Special Issue

The Thermodynamics of Social Processes

Message from the Guest Editors

This Special Issue aims to highlight how thermodynamic concepts can inform the study of social phenomena, providing a unified framework to understand and predict complex collective behavior. By leveraging principles from statistical mechanics, social thermodynamics and, in general,and in general social physics offer a powerful lens to capture both the microscopic drivers of individual actions and the macroscopic patterns that emerge at larger scales. Contributions that employ real-world data, synthetic modeling, or purely theoretical arguments to advance the frontier of social physics are welcome. The scope spans a wide array of topics, encouraging approaches which highlight how thermodynamic laws can bridge disciplinary boundaries. Submissions may focus on elucidating universal laws of collective behavior, proposing novel computational frameworks, or unveiling deeper structural insights into complex social interactions. It is also hoped that, in this Special Issue, authors can find the freedom to present very innovative developments/ideas, helping provide inspiration for novel advances.

Guest Editors

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

31 January 2026

Entropy

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 2.0
CiteScore 5.2
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/237472

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The concept of entropy is traditionally a quantity in physics that has to do with temperature. However, it is now clear that entropy is deeply related to information theory and the process of inference. As such, entropic techniques have found broad application in the sciences.

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