Special Issue

Chemical and Physical Properties of Polysaccharides and Their Derivatives

Message from the Guest Editor

Cellulose and starch are the first and second most abundant biopolymers produced on Earth. They are non-toxic, cost effective, and biodegradable. Unsurprisingly, considering these advantageous features, polysaccharides are increasingly viewed as feedstocks that could be used to mass produce chemicals and materials with novel properties. Contrary to proteins and DNA, which Nature produces with a high level of accuracy, polysaccharides are usually poorly defined, complicating their characterization and chemical modification. They are typically polydisperse in size, branched to different degrees, and often crystalline. These characteristics complicate the study of polysaccharides. Consequently, polysaccharides are currently the focus of intense research aimed at finding new ways to characterize and modify them. This Special Issue aims to provide a platform to showcase recent research advances in the active field of polysaccharide research.

Guest Editor

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Deadline for manuscript submissions

closed (28 February 2021)

Polymers

an Open Access Journal by MDPI

Impact Factor 4.9
CiteScore 9.7
Indexed in PubMed

mdpi.com/si/36764

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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 4.9.

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
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