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SYNTHESES AND OPTICAL PROPERTIES OF CHOLESTERIC LIQUID CRYSTAL POLYMERS UTILIZING P-PHENYLENE BIS-(P-(3-ACRYLOXY-2-METHYLPROPYLOXY)BENZOATE

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We synthesized chiral choleseric liquid crystalline monomer *p*-phenylene bis-(*p*3-acryloxy-2(S)-methylpropoxy)benzoate (1) and achiral nematic liquid crystalline monomer, *p*-phenylene *p*-acryloxy-6-hexyloxy-*p*-octyloxybenzoate (2) for the construction of cholesteric polymer network with a pitch gradient. In this research we attempted to synthesize cholesteric polymer film which have a wide reflection bandwidth in the region of visible wavelength with the synthesized chiral cholesteric monomer 1 and nematic monomer 2 under various photopoly merization conditions. We succeeded to construct cholesteric polymer film network with a pitch gradient covering more than 200 nm bandwidth in the visible wavelength by diffusion controlled photostructuring method.