
Contents

List of authors	x
Preface to the first edition	xi
Introduction	xiii
1 The nanotechnology revolution	1
1.1 From micro- to nanoelectronics	2
1.2 From the macroscopic to the nanoscopic world	4
1.3 From the fundamental to the applications	5
1.4 A different physics	6
1.4.1 Scale law	6
1.4.2 Mechanics	6
1.4.3 Fluid mechanics	10
1.4.4 Electromagnetism	10
1.4.5 Thermodynamics	12
1.4.6 Optics	13
1.5 Some examples	13
1.6 Various applications	15
1.6.1 Nanoelectronics	15
1.6.2 Biotechnologies	16
1.6.3 Biomedical field	16
1.6.4 Space domain	17
1.6.5 Sustainable development	18
2 Atomic structure and cohesion	19
2.1 Surfaces and interfaces	20
2.1.1 Superficial tension	21
2.1.2 Crystals' shape	21
2.1.3 Drops and contact angles	23
2.1.4 Development of films on top of a substrate	24
2.1.5 Adhesion phenomena	25
2.1.6 Adhesion work	26
2.2 Thermodynamics of nanoparticles	27
2.2.1 Thermodynamics description	27
2.2.2 Temperature definitions	27

2.2.3	Nanoparticles' energy	28
2.2.4	Fusion of spherical nanoparticles	29
2.2.5	Fusion of non-spherical nanoparticles	30
2.2.6	Phase diagrams of nanoparticles	31
2.2.7	Nanoparticle stability	35
2.3	From the atom to the nanoparticle	35
2.3.1	Atom clusters	35
2.3.2	Nanoparticles	38
2.3.3	Magic numbers	38
2.3.4	Fullerenes	38
2.3.5	Nanotubes	40
2.3.6	Filling of nanotubes	42
2.3.7	Geometric shape of non-hollow clusters	43
2.3.8	Shape fluctuations	44
3	Electronic structures of nanosystems	47
3.1	Electrons in matter	47
3.1.1	An electron in a one-dimensional potential well	47
3.1.2	An electron in a spherical potential well	49
3.1.3	An electron in the hydrogen atom	50
3.1.4	An electron in a periodical potential	52
3.1.5	Electron, hole and exciton	54
3.1.6	From zero to three dimensions	55
3.2	From the solid to the nanoparticle	57
3.2.1	Weak confinement	57
3.2.2	Strong confinement	58
3.3	Optical properties of metallic nanoparticles	60
3.4	Electrical properties: the Coulomb blockade	61
3.5	Quantization of electrical conductivity	61
4	Molecular electronics	63
4.1	Molecular wires	64
4.1.1	Mechanical junctions	64
4.1.2	The contribution of high-resolution microscopy	66
4.1.3	Current through a molecule	67
4.1.4	Coulomb blockade	69
4.2	Molecular rectifiers	70
4.3	Molecular transistors	72
4.4	Molecular resonant tunnelling diodes	74
4.5	Molecular memories	76
4.6	Towards the molecular computer	78
5	Neuroelectronics	79
5.1	When electronics meets biology	79
5.1.1	Communication between neurons and transistors	80

5.1.2	Neurons' control over integrated circuits	80
5.1.3	Electronic circuit between two neurons	81
5.2	A computer based on the DNA double helix	83
6	Plastic electronics	87
6.1	Conjugation in conducting polymers	87
6.2	Electronic structure and electron-phonon coupling	89
6.3	Charge transport	91
6.4	Electronic excitations and optical properties	94
6.5	Plastic electronics	97
6.5.1	Organic light-emitting diodes	98
6.5.2	Photovoltaic sensors and organic solar cells	102
6.5.3	Organic transistors and plastic integrated circuits	105
6.5.4	Field-effect transistors	107
6.5.5	Purity of compounds and field mobility	108
6.5.6	Ideal structures and possible ones	109
6.5.7	Polymer-based biochemical sensors	111
6.6	Photoluminescent conjugated polymers	112
6.6.1	Chemical sensors	113
6.6.2	Biological sensors	115
6.7	I/V response of field-effect organic transistor	115
6.8	Doped conjugated polymers	117
7	Fabrication of nanostructures	121
7.1	Situation of the problem	122
7.2	Contribution of supramolecular chemistry	123
7.3	Semi-conducting nanoribbons	124
7.4	Creation of nanostructures	127
7.4.1	Natural structured surface	128
7.4.2	Nanolithography	128
7.4.3	Micro-contact printing	130
7.4.4	Ink-jet printing	130
7.5	Patterning	132
7.6	Hybrid techniques	135
7.7	Writing via local probe microscopy	135
7.8	Design and development of molecular circuits	138
8	Organic-matrix-based nanocomposites	141
8.1	Types of nanoparticle	142
8.1.1	Nanoparticles with three nanometric dimensions	142
8.1.2	Nanoparticles with two nanometric dimensions	142
8.1.3	Nanoparticles with a single nanometric dimension	142

8.2	Preparation of nanocomposites	144
8.2.1	Dispersion of nanoparticles in a preformed polymer matrix	146
8.2.2	Matrix synthesis in the presence of nanoparticles	147
8.2.3	Preparation of nanoparticles in organic matrix	148
8.3	Characterization and properties	149
8.3.1	Morphological characterization: tools and techniques	149
8.3.2	Properties	151
8.4	Applications	154
8.4.1	Nylon-6 smectite nanocomposites for clingfilm	154
8.4.2	Nanocomposites based on vinyl ethylene-acetate copolymer in the electric cable industry	155
8.5	Prospects	155
9	Nanomagnetism	157
9.1	Magnetism in matter	157
9.1.1	Diamagnetism and paramagnetism	157
9.1.2	Ferromagnetism and Weiss domains	158
9.1.3	Superparamagnetism	161
9.1.4	Antiferromagnetism	162
9.2	Superparamagnetic colloids	162
9.2.1	Properties	162
9.2.2	Synthesis	165
9.2.3	Magnetoliposomes	166
9.2.4	Characterization of superparamagnetic colloids	166
9.3	Nanomagnets in thermotherapy	167
9.3.1	Heating tumours to destroy them	167
9.3.2	Absorption of radiofrequency waves by nanomagnets	169
9.3.3	Results	172
9.4	Biomagnetism	173
9.4.1	Iron in biology	174
9.4.2	Molluscs	174
9.4.3	Magnetotactic bacteria	175
9.4.4	The magnetic navigation of animals	177
9.4.5	Ferritin	177
10	Nanotechnologies in perspective	179
10.1	Health and environmental issues	182
10.2	Military interests	183
10.3	Media and ethical considerations	184
10.4	NBIC	185
10.5	Education issues	187

Appendix 1	Electron microscopy	189
Appendix 2	X photoemission spectroscopy (XPS) and secondary ions mass spectroscopy (ToF SIMS)	193
A2.1	The XPS technique	193
A2.2	The ToF-SIMS technique	195
Appendix 3	Imaging by nuclear magnetic resonance	199
A3.1	Relaxation times	199
A3.2	Selection of a slice and voxel notion	200
	Bibliography	203
	Index	207