



polymers



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Functional Polymers in Additive Manufacturing

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Message from the Guest Editors

Additive manufacturing (AM), and in particular 3D printing, has become a trending technology. A major advantage is the possibility of rapid and customized fabrication of complex objects at a relatively low cost. Recently, 4D printing has emerged as a new area in the realm of additive manufacturing. The fourth dimension refers to the ability of adding an additional dimension to 3D printed structures to change their properties over time. One of the most promising approaches is the use smart and functional polymers, whose properties can be controlled on demand by external stimuli (e.g., temperature, light, pH), opening new possibilities unattainable with conventional materials. This Special Issue of *Polymers* aims to cover the state-of-the-art of polymer-based materials in additive manufacturing, especially in 3D and 4D printing, with a special emphasis on novel functional polymers. Further, perspectives and critical reviews about the current limitations as well as the future directions and emerging applications in field are welcome.



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Special Issue



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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 5.0.

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.

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