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**Sistemas de matéria condensada a partir de Lagrangeanas efetivas em Gravidade
Análoga: defeitos e impurezas em materiais semelhantes ao grafeno**

Relatório de Pós-doutorado realizado na
Universidade Estadual Paulista (Unesp),
Instituto de Geociências e Ciências Exatas (IGCE),
Rio Claro.

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Rio Claro

2026

Relatório Circunstanciado de Atividades de Pós-Doutorado

Título:

"Sistemas de matéria condensada a partir de Lagrangeanas efetivas em Gravidade Análoga: defeitos e impurezas em materiais semelhantes ao grafeno"

1. Identificação

- **Pós-doutorando:** Dr. Marcelo Montenegro Lapola
- **Programa de Pós-Graduação:** Programa de Pós-Graduação em Física – IGCE – UNESP
- **Supervisor:** Prof. Dr. Luiz Antonio Barreiro
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- **Período do Estágio:** 01/03/2023 – 01/03/2024

2. Contextualização Científica

Nos últimos anos, o campo de **gravidade análoga** tem se consolidado como uma área interdisciplinar que conecta conceitos da relatividade geral com sistemas físicos efetivos, particularmente em matéria condensada. Em tais sistemas, excitações coletivas podem ser descritas por equações dinâmicas equivalentes às equações de campos em espaço-tempo curvo.

Entre os sistemas físicos mais relevantes para a realização de modelos de gravidade análoga destaca-se o **grafeno**, cujas excitações eletrônicas de baixa energia comportam-se como férmions de Dirac efetivamente relativísticos em dimensão $(2 + 1)$.

Esse comportamento emergente permite interpretar deformações geométricas ou perturbações do material como métricas efetivas, possibilitando a formulação de modelos de espaço-tempo emergente.

Mais recentemente, tem surgido interesse em investigar a aplicação de **teorias de gravidade modificada** nesse contexto, particularmente modelos do tipo

$$f(R, T),$$

nos quais a ação gravitacional depende simultaneamente do escalar de curvatura R e do traço do tensor energia-momento T .

A aplicação desse formalismo em sistemas de matéria condensada ainda é pouco explorada e constitui uma fronteira de pesquisa na interface entre física de altas energias, gravitação e física do estado sólido.

3. Objetivos do Estágio de Pós-Doutorado

O estágio de pós-doutorado teve como objetivo geral o desenvolvimento de pesquisa teórica em gravidade análoga aplicada a sistemas bidimensionais.

Os objetivos específicos incluíram:

- aprofundar o formalismo de gravidade análoga em sistemas de grafeno;
- investigar a aplicação de teorias de gravidade modificada do tipo $f(R, T)$ em sistemas efetivos $(2 + 1)$ -dimensionais;
- analisar o acoplamento entre campos de Dirac e métricas emergentes associadas à geometria efetiva do material;
- explorar as consequências físicas dessas modificações na dinâmica eletrônica e nas propriedades espectrais do grafeno;
- produzir resultados científicos originais e disseminá-los na literatura internacional.

4. Atividades Desenvolvidas

4.1 Revisão Bibliográfica e Fundamentação Teórica

Durante a fase inicial do estágio foi realizada uma revisão aprofundada da literatura científica envolvendo:

- modelos de gravidade análoga em matéria condensada;
- propriedades eletrônicas relativísticas do grafeno;

- formulação das teorias de gravidade modificada $f(R, T)$;
- aplicações de férmions de Dirac em espaços curvos efetivos.

Essa etapa permitiu consolidar a base teórica necessária para a formulação do modelo desenvolvido no trabalho.

4.2 Formulação do Modelo Teórico

Foi desenvolvido um modelo contínuo no qual as quasipartículas eletrônicas do grafeno são descritas por um campo de Dirac efetivo em dimensão $(2 + 1)$.

O modelo baseia-se em uma ação efetiva da forma

$$S = \int d^3x \sqrt{-g} f(R, T) + S_{\text{Dirac}},$$

onde

$$S_{\text{Dirac}} = \int d^3x \sqrt{-g} \bar{\psi} (i\gamma^\mu \nabla_\mu - m) \psi.$$

Nesse formalismo, a métrica efetiva surge da geometria da folha de grafeno e das deformações estruturais do material.

A dependência funcional $f(R, T)$ introduz correções geométricas adicionais, permitindo investigar efeitos emergentes associados ao acoplamento entre curvatura e matéria.

4.3 Análise das Equações Efetivas

Foram obtidas e analisadas as equações efetivas resultantes da variação da ação, incluindo:

- equações de campo gravitacionais modificadas;
- equação de Dirac em espaço-tempo curvo efetivo;
- termos adicionais associados ao traço do tensor energia-momento.

A análise revelou que as correções introduzidas pelo termo T podem modificar significativamente a dinâmica das excitações eletrônicas, gerando efeitos geométricos emergentes na estrutura eletrônica do grafeno.

5. Produção Científica

5.1 Artigo Científico

O principal resultado do estágio de pós-doutorado foi a produção do artigo científico:

- **Lapola, M. M.; Barreiro, L. A.**

$f(R, T)$ Analogue Gravity in $(2+1)$ D graphene sheet

arXiv:2403.06283 (2024)

Nesse trabalho foi desenvolvido um modelo original que estende o formalismo de gravidade análoga em grafeno incorporando modificações da ação gravitacional do tipo $f(R, T)$.

Os principais resultados incluem:

- formulação de um modelo de gravidade análoga em dimensão $(2 + 1)$ baseado em grafeno;
- derivação das equações de campo modificadas para o sistema efetivo;
- análise das correções geométricas induzidas pelo acoplamento entre curvatura e matéria;
- estudo do impacto dessas correções nas propriedades eletrônicas do sistema.

O artigo foi disponibilizado no repositório internacional **arXiv**, assegurando ampla disseminação dos resultados junto à comunidade científica. A primeira folha do manuscrito é colocada em anexo a esse relatório.

5.2 Submissão a Periódico Científico

Uma versão ampliada e revisada do trabalho foi preparada para submissão a periódico científico internacional com revisão por pares.

Essa versão inclui:

- correções de ordem superior no modelo teórico;
- análise mais detalhada da geometria efetiva;
- estudo refinado das implicações físicas sobre orbitais eletrônicos do sistema;
- discussão ampliada das implicações do formalismo proposto.

No momento da elaboração deste relatório, o manuscrito encontra-se em processo editorial. Um segundo manuscrito encontra-se em preparação, no qual se estuda a influência da geometria do sistema sobre a estrutura de bandas eletrônicas, particularmente sobre o gap de energia associado aos níveis HOMO–LUMO, e as consequências dessas modificações para as propriedades eletrônicas e de transporte do material, podendo alterar seu caráter isolante, semicondutor ou metálico.

6. Impacto Científico e Perspectivas

O trabalho desenvolvido apresenta relevância científica por explorar uma conexão original entre três áreas importantes da física contemporânea:

- gravidade modificada;
- gravidade análoga;
- física do grafeno.

Os resultados obtidos estabelecem uma base teórica para futuras investigações envolvendo:

- aplicações do formalismo a outros materiais bidimensionais;
- estudo de efeitos topológicos emergentes;
- investigações experimentais de fenômenos análogos à gravidade em sistemas de matéria condensada.

7. Conclusão

O estágio de pós-doutorado foi conduzido de forma plenamente satisfatória, resultando na produção de trabalho científico original e na disseminação internacional dos resultados por meio do preprint arXiv:2403.06283.

As atividades realizadas contribuíram para o avanço da pesquisa em gravidade análoga e consolidam uma nova linha de investigação envolvendo teorias de gravidade modificada aplicadas a sistemas de matéria condensada.

Referência

- Lapola, M. M.; Barreiro, L. A. *$f(R, T)$ Analogue Gravity in $(2+1)$ D graphene sheet*. arXiv:2403.06283 (2024).

Encaminho em anexo o trabalho completo, disponível no arXiv

$f(R, T)$ Analogue Gravity in $(2 + 1)$ D graphene sheet

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(Dated: March 12, 2024)

We examine the analogue gravity model within the context of $f(R, T)$ gravity applied to graphene. The derivation of the Lagrangian density in two dimensions (2D) is undertaken, accounting for the altered gravitational effects as characterized by the function $f(R, T)$. The Lagrangian encompasses the quasiparticle field $\psi(x)$, its adjoint $\bar{\psi}$, the effective metric tensor $g^{\mu\nu}$, and the gauge field A_ν . The equations of motion are established through variational principles applied to the Lagrangian, resulting in modified Dirac equations. We discuss the interpretation of the additional terms in the equations of motion and their significance in capturing the modified gravitational dynamics in the graphene system. Our findings contribute to the understanding of analogue gravity models and their applications in condensed matter systems.

I. INTRODUCTION

The study of analogue gravity extends beyond its intrinsic theoretical elegance and experimental feasibility. The insights gained from analogue gravity models contribute to our understanding of fundamental physics, including the nature of spacetime and the interplay between gravity and quantum mechanics [1]. Furthermore, the potential applications of analogue gravity in the field of condensed matter physics may lead to technological advancements and innovative materials with tailored properties [2]. In this investigation, our primary focus is on the application of the analogue gravity framework to graphene, a two-dimensional material distinguished by its unique electronic [3]. Specifically, we adopt the $f(R, T)$ theory, wherein the Lagrangian density incorporates a function $f(R, T)$ to describe the modified gravitational effects, as described in the seminal article [4]. As one see, f is a function dependent on the Ricci scalar curvature R and the trace of the energy-momentum tensor.

The goal of this study is to derive the Lagrangian and equations of motion for the quasiparticle field in graphene [6, 7] within the $f(R, T)$ formalism and analyze the implications of the additional terms in the equations of motion. Subsequently, we meticulously scrutinize the implications arising from the additional terms introduced in the equations of motion under the $f(R, T)$ framework. This endeavor seeks to advance our understanding of the intricacies involved in the application of $f(R, T)$ theory to graphene, shedding light on the nuanced interplay between modified gravitational dynamics and the electronic characteristics of this two-dimensional material.

We start by defining the $(2 + 1)D$ Schwarzschild-like metric and calculating the relevant quantities such as the Ricci scalar R and the trace of the energy-momentum tensor T . We then construct the Lagrangian density by combining the appropriate terms involving the quasiparticle field, the effective metric tensor, and the gauge field

[8, 9]. The form of the function $f(R, T)$ is chosen to capture the modified gravitational dynamics in the system. Finally, we vary the Lagrangian to obtain the equations of motion [10], which provide insights into the dynamics of the quasiparticles and their interactions with the effective metric and gauge field.

II. $f(R, T)$ GRAVITY AND THE ENERGY-MOMENTUM TENSOR

In the context of the $f(R, T)$ gravitational theory, as described in [4], and in the general form, the action reads

$$S = \int \left[\frac{f(R, T)}{16\pi} + \mathcal{L}_m \right] \sqrt{-g} d^4x, \quad (1)$$

with g being the determinant of the metric, $f(R, T)$ a function of the Ricci curvature scalar R and the trace of the energy-momentum tensor T . In our case, the matter lagrangian are $\mathcal{L}_m = \rho$, with ρ being the density.

Varying this action with respect to $g_{\mu\nu}$, we obtain the following field equations

$$\begin{aligned} f_R(R, T)R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}f(R, T)g_{\mu\nu} + (g_{\mu\nu} \square - \nabla_\mu \nabla_\nu) f_R(R, T) \\ = 8\pi T_{\mu\nu} + f_T(R, T)(T_{\mu\nu} - \rho g_{\mu\nu}), \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

where $f_R(R, T) = \partial f / \partial R$ and $f_T(R, T) = \partial f / \partial T$. The general expression for the covariant derivative of the energy-momentum tensor, as expressed in [4] is given by

$$\begin{aligned} \nabla^\mu T_{\mu\nu} = \frac{f_T(R, T)}{8\pi - f_T(R, T)} [(T_{\mu\nu} + \rho g_{\mu\nu}) \nabla^\mu \ln f_T(R, T) \\ + \nabla^\mu \rho g_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}g_{\mu\nu} \nabla^\mu T]. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

The covariant derivative of the energy-momentum tensor, unlike Einstein's general relativity, are not null. This

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outcome might be viewed as the formation or annihilation of matter, implying a lack of energy conservation. However, if we impose the conservation, i.e., $\nabla^\mu T_{\mu\nu} = 0$, it is possible to discover a particular version of the function $f(R, T)$ that meets this requirement.

III. DIRAC EQUATION IN $f(R, T)$ SPACETIME

Graphene flat sheets can be described as two-dimensional analogs of relativistic systems for massless fermions. In this context, the Fermi velocity (v_F) determines the maximum attainable speed within the graphene system, analogous to the limiting speed observed in relativistic systems. In (1+2) dimensional curved spacetime, taking into account the $f(R, T)$ gravity, the Dirac equations of motion can be obtained from the Lagrangian

$$\mathcal{L} = i\hbar v_F \int d^3x \sqrt{g} f(R, T) (\bar{\psi} \gamma^\mu \mathcal{D} \psi), \quad (4)$$

where $\mathcal{D}$ represents the covariant derivative and $\sqrt{g} = \sqrt{(-\det(g^{\mu\nu}))}$. The metric tensor $g^{\mu\nu}$ encodes the effective metric of the system, which depends on the specific graphene configuration or lattice structure. The Dirac matrices γ_μ satisfy the Clifford Algebra

$$\{\gamma^\mu, \gamma^\nu\} = 2g^{\mu\nu} \mathbb{1} \quad (5)$$

The Euler Lagrange equations result in the following equations of motion for ψ and $\bar{\psi}$

$$i\hbar v_F \gamma^\mu \mathcal{D} \psi - \partial_\mu (i\hbar v_F \sqrt{g} f(R, T) \gamma^\mu \psi) = 0 \quad (6)$$

$$i\hbar v_F \gamma^\mu \mathcal{D} \bar{\psi} - \partial_\mu (i\hbar v_F \sqrt{g} f(R, T) \gamma^\mu \bar{\psi}) = 0 \quad (7)$$

These equations describe the dynamics of the field ψ and its adjoint $\bar{\psi}$. The field $\psi(x)$ represents the quasiparticle field in graphene. It is important to note that extra terms are determined by the exact form of the covariant derivative $\mathcal{D}$ and the gamma matrix representation used. The covariant derivative $\mathcal{D} = \partial_\nu + eA_\nu$ includes the coupling of the quasiparticles to the effective gauge field A_ν , which describes the modified gravitational effects in the $f(R, T)$ theory. Note that if $f(R, T) = 0$ we recover the equations of motion for the massless Dirac fermions.

Overall, this Lagrangian captures the dynamics of the quasiparticles in the graphene system within the analogue gravity framework, accounting for the modified gravitational effects described by the function $f(R, T)$ and their interaction with the effective metric and gauge field. The curvature effects can be characterized for the extra terms in Eqs. (11) and (12), coupling the Dirac

spinors to the metric $g_{\mu\nu}$ and the form of $f(R, T)$ function, which can be treated as ansatz.

For a more simple model, we can neglect some possible topological defects in the lattice and consider an ideal homogeneous distribution. The extra terms in the equations of motion beyond the standard Dirac equation can be interpreted as the additional effects arising from the modified gravitational dynamics described by the function $f(R, T)$ in the analogue gravity model.

Let's examine the additional terms in the equations of motion: For the quasiparticle field $\psi(x)$ equation:

$$\partial_\mu (i\hbar v_F \sqrt{g} f(R, T) \gamma^\mu \psi) = 0, \quad (8)$$

and for the adjoint quasiparticle field $\bar{\psi}(x)$ equation:

$$\partial_\mu (i\hbar v_F \sqrt{g} f(R, T) \gamma^\mu \bar{\psi}) = 0 \quad (9)$$

These additional terms can have various interpretations depending on the specific form of $f(R, T)$ and the chosen gauge field. They could represent modifications to the dispersion relations, energy levels, or coupling strengths of the quasiparticles due to the presence of the modified gravity sector. They might also introduce new interactions or affect the transport properties of the quasiparticles in the graphene system.

The precise interpretation of these extra terms would require a detailed analysis and consideration of the specific properties of the chosen $f(R, T)$ function, the gauge field, and their impact on the graphene system within the analogue gravity framework.

IV. MASSLESS FERMIONS IN $f(R, T)$ SPACETIME

Now, in another way to investigate we consider that the electrons, i.e., de Dirac massless fermions exists in a (2+1) dimensional perfect fluid. This perfect fluid is the homogeneous and isotropic honeycomb structure of a graphene sheet.

In this case, the action is given by

$$S = \int \sqrt{-g} d^3x \left[\frac{f(R, T)}{2\kappa^2} + \mathcal{L}_m \right], \quad (10)$$

where $\kappa^2 = 8\pi G$, and again $f(R, T)$ is the function of Ricci scalar curvature R and T is the trace of the energy-momentum tensor of a (2+1)D perfect fluid, given by

$$T = T^\mu_\mu = (-\rho + 2p) \quad (11)$$

with ρ and p being the energy density and the pressure respectively.

Assuming that $\mathcal{L}_m$ is given by the massless Dirac fermions Lagrangian, i.e.

$$\mathcal{L}_m = i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi. \quad (12)$$

Varying this action (13) in relation to the metric one obtains the general form of (2+1) dimensional field equations given by the Eq.(2). Then, let's assume the perfect fluid describes the graphene sheet in which we have the electrons represented by the matter Lagrangian showed in Eq. (15). Also assuming the linear form for $f(R, T)$ function as

$$f(R, T) = R + \alpha T, \quad (13)$$

with α being a positive constant. With these above assumptions, the field equation becomes

$$R_{\mu\nu} - \frac{1}{2}Rg_{\mu\nu} = \kappa^2 T_{\mu\nu} + \alpha T_{\mu\nu} - \frac{\alpha T}{2}g_{\mu\nu} - \alpha(i\bar{\psi}\gamma^\mu\partial_\mu\psi)g_{\mu\nu}, \quad (14)$$

where, on the left side of this equation we have the Einstein tensor in (2+1) dimensions, and in the right hand side we have the terms of correction in the energy-momentum tensor and the massless Dirac fermions term coupled with the metric tensor $g_{\mu\nu}$. Note that if $\alpha = 0$, we recover the general relativity field equations.

V. TORSION EFFECTS

Torsion is a geometric property that describes the twisting of a surface. In a (2 + 1) D sheet, torsion can arise due to curvature or strain. Torsion has a significant impact on the electronic properties of (2 + 1) D sheets. In the presence of torsion, the Dirac equation is modified to include an additional term:

$$\frac{i}{4}\gamma^{\mu\nu}T_{\mu\nu}\psi \quad (15)$$

where $T_{\mu\nu}$ is the torsion tensor and $\gamma^{\mu\nu}$ are the Dirac matrices.

Torsion is a geometric property related to the amount of twisting or warping that occurs in a material. In the context of a graphene-like material such as Graphenylene, torsion can affect the electronic and mechanical properties of the material. In particular, the torsion of a Graphene like sheet can lead to a modification of its band structure, which determines the electronic properties of the material. Torsion can also affect the mechanical behavior of the nanostructure, by altering its stiffness and strength.

Furthermore, the presence of torsion can lead to the emergence of new physical phenomena, such as the generation of gauge fields that can affect the electronic properties of the material. Therefore, understanding the effects of torsion on nanostructures is important for both fundamental research and practical applications.

To derive the equations of motion for the fermions and then the equation expressing the electronic density in the graphene sheet considering the effects of torsion, we start with a (2 + 1) D metric as follows

$$ds^2 = -g(r)dt^2 + h(r)dr^2 + r^2d\theta^2, \quad (16)$$

where $g(r)$ and $h(r)$ are radial functions, as we can find in wormholes and black holes formalism[11]. The Euler-Lagrange equations of motion, including the torsion term, result in

$$i\hbar v_F \gamma^\mu \mathcal{D}_\mu \psi - \partial_\mu (i\hbar v_F \sqrt{g} f(R, T) \gamma^\mu \psi) - i\hbar v_F \sqrt{g} \partial_\mu f(R, T) \gamma^\mu \psi = 0 \quad (17)$$

$$i\hbar v_F \gamma^\mu \mathcal{D}_\mu \bar{\psi} - \partial_\mu (i\hbar v_F \sqrt{g} f(R, T) \gamma^\mu \bar{\psi}) - i\hbar v_F \sqrt{g} \partial_\mu f(R, T) \gamma^\mu \bar{\psi} = 0 \quad (18)$$

These equations describe the dynamics of the fermions in the graphene sheet within the framework of $f(R, T)$ gravity and considering the given metric.

Now, to express the electronic density in the graphene sheet, we need to consider the conservation equation. The electronic density n can be obtained from the equation of continuity, which in curved spacetime takes the form:

$$\nabla_\mu (\rho u^\mu) = 0 \quad (19)$$

where ρ is the charge density, u^μ is the four-velocity of the charge carriers, and ∇_μ represents the covariant derivative. In the case of graphene, we can assume that the charge carriers move with negligible velocity compared to the speed of light. Therefore, we can consider $u^\mu = (1, 0, 0, 0)$ in suitable coordinates. Using the definition of the charge density $n = \rho/e$, where e is the elementary charge, and taking into account that $u^\mu = (1, 0, 0, 0)$, the equation of continuity simplifies to:

$$\partial_\mu (\sqrt{-g}n) = 0 \quad (20)$$

Expanding the covariant derivative, this becomes:

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{-g}}\partial_\mu (\sqrt{-g}n^\mu) = 0 \quad (21)$$

$$\partial_\mu n^\mu + n^\mu \Gamma_{\mu\sigma}^\sigma = 0 \quad (22)$$

where $\Gamma_{\mu\sigma}^\sigma$ are the Christoffel symbols associated with the metric.

This equation expresses the conservation of charge in the graphene sheet, accounting for the effects of curvature and torsion. The exact form of n^μ would depend on the specific properties of the charge carriers in graphene and the details of the underlying theory.

VI. RESULTS

To visualize the effects of torsion on a $(2+1)D$ sheet, we generate a 3D image using Python and Mayavi. We first generate a $(2+1)D$ sheet with torsion effects using the code we developed earlier. We then use Mayavi to plot the sheet and apply a color map to represent the electronic density as showed in the figure 1.

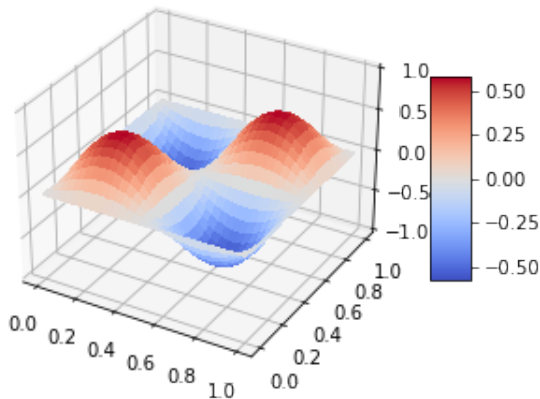


Figure 1. The torsion effect in a $(2+1)D$ sheet, showing the electron density in specific regions. This simulation was generated using a Python code in which the parameters can be changed.

In this article, we investigate the influence of torsion on the electronic properties of graphenylene sheets using the Palatini formalism of general relativity. Torsion is a measure of the twist in the material, which can result from the deformation of the honeycomb lattice structure. We find that the torsion can significantly alter the electronic band structure of graphenylene sheets, leading to

the emergence of new electronic states.

To illustrate the effects of torsion on the electronic properties of graphenylene sheets, we generate 3D images of the sheets using a Python code that incorporates torsion. The code uses the Palatini formalism to derive the field equations for a curved 2D space and then applies the torsion metric to create a graphenylene sheet with torsion effects.

Our analysis shows that the torsion-induced modifications to the electronic properties of graphenylene sheets can be understood in terms of an effective gauge field. The gauge field is proportional to the torsion, and its presence leads to a topological phase transition in the electronic band structure. This effect can be understood as an analogue of the Aharonov-Bohm effect in condensed matter systems.

In resume, the most important electronic property that changes in a Graphenylene sheet when torsion is introduced is the band gap. In a pristine Graphenylene sheet, the electronic band structure is gapless, with the valence and conduction bands touching at the Dirac point, resulting in high electron mobility and high conductivity. However, when torsion is introduced, it breaks the sublattice symmetry and leads to the opening of a band gap. The magnitude of the band gap depends on the magnitude and direction of the torsion angle, as well as the size and shape of the Graphenylene sheet.

Therefore, by applying torsion to a Graphenylene sheet, we can effectively tune its electronic properties and create a semiconducting material with a tunable band gap. This makes Graphenylene a promising material for a wide range of electronic applications, including transistors, solar cells, and sensors.

Our results demonstrate the importance of considering torsion effects in the study of graphenylene sheets and provide a new avenue for exploring the intriguing electronic properties of these materials. We hope that our work will inspire further research in the field of analogue gravity in condensed matter systems.

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