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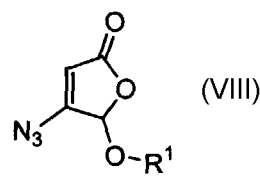
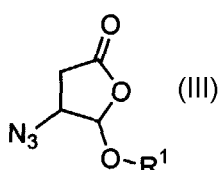
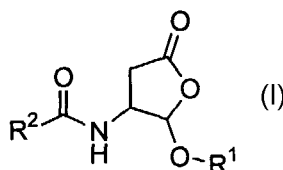
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(54) Title: PROCESS AND INTERMEDIATES FOR MAKING SUBSTITUTED ASPARTIC ACID ACETALS



(57) Abstract: Disclosed herein is a method for making compounds that are useful as caspase inhibitor prodrugs of formula (I), wherein R¹ is an optionally substituted group selected from an aliphatic group, aralkyl group, heterocyclylalkyl group or aryl group, and R² is preferably a P₂-P₄ moiety of a caspase inhibitor. Key intermediates include the azidolactones (III) and (VIII).