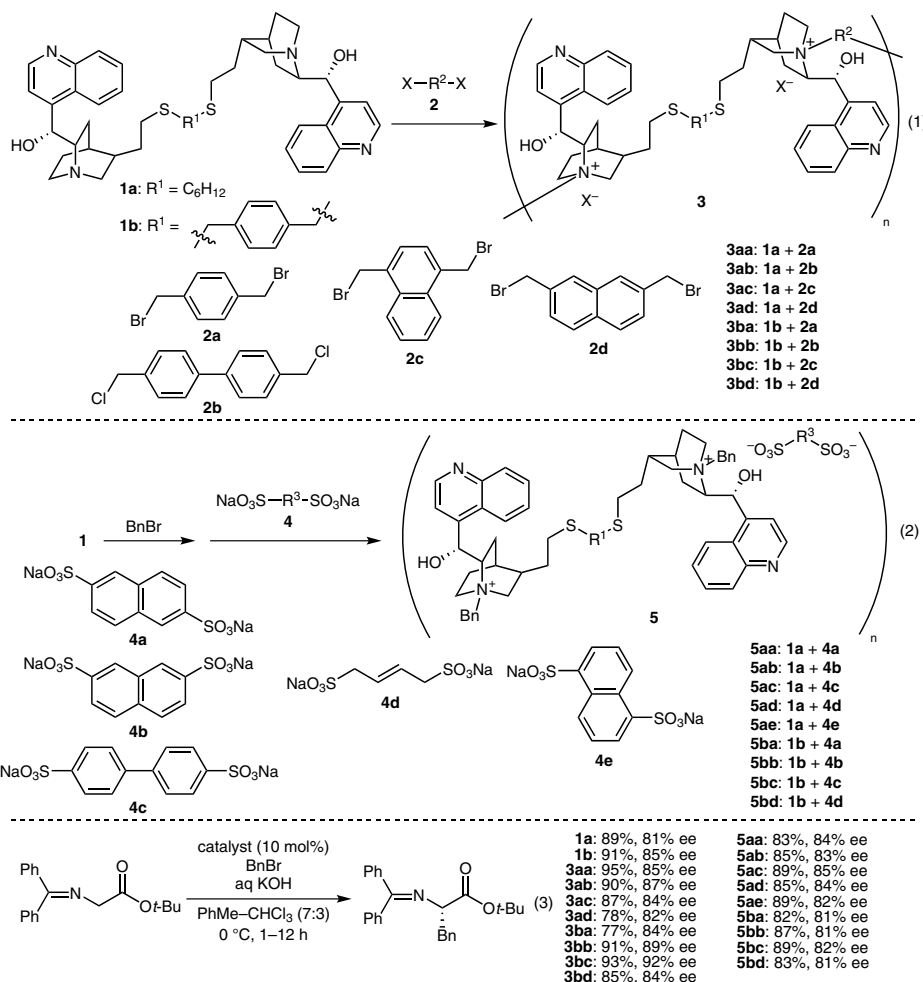


Asymmetric α -Benzylation with Cinchonidinium Salt Based Polymers



Significance: Chiral polymers **3** and **5** were prepared from cinchonidine dimers **1** (eqs. 1 and 2). All polymers showed high catalytic performance in the asymmetric α -benzylation of *N*-diphenylmethylene glycine *tert*-butyl ester with benzyl bromide (eq. 3, 77–95% yield, 81–92% ee).

Comment: The polymer catalysts were recovered by filtration and reused without loss of catalytic performance. The reaction also took place at –40 °C to give the product with improved ee (with **3bc**: 24 h, 83% yield, 95% ee). The catalytic activity and the stereoselectivity observed with the polymeric catalysts **3** and **5** were comparable to those obtained with the homogeneous catalysts **1**.