

Package ‘glscalibrator’

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Type Package

Title Automated Calibration and Analysis of GLS (Global Location Sensor) Data

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Description Provides a fully automated workflow for calibrating and analyzing light-level geolocation (GLS) data from seabirds and other wildlife. The package auto-discovers birds from directory structures, automatically detects calibration periods from the first days of deployment, processes multiple individuals in batch mode, and generates standardized outputs including position estimates, diagnostic plots, and quality control metrics. Built on proven methods from SGAT, GeoLight, and TwGeos packages.

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Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

Depends R (>= 4.1.0)

Imports GeoLight, magrittr, maps, dplyr, lubridate, stringr, utils, grDevices, graphics, stats, TwGeos

Suggests knitr, SGAT, rmarkdown, testthat (>= 3.0.0)

VignetteBuilder knitr

URL <https://github.com/fabbiologia/glscalibrator>

BugReports <https://github.com/fabbiologia/glscalibrator/issues>

NeedsCompilation no

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auto_detect_calibration*Automatically Detect Calibration Period***Description**

Automatically detects a suitable calibration period from the beginning of the light data. This assumes the bird was at a known location (typically the colony) at the start of deployment.

Usage

```
auto_detect_calibration(
  light_data,
  colony_lat,
  colony_lon,
  threshold = 2,
  min_twilights = 2
)
```

Arguments

light_data	A data.frame with columns Date and Light
colony_lat	Numeric latitude of known calibration location
colony_lon	Numeric longitude of known calibration location
threshold	Light threshold for twilight detection (default: 2)
min_twilights	Minimum number of twilights required (default: 2)

Details

The function tries calibration periods of different lengths (2, 3, 1, 4, 5 days) and returns the first period that yields sufficient twilights with both sunrise and sunset events.

Value

A list with:

start	POSIXct start of calibration period
end	POSIXct end of calibration period
twilights	Number of twilights detected
duration_days	Duration in days

Examples

```
# Auto-detect calibration from example data (requires SGAT)
example_file <- gls_example("W086")
light_data <- read_lux_file(example_file)
calib <- auto_detect_calibration(light_data,
                                    colony_lat = 27.85,
                                    colony_lon = -115.17)
print(calib)
```

calibrate_gls_batch *Batch Calibration of Multiple GLS Devices*

Description

Main function for automated batch processing of GLS data. Auto-discovers all birds in a directory, detects calibration periods, performs TwGeos gamma calibration, and generates standardized outputs.

Usage

```
calibrate_gls_batch(
  data_dir,
  output_dir,
  colony_lat,
  colony_lon,
  light_threshold = 2,
  exclude_equinoxes = NULL,
  min_positions = 10,
  create_plots = TRUE,
  verbose = TRUE
)
```

Arguments

<code>data_dir</code>	Character path to directory containing .lux files
<code>output_dir</code>	Character path for output files
<code>colony_lat</code>	Numeric latitude of colony/capture location
<code>colony_lon</code>	Numeric longitude of colony/capture location
<code>light_threshold</code>	Numeric light threshold in lux (default: 2)
<code>exclude_equinoxes</code>	List of date ranges to exclude (optional)
<code>min_positions</code>	Minimum number of valid positions required (default: 10)
<code>create_plots</code>	Logical, whether to create diagnostic plots (default: TRUE)
<code>verbose</code>	Logical, print progress messages (default: TRUE)

Details

This function implements a complete automated workflow:

1. Auto-discovers .lux files in the data directory
2. For each bird:
 - Reads light data
 - Auto-detects calibration period
 - Detects and filters twilights
 - Performs TwGeos gamma calibration
 - Calculates positions using threshold method
 - Generates diagnostic plots
3. Combines results into standardized formats
4. Creates summary statistics and quality control metrics

Value

A list containing:

<code>summary</code>	data.frame with calibration summary for all birds
<code>results</code>	List of position estimates for each bird
<code>processing_log</code>	Detailed processing log

Examples

```
## Not run:
# Basic usage
results <- calibrate_gls_batch(
  data_dir = "data/raw/birds",
  output_dir = "data/processed/calibration",
  colony_lat = 27.85178,
  colony_lon = -115.17390
```

```
)  
  
# With equinox exclusions  
equinoxes <- list(  
  c("2024-08-24", "2024-10-23"),  
  c("2024-02-19", "2024-04-19"))  
)  
results <- calibrate_gls_batch(  
  data_dir = "data/raw/birds",  
  output_dir = "data/processed/calibration",  
  colony_lat = 27.85,  
  colony_lon = -115.17,  
  exclude_equinoxes = equinoxes  
)  
  
## End(Not run)
```

convert_to_glsmerge *Convert to GLSmerge Format*

Description

Converts calibrated position data to the standard GLSmerge format used by many researchers and analysis tools.

Usage

```
convert_to_glsmerge(results, bird_id, zenith)
```

Arguments

results	data.frame of position estimates
bird_id	Character ID of the bird
zenith	Numeric zenith angle used for calibration

Value

data.frame in GLSmerge format

detect_twilights *Detect Twilight Times from Light Data*

Description

Detects sunrise and sunset times from light intensity data using a threshold-crossing method. This is a proven, simple approach that identifies transitions between day and night.

Usage

```
detect_twilights(light_data, threshold = 2)
```

Arguments

light_data	A data.frame with columns Date (POSIXct) and Light (numeric)
threshold	Numeric light threshold in lux for day/night distinction (default: 2)

Value

A data.frame with columns:

Twilight	POSIXct datetime of twilight event
Rise	Logical, TRUE for sunrise, FALSE for sunset

Examples

```
# Detect twilights from example data
example_file <- gls_example("W086")
light_data <- read_lux_file(example_file)
twilights <- detect_twilights(light_data, threshold = 2)
head(twilights)
```

filter_twilights *Filter and Clean Twilight Data*

Description

Applies quality filters to twilight data to remove spurious detections caused by shading, logger malfunction, or other artifacts.

Usage

```
filter_twilights(twilights, light_data = NULL, threshold = 2, strict = TRUE)
```

Arguments

twilights	A data.frame with columns Twilight and Rise
light_data	The original light data (optional, for quality checks)
threshold	Light threshold used for twilight detection
strict	Logical, if TRUE applies stricter filtering (default: TRUE)

Details

Filters applied:

- Remove twilights too close together (< 1-2 hours)
- Remove twilights with unusual intervals (far from 12 or 24 hours)
- Optionally check light quality around twilight (if light_data provided)

Value

A filtered data.frame of twilights

Examples

```
# Filter twilights from example data
example_file <- gls_example("W086")
light_data <- read_lux_file(example_file)
twilights <- detect_twilights(light_data, threshold = 2)
twilights_clean <- filter_twilights(twilights, light_data, threshold = 2)
nrow(twilights_clean)
```

glscalibrator_example_metadata

Metadata for the bundled GLS example datasets

Description

The package ships with three light-level geolocation (.lux) files that are used throughout the documentation, vignettes, and tests. This metadata table records their origin and recommended use so that analysts can reference the contents programmatically.

Named character vector of the filenames stored in `inst/extdata/`, keyed by the identifiers recognised by `gls_example()`.

Usage

```
glscalibrator_example_metadata
glscalibrator_example_files
```

Format

A data frame with 3 rows and 7 variables:

name Short identifier used by `gls_example()`
file Filename stored under `inst/extdata/`
type "real" or "synthetic" dataset
description Summary of the dataset contents
duration_days Approximate deployment duration represented
size_kb Approximate file size in kilobytes
notes Additional guidance for analysis and demonstrations

A data frame (tibble) with metadata for each example dataset.

Named character vector. Use with `system.file("extdata", ...)`.

Details

All files are plain-text .lux exports that can be read directly with `read_lux_file()`. Real datasets were collected from tropical seabirds breeding near 27.85°N, 115.17°W and are approved for demonstration and teaching purposes. The synthetic dataset contains idealised sunrise/sunset curves for rapid testing.

See Also

`gls_example()`, `list_gls_examples()`

`gls_example`

Get Path to Example Data

Description

Helper function to get the path to example .lux files included with the package. Three example files are available and their metadata is exposed via `glscalibrator_example_metadata`.

Usage

```
gls_example(which = "all")
```

Arguments

<code>which</code>	Character string specifying which example file:
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • "W086" - See metadata for details • "W592" - See metadata for details • "synthetic" - See metadata for details • "all" - Returns paths to all example files (default)

Value

Character vector of file path(s) to example data

Examples

```
# Inspect available example datasets
list_gls_examples()

# Read the bundled W086 seabird deployment
light_data <- read_lux_file(gls_example("W086"))

# Run calibration on the synthetic dataset (quick demo)
synt_path <- gls_example("synthetic")
synthetic_data <- read_lux_file(synt_path)
twl <- detect_twilights(synthetic_data, threshold = 2)
```

list_gls_examples *List Available Example Datasets*

Description

Shows information about example datasets included with the package.

Usage

```
list_gls_examples()
```

Value

A data.frame with columns: name, file, type, description, duration_days, size_kb, notes

Examples

```
list_gls_examples()
```

`plot_calibration` *Plot Calibration Diagnostics*

Description

Creates diagnostic plots showing light data and detected twilights during the calibration period.

Usage

```
plot_calibration(light_data, twilights, threshold, bird_id, output_dir)
```

Arguments

<code>light_data</code>	data.frame with Date and Light columns
<code>twilights</code>	data.frame with Twilight and Rise columns
<code>threshold</code>	Numeric light threshold
<code>bird_id</code>	Character ID for plot title
<code>output_dir</code>	Directory to save plot

Value

NULL (creates PNG file)

`plot_track` *Plot Bird Track*

Description

Creates a map showing the estimated movement track of a bird

Usage

```
plot_track(
  results,
  colony_lat,
  colony_lon,
  bird_id,
  output_dir,
  hemisphere = ""
)
```

Arguments

results	data.frame with Latitude and Longitude columns
colony_lat	Numeric latitude of colony
colony_lon	Numeric longitude of colony
bird_id	Character ID for plot title
output_dir	Directory to save plot
hemisphere	Character hemisphere check result

Value

NULL (creates PNG file)

process_single_bird *Process a Single Bird*

Description

Internal function to process a single GLS device

Usage

```
process_single_bird(
  lux_file,
  bird_id,
  colony_lat,
  colony_lon,
  light_threshold,
  exclude_equinoxes,
  output_dir,
  fig_dir,
  verbose
)
```

read_lux_file *Read Light Data from .lux Files*

Description

Reads and parses light intensity data from .lux files generated by geolocation loggers. Handles various formats and automatically detects the start of data.

Usage

```
read_lux_file(file_path)
```

Arguments

file_path Character string specifying the path to the .lux file

Value

A data.frame with columns:

Date	POSIXct datetime in UTC
Light	Numeric light intensity in lux

Examples

```
# Read example data included with package
example_file <- gls_example("W086")
light_data <- read_lux_file(example_file)
head(light_data)
```