Carboxyl-substituted Poly(quinoxaline-2,3-diyl) for Quantification of a Small Enantiomeric Imbalance of Chiral Amines by CD Spectroscopy in Water

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Quantification of enantiomeric ratio of chiral compounds is an important basis in the development of chiral science. Chromatography using a chiral stationary phase and NMR measurement using a chiral shift reagent are widely employed as useful chiral quantification methods. However, since these methods rely on quantification of the peak integration ratios of enantiomer signals, it is difficult to evaluate small enantiomeric imbalance. To overcome this problem, induced CD method using dynamic helical polymers has attracted much attention since a small enantiomeric imbalance of chiral compounds can be detected as amplified CD signals of polymers. Nevertheless, only limited helical polymers have been applied for the highly sensitive chirality detection. Poly(quinoxaline-2,3-diyl)s (PQXs) are known as helical polymers with long persistence length, which facilitates quantitative evaluation of the chiral amplification effect.^{1,2} In this study, we investigated helical chirality induction of a small enantiomeric imbalance of chiral amines through acid-base interaction.

The helical chirality induction of achiral **P(100)** using (S)-1-phenylethylamine (**PEA**) with varied ee (10 mM) was investigated by CD measurements in water (Fig. 1a). Kuhn dissymmetry factor g_{abs} ($\Delta \varepsilon / \varepsilon$) at 370.5 nm is plotted against the ee of (S)-**PEA** (Fig. 1b). The g_{abs} values of **P(100)** increased nonlinearly with the increase of the ee of **PEA**, enabling the detection of extremely low optical purity (down to 0.1% ee). Notably, the observed g_{abs} values against **PEA** with low optical purity ($\leq 1\%$ ee) can be approximated to a linear relationship (Fig. 1b, inset). The CD spectrum of **P(100)** in aqueous solution of purchased racemic **PEA** showed the induction of a left-handed helical structure (Fig. 1c). This result suggests that the purchased lot of racemic **PEA** has a slight enantiomeric imbalance (0.6% ee (S)).



Fig. 1. a) The structure of **P(100)** and **PEA**. b) The relationship between ee of **PEA** and g_{abs} of **P(100)** at 370.5 nm. The inset shows linear approximation between ee and g_{abs} at the low ee range. c) The CD spectrum of **P(100)** in aqueous solution of purchased racemic **PEA**. **P(100)**; 0.09 mM as monomer unit, **PEA**; 10 mM.

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