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## Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals

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## Reentrant nematic phase with the new pentamorphism $n s_a s_c$ $n_{re} s_{are}$ in a mixture

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REENTRANT NEMATIC PHASE WITH THE NEW PENTAMORPHISM N S A S C N re S Are IN A MIXTURE

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(Submitted for Publication December 17, 1981)

Abstract: Three homologues of the new series 4 - cyanobenzylidene - 4' - [4"-alkoxybenzoyloxy] aniline are presented. One of them exhibits a reentrant nematic and a reentrant smectic A phases. A diagram of state with 4-cyanobenzylidene - 4' - [4"-decyloxybenzoyloxy] aniline and 4-[4"-decyloxybenzoyloxy] benzylidene - 4' - cyanoaniline has been studied. In the system studied, the following new phase sequence was found with decreasing temperature N SA S<sub>C</sub> N SA.

Introduction: From the discovery of the reentrant nematic phase by P.E. Cladis<sup>1,2</sup>, at first in binary mixture, then for a pure compound at high pressure <sup>3,4</sup>, at last by F. Hardouin et al. <sup>5,6</sup> in a pure substance at atmospheric pressure, numerous synthesis have been performed and a lot of new homologous series have been published. These substances belong to the general formula <sup>6-17</sup>

$$R - \bigcirc O - COO - \bigcirc O - X - \bigcirc O - CN \qquad 1$$
 with  $X = - CH = CH - , - C \equiv C - , single bond , - N = N - , - CH = N - , - COO - , - OCO -$ 

More often than not the reentrant phenomenon was observed with the aliphatic chain varying from C8 to  $C_{10}$  and the observed sequences are with increasing temperature:

Moreover Weissflog et al.  $^{l1}$ , in the case of  $^{l}$  with X = - CH = N -, reported another sequence: N S<sub>C</sub>  $^{N}$ S<sub>A</sub> N with the decyloxy derivative. At last, Pelzl et al.  $^{l7}$  in recent paper reported the new sequence S<sub>C</sub> N S<sub>A</sub> N in a binary mixture. We present in this paper three homologues of the new series: 4-cyanobenzylidene -4'-[4"-alkoxybenzoyloxy] aniline 2. One of them exhibits a reentrant nematic and a reentrant S<sub>A</sub> phases. In the diagram of state between l and 4-cyanobenzylidene -4'-[4"-decyloxybenzoyloxy] aniline the following new phase sequence was found with decreasing temperature N S<sub>A</sub> S<sub>C</sub> N S<sub>A</sub>.

Results and discussion: The substances were synthesized by reaction between 4-alkoxybenzoyl chloride with suitable phenate. They were purified by recrystallization from ethanol. The three studied derivatives are

$$C_{n}H_{2n+1} = C_{n}H_{2n+1} = C_{n}H_{2n+1$$

with  $n = 10 \rightarrow 12$ 

The mesophases of these compounds, listed in the following Table were examined by differential scanning calorimetry (Dupont 990) and by observation with a polarizing microscope equipped with a programmable heating stage (Mettler FP 5).

Table: Transition temperatures (°C) of compounds of 2  $s_{c}$ K SA N  $S_A$ I 10 • 104 (79) . (94) 245 88 • (79) 11 247 249 12 • (70) -247

K: crystal phase;  $S_A$ ,  $S_C$ : smectic A, C phases; N: nematic phase; I: isotropic phase; .: the phase exists; -: the phase is not observed; (): monotropic transition.

The compound n = 10 exhibits the tetramorphism : N  $S_A$  N  $S_A$ . On cooling the isotropic liquid of this compound, one can observe the nematic phase with a schlieren texture. Below this nematic phase, the smectic A phase with focal conic and homeotropic textures appears. On further cooling another schlieren or paramorphic fan shaped texture is observed : on

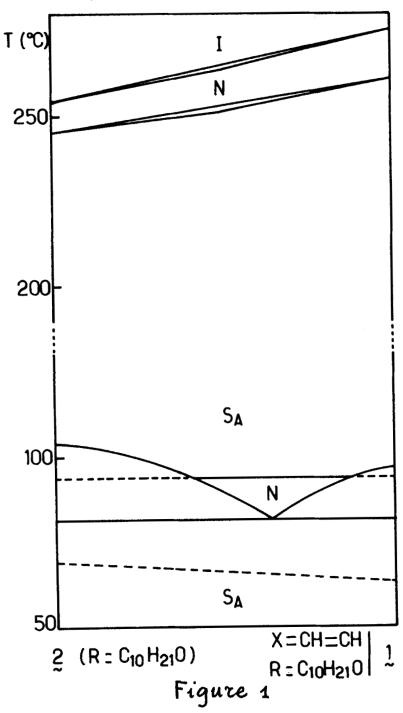
cooling this reentrant nematic phase, the  $S_A$  phase shows a focal conic texture. The reentrant nematic phase disappears in the two derivatives n=11 and 12 but the monotropic  $S_C$  phase is observed.

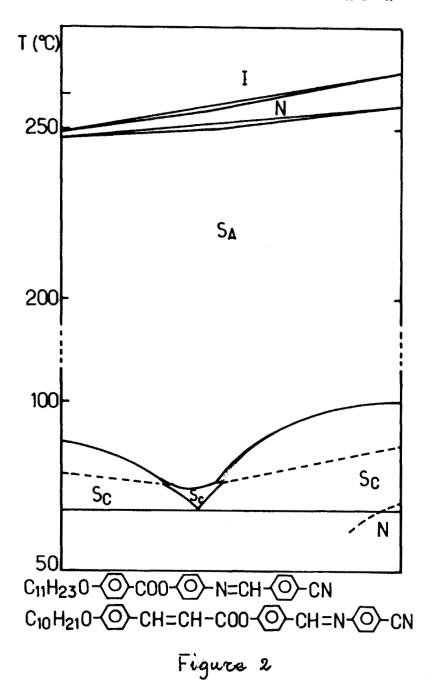
At first the identification of the N  $S_A$  N  $S_A$  sequence of the decyloxy derivative has been performed by the miscibility method with the same sequence of the well known nonyloxy derivative of 1 with X = CH = CH<sup>7</sup> (Fig. 1). The  $S_C$  phase of the undecyloxy derivative was miscible with those of 4-[4"-decyloxycinnamoyloxy] benzylidene  $-4"-cyanoaniline[K 100 (N 70)(<math>S_C$  87)  $S_A$  257 N 267 I]  $^{18}$  (Fig. 2).

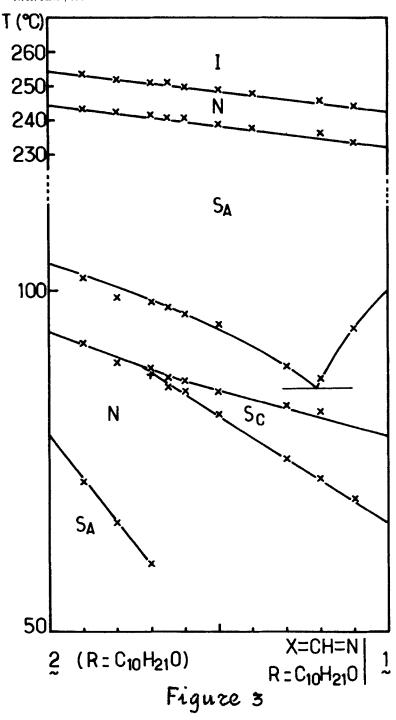
The diagram of state of binary system between the decyloxy derivative of 1 (X = CH = N) and the decyloxy derivative of 2 has been studied by means of the contact method and by the investigations of singular concentrations. Fig. 3 shows the following new phase sequence with decreasing temperature: N SA SC N SA with two concentrations (68.7 mol % 2 and 31.3 mol % 1 and 69.2 mol % 2 and 30.8 mol % 1); for example, with the first one, the transition temperatures are: K 98.5 (SA 61.2)(N 86.5)(SC 87.5) SA 242.5 N 251.5 I. The new sequence N SA SC N SA found in mixtures of these new series shows another example of the great variance of reentrant polymorphism discovered or to be discovered with strong polar molecules.

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