

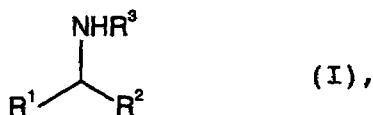
Racemization of optically active amines

Abstract

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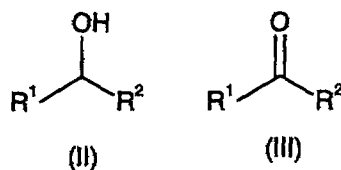
A process for the preparation of racemic amines of the formula I

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where R^1 and R^2 are different and R^1 , R^2 , R^3 are alkyl, cycloalkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl and heterocyclic radicals and R^3 can also be hydrogen, where the radicals can bear substituents selected from the group consisting of alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkoxy, aryloxy, amino, alkylamino and dialkylamino, which comprises simultaneously reacting in situ the corresponding optically active amine I and the secondary alcohol of the formula II and/or the unsymmetrical ketone of the formula III

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and the amine of the formula R^3NH_2 in the presence of hydrogen and a hydrogenation catalyst or dehydrogenation catalyst at elevated temperature.

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