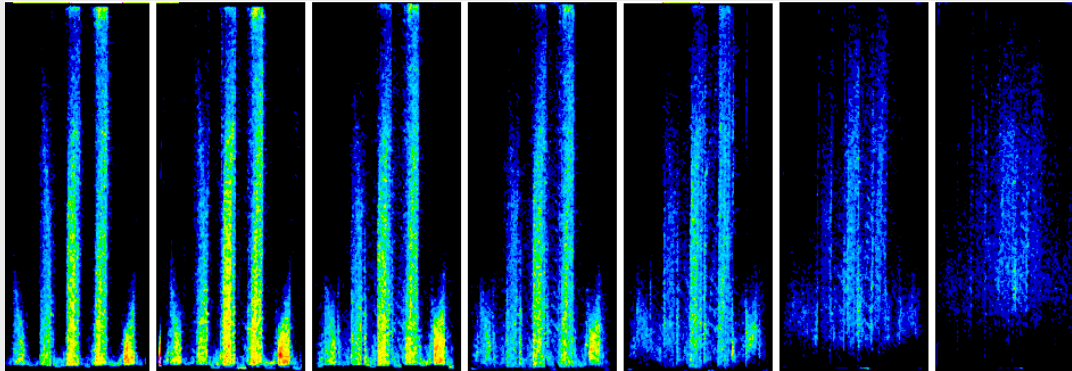


# Time of Wetness (ToW) simulation based on testing moisture dynamics of wood



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Jan Van den Bulcke

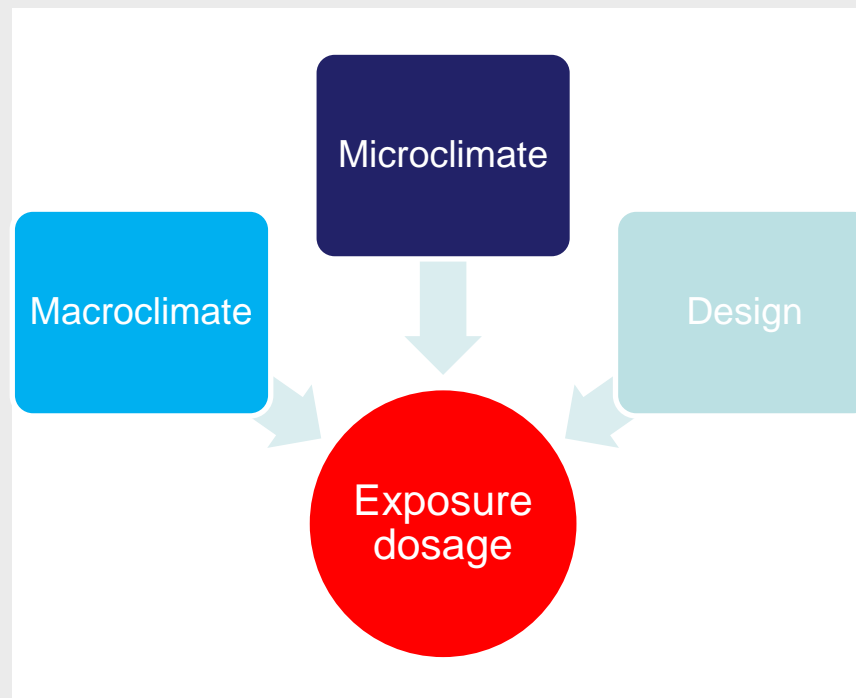
# INTRODUCTION

## Moisture and Rot

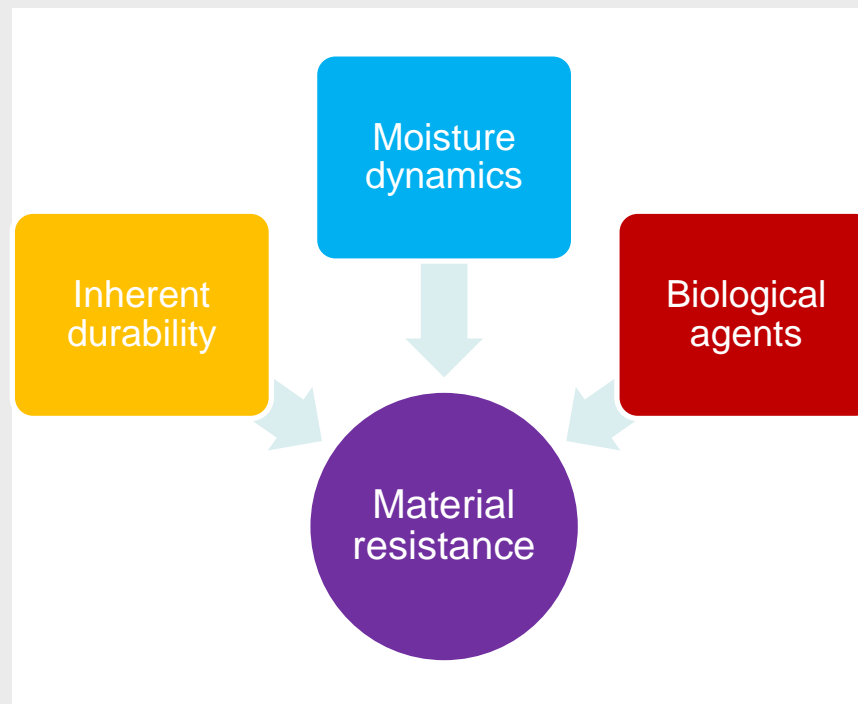
-> Service life

-> Moisture dynamics

# Exposure dosage



# Material resistance



# Material resistance



## Biological point of view – fungal resistance

### 1) Organism related testing (optimal MC)

→ intrinsic nutritional quality / toxicity

### 2) Moisture related testing (wetting ability – drying rate)

→ moisture behaviour / dynamics linked to ToW

# EXPERIMENTAL

## Floating test

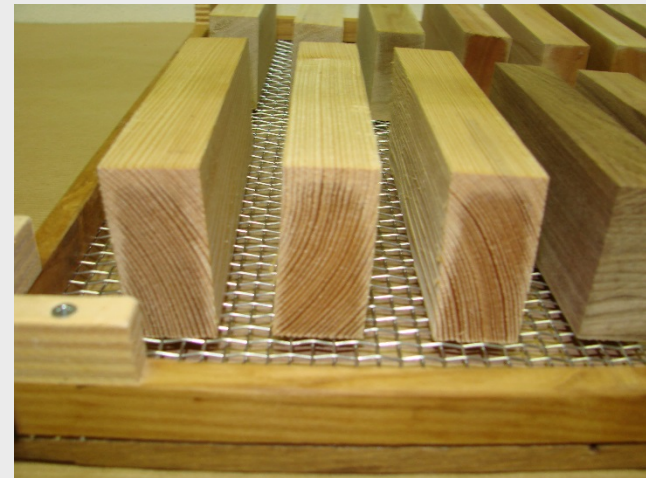
## Submersion test

[Not water vapour sorption]

# Floating test



# Submersion test





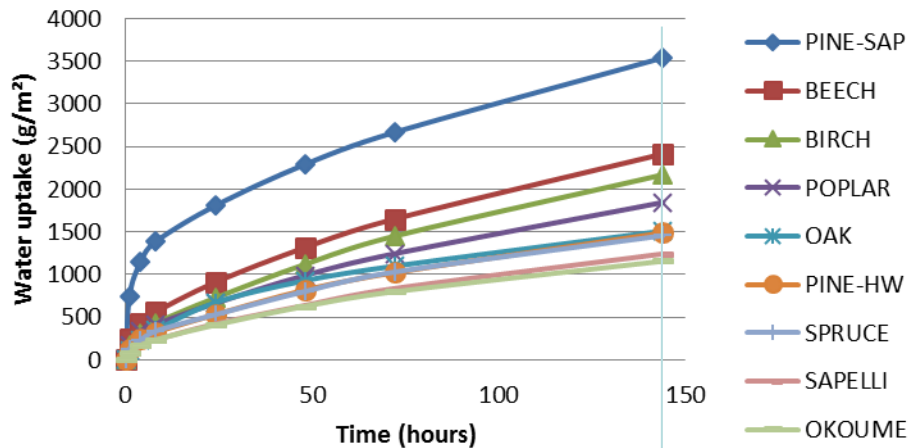
# RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

## Wetting - drying

## ToW concept

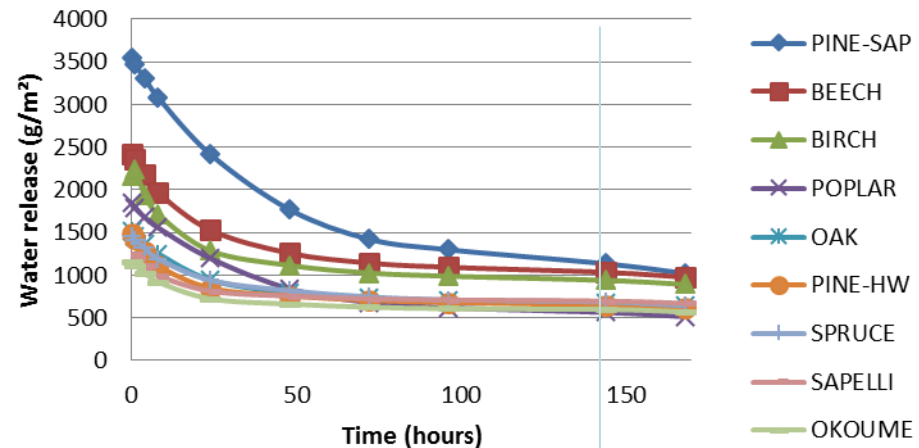
# Water uptake – release / absorption - desorption

Timber Floating - water uptake (g/m<sup>2</sup>)



144 hrs

Timber Floating - water release (g/m<sup>2</sup>)



144 hrs

## Classification of abs. and des. in groupings

Class upper limit	Floating test (g/m <sup>2</sup> )		Submersion test (kg/m <sup>3</sup> )		
	Absorption	Desorption	Absorption	Desorption	
1	750	250	90	15	
2	950	400	110	20	
3	1150	500	130	25	
4	1350	600	150	30	
5	1750	750	170	40	
6	2750	1000	210	55	
7	5000	2000	250	70	
8	∞	∞	∞	∞	

# Classification parameters from fitted curves

Absorption

$$f(x) = a * x^b$$

**a:** steepness of linear area  
- absorption coefficient

**b:** close to 0.5, if not...  
special phenomena,  
capillary uptake...

Desorption

$$f(x) = a + b * e\left(-\frac{x}{c}\right)$$

-----  
**a:** the asymptotic value after drying

**b:** the amount that is released

**c:** low c-values correspond with fast drying

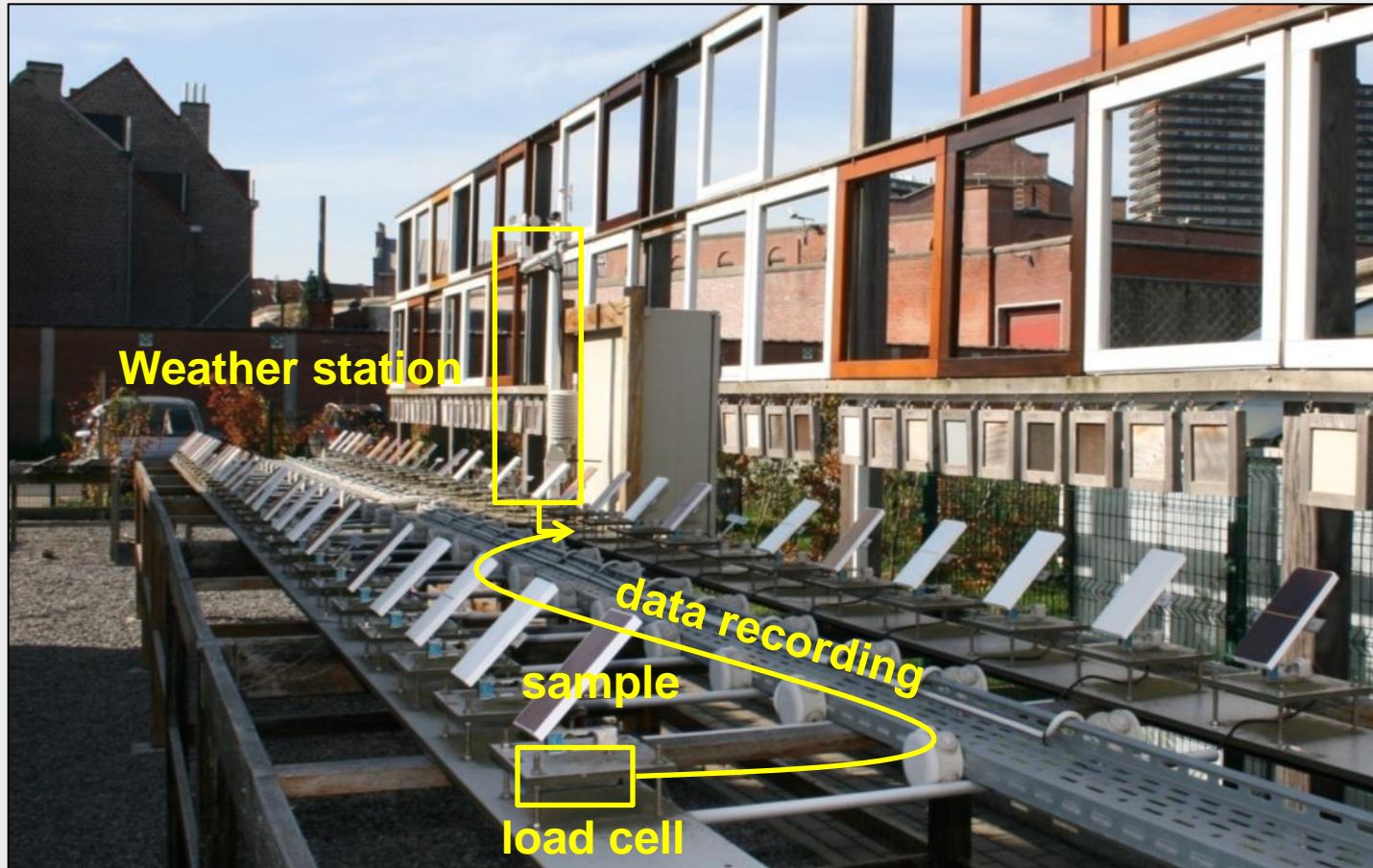
Wood species	Class F / A	Class F / D	Class S / A	Class S / D
DOUGLAS FIR	3	4	3	5
LARCH	5	5	6	6
MAR PINE	7	7	7	7
PINE-HW	4	4	5	5
PINE-HW 2	5	5		
PINE-SAP	7	7	7	6
PINE-SAP 2	7	7		
PINE-SAP 3	7	6		
RAD PINE	8	8	6	6
SIB LARCH	4	5	4	5
SIB LARCH 2	5	5	5	6
SIB LARCH 3	5	6	6	7
SPRUCE	5	5	5	5
SPRUCE 2	5	5		
W RED CEDAR	4	3	4	1

Wood species	Class F / A	Class F / D	Class S / A	Class S / D
ALDER	6	6	7	5
ASH	4	4	5	6
BEECH	6	7	8	8
BEECH 2	6	7		
BEECH 3	6	7		
BIRCH	6	6		
BIRCH 2	6	6	7	8
BLACK LOCUST	2	4	1	3
BLUE GUM	3	2	4	5
CHERRY	5	4	7	6
CHESTNUT	5	4	4	3
MAPLE	7	7	8	5
OAK	5	5	5	5
OAK 2	5	5		
OAK 3	5	5		
POPLAR	6	4	8	6
POPLAR 2	6	4		

# EXPERIMENTAL

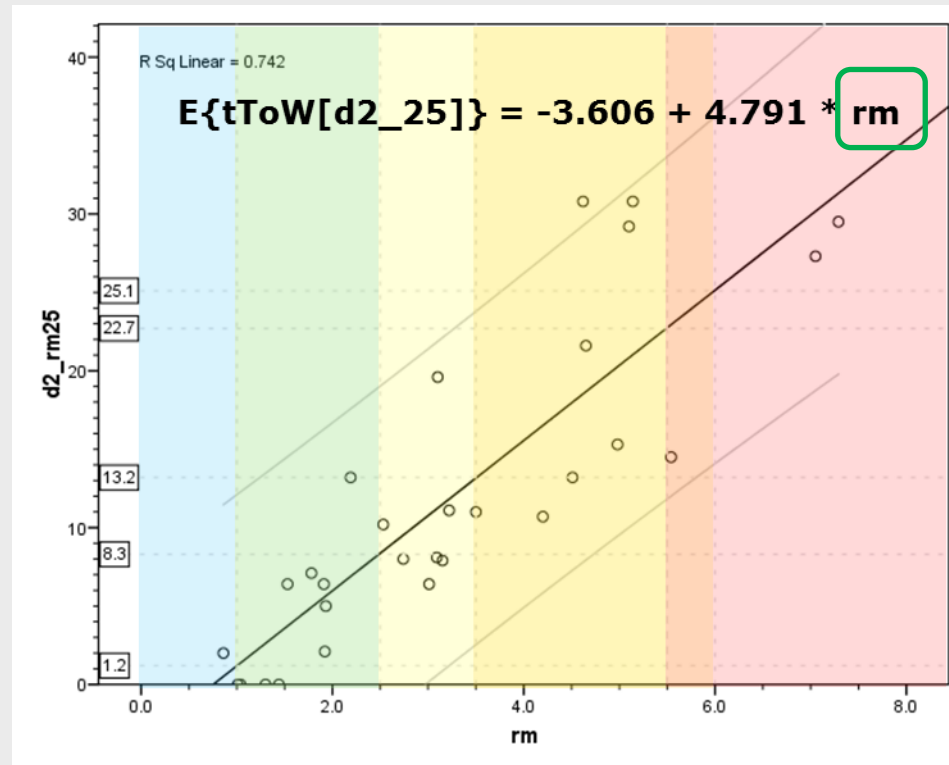
## CMM

# Continuous Moisture Measurements - CMM



# Results from PLYWOODMOISTURE project

ToW at CMM (2d > 25 % MC)



Residual moisture after floating test



# Results from PLYWOODMOISTURE project

**First CMM results expected in second half next year**

# Modelling?

## Water (not water vapour!) absorption:

Important yet difficult to model in building physics (HAM):

- what kind of equations to use?
- influence of driving rain (pressure effect)
- determination of (changing) absorption coefficients / diffusivities
- redistribution of water

-> 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> law of Fick -> not applicable > FSP

# Modelling?

## Theory – fitting 1D:

- Experimental equations such as Peleg and others?

$$M_t - M_0 = \frac{t}{K_1 + K_2 t}$$

$$M_t - M_0 = M_{ret} \left( 1 - e^{\frac{-t}{T_{ret}}} \right) + K_{rel} t$$

# Modelling?

## Theory – fitting 1D:

- Hagen-Poiseuille law for absorption in capillaries?

$$M^2 = \xi \frac{\rho^2 A^2 \phi^2 (S_{wf} - S_{wi})^2 r_{ae} \sigma \cos \theta}{2\mu} t$$

# Modelling?

## Theory – 3D fitting:

- Conservation of mass with a Fickian like partial differential equation?

$$\frac{\delta W}{\delta t} + \nabla \cdot (-D \cdot \nabla W) = 0$$

$$\text{with } D = \frac{\pi}{4} \left( \frac{A}{w_c} \right)^2, A = \frac{m}{\sqrt{t}}$$

[Candanedo & Derome 2005]

# Modelling?

## Theory – 3D fitting:

- Percolation model of Perré for simulation water migration in wood?  
-> TransPore model coupling heat and mass

# Modelling?

## Experimental:

1. Diffusivities change depending on the moisture content  
-> Calculation of redistribution using X-ray CT / neutron tomography
2. Diffusivities depend on the anatomy

# Modelling?

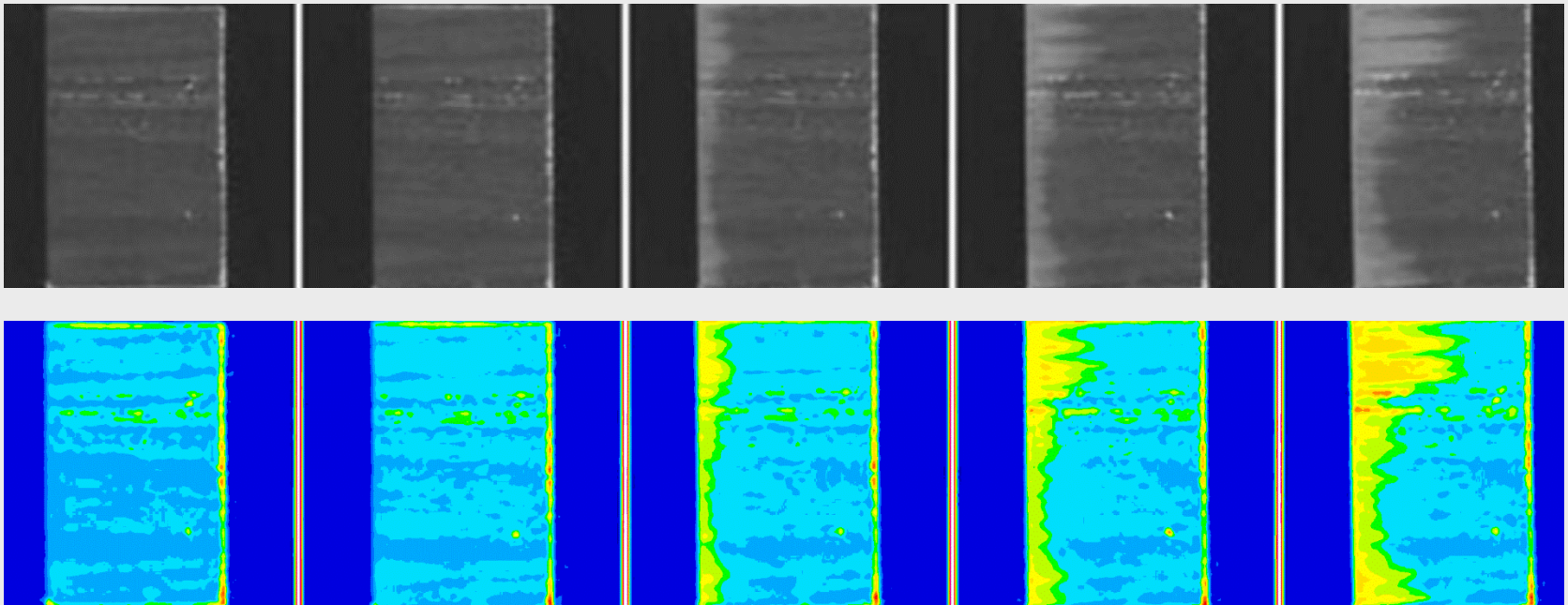
## Input:

- Determine absorption coefficients based on the moisture front
- Characterize diffusivities taking into account anatomical parameters
- Determine redistribution of water
- Deviations from average behaviour



# Modelling?

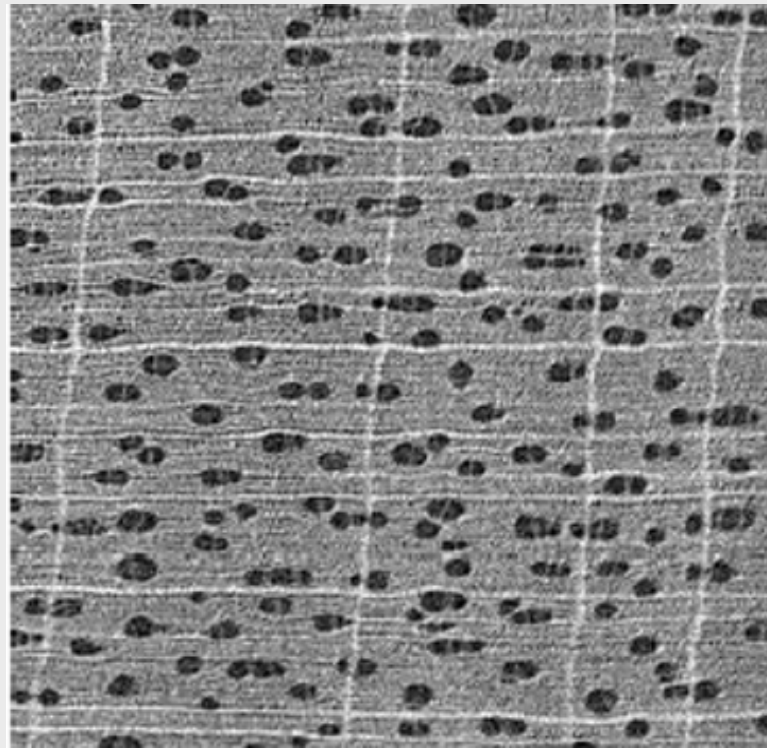
**Input: solid wood (X-ray CT)**



[Li et al. 2013]

# Modelling?

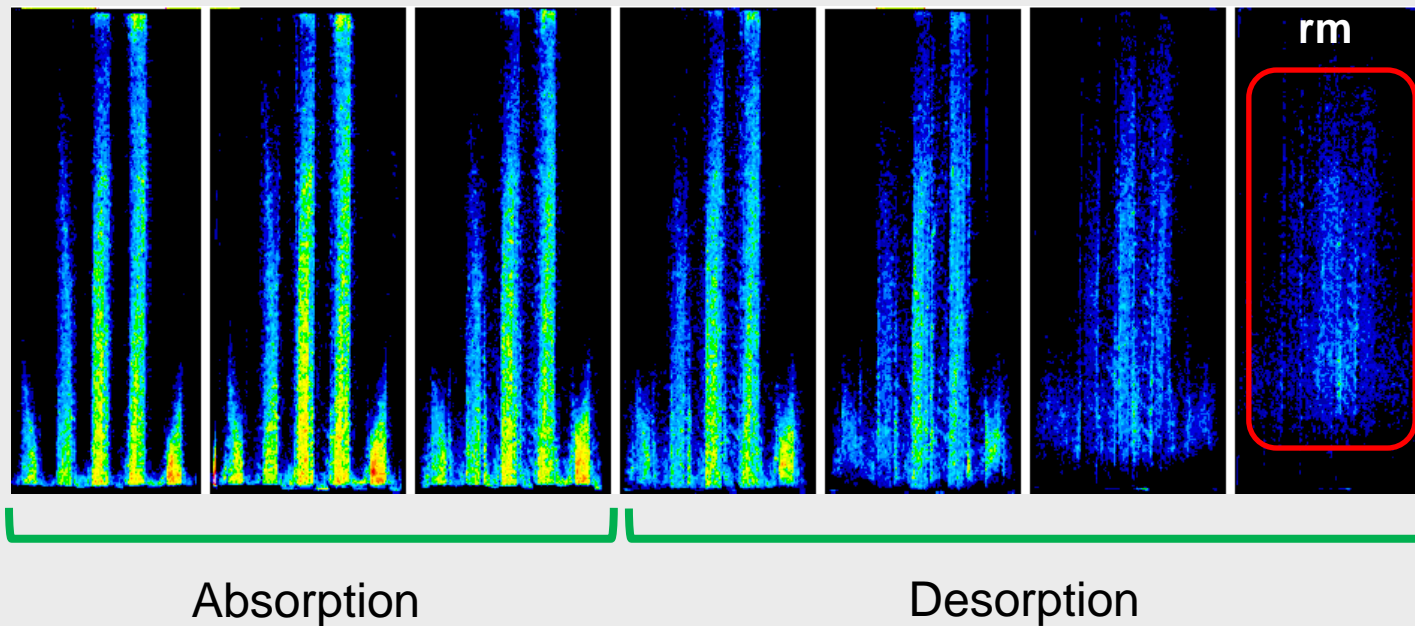
**Input:**



[Li et al. 2014]

# Modelling?

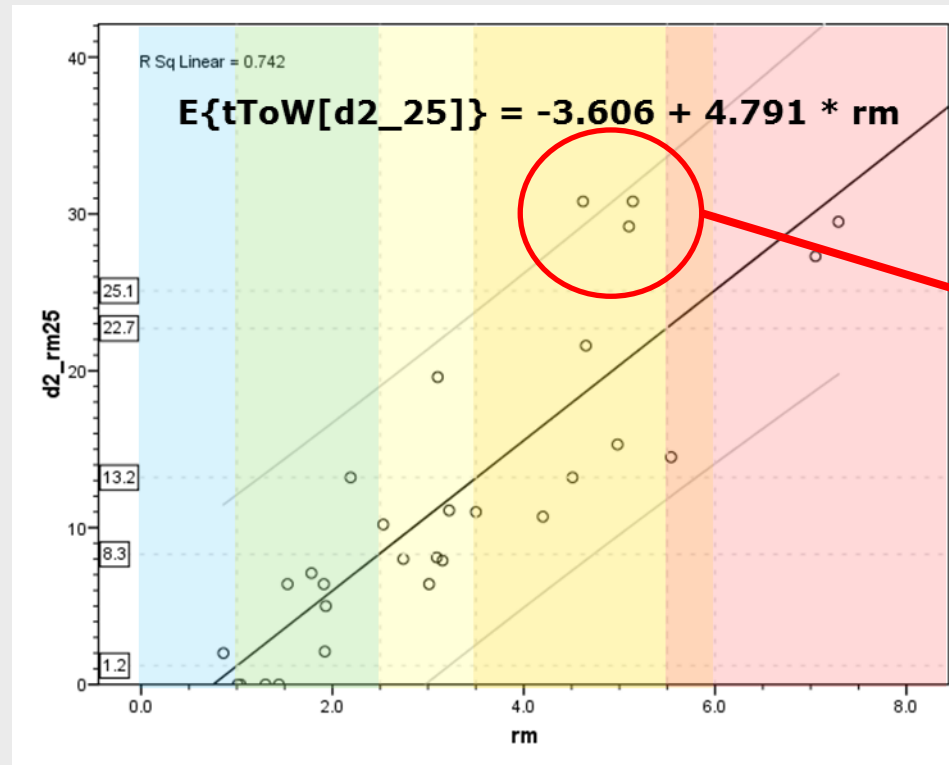
**Input: plywood (neutron radiography)**



[Li et al. 2014]

# Results from PLYWOODMOISTURE project

ToW at CMM (2d > 25 % MC)

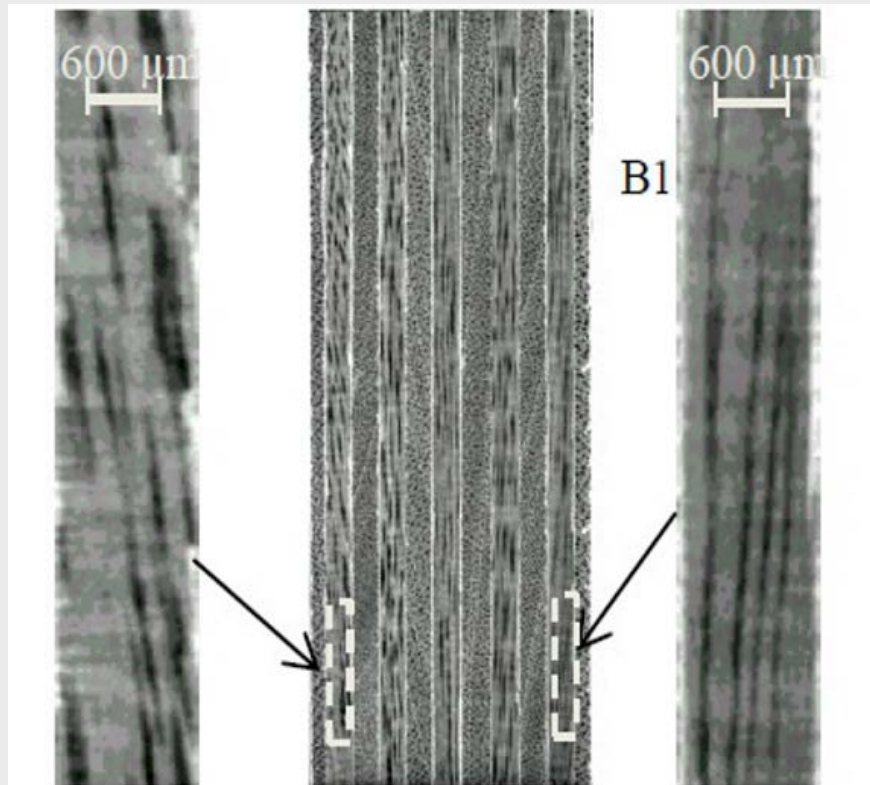


- Weathering
- Structure

Residual moisture after floating test

# Modelling?

**Input:**



[Li et al. 2014]

# CONCLUSION

- Work to do in collaboration building & drying physicists
- Preservative treated wood?
- Collaboration outreach

# THANK YOU

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