

# Package ‘qsplines’

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**Type** Package

**Title** Quaternions Splines

**Version** 1.0.0

**Description** Provides routines to create some quaternions splines:  
Barry-Goldman algorithm, De Casteljaou algorithm, and Kochanek-Bartels  
algorithm. The implementations are based on the Python library  
'splines'. Quaternions splines allow to construct spherical curves.  
References: Barry and Goldman <[doi:10.1145/54852.378511](https://doi.org/10.1145/54852.378511)>,  
Kochanek and Bartels <[doi:10.1145/800031.808575](https://doi.org/10.1145/800031.808575)>.

**License** GPL-3

**URL** <https://github.com/stla/qsplines>

**BugReports** <https://github.com/stla/qsplines/issues>

**LinkingTo** Rcpp, BH

**Depends** onion

**Imports** shiny, utils, Rcpp

**Suggests** rgl

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.2.0

**NeedsCompilation** yes

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**Repository** CRAN

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BarryGoldman	<i>Barry-Goldman quaternions spline</i>
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## Description

Constructs a spline of unit quaternions by the Barry-Goldman method.

## Usage

```
BarryGoldman(keyRotors, keyTimes = NULL, n_intertimes, times)
```

## Arguments

keyRotors	a vector of unit quaternions (rotors) to be interpolated; it is automatically appended with the first one to have a closed spline
keyTimes	the times corresponding to the key rotors; must be an increasing vector of length $\text{length}(\text{keyRotors})+1$ ; if NULL, it is set to $c(1, 2, \dots, \text{length}(\text{keyRotors})+1)$
n_intertimes	a positive integer used to linearly interpolate the times given in keyTimes in order that there are $n\_intertimes - 1$ between two key times (so one gets the key times if $n\_intertimes = 1$ ); if this argument is given, then it has precedence over times
times	the interpolating times, they must lie within the range of keyTimes; ignored if n_intertimes is given

## Value

A vector of unit quaternions with the same length as times.

## Note

The function does not check whether the quaternions given in keyRotors are unit quaternions.

## Examples

```
library(qsplines)
# Using a Barry-Goldman quaternions spline to construct
# a spherical curve interpolating some key points on
# the sphere of radius 5.

# helper function: spherical to Cartesian coordinates
sph2cart <- function(rho, theta, phi){
```

```

    return(c(
      rho * cos(theta) * sin(phi),
      rho * sin(theta) * sin(phi),
      rho * cos(phi)
    ))
  }

# construction of the key points on the sphere
keyPoints <- matrix(nrow = 0L, ncol = 3L)
theta_ <- seq(0, 2*pi, length.out = 9L)[-1L]
phi <- 1
for(theta in theta_){
  keyPoints <- rbind(keyPoints, sph2cart(5, theta, phi))
  phi = pi - phi
}
n_keyPoints <- nrow(keyPoints)

# construction of the key rotors; the first key rotor is the
# identity quaternion and rotor i sends the first key point
# to the key point i
keyRotors <- quaternion(length.out = n_keyPoints)
rotor <- keyRotors[1L] <- H1
for(i in seq_len(n_keyPoints - 1L)){
  keyRotors[i+1L] <- rotor <-
    quaternionFromTo(
      keyPoints[i, ]/5, keyPoints[i+1L, ]/5
    ) * rotor
}

# Barry-Goldman quaternions spline
rotors <- BarryGoldman(keyRotors, n_intertimes = 10L)

# construction of the interpolating points on the sphere
points <- matrix(nrow = 0L, ncol = 3L)
keyPoint1 <- rbind(keyPoints[1L, ])
for(i in seq_along(rotors)){
  points <- rbind(points, rotate(keyPoint1, rotors[i]))
}

# visualize the result with the 'rgl' package
library(rgl)
spheres3d(0, 0, 0, radius = 5, color = "lightgreen")
spheres3d(points, radius = 0.2, color = "midnightblue")
spheres3d(keyPoints, radius = 0.25, color = "red")

```

**Description**

Constructs a quaternions spline using the De Casteljau algorithm.

**Usage**

```
DeCasteljau(
  segments,
  keyTimes = NULL,
  n_intertimes,
  times,
  constantSpeed = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

segments	a list of vectors of unit quaternions; each segment must contain at least two quaternions
keyTimes	the times corresponding to the segment boundaries, an increasing vector of length $\text{length}(\text{segments})+1$ ; if NULL, it is set to 1, 2, ..., $\text{length}(\text{segments})+1$
n_intertimes	a positive integer used to linearly interpolate the times given in keyTimes in order that there are $n\_intertimes - 1$ between two key times (so one gets the key times if $n\_intertimes = 1$ ); this parameter must be given if $\text{constantSpeed}=\text{TRUE}$ and if it is given when $\text{constantSpeed}=\text{FALSE}$ , then it has precedence over times
times	the interpolating times, they must lie within the range of keyTimes; ignored if $\text{constantSpeed}=\text{TRUE}$ or if $n\_intertimes$ is given
constantSpeed	Boolean, whether to re-parameterize the spline to have constant speed; in this case, "times" is ignored and a function is returned, with an attribute "times", the vector of new times corresponding to the key rotors

**Value**

A vector of quaternions whose length is the number of interpolating times.

**Note**

This algorithm is rather for internal purpose. It serves for example as a base for the [Konachek-Bartels](#) algorithm.

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interpolateTimes	<i>Interpolate a vector of times</i>
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**Description**

Linearly interpolate an increasing vector of times. This is useful to deal with the quaternions splines.

**Usage**

```
interpolateTimes(times, n, last = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

times	increasing vector of times
n	integer, controls the number of interpolations: there will be n-1 time values between two consecutive original times
last	Boolean, whether to include or exclude the last element

**Value**

A vector, a refinement of the times vector.

**Examples**

```
library(qsplines)
interpolateTimes(1:4, n = 3)
interpolateTimes(c(1, 2, 4), n = 3)
```

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KochanekBartels	<i>Kochanek-Bartels quaternions spline</i>
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**Description**

Constructs a quaternions spline by the Kochanek-Bartels algorithm.

**Usage**

```
KochanekBartels(
  keyRotors,
  keyTimes = NULL,
  tcb = c(0, 0, 0),
  times,
  n_intertimes,
  endcondition = "natural",
  constantSpeed = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

keyRotors	a vector of unit quaternions (rotors) to be interpolated
keyTimes	the times corresponding to the key rotors; must be an increasing vector of the same length a keyRotors if endcondition = "natural" or of length one more than number of key rotors if endcondition = "closed"
tcb	a vector of three numbers respectively corresponding to tension, continuity and bias
times	the times of interpolation; each time must lie within the range of the key times; this parameter can be missing if keyTimes is NULL and n_intertimes is not missing, and it is ignored if constantSpeed=TRUE

`n_intertimes` if given, this argument has precedence over `times`; `keyTimes` can be `NULL` and `times` is constructed by linearly interpolating the key times such that there are `n_intertimes - 1` between two key times (so the times are the key times if `n_intertimes = 1`)

`endcondition` start/end conditions, can be "closed" or "natural"

`constantSpeed` Boolean, whether to re-parameterize the spline to have constant speed; in this case, "times" is ignored and you must set the interpolating times with the help of `n_intertimes`

**Value**

A vector of quaternions having the same length as the `times` vector.

**Note**

The algorithm with constant speed is very slow.

**Examples**

```
library(qsplines)
# Using a Kochanek-Bartels quaternions spline to construct
# a spherical curve interpolating some key points on the
# sphere of radius 5

# helper function: spherical to Cartesian coordinates
sph2cart <- function(rho, theta, phi){
  return(c(
    rho * cos(theta) * sin(phi),
    rho * sin(theta) * sin(phi),
    rho * cos(phi)
  ))
}

# construction of the key points on the sphere
keyPoints <- matrix(nrow = 0L, ncol = 3L)
theta_ <- seq(0, 2*pi, length.out = 9L)[-1L]
phi <- 1.3
for(theta in theta_){
  keyPoints <- rbind(keyPoints, sph2cart(5, theta, phi))
  phi = pi - phi
}
n_keyPoints <- nrow(keyPoints)

# construction of the key rotors; the first key rotor
# is the identity quaternion and rotor i sends the
# key point i-1 to the key point i
keyRotors <- quaternion(length.out = n_keyPoints)
rotor <- keyRotors[1L] <- H1
for(i in seq_len(n_keyPoints - 1L)){
  keyRotors[i+1L] <- rotor <-
    quaternionFromTo(
```

```

        keyPoints[i, ]/5, keyPoints[i+1L, ]/5
    ) * rotor
}

# Kochanek-Bartels quaternions spline
rotors <- KochanekBartels(
  keyRotors, n_intertimes = 25L,
  endcondition = "closed", tcb = c(-1, 5, 0)
)

# construction of the interpolating points on the sphere
points <- matrix(nrow = 0L, ncol = 3L)
keyPoint1 <- rbind(keyPoints[1L, ])
for(i in seq_along(rotors)){
  points <- rbind(points, rotate(keyPoint1, rotors[i]))
}

# visualize the result with the 'rgl' package
library(rgl)
spheres3d(0, 0, 0, radius = 5, color = "lightgreen")
spheres3d(points, radius = 0.2, color = "midnightblue")
spheres3d(keyPoints, radius = 0.25, color = "red")

```

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quaternionFromTo

*Quaternion between two vectors*


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## Description

Get a unit quaternion whose corresponding rotation sends  $u$  to  $v$ ; the vectors  $u$  and  $v$  must be normalized.

## Usage

```
quaternionFromTo(u, v)
```

## Arguments

$u, v$                       two unit 3D vectors

## Value

A unit quaternion whose corresponding rotation transforms  $u$  to  $v$ .

## Examples

```

library(qsplines)
u <- c(1, 1, 1) / sqrt(3)
v <- c(1, 0, 0)
q <- quaternionFromTo(u, v)
rotate(rbind(u), q) # this should be v

```

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`shinyKBS`*Shiny demonstration of Kochanek-Bartels spline*

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**Description**

Run a Shiny app which demonstrates the Kochanek-Bartels spline.

**Usage**

```
shinyKBS()
```

**Value**

No value returned.



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