Chiral *trans*-1,2-diaminocyclohexane derivatives as chiral solvating agents for carboxylic acids

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Abstract. Efficient use of the readily accessible chiral C_2 -symmetric acyclic diamines (1–2) as well as macrocyclic amines (3–5) containing *trans*-1,2-diaminocyclohexyl moiety as chiral solvating agents (CSA) for the determination of enantiomeric excess of representative carboxylic acids (6–7) and an amino acid derivative (8) is illustrated. The enantiomeric composition of different carboxylic acids estimated here by the ¹H NMR method, based on the integration of the corresponding methine proton signals are in good correlation with that determined using HPLC method. The data are in accordance with the formation of multimolecular diastereomeric complexes in solution, which render good splitting of NMR signals for the enantiomers of representative carboxylic acids as well as for *N*-Ts-phenylglycine (up to $\Delta\Delta\delta = 0.295$ ppm, 118 Hz).

Keywords. Chiral 1,2-cyclohexyl diamines; macrocyclic amines; chiral solvating agents; enantiomeric purity; chiral carboxylic acids.

1. Introduction

In view of the importance of chiral organic compounds in biological and pharmaceutical chemistry,1-4 there is increasing requirement for fast and accurate methodologies for the determination of enantiomeric composition of these chiral compounds. Among the various available methods, NMR spectroscopy has the advantages of easy performance and accessibility⁵ with no need for special equipment apart from the common NMR spectrometers. As enantiomers cannot be distinguished in an achiral environment, these techniques require the modification of the substrate with a chiral auxiliary, which would convert the mixture of enantiomers into a mixture of diastereomeric molecular (covalent, chiral derivatizing agent, CDA) or supramolecular (non-covalent, chiral solvating agents, CSA) complexes.⁶ Ideally, these diastereomeric species will show chemical shift nonequivalence of some of their NMR signals, allowing the determination of the enantiomeric composition of the substrate by the direct integration of these bands.⁷ The advantage of using non-covalent chiral solvating agents relies on the possibility of carrying out the experiment in situ, without purification

steps.⁸ Besides the starting chiral materials, analytes and the CSA could be easily recovered after the measurement. The wide variety of chiral shift reagents, such as lanthanide complexes,⁹ crown ether,¹⁰ cyclodextrin,¹¹ porphyrins,¹² macrocycles,¹³ and others¹⁴ have already been reported. However, there are only few reports on the development of efficient chiral shift reagents for carboxylic acids, in spite of their importance in chemistry.¹⁵

Chiral macrocyclic compounds have been recognized as successful and promising chiral selectors for molecular recognition, mainly because of their inherent reduced flexibility and complexation ability.¹⁶ Recently, Tanaka et al¹⁷ reported that chiral macrocyclic amine functions as highly sensitive chiral shift reagent for several kinds of secondary alcohols, cyanohydrins and propargyl alcohols. However, these macrocycles are not useful as chiral shift reagents for carboxylic acids, without introduction of both hydrogen bond acceptor and donor group in the host macrocycles for multiple binding with the carboxylic acids.¹⁸ Accordingly, in continuation of our research efforts towards the synthesis of chiral macrocycles¹⁹ and other chiral *N*-alkylaamines²⁰ ted containing trans-1,2-diaminocyclohexane moiety (figure 1), we have examined their use as chiral solvating agents for the determi-

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Figure 1. Structures of the receptors studied 1–5.

nation of enantiomeric excess of carboxylic acids by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. The results are presented here.

2. Experimental

2.1 Materials, method and instruments

Infrared spectra were recorded on JASCO FT-IR spectrophotometer Model 5300. ¹H NMR and ¹³C NMR spectra were recorded on Bruker AV-400 spectrometer with chloroform-d as a solvent and TMS as the reference ($\delta = 0$ ppm). Coupling constants J reported are in Hz. Elemental analyses were carried out on a Flash EA 1112 series analyzer. Optical rotations were measured in an AUTOPOL-IV automatic polarimeter (readability ± 0.001). Chromatography was carried out using Acme's silica gel (100-200 mesh and 230-400 mesh). The commercial cis/trans mixture of 1,2-diaminocyclohexane was resolved following a reported procedure.27 Isophthaloyl chloride was prepared from isophthalic acid and distilled under reduced pressure. The racemic 2,3-diphenylsuccinic acid was synthesized following a reported procedure.²⁸

2.2 Procedure for the synthesis of chiral macrocyclic amine (4)

The secondary macrocyclic amine 3 (2.4 mmol, 1.5 g), formic acid (2 mL) and formaldehyde (1 mL) were heated at 110° C for 12 h. The reaction mixture

was neutralized with 2N NaOH (15 mL) and extracted with dichloromethane $(2 \times 15 \text{ mL})$. The combined organic extracts were washed with brine (15 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate and evaporated to give the permethylated product 4.

Yield: 1.58 g (90%); m.p.: 178–180°C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} = -16.9$ (*c* 0.9, CH₂Cl₂); IR (KBr): 3028, 2926, 1450, 763 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.15–1.23 (*m*, 6H), 1.30–1.40 (*m*, 6H), 1.80–1.85 (*m*, 6H), 2.00–2.05 (*m*, 6H), 2.21 (*s*, 18H), 2.72–2.74 (*m*, 6H), 3.76 (*q*, J = 12.8 Hz, 12H), 7.40 (*s*, 12H); ¹³C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.9, 26.3, 35.8, 58.6, 64.9, 128.6, 139.3; CHN calculated: C, 78.5%; H, 9.8%; N, 11.4%; Found: C, 78.5%; H, 9.9%; N, 11.4%; MS (LCMS): C₄₈H₇₂N₆ (*m*/*z* 734 M + 1).

2.3 *Procedure for the synthesis of the chiral macrocyclic amine* (5)

To a stirred solution of (R,R)-1,2-diaminocyclohexane (10 mmol, 1.14 g) and triethylamine (5.6 mL) in dichloromethane (40 mL), isophthaloyl chloride (10 mmol, 2 g) was added at 0°C and the reaction mixture was allowed to stir at 25°C for 12 h. The reaction was quenched with water (15 mL). The residues were filtered off and washed with dichloromethane (20 mL) to obtain the insoluble polyamide. To a suspension of NaBH₄ (40 mmol, 1.43 g) in tetrahydrofuran (150 mL), a solution of I₂ (20 mmol, 4.8 g) in THF (30 mL) was added at 0°C under nitrogen atmosphere over 30 min. The polyamide (1 g) was added to the generated diborane and refluxed for 24 h. The reaction was quenched with methanol and the solvents were evaporated. The residue obtained after evaporation was refluxed with 10 N KOH for 6 h and the resultant polyamine was extracted with dichloromethane $(2 \times 30 \text{ mL})$. The organic extracts were washed with brine (30 mL), dried over anhydrous sodium sulphate and the residue was evaporated to obtain the polyamine. The crude amine was chromatographed on a silica gel column using chloroform:methanol (95:5) to obtain the macrocyclic amine 5 in pure form.

Yield: 0.2 g (23%); m.p.: 108–110°C; $[\alpha]_D^{25} =$ -101 (c 0.4, CHCl₃); IR (KBr) 3296, 3024, 2928, 1452, 1114, 787 cm⁻¹; ¹H-NMR (400 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 1.056 (m, 4H), 1.28 (m, 4H), 1.79 (m, 9H), 2.28 (m, 7H), 3.66 (d, J = 12.8 Hz, 4H), 3.96 (d, J = 13.2 Hz, 4H), 7.07 (d, J = 7.6 Hz, 4H), 7.20 (m, 2H), 7.64 (s, 2H); ¹³C-NMR (50 MHz, CDCl₃) δ 25.1, 31.4, 50.8, 60.9, 126.4, 126.9, 127.7, 141.1; CHN calculated: C, 77.7%; H, 9.2%; N, 12.9%; found: C, 77.7%; H, 9.3%; N, 12.8%; MS (LCMS): C₂₈H₄₀N₄ (m/z 433 (M + 1)

2.4 ¹H-NMR shift experiments

NMR shift experiments were performed on a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer at 25° C by mixing the compounds 1–5 with the acids 6–8 in varying ratios in CDCl₃, until maximum splitting of the signals were observed.

2.4a Evaluation of stoichiometry of the complex formed between 1 and (R)-and (S)-mandelic acid 6 by Job's method: The stoichiometry of the complex formed between 1 and 6 was determined according to Job's method of continuous variations. Equimolar amounts of 1 (0.025 M) and (R) or (S)-6 (0.025 M) were prepared in CDCl₃ (5 mL). These solutions were distributed among ten NMR tubes in such a way that the mole fractions of 1 and 6 in the resulting solutions increased from 0.1 to 0.9. The complexation induced shifts of the methine signal ($\Delta \delta$) were multiplied by the mole fraction of the acid 6 (X) and plotted against X to obtain the Job's plot (figure 2).

2.4b Evaluation of the stoichiometry of the complex formed between 3 and (R)-and (S)-mandelic acid 6 by Job's method: The stoichiometry of the complex formed between 3 and 6 was determined according to the Job's method of continuous variations. Equimolar amounts of **3** (0.0025 M) and (*R*) or (*S*)-6 (0.0025 M) were prepared in CDCl₃ (5 mL). These solutions were distributed among ten NMR tubes in such a way that the mole fractions of **3** and **6** in the resulting solutions increased from 0.1 to 0.9. The complexation induced shifts of the methine signal ($\Delta \delta$) were multiplied by the mole fraction of the acid **6** (X) and plotted against X to obtain the Job's plot (figure 3).

2.4c ¹H-NMR titrations: The mandelic acid 6 [(R) or (S)] (0.0031 M [2.4 mg in 5 mL]) was dissolved in CDCl₃ and evenly distributed (0.5 mL) among ten NMR tubes. The first NMR tube was sealed without any amine. The macrocyclic amine **3** was dissolved in CDCl₃ (0.039 M [51.5 mg in 2 mL]) and added in increasing amounts to the NMR tubes so that the solutions with relative concentrations of the amine versus acid of 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.00, 1.25, 1.50, 2.00, 2.50 and 3.00 are obtained. The change in the chemical shift values of the methine signal is plotted against the relative concentration of the acid versus amine in a 400 MHz NMR spectrometer.

3. Results and discussion

We have chosen the chiral diamines (1-2) and macrocyclic amines (3-5) to examine their chiral recog-



Figure 2. Job's plot obtained for 1 and either (*R*) and (*S*)-mandelic acids 6 [X = mole fraction of the acid; $\Delta \delta$ = change in the chemical shift of the C^{α}H proton signal of (*R*)- and (*S*)-mandelic acid].

nition ability towards mandelic acid 6 and 2,3diphenylsuccinic acid 7 and *N*-Ts-phenylglycine 8 by ¹H-NMR spectroscopy. The chiral diamines 1 and 2 were readily synthesized by reductive *N*alkylation of (R,R)-trans-1,2-diaminocyclohexane with corresponding prochiral ketones in this laboratory²⁰ (1).



The macrocycle **3** was synthesized following a reported procedure²¹ via [3+3] cyclocondensation of (R,R)-1,2-diaminocyclohexane with terephthalaldehyde and then reduction of the corresponding macrocyclic hexaimine using NaBH₄/MeOH reagent system (2).



Figure 3. Job's plot obtained for **3** and either (*R*)- and (*S*)-mandelic acids **6** [*X* = mole fraction of the acid; $\Delta \delta$ = change in the chemical shift of the C^{α}H proton signal of (*R*)- and (*S*)-mandelic acid].

The macrocycle 4 was prepared by the methylation of 3^{22} using a mixture of formic acid and formalde-hyde (3).



The macrocycle 5 was synthesized by NaBH₄/ I_2^{23} reduction of insoluble mixture of the amides obtained by the reaction of (*R*,*R*)-1,2-diaminocyclohexane with isophthaloyl chloride (4).²⁴ The mixture of the amines obtained after reduction was purified by chromatography to obtain the macrocyclic amine 5 in pure form.



The presence of the protonable amine groups²⁵ would lead to the formation of corresponding diastereomeric salt with chiral carboxylic acids. As a result, the methine proton signal of the carboxylic acids splits into two singlets. Initially, the easily accessed chiral amines 1 and 2 were examined as chiral sol-



Figure 4. Structures of the carboxylic acids (6–8) studied.

		Amine-	1	Amine-2		
Acid	Proton	Ratio of amine : acid	$\Delta\Delta\delta(\text{Hz})$	Ratio of amine : acid	$\Delta\Delta\delta$ (Hz)	
ОН СООН 6	<i>α</i> -Η	1:3	53.6	1:2.3	48	
Ph. Ph	α-Н	1:1	69	1:2	55.2	
ноос 7 соон	α-Н		118		28.6	
	CH ₃ (Ts)	1:3	3.2	1:3	2.9	
	NH		68.7		0.0	

Table 1. Measurement of ¹H chemical shift non-equivalences ($\Delta\Delta\delta$) of the acids 6–8 in the presence of chiral acyclic amine receptor 1–2 by ¹H NMR spectroscopy (400 MHz,) in CDCl₃^a.

^aTypical conditions: concentration of the acid and the receptor is 100 mM in 0.5 mL of $CDCl_3$, and the spectra are recorded at 25°C.



Figure 5. Partial ¹H NMR spectra showing C^{α} H and NH signals for racemic **8** (100 mM, CDCl₃, 400 MHz, 25°C) (a) in the absence and (b) in the presence of 0.33 equiv. of (*R*, *R*, *R*, *R*)-1.

vating agents towards mandelic acid 6, and 2,3diphenylsuccinic acid 7 and *N*-Ts-phenylglycine 8 by 1 H-NMR spectroscopy (figure 4).

The experiments were carried out by adding increasing amounts of solution of racemic acid (6-8) in CDCl₃ (100 mM) to a solution of chiral amine (1-2) in CDCl₃ (100 mM). Immediately after each addition, ¹H NMR spectrum was acquired in a 400 MHz spectrometer at room temperature. The splitting values between proton signals corresponding to each enantiomer of acids (6–8) ($\Delta\Delta\delta$) after addition of receptors (1-2) are summarized in table 1. In the presence of receptors 1 and/or 2, the chemical shift nonequivalences of at least one of the protons of selected acids are large enough to give base line resolution on a 400 MHz NMR instrument at 25°C. When the receptor 1 to N-Ts-phenylglycine 8 ratio was 1:3, maximum non-equivalences of the $C^{\alpha}H$ proton (118 Hz) was obtained (figure 5).

Table 2. Concentration variation of ¹H NMR chemical shift non-equvalence $(\Delta\Delta\delta)$ of acid 6 in the presence of receptor amine 1 with the mole ratio of 3 : 1.

Entry	Total molar conc. (mM)	$\Delta\Delta\delta$ (Hz)		
1	0.0025	18		
2	5	20.4		
3	15	37.6		
4	25	41.2		
5	100	53.6		

Some interesting observations have been made during these studies. First of all, the signals from the acids move upfield ($\Delta\delta < 0$), suggesting a deprotonation of carboxylic group. Only, the NH proton from *N*-Ts-phenylglycine (8) resonates at lower field upon the addition of receptor, which can be interpreted as formation of a stronger intramolecular hydrogen bond with the carboxylate anion thus formed. Concomitantly, signals from the receptor move downfield, which clearly indicates the proton transfer from the acid to the receptor, leading to the corresponding diastereomeric salts. These salts are expected to form intimate ionic pairs in CDCl₃, rendering the observed anisochronic nuclei in NMR for the corresponding enantiomers of acids.

According to the theory of chemical equilibrium, upon increasing the concentration, the mole fraction of the reactants decreases for a combination reaction. So, it can be predicted that when the fractional population of free acid is smaller the $\Delta\Delta\delta$ is larger at a larger concentration, which is in accordance with the experiments (table 2) on the effect of concentration on the ¹H chemical shift non-equivalences ($\Delta\Delta\delta$) of the strong acid **6** in the presence of receptor 1. When the concentration decreased from 100 mM to 0.0025 mM, the non-equivalent chemical shift is decreased by only 35.6 Hz, from 53.6 Hz to 18 Hz.

To confirm the formation of multimolecular complexes, Job's plot analysis was performed for each enantiomer of the acid 6 (figure 2) in separate experiments, showing a clear 1:3 receptor:acid stoichiometry for both enantiomers of the acid with receptor 1 as expected from the experimental data.

Finally, we have examined the practical applicability of this method for the measurement of enantiomeric excess of carboxylic acids. With this aim, samples containing different proportions of both the enantiomers of **6** (100 mM in 5 mL CDCl₃) were prepared and analysed with ¹H NMR method using the receptor amine **1** (100 mM in 5 mL CDCl₃) in 1:3 receptor : acid molar ratio (figure 7). Integration of the corresponding $C^{\alpha}H^{-1}H$ NMR signals show an excellent linear correlation of the observed % ee's with that of expected % ee's based on HPLC method.²⁹

Similarly, we have examined the chiral recognition ability of easily accessed chiral macrocyclic amines (3–5) towards mandelic acid 6 and 2,3diphenylsuccinic acid 7 by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. The experiments were carried out by adding increasing amounts of the solution of racemic mandelic acid 6 in CDCl₃ (30 mM) to a solution of the chiral macrocyclic amine (3–5) in CDCl₃ (30 mM). Immediately after each addition, ¹H NMR spectrum was recorded in a 400 MHz spectrometer at 25°C. Different receptors (3–5) to acid 6 molar ratios were analysed.

Similar experiments were carried out by varying the amounts of solution of the chiral macrocyclic



Figure 6. Partial ¹H NMR spectra showing C^{α}H signal for racemic acids **6** and **7** (30 mM, CDCl₃, 400 MHz, 25°C) (a) in the presence of macrocyclic amine **3** (0.33 equiv. of 30 mM, CDCl₃) (b) in the presence of macrocyclic amine **3** (6 equiv. of 30 mM, CDCl₃).

amine (3–5) in CDCl₃ (30 mM) to a solution of racemic 2,3-diphenyl succinic acid 7. The splitting between methine proton (C^{α}H) signals corresponding to each enantiomer of the acids (6–7) ($\Delta\Delta\delta$) after addition of receptors (3–5) have been shown in table 3.

For all tested examples, the signals for the protons $(C^{\alpha}H)$ attached to the asymmetric carbon of the substrate were split. In the case of enantiomeric recognition of mandelic acid and 2,3-diphenylsuccinic acid by the macrocyclic amine 3 and 5, the baseline resolution was good enough for an accurate integration whereas in the case of macrocyclic amine 4 the splitting of the methine proton signal was only 3-4 Hz. The macrocycle 5 was also used to determine the enantiomeric excess of non-racemic samples of 2,3-diphenylsuccinic acid. The difference in chemical shift of the methine proton signals of racemic mandelic acid 6 was found to be 17.6 Hz in the presence of the macrocyclic amine 3 when the ratio of amine and acid was 1:3. However, in the case of 2,3-diphenylsuccinic acid 7, a chemical shift difference of 11.6 Hz was observed when the ratio of amine and acid was 6:1 (figure 6).

To confirm the formation of multimolecular complexes, Job's plot analysis was performed for each enantiomer of acid 6 (figure 3) in separate experiments. A clear 1:3, receptor:acid stoichiometry for both enantiomers of the acid was observed. These experiments also agree with a tri-protonation state of the macrocycle 3 in optimal supramolecular complexes. From the plot (figure 3), it is evident that the chemical shift changes of (S)-mandelic acid are greater when compared to the (R)-mandelic acid. In order to further assess the discriminating ability of the amine 3, the titration of the macrocyclic amine 3 with the (R) and (S)-mandelic acids was carried out by varying the relative ratio of the amine and acid as 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 1.00, 1.25, 1.5, 2.00, 2.5 and 3.00 and the change in chemical shift of the methine signal of the (R) or (S)-mandelic acid was recorded. The relative concentration of the amine (C) was plotted against the change in chemical shift of the methine signal ($\Delta\Delta\delta$) (figure 8).

The splitting of the methine proton signal of the 2,3-diphenylsuccinic acid 7 was found to be good enough (40 Hz) when the macrocyclic amine 5 was used in 2:1 ratio with the diacid 7. In order to evaluate the efficiency of the amine 5 in the determination of the enantiomeric excess of the diacid 7, the enantiomeric composition of the non-racemic



Figure 7. Selected region of the ¹H NMR (400 MHz) spectra of **6** (100 mM) with various enantiomeric purities in the presence of (1R, 2R, 1'R, 1''R)-**1** (100 mM) in CDCl₃ at 25°C. The %ee values were obtained from the integration of the signals and the %ee values obtained by HPLC analysis are given in parentheses.

Table 3. Measurements of ¹H NMR chemical shift non-equivalences ($\Delta\Delta\delta$, 400 MHz) of methine proton (C^{α}H) signals of the acids 6 and 7 in the presence of the macrocyclic amines 3, 4 and 5 in CDCl₃ (30 mM) at 25^oC.

	Macrocyclic	он соон 6			Ph Ph HOOC COOH 7		
Fntry		Ratio of	$\Delta\Delta\delta$		Ratio of	$\frac{\Delta\Delta\delta}{\rm nnm} = {\rm Hz}$	
1 2 3	3 4 5	1:3 1:6 1:4	0.044 0.011 0.034	112 17.6 4.4 13.6	6:1 1:2 2:1	0.029 0.009 0.100	112 11.6 3.6 40.0

samples of the diacid was determined in the presence of the macrocyclic amine.

The non-racemic samples of the diacid 7 were obtained by partial resolution using (S)-proline following a procedure reported from this laboratory to obtain the diacid with 71% ee from the precipitate fraction and with 17% ee from the filtrate fraction.²⁶ The enantiomeric excess of the non-racemic diacid 7 with 71% ee and 17% ee determined by ¹H-NMR in the presence of the amine **5** was in agreement with

the ee values measured by optical rotation (figure 9). It was observed that the methine proton signal of the (S,S)-7 was shifted more downfield compared to the (R,R)-7. In the presence of the macrocyclic amine 4 the splitting of the mandelic acid 6 was 4.4 Hz and that of 2,3-diphenylsuccinic acid 7 was 3.6 Hz. Optimum results were obtained when the ratio of the macrocyclic amine 3 and mandelic acid was 1:3 and that of the amine 3 and 2,3-diphenylsuccinic acid was 6:1. In the case of the macrocycle 5, better

results were obtained when the ratio of 5 and mandelic acid was 1:4 and that of 5 and 2,3-diphenylsuccinic acid was 2:1 (table 3).

4. Conclusion

Chiral *trans*-1,2-diaminocyclohexane derivatives 1– 5 were found to be useful as efficient chiral solvating agents (CSA) for the fast and easy determination



Figure 8. ¹H-NMR titration curves of **3** with (*R*)- and (*S*)-mandelic acids **6** [C = relative concentration of the amine with respect to the acid; $\Delta\Delta\delta$ = change in the chemical shift of the methine proton of **6**].



Figure 9. Selected region of the ¹H-NMR spectra of acid 7 (0.05 M) with various enantiomeric purities in the presence of amine 5 (0.05 M) with 1:2 molar ratio in CDCl₃ at 25°C. The %ce values given are obtained from integration of the signals and the average %ce values obtained by graphical analysis of the signals after expansion (100%, 200%) are given in parentheses.

of the enantiomeric purity of carboxylic acids (6-8). The studies indicate that most of these compounds act as polytopic receptors, binding up to three molecules of the substrate. Good splitting of the signals was observed after addition of small amounts of the receptor (CSA). The high symmetry and simple ¹H NMR spectrum of these CSA compounds reduce the possibility of large overlapping with signals of the substrate. The formation of diastereomeric complexes is fast and quantitative being possible its in situ analysis by a 400 MHz spectrometer at room temperature. Moreover, as the interaction between receptor and substrate is non-covalent and pHdependent, both compounds can be separated and recovered by a simple acid-base extraction procedure. The easy accessibility of the chiral receptors (1-5) from commercially available 1,2-diaminocyclohexane should make this methodology very attractive for practical application as chiral solvating agents (CSA) for carboxylic acids.

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