



# Wood and Veneer Properties of Fast Growing Species from Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan

**Wan Mohd Nazri Wan Abdul Rahman, Muhammad Fitri Sa'ad, Suffian Misran, Nur Nazihan Sofian, Nor Yuziah Mohd Yunus\***

**Abstract**—Anatomical, physical, chemical and veneer properties of wood are important aspect that affect applicability of wood based product. This study is focused on three fast growing species of Batai (*Paraserianthes falcataria*), Eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus pellita*) and Kelampayan (*Neolamarckia cadamba*). All trees were cut into three height portion (bottom, middle and top) and wood disc samples are taken for anatomical, physical and chemical determination from each part of height. Meanwhile veneer properties were determined for veneer sheet after peeling and drying process. Eucalyptus shows the highest number of vessel for 16 mm<sup>2</sup> area and near pith has higher frequency of vessel occurrence than near bark. The highest specific gravity for Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan were found in bottom portion, followed by middle and top portion. Percentages of moisture content for this tree species is increased going from bottom to top portion. Cold and hot water, alcohol toluene, ash content and lignin content were found to have significant differences for top, middle and bottom of tree portion. The highest of percentage of veneer shrinkage was shown by Kelampayan veneer. Meanwhile, Batai veneer exhibited the lowest contact angle. As the conclusion, species and tree portions were found to be significantly affected for the anatomical, physical and chemical properties. For veneer analysis, species were found to affect veneer parameters. The results are of importance in order to optimize the production of plywood from fast growing species in Malaysia.

**Index Terms**—Fast growing species, Veneer properties, Wood properties

## I. INTRODUCTION

Fast growing species with low density wood is a good candidate to sustain supply of raw material. In Malaysia, forest plantation programmed has been initiated in 2005 by Ministry of Plantation Industries and Commodities (MPIC). Eight selected species had been gazette for forest plantation in Malaysia namely; Rubberwood (*Hevea brasiliensis*),

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Acacia (*Acacia spp.*), Kelampayan (*Neolamarckia cadamba*), Sentang (*Azadirachta excelsa*), Binuang (*Octomeles sumatrana*), Khaya (*Khaya ivorensis*), Batai (*Paraserianthes falcataria*) and Jati (*Tectona grandis*) (MTIB, 2015). All species had a potential to reduce problems of raw material availability and potentially to rejuvenate wood industry in Malaysia.

Tree species of forest plantation with fast growth characteristic can be considered and commercialized to overcome shortage of supply materials. However, fast growth is normally associated with low density wood. According to Muhammad Fitri et al., (2018), light density Batai (230-320 kg/m<sup>3</sup>) has potential to be used as core veneer of plywood construction. Meanwhile, Rahman et al., (2019) reported on Kelampayan wood density which ranges from 370-410 kg/m<sup>3</sup> and classify it as light hardwood species. Eucalyptus with density range of 400-750 kg/m<sup>3</sup> falls into the medium hardwood species category (Boland et al. 1991). The colouration of Batai (white to reddish), Eucalyptus (brown to reddish) and Kelampayan (yellowish) is suitable for wood product that have either bright or dark appearance such as block board, plywood and LVL (Nordahlia et al., 2014). Earlier work on these three species has shown potentials of utilization for sawn timber, furniture, plywood, block board, veneer and pulp (Ismail, 1995; Sorienegara, 1993). Optimization of preliminary work is necessary. The fundamental study of wood properties is the answer. Thus this study investigates the anatomical, physical, chemical and veneer properties of Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan wood for plywood production.

## II. MATERIALS AND METHOD

TABLE I. Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan tree were felled from trial area plot in Jengka Pahang. The diameter for Batai and Eucalyptus bole were ranging between 30 to 35 cm and Kelampayan was 40 to 45 cm. Disk log were taken from each different tree height portion (bottom, middle and top) from each species following the position shown in Figure 1. Meanwhile veneers were taken from each species after peeling process. The method for determination of vessels follows IAWA (1989) Standard. The vessel count was done for each portion and the portions were also further sub-divided to near bark and near pith. For specific gravity and moisture content measurement procedure was referred to BS 373:1957. For chemical analysis, wood samples were ground and screened through size 40 mesh.



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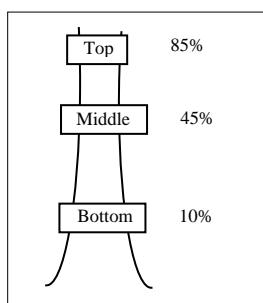
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# Wood and Veneer Properties of Fast Growing Species from Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan

The chemical analysis was done in accordance to TAPPI Standard: Cold Water (T 207 os-75), Hot Water (T 202 os-75), Alcohol Toluene Soluble (T 222 os-75) Ash Content (T 15 os-58) and Lignin Content (T 222 os-75). Meanwhile, veneer properties were also determined for wettability and contact angle.



**Figure 1: Height Portion of Tree**

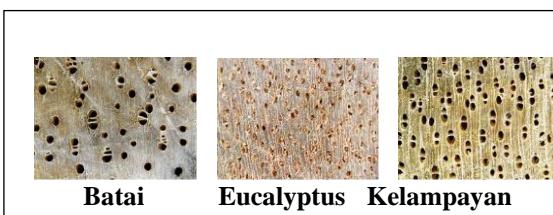
## III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### A. Anatomical Properties

Anatomical properties of this study was described based on numbers that observed inside wood which include vessels and pore. Table 1 showed average number of vessels according to species, tree portion (top, middle and bottom) and distance (near bark or near pith). Batai has lower number of vessels and bigger size because of the lower wood density as compared to Eucalyptus and Kelampayan (Plate 1). Lower density has bigger vessel size and contributes on small number of vessel (Bowyer et al, 1982). The result revealed number of vessel increased with denser of wood species and in near pith compared to near bark. Each species showed differing arrangement for various shapes of vessel. Batai showed large vessels large, in singular and cluster form with large distant between vessels. Eucalyptus exhibits smaller vessel size, majority singular and closely spaced. For Kelampayan the vessel are larger than Eucalyptus but smaller than Batai. The vessels are also distinctively presence largely in coupled formation with medium spacing between vessels.

**Table 1: Average of Anatomical Properties**

Species	Tree Portion	Number of Vessels	
		Near Pith	Near Bark
Batai	Top	4	3
	Middle	4	3
	Bottom	4	4
	<b>Average</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>3</b>
Eucalyptus	Top	9	7
	Middle	9	7
	Bottom	10	8
	<b>Average</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>7</b>
Kelampayan	Top	5	4
	Middle	6	4
	Bottom	6	5
	<b>Average</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>4</b>



\*Vessel in area 16 mm<sup>2</sup>

### Plate 1: Vessel Shape and Distribution for Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan

The analysis of variance (ANOVA) on the effect of species and distance is shown in Table 2. Different of species and distance (near bark or near pith) were found to have highly significant effect on number of vessel present. The interaction of species and distance shows highly significant anatomical properties differences for number of vessel.

**Table 2: The analysis of variance (ANOVA) on Number of Vessel**

SOV	Df	Number of Vessel
Species	2	196.74***
Distance	1	54.79***
Species *Distance	2	6.04***

Note: SOV= Source of variance, Df= Degree of freedom, ns= not significant at p<0.05, \*= significant at p<0.05, \*\*= highly significant at p<0.01

Table 3 shows the summary of DMRT for effect of species on anatomical properties. Eucalyptus has the highest number of vessel. The difference is significant at p<0.05. This could be related to the sample size vessels reducing air space in the wood. Air space reduction leads to higher wood content per unit volume thus leading to higher density of Eucalyptus. According to Zhang and Zhong (1992), different of specific gravity might have effect the anatomical properties of wood.

**Table 3: Summary of DMRT on the Effect of Species on Number of Vessel**

Species	Number of Vessels (16 mm <sup>2</sup> )
Batai	3.63c
Eucalyptus	8.63a
Kelampayan	4.97b

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at p < 0.05

Summary of T-Test on the effects of distance was shown in Table 4. The number of vessels was higher in near pith than near bark. This might be due to heartwood having higher percentage or frequency of vessels in near pith with smaller vessels size. The average occurrence of vessel were found to decreased from pith (heartwood) to bark (sapwood) and latewood had fewer vessels than early wood (Sousa, Louzada and Pereira, 2015).

**Table 4: Summary of T-Test on the Effect of Distance on Number of Vessel**

Distance	Number of Vessel
Near Pith	6.53a
Near Bark	4.96b

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at p < 0.05

### B. Physical Properties

Physical properties such as specific gravity and moisture content are main factors that have effect on the applicability of wood (Desch and Dinwoodie, 1996). Table 5 shows the average of specific gravity and moisture content according to species and tree portion. The results of specific gravity for Batai is 0.20 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (top) to 0.29 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (bottom), Eucalyptus is 0.57 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (top) to 0.70 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (bottom) and Kelampayan is 0.37 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (top) to 0.56 g/cm<sup>3</sup> (bottom).



The specific gravity also increased moving from top to bottom following the position of tree portion for each species. For moisture content the trend of highest moisture at top portion, second highest in middle portion and lowest at bottom portion is seen in all three species. For top portion Kelampayan has the highest reading at 95.60 %, Eucalyptus second and Batai lowest at 75.45%. Overall Batai showed lowest reading in all portion for specific gravity and moisture content.

**Table 5: Average of Specific Gravity and Moisture Content**

Species	Tree Portion	Specific Gravity g/cm <sup>3</sup>	Moisture Content %
Batai	Top	0.20	75.45
	Middle	0.25	65.93
	Bottom	0.29	62.33
	Average	<b>0.26</b>	<b>67.90</b>
Eucalyptus	Top	0.57	87.76
	Middle	0.65	84.74
	Bottom	0.70	84.31
	Average	<b>0.64</b>	<b>85.60</b>
Kelampayan	Top	0.37	95.60
	Middle	0.46	88.04
	Bottom	0.56	81.39
	Average	<b>0.46</b>	<b>88.34</b>

\*Values are average of 10 samples

Table 6 shows the analysis of variance (ANOVA) on the effect of species and tree portion. Species and tree portion were found to significantly affect specific gravity and moisture content. The results have been anticipated as the vessel number, size and density per 16 mm<sup>2</sup> for each species are significantly different.

**Table 6: Summary of ANOVA on Physical Properties**

SOV	Df	Specific Gravity	Moisture Content
Species	2	775.22**	31.71**
Tree portion	2	95.18**	93.45**
Species *Tree portion	4	4.06**	51.21**

Note: SOV= Source of variance, Df= Degree of freedom, ns= not significant at p<0.05,  
\*= significant at p<0.05, \*\*= highly significant at p<0.01

Table 7 shows that specific gravity of Eucalyptus is the highest (significantly difference) compared to the other two species. According to Paes et al. (2015), the density of *Eucalyptus spp.* was around 0.57 g/cm<sup>3</sup>. Based on MTIB Timber Classification (2010), specific gravity of Batai and Kelampayan can be classified as Light Hardwood while Eucalyptus classified as Medium Hardwood. The highest average moisture content was recorded by Kelampayan. The value is slightly lower to value reported by Faizah et al. (2014) at 97.86 %.

**Table 7: Summary DMRT on the Effects of Species on Specific Gravity and Moisture Content**

Species	Specific Gravity	Moisture Content
Batai	0.25c	67.90b
Eucalyptus	0.64a	85.60a
Kelampayan	0.46b	88.34a

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at p < 0.05

Specific gravity was observed highest in bottom portion of tree (Table 8). This might be due to bottom portion having thicker cell wall and contained large amount of heartwood that make it denser. As enhancement height of tree progress diminishing heartwood size occurs. Cell wall thickness is

shown to strongly correlate with density of wood at height portion of tree (Sheree, et al., 2006).

**Table 8: Summary DMRT on the Effects of Tree Portion on Specific Gravity and Moisture Content**

Tree Portion	Specific Gravity	Moisture Content
Top	0.38c	86.27a
Middle	0.45b	79.57b
Bottom	0.52a	76.01c

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at p < 0.05

Meanwhile moisture content shows the highest with significant difference in top of tree portion. Percentage of moisture content is increase due to height of tree portion that contain more sapwood than heartwood in top portion, compared to bottom portion. Heartwood consist of dormant old cells that provide strength while sapwood contain active cells that gave top portion lesser density and fast growth rate (Bendtsen, 1978).

### C. Chemical Properties

Chemical analysis of wood is the study on chemical composition in wood structure that gives effect on properties of wood composite product. Table 9 shows the average of chemical properties according to species and tree portion.

**Table 9: Average of Chemical Properties of Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan at different portion**

Species	Tree Portion	Cold Water (%)	Hot Water (%)	Toluene (%)	Alcohol Content (%)	Ash Content (%)	Lignin Content (%)
Batai	Top	4.08	4.59	2.35	0.92	26.92	
	Middle	4.77	4.68	2.44	0.89	28.23	
	Bottom	4.61	4.92	3.05	0.94	27.72	
	Average	<b>4.49</b>	<b>4.73</b>	<b>2.61</b>	<b>0.92</b>	<b>27.62</b>	
Eucalyptus	Top	5.38	6.11	3.32	0.46	33.50	
	Middle	5.52	6.18	3.36	0.53	31.83	
	Bottom	5.15	7.01	3.49	0.60	35.13	
	Average	<b>5.35</b>	<b>6.43</b>	<b>3.39</b>	<b>0.53</b>	<b>33.49</b>	
Kelampayan	Top	6.66	7.95	3.60	0.52	32.77	
	Middle	7.74	7.53	3.97	0.60	37.82	
	Bottom	7.44	8.76	4.23	0.68	30.86	
	Average	<b>7.28</b>	<b>8.08</b>	<b>3.93</b>	<b>0.60</b>	<b>33.81</b>	

#### i. Cold Water and Hot Water Soluble

Table 9 shows results cold and hot water for Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan according to tree portion. This result is important in evaluation of water soluble extracts such as starch, sugar, tannin and phenolic compound within any lignocellulosic material (Jamaludin, 2006). The highest cold water for Batai is 4.77 (middle) and the lowest is 4.08 (top) and the highest for Kelampayan is 7.74 (middle) and the lowest is 6.66 (top).

Meanwhile the highest for Eucalyptus is 5.52 (middle) and the lowest is 5.15 (bottom).

For hot water, the highest result for Batai is 4.92 (middle) and the lowest is 4.59 (top), Eucalyptus highest with 7.01 (bottom) and lowest is 6.11 (top) and highest of Kelampayan is 8.76 (bottom) and lowest is 7.53 (middle). This difference solubility was caused by hydrolysis and corresponding to the increase in solubility of wood substance during boiling process (Hawley et al, 1924). Kelampayan shows the highest of cold and hot water solubles (Table 11).



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**Table 10: Summary of ANOVA on Chemical Properties**

SOV	Cold Water	Hot Water	Alcohol Toluene	Ash Content	Lignin Content
Species	197.35**	200.64**	642.64**	89.80**	22.64**
Tree Portion	9.17**	12.48**	101.97**	6.64**	1.32ns
Species *Tree Portion	2.67*	1.68ns	12.45**	0.89ns	4.33**

Note: SOV= Source of variance, Df= Degree of freedom, ns= not significant at p<0.05,  
\*= significant at p<0.05, \*\*= highly significant at p<0.01

**Table 11: Summary DMRT on the Effects of Species on Chemical Properties**

Species	Cold Water	Hot Water	Alcohol Toluene	Ash Content	Lignin Content
Batai	4.48c	4.73c	2.61c	0.91a	27.64b
Eucalyptus	5.35b	6.43b	3.40b	0.53c	33.49a
Kelampayan	7.32a	8.08a	3.93a	0.59b	33.81a

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at p < 0.05

## ii. Alcohol Toluene Soluble

From Table 9, the highest alcohol toluene soluble content for Batai is 3.05 (bottom) and the lowest is 2.35 (top) and the highest for Kelampayan is 4.23 (bottom) and the lowest is 3.60 (top). Meanwhile the highest for Eucalyptus is 3.49 (bottom) and the lowest is 3.32 (top). Summarized DMRT showed bottom tree portion was the highest with significant different, followed by decreased for the middle to top of tree portion (Table 12). Extractive content in heartwood is important for fungal resistance (Taylor et al, 2002). It may slightly increase weight of wood and lowers moisture conditions (Miller, 1999). According to Tohmura (1998), extractive have shown to interfere with the cure of phenolic resin systems used in manufacture of wood composite. Table 11 shows Kelampayan having the highest with significant different than the other two species.

**Table 12: Summary DMRT on the Effects of Tree Portion on Chemical Properties**

Tree Portion	Cold Water	Hot Water	Alcohol Toluene	Ash Content	Lignin Content
Top	5.39b	6.22b	3.08c	0.62b	31.14a
Middle	6.01a	6.13b	3.27b	0.68ab	32.62a
Bottom	5.76a	6.90a	3.60a	0.73a	31.19a

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at p < 0.05

## iii. Ash Content

As seen in Table 9, the highest ash content for Batai is 0.94 (bottom) and the lowest is 0.89 (middle) and the highest for Eucalyptus is 0.60 (bottom) and the lowest is top (0.46). The highest ash content for Kelampayan is 0.68 (bottom) and the lowest is 0.52 (top). Bottom of tree portion has more heartwood and higher density, thus increased the percentage of ash content. Jenskins et al. (1995), reported that ash content is primarily silica and is seen more in heartwood.

## iv. Lignin Content

Lignin is incrusting material forming part of cell wall and middle lamella of wood that can be removed by process of pulping and bleaching. Table 9 shows average lignin content for Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan according to tree portion. The highest for Batai is 28.23 (middle) and the lowest is 26.92 (top) and the highest for Kelampayan is 37.82 (middle) and the lowest is 30.86 (bottom). Meanwhile the highest for Eucalyptus is 35.13 (bottom) and the lowest is 31.83 (middle). Higher lignin content will increase the

stiffness of wood in cell wall. It is associated to support for plant organs in order to increased growth in height (Boudet, 2000).

## D. Veneer properties

The veneer shrinkage and veneer wettability are factors that can affect strength and bonding of plywood. Different wood density will present variable veneer shrinkage. The veneer shrinkage and smoothness can be affected by the wood density. Surface smoothness and roughness will have an impact on the wettability or veneers. The veneer density will also have impact on wettability in term of the ease in adhesive penetration during glue spread. This will affect the veneers bonded properties. Thus, some observation on veneer was important for this study as to correlate the effect of veneer properties.

### i. Veneer shrinkage

In general, wood is an anisotropic material that has different directional properties in tangential, radial and longitudinal, which affect its apparent mechanical properties (Bodig and Jayne, 1982). According to Ogata, Fujita, Nobuchi, and Sahri (2003), wood grains represent the orientation of axial and grain angle which refers to tangential and longitudinal plane. When wood is dried, moisture is removed and shrinkage of shape occurs. However, shrinkage of wood is not the same in all three directions. According to Irle and Barbu (2010), typically relative movement ratio between the three direction is approximately 20:21:1 (tangential: radial: longitudinal), respectively. Table 13 shows average percentage of veneer shrinkage by species.

**Table 13: Average percentage of veneer shrinkage by Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan.**

Veneer Direction	Species		
	Batai	Eucalyptus	Kelampayan
Tangential (%)	4.63	7.45	5.93
Radial (%)	1.92	0.90	3.52
Longitudinal (%)	0.62	0.43	0.56

Note: Percentage of shrinkage after drying until 8% of moisture content

The analysis of variance (ANOVA) of the effect of species and veneer direction are showed in Table 14. Species and veneer direction were found to significantly affect the shrinkage. Interaction between species and veneer direction also shows a significant effect on veneer shrinkage.

**Table 14: The Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) on Veneer Shrinkage**

SOV	Df	Shrinkage
Species	2	948.27*
Veneer Direction	2	35051.98*
Species *Veneer Direction	4	2310.43*

Note: SOV= Source of variance, Df= Degree of freedom, ns= not significant at p<0.05,  
\*= significant at p<0.05, \*\*= highly significant at p<0.01

The summary of DMRT for effects of veneer shrinkage on different species is shown in Table 15. There is significance difference between species on veneer shrinkage. *Neolamarckia cadamba* had the highest value and significantly different to the other species. This might be due to *Neolamarckia cadamba* had higher moisture content (Table 7).



According to Lunguleasa (2013), there are some chemical changes and modification in the cell wall during drying process that play role in wood hygroscopy. Higher moisture content may cause more shrinkage when the moisture content is decreased (Fengyan, Xiaoshan, Lei, and Chun, 2010).

**Table 15: Summary DMRT on the Effects of Species**

Species	Veneer Shrinkage
Batai	2.40c
Eucalyptus	2.93b
Kelampayan	3.31a

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at  $p < 0.05$

Veneer shrinkage on the tangential direction is highest and significantly different compared to radial and longitudinal direction as shown in Table 16. Radial shrinkage is usually less than tangential shrinkage (about 50 %) due to effect of fibre direction properties; while longitudinal shrinkage is so slight as compared to other direction (Lunguleasa, 2013).

**Table 16: Summary DMRT on the Effects of Veneer Direction on Veneer Shringkage**

Veneer Direction	Veneer Shrinkage
Longitudinal	0.54c
Radial	2.13b
Tangential	5.97a

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at  $p < 0.05$

## ii. Veneer wettability

According to Gardner, Generalla, Gunnells, and Wolcott (1991), wettability of the wood can be identified by various methods such as contact angle, surface scanned micro-droplets and predicted values. Previously, the contact angle method was commonly used to investigate surface characteristic of wood and wood based composites (Ayrlmis, Dundar, Candan, and Akbulut, 2009). Table 17 shows average angle droplets of melamine urea formaldehyde (MUF) adhesive on different surface and measured over a different contact time.

**Table 17: Average of Contact Angle According to Time**

Species	Veneer Surface	Wet Time/°Angle				
		5 second	5 minute	12 minute	20 minute	50 minute
Batai	Tight	78°	68°	63°	55°	48°
	Loose	67°	62°	53°	48°	38°
Eucalyptus	Tight	72°	43°	33°	23°	13°
	Loose	63°	37°	27°	15°	7°
Kelampayan	Tight	62°	52°	38°	20°	13°
	Loose	58°	47°	33°	17°	12°

The analysis of variance (ANOVA) of the effect of species, veneer surface and time are showed in Table 18. Species, veneer surface and time were observed to affect the contact angle significantly. Interaction between species, veneer surface and time also shows a significant effect on contact angle.

**Table 18: The Analysis of Variance (ANOVA) on Wettability**

SOV	Df	Contact Angle
Species	2	5884.40*
Veneer Surface	1	974.27*

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Time	4	6089.44*
Species *Veneer Surface	2	65.29*
Species *Time	8	422.68*
Veneer Surface *Time	4	7.02*
Species *Time *Veneer Surface	8	7.29*

Note: SOV= Source of variance, Df= Degree of freedom, ns= not significant at  $p < 0.05$ , \*= significant at  $p < 0.05$ , \*\*= highly significant at  $p < 0.01$

Table 19 showed the summary of DMRT effects of species on veneer surface using MUF adhesive. All three species were observed to have significant differences in contact angle due to differences in veneer properties and density. *Eucalyptus pellita* shows the highest value and are significantly different than the other species. Hardwoods have substantially higher contents of hemicelluloses in comparison with softwoods and hemicellulose is one of the factors that have an effect on wettability.

**Table 19: Summary DMRT on the Effects of Species on Contact Angle**

Species	Contact Angle
Batai	33.43c
Eucalyptus	57.82a
Kelampayan	35.34b

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at  $p < 0.05$

Veneer surface with high contents of extractive and lignin were found to have higher contact angles (Jaic et al., 1996). According to Mantanis and Young (1997), the higher extractive contents can lead to lower the wood wettability by water. Table 20 shows the summary of T-Test on the effects of tight and loose surface. It is observed that tight surface is higher than loose surface for contact angle. This might be due to loose surface that had check tension that was affected by knives on the peeling lathe process and make it easier for liquid to wet and penetrate into veneer check surface.

**Table 20: T-Test Effects of Species on Veneer Surface**

Veneer Surface	Contact Angle
Tight	45.36a
Loose	38.97b

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at  $p < 0.05$

Table 21 shows that time significantly affect the contact angle. As the liquid was measured for contact angle from 5 second to 50 minute, increase of time decreases the contact angle of liquid due to the penetration or spreading of glue on the veneer surface.

The presence of hydroxyl group on the veneers will attract the moisture in MUF resin causing spreading of liquid. The pores size and distance of the species will also encourage the spreading or wetting of veneers. For all three species the loose side for veneer surface shows faster and better wetting. According to Nussbaum (1999), contact angles and the wetting is influenced by direction of fibre on the surface. Veneer that have good wetting improves the bonding strength in wood composite product such as plywood and laminated veneer lumber (LVL).



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**Table 21: T-Test Effects of Time on Contact Angle**

Time	Contact Angle
5 second	66.76a
5 minute	51.63b
12 minute	41.20c
20 minute	29.57d
50 minute	21.27e

Note: Means with the same letter down the column are not significantly different at p < 0.05

## IV. CONCLUSION

TABLE III. For anatomical properties, increase number of vessel was observed in highest wood density species which is Eucalyptus. Tree height portion has highly significant effect on specific gravity of Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan. Wood moisture content shows highly significant to Batai and Kelampayan for wood portion, but has no significantly effect to Eucalyptus. The chemical properties of Batai, Eucalyptus and Kelampayan were analyzed for cold and hot water, alcohol toluene, ash content and lignin content showing big variation in the cold and hot water soluble content for the species. For veneer properties, increased shrinkage was observed in higher density of wood species. The denser wood species possessed high wettability which was observed by contact angle method. As the conclusion, species and tree portion were found to significantly affect the anatomical, physical and chemical properties. For veneer analysis, species were found to affect veneer parameters.

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