Molecular Crystals and Liquid Crystals Incorporating Nonlinear Optics

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Preface

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Preface

The discovery of the first low molecular weight liquid crystal occurred just one hundred years ago. Since then a great deal of fundamental research has been conducted. The discovery in the late 1960's of the characteristic electrooptical properties of liquid crystal materials accelerated research on their application for information display and other related technologies. In recent years, the interest in the liquid crystalline nature of polymeric materials has expanded as a consequence of the development of the aromatic polyamide, Kevlar, as a high modulus and high strength material.

There are now several thermotropic polymer liquid crystals which have been developed for practical applications. It appears to be an appropriate time to present the first special issue on applied liquid crystal polymer research.

Presented are review articles in liquid crystal polymer research including: liquid crystal polymer processing, the preparation and properties of an all-aromatic polyester, historical and future trends of liquid crystal polymer research, lyotropic systems, non-linear optical polymers, and applications of liquid crystal polymers.

The guest editors express their hearty thanks to those authors who kindly accepted our invitation to participate in this special issue.

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