

FOR 496 / 796 Introduction to Dendrochronology

Lab exercise #2: Introduction to Crossdating tree-rings

Subject:

- Crossdating tree-rings using skeleton plots

Purpose:

- to become familiarized with the process of cross-dating tree-rings using a skeleton plots through the used of a computer simulation

Procedures:

1. Access the "*Crossdating Tree Rings*" web page, at either of the following URL's:
 - <http://www.esf.edu/for/bevilacqua/for496/skeletonplot/introcrossdate.htm>, or
 - <http://www.ltrr.arizona.edu/skeletonplot/introcrossdate.htm>
2. Read through the 13 inter-linked explanatory web pages explaining and describing the process using in cross-dating, also known as pattern matching, tree-ring sequences
3. Create a skeleton plot using the "Try Skeleton Plotting for Yourself" applet (web page #12 in the sequence) using the default characteristics.
4. Match the skeleton plot pattern of narrow and large rings you developed with the master chronology, and determine the year of the first and last ring for your core sample. **NOTE:** *try NOT to peek at the answer before giving the crossdating a serious attempt, as you will be required to complete the same task with a real wood sample in a couple of weeks.*
5. When you have successfully crossdated the core sample with the master chronology, print out the combined sample and master skeleton plots by either:
 - (A) using the File ~ Print ... menu option from within Internet Explorer, or
 - (B) pressing the "Prt-Scrn" button (which captures the screen into the computer clipboard as a graphic image), and pasting (Edit ~ Paste) the image into a MSWord document.
6. Repeat the steps 3 - 5 five (5) more times, using the following core characteristics:

RUN #:	1 (default)	2	3	4	5	6
Sensitivity:	1	1	3	5	7	7
No. of rings:	61	61	41	41	61	121
Absent rings:	N	Y	Y	Y	N	N
False rings:	N	N	N	Y	Y	Y

7. Due Date: Thursday, Sept. 29, 2005