Asymmetric Carbonyl Reduction with a Supported Ketoreductase

Significance: Immobilized ketoreductase P1B2 (immob P1B2), prepared as shown in eq. 1, catalyzed the asymmetric transfer-hydrogenation of ketones in 90:10 propan-2-ol–water to give the corresponding alcohols in up to 100% conversion and up to >99% ee (eq. 2). This reaction was used in a 50 g scale reduction of 3,5-[bis(trifluoromethyl)phenyl]ethanone (1) (eq. 3).

Comment: Immob P1B2 was recovered and reused nine times without any loss of its catalytic performance. The catalyst was also used in a flow transfer hydrogenation of ketone 1.

SYNFACS Contributors: Yasuhiro Uozumi, Kotaro Yamamura
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