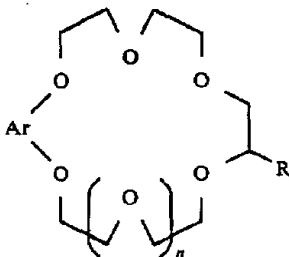


The unique characteristics and distinctiveness of enantiomers is most commonly referred to as "chirality". Chirality plays an increasingly important role in organic chemistry and biology due to the fact that biological systems tend to be stereoselective for only one enantiomer in a given pair.

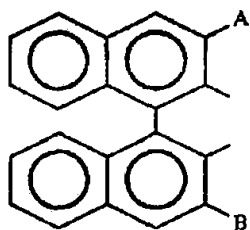
This opportunity provides a patent-protected column material for separating amino acids and other enantiomers using standard liquid chromatographic techniques.

PATENTED TECHNOLOGY

Claim 1 of U.S. 4,842,935 covers a wide range of crown ethers with the following formula, where R is a hydrogen or alkyl group:



Ar is an optically active divalent aromatic group:

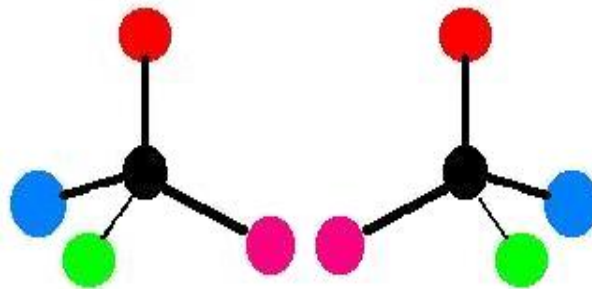


Where A and B are each a hydrogen atom, an alkyl group, or an aryl group.

INTELLECTUAL CAPITAL

On April 1, 2001, Japan's National Institute of Advanced Industrial Science and Technology began operations as the "new" AIST.

The new AIST is a research organization that comprises 15 research institutes previously under the former Agency of Industrial Science and Technology in the Ministry of International Trade and Industry and the Weights and Measures Training Institute.



AIST is Japan's largest public research organization with research facilities and more than 3,200 employees across Japan.

BENEFITS OF THE TECHNOLOGY

- Optically-active lipophilic crown compounds adsorbed on standard liquid chromatographic columns.
- Enables use of pure water or volatile dilute acids, rather than organic solvents, as eluents.
- Aqueous amino acid solutions may be used for separation.
- Low-cost preparation and production of the columns is enabled using these compositions.
- Easy-to-prepare columns of silica, alumina, magnesia, or silica-alumina.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

AIST is seeking to license these technologies and assist with their commercialization success to qualified organizations.

Consideration will be provided to a range of financial, strategic, and commercial investment options.

Certain circumstances will warrant consideration for nominal funding from AIST.

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