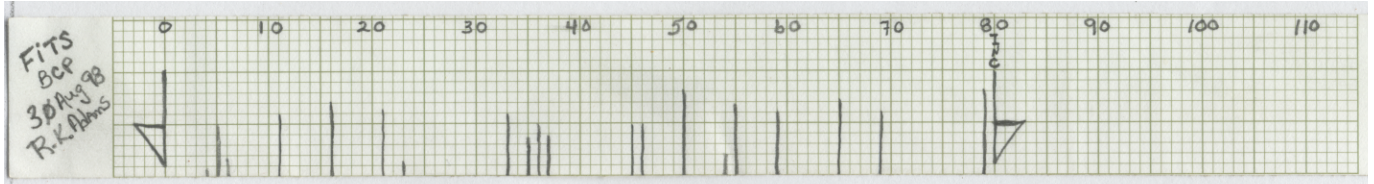


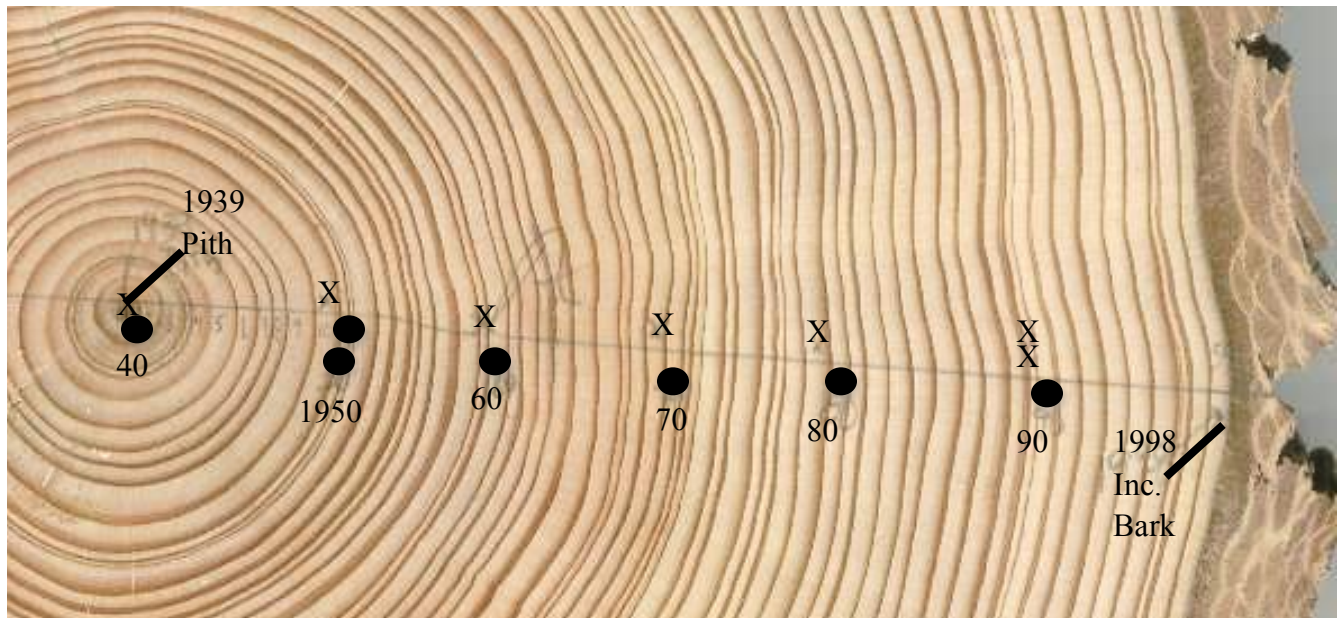
Skeleton plot:

- (1) On the far Left side: name ("M.R. Alexander"), date, sampleID, and radius (e.g., "A")
- (2) 5 spaces in: Inner ring "Flag" and inner ring descriptor ("pith" or "Inc."). Flag filled if pith, open if Inc.
- (3) "0", "10", "20",..... every 10 squares on top of plot
- (4) Final ring "Flag," filled if complete, unfilled if incomplete.
- (5) Final ring descriptor: (Inc., or Complete, Bark).
- (6) Descriptors on special rings (e.g., Big ["B"], False ["Fls"], Frost["Frst"], Injury ["Inj"], or Locally Absent ["LAB"]).



On the wood:

- (1) Mark the "A" & "B" radii
- (2) Arbitrary decadal count for skeleton plot with "X's" (see below).
- (3) Once dated, mark the decades, half centuries, centuries and millennia with appropriate # of dots. See next page for a guide to ring indicators and other useful markings.
- (4) Write the full year for the centuries and half centuries (e.g., "1950") and the decades ("10").
- (5) Write the year of the inner-most and outer-most rings (with descriptors; Pith, Inc., Comp. or Bark)
- (6) Mark any false, missing, or micro rings on the wood with appropriate dot notation and other notes.



ZMT Douglas fir with skeleton plot count (X's) and calendar dates (dots, years, & descriptors).

### Crossdating Cheat Sheet

When crossdating wood samples, dendrochronologists often follow conventions to mark wood samples before they skeleton plot or measure them. These conventions standardize and expedite the crossdating process. The tree core below illustrates many of the situations you may see when crossdating real wood samples. It is helpful to use these conventions to mark paper crossdating exercises as well.

- decade marks
- 10 years
  - 50 years
  - 100 years
  - 1000 years

#### irregular ring types (and what to do about them)

- false band (draw a line across entire ring)
- micro ring (2 opposite dots)
- missing ring (2 offset dots)

