

S6 Results Pilot experiment

For different wood types this increase was higher than being humidified in air at 80%RH (+9%,+12%,+13%) but lower compared to soaking the wood directly in water (+117%,+78%,+118%, cf. Fig.S1). It was fundamentally different to the average humidity content of soil samples, which was on average 14% if humidified (80%RH) and about 108% when taken directly from the termite jars. After about 22 days, large areas of the blocks were found exposed without clay sheeting and significant signs of termite foraging visible in form of 'trench-like' excavations and tunnelling activity parallel to the grain (Fig.S4).