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SULFUR CONTAINING HETEROAROMATIC LIQUID CRYSTALLINE SALTS

H. Strzelecka^a; M. Veber^a; C. Jallabert^a ^a ESPCI, CNRS, UA958, Paris, France

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SULFUR CONTAINING CRYSTALLINE SALTS

CONTAINING HETEROAROMATIC

LIQUID

H. STRZELECKA, M. VEBER and C. JALLABERT ESPCI, CNRS, UA958, 10 rue Vauquelin, 75231 Paris, France

Abstract The series of liquid crystals in which the rigid part is constituted by heteroaromatic cation (thiopyrylium, 1-2-dithiolium) have been synthesized.

The nature of the mesophases depends on the number of flexible substituants grafted on the cationic units. Lamellar (S_A) mesophases are obtained with two or three chains. With four paraffinic substituents columnar order (D_H) appears.

INTRODUCTION

Generally, the rigid part of thermotropic liquid crystals is neutral, we have shown the possibility to obtain liquid crystalline species in which the central rigid part is constituted of an organic polarisable cation (pyrylium, thiopyrylium, 1,2-dithiolium)¹! In this paper we describe the synthesis and the properties of sulfur containing heteroaromatic salts 1 and 2 bearing mesogenic flexible substituents.

Ar -
$$\bigcirc$$
 $(R-C_nH_{2n+1}, oc_nH_{2n+1})$; Ar - \bigcirc oc_nH_{2n+1}

Ar - Ar' symmetrical

Ar # Ar' non symmetrical

We tried to determine the influence of various structural parameters on the mesomorphic properties of obtained species:

- the nature of the cation
- the nature of the anion
- the nature of the flexible substituents
- the position of the substituents on the phenyls
- the number of the flexible substituents
- the length of the chains

SYNTHESIS

<u>Diaryl-2.6</u> thiopyrylium salts 1 were obtained by heterocyclization of δ -diketones :

$$R \leftarrow \bigcirc -C - (CH_2)_3 - C \leftarrow \bigcirc -R \xrightarrow{P_4S_{10}, Lix} R \bigcirc -R \xrightarrow{P_4S_{10}, Lix} R \bigcirc -R \xrightarrow{1}$$

We found that acetic acid can be used as solvant. In this case the salt $\underline{1}$ is isolated as a single product. 1c

In fact the action of P_4S_{10} on δ -diketones such as dibenzoyl propane in refluxing acetic acid leads to thiopyrylium salt which has been isolated as perchlorate by metathesis at the end of the reaction (yield : 20-30%).

When the reaction was performed in the presence of alkaline or alkaline earth perchlorates the yield was considerably increased (yield: 70-80%).

The perchlorates can be re-placed by tetrafluoroborates with equal efficiency . This positif salt effect was interpretated $^{\rm lc}$.

<u>Diaryl-3.5 dithiolium salts 2</u> were obtained starting from β -diketones or chalcones ¹⁸:

As a general rule the yield of salts $\underline{2}$ are superior starting from β -diketones, but the chalcones being easier to prepare.

Recently a series of non symmetrical tetrafluoroborates $\underline{2}$ has been synthesized starting from 0

| | | | | | | | isomeric chalcones (ArC-CH-CH-Ar' or Ar'-C-CH-CH-Ar).

MESOMORPHIC PROPERTIES

Optical observations, DSC studies and X-ray diffraction measurements were performed for both series of salts.

Compounds with lamellar structure (SA)

Compounds with two substituents : Salts $\underline{1}$ and $\underline{2}$ (Ar-Ar') in which the phenyls are substituted, in meta or para position, by alkyl or alkoxy groups

$$Ar - Ar' - \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcap_{\substack{OC_nH_{2n+1} \\ (p \text{ or } m)}} Ar - Ar' - \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcirc \bigcap_{C_nH_{2n+1}} \bigcap_{C_n$$

are S_A for $n \ge 9$, whatever the nature of the anion (X=ClO₄, BF₄, Cl, PF₆).
Ortho isomers do not exhibit mesomorphic behaviours For data concerning the phase transitions, see refs.

Compounds with three substituents: Non symmetrical dithiolium salts $\underline{2}$ exhibit also ${\bf S}_A$ behaviour. If

$$Ar - \bigcirc - oc_n H_{2n+1}$$
, $Ar' - \bigcirc - oc_n H_{2n+1}$ (n - 10,12)

Compounds with columnar structure

Salts with four alkoxy chains 2: The series of tetrafluoroborates 2 was prepared, in which each phenyl is substituted by two alkoxy chains in meta and para positions :

$$Ar - Ar' - \bigcirc \bigcirc OC_{n}H_{2n+1} \quad n = 5,7,8,10,12$$

Optical observations, DSC studies and X-ray diffraction measurements are consistent with a columnar hexagonal mesomorphic order in the case of these salts.

It is the first time that $\mathbf{D}_{\boldsymbol{h}}$ mesophases are observed in the case of heteroaromatic salts with only four flexible chains. In the mesophase, the cations are probably associated forming dimers.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

We have developed general approaches for the heterocyclization of various carbonyl derivatives leading to thiopyrylium and dithiolium salts.

Several of them exhibit liquid crystalline properties.

Some relationships between molecular structure and mesomorphisme of studied salts were established.

The nature of mesophase depends of the number of flexible chains.

It should be mentioned that the thiopyrylium salts $\underline{1}$ are useful intermediates for synthesis of liquid crystalline conductors $\underline{3}$. Dithiolium salts $\underline{2}$, with relatively short chains are shown to yield Langmuir-Blodgett films $\underline{4}$.

Other applications of these materials will be presented later.

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