

Package ‘rampage’

May 9, 2026

Type Package

Title Calibrated Color Ramps

Version 0.2.0

Maintainer Adam T. Kocsis <adam.t.kocsis@gmail.com>

Description Value-calibrated color ramps can be useful to emphasize patterns in data from complex distributions. Colors can be tied to specific values, and the association can be expanded into full color ramps that also include the relationship between colors and values. Such ramps can be used in a variety of cases when heatmap-type plots are necessary, including the visualization of vector and raster spatial data, such as topographies.

License CC BY 4.0

Date 2025-07-02

URL <https://adamtkocsis.com/rampage/>

BugReports <https://github.com/adamkocsis/rampage/issues>

Encoding UTF-8

LazyData true

Depends R (>= 3.5.0)

Imports grDevices

NeedsCompilation no

VignetteBuilder knitr

RoxygenNote 7.3.2

Suggests knitr, rmarkdown, terra

Author Adam T. Kocsis [cre, aut] (ORCID:
<<https://orcid.org/0000-0002-9028-665X>>),
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft [fnd],
FAU GeoZentrum Nordbayern [fnd]

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2025-07-07 09:00:06 UTC

Contents

colorpoints	2
expand	3
limit	4
paleomap	5
plot.calibramp	6
rampage	7
ramplegend	8
ramps	10
topos	11
trimramp	11
Index	13

colorpoints	<i>Heatmap with colored points</i>
-------------	------------------------------------

Description

The function is a wrapper around the [points](#) function, controlling the color of the points similar to ggplot, but using S-style plotting. If neither ramp, nor col or breaks are given, the function will default to using the internal `gradinv` palette with 256 levels evenly distributed from the minimum to the maximum of `z`.

Usage

```
colorpoints(
  x,
  y = NULL,
  z,
  ramp = NULL,
  col = NULL,
  breaks = NULL,
  legend = list(x = "topleft"),
  ...
)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	The x argument of points.
<code>y</code>	The y argument of points.
<code>z</code>	numeric, the variable to visualize using the colors.
<code>ramp</code>	A calibramp-class object (including both breaks and colors).
<code>col</code>	A vector of colors. Used only if ramp is not given.
<code>breaks</code>	A vector of breaks. If given, this has to be one element longer than the length of col.

legend A list of arguments passed to the `ramplegend` function. Set to NULL if you do not want to plot a legend.

... Arguments passed to the `points` function.

Value

The function has no return value.

Examples

```
# random points
set.seed(1)
x <- rnorm(5000) # x coord
y <- rnorm(5000) # y coord
dist <- sqrt(x^2+y^2) # distance from origin

# default plotting
plot(x,y, col=NA)
colorpoints(x=x, y=y, z=dist)

# custom color scheme
levs<- data.frame(color=rainbow(5), z=c(0, 0.5,1, 3, 4.5))
ramp <-expand(levs, n=256)

# very customized (experiment with difference device sizes!)
plot(x,y, col=NA, main="Distance to origin")
colorpoints(x=x, y=y, z=dist,
col=paste0(ramp$col, "BB"),
breaks=ramp$breaks,
pch=16,
legend=list(x=3,y=0,cex=0.7, box.args=list(border=NA)))
```

expand

Create a calibrated color ramp object from color-tiepoint data.frames

Description

Create ramp palettes from fixed color positions.

Usage

```
expand(x = NULL, n, color = "color", z = "z", ...)
```

Arguments

x A data.frame object with two columns: color for hexadecimal color values, z for their position.

n A single integer number.

color	A character value, the column name of the colors in x, defaults to "color". Alternatively, a character vector of hexadecimal color values, with the same length as z.
z	A character value, the column name of the values in x, defaults to "z". Alternatively, a numeric vector of color values (must have the same length as color).
...	Arguments passed to the colorRampPalette function.

Details

The function creates objects of the S3 class `calibramp`. The `calibramp`-class lists have three elements: `col` hexadecimal color values, `mid`: z-values of midpoints (one for every color), and `breaks`: separator borders between color values. Color interpolation will be executed linearly, using `colorRampPalette`, the order of the values will be forced to ascending, the values in `mid` will be halfway between breaks.

Value

A `calibramp`-class object (see description above).

Examples

```
library(rampage)
data(topos)
ramp <- expand(topos$havanna2, n=200)
plot(ramp)
```

limit	<i>Limit range of values in a SpatRaster object</i>
-------	---

Description

Shorthand for limiting maximum and minimum values in a `SpatRaster`-class object.

Usage

```
limit(x, y = NULL, min = NULL, max = NULL)
```

Arguments

x	Object to limit, a <code>SpatRaster</code> -class object.
y	Either a range (i.e. a numeric vector with two values), or <code>data.frame</code> with positioned color values (column z indicates values), or a calibrated ramp (e.g. produced with <code>expand</code>).
min	If y is not given, the minimum value to have in the <code>data.frame</code> .
max	If y is not given, the maximum value to have in the <code>data.frame</code> .

Value

A SpatRaster object.

Examples

```
# This function relies on the terra extension
if(requireNamespace("terra", quietly=TRUE)){
  library(terra)
  # Example 1. Using specific values
  # a SpatRaster object
  r<- terra::rast()
  # populate with a Gaussian distribution
  terra::values(r) <- rnorm(terra::ncell(r), 0.5,1 )
  # and limit
  rLimit <- limit(r, min=-0.2, max=0.2)
  plot(rLimit)

  # Example 2. Using an expanded color ramp
  # Create a data.frame
  df <- data.frame(
    z=c(-1, -0.2, 0, 0.2, 1),
    color=rev(gradinv(5))
  )
  ramp <- expand(df, n=200)
  rLimited <- limit(r, y=ramp)
  # default
  plot(rLimited)

  # manual ramping.
  plot(rLimited, breaks=ramp$breaks, col=ramp$col,
    legend=FALSE)

  # temporary solution for manual legend
  # Marginal ramps will be implemented later
  ramplegend(x=140, y=90, ramp=ramp, cex=0.5,
    at=c(-1, 0, 1), label=c("< -1", 0, "> +1"))
}
```

Description

The elevation to color bindings are the work of C. Scotese. Data from Scotese, C. R., Vérard, C., Burgener, L., Elling, R. P., & Kocsis, A. T. (2025). *The Cretaceous World: Plate Tectonics, Paleogeography, and Paleoclimate*. Geological Society, London, Special Publications, 544(1), SP544–2024..

Usage

```
data(paleomap)
```

Format

A calibramp-class list with 3 numerics:

col : The color levels as hexadecimal RGB values.

breaks : The boundaries for the individual levels.

mid : The mid values of the color levels.

Source

<https://zenodo.org/records/10659112>

plot.calibramp	<i>Visualize a calibrated color ramp</i>
----------------	--

Description

The method can be used to inspect and visualize calibrated color ramp object.

Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'calibramp'
plot(x, ...)

rampplot(
  x,
  breaks = FALSE,
  breaklabs = TRUE,
  axis.args = list(side = 2),
  ylab = "z",
  xlab = ""
)
```

Arguments

x	The calibrated color ramp object (calibramp-class object).
...	Arguments passed to the rampplot function.
breaks	Should the distribution of breaks be visualized?
breaklabs	Should the minimum and maximum break labels be visualized?
axis.args	Arguments passed to the axis function.
ylab	y-axis label.
xlab	x-axis label.

Value

The functions have no return values.

Examples

```
# the paleomap ramp
data(paleomap)
plot(paleomap)
# 0-calibrated, expanded ramp
tiepoints <- data.frame(z=c(-1, -0.1, 0, 0.1, +1)), color=gradinv(5))
ramp <- expand(tiepoints, n=255)
plot(ramp)
```

rampage

Stretchable Color Ramps

Description

Value-calibrated color ramps can be useful to emphasize patterns in weirdly distributed data. Tie-points can be used to fix colors to specific values, and the resulting association can then be expanded into full color ramps. Such ramps can be used a variety of cases when heatmap type plotting is necessary, including the visualization of raster and polygon spatial data.

Details

This is still a Beta version. As is R, this is free software and comes with ABSOLUTELY NO WARRANTY. Nevertheless, notes about found bugs and suggestions are more than welcome.

Author(s)

Adam T. Kocsis (adam.t.kocsis@gmail.com)

See Also

Useful links:

- <https://adamtkocsis.com/rampage/>
- Report bugs at <https://github.com/adamkocsis/rampage/issues>

 ramplegend

 Create a heatmap legend based on calibrated color ramp values

Description

Optional legend for cases where calibramp objects are used.

Usage

```
ramplegend(
  x = "topleft",
  y = NULL,
  shift = c(0, 0),
  ramp = NULL,
  col = NULL,
  breaks = NULL,
  zlim = NULL,
  height = 3,
  width = 0.3,
  tick.length = 0.15,
  cex = 1,
  box.args = list(col = "#ffffffbb"),
  horizontal = FALSE,
  at = NULL,
  label = NULL
)
```

Arguments

x	Position of the legend or the left coordinate of legend box. Either a numeric coordinate value or a the "topleft", "topright", "bottomleft" or "bottomright".
y	Coordinate of the upper edge of the legend (if needed).
shift	Used instead of the inset argument of the default legend. If plotted within the inner plotting area, the x and y user coordinates with which the position of the legend will be shifted.
ramp	A calibrated color ramp object. Either ramp or both col and breaks are required.
col	Vector of colors.
breaks	Breaks between the colors.
zlim	A numeric vector with two values, passed to trimramp. The low and high extreme values to be shown on the legend.
height	Height of the legend bar in inches.
width	Width of the legend bar in inches.
tick.length	The length of the legend's ticks.

cex	Legend size scaler.
box.args	the box's arguments.
horizontal	Legend orientation. Not yet implemented
at	Where should the legend be drawn in the z dimension?
label	What are the labels

Value

The function has no return value.

Examples

```
# example with colored points
# basic points
v <- seq(0,20, 0.01)
sine <- sin(v)

# visualize as a plot
plot(v,sine)

# colors for sine values
levs<- data.frame(color=gradinv(5), z=c(-1, -0.2, 0, 0.2, 1))
ramp<- expand(levs, n=256)

# colored points
colorpoints(x=v, y=sine, z=sine, cex=6, pch=16, legend=NULL)

# the legend
ramplegend(x=0, y=0.3, ramp=ramp, cex=0.5, box.args=list(border=NA, col=NA))

# example with histogram
set.seed(1)
x <- rnorm(3000, 3,1)
levs<- data.frame(color=gradinv(7), z=c(-1, 1,1.04, 3, 4.96, 5, 7))
ramp <-expand(levs, n=400)

# histogram showing distribution
hist(x, col=ramp$col, breaks=ramp$breaks, border=NA)
ramplegend("topleft", ramp=ramp, at=c(1.04, 3, 4.96), label=c("-1.96 SD", "mean", "+1.96 SD"))

# example with volcano
data(volcano)
data(topos)

# create ramp
levs <- topos$jakarta[topos$jakarta$z>0,]
levs$z <- c(200, 180, 165, 130, 80)
ramp <-expand(levs, n=100)
```

```
image(volcano, col=ramp$col, breaks=ramp$breaks)
ramplegend(x=0.8, y=0.8, ramp=ramp, cex=0.9)
```

ramps

Color gradient ramps

Description

Contains functions produced by the [colorRampPalette](#) function.

Usage

```
gradinv(n)
```

Arguments

n (numeric) Number of different colors to generate from the palette

Details

You can also view single palettes individually. The following color palettes are implemented:

- `gradinv()`: inverse heatmap, primarily intended to emphasize distinctions between no-change (yellow) and change (blue/red) cases. Based on the color blindness simulator Coblis, the palette is very color disability-friendly, except for monochromacy/achromatopsia, where the two change scenarios (red and blue) become very difficult to distinguish. Additional markings (e.g. labels indicating high and low) are recommended for these cases.

Value

A character vector of color values.

Examples

```
cols <- gradinv(20)
plot(1:20, col=cols, pch=16, cex=2)
```

topos

Topographic color palettes with tiepoints

Description

The object contains data.frame-class objects to be used with the `expand` function to produce full calibrated color ramps.

Usage

```
data(topos)
```

Format

A list with 6 data.frame elements:

`demcmap` : The "demcmap" theme, based on MatLab's demcmap.

`etopo` : The "etopo" theme, approximate elevation-color assignments based on the the ETOPO Global Relief Model poster (<https://www.ncei.noaa.gov/media/3340>).

`jakarta` : The "Jakarta" theme, color values by Deviantart user *Arcanographia*.

`havanna2` : The "Havanna-2" theme, color values by Deviantart user *Arcanographia*.

`tokio1` : The "Tokio-1" theme, color values by Deviantart user *Arcanographia*.

`zagreb` : The "Zagreb" theme, color values by Deviantart user *Arcanographia*.

Examples

```
data(topos)
jakExp <- expand(topos$jakarta, n=200)
plot(jakExp)
```

trimramp

Trimming a calibrated color ramp object.

Description

Modify the minimum and maximum values in a `calibramp`-class object produced by the `expand` function.

Usage

```
trimramp(x, low = NULL, high = NULL)
```

Arguments

<code>x</code>	A calibrated color ramp (e.g. <code>calibramp</code> -class object).
<code>low</code>	A single numeric value, the minimum value in the calibrated ramp.
<code>high</code>	A single numeric value, the maximum value in the calibrated ramp.

Value

A trimmed version of `x`, another `calibramp`-class object.

Examples

```
data(paleomap)
trimmed <- trimramp(paleomap, low=-500, high=1500)
plot(trimmed)
```

Index

* datasets

paleomap, [5](#)

topos, [11](#)

colorpoints, [2](#)

colorRampPalette, [4](#), [10](#)

expand, [3](#), [11](#)

gradinv (ramps), [10](#)

limit, [4](#)

paleomap, [5](#)

plot.calibramp, [6](#)

points, [2](#), [3](#)

rampage, [7](#)

rampage-package (rampage), [7](#)

ramplegend, [3](#), [8](#)

rampplot (plot.calibramp), [6](#)

ramps, [10](#)

topos, [11](#)

trimramp, [11](#)