



# Contents

|   |           |
|---|-----------|
| <b>Abbreviations</b>  | <b>XV</b> |
| <b>1 Introduction</b>   | <b>1</b>  |
| <b>2 Theoretical background</b>   | <b>3</b>  |
| 2.1 Polymer chemistry . . . . .   | 3         |
| 2.1.1 Basic concepts in polymer chemistry . . . . .                               | 4         |
| 2.1.2 Free radical polymerization . . . . .                                       | 7         |
| 2.1.3 Reversible-deactivation radical polymerization . . . . .                    | 12        |
| 2.1.3.1 Reversible-addition-fragmentation chain-transfer polymerization . . . . . | 12        |
| 2.1.4 Metallopolymers . . . . .   | 17        |
| 2.2 Photochemistry . . . . .  | 21        |
| 2.2.1 Physical description of photochemical processes . . . . .                   | 22        |
| 2.2.2 Photochromic molecules . . . . .  | 27        |
| 2.2.2.1 Spiropyrans . . . . .   | 30        |
| 2.2.3 Photo triggered ligation techniques . . . . .                               | 37        |
| 2.2.3.1 Thioaldehydes . . . . .   | 41        |
| 2.2.3.2 Nitrile imine-mediated tetrazole-ene cycloaddition . . . . .              | 44        |
| 2.2.3.3 <i>ortho</i> -Quino dimethanes . . . . .                                  | 48        |
| 2.2.3.4 Spirothiopyrans . . . . .   | 51        |
| 2.3 3D laser lithography below the diffraction limit . . . . .                    | 54        |
| 2.3.1 The principle of STED . . . . .   | 54        |
| 2.3.2 From direct laser writing towards STED-inspired lithography . . . . .       | 56        |
| 2.3.2.1 Direct laser writing . . . . .  | 56        |
| 2.3.2.2 STED-inspired lithography . . . . .                                       | 57        |
| 2.4 Spatially resolved surface functionalization . . . . .                        | 62        |
| 2.4.1 Substrates . . . . .  | 63        |
| 2.4.2 Silicon surfaces . . . . .  | 64        |
| 2.4.2.1 Activation strategies . . . . .   | 64        |
| 2.4.2.2 Formation of self-assembled monolayers . . . . .                          | 65        |
| 2.4.2.3 Post-modification techniques . . . . .                                    | 66        |
| 2.4.2.4 Polymers on surfaces . . . . .  | 67        |
| 2.4.2.5 Surface-immobilized metallopolymers . . . . .                             | 70        |



|          |  |            |
|----------|--|------------|
| <b>3</b> | <b>Spatially resolved multiple metallopolymer surfaces by photolithography</b> | <b>73</b>  |
| 3.1      | Development of a surface ligation protocol . . . . .                           | 74         |
| 3.1.1    | Phenacylsulfide approach . . . . .   | 75         |
| 3.1.2    | NITEC approach . . . . .   | 81         |
| 3.2      | Metallopolymer synthesis . . . . .   | 86         |
| 3.3      | Surface attachment . . . . .   | 94         |
| 3.3.1    | Post-loading approach . . . . .  | 94         |
| 3.3.2    | Pre-loading approach . . . . .   | 97         |
| 3.4      | Conclusion . . . . .   | 113        |
| <b>4</b> | <b>Light-sensitive spiropyran-metal complexes</b>                              | <b>115</b> |
| 4.1      | Synthesis of spiropyran-metal complexes . . . . .                              | 117        |
| 4.2      | Photochemistry of spiropyran-metal complexes . . . . .                         | 126        |
| 4.2.1    | LED-UV-Vis investigations . . . . .  | 126        |
| 4.2.2    | LED-NMR spectroscopy . . . . .   | 128        |
| 4.3      | Conclusion . . . . .   | 138        |
| <b>5</b> | <b>Photocaged ligation <i>via</i> spirothiopyrans</b>                          | <b>139</b> |
| 5.1      | Surface photoligation . . . . .  | 141        |
| 5.2      | Fabrication of 3D microstructures . . . . .                                    | 147        |
| 5.3      | Linewidth reduction through STED-inspired lithography . . . . .                | 156        |
| 5.4      | Conclusion . . . . .   | 159        |
| <b>6</b> | <b>Concluding remarks</b>  | <b>163</b> |
| <b>7</b> | <b>Experimental section</b>  | <b>165</b> |
| 7.1      | Materials . . . . .  | 165        |
| 7.2      | Analysis . . . . .   | 167        |
| 7.3      | Synthesis of small molecules . . . . .   | 172        |
| 7.4      | Polymerizations . . . . .  | 180        |
| 7.5      | Surface reactions . . . . .  | 184        |
|          | <b>Bibliography</b>  | <b>187</b> |
|          | <b>List of Figures</b>   | <b>205</b> |
|          | <b>List of Tables</b>  | <b>221</b> |
|          | <b>List of Schemes</b>   | <b>223</b> |
| <b>A</b> | <b>Appendix</b>  | <b>227</b> |
| A.1      | Pulse sequence for LED-NMR kinetic experiments . . . . .                       | 227        |
| A.2      | Setup for LED-UV-Vis measurements . . . . .                                    | 228        |
| A.3      | Setup for LED-NMR measurements . . . . .                                       | 229        |
| A.4      | MATLAB Script for absorption corrected spectral intensity . . . . .            | 229        |



|  |                                     |            |
|--|-------------------------------------|------------|
| A.5  | NMR spectra . . . . .               | 236        |
| A.6  | UV-Vis spectra . . . . .            | 251        |
| A.7  | Emission spectra . . . . .          | 254        |
| A.8  | SEC chromatograms . . . . .         | 258        |
| A.9  | ToF-SIMS and XPS analysis . . . . . | 263        |
| A.9.1  | Monofunctional patterning . . . . . | 265        |
| A.9.2  | Bifunctional patterning . . . . .   | 283        |
| A.9.3  | Trifunctional patterning . . . . .  | 296        |
| <b>Publications and conference contributions</b> |                                     | <b>305</b> |
| <b>Acknowledgements</b>                          |                                     | <b>307</b> |