

# **Probing the Dirac Electrons in Condensed Matter: Graphene and Topological Insulators**

**Tonica Valla**

*Condensed Matter Physics and Materials Science Department, Brookhaven National  
Laboratory, Upton, New York 11973, USA  
Email: [valla@bnl.gov](mailto:valla@bnl.gov)*

Recent discoveries of graphene and topological insulators have shown that charge carriers in these materials form two-dimensional gas of massless quasiparticles whose dynamics can be described by the relativistic Dirac's equation. Due to the nearly linear electronic bands and special topological constraints, these systems show a wide range of exotic phenomena, some of which could be utilized for quantum computing and low-power electronic devices. Here, we will present angle-resolved photoemission studies of these materials.