Special Issue

Molecularly Imprinted Polymer (MIP) Sensors

Message from the Guest Editor

Molecularly imprinted polymers (MIPs) are synthetic materials engineered to have highly specific recognition sites for a target molecule (template). Some MIPs are often referred to as "synthetic antibodies" due to their selectivity and ability to recognize specific molecules, similar to natural antibodies or enzymes. Tailored binding sites mimic the size, shape, and functional groups of the target molecule. Hence, MIPs can recognize a wide range of targets, including small organic molecules, peptides, proteins, and ions. They can be regenerated and reused without significant loss of performance. MIPs also exhibit high thermal, chemical, and mechanical stability compared to natural recognition systems. MIPs have found many applications in sensors, separation, purification, environmental monitoring, drug delivery, catalysis, etc.

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