thus preventing the checking of the enantiomeric purity of (−)- and (+)-**3** by this method.

(−)-*c*-2-Methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *c*-3-Oxide Methiodide ((−)-1). An excess of MeI (1 mL) was added to a solution of (−)-**3** (0.3 g) in anhydrous ether (20 mL), and the reaction mixture was left at room temperature overnight. The white solid obtained was crystallized from absolute ethanol: yield 90%; mp 195–196 °C (lit.[5] mp 172–174 °C for the racemate); $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ −48.4° (EtOH); CD (EtOH) λ 245 nm, $\Delta\epsilon$ = −0.153. The IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra are identical with those of the racemate.

In the same way, starting from (+)-**3**, we obtained (+)-1: yield 90%; mp 194–195 °C; $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ +48.2° (EtOH); CD (EtOH) λ 245 nm, $\Delta\epsilon$ = +0.132. The IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra are identical with those of the enantiomer.

(2*R*,3*R*,5*R*)-*c*-2-Methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *t*-3-Oxide ((−)-3). To a sample of 1 g of (+)-**7**, obtained as described before,[4] in 5 mL of CH_3COOH was added 2.5 mL of cold 30% H_2O_2. After 0.5 h at room temperature, the reaction mixture was made alkaline with 10% NaOH and extracted with $CHCl_3$ to give 1.1 g of a mixture (oil), which was chromatographed on a silica gel column with $CHCl_3$–petroleum ether–absolute ethanol–concentrated NH_4OH (340:60:65:8) as eluent.

The first fraction (R_f 0.60) was **(2*R*,3*R*,5*R*)-*c*-2-methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *t*-3-oxide** ((−)-3): yield 0.7 g; $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ −108.0° (EtOH); CD (EtOH) λ 243 nm, $\Delta\epsilon$ = −0.110.

The compound is in every respect identical with that obtained by resolution of the racemate; treated with CH_3I, as described above, it gave **(2*R*,3*R*,5*R*)-*c*-2-methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *t*-3-oxide methiodide** ((−)-1): $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ −48.0° (EtOH).

The second fraction (R_f 0.26) was **(2*R*,3*S*,5*R*)-*c*-2-methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *c*-3-oxide** ((+)-8): yield 0.25 g; $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ +8.0° (EtOH); CD (EtOH) λ 236 nm, $\Delta\epsilon$ = −0.191. It shows the same IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra as the racemate.[5]

(2*S*,3*S*,5*S*)-*c*-2-Methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *t*-3-Oxide ((+)-3). With the same procedure described for (−)-**3** and starting from (−)-**7**, we obtained (+)-**3**, (+)-**1**, and (−)-**8**. **(2*S*,3*S*,5*S*)-*c*-2-Methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *t*-3-oxide** ((+)-3): $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ +108.3° (EtOH); CD (EtOH) λ 243 nm, $\Delta\epsilon$ = +0.118.

The compound is in every respect identical with that obtained by resolution of the racemate; treated with CH_3I as described above, it gave **(2*S*,3*S*,5*S*)-*c*-2-methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *t*-3-oxide** ((+)-1): $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ +47.7° (EtOH).

(2*S*,3*R*,5*S*)-*c*-2-Methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *c*-3-oxide ((−)-8): $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ −7.6° (EtOH); CD (EtOH) λ 236 nm, $\Delta\epsilon$ = +0.164. The compound shows IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra identical with those of the enantiomer.

(2*R*,3*S*,5*R*)-*c*-2-Methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *c*-3-Oxide Methiodide ((+)-9). Using the same procedure described for (−)-**1** and starting from (+)-**8**, we obtained compound (+)-**9** in 90% yield: mp 152–154 °C (lit.[5] mp 165–168 °C for the racemate); $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ +29.6° (EtOH); CD (EtOH) λ 243 nm; $\Delta\epsilon$ = −0.127. The IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra are identical with those of the racemate.

In the same way, starting from (−)-**8**, we obtained **(2*S*,3*R*,5*S*)-*c*-2-methyl-*r*-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane *c*-3-oxide methiodide** ((−)-9) in 90% yield: mp 153–154 °C; $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ −29.0° (EtOH); CD (EtOH) λ 243 nm; $\Delta\epsilon$ = +0.144. IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra are identical with those of the enantiomer.

(2*R*,5*R*)-*cis*-2-Methyl-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane 3,3-Dioxide ((−)-4). To a sample of 1.0 g of (−)-**3** (or (+)-**8**) in CH_3COOH (5 mL) was added 2.5 mL of 30% H_2O_2, and the solution was left at room temperature for 24 h. The reaction mixture was made alkaline with $NaHCO_3$ and extracted with $CHCl_3$ to give 0.8 g of an oil, which was purified from some starting material through column chromatography, with the same eluent as used for (−)-**3**: yield 0.65 g; $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ −42.0° (EtOH). The IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra are identical with those of the racemate.

In the same way, starting from (+)-**3** (or (−)-**8**), we obtained **(2*S*,5*S*)-*cis*-2-methyl-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane 3,3-dioxide** ((+)-4): $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ +41.2° (EtOH). IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra are identical with those of the enantiomer.

(2*R*,5*R*)-*cis*-2-Methyl-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane 3,3-Dioxide Methiodide ((−)-2). Using the same procedure as described for (−)-**1**, and starting from (−)-**4**, we obtained compound (−)-**2** in 90° yield: mp 201–202 °C (lit.[5] mp 178–180 °C for the racemate); $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ −12.5° (EtOH). IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra are identical with those of the racemate.

In the same way, starting from (+)-4, we obtained **(2*S*,5*S*)-*cis*-2-methyl-5-[(dimethylamino)methyl]-1,3-oxathiolane 3,3-dioxide methiodide** ((+)-2) in 90% yield: mp 200–202 °C; $[\alpha]^{20}_D$ +11.9° (EtOH). IR and ^{1}H NMR spectra are identical with those of the enantiomer.

Pharmacology. The protocols used to obtained the results shown in Table I on guinea pig ileum and frog rectus abdominis have been previously reported.[4]

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Registry No. (±)-1, 109280-12-8; (+)-1, 109280-06-0; (−)-1, 109280-05-9; (±)-**2**, 98311-68-3; (+)-**2**, 109280-11-7; (−)-**2**, 109280-10-6; (±)-**3**, 109280-01-5; (+)-**3**, 109280-03-7; (−)-**3**, 109280-02-6; (+)-**4**, 109280-09-3; (−)-**4**, 109280-14-0; (+)-**5**, 109361-01-5; (−)-**5**, 109361-02-6; (+)-**6**, 109361-03-7; (+)-**7**, 103066-62-2; (−)-**7**, 103066-64-4; (+)-**8**, 109280-04-8; (−)-**8**, 109280-07-1; (±)-**9**, 109280-13-9; (+)-**9**, 109361-04-8; (−)-**9**, 109280-08-2.

Additions and Corrections

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Page 233. Drug **4** (dopexamine) should not be included in Table I since it is predominantly a β_2-adrenergic receptor agonist and DA_1-dopaminergic receptor agonist with only very weak activity at β_1-adrenergic receptors.