



Organic Materials for Energy: From Synthesis to Application

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Message from the Guest Editor

Organic materials with semiconductor properties able to absorb solar energy are attracting a great deal of interest as active components of devices used to capture this energy, for a realistic, low-cost alternative to fossil fuels. Spanning from solar cells to photocatalysis, photochromism, electrochromism, and thermochromism, organic materials allow the fabrication of lightweight, flexible, and cheap devices, suitable for simple solution processing methods and large-area production. In the face of continuous advancement, some critical issues have to be overcome in order to unfold their potential and gain real applications. Key issues in the development of organic-based devices exploiting solar energy are material design, structure and properties of organic materials, interfaces, solid-state aggregation and morphology of the active layer, charge transport, device architecture, and long-term stability. Understanding the structure–properties correlation is fundamental to tailoring organic materials with the desired properties.





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