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Editorial

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EDITORIAL

This issue of the Journal of Carbohydrate Chemistry is the second special edition devoted entirely to a selected topic of particular current interest to carbohydrate chemists. The subject of this issue is the application of modern nuclear magnetic resonance methods to structural analysis of carbohydrates. No instrumental technique has had a greater impact on carbohydrate chemistry than NMR. The recent introduction of two-dimensional (2D) and cross-polarization magic angle spinning (CP-MAS) NMR spectroscopy has made possible a whole new range of NMR experiments which yield information not previously obtainable. The papers contained in this issue of the Journal offer a variety of examples of structural determinations using these new techniques.

The pattern for special editions of the Journal is to have an introductory review article, prepared by an expert in the field, followed by a group of related research papers. Since the focus of this issue is on 2D and CP-MAS NMR, two introductory reviews have been written. Philip E. Pfeffer has prepared an article on CP-MAS NMR while Steven L. Patt has provided an introduction to 2D NMR. The research papers have come from laboratories throughout the world which are pioneering in the use of these techniques.

Finally, this issue of the Journal has been made possible, of course, by the dedicated research of the contributors; however, special mention must be made of the work of Dr. Pfeffer, who was responsible for organizing this special issue. All the people who benefit from reading this volume are in debt to him for his tireless efforts.

Roger W. Binkley
Special Topics Editor