

Scientific Achievement

Enumeration of candidate atomic structures of carbon nanothreads, especially low energy structures.

Significance and Impact

This theory study will aid in the experimental determination of nanothread structure, guide modeling of properties, and inspire new directions in nanothread synthesis beyond those employing benzene precursor.

Research Details

- 15 nanothreads close in energy to the most stable one were identified.
- Materials properties such as bandgaps and mechanical stiffness were modeled; some nanothreads were found to be as strong as sp² carbon nanotubes.
- Euler's rules for ring counting were generalized to guide structure design of nanothreads synthesized from molecules other than benzene.



Office of Science



Xu, E.-S., Lammert, P.E. and Crespi, V.H. Systematic Enumeration of sp³ Nanothreads. Nano Letters, 10.1021/acs.nanolett.5b01343(2015).



