

**Physical  
Properties  
of Polymers  
Handbook**

*Second Edition*

# Physical Properties of Polymers Handbook

*Second Edition*

Edited by

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 Springer

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# Contents

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Contributors .....	xi
Preface to the Second Edition .....	xvii
Preface to the First Edition .....	xix
<b>PART I. STRUCTURE</b>	
1. Chain Structures .....	3
<i>P. R. Sundararajan</i>	
2. Names, Acronyms, Classes, and Structures of Some Important Polymers .....	25
<i>Chandima Kumudinie Jayasuriya and Jagath K. Premachandra</i>	
<b>PART II. THEORY</b>	
3. The Rotational Isomeric State Model .....	43
<i>Carin A. Helfer and Wayne L. Mattice</i>	
4. Computational Parameters .....	59
<i>Joel R. Fried</i>	
5. Theoretical Models and Simulations of Polymer Chains .....	67
<i>Andrzej Kloczkowski and Andrzej Kolinski</i>	
6. Scaling, Exponents, and Fractal Dimensions .....	83
<i>Mohamed Daoud, H. Eugene Stanley, and Dietrich Stauffer</i>	
<b>PART III. THERMODYNAMIC PROPERTIES</b>	
7. Densities, Coefficients of Thermal Expansion, and Compressibilities of Amorphous Polymers .....	93
<i>Robert A. Orwoll</i>	
8. Thermodynamic Properties of Proteins .....	103
<i>George I. Makhatadze</i>	
9. Heat Capacities of Polymers .....	145
<i>Jianye Wen</i>	
10. Thermal Conductivity .....	155
<i>Yong Yang</i>	

11.	Thermodynamic Quantities Governing Melting .....	165
	<i>L. Mandelkern and R. G. Alamo</i>	
12.	The Glass Temperature .....	187
	<i>Donald J. Plazek and Kia L. Ngai</i>	
13.	Sub- $T_g$ Transitions .....	217
	<i>Joel R. Fried</i>	
14.	Polymer—Solvent Interaction Parameter $\chi$ .....	233
	<i>Robert A. Orwoll and Pamela A. Arnold</i>	
15.	Theta Temperatures .....	259
	<i>P. R. Sundararajan</i>	
16.	Solubility Parameters .....	289
	<i>W. Zeng, Y. Du, Y. Xue, and H. L. Frisch</i>	
17.	Mark—Houwink—Staudinger—Sakurada Constants .....	305
	<i>W. Zeng, Y. Du, Y. Xue, and H. L. Frisch</i>	
18.	Polymers and Supercritical Fluids .....	319
	<i>Annette D. Shine</i>	
19.	Thermodynamics of Polymer Blends .....	339
	<i>Hany B. Eitouni and Nitash P. Balsara</i>	

#### **PART IV. SPECTROSCOPY**

20.	NMR Spectroscopy of Polymers .....	359
	<i>Alan E. Tonelli and Jeffery L. White</i>	
21.	Broadband Dielectric Spectroscopy to Study the Molecular Dynamics of Polymers Having Different Molecular Architectures .....	385
	<i>F. Kremer</i>	
22.	Group Frequency Assignments for Major Infrared Bands Observed in Common Synthetic Polymers .....	395
	<i>I. Noda, A. E. Dowrey, J. L. Haynes, and C. Marcott</i>	
23.	Small Angle Neutron and X-Ray Scattering .....	407
	<i>George D. Wignall</i>	

#### **PART V. MECHANICAL PROPERTIES**

24.	Mechanical Properties .....	423
	<i>Witold Brostow</i>	
25.	Chain Dimensions and Entanglement Spacings .....	447
	<i>L. J. Fetters, D. J. Lohse, and R. H. Colby</i>	
26.	Temperature Dependences of the Viscoelastic Response of Polymer Systems .....	455
	<i>K. L. Ngai and D. J. Plazek</i>	
27.	Adhesives .....	479
	<i>Alphonsus V. Pocius</i>	

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28.	Some Mechanical Properties of Typical Polymer-Based Composites .....	487
	<i>Jianye Wen</i>	
29.	Polymer Networks and Gels .....	497
	<i>Ferenc Horkay and Gregory B. McKenna</i>	
30.	Force Spectroscopy of Polymers: Beyond Single Chain Mechanics .....	525
	<i>Xi Zhang, Chuanjun Liu, and Weiqing Shi</i>	

## **PART VI. REINFORCING PHASES**

31.	Carbon Black .....	539
	<i>Manfred Klüppel, Andreas Schröder and Gert Heinrich</i>	
32.	Properties of Polymers Reinforced with Silica .....	551
	<i>Chandima Kumudinie Jayasuriya and Jagath K. Premachandra</i>	
33.	Physical Properties of Polymer/Clay Nanocomposites .....	561
	<i>Clois E. Powell and Gary W. Beall</i>	
34.	Polyhedral Oligomeric Silsesquioxane (POSS) .....	577
	<i>Guirong Pan</i>	
35.	Carbon Nanotube Polymer Composites: Recent Developments in Mechanical Properties .....	585
	<i>M. C. Weisenberger, R. Andrews, and T. Rantell</i>	
36.	Reinforcement Theories .....	599
	<i>Gert Heinrich, Manfred Klüppel, and Thomas Vilgis</i>	

## **PART VII. CRYSTALLINITY AND MORPHOLOGY**

37.	Densities of Amorphous and Crystalline Polymers .....	611
	<i>Vladyslav Kholodovych and William J. Welsh</i>	
38.	Unit Cell Information on Some Important Polymers .....	619
	<i>Edward S. Clark</i>	
39.	Crystallization Kinetics of Polymers .....	625
	<i>Rahul Patki, Khaled Mezghani, and Paul J. Phillips</i>	
40.	Block Copolymer Melts .....	641
	<i>V. Castelletto and I. W. Hamley</i>	
41.	Polymer Liquid Crystals and Their Blends .....	653
	<i>Witold Brostow</i>	
42.	The Emergence of a New Macromolecular Architecture: “The Dendritic State” .....	671
	<i>Donald A. Tomalia</i>	
43.	Polyrotaxanes .....	693
	<i>Feihe Huang, Adam M.-P. Pederson, and Harry W. Gibson</i>	
44.	Foldamers: Nanoscale Shape Control at the Interface Between Small Molecules and High Polymers .....	699
	<i>Morris M. Slutsky, Richard A. Blatchly, and Gregory N. Tew</i>	

45. Recent Advances in Supramolecular Polymers ..... 715  
*Varun Gauba and Jeffrey D. Hartgerink*

### **PART VIII. ELECTRICAL, OPTICAL AND MAGNETIC PROPERTIES**

46. Conducting Polymers: Electrical Conductivity ..... 725  
*Arthur J. Epstein*
47. Electroluminescent Polymer Systems ..... 757  
*Leni Akcelrud*
48. Magnetic, Piezoelectric, Pyroelectric, and Ferroelectric Properties of Synthetic  
and Biological Polymers ..... 787  
*Andrzej Kloczkowski and Taner Z. Sen*
49. Nonlinear Optical Properties of Polymers ..... 795  
*W. M. K. P. Wijekoon, K.-S. Lee, and P. N. Prasad*
50. Refractive Index, Stress-Optical Coefficient, and Optical Configuration Parameter  
of Polymers ..... 823  
*Vassilios Galiatsatos*

### **PART IX. RESPONSES TO RADIATION, HEAT, AND CHEMICAL AGENTS**

51. Ultraviolet Radiation and Polymers ..... 857  
*Anthony L. Andraday*
52. The Effects of Electron Beam and  $\gamma$ -Irradiation on Polymeric Materials ..... 867  
*K. Dawes, L. C. Glover, and D. A. Vroom*
53. Flammability ..... 889  
*Archibald Tewarson*
54. Thermal-Oxidative Stability and Degradation of Polymers ..... 927  
*Vladyslav Kholodovych and William J. Welsh*
55. Synthetic Biodegradable Polymers for Medical Applications ..... 939  
*Laura J. Suggs, Sheila A. Moore, and Antonios G. Mikos*
56. Biodegradability of Polymers ..... 951  
*Anthony L. Andraday*
57. Properties of Photoresist Polymers ..... 965  
*Qinghuang Lin*
58. Pyrolyzability of Preceramic Polymers ..... 981  
*Yi Pang, Ke Feng, and Yitbarek H. Mariam*

### **PART X. OTHER PROPERTIES**

59. Surface and Interfacial Properties ..... 1011  
*Afshin Falsafi, Subu Mangipudi, and Michael J. Owen*
60. Acoustic Properties of Polymers ..... 1021  
*Moitreyee Sinha and Donald J. Buckley*

61.	Permeability of Polymers to Gases and Vapors .....	1033
	<i>S. A. Stern and J. R. Fried</i>	

**PART XI. MISCELLANEOUS**

62.	Definitions .....	1051
	<i>Ping Xu</i>	
63.	Units and Conversion Factors .....	1057
	<i>Shuhong Wang</i>	
	<b>Subject Index</b> .....	1063



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# Preface to the Second Edition

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As before, the goal of this handbook is to provide concise information on the properties of polymeric materials, particularly those most relevant to the areas of physical chemistry and chemical physics. The hope is that it will simplify some of the problems of finding useful information on polymer properties.

All of the chapters of the first edition were updated and 11 entirely new chapters added. Four of them focus on novel polymeric structures, specifically dendrimers, polyrotaxanes, foldamers, and supramolecular polymers in general. Another group of chapters covers reinforcing phases in polymers, including carbon black, silica, clays, polyhedral oligomeric silsesquioxanes (POSS), carbon nanotubes, and relevant theories. The final new chapter describes experiments on single polymer chains.

It is a pleasure to acknowledge with gratitude the encouragement, support, and technical assistance provided by Springer, particularly David Packer, Lee Lubarsky, Felix Portnoy, and, earlier, Hans Koelsch. The editor also wishes to thank his wife Helen for the type of understanding and support that helps get one through book projects of this complexity.

*James E. Mark  
Cincinnati, Ohio  
December 2006*

# Preface to the First Edition

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This handbook offers concise information on the properties of polymeric materials, particularly those most relevant to the areas of physical chemistry and chemical physics. It thus emphasizes those properties of greatest utility to polymer chemists, physicists, and engineers interested in characterizing such materials. With this emphasis, the more synthetic–organic topics such as the polymerization process and the chemical modification of polymers were considered beyond its scope.

The contributors to this handbook have endeavored to be highly selective, choosing and documenting those results considered to have the highest relevance and reliability. There was thus no attempt to be exhaustive and comprehensive. The careful selection of the results included, however, suggests it should nonetheless provide the great majority of topics and data on polymer properties likely to be sought by members of the polymer community. Extensive indexing should facilitate locating the desired information, and it is hoped that the modest size of the handbook will give it considerable portability and wide availability.

Every attempt has been made to include modern topics not covered in a convenient handbook format elsewhere, such as scaling and fractal dimensions, computational parameters, rotational isomeric state models, liquid–crystalline polymers, medical applications, biodegradability, surface and interfacial properties, microlithography, supercritical fluids, pyrolyzability, electrical conductivity, nonlinear optical properties, and electroluminescence.

All contributions to this volume were extensively reviewed by a minimum of two referees, to insure articles of the highest quality and relevance. Many of the reviewers were chosen from the Editorial Board of the *AIP Series in Polymers and Complex Materials*, of which this handbook is a part. Their important contributions are gratefully acknowledged, as are those of the Editors-in-Chief of the Series, Ronald Larson and Philip A. Pincus. One Editorial Board member, Robert E. Cohen, deserves special acknowledgment and sincere thanks. He not only originated the idea of doing a handbook of this type, but also contributed tremendously to its realization. Charles H. Doering and Maria Taylor (and earlier, Zvi Ruder) also provided unfailing support and encouragement in this project. It has been a distinct pleasure working with them and other members of the AIP Press: K. Okun, K. S. Kleinstiver, M. Star, and C. Blaut. The editor also wishes to thank his wife Helen for the type of understanding and support that is not always easy to put into words.

Both the editor and contributors to this volume would feel well rewarded if this handbook helps relieve some of the problems of finding useful information on polymer properties in the ever-growing scientific literature.

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