Special Issue

Engineering of Aerogels and Their Applications

Message from the Guest Editors

Aerogels are a unique class of light-weight nanoporous materials of interest in advanced applications for different fields. Interest on aerogels prompted the design and development of materials from different sources (inorganic, organic, hybrid), formats (monoliths, beads, powder), chemical functionalities (hydrophilic, hydrophobic) and sizes (insulation boards, micron-sized particles). This material's research pace was aligned with the engineering of innovative and viable processes and unit operations to tackle the production of the ever-growing demand of aerogel quantities and varieties. Recently, the research on aerogels has particularly grown to target environmental and biomedical applications with the prospect of novel aerogel sources (biopolymers, biomass), innovative composite materials containing aerogels and environmentally friendly processing approaches. This Special Issue aims to assemble notable recent contributions on the engineering of aerogels in terms of sources, chemical functionalities and morphology as well as process design and optimization with a clear application-oriented focus.

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (30 June 2019)

Molecules

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Impact Factor 4.6
CiteScore 8.6
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mdpi.com/si/17764

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As the premier open access journal dedicated to experimental organic chemistry, and now in its 25th 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 multidisciplinary topics bridging biochemistry, biophysics and materials science, as well as timely reviews and topical issues on cutting edge fields in all these areas.

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