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Liquid Crystals Today

Publication details, including instructions for authors and subscription information:

<http://www.informaworld.com/smpp/title~content=t713681230>

11th Conference on Solid and Liquid Crystals—Material Science and Applications

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To cite this Article Witko, Waclaw(1995) '11th Conference on Solid and Liquid Crystals—Material Science and Applications', *Liquid Crystals Today*, 5: 2, 9

To link to this Article: DOI: 10.1080/13583149508047597

URL: <http://dx.doi.org/10.1080/13583149508047597>

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11th Conference on Solid and Liquid Crystals – Material Science and Applications

Zakopana, Poland, 23-27 October, 1994
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The eleventh conference in a series of biennial meetings was organized by Professor Józef Zmija group from the Institute of Technical Physics WAT, Warsaw, Poland. It was supported by the State Committee of Scientific Research (KBN), the Polish chapter of the International Society for Optical Engineering (SPIE) and the Committee of Crystallography, Polish Academy of Sciences. These conferences have become more international, and this meeting, organized just outside Zakopana, in the Tatra mountains attracted more than 210 scientists, 51 from abroad.

The programme consisted of plenary lectures, followed by two parallel sessions: one devoted to solid crystals and monocrystals and the other to liquid crystals. In addition to the review lectures new results of original studies were presented during oral and poster sessions. In this report only liquid crystals topics will be discussed. During the liquid crystals sessions there were more than 60 oral presentations and around 50 posters.

The opening session included eight plenary lectures delivered by Professors Pajaczkowska (Warsaw, Poland), Jadzyn (Poznan, Poland) and Barbero (Torino, Italy). Professor Pajaczkowska reviewed the problems of crystal growth of some perovskite-type oxides by Czochralski method. Professor Jadzyn discussed linear and nonlinear dielectric relaxation in mesomorphic systems, and such studies allow the study of the kinetics of the molecular interactions. Professor Barbero presented problems of stochastic contributions to the anchoring energy which deviate from well known Rapini-Papoular expression. Anchoring and elasticity were also discussed during parallel sessions by A. Strigazzi (Torino, Italy). O. Lavrentovich (Kent, Ohio, USA) and A. Ionescu (Dosenza, Italy and Bucharest, Romania) as well as in posters presented by Professor Nemtsov (Minsk, Belarus).

In the parallel session Professor J. Moscicki (Kraków, Poland) reviewed attempts to join the theoretical approaches of statistical methods (from models of Flory) and mean field approximations (derived from Maier-Saupe Theory). Professor Kutzyński (Poznan, Poland) gave

an overview on TGB phases and their formation in one component systems and mixtures. Pattern formation on a nematic-smectic interface was the subject of the lecture of A. Buka (Budapest, Hungary) and Professor Klosowicz (Warsaw, Poland) presented pattern formation in PDLC layers.

Several interesting presentations were devoted to ferroelectric liquid crystals – their collective and molecular relaxation as well as spontaneous polarization measurements. They were given by Professor Wrobel (Kraków, Poland) and Z. Raszewski (Warsaw, Poland) while Kocot (Katowice, Poland) concentrated his talk on ferroelectric polysiloxanes. Applications were discussed by Professor Lagerwall (Göteborg, Sweden) and some practical solutions were shown by Dr Matuszczyk also from Chalmers Technical University. Professor Figuereido Neto (Sao Paulo, Brazil) presented results on mixed ferrofluids and their properties.

Molecular properties observed in different relaxation processes were shown by quasi-elastic neutron scattering data analysis by Professor Janik (Kraków, Poland), dielectric relaxation by Urban (Kraków, Poland) and deuterium NMR by S. Kralj (Ljubljana, Slovenia). The latter concerned liquid crystals confined to porous silica aerogel matrices with different pore distributions. Dielectric relaxation studies in porous media were presented by S.A. Rozanski (Pila, Poland). H. Kresse (Halle, Germany) discussed hydrogen bondings in liquid crystals, and J. Pzedmojski (Warsaw, Poland) presented new X-ray investigations under high pressure.

Professor Chilaya (Tbilisi, Georgia) demonstrated the use of chiral liquid crystals for light modulation. The determination of orientational order was the subject of lecture of Dr Bauman (Poznan, Poland), and problems of photo-aligning and optical reorientation were discussed by I. Janossy (Budapest, Hungary), Y.A. Reznikov (Kiev, Ukraine) and W. Witko (Kraków, Poland).

Synthesis and basic properties of liquid crystals and their mixtures and dopants were described by Professor Czajkowski (Lodz, Poland: new dyes), T. Parka (Warsaw, Poland: new mixtures for STN displays). Professor Bezborodov (Minsk, Belarus: new intermediates for synthesis of liquid crystals) J. Szalc (Warsaw, Poland: thermal stability of liquid crystals and H. Brodzik (Warsaw, Poland: induction of smectic A mixtures of polar compounds), B. Wazynska (Warsaw, Poland: polar smectic A mixtures) and P. Wojciechowski (Lodz, Poland: anisotropic polymer blends by photopolymerization).

The contributions to the 11th Conference on Solid and Liquid Crystals – Materials Science and Applications will be published in SPIE Proceedings Vol. 2372 (liquid crystals) and Vol. 2373 (solid crystals).