



Polyelectrolyte-Surfactant Systems: Current Advances and Future Perspectives

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Message from the Guest Editors

As all know, surfactants have the ability to reduce surface tension and form self-assembled aggregates of various morphologies in aqueous solutions, offering solubilization sites for hydrophobic molecules (e.g. drugs, dyes, etc.). Polyelectrolytes are as agents for flow and viscosity regulation of solutions, but are also ubiquitous in biological systems (e.g. nucleic acids and polysaccharides). Moreover, they exhibit strong electrostatic interactions with oppositely charged species, such as ionic surfactants, or with amphiphilic drugs. The mutual association of polyelectrolytes and surfactants is highly, resulting in so-called polyelectrolyte-surfactant complexes (PESCs).

The ionic self-assemblies of polyelectrolytes and oppositely charged surfactants have been widely applied in waste water treatment, oil recovery, drug formulations, cosmetics, surface coatings, preparation of colloidal particles etc., but also hierarchically porous materials and polymeric supramolecular materials.

With this special issue, we hope to show that this is an old but vibrant field. Research article, review article or a perspective on this topic are welcomed.





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Message from the Editor-in-Chief

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