

**DIHYDROBENZOXATHIAZEPINE COMPOUNDS, THEIR PREPARATION,
PHARMACEUTICAL COMPOSITIONS AND USE AS AMPA RECEPTOR MODULATORS**

The present invention relates to new dihydrobenzoxathiazepine compounds, to a process for their preparation, to pharmaceutical compositions containing them and to the use thereof as positive allosteric modulators of AMPA receptors.

It has now been recognised that the excitatory amino acids, very especially glutamate, play a crucial role in the physiological processes of neuronal plasticity and in the mechanisms underlying learning and memory. Pathophysiological studies have clearly shown that a deficit in glutamatergic neurotransmission is closely linked to the development of Alzheimer's disease (Neuroscience and Biobehavioral Reviews, 1992, 16, 13-24; Progress in Neurobiology, 1992, 39, 517-545).

10 In addition, certain works have in recent years demonstrated the existence of sub-types of excitatory amino acid receptors and their functional interactions (Molecular Neuropharmacology, 1992, 2, 15-31).

Among those receptors, the AMPA (α -amino-3-hydroxy-5-methyl-4-isoxazole-propionic acid) receptor appears to be involved to the greatest extent in the phenomena of physiological neuronal excitability and, especially, in those phenomena involved in memorisation processes. For example, it has been shown that learning is associated with an increase in the binding of AMPA to its receptor in the hippocampus, one of the areas of the brain essential to processes of memory and cognition. Likewise, nootropic agents such as aniracetam have very recently been described as modulating the AMPA receptors of neuronal cells in a positive manner (J. Neurochemistry, 1992, 58, 1199-1204).

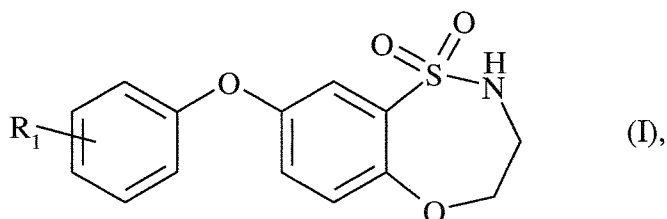
In the literature, compounds having a benzamide structure have been described as possessing this same mechanism of action and improving memory performance (Synapse, 1993, 15, 326-329). Compound BA 74, in particular, is the most active of those new pharmacological agents.

25 More recently, Patent Application WO 99/42456 describes benzothiadiazine and benzothiadiazepine compounds as modulators of AMPA receptors and Patent Application

WO 02/100865 describes benzoxazepine compounds having facilitatory activity on AMPA flux.

The dihydrobenzoxathiazepine compounds to which the present invention relates are new and constitute powerful positive allosteric modulators of AMPA receptors.

5 More specifically, the present invention relates to compounds of formula (I):



wherein R_1 represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl group, a (C₁-C₆)alkylsulphonylamino-(C₁-C₆)alkyl group in which the alkyl moieties are each linear or branched, an *N*-hydroxycarboximidamide group or a
10 heterocyclic group,

to their enantiomers and diastereoisomers, and also to addition salts thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base,

it being understood that the term "heterocyclic group" denotes a 5-membered monocyclic aromatic group containing one to four hetero atoms which are the same or different and
15 which are selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, it optionally being possible for said heterocyclic group to be substituted by one or more substituents which are the same or different and which are selected from linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl and linear or branched (C₁-C₆)polyhaloalkyl.

Among the pharmaceutically acceptable acids there may be mentioned, without implying
20 any limitation, hydrochloric acid, hydrobromic acid, sulphuric acid, phosphoric acid, acetic acid, trifluoroacetic acid, lactic acid, pyruvic acid, malonic acid, succinic acid, glutaric

acid, fumaric acid, tartaric acid, maleic acid, citric acid, ascorbic acid, oxalic acid, methanesulphonic acid, benzenesulphonic acid and camphoric acid.

Among the pharmaceutically acceptable bases there may be mentioned, without implying any limitation, sodium hydroxide, potassium hydroxide, triethylamine and *tert*-butylamine.

5 R_1 preferably represents a heterocyclic group.

R_1 more preferably represents a 5-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group containing at least one nitrogen atom, it optionally being possible for said group to be substituted by one or more substituents which are the same or different and which are selected from linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl and linear or branched (C₁-C₆)polyhaloalkyl.

10 R_1 advantageously represents the groups pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxazolyl, isothiazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, dithiazolyl and oxadiazolyl, it optionally being possible for each of the groups to be substituted by one or more substituents which are the same or different and which are selected from linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl and linear or branched (C₁-C₆)polyhaloalkyl.

15 More especially preferred are compounds wherein R_1 represents the groups oxadiazolyl and thiazolyl and, more especially the groups 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl and 1,3-thiazolyl, it optionally being possible for each of the preferred groups to be substituted by one or more substituents which are the same or different and which are selected from linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl and linear or branched (C₁-C₆)polyhaloalkyl.

20 As substituents of the heterocyclic group, preference is given to a methyl group or a trifluoromethyl group.

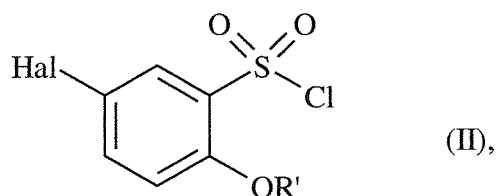
The group R_1 is preferably in meta or para position of the phenoxy ring carrying it. Advantageously, the group R_1 is in meta position.

Preferred compounds according to the invention are:

- 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide;
- 8-[3-(3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide.

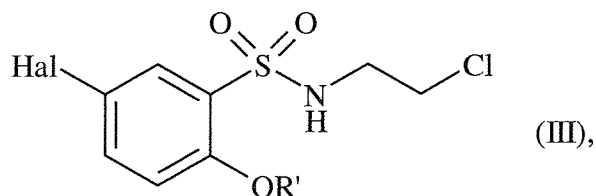
5 Addition salts with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base of the preferred compounds of the invention form an integral part of the invention.

The invention relates also to a process for the preparation of compounds of formula (I) starting from the compound of formula (II):



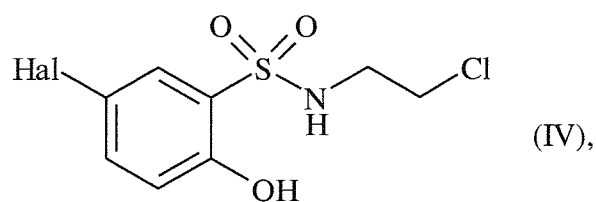
10 wherein Hal represents a halogen atom such as fluorine, chlorine or bromine and R' represents a linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl group,

which is reacted with 2-chloroethylamine in a basic medium to yield the compound of formula (III):



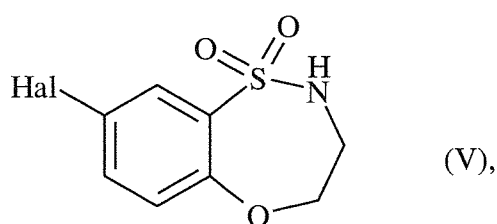
15 wherein Hal and R' are as defined hereinbefore,

which is then subjected to the action of a boron-containing compound to yield the compound of formula (IV):



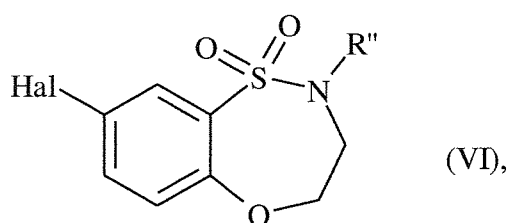
wherein Hal is as defined hereinbefore,

which is then cyclised to yield the compound of formula (V):



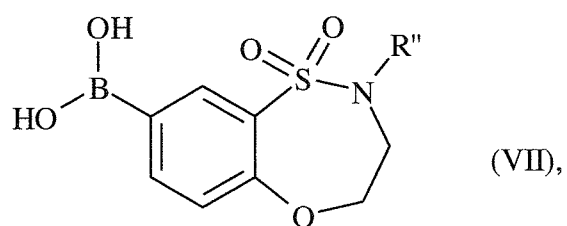
5 wherein Hal is as defined hereinbefore,

which is subjected to a reaction protecting the nitrogen atom to yield the compound of formula (VI):



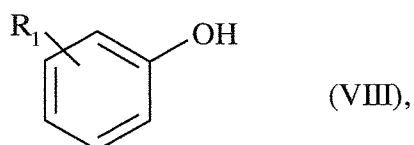
10 wherein Hal is as defined hereinbefore and R'' represents a protecting group for the amine function such as, for example, a *tert*-butoxycarbonyl group,

which is converted into a boronic acid to yield the compounds of formula (VII):



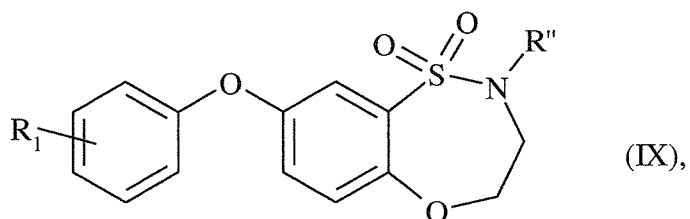
wherein R'' is as defined hereinbefore,

which is reacted with an alcohol of formula (VIII):



5 wherein R₁ is as defined for formula (I),

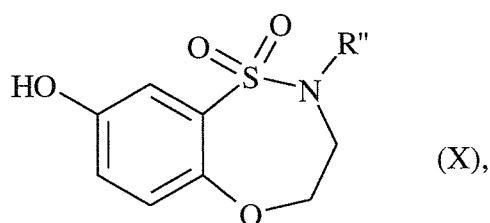
to yield the compound of formula (IX):



wherein R₁ and R'' are as defined hereinbefore;

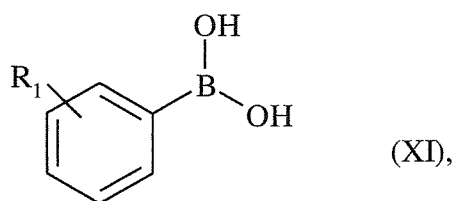
10 which is then subjected to a reaction deprotecting the amine function to yield the compound of formula (I),

a variant in the preparation of the compounds of formula (I) consisting of hydrolysis of the compound of formula (VII) to yield the compound of formula (X):



wherein R'' is as defined hereinbefore,

which is reacted with a boronic acid compound of formula (XI):



5 wherein R₁ is as defined for formula (I),

to yield the compound of formula (IX),

which is then subjected to a reaction deprotecting the amine function to yield the compound of formula (I),

10 another alternative in the preparation of the compounds of formula (I) consisting of using conventional chemical reactions, after preparation of the compounds of formula (IX), in order to subsequently change the substituent of the phenoxy ring,

15 which compound of formula (I) may then be purified according to a conventional separation technique, is converted, if desired, into its addition salts with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base and is separated, where appropriate, into its isomers, if they exist, according to a conventional separation technique.

The compounds of formulae (II), (VIII) and (XI) are commercially available or readily accessible to the person skilled in the art using conventional chemical reactions or chemical reactions described in the literature.

5 The compounds of formula (V) are new and also form part of the invention as synthesis intermediates for compounds of formula (I).

10 The compounds of formula (I) according to the invention have AMPA receptor-activating properties which make them of use in the treatment or prevention of disorders of memory and cognition that are associated with age, with syndromes of anxiety or depression, with progressive neurodegenerative diseases, with Alzheimer's disease, with Parkinson's disease, with Pick's disease, with Huntington's chorea, with Korsakoff's disease, with schizophrenia, with the sequelae of acute neurodegenerative diseases, with frontal lobe and subcortical dementias, with the sequelae of ischaemia and with the sequelae of epilepsy.

15 The invention relates also to pharmaceutical compositions comprising, as active ingredient, at least one compound of formula (I) with one or more appropriate, inert, non-toxic excipients. Among the pharmaceutical compositions according to the invention there may be mentioned more especially those that are suitable for oral, parenteral (intravenous or subcutaneous) or nasal administration, tablets or dragées, sublingual tablets, capsules, lozenges, suppositories, creams, ointments, dermal gels, injectable preparations and drinkable suspensions.

20 The useful dosage can be varied according to the nature and severity of the disorder, the administration route and also the age and weight of the patient and ranges from 0.01 to 1000 mg per day in one or more administrations.

The Examples that follow illustrate the invention but do not limit it in any way.

25 The starting materials used are products that are known or that are prepared according to known operating procedures.

The structures of the compounds described in the Examples were determined according to the usual spectrophotometric techniques (infrared, NMR, mass spectrometry).

The Preparations described hereinbelow yield starting compounds used in synthesis of compounds of the invention.

5 **Preparation 1: 3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenol**

Step A: *N',3-dihydroxybenzenecarboximidamide*

To a suspension of 15.84 g (0.228 mol) of hydroxylamine hydrochloride in 75 ml of DMSO there are added 32 ml (0.228 mol) of triethylamine. The solution is stirred vigorously for 30 minutes and is then diluted with a small amount of THF. After stirring
10 for 10 minutes, the triethylamine hydrochloride is filtered off and the residue is rinsed with THF. After the filtrate has been concentrated (evaporating off the THF), 10 g (83.9 mmol) of 3-hydroxybenzonitrile are added to the solution obtained. The solution is stirred at ambient temperature for 16 hours. After diluting with cold water, the mixture is extracted 3 times with ethyl acetate and the organic phase is washed with brine. The expected
15 product is obtained after drying over MgSO_4 and evaporation.

Step B: *3-[N'-(acetyloxy)carbamimidoyl]phenyl acetate*

To a suspension of 10.2 g (67 mmol) of the product obtained in Step A above in 150 ml of CH_2Cl_2 there are added 28 ml (0.201 mol) of triethylamine. 13.9 ml (0.147 mol) of acetic anhydride are added dropwise and the solution is stirred overnight at ambient temperature.
20 After washing 3 times with water and then with brine, the organic phase is dried over MgSO_4 and evaporated. The solid obtained is taken up in isopropyl ether and then filtered and dried to yield the title compound.

Melting point: 128°C

Elemental microanalysis:

	<i>C</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>theoretical %</i>	55.93	5.12	11.86
<i>experimental %</i>	55.94	5.13	11.71

Step C: 3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl acetate

To a solution of 9.40 g (39.8 mmol) of the product obtained in Step B above in 300 ml of
5 toluene there are added 150 mg of para-toluenesulphonic acid and the reaction mixture is
heated at reflux, using a Dean-Stark system, for 12 hours. The title product is obtained
after evaporating off the toluene using a rotary evaporator.

Melting point: 94°C

Step D: 3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenol

10 A solution of 8.55 g (39.18 mmol) of the product obtained in Step C above in 120 ml of 1N
HCl solution is heated at reflux for 90 minutes and is then left at ambient temperature
overnight, with stirring. The precipitate is filtered off to yield the title product.

Melting point: 118°C

Elemental microanalysis:

	<i>C</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>N</i>
<i>theoretical %</i>	61.36	4.58	15.90
<i>experimental %</i>	61.44	4.55	15.82

15

Preparation 2: 3-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)phenol

Step A: 2-(3-methoxyphenyl)-1,3-oxazole

A suspension containing 1.16 ml of 1-bromo-3-methoxybenzene (9.2 mmol), 2.12 ml of 2-
(tributylstannanyl)-1,3-oxazole (5.9 mmol) and 276 mg (0.2 mmol) of
20 tetrakis(triphenylphosphine) palladium in 50 ml of toluene is stirred overnight at reflux
under argon. The toluene is evaporated off using a rotary evaporator, and the residue is

then suspended in ethyl acetate. After filtering the suspension, the filtrate is evaporated to dryness and the crude product is purified by chromatography over silica gel, eluting with CH₂Cl₂ and then with CH₂Cl₂/acetone 98 / 2 to yield the title product in the form of an oil.

Step B: 3-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)phenol

- 5 The product obtained in Step A above (250 mg, 1.13 mmol) is suspended in 10 ml of aqueous 48 % HBr solution, and the reaction mixture is stirred overnight at 115°C. After cooling to ambient temperature, the mixture is poured into 10 ml of 10 % NaHCO₃ solution. The pH is adjusted to 7 and the aqueous phase is extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phase is washed (saturated NaCl) and dried (MgSO₄) to yield, after filtration and
10 evaporation, the title product in the form of a white solid.

Preparation 3: [4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl]boronic acid

Step A: N'-hydroxy-4-iodobenzenecarboximidamide

- 17.3 g (249 mmol) of hydroxylamine hydrochloride and then 35 ml (251 mmol) of triethylamine are added to 80 ml of DMSO. A voluminous white precipitate forms, and the
15 reaction mixture is diluted with a small amount of THF. After stirring for 1 hour, the precipitate is filtered off. The filtrate is collected and then transferred to a flask to which there are added 9.55 g (41.7 mmol) of 4-iodobenzonitrile. The reaction mixture is stirred overnight at ambient temperature and is then cooled in an ice bath and 200 mL of water are added. The precipitate is filtered off to yield the expected product.

20 Elemental microanalysis:

	<i>C</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>I</i>
<i>theoretical %</i>	32.08	2.69	10.69	48.43
<i>experimental %</i>	32.05	2.77	10.55	47.46

Step B: *N'-(acetyloxy)-4-iodobenzenecarboximidamide*

To a suspension of the product obtained in Step A above (8.43 g, 32.17 mmol) in 200 ml of CH₂Cl₂ there are added 6.72 ml (48.2 mmol) of triethylamine. 3.34 ml (35.4 mmol) of acetic anhydride are added dropwise and the solution is stirred overnight at ambient
5 temperature. After washing 3 times with water and then with brine, the organic phase is dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated. The solid obtained is taken up in isopropyl ether and then filtered to yield the title product.

Melting point: 139°C

Step C: *3-(4-iodophenyl)-5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazole*

10 To a solution of the product obtained in Step B above (9.7 g, 31.9 mmol) in 300 ml of toluene there are added 150 mg of para-toluenesulphonic acid and the reaction mixture is heated at reflux, using a Dean-Stark installation, for 24 hours. The mixture is evaporated to dryness and dried using a vacuum pump.

Melting point: 91°C

15 Step D: *5-methyl-3-[4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)phenyl]-1,2,4-oxadiazole*

To a solution of the product obtained in Step C above (500 mg, 1.74 mmol) in 5 ml of DMF there are added 510 mg (5.2 mmol) of potassium acetate and 577 mg (2.28 mmol) of bis(pinacolato)borane. The reaction mixture is degassed for 30 minutes using nitrogen and
20 then 20 mg (0.09 mmol) of Pd(OAc)₂ are added. The reaction mixture is heated at 85°C for 3 hours. After cooling to ambient temperature and then adding water, the reaction mixture is extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phases are combined, washed (saturated NaCl) and dried (MgSO₄). The crude product is purified by chromatography over silica gel eluting with a mixture of heptane/ethyl acetate 7 / 3 to yield the expected product.

25 Melting point: 128°C

Step E: *[4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenyl]boronic acid*

A suspension of the product obtained in Step D above (6.5 g, 22.7 mmol) in 230 ml of acetone is stirred for 24 hours in the presence of 18.4 g (86.0 mmol) of sodium meta-periodate and 70 ml of aqueous 1M ammonium acetate solution. The acetone is evaporated
5 off using a rotary evaporator and, after adding water, the reaction mixture is extracted with ethyl acetate. The organic phases are combined, washed (NaCl) and dried (MgSO₄) to yield, after evaporation, the expected product.

Preparation 4: *[3-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)phenyl]boronic acid*

Step A: *N'-acetyl-3-iodobenzohydrazide*

10 To a suspension of 3-iodobenzoic acid (2.0 g, 8.06 mmol) in 60 ml of THF there are added, in succession, DIPEA (1.83 ml, 10.48 mmol) and TBTU (2.59 g, 8.06 mmol). The reaction mixture is stirred overnight at ambient temperature. 1.19 g (16.12 mmol) of acetyl hydrazide are added and the reaction mixture is heated at reflux for 30 hours. After evaporation to dryness, the residue is taken up in water with a small amount of CH₂Cl₂; a
15 thick precipitate forms, which is filtered off to yield the expected product.

Melting point: 178°C

Step B: *2-(3-iodophenyl)-5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazole*

The product obtained in Step A above (2.9 g, 9.54 mmol) is heated at 120°C for 3 hours in 35 ml of POCl₃. After evaporation of POCl₃, the residue is taken up in toluene and the
20 mixture is evaporated to dryness again. The residue from evaporation is dissolved in ethyl acetate and the organic phase is washed with, in succession, 10 % NaHCO₃ solution, water and then brine. The organic phase is dried over MgSO₄ to yield, after evaporation, the expected product in the form of a creamy white solid.

Melting point: 115°C

Step C: 2-methyl-5-[3-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)phenyl]-1,3,4-oxadiazole

The title product is obtained in accordance with the procedure described in Step D of Preparation 3 taking as starting material the compound described in Step B above instead of 3-(4-iodophenyl)-5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazole.

Melting point: 153°C

Step D: [3-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)phenyl]boronic acid

The title product is obtained in accordance with the procedure described in Step E of Preparation 3, taking as starting material the compound described in Step C above instead of 5-methyl-3-[4-(4,4,5,5-tetramethyl-1,3,2-dioxaborolan-2-yl)phenyl]-1,2,4-oxadiazole.

Melting point: 254°C

EXAMPLE 1: 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

Step A: 5-bromo-2-methoxybenzenesulphonyl chloride

To chlorosulphonic acid (140 mL, 2 mol), cooled to 0-5°C, there added dropwise 35 ml (0.279 mol) of 4-bromoanisole. The solution is stirred for 30 minutes at 0°C and then for about 16 hours at ambient temperature; it is poured slowly onto ice and is then stirred for a few more minutes. The white precipitate formed is filtered off and then washed with copious amounts of water.

Melting point: 107°C

Step B: 5-bromo-N-(2-chloroethyl)-2-methoxybenzenesulphonamide

To a suspension of 13.4 g (0.115 mol) of 2-chloroethylamine hydrochloride in 150 ml of CH₂Cl₂ there are added 34 ml (0.241 mol) of triethylamine and then, dropwise, 30 g (0.105 mol) of the product obtained in Step A above dissolved in 200 ml of CH₂Cl₂. The

solution is stirred for 2 hours at ambient temperature and is then washed with 1N HCl solution, water and brine. The organic phase is dried over MgSO_4 and evaporated. The solid is re-suspended in ethyl ether and filtered off to yield the title product.

Melting point: 150°C

5 Step C: 5-bromo-N-(2-chloroethyl)-2-hydroxybenzenesulphonamide

To a suspension of 29.9 g (91 mmol) of the product obtained in Step B above in 450 ml of CH_2Cl_2 there are added dropwise, at ambient temperature, 200 mL (200 mmol) of 1M BBr_3 solution in CH_2Cl_2 . After stirring for 30 minutes, the solution is poured onto an ice/water mixture, whilst continuing to stir. After separation and extracting once with CH_2Cl_2 , the
10 organic phase is washed with brine, dried over MgSO_4 and evaporated. The oily residue is triturated in heptane until crystallisation takes place. The title product is collected by filtration.

Melting point: 109°C

15 Step D: tert-butyl [(5-bromo-2-hydroxyphenyl)sulphonyl](2-chloroethyl)-
 carbamate

To a solution containing 25.55 g (81.2 mmol) of the product obtained in Step C above, 17.72 g (81.2 mmol) of di-tert-butyl dicarbonate and 496 mg (4.06 mmol) of dimethylaminopyridine in 500 mL of CH_2Cl_2 there are added dropwise 11.32 g (81.2 mmol) of triethylamine dissolved in 200 ml of CH_2Cl_2 . The mixture is stirred
20 overnight at ambient temperature. The organic phase is washed (saturated NaCl), dried (MgSO_4) and evaporated using a rotary evaporator to yield the title product.

Step E: 8-bromo-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

37 g (81 mmol) of the product obtained in Step D above are heated at reflux in the presence of 2.69 g (16 mmol) of KI and 33.6 g (240 mmol) of K_2CO_3 in 1.2 L of ethanol
25 for about 18 hours. After cooling, the salts are filtered off and rinsed with acetone. After evaporation, the filtrate is taken up in water. The mixture is acidified with 1N HCl solution

and then extracted 3 times with CH₂Cl₂. The organic phase is washed twice with brine, dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated. The residue obtained (~ 22 g) is then triturated in heptane, and then the mixture is allowed to separate in order to remove the heptane supernatant. The residue is again triturated in a heptane/isopropyl ether mixture to obtain a solid. After filtration, the product is rapidly dried and then ground in a mortar. The solid obtained is dissolved in heptane, stirred for about 1 hour and filtered to yield the expected product.

Melting point: 129°C

10 Step F: *tert-butyl 8-bromo-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide*

To a solution of 19.65 g (70.6 mmol) of the product obtained in Step E above and 259 mg (2 mmol) of DMAP in 200 ml of CH₂Cl₂ there are added dropwise 23.1 g (106 mmol) of di-*tert*-butyl dicarbonate dissolved in 125 ml of CH₂Cl₂. The reaction mixture is stirred at ambient temperature and then, after 3 hours, 100 mg of DMAP are added. The solution is stirred for 45 minutes. After washing twice with water and with brine, the organic phase is dried over MgSO₄ and evaporated. The residue from evaporation is triturated in heptane. The solid obtained is dissolved in heptane and stirred for 48 hours, resulting in a precipitate which is filtered to yield the title product.

Melting point: 119°C

20 Step G: *[2-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)-1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl]boronic acid*

To a solution of the product obtained in Step F above (21.6 g, 57.3 mmol) and 40 ml of triisopropyl borate in 210 ml of THF, cooled to -65°C and under N₂, there are added dropwise 90 ml (143 mmol) of 1.6M *n*BuLi solution. The reaction mixture is stirred for 1 hour at -65°C and allowed to return to ambient temperature. After stirring for 1 hour, the solution is cooled in an ice bath and hydrolysed by adding 320 ml of 0.5M HCl solution. After extracting 3 times with CH₂Cl₂, the organic phase is washed with brine, dried over

MgSO₄ and evaporated. The residue is taken up in heptane and, after evaporation, is triturated in heptane and filtered to yield the title product.

Melting point: 197°C

5 Step H: tert-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-
5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide

10 A suspension containing 2.5 g (7.28 mmol) of the product obtained in Step G above, 1.17 g (6.62 mmol) of the compound of Preparation 1, 1.61 ml (19.9 mmol) of pyridine, 1.8 g (9.9 mmol) of copper acetate and 8 g of 4 Å sieve in 125 ml of CH₂Cl₂ is stirred at ambient temperature in air for 20 hours. The sieve is filtered off and the filtrate is rinsed with 125 ml of a mixture of CH₂Cl₂/MeOH. Then 6 g of SiO₂ are added to the filtrate before evaporation to dryness. The crude product is purified by chromatography over silica gel eluting with a mixture of CH₂Cl₂/acetone 97 / 3 to yield the expected product in the form of a meringue.

15 Step I: 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-
benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

20 A solution of 1.92 g (4.05 mmol) of the product obtained in Step H above is heated at 80°C for 2 hours in 15 ml of 4N HCl solution in dioxane. The mixture is evaporated to dryness and dried *in vacuo*. The crude product is purified by chromatography over silica gel eluting with a mixture of CH₂Cl₂/AcOEt. The solid is taken up in isopropyl ether and filtered to yield the title product.

Melting point: 177°C

EXAMPLE 2: 8-[3-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

Step A: *tert-butyl 8-[3-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide*

- 5 The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step H of Example 1 using (3-thiazol-2-yl)phenol (the preparation of which is described in *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2003**, 11(7), 1235-48) instead of the compound of Preparation 1.

Step B: *8-[3-(1,3-thiazol-2-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide*

- 10 The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step I of Example 1 using the compound obtained in Step A above instead of *tert-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide*.

Melting point: 148°C

- 15 Elemental microanalysis:

	C	H	N	S
<i>theoretical %</i>	54.53	3.77	7.48	17.13
<i>experimental %</i>	54.68	3.85	7.34	17.18

EXAMPLE 3: 8-[3-(1,3-thiazol-5-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

Step A: *tert-butyl 8-[3-(1,3-thiazol-5-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide*

20

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step H of Example 1 using (3-thiazol-5-yl)phenol (the preparation of which is described in *Bioorg. Med. Chem.* **2003**, 11(7), 1235-48) instead of the compound of Preparation 1.

Step B: 8-[3-(1,3-thiazol-5-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step I of Example 1 using the compound obtained in Step A above instead of *tert*-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide.

Melting point: 60°C (*meringue*)

Elemental microanalysis:

	C	H	N	S
<i>theoretical %</i>	54.53	3.77	7.48	17.13
<i>experimental %</i>	54.69	3.76	7.06	17.10

10 **EXAMPLE 4: 8-[3-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide**

Step A: *tert-butyl* 8-[3-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide

15 The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step H of Example 1 using the compound of Preparation 2 instead of the compound of Preparation 1.

Step B: 8-[3-(1,3-oxazol-2-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

20 The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step I of Example 1 using the compound obtained in Step A above instead of *tert*-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide.

Melting point: 180°C

Elemental microanalysis:

	<i>C</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>S</i>
<i>theoretical %</i>	56.98	3.94	7.82	8.95
<i>experimental %</i>	56.60	3.92	7.65	8.61

EXAMPLE 5: 8-[4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

Step A: tert-butyl 8-hydroxy-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide

A suspension of 4.7 g (13.69 mmol) of the product of Step G of Example 1 in a mixture of 90 ml of THF and 90 ml of water is stirred at ambient temperature in the presence of 5.27 g (34 mmol) of sodium perborate tetrahydrate overnight. The reaction mixture is diluted by adding saturated aqueous NH₄Cl solution and is then extracted with CH₂Cl₂. The organic phases are combined, washed (saturated NaCl), dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated using a rotary evaporator. The residue from evaporation is taken up and triturated in heptane in the presence of a few drops of isopropyl ether; a precipitate is formed which is filtered off to yield the expected product.

Melting point: 143°C

Step B: tert-butyl 8-[4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step H of Example 1 using the compound of Preparation 3 instead of the compound of Preparation 1.

Step C: 8-[4-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step I of Example 1 using the compound obtained in Step B above instead of *tert*-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide.

Melting point: 171°C

Elemental microanalysis:

	C	H	N	S
theoretical %	54.69	4.05	11.25	8.59
experimental %	54.81	4.07	10.96	8.54

10 **EXAMPLE 6: 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide**

Step A: *tert*-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide

15 The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step H of Example 1 by reacting the product obtained in Step A of Example 5 with the compound of Preparation 4 instead of the compound of Preparation 1.

Step B: 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,3,4-oxadiazol-2-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

20 The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step I of Example 1 using the compound obtained in Step A above instead of *tert*-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide.

Melting point: 192°C

EXAMPLE 7: Ethyl 3-[(1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl)oxy]benzoate

Step A: *tert-butyl 8-[3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide*

- 5 The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step H of Example 1 reacting the product obtained in Step A of Example 5 with [3-(ethoxycarbonyl)phenyl]-boronic acid.

Step B: *Ethyl 3-[(1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl)oxy]benzoate*

- 10 The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step I of Example 1 using the compound obtained in Step A above instead of *tert-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide*.

Melting point: 120°C

- 15 Elemental microanalysis:

	<i>C</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>S</i>
<i>theoretical %</i>	56.19	4.72	3.85	8.82
<i>experimental %</i>	55.71	4.70	4.07	9.02

EXAMPLE 8: 3-[(1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl)oxy]benzonitrile

Step A: *tert-butyl 8-(3-cyanophenoxy)-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide*

20

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step H of Example 1 reacting the product obtained in Step A of Example 5 with (3-cyanophenyl)boronic acid.

Step B: 3-[(1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl)oxy]-benzonitrile

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step I of Example 1 using the compound obtained in Step A above instead of *tert*-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate.

Melting point: 131°C

Elemental microanalysis:

	C	H	N	S
theoretical %	56.95	3.82	8.86	10.14
experimental %	56.66	3.88	8.64	9.98

EXAMPLE 9: N-{3-[(1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl)oxy]-benzyl}methanesulphonamide

Step A: *tert*-butyl 8-(3-[[[(methylsulphonyl)amino]methyl]phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step H of Example 1 reacting the product obtained in Step A of Example 5 with (3-[[[(methylsulphonyl)amino]methyl]phenyl)boronic acid.

Step B: N-{3-[(1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl)oxy]-benzyl}methanesulphonamide

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step I of Example 1 using the compound obtained in Step A above instead of *tert*-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide.

Melting point: 57-60°C

EXAMPLE 10: 8-phenoxy-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

Step A: *tert-butyl 8-phenoxy-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-dioxide*

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step H of Example 1
5 reacting the product obtained in Step A of Example 5 with phenylboronic acid.

Step B: *8-phenoxy-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide*

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step I of Example 1
using the compound obtained in Step A above instead of *tert-butyl 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine-2-carboxylate 1,1-*
10 *dioxide*.

Melting point: 110°C

EXAMPLE 11: 3-[(1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl)oxy]-N'-hydroxybenzenecarboximidamide

The title product is obtained according to the protocol described in Step A of Preparation 1
15 using the compound of Example 8 instead of 3-hydroxybenzonitrile.

Melting point: 163-166°C

Elemental microanalysis:

	<i>C</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>S</i>
<i>theoretical %</i>	51.57	4.33	12.03	9.18
<i>experimental %</i>	51.27	4.42	11.62	9.31

EXAMPLE 12: 8-{3-[5-(trifluoromethyl)-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl]phenoxy}-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

20

To a suspension of the compound of Example 11 (800 mg, 2.29 mmol) in 15 ml of CH₂Cl₂ there are added 958 µl (6.87 mmol) of triethylamine and then 701 µl (5.04 mmol) of

trifluoroacetic anhydride dropwise. After stirring for 1 hour at ambient temperature, the reaction mixture is washed with water and then with saturated NaCl solution and is dried over MgSO₄. The crude product is purified by chromatography over silica gel eluting with CH₂Cl₂ to yield the expected product in the form of a meringue.

5 Elemental microanalysis:

	<i>C</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>S</i>
<i>theoretical %</i>	47.78	2.83	9.83	7.50
<i>experimental %</i>	47.66	3.18	9.59	7.69

EXAMPLE 13: 8-[3-(3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

10 Step A: 3-[(1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl)oxy]benzoic acid

A suspension of 1.0 g (2.23 mmol) of the product obtained in Step A of Example 7 in 20 ml of 1N NaOH solution and 1 ml of THF is stirred for 3 hours at 100°C. After cooling to ambient temperature, the reaction mixture is acidified by slowly adding 1N HCl solution. The white precipitate is filtered off and dried to yield the expected product.

15 Step B: 3-[(1,1-dioxido-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepin-8-yl)oxy]-N-[(1*Z*)-N-hydroxyethanimidoyl]benzamide

20 To a suspension of the product obtained in Step A above (540 mg, 1.61 mmol) in 10 ml of CH₂Cl₂ there are added, in succession, 516 mg (1.61 mmol) of TBTU and then 364 µl (2.09 mmol) of DIEA. After stirring for 20 minutes, 120 mg (1.61 mmol) of *N*-hydroxyacetamide are added and the reaction mixture is stirred for 1.5 hours at ambient temperature. The reaction mixture is washed with water and then with saturated NaCl solution, dried (MgSO₄) and evaporated to dryness. The residue is taken up in CH₂Cl₂; a white precipitate forms which is filtered off to yield the expected product.

Step C: 8-[3-(3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2H-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

To a solution of 390 mg (0.99 mmol) of the product obtained in Step B above in 50 ml of toluene there are added 35 mg of para-toluenesulphonic acid and the reaction mixture is
5 heated at reflux using a Dean-Stark system for 12 hours. After evaporation, the crude reaction product is purified over silica gel eluting with a mixture of CH₂Cl₂/AcOEt 9 / 1 to yield the expected product.

Melting point: 140°C

Elemental microanalysis:

	<i>C</i>	<i>H</i>	<i>N</i>	<i>S</i>
<i>theoretical %</i>	54.69	4.05	11.25	8.59
<i>experimental %</i>	54.78	4.11	11.00	8.70

PHARMACOLOGICAL STUDY

EXAMPLE A: Study of the effect of compounds on membrane depolarisation brought about by AMPA in primary cultures of rat neurons.

The test comprises the *in vitro* measurement, by means of fluorescence, of the membrane depolarisation brought about in cultured rat embryonic neurons by the joint action of AMPA and the compound under test, compared to the action of AMPA alone. The brain cells are placed in culture and kept in a cell culture incubator for 18 days. After incubation, the culture medium is withdrawn and replaced with fluorescent probe loading medium for measurement of the membrane potential (20 μ l; membrane potential kit from Molecular Devices) and left at ambient temperature for 1 hour. The base fluorescence of the wells is read (FDSS apparatus from Hamamatsu) and the cells are then injected with AMPA (20 μ l; concentration range: from 3 to 100 μ M) and the action of the AMPA is measured kinetically. The test compound is then introduced into the wells (20 μ l; in a concentration range crossed with that of AMPA) and the action of the compound is measured kinetically. At the end of each of the two periods of kinetic measurement, the result for each well is the average reading over the final 15 seconds of the period. The curves are plotted of the effect of AMPA at the various concentrations of compound. For each concentration of compound, the result is the area under the AMPA curve at that concentration, and the EC_{2X} (the concentration of compound which doubles the membrane potential brought about by AMPA) is calculated.

The compounds of the invention greatly potentiate the excitatory effects of AMPA. By way of example, the compounds of Example 1 and Example 13 have an EC_{2X} of 5 and 18 μ M, respectively.

EXAMPLE B: Object recognition in the CD1 mouse

The object recognition test (Behav. Brain Res., 1988, 31, 47-59) is based on the spontaneous exploratory activity of the animal and has the characteristics of episodic

memory in humans. This memory test is sensitive to ageing (Eur. J. Pharm. 1997, 325, 173-180) and to cholinergic dysfunctions (Pharm. Biochem. Behav., 1996, 53(2), 277-283) and is based on the differences in the exploration of 2 objects – one familiar, the other new. The test procedure, which has been adapted for the CD1 mouse, comprises 3 phases which
5 take place in the same test enclosure. During the first phase, which lasts 30 minutes, the mice are habituated to the environment (habituation phase). During the second phase, which takes place the next day, two identical objects are placed in the enclosure and the mouse is free to explore them (familiarisation phase). Once the total duration of that exploration has reached 20 seconds, the mouse is taken out of the enclosure. In the course
10 of the third phase (5 minutes, recall phase), 6 hours later, one of the same objects is re-presented (acquiring the status of a "familiar" object), as well as a further object ("new" object). The duration of exploration, expressed in seconds, is timed for each of the two objects. The control animals, which have previously been given the carrier by the oral route 60 minutes before the familiarisation phase, explore the "familiar" object and the
15 "new" object for an equivalent period during the recall phase, which indicates that the object previously presented has been forgotten. Animals having received a compound that facilitates mnemocognition explore the new object preferentially, which indicates that the memory of the object previously presented has been retained.

The results obtained with the compounds of the present invention show that, at doses of
20 0.3, 1 and 3 mg/kg PO, there is significantly more exploration of the new object than of the familiar object, with doubling and even trebling of the exploration time for the "new" object compared to the "familiar" object, which indicates that the compounds of the invention greatly enhance memorisation.

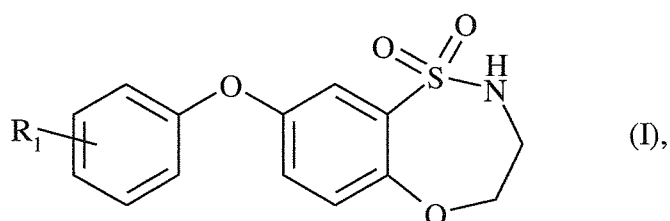
EXAMPLE C: Pharmaceutical composition

Formula for the preparation of 1000 tablets each containing 10 mg of 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide

	(Example 1)	10 g
5	Hydroxypropylcellulose	2 g
	Wheat starch	10 g
	Lactose.....	100 g
	Magnesium stearate	3 g
	Talc	3 g

CLAIMS

1. Compounds of formula (I):



wherein R₁ represents a hydrogen atom, a cyano group, a linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkoxycarbonyl group, a (C₁-C₆)alkylsulphonylamino-(C₁-C₆)alkyl group in which the alkyl moieties are each linear or branched, an *N*-hydroxycarboximidamide group or a heterocyclic group,

their enantiomers and diastereoisomers, and also addition salts thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base,

it being understood that the term "heterocyclic group" denotes a 5-membered monocyclic aromatic group containing one to four hetero atoms which are the same or different and which are selected from nitrogen, oxygen and sulphur, it optionally being possible for said heterocyclic group to be substituted by one or more substituents which are the same or different and which are selected from linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl and linear or branched (C₁-C₆)polyhaloalkyl.

2. Compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that R₁ represents a heterocyclic group.
3. Compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that R₁ represents a 5-membered monocyclic aromatic heterocyclic group containing at least one nitrogen atom, it optionally being possible for said group to be substituted by one or more

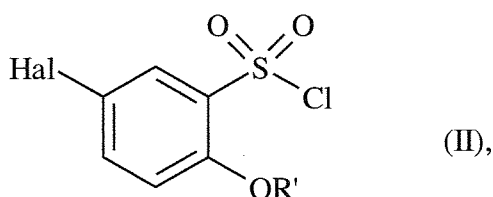
substituents which are the same or different and which are selected from linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl and linear or branched (C₁-C₆)polyhaloalkyl.

4. Compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that R₁ represents a pyrrolyl, pyrazolyl, imidazolyl, triazolyl, tetrazolyl, isoxazolyl, oxazolyl, isothiazolyl, thiazolyl, thiadiazolyl, dithiazolyl or oxadiazolyl group, it optionally being possible for each of the groups to be substituted by one or more substituents which are the same or different and which are selected from linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl and linear or branched (C₁-C₆)polyhaloalkyl.
5. Compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that R₁ represents a thiazolyl or oxadiazolyl group, it optionally being possible for each of the groups to be substituted by one or more substituents which are the same or different and which are selected from linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl and linear or branched (C₁-C₆)polyhaloalkyl.
6. Compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that R₁ represents a 1,3-thiazolyl or 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl group, it optionally being possible for each of the groups to be substituted by one or more substituents which are the same or different and which are selected from linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl and linear or branched (C₁-C₆)polyhaloalkyl.
7. Compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that R₁ represents a 1,3-thiazolyl or 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl group substituted by a methyl or trifluoromethyl group.
8. Compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that R₁ is in meta position of the phenoxy ring carrying it.
9. Compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1, which are:

- 8-[3-(5-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-3-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide;
- 8-[3-(3-methyl-1,2,4-oxadiazol-5-yl)phenoxy]-3,4-dihydro-2*H*-5,1,2-benzoxathiazepine 1,1-dioxide;

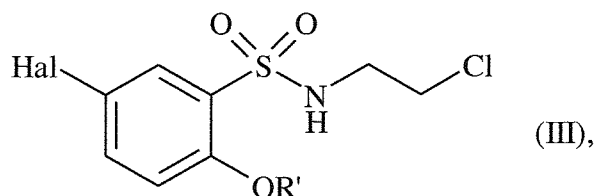
5 their enantiomers and diastereoisomers, and also addition salts thereof with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base.

10. Process for the preparation of compounds of formula (I) according to claim 1, characterised in that there is used as starting material a compound of formula (II):



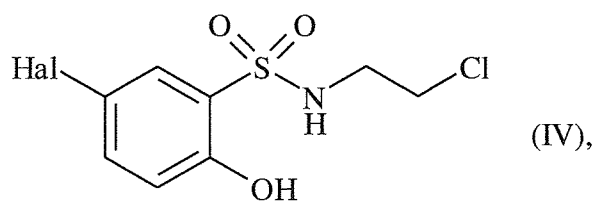
10 wherein Hal represents a halogen atom such as fluorine, chlorine or bromine and R' represents a linear or branched (C₁-C₆)alkyl group,

which is reacted with 2-chloroethylamine in a basic medium to yield the compound of formula (III):



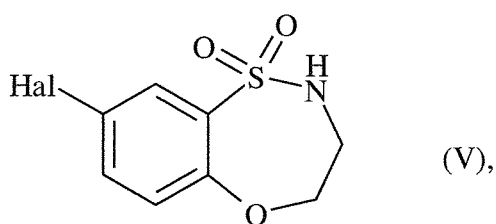
15 wherein Hal and R' are as defined hereinbefore,

which is then subjected to the action of a boron-containing compound to yield the compound of formula (IV):



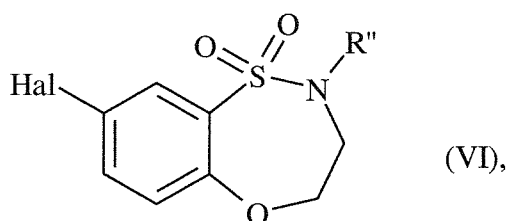
wherein Hal is as defined hereinbefore,

which is then cyclised to yield the compound of formula (V):



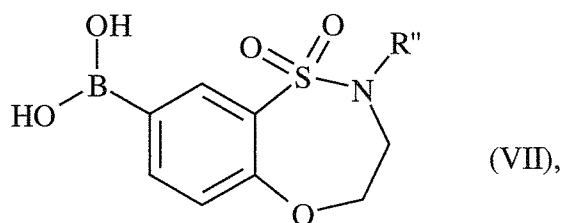
5 wherein Hal is as defined hereinbefore,

which is subjected to a reaction protecting the nitrogen atom to yield the compound of formula (VI):



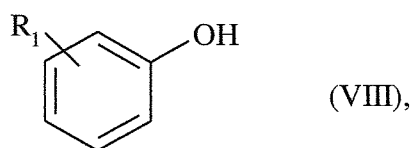
10 wherein Hal is as defined hereinbefore and R'' represents a protecting group for the amine function such as, for example, a *tert*-butyloxycarbonyl group,

which is converted into a boronic acid to yield the compounds of formula (VII):



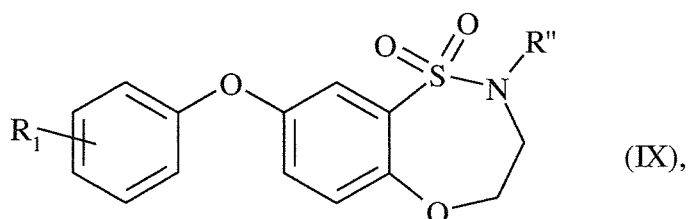
wherein R'' is as defined hereinbefore,

which is reacted with an alcohol of formula (VIII):



5 wherein R₁ is as defined for formula (I),

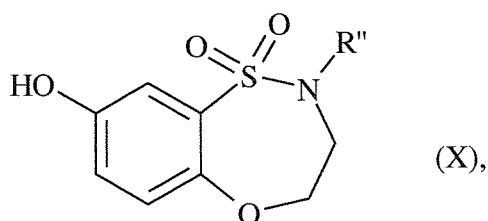
to yield the compound of formula (IX):



wherein R₁ and R'' are as defined hereinbefore;

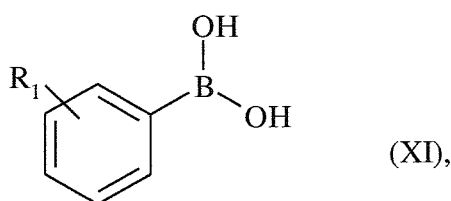
10 which is then subjected to a reaction deprotecting the amine function to yield the compound of formula (I),

a variant in the preparation of the compounds of formula (I) consisting of hydrolysis of the compound of formula (VII) to yield the compound of formula (X):



wherein R'' is as defined hereinbefore,

which is reacted with a boronic acid compound of formula (XI):



5 wherein R₁ is as defined for formula (I),

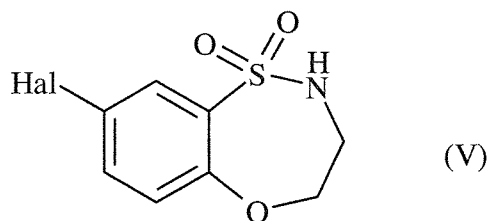
to yield the compound of formula (IX),

which is then subjected to a reaction deprotecting the amine function to yield the compound of formula (I),

10 another alternative in the preparation of the compounds of formula (I) consisting of using conventional chemical reactions, after preparation of the compounds of formula (IX), in order to subsequently change the substituent of the phenoxy ring,

15 which compound of formula (I) may then be purified according to a conventional separation technique, is converted, if desired, into its addition salts with a pharmaceutically acceptable acid or base and is separated, where appropriate, into its isomers according to a conventional separation technique.

11. Compounds of formula (V):



wherein Hal represents a halogen atom such as fluorine, chlorine or bromine,

characterised in that they are for use as synthesis intermediates for compounds of
5 formula (I).

12. Pharmaceutical composition comprising as active ingredient a compound according to
any one of claims 1 to 9 in combination with one or more inert, non-toxic,
pharmaceutically acceptable carriers.

10 **13.** Pharmaceutical compositions according to claim 12 for use as modulators of the
AMPA receptor.

14. Pharmaceutical compositions according to claim 12 for use in the treatment or
prevention of disorders of memory and cognition that are associated with age, with
syndromes of anxiety or depression, with progressive neurodegenerative diseases, with
Alzheimer's disease, with Parkinson's disease, with Pick's disease, with Huntington's
15 chorea, with Korsakoff's disease, with schizophrenia, with the sequelae of acute
neurodegenerative diseases, with frontal lobe and subcortical dementias, with the
sequelae of ischaemia and with the sequelae of epilepsy.

15. Use of compounds of formula (I) according to any one of claims 1 to 9 in the
manufacture of medicaments for use as modulators of the AMPA receptor.

20 **16.** Use of compounds of formula (I) according to any one of claims 1 to 9 in the
manufacture of medicaments for use in the treatment or prevention of disorders of

memory and cognition that are associated with age, with syndromes of anxiety or depression, with progressive neurodegenerative diseases, with Alzheimer's disease, with Parkinson's disease, with Pick's disease, with Huntington's chorea, with Korsakoff's disease, with schizophrenia, with the sequelae of acute neurodegenerative diseases, with frontal lobe and subcortical dementias, with the sequelae of ischaemia and with the sequelae of epilepsy.

5
17. Compounds of formula (I) according to any one of claims 1 to 9 for use as modulators of the AMPA receptor.

10
18. Compounds of formula (I) according to any one of claims 1 to 9 for use in the treatment or prevention of disorders of memory and cognition that are associated with age, with syndromes of anxiety or depression, with progressive neurodegenerative diseases, with Alzheimer's disease, with Parkinson's disease, with Pick's disease, with Huntington's chorea, with Korsakoff's disease, with schizophrenia, with the sequelae of acute neurodegenerative diseases, with frontal lobe and subcortical dementias, with
15 the sequelae of ischaemia and with the sequelae of epilepsy.