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Kyle Hayden* (hayden@math.columbia.edu) and **Isaac Sundberg**. *Khovanov homology and exotic surfaces in the 4-ball*.

We show that the cobordism maps on Khovanov homology can distinguish between smooth surfaces in the 4-ball that are exotically knotted (i.e., isotopic through ambient homeomorphisms but not ambient diffeomorphisms). This provides an elementary, combinatorial approach to the detection of exotically knotted surfaces. (Received August 08, 2021)