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The late accretion and erosion of Vesta's crust recorded by eucrites and diogenites as an astrochemical window into the formation of Jupiter and the early evolution of the Solar System

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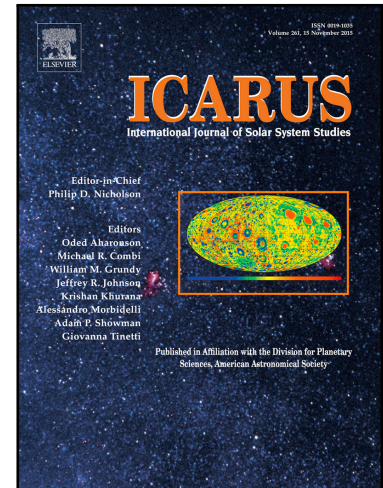
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### Highlights

- The eucrites and diogenites are differentiated meteorites whose genetic link with the crust of asteroid Vesta was confirmed, together with the survival of said crust, by the NASA mission Dawn
- The composition of some eucrites and diogenites suggests an enrichment in water and highly-siderophile elements in the parent melt of Vesta's crust, interpreted as the record of a late veneer
- The ages of the oldest eucrites and diogenites indicate that Vesta's differentiation occurred early in the history of the Solar System and predates the formation of Jupiter and the other giant planets
- We explore how a late veneer can compositionally and erosionally influence Vesta's crust in a proof-of-concept study focusing on the bombardment triggered by the formation and migration of Jupiter
- The late veneer and the erosion experienced by Vesta's crust during the early collisional history of the asteroid can be jointly used as astrochemical constraints on the early evolution of the Solar System

1 The late accretion and erosion of Vesta's crust recorded  
 2 by eucrites and diogenites as an astrochemical window  
 3 into the formation of Jupiter and the early evolution of  
 4 the Solar System

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15 **Abstract**

16 The circumsolar disc was the birthplace of both planetesimals and giant  
 17 planets, yet the details of their formation histories are as elusive as they  
 18 are important to understand the origins of the Solar System. For decades  
 19 the limited thickness of Vesta's basaltic crust, revealed by the link between  
 20 the asteroid and the howardite-eucrite-diogenite family of meteorites, and its  
 21 survival to collisional erosion offered an important constraint for the study  
 22 of these processes. Some results of the Dawn mission, however, cast doubts  
 23 on our understanding of Vesta's interior composition and of the characteris-  
 24 tics of its basaltic crust, weakening this classical constraint. In this work we  
 25 investigate the late accretion and erosion experienced by Vesta's crust after  
 26 its differentiation and recorded in the composition of eucrites and diogenites

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27 and show that it offers an astrochemical window into the earliest evolution  
28 of the Solar System. In our proof-of-concept case study focusing on the late  
29 accretion and erosion of Vesta's crust during the growth and migration of  
30 Jupiter, the water enrichment of eucrites appears to be a sensitive function  
31 of Jupiter's migration while the enrichment in highly-siderophile elements of  
32 diogenites appears to be particularly sensitive to the size-frequency distribu-  
33 tion of the planetesimals. **The picture depicted by the enrichments created**  
34 **by late accretion in eucrites and diogenites is not qualitatively affected by**  
35 **the uncertainty on the primordial mass of Vesta.** Crustal erosion, instead, is  
36 more significantly affected **by said uncertainty** and Vesta's crust survival ap-  
37 pears to be mainly useful to study violent collisional scenarios where highly  
38 energetic impacts can strip significant amounts of vestan material while lim-  
39 itedly contributing to Vesta's late accretion. While our proof-of-concept case  
40 study is based on a simplified physical model and explores only a limited  
41 set of scenarios, our results suggest that the astrochemical record of the late  
42 accretion and erosion of Vesta's crust provided by eucrites and diogenites  
43 can be used as a tool to investigate any process or scenario associated to the  
44 evolution of primordial Vesta and of the early Solar System.

45 *Keywords:* Asteroid Vesta, Planetary formation, Meteorites, Impact  
46 processes, Jupiter

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## 47 **1. Introduction**

48 One of the most challenging tasks in the study of the Solar System is that  
49 of disentangling the steps of its formation process that took place during the  
50 life of the circumsolar disc, specifically over the timespan extending from the

51 condensation of the Calcium-Aluminum-rich Inclusions (CAIs)  $4568.2^{+0.2}_{-0.4}$  Ma  
52 ago, (Bouvier and Wadhwa, 2010) to the dissipation of the gas from the disc  
53 4-5 Myr later (Scott 2006; Johnson et al. 2016; Wang et al. 2017; Kruijer  
54 et al. 2017, but values up to 10 Myr are possible based on the comparison  
55 with circumstellar discs, see e.g. Fedele et al. 2010). Among the most im-  
56 portant events that occurred during this timespan are the formation of the  
57 planetesimals, the appearance of the giant planets, and their migration due  
58 to their interaction with the nebular gas (see Morbidelli and Raymond 2016  
59 and references therein).

60 Our understanding of these three processes, however, has been put under  
61 scrutiny by new ideas and scenarios. In particular, various authors have  
62 argued that the giant planets formed at locations different from their current  
63 ones and underwent a period of extensive migration during the life of the  
64 circumsolar disk (see Morbidelli and Raymond 2016 and references therein).  
65 Such an extensive early migration was shown to be associated with a period  
66 of dynamical excitation and orbital remixing of the planetary bodies in the  
67 circumsolar disc, with major implications for the evolution of the primordial  
68 asteroid belt (Walsh et al., 2011; O'Brien et al., 2014).

69 However, compositional studies of the asteroid belt (DeMeo and Carry,  
70 2014; Michtchenko et al., 2016) disagree on whether an extensive migration  
71 of the giant planets is consistent with the current radial distribution of the  
72 different kinds of asteroids. On the other hand, the very mass growth of the  
73 giant planets was shown to also be capable of triggering phases of dynamical  
74 excitation and radial mixing of the planetesimals even in absence of migration  
75 (see Fig. 1 and Turrini et al. 2011, 2012; Turrini 2014; Turrini & Svetsov

76 2014; Turrini et al. 2015; Raymond & Izidoro 2017). This ambiguity in the  
77 early history of the giant planets severely hinders our understanding of the  
78 formation of the Solar System.

79 Most signatures left by these ancient events, like their cratering records,  
80 were removed or altered by the later evolution of the individual planetary  
81 bodies or of the Solar System as a whole, making it difficult to verify conclu-  
82 sively the different models and scenarios (see Morbidelli and Raymond 2016  
83 and references therein). As our most reliable and temporally resolved source  
84 of information on the early life of the Solar System is offered by meteorites,  
85 our best chance to solve this conundrum lies in identifying those meteoritic  
86 properties that can be linked to the evolution of the nebular environment in  
87 which their parent bodies were embedded.

88 The aim of this work is to investigate how three specific compositional  
89 characteristics of the Howardite-Eucrite-Diogenite (HED) family of basaltic  
90 achondritic meteorites and of their parent body asteroid (4) Vesta can be  
91 jointly used to constrain in a quantitative way the early collisional history  
92 of the asteroid and, through that, the dynamical evolution of the circumso-  
93 lar disc, as first suggested by Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014).  
94 The three compositional characteristics we will focus on are: the survival of  
95 Vesta's basaltic crust, the enrichment in water of eucrites, and the enrichment  
96 in highly-siderophile elements of diogenites.

97 In exploring the working of the astrochemical constraints provided by  
98 these three compositional characteristics, we will consider a proof-of-concept  
99 case study focusing on the collisional evolution of primordial Vesta across  
100 Jupiter's mass growth in different migration scenarios for the giant planet

101 (the event also labelled as *Jovian Early Bombardment* or JEB, see Fig. 1  
102 and Turrini et al. 2011, 2012; Turrini 2014; Turrini & Svetsov 2014; Turrini  
103 et al. 2015). This case study has been selected as it allows us to reuse previ-  
104 ous simulations and results to explore the sensitivity of these astrochemical  
105 constraints to a number of physical parameters (namely flux, physical char-  
106 acteristics, size distribution and impact velocity distribution of the impactors  
107 and the mass of the primordial Vesta).

108 The rest of this work is organized as follows. In Sect. 2 we will overview  
109 the current state of our understanding of asteroid (4) Vesta and of the HEDs.  
110 In Sect. 3 we discuss in more details the compositional characteristics of the  
111 HEDs and Vesta we aim to use to constrain the early evolution of the Solar  
112 System. In Sect. 4 we describe the theoretical tools and the simulations used  
113 to in our proof-of-concept case study. Readers interested in the working of  
114 the compositional constraints from Vesta and the HEDs can skip this section  
115 bearing in mind that, due to the exploratory nature of this work, some of  
116 the approximations adopted in the case study will be made for reasons of  
117 convenience (e.g. minimizing the need for additional simulations) and will  
118 not fit equally well all investigated scenarios.

119 The numerical results we will discuss in Sect. 5 should therefore be con-  
120 sidered only as illustrative of the joint working of the three compositional  
121 constraints and the consistency of the investigated scenarios with these com-  
122 positional constraints will need to be reassessed in more details in future  
123 works using more complete physical models. Finally, in Sect. 6 we discuss  
124 the general application of the compositional constraints from Vesta and the  
125 HEDs to other scenarios beyond the simplified ones considered in this work.

## 126 **2. Vesta and the HEDs: witnesses of the beginning**

127 Asteroid (4) Vesta was identified as the possible source of the Howardite-  
128 Eucrite-Diogenite (HED) family of basaltic achondritic meteorites more than  
129 40 years ago (McCord et al., 1970; Consolmagno and Drake, 1977). The  
130 NASA mission Dawn, which explored the asteroid between 2011 and 2012  
131 (Russell et al., 2012, 2013), recently provided a strong confirmation to the  
132 proposed Vesta-HED genetic link (De Sanctis et al., 2012; Prettyman et  
133 al., 2012). Because of this genetic link, the achondritic nature of the HEDs  
134 implies that Vesta is a differentiated asteroid that experienced global melting  
135 (see e.g. Greenwood et al. 2014; Steenstra et al. 2016).

136 Members of the HEDs family possess some of the oldest formation ages  
137 among the meteoritic samples currently available (see e.g. Scott 2007 and  
138 Day et al. 2016 and references therein). These ages date the completion of  
139 Vesta's differentiation to no later than 3 Myr after the condensation of CAIs  
140 (Bizzarro et al., 2005; Schiller et al., 2011). Based on current estimates, this  
141 event occurred immediately before the formation of Jupiter and the other  
142 giant planets, which is dated between 3 and 5 Myr after CAIs (Scott, 2006;  
143 Johnson et al., 2016; Wang et al., 2017; Kruijer et al., 2017). These data  
144 therefore imply that the JEB was most plausibly the first violent collisional  
145 event experienced by the partially molten crust of Vesta after the differenti-  
146 ation of the asteroid.

147 Meteoritic data from the HEDs provide us also indications on the duration  
148 of the volcanic resurfacing of Vesta and on the timescale of solidification of  
149 its crust after the differentiation process completed (see McSween et al. 2011  
150 for a discussion). Specifically, the basaltic eucrites indicate that the outer



151 basaltic crust of Vesta formed over several episodes of magmatism through  
152 a solid conductive lid (Roszjar et al., 2016) that spanned at least 10 Myr  
153 (McSween et al., 2011) and possibly up to 35 Myr (Roszjar et al., 2016).  
154 Thermal and geophysical models suggest that the conductive lid was a few  
155 km thick (3-5 km, see e.g. Formisano et al. 2013; Tkalcec et al. 2013).

156 In parallel, diogenites indicate that the underlying lower crust slowly so-  
157 lidified over tens of Myr (see McSween et al. 2011 and references therein).  
158 Because of the timing of Jupiter's formation mentioned above (i.e. the first  
159  $\sim 2$  Myr after Vesta's differentiation) and of the duration of the bombard-  
160 ment it triggered ( $\sim 1$  Myr, Turrini et al. 2011, 2012), across the JEB both  
161 the eucritic and the diogenitic layers were in a partially molten state (see e.g.  
162 Formisano et al. 2013; Tkalcec et al. 2013 for the results of thermal and geo-  
163 physical models and McSween et al. 2011; Greenwood et al. 2014; Steenstra  
164 et al. 2016; Roszjar et al. 2016 for the meteoritic evidences).

165 The most recent compositional models of Vesta combining the informa-  
166 tion provided by the HEDs (in particular in terms of elemental abundances)  
167 and by the Dawn mission (in particular the survival of Vesta's basaltic crust  
168 and the size of Vesta's metallic core, as discussed below) with astrochemical  
169 constraints have eucrites and diogenites as the main components of the up-  
170 per and lower layers of Vesta's basaltic crust, whose total thickness should  
171 range between 20 and 40 km (Mandler and Elkins-Tanton, 2013; Toplis et  
172 al., 2013; Consolmagno et al., 2015). The astrochemical constraints used in  
173 these models implicitly assume a chondritic or solar composition (in terms of  
174 relative abundances, not absolute ones) for the major rock-forming elements,  
175 in particular the abundant lithophiles Si, Mg, Ca and Al (see Consolmagno

176 et al. 2015 and in particular their Sects. 3.2 , 3.3 and 4.3 for a more detailed  
177 discussion of this subject).

178 As all these elements are expected to condense at temperatures greater  
179 than 1500 K in the circumsolar disc (see e.g. Consolmagno et al. 2015), this  
180 implicit assumption is expected to hold throughout all but the innermost and  
181 hottest region of the circumsolar disc, spanning a fraction of au. According  
182 to these compositional models, Vesta's Fe-rich core, which the Dawn mission  
183 estimated to possess a radius of 110-140 km (Russell et al., 2012; Ermakov et  
184 al., 2014), is overlaid by a mantle composed of harzburgite containing 60-80%  
185 olivine (Mandler and Elkins-Tanton, 2013; Toplis et al., 2013; Consolmagno  
186 et al., 2015).

187 Vesta's differentiated nature and the limited thickness of its crust in-  
188 ferred by the Vesta-HED link made the survival of this crust an important  
189 constraint for the study of the evolution of the asteroid belt and the Solar  
190 System (see Davis et al. 1985; Coradini et al. 2011; O'Brien and Sykes 2011  
191 and references therein, Turrini et al. 2011; Brož et al. 2013; Turrini 2014;  
192 Turrini & Svetsov 2014; Consolmagno et al. 2015; Pirani and Turrini 2016).  
193 However, some of the very results of the Dawn mission cast doubt on the  
194 reliability of the assumption of chondritic bulk composition for the major  
195 rock-forming elements of the present-day Vesta (Jutzi et al., 2013; Clenet et  
196 al., 2014; Consolmagno et al., 2015; Turrini et al., 2016).

197 Specifically, the Dawn mission revealed the existence of two giant, partly  
198 overlapping impact basins, named Rheasilvia and Veneneia, in the South-  
199 ern hemisphere of Vesta (Schenk et al., 2012) and confirmed the survival of  
200 Vesta's crust at all spatial scales, including inside these two giant basins (De

201 Sanctis et al., 2012; Ammannito et al., 2013; Ruesch et al., 2014). Simu-  
202 lations of the formation of both impact basins suggested a total excavation  
203 depth of 40-80 km (Jutzi et al., 2013) and independent impact and geologic  
204 studies (Ivanov and Melosh, 2013; Ruesch et al., 2014) reported an excava-  
205 tion depth of about 30-45 km for the Rheasilvia basin alone, values at odds  
206 with the thickness of Vesta's crust reported by the most recent compositional  
207 models (Mandler and Elkins-Tanton, 2013; Toplis et al., 2013; Consolmagno  
208 et al., 2015).

209 More precisely, it has been pointed out that the lack of olivine signatures  
210 inside the two partly overlapping impact basins Rheasilvia and Veneneia and  
211 on Rheasilvia's central peak (Jutzi et al., 2013; Clenet et al., 2014; Ruesch et  
212 al., 2014), Vesta's density profile and the mass balance of its interior struc-  
213 ture estimated by Dawn (Consolmagno et al., 2015), and the likely exogenous  
214 origin of the limited olivine-rich material on Vesta's surface in the Northern  
215 hemisphere (Turrini et al., 2016) are all inconsistent with the limited thick-  
216 ness of said crust associated with a chondritic bulk composition in terms of  
217 the major rock-forming elements (Consolmagno et al., 2015). This argues  
218 for a thicker crust of Vesta, which in turns argues for a non-chondritic bulk  
219 composition of the present-day asteroid in terms of its major rock-forming  
220 elements (Consolmagno et al., 2015).

221 Consolmagno et al. (2015) discussed this apparent mismatch between the  
222 information provided by the HEDs and that coming from Dawn and proposed  
223 a possible solution, postulating that the asteroid formed from chondritic ma-  
224 terial and, after differentiating but before solidifying completely, underwent  
225 some altering event that changed its bulk composition to its present one.

226 One proposed event that could produce the required alteration would be a  
227 grazing collision of a larger primordial Vesta with a body of comparable size  
228 stripping a significant fraction of its mantle while preserving most of its crust  
229 (Consolmagno et al., 2015).

230 Another possibility is that, following the catastrophic disruption of pri-  
231 mordial Vesta, the mantle olivine would be more easily fragmented into  
232 smaller bits which could be preferentially swept away by gas drag, leaving  
233 larger basaltic fragments to reaccumulate onto an intact metallic core (Consol-  
234 magno et al., 2016). Other scenarios might be possible, including the ex-  
235 istence of many HED parents whose material might have been reaccumulated  
236 into the asteroid we today call Vesta (Consolmagno et al., 2015). Nonethe-  
237 less, three common traits to all scenarios discussed to date are that pri-  
238 mordial Vesta should have been more massive than present-day Vesta, that  
239 the altering event is suggested to be linked to impacts, and that the altering  
240 event should have occurred while Vesta was still partially molten or possessed  
241 enough radiogenic heat to eliminate any macroporosity created during the  
242 alteration in order to fit the constraints posed by Dawn (Consolmagno et al.,  
243 2015).

244 In principle, finding those evolution tracks for the early Solar System  
245 that, within this scenario for Vesta's evolution, can produce the required  
246 altering event or collision can offer a substitute for the classical constraint  
247 posed by the survival of Vesta's basaltic crust. However, as the primordial  
248 mass of Vesta is currently unconstrained and different evolution tracks can  
249 produce the required alteration (Consolmagno et al., 2015, 2016), attempting  
250 to study the early evolution of the Solar System using one of these scenarios

251 alone represents an ill-posed problem. What is required, therefore, is a new  
252 and general constraint that does not strongly depends on Vesta's primordial  
253 mass and that could be applied to all possible scenarios.

### 254 **3. Eucrites and diogenites: astrochemical constraints on the late** 255 **accretion and erosion of Vesta**

256 From the time Vesta differentiated to the moment its crust solidified com-  
257 pletely, the eucritic and diogenitic layers were altered by impacts (Turrini et  
258 al., 2011, 2012; Day et al., 2012; Turrini, 2014; Turrini & Svetsov, 2014;  
259 Sarafian et al., 2014). This alteration manifested in two ways. On one hand,  
260 impacts removed material from the vestan crust by ejecting part of the mass  
261 excavated during the crater formation process at speeds exceeding the ejection  
262 velocity of the asteroid. This mass loss process is also known as *cratering*  
263 *erosion* (Davis et al., 1979). On the other hand, impacts delivered mass to  
264 the vestan crust in the form of the material from the impacting bodies that  
265 survives the collision. This mass accretion process is known as *late accretion*  
266 or, when specifically referring to the alteration of the crust of planetary bod-  
267 ies by impacts, *late veneer* (see e.g. Day et al. 2016). From a geologic point  
268 of view, in this work we will specifically focus on the late veneer process.

269 As discussed in Sect. 2, from the meteoritic data supplied by the HEDs  
270 we know that Vesta's basaltic crust formed over several magmatic effusive  
271 events through a conductive solid lid (Roszjar et al., 2016) with an estimated  
272 thickness of a few km (Formisano et al., 2013; Tkalcec et al., 2013). These  
273 effusive events could have been either volcanic (the "heat-pipe" mechanism,  
274 Moore et al. 2017) or impact-triggered (Turrini, 2014; Turrini & Svetsov,  
275 2014): the shock wave created by an impact, in fact, damages the surface

276 material at greater depths than those excavated by the crater itself (Melosh,  
277 1989), therefore creating paths for the magma to reach the surface. During  
278 this global effusive resurfacing, the outer layer of Vesta's crust acting as the  
279 conductive lid would be in a dynamic equilibrium state, with newer material  
280 replacing and pushing downward the older one (Moore et al., 2017) together  
281 with any contaminant delivered by impacts.

282 As a consequence, the late veneer of the basaltic eucritic layer could span  
283 an interval of at least 10 Myr (see McSween et al. 2011 and references therein,  
284 Roszjar et al. 2016). During this temporal interval, material delivered to  
285 Vesta's surface would contaminate the basaltic eucrites either by direct in-  
286 jection into the melt or by later incorporation into the magma (Turrini &  
287 Svetsov, 2014). The late veneer of the diogenitic layers should in principle  
288 last longer (at least a few tens of Myr, see McSween et al. 2011 and references  
289 therein), but in order to reach the diogenitic melt the material delivered by  
290 later impacts would need to either penetrate thicker layers of solid crust or  
291 be pushed at depth by the reprocessing and sinking of the conductive lid.

292 After the complete solidification of Vesta's crust, impacts would contam-  
293 inate only the howarditic layer formed by the brecciation of solid eucritic  
294 and diogenitic materials (see e.g. Turrini et al. 2014, 2016 for an in-depth  
295 discussion of this process on Vesta). Consequently, the composition of eu-  
296 crites and diogenites records the early collisional evolution of Vesta when  
297 the crust of the differentiated asteroid was still partially molten. Since the  
298 collisional history of a planetary body is strongly coupled to the evolution  
299 of the surrounding environment, the composition of eucrites and diogenites  
300 provides constraints on the evolution of the circumsolar disc and the early

301 Solar System. As we will show in the following, these constraints do not  
302 depend on the specific value of the unknown primordial mass of Vesta (see  
303 Sect. 2 and Consolmagno et al. 2015) but only on the assumption that the  
304 primordial Vesta was characterized by a chondritic bulk composition of the  
305 major rock-forming elements.

### 306 3.1. *Eucrites, diogenites and mass loss*

307 For a primordial Vesta with chondritic bulk composition in terms of the  
308 major rock-forming elements, the composition of eucrites and diogenites and,  
309 in particular, their abundance in rare earth elements allows one to constraint  
310 the fractional thickness of the original vestan crust (see Consolmagno et al.  
311 2015 and references therein). Specifically, based on astrochemical abundances  
312 (see e.g. Lodders 2010 and references therein) *the basaltic crust represented*  
313 *15 – 21% of the primordial mass of the asteroid* (see Consolmagno et al.  
314 2015 and references therein). This result is independent on the primordial  
315 mass of Vesta and *depends only on the asteroid possessing chondritic bulk*  
316 *composition in terms of its major rock-forming elements at the time of its*  
317 *differentiation* (Consolmagno et al., 2015).

318 Even if Dawn confirmed the survival of Vesta’s crust at all spatial scales  
319 (De Sanctis et al., 2012; Ammannito et al., 2013; Ruesch et al., 2014), the  
320 historical constraint posed by such survival is weak due to our ignorance of  
321 the absolute value of the initial thickness of Vesta’s crust (in place of the  
322 relative one supplied by astrochemical constraints), of the original mass of  
323 the primordial Vesta and, should it have been larger than that of present  
324 Vesta, of the amount of crustal material that could have been removed by  
325 the altering event together with the excess mantle material (Consolmagno et

326 al., 2015).

327       Until these unknown factors are more precisely quantified, it is difficult  
328 to pinpoint the amount of crustal material that can be removed by crater-  
329 ing erosion without producing an asteroid inconsistent with the present-day  
330 Vesta (Turrini, 2014). As such, in our proof-of-concept case study we will  
331 limit ourselves to *discuss how the estimated mass losses caused by cratering*  
332 *erosion compare to this upper bound of 15 – 21% of the primordial mass of*  
333 *Vesta.*

### 334 3.2. Eucrites and water accretion

335       The first piece of the puzzle provided by Vesta's late veneer is supplied by  
336 basaltic eucrites. While Vesta is globally a volatile-depleted body (see Con-  
337 solmagno et al. 2015 and references therein), the discovery of small apatite  
338 crystals in some basaltic eucritic meteorites (Sarafian et al., 2013) indicates  
339 that small quantities of water were present while the eucritic layer was so-  
340 lidifying. While measurements of the D/H ratio in apatites were interpreted  
341 as suggestive of a carbonaceous chondritic origin of Vesta's water (Sarafian  
342 et al., 2014; Barrett et al., 2016), the results of Hartogh et al. (2011) on the  
343 D/H ratio of comet 103P/Hartley 2 indicate that comets could also be a com-  
344 patible source (Turrini & Svetsov, 2014). However, an incompatibility with  
345 a cometary origin, if confirmed, would allow to reject all scenarios invoking  
346 a major role for comets in delivering water to Vesta.

347       While the uncertainty associated to such estimates is large, recent work  
348 (Stephant et al., 2016a,b; Sarafian et al., 2017a,b) attempts to constrain  
349 quantitatively the amount of water initially present in the eucritic melt.  
350 Sarafian et al. (2017a,b) report an upper bound to the water content of



351 the eucritic parent melts ranging between 260-1000  $\mu\text{g/g}$ , i.e. 0.026-0.1 wt%.  
352 Independently, Stephant et al. (2016a,b) suggest that water should have rep-  
353 resented less than 0.2 wt.% of the eucritic parent melts. For a primordial  
354 Vesta characterized by a chondritic bulk composition, eucrites should repre-  
355 sent about 2/3 of the vestan crust and the latter should represent no more  
356 than 15-21% of the vestan mass (see Consolmagno et al. 2015 and references  
357 therein). The values estimated by Sarafian et al. (2017a,b) and Stephant et  
358 al. (2016a,b) therefore translate in an *upper bound to the water accreted by*  
359 *primordial Vesta of  $1-3 \times 10^{-4}$  the mass of the asteroid*, which we will adopt  
360 as our constraint on the maximum amount of water that could be delivered  
361 by Vesta's late veneer.

### 362 3.3. Diogenites and mass accretion

363 The second piece of the puzzle provided by Vesta's late veneer is sup-  
364 plied by diogenites. Specifically, some diogenites show an over-abundance in  
365 highly-siderophile elements (HSEs) with respect to what would be expected  
366 following their preferential migration to the vestan core during differentiation  
367 (Day et al., 2012; Dale et al., 2012). While this over-abundance in princi-  
368 ple could be explained in different ways (e.g. as the result of variations in  
369 the local concentration in the vestan magma, see Day et al. 2016 and refer-  
370 ences therein), the fact that over-abundances in HSEs are often paired with  
371 chondritic elemental ratios of this elements suggests that they result from a  
372 late accretion or late veneer of chondritic material (see Day et al. 2016 and  
373 references therein). A similar pattern was shown to hold also for the most  
374 HSE-enriched eucrites, while eucrites containing low abundances of HSEs  
375 presented markedly non-chondritic elemental ratios for these elements (see

376 Day et al. 2016 and references therein, Dhaliwal et al. 2016).

377 Assuming a chondritic bulk composition for Vesta at the time of this late  
378 veneer or accretion, Day et al. (2012) associated the measured enrichment to  
379 a total accreted chondritic mass of about 1 – 2% the primordial mass of the  
380 asteroid. Because of the uncertainties in this kind of computations and on  
381 the amount of chondritic material delivered to the mantle instead of the crust  
382 (late accretion vs. late veneer), and because the temporal interval considered  
383 in this work (the duration of the bulk of the bombardment triggered by  
384 Jupiter’s mass growth is  $\sim 1$  Myr, see Turrini et al. 2011, 2012) is much  
385 shorter than the timespan over which diogenites can be altered (at least 10  
386 Myr or more, see above and McSween et al. 2011), we will adopt the range of  
387 values estimated by Day et al. (2012) as an *upper bound to the total accreted*  
388 *chondritic mass delivered to Vesta by the late veneer, which should therefore*  
389 *not exceed 1-2% the mass of the asteroid*, keeping in mind that because of  
390 said uncertainties the real upper limit could be much lower.

#### 391 **4. Modelling Jupiter’s formation and Vesta’s collisional evolution**

392 In this section we provide a synthetic description of the previous results  
393 and of the methods and approximations we used in our proof-of-concept case  
394 study to model the collisional evolution of Vesta during the formation and  
395 migration of Jupiter, its effects on the eucritic and diogenitic crust and their  
396 dependence on different factors. As mentioned in Sect. 1, due to the ex-  
397 ploratory nature of this work for reasons of convenience we build on the  
398 simulations, methods and results of previous studies. As a result, readers  
399 should keep in mind that not all the approximations made will adapt equally

400 well to the different cases explored and the numerical results should be con-  
401 sidered only as illustrative.

402 For more details on the methods and the dynamical simulations used for  
403 the computation of the impact probabilities and velocities we refer the readers  
404 to Turrini et al. (2011), for a more detailed discussion of the collisional model  
405 we refer the readers to Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014), while for  
406 more details on the numerical model used in the impact simulations we refer  
407 the readers to Turrini & Svetsov (2014) and Turrini et al. (2016). Readers  
408 interested in a more detailed discussion of the dynamical characterization  
409 of the asteroidal impactors on Vesta across the formation and migration of  
410 Jupiter are referred to Turrini et al. (2011) and Turrini (2014), while those  
411 interested in the dynamical characterization of the cometary impactors are  
412 referred to Turrini et al. (2011) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014).

#### 413 *4.1. Modelling Jupiter's mass growth and migration*

414 In this study we used the n-body simulations performed by Turrini et  
415 al. (2011) and the associated estimates of the impact probabilities on Vesta  
416 as the base for our assessment of the erosional and accretional history of  
417 primordial Vesta across Jupiter's formation and migration. Those simula-  
418 tions considered a template of the early Solar System composed of the Sun,  
419 the forming Jupiter, Vesta and a disk of planetesimals modelled as massless  
420 particles, whose dynamical evolution was followed for  $2 \times 10^6$  years. From  
421 a physical point of view, the starting time of this temporal window should  
422 be located between 2 and 4 Myr after the condensation of CAIs to allow for  
423 Jupiter to complete its formation between 3 and 5 Myr after CAIs.

424 During the first  $\tau_c = 10^6$  years of this simulated timespan, Jupiter's core

425 would grow from its initial mass  $M_0 = 0.1 M_\oplus$  to the critical mass  $M_c =$   
 426  $15 M_\oplus$  as:

$$M_{\tau_c} = M_0 + \left( \frac{e}{e-1} \right) (M_c - M_0) \times (1 - e^{-t/\tau_c}) \quad (1)$$

427 where  $\tau_c$  can be interpreted as the oligarchic growth timescale of Jupiter's  
 428 core (see e.g. D'Angelo, Durisen & Lissauer 2011 and references therein).

429 When Jupiter's core reached the critical mass value  $M_c$ , the nebular gas  
 430 surrounding Jupiter was assumed to rapidly accrete on the planet, whose  
 431 mass would grow as:

$$M_{\tau_g} = M_c + (M_J - M_c) \times (1 - e^{-(t-\tau_c)/\tau_g}) \quad (2)$$

432 where  $M_J = 317.83 M_\oplus$  is the final and present mass of Jupiter. The e-  
 433 folding time  $\tau_g = 5 \times 10^3$  years adopted by Turrini et al. (2011) was derived  
 434 from the hydrodynamical simulations described in Lissauer et al. (2009) and  
 435 Coradini, Magni, & Turrini (2010).

436 In their simulations, Turrini et al. (2011) considered four different mi-  
 437 gration scenarios: 0 AU (no migration), 0.25 au, 0.5 au and 1 au (see Fig.  
 438 1). In their simulations Jupiter always started on circular and planar or-  
 439 bits and, in those scenarios where migration was included, started migrating  
 440 inward as soon its core reached the critical mass of  $15 M_\oplus$ . This approxi-  
 441 mation is equivalent to neglecting the distinction between Type I and Type  
 442 II migration and starting the migration of the accreting planet as soon the  
 443 characteristic migration timescale of the forming Jupiter became of the order  
 444 of  $10^6$  years (see D'Angelo, Durisen & Lissauer 2011 and references therein).

445 Given that the effects on the asteroid belt of the dynamical excitation of  
 446 the planetesimals triggered by the mass growth of the forming Jupiter are

447 negligible before the gas accretion phase (see Turrini et al. 2011 and Raymond  
 448 & Izidoro 2017), from a physical point of view this approximation can be  
 449 treated as assuming that Jupiter’s core started forming farther away and  
 450 migrated to its initial position due to Type I migration before the beginning  
 451 of the simulations. Moreover, because of the negligible effects of the forming  
 452 Jupiter on Vesta before the gas accretion phase, to first order the adopted  
 453 approximated treatment of Jupiter’s mass growth is not in contrast with the  
 454 shorter timescales and outer formation regions predicted by the so called  
 455 “pebble accretion” scenario (Bitsch et al., 2015).

456 After the giant planet begins to migrate, Jupiter’s orbital radius would  
 457 evolve as:

$$R_{\mathcal{J}} = R_0 + (R_J - R_0) \times (1 - e^{-(t-\tau_c)/\tau_r}) \quad (3)$$

458 where  $R_0$  is Jupiter’s orbital radius at the beginning of the simulation,  $R_J$  is  
 459 the final orbital radius and  $\tau_r = 5 \times 10^3$  years. The simulations performed  
 460 by Turrini et al. (2011) using a slower migration ( $\tau_r = 2.5 \times 10^4$  years)  
 461 indicate that the flux of impactors on Vesta is not significantly affected by  
 462 the migration rate.

#### 463 4.2. Modelling the primordial Vesta

464 In the simulations of Turrini et al. (2011), Vesta was initially placed on a  
 465 circular, planar orbit with semimajor axis  $a_v = 2.362$  AU. The asteroid was  
 466 characterized using the best pre-Dawn estimates of its mass ( $m_v = 2.70 \times 10^{23}$   
 467 g, Michalak 2000) and mean radius ( $r_v = 258$  km, Thomas et al. 1997), whose  
 468 values differ by 2 – 4% from the ones later estimated by the Dawn mission  
 469 ( $2.59 \times 10^{23}$  g and 262.7 km respectively, Russell et al. 2012).

470 While these values were reasonable before the arrival of Dawn, the results  
471 of Consolmagno et al. (2015) suggest that primordial Vesta could have been  
472 more massive (see Sect. 1). Because of this uncertainty on primordial Vesta's  
473 mass and because a precise assessment of the latter is beyond the scope of  
474 this work, we maintained the template of primordial Vesta used by Turrini et  
475 al. (2011) and took advantage of the link between impact probabilities and  
476 diameter of the asteroid to rescale the impact fluxes to a more massive pri-  
477 mordial Vesta's and explore how the three compositional constraints offered  
478 by Vesta and the HEDs responded to this change.

479 We therefore initially considered a primordial Vesta characterized by a  
480 diameter similar to its current mean one. This allows us to take advantage  
481 of the fluxes of impactors on the asteroid estimated by Turrini et al. (2011)  
482 (see Sect. 4.4). Similarly, in simulating the outcomes of impacts at different  
483 impact velocities on Vesta, we characterized the target body with the current  
484 diameter and surface gravity of Vesta (see Sect. 4.4). This choice allows us  
485 to take advantage of the simulations of rocky impactors on Vesta performed  
486 by Turrini et al. (2016) and to simulate only the effects of more realistic  
487 cometary impactors than those originally considered by Turrini & Svetsov  
488 (2014) (see Sect. 4.4).

489 The probabilistic method used by Turrini et al. (2011) to estimate impact  
490 fluxes on Vesta links impact probabilities to Vesta's diameter. As long as  
491 Vesta's mass is not so large that the gravity of the asteroid significantly  
492 enhances its effective cross-section (see Turrini et al. 2011 and references  
493 therein), impact fluxes will scale with the diameter of the asteroid. For  
494 the impact velocities estimated by Turrini et al. (2011), this condition is

495 satisfied for a primordial Vesta no more massive than a few times the present  
496 asteroid. Similarly, both the mass erosion (Holsapple and Housen, 2007) and  
497 the mass accretion (Svetsov, 2011) efficiencies scale with the surface gravity  
498 of the target asteroid, which for a given average density will scale with its  
499 diameter.

500 This approach allowed us to estimate, to first order, the mass loss and  
501 mass accretion experienced by primordial Vesta for different values of its  
502 original mass without the need of performing a large number of additional  
503 simulations. More details on the parameters describing Vesta in our colli-  
504 sional simulations are provided in Sect. 4.4, while a discussion of the effects  
505 of a larger mass of the primordial Vesta on our results is presented in Sect.  
506 5 and 6.

#### 507 *4.3. Modelling the planetesimal disk*

508 The planetesimal disk was modelled by Turrini et al. (2011) as a disk  
509 of massless particles evolving under the gravitational influence of the Sun,  
510 Jupiter and Vesta. The disk of massless particles was composed by  $8 \times 10^4$   
511 particles and extended from 2 au to 10 au. The massless particles initially  
512 possessed eccentricity and inclination (in radians) values comprised between  
513 0 and  $3 \times 10^{-2}$  (Turrini et al., 2011) and were used as dynamical tracers of  
514 the evolution of the planetesimal disk, each particle representing a swarm of  
515 real planetesimals.

516 The number of real planetesimals populating each swarm and their char-  
517 acteristic diameter depend on the adopted size-frequency distribution (SFD)  
518 for the planetesimal disk. In this work we considered a total of four SFDs:  
519 two for primordial planetesimals and two for collisionally evolved planetes-

520 imals. Each pair of SFDs (primordial and collisionally evolved) refers to a  
521 specific nebular environment, namely quiescent or turbulent circumsolar disc.

522 The massless particles were associated to their diameters by means of  
523 Monte Carlo methods. Since this procedure was performed while processing  
524 the output of the simulations, the latter did not include the effects of gas  
525 drag as they are size-dependent. The choice of neglecting the effects of gas  
526 drag allowed us to explore the effects of different SFDs on Vesta's crustal  
527 late accretion and erosion without the need to perform a large number of  
528 computationally expensive n-body simulations.

529 While computationally convenient, however, this choice is not dynam-  
530 ically accurate, particularly for km-sized planetesimals, as gas drag acts  
531 to damp orbital eccentricities and inclinations, diminishing the population  
532 of dynamically excited planetesimals. At the same time, the radial drift  
533 caused by gas drag brings more planetesimals into the orbital resonances  
534 with Jupiter, which appear to play the leading role in producing the popula-  
535 tion of impactors on Vesta (see Turrini et al. 2011 and Sect. 5). The results  
536 of analogous simulations performed by Weidenschilling, Davis & Marzari  
537 (2001), Grazier et al. (2014) and Raymond & Izidoro (2017) indicate that  
538 neglecting the effects of gas drag should not alter the results of this study in  
539 a qualitative way by cancelling the JEB.

540 Differently from the previous studies of Turrini (2014) and Turrini &  
541 Svetsov (2014), all four considered SFDs were associated to a circumsolar  
542 disc possessing a dust-to-gas ratio  $\xi_i = 0.005$  inside the water ice condensa-  
543 tion line and  $\xi_i = 0.01$  outside (see below for details on the density profiles of  
544 the individual discs). The water ice condensation line was assumed at 4 au.



545 The mass of solids comprised between 2 and 3 au amounted to about  $2 M_{\oplus}$  for  
546 all four SFDs, consistent with the planetesimals having formed within a Min-  
547 imum Mass Solar Nebula (see also Morbidelli et al. 2009 and Weidenschilling  
548 2011).

549 All planetesimals inside 4 au were assumed to be rocky asteroids with an  
550 average density of  $2.4 \text{ g/cm}^3$  (chosen as a compromise between the densities  
551 of volatile-poor and volatile-rich asteroids, see Britt et al. 2002; Carry 2012;  
552 Turrini et al. 2014 and references therein) while those beyond were assumed  
553 to be ice-rich cometary bodies, constituted at 50% of their mass by water  
554 ice and at 50% by rock, with an average density of  $1 \text{ g/cm}^3$ . Planetesimals  
555 formed between 3 and 4 au were assumed to possess 10% of their mass as  
556 water in the form of hydrated minerals, similarly to carbonaceous chondrites  
557 (Jarosewich, 1990; Robert, 2003).

558 The transition at 3 au, while somewhat arbitrary, is consistent with the  
559 current distribution of low albedo volatile-rich asteroids being the result of  
560 their inward radial diffusion over the life of the Solar System (Michtchenko et  
561 al., 2016). Moreover, the flux of impactors on Vesta originating from beyond  
562 3 au is due to the 2:1 resonance with Jupiter (located at 3.3 au or outward  
563 depending on the Jovian migration, see Fig. 1 and Turrini et al. 2011), so  
564 our analysis is not particularly sensitive to the actual heliocentric distance  
565 of this transition.

566 The four SFDs we considered in our case study are described in more  
567 detail in the following. A comparison of the average diameters of the plan-  
568 etesimals as a function of their orbital distance from the Sun for the two  
569 primordial SFDs is shown in Fig. 2, while in Fig. 3 we show the com-

570 parison between the two collisionally evolved SFDs in the reference orbital  
 571 region comprised between 1 and 4 au considered by Weidenschilling (2011)  
 572 and Morbidelli et al. (2009) (see Sects. 4.3.3 and 4.3.4 for the discussion of  
 573 their extension to the orbital region between 4 and 10 au).

#### 574 4.3.1. Primordial planetesimals formed in a quiescent circumsolar disc

575 The first SFD considered was that of a disk of *primordial planetesimals*  
 576 formed by gravitational instability of the dust in the mid-plane of a *quiescent*  
 577 *circumsolar disc* (Safronov, 1969; Goldreich and Ward, 1973; Weidenschilling,  
 578 1980; Coradini et al., 1981). Following Coradini et al. (1981), the circumsolar  
 579 disc was assumed to have a density profile  $\sigma = \sigma_0 \left(\frac{r}{1\text{AU}}\right)^{-n_s}$ , with  $\sigma_0 = 2700$   
 580  $\text{g cm}^{-2}$  being the gas surface density at 1 AU and  $n_s = 1.5$ . For this SFD,  
 581 which we derived from the results of Coradini et al. (1981), the diameters  
 582 of the planetesimals that could impact Vesta roughly range between 1 and  
 583 40 km, with the bulk of the impactors being constituted by planetesimals  
 584 with diameters of 10-20 km (Turrini, 2014; Turrini & Svetsov, 2014). For  
 585 more details on the SFD and the associated Monte Carlo method we refer  
 586 interested readers to Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014).

#### 587 4.3.2. Primordial planetesimals formed in a turbulent circumsolar disc

588 The second SFD considered was that of *primordial planetesimals* formed  
 589 by concentration of dust particles in low vorticity regions in a *turbulent cir-*  
 590 *cumstellar disc* (Cuzzi et al., 2008, 2010). Following Chambers (2010), the  
 591 circumstellar disc was assumed to possess a density profile  $\sigma = \sigma'_0 \left(\frac{r}{1\text{AU}}\right)^{-n'_s}$ ,  
 592 with  $\sigma'_0 = 3500 \text{ g cm}^{-2}$  being the gas surface density at 1 AU and  $n'_s = 1$   
 593 (see Fig. 14, gray dot-dashed line, Chambers 2010). For this SFD, which we

594 derived from the results of Chambers (2010), the diameters of the planetes-  
595 imals that could impact Vesta roughly range between 20 and 250 km, with  
596 the bulk of the impactors being constituted by planetesimals with diameters  
597 of 100-200 km (Turrini, 2014; Turrini & Svetsov, 2014). For more details on  
598 the SFD and the associated Monte Carlo method we refer interested readers  
599 to Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014).

#### 600 4.3.3. *Collisionally-evolved planetesimals formed in a quiescent circumstellar* 601 *disc*

602 The third SFD we considered was associated to *collisionally-evolved plan-*  
603 *etesimals* formed in a *quiescent circumstellar disc* and was derived from the  
604 results of Weidenschilling (2011). In this study we focused on the SFD of the  
605 asteroid belt that Weidenschilling (2011) referred to as the “standard case”,  
606 i.e. the one produced from a disk initially populated by planetesimals with  
607 a diameter of 100 m (see Fig. 8, Weidenschilling 2011).

608 The resulting population of planetesimals is dominated *in number* by  
609 collisional fragments with km- or sub-km-sized diameters and *in mass* by  
610 a few large planetesimals and planetary embryos. In our estimates of the  
611 collisional evolution of Vesta we adopted as our lower-end cut-off of the SFD  
612 the diameter of 1 km, a choice motivated by the fact that the slope of the  
613 SFD causes sub-km planetesimals to cumulatively supply only a fraction of  
614 the mass contained in km-sized planetesimals (Weidenschilling, 2011).

615 Because of this cut-off, the bulk of the planetesimals impacting Vesta is  
616 in the form of planetesimals with diameters of 1-2 km (Turrini, 2014; Turrini  
617 & Svetsov, 2014). Lowering our cut-off to 100 m would increase the mass  
618 flux on Vesta only by about 10% with respect to that provided by km-sized

619 asteroids.

620 Strictly speaking, the results of Weidenschilling (2011) apply only to the  
621 inner Solar System (i.e. 1 – 4 au), so in principle they cannot be applied  
622 to the outer part of the planetesimal disk (i.e. 4 – 10 au) considered by  
623 Turrini et al. (2011). However, the results of Weidenschilling (2008, 2011)  
624 suggest that the collisionally-evolved SFD of the planetesimals in our regions  
625 of interest does not strongly depend on the radial distance.

626 We followed the approach used in Turrini & Svetsov (2014) and adopted a  
627 similar SFD for the planetesimals beyond 4 au, scaling it in mass by the ratio  
628 between the solid mass comprised between 4 and 10 au and that comprised  
629 between 1 and 4 au. For more details on the SFD and the associated Monte  
630 Carlo method we refer interested readers to Turrini (2014) and Turrini &  
631 Svetsov (2014).

#### 632 4.3.4. *Collisionally-evolved planetesimals formed in a turbulent circumstellar* 633 *disc*

634 The fourth and final SFDs we considered was associated to the case of  
635 *collisionally-evolved planetesimals formed in turbulent circumstellar disc* and  
636 was derived from the results of Morbidelli et al. (2009). Morbidelli et al.  
637 (2009) found that the best match with the present-day SFD of the asteroid  
638 belt is obtained for planetesimal sizes initially spanning 100 – 1000 km (see  
639 Fig. 8, Morbidelli et al. 2009), a range consistent with their formation in a  
640 turbulent nebula.

641 The SFD associated to the best-fit case of Morbidelli et al. (2009) shares  
642 most of the characteristics of the analogous one derived by Weidenschilling  
643 (2011), but shows a larger abundance of planetesimals with diameter com-

644 prised between 5 and 20 km (see Fig. 8a, black solid line, Morbidelli et al.  
645 2009) than the SFD by Weidenschilling (2011), which is significantly flatter  
646 in this size range.

647 While the SFD physically extends down to sub-km sizes, we focused our  
648 attention on the effects of this overabundance and maintained the lower-end  
649 cut-off of the SFD at 5 km in diameter also adopted in Morbidelli et al.  
650 (2009). Because of this, the bulk of the planetesimals impacting Vesta is in  
651 the form of planetesimals with diameters of 5-10 km (Turrini, 2014; Turrini  
652 & Svetsov, 2014).

653 As in the case of the SFD by Weidenschilling (2011) discussed in Sect.  
654 4.3.3, we extended the SFD of Morbidelli et al. (2009) beyond 4 au by scaling  
655 the number of planetesimals by a factor equal to the mass ratio of the solid  
656 material contained between 4 and 10 au to that of the one contained between  
657 1 and 4 au. For more details on the SFD and the associated Monte Carlo  
658 method we refer interested readers to Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov  
659 (2014).

#### 660 4.4. *Modelling Vesta's collisional history*

661 Turrini et al. (2011) estimated the impact probabilities and the associated  
662 impact velocities between the massless particles and Vesta using a statistical  
663 approach based on solving the ray-torus intersection problem between the  
664 instantaneous orbital torus of Vesta and the linearized path of the massless  
665 particle<sup>1</sup> across the time step when the particle crosses Vesta's orbital region

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<sup>1</sup>Note that the path of the massless particle is linearized only for the computation of its impact probability with Vesta, not for that of the dynamical evolution of the particle.

666 (see Turrini et al. 2011 for more details on the method). This method is  
667 conceptually similar to the analytical method of Öpik (1976) but requires  
668 only to average over the mean anomaly of the target body's orbit instead of  
669 averaging on anomaly, longitude of nodes and argument of pericenter of both  
670 target and impacting bodies.

671 In evaluating the collisional history of Vesta we focused on the massless  
672 particles impacting Vesta from the moment Jupiter's core started accreting  
673 its gaseous envelope (i.e. the second 1 Myr in the simulations by Turrini  
674 et al. 2011, see the highlighted area in Fig. 4). This conservative choice is  
675 motivated by the need to correct for the fact that the early flux of impactors  
676 on Vesta in the simulations is dominated by the impacts of those rocky  
677 planetesimals orbiting nearby the asteroid that should have been removed  
678 during Vesta's formation.

679 Fig. 5 shows an example of the distributions of impact probabilities and  
680 impact velocities for both asteroidal and cometary impactors recorded in the  
681 simulations by Turrini et al. (2011) in the scenarios of no migration and 1 au  
682 migration of Jupiter. Note that the impact probabilities reported in Fig. 5  
683 refer to the individual impact events recorded in the simulations and are not  
684 impact probabilities averaged over the whole populations of impactors as in  
685 classical collisional algorithms (see e.g. O'Brien and Sykes 2011 and refer-  
686 ences therein). Figs. 6 and 7 show respectively the distributions normalized  
687 over the impact probabilities of the asteroidal and cometary impact velocities  
688 in the four migration scenarios considered in this study (see also Turrini et al.  
689 2011, Turrini 2014 and Turrini & Svetsov 2014 for a more detailed discussion  
690 of the distribution of the impact velocities and their causes. Interested read-

691 ers are referred to Turrini et al. (2011) and Turrini et al. (2012) for details  
692 on the algorithm.

693 The impact probabilities provided by the simulations were converted into  
694 fluxes of impactors using the SFDs described in Sect. 4.3. Following the  
695 procedure described in Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014), for each  
696 SFD we run a set of  $10^4$  Monte Carlo simulations. In each run a new mass  
697 value was extracted for each impact event recorded in Turrini et al. (2011)  
698 and, since each massless particle causing an impact event represents a swarm  
699 of real planetesimals, we used the SFD and the impact probability of the  
700 impact event to estimate the associated flux of impactors. Combining the  
701 information provided by the mass and flux of impactors associated to the  
702 impact event with its estimated impact velocity, the eroded mass  $m_e$  and the  
703 accreted mass  $m_a$  were computed (see Sect. 4.5 for details on the method).

704 We averaged over each set of  $10^4$  Monte Carlo simulations to estimate  
705 the total mass loss and accretion experienced by Vesta for each specific SFD  
706 and the associated standard deviations. If, after averaging, the total flux  
707 of impactors associated to one of the SFDs amounted to less than one real  
708 impact, we set the total mass loss and accretion values to zero for that SFD.

#### 709 *4.5. Modelling the effects of impacts on Vesta*

710 To estimate the effects of impacts in terms of both mass loss and mass  
711 accretion, we took advantage of the results of Benz and Asphaug (1999) (see  
712 Sect. 4.5.1 for details) and Turrini et al. (2016) (see Sect. 4.5.2 for details).  
713 In parallel, we performed 3D numerical simulations of impacts of projectiles  
714 onto Vesta using a modified version (Svetsov, 2011; Turrini & Svetsov, 2014;  
715 Svetsov and Shuvalov, 2015) of the numerical hydrodynamic method SOVA

716 (Shuvalov 1999; SOVA is an acronym for Solid-Vapour-Air, as the code is  
717 designed for simulations of multi-material, multi-phase flows) that includes  
718 the effects of dry friction (Dienes and Walsh, 1970).

719 Dry friction depends on a dimensionless coefficient of friction for which we  
720 adopted a value of 0.7, typical for rocks and sand (Turrini & Svetsov, 2014;  
721 Turrini et al., 2016). The behaviour and properties of target and projectiles  
722 were determined, as in Turrini & Svetsov (2014) and Turrini et al. (2016),  
723 through the ANEOS equations of state (Thompson and Lauson, 1972) using  
724 input data (i.e., about 35 variables describing properties of a given material)  
725 from Pierazzo et al. (1997) and Tillotson's equation of state for Vesta's iron  
726 core (Tillotson, 1962).

727 In the simulations performed with SOVA, Vesta was modelled as a three-  
728 layered sphere with radius of 260 km, possessing an iron core with a radius  
729 of 110 km (Russell et al., 2012, 2013; Ermakov et al., 2014) and a crust made  
730 of granite with a thickness of 23 km (Consolmagno et al., 2015), separated  
731 by a mantle composed of dunite. The mass of Vesta was set equal to its  
732 present value,  $2.59 \times 10^{23}$  g (Russell et al., 2012). While Vesta was in a  
733 partially molten state at the time of the Jovian Early Bombardment, the  
734 approximation we adopted is justified by the following reasons.

735 First, thermal and geophysical models and meteoritic data all suggest  
736 that Vesta's basaltic crust was formed over a series of magmatic effusive  
737 events through a solid conductive lid. Second, previous studies indicates  
738 that Vesta's mass loss due to cratering erosion was mainly a surface process  
739 (Turrini, 2014; Turrini & Svetsov, 2014), hence mainly affecting this solid  
740 conductive lid. Third, mass loss occurs mainly from the central regions of



741 the crater where the material strength is generally unimportant (Holsapple  
742 and Housen, 2007), since the stresses during the impacts exceed the strength  
743 of the excavated material acquiring velocities greater than the escape velocity  
744 of the asteroid. This approximation, however, is more realistic for impactors  
745 not exceeding in size the thickness of Vesta's conductive lid (i.e. a few km)  
746 than for larger impactors.

747 As in Turrini et al. (2016), the numerical grid consisted of  $250 \times 100 \times 225$   
748 cells over azimuth, polar angle and radial distance respectively, and we as-  
749 sumed bilateral symmetry to model only the half-space in the zenith direc-  
750 tion. Cell sizes were  $1/40$  of the projectile's diameter around the impact  
751 point and increased to the antipodal point and to the radial boundaries lo-  
752 cated at distances of about 10 vestan radii. In all impact simulations, the  
753 impact velocity vector lied in the reference plane that passed through the  
754 origin of the coordinates and was orthogonal to the zenith.

755 All simulated impacts were assumed to occur at the average impact angle  
756 of  $45^\circ$  (Melosh, 1989), while impact velocities varied between 1 and 12 km/s  
757 based on the results of the simulations performed by Turrini et al. (2011) (see  
758 Figs. 6 and 7 and Turrini 2014; Turrini & Svetsov 2014 for more details on  
759 the distribution of the impact velocities in the different migration scenarios).

760 We performed simulations of cometary impactors composed by a homo-  
761 geneous mixture of rocks and ices (see Svetsov and Shuvalov 2015, Fig. 5).  
762 Among the materials supplied by the ANEOS equations of state (Thompson  
763 and Lauson, 1972), we adopted water as our template for the icy component  
764 and granite as our template for the rocky one. The simulations described in  
765 Turrini et al. (2016) provided us with analogous results for asteroidal rocky

766 impactors.

767 Among the different kinds of rocky impactors (granite impactors, dunite  
768 impactors and differentiated impactors) simulated by Turrini et al. (2016)  
769 we adopted their results for granite impactors as our template for asteroidal  
770 impactors. The comparison between the results of impact experiments (Hol-  
771 sapple, 1993; Holsapple and Housen, 2007; Daly and Schultz, 2016) and those  
772 of SOVA's simulations reveals that they agree within a factor of two (Svetsov,  
773 2011; Turrini et al., 2016).

#### 774 4.5.1. Mass loss associated to the impact events

775 Following Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014), we defined three  
776 classes of impact events based on their normalized specific energy  $Q_D/Q_D^*$ ,  
777 where  $Q_D^*$  is the catastrophic disruption threshold of Vesta. Impacts with  
778  $Q_D/Q_D^* < 0.1$  were classified as *low-energy impacts*. Impacts with  $0.1 \leq$   
779  $Q_D/Q_D^* < 1$  were classified as *high-energy impacts*. Impacts with  $Q_D/Q_D^* \geq 1$   
780 were classified as *catastrophic impacts*.

781 The quantity  $Q_D^*$  was computed using Eq. 6 from Benz and Asphaug  
782 (1999) with the associated coefficients for basaltic targets (see Table 3, Benz  
783 and Asphaug 1999). Following Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014),  
784 we used the coefficients of the case  $v_i = 5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  for impacts with velocity  
785 greater or equal than  $5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ , and those of the case  $v_i = 3 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  for all  
786 the other impacts.

787 We computed the mass loss associated to low-energy impacts using the  
788 results of the impact simulations with SOVA performed in the framework of  
789 this study and those performed by Turrini et al. (2016). The results of the  
790 simulations are shown in Fig. 8, where the mass loss as a function of the

791 impact velocity is expressed in units of the mass of the impacting body. For  
 792 comparison, in Fig. 8 we also plotted the results of the simulations by Turrini  
 793 & Svetsov (2014) for cometary impactors composed of pure water ice.

794 For high-energy impacts we used instead Eq. 8 from Benz and Asphaug  
 795 (1999) expressed in terms of the eroded mass:

$$\frac{m_e}{m_t} = 0.5 + s \left( \frac{Q_D}{Q_D^*} - 1.0 \right) \quad (4)$$

796 where  $s = 0.5$  for  $v_i < 5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$  and  $s = 0.35$  for  $v_i \geq 5 \text{ km s}^{-1}$ . To avoid  
 797 overestimating the contribution of high-energy impacts to Vesta's crustal ero-  
 798 sion, the effects of those high-energy impact events that, after renormalizing  
 799 to the appropriate SFD, were associated to less than one real impact were  
 800 not considered in estimating Vesta's crustal erosion.

801 The effects of catastrophic impacts were not accounted for in the esti-  
 802 mates of the eroded mass: their cumulative number was used only to assess  
 803 the probability of Vesta surviving its primordial collisional evolution without  
 804 being shattered (see also Turrini 2014; Turrini & Svetsov 2014 for a discus-  
 805 sion).

#### 806 4.5.2. Mass gain associated to the impact events

807 To assess the mass accretion experienced by primordial Vesta we again  
 808 took advantage of the results of the impact simulations with SOVA performed  
 809 in the framework of this study and those performed by Turrini et al. (2016).  
 810 The results of the simulations are shown in Fig. 9, where the accreted mass  
 811 as a function of the impact velocity is expressed in units of the mass of the  
 812 impacting body. For comparison, in Fig. 9 we also plotted the results of the  
 813 simulations by Turrini & Svetsov (2014) for cometary impactors composed

814 of pure water ice.

815 The results of the simulations in Turrini et al. (2016) indicated that the  
816 composition and the diameter of rocky impactors do not change the results  
817 of the simulations as much as the impact velocity (i.e. the effects of the  
818 former parameters are limited to about 5 – 10%, see Turrini et al. 2016 for a  
819 discussion). Both low-energy and high-energy ones contributed mass to Vesta  
820 according to the results shown in Fig. 9, while catastrophic impact did not  
821 contribute mass to Vesta. For consistency with the procedure adopted in  
822 estimating the mass loss caused by high-energy impacts, the contribution of  
823 those high-energy impact events that, after renormalizing to the appropriate  
824 SFD, were associated to less than one real impact was not considered in  
825 estimating Vesta’s late accretion.

## 826 5. Results

827 In the following we present the late accretion and erosion experienced by  
828 Vesta’s crust across Jupiter’s formation and migration, as depicted by our  
829 results taken at face value. For each of the four SFDs we considered we will  
830 show the average mass loss, mass accretion and water accretion produced  
831 by Vesta’s early collisional evolution. We will first discuss the separate con-  
832 tributions of asteroidal and cometary impactors, which are defined as those  
833 planetesimals originating within and beyond 4 au respectively, and then their  
834 cumulative effects on Vesta. When considering the cumulative collisional his-  
835 tory of the asteroid, we will discuss how it affects both a primordial Vesta  
836 similar in mass to the present one (“*intact and pristine Vesta*” scenario) and  
837 a Vesta two to three times larger (“*altered Vesta*” scenario).

838 For each of the average quantities we computed, we will also show the  
839 associated standard deviations as a measure of the variability of our results.  
840 The two main factors affecting the magnitude of the standard deviations are  
841 the total flux of impactors and the variability of the number of the largest  
842 impactors (see e.g. Turrini et al. 2014, 2016). As such, the largest standard  
843 deviations will be associated to the populations of cometary impactors (more  
844 affected by the effects of small-number statistics due to their lower fluxes) and  
845 to the population of collisionally-evolved impactors formed in turbulent discs  
846 (due to the effects of small-number statistics on the flux of large impactors).

#### 848 *5.1. Mass loss and crustal erosion*

849 The first step of our analysis focused on the mass loss suffered by pri-  
850 mordial Vesta in the classical “intact and pristine Vesta” scenario, where the  
851 asteroid always possessed a mass similar to its present one. The mass loss  
852 caused by asteroidal and cometary impactors individually is shown in Fig. 10  
853 and is dominated by the effects of low-energy impacts (see also Turrini 2014;  
854 Turrini & Svetsov 2014). Catastrophic impacts have a limited probability to  
855 occur (generally less than 0.1% and never above 1%).

856 High-energy impacts are comparatively more probable in the case of the  
857 SFDs associated with a turbulent circumsolar disc. Also in those cases,  
858 however, the chances of high-energy impacts occurring never exceed 20–30%.  
859 The only notable exception is the case of primordial planetesimals formed in  
860 a turbulent circumsolar disc (Chambers, 2010) when Jupiter migrates by 1  
861 au, where Vesta could experience two high-energy impacts (responsible for  
862 about 60% of the total mass loss associated to this SFD in this migration

863 scenario).

864 The mass loss experienced by Vesta due to asteroidal impactors (Fig. 10,  
865 left panel) is limited in the cases of no migration or 0.25 au of migration of  
866 Jupiter but experiences a rapid growth once Jupiter's migration reaches and  
867 exceeds 0.5 au. The initial limited mass loss, of the order of  $\sim 1\%$ , is mainly  
868 due to impactors excited by the 3:1 resonance with Jupiter. When Jupiter's  
869 migration reaches 0.5 au a second family of higher-velocity impactors excited  
870 by the 2:1 resonance with Jupiter appears (see Fig. 1 and Turrini et al.  
871 2011). This second family causes the mass loss experienced by Vesta to grow  
872 by about an order of magnitude.

873 The mass loss associated to cometary impactors shows an opposite trend,  
874 being significant only when Jupiter does not experience migration and drop-  
875 ping by more than one order of magnitude in those scenarios where the giant  
876 planet migrates (see Fig. 10, right panel). This is due to the fact that the  
877 migration of the giant planet favours the trapping of more and more plan-  
878 etesimals in the sweeping resonances at the outer boundaries of the asteroid  
879 belt, reducing Jupiter's efficiency in scattering cometary planetesimals in the  
880 orbital region of Vesta (see Fig. 1 and Turrini et al. 2011).

881 The total mass loss experienced by Vesta in the different scenarios is  
882 shown in Fig. 11. As can be immediately seen, the order of magnitude of  
883 the mass loss experienced by Vesta is mainly a function of Jovian migration.  
884 The actual SFD of the impacting planetesimals appears to affect the result,  
885 within a given migration scenario, to roughly a factor of three. Fig. 11  
886 reveals that the most favourable cases in terms of experienced mass loss and  
887 preservation of the vestan crust are that of a Jovian displacement of 0.25 au

888 and that of no migration of the giant planet.

889 The cases of a Jovian migration of 0.5 and 1 au appear less favourable  
890 and, for a primordial Vesta characterized by a mass similar to its present  
891 one, they appear inconsistent with the survival of Vesta's crust (especially  
892 once the excavation caused by the two vestan South polar impact basins is  
893 taken into account). The case of a Jovian migration of 1 au, in particular,  
894 is associated to a mass loss of the same order as the expected mass of the  
895 vestan crust.

896 We then moved to investigate how the picture depicted by these results  
897 would change in the "altered Vesta" scenario, where primordial Vesta is hy-  
898 pothesized to have been more massive than its present counterpart (Consol-  
899 magno et al., 2015). For a primordial Vesta twice as massive as present Vesta,  
900 the radius of the asteroid would be larger by about 25% than the present one  
901 and the escape velocity would increase by about 100 m/s, i.e about 30%. The  
902 increase in the escape velocity would lower the average efficiency of impacts  
903 in causing mass loss by about 30% (see Eq. 3 in Svetsov 2011). As the flux  
904 of impactors on Vesta is directly proportional to the radius of the asteroid,  
905 the increase in the radius would translate into a similar increase in the flux  
906 of impactors (see Turrini et al. 2011 for details). The new flux almost com-  
907 pensates for the decrease in the erosion efficiency of the impacts, so that the  
908 overall erosion decreases by about 10%.

909 Because of this, the values plotted in Figs. 10 and 11 would scale down  
910 by slightly more than the mass ratio between the primordial Vesta and the  
911 present one. For a primordial Vesta twice as massive as the present one, these  
912 values would decrease by a factor of two. The only scenario incompatible with

913 the constraint on Vesta’s mass loss would become that of a Jovian migration  
914 of 1 au (either due to the mass loss per se or to its combination with the  
915 later excavation caused by the South polar basins).

916 A larger primordial mass of Vesta would proportionally decrease the mass  
917 lost by the asteroid due to collisions. For a primordial Vesta three times as  
918 massive as the present one (see Fig. 11), the only cases that would be re-  
919 jected by the constraint on the crustal survival would be those where Jupiter  
920 migrated by 1 au and the flux of impactors on Vesta was dominated by plan-  
921 etesimals with diameters larger than 10 km, as in the SFDs by Coradini et  
922 al. (1981) and Chambers (2010).

### 923 *5.2. Mass accretion and water delivery*

924 As discussed in Sects. 3 and 4, the impacts on Vesta would also cause  
925 the asteroid to experience a phase of late accretion. The second step of our  
926 analysis was to quantify how much water would be delivered to Vesta by  
927 the two potential sources we considered, volatile-rich asteroids and ice-rich  
928 comets (see Sects. 3 and 4), and compare the estimated amounts with the  
929 upper bound set by the presence of apatites in basaltic eucrites. Again, we  
930 started with the classical “intact and pristine Vesta” scenario, where the  
931 asteroid always possessed a mass similar to its present one.

932 The individual contributions of asteroids and comets are shown in Fig. 12.  
933 Asteroidal impactors (Fig. 12, left panel) deliver water to Vesta only when  
934 the Jovian migration reaches or exceeds 0.5 au, as the dynamical excitation of  
935 the population of planetesimals affected by the sweeping 2:1 resonance with  
936 Jupiter allows them to reach the orbital region of Vesta and deliver water to  
937 the asteroid (see Fig. 1 and Turrini et al. 2011).



938 The case of cometary impactors (Fig. 12, right panel) is opposite to  
939 that of the asteroidal ones, as they deliver significant amounts of water to  
940 Vesta only when Jupiter does not migrate. If the giant planet migrates, the  
941 amount of water accreted by Vesta drops by more than one order of mag-  
942 nitude, showing however a slowly increasing trend with increasing displace-  
943 ments of Jupiter. The SFD associated to primordial planetesimals formed in  
944 a turbulent circumstellar disc (see Sect. 4.3.2) does not appear in the right  
945 panel of Fig. 12 as its total flux amounts to less than one impact event.

946 The cumulative water enrichments produced by asteroidal and cometary  
947 impactors in the different migration scenarios for Jupiter are shown in Fig.  
948 13, where they are compared with the range of values for Vesta's water  
949 mass fraction derived from the estimates of Stephant et al. (2016a,b) and  
950 Sarafian et al. (2017a,b). The cases where Jupiter migrated by 0.5 au or  
951 more appear inconsistent with the observational data, as the volatile-rich  
952 asteroidal impactors would produce a water enrichment from a few times to  
953 an order of magnitude larger.

954 The case of no migration of Jupiter also shows inconsistencies with the  
955 observational data, but in this case the inconsistencies appear to be also SFD-  
956 dependent. Collisionally evolved SFDs produce water enrichments greater  
957 than the ranges of values derived from the estimates of Stephant et al.  
958 (2016a,b) and Sarafian et al. (2017a,b) while primordial SFDs are associated  
959 to lower ones. In the case of primordial planetesimals formed in quiescent  
960 discs the produced water enrichment is just below the range of values derived  
961 from eucrites, while in the extreme case of primordial planetesimals formed  
962 in a turbulent circumsolar disc no water enrichment is produced (beyond

963 Vesta's initial water budget, if different from zero).

964 As in the case of mass loss, we tested how these results would change in  
965 the "altered Vesta" scenario, where primordial Vesta is hypothesized to have  
966 been more massive than its present counterpart (Consolmagno et al., 2015).  
967 If we consider again a primordial Vesta twice as massive as present Vesta,  
968 the increase in the escape velocity should increase the average efficiency of  
969 impacts in delivering water by about 5% (see Eq. 8 in Svetsov 2011). At  
970 the same time, the increase in the radius would translate in a proportional  
971 increase in the flux of impactors.

972 Therefore, a larger primordial Vesta would accrete material more effi-  
973 ciently from a larger number of bodies, partially counteracting the drop in  
974 the water enrichment caused by the increase in the crustal mass over which  
975 to distribute the accreted water. As a result, the values shown in Figs. 12  
976 and 13 would decrease only by about 33% for a primordial Vesta twice as  
977 massive as the present one. For a primordial Vesta three times as massive as  
978 the present one, the decrease would amount to about 50%.

979 As one can see from Fig. 13, such a decrease does not qualitatively change  
980 the outcome of our earlier analysis. Jovian displacements of 0.5 au or larger  
981 would still be inconsistent with the constraint posed by the water enrichment  
982 of eucrites. Likewise, a lack of migration by Jupiter would be inconsistent  
983 with said constraint for collisionally evolved SFDs of the impactors domi-  
984 nated in number by planetesimals smaller than about 10 km (as in the SFDs  
985 by Weidenschilling 2011 and Morbidelli et al. 2009).

986 *5.3. Mass accretion and HSEs enrichment*

987 The final step of our analysis was to compare the effects of the global  
988 accretion of chondritic material experienced by Vesta with the HSEs enrich-  
989 ment of diogenites, starting also in this case with the classical “intact and  
990 pristine Vesta” scenario, where the asteroid always possessed a mass similar  
991 to its present one. In computing such accretion we considered, alongside  
992 with the contribution of asteroidal impactors, that of the non-ice component  
993 of the cometary impactors (see Sect. 4.3). The individual contributions of  
994 asteroidal and cometary impactors are shown in Fig. 14.

995 The accretion of chondritic material associated to asteroidal impactors  
996 (Fig. 14, left panel) increases proportionally to Jupiter’s displacement due  
997 to the growing flux of impactors experienced by Vesta (Turrini et al., 2011).  
998 The accretion associated to cometary impactors (Fig. 14, right panel) follows  
999 the same pattern seen when discussing the accretion of water (see Fig. 12,  
1000 right panel) and proves marginal with respect to that of asteroidal impactors.

1001 The overall late accretion experienced by Vesta is shown in Fig. 15 and  
1002 immediately reveals two striking features. The first one is that planetesimals  
1003 formed in a turbulent circumsolar disc, independently on them being primor-  
1004 dial or collisionally evolved, appear to be not consistent with the constraint  
1005 posed by the HSEs enrichment of diogenites. The second one is that in gen-  
1006 eral the mass accretion experienced by a primordial Vesta with mass similar  
1007 to that of the present Vesta appears to be at most marginally consistent with  
1008 said constraint.

1009 In the cases of limited (0.25 au) and no migration, planetesimals formed  
1010 in quiescent discs produce a mass accretions of about 1% of the vestan mass

1011 while those formed in turbulent discs produce a mass accretions of about 2%.  
1012 In the cases of moderate (0.5 au) and large (1 au) migration, the resulting  
1013 mass accretion is of about 2% of the vestan mass or larger for all kinds of  
1014 impactors. As we discussed in Sect. 3, while Day et al. (2012) estimated the  
1015 accreted mass to fall between 1% and 2% of the mass of Vesta, we treated  
1016 this range of values as an upper limit in this study to account for the uncer-  
1017 tainties on the interpretation of the diogenitic data and for the fact that the  
1018 process we are considering lasted only a fraction of the total time over which  
1019 diogenites can be enriched in HSEs by impacts (see Sect. 3).

1020 For a primordial Vesta with a mass similar to the present one of the aster-  
1021 oid, therefore, the cases that best fit the HSEs data among those considered  
1022 here are those of no or limited (0.25 au) migration of Jupiter in a quiescent  
1023 circumsolar disc. Even these cases, however, produce an enrichment reaching  
1024 the lower end of the range identified by Day et al. (2012). We therefore tested  
1025 the behaviour of the accretion of chondritic mass in the “altered Vesta” sce-  
1026 nario considering a primordial Vesta twice or three times larger than the  
1027 present one.

1028 Applying the same scaling discussed for water accretion to the values  
1029 shown in Fig. 15, we can see that a primordial Vesta two to three times  
1030 more massive than the present Vesta (see Fig. 15) would make planetesimals  
1031 formed in turbulent discs (like in the SFDs by Chambers 2010 and Morbidelli  
1032 et al. 2009) more consistent with the HSEs constraint in the scenarios of  
1033 limited (0.25 au) or no migration of Jupiter. At the same time, it would make  
1034 the case of collisionally evolved planetesimals formed in quiescent discs (like  
1035 the SFD by Weidenschilling 2011) more consistent with the HSEs constraint

1036 also for a moderate displacement (0.5 au) of Jupiter.

## 1037 **6. Discussion and conclusions**

1038 The goal we set for ourselves in this work was to investigate whether  
1039 the erosional and accretional history of the primordial Vesta as recorded by  
1040 the HEDs can be used to probe into the early collisional history of asteroid  
1041 Vesta and, through that, into the early evolution of the Solar System. Before  
1042 discussing the results we obtained, however, we emphasize once again that  
1043 they should be considered only as illustrative (or just as a more refined back-  
1044 of-the-envelope calculation) since some of the approximations adopted in our  
1045 proof-of-concept case study were motivated only by reasons of convenience  
1046 and neglected important processes, like gas drag, that should be included  
1047 in future more physically complete investigations. Because of this, in the  
1048 following we will limit ourselves to discussing the general trends we observed  
1049 in our results.

1050 Notwithstanding its limitations, the proof-of-concept case study we in-  
1051 vestigated appears to indicate that the three compositional characteristics  
1052 of Vesta and the HEDs we considered in this work (namely, the survival of  
1053 Vesta's basaltic crust, the enrichment in water of eucrites and the enrichment  
1054 in HSEs of diogenites) offer complementary pieces of information that, once  
1055 considered together, provide stronger constraints than when considered indi-  
1056 vidually. Moreover, the constraints they provide only rely on the assumption  
1057 of a chondritic bulk composition of Vesta in terms of its major rock-forming  
1058 elements and, as the comparison between the "intact and pristine Vesta" sce-  
1059 nario and the "altered Vesta" scenario highlights, they appear to be limitedly

1060 influenced by the proposed uncertainty on Vesta's primordial mass.

1061 In our proof-of-concept case study the crustal survival to cratering erosion  
1062 allows to reject only the case of a Jovian migration of 1 au. The constraint  
1063 offered by the survival of Vesta's basaltic crust to cratering erosion would  
1064 therefore appear to be the least powerful among those we investigated, as  
1065 the information it provides is already contained **within** that provided by  
1066 the two constraints associated to late accretion. The accretion history of the  
1067 primordial Vesta appears instead to provide stronger constraints: both water  
1068 accretion and mass accretion agree in rejecting the cases of Jovian migration  
1069 of 0.5 and 1 au, with water accretion also indicating that the case of no  
1070 migration of the giant planet is inconsistent with the HEDs data, particularly  
1071 if the D/H ratio of the planetesimal population represented by our cometary  
1072 impactors was inconsistent with that reported for Vesta's source of water  
1073 (Sarafian et al., 2014).

1074 Among the three constraints, water accretion appears more sensitive to  
1075 the effects of Jupiter's migration, effectively pinpointing it to about 0.25 au  
1076 among the simplified cases considered. Mass accretion appears more capable  
1077 of discriminating between the effects of different size distributions of the im-  
1078 pacting planetesimals, favouring the collisionally-evolved SFDs in contrast to  
1079 primordial ones and the SFDs associated to quiescent nebular environments  
1080 in contrast to those associated to turbulent nebular environments. Notwith-  
1081 standing its apparent weakness, the survival of Vesta's basaltic crust remains  
1082 an important constraint when studying more violent collisional scenarios **than**  
1083 those here considered.

1084 Specifically, the collisional evolution of the primordial Vesta in those sce-

1085 narios dominated by high-velocity or even high-energy impacts (e.g. the  
1086 so-called “Grand Tack”, Walsh et al. 2011; O’Brien et al. 2014) will be deter-  
1087 mined by mass loss without mass accretion playing a significant role. This  
1088 leading role of mass loss will be particularly true for scenarios invoking a  
1089 major role of “hit-and-run” collisions, like those suggested to be responsible  
1090 for the “altered Vesta” scenario (Consolmagno et al., 2015), in the collisional  
1091 evolution of the inner Solar System, as in those cases the contribution of said  
1092 impacts to mass accretion will be null or negligible.

1093 It should be noted, moreover, that in case of stochastic large impacts it  
1094 is possible for a scenario to be characterized by a moderate or even limited  
1095 global crustal erosion but a large local excavation. This is indeed the case  
1096 of the last 4 Gyr of collisional evolution of Vesta, where the total crustal  
1097 erosion was limited to about 30 m but the impacts that produced Veneneia  
1098 and Rheasilvia locally excavated tens of km. As proposed in Turrini et al.  
1099 (2011) and further discussed in Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014),  
1100 impacts of this kind occurring on primordial Vesta could cause effusive events  
1101 where the magma originates from the mantle and could in principle produce  
1102 compositional signatures in Vesta’s crust incompatible with Dawn’s measure-  
1103 ments. Given the degree of collisional remixing of Vesta’s crust suggested by  
1104 Dawn’s observations (De Sanctis et al., 2012; Prettyman et al., 2012), these  
1105 scenarios should be investigated on a case-by-case basis if they can success-  
1106 fully pass the test on the global crustal survival. It is interesting to note,  
1107 however, that those scenarios that could produce the excavation or effusion  
1108 of mantle material in Turrini (2014) and Turrini & Svetsov (2014) are among  
1109 those rejected by the three constraints.

1110 The scenarios we considered in our proof-of-concept case study represent  
1111 only a limited subset of all proposed evolutionary tracks for the early Solar  
1112 System. As an example, it has been proposed that Vesta could have formed  
1113 on an inner orbit located between the orbit of Mars and the inner edge of  
1114 asteroid belt (Bottke et al., 2006) instead of in the inner asteroid belt. It  
1115 is also possible for the giant planets to have undergone a more extensive  
1116 migration than that considered in this work (Walsh et al., 2011; Bitsch et  
1117 al., 2015). This extensive migration, in turn, could have kept them in the  
1118 outer Solar System (Bitsch et al., 2015) or could have brought them to cross  
1119 the inner Solar System (Walsh et al., 2011). All these different possibilities  
1120 will be associated to different fluxes of impactors on Vesta and will need to be  
1121 tested case by case against the three astrochemical constraints we identified.

1122 Also the scenarios we considered for primordial Vesta do not exhaust all  
1123 the different possibilities. As an example, it has been proposed that a slower  
1124 formation of Vesta could cause the heat released by the short-lived radioac-  
1125 tive elements not to be enough to melt the conductive lid of the asteroid,  
1126 which would preserve its original undifferentiated composition (Formisano  
1127 et al., 2013). This undifferentiated crust would be reprocessed over time by  
1128 the effusive processes responsible for the creation of Vesta's basaltic crust, as  
1129 discussed in Sect. 3, and could therefore represent a source of HSEs and pos-  
1130 sibly water for the vestan magma, whose effects on the enrichment of eucrites  
1131 and diogenites need to be verified against the astrochemical constraints on  
1132 Vesta's late accretion.

1133 Finally, the temporal interval covered by our proof-of-concept case study  
1134 spans only a fraction of the temporal windows (see Sect. 3) over which Vesta's



1135 crust can be compositionally altered or eroded by impacts: later events,  
1136 therefore, are also expected to leave their marks on Vesta and the HEDs. In  
1137 particular, in the scenarios we investigated it is expected that, after Jupiter's  
1138 formation, the interplay between the gravitational perturbations of the giant  
1139 planet and those of the planetary embryos embedded into the primordial  
1140 asteroid belt will start a phase of dynamical excitation and clearing of the  
1141 belt itself (Wetherill, 1992; Petit, Morbidelli & Chambers, 2001; O'Brien,  
1142 Morbidelli & Bottke, 2007), changing its orbital structure to its present one  
1143 (albeit with a larger population of asteroids). Planetesimals impacting Vesta  
1144 during this phase of dynamical excitation and clearing will also contribute  
1145 to the mass accretion and mass loss histories of the asteroid and their effects  
1146 will cumulate with those of the Jovian Early Bombardment.

1147 Applying the three astrochemical constraints we investigated to a more  
1148 deterministic study of the history of the early Solar System is beyond the  
1149 scope of our proof-of-concept case study and is left to future works based on  
1150 a more complete physical model and spanning longer temporal intervals. In  
1151 particular, future works will need to include the effects of gas drag, which  
1152 will change both the flux of impactors on Vesta and the distribution of the  
1153 impact velocities, and of the population of planetary embryos embedded  
1154 into the planetesimal disk, which is expected to both dynamically excite the  
1155 planetesimals and start a process of depletion of the asteroid belt once Jupiter  
1156 has completed its formation (the latter process becoming more efficient in  
1157 case of an eccentric orbit of the forming Jupiter), in assessing the collisional  
1158 evolution of primordial Vesta.

1159 In conclusion, the main result of this work is the identification of the

1160 constraints offered by eucrites and diogenites and the showcasing of their joint  
1161 use as a window into the ancient past of the Solar System. Our take home  
1162 message can be summarized by the following “Lather, Rinse, Repeat” recipe  
1163 for future studies. Pick the scenario for Vesta that you consider most realistic,  
1164 put it into the scenario for the evolution of the early Solar System that you  
1165 want to investigate, and include all the necessary physical ingredients. Let  
1166 it evolve and check if Vesta’s resulting accretional and erosional histories  
1167 are consistent with the global constraints offered by eucrites and diogenites.  
1168 Start over as many time as needed.

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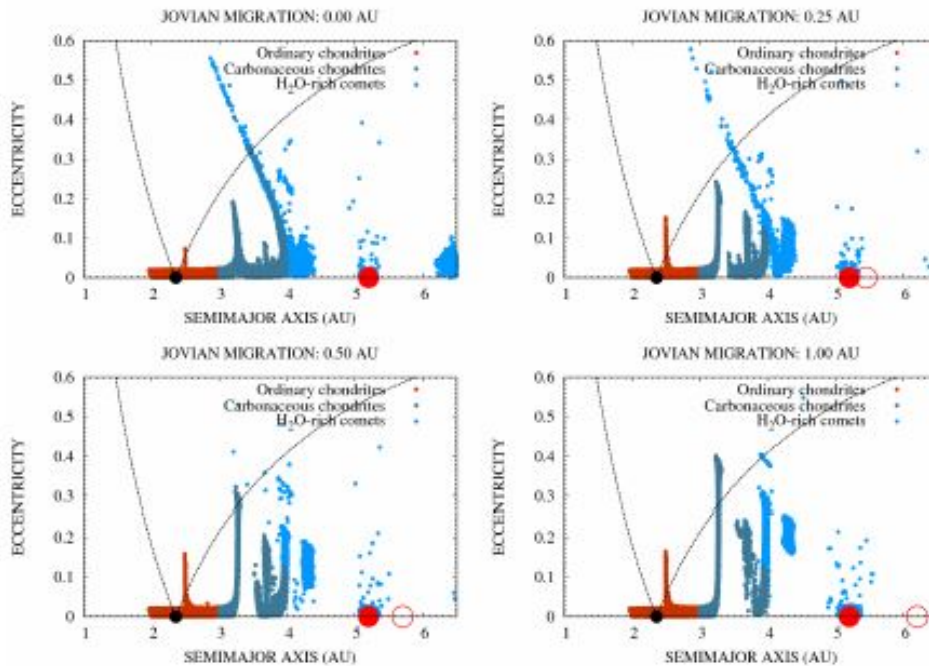


Figure 1: Dynamical excitation and radial mixing of the planetesimals in the circumstellar disc in response to Jupiter’s mass growth and migration in the simulations by Turrini et al. (2011). The plots show snapshots of the Jovian Early Bombardment 0.2 Myr after the beginning of Jupiter’s rapid gas accretion in the four migration scenarios considered by Turrini et al. (2011). The open red circles are the positions of Jupiter at the beginning of the simulations, the bigger red filled ones are the positions of Jupiter once fully formed (see Sect. 4.1). The smaller black filled circles at 2.36 au mark the orbital position of Vesta. The rocky asteroidal planetesimals analogous to ordinary chondrites that formed between 2 and 3 au are indicated in red (see Sect. 4.3). The rocky but water-enriched asteroidal planetesimals analogous to carbonaceous chondrites that formed between 3 and 4 au are indicated in dark cyan (see Sect. 4.3). The ice-rich cometary planetesimals that formed beyond 4 au are indicated in blue (see Sect. 4.3). Planetesimals inside the region delimited by the two black dotted curves are those that can impact Vesta.



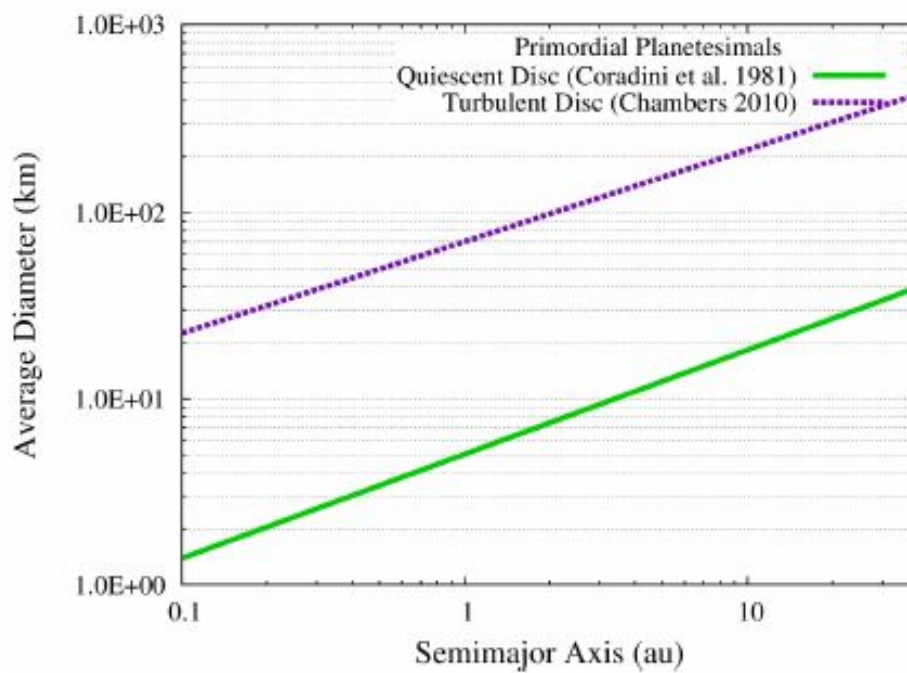


Figure 2: Comparison between the average diameters of the planetesimals as a function of their orbital distance from the Sun for the two primordial SFDs considered in our case study (see Sects. 4.3.1 and 4.3.2 for details).

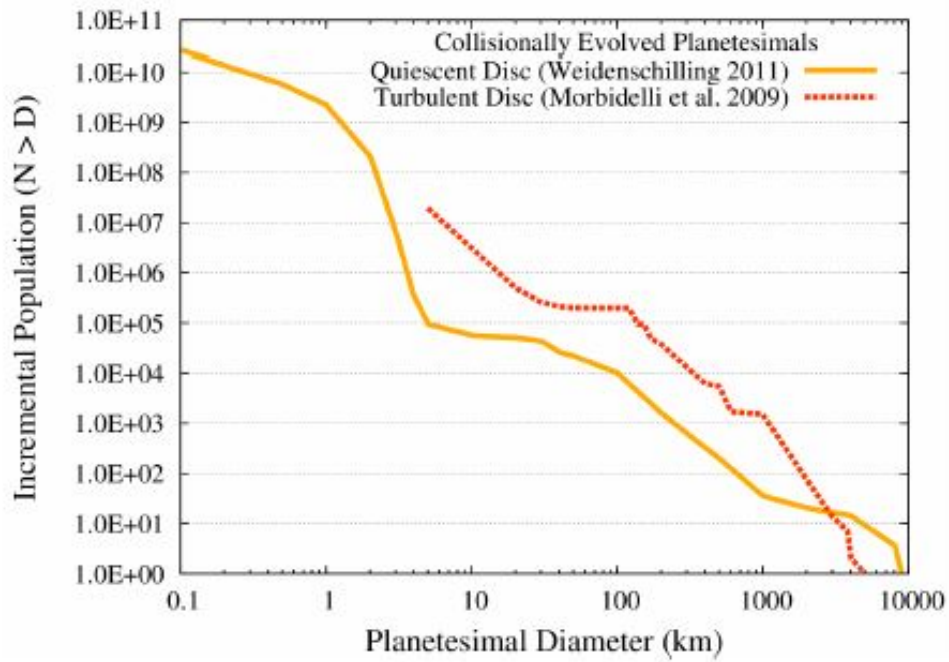


Figure 3: Comparison between the two collisionally-evolved SFDs considered in our case study in the orbital region comprised between 2 and 3 au (see Sects. 4.3.3 and 4.3.4 for details).

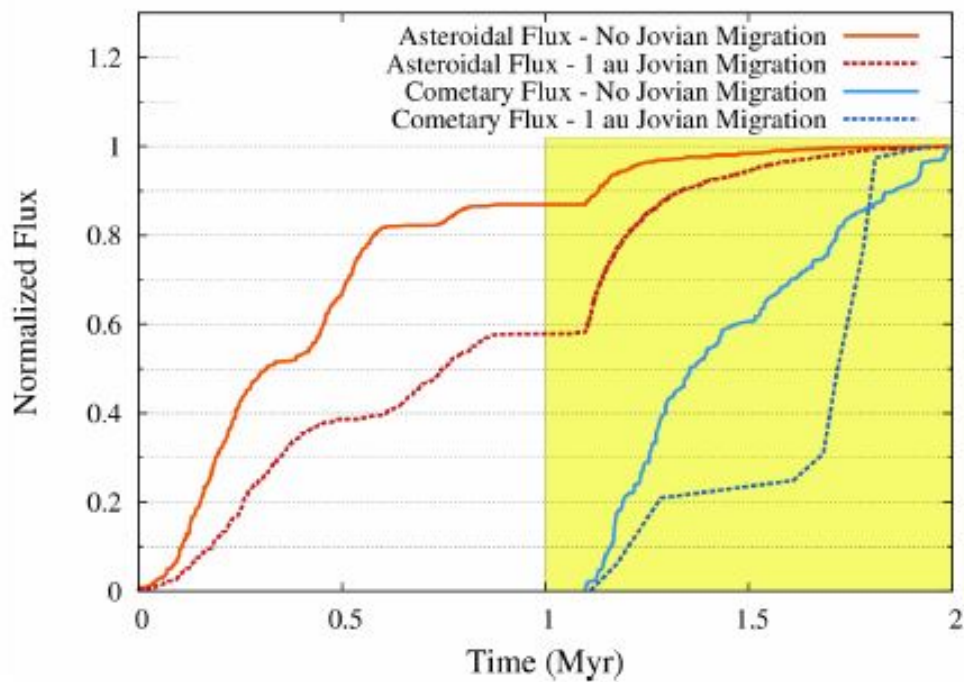


Figure 4: Normalized temporal distribution of the fluxes of asteroidal impactors (the orange and red lines) and cometary impactors (the light and dark blue lines) on Vesta in the no migration scenario (the solid lines) and the 1 au migration scenario (the dashed lines) for Jupiter. The highlighted area indicates the temporal interval over which we computed the late accretion and erosion of Vesta's crust, i.e. the Jovian Early Bombardment. Asteroidal impacts before this time were characterized by low velocities ( $< 1$  km/s) and were not considered to account for the clearing effects of Vesta's formation on the orbital region surrounding the asteroid. As can be immediately seen, the Jovian migration enhances the flux of high-velocity ( $> 1$  km/s) asteroidal impactors on Vesta while at the same time decreasing and making more erratic the flux of cometary impactors (see also Fig. 1).

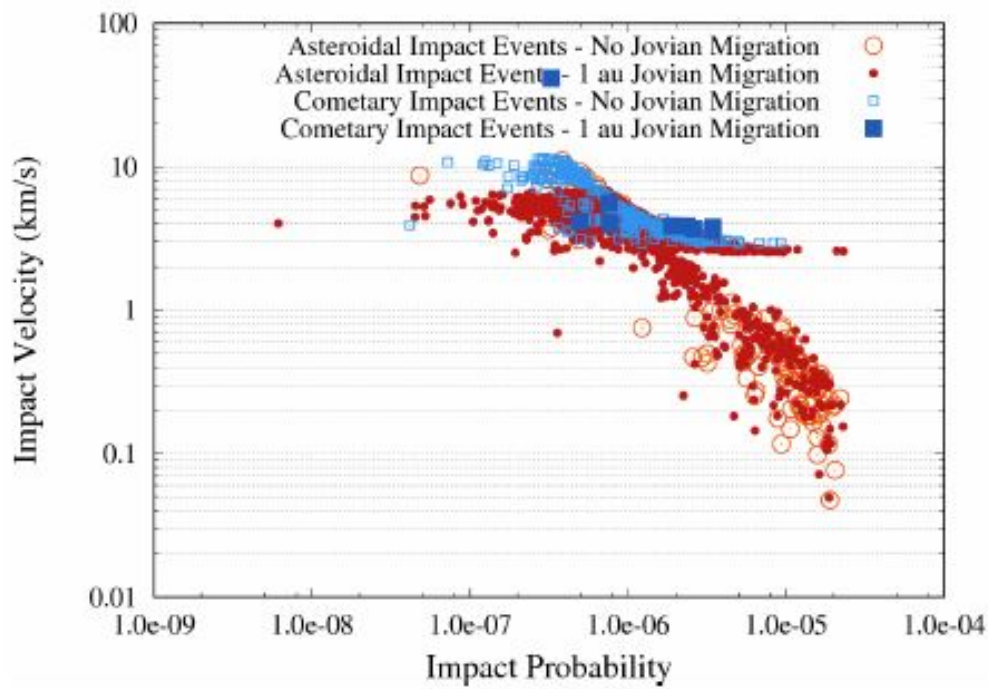


Figure 5: Distribution of the impact probabilities and impact velocities of the asteroidal and cometary impactors in the scenario of no migration of Jupiter and in the 1 au migration scenario for the giant planet in the simulations from Turrini et al. (2011). Note that the impact probabilities reported here refer to the individual impact events and are not impact probabilities averaged over the whole populations of impactors as in classical collisional algorithms (see e.g. O'Brien and Sykes 2011 and references therein).

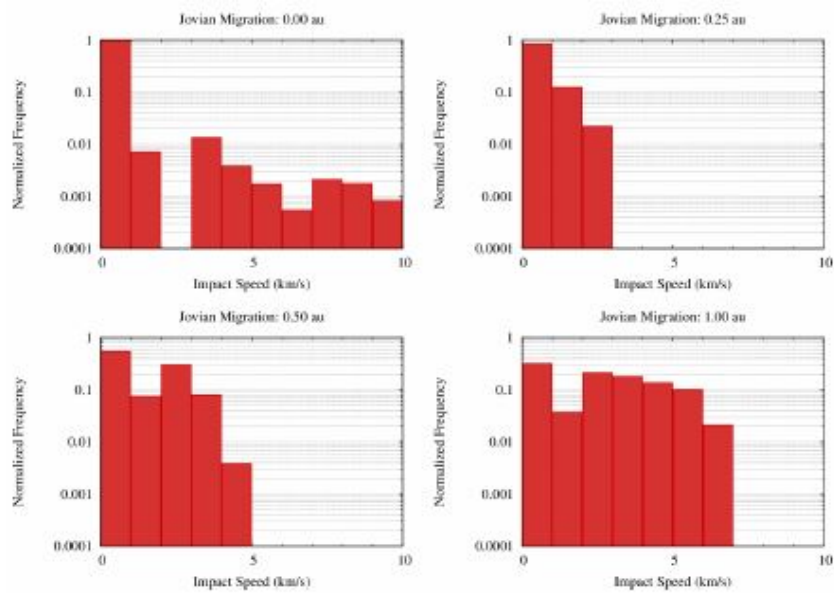


Figure 6: Normalized distribution of the impact velocities of the asteroidal impactors (i.e. the impactors originating between 1 and 4 au in the simulations of Turrini et al. 2011) on Vesta in the four migration scenarios considered in our case study (see Turrini et al. 2011 and Turrini 2014 for more details).

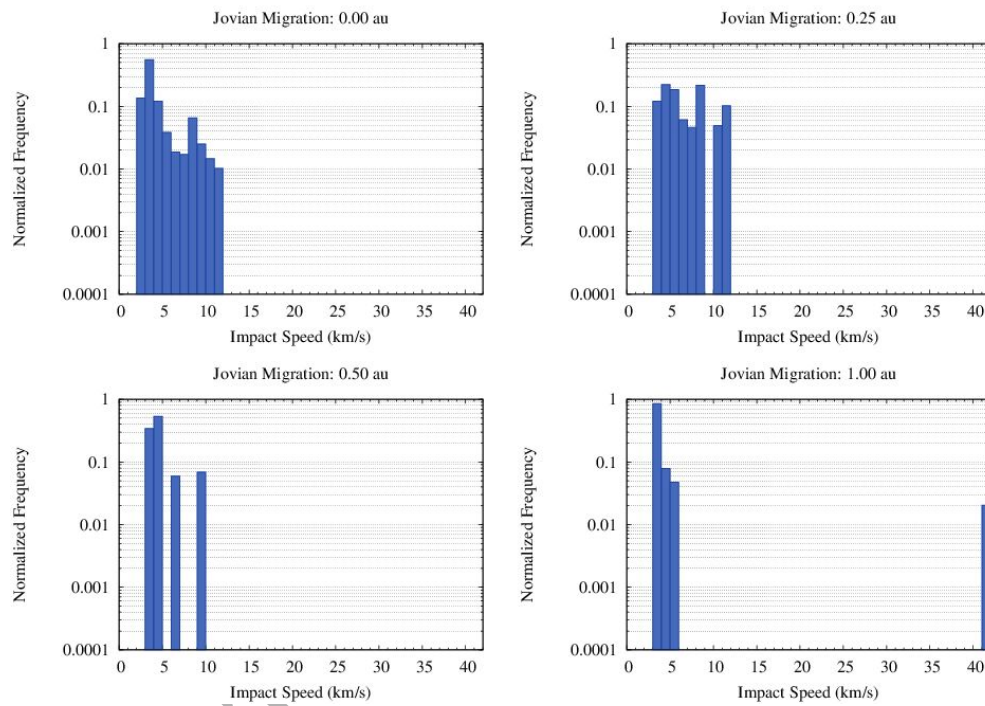


Figure 7: Normalized distribution of the impact velocities of the cometary impactors (i.e. the impactors originating between 4 and 10 au in the simulations of Turrini et al. 2011) on Vesta in the four migration scenarios considered in our case study (see Turrini et al. 2011 and Turrini & Svetsov 2014 for more details).

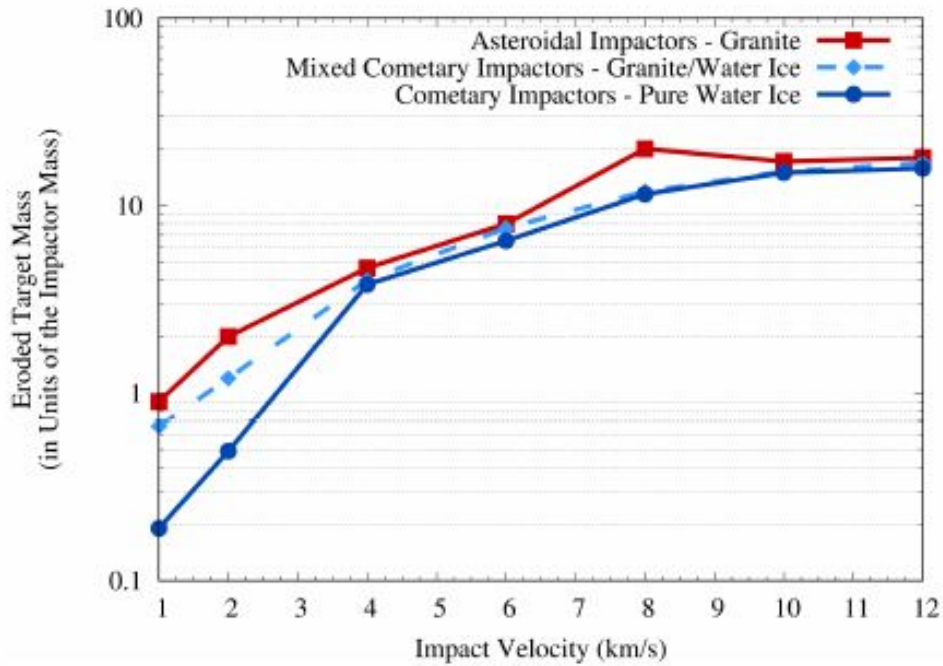


Figure 8: Fraction of the mass of the target body Vesta that is eroded and lost due to the impact, in units of the mass of the projectile. The different curves show the results from the simulations of Turrini et al. (2016) for asteroidal impactors made of granite (red solid line with filled squares), the simulations performed in this work for mixed granite-water ice cometary impactors (light blue dashed lines with filled diamonds), and, for comparisons, the results of the simulations of Turrini & Svetsov (2014) for cometary impactors made of pure water ice (blue solid line with filled circles).

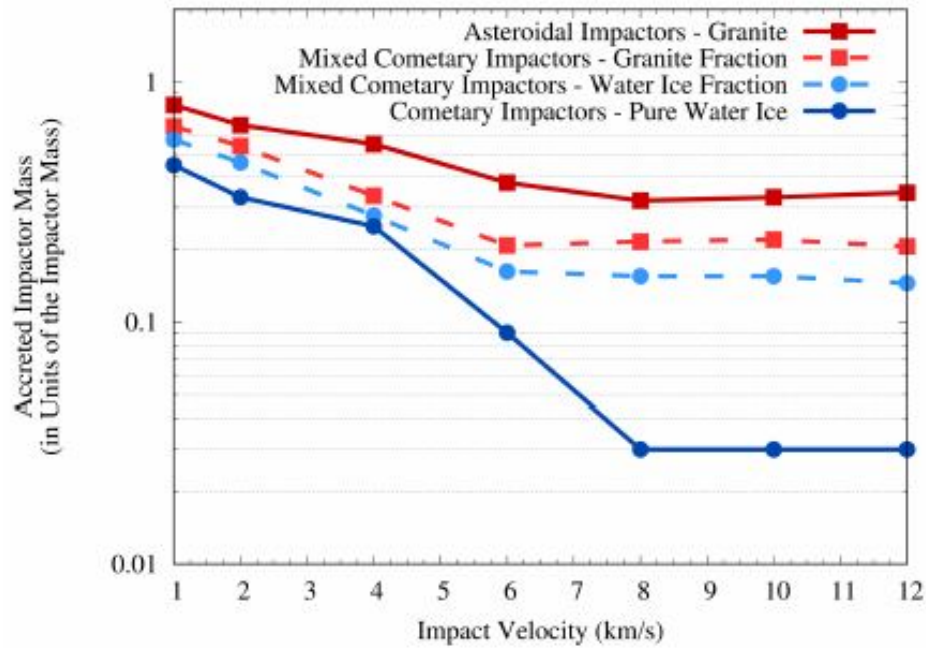


Figure 9: Fraction of the mass of the projectile that survives the impact and is accreted by Vesta, in units of the mass of the projectile. The different curves show the results from the simulations of Turrini et al. (2016) for asteroidal impactors made of granite (red solid line with filled squares), the simulations performed in this work for mixed granite-water ice cometary impactors (red dashed lines with filled squares for the rocky component and blue dashed lines with filled circles for the icy component), and, for comparisons, the results of the simulations of Turrini & Svetsov (2014) for cometary impactors made of pure water ice (blue solid line with filled circles).



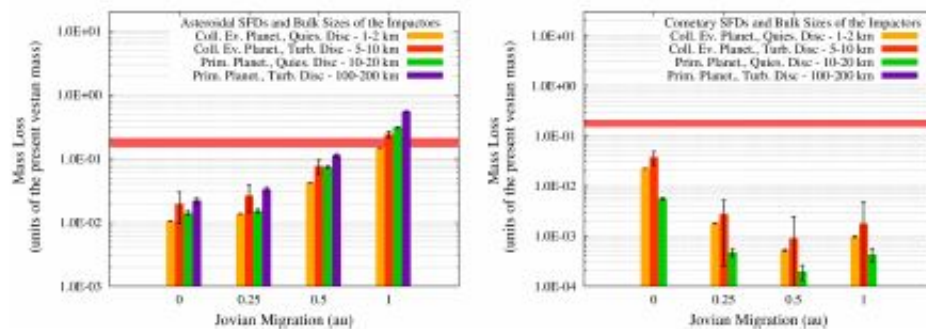


Figure 10: Mass loss experienced by a primordial Vesta with mass similar to that of the present Vesta due to (*left*) asteroidal impactors and (*right*) cometary impactors during Jupiter’s mass growth in the different migration scenarios and for the different SFDs considered. For each SFD we report the characteristic diameter of the planetesimals producing the bulk of the impact flux as computed with our Monte Carlo methods. The horizontal regions highlighted in red mark the range of values of Vesta’s crustal mass fraction and represent our upper boundary to Vesta’s mass loss (see Sect. 3 and Consolmagno et al. 2015). Note that, given that the temporal interval considered in this proof-of-concept study is smaller than the timespan over which Vesta’s crust can be eroded, only those scenarios producing mass losses *below* the red regions should be considered compatible with present-day Vesta.

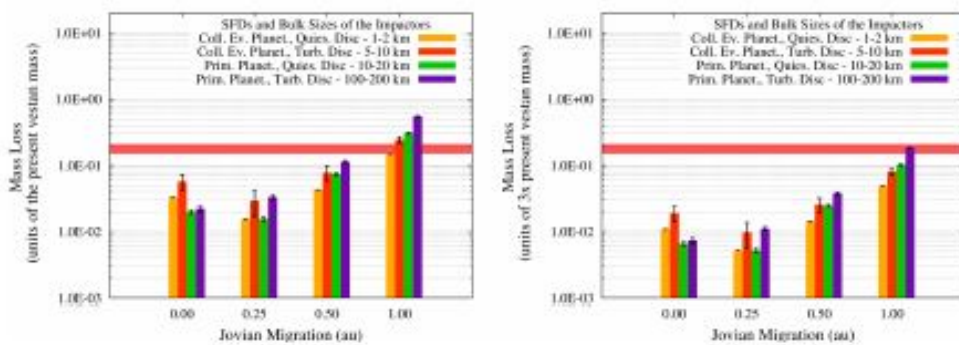


Figure 11: Total mass loss experienced by (*left*) a primordial Vesta with the same mass as present Vesta and (*right*) a primordial Vesta three times as massive during Jupiter’s mass growth in the different migration scenarios and for the different SFDs considered. For each SFD we report the characteristic diameter of the planetesimals producing the bulk of the impact flux as computed with our Monte Carlo methods. The horizontal regions highlighted in red mark the range of values of Vesta’s crustal mass fraction and represent our upper boundary to Vesta’s mass loss (see Sect. 3 and Consolmagno et al. 2015). Note that, given that the temporal interval considered in this proof-of-concept study is smaller than the timespan over which Vesta’s crust can be eroded, only those scenarios producing mass losses *below* the red regions should be considered compatible with present-day Vesta.

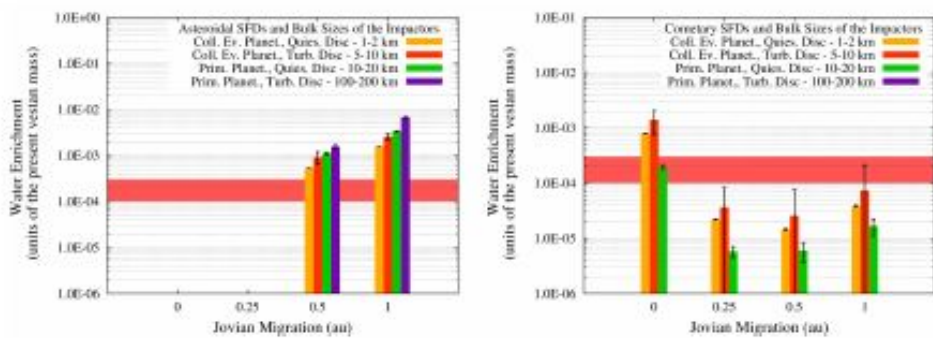


Figure 12: Water accretion experienced by a primordial Vesta with mass similar to that of the present Vesta due to (*left*) asteroidal impactors and (*right*) cometary impactors during Jupiter’s mass growth in the different migration scenarios and for the different SFDs considered. For each SFD we report the characteristic diameter of the planetesimals producing the bulk of the impact flux as computed with our Monte Carlo methods. The horizontal regions highlighted in red mark the range of values of Vesta’s water enrichment and represent our upper boundary to Vesta’s water accretion (see Sect. 3 and [Stephant et al. 2016a,b](#); [Sarafian et al. 2017a,b](#)). Note that, given that the temporal interval considered in this proof-of-concept study is smaller than the timespan over which Vesta’s crust can be enriched in water, only those scenarios producing water enrichments *below* the red regions should be considered compatible with present-day Vesta.

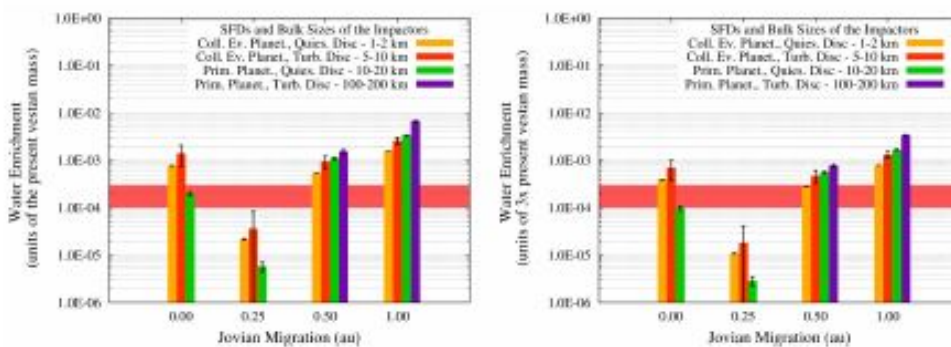


Figure 13: Total water accretion experienced by (*left*) a primordial Vesta with the same mass as the present Vesta and (*right*) a primordial Vesta three times as massive during Jupiter's mass growth in the different migration scenarios and for the different SFDs considered. For each SFD we report the characteristic diameter of the planetesimals producing the bulk of the impact flux as computed with our Monte Carlo methods. The horizontal regions highlighted in red mark the range of values of Vesta's water enrichment and represent our upper boundary to Vesta's water accretion (see Sect. 3 and Stephant et al. 2016a,b; Sarafian et al. 2017a,b). Note that, given that the temporal interval considered in this proof-of-concept study is smaller than the timespan over which Vesta's crust can be enriched in water, only those scenarios producing water enrichments *below* the red regions should be considered compatible with present-day Vesta.

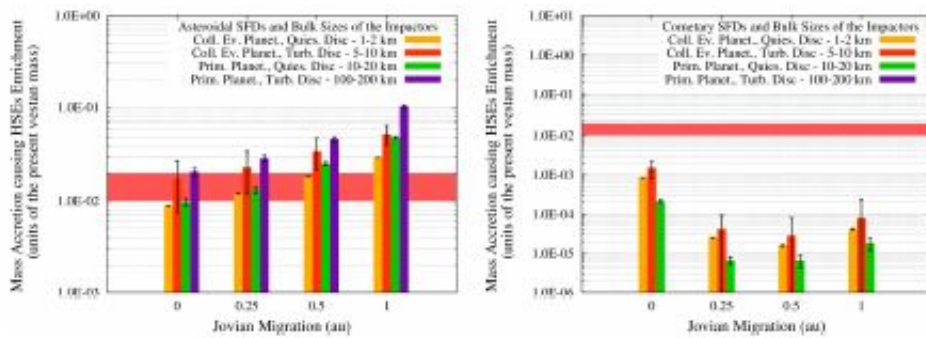


Figure 14: Mass accretion responsible for the HSEs enrichment experienced by a primordial Vesta with mass similar to that of the present Vesta due to (*left*) asteroidal impactors and (*right*) cometary impactors during Jupiter’s mass growth in the different migration scenarios and for the different SFDs considered. For each SFD we report the characteristic diameter of the planetesimals producing the bulk of the impact flux as computed with our Monte Carlo methods. The horizontal regions highlighted in red mark the range of values of Vesta’s mass accretion needed to produce the observed HSEs enrichment and represent our upper boundary to Vesta’s mass accretion (see Sect. 3 and Day et al. 2012). Note that, given that the temporal interval considered in this proof-of-concept study is smaller than the timespan over which Vesta’s crust can be enriched in HSEs, only those scenarios producing mass accretions *below* the red regions should be considered compatible with present-day Vesta.

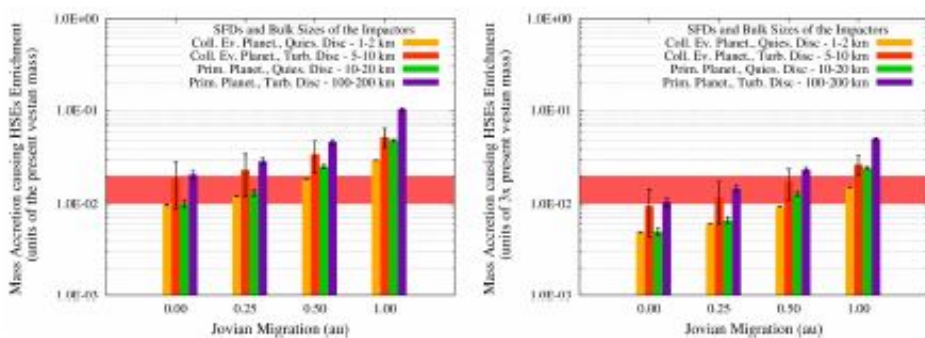


Figure 15: Total mass accretion responsible for the HSEs enrichment experienced by (*left*) a primordial Vesta with the same mass as present Vesta and (*right*) a primordial Vesta three times as massive during Jupiter’s mass growth in the different migration scenarios and for the different SFDs considered. For each SFD we report the characteristic diameter of the planetesimals producing the bulk of the impact flux as computed with our Monte Carlo methods. The horizontal regions highlighted in red mark the range of values of Vesta’s mass accretion needed to produce the observed HSEs enrichment and represent our upper boundary to Vesta’s mass accretion (see Sect. 3 and Day et al. 2012). Note that, given that the temporal interval considered in this proof-of-concept study is smaller than the timespan over which Vesta’s crust can be enriched in HSEs, only those scenarios producing mass accretions *below* the red regions should be considered compatible with present-day Vesta.