

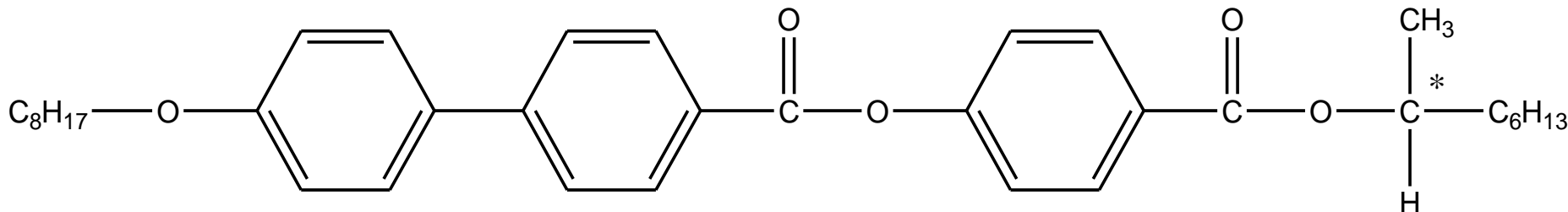
**Study of the critical behaviour in the vicinity of various phase transitions associated with two antiferroelectric enantiomers R-MHPOBC, S-MHPOBC and their racemic mixture**

**Barnali Barman**

Department of Physics, University of North Bengal, 734 013, Siliguri  
West Bengal, India

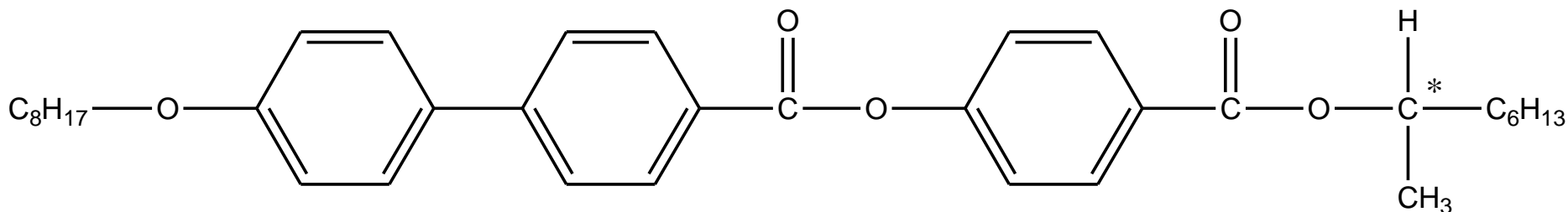
## MATERIALS UNDER INVESTIGATIONS

**R-MHPOBC** [Molecular Weight (M) = 558.762 a.m.u]



**Cr 357K SmC<sub>A</sub>\* 391.6K SmC<sub>γ</sub>\* 392.4K SmC\* 394.1K SmC<sub>α</sub>\* 395.2 K SmA 421.0K Iso**

**S-MHPOBC** [Molecular Weight (M) = 558.762 a.m.u]



**Cr 357 K SmC<sub>A</sub>\* 391.4 K SmC<sub>γ</sub>\* 392.2 K SmC\* 393.9 K SmC<sub>α</sub>\* 395 K SmA 421 K Iso**

**A racemic mixture of MHPOBC shows a different phase sequence**

*Cr 357 K SmC<sub>A</sub> 386 K SmC 394 K SmA 420 K Iso*

*A Racemic mixture does not have chirality as a whole.*

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From MDSC-Method

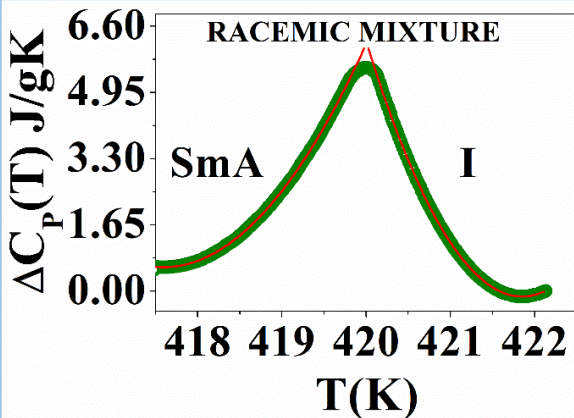
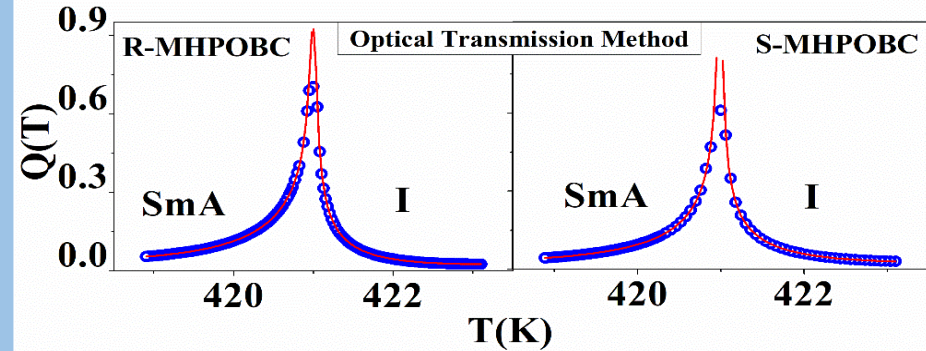
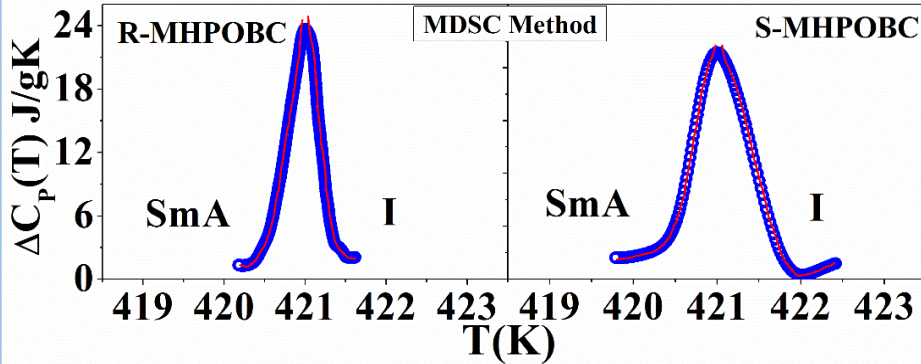
$$C(T) = -[H(T) - H(T_c)]/[T - T_c]$$

$$\Delta C_p(T) = \frac{A^\pm}{\alpha} |t|^{-\alpha} (1 + D^\pm |t|^\Delta) + E(T - T_c) + B$$

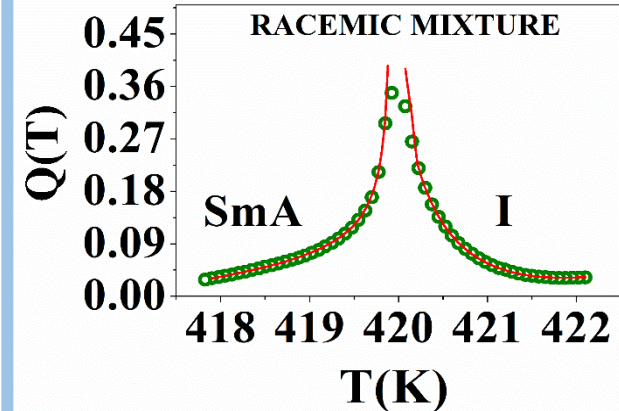
From Optical Transmission Method

$$Q(T) = -[\Delta n(T) - \Delta n(T_c)]/[T - T_c]$$

$$Q(T) = \frac{A^\pm}{\alpha'} |t|^{-\alpha'} (1 + D^\pm |t|^\Delta) + E(T - T_c) + B$$



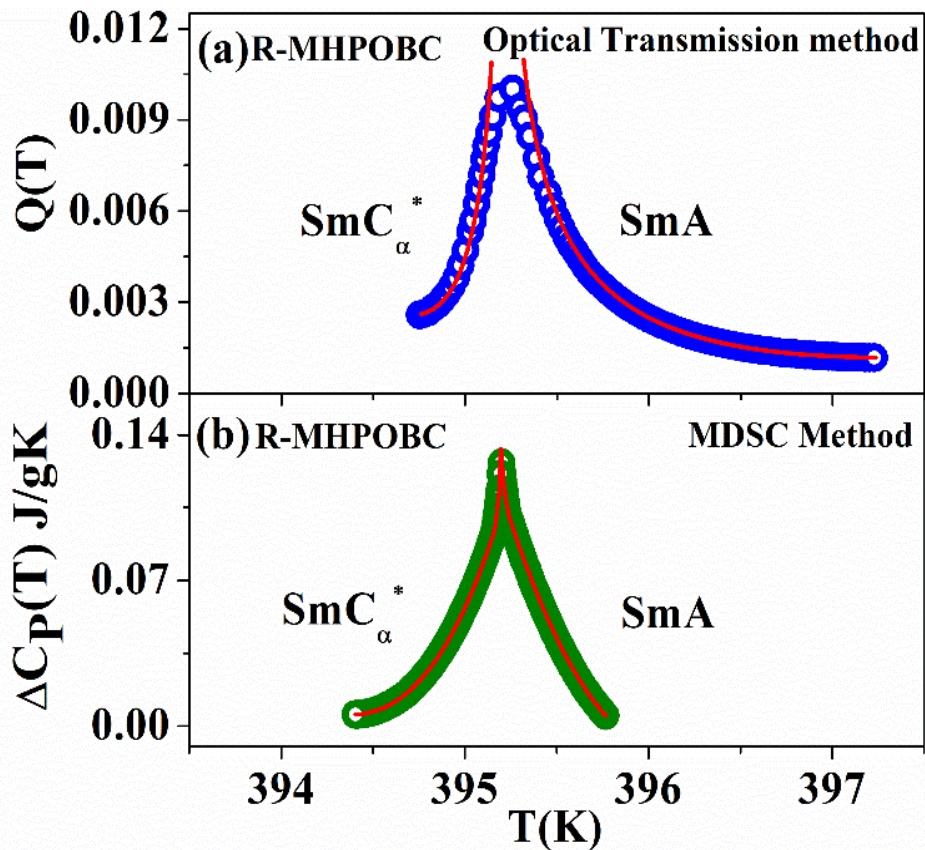
On entering from isotropic phase to SmA phase a large peak is observed in specific heat capacity and a large jump occurs in the birefringence value which indicates the first order nature of this transition.



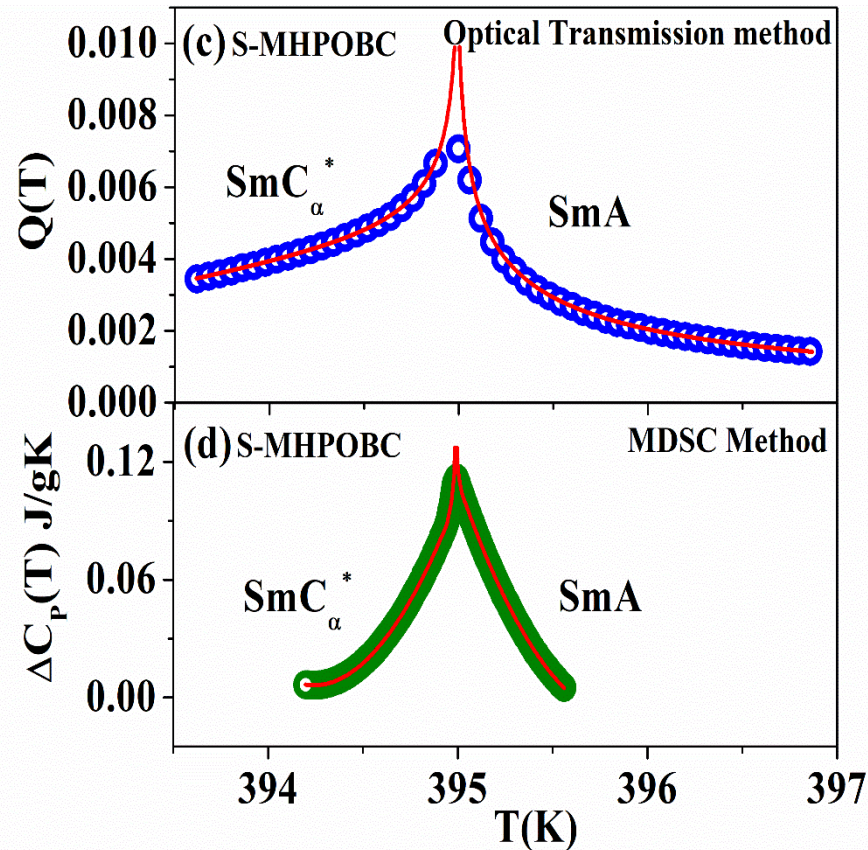
To check the behaviour the critical exponent extracted from both  $\Delta C_p(T)$  and  $Q(T)$  using the renormalization group expression gives a value of about 0.5 which confirms that the isotropic to SmA phase transition is first order in nature.

# $SmA-SmC_{\alpha}^*$ phase transition

R-MHPOBC

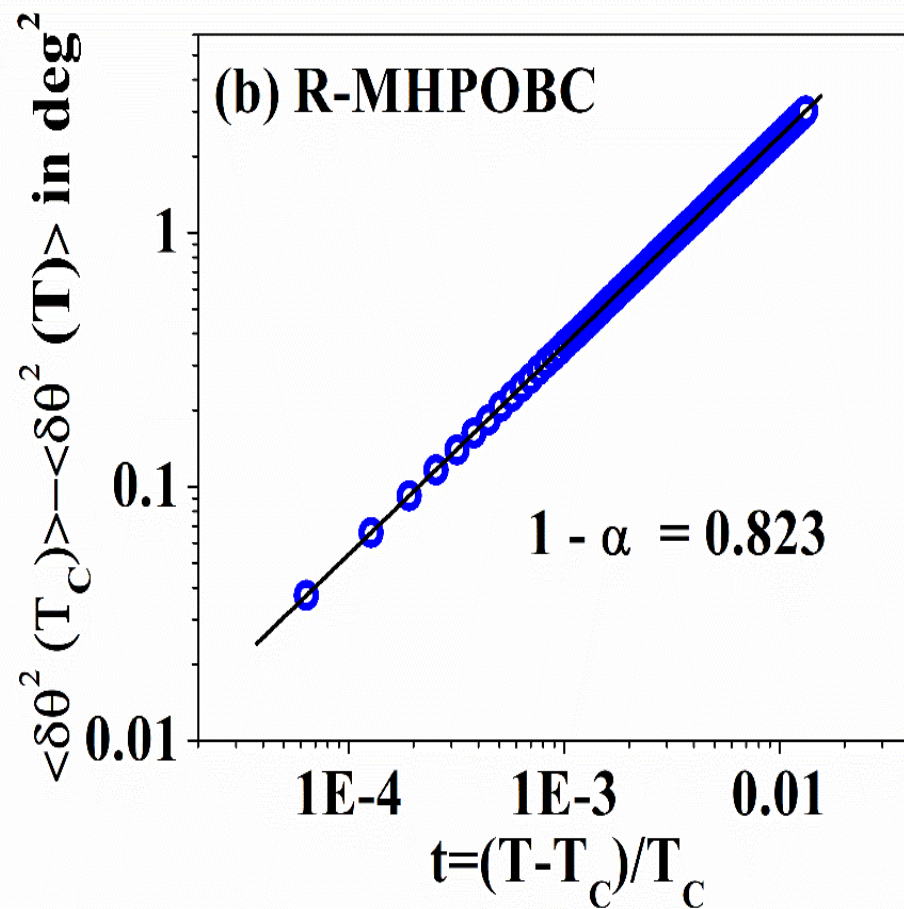
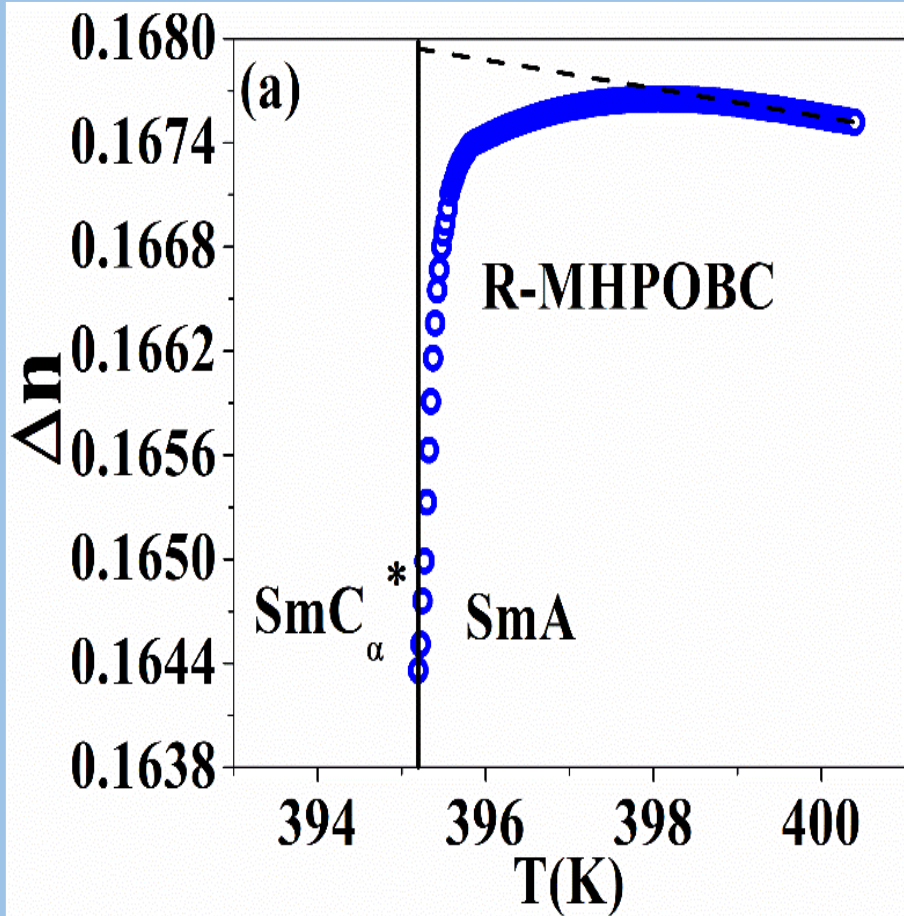


S-MHPOBC



The specific heat capacity anomaly shows a small peak corresponding to this transition both for R and S-enantiomers. The extracted critical exponent clearly indicates the second order nature of this transition.

*Critical exponent from Birefringence Suppression near  $SmA-SmC_{\alpha}^*$  phase transition of R-MHPOBC*



The value of the specific heat capacity critical exponent ( $\alpha$ ) for R-MHPOBC found from the critical part of the tilt angle fluctuations  $\langle \delta\theta^2(T) \rangle$  is 0.177 which is equal to the critical exponent ( $\alpha'$ ) explored from  $Q(T)$  fitting.

# Acknowledgements

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THANK YOU

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