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*Chem. Eur. J.* **2004**

Supporting Information

for

Chemistry: A European Journal

New Chiral Ruthenium(II) Catalysts Containing 2,6-Bis(4'-(*R*)-phenyloxazolin-2'-yl)pyridine (Ph-pybox) Ligands for Highly Enantioselective Transfer Hydrogenation of Ketones

By

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**Table S1. Transfer Hydrogenation of 2-Br-Acetophenone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i> ( <i>S</i> )
1	<b>1b</b>	60	18	59
2	<b>2a</b>	60	21	60
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	15(60)	23(28)	73(74)
4	<b>6a</b>	5(60)	4(7)	43(27)
5	<b>6b</b>	1(60)	32(65)	86(80)
6	<b>7a</b>	45	>99.5	2

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.

**Table S2. Transfer Hydrogenation of 3-Br-Acetophenone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i> ( <i>S</i> )
1	<b>1b</b>	60	36	45
2	<b>2a</b>	60	55	16
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	60	>99.5	77
4	<b>6a</b>	5	>99	93
5	<b>6b</b>	3	>99	93
6	<b>7a</b>	30	>99.5	2

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.

**Table S3. Transfer Hydrogenation of 4-Br-Acetophenone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i> ( <i>S</i> )
1	<b>1b</b>	30	23	44
2	<b>2a</b>	60	17	7
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	120	97	70
4	<b>6a</b>	120	68	45
5	<b>6b</b>	60	69	54
6	<b>7a</b>	30	99	1

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.

**Table S4. Transfer Hydrogenation of 2-MeO-Acetophenone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i> ( <i>S</i> )
1	<b>1b</b>	180	92	64
2	<b>2a</b>	60	38	40
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	60	44	62
4	<b>6a</b>	120	61	23
5	<b>6b</b>	120	94	47
6	<b>7a</b>	15	99	76

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.

**Table S5. Transfer Hydrogenation of 3-MeO-Acetophenone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i> ( <i>S</i> )
1	<b>1b</b>	30	92	82
2	<b>2a</b>	60	98	77
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	15	97	91
4	<b>6a</b>	10	94	87
5	<b>6b</b>	5	97	82
6	<b>7a</b>	15	97	43

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.

**Table S6. Transfer Hydrogenation of 4-MeO-Acetophenone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i> ( <i>S</i> )
1	<b>1b</b>	15(60)	40(68)	69(61)
2	<b>2a</b>	15	82	59
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	30	82	86
4	<b>6a</b>	30	83	80
5	<b>6b</b>	5	83	89
6	<b>7a</b>	10	86	62

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.

**Table S7. Transfer Hydrogenation of Propiophenone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i> ( <i>S</i> )
1	<b>1b</b>	15	95	91
2	<b>2a</b>	60	96	85
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	30	97	92
4	<b>6a</b>	60	94	83
5	<b>6b</b>	5	97	92
6	<b>7a</b>	30	98	58

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.

**Table S8. Transfer Hydrogenation of 2'-Acetonaphnone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i> ( <i>S</i> )
1	<b>1b</b>	60	96	81
2	<b>2a</b>	90	94	77
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	15	96	91
4	<b>6a</b>	10	96	82
5	<b>6b</b>	5	96	86
6	<b>7a</b>	30	98	37

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.

**Table S9. Transfer Hydrogenation of 2-Butanone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i>
1	<b>1b</b>	60	93	13 ( <i>R</i> )
2	<b>2a</b>	30	>99.5	7 ( <i>R</i> )
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	30	97	10 ( <i>R</i> )
4	<b>6a</b>	60	98	11 ( <i>R</i> )
5	<b>6b</b>	10	>99	11 ( <i>R</i> )
6	<b>7a</b>	10	>99	11 ( <i>S</i> )

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.

**Table S10. Transfer Hydrogenation of Methyl Isopropyl Ketone Catalyzed by Ph-pybox Complexes under Optimized Conditions.**

entry	cat.	time (min)	%conv	% <i>ee</i>
1	<b>1b</b>	60	70	20 ( <i>R</i> )
2	<b>2a</b>	120	85	6 ( <i>R</i> )
3 <sup>a</sup>	<b>3a</b>	60	86	16 ( <i>R</i> )
4	<b>6a</b>	90	95	12 ( <i>R</i> )
5	<b>6b</b>	60	97	10 ( <i>R</i> )
6	<b>7a</b>	10	99	31 ( <i>S</i> )

Reactions were carried out at 82 °C with a 0.1 M acetophenone solution in 50 mL of 2-propanol (ketone:cat:NaOH = 500:1:24). <sup>a</sup> Base was added 10 min before ketone.