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Dynamical Confinement-Deconfinement Transitions in Many-body Localized Topological Phases BYUNGMIN KANG, University of California, Berkeley, SIDDHARTH A. PARAMESWARAN, University of California, ANDREW C. POTTER, University of Texas at Austin, ROMAIN VASSEUR, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory and University of California — Many-body localization (MBL) is a dynamical quantum phase of matter in which the properties of quantum many-body ground states can be extended to highly excited states in the presence of strong disorder. While the existence and the properties of such many-body localized phases are rather well understood in one dimension, much less is known in higher dimensions in which more exotic quantum orders can be realized. In this talk, I will discuss the role of disorder in topological-to-trivial quantum phase transitions in order to provide explicit examples of MBL-protected topological order in two dimensions. In particular, I will give a universal real-space renormalization picture of such phase transitions both at zero temperature and in highly excited states.

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