

## Supplementary Information for

### **The conformation and orientational order of a 1,2-disubstituted ethane nematogenic molecule (I22) in liquid crystalline and isotropic phases**

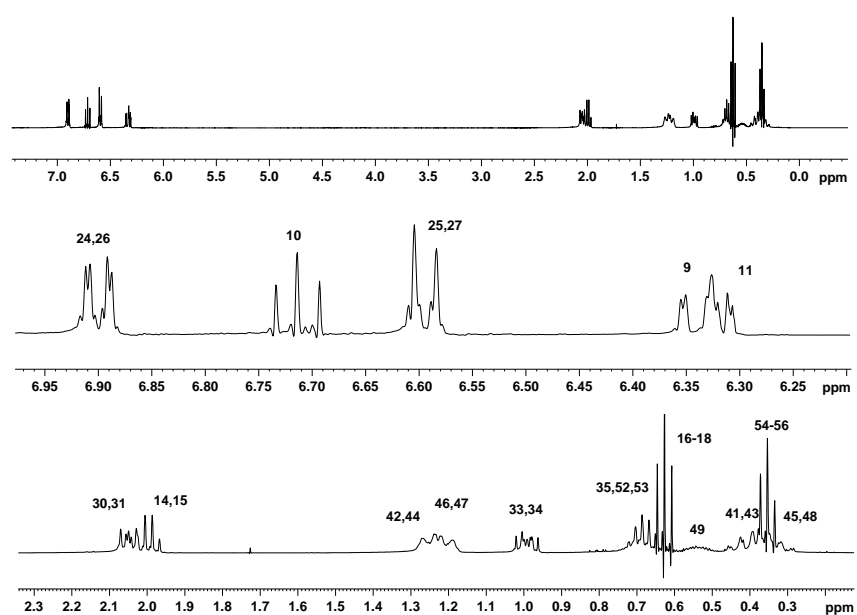
#### **studied by NMR spectroscopy**

by

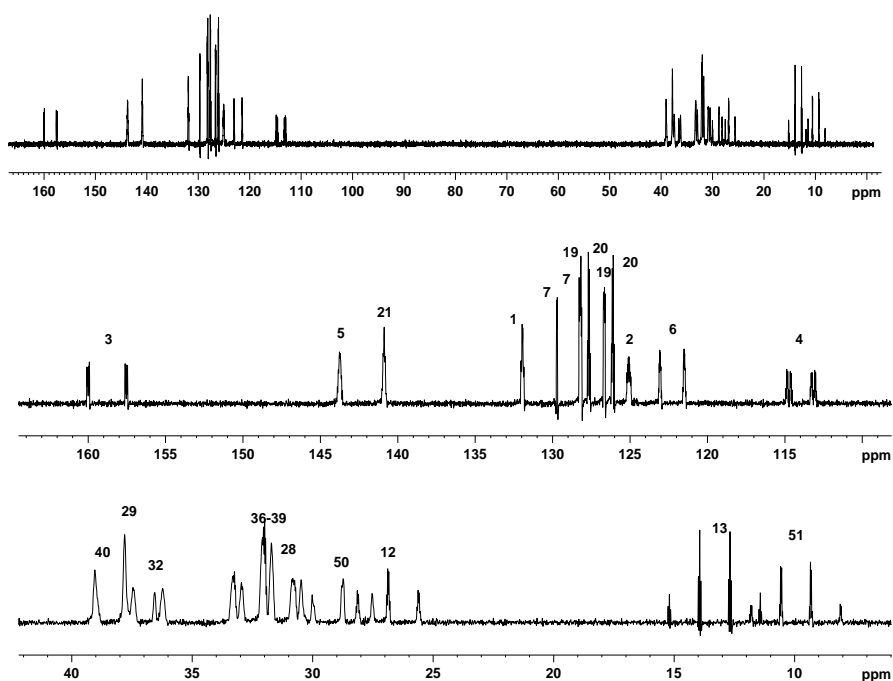
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**Figure S1.** 400 MHz  $^1\text{H}$  spectrum of a sample of **I22** in the isotropic phase at 373 K. The spectrum is the result of Fourier transforming 16 free induction decays using 16K data points. Gaussian apodisation was applied.



**Figure S2.** 100 MHz  $^{13}\text{C}$  spectrum of a sample of **I22** in the isotropic phase at 373 K. The spectrum is the result of Fourier transforming 2048 free induction decays using 16K data points. A zero filling to 64K data points and a Gaussian apodisation was applied prior to Fourier transformation.

**Table S1.** The bond lengths,  $r_{ij}$ , the bond angles,  $\theta_{ijk}$ , and dihedral angles,  $\phi_{ijks}$ , of **I22** calculated by the DFT method B3LYP/6-31G\*.

$i$	$j$	$r_{ij}/\text{\AA}$	$k$	$\theta_{ijk}/^\circ$	$s$	$\phi_{ijks}/^\circ$
2	1	1.484				
3	2	1.402	1	123.05		
4	3	1.388	2	123.30	1	179.08
5	4	1.399	3	120.23	2	-0.06
6	5	1.401	4	117.81	3	0.19
7	2	1.406	3	115.53	4	-0.13
8	3	1.355	2	119.40	1	-0.46
9	4	1.086	3	118.45	2	180.19
10	7	1.086	2	118.43	1	2.55
11	6	1.087	5	119.54	4	179.03
12	5	1.514	4	120.83	3	181.83
13	12	1.540	5	112.81	4	88.33
14	12	1.097	5	109.38	13	121.70
15	12	1.097	5	109.60	13	-121.86
16	13	1.096	12	110.85	5	179.89
17	13	1.096	12	111.01	5	-59.94
18	13	1.096	12	110.98	5	59.71
19	1	1.405	2	121.97	3	40.57
20	19	1.392	1	120.84	2	178.81
21	20	1.401	19	121.47	1	0.33
22	21	1.400	20	117.64	19	-0.37
23	22	1.393	21	121.20	20	0.26
24	19	1.084	1	119.64	2	-0.60
25	20	1.088	19	119.18	1	180.56
26	23	1.087	1	119.46	2	2.34
27	22	1.088	21	119.45	20	179.79
28	21	1.513	20	121.02	19	177.25
29	28	1.544	21	112.34	20	-86.22
30	28	1.098	21	109.60	29	121.15
31	28	1.097	21	109.43	29	-122.28
32	29	1.540	28	115.20	21	175.16
33	29	1.100	28	108.99	32	123.46
34	29	1.099	28	108.21	32	-121.85
35	32	1.103	29	107.78	33	182.20
36	32	1.541	29	113.32	35	118.91
37	32	1.541	29	110.58	35	-117.19
38	36	1.538	32	112.25	37	53.80
39	37	1.536	32	112.53	36	-54.03
40	38	1.540	36	112.04	32	-55.71
41	36	1.101	32	108.78	35	176.02
42	36	1.097	32	110.49	35	59.56
43	37	1.101	32	108.84	35	183.99
44	37	1.098	32	109.70	35	-60.10

45	38	1.101	36	108.88	32	65.69
46	38	1.099	36	109.85	32	181.82
47	39	1.099	37	109.96	32	178.22
48	39	1.100	37	108.92	32	-65.54
49	40	1.103	38	106.80	36	-60.28
50	40	1.540	38	113.35	36	179.89
51	50	1.533	40	116.40	38	171.70
52	50	1.100	40	108.97	51	123.25
53	50	1.099	40	108.40	51	-121.92
54	51	1.096	50	110.92	40	183.21
55	51	1.097	50	111.11	54	119.61
56	51	1.097	50	112.06	54	-119.94

**Table S2.** The local interaction parameters,  $\varepsilon_{ij}(\text{ring}I,N)/RT$ , the bond lengths,  $r_{ij}/\text{\AA}$ , and bond angles.  $\theta_{ijk}/^\circ$  obtained by fitting calculated to observed dipolar couplings within the fluorinated aromatic ring in **I22** when the sample is in the nematic phase at 293 K. The bond lengths and angles optimised for the non-fluorinated ring are also given.

Interaction parameters /RT

$\varepsilon_{12}$	$(\text{ring}I,N)$	$3.72 \pm 0.090$
$\varepsilon_{3,7}$	$(\text{ring}I,N)$	$0.055 \pm 0.025$
$\varepsilon_{3,8}$	$(\text{ring}I,N)$	$0.045 \pm 0.051$

Geometrical parameters

$r_{3,8} =$	$1.393 \pm 0.016$
$r_{6,11} =$	$1.097 \pm 0.013$
$r_{7,10} =$	$1.071 \pm 0.010$
$r_{19,24} = r_{23,26}$	$1.073 \pm 0.009$
$r_{20,25} = r_{22,27}$	$1.074 \pm 0.016$
$\theta_{8,3,2}$	$119.9 \pm 0.5$
$\theta_{9,4,3}$	$119.6 \pm 0.3$
$\theta_{11,6,5}$	$119.9 \pm 0.5$
$\theta_{10,7,2}$	$117.3 \pm 0.4$
$\theta_{24,19,1} = \theta_{26,23,1}$	$119.5 \pm 0.1$

**Table S3.** Local interaction parameters obtained for the fluorinated ring in **I22** in the chiral nematic phase,  $\varepsilon_{ij}(\text{ring1}, \text{Ch})$ , and in the isotropic phase,  $\varepsilon_{ij}(\text{ring1}, \text{iso})$ .

$\varepsilon_{1,2}(\text{ring1}, \text{Ch})/RT$	$\varepsilon_{3,7}(\text{ring1}, \text{Ch})/RT$	$\varepsilon_{3,8}(\text{ring1}, \text{Ch})/RT$
$0.097 \pm 0.004$	$-0.011 \pm 0.007$	$0.007 \pm 0.004$
$\varepsilon_{1,2}(\text{ring1}, \text{iso})/RT$	$\varepsilon_{3,7}(\text{ring1}, \text{iso})/RT$	$\varepsilon_{3,8}(\text{ring1}, \text{iso})/RT$
$0.097 \pm 0.004$	$-0.011 \pm 0.007$	$0.007 \pm 0.004$

**Table S4.** The local interaction,  $\varepsilon_{i,j}(\text{ring-ethyl}, N)/RT$ , and geometrical parameters for the ring-ethyl fragment of **I22** obtained by fitting calculated to observed residual dipolar couplings for the nematic phase at 293 K.

*Interaction parameters*

$\varepsilon_{1,2}(\text{ring-ethyl}, N)/RT$	$3.53 \pm 0.02$
$\varepsilon_{5,13}(\text{ring-ethyl}, N)/RT$	$0.87 \pm 0.04$
$\varepsilon_{14,15}(\text{ring-ethyl}, N)/RT$	$0.67 \pm 0.2$
$\varepsilon_{3,8}(\text{ring-ethyl}, N)/RT$	$-0.02 \pm 0.03$

*Geometric parameters*

$\theta_{5,12,13} / ^\circ$	$115.7 \pm 0.2$
$\theta_{14,12,5} / ^\circ$	$109.6 \pm 0.1$
$\delta_{14,12,5,13} / ^\circ$	$119.6 \pm 0.1$

**Table S5.** The local interaction coefficients,  $\varepsilon_{ij}(\text{ethane1}, N)/RT$ , and the geometrical parameters obtained by fitting calculated to observed residual dipolar couplings to the rigid fragment ethane1 of **I22** in the nematic phase.

$r_{28,30} = r_{28,31} / \text{\AA}$	1.111
$\theta_{30,28,21} = \theta_{31,28,21} / ^\circ$	111.2
$\varepsilon_{21,26}(\text{ethane1}, N)/RT$	4.58
$\varepsilon_{21,27}(\text{ethane1}, N)/RT$	2.42
$\varepsilon_{30,31}(\text{ethane1}, N)/RT$	3.46

**Table S6.** The local interaction coefficients,  $\varepsilon_{ij}(\text{ethane2}, N)/RT$  obtained by fitting calculated to observed residual dipolar couplings to the rigid fragment ethane2 of **I22** in the nematic phase.

$\varepsilon_{21,28}(\text{ethane2}, N)/RT$	$3.74 \pm 0.04$
$\varepsilon_{21,29}(\text{ethane2}, N)/RT$	$1.6 \pm 0.5$
$\varepsilon_{30,31}(\text{ethane2}, N)/RT$	$0.95 \pm 0.03$
$\varepsilon_{28,32}(\text{ethane2}, N)/RT$	$0.48 \pm 0.53$

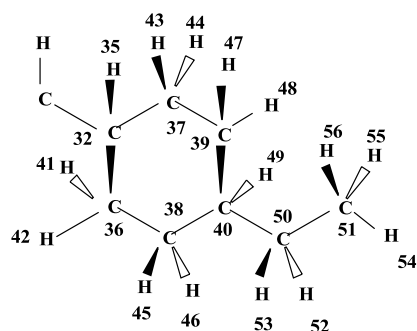
**Table S7.** The local interaction coefficients,  $\varepsilon_{ij}(\text{cyclo},N)/RT$ , and the geometrical parameters obtained by fitting calculated to observed residual dipolar couplings for the rigid cyclohexane fragment in the nematic phase at 293 K.

$r_{36,41}=r_{37,43}$	$1.106 \pm 0.001 \text{ \AA}$
$r_{36,42} = r_{37,44}$	$1.108 \pm 0.009 \text{ \AA}$
$r_{38,45} = r_{39,48}$	$1.108 \pm 0.001 \text{ \AA}$
$r_{38,46} = r_{39,47}$	$1.097 \pm 0.009 \text{ \AA}$
$r_{40,49}$	$1.104 \pm 0.001 \text{ \AA}$
$\delta_{49,40,38,36}$	$-64.2^\circ$
$\varepsilon_{29,32}(\text{cyclo},N)/RT$	$0.4 \pm 0.1$
$\varepsilon_{32,35}(\text{cyclo},N)/RT$	$-2.83 \pm 0.06$
$\varepsilon_{36,37}(\text{cyclo},N)/RT$	$-4.6 \pm 0.5$

**Table S8.** The local interaction coefficients,  $\varepsilon_{ij}(\text{cyclo-ethane},N)/RT$  obtained by fitting calculated to observed residual dipolar couplings to the cyclohexyl-ethane fragment of **I22** in the nematic phase at 293 K.

$\varepsilon_{21,28}(\text{cyclo-ethane},N)$	$1.24 \pm 0.08$
$\varepsilon_{21,29}(\text{cyclo-ethane},N)$	$0.6 \pm 0.1$
$\varepsilon_{30,31}(\text{cyclo-ethane},N)$	$1.3 \pm 0.2$
$\varepsilon_{33,34}(\text{cyclo-ethane},N)$	$-2.71 \pm 0.03$
$\varepsilon_{28,32}(\text{cyclo-ethane},N)$	$-4.5 \pm 0.1$

**Table S9.** The local interaction coefficients,  $\varepsilon_{ij}(\text{cyclo-ethyl},N)/RT$  obtained by fitting calculated to observed residual dipolar couplings to the fragment of **I22** in the nematic phase.



$\varepsilon_{29,32}(\text{cyclo-ethyl},N)$	$2.0 \pm 0.3$
$\varepsilon_{32,35}(\text{cyclo-ethyl},N)$	$-1.93 \pm 0.06$
$\varepsilon_{36,37}(\text{cyclo-ethyl},N)$	$-3.5 \pm 0.1$
$\varepsilon_{40,51}(\text{cyclo-ethyl},N)$	$1.6 \pm 0.3$
$\varepsilon_{52,53}(\text{cyclo-ethyl},N)$	$2.7 \pm 0.5$
$\theta_{50,40,38} / ^\circ$	$115. \pm 1$
$\theta_{51,50,40} / ^\circ$	$117.9 \pm 0.1$