

# SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION (11 Pages)

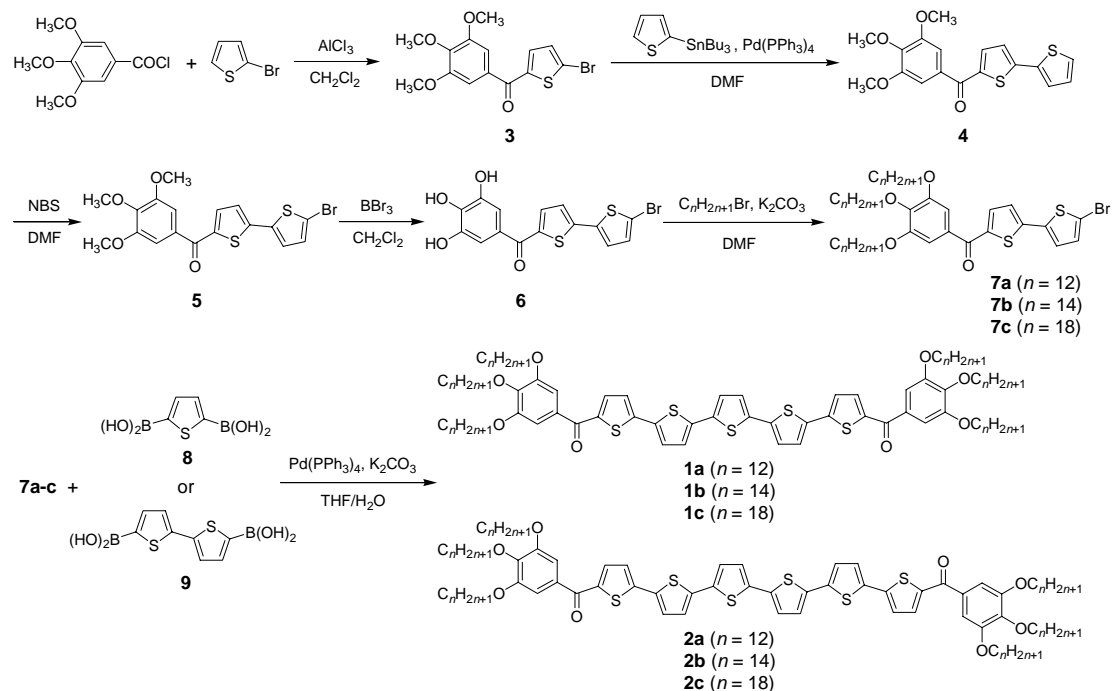
## Columnar Liquid Crystalline $\pi$ -Conjugated Oligothiophenes

Takuma Yasuda, Kenji Kishimoto and Takashi Kato\*

### Experimental Details:

**Materials and Syntheses.** All reagents and solvents were purchased from Aldrich or Tokyo Kasei, and used as received.  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  was obtained according to the literature.<sup>1</sup> Thiophene-2,5-diboronic acid (**8**) and 2,2'-bithiophene-5,5'-diboronic acid (**9**) were prepared by similar procedures reported in the literature.<sup>2</sup> The synthetic routes used to obtain compounds **1a-c** and **2a-c** are shown in Scheme S1. All reactions were performed under an Ar atmosphere using standard Schlenk techniques.

**Scheme S1.** Synthetic routes of liquid crystalline oligothiophenes.



**2-Bromo-5-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoyl)thiophene (3).** To a stirred mixture of 3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoyl chloride (20.8 g, 90 mmol) and 2-bromothiophene (15.3 g, 94 mmol) in dry CH<sub>2</sub>Cl<sub>2</sub> (200 mL) was slowly added AlCl<sub>3</sub> (13.2 g, 99 mmol) at 0 °C under an Ar atmosphere. Thereafter, the mixture was stirred for 3 h at room temperature. The reaction mixture was added into an aqueous hydrochloric acid (ca. 5%), and the product was extracted with CHCl<sub>3</sub> three times. The combined organic layers were washed with water, and dried over anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration and evaporation, the crude product was purified by column chromatography (silica, CHCl<sub>3</sub>) and dried under vacuum to afford **3** as a light-yellow solid (yield = 21.8 g, 68%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.45 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.16 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.10 (s, 2H), 3.94 (s, 3H), 3.92 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 185.87, 153.06, 144.77, 142.05, 134.54, 132.42, 131.08, 122.92, 106.65, 60.99, 56.32.

**5-(3,4,5-Trimethoxybenzoyl)-2,2'-bithiophene (4).** To a solution of **3** (14.3 g, 40 mmol) and 2-tributylstannylthiophene (16.4 g, 44 mmol) in dry DMF (160 mL) was added Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (1.85 g, 1.6 mmol) at room temperature under an Ar atmosphere. The mixture was stirred for 10 h at 80 °C. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was poured into an aqueous solution (ca. 5%) of KF to obtain a precipitate. The precipitate was filtered off, dissolved in CHCl<sub>3</sub>, and then purified by column chromatography (silica, CHCl<sub>3</sub>). Recrystallization from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane gave **4** as a yellow solid (yield = 12.8 g, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.60 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.38-7.34 (m, 2H), 7.23 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (s, 2H), 7.09 (dd, *J* = 4.8 Hz and 3.6 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.93 (s, 6H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 186.74, 153.02, 146.06, 141.78, 141.39, 136.24, 135.39, 133.14, 128.31, 126.63, 125.76, 124.07, 106.65, 61.00, 56.33.

**5-Bromo-5'-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzoyl)-2,2'-bithiophene (5).** To a solution of **4** (7.21 g, 20 mmol) in dry DMF (150 mL) was slowly added *N*-bromosuccinimide (3.56 g, 20 mmol) at 0 °C under an Ar atmosphere. The mixture was stirred for 10 h at room

temperature, and then poured into a large amount of water. The product was extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  three times. The combined organic layers were washed with water, and dried over anhydrous  $\text{Na}_2\text{SO}_4$ . After filtration and evaporation, the crude product was purified by column chromatography (silica,  $\text{CHCl}_3$ /hexane/ethyl acetate = 5:5:1), and dried under vacuum to afford **5** as a yellow solid (yield = 7.64 g, 87%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.58 (d,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.15 (d,  $J$  = 3.6 Hz, 1H), 7.13 (s, 2H), 7.11 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.04 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 3.95 (s, 3H), 3.92 (s, 6H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  186.60, 153.01, 146.62, 144.68, 141.78, 137.62, 135.22, 132.91, 131.11, 125.77, 124.17, 122.54, 113.55, 106.64, 60.98, 56.31.

**5-Bromo-5'-(3,4,5-trihydroxybenzoyl)-2,2'-bithiophene (6).** To a stirred solution of **5** (7.03 g, 16 mmol) in dry  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$  (150 mL) was added dropwise  $\text{BBR}_3$  (1.0 M in  $\text{CH}_2\text{Cl}_2$ , 53 mL) at 0 °C under an Ar atmosphere. The mixture was allowed to warm to room temperature and stirred for further 4 h. The reaction mixture was then quenched with methanol, and concentrated under reduced pressure. The resulting residue was added into water to obtain a yellow precipitate. The product was collected by filtration, washed with cold methanol,  $\text{CHCl}_3$  and hexane in this order, and dried under vacuum to give **6** as a yellow solid (yield = 6.17 g, 97%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  9.43 (br, 2H), 9.13 (br, 1H), 7.63 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.43 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.39 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.29 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 6.88 (s, 2H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{DMSO}-d_6$ ):  $\delta$  185.18, 145.75, 142.36, 142.04, 138.78, 137.17, 135.05, 132.11, 127.07, 126.88, 125.29, 112.62, 108.80. MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  397.1  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ; calcd 396.9.

**5-Bromo-5'-(3,4,5-tri-*n*-dodecyloxybenzoyl)-2,2'-bithiophene (7a).** A mixture of **6** (2.38 g, 4.0 mmol), 1-bromododecane (4.98 g, 20 mmol), and  $\text{K}_2\text{CO}_3$  (4.15 g, 30 mmol) in dry DMF (30 mL) was vigorously stirred for 20 h at 80 °C under an Ar atmosphere. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was added into an aqueous hydrochloric acid (ca. 5%), and the product was extracted with  $\text{CHCl}_3$  three times. The combined organic layers were washed with brine and water, and dried over

anhydrous Na<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub>. After filtration and evaporation, the product was purified by column chromatography (silica, CHCl<sub>3</sub>/hexane = 2:1, v/v), recrystallized from CHCl<sub>3</sub>/methanol, and dried under vacuum to give **7a** as a light-yellow solid (yield = 4.81 g, 89%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (s, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.07-4.00 (m, 6H), 1.84-1.74 (m, 6H), 1.50-1.22 (m, 54H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 186.73, 152.86, 144.40, 142.19, 142.00, 137.74, 135.10, 132.44, 131.07, 125.65, 124.11, 113.40, 107.94, 73.57, 69.27, 31.92, 31.90, 30.32, 29.73, 29.71, 29.68, 29.63, 29.55, 29.38, 29.35, 29.29, 26.06, 22.66, 14.09. MS (MALDI-TOF): *m/z* 901.6 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; calcd 901.5.

**5-Bromo-5'-(3,4,5-tri-*n*-tetradecyloxybenzoyl)-2,2'-bithiophene (7b).** This compound was prepared in a similar manner to **7a**, and obtained as a light-yellow solid (yield = 91%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (s, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.07-4.00 (m, 6H), 1.84-1.76 (m, 6H), 1.50-1.22 (m, 66H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 186.81, 152.88, 144.44, 142.19, 142.00, 137.74, 135.15, 132.45, 131.09, 125.68, 124.14, 113.43, 107.95, 73.61, 69.29, 31.91, 30.32, 29.76, 29.73, 29.70, 29.66, 29.63, 29.57, 29.39, 29.36, 29.29, 26.06, 22.68, 14.11. MS (MALDI-TOF): *m/z* 985.8 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; calcd 985.6.

**5-Bromo-5'-(3,4,5-tri-*n*-octadecyloxybenzoyl)-2,2'-bithiophene (7c).** This compound was prepared in a similar manner to **7a**, and obtained as a light-yellow solid (yield = 87%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.57 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.14 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.09 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 7.08 (s, 2H), 7.04 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 1H), 4.07-4.00 (m, 6H), 1.84-1.76 (m, 6H), 1.50-1.22 (m, 90H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 9H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 186.81, 152.89, 144.45, 142.20, 142.01, 137.76, 135.16, 132.46, 131.10, 125.69, 124.14, 113.44, 107.96, 73.61, 69.30, 31.92, 30.33, 29.76, 29.74, 29.71, 29.66, 29.63, 29.58, 29.40, 29.36, 29.30, 26.07, 22.69, 14.12. MS

(MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  1154.1  $[M+H]^+$ ; 1153.8.

**1a.** To a solution of **7a** (1.17 g, 1.3 mmol) and **8** (0.10 g, 0.6 mmol) in dry THF (10 mL) were added  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (0.03 g, 0.03 mmol) and aqueous  $K_2CO_3$  (2.0 M, 5 mL; Ar bubbled before use) under an Ar atmosphere. The mixture was stirred for 28 h at 60 °C. After cooling to room temperature, the reaction mixture was poured into water, and extracted with  $CHCl_3$  three times. The combined organic layers were washed with brine and water, and dried over anhydrous  $Na_2SO_4$ . After filtration and evaporation, the product was purified by column chromatography (silica,  $CHCl_3$ ), recrystallized from  $CHCl_3$ /acetone, and dried under vacuum to provide **1a** as an orange solid (yield = 0.86 g, 83%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.60 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.14 (m, 4H), 7.10 (s, 4H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 12H), 1.86-1.75 (m, 12H), 1.49-1.25 (m, 108H), 0.88 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 18H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  186.74, 152.88, 145.14, 142.15, 141.80, 137.80, 136.09, 135.31, 135.28, 132.58, 126.47, 125.04, 124.82, 123.99, 107.95, 73.60, 69.29, 31.94, 31.92, 30.34, 29.75, 29.70, 29.66, 29.63, 29.58, 29.40, 29.36, 29.31, 26.08, 22.69, 14.12. MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  1725.7  $[M+H]^+$ ; calcd 1726.1. Anal. calcd for  $C_{106}H_{164}O_8S_5$ : C, 73.73; H, 9.57%; found: C, 73.49; H, 9.72%.

**1b.** This compound was prepared from **7b** (1.28 g, 1.3 mmol), **8** (0.10 g, 0.6 mmol), and  $Pd(PPh_3)_4$  (0.03 g, 0.03 mmol) by adopting the procedure used for **1a**, and was obtained as an orange solid (yield = 1.05 g, 92%).  $^1H$  NMR (400 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.60 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d,  $J$  = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.14 (m, 4H), 7.10 (s, 4H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 12H), 1.85-1.75 (m, 12H), 1.50-1.24 (m, 132H), 0.88 (t,  $J$  = 6.8 Hz, 18H).  $^{13}C\{^1H\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $CDCl_3$ ):  $\delta$  186.69, 152.90, 145.13, 142.15, 141.79, 137.80, 136.07, 135.29, 135.26, 132.57, 126.45, 125.02, 124.79, 123.97, 107.94, 73.58, 69.28, 31.92, 30.34, 29.74, 29.71, 29.68, 29.67, 29.63, 29.58, 29.40, 29.38, 29.36, 29.31, 26.08, 22.68, 14.11. MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  1894.4  $[M+H]^+$ ; calcd 1894.3. Anal. calcd for  $C_{118}H_{188}O_8S_5$ : C, 74.79; H, 10.00%; found: C, 74.63; H,

10.20%.

**1c.** This compound was prepared from **7c** (1.50 g, 1.3 mmol), **8** (0.10 g, 0.6 mmol), and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.03 g, 0.03 mmol) by adopting the procedure used for **1a**, and was obtained as an orange solid (yield = 0.96 g, 72%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.60 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.14 (m, 4H), 7.10 (s, 4H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 12H), 1.85-1.75 (m, 12H), 1.49-1.22 (m, 180H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 18H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 186.73, 152.89, 145.15, 142.14, 141.80, 137.80, 136.09, 135.32, 135.27, 132.59, 126.47, 125.04, 124.81, 123.99, 107.94, 73.61, 69.32, 31.92, 30.35, 29.76, 29.74, 29.72, 29.66, 29.64, 29.59, 29.41, 29.36, 29.32, 26.07, 22.69, 14.12. MS (MALDI-TOF): *m/z* 2230.9 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; calcd 2230.7. Anal. calcd for C<sub>142</sub>H<sub>236</sub>O<sub>8</sub>S<sub>5</sub>: C, 76.42; H, 10.66%; found: C, 76.30; H, 10.81%.

**2a.** This compound was prepared from **7a** (1.17 g, 1.3 mmol), **9** (0.15 g, 0.6 mmol), and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.03 g, 0.03 mmol) by adopting the procedure used for **1a**, and was obtained as a reddish purple solid (yield = 0.86 g, 80%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.15-7.11 (m, 6H), 7.10 (s, 4H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 12H), 1.85-1.75 (m, 12H), 1.50-1.25 (m, 108H), 0.88 (t, *J* = 6.8 Hz, 18H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 186.71, 152.88, 145.21, 142.15, 141.73, 137.94, 136.38, 135.68, 135.32, 135.13, 132.59, 126.46, 125.02, 124.66, 123.95, 107.96, 73.60, 69.30, 31.94, 31.92, 30.34, 29.75, 29.70, 29.66, 29.63, 29.58, 29.39, 29.36, 29.31, 26.08, 22.68, 14.11. MS (MALDI-TOF): *m/z* 1808.4 [M+H]<sup>+</sup>; calcd 1808.1. Anal. calcd for C<sub>110</sub>H<sub>166</sub>O<sub>8</sub>S<sub>6</sub>: C, 73.04; H, 9.25%; found: C, 72.81; H, 9.35%.

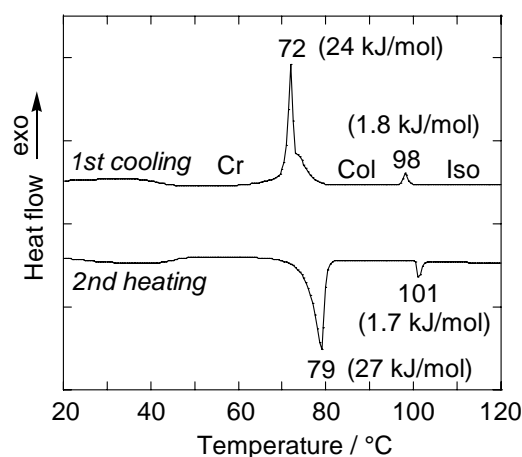
**2b.** This compound was prepared from **7b** (1.28 g, 1.3 mmol), **9** (0.15 g, 0.6 mmol), and Pd(PPh<sub>3</sub>)<sub>4</sub> (0.03 g, 0.03 mmol) by adopting the procedure used for **1a**, and was obtained as a reddish purple solid (yield = 1.08 g, 91%). <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.59 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.27 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d, *J* = 4.0 Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.11

(m, 6H), 7.10 (s, 4H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 12H), 1.85-1.75 (m, 12H), 1.50-1.24 (m, 132H), 0.88 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 18H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  186.74, 152.89, 145.22, 142.16, 141.75, 137.95, 136.40, 135.69, 135.32, 135.15, 132.60, 126.47, 125.03, 124.69, 123.96, 107.98, 73.61, 69.31, 31.93, 30.35, 29.75, 29.72, 29.69, 29.67, 29.64, 29.59, 29.41, 29.39, 29.37, 29.31, 26.08, 22.69, 14.12. MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  1976.9  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ; calcd 1976.3. Anal. calcd for  $\text{C}_{122}\text{H}_{190}\text{O}_8\text{S}_6$ : C, 74.11; H, 9.69%; found: C, 74.00; H, 9.85%.

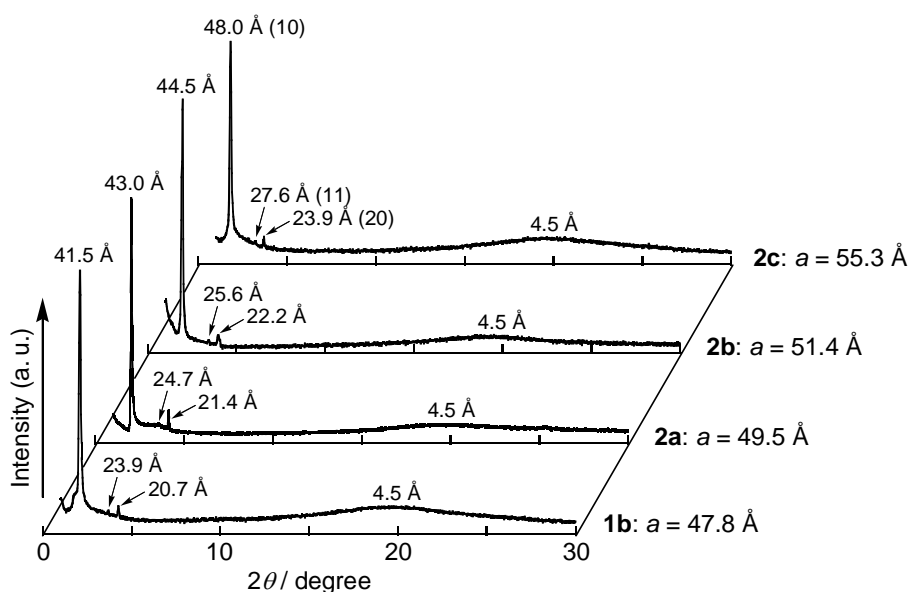
**2c.** This compound was prepared from **7c** (1.50 g, 1.3 mmol), **9** (0.15 g, 0.6 mmol), and  $\text{Pd}(\text{PPh}_3)_4$  (0.03 g, 0.03 mmol) by adopting the procedure used for **1a**, and was obtained as a reddish purple solid (yield = 1.02 g, 73%).  $^1\text{H}$  NMR (400 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  7.59 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.28 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.21 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.16-7.12 (m, 6H), 7.10 (s, 4H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 12H), 1.85-1.75 (m, 12H), 1.49-1.24 (m, 180H), 0.88 (t,  $J = 6.4$  Hz, 18H).  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR (100 MHz,  $\text{CDCl}_3$ ):  $\delta$  186.73, 152.89, 145.21, 142.19, 141.76, 137.95, 136.41, 135.69, 135.31, 135.16, 132.62, 126.47, 125.04, 124.69, 123.96, 107.99, 73.61, 69.32, 31.92, 30.35, 29.76, 29.74, 29.72, 29.67, 29.64, 29.58, 29.40, 29.36, 29.31, 26.07, 22.69, 14.12. MS (MALDI-TOF):  $m/z$  2313.2  $[\text{M}+\text{H}]^+$ ; calcd 2312.7. Anal. calcd for  $\text{C}_{146}\text{H}_{238}\text{O}_8\text{S}_6$ : C, 75.79; H, 10.37%; found: C, 75.64; H, 10.51%.

**Instrumentation.**  $^1\text{H}$  and  $^{13}\text{C}\{^1\text{H}\}$  NMR spectra were recorded on a JEOL JNM-LA400 spectrometer. Mass spectra were obtained with a PerSeptive Biosystems Voyager-DE STR spectrometer. Elemental analyses were carried out with a Yanaco MT-6 CHN autocorder. Differential scanning calorimetry (DSC) measurements were performed on a NETZSCH DSC204 Phoenix calorimeter at a scanning rate of  $5\text{ }^\circ\text{C min}^{-1}$ . A polarizing optical microscope Olympus BH-51 equipped with Mettler FP82 HT hot stage was used for visual observation. FT-IR measurements were conducted on a JASCO FT/IR-660 Plus spectrometer equipped with a JASCO IRT-30 microscope

and a Mettler FP82 HT hot-stage. Oriented samples were prepared by mechanically shearing polydomain samples in sandwiched KBr crystals or glass pates.<sup>3</sup> X-ray diffraction (XRD) patterns were obtained using a Rigaku RINT-2500 diffractometer with a heating stage using Ni-filtered CuK $\alpha$  radiation. UV-vis absorption and photoluminescence (PL) spectra were measured with a Agilent 8453 and a JASCO FP-777W spectrometers, respectively. The excitation wavelength used was that of the UV-vis absorption maximum of each sample.

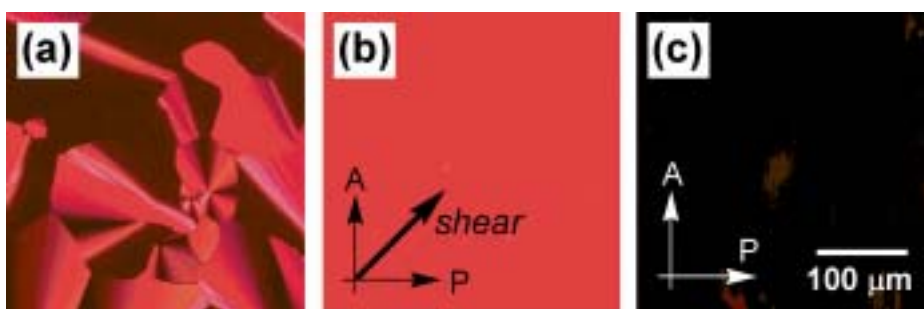


**Fig. S1** DSC thermogram of **1a** at a scanning rate of 5 °C min<sup>-1</sup>.

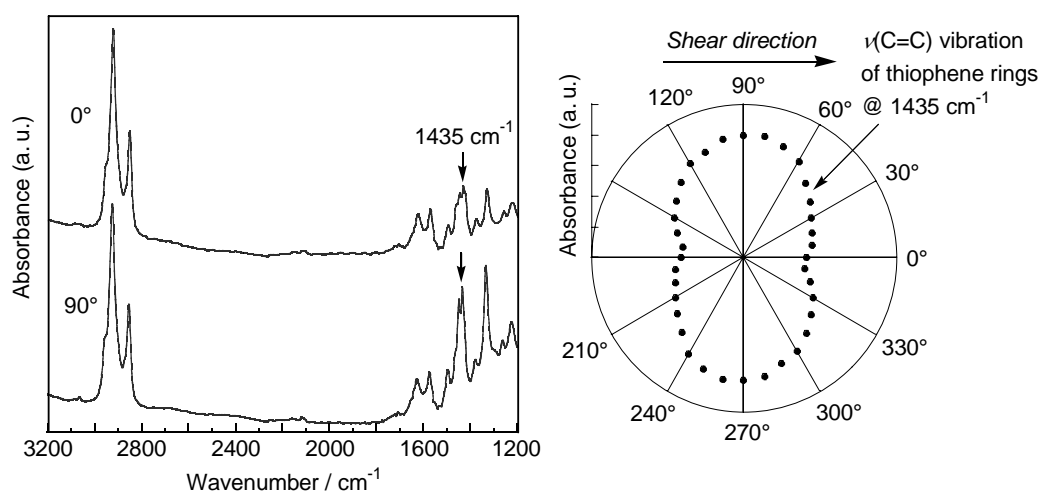


**Fig. S2** X-ray diffraction patterns of **1b** at 90 °C and **2a-c** at 105 °C in Col<sub>h</sub> phases.



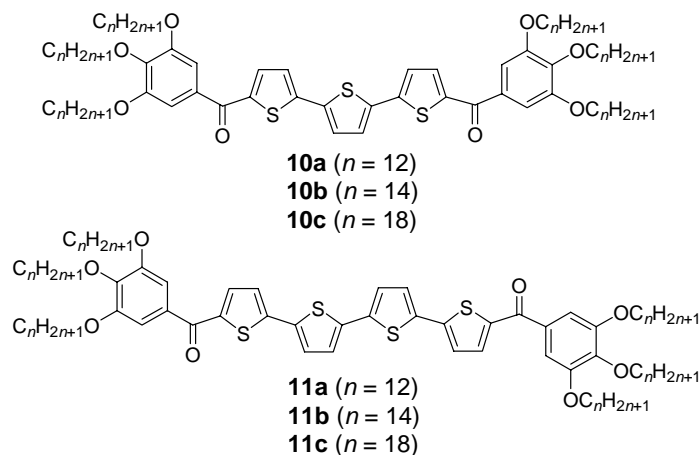


**Fig. S3** Polarised optical photomicrographs of **2c** in the Col<sub>h</sub> phase at 105 °C: (a) before shearing; (b) and (c) after shearing. The birefringence of the sample is extinguished when the shearing direction is aligned with the polariser (P) and analyzer (A) axes.



**Fig. S4** Polarised IR spectra and polar plots of absorbance at 1435 cm<sup>-1</sup> (aromatic C=C stretching vibration) with different polarisation angles for the uniaxially oriented **1a** in the Col<sub>h</sub> phase.

**Scheme S2.** Structures of analogous non-mesomorphic compounds.



**Table S1** Thermal properties of **10a-c** and **11a-c**

Compound	Phase transition behaviour <sup>a</sup>			
<b>10a</b>	Cr	88	Iso	
<b>10b</b>	Cr	71	Cr'	79 Iso
<b>10c</b>	Cr	84	Iso	
<b>11a</b>	Cr	94	Cr'	101 Iso
<b>11b</b>	Cr	103	Iso	
<b>11c</b>	Cr	102	Iso	

<sup>a</sup> Transition temperatures (°C) determined by DSC (second heating; 5 °C min<sup>-1</sup>). Cr: crystalline; Iso: isotropic.

**Selected data: 10a.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.60 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.31 (s, 2H), 7.25 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.10 (s, 4H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 12H), 1.86-1.75 (m, 12H), 1.49-1.25 (m, 108H), 0.88 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 18H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR (100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 186.74, 152.91, 144.63, 142.33, 142.26, 137.07, 135.22, 132.47, 126.58, 124.45, 108.00, 73.61, 69.32, 31.94, 31.92, 30.34, 29.75, 29.70, 29.66, 29.63, 29.58, 29.40, 29.36, 29.31, 26.08, 22.69, 14.12. Anal. calcd for C<sub>98</sub>H<sub>160</sub>O<sub>8</sub>S<sub>3</sub>: C, 75.33; H, 10.32%; found: C, 75.17; H, 10.46%.

**11a.** <sup>1</sup>H NMR (400 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>): δ 7.60 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.29 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.22 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.18 (d,  $J = 4.0$  Hz, 2H), 7.10 (s, 4H), 4.08-4.01 (m, 12H), 1.85-1.75 (m, 12H), 1.49-1.25 (m, 108H), 0.88 (t,  $J = 6.8$  Hz, 18H). <sup>13</sup>C{<sup>1</sup>H} NMR

(100 MHz, CDCl<sub>3</sub>):  $\delta$  186.73, 152.89, 145.00, 142.19, 141.94, 137.49, 135.68, 135.28, 132.54, 126.47, 125.17, 124.10, 107.98, 73.61, 69.31, 31.93, 30.91, 30.34, 29.75, 29.69, 29.65, 29.63, 29.57, 29.39, 29.36, 29.31, 26.08, 22.68, 14.11. Anal. calcd for C<sub>102</sub>H<sub>162</sub>O<sub>8</sub>S<sub>4</sub>: C, 74.49; H, 9.93%; found: C, 74.34; H, 10.08%.

## References

- 1 D. R. Coulson, *Inorg. Synth.*, 1972, **13**, 121.
- 2 (a) T. Olinga, S. Destri and W. Porzio, *Macromol. Chem. Phys.*, 1997, **198**, 1091;  
(b) M. Jayakannan, J. L. J. van Dongen and R. A. J. Janssen, *Macromolecules*, 2001, **34**, 5386.
- 3 M. Yoshio, T. Mukai, H. Ohno and T. Kato, *J. Am. Chem. Soc.*, 2004, **126**, 994.