Supporting Information for

Oxidative Kinetic Resolution of Racemic Secondary Alcohols in Water with Chiral PNNP/Ir catalyst

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1. General methods

All experiments were carried out under nitrogen atmosphere with Schlenk techniques. All racemic alcohols were synthesized by NaBH₄ reduction in ethanol from their respective ketones. The conversion of the products was determined by GC. The ee of the products was determined by GC or HPLC.

2. A typical procedure for oxidative kinetic resolution of racemic secondary alcohols

An example is given by the oxidative kinetic resolution of racemic 1-phenylpropanol using chiral PNNP/Ir catalyst. Under nitrogen atmosphere, (S,S)-PNNP (0.005 mmol) and $[Ir(COD)CI]_2$ (0.0025 mmol) were placed in a Schlenk tube equipped with a Teflon-coated magnetic stirring bar. Dichloromethane (0.5 mL) was then added and the mixture was stirred for a few minutes to generate catalyst *in situ*. Subsequently, acetone (2.2 mL), PPNCl (0.05 mmol), and water (8.0 mL) were successively introduced. After the mixture was stirred for 1 h, appropriate amount of KOH/^{*i*}PrOH solution was added. About 0.5 h, the racemic 1-phenylpropanol was added and the mixture was continually stirred at 28 °C for about 16 h. At the end of the reaction, the product was extracted with ethyl acetate and then passed through a short silica gel column. The conversion and the ee of the product were determined by GC.

3. Chromatograph analytical data for chiral aromatic alcohols



GC analysis: Chiral CP-Chirasil-Dex CB column, 0.25 mm \times 25 m, column temperature = 115 °C (isothermal), inject temperature = 250 °C, detector temperature = 250 °C, inlet pressure = 0.12 MPa.

Racemic **a**:





Racemic **b**:









HPLC analysis: Daicel Chiralcel OD column, 4.6 mm i. d. × 250 mm; Eluent: *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 98:2; flow rate = 0.9 mL/min; Temp., 25 °C; detection, 254 nm, ($t_1 = 16.86 \text{ min}$, $t_2 = 19.12 \text{ min}$)

Racemic c:



Resolved c (Table 4, Entry 3):





HPLC analysis: Daicel Chiralcel OD column, 4.6 mm i. d. × 250 mm; Eluent: *n*-hexane/*i*-PrOH = 98:2; flow rate = 0.9 mL/min; Temp., 25 °C; detection, 254 nm, ($t_1 = 11.55 \text{ min}$, $t_2 = 14.03 \text{ min}$)

Racemic d:





Racemic e:









Racemic **f**:









Racemic g:



Resolved **g** (Table 4, Entry 7):





Racemic h:









Racemic i:









Racemic **j**:





Racemic k:









Racemic I:

















GC analysis: Chiral CP-Chirasil-Dex CB column, 0.25 mm \times 25 m, column temperature = 120 °C (isothermal), inject temperature = 250 °C, detector temperature = 250 °C, inlet pressure = 0.12 MPa.





5.50

6.60

7.70

8.80

9.90

11.00 [min]

4.40

3.30

2.20

1.10

0.00



Racemic o:





Racemic **p**:





Resolved p (Table 4, Entry 16)



GC analysis: Chiral CP-Chirasil-Dex CB column, 0.25 mm \times 25 m, column temperature = 120 °C (isothermal), inject temperature = 250 °C, detector temperature = 250 °C, inlet pressure = 0.12 MPa.











Racemic **r**:





