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Discrete time-crystalline order in black diamond HENGYUN ZHOU, SOONWON CHOI, JOONHEE CHOI, RENATE LANDIG, GEORG KUCSKO, Harvard University, JUNICHI ISOYA, University of Tsukuba, FEDOR JELEZKO, Ulm University, SHINOBU ONODA, Takasaki Advanced Radiation Research Institute, HITOSHI SUMIYA, Sumitomo Electric Industries Ltd., VEDIKA KHEMANI, Harvard University, CURT VON KEYSERLINGK, Princeton University, NORMAN YAO, University of California Berkeley, EUGENE DEMLER, MIKHAIL D. LUKIN, Harvard University — The interplay of periodic driving, disorder, and strong interactions has recently been predicted to result in exotic "time-crystalline" phases, which spontaneously break the discrete time-translation symmetry of the underlying drive. Here, we report the experimental observation of such discrete time-crystalline order in a driven, disordered ensemble of $\sim 10^6$ dipolar spin impurities in diamond at room-temperature. We observe long-lived temporal correlations at integer multiples of the fundamental driving period, experimentally identify the phase boundary and find that the temporal order is protected by strong interactions; this order is remarkably stable against perturbations, even in the presence of slow thermalization. Our work opens the door to exploring dynamical phases of matter and controlling interacting, disordered many-body systems.

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