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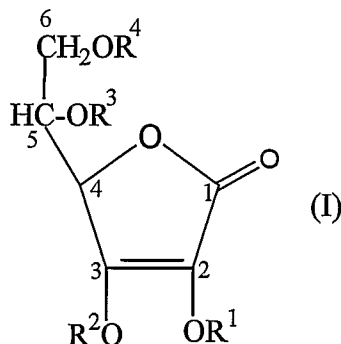
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(54) Title: STABILIZED DERIVATIVES OF ASCORBIC ACID



(57) Abstract: Ascorbic acid derivatives of the general formula I: wherein R¹ is a C₂-C₂₂ acyl group, an amino acid group, or a C₁-C₁₇ alkyl group; R² is ammonium or a metal cation; and each of R³ or R⁴, independently, is hydrogen, a C₂-C₂₂ acyl group, an amino acid residue, or a C₁-C₁₇ alkyl group, are more stable than ascorbic acid and can be used as a source of vitamin C in pharmaceutical, nutraceutical and cosmetic compositions.