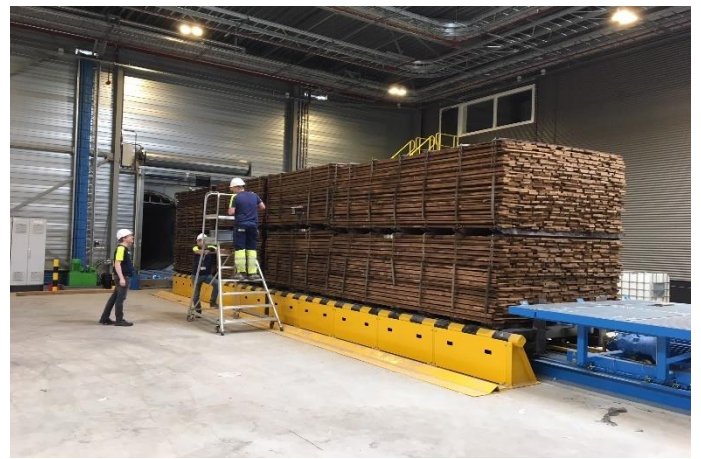


# 9<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Wood Modification ECWM9

September 17 and 18, 2018, Arnhem, The Netherlands

## PROCEEDINGS



ECWM<sup>9</sup>  
The 9th European Conference on **Wood** Modification  
The Netherlands • Arnhem • September 17-18, 2018

# **PROCEEDINGS**

## **9<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Wood Modification**

Burgers' Zoo  
Arnhem, The Netherlands  
17-18 September 2018

In association with:  
COST FP1407 ModWoodLife

Edited by:  
Jos Creemers, Thomas Houben, Bôke Tjeerdsma, Holger Militz, Brigitte Junge  
and Jos Gootjes

Secretariat:  
SHR B.V.  
Nieuwe Kanaal 9b  
6709 PA Wageningen  
[www.ecwm9.shr.nl](http://www.ecwm9.shr.nl)



## Legal Notice

Although all reasonable efforts were made by the editorial team to ensure the scientific quality of the contents of these conference proceedings, the final responsibility for the contents of individual articles therein remains with the respective authors. The editors accept no responsibility for the information contained herein. The inclusion of information in this publication does not constitute any form of endorsement by the editors. The editorial team is not responsible for the contents of external websites referred to in this publication.

No permission is required to reproduce or utilise the contents of these abstracts other than in the case of diagrams, images, or other material from other copyright holders. In such cases the permission of the original copyright holder must be obtained. The proceedings may be sited as *Proceedings of the 9<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Wood Modification 2018, Arnhem, The Netherlands*.

Copyright © SHR B.V.

Nieuwe Kanaal 9<sup>b</sup>, 6709 PA Wageningen, The Netherlands

[www.shr.nl](http://www.shr.nl)

ISBN: 978-90-829466-1-1

## Preface

SHR was one of the first research institutes in Europe, who already in the 1990's did substantial research work to develop wood modification processes. It appeared, that this research area was very complex, and that for a successful application of potential processes different expertise's was needed. A good network between research partners and industry was needed and the "European Network on Wood Modification" was created. 15 years ago, in 2003, the first European Conference on Wood Modification "ECWM" was held to present the outcomes of this EU financed network. Since than, ECWM's were held each 2-3 years at different places around Europe, and now we can celebrate the 9<sup>th</sup> ECWM in the Netherlands, organized by SHR where it all began.

As already before, ECWM 9 is linked up to the European COST organisation. Thanks to the COST Action FP 1407 ModWoodLife to join and strengthen our network!

The participation of researchers of all around the world make it obvious that the name "European conference" is much too small...so: a warm welcome to researchers from industry and academia from Europe and abroad! This success has led, once again, to a large number of abstracts submitted to the organizers. In general, these abstracts were of a high quality and the members of the Scientific Committee had a hard time to select 44 full presentations and 50 poster presentations out of the many applications. We hope we have found the right balance between scientific and applied presentations to reach the key goal of ECWM: to attract researchers from academia and industry to join their expertises in this very exciting research area "wood modification".

The local conference organizers from SHR have done a great job this past year to make us feel welcome in The Netherlands and to let the conference be a success. Thank you very much to Bôke and team!



Prof. Dr. Holger Militz  
Chairman of Scientific Committee  
Georg-August-University Göttingen, Germany

### **Scientific Committee**

Dr. Julia Milne e Carmo,	Carmo Group, Portugal
Prof. Dr. Callum Hill,	JCH Industrial Ecology Ltd., United Kingdom
Dr. Dennis Jones,	Timber Consultancy (UK) / LTU, Sweden
Prof. Dr. Holger Militz,	Göttingen Uni., Germany (Chairman of Scientific Committee)
Mr. Jos Creemers,	SHR, The Netherlands
Mr. Bôke Tjeerdsma,	SHR, The Netherlands
Prof. Dr. Joris Van Acker,	Ghent Uni., Belgium
Dr. Andreja Kutnar,	University of Primorska, Slovenia (FP 1407)

### **Local Organising Committee**

Mr. Bôke Tjeerdsma,	SHR; The Netherlands (Chairman of Organizing Committee)
Mrs. Marina van der Zee,	SHR; The Netherlands
Mr. Jos Creemers, SHR	SHR; The Netherlands
Dr. René Klaassen,SHR	SHR; The Netherlands
Mr. Bas Holleboom, SKH	SKH; The Netherlands
Mrs. Mariena Mooi, SHR	SHR; The Netherlands
Mrs. Jos Gootjes, SHR	SHR; The Netherlands

## Wood modification in practice

The European Conference on Wood Modification takes place on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> of September 2018 in Arnhem, The Netherlands and is organised by SHR. At this conference researchers and people from industry from all over the world will come together to share their knowledge and experiences with the latest developments on wood modification methods, applications and products. The conference was given the subtitle “Wood modification comes home”, which refers to the role The Netherlands and SHR have played – and still play – in the development and industrial application of modified wood.

Techniques and methods designed for improving wood properties are almost as old as mankind itself. However the scientific and industrial rise of wood modification became significant under the influence of a number of social and economic developments in the eighties and nineties of the previous century. A strong need was felt to find alternatives for the use of tropical hardwoods and preservative treated wood, which were both under pressure for a variety of reasons. The discussions regarding a clean environment, sustainable forest management, wood use and the increasing wood demands from emerging markets in Asia also had a big impact. Wood modification was recognized to have the ability to offer a more, better and sustainable way of making use of wood as a durable material in a broad range of applications. Besides that, it was found to be a supreme method for upgrading the properties of lesser used timber species and to provide technical solutions to overcome some of the natural deficiencies of wood as water uptake, decay and dimensional changes.

Over the last decades an enormous amount of scientific work has been performed and published. We have seen many innovative modification ideas, methods and techniques passing by during the previous eight ECWM's. To make a real impact, ideas need to be developed further and put into practice. We are proud that in The Netherlands we have created a setting with a high level of knowledge, innovative thinking combined with entrepreneurship, which lead to a variety of flourishing companies involved in industrial production of modified wood. Not only producing companies, but also the wood processing industry has adopted modified wood as a highly appreciated durable material. We can declare that modified wood has become a lasting factor in the wood processing industry.

For these reasons SHR and we as the organising team, are excited to welcome you all here in The Netherlands for the 9<sup>th</sup> European Conference on Wood Modification. We hope you will enjoy your stay here in Arnhem and become inspired by all attendees, presenters and new insights this conference has to offer.

Welcome!

The organising team

## **COST 1407 - Foreword**

It is our pleasure that COST Action FP1407 “Understanding wood modification through an integrated scientific and environmental impact approach” (ModWoodLife) in part of 9th European Conference of Wood Modification. The conference brings together researchers from across Europe and beyond that jointly are addressing the mounting pressure on renewable resources (as a material source, for recreational, ecological, and other uses). By maximising the efficiency of materials derived from them, the wood modification community plays an important role. The efficiency can only be achieved if new methods to improve the functionality, durability, properties, and environmental impacts will be developed. Wood modification addresses these requirements directly, allowing wood to be used in more applications, including increased use of under-utilised species. Wood modification also addresses undesirable characteristics of wood such as fungal resistance, UV-stability, and moisture sensitivity. The COST Action FP1407 has been successful in addressing these needs in the past 3 years. We are in the last year of the Action and therefore it is even more important for us to be at ECWM9. Only sustainable collaboration and joint efforts will deliver the impacts. That objective of the Action FP1407, to characterise the relationship between wood modification processing, product properties, and the associated environmental impacts in order to maximise sustainability and minimize environmental impacts, has great value for the forest sector, for researchers, and society at large.

Wishing you a successful and memorable conference full of fruitful discussions.

Andreja Kutnar  
Chair, COST FP1407

Denis Jones  
Vice-Chair, COST FP1407

## Table of Contents

<b>Preface</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Table of contents</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Session One: Wood Modification World-wide - keynote presentations</b>	
<b>Modified wood in circular economy – a critical review</b>	<b>16</b>
<i>Henrik Heräjärvi, Janni Kunttu, Elias Hurmekoski, Teppo Hujala</i>	
<b>A review of wood modification across Europe as part of COST FP1407</b>	<b>24</b>
<i>Dennis Jones, Dick Sandberg, Andreja Kutnar</i>	
<b>What is wrong with Wood Modification in the U.S.?</b>	<b>32</b>
<i>Jeffrey Morrell</i>	
<b>Session Two: Commercial and Market Opportunities for Modified Wood</b>	
<b>New Standards for Approval of Modified Wood within the Nordic Wood Preservation Council (NWPC)</b>	<b>40</b>
<i>Niels Morsing, Søren Bang-Achton, Emil Englund Thybring, Morten Klamer</i>	
<b>Kebony Clear – Produced in Belgium</b>	<b>48</b>
<i>Per Brynildsen, Omar Roels, Bruno Van den Branden</i>	
<b>Improved dimensional stability of polypyrrole enriched spruce as an indication for chemical change</b>	<b>56</b>
<i>Andries van Eckeveld, Rabi Malki, Michael Sailer, Jacco Eversdijk</i>	
<b>Practical experience of acetylated wood fibre panel products in Dutch door manufacturing</b>	<b>64</b>
<i>Jeroen Lücker</i>	
<b>Wood Modification with DMDHEU (1.3-dimethylol-4.5-dihydroxy-ethyleneurea) – Status quo and latest research activities</b>	<b>74</b>
<i>Lukas Emmerich, Holger Militz</i>	
<b>Architects perception of modified wood: a parallel study in selected countries of Europe</b>	<b>82</b>
<i>Manja Kitek Kuzman, Eva Haviarova, Dick Sandberg</i>	
<b>Enhancing the Properties of ThermoWood® with Phenolic Resin Treatment</b>	<b>91</b>
<i>Reeta Stöd, Janne Pynnönen, Duncan Mayes, Bodo Caspar Kielmann</i>	



## Session Three: Poster Session 1

<b>Effect of Thermo-Mechanical Treatment on Properties of Parica Laminated Veneer Lumber (<i>Schizolobium amazonicum</i> Huber ex Ducke)</b>	<b>98</b>
<i>Mírian de Almeida Costa, Cláudio Henrique Soares Del Menezzi</i>	
<b>TanWood®: The Brazilian Process of Thermal Modification of Wood</b>	<b>104</b>
<i>Leonardo Puppi Bernardi, Djeison Cesar Batista</i>	
<b>Examining the coating performance of finishes on acetylated hornbeam wood (<i>Carpinus betulus</i> L.)</b>	<b>112</b>
<i>Fanni Fodor, Róbert Németh</i>	
<b>Colour response of heat treated spruce and pine with different surface coatings in outdoor exposure</b>	<b>119</b>
<i>Niclas Björngrim, Marie Hartwig, Olle Hagman, Tom Morén</i>	
<b>New substrates for wood modification. Characterising pore size distributions in variously dried softwood</b>	<b>123</b>
<i>Warren Grigsby, Elizabeth Dunningham, Hank Kroese</i>	
<b>Determination of resistance of thermally treated wood to weather conditions in different countries (HTW) - Preliminary results</b>	<b>126</b>
<i>Idalina Domingos, José Ferreira, Luisa Cruz-Lopes, Júlia Carmo, Jorge Martins, René Herrera, Lina Nunes, Bruno Esteves</i>	
<b>Investigation of <i>Abies alba</i> wood thermal stability according to its radial position</b>	<b>131</b>
<i>Joël Hamada, Anélie Pétrissans, Julien RuellE, Frédéric Mothe., Francis Colin, Mathieu Pétrissan, Philippe Gérardin</i>	
<b>Properties improvement of bamboo materials through furfurylation</b>	<b>137</b>
<i>Li Wanju, Wang Hankun, Liu Minghui, Yu Yan</i>	
<b>Veneer modification with fire retardant chemicals</b>	<b>143</b>
<i>Saara Hautamäki, Michael Altgen, Tuomas Hänninen, Lauri Rautkari</i>	
<b>Natural Weathering and Photostability of Wood Modified by Fatty Acid esters</b>	<b>149</b>
<i>Mohamed Jebrane, Nasko Terziev, Ivo Heinemaa</i>	
<b>Effects of thermal modification on bending properties and chemical structure of Iroko and Padauk</b>	<b>155</b>
<i>Michal Kroupa, Milan Gaff, Olov Karlsson, Olena Myronycheva, Dick Sandberg</i>	
<b>Modified wood in actual use and its weathering performance after outdoor exposure</b>	<b>162</b>
<i>Ville Lahtela, Tim Kärki</i>	
<b>Performance of thermal modified radiata pine in real cases of facades and deckings in North Spain</b>	<b>167</b>
<i>David Lorenzo, Alfonso Lozano, Juan Fernández-Golfin, Manuel Touza, René Herrera</i>	

## Table of Contents

<b>Water free PEG impregnation of hardwood veneer using a roll press</b>	<b>173</b>
<i>Tillmann Meints, Axel Rindler, Niklas Bugelnig, Christian Hansmann</i>	
<b>The impact of cerium dioxide nanoparticles on thermally modified wood-coating system during weathering</b>	<b>177</b>
<i>Josip Miklečić, Vlatka Jirouš-Rajković</i>	
<b>Application of time-temperature-humidity superposition to the hygrothermally accelerated ageing of spruce wood</b>	<b>181</b>
<i>Eiichi Obataya, Nanami Zeniya, Kaoru Endo, Miyuki Matsuo-Ueda</i>	
<b>Preliminary studies on the effect of acetylation and subsequent weathering on tensile strength and stiffness of Rubber wood (<i>Hevea brasiliensis</i>)</b>	<b>187</b>
<i>Samuel Olaniran, E. Cabane, M. Rüggeberg</i>	
<b>Mild torrefaction pre-treatment of eucalypts aiming at its energetic valorisation</b>	<b>193</b>
<i>Solange de Oliveira Araújo, Duarte M. Neiva, Angélica de Cássia Carneiro, Bruno Esteves, Jorge Gominho, Helena Pereira</i>	
<b>Influence of various polyethylene glycol treatments on the dimensional stability of beech wood.</b>	<b>199</b>
<i>Sabrina Puttmann, Lukan Müller, Bertil Burian, Marcus Müller</i>	
<b>Adhesion of coatings to plasma modified wood at accelerated weathering</b>	<b>205</b>
<i>Ladislav Reinprecht, rADOVANTiño, Marek Šomšák</i>	
<b>Measuring Accessibility of OH groups in Scots Pine with Dynamic Vapour Sorption Apparatus</b>	<b>210</b>
<i>Tuuli Uimonen, Saara Hautamäki, Maija Kymäläinen, Lauri RauTkari</i>	
<b>Plasma treatment of wood veneers: a review</b>	<b>216</b>
<i>Richard Wascher, Georg Avramidis, Holger Militz, Wolfgang Viöl</i>	
<b>Saturated gaseous ammonia treatment for improved densification of beech wood – Sorption and mechanical properties</b>	<b>224</b>
<i>Mario Zauer, Tobias Dietrich, Herwig Hackenberg, André Wagenführ</i>	
<b>Water vapour diffusion through acetylated wood with different weight percent gain (WPG)</b>	<b>230</b>
<i>Ava Khodabakhshi Koulaei, Asghar Tarmian, Davood Efhamisisi, Ali Abdulkhani</i>	
<b>Session 4A: Properties 1</b>	
<b>The potential for use of acetylated wood in musical instruments making</b>	<b>236</b>
<i>Stergios Adamopoulos, Sheikh Ali Ahmed, Chiel Lankveld</i>	
<b>Influence on acoustical properties of resonant soundboard material through different processes of thermal modification</b>	<b>244</b>
<i>David Zerbst, Lothar Clauder, Dave Olson, Alexander Pfriem</i>	

## Table of Contents

<b>Measuring the Free Hydroxyl Content in Wood Modified by Acetic or Propionic Anhydride</b>	<b>251</b>
<i>Callum Hill, Greeley Beck, Erik Larnøy, Sarah Strohbusch, Holger Militz</i>	
<b>Pre-treatment with Ionic Liquids or Organic Superbases to Reduce Spring-Back and Set-Recovery of Surface-Densified Scots pine</b>	<b>259</b>
<i>Benedikt Neyses, Olov Karlsson, Dick Sandberg</i>	
<b>Potential solutions for gluing acetylated wood in load bearing constructions</b>	<b>267</b>
<i>Andreas Treu, Ronny Bredesen, Ferry Bongers</i>	
<b>Combustion behaviour of wood chemically modified with DMDHEU-, PF-, and MF-resins</b>	<b>275</b>
<i>Zhijun Zhang, Zefang Xiao, Holger Militz, Carsten Mai, Yanjun Xie</i>	
<b>Session 4B: Thermal Modification</b>	
<b>Potential to limit variation in durability of thermally modified timber</b>	<b>284</b>
<i>Joris van Acker, Jan Van Den Bulcke</i>	
<b>Thermovuoto thermal modification of eight European wood species</b>	<b>292</b>
<i>Ignazia Cuccui, Nasko Terziev, Giovanna Bochicchio, Ottaviano Allegretti</i>	
<b>Differences in the mechanical behaviour of wood after thermal modification in oven-dry or water-saturated state</b>	<b>300</b>
<i>Michael Altgen, Tuuli Uimonen, Lauri Rautkari</i>	
<b>Thermal modification of wax impregnated wood</b>	<b>308</b>
<i>Miha Humar, Davor Kržišnik, Boštjan Lesar, Nejc Thaler, Aleš Ugovše, Gregor Rep</i>	
<b>The role of accessible hydroxyl groups in reversible and irreversible EMC changes by thermal wood modification</b>	<b>316</b>
<i>Wim Willems, Michael Altgen, Lauri Rautkari</i>	
<b>Session 5: COST FP 1407</b>	
<b>Wood Furfurylation as a way to valorise European Beech and promote Circular and Bio-Economy</b>	<b>323</b>
<i>Christine Gérardin, Aurélie Imbert, Prabu Satria Sejati, Emmanuel Fredon, Stéphane Dumarçay, Eric Masson, Arnaud Besserer, Benoit Laibe, Rémi Laibe, Hugo Sellier, Philippe Gérardin</i>	
<b>Dynamic Mechanical Thermal Analysis of Wood Modified with Bio-Polyesters</b>	<b>331</b>
<i>Charlotte Grosse, Morwenna Spear, Simon Curling, Marion Noël, Lauri Rautkari, Tuuli Uimonen, Philippe Gérardin</i>	
<b>Perception and evaluation of modified wood</b>	<b>339</b>
<i>Dean Lipovac, Michael D. Burnard, Andreja Kutnar</i>	

## Table of Contents

<b>Valorization of Beech Wood through Development of Innovative Friendly Environmentally Chemical Modification Treatments</b>	<b>347</b>
<i>Mahdi Mubarak, Stéphane Dumarçay, Holger Militz, Philippe Gérardin</i>	
<b>Infrared spectroscopy and chemometric methods for the evaluation of the thermal/chemical treatment effectiveness of hardwoods</b>	<b>355</b>
<i>Carmen Mihaela Popescu, Davor Kržišni, Miha Hočevár, Miha Humra, Nejc Thelar, Maria-Cristina Popescu, Dennis Jones</i>	
<b>Performance of modified wood in service – multi-sensor and multi-scale evaluation</b>	<b>363</b>
<i>Anna Sandak, Jakub Sandak, Marta Petrillo, Paolo Grossi</i>	
<b>Carbon footprint of decking materials- a comparison of modified wood and preservative treated wood</b>	<b>371</b>
<i>Lars Tellnes, Gry Alfredsen, Per Otto Flæte, Lone Ross Gobakken</i>	
<b>Session Six A: Properties 2</b>	
<b>Strength classification of acetylated radiata pine</b>	<b>380</b>
<i>Ferry Bongers, John Alexander</i>	
<b>Effect of DMDHEU modification on physical and mechanical properties of top-layer lamellas for multi-layer parquet flooring</b>	<b>386</b>
<i>Lukas Emmerich, Holger Militz</i>	
<b>Cutting forces when machining thermally modified poplar – preliminary results</b>	<b>396</b>
<i>Giacomo Goli, Rémi Curti, Bertrand Marcon, Antonio Scippa, Marco Fioravanti, Gianni Campatelli, Louis Denaud</i>	
<b>Properties of MMA treated thermally modified Norway spruce wood</b>	<b>401</b>
<i>Boštjan Lesar, Luka Škrlep, Miha Humar</i>	
<b>Differential expression of <i>Postia placenta</i> wood decay genes in modified wood</b>	<b>410</b>
<i>Rebecka Ringman, Annica Pilgård, Martina Kölle, Klaus Richter</i>	
<b>Session Six B: Chemical Modification</b>	
<b>Suitability of Lignin-Derived Monophenols to Replace Phenol in Phenol-Formaldehyde Resin for the Use in Wood Treatment</b>	<b>419</b>
<i>Vladimirs Biziks, Marco Fleckenstein, Carsten Mai, Holger Militz</i>	
<b>A new method of wood protection by chemical modification with polyglycerol succinate copolymer</b>	<b>427</b>
<i>Clément L'Hostis, Emmanuel Fredon, Marie France Thevenon, Philippe Gérardin</i>	
<b>The effect of humidity and temperature on the dynamic-mechanical behaviour of phenol-formaldehyde impregnated beech wood veneer</b>	<b>435</b>
<i>Leo Felix Munier, Tom Franke, Nadine Herold, Alexander Pfriem</i>	

## Table of Contents

<b>Biopolyesters for wood modification: technical validation towards implementation</b>	<b>441</b>
<i>Marion Nožl, Charlotte Grosse, Ingunn Burud, Marie-France Thévenon, Philippe Gérardin</i>	
<b>The Maillard reaction for wood modification: The influence of reagent concentrations, reaction temperature and soaking time on the leachability and cell wall penetration of reagents</b>	<b>449</b>
<i>Kelly Peeters, Andreja Kutnar, Črtomir Tavzes, Jaka Pečnik, Callum A.S. Hill</i>	
<b>Session Seven: Poster Session 2</b>	
<b>Wood thermal modification and impregnation: some aspects of double treatment</b>	<b>458</b>
<i>Bruno Andersons, Dace Cirule, Nina Kurnosova, Ilze Irbe, Ingeborga Andersone, Oskars Bikovens, Andis Antons, Edgars Kuka, Žanete Zommere</i>	
<b>Hydrophobisation of hardwood surfaces by means of environmentally-friendly fine wax particles</b>	<b>464</b>
<i>Benjamin Arminger, Wolfgang Gindl-Altmutter, Christian Hansmann</i>	
<b>Further Treatment Option after Longitudinal Wood Compression</b>	<b>469</b>
<i>Mátyás Báder, Róbert Németh</i>	
<b>Effect of combined modification processes on the physical properties of wood</b>	<b>475</b>
<i>Miklós Bak, Róbert Németh, Norbert Kelemen</i>	
<b>Bending properties and strain fields around knots in thermally modified timber</b>	<b>481</b>
<i>Joran van Blokland, Stergios Adamopoulos, Anders Olsson, Jan Oscarsson</i>	
<b>Thermomechanical (TM) treatment of beech wood (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i> L.) to substitute Indian rosewood (<i>Dalbergia latifolia</i> ROXB.) in musical instruments - mechanical and acoustic properties</b>	<b>487</b>
<i>Tobias Dietrich, Dr. Mario Zauer, Robert Krüge, Prof. Dr. André Wagenführ</i>	
<b>4 years field study in contact with the ground of thermomodified Scots pine sapwood</b>	<b>493</b>
<i>Andrzej Fojutowski, Andrzej Noskowiak and Aleksandra Kropacz</i>	
<b>Mineralization of wood with calcium oxalate</b>	<b>498</b>
<i>Tom Franke, Thomas Volkmer</i>	
<b>Preparation of thin functional coatings on wood and WPC materials using atmospheric pressure plasma jets</b>	<b>504</b>
<i>Sven Gerullis, Andreas Pfuch, Florian Kettner, Katharina Plaschkies, Bernd Grünler, Mario Beyer, Gennadi G. Volokitin</i>	

## Table of Contents

<b>Investigation of Birch Wood Impregnation with Phenol-Formaldehyde (PF) Resins</b>	<b>510</b>
<i>Juris Grinins, Ilze Irbe, Vladimirs Biziks, Janis Rizikovs, Sascha Bicke, Holger Militz</i>	
<b>Thermal properties and density profile of poplar wood (<i>Populus nigra L.</i>) thermally and thermo-mechanically modified</b>	<b>516</b>
<i>Marek Grzeškiewicz, Karol Poddębski</i>	
<b>Water sorption properties of surface charred wood</b>	<b>522</b>
<i>Maija Kymäläinen, Saara Hautamäki, Lauri Rautkari</i>	
<b>Energy dispersive x-ray fluorescence (ED-XRF) for the multi-elemental analysis of thermally modified wood treated with coatings systems</b>	<b>528</b>
<i>René Herrera Díaz, Marco Fellin, Martino Negri, Jalel Labidi</i>	
<b>Thermowood® vs Termovuoto process – comparison of thermally modified timber in industrial conditions</b>	<b>533</b>
<i>Mohamed Jebrane, Ignazia Cuccui, Ottaviano Allegretti, Ernesto Uetimane Jr., Nasko Terziev</i>	
<b>Study on Drying Characteristics of Poplar Wood Impregnated with Urea-formaldehyde Resin</b>	<b>539</b>
<i>Yang Lihu, Yuan Haiguang</i>	
<b>Life cycle assessment of bio-based façades during and after service life: maintenance planning and re-use</b>	<b>545</b>
<i>Marta Petrillo, Jakub Jakub, Anna Sandak, Paolo Grossi, Andreja Kutnar</i>	
<b>Raman spectral imaging of chemically modified Scots pine</b>	<b>551</b>
<i>Carmen Mihaela Popescu, Lauri Rautkari, Michael Altgen, Tiina Belt, Mikko Mäkelä</i>	
<b>Changes in longitudinal modulus of elasticity of Douglas-fir during low temperature thermal treatment</b>	<b>557</b>
<i>Dan Ridley-Ellis, Carmen-Mihaela Popescu</i>	
<b>Investigation of the effect of moderate heat treatment on wood hygroscopicity by NMR relaxometry</b>	<b>563</b>
<i>Leila Rostom, Denis Courtier-Murias, Stéphane Rodts, Sabine Caré</i>	
<b>Effect of wood modification and weathering progress on the radiation emissivity</b>	<b>569</b>
<i>Anna Sandak, Jakub Sandak, Marta Petrillo, Paolo Grossi</i>	
<b>Composition of monosaccharides in aqueous extracts from thermally modified wood</b>	<b>575</b>
<i>Ekaterina Sidorova, Olov Karlsson, Dick Sandberg</i>	
<b>Insights into stability of glued joints between thermally modified timber: adaptation of an artificial weathering test</b>	<b>581</b>
<i>Morwenna Spear, Raisa Teciu, Graham Ormondroyd</i>	

## Table of Contents

<b>Water resistant tannin polymers</b>	<b>587</b>
<i>Gianluca Tondi, Lukas Sommerauer</i>	
<b>Dynamic and static mechanical properties of <i>Eucalyptus nitens</i> thermally modified in an open and closed reactor system</b>	<b>592</b>
<i>Maximilian Wentzel, Christian Brischke, Holger Militz</i>	
<b>Session 8: Performance</b>	
<b>Enhancing the material properties of wood through furfurylation</b>	<b>600</b>
<i>Wanju Li, Changhua Fang, Hankun Wang, Xuexia Zhang, Dan Ren, Yan Yu</i>	
<b>Comparative studies on the biological durability of identical thermally modified wood from field and laboratory tests</b>	<b>608</b>
<i>Sven Hertrich, Lothar Clauder, Silke Lautner, Alexander Pfriem</i>	
<b>Appearance of solid wood decking: requirements and assessment</b>	<b>616</b>
<i>Wolfram Scheiding, Philipp Flade, Katharina Plaschkies, Björn Weiß</i>	
<b>Monitoring the performance of Accoya in different applications</b>	<b>623</b>
<i>René Klaassen, Bôke Tjeerdsma, René Hillebrink</i>	
<b>Performance of chemically modified wood under marine conditions during nine years of exposure</b>	<b>630</b>
<i>Christian Brischke, Antje Gellerich, André Klüppel, Holger Militz</i>	

## **The Maillard reaction for wood modification: The influence of reagent concentrations, reaction temperature and soaking time on the leachability and cell wall penetration of reagents**

Kelly Peeters<sup>1</sup>, Andreja Kutnar<sup>2</sup>, Črtomir Tavzes<sup>2</sup>, Jaka Pečnik<sup>3</sup> and Callum A.S. Hill<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup>InnoRenew CoE, Livade 6, SI-6310, Izola [email: kelly.peeters@innorenew.eu]

<sup>2</sup>InnoRenew CoE, Livade 6, SI-6310, Izola *and* University of Primorska, Andrej Marušič Institute, Muzejski trg 2, SI-6000, Koper [email: andreja.kutnar@innorenew.eu; crtomir.tavzes@innorenew.eu]

<sup>3</sup>University of Primorska, Andrej Marušič Institute, Muzejski trg 2, SI-6000, Koper [email: jaka.pecnik@iam.upr.si]

<sup>4</sup>InnoRenew CoE, Livade 6, SI-6310, Izola and Norwegian Institute of Bioeconomy Research (NIBIO), Pb 115, NO-1431, Ås [email: enquiries@jchindustrial.co.uk]

**Keywords:** beech, pine, leachability, Maillard reaction, wood modification

### **ABSTRACT**

Finding efficient ways to decrease wood decay caused by fungi and increasing its dimensional stability is an important issue in timber construction and other applications. A possible way to avoid wood decay by fungi and increase its dimensional stability, is by reducing the water content of wood. Water is a primary condition for fungal growth and induces shrinking or swelling in wood. By bulking the wood cell walls with chemical reagents, the space where water normally occurs gets occupied. For effective protection using impregnation modification, it is a requirement that the bulking agent is located mainly in the cell wall of the wood and is non-leachable in service. To create a commercially-viable process, the modification requires a water-based delivery system, the use of low-toxicity impregnation agents, thermal-curing and no concerns regarding toxicity at end of life of the modified wood product. In previous work it was found that the use of the Maillard reaction appeared to be a promising way of bulking the cell wall (i.e., when reacting lysine, glucose, and citric acid), but with varying success and a high degree of leaching. To reduce leaching and increase of wood bulking, reaction conditions like soaking time, reagent concentrations and reaction temperature were investigated in this work to determine their effect on wood treated with lysine, glucose and citric acid. In general, it was observed that lower soaking times, higher reaction temperatures, and higher reagent concentrations were favourable for the Maillard reaction to proceed.

### **INTRODUCTION**

When exposed to changing atmospheric conditions, wood is susceptible to degradation by fungi and shows dimensional instability. This restricts its use in some situations like outdoor exposure, its use in bathrooms or basements, etc. To prevent degradation, non-durable wood products need to be treated when used in applications where they are susceptible to deterioration.

A possible way to increase the resistance to decay while increasing its dimensional stability, is by controlling the cell wall moisture content of the wood. In order to control the cell wall moisture content, it is necessary that the wood is treated with chemical solutions which diffuse into the wood cell wall and can be fixed in place. The presence of these chemicals will cause bulking of the cell wall, decreasing the cell wall volume accessible to water (Rowell and Banks 1985). The reduction of cell wall moisture content limits the ability of fungal degradative agents



to penetrate the cell wall and ensures that most fungal species cannot degrade the wood (Papadopoulos and Hill 2002, Rowell 2006). A requirement of any such wood modification system is that it should be nontoxic under service conditions and, furthermore, there should be no release of any toxic substances during its service life, or after disposal or recycling of the modified wood (Hill 2006). This requires that the polymeric network formed in the cell wall should react with the wood polymers or become entangled with them. Furthermore, the modification polymer should not display hygroscopic behaviour.

A method of impregnation modification that could meet all above mentioned requirements is based on the Maillard reaction. This type of reaction is well-known in food chemistry, where it is responsible for the browning in many foods during baking (Ames 1998; Manzocco et al. 2001). The essence of the reaction is that a reducing sugar, condenses with a compound possessing a free amino group, to give a condensation product (Echavarría et al. 2012). Subsequently, a range of reactions takes place, including cyclizations, dehydrations, retroaldolizations, rearrangements, isomerizations and further condensations, which ultimately lead to the formation of polymers and co-polymers, known as melanoidins (Echavarría et al. 2012). The composition of its chemical structure is relatively unknown due to the complexity of the products that are generated in the reaction (Kim and Lee 2009). The advantage of this reaction is that it is an aqueous process and initiated by heat only, making it relatively straightforward to apply to wood in a commercial process. In addition, the reaction does not require the use of strong acids or bases, which could degrade the wood structure.

In earlier experiments (Peeters et al. 2018), the influence of the Maillard reaction on beech and pine wood was investigated. The wood samples were impregnated with one amine (glucosamine, lysine, or glycine), sugars (glucose or xylose) and an extra reagent to improve the reaction ( $\text{MgCl}_2$ , maleic acid, or citric acid). The samples were soaked for 24 hours in the solutions and reacted at  $120^\circ\text{C}$  for 72 hours. The results of the preliminary research showed that when lysine, glucose, or citric acid were reacted a high weight percentage gain (WPG) was obtained (18% for beech and 40% pine). In contrast to most other experiments, a significant amount of the reaction products was still present after leaching. After leaching, the WPG for beech was 11% and 25% for pine. The swelling coefficients showed that swelling occurred only in some of replicates. This preliminary screening reaction has shown that the Maillard reaction does show promise and is worthy of investigation as a potential new wood modification system, however the amount of leaching should decrease tremendously and the increase in volume of the modified wood should be repeatable.

The aim of this research is to investigate the necessary reaction conditions to obtain a lower percentage of leaching and that trap a higher amount of water-insoluble reaction products in the cell wall. For this, different reaction temperatures, soaking times, and reagent concentrations were tested. In general, it would be good if the reactions perform well at low temperatures, since at temperatures under  $100^\circ\text{C}$  no special industrial equipment is necessary. The use of short soaking times is also favoured, since then more wood can be treated in a certain period. In previous experiments, chemical reagents were used in concentrations of  $0.1 \text{ mg mL}^{-1}$ . These concentrations are not economically feasible, so reactions that perform well at lower concentrations are preferable. Lower concentrations could potentially improve the leachability (possibility of less unreacted reagents) and the penetration into the cell wall (lower density of the solution).

### EXPERIMENTAL

Small (20 x 20 x 5 mm) and defect-free sapwood specimens (beech – *Fagus sylvatica* L. and pine – *Pinus sylvestris* L.) were used for the modification studies. Samples were cut such that growth rings were parallel to the tangential face, to prevent diamonding during the leaching

tests. This size of sample was selected in order to ensure even penetration of reactants into the wood sample and allow for good access of the reagents to the cell wall.

To weigh the wood samples, a balance was used (minimum reading is 0.1 mg). The size of the wood samples was determined with a precision of  $\pm 0.01$  mm with a digital calliper. Air was removed from wood samples during the aqueous impregnation step in a desiccator with a vacuum pump at ambient temperature and 100 mbar. Before determining the volume and weight of the unmodified, modified, and leached wood samples, they were dried for 16 hours at 103°C in an oven. After this the wood samples were removed from the oven and cooled down to ambient temperature in a desiccator over silica gel.

For the reactions lysine (CAS Number: 56-87-1), glucose (CAS Number: 50-99-7), and citric acid (CAS Number 77-92-9) were used. All chemicals were purchased from Sigma Aldrich (Slovenia).

First, the volume and weight of unmodified wood samples were measured. Then, samples were treated in 100 mL aqueous solution combining: 0.1/0.1/0.1, 0.1/0.02/0.02, 0.02/0.1/0.02, 0.02/0.02/0.1 and 0.02/0.02/0.02 g mL<sup>-1</sup> of lysine/ glucose/ citric acid. These concentrations were chosen to obtain high quantities of reagents that are completely soluble in water, while still having a solution density and viscosity that allows for easy penetration into the wood. Control samples were treated with water only. All experiments were done in 5 replicates. The wood was placed into the amine-sugar solution, then transferred for 1 h into the vacuum chamber to make sure that all the air was removed from the wood lumen. The wood was subsequently soaked for either 8, 24, 48, or 96 hours (four groups) in the solution to allow for diffusion of reagent into the cell wall. The wood samples were then removed from the solution and put into an oven for 72 hours at either 70, 90, 110, or 120°C. To summarise, a total of 11 tests was performed for pine and beech (4 to test the reaction temperature, 4 to test the influence of soaking time and 5 to test the influence of the concentrations). Details can be found in Table 1. After their respective treatment was done, the wood samples were removed from the oven and the volume and weight of the modified wood was determined.

*Table 1: Reaction conditions*

Changed Parameter	Reaction T (°C)	Soaking time (h)	Concentrations lysine/ glucose/ citric acid (mg mL <sup>-1</sup> )	Symbols in charts
Reaction T	70	24	C1: 0.1/0.1/0.1	□
	90	24	C1: 0.1/0.1/0.1	△
	110	24	C1: 0.1/0.1/0.1	◇
	120	24	C1: 0.1/0.1/0.1	○
Soaking time	120	8	C1: 0.1/0.1/0.1	●
	120	24	C1: 0.1/0.1/0.1	○
	120	48	C1: 0.1/0.1/0.1	⊕
	120	96	C1: 0.1/0.1/0.1	⊗
Concentrations	120	96	C1: 0.1/0.1/0.1	⊗
	120	96	C2: 0.1/0.02/0.02	⊗
	120	96	C3: 0.02/0.1/0.02	⊗
	120	96	C4: 0.02/0.02/0.1	⊗
	120	96	C5: 0.02/0.02/0.02	⊗

In table 1 can be seen that, when one parameter (temperature, soaking time or concentration) is changed, the two other parameters are held constant. When the temperature and concentration were held constant, values of 120°C and 0.1/0.1/0.1 were chosen, since at that temperature and concentration it was already proven that the Maillard reaction can take place (Peeters et al., 2018). When the soaking time was held constant, the original time chosen was 24 hours as in former experiments, but for the experiments where concentrations were changed, 96 hours were used, since due to unexpected situations, the samples could not be harvested earlier, whereas longer soaking times were not considered critical for the Maillard reaction to occur.

Leaching tests on the wood samples in water were performed in deionised water, which was changed three times a day. 3 leaching cycles of two days each were used until stable weights and sizes were obtained. After each leaching cycle, the wood was dried in the oven and volume and weight gain determined.

The volumetric swelling coefficients (S) were calculated according to the formula (Stamm 1964):

$$S(\%) = ((V_w - V_d)/V_d) \times 100 \quad (1)$$

where  $V_w$  = volume of water saturated wood  
 $V_d$  = volume of oven dry wood.

The weight percentage gain (WPG) and volume change (VC) were calculated according to the formulas:

$$\text{WPG}(\%) = ((W_m - W_u)/W_u) \times 100 \quad (2)$$

Where  $W_m$  = weight of wood after modification or leaching  
 $W_u$  = weight of unmodified wood

$$\text{VC}(\%) = ((V_m - V_u)/V_u) \times 100 \quad (3)$$

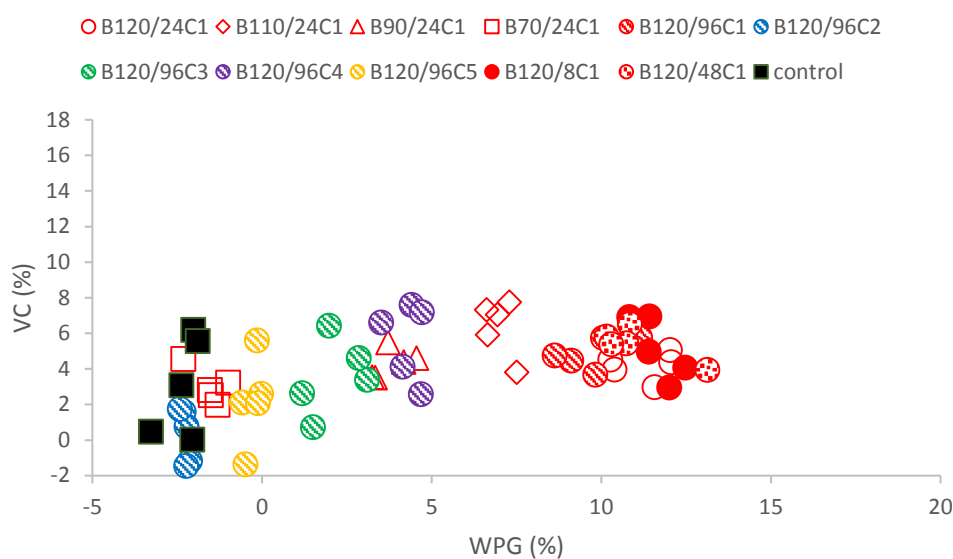
Where  $V_m$  = volume of wood after modification or leaching  
 $V_u$  = volume of unmodified wood

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

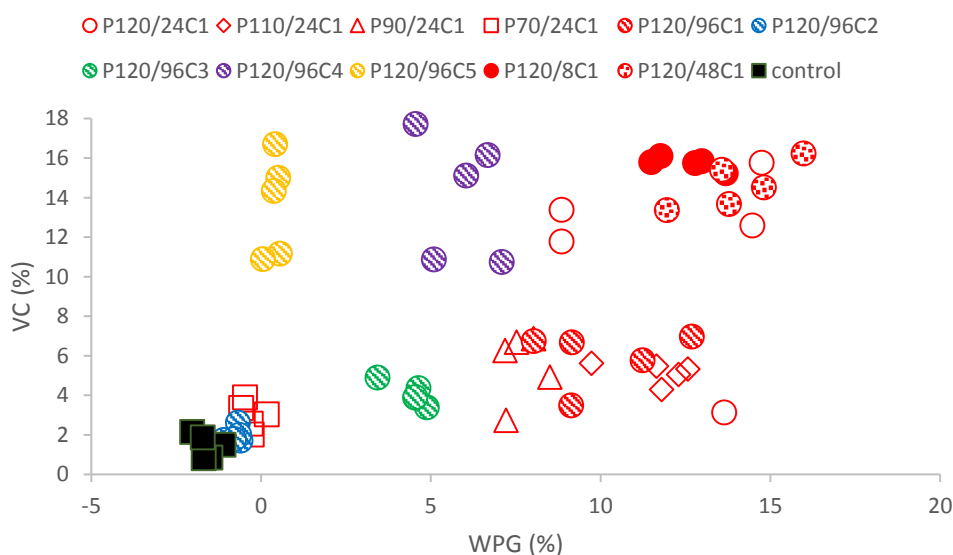
This discussion is limited to the post-leaching results as they signify the results of reagents that interacted with the wood or polymerised. WPG and VC were calculated after modification in comparison with the unmodified wood samples. S compares the volume of dry modified, leached wood with the volume of the same specimen in a water saturated state. High values of S indicate a small difference between conditions and a higher degree of swelling. The WPG is an indication for the quantity reagent entered the wood, but the reagents can be present both in the lumen and cell wall. The VC of the wood after modification indicates the amount of final product that has actually penetrated into the cell wall, whereas the swelling coefficient indicates how much space was occupied by the wood modification agents that may have been occupied with water in the absence of modification. An increase in WPG but with relatively low VC and a high swelling coefficient, means that reaction products are present in the cell lumen, but not in the cell wall. On the other hand, with efficient penetration into the wood mass (and not lumina), and good Maillard reaction yield, high VC and low S can be achieved even with a relatively low WPG.

Figure 1 shows that for beech samples after leaching, the VC was not significantly different among the groups of specimens with different modification treatments. A higher WPG is obtained when higher reaction temperatures are used. Soaking time had no influence on the modification yield of beech. Surprisingly, the reaction with lysine as main component was not at all successful. This was unexpected since lysine, being the primary amine, is thought to, together with the sugar, induce the Maillard reaction.

## Session Six B: Chemical modification



**Figure 1:** WPG vs. VC of beech (B), which was modified via the Maillard reaction with different values for reaction temperatures, soaking times and reagent concentrations (see Table 1) and subsequently leached.



**Figure 2:** WPG vs. VC of pine (P), which was modified via the Maillard reaction with different values for reaction temperatures, soaking times and reagent concentrations (see Table 1) and subsequently leached.

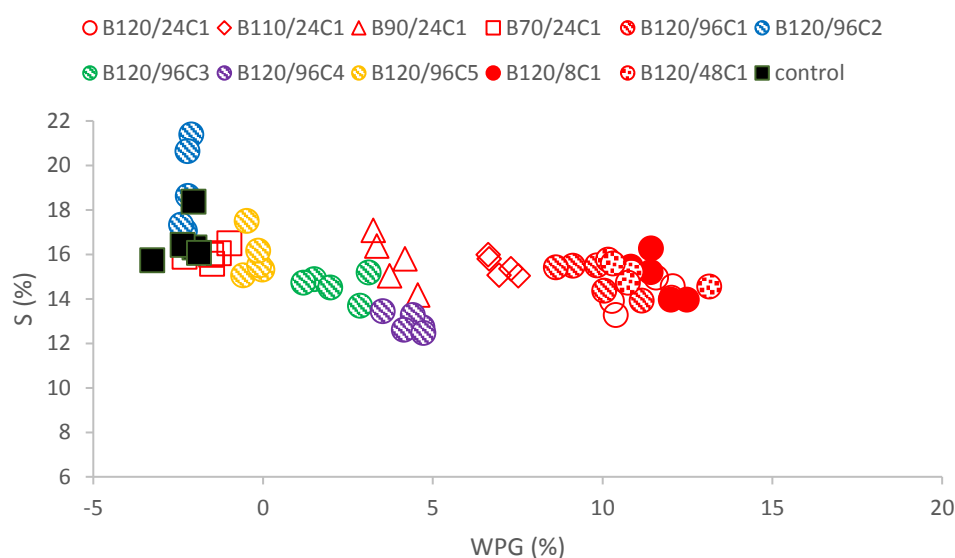
Figure 2 shows that for pine specimens, a higher WPG was obtained when higher reaction temperatures were used. Interestingly, volume increased and was retained after leaching at a 120°C treatment temperature. Lower soaking times are favoured for pine as a soaking time of 96 hours had a much smaller volume increase at about the same WPG as other treatments with lower soaking times. As with beech, no reaction occurred with an excess of lysine. A volume increase was seen for reagents in low concentrations. This can be explained by the fact that less viscous solutions can penetrate into the wood cell wall more effectively. When citric acid was used in excess, a volume increase was observed, which is expected since citric acid is known to dimensionally stabilize wood (Feng et al. 2014).

In order to be successful, wood modification methods like the one studied here must for polymers in the cell wall. Therefore, samples should show a volume increase compared to the control samples, with concomitant reduction of swelling coefficients. This general trend can be

## Session Six B: Chemical modification

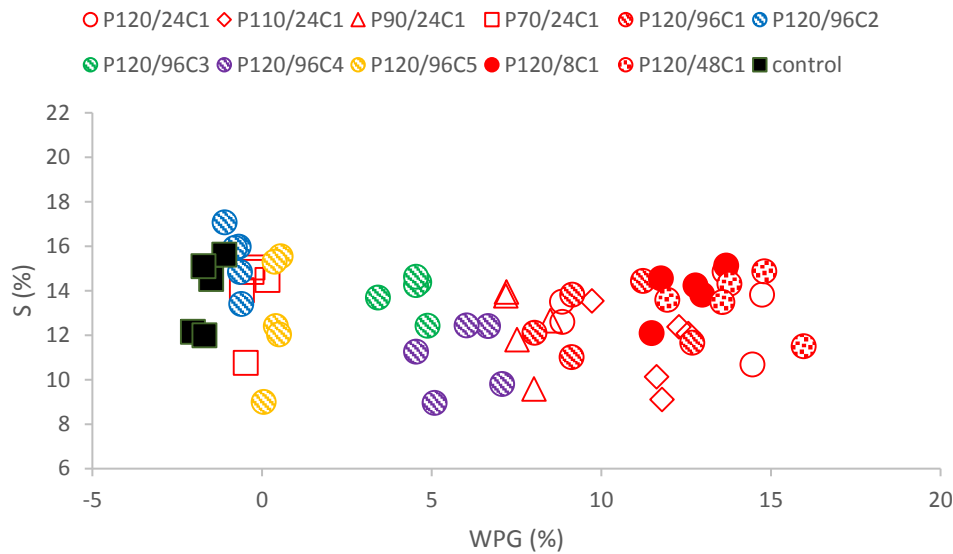
seen with beech treated at 120 °C after being soaked for 96 hours in the solution of 0.02/0.02/0.1 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> lysine/glucose/citric acid achieving the greatest decrease of S, compared to the control samples (treatment B120/96C4 in Figures 1 and 3). However, in the case of pine, for certain treatments a volume increase is observed, but the swelling coefficients are equal to the control sample (Figures 1 and 4). Yet, the pine treatment P120/96C4 showed the most promising results, since the highest VC and at least a trend towards a reduction in S were recorded.

If the products of the Maillard reaction were to occupy many spaces that the water molecules occupy during swelling of unmodified wood (which would be the optimal outcome of this modification procedure), a much higher reduction in S would have been achieved. From the presented results it is not possible to claim such a success, as the S values of samples with even the highest VC did not differ from the rest of the results. This means that Maillard reaction products do occupy space in the cell wall, but water can still enter the cell walls, creating an additive effect (the cell walls are “bulked” by the Maillard reaction products and the water). Therefore, in future experiments, reagents with less hydrophilic groups should be used to create a less hydrophilic environment.



**Figure 3: WPG vs. S of beech (B), which was modified via the Maillard reaction with different values for reaction temperatures, soaking times and reagent concentrations (see Table 1) and subsequently leached.**

## Session Six B: Chemical modification



**Figure 4:** WPG vs. *S* of pine (*P*), which was modified via the Maillard reaction with different values for reaction temperatures, soaking times and reagent concentrations (see Table 1) and subsequently leached.

### CONCLUSIONS

- From the results it can be seen that the Maillard reaction in wood produces better results at higher reaction temperatures. Therefore, new experiments will be performed at 140 and 160°C. The fact that the reaction doesn't perform well at 70°C and 90°C means that more sophisticated industrial equipment will be necessary if this type of modification will be scaled up.
- Soaking times in reagent solutions as short as 8 hours were enough for a successful Maillard reaction, in samples of the size used in this experiment.
- Concentrations of 0.1 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> produced the highest WPG. Unfortunately, concentrations of 0.1 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> are not economical feasible. For pine, however, using lower reagent concentrations of 0.02 mg mL<sup>-1</sup> or an excess of citric acid resulted in a lower WPG, and there was a high-volume increase, which is favourable.
- Since the experiments where wood was modified with an excess of lysine show no swelling or WPG, the main question is if the Maillard reaction actually took place. It may be possible that an esterification reaction with the free OH groups from the wood constituents and glucose with the carboxylic acid from citric acid is what took place in this case, and the glycine was leached out. To better understand the mechanism of such reactions, future experiments will examine effects decreased lysine concentrations with high concentrations of citric acid and glucose.
- Reagents with fewer hydrophilic reactive groups should be tested in future experiments.

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The authors gratefully acknowledge the European Commission for funding the InnoRenew CoE project (Grant Agreement #739574) under the H2020 Widespread-Teaming programme.

## REFERENCES

- Ames, J.M. (1998). Applications of the Maillard reaction in the food industry. *Food Chemistry*, **62**, 431-439.
- Echavarría, A.P., Pagán, J. and Ibarz, A. (2012). Melanoidins formed by Maillard reaction in food and their biological activity. *Food Engineering Reviews*, **4**, 203-223.
- Feng, X., Xiao, Z., Sui, S., Wang, Q. and Xie, Y. (2014). Esterification of wood with citric acid: The catalytic effects of sodium hypophosphite (SHP). *Holzforschung*, **68**, 427-433.
- Hill, C.A.S. (2006). Wood Modification: Chemical, thermal and other processes. *West Sussex, England: Wiley*.
- Kim, J.S. and Lee, Y.S. (2009). Enolization and racemization reactions of glucose and fructose on heating with amino-acid enantiomers and the formation of melanoidins as a result of the Maillard reaction. *Amino Acids*, **36**, 465-474.
- Manzocco, L., Calligaris, S., Mastrocola, D., Nicoli, M.C. and Lerici, C.R. (2001). Review of non-enzymatic browning and antioxidant capacity in processed foods. *Trends in Food Science & Technology*, **11**, 340-346.
- Papadopoulos, A.N. and Hill, C.A.S. (2002). The biological effectiveness of wood modified with linear chain carboxylic acids against *Coniophora puteana*. *Holz als Roh- und Werkstoff*, **60**, 329-332.
- Peeters, K., Larnøy, E., Kutnar, A. and Hill, C.A.S. (2018). An examination of the potential for the use of the Maillard reaction to modify wood. *International Wood Products Journal*.
- Rowell, R.M. (2006). Chemical modification of wood: a short review. *Wood Material Science and Engineering*, **1**, 29-33.
- Rowell, R.M. and Banks, W.B. (1985). Water repellency and dimensional stability of wood. *Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Forest Products Laboratory, Madison (WI). Gen. Tech. Rep. FPL-50*.
- Stamm, A.J. (1964). *Wood and Cellulose Science*. New York: Ronald Press Co.



zekerheid met meerwaarde



ModWoodLife

ISBN: 978-90-829466-1-1