# Quantitative and qualitative composition of softwood bark polyphenols within and among trees



BARKTANBIC

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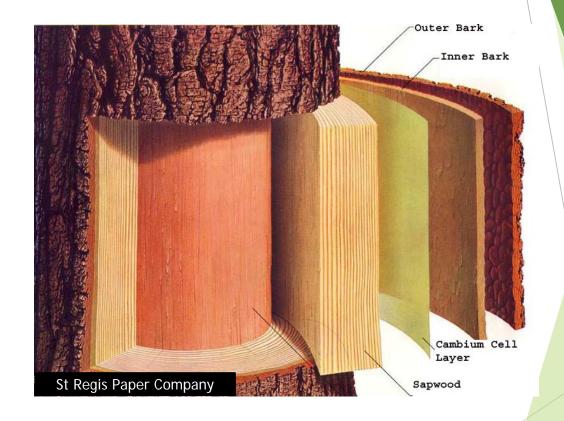






#### Bark

- Protects against pathogens
- > 15% stem volume
- Used for:
  - horticulture (gardens)
  - energy (combustion)
- > Extractible polyphenols used in:
  - cosmetics
  - > resins, foams and adhesives



> Also contains lignin, polysaccharides and lipids

### Extractible polyphenols

Tannins - polyphenolic secondary metabolites

- Hydrolysable
  - > esters of gallic acid

- Condensed
  - proanthocyanidins (catechin and epicatechin)
  - prodelphinidins (gallocatechin)

Aromatic rings absorb in UV

## Other extractible compounds

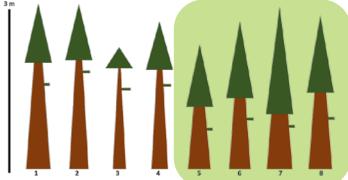
- Stilbene glycosides
  - > e.g. astringin
  - > other polyphenolic glycosides

- Lipophilic compounds
  - > e.g. fatty acids, terpenoids and sterols

Lignin and polysaccharides

#### Species and trees







- > Thinned more frequently
- > Lower final stand density

Samples: (13)

30 cm above the ground

80 cm above the ground

130 cm above the ground

Mid-height

Diameter 20 cm

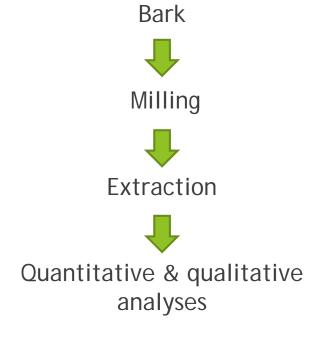
First green branch

Base of the crown

Diameter 10 cm

with and without branches

#### **Extraction protocol**

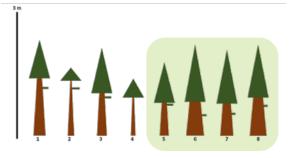






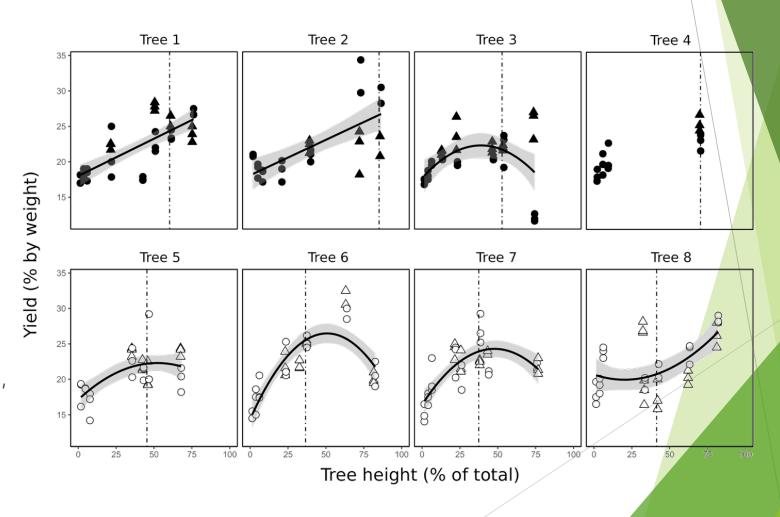
Yield (%) = dry extract mass/dry bark mass ×100

# Sapin, EtOH:H<sub>2</sub>O



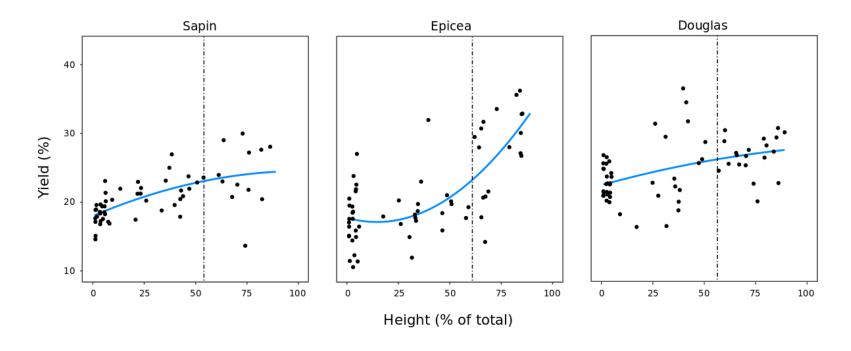
○ Without branches△ With branches- · - Base of crown

- Yield increased with height, towards the base of the crown
- Max yield was often close to the base of the crown
- No clear trend for the presence of branches
  - For Epicea and Douglas, branch presence was significant



## Without branches, EtOH:H<sub>2</sub>O

- Yield generally increases with height
  - > Relationship form is species-dependent
- For Sapin and Douglas, there is little yield increase after the base of the crown



· - · - Base of crown

Fixed effects: Species \* % Total height<sup>2</sup>
Random effect: Tree height (m) (AIC: 1012 vs 1080)

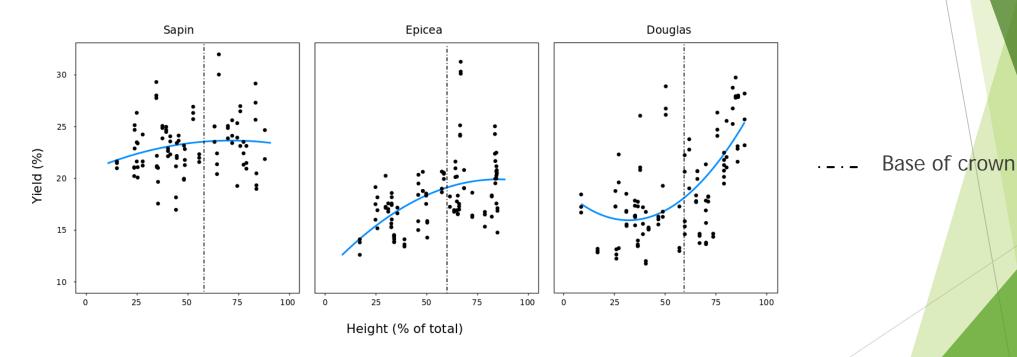
Thinning program was not significant

Random effects which did not improve model:

- Tree
- DBH (similar to total height)

### With branches, EtOH:H<sub>2</sub>O

- Relationship form is still species-dependent
  - > Similar for Sapin, but opposite coefficients for Epicea and Douglas
- Douglas had large quantities of resin in higher samples



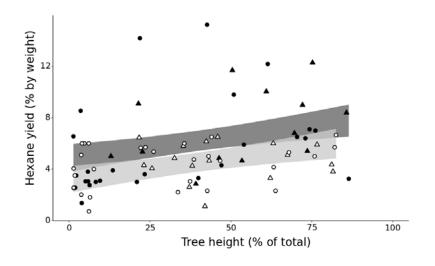
Fixed effects: Species \* % Total height<sup>2</sup>
Random effect: Tree height (m) (AIC: 1648 vs 1746)
Thinning program was not significant

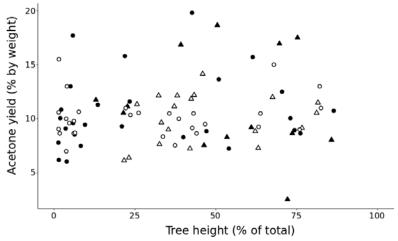
Random effects which did not improve model:

- Tree
- DBH (similar to total height)

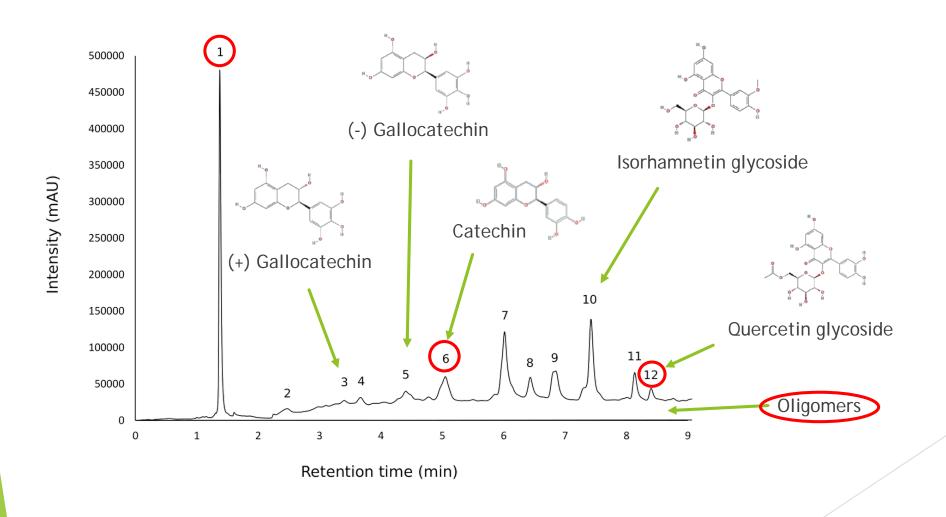
#### Sapin, lipophilic extractibles

- > Successive extractions with solvents increasing in polarity to extract lipophilics
- Only hexane extracts (least polar) had a significant relationship with height
  - > Extra thinning (light grey) decreased mean hexane yield by 1.7 %



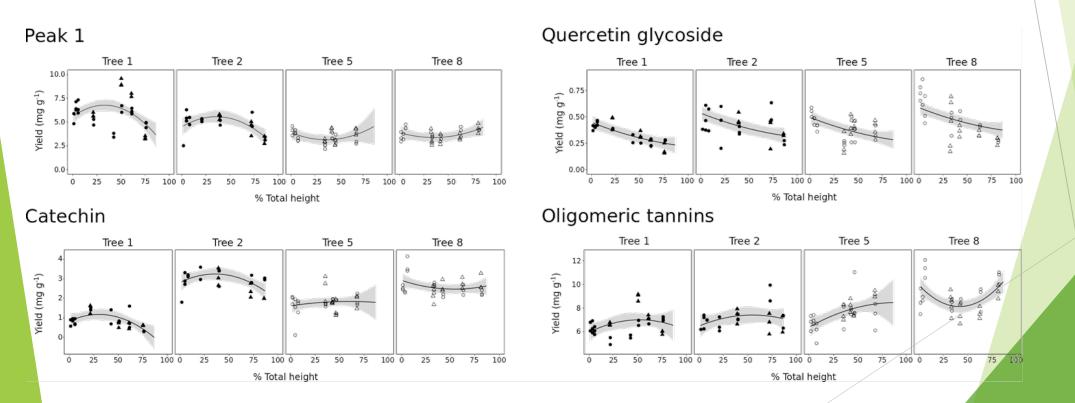


## Sapin, EtOH:H<sub>2</sub>O compounds – UV (280 nm)



#### Quantification of identified compounds

- Few compounds increase with % total height
  - Increase in Sapin yield is due to non-UV visible compounds
- > Difference in relationship form among trees is not consistent between managements



#### Conclusions

- Within one species the relationship between yield and height can differ among trees
- In general:
  - Sapin has higher extractive yield above the crown, but more polyphenolics below the crown
  - > Epicea and Douglas also have higher extractive yields above the crown
- Bark volume above the crown is lower than at the base of the tree
  - > The bark at the base of the tree may be more value, despite the lower yield
- It is important to characterise the compositional variability of extracts to determine their potential for valorisation

#### Merci!

Est-ce que vous-avez des questions?