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Characteristics of classical Kirchhoff's superposition law in carbon atomic wires connected in parallel

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Yan-Hong Zhou<sup>1, 2</sup>, Chang-Yong Chen<sup>3</sup>, Bo-Lin Li<sup>1</sup>, Ke-Oiu Chen<sup>1,\*</sup> 3 <sup>1</sup>Department of Applied Physics, School of Physics and Electronics, Hunan University, Changsha 410082, 4 China 5 <sup>2</sup>Department of Information Engineering, Gannan Medical University, Ganzhou, Jiangxi 341000, China 6 <sup>3</sup> Department of Physics, Shaoguan University, Shaoguan 512005, China 7 Abstract 8 The classical Kirchhoff's superposition law is hard to realize in the molecular scale devices 9 because the coupling between the juxtaposed molecules can lead to constructive or destructive 10 11 quantum interferences [Vazquez et al. nature nanotechnology 2012, 7, 663; Zhu et al. Phys. Rev. B 2014, 89, 085427]. In view of this, we try to eliminate the quantum interference between the 12 juxtaposed molecules by increasing the distance between them. Simple junctions of carbon 13 atomic wire(s) coupled to zigzag graphene nanoribbon electrodes are chosen as our model. 14 Interestingly, fine Kirchhoff's superposition law phenomenon is found when the distance 15 between the two carbon atomic wires reaches 15.5 Å. At the distance 15.5 Å, the conductance for 16 the double carbon atomic wire (DCAW) configuration is 1.96 times of that for single carbon 17 atomic wire (SCAW) configuration and the current across the DCAW configuration keeps nearly 18 two times of that across the SCAW configuration at the applied biases. In addition, the 19 conductance superposition effect becomes better when the distance between the two wires 20 increases further and the spin filtering effect is enhanced in the DCAW configuration. 21

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