# Package 'crestr'

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Title what the Package Does (One Line, Title Case)
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accClimateVariables accContinentNames accRealmNames calib_clim_space close_db_connection connect_online convert2percentages convert2presenceAbsence crest crest.calibrate crest.get_modern_data crest.reconstruct

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accClimateVariables

Describes all the variables available in the database.

### Description

Describes all the variables available in the database.

### Usage

```
accClimateVariables()
```

#### Value

A data frame descriptive of the climate variables available in the database.

### Examples

```
accClimateVariables()
```

accContinentNames

Return the list of the continents and associated countries.

### Description

Return the list of the continents and associated countries.

### Usage

```
accContinentNames(dbname = "gbif4crest_02")
```

### **Arguments**

dbname

The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest\_02.

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#### Value

A list with elements that correspond to the country names of each continent.

#### **Examples**

```
accContinentNames()
```

accRealmNames

Return the list of the realms and associated biomes and ecoregions.

#### **Description**

Return the list of the realms and associated biomes and ecoregions.

### Usage

```
accRealmNames(ecoregion = TRUE, dbname = "gbif4crest_02")
```

### Arguments

ecoregion A boolean to choose whether to get the ecoregions names. dbname The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest\_02.

#### Value

A list with elements that correspond to the biomes (and possibly ecoregions) of each realm.

### **Examples**

```
accRealmNames()
```

calib\_clim\_space

Calibrate the distribution of the modern climate space.

#### **Description**

Calibrate the distribution of the modern climate space.

### Usage

```
calib_clim_space(climate, bin_width)
```

### Arguments

climate All the climate values observed across the study area.

bin\_width The width of the climate bins.

#### Value

A ccs object that will be used by fit\_pdfsp.

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#### **Examples**

```
# Extracting the number of taxa recorded in the database
calib_clim_space(sample(0:300 / 10, 4000, replace = TRUE), 2)
```

close\_db\_connection

Disconnect the database connection.

#### **Description**

Disconnect the database connection.

#### Usage

```
close_db_connection(db)
```

#### **Arguments**

db

An active database connection

#### **Examples**

```
db <- connect_online()
close_db_connection(db)
## Not run:
db <- connect_online()
close_db_connection(db)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

connect\_online

Connect to the gbif4crest database

### Description

Connect to the gbif4crest\_02 database by accessing the server on Amazon.

### Usage

```
connect_online(
  dbname = "gbif4crest_02",
  port = 5432,
  host = "gbif4crest.cvqgy2mnjwtg.eu-west-3.rds.amazonaws.com",
  user = "guestuser",
  password = "pwd12345"
)
```

convert2percentages 5

### **Arguments**

dbname The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest\_02.

port The port to connect to the server. Default is 5432.

host The host of the database server. Default is gbif4crest.cvqgy2mnjwtg.eu-west-

3.rds.amazonaws.com

user The user name to use to connect. Default is guestuser.

password The password associated with the user name. Default is pwd12345

#### Value

An active connection to a database

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
db <- connect_online()
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

convert2percentages

Convert abundance data into percentage data.

#### **Description**

Convert abundance data into percentage data.

#### Usage

```
convert2percentages(df, col2convert = 2:ncol(df))
```

### Arguments

df The dataframe containing the data to convert.

col2convert A vector of the columns to convert. Default is all the columns but the first, which

contains an age, a depth or a sampleID.

### Value

A vector of unique taxonIDs.

```
df <- data.frame(matrix(1:25, ncol = 5))
colnames(df) <- paste(rep("col", 5), 1:5, sep = "")
convert2percentages(df)
convert2percentages(df, col2convert = 3:5)</pre>
```

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```
convert2presenceAbsence
```

Convert data into presence/absence data.

### Description

Convert data into presence/absence data.

#### Usage

```
convert2presenceAbsence(df, threshold = 2, col2convert = 2:ncol(df))
```

#### **Arguments**

df The dataframe containing the data to convert.

threshold The threshold that defines presence (presence if >= threshold)

col2convert A vector of the columns to convert. Default is all the columns but the first, which

contains an age, a depth or a sampleID.

#### Value

A vector of unique taxonIDs.

#### **Examples**

```
df <- data.frame(matrix(1:25, ncol = 5))
colnames(df) <- paste(rep("col", 5), 1:5, sep = "")
convert2presenceAbsence(df, threshold = 15)
convert2presenceAbsence(df, col2convert = 3:5)</pre>
```

crest

Connect to the gbif4crest database

#### **Description**

Connect to the gbif4crest\_02 database by accessing the server on Amazon.

#### Usage

```
crest(
  df,
  pse,
  taxaType,
  climate,
  xmn = -180,
  xmx = 180,
  ymn = -90,
  ymx = 90,
  continents = NA,
```

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```
countries = NA,
      realms = NA.
      biomes = NA,
      ecoregions = NA,
      minGridCells = 20,
      selectedTaxa = NA,
      bin_width = rep(1, length(x$parameters$climate)),
      shape = rep("normal", length(x$parameters$climate)),
      npoints = 500,
      geoWeighting = TRUE,
      climateSpaceWeighting = TRUE,
      presenceThreshold = 0,
      taxWeight = "normalisation",
      dbname = "gbif4crest_02"
    )
Arguments
    df
    pse
    taxaType
    climate
                      A vectof of the climate variables to extract.
                      The coordinates defining the study area.
    xmn
                      The coordinates defining the study area.
    xmx
                      The coordinates defining the study area.
    ymn
    ymx
                      The coordinates defining the study area.
                      A vector of the continent names defining the study area.
    continents
                      A vector of the country names defining the study area.
    countries
                      A vector of the studied botanical realms defining the study area.
    realms
    biomes
                      A vector of the studied botanical biomes defining the study area.
                      A vector of the studied botanical ecoregions defining the study area.
    ecoregions
    minGridCells
    selectedTaxa
    bin_width
    shape
                      The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.
    npoints
    geoWeighting
                      The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.
    climateSpaceWeighting
```

The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.

The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest\_02.

'originalData', 'presence/absence', 'percentages' or 'normalisation'

taxWeight

dbname

Value

presenceThreshold

The parameters to be used by crest()

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#### **Examples**

```
data(crest_ex)
data(crest_ex_pse)
data(crest_ex_selection)
recons <- crest(
    df = crest_ex, pse = crest_ex_pse, taxaType = 0,
        climate = c("bio1", "bio12"), bin_width = c(2, 20),
        shape = c("normal", "lognormal"),
        selectedTaxa = crest_ex_selection, dbname = "crest_example"
)
plot(recons)</pre>
```

crest.calibrate

Fit the species and proxy pdfs

### Description

This function fits the climate response of the selected taxa to the selected climate variables.

#### Usage

```
crest.calibrate(
    x,
    bin_width = rep(1, length(x$parameters$climate)),
    shape = rep("normal", length(x$parameters$climate)),
    npoints = 500,
    geoWeighting = TRUE,
    climateSpaceWeighting = TRUE
)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
x a crestObj produced by the crest.climate_space function.
bin_width .
shape .
npoints The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.
geoWeighting The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.
climateSpaceWeighting
```

The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.

#### Value

A crest() object containing the spatial distributions and the climate space

crest.get\_modern\_data 9

#### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data(crest_ex)
data(crest_ex_pse)
data(crest_ex_selection)
x <- crest.get_modern_data(
    pse = crest_ex_pse, taxaType = 0,
    climate = c("bio1", "bio12"),
    selectedTaxa = crest_ex_selection, dbname = "crest_example"
)
x <- crest.calibrate(x,
    geoWeighting = TRUE, climateSpaceWeighting = TRUE,
    bin_width = c(2, 20), shape = c("normal", "lognormal")
)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

crest.get\_modern\_data Extract distributions from the database

#### **Description**

This function will extract the distributions of all the species composing each taxon and return them as a list.

#### Usage

```
crest.get_modern_data(
  pse,
  taxaType,
  climate,
  taxa.name = unique(pse[, "ProxyName"]),
  xmn = -180,
  xmx = 180,
  ymn = -90,
  ymx = 90,
  continents = NA,
  countries = NA,
  realms = NA,
  biomes = NA,
  ecoregions = NA,
  minGridCells = 20,
  selectedTaxa = NA,
  dbname = "gbif4crest_02"
)
```

#### **Arguments**

```
pse .
taxaType .
```

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climate A vectof of the climate variables to extract. taxa.name The coordinates defining the study area. xmn The coordinates defining the study area. xmx The coordinates defining the study area. ymn ymx The coordinates defining the study area. continents A vector of the continent names defining the study area. A vector of the country names defining the study area. countries A vector of the studied botanical realms defining the study area. realms A vector of the studied botanical biomes defining the study area. biomes A vector of the studied botanical ecoregions defining the study area. ecoregions minGridCells

selectedTaxa .

dbname The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest\_02.

#### Value

A crest() object containing the spatial distributions

### **Examples**

```
## Not run:
data(crest_ex_pse)
data(crest_ex_selection)
x <- crest.get_modern_data(
    pse = crest_ex_pse, taxaType = 0,
    climate = c("bio1", "bio12"),
    selectedTaxa = crest_ex_selection, dbname = "crest_example"
)
x
lapply(x$modelling$distributions, head)
## End(Not run)</pre>
```

crest.reconstruct

Fit the species and proxy pdfs

### Description

This function fits the climate response of the selected taxa to the selected climate variables.

### Usage

```
crest.reconstruct(
    x,
    df,
    selectedTaxa = x$inputs$selectedTaxa,
    presenceThreshold = 0,
    taxWeight = "normalisation"
)
```

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#### **Arguments**

#### Value

A crest() object containing the reconstructions and all the associated data.

#### **Examples**

```
data(crest_ex)
data(crest_ex_pse)
data(crest_ex_selection)
x <- crest.get_modern_data(
    pse = crest_ex_pse, taxaType = 0,
    climate = c("bio1", "bio12"),
    taxa.name = colnames(crest_ex)[-1],
    selectedTaxa = crest_ex_selection, dbname = "crest_example"
)
x <- crest.calibrate(x,
    geoWeighting = TRUE, climateSpaceWeighting = TRUE,
    bin_width = c(2, 20), shape = c("normal", "lognormal")
)
x <- crest.reconstruct(x, crest_ex, selectedTaxa = crest_ex_selection)
plot(x)</pre>
```

crest\_ex

Example dataset to run the CREST method for the first time.

### **Description**

A dataset containing 20 randomly generated pollen samples for 7 pollen taxa.

#### Usage

```
crest_ex
```

#### **Format**

A data frame with 20 rows (samples) and 7 columns (taxa):

Age: Age of each sample

**Taxon1:** Percentage of Taxon1 in each sample.

**Taxon2:** Percentage of Taxon2 in each sample.

**Taxon3:** Percentage of Taxon3 in each sample.

**Taxon4:** Percentage of Taxon4 in each sample.

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Taxon5: Percentage of Taxon5 in each sample.Taxon6: Percentage of Taxon6 in each sample.Taxon7: Percentage of Taxon7 in each sample.

crest\_ex\_pse

Example dataset to Extract data from the example database.

### **Description**

A database indicating the taxonomy of the example proxies.

#### Usage

```
crest_ex_pse
```

#### **Format**

A data frame with 7 rows (taxa) and 5 columns (taxonomy description):

Level: An integr indicating the taxonomic resolution (1 family, 2 genus, 3 species, 4 ignore taxon)

**Family:** The family corresponding to the ProxyName **Genus:** The genus corresponding to the ProxyName **Species:** The species corresponding to the ProxyName

ProxyName: The names of the observed proxies, as reported in the main data file

crest\_ex\_selection

Example dataset to associate taxa with climate varibles.

### Description

A data frame indicating which taxa should be used to reconstruct each climate variable.

## Usage

```
crest_ex_selection
```

#### **Format**

A data frame with 7 rows (taxa) and 2 columns (climate variables):

**bio1:** The first variable to reconstruct (mean annual temperature)

bio12: The second variable to reconstruct (annual precipitation)

crestObj 13

crest0bj *Create a crest() object.* 

#### **Description**

Creates a crest() object with all default parameters.

#### Usage

```
crestObj(
  taxa.name,
  pse,
  taxaType,
  climate,
  xmn,
  xmx,
  ymn,
  ymx,
  continents,
  countries,
  realms,
  biomes,
  ecoregions,
  df = NA,
  x = NA,
  x.name = "",
  minGridCells = 20,
  bin_width = rep(1, length(climate)),
  shape = rep("normal", length(climate)),
  npoints = 500,
  geoWeighting = TRUE,
  climateSpaceWeighting = TRUE,
  selectedTaxa = NA,
  presenceThreshold = 0,
  taxWeight = "normalisation"
)
```

### **Arguments**

```
taxa.name .

pse .

taxaType .

climate A vectof of the climate variables to extract.

xmn, xmx, ymn, ymx

The coordinates defining the study area.

continents A vector of the continent names defining the study area.

countries A vector of the country names defining the study area.

realms A vector of the studied botanical realms defining the study area.

biomes A vector of the studied botanical biomes defining the study area.
```

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ecoregions A vector of the studied botanical ecoregions defining the study area.

df .

Χ .

x.name .

minGridCells .

bin\_width .

shape .

npoints The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.

geoWeighting The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.

climateSpaceWeighting

The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.

selectedTaxa .
presenceThreshold

.

taxWeight 'originalData', 'presence/absence', 'percentages' or 'normalisation'

#### Value

A CREST object that is used to store data and information for reconstructing climate

dbRequest

Connect to the gbif4crest database

### Description

Connect to the gbif4crest\_02 database by accessing the server on Amazon.

### Usage

```
dbRequest(request, dbname = "gbif4crest_02")
```

#### **Arguments**

request A SQL request to be executed.

dbname The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest\_02.

#### Value

The result of the request.

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#### **Examples**

```
# Extracting the number of taxa recorded in the database
dbRequest("SELECT count(*) FROM taxa")

# Extracting all the taxa that have at least one occurrence in South Africa.
## Not run:
southAfricaTaxa <- dbRequest(paste0(
    "SELECT DISTINCT taxa.* ",
    "FROM taxa, distrib_qdgc, geo_qdgc ",
    "WHERE taxa.taxonid=distrib_qdgc.taxonid ",
    "AND distrib_qdgc.latitude=geo_qdgc.latitude ",
    "AND distrib_qdgc.longitude=geo_qdgc.longitude ",
    "AND geo_qdgc.countryname='South Africa'"
))
head(southAfricaTaxa)

## End(Not run)</pre>
```

fit\_pdfsp

Fit the species pdfs.

#### **Description**

Fit the species pdfs.

#### Usage

```
fit_pdfsp(climate, ccs, bin_width, shape, xrange, use_ccs = TRUE)
```

#### **Arguments**

climate A vector of climatic values where the species is present.

ccs A ccs object returned by calib\_clim\_space.

bin\_width The width of the climate bins.

shape The shape of the species pdfs. Use 'normal' or 'lognormal'.

xrange The climate gradient upon which the pdf with be defined.

use\_ccs Boolean to indicate if the pdfsp should be corrected by the distributin of the

modern climate space

#### Value

The pdf of the species.

```
# Creating one randomised species
climate_species <- round(stats::rnorm(50, 15, 2), 1)
# Creating one randomised climate space
climate_space <- base::sample(0:300 / 10, 4000, replace = TRUE)</pre>
```

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```
ccs <- calib_clim_space(climate_space, 2)
xrange <- fit_xrange(ccs, "normal", 2)
pdfsp <- fit_pdfsp(climate_species, ccs, 2, "normal", xrange)
plot(xrange, pdfsp, type = "l")
# Testing that the area under the curve is equal to 1.
sum(pdfsp * (xrange[2] - xrange[1])) == 1</pre>
```

fit\_xrange

Define teh climate gradient to fit the pdfs.

#### **Description**

Define teh climate gradient to fit the pdfs.

### Usage

```
fit_xrange(ccs, shape, bin_width, npoints = 500)
```

### Arguments

ccs A ccs object returned by calib\_clim\_space.

shape The shape of the species pdfs. Use 'normal' or 'lognormal'.

bin\_width The width of the climate bins.

npoints The number of points to be used to fit the pdfs.

#### Value

A regularly spaced climate gradient with npoints points.

#### **Examples**

```
# Creating one randomised climate space
climate_space <- sample(0:300 / 10, 4000, replace = TRUE)
ccs <- calib_clim_space(climate_space, 2)
xrange <- fit_xrange(ccs, "normal", 2)
head(xrange)</pre>
```

getClimateSpace

Extract the distribution of the studied climate gradient(s) across the study area.

### Description

Extract the distribution of the studied climate gradient(s) across the study area.

getClimateSpace 17

#### Usage

```
getClimateSpace(
  climate,
  xmn = -180,
  xmx = 180,
  ymn = -90,
  ymx = 90,
  continents = NA,
  countries = NA,
  realms = NA,
  biomes = NA,
  ecoregions = NA,
  dbname = "gbif4crest_02"
)
```

### Arguments

climate A vectof of the climate variables to extract. xmn, xmx, ymn, ymx The coordinates defining the study area. A vector of the continent names defining the study area. continents countries A vector of the country names defining the study area. A vector of the studied botanical realms defining the study area. realms A vector of the studied botanical biomes defining the study area. biomes A vector of the studied botanical ecoregions defining the study area. ecoregions dbname The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest\_02.

#### Value

A matrix of occurrence records with the associated climate.

#### See Also

accClimateVariables for a list of accepted climate variable names, accContinentNames for a list of accepted continent and country names, accRealmNames for a list of accepted realm, biome and ecoregion names.

```
climate <- getClimateSpace("bio1", -90, 90, -90, 90,
  continents = "Europe",
  countries = c("Germany", "Netherlands", "Sweden"),
  realms = "Palaearctic"
)
head(climate)
plot(climate[, -3], asp = 1)</pre>
```

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getDistribTaxa

Extract taxonID(s) corresponding to the taxonomic description

#### **Description**

Extract all possible TaxonIDs corresponding to the provided taxonomical description, which can be at the family, the genus or the species levels.

### Usage

```
getDistribTaxa(
  taxIDs,
  climate,
  xmn = -180,
  xmx = 180,
  ymn = -90,
  ymx = 90,
  continents = NA,
  countries = NA,
  realms = NA,
  biomes = NA,
  ecoregions = NA,
  dbname = "gbif4crest_02"
)
```

#### Arguments

taxIDs A vector of accepted Taxa IDs (as returned by getTaxonID).

climate A vectof of the climate variables to extract.

xmn, xmx, ymn, ymx

The coordinates defining the study area.

continents A vector of the continent names defining the study area.

A vector of the country names defining the study area.

realms A vector of the studied botanical realms defining the study area.

biomes A vector of the studied botanical biomes defining the study area.

ecoregions A vector of the studied botanical ecoregions defining the study area.

dbname The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest\_02.

### Value

A matrix of occurrence records with the associated climate.

#### See Also

getTaxonID for taxIDs, accClimateVariables for a list of accepted climate variable names, accContinentNames for a list of accepted continent and country names, accRealmNames for a list of accepted realm, biome and ecoregion names.

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#### **Examples**

```
taxIDs <- getTaxonID("Zamiaceae", "Ceratozamia")
distrib <- getDistribTaxa(taxIDs, "bio1", -90, 90, -90, 90,
  continents = "Europe",
  countries = c("Germany", "Netherlands", "Sweden"),
  realms = "Palaearctic"
)
distrib</pre>
```

getTaxonID

Extract taxonID(s) corresponding to the taxonomic description

### **Description**

Extract all possible TaxonIDs corresponding to the provided taxonomical description, which can be at the family, the genus or the species levels.

### Usage

```
getTaxonID(
  family,
  genus = "",
  species = "",
  taxaType = 1,
  dbname = "gbif4crest_02"
)
```

#### **Arguments**

family The name of the family.
genus The name of the genus.
species The name of the species.

taxaType A numerical index (between 1 and 5) to define the type of palaeoproxy used: 1

for plants, 2 for beetles, 3 for foraminifers, 4 for diatoms, 5 for chironomids and

6 for rodents.

dbname The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest\_02.

#### Value

A vector of unique taxonIDs.

```
getTaxonID("Zamiaceae")
getTaxonID("Zamiaceae", "Ceratozamia")
getTaxonID("Zamiaceae", "Ceratozamia", taxaType = 2)
```

20 getTaxonomy

	_	
σet.	Γaxonomy	1

Extract taxonID(s) corresponding to the taxonomic description

### Description

Extract all possible TaxonIDs corresponding to the provided taxonomical description, which can be at the family, the genus or the species levels.

### Usage

```
getTaxonomy(
  family = "",
  genus = "",
  species = "",
  taxaType = 1,
  depth.out = 8,
  dbname = "gbif4crest_02"
)
```

### Arguments

family	The name of the family.
genus	The name of the genus.
species	The name of the species.
taxaType	A numerical index (between 1 and 5) to define the type of palaeoproxy used: 1 for plants, 2 for beetles, 3 for foraminifers, 4 for diatoms, 5 for chironomids and 6 for rodents.
depth.out	The taxonomic resolution of the output table. 1 for Kingdom, 2 for phylum, 3 for class_name, 4 for order_name, 5 for family, 6 for genus, 7 for species and 8 to also include the taxonID.
dbname	The name of the database. Default is gbif4crest_02.

### Value

A vector of unique taxonIDs.

```
getTaxonomy("Zamiaceae")
getTaxonomy(genus="Ceratozamia", depth.out=8)
getTaxonomy("Zamiaceae", "Ceratozamia", taxaType = 2)
```

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isColourStr

Test if R can interpret a string as a colour

### Description

Test if R can interpret a string as a colour

### Usage

```
isColourStr(col)
```

### **Arguments**

col

The string to be tested.

#### Value

A boolean value, TRUE if col is a valid colour, FALSE otherwise

### **Examples**

```
isColourStr('black')
isColourStr('blakc')
```

meanPositiveValues

Convert data into presence/absence data.

### Description

Convert data into presence/absence data.

### Usage

```
meanPositiveValues(x)
```

### Arguments

Х

A vector of values.

### Value

The average of all the positive values.

```
meanPositiveValues(-10:10)
```

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normalis	Δ

Convert data into presence/absence data.

#### **Description**

Convert data into presence/absence data.

#### Usage

```
normalise(df, threshold = 2, col2convert = 2:ncol(df))
```

### **Arguments**

df The dataframe containing the data to convert.

threshold The threshold that defines presence (presence if >= threshold)

col2convert A vector of the columns to convert. Default is all the columns but the first, which

contains an age, a depth or a sampleID.

#### Value

A vector of unique taxonIDs.

#### **Examples**

```
df <- data.frame(matrix(1:25, ncol = 5))
colnames(df) <- paste(rep("col", 5), 1:5, sep = "")
convert2presenceAbsence(df, threshold = 15)
convert2presenceAbsence(df, col2convert = 3:5)</pre>
```

plot\_diagram

Plot stratigraphic data as polygons or barplots.

### **Description**

This function plots stratigraphic data either as polygons or bars.

### Usage

```
plot_diagram(
   df,
   bars = FALSE,
   col = "black",
   amplif = 5,
   save = FALSE,
   filename = "Diagram.pdf",
   width = 3.54,
   height = 9,
   yax_incr = 5,
   bar_width = 1,
```

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```
xlim = NA,
tickAtSample = TRUE,
col_pos = "black",
col_neg = "white"
)
```

### Arguments

df	A data frame of the data to plot (first column with age or depth) and the taxa in the following columns. df can also be a crestObj.
bars	A boolean that indicates if the data should be plotted as polygons (default: bars=FALSE) or vertical bars (bars=TRUE).
col	Colours to be used for the polygons. If the number of colours does not match the number of taxa, colors will be recyled.
amplif	A factor the show exageration on the diagram. Only for polygon plot. Default 5.
save	A boolean to indicate if the diagram shoud be saved as a pdf file. Default is FALSE.
filename	An absolute or relative path that indicates where the diagram should be saved. Also used to specify the name of the file. Default: the file is saved in the working directory under the name Diagram.pdf.
width	The width of the output file in inches (default 3.54in ~ 9cm).
height	The height of the output file in inches (default 9in ~ 23cm).
yax_incr	Graphical parameters describing the increment size on the y-axis (default 5).
bar_width	Width of the bars of the barplot (default 1).
xlim	The range covered by the x-axis. Canbe adjusted to get round numbers on the x-ais. If smaller than the range overed by the data, the data will be truncated (default: range of the data).
tickAtSample	Boolean that indicates whether a tick mark should be added on the x-axis at the location of each sample (default TRUE).
col_pos	Graphical parameter for the barplot. Colour of all the positive values (default black).
col_neg	Graphical parameter for the barplot. Colour of all the negative values (default white).

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