Synthesis and Characterisation of some 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25-Octa-alkyl- and 1,4,8,11,15,18-Hexa-alkyl-22,25-bis(carboxypropyl)phthalocyanines

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A series of 3,6-dialkylphthalonitriles and 3,6-bis(4,4,4-trimethoxybutyl)phthalonitrile have been prepared via Diels-Alder reactions of 2,5-disubstituted furans or thiophene 1,1-dioxides with fumaronitrile. The phthalonitriles were converted into the title phthalocyanines as metal-free and copper(II) derivatives. The macrocycles were characterised using ¹H NMR and optical spectroscopy, and fastatom bombardment mass spectrometry. Certain examples exhibit discotic liquid crystal behaviour.

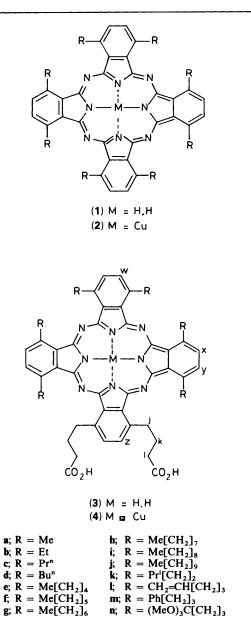
Interest in exploiting the attractive optical and electrical properties of the phthalocyanine (Pc) ring system continues to grow rapidly. Roberts and co-workers demonstrated that certain derivatives could be deposited as thin films using the Langmuir-Blodgett (L-B) technique¹ and described a number of potential applications in chemical sensors and electronic devices.² These and other results have stimulated research into examining new Pc compounds whose structures promote their deposition as films having a very high degree of molecular order.³ Recently we described the deposition of multilayer L-B films of 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25-octa-alkoxy phthalocyanines,⁴ materials prepared initially as far-red/near infra-red absorbing dyes.⁵ The degree of ordering within the films was found to depend upon the length of the alkoxy chain and the central metal ion. The best films were obtained from copper and zinc octapentyloxyphthalocyanines and gave X-ray diffraction patterns consistent with domains of layer structuring. These encouraging results have led us to examine other derivatives substituted in the 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25 positions, viz two series of octa-alkyl phthalocyanines, (1) and (2), and some 1,4,8,11,15,18-hexa-alkyl-22,25-bis(carboxypropyl)phthalo-

cyanines (3) and (4). Members of the first two series do not behave well as Langmuir monolayers and fail to deposit by the L-B technique. Compounds of series (3) and (4), having a combination of hydrophilic and hydrophobic groups, behave very differently and give highly ordered films.^{6,7}

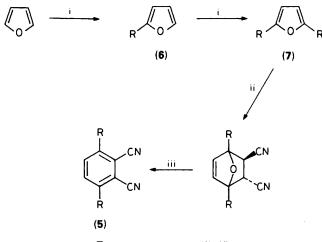
In this paper we report the synthesis and characterisation of the compounds. Papers to follow will identify the molecular assemblies present in the columnar liquid crystal phases exhibited by certain members of series (1) and (2) and their relationship to the molecular architecture in the L-B films of series (3) and (4).

Results and Discussion

Preparation of Compounds.—Phthalocyanines can be prepared from derivatives of phthalic acid, the reaction of a phthalonitrile with an alkoxide base being especially convenient. We therefore sought routes to 3,6-disubstituted phthalonitriles (5) which are sufficently versatile to enable us to introduce chains of any length and which would also allow incorporation, at some stage, of hydrophilic functionality. The Diels-Alder reaction, well suited for synthesising multiply substituted sixmembered rings, has been used previously as a step in preparations of 3,6-disubstituted phthalonitriles. In particular, fumaronitrile has been used as dienophile in reactions with various conjugated dienes,⁸ the products being subsequently dehydrogenated over sulphur. Alternatively, dicyanoacetylene has been added across both furans⁹ and thiophenes.¹⁰ The

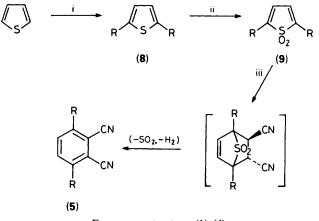


attractions inherent in the greater accessibility of fumaronitrile over dicyanoacetylene and the potential ease of preparing 2,5dialkylfurans (7) and 2,5-dialkylthiophenes (8), *via* lithiation of the aromatic ring,^{11,12} led us to investigate the chemistry depicted in Schemes 1 and 2. In order to incorporate the carboxy groups into the asymmetrically substituted phthalocyanines (3) and (4) we deemed it appropriate to prepare the phthalonitrile derivative (5), $R = [CH_2]_3C(OMe)_3$. The orthoester groups preclude deprotonation of the side-chain, anions from which would in principle interfere in the subsequent base-catalysed cyclisation leading to the Pc nucleus.



For $\mathbf{a}-\mathbf{n}$, see structures (1)-(4).

Scheme 1. Reagents: i, BuLi, RBr; ii, fumaronitrile; iii, LiN(SiMe₃)₂, THF, -78 °C.



For **a**-**n**, see structures (1)-(4).

Scheme 2. Reagents: i, BuLi, RBr; ii, MCPBA; iii, fumaronitrile, CHCl₃, 150 °C, 18 h.

The alkylation of furan was achieved using butyl-lithium in hexane-tetrahydrofuran (THF) initially to deprotonate the furan ring. The two-step procedure to give first the monoalkyl (6) and then the dialkyl derivatives (7) (Scheme 1 and Tables 1 and 2) was preferred over a one-step dialkylation which invariably gave a mixture of (6) and (7). An attempt to effect clean dialkylation using Schlosser's base²⁰ also failed, the monoalkyl product being formed exclusively.

Reaction leading to the bis-orthoester derivative (7), $R = [CH_2]_3C(OMe)_3$, proved temperamental. Although mono derivatisation of the furan ring proceeded readily, the yield obtained for the incorporation of the second side chain varied inexplicably from 0 to 70%. Purification of the high boiling point disubstituted product proved difficult with decomposition occurring during attempted distillation.

The reversibility of the Diels-Alder reaction of furans with alkene dienophiles, including fumaronitrile,²¹ is well documented. Adduct formation is encouraged using high pressure²² or, for reactions performed under normal pressure, low temperature.^{23,24} There is some evidence to suggest that 2,5-dimethyl groups favour adduct formation ²⁴ (but see ref. 25). This trend was substantiated in our preliminary experiments in which adduct formation with [²H₆] acetone as solvent was monitored by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. After 10 days at 15 °C, we observed *ca.* 70% adduct formation for 2,5-dimethylfuran but only 15% for furan itself. As the chain length of the substituents is lengthened the advantageous electronic effect of the alkyl group is apparently offset by a second factor, presumably steric in origin. Thus a 43% yield of adduct was derived from 2,5-dibutylfuran (7d).

Attempts to dehydrate the isolated adduct from 2,5-dimethylfuran to form 3,6-dimethylphthalonitrile using acid-catalysed conditions failed. Various concentrations of sulphuric acid yielded either unchanged adduct or black tar. However, the use of the hindered base lithium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (after Brion)²⁶ proved effective. A procedure was developed which involved dissolving the furan and fumaronitrile in the minimum amount of THF-acetone (1:1) and leaving the reaction at -5 °C for one week. After this period of time the mixture contained between 40 and 85% of adduct. The base was then added to the mixture, redissolved in THF, at -78 °C and under nitrogen. The corresponding phthalonitrile (5) was generated and separated chromatographically from the black residue which arose largely from the effect of the base on unconsumed fumaronitrile (Table 3).

The chemistry in Scheme 2 proved technically simpler to undertake once optimum conditions had been established. Chadwick and Willbe¹² achieved dilithiation of thiophene within half an hour using two equivalents of butyl-lithium and N,N,N',N'-tetramethylenediamine (TMEDA) in refluxing hexane. In our hands these conditions, and variants, followed by reaction with an alkyl halide afforded mainly the monoalkyl thiophene as judged by ¹H NMR spectroscopy. However, we found that near-complete disubstitution could be achieved in one step (Table 4) using 2.5 equivalents of butyl-lithium in hexane-THF and longer reaction times.

Problems inherent in oxidising thiophenes, though well documented,²⁷ were not insurmountable and with one exception we were able to convert the thiophenes (8) into the corresponding sulphones (9) in moderate yields using *m*-chloroperbenzoic acid (MCPBA) (Table 5). Attempts to oxidise sulphur in the bis-orthoester derivative (8), $R = [CH_2]_3C$ -(OMe)₃, led to decomposition of the sensitive functional group in this compound. The final step in Scheme 2, the conversion of the sulphones (9) into the phthalonitriles (5), involved a Diels-Alder reaction with fumaronitrile, extrusion of SO₂, and dehydrogenation, all of which proceeded in a 'one-pot' sealed tube reaction.

The octa-alkylphthalocyanines of series (1) were obtained from the appropriate phthalonitriles by two general routes. The first, procedure A in Table 6, involved reaction of the phthalonitrile with lithium pentyloxide in pentanol. A standard work-up included treatment with acetic acid to convert the initially formed lithium Pcs into the metal-free Pcs. The latter were obtained in yields varying between 5 and 35%. No attempts were made to optimise yields of specific reactions. Generally, yields within the series improved as familiarity with the reaction increased.

Further examples of series (1) were obtained from reactions leading to the three asymmetrically substituted Pcs of series (3), procedure B in Table 6. In this procedure, the masked bis(3-carboxypropyl)phthalonitrile (5), $R = [CH_2]_3C(OMe)_3$, was treated with the appropriate 3,6-dialkylphthalonitrile in a

Table 1. Preparation from furan and ¹	H NMR spectr	al characterisation	of some 2-alkylfurans (6).
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Compound	% Yield	δ(¹ H) ^{<i>a</i>}	Lit., ^b b.p., t/°C (p/mmHg
(6c)	56	0.92 (t, 3 H), 1.30–1.92 (m, 2 H), 2.61 (t, 2 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 6.23 (m, 1 H), 7.24 (s, 1 H)	115(760)°
(6d)	50	0.91 (t, 3 H), 1.20–1.93 (m, 4 H), 2.60 (t, 2 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 6.22 (m, 1 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H)	138(760)°
(6e)	80	0.90 (t, 3 H), 1.15–1.93 (m, 6 H), 2.62 (t, 2 H), 5.91 (m, 1 H), 6.21 (m, 1 H), 7.21 (s, 1 H)	$165(760)^{d}$
(6f)	73	0.90 (t, 3 H), 1.10–2.02 (br s, 8 H), 2.61 (t, 2 H), 5.92 (m, 1 H), 6.21 (m, 1 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H)	68(11) ^e
(6g)	75	0.90 (t, 3 H), 1.10–2.00 (br s, 10 H), 2.60 (t, 2 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 6.22 (m, 1 H), 7.23 (s, 1 H)	83(11) ^e
(6h)	81	0.90 (t, 3 H), 1.10–1.95 (br s, 12 H), 2.61 (t, 2 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 6.23 (m, 1 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H)	103(11) ^e
(6 i)	85	0.90 (t, 3 H), 1.10–1.98 (br s, 14 H), 2.62 (t, 2 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 6.23 (m, 1 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H)	40(0.01) ^f
(6j)	80	0.90 (t, 3 H), 1.10–1.95 (br s, 16 H), 2.60 (t, 2 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 6.22 (m, 1 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H)	g
(6k)	70	0.95 (d, 6 H), 1.20–1.91 (m, 3 H), 2.60 (t, 2 H), 5.92 (m, 1 H), 6.22 (m, 1 H), 7.23 (s, 1 H)	152(760) ^c
(6I)	82	1.50-2.42 (m, 4 H), 2.62 (t, 2 H), 4.82-5.20 (m, 2 H), 5.40-6.02 (m, 1 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 6.20 (m,	
		1 H), 7.22 (s, 1 H)	
(6m)	75	1.60–2.07 (m, 2 H), 2.62 (t, 4 H), 5.92 (m, 1 H), 6.21 (m, 1 H), 7.21 (s, 6 H)	134(10) ^{<i>h</i>}
(6n)	78	1.60–2.07 (m, 4 H), 2.62 (t, 2 H), 3.23 (s, 9 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 6.23 (m, 1 H), 7.23 (s, 1 H)	<u> </u>

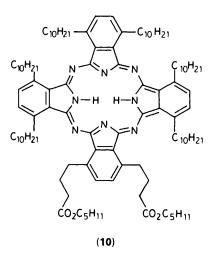
^a 60 MHz; CDCl₃. ^b Previous characterisation in the literature. ^c Ref. 13. ^d Ref. 14. ^e Ref. 15. ^f Ref. 16. ^d Ref. 17; ¹H NMR data only. ^h Ref. 18.

Table 2. Preparation from the corresponding 2-alkylfuran and ¹H NMR spectral characterisation of 2,5-dialkylfurans (7).

Compound	% Yield	δ(¹ H) ^a	Lit. b.p. ^b (t/°C)
(7b) ^c	45	1.00 (t, 6 H), 2.52 (q, 4 H), 5.85 (s, 2 H)	138 ^d
(7c)	62	0.95 (t, 6 H), 1.20–1.98 (m, 4 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 5.80 (s, 2 H)	173 ^d
(7ď)	75	0.93 (t, 6 H), 1.10–1.90 (m, 8 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 5.81 (s, 2 H)	196 ^e
(7e)	83	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.10–1.90 (m, 12 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 5.82 (s, 2 H)	
(7f)	60	0.95 (t, 6 H), 1.00–2.00 (br s, 16 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 5.80 (s, 2 H)	
(7g)	75	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.00–2.02 (br s, 20 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 5.82 (s, 2 H)	
(7h)	75	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.02–2.02 (br s, 24 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 5.80 (s, 2 H)	
(7i)	80	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.00–2.00 (br s, 28 H), 2.51 (t, 4 H), 5.82 (s, 2 H)	
(7j)	70	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.00–2.02 (br s, 32 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 5.80 (s, 2 H)	
(7k)	50	1.00 (d, 12 H), 1.23–1.91 (m, 6 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 5.82 (s, 2 H)	210 ^e
(7 I)	85	1.51-2.40 (m, 8 H), 2.60 (t, 4 H), 4.40-5.22 (m, 4 H), 5.40-5.98 (m, 2 H), 5.80 (s, 2 H)	
(7m)	75	1.72–2.24 (m, 4 H), 2.42–2.81 (m, 8 H), 5.82 (s, 2 H), 7.20 (s, 10 H)	
(7n)	0-70	1.60–2.09 (m, 8 H), 2.58 (t, 4 H), 3.23 (s, 18 H), 5.82 (s, 2 H).	

^a 60 MHz, CDCl₃. ^b At 760 mmHg; previous characterisation in the literature. ^c 2-Ethylfuran (6b) was obtained from a commercial source. ^d Ref. 19. ^e Ref. 13.

ratio of 1:9. Statistical considerations (Experimental section) indicate that such a mixture should lead to a product mixture containing just two major components, (1) and esterified derivatives of (3); little of the difficult to prepare bis-orthoester precursor becomes wasted in the formation of Pcs resulting from other combinations of the two starting materials. In the event, TLC analysis (toluene-ethyl acetate, 9:1) of the product mixture following work-up of each of the three reactions showed several green components. The octa-alkylphthalocyanine, the major product, travelled with the solvent front. In the middle of the plate there appeared three closely grouped spots. Column chromatography afforded a separation of the octa-alkyl derivative from the slower moving mixture. The IR spectrum of the latter showed a strong carbonyl absorption, confirming expectations that the acetic acid work-up had converted the ortho-ester functions into carboxylic acid ester groups. Interestingly, the ¹H NMR spectrum showed signals for both methyl and pentyl ester functions. We deduced therefore that the three components of the mixture are the dimethyl, dipentyl, and the mixed methyl pentyl ester. We attribute the presence of the pentyl groups to either a trans-orthoesterification during the original dissolution of the precursor in pentanol, or a trans-esterification during the work-up. In one experiment, an example of a dipentyl ester, (10), was isolated from the product mixture and characterised by ¹H NMR and FAB-MS, see Experimental section. The ester derivatives of (3) were saponified in a two-phase medium using phase-transfer



catalysis, procedure C in Experimental section. Data characterising series (3) are collected in Table 7.

A number of the metal-free Pcs of series (1) and (3) were converted into the corresponding copper derivatives, (2) and (4), by addition of copper(II) acetate to a refluxing solution of the Pc in THF (Table 8).

Characterisation of Compounds.-The octamethylphthalo-

			3,6-D	ialkylphtha	ılonitrile; yie	ld and characte	erisation			
	Cycloadduct						% Found (requires)			
Furan	Solvent ^c	% Yield "		% Yield ^b	M.p. (<i>t</i> /°C)	Formula	C H N		N	$-\delta(^{1}\mathrm{H})^{e}$
(7 a)	х	85	(5a)	72	160 ^d	$C_{10}H_8N_2$	76.7 (76.9)	5.2	18.0	2.57 (s, 6 H), 7.48 (s, 2 H)
(7b)	X	55	(5b)	40	121	$C_{12}H_{12}N_2$	(78.2) (78.2)	(5.2) 6.7 (6.6)	(17.9) 15.3	1.32 (t, 6 H), 2.88 (q, 4 H), 7.48 (s, 2 H)
(7c)	X	50	(5 c)	33	70	$C_{14}H_{16}N_2$	(78.2) 79.2 (79.2)	(0.0) 7.7 (7.6)	(15.5) 13.2	1.00 (t, 6 H), 1.3–2.04 (m, 4 H), 2.90 (t, 4 H), 7.50
(7d)	X	55	(5d)	35	26	$C_{16}H_{20}N_2$	(79.2) 79.6 (79.9)	(7.6) 8.4 (8.4)	(13.2) 11.5 (11.7)	(s, 2 H) 0.98 (t, 6 H), 1.1–1.9 (m, 8 H), 2.85 (t, 4 H), 7.50 (s, 2 H)
(7 e)	Y	45	(5e)	30	15	$C_{18}H_{24}N_2$	(79.9) 80.6 (80.5)	(8.4) 9.2 (9.0)	(11.7) 10.3 (10.4)	0.93 (t, 6 H), 1.0–1.9 (m, 12 H), 2.90 (t, 4 H), 7.50 (s, 2 H)
(7f)	Y	40	(5f)	27	38	$C_{20}H_{28}N_2$	(80.3) 81.0 (81.0)	(9.0) 9.6 (9.5)	9.35	(s, 2 H) 0.92 (t, 6 H), 1.0–1.9 (m, 16 H), 2.85 (t, 4 H), 7.50 (s, 2 H)
(7g)	Y	40	(5g)	25	46	$C_{22}H_{32}N_2$	(81.0) 81.3 (81.4)	(9.3) 10.1 (10.0)	(9.43) 8.5 (8.6)	(s, 2 H) 0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.0–1.9 (m, 20 H), 2.85 (t, 4 H), 7.52 (s, 2 H)
(7h)	Z	45	(5h)	28	59	$C_{24}H_{36}N_2$	(81.4) 81.6 (81.7)	(10.0) 10.6 (10.3)	7.85	(s, 2 H) 0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.0–1.9 (m, 24 H), 2.85 (t, 4 H), 7.50 (s, 2 H)
(7i)	Z	45	(5 i)	29	64	$C_{26}H_{40}N_2$	(81.7) 82.2 (82.0)	(10.3) 10.7 (10.6)	(7.93) 7.3 (7.4)	(s, 2 H) 0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.0–1.9 (m, 28 H), 2.85 (t, 4 H), 7.50 (s, 2 H)
(7j)	Z	40	(5 j)	25	70	$C_{28}H_{44}N_2$	(82.0) 82.1 (82.3)	(10.0) 11.2 (10.9)	(7.4) 6.8 (6.9)	(s, 2 H) 0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.0–1.9 (m, 32 H), 2.85 (t, 4 H), 7.50 (s, 2 H)
(7k)	x	50	(5k)	36	60	$C_{18}H_{24}N_2$	(82.3) 80.35 (80.35)	`9 .3´	10.4	0.95 (d, 12 H), 1.28-1.82 (m, 6 H), 2.85 (t, 4 H),
(7 l)	Y	45	(5 I)	29	Oil	$C_{18}H_{20}N_2$	(80.33) f	(9.0)	(10.4)	7.44 (s, 2 H) 1.4-2.4 (m, 8 H), 2.90 (t, 4 H), 4.80-5.25 (m, 4 H), 5.5 (-2 (m, 2 H), 7.55 (-2 H)
(7m)	x	50	(5m)	32	104	$C_{26}H_{24}N_2$	85.6	6.6	7.7	5.5–6.2 (m, 2 H), 7.55, (s, 2 H) 1.8–2.3 (m, 4 H), 2.45–3.05 (m, 8 H), 7.2 (s, 10 H), 7.45 (s, 2 H)
(7n)	x	55	(5n)	35	Oil	$C_{22}H_{32}N_2O_6$	(85.6) f	(6.65)	(7.7)	7.45, (s, 2 H) 1.6–2.0 (m, 8 H), 2.90 (t, 4 H), 3.23 (s, 18 H), 7.50 (s, 2 H)

Table 3. The conversion of 2,5-dialkylfurans (7) into the corresponding 3,6-dialkylphthalonitriles (5), via the cycloadduct with fumaronitrile. See Scheme 1.

^a Not isolated; conversion estimated by NMR (see Experimental section). ^b With respect to starting furan. ^c X = Acetone; Y = acetone–THF (1:1); Z = acetone–THF (1:2).^a Lit.¹⁰ m.p. 163 °C.^e 60 MHz; CDCl₃.^f Oil could not be distilled. The material was used in the next step without further purification.

Compound				% Found (requires)			
	% Yield	B.p. (t/°C) at 0.1 mmHg	Formula	c	Н	S	δ(1Η) ^c
(8f)	65	106	C ₁₆ H ₂₈ S	76.3 (76.1)	11.3 (11.2)	12.65 (12.7)	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.25 (m, 16 H), 2.70 (t, 4 H), 6.52 (s, 2 H)
(8g)	76	127	$C_{18}H_{32}S$	77.3 (77.1)	11.8 (11.5)	11.2 (11.4)	0.88 (t, 6 H), 1.3 (m, 20 H), 2.72 (t, 4 H), 6.50 (s, 2 H)
(8h)	72	136	$C_{20}H_{36}S$	78.1 (77.85)	11.8 (11.8)	10.3 (10.4)	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.3 (m, 24 H), 2.75 (t, 4 H), 6.50 (s, 2 H)
(8 i)	70	149	$C_{22}H_{40}S$	78.7 (78.5)	12.3 (12.0)	9.6 (9.5)	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.3 (m, 28 H), 2.71 (t, 4 H), 6.48 (s, 2 H)
(8j)	70	166	$C_{24}H_{44}S$	79.2 (79.0)	12.3 (12.2)	8.7 (8.8)	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.3 (m, 32 H), 2.72 (t, 4 H), 6.50 (s, 2 H)
(8n)	61 <i>ª</i>	Ь		(12.0)	(12:2)	(3.0)	1.6–1.9 (m, 8 H), 2.78 (t, 4 H), 3.2 (s, 18 H), 6.58 (s, 2 H)

"Yield estimated using ¹H NMR data. ^b Distillation was not attempted. ^c 60 MHz; CDCl₃.

cyanine (1a) is insoluble in organic solvents and was purified by recrystallisation from aqueous sulphuric acid. Other derivatives of series (1) and those of series (2) show some solubility in aprotic organic solvents such as benzene and toluene. Those of series (1) are also soluble in dichloromethane. In each solvent, solubility is greater for the longer-chain compounds. Compounds of series (3) and (4) are much less soluble in these solvents but soluble in THF. With the exception of (1a), which was recovered as dark blue crystals, the metal-free Pcs are turquoise green and the copper Pcs bright blue in the crystalline state. All gave satisfactory elemental analyses.

Routine 60 MHz ¹H NMR spectra were obtained of the more soluble metal-free derivates for solutions in $[{}^{2}H_{6}]$ benzene (Table 6), the spectral data confirming their structures. Example of a compound from series (1) and from series (3) were also investigated by ¹H NMR spectroscopy at 400 MHz. Data and assignments for the nonyl substituted derivatives (1i) and (3i) are summarised in Figure 1. The lower symmetry of (3i) gives rise to the more complex spectrum. In particular, the signals for

Table 5. Preparation and characterisation of some 2,5-dialkylthiophene 1,1-dioxides (9), and their conversion into 3,6-dialkylphthalonitriles (5). See Scheme 2.

				% Fou	nd (requi	ires)		0/ C -	
Compound	% Yield	M.p. (<i>t</i> /°C)	Formula	C H S		s	$\delta(^1H)^e$	% Conversion (5)	
(9f)	51	43-44	C ₁₆ H ₂₈ SO ₂	67.2 (67.6)	9.9 (9.9)	11.1 (11.3)	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.4 (m, 16 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 6.21 (s, 2 H)	(5 f)	42
(9 g)	30	47	$\mathrm{C_{18}H_{32}SO_2}$	69.5 (69.2)	10.55 (10.3)	9.85 (10.3)	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.3 (m, 20 H), 2.44 (t, 4 H), 6.24 (s, 2 H)	(5 g)	47
(9h)	35	52-53	$\mathrm{C_{20}H_{36}SO_2}$	70.5	10.8 (10.7)	9.3 (9.4)	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.3 (m, 24 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 6.28 (s, 2 H)	(5h)	40
(9i)	40	4950	$\mathrm{C_{22}H_{40}SO_2}$	71.3 (71.7)	11.05 (10.9)	8.95 (8.7)	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.3 (m, 28 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 6.20 (s, 2 H)	(5i)	48
(9j)	46	6162	C ₂₄ H ₄₄ SO ₂	72.6 (72.7)	10.9 (11.2)	7.8 (8.1)	0.90 (t, 6 H), 1.3 (m, 32 H), 2.50 (t, 4 H), 6.22 (s, 2 H)	(5 j)	44

60 MHz; CDCl₃.

Table 6. Preparation and characterisation of some 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25-octa-alkylphthalocyanines (1).

	Preparation					% Found (requires)					
Compd.	Procedure ^e	Recryst. solvent ^b	% Yield	M.p. (t/°C) ^c		<u></u> C	H	N N	$\delta(^{1}\mathrm{H})^{d}$	$\lambda_{max}(toluene)/nm$ ($\epsilon \times 10^{-5}$) (Q-band)	
(1a)	Α	v	35	> 300	C40H34N8+H2O	74.55	5.3	17.0			
						(74.5)	(5.6)	(17.3)			
(1b)	Α	W	27	> 300	C48H50N8	77.7	6.8	14.9			
(1-)	•	x	30	292	СИМ	(78.0) 79.1	(6.8) 7.8	(15.2) 13.1		776 604 667 670	
(1c)	A	X	30	292	$C_{56}H_{66}N_8$	(79.0)	7.8 (7.8)	(13.2)		726, 694, 662, 629	
(1 d)	A	х	20	230	C ₆₄ H ₈₂ N ₈	(79.0)	8.5	11.5	1.00 (t, 24 H), 1.30–2.48 (m,	727 (1 26) 695 (1 06)	
(14)	A	Λ	20	250	C641182148	(79.8)	(8.6)	(11.6)	32 H), 4.48 (t, 16 H), 7.78 (s, 8 H)		
(1e)	Α	х	25	218	$C_{72}H_{98}N_8$	80.35	9.45	10.4	0.90 (t, 24 H), 1.15–2.24 (m,	728, 697, 662, 632	
()					- 1298- 8	(80.4)	(9.2)	(10.4)	48 H), 4.40 (t, 16 H), 7.76 (s, 8 H)		
(1f)	Α	Y	10	161 (K→D)	C ₈₀ H ₁₁₄ N ₈	80.7	9.7	9.4	0.90 (t, 24 H), 1.10-2.43 (m,	728, 697, 666, 630	
				171 (D→I)		(80.9)	(9.7)	(9.4)	64 H), 4.45 (t, 16 H), 7.78 (s, 8 H)		
(1g)	Α	Y	21	113 (K→D)	$C_{88}H_{130}N_8$	81.05	10.2	8.5	0.90 (t, 24 H), 1.05-2.45 (m,	728, 696, 667, 633	
				163 (D→I)		(81.3)	(10.1)	(8.6)	80 H), 4.46 (t, 16 H), 7.76 (s, 8 H)		
(1h)	В	Z	10	84.5 (K→D	$C_{96}H_{146}N_8$	81.7	10.8	7.9	0.90 (t, 24 H), 1.05-2.50 (m,	728, 697, 666, 633	
				152 (D→I)		(81.6)	(10.4)	(7.9)	96 H), 4.43 (t, 16 H), 7.79 (s, 8 H)		
(1i)	В	Y	15	$103 (K \rightarrow D)$	$C_{104}H_{162}N_8$	82.0	10.9	7.3	0.90 (t, 24 H), 1.05-2.50 (m,	728 (1.25), 697 (1.06),	
				142 (D→I)		(81.9)	(10.7)	(7.35)	112 H), 4.42 (t, 16 H), 7.78 (s, 8 H)	665 (0.37), 635 (0.26)	
(1j)	В	Y	5	77.5 (K→D	$C_{112}H_{178}N_8$	82.2	11.2	6.9	0.90 (t, 24 H), 1.05-2.48 (m,	728, 697, 666, 628	
				133 (D→I)		(82.2)	(11.0)	(6.85)	128 H), 4.43 (t, 16 H), 7.79 (s, 8 H)		
(1k)	Α	Y	21	254	$C_{72}H_{98}N_8$	80.3	9.4	10.4	0.96 (d, 48 H), 1.60-2.22 (m,	733, 701, 666, 635	
					-	(80.4)	(9.2)	(10.4)	24 H), 4.48 (t, 16 H), 7.82 (s, 8 H)		
(1I)	В	Y	15	179	$C_{72}H_{82}N_8$	81.7	7.8	10.5	3.00 (m, 32 H), 4.42 (t, 16	727, 695, 663, 632	
						(81.6)	(7.8)	(10.6)	H), 5.04 (t, 16 H), 5.58–6.24 (m, 8 H), 7.64 (s, 8 H)		
(1m)	Α	Y	23	196	C ₁₀₄ H ₉₈ N ₈	85.3	6.7	7.7	2.30–3.30 (m, 32 H), 4.62 (t,	735 (1.22), 703 (1.04)	
						(85.5)	(6.8)	(7.7)	16 H), 7.08 (s, 40 H), 7.74 (s, 8 H)		

^e Procedure, see Experimental section. ^b V = aq. H₂SO₄; W = 1,2,4-Cl₃C₆H₃; X = toluene; Y = THF-acetone; Z = toluene-acetone. ^c M.p. or transition temperature for change from the crystal state to a discotic mesophase (K \rightarrow D) and from the mesophase to the isotropic liquid (D \rightarrow I). ^d 60 MHz; C₆D₆.

the aromatic protons in the four non-equivalent environments are well resolved and the non-equivalence of the nonyl chains is manifested especially well by the signals for protons at site (i). The latter appear as a triplet for four protons and two overlapping triplets (eight protons) in the region δ 4.2–4.3 (Figure 1).

The characteristic UV (Soret band) and intense visible region (Q band) absorptions of the Pc nucleus are well documented.

Table 7. Despection and abare to instance of a set 140,1115,10,1
Table 7. Preparation and characterisation of some 1,4,8,11,15,18-hexa-alkyl-22,25-bis(carboxypropyl)phthalocyanines (3).

		M.p. (<i>t</i> /°C)		% Found	l (requires)	A C A C C	
Compound	% Yield "		Formula	c	Н	N	λ_{max} (toluene)/nm ($\epsilon \times 10^{-5}$) (Q-band)
(3h)	2	185	C ₈₈ H ₁₂₆ N ₈ O ₄	77.7 (77.7)	9.5 (9.4)	8.1 (8.2)	727, 695, 665, 633
(3i)	2	-	$C_{94}H_{138}N_8O_4$	78.1 (78.2)	10.0 (9.65)	7.6 (7.8)	727, 695, 665, 633
(3j)	1	166	$C_{100}H_{150}N_8O_4$	78.7 (78.6)	9.95 (9.9)	7.2 (7.2)	727, 695, 665, 633
(3I)	1		$C_{70}H_{78}N_8O_4$	76.9 (76.7)	7.4 (7.2)	9.9 (10.2)	728 (1.17), 696 (1.02), 666 (0.42), 633 (0.28)

" Overall yield recovered from procedures B and C combined.

				% Foun	d (requires	5)	
Compound	% Yield	M.p. $(t/^{\circ}C)^{a}$	Formula	C	Н	N	λ_{max} (toluene)/nm ($\epsilon \times 10^{-5}$) (Q-band) ^b
(2d)	78	265	C ₆₄ H ₈₀ CuN ₈	75.1 (75.0)	7.9 (7.9)	10.8 (10.9)	705, 675sh, 635
(2e)	80	261	$\mathrm{C_{72}H_{96}CuN_8}$	76.0 (76.0)	8.5 (8.5)	9.8 (9.85)	706, 675sh, 634
(2f)	85	184 (K→D) 242 (D→I)	$C_{80}H_{112}CuN_8$	76.8 (76.9)	9.0 (9.05)	8.9 (9.0)	706, 674sh, 635
(2 g)	85	144.5 (K \rightarrow D) 235.5 (D \rightarrow I)	$\mathrm{C}_{88}\mathrm{H}_{128}\mathrm{CuN}_{8}$	77.5 (77.6)	9.5 (9.5)	8.15 (8.2)	706, 674sh, 635
(2h)	80	95.5 $(K \to D)$ 220 $(D \to I)$	$\mathrm{C}_{96}\mathrm{H}_{144}\mathrm{CuN}_{8}$	78.3 (78.2)	10.0 (9.9)	7.5 (7.6)	706, 675sh, 635
(2i)	82	$108 (K \rightarrow D)$ 208 (D \rightarrow I)	$C_{104}H_{160}CuN_8$	78.55 (78.7)	10.4 (10.2)	7.0 (7.1)	706 (1.97), 675sh, 635 (0.35)
(2 j)	72	88 (K→D) 198 (D→I)	$C_{112}H_{176}CuN_8$	78.9 (79.2)	10.6 (10.5)	6.5 (6.6)	706, 675sh, 635
(2k)	85	289	$\mathrm{C_{72}H_{96}CuN_8}$	75.7 (76.05)	8.6 (8.5)	9.6 (9.9)	710, 678sh, 638
(2I)	83	211	$\mathrm{C_{72}H_{80}CuN_8}$	76.9 (77.1)	7.0 (7.2)	10.0 (10.0)	704, 674sh, 634
(4i)	72	161	$\mathrm{C}_{94}\mathrm{H}_{136}\mathrm{CuN}_{8}\mathrm{O}_{4}$	74.7 (75.0)	9.3 (9.1)	7.2 (7.4)	704, 672sh, 634

^{*a*} See footnote ^{*c*}, Table 6. ^{*b*} sh = shoulder.

N-H

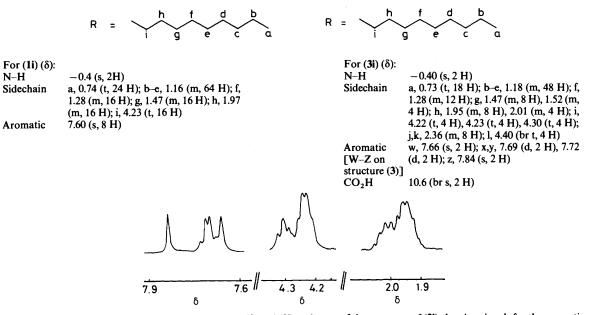


Figure 1. ¹H NMR chemical shift data in ppm for compounds (1i) and (3i) and parts of the spectrum of (3i) showing signals for the aromatic protons and for the protons at sites i and h of the nonyl chains. Spectra recorded at 400 MHz.

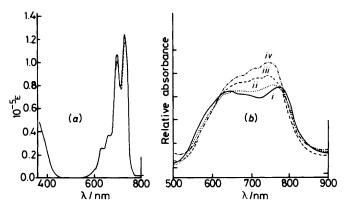


Figure 2. (a) The UV-visible spectrum of (1i) in toluene at concentrations of $1\mu M$ (----) and 0.1 mM (----). (b) Visible region spectrum of a film of the same compound on a silica slide at various temperatures: *i*, 30 °C (Crystalline); *ii*, 100 °C (mesophase); *iii*, 120 °C (mesophase); *iv*, 150 °C (isotropic liquid).

Metal and metal-free Pcs differ in having D_{4h} and D_{2h} symmetry respectively and this is manifested in differences especially in the Q-band region. The degeneracy of the lowest energy singlet state in the former is lifted in the latter giving rise to splitting of the Q-band into the Q_x and Q_y components. (Low intensity bands to shorter wavelength of the Q band are vibronic in origin). A further feature of the Pc absorption spectrum is its sensitivity to aggregation which affects significantly the intensity-band shape of the peaks in the Q-band region; typically, the Q-band absorption diminishes while a new broad band absorption appears at shorter wavelength.²⁸ Spectra for toluene solutions of each of the compounds in the present study are largely characteristic of the monomer species (Table 6-8. For series (1) the Q_x and Q_y bands appear at *ca*. 697 and 728 nm respectively [Figure 2(a)], some 30 nm to the red of phthalocyanine itself²⁹ and to the red of 'peripherally' alkyl substituted derivatives. Thus 2,3,9,10,16,17,23,24-octabutylphthalocyanine shows λ_{max} at 673 and 708 nm. 30 The copper Pcs in the present work show the single Q band absorption at ca. 705 nm.

Three compounds of series (1), viz (1d), (1i), and (1m), and one of the copper Pcs, (2i), were examined in greater detail as 1×10^{-4} , 1×10^{-5} , and 1×10^{-6} M solutions. The metal-free derivatives were measured in both toluene and dichloromethane. Small increases (between 0 and 6%) in extinction coefficient of the Q bands are observed in both solvents during the 100-fold dilution [Figure 2(a)] implying that aggregation is not completely absent at these concentrations. Extinction coefficient data quoted in Tables 6 and 8 refer to measurements on the 1 \times 10⁻⁶M solutions.

For some compounds, gentle heating of the crystalline sample caused unexpected changes in colour shade. These changes were reversible. Investigation using a polarising microscope revealed that these compounds underwent a reversible transition from the crystal state to a liquid crystal phase. Several classes of hexa- or octa-substituted polybenzoannelated aromatic compounds including a number of 2,3,9,10,16,17,23,24octasubstituted phthalocyanines³¹ exhibit discotic columnar mesophase behaviour, in which the essentially flat disc-like molecules stack in columns. We found this behaviour is exhibited by those members of series (1) and (2) which have straight alkyl chains containing six or more carbon atoms; compound (10) is the only example of the asymmetrically substituted Pcs which gives a mesophase. The temperatures for the crystal to mesophase and mesophase to isotropic liquid transitions are listed in Tables 6 and 8. A detailed investigation. results of which will be given in a subsequent paper,³² revealed that some compounds exhibit more than one mesophase. Here we show in Figure 2(b) the visible region spectrum of a melted film of (1i) and how the spectrum changes as the film is cooled through the mesophase to the crystalline state. The variations account for the observed changes in colour shade with temperature which we noted above.

Investigations of structural features which encourage mesophase behaviour are in progress.

Experimental

Equipment and measurements .--- IR spectra were recorded on a Perkin-Elmer 297 or 298 spectrophotometer. Routine ¹H NMR spectra were measured at 60 MHz using a Jeol JNM-PMX60SI spectrometer. Spectra measured at 400 MHz were obtained on a Bruker WH400 spectrometer through the SERC service at Warwick University. FAB-MS spectra were obtained using phosphoric acid as the viscous matrix and measured using the VG ZAB-E high-resolution SERC service equipment at Swansea University. UV-visible spectra of solutions in spectroscopic grade toluene or dichloromethane were measured using a Pye-Unicam SP8-200 spectrometer. The variable-temperature study of the visible region absorptions of material as a thin film on a silica slide (Figure 2) was performed on a Cary 17D UVvisible spectrometer fitted with a Mettler FP 82 hot stage. Measurements of transition temperatures for the changes from crystal to mesophase and mesophase to isotropic liquid (Tables 7 and 8) were obtained by differential scanning calorimetry using a Mettler TA3000 thermal analyser with a Mettler DSC 30 cell.

Materials.—2-Ethylfuran (**6b**) and 2,5-dimethylfuran (**7a**) were obtained from the Aldrich Chemical Co. 4,4.4-Trimethoxybutyl bromide was prepared from 4-bromobutyronitrile according to the method in ref. 33.

Preparation of 2-Alkylfurans (6) (Table 1).-2-Heptylfuran (6g). In the typical procedure, furan (20.5 g, 0.3 mol) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of n-butyl-lithium (0.3 mol; 200 ml of a 1.6M solution in hexane) and dry THF (130 ml) under nitrogen at -15 °C. The mixture was stirred for 24 h at room temperature. 1-Bromoheptane was added dropwise, and the mixture stirred for a further 24 h at room temperature. The brown mixture was then poured onto ice and the crude product extracted with diethyl ether (4 \times 50 ml). The organic layer was dried $(MgSO_4)$ and the solvents removed under reduced pressure using a rotary evaporator. The resultant crude product was dissolved in dichloromethane and eluted through a silica column to remove residual polar impurities. The dichloromethane was removed to afford 2-heptylfuran (38 g, 75%), as a colourless oil which was used in the next step without further purification; δ_H(60 MHz; CDCl₃) 0.9 (t, 3 H), 1.10–2.00 (m, 10 H), 2.60 (t, 2 H), 5.90 (m, 1 H), 6.22 (m, 1 H), and 7.23 (s, 1 H).

Preparation of 2,5-Dialkylfurans (7) (Table 2).—2,5-Diheptylfuran (7g). In the typical procedure, 2-heptylfuran (6g) (38 g, 0.23 mol) was added dropwise to a stirred solution of n-butyllithium (0.23 mol; 156 ml of a 1.6M solution in hexane) in dry THF (100 ml). After stirring for 24 h at room temperature, 1bromoheptane (41 g, 0.23 mol) was added and stirring was continued for a further 24 h. The resultant mixture was poured onto ice and the product extracted with diethyl ether (3×50 ml). The dried (MgSO₄) organic layer was evaporated to dryness under reduced pressure and the crude product heated (150 °C at 18 mmHg) to remove excess of 1-bromoheptane. The remaining liquid was dissolved in dichloromethane and eluted through a silica column to remove polar impurities. After removal of the dichloromethane 2,5-diheptylfuran (7g) (48 g, 75%) was obtained as an oil; $\delta_{H}(60 \text{ MHz}; \text{CDCl}_{3}) 0.90 \text{ (t, 6 H)}, 1.10-2.02 \text{ (m, 20 H)}, 2.5 \text{ (t, 4 H)}, and 5.80 \text{ (s, 2 H)}. The material was used in the next step without further purification.$

Preparation of 3,6-Dialkylphthalonitriles (5) from 2,5-Dialkylfurans (7) (Table 3).-3,6-Diheptylphthalonitrile (5g). 2,5-Diheptylfuran (7g) (20 g, 0.075 mol) and fumaronitrile (5.9 g, 0.075 mol) were dissolved in the minimum amount of a THFacetone mixture (1:1) and left for one week at -5 °C. The solvent was removed at room temperature using a rotary evaporator. The ¹H NMR spectrum showed a 40:60 ratio of the Diels-Alder adduct to starting material. The rest of the slurry was dissolved in freshly distilled dry THF. The reaction vessel was flushed with nitrogen and the temperature of the solution lowered to -78 °C. Lithium bis(trimethylsilyl)amide (75 ml of a 1M solution in THF) was added dropwise during 1 h, with vigorous stirring. The solution was neutralised with an excess of saturated aqueous ammonium chloride (150 ml) and the temperature allowed to rise to room temperature. The crude product was extracted with diethyl ether $(2 \times 100 \text{ ml})$, the extract dried (MgSO₄), and the solvents removed under reduced pressure on a rotary evaporator. The resultant black oil was eluted through a silica column with toluene. A yellowish fraction was obtained which, on recrystallisation from ethanol, afforded 3,6-diheptylphthalonitrile (5g) (5.1 g, 25%), m.p. 46 °C (Found: C, 81.3; H, 10.1; N, 8.5. C₂₂H₃₂N₂ requires C, 81.4; H; 10.0; N, 8.6%); v_{max} (Nujol) 2 230 cm⁻¹ (C=N); δ_{H} (60 MHz; CDCl₃) 0.95 (t, 6 H), 1.00-1.90 (m, 20 H), 2.85 (t, 4 H), and 7.52 (s, 2 H).

Preparation of 2,5-Dialkylthiophenes (8) (Table 4).—2,5-Diheptylthiophene (8g). In a typical experiment, thiophene (8.4 g, 0.1 mol) in THF (dried over sodium; 50 ml) was treated with 3.5M n-butyl-lithium in hexane (2.5 equiv., 0.25 mol, 71 ml) at 0 °C. When addition was completed the mixture was stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The solution was cooled to 0 °C, the dianion quenched with 1-bromoheptane (44.5 g, 0.25 mol), and the mixture stirred at room temperature for 24 h. The mixture was poured onto ice, extracted with ether (3 × 75 ml), the extract dried (MgSO₄), the solvent evaporated, and the residue distilled to afford 2,5-diheptylthiophene (8g) (21.3 g, 76%) as a colourless oil, b.p. 127 °C at 0.1 mmHg (Found: C, 77.3; H, 11.8; S, 11.2. C₁₈H₃₂S requires C, 77.1; H, 11.5; S, 11.4%); $\delta_{\rm H}(60$ MHz; CDCl₃) 6.5 (s, 2 H); 2.7 (t, 4 H), 1.3 (m, 20 H), and 0.88 (t, 6 H).

Preparation of 2,5-Dialkylthiophene 1,1-Dioxides (9) (Table 5).—2,5-Diheptylthiophene 1,1-dioxide (9g). In a typical experiment 2,5-diheptylthiophene (8g) (5 g, 0.018 mol) was treated with MCPBA (50-60% tech. grade; 12.5 g) in CH₂Cl₂ (100 ml) at 0 °C for 3 h with stirring in the presence of excess of NaHCO₃. The mixture was then left overnight in a refrigerator. The precipitate (MCBA) was filtered off and the solution washed with 20% aqueous NaOH (2 × 50 ml) and water and dried (MgSO₄), and the solvent removed. The crude sulphone (9g) was recrystallised from light petroleum (1.7 g, 30%), m.p. 47 °C (Found: C, 69.5; H, 10.55; S, 9.85. C₁₈H₃₂O₂S requires C, 69.2; H, 10.3; S, 10.3%); $\delta_{\rm H}$ (60 MHz; CDCl₃) 6.24 (s, 2 H), 2.44 (t, 4 H), 1.3 (m, 20 H), and 0.9 (t, 6 H).

Preparation of 3,6-Dialkylphthalonitriles (5) from 2,5-Dialkylthiophene 1,1-Dioxides (9) (Table 5).—3,6-Diheptylphthalonitrile (5g). In a typical experiment 2,5-diheptylthiophene 1,1-dioxide (9g) (2 g, 6.4 mmol) and fumaronitrile (0.5 g, 6.4 mmol) in chloroform (5 ml) were heated in a sealed tube at 150 °C for 18 h. The contents of the tube were evaporated to dryness and chromatographed over silica (toluene as eluant) to afford 3,6-diheptylphthalonitrile (5g) (0.98 g, 47%) as a yellow solid. The material was recrystallised from ethanol to afford a colourless solid, m.p. 44-46 °C.

Preparation of Metal-free Phthalocyanines (Tables 6 and 7).— Procedure A: 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25-octaheptylphthalocyanine (1g). In a typical experiment, 3,6-diheptylphthalonitrile (0.7 g, 2.2 mmol) was dissolved in pentanol (7 ml). Lithium (0.3 g) was added in small portions and the mixture heated for 1 h during which time a deep green colour developed. On cooling, the reaction mixture was dissolved in acetone (30 ml), the solution filtered, and acetic acid added. The precipitate was collected and recrystallised from THF-acetone (ca. 1:1) to afford 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25-octaheptylphthalocyanine (1g) (155 mg, 22%) (Found: C, 81.05; H, 10.2; N, 8.5. C₈₈H₁₃₀N₈ requires: C, 81.3; H, 10.1; N, 8.6%); λ_{max} (toluene) 728, 696, 667, 633, and 359 nm; ν_{max} (Nujol) 3 300 cm⁻¹ (N-H), 1 605, and 1 577 cm⁻¹ (C-C, aromatic); δ_{H} (60 MHz; C₆D₆) 0.90 (t, 24 H), 1.05–2.45 (m, 80 H), 4.46 (t, 16 H), and 7.76 (s, 8 H).

Procedure B: 1,4,8,11,15,22,25-octadecylphthalocyanine (1j) 1,4,8,11,15,18-hexadecyl-22,25-bis(3-alkoxycarbonylproand pyl)phthalocyanines. In a typical procedure, a 9:1 mixture of 3,6didecylphthalonitrile (5j) (3.2 g, 7.8 mmol) and 3,6-di(4,4,4trimethoxybutyl)phthalonitrile (5n) (0.35 g, 0.9 mmol) was dissolved in pentanol (30 ml) and lithium (0.6g) was added in small portions. On heating under reflux for 1 h the solution turned dark green. After cooling, acetic acid (30 ml) was added and the mixture stirred for 10 min, after which the solvents were removed by rotary evaporation. The residue was chromatographed through a silica column using toluene-ethyl acetate (9:1) as eluant. The first fraction was recrystallised from THFacetone (ca. 1:2) to yield 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25-octadecylphthalocyanine (1j) (150 mg, 5%) (Found: C, 82.2; H, 11.2; N, 6.9. C112H178N8 requires C, 82.2; H, 11.0; N, 6.85%); FAB-MS $(M + H)^+$ 1 637.4280. ¹³CC₁₁₁H₁₇₉N₈ requires 1 637.4286; λ_{max} (toluene) 728, 697, 666, 628, and 359 nm; v_{max} (Nujol) 3 300 (N-H), 1 605, and 1 577 cm⁻¹ (C-C, aromatic); $\delta_{\rm H}$ (60 MHz; C₆D₆) 0.90 (t, 24 H), 1.05–2.48 (br s, 128 H), 4.43 (t, 16 H), and 7.79 (s. 8 H).

Recrystallisation of the second fraction afforded 1,4,8,11,15,-18-hexadecyl-22,25-bis(3-pentoxycarbonylpropyl)phthalocyanine (10), K \rightarrow D 70.5 °C, D \rightarrow I 119.5–120.5 °C (18 mg, 0.5%) (Found: C, 79.5; H, 10.5; N, 6.7. C₁₁₀H₁₇₀N₈O₄ requires: C, 79.2; H, 10.3; N, 6.7%); FAB-MS (M + H)⁺ 1 669.3457. ¹³CC₁₀₉-H₁₇₁N₈O₄ requires 1 669.3457; λ_{max} (toluene) 729, 698, 666, 633, and 342 nm; ν_{max} (Nujol) 3 300 (N–H), 1 735 (C=O), 1 605, and 1 577 cm⁻¹ (C–C, aromatic); δ_{H} (60 MHz; C₆D₆) 0.89 (t, 24 H), 1.05–1.08 (br s, 96 H), 2.48 (br s, 8 H), 3.92 (t, 4 H), 4.44 (t, 16 H), and 7.85 (s, 8 H).

The third fraction was identified as a mixture of 1,4,8,11,15,18hexadecyl-22,25-bis(3-alkoxycarbonylpropyl)phthalocyanines (25 mg) in which the alkoxy groups were methoxy and pentoxy.

Statistical Analysis of the Molar Ratio of Substrates used in Procedure B.—The choice of a 9:1 ratio of substrates in the above procedure followed from a statistical analysis of the Pc products expected to be formed from various combinations of two phthalonitrile precursors, A and B, assuming that the two are equally susceptible to reaction. Thus if the ratio of A to B is X:1 then the chance of picking at random a molecule of A is given by equation (1), where N is the total number of molecules

$$XN/[(X+1)N] \tag{1}$$

of **B**. The probability of the first molecule of A reacting with a second molecule of A is as in equation (2). Similarly the

$$[X(N-1)]/[(X+1)N-1]$$
(2)

Table 9. Variation of the statistical yield of (1) and (3) with molar ratio of phthalonitriles.

X	Pc(1) (via AAAA)	Pc(3) (via AAAB)	Other Pcs (via AABB, ABAB, ABBB, BBBB)
1	6	25	69
3	33	44	23
9	66	29	5
25	85	14	1

probability of four molecules of A reacting together to form the octa-alkyl phthalocyanine of type (1) is given by equation (3), or approximately $X^4/(X + 1)^4$ because N is ca. 10^{20} for a

$$XN[X(N-1)][X(N-2)][X(N-3)]/{[(X+1)N]} [(X+1)N-1][(X+1)N-2][(X+1)N-3] \} (3)$$

millimolar reaction. Similarly, the probability of the reaction of three molecules of A with one of B to give an asymmetrically substituted Pc of type (3) is as in equation (4), or

$$\frac{4N(XN)[X(N-1)][X(N-2)]/\{[(X+1)N] \\ [(X+1)N-1][(X+1)N-2][(X+1)N-3]\}$$
(4)

approximately $4X^3/(X + 1)^4$. Examples of the statistical yields of Pcs (1) and (3) [or, more precisely, the ester derivative of (3)] for various values of X are in Table 9.

Procedure C: 1,4,8,11,15,18-hexadecyl-22,25-bis (3-carboxypropyl)phthalocyanine (3j). In a typical experiment, a solution of the mixture of 1,4,8,11,15,18-hexadecyl-22,25-bis(3-alkoxycarbonylpropyl)phthalocyanine obtained in the foregoing reaction (25 mg, 0.02 mmol) in THF (20 ml) was added to 4M aqueous NaOH (20 ml). Tetra-t-butylammonium bromide (2 mg) was added and the two-phase system heated under reflux for 6 h. On cooling, diethyl ether (30 ml) was added to the organic layer which was then washed with 2M HCl and, thoroughly, with water. The ether layer was dried $(MgSO_4)$ and the solvent removed using a rotary evaporator. The crude product was recrystallised (from THF-acetone) to afford 1,4,8,11,15,18hexadecyl-22,25-bis(3-carboxypropyl)phthalocyanine (3j) (18 mg, 79%) (Found: C, 78.7; H, 9.95; N, 7.2, $C_{100}H_{150}N_8O_4$ requires C, 78.6; H, 9.9; N, 7.2%); λ_{max} (toluene) 727, 695, 665, 633, and 340 nm; v_{max}(thin film) 3 500-2 500 (O-H), 3 300 (N-H), 1 720 (C=O), 1 605, and 1 577 cm⁻¹ (C-C, aromatic).

Preparation of Metal Phthalocyanines (2) (Table 8).— 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25-Octaheptylphthalocyaninatocopper (2g). In a typical procedure, metal-free 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25-octaheptylphthalocyanine (70 mg, 0.05 mmol) and copper(II) acetate (500 mg, 2.5 mmol) were heated in refluxing pentanol (7 ml) for 1 h. On cooling, the resultant slurry was dissolved in toluene (20 ml) and filtered to remove excess of copper(II) acetate. The crude product was purified by elution through a silica column with toluene to yield 1,4,8,11,15,18,22,25-octaheptylphthalocyaninatocopper (2g) (62 mg, 85%) (Found: C, 77.5; H, 9.5; N, 8.15. C₈₈H₁₂₈CuN₈ requires C, 77.6; H, 9.5; N, 8.2%); λ_{max} (toluene) 706, 674, 635, and 348 nm; ν_{max} (Nujol) 1 602 and 1 572 cm⁻¹ (C–C, aromatic).

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Harrison with DSC measurements on the liquid-crystal phases

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