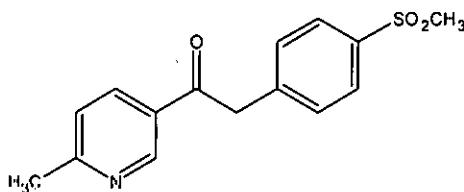




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Abstract

Process for preparing 1-(6-methylpyridin-3-yl)-2-[(4-(methylsulphonyl)phenyl)ethanone of the formula I,



I

which eliminates the isolation of ketosulfide stage and avoids use of methanesulfonic acid and alkali metal tungstate for the oxidation of ketosulfide to ketosulfone.