



## Morphology changes in stacking-disordered ice $I_{ch}$ as a function of time and temperature

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Laboratory experiments have shown that ice I crystallizing from water vapour [1] or undercooled liquid water [2] under atmospheric conditions initially forms a stacking disordered arrangement of high complexity; the stacking arrangement is different depending on the starting phase [1]. Both cubic and hexagonal components are locally present and various names of this form of ice have been proposed recently: so-called ice  $I_c$  or “ice  $I_c$ ” [1], ice  $I_{sd}$  [2] or ice  $I_{ch}$  [3]. It has been shown that ice  $I_{ch}$  undergoes a progressive transformation of cubic into hexagonal stackings with time and/or increasing temperature [1]. As a mechanism for this annealing we had proposed the cooperative action of Bjerrum defects and moving dislocations which become active on a time-scale of minutes at temperatures close to 240K [4]. Here we show from electron-microscopic images that the presence of stacking faults is linked to numerous kinks on the prismatic faces of the trigonal ice crystals of ice  $I_{ch}$  [1]. We present details on the annealing kinetics in the temperature range between 170 and 240K and suggest that the kinks of ice  $I_{ch}$  crystals may be responsible for the roughness deduced from some air-borne light-scattering experiments, an increased reactivity in particular at temperatures below  $\sim 200$ K as well as curvature-induced higher vapour pressures of ice  $I_{ch}$  as compared to normal ice  $I_h$ .

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