Fermi energy dependence of the G-band resonance Raman spectra of single-wall carbon nanotubes

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The G-band Raman spectra of single-wall carbon nanotubes (SWNTs) arise from the first-order, one-phonon, and intravalley G-band Raman-scattering processes, which have been widely utilized for characterizing SWNTs and graphene. The G-band spectra of a SWNT consist of a higher-frequency peak ($G^+$) near 1580–1590 cm$^{-1}$ and a lower-frequency peak ($G^-$) in the range 1550–1570 cm$^{-1}$. For semiconducting tubes (S-SWNT), the $G^+$ and $G^-$ peaks can be assigned to longitudinal-optical (LO) and transverse-optical (TO) phonon modes, respectively, while the $G^+$ and $G^-$ peaks of metallic tubes (M-SWNTs) are assigned to TO and LO phonon modes, respectively, because of the Kohn anomaly (KA) effect for phonons at the $\Gamma$ point. For the KA effect, the self-energy correction to the LO and TO phonon modes by the virtual excitation of an electron-hole pair causes a softening and a hardening of the LO and TO phonon frequencies, respectively.

Recently Nguyen et al. and Farhat et al. observed the Fermi energy ($E_F$) dependence of the phonon-softening effect of SWNTs by using an electrochemical gate, and their results clearly show that the LO phonon mode softens as a function of $E_F$. Thus the $E_F$-dependent Raman spectra measurement is important for SWNT field effect transistor operation. However, the observed G-band Raman spectra of an individual SWNT show an anomalous behavior depending on the chirality ($n,m$) of a SWNT, caused in part by the dependence of the relative intensity of the Raman $G^+$ to $G^-$-band features ($I_{G^+}/I_{G^-}$) on the chirality and diameter. For S-SWNTs, the $G^+$ peak is dominant at the zigzag chiral angle ($\theta \approx 0^\circ$), while both the $G^+$ and $G^-$ peaks appear at other chiral angles ($0^\circ < \theta < 30^\circ$). It has been known that the k-dependent electron-phonon (el-ph) interaction gives rise to the chirality dependence of both the G-band (Refs. 9 and 12) and radial breathing mode (RBM) (Ref. 12) Raman intensities. Thus the G-band spectral analysis is still not well understood, even though the G band has been studied for many years. In this Rapid Communication, resonance Raman spectra of SWNTs as a function of $E_F$ are calculated in order to understand and interpret the chirality and $E_F$-dependent G-band spectra. We show here that the k-dependent el-ph interaction affects both the $I_{G^+}/I_{G^-}$ relative Raman intensity and their spectral widths.

The Fermi energy dependence of $E_F$-dependence due to the KA affect not only the LO mode but also the TO mode, and both the LO and TO phonon frequencies depend on the chiral angle $\theta$. The G-band Raman intensity $I_\theta$ is calculated by the extended tight-binding (ETB) model.

$$I(\omega,E_F) = \sum_j \left| \sum_{a,b} \frac{M_{ab}(j,b)M_{ba}(b,a)M_{ba}(a,j)}{\Delta E_{aj}(\Delta E_{bj} - \hbar \omega)} \right|^2$$

in which $\Delta E_{aj} = E_j - (E_a - E_b) - i\gamma$, while $j$, $a$, and $b$, respectively, denote an initial state in the valence band, an excited state in the conduction band, and a scattered state for an excited electron. The electron-photon matrix elements ($M_{ab}$) (Refs. 14 and 15) and the el-ph matrix elements ($M_{ep}$) (Ref. 12) are calculated by the extended tight-binding (ETB) model. Here $\gamma$ is defined by an energy full width half maximum (FWHM) of the Raman excitation profile, also called the resonance window. $\gamma$ is calculated by the uncertainty relation between $\gamma$ and the lifetime $\tau$ of a photoexcited carrier, which depends on the SWNT diameter $d$, and the angle $\theta$ by experiment. The dominant lifetime of a photoexcited electron in the conduction band is determined by fast phonon emission processes for all phonons that have nonzero matrix elements $M_{ep}$ and $\gamma$ is given by the Fermi golden rule. Thus $\gamma$ is written as

$$\gamma = 2\pi \sum_n \delta(E_j - E_n \pm \hbar \omega_n),$$

where each term in the summation taken over the final state $|f\rangle$ indicates the transition probability per unit of time from an initial photoexcited state $|a\rangle$ to $|f\rangle$. The delta function $\delta(E_j - E_n \pm \hbar \omega_n)$ expresses the energy-momentum conservation in the phonon emission and absorption processes, and
The phonon frequency $\omega$ of the LO and TO phonon modes at the $\Gamma$ point for M-SWNTs is calculated by including the KA effect. The phonon energy $\hbar \omega$ becomes $\hbar \omega = \hbar \omega^{(0)} + \hbar \omega^{(2)}$, where $\hbar \omega^{(0)}$ is the original phonon frequency without the el-ph interaction, and $\hbar \omega^{(2)}$ is the quantum correction to $\hbar \omega^{(0)}$, which is given by

$$\hbar \omega^{(2)} = 2 \sum_k \frac{|\langle eh(k)|H_{ep}|\omega^{(0)}\rangle|^2}{\hbar \omega^{(0)} - [E_h(k) - E_e(k)] + i\Gamma} \times [f(E_e(k) - E_F) - f(E_h(k) - E_F)]$$

in which the factor 2 comes from spin degeneracy and $E_h(k)$ is an electron (hole) energy with wave vector $k$, and $\langle eh(k)|H_{ep}|\omega^{(0)}\rangle$ represents the el-ph matrix element for creating an electron-hole pair with $k$ by the el-ph interaction $H_{ep}$, and $f(E)$ is the Fermi distribution function. The $G$-band spectral width is given by the decay width $\Gamma$. We calculate $\Gamma$ self-consistently by calculating $\Gamma = -\text{Im}(\hbar \omega^{(2)})$. It is noted that $\gamma$ and $\Gamma$ are different from each other, though the interactions of $\gamma$ and $\Gamma$ originate from the same $H_{ep}$. $\gamma$ originates from the lifetime of a photoexcited carrier, while $\Gamma$ originates from the lifetime of the phonon. In the experiment, $\gamma$ and $\Gamma$ appear, respectively, in the Raman excitation profile and in the Raman spectrum.

Figure 1(a) shows the calculated resonance Raman spectra for the $G$ band of type I S-SWNTs (Ref. 9) with family number $p = 2n + m = 28$. The $(n, m)$ SWNTs with the same family number $p$ have a similar diameter to one another. The $E_i$ and $\gamma$ [see Fig. 1(c)] are taken from $E_i^{(2)}$ for each $(n, m)$ SWNT. The chiral angle can vary from $0^\circ$ to $30^\circ$. The intensity of the $G^-$ peak (TO) is always smaller than that of the $G^+$ peak (LO) because $M_{R,LO}^{ep} > M_{R,TO}^{ep}$, as shown in Fig. 1(b), in which the notation $R$ indicates the Raman scattering. It is important to point out that the electron-phonon matrix elements for Raman and KA are different since both initial and final states are different. In particular, the intensity of the $G^-$ peak vanishes for a $(14,0)$ SWNT since $M_{R,TO}^{ep}$ for zigzag SWNTs is zero, as shown in Fig. 1(b). Here $M_{R}^{ep}$ is calculated for the phonon amplitude at 300 K. These calculated $G$-band Raman spectra can be compared with previous experimental results, which show only one peak in the $G$-band spectra of $(n, m)$ SWNTs with special chiral angles. The observed $(n, m)$ SWNT can be assigned as a zigzag SWNT by the calculation. In order to explain this, the el-ph matrix elements for the LO and TO phonons with $q = 0$ are given by

$$M_{R,LO}^{ep} = \langle e(k)|\gamma|\omega^{(0)}|h(k)\rangle = g u \cos \Theta_R(k),$$

$$M_{R,TO}^{ep} = \langle e(k)|\gamma|\omega^{(0)}|h(k)\rangle = -g u \sin \Theta_R(k),$$

respectively, where $g$ is the el-ph coupling constant, $u$ is the phonon amplitude, and $\Theta_R(k)$ is defined by an angle between the $k$ vector from the $K$ point of the 2D Brillouin zone to the van Hove singular point, $k_{iv}$, and the circumferential direction vector, $K$, as shown in Fig. 1(e). Since $\Theta_R(k)$ is zero for all zigzag SWNTs $(k|K)$, $M_{R,TO}^{ep} = 0$, while $M_{R,LO}^{ep}$ has a maximum value. The $\Theta_R$ vs $\theta$ for SWNTs with the same family number $p$ is shown in Fig. 1(d). For the TO phonon mode, the $M_{R,TO}^{ep}$ for the SWNT with a similar $\theta$ increases with decreasing $d$, because of the diameter dependence in the circumferential direction as shown in Fig. 1(b). In a previous paper, we pointed out the importance of the angle $\phi$ between the SWNT axis and the phonon eigenvector for the LO and TO phonons for the el-ph matrix elements. In fact, when we consider $\phi$, then Eq. (4) is modified by

$$\langle e(k)|\omega_{LO}|h(k)\rangle = g u \cos[\Theta_R(k) + \phi],$$

$$\langle e(k)|\omega_{TO}|h(k)\rangle = -g u \sin[\Theta_R(k) + \phi].$$

Figures 1(f) and 1(g) show that the calculated angle $\phi$ changes smoothly as function of $\theta$. The sum $\phi_{LO} + \phi_{TO}$ for a general chiral angle $\theta$ always becomes $\pi/2$ because of symmetry. The angle $\phi$ vs $\theta$ for the LO and TO phonons can be fitted by the chiral angle dependence $(A + B\theta + C\theta^2)\sin(6\theta)$, where $A$, $B$, and $C$ are fitting parameters and $\theta$ is the chiral angle in units of degrees (*). For $\phi_{LO}$, $A = 26.9$, $B = -76.3$, and $C = 84.5$. For $\phi_{TO}$, $A = -26.7$, $B = 75.4$, and $C = -83.2$. This $\phi$ dependence should be taken into account when carrying out Raman spectral calculations.
Figure 2(a) shows the calculated Raman spectra for the G band of M-SWNTs with the same family number $p=30$ and $E_F=0$. The $E_{ii}$ and $\gamma$ [see Fig. 2(c)] are taken from $E_{ii}^M$ for each $(n,m)$ SWNT. The $G^+$ peak intensity is larger than that of the $G^-$ peak because the $G^+(G^-)$ peak corresponds to the TO (LO) phonon due to the LO phonon softening in which $M_{ep}^{R,TO} > M_{ep}^G$ for any $\theta$ value, as shown in Fig. 2(b). The relative intensities of the two peaks, $G^+$ and $G^-$, are affected by the Raman spectral width, which relates to the phonon lifetime, $\Gamma$. For the (10,10) armchair SWNT, the $G^+(TO)$ peak width is significantly smaller than those of the $G^-(LO)$ peak and of the $G^+$ peaks for the other chiral tubes. Therefore, the $G^+$ peak intensity of the (10,10) tube becomes large compared with the other chiral SWNTs, even though the $M_{ep}^{R,TO}$ for the armchair tube has a smaller value than for the other chiral tubes. It is noted that the Raman peak intensity is determined by the large $M_{ep}^R$ and small $\Gamma$ values, which is the reason why the $G^+/G^-$ spectra show an irregular behavior as a function of $(n,m)$. For the (15,0) zigzag SWNT, only the $G^+$ peak appears because $M_{ep}^{R,TO}$ vanishes for zigzag nanotubes as seen in Eq. (4). The other chiral tubes in this family, (11,8), (12,6), (13,4), and (14,2), show various intermediate intensity ratios. In Fig. 2(c), we show that $\gamma$ decreases monotonically with increasing $\theta$. Because of the small difference of the $\gamma$ and of the el-ph coupling for the LO phonon as compared to that of the TO for a change in $\theta$, the $G^+$ peak intensity does not show a large change for the different chiral SWNTs. The $G^+/G^-$ spectral feature depends on $\theta$ but is more sensitive to the $E_F$ position, especially for M-SWNTs.

Figure 3(a) shows the calculated G-band spectra for various $E_F$ at 300 K for a (10,10) armchair SWNT. Here we did not consider the changes in the C-C bond or the $E_{ii}$ transition energy by doping with electron or holes. In the experiment, the $E_{ii}$ is slightly changed with changing $E_F$, which results in an off-resonance situation for a fixed laser excitation energy $E_L$. Here, $+E_P$ ($-E_P$) corresponds to electron (hole) doping. When $E_F$ is changed from $E_F=0$, the $G^+$ peak shows a frequency shift and a sharpening of the spectral width, while the $G^-$ peak does not give any change in frequency or width. Sasaki et al.\(^9\) reported that an intermediate electron-hole pair state contributes to the softening of the LO phonon but does not couple to the TO phonon for armchair SWNTs. For the chiral M-SWNT (11,8) as shown in Fig. 3(b), both the LO and TO phonons couple to the intermediate electron-hole pair state, which is excited by a lower-energy phonon. The TO phonon becomes harder for $E_F=0$ eV since the intermediate state of an electron-hole pair for $E<\hbar\omega_{TO}$ contributes to a TO phonon hardening.\(^9\) In the case of the (15,0) SWNT, the $G^+$ peak always vanishes because of a vanishing $M_{ep}^{R,TO}$, as discussed above.

The matrix element $M_{ep}^{KA}$ for the KA effect in Eq. (3) is given by

$$M_{ep}^{KA,TO} = \langle \epsilon h(k)|\mathcal{H}_{ep}|\omega_{TO}\rangle = -ig u \cos \Theta_{KA}(k),$$

where $\Theta_{KA}(k)$ is defined by the angle between the $k$ point taken on a cutting line for two-linear metallic subbands and the nanotube circumferential direction of a unit vector, $k$. For the armchair nanotube, the cutting line for the two-linear metallic bands lies on the nanotube axis direction unit vector, and then $\Theta_{KA}$ is $\pi/2$ ($-\pi/2$), which gives a vanishing $M_{ep}^{KA,TO}$. For a chiral nanotube, $\Theta_{KA}$ is not zero since the cutting line for the two-linear metallic bands deviates from the $k$ point due to the curvature effect, and then the KA effect appears in both the LO and TO modes. For the zigzag M-SWNT (15,0), only the $G^+$ peak related to the TO phonon appears since the el-ph matrix element for the Raman-scattering process has a zero value, as shown in Fig. 2(b). Thus, we only measure a LO phonon softening experimentally, even though a TO phonon hardening was expected theoretically.

The calculated G-band Raman spectra vs $E_F$ can be directly compared with the experimental G-band Raman spectra, which are obtained for electrochemically doped individual SWNTs, as seen in Fig. 4. Here we assume $\Delta E_F = 0.3\Delta V_F$ according to Ref. 21. The experimental Raman spectra are shown in Figs. 4(a), 4(c), and 4(e), and the calculated Raman spectra are shown in Figs. 4(b), 4(d), and 4(f). In Fig. 4(a), the experimental Raman spectra show only a LO phonon softening, and a TO phonon frequency shift does not occur. As mentioned above, for the armchair SWNT, the TO phonon frequency shift does not appear and
only LO phonon softening appears. Therefore we can predict that Fig. 4(a) shows an armchair-type behavior by changing the gate voltage. The RBM peak for these experimental Raman spectra appears at 161 cm$^{-1}$ with $E_g=1.72$ eV. Then we can select the possible $(n,m)$ values by using a simple tight-binding model with $\gamma_0=2.9$ eV for simplicity and by using the relation between RBM frequency and diameter, $\omega_{\text{RBM}}(\text{cm}^{-1})=248/d_{\text{nm}}$. Thus, the possible $(n,m)$ values are (19,1), (18,3), (14,8), and (11,11). If our prediction is correct, Fig. 4(c) and 4(e) are assigned to an (11,11) armchair SWNT. Figures 4(c) and 4(e) are assigned as chiral (22,4) and zigzag (12,0) SWNTs, respectively, from the possible $(n,m)$ values, {$(21,6),(22,4),(23,2)$} and {$(10,4),(11,2), (12,0)$}. For the chiral M-SWNTs, not only the LO phonon softening but also the TO phonon hardening appear in the $G$-band Raman spectra vs $E_g$ in the calculation. However, in Fig. 4, the TO peak is too small to be seen on this intensity scale. Figure 4(e) shows that a zigzag SWNT has only the $G^-$ peak and thus only the LO phonon softening appears by changing $E_g$, experimentally. Brown et al.\textsuperscript{22} and others\textsuperscript{23,24} pointed out that asymmetric line-shape appears in the $G^-$-band Raman spectrum for metallic tubes, which is related to the Fano resonance (Breit-Wigner-Fano) lines. However it should be pointed out that the present calculation does not consider the interaction of the phonon with the continuum state, which will be studied in a future work.

In conclusion, the $G$-band resonance Raman spectra are given as a function of chiral angle, metallicity, and $E_g$ position. A comprehensive study of the Raman spectra can be understood by considering the el-ph matrix elements, the broadening factor, and the KA effect, which give unique Raman spectra for M-SWNTs. Thus, the Raman spectra of the $G$ band will be useful especially for a single SWNT transistor in which the $E_g$ is changed by the gate voltage. Not only the $(n,m)$ assignment but also the $E_g$ position can be obtained from contactless Raman measurements.

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