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POTENTIAL FOR EXTENSION OF THE RADIOCARBON CALIBRATION BASED ON TERRESTRIAL RECORDS

A. J. T. Jull (1,2), G. W. L. Hodgins (1,3), G. S. Burr (1), J. W. Beck (1), J. Quade (2) and J. S. Pigati (2)

1. NSF Arizona AMS Laboratory, Physics Building, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721 (jull@email.arizona.edu/+1 520 621 9619)
2. Department of Geosciences, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721
3. Department of Anthropology, University of Arizona, Tucson, AZ 85721

The extension of the radiocarbon calibration to its natural limits is a major goal of recent research at a number of laboratories. In this paper, we will review the various datasets currently available from various sources. The importance and potential of obtaining terrestrial records from tree rings (e.g. Palmer et al., 2006) and other sources beyond the current limit of European oaks of about 12.6ka will be discussed. We will also review the importance of sample preparation. At our laboratory, we are undertaking several improvements to radiocarbon dating beyond 30ka, including improvements to bone chemistry and AMS sample preparation.