Preparation of Chiral Ligands Connected with Quaternary Ammonium Group for Recyclable Catalytic Asymmetric Transfer Hydrogenation in Ionic Liquid

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Reuse of chiral ruthenium catalyst in catalytic asymmetric transfer hydrogenation (CATH) has attracted attention from economic and environmental viewpoints, and reactions using ionic liquids (ILs) as solvent are recognized as one of the most useful methods for reuse of the catalyst. We synthesized (1S,2S)-N-(p-toluenesulfonyl)-1,2-diphenylethylenediamine (TsDPEN) derivatives with various ionic moieties, and investigated the effect of their structure with respect to catalytic ability and recyclability in CATH with ILs. Ligand 3a having an imidazolium group showed the best results, and significant differences were observed depending on the structure of the ionic moiety or the length of the alkyl chain connecting the ligand site and the ionic moiety. Among various prochiral ketones used as substrates at various cycles, 3a showed a relatively good result.

Key words ionic liquid; recyclable catalytic asymmetric hydrogenation; task-specific ligand; imidazolium salt

Catalytic asymmetric transfer hydrogenation (CATH) is a very useful method for obtaining optically active secondary alcohols from prochiral ketones and for serving as an alternative to catalytic asymmetric hydrogenation with molecular hydrogen. CATH has many advantages in terms of safety and convenience over conventional hydrogenation because it uses 2-propanol or formic acid as a hydrogen source. 1,2 Similar to catalytic asymmetric hydrogenation, CATH can also proceed with high catalytic efficiency and enantioselectivity by using a chiral transition metal complex. Especially well known as a catalyst is the ruthenium complex (1 and 2) with chiral N-(p-toluenesulfonyl)-1,2-diphenylethylenediamine (TsDPEN) reported by Noyori and colleagues. 3–5 CATH with the ruthenium catalyst has a high degree of applicability for synthetic chemistry in the laboratory as well as in industry. Several attempts to use CATH with recyclable catalysts have been reported with the aim of industrial application. The reuse of expensive transition metals such as ruthenium and the reduction of waste from reactions is advantageous from economic and environmental viewpoints. Indeed, transfer hydrogenation using polymer- or dendritic-supported TsDPEN ligand under heterogeneous conditions has been reported. 6–13

Serving as a new type of solvent for green technology are ionic liquids (ILs), which consist of ions such as quaternary ammonium or phosphonium ions and are liquids at room temperature. 14–18 Although the toxicity and biodegradability of ILs have not been sufficiently explored, they are known to be non-volatile and non-flammable. 14–19 Therefore, the use of ILs offers safety and environmental protection, as well as eliminates the problem of volatilization loss, which occurs with conventional organic solvents. In addition, ILs have the ability to dissolve organic and inorganic compounds, while being immiscible with less polar solvent and water. Organometallic complexes can work as homogeneous catalysts in ILs, and a simple extraction procedure can separate the product from an IL containing a catalyst, which could then be reused for subsequent reactions. Therefore, the use of ILs for organic reactions including transition-metal catalyzed reactions has attracted much attention in the field of green chemistry, and some examples of transfer hydrogenation with IL have been reported. 20–25

We have previously reported the synthesis of the task-specific ionic ligand 3a and recyclable CATH (RCATH) with Ru(II) complex coordinated to the chiral ligand 3a using ILs with imidazolium, 1,4-butylyl-3-methyl-1H-imidazolium hexafluorophosphate ([bmim][PF 6 ]), as a reaction solvent. 20 By attaching an imidazolium moiety to TsDPEN, our RCATH showed high reaction efficiency at the 5th cycle, compared to that using conventional catalyst 2. From the results, we predicted that Ru coordinated with ligand 3a would be immobilized in the IL phase by a cationic moiety such as an imidazolium group. Therefore, we were interested in further details of the effect by the structure of the ligand against the IL phase. Here we describe the synthesis of various TsDPEN derivatives with attached ionic moieties and our examination of RCATH with Ru(II) complex coordinated with them in IL. We applied recyclable transfer hydrogenation of various ketones at every cycle with the ligand.

Results and Discussion

For synthesis of TsDPEN derivatives with a variety of ionic moieties, the alkyl chloride 6 was first prepared by our method reported previously (Chart 1). Starting from commercially available sodium p-hydroxybenzenesulfonate (4), O-alkylation

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of phenolic hydroxyl group and chlorination by using SOCl₂ gave sulfonyl chloride 5. Introduction of (1S,2S)-DPEN as an asymmetry source and followed by reaction of the resulting amine with di-tert-butoxycarbonate afforded carbamates 6 in 44% yield in four steps. Alkyl chloride 6 was allowed to react with a variety of amines, which formed the corresponding quaternary ammoniums 7 in relatively good to moderate yield (Table 1). In the case of N-alkylation to quaternary ammonium (6→7), neat conditions were required to form 7a–c, e (entries 1–3, 5), but in the case of 1-methylbenzimidazole and N,N-dimethyl-1-butanimine, CH₃CN was used as a solvent (entries 4, 6). Finally, cleavage of the tert-butoxycarbonyl group of 7 by trifluoroacetic acid gave the desired ligand 3 in excellent yield. The structures of the synthesized ligand compounds were confirmed by IR and NMR (¹H, ¹³C, ¹⁹F) spectra, MS, and elemental analysis.

The catalytic ability and recyclability of ligands 3b–f were evaluated for RCATH of acetophenone, in comparison with the results for ligand 3a and catalyst 2 under the same conditions (Table 2). We confirmed good catalytic ability at the 1st cycle using ligands 3b–f as well as ligand 3a and catalyst 2, whereas the recyclability of the IL phase including them was inferior to that of 3a after the 2nd cycle. Although we had predicted that the cationic part of the ligand would be important for immobilization of the ruthenium complex in the IL phase in our previous report, there was more to good recyclability in the case of using 3a than just that. Surprisingly, even when 3b having a 2,3-dimethylimidazolium group was used as a ligand, the reaction efficiency after the 2nd cycle resulted in a significant decrease. In addition, the signal believed to be that of the dihydropyridine part was slightly observed in the ¹H-NMR spectrum of the extract of the reaction using ligand 3c. Thus, the stability of the ligand may affect the maintenance of catalytic activity in RCATH.

We also synthesized ligand 14 and 15 of which the 1-methylimidazolium group as a cationic moiety is connected to the TsDPEN ligand by a methylene group of different length from that of 3a, e.g., n=2 and 6, respectively (Chart 2). For the synthesis of 14 bearing an ethylene group as a linker moiety, when 1-bromo-2-chloroethane was used as an alkylating...
reagent of sodium \( p \)-hydroxybenzenesulfonate similar to the synthesis of 3a, sulfonyl chloride 8 was obtained in low yield and the purification was difficult. Using 2-(2-bromoethoxy)-tetrahydro-2\( H \)-pyran as an alternative to dihaloalkane gave 8 in moderate yield. Sulfonyl chloride 9 could be prepared by using dihaloalkane for preparation of 4. Chlorides 8 and 9 were converted to the desired ligands 14 and 15 by a method similar to synthesis of 3a.

For comparison of ligands 14 and 15 with 3a, RCATH of acetophenone was performed with 14 and 15 under the above conditions. As summarized in Table 3, using both 14 and 15 led to excellent conversion at the 1st and 2nd cycle, but with a sudden decrease after the 3rd cycle. In addition, enantioselectivity in the case of using them was slightly lower than when 3a was used. These results indicated that the tetramethylene group (CH\( 2 \))\( 4 \) of 3a was suitable at a distance as a linker for our recycling reaction.

To confirm in more detail the effects of ligand structure on recyclability, we measured the residual quantity of ruthenium in the IL phase after the RCATH reaction. After the 5th cycle of the reaction using catalyst 1, the amounts of ligand 3a, b, 14 and 15 and the remaining ruthenium in the IL phase were measured by inductively coupled plasma (ICP)-MS. As shown in Table 4, a measurable amount of ruthenium remained in the IL phase containing ligand 3a (\( > 99\% \)), which was the best result among the tested ligands. However, conversion decreased to 75% at the 5th cycle when ligand 3a was used. In the IL phase using 3b having a 2,3-dimethylimidazolium group, the residual ruthenium decreased to 70.3%, which is the same level as that of catalyst 2 (68.3%). However, the conversion to 1-phenylethanol at the 5th cycle with 3b and 2 were 8% and 63%, respectively. These results indicated that a decrease of recyclability (or catalytic activity in IL) is not only caused by elution of Ru from the IL layer. As expected from the result of RCATH, a decrease in the residual quantity of ruthenium was observed in the IL phase used for 15 (29.7%). This is thought to be due to the dissolving of the ruthenium complex in organic solvent during extraction of the product because

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry</th>
<th>Tertiary amine</th>
<th>Solvent</th>
<th>(-\text{NR}_3^+)</th>
<th>Yield (%)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
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<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>[\text{N}_2\text{N}-\text{Me}]</td>
<td>95 (7a) 99 (3a)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>[\text{N}_2\text{N}-\text{Me}]</td>
<td>95 (7b) 95 (3b)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>[\text{N}_2\text{N}-\text{Me}]</td>
<td>99 (7c) 96 (3c)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>CH( 3 )CN</td>
<td>CH( 3 )CN</td>
<td>[\text{N}_2\text{N}-\text{Me}]</td>
<td>82 (7d) 99 (3d)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>None</td>
<td>[\text{N}_2\text{N}-\text{Me}]</td>
<td>56 (7e) 92 (3e)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>( n )-BuNMe( 2 )</td>
<td>CH( 3 )CN</td>
<td>[\text{N}_2\text{N}-\text{Me}]</td>
<td>86 (7f) 99 (3f)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 2. RCATH of Acetophenone with Ligands 3a-f

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>Time (h)</th>
<th>3a</th>
<th>3b</th>
<th>3c</th>
<th>3d</th>
<th>3e</th>
<th>3f</th>
<th>Catalyst 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>98 (92)</td>
<td>&gt;99 (90)</td>
<td>97 (91)</td>
<td>&gt;99 (91)</td>
<td>&gt;99 (91)</td>
<td>91 (90)</td>
<td>96 (93)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>&gt;99 (93)</td>
<td>60 (90)</td>
<td>79 (90)</td>
<td>&gt;99 (92)</td>
<td>&gt;99 (92)</td>
<td>66 (91)</td>
<td>99 (92)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>99 (93)</td>
<td>22 (90)</td>
<td>31 (90)</td>
<td>77 (91)</td>
<td>77 (91)</td>
<td>37 (92)</td>
<td>95 (92)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>92 (93)</td>
<td>13 (88)</td>
<td>17 (89)</td>
<td>39 (91)</td>
<td>39 (91)</td>
<td>20 (92)</td>
<td>88 (92)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>75 (90)</td>
<td>8 (87)</td>
<td>12 (88)</td>
<td>23 (93)</td>
<td>23 (93)</td>
<td>14 (91)</td>
<td>63 (93)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) Reaction at room temperature for 24h and S/C = 100. b) Determined by capillary GLC analysis using a chiral Cyclodex-B column.
the lipophilicity of 15 bearing a long alkyl chain seems to be higher than 3a. While contrary to our expectation, the decrease was also observed in the IL phase used for 14 (20.0%). This unexpected result may be due to a change in the structure of ligand 14 by elimination of the imidazolium group.

On the basis of these results, we hypothesized that lower solubility in organic solvent and ligand stability during the reaction are important factors for recyclability in this RCATH system.

We examined RCATH using different prochiral ketones as the substrate at every cycle with ligand 3a, which showed the best catalytic activity and recyclability among our ligands (Table 5). When acetophenone derivatives bearing an electron-withdrawing group were used as a substrate, the activity did not decrease even at the 3rd cycle (entry 3). On the other hand, when acetophenone derivative bearing an electron-donating group and propiophenone were used, the reaction was performed with a substrate/catalyst (S/C) mole ratio of 50 and a decrease of conversion was found at the 3rd cycle (entry 6). The reaction with 3a using β-tetralone and cyclohexyl methyl ketone, which are generally known to be unsuitable ketones for asymmetric transfer hydrogenation, was examined (entries 7, 8). At the 1st cycle using cyclohexyl methyl ketone, the conversion was relatively good but enantioselectivity was very low. Next, using β-tetralone at the 2nd cycle, conversion and enantioselectivity were moderate. These results of conversion and enantioselectivity decreasing when aliphatic and cyclic ketones were used agreed well with the results of transfer hydrogenation reported previously.4,28) It is noteworthy that in this RCATH system, both substrate and product did not influence the next reaction cycle.

Conclusion

Using TsDPEN ligand attached to a variety of ionic groups, an obvious difference was found in catalytic ability and recyclability. Furthermore, ICP-MS of the IL phase after the reaction suggested that consideration of both the residual quantity of ruthenium and the stability of the ruthenium complex with ligand should be required. Namely, the structure of 3a could make the main contribution to stabilization of the ruthenium complex in the IL phase, with the selection of suitable ionic groups being needed for high retention. Also, it was clearly shown that our ligand is useful for RCATH using a different ketone at every cycle. On the basis of these studies, further optimization of the ligand and application of the reaction to obtain bioactive compounds are currently underway in our laboratory.

Experimental

Melting points were measured with a Yanaco MP micro-melting-point apparatus and are uncorrected. 1H-, 13C- and 19F-NMR spectra were measured on Varian INOVA 400NB (1H: 400MHz, 13C: 100MHz, 19F: 376MHz) and the chemical shifts are expressed in parts per million (ppm) downfield from tetramethylsilane as the internal standard (19F-NMR spectra

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Table 3. RCATH of Acetophenone with Ligands 3a, 14 and 15

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>Time (h)</th>
<th>Conversion (ee)%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>14 (n=2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1st</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>&gt;99 (90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>94 (91)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>44 (90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>22 (90)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5th</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>14 (89)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a) Reaction at room temperature for 24h and S/C = 100. b) Determined by capillary GLC analysis using a chiral Cyclodex-B column.

Table 4. Percentages of Remaining Ru in IL after the 5th Cycle of RCATH

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Catalyst 2</th>
<th>Ru/ligand complex</th>
<th>% of remaining Ru in IL</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3a</td>
<td>3b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>68.3</td>
<td>&gt;99</td>
<td>70.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 5. Chart 2. Preparation of Chiral Ionic Ligands 14 and 15
were taken with trifluoroacetic acid as an external standard. Chemical shifts (δ) are given in ppm and J values in Hz. Splitting patterns are designated as s, singlet; br s, broad singlet; d, doublet; dd, doublet of doublet; t, triplet; m, multiplet. Infra-red (IR) spectra were recorded in the range 4000–600 cm⁻¹ either as a CHCl₃ solution technique for liquids or KBr pellets for solid samples. Mass spectra were measured on JEOL JMS SX-102A (FAB) or JEOL-JMS-GC Mate (EI, CI) MS spectrometer. Elemental analyses were performed on a PerkinElmer, Inc. 2400 Series II CHNS/O Analyzer. Optical rotations were measured with a Horiba SEPA-200 in a 5-cm cell. GLC was performed on a Shimadzu GC-15A equipped with a J&W Scientific chiral Cyclodex-B column (ϕ0.25 mm × 30 m). Helium was used as the carrier gas and FID as the detector. Shimadzu LC-6A was used as the pump, Shimadzu SPD-6A as the UV detector and Daicel Chemical Chiralpak (AD-H, ϕ 0.46 cm × 25 cm) for HPLC. Silica gel column chromatography was performed with Merck Kieselgel 60 (70–230 mesh). Alumina column chromatography was performed with Nacalai activated alumina (ca. 300 mesh). Preparative thin-layer chromatography was performed on Nacalai silica gel 60PF254 pre-coated plates. ICP-MS was measured with Shimadzu ICPM-8500.

4-(4-Chlorobutoxy)benzenesulfonyl Chloride (5)⁴⁰ NaH (60% in mineral oil, 80 mg, 2.00 mmol) was added to a solution of 4-hydroxybenzenesulfonic acid sodium salt dihydrate (464 mg, 2.00 mmol) in N,N-dimethylformamide (DMF) (5.00 mL) at 0°C under N₂. After stirring for 1 h at 0°C, 1-bromo-4-chlorobutane (0.230 mL, 2.00 mmol) was added to the solution. The mixture was stirred for 12 h at 100°C. The solvent was removed under reduced pressure and AcOEt (15.0 mL) was added to the residue. The resulting precipitate was collected by filtration. The precipitate was dried under reduced pressure. A mixture of the precipitate and SOCl₂ (7.0 mL, 80 mmol) was heated at 90°C for 13 h. The reaction mixture was poured into ice water. After stirring for 5 min, the product was extracted with CHCl₃ (20 mL × 3). The organic layer was dried over Na₂SO₄, filtered and evaporated. The crude product was purified by column chromatography (AcOEt:n-hexane=1:5) to give compound 5. Yield: 338 mg (60%). Light yellow oil. ¹H-NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 1.96–2.05 (4H, m, 2×CH₂), 3.63 (2H, t, J=6.2 Hz, CH₂Cl), 4.12 (2H, t, J=5.9 Hz, CH₂), 7.03 (2H, d, J=9.3 Hz, SO₂Ar-H), 7.97 (2H, d, J=9.2 Hz, SO₂Ar-H). ¹³C-NMR (CDCl₃) δ: 26.3, 29.0, 44.4, 67.9, 115.1, 129.5, 136.0, 164.2. IR (CHCl₃) cm⁻¹: 2917, 1588, 1490, 1368, 1257, 1158, 573. High resolution (HR)-MS electron ionization (EI) m/z: Found, 281.9883 (Calcd for C₁₀H₁₂Cl₂O₃S: 281.9884). MS (EI) m/z (rel. int. %): 58 (100), 91 (70), 157 (18), 247 (9), 282 (M⁺, 1.8), 284 (M⁺+2, 1.1), 286 (M⁺+4, 0.4).

4-(2-Chloroethoxy)benzenesulfonyl Chloride (8)⁴⁰ Com-

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Table 5. RCATH of Ketones with Ligand 3a

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Entry</th>
<th>Cycle</th>
<th>S/C</th>
<th>Time (h)</th>
<th>Substrate</th>
<th>Conv. (%)</th>
<th>ee (%)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>24</td>
<td></td>
<td>98</td>
<td>85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>92</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>99</td>
<td>86</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>92</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>87</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>1st</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>80&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>13&lt;sup&gt;b&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>51&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>81&lt;sup&gt;c&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>a</sup>) Determined by GLC. <sup>b</sup>) Determined by ¹⁹F-NMR after derived to Mosher’s ester. <sup>c</sup>) Determined by HPLC.
ound 8 was synthesized from 4 (1.16g, 5.00mmol) and 2-(2-bromothiooxo)-tetrahydro-2H-pyrain (0.83mL, 5.50mmol) in the same manner as the synthesis of 5. Yield: 598mg (47%).

Light yellow oil. \(^{1}H\)-NMR (CDCl\(_3\)) \(\delta\) 3.87 (2H, t, \(J=5.7\ Hz\), CH\(_2\)Cl), 4.34 (2H, t, \(J=5.8\ Hz\), CH\(_2\)O). 7.08 (2H, d, \(J=9.0\ Hz\), SO$_2$Ar-H), 8.00 (2H, d, \(J=9.2\ Hz\), SO$_2$Ar-H). \(^{13}C\)-NMR (CDCl\(_3\)) \(\delta\) 41.3, 68.5, 115.2, 129.6, 136.8, 163.4. IR (CHCl\(_3\)) cm\(^{-1}\): 3050, 2930, 1765, 1578, 1489, 1371, 1206, 1183, 1165, 574, 557. HR-MS (EI) \(m/z\): Found: 253.9571 (Calcd for C\(_{8}\)H\(_{10}\)Cl\(_{2}\)O\(_{3}\)S: 253.9571). MS m/z (rel. int. %): 63 (100), 92 (9), 155 (13), 219 (66), 254 (M\(^+\)), 256 (M\(^+\) + 2, 8), 258 (M\(^+\) + 4, 2).

4-(6-Chlorothiooxy)benzenesulfonyl Chloride (9)\(^{30}\) Compound 9 was synthesized from 4 (464mg, 2.00mmol) and 1-bromo-6-chlorohexane (0.30mL, 2.00mmol) in the same manner as the synthesis of 5. Yield: 331mg (53%).

Light yellow oil. \(^{1}H\)-NMR (CDCl\(_3\)) \(\delta\) 1.48–1.58 (4H, m, 2CH\(_2\)), 1.79–1.89 (4H, m, 2CH\(_2\)), 3.56 (2H, t, \(J=6.6\ Hz\), CH\(_2\)Cl), 4.07 (2H, t, \(J=6.4\ Hz\), CH\(_2\)O), 7.03 (2H, d, \(J=9.0\ Hz\), SO$_2$Ar-H), 7.96 (2H, d, \(J=9.2\ Hz\), SO$_2$Ar-H). \(^{13}C\)-NMR (CDCl\(_3\)) \(\delta\) 25.2, 26.5, 28.7, 32.4, 44.9, 68.6, 115.0, 129.5, 135.8, 164.4. IR (CHCl\(_3\)) cm\(^{-1}\): 2920, 2858, 1588, 1490, 1370, 1260, 1183, 1162, 575, 554. HR-MS (EI) \(m/z\): Found: 310.0203 (Calcd for C\(_{12}\)H\(_{16}\)Cl\(_{2}\)O\(_{3}\)S: 310.0197). MS (EI) \(m/z\) (rel. int. %): 83 (100), 94 (12), 157 (22), 192 (10), 275 (13), 310 (M, 18), 312 (M\(^+\), 12), 314 (M\(^+\) + 4, 3).

N-[(1S,2S)-2-[(1,1-Dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]amino-1,2-diphenyl-4-(6-chlorothiooxy)benzenesulfonyl]amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-imidazolium Chloride (7a) A mixture of 6 (117mg, 0.209mmol) and 1-methylimidazolide (0.167mL, 2.09mmol) was heated at 88°C for 11h under N\(_2\). The volatile material was removed under reduced pressure with a glass tube oven, and the residue was washed with AcOEt (0.5mL×10) to obtain compound 7a. Yield: 128mg (95%).

Yellow oil. \([\alpha]_{D}^{23}\) = +33.07 (c=1.30, CH\(_{2}\)OH). \(^{1}H\)-NMR (CD\(_{3}\)OD) \(\delta\) 1.36 (9H, s, t-Bu), 1.73–1.80 (2H, m, CH\(_{2}\)), 1.98–2.05 (2H, m, CH\(_{2}\)), 3.87 (3H, s, N-Me), 3.94 (2H, t, \(J=6.2\ Hz\), CH\(_{2}\O), 4.25 (2H, t, \(J=7.3\ Hz\), CH\(_{3}\)), 4.56 (1H, d, \(J=7.0, 9.7\ Hz\), CH\(_{2}\)) (1H, t, \(J=9.5\ Hz\), CH\(_{2}\)) (1H, d, \(J=8.1\ Hz\), NH)), 6.08 (1H, br s, NH), 6.68 (2H, d, \(J=9.0\ Hz\), SO$_2$Ar-H), 6.77–7.17 (10H, m, 2SO$_2$Ar-H). IR (CHCl\(_3\)) cm\(^{-1}\): 3410, 3350, 2990, 1668, 1593, 1491, 1152. HR-MS (FAB\(^{+}\)) \(m/z\): Found: 559.2039 (M\(^+\)) \(^{31}\) (Calcd for C\(_{32}\)H\(_{28}\)Cl\(_{2}\)N\(_{2}\)O\(_{5}\)S: 559.2033). Anal. Calcld for C\(_{32}\)H\(_{28}\)Cl\(_{2}\)N\(_{2}\)O\(_{5}\)S: C, 62.30; H, 6.31; N, 5.01. Found: C, 62.54; H, 6.49; N, 5.01.

N-[(1S,2S)-2-[(1,1-Dimethylethoxy)carbonyl]amino-1,2-diphenyl-4-(2-chloroethoxy)benzenesulfonyl]amino]-1,2-diphenyl-1H-imidazolium Chloride (7b) Compound 7b was synthesized from 6 (94mg, 0.168mmol) in the same manner as the synthesis of 7a. Yield: 105mg (95%).

Yellow oil. \([\alpha]_{D}^{23}\) = +32.16 (c=1.20, CH\(_{2}\)OH). \(^{1}H\)-NMR (CD\(_{3}\)OD) \(\delta\) 1.36 (9H, s, t-Bu), 1.76–1.82 (2H, m, CH\(_{2}\)), 1.91–1.98 (2H, m, CH\(_{2}\)), 2.39 (3H, s, 2-imidazole-Me), 3.76 (3H, s, N-Me), 3.95 (2H, t, \(J=6.0\ Hz\), CH\(_{2}\)) (1H, t, \(J=7.4\ Hz\), CH\(_{2}\))
4.56 (1H, d,  J = 8.1 Hz, CH2(Ph)NH), 4.77 (1H, d,  J = 7.7 Hz, CH2(Ph)NH), 6.68 (2H, d,  J = 9.0 Hz, SO2ArH), 6.88 – 7.12 (10H, m, 2×Ph-H), 7.36 (2H, d,  J = 8.8 Hz, SO2ArH), 7.43 (1H, d,  J = 8.1 Hz, imidazole-H), 7.50 (1H, d,  J = 1.8 Hz, imidazole-H).

1H-NMR (CD3OD) δ: 9.6, 26.8, 27.5, 28.7, 35.5, 49.1, 61.0, 64.1, 68.3, 80.5, 112.1, 123.6, 128.1, 128.2, 128.6, 129.0, 129.1, 129.8, 130.1, 134.0, 139.9, 145.8, 157.7, 162.9. IR (KBr) cm−1: 3657, 3218, 3125, 3040, 2911, 1697, 1591, 1251, 1148. HR-MS (FAB+) m/z: Found, 619.2949 (M+)

![image](https://example.com/image.jpg)

1-[4-[4-[[[(1,25S)-2-][1,1-Dimethylethoxy]carbonyl]-amino]-1,2-diphenylethyl]amino]sulfonyl]phenoxy]butyl]-3-methylbenzimidazolium Chloride (7e) Compound 7e was synthesized from 6 (145 mg, 0.259 mmolar) in the same manner as the synthesis of 7a. Yield: 164 mg (99%). Light brown crystals from light petroleum ether. 

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imidazole-1-H-imidazolium triflate (3a)

TFA (0.306 mL, 4.12 mmol) was added to 7a (264 mg, 0.412 mmol) at 0°C under N2, and the mixture was stirred for 3.5 h. The volatile material was removed under reduced pressure. Toluene (5 mL) was added to the residue, and the volatile material was removed (×3) to obtain compound 3a. Yield: 299 mg (99%). Yellow oil. [a]D 26.5, 26.9, 28.7, 29.8, 31.0, 36.5, 50.7, 61.1, 64.1, 89.0, 113.5, 123.6, 123.6, 124.9, 125.0, 128.1, 128.4, 128.6, 128.9, 129.1, 133.9, 137.8, 139.8, 141.0, 157.8, 163.2. IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3374, 3207, 3037, 2913, 1694, 1592, 1492, 1318, 1250, 1149, 1088, 580, 554. HR-MS (FAB+) m/z: Found, 63331080 (M+) (Calcd for C36H45N4O5S): 6333111.

1-[4-[4-[[[15,25]-2-Amino-1,2-diphenylethyl][amino]sulfonyl]phenoxo]butyl]-3-methyl-1H-imidazolium mono(trifluoroacetate) (Salt with Trifluoroacetic Acid 3b) 

This compound was synthesized from 7b (94 mg, 0.136 mmol) in the same manner as the synthesis of 3a. Yield: 108 mg (99%). Yellow oil. [a]D 26.5, 26.9, 28.7, 29.8, 31.0, 36.5, 50.7, 61.1, 64.1, 89.0, 113.5, 123.6, 123.6, 124.9, 125.0, 128.1, 128.4, 128.6, 128.9, 129.1, 133.9, 137.8, 139.8, 141.0, 157.8, 163.2. IR (KBr) cm⁻¹: 3374, 3207, 3037, 2913, 1694, 1592, 1492, 1318, 1250, 1149, 1088, 580, 554. HR-MS (FAB+) m/z: Found, 63331080 (M+) (Calcd for C36H45N4O5S): 6333111.
in the same manner as the synthesis of 3a. Yield: 57 mg

Compound Mono(trifluoroacetate) Salt with Trifluoroacetic Acid (14)  

Sulfonyl]phenoxy][butyl]-1-N-butyl-N-dimethyl-ammomium Mono(trifluoroacetate) Salt with Trifluoroacetic Acid (3f)  

Compound 3f was synthesized from 7f (52 mg, 0.079 mmol) in the same manner as the synthesis of 3a. Yield: 57 mg (99%). Yellow oil. [α]D

1-H-NMR (CD3OD) δ: 0.98 (3H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, CH3), 1.34–1.43 (2H, m, CH2), 1.67–1.75 (2H, m, CH2), 1.77–1.84 (2H, m, CH2), 1.87–1.95 (2H, m, CH2), 3.06 (6H, s, 2×N-Me), 3.29 (2H, t, J = 8.4 Hz, CH2N), 3.35 (2H, br, J = 8.4 Hz, CH2N), 3.99 (2H, t, J = 5.9 Hz, CH2O), 4.49 (1H, d, J = 10.8 Hz, CH(Ph)NH), 4.63 (1H, d, J = 10.8 Hz, CH(Ph)NH), 6.73 (2H, J = 9.0 Hz, SOAr-H), 6.86–7.22 (10H, m, 2×Ph-H), 7.49 (2H, J = 8.8 Hz, SOAr-H). 13C-NMR (CD3OD) δ: 13.9, 20.4, 20.6, 25.4, 26.3, 51.2, 60.7, 63.0, 64.8, 65.2, 68.4, 115.4, 128.7, 128.9, 129.1, 129.3, 130.0, 130.3, 130.4, 133.4, 134.9, 136.7, 163.3. 19F-NMR (CD3OD) δ: 1.92 (1H, d, J = 2.5 Hz, CH3OH). 1H-NMR (CD3OD) δ: 1.35–1.43 (2H, m, CH2), 1.46–1.54 (2H, m, CH2), 1.70–1.77 (2H, m, CH2), 1.85–1.94 (2H, m, CH2), 3.89 (3H, s, N-Me), 3.91 (2H, t, J = 6.2 Hz, CH2O), 4.20 (2H, t, J = 7.3 Hz, CH2N), 4.49 (1H, d, J = 11.0 Hz, CH(Ph)NH), 4.62 (1H, d, J = 11.0 Hz, CH(Ph)NH), 6.69 (2H, J = 9.0 Hz, SOAr-H), 6.72–7.22 (10H, m, 2×Ph-H), 7.46 (2H, J = 9.0 Hz, SOAr-H), 7.54 (1H, d, J = 8.1 Hz, imidazole-H), 7.62 (1H, d, J = 2.0 Hz, imidazole-H), 8.93 (1H, s, 2-imidazole-H). 13C-NMR (CD3OD) δ: 26.4, 26.9, 29.3, 30.1, 36.4, 50.7, 60.7, 63.0, 69.2, 115.4, 123.6, 123.7, 124.9, 125.0, 128.8, 128.9, 129.3, 130.0, 130.3, 130.4, 133.0, 134.9, 136.7, 137.9, 163.6. 19F-NMR (CD3OD) δ: 1.92 (s). IR (KBr) cm−1: 3410, 3080, 2950, 1682, 1675, 1792, 1199, 1179, 1151, 1129. HR-MS (FAB+ m/z): Found, 533.2591 (M+) (Calcd for C2pH3N3O3S2: 533.2586). HR-MS (Cl-, isobutane) m/z: Found, 112.9848 (X−) (Calcd for C2F3O−: 112.9850). MS (Cl− m/z (rel. int. %): 113 (X−, 100). Anal. Calcd for C15H12F3N4O4S·2H2O: C, 51.25; H, 5.31; N, 7.03. Found: C, 51.59; H, 5.61; N, 6.74.

Typical Procedure of RCATH Acetophenone (120 mg, 1.0 mmol) was added to a solution of ionic ligand (0.012 mmol) and [RuCl2(benzene)] (2.5 mg, 0.005 mmol) in [bmm][PF6] (1.0 mL) with stirring under N2, followed by addition of a formic acid–trichloroacetamide azetotropic mixture (bp 108°C/29 mmHg, 0.5 mL). The reaction mixture was stirred at rt for 24 h. Next, n-hexane (5 mL×3) was added to the reaction mixture and the products were extracted by decantation of the upper layer, and the residual IL phase was dried in vacuo for 30 min. Acetophenone (120 mg, 1.0 mmol) and formic acid–trichloroacetamide azetotropic mixture (0.5 mL) were added to the remaining IL solution, and the next cycle of the reaction was started.

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Conflict of Interest The authors declare no conflict of interest.

Supplementary Materials The online version of this article contains supplementary materials.

References