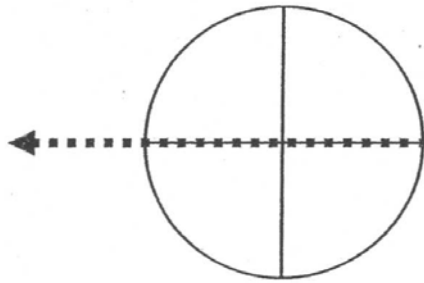


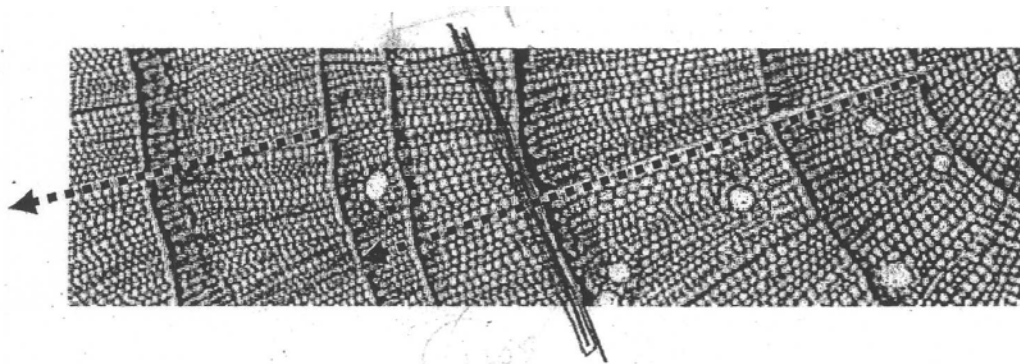
Guide for Measuring Cores

Cookies (and even cores) are wide enough to have a large number of “measuring path options. The measuring path being the one-dimensional vector of measurement across the core. The goal is to follow the path that, for each ring, which best represents the actual diameter of growth of the tree given the information provided by the core. There are several guidelines and techniques to keep oneself along this “true path:”

Use the horizontal bar of the reticle crosshairs to visually indicate the path as you measure. This means that the point of measurement will be the intersection of the crosshairs – actually, at the right edge of the crosshairs, since the crosshairs have a measurable width.

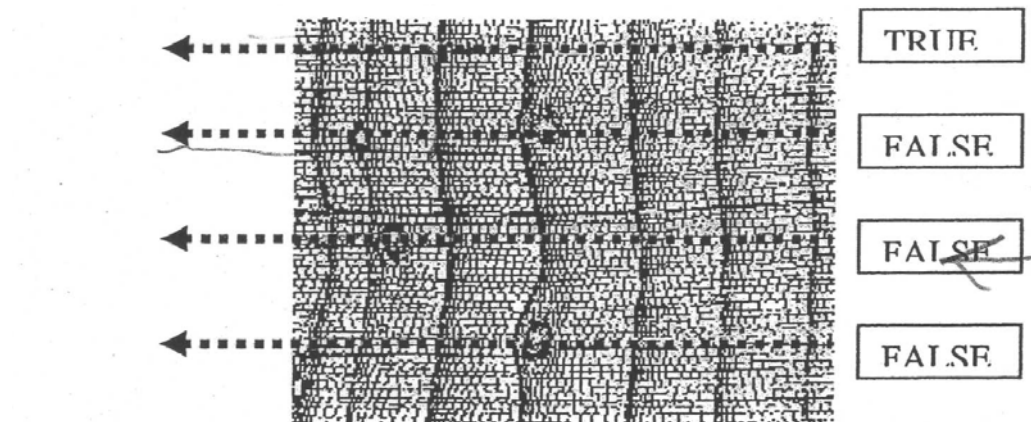


The path should be kept parallel to the radially-aligned rows (or files) of cells. Usually this path will be perpendicular to the ring boundaries, but not always.



The core will need to be repositioned frequently in order to follow the true path. On some sections, especially with the innermost rings, you may have to reposition the core after each measured ring.

The path should avoid the various forms of ring boundary distortion. The most common distortion is blisters due to resin ducts near the boundary, specially in the pines. Choose a path where the ring boundaries are most nearly parallel to each other:



If you are measuring a segment in which the ring boundaries are wavy, with the waves aligned, always measure from peak to peak or trough to trough.

If the width of the ring is variable across the core and the true path can't be deduced from neighboring rings, choose the path which "splits the difference," representing the median width of the ring. This sort of variability is particularly common with micro rings.