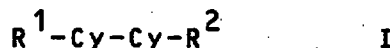




## Description

The invention relates to the use of bicyclohexyls of the formula I



wherein  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  are each alkyl which has 1 - 10 C atoms and in which one or two  $\text{CH}_2$  group(s) can be replaced by O atoms, and Cy is 1,4-cyclohexylene, as components of liquid-crystal dielectrics for electrooptical display elements.

Like similar compounds, for example those known from German Offenlegungsschrift 2,702,598, these substances can be used as components of liquid-crystal dielectrics, in particular for displays which are based on the principle of the twisted cell, the guest-host effect of the deformation of aligned phases or the effect of dynamic scattering.

The invention was based on the object of finding new stable liquid-crystal or mesogenic compounds which are suitable as components of liquid-crystal dielectrics. This object has been achieved by the provision of the compounds of the formula I.

Although general formulae for components of liquid-crystal mixtures which formally embrace the bicyclohexyls of the formula I have already been given in GB-A 2,078,389 and GB-A 2,080,561, the liquid-crystal compounds from the state of the art have at least one structural element which contains  $\pi$ -electrons. It has now been found that the bicyclohexyls of the formula I, which do not have structural elements containing  $\pi$ -electrons, are excellently suitable for use as components of liquid-crystal dielectrics. In particular, it is possible with their aid to produce stable liquid-crystal phases having a relatively low optical anisotropy and having a high nematic character which, in electrooptical display elements based on the principle of the twisted cell and/or the guest-host principle, are distinguished by a particularly advantageous angle dependence of the contrast.

In addition, the provision of the compounds of the formula I broadens considerably, in a very general manner,

the range of liquid-crystal substances which are suitable from a variety of technical aspects relating to use for the production of nematic mixtures.

The compounds of the formula I have a wide range of application. Depending on the choice of the substituents, these compounds can be used as the base materials of which liquid-crystal dielectrics are predominantly composed; it is also possible, however, to add compounds of the formula I to liquid-crystal base materials belonging to other classes of compounds, in order to exert an influence on the optical anisotropy or the angle dependence of the contrast of such a dielectric.

In the pure state, the compounds of the formula I are colourless and form liquid-crystal mesophases within a temperature range which is advantageously situated for electrooptical use. They are very resistant to chemicals, heat and light.

The invention therefore relates to the use of the compounds of the formula I as components of liquid-crystal dielectrics which do not have structural elements containing  $\pi$ -electrons. The invention also relates to liquid-crystal dielectrics containing at least one compound of the formula I and to electrooptical display elements containing dielectrics of this type.

In the preceding and following text, unless anything contrary is expressly recorded, the radicals  $R^1$ ,  $R^2$  and Cy have the meaning indicated.

The invention relates in particular to the use of the bicyclohexyls of the formula I wherein

$R^1$  and  $R^2$  are each alkyl or alkoxy having 1-10 C atoms, 3-oxabutyl (= 2-methoxyethyl), 3-oxapentyl, 4-oxapentyl, 3-, 4- or 5-oxahexyl, 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-oxaheptyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-oxaoctyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-oxanonyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8- or 9-oxadecyl, 1,3-dioxabutyl (= methoxymethoxy), 1,3-, 1,4- or 2,4-dioxapentyl or 1,3-, 1,4-, 1,5-, 2,4-, 2,5- or 3,5-dioxahexyl and

Cy is 1,4-cyclohexylene as components of liquid-crystal dielectrics for electro-

optical display elements.

In the compounds of the formula I, preferred stereoisomers are those wherein the two 1,4-substituents are in each case in the trans-position relative to one another.

The radicals  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  are preferably alkyl having 1 - 10, in particular 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8, C atoms, and also alkoxy or alkoxyethyl each of which has up to 10, preferably 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 or 8, C atoms. They are preferably linear and are therefore preferably propyl, butyl, pentyl, hexyl, heptyl and octyl and also ethoxy, propoxy, butoxy, pentoxy, heptoxy, octoxy, methoxyethyl, ethoxyethyl, propoxyethyl, butoxyethyl, pentoxyethyl, hexoxyethyl and heptoxyethyl, and also methyl, ethyl, nonyl, decyl, methoxy, nonoxy, decoxy, octoxyethyl, nonoxyethyl and other linear oxaalkyl and dioxalkyl groups, such as 3-oxabutyl (= 2-methoxyethyl), 3-oxapentyl, 4-oxapentyl, 3-, 4- or 5-oxahexyl, 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-oxaheptyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-oxaoctyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-oxanonyl, 2-, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8- or 9-oxadecyl, 1,3-dioxabutyl (= methoxymethoxy), 1,3-, 1,4- or 2,4-dioxapentyl or 1,3-, 1,4-, 1,5-, 2,4-, 2,5- or 3,5-dioxahexyl.

Compounds of the formula I having branched wing groups  $R^1$  and/or  $R^2$  can occasionally be of importance owing to improved solubility in the customary liquid-crystal base materials, but can, in particular, be of importance as chiral doping substances if they are optically active. As a rule, branched groups  $R^1$  or  $R^2$  do not contain more than one chain branching.

Branched radicals  $R^1$  or  $R^2$  which are preferred are isopropyl, 1-methylpropyl (sec.-butyl) or 2-methylpropyl (isobutyl), 2-methylbutyl, 3-methylbutyl (isopentyl), 2-methylpentyl, 3-methylpentyl, 1-methylhexyl, 2-ethylhexyl, 2-propylpentyl, 1-methylheptyl, isopropoxy, 2-methylpropoxy, 2-methylbutoxy, 3-methylbutoxy, 2-methylpentoxy, 3-methylpentoxy, 2-ethylhexoxy, 1-methylhexoxy, 1-methylheptoxy, 2-oxa-3-methylbutyl or 3-oxa-4-methylpentyl.

Amongst the compounds of the formula I, preferred compounds are those in which at least one of the radicals  $R^1$  and  $R^2$  has one of the preferred meanings indicated.

Particularly preferred groups of compounds correspond to the formulae Ia and Ib:

Alkyl-Cy-Cy-alkyl Ia

Alkyl-Cy-Cy-alkoxy Ib

wherein the alkyl and alkoxy groups have 1 - 10, preferably 2 - 8, C atoms and are preferably linear, and the two alkyl groups in Ia can be identical or different from one another.

The compounds of the formula I are prepared by methods which are in themselves known, such as are described in the literature (for example in the standard works such as Houben-Weyl, Methoden der Organischen Chemie ("Methods of Organic Chemistry"), Georg-Thieme-Verlag, Stuttgart), namely under reaction conditions which are known and suitable for the reactions mentioned. In this respect it is also possible to make use of variants which are in themselves known but are not mentioned here in detail.

If desired, the starting materials can also be formed in situ in a procedure in which they are not isolated from the reaction mixture, but are immediately reacted further to give the compounds of the formula I.

Suitable reducible groups are preferably carbonyl groups, in particular keto groups and also, for example, aldehyde groups or free or esterified hydroxyl groups. Preferred starting materials for the reduction correspond to the formula I, but contain a cyclohexene or benzene ring instead of a cyclohexane ring and/or contain a -CO- group instead of a -CH<sub>2</sub>- group and/or contain a free or functionally modified OH group (for example an OH group in the form of its p-toluenesulfonate) instead of an H atom.

These starting materials are either known or can be prepared in a manner which is in itself known. Thus phenyl-cyclohexanes of the type  $R^1$ -Cy-Phe- $R^2$  (wherein Phe is a 1,4-phenylene group) are known from German Offenlegungsschrift

2,636,684. Cyano bicyclohexyls of the type  $R^1\text{-Cy-Cy-CN}$  are known from German Offenlegungsschrift 2,702,598. From these it is possible to prepare, by Grignard reactions, ketones of the type  $R^1\text{-Cy-Cy-CO-R}^3$  wherein  $R^3$  is alkyl which has 1 - 9 C atoms and in which one or two  $\text{CH}_2$  group(s) can also be replaced by O atoms. Hydrolysis of the cyano bicyclohexyls gives carboxylic acids of the formula  $R^1\text{-Cy-Cy-COOH}$ , which can be reduced to give carbinols of the formula  $R^1\text{-Cy-Cy-CH}_2\text{OH}$ . Carbinols of the formula  $R^1\text{-Cy-Cy-CHOH-R}^3$  can be obtained by reducing the abovementioned ketones. Reacting 4- $R^1$ -cyclohexanones with Grignard compounds of the formula  $R^2\text{-Cy-MgBr}$  gives, after hydrolysis, 1-(4- $R^2\text{-Cy}$ )-4- $R^1$ -cyclohexanols which can be dehydrated to give 1-(4- $R^2\text{-Cy}$ )-4- $R^1$ -cyclohexenes.

The reduction can be effected, for example, by catalytic hydrogenation at temperatures between about  $0^\circ$  and about  $200^\circ$  and under pressures between about 1 and 200 bar in an inert solvent, for example an alcohol, such as methanol, ethanol or isopropanol, an ether, such as tetrahydrofuran (THF) or dioxane, an ester, such as ethyl acetate, a carboxylic acid, such as acetic acid, or a hydrocarbon, such as cyclohexane. Suitable catalysts are preferably noble metals, such as Pt or Pd, which can be employed in the form of oxides (for example  $\text{PtO}_2$  or  $\text{PdO}$ ) on a support (for example Pd on charcoal, calcium carbonate or strontium carbonate) or in a finely divided form.

Ketones can also be reduced by the methods of Clemmensen (using zinc, amalgamated zinc or tin and hydrochloric acid, preferably in an aqueous-alcoholic solution or in a heterogeneous phase containing water/toluene at temperatures between about  $80^\circ$  and  $120^\circ$ ) or Wolff-Kishner (using hydrazine, preferably in the presence of an alkali, such as KOH or NaOH, in a high-boiling solvent, such as diethylene glycol or triethylene glycol, at temperatures between about  $100^\circ$  and  $200^\circ$ ) to give the corresponding compounds of the formula I containing a  $\text{CH}_2$  group instead of the keto group.

Reduction by means of complex hydrides is also

possible. For example, arylsulfonyloxy groups can be removed reductively using  $\text{LiAlH}_4$ , in particular p-toluenesulfonyloxymethyl groups can be reduced to give methyl groups, preferably in an inert solvent, such as diethyl ether or THF, at temperatures between about 0 and  $100^\circ$ . Double bonds can be hydrogenated by means of  $\text{NaBH}_4$  or tributyltin hydride in methanol.

Ethers of the formula I (wherein at least one of the radicals  $\text{R}^1$  and  $\text{R}^2$  is an alkyl group wherein one or two  $\text{CH}_2$  group(s) have been replaced by O atoms) can be obtained by etherifying corresponding hydroxy compounds.

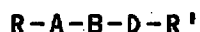
Corresponding hydroxy compounds are either known or can be prepared in a manner which is in itself known. Thus, for example, bicyclohexyl-4-ols of the type  $\text{R}^1\text{-Cy-Cy-OH}$  can be obtained by reducing corresponding ketones, and carbinols of the type  $\text{R}^1\text{-Cy-Cy-(CH}_2)_n\text{-OH}$  wherein n is an integer between 1 and 9 can be obtained by reducing corresponding carboxylic acids.

For the etherification reaction, the hydroxy compound can first be converted into a corresponding metal derivative, for example can be converted by treatment with Na, K, NaH or KH into the corresponding alkali metal alcoholate. The latter can then be reacted with an alkyl halide or sulfonate or a dialkyl sulfate, preferably in the presence of an inert solvent, such as acetone, 1,2-dimethoxyethane, THF, dimethylformamide or dimethyl sulfoxide, at temperatures between about 20 and  $100^\circ$ .

The dielectrics according to the invention consist of 2 to 15, preferably 3 to 12, components, including at least one compound of the formula I. The other constituents are preferably selected from the nematic or nematogenic substances (in particular the known substances) belonging to the classes comprising azoxybenzenes, benzyldeneanilines, biphenyls, terphenyls, phenyl or cyclohexyl benzoates, phenyl or cyclohexyl cyclohexanecarboxylates, phenylcyclohexanes, cyclohexylbiphenyls, cyclohexylcyclohexanes, cyclohexylnaphthalenes, 1,4-bis-hexylbenzenes, 4,4'-bis-cyclohexylbiphenyls, phenylpyrimidines, cyclo-

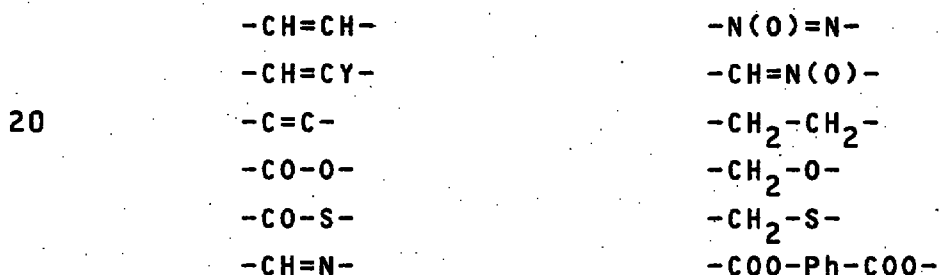
hexylpyrimidines, phenyldioxanes, cyclohexyldioxanes, optionally halogenated stilbenes, benzyl phenyl ethers, tolanes, substituted cinnamic acids, naphthalenes, dihydronaphthalenes, tetrahydronaphthalenes and decahydronaphthalenes.

The most important compounds which are suitable as constituents of liquid-crystal dielectrics of this type can be characterised by the formula II



II

wherein A and D are each a carbocyclic or heterocyclic ring system composed of groups formed from 1,4-disubstituted benzene and cyclohexane rings, 4,4'-disubstituted biphenyl, phenylcyclohexane and cyclohexylcyclohexane systems, 2,5-disubstituted pyrimidine and 1,3-dioxane rings, 2,6-disubstituted naphthalene, dihydronaphthalene, tetrahydronaphthalene and decahydronaphthalene, quinazoline and tetrahydroquinazoline, B is



or a C-C single bond, Y is halogen, preferably chlorine, or -CN, and R and R' are alkyl, alkoxy, alkanoyloxy or alkoxy-carbonyloxy having up to 18, preferably up to 8, carbon atoms, or one of these radicals is also -CN, -NC, -NO<sub>2</sub>, -CF<sub>3</sub>, F, Cl or Br.

In most of these compounds R and R' are different from one another, and one of these radicals is in most cases an alkyl or alkoxy group. However, other variants of the scheduled substituents are also customary. Many of such substances or mixtures thereof are commercially available.

The preparation of the dielectrics according to the invention is effected in a manner which is in itself customary. As a rule, the components are dissolved in one another, preferably at an elevated temperature.

The liquid-crystal dielectrics according to the



invention can be modified by means of suitable additives in such a way that they can be used in all types of liquid-crystal display elements hitherto disclosed.

Additives of this type are known to those skilled in the art and are described in detail in the literature. For example it is possible to add conductivity salts, preferably ethyldimethyldodecylammonium 4-hexyloxybenzoate, tetrabutylammonium tetraphenylboranate or complex salts of crown ethers (cf., for example, I. Haller et al., Mol. Cryst. Liq. Cryst. Volume 24, pages 249 - 258 (1073)) for improving conductivity, dichroic dyestuffs or substances for modifying the dielectric anisotropy, the viscosity and or the orientation of the nematic phases. Substances of this type are described, for example, in German Offenlegungsschriften 2,209,127, 2,240,864, 2,321,632, 2,338,281, 2,450,088, 2,637,430, 2,853,728 and 2,902,177.

The examples which follow are intended to illustrate the invention without limiting it. In the examples, m.p. is the melting point and c.p. is the clear point of a liquid-crystal substance. In the preceding and following text, percentages are percentages by weight; all temperatures are quoted in degrees centigrade. "Customary working up" means the following: water is added, the mixture is extracted with methylene dichloride or toluene, the phases are separated, the organic phase is dried with sodium sulfate and evaporated, and the product is purified by distillation, crystallisation and/or chromatography.

#### Example 1

A mixture of 26.4 g of trans,trans-4-propionyl-4'-propylbicyclohexyl (obtainable by reacting trans,trans-4-cyano-4'-propylbicyclohexyl with  $C_2H_5MgBr$ , and hydrolysing the product), 30 g of KOH, 50 ml of 85% hydrazine and 500 ml of triethylene glycol is heated at  $120^\circ$  for 1 hour. The temperature is raised slowly until the decomposition of the resulting hydrazone is achieved, and the mixture is boiled for a further 4 hours, cooled and worked up in the customary manner to give trans,trans-4,4'-dipropylbicyclohexyl, c.p.  $41^\circ$ .

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The following are obtained analogously by Wolff-Kishner reduction of the corresponding ketones:

- trans,trans-4-4'-Diethylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethyl-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
5 trans,trans-4-Ethyl-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethyl-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethyl-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethyl-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
10 trans,trans-4-Ethyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propyl-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propyl-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propyl-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
15 trans,trans-4-Propyl-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4,4'-Dibutylbicyclohexyl  
20 trans,trans-4-Butyl-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butyl-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butyl-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
25 trans,trans-4-Butyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-4'-Dipentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentyl-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentyl-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
30 trans,trans-4-Pentyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans,4,4'-Dihexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexyl-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
35 trans,trans-4-Hexyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4,4'-Diheptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Heptyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl



trans,trans-4-Heptyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Heptyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4,4'-Dioctylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Octyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
 5 trans,trans-4-Octyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4,4'-Dinonylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Nonyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4,4'-Didecylbicyclohexyl.

#### Example 2

10 A solution in 250 ml of THF of 42 g of trans,trans-4-p-tolylsulfonyloxymethyl-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl (obtainable by hydrolysis of trans,trans-4-cyano-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl to give the carboxylic acid,  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  reduction to give the carbinol and tosylation of the latter)  
 15 is added dropwise, with stirring, to a mixture of 5 g of  $\text{LiAlH}_4$  and 120 ml of THF, and stirring is continued for a further 12 hours at  $68^\circ$ . Cooling, evaporation and customary working up gives trans,trans-4-methyl-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl, c.p.  $40.8^\circ$ .

20 The following are obtained analogously from the corresponding tosylates:

trans,trans-4,4'-Dimethylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Methyl-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Methyl-4'-propylbicyclohexyl, m.p.  $33^\circ$ ,  
 25 c.p.  $46^\circ$

trans,trans-4-Methyl-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Methyl-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Methyl-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Methyl-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
 30 trans,trans-4-Methyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Methyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
 trans,trans-4-Methyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl

#### Example 3

A solution of 24.4 g of trans-1-p-propylphenyl-4-propylcyclohexane in 500 ml of ethanol is hydrogenated  
 35 over 1 g of  $\text{PtO}_2$  for 1 hour at  $60^\circ$  and 100 bar, and the mixture is cooled, filtered and evaporated to give 4,4'-dipropylbicyclohexyl in the form of an oily mixture of

isomers, which is taken up in 200 ml of boiling methanol. The resulting hot solution is poured into a boiling solution of 70 g of thiourea in 300 ml of methanol. The mixture is cooled to 0°, and the adduct which has been precipitated is filtered off and extracted by boiling with 300 ml of petroleum ether (b.p. 40 - 60°). The undissolved residue is heated with 350 ml of 2 N aqueous potassium hydroxide solution for 30 minutes at 50°. The solution is acidified with H<sub>2</sub>SO<sub>4</sub> to give, after customary working up, trans,trans-4,4'-dipropylbicyclohexyl, c.p. 41°.

Analogously, the hydrogenation of corresponding phenylcyclohexanes gives the following compounds in the form of mixtures of isomers from which the trans,trans-isomers can be isolated via the thiourea compounds:

- 15 4,4'-Diethylbicyclohexyl
- 4-Ethyl-4'-propylbicyclohexyl
- 4-Ethyl-4'-butylbicyclohexyl
- 4-Ethyl-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl
- 4-Ethyl-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl
- 20 4-Ethyl-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl
- 4-Ethyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl
- 4-Ethyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl
- 4-Ethyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl.

#### Example 4

- 25 A solution in 300 ml of cyclohexane of 24.8 g of 1-(trans-4-propylcyclohexyl)-4-propylcyclohexene [obtainable by reacting 4-propylcyclohexanone with 4-propylmagnesium bromide to give 1-(trans-4-propylcyclohexyl)-4-propylcyclohexanol and dehydrating the latter] is hydrogenated over 4 g of 10% Pd/C at 20° and 1 bar until absorption of H<sub>2</sub> ceases. The mixture is filtered and worked up analogously to Example 3 via the thiourea adduct to give trans,trans-4,4'-dipropylbicyclohexyl, c.p. 41°.

#### Example 5

- 35 A solution of 22.4 g of trans,trans-4'-propylbicyclohexyl-4-ol in 200 ml of THF is added dropwise, at 50° and with stirring, to a mixture of 22 g of n-butyl iodide and 4.8 g of NaH in 250 ml of THF, and stirring

is continued for a further 2 hours at 50°. Customary working up gives trans,trans-4-butoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl, c.p. 66°.

The following are obtained analogously from the  
5 corresponding 4'-alkylbicyclohexyl-4-ols by means of the corresponding alkyl bromides, iodides, chlorides or tosylates or alkoxyalkyl bromides, iodides, chlorides or tosylates, respectively:

- trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
10 trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
15 trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
20 trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl, m.p. 45°C, c.p.  
46°

- trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
25 trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
30 trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
35 trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl

- trans,trans-4-Propoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
5 trans,trans-4-Butoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Butoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
10 trans,trans-4-Butoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
15 trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
20 trans,trans-4-Pentoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
25 trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
30 trans,trans-4-Hexoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
35 trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl

- trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Heptoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
5 trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
10 trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Octoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
15 trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
20 trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Nonoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
25 trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
30 trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Decoxy-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
35 trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl



- trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Methoxymethyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl  
5 trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-methylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-ethylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-propylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-butylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-pentylbicyclohexyl  
10 trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-hexylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-heptylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-octylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-nonylbicyclohexyl  
trans,trans-4-Ethoxymethyl-4'-decylbicyclohexyl.

- 15 Examples of dielectrics according to the invention containing at least one compound of the formula I are given below:

Example A

A mixture composed of:

- 20 16% of trans,trans-4-ethoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl,  
12% of trans,trans-4-butoxy-4'-propylbicyclohexyl,  
17% of p-trans-4-propylcyclohexylbenzonitrile,  
23% of p-trans-4-pentylcyclohexylbenzonitrile,  
22% of 4-ethyl-4'-(trans-4-pentylcyclohexyl)-biphenyl and  
25 10% of 4-(trans-4-pentylcyclohexyl)-4'-(trans-4-propyl-  
cyclohexyl)-biphenyl has c.p. 87°.

Example B

A mixture composed of:

- 16% of trans,trans-4,4'-dipropylbicyclohexyl,  
30 15% of p-trans-4-propylcyclohexylbenzonitrile,  
11% of p-trans-4-butylcyclohexylbenzonitrile,  
21% of p-trans-4-pentylcyclohexylbenzonitrile,  
4% of 4-cyano-4'-(trans-4-pentylcyclohexyl)-biphenyl,  
21% of 4-ethyl-4'-(trans-4-pentylcyclohexyl)-biphenyl and  
35 12% of 4-(trans-4-pentylcyclohexyl)-4'-(trans-4-propyl-  
cyclohexyl)-biphenyl has c.p. 88°.

Patent claims (for the contracting states: CH, DE, GB and LI)

1. The use of the bicyclohexyls of the formula I



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> [sic] and R<sup>2</sup> are each alkyl or alkoxy having 1-10 C atoms, 3-oxabutyl (= 2-methoxyethyl), 3-oxapentyl, 4-oxapentyl, 3-, 4- or 5-oxahexyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, or 6-oxaheptyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-oxaoctyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-oxanonyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8- or 9-oxadecyl, 1,3-dioxabutyl (= methoxymethoxy), 1,3-, 1,4- or 2,4-dioxapentyl or 1,3-1,4-, 1,5-, 2,4-, 2,5- or 3,5-dioxaheptyl and

Cy is 1,4-cyclohexylene,

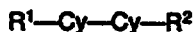
as components of liquid-crystal dielectrics for electro-optical display elements.

2. Liquid-crystal dielectric for electrooptical display elements having at least two liquid-crystal components, characterized in that at least one component is a compound of the formula I according to Claim 1.
3. Electrooptical display element, characterized in that it contains a dielectric according to Claim 2.



**Patentansprüche (für den Vertragsstaat FR)**

**1. Verwendung der Bicyclohexyle der Formel I**



worin

R<sup>1</sup> und R<sup>2</sup> jeweils Alkyl mit 1-10 C-Atomen, worin eine oder zwei CH<sub>2</sub>-Gruppe(n) durch O-Atome ersetzt sein können und

Cy 1,4-Cyclohexylen

bedeuten, als Komponenten flüssigkristalliner Dielektrika für elektrooptische Anzeigeelemente.

2. Flüssigkristallines Dielektrikum für elektrooptische Anzeigeelemente mit mindestens zwei flüssigkristallinen Komponenten, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß mindestens eine Komponente eine Verbindung der Formel I nach Anspruch 1 ist.

3. Elektrooptisches Anzeigeelement, dadurch gekennzeichnet, daß es ein Dielektrikum nach Anspruch 2 enthält.

**Claims (for the Contracting states : CH, DE, GB, LI)**

**1. The use of compounds of the formula I**



wherein

R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are each alkyl or alkoxy with 1-10 C atoms, 3-oxabutyl, (= 2-methoxyethyl), 3- or 4-oxapentyl, 3-, 4- or 5-oxahexyl, 3-, 4-, 5- or 6-oxaheptyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- or 7-oxaoctyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- or 8-oxanonyl, 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8- or 9-oxadecyl, 1,3-dioxabutyl (= methoxymethoxy), 1,3-, 1,4- or 2,4-dioxapentyl, 1,3-, 1,4-, 1,5-, 2,4-, 2,5- or 3,5-dioxahexyl and

Cy is 1,4-cyclohexylene,

as components of liquid-crystal dielectrics for electrooptical display elements.

2. Liquid crystal dielectric for electrooptical display elements having at least two liquid-crystal components, characterised in that at least one component is a compound of the formula I according to Claim 1.

3. Electrooptical display element characterised in that it contains a dielectric according to Claim 2.

**Claims (for the Contracting state FR)**

**1. The use of compounds of the formula I**



wherein R<sup>1</sup> and R<sup>2</sup> are each alkyl which has 1-10 C atoms and in which one or two CH<sub>2</sub> group(s) can be replaced by O atoms, and Cy is 1,4-cyclohexylene, as components of liquid-crystal dielectrics for electrooptical display elements.

2. Liquid-crystal dielectric for electrooptical display elements having at least two liquid-crystal components, characterised in that at least one component is a compound of the formula I according to Claim 1.

3. Electrooptical display element characterised in that it contains a dielectric according to Claim 2.



(39)

**Revendications (pour les Etats contractants : CH, DE, GB, LI)**

**1. Application des bicyclohexyles de formule I**



où

R<sup>1</sup> et R<sup>2</sup> représentent chacun un alcoyle ou un alcoxy ayant de 1 à 10 atomes de carbone, un 3-oxabutyle (= 2-méthoxyéthyle), 3- ou 4-oxapentyle, 3-, 4- ou 5-oxahexyle, un 3-, 4-, 5- ou 6-oxaheptyle, un 3-, 4-, 5-, 6- ou 7-oxaoctyle, un 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7- ou 8-oxanonyl, un 3-, 4-, 5-, 6-, 7-, 8- ou 9-oxadécyle, un 1,3-dioxabutyle (= méthoxyméthoxy), un 1,3- 1,4- ou 2,4-dioxapentyle, un 1,3-, 1,4-, 1,5-, 2,4-, 2,5- ou 3,5-dioxahexyle et

Cy représente un 1,4-cyclohexylène,  
comme composants de diélectriques à cristaux liquides pour éléments d'affichage électro-optiques.

2. Diélectrique à cristaux liquides pour éléments d'affichage électro-optiques avec au moins deux composants à cristaux liquides, caractérisé en ce qu'au moins un composant est un composé de formule I selon la revendication 1.

3. Élément d'affichage électro-optique, caractérisé en ce qu'il contient un diélectrique selon la revendication 2.

**Revendications (pour l'Etat contractant FR)**

**1. Application des bicyclohexyles de formule I**



où

R<sup>1</sup> et R<sup>2</sup> représentent chacun un alcoyle ayant de 1 à 10 atomes de carbone, où un ou deux groupe(s) CH<sub>2</sub> peut(peuvent) être remplacé(s) par des atomes d'oxygène et

Cy représente un 1,4-cyclohexylène,  
comme composants de diélectriques à cristaux liquides pour éléments d'affichage électro-optiques.

2. Diélectrique à cristaux liquides pour éléments d'affichage électro-optiques avec au moins deux composants à cristaux liquides, caractérisé en ce qu'au moins un composant est un composé de formule I selon la revendication 1.

3. Élément d'affichage électro-optique, caractérisé en ce qu'il contient un diélectrique selon la revendication 2.

