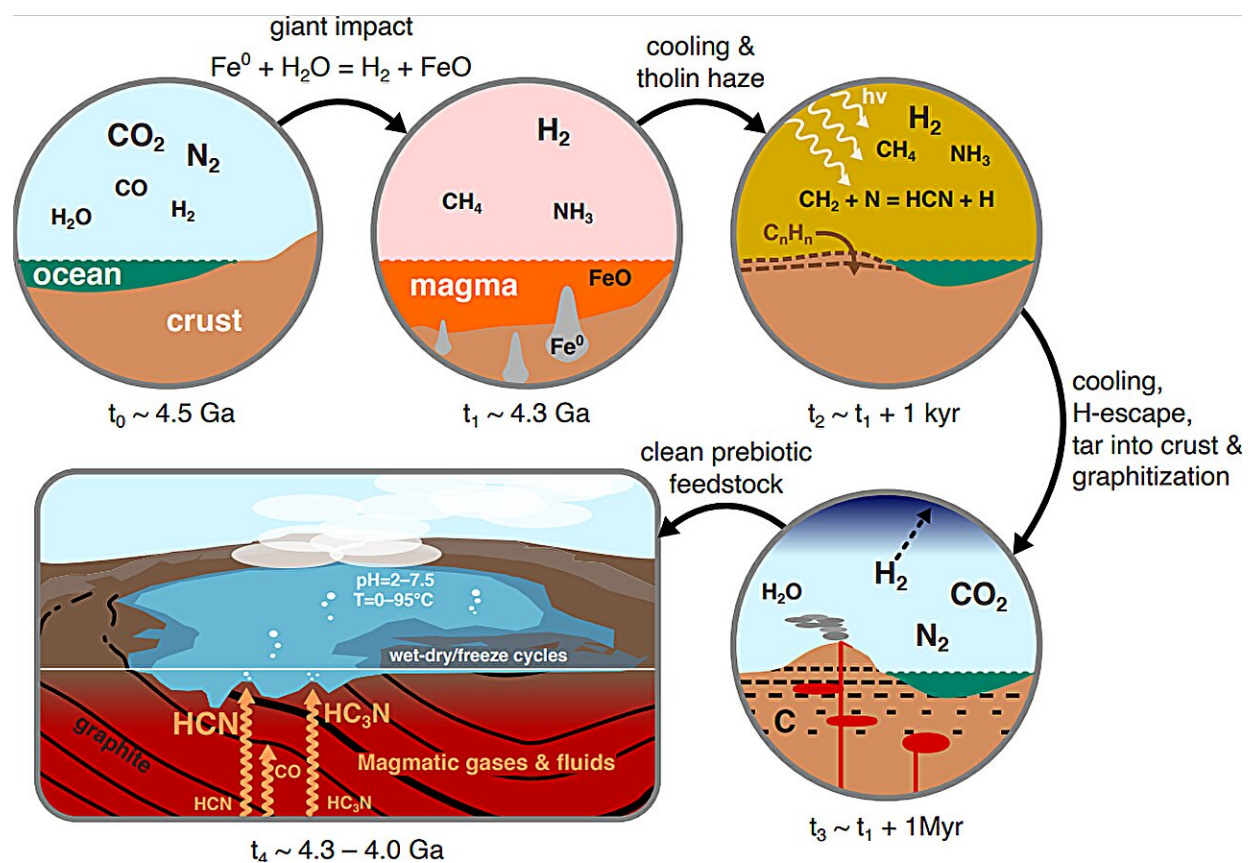


# Drawing a line back to the origin of life: Graphitization could provide simplicity scientists are looking for

April 18 2024



A schematic representation of the scenario we propose here for clean, high-yield production of prebiotic feedstock. Events move around clockwise from the top left: First, the Earth has a neutral atmosphere. This is reduced following a giant impact at 4.3 Ga by oxidation of the impactor's metal core to produce a massive H<sub>2</sub> atmosphere with significant methane and ammonia. This atmosphere quickly cools (in

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