

Continuing Project Report

Quantifying carbon sequestration as a function of silvicultural treatment in loblolly pine (CAFS 21.89)

Tilak Neupane (UGA), Sameen Raut (UGA), Nawa Raj Pokhrel
(UGA), Joe Dahlen (UGA), Cristian Montes (UGA), Dan Markewitz
(UGA), Tom Eberhardt (USFS)

Presenter: Joe Dahlen (UGA)



Continuing Project Report

Updated title

Quantifying carbon content in standing loblolly pine trees (CAFS 21.89)

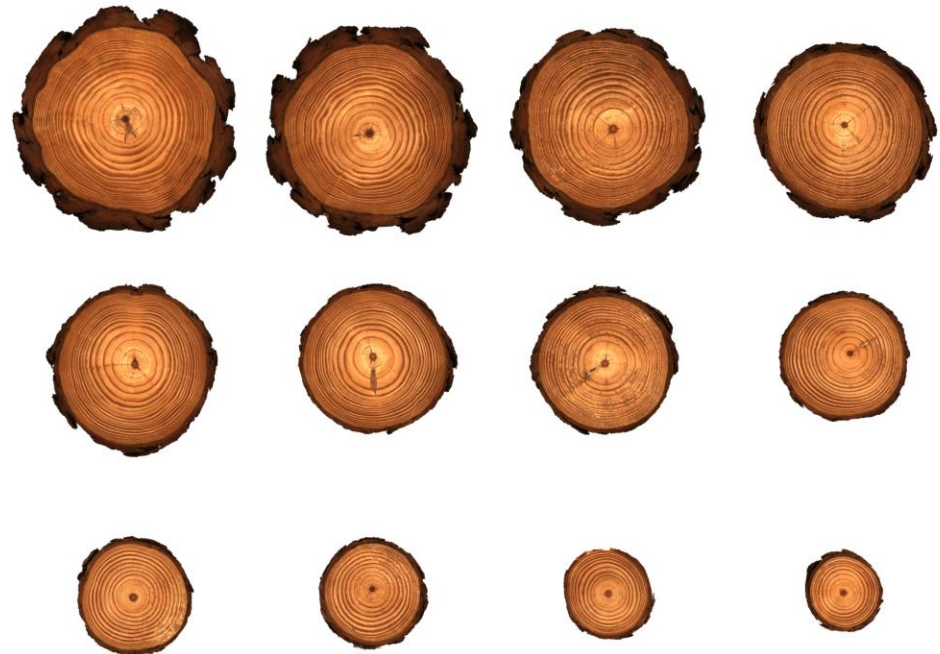
Tilak Neupane (UGA), Sameen Raut (UGA), Nawa Raj Pokhrel
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Project Overview

- Growing interest in quantifying carbon in managed forests
- According to Joe - Carbon fcn Volume, SG, Carbon%

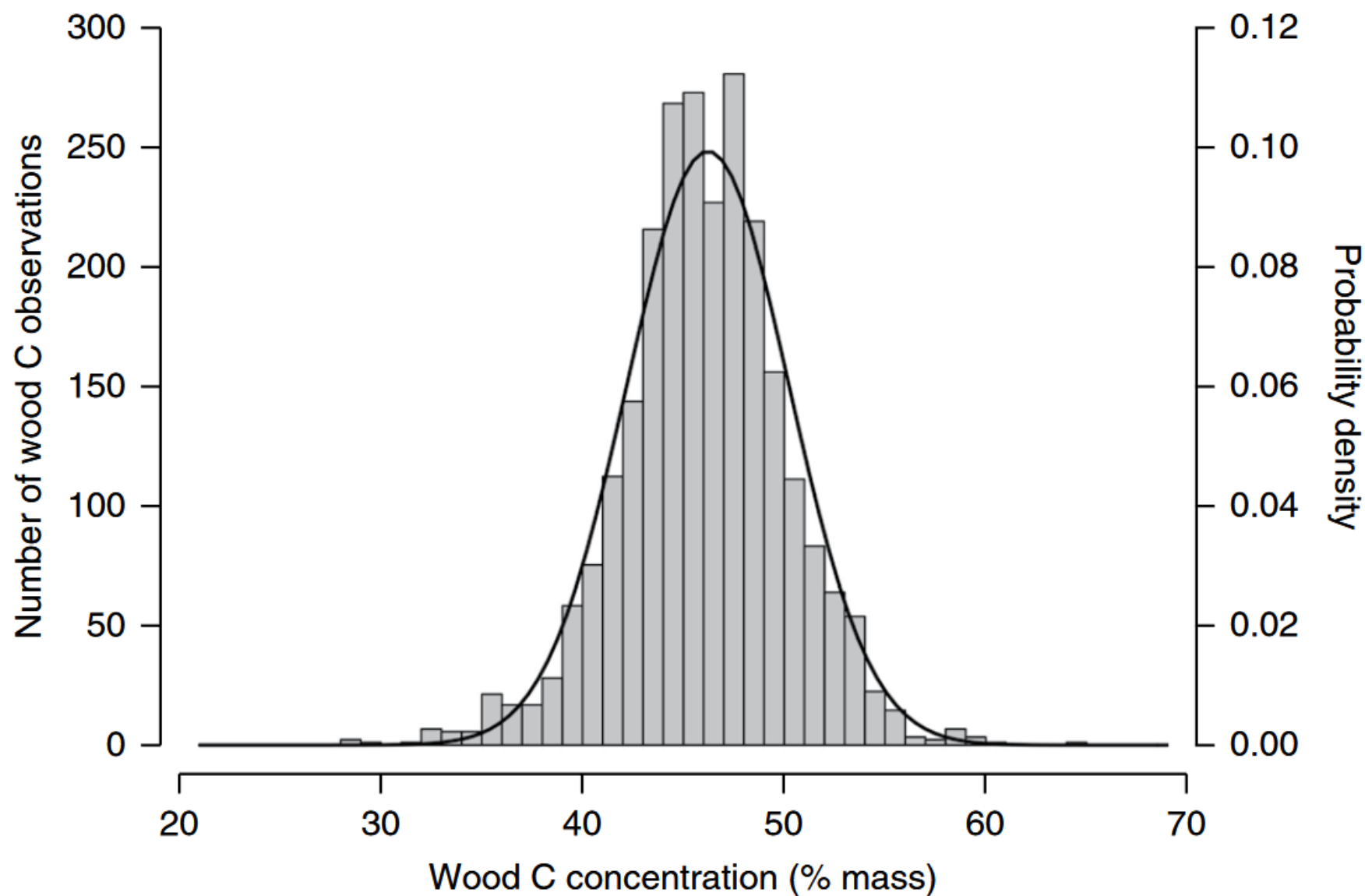


Global patterns in wood carbon concentration across the world's trees and forests

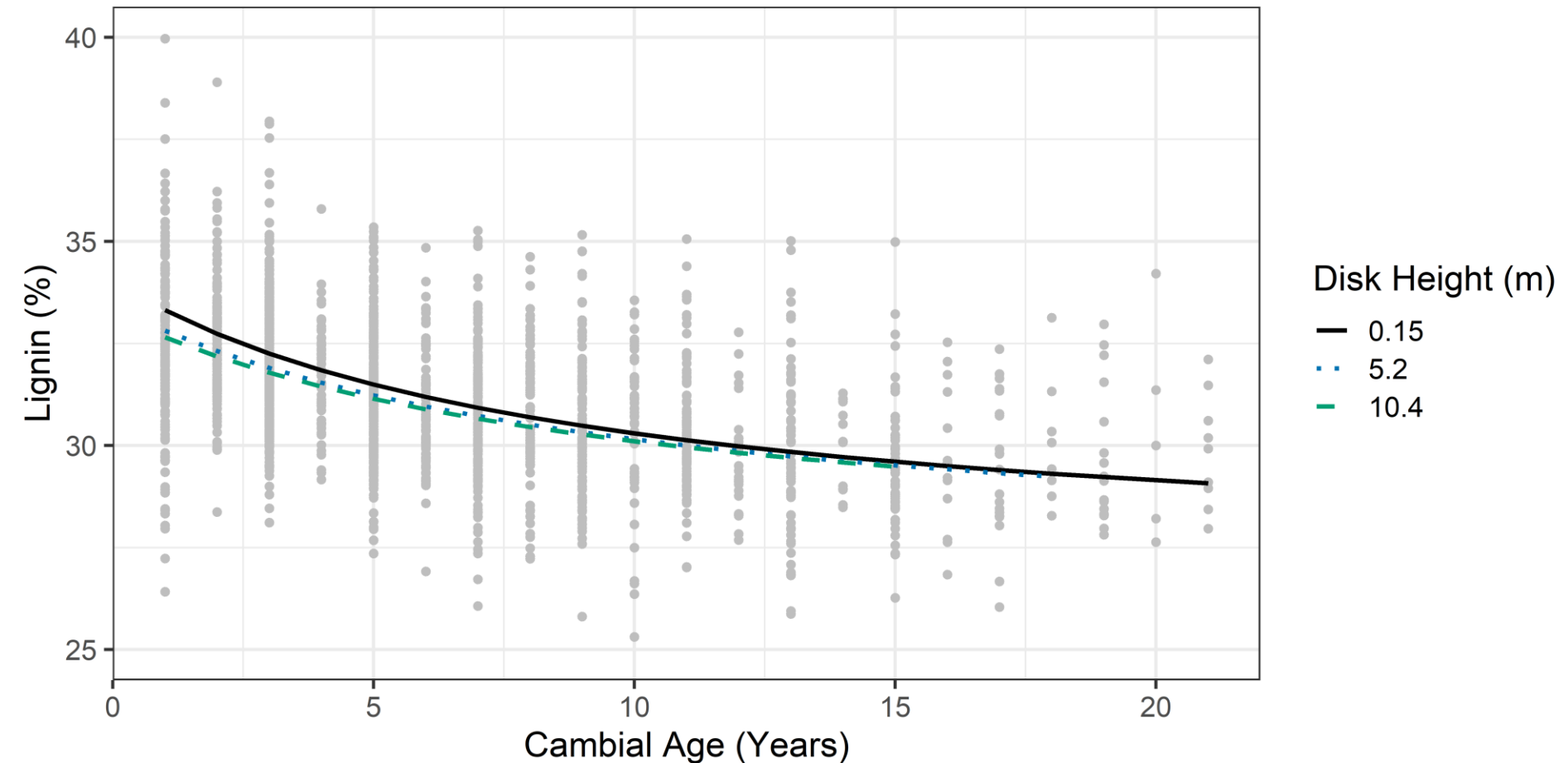
Adam R. Martin^{1,2*}, Mahendra Doraisami¹ and Sean C. Thomas³

Wood carbon concentrations play a central role in forest carbon accounting, and are fundamentally linked to the growth strategies of woody plants. Yet there are no comprehensive assessments of wood carbon among trees globally, and coarse approximations of wood carbon (for example, 50%) are employed in virtually all benchmark models and assessments of forest carbon. We consolidated the largest database for any wood chemical trait—2,228 wood carbon observations from 636 species across all forested biomes—to derive robust wood carbon fractions for forest carbon accounting. Carbon fractions show substantial variation among forest biomes, and indicate errors in the existing forest carbon estimates of 4.8%, on average, and most extreme errors of 8.9% in tropical forests. The data also demonstrate that wood carbon concentrations show a phylogenetic signal and are co-evolved with, and negatively related to, wood density, thus representing a key plant trait that links plant functional biology to ecosystem processes worldwide.





Carbon % largely a function of: 1) lignin to cellulose content



Carbon % largely a function of:
2) Extractives content



Objective 1

Develop lignin, extractives, and carbon % models for loblolly pine

Supplement reference data with NIR

Specim FX17

- 931 to 1718 nm wavelength range
- 2 lights 45° from camera
- Dark & white reference
- Tray width = 170 mm
- Tray length = 600 mm



Example image

- 10 radial samples cut from disks from 1 tree
- Columns (H) = 640 pixels
- Rows (V) = 2,100 pixels
- Depth = 224 wavelengths
- >300 million data points
- >14 million data points from dark and white reference

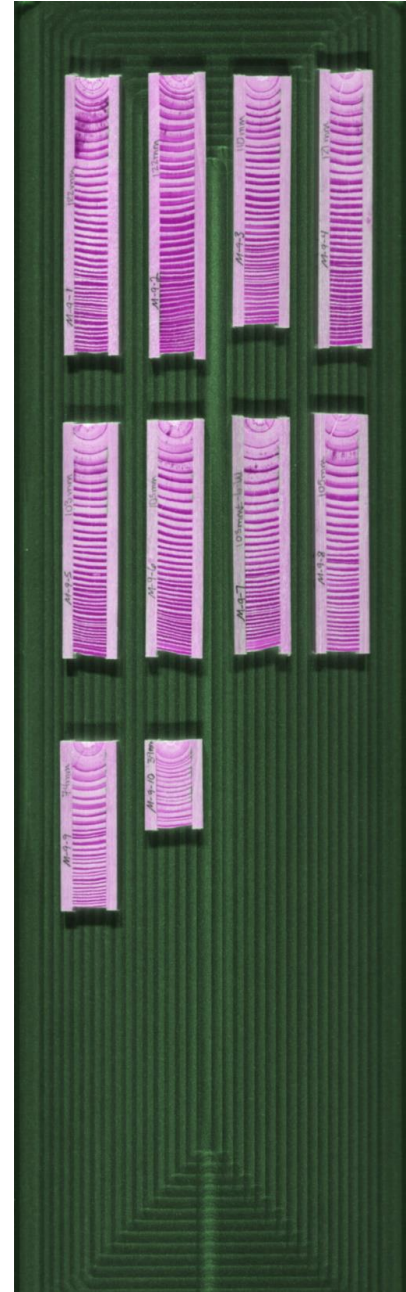
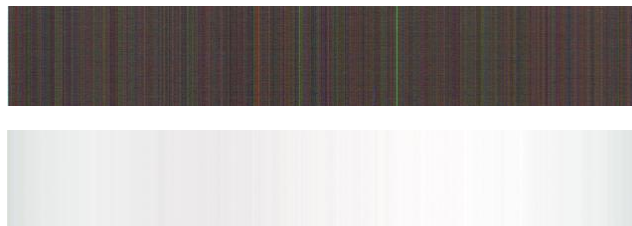
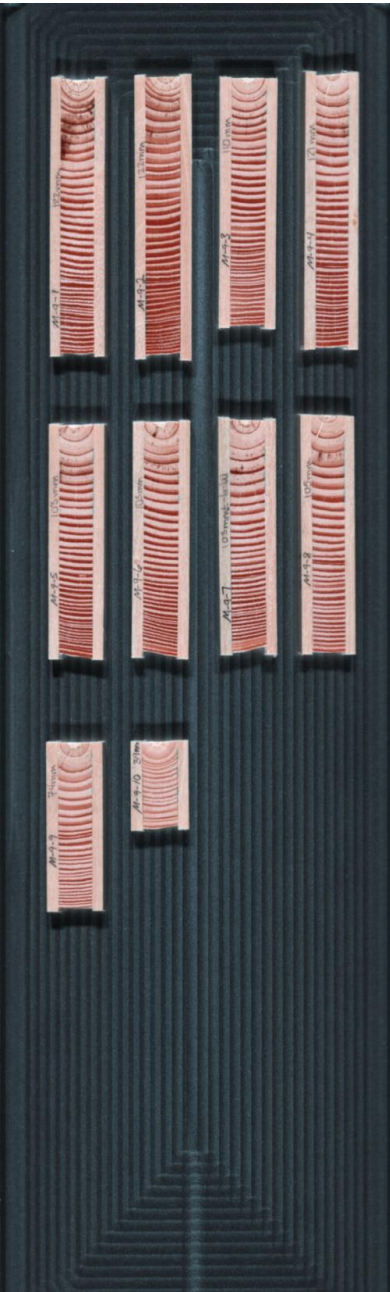
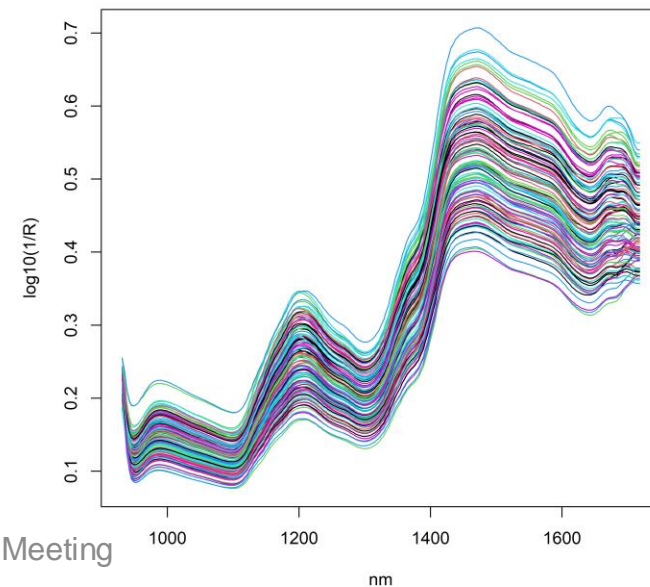
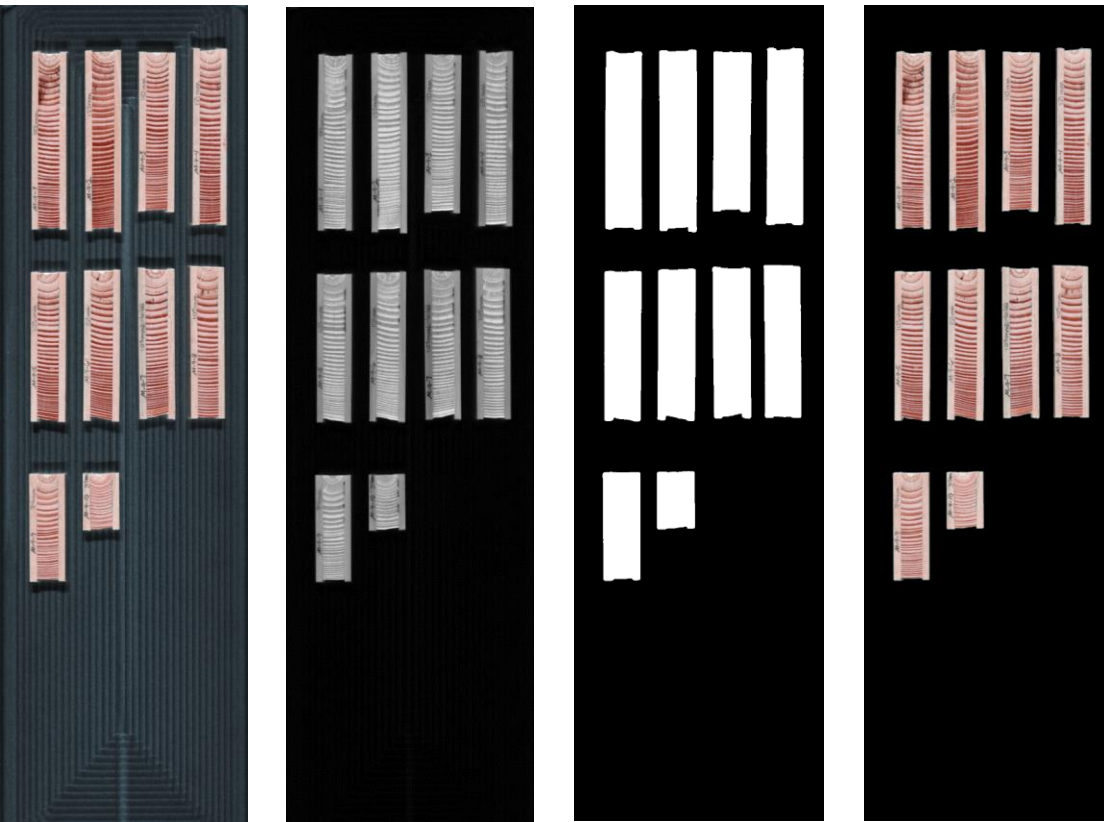


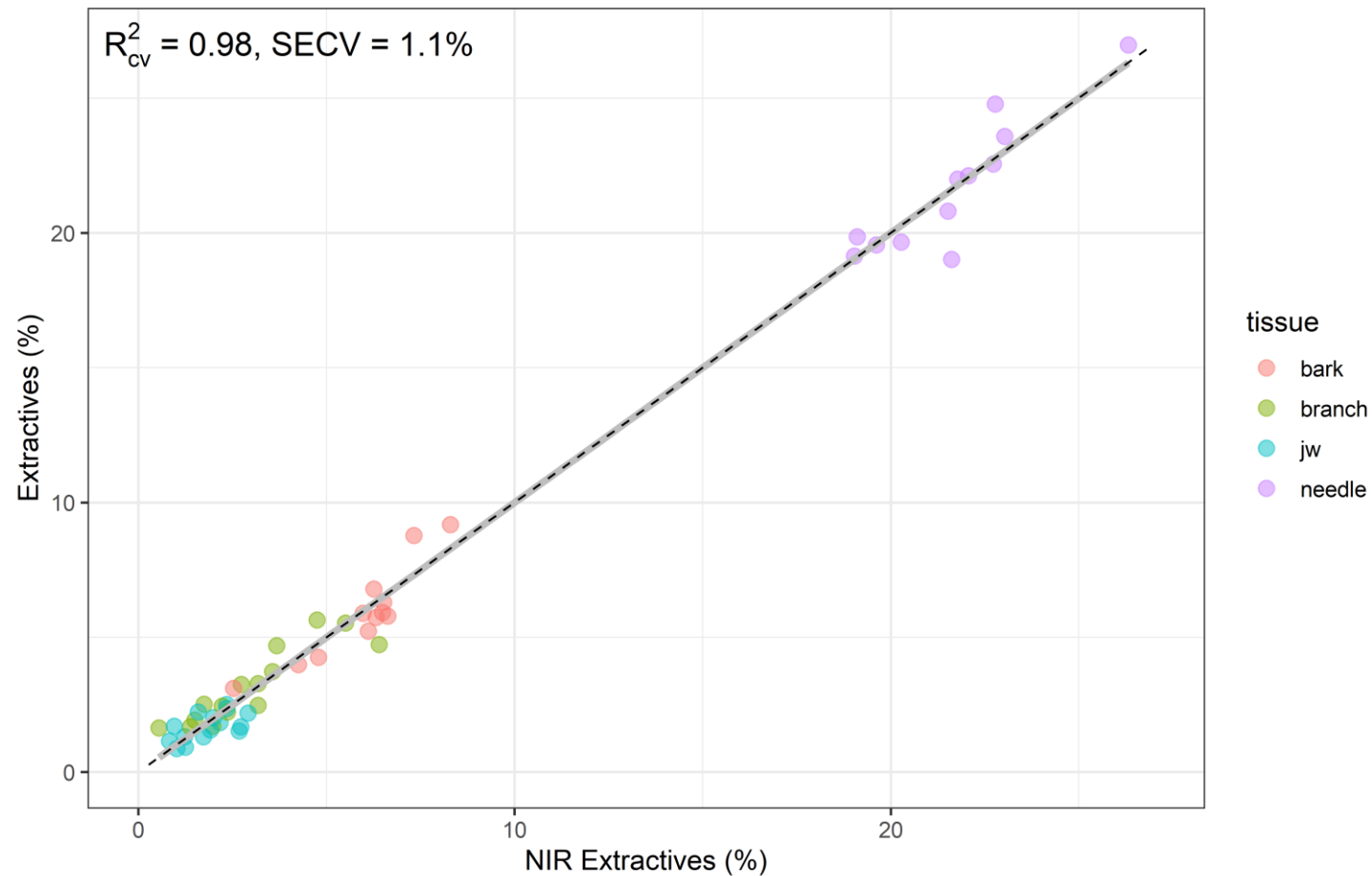
Image processing



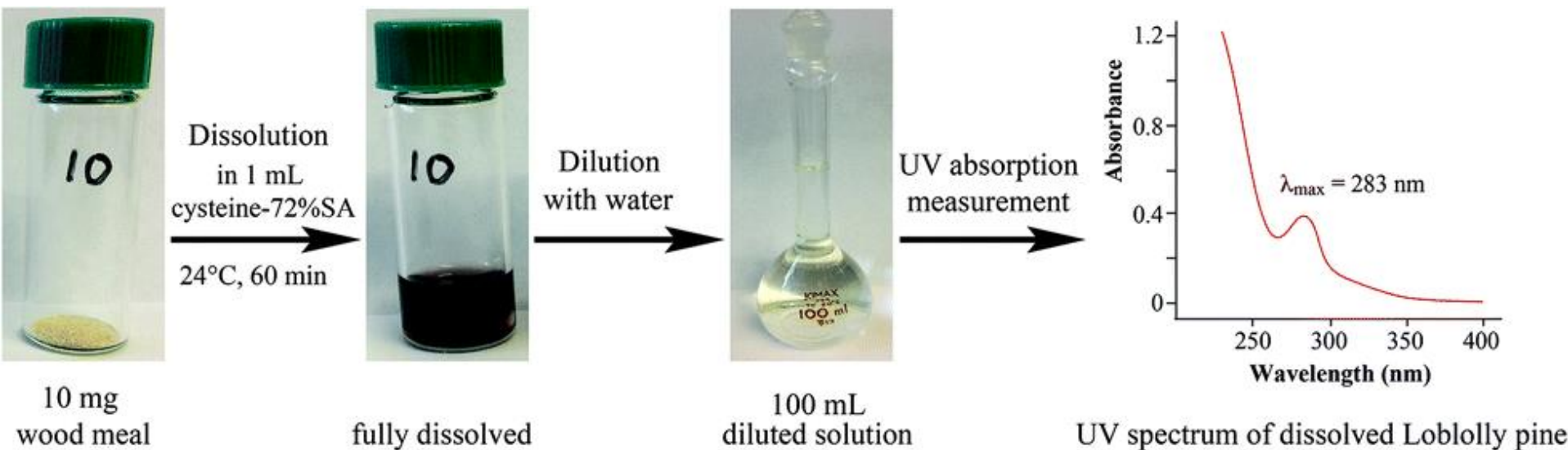
Extractives model for southern pine forest residues (example)

Pure Fractions

PLS Model Fitted With Leave One Out Cross Validation



Currently working on extractives (summer/fall), lignin (summer/fall) and carbon (fall) from radial samples



Lu et al. 2021



Objective 2

Utilize resistance drilling to estimate wood SG

IML PD400

- Measures torque via drilling resistance (%) in 0.1 mm resolution



3 mm needle with resistance recorded from bark to bark



Resistance drill example trace

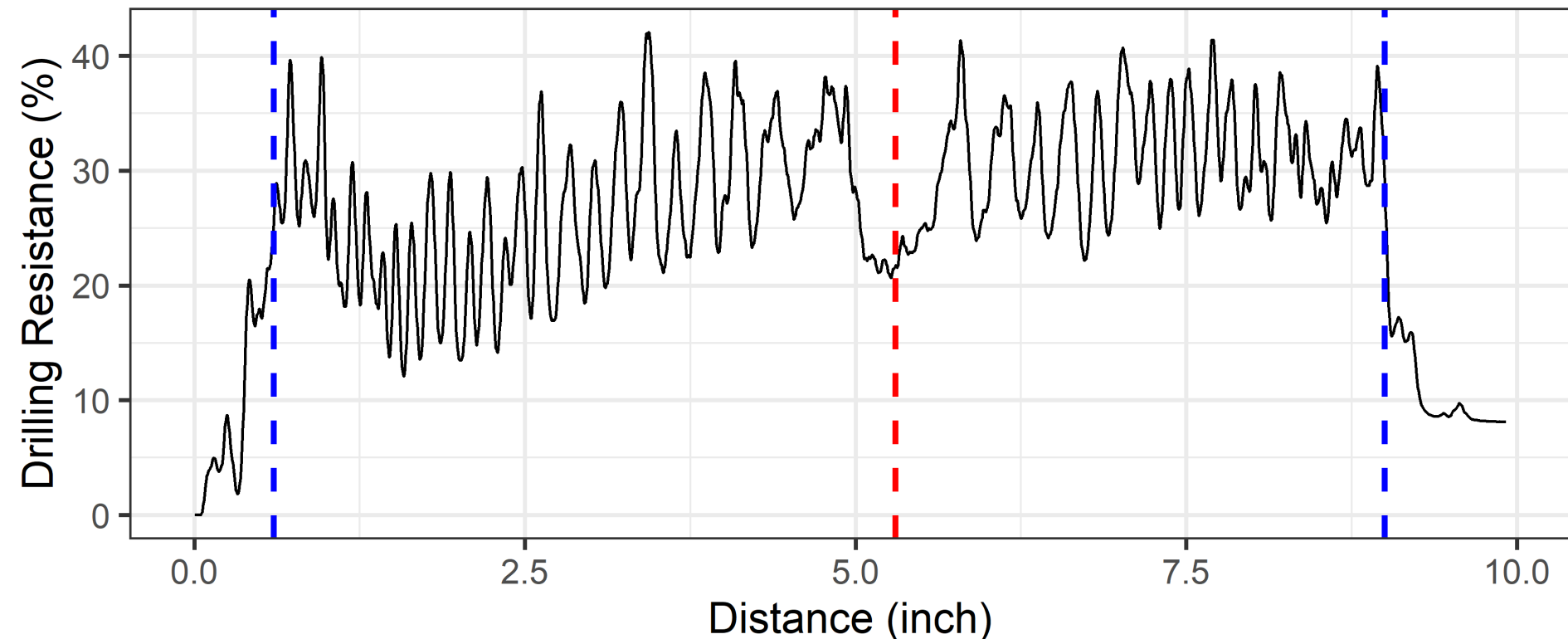
Signal processing important

Diameter At Breast Height = 9.7 in

Wood Located Inside Blue Vertical Lines (8.6 in)

Bark Located Outside Blue Vertical Lines (1.1 in)

Pith Approximately Located At Red Vertical Line



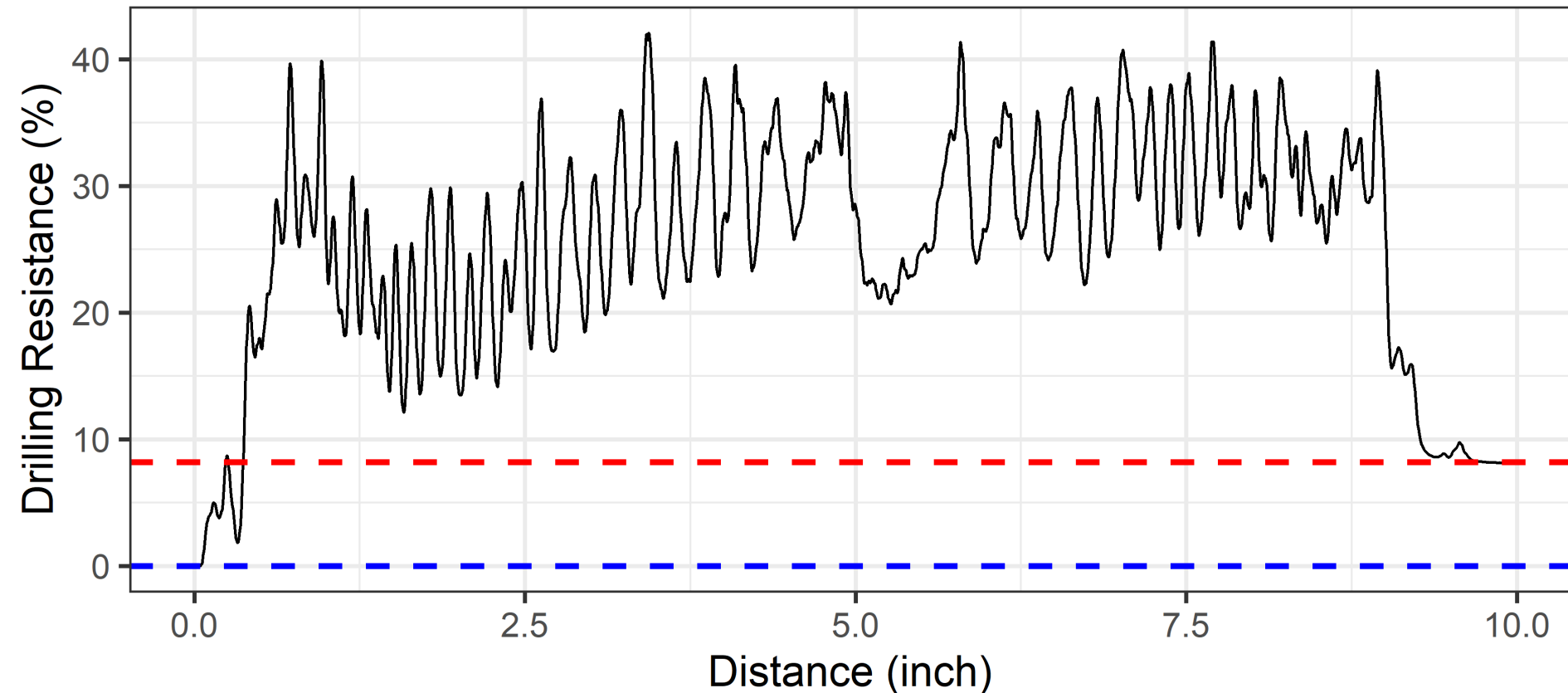
Resistance drill example trace

Signal processing important

Needle Enters Tree at 0.0 inch

Needle Exits Tree at 9.7 inch

Drilling Resistance Increases With Distance Due to Friction



Methods for Resi drill

- Signal processing with R using 'densitr' package (Krajnc et al., 2021)
 - Isolate wood from bark
 - Correct baseline shift with distance from entry point
- Linear regression between SG and mean drilling resistance amplitude



Results from colleagues in Australia



Article

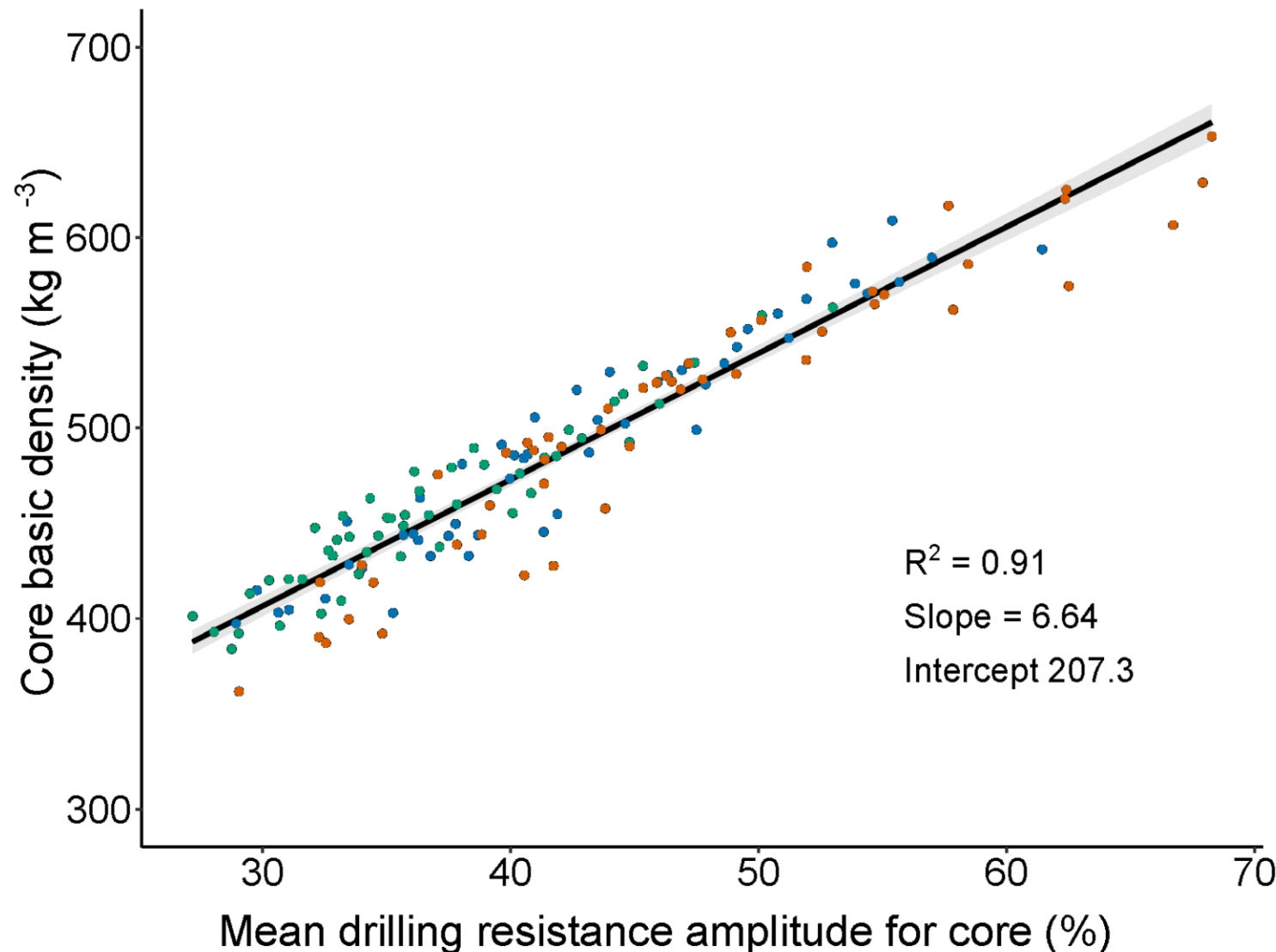
Thinning Influences Wood Properties of Plantation-Grown *Eucalyptus nitens* at Three Sites in Tasmania

Vilius Gendvilas ^{1,*} , Geoffrey M. Downes ², Mark Neyland ¹, Mark Hunt ¹, Peter A. Harrison ¹ , Andrew Jacobs ³, Dean Williams ⁴ and Julianne O'Reilly-Wapstra ¹ 



Gendvilas et al. 2021

Experienced operators obtain strong relationships between wood density and drilling resistance in *Eucalyptus nitens*



Original article

Vilius Gendvilas*, Geoffrey M. Downes, Mark Neyland, Mark Hunt, Andrew Jacobs
and Julianne O'Reilly-Wapstra

Friction correction when predicting wood basic density using drilling resistance



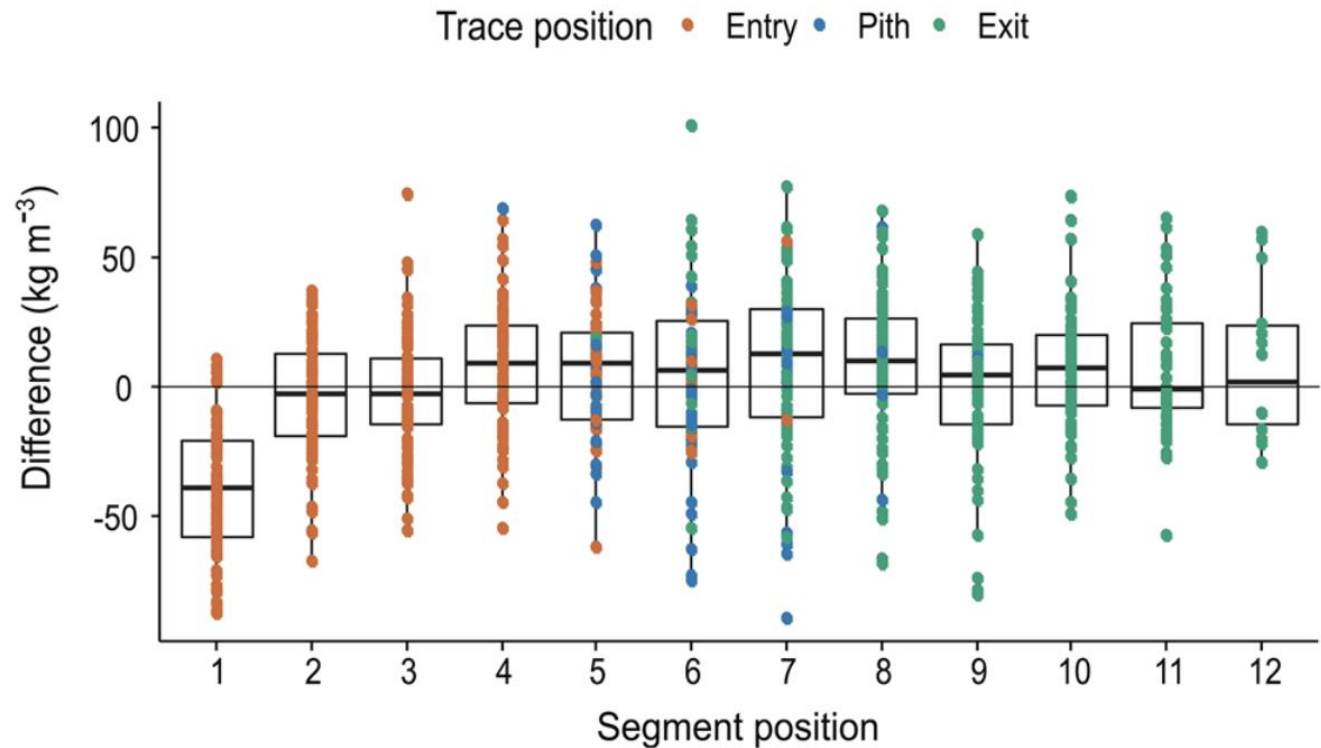


Figure 4: Difference by segment position between laboratory-measured basic density and Resi-predicted density after applying linear friction correction (Downes et al. 2018). Boxplot showing the median, range, 25 and 75% quantiles in each segment position group. Dots are individual segment values.



Deliverables and Company Benefits

- Models for lignin, extractives, and carbon % models for loblolly pine
- Developing protocols for the use of resistance drilling in loblolly pine
- When combined with volume, these two objectives will yield more accurate carbon estimates in standing trees



Thank You and Questions?

- NSF CAFS
- Members of the Wood Quality Consortium and Plantation Management Research Cooperative

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