The Chicago Author-Date Specification

Contents

Important note: biber 1
Editions 1
Basic usage: the \autocite command 2
Repeated citations 2
Other citation commands 2
Shorthands 2
Mildly problematic entries: authors and dates 3

This file is intended as a brief introduction to the Chicago author-date specification (17th ed.)(CMS 2017) as implemented by biblatex-chicago, and falls somewhere between the “Quick-start” section of biblatex-chicago.pdf and the full documentation presented in section 5 of that same document. I’ve attempted to design this introduction for ease of cross-reference, so clicking on citations should bring you to the reference list entry, whence clicking on the entry key in the annotations should present you with the entry as it appears in the .bib file, where clicking on the entry type should return you to the reference list. If you have questions beyond the scope of this introduction, then the full documentation is the place to look next — marginal notes here refer to section or page numbers there, and if you’ve installed the package using the standard \TeX Live method then clicking on these marginal notes should take you to the other document. If you can’t find answers there, please write to me at the email address in biblatex-chicago.pdf.

Important note: biber

Starting with biblatex version 1.5, in order to adhere to the author-date specification you will need to use biber to process your .bib files, as \BIBTeX (and its more recent variants) will no longer provide all the features the style requires. For this release, you really need the current versions of biber (2.14) and biblatex (3.14), which contain features and bug-fixes on which my own code relies. The advice that follows in this document assumes that you are using biber; if you wish to continue using \BIBTeX then you need biblatex version 1.4c and biblatex-chicago 0.9.7a.

Editions

The 17th edition of The Chicago Manual of Style makes fairly numerous changes to the author-date specification, but many of them required changes to package code rather than to current .bib databases. I have listed elsewhere those changes that might require attention to your databases, but much of what follows will involve additions rather than alterations. This is true no matter which of the two author-date styles you are using, authordate or authordate-trad, the latter of which differs only in the treatment of titles, maintaining the formatting that was traditional in the CMS up to the 15th edition where many were capitalized sentence-style and those in most un-book-like entries appeared without quotation marks (15.38). Please consult cms-trad-appendix.pdf for notes on the few .bib entries from this introduction that would
require modification for the \texttt{trad} style; for the remainder, you'll notice a few extra sets of curly braces in various title fields to make the entry usable in both author-date styles.

**Basic usage: the \texttt{\autocite} command**

As a general rule, you'll probably want to use the \texttt{\autocite} command for most citations. For most sources, the result will be exactly as you expect it to be. A few examples: (Adorno and Benjamin 1999); (Ashbrook and Albright 1997); (Babb 1989); (Barcott 2000). Any page references should also appear as you expect: (Batson 1990, 338); (Beattie 1974, 79); (Boxer 1953, 36).

**Repeated citations**

Repeated citations are somewhat complicated. The Chicago author-date style doesn't use "\texttt{Ibid}," but in general a repeated citation on the same page will print only the page reference: (Browning 1996); (45). Technically, this should only occur when a source is cited "more than once in one paragraph" (CMS 2017, 15.27), so you can use the \texttt{\citereset} command from \texttt{biblatex} to achieve the greatest compliance, as the package only offers automatic resetting on part, chapter, section, and subsection boundaries, while \texttt{biblatex-chicago} automatically resets the tracker at page breaks:

\texttt{\citereset} (CMS 2017, 15.27). If you are going to repeat a source, make sure that the cite command provides a postnote — when using \texttt{biblatex-chicago} you'll no longer get any annoying empty parentheses, but you will get another standard citation, which may add too much clutter: (CMS 2017). If you don't need to cite a specific page, then it may be better, or at least more concise, only to use one citation command rather than two.

**Other citation commands**

The other citation commands from \texttt{biblatex} also work fine:

\texttt{\textcite} Conley (1999); \texttt{\autocite*:} (1982); \texttt{\cite:} Conway 1998; \texttt{\cite*:} 2001; \texttt{\footnote} with \texttt{\autocite}; \texttt{\footcite} (=\texttt{\cite} inside a \texttt{\footnote}).¹

Multicites should work as you expect, too:

\texttt{\autocites}: (Electronic Book Technology Inc. 1991; Eliot 1953); \texttt{\autocites} by the same author: (Pirumova 1977a, 1977b); \texttt{\autocites} by the same author with postnotes: (Pirumova 1977a; 1977b, 14); \texttt{\textcites} by the same author with postnotes: Pirumova (1977a, 37; 1977b).

\texttt{biblatex-chicago} also provides a \texttt{\gentextcite} command, which prints an Author’s (forthcoming) name in the genitive case in what is otherwise a standard \texttt{\textcite}. If you want to change the default – 's – printed there you can specify whatever text you wish like so: \texttt{\gentextcite[<ending>] [] [] {entry: key}}. There is also a \texttt{\gentextcites} command, modified thus: \texttt{\gentextcites[<ending>] () () [] {key1}{key2}}.

**Shorthands**

Chicago’s author-date style seems only to recommend the use of shorthands as abbreviations for long authors’ names, particularly institutional names (CMS 2017, 15.37). By default, I have

¹. (Donne 1995).
². Dunn 1999.
followed this recommendation: \autocites: (BSI 1985; ISO 1997); \textcites: BSI (1985) and ISO (1997). This shorthand will by default appear at the head of the entry in the list of references, followed by the parenthesized expansion of the shorthand, taken from the author (or possibly the organization) field. The entry will be alphabetized by the shorthand. If you use a \printbiblist{shorthand} command, the list of shorthands will still be printed, so you now have a variety of options available for presenting the expansions depending on your specific requirements. Please note, also, that you can get back something approaching the “standard” behavior of shorthands if you give the cmslos=false option to \biblatex-chicago in your document preamble.

Mildly problematic entries: authors and dates

In most entries, the absence of an author can be supplied by, e.g., an editor or a translator: (Crow and Olson 1966); (Silverstein 1974). Sometimes an anonymous work’s author is known or can be guessed: ([Horsley] 1796); ([Cook?] 1730). Alternatively, in some cases the title may appear in place of the author: (Stanze 1547); (True and Sincere Declaration 1610). Recent editions are less than enthusiastic about the use of “Anon.” as author, unless the title page of the work explicitly so attributes it.

By default, in most entry types, an absent date will automatically provoke biber into searching for other sorts of dates in the entry, in the order date, eventdate, origdate, urldate: e.g., (Wikipedia 2019), which only has a urldate. In five entry types — Music, Review, Standard, SuppPeriodical, and Video — this search order is eventdate, origdate, date, urldate, as in these types the earliest date should take precedence (cf. page 6, below). You can also change the default search order, for all but the three types just mentioned, by using the \textcites: BSI (1985) \textcites: BSI (1985) option in the preamble of your document, instead of (or in addition to) using it in the options field of individual entries. Setting that option in the preamble either to “both” or “on” makes the document-wide search order: origyear, year, eventyear, urlyear. This may be useful for documents that contain many entries with multiple dates, and where you want always to present the earlier (i.e., orig) dates at the head of reference list entries and in citations. You can eliminate some of these dates from the running, or change the search order, using the \DeclareLabeldate command in your preamble, but please be aware that I have hard-coded the possibilities above into the author-date style in order to cope with some tricky corners of the specification. If you reorder these dates, and your references enter these tricky corners, the results might be surprising. (Cf. section 4.5.8 in biblatex.pdf.)

In all entry types except for Misc, the absence of all four possible dates will automatically produce “n.d.” instead: (Bernstein, n.d.). You will see this same string in entries that only contain a urldate, where that date is an access date as opposed to, e.g., a revision date provided by the URL itself, that is, where no userd field has been provided to change the default string before the date: (Evanston Public Library, n.d.). You can also provide \bibstring{nodate} yourself in a year field: (Ross, n.d.). Uncertain dates or date ranges like decades and centuries can now be presented using biblatex’s iso8601-2 Extended Format specification: (Clark [1957]). You can handle forthcoming works in one of two ways: either by using the \autocap macro and the \textcites: BSI (1985) \textcites: BSI (1985) field, or by placing the exact string forthcoming in the pubstate field. Either way the word will appear, correctly capitalized, in both citations and the list of references: (Author, forthcoming); (Contributor, forthcoming).

The rules for entries with more than one date remain unchanged from the previous edition (CMS 2017, 15.40). First, Music, Review, and Video entries have their own rules, which are applied automatically. (Once again, see page 6, below.) For other entry types, there are two options, corresponding to two different states of the cmsdate entry (or preamble) option. The default is cmsdate=off: (Maitland 1926). Here, setting the pubstate field to reprint ensures that a notice of the original publication date will be printed at the end of the reference
list entry. Alternatively, you can use \texttt{cmsdate=both}: (Emerson \texttt{[1836]} 1985); (Maitland \texttt{[1898]} 1998). \texttt{cmsdate=new} and \texttt{cmsdate=old} are both now synonyms of \texttt{both}, while \texttt{cmsdate=on} is still available even though it falls outside the specification: (James 1909). These options, in combination with others available in your .bib files, can cover a wide range of difficult cases. Please see the next section below, and also the following entries in \texttt{dates-test.bib}: (Schweitzer \texttt{[1911]} 1966; White 1946a, 1946b).

\textbf{Corners of the specification}

The \textit{Manual} has clarified many parts of the author-date specification, and by following up on suggestions from the notes \& bibliography style one can be reasonably certain about many other details, but if you interpret the specification differently please let me know.

\textbf{InReference entries}

These present several peculiarities: the title of the work should always take the place of any author, citations of non-online sources should include a publication date, and any postnote field will be enclosed in quotation marks preceded by “\texttt{s.v.”} for “\textit{sub verbo}.” This allows you to refer to alphabetized articles in well-known reference works: (\textit{Ency. Brit.}, 15th ed. 1980, s.v. “Hume, David”); (\textit{New Grove Dict.}, n.d., s.v. “Sibelius, Jean”); (Wikipedia 2019, s.v. “BibTeX”). As this last example shows, you can also put anything at all into the \texttt{entrysubtype} field to present, at your discretion, an online reference work more like an Online entry, that is, with a title in roman rather than italics.

\textbf{Author-less Article, Review, Manual and Standard entries}

In Article and Review entries with the \texttt{magazine} \texttt{entrysubtype}, the absence of an author automatically places the \texttt{journaltitle} of the periodical in citations and at the head of the entry in the list of references: (\textit{Gourmet} 2000). (Without the \texttt{entrysubtype}, you’ll get the title at the head rather than the \texttt{journaltitle}.) You can cite newspaper and magazine articles entirely within the text, i.e., without them appearing in the reference list (CMS 2017, 15.49), if you set the \texttt{cmsdate=full} entry option: (\textit{Lake Forester}, March 23, 2000); (\textit{New York Times}, April 10, 2000). In Manual and Standard entries, the organization field does the same: (Electronic Book Technology Inc. 1991). If you wish to present an abbreviated form of the organization name in citations only, then the \texttt{shortauthor} field — or in other cases the \texttt{shorthand} field — is the place for it: (NISO 2010). For abbreviated journal titles, you can use \texttt{shortjournal}, which also allows you, should you wish, to provide a list of abbreviated journal names with their expansions using \texttt{\printbiblist{shortjournal}}: (Ergänzungsblätter z. Allg. Lit.-Ztg. 1828).

\textbf{Misc entries with an entrysubtype}

When citing individual pieces from unpublished archives, letter-like sources will generally only have an origdate (Creel 1918), while non-letters, e.g., interviews, use the date field: (Spock 1974). For undated pieces you can put \texttt{\bibstring{nodate}} in the year field: (Dinkel, n.d.). For citing whole collections, see the next section.

\texttt{entrysubtype = \{classical\}}

This option’s name derives from its use for citing texts from classical antiquity, though in the author-date style especially it can be put to use in several other contexts. In a nutshell, any entry with such an \texttt{entrysubtype} will be treated, in citations only, not as author-date but as
author-title, and will also have modified punctuation before postnote fields. (Entries in the
list of references, e.g., a particular edition of Aristotle, will still appear in standard author-
date format.) A \cite* or \autocite* command will, in such a case, produce the title rather
than the year. Some examples should make this clearer:

Classical works: without abbreviation: (Aristotle, *Metaphysica*); with abbreviation: (Aristotle,
*Metaph.*); (Pl., *Resp.*); using standard pagination: (*Metaph.* 3.2.996b5–8); (*Resp.* 420e); work cited
by page of a modern edition, i.e., without entrysubtype: (Euripides 1958, 198).

Sacred works, e.g., the Bible and the Qur’an: (Gen. 25:19–36:43).

An unpublished archive, from which more than one work has been cited: (House Papers, file
12). (Both this and the previous example use a Misc entry with classical entrysubtype.)

Similarly, scientific databases use the specialized Dataset entry type, and will generally only
have an online access date (urldate), so by default I set authortitle=true for this type, in-
stead of using an entrysubtype, to provide author-title citations: (NASA/IPAC Extragalactic
Database, object name IRAS F00400+4059).

Online sources

The 17th edition of the *CMS* has greatly enhanced its treatment of online materials, including
blogs, social media, podcasts, and scientific databases. Table 2 in biblatex-chicago.pdf summa-
ries the specification for you, and there are examples scattered throughout this introduction.
The presentation of online comments (on blogs or social media posts) warrants extra atten-
tion. As a rule, such material need be presented only in the text, rather than in the reference
list. You could simply provide it there by hand, or perhaps as a comment to a citation of the
main blog or post, using the techniques described in the next section. The commenton relat-
edtype allows you to gather all such references in your .bib file, and attempts to automate as
far as possible the presentation of those references in your document. In short, the comment
ac:comment with the commenton relatedtype can be cited as part of a multicite command like
so: \autocites{ac:comment}{ellis:blog-customc}, yielding (AC, July 1, 2008, 10:18 a.m.;
comment on Ellis 2008). The second key given to the \autocites command is a virtual entry,
created by biber in the document .bbl file, and reachable by combining the key in the related
field with the suffix -customc. You can, of course, arrange for comments to appear in the
reference list, either using commenton or a more handcrafted solution, e.g., (Viv 2015).

Comments inside citations

If you wish to include a comment inside the parentheses of a citation, it will need to be sep-
erated by a semicolon (CMS 2017, 15.24). If you have a postnote, then you can manually pro-
vide the punctuation and comment in that field, e.g., (Stendhal 1925, 4; the unrevised trans.).
Without a postnote, you have two choices. You can enable the postnotepunct package op-
tion, which allows you simply to type \autocite[; the unrevised trans.]{stendhal:parma} (Stendhal 1925; the unrevised trans.), or you can continue to use a separate Misc or CustomC entry containing just the text of the comment in the title field, entrysubtype
classical, and options skipbib. An \autocites command calling both the main text and
the comment will then do the trick, e.g., (CMS 2017; the most recent edition).

Multiple authors

The default settings in biblatex-chicago are maxnames=3, minnames=1 in citations and max-
binames=10, minbinames=7 in the list of references (these latter parameters set in biblatex-
chicago.sty). In practice, this means that an entry like hlatky:hrt, with 5 authors, will present
all of them in the list of references but will truncate to one in citations, like so: (Hlatky et al. 2002). For the vast majority of circumstances, these settings are exactly right for the Chicago author-date specification. However, if “a reference list includes another work of the same date that would also be abbreviated as [‘Hlatky et al.’] but whose coauthors are different persons or listed in a different order, the text citations must distinguish between them” (CMS 2017, 15.29). The (biber-only) biblatex option uniquelist, set for you in biblatex-chicago.sty, will automatically handle many of these situations for you, but it is as well to understand that it does so by temporarily suspending the limits, listed above, on how many names to print in a citation. Without uniquelist, biblatex would present such a work as, e.g., (Hlatky et al. 2002b), while hlatky:hrt would be (Hlatky et al. 2002a). This does distinguish between them, but inaccurately, as it suggests that the two different author lists are exactly the same. With uniquelist, the two citations might look like (Hlatky, Boothroyd et al. 2002) and (Hlatky, Smith et al. 2002), which is what the specification requires.

If, however, the distinguishing name occurs further down the author list — in fourth or fifth position in our examples — then the default settings would produce citations with all 4 or 5 names printed, which can become awkwardly long. In such a situation, you can provide short-author fields that look like this: {{Hlatky et al., \mkbibquote{Quality of Life,}}} and {{Hlatky et al., \mkbibquote{Depressive Symptoms,}}}, using a shortened title to distinguish the references. This would produce (Hlatky et al., “Quality of Life,” 2002) and (Hlatky et al., “Depressive Symptoms,” 2002), as the spec recommends. There is, unfortunately, no simpler way that I know of to deal with this situation.

### Audiovisual entries

The Manual acknowledges that most audio-visual material will be cited via a digital copy, but suggests that “it is generally useful to give information about the original source,” and also that “the date of the original recording should be privileged in the citation” (15.57). The more book-like entries, like published (Audio) and unpublished (Misc) scores, are straightforward: (Schubert 1895); (Verdi 1998); (Shapey 1966). Efforts should be made to provide a date beyond the access date for online materials: (Coolidge [ca. 1920]); (“HOROWITZ” 1968); (Pollan 2007). So too for Music and Video entries, where recording or broadcast dates are generally preferred; (Auden 1991); (Curtis and Malins 1996); (Handel 1987); (Holiday 1958); (New York Trumpet Ensemble 1981). Others perhaps require further information in the entry or genuinely are better suited to presentation in running text: (Beethoven, n.d.). The standard biblatex tools for subdividing reference lists are all available if you want to follow the Manual’s recommendations on presenting this kind of material separately from other sources.

### Related entries

Biblatex provides a powerful mechanism, using the related field, for grouping two (or more) works together in a single entry in the list of references, while biblatex-chicago offers both this functionality and some Chicago-specific variants which employ different means. You can find a full discussion of this in biblatex-chicago.pdf, but a few of the entries already cited in this introduction show some of the possibilities: (AC, July 1, 2008, 10:18 a.m.; comment on Ellis 2008); (Aristotle, Metaphysica); (Coolidge [ca. 1920]); (Emerson [1836] 1985); (Schweitzer [1911] 1966).

### In conclusion

Allow me, finally, to emphasize just how multifarious are the sources illustrated in the CMS, only a small selection of which have appeared in this introduction. You will find significantly
fuller guidance in biblatex.pdf and biblatex-chicago.pdf, but the CMS itself defines the specification and shall arbitrate all disputes. If you see something in biblatex-chicago that looks wrong to you, or if the documentation has left you perplexed, please let me know.

References


[adorno:benj] A published collection of letters, in a Book entry rather than Letter. Citations of it could provide details of the individual letter in the running text, and/or just cite by page number.


[amlen:hoot] The 17th edition suggests an Article entry like this for a blog post, and when the blog is part of a larger, usually periodical, publication, the latter should appear in the maintitle field. As usual, the location field indicates that it’s a blog. Cf. *viv:amlen*, which presents a comment on the blog.


[aristotle:metaphy:gr] A work from classical antiquity, presented in a Book entry with classical entrysubtype, hence in-text citations will be author-title rather than author-date. This assumes you are using the traditional, fixed divisions of the text, in this case those of Bekker’s edition, instead of page references to this particular edition. In the latter case, you wouldn’t need the entrysubtype. Putting skipbib in the options field means it won’t be printed separately in the reference list, because it will be appended to the entry for the English translation, given below. This volume is a reprint edition, identified as such in the pubstate field. The absence of any cmsdate instruction in the options field means that the reprint information is presented as you see it here. The shorttitle provides the officially-sanctioned abbreviation for this work in citations, should you want to use such abbreviations.

[aristotle:metaphy:trans] The translation of the previous entry, in this case also using Book with classical entrysubtype, as citations will be by the pages of Bekker’s edition. The userf field contains the entry key for the Greek original, which means the entry in the list of references will contain the translation followed by the Greek text. The origlanguage field means that the connecting text between the two books in the list of references will read “Greek edition:” instead of “Originally published as.” Note also nameb, the translator of this particular volume of the maintitle, as distinct from the editor of the whole series, even though in this case they happen to be the same person.


[ashbrook:brain] A typical InBook entry, identified by title and also, in this case, by chapter number rather than page range.


[auden:reading] A spoken-word recording, here presented as a Music entry, though the CMS sometimes uses a more book-like presentation for such material, using an Audio entry, as with twain:audio in dates-test.bib.
Author, Margaret M. Forthcoming. “Article Title.” Journal Name 98.


[**browning:**aurora] A Book entry with a series field, but no number.


[**bsi:**abbreviation] A Manual entry providing an author in the organization field and a shorthand field for in-text citations. By default, the shorthand will be printed at the head of the entry, followed by the expansion in parentheses. Also by default, the entry will be sorted by that shorthand. Biblatex-chicago now has a Standard entry type for national and international standards, but an entry such as this, with only one date and only an organizational author, needn’t be altered. Cf. niso:bibref and w3c:xml for entries that require the Standard type.


[**clark:**mesopot] A standard Booklet entry, though the same information could be presented in a Book entry, using publisher instead of howpublished. Note the ISO8601-2 “uncertain” date specification, which by default presents the year in brackets, but allows numerical sorting by biblatex.


[**conley:**fifthgrade] An Article that is part of a special issue of a journal. The title of the issue goes in issuetitle, the editor of the issue in editor, and the sort of issue in note, with a lowercase initial letter. Cf. good:wholeissue for how to refer to the special issue as a whole, rather than to one article in it, using a Periodical entry.


[**connell:**chronic] An Article with italicized words in the title.


[**contrib:**contrib] A forthcoming essay in an InCollection entry. Note the \autocap command in the year field. The author:forthcoming entry presents an alternate way of providing the same information.


[**conway:**evolution] An Article in a journaltitle which appears in different series, here “B” for Biological, which information can be given in the volume field.

[**cook:**sotweed] A complicated Book entry. First, the author is unknown, but guessed at, hence the anon? in the authortype field. The note field gives the author as printed in the book, presented inside quotation marks. If you remember to use \mkbibquote here, then appropriate punctuation will automatically be provided.

[loc:leaders] This Online entry provides the online location of the coolidge:speech entry. As the parent entry calls this using a related field, you no longer need a skipbib option to keep it from appearing in the reference list, nor do you need a kludge in the year field to keep a spurious “n.d.” from appearing.

[coolidge:speech] This is a recording from an online archive, using an Online entry. The related field cites the archive itself using an Online entry, and the relatedstring links the two references. The options field replaces the period with a space before the parenthesized titleaddon. The date field presents a “circa” date in ISO8601-2 format. Cp. weed:flatiron and loc:city, which cite a film from an online archive, both using a Video entry.


[creel:house] An unpublished letter from an archive, presented in a Misc entry with an entry-subtype. The cmsdate option is no longer needed in such an entry. The manuscript collection is found in the note and organization fields – depending on the entry, you can use note, organization, institution, and/or location, in ascending order of generality, though you should consistently put the most specific collection name in the note field. If you are citing several items from the same collection, then the CMS, 15.54, suggests not having individual entries but only one for the collection (house:papers), with more specific information forming part of the flow of the text. If, however, you cite only one item from a collection, then you can use an entry like this one. Cf. dinkel:agassiz, spock:interview.


[chaucer:alt] In the author-date system, unlike in a bibliography or note, an entry will generally need some sort of name to precede the date, so here the editors provide that name. The compilers go in namec, and other information in note. Cf. this entry in notes-test.bib.


[friends:leia] This is a template for citing television shows. The eventdate is the original broadcast date, while the date applies to the medium you are citing. As in other audiovisual entries, the earliest date automatically goes at the head of the entry. Note that information about the season and episode numbers goes in booktitleaddon. Cf. american:crime for an example using the new 17th edition “tvepisode” entry-subtype which reverses the traditional order of title and booktitle.


[davenport:attention] An example of the use of an addendum in a Book entry, in this case to identify that the work is an e-book. You could also use the type field for this.


[dinkel:agassiz] A manuscript presented in a Misc entry with a randomly-selected entry-subtype to distinguish it from a traditional Misc entry. The title begins with a generic term, hence the
initial lowercase letter. This entry uses three fields to locate the manuscript, starting with note
and ascending in generality through organization to location. If you are citing several items from
the same collection, then the CMS, 15.54, suggests not having individual entries but only one for
the collection, with specific information forming part of the flow of the text. If, however, you cite
only one item from a collection, then you can use an entry like this one. Note that, in Misc entries,
an empty year field will not automatically produce a no date (“n.d.” in English) abbreviation, so
if you want one to be present you’ll have to provide it yourself, as here. Cf. creel:house and
house:papers.

Donne, John. 1995. The “Anniversaries” and the “Epicedes and Obsequies.” Edited by Gary A.
Stringer and Ted-Larry Pebworth. Vol. 6 of The Variorum Edition of the Poetry of John Donne,

[donne:var] A Book entry with a maintitle editor (editor field) and a title editor (namea field).
Also, inside an italicized title, all other titles are put in quotation marks, and using \mkb1bquote
will automatically move appropriate punctuation inside the closing quotation mark. It also, how-
ever, means that this entry won’t be correctly presented for the authordate-trad style.

Farrar, Straus & Giroux.

[dunn:revolutions] A Book with two publishers, showing ampersands to prevent them being
treated as four. The 17th edition clarifies that you can usually choose just one of the publishers
for your reference apparatus, i.e., whichever is closer geographically or more relevant for your
readers.

Electronic Book Technology Inc. 1991. Dynatext, Electronic Book Indexer/Browser. Providence, RI:
Electronic Book Technology Inc.

the organization is printed twice, as author and as publisher. Note that you no longer need a
sortkey when using the default sorting scheme.


[eliot:pound] A Book listed by its (famous) editor rather than by its (equally-famous) author. The
options field allows such presentation.

com/2008/06/squatters-rights.html.

[ellis:blog] Recent editions of the CMS specify an Article-like presentation for blogs, the main
peculiarity being the identification of the material as a blog using the location field, which is
usually reserved for identifying the place of publication of obscure journals. See ac:comment, a
Review entry, for how to reference comments on such online material.


[emerson:nature] A reprinted Book, in this case a facsimile, with the note field giving the rele-
vant information. The origdate field gives the date of original publication. Note the use of a low-
ercase letter to start the note field. With the amount of information given in the note field, it may
be less awkward to use a cmsdate option rather than to put reprint into a pubstate field. This
cmsdate option will print both dates, in the format (1836) 1985.


[ency:britannica] An InReference entry, citing a well-known reference work, and therefore gen-
erally not to appear in the list of references, but for demonstration purposes I here allow it to do
so. With an options field set to skipbib, you’d only need the shorttitle for citations. As it stands, the options field contains hypertitle, which ensures that the title acts as a hyperlink between the in-text citation and the entry in the list of references. Please note that the 17th edition requires a date if you cite a printed edition. The CMS is not altogether clear about how to present such information in the author-date style, so this should be looked upon as a possible style of presentation only.


[unsigned:ranke] A rather unusual Review entry (entrysubtype magazine), without an author. In the author-date style we allow the journaltitle to come first in the reference-list entry and provide an abbreviated shortjournal for citations. Note the formatting of the reviewed title in the title field. The number field provides the consecutive numbers of the magazine in which the review appeared, and the style automatically provides the correct (plural) bibstring.


[euripides:orestes] A work from antiquity, cited by pages in a modern edition, hence not needing classical in entrysubtype. Since the titles of such works are uniformly italicized, we need to use a BookInBook entry with a title and a booktitle (“book within a book”), and in this case also a maintitle. Note the editors of the maintitle (editor field), and the translator of the title (nameb field).


[evanston:library] An Online entry, with a corporate author, hence extra curly braces in author and shortauthor. The title field holds the title of the specific web page, while the organization field holds the title or owner of the site as a whole.

Genesis.

[genesis] A simple Misc entry (w/ entrysubtype classical) that would allow you easily to cite the Qur’an or individual books of the Bible. Ordinarily it wouldn’t appear in the list of references, but it does here for demonstration purposes. Some other sacred works may need italicized titles. Cf. CMS, 14.238-41.


[gourmet:052006] A regular column in a magazine, presented in a Review entry (with magazine entrysubtype). This name is capitalized headline style. Since there is no author, the journaltitle will be used instead; there is no longer any need for a sortkey.


[handel:messiah] This is a videotape of a performance, presented therefore as a Video entry rather than as Music. The composer goes in author, the performers and conductor in editor and editora. Note the none in both editortypes, as the context presumably makes it clear what role Shaw is playing. The usual type field identifies the medium. The eventdate, which will provide the date for the head of the entry and for citations, identifies when the performance took place, and the userd field allows you to specify just what sort of eventdate it is.

[hlatky:hrt] A standard Article entry with a url provided. The presence of 5 authors provokes use of “et al.” in text citations, though not in the list of references, because the settings for maxbibnames and minbibnames have been changed in biblatex-chicago.sty.


[holiday:fool] This entry illustrates how to cite a song (title) from an album (booktitle). The writers of the song go in author, while the options field prevents these writers from appearing in citations or at the head of the entry in the list of references. The performer goes in editor, with the editortype giving, as the 17th edition seems to like, what sort of performer she is. The event-date gives the recording date of a song – you would use origdate if the recording date applied to the album as a whole. The date gives the release date of the album, while the type field gives the medium of the release.


[horowitz:youtube] A YouTube video, presented in an Online entry. The userd field allows you to modify what is printed before the urldate, while the note field here is used for a similar purpose, to clarify the date field. The shorttitle abbreviates what will appear in citations of this author-less entry.


[horsley:prosodies] An anonymous Book, with the author known, though not named on the title page. The string anon goes in the authortype field.


[house:papers] An example of a Misc entry (with an entriesubtype) specifically for a reference list, assuming that more than one item has been cited from this same collection. If you cite just one item from such a collection, then the entry might look like creel:house. In this entry type the absence of a date field does not trigger the automatic provision of the “n.d.” \bibstring, which means that the reference list entry will not contain one if it isn’t wanted. The entriesubtype classical makes the in-text citations provide name + title instead of just name, which may help clarify the reference in some circumstances. This entry also illustrates the use of a comma in a reference list to set off a middle initial from a following plain-text title, only used when the period alone might lead to ambiguity. The \adddot and \addcomma commands you see here are the most effective way of doing this.


[iso:electrodoc] An entry using the new Standard type, with a shorthand for presenting the organizational author. The shorthand will by default appear in the in-text citations and at the head of the reference list entry, followed by its expansion (the author) in parentheses. Also by default, the entry will be alphabetized by the first thing that appears there, which here is the shorthand. The series and number fields identify the standard. Cf. niso:bibref and w3c:xml for other entries using the Standard type, and bsi:abbreviation for a similar entry that uses the Manual type.

[james:ambassadors] This entry presents an online edition of a printed book which therefore still uses a Book entry. The origyear field is the date of the print publication of the text that is now online, and the cmsdate=on option tells the style to use the origdate in both reference list and citations, something that isn’t part of the specification for the 17th edition, which would probably recommend both here.


[lakeforester:pushcarts] An Article entry from a newspaper, using a magazine entrysubtype. The article doesn’t have an author, so the journaltitle will be used at the head of the entry and in citations. The newspaper might not be well known, so the location field helps your readers out in this case. There is no longer any need for a sortkey. Finally, note the full key for the cmsdate option, which prints a full date specification in citations and means you wouldn’t need this entry to appear in the reference list, though I have allowed it to appear here as an example.


[maitland:canon] A reprint edition. The CMS gives many options for presenting this information. This example provides both dates at the head of the entry in the reference list and in citations, using cmsdate=new in the options field. It is identified as a reprint with the pubstate field. Cf. james:ambassadors and maitland:equity for other alternatives.


[maitland:equity] Another reprint edition, showing an alternative way of presenting the information. This example provides just the date of the reprint at the head of the reference list and in the citation – there’s no cmsdate option, which means cmsdate=off – and then gives the date of the original, identified as such by a string, after the publication data. The string reprint in the pubstate field, even though it isn’t printed in the entry, is necessary to make this original publication information appear (unless you decide to use the relatedtype origpubin). Also, the sortyear field is necessary here because biblatex sorts automatically by the year rather than the origyear, and this entry from 1926 should come after maitland:canon which prints its origdate (1898) first. Cf. james:ambassadors.


[nasa:db] The 17th edition of the CMS provides examples for citing scientific databases, and the Dataset type supplies a way of complying with its specifications. The author field holds the name of the database, and the title holds the specific piece of data you are citing. See genbank:db for how you can further identify the part of the database in which you are interested. The url and urldate locate the database and inform the reader when you accessed it. This type makes entries behave, by default, as author-title rather than author-date.


[grove:sibelius] An example of an online InReference entry, which I have allowed, as an example, to appear in the list of references. The author field refers to the author of the specific entry in lista, and will be printed after the name of that entry, set off by a comma. If you need to provide the author or editor of a reference work as a whole, then you should probably use a Book entry. (Cf. schellinger:novel.) Note the sortkey, so that the entry doesn’t sort by the definite article. Note
also that in citations of InReference entries, you can put an alphabetized article title in the postnote field, and it will be formatted for you automatically. The 17th edition has new instructions for treating online material that doesn’t have, and never had, a printed counterpart. Specifically, the title can, at your discretion, appear in roman rather than italics, as in Online entries. To keep the features of InReference entries available to such resources you can add an entrysubtype to such an entry, rather than lose those features by using an Online entry. Cf. wikiped:bibtex.


[nyt:trevorobit] An obituary in a Review entry (entrysubtype magazine). Without an author, the journaltitle will head the entry and appear in citations. The lowercase letter beginning the title field isn’t strictly necessary in the author-date style, but does no harm and maintains compatibility with the notes + bibliography style, just in case. Note also the full key for the casemate option, which prints a full date specification in citations and means you wouldn’t need this entry to appear in the reference list, though I have allowed it to appear here as an example.


[nytrumpet:art] A well-populated Music entry. The title, date, author, shortauthor, number, series, and type fields are fairly standard, and you can also specify the recording date of the album, which goes in the origdate field. The userd field acts as a sort of date type field. In this example, the origdate would by default be preceded by the \bibstring recorded, but the userd field allows you to provide more detail here.


[niso:bibref] The 17th edition has added some information to entries presenting national or international standards, so biblatex-chicago now has a separate entry type for them. Here you can see two dates, one when first approved (date) and another when reaffirmed (eventdate). Each of these dates has a field for informing readers just what sort of date it is, userd and howpublished, respectively. The series and number fields identify the standard, while the organization responsible for the standard appears in the organization field, and also, in shortened form if you wish it, in the publisher field. The shorthand field will by default appear both in citations and at the head of reference list entries, followed in the latter by the organization in parentheses. The entry will in this case sort by the shorthand. Cf. w3c:xml.


[pirumova] A Book entry presenting a Russian work, but giving the English translation of the title rather than the original, making it easier for a readership assumed to be without Russian to parse. In such a case, the language of the original goes in the language field. Also note the quotation marks around part of the publisher’s name, with biblatex providing the punctuation.


[pirumova:russian] The same work as the preceding entry, but giving the transliteration of the Russian title rather than the translation. In such a case, the translation of the title goes in the usere field. The langid field means that the subtitle doesn’t require any additional curly braces in the trad style.

[plato:republic:gr] A work from antiquity, which will be cited by the traditional divisions of Stephanus’ edition, and which therefore requires the classical entrysubtype. The title of such a work being italicized, it needs a BookInBook entry, and it has all three sorts of title, plus a series to boot. The shortauthor and shorttitle fields provide the officially-sanctioned abbreviations for use in citations.


[pollan:plant] Another online video, presented in an Online entry. Note the userd field to modify the string printed before the urldate. The note field is a kludge to provide userd-like functionality for the date. Cf. harwood:biden, horowitz:youtube.


[ross:thesis] A Thesis entry with its type pre-defined by the alias MastersThesis. The nodate bibstring (which gives “n.d.” in English) may be used in almost any entry type if you can’t find a date, though the author-date style automatically provides it in most types if you don’t.


[schubert:muellerin] The Audio entry type is the most “book-like” of the three audio-visual entry types, but does differ in several ways from an ordinary book, and therefore requires a separate type. This is a citation of a published musical score, with the composer in the author field. It cites one song (title) from a cycle (booktitle), while the maintitle in this instance refers to the publisher’s collection of the composer’s works. The options field changes the punctuation to addspace before the parenthesized maintitleaddon.


[schweitzer:bach] A reprinted Book, showing how to present this information by putting reprint in the pubstate field, the origdate into the date field, and the date into origdate. The style notices that the years have been switched with a simple numerical test, and prints them in their proper places. This would allow you to present several reprinted works from the same year by the same author, and have the years suffixed with a, b, c, etc. as required by the spec. The casdate=both option prints both dates. The origlocation and origpublisher fields allow you to present further information about the original edition, if you should so wish, and the addendum clarifies which edition will be providing the page references for citations.


[shapey:partita] An example of an unpublished musical score, presented in a Misc (with entrysubtype) rather than an Audio entry. Note that, having a non-generic title, you need to provide quotation marks in the title in the author-date style, which means that the entry is incorrect for the trad style.


[silver:gawain] Here, neither author nor editor are available, so the reference list entry and citations will start with the translator.

[spock:interview] An unpublished interview from an archive, hence requiring the Misc entry type with an entrysubtype. The interview is dated, but isn’t letter-like, so you put the date in the date field. The interviewee is the author, and the title, with its initial lowercase letter, names the interviewer. This Misc entry has all 4 locating fields in increasing generality: note, organization, institution, and location. The first of these also starts with a lowercase letter. The CMS suggests that if you refer to more than one piece from such an archive, that you include only the archive in the reference list, with more specific information forming part of the flow of text. Cf. creel:house and house:papers.

Stanze in lode della donna brutta. 1547. Florence.

[anon:stanze] The standard way to present this work, allowing it to be alphabetized by title, and providing a shorttitle for in-text citations.


[stendhal:parma] A Book entry with the real name of the author given, in the nameaddon field, after the pseudonym, in the author field.

A True and Sincere Declaration of the Purpose and Ends of the Plantation Begun in Virginia, of the Degrees Which It Hath Received, and Means by Which It Hath Been Advanced. 1610. London.

[virginia:plantation] An anonymous Book entry with a very long title. The CMS prefers such entries generally to appear under their titles rather than under “Anon.” Here, the shorttitle removes the indefinite article, and the sorttitle does the same.


[chicago:manual] A manual presented in a Book entry. Note the extra curly brackets around the corporate author, which is printed twice, both as author and publisher. (I have also provided an unorthodox shortauthor for convenience in this package documentation.) Cf. chicago:comment for an example of how to use a CustomC entry to provide a comment inside a parenthesized citation.


[verdi:corsaro] An Audio entry presenting a published operatic score. Note the “reverse italics” in the title, and also the distribution of roles between an editor (with an editortype to identify the librettist) and an editora. Note also the two publishers, and two places of publication, presented in a modified publisher field. You can always choose just to present one of these publishers, generally whichever is closest.


[viv:amlen] An example of a blog comment presented without the commenton relatedtype. Here the crossref to the main blog and special formatting in the title field provide the necessary information. The nameaddon field here holds the commenter’s location, but it can also hold, especially in social media posts, a screen name or similar. The entry will appear in the list of references, and will produce a standard citation. Cf. amlen:hoot, amlen:wordplay, and viv:amlen:15 and also cp. ellis:blog and ac:comment for an example of how to use the new commenton relatedtype in this context.

[white:russ] This is a spurious entry I've just made up to show the cross-referencing mechanism at work in Letter entries. See white:ross:mem for the details.


[white:ross:mem] In the author-date style, the CMS recommends that the list of references contain only the whole collection of published letters (white:total, below), with any further information being provided as part of the running text. (If you follow this method, then the Letter entry type needn't ever be used.) If, for some reason, you still want to cite individual letters in the list of references, this and the white:russ entry demonstrate how to do so. Chicago's mechanism for shortened cross-references is operative in Letter entries using crosref or xref (as in InCollection and InProceedings entries), so the information printed in the list of references will be abbreviated. You can simply use the origdate field for the date of the letter, and you'll get separate letters, ordered by date, and with a,b,c, etc. appended to differentiate letters from the same year.


[white:total] The parent entry of the two preceding child entries. Note that it is a Book entry, and will appear in the reference list if more than one child inherits from it, even though it isn't cited itself.


[wikiped:bibtex] InReference entries are designed to allow you to cite particular articles in an alphabetically-arranged reference work. The lista field holds the name of the article, and for printed works you can use the standard postnote field to make a single .bib entry work for references to several different articles. For an online work, you must have a urldate field, as such sources change rather rapidly, and in the case of heavily contested articles it could well be useful to also to include a time stamp in the same field, as here (though this isn't necessary at all for this article). The userd field allows you to identify which sort of date is at stake - the CMS strongly prefers revision dates or similar to access dates. Online works which haven't had any sort of printed existence can, at your discretion, have titles in plain roman (like an Online entry). Defining an entrysubtype field achieves this. Ordinarily, such an entry need not be printed in the reference list, but here it will appear there for the sake of example.
@Book{chicago:manual,  
  title = {The {Chicago} Manual of Style},  
  year = 2017,  
  author = {{University of Chicago Press}},  
  shortauthor = {CMS},  
  publisher = uchp,  
  edition = 17,  
  location = {Chicago}  
}

@Booklet{clark:mesopot,  
  title = {Mesopotamia},  
  subtitle = {Between Two Rivers},  
  author = {Hazel V. Clark},  
  howpublished = {End of the Commons General Store},  
  date = {1957?},  
  location = {Mesopotamia, OH}  
}

@Article{conley:fifthgrade,  
  author = {Conley, Alice},  
  title = {Fifth-Grade Boys’ Decisions about Participation in Sports Activities},  
  issuetitle = {Non-subject-matter Outcomes of Schooling},  
  journaltitle = {Elementary School Journal},  
  note = {special issue},  
  year = 1999,  
  volume = 99,  
  editor = {Good, Thomas-L.},  
  number = 5,  
  pages = {131--146}  
}

@Article{connell:chronic,  
  author = {Connell, A.-D. and Airey, D.-D.},  
  title = {The Chronic Effects of Fluoride on the Estuarine Amphipods \Grandidierella lutosa\ and \G. lignorum\},  
  journaltitle = {Water Research},  
  date = 1982,  
  volume = 16,  
  pages = {1313--1317}  
}

@InCollection{contrib:contrib,  
  title = {Contribution},  
  booktitle = {Edited Volume},  
  publisher = {Publisher},  
  year = {forthcoming},  
  editor = {Ellen},  
  location = {Place}  
}
@Video{friends:leia,  
title = {The One with the {Princess Leia} Fantasy},  
date = 2003,  
booktitle = {Friends},  
booktitleaddon = {season-3, episode-1},  
author = {Curtis, Michael and Malins, Gregory-S.},  
eventdate = {1996-09-19},  
editor = {Mancuso, Gail},  
edittotype = {director},  
publisher = {Warner Home Video},  
type = {DVD},  
address = {Burbank, CA}  
}

@Misc{genesis,  
shorttitle = {Gen\adddot},  
entrysubtype = {classical},  
keywords = {nosample},  
title = {Genesis}  
}

@Review{gourmet:052006,  
journaltitle = {Gourmet},  
entrysubtype = {magazine},  
date = {2000-05},  
title = {Kitchen {Notebook}}  
}

@InReference{grove:sibelius,  
title = {The New {Grove} Dictionary of Music and Musicians},  
author = {Hepokoski, James},  
lista = {Sibelius, Jean},  
url = {http://www.grovemusic.com/},  
urldate = {2002-01-03},  
sortkey = {New Grove}  
}

@Video{handel:messiah,  
title = {Messiah},  
date = {1988},  
eventdate = {1987-12-19},  
userd = {performed},  
type = {videocassette (VHS), 141 min\adddot},  
editor = {{Atlanta Symphony Orchestra and Chamber Chorus}},  
edittotype = {none},  
editora = {Shaw, Robert},  
editoratype = {none},  
author = {Handel, George Frederic},  
publisher = {Video Artists International},  
address = {Ansonia Station, NY}  
}

@Article{hlatky:hrt,  
author = {Hlatky, Mark-A. and Boothroyd, Derek and Vittinghoff, Eric and Sharp, Penny and Whooley, Mary-A.},  
title = {Quality-of-Life and Depressive Symptoms in Postmenopausal Women after Receiving Hormone Therapy},  
subtitle = {Results from the {Heart and Estrogen/Progestin Replacement Study (HERS)} Trial},  
journaltitle = {Journal of the American Medical Association},  
date = {2002-02-06},  
volume = 287,  
number = 5,  
url = {http://jama.ama-assn.org/issues/v287n5/rtcfull/joc10108.html#aainfo},  
urldate = {2002-01-07}  
}

@Music{holiday:fool,  
title = {I’m a Fool to Want You},  
eventdate = {1958-02-20},  
date = {1960},  
booktitle = {Lady in Satin},  
author = {Herron, Joel and Sinatra, Frank and Wolf, Jack},  
editor = {Holiday, Billie},  
edittotype = {vocalist},  
number = {CL 1157},  
publisher = {Columbia},  
type = {33\onethird\ rpm},  
note = {with Ray Ellis},  
options = {useauthor=false}  
}

@Online{horowitz:youtube,  
title = {{HOROWITZ AT CARNEGIE HALL} 2-{Chopin Nocturne} in Fm Op.55},  
organization = {YouTube video, 5:53},  
url = {http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cDVBtuWkMS8},  
urldate = {2009-01-09},  
userd = {posted by \mkbibquote{hubanj,},},  
note = {from a performance televised by CBS on
opunct},  
date = {1968-09-22},  
shorttitle = {HOROWITZ}  
}

@Book{horsley:prosodies,  
title = {On the Prosodies of the {Greek and Latin} Languages},  
year = 1796,  
author = {Horsley, Samuel},  
authortype = {anon}  
}

@Misc{house:papers,  
author = {House, Edward-M\adddot\addcomma},  
title = {Papers},  
note = {Yale University Library},  
entrysubtype = {classical}  
}
institution = {National Library of Medicine},
location = {Bethesda, MD}
}

@Book{stendhal:parma,
title = {The Charterhouse of {Parma}},
date = 1925,
author = {Stendhal},
nameaddon = {Marie Henri Beyle},
publisher = {Boni \\ Liveright},
address = {New York},
translator = {Scott-Moncrieff, C.-K.}
}

@Review{unsigned:ranke,
journaltitle = {Ergänzungsblätter zur Allgemeinen Literatur-Zeitung},
entrysubtype = {magazine},
date = {1828-02},
title = {unsigned review of Geschichten der romanischen und germanischen Völker}, by {Leopold von Ranke},
number = {23--24},
shortjournal = {Erg"anzungsbl"atter z. Allg. Lit.-Ztg.}
}

@Audio{verdi:corsaro,
title = {Il corsaro (melodramma tragico in three acts)},
editortype = {libretto by},
editor = {Piave, Francesco Maria},
date = 1998,
author = {Verdi, Giuseppe},
editor = {Hudson, Elizabeth},
number = {{\bibstring{jourser} 1}, Operas},
series = {The Works of Giuseppe Verdi},
publisher = {University of Chicago Press; Milan: G. \ Ricordi},
volumes = 2,
address = {Chicago}
}

@Book{virginia:plantation,
title = {A True and Sincere Declaration of the Purpose and Ends of the Plantation Begun in {Virginia}, of the Degrees Which It Hath Received, and Means by Which It Hath Been Advanced},
location = {London},
sorttitle = {True and Sincere},
shorttitle = {True and Sincere Declaration},
year = 1610
}

@Review{viv:amlen,
author = {Viv},
title = {comment on Amlen, \"Hoot\"},
nameaddon = {{(Jerusalem, Isr.)}},
crossref = {amlen:hoot},
eventdate = {2015-01-27}
}

@Letter{white:ross:total,
author = {White, E.-B.},
title = {EBW to Harold Ross},
titleaddon = {memorandum},
xref = {{@white:total}},
pages = 273,
origdate = {1946-05-02}
}

@Letter{white:russ,
author = {White, E.-B.},
title = {EBW to B.-Russell},
xref = {{@white:total}},
pages = 283,
origdate = {1946-09-02}
}

@Book{white:total,
title = {Letters of E.-B. White},
year = 1976,
author = {White, E.-B.},
editor = {Guth, Dorothy Lobrano},
publisher = {Harper \\ Row},
location = {New York}
}

@InReference{wikiped:bibtex,
title = {Wikipedia},
lista = {BibTeX},
userd = {last edited},
entrysubtype = {online},
url = {http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki /BibTeX},
urldate = {2019-11-15T20:59:00}
}