### The role of hydroxyl groups in determining the sorption properties of modified wood

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# Samples

- Thermal treated samples acacia (*Acacia mangium*) and sesendok (*Endospermum malaccense*)
- Acetylated samples birch (*Betula pendula* L)

#### Methods

- Dynamic water vapour sorption
- Deuterium exchange







### Deuterium



<sup>4</sup>H to <sup>7</sup>H – highly unstable nuclei have been synthesized in the laboratory but not observed in nature







#### Thermally modified wood









#### Deuterium exchange









#### Deuterium exchange









#### OH content









#### OH content



















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# Bulking or OH groups?

















# Conclusions

- ✓ Direct measurement of OH content of modified and unmodified wood has been undertaken using a newly developed DVS analytical method involving deuterium exchange.
- ✓ The relationship between accessible OH content and EMC has been examined.
- ✓ It has been found that with thermally modified wood there is a poor correlation between hygroscopicity and OH content, whereas with acetylated wood a good correlation has been found.







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#### Thank you for your attention!

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