

# Resolution of Pd Catalyst with *tropos* Biphenylphosphine (BIPHEP) Ligand by DM-DABN: Asymmetric Catalysis by an Enantiopure BIPHEP–Pd Complex<sup>1</sup>

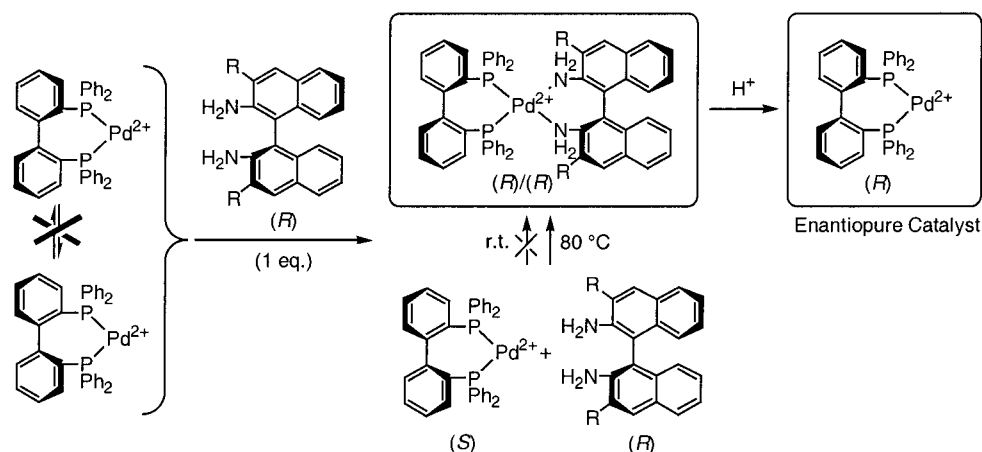
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## ABSTRACT



The racemic Pd complex with the chirally flexible (*tropos*) biphenylphosphine (BIPHEP) ligand can be resolved with enantiopure 3,3'-dimethyl-2,2'-diamino-1,1'-binaphthyl (DM-DABN) as a resolving agent at room temperature. The enantiopure BIPHEP–Pd complex is obtained from complexation with enantiopure DABN followed by *tropo*-inversion into the single BIPHEP–Pd diastereomer at 80 °C and protonation at 0 °C. The enantiopure BIPHEP–Pd complex can be used as an efficient Lewis acid catalyst for the Diels–Alder reaction at room temperature to give high enantioselectivity (82% ee, 60%).

Development of asymmetric catalysts for organic reactions is of central importance in modern science and technology.<sup>2</sup>

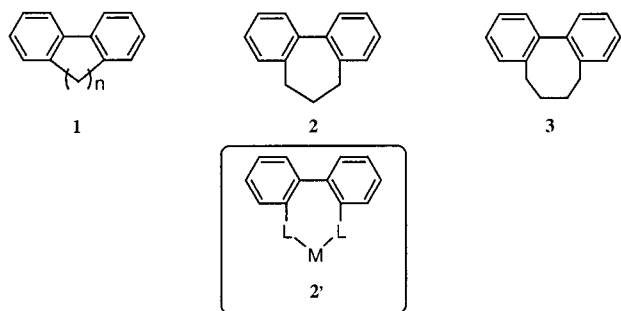
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Such asymmetric catalysts are generally metal complexes bearing chiral and often atropisomeric (*atropos*) ligands such as binaphthylphosphine (BINAP).<sup>3</sup> The word *atropos* is found in Greek mythology of the “Moirai”, the three sisters who personificate the inescapable destiny of man. The youngest is *Ἀτροπος* (Atropos), whose name means “She who cannot (*a*) be turned (*tropos*)”, and who restrictively cuts the thread of life. Thus, atropisomer covers isomers originated by stopping the turn around the bonds,<sup>4</sup> where

(3) We are honored to dedicate this paper to the Nobel Laureates in Chemistry, 2001.

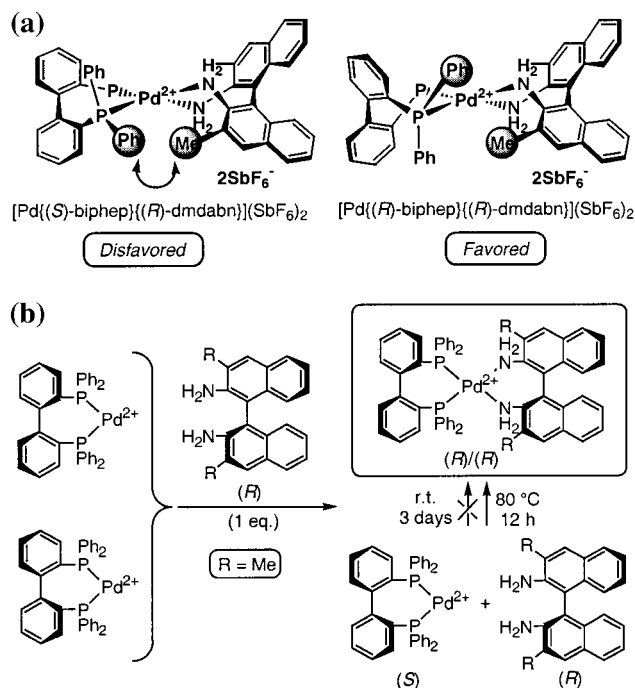
the isomers can be actually isolated.<sup>5</sup> The resolution of atropisomers<sup>6</sup> antedates by several years the concept of conformation<sup>7</sup> and the discovery of the rotational barrier in ethane.<sup>8</sup> The early examples of atropisomers are all biphenyl derivatives, and hence atropisomerism is called biphenyl isomerism. The tethering effect of 2,2'-positions has been studied in a latent *atropos* biphenyl (Figure 1).<sup>9</sup> In the case



**Figure 1.**

of  $n = 2$ , **1** has been resolved but its chiral stability is not so high. Stability increases when the tether is lengthened to three but not up to four. A four-atom bridge in **3** leads to chiral lability. Compound **2** with a three-atom tether has been resolved, even without 6,6'-substituents. Therefore, a biphenyl-metal complex of type **2'** could be resolved and hence employed as a chirally stable *atropos* catalyst. We herein report the Pd complex with the *tropos* biphenylphosphine (BIPHEP)<sup>10</sup> ligand as an enantiopure *atropos* catalyst,<sup>11</sup> though in the same row as Ru. We have already reported that racemic BIPHEP-RuCl<sub>2</sub> and (*S,S*)-diphenylethylenediamine (DPEN) initially provide both diastereomers, RuCl<sub>2</sub>[(*S*)-biphep][(*S,S*)-dpn] and RuCl<sub>2</sub>[(*R*)-biphep][(*S,S*)-dpn], in an equal amount, which eventually evolved in a 2:1 diastereomer ratio, because of the *tropos* nature of the BIPHEP-Ru complex even at room temperature or below.<sup>12,13</sup>

A highly effective resolving agent not giving a mixture of diastereomers was thus employed for the racemic BIPHEP-Pd complex (Figure 2) to clarify whether the remaining BIPHEP-Pd enantiomer shows a *tropo*-inversion at room temperature. By using 3,3'-dimethyl-2,2'-diamino-1,1'-binaphthyl (DM-DABN)<sup>14</sup> with sterically demanding



**Figure 2.** (a) CAChe molecular modeling study for enantiomer discrimination of racemic BIPHEP-Pd. (b) Resolution of BIPHEP-Pd using (*R*)-DM-DABN and *atropos* nature of BIPHEP-Pd complex at room temperature or below.

methyl substituents in the 3,3'-positions of diaminobinaphthyl (DABN),<sup>15</sup> resolution and *tropo*-inversion of the BIPHEP-Pd complex was examined (Figure 2b). Combination of racemic BIPHEP-Pd(SbF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub><sup>16</sup> even with an equimolar amount of (*R*)-DM-DABN gave the single (*R*)-BIPHEP-Pd/(*R*)-DM-DABN diastereomer<sup>17</sup> along with the remaining (*S*)-BIPHEP-Pd and (*R*)-DM-DABN. There was no *tropo*-

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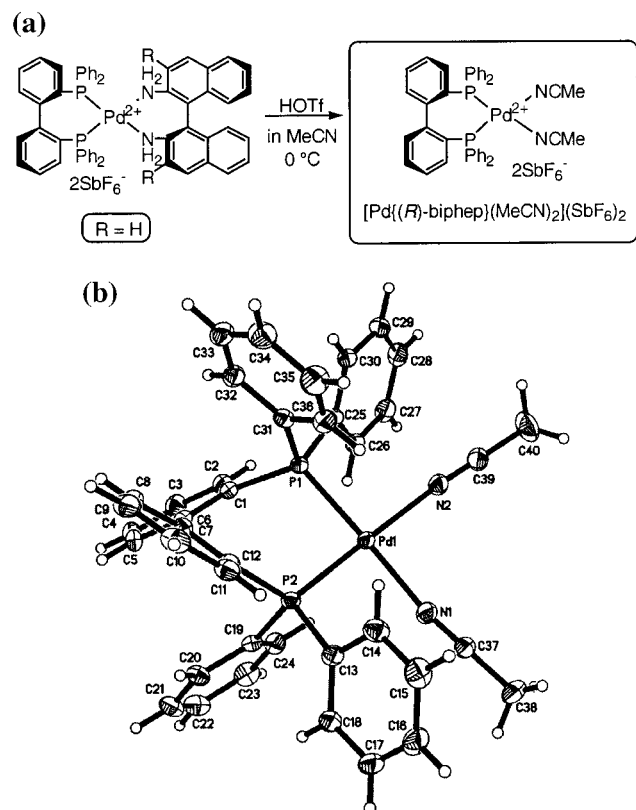
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(17) [Pd{(R)-biphep}{(R)-dmdabn}](SbF<sub>6</sub>)<sub>2</sub>: <sup>1</sup>H NMR (300 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 1.68 (s, 6H) 3.44 (br, 2H), 4.83 (br, 2H), 6.60–6.62 (m, 2H), 6.74–6.78 (m, 2H), 7.12–7.23 (m, 6H), 7.33–7.60 (m, 14H), 7.71–7.87 (m, 12H) 7.91–7.95 (m, 2H). <sup>31</sup>P NMR (109 MHz, CD<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>) δ 25.1.



**Figure 3.** (a) Enantiopure  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}(\text{MeCN})_2](\text{SbF}_6)_2$  after *tropo*-inversion and protonation without racemization. (b) ORTEP drawing of  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}(\text{MeCN})_2](\text{SbF}_6)_2$ .

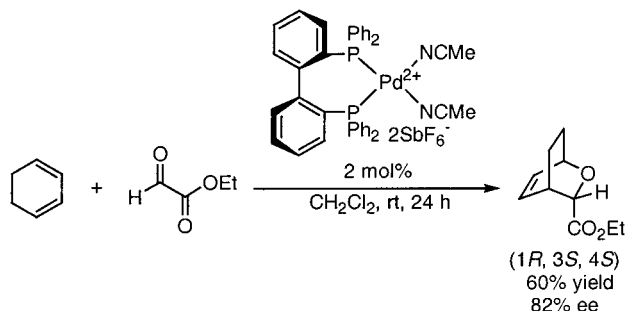
inversion of the remaining (*S*)-BIPHEP–Pd enantiomer, which did not complex with (*R*)-DM-DABN at room temperature even after 3 days. At 80 °C for 12 h, however, the *tropo*-inversion of (*S*)-BIPHEP–Pd was indeed observed to give the single diastereomer (*R*)-BIPHEP–Pd/(*R*)-DM-DABN without any remaining (*S*)-BIPHEP–Pd. We thus clarified that BIPHEP–Pd species could be resolved as an *atropos* metal complex without *tropo*-inversion even after reasonable periods of time (>3 days) at room temperature or below.

With this success in proving the *atropos* nature of BIPHEP–Pd species at room temperature, we tried to isolate the enantiopure BIPHEP–Pd complex. However, protonation of the single (*R*)-BIPHEP–Pd/(*R*)-DM-DABN diastereomer was found to be sluggish presumably because of the steric shielding effect of the 3,3'-dimethyl substituents in DM-DABN. Therefore, the less sterically demanding DABN complex, (*R*)-BIPHEP–Pd/(*R*)-DABN (see the following paper) was employed to provide the enantiopure BIPHEP–Pd complex. Enantiopure  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}(\text{MeCN})_2](\text{SbF}_6)_2$  was obtained by treatment of  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}\{(R)\text{-dabn}\}](\text{SbF}_6)_2$  with trifluoromethanesulfonic acid in acetonitrile at 0 °C for 30 min without racemization (Figure 3a). The (*R*)-configuration of  $[\text{Pd}(\text{biphep})(\text{MeCN})_2](\text{SbF}_6)_2$  was determined by X-ray analysis of a single crystal obtained from

dichloromethane–hexane (Figure 3b).<sup>18</sup> There was indeed no racemization observed, as confirmed by  $^{31}\text{P}$  and  $^1\text{H}$  NMR analyses after complexation with (*S,S*)- and (*R,R*)-DPEN.<sup>19</sup>

The enantiopure  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}(\text{MeCN})_2](\text{SbF}_6)_2$  thus obtained can be employed as an *atropos* asymmetric catalyst at room temperature or below but not at 80 °C (Scheme 1).

**Scheme 1.** HDA Reaction Catalyzed by Enantiopure  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}(\text{MeCN})_2](\text{SbF}_6)_2$



Indeed, the hetero-Diels–Alder (HDA) reaction of glyoxylate could be catalyzed by enantiopure  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}(\text{MeCN})_2](\text{SbF}_6)_2$  (2 mol %) as a highly efficient Lewis acid catalyst.<sup>20</sup> The HDA adduct<sup>21</sup> was obtained with high enantioselectivity even at room temperature (82% ee, 60%).

In summary, we have proven that the racemic Pd complex even with the *tropos* BIPHEP ligand can be resolved as the *atropos* complex at room temperature or below and converted at higher temperature into the enantiopure catalyst. In carbon–carbon bond forming reactions, the enantiopure

(18) The single-crystal growth was carried out in a dichloromethane/hexane mixed solvent at room temperature. X-ray crystallographic analysis was performed with a Bruker SMART 1000 diffractometer (graphite monochromator, Mo K $\alpha$  radiation,  $\lambda = 0.71073$ ). Crystal data for  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}(\text{MeCN})_2](\text{SbF}_6)_2$ :  $\text{C}_{40}\text{H}_{34}\text{F}_{12}\text{N}_2\text{P}_2\text{PdSb}_2$ , yellow, crystal dimension  $0.47 \times 0.29 \times 0.18$  mm<sup>3</sup>, monoclinic, space group  $P2_1$ ,  $a = 11.2119(5)$  Å,  $b = 23.6164(10)$  Å,  $c = 16.7911(7)$  Å,  $V = 4249.9(3)$  Å<sup>3</sup>,  $Z = 4$ ,  $\rho_{\text{calcd}} = 1.848$  g cm<sup>−3</sup>,  $\mu(\text{Mo K}\alpha) = 1.84$  mm<sup>−1</sup>,  $T = 100$  K; 13128 reflections were independent and unique, and 571 with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$  ( $2\theta_{\text{max}} = 31.52^\circ$ ) were used for the solution of the structure,  $R = 0.0336$ ,  $wR2 = 0.0617$ . Crystallographic data (excluding structure factors) for the structure reported in this paper have been deposited with the Cambridge Crystallographic Data Centre as supplementary publication no. CCDC-173072. Copies of the data can be obtained free of charge on application to CCDC, 12 Union Road, Cambridge CB21EZ, U.K. (Fax: (+44) 1223-336-033; e-mail: deposit@ccdc.cam.ac.uk). Selective bond lengths [Å], bond angles [deg], and torsion angle [deg]: Pd1–P1 2.2502(5), Pd1–P2 2.2496(5), Pd1–N1 2.0882(17), Pd1–N2 2.0866(17); P1–Pd1–P2 90.152(18), N1–Pd1–N2 87.79(7); C1–C6–C7–C12 62.92.

(19) Mixture of  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}\{(R,R)\text{-dpem}\}](\text{SbF}_6)_2$  and  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}\{(S,S)\text{-dpem}\}](\text{SbF}_6)_2$ :  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (300 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  2.01 (m, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 2.49 (m, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 3.41 (m, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 4.25 (m, 2H,  $\text{NH}_2$ ), 4.63 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH-NH}_2$ ), 4.72 (m, 2H,  $\text{CH-NH}_2$ ).  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR (109 MHz,  $\text{CD}_2\text{Cl}_2$ )  $\delta$  23.0 (*R*)/(*R,R*), 23.3 (*S*)/(*R,R*).

(20) **Typical Experimental Procedure.** To a solution of  $[\text{Pd}\{(R)\text{-biphep}\}\{(R)\text{-dabn}\}](\text{SbF}_6)_2$  (0.01 mmol, 2 mol % of ethyl glyoxylate) in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (1 mL) was added ethyl glyoxylate (0.5 mmol) and 1,3-cyclohexadiene (0.75 mmol) at room temperature under argon atmosphere. The reaction mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h, directly loaded onto a silica gel column, and eluted with hexane/ether (3:2) to give HDA product as an colorless oil.

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BIPHEP–Pd complex thus obtained can be used as an *atropos* and efficient asymmetric catalyst to give high enantioselectivity even starting from the racemic BIPHEP–Pd complex.

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X-ray analysis. We are also grateful to Prof. Masahiro Terada of Tohoku University for his useful discussion. This work was financially supported by the Ministry of Education, Science, Sports and Culture of Japan (nos. 09238209 and 10208204).

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