# organic papers

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#### Key indicators

Single-crystal X-ray study T = 296 KMean  $\sigma(C-C) = 0.007 \text{ Å}$  R factor = 0.071 wR factor = 0.303 Data-to-parameter ratio = 18.6

For details of how these key indicators were automatically derived from the article, see http://journals.iucr.org/e. 4-Cyanophenyl 4-n-decanyloxybenzoate

The title compound,  $C_{24}H_{29}NO_3$ , has a phase sequence of crystals–smectic A–nematic–isotropic liquid. The molecular length of the compound is 25.323 (9) Å. Intermolecular contacts between two CN groups, between a carbonyloxy and a CN group, and between two carbonyloxy groups are observed in the crystal state.

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# Comment

Mesomorphic sequences of 4-cyanophenyl 4-*n*-alkoxybenzoates (CPnOB) are dependent on the length of the alkoxy chains, *i.e.* crystals-nematic-isotropic for n = 5-8, crystalssmectic A-nematic-isotropic for n = 9-11, and crystalssmectic A-isotropic for n = 12 (Vill, 2000). The crystal structures of CPnOB with some alkyl chains (n = 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 12) have been reported (Baumeister *et al.*, 1981; Ibrahim *et al.*, 1995; Iki & Hori, 1995; Kubo & Mori, 2001). We now report the structure of 4-cyanophenyl 4-*n*-decanyloxybenzoate (CP10OB), aimed at elucidating the relationships between mesomorphic properties and molecular packings of CPnOB in the crystal lattice.



The intersection angle between the least-squares planes A (defined by C2–C7) and B (defined by C9–C14) of CP10OB is 49.6 (2)°, which is similar to those [49.2 and 50.5 (1)°] of CP8OB (Iki & Hori, 1995) and CP12OB (Kubo & Mori, 2001), while that between the least-squares planes B and C (defined by O1/O2/C8) is 8.3 (3)°, which is similar to those (8.3 and 7.9°) of CP8OB and CP12OB. The paraffin chains have all-*trans* conformations and the molecular length of the compound is 25.323 (9) Å for the N1–C24 distance.

Intermolecular close contact between CN groups of a pair of antiparallel molecules is observed in the crystal lattice. The distance for C1–N1<sup>i</sup> [symmetry code: (i) 1 – x, 1 – y, -1 - z] is 3.50 (7) Å, which is similar to those (3.486 and 3.514 Å) of CP8OB (Iki & Hori, 1995) and CP12OB (Kubo & Mori, 2001), and shorter than those (3.829 and 3.602 Å) of CP4OB (Ibrahim *et al.*, 1995) and CP6OB (Iki & Hori, 1995). Carbonyloxy groups of another pair of antiparallel molecules are also closely arranged. The distances for O1–O1<sup>ii</sup> [symmetry code: (ii) 2 – x, 1 – y, –z], O1–O2<sup>ii</sup> and O1–C8<sup>ii</sup> are 3.403 (6), 3.578 (5) and 3.508 (7) Å, respectively. In addition, close contacts between a CN and a carbonyloxy group of

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The molecular structure of CP10OB showing 50% probability displacement ellipsoids.



### Figure 2

Packing diagram viewed down the a axis. H atoms have been omitted for clarity.

the other pair of molecules are observed; the distances for  $C1-O1^{iii}$  [symmetry code: (iii) 2-x, 1-y, -1-z] and  $N1-O1^{iii}$  are 3.565 (7) and 3.794 (7) Å, respectively.

The crystal of CP10OB has a distinct layer structure through infinite networks of the  $CN \cdots CN$  interaction, which is similar to those of CP8OB and CP12OB. In conclusion, correlations between crystal structure and mesomorphic properties of CPnOB with different phases have not been found.

# **Experimental**

The title compound (CP10OB) was prepared by esterification of 4cyanophenol with 4-*n*-decanyloxybenzoyl chloride. Single crystals of CP10OB were obtained by recrystallization from ethyl acetate.

#### Crystal data

$C_{24}H_{29}NO_3$
$M_r = 379.48$
Triclinic, P1
a = 10.9982 (17)  Å
b = 14.850 (2)  Å
c = 6.7625 (6)  Å
$\alpha = 96.864 \ (9)^{\circ}$
$\beta = 93.694 \ (9)^{\circ}$
$\gamma = 81.945 \ (12)^{\circ}$
V = 1084.5 (2) Å <sup>3</sup>

Z = 2  $D_x = 1.162 \text{ Mg m}^{-3}$ Mo K\alpha radiation Cell parameters from 25 reflections  $\theta = 8.8-18.1^{\circ}$   $\mu = 0.08 \text{ mm}^{-1}$  T = 296 (2) KPrism, colorless  $0.47 \times 0.37 \times 0.34 \text{ mm}$ 

#### Data collection

Enraf-Nonius CAD-4 diffractometer  $\omega$ -2 $\theta$  scans Absorption correction:  $\psi$  scan (North *et al.*, 1968)  $T_{min} = 0.926, T_{max} = 1.000$ 5095 measured reflections 4695 independent reflections 1517 reflections with  $I > 2\sigma(I)$ 

#### Refinement

Refinement on  $F^2$ H-atom parameters constrained $R[F^2 > 2\sigma(F^2)] = 0.071$  $w = 1/[\sigma^2(F_o^2) + (0.1516P)^2]$  $wR(F^2) = 0.303$ where  $P = (F_o^2 + 2F_c^2)/3$ S = 0.92 $(\Delta/\sigma)_{max} < 0.001$ 4695 reflections $\Delta\rho_{max} = 0.35$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>253 parameters $\Delta\rho_{min} = -0.43$  e Å<sup>-3</sup>

 $\begin{aligned} R_{\rm int} &= 0.079\\ \theta_{\rm max} &= 27.0^\circ\\ h &= -14 \rightarrow 14 \end{aligned}$ 

 $l = 0 \rightarrow 8$ 

 $k = -18 \rightarrow 18$ 

3 standard reflections

frequency: 120 min

intensity decay: 0.7%

# Table 1

Selected geometric parameters (Å, °).

N1-C1	1.132 (6)	O3-C12	1.360 (5)
O1-C8	1.195 (6)	C1-C2	1.441 (7)
O2-C8	1.367 (6)	C8-C9	1.465 (6)
O2-C5	1.390 (5)		
N1-C1-C2	178.4 (7)	02-C8-C9	110.8 (4)
C8-O2-C5-C4	-47.0 (7)	O2-C8-C9-C10	171.6 (4)
C5-O2-C8-O1	2.1 (8)	C12-O3-C15-C16	179.9 (4)
C5-O2-C8-C9	-177.5 (4)		

All H atoms were located at ideal positions and constrained with  $U_{\rm iso}$  held fixed to  $1.2U_{\rm eq}$  of the parent atoms.

Data collection: *CAD-4 Software* (Enraf–Nonius, 1989); cell refinement: *CAD-4 Software*; data reduction: *MolEN* (Fair, 1990); program(s) used to solve structure: *SIR*97 (Altomare *et al.*, 1999); program(s) used to refine structure: *SHELXL*97 (Sheldrick, 1997); molecular graphics: *Xtal\_GX* (Hall & du Boulay, 1995); software used to prepare material for publication: *SHELXL*97.

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