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Takehiko Nishio^a; Yasuhiro Kodama^b; Yuji Tsurumi^b

^a Department of Chemistry, Graduate School of Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan

^b Graduate School of Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan

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Synthesis of Chiral Bis-Thiazolines and Asymmetric Diels–Alder Reactions

Takehiko Nishio

Department of Chemistry and Graduate School of Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan

Yasuhiro Kodama

Yuji Tsurumi

Graduate School of Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Japan

New chiral ligands, bis-thiazoline derivatives (sulfur analogues of known oxazolines) were prepared from chiral bis-(N-acylamino alcohols) with Lawesson's reagent. Bis-thiazolines thus obtained proved to be useful chiral ligands for metal in asymmetric Diels–Alder reaction.

Keywords Asymmetric catalyst; bis-(N-acylamino) alcohol; chiral bis-thiazoline; Diels–Alder reaction; Lawesson's reagent

INTRODUCTION

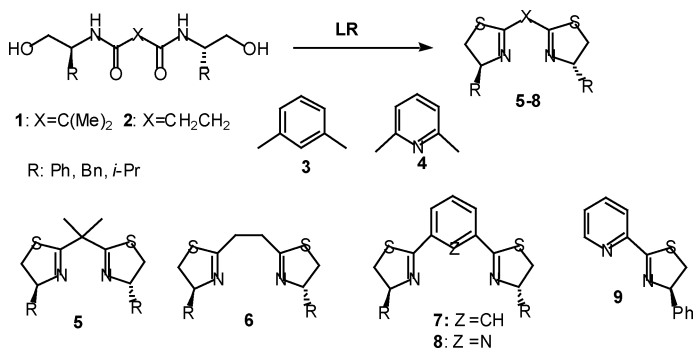
Chiral bis-oxazolines have been successfully used in asymmetric synthesis.¹ However, the sulfur analogues, bis-thiazolines, have received little attention.² Several of them are known, but the variety of structures is restricted because the most useful sulfur-containing precursors are not easily available. Recently, we have reported the novel synthesis of sulfur-containing heterocycles by treating bifunctional compounds with Lawesson's reagent (LR).³ We report herein the facile synthesis of chiral bis-thiazolines starting from bis-(N-acylamino alcohols) and the ability of new chiral ligands for metals in asymmetric Diels–Alder reactions.

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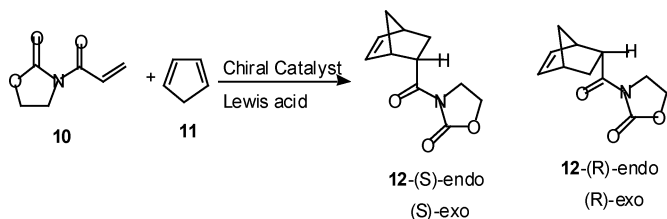
Address correspondence to Takehiko Nishio, Department of Chemistry and Graduate School of Environmental Sciences, University of Tsukuba, Tsukuba-shi, Ibaraki, 305-8571 Japan. E-mail: nishio@kankyo.envr.tsukuba.ac.jp

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Treatment of chiral bis-(*N*-acylamino alcohols) **1–4** with LR in toluene at reflux temperature yielded chiral bis-thiazolines **5–8** in good yields. Chiral thiazoline **9** was also obtained by treatment of *N*-picolinoylamino-2-phenylethanol. Chiral bis-thiazolines **5–8** and **9** thus obtained, sulfur analogues of known oxazolines, can be expected to be new chiral ligands for metals in asymmetric Diels–Alder reactions.



For example, when 3-acryloyloxazolidine-2-one **10** was treated with cyclopentadiene **11** in the presence of zinc triflate and bis-thiazoline **6** (R=Ph), the cycloadducts **12** were obtained as a 94:6 diastereomers where the major diastereomer formed with good enantioselectivity (92% ee).



In summary, the results achieved here establish the new and facile method for the synthesis of bis-thiazolines as promising chiral ligands.

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