

ON THE MATHEMATICAL THEORY OF GRAPHENE AND ITS ARTIFICIAL ANALOGUES

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Graphene is a two-dimensional material made up of a single atomic layer of carbon atoms arranged in honeycomb pattern. Many of its remarkable electronic properties, e.g. quasi-particles (wave-packets) that propagate as massless relativistic particles and topologically protected edge states, are closely related to the spectral properties of the underlying single-electron Hamiltonian: $-\Delta + V(x)$, where $V(x)$ is a potential with the symmetries of a hexagonal tiling of the plane. Taking inspiration from graphene, there has been a great deal of activity in the fundamental and applied physics communities related to the properties of waves (photonic, acoustic, elastic, . . .) in media whose material properties have honeycomb symmetry. In this talk I will discuss some of the mathematical theory.