Emil Engelund Thybring Associate Professor - Promotion Programme

Forest and Bioressources

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# **Short presentation**

My goal is to reveal the mechanisms behind observed physical performance of wood and biomaterials. Central to the performance is interactions with water in the material structure (i.e. cell walls). Therefore, my current primary focus is to expand and renew our knowledge about properties and effects of water inside cell walls as well as how chemical modification alter these.

## CV

#### Education

2011: PhD, Technical University of Denmark

2007: MSc in Civil Engineering, Technical University of Denmark

### **Employment**

2019-: Associate Professor, University of Copenhagen, Dept. Geosciences and Natural Resource Management

2015-2019: Postdoc, University of Copenhagen, Dept. Geosciences and Natural Resource Management

2013-2015: Postdoc, ETH Zürich, Dept. Building Materials and EMPA, Dept. Applied Wood Materials, Switzerland

2013: Assistant Professor, Technical University of Denmark, Dept. Civil Engineering

2011-2013: Consultant R&D, Danish Technological Institute

2008-2011: Industrial PhD candidate, Danish Technological Institute

## Scientific memberships

2015-: Member of the Marie Curie Alumni Association

2013-2015: Member of Management committee, COST Action FP1303 Performance of biobased building materials

2010-2013: Member of Management committee, COST Action FP0904 *Thermo-hydro-mechanical wood behaviour and processing* 

2009-2012: Member of Working group, COST Action FP0802 Experimental and computational micro-characterization techniques in wood mechanics

### Leadership

2021- : Scientific reviewer of research applications for the European Forest Value programme, European Union, the NWO

Dutch Research Council, Netherlands, and the Czech Science Foundation GCAR, Czech Republic

2020-: Scientific reviewer of research applications for Vinnova, Sweden

2019-: Scientific reviewer of research applications for the National Science Centre, Poland and the Academy of Finland

2019: Guest editor of special issue of the journal Forests

2017-: Member of the Editorial Board at the journal Wood Materials Science and Engineering

2017-: National coordinator for Denmark in the Northern European Network for Wood Science and Engineering

2017-: Co-chair of the National Support Group of Denmark, Forest-based Sector Technology Platform, EU

2017-2018: Guest editor of special issue of the journal International Wood Products Journal

2017: Main organisor of the conference 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Northern European Network for Wood Science and Engineering (WSE2017) at the University of Copenhagen

2012-: Scientific reviewer for a range of ISI-journals incl. *Acta Biomaterialia*, *Cellulose*, *International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation*, *Journal of Materials Science*, *Polymer Degradation and Stability*, *Proceedings of the Royal Society A*, and other

2010-2011: Board member in the Industrial PhD Association

2007-2011: Board member and board secretary in the *Danish Society for Materials Testing and Research* under the Danish Society of Engineers (IDA)

## Scientific publications

Fredriksson, M, Digaitis, R, Engqvist, J & Thybring, EE 2024, 'Effect of targeted acetylation on wood–water interactions at high moisture states', *Cellulose*, vol. 31, pp. 869–885. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10570-023-05678-8

Thybring, EE & Fredriksson, M 2024, 'How accurate are automated sorption balances? An analysis of errors in wood moisture content from uncertainties in the conditioning environment', *Drying Technology*, vol. 42, no. 2, pp. 372-379. https://doi.org/10.1080/07373937.2023.2294021

Ponzecchi, A, Alfredsen, G, Fredriksson, M, Thybring, EE & Thygesen, LG 2024, 'Localization and characterisation of brown rot in two types of acetylated wood', *Cellulose*, vol. 31, pp. 1875–1890. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10570-023-05680-0

Fredriksson, M, Rüggeberg, M, Nord-Larsen, T, Beck, G & Thybring, EE 2023, 'Water sorption in wood cell walls–data exploration of the influential physicochemical characteristics', *Cellulose*, vol. 30, pp. 1857-1871. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10570-022-04973-0

Thybring, EE & Fredriksson, M 2023, Wood and Moisture. in P Niemz, A Teischinger & D Sandberg (eds), *Springer Handbook of Wood Science and Technology*. 1 edn, Springer, Cham, Springer Handbooks, pp. 355-397. https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-81315-4\_7

De Ligne, LC, Van Acker, J, Baetens, JM, Omar, S, De Baets, B, Thygesen, LG, Van Den Bulcke, J & Thybring, EE 2022, 'Moisture dynamics of wood-based panels and wood fibre insulation materials', *Frontiers in Plant Science*, vol. 13, 951175. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2022.951175

Thybring, EE, Thygesen, LG, Alfredsen, G & Fredriksson, M 2022, 'Editorial: Wood decomposition: Mechanisms and prevention strategies', *Frontiers in Plant Science*, vol. 13, 1081131. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2022.1081131

Ponzecchi, A, Thybring, EE, Digaitis, R, Fredriksson, M, Piqueras Solsona, S & Thygesen, LG 2022, 'Raman microspectroscopy of two types of acetylated Norway spruce wood at controlled relative humidity', *Frontiers in Plant Science*, vol. 13, 986578. https://doi.org/10.3389/fpls.2022.986578

Zelinka, SL, Altgen, M, Emmerich, L, Guigo, N, Keplinger, T, Kymäläinen, M, Thybring, EE & Thygesen, LG 2022, 'Review of Wood Modification and Wood Functionalization Technologies', *Forests*, vol. 13, no. 7, 1004. https://doi.org/10.3390/f13071004

Thybring, EE, Fredriksson, M, Zelinka, SL & Glass, SV 2022, 'Water in Wood: A Review of Current Understanding and Knowledge Gaps', *Forests*, vol. 13, no. 12, 2051. https://doi.org/10.3390/f13122051

Thybring, EE, Boardman, CR, Zelinka, SL & Glass, SV 2021, 'Common sorption isotherm models are not physically valid for water in wood', *Colloids and Surfaces A: Physicochemical and Engineering Aspects*, vol. 627, 127214. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.colsurfa.2021.127214

Kim, I, Thybring, EE, Karlsson, O, Jones, D, Mantanis, GI & Sandberg, D 2021, 'Characterisation of moisture in Scots pine (*Pinus sylvestris* L.) sapwood modified with maleic anhydride and sodium hypophosphite', *Forests*, vol. 12, no. 10, 1333. https://doi.org/10.3390/f12101333

Digaitis, R, Thybring, EE, Thygesen, LG & Fredriksson, M 2021, 'Targeted acetylation of wood: a tool for tuning woodwater interactions', *Cellulose*, vol. 28, no. 12, pp. 8009-8025. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10570-021-04033-z

Gundersen, P, Thybring, EE, Nord-Larsen, T, Vesterdal, L, Nadelhoffer, KJ & Johannsen, VK 2021, 'Old-growth forest carbon sinks overestimated', *Nature*, vol. 591, no. 7851, pp. E21-E23. https://doi.org/10.1038/s41586-021-03266-z

Thybring, EE & Fredriksson, M 2021, 'Wood modification as a tool to understand moisture in wood', *Forests*, vol. 12, no. 3, 372. https://doi.org/10.3390/f12030372

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Fredriksson, M, Thybring, EE & Zelinka, SL 2021, 'Artifacts in electrical measurements on wood caused by non-uniform moisture distributions', *Holzforschung*, vol. 75, no. 6, pp. 517-525. https://doi.org/10.1515/hf-2020-0138

Glass, SV, Zelinka, SL & Thybring, EE 2021, 'Exponential decay analysis: a flexible, robust, data-driven methodology for analyzing sorption kinetic data', *Cellulose*, vol. 28, pp. 153–174. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10570-020-03552-5

Zelinka, SL, Houtman, CJ, Hirth, K, Lacher, S, Lorenz, L, Thybring, EE & Hunt, CG 2020, 'The Effect of Acetylation on Iron Uptake and Diffusion in Water Saturated Wood Cell Walls and Implications for Decay', *Forests*, vol. 11, no. 10, 1121. https://doi.org/10.3390/f11101121

Yang, T, Thybring, EE, Fredriksson, M, Ma, E, Cao, J, Digaitis, R & Thygesen, LG 2020, 'Effects of changes in biopolymer composition on moisture in acetylated wood', *Forests*, vol. 11, no. 7, 719. https://doi.org/10.3390/F11070719

Zelinka, SL, Glass, SV & Thybring, EE 2020, 'Evaluation of previous measurements of water vapor sorption in wood at multiple temperatures', *Wood Science and Technology*, vol. 54, no. 4, pp. 769-786. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00226-020-01195-0

Thybring, EE, Digaitis, R, Nord-Larsen, T, Beck, G & Fredriksson, M 2020, 'How much water can wood cell walls hold? A triangulation approach to determine the maximum cell wall moisture content', *PLoS ONE*, vol. 15, no. 8, e0238319. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0238319

Thybring, EE, Piqueras, S, Tarmian, A & Burgert, I 2020, 'Water accessibility to hydroxyls confined in solid wood cell walls ', *Cellulose*, vol. 27, pp. 5617–5627. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10570-020-03182-x

Fredriksson, M & Thybring, EE 2019, 'On sorption hysteresis in wood: Separating hysteresis in cell wall water and capillary water in the full moisture range', *PLOS ONE*, vol. 14, no. 11, e0225111. https://doi.org/10.1371/journal.pone.0225111

Thybring, EE, Glass, SV & Zelinka, SL 2019, 'Kinetics of Water Vapor Sorption in Wood Cell Walls: State of the Art and Research Needs', *Forests*, vol. 10, no. 8, 704. https://doi.org/10.3390/f10080704

Digaitis, R, Thybring, EE & Thygesen, LG 2019, 'Investigating the role of mechanics in lignocellulosic biomass degradation during hydrolysis', *Biotechnology Progress*, vol. 35, no. 2, e2754. https://doi.org/10.1002/btpr.2754

Thybring, EE, Boardman, CR, Glass, SV & Zelinka, SL 2019, 'The parallel exponential kinetics model is unfit to characterize moisture sorption kinetics in cellulosic materials', *Cellulose*, vol. 26, no. 2, pp. 723-735. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10570-018-2134-3

Beck, G, Thybring, EE & Thygesen, LG 2018, 'Brown-rot fungal degradation and de-acetylation of acetylated wood', *International Biodeterioration and Biodegradation*, vol. 135, pp. 62-70. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ibiod.2018.09.009

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Thybring, EE, Kymäläinen, M & Rautkari, L 2018, 'Moisture in modified wood and its relevance for fungal decay', *iForest*, vol. 11, pp. 418-422. https://doi.org/10.3832/ifor2406-011

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Thybring, EE, Thygesen, LG & Burgert, I 2017, 'Hydroxyl accessibility in wood cell walls as affected by drying and rewetting procedures', *Cellulose*, vol. 24, no. 6, pp. 2375-2384. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10570-017-1278-x

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Thybring, EE 2017, 'Water relations in untreated and modified wood under brown-rot and white-rot decay', *International Biodeterioration & Biodegradation*, vol. 118, pp. 134-142. https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ibiod.2017.01.034

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Thybring, EE 2014, 'Explaining the heat capacity of wood constituents by molecular vibrations', *Journal of Materials Science*, vol. 49, no. 3, pp. 1317-1327. https://doi.org/10.1007/s10853-013-7815-6

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Engelund, ET, Thygesen, LG, Svensson, S & Hill, CAS 2013, 'A critical discussion of the physics of wood-water interactions', *Wood Science and Technology*, vol. 47, no. 1, pp. 141-161. https://doi.org/10.1007/s00226-012-0514-7

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Engelund, ET & Svensson, S 2011, 'Modelling time-dependent mechanical behaviour of softwood using deformation kinetics', *Holzforschung*, vol. 65, no. 2, pp. 231-237. https://doi.org/10.1515/hf.2011.011

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