

ABSTRACT**PROCESS FOR PREPARING LACTAMS**

The present invention relates to a process for preparing a lactam by heterogeneous catalysis, by hydrogenation of at least one compound of formula (I) below:



in which:

- A represents a radical of formula (I') or (II') below:



in which - R_1 , R_2 and R_3 represent, independently of one another, H, OH, an alkyl radical or a cycloalkyl radical;

- R represents H or a linear or branched alkyl radical comprising from 1 to 20, preferably from 1 to 10 and preferentially from 1 to 4 carbon atoms;

said process being carried out at a pressure of less than 50 bar, preferably ranging from 10 bar to 50 bar, in the presence of a solid hydrogenation catalyst, comprising at least two metals selected from the group of noble metals and transition metals, and an inert substance as support,

it being possible for said compound of formula (I) to be alone or in a mixture.

Figure: none