

Abstract Submitted
for the MAR14 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Strain effect on electronic properties of low-dimensional γ -graphyne : first principles study HYEONSU LEE, SEOUNG-HUN KANG, SORA PARK, CHANG-SUN LEE, YOUNG-KYUN KWON, Department of Physics and Research Institute for Basic Sciences, Kyung Hee University — Using first-principles calculations, we study the interplay between structural and electronic properties of γ -graphyne nanotubes (γ GNTs) consisting of hexagonal carbon rings and acetylenic linkages. We first identify the equilibrium structures of various γ GNTs classified in terms of chirality: $(n, 0)$ denotes an armchair-type tube, whereas (n, n) does a zigzag-type, in contrast with CNTs. Then their Young's moduli are calculated to be a few hundreds in GPa, which are smaller than those of CNTs. We verify that all γ GNTs are intrinsic semiconductors with energy gap ($\lesssim 1.22$ eV) decreasing with tube diameter. It is, however, found that axial strain can significantly modifies the electronic structures of semiconducting γ GNTs. Very intriguingly, even semiconductor-metal transition occurs under compressive strain: all armchair γ GNTs, except for $(3,0)$ γ GNT with small diameter, become metallic, while only some types of zigzag γ GNTs metallic under compression. To explain the origin of such electronic structure modifications, we examine the effect of structural change on the band structures of two-dimensional γ -graphyne sheet under strains and match them with the band structure of γ GNTs using the zone-folding scheme.

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Date submitted: 15 Nov 2013

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