

Contents

Preface	v
Introduction	xiii
1 Liquid Crystalline State	1
1.1 Structure of Liquid Crystal Phases	1
1.1.1 Molecules	1
1.1.2 Thermotropic Mesophases Formed by Achiral Rod-Like Molecules	2
1.1.3 Thermotropic Chiral Mesophases	9
1.1.4 Mesophases of Disc-Like and Lath-Like Molecules	12
1.1.5 Polymer Liquid Crystals	16
1.1.6 Lyotropic Liquid Crystals	17
1.2 Mixtures	19
1.2.1 Nematic Eutectics	19
1.2.2 Reentrant Phases	20
1.2.3 Mixtures of Smectics	21
1.2.4 Nemato-Cholesteric Compositions	23
1.2.5 Ferroelectric Mixtures	24
1.3 Liquid Crystalline Materials	26
1.3.1 Chemical Classes	26
1.3.2 Chemical Structure and Transition Temperatures	30
1.3.3 Materials	35
1.4 Direct Influence of an Electric Field on the Structure of Liquid Crystals	38
1.4.1 Field-Induced Shifts of the Phase Transition Temperatures	39
1.4.2 Influence of the Field on the Order Parameters	40
1.4.3 Field-Induced Changes in Symmetry	40
References	42

2	Properties of the Materials	47
2.1	Dielectric Permittivity	48
2.1.1	Isotropic Liquids	48
2.1.2	Dielectric Anisotropy of Nematics	50
2.1.3	Nematic Mixtures	54
2.1.4	Other Phases	55
2.2	Electrical Conductivity	57
2.2.1	Dependence on Impurity Concentration	57
2.2.2	Conductivity Anisotropy	58
2.3	Optical Anisotropy and Dichroism	61
2.3.1	Optical Anisotropy	61
2.3.2	Dichroism	64
2.4	Viscoelastic Properties	68
2.4.1	Elasticity	68
2.4.2	Viscosity	78
2.4.3	Diffusion Coefficients	89
	References	91
3	Surface Phenomena	97
3.1	Structure of Surface Layers	97
3.1.1	Surface-Induced Changes in the Orientational Order Parameter	98
3.1.2	Surface-Induced Smectic Ordering	101
3.1.3	Polar Surface Order and Surface Polarization	103
3.2	Surface Energy	106
3.2.1	Wetting of a Solid Substrate	106
3.2.2	Surface Energy and Anchorage of a Nematic Liquid Crystal	107
3.2.3	Techniques for Measuring Anchoring Energies	111
3.3	Cells and Orientation	120
3.3.1	Electrooptical Cells	120
3.3.2	Liquid Crystal Orientation	122
3.3.3	Anchoring Transitions	126
	References	127
4	Electrooptical Effects Due to the Uniform Distortion of Nematic Liquid Crystals	133
4.1	Electrically Controlled Birefringence	135
4.1.1	Director Distribution	135
4.1.2	Tilted Directors at the Boundaries	138
4.1.3	Different Geometries. Simultaneous Action of Electric and Magnetic Fields	139
4.1.4	Effect of Electrical Conductivity	142
4.1.5	The Frederiks Transition for a Weak Anchoring at the Boundaries	143

4.1.6	Dynamics of the Frederiks Transition	144
4.1.7	The Frederiks Transition in Ferronematic Liquid Crystals	148
4.1.8	Optical Characteristics of the Electrically Controlled Birefringence Effect	148
4.2	Twist-Effect	154
4.2.1	Preparation of Twist Cells, Optical Properties at Zero Field	156
4.2.2	Transmission-Voltage Curve for Normal Light Incidence	159
4.2.3	Electrooptics of the Twist Cell for Oblique Incidence	163
4.2.4	Matrix Addressed Displays and Multiplexing Capability of Twist-Effect Materials	166
4.2.5	Dynamics of the Twist Effect	170
4.2.6	New Possibilities	171
4.3	Supertwist Effects	173
4.4	"Guest-Host" Effect	182
4.4.1	Change in Intensity of the Coloring	182
4.4.2	Colorimetry of "Guest-Host" Displays	184
4.4.3	Color Switching	188
4.4.4	Change in Fluorescence	189
4.5	The Flexoelectric Effect	190
4.5.1	Physical Reasons	190
4.5.2	Static Flexoelectric Distortion in Different Geometries; Determination of Flexoelectric Moduli	191
4.5.3	Dynamics of the Flexoelectric Effect	196
4.5.4	Microscopic Approach to Determination of the Flexoelectric Coefficients	198
4.6	Reflectivity in an Electric Field	200
4.6.1	Optical Properties of Nontwisted Nematic Layers	200
4.6.2	Various Techniques	204
4.7	Field Behavior of the Isotropic Phase	205
4.7.1	The Kerr Effect in the Isotropic Phase	206
4.7.2	Reorientation of Surface Quasi-Nematic Layers	207
4.8	Electric Field Effects in Nematic Polymers	209
4.8.1	Thermotropic Mesophases	209
4.8.2	Lyotropic Polymers	212
4.9	Electrooptical Properties of Polymer Dispersed Liquid Crystal Films	215
	References	220

5 Modulated and Nonuniform Structures in Nematic Liquid Crystals 235

5.1	Orientational Modulated Structures	236
5.1.1	Flexoelectric Domains	236

5.1.2	Dielectric Two-Dimensional Structure in the Frederiks Transition	239
5.1.3	Other Types of Modulated Structures	244
5.2	Electrohydrodynamic Modulated Structures	245
5.2.1	Low-Frequency Limit—The Kapustin–Williams Domains	245
5.2.2	Different Types of Low-Frequency Electrohydrodynamics	253
5.2.3	Electrohydrodynamic Instability in Nematics with Oblique Director Orientation at the Boundaries	254
5.2.4	Electrohydrodynamic Instability: “Chevron” Mode	255
5.2.5	Anisotropic Instabilities for Different Field and Cell Configurations	261
5.2.6	Allowance for Flexoelectricity in Anisotropic Domain Structures	263
5.2.7	High-Frequency Inertia Anisotropic Mode	264
5.2.8	Modulated Structures with Large Periods in Homeotropic Nematics	266
5.2.9	“Isotropic” Mechanism of the Excitation of Electrohydrodynamic Domains	266
5.2.10	Instabilities in Homeotropic Nematics with $\Delta\epsilon > 0$	272
5.2.11	Classification of Threshold Conditions for Different Instabilities in Nematics	274
5.2.12	Electrohydrodynamic Instabilities in Polymer Nematics	275
5.2.13	The Instabilities above the Threshold Voltage. Dynamic Scattering of Light	278
5.3	Nematics in Spatially Nonuniform Fields	283
5.3.1	Homeotropic Orientation	284
5.3.2	Homogeneous Alignment	291
5.3.3	Twist Cells	294
	References	297
6	Electrooptical Properties of Cholesterics and Nonferroelectric Smectics	309
6.1	The Pitch of Helix and the Optical Properties of Cholesterics	309
6.1.1	Textures	309
6.1.2	Methods of Measuring the Pitch	312
6.1.3	Optical Properties of Planar Cholesteric Textures	313
6.1.4	Diffraction on the Focal–Conic Texture	318
6.1.5	Pitch Dependence on Cell Thickness	318
6.2	Field-Induced Dielectric Instabilities of Cholesterics	319
6.2.1	Texture Transitions	319
6.2.2	Instability of the Planar Cholesteric Texture	323

6.2.3	Field Untwisting of a Cholesteric Helix	328
6.2.4	Electrically Switched Bistable Structures	333
6.3	Electrohydrodynamic Instabilities in Cholesterics	336
6.4	Flexoelectric Effects	340
6.4.1	Fast Linear-in-Field Rotation of the Cholesteric Helix	340
6.4.2	Flexoelectric Domains	342
6.5	Electrooptical Effects in Blue Phases	344
6.5.1	Optical Features	344
6.5.2	Field Behavior	346
6.6	Electric Field Behavior of Nonferroelectric Smectics	351
6.6.1	The Frederiks Transition in a Smectic A	351
6.6.2	Dielectrically Induced Texture Transitions	352
6.6.3	The Frederiks Transition in a Smectic C	354
6.6.4	Electrohydrodynamic Instabilities in Smectics A and C	358
	References	360
7	Ferroelectric Liquid Crystals	369
7.1	The Physical Properties of Ferroelectric Liquid Crystals. Methods of Measurement	370
7.1.1	The Symmetry	370
7.1.2	The Microscopic Approach. Ferroelectric Mixtures	370
7.1.3	Physical Parameters	372
7.1.4	Tilt Angle	372
7.1.5	Spontaneous Polarization	373
7.1.6	Flexoelectric Polarization	375
7.1.7	Rotational Viscosity	376
7.1.8	Helix Pitch	378
7.1.9	Dielectric Properties	380
7.1.10	Optical Properties	384
7.1.11	Total Free Energy with Allowance for Anchoring	385
7.2	Electrooptical Effects in Ferroelectric Liquid Crystals	389
7.2.1	The Clark–Lagerwall Effect	389
7.2.2	Deformed Helix Ferroelectric Effect	393
7.2.3	Electroclinic Effect Near the Smectic A $\Rightarrow$ C* Phase Transition	399
7.2.4	Other Electrooptical Effects	402
7.2.5	Orientation of Samples	406
7.2.6	Problems of Bistability Realization	408
7.3	Ferroelectric Liquid Crystal Polymers	412
7.3.1	Introductory Remarks	412
7.3.2	Chemical Structures	413
7.3.3	Ferroelectricity	414
7.3.4	Electrooptical Switching	417

References	419
8 Applications of Electrooptical Liquid Crystalline Materials	431
8.1 Displays	432
8.1.1 Active Matrix Addressed Displays	432
8.1.2 Supertwist Displays for Personal Computers	436
8.1.3 Projection Displays	437
8.1.4 Guest-Host Large Area Information Boards	439
8.1.5 General Trends in Display Applications	439
8.2 Optical Data-Processing Devices	441
8.2.1 Light Valves	441
8.2.2 Modulators, Shutters	443
8.2.3 Deflectors of Light	445
8.2.4 Integrated Optical Devices	445
8.2.5 Matrix Spatial Light Modulators or Controlled Transparencies	446
8.2.6 Liquid Crystal Logic Elements	449
8.2.7 Optical Filtration	450
8.2.8 Application of Polymer Liquid Crystals in Optoelectronics	451
8.3 Other Applications	452
8.3.1 Storage Devices	452
8.3.2 Stereoscopic Liquid Crystal Systems	453
8.3.3 Nondestructive Testing	453
8.3.4 Large Area Glass Light Shutters on Polymer Dispersed Liquid Crystal Films	454
References	455
Index	461