Electronic Supporting Information (ESI)

Pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) of achiral substituted acetylenes

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1. Notes and references about terminology

(1)Asymmetric polymerisation: Asymmetric polymerisation is a polymerisation method for synthesizing a chiral polymer having newly produced chiral structures from an achiral monomer. Asymmetric polymerisation is divided into two categories: one is asymmetric synthesis polymerisation where new asymmetric centres (configurational chirality) are produced in the main chain during polymerisation, and the other is helix-sense-selective polymerisation (HSSP) where chiral structures based on one-handed helical main chains (conformational chirality) are newly produced. Enantiomerselective polymerisation is also categorized as asymmetric polymerisation, but since no new chiral structures are produced, it is not a synthetic method.

(2) Helix-sense-selective polymerisation (HSSP; Schemes S1, 1B and S3B'): Chiral structures based on one-handed helical main chains (conformational chirality) are newly produced during HSSP. Only a few examples have been reported.

For the **HSSP** we developed of monosubstituted acetylene monomers, see reference 2 in the text.

For HSSP of other monomers reported: (a) R. J. M. Nolte, A. J. M. v. Beijnen and W. Drenth, J.
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Nakagawa, M. Tsuji, M. Tanikawa, T. Yade and Y. Okamoto, Chem. Commun., 2004, 144-145; (g) M.

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J. Deming and B. M. Novak, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1992, 114, 7926-7927; (*i*) G. Tian, Y. Lu and B. M.
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(3) **Asymmetric-induced polymerisation** (**AIP**; Schemes S4D and S5D'): Polymerisation inducing a second new chiral structure in the resulting polymers obtained from chiral monomers is also categorized as asymmetric polymerisation in a broad sense.^{1d} However, in this communication, it was called asymmetric-induced polymerisation (**AIP**).

For examples of general **AIP**: (*a*) T. Oishi, K. Kagawa and H. Nagata, *Polymer*, 1997, **38**, 1461; (*b*) T. Nakano, D. Tamada, J. Miyazaki, K. Kakiuchi and Y. Okamoto, *Macromolecules*, 2000, **33**, 1489; (*c*) T. Sakaguchi, G. Kwak and T. Masuda, *Polymer*, 2002, **43**, 3937; (*d*) G. Wulff, *Angew. Chem. Int. Ed. Engl.*, 1989, **28**, 21; (*e*) T. Kakuchi, A. Narumi, H. Kaga, T. Ishibashi, M. Obata and K. Yokota, *Macromolecules*, 2000, **33**, 3964 ; (*f*) J. Cui, X. Lu, A. Liu, X. Wan and Q. Zhou, *Macromolecules*, 2009, **42**, 7678; (*g*) D. B. Amabilino, E. Ramos, J. L. Serrano, T. Sierra and J. Veciana, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 1998, **120**, 9126. For examples of AIP of substituted acetylenes: (a) T. Aoki, M. Kokai, K. Shinohara and E.
Oikawa, Chem. Lett., 1993, 2009; (b) H. Nakako, R. Nomura, M. Tabata and T. Masuda, Macromolecules, 1999, 32, 2861; (c) E. Yashima, Y. Maeda and Y. Okamoto, J. Am. Chem. Soc., 1998, 120, 8895; (d) I. Otsuka, T. Hongo, H. Nakade, A. Narumi, R. Sakai, T. Satoh, H. Kaga and T. Kakuchi, Macromolecules, 2007, 40, 8930; (e) B. S. Li, K. K. L. Cheuk, F. Salhi, J. W. Y. Lam, J. A. K. Cha, X.
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(4) *In-situ* asymmetric-induced polymerisation (*in-situ* AIP; Scheme 1C): When an achiral monomer containing a dynamic covalent bond, such as monomers 1a and 2a, was polymerized in the presence of a chiral amine, the exchange reaction between the chiral amine and the achiral amine residues in the monomer, oligomer, and (co) polymer and the (co) polymerisation proceed simultaneously. Therefore, asymmetric-induced polymerisation (AIP) can occur. It was confirmed by isolating the corresponding CD-active copolymer. In this communication, we refer to it as *in-situ* AIP.

(5) **Pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP**; Schemes 1A and S3A'): We propose and define **PHSSP** as follows: **PHSSP** is a new asymmetric polymerisation using the same starting compounds (monomers, initiators, and chiral sources) under the same conditions, such as the molar ratio, temperature and solvents, as those used in **HSSP**, but the chiral source is not a catalyst but is a reagent (Scheme 1(A & B)). The overall reaction contains two or three steps, but the practical experimental procedure is simple and almost the same as that in **HSSP**. In addition, because of introduction of the chiral source *via* covalent bonds, the relative optical purity (the strength of the CD

peaks of the final polymers) and the efficiency ([chiral source] / [monomer])in the chiral induction are expected to be higher in **PHSSP** than those in **HSSP**.

2. Supplemental schemes, tables and figures for the text and this ESI.

Supplemental schemes.

(1) Previous study (Supplemental for introduction)



Scheme S1 F: Helix-sense-selective polymerisation (HSSP) of DoDHPA by using (R)- or (S)-PEA as a cocatalyst in our previous study.



[Rh(nbd)Cl]₂

(*R*)- or (S)-PEA

Scheme S2 Equilibrium between $[Rh(nbd)Cl]_2$ and (R)- or (S)-PEA.

(2) This study



Scheme S3 A': Pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) by using various chiral amines as chiral sources, B': Helix-sense-selective polymerisation (HSSP) by using (R)- or (S)-DMPEA as a cocatalyst of monomers 2a and 2b in this study.



Scheme S4 D: Asymmetric-induced polymerisation (AIP) of PE*P, E: Exchange reaction (ER) of PEA residues in poly(PE*P) with 3-(triethylsilyl)propylamine (For comparison of PHSSP of 1a).



Scheme S5 D': Asymmetric-induced polymerisation (AIP) of PP*P, E': Exchange reaction (ER) of PEA residues in poly(PP*P) with 2-amino-*tert*-butylphenol (For comparison of PHSSP of 2a).



Scheme S6 Equilibrium constant (*K*) for a model exchange reaction of a chiral amine residue ($R^*-N=$) in a monomer with an achiral amine($R-NH_2$) for **PHSSP** of **1**.

Supplemental tables.

(1) Selection of monomer and optimisation of the condition of PHSSP (ESI-3)

Table S1 Attempt of pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) of various monomers $1a-c^a$, $2a^b$ and $2b^b$ by using (R)-(+)-1-phenylethylamine (PEA), (R)-(+)-1-(1-naphthyl)ethylamine (NEA), (R)-(-)-1-cyclohexylethylamine (CHEA) and L-valinol as a chiral source to select monomers for PHSSP

No.	Monomer ^c	Chiral amine ^d	Yield (%)	<i>M</i> _w ^e (×10 ⁵)	Achiral ^f amine unit (mol %)	g _{310nm} ^g (×10 ⁻⁵)	g 430nm ^g (×10 ⁻⁵)	<i>Ka^{∗ h}</i> (×10 ⁻¹⁰)	Ка ^ћ (×10 ⁻¹⁰)	K ⁱ
1	1a	(R)-PEA	72.2	4.60	100 ^j	-2.70	2.07	9.12	0.15	4.69
2	1b	(R)-PEA	30.6	1.50	96.0	(-0.09) ^k	(0.06) ^k	9.12	0.20	5.01
3	1c	(R)-PEA	65.8	0.47	45.0	(-0.34) ^k	(0.20) ^k	9.12	1.10×10 ⁵	0.14
4	2a	(R)-PEA	20.8	3.60	97.3		(-0.02) ^{k, l}	9.12	1.44×10 ⁵	—
5	2b	(R)-PEA	45.8	4.70	47.9		(0.20) ^{k, l}	9.12	0.43×10 ⁵	—
6	2a	(R)-NEA	10.3	0.36	67.7	_	(-7.3×10 ^{−3}) ^{<i>k</i>, /}	4.37	1.44×10 ⁵	_
7	2a	(R)-CHEA	2.3	0.27	63.9	_	(5×10 ⁻⁴) ^{<i>k</i>, /}	0.13	1.44×10 ⁵	_
8	2a	L-valinol	trace	_	_	_	_	1.50×10 ⁻³	1.44×10 ⁵	

^a In THF for 48 h, [monomer]=0.1mol/L, [monomer]/[Rh(nbd)Cl]₂=50, [chiral amine]/[monomer]=2.5, [achiral amine]/[monomer]=10. ^b In toluene for 36 h, [monomer]=0.1mol/L, [monomer]/[Rh(nbd)Cl]₂=100, [chiral amine]/[monomer]=2.5, [achiral amine]/[monomer]=10. ^c For the codes, see Schemes 1 and S3. ^d For the codes, see Scheme S3. ^e By GPC (polystyrene, THF). ^f Determined by ¹H-NMR in the final polymers. ^g g=([∂]/3300/_b)×0.001 in CHCl₃. ^h See Equations 1, *Ka** for the chiral amines, *Ka* for the corresponding achiral amines calculated using Advanced Chemistry Development Software V11.02 from SciFinder. ⁱ See Equations 2 and Scheme S6, equilibrium constant of exchange reaction determined by ¹H-NMR. ^jBy elemental analysis. ^k The polymers contain the chiral monomer units. ^j Calculated from the peak at 440nm.

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> Equations 1 $R - NH_3^{\oplus} - Ka - R - NH_2 + H^{\oplus}$ $R^* - NH_3^{\oplus} - Ka^* - R^* - NH_2 + H^{\oplus}$

Equations 2

K =

[achiral monomer][chiral amine]

[chiral monomer][achiral amine]

[achiral amine]₀

[chiral monomer]₀

 $\mathbf{r} =$

Table S2 Exchange reaction of PEA residues in poly(PP*P) with achiral amine 2-amino-4-*tert*-butylphenol to optimise condition for PHSSP of 2a ^a

No.	[2-Amino-4- <i>tert</i> -butylphenol] [poly(PP*P)]	Yield (%)	<i>M</i> w ^b (x10 ⁵)	Achiral ^c amine unit (mol %)
1	100	42.4	6.19	87.9
2	50	50.0	15.7	87.6
3	10	19.7	7.61	85.9
4	2	45.0	10.0	47.3
5	1	63.6	8.33	7.16
6	0	79.3	5.88	0

^a In toluene for 18h, [poly(**PP*P**)]=0.1mol/L, see scheme S5E' and Fig.S1.
^b By GPC (polystyrene, THF). ^c In the final polymers determined by ¹H-NMR.

(2) The results of PHSSP

Table S3 (Supplemental table for Table 1) Pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) by using (*R*)- or (*S*)-PEA as a chiral source and helix-sense-selective polymerisation (HSSP) by using (*R*)- or (*S*)-DMPEA as a cocatalyst of monomers 1a ^a and 2a ^b with other related asymmetric polymerisation

No.	Monomer	Code ^c	Method ^c	[chiral amine] [monomer]	Yield (%)	<i>M</i> _w ^d (×10 ⁵)	Achiral ^e amine unit (mol %)	g 310nm ^f (×10 ⁻⁵)	g _{430nm} ^f (×10 ⁻⁵)	Final polymer	Relative O. P. ^g (%)
1 ^a	1a	А	PHSSP	0.50	27.0	1.0	100	-0.96	0.80	poly(1a)	38
2 ^a	1a	А	PHSSP	0.10	24.5	1.3	100	-0.39	0.40	poly(1a)	19
3 ^h	PE*P	D	AIP	i	96.3	4.9	0	(-6.1) ^j	(3.6) ^j	poly(PE*P)	—
4 ^{<i>h</i>}	PE*P	D+E	AIP+ER	i	62.1	3.8	89	(-4.6) ^j	(2.5) ^j	poly(1a/PE*P)	—
5 ^k	PP*P	D'+E'	AIP+ER	i	78.4	1.6	100	—	-0.020 /	poly(2a/PP*P)	1.0
6 ^{<i>m</i>}	DoDHPA	F	HSSP	0.50	67.3	11	100	0.40	0.30	poly(DoDHPA)	14
7 ^m	DoDHPA	F <i>ⁿ</i>	HSSP	0.50	85.3	0.30	100	0.40	0.30	poly(DoDHPA)	14
8 ^m	DoDHPA	F	HSSP	0.25	69.8	33	100	0.060	0.060	poly(DoDHPA)	2.9

^a In THF, [**1a**]=0.1mol/L, [**1a**]/[Rh(nbd)Cl]₂=50, [achiral amine]/[**1a**]=10, for the abbreviations, see the notes and scheme 1. ^b In toluene, [monomer]=0.1mol/L, [monomer]/[Rh(nbd)Cl]₂=100, [achiral amine]/[monomer]=10, see scheme S3. ^c For the codes and abbreviations, see Chart 1. ^d By GPC (polystyrene, THF). ^e Determined by ¹H-NMR in the final polymers. ^f $g=([\partial]/3300/\varepsilon) \times 0.001$ in CHCl₃. ^g Relative optical purity based on the g_{430nm} value of No. 1 in Table 1. ^h See Scheme S4, in THF, [**PE*P**]=0.1mol/L, [**PE*P**]/[Rh(nbd)Cl]₂=50, [triethylamine]/[**PE*P**]=2.5, [achiral amine]/[poly(**PE*P**)]=10. ⁱ Triethylamine was used as a cocatalyst. ^j The polymers contain the chiral monomer units. ^k See Scheme S5 in toluene, [**PP*P**]=0.1mol/L, [**PP*P**]/[Rh(nbd)Cl]₂=100, [triethylamine]/[**PP*P**]=1.0, [achiral amine]/[poly(**PP*P**)]=10. ^l Calculated from the peak at 440nm. ^m See scheme S1 in toluene [**DoDHPA**]=0.1mol/L, [**DODHPA**]/[Rh(nbd)Cl]₂=200. ⁿ (*R*)-DMPEA was used as a cocatalyst.

Supplemental figures.

(1) Optimisation of the condition for PHSSP (ESI-3)



Fig. S1 Plots of the achiral amine units in the final polymers *vs* [2-amino-4-*tert*-butylphenol]/[PEA units in poly(**PP*****P**)] in **ER** to optimise the condition in **PHSSP** of **2a** (Scheme S5E' and Table S2).

(2) Comparison between PHSSP and HSSP



Fig. S2 Plots of g values vs [chiral amine]/[1a] in the feed of poly(1a)s prepared by pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) and helix-sense-selective polymerisation (HSSP) (a), and its enlarged one (b).

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(3) Non-linear relationship



Fig. S3 Plots of g values vs n/(n+m) of poly(1a/PE*P)prepared by *in-situ* asymmetric-induced polymerisation (*in-situ* AIP) by using different amount of (*R*)- or (*S*)-PEA as a chiral source.

(4) Change of poly(1a) by changing polarity of the solvent



Fig. S4 CD and UV-vis spectra of poly(1a) prepared by pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) of monomer (1a) ([chiral amine]/[1a]=2.5) in (a) CHCl₃, (b) CHCl₃/DMSO=55/45 (v/v), (c) CHCl₃/DMSO=95/5 (v/v) ((c) was the solution prepared by addition of CHCl₃ to the solution of (b)).



Fig. S5 CD and UV-vis spectra of poly(1a) prepared by *insitu* AIP of monomer (1a) ([chiral amine]/[1a]=0.1) in (a) CHCl₃, (b) CHCl₃/DMSO=55/45 (v/v), (c) CHCl₃/DMSO=95/5 (v/v) ((c) was the solution prepared by addition of CHCl₃ to the solution of (b)).



Fig. S6 CD and UV-vis spectra of poly(1a) prepared by *in-situ* AIP of monomer (1a) ([chiral amine]/[1a]=1.0) in (a) CHCl₃, (b) CHCl₃/DMSO=55/45 (v/v), (c) CHCl₃/DMSO=95/5 (v/v) ((c) was the solution prepared by addition of CHCl₃ to the solution of (b)).

(5) NMR of the final polymer prepared by PHSSP of 1a



Fig. S7 ¹H-NMR spectra of **a**) monomer (1**a**), **b**) helix-sense-selective polymerisation (HSSP) of monomer (1**a**) by using (*R*)- or (*S*)-DMPEA as a cocatalyst, **c**) pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) of monomer (1**a**) by using (*R*)- or (*S*)-PEA as a chiral source (No. 2 in table 1), **d**) pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) of monomer (1**a**) by using (*R*)- or (*S*)-PEA as a chiral source (No. 1 in table 1), **e**) monomer (PE*P), **f**) asymmetric-induced polymerisation (AIP) of chiral monomer PE*P, **g**) the enlargement of **b**), **c**) and **d**).

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Fig. S7 (Continued).

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Fig. S7 (Continued).

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Fig. S7 (Continued).

3. Selection of compounds and optimisation of the conditions for PHSSP

(1) Monomer design

Two kinds of achiral monomers having one or two achiral amine residues *via* dynamic covalent imine bonds (**1a-c** in Scheme 1 and **2a** and **2b** in and Scheme S3) were designed and synthesized for **PHSSP**. The former (**1a-c**) was expected to be suitable for not only **PHSSP** but also **HSSP** because **1a-c** contain two hydroxyl groups which can make intramolecular hydrogen bonds to maintain one-handed helicity of the resulting polymers, while suitability of the latter (**2a** and **2b**) for **PHSSP** and **HSSP** was not clear although they contain two planer bulky substituents which can maintain one-handed helicity.

(2) Selection of the best chiral amine by preliminary experiments (Table S1)

The chiral amines should have a low basicity to keep low conversion in the exchange reaction at the first step of **PHSSP** (Scheme S3), because they should be removed completely at the second step. We attempted to carry out **PHSSP** (for the detail procedure, see the experimental part of ESI-4(3)1)) of **2a** using four chiral amines, PEA, NEA, CHEA, and L-valinol (Scheme S3). As the results, when PEA was used, the content of the chiral units was lowest (Table S1, nos.4, 6-8). It was reasonable because PEA had the lowest basicity (the highest Ka^* value) among them. About chiral induction ability of the chiral amines, since the final polymers in the **PHSSP** procedure showed the biggest *g* value assigned to the main chain (Table S1, nos.4, 6-8) in spite of the lowest content of the chiral amine units, we decided to select PEA as the best chiral amine for **PHSSP**.

(3) Selection of the best achiral amine by preliminary experiments (Tables S1 and S2)

The achiral amines should have a higher basicity and higher conversion to attain complete removal of the chiral amine units from the intermediate chiral polymers in the re-exchange reaction at the second step of **PHSSP** (Schemes 1 and S3). We attempted to carry out **PHSSP** (for the detail procedure, see the experimental part of ESI-4(3)1)) of **1a-c** using PEA (Scheme 1, Table S1, nos.1-3). As results, when **1a** and **1b** were used, the contents of the chiral units were almost zero (Table S1, nos.1 and 2). In particular in the case of **1a**, it had no chiral units, *ie*, an ideal result was achieved (Table S1, no.1). It was reasonable because the corresponding amine of **1a** had the highest basicity (the lowest *Ka* value) among them. Since poly(**1a**) from **1a** showed the biggest *g* value assigned to the main chain (Table S1, no.1) in spite of the no content of the chiral amine units, we decided to select the corresponding achiral amine of **1a** (= 3-triethylsilylpropylamine) as the best achiral amine for **PHSSP**. Similarly to the case of **1a**, the corresponding amine of **2a** was selected as the better achiral amine between **2a** and **2b** (Table S1, nos.4 and 5).

(4) Determination of the amount of achiral amines by preliminary experiments (Table S2 and Fig.S1)

To optimise the ratio of the amount of achiral amines to the amine residues in the polymer for **PHSSP**, an exchange reaction (Scheme S5E') between the corresponding achiral amine to 2a (= 2-amino-4-*tert*-butylphenol) and the chiral amine(PEA) residues in poly(**PP*P**) as a model reaction of the 2nd step in **PHSSP**. As a result (Table S2 and Fig.S1), when the ratio of 2-amino-4-*tert*-butylphenol to the PEA residues in poly(**PP*P**) exceeded 10, the content of the chiral unit in the final polymer became almost constant. Therefore we decided to use 10 for the ratio in **PHSSP**.

4. The detail of experimental procedures for synthesis and polymerisation

Materials

All the solvents used for monomer synthesis and polymerisation were distilled as usual. The polymerisation initiator, [Rh(nbd)Cl]₂ (nbd=2,5 norbornadiene), purchased from Aldrich Chemical Co., Inc., was used as received. The silicon-containing reagent, trimethylsilylacetylene was purchased from Shinetsu Chemical Co., Ltd., and used as received.



(1) Synthetic procedures of the monomers 1a-c and PE*P (Scheme S7)

Scheme S7. Synthetic route to the monomers 1a-c and PE*P

1) 4-Bromo-2, 6-bis(hydroxymethyl)-1-phenol (3) ^{S1}

According to the literature procedure, **3** was prepared as a white solid. Yield: 80.9% (136g). ¹H NMR (DMSO-

 d_{δ}): $\delta = 8.76$ (s, 1H, PhOH), 7.29 (s, 2H, PhH), 5.31 (t, 2H, J = 5Hz, CH₂OH), 4.51 (d, 4H, J = 5Hz, CH₂OH).

2) 2,6-Bis(acetoxymethyl)-4-bromo-1-phenyl acetate (4) ^{S2}

To a pyridine solution (100mL) of **3** (20g, 85.8mmol), acetic anhydride (48.6mL, 515mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C. The solution was stirred for 1.5h at room temperature and then ethyl acetate (200mL) was added to the mixture. Then the mixture was washed with saturated aqueous solution of $CuSO_4$ ·5H₂O to remove pyridine.

The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄. After concentration, the crude product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography to give 4 as a white solid. Yield: 70% (21.5g). Rf = 0.36 (ethyl acetate/hexane = 1/2). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ = 7.68 (s, 2H, Ph*H*), 4.97 (s, 4H, Ph(CH₂O)₂, 2.31 (s, 3H, PhOCOCH₃), 2.03 (s, 6H, Ph(CH₂OCOCH₃)₂).

3) 2, 6-Bis(acetoxymethyl)-4-(trimethylsilylethynyl)-1-phenyl acetate (5) ^{S2}

A mixture of **4** (10.76g, 30mmol), triphenylphosphine (550mg, 2.1mmol), copper (I) iodide (690mg, 3.6mmol), bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II)dichloride (420mg, 0.6mmol) and trimethylsilylacetylene (6.2mL, 45mmol) in triethylamine (120mL) was refluxed for 24h. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed by evaporation. The crude product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography to give **5** as a brown liquid. Yield: 87.7% (9.9g). Rf = 0.32 (ethyl acetate/hexane = 1/3). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 7.50 (s, 2H, Ph*H*), 4.98 (s, 4H, Ph(C*H*₂OAc)₂), 2.32 (s, 3H, PhOCOC*H*₃), 2.06 (s, 6H, Ph(CH₂OCOC*H*₃)₂), 0.22 (s, 9H, Si(C*H*₃)₃).

4) 2, 6-Bis(hydroxymethyl)-4-ethynylphenol (6) ^{S2}

To a mixture of lithium aluminum hydride (2.0g, 52.4mmol) and tetrahydrofuran (87.0mL), a tetrahydrofuran solution (15.0mL) of **5** (9.87g, 26.2mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C. After the mixture was stirred for 2h at room temperature, deionized water (72.0mL) was added dropwise to the reaction mixture at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 12h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was treated with 2N HCl aq. to precipitate aluminum salts. After the mixture was filtered, tetrahydrofuran was removed by evaporation. The product was dissolved in ethyl acetate and the solution was washed with water. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄ and concentrated. The crude product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography to give **6** as a white solid. Yield: 81.4% (3.8g). Rf = 0.27 (ethyl acetate/hexane = 1/1). ¹H NMR (DMSO-*d*₆): δ = 8.98 (s, 1H, PhO*H*), 7.27 (s, 2H, Ph*H*), 5.29 (s, 2H, Ph(CH₂OH)₂), 4.52 (s, 4H, Ph(CH₂OH)₂), 3.91 (s, 1H, *H*C≡C).

5) 4-Bromomethylbenzaldehyde (7) ^{S3}

4-Cyanobenzyl bromide (14g, 71.4mmol) was dissolved in dry CH_2Cl_2 (260mL) and the solution was stirred at 0°C. 1.0M diisobutylaluminium hydride hexane solution (DIBAL, 70mL, 70mmol) was added dropwise to the solution at 0°C. The solution was stirred for 15min and then DIBAL solution (35mL) was added dropwise again. The mixture was stirred for 15min at 0°C and then 30min at room temperature. The reaction mixture was treated

with 50% H₂SO₄ (150mL) aq. to precipitate the aluminium salt. After the mixture was filtered, the solution was washed with water and extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated to give aim product 7 as a white solid. Yield: 56.3% (8.0g). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 10.0 (s, 1H, PhCHO), 7.85 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, BrCH₂PhH), 7.54 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, HPhCHO), 4.50 (s, 2H, BrCH₂Ph).

6) 4-(4'-Formylbenzyloxy)-3,5-bis(hydroxymethyl)phenylacetylene (8)

A mixture of **6** (3.79g, 21.3mmol), **7** (4.23g, 21.3mmol) and K₂CO₃ (8.8g, 63.9mmol) in DMF (107mL) was stirred for 50h at 70°C. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed. The residue was washed with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated. The crude product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography to give aim product **8**. Rf = 0.7 (chloroform/methanol = 95/5). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 10.0 (s, 1H, PhCHO), 7.94 (d , 2H, J=8Hz, *H*PhCHO), 7.63 (d , 2H, J=8Hz, OCH₂Ph*H*), 7.54 (s, 2H, HC=CPh*H*), 5.08 (s, 2H, PhOCH₂Ph), 4.69 (d, 4H, J=6Hz, Ph(CH₂OH)₂), 3.07 (s, 1H, *H*C=C), 1.74 (t, 2H, J=6Hz, Ph(CH₂OH)₂).

7) 3-(Triethylsilyl)propylamine (9)

H₂PtCl₆·6H₂O (26mg, 0.05mmol), toluene (15mL) was added to the flask and stirred at 80°C until H₂PtCl₆·6H₂O was dissolved completely. Triethylsilane (8mL, 50.2mmol) and allylamine (4.2mL, 55.2mmol) was added dropwise to the solution at 40°C separately and stirred at 85°C for 120h. The crude product was purified by vacuum distillation at 54°C (250Pa) to give aim product **9** as a colorless liquid. Yield: 67.7% (5.89g). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 2.65 (t, 2H, J=7Hz, NH₂CH₂), 1.42 (m, 2H, NH₂CH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.27(s, 2H, NH₂), 0.92 (t, 9H, J=8Hz, Si(CH₂CH₃)₃), 0.59 (t, 2H, J=8Hz, NCH₂CH₂CH₂Si), 0.49 (q, 6H, J=8Hz, Si(CH₂CH₃)₃).

8) 4-[4'-{(3-Triethylsilyl)propyliminomethyl}benzyloxy]-3,5-bis(hydroxymethyl)phenylacetylene (1a)

A mixture of **8** (500mg, 1.68mmol), **9** (586mg, 3.36mmol) and Al₂O₃ (10g) in dry THF (16mL) was stirred for 3 days at room temperature. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed to yield a white solid. The crude product was purified by recrystallization in CHCl₃/hexane to give monomer **1a** as a white solid. Yield: 56.5% (428mg). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 8.21 (s, 1H, PhC*H*=N), 7.76 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, NCHPh*H*), 7.50 (s, 2H, C=CPh*H*), 7.45 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, PhOCH₂Ph*H*), 4.99 (s, 2H, PhOC*H*₂Ph), 4.65 (d, 4H, J=6Hz, Ph(C*H*₂OH)₂), 3.59 (t, 2H, J=7Hz, NC*H*₂CH₂), 3.04 (s, 1H, *H*C=C), 1.90 (t, 2H, J=6Hz, Ph(CH₂O*H*)₂), 1.68 (m, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 0.91 (t, 9H, J=8Hz, Si(CH₂CH₃)₃), 0.53 (t, 2H, J=8Hz, NCH₂CH₂CH₂Si), 0.49 (q, 6H, J=8Hz, Si(CH₂CH₃)₃). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3322 (OH), 3233 (HC≡C), 1643 (C=N). Anal. Cacld for C₂₇H₃₇O₃NSi: C, 71.80; H, 8.26; N, 3.10. Found: C, 71.74; H, 8.17; N, 3.10.

9) 4-[4'-(Hexyliminomethyl)benzyloxy]-3,5-bis(hydroxymethyl)phenylacetylene (1b)

A mixture of **8** (200g, 0.67mmol), hexylamine (177 μ L, 1.35mmol) and Al₂O₃ (5.0g) in dry THF (7mL) was stirred for 3 days at room temperature. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed to yield a white solid. The crude product was purified by recrystallization in CHCl₃/hexane to give monomer **1b** as a white solid. Yield: 58% (148mg). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 8.28 (s, 1H, PhC*H*=N), 7.74 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, NCHPh*H*CH₂), 7.52 (s, 2H, HC=CPh*H*), 7.44 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, OCH₂Ph*H*), 5.00 (s, 2H, PhOC*H*₂Ph), 4.66 (br, 4H, Ph(C*H*₂OH)₂), 3.59 (t, 2H, J=7Hz, NH₂C*H*₂CH₂), 3.05 (s, 1H, *H*C=CPh), 2.00 (br, 2H, Ph(CH₂O*H*)₂), 1.70 (m, 2H, NCH₂C*H*₂CH₂), 1.33 (m, 6H, CH₂(C*H*₂)₃CH₃), 0.89 (t, 3H, J=7Hz, CH₂C*H*₃). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3332 (OH), 3243 (HC=C), 1637 (C=N).

10) 4-[4'-(4''-n-Octylphenyliminomethyl)benzyloxy]-3,5-bis(hydroxymethyl)phenylacetylene (1c)

A mixture of **8** (500mg, 1.69mmol), 4-n-octylaniline (520mg, 2.53mmol) and Al₂O₃ (10g) in dry THF (17mL) was stirred for 3 days at room temperature. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed to yield a white solid. The crude product was purified by recrystallization in CHCl₃/hexane to give monomer **1c** as a white solid. Yield: 47% (383mg). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 8.50 (s, 1H, PhC*H*=N), 7.92 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, N=CHPh*H*), 7.53 (s, 2H, HC=CPh*H*), 7.51 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, OCH₂Ph*H*), 7.20 (d, 2H, N-Ph*H*CH₂ CH₂), 7.16 (d, 2H, CHN-Ph*H*CH₂), 5.05 (s, 2H, PhOC*H*₂Ph), 4.69 (d, 4H, J=6Hz, Ph(C*H*₂OH)₂), 3.06 (s, 1H, *H*C=CPh), 2.63 (t, 2H, J=8Hz, PhC*H*₂CH₂), 1.90 (t, 2H, J=6Hz, Ph(CH₂O*H*)₂), 1.63 (m, 2H, PhCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.27 (br, 10H, CH₂(C*H*₂)₅CH₃), 0.88 (t, 3H, J=7Hz, CH₂C*H*₃). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3355 (OH), 3282 (HC=C), 1625 (C=N). Anal. Cacld for C₃₂H₃₇O₃N: C, 79.47; H, 7.71; N, 2.90. Found: C, 79.36; H, 7.68; N, 2.94.

11) 4-[4'-(Phenylethyliminomethyl)benzyloxy]-3,5-bis(hydroxymethyl)phenylacetylene (PE*P)

A mixture of **8** (500g, 1.68mmol), (*R*)-phenylethylamine (432.7 μ l, 3.37mmol) and Al₂O₃ (10g) in dry THF (16mL) was stirred for 3 days at room temperature. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed to

yield a white solid. The crude product was purified by recrystallization in CHCl₃/Hexane to give monomer **PEP** as a white solid. Yield: 53% (210mg). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 8.36 (s, 1H, PhC*H*=N), 7.77 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, Ph*H*CH=N), 7.48 (s, 2H, HC=CPh*H*), 7.42 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, OCH₂Ph*H*), 7.40 (d, 2H, J=7Hz, N-CHPh*H*), 7.32 (t, 2H, J=7Hz, N-CHPh*H*), 7.22 (t, 1H, J=7Hz, N-CHPh*H*), 4.96 (s, 2H, PhOC*H*₂Ph), 4.62 (br, 4H, Ph(C*H*₂OH)₂), 4.53 (q, 1H, J=7Hz, NC*H*Ph), 3.03 (s, 1H, *H*C=CPh), 2.13 (br, 2H, Ph(CH₂O*H*)₂), 1.57 (d, 3H, J=7Hz, CHC*H*₃).





Scheme S8. Synthetic route to the monomers 2a and 2b

1) 5-Iodoisophthalic acid (10)

5-Aminoisophthalic acid (30.0g, 161.5mmol) and the cold NaNO₂ aqueous solution (28.0g/43.0mL, 168.6mmol) were added to a mixture of ice (50g), methanol (200mL), concentrated hydrochloric acid (40mL, 1.35mol) with stirring. Then the mixture was added to a solution of KI aqueous solution. After stirring for 20min at room temperature, the Na₂SO₃ was added to the mixture and stirred for another 20min. The mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed and the crude product was purified by *vacuo* drying to give aim product **10** as a yellow solid. Yield: 67% (31.6g). ¹³C NMR (DMSO-*d*₆, TMS): δ = 165.0 (COOH), 141.3 (PhC), 133.0 (PhC), 129.0 (PhC), 94.7 (C-I). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3300~2500 (OH), 1716 (C=O).

2) Methyl 5-iodoisophthalate (11) ^{S4}

A mixture of **10** (31.6cg, 108mmol), methanol (900mL, 37.3mol) and concentrated sulfuric acid (31.6mL, 592mmol) was stirred for 24h at 65°C. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed. The residue was washed with water and extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic layer was dried over MgSO₄ and concentrated.

The crude product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography to give aim product **11** as a white solid. Yield: 83.8% (29.0g). Rf = 0.58 (ethyl acetate/hexane = 1/4). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 8.63 (t, 1H, J=2Hz, Ph*H*), 8.55 (d, 2H, J=2Hz, Ph*H*), 3.95 (s, 6H, OC*H*₃).

3) Methyl 5-(trimethylsilylethynyl)isophthalate (12)⁸⁵

A mixture of **11** (7.88g, 24.6mmol), triphenylphosphine (41.9mg, 159µmol), copper (I) iodide (31mg, 163µmol), bis(triphenylphosphine)palladium(II)dichloride (43.3mg, 61.7µmol) and trimethylsilylacetylene (6.09mL, 42.3mmol) in triethylamine (300mL) was refluxed for 24 h. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed by evaporation. The crude product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography to give **12** as a white solid. Yield: 99.6% (6.75g). Rf = 0.4 (ethyl acetate/hexane = 1/10). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 8.60 (t, 1H, J=2Hz, Ph*H*), 8.29 (d, 2H, J=2Hz, Ph*H*), 3.95 (s, 6H, OC*H*₃), 0.26 (s, 9H, Si(C*H*₃)₃).

4) 3,5-Bis(hydroxylmethyl)phenylacetylene (13)

To a mixture of lithium aluminum hydride (0.711 g, 18.7mmol) and tetrahydrofuran (40mL), a tetrahydrofuran solution (8mL) of **12** (3.84 g, 13.9mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C. After the mixture was stirred for 7h at room temperature, deionized water (1mL) was added dropwise to the reaction mixture at 0°C. The mixture was stirred for 8h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was treated with 2N HCl aq. to precipitate aluminum salts. After the mixture was filtered, tetrahydrofuran was removed by evaporation. The product was dissolved in ethyl acetate and the solution was washed with water. The organic layer was dried over anhydrous MgSO₄ and concentrated. The crude product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography to give **13** as a white solid. Yield: 80.5% (1.82g). Rf = 0.13 (ethyl acetate/hexane = 1/1). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 7.42 (s, 2H, Ph/H), 7.37 (s, 1H, Ph/H), 4.69 (d, 4H, J=6Hz, Ph(CH₂OH)₂), 3.08 (s, 1H, HC=C), 1.73 (t, 2H, J=6Hz, Ph(CH₂OH)₂).

5) 3,5-Bis(formyl)phenylacetylene (14)

To a mixture of pyridinium dichromate (PDC) (8.7g, 23.1mmol) and CH_2Cl_2 (100mL), a CH_2Cl_2 solution (100mL) of **13** (0.75 g, 4.62mmol) was added dropwise at 0°C. After the mixture was stirred for 48h at room temperature, the mixture was filtered, CH_2Cl_2 was removed by evaporation. The crude product was purified by silica-gel column chromatography to give **14** as a yellow solid. Yield: 45.2% (0.33g). Rf = 0.33 (ethyl

acetate/hexane = 1/4). ¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 10.0 (s, 2H, CHO), 8.34 (t, 1H, J=2Hz, PhH), 8.23 (d, 2H, J=2Hz, PhH), 3.27 (s, 1H, HC=C).

6) 3,5-Bis(N-2-hydroxyl-5'-*tert*-butylphenyliminomethyl)phenylacetylene (2a)

A mixture of **14** (201mg, 1.27mmol), 2-amino-4-*tert*-butylphenol (467mg, 2.83mmol) and Al₂O₃ (1g) in dry toluene (20mL) was stirred for 18h at room temperature. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed to yield a yellow solid. The crude product was purified by Al₂O₃ column chromatography to give **2a** as a yellow solid. Yield: 53.8% (310mg). Rf = 0.52 (ethyl acetate/hexane = 1/6).¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 8.76 (s, 2H, N=CH), 8.40 (br, 1H, HC=CPhH), 8.17 (d, 2H, J=2Hz, HC=CPhH), 7.34 (d, 2H, J=2Hz, C=NPhH), 7.30-7.28 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, J=2Hz, C=NPhH), 7.03 (s, 2H, PhOH), 6.97 (d, 2H, J=8Hz, C=NPhH), 3.33 (s, 1H, C=CH), 1.35 (s, 18H, (PhC(CH₃)₃)₂). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3450 (OH), 3304 (H=C), 2965 (C-H), 2398 (C=C), 2000-1800 (Ar-H), 1625 (C=N). Anal. Cacld for C₃₀H₃₂O₂N₂: C, 79.61; H, 7.13; N, 6.19. Found: C, 79.36; H, 7.01; N, 6.11.

7) 3,5-Bis(*N*-*o*-methoxylphenyliminomethyl)phenylacetylene (2b)

A mixture of **14** (123mg, 0.778mmol), *o*-anisidine (200µl, 1.77mmol)) and Al₂O₃ (0.6g) in dry toluene (15mL) was stirred for 18h at room temperature. After the mixture was filtered, the solvent was removed to yield a yellow solid. The crude product was purified by Al₂O₃ column chromatography to give **2b** as a yellow solid. Yield: 45.5% (130mg). Rf = 0.36 (ethyl acetate/hexane = 1/10).¹H NMR (CDCl₃, TMS): δ = 8.54 (s, 2H, N=CH), 8.39 (br, 1H, HC=CPhH), 8.18 (d, 2H, J=2Hz, HC=CPhH), 6.96-7.04 (m, 6H, C=NPhH), 3.90 (s, 6H, (PhOCH₃)₂), 3.15 (s, 1H, C=CH. IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3450 (OH), 3228 (H=C), 2935 (C-H), 2357 (C=C), 1624 (C=N), 1246 (C-O-C).

(3) Polymerisation of all the monomers (Schemes 1, S1, S3, S4 and S5)

1) Pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) (Schemes 1 and S3, routes A and A').

A typical procedure for **1a** was as follows: A solution of $[Rh(nbd)Cl]_2$ (0.8mg, 1.76µmol) and (*S*)- or (*R*)phenylethylamine (PEA) (28.21µl, 0.22mmol) in dry THF (0.44mL) was added to a dry THF (0.44mL) solution of **1a** (40mg, 88µmol). The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature for 24h. Then the achiral amine **9** (136µl, 0.88mmol) was added to the solution, and continued to stir for 24h. The crude polymer was purified by reprecipitation of the THF solution into a large amount of methanol and the formed solid was dried *in vacuo* to give a red solid.

Other pseudo helix-sense-selective polymerisation (PHSSP) of the monomers **1a-c**, **2a** and **2b** were carried out similarly (Schemes 1 and S3, routes A and A').

Poly(**1a**) 100%: ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6 /CCl₄=1/5): δ = 8.11 (br, 1H, PhCH=N), 3.50 (br, 2H, NCH₂CH₂), 1.60 (br, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 0.84 (br, 9H, Si(CH₂CH₃)₃), 0.44 (br, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂Si), 0.44 (br, 6H, Si(CH₂CH₃)₃) (Fig. S7, c)). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3375 (OH), 1645 (C=N).

Poly(**1a**) 96%: ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_{δ} /CCl₄=1/5): δ = 8.11 (br, 1H, PhC*H*=N), 7.54-6.88 (br, 6H, Ph*H*), 5.89 (br, cis proton in the main chain), 4.73 (br, 2H, PhOC*H*₂Ph), 4.31 (br, 4H, Ph(C*H*₂OH)₂), 3.49 (br, 2H, NC*H*₂CH₂), 1.61 (br, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 1.47 (br, 0.12H, CHC*H*₃ in poly(PEP)), 0.88 (t, 9H, J=8Hz, Si(CH₂C*H*₃)₃), 0.50 (br, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂Si), 0.46 (q, 6H, J=8Hz, Si(C*H*₂CH₃)₃) (Fig. S7, d)). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3336 (OH), 1645 (C=N).

2) Helix-sense-selective polymerisation (HSSP) (Schemes 1, S1, and S3, routes B and B').

A typical procedure for monomer (1a) was as follows: A solution of $[Rh(nbd)Cl]_2$ (0.8mg, 1.76µmol) and (*S*)or (*R*)-*N*,*N*-dimethylphenylethylamine (DMPEA) (36.3µl, 0.22mmol) in dry THF (0.44mL) was added to a dry THF (0.44mL) solution of 1a (40mg, 88µmol). The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature for 24h. The crude polymer was purified by reprecipitation of the THF solution into a large amount of methanol and the formed solid was dried *in vacuo* to give a red solid.

Other helix-sense-selective polymerisation (HSSP) of the monomers **1a-c**, **2a** and **2b** were carried out similarly (Schemes 1, S1, and S3, routes **B** and **B'**).

Poly(**1a**) 100%: ¹H NMR (DMSO- d_6 /CCl₄=1/5): δ = 8.15 (br, 1H, PhCH=N), 7.58-6.92 (br, 6H, PhH), 5.91 (br, cis proton in the main chain), 4.75 (br, 2H, PhOCH₂Ph), 4.35 (br, 4H, Ph(CH₂OH)₂), 3.53 (br, 2H, NCH₂CH₂), 1.65 (br, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂), 0.88 (br, 9H, Si(CH₂CH₃)₃), 0.51 (br, 2H, NCH₂CH₂CH₂Si), 0.51 (br, 6H, Si(CH₂CH₃)₃) (Fig. S7, b)). IR (cm⁻¹, KBr): 3375 (OH), 1645 (C=N).

3) In-situ asymmetric induced polymerisation (in-situ AIP) (Scheme 1, route C).

A typical procedure for monomer (1a) was as follows: A solution of $[Rh(nbd)Cl]_2$ (0.8mg, 1.76µmol) and (*S*)or (*R*)-phenylethylamine (PEA) (28.21µl, 0.22mmol) in dry THF (0.44mL) was added to a dry THF (0.44mL) solution of 1a (40mg, 88µmol). The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature for 24h. The crude polymer was purified by reprecipitation of the THF solution into a large amount of methanol and the formed solid was dried *in vacuo* to give a red solid.

Other *in-situ* asymmetric induced polymerisation (*in-situ* AIP) of the monomers **1a-c** were carried out similarly (Scheme 1, route C).

4) Asymmetric-induced polymerisation (AIP) (Schemes S4 and S5, routes D and D').

A typical procedure for monomer (**PE*P**) was as follows: A solution of $[Rh(nbd)Cl]_2$ (1.15mg, 2.5µmol) and triethylamine (TEA) (43.3µl, 0.31mmol) in dry THF (0.625mL) was added to a dry THF (0.625mL) solution of **PE*P** (50mg, 125µmol). The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature for 4h. The crude polymer was purified by reprecipitation of the THF solution into a large amount of methanol and the formed solid was dried *in vacuo* to give a red solid.

The asymmetric-induced polymerisation (AIP) of PP*P was carried out similarly (Scheme S5, route D').

5) Exchange reaction (ER) (Schemes S4 and S5, routes E and E').

A typical procedure for monomer (**PE*P**) was as follows: 3-(Triethylsilyl)propylamine (**9**) (0.1mL) was added to a dry THF (1mL) solution of poly(**PE*P**) (22mg) prepared by AIP. The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature for 24h. The crude polymer was purified by reprecipitation of the THF solution into a large amount of methanol and the formed solid was dried *in vacuo* to give a red solid.

The exchange reaction (ER) of PP*P was carried out similarly (Scheme S5, route E').

(4) Exchange reaction of a chiral amine residue in a monomer with an achiral amine (Scheme S6)

A typical procedure for achiral amine 3-(triethylsilyl)propylamine (9) was as follows: Achiral amine 9 (43.3mg, 0.25mmol) was added to a CDCl₃ (0.25ml) solution of PE*P (10mg, 25µmol). The reaction solution was stirred at room temperature for 24h. The result solution was loaded into a Teflon screw-capped NMR tube. The equilibrium constant was then determined from the ration of the integrated ¹H NMR signals.

Other exchange reactions of a chiral amine residue in a monomer with an achiral amine were carried out similarly (Scheme S6).

(5) Measurements

Average molecular weight (*Mw*) was estimated by gel permeation chromatography (tetrahydrofuran as an eluent, polystyrene calibration) using JASCO Liquid Chromatography instruments with PU 2080, DG 2080 53, CO 2060, UV 2070, CD 2095, and two polystyrene gel columns (Shodex KF 807L). NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL GSX 270 at 400 MHz for ¹H. IR spectra were recorded on a JASCO FTIR 4200 spectrometer. CD spectra were measured with a JASCO J 720 spectropolarimeter.

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