



Polymers and Polymer Structures for 4D Direct Digital Manufacturing

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Message from the Guest Editor

Dear Colleagues,

3D printing is one of the technologies available in the emerging field of Direct Digital Manufacturing, where objects are directly produced from a digital definition without the need for moulds or specialized tooling. The 4D nature referred to here is the production of parts that will change over time, perhaps transforming its shape or functions. Polymers are only one of the materials used in Direct Digital Manufacturing, but they are the most adaptable. We can look for structures made from polymers that will transform with time or polymers that will change their structures or properties over time. This is an emerging area, impacting many areas of science and engineering and medicine.

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