

Special Issue

Supramolecular Gels: Structure-Property Correlation and Their Applications in Sensors and Environmental Remediation

Message from the Guest Editor

Supramolecular gels made from low-molecular-weight gelators (LMWGs) are fascinating soft materials with a wide range of applications. These gels are formed when solvent molecules become immobilized in a three-dimensional network of fibers created by self-assembled gelator molecules. Predicting the self-assembly mechanism is challenging due to the influence of various non-covalent interactions and the characteristics of the gelator. Thus, understanding the correlation between the structure and properties of LMWGs is essential for designing these materials with predictable properties for applications such as sensors and environmental remediation. In water remediation, supramolecular gels are employed to effectively remove contaminants such as heavy metals, dyes, and pharmaceuticals. Their porous networks and stimuli-responsive properties make LMWGs excellent candidates for adsorption studies, displaying impressive capacities for dye adsorption. Additionally, LMWGs function as sensors due to their dynamic non-covalent interactions, allowing their properties to be tuned by external stimuli such as temperature, light, and pH changes.

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As the premier open access journal dedicated to molecular chemistry, now in its 30th year of publication, the papers published in *Molecules* span from classical synthetic methodology to natural product isolation and characterization, as well as physicochemical studies and the applications of these molecules as pharmaceuticals, catalysts, and novel materials. Pushing the boundaries of the discipline, we invite papers on all major fields of molecular chemistry and multidisciplinary topics bridging chemistry with biology, physics, and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting-edge fields in all of these areas.

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