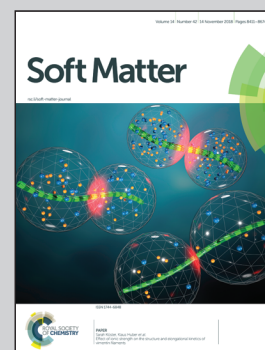


Highlighting research performed by Lesac *et al.*  
at Ruđer Bošković Institute, Croatia.

Fine-tuning the effect of  $\pi$ - $\pi$  interactions on the stability  
of the  $N_{TB}$  phase

Flexible bent-shaped dimers are achiral compounds, yet they can display chiral molecular organization within a liquid-crystalline phase. Here we show how subtle changes in chemical structure can be used to tune the intermolecular interactions, which then influence the thermal stability of the molecular arrangement. In addition, a new chiral nematic-like liquid-crystalline phase was observed on cooling from the  $N_{TB}$  phase.

As featured in:



See Andreja Lesac *et al.*,  
*Soft Matter*, 2018, 14, 8466.



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