acids by the enantioselective alkylation of prochiral protected glycine derivatives is one of the recent exciting topics in synthetic organic chemistry,¹ and hence several efficient catalysts for the system have been developed by our group² and others.³ A further useful advance in the field of such chiral phase-transfer catalysis would involve the design of easily recyclable catalysts. Few examples of polymer-supported chiral phase-transfer catalysts derived from *cinchona* alkaloid have been reported for this purpose;⁴ however,

unfortunately almost all of these systems seriously reduced the enantioselection of the product compared with that of nonsupported catalyst systems. In this context, we are interested in the development of a fluorous chiral phase-transfer catalyst as a recyclable catalyst, since fluorous phase separation techniques for the recovery of fluorinated catalyst have been found a most useful method in recently advanced catalyst recovery techniques,⁵ and some fluorous chiral metal catalysts for this method have been developed.^{6,7} Here we wish to report the design and synthesis of easily recyclable fluorous chiral phase-transfer catalyst and their successful use in the asymmetric synthesis of α -amino acid derivatives (Scheme 1). To the best of our knowledge, this is the first example of a recyclable fluorous chiral phase-transfer catalyst.

The design of the fluorous chiral phase-transfer catalyst originated from a series of our recently developed binaphthyl-modified spiro-type catalysts.² We focused on the very recently reported symmetrical 4,4',6,6'-tetra-substituted catalysts²ⁿ to prepare a highly fluorinated catalyst of type 1

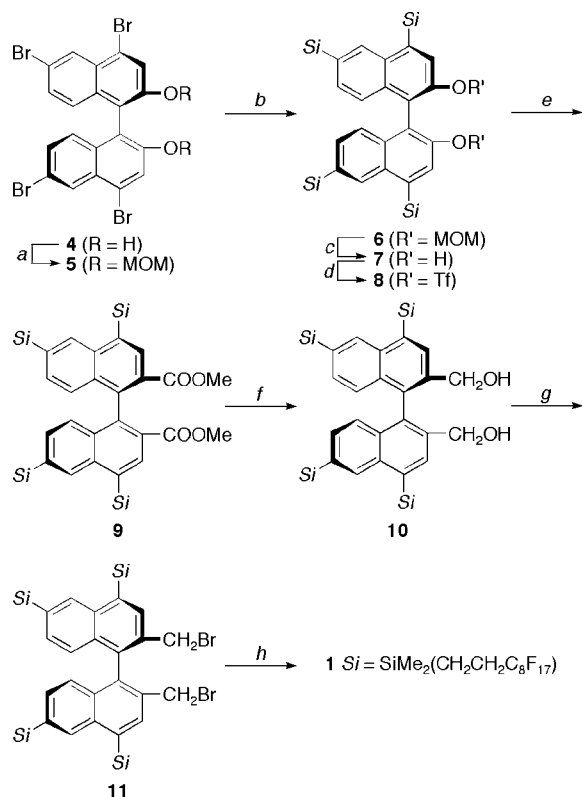
(1) For reviews, see: (a) O'Donnell, M. J. In *Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis*; Ojima, I., Ed.; Verlag Chemie: New York, 1993; Chapter 8. (b) Shioiri, T. In *Handbook of Phase-Transfer Catalysis*; Sasson, Y., Neumann, R., Eds.; Blackie Academic & Professional: London, 1997; Chapter 14. (c) O'Donnell, M. J. *Phases—The Sachem Phase Transfer Catalysis Review*; Sachem: Austin, TX, 1998; issue 4, p 5. (d) O'Donnell, M. J. *Phases—The Sachem Phase Transfer Catalysis Review*; Sachem: Austin, TX, 1999; issue 5, p 5. (e) Shioiri, T.; Arai, S. In *Stimulating Concepts in Chemistry*; Vogtle, F., Stoddart, J. F., Shibasaki, M., Eds.; Wiley-VCH: Weinheim, 2000; p 123. (f) O'Donnell, M. J. *Aldrichim. Acta* **2001**, *34*, 3. (g) Maruoka, K.; Ooi, T. *Chem. Rev.* **2003**, *103*, 3013.

Scheme 1. Catalytic Asymmetric Synthesis of α -Amino Acids



with high efficiency. For introduction of several fluoroalkyl chains on the 4,4',6,6' positions of catalyst **1**, we used commercially available C₈F₁₇CH₂CH₂SiMe₂Cl. The requisite catalyst **1** can be prepared from the known (*R*)-4,4',6,6'-tetrabromobiphenyl **4**⁸ as outlined in Scheme 2.

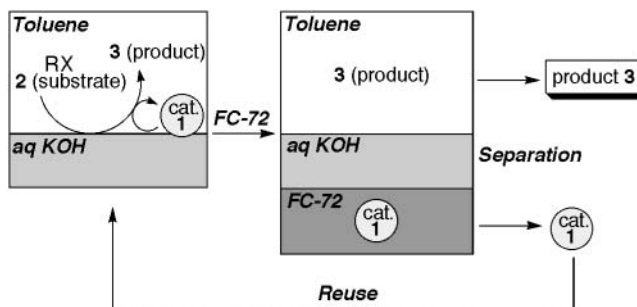
Scheme 2. Synthesis of Fluorous Chiral Phase-Transfer Catalyst **1**^a



^a Conditions: (a) MOMCl, NaH, THF, 0 °C to rt, 99%; (b) ^tBuLi, THF, -78 °C, then C₈F₁₇CH₂CH₂SiMe₂Cl, -78 °C to rt, 78%; (c) TsOH, CH₂Cl₂/MeOH, 50 °C, 92%; (d) Tf₂O, NEt₃, CH₂Cl₂, 0 °C, 64%; (e) CO, Pd(OAc)₂, DPPP, ⁱPr₂NEt, MeOH/DMSO, 100 °C, 15 atm, 80%; (f) LiAlH₄, THF, 0 °C to rt, 95%; (g) CBr₄, PPh₃, THF, 0 °C to rt, 95%; (h) 28% aq NH₃, CH₃CN, reflux, 90%.

The chiral efficiency and reusability of the fluorinated phase-transfer catalyst **1** was examined by carrying out

Scheme 3. Recovery of Fluorous Catalyst **1** by Extraction with FC-72



asymmetric alkylation of protected glycine derivative **2**. For example, treatment of **2** with benzyl bromide (1.2 equiv) and 50% aqueous KOH/toluene (1:3 v/v) under the influence of 3 mol % of **1** at 0 °C for 96 h resulted in formation of phenylalanine derivative **3** (R = CH₂Ph) in 82% yield with 90% ee. In the 50% aqueous KOH/toluene biphasic system, catalyst **1** becomes heterogeneous as a result of its low solubility in toluene solvent.⁹ Nevertheless, **1** was found to promote the alkylation efficiently and gave the alkylated product **3** with high enantioselectivity.¹⁰ After the reaction, catalyst **1** could be easily recovered by the simple extraction with FC-72¹¹ as a fluorous solvent (Scheme 3)¹² and could

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Table 1. Chiral Efficiency and Reusability of Fluorous Chiral Catalyst **1**^a

$\text{Ph}_2\text{C}=\text{N}-\text{CH}_2-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OBu}^t + \text{RX} \xrightarrow[\text{0 } ^\circ\text{C}]{\text{1 (3 mol\%)} / \text{toluene/50\% aq KOH}} \text{Ph}_2\text{C}=\text{N}-\text{CH}(\text{R})-\text{C}(=\text{O})\text{OBu}^t$

2 3

entry	RX	time (h)	% yield ^b	% ee ^c (config) ^d
1		96	82	90 (S)
2 ^e		96	79	92 (S)
3 ^f		96	81	92 (S)
4		70	82	92 (S)
5		94	93	93 (S)
6		140	81	90 (S)
7 ^g	EtI	10	83	87 (S)

^a Unless otherwise specified, the reaction was carried out with 1.2 equiv of alkyl halide (RX) in the presence of 3 mol % of **1** in 50% aq KOH/toluene (v/v 1:3) at 0 °C under an argon atmosphere. ^b Isolated yield. ^c Enantiopurity of **3** was determined by HPLC analysis of the alkylated imine using a chiral column (DAICEL Chiralcel OD or OD-H) with hexane–2-propanol as solvent. ^d Absolute configuration of **3** was determined by comparison of the HPLC retention time with the authentic sample independently prepared by the reported procedure.^{2m} ^e Using the recovered catalyst in entry 1. ^f Using the recovered catalyst in entry 2. ^g 10 equiv each of RX and CsOH·H₂O (as a base), and α,α,α-trifluorotoluene (as a solvent) were used, and the reaction was performed at –20 °C.

be utilized for the next run without any loss of reactivity and selectivity (entries 1–3 in Table 1). Other selected examples are also listed in Table 1. The chiral phase-transfer catalysis of **1** found a broad scope, and good to high asymmetric inductions were achieved with not only substituted benzyl bromides but also propargylic bromide (entries 4–6). In the reaction with a simple alkyl halide such as ethyl iodide, excess alkyl halide and CsOH·H₂O were employed to attain sufficient reactivity (entry 7).^{2m}

In conclusion, we have developed recyclable fluorous chiral phase-transfer catalyst **1** and applied it to the catalytic asymmetric synthesis of α-amino acids. Further application of this catalyst to other asymmetric transformations is now in progress.

Acknowledgment. This work was supported by the Asahi Glass Foundation and a Grant-in-Aid for Scientific Research (13853003) from the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, Japan. S.S. thanks the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science for Young Scientists for a research fellowship.

Supporting Information Available: Experimental procedures and characterization for all new compounds. This material is available free of charge via the Internet at <http://pubs.acs.org>.

OL049724W

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