# Supplementary Material (ESI) for Chemical Communications

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## Supplementary figure captions (listed)

**Figure S1** Transmission electron microscope image of sample HA(300), hydroxyapatite nanoparticles made using a supercritical water feed at 300°C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system

**Figure S2** Transmission electron microscope image of sample CDHA(200), made using a supercritical water feed at 200°C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system

**Figure S3** Xray diffraction pattern of sample CDHA(200) made in the continuous hydrothermal synthesis system under basic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1.67, and then heat-treated in air at 800°C for 2 hours.

**Figure S4** FTIR data for the range; (a) 4000-2800 cm<sup>-1</sup> and (b) 1800-400 cm<sup>-1</sup> for HA powders made in a hydrothermal flow system using superheated water at 24 MPa for samples (i) HA(400), (ii) HA(300) and (iii) CDHA(200), respectively.

**Figure S5** Simultaneous thermal analysis data in the range 30 - 1200 °C for hydroxyapatite sample HA(400) made using a supercritical water feed at 400°C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system under basic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1.67.

**Figure S6** Simultaneous thermal analysis data in the range 30 - 1200 °C for hydroxyapatite sample HA(300) made using a supercritical water feed at 300°C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system under basic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1.67

**Figure S7** Simultaneous thermal analysis data in the range 30 – 1200 °C for the calcium deficient apatite sample CDHA(200) made using a supercritical water feed at 200 °C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system under basic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1.67

**Figure S8** Simultaneous thermal analysis data in the range 30 - 1200 °C for the calcium deficient apatite sample CDHA(400) made using a supercritical water feed at 400 °C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system under acidic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1.0



**Figure S1** Transmission electron microscope image of sample HA(300), hydroxyapatite nanoparticles made using a supercritical water feed at 300°C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system (bar = 100nm).



**Figure S2** Transmission electron microscope image of sample CDHA(200), made using a supercritical water feed at  $200^{\circ}$ C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system (bar = 100nm).



**Figure S3** Xray diffraction pattern of sample CDHA(200) made in the continuous hydrothermal synthesis system under basic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1.67, and then heat-treated in air at 800°C for 2 hours.



**Figure S4** FTIR data for the range; (a) 4000-2800 cm<sup>-1</sup> and (b) 1800-400 cm<sup>-1</sup> for HA powders made in a hydrothermal flow system using superheated water at 24 MPa for samples (i) HA(400), (ii) HA(300) and (iii) CDHA(200), respectively.

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**Figure S5** Simultaneous thermal analysis data in the range 30 – 1200 °C for hydroxyapatite sample HA(400) made using a supercritical water feed at 400°C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system under basic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1.67.



**Figure S6** Simultaneous thermal analysis data in the range 30 – 1200 °C for hydroxyapatite sample HA(300) made using a supercritical water feed at 300°C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system under basic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1.67.

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**Figure S7** Simultaneous thermal analysis data in the range 30 - 1200 °C for the calcium deficient apatite sample CDHA(200) made using a supercritical water feed at 200 °C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system under basic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1.67.



**Figure S8** Simultaneous thermal analysis data in the range 30 - 1200 °C for the calcium deficient apatite sample CDHA(400) made using a supercritical water feed at 400 °C and 24 MPa in the hydrothermal flow system under acidic conditions using a Ca:P ratio of 1:1.

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Previous reports suggest that under acidic conditions (hydrothermal batch/120 °C) monetite (CaHPO4) is initially formed.31 This is known to transform into an apatite structure if the temperature >140 °C. Despite our short reaction (or residence times), unsurprisingly, we obtained an apatite structure for CDHA(400) (albeit a calcium deficient one). In contrast, under basic conditions, an initial poorly crystalline (calcium deficient) apatite was probably formed at the "Tee" mixing point (before the reactor nozzle); this would have rapidly transformed into stoichiometric apatite by the reaction with superheated water at a temperature of 300 °C or higher. Evidently, at 200 °C (basic pH), the reaction kinetics did not allow transformation into stoichiometric apatite in our flow system for sample CDHA(200).