Special Issue

Liquid Crystalline Polymers and Their Nanocomposites

Message from the Guest Editor

The liquid crystal (LC) states of polymers were discovered with the discovery of aramids, such as poly(p-phenylene terephthalamide) (Kevlar) and poly(pbenzamide), by DuPont de Nemours Co. in the 1970s. These aromatic polyamides form LC states when dissolved in a solvent (lyotropic), such as sulfuric acid. In addition, the commercialization of aromatic polyesters (e.g., Xydar® and Vectra®) that form LC states in melts (thermotropic) in the 1980s sparked the continued and unabated growth of the field of LC polymers (LCPs). Wholly aromatic LCPs are highly crystalline, insoluble, and very often interactive materials. These polymers have a very high melting temperature, and, thus, they cannot be readily processed by spinning or molding. However, LCPs should be structurally modified to overcome these processing issues and prevent their thermal degradation before melting. The most common method for structural modification is to combine different mesogenic monomers, such as bulky side substituents, flexible alkyl side groups, or kink (nonlinear)-structured monomers.

Guest Editor

Prof. Dr. Jin-Hae Chang

Department of Polymer Science and Engineering, Kumoh National Institute of Technology, Gumi 730\(\text{M}701, Korea \)

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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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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

Prof. Dr. Alexander Böker

Lehrstuhl für Polymermaterialien und Polymertechnologie, University of Potsdam, 14476 Potsdam-Golm, Germany

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