Supporting Information

Heterobimetallic dual-catalysts systems for the hydrolytic kinetic resolution of terminal epoxides

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Section 1. Preparation of racemic 3-bromopropane-1,2-diol.

OH Br____OH

A mixture of epibromohydrin (22.4 g, 163.5 mmol), *p*-toluenesulfonic acid (60 mg, 0.35 mmol) and H_2O (14 mL) was heated to reflux during 7 h, then Na_2CO_3 (74 mg, 0.70 mmol) was added to the mixture with caution. A distillation under reduced pressure (112 °C, 6.7 mbar) afforded the desired product (17.98 g, 71 %) as colourless oil.

¹H NMR (250 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 3.87-3.96 (m, 1H), 3.76 (dd, *J* = 3.8, 11.3 Hz, 1H), 3.66 (dd, *J* = 5.1, 11.3 Hz, 1H), 3.48 (dd, 1H, *J* = 5.3, 10.5 Hz), 3.44 (dd, *J* = 6.3, 10.5 Hz, 1H), 2.79 (s, 2H). ¹³C NMR (90 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 71.7 (CH₂), 64.5 (CH), 35.1 (CH₂).

Section 2. Preparation of racemic 4-(bromomethyl)-2,2-dimethyl-1,3-dioxolane.



To a solution of 3-bromopropane-1,2-diol (330 mg, 2.1 mmol) in DCM (13 mL), Amberlyst 15 (26 mg) and 2,2-dimethoxypropane (0.51 mL, 4.2 mmol) were added with continuous stirring. The mixture was stirred at room temperature for 18 h and then filtrated on celite before removal of the solvents under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was purified by chromatography on silica gel (pentane/diethylether 95/5) to afford the product (420 mg, 97 %) as colourless oil.

¹H NMR (360 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 4.26-4.33 (m, 1H), 4.09 (dd, J = 6.5, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.83 (dd, J = 5.0, 9.0 Hz, 1H), 3.39 (dd, 1H, J = 4.7, 10.0 Hz), 3.26 (dd, J = 8.0, 10.0 Hz, 1H), 1.41 (s, 3H), 1.32 (s, 3H). ¹³C NMR (62.5 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 110.4 (C_q), 75.4 (CH₂), 68.4 (CH), 32.9 (CH₂), 27.1 (CH₃), 25.5 (CH₃). IR (NaCl, υ (cm⁻¹)) 2988, 2937, 2883, 1381, 1372, 1256, 1214, 1061, 843.

<u>Section 3. Determination of the selectivities in the hydrolysis of epoxides (copies of GC and HPLC chromatograms)</u>

Epibromohydrin.

The absolute stereochemistry of the major enantiomer was consequently assigned according to the reported optical activity of the (R)-acetal in the literature¹

¹ Y. Kawakami, T. Asai, K. Umeyama, Y. Yamashita, J. Org. Chem. 1982, 47, 3581.



3 Minutes

Retention time (min.)	Area (%)		
5,97	49.99		
6,12	50.01		

GC Chromatogram of an enantioenriched sample



Retention time (min.)	Area (%)		
5,95	96.53		
6,11	3.47		

2-phenoxy-methyl-oxirane.

HPLC Chromatogram of a racemic sample of the epoxide



HPLC Chromatogram of an enantioenriched sample of the epoxide



HPLC Chromatogram of a racemic sample of the diol



HPLC Chromatogram of an enantioenriched sample of the diol



2-Allyloxymethyl-oxirane.

GC Chromatogram of a racemic sample of the epoxide



GC Chromatogram of an enantioenriched sample of the recovered epoxide



Retention time (min.)	Area (%)		
40,21	0.59		
41,50	99.41		

GC Chromatogram of a racemic sample of the protected diol



GC Chromatogram of an enantioenriched sample of the protected diol



2-phenyl oxirane.





Retention time (min.)	Area (%)		
7,39	49.91		
7,52	50.09		

GC Chromatogram of a enantioenriched sample of the recovered epoxide





GC Chromatogram of an enantioenriched sample of the diol



Retention time (min.)	Area (%)
21.69	2.56
21.83	97.44

Cyclohexene oxide.

GC Chromatogram of a racemic sample of the diol



GC Chromatogram of an enantioenriched sample of the diol



Retention time (min.)	Area (%)		
10,83	9.11		
11,18	90.89		

Section 4. Control HKR experiments



Table 1. *Dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin with additional salen metal complexes – supplementary tests*

Entry	Cat*	Additive	T (°C)	Conv. (%)	Ee (%)
1	(<i>S</i> , <i>S</i>)- 2 -Cr ^{III} -Cl	/	20	-	/
2	(S,S) -4- Cr^{III} - Cl	/	20	-	/
3	(S,S)-2-Al ^{III} -Cl	/	20	-	/
4	(S,S)-1-Mn ^{III} -Cl	/	20	-	/
5	(S,S)-2-Mn ^{III} -Cl	/	20	-	/
6	(S,S)-4-Mn ^{III} -Cl	/	20	-	/
7	(S,S)-2-V ^{IV} =O	/	20	-	/
8	(S,S) -2-Ti ^{IV} $(OiPr)_2$	/	20	-	/
9	(S,S)- 4 -Ti ^{IV} (OiPr) ₂	/	20	-	/
10	(S,S)- 2 -V ^{IV} O(OiPr)	/	20	-	/
11	(S,S)-4-V ^{IV} O(OiPr)	/	20	-	/
12	(S,S)- 2 -Co ^{III} -OAc	(<i>S</i> , <i>S</i>)- 4 -Cr ^{III} -Cl	4	> 99	91 (<i>S</i>)
13	(S,S)-2-Co ^{III} -OAc	(S,S) -4-Ti ^{IV} $(OiPr)_2$	4	> 99	90 (<i>S</i>)
14	(S,S)-2-Co ^{III} -OAc	(S,S)-4-V ^{IV} O(OiPr)	4	> 99	61 (<i>S</i>)
15	(S,S)-1-Co ^{III} -OAc	/	4	> 99	96 (<i>S</i>)
16	(S,S)-1-Co ^{III} -OAc	(S,S)-1-Mn ^{III} -Cl	4	> 99	98 (S)
17	(S,S)-1-Co ^{III} -OAc	(S,S)-2-Mn ^{III} -Cl	4	> 99	98 (S)
18	(S,S)-1-Co ^{III} -OAc	(S,S)-4-Mn ^{III} -Cl	4	> 99	98 (S)
19	(S,S)-1-Co ^{III} -OAc	(R,R)-4-Mn ^{III} -Cl	4	> 99	96 (S)

- Entries 1 to 11, all other tested salen metal complexes are not active catalysts for the HKR.
- Entries 12 to 14, other salen metal complexes with different salen ligands have also different "match" or "mis-match" effects on the HKR catalysed by the same salen Co^{III}-OAc complex
- Entries 15 to 19, similar but less obvious "match" effects were also observed for Jacobsen's salen Co^{III}-OAc complex

Section 5. Kinetic studies

Section 5. 1. Calibration of chlorobenzene as internal standard:

A mixture of epibromohydrin (20 to 100 μ L) and chlorobenzene (50 μ L) were diluted in THF (3 mL) and then analysed with GC (column VF-1 ms).



Section 5.2. Kinetic studies for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OAc

Epibromohydrin (208 μ L, 2.42 mmol) was added to a solution of complex (*S*,*S*)-**2**-Co^{III}-OAc (1 – 4 mg, 0.05 – 0.2 mol %) in THF (1 mL) containing water (67 μ L, 3.62 mmol) and chlorobenzene (100 μ L) at 20 °C with continuous stirring (1100 rpm). An aliquot of 2 μ L was taken from the resulting solution for GC analysis (column VF-1ms) at specified time. Conversions of epibromohydrin were calculated with chlorobenzene as internal standard.



Scheme 1. Conversion/time plots for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OAc under diluted conditions.



Scheme 2. Conversion/time plots for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OAc under diluted conditions for the first 5 % conversion.



Scheme 3. log $V/\log C$ plot for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OAc.

Section 5. 3. Kinetic studies for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OTs

Epibromohydrin (208 μ L, 2.42 mmol) was added to a solution of complex (*S*,*S*)-**2**-Co^{III}-OTs (1 – 4 mg, 0.05 – 0.2 mol %) in THF (1 mL) containing water (67 μ L, 3.62 mmol) and chlorobenzene (100 μ L) at 20 °C with continuous stirring (1100 rpm). An aliquot of 2 μ L was taken from the resulting solution for GC analysis (column VF-1ms) at specified time. Conversions of epibromohydrin were calculated with chlorobenzene as internal standard.



Scheme 4. Conversion/time plots for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OTs under diluted conditions.



Scheme 5. Conversion/time plots for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OTs under diluted conditions for the first 5 % conversion.



Scheme 6. log $V/\log C$ plot for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OTs.

Section 5. 4. Kinetic studies for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-BF₄

Epibromohydrin (208 μ L, 2.42 mmol) was added to a solution of complex (*S*,*S*)-**2**-Co^{III}-BF₄ (1 – 4 mg, 0.05 – 0.2 mol %) in THF (1 mL) containing water (67 μ L, 3.62 mmol) and chlorobenzene (100 μ L) at 20 °C with continuous stirring (1100 rpm). An aliquot of 2 μ L was taken from the resulting solution for GC analysis (column VF-1ms) at specified time. Conversions of epibromohydrin were calculated with chlorobenzene as internal standard.



Scheme 7. Conversion/time plots for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-BF₄ under diluted conditions.



Scheme 8. Conversion/time plots for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-BF₄ under diluted conditions for the first 5 % conversion.



Scheme 9. log V/log C plot for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-BF₄.

Section 5. 5. Kinetic studies for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by mixtures of (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OAc and (S,S)-2-Mn^{III}-Cl

Epibromohydrin (208 μ L, 2.42 mmol) was added to a solution of complex (*S*,*S*)-**2**-Mn^{III}-Cl (38 mg, 2 mol %) and complex (*S*,*S*)-**2**-Co^{III}-OAc (1 – 4 mg, 0.05 – 0.2 mol %) in THF (1 mL) containing water (67 μ L, 3.62 mmol) and chlorobenzene (100 μ L) at 20 °C under continuous stirring (1100 rpm). An aliquot of 2 μ L was taken from the resulting solution for GC analysis (column VF-1ms) at specified time. Conversions of epibromohydrin were calculated with chlorobenzene as internal standard.



Scheme 10. Conversion/time plots for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by mixtures of (S,S)-2-Co^{III}-OAc (0.05 – 0.2 mol %) and (S,S)-2-Mn^{III}-Cl (2 mol %).

The rate equation for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by mixtures of two complexes could be represented as:

$$V = k_1 [\text{Co}^{\text{III}}\text{-}\text{OH}] [\text{Co}^{\text{III}}\text{-}\text{X}] + k_2 [\text{Co}^{\text{III}}\text{tot}]^n [\text{Mn}^{\text{III}}\text{-}\text{Cl}]^m$$

With $[\text{Co}^{\text{III}}\text{tot}] = [\text{Co}^{\text{III}}\text{-}\text{OH}] + [\text{Co}^{\text{III}}\text{-}\text{X}]$



Scheme 11. Conversion/time plots for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by mixtures of (S,S)-**2**-Mn^{III}-Cl and (S,S)-**2**-Co^{III}-OAc after an induction time of 4 hours.

With $[Mn^{III}-Cl] > [Co^{III}_{tot}]$ the first part of the equation rate can be neglected to yield $V = K[Co^{III}_{tot}]^n$. The conversion vs time plots obtained in these conditions is reported in Scheme 11, after an induction period of 4 h.² The rate of each reactions could be calculated from the above plots, and value of n has been determined by log $V/\log [Co^{III}_{tot}]$ plot.

² The existence of induction time for the HKR catalyzed by a salen Co^{III}-OAc complex has been reported: Nielsen, L. P. C.; Zuend, S. J.; Ford, D. D.; Jacobsen, E. N. *J. Org. Chem.* **2012**, *77*, 2486.



Scheme 12. log *V*/log [Co^{III}_{tot}] plot for the dynamic HKR of epibromohydrin catalysed by mixtures of (*S*,*S*)-**2**-Mn^{III}-Cl and (*S*,*S*)-**2**-Co^{III}-OAc.

Section 6. NMR spectra



















