Massachusetts Institute of Technology Department of Physics

Condensed Matter Theory Seminar

"Subsystem symmetry protected topological order and twisted Fracton theory"

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Abstract: In this talk, I introduce a new type of topological order protected by subsystem symmetries which only operate on a specific part of the many-body system-\$i.e.\$ along planes, lines or fractals. We develop a zoology of exactly solvable models in \$2d\$ and \$3d\$ as candidates for subsystem SPT (SSPT) phase. Such class of subsystem SPT states holds exotic properties akin to the usual SPT states including ungappable edge and surface anomaly. After gauging the subsystem symmetry, the corresponding higher-rank gauge theory either exhibit twisted Fracton topological order with sub-dimensional anyon excitation, or contain symmetry enriched Fracton phase. Finally, I would mention the higher-rank Aharonov-Bohm effect, which could be a numerical detectable way to measure SSPT order.

12:00pm noon Wednesday, March 14, 2018 Duboc Room (4-331)

Host: Zhen Bi