Special Issue

Superhydrophobic Natural Polymers

Message from the Guest Editors

Natural polymers, such as plant polymers (lignin, cellulose, and other polysaccharides), animal polymers (wool, keratin, etc.), biopolymers (proteins, RNA, DNA), and polymers from sea animals and algae (chitin, chitosan, agar, etc.), are widespread on Earth and have great scientific and practical importance. Unfortunately, these polymers are hydrophilic, which limits their use in such application fields as the creation of waterproof and vaporproof materials and the production of hydrophobic/superhydrophobic fillers and reinforcements that are compatible with hydrophobic composites of polymers and with hydrophobic compositions of coatings, paints, adhesives, and other hydrophobic materials. There are several methods for converting natural hydrophilic polymers into hydrophobic ones and, even better, superhydrophobic ones. The physical methods include coating of hydrophilic polymers with hydrophobic/superhydrophobic melts or latexes. The chemical methods include introduction of hydrophobic/superhydrophobic groups and graft polymerization.

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Since its foundation in 2009, *Polymers* has developed into an internationally renowned, extremely successful open access journal. The editorial team and the editorial board dedicatedly combine open-access publishing and high-quality rigorous peer reviewing. The performance of the journal has proven this strategy to be well-suited and highly successful. This is reflected in the increasing impact factor of *Polymers*, the most recent one being 4.7.

I would like to invite you to contribute to the success of the journal by sending us your high quality research papers. We would be pleased to welcome you as one of our authors.

Editor-in-Chief

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