

# Package ‘rols’

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**Type** Package

**Title** An R interface to the Ontology Lookup Service

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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

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

**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  
queries.R rols-package.R utils.R zzz.R

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

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rols-package

*R OLS interface*


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## 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/>

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|        |                                                  |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------|
| allIds | Returns all identifiers and terms of an ontology |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------|

---

## 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

|              |                                                                                         |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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: [isIdObsolete](#), [olsQuery](#), [olsVersion](#), [ontologies](#), [ontologyLoadDate](#), [ontologyNames](#), [rootId](#), [term](#), [termMetadata](#), [termXrefs](#)

## Examples

```
head(allIds("GO"))
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 variabels.

**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 | <i>Returns the children relation type(s).</i> |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------------------|

---

**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 constraints.
- 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**

**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.

**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>

**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
```

---

isIdObsolete

*Is the ontology id obsolete*

---

**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, String ontologyName).

**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](#), [term](#), [termMetadata](#), [termXrefs](#)

**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.

**Arguments**

|        |                               |
|--------|-------------------------------|
| object | An instance of class mapItem. |
| object | An instance of class Map.     |

**Value**

A character.

A character.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

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|                |                            |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| 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.

**Arguments**

from                      An S4 class produced by an OLS return message.

**Value**

A instance of class Map.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

---

|          |                              |
|----------|------------------------------|
| olsQuery | Returns matching identifiers |
|----------|------------------------------|

---

**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](#), [term](#), [termMetadata](#), [termXrefs](#)

### Examples

```
olsQuery("tgn","GO") ## search GO for 'tgn'
olsQuery("GO") ## 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](#), [term](#), [termMetadata](#), [termXrefs](#)

**Examples**

```
olsVersion()
```

---

|            |                                         |
|------------|-----------------------------------------|
| ontologies | <i>Returns all available ontologies</i> |
|------------|-----------------------------------------|

---

**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**

|                       |                                                                                         |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <code>simplify</code> | 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](#), [term](#), [termMetadata](#), [termXrefs](#)

**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 on`

**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](#), [term](#), [termMetadata](#), [termXrefs](#)

**Examples**

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

---

|               |                           |
|---------------|---------------------------|
| ontologyNames | Returns all ontologyNames |
|---------------|---------------------------|

---

**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](#), [term](#), [termMetadata](#), [termXrefs](#)

**Examples**

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

---

|         |                                  |
|---------|----------------------------------|
| parents | Returns the parent(s) of a term. |
|---------|----------------------------------|

---

**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**

|              |                                                                                         |
|--------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 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**

```
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](#), [term](#), [termMetadata](#), [termXrefs](#)

Examples

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

---

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

---

Description

show method for Map instances

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**

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](#), [term](#), [termXrefs](#)

**Examples**

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

---

termXrefs

*Returns the identifier's ontology cross references*

---

**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**

|                           |                                                                                         |
|---------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <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

**See Also**

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

---

|                      |                              |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| value,mapItem-method | value <i>slot accessor</i> . |
|----------------------|------------------------------|

---

**Description**

value slot accessor for the mapItem instances.  
value slot accessor for the Map instances.

**Arguments**

- object           An instance of class mapItem.
- object           An instance of class Map.

**Value**

A character.  
A character.

**Author(s)**

Laurent Gatto

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