Molecular Dynamics Study of Basal, Prismatic, and Pyramidal Surfaces of Ice



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QLL (surface premelting of pure ice)

- Surface premelting predicted by all water models in computer simulations (liquid-like layer develops spontaneously at the free surface of ice well below the melting point)
- QLL thickness <u>independent of water model</u> when compared at the same undercooling relative to the melting point of the model

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The thickness of a liquid layer on the free surface of ice as obtained from computer simulation

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What ice can teach us about water interactions: a critical comparison of the performance of different water models

C. Vega,* J. L. F. Abascal, M. M. Conde and J. L. Aragones

Faraday Discuss., 2008, **141**, 1–26

Thickness of QLL as a function of T



Conde, Vega, Patrykiejew (J. Chem. Phys. 2008) * Experimental values by Bluhm et al. (J. Phys.: Condens. Matter 14, L227, 2002)

"liquid-like = molecules feel the underlying solid"

- QLL appearance starts at different temperatures depending on the ice facet exposed to vapor phase.
- At given T, the thickness of QLL differs for different ice facets.

Cirrus ice crystals



(Walden et al. 2003)

Ice crystals grown by vapor deposition

- basal (0001)
- prismatic (10<u>1</u>0)
- 28° pyramidal (10<u>1</u>1)
- 14° pyramidal (20<u>2</u>1)



VP-SEM image

Pfalzgraff, Hulscher, & Neshyba, Atmospheric Chemistry and Physics, 2010, 10, 2927

MD simulations

- Ice I_h slab
- 2880/3456 H₂O molecules
- Ice block dimensions:
 x, y, z ~ 4 6 nm
- 6-site water model Nada, van der Eerden, J. Chem. Phys. 2003, 118, 7410
- T_m = 289 K Abascal et al., J. Chem. Phys. 2006, 125, 166101
 T = 250 K (~ -40 K)







Top view



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(c) 28° pyramidal



(b) prismatic



(d) 14° pyramidal





Inter-layer transitions



- $\epsilon_1 \leftrightarrow \epsilon_2$ mixing time (ϵ_2 "survival" time) ~ 10 ns
- Binary exchanges QLL $(\epsilon_1 + \epsilon_2) \leftrightarrow \mu_1 \dots$ char. time ~ 10² ns
- Important for surface diffusivity Bolton and Pettersson, J. Phys. Chem. B 2000, 104, 1590
- Time scales facet-specific



Prismatic surface after 100 ns, viewed along the secondary prismatic axis. Molecules crossing periodic boundaries are depicted in neighboring domains.

Mean squared displacement



1-D diffusivity on ice surfaces

Facet exposed	Direction of diffusion	Q	1-D diffusivity, D [*] (cm ² /s x 10 ⁻⁶)	Diffusion length, x _s (nm)
Basal	Х	1/5	1.67	14.3
	У	1/5	1.68	14.3
Prismatic	Х	1/6	0.70	9.9
	Z	1/6	0.58	9.0
28º Pyramidal	Х	1/6	1.34	15.1
	\mathbf{z}'	1/6	1.20	14.3
14º Pyramidal	Х	1/6	1.21	12.5
	$\mathbf{z}^{"}$	1/6	1.13	12.0

experiment - liquid water: $D = 1.6 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s} (-35^{\circ}\text{C})$ $D = 12.0 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s} (0^{\circ}\text{C})$ $D = 18.9 \times 10^{-6} \text{ cm}^2/\text{s} (20^{\circ}\text{C})$ *Price et al., J. Phys. Chem. A* **1999,** 103, 448-450

Work in progress: Temperature dependence of diffusivity

Arrhenius analysis to determine the activation energy



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Water model	Melting temperature (K)		
TIP3P	145		
SPC	190.5		
SPC/E	215		
TIP4P	230		
TIP4P/Ew	243		
TIP4P/Ice	271		
TIP5P	272		
NE6	275 (289)		
Expt.	273.15		



Vega et al., Mol. Phys. 2006, 104, 3583 García Fernández et al., J. Chem. Phys. 2006, 124, 144506