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John Woodmorappe
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LONG TREE-RING CHRONOLOGIES: THE ROLE OF “BRIDGE” TREE-RING SERIES

John Woodmorappe, 6505 N. Nashville #301, Chicago, Illinois 60631 JPeczki@Neiu.edu

ABSTRACT

At the last ICC, I presented a detailed paper explaining how a series of disturbances can cause trees to crossmatch in accordance with the disturbances, and not in accordance with an annual climatic signal as conventionally believed. Extending this reasoning, different regions with different disturbances create a series of “bundles” of trees crossmatching only within these regions. These “bundles” can subsequently be connected in a chain by “bridge” series (series that fortuitously perform this role), thus creating the illusion of a very long tree-ring chronology, even though most of these trees actually lived at the same time.

Up to now, the disturbances were limited to tree ring width reductions (75%). This new study focuses on postulated random, decadal-recurring cases of two rings growing in one year, although mistakenly put in two successive years. A collection of tree-ring series of 10 Finnish Scots pine, all growing in the 20th century, were edited in accordance with this consideration.

A master chronology was made of the long Finnish tree ring chronology, but limited to its early interval (1000 BC to the conventionally-believed 5633 BC). The 10 modified modern series were crossmatched against this master in order to determine if any of them would fortuitously “connect” anywhere with it. An affirmative answer means that this particular series could potentially have qualified as a “bridge” between any disparate series that occurred at that interval of the master.

One of them did, and passed all the “gateway” statistics, “connecting” with the Master chronology at 2536 BC. It could be added as a “bridge” by use of the manual function of CDendro.

Because the “bridge” series rely on fortuitous crossmatching, it is desirable that there be many of them and especially that they be more variegated. This brief follow-up investigation shows the feasibility of such a diversification of the pool of “bridge” series, which of course increases the number of candidates that can serve as “bridges”. These serially connect the “bundles” that comprise the fictitiously-long tree ring chronology.

KEYWORDS

dendrochronology, tree rings, young earth

THE AUTHOR

John Woodmorappe has degrees in Biology and Geology, and has been an active scientific creationist researcher and writer for nearly 50 years.