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Aqueously altered minerals in CM2 chondrites Maribo and Murchison: A TEM study.

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To gain insight into aqueous alteration episodes in carbonaceous chondrites, tochilinite-cronstedtiteintergrowths (TCI) were examined by TEM in Maribo and Murchison (both CM2). In Murchison, some low-Ni (<<1 wt%) TCI grains bear enclosed lenses (100-500 nm) of magnetite. These might represent precursor relict minerals from a previous aqueous alteration episode [1]. In Maribo, TCI grains with a layered texture have developed sequences of tochilinite and TCI with sharp boundaries. The TCI layers formed through interaction of a more Si-rich fluid with preexisting tochilinite. Furthermore, the preexisting tochilinite has grown into already existing calcite. This leads to a sequence of apparently three episodes of hydrous mineral formation in Maribo: Calcite precipitation (1) is followed by tochilinite (2) and TCI (3) formation. In general, this study demonstrates that TEM investigations can reveal multiple fine-scale episodes of aqueous alteration on the CM parentbody or pre-accretionary CM-like materials. We acknowledge support by the DFG within the SPP1385. (BI344/12-1 and VO1816/1-1) [1] Palmer, E.E. and Lauretta, D.S. (2011), MAPS 46, 1587-1607.

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Cite abstract as:

Barth, M., Vollmer, C., Bischoff, A., Horstmann, M. (2013) Aqueously altered minerals in CM2 chondrites Maribo and Murchison: A TEM study. Paneth Kolloquium, Nördlingen (Germany), abstract URL: http://www.paneth.eu/PanethKolloquium/2013/0052.pdf (abstract #0052).