Selective Synthesis of Optically Active Cyclic Binol Trimers

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Symmetrical cyclic conjugated compounds with chiral π -electron units, especially Möbius-shaped trimers bearing binol skeletons, are known to exhibit unique chiroptical property. However, there is no report on enantioselective synthesis of the Möbius-shaped trimers due to their synthetic difficulty. Herein, we report the facile catalytic and asymmetric synthesis of cyclic binol trimers (S,S,S)-1. Our chiral dinuclear vanadium complex^{1,2} (R_a,S,S) -3 distinctively prompts the oxidative coupling^{3,4} of 2-naphthol derivatives with high enantiocontrol, each coupling events would proceed through a known dual-activation mechanism.⁵ When the (R_a,S,S) -3 was utilized as a chiral catalyst for the intermolecular oxidative coupling of 2 and intramolecular manner of (S,S)-5, finally resulting in the optically pure (S,S,S)-1 in 17% overall yield in 7 steps from commercially available 2-naphthol derivative 2. In this presentation, chiroptical property of (S,S,S)-1 and its molecular transformation will also be discussed.

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