Special Issue

Glycopolymers and Polysaccharide-Based Copolymers

Message from the Guest Editors

Narrowly defined, glycopolymers are synthetic polymers modified with saccharidic moieties exhibiting specific biological functionality. Such glycopolymers can be obtained either by chemical modification of the synthetic polymers with adequate carbohydrates or by controlled polymerization of glycomonomers (monomers containing a (oligo)saccharidic part). More broadly, glycopolymers can be defined as copolymers associating natural polysaccharides and synthetic polymers. In this case, they can be produced by coupling controlled polymer chains onto polysaccharide ones (grafting onto strategy) or by using modified polysaccharides as macroinitiators within a controlled polymerization (grafting from strategy). In addition, associating the hydrophilic behavior of polysaccharide to the hydrophobic one of synthetic polymers chains allows the elaboration of amphiphilic glycopolymers, which can stabilize an interface or self-assemble into nanostructures, for instance. Such "polysaccharide-based copolymers" can exhibit particular bio-functionality if bioactive polysaccharide and biodegradable or biocompatible synthetic parts are chosen.

Guest Editors

Prof. Dr. Jean-Luc Six
LCPM, Université de Lorraine, CNRS, F-54000 Nancy, France
Dr. Khalid Ferji
LCPM, Université de Lorraine, CNRS, F-54000 Nancy, France
Prof. Dr. Yoshiko Miura
Department of Chemical Engineering, Graduate School of Engineering, Kyushu University, Fukuoka 819-0395, Japan

Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (31 August 2020)

Polymers

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.9
CiteScore 9.7
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/30553

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

mdpi.com/journal/polymers

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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 4.9.

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

Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker
Fraunhofer-Institut für Angewandte Polymerforschung, Lehrstuhl für Polymermaterialien und Polymertechnologie, Universität Potsdam, Geiselbergstraße 69, 14476 Potsdam-Golm, Germany

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