Special Issue

Organic Matter and the Associated Mineralogy on Small Bodies of the Solar System

Message from the Guest Editors

The search for organics on small bodies involves many aspects. Small bodies are believed to be primitive, non-processed objects; thus, they hold information about the earliest solar system. For this Special Issue, we invite recent advances in the study of small bodies' mineralogy and organic matter content in an effort to better understand the survival of such organic matter, its composition, and its relations to the mineralogy. Insights into the following aspects will be greatly appreciated:

- Evolution of organic matter and its relationship with salts, clays, and volatiles;
- Effect of hydrothermal alteration on the organic and mineral content;
- Existence of a past ocean world;
- Insight into the abundance and composition of organic matter;
- Physical properties of the regolith rich in organic matter (e.g., grain size, porosity, albedo);
- Geological context and evolution scenarios of organic-rich terrains;
- Connection between the outgassing environment and surface composition;
- Space weather and physical processes altering the surface composition.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (16 July 2021)

Minerals

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Impact Factor 2.2
CiteScore 4.4

mdpi.com/si/53223

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About the Journal

Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Minerals welcomes submissions that report basic and applied research in mineralogy. Research areas of traditional interest are mineral deposits, mining, mineral processing and environmental mineralogy. The journal footprint also includes novel uses of elemental and isotopic analyses of minerals for petrology, geochronology and thermochronology, thermobarometry, ore genesis and sedimentary provenance. Contributions are encouraged in emerging research areas such as applications of quantitative mineralogy to the oil and gas, manufacturing, forensic science, climate change, geohazard and health sectors.

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manuscripts are peer-reviewed and a first decision is provided to authors approximately 18.2 days after submission; acceptance to publication is undertaken in 2.6 days (median values for papers published in this journal in the first half of 2025).

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