Editorial

iMedPub Journals
www.imedpub.com

Der Chemica Sinica
ISSN 0976-8505

2021
Vol.12 No.5:24

Editorial Note on Polymer-Supported Liquid Layer Electrolyzers

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Received: May 21, 2021; **Accepted:** May 26, 2021; **Published:** May 31, 2021

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Citation: Yerram N (2021) Editorial Note on Polymer-Supported Liquid Layer Electrolyzers. Der Chem Sin Vol. 12, No.5:24

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The major component of crustacean shells, such as crabs and shrimp, is chitin, which is the second most prevalent biopolymer after cellulose. The conversion of cellulose, a D-glucose polysaccharide, into useful compounds as fuels has been intensively researched.

In contrast to biorefinery, the notion of "shell biorefinery" has recently been presented. The goal of a biorefinery is to turn lignocellulosic biomass into chemicals. Chitin is a promising resource for producing value-added compounds in the shell biorefinery idea.

Several research groups, for example, have developed ways for making nitrogen-containing compounds from chitin. In addition, useful non-nitrogenous compounds such as 5-hydroxymethylfurfural (5-HMF) and levulinic acid have been made from cellulose as well as chitin and chitin-derived compounds. The levelized cost of eCO_2 R to CO includes both capital expenditure, such as the cost of the electrolyzer, and operational costs, such as CO_2 feedstock, energy consumption, and product separation. One of the biggest expenditures is energy consumption, which is primarily influenced by the EE of the CO_2 electrolyzer and is thus a limiting factor in the development of efficient eCO_2 R towards industrialization.