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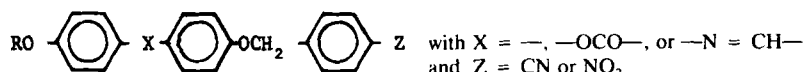
# Cyano and Nitrobenzyloxy Derivatives: New Polymorphism Aspects†

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Several polar molecules with three benzene rings and having the general formula:



have been synthesized. All these compounds are built with the flexible  $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$  linkage and provide rather low temperature mesomorphic phases easily accessible for physical investigations.

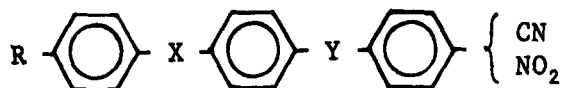
The striking features of these six series are:

- The cyanobiphenyl series provides a rather classical polymorphism.
- The nitrobiphenyl series shows another example of the re-entrant nematic phase and furthermore a very spectacular transition  $N_{re} \rightarrow S_G$  or  $H$  with complex spatial structuring.
- The cyanobenzoate series provides examples of the so-called  $S_{A1}$ ,  $A_{A_d}$ ,  $S_{A2}$ ,  $S_C$  phases and also an interesting  $S_{A_d}-S_{A2}$  transition directly observable under the microscope.
- The nitrobenzoate series not only exhibits a classical re-entrant nematic phase, but also the inverted sequence  $K N S_A I$  in a pure compound.
- The cyano-Schiff's base series presents the first example of a  $S_B$  hexatic phase in polar systems.
- The nitro-Schiff's base series not only exhibits a new enantiotropic re-entrant sequence  $K S_F S_C N_{re} S_A N I$ , but also the first example of the  $S_F$  phase in polar compounds and the inverted sequence  $K S_F S_C N S_A I$ .

†Presented at the Tenth International Liquid Crystal Conference, York, July 15–21, 1984.

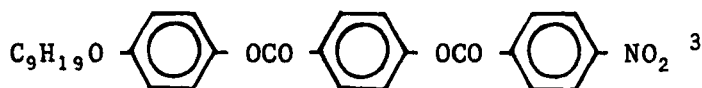
## INTRODUCTION

It is now well established that polar molecules with three phenyl rings belonging to the general formula:



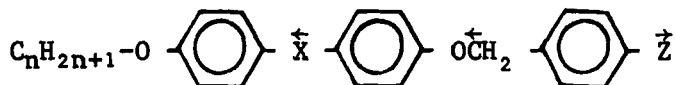
lead to a rich polymorphism with a number of re-entrant sequences and new fluid smectic modifications ( $S_{A1}$ ,  $S_{Ad}$ ,  $S_{A2}$ ,  $S_{C2}$ ,  $S_{C^*}$  . . .).<sup>1</sup>

A systematic study of the influence of the relative longitudinal dipolar moment of the central groups (X and Y) on these phenomena<sup>2</sup> was performed and showed the compounds to be more interesting when the X and Y longitudinal dipolar moments are in the opposite direction to that of the cyano- or nitro-group. For these series, the X and Y ( $-\text{COO}-$ ,  $-\text{CH}=\text{N}$ ,  $-\text{CH}=\text{CH}-$  . . .) central linkages are rather rigid so that the  $T_{NI}$  temperatures are too high for several physical investigations. On the other hand, with rigid molecules such as:



the temperature range of the higher nematic phase is larger than that of the re-entrant phase. In order to provide more accessible materials for physical measurements and in the hope of obtaining an inverted sequence, we have explored the more flexible  $-\text{CH}_2-\text{O}-$  linkage.

Here we report on six homologous series having the general formula:



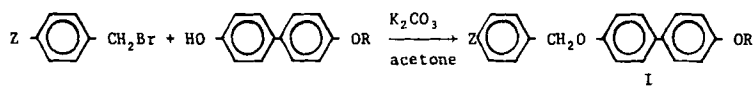
where X = single bond (I),  $-\text{OCO}-$  (II),  $-\text{N}=\text{CH}-$  (III)

Z = CN (A) or  $\text{NO}_2$  (B)

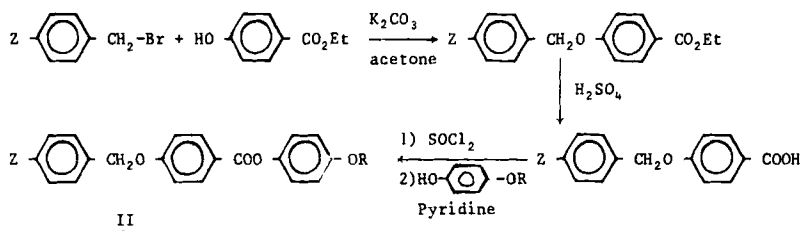
n = 1  $\rightarrow$  14

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

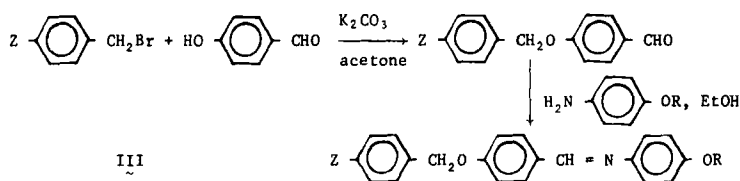
Compounds of these series were prepared according to schemes I, II and III.



Scheme I



Scheme II



Scheme III

They were purified by chromatography on silica gel eluted with benzene or by repeated recrystallization from ethanol. Phase transitions were studied both by polarization microscopy (using a Mettler FP5) and by differential scanning calorimetry (Dupont 990).

• *Cyanobiphenyl series (IA)* This series (Table I) does not present the re-entrant phenomenon, but it exhibits, in addition to classical nematic and  $S_A$  phases, several tilted smectic phases ( $S_C$ ,  $S_G$ ,  $S_H$ ). However, the re-entrant nematic phase was observed in a binary mixture. For example, with 63.5 wt% of the octyloxy derivative and 36.5 wt% of the nonyloxy derivative, the following sequence was observed.

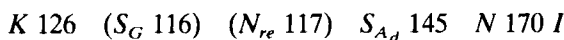
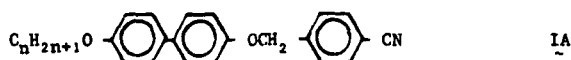


TABLE I

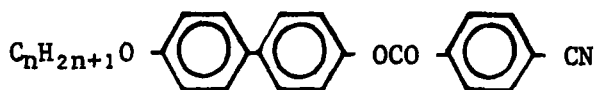
Transition temperatures (°C) of compounds of the series



<i>n</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>S<sub>H</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>G</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>C</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>A</sub></i>	<i>N</i>	<i>I</i>
4	155	—	—	—	158	189	.
5	139	(. 132)	(. 135.5)	—	146.5	180	.
6	138	(. 116)	(. 130)	—	(. 137)	179	.
7	130	(. 124)	(. 126)	(. 127)	—	173	.
8	129	—	(. 119)	—	—	171	.
9	128	—	—	—	162	168	.
10	127	—	—	—	167	—	.
11	124	—	—	—	167	—	.
12	124	—	—	—	168	—	.

The meanings of the signs used in this table and in the following Tables are: *K*: crystalline phase; *N*: nematic phase; *S*: smectic phases *A*, *C* . . . , smectic phases *S<sub>A</sub>*, *S<sub>C</sub>*; *N<sub>re</sub>*: re-entrant nematic phase; *I*: isotropic phase; ∴ the phase exists; —: the phase does not exist; ( ): monotropic phase

We must point out that the corresponding esters (note that the —COO— linkage is more rigid than —CH<sub>2</sub>O—) are also devoid of any re-entrant behaviour for the pure compounds but they do exhibit the new smectic *S<sub>C</sub>* phase:



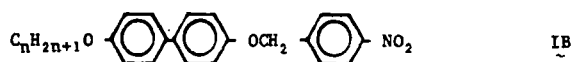
*n* = 8      *K* 128 (*S<sub>C</sub>* 123)    *S<sub>A1</sub>* 159    *N* 236 *I*

*n* = 9      *K* 126    *S<sub>C</sub>* 142    *S<sub>Ad</sub>* 208    *N* 229 *I*

• *Nitrobiphenyl series IB* (Table II)

Like the cyano-series *IA*, the nitro-derivatives *IB* exhibit below the classical nematic and smectic *A* phases some tilted ordered smectic *G* and *H* phases. In the *C<sub>8</sub>* and *C<sub>9</sub>* homologues the enantiotropic re-entrant nematic (*N<sub>re</sub>*) phase was observed. Furthermore in these two compounds a very spectacular transition (*N<sub>re</sub>* → *S<sub>C</sub>*) with complex spatial structuring occurred over three degrees (3°C)<sup>4</sup> (Figure 1*a, b*). We must point out that the heptyloxy derivative presents the normal transition *N* → *S<sub>C</sub>* without spatial structuring. This seems to indicate

TABLE II  
Transition temperatures (°C) of compounds of the series



$n$	$K$	$S_H?$	$S_G?$	$N_{re}$	$S_A$	$N$	$I$
4	. 137	—	—	—	—	. 172	.
5	. 116	(. 114.5)	(. 114.7)	—	(. 115)	. 167	.
6	. 108	. 107	. 114	—	—	. 166	.
7	. 112	. 109	. 115	—	—	. 162	.
8	. 108	—	. 114	. 124	.	154	. 162
9	. 112	—	. 114	. 126	.	154.5	. 161
10	. 113	—	—	—	.	161.5	. 161.8
11	. 113	(. 110)	—	—	.	162	—
12	. 90	. 108	—	—	.	163	—

some specific difference between the  $N_{re}$  and  $N$  phases. This  $N_{re}$  phase was not observed for any pure compound in the series:



$$n = 7 \quad K \ 124 \quad S_{A_1} \ 146 \quad N \ 223 \ I$$

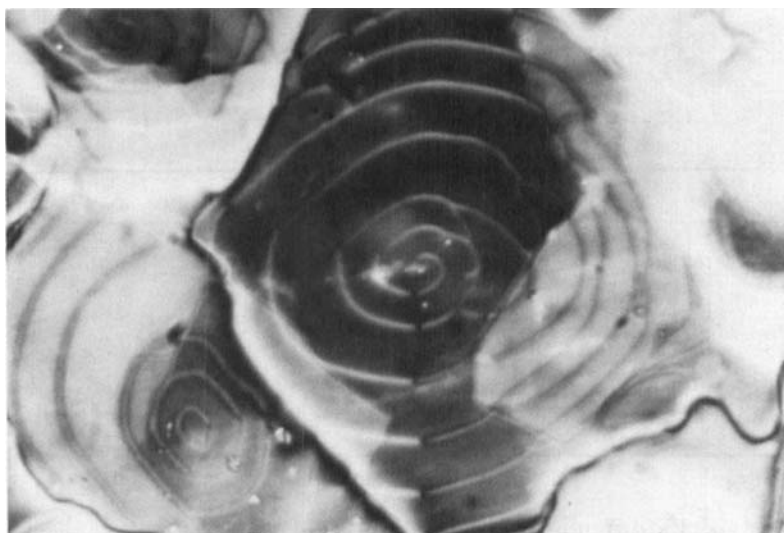
$$n = 8 \quad K \ 123.5 \ S_{A_d} \ 197 \quad N \ 221 \ I$$

However, a 53.33 wt% of  $C_8$  and 46.67 wt% of  $C_7$  binary mixture shows the doubly re-entrant phenomenon:

$$K \ 120 \quad S_{A_1} \ 145.5 \quad N_{re} \ 149 \quad S_{A_d} \ 178 \quad N \ 222 \ I$$

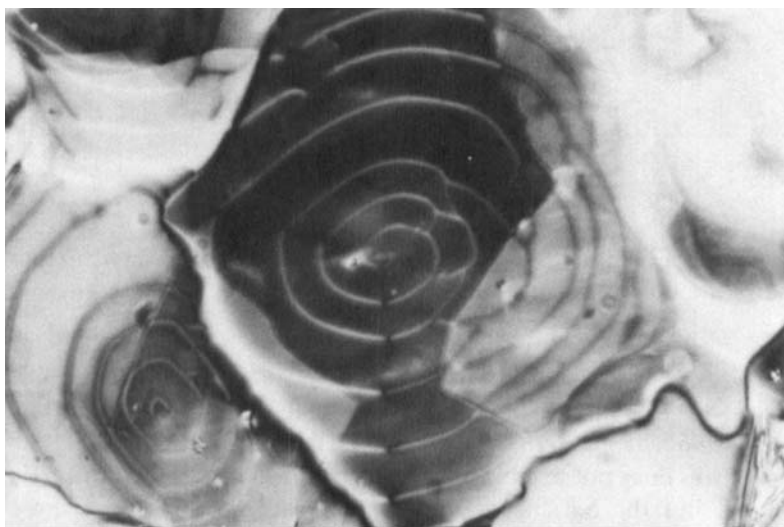
• *Cyanobenzoate series IIA* (Table III)<sup>5</sup>

This series does not exhibit the tilted smectic phases shown by series IA, IB, but the  $S_C$  smectic modification is given. The first three compounds ( $n = 5, 6, 7$ ) give  $S_A$  and  $N$  phases. This  $S_A$  phase is a monolayered smectic  $A$  phase<sup>6</sup> ( $S_{A_1}$ ) which persists until  $n = 9$ . We must point out that the  $T_{NA}/T_{NI}$  ratios calculated for these compounds are equal to or higher than McMILLAN's number ( $\approx 0.87$ ) with the exception of the  $S_{A_1}$  phase of the  $n = 5$  derivative which is very



(a)

See Color Plate XIII, located in the final volume of these conference proceedings.



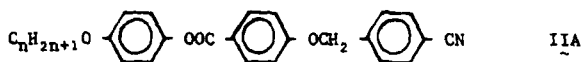
(b)

See Color Plate XIV, located in the final volume of these conference proceedings.

FIGURE 1 Moving spirals observed at the  $N_{re} \rightarrow S_G$  transition on cooling at  $0.2^\circ \text{mn}^{-1}$  (a) at  $124^\circ\text{C}$ ; (b) two seconds later.



TABLE III

Transition temperatures ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) of compounds of the series

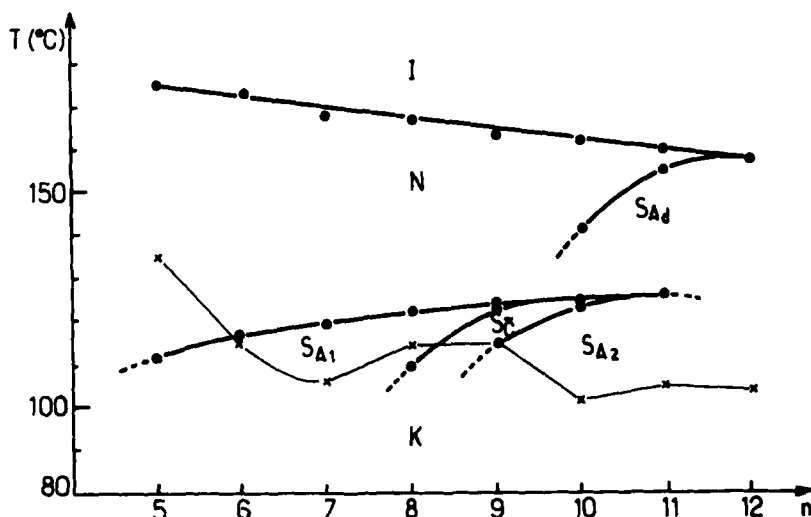
$n$	$K$	$S_{A_2}$	$S_{\bar{C}}$	$S_{A_1}$	$S_{A_d}$	$N$	$I$
5	135	—	—	(. 111)	—	174	.
6	115	—	—	. 116	—	173	.
7	106	—	—	. 118.5	—	168	.
8	114.5	—	(. 110.5)	. 122	—	167	.
9	116	(. 114.5)	. 122.5	. 123.7	—	163	.
10	102	. 124	. 125	—	. 141	162	.
11	106	. 127	—	—	. 155	160	.
12	104	—	—	—	. 158	—	.

metastable ( $T_{NA}$  and  $T_{NI}$  are respectively the temperatures in Kelvin of the  $S_A$ - $N$  transition and the  $N$ - $I$  transition), whereas, in the series with re-entrant nematic behaviour, this ratio is largely lower than 0.87

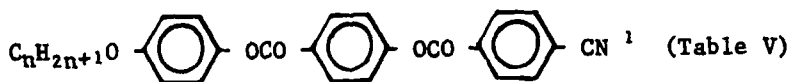
$n$	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
$T_{NA}/T_{NI}$	0.86	0.87	0.89	0.90	0.91	0.95	0.99	—

From the derivative  $n = 10$ , the partially bilayered  $S_A$  phase ( $S_{A_d}$ ) appears, while the  $S_{A_1}$  disappears. The layer spacing of the  $S_{A_d}$  phase increases as the temperature decreases: as an example, for the decyloxy derivative, the ratio  $d/L$  ( $d$ : the layer thickness and  $L$ : the molecular length in the most extended conformation) varies from 1.4 to 1.55 when the temperature decreases from 140 to  $120^{\circ}\text{C}$ . The re-entrant nematic phase was also obtained with a mixture of the  $n = 9$  and  $n = 10$  derivatives. In this series, the  $S_{A_d}$ - $S_{A_1}$  system is quite distinct and the  $S_{A_d}$ - $S_{A_2}$  phase boundary is easily revealed (Figure 2). The undecyloxy derivative exhibits a direct transition  $S_{A_d}$ - $S_{A_2}$  providing a new example of a directly observable  $S_{A_d}$ - $S_{A_2}$  phase transition;<sup>7</sup> as a matter of fact, a clear textural change is observed under microscope, and correlatively the entropy change ( $0.91 \text{ mcal. g}^{-1} \text{ K}^{-1}$ ) (Table IV) and the layer spacing are strongly enhanced at this transition (Figure 3a, b).

The novel smectic phase made of ribbons,  $S_{\bar{C}}$ , is present in the

FIGURE 2 Plot of transition temperatures against  $n$  for series IIA.

three derivatives  $n = 8 \rightarrow 10$ . This phase is very difficult to observe under the microscope when the higher temperature smectic phase is  $S_{A1}$  ( $n = 8$  and  $9$ ), whereas it appears highly birefringent when it originates from a  $S_{Ad}$  phase ( $n = 10$ ). This behaviour may be correlated with the corresponding entropies of the  $S_{A1}$ - $S_C$  transition (18 and 33  $\text{mcal. g}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$  respectively in the  $n = 8$  and  $9$  derivatives) and the  $S_{Ad}$ - $S_C$  transition (61  $\text{mcal. g}^{-1} \text{K}^{-1}$  in the derivative  $n = 10$ ) (Table IV). As a probable consequence of the existence of both  $S_{A1}$  and  $S_{Ad}$  phases, this  $S_C$  phase represents a necessary step toward the  $S_{A2}$  condensation. However, if there is no  $S_{A1}$ , the  $S_C$  phase does not appear. With the homologous diester series:



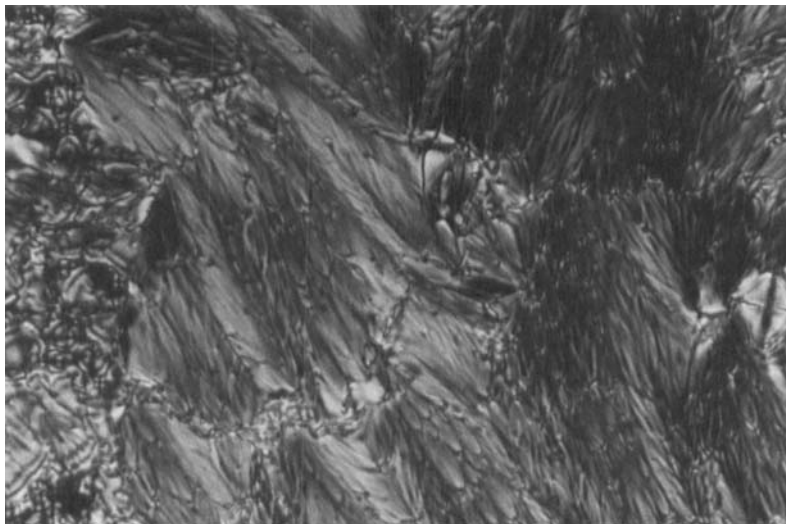
we obtained only the  $S_{Ad}$  and  $S_{A2}$  phases, but no  $S_{A1}$  and  $S_C$  phases.

• Nitrobenzoate series IIB (Table VI, Figure 4)

For this series, it is very surprising to observe in the first eleven compounds ( $n = 1 \rightarrow 11$ ) only the classical nematic phase. The  $S_{Ad}$  phase appears from the dodecyloxy derivative simultaneously with a

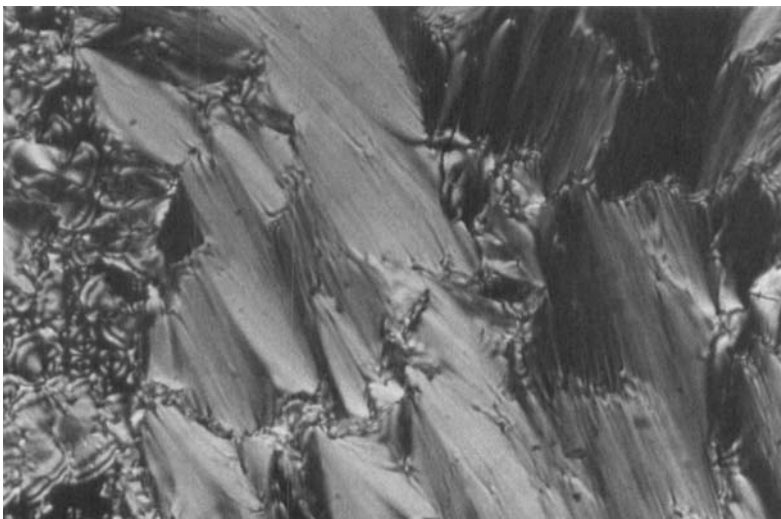
TABLE IV  
Transition enthalpies and entropies of compounds IIa  
( $\Delta H$  in cal. g<sup>-1</sup> and  $\Delta S$  in cal. g<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>)

<i>n</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>S</i> <sub>A2</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>E</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>A1</sub>	<i>S</i> <sub>A4</sub>	<i>N</i>	<i>I</i>
6 $\frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$	16.6 0.043	—	—	47 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.12 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	—	872 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 1.96 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	·
7 $\frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$	19 0.051	—	—	43 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.11 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	—	873 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 1.98 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	·
8 $\frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$	16.33 0.042	—	(.15 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> ) (0.04 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> )	51 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.13 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	—	840 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 1.91 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	·
9 $\frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$	18.32 0.046	(.58 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> ) (0.15 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> )	27 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.07 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	77 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.19 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	—	836 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 1.92 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	·
10 $\frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$	16.85 0.044	54 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.14 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	108 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.27 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	—	20 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.05 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	1090 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 2.51 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	·
11 $\frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$	20.8 0.055	360 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.91 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	—	—	50 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 0.12 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	966 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 2.24 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	·
12 $\frac{\Delta H}{\Delta S}$	20.9 0.053	—	—	—	1513 × 10 <sup>-3</sup> 3.54 × 10 <sup>-3</sup>	—	·



a

See Color Plate XV, located in the final volume of these conference proceedings.

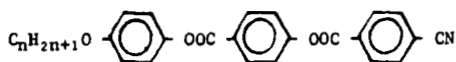


b

See Color Plate XVI, located in the final volume of these conference proceedings.

FIGURE 3 Optical textures of the compound  $\text{II}\tilde{\text{A}}$  ( $n = 11$ ) (a)  $S_{A_d}$  smectic phase at  $128^\circ\text{C}$ ; (b)  $S_{A_2}$  smectic phase at  $126^\circ\text{C}$ .

TABLE V

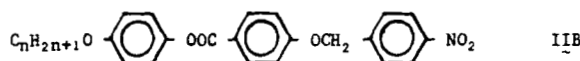
Transition temperatures ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) of compounds of the series

$n$	$K$	$S_C$	$S_{A_2}$	$S_{A_d}$	$N$	$I$
6	. 131	—	. 166	—	. 255.5	.
7	. 130.5	—	. 174	. 181	. 246	.
8	. 129	—	—	. 199	. 241	.
9	. 132	(. 111)	—	. 213	. 232	.

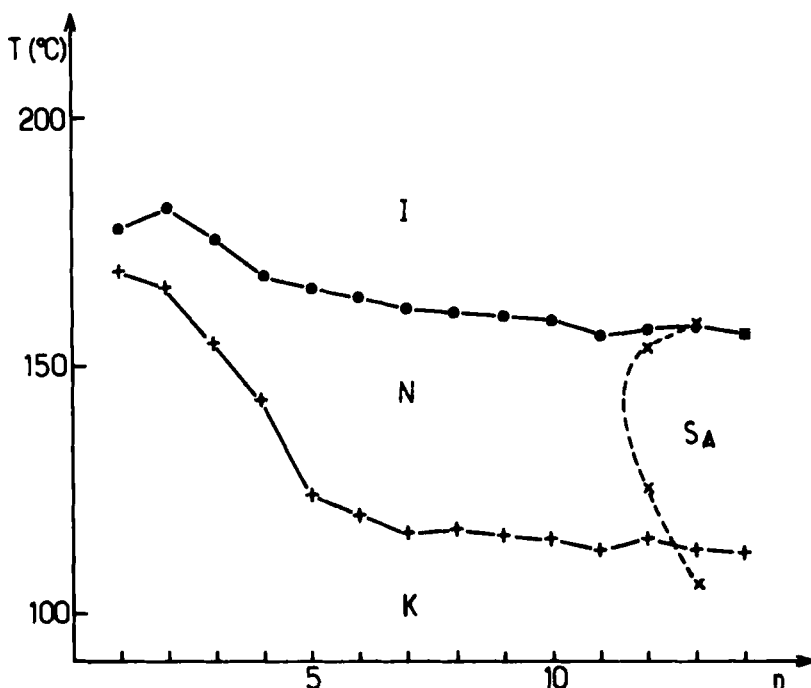
$N_{re}$  re-entrant nematic phase. Let us point out that the temperature range of the high temperature nematic phase is very small ( $3^{\circ}\text{C}$ ), and surprisingly is smaller than that of the low temperature one ( $>10^{\circ}\text{C}$ ). Consequently, on increasing the chain length ( $n = 13$ ), the first phase completely disappears and gives a new example of an *inverted sequence* in a pure rod-like mesogen. We obtained for the tridecyloxy derivative the following sequence:

$$K \ 112 \ (N \ 106) \ S_{A_d} \ 158 \ I$$

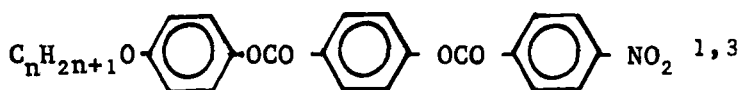
TABLE VI

Transition temperatures ( $^{\circ}\text{C}$ ) of compounds of the series

$n$	$K$	$N_{re}$	$S_A$	$N$	$I$
1	. 169	—	—	. 178	.
2	. 166	—	—	. 182	.
3	. 155	—	—	. 176	.
4	. 143	—	—	. 169	.
5	. 124	—	—	. 165.5	.
6	. 120	—	—	. 164	.
7	. 116	—	—	. 162	.
8	. 117	—	—	. 161	.
9	. 155.5	—	—	. 159.5	.
10	. 115	—	—	. 158.5	.
11	. 112.5	—	—	. 158	.
12	. 115	. 125.5	. 154.5	. 157	.
13	. 112.5	(. 106)	. 158	—	.
14	. 112	—	. 156	—	.

FIGURE 4 Plot of transition temperatures against  $n$  for series IIB.

This inverted sequence is also obtained in binary mixtures of the dodecyloxy and tetradecyloxy derivatives. With the absence of the  $S_{A1}$  phase, this series does not exhibit the  $S_C$  phase which is observed in the homologous ester series:

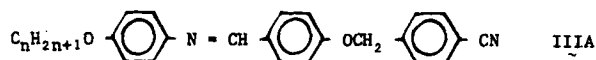


Actually this latter series is the only one exhibiting the triply re-entrant phenomenon with the nonyloxy derivative.

• *Cyano Schiff base series (III A)* (Table VII, Figure 5)

The first two compounds ( $n = 1, 2$ ) present only the nematic phase. In the next five homologues ( $n = 3 \rightarrow 7$ ), we could detect both  $S_A$  and  $S_B$  phases. On cooling the  $S_A$  phase, transition bars appear at the  $S_A \rightarrow S_B$  transition. The bars cross the fans at the start of the transition, widen and disappear. In this case, the smectic  $S_B$  phase formed shows an almost truncated focal-conic texture.

TABLE VII  
Transition temperatures (°C) of compounds of the series



<i>n</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>S<sub>B</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>Bhex</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>C̄</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>C</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>A</sub></i>	<i>N</i>	<i>I</i>
1	170.5	—	—	—	—	—	221	.
2	173.5	—	—	—	—	—	228	.
3	142	(. 120)	—	—	—	(. 134)	213	.
4	131	(. 120)	—	—	—	142	212	.
5	118	118.5	—	—	—	142	201	.
6	113	123.4	—	—	—	143	199	.
7	112	123	—	—	—	140	193	.
8	112	122	124	—	—	138	191	.
9	115	120.5	—	129	130.5	132	187	.
10	114	(. 113)	—	128	—	177	185	.
11	118	(. 105)	—	121	—	182.5	182.7	.
12	116	—	—	(. 101)	—	182	—	.
13	118	—	—	—	(. 107)	182	—	.
14	116.5	—	—	—	(. 110)	182	—	.

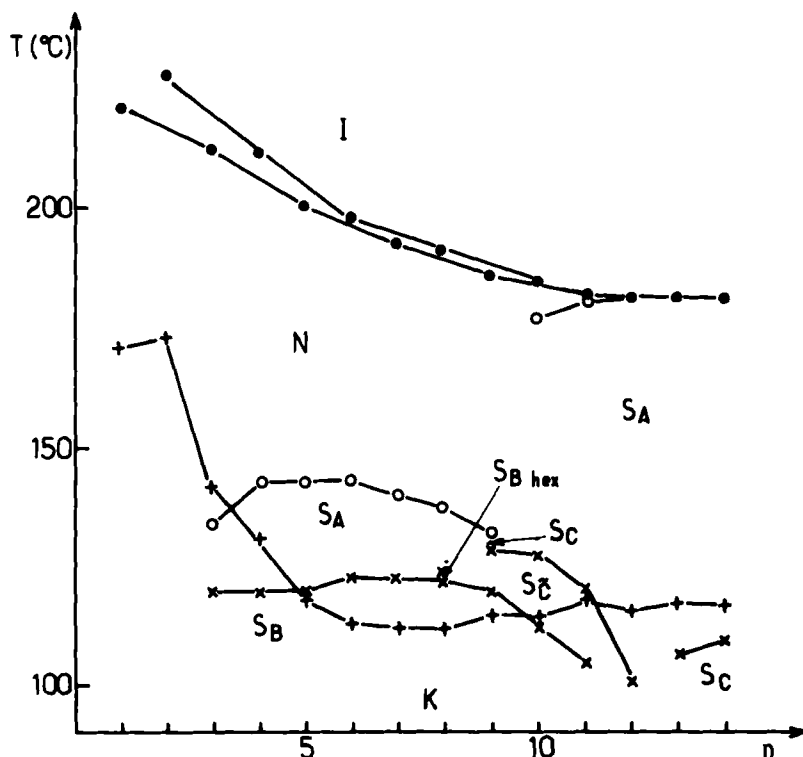


FIGURE 5 Plot of transition temperatures against *n* for series IIIA.

The octyloxy derivative is more interesting. It also exhibits the nematic and smectic  $S_A$  phases. On cooling from the  $S_A$  phase with the focal-conic texture, we could observe a transition at 123°C, but could not detect the transition bars. X-ray measurements<sup>8</sup> show two phases below the  $S_A$  phase: the  $S_B$  hexatic and crystal  $S_B$  phases.<sup>9</sup> So the octyloxy derivative is the first strongly polar compound which exhibits the  $S_B$  hexatic phase. The sequence observed is:

$$K\ 112\ S_B\ 122\ S_{Bhex}\ 124\ S_{A_1}\ 138\ N\ 191\ I$$

In the  $C_9$  homologue, below the  $N$  and  $S_{A_1}$  phases, three smectic phases:  $S_C$  (probably monolayered),  $S_{\bar{C}}$ , and  $S_B$ , could be observed. So we have the new sequence:

$$K\ 115\ S_B\ 120.5\ S_{\bar{C}}\ 129\ S_C\ 130.5\ S_{A_1}\ 132\ N\ 187\ I$$

From the decyloxy derivative, the  $S_{A_1}$  phase disappears and the other  $S_{A_d}$  phase is observed.

The binary isobaric phase diagram (Figure 6) for the nonyloxy and decyloxy derivatives shows for the 90.15 wt% of  $C_9$  and 9.85 wt% of  $C_{10}$  mixture the new re-entrant sequence:

$$K\ 113\ S_B\ 120.3\ S_{\bar{C}}\ 131.2\ N_{re}\ 136\ S_A\ 139\ N\ 186.5\ I$$

In this diagram, the  $S_{A_d}$ - $S_{A_1}$  systems are distinct and the latter entirely disappears with the 92.00 wt% of  $C_9$  mixture, and we cannot observe the doubly re-entrant phenomenon. This series is more interesting than that for the homologous diester for which the more complex sequence is as follows:<sup>2</sup>

$$K\ 124\ (S_{C_2}\ 114)\ S_{\bar{C}}\ 142\ S_A\ 236\ N\ 252\ I\quad (\text{for } n = 10)$$

• *Nitro-Schiff's base series (IIIB)* (Table VIII, Figure 7)<sup>10</sup>

The first five derivatives ( $n = 1 \rightarrow 5$ ) exhibit only the nematic phase. From the hexyloxy to tetradecyloxy derivatives, all the compounds exhibit the  $S_C$  phase with a maximum stability temperature with  $n = 9$ . The five derivatives ( $n = 6 \rightarrow 10$ ) present the three phase  $N$ ,  $S_C$ , and  $S_{H?}$ . The undecyloxy derivative exhibits for the first time the re-entrant sequence  $I\ N\ S_A\ N_{re}\ S_C\ S_F\ S_{H?}\ K$  (Figure 8a-f). On cooling



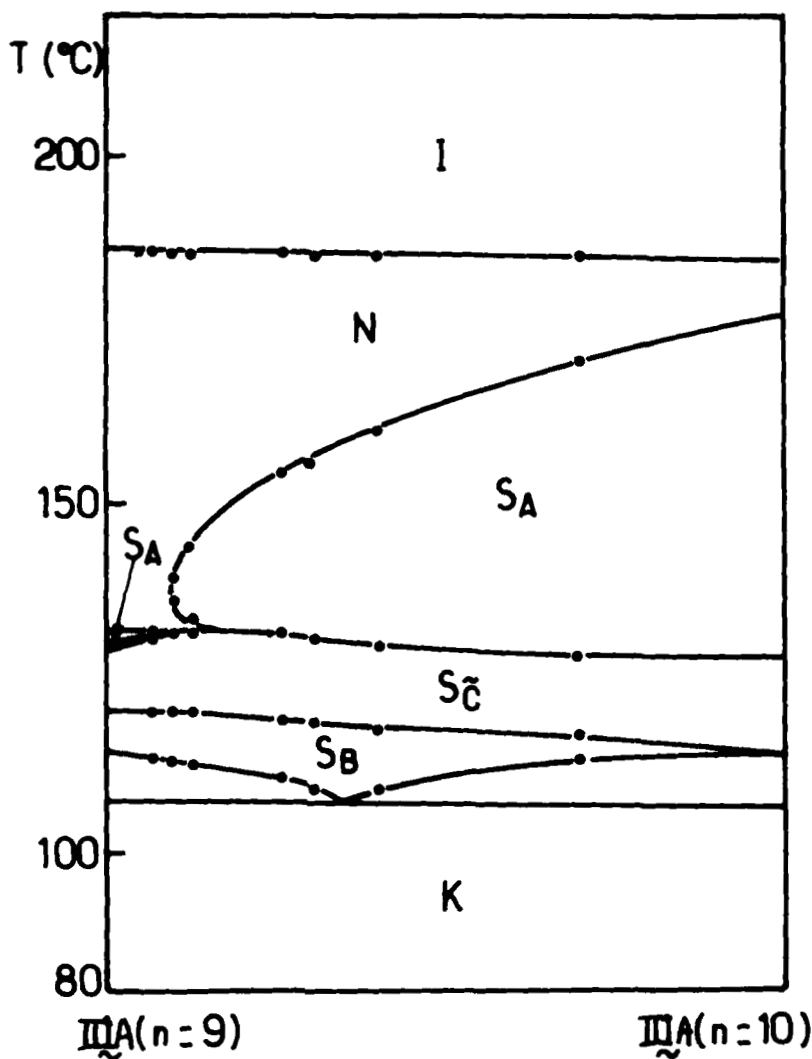


FIGURE 6 Isobaric diagram of state for mixtures of  $\text{IIIA} (n = 9)$  (on left) and  $\text{IIIA} (n = 10)$  (on right).

the isotropic liquid of this compound, one can observe the nematic phase with a thread like or marbled texture. Below this nematic phase, the smectic *A* phase with focal-conic and homeotropic textures appears. On further cooling, one can observe the re-entrant nematic phase with a thread like or paramorphic fan-shaped texture. On cool-

TABLE VIII  
Transition temperatures (°C) of compounds of the series



<i>n</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>S<sub>H?</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>F</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>C</sub></i>	<i>N<sub>re</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>A</sub></i>	<i>N</i>	<i>I</i>
1	159	—	—	—	—	—	207	.
2	151	—	—	—	—	—	213	.
3	143	—	—	—	—	—	198	.
4	120	—	—	—	—	—	197	.
5	123	—	—	—	—	—	189	.
6	113	(. 104)	—	114	—	—	188	.
7	96	109	—	119.4	—	—	184	.
8	86	109	—	120.5	—	—	183	.
9	98	110	—	121.8	—	—	181	.
10	95	107	—	120	—	—	180	.
11	105	(. 95)	(. 105)	118	135	177	179	.
12	103	—	(. 101)	118	121.5	178.3	—	.
13	104	—	(. 94)	108.5	—	178	—	.
14	106	—	(. 94)	106.5	—	178	—	.

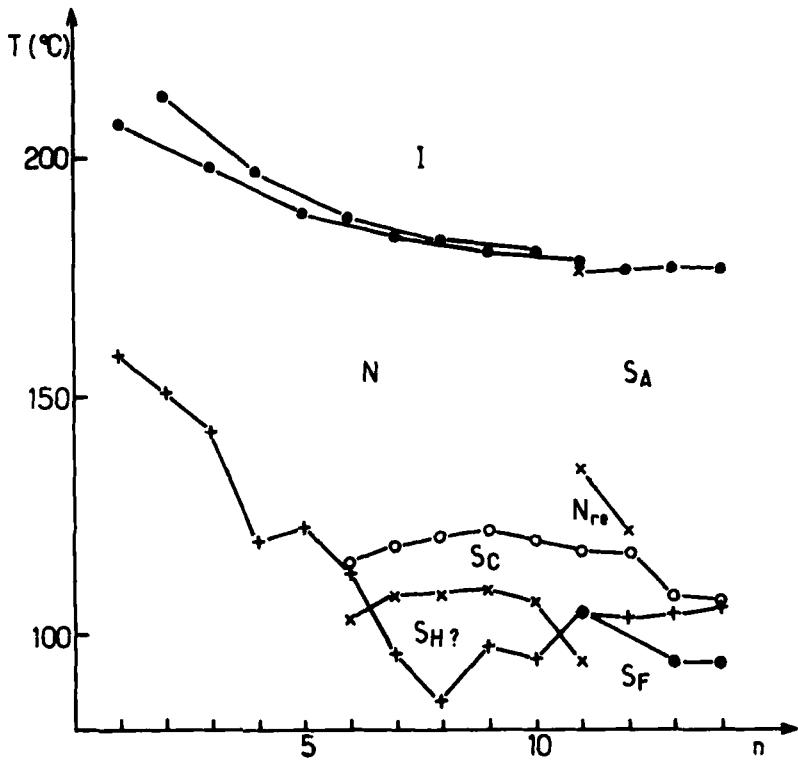
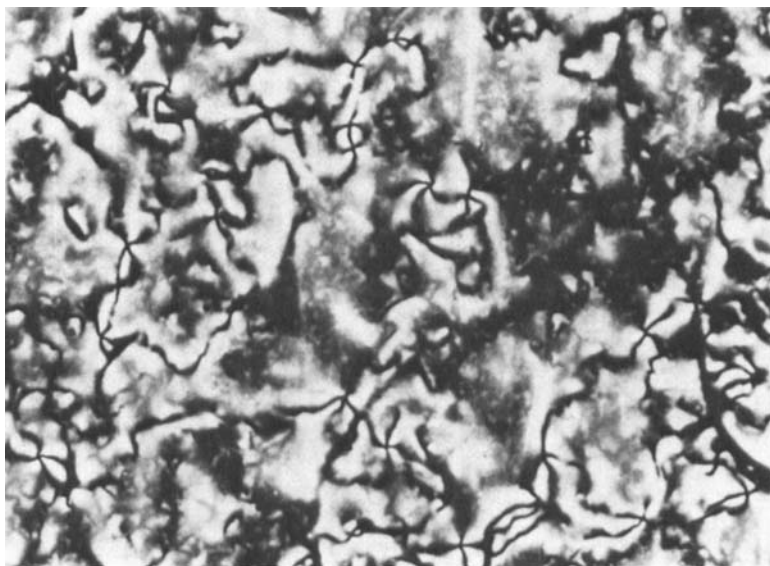


FIGURE 7 Plot of transition temperatures against *n* for series IIIB.

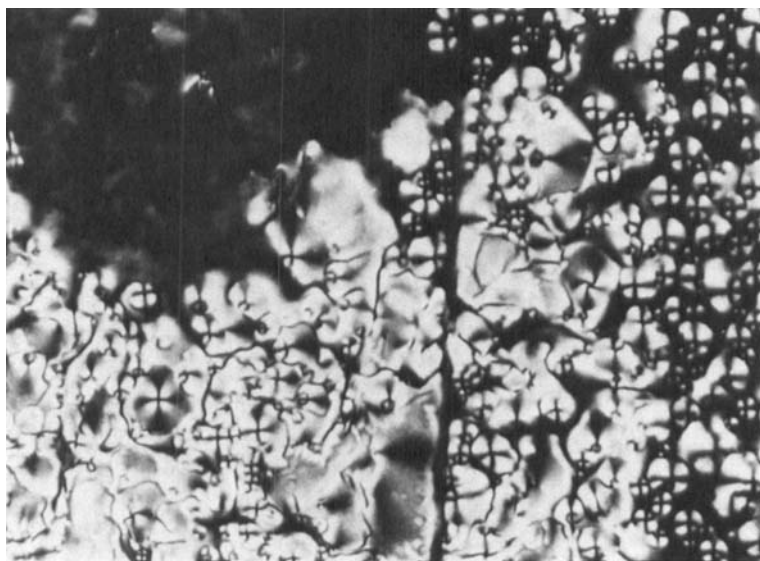


(a)

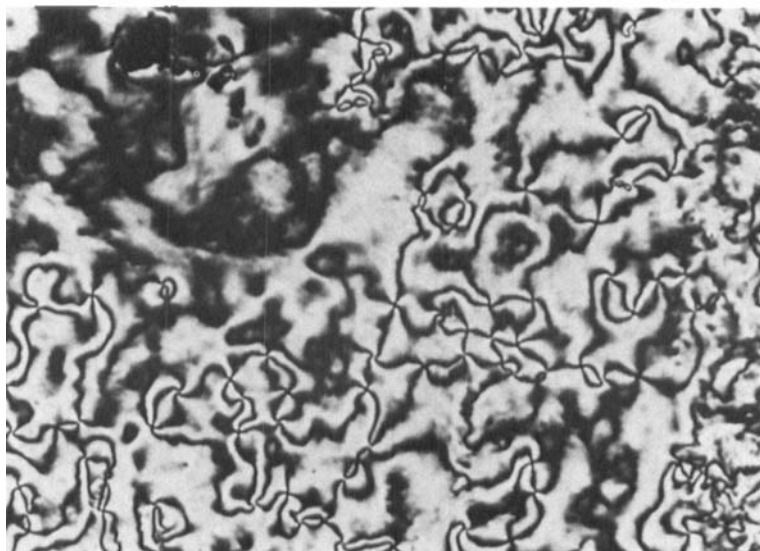


(b)

FIGURE 8 Optical textures of the compounds IIIB ( $n = 11$ ). (a)  $N$  nematic phase at  $178^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; (b)  $S_A$  smectic  $A$  phase at  $170^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; (c)  $N_r$  reentrant nematic phase at  $138^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; (d)  $S_C$  smectic  $C$  phase at  $120^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; (e)  $S_F$  smectic  $F$  phase at  $104^{\circ}\text{C}$ ; (f)  $S_H$  smectic phase at  $95^{\circ}\text{C}$ .

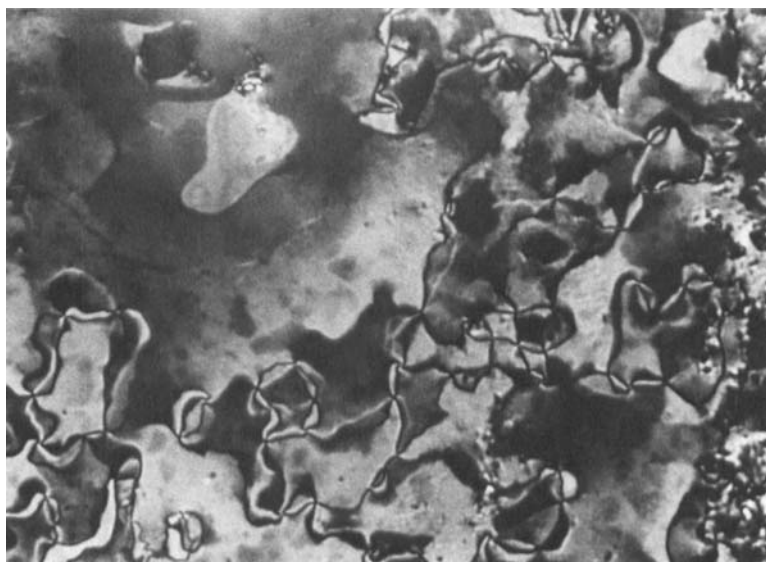


(c)

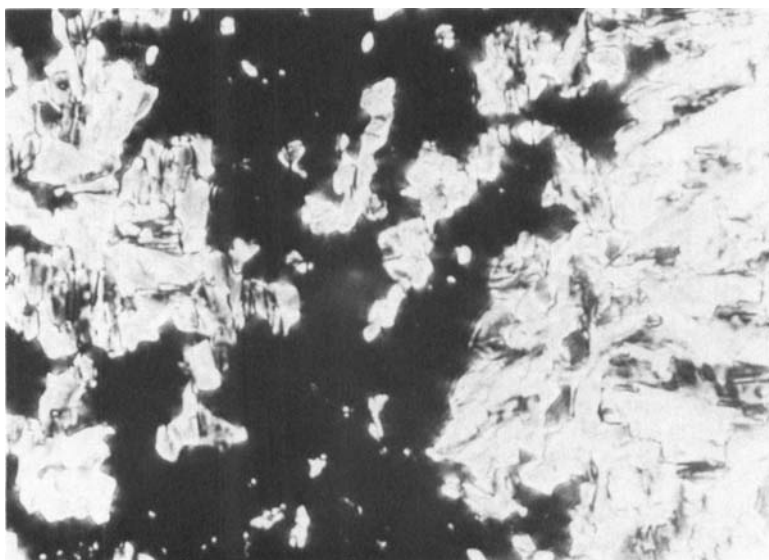


(d)

FIGURE 8 (Continued)



(e)



(f)

FIGURE 8 (Continued)

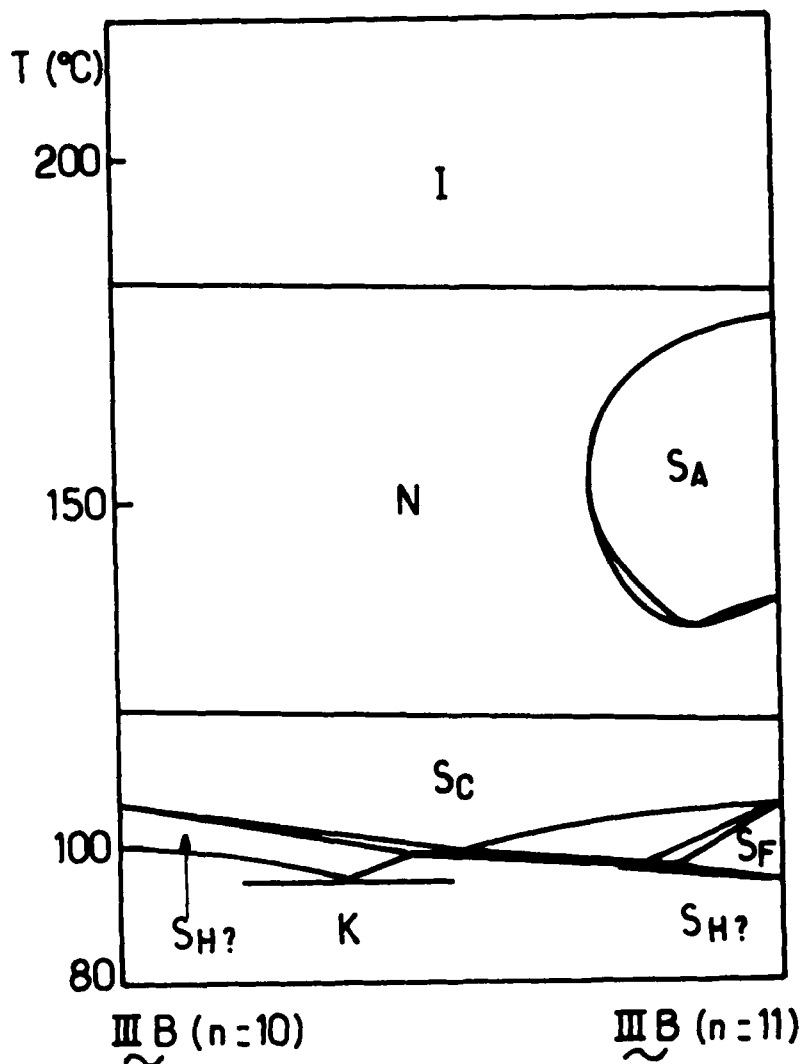
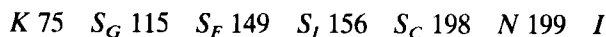
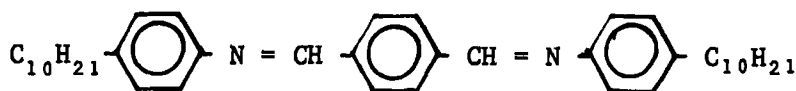


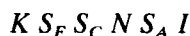
FIGURE 9 Isobaric diagram of state for mixtures of  $\text{IIIB}$  ( $n = 10$ ) (on left) and  $\text{IIIB}$  ( $n = 11$ ) (on right).

ing the  $N_{re}$  phase, the smectic  $S_C$  phase becomes visible through a *schlieren* or broken fan-shaped texture. Below this  $S_C$  phase, a smectic phase appears with a mosaic texture which is identified by X-ray investigation as a smectic  $S_F$  phase.<sup>8</sup> Below this phase, a supercooled smectic phase occurs which is miscible with the  $S_{H?}$  phase of the decyloxy derivative (Figure 9). This is the first example of a  $S_F$  phase

found with strongly polar mesogen; it is not miscible with that of the compound:<sup>11</sup>



The more interesting compound is the dodecyloxy derivative which exhibits the new inverted sequence:



The sequence  $I\ S_A\ N\ S_C$  was first observed by G. Pelzl *et al.*<sup>12</sup> in binary systems. The existence of a nematic phase below a  $S_A$  phase without a nematic at high temperature has already been predicted by Prost<sup>13</sup> and Heppke *et al.*<sup>14</sup> The above sequence was also observed in binary mixtures of the  $n = 11$  and  $n = 12$  derivatives (Figure 10) or of the  $n = 11$  and  $n = 13$  derivatives.

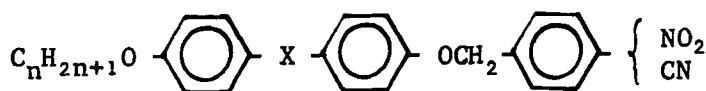
This  $N$  phase below the  $S_A$  phase totally disappears from  $n = 13$ .

Table IX gives the transition enthalpies and entropies of some compounds of series IIIB. It shows that the  $N-I$  transition enthalpies increase with chain length and that the  $S_C-S_F$  transition enthalpies are weaker than those for the  $S_C-S_H$  transition.

Once more this series is more interesting than the homologous diester series which only exhibits nematic and  $S_A$  phases.

## CONCLUSION

Substitution of the  $-\text{COO}-$  linkage by the more flexible  $-\text{CH}_2\text{O}-$  linkage in polar compounds with three phenyl rings having the general formula



where  $\text{X} = \text{— single bond, —OCO—, —N}=\text{CH—}$ , reveals several interesting results:

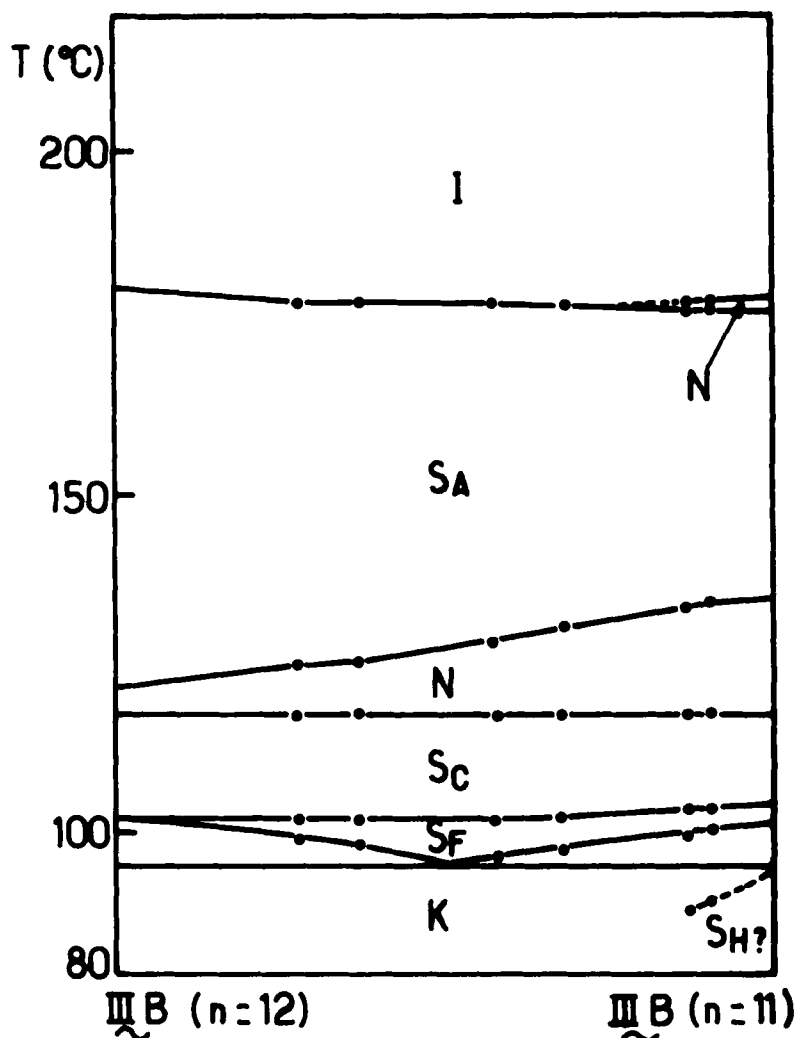


FIGURE 10 Isobaric diagram of state for mixtures of  $\text{IIIB}$  ( $n = 12$ ) (on left) and  $\text{IIIB}$  ( $n = 11$ ) (on right).

• The transition temperatures ( $T_{NI}$ ) of the latter compounds are much lower than those of the former (by about  $70^\circ\text{C}$ ); they are therefore more amenable to physical investigations.

• These compounds also give a rather rich polymorphism involving the so-called  $S_{A1}$ ,  $S_{A2}$ ,  $S_{A3}$ , and  $S_C$  smectic modifications and a re-entrant phenomenon. However, they also exhibit some new phenom-



TABLE IX  
Transition enthalpies and entropies of compounds IIIB  
( $\Delta H$  in Kcal.mol<sup>-1</sup> and  $\Delta S$  in cal.mol<sup>-1</sup> K<sup>-1</sup>)

<i>n</i>	<i>K</i>	<i>S<sub>H</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>F</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>C</sub></i>	<i>N<sub>re</sub></i>	<i>S<sub>A</sub></i>	<i>N</i>	<i>I</i>
8	$\Delta H$ . 6.68	. 0.71	—	. 0.09	—	—	. 0.40	.
	$\Delta S$ 18.6	1.86		0.23			0.88	
9	$\Delta H$ . 6.80	. 0.86	—	. 0.10	—	—	. 0.49	.
	$\Delta S$ 18.3	2.24		0.25			1.08	
10	$\Delta H$ . 6.01	. 0.54	—	. 0.08	—	—	. 0.50	.
	$\Delta S$ 16.2	1.42		0.20			1.1	
11	$\Delta H$ . 6.87	.	. 0.39	. 0.19	. 0.01	. 0.11	. 0.63	.
	$\Delta S$ 18.2		1.03	0.49	0.03	0.24	1.4	
12	$\Delta H$ . 8.30	.	(. 0.36)	. 0.05	. 0.03	. 1.18	—	.
	$\Delta S$ 22.		0.96	0.13	0.08	2.6		
13	$\Delta H$ . 7.10	.	.	. 0.14	—	. 1.24	—	.
	$\Delta S$ 18.8	.	.	0.37		2.75		

ena and sequences, e.g., the first  $S_{Bhex}$  and  $S_F$  phases in a pure *polar* compound, the inverted sequence, and finally, a spectacular  $N_{re}$ - $S_G$  transition.

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