



# Single and Coupled Magnetic Atoms Investigated by Low-Temperature STM and Model Calculations

By Bruno Chilian

Cuvillier Verlag Aug 2011, 2011. Buch. Book Condition: Neu. 210x147x14 mm. Neuware - Spin-sensitive low temperature Scanning Tunneling Microscopy (STM) measurements provide the unique capability to study structural, electronic and magnetic properties of individual and coupled magnetic atoms on surfaces with high energy resolution. In this thesis, spin-polarized STM (SP-STM) and Inelastic Scanning Tunneling Spectroscopy (ISTS) are utilized to investigate Fe atoms on the semiconducting InSb(110) surface and the metallic Cu(111) and Ag(111) surfaces. Model calculations of tunneling through an excitable quantum spin system and analytical investigations of the model, as well as quasi-classical and Ising model calculations of coupled spin systems prepare the ground for the theoretical description of the experiments. The ISTS measurements of Fe on InSb(110) are the first observation of spin excitations of individual magnetic atoms on a semiconductor surface. By comparing the experimental data to Density Functional Theory (DFT) calculations performed by S. Schuwalow and F. Lechermann and to model calculations, it is found that the Fe atoms behave like quantum spins with spin quantum number  $S = 1$ , which are subject to magnetic anisotropy in the meV range. The Fe atoms are coupled to a two dimensional electron system (2DES) which is induced at...



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