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(21) International Application Number: PCT/US97/11654 (22) International Filing Date: 1 July 1997 (01.07.97) (30) Priority Data: 60/022,369 29 July 1996 (29.07.96) US (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): WARNER-LAMBERT COMPANY [US/US]; 201 Tabor Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950 (US). (72) Inventors; and (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): JACKS, Thomas, Elliott [US/US]; 28 West 39th Street, Holland, MI 49423 (US). BUTLER, Donald, Eugene [US/US]; 1005 Central Avenue, Holland, MI 49423 (US). (74) Agents: RYAN, M., Andrea; Warner-Lambert Company, 201 Tabor Road, Morris Plains, NJ 07950 (US) et al.		(81) Designated States: AL, AU, BA, BB, BG, BR, CA, CN, CZ, EE, GE, GH, HU, IL, IS, JP, KR, LC, LK, LR, LT, LV, MG, MK, MN, MX, NO, NZ, PL, RO, SG , SI, SK, SL, TR, TT, UA, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, KE, LS, MW, SD, SZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG). Published With international search report.
(54) Title: IMPROVED PROCESS FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF PROTECTED ESTERS OF (S)-3,4-DIHYDROXYBUTYRIC ACID		
(57) Abstract An improved process for the preparation and isolation of esters of (S)-3,4-O-isopropylidene-3,4-dihydroxybutanoic acid, cyclic orthoesters of (S)-3,4-dihydroxybutanoic acid, and (S)-3-hydroxybutyrolactone in a one pot process from a carbohydrate substrate is described.		