#### 2012 IUFRO CONFERENCE DIVISION 5 - FOREST PRODUCTS

8>13 JULY'12 ESTORIL CONGRESS CENTRE LISBON - PORTUGAL

www.iufro2012.org

# The wood fibre structure how to be utilised?

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# The wood fibre as a material resource

## Increasing demand for utilising wood fibres

- Cellulose;
  - replacing cotton
  - derivatives
- Hemicelluloses
  - barrier films
- Lignin
  - carbon fibres



#### The wood fibre structure

- Cellulose aggregation
- Polymer orientation
- Matrix polymer interactions
- Lignin/cellulose cooperation



## Cellulose

- Using ability
  - accessibility
- Obstacles
  - thermodynamic preference for aggregation





#### **Ultra-structure across cell wall**



#### lumen side

#### middle lamella side



#### **Three dimensional cellulose structure**





### Aggregate size distribution





### **Aggregate size - drying**





#### **Cellulose aggregates during cooking**





#### **Aggregation due to heat treatment**





### Aggregering av cellulosa



increased mobility





#### **Effects of hemicelluloses**





# Structure around cellulose aggregates





# Manipulation cellulose aggregate size

	Aggregate	Rewet
	thickness	zero-span
Sample	(nm)	(Nm/g)
Never Dried pulp	26.8 +/- 0.8	137 +/- 6
<b>De-aggregated</b>		
pulp (NaOH)	24.4 +/- 0.5	118 +/- 5
<b>Re-aggregated</b>		
pulp (dried)	35.0 +/- 2.5	



#### **Tear - tensile – aggregate size**





#### **Pulping challange**

- Restrict aggregation
- Increasse cellulose specific surface area



### **Controling aggregate size**





#### Highly organised cellulose aggregate structure









#### **Orientation of cellulose groups in poplar**







# Polarisation FTIR for molecular orientation

Glucomannan

↔ 8

810 cm<sup>-1</sup> equatorially aligned H vibration in mannose units



#### Orientation of glucomannan groups in softwood







# Polarisation FTIR for molecular orientation

Xylan

1460 cm<sup>-1</sup> CH<sub>2</sub> symmetric bending on xylose units



1240 cm<sup>-1</sup> C-O stretching in carboxylic group



1734 cm<sup>-1</sup>, 54° C=O stretching in carbonyl group



#### **Orientation of xylan groups in poplar**





# Polarisation FTIR for molecular orientation



#### Lignin

1508 cm<sup>-1</sup> aromatic ring vibration

1600 cm<sup>-1</sup> aromatic ring + C - O stretch



### **Orientation of lignin groups in softwood – S\_2**





#### Absolute absorbance – polar diagram, spruce - $S_2$





#### **Radially cut cross section of spruce**



increased absorbance, arbitrary scale



**IR-radiation** 



#### Absolute absorbance – polar diagram, spruce - ML





### Three-dimensional lenticular structure of cell wall





#### **Space restrictions for lignin deposition**





#### **Different types of secondary wall lignins**





#### Softening temperature of different wood species





#### Lignin space





# **Polymer interaction - FT-IR spectroscopy**





# **Dynamic FTIR -spectra**





#### Wood – cellulose, lignin deformation





#### Interactions in the primary cell-wall





### **Deformation of primary wall**





### Lignin deformation in secondary wall



*straining of the cellulose aggregate network* 



#### **Cellulose – molecular deformation**

#### 1160 cm<sup>-1</sup> deformation





#### Cellulose main chain vibration, 1160 cm<sup>-1</sup>





#### **Cellulose chain deformation**





### Stretching of the hydrogen bond

3348 cm<sup>-1</sup> deformation





#### **Deformation - OH**





#### **Cellulose chain deformation**





#### **Relation to strain**





# Accessible regions more or less arranged parallel to the cellulose crystalls





# Accessible regions more or less arranged parallel to the cellulose crystalls





### **Softening in RH region**





#### **Cellulose – load bearing structure**



*straining of the cellulose aggregate network* 



### **Disintegration of cell wall**

- Combination of;
  - Chemical -
  - Enzymatic -
  - Mechanical -

approaches







