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Exciton binding energies in metallic single-walled carbon nanotubes are comparable to those in semiconducting ones ZHENDONG WANG, SUMIT MAZUMDAR, University of Arizona — Excitons in metallic singlewalled carbon nanotubes (M-SWCNTs) have attracted both theoretical ¹ and experimental ² attention recently. It has been claimed that exciton binding energies in M-SWCNTs are an order of magnitude smaller than those in semiconducting singlewalled carbon nanotubes (S-SWCNTs). We have investigated M-SWCNTs within a π -electron Hamiltonian that has previously reproduced quantitatively the absolute energies as well as the binding energies of both longitudinal ³ and transverse ⁴ excitons in S-SWCNTs. We are able once again to reproduce quantitatively the available absolute exciton energies and the optical absorption spectra of M-SWCNTs with diameters 0.9 - 1.4 nm. While we need a dielectric constant larger than in the S-SWCNTs, our calculated exciton binding energies in this diameter range are 0.2 -0.3 eV, only slightly smaller than those in S-SWCNTs with similar diameters. ⁵

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