

# ADMUR: Ancient Demographic Modelling Using Radiocarbon

Adrian Timpson

---

2020-08-02

---

This vignette provides a comprehensive guide to modelling population dynamics using the R package ADMUR, and accompanies the publication 'Directly modelling population dynamics in the South American Arid Diagonal using  $^{14}\text{C}$  dates', Philosophical Transactions B, 2020, A. Timpson et al. It assumes the user has some basic familiarity with programming in R.

In addition to some basic information on getting started, this vignette is divided into three main parts:

1. **Date calibration and SPDs:** Calibrate individual radiocarbon dates, generate Summed Probability Distributions, and automatically phase large datasets to adjust for ascertainment bias. Comparison with other software.
2. **Continuous Piecewise Linear (CPL) Modelling:** Parameter estimation using the likelihood function, and its application in MCMC for estimating credible intervals. Model selection using BIC, and the goodness-of-fit (GOF) test.
3. **SPD simulation testing:** Null hypothesis testing by simulating SPDs and comparing to the observed SPD. P-values generated using likelihoods, rather than summary statistics originally devised in Shennan et al 2013 and Timpson et al 2014.

## Installation

---

The ADMUR package can be installed directly from GitHub, after installing and loading the 'devtools' package on the CRAN:

```
install.packages('devtools')
library(devtools)
install_github('UCL/ADMUR')
```

The ADMUR package can then be locally loaded:

```
library(ADMUR)
```

## $^{14}\text{C}$ datasets

---

A summary of the available help files and data sets included in the package can be browsed, which include a terrestrial anthropogenic  $^{14}\text{C}$  dataset from the South American Arid Diagonal:

```
help(ADMUR)
help(arid)
```

Datasets must be structured as a data frame that include columns 'age' and 'sd', which represent the uncalibrated  $^{14}\text{C}$  age and its error, respectively.

```
arid[1:5,1:8]
```

##	UniqID	site	lat	long	age	sd	LabNo	Material_D
## 1	237	Villa del Mar	-17.62295	-71.34017	6360	60	Beta-71133	bone
## 2	240	Yara	-17.51998	-71.36716	5020	60	Beta-80970	bone
## 3	505	El Ahogado	-17.96667	-70.88333	3515	40	Pa-1769	charcoal
## 4	506	El Ahogado	-17.96667	-70.88333	3535	60	Pa-1768	charcoal
## 5	507	El Ahogado	-17.96667	-70.88333	3660	40	Pa-1789	charcoal

---

## Part 1

# Date calibration and SPDs

The algorithm used by ADMUR to calculate model likelihoods of a 14C dataset uses several functions to first calibrate 14C dates. These functions that are intrinsically useful for ordinary date calibration or for generating a Summed Probability Distribution (SPD).

## Calibrated 14C date probability distributions

---

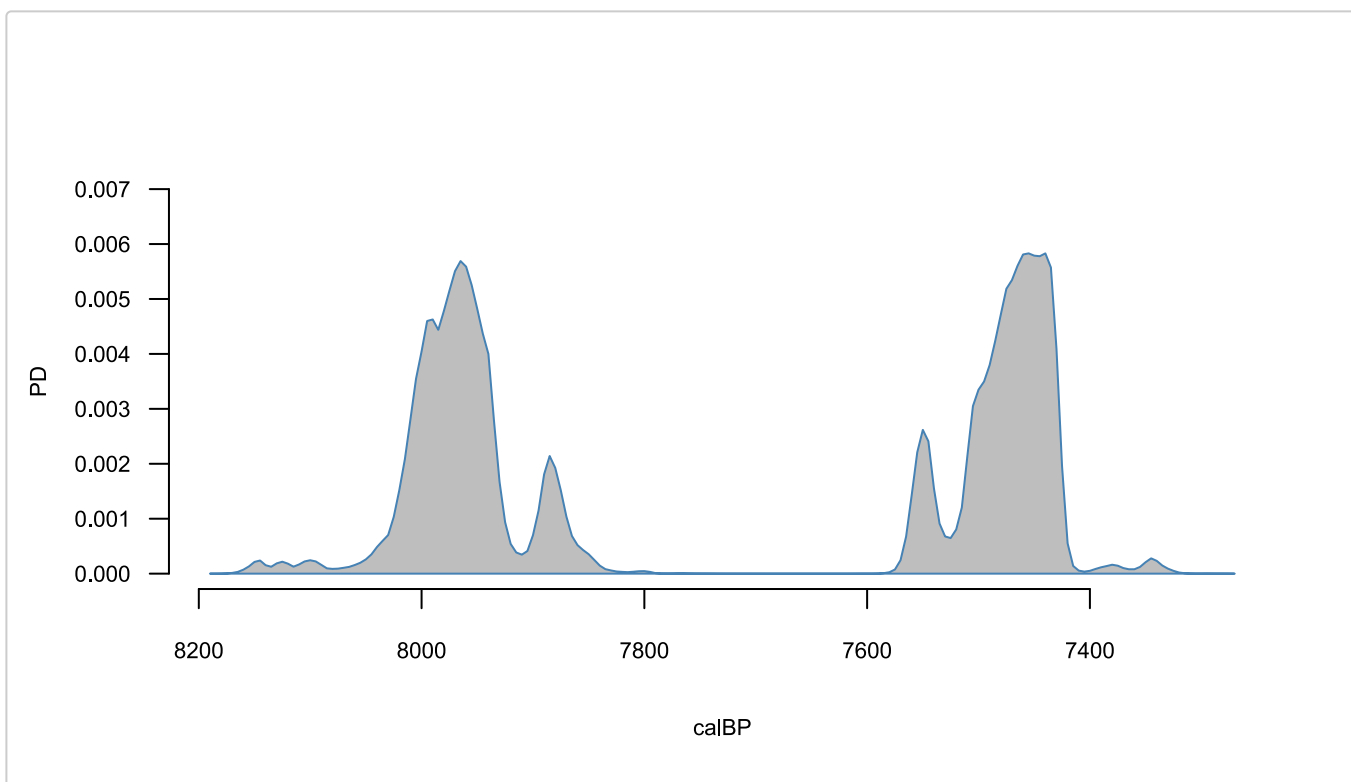
Generating a single calibrated date distribution or SPD requires either a two-step process to give the user full control of the date range and temporal resolution, or a simpler one step process using a wrapper function that automatically estimates a sensible date range and resolution from the dataset, performs the two step process internally, and outputs a plot of the SPD.

### With the wrapper

---

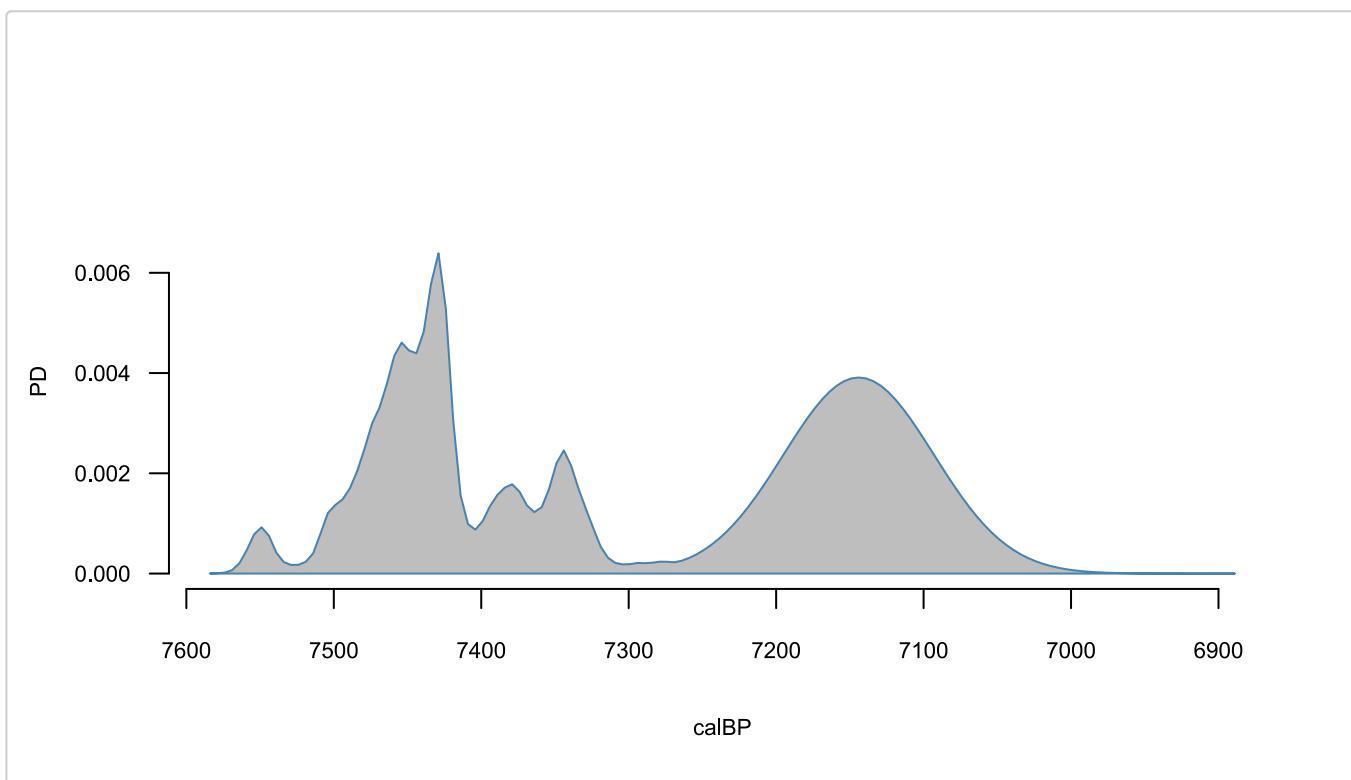
1. Use the function `summedCalibratorWrapper()`

```
data <- data.frame( age = c(6562,7144), sd = c(44,51) )
x <- summedCalibratorWrapper(data)
```



Notice the function automatically assumed the data provided were all 14C dates. However, if you have other kinds of date such as thermoluminescence you can specify 'nonC14'. You can also specify a particular calibration curve:

```
data <- data.frame( age = c(6562,7144), sd = c(44,51), datingType = c('C14','nonC14') )
x <- summedCalibratorWrapper(data, shcal13)
```



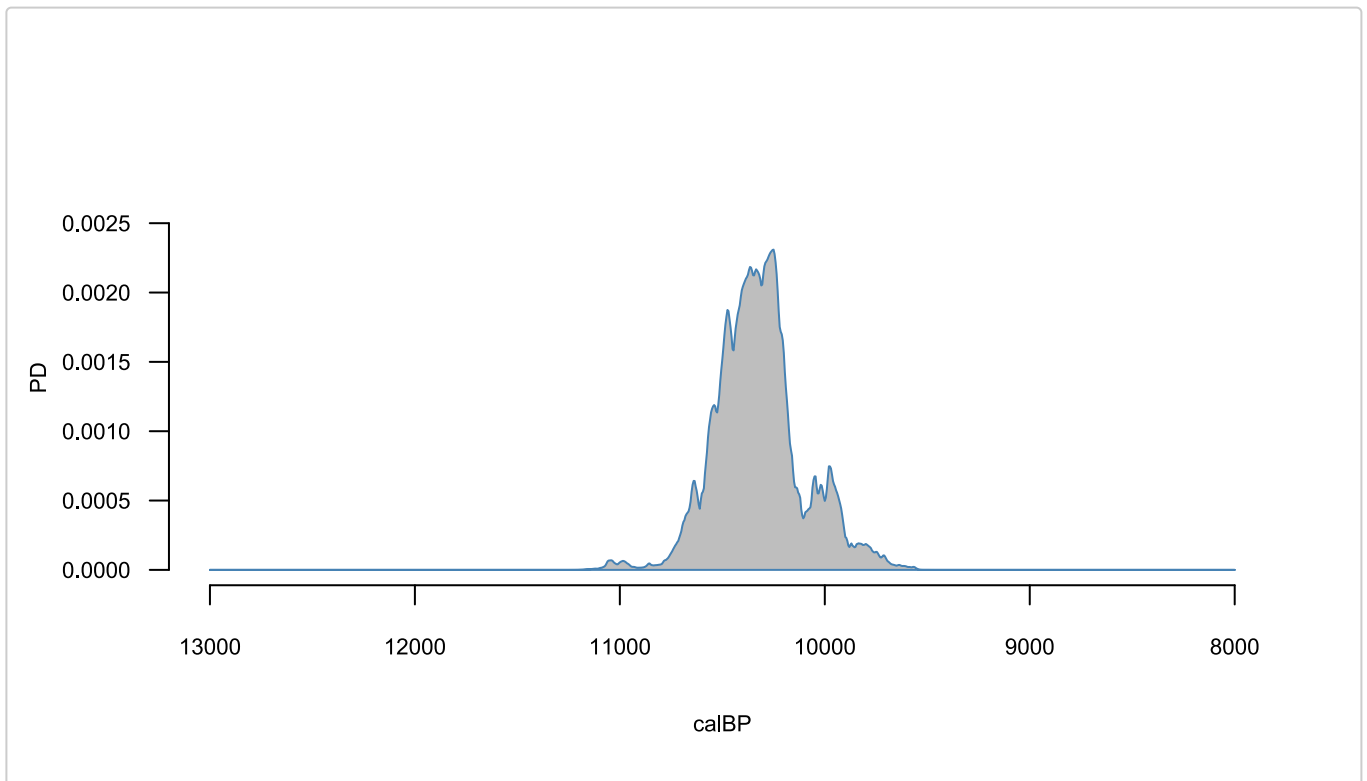
## Without the wrapper

Generating the SPD without the wrapper gives you more control, and requires a two step process:

1. Convert a calibration curve to a CalArray using the function [makeCalArray\(\)](#)

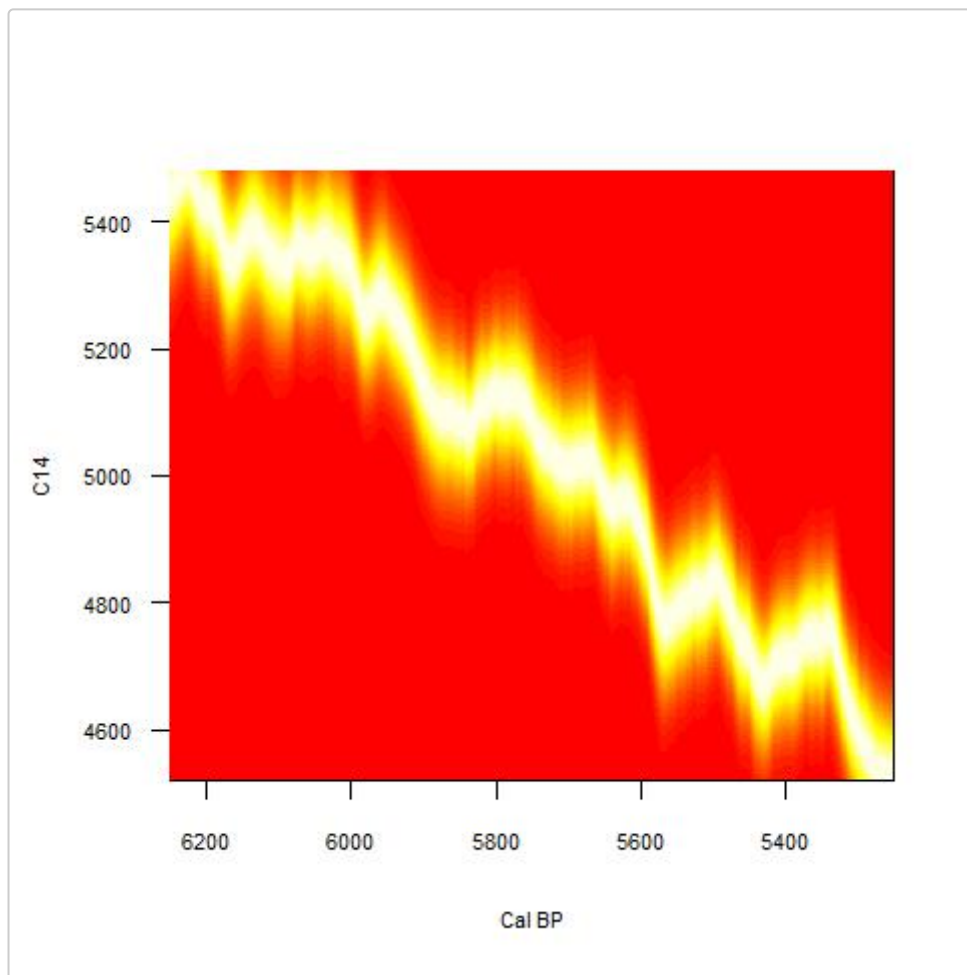
2. Calibrate the 14C dates through the CalArray using the function `summedCalibrator()`.

```
data <- data.frame(age = c(9144), sd=c(151) )  
CalArray <- makeCalArray( intcal13, calrange = c(8000,13000) )  
cal <- summedCalibrator(data, CalArray)  
plotPD(cal)
```



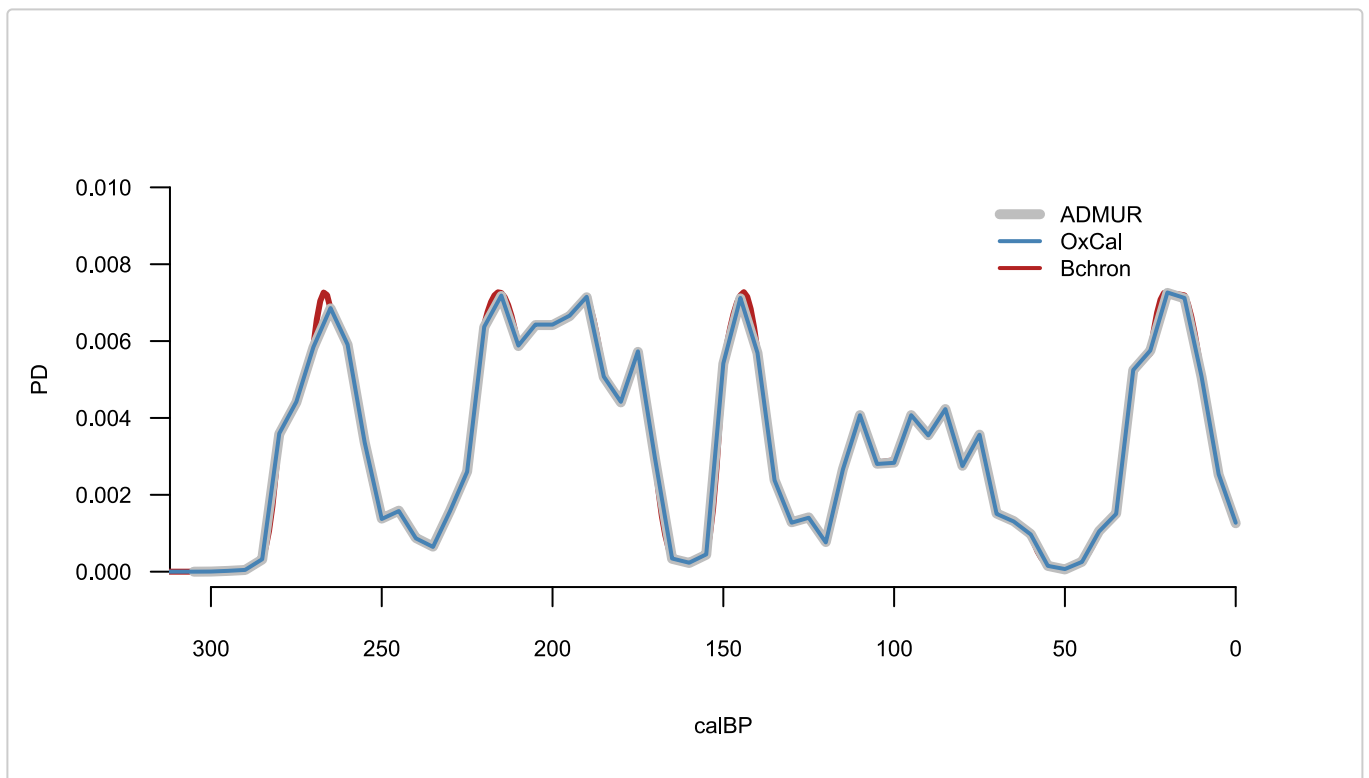
The CalArray is essentially a two-dimensional probability array of the calibration curve, and can be viewed using the `plotCalArray()` function. Although the calibration curve has a maximum temporal resolution of 5 cal yrs, a finer resolution CalArray can be generated using the parameter `inc` which interpolates the calibration curve. However, this can be time costly if plotting the entire 50,000 year range of the calibration curve.

```
x <- makeCalArray(shcal13, c(5500,6000), inc=1 )  
plotCalArray(x)
```



## Calibration comparison with other software

It is worth noting that the algorithm used by this package to calibrate  $^{14}\text{C}$  dates gives equivalent results to those from [OxCal](#) generated using [OxcAAR](#) but these differ slightly to the results generated by [Bchron](#).



Comparison of calibration software for the  $^{14}\text{C}$  date:  $150 \pm 25$  calibrated through `intcal13`. This ADMUR package (grey) and Oxcal (blue) give equivalent results, whilst Bchron differs in several locations on the

curve.

## Phased data: adjusting for ascertainment bias

A naive approach to generating an SPD as a proxy for population dynamics would be to sum all dates in the dataset, but a more sensible approach is to sum the SPDs of each phase. The need to bin dates into phases is an important step in modelling population dynamics to adjust for the data ascertainment bias of some archaeological finds having more dates by virtue of a larger research interest/budget.

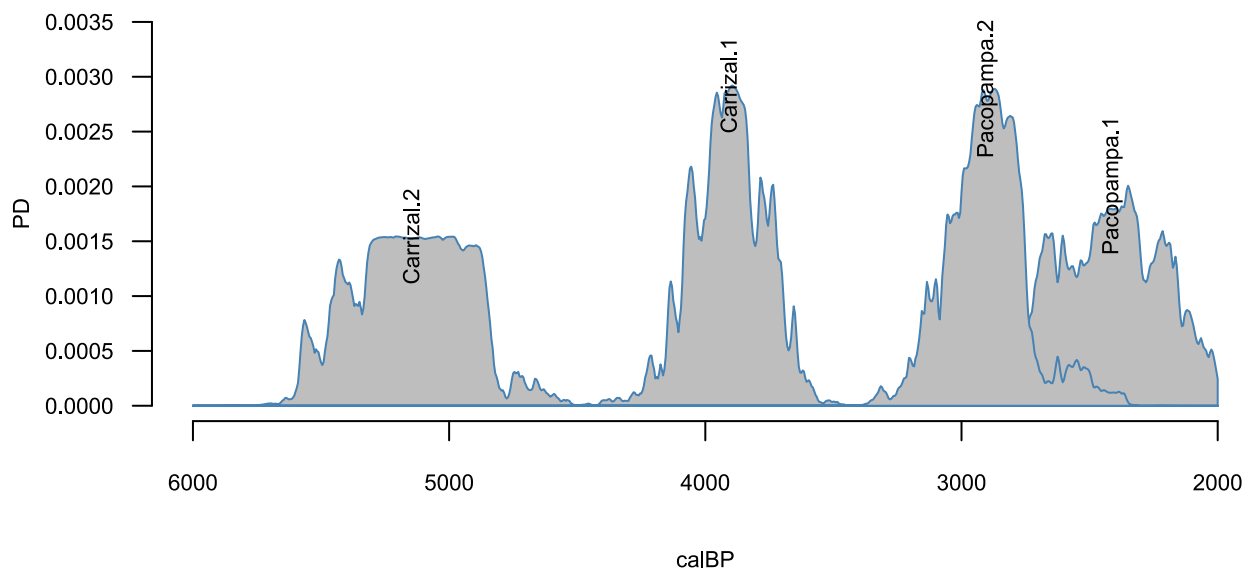
Therefore `phaseCalibrator()` generates an SPD for each phase in a dataset, and includes a binning algorithm which provides a useful solution to handling large datasets that have not been phased. For example, consider the following 8 dates from 2 sites:

```
data <- subset(arid, site %in% c('Carrizal', 'Pacopampa'))
data[,2:7]
```

##	site	lat	long	age	sd	LabNo
## 1192	Carrizal	-6.063056	-79.49806	3640	100	Beta-31075
## 1193	Carrizal	-6.063056	-79.49806	4390	110	Beta-18920
## 1194	Carrizal	-6.063056	-79.49806	4450	100	Beta-31073
## 1195	Carrizal	-6.063056	-79.49806	4620	100	Beta-31074
## 1196	Carrizal	-6.063056	-79.49806	4690	120	Beta-27417
## 1205	Pacopampa	-6.200000	-79.01000	2385	155	SI-794
## 1206	Pacopampa	-6.200000	-79.01000	2765	135	SI-792
## 1207	Pacopampa	-6.200000	-79.01000	2855	95	SI-793

The data have not been binned (do not include a column 'phase') therefore the default binning algorithm calibrates these dates into 4 phases:

```
CalArray <- makeCalArray(shcal13, calrange = c(2000,6000))
x <- phaseCalibrator(data, CalArray)
plotPD(x)
```



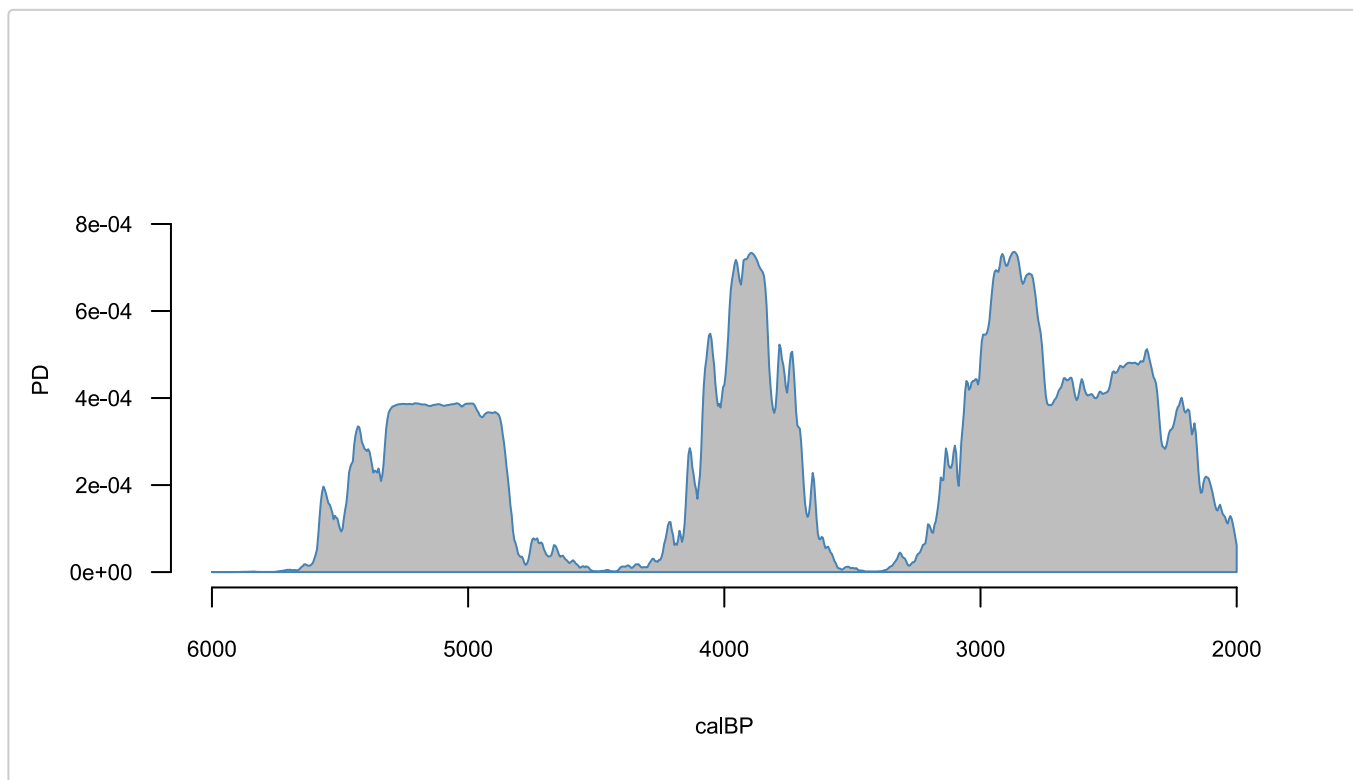
Finally, the distributions in each phase can be summed and normalised to unity. It is straight forward to achieve this directly from the dataframe created above:

```
SPD <- as.data.frame(rowSums(x))

# normalise
SPD <- SPD/(sum(SPD)*Ca1Array$inc)
```

Alternatively, the wrapper function `summedPhaseCalibrator()` will perform this entire workflow internally:

```
SPD <- summedPhaseCalibrator(data, shcal13, c(2000,6000))
plotPD(SPD)
```



## Part 2

# Continuous Piecewise Linear (CPL) Modelling

A CPL model lends itself well to the objectives of identifying specific demographic events. Its parameters are the (x,y) coordinates of the hinge points, which are the relative population size (y) and timing (x) of these events. Crucially, this package calculates model likelihoods (the probability of the data given some proposed parameter combination). This likelihood is used in a search algorithm to find the maximum likelihood parameters; to compare models with different numbers parameters to find the best fit without overfitting; in Monte-Carlo Markov Chain (MCMC) analysis to estimate credible intervals of those parameters; and in a goodness-of-fit test to check that the data is a typical realisation of the maximum likelihood model and its parameters.

## Likelihoods

---

Theoretically a calibrated date should be a continuous Probability Density Function (PDF), however in practice a date is represented as a discrete vector of probabilities corresponding to each calendar year, and therefore is a Probability Mass Function (PMF). Because calibration curves has a resolution of 5 years at best, this package generates a calibrated PMF with a default resolution of 5 years, although this can be adjusted to any preferred resolution (see [makeCalArray\(\)](#) ). This discretisation provides the advantage that numerical methods can be used to easily calculate likelihoods, provided the model is also discretised.

A [toy\(\)](#) model is provided to demonstrate how this achieved.

---

## Part 3

### SPD simulation testing

Quote some text from paper about why this isnt a very sophisticated approach. Provide references of those who have done it. Explain key improvement that the summary statistic is the likelihood.