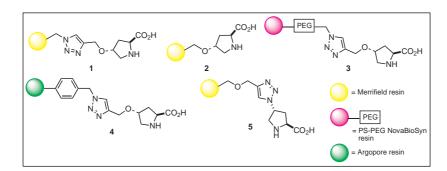
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Aldol Reaction in Water Catalyzed with Polymer-Supported Proline



| | t (h) | yield (%) | anti/syn | ee (%) |
|------------|-------|-----------|----------|--------|
| 1 (1% DVB) | 84 | 67 | 95:5 | 95 |
| 1 (1% DVB) | 60 | 58 | 94:6 | 92 |
| 2 (2% DVB) | 60 | 70 | 93:7 | 40 |
| 3 | 60 | 10 | n.d. | 91 |
| 4 | 84 | traces | n.d. | 70 |
| 5 | 24 | 74 | 96:4 | 98 |

5 (10 mol%)

Significance: Polystyrene-support prolines (1-5) were prepared by the cycloaddition of the corresponding azides and alkynes. Prolines 1-5 catalyzed the aldol reaction of cyclohexanone with benzaldehyde in water to give the aldol product 6 in traces to 74% yield with 40-98% ee. When proline 5 was used for the reaction, a gel-like single phase was formed in water. Water-swollen proline 5 showed higher catalytic activity for the aldol reaction of cyclohexanone and 4-nitrobenzaldehyde (99% yield and 96% ee) than anhydrous 5 (80% yield and 89% ee). The aldol reaction of cyclic ketones with various aldehydes was also catalyzed by 5 in water at room temperature to afford the corresponding products in 16-99% yield and 94-99% ee.

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Comment: In the reaction of cyclohexanone and benzaldehyde, the water-swollen **5** was superior in reaction rate and stereoselectivity to the other polymeric prolines **1–4**. TGA analysis of the water-swollen **5** showed up to 24% water content in weight. Theoretical calculation suggested that water molecules formed a hydrogen-bonding network between the triazole and the amino acid group in **5**. High yields, enantioselectivities, and diastereoselectivities were achieved in the reaction of cyclic ketones and aromatic aldehydes with **5** in water except for the reaction of 4-methoxybenzaldehyde. The catalyst was recycled and reused at least five times without loss of catalytic activity.

Category

Polymer-Supported Synthesis

Key words

aldol reaction
prolines
polymer support



1,2,3-triazole linker

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