Bowlic (Liquid Crystals): A Chinese Innovation

1982Bowlics invented by Lam

Three Types of Liquid Crystals



Rodic 1888

Austria



Discotic 1977 India



Bowlic 1982 China

Man-made predicted by theory









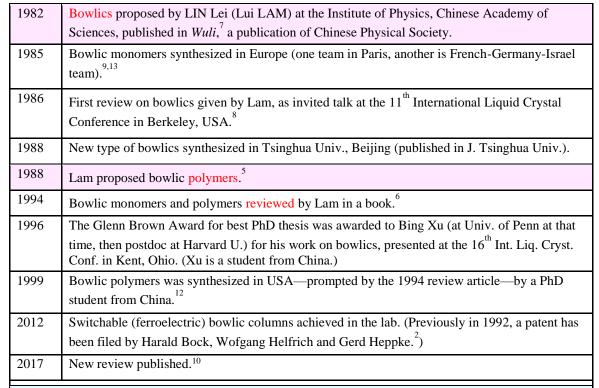


Friedrich Reinitzer (1857–1927)



Man-made

Sivaramakrishna Chandrasekhar (1930–2004)



The word "bowlic" created by Lam is used by others in the title of their liquid crystal papers (such as Refs. 4 and 11) and is recognized officially by the IUPAC and formally in *Handbook of Liquid Crystals*.

The story of bowlics represents an interesting story of innovation in China. Bowlics belong to the domain of new and strategic materials, and have potential application in ultrafast LCDs and other areas.

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