Record Nr.	UNINA9910827804803321
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Titolo	Introduction to molecular magnetism : from transition metals to lanthanides / / Cristiano Benelli and Dante Gatteschi
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Weinheim, Germany : , : Wiley-VCH, , 2015 ©2015
ISBN	3-527-69055-7 3-527-69054-9
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (465 p.)
Disciplina	541.378
Soggetti	Magnetochemistry
	Molecular crystals - Magnetic properties
	Rare earth metals
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and index.
Nota di contenuto	Cover; Title Page; Copyright; Contents; Preface; Chapter 1 Introduction; 1.1 A Nano History of Molecular Magnetism; 1.2 Molecules, Conductors, and Magnets; 1.3 Origin of Molecular Magnetism; 1.4 Playing with the Periodic Table; 1.5 p Magnetic Orbitals; 1.6 d Magnetic Orbitals; 1.7 f Magnetic Orbitals; 1.8 The Goals of Molecular Magnetism; 1.9 Why a Book; 1.10 Outlook; 1.11 The Applications of Ln; 1.12 Finally SI versus emu; References; Chapter 2 Electronic Structures of Free lons; 2.1 The Naked lons; 2.2 Spin-Orbit Coupling; 2.3 Applying a Magnetic Field; References Chapter 3 Electronic Structure of Coordinated Ions3.1 Dressing Ions; 3.2 The Crystal Field; 3.3 The aquo Ions; 3.4 The Angular Overlap Model; 3.5 The Lantanum(III) with Phthalocyanine (Pc) and PolyOxoMetalates (POM); 3.6 Introducing Magnetic Anisotropy; References; Chapter 4 Coordination Chemistry and Molecular Magnetism; 4.1 Introduction; 4.2 Pyrazolylborates; 4.3 Phthalocyanines; 4.4 Cyclopentadiene and Cyclooctatetraene; 4.5 Polyoxometalates (POMs); 4.6 Diketonates; 4.7 Nitronyl-nitroxides (NITs); 4.8 Carboxylates; 4.9 Schiff Bases; References; Chapter 5 Magnetism of Ions

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Sommario/riassunto	This first introduction to the rapidly growing field of molecular magnetism is written with Masters and PhD students in mind, while postdocs and other newcomers will also find it an extremely useful guide. Adopting a clear didactic approach, the authors cover the fundamental concepts, providing many examples and give an overview of the most important techniques and key applications. Although the focus is one lanthanide ions, thus reflecting the current research in the field, the principles and the methods equally apply to other systems.