

# Contents

|   |    |
|---|----|
| <b>Chapter 1</b>  |    |
| <b>Nano-Science and Nano-Magnetism</b>  | 1  |
| <b>Chapter 2</b>  |    |
| <b>The surface analysis techniques</b>  | 5  |
| 1. X-ray Photoelectron Spectroscopy   | 6  |
| 2. Time-of-Flight Secondary - Secondary Ion Mass Spectrometry                         | 7  |
| 3. Scanning Probe Microscopies  | 10 |
| 3.1 Scanning Tunneling microscopy   | 14 |
| 3.2 Atomic Force Microscopy   | 19 |
| <b>Chapter 3</b>  |    |
| <b>Deposition processes</b>   | 23 |
| 1. Evaporation techniques   | 23 |
| 2. Drop-casting method  | 26 |
| 3. Self-Assembling of Monolayer technique   | 26 |
| 4. Micro-contact printing technique   | 31 |
| <b>Chapter 4</b>  |    |
| <b>Syntheses of Single Molecule Magnets for deposition on gold surfaces</b>           | 33 |
| 1. The Mn <sub>12</sub> - <i>acetate</i> cluster and the general scheme of derivation | 33 |
| 2. Mn <sub>12</sub> sulphur-based derivatives   | 40 |
| 2.1 Aliphatic acetyl-thio-derivative of Mn <sub>12</sub>                              | 41 |
| 2.1 Aromatic acetyl-thio-derivative of Mn <sub>12</sub>                               | 44 |
| 2.3 Aromatic methyl sulphide-derivative of Mn <sub>12</sub>                           | 46 |
| 2.4 Aliphatic disulphide-derivative of Mn <sub>12</sub>                               | 48 |
| 2.5 Toward the iso-orientation of Mn <sub>12</sub> molecules on surface               | 49 |
| 3. Bulk magnetic characterization of Mn <sub>12</sub> -sulphur derivatives            | 51 |

|  |     |
|--|-----|
| <b>Chapter 5</b>   |     |
| <b>Syntheses of Nitronyl Nitroxide radicals for deposition on gold surfaces</b>  | 57  |
| 1. Nitronyl Nitroxide radicals   | 57  |
| 1.1 General synthesis of Nitronyl Nitroxides                                     | 57  |
| 1.2 The first sulphur derivative of Nitronyl Nitroxides                          | 59  |
| 1.3 The bi-phenyl derivative of Nitronyl Nitroxides                              | 60  |
| 1.4 The benzylic derivative of Nitronyl Nitroxides                               | 62  |
| 1.5 Aliphatic disulphide derivative of Nitronyl Nitroxides                       | 65  |
| <b>Chapter 6</b>   |     |
| <b>Deposition of magnetic molecules on gold surfaces</b>                         | 67  |
| 1. Deposition and characterization of SMMs on surface                            | 67  |
| 1.1 Homogeneous monolayers   | 68  |
| 1.2 Isolated (and organized?) molecules  | 76  |
| 1.3 Isolated and oriented molecules  | 83  |
| 1.4 Patterned molecules  | 84  |
| 2. Deposition and characterization on surface of organic radicals                | 88  |
| 2.1 From disordered to ordered monolayers  | 88  |
| 2.2 Patterned molecules  | 95  |
| <b>Chapter 7</b>   |     |
| <b>Attempts in detecting the magnetism of one layer of molecules on surfaces</b> | 99  |
| 1. Traditional measurement of Mn12 functionalized surfaces                       | 99  |
| 2. Surface measurement of Mn12 functionalized surfaces                           | 100 |
| 2.1 Magneto-optical characterization of functionalized surfaces                  | 101 |
| 2.2 XAS and XMCD characterization of functionalized surfaces                     | 102 |
| 3. Measurement of Nitronyl Nitroxide functionalized surfaces                     | 113 |
| <b>Chapter 8</b>   |     |
| <b>Magnetism of single molecules</b>   | 119 |
| 1. Magnetism of a single molecule magnet   | 119 |
| 2. Detection of a single spin of organic radicals through the ESN-STM            | 121 |
| 2.1 ESN-STM instrumentation description  | 122 |
| 2.2 Testing of the ESN-STM with standards  | 125 |
| 2.3 ESN-STM investigation of Nitronyl Nitroxide molecules.                       | 131 |
| <b>Chapter 9</b>   |     |
| <b>Conclusions</b>   | 133 |
| <b>Bibliographic references</b>  | 135 |