

Special Issue

Applications of Nanocatalysts in Biomass Conversion

Message from the Guest Editors

Concerns about depleting fossil fuels and global warming effects are pushing our society to search for new renewable sources of energy with the potential to substitute coal, natural gas, and petroleum. In this sense, biomass—the only renewable source of carbon available on Earth—is the perfect replacement for petroleum in the production of fuels and chemicals. In the last decades, heterogeneous catalysis has played a central role in the rapid development of the petrochemical industry. Similarly, heterogeneous catalysis has been key in moving forward technologies for the conversion of biomass (and derivatives) into fuels and chemicals. However, the different chemical compositions of biomass, compared to petroleum, pose new requirements regarding catalysts. Thus, when applied to biomass conversion processes, water tolerance, multifunctionality, robustness, and resistance to impurities become important features. Controlling the shape and morphology of these solids at the nanoscale is also a relevant factor for controlling selectivity and directing synthesis towards obtaining the desired products.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Juan Carlos Serrano-Ruiz

Department of Engineering, University Loyola Andalucía, 41014 Seville, Spain

Dr. Manuel Antonio Diaz-Perez

Department of Engineering, University Loyola Andalucía, Seville, Spain

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Editorial Office
MDPI, Grosspeteranlage 5
4052 Basel, Switzerland
Tel: +41 61 683 77 34
nanomaterials@mdpi.com

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Nanoscience and nanotechnology are exciting fields of research and development, with wide applications to electronic, optical, and magnetic devices, biology, medicine, energy, and defense. At the heart of these fields are the synthesis, characterization, modeling, and applications of new materials with lower nanometer-scale dimensions, which we call “nanomaterials”. These materials can exhibit unusual mesoscopic properties and include nanoparticles, coatings and thin films, metal–organic frameworks, membranes, nano-alloys, quantum dots, self-assemblies, 2D materials such as graphene, and nanotubes. Our journal, *Nanomaterials*, has the goal of publishing the highest quality papers on all aspects of nanomaterial science to an interdisciplinary scientific audience. All of our articles are published with rigorous refereeing and open access.

Editor-in-Chief

Prof. Dr. Eugenia Valsami-Jones

School of Geography, Earth and Environmental Science, University of
Birmingham, Birmingham B15 2TT, UK

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