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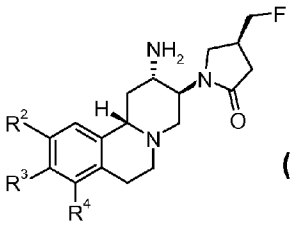
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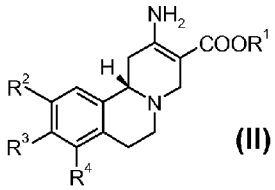
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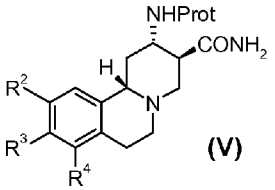
(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF PYRIDO[2,1-A]ISOQUINOLINE DERIVATIVES BY CATALYTIC ASYMMETRIC HYDROGENATION OF AN ENAMINE



(I)



(II)



(V)

(57) Abstract: The invention relates to a process for the preparation of pyrido[2, 1-a] isoquinoline derivatives of the formula (I), weherein R^2, R^3 and R^4 are as defined in the specification, comprising the steps of: a) catalytic asymmetric hydrogenation of an enamine of the formula (II), wherein R^1 is lower alkyl, in the presence of a transition metal catalyst containing a chiral diphosphane ligand, b) introduction of an amino protecting group Prot and c) amidation of the ester to form an amide of formula (V), wherein R^2, R^3, R^4 and Prot are as defined in the specification.

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