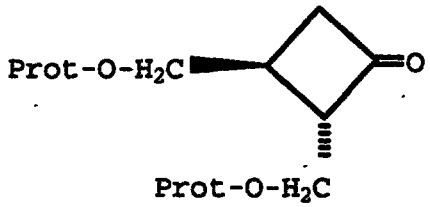
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Abstract

Process For Preparing Diprotected 2,3-Hydroxymethyl Cyclobutanol

The protected cyclobutanone of the formula



is treated with a dialkylaluminum chloride, an alkylaluminum dichloride, a trialkylaluminum compound, hydrogen in the presence of the catalysts ruthenium black or ruthenium on alumina, diphenylsilane in the presence of tris(triphenylphosphine) rhodium (I) chloride, or iridium tetrachloride to yield the corresponding diprotected cyclobutanol. This compound is useful as an intermediate in the preparation of antiviral agents.

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