

Harold FROM Andrew Nelson

ok - the images on your web site show the grain structure pretty clearly. The CT scan would allow you to be sure that it runs evenly throughout the wood and confirm that it was steam bent (important for the interpretation of the carbon dates). Since there was a little bark on one of the sticks we looked at, I was able to look at the rings in the shaft and project out to get the tree's diameter. The other thing I did was scan several different kinds of wood with the stick to see how the density compared to the candidate woods. There is a lot of overlap in ranges of density, but you might be able to eliminate some. Getting a good image of the rings on CT might be helpful for the dendrochronology folks that you're working with. Finally, if there is a radiodense shellac you will see a thin dense surface on the scan. You can also use the CT data to create a surface model of the stick for virtual reality type applications.

Andrew