

Table 2. Values of Gibbs Energy of Reaction, ΔG_r , (J per gram of cells) at 250 bar^a

Cell Constituent	Amount mg·(g cells) ⁻¹	ΔG_r (J per gram of cells)				
		25 °C	50 °C	75 °C	100 °C	125 °C
Fatty acids	80	-75	-347	-330	-298	-230
Nucleotides	249	405	214	247	295	380
Saccharides	47	38	-27	-22	-13	8
Amino acids	631	117	-841	-754	-603	-305
Amines	17	14	-15	-13	-10	-3
Total	1024	500	-1016	-873	-628	-150

^aSummarized from values tabulated by Amend and McCollom [21]. The calculations of Amend and McCollom [21] are based on the mixing of cool, oxidized Hadean seawater (25 °C, pH 6.5, redox midpoint potential, E_H , -300 mV) with hot, reduced alkaline hydrothermal vent effluent (140 °C, pH 9, E_H , -700 mV) in endmember fluids at 250 bar. The values in the column for 25 °C are for Hadean seawater without mixing; the different temperatures result from different mixing ratios [21]. The activities of seawater CO₂ and hydrothermal effluent H₂ underlying their calculations are given in Table 1 of Amend and McCollom [21] as 22.1 and 16 mmol kg⁻¹, respectively. The O₂ levels are assumed to be 10⁻⁹ mmol kg⁻¹ in seawater and 0 in Hadean hydrothermal fluid [21]. Note that oxygen levels are a crucial parameter. Amino acid synthesis and cell mass synthesis, while requiring little if any energy input or even being exergonic under strictly anoxic hydrothermal vent conditions [21], become extremely endergonic even under very mildly oxidizing conditions, such as microoxic conditions corresponding to only 0.001 of present oxygen levels [78].