

Contents

Abstract	i
1 Introduction	1
1.1 Motivation	1
1.2 Measurement techniques for ^{14}C	2
1.3 Atmospheric ^{14}C	4
1.4 The cooling event: Younger Dryas	6
1.4.1 The cause of the Younger Dryas	6
1.4.2 The timing of the Younger Dryas	7
1.5 Organization and objectives of this dissertation	7
2 Finding the right match through Speed Dating	9
2.1 Speed Dating: A rapid way to Determine the radiocarbon age of wood by EA-AMS	9
2.2 Consequences of Speed dating Binz trees	17
3 A protocol for high precision ^{14}C dating	18
3.1 Quality Dating: A protocol for reproducible high precision ^{14}C dates applied to Late Glacial wood	18
3.1.1 Abstract	19
3.1.2 INTRODUCTION	20
3.1.3 METHOD	20
3.1.4 RESULTS AND DISCUSSION	22
3.1.5 CONCLUSION	25
3.1.6 Acknowledgments	26
3.1.7 References	27
4 Redefining ^{14}C ‘wiggles’ and their origins before and during a cooling event	29
4.1 There goes the Sun: Reconstructing atmospheric ^{14}C reveals prolonged solar minimum in the Younger Dryas	30
5 Trees in north, trees in the south	48
5.1 The Interhemispheric gradient during the most recent cooling	48
5.1.1 Introduction	48
5.1.2 Results and discussion	50
5.1.3 Conclusion	52
5.1.4 References	55
6 Summary and outlook	58
Appendices	61
A High-precision ^{14}C dates	62

B	Publications	89
B.1	Primary author	89
B.2	Co-authorship	89
C	Radiocarbon dating course	91
D	Acknowledgments	113