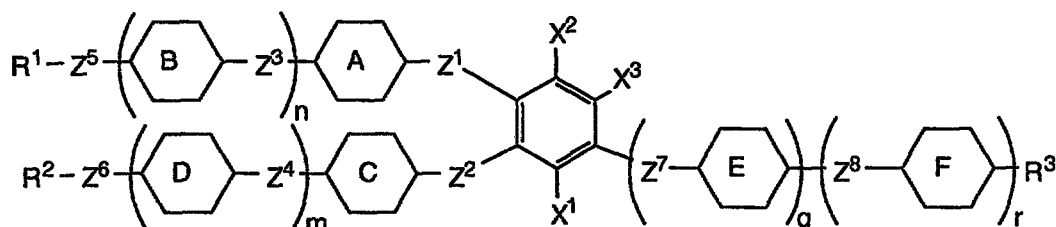


Abstract

5 The present invention is concerned with photo cross-linkable liquid crystalline compounds of the general formula



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I

wherein

rings A - F

each signify pyridine-2,5-diyl, pyrimidine-2,5-diyl, trans-1,4-cyclohexylene, trans-1,3-dioxane-2,5-diyl or independently of one another 1,4-phenylene optionally substituted with halogen, methyl and/or cyano;

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Z¹, Z² and Z⁷

independently of one another signify -CH₂-(CH₂)_s-, -(CH₂)_sO-, -O(CH₂)_s-, -COO-, -OOC-, -(CH₂)_sCOO- or -(CH₂)_sOOC-;

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Z³, Z⁴ and Z⁸

independently of one another signify a single bond, -CH₂CH₂-, -CH₂O-, -OCH₂-, -COO-, -OOC-, -(CH₂)₄-, -O(CH₂)₃- or -(CH₂)₃O-;

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Z⁵ and Z⁶

signify -(CY₂)_s-, -O(CY₂)_s-, -(CY₂)_sO-, -(CY₂)_sCOO-, -(CY₂)_sOOC-, -(Si[(CH₃)₂O]_s)-, -OCH₂(Si[(CH₃)₂O]_s)Si[(CH₃)₂]CH₂O- or -NHCH₂(Si[(CH₃)₂O]_s)Si[(CH₃)₂]CH₂NH-;

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Y
m, n, q and r

signifies hydrogen or fluorine;
independently of one another signify 0, 1 or 2;

s
R¹ and R²

signifies a whole number of 1 to 16;
signify cross-linkable groups of the

5



signifies phenyl;

signifies lower alkyl;

signifies methyl, methoxy, cyano or halogen, with the proviso that R¹-Z⁵ and R²-Z⁶ contain no -O-O- or -N-O- groups; signifies hydrogen, halogen, cyano or an alkyl, alkoxy, alkoxycarbonyl or alkanoyloxy group optionally substituted with methoxy, cyano and/halogen; and independently signify hydrogen, halogen, cyano or lower alkyl,

R3

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x^1, x^2 and x^3

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