

partially resolved EtOAc molecules ( $C_{120.75}H_{64}N_2O_{20}$ ,  $M_r = 1862.74$ ): Triclinic space group  $P\bar{1}$ ,  $Z = 4$ ,  $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.368 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $a = 14.218(7)$ ,  $b = 25.562(13)$ ,  $c = 25.916(13) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha = 84.18(3)$ ,  $\beta = 74.84(3)$ ,  $\gamma = 89.81(4)^\circ$ ,  $V = 9042(8) \text{ \AA}^3$ . The structure was solved starting with a single fullerene oriented by PATTSEE orientation search and subsequent tangent expansion in PL1. Refinement by full-matrix least-squares analysis (SHELXTL PLUS; heavy atoms anisotropic, H atoms fixed, whereby H positions are based on stereochemical considerations) to give  $R(1) = 0.0964$  and  $R_w(2) = 0.2564$  for 2554 variables, 756 restraints, and 18545 observed reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  and  $1.74 \leq \theta \leq 50.01$ . b) X-ray crystal data for **1**:<sup>[16c]</sup> Yellow rhomboid crystals ( $0.1 \times 0.1 \times 0.015 \text{ mm}$ ) were obtained by slow diffusion of hexane into a solution of **1** in EtOAc/PhH and contained a large amount of unresolved solvent molecules ( $C_{200.5}H_3N_2O_{20}P_2PtS$ ,  $M_r = 3050.16$ ): Monoclinic space group  $P2(1)/c$ ,  $Z = 4$ ,  $\rho_{\text{calc}} = 1.580 \text{ g cm}^{-3}$ ,  $a = 29.17(2)$ ,  $b = 17.986(9)$ ,  $c = 27.37(2) \text{ \AA}$ ,  $\alpha = 90$ ,  $\beta = 116.75(5)$ ,  $\gamma = 90^\circ$ ,  $V = 12821(13) \text{ \AA}^3$ . The structure was solved by Patterson methods and refined by full-matrix least-squares analysis (SHELXTL PLUS; heavy atoms isotropic, bond distances and angles of the partially disordered diethyl malonate groups constrained by SHELX-DFIX-instructions) to give  $R = 0.109$  and  $R_w = 0.092$  (based on  $F$ ) for 756 variables and 5549 observed reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  and  $1.70 \leq \theta \leq 35.10$ . c) Data collection at  $T = 293 \text{ K}$ : Picker–Stoe diffractometer,  $\text{Cu}_{K\alpha}$  radiation using  $\omega$  scans,  $\lambda = 1.54178 \text{ \AA}$ . Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structures reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-101112. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, UK (fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk).

- [17] F. Cardullo, P. Seiler, L. Isaacs, J.-F. Nierengarten, R. F. Haldimann, F. Diederich, T. Mordasini-Denti, W. Thiel, C. Boudon, J.-P. Gisselbrecht, M. Gross, *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1997**, *80*, 343–371.

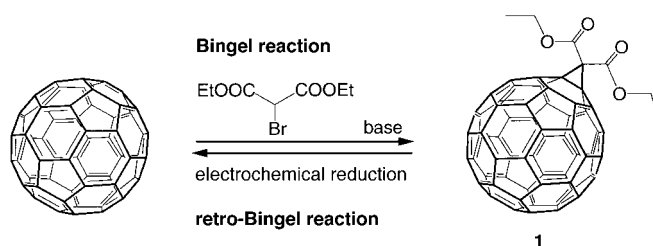
## Preparation of Enantiomerically Pure $C_{76}$ with a General Electrochemical Method for the Removal of Di(alkoxycarbonyl)methano Bridges from Methanofullerenes: The Retro-Bingel Reaction\*\*

Roland Kessinger, Jeanne Crassous, Andreas Herrmann, Markus Rüttimann, Luis Echegoyen,\* and François Diederich\*

Since its discovery in 1993, the Bingel reaction<sup>[1]</sup> has been widely used as a mild, versatile method to introduce one or more methano bridges into  $C_{60}$ <sup>[2]</sup> and the higher fullerenes.<sup>[3]</sup> Cyclopropanation of a fullerene, according to the original

Bingel protocol, occurs by treating the carbon allotrope with 2-bromomalonate esters in the presence of base. Modified procedures allowing in situ formation of the 2-bromo- or 2-iodomalonates have also been reported.<sup>[4, 5]</sup> Cyclopropane rings fused to fullerenes are highly stable and cannot be removed thermally or by wet-chemical methods, although mass spectrometric fragmentation occurs rather readily.<sup>[6]</sup>

The majority of methanofullerenes are also known to be very stable under the conditions of cyclic (CV) and steady-state voltammetry (SSV).<sup>[7]</sup> A notable exception was reported by Haddon, Wudl, and co-workers<sup>[8]</sup> for the monoanion of 1,2-methano[60]fullerene-61,61-dinitrile, which was unstable under CV conditions and, based upon voltammetric observations, was reported to revert back to  $C_{60}$ .<sup>[9]</sup> Also, the electrochemistry group of M. Gross at Strasbourg had noted a decomposition of dianions of specific bis(methano)fullerenes with a *cis*-2 addition pattern during CV and SSV, and this observation provided the impetus for the work reported here.<sup>[7c, 10]</sup> In this paper, we describe the retro-Bingel reaction (Scheme 1) as a general, preparative electrochemical method<sup>[11, 12]</sup> for the removal of di(alkoxycarbonyl)methano bridges from methanofullerenes and illustrate its power with the preparation of the pure enantiomers of  $C_{76}$ .<sup>[13, 14]</sup>



Scheme 1. The Bingel and retro-Bingel reactions.

Electrochemical investigations on diethyl 1,2-methano[60]fullerene-61,61-dicarboxylate (**1**) and similar  $C_{60}$  monoadducts have shown that the first two reduction steps are electrochemically and chemically reversible on the voltammetric time scale at a scan rate of  $100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ .<sup>[7b, 8]</sup> Our CV data are in agreement with these earlier findings (Figure 1). Chemical irreversibility of the second reduction is only evident at very slow scan rates. We reduced **1** electrochemically in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  containing  $0.1 \text{ M Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$  at  $293 \text{ K}$  at controlled potential, initially to its monoanionic state (at  $-1.2 \text{ V}$  versus a Ag wire pseudo reference electrode).<sup>[15]</sup> The charge transferred corresponded exactly to one electron per molecule, and the resulting anion was very stable under these conditions, with no apparent decomposition after 30 min. The formation of the dianion (at  $-1.55 \text{ V}$  versus Ag) by controlled potential electrolysis (CPE, Figure 1), on the other hand, was surprising, because the charge transferred corresponded to four electrons per molecule and not just one. Clear changes in the CV indicated that some chemical reaction had taken place. After 30 min of electrolysis, reoxidation of the solution at  $0 \text{ V}$  (versus Ag), followed by column chromatography ( $\text{SiO}_2$ , toluene) yielded pure  $C_{60}$  in over 80% yield (Table 1). It must be stressed that the two first reduction steps are perfectly reversible on the CV time scale at a scan rate of

[\*] Prof. Dr. L. Echegoyen  
Department of Chemistry, University of Miami  
Coral Gables, FL 33124, USA  
Fax: (+1) 305-284-4571  
E-mail: lechegoyen@umiami.ir.miami.edu

Prof. Dr. F. Diederich, Dr. J. Crassous, Dr. A. Herrmann,  
Dipl.-Chem. R. Kessinger, Dipl.-Chem. M. Rüttimann  
Laboratorium für Organische Chemie, ETH-Zentrum  
Universitätsstrasse 16, CH-8092 Zürich (Switzerland)  
Fax: (+41) 1-632-1109  
E-mail: diederich@org.chem.ethz.ch

[\*\*] This work was supported by the Swiss National Science Foundation, the US National Science Foundation (CHE-9313018), an NIH Fogarty Fellowship (1 F06 TW-02231-01 to L.E.), and Hoechst AG.

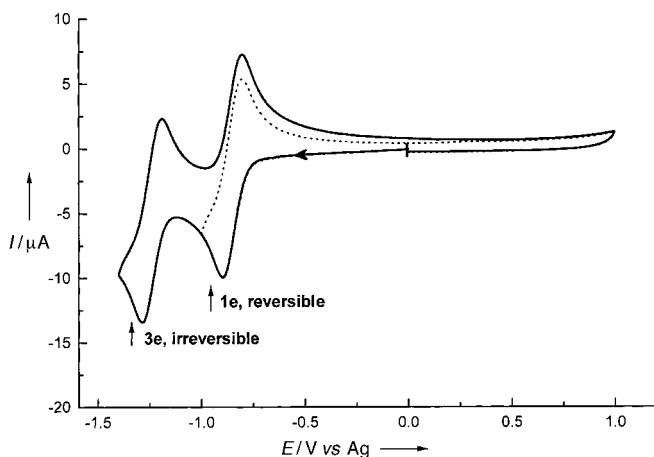


Figure 1. CV of **1** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  containing 0.1M  $\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$ , with a scan rate of  $100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . The working electrode was a glassy carbon mini-electrode. The dotted line corresponds to a scan with a switching potential of  $-1 \text{ V}$  versus the Ag wire pseudo reference electrode, and the solid line to one with a switching potential of  $-1.4 \text{ V}$ . Shown are the potentials applied in the controlled potential coulometry.

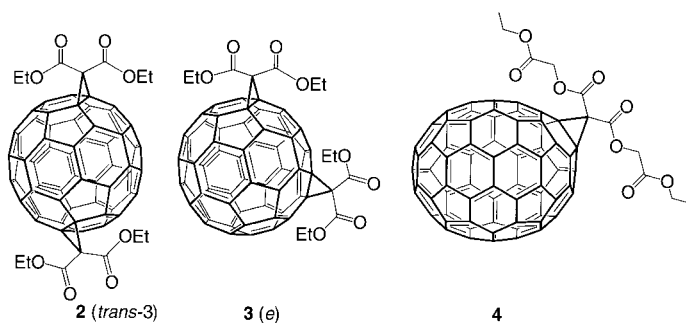
Table 1. Results of the retro-Bingel reaction by CPE in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ .

Starting material	Product	Yield[%]
<b>1</b>	$\text{C}_{60}$	82
<b>2</b>	$\text{C}_{60}$	75
<b>3</b>	$\text{C}_{60}$	75
<b>4</b>	$\text{C}_{70}$	70
<b>5</b>	$\text{C}_{76}$	5 <sup>[a]</sup>
<b>6</b>	<i>ent</i> - $\text{C}_{76}$	9 <sup>[a]</sup>

[a] Not optimized.

$100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$  (Figure 1). It was thus surprising to see that controlled potential bulk electrolysis at the second reduction potential led to complete chemical irreversibility yielding predominantly  $\text{C}_{60}$ . The mechanism of this reaction, which we call the retro-Bingel reaction, is not yet fully understood but is under investigation in our laboratory.

The generality of the retro-Bingel reaction was proven by CPE (under the conditions described above) of the bis-Bingel adducts<sup>[2]</sup> **2**<sup>[16]</sup> and **3**<sup>[7c]</sup>, which were converted cleanly and in over 75 % yield into  $\text{C}_{60}$  (Table 1). As in the case of **1**, CPE was conducted at the second reduction potential, but the number of electrons transferred per molecule was approximately six instead of four. The reaction is not limited to  $\text{C}_{60}$  derivatives and was shown to work also for the  $\text{C}_{70}$  monoadduct **4**,<sup>[17a]</sup> which reacted cleanly to give  $\text{C}_{70}$  in 70 % yield.



We monitored the retro-Bingel reaction of **4** by CV. The first reduction step is fully reversible (Figure 2a), whereas the second reduction process in this case is electrochemically irreversible (Figure 2b), and, not surprisingly, bulk electrolysis

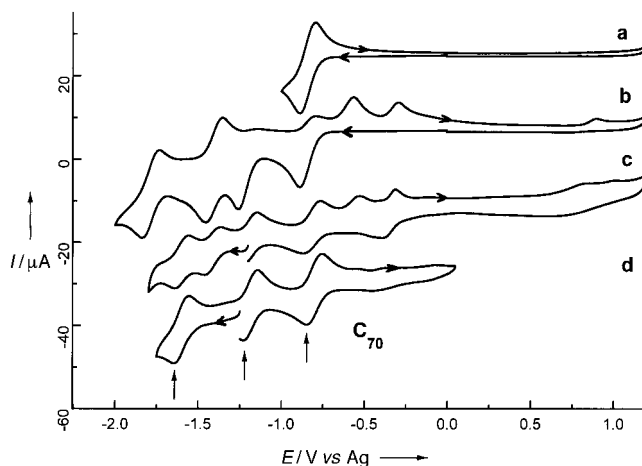
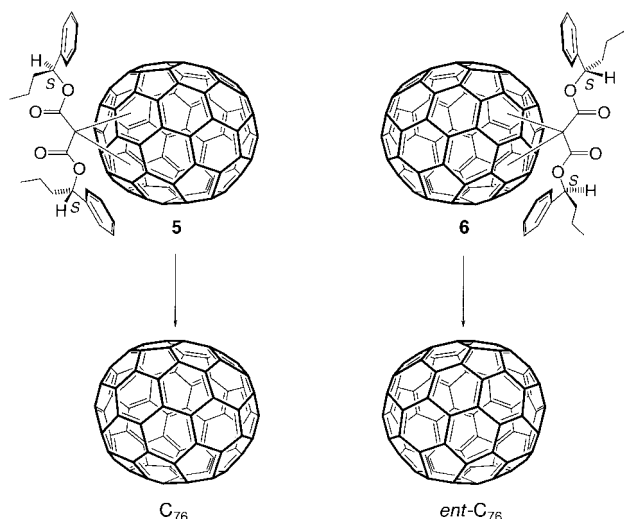


Figure 2. CV data for **4** in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  containing 0.1M  $\text{Bu}_4\text{NPF}_6$ , with a glassy carbon working electrode and a scan rate of  $100 \text{ mV s}^{-1}$ . a) Initial scan showing the reversibility of the first reduction process. b) Scan with a switching potential of  $-2 \text{ V}$  (versus Ag), clearly showing the irreversibility of subsequent reductions, even the second one. c) Voltammogram recorded after electrolyzing the solution with a net charge corresponding to a four-electron transfer per molecule. The scan was started at the rest potential, around  $-1.25 \text{ V}$  (versus Ag). d) Same as in (c), but after waiting approximately 30 min. Notice the almost exclusive observation of the first three reduction waves of pure  $\text{C}_{70}$ .

at the potential corresponding to the irreversible second reduction process ( $-1.3 \text{ V}$  versus Ag) led to a net charge transfer of four electrons per molecule, transforming **4** into  $\text{C}_{70}$ . This conversion occurs stepwise since new waves between 0 and  $-0.5 \text{ V}$  (versus Ag) started appearing during electrolysis (Figure 2c), providing evidence for the formation of intermediates. These intermediates eventually disappeared when the conversion into pure  $\text{C}_{70}$  was complete (Figure 2d). These intermediate species are under current investigation as possible clues to the mechanism of the retro-Bingel reaction.

Hawkins and Meyer had performed the kinetic optical resolution on a small scale of the inherently chiral fullerene  $\text{D}_{2\text{-C}_{76}}$  by employing the asymmetric Sharpless osmylation reaction.<sup>[14a]</sup> A comparison of the circular dichroism (CD) spectra reported by Hawkins and Meyer for the  $\text{C}_{76}$  enantiomers<sup>[14a]</sup> to those of a variety of optically active, covalent derivatives of  $\text{C}_{76}$  prepared by us<sup>[18]</sup> had revealed a large, unexpected difference in the magnitude of the Cotton effects. Whereas the covalent  $\text{C}_{76}$  derivatives displayed bands whose  $\Delta\epsilon$  values can be up to  $250 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ , the enantiomers of the pure fullerene displayed bands with  $\Delta\epsilon$ -values up to only  $32 \text{ M}^{-1} \text{ cm}^{-1}$ .<sup>[14a, 19]</sup> In order to reinvestigate the chiroptical properties of  $\text{C}_{76}$ , we applied the retro-Bingel reaction to the preparation of the enantiomerically pure higher fullerene (Scheme 2). When the optically active, diastereoisomerically pure  $\text{C}_{76}$  monoadducts **5** and **6**, with enantiomeric carbon cores,<sup>[18]</sup> were submitted to CPE and subsequent purification by HPLC,<sup>[20]</sup> the two enantiomers,  $\text{C}_{76}$  and (*ent*- $\text{C}_{76}$ ) were



Scheme 2. Retro-Bingel reaction of the diastereoisomerically pure, optically active C<sub>76</sub> monoadducts **5** and **6**. The location of the malonate addend is not exactly known although tentative constitutional assignments have been made. The CD spectra, however, provide unambiguous evidence that the two compounds are associated pairs of diastereoisomers.<sup>[18, 21]</sup>

obtained in low yields (about 5–10%) which have not yet been optimized because of the limited availability of the starting materials.

The CD spectra of C<sub>76</sub> and ent-C<sub>76</sub> displayed the expected mirror image shapes (Figure 3, Table 2) with band positions in full agreement with those reported by Hawkins and Meyer.<sup>[19]</sup> In contrast, however, the Cotton effects in our spectra are almost a full magnitude larger than those previously reported. The  $\Delta\epsilon$  values can be as large as 210 M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup> and are therefore much more in agreement with the values measured for optically pure C<sub>76</sub> derivatives such as **5** and **6**.<sup>[21]</sup> Two possible reasons may account for the noticeably low values reported by Hawkins and Meyer: Either the enantiomeric purity of their samples was not very high or their concentrations were not accurately determined.<sup>[22]</sup>

We now intend to apply the retro-Bingel reaction also to the formation of other enantiomerically pure higher fullerenes such as D<sub>3</sub>-C<sub>78</sub> or D<sub>2</sub>-C<sub>84</sub>, starting from diastereoisomerically pure malonate adducts. Furthermore, the sequence of the Bingel followed by the retro-Bingel reaction also permits the

Table 2. Circular dichroism spectra of C<sub>76</sub> ( $c = 3.4 \times 10^{-6}$  M in toluene) and ent-C<sub>76</sub> ( $c = 8.0 \times 10^{-6}$  M in toluene) in the range 290–800 nm. Both compounds were prepared from the retro-Bingel reaction.

C <sub>76</sub>		ent-C <sub>76</sub>	
$\lambda$ [nm]	$\Delta\epsilon$ [M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> ]	$\lambda$ [nm]	$\Delta\epsilon$ [M <sup>-1</sup> cm <sup>-1</sup> ]
315	-73 <sup>[a]</sup>	316	+80 <sup>[a]</sup>
331	+53.4	331	-52.3
352	-18.8	351	+23.7
391	+186 <sup>[a]</sup>	391	-186 <sup>[a]</sup>
406	+210.4	407	-215.5
463	+74.1	462	-66.0
519	-32 <sup>[a]</sup>	520	+45 <sup>[a]</sup>
541	-55.8	549	+69.5
578	-106.3	578	+117.0
629	-6 <sup>[a]</sup>	629	+6 <sup>[a]</sup>
694	+9.7	700	-9.7

[a] Shoulders;  $\Delta\epsilon$  values have greater uncertainties.

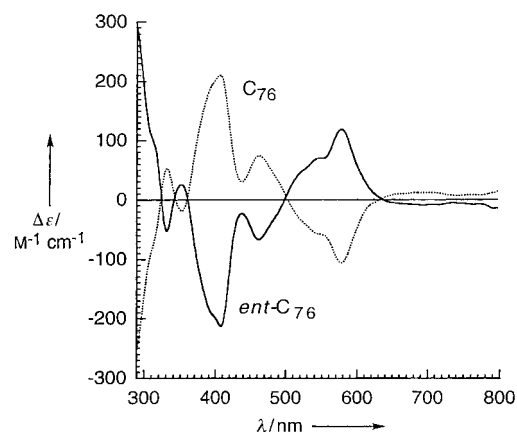


Figure 3. CD Spectra of C<sub>76</sub> and ent-C<sub>76</sub> in toluene (see Table 2).

introduction of the cyclopropane ring as a new protecting group in fullerene chemistry, which should be selectively removable in the presence of many other addends. With the capability of selectively reversing both fullerene cyclopropanation and, by an indirect method,<sup>[7c, 23]</sup> the Diels–Alder addition, our tether-directed remote functionalization,<sup>[2c]</sup> which introduces both cyclopropane and cyclohexene rings, should now lead to an even greater diversity of hitherto unknown multiple addition patterns on the fullerene surface that are not available by other methods.

## Experimental Section

Fullerene monoadduct **1** (11 mg, 12.5 μmol) and supporting electrolyte Bu<sub>4</sub>NPF<sub>6</sub> (0.8 g) were added into a home-built electrochemical cell,<sup>[12b]</sup> and the cell was degassed and pumped to 10<sup>-6</sup> Torr before the dried CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (17 mL), which had also been degassed and pumped to the same pressure, was vapor-transferred directly into the cell. CPE at 293 K on a Pt mesh working electrode (100 mesh, 6.5 cm<sup>2</sup>) at -1.55 V versus a Ag wire pseudo reference electrode, separated from the solution by a Vycor tip, was performed for 30 min after which the solution was reoxidized at 0 V versus Ag for the same length of time. The electrolyte was removed by passing the mixture through a short column of SiO<sub>2</sub>, and elution with toluene yielded pure C<sub>60</sub> (7.4 mg, 82%).

Received: February 18, 1998 [Z11492IE]  
German version: *Angew. Chem.* **1998**, *110*, 2022–2025

**Keywords:** chiral resolution • cyclic voltammetry • electrochemistry • fullerenes • retro-Bingel reaction

- [1] C. Bingel, *Chem. Ber.* **1993**, *126*, 1957–1959.
- [2] a) A. Hirsch, I. Lamparth, H. R. Karfunkel, *Angew. Chem.* **1994**, *106*, 453–455; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1994**, *33*, 437–438; b) I. Lamparth, G. Schick, A. Hirsch, *Liebigs Ann.Chem./Recueil* **1997**, 253–258; c) F. Diederich, C. Thilgen *Science* **1996**, *271*, 317–323; L. Isaacs, F. Diederich, R. F. Haldimann, *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1997**, *2*, 317–342.
- [3] C. Thilgen, A. Herrmann, F. Diederich, *Angew. Chem.* **1997**, *109*, 2362–2374; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1997**, *36*, 2268–2280.
- [4] a) C. Bingel, presentation at the conference *New Perspectives in Fullerene Chemistry and Physics*, Rome, **1994**; b) J.-F. Nierengarten, V. Gramlich, F. Cardullo, F. Diederich, *Angew. Chem.* **1996**, *108*, 2242–2244; *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.* **1996**, *35*, 2101–2103.
- [5] X. Champs, A. Hirsch, *J. Chem. Soc. Perkin Trans. 1* **1997**, 1595–1596.

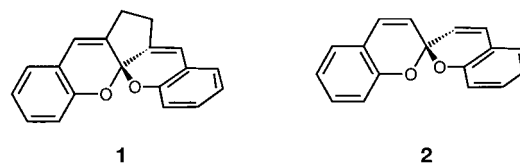
- [6] For a hint that the Bingel-addend may be removed at very high temperatures, see A. Hirsch, I. Lamparth, T. Grösser, H. R. Karfunkel, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 9385–9386.
- [7] a) D. M. Guldi, H. Hungerbühler, K.-D. Asmus, *J. Phys. Chem.* **1995**, *99*, 9380–9385; b) C. Boudon, J.-P. Gisselbrecht, M. Gross, L. Isaacs, H. L. Anderson, R. Faust, F. Diederich, *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1995**, *78*, 1334–1344; c) F. Cardullo, P. Seiler, L. Isaacs, J.-F. Nierengarten, R. F. Haldimann, F. Diederich, T. Mordasini-Denti, W. Thiel, C. Boudon, J.-P. Gisselbrecht, M. Gross, *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1997**, *80*, 343–371.
- [8] M. Keshavarz-K., B. Knight, R. C. Haddon, F. Wudl, *Tetrahedron* **1996**, *52*, 5149–5159.
- [9] For the ring opening of cyclopropanes by electrochemical reduction, see J. Y. Becker in *The Chemistry of the Cyclopropyl Group, Part 2* (ed.: Z. Rappoport), Wiley, Chichester, **1987**, pp. 915–958.
- [10] R. Kessinger, M. Gómez-López, C. Boudin, J.-P. Gisselbrecht, M. Gross, L. Echegoyen, F. Diederich, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, submitted.
- [11] For the loss of fullerene addends (H, Cl, Pt, or Pd) by electrochemical reduction during CV, see a) P. Bolas, F. D'Souza, C. C. Henderson, P. A. Cahill, M. Thomas Jones, K. M. Kadish, *J. Phys. Chem.* **1993**, *97*, 13435–13437; b) T. F. Guarr, M. S. Meier, V. K. Vance, M. Clayton, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1993**, *115*, 9862–9863; c) F. N. Tebbe, J. Y. Becker, D. B. Chase, L. E. Firment, E. R. Holler, B. S. Malone, P. J. Krusic, E. Wasserman, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1991**, *113*, 9900–9901; d) S. A. Lerke, B. A. Parkinson, D. H. Evans, P. J. Lerke, D. H. Evans, P. J. Fagan, *J. Electroanal. Chem.* **1995**, *383*, 127–132; e) S. A. Lerke, B. A. Parkinson, D. H. Evans, P. J. Fagan, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1992**, *114*, 7807–7813. f) H. Nagashima, M. Nakazawa, T. Furukawa, K. Itoh, *Chem. Lett.* **1996**, 405–406.
- [12] For electrochemical synthesis of fullerene adducts, see a) C. Caron, R. Subramanian, F. D'Souza, J. Kim, W. Kutner, M. T. Jones, K. M. Kadish, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1993**, *115*, 8505–8506; b) P. L. Bolas, Y. Zuo, L. Echegoyen, *Chem. Commun.* **1996**, 1547–1548.
- [13] R. Ettl, I. Chao, F. Diederich, R. L. Whetten, *Nature* **1991**, *353*, 149–153.
- [14] a) J. M. Hawkins, A. Meyer, *Science* **1993**, *260*, 1918–1920; b) J. M. Hawkins, M. Nambu, A. Meyer, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.* **1994**, *116*, 7642–7645.
- [15] All controlled potential electrolyses were executed in a home-built electrochemical cell,<sup>12b</sup> and all electrochemical experiments were performed with an EG&G Princeton Applied Research model 263 A potentiostat/galvanostat.
- [16] J.-F. Nierengarten, T. Habicher, R. Kessinger, F. Cardullo, F. Diederich, V. Gramlich, J.-P. Gisselbrecht, C. Boudon, M. Gross, *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1997**, *80*, 2238–2276.
- [17] a) A. Herrmann, M. Rüttimann, C. Thilgen, F. Diederich, *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1995**, *78*, 1673–1704; b) C. Bingel, H. Schiffer, *Liebigs. Ann.* **1995**, 1551–1553.
- [18] A. Herrmann, F. Diederich, *Helv. Chim. Acta* **1996**, *79*, 1741–1756.
- [19] CD spectrum of enantiomerically pure C<sub>76</sub> ( $c = 3.8 \times 10^{-5}$  M) in toluene:<sup>[14a]</sup>  $\lambda$ [nm] ( $\Delta\epsilon$  [M<sup>-1</sup>cm<sup>-1</sup>]): 315 (–11.7), 330 (+8.9), 354 (–4.2), 394 (+29.4), 405 (+31.6), 460 (+12.6), 541 (–11.1), 573 (–18.2), 639 (+2.5).
- [20] Preparative HPLC on a Regis Buckyclutcher I Trident-Tri-DNP (10 mm) 500 mm  $\times$  21.1 mm column with an n-hexane/toluene (60/40) mobile phase at 8 mL min<sup>-1</sup>.
- [21] The chiroptical properties of both functionalized inherently chiral fullerene derivatives and derivatives with an inherently chiral addition pattern are largely determined by the chirality of the carbon sphere and not by the chirality of the addends.<sup>[17a, 18]</sup>
- [22] We determined the concentrations of the enantiomeric solutions based on their known UV/Vis absorptions (see reference [13] and A. Herrmann, doctoral dissertation, ETH Zürich, **1997**).
- [23] a) Y.-Z. An, G. A. Ellis, A. L. Viado, Y. Rubin, *J. Org. Chem.* **1995**, *60*, 6353–6361; b) F. Cardullo, L. Isaacs, F. Diederich, J.-P. Gisselbrecht, C. Boudon, M. Gross, *Chem. Commun.* **1996**, 797–799.

## Enantiomeric Enrichment of Stereolabile Chiral Spiro Compounds by Dynamic HPLC on Chiral Stationary Phases\*\*

Klaus Lorenz, Eiji Yashima, and Yoshio Okamoto\*

Chromatographic enantioseparation on chiral stationary phases (CSPs)<sup>[1–5]</sup> has become a very useful method for the analysis of chiral compounds and the preparative separation of enantiomers because of recent progress in the development of CSPs with high chiral recognition ability. In addition, the newly developed dynamic high-performance liquid chromatography (DHPLC) has received considerable attention as a powerful tool for investigating dynamic processes of interconverting enantiomers;<sup>[6–11]</sup> kinetic data and enantiomerization barriers for stereolabile compounds can be obtained from a series of temperature-dependent plateaus and peak shapes by chiral DHPLC. Here, we focus on the influence of CSPs on the equilibrium of interconverting enantiomers which will result in nonracemic mixtures. In the case of interconverting enantiomers, the use of CSPs opens the possibility for combining separation techniques and equilibrium shift in one step. By employing quite simple new chromatographic procedures we may, in principle, obtain one enantiomerically pure enantiomer in 100% yield from a racemate with standard HPLC equipment.

We investigated the racemic spiro compounds **1** and **2** as model compounds. Both enantiomerize thermally and photo-



chemically through an electrocyclic [1,6]-ring opening of the C–O bond next to the spiro center and consecutive ring closure.<sup>[12]</sup>

Figure 1a shows a standard HPLC chromatogram for the resolution of **1** on Chiralcel OD.<sup>[13]</sup> Compound **1** can be completely resolved at 20 °C without any enantiomerization. However, at higher temperatures (ca. 50 °C), the enantiomerization processes described in Scheme 1 (DHPLC on CSPs)<sup>[14,15]</sup> lead to plateau-like elution profiles<sup>[16]</sup> (Figure 1b). In the heterogeneous system (CSP/mobile phase) the adsorbed enantiomer showing a longer retention time (B) should be enriched, whereas the eluent may contain a racemic mixture under equilibrium conditions.

According to the kinetic differential equations describing the enantiomerization processes during DHPLC, only race-

[\*] Prof. Y. Okamoto, Dr. K. Lorenz, Dr. E. Yashima  
Department of Applied Chemistry, Graduate School of Engineering  
Nagoya University  
Furo-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya 464–8603 (Japan)  
Fax: (+81) 52-789-3188  
E-mail: okamoto@apchem.nagoya-u.ac.jp

[\*\*] This work was partially supported by the Japan Society for the Promotion of Science (JSPS). K.L. thanks the European Union and the JSPS for a joint post-doctorate fellowship.