

# Package ‘Bchron’

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**Description** Enables quick calibration of radiocarbon dates under various calibration curves (including user generated ones); age-depth modelling as per the algorithm of Haslett and Parnell (2008) <DOI:10.1111/j.1467-9876.2008.00623.x>; Relative sea level rate estimation incorporating time uncertainty in polynomial regression models (Parnell and Gehrels 2015) <DOI:10.1002/9781118452547.ch32>; non-parametric phase modelling via Gaussian mixtures as a means to determine the activity of a site (and as an alternative to the Oxcal function SUM; currently unpublished), and reverse calibration of dates from calibrated into un-calibrated years (also unpublished).

**License** GPL (>= 2)

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Bchron

*Bchron: Radiocarbon dating, age-depth modelling, relative sea level rate estimation, and non-parametric phase modelling*

**Description**

This package enables quick calibration of radiocarbon dates under various calibration curves (including user generated ones); Age-depth modelling as per the algorithm of Haslett and Parnell (2008); Relative sea level rate estimation incorporating time uncertainty in polynomial regression models; and non-parametric phase modelling via Gaussian mixtures as a means to determine the activity of a site (and as an alternative to the Oxcal function SUM)

**Bchron functions**

The most important functions are [BchronCalibrate](#) to calibrate radiocarbon (and non-radiocarbon) dates, [Bchronology](#) for the age-depth model of Haslett and Parnell (2008), [BchronRSL](#) to get rate estimates for relative sea level data, [BchronDensity](#) and [BchronDensityFast](#) for non-parametric phase modelling of age data. See the help files for these functions for examples. See the vignette for more complete documentation

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BchronCalibrate	<i>Fast radiocarbon calibration</i>
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**Description**

A fast function for calibrating large numbers of radiocarbon dates involving multiple calibration curves

**Usage**

```
BchronCalibrate(
  ages,
  ageSds,
  calCurves,
  ids = NULL,
  positions = NULL,
  pathToCalCurves = system.file("data", package = "Bchron"),
  eps = 1e-05,
  dfs = rep(100, length(ages))
)
```

**Arguments**

ages	A vector of ages (most likely 14C)
ageSds	A vector of 1-sigma values for the ages given above
calCurves	A vector of values containing either <code>intcal13</code> , <code>shcal13</code> , <code>marine13</code> , or <code>normal</code> . Should be the same length the number of ages supplied. Non-standard calibration curves can be used provided they are supplied in the same format as those previously mentioned and are placed in the same directory. Normal indicates a normally-distributed (non-14C) age.
ids	ID names for each age
positions	Position values (e.g. depths) for each age
pathToCalCurves	File path to where the calibration curves are located. Defaults to the system directory where the 3 standard calibration curves are stored.
eps	Cut-off point for density calculation. A value of <code>eps&gt;0</code> removes ages from the output which have negligible probability density
dfs	Degrees-of-freedom values for the t-distribution associated with the calibration calculation. A large value indicates Gaussian distributions assumed for the 14C ages

## Details

This function provides a direct numerical integration strategy for computing calibrated radiocarbon ages. The steps for each 14C age are approximately as follows: 1) Create a grid of ages covering the range of the calibration curve 2) Calculate the probability of each age according to the 14C age, the standard deviation supplied and the calibration curve 3) Normalise the probabilities so that they sum to 1 4) Remove any probabilities that are less than the value given for eps Multiple calibration curves can be specified so that each 14C age can have a different curve. For ages that are not 14C, use the 'normal' calibration curve which treats the ages as normally distributed with given standard deviation

## Value

A list of lists where each element corresponds to a single age. Each element contains:

ages	The original age supplied
ageSds	The original age standard deviation supplied
positions	The position of the age (usually the depth)
calCurves	The calibration curve used for that age
ageGrid	A grid of age values over which the density was created
densities	A vector of probability values indicating the probability value for each element in ageGrid
ageLab	The label given to the age variable
positionLab	The label given to the position variable

## See Also

[Bchronology](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#), [createCalCurve](#)

## Examples

```
# Calibrate a single age
ages1 = BchronCalibrate(ages=11553,ageSds=230,calCurves='intcal13',ids='Date-1')
summary(ages1)
plot(ages1)

# Calibrate multiple ages with different calibration curves
ages2 = BchronCalibrate(ages=c(3445,11553,7456),ageSds=c(50,230,110),
                       calCurves=c('intcal13','intcal13','shcal13'))
summary(ages2)
plot(ages2)

# Calibrate multiple ages with multiple calibration curves and including depth
ages3 = BchronCalibrate(ages=c(3445,11553),ageSds=c(50,230),positions=c(100,150),
                       calCurves=c('intcal13','normal'))
summary(ages3)
plot(ages3,withPositions=TRUE)
```

---

BchronDensity	<i>Non-parametric phase model</i>
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### Description

This function runs a non-parametric phase model on 14C and non-14C ages via Gaussian Mixture density estimation

### Usage

```
BchronDensity(
  ages,
  ageSds,
  calCurves,
  pathToCalCurves = system.file("data", package = "Bchron"),
  dfs = rep(100, length(ages)),
  numMix = 50,
  iterations = 10000,
  burn = 2000,
  thin = 8,
  updateAges = FALSE,
  store_density = TRUE
)
```

### Arguments

ages	A vector of ages (most likely 14C)
ageSds	A vector of 1-sigma values for the ages given above
calCurves	A vector of values containing either <code>intcal13</code> , <code>shcal13</code> , <code>marine13</code> , or <code>normal</code> . Should be the same length the number of ages supplied. Non-standard calibration curves can be used provided they are supplied in the same format as those previously mentioned and are placed in the same directory. Normal indicates a normally-distributed (non-14C) age.
pathToCalCurves	File path to where the calibration curves are located. Defaults to the system directory where the 3 standard calibration curves are stored
dfs	Degrees-of-freedom values for the t-distribution associated with the calibration calculation. A large value indicates Gaussian distributions assumed for the 14C ages
numMix	The number of mixture components in the phase model. Might need to be increased if the data set is large and the phase behaviour is very complex
iterations	The number of iterations to run for
burn	The number of starting iterations to discard
thin	The step size of iterations to keep

<code>updateAges</code>	Whether or not to update ages as part of the MCMC run. Default is FALSE. Changing this to TRUE will improve performance but will fit a slightly invalid model
<code>store_density</code>	Whether or not to store the density and age grid. Useful for plotting the output in other packages

### Details

This model places a Gaussian mixture prior distribution on the calibrated ages and so estimates the density of the overall set of radiocarbon ages. It is designed to be a probabilistic version of the Oxcal SUM command which takes calibrated ages and sums the probability distributions with the aim of estimating activity through age as a proxy.

### Value

An object of class `BchronDensityRun` with the following elements:

- `theta`The posterior samples of the restricted ages
- `p`Posterior samples of the mixture proportions
- `mu`Values of the means of each Gaussian mixture
- `calAges`The calibrated ages from [BchronCalibrate](#)
- `G`The number of mixture components. Equal to `numMix`
- `age_grid`A grid of ages used for the final density estimate
- `density`The density estimate based on the above age grid

### See Also

[Bchronology](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensityFast](#) for a faster approximate version of this function

### Examples

```
# Read in some data from Sluggan Moss
data(Sluggan)

# Run the model
SlugDens = BchronDensity(ages=Sluggan$ages, ageSds=Sluggan$ageSds,
                        calCurves=Sluggan$calCurves)

# plot it
plot(SlugDens)
```

---

BchronDensityFast      *Non-parametric phase model (faster version)*

---

## Description

This function runs a non-parametric phase model on 14C and non-14C ages via Gaussian Mixture density estimation through the mclust package

## Usage

```
BchronDensityFast(
  ages,
  ageSds,
  calCurves,
  pathToCalCurves = system.file("data", package = "Bchron"),
  dfs = rep(100, length(ages)),
  samples = 2000,
  G = 30
)
```

## Arguments

ages	A vector of ages (most likely 14C)
ageSds	A vector of 1-sigma values for the ages given above
calCurves	A vector of values containing either intcal13, shcal13, marine13, or normal. Should be the same length the number of ages supplied. Non-standard calibration curves can be used provided they are supplied in the same format as those previously mentioned and are placed in the same directory. Normal indicates a normally-distributed (non-14C) age.
pathToCalCurves	File path to where the calibration curves are located. Defaults to the system directory where the 3 standard calibration curves are stored.
dfs	Degrees-of-freedom values for the t-distribution associated with the calibration calculation. A large value indicates Gaussian distributions assumed for the 14C ages
samples	Number of samples of calibrated dates required
G	Number of Gaussian mixture components

## Details

This is a faster approximate version of [BchronDensity](#) that uses the [densityMclust](#) function to compute the Gaussian mixtures for a set of calibrated ages. The method is an approximation as it does not fit a fully Bayesian model as [BchronDensity](#) does. It is designed to be a probabilistic version of the Oxcal SUM command which takes calibrated ages and sums the probability distributions with the aim of estimating activity through age as a proxy.

**Value**

An object of class `BchronDensityRunFast` with the following components:

<code>out</code>	The output from the run of <code>densityMclust</code> with the given number of mixture components
<code>calAges</code>	The calibrated ages from the <code>BchronDensity</code> function

**See Also**

[Bchronology](#), [BchronCalibrate](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#) for a slower exact version of this function

**Examples**

```
# Read in some data from Sluggan Moss
data(Sluggan)

# Run the model
SlugDensFast = BchronDensityFast(ages=Sluggan$ages, ageSds=Sluggan$ageSds,
                                calCurves=Sluggan$calCurves)

# plot it
plot(SlugDensFast)
```

---

Bchronology

*Runs the Compound Poisson-Gamma chronology model of Haslett and Parnell (2008)*

---

**Description**

Fits a non-parametric chronology model to age/position data according to the Compound Poisson-Gamma model defined by Haslett and Parnell (2008) <DOI:10.1111/j.1467-9876.2008.00623.x>. This version uses a slightly modified Markov chain Monte Carlo fitting algorithm which aims to converge quicker and requires fewer iterations. It also a slightly modified procedure for identifying outliers

**Usage**

```
Bchronology(
  ages,
  ageSds,
  positions,
  positionThicknesses = rep(0, length(ages)),
  calCurves = rep("intcal13", length(ages)),
  ids = NULL,
  outlierProbs = rep(0.01, length(ages)),
  predictPositions = seq(min(positions), max(positions), length = 100),
```



```

pathToCalCurves = system.file("data", package = "Bchron"),
jitterPositions = FALSE,
iterations = 10000,
burn = 2000,
thin = 8,
extractDate = 1950 - as.numeric(format(Sys.time(), "%Y")),
maxExtrap = 1000,
thetaMhSd = 0.5,
muMhSd = 0.1,
psiMhSd = 0.1,
ageScaleVal = 1000,
positionScaleVal = 100
)

```

### Arguments

ages	A vector of ages (most likely 14C)
ageSds	A vector of 1-sigma values for the ages given above
positions	Position values (e.g. depths) for each age
positionThicknesses	Thickness values for each of the positions. The thickness value should be the full thickness value of the slice. By default set to zero.
calCurves	A vector of values containing either 'intcal13', 'shcal13', 'marine13', or 'normal'. Should be the same length the number of ages supplied. Non-standard calibration curves can be used provided they are supplied in the same format as those previously mentioned and are placed in the same directory, or created via <a href="#">createCalCurve</a> . Normal indicates a normally-distributed (non-14C) age.
ids	ID names for each age
outlierProbs	A vector of prior outlier probabilities, one for each age. Defaults to 0.01
predictPositions	A vector of positions (e.g. depths) at which predicted age values are required. Defaults to a sequence of length 100 from the top position to the bottom position
pathToCalCurves	File path to where the calibration curves are located. Defaults to the system directory where the 3 standard calibration curves are stored.
jitterPositions	Whether to jitter the positions at startup or not. Default is FALSE but if there are lots of dates at similar depths this may resolve some initialisation problems
iterations	The number of iterations to run the procedure for
burn	The number of starting iterations to discard
thin	The step size for every iteration to keep beyond the burnin
extractDate	The top age of the core. Used for extrapolation purposes so that no extrapolated ages go beyond the top age of the core. Defaults to the current year

maxExtrap	The maximum number of extrapolations to perform before giving up and setting the predicted ages to NA. Useful for when large amounts of extrapolation are required, i.e. some of the predictPositions are a long way from the dated positions
thetaMhSd	The Metropolis-Hastings standard deviation for the age parameters
muMhSd	The Metropolis-Hastings standard deviation for the Compound Poisson-Gamma mean
psiMhSd	The Metropolis-Hastings standard deviation for the Compound Poisson-Gamma scale
ageScaleVal	A scale value for the ages. Bchronology works best when the ages are scaled to be approximately between 0 and 100. The default value is thus 1000 for ages given in years.
positionScaleVal	A scale value for the positions. Bchronology works best when the positions are scaled to be approximately between 0 and 100. The default value is thus 100 for positions given in cm.

### Details

The Bchronology function fits a compound Poisson-Gamma distribution to the increments between the dated levels. This involves a stochastic linear interpolation step where the age gaps are Gamma distributed, and the position gaps are Exponential. Radiocarbon and non-radiocarbon dates (including outliers) are updated within the function also by MCMC.

### Value

A list of class BchronologyRun which include elements:

theta	The posterior estimated values of the ages
phi	The posterior estimated outlier values (1=outlier, 2=not outlier). The means of this parameter give the posterior estimated outlier probabilities
mu	The posterior values of the Compound Poisson-Gamma mean
psi	The posterior values of the Compound Poisson-Gamma scale
thetaPredict	The posterior estimated ages for each of the values in predictPosition
predictPositions	The positions at which estimated ages were required
calAges	The calibrated ages as output from <a href="#">BchronCalibrate</a>
inputVals	All of the input values to the Bchronology run

### References

Haslett, J., and Parnell, A. C. (2008). A simple monotone process with application to radiocarbon-dated depth chronologies. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series C*, 57, 399-418. DOI:10.1111/j.1467-9876.2008.00623.x Parnell, A. C., Haslett, J., Allen, J. R. M., Buck, C. E., and Huntley, B. (2008). A flexible approach to assessing synchronicity of past events using Bayesian reconstructions of sedimentation history. *Quaternary Science Reviews*, 27(19-20), 1872-1885. DOI:10.1016/j.quascirev.2008.07.009

**See Also**

[BchronCalibrate](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#)

**Examples**

```
# Data from Glendalough
data(Glendalough)

# Run in Bchronology - all but first age uses intcal13
GlenOut = Bchronology(ages=Glendalough$ages,ageSds=Glendalough$ageSds,
                     calCurves=Glendalough$calCurves,positions=Glendalough$position,
                     positionThicknesses=Glendalough$thickness,ids=Glendalough$id,
                     predictPositions=seq(0,1500,by=10))

# Summarise it a few different ways
summary(GlenOut) # Default is for quantiles of ages at predictPosition values
summary(GlenOut, type='convergence') # Check model convergence
summary(GlenOut, type='outliers') # Look at outlier probabilities

# Predict for some new positions
predictAges = predict(GlenOut, newPositions = c(150,725,1500), newPositionThicknesses=c(5,0,20))

# Plot the output
plot(GlenOut,main="Glendalough",xlab='Age (cal years BP)',ylab='Depth (cm)',las=1)
```

---

BchronRSL

*Relative sea level rate (RSL) estimation*

---

**Description**

Relative sea level rate (RSL) estimation

**Usage**

```
BchronRSL(
  BchronologyRun,
  RSLmean,
  RSLsd,
  degree = 1,
  iterations = 10000,
  burn = 2000,
  thin = 8
)
```

**Arguments**

BchronologyRun	Output from a run of <a href="#">Bchronology</a>
RSLmean	A vector of RSL mean estimates of the same length as the number of predictPositions given to the <a href="#">Bchronology</a> function
RSLsd	A vector RSL standard deviations of the same length as the number of predictPositions given to the <a href="#">Bchronology</a> function
degree	The degree of the polynomial regression: linear=1 (default), quadratic=2, etc. Supports up to degree 5, though this will depend on the data given
iterations	The number of MCMC iterations to run
burn	The number of starting iterations to discard
thin	The step size of iterations to discard

**Details**

This function fits an errors-in-variables regression model to relative sea level (RSL) data. An errors-in-variables regression model allows for uncertainty in the explanatory variable, here the age of sea level data point. The algorithm is more fully defined in the reference below

**Value**

An object of class BchronRSLRun with elements itemize

**References**

Andrew C. Parnell and W. Roland Gehrels (2013) 'Using chronological models in late holocene sea level reconstructions from salt marsh sediments' In: I. Shennan, B.P. Horton, and A.J. Long (eds). Handbook of Sea Level Research. Chichester: Wiley

**See Also**

[BchronCalibrate](#), [Bchronology](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#)

**Examples**

```
# Load in data
data(TestChronData)
data(TestRSLData)

# Run through Bchronology
RSLrun = Bchronology(ages=TestChronData$ages,
                    ageSds=TestChronData$ageSds,
                    positions=TestChronData$position,
                    positionThickneses=TestChronData$thickness,
                    ids=TestChronData$id,
                    calCurves=TestChronData$calCurves,
                    predictPositions=TestRSLData$Depth,
                    jitterPositions = TRUE)
```

```

# Now run through BchronRSL
RSLrun2 = BchronRSL(RSLrun, RSLmean=TestRSLData$RSL, RSLsd=TestRSLData$Sigma, degree=3)

# Summarise it
summary(RSLrun2)

# Plot it
plot(RSLrun2)

```

---

choosePositions	<i>Compute positions to date next which result in maximal decrease of chronological uncertainty</i>
-----------------	---

---

### Description

This function finds, for a given current chronology, created via [Bchronology](#), which positions (depths) to date next. If  $N = 1$  it just finds the position with the biggest uncertainty. If  $N > 1$  it puts a date at the  $N = 1$  position and re-runs [Bchronology](#) with the extra psuedo date. It uses the [unCalibrate](#) function with the un-calibrated age estimated at the median of the chronology and the sd as specified via the newSds argument. Other arguments specify the new thicknesses, calibration curves, and outlier probabilities for newly inserted psuedo-dates.

### Usage

```

choosePositions(
  bchrRun,
  N = 1,
  newSds = 30,
  newThicknesses = 0,
  positions = bchrRun$predictPositions,
  newCalCurve = "intcal13",
  newOutlierProb = 0.05,
  level = 0.5,
  plot = TRUE,
  count = 1,
  linesAt = NULL
)

```

### Arguments

bchrRun	A run of the current chronology as output from <a href="#">Bchronology</a>
N	The number of new positions required
newSds	The new standard deviations of the psuedo-added dates
newThicknesses	The new thicknesses of the psuedo-added dates

positions	The positions allowed to estimate the new positions to date. Defaults to the value of predictPositions from the <a href="#">Bchronology</a> run
newCalCurve	The new calibration curve of the psuedo-added dates
newOutlierProb	The new outlier probabilities of the psuedo-added dates
level	The confidence level required for minimising the uncertainty. Defaults to 50%. (Note: this will be estimated more robustly than the 95% level)
plot	Whether to plot the chronologies as they are produced
count	Counter function (not for use other than by the function itself)
linesAt	Horizontal line positions (not for use other than by the function itself)

### Value

Some plots and the positions to date next

### See Also

[Bchronology](#) for the main function to create chronologies, [unCalibrate](#) for the ability to invert calendar dates for a given calibration curve.

### Examples

```
data(Glendalough)
GlenOut = Bchronology(ages=Glendalough$ages,
                    ageSds=Glendalough$ageSds,
                    calCurves=Glendalough$calCurves,
                    positions=Glendalough$position,
                    positionThicknesses=Glendalough$thickness,
                    ids=Glendalough$id,
                    predictPositions=seq(0,1500,by=10))

# Find out which two positions (depths) to date if we have room for two more dates
# Here going to choose 3 new positions to date
newPositions = choosePositions(GlenOut, N = 3)
print(newPositions)

# Suppose you are only interested in dating the new depths at 500, 600, or 700 cm
newPositions2 = choosePositions(GlenOut, N = 2,
                              positions = seq(500, 700, by = 10))
print(newPositions2)
```

---

coreInfluence	<i>Find the influence of dates in a pair of Bchronology runs across the core</i>
---------------	--

---

### Description

This function takes as input two [Bchronology](#) runs and compares the uncertainty intervals. It does this by computing the mean uncertainty across the core (type = 'mean') at a specified percentile level (e.g. 95%) and subsequently reporting the reduction/increase in uncertainty between the two runs. Both cores must have the same set of depths/positions at regular intervals.

### Usage

```
coreInfluence(
  bchrRun1,
  bchrRun2,
  percentile = 0.95,
  type = c("plot", "summary", "max"),
  ageTolerance = 500,
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

bchrRun1	The output of a run of the <a href="#">Bchronology</a> function
bchrRun2	The output of another run of the <a href="#">Bchronology</a> function, possibly with different dates. Note this must have the same value of predictPositions as bchrRun1
percentile	The value of the percentile to compare the uncertainties. Default is 95%
type	if plot will return a plot of the difference in uncertainties at the specified percentile level. If summary will return text output of the reduction in uncertainty at each position. If max will return the position of the maximum decrease in uncertainty and a list of all the positions where the reduction in uncertainty exceeds the value of ageTolerance
ageTolerance	A value in years for which to report the positions at which the reduction in uncertainty exceeds this value.
...	Additional arguments to plot

### Details

For example, if the ageTolerance value is 500 years, then coreInfluence will return all of the positions at which the uncertainty reduction is bigger than 500.

### Value

Depending on type will outputs some text and plots providing the influence values for the cores in question.

**See Also**

[Bchronology](#), [choosePositions](#), [dateInfluence](#) for finding the influence of removing a single date from a core

**Examples**

```
data(Glendalough)
# Start with a run that remove two dates
GlenOut1 = Bchronology(ages=Glendalough$ages[-c(3:4)],
  ageSds=Glendalough$ageSds[-c(3:4)],
  calCurves=Glendalough$calCurves[-c(3:4)],
  positions=Glendalough$position[-c(3:4)],
  positionThicknesses=Glendalough$thickness[-c(3:4)],
  ids=Glendalough$id[-c(3:4)],
  predictPositions=seq(0,1500,by=10))
GlenOut2 = Bchronology(ages=Glendalough$ages,
  ageSds=Glendalough$ageSds,
  calCurves=Glendalough$calCurves,
  positions=Glendalough$position,
  positionThicknesses=Glendalough$thickness,
  ids=Glendalough$id,
  predictPositions=seq(0,1500,by=10))

# Now compare their influence
coreInfluence(GlenOut1,
  GlenOut2,
  type = c('max', 'plot'),
  xlab = 'Age (cal years BP)',
  ylab = 'Depth (cm)',
  main = 'Chronology difference at 95% for
  Glendalough removing two dates',
  las = 1)
```

---

createCalCurve

*Create a new calibration curve*

---

**Description**

A function for creating a new calibration curve not already available in Bchron

**Usage**

```
createCalCurve(
  name,
  cal_ages,
  uncal_ages,
  one_sigma = rep(0, length(cal_ages)),
```



```

    path_to_cal_curves = getwd()
  )

```

### Arguments

name	The name of the new calibration curve
cal_ages	A vector of the calendar/calibrated ages in years before present
uncal_ages	A vector of values of uncalibrated ages in appropriate units (e.g. 14C years BP)
one_sigma	The one sigma (one standard deviation) values in uncalibrated units. If left blank it assumes these are all zero
path_to_cal_curves	The path to the calibration curves. Will write by default to the working directory

### Details

All calibration curves are stored by Bchron in the standard R gzipped text format. You can find the location of the calibration curves by typing `system.file('data', package='Bchron')`. Any created calibration curve will be converted to this format. However R packages are not allowed to write to this directory so it is up to the user to put the resulting calibration curve file in the appropriate directory. It can then be used as in the examples below. However note that re-installing Bchron will likely over-write previously created calibration curves so you should make sure to store the code used to create it. As a short-cut to copying it by hand you can instead use the `file.copy` command in the example below.

### See Also

[BchronCalibrate](#)

### Examples

```

# Load in the calibration curve with:
intcal09 = read.table('http://www.radiocarbon.org/IntCal09%20files/intcal09.14c', sep=',')
# Run createCalCurve
createCalCurve(name='intcal09', cal_ages=intcal09[,1], uncal_ages=intcal09[,2], one_sigma=intcal09[,3])

# Copy the file to the right place
file.copy(from = 'intcal09.rda',
          to = system.file('data', package='Bchron'),
          overwrite = TRUE) # Only need this if you've run it more than once

# Calibrate the ages under two calibration curves
age_09 = BchronCalibrate(ages=15500, ageSds=150,
                        calCurves = 'intcal09', ids='My Date',
                        pathToCalCurves = getwd())
age_13 = BchronCalibrate(ages=15500, ageSds=150, calCurves = 'intcal13')

# Finally plot the difference
plot(age_09)
with(age_13$Date1, lines(ageGrid, densities, col='red'))

```

```
legend('topleft', legend=c('intcal09', 'intcal13'), col=c('black', 'red'), lty=1)
```

---

dateInfluence	<i>Find the influence of the dates in a Bchronology run</i>
---------------	---

---

### Description

This function takes as input a [Bchronology](#) run and allows the user to estimate a value of 'influence' for either a particular date (by name or number), for all dates in a core (whichDate = 'all'), or for all internal dates (whichDate = 'internal'). It measures the influence by either the Kullback-Leibler divergence (KL), the absolute mean difference (absMeanDiff), or the absolute median difference (absMedianDiff).

### Usage

```
dateInfluence(
  bchrRun,
  whichDate = "all",
  measure = c("KL", "absMeanDiff", "absMedianDiff")
)
```

### Arguments

bchrRun	The output of a run of the <a href="#">Bchronology</a> function
whichDate	The chosen date to remove. Either 'all' which removes each date in turn, or 'internal' which removes all but the top/bottom dates, or the date number (in the order same order as in argument 1), or the name of the date from the Bchronology run output file.
measure	Either 'KL' for Kullback Leibler divergence (recommended); or 'absMeanDiff' or 'absMedianDiff' for distances in years from the mean/median age respectively

### Details

The KL measure is preferred as it takes account of the full probability distributions but it lacks a simple interpretation. The best way to use it is with whichDate = 'all': the largest value corresponds to the most influential date in the chronology. For simpler interpretation use measure = 'absMeanDiff' or measure = 'absMedianDiff' as for these the influence is measured in years.

When the predictPositions from the original Bchronology run do not include those of the date(s) being left out then the function uses the closest position and reports a warning.

### Value

Outputs some text providing the influence values for the date(s) in question. If given an assignment value also return a list containing all the probability distributions.

**See Also**

[Bchronology](#), [summary.BchronologyRun](#), [coreInfluence](#), [choosePositions](#)

**Examples**

```
data(Glendalough)
GlenOut = Bchronology(ages=Glendalough$ages,
  ageSds=Glendalough$ageSds,
  calCurves=Glendalough$calCurves,
  positions=Glendalough$position,
  positionThicknesses=Glendalough$thickness,
  ids=Glendalough$id,
  predictPositions=seq(0,1500,by=10))
dateInfluence(GlenOut, whichDate = 4, measure = 'absMeanDiff')
```

---

Glendalough

*Glendalough data*

---

**Description**

Chronology data for Glendalough data set

**Usage**

```
data(Glendalough)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 6 observations on the following 6 variables:

id ID of each age  
ages Age in (14C) years BP  
ageSds Age standard deviations  
position Depths in cm  
thickness Thicknesses in cm  
calCurves Calibration curve for each age

**Details**

This Glendalough data can be used with [Bchronology](#) or [BchronDensity](#)

**Source**

Haslett, J., Whiley, M., Bhattacharya, S., Mitchell, F. J. G., Allen, J. R. M., Huntley, B., & Salter-Townshend, M. (2006). Bayesian palaeoclimate reconstruction. *Journal of the Royal Statistical Society, Series A*, 169, 395-438.

---

hdr *Calculate highest density regions for Bchron calibrated ages*

---

### Description

A function for computing highest density regions (HDRs)

### Usage

```
hdr(date, prob = 0.95)
```

### Arguments

date	A calibrated Bchron date, via e.g. <a href="#">BchronCalibrate</a>
prob	The desired probability interval, in the range(0, 1)

### Details

The output of this function is a list of contiguous ranges which cover the probability interval requested. A highest density region might have multiple such ranges if the calibrated date is multi-modal. These differ from credible intervals, which are always contiguous but will not be a good representation of a multi-modal probability distribution.

### Value

A list where each element is one of the contiguous sets making up the HDR

### See Also

[BchronCalibrate](#)

### Examples

```
# Calibrate multiple ages and summarise them
ages = BchronCalibrate(ages=11553, ageSds=230,
                      calCurves='intcal13')

# Get samples
hdr(ages$Date1)
```

---

`intcal13`*Northern hemisphere 2013 calibration curve*

---

**Description**

Northern hemisphere 2013 calibration curve

**Usage**

```
data(intcal13)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 5141 observations on 5 variables.

**Details**

For full details and reference see <http://www.radiocarbon.org/IntCal13.htm>. For usage details see [BchronCalibrate](#)

---

`marine13`*Marine 2013 calibration curve*

---

**Description**

Marine 2013 calibration curve

**Usage**

```
data(marine13)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 4801 observations on 5 variables

**Details**

For full details and reference see <http://www.radiocarbon.org/IntCal13.htm>. For usage details see [BchronCalibrate](#)

---

 normal

*Data for dummy calibration of normally distributed ages*


---

**Description**

Data for dummy calibration of normally distributed ages

**Usage**

```
data(normal)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 2 observations on 3 variables.

**Details**

This is dummy data so that [BchronCalibrate](#) can calibrate normally distributed dates.

---

 plot.BchronCalibratedDates

*Plot calibrated dates from a BchronCalibrate run*


---

**Description**

Plots calibrated radiocarbon dates from a [BchronCalibrate](#) run. Has options to plot on a position (usually depth) scale if supplied with the original run

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronCalibratedDates'
plot(
  x,
  withPositions = ifelse(length(x) > 1 & !is.null(x[[1]]$positions), TRUE, FALSE),
  dateHeight = 100,
  dateLabels = TRUE,
  fillCol = "darkslategray",
  withHDR = TRUE,
  ageScale = c("bp", "bc", "b2k"),
  scaleReverse = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

x	Output from <a href="#">BchronCalibrate</a>
withPositions	Whether to plot with positions (i.e. using the position values as the y axis). By default TRUE if x has more than one date and contains positions
dateHeight	The height of the dates in the plot in the same units as the position values. Only relevant if withPositions=TRUE.
dateLabels	Whether to add the names of the dates to the left of them. Default TRUE
fillCol	A colour to fill the date densities when withPositions is TRUE, or HDR ranges when it is FALSE
withHDR	Whether to plot the 95% highest density region values
ageScale	Either bp for years before present, bc for years BC/AD (BC will be negative), b2k for years before 2000. Others not supported (yet).
scaleReverse	Whether to reverse the x-axis scale. Defaults to TRUE which works best for dates presented in e.g. years BP
...	Other arguments to plot (currently ignored)

**Details**

These plots are intended to be pretty basic and used simply for quick information. Users are encouraged to learn the R plotting features to produce publication quality graphics

**See Also**

[BchronCalibrate](#), [Bchronology](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#)

---

plot.BchronDensityRun *Plot output from BchronDensity*

---

**Description**

Plot output from BchronDensity

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronDensityRun'
plot(
  x,
  plotDates = TRUE,
  plotRawSum = FALSE,
  plotPhase = TRUE,
  phaseProb = 0.95,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

x	Output from <a href="#">BchronDensity</a>
plotDates	Whether to plot the individual calibrated dates
plotRawSum	Whether to plot the raw sum of the probability distributions
plotPhase	Whether to plot the phase values
phaseProb	The probability value for the phase identification
...	Other graphical commands. See <a href="#">par</a>

**See Also**

See [BchronDensity](#) for examples, also [Bchronology](#), [BchronRSL](#), and [BchronDensityFast](#) for a faster approximate version of this function

---

plot.BchronDensityRunFast

*Plot run from BchronDensityFast*

---

**Description**

Plots output from [BchronDensityFast](#)

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronDensityRunFast'
plot(x, plotDates = TRUE, plotSum = FALSE, ...)
```

**Arguments**

x	Output from <a href="#">BchronDensityFast</a>
plotDates	Whether to include individual age pdfs (default TRUE)
plotSum	Whether to include sum of age pdfs (default FALSE)
...	Other graphical parameters, see <a href="#">par</a>

**Details**

Creates a basic plot of output for a run of [BchronDensityFast](#)

**See Also**

Examples in [BchronDensityFast](#), and see [BchronDensity](#), for a slower, more accurate version of this function



---

plot.BchronologyRun *Plot output from Bchronology*

---

## Description

Plots output from a run of [Bchronology](#)

## Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronologyRun'
plot(
  x,
  dateHeight = 100,
  dateLabels = TRUE,
  dateCol = "darkslategray",
  chronCol = "deepskyblue4",
  chronTransparency = 0.75,
  alpha = 0.95,
  nudgeX = 0,
  nudgeY = 0,
  expandX = if (dateLabels) { c(0.1, 0) } else { c(0, 0) },
  expandY = c(0.05, 0),
  ageScale = c("bp", "bc", "b2k"),
  scaleReverse = TRUE,
  ...
)
```

## Arguments

x	The object created by <a href="#">Bchronology</a>
dateHeight	The height of the dates in the plot. Values in the range 0 to 1 tend to work best.
dateLabels	Whether to label the dates on the vertical axis (default TRUE)
dateCol	The colour of the date labels
chronCol	The colour of the chronology uncertainty ribbon to be plotted
chronTransparency	The amount of transparency for the chronology ribbon
alpha	The credible interval of the chronology run to be plotted. Defaults to 95 percent
nudgeX	The amount to move the date labels in the x direction. Can be negative. See <a href="#">geom_text</a> for details
nudgeY	The amount to move the date labels in the y direction. Can be negative. See <a href="#">geom_text</a> for details
expandX	The amount to expand the horizontal axis in case part are missed off the plot. See <a href="#">expand_limits</a> for details

expandY	The amount to expand the vertical axis in case part are missed off the plot. See <a href="#">expand_limits</a> for details
ageScale	Either bp for years before present, bc for years BC/AD (BC will be negative), b2k for years before 2000. Others not supported (yet).
scaleReverse	Whether to reverse the x-axis scale. Defaults to TRUE which works best for dates presented in e.g. years BP
...	Other arguments to plot (currently ignored)

### Details

Creates a simple plot of the chronology output. The height of the date densities in the plots can be manipulated via the `dateHeight` argument which is represented in the same units as the positions/depths provided. More detailed plots can be created by manipulating the `Bchronology` object as required.

### See Also

For examples see [Bchronology](#). Also [BchronCalibrate](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#)

---

plot.BchronRSLRun      *Plot output from BchronRSL*

---

### Description

Plot output from the [BchronRSL](#) function

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronRSLRun'
plot(
  x,
  type = c("RSL", "rate", "accel"),
  alpha = 0.95,
  ellipseCol = "darkslategray",
  lineCol = "deepskyblue4",
  ...
)
```

### Arguments

x	An object created by <a href="#">BchronRSL</a>
type	One of RSL, rate, or accel. If RSL produces a plot of RSL estimates from the model. If rate, produces rate estimates. If accel produces acceleration estimates.
alpha	confidence level used for plotting ellipses
ellipseCol	The colour of the ellipse used for plotting dates
lineCol	The colour of the sea level curve lines
...	Other arguments to plot (currently ignored)

**See Also**

[BchronCalibrate](#), [Bchronology](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#)

---

predict.BchronologyRun

*Predict ages of other positions for a BchronologyRun object*

---

**Description**

This function will predict the ages of new positions (usually depths) based on a previous run of the function [Bchronology](#). It will also allow for thickness uncertainties to be included in the resulting ages, for example when the age of a particular event is desired

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronologyRun'
predict(
  object,
  newPositions,
  newPositionThicknesses = NULL,
  maxExtrap = 500,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	Output from a run of <a href="#">Bchronology</a>
newPositions	A vector of new positions at which to find ages
newPositionThicknesses	A vector of thicknesses for the above positions. Must be the same length as newPositions
maxExtrap	The maximum new of extrapolation attempts. It might be worth increasing this if you are extrapolating a long way from the other dated positions
...	Other arguments to predict (not currently supported)

**Value**

A matrix of dimension num\_samples by num\_positions so that each row represents a set of monotonic sample predicted ages

**See Also**

[BchronCalibrate](#), [Bchronology](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#)

---

`sampleAges`*Get sample ages from a set of Bchron calibrated dates*

---

## Description

A function for extracting sample ages from Bchron calibrated dates

## Usage

```
sampleAges(CalDates, n_samp = 10000)
```

## Arguments

<code>CalDates</code>	A list created from either <a href="#">BchronCalibrate</a> .
<code>n_samp</code>	The desired number of samples

## Details

Sometimes it is useful to have a set of sample calendar ages for your calibrated dates. For example the samples might be required to create a credible/confidence interval, or to create another non-trivial function of calibrated dates, such as differences. By default the [BchronCalibrate](#) function provides a grid of ages and an associated density, similar to OxCal. This function extracts that information and uses the [sample](#) function to output the desired number of samples

## Value

A vector of length `n_samp` containing sample ages for the specified date

## See Also

[BchronCalibrate](#)

## Examples

```
# Calibrate multiple ages and summarise them
ages = BchronCalibrate(ages=c(3445,11553,7456),ageSds=c(50,230,110),
                      calCurves=c('intcal13','intcal13','shcal13'))

# Get samples
age_samples = sampleAges(ages)

# Create a credible interval and the median for each date
apply(age_samples, 2, quantile, probs = c(0.05, 0.5, 0.95))
```

---

shcal13	<i>Southern hemisphere 2013 calibration curve</i>
---------	---

---

**Description**

Southern hemisphere 2013 calibration curve

**Usage**

```
data(shcal13)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 5141 observations on 5 variables.

**Details**

For full details and reference see <http://www.radiocarbon.org/IntCal13.htm>. For usage details see [BchronCalibrate](#)

---

Sluggan	<i>Sluggan Moss data</i>
---------	--------------------------

---

**Description**

Chronology data for Sluggan Moss data set

**Usage**

```
data(Sluggan)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 31 observations on the following 6 variables:

id ID of each age  
ages Age in (14C) years BP  
ageSds Age standard deviations  
position Depths in cm  
thickness Thicknesses in cm  
calCurves Calibration curve for each age

**Details**

This Sluggan Moss data can be downloaded from the European Pollen Database: <http://www.europeanpollendatabase.net>. For usage see [Bchronology](#) or [BchronDensity](#)

**Source**

Smith, A. G., & Goddard, I. C. (1991). A 12,500 year record of vegetational history at Sluggan Bog, Co. Antrim, N. Ireland (incorporating a pollen zone scheme for the non-specialist). *New Phytologist*, 118, 167-187.

---

summary.BchronCalibratedDates

*Summarise a BchronCalibrate object*

---

**Description**

Produces summary output from a [BchronCalibrate](#) run, including the highest density regions for the calibrated ages for given probability levels

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronCalibratedDates'
summary(object, prob = 95, ..., digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3))
```

**Arguments**

object	The output of a run of <a href="#">BchronCalibrate</a>
prob	A percentage value (between 0 and 100) at which the highest density regions for each age are calculated
...	Further arguments (not currently supported)
digits	Significant digits to display (not currently supported)

**See Also**

[BchronCalibrate](#), [Bchronology](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#)

---

summary.BchronDensityRun

*Summarise a Bchron density object*

---

**Description**

Summarise a [BchronDensity](#) object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronDensityRun'
summary(object, prob = 0.95, ..., digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3))
```

**Arguments**

object	Output from a run of <a href="#">BchronDensity</a>
prob	Probability for identifying phases
...	Other arguments (not currently supported)
digits	Number of digits to report values

**See Also**

[BchronDensity](#)

---

summary.BchronologyRun

*Summarise a Bchronology object*

---

**Description**

Summarise a [Bchronology](#) object

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronologyRun'
summary(
  object,
  type = c("quantiles", "outliers", "convergence", "sed_rate", "acc_rate", "max_var"),
  probs = c(0.025, 0.25, 0.5, 0.75, 0.975),
  useExisting = TRUE,
  numPos = 3,
  ...,
  digits = max(3, getOption("digits") - 3)
)
```

**Arguments**

object	Output from a run of <a href="#">Bchronology</a>
type	Type of output required. The default (quantiles) gives the quantiles of the ages for each position in predictPositions from <a href="#">Bchronology</a> . The other options provide outlier probabilities, convergence diagnostics, accumulation rates, sedimentation rate, and positions of maximum age variance
probs	Probabilities (between 0 and 1) at which to summarise the predicted chronologies
useExisting	Whether to use the predicted chronologies/positions to calculate the sedimentation rate (if TRUE - default) or to re-create them based on a unit-scaled position grid (if FALSE). The latter will be a little bit slower but will provide better sedimentation rate estimates if the original positions are not on a unit scale (e.g. each cm)

numPos	The number of positions at which to provide the maximum variance
...	Other arguments (not currently supported)
digits	Number of digits to report values

**See Also**

[BchronCalibrate](#), [Bchronology](#) [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#)

---

summary.BchronRSLRun *Summarise a BchronRSL run*

---

**Description**

Summarise a [BchronRSL](#) run

**Usage**

```
## S3 method for class 'BchronRSLRun'
summary(
  object,
  type = c("parameters", "RSL", "rate", "accel"),
  age_grid = NULL,
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

object	The output from a run of <a href="#">BchronRSL</a>
type	One of parameters, RSL, rate, or accel. If parameters, provides posterior credibility intervals of the regression coefficients. If RSL provides predicted RSL values. If rate, provides rate estimates. If accel provides acceleration estimates.
age_grid	An optional age grid for computing RSL, rate, or acceleration estimates. If not provided uses the age range of the Bchronology run
...	Other arguments to functions (not currently implemented)

**See Also**

[BchronCalibrate](#), [Bchronology](#), [BchronRSL](#), [BchronDensity](#), [BchronDensityFast](#)



---

TestChronData	<i>Example chronology file for use with the BchronRSL function.</i>
---------------	---

---

**Description**

Some example chronology data for use with the [BchronRSL](#) function

**Usage**

```
data(TestChronData)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 27 observations on the following 6 variables:

id ID names  
ages Ages in years BP  
ageSds Ages standard deviations in years BP  
position Depths in cm  
thickness Thicknesses in cm  
calCurves Calibration curve for each age

**Source**

Andrew C. Parnell and W. Roland Gehrels (2013) 'Using chronological models in late holocene sea level reconstructions from salt marsh sediments' In: I. Shennan, B.P. Horton, and A.J. Long (eds). Handbook of Sea Level Research. Chichester: Wiley

---

TestRSLData	<i>Relative sea level data</i>
-------------	--------------------------------

---

**Description**

A set of relative sea level data for use with [BchronRSL](#)

**Usage**

```
data(TestRSLData)
```

**Format**

A data frame with 24 observations on the following 3 variables:

Depth Depth in cm  
RSL Relative sea level in m  
Sigma Standard deviation of RSL measurement

**Source**

Andrew C. Parnell and W. Roland Gehrels (2013) 'Using chronological models in late holocene sea level reconstructions from salt marsh sediments' In: I. Shennan, B.P. Horton, and A.J. Long (eds). Handbook of Sea Level Research. Chichester: Wiley

---

 unCalibrate

*Uncalibrate a Radiocarbon date*


---

**Description**

Uncalibrate a Radiocarbon date

**Usage**

```
unCalibrate(
  calAges,
  calCurve = "intcal13",
  type = c("samples", "ages"),
  pathToCalCurves = system.file("data", package = "Bchron"),
  ...
)
```

**Arguments**

calAges	Either a vector of calibrated ages (when type = 'ages'), or a vector of calibrated samples (type = 'samples')
calCurve	he calibration curve to use. Only a single calibration curve is currently supported
type	Either 'ages' which uncalibrates a calibrated age values without error (i.e. just a lookup on the calibration curve), or a 'samples' which estimates both an uncalibrated mean age and a standard deviation
pathToCalCurves	The path to the calibration curve directory. Defaults to the location of the standard calibration curves given in the package
...	Other arguments to the <code>optim</code> function used to match the probability distributions under type = 'samples'

**Value**

Either a vector of uncalibrated ages (type = 'ages') or a list containing the estimated mean age and standard deviation (type = 'samples')

**Examples**

```
# Single version outputting just an uncalibrated age
unCalibrate(2350, type = 'ages')

# Vector version giving a vector of uncalibrated ages
unCalibrate(calAge = c(2350, 4750, 11440),
  calCurve = 'shcal13',
  type = 'ages')

# A version where calibrated standard deviations are required too
calAge = BchronCalibrate(ages = 11255,
  ageSds = 25,
  calCurves = 'intcal13')
calSampleAges = sampleAges(calAge)

# Uncalibrate the above
unCalibrate(calSampleAges,
  type = 'samples')
```

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