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Title:	Robustness of the spin liquid state with respect to magnetic dilution in the bilayer kagome material Ca <sub>10</sub> Cr <sub>7</sub> O <sub>28</sub>
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Keywords:	Antiferromagnetism Binary alloys Specific heat Spin glass
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Citation:	Physical Review B, 101(18).
Abstract:	Recently, the bilayer kagome lattice material Ca <sub>10</sub> Cr <sub>7</sub> O <sub>28</sub> has been shown to be a quasi-two-dimensional quantum spin liquid (QSL) where the frustration arises from a balance between competing ferromagnetic and antiferromagnetic exchange within a bilayer. In an attempt to understand what happens when this balance is disturbed, we present a magnetic dilution study. Specifically, we have synthesized Ca <sub>10</sub> (Cr <sub>1-x</sub> V <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>7</sub> O <sub>28</sub> (0 ≤ x ≤ 0.5) where magnetic Cr <sup>5+</sup> (S = 1/2) is partially replaced by nonmagnetic V <sup>5+</sup> (S = 0). We also synthesized the fully nonmagnetic isostructural material Ca <sub>10</sub> V <sub>7</sub> O <sub>27.5</sub> . We report a detailed structural, magnetic and heat capacity study on these materials. A monotonic increase in the unit cell parameters is found for the Ca <sub>10</sub> (Cr <sub>1-x</sub> V <sub>x</sub> ) <sub>7</sub> O <sub>28</sub> materials with increasing x. An order of magnitude decrease in the Curie-Weiss temperature from 4 to 0.5 K is found for the partial V substituted samples, which indicates a relative increase in antiferromagnetic exchange with increase in V content. However, despite this change in the relative balance in the exchange interactions and the large disorder introduced, no magnetic ordering or spin-glass state is observed down to 2 K in the V substituted samples. The QSL state of the parent compound thus seems surprisingly robust against these large perturbations.
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