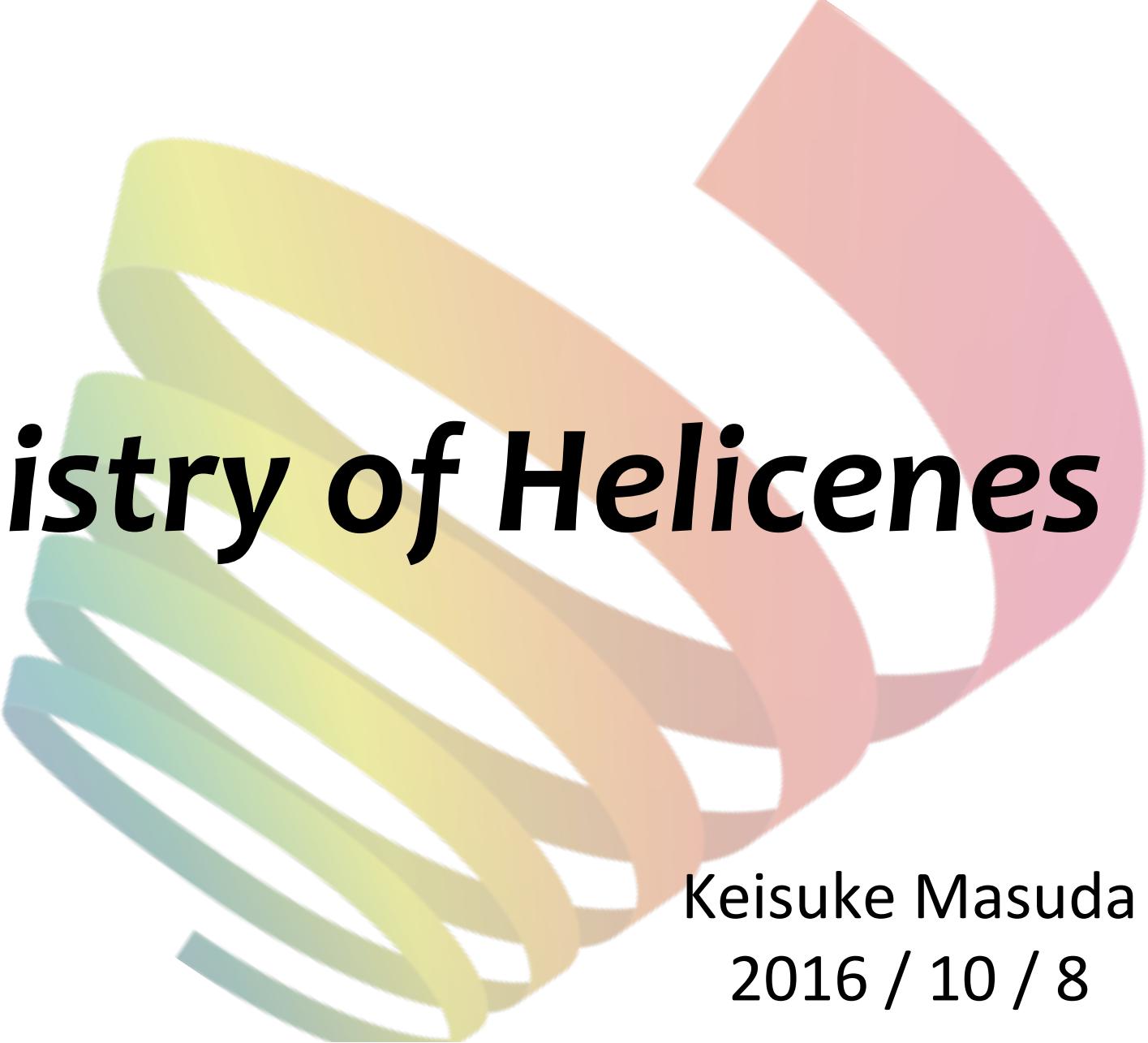


# **Chemistry of Helicenes**



Keisuke Masuda  
2016 / 10 / 8

# Background: Helicenes

Class of polycyclic aromatic molecule

- Characterized by several (4 or more) ortho-fused aromatic rings
- Very large specific rotation
- $\pm 1670^\circ$  (for [5]helicene),  $\pm 9620^\circ$  (for [13]helicene)

Nomenclature

Continuously chiral

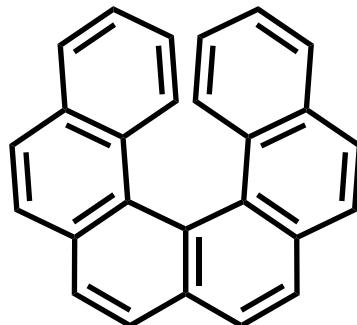
- Use [n] helicene for unsubstituted systems
- n = number of ortho-fused rings

Dictionary

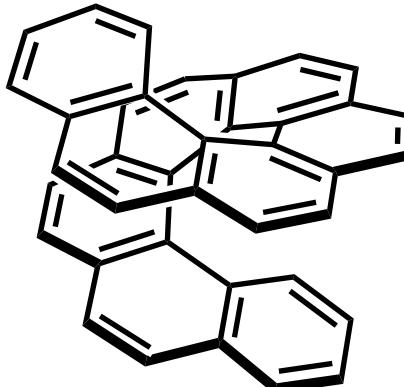
- Right-handed helicenes are denoted *P* (Plus)
- Left-handed helicenes are denoted *M* (Minus)

Axial chirality

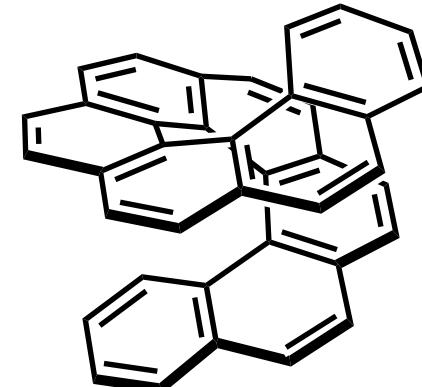
- No stereogenic centers
- Defined by a 3-dimensional space curve



[6]helicene



(*P*)-[6]helicene  
(*P*)-hexahelicene



(*M*)-[6]helicene  
(*M*)-hexahelicene

# Contents

0. Property of Helicenes

1. Synthesis of Helicene

1-1. Early Method

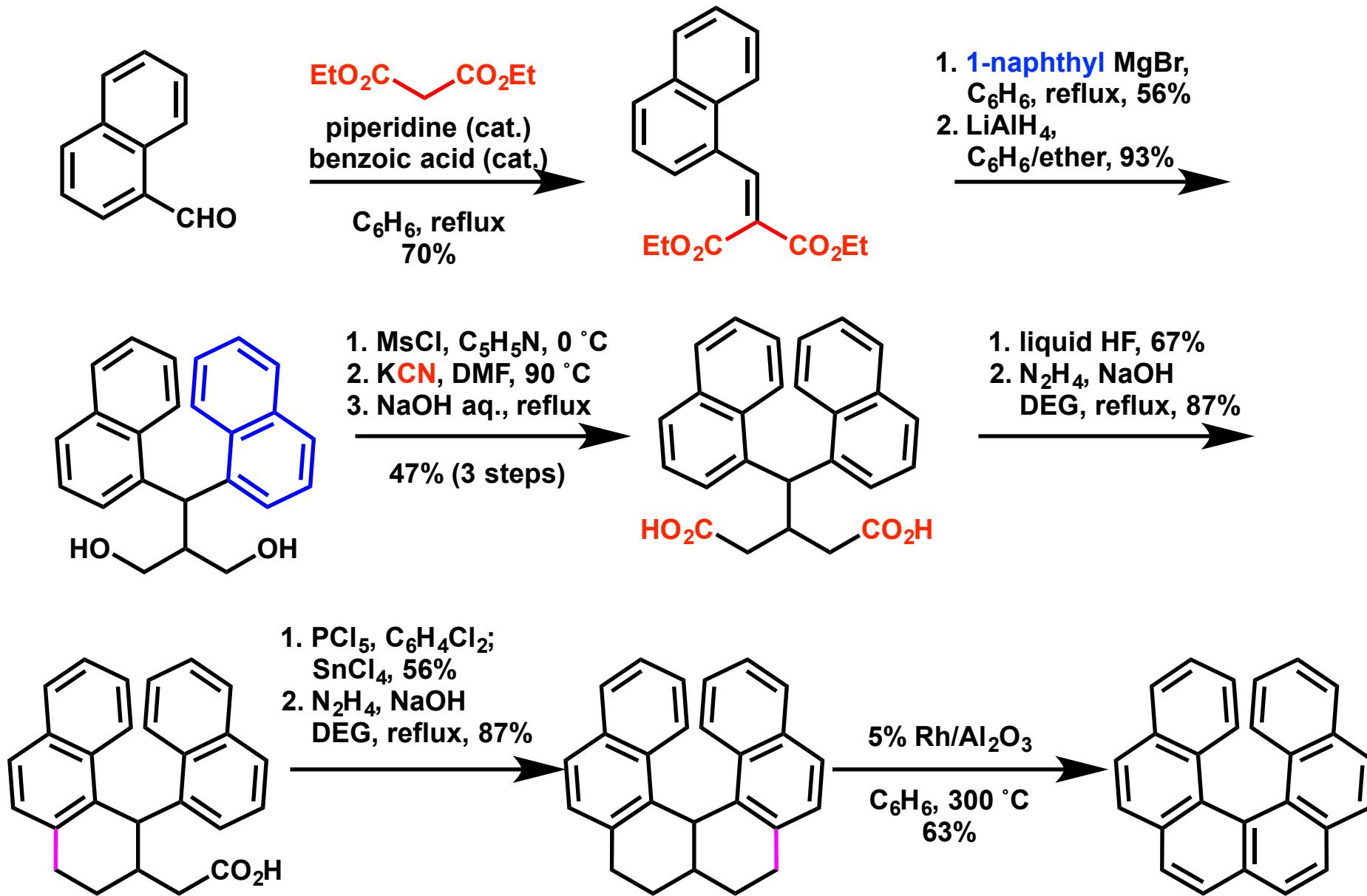
1-2. Photochemical Strategy

2. Application of Helicene

2-1. Helicenes in Asymmetric Reactions

2-2. Helicene in Supramolecular Chemistry

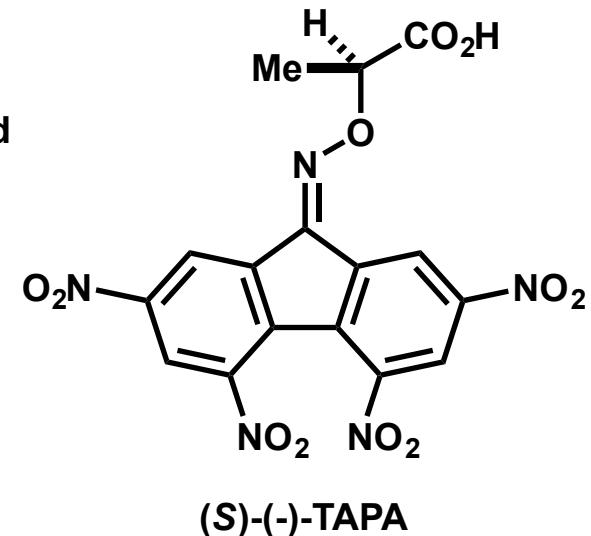
# First Synthesis of Hexahelicene



# Resolution of Hexahelicene

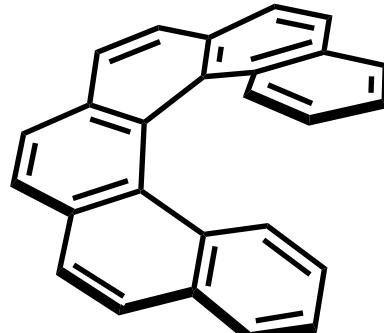
## Resolution of TAPA

- 2-(2,4,5,7-tetranitro-9-fluorenylideneaminoxy)-propionic acid
- Novel technique for optical resolution of racemic compound
- Formation of diastereomeric charge-transfer complex

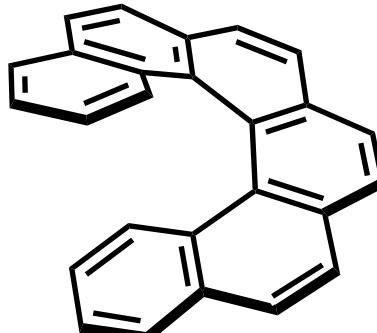


## Specific Rotation

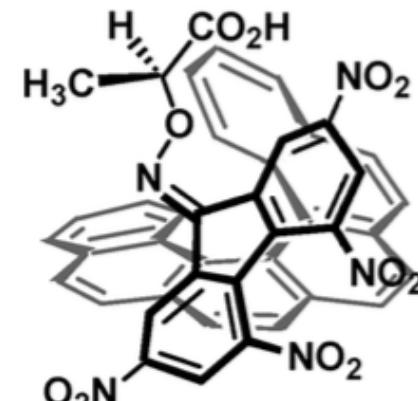
- (M)-[6]helicene:  $[\alpha]^D_{24} = -3640^\circ$
- (P)-[6]helicene:  $[\alpha]^D_{25} = +3707^\circ$



(M)-[6]helicene



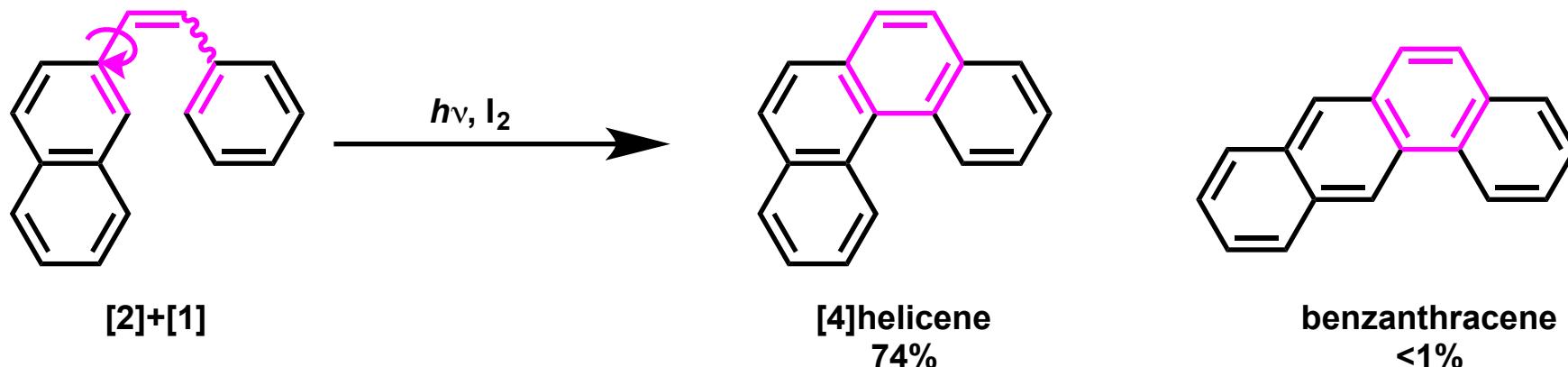
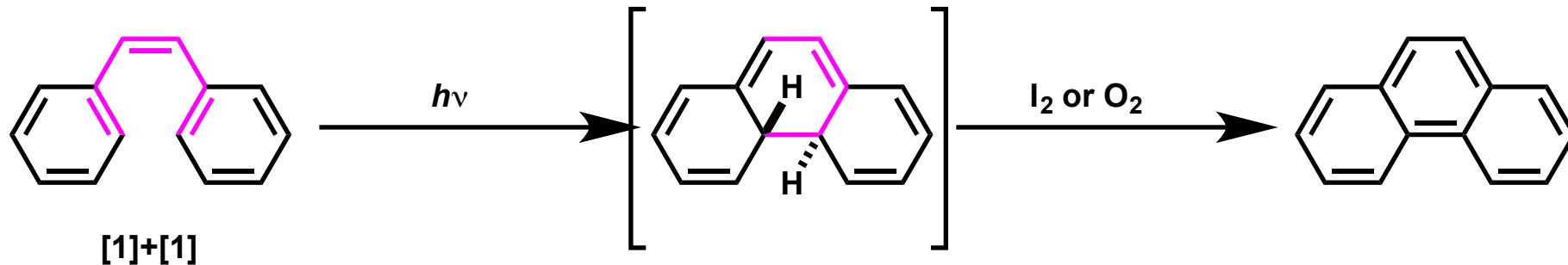
(P)-[6]helicene



CT complex

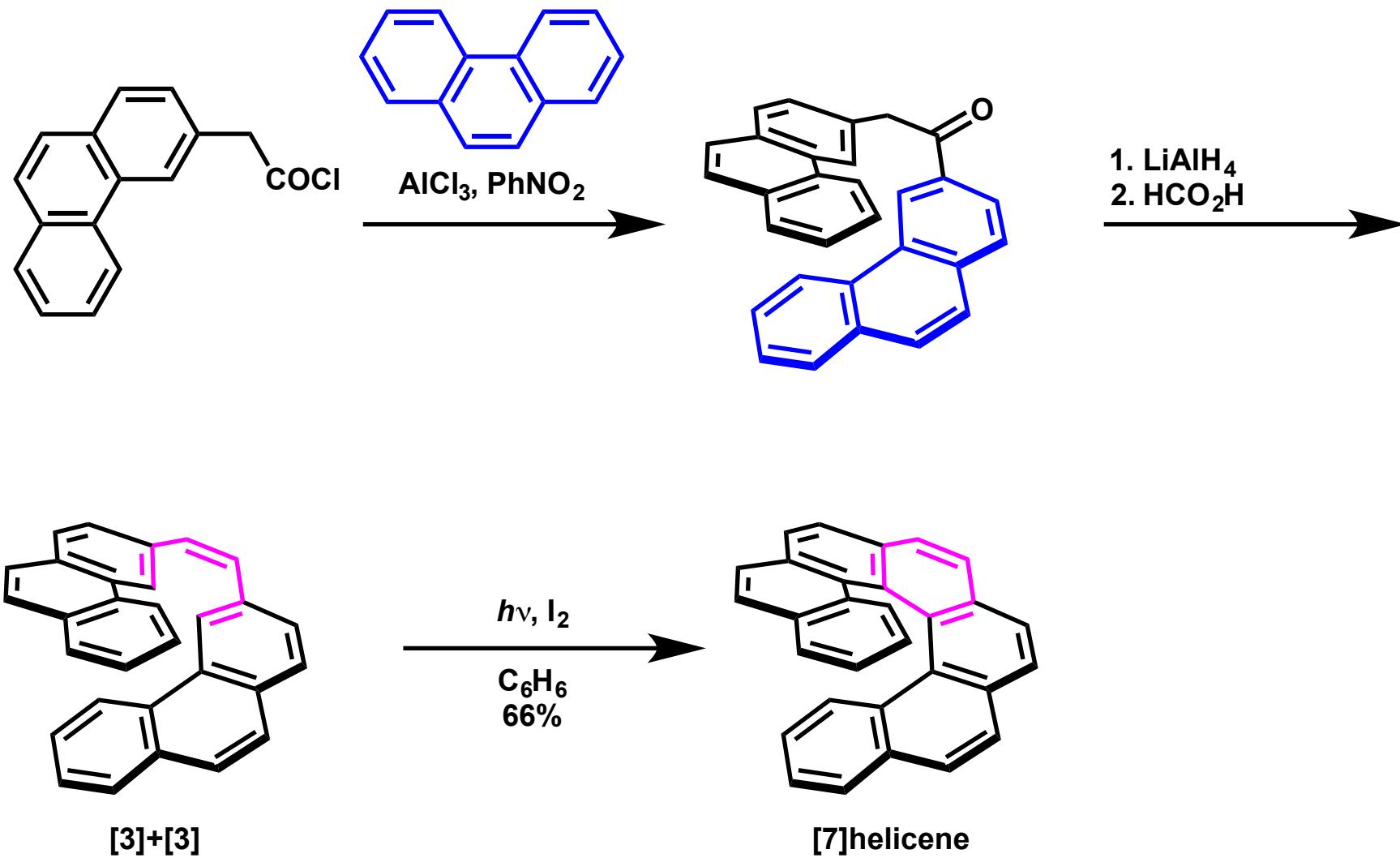
# Oxidative Photocyclization

- Oxidative photocyclization of stilbene-like molecules
- The intermediate trans-dihydrophenanthrene is trapped with I<sub>2</sub> or O<sub>2</sub>

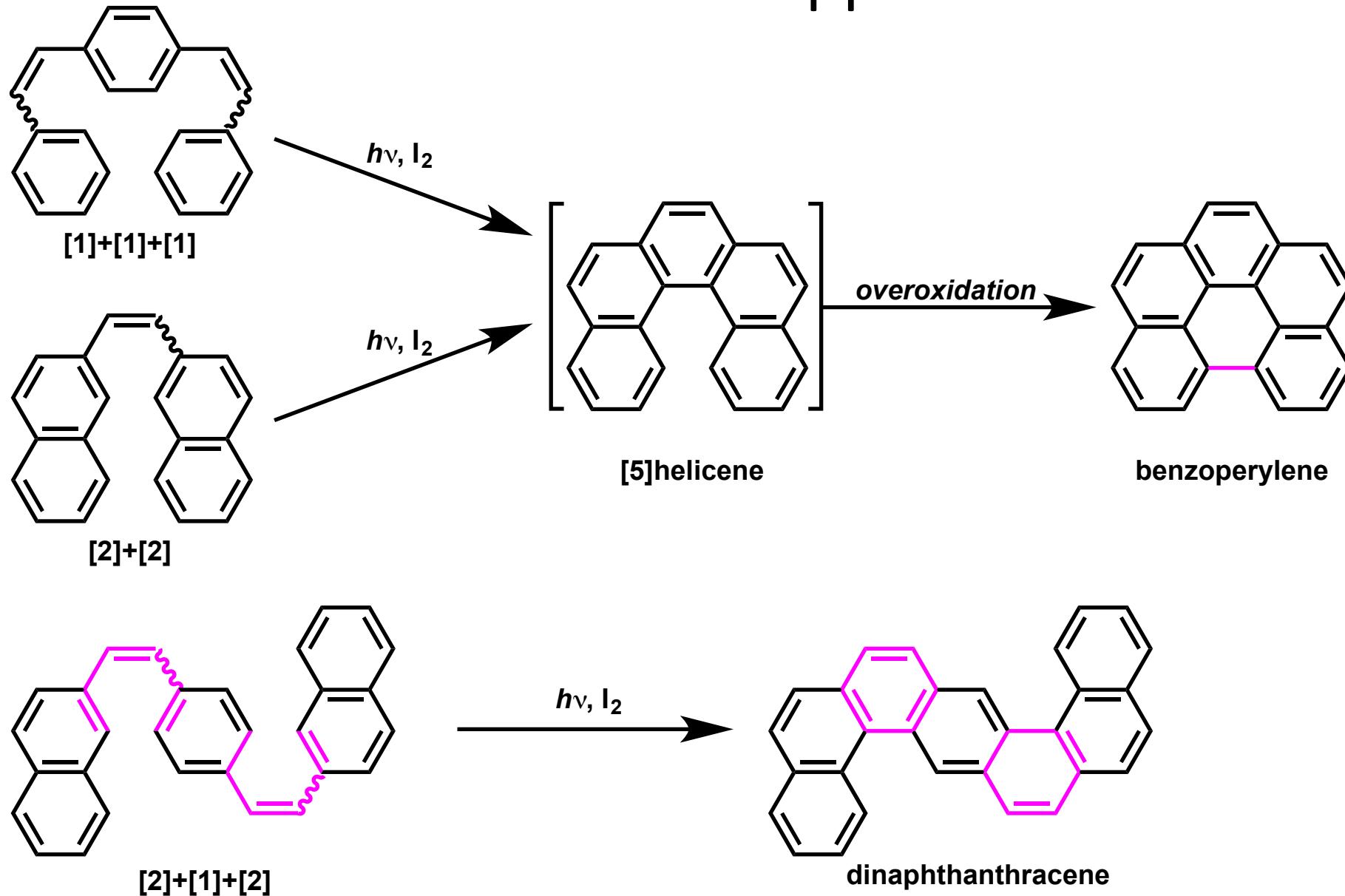


Only the cis-isomer is reactive, but the trans-isomer can still be used since cis-trans isomerization of stilbene derivatives occurs readily under the conditions.

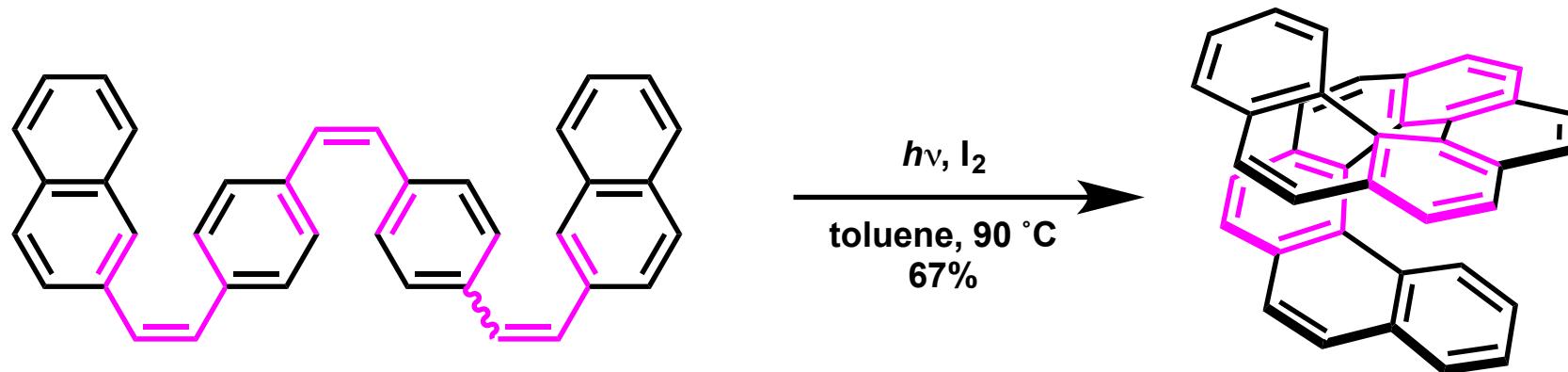
# Synthesis of [7] Helicene



# Photochemical Approach



# Synthesis of [9] Helicene



[2]+[1]+[1]+[2]

interplanar angle

A–G: 21.7°  
B–H: 8.7°  
C–I: 18.3°

pitch of inner helix (Å)

A–G: 3.22  
B–H: 3.26  
C–I: 3.20

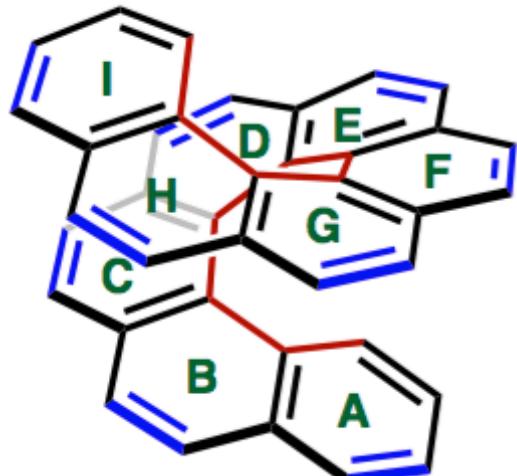
Average: 3.22

[9]helicene

pitch of outer helix (Å)

A–G: 4.11  
B–H: 3.64  
C–I: 3.95

Average: 3.90



C–C bonds at inner helix (Å)

A: 1.42      F: 1.44  
B: 1.46      G: 1.45  
C: 1.46      H: 1.46  
D: 1.43      I: 1.41  
E: 1.45

Average: 1.44

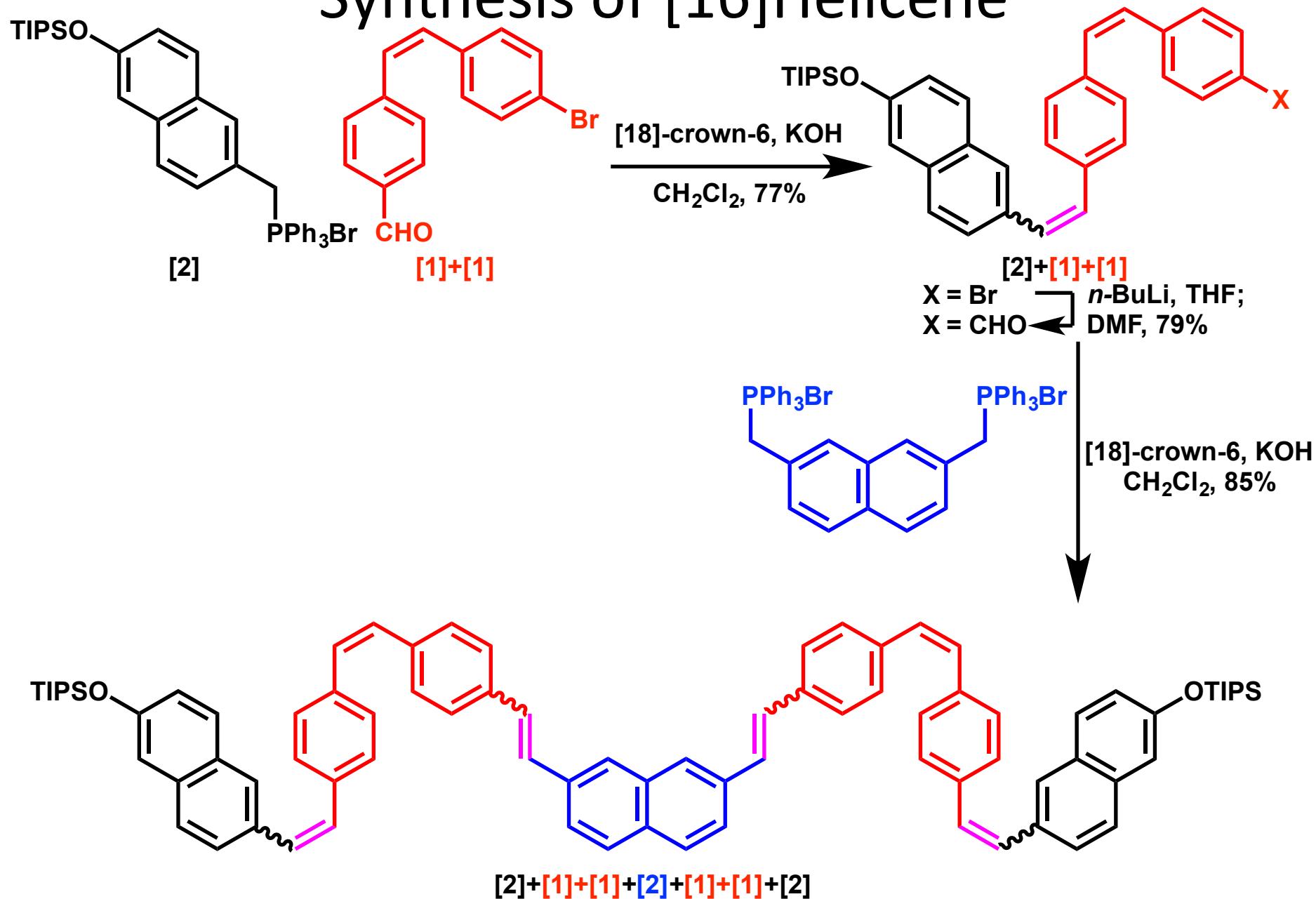
C–C bonds at outer helix (Å)

A: 1.39      F: 1.34  
B: 1.33      G: 1.35  
C: 1.41      H: 1.35  
D: 1.36      I: 1.38  
E: 1.37

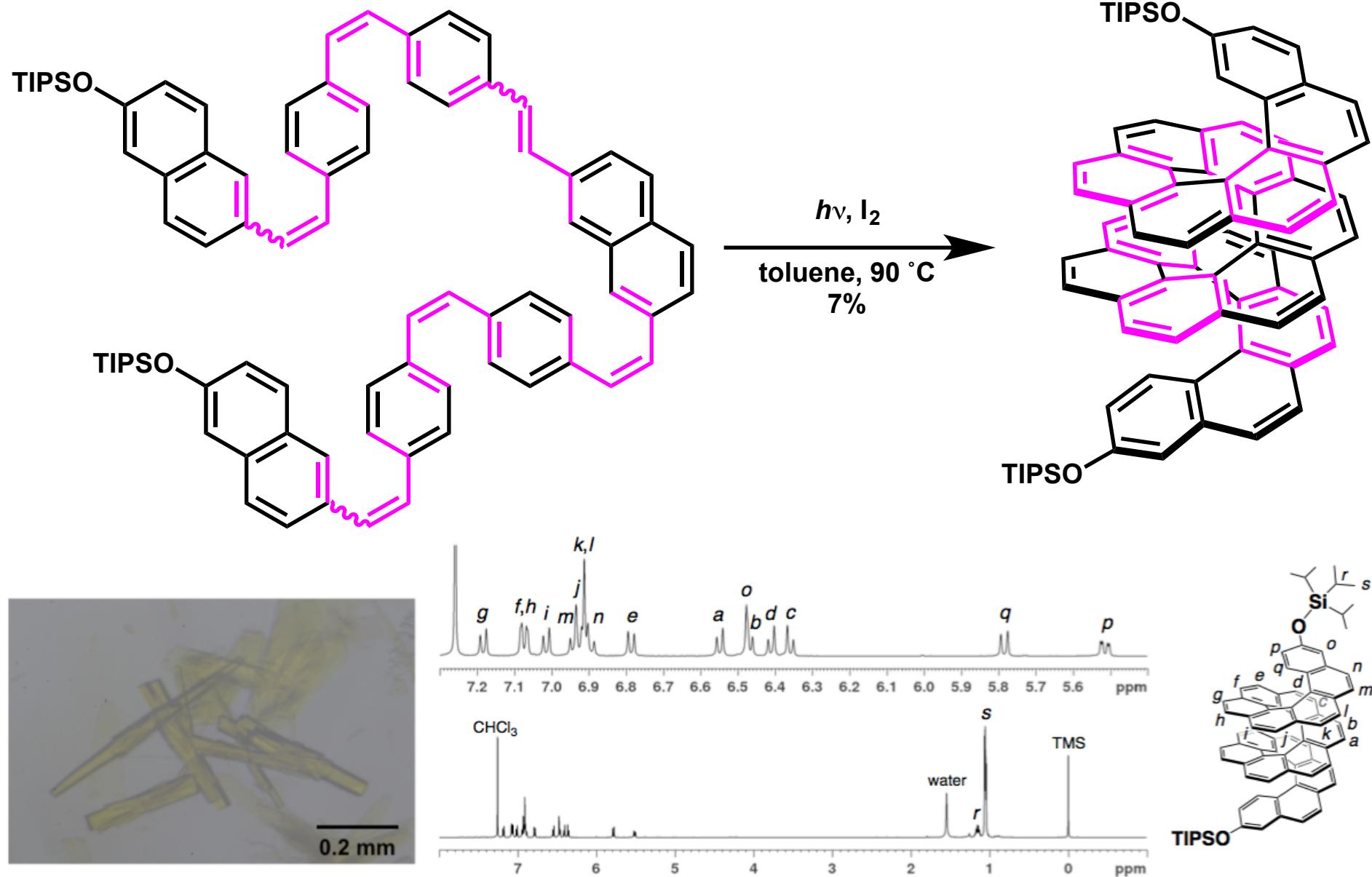
Average: 1.36

cf. 1.40 Å

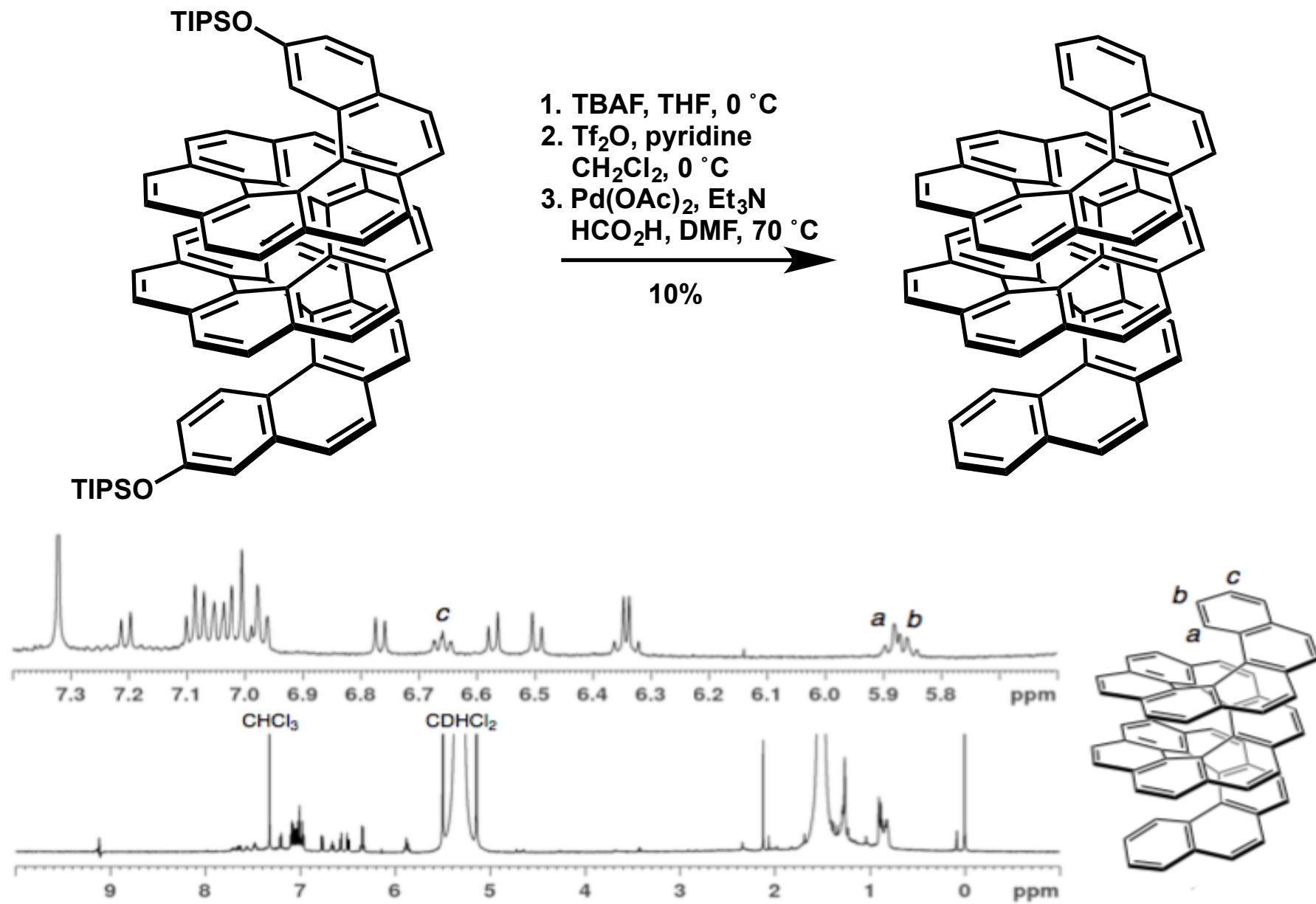
# Synthesis of [16]Helicene



# Synthesis of [16]Helicene



# Synthesis of [16]Helicene



# Contents

## 0. Property of Helicenes

## 1. Synthesis of Helicene

1-1. Early Method

1-2. Photochemical Strategy

## 2. Application of Helicene

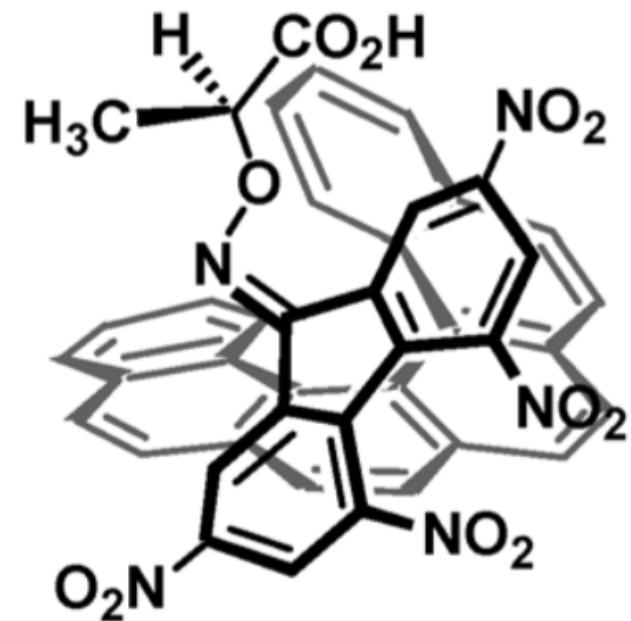
2-1. Helicenes in Asymmetric Reactions

2-2. Helicene in Supramolecular Chemistry

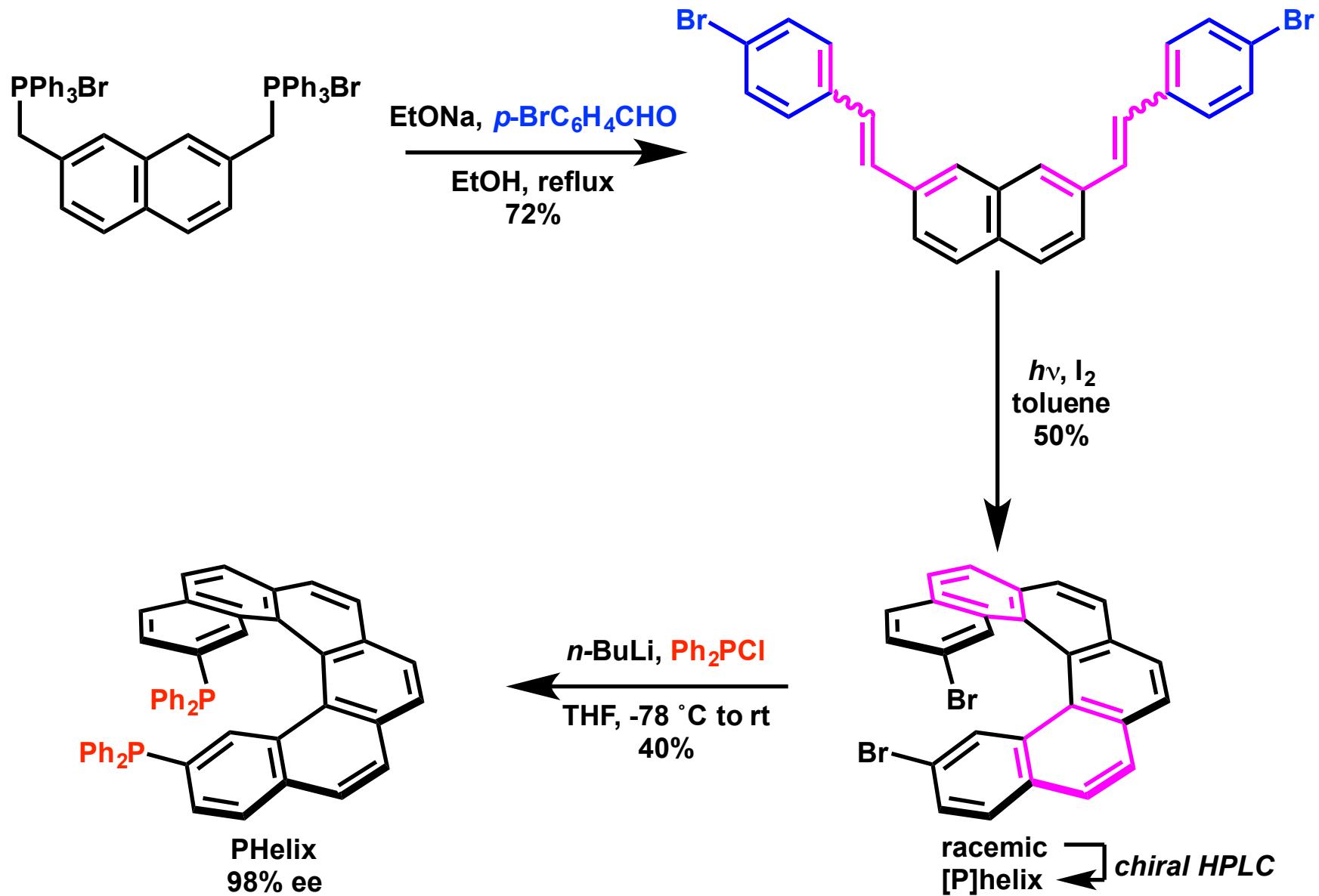
# Asymmetric Catalysis

Why use helicens in asymmetric catalysis?

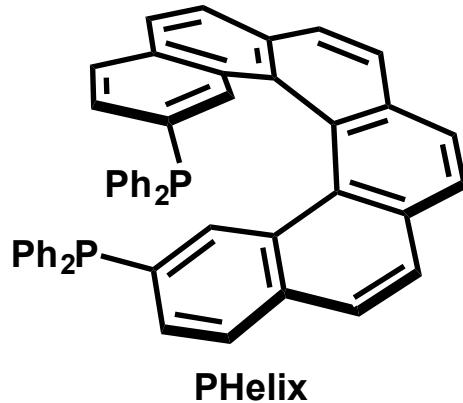
- Rigidity / thermal stability
- Define a large chiral pocket
- Highly amenable to charge-transfer complexation



# Synthesis of Helix Ligand



# Helical Phosphines

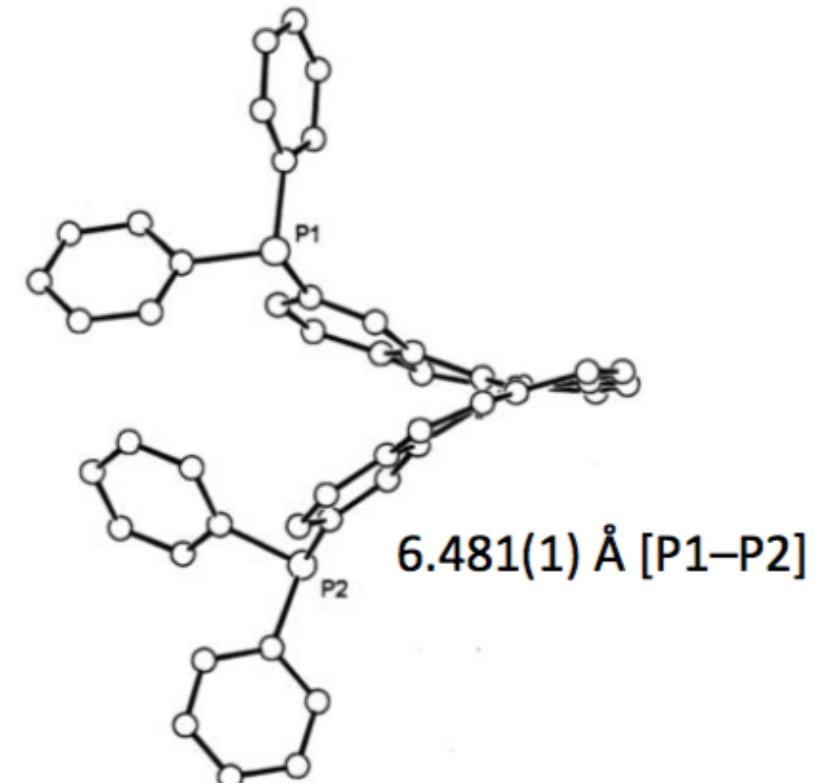


Although PHelix is formally a diphosphine, it is more likely behaving as a monodentate ligand

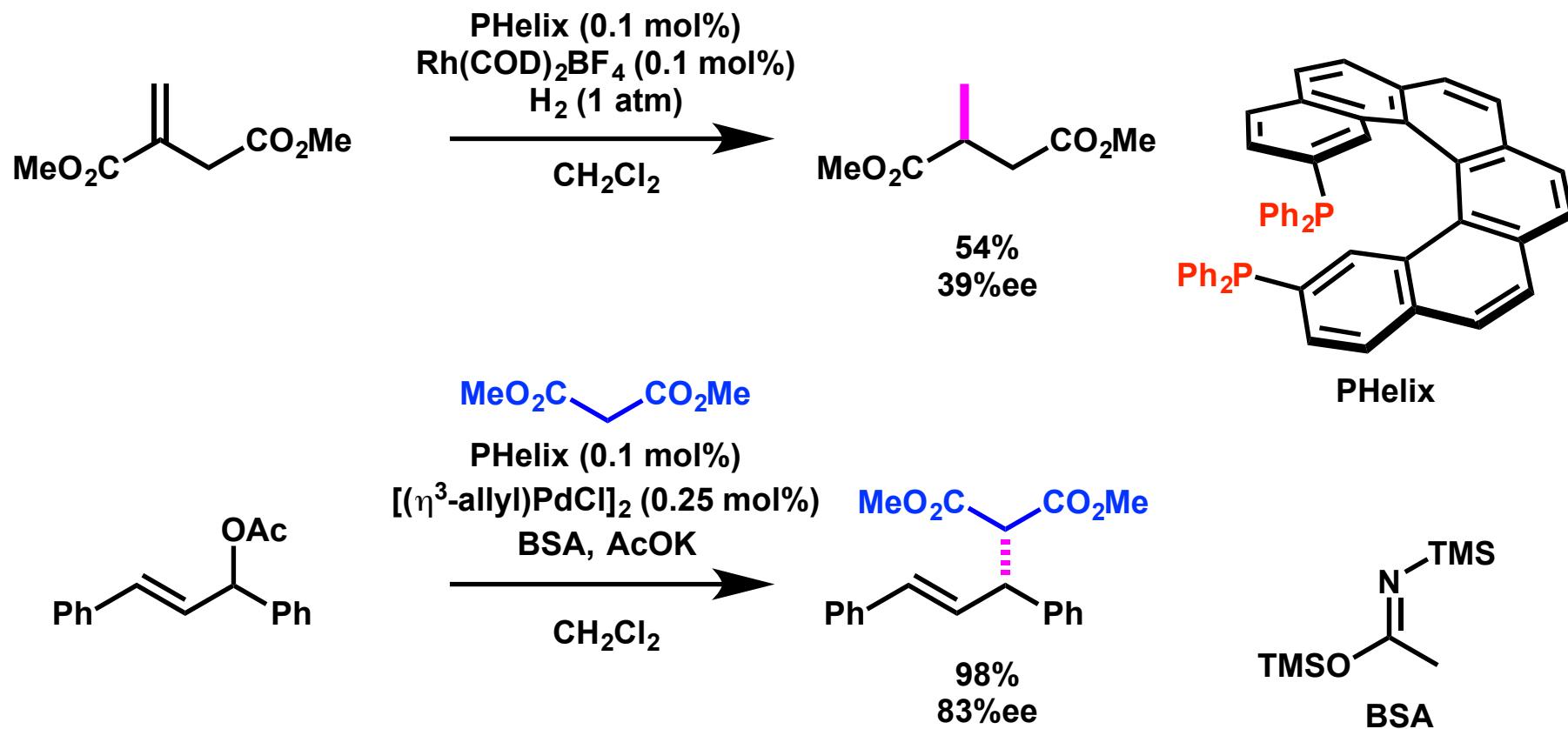
- Multiple signals in  $^{31}\text{P}$  NMR
- $\eta^3\text{-C}_3\text{H}_5\text{PdCl-PHelix}$  complex
- Main peak at 33.6 ppm
- Smaller signals at 24.1, 27.2, 27.9, and 28.0 ppm

## Crystal structure

- P1–P2 distance in PHelix is too large to chelate metal



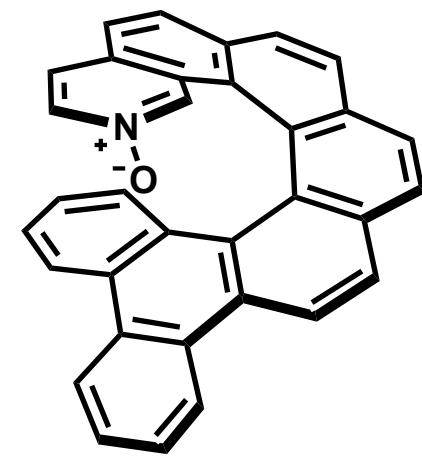
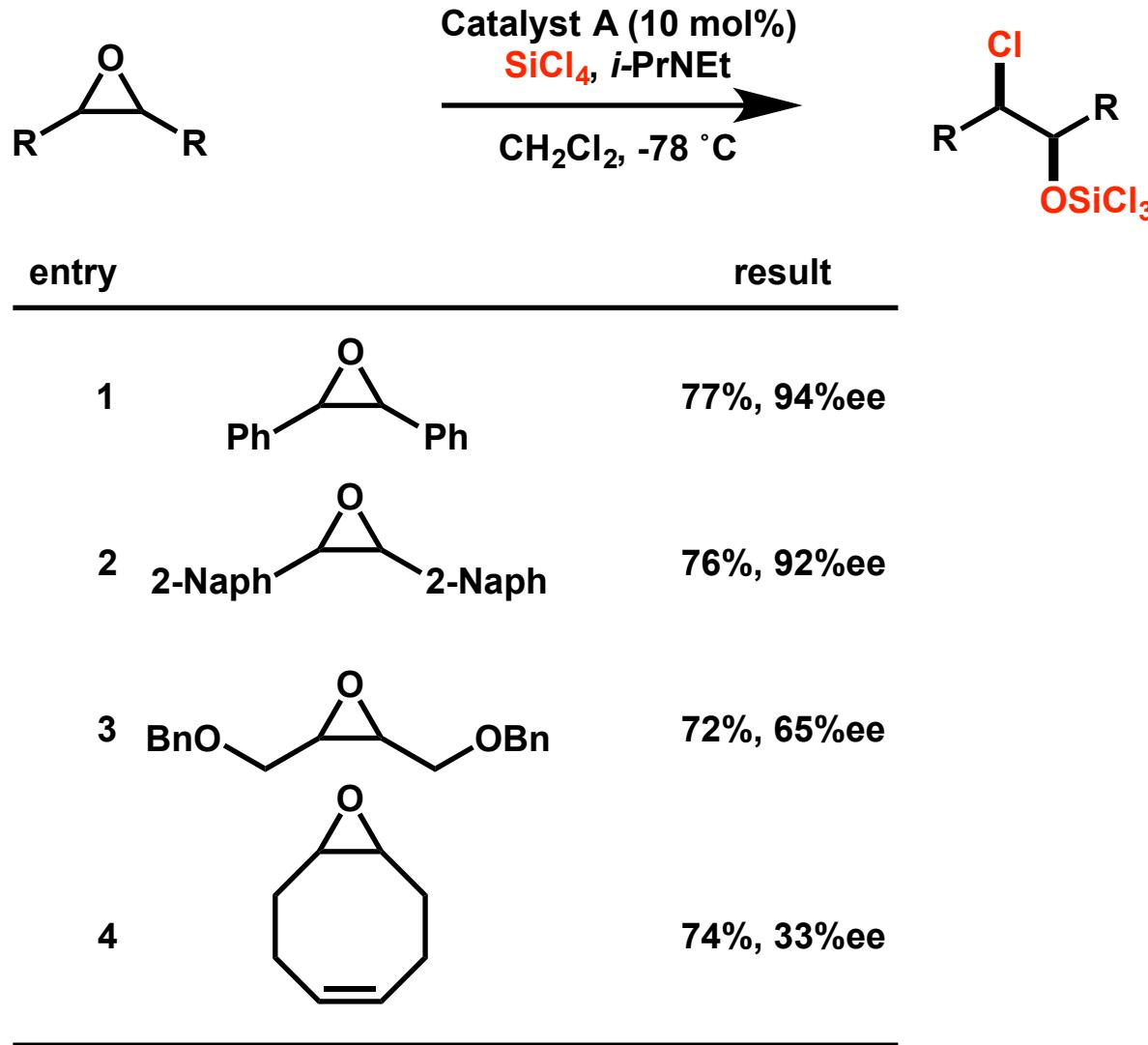
# Helitical Phosphines



Reetz, M.; Beuttenmüller, E.; Goddard, R. *Tetrahedron Lett.* **1997**, *38*, 3211.  
Reetz, M.; Sostmann, S. *J. Org. Chem.* **2000**, *603*, 105.

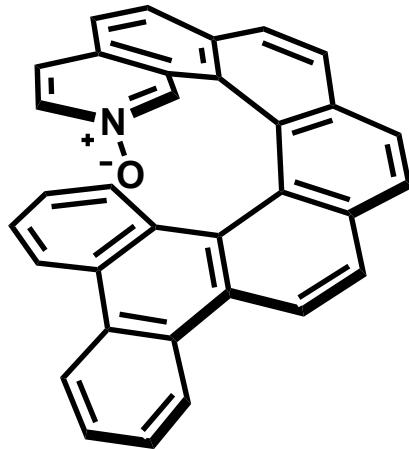
# Helicenes in Organocatalysis

Desymmetrization of *meso* epoxides with chlorosilane

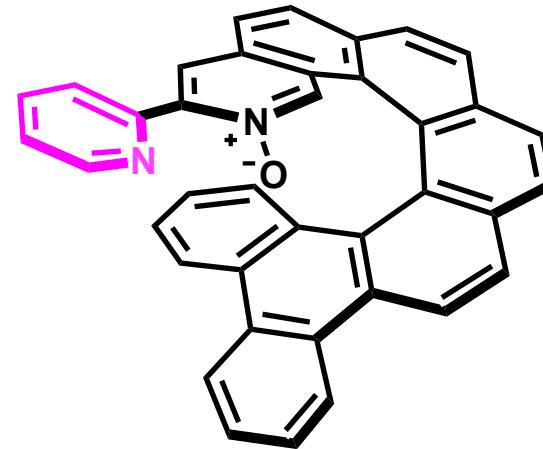
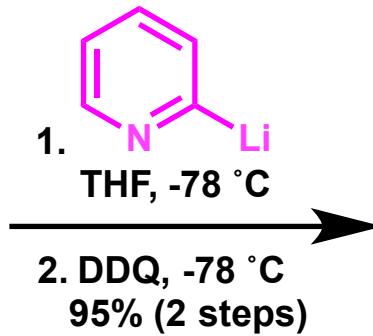


# Lewis Base Catalyst

Synthesis of bidentate Lewis base catalyst



Catalyst A



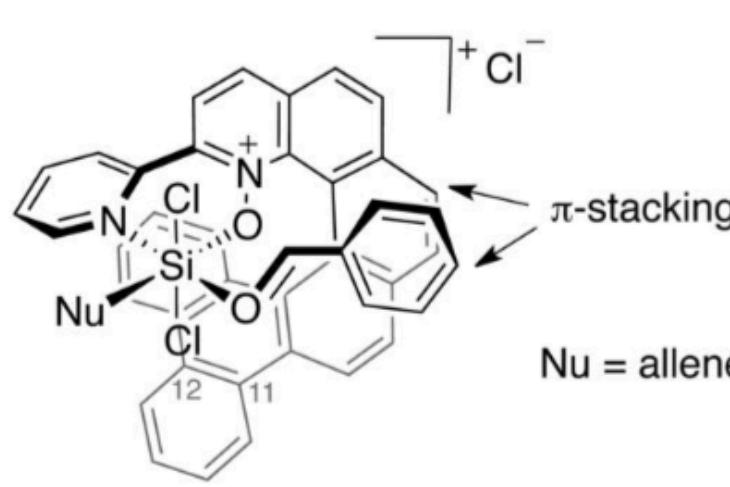
Catalyst B

Activation of allenyltrichlorosilane

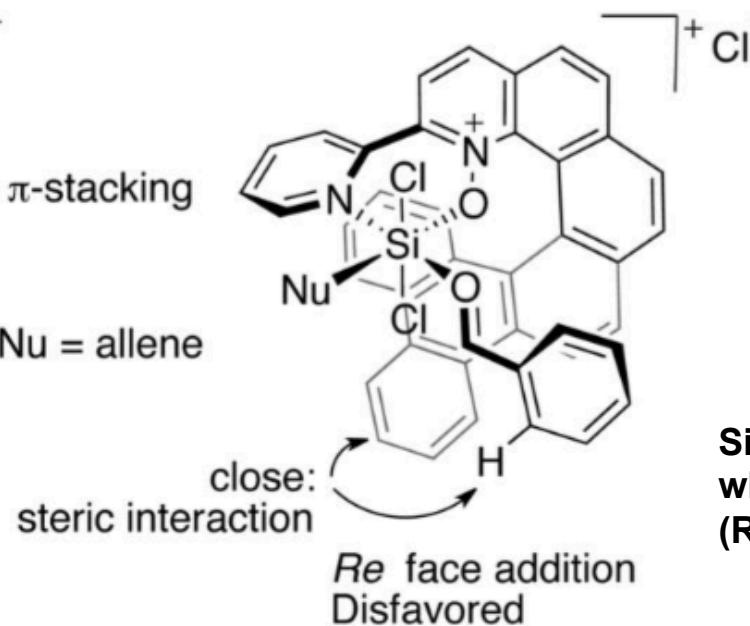


entry	substrates	result
1	$\text{R} = \text{Ph}$	87% 86% ee
2	$\text{R} = 2\text{-naph}$	86% 84% ee
3	$\text{R} = \text{Cy}$	80% 59% ee

# Lewis Base Catalyst

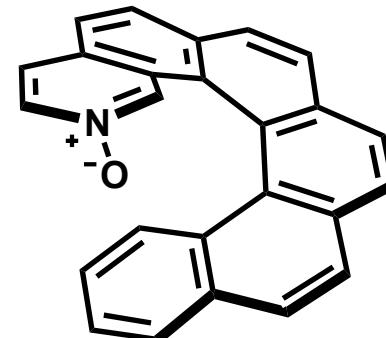


*Si* face addition  
**Favored**

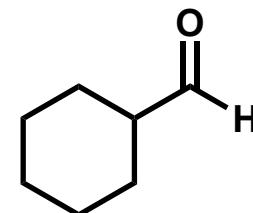


*Re* face addition  
Disfavored

Significant drop in ee when this catalyst was used instead (33% ee)

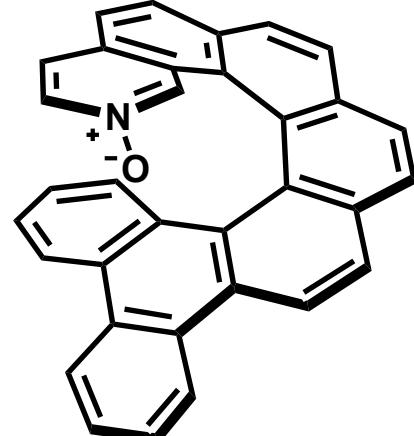


Significant drop in ee (59% ee) when this substrate was used (R = aryl for all other substrates)

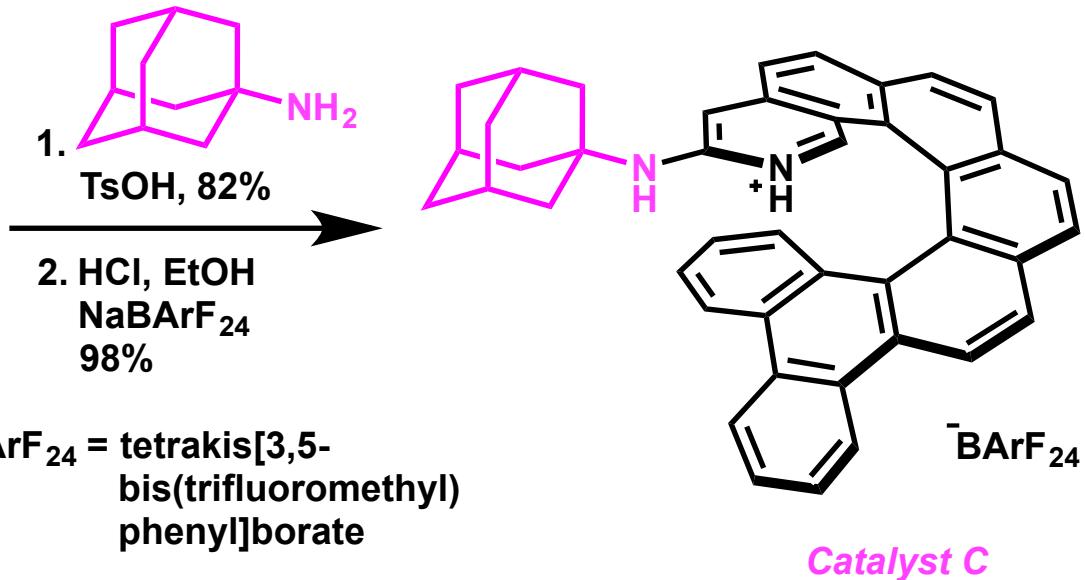


# H-bond Donor Catalysis

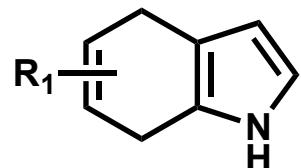
## Synthesis of H-bond donor catalyst



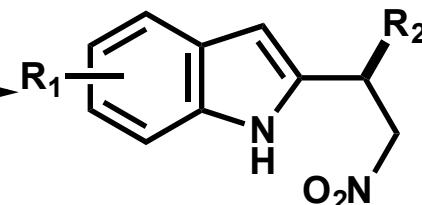
Catalyst A



## Addition of dihydroindoles to nitroalkenes



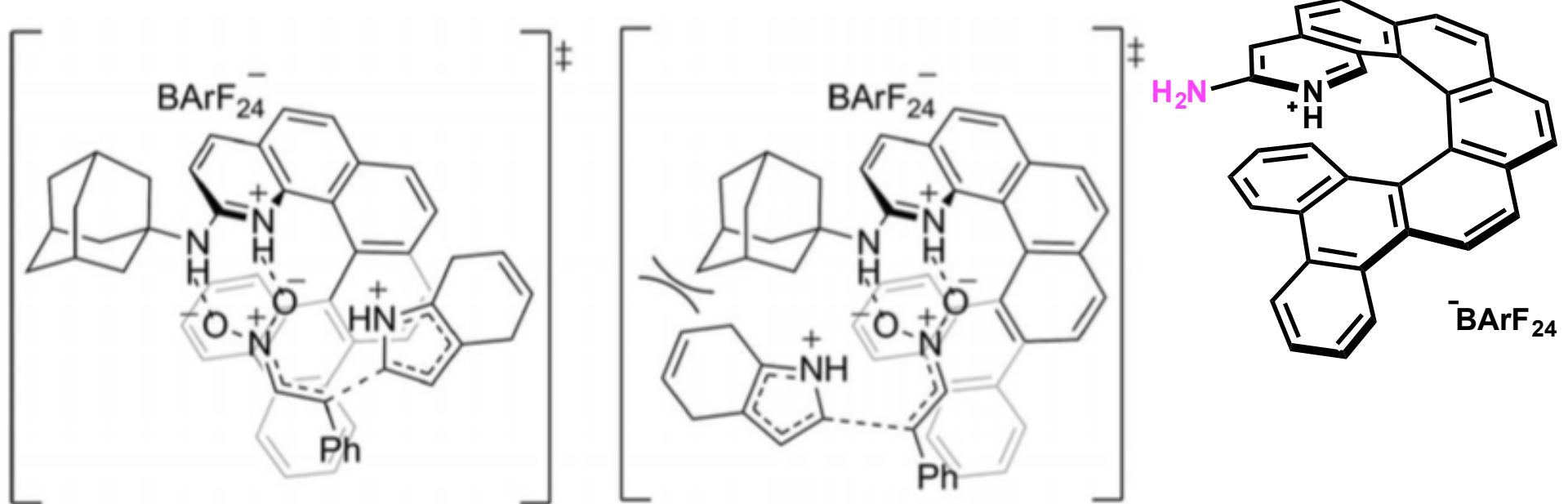
1. **Catalyst C** (2 mol%)  
CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub>, -40 °C  
2. *p*-benzoquinone



- 19 examples
- 10-90% yield
- 20-96% ee

# H-bond Donor Catalysis

Enantioselectivity drops off rapidly for this catalyst  
(adamantyl group removed):



# Contents

## 0. Property of Helicenes

## 1. Synthesis of Helicene

1-1. Early Method

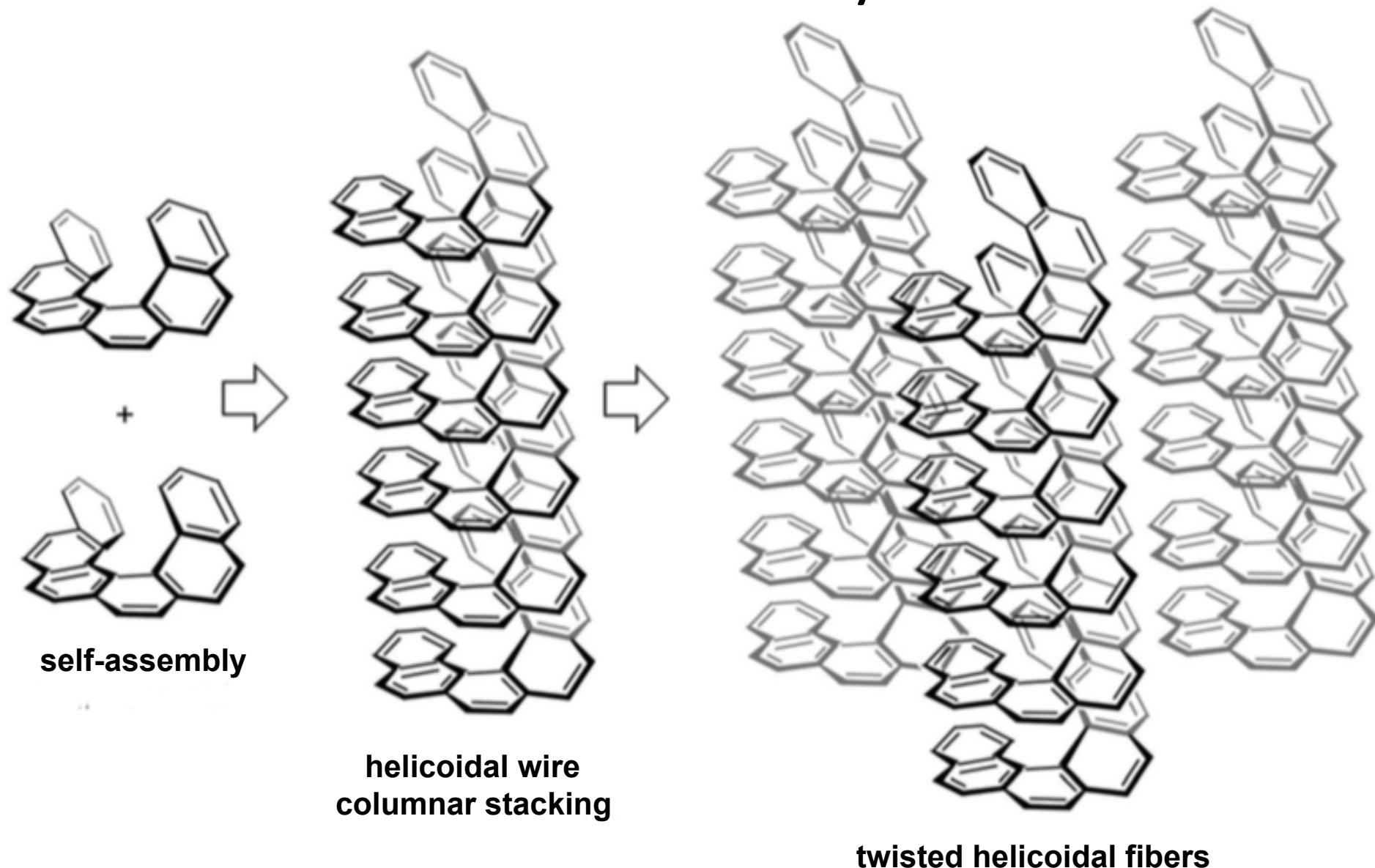
1-2. Photochemical Strategy

## 2. Application of Helicene

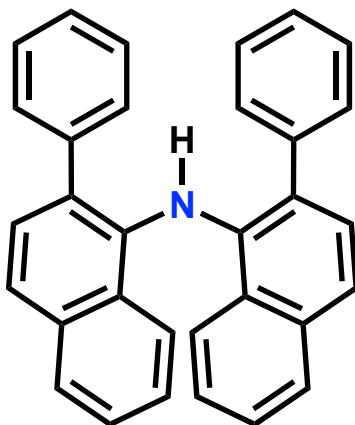
2-1. Helicenes in Asymmetric Reactions

2-2. Helicene in Supramolecular Chemistry

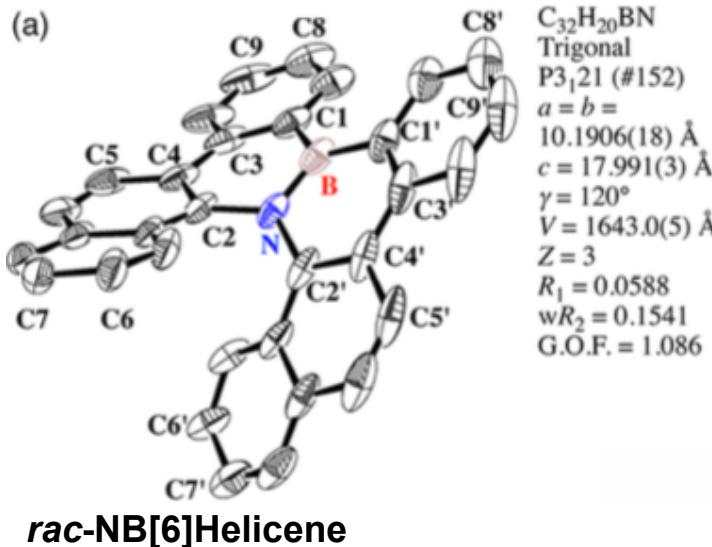
# Self-Assembly



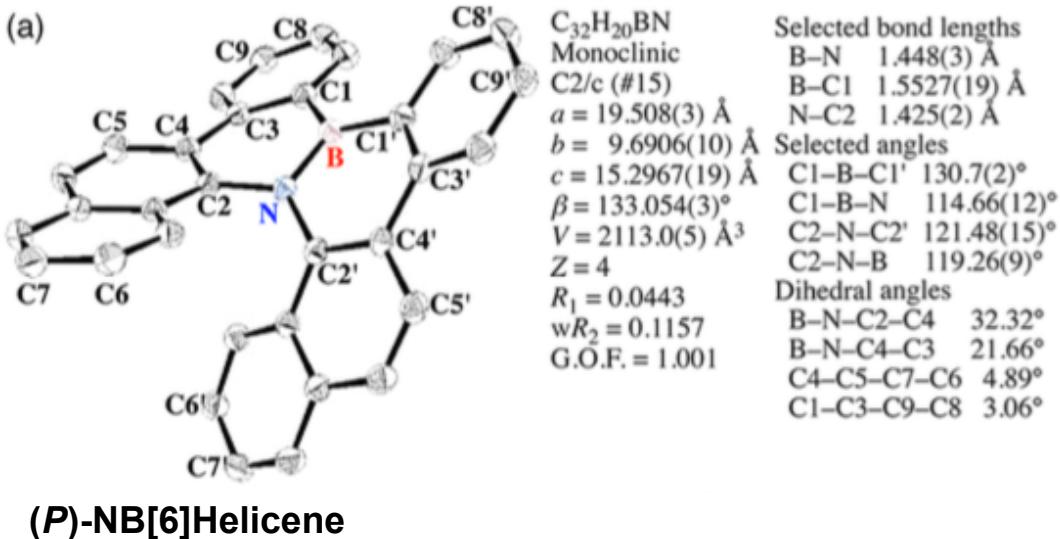
# Double Helicene



1. BuLi,  $\text{BCl}_3$   
toluene, -78 °C to rt  
2. TMP,  $\text{AlCl}_3$   
 $\text{C}_6\text{H}_4\text{Cl}_2$ , 150 °C  
68% (2 steps)



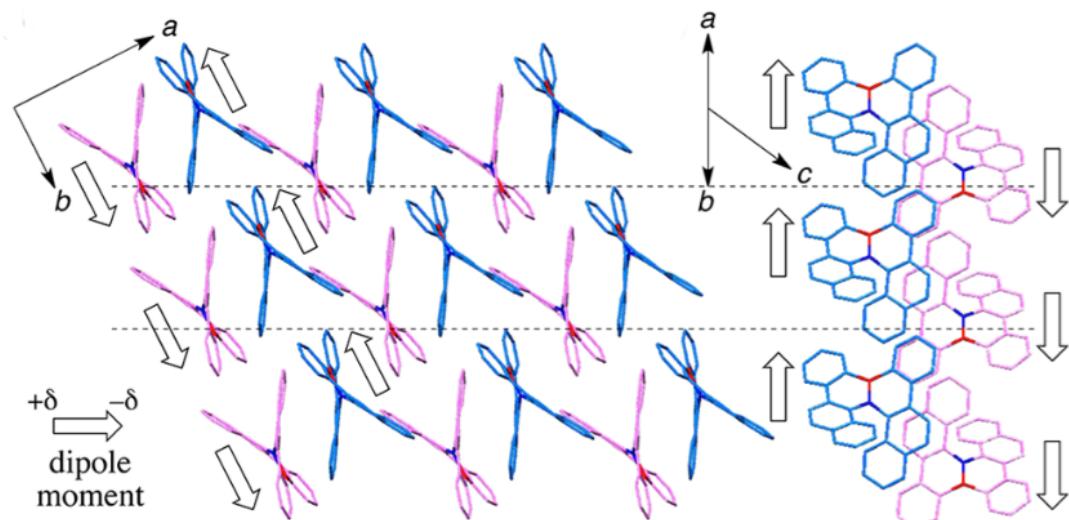
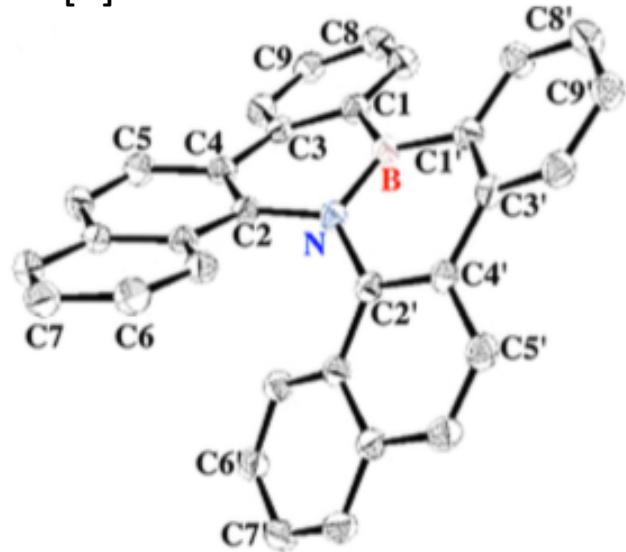
Selected bond lengths	
B-N	1.431(7) Å
B-C1	1.547(4) Å
N-C2	1.421(3) Å
Selected angles	
C1-B-C1'	129.2(5)°
C1-B-N	115.4(3)°
C2-N-C2'	120.3(4)°
C2-N-B	119.83(19)°
Dihedral angles	
B-N-C2-C4	32.10°
B-N-C4-C3	18.76°
C4-C5-C7-C6	2.98°
C1-C3-C9-C8	1.09°



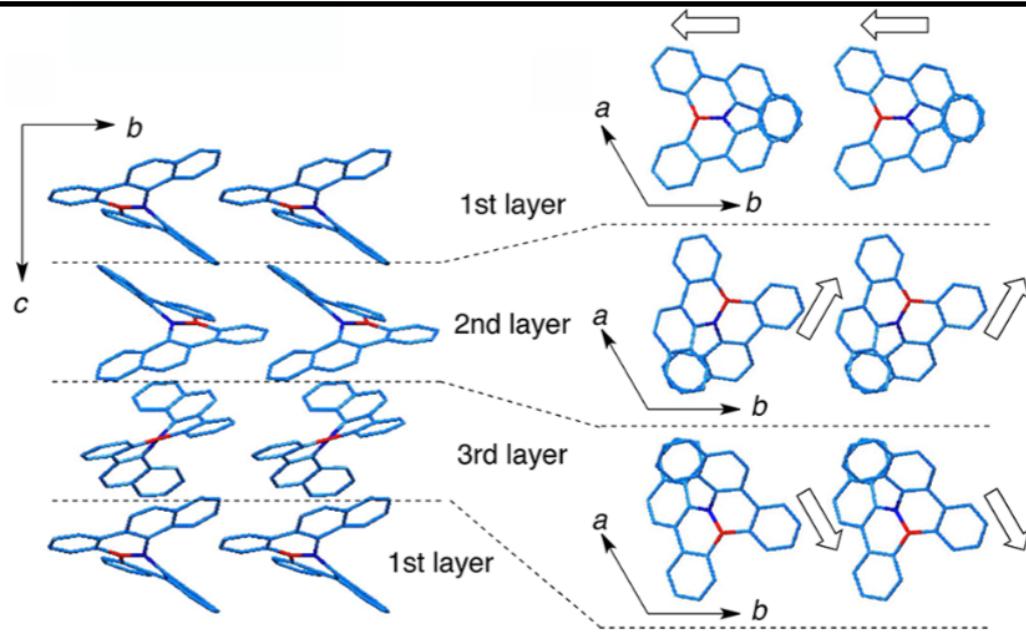
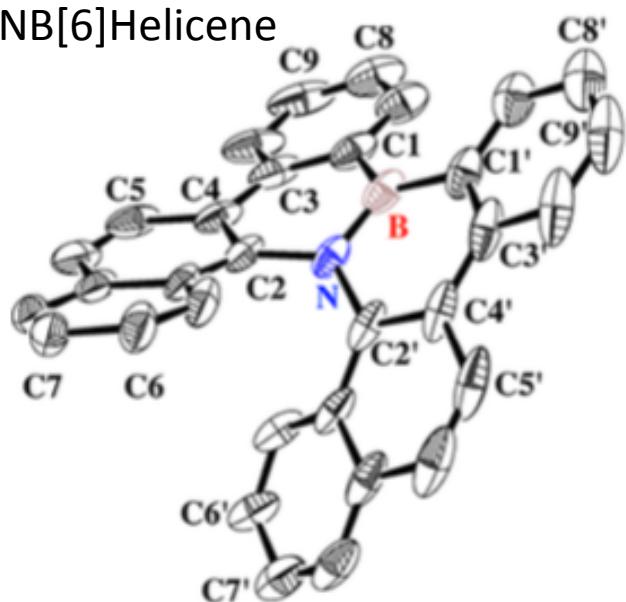
Selected bond lengths	
B-N	1.448(3) Å
B-C1	1.5527(19) Å
N-C2	1.425(2) Å
Selected angles	
C1-B-C1'	130.7(2)°
C1-B-N	114.66(12)°
C2-N-C2'	121.48(15)°
C2-N-B	119.26(9)°
Dihedral angles	
B-N-C2-C4	32.32°
B-N-C4-C3	21.66°
C4-C5-C7-C6	4.89°
C1-C3-C9-C8	3.06°

# Double Helicene

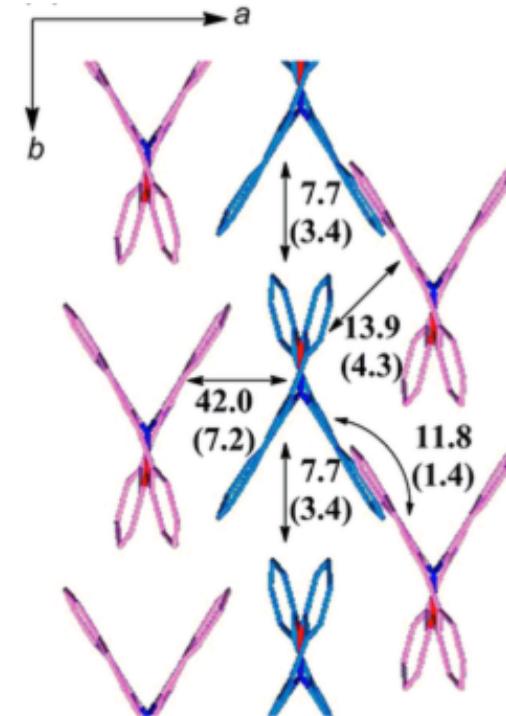
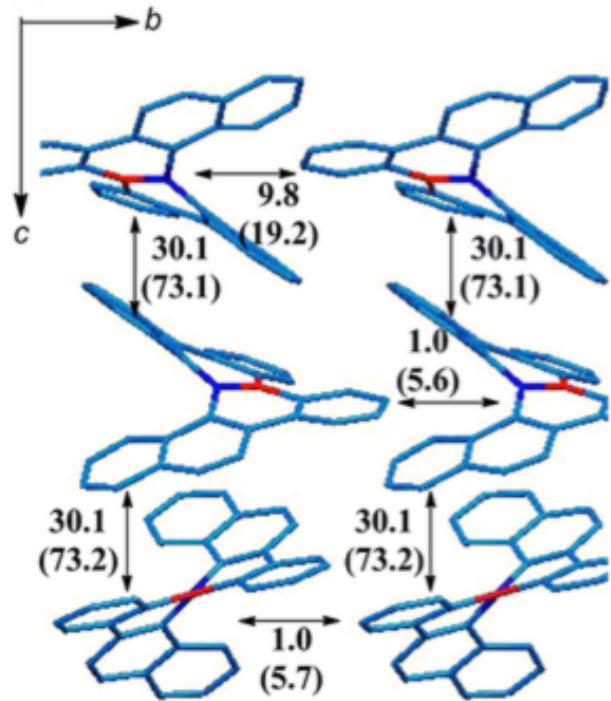
*rac*-NB[6]Helicene



(P)-NB[6]Helicene



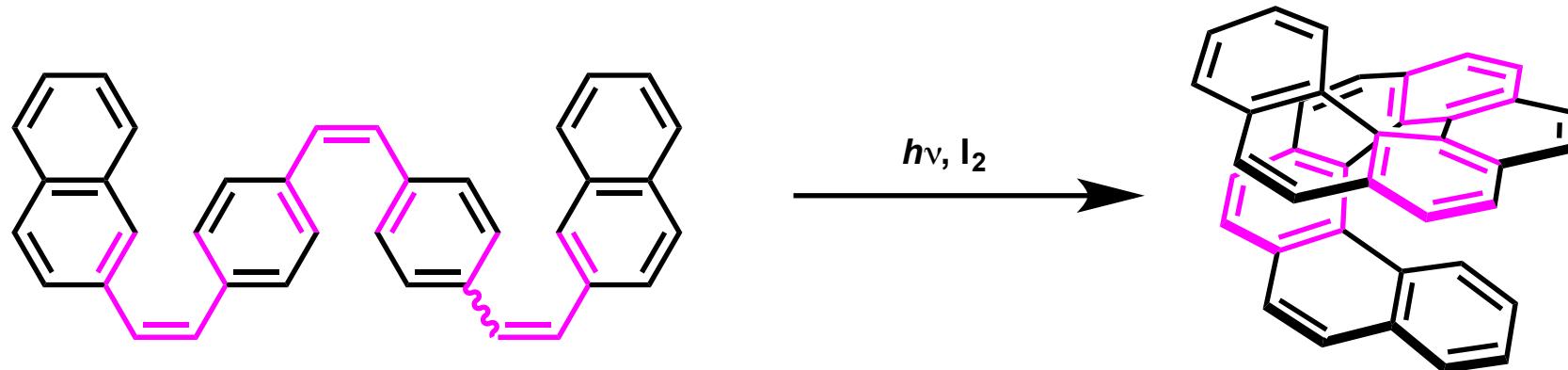
# Carrier Inversion Induced by Helical Homochirality



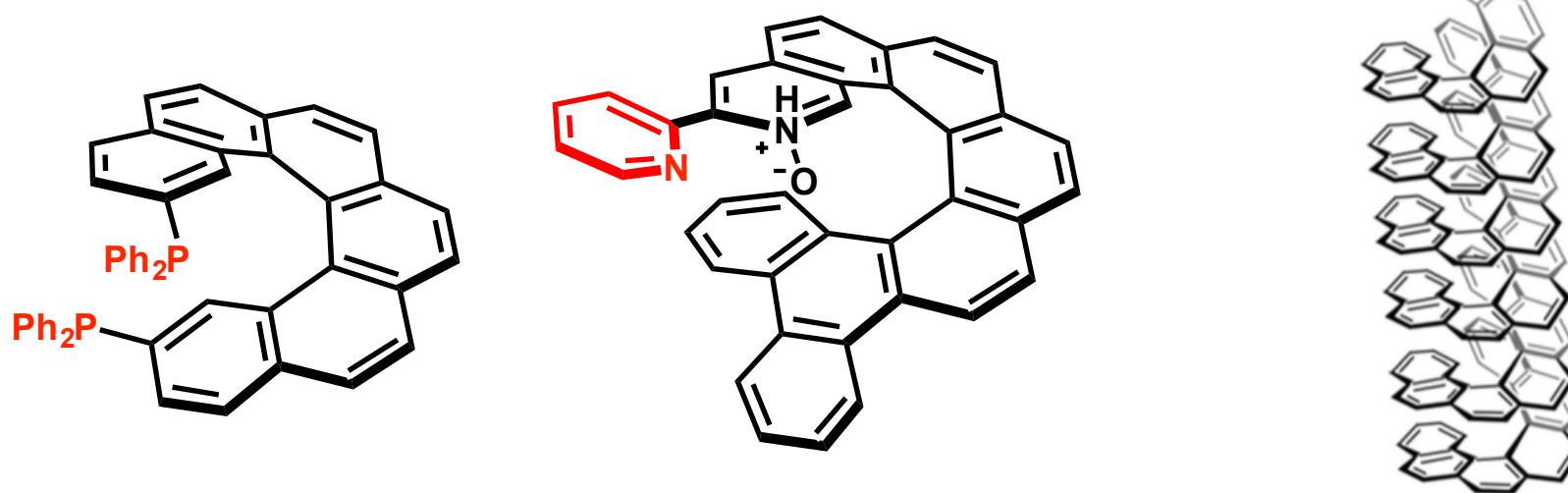
	$\mu_H$ [Hole mobility (cm <sup>2</sup> N/sec)]	$\mu_E$ [Electron mobility (cm <sup>2</sup> N/sec)]	
Silicon	450	1350	
<i>rac</i> -NB[6]Helicene	0.00079	4500	$\mu_H \ll \mu_E \rightarrow$ good n-type semiconductor
( <i>P</i> )-NB[6]Helicene	0.00046	-	$\mu_H \gg \mu_E \rightarrow$ good p-type semiconductor

# Summary

## 1. Synthesis of Helicene

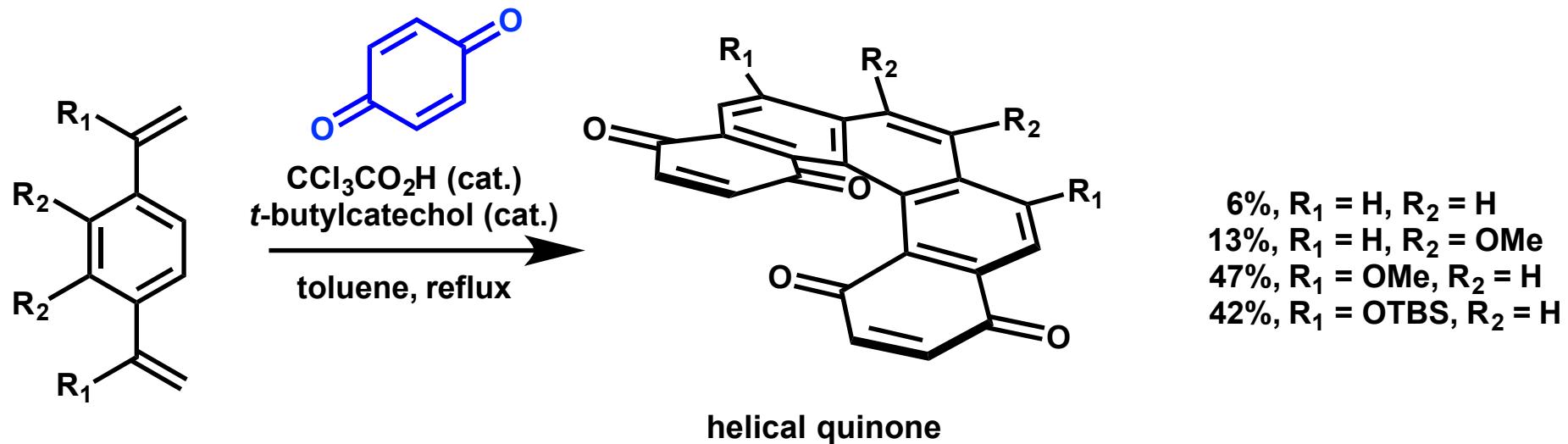
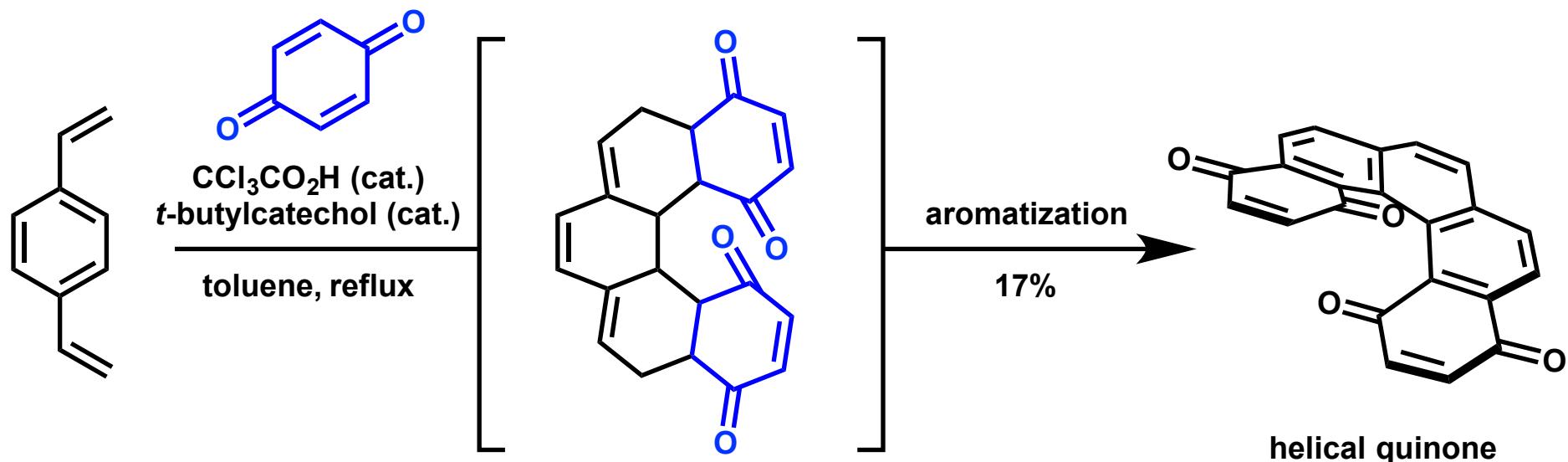


## 2. Application of Helicene



# Appendix

# Diels-Alder Approach

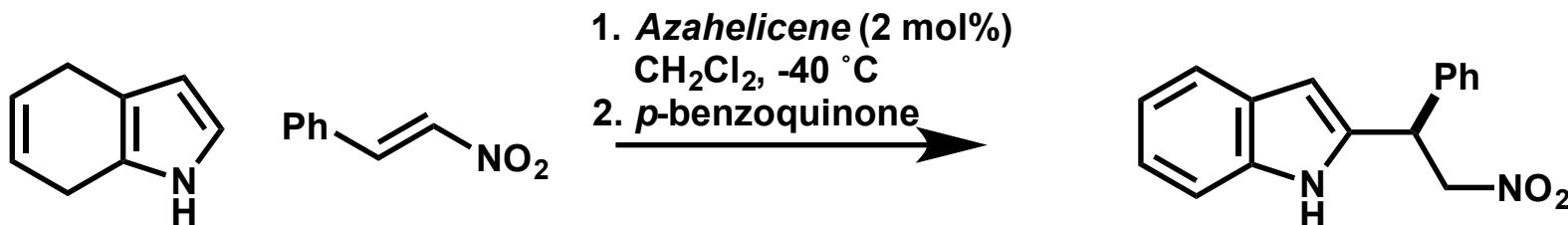


# H-bond Donor Catalysis

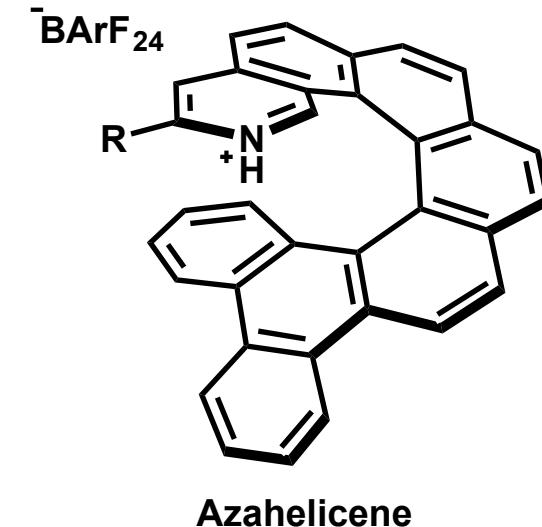
entry	R <sub>1</sub>	R <sub>2</sub>	temp (°C)	product	yield (%) <sup>a</sup>	er <sup>a</sup>
1 <sup>b</sup>	H	4-Br-Ph	-55	<b>3b</b>	65	97:3
2	H	3-Br-Ph	-65	<b>3c</b>	80	97:3
3	H	2-Br-Ph	-65	<b>3d</b>	74	95:5
4	H	4-Cl-Ph	-55	<b>3e</b>	88	96:4
5	H	4-F-Ph	-50	<b>3f</b>	83	95:5
6 <sup>c</sup>	H	4-MeO-Ph	-50	<b>3g</b>	70	92:8
7	H	3-MeO-Ph	-55	<b>3h</b>	75	96:4
8 <sup>c</sup>	H	2-MeO-Ph	-55	<b>3i</b>	75	98:2
9	H	4-Me-Ph	-50	<b>3j</b>	80	95:5
10	H	1-naphthyl	-50	<b>3k</b>	74	96:4
11	H	3-furyl	-40	<b>3l</b>	50	91:9
12	H	Me	-65	<b>3m</b>	88	91:9
13	5-MeO	Ph	-60	<b>3n</b>	90	96:4
14	5-Me	Ph	-60	<b>3o</b>	90	97:3
15	6-Me	Ph	-60	<b>3p</b>	65	90:10
16 <sup>d</sup>	5-MeO	Me	-65	<b>3q</b>	69	95:5
17	2-Et-pyrrole	Ph	-40	<b>4</b>	55	85:15
18 <sup>e</sup>	1-Me-indole	Ph	0	<b>5</b>	70	60:40
19 <sup>f</sup>	1-Me-indole	Ph	0	<b>5</b>	10	60:40

<sup>a</sup> Determined after oxidation. <sup>b</sup> 36 h reaction. <sup>c</sup> 48 h reaction. <sup>d</sup> 1 mmol scale. <sup>e</sup> With **1a** (10 mol %). <sup>f</sup> 72 h reaction.

# Helicenes in Organocatalysis

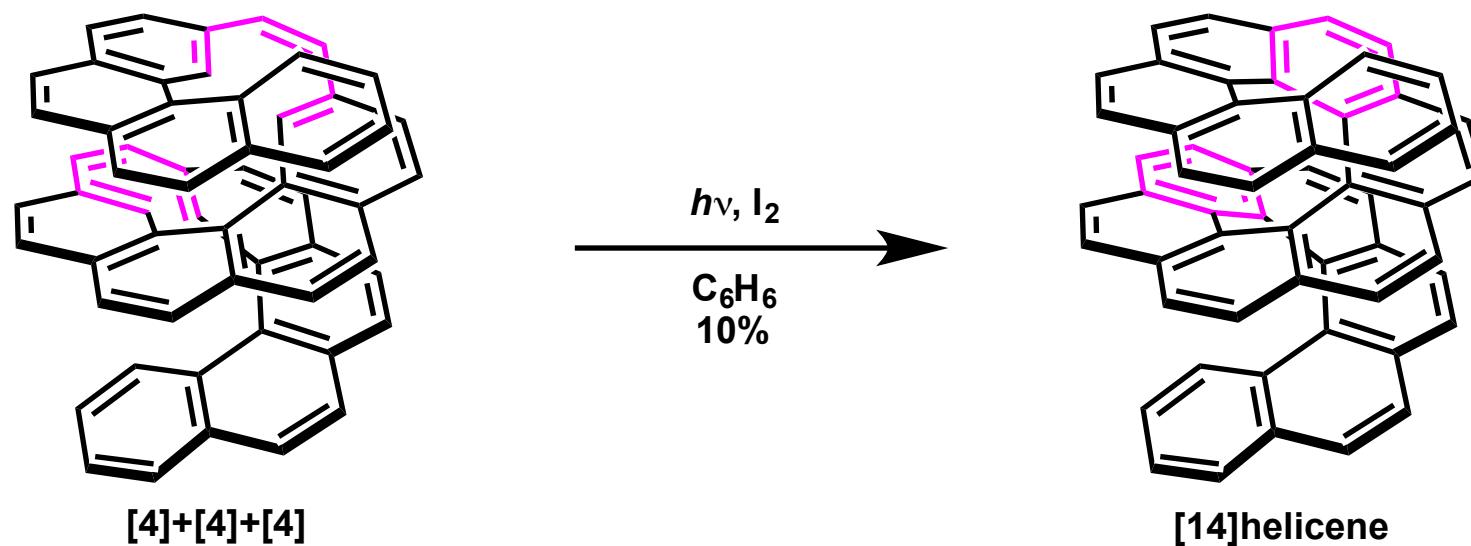
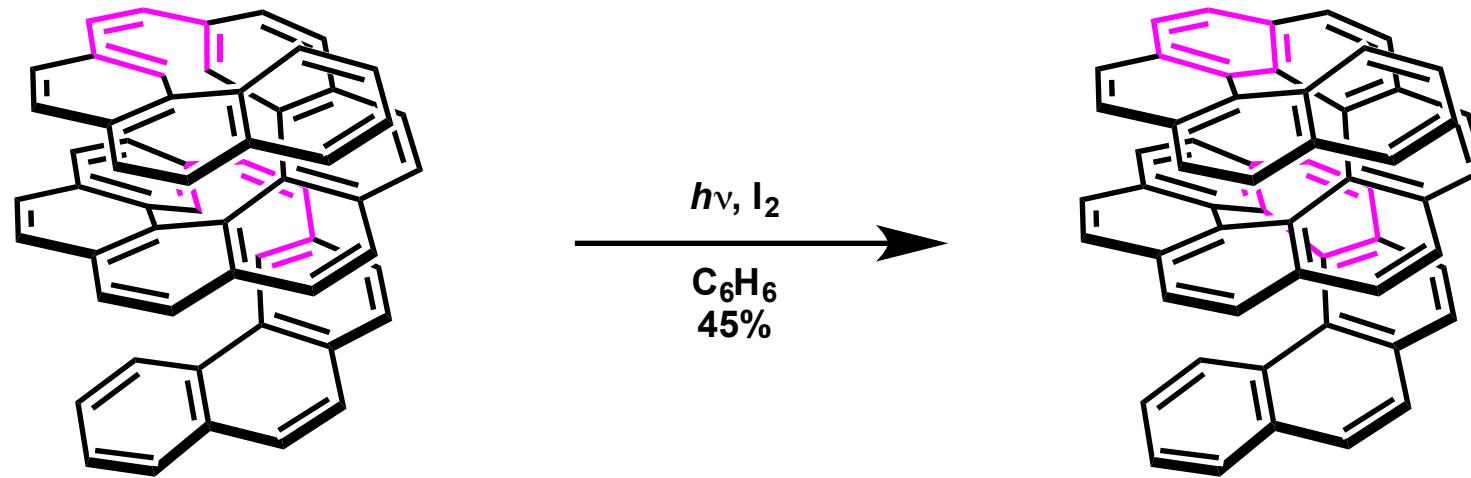


entry	Azahelicene	result
1	R = NH <sub>2</sub>	71% 38%ee
2	R = NHBn	72% 38%ee
3	R = tBu	79% 84%ee
4	R = NH1-ad	73% 66%ee
5	R = NH2-ad	88% 86%ee

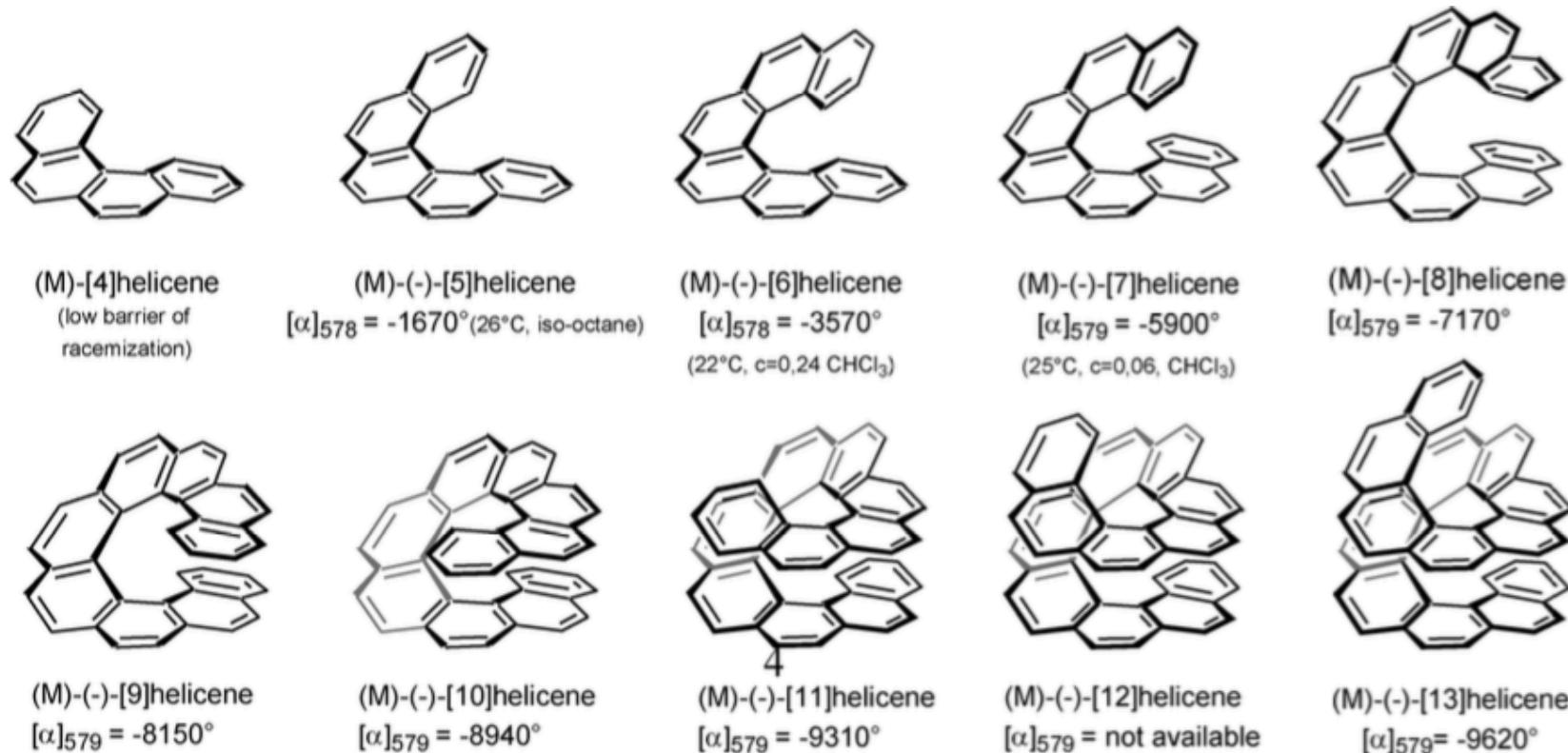


$\text{BArF}_{24}$  = tetrakis[3,5-bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]borate

# Synthesis of [14] Helicene



# Possibility of Rewrite the Polymer



**Fig. 2** List of carbohelicenes, their homochirality, absolute configuration and specific rotation at 25 °C in CHCl<sub>3</sub> (c = 0.02 g/100 mL) unless noted otherwise ( $\lambda = 578$  or 579 nm). For (-)[5]helicene, see ref. 181; for (-)[6]helicene, see ref. 21; for (-)[7] to (-)[13]helicene: see ref. 10, 11, 85 and 86.

# Twisted Helicoidal Fibers

