Chirality Recognition of 1,1'-Bi-2-naphthol with Optically Active Bis(oxazolinyl)pyridines

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Abstract: Optically active 2,6-bis[(S)-4'-benzyloxazolin-2'-yl]pyridine, pybox-(S,S)bz (1), proved to make a well-matched base-acid pair with the (S)-enantiomer of 1,1'-bi-2-naphthol on the basis of ¹H-NMR study.

Recognition of molecular chirality is of importance in the wide range of bio-organic and organic chemistry. Especially, some model studies in chirality recognition of organic molecules have been reported for determination of enantiomeric excess by spectroscopic or chromatographic methods.¹ Among them, a new concept "complementary twist" was proposed for the complexation through dual hydrogen bond association with a C_2 -symmetrical dimine-diol pair.² We have been interested in the chirality recognition with an optically active bis(oxazolinyl)pyridine, *pybox*, which was developed by us as a chiral nitrogen auxiliary for transition-metal catalyzed asymmetric reactions.³

We reasoned that the C_2 -symmetrical pybox derivatives (1, R = CH₂Ph⁴; 2, R = i-Pr³) can make a reasonable chiral basic cavity having their three nitrogen atoms and the two bulky substituents to accept appropriate chiral acids or alcohols. We report here the chirality recognition of 1,1'-bi-2-naphthol (3) with the pybox derivatives as basic receptors on the basis of ¹H NMR study.



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Addition of one equivalent of pybox-(S,S)-bz (1) to a solution of racemic 1,1'-bi-2-naphthol (3) in CDCl₃ solution showed a downfield shift of the original phenolic proton signal (OH, δ 5.03 ppm) separated to the two broad signals at δ 6.48 and δ 5.58 ppm (Fig. 1, **a**-**c**). The downfield signal proved to be the OH proton derived from (S)-3 strongly associated with pybox 1 through hydrogen bonds in an equilibrium. The OH-signals of each pure enantiomer of 3 with 1 appeared at δ 6.50 ppm for (S)-3 and at δ 5.82 ppm for (R)-3, respectively (Fig. 1, **d** and **e**). Significantly, the resonance of the C₄-H on the oxazoline ring, originally appearing at δ 4.64 ppm, was shifted upfield by 0.53 δ to 4.11 ppm in the presence of (S)-3. In contrast, such a remarkable shift could not be observed for (R)-3 moving, only by 0.13 δ to 4.51 ppm (Fig. 1, **e**). The greater upfield shift of the C₄-H of 1 with (S)-3 could be accounted for an anisotropic effect of the naphthalenic ring by the intense complexation of 1 and (S)-3 rather than (R)-3, as illustrated in Fig.2, **a**. Small intermolecular NOE difference effects were observed between the benzylic protons of 1 and the phenolic protons of (S)-3.

Titration of each (S)- and (R)-binaphthol 3 with 1 in a NMR tube gave the association constants and the limiting chemical shifts in the associates (Table 1). We obtained a large magnitude of enantioselectivity, $\Delta(\Delta G) = -5.1$ kJ mol⁻¹ (-1.2 kcal mol⁻¹), derived from the K_S/K_R value.



Fig. 1 ¹H NMR spectra (270 MHz, CDCl3) of pybox-(S,S)-bz 1 and 1,1'-bi-2-naphthol, (S)-3 and (R)-3: (a) 1; (b) racemic 3; (c) 1 + racemic 3; (d) 1 + (S)-3 (1:1); (e) 1 + (R)-3 (1:1).



Fig. 2 Hypothetical association of 1 + (S)-3 (left) and 1 + (R)-3 (right).

Thus pybox-(S,S)-bz (1) has been shown to make a well-matched base-acid pair with the (S)-1,1'-bi-2naphthol. We think that the benzyl groups of 1 could serve to assist their association by the face-face stacking between each aromatic rings. The stacking works intensively for the well matched pair of 1 and (S)-3 rather than 1 and (R)-3 (Fig. 2). We assume that the two nitrogen atoms of the oxazoline rings on pybox could play a major role for the association through the dual hydrogen bonds. Pybox-(S,S)-ip (2) showed the same properties for the chirality recognition of the binaphthol (Table 1, run 3 and 4).

We also found the chirality differentiative recognition of binaphthyl-2,2'-diyl hydrogen phosphate (4) with 1 through mono hydrogen bond association. Pybox 1 binds strongly the (S)-enantiomer of 4: the chemical shift of the OH protons occurring at 9.30 ppm for (S)-4 and 8.95 ppm for (R)-4 with one equivalent of 1 (0.02 mol dm⁻³ in CDCl₃), respectively.

run	bis-oxazoline	binaphthol	association constant K (dm ³ mol ⁻¹)	K _S /K _R	Δ(ΔG) kJ mol ⁻¹ (kcal mol ⁻¹)
1	1	(S)- 3	42	} 8.0	-5.1 (-1.2)
2	1	(R)- 3	5.3		
3	2	(S)- 3	14	} 4.0	-3.5 (0.83)
4	2	(R)- 3	3.4		

Table 1 Association constants of 1,1'-bi-2-naphthol and bis-oxazoline derivatives.ª

^a Concentration for the titration, 1.75×10^{-2} mol dm⁻³ of 3 (CDCl₃); addition of the bis-oxazoline, 0.5~2.0 equivalent to 3. The simple 1:1 association in the equilibrium was hypothetically adopted for the calculation. The limiting chemical shifts of OH signals for the associates, $\delta 6.9$ for [1:(S)-3], $\delta 6.2$ for [1:(R)-3], $\delta 6.6$ for [2:(S)-3], $\delta 6.0$ for [2:(R)-3].

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Non chiral receptors, 2,6-bis(4',4'-dimethyloxazolin-2'-yl)pyridine [pybox-dm (5)] and 2,2':6',2"-terpyridine (6), gave smaller downfield shifts of the OH protons of binaphthol 3 by 0.32 δ to 5.35 ppm and by 0.40 to 5.43 ppm (CDCl₃), respectively. These facts indicate that the steric matching in the chiral environment by the two bulky groups, benzyl or iso-propyl, of the chiral pybox 1 and 2 is also of importance for their strong associations.

We are now applying the pybox derivatives as the NMR shift-reagents for the determination method of enantiomeric purity for common chiral acids and alcohols.⁵



References and Notes

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- 2 Y. Dobashi, A. Dobashi, H. Ochiai, and S. Hara, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1990, 112, 6121; the references for the recognition of molecular chirality are also sited therein.
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- 4 The preparation of 1 was performed with (*S*)-phenylalaninol by the method previously reported; see ref 3. 1: white solids; m.p. 147~148 °C; ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 2.75 (dd, J = 8.8, 13.7 Hz, 2 H), 3.27 (dd, J = 4.9, 13.7 Hz, 2 H), 4.26 (t, J = 8.8, 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.46 (t, J = 8.8, 8.8 Hz, 2 H), 4.64 (m, 2 H), 7.2~7.4 (m, 10 H), 7.89 (t, J = 8.3, 8.3 Hz, 1 H), 8.20 (d, J = 8.3 Hz, 2 H); ¹³C NMR (67.8 MHz, CDCl₃) 41.63, 68.06, 72.54, 125.7, 126.5, 128.5, 129.1, 137.2, 137.7, 146.8, 162.7 ppm. Anal. for C₂₅H₂₃N₃O₂ :Found (Calcd); C, 75.55 (75.55); H, 5.82 (5.83); N, 10.51 (10.57). [α]²²D = -71.7 (CH₂Cl₂, c = 1.02).
- For example: with Pirkle's alcohol [2,2,2-trifluoro-1-(9-anthryl)ethanol (7), see ref 1a]; ¹H NMR (270 MHz, CDCl₃) for the OH of 7 (a doublet at δ 2.90 ppm); 1 + (R)-7 (2:1), a doublet at δ 5.40; 1 + (S)-7 (2:1), a doublet at δ 5.30; 2 + (R)-7 (2:1), a doublet at δ 5.40; 2 + (S)-7 (2:1), a doublet at δ 5.30 ppm.