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Sommario/riassunto

This second Special Topic edition follows the success of the first one: edited and published by TTP in 2008. It is intended to communicate the latest progress and research advances made in the theory, research and development of MSMMs. It comprises a collection of fifteen invited peer-reviewed papers; each detailing a particular aspect of fundamental and/or practical investigations of MSMMs and related phenomena. The comprehensive overview provided by these contributions strikingly reflects the diverse facets of this materials science field. The papers show how research is continuing to evolve