Low Temperature Magnetism in the Metallic Pyrochlore $Pr_2Ir_2O_7$

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The pyrochlore $Pr_2Ir_2O_7$ is a rare example of metallic geometrically-frustrated Kondo lattice providing a unique opportunity to investigate the correlation between frustrated magnetism and mobile electrons.¹²³ In previous single crystal studies, a spontaneous Hall effect in the absence of uniform magnetization has been observed in the spin-liquid region T < 1.5 K,³ which suggests that $Pr_2Ir_2O_7$ is the first material forming a chiral spin liquid phase where time reversal symmetry is macroscopically broken without magnetic dipole order. Here we have investigated low temperature magnetism in newly-synthesized polycrystalline samples of $Pr_2Ir_2O_7$. The temperature dependence of magnetic susceptibility in a low field (0.1 T) shows a strong decrease below $T_0 = 0.8$ K, indicating some form of a phase transition. The temperature dependence of the specific heat in a zero field also shows a peak at T_0 , ensuring the bulk nature of the transition. These results are in sharp contrast to the spin-liquid behavior in single crystals and polycrystalline samples made by other methods. In the presentation, we will report detailed results and discuss the origin of the ordered phase.

¹S. Nakatsuji *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **96**, 087204 (2006).

²Y. Machida *et al.*, Phys. Rev. Lett. **98**, 057203 (2007).

³Y. Machida *et al.*, Nature **463**, 210 (2010).