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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR PREPARING ENANTIOMER-ENRICHED ALPHA-HYDROXYCARBOXYLIC ACIDS AND AMIDES

(57) Abstract: The present invention describes an enzymatic process for preparing enantiomer-enriched α-hydroxycarboxylic acids and amides which comprises, in one step, the conversion of a carbonyl compound to the corresponding acid/amides via the intermediate stage of a cyanohydrin. The invention also provides a reaction system operating in such a way and a whole-cell catalyst that is advantageous for use for this reaction.

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