

A Radiocarbon Dating Primer for Hawaiian Archaeology: Context Evaluation, Sample Selection, Calibration, Interpretation, and Presentation

Tim Rieth, International Archaeological Research Institute, Inc.

Over the course of the past 70 years, archaeologists in Hawai'i have generated the largest corpus of radiocarbon determinations in the Pacific. The benefits of this ever-growing suite of determinations for addressing questions of chronology and socio-cultural change in the archipelago can be improved by adopting a number of relatively simple steps in the field, lab, and print. Following a brief summary of the chemistry and technical aspects of radiocarbon dating, this presentation will guide participants through its application "soup to nuts": [1] evaluating archaeological contexts for dating suitability, [2] dating sample selection, [3] calibration, [4] dating interpretation, and [5] presentation of results. Real archaeological contexts will be discussed as illustrations of this process. Time permitting, Bayesian model-based calibration will also be discussed. Participants are encouraged to ask questions and to bring their own radiocarbon dating projects for discussion.

Workshop will be held digitally, through Zoom, on May 1, 2021 at 1:00 p.m. To register, please select the following link and submit the short form. Once you have registered, you will be provided with instructions on how to access the meeting:

Registration link: [https://hawaii.zoom.us/meeting/register/tjlvcu6qpzkvGdTp3-l8ewaiDCED\]nev5XZg](https://hawaii.zoom.us/meeting/register/tjlvcu6qpzkvGdTp3-l8ewaiDCED]nev5XZg)