Mechanical detection of the vibrations of Carbon Nanotube and Graphene Resonators

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Breakthrough Electrical detection of mechanical vibrations of nanotube resonators (V. Sazonova et al. Nature 431, 284 (2004))

Problem Resonances cannot be assigned to the eigenmodes

SFM Technique





- Tested devices: MWNT, SWNT and Graphene Resonators
- Oscillating electrostatic force due to V_{RF}

$$F_{RF} = \frac{\partial C}{\partial z} (V_{DC} - \phi) V_{RF}$$

• V_{RF} is modulated at f_{mod} , $(1 - \cos(2\pi f_{mod}t))\cos(2\pi f_{RF}t)$

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- Detection of resonance at 3.12 GHz
- The highest reported resonance frequency of a double clamped resonator

Imaging Mechanical Eigenmodes





- Topography and first 3 eigenmodes vibration images for a 770nm long MWNT resonator
- Measured eigenmode shape in agreement with the model
- Estimated displacement of 0.2nm

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x (nm)

x (nm)

300

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		Theoretical			Measured		
L(nm)	d(nm)	f ₁ ^t (MHz)	f ₁ ^m (MHz)	f ₂ ^m (MHz)	f₃ ^m (MHz)	f_2^{m}/f_1^{m}	f ₃ ^m /f ₁ ^m
770	8.4	147	154	475	1078	3,1	7,0
1370	10	55	51	165	291	3,2	5,7
650	10	246	264	935	-	3,5	-
785	16	270	276	-	-	-	-
195	10	2734	2850	-	-	-	-
265	20	2961	3124	-	-	-	-

• Good agreement with the elastic beam theory:

$$f_n = \frac{22.73 \,\beta_n}{8\pi} \frac{d}{L^2} \sqrt{\frac{E}{\rho}}$$
 with $\beta_1 = 1$, $\beta_2 = 2.76$, $\beta_3 = 5.41$





		Theoretical	Measured		
L(nm)	d(nm)	f ₁ ^t (MHz)	$f_1^{m}(MHz)$	$f_2^{m}(MHz)$	
640	2,0	92,7	30,0	57,0	
465	1,3	114,1	260,0	-	
572	4,0	232,0	290,0	-	
193	1,5	764,3	573,0	-	

• Bad agreement with the elastic beam theory due to stress or slack







- The slack is similar to a mass attached to a point through a massless rod
- Reduction of *f_{res}* consistent with theoretical analysis (H. Ustunel *et al.* Nano Lett. *5*, 523 (2005))





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- Beam with t = 11nm and $l = 2.8, \mu$ m
- *f*₀ = 31 MHz
- FEM and elastic beam theory predictions in agreement with measurements

D. Garcia-Sanchez et al. Nano Lett. accepted for publication



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Graphene resonator with local buckling





Local buckling of 37 nm

• Exotic eigenmodes: "edge modes"

- FEM simulations in excellent agreement with measurements
- Very high maximum stress: 1.5 GPa
 - Steel breaks at 690 MPa, MWNTs between 11 and 63 GPa (M.F. Yu *et al.* Science 287, 637 (2000)), and SWNTs between 13 and 52 GPa (M.F. Yu *et al.* 84, 5552 (2000)).

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- The SFM technique can
 - detect very high frequency resonances
 - image the eigenmodes
 - can be applied to any nano-mechanical resonator
- MWNT behave as double clamped beams
- SWNT do not behave as double clamped beams
- Graphene resonators may have edge eigenmodes due to the stress introduce during fabrication



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