

## Possibility of production of amino acids by impact reaction using a light-gas gun as a simulation of asteroid impacts

OKOCHI, Kazuki<sup>1\*</sup> ; MIENO, Tetsu<sup>2</sup> ; KONDO, Kazuhiko<sup>1</sup> ; HASEGAWA, Sunao<sup>3</sup> ; KUROSAWA, Kosuke<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Dept.Physics, Shizuoka Univ., <sup>2</sup>Grad.School of Sci. and Technol, Shizuoka Univ., <sup>3</sup>ISAS/JAXA, <sup>4</sup>Planetary Exploration Research Center, Chiba Institute of Technology

We are interested in the production process of amino acids in space. Especially, asteroids coming to Titan satellite have made impact reaction on the surface including nitrogen gas, water ice and methane. On the Titan surface, various material, produced by the impact reactions, have been stored under low temperature and dark condition. To do the simulation experiment, a JAXA 2-stage light-gas gun has been used. A projectile with 6.5km/s of speed hits a water + iron target in 1 atm of nitrogen gas, causing an impact reaction. Figure 1 shows a crater on the target. Figure 2 shows produced black soot which deposited onto the aluminum sheet. The samples produced are carefully collected and analyzed by HPLC, FTIR, TOF-MS. As a result of HPLC, peaks suggesting the existence of glycine and alanine in the samples produced were confirmed.

Keywords: impact reaction, gas gun, Titan, asteroid, amino acid, HPLC



Fig.1 A crater on the target.

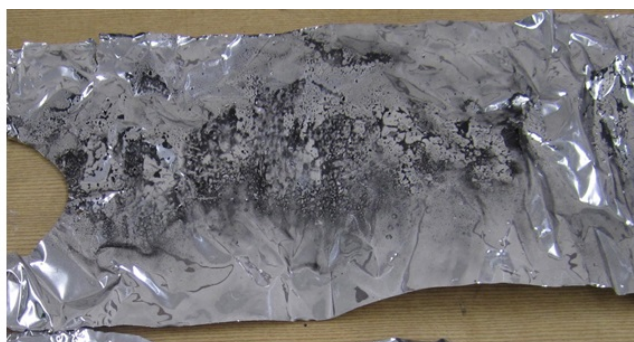


Fig.2 Produced black soot deposited onto the aluminum sheet.