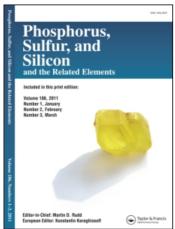
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Catalytic Asymmetric Hydrogenation of α-Acetamido Cinnamic Acids

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Catalytic Asymmetric Hydrogenation of α -Acetamido Cinnamic Acids

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Abstract

The homogeneous catalytic asymmetric hydrogenations of substituted cinnamic acids by $(1-\text{Benzyl-3},4-(R,R)-\text{bis}(\text{diphenyl-phosphino})\text{pyrrolidine}(\text{COD})\text{Rh})\text{BF}_4$ $\underline{6}$, easily prepared from L-tartaric acid has been studied. Contrary to other catalysts, this Rhodium (I) complex affords very high chemical and optical yields of N-acetylated amino acids under mild conditions even when using substrate to catalyst ratio as high as 16000. The method has been successfully applied for the preparation of L-Phenylalanine and L-Dopa.