

# Package ‘trps’

March 21, 2025

**Type** Package

**Title** Bayesian Trophic Position Models using 'stan'

**Version** 0.1.0

**Description** Bayesian trophic position models using 'stan' by leveraging 'brms' for stable isotope data. Trophic position models are derived by using equations from Post (2002) <[doi:10.1890/0012-9658\(2002\)083\[0703:USITET\]2.0.CO;2](https://doi.org/10.1890/0012-9658(2002)083[0703:USITET]2.0.CO;2)>, Vander Zanden and Vadeboncoeur (2002) <[doi:10.1890/0012-9658\(2002\)083\[2152:FAIOBA\]2.0.CO;2](https://doi.org/10.1890/0012-9658(2002)083[2152:FAIOBA]2.0.CO;2)>, and Heuvel et al. (2024) <[doi:10.1139/cjfas-2024-0028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas-2024-0028)>.

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**Encoding** UTF-8

**LazyData** true

**Imports** brms, cli, dplyr, lifecycle

**Suggests** bayesplot, ggdist, ggplot2, grid, knitr, purrr, rmarkdown, testthat (>= 3.0.0), tidybayes, tidyr, viridis

**Config/testthat/edition** 3

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.2

**Depends** R (>= 4.1.0)

**URL** <https://benjaminhlina.github.io/trps/>,  
<https://github.com/benjaminhlina/trps>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/benjaminhlina/trps/issues>

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**LazyDataCompression** xz

**NeedsCompilation** no

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**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2025-03-21 16:00:02 UTC

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|           |  |
|-----------|--|
| add_alpha | <i>Calculate and add <math>\alpha</math></i> |
|-----------|--|

---

### Description

Calculate  $\alpha$  for a two source trophic position model using equations from [Post 2002](#).

### Usage

```
add_alpha(data, abs = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

|      |   |
|------|---|
| data | data.frame of stable isotope samples with mean values for two baselines. For aquatic ecosystems, baseline one needs to come from a benthic source and baseline two needs to come from a pelagic source. Baseline $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ columns need to be named c1 and c2, with the consumer's $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ column named d13c. |
| abs  | logical that controls whether the absolute value is taken for the numerator and denominator. Default is FALSE meaning that the absolute value is not taken.   |

### Details

$$\alpha = (\delta^{13}C_c - \delta^{13}C_2) / (\delta^{13}C_1 - \delta^{13}C_2)$$

where  $\delta^{13}C_c$  is the isotopic value for consumer,  $\delta^{13}C_1$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 1 and  $\delta^{13}C_2$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 2.

**Value**

a data.frame that has alpha, min\_alpha, and max\_alpha added.

**Examples**

```
combined_iso |>
  add_alpha()
```

---

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| baseline_1_iso | <i>Stable isotope data for amphipods (baseline 1)</i> |
|----------------|---|

---

**Description**

Stable isotope data ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ ) for amphipods collected from an ecoregion in Lake Ontario.

**Usage**

```
baseline_1_iso
```

**Format**

data.frame containing 14 rows and 5 variables

**common\_name** name of the species (i.e., Amphipoda)

**ecoregion** ecoregion where samples were collected

**d13c\_b1** observed values for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$

**d15n\_b1** observed values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$

---

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| baseline_2_iso | <i>Stable isotope data for dreissenids (baseline 2)</i> |
|----------------|---|

---

**Description**

Stable isotope data ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ ) for dreissenid collected from an ecoregion in Lake Ontario.

**Usage**

```
baseline_2_iso
```

**Format**

data.frame containing 12 rows and 5 variables

**common\_name** name of the species (i.e., Dreissenids)

**ecoregion** ecoregion where samples were collected

**d13c\_b2** observed values for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$

**d15n\_b2** observed values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$

---

|              |   |
|--------------|---|
| combined_iso | <i>Stable isotope data for lake trout, amphipods (benthic baseline; baseline 1) and dreissenids (pelagic baseline; baseline 2),</i> |
|--------------|---|

---

### Description

Stable isotope data ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ ) for lake trout collected from two ecoregions in Lake Ontario. Values of  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  for a benthic baseline (amphipods; baseline 1; d13c\_b1 and d15n\_b1) and pelagic baseline (dreissenids; baseline 2; d13c\_b2 and d15n\_b2) with the means for each baseline calculated (c1, n1, c2, and n2).

### Usage

combined\_iso

### Format

data.frame containing 117 rows and 13 variables

**id** row id number

**common\_name** name of the species (i.e., Lake Trout)

**ecoregion** ecoregion where samples were collected

**d13c** observed values for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  of consumer

**d15n** observed values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  of consumer

**d13c\_b1** observed values for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  of baseline 1

**d15n\_b1** observed values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  of baseline 1

**d13c\_b2** observed values for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  of baseline 2

**d15n\_b2** observed values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  of baseline 2

**c1** mean values for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  of baseline 1

**n1** mean values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  of baseline 1

**c2** mean values for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  of baseline 2

**n2** mean values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  of baseline 2

---

|              |  |
|--------------|--|
| consumer_iso | <i>Stable isotope data for lake trout (consumer)</i> |
|--------------|--|

---

**Description**

Stable isotope data ( $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ ) for lake trout collected from an ecoregion in Lake Ontario.

**Usage**

```
consumer_iso
```

**Format**

data.frame containing 30 rows and 6 variables

**common\_name** name of the species (i.e., Lake Trout)

**ecoregion** ecoregion where samples were collected

**d13c** observed values for  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$

**d15n** observed values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$

---

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| one_source_model | <i>Bayesian model - One Source Trophic Position</i> |
|------------------|---|

---

**Description**

Estimate trophic position using a one source model derived from **Post 2002** using a Bayesian framework.

**Usage**

```
one_source_model(bp = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

**bp** logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  baseline. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data.frame needs values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  baseline (n1).

**Details**

$$\delta^{15}\text{N} = \delta^{15}\text{N}_1 + \Delta\text{N} \times (tp - \lambda_1)$$

$\delta^{15}\text{N}$  are values from the consumer,  $\delta^{15}\text{N}_1$  is mean  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values of baseline 1,  $\Delta\text{N}$  is the trophic discrimination factor for N (i.e., dn mean of 3.4),  $tp$  is trophic position, and  $\lambda_1$  is the trophic level of baselines which are often a primary consumer (e.g., 2).

The data supplied to `brms()` needs to have the following variables `d15n`, `n1`, and `l1` ( $\lambda$ ) which is usually 2.

**Value**

returns model structure for one source model to be used in a `brms()` call.

**See Also**

[brms::brms\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
one_source_model()
```

---

one\_source\_priors      *Bayesian priors - One Source Trophic Position*

---

**Description**

Create priors for one source trophic position model derived from [Post 2002](#).

**Usage**

```
one_source_priors(bp = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

`bp`                      logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  baseline. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied `data.frame` needs values for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  baseline (`n1`).

**Value**

returns priors for one source model to be used in a `brms()` call.

**See Also**

[brms::brms\(\)](#)

**Examples**

```
one_source_priors()
```

---

 one\_source\_priors\_params

*Adjust Bayesian priors - One Source Trophic Position*


---

## Description

Adjust priors for one source trophic position model derived from [Post 2002](#).

## Usage

```
one_source_priors_params(
  n1 = NULL,
  n1_sigma = NULL,
  dn = NULL,
  dn_sigma = NULL,
  tp_lb = NULL,
  tp_ub = NULL,
  sigma_lb = NULL,
  sigma_ub = NULL,
  bp = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

|          |   |
|----------|---|
| n1       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for the mean $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 9.  |
| n1_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for the mean $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.   |
| dn       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior value for $\Delta\text{N}$ . Defaults to 3.4.  |
| dn_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ . Defaults to 0.25.   |
| tp_lb    | lower bound prior for trophic position. Defaults to 2.  |
| tp_ub    | upper bound prior for trophic position. Defaults to 10.   |
| sigma_lb | lower bound prior for $\sigma$ . Defaults to 0.   |
| sigma_ub | upper bound prior for $\sigma$ . Defaults to 10.  |
| bp       | logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data.frame needs values for $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline (n1). |

## Details

$$\delta^{15}N = \delta^{15}N_1 + \delta N \times (tp - \lambda_1)$$

This function allows the user to adjust the priors for the following variables in the equation above:

- The mean (n1;  $\mu$ ) and variance (n1\_sigma;  $\sigma$ ) for the mean  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  for a given baseline ( $\delta^{15}N_1$ ). This prior assumes a normal distribution.

- The mean (dn;  $\mu$ ) and variance (dn\_sigma;  $\sigma$ ) of  $\Delta N$  (i.e, trophic enrichment factor). This prior assumes a normal distribution.
- The lower (tp\_lb) and upper (tp\_ub) bounds for trophic position. This prior assumes a uniform distribution.
- The lower (sigma\_lb) and upper (sigma\_ub) bounds for variance ( $\sigma$ ). This prior assumes a uniform distribution.

### Value

stanvars object to be used with brms() call.

### See Also

[one\\_source\\_priors\(\)](#), [one\\_source\\_model\(\)](#), and [brms::brms\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
one_source_priors_params()
```

---

|                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| two_source_model | <i>Bayesian model - Two Source Trophic Position</i> |
|------------------|---|

---

### Description

Trophic position using a two source model derived from [Post 2002](#) using a Bayesian framework.

### Usage

```
two_source_model(bp = FALSE, lambda = NULL)
```

### Arguments

- |        |  |
|--------|--|
| bp     | logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for both $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{C}$ baselines. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data.frame needs values for both $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{C}$ baseline (c1, c2, n1, and n2). |
| lambda | numerical value, 1 or 2, that controls whether one or two $\lambda$ s are used. See details for equations and when to use 1 or 2. Defaults to 1.   |

### Details

We will use the following equations from [Post 2002](#):

1.

$$\delta^{13}C_c = \alpha \times (\delta^{13}C_1 - \delta^{13}C_2) + \delta^{13}C_2$$

2.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - \lambda_1) + n_1 \times \alpha + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha)$$

3.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - (\lambda_1 \times \alpha + \lambda_2 \times (1 - \alpha))) + n_1 \times \alpha + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha)$$

**For equation 1)**

where  $\delta^{13}C_c$  is the isotopic value for consumer,  $\alpha$  is the ratio between baselines and consumer  $\delta^{13}C$ ,  $\delta^{13}C_1$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 1, and  $\delta^{13}C_2$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 2

**For equation 2) and 3)**

$\delta^{15}N$  are values from the consumer,  $n_1$  is  $\delta^{15}N$  values of baseline 1,  $n_2$  is  $\delta^{15}N$  values of baseline 2,  $\Delta N$  is the trophic discrimination factor for N (i.e., mean of 3.4),  $tp$  is trophic position, and  $\lambda_1$  and/or  $\lambda_2$  are the trophic levels of baselines which are often a primary consumer (e.g., 2 or 2.5).

The data supplied to `brms()` when using baselines at the same trophic level (`lambda` argument set to 1) needs to have the following variables, `d15n`, `c1`, `c2`, `n1`, `n2`, `l1` ( $\lambda_1$ ) which is usually 2. If using baselines at different trophic levels (`lambda` argument set to 2) the data frame needs to have `l1` and `l2` with a numerical value for each trophic level (e.g., 2 and 2.5;  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ ).

**Value**

returns model structure for two source model to be used in a `brms()` call.

**See Also**

`brms::brms()`

**Examples**

```
two_source_model()
```

---

`two_source_model_ar` *Bayesian model - Two Source Trophic Position with  $\alpha_r$*

---

**Description**

Estimate trophic position using a two source model with  $\alpha_r$  derived from [Post 2002](#) and [Heuvel et al. \(2024\)](#) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas20240028) using a Bayesian framework.

**Usage**

```
two_source_model_ar(bp = FALSE, lambda = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

`bp` logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for both  $\delta^{15}N$  baselines. Default is `FALSE` meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data frame needs values for both  $\delta^{15}N$  baseline (`n1` and `n2`).

`lambda` numerical value, 1 or 2, that controls whether one or two lambdas are used. See details for equations and when to use 1 or 2. Defaults to 1.

## Details

We will use the following equations derived from Post 2002 and Heuvel et al. (2024) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas20240028):

1.

$$\alpha = (\delta^{13}C_c - \delta^{13}C_2) / (\delta^{13}C_1 - \delta^{13}C_2)$$

2.

$$\alpha = \alpha_r \times (\alpha_{max} - \alpha_{min}) + \alpha_{min}$$

3.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - \lambda_1) + n_1 \times \alpha_r + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r)$$

4.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - (\lambda_1 \times \alpha_r + \lambda_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r))) + n_1 \times \alpha_r + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r)$$

### For equation 1)

This equation is a carbon source mixing model with  $\delta^{13}C_c$  is the isotopic value for consumer,  $\delta^{13}C_1$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 1 and  $\delta^{13}C_2$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 2. This equation is added to the data frame using `add_alpha()`.

### For equation 2)

$\alpha$  is being corrected using equations in Heuvel et al. (2024) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas20240028) with  $\alpha_r$  being the corrected value (bound by 0 and 1),  $\alpha_{min}$  is the minimum  $\alpha$  value calculated using `add_alpha()` and  $\alpha_{max}$  being the maximum  $\alpha$  value calculated using `add_alpha()`.

### For equation 3) and 4)

$\delta^{15}N$  are values from the consumer,  $n_1$  is  $\delta^{15}N$  values of baseline 1,  $n_2$  is  $\delta^{15}N$  values of baseline 2,  $\Delta N$  is the trophic discrimination factor for N (i.e., mean of 3.4),  $tp$  is trophic position, and  $\lambda_1$  and/or  $\lambda_2$  are the trophic levels of baselines which are often a primary consumer (e.g., 2 or 2.5).

The data supplied to `brms()` when using baselines at the same trophic level (`lambda` argument set to 1) needs to have the following variables, `d15n`, `n1`, `n2`, `l1` ( $\lambda_1$ ) which is usually 2. If using baselines at different trophic levels (`lambda` argument set to 2) the data frame needs to have `l1` and `l2` with a numerical value for each trophic level (e.g., 2 and 2.5;  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ ).

## Value

returns model structure for two source model to be used in a `brms()` call.

## See Also

`brms::brms()`

## Examples

`two_source_model_ar()`

---

two\_source\_model\_arc *Bayesian model - Two Source Trophic Position with  $\alpha_r$  and carbon mixing model*

---

## Description

Estimate trophic position using a two source model with  $\alpha_r$  derived from [Post 2002](#) and Heuvel et al. (2024) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](#) using a Bayesian framework.

## Usage

```
two_source_model_arc(bp = FALSE, lambda = NULL)
```

## Arguments

**bp** logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for both  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{C}$  baselines. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data.frame needs values for both  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{C}$  baseline (c1, c2, n1, and n2).

**lambda** numerical value, 1 or 2, that controls whether one or two lambdas are used. See details for equations and when to use 1 or 2. Defaults to 1.

## Details

We will use the following equations derived from [Post 2002](#) and Heuvel et al. (2024) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](#):

1.

$$\alpha = (\delta^{13}C_c - \delta^{13}C_2) / (\delta^{13}C_1 - \delta^{13}C_2)$$

2.

$$\alpha = \alpha_r \times (\alpha_{max} - \alpha_{min}) + \alpha_{min}$$

3.

$$\delta^{13}C = c_1 \times \alpha_c + c_2 \times (1 - \alpha_c)$$

4.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - \lambda_1) + n_1 \times \alpha_c + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha_c)$$

5.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - (\lambda_1 \times \alpha_c + \lambda_2 \times (1 - \alpha_c))) + n_1 \times \alpha_c + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha_c)$$

### For equation 1)

This equation is a carbon source mixing model with  $\delta^{13}C_c$  is the isotopic value for consumer,  $\delta^{13}C_1$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 1 and  $\delta^{13}C_2$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 2.

### For equation 2)

$\alpha$  is being corrected using equations in Heuvel et al. (2024) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas20240028). with  $\alpha_r$  being the corrected value (bound by 0 and 1),  $\alpha_{min}$  is the minimum  $\alpha$  value calculated using `add_alpha()` and  $\alpha_{max}$  being the maximum  $\alpha$  value calculated using `add_alpha()`.

### For equation 3)

This equation is a carbon source mixing model with  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  being estimated using `c_1`, `c_2` and  $\alpha_c$  calculated in equation 1.

### For equation 4) and 5)

$\delta^{15}\text{N}$  are values from the consumer,  $n_1$  is  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values of baseline 1,  $n_2$  is  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values of baseline 2,  $\Delta\text{N}$  is the trophic discrimination factor for N (i.e., mean of 3.4), `tp` is trophic position, and  $\lambda_1$  and/or  $\lambda_2$  are the trophic levels of baselines which are often a primary consumer (e.g., 2 or 2.5).

The data supplied to `brms()` when using baselines at the same trophic level (`lambda` argument set to 1) needs to have the following variables, `d15n`, `n1`, `n2`, `l1` ( $\lambda_1$ ) which is usually 2. If using baselines at different trophic levels (`lambda` argument set to 2) the data frame needs to have `l1` and `l2` with a numerical value for each trophic level (e.g., 2 and 2.5;  $\lambda_1$  and  $\lambda_2$ ).

## Value

returns model structure for two source model to be used in a `brms()` call.

## See Also

[brms::brms\(\)](#)

## Examples

```
two_source_model_arc()
```

---

two\_source\_priors      *Bayesian priors - Two Source Trophic Position*

---

## Description

Create priors for two source trophic position model derived from [Post 2002](#).

## Usage

```
two_source_priors(bp = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

`bp`                      logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for both  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{C}$  baselines. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data frame needs values for both  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{C}$  baseline (`c1`, `c2`, `n1`, and `n2`).

**Value**

returns priors for two source model to be used in a `brms()` call.

**See Also**

[two\\_source\\_model\(\)](#) and `brms::brms()`

**Examples**

```
two_source_priors()
```

---

`two_source_priors_ar` *Bayesian priors - Two Source Trophic Position with  $\alpha_r$*

---

**Description**

Create priors for trophic position using a two source model with  $\alpha_r$  derived from [Post 2002](#) and [Heuvel et al. \(2024\)](#) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas20240028).

**Usage**

```
two_source_priors_ar(bp = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

`bp` logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  baselines. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied `data.frame` needs values for both  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  baseline (`n1`, and `n2`).

**Value**

returns priors for two source model to be used in a `brms()` call.

**See Also**

`brms::brms()`

**Examples**

```
two_source_priors_ar()
```

two\_source\_priors\_arc *Bayesian priors - Two Source Trophic Position with  $\alpha_r$  and carbon mixing model*

---

### Description

Create priors for trophic position using a two source model with  $\alpha_r$  derived from [Post 2002](#) and Heuvel et al. (2024) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas20240028).

### Usage

```
two_source_priors_arc(bp = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

bp logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for both  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{C}$  baselines. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data.frame needs values for both  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  and  $\delta^{15}\text{C}$  baseline (c1, c2, n1, and n2).

### Value

returns priors for two source model to be used in a brms() call.

### See Also

[brms::brms\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
two_source_priors_arc()
```

---

two\_source\_priors\_params  
*Adjust Bayesian priors - Two Source Trophic Position*

---

### Description

Adjust priors for two source trophic position model derived from [Post 2002](#).

**Usage**

```

two_source_priors_params(
  a = NULL,
  b = NULL,
  c1 = NULL,
  c1_sigma = NULL,
  c2 = NULL,
  c2_sigma = NULL,
  n1 = NULL,
  n1_sigma = NULL,
  n2 = NULL,
  n2_sigma = NULL,
  dn = NULL,
  dn_sigma = NULL,
  tp_lb = NULL,
  tp_ub = NULL,
  sigma_lb = NULL,
  sigma_ub = NULL,
  bp = FALSE
)

```

**Arguments**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| a        | ( $\alpha$ ) exponent of the random variable for beta distribution. Defaults to 1. See beta distribution for more information.   |
| b        | ( $\beta$ ) shape parameter for beta distribution. Defaults to 1. See beta distribution for more information.  |
| c1       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for the mean of the first $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ baseline. Defaults to -21.  |
| c1_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for the mean of the first $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.   |
| c2       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for or the mean of the second $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ baseline. Defaults to -26.  |
| c2_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for the mean of the first $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.   |
| n1       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for the mean of the first $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 8.  |
| n1_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for the mean of the first $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.   |
| n2       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for or the mean of the second $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 9.5.  |
| n2_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for the mean of the second $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.  |
| dn       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior value for $\Delta\text{N}$ . Defaults to 3.4.   |
| dn_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ . Defaults to 0.25.  |
| tp_lb    | lower bound for priors for trophic position. Defaults to 2.  |
| tp_ub    | upper bound for priors for trophic position. Defaults to 10.   |
| sigma_lb | lower bound for priors for $\sigma$ . Defaults to 0.   |
| sigma_ub | upper bound for priors for $\sigma$ . Defaults to 10.  |
| bp       | logical value that controls whether informed priors are supplied to the model for both $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{C}$ baselines. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data. <code>f</code> frame needs values for both $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{C}$ baseline (c1, c2, n1, and n2). |

**Details**

We will use the following equations from [Post 2002](#):

1.

$$\delta^{13}C_c = \alpha * (\delta^{13}C_1 - \delta^{13}C_2) + \delta^{13}C_2$$

2.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - \lambda_1) + n_1 \times \alpha + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha)$$

3.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - (\lambda_1 \times \alpha + \lambda_2 \times (1 - \alpha))) + n_1 \times \alpha + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha)$$

- The random exponent ( $\alpha$ ; a) and shape parameters ( $\beta$ ; b) for  $\alpha$ . This prior assumes a beta distribution.
- The mean (c1;  $\mu$ ) and variance (c1\_sigma;  $\sigma$ ) of the mean for the first  $\delta^{13}C$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean (c2;  $\mu$ ) and variance (c2\_sigma;  $\sigma$ ) of the mean for the second  $\delta^{13}C$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean (n1;  $\mu$ ) and variance (n1\_sigma;  $\sigma$ ) of the mean for the first  $\delta^{15}N$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean (n2;  $\mu$ ) and variance (n2\_sigma;  $\sigma$ ) of the mean for the second  $\delta^{15}N$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean (dn;  $\mu$ ) and variance (dn\_sigma;  $\sigma$ ) of  $\Delta N$  (i.e, trophic enrichment factor). This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The lower (tp\_lb) and upper (tp\_ub) bounds for priors for trophic position. This prior assumes a uniform distributions.
- The lower (sigma\_lb) and upper (sigma\_ub) bounds for variance ( $\sigma$ ). This prior assumes a uniform distributions.

**Value**

stanvars object to be used with `brms()` call.

**See Also**

[two\\_source\\_priors\(\)](#), [two\\_source\\_model\(\)](#), and `brms::brms()`

**Examples**

```
two_source_priors_params()
```

---

two\_source\_priors\_params\_ar

*Adjust Bayesian priors - Two Source Trophic Position with  $\alpha_r$* 


---

## Description

Create priors for trophic position using a two source model with  $\alpha_r$  derived from [Post 2002](#) and [Heuvel et al. \(2024\)](#) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas20240028).

## Usage

```
two_source_priors_params_ar(
  a = NULL,
  b = NULL,
  n1 = NULL,
  n1_sigma = NULL,
  n2 = NULL,
  n2_sigma = NULL,
  dn = NULL,
  dn_sigma = NULL,
  tp_lb = NULL,
  tp_ub = NULL,
  sigma_lb = NULL,
  sigma_ub = NULL,
  bp = FALSE
)
```

## Arguments

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| a        | ( $\alpha$ ) exponent of the random variable for beta distribution. Defaults to 1. See beta distribution for more information. |
| b        | ( $\beta$ ) shape parameter for beta distribution. Defaults to 1. See beta distribution for more information.                  |
| n1       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for first $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 8.0.  |
| n1_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for first $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.   |
| n2       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for second $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 9.5.   |
| n2_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for second $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.  |
| dn       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior value for $\Delta\text{N}$ . Defaults to 3.4.   |
| dn_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ . Defaults to 0.25.  |
| tp_lb    | lower bound for priors for trophic position. Defaults to 2.  |
| tp_ub    | upper bound for priors for trophic position. Defaults to 10.   |
| sigma_lb | lower bound for priors for $\sigma$ . Defaults to 0.   |
| sigma_ub | upper bound for priors for $\sigma$ . Defaults to 10.  |

bp logical value that controls whether informed baseline priors are supplied to the model for  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  baselines. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data.frame needs values for both  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  baseline (n1 and n2)

## Details

We will use the following equations derived from Post 2002 and Heuvel et al. (2024 doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028):

1.

$$\alpha = (\delta^{13}C_c - \delta^{13}C_2) / (\delta^{13}C_1 - \delta^{13}C_2)$$

2.

$$\alpha = \alpha_r \times (\alpha_{max} - \alpha_{min}) + \alpha_{min}$$

3.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - \lambda_1) + n_1 \times \alpha_r + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r)$$

4.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - (\lambda_1 \times \alpha_r + \lambda_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r))) + n_1 \times \alpha_r + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r)$$

### For equation 1)

This equation is a carbon source mixing model with  $\delta^{13}C_c$  is the isotopic value for consumer,  $\delta^{13}C_1$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 1 and  $\delta^{13}C_2$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 2. This equation is added to the data frame using `add_alpha()`.

### For equation 2)

$\alpha$  is being corrected using equations in Heuvel et al. (2024) doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028 with  $\alpha_r$  being the corrected value (bound by 0 and 1),  $\alpha_{min}$  is the minimum  $\alpha$  value calculated using `add_alpha()` and  $\alpha_{max}$  being the maximum  $\alpha$  value calculated using `add_alpha()`.

### For equation 3) and 4)

$\delta^{15}\text{N}$  are values from the consumer,  $n_1$  is  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values of baseline 1,  $n_2$  is  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  values of baseline 2,  $\Delta N$  is the trophic discrimination factor for N (i.e., mean of 3.4),  $tp$  is trophic position, and  $\lambda_1$  and/or  $\lambda_2$  are the trophic levels of baselines which are often a primary consumer (e.g., 2 or 2.5).

This function allows the user to adjust the priors for the following variables in the equation above:

- The random exponent ( $\alpha$ ; a) and shape parameters ( $\beta$ ; b) for  $\alpha_r$ . This prior assumes a beta distribution.
- The mean ( $n2;\mu$ ) and variance ( $n2\_sigma$ ;  $\sigma$ ) of the second  $\delta^{15}\text{N}$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean ( $c1;\mu$ ) and variance ( $c1\_sigma$ ;  $\sigma$ ) of the second  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean ( $c2;\mu$ ) and variance ( $c2\_sigma$ ;  $\sigma$ ) of the second  $\delta^{13}\text{C}$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean ( $dn$ ;  $\mu$ ) and variance ( $dn\_sigma$ ;  $\sigma$ ) of  $\Delta N$  (i.e, trophic enrichment factor). This prior assumes a normal distributions.

- The lower (tp\_lb) and upper (tp\_ub) bounds for priors for trophic position. This prior assumes a uniform distributions.
- The lower (sigma\_lb) and upper (sigma\_ub) bounds for variance ( $\sigma$ ). This prior assumes a uniform distributions.

### Value

stanvars object to be used with brms() call.

### See Also

[two\\_source\\_priors\\_ar\(\)](#), [two\\_source\\_model\\_ar\(\)](#), and [brms::brms\(\)](#)

### Examples

```
two_source_priors_params_arc()
```

---

```
two_source_priors_params_arc
```

*Adjust Bayesian priors - Two Source Trophic Position with  $\alpha_r$  and carbon mixing model*

---

### Description

Adjust priors for trophic position using a two source model with  $\alpha_r$  derived from [Post 2002](#) and [Heuvel et al. \(2024\)](#) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas20240028)

### Usage

```
two_source_priors_params_arc(
  a = NULL,
  b = NULL,
  n1 = NULL,
  n1_sigma = NULL,
  n2 = NULL,
  n2_sigma = NULL,
  c1 = NULL,
  c1_sigma = NULL,
  c2 = NULL,
  c2_sigma = NULL,
  dn = NULL,
  dn_sigma = NULL,
  tp_lb = NULL,
  tp_ub = NULL,
  sigma_lb = NULL,
  sigma_ub = NULL,
  bp = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

|          |  |
|----------|--|
| a        | ( $\alpha$ ) exponent of the random variable for beta distribution. Defaults to 1. See beta distribution for more information.   |
| b        | ( $\beta$ ) shape parameter for beta distribution. Defaults to 1. See beta distribution for more information.  |
| n1       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for first $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 8.0.  |
| n1_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for first $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.   |
| n2       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for second $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 9.5.   |
| n2_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for second $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.  |
| c1       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for first $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ baseline. Defaults to -21.  |
| c1_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for first $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.   |
| c2       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior for second $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ baseline. Defaults to -26.   |
| c2_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for second $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ baseline. Defaults to 1.  |
| dn       | mean ( $\mu$ ) prior value for $\Delta\text{N}$ . Defaults to 3.4.   |
| dn_sigma | variance ( $\sigma$ ) for $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ . Defaults to 0.25.  |
| tp_lb    | lower bound for priors for trophic position. Defaults to 2.  |
| tp_ub    | upper bound for priors for trophic position. Defaults to 10.   |
| sigma_lb | lower bound for priors for $\sigma$ . Defaults to 0.   |
| sigma_ub | upper bound for priors for $\sigma$ . Defaults to 10.  |
| bp       | logical value that controls whether informed baseline priors are supplied to the model for $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baselines. Default is FALSE meaning the model will use uninformed priors, however, the supplied data.frame needs values for both $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ baseline (n1 and n2) |

**Details**

We will use the following equations derived from Post 2002 and Heuvel et al. (2024) doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028:

1.

$$\alpha = (\delta^{13}C_c - \delta^{13}C_2) / (\delta^{13}C_1 - \delta^{13}C_2)$$

2.

$$\alpha = \alpha_r \times (\alpha_{max} - \alpha_{min}) + \alpha_{min}$$

3.

$$\delta^{13}C = c_1 \times \alpha_r + c_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r)$$

4.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - \lambda_1) + n_1 \times \alpha_r + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r)$$

5.

$$\delta^{15}N = \Delta N \times (tp - (\lambda_1 \times \alpha_r + \lambda_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r))) + n_1 \times \alpha_r + n_2 \times (1 - \alpha_r)$$

**For equation 1)**

This equation is a carbon source mixing model with  $\delta^{13}C_c$  is the isotopic value for consumer,  $\delta^{13}C_1$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 1 and  $\delta^{13}C_2$  is the mean isotopic value for baseline 2.

**For equation 2)**

$\alpha$  is being corrected using equations in Heuvel et al. (2024) [doi:10.1139/cjfas20240028](https://doi.org/10.1139/cjfas20240028). with  $\alpha_r$  being the corrected value (bound by 0 and 1),  $\alpha_{min}$  is the minimum  $\alpha$  value calculated using `add_alpha()` and  $\alpha_{max}$  being the maximum  $\alpha$  value calculated using `add_alpha()`.

**For equation 3)**

This equation is a carbon source mixing model with  $\delta^{13}C$  being estimated using `c_1`, `c_2` and  $\alpha_r$  calculated in equation 1.

**For equation 4) and 5)**

$\delta^{15}N$  are values from the consumer,  $n_1$  is  $\delta^{15}N$  values of baseline 1,  $n_2$  is  $\delta^{15}N$  values of baseline 2,  $\Delta N$  is the trophic discrimination factor for N (i.e., mean of 3.4), `tp` is trophic position, and  $\lambda_1$  and/or  $\lambda_2$  are the trophic levels of baselines which are often a primary consumer (e.g., 2 or 2.5).

This function allows the user to adjust the priors for the following variables in the equation above:

- The random exponent ( $\alpha$ ; a) and shape parameters ( $\beta$ ; b) for  $\alpha_r$ . This prior assumes a beta distribution.
- The mean ( $n2$ ;  $\mu$ ) and variance (`n2_sigma`;  $\sigma$ ) of the second  $\delta^{15}N$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean (`c1`;  $\mu$ ) and variance (`c1_sigma`;  $\sigma$ ) of the second  $\delta^{13}C$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean (`c2`;  $\mu$ ) and variance (`c2_sigma`;  $\sigma$ ) of the second  $\delta^{13}C$  for a given baseline. This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The mean (`dn`;  $\mu$ ) and variance (`dn_sigma`;  $\sigma$ ) of  $\Delta N$  (i.e, trophic enrichment factor). This prior assumes a normal distributions.
- The lower (`tp_lb`) and upper (`tp_ub`) bounds for priors for trophic position. This prior assumes a uniform distributions.
- The lower (`sigma_lb`) and upper (`sigma_ub`) bounds for variance ( $\sigma$ ). This prior assumes a uniform distributions.

**Value**

stanvars object to be used with `brms()` call.

**See Also**

`two_source_priors_arc()`, `two_source_model_arc()`, and `brms::brms()`

**Examples**

```
two_source_priors_params_ar()
```

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