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Superconductivity in Long and Short Molecules

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We present the results of experimental study of superconductivity in individual molecules of carbon nanotubes [1,2], DNAs [3] and metallofullerenes [4]. Critical currents of superconductor-molecule-superconductor junctions were extensively studied as a function of temperature and magnetic field. The mechanism of current induced superconductor-normal state transition for a long molecule (carbon nanotubes and DNAs) is the creation of phase slip centers and for a short molecule (metallofullerenes) – multiple Andreev reflections. We observe an influence of spin state of encapsulated atom on the induced superconductivity in a metallofullerene molecule.

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2. A.Yu.Kasumov et al., Phys. Rev. B 68, 214521 (2003).
3. A.Yu.Kasumov et al., Science 291, 280 (2001).
4. A.Yu.Kasumov et al., cond-mat/0402312, submitted to Phys.Rev.Lett.