

Supplementary information

Desorption-induced Evolution of Cubic and Hexagonal Ices in Ultrahigh Vacuum and Cryogenic Temperatures

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Supplementary Information 1A:

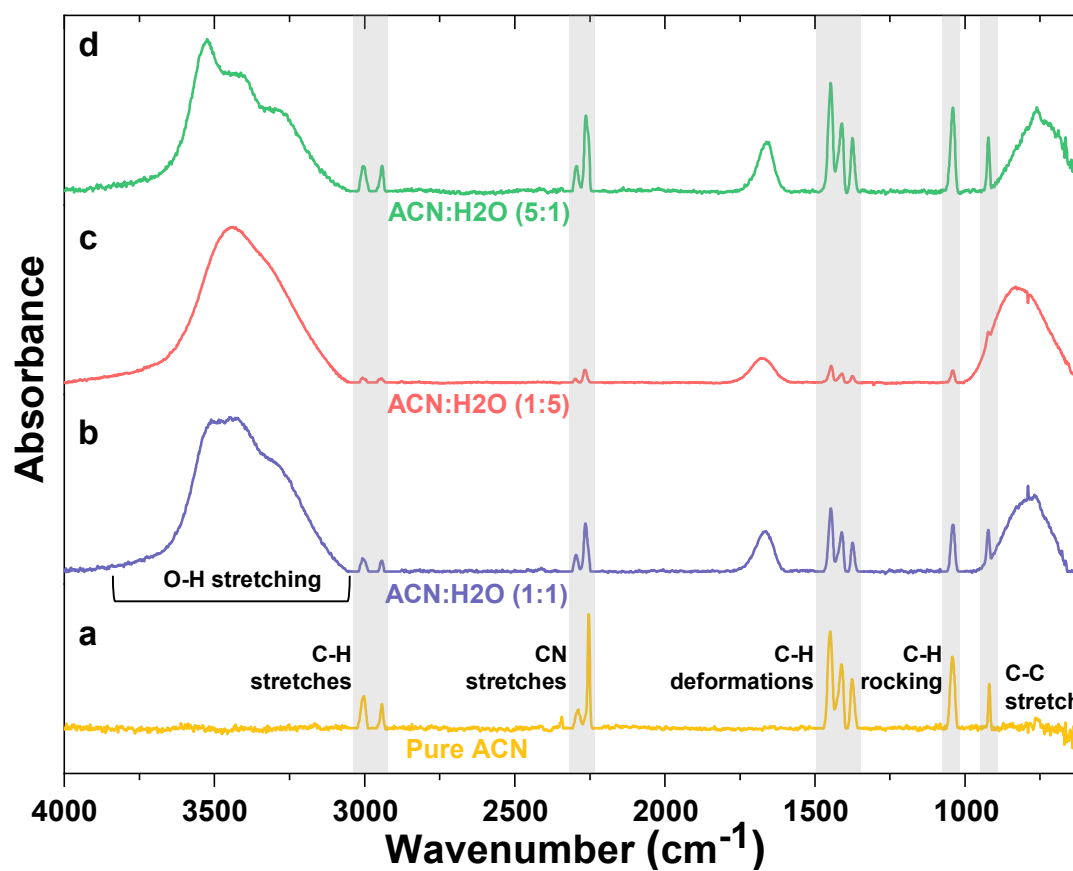


Fig. S1A RAIR spectra of (a) 150 MLs of ACN, (b) 300 MLs of 1:1 ACN:H₂O, (c) 300 MLs of 1:5 ACN:H₂O, (d) 300 MLs of 5:1 ACN:H₂O at 10 K.

Supplementary Information 1B:

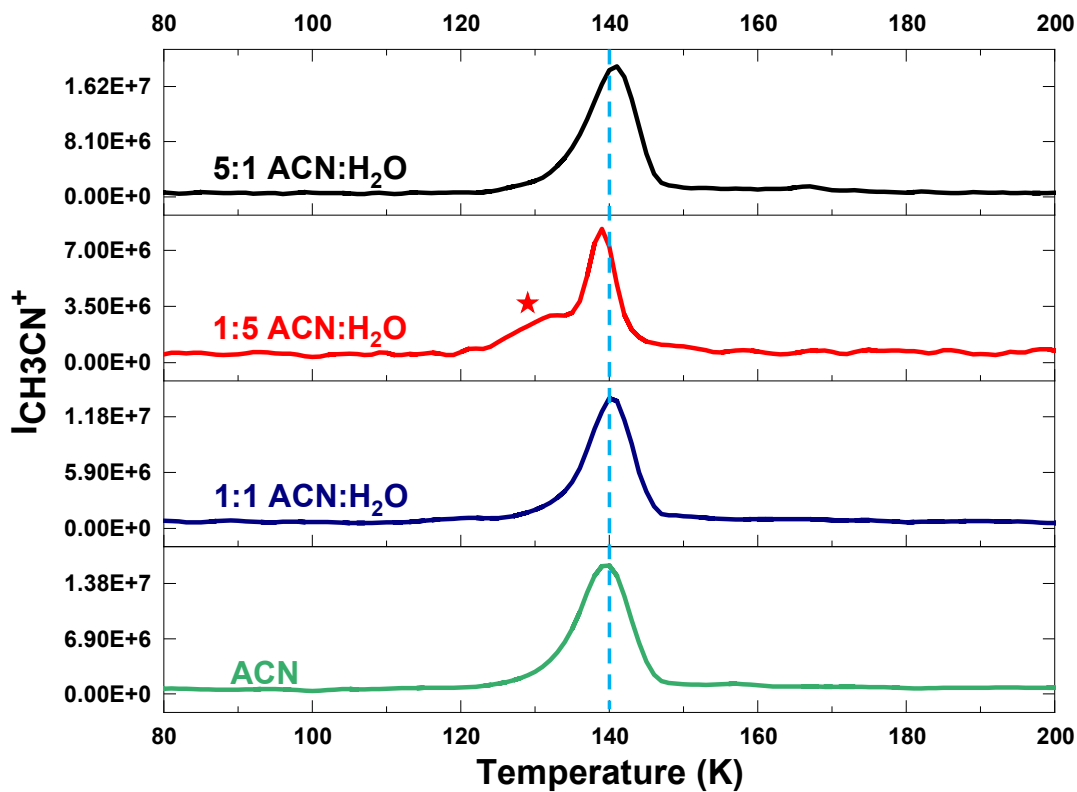


Fig. S2B TPD-MS spectra of 150 MLs of pure ACN (green), 300 MLs of 1:1 ACN:H₂O (blue), 300 MLs of 1:5 ACN:H₂O (red), and 300 MLs of 5:1 ACN:H₂O (black). Ramping rate = 10 K.min⁻¹. Here, the intensities of CH_3CN^+ (m/z = 41) under these conditions are plotted. The marked desorption (*) hump is due to the restricted ACN desorption from 1:5 ACN:H₂O film during annealing.

Supplementary information 2:

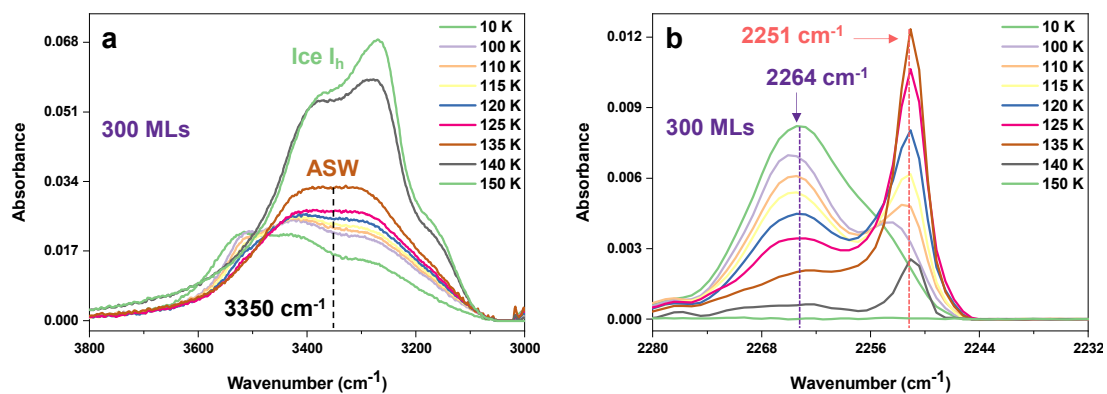


Figure S3 Temperature-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 1:1 ACN:H₂O film co-deposited on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹. (a) O-H stretching region (b) C≡N stretching region.

Supplementary information 3:

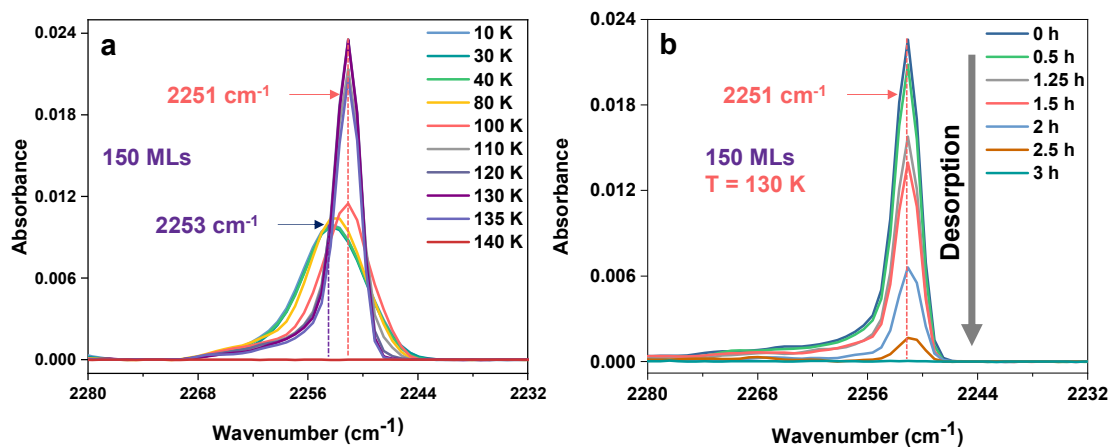


Fig. S4 RAIR spectra of 150 MLs of pure ACN in the C≡N stretching region. (a) Temperature-dependent spectra taken after ACN deposited at 10 K and heated at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹ to the desorption temperature of ACN. ACN was found in two phases, where a low temperature amorphous phase (broad peak at ~ 2253 cm⁻¹) converted into crystalline phase (sharp peak at 2251 cm⁻¹) after 100 K.^{1,2} (b) Isothermal time-dependent spectra at 130 K. The ACN vapour was deposited at 10 K and heated at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹ to and kept at 130 K. ACN desorbed from substrate within 3 h.

Supplementary Information 4:

(a) Hexagonal Ice

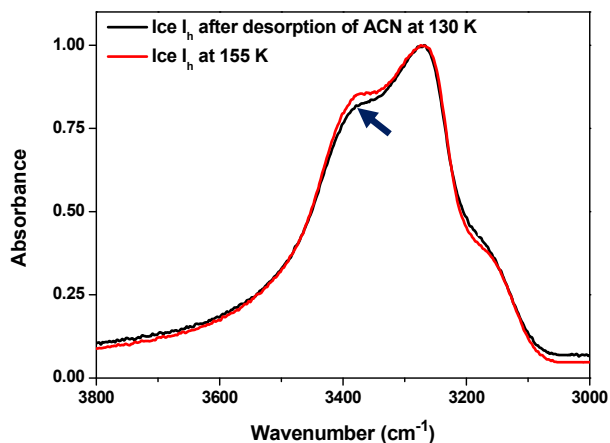


Fig. S5a RAIR spectra of Ice I_h obtained after desorption of ACN from 300 MLs of 1:1 ACN:H₂O film at 130 K (black trace) and Ice I_h obtained after heating 150 MLs of pure solid H₂O at 155 K (red trace) in the O-H stretching region. The spectra were normalized by the integral intensity of the absorbance. ACN:H₂O (1:1) film of 300 MLs and pure H₂O film of 150 MLs were prepared by depositing at 10 K and heating at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹ to the mentioned temperatures. Both the spectrum were almost identical and confirms the formation of Ice I_h after desorption of ACN from 1:1 ACN:H₂O film.

(b) Cubic Ice

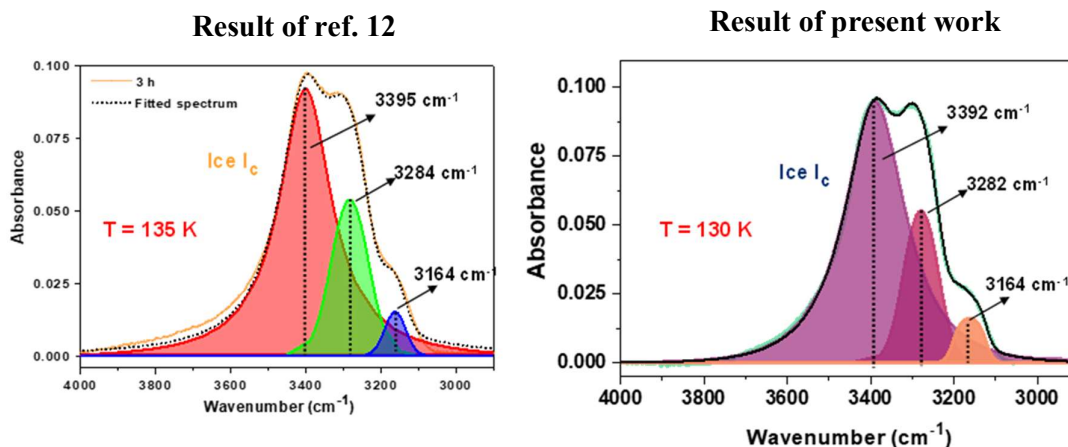


Fig. S4b The deconvoluted features of IR data of ref. 12 (J. Phys. Chem. Lett. vol. 11 (2020) p. 26) and the current work. In ref. 12, Ice I_c via acetone hydrate was prepared by annealing a co-deposited ~300 MLs acetone:H₂O (1:1) film to 135 K and maintaining it there in UHV for 3 h.

Supplementary Information 5:

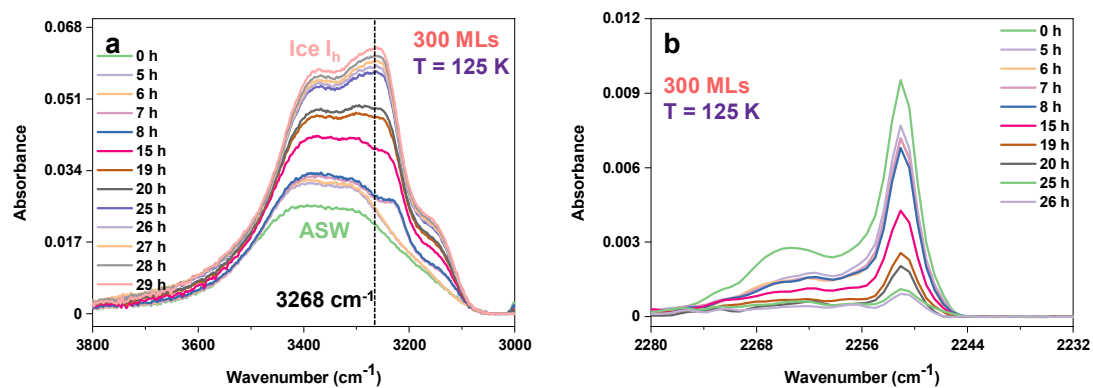


Fig. S6 Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 1:1 ACN:H₂O film at 125 K in the (a) O-H stretching region and, (b) C≡N stretching region. Mixed film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 125 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Supplementary Information 6:

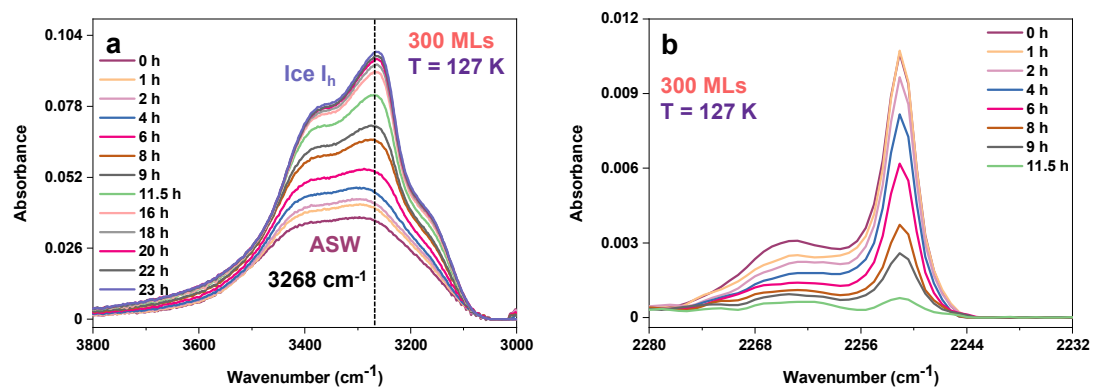


Fig. S7 Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 1:1 ACN:H₂O film at 127 K in the (a) O-H stretching region and, (b) C≡N stretching region. Mixed film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 127 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Supplementary Information 7:

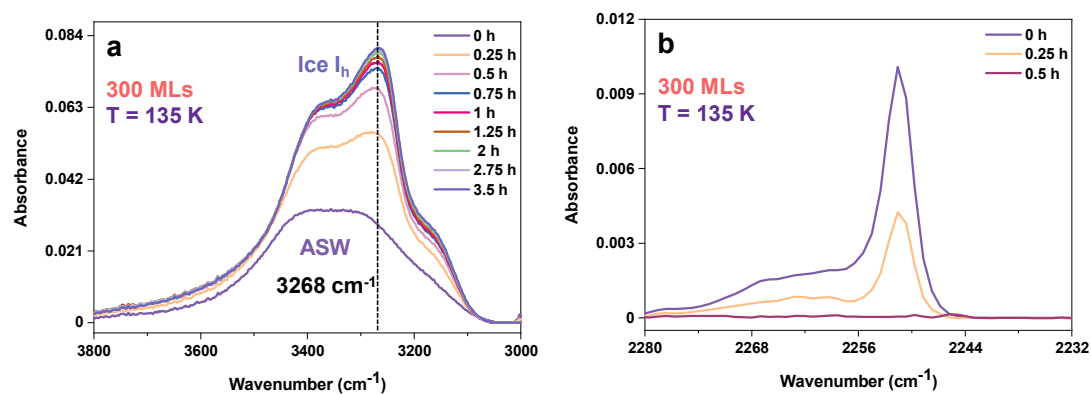


Fig. S8 Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 1:1 ACN:H₂O film at 135 K in the (a) O-H stretching region and, (b) C≡N stretching region. Mixed film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 135 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Supplementary Information 8:

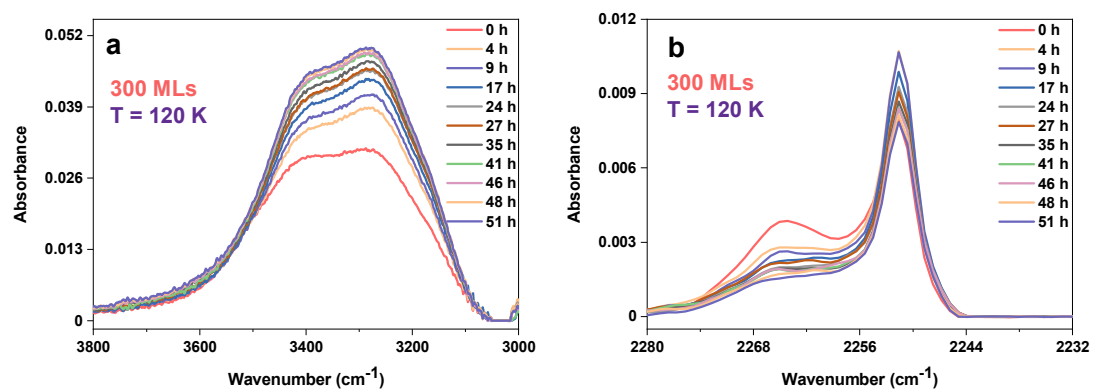


Fig. S9 Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 1:1 ACN:H₂O film at 120 K in the (a) O-H stretching region and, (b) C≡N stretching region. Mixed film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 120 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Supplementary Information 9:

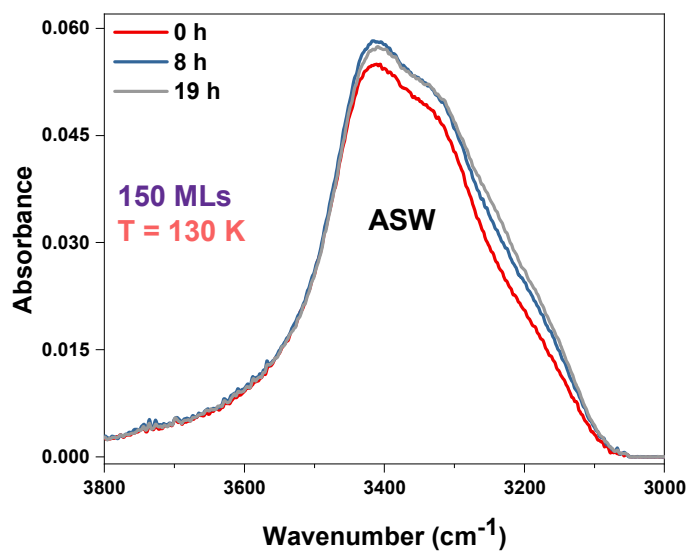


Fig. S10 Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 150 MLs of H₂O film at 130 K in the O-H stretching region. Thin film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 130 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Supplementary Information 10:

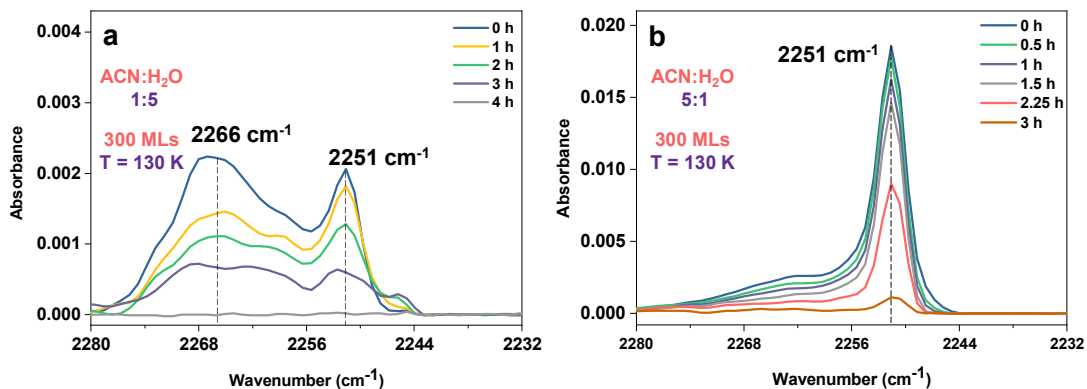


Fig. S11 (a) Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 1:5 ACN:H₂O film at 130 K in the C≡N stretching region. (b) Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 5:1 ACN:H₂O film at 130 K in the C≡N stretching region. Mixed film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 130 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Supplementary Information 11:

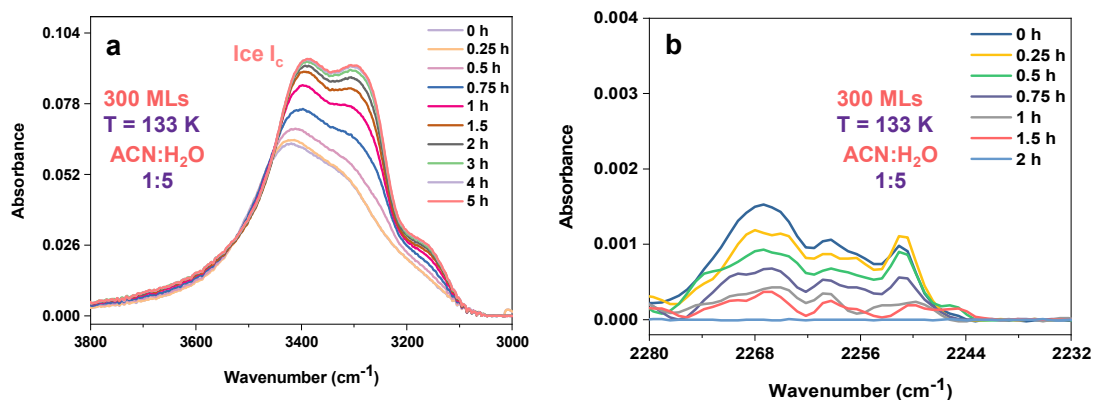


Fig. S12 Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 1:5 ACN:H₂O film at 133 K in the (a) O-H stretching region and, (b) C≡N stretching region. Mixed film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 133 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Supplementary Information 12:

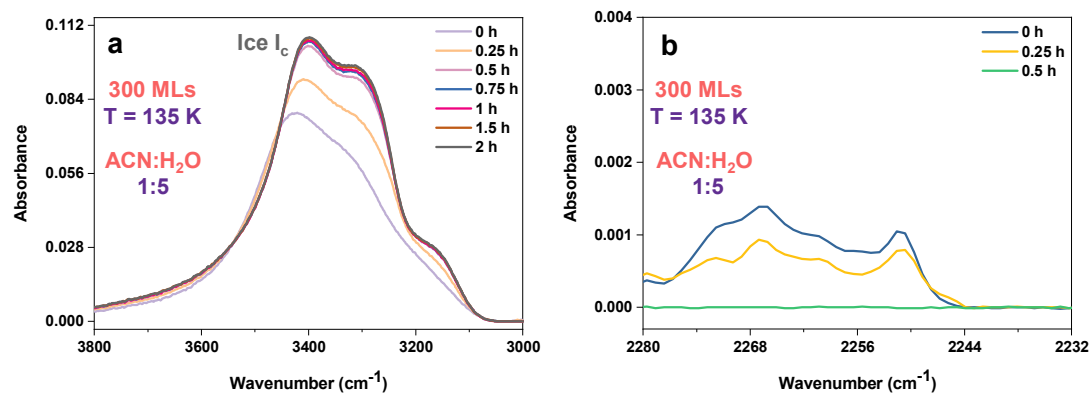


Fig. S13 Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 1:5 ACN:H₂O film at 135 K in the (a) O-H stretching region and. (b) C≡N stretching region. Mixed film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 135 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Supplementary Information 13:

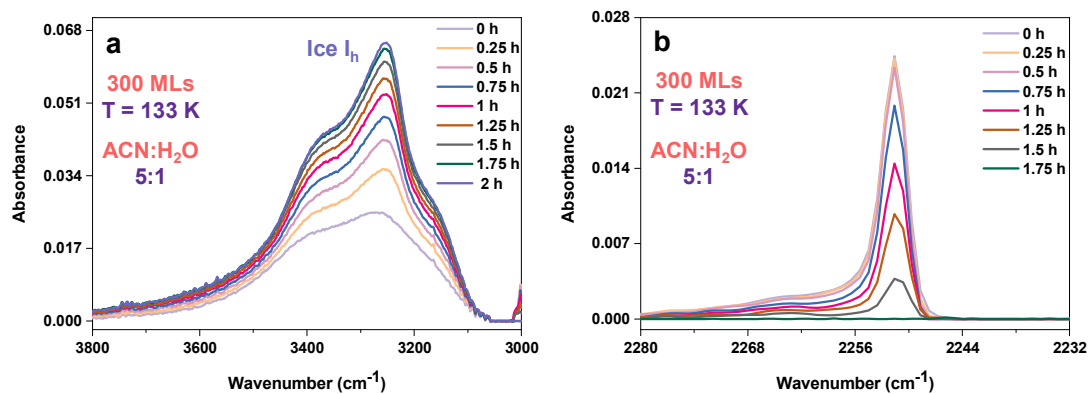


Fig. S14 Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 5:1 ACN:H₂O film at 133 K in the (a) O-H stretching region and, (b) C≡N stretching region. Mixed film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 133 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Supplementary Information 14:

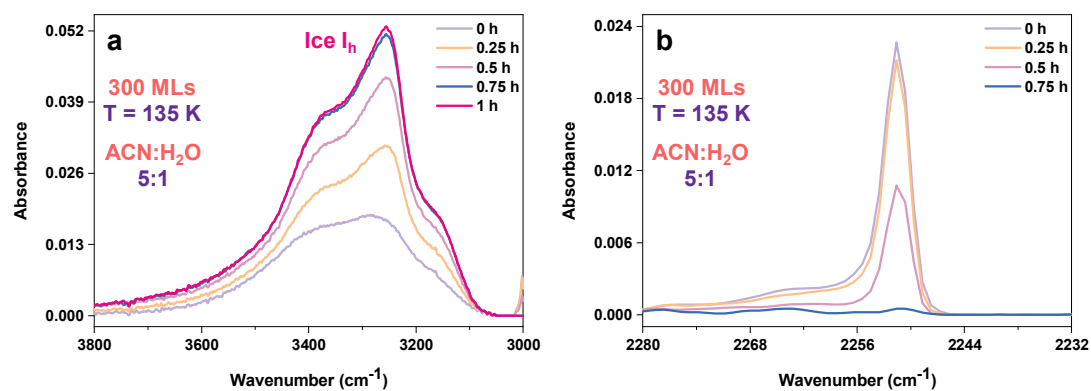


Fig. S15 Isothermal time-dependent RAIR spectra of 300 MLs of 5:1 ACN:H₂O film at 135 K in the (a) O-H stretching region and, (b) C≡N stretching region. Mixed film was prepared by vapour deposition on Ru(0001) at 10 K and heated to 135 K at a rate of 5 K min⁻¹.

Table S1 The parameters for crystallization of Ice I_h during the desorption of ACN from ice films at different temperatures.

	Temperature (K)	<i>n</i>	Rate constant; <i>k</i> (s⁻¹)
O-H stretching	125	1.80	1.39×10⁻⁰⁵
	127	1.75	2.66×10⁻⁰⁵
	130	1.63	9.60×10⁻⁰⁵
	135	0.91	8.05×10⁻⁰⁴

References:

- (1) Tizek, H.; Grothe, H.; Knözinger, E. Gas-Phase Deposition of Acetonitrile: An Attempt to Understand Ostwald's Step Rule on a Molecular Basis. *Chem. Phys. Lett.* **2004**, *383* (1–2), 129–133.
- (2) Hudson, R. L.; Moore, M. H. Reactions of Nitriles in Ices Relevant to Titan, Comets, and the Interstellar Medium: Formation of Cyanate Ion, Ketenimines, and Isonitriles. *Icarus* **2004**, *172* (2), 466–478.