

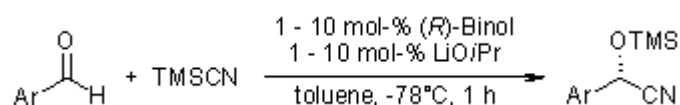
## Chiral Lithium Binaphtholate Aqua Complex as a Highly Effective Asymmetric Catalyst for Cyanohydrin Synthesis

Manabu Hatano, Takumi Ikeno, Takashi Miyamoto and Kazuaki Ishihara\*

\*Graduate School of Engineering, Nagoya University, Furo-cho, Chikusa, Nagoya, 464-8603, Japan, Illinois 60607-7061, Email: [ishihara@cc.nagoya-u.ac.jp](mailto:ishihara@cc.nagoya-u.ac.jp)

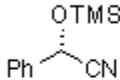
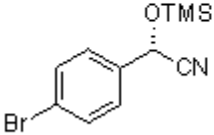
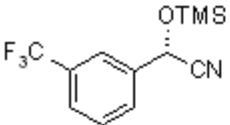
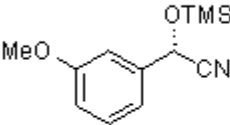
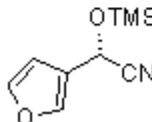
M. Hatano, T. Ikeno, T. Miyamoto, K. Ishihara, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, **2005**, *127*, 10776-10777.

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### Abstract

A simple, inexpensive, and highly enantioselective cyanohydrin synthesis with aromatic aldehydes using chiral lithium binaphtholate aqua or alcohol complexes has been developed that is suitable for process chemistry. Dramatic improvements in enantiomeric excess have been realized along with an interesting changeover in absolute stereochemistry of cyanohydrin product against the thoroughly "dry" catalytic systems.

Product	10 mol-% catalyst		< 10 mol-% catalyst		
	Yield (% , isol.)	ee (%)	cat. (mol-%)	Yield (% , isol.)	ee (%)
	99	97	1	98	90
	98	93	3	95	90
	99	86			
	93	97	3	93	95
	96	98	3	93	93

see article for more examples

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**Key Words**

[Cyanohydrins](#)

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