## Supplementary Materials for

## Trimetaphosphate activates prebiotic peptide synthesis

## across a wide range of temperature and pH

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**Figure S1. Reproducibility of experiments.** Reactions were performed with three replicates per batch, with batches run on two different days. (A) HPLC product profiles are shown for reactions run in the absence and presence of trimetaphosphate (TP). The (B) concentrations for each peptide species were determined and plotted for batch 2 versus batch 1 in the absence (circles) and presence (triangles) of TP. Reactions of glycine and alanine were carried out at pH and 60°C, and concentrations are  $log_{10}(\mu M)$ ; for example, a value of 4 corresponds to  $10^4 \mu M$  or 10 mM.



**Fig. S2.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at 40°C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S3.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at  $50^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S4.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at 60°C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S5.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at  $70^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S6.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at 80°C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S7.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at 90°C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S8.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at 100°C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S9.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 1 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S10.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 2 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S11.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 3 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S12.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 4 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S13.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 5 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S14.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 6 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S15.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 7 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S16.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 8 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S17.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 9 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S18.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 10 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S19.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 11 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S20.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the absence of TP at pH 12 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S21.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at 0°C as a function of pH.



Fig. S22. Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at  $10^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



Fig. S23. Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at  $20^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



Fig. S24. Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at  $30^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



Fig. S25. Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at  $40^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S26.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at 50°C as a function of pH.



Fig. S27. Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at  $60^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



Fig. S28. Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at  $70^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S29.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at 80°C as a function of pH.



Fig. S30. Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at  $90^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S31.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at  $100^{\circ}$ C as a function of pH.



**Fig. S32.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 1 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S33.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 2 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S34.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 3 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S35.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 4 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S36.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 5 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S37.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 6 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S38.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 7 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S39.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 8 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S40.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 9 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S41.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 10 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S42.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 11 as a function of temperature.



**Fig. S43.** Ion pairing HPLC chromatograms of an alanine and glycine condensation reaction in the presence of TP at pH 12 as a function of temperature.



Fig. S44. MS spectra for 2G  $[M+H]^+$  oligopeptide.



**Fig. S45.** MS spectra for 2G [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> oligopeptide.



Fig. S46. MS spectra for AG  $[M+H]^+$  oligopeptide.



Fig. S47. MS spectra for AG [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> oligopeptide.



Fig. S48. MS spectra for  $2A [M+Na]^+$  oligopeptide.



Fig. S49. MS spectra for 3G  $[M+H]^+$  oligopeptide.



Fig. S50. MS spectra for 3G  $[M+Na]^+$  oligopeptide.



Fig. S51. MS spectra for 2GA  $[M+H]^+$  oligopeptide.



Fig. S52. MS spectra for 2GA [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> oligopeptide.



**Fig. S53.** MS spectra for 4G [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> oligopeptide.



Fig. S54. MS/MS spectra for 3G  $[M+Na]^+$  oligopeptide.





**Fig. S55.** MS/MS spectra for GGA [M+Na]<sup>+</sup> oligopeptide.



**Fig. S56.** MS/MS spectra for AGG and GGA [M+H]<sup>+</sup> oligopeptide mix.