

spin label

Also contains definition of: spin probe

A stable paramagnetic group (typically a nitryl radical) that is attached to a part of a molecular entity whose microscopic environment is of interest and may be revealed by the electron spin resonance (ESR) spectrum of the spin label. When a simple paramagnetic molecular entity is used in this way without covalent attachment to the molecular entity of interest it is frequently referred to as a 'spin probe'.

Source:

PAC, 1994, 66, 1077 (*Glossary of terms used in physical organic chemistry (IUPAC Recommendations 1994)*) on page 1166