

Supplementary Fig. 1. Schematic diagram of the steel-alloy autoclave. Minerals and fluids are contained in a flexible gold reaction cell, which is pressurized and heated in the autoclave.



Supplementary Fig. 2. The time variations in dissolved gas species. Results are shown for a) the opx experiment at 120 and 200°C, and b) the olivine experiment at 200°C.



Supplementary Fig. 3. The time variations in concentration of selected elements. Results of Na, Si, Mg, and Fe are shown for a) the opx experiment at 300°C, b) the opx experiment at 120 and 200°C, c) olivine experiment at 300°C, and d) the olivine experiment at 200°C.



Supplementary Fig. 4. X-ray diffraction (XRD) spectra of the mineral residues. Results are shown for a) the opx experiment at 300°C, b) the opx experiment at 120 and 200°C, c) the olivine experiment at 300°C, and d) the olivine experiment at 200°C. Minerals correspond to the XRD peaks are also shown. For the opx experiments, serpentine and saponite are the major alteration minerals. For the olivine experiments at 300°C, there are distinct XRD signals attributed from serpentine, brucite, and magnesite with faint peaks of magnetite. At 200°C, the XRD signals of brucite and magnetite become very small compared with those at 300°C, which is consistent with the results of electron probe microanalyzer (EPMA) analyses shown below. In the lower-temperature experiments, the strong peaks of the starting minerals (i.e., olivine and orthopyroxene) are observed both in the opx and olivine experiments.



Supplementary Fig. 5. Typical SEM images and elemental mapping for the rock residues collected after the olivine experiments. Results are shown for the experiments at (a) 300°C and (b) 200°C. Oliv: olivine, Serp: serpentine, Mgt: magnetite, Bru: brucite, and Mgs: magnesite. This figure and Supplementary Table 4 indicate the formation of serpentine, magnetite, brucite, and Mg-rich carbonate in the olivine experiments at 300°C. On the other hand, brucite and magnetite are less abundant in the rock residues at 200°C, which is consistent with the previous experiment of olivine serpentinization conducted at 200°C (ref. 1).



Supplementary Fig. 6. Elemental mapping of the rock residues collected after the opx experiment at 300°C. Oliv: olivine, Opx: orthopyroxene. Hydrous silicate mixture in the figure would be composed of serpentine, saponite, and talc given their chemical compositions (Supplementary Table 4) and XRD data (Supplementary Fig. 4). We found some unreacted olivine and opx mineral grains in the rock residue. In contrast to the olivine experiments, serpentine, saponite, and talc coexist in the matrix of the rock residue, although there are variations in Mg, Si, and Al contents in the coexistent mixtures (Supplementary Table 4). Some of the unreacted opx crystals contain ~2–3 wt.% of Al₂O₃ (we term these "Al-bearing opx", and a typical chemical composition is shown in Supplementary Table 4). Given the similarity of this chemical composition to that of opx crystals retrieved from San Carlos peridotite², these Al-bearing opx crystals would have been included in starting minerals as a minor mineral phase of San Carlos olivine. Spinel inclusions in San Carlos olivine would also be included in the starting minerals³.These Al-bearing opx crystals and spinel inclusions are considered to be two of the sources of aluminium in the saponite-rich matrix.

starting minerals	temperature	pressure	initial NH_3	initial NaHCO ₃	major alteration minerals
orthopyroxene + olivine	300°C	400 bar	1.1 mol/kg	360 mmol/kg	saponite, serpentine
orthopyroxene + olivine	120°C (0-1704 hrs of reaction time)				saponite
	200°C (1704-2304 hrs of reaction time)	400 bar	1.1 mol/kg	360 mmol/kg	serpentine
olivine	300°C	400 bar	1.1 mol/kg	360 mmol/kg	serpentine, brucite, magnesite, magnetite
olivine	200°C	400 bar	1.1 mol/kg	360 mmol/kg	serpentine, brucite, magnesite, magnetite

Supplementary Table 1. A summary of experimental conditions and major alteration minerals

Supplementary Table 2. Time variations in dissolved volatiles in fluids (in mmol/kg H₂O).

Opx experiment at 300°C

time (hours)	ΣCO ₂	H ₂	NH ₃	CH ₄	N ₂
144	354	0.18	982	<0.005	<0.05
408	n/a	0.72	1002	<0.005	<0.05
744	342	0.86	978	<0.005	<0.05
1152	335	1.19	946	<0.005	<0.05
1536	327	1.51	998	<0.005	<0.05
2688	294	1.66	932	<0.005	<0.05

Opx experiment at 120 and 200°C

2304

time (hours)	ΣCO_2	H_2	NH_3	CH₄	N ₂					
initial ter	initial temperature = 120°C									
216	336	0.00	905	<0.005	<0.05					
480	289	0.00	916	<0.005	<0.05					
696	259	0.01	950	<0.005	<0.05					
984	260	0.01	937	<0.005	<0.05					
1704	284	0.00	856	<0.005	<0.05					
temperatur	e increased	d to 200℃	;							
1968	268	0.01	869	<0.005	<0.05					
2136	239	0.01	848	<0.005	<0.05					

252 0.01 866 <0.005 <0.05

Supplementary Table 2. (Continued)

Olivine experiment at 300°C

time (hours)	ΣCO ₂	H ₂	NH ₃	CH₄	N ₂
24	313	0.16	995	<0.005	<0.05
192	271	2.46	1008	<0.005	<0.05
432	221	2.18	966	<0.005	<0.05
672	215	3.30	969	<0.005	<0.05
1032	196	3.35	964	<0.005	<0.05
1680	193	4.55	983	<0.005	<0.05
2376	195	5.79	939	<0.005	<0.05
3480	186	7.30	972	<0.005	<0.05

Olivine experiment at 200°C

time (hours)	ΣCO ₂	H ₂	NH_3	CH₄	N ₂
24	387	0.01	988	<0.005	<0.05
336	324	0.00	966	<0.005	<0.05
840	277	0.01	946	<0.005	<0.05
2352	247	0.02	965	<0.005	<0.05
4176	203	0.06	936	<0.005	<0.05
6192	246	0.57	982	<0.005	<0.05
7368	249	0.59	988	<0.005	<0.05

Supplementary Table 3. The time variations in dissolved major elements (in mmol/kg H_2O) and pH at room temperature of fluid samples. In-situ pH is calculated with the methodology described in the Methods section.

Opx experiment at 300°C										
time (hours)	Mg	Fe	Si	Na	Ca	К	AI	pH at room T		
144	0.00762	0.0124	3.06	109	0.0180	0.256	0.0213	10		
408	0.00770	0.0083	3.21	134	0.0095	0.203	0.0190	10.5		
744	0.00708	0.0220	3.79	82	0.0066	0.171	0.0229	10		
1152	0.00678	0.0186	2.91	98	0.0162	0.166	0.0230	10.6		
1536	0.00636	0.0167	2.91	89	0.0098	0.164	0.0263	10.5		
2688	0.00525	0.0137	2.90	82	0.0071	0.160	0.0252	10.1 in-situ pH 8.8		
Opx exper	riment at 12	0 and 200°	C							
time (hours)	Mg	Fe	Si	Na	Са	К	AI	pH at room T		
initial ter	nperature = 12	20°C								
216	0.04811	0.0077	1.25	113	0.0293	0.202	0.0293	10.1		
480	0.05240	0.0031	0.98	136	0.0246	0.207	0.0378	9.8		
696	0.04477	0.0088	0.84	146	0.0238	0.205	0.0184	10.2		
984	0.04490	0.0065	0.81	158	0.0206	0.198	0.0196	10		
1704	0.05012	0.0089	0.78	159	0.0133	0.201	0.0212	10.2		
temperatur	e increased to	≥200°C						in-situ pH 8.8		
1968	0.01227	0.0107	1.55	168	0.0101	0.187	0.0398	10		
2136	0.00887	0.0080	1.51	152	0.0110	0.173	0.0340	10		
2304	0.00743	0.0072	1.55	141	0.0114	0.167	0.0279	10.2 in-situ pH 8.4		
Olivine ex	periment at	300°C								
time (hours)	Mg	Fe	Si	Na	Ca	К	AI	pH at room T		
24	0.0240	0.0117	0.355	157	0.0123	0.418	0.0307	10.5		
192	0.0286	0.0131	0.208	156	0.0132	0.415	0.0270	10.1		
122	0 0 0 0 0 0	0.0140	0 107	167	0.0116	0 416	0 0000	0 0		

192	0.0286	0.0131	0.208	156	0.0132	0.415	0.0270	10.1
432	0.0280	0.0140	0.197	167	0.0116	0.416	0.0223	9.8
672	0.0233	0.0102	0.173	158	0.0141	0.426	0.0189	9.9
1032	0.0275	0.0136	0.119	183	0.0163	0.424	0.0186	9.9
1680	0.0264	0.0135	0.088	169	0.0117	0.417	0.0214	11.2
2376	0.0213	0.0135	0.090	166	0.0075	0.425	0.0200	10
3480	0.0220	0.0143	0.085	151	0.0111	0.409	0.0182	10.5 in-situ

pH 9.3

Supplementary Table 3. (Continued)

Olivine	experiment	at 200°C
•		

time (hours)	Mg	Fe	Si	Na	Ca	К	AI	pH at room T
24	0.0247	0.0097	0.749	188	0.0063	0.409	0.0062	10.2
336	0.0188	0.0057	0.581	177	0.0067	0.405	0.0069	10.2
840	0.0169	0.0105	0.595	185	0.0045	0.415	0.0070	10.6
2352	0.0249	0.0072	0.137	168	0.0031	0.395	0.0076	10.2
4176	0.0283	0.0068	0.106	194	0.0038	0.404	0.0105	10.5
6192	0.0224	0.0101	0.048	171	0.0027	0.424	0.0087	10.5
7368	0.0235	0.0050	0.046	168	0.0031	0.363	0.0105	10.6
								in-situ
								PH 9.3

Supplementary Table 4. Results of electron probe microanalyzer (EPMA) analyses for typical alteration and unreacted minerals contained in the rock residues formed in the olivine and opx experiments at 300°C. The values are in weight percent. These alteration minerals frequently coexist in the rock residues. Thus, the results may not be explained by a simple chemical composition of alteration mineral.

	SiO ₂	TiO ₂	AI_2O_3	FeO	MnO	MgO	CaO	Na ₂ O	K ₂ O	Total
Olivine exp.										
Serpentine	32.73	0.09	0.33	1.78	0.00	31.90	0.03	0.14	0.01	67.01
Brucite (with serpentine and Fe(OH) ₂)	3.64	0.04	0.56	5.10	0.18	72.97	0.03	0.01	0.01	82.54
Olivine	40.17	0.03	0.00	9.29	0.13	51.09	0.09	0.00	0.00	100.80
Opx exp.										
Saponite-rich matrix	37.87	0.03	1.11	5.25	0.09	26.81	0.10	0.05	0.00	71.30
Serpentine-rich matrix	34.92	0.01	0.07	4.21	0.06	21.26	0.20	0.01	0.01	60.75
Olivine	39.84	0.00	0.05	9.59	0.17	49.96	0.07	0.00	0.00	99.68
Орх	58.82	0.01	0.00	0.13	0.00	40.93	0.03	0.03	0.02	99.97
Al-bearing opx	55.21	0.00	2.75	5.38	0.14	34.84	0.91	0.03	0.04	99.30

Supplementary Note 1

The time variations in dissolved elements and gas species ($\sum CO_2$, H₂, $\sum NH_3$, Mg, Fe, Si (= $\sum SiO_2$), Na, K, Ca, and Al in mmol/kg H₂O), pH at room temperature, and calculated in-situ pH at the termination of the experiments are summarized in Supplementary Table 2 and 3.

The variations in dissolved gas species in the opx and olivine experiments are shown in Fig. 1 and Supplementary Fig. 2. Compared with the results of the olivine experiment at 300° C (Fig. 1), H₂ concentration was low and increased abruptly and intermittently in the olivine experiment at 200° C (Supplementary Fig. 2b), as reported in the previous experiments³. According to the previous study³, this is caused by less production of magnetite at 200°C, which is consistent with the mineralogical analyses of the rock residues by the present study (see Supplementary Fig. 4). At 200°C, serpentine contained relatively high contents of ferric and ferrous Fe as reported previously³.

In the present study, the levels of CH_4 in fluid samples were at nearly constant throughout the experiments, ~0.01 mmol/kg. However, the proportion of ¹³C in CH_4 in fluid samples remained within the range of the natural isotopic ratio, indicative of no evidence of CH_4 formation from dissolved CO_2 (CH_4 production <~5 µmol/kg). The CH_4 dissolved in the fluids were probably originated from dissociation of contaminated organic matter under high-temperature and high-pressure conditions.

The results of gas analyses showed that gaseous N_2 with ~0.1 mmol/kg were contained in the sampling vials; nonetheless, the proportion of ¹⁵N in N_2 were also very low (within the range of the natural isotopic ratio), indicating that the N_2 in the fluid samples was probably air contamination during sampling. The presence of O_2 in the samples supports the idea of air contamination during sampling. These results indicate no production of N_2 from NH₃ (N₂ production <~50 µmol/kg) in our experiments. This conclusion is supported by the NH₃ concentrations in the solution. Our experimental results show that the NH₃ concentrations are almost constant (~900–1000 mmol/kg H₂O) during the experiments (Supplementary Fig. 2 and Table 2). Small decreases in NH₃ concentrations from the initial values may be caused by the incorporation of NH₄⁺ in a smectite, such as saponite.

Although we cannot conclude whether catalytic reactions proceed in Enceladus at this stage, we consider that catalytic reactions would not have been sufficiently efficient to convert all of primordial CO_2 into CH_4 in Enceladus. More laboratory experiments using metallic alloys are required in the future to draw more realistic view of chemical evolution of primordial volatiles in Enceladus and other icy moons.

Supplementary Fig. 3 shows the variations in major elements in the fluid samples for the opx and olivine experiments. These results indicate that the abundances of dissolved element reached steady states within several months of reaction time. The reason for the gradual decreases in ΣSiO_2 in the experiment would be caused by a change in the buffer system in association with the slow formation of alteration minerals, such as serpentine, brucite, and saponite/talc at lower temperatures.

Supplementary references

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