IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:	)	
	:	Examiner: Unassigned
GILEAD PHARMASSET LLC	)	
	:	Group Art Unit: Unassigned
Divisional of	)	
Application No.: 12/783,680	:	
	)	
Filed: Concurrently Herewith	:	
	)	
For: NUCLEOSIDE	:	
PHOSPHORAMIDATES	)	
	:	January 10, 2013

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to examination on the merits, please amend the application as follows.

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Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the paragraph following the subheading "Priority Claim" and before the subheading "Field of the Invention" on page 1 as follows:

-- ~~The right of priority is claimed to~~This application is a divisional of U.S. Application No. 12/783,680, filed May 20, 2010, which claims priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Nos. 61/179,923, filed May 20, 2009, and 61/319,513, filed March 31, 2010, all~~the subject matter~~ of which are[[is]] incorporated by reference in their[[its]] entiret[[y]]ies. --

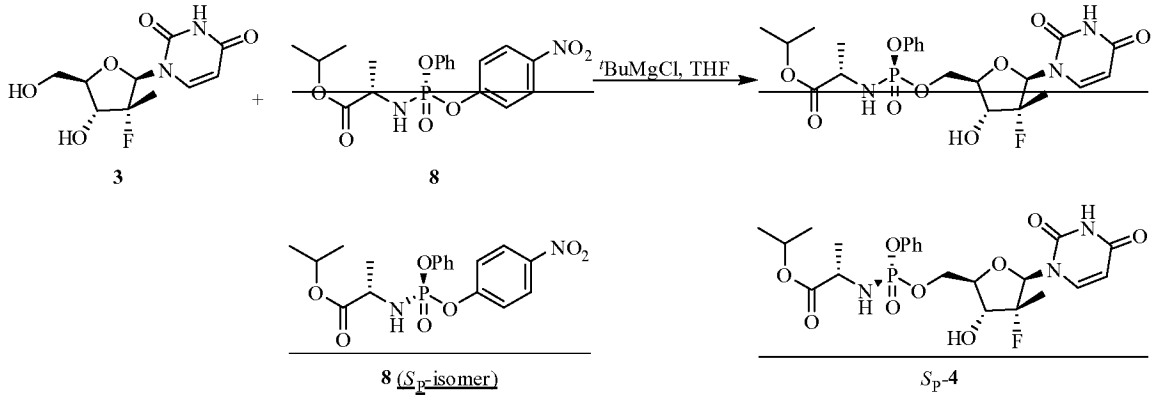
Please amend the sentence on p. 27, lns. 11-12 as follows:

-- In a fourth aspect of the seventh embodiment, the protecting compound is tert-butyl[[-]]dimethyl[[-]]silyl[[-]]_chloride. --

Please amend the first sentence on p. 52, lns. 1-2 as follows:

-- The ratio of two diastereomers S_P:R_P was 9.65[[/]]:1 based on ^{31}P NMR (162 MHz, DMSO-d_6, δ -0.31 (S_P), -0.47 (R_P). --

Please amend the scheme preceding Example 11 on p. 56, lns. 23-24 as follows:



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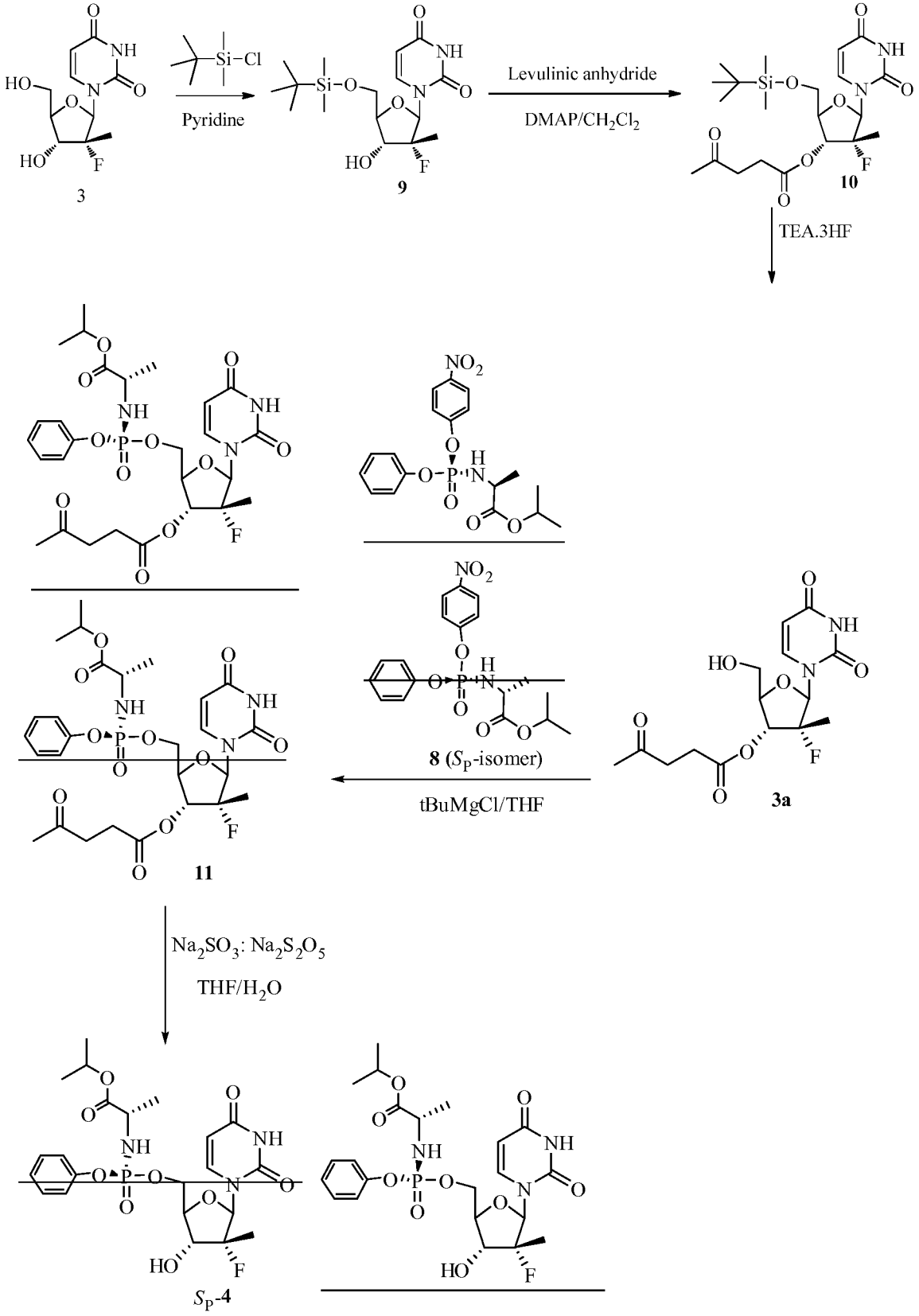
Please amend the scheme for Example 15 on p. 59 as follows:



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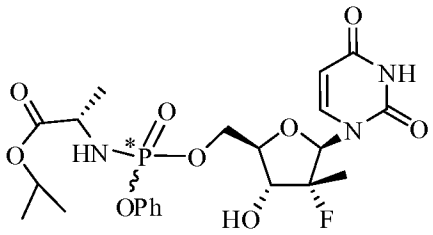
Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of the claims replaces all prior versions and listings.

1.-81. (Cancelled).

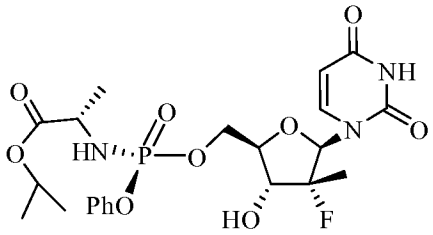
82. (New): A compound represented by the formula (**4**):



(4)

,

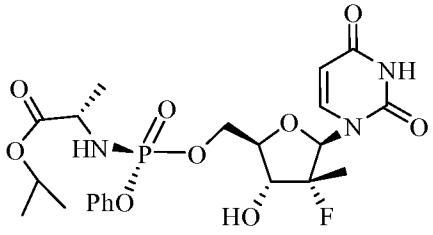
wherein P* represents a chiral phosphorus atom and wherein the compound is at least 97% of the S_P stereoisomer represented by the formula (S_P-**4**):



(S_P-**4**)

,

and not more than 3% of the R_P stereoisomer represented by the formula (R_P-**4**):



(R_P-**4**)

.

83. (New): The compound according to claim 82, wherein the compound is at least 98% of the S_P stereoisomer represented by the formula (S_P-**4**) and not more than 2% of the R_P stereoisomer represented by the formula (R_P-**4**).

84. (New): The compound according to claim 82, wherein the compound is at least 99% of the S_P stereoisomer represented by the formula (S_P-**4**) and not more than 1% of the R_P stereoisomer represented by the formula (R_P-**4**).

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85. (New): A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 82 and a pharmaceutically acceptable medium.

86. (New): A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 83 and a pharmaceutically acceptable medium.

87. (New): A pharmaceutical composition comprising the compound according to claim 84 and a pharmaceutically acceptable medium.

88. (New): A method of treating a hepatitis C virus infection in a human comprising administering to the human an effective amount of the compound according to claim 82.

89. (New): The method according to claim 88 further comprising administering to the human another antiviral agent.

90. (New): A method of treating a hepatitis C virus infection in a human comprising administering to the human an effective amount of the compound according to claim 83.

91. (New): The method according to claim 90 further comprising administering to the human another antiviral agent.

92. (New): A method of treating a hepatitis C virus infection in a human comprising administering to the human an effective amount of the compound according to claim 84.

93. (New): The method according to claim 92 further comprising administering to the human another antiviral agent.

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