

## Preface to Third Edition

The continuing success of this book has necessitated a further revision to bring it up to date. The main chapters have not been altered, but I have introduced new material into chapters 10 and 11, and I have also added a completely new chapter, number 9, to deal with the rapidly developing subject of dendrimers. Though what I have said here is, of necessity, brief it does draw attention to the existence of these materials and to the major ways in which they differ from conventional linear polymers.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank those readers who have written to me in the past to draw my attention to inaccuracies or ambiguities in the previous editions. May I invite readers of this new edition to consider doing the same? No book is perfect, but with your help, I can at least ensure that this one is the best it can be.

Lastly, once again I wish to acknowledge the support of my wife Suzette during the time I have devoted to the revision of this book. As ever, such an addition to my workload has only been possible because of her help, and I am deeply grateful to her for it.

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