

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 \sim 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.

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℃

Opx experiment at 120 and 200℃

252 0.01 866 <0.005 <0.05

Supplementary Table 2. (Continued)

Olivine experiment at 300℃

Olivine experiment at 200℃

Supplementary Table 3. The time variations in dissolved major elements (in mmol/kg H₂O) 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℃ time
(hours) (hours) Mg Fe Si Na Ca K Al 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 experiment at 120 and 200**℃ time
(hours) (hours) Mg Fe Si Na Ca K Al pH at room T **initial temperature = 120**℃ 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 **temperature increased to 200**℃ 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 experiment at 300**℃

Supplementary Table 3. (Continued)

room T

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.

Supplementary Note 1

The time variations in dissolved elements and gas species (Σ CO₂, H₂, Σ NH₃, Mg, Fe, Si (= Σ SiO₂), Na, K, Ca, and Al in mmol/kg H_2O), 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 CH₄ in fluid samples remained within the range of the natural isotopic ratio, indicative of no evidence of CH_4 formation from dissolved CO_2 (CH₄ production <~5 μmol/kg). The CH⁴ 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 N₂ 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 NH_3 (N_2 production $\lt\sim$ 50 µmol/kg) in our experiments. This conclusion is supported by the NH_3 concentrations in the solution. Our experimental results show that the NH_3 concentrations are almost constant $(\sim 900-1000 \text{ mmol/kg H}_2\text{O})$ 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 NH_4^+ 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 $CO₂$ into CH⁴ 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 Σ SiO₂ 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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- 2. Xu, Y. & Shankland, T. J. Electrical conductivity of orthopyroxene and its high pressure phases. *Geophys. Res. Lett*. **26**, 2645–2648 (1999).
- 3. Mayhew, L. E., Ellison, E. T., McCollom, T. M., Trainor, T. P., & Templeton, A. S. Hydrogen generation from low-temperature water–rock reactions. *Nat. Geosci.* **6**, 478–484 (2013).