Staurastrum hantzschii Reinsch, 1867

Most likely ID: n.a.

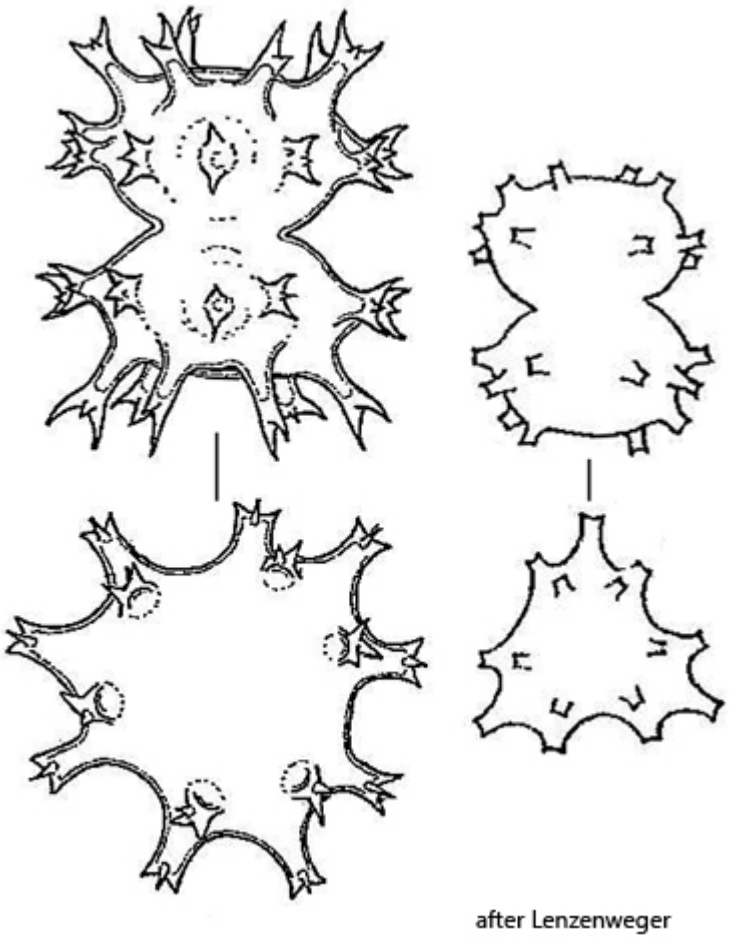
Synonym: *Staurastrum inaequale* f. *polonicum*

Sampling location: Lauchsee Moor (Austria)

Phylogenetic tree: *Staurastrum hantzschii*

Diagnosis:

- cells 3 or 4 radiate
- length 40–48 µm, width 36–42 µm (with processes)
- semi-cells oval or pentagonal
- lateral angles with two processes with 4 spines each
- apical angles with 2 oblique processes, ends forked.
- 9–12 lateral processes in sum
- 6–8 oblique processes in sum
- cell wall finely granulated
- each semi-cell with one chloroplast and one pyrenoid



Staurastrum hantzschii

So far, I have only found one specimen of *Staurastrum hantzschii* in samples from the Lauchsee Moor in Austria. This species is characterized by more and longer projections than the similar species *Staurastrum senarium*. In addition, Staurastrum senarium is also smaller, measuring about 30 µm in length. In *Staurastrum hantzschii*, the lateral processes have 4 spines at the end (2 larger and 2 smaller), while the apical processes bear only 2 spines.

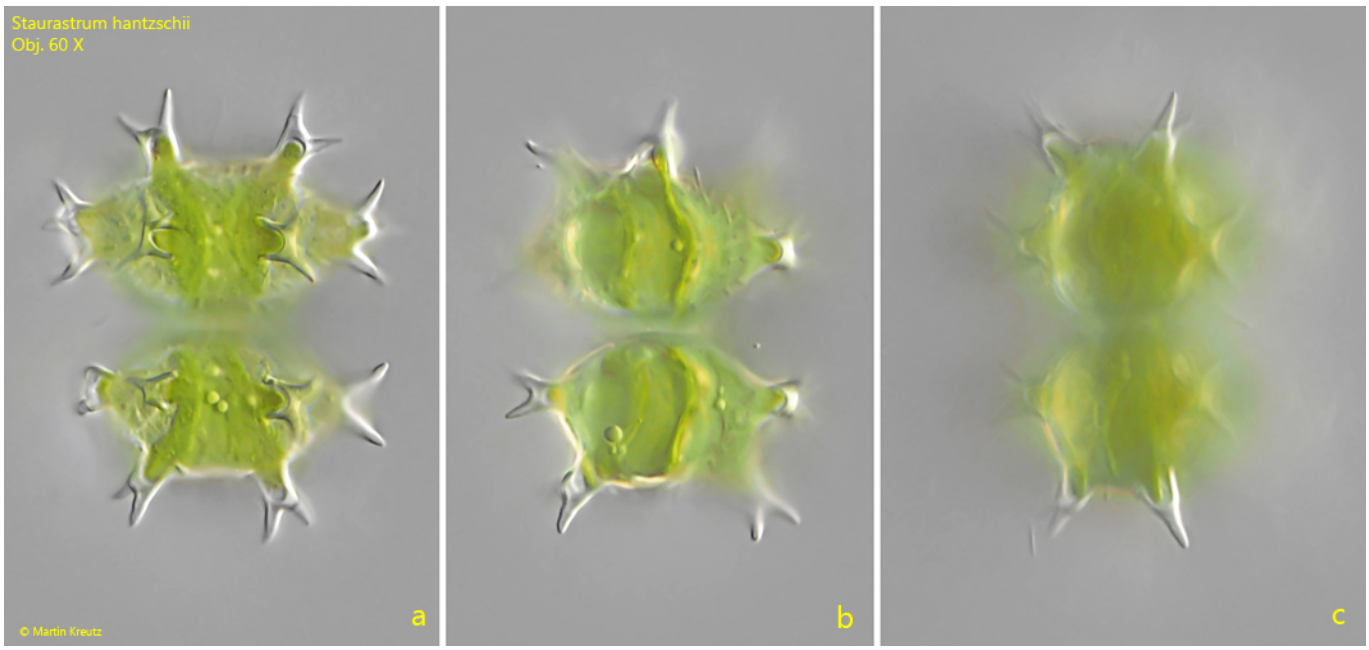


Fig. 1 a-c: *Staurastrum hantzschii*. L = 51 µm (with processes). Three focal planes of a slightly squashed specimen. Obj. 40 X.

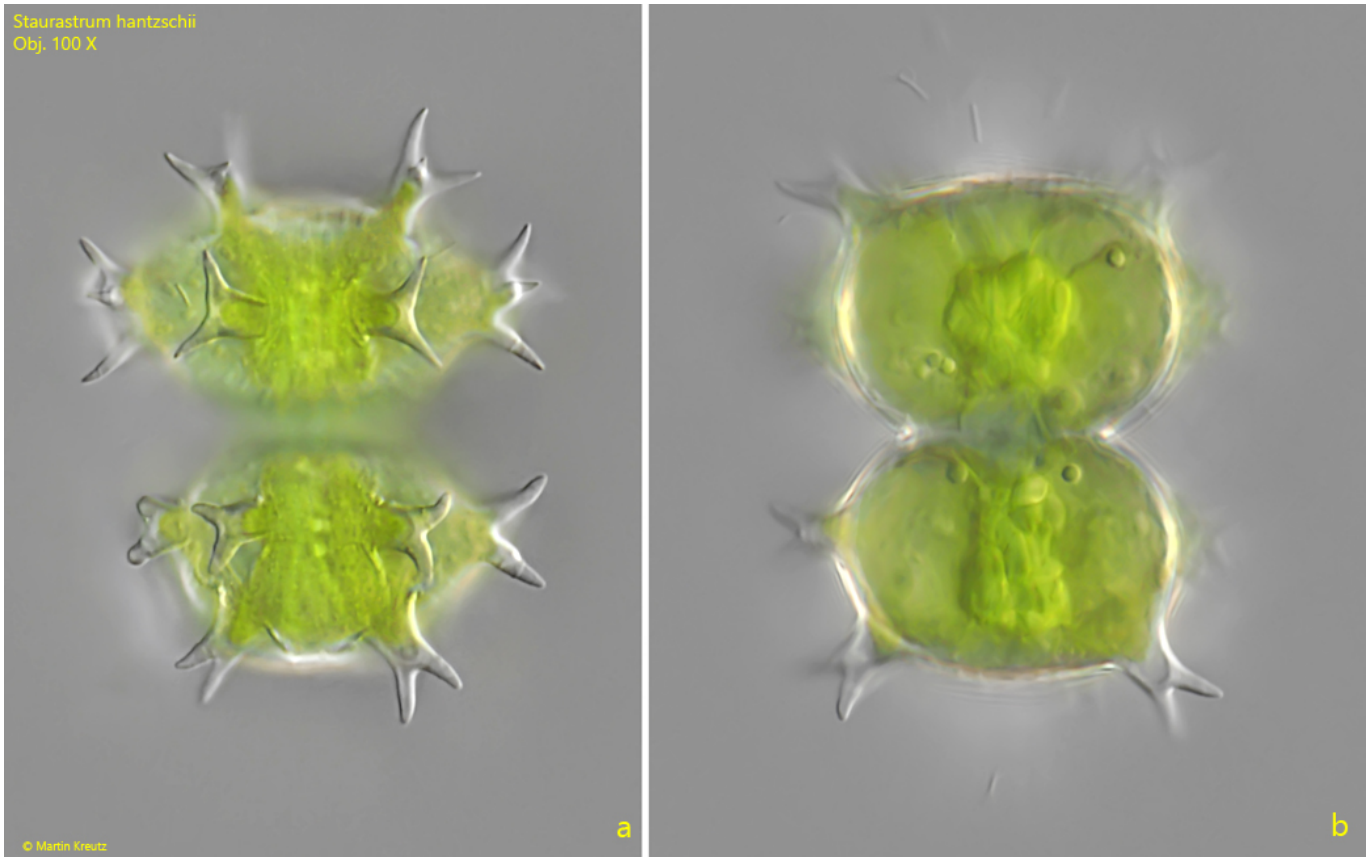


Fig. 2 a-b: *Staurastrum hantzschii*. L = 51 µm (with processes). Two focal planes of the same specimen as shown in fig. 1 a-c at higher magnification. Obj. 100 X.