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### **Wood heat treatment modifications: effects of initial moisture and air exchange rate on kinetic and final product characteristics**

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Final Cost Action FP0904 Conference  
**“Recent Advances in the Field of TH and THM Wood Treatment”**  
 May 19-21, 2014, Skellefteå, Sweden

# LULEÅ UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY

Book of Abstracts

Organized By:

- Luleå University of Technology, Skellefteå,
- Division of Wood Technology and
- COST Action FP0904  
[www.cost-fp0904.ahb.bfh.ch](http://www.cost-fp0904.ahb.bfh.ch)



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Book of abstracts includes the scientific program and the abstracts of papers will be presented at the Final COST Action FP0904 Conference on “**Recent Advances in the Field of TH and THM Wood Treatment**” at the **Luleå University of Technology**, Division of Wood Science and Engineering, in Skellefteå, Sweden on 19–21 May 2014.

The main objective of COST Action FP0904 is to achieve a better understanding on mechanical and chemical transformations of wood during Thermo-Hydrous (TH)/ Thermo-Hydro-Mechanical (THM) processing through collaborations between different researchers from the wood and material sciences. This Action provides cooperation and encourages research between research groups from academia and industry to help to overcome the challenges in scaling-up research findings, improving full industrial production, process improvement, in understanding the relations between the processing parameters, material properties and the development of new products. The COST Action FP0904 consists of three Working Groups (WGs):

WG1: Identification of chemical degradation of wood under Thermo- Hydrous treatment

WG2: Modelling of Thermo-Hydro-Mechanical behaviour of wood during processing

WG3: Innovation and new products by Thermo-Hydro-Mechanical processing

We wish the conference provides a forum and an opportunity for experts and young researchers from worldwide academia and industry to present their latest research, exchanging and developing new ideas within the field of TH and THM wood treatment. The objectives of this conference are to present and discuss the state-of-the-art of TH/THM wood treatment in open and closed systems and the challenges in wood characterization and scaling-up from laboratory to full industrial production, through a discussion of the latest research results and new ideas. The key objective of this Final Action FP0904 Conference is to present the main results of the Action, to summarise the scientific progress achieved and to formulate open questions and further challenges. This conference will include an evaluation session with representatives of COST and Action Management Committee members.

Luleå University of Technology (LTU), established in 1971, is the northernmost University of Technology in Scandinavia and is known for its education and research within the field Wood Science and Engineering. The research area of Wood Technology, Wood Physics and Wood Products Engineering is since 1982 established in the city of Skellefteå. Northern Sweden is one of the most important areas in Europe when it comes to forestry and the wood industry. The Wood Science and Engineering group at LTU are engaged in a wide range of fields within the entire chain from forest to finished product.

On behalf of the COST Action FP0904 Management Committee I would like to thank everybody that kindly contributed to this meeting: all the authors and specially the keynote speakers; Callum Hill, Eiichi Obataya, Otto Th. Eggert and Kevin Candelier.

I gratefully acknowledge the help of the Scientific Advisory Committee in reviewing the abstracts and preparing the scientific program.

I express my sincere gratitude to Dick Sandberg and Mojgan Vasiri for their works in preparing the “book of abstracts” and also as the local organizer.

Parviz Navi

Chair of COST Action FP0904

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<b>DATE</b>	<b>18-21 MAY</b>
<b>VENUE</b>	Arenan at Campus Skellefteå
<b>OFFICIAL LANGUAGE</b>	The official conference language will be English.
<b>BADGE</b>	<p>Delegates must report to the registration desk to collect their name badges and conference materials. Every participant including his/her accompanying person is requested to wear a name badge during the conference period.</p> <p>Venue : Lobby Arenan The desk will also be operating during the following schedule</p>
<b>REGISTRATION</b>	18 May Sunday 14:00-16:30
<b>RECEPTION DESK</b>	<p>18 May Sunday 14:00-16:30 19 May Monday 07:20-11:30 20 May Tuesday 08:00-08:40 21 May Wednesday 07:30-11:00</p>
<b>SPEAKER'S RECEPTION DESK</b>	<p>Regarding Oral Presentations, please note that: It is expected that all presentations will be presented in English using Microsoft PowerPoint with a common computer provided by the conference organizers. We encourage you to check your PowerPoint file compatibility in advance. An overhead projector will be available by special request.</p> <p><b>IMPORTANT!</b> All speakers are required to check in at the Speaker's Reception Desk by 18 &amp; 19 May in order to hand over the CD or USB with the PowerPoint file, to be downloaded on the conference computer. All speakers during Tuesday <b>must</b> hand in their presentations during Monday May 19. The opening times for the Speaker's Reception Desk are the same as for the Information Desk, Sunday 14:00-16:30 and Monday 7:20-11:30.</p> <p>During Tuesday and Wednesday only by request in advance, (please contact the General Information Desk for further assistance)</p>

Time	SUNDAY MAY 18	Time	MONDAY MAY 19	Time	TUESDAY MAY 20	Time	WEDNESDAY MAY 21
		07:20-08:20	Registration	09:00-9:30	<b>Session 3:</b> New products by THM-open system <b>Keynote 3:</b> Otto Th. Eggert	08:00-08:30	Coffee
		08:20-08:40	Opening session	09:30-10:30	3 Full Oral Presentations	08:30-10:30	Management Committee Meeting and the Evaluation Panel (Closed session)
		08:40-09:20	<b>Session 1:</b> Chemical degradation of wood under thermo-hydrous treatments <b>Keynote 1:</b> Callum Hill	10:30-11:00	Coffee Break		
		09:20-10:00	2 Full Oral Presentations	11:00-11:40	2 Full Oral Presentations		
		10:00-10:30	Coffee Break	11:40-12:00	5 Poster Presentations		
		10:30-11:10	2 Full Oral Presentations	12:00-13:30	Lunch		
		11:10-11:30	6 Poster Presentations	13:30-14:10	<b>Session 4:</b> Innovations and new products laboratory and industrial scale & STSM presentations <b>Keynote 4:</b> Kévin Candelier		
		11:30-13:00	Lunch	14:10-15:10	3 Full Oral Presentations		
		13:00-13:40	<b>Session 2:</b> Modeling of THM processing and predicting the behavior of THM <b>Keynote 2:</b> Eiichi Obataya	15:10-15:40	Coffee Break		
		13:40-14:20	2 Full Oral Presentations	15:40-17:18	8 Oral Presentations & 2 Poster Presentations		
		14:20-14:50	Coffee Break	19:00-22:00	Conference Dinner		
14:00-18:30	Registration And Welcome Reception	14:50-15:50	3 Full Oral Presentations				
		15:50-16:13	7 Poster Presentations				
		16:15-18:00	Posters & Visit To LTU Laboratory				

## Programme

SUNDAY MAY 18 <sup>TH</sup>	
14:00-18:30	<b>Registration And Welcome Reception</b>
MONDAY MAY 19 <sup>TH</sup>	
07:20-08:20	<b>Registration At the Desk (Conference Place)</b>
08:20-08:40	<b>Opening Session</b>
08:40-09:20	<b>Session 1: Chemical degradation of wood under thermo-hydrous treatments</b> Chairperson: Mark Hughes Keynote 1: <b>Callum Hill</b> , Thermally Modified Wood – the role of hemicelluloses, <b>p. 1</b>
09:20-09:40	Full O.pres 1:1 <u>Wim Willems</u> <b>Characterisation of thermally modified wood by a novel means of moisture sorption isotherm analysis, p. 3</b>
09:40-10:00	Full O.pres 1:2 <u>Wieslaw Olek</u> , Patrick Perré, Jerzy Weres, Romain Rémond <b>Water diffusivity of thermally modified beech wood, p. 5</b>
10:00-10:30	<b>Coffee Break</b>
10:30-10:50	Full O.pres 1:3 <u>Michael Altgen</u> , Jukka Ala-Viikari, Timo Tetri, Antti Hukka, Holger Militz <b>The impact of elevated steam pressure during the thermal modification of Scots pine and Norway spruce, p. 7</b>
10:50-11:10	Full O.pres 1:4 Iris Brémaud, <u>Sandrine Bardet</u> , Joseph Gril, Patrick Perré <b>Effects of water re-saturation conditions and associated extractives leaching on thermal softening of wet wood, p. 8</b>
11:10-11:30	<b>Poster Session</b>
11:12-11:15	Poster 1:1 <u>Lukas Brösel</u> , Lothar Clauder, <u>Alexander Pfriem</u> <b>Flammability tests on thermally modified and untreated timbers, p. 10</b>
11:15-11:18	Poster 1:2 Mohamed Tahar Elaieb, <u>Kevin Candelier</u> , Anélie Petrissans, Stéphane Dumarcay, Philip Gerardin, Mathieu Petrissans <b>Chemical modification during heat treatment of Tunisian soft wood species, p. 12</b>
11:18-11:21	Poster 1:3 <u>Lorenzo Barnini</u> , <u>Giacomo Goli</u> , Marco Fioravanti <b>Effect of steam saturated atmosphere on some physical and mechanical properties of poplar wood, p. 14</b>
11:21-11:24	Poster 1:4 <u>Olov Karlsson</u> , Ola Dagbro, Kurt Granlund <b>Soluble degradation products in thermally modified wood, p. 16</b>
11:24-11:27	Poster 1:5 <u>Maria-Cristina Popescu</u> , Carmen-Mihaela Popescu <b>An NIR and XPS study of the lime wood samples modified for different periods at lower temperature and relative humidity, p. 18</b>
11:27-11:30	Poster 1:6 M. Hakki Alma, Eyyup Karaogula, <u>Tufan Salanb</u> , Nasir Narlioglua, H. İbrahim Şahinc, Cengiz Güler <b>Effect of thermal treatment on XRD, ATR-FTIR AND SEM analysis of several wood species, p. 20</b>
11:30-13:00	<b>Lunch</b>

## Programme

13:00-13:40	<b>Session 2: Modeling of THM processing and predicting the behavior of THM</b> Chairperson: Joseph Gril Keynote 2: <b>Eiichi Obataya</b> , Recoverable effects of heat treatment, <b>p. 21</b>
13:40-14:00	Full O.pres 2:1 Sung-Lam Nguyen, Omar Saifouni, <u>Jean-François Destrebecq</u> , Rostand Moutou Pitti <b>An incremental model for wood behaviour including hydro-lock effect, p. 24</b>
14:00-14:20	Full O.pres 2:2 <u>Andreja Kutnar</u> , Frederick A. Kamke, William Gacitúa <b>Elastic cell wall modulus and hardness of S2 layer and middle lamella in viscoelastic thermal compressed wood, 26</b>
14:20-14:50	Coffee Break
14:50-15:10	Full O.pres 2:3 Giacomo Goli, <u>Bertrand Marcon</u> , Marco Fioravanti <b>Wood heat treatment modifications: effects of initial moisture and air exchange rate on kinetic and final product characteristics, p. 28</b>
15:10-15:30	Full O.pres 2:4 <b>35</b> Patrick PERRE, <u>Romain REMOND</u> <b>A comprehensive dual-scale computational model able to simulate the heat-treatment of a thick-bed of particles or boards, p. 30</b>
15:30-15:50	Full O.pres 2:5 Hassen Riahi, Rostand Moutou Pitti, <u>Frédéric Dubois</u> <b>Numerical analysis of timber fracture due to mechanical and thermal loads: an approach based on invariant integral A, p. 32</b>
15:50-16:13	Poster Session
15:52-15:55	Poster 2:1 Hassen Riahi, <u>Rostand Moutou Pitti</u> , Alaa Chateauneuf, Frédéric Dubois <b>Stochastic analysis of mixed mode fracture in timber material using polynomial chaos expansion, p. 34</b>
15:55-15:58	Poster 2:2 Dang Djily, <u>Rostand Moutou Pitti</u> , Evelyne Toussaint, Michel Grédiac <b>Experimental evidence of water diffusion gradient in wood using the grid method, p. 36</b>
15:58-16:01	Poster 2:3 <u>Emilia-Adela Salca</u> , Salim Hiziroglu <b>Evaluation of roughness and hardness of heat treated wood species, p. 38</b>
16:01-16:04	Poster 2:4 <u>Bogdan Bedeleian</u> , Daniela Sova <b>Influence of air parameters on drying time and energy consumption during thermo-hydro processing of wood, p. 40</b>
16:04-16:07	Poster 2:5 <u>Alexey Vorobyev</u> , Nico van Dijk, Ingela Bjurhager, E. Kristofer Gamstedt <b>Determination of elastic behaviour of precious samples from large wooden structures of cultural heritage including screening potential in process treatment, p. 42</b>
16:07-16:10	Poster 2:6 <u>Cécilia Gauvin</u> , Kaoru Endo, Delphine Jullien, Eiichi Obataya, Joseph Gril <b>Effect of hygrothermal treatments on the physical properties of wood, p. 43</b>
16:10-16:13	Poster 2:7 Mojgan Vaziri, <u>Sven Berg</u> , Dick Sandberg <b>Three-dimensional finite element modelling of heat transfer for linear friction welding of Scots pine, 45</b>
16:15-18:00	Posters & Visit To LTU Laboratory

**Programme**

TUESDAY MAY 20 <sup>TH</sup>	
9:00-9:30	<b>Session 3: Innovation and new products in THM treatments</b> Chairperson: Peer Haller Keynote 3: <b>Otto Th. Eggert</b> , Solid wood bending – a stunning production system, p. 47
9:30-9:50	Full O.pres 3:1 <u>Jörg Wehsener</u> , Jens Hartig, <u>Peer Haller</u> <b>Investigations on the recovery behaviour of beech (<i>Fagus sylvatica</i>) wood densified transverse to the grain, p. 48</b>
9:50-10:10	Full O.pres 3:2 <u>Lars Blomqvist</u> , Jimmy Johansson, Dick Sandberg <b>Modification of surface veneer to reduce damage in laminated veneer products during manufacturing, p. 50</b>
10:10-10:30	Full O.pres 3:3 <u>Róbert Németh</u> , József Ábrahám, Mátyás Báder <b>Effect of high temperature treatment on selected properties of beech, hornbeam and turkey oak wood, p. 52</b>
10:30-11:00	Coffee Break
11:00-11:20	Full O.pres 3:4 <u>Alexander Pfriem</u> <b>Thermally modified wood for use in musical instruments – a review, p. 54</b>
11:20-11:40	Full O.pres 3:5 <u>Nozomi Takemura</u> , Aoi Hirano, Eiichi Obataya, Koji Adachi <b>Compressive elasticity of compressed wood and its application to flexible wooden beam, p. 56</b>
11:40-12:00	Poster Session
11:42-11:45	Poster 3:1 <u>Aleš Straže</u> , Miljenko Klarić, <u>Stjepan Pervan</u> , Silvana Prekrat, Željko Gorišek <b>Accelerated artificial ageing of thermally treated ash wood, p. 58</b>
11:45-11:48	Poster 3:2 <u>Lothar Clauder</u> , Alexander Pfriem <b>Comparative durability tests on TMT Beech – preliminary results, p. 60</b>
11:48-11:51	Poster 3:3 <u>Veikko Möttönen</u> , Juhani Marttila, Jukka Antikainen, Henrik Heräjärvi, Erkki Verkasalo <b>Colour, MOE and MOR of silver birch and European aspen wood after compression and thermal modification in an industrial scale modification chamber, p. 62</b>
11:51-11:54	Poster 3:4 <u>Ali Akbar Enayati</u> , Fatemeh Taheri, Razieh Mosayyebi <b>Effect of heat treatment conditions(Heat-temperature and Initial (Moisture Content )on the pH value and buffer capacity of Poplar Wood (<i>Populus alba</i>), p. 63</b>
11:54-11:57	Poster 3:5 <u>Marek Grzeńkiewicz</u> <b>Effect of thermal modification of beech wood on its MOE and other mechanical properties, p. 65</b>
12:00-13:30	Lunch

## Programme

13:30-14:10	<p><b>Session 4:</b> Environmental impact assessment of THM products &amp; STSM presentations Chairperson: Andreja Kutnar Keynote 4: <b>Kévin Candelier</b>, Characterization of physical and chemical changes occurring during wood thermal degradation. Influence of treatment intensity, wood species and inert atmosphere, <b>p. 67</b></p>
14:10-14:30	<p>Full O.pres 4:1 <u>Michael Burnard</u>, Andreja Kutnar <b>Restorative environmental design: A design paradigm for thermally modified wood, p. 70</b></p>
14:30-14:50	<p>Full O.pres 4:2 <u>José Sánchez del Pulgar</u>, Illaria Santoni, Luca Cappellin, Anrea Romano, Cuccui Ignazia, Franco Biasioli, Ottaviano Allegretti <b>Rapid assessment by PTR-ToF-MS of the effect on volatile compound emission of different heat treatments on larch and spruce, p. 72</b></p>
14:50-15:10	<p>Full O.pres 4:3 <u>Carmen-Mihaela Popescu</u>, Maria-Cristina Popescu, Petronela Gradinariu <b>Soft and white rot degradation resistance of thermo-hydro-mechanical processed hardwood evaluated by infrared spectroscopy, p. 74</b></p>
15:10-15:40	<b>Coffee Break</b>
15:40-16:00	<p>Full O.pres 4:4 <u>Ekaterina Sidorova</u>, Sheikh A. Ahmed, Diego Elustondo <b>Wood thermal-modification at Luleå University of Technology, p. 76</b></p>
16:00-16:10	<p>Short O.pres 4:5 <u>Carmen Cristescu</u>, Dick Sandberg <b>Self-bonding of veneers with heat and pressure– a full scale test, p. 77</b></p>
16:10-16:20	<p>Short O.pres 4:6 <u>Nebojša Todorović</u>, Goran Milić, Zdravko Popović <b>Estimation of heat-treated beech wood properties by FT-NIR spectroscopy: effect of radial and cross sectional surface, p. 78</b></p>
16:20-15:50	<b>Poster Session/STSM Presentation Session</b>
16:22-16:25	<p>Poster 4:1 <u>Jonaz Nilsson</u>, Jimmy Johansson, Dick Sandberg <b>Densified and thermally modified wood as outer layers in light-weight panels for furniture and joinery, p. 80</b></p>
16:25-16:28	<p>Poster 4:2 <u>Sandak Jakub</u>, Riggio Mariapaola, Pauliny Dusan, Sandak Anna <b>Densified wood as a resource for novel nail-like connectors, p. 82</b></p>
16:28-16:38	<p>Short O.pres 5:1 <u>Wim Willems</u>, Joël Hamada, Mathieu Pétrissans, Philippe Gérardin, <b>Characterization of thermally modified wood by oxygen bomb calorimetry, p. 84</b></p>
16:38-16:48	<p>Short O.pres 5:2 <u>Mirko Kariz</u>, Manja Kitek Kuzman, Milan Sernek, Mark Hughes, Lauri Rautkari, Frederick A. Kamke, Andreja Kutnar <b>Influence of temperature of thermal modification on compressive densification of spruce, p. 86</b></p>
16:48-16:58	<p>Short O.pres 5:3 <u>Lothar Clauder</u>, Alexander Pfried, Maria Rådemar, Lars Rosell, Marcus Vestergren <b>Emissions from TMT products, p. 88</b></p>

## Programme

16:58-17:08	Short O.pres 5:4 <u>Kristiina Laine</u> , Lauri Rautkari, Mark Hughes, Kristoffer Segerholm, Magnus Wålinder <b>Set-recovery and micromorphology of surface densified wood, p. 90</b>
17:08-17:18	Short O.pres 5:5 <u>Susanna Källbom</u> , Lauri Rautkari, Magnus Wålinder, Dennis Jones, Kristoffer Segerholm <b>Water vapour sorption properties and surface chemical analysis of thermally modified wood particles, p. 92</b>
19:00-22:00	Conference Dinner

WEDNESDAY MAY 21 <sup>TH</sup>	
08:00-08:30	Coffee
8:30-10:30	Management committee meeting with the COST representative and the evaluation panel (Closed Session)

Sandberg D. and Vaziri M. (Eds.)

# Abstracts

# Wood heat treatment modifications: effects of initial moisture and air exchange rate on kinetic and final product characteristics

Giacomo Goli, Bertrand Marcon, Marco Fioravanti

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**Keywords:** heat treatment kinetic, air exchange rate, time-temperature equivalency, rheology, wood properties

This contribution aims to present the kinetic of heat treatment as well as the effect on some physical and mechanical properties of poplar wood (*Populus alba* L.). Some tests were performed at different treatment temperatures from 180°C to 260°C. Moreover two different air ventilation settings qualified as low and high air exchange rate (*AER*) with the exterior were applied during the treatments.

The treatment kinetic is studied, starting from the oven dry state condition, by following the mass loss during time and highlighted a possible time-temperature equivalency, see Figure 1 (increasing the temperature has the same effect than treating for a longer time).

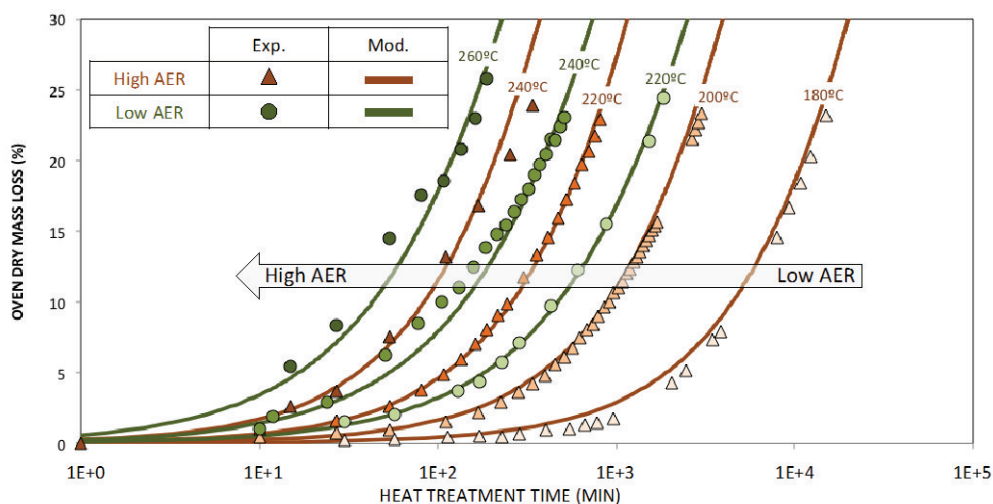


Figure 1. Mass loss during heat treatment at different temperatures and different air exchange rates (low and high AER). The markers are the experimental points and the plain lines are the model outputs for each condition. The horizontal time-axis is in logarithmic scale

The complete analysis of the kinetic, using for instance the complex plot (Cole-Cole) to avoid the time parameter and evaluate the model parameters [1], supports the Time-Temperature Superposition Principle [2]. The mass loss *versus* time is formalized through a power law arising from rheological considerations and a master curve of the heat treatment build. The Arrhenius law was checked and used to achieve the complete formulation including the temperature and the time effects [3]. This work clearly evidences how the heat treatments at low or at high *AER* presents different kinetics even if almost similar activation energy values are found.

In addition, some physical and mechanical properties of wood after treatments performed up to a mass loss of 7 and 10% and starting from oven dry state or standard environmental conditions were measured. All the treated samples have shown statistically significant differences compare to the untreated one. The statistical analysis have shown how the treatments performed starting at dry or wet condition up to a dry mass loss of 7 and 10% present very similar effects on almost all the analysed parameters except *MOE*. For *MOE* in fact starting the heat treatment from the wet condition results in a lower reduction if compared to heat treatment started from the oven dry state condition.

## REFERENCES

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3. M. Matsuo, K. Umemura, and S. Kawai, *Journal of Wood Science*, Dec. 2011

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