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(71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): **VERTEX PHARMACEUTICALS INCORPORATED** [US/US];
Patent Department, 130 Waverly Street, Cambridge, MA 02139-4242 (US).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): **WANNAMAKER, Marion, W.** [US/US]; 375 Harvard Road, Stow, MA 01775 (US). **FORSTER, Cornelia** [US/US]; 8 Nancy Avenue, Pelham, NH 03076 (US).

(74) Agents: **SILVERMAN, Ian**; Vertex Pharmaceuticals Inc., 130 Waverly Street, Cambridge, MA 02139-4242 et al. (US).

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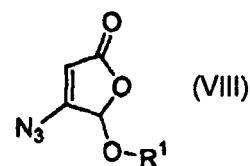
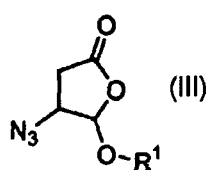
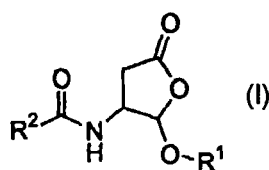
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(54) Title: PROCESS AND INTERMEDIATES FOR MAKING SUBSTITUTED ASPARTIC ACID ACETALS



(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).