

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR08 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Magic Number of a Spherical Ca Cluster on C₆₀ SUNGJONG WOO,
YOUNG-KYUN KWON, University of Massachusetts Lowell — Since the discovery
of fullerenes, there have been a lot of interest in investigating the metal-fullerene
clusters. Mass spectrum on the metal(M) covering on a C₆₀ complex showed a
peak at M₃₂C₆₀. This magic number was theoretically explained using the geometry
based on the C-Ca binding. However, such theories could not clearly reveal why
the peak at M₃₂C₆₀, especially for calcium clusters, is so prominent compared to
smaller number of metal atoms. Using *ab initio* MD simulations, we have found
that for Ca covering with less than 32 atoms, Ca atoms tend to be retracted to
a cluster rather than to be bound on each face of C₆₀ even though the Ca atoms
are deposited symmetrically. Such a cluster does not have specific number of atoms
and it is bound to C₆₀ through van der Waals interaction. However, once Ca forms
a spherical shell with 32 atoms, the structure is quite rigid so that it will not be
retracted to a cluster. We have also found that the interaction between an individual
Ca atom and each C₆₀ face gets loosen so that C₆₀ can rotate within Ca₃₂ sphere.
The phonon spectrum has been obtained by spectral analysis and electronic orbitals
of Ca₃₂C₆₀ will also be presented.

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Date submitted: 05 Dec 2007

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