

Special Issue

Emerging Topics in Macromolecular Crystallography

Message from the Guest Editors

Macromolecules, including proteins, nucleic acids, and carbohydrates, play vital roles in life. Macromolecular crystallography is a pivotal technique in uncovering the structures and functions of bio-macromolecules. It focuses on the study of the structure and properties of large molecular assemblies, particularly their crystal forms. It involves growing crystals and analyzing their structure using X-ray diffraction techniques. This field has witnessed remarkable advancements in recent years, driven by advancements in experimental techniques and computational methods. For example, AlphaFold3, an artificial intelligence method, was released in May 2024. It can predict a reliable 3D complex structure including proteins, nucleic acids, small molecules, ions, and modified residues. As the research in this area continues to grow and expand, it brings forth numerous emerging topics at the forefront of scientific exploration. The results from macromolecular crystallography are revolutionizing our understanding of macromolecular behavior and their roles in various biological processes and diseases.

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