

# Package ‘rols’

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**Description** This package allows to query EBI's Ontology  
Lookup Service (OLS) using Simple Object Access  
Protocol (SOAP).

**Depends** methods

**Imports** XML, XMLSchema (>= 0.6.0), SSOAP (>= 0.8.0), Biobase, utils

**Suggests** xtable, GO.db, knitr (>= 1.1.0), BiocStyle, testthat

**biocViews** Software, Annotation, MassSpectrometry, GO

**License** GPL-2

**URL** <http://lgatto.github.com/rols/>

**Collate** AllClasses.R AllGenerics.R iface.R cvparam.R environment.R  
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**VignetteBuilder** knitr

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 rols-package

*R OLS interface*


---

## Description

An R interface to the Ontology Lookup Service

## Details

The Ontology Lookup Service (OLS) is a spin-off of the PRIDE project. It provides a web service interface to query multiple ontologies from a single location with a unified output format. This package allows to query the OLS from within R.

## Author(s)

Laurent Gatto <lg390@cam.ac.uk>

## References

<http://www.ebi.ac.uk/ontology-lookup/>

---

allIds	<i>Returns all identifiers and terms of an ontology</i>
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---

### Description

This function returns all identifiers and terms available for given valid ontology. It sends a `getAllTermsFromOntologyRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getAllTermsFromOntologyResponse`. The original interface is `public Map getAllTermsFromOntology(String ontologyName)`.

### Usage

```
allIds(ontologyName, simplify = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

<code>ontologyName</code>	A character with the name of a valid ontology name.
<code>simplify</code>	A logical indicating whether the S4 Map instance should be simplified. Default is TRUE.

### Value

A named character if `simplify` is TRUE. An instance of class `Map` otherwise.

### Author(s)

Laurent Gatto

### See Also

Other `ols`-queries: [isIdObsolete](#); [olsQuery](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [ontologyNames](#); [rootId](#); [termMetadata](#); [termXrefs](#); [term](#)

### Examples

```
allIds("MS", simplify=FALSE)
```

as.character.Map      *Coerce Map to a data.frame*

---

### Description

as method to coerce an instance of Map to a character. The maps keys are used to name the map values.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'Map'  
as.character(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

x                    An instance Map.  
...                  not used.

### Value

A character of length length(map).

### Author(s)

Laurent Gatto

### See Also

Other as: [as.character.mapItem](#)

---

as.character.mapItem      *Coerce mapItem to a character*

---

### Description

as method to coerce an instance of mapItem to a character by concatenating the key and value variabls.

### Usage

```
## S3 method for class 'mapItem'  
as.character(x, ...)
```

### Arguments

x                    An instance of mapItem.  
...                  not used

**Value**

A character of length 2.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**See Also**

Other as: [as.character.Map](#)

---

childrenRelations      *Returns the children relation type(s).*

---

**Description**

This function returns the relation type of a ontology term termId and its children. The function sends a getTermRelationsRequest SOAP message and retrieves and parses the getTermRelationsResponse. The original corresponding interface is public Map getTermRelations(String termId, String ontologyName).

**Usage**

```
childrenRelations(termId = termId, ontologyName = ontologyName,  
simplify = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

termId	A character with a valid ontology identifier.
ontologyName	A character with the name of a valid ontology name.
simplify	A logical indicating whether the S4 Map instance should be simplified. Default is TRUE.

**Value**

A named character if simplify is TRUE. An instance of class Map otherwise.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**Examples**

```
childrenRelations("GO:0005802", "GO")
```

---

 CVParam-class

 Class "CVParam"
 

---

### Description

CVParam objects instantiate controlled vocabulary entries.

### Usage

```
CVParam(label, name, accession, value, exact = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

label	A character with the ontology label. If missing, a user-defined parameter is created.
name	A character with the name of the CVParam to be constructed. This argument can be omitted if accession is used and label is not missing.
accession	A character with the accession of the CVParam to be constructed. This argument can be omitted if name is used. Ignored for user-defined instances.
value	A character with the value of the CVParam to be constructed. This argument is optional.
exact	A logical defining whether the query to retrieve the accession (when name is used) should be an exact match.

### Objects from the Class

Objects can be created with the CVParam constructor.

### Slots

- label: Object of class "character" that defines the label of the instance, i.e the ontology abbreviation. See [ontologyNames](#) for a complete list.
- accession: Object of class "character" with the parameter's valid label ontology accession number. See below for validity constrains.
- name: Object of class "character" with the instance's valid name, i.e matching with the accession. name and accession must follow `term(accession, label) == name` for the instance to be valid.
- value: Object of class "character" with the CVParams value, if applicable, of empty string ("") otherwise.
- user: Object of class "logical" defining if the instance is a user-defined parameter (also called User params).
- .\_\_classVersion\_\_: Object of class "[Versions](#)" describing the instance's class definition version. For development use.

**Extends**

Class "[Versioned](#)", directly.

**Methods**

**charIsCVParam(x)** Checks if x, a character of the form "[ONTO, ACCESSION, NAME, VALUE]", is a valid (possibly user-defined) CVParam. "ONTO" is the ontology label (it must be one of `ontologies()`), "ACCESSION" is the term accession number, "NAME" is the term's name and "VALUE" is the value. Note that only syntax validity is verified, not semantics. See example below.

**Methods**

**coerce** signature(from = "CVParam", to = "character"): Coerces CVParam from to a character of the following form: [label, accession, name,value]. `as.character` is also defined.

**coerce** signature(from = "character", to = "CVParam"): Coerces character from to a CVParam. `as.CVParam` is also defined. If a label is absent, the character is converted to a User param, else, the label and accession are used to query the Ontology Lookup Service (see [olsQuery](#)). If a name is provided and does not match the retrieved name, a warning is thrown.

This function is vectorised; if the from character is of length greater than 1, then a list of CVParam is returned. The queries to the OLS are processed one-by-one, though.

**show** signature(object = "CVParam"): Prints the CVParam instance as text.

**rep** signature(x = "CVParam", times = "numeric"): Replicates the CVParam x times times.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto <[lg390@cam.ac.uk](mailto:lg390@cam.ac.uk)>

**Examples**

```
## a user param
CVParam(name = "A user param", value = "the value")
## a CVParam from PSI's Mass Spectrometry ontology
term("MS:1000073", "MS")
CVParam(label = "MS", accession = "MS:1000073")
CVParam(label = "MS", name = "electrospray ionization")
CVParam(label = "MS", name = "ESI") ## using a synonym

## From a CVParam object to a character
cv <- as(CVParam(label = "MS", accession = "MS:1000073"), "character")
cv

## From a character object to a CVParam
as(cv, "CVParam")
as("[MS, MS:1000073, , ]", "CVParam") ## no name
as("[MS, MS:1000073, ESI, ]", "CVParam") ## name does not match
```

```

as(c(cv, cv), "CVParam") ## more than 1 character

x <- c("[MS, MS:1000073, , ]", ## valid CV param
      "[, , Hello, world]", ## valid User param
      "[this, one is, not, valid]", ## bnot valid
      "[, , , ]") ## not valid

stopifnot(charIsCVParam(x) == c(TRUE, TRUE, FALSE, FALSE))

## A list of expected valid and non-valid entries
rols::validCVchars
rols::notvalidCVchars

```

---

isIdObsolete	<i>Is the ontology id obsolete</i>
--------------	------------------------------------

---

## Description

When terms are found to be outside the scope of an ontology, are misleadingly named or defined or describe a concept that would be better represented in another way, the terms are marked obsolete rather than deleted. This function tests this by sending an `isObsoleteRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `isObsoleteResponse`. The original interface is `public boolean isObsolete(String termId, St`

## Usage

```
isIdObsolete(termId, ontologyName)
```

## Arguments

`termId` A character with a valid ontology identifier.  
`ontologyName` A character with the name of a valid ontology name.

## Value

A logical specifying if the term id is obsolete.

## Author(s)

Laurent Gatto

## See Also

Other ols-queries: [allIds](#); [olsQuery](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [ontologyNames](#); [rootId](#); [termMetadata](#); [termXrefs](#); [term](#)



**Examples**

```
## is obsolete
term("GO:0005563", "GO")
isIdObsolete(termId = "GO:0005563", ontologyName = "GO")
stopifnot(isIdObsolete(termId = "GO:0005563", ontologyName = "GO"))
## replaced by
term("GO:0030533", "GO")
isIdObsolete(termId = "GO:0030533", ontologyName = "GO")
```

---

key,mapItem-method	key <i>slot accessor</i> .
--------------------	----------------------------

---

**Description**

key slot accessor for the mapItem instances.

key slot accessor for the Map instances.

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'mapItem'
key(object)

## S4 method for signature 'Map'
key(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            An instance of class Map or mapItem.

**Value**

A character.

A character.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

---

map, ANY-method	Map <i>slot accessor</i> .
-----------------	----------------------------

---

### Description

Accessor for the Map data of the OLS return messages converted to their respective S4 classes. The actual data is stored in Map slots.

### Usage

```
## S4 method for signature 'ANY'
map(object)
```

### Arguments

object            An S4 class produced by an OLS return message.

### Value

A instance of class Map.

### Author(s)

Laurent Gatto

---

olsQuery	<i>Returns matching identifiers</i>
----------	-------------------------------------

---

### Description

This function queries one or all ontologies for a pattern and returns all identifiers/terms. If a valid ontologyName is provided, only that ontology is queried. The function then sends a `getTermsByNameRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getTermsByNameResponse`. The original corresponding interface is `public Map getTermsByName(String partialName, String ontologyName, boolean reverseKeyOrder)`. If no ontologyName is provided, all ontologies are used; the function then sends a `getPrefixedTermsByNameRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getPrefixedTermsByNameResponse`. The original corresponding interface is `public Map getPrefixedTermsByName(String partialName, boolean reverseKeyOrder)`.

### Usage

```
olsQuery(pattern, ontologyName, exact = FALSE, n = 3, simplify = TRUE)
```

## Arguments

pattern	A character used to query the OLS.
ontologyName	Optional. A character with the name of a valid ontology name. If missing, all ontologies are searched for pattern.
exact	Require pattern to match term exactly. Default is FALSE. Note that if ontologyName is missing, exact is ignored.
n	Number of attempts to repeat the query if no result is found. Default is 3.
simplify	A logical indicating whether the S4 Map instance should be simplified. Default is TRUE.

## Details

Some valid queries sometimes return empty results due to network instabilities. For this reason, each `olsQuery` is repeated 3 times (see `n` parameter) as long as empty results are obtained. In general, when the ontology is specified, queries are fast and reliable.

## Value

A named character if `simplify` is TRUE. An instance of class `Map` otherwise.

## Author(s)

Laurent Gatto

## See Also

Other `ols`-queries: [allIds](#); [isIdObsolete](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [ontologyNames](#); [rootId](#); [termMetadata](#); [termXrefs](#); [term](#)

## Examples

```
olsQuery("tgn","GO") ## search GO for 'tgn'  
olsQuery("tgn") ## search all ontologies  
olsQuery("ESI", "MS")  
olsQuery("ESI", "MS", exact = TRUE)
```

---

`olsVersion`

*Returns the OLS version*

---

## Description

This function returns the Ontology Lookup Webservice version, build data and author. It sends a `getVersionRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getVersionResponse`. The original interface is `public String getVersion()`.

**Usage**

```
olsVersion()
```

**Value**

A character of length 5.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**See Also**

Other ols-queries: [allIds](#); [isIdObsolete](#); [olsQuery](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [ontologyNames](#); [rootId](#); [termMetadata](#); [termXrefs](#); [term](#)

**Examples**

```
olsVersion()
```

---

ontologies

*Returns all available ontologies*

---

**Description**

This function returns available ontologies. It sends a `getOntologyNamesRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getOntologyNamesResponse`. The original interface is `public Map getOntologyNames()`.

**Usage**

```
ontologies(simplify = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

`simplify` A logical indicating whether the S4 Map instance should be simplified. Default is TRUE.

**Value**

If `simplify` is TRUE, a `data.frame` with available ontologies names and descriptions. An instance of class `Map` otherwise.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**See Also**

Other ols-queries: [allIds](#); [isIdObsolete](#); [olsQuery](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [ontologyNames](#); [rootId](#); [termMetadata](#); [termXrefs](#); [term](#)

**Examples**

```
head(ontologies())
ontologies(simplify=FALSE)
```

---

ontologyLoadDate	<i>Returns the ontology load date</i>
------------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

This function returns the load date of a given ontology. The ontology name must be valid, i.e. exists in `ontologies()`. It sends a `getOntologyLoadDateRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getOntologyLoadDateResponse`. The original interface is `public String getOntologyLoadDate(String ontologyName)`.

**Usage**

```
ontologyLoadDate(ontologyName)
```

**Arguments**

`ontologyName` A character with the name of a valid ontology name.

**Value**

A character with the ontology's load date.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**See Also**

Other ols-queries: [allIds](#); [isIdObsolete](#); [olsQuery](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyNames](#); [rootId](#); [termMetadata](#); [termXrefs](#); [term](#)

**Examples**

```
ontologyLoadDate("GO")
ontologyLoadDate("FIX")
```

---

ontologyNames	<i>Returns all ontologyNames</i>
---------------	----------------------------------

---

**Description**

Returns the names of the OLS ontologies.

**Usage**

```
ontologyNames()
```

**Value**

A character with all ontology names.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**See Also**

Other ols-queries: [allIds](#); [isIdObsolete](#); [olsQuery](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [rootId](#); [termMetadata](#); [termXrefs](#); [term](#)

**Examples**

```
head(ontologyNames())
```

---

parents	<i>Returns the parent(s) of a term.</i>
---------	---

---

**Description**

This function returns the parent term(s) of term `termId` in ontology `ontologyName`. The function sends a `getTermParentsRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getTermParentsResponse`. The original corresponding interface is `public Map getTermParents(String termId, String ontologyName)`

**Usage**

```
parents(termId = termId, ontologyName = ontologyName, simplify = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>termId</code>	A character with a valid ontology identifier.
<code>ontologyName</code>	A character with the name of a valid ontology name.
<code>simplify</code>	A logical indicating whether the S4 Map instance should be simplified. Default is TRUE.

**Value**

A named character if simplify is TRUE. An instance of class Map otherwise.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**Examples**

```
parents("GO:0005802", "GO")
```

---

rootId	<i>Returns the root identifiers of an ontology</i>
--------	--

---

**Description**

This function returns root identifier(s) for a given valid ontology name. It sends a `getRootTermsRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getRootTermsResponse`. The original interface is `public Map getRootTerms(String ontologyName)`.

**Usage**

```
rootId(ontologyName, simplify = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

ontologyName	A character with the name of a valid ontology name.
simplify	A logical indicating whether the S4 Map instance should be simplified. Default is TRUE.

**Value**

A named character if simplify is TRUE. An instance of class Map otherwise.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**See Also**

Other ols-queries: [allIds](#); [isIdObsolete](#); [olsQuery](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [ontologyNames](#); [termMetadata](#); [termXrefs](#); [term](#)

**Examples**

```
rootId("GO")  
rootId("NEWT")  
rootId("MS")
```

---

show, Map-method	Map <i>show method</i>
------------------	------------------------

---

**Description**

show method for Map instances

**Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'Map'
show(object)
```

**Arguments**

object            An Map instance.

**Value**

Returns an invisible 'NULL'. This function is used for its side-effect of printing a textual description of object.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

---

term	<i>Returns the term of a given identifier</i>
------	---

---

**Description**

This function returns the term (description) of a given ontology identifier in a specific ontology. The ontology name must be valid, i.e. exists in `ontologies()`. It sends a `getTermByIdRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getTermByIdResponse`. The original interface is `public String getTermById(String termId, String ontologyName)`.

**Usage**

```
term(termId, ontologyName)
```

**Arguments**

termId            A character with a valid ontology identifier.  
ontologyName    A character with the name of a valid ontology name.



**Value**

A string with the description of that identifier, as found in ontology ontologies. If termId was not found in ontologies(), as warning is issued and NULL is returned.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**See Also**

Other ols-queries: [allIds](#); [isIdObsolete](#); [olsQuery](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [ontologyNames](#); [rootId](#); [termMetadata](#); [termXrefs](#)

**Examples**

```
term("GO:0005794", "GO") ## valid description
term("GO:0000000", "GO") ## returns NULL
term("210797", "NEWT")
```

---

termMetadata	<i>Returns an identifier's metadata</i>
--------------	---

---

**Description**

This function returns the metadata (definition and synonyms) for a specific ontology identifier. The term for that identifier can be retrieved with [term](#). The function sends a getTermMetadataRequest SOAP message and retrieves and parses the getTermMetadataResponse. The original interface is public Map getTermMetadata(String termId, String ontologyName).

**Usage**

```
termMetadata(termId, ontologyName, simplify = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

termId	A character with a valid ontology identifier.
ontologyName	A character with the name of a valid ontology name.
simplify	A logical indicating whether the S4 Map instance should be simplified. Default is TRUE.

**Value**

Am S3 instance of class termMetadata (for pretty printing) and character if simplify is TRUE. An instance of class Map otherwise.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**See Also**

Other ols-queries: [allIds](#); [isIdObsolete](#); [olsQuery](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [ontologyNames](#); [rootId](#); [termXrefs](#); [term](#)

**Examples**

```
termMetadata("GO:0005794", "GO")
termMetadata("210797", "NEWT")
```

---

termXrefs	<i>Returns the identifier's ontology cross references</i>
-----------	---

---

**Description**

This function returns ontology cross references for an identifier. The function sends a `getTermXrefsRequest` SOAP message and retrieves and parses the `getTermXrefsResponse`. The original interface is `public Map getTermXrefs(String termId, String ontologyName)`.

**Usage**

```
termXrefs(termId, ontologyName, simplify = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

termId	A character with a valid ontology identifier.
ontologyName	A character with the name of a valid ontology name.
simplify	A logical indicating whether the S4 Map instance should be simplified. Default is TRUE.

**Value**

A named character if `simplify` is TRUE. An instance of class `Map` otherwise.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

**See Also**

Other ols-queries: [allIds](#); [isIdObsolete](#); [olsQuery](#); [olsVersion](#); [ontologies](#); [ontologyLoadDate](#); [ontologyNames](#); [rootId](#); [termMetadata](#); [term](#)

---

*value, mapItem-method*    *value slot accessor.*

---

### **Description**

value slot accessor for the `mapItem` instances.

value slot accessor for the `Map` instances.

### **Usage**

```
## S4 method for signature 'mapItem'  
value(object)
```

```
## S4 method for signature 'Map'  
value(object)
```

### **Arguments**

`object`            An instance of class `Map` or `mapItem`.

### **Value**

A character.

A character.

### **Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

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