

Special Issue

Asymmetric Membranes

Message from the Guest Editor

Nowadays, membranes are key components in various relevant fields. In fact, their application is gradually increasing from traditional fields, such as water desalination and purification and food processing, to applications in oil and petrochemical, biopharmaceutical, power and energy-related industries. Asymmetric membranes consist of a number of layers, each with different structures and permeabilities. Asymmetric membranes can be considered hierarchically-structured systems where well and purposefully hierarchical structures are designed to overcome transport limitations. In this context, worthy of mention is the recent special issue on hierarchically-structured porous materials edited by Martin Hartmann and Wilhelm Schwieger [1]. The present Special Issue of *Symmetry* features articles about membranes of different materials for different applications, with asymmetry as the unifying theme... **References** [1] Martin Hartmann and Wilhelm Schwieger, Hierarchically-structured porous materials: from basic understanding to applications, *Chem. Soc. Rev.*, 2016, 45, 3311.

Guest Editor

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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

Symmetry is ultimately the most important concept in natural sciences. It is not surprising then that very basic and fundamental research achievements are related to symmetry. For instance, the Nobel Prize in Physics 1979 (Glashow, Salam, Weinberg) was received for a unified symmetry description of electromagnetic and weak interactions, while the Nobel Prize in Physics 2008 (Nambu, Kobayashi, Maskawa) was received for the discovery of the mechanism of spontaneous breaking of symmetry, including CP symmetry. Our journal is named *Symmetry* and it manifests its fundamental role in nature.

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