

# Package ‘biodb’

December 20, 2024

**Title** biodb, a library and a development framework for connecting to chemical and biological databases

**Version** 1.15.0

**Description** The biodb package provides access to standard remote chemical and biological databases (ChEBI, KEGG, HMDB, ...), as well as to in-house local database files (CSV, SQLite), with easy retrieval of entries, access to web services, search of compounds by mass and/or name, and mass spectra matching for LCMS and MSMS. Its architecture as a development framework facilitates the development of new database connectors for local projects or inside separate published packages.

**URL** <https://github.com/pkrog/biodb>

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'BiodbConfig.R' 'BiodbConnBase.R' 'BiodbConn.R' 'BiodbEntry.R'  
'BiodbCsvEntry.R' 'BiodbCustomPersistentCache.R'  
'BiodbDbInfo.R' 'BiodbDbsInfo.R' 'BiodbEntryField.R'

'BiodbMain.R' 'BiodbEntryFields.R' 'BiodbFactory.R'  
 'BiodbXmlEntry.R' 'BiodbHtmlEntry.R' 'BiodbJsonEntry.R'  
 'BiodbListEntry.R' 'BiodbUrl.R' 'BiodbRequest.R'  
 'BiodbRequestScheduler.R' 'BiodbRequestSchedulerRule.R'  
 'BiodbTxtEntry.R' 'BiodbSdfEntry.R' 'BiodbSqlExpr.R'  
 'BiodbSqlBinaryOp.R' 'BiodbSqlField.R' 'BiodbSqlList.R'  
 'BiodbSqlLogicalOp.R' 'BiodbSqlQuery.R' 'BiodbSqlValue.R'  
 'BiodbTestMsgAck.R' 'CsvFileConn.R' 'CompCsvFileConn.R'  
 'CompCsvFileEntry.R' 'SqliteConn.R' 'CompSqliteConn.R'  
 'CompSqliteEntry.R' 'ExtGenerator.R' 'ExtFileGenerator.R'  
 'ExtConnClass.R' 'ExtCpp.R' 'ExtDefinitions.R'  
 'ExtDescriptionFile.R' 'ExtEntryClass.R' 'ExtGitignore.R'  
 'ExtLicense.R' 'ExtMakefile.R' 'ExtPackage.R'  
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 'ExtTests.R' 'ExtTravisFile.R' 'ExtVignette.R' 'FileTemplate.R'  
 'MassCsvFileConn.R' 'MassCsvFileEntry.R' 'MassSqliteConn.R'  
 'MassSqliteEntry.R' 'Progress.R' 'Range.R' 'RcppExports.R'  
 'RequestResult.R' 'TestRefEntries.R'  
 'catch-routine-registration.R' 'fcts\_biodb.R'  
 'fcts\_deprecated.R' 'fcts\_ext.R' 'fcts\_mass.R' 'fcts\_misc.R'  
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biodb-package	<i>biodb: biodb, a library and a development framework for connecting to chemical and biological databases</i>
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## Description

The biodb package provides access to standard remote chemical and biological databases (ChEBI, KEGG, HMDB, ...), as well as to in-house local database files (CSV, SQLite), with easy retrieval of entries, access to web services, search of compounds by mass and/or name, and mass spectra matching for LCMS and MSMS. Its architecture as a development framework facilitates the development of new database connectors for local projects or inside separate published packages.

## Details

To get a presentation of the *biodb* package and get started with it, please see the "biodb" vignette.

```
vignette('biodb', package='biodb')
```

## Author(s)

**Maintainer:** Pierrick Roger <pierrick.roger@cea.fr> ([ORCID](#))

Other contributors:

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## See Also

[BiodbMain](#), [BiodbConfig](#), [BiodbFactory](#), [BiodbPersistentCache](#), [BiodbDbsInfo](#), [BiodbEntryFields](#).

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abstractClass	<i>Declares a class as abstract.</i>
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**Description**

Forbids instantiation of an abstract class. This method must be called from within a constructor of an abstract class. It will throw an error if a direct call is made to this constructor.

**Usage**

```
abstractClass(cls, obj)
```

**Arguments**

cls	The name of the abstract class to check.
obj	The object being instantiated.

**Value**

Nothing.

---

abstractMethod	<i>Declares a method as abstract</i>
----------------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

This method must be called from within the abstract method.

**Usage**

```
abstractMethod(obj)
```

**Arguments**

obj	The object on which the abstract method is called.
-----	--

**Value**

Nothing.

---

BiodbBiocPersistentCache

*A persistent cache implementation that uses BiocCache package.*

---

## Description

A persistent cache implementation that uses BiocCache package.

A persistent cache implementation that uses BiocCache package.

## Super class

`biodb::BiodbPersistentCache` -> BiodbBiocPersistentCache

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `BiodbBiocPersistentCache$new()`
- `BiodbBiocPersistentCache$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Cache objects must not be created directly. Instead, access the cache instance through the BiodbMain instance using the `getPersistentCache()` method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbBiocPersistentCache$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbBiocPersistentCache$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

`BiodbPersistentCache`, `BiodbBiocPersistentCache`.

---

**BiodbConfig***A class for storing configuration values.*

---

**Description**

A class for storing configuration values.

A class for storing configuration values.

**Details**

This class is responsible for storing configuration. You must go through the single instance of this class to create and set and get configuration values. To get the single instance of this class, call the `getConfig()` method of class `BiodbMain`.

**Methods****Public methods:**

- `BiodbConfig$new()`
- `BiodbConfig$getKeys()`
- `BiodbConfig$getTitle()`
- `BiodbConfig$getDescription()`
- `BiodbConfig$getDefaultvalue()`
- `BiodbConfig$hasKey()`
- `BiodbConfig$isDefined()`
- `BiodbConfig$isEnabled()`
- `BiodbConfig$get()`
- `BiodbConfig$set()`
- `BiodbConfig$reset()`
- `BiodbConfig$enable()`
- `BiodbConfig$disable()`
- `BiodbConfig$print()`
- `BiodbConfig$listKeys()`
- `BiodbConfig$getAssocEnvVar()`
- `BiodbConfig$define()`
- `BiodbConfig$notifyNewObservers()`
- `BiodbConfig$terminate()`
- `BiodbConfig$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. No `BiodbConfig` object must not be created directly. Instead, access the config instance through the `BiodbMain` instance using the `getConfig()` method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$new(parent)
```

*Arguments:*

parent The BiodbMain instance.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getKeys()`: Get the list of available keys.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$getKeys(deprecated = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deprecated If set to TRUE returns also the deprecated keys.

*Returns:* A character vector containing the config key names.

**Method** `getTitle()`: Get the title of a key.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$getTitle(key)
```

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

*Returns:* The title of the key as a character value.

**Method** `getDescription()`: Get the description of a key.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$getDescription(key)
```

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

*Returns:* The description of the key as a character value.

**Method** `getDefaultValue()`: Get the default value of a key.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$getDefaultValue(key, as.chr = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

as.chr If set to TRUE, returns the value as character.

*Returns:* The default value for that key.

**Method** `hasKey()`: Test if a key exists.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$hasKey(key)
```

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

*Returns:* TRUE if a key with this name exists, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `isDefined()`: Test if a key is defined (i.e.: if a value exists for this key).

*Usage:*

BiodbConfig\$isDefined(key, fail = TRUE)

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

fail If set to TRUE and the configuration key does not exist, then an error will be raised.

*Returns:* TRUE if the key has a value, FALSE otherwise.

**Method isEnabled():** Test if a boolean key is set to TRUE. This method will raise an error if the key is not a boolean key.

*Usage:*

BiodbConfig\$isEnabled(key)

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

*Returns:* TRUE if the boolean key has a value set to TRUE, FALSE otherwise.

**Method get():** Get the value of a key.

*Usage:*

BiodbConfig\$get(key)

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

*Returns:* The value associated with the key.

**Method set():** Set the value of a key.

*Usage:*

BiodbConfig\$set(key, value)

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

value A value to associate with the key.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method reset():** Reset the value of a key.

*Usage:*

BiodbConfig\$reset(key = NULL)

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key. If NULL, all keys will be reset.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method enable():** Set a boolean key to TRUE.

*Usage:*

BiodbConfig\$enable(key)

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `disable()`: Set a boolean key to FALSE.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$disable(key)
```

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `print()`: Print list of configuration keys and their values.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$print()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `listKeys()`: Get the full list of keys as a data frame.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$listKeys()
```

*Returns:* A data frame containing keys, titles, types, and default values.

**Method** `getAssocEnvVar()`: Returns the environment variable associated with this configuration key.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$getAssocEnvVar(key)
```

*Arguments:*

key The name of a configuration key.

*Returns:* The environment variable's value.

**Method** `define()`: Defines config properties from a structured object, normally loaded from a YAML file.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$define(def)
```

*Arguments:*

def The list of key definitions.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `notifyNewObservers()`: Called by BiodbMain when a new observer is registered.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$notifyNewObservers(obs)
```

*Arguments:*

obs The new observers registered by the BiodbMain instance.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `terminate()`: Terminates the instance. This method will be called automatically by the BiodbMain instance when you call

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$terminate()
```

*Arguments:*

```
BiodbMain :terminate().
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConfig$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

```
deep Whether to make a deep clone.
```

## See Also

[BiodbMain](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get the config instance:
config <- mybiodb$getConfig()

# Print all available keys
config$getKeys()

# Get a configuration value:
value <- config$get('cache.directory')

# Set a configuration value:
config$set('dwnld.timeout', 600)

# For boolean values, you can use boolean methods:
config$get('offline')
config$enable('offline') # set to TRUE
config$disable('offline') # set to FALSE
config$isEnabled('offline')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbConn

*The mother abstract class of all database connectors.*

---

## Description

The mother abstract class of all database connectors.

The mother abstract class of all database connectors.

## Details

This is the super class of all connector classes. All methods defined here are thus common to all connector classes. All connector classes inherit from this abstract class.

See section Fields for a list of the constructor's parameters. Concrete classes may have direct web services methods or other specific methods implemented, in which case they will be described inside the documentation of the concrete class. Please refer to the documentation of each concrete class for more information. The database direct web services methods will be named "ws.\*".

The constructor has the following arguments:

id: The identifier of the connector.

cache.id: The identifier used in the disk cache.

## Super class

`biodb::BiodbConnBase -> BiodbConn`

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `BiodbConn$new()`
- `BiodbConn$getBiodb()`
- `BiodbConn$getId()`
- `BiodbConn$print()`
- `BiodbConn$correctIds()`
- `BiodbConn$getEntry()`
- `BiodbConn$getCacheFile()`
- `BiodbConn$getEntryContent()`
- `BiodbConn$getEntryContentFromDb()`
- `BiodbConn$getEntryContentRequest()`
- `BiodbConn$getEntryIds()`
- `BiodbConn$getNbEntries()`
- `BiodbConn$isEditable()`
- `BiodbConn$editingIsAllowed()`
- `BiodbConn$allowEditing()`
- `BiodbConn$disallowEditing()`

- BiodbConn\$setEditingAllowed()
- BiodbConn\$addNewEntry()
- BiodbConn\$isWritable()
- BiodbConn\$allowWriting()
- BiodbConn\$disallowWriting()
- BiodbConn\$setWritingAllowed()
- BiodbConn\$writingIsAllowed()
- BiodbConn\$write()
- BiodbConn\$isSearchableByField()
- BiodbConn\$getSearchableFields()
- BiodbConn\$searchForEntries()
- BiodbConn\$searchByName()
- BiodbConn\$isDownloadable()
- BiodbConn\$isDownloaded()
- BiodbConn\$requiresDownload()
- BiodbConn\$getDownloadPath()
- BiodbConn\$setDownloadedFile()
- BiodbConn\$isExtracted()
- BiodbConn\$download()
- BiodbConn\$isRemotedb()
- BiodbConn\$isCompounddb()
- BiodbConn\$searchCompound()
- BiodbConn\$annotateMzValues()
- BiodbConn\$isMassdb()
- BiodbConn\$checkDb()
- BiodbConn\$getAllVolatileCacheEntries()
- BiodbConn\$getAllCacheEntries()
- BiodbConn\$deleteAllEntriesFromVolatileCache()
- BiodbConn\$deleteAllEntriesFromPersistentCache()
- BiodbConn\$deleteWholePersistentCache()
- BiodbConn\$deleteAllCacheEntries()
- BiodbConn\$getCacheId()
- BiodbConn\$makesRefToEntry()
- BiodbConn\$makeRequest()
- BiodbConn\$getEntryImageUrl()
- BiodbConn\$getEntryPageUrl()
- BiodbConn\$getChromCol()
- BiodbConn\$getMatchingMzField()
- BiodbConn\$setMatchingMzField()
- BiodbConn\$getMzValues()
- BiodbConn\$getNbPeaks()
- BiodbConn\$filterEntriesOnRt()

- `BiodbConn$searchForMassSpectra()`
- `BiodbConn$searchMsEntries()`
- `BiodbConn$searchMsPeaks()`
- `BiodbConn$msmsSearch()`
- `BiodbConn$collapseResultsDataFrame()`
- `BiodbConn$searchMzRange()`
- `BiodbConn$searchMzTol()`
- `BiodbConn$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Connector objects must not be created directly. Instead, you create new connector instances through the `BiodbFactory` instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$new(id = NA_character_, cache.id = NA_character_, bdb, ...)
```

*Arguments:*

`id` The ID of the connector instance.

`cache.id` The Cache ID of the connector instance.

`bdb` The `BiodbMain` instance.

`...` Remaining arguments will be passed to the constructor of the super class.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getBiodb()`: Returns the `biodb` main class instance to which this object is attached.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getBiodb()
```

*Returns:* The main `biodb` instance.

**Method** `getId()`: Get the identifier of this connector.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getId()
```

*Returns:* The identifier of this connector.

**Method** `print()`: Prints a description of this connector.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$print()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `correctIds()`: Correct a vector of IDs by formatting them to the database official format, if required and possible.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$correctIds(ids)
```

*Arguments:*

`ids` A character vector of IDs.

*Returns:* The vector of IDs corrected.

**Method** `getEntry()`: Return the entry corresponding to this ID. You can pass a vector of IDs, and you will get a list of entries.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getEntry(id, drop = TRUE, nulls = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

`id` A character vector containing entry identifiers.

`drop` If set to TRUE and only one entry is requested, then the returned value will be a single `BiodbEntry` object, otherwise it will be a list of `BiodbEntry` objects.

`nulls` If set to TRUE, NULL entries are preserved. This ensures that the output list has the same length than the input vector `id`. Otherwise they are removed from the final list.

*Returns:* A list of `BiodbEntry` objects, the same size of the vector of IDs. The list will contain NULL values for invalid IDs. If `drop` is set to TRUE and only one entry was requested then a single `BiodbEntry` is returned instead of a list.

**Method** `getCacheFile()`: Get the path to the persistent cache file.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getCacheFile(entry.id)
```

*Arguments:*

`entry.id` The identifiers (e.g.: accession numbers) as a character vector of the database entries.

*Returns:* A character vector, the same length as the vector of IDs, containing the paths to the cache files corresponding to the requested entry IDs.

**Method** `getEntryContent()`: Get the contents of database entries from IDs (accession numbers).

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getEntryContent(id)
```

*Arguments:*

`id` A character vector of entry IDs.

*Returns:* A character vector containing the contents of the requested IDs. If no content is available for an entry ID, then NA will be used.

**Method** `getEntryContentFromDb()`: Get the contents of entries directly from the database. A direct request or an access to the database will be made in order to retrieve the contents. No access to the `biodb` cache system will be made.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getEntryContentFromDb(entry.id)
```

*Arguments:*

`entry.id` A character vector with the IDs of entries to retrieve.

*Returns:* A character vector, the same size of `entry.id`, with contents of the requested entries. An NA value will be set for the content of each entry for which the retrieval failed.

**Method** `getEntryContentRequest()`: Gets the URL to use in order to get the contents of the specified entries.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getEntryContentRequest(entry.id, concatenate = TRUE, max.length = 0)
```

*Arguments:*

`entry.id` A character vector with the IDs of entries to retrieve.

`concatenate` If set to TRUE, then try to build as few URLs as possible, sending requests with several identifiers at once.

`max.length` The maximum length of the URLs to return, in number of characters.

*Returns:* A vector of URL strings.

**Method** `getEntryIds()`: Get entry identifiers from the database. More arguments can be given, depending on implementation in specific databases. For mass databases the `ms.level` argument can also be set.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getEntryIds(max.results = 0, ...)
```

*Arguments:*

`max.results` The maximum of elements to return from the method.

`...` Arguments specific to connectors.

*Returns:* A character vector containing entry IDs from the database. An empty vector for a remote database may mean that the database does not support requesting for entry accessions.

**Method** `getNbEntries()`: Get the number of entries contained in this database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getNbEntries(count = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`count` If set to TRUE and no straightforward way exists to get number of entries, count the output of `getEntryIds()`.

*Returns:* The number of entries in the database, as an integer.

**Method** `isEditable()`: Tests if this connector is able to edit the database (i.e.: the connector class implements the interface `BiodbEditable`). If this connector is editable, then you can call `allowEditing()` to enable editing.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$isEditable()
```

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the database is editable.

**Method** `editingIsAllowed()`: Tests if editing is allowed.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$editingIsAllowed()
```

*Returns:* TRUE if editing is allowed for this database, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `allowEditing()`: Allows editing for this database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$allowEditing()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `disallowEditing()`: Disallows editing for this database.

*Usage:*

`BiodbConn$disallowEditing()`

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `setEditingAllowed()`: Allow or disallow editing for this database.

*Usage:*

`BiodbConn$setEditingAllowed(allow)`

*Arguments:*

`allow` A logical value.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `addNewEntry()`: Adds a new entry to the database. The passed entry must have been previously created from scratch using `BiodbFactory :createNewEntry()` or cloned from an existing entry using `BiodbEntry :clone()`.

*Usage:*

`BiodbConn$addNewEntry(entry)`

*Arguments:*

`entry` The new entry to add. It must be a valid `BiodbEntry` object.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `isWritable()`: Tests if this connector is able to write into the database. If this connector is writable, then you can call `allowWriting()` to enable writing.

*Usage:*

`BiodbConn$isWritable()`

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the database is writable.

**Method** `allowWriting()`: Allows the connector to write into this database.

*Usage:*

`BiodbConn$allowWriting()`

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `disallowWriting()`: Disallows the connector to write into this database.

*Usage:*

`BiodbConn$disallowWriting()`

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `setWritingAllowed()`: Allows or disallows writing for this database.

*Usage:*

`BiodbConn$setWritingAllowed(allow)`

*Arguments:*

allow If set to TRUE, allows writing.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `writingIsAllowed()`: Tests if the connector has access right to the database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$writingIsAllowed()
```

*Returns:* TRUE if writing is allowed for this database, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `write()`: Writes into the database. All modifications made to the database since the last time `write()` was called will be saved.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$write()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `isSearchableByField()`: Tests if a field can be used to search entries when using method `searchForEntries()`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$isSearchableByField(field = NULL, field.type = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

`field` The name of the field.

`field.type` The field type.

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the database is searchable using the specified field or searchable by any field of the specified type, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `getSearchableFields()`: Get the list of all searchable fields.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getSearchableFields()
```

*Returns:* A character vector containing all searchable fields for this connector.

**Method** `searchForEntries()`: Searches the database for entries whose name matches the specified name. Returns a character vector of entry IDs.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$searchForEntries(fields = NULL, max.results = 0)
```

*Arguments:*

`fields` A list of fields on which to filter entries. To get a match, all fields must be matched (i.e. logical AND). The keys of the list are the entry field names on which to filter, and the values are the filtering parameters. For character fields, the filter parameter is a character vector in which all strings must be found inside the field's value. For numeric fields, the filter parameter is either a list specifying a min-max range (`list(min=1.0, max=2.5)`) or a value with a tolerance in delta (`list(value=2.0, delta=0.1)`) or ppm (`list(value=2.0, ppm=1.0)`).

`max.results` If set, the number of returned IDs is limited to this number.

*Returns:* A character vector of entry IDs whose name matches the requested name.

**Method** `searchByName()`: DEPRECATED. Use `searchForEntries()` instead.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$searchByName(name, max.results = 0)
```

*Arguments:*

`name` A character value to search inside name fields.

`max.results` If set, the number of returned IDs is limited to this number.

*Returns:* A character vector of entry IDs whose name matches the requested name.

**Method** `isDownloadable()`: Tests if the connector can download the database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$isDownloadable()
```

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the database is downloadable.

**Method** `isDownloaded()`: Tests if the database has been downloaded.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$isDownloaded()
```

*Returns:* TRUE if the database content has already been downloaded.

**Method** `requiresDownload()`: Tests if the connector requires the download of the database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$requiresDownload()
```

*Returns:* TRUE if the connector requires download of the database.

**Method** `getDownloadPath()`: Gets the path where the downloaded content is written.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getDownloadPath()
```

*Returns:* The path where the downloaded database is written.

**Method** `setDownloadedFile()`: Set the downloaded file into the cache.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$setDownloadedFile(src, action = c("copy", "move"))
```

*Arguments:*

`src` Path to the downloaded file.

`action` Specifies if files have to be moved or copied into the cache.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `isExtracted()`: Tests if the downloaded database has been extracted (in case the database needs extraction).

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$isExtracted()
```

*Returns:* TRUE if the downloaded database content has been extracted, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `download()`: Downloads the database content locally.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$download()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `isRemotedb()`: Tests if the connector is connected to a remote database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$isRemotedb()
```

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the database is a remote database."

**Method** `isCompounddb()`: Tests if the connector's database is a compound database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$isCompounddb()
```

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the database is a compound database.

**Method** `searchCompound()`: This method is deprecated. Use `searchForEntries()` instead. Searches for compounds by name and/or by mass. At least one of name or mass must be set.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$searchCompound(  
  name = NULL,  
  mass = NULL,  
  mass.field = NULL,  
  mass.tol = 0.01,  
  mass.tol.unit = "plain",  
  max.results = 0  
)
```

*Arguments:*

`name` The name of a compound to search for.

`mass` The searched mass.

`mass.field` For searching by mass, you must indicate a mass field to use ('monoisotopic.mass', 'molecular.mass', 'average.mass' or 'nominal.mass').

`mass.tol` The tolerance value on the molecular mass.

`mass.tol.unit` The type of mass tolerance. Either 'plain' or 'ppm'.

`max.results` The maximum number of matches to return.

`description` A character vector of words or expressions to search for inside description field. The words will be searched in order. A match will be made only if all words are inside the description field.

*Returns:* A character vector of entry IDs."

**Method** `annotateMzValues()`: Annotates a mass spectrum with the database. For each matching entry the entry field values will be set inside columns appended to the data frame. Names of these columns will use a common prefix in order to distinguish them from other data from the input data frame.

*Usage:*

```

BiodbConn$annotateMzValues(
  x,
  mz.tol,
  ms.mode,
  mz.tol.unit = c("plain", "ppm"),
  mass.field = "monoisotopic.mass",
  max.results = 3,
  mz.col = "mz",
  fields = NULL,
  prefix = NULL,
  insert.input.values = TRUE,
  fieldsLimit = 0
)

```

*Arguments:*

`x` Either a data frame or a numeric vector containing the M/Z values.

`mz.tol` The tolerance on the M/Z values.

`ms.mode` The MS mode. Set it to either 'neg' or 'pos'.

`mz.tol.unit` The type of the M/Z tolerance. Set it to either to 'ppm' or 'plain'.

`mass.field` The mass field to use for matching M/Z values. One of: 'monoisotopic.mass', 'molecular.mass', 'average.mass', 'nominal.mass'.

`max.results` If set, it is used to limit the number of matches found for each M/Z value. To get all the matches, set this parameter to `NA_integer_`. Default value is 3.

`mz.col` The name of the column where to find M/Z values in case `x` is a data frame.

`fields` A character vector containing the additional entry fields you would like to get for each matched entry. Each field will be output in a different column.

`prefix` A prefix that will be inserted before the name of each added column in the output. By default it will be set to the name of the database followed by a dot.

`insert.input.values` Insert input values at the beginning of the result data frame.

`fieldsLimit` The maximum of values to output for fields with multiple values. Set it to 0 to get all values.

*Returns:* A data frame containing the input values, and annotation columns appended at the end. The first annotation column contains the IDs of the matched entries. The following columns contain the fields you have requested through the `fields` parameter.

**Method** `isMassdb()`: Tests if the connector's database is a mass spectra database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$isMassdb()
```

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the database is a mass database.

**Method** `checkDb()`: Checks that the database is correct by trying to retrieve all its entries.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$checkDb()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getAllVolatileCacheEntries()`: Get all entries stored in the memory cache (volatile cache).

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getAllVolatileCacheEntries()
```

*Returns:* A list of BiodbEntry instances.

**Method** `getAllCacheEntries()`: This method is deprecated. Use `getAllVolatileCacheEntries()` instead.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getAllCacheEntries()
```

*Returns:* All entries cached in memory.

**Method** `deleteAllEntriesFromVolatileCache()`: Delete all entries from the volatile cache (memory cache).

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$deleteAllEntriesFromVolatileCache()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `deleteAllEntriesFromPersistentCache()`: Delete all entries from the persistent cache (disk cache).

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$deleteAllEntriesFromPersistentCache(deleteVolatile = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deleteVolatile` If TRUE deletes also all entries from the volatile cache (memory cache).

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `deleteWholePersistentCache()`: Delete all files associated with this connector from the persistent cache (disk cache).

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$deleteWholePersistentCache(deleteVolatile = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deleteVolatile` If TRUE deletes also all entries from the volatile cache (memory cache).

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `deleteAllCacheEntries()`: Delete all entries from the memory cache. This method is deprecated, please use `deleteAllEntriesFromVolatileCache()` instead.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$deleteAllCacheEntries()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getCacheId()`: Gets the ID used by this connector in the disk cache.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getCacheId()
```

*Returns:* The cache ID of this connector.

**Method** `makesRefToEntry()`: Tests if some entry of this database makes reference to another entry of another database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$makesRefToEntry(id, db, oid, any = FALSE, recurse = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`id` A character vector of entry IDs from the connector's database.

`db` Another database connector.

`oid` A entry ID from database `db`.

`any` If set to TRUE, returns a single logical value: TRUE if any entry contains a reference to `oid`, FALSE otherwise.

`recurse` If set to TRUE, the algorithm will follow all references to entries from other databases, to see if it can establish an indirect link to `oid`.

*Returns:* A logical vector, the same size as `id`, with TRUE for each entry making reference to `oid`, and FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `makeRequest()`: Makes a `BiodbRequest` instance using the passed parameters, and set itself as the associated connector.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$makeRequest(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... Those parameters are passed to the initializer of `BiodbRequest`.

*Returns:* The `BiodbRequest` instance.

**Method** `getEntryImageUrl()`: Gets the URL to a picture of the entry (e.g.: a picture of the molecule in case of a compound entry).

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getEntryImageUrl(entry.id)
```

*Arguments:*

`entry.id` A character vector containing entry IDs.

*Returns:* A character vector, the same length as `entry.id`, containing for each entry ID either a URL or NA if no URL exists.

**Method** `getEntryPageUrl()`: Gets the URL to the page of the entry on the database web site.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getEntryPageUrl(entry.id)
```

*Arguments:*

`entry.id` A character vector with the IDs of entries to retrieve.

*Returns:* A list of `BiodbUrl` objects, the same length as `entry.id`.

**Method** `getChromCol()`: Gets a list of chromatographic columns contained in this database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getChromCol(ids = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

*ids* A character vector of entry identifiers (i.e.: accession numbers). Used to restrict the set of entries on which to run the algorithm.

*Returns:* A data.frame with two columns, one for the ID 'id' and another one for the title 'title'.

**Method** `getMatchingMzField()`: Gets the field to use for M/Z matching.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getMatchingMzField()
```

*Returns:* The name of the field (one of `peak.mztheo` or `peak.mzexp`).

**Method** `setMatchingMzField()`: Sets the field to use for M/Z matching.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$setMatchingMzField(field = c("peak.mztheo", "peak.mzexp"))
```

*Arguments:*

*field* The field to use for matching.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getMzValues()`: Gets a list of M/Z values contained inside the database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getMzValues(  
  ms.mode = NULL,  
  max.results = 0,  
  precursor = FALSE,  
  ms.level = 0  
)
```

*Arguments:*

*ms.mode* The MS mode. Set it to either 'neg' or 'pos' to limit the output to one mode.

*max.results* If set, it is used to limit the size of the output.

*precursor* If set to TRUE, then restrict the search to precursor peaks.

*ms.level* The MS level to which you want to restrict your search. 0 means that you want to search in all levels.

*Returns:* A numeric vector containing M/Z values.

**Method** `getNbPeaks()`: Gets the number of peaks contained in the database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$getNbPeaks(mode = NULL, ids = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

*mode* The MS mode. Set it to either 'neg' or 'pos' to limit the counting to one mode.

*ids* A character vector of entry identifiers (i.e.: accession numbers). Used to restrict the set of entries on which to run the algorithm.

*Returns:* The number of peaks, as an integer.

**Method** `filterEntriesOnRt()`: Filters a list of entries on retention time values.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$filterEntriesOnRt(
  entry.ids,
  rt,
  rt.unit,
  rt.tol,
  rt.tol.exp,
  chrom.col.ids,
  match.rt
)
```

*Arguments:*

`entry.ids` A character vector of entry IDs.

`rt` A vector of retention times to match. Used if `input.df` is not set. Unit is specified by `rt.unit` parameter.

`rt.unit` The unit for submitted retention times. Either 's' or 'min'.

`rt.tol` The plain tolerance (in seconds) for retention times: `input.rt`

- $rt.tol \leq database.rt \leq input.rt + rt.tol$ .

`rt.tol.exp` A special exponent tolerance for retention times: `input.rt`

- $input.rt ** rt.tol.exp \leq database.rt \leq input.rt + input.rt ** rt.tol.exp$ . This exponent is applied on the RT value in seconds. If both `rt.tol` and `rt.tol.exp` are set, the inequality expression becomes  $input.rt - rt.tol - input.rt ** rt.tol.exp \leq database.rt \leq input.rt + rt.tol + input.rt ** rt.tol.exp$ .

`chrom.col.ids` IDs of chromatographic columns on which to match the retention time.

`match.rt` If set to TRUE, filters on RT values, otherwise does not do any filtering.

*Returns:* A character vector containing entry IDs after filtering.

**Method** `searchForMassSpectra()`: Searches for entries (i.e.: spectra) that contain a peak around the given M/Z value. Entries can also be filtered on RT values. You can input either a list of M/Z values through `mz` argument and set a tolerance with `mz.tol` argument, or two lists of minimum and maximum M/Z values through `mz.min` and `mz.max` arguments.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$searchForMassSpectra(
  mz.min = NULL,
  mz.max = NULL,
  mz = NULL,
  mz.tol = NULL,
  mz.tol.unit = c("plain", "ppm"),
  rt = NULL,
  rt.unit = c("s", "min"),
  rt.tol = NULL,
  rt.tol.exp = NULL,
  chrom.col.ids = NULL,
  precursor = FALSE,
  min.rel.int = 0,
  ms.mode = NULL,
  max.results = 0,
```

```

ms.level = 0,
include.ids = NULL
)

```

*Arguments:*

`mz.min` A vector of minimum M/Z values.

`mz.max` A vector of maximum M/Z values. Its length must be the same as `mz.min`.

`mz` A vector of M/Z values.

`mz.tol` The M/Z tolerance, whose unit is defined by `mz.tol.unit`.

`mz.tol.unit` The type of the M/Z tolerance. Set it to either to 'ppm' or 'plain'.

`rt` A vector of retention times to match. Used if `input.df` is not set. Unit is specified by `rt.unit` parameter.

`rt.unit` The unit for submitted retention times. Either 's' or 'min'.

`rt.tol` The plain tolerance (in seconds) for retention times: `input.rt`

- `rt.tol <= database.rt <= input.rt + rt.tol`.

`rt.tol.exp` A special exponent tolerance for retention times: `input.rt`

- `input.rt ** rt.tol.exp <= database.rt <= input.rt + input.rt ** rt.tol.exp`. This exponent is applied on the RT value in seconds. If both `rt.tol` and `rt.tol.exp` are set, the inequality expression becomes `input.rt - rt.tol - input.rt ** rt.tol.exp <= database.rt <= input.rt + rt.tol + input.rt ** rt.tol.exp`.

`chrom.col.ids` IDs of chromatographic columns on which to match the retention time.

`precursor` If set to TRUE, then restrict the search to precursor peaks.

`min.rel.int` The minimum relative intensity, in percentage (i.e.: float number between 0 and 100).

`ms.mode` The MS mode. Set it to either 'neg' or 'pos'.

`max.results` If set, it is used to limit the number of matches found for each M/Z value.

`ms.level` The MS level to which you want to restrict your search. 0 means that you want to search in all levels.

`include.ids` A list of IDs to which to restrict the final results. All IDs that are not in this list will be excluded.

*Returns:* A character vector of spectra IDs.

**Method** `searchMsEntries()`: DEPRECATED. Use `searchForMassSpectra()` instead.

*Usage:*

```

BiodbConn$searchMsEntries(
  mz.min = NULL,
  mz.max = NULL,
  mz = NULL,
  mz.tol = NULL,
  mz.tol.unit = c("plain", "ppm"),
  rt = NULL,
  rt.unit = c("s", "min"),
  rt.tol = NULL,
  rt.tol.exp = NULL,
  chrom.col.ids = NULL,
  precursor = FALSE,

```

```

    min.rel.int = 0,
    ms.mode = NULL,
    max.results = 0,
    ms.level = 0
)

```

*Arguments:*

`mz.min` A vector of minimum M/Z values.

`mz.max` A vector of maximum M/Z values. Its length must be the same as `mz.min`.

`mz` A vector of M/Z values.

`mz.tol` The M/Z tolerance, whose unit is defined by `mz.tol.unit`.

`mz.tol.unit` The type of the M/Z tolerance. Set it to either to 'ppm' or 'plain'.

`rt` A vector of retention times to match. Used if `input.df` is not set. Unit is specified by `rt.unit` parameter.

`rt.unit` The unit for submitted retention times. Either 's' or 'min'.

`rt.tol` The plain tolerance (in seconds) for retention times: `input.rt`

- `rt.tol <= database.rt <= input.rt + rt.tol`.

`rt.tol.exp` A special exponent tolerance for retention times: `input.rt`

- `input.rt ** rt.tol.exp <= database.rt <= input.rt + input.rt ** rt.tol.exp`. This exponent is applied on the RT value in seconds. If both `rt.tol` and `rt.tol.exp` are set, the inequality expression becomes `input.rt - rt.tol - input.rt ** rt.tol.exp <= database.rt <= input.rt + rt.tol + input.rt ** rt.tol.exp`.

`chrom.col.ids` IDs of chromatographic columns on which to match the retention time.

`precursor` If set to TRUE, then restrict the search to precursor peaks.

`min.rel.int` The minimum relative intensity, in percentage (i.e.: float number between 0 and 100).

`ms.mode` The MS mode. Set it to either 'neg' or 'pos'.

`max.results` If set, it is used to limit the number of matches found for each M/Z value.

`ms.level` The MS level to which you want to restrict your search. 0 means that you want to search in all levels.

*Returns:* A character vector of spectra IDs.

**Method** `searchMsPeaks()`: For each M/Z value, searches for matching MS spectra and returns the matching peaks.

*Usage:*

```

BiodbConn$searchMsPeaks(
  input.df = NULL,
  mz = NULL,
  mz.tol = NULL,
  mz.tol.unit = c("plain", "ppm"),
  min.rel.int = 0,
  ms.mode = NULL,
  ms.level = 0,
  max.results = 0,
  chrom.col.ids = NULL,
  rt = NULL,

```

```

    rt.unit = c("s", "min"),
    rt.tol = NULL,
    rt.tol.exp = NULL,
    precursor = FALSE,
    precursor.rt.tol = NULL,
    insert.input.values = TRUE,
    prefix = NULL,
    compute = TRUE,
    fields = NULL,
    fieldsLimit = 0,
    input.df.colnames = c(mz = "mz", rt = "rt"),
    match.rt = FALSE
)

```

*Arguments:*

`input.df` A data frame taken as input for `searchMsPeaks()`. It must contain a columns 'mz', and optionally an 'rt' column.

`mz` A vector of M/Z values to match. Used if `input.df` is not set.

`mz.tol` The M/Z tolerance, whose unit is defined by `mz.tol.unit`.

`mz.tol.unit` The type of the M/Z tolerance. Set it to either to 'ppm' or 'plain'.

`min.rel.int` The minimum relative intensity, in percentage (i.e.: float number between 0 and 100).

`ms.mode` The MS mode. Set it to either 'neg' or 'pos'.

`ms.level` The MS level to which you want to restrict your search. 0 means that you want to search in all levels.

`max.results` If set, it is used to limit the number of matches found for each M/Z value.

`chrom.col.ids` IDs of chromatographic columns on which to match the retention time.

`rt` A vector of retention times to match. Used if `input.df` is not set. Unit is specified by `rt.unit` parameter.

`rt.unit` The unit for submitted retention times. Either 's' or 'min'.

`rt.tol` The plain tolerance (in seconds) for retention times: `input.rt`

- `rt.tol <= database.rt <= input.rt + rt.tol`.

`rt.tol.exp` A special exponent tolerance for retention times: `input.rt`

- `input.rt ** rt.tol.exp <= database.rt <= input.rt + input.rt ** rt.tol.exp`. This exponent is applied on the RT value in seconds. If both `rt.tol` and `rt.tol.exp` are set, the inequality expression becomes `input.rt - rt.tol - input.rt ** rt.tol.exp <= database.rt <= input.rt + rt.tol + input.rt ** rt.tol.exp`.

`precursor` If set to TRUE, then restrict the search to precursor peaks.

`precursor.rt.tol` The RT tolerance used when matching the precursor.

`insert.input.values` Insert input values at the beginning of the result data frame.

`prefix` Add prefix on column names of result data frame.

`compute` If set to TRUE, use the computed values when converting found entries to data frame.

`fields` A character vector of field names to output. The data frame output will be restricted to this list of fields.

`fieldsLimit` The maximum of values to output for fields with multiple values. Set it to 0 to get all values.

`input.df.colnames` Names of the columns in the input data frame.

`match.rt` If set to TRUE, match also RT values.

*Returns:* A data frame with at least input MZ and RT columns, and annotation columns prefixed with `prefix` if set. For each matching found a row is output. Thus if `n` matchings are found for M/Z value `x`, then there will be `n` rows for `x`, each for a different match. The number of matching found for each M/Z value is limited to `max.results`.

**Method** `msmsSearch()`: Searches MSMS spectra matching a template spectrum. The `mz.tol` parameter is applied on the precursor search.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$msmsSearch(
  spectrum,
  precursor.mz,
  mz.tol,
  mz.tol.unit = c("plain", "ppm"),
  ms.mode,
  npmin = 2,
  dist.fun = c("wcosine", "cosine", "pkernel", "pbachtttarya"),
  msms.mz.tol = 3,
  msms.mz.tol.min = 0.005,
  max.results = 0
)
```

*Arguments:*

`spectrum` A template spectrum to match inside the database.

`precursor.mz` The M/Z value of the precursor peak of the mass spectrum.

`mz.tol` The M/Z tolerance, whose unit is defined by `mz.tol.unit`.

`mz.tol.unit` The type of the M/Z tolerance. Set it to either to 'ppm' or 'plain'.

`ms.mode` The MS mode. Set it to either 'neg' or 'pos'.

`npmin` The minimum number of peak to detect a match (2 is recommended).

`dist.fun` The distance function used to compute the distance between two mass spectra.

`msms.mz.tol` M/Z tolerance to apply while matching MSMS spectra. In PPM.

`msms.mz.tol.min` Minimum of the M/Z tolerance (plain unit). If the M/Z tolerance computed with `msms.mz.tol` is lower than `msms.mz.tol.min`, then `msms.mz.tol.min` will be used.

`max.results` If set, it is used to limit the number of matches found for each M/Z value.

*Returns:* A data frame with columns `id`, `score` and `peak.*`. Each `peak.*` column corresponds to a peak in the input spectrum, in the same order and gives the number of the peak that was matched with it inside the matched spectrum whose ID is inside the `id` column.

**Method** `collapseResultsDataFrame()`: Collapse rows of a results data frame, by outputting a data frame with only one row for each MZ/RT value.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$collapseResultsDataFrame(
  results.df,
  mz.col = "mz",
  rt.col = "rt",
  sep = "|"
)
```

*Arguments:*

results.df Results data frame.  
 mz.col The name of the M/Z column in the results data frame.  
 rt.col The name of the RT column in the results data frame.  
 sep The separator used to concatenate values, when collapsing results data frame.

*Returns:* A data frame with rows collapsed."

**Method** searchMzRange(): Find spectra in the given M/Z range. Returns a list of spectra IDs.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$searchMzRange(
  mz.min,
  mz.max,
  min.rel.int = 0,
  ms.mode = NULL,
  max.results = 0,
  precursor = FALSE,
  ms.level = 0
)
```

*Arguments:*

mz.min A vector of minimum M/Z values.  
 mz.max A vector of maximum M/Z values. Its length must be the same as mz.min.  
 min.rel.int The minimum relative intensity, in percentage (i.e.: float number between 0 and 100).  
 ms.mode The MS mode. Set it to either 'neg' or 'pos'.  
 max.results If set, it is used to limit the number of matches found for each M/Z value.  
 precursor If set to TRUE, then restrict the search to precursor peaks.  
 ms.level The MS level to which you want to restrict your search. 0 means that you want to search in all levels.

*Returns:* A character vector of spectra IDs.

**Method** searchMzTol(): Find spectra containing a peak around the given M/Z value. Returns a character vector of spectra IDs.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$searchMzTol(
  mz,
  mz.tol,
  mz.tol.unit = "plain",
  min.rel.int = 0,
  ms.mode = NULL,
  max.results = 0,
  precursor = FALSE,
  ms.level = 0
)
```

*Arguments:*

mz A vector of M/Z values.

`mz.tol` The M/Z tolerance, whose unit is defined by `mz.tol.unit`.  
`mz.tol.unit` The type of the M/Z tolerance. Set it to either to 'ppm' or 'plain'.  
`min.rel.int` The minimum relative intensity, in percentage (i.e.: float number between 0 and 100).  
`ms.mode` The MS mode. Set it to either 'neg' or 'pos'.  
`max.results` If set, it is used to limit the number of matches found for each M/Z value.  
`precursor` If set to TRUE, then restrict the search to precursor peaks.  
`ms.level` The MS level to which you want to restrict your search. 0 means that you want to search in all levels.

*Returns:* A character vector of spectra IDs.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConn$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

Super class [BiodbConnBase](#), and [BiodbFactory](#) class.

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get a compound CSV file database
chebi.tsv <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.tsv", package='biodb')

# Create a connector
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.csv.file', url=chebi.tsv)

# Get 10 identifiers from the database:
ids <- conn$getEntryIds(10)

# Get number of entries contained in the database:
n <- conn$getNbEntries()

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbConnBase	<i>Base class of BiodbConn for encapsulating all needed information for database access.</i>
---------------	--

---

## Description

Base class of BiodbConn for encapsulating all needed information for database access.

Base class of BiodbConn for encapsulating all needed information for database access.

## Details

This is the base class for BiodbConn and BiodbDbInfo. When defining a new connector class, your class must not inherit from BiodbBaseConn but at least from BiodbConn (or BiodbRemoteConn or any subclass of BiodbConn). Its main purpose is to store property values. Those values are initialized from YAML files. The default definition file is located inside the package in "inst/definitions.yml" and is loaded at Biodb startup. However you can define your own files and load them using the BiodbMain::loadDefinitions() method.

Arguments to the constructor are:

other: Another object inheriting from BiodbBaseConn, and from which property values will be copied.

db.class: The class of the database ("mass.csv.file", "comp.csv.file", ...).

properties: Some properties to set at initialization.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- BiodbConnBase\$new()
- BiodbConnBase\$print()
- BiodbConnBase\$hasProp()
- BiodbConnBase\$getPropSlots()
- BiodbConnBase\$hasPropSlot()
- BiodbConnBase\$propExists()
- BiodbConnBase\$isSlotProp()
- BiodbConnBase\$getPropValSlot()
- BiodbConnBase\$updatePropertiesDefinition()
- BiodbConnBase\$getEntryFileExt()
- BiodbConnBase\$getDbClass()
- BiodbConnBase\$getConnClassName()
- BiodbConnBase\$getConnClass()
- BiodbConnBase\$getEntryClassName()
- BiodbConnBase\$getEntryClass()
- BiodbConnBase\$getEntryIdField()
- BiodbConnBase\$getPropertyValue()

- BiodbConnBase\$setPropertyValue()
- BiodbConnBase\$setPropValsSlot()
- BiodbConnBase\$getBaseUrl()
- BiodbConnBase\$setBaseUrl()
- BiodbConnBase\$getWsUrl()
- BiodbConnBase\$setWsUrl()
- BiodbConnBase\$getToken()
- BiodbConnBase\$setToken()
- BiodbConnBase\$getName()
- BiodbConnBase\$getEntryContentType()
- BiodbConnBase\$getSchedulerNParam()
- BiodbConnBase\$setSchedulerNParam()
- BiodbConnBase\$getSchedulerTParam()
- BiodbConnBase\$setSchedulerTParam()
- BiodbConnBase\$getUrls()
- BiodbConnBase\$getUrl()
- BiodbConnBase\$setUrl()
- BiodbConnBase\$getXmlNs()
- BiodbConnBase\$clone()

**Method new():** New instance initializer. Connector objects must not be created directly. Instead, you create new connector instances through the BiodbFactory instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$new(other = NULL, db.class = NULL, properties = NULL, cfg = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

other Another BiodbConnBase instance as a model from which to copy property values.

db.class The class of the connector (i.e.: "mass.csv.file").

properties Some new values for the properties.

cfg The BiodbConfig instance from which will be taken some property values.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method print():** Prints a description of this connector.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$print()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method hasProp():** Tests if this connector has a property.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$hasProp(name)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of the property to check.

*Returns:* Returns true if the property name exists.

**Method** `getPropSlots()`: Gets the slot fields of a property.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$getPropSlots(name)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of a property.

*Returns:* Returns a character vector containing all slot names defined.

**Method** `hasPropSlot()`: Tests if a slot property has a specific slot.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$hasPropSlot(name, slot)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of a property.

slot The slot name to check.

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the property name exists and has the slot slot defined, and FALSE otherwise."

**Method** `propExists()`: Checks if property exists.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$propExists(name)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of a property.

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the property name exists, and FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `isSlotProp()`: Tests if a property is a slot property.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$isSlotProp(name)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of a property.

*Returns:* Returns TRUE if the property is a slot propert, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `getPropValSlot()`: Retrieve the value of a slot of a property.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$getPropValSlot(name, slot, hook = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of a property.

slot The slot name inside the property.

hook If set to TRUE, enables the calls to hook methods associated with the property. Otherwise, all calls to hook methods are disabled.

*Returns:* The value of the slot slot of the property name.

**Method** `updatePropertiesDefinition()`: Update the definition of properties.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$updatePropertiesDefinition(def)

*Arguments:*

def A named list of property definitions. The names of the list must be the property names.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getEntryFileExt()`: Returns the entry file extension used by this connector.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getEntryFileExt()

*Returns:* A character value containing the file extension.

**Method** `getDbClass()`: Gets the Biodb name of the database associated with this connector.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getDbClass()

*Returns:* A character value containing the Biodb database name.

**Method** `getConnClassName()`: Gets the name of the associated connector OOP class.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getConnClassName()

*Returns:* Returns the connector OOP class name.

**Method** `getConnClass()`: Gets the associated connector OOP class.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getConnClass()

*Returns:* Returns the connector OOP class.

**Method** `getEntryClassName()`: Gets the name of the associated entry class.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getEntryClassName()

*Returns:* Returns the name of the associated entry class.

**Method** `getEntryClass()`: Gets the associated entry class.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getEntryClass()

*Returns:* Returns the associated entry class.

**Method** `getEntryIdField()`: Gets the name of the corresponding database ID field in entries.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getEntryIdField()

*Returns:* Returns the name of the database ID field.

**Method** `getPropertyValue()`: Gets a property value.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getPropertyValue(name, hook = TRUE)

*Arguments:*

name The name of the property.

hook If set to TRUE, enables the calls to hook methods associated with the property. Otherwise, all calls to hook methods are disabled.

*Returns:* The value of the property.

**Method** `setPropertyValue()`: Sets the value of a property.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$setPropertyValue(name, value)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of the property.

value The new value to set the property to.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `setPropValSlot()`: Set the value of the slot of a property.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$setPropValSlot(name, slot, value, hook = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of the property.

slot The name of the property's slot.

value The new value to set the property's slot to.

hook If set to TRUE, enables the calls to hook methods associated with the property. Otherwise, all calls to hook methods are disabled.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getBaseUrl()`: Returns the base URL.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$getBaseUrl()
```

*Returns:* The base URL.

**Method** `setBaseUrl()`: Sets the base URL.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$setBaseUrl(url)
```

*Arguments:*

url A URL as a character value.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getWsUrl()`: Returns the web services URL.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$getWsUrl()
```

**Method** `setWsUrl()`: Sets the web services URL.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$setWsUrl(ws.url)

*Arguments:*

ws.url A URL as a character value.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getToken(): Returns the access token.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getToken()

**Method** setToken(): Sets the access token.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$setToken(token)

*Arguments:*

token The token to use to access the database, as a character value.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getName(): Returns the full database name.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getName()

**Method** getEntryContentType(): Returns the entry content type.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getEntryContentType()

**Method** getSchedulerNParam(): Returns the N parameter for the scheduler.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getSchedulerNParam()

**Method** setSchedulerNParam(): Sets the N parameter for the scheduler.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$setSchedulerNParam(n)

*Arguments:*

n The N parameter as a whole number.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getSchedulerTParam(): Returns the T parameter for the scheduler.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$getSchedulerTParam()

**Method** setSchedulerTParam(): Sets the T parameter for the scheduler.

*Usage:*

BiodbConnBase\$setSchedulerTParam(t)

*Arguments:*

t The T parameter as a whole number.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getUrls()`: Returns the URLs.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$getUrls()
```

**Method** `getUrl()`: Returns a URL.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$getUrl(name)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of the URL to retrieve.

*Returns:* The URL as a character value.

**Method** `setUrl()`: Sets a URL.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$setUrl(name, url)
```

*Arguments:*

name The name of the URL to set.

url The URL value.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getXmlNs()`: Returns the XML namespace.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$getXmlNs()
```

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbConnBase$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

Sub-classes [BiodbDbInfo](#) and [BiodbConn](#).

**Examples**

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Accessing BiodbConnBase methods when using a BiodbDbInfo object
dbinf <- mybiodb$getDbInfo()$get('comp.csv.file')

# Test if a property exists
dbinf$hasProp('name')

# Get a property value
dbinf$getPropertyValue('name')

# Get a property value slot
dbinf$getPropValSlot('urls', 'base.url')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbCsvEntry

*Entry class for content in CSV format.*


---

**Description**

Entry class for content in CSV format.

Entry class for content in CSV format.

**Details**

This is an abstract class for handling database entries whose content is in CSV format.

**Super class**

`biodb::BiodbEntry` -> BiodbCsvEntry

**Methods****Public methods:**

- `BiodbCsvEntry$new()`
- `BiodbCsvEntry$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Entry objects must not be created directly. Instead, they are retrieved through the connector instances.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbCsvEntry$new(sep = ",", na.strings = "NA", quotes = "", ...)
```

*Arguments:*

sep The separator to use in CSV files.  
na.strings The strings to recognize as NA values. This is a character vector.  
quotes The characters to recognize as quotes. This is a single character value.  
... The remaining arguments will be passed to the super class initializer.  
*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbCsvEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

Super class [BiodbEntry](#).

### Examples

```
# Create a concrete entry class inheriting from CSV class:
MyEntry <- R6::R6Class("MyEntry", inherit=biodb::BiodbCsvEntry)
```

---

BiodbCustomPersistentCache

*A biodb custom persistent cache implementation.*

---

### Description

Inside the cache folder, one folder is created for each cache ID (each remote database has one single cache ID, always the same ,except if you change its URL). In each of these folders are stored the cache files for this database.

### Super class

[biodb::BiodbPersistentCache](#) -> BiodbCustomPersistentCache

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- [BiodbCustomPersistentCache\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbCustomPersistentCache$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

[BiodbPersistentCache](#), [BiodbBiocPersistentCache](#).

---

BiodbDbInfo

*A class for describing the characteristics of a database.*

---

**Description**

This class is used by [BiodbDbsInfo](#) for storing database characteristics, and returning them through the `get()` method. This class inherits from [BiodbConnBase](#).

**Super class**

`biodb::BiodbConnBase` -> BiodbDbInfo

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [BiodbDbInfo\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbInfo$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

Parent class [BiodbDbsInfo](#) and super class [BiodbConnBase](#).

**Examples**

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get a BiodbDbInfo object for a database:
mybiodb$getDbsInfo()$get('comp.csv.file')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbDbsInfo

*A class for describing the available databases.*

---

## Description

A class for describing the available databases.

A class for describing the available databases.

## Details

The unique instance of this class is handle by the [BiodbMain](#) class and accessed through the `getDbInfo()` method.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbDbsInfo\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbDbsInfo\\$define\(\)](#)
- [BiodbDbsInfo\\$getId\(\)](#)
- [BiodbDbsInfo\\$isDefined\(\)](#)
- [BiodbDbsInfo\\$checkIsDefined\(\)](#)
- [BiodbDbsInfo\\$get\(\)](#)
- [BiodbDbsInfo\\$getAll\(\)](#)
- [BiodbDbsInfo\\$print\(\)](#)
- [BiodbDbsInfo\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. The class must not be instantiated directly. Instead, access the `BiodbDbsInfo` instance through the `BiodbMain` instance using the `getDbInfo()` method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbsInfo$new(cfg)
```

*Arguments:*

`cfg` The `BiodbConfig` instance.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `define()`: Define databases from a structured object, normally loaded from a YAML file.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbsInfo$define(def, package = "biodb")
```

*Arguments:*

`def` A named list of database definitions. The names of the list will be the IDs of the databases.

`package` The package to which belong the new definitions.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getIds()`: Gets the database IDs.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbsInfo$getIds()
```

*Returns:* A character vector containing all the IDs of the defined databases.

**Method** `isDefined()`: Tests if a database is defined.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbsInfo$isDefined(db.id)
```

*Arguments:*

`db.id` A database ID, as a character string.

*Returns:* TRUE if the specified id corresponds to a defined database, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `checkIsDefined()`: Checks if a database is defined. Throws an error if the specified id does not correspond to a defined database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbsInfo$checkIsDefined(db.id)
```

*Arguments:*

`db.id` A character vector of database IDs.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `get()`: Gets information on a database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbsInfo$get(db.id = NULL, drop = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

`db.id` Database IDs, as a character vector. If set to NULL, informations on all databases will be returned.

`drop` If TRUE and only one database ID has been submitted, returns a single `BiodbDbInfo` instance instead of a list.

*Returns:* A list of `BiodbDbInfo` instances corresponding to the specified database IDs.

**Method** `getAll()`: Gets informations on all databases.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbsInfo$getAll()
```

*Returns:* A list of all `BiodbDbInfo` instances."

**Method** `print()`: Prints informations about this instance, listing also all databases defined.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbsInfo$print()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbDbsInfo$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

[BiodbMain](#) and child class [BiodbDbInfo](#).

**Examples**

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Getting the entry content type of a database:
db.inf <- mybiodb$getDbsInfo()$get('comp.csv.file')
cont.type <- db.inf$getPropertyValue('entry.content.type')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbEntry

*The mother abstract class of all database entry classes.*

---

**Description**

The mother abstract class of all database entry classes.

The mother abstract class of all database entry classes.

**Details**

An entry is an element of a database, identifiable by its accession number. Each contains a list of fields defined by a name and a value. The details of all fields that can be set into an entry are defined inside the class `BiodbEntryFields`. From this class are derived other abstract classes for different types of entry contents: `BiodbTxtEntry`, `BiodbXmlEntry`, `BiodbCsvEntry`, `BiodbJsonEntry` and `BiodbHtmlEntry`. Then concrete classes are derived for each database: `CompCsvEntry`, `MassCsvEntry`, etc. For `biodb` users, there is no need to know this hierarchy; the knowledge of this class and its methods is sufficient.

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [BiodbEntry\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntry\\$parentIsAConnector\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntry\\$getParent\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntry\\$getBiodb\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntry\\$cloneInstance\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntry\\$getId\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntry\\$isNew\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntry\\$getDbClass\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntry\\$setFieldValue\(\)](#)

- `BiodbEntry$appendFieldValue()`
- `BiodbEntry$getFieldNames()`
- `BiodbEntry$hasField()`
- `BiodbEntry$removeField()`
- `BiodbEntry$getFieldValue()`
- `BiodbEntry$getFieldsByType()`
- `BiodbEntry$getFieldsAsDataframe()`
- `BiodbEntry$getFieldsAsJson()`
- `BiodbEntry$parseContent()`
- `BiodbEntry$computeFields()`
- `BiodbEntry$print()`
- `BiodbEntry$getName()`
- `BiodbEntry$makesRefToEntry()`
- `BiodbEntry$getField()`
- `BiodbEntry$setField()`
- `BiodbEntry$getFieldClass()`
- `BiodbEntry$getFieldDef()`
- `BiodbEntry$getFieldCardinality()`
- `BiodbEntry$fieldHasBasicClass()`
- `BiodbEntry$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Entry objects must not be created directly. Instead, they are retrieved through the connector instances.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$new(parent)
```

*Arguments:*

parent A valid `BiodbConn` instance.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `parentIsAConnector()`: Tests if the parent of this entry is a connector instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$parentIsAConnector()
```

*Returns:* TRUE if this entry belongs to a connector, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `getParent()`: Returns the parent instance (A `BiodbConn` or `BiodbFactory` object) to which this object is attached.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$getParent()
```

*Returns:* A `BiodbConn` instance or a `BiodbFactory` object.

**Method** `getBiodb()`: Returns the `biodb` main class instance to which this object is attached.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$getBiodb()
```

*Returns:* The main biodb instance.

**Method** cloneInstance(): Clones this entry.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$cloneInstance(db.class = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

db.class The database class (the Biodb database ID) of the clone. By setting this parameter, you can specify a different database for the clone, so you may clone an entry into another database if you wish. By default the class of the clone will be the same as the original entry.

*Returns:* The clone, as a new BiodbEntry instance.

**Method** getId(): Gets the entry ID.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$getId()
```

*Returns:* the entry ID, which is the value of the accession field.

**Method** isNew(): Tests if this entry is new.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$isNew()
```

*Returns:* TRUE if this entry was newly created, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** getDbClass(): Gets the ID of the database associated with this entry.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$dbClass()
```

*Returns:* The name of the database class associated with this entry.

**Method** setFieldValue(): Sets the value of a field. If the field is not already set for this entry, then the field will be created. See BiodbEntryFields for a list of possible fields in biodb.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$setFieldValue(field, value)
```

*Arguments:*

field The name of a field.

value The value to set.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** appendFieldValue(): Appends a value to an existing field. If the field is not defined for this entry, then the field will be created and set to this value. Only fields with a cardinality greater than one can accept multiple values.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$appendFieldValue(field, value)
```

*Arguments:*

field The name of a field.

value The value to append.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getFieldNames(): Gets a list of all fields defined for this entry.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$getFieldNames()
```

*Returns:* A character vector containing all field names defined in this entry.

**Method** hasField(): Tests if a field is defined in this entry.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$hasField(field)
```

*Arguments:*

field The name of a field.

*Returns:* TRUE if the specified field is defined in this entry, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** removeField(): Removes the specified field from this entry.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$removeField(field)
```

*Arguments:*

field The name of a field.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getFieldValue(): Gets the value of the specified field.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$getFieldValue(
  field,
  compute = TRUE,
  flatten = FALSE,
  last = FALSE,
  limit = 0,
  withNa = TRUE,
  duplicatedValues = TRUE
)
```

*Arguments:*

field The name of a field.

compute If set to TRUE and a field is not defined, try to compute it using internal defined computing rules. If set to FALSE, let the field undefined.

flatten If set to TRUE and a field's value is a vector of more than one element, then export the field's value as a single string composed of the field's value concatenated and separated by the character defined in the 'multival.field.sep' config key. If set to FALSE or the field contains only one value, changes nothing.

last If set to TRUE and a field's value is a vector of more than one element, then export only the last value. If set to FALSE, changes nothing.

limit The maximum number of values to get in case the field contains more than one value.

withNa If set to TRUE, keep NA values. Otherwise filter out NAs values in vectors.

`duplicatedValues` If set to TRUE, keeps duplicated values.

*Returns:* The value of the field.

**Method** `getFieldsByType()`: Gets the fields of this entry that have the specified type.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$getFieldsByType(type)
```

*Arguments:*

`type` The type of fields to retrieve.

*Returns:* A character vector containing the field names.

**Method** `getFieldsAsDataframe()`: Converts this entry into a data frame.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$getFieldsAsDataframe(
  only.atomic = TRUE,
  compute = TRUE,
  fields = NULL,
  fields.type = NULL,
  flatten = TRUE,
  limit = 0,
  only.card.one = FALSE,
  own.id = TRUE,
  duplicate.rows = TRUE,
  sort = FALSE,
  virtualFields = FALSE
)
```

*Arguments:*

`only.atomic` If set to TRUE, only export field's values that are atomic

`compute` If set to TRUE and a field is not defined, try to compute it using internal defined computing rules. If set to FALSE, let the field undefined.

`fields` Set to character vector of field names in order to restrict execution to this set of fields.

`fields.type` If set, output all the fields of the specified type.

`flatten` If set to TRUE and a field's value is a vector of more than one element, then export the field's value as a single string composed of the field's value concatenated and separated by the character defined in the 'multival.field.sep' config key. If set to FALSE or the field contains only one value, changes nothing.

`limit` The maximum number of field values to write into new columns. Used for fields that can contain more than one value.

`only.card.one` If set to TRUE, only fields with a cardinality of one will be extracted.

`own.id` If set to TRUE includes the database id field named <database\_name>.id whose values are the same as the accession field.

`duplicate.rows` If set to TRUE and merging field values with cardinality greater than one, values will be duplicated.

`sort` If set to TRUE sort the order of columns alphabetically, otherwise do not sort.

`virtualFields` If set to TRUE includes also virtual fields, otherwise excludes them.

(i.e. of type vector).

*Returns:* A data frame containing the values of the fields.

**Method** `getFieldsAsJson()`: Converts this entry into a JSON string.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$getFieldsAsJson(compute = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

`compute` If set to TRUE and a field is not defined, try to compute it using internal defined computing rules. If set to FALSE, let the field undefined.

*Returns:* A JSON object from jsonlite package.

**Method** `parseContent()`: Parses content string and set values accordingly for this entry's fields. This method is called automatically and should be run directly by users.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$parseContent(content)
```

*Arguments:*

`content` A character string containing definition for an entry and obtained from a database. The format can be CSV, HTML, JSON, XML, or just text.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `computeFields()`: Computes fields. Look at all missing fields, and try to compute them using references to other databases, if a rule exists.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$computeFields(fields = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

`fields` A list of fields to review for computing. By default all fields will be reviewed.

*Returns:* TRUE if at least one field was computed successfully, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `print()`: Displays short information about this instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$print()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getName()`: Gets a short text describing this entry instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$getName()
```

*Returns:* A character value concatenating the connector name with the entry accession.

**Method** `makesRefToEntry()`: Tests if this entry makes reference to another entry.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$makesRefToEntry(db, oid, recurse = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

db Another database connector.  
oid A entry ID from database db.  
recurse If set to TRUE, the algorithm will follow all references to entries from other databases, to see if it can establish an indirect link to oid.  
*Returns:* TRUE if this entry makes reference to the entry oid from database db, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** getField(): DEPRECATED. Gets the value of a field.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntry\$getField(field)

*Arguments:*

field The name of the field.

*Returns:* The value of the field.

**Method** setField(): DEPRECATED. Sets the value of a field.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntry\$setField(field, value)

*Arguments:*

field The name of the field.

value The new value of the field.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getFieldClass(): Gets the class of a field.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntry\$getFieldClass(field)

*Arguments:*

field The name of the field.

*Returns:* The class of the field.

**Method** getFieldDef(): Gets the definition of an entry field.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntry\$getFieldDef(field)

*Arguments:*

field The name of the field.

*Returns:* An object BiodbEntryField which defines the field.

**Method** getFieldCardinality(): Gets the cardinality of the field.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntry\$getFieldCardinality(field)

*Arguments:*

field The name of the field.

*Returns:* The cardinality of the field.

**Method** `fieldHasBasicClass()`: DEPRECATED. Use `BiodbEntryField::isVector()` instead.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$fieldHasBasicClass(field)
```

*Arguments:*

`field` The name of the field.

*Returns:* TRUE if the field as a basic type (logical, numeric, character, ...).

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

[BiodbFactory](#), [BiodbConn](#), [BiodbEntryFields](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get a compound CSV file database
chebi.tsv <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.tsv", package='biodb')

# Get the connector of a compound database
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.csv.file', url=chebi.tsv)

# Get an entry:
entry <- conn$getEntry(conn$getEntryIds(1))

# Get all defined fields:
entry$getFieldNames()

# Get a field value:
accession <- entry$getFieldValue('accession')

# Test if a field is defined:
if (entry$hasField('name'))
  print(paste("The entry's name is ", entry$getFieldValue('name'),
            '.', sep=''))

# Export an entry as a data frame:
df <- entry$fieldsAsDataframe()

# You can set or reset a field's value:
entry$setFieldValue('mass', 1893.1883)
```

```
# Terminate instance.  
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbEntryField      *A class for describing an entry field.*

---

## Description

A class for describing an entry field.

A class for describing an entry field.

## Details

This class is used by [BiodbEntryFields](#) for storing field characteristics, and returning them through the `get()` method. The constructor is not meant to be used, but for development purposes the constructor's parameters are nevertheless described in the Fields section.

The constructor accepts the following arguments:

name: The name of the field.

alias: A character vector containing zero or more aliases for the field.

type: A type describing the field. One of: "mass", "name" or "id". Optional.

class: The class of the field. One of: "character", "integer", "double", "logical", "object", "data.frame".

card: The cardinality of the field: either "1" or "\*".

forbids.duplicates: If set to TRUE, the field forbids duplicated values.

description: A description of the field.

allowed.values: The values authorized for the field.

lower.case: Set to TRUE if you want all values set to the field to be forced to lower case.

case.insensitive: Set to TRUE if you want the field to ignore case when checking a value.

computable.from: The Biodb ID of a database, from which this field can be computed.

virtual: If set to TRUE, the field is computed from other fields, and thus cannot be modified.

virtual.group.by.type: For a virtual field of class `data.frame`, this indicates to gather all fields of the specified type to build a data frame.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbEntryField\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryField\\$getName\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryField\\$getType\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryField\\$isOfType\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryField\\$getDescription\(\)](#)

- BiodbEntryField\$hasAliases()
- BiodbEntryField\$getAliases()
- BiodbEntryField\$addAlias()
- BiodbEntryField\$removeAlias()
- BiodbEntryField\$getAllNames()
- BiodbEntryField\$isComputable()
- BiodbEntryField\$getComputableFrom()
- BiodbEntryField\$getDataFrameGroup()
- BiodbEntryField\$isComputableFrom()
- BiodbEntryField\$addComputableFrom()
- BiodbEntryField\$removeComputableFrom()
- BiodbEntryField\$correctValue()
- BiodbEntryField\$isEnumerate()
- BiodbEntryField\$isVirtual()
- BiodbEntryField\$getVirtualGroupByType()
- BiodbEntryField\$getAllowedValues()
- BiodbEntryField\$addAllowedValue()
- BiodbEntryField\$checkValue()
- BiodbEntryField\$hasCardOne()
- BiodbEntryField\$hasCardMany()
- BiodbEntryField\$forbidsDuplicates()
- BiodbEntryField\$isCaseInsensitive()
- BiodbEntryField\$getClass()
- BiodbEntryField\$isObject()
- BiodbEntryField\$isDataFrame()
- BiodbEntryField\$isAtomic()
- BiodbEntryField\$isVector()
- BiodbEntryField\$equals()
- BiodbEntryField\$updateWithValuesFrom()
- BiodbEntryField\$print()
- BiodbEntryField\$getCardinality()
- BiodbEntryField\$check()
- BiodbEntryField\$clone()

**Method new():** New instance initializer. This class must not be instantiated directly. Instead, you access the instances of this class through the BiodbEntryFields instance that you get from the BiodbMain instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$new(
  parent,
  name,
  alias = NA_character_,
  type = NA_character_,
```

```

class = c("character", "integer", "double", "logical", "object", "data.frame"),
card = c("one", "many"),
forbids.duplicates = FALSE,
description = NA_character_,
allowed.values = NULL,
lower.case = FALSE,
case.insensitive = FALSE,
computable.from = NULL,
virtual = FALSE,
virtual.group.by.type = NULL,
dataFrameGroup = NA_character_
)

```

*Arguments:*

*parent* The BiodbEntryFields parent instance.

*name* The field name.

*alias* The field aliases as a character vector.

*type* The field type.

*class* The field class.

*card* The field cardinality.

*forbids.duplicates* Set to TRUE to forbid duplicated values.

*description* The field description.

*allowed.values* Restrict possible values to a set of allowed values.

*lower.case* All values will be converted to lower case.

*case.insensitive* Comparison will be made case insensitive for this field.

*computable.from* A list of databases from which to compute automatically the value of this field.

*virtual* Set to TRUE if this field is virtual.

*virtual.group.by.type* In case of a virtual field, set the type of fields to group together into a data frame.

*dataFrameGroup* The data frame group.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getName()`: Gets the name.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$getName()
```

*Returns:* The name of this field.

**Method** `getType()`: Gets field's type.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$getType()
```

*Returns:* The type of this field.

**Method** `isOfType()`: Tests if this field is of the specified type.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$isOfType(type)

*Arguments:*

type The type.

*Returns:* TRUE if this field is of the specified type, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** getDescription(): Get field's description.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$getDescription()

*Returns:* The description of this field.

**Method** hasAliases(): Tests if this field has aliases.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$hasAliases()

*Returns:* TRUE if this entry field defines aliases, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** getAliases(): Get aliases.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$getAliases()

*Returns:* The list of aliases if some are defined, otherwise returns NULL."

**Method** addAlias(): Adds an alias to the list of aliases.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$addAlias(alias)

*Arguments:*

alias The name of a valid alias.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** removeAlias(): Removes an alias from the list of aliases.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$removeAlias(alias)

*Arguments:*

alias The name of a valid alias.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getAllNames(): Gets all names.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$getAllNames()

*Returns:* The list of all names (main name and aliases).

**Method** isComputable(): Tests if this field is computable from another field or another database.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$isComputable()

*Returns:* TRUE if the field is computable, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `getComputableFrom()`: Get the list of connectors that can be used to compute this field.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$getComputableFrom()
```

*Returns:* A list of list objects. Each list object contains the name of the database from which the field is computable.

**Method** `getDataFrameGroup()`: Gets the defined data frame group, if any.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$getDataFrameGroup()
```

*Returns:* The data frame group, as a character value.

**Method** `isComputableFrom()`: Gets the ID of the database from which this field can be computed.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$isComputableFrom()
```

*Returns:* The list of databases where to find this field's value.

**Method** `addComputableFrom()`: Adds a directive from the list of `computableFrom`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$addComputableFrom(directive)
```

*Arguments:*

`directive` A valid `"computable from"` directive.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `removeComputableFrom()`: Removes a directive from the list of `computableFrom`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$removeComputableFrom(directive)
```

*Arguments:*

`directive` A valid `"computable from"` directive.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `correctValue()`: Corrects a value so it is compatible with this field.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$correctValue(value)
```

*Arguments:*

`value` A value.

*Returns:* The corrected value.

**Method** `isEnumerate()`: Tests if this field is an enumerate type (i.e.: it defines allowed values).

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$isEnumerate()

*Returns:* TRUE if this field defines some allowed values, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** isVirtual(): Tests if this field is a virtual field.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$isVirtual()

*Returns:* TRUE if this field is virtual, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** getVirtualGroupByType(): Gets type for grouping field values when building a virtual data frame.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$getVirtualGroupByType()

*Returns:* The type, as a character value.

**Method** getAllowedValues(): Gets allowed values.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$getAllowedValues(value = NULL)

*Arguments:*

value If this parameter is set to particular allowed values, then the method returns a list of synonyms for this value (if any).

*Returns:* A character vector containing all allowed values.

**Method** addAllowedValue(): Adds an allowed value, as a synonym to already an existing value. Note that not all enumerate fields accept synonyms.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$addAllowedValue(key, value)

*Arguments:*

key The key associated with the value (i.e.: the key is the main name of an allowed value).

value The new value to add.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** checkValue(): Checks if a value is correct. Fails if value is incorrect.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$checkValue(value)

*Arguments:*

value The value to check.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** hasCardOne(): Tests if this field has a cardinality of one.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$hasCardOne()

*Returns:* TRUE if the cardinality of this field is one, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** hasCardMany(): Tests if this field has a cardinality greater than one.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$hasCardMany()

*Returns:* TRUE if the cardinality of this field is many, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** forbidsDuplicates(): Tests if this field forbids duplicates.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$forbidsDuplicates()

*Returns:* TRUE if this field forbids duplicated values, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** isCaseInsensitive(): Tests if this field is case sensitive.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$isCaseInsensitive()

*Returns:* TRUE if this field is case insensitive, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** getClass(): Gets the class of this field's value.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$getClass()

*Returns:* class) of this field.

**Method** isObject(): Tests if this field's type is a class.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$isObject()

*Returns:* TRUE if field's type is a class, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** isDataFrame(): Tests if this field's type is data.frame.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$isDataFrame()

*Returns:* TRUE if field's type is data frame, FALSE otherwise."

**Method** isAtomic(): Tests if this field's type is an atomic type.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$isAtomic()

*Returns:* character, integer, double or logical), FALSE otherwise.

**Method** isVector(): Tests if this field's type is a basic vector type.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$isVector()

*Returns:* character, integer, double or logical), FALSE otherwise.

**Method** equals(): Compares this instance with another, and tests if they are equal.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryField\$equals(other, fail = FALSE)

*Arguments:*

*other* Another BiodbEntryField instance.

*fail* If set to TRUE, then throws error instead of returning FALSE.

*Returns:* TRUE if they are equal, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `updateWithValuesFrom()`: Updates fields using values from other instance. The updated fields

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$updateWithValuesFrom(other)
```

*Arguments:*

*other* Another BiodbEntryField instance.

are 'alias' and 'computable.from'. No values will be removed from those vectors. The new values will only be appended. This allows to extend an existing field inside a new connector definition.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `print()`: Print informations about this entry.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$print()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getCardinality()`: Gets the field's cardinality.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$getCardinality()
```

*Returns:* The cardinality: "one" or "many".

**Method** `check()`: Checks if essential values are defined.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$check()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryField$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

*deep* Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

Parent class [BiodbEntryFields](#).

## Examples

```
# Get the class of the InChI field.
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()
inchi.field.class <- mybiodb$getEntryFields()$get('inchi')$getClass()

# Test the cardinality of a field
card.one <- mybiodb$getEntryFields()$get('name')$hasCardOne()
card.many <- mybiodb$getEntryFields()$get('name')$hasCardMany()

# Get the description of a field
desc <- mybiodb$getEntryFields()$get('inchi')$getDescription()

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbEntryFields	<i>A class for handling description of all entry fields.</i>
------------------	--

---

## Description

A class for handling description of all entry fields.

A class for handling description of all entry fields.

## Details

The unique instance of this class is handle by the [BiodbMain](#) class and accessed through the `getEntryFields()` method.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbEntryFields\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$notifyCfgUpdate\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$isAlias\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$formatName\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$isDefined\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$checkIsDefined\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$getRealName\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$get\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$getFieldNames\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$getDatabaseIdField\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$print\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$define\(\)](#)
- [BiodbEntryFields\\$terminate\(\)](#)

- [BiodbEntryFields\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. No `BiodbEntryFields` instance must be created directly. Instead, call the `getEntryFields()` method of `BiodbMain`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$new(parent)
```

*Arguments:*

parent The `BiodbMain` instance.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `notifyCfgUpdate()`: Call back method called when a value is modified inside the configuration.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$notifyCfgUpdate(k, v)
```

*Arguments:*

k The config key name.

v The value associated with the key.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `isAlias()`: Tests if names are aliases.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$isAlias(name)
```

*Arguments:*

name A character vector of names or aliases to test.

*Returns:* A logical vector, the same length as `name`, with `TRUE` for name values that are an alias of a field, and `FALSE` otherwise."

**Method** `formatName()`: Format field name(s) for `biodb` format: set to lower case and remove dot or underscore characters depending on configuration.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$formatName(name)
```

*Arguments:*

name A character vector of names or aliases to test.

*Returns:* A character vector of formatted names.

**Method** `isDefined()`: Tests if names are defined fields.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$isDefined(name)
```

*Arguments:*

name A character vector of names or aliases to test.

*Returns:* A logical vector, the same length as `name`, with `TRUE` for name values that corresponds to a defined field.

**Method** `checkIsDefined()`: Tests if names are valid defined fields. Throws an error if any name does not correspond to a defined field.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$checkIsDefined(name)
```

*Arguments:*

name A character vector of names or aliases to test.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getRealName()`: Gets the real names (main names) of fields. If some name is not found neither in aliases nor in real names, an error is thrown.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$getRealName(name, fail = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

name A character vector of names or aliases.

fail Fails if name is unknown.

*Returns:* A character vector, the same length as name, with the real field name for each name given (i.e. each alias is replaced with the real name).

**Method** `get()`: Gets a BiodbEntryField instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$get(name, drop = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

name A character vector of names or aliases.

drop If TRUE and only one name has been submitted, returns a single BiodbEntryField instance instead of a list.

*Returns:* A named list of BiodbEntryField instances. The names of the list are the real names of the entry fields, thus they may be different from the one provided inside the name argument.

**Method** `getFieldNames()`: Gets the main names of all fields.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$getFieldNames(type = NULL, computable = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

type Set this parameter to a character vector in order to return only the names of the fields corresponding to the types specified.

computable If set to TRUE, returns only the names of computable fields. If set to FALSE, returns only the names of fields that are not computable.

*Returns:* A character vector containing all selected field names.

**Method** `getDatabaseIdField()`: Gets a database ID field.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbEntryFields$getDatabaseIdField(database)
```

*Arguments:*

database The name (i.e.: Biodb ID) of a database.

*Returns:*

accession numbers) for this database.

**Method** print(): Prints information about the instance.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryFields#print()

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** define(): Defines fields.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryFields\$define(def)

*Arguments:*

def A named list of field definitions. The names of the list are the main names of the fields.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** terminate(): Terminates the instance. This method will be called automatically by the BiodbMain instance when you call

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryFields\$terminate()

*Arguments:*

BiodbMain :terminate().

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

BiodbEntryFields\$clone(deep = FALSE)

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

[BiodbMain](#) and child class [BiodbEntryField](#).

## Examples

```
# Getting information about the accession field:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()
entry.field <- mybiodb$getEntryFields()$get('accession')

# Test if a name is an alias of a field
mybiodb$getEntryFields()$isAlias('genesymbols')

# Test if a name is associated with a defined field
mybiodb$getEntryFields()$isDefined('name')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbFactory

*A class for constructing biodb objects.*

---

### Description

A class for constructing biodb objects.

A class for constructing biodb objects.

### Details

This class is responsible for the creation of database connectors and database entries. You must go through the single instance of this class to create and get connectors, as well as instantiate entries. To get the single instance of this class, call the `getFactory()` method of class `BiodbMain`.

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- [BiodbFactory\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$getBiodb\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$createConn\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$connExists\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$deleteConn\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$deleteConnByClass\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$getAllConnectors\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$deleteAllConnectors\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$getConn\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$getEntry\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$createNewEntry\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$createEntryFromContent\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$getAllCacheEntries\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$deleteAllEntriesFromVolatileCache\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$deleteAllCacheEntries\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$print\(\)](#)
- [BiodbFactory\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. The `BiodbFactory` class must not be instantiated directly. Instead, call the `getFactory()` method from the `BiodbMain` instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$new(bdb)
```

*Arguments:*

`bdb` The `BiodbMain` instance.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getBiodb()`: Returns the biodb main class instance to which this object is attached.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$getBiodb()
```

*Returns:* The main biodb instance.

**Method** `createConn()`: Creates a connector to a database.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$createConn(
  db.class,
  url = NULL,
  token = NA_character_,
  fail.if.exists = TRUE,
  get.existing.conn = TRUE,
  conn.id = NULL,
  cache.id = NULL
)
```

*Arguments:*

`db.class` The type of a database. The list of types can be obtained from the class `BiodbDbInfo`.

`url` An URL to the database for which to create a connection. Each database connector is configured with a default URL, but some allow you to change it.

`token` A security access token for the database. Some database require such a token for all or some of their webservises. Usually you obtain the token through your account on the database website.

`fail.if.exists` If set to TRUE, the method will fail if a connector for

`get.existing.conn` This argument will be used only if `fail.if.exists` is set to FALSE and an identical connector already exists. If it set to TRUE, the existing connector instance will be returned, otherwise NULL will be returned.

`conn.id` If set, this identifier will be used for the new connector. An error will be raised in case another connector already exists with this identifier.

`cache.id` If set, this ID will be used as the cache ID for the new connector. An error will be raised in case another connector already exists with this cache identifier.

*Returns:* An instance of the requested connector class.

**Method** `connExists()`: Tests if a connector exists.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$connExists(conn.id)
```

*Arguments:*

`conn.id` A connector ID.

*Returns:* TRUE if a connector with this ID exists, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `deleteConn()`: Deletes an existing connector.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$deleteConn(conn)
```

*Arguments:*

conn A connector instance or a connector ID.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method deleteConnByClass():** Deletes all existing connectors from a same class.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$deleteConnByClass(db.class)
```

*Arguments:*

db.class The type of a database. All connectors of this database type will be deleted.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method getAllConnectors():** Gets all connectors.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$getAllConnectors()
```

*Returns:* A list of all created connectors.

**Method deleteAllConnectors():** Deletes all connectors.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$deleteAllConnectors()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method getConn():** Gets an instantiated connector instance, or create a new one.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$getConn(conn.id, class = TRUE, create = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

conn.id An existing connector ID.

class If set to TRUE, and "conn.id" does not correspond to any instantiated connector, then interpret "conn.id" as a database class and looks for the first instantiated connector of that class.

create If set to TRUE, and "class" is also set to TRUE, and no suitable instantiated connector was found, then creates a new connector instance of the class specified by "conn.id".

*Returns:* The connector instance corresponding to the connector ID or to the database ID submitted (if class "parameter" is set to TRUE).

**Method getEntry():** Retrieves database entry objects from IDs (accession numbers), for the specified connector.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$getEntry(conn.id, id, drop = TRUE, no.null = FALSE, limit = 0)
```

*Arguments:*

conn.id An existing connector ID.

id A character vector containing database entry IDs (accession numbers).

drop If set to TRUE and the list of entries contains only one element, then returns this element instead of the list. If set to FALSE, then returns always a list.

`no.null` Set to TRUE to remove NULL entries.

`limit` Set to a positive value to limit the number of entries returned.

*Returns:* A list of BiodbEntry objects, the same length as `id`. A NULL value is put into the list for each invalid ID of `id`.

**Method** `createNewEntry()`: Creates a new empty entry object from scratch. This entry is not stored in cache, and is directly attached to the factory instance instead of a particular connector.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$createNewEntry(db.class)
```

*Arguments:*

`db.class` A database ID.

*Returns:* A new BiodbEntry object.

**Method** `createEntryFromContent()`: Creates an entry instance from a content.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$createEntryFromContent(conn.id, content, drop = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

`conn.id` A valid BiodbConn identifier.

`content` A list or character vector of contents to parse to create the entries.

`drop` If set to TRUE

*Returns:* A list of new BiodbEntry objects.

**Method** `getAllCacheEntries()`: For a connector, gets all entries stored in the cache.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$getAllCacheEntries(conn.id)
```

*Arguments:*

`conn.id` A connector ID.

*Returns:* A list of BiodbEntry objects.

**Method** `deleteAllEntriesFromVolatileCache()`: Deletes all entries stored in the cache of the given connector. This method is deprecated, please use `deleteAllEntriesFromVolatileCache()` instead.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$deleteAllEntriesFromVolatileCache(conn.id)
```

*Arguments:*

`conn.id` A connector ID.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `deleteAllCacheEntries()`: Deletes all entries stored in the cache of the given connector.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$deleteAllCacheEntries(conn.id)
```

*Arguments:*

conn.id A connector ID.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** print(): Prints information about this instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$print()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbFactory$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

[BiodbMain](#), [BiodbConn](#) and [BiodbEntry](#).

**Examples**

```
# Create a BiodbMain instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Obtain the factory instance:
factory <- mybiodb$getFactory()

# Get a compound CSV file database
chebi.tsv <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.tsv", package='biodb')

# Create a connector:
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.csv.file', url=chebi.tsv)

# Get a database entry:
entry <- conn$getEntry(conn$getEntryIds(1))

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbHtmlEntry      *Entry class for content in HTML format.*

---

### Description

Entry class for content in HTML format.

Entry class for content in HTML format.

### Details

This is an abstract class for handling database entries whose content is in HTML format.

### Super classes

`biodb::BiodbEntry` -> `biodb::BiodbXmlEntry` -> `BiodbHtmlEntry`

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- `BiodbHtmlEntry$new()`
- `BiodbHtmlEntry$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Entry objects must not be created directly. Instead, they are retrieved through the connector instances.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbHtmlEntry$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbHtmlEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

Super class `BiodbXmlEntry`.

### Examples

```
# Create a concrete entry class inheriting from this class:  
MyEntry <- R6::R6Class("MyEntry", inherit=biodb::BiodbHtmlEntry)
```

---

BiodbJsonEntry      *Entry class for content in JSON format.*

---

**Description**

This is an abstract class for handling database entries whose content is in JSON format.

**Super class**

`biodb::BiodbEntry` -> BiodbJsonEntry

**Methods****Public methods:**

- `BiodbJsonEntry$clone()`

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbJsonEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

Super class `BiodbEntry`.

**Examples**

```
# Create a concrete entry class inheriting from CSV class:  
MyEntry <- R6::R6Class("MyEntry", inherit=biodb::BiodbJsonEntry)
```

---

BiodbListEntry      *Entry class for content in list format.*

---

**Description**

This is an abstract class for handling database entries whose content is in list format.

**Super class**

`biodb::BiodbEntry` -> BiodbListEntry

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbListEntry\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbListEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

Super class [BiodbEntry](#).

## Examples

```
# Create a concrete entry class inheriting from CSV class:  
MyEntry <- R6::R6Class("MyEntry", inherit=biodb::BiodbListEntry)
```

---

BiodbMain

*The central class of the biodb package.*

---

## Description

The central class of the biodb package.

The central class of the biodb package.

## Details

The main class of the biodb package. In order to use the biodb package, you need first to create an instance of this class.

The constructor takes a single argument, `autoloadExtraPkgs`, to enable (TRUE or default) or disable (FALSE) autoloading of extra biodb packages.

Once the instance is created, some other important classes (`BiodbFactory`, `BiodbPersistentCache`, `BiodbConfig`, ...) are instantiated (just once) and their instances are later accessible through `get*()` methods.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `BiodbMain$new()`
- `BiodbMain$terminate()`
- `BiodbMain$loadDefinitions()`
- `BiodbMain$getConfig()`
- `BiodbMain$getPersistentCache()`
- `BiodbMain$getDBsInfo()`
- `BiodbMain$getEntryFields()`
- `BiodbMain$getFactory()`
- `BiodbMain$getRequestScheduler()`
- `BiodbMain$addObservers()`
- `BiodbMain$getObservers()`
- `BiodbMain$convertEntryIdFieldToDbClass()`
- `BiodbMain$entriesFieldToVctOrLst()`
- `BiodbMain$entriesToDataframe()`
- `BiodbMain$entryIdsToDataframe()`
- `BiodbMain$addColsToDataframe()`
- `BiodbMain$entriesToJson()`
- `BiodbMain$collapseRows()`
- `BiodbMain$entriesToSingleFieldValues()`
- `BiodbMain$entryIdsToSingleFieldValues()`
- `BiodbMain$computeFields()`
- `BiodbMain$saveEntriesAsJson()`
- `BiodbMain$copyDb()`
- `BiodbMain$print()`
- `BiodbMain$fieldIsAtomic()`
- `BiodbMain$getFieldClass()`
- `BiodbMain$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. The `BiodbMain` must not be instantiated directly. Instead use the `newInst()` global method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$new(autoloadExtraPkgs = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

`autoloadExtraPkgs` Set to `TRUE` to allow automatic loading of extension packages. Set to `FALSE` to forbid it. If left to `NULL`, the default, `autoload.extra.pkgs` configuration value will be used.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `terminate()`: Closes `BiodbMain` instance. Call this method when you are done with your `BiodbMain` instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$terminate()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** loadDefinitions(): Loads databases and entry fields definitions from YAML file.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$loadDefinitions(file, package = "biodb")
```

*Arguments:*

file The path to a YAML file containing definitions for \codeBiodbMain (databases, fields or configuration keys).

package The package to which belong the new definitions.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getConfig(): Returns the single instance of the \codeBiodbConfig class.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$getConfig()
```

*Returns:* The instance of the \codeBiodbConfig class attached to this BiodbMain instance.

**Method** getPersistentCache(): Returns the single instance of the BiodbPersistentCache class.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$getPersistentCache()
```

*Returns:* The instance of the BiodbPersistentCache class attached to this BiodbMain instance.

**Method** getDbsInfo(): Returns the single instance of the \codeBiodbDbsInfo class.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$getDbsInfo()
```

*Returns:* The instance of the \codeBiodbDbsInfo class attached to this BiodbMain instance.

**Method** getEntryFields(): Returns the single instance of the \codeBiodbEntryFields class.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$getEntryFields()
```

*Returns:* The instance of the \codeBiodbEntryFields class attached to this BiodbMain instance.

**Method** getFactory(): Returns the single instance of the \codeBiodbFactory class.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$getFactory()
```

*Returns:* The instance of the \codeBiodbFactory class attached to this BiodbMain instance.

**Method** getRequestScheduler(): Returns the single instance of the \codeBiodbRequestScheduler class.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$getRequestScheduler()
```

*Returns:* The instance of the `BiodbRequestScheduler` class attached to this `BiodbMain` instance.

**Method** `addObservers()`: Adds new observers. Observers will be called each time an event occurs. This is the way used in `biodb` to get feedback about what is going inside `biodb` code.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$addObservers(observers)
```

*Arguments:*

`observers` Either an object or a list of objects.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getObservers()`: Gets the list of registered observers.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$getObservers()
```

*Returns:* The list of registered observers.

**Method** `convertEntryIdFieldToDbClass()`: Gets the database class name corresponding to an entry ID field.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$convertEntryIdFieldToDbClass(entry.id.field)
```

*Arguments:*

`entry.id.field` The name of an ID field. It must end with `".id"`.

**Method** `entriesFieldToVctOrLst()`: Extracts the value of a field from a list of entries. Returns either a vector or a list depending on the type of the field.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$entriesFieldToVctOrLst(
  entries,
  field,
  flatten = FALSE,
  compute = TRUE,
  limit = 0,
  withNa = TRUE
)
```

*Arguments:*

`entries` A list of `BiodbEntry` instances.

`field` The name of a field.

`flatten` If set to `TRUE` and the field has a cardinality greater than one, then values be converted into a vector of class character in which each entry values are collapsed.

`compute` If set to `TRUE`, computable fields will be output.

`limit` The maximum number of values to retrieve for each entry. Set to 0 to get all values.

`withNa` If set to `TRUE`, keep NA values. Otherwise filter out NAs values in vectors.

*Returns:* A vector if the field is atomic or `flatten` is set to `TRUE`, otherwise a list.

**Method** `entriesToDataframe()`: Converts a list of entries or a list of list of entries (`BiodbEntry` objects) into a data frame.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$entriesToDataframe(
  entries,
  only.atomic = TRUE,
  null.to.na = TRUE,
  compute = TRUE,
  fields = NULL,
  limit = 0,
  drop = FALSE,
  sort.cols = FALSE,
  flatten = TRUE,
  only.card.one = FALSE,
  own.id = TRUE,
  prefix = ""
)
```

*Arguments:*

`entries` A list of `BiodbEntry` instances or a list of list of `BiodbEntry` instances.

`only.atomic` If set to `TRUE`, output only atomic fields, i.e.: the fields whose value type is one of integer, numeric, logical or character.

`null.to.na` If set to `TRUE`, each `NULL` entry in the list is converted into a row of NA values.

`compute` If set to `TRUE`, computable fields will be output.

`fields` A character vector of field names to output. The data frame output will be restricted to this list of fields.

`limit` The maximum number of field values to write into new columns. Used for fields that can contain more than one value. Set it to 0 to get all values.

`drop` If set to `TRUE` and the resulting data frame has only one column, a vector will be output instead of data frame.

`sort.cols` Sort columns in alphabetical order.

`flatten` If set to `TRUE`, then each field with a cardinality greater than one, will be converted into a vector of class character whose values are collapsed.

`only.card.one` Output only fields whose cardinality is one.

`own.id` If set to `TRUE` includes the database id field named `<database_name>.id` whose values are the same as the accession field.

`prefix` Insert a prefix at the start of all field names.

*Returns:* A data frame containing the entries. Columns are named according to field names.

**Method** `entryIdsToDataframe()`: Construct a data frame using entry IDs and field values of the corresponding entries.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$entryIdsToDataframe(
  ids,
  db,
```

```

    fields = NULL,
    limit = 3,
    prefix = "",
    own.id = FALSE
  )

```

*Arguments:*

*ids* A character vector of entry IDs or a list of character vectors of entry IDs.

*db* The biodb database name for the entry IDs, or a connector ID, as a single character value.

*fields* A character vector containing entry fields to add.

*limit* The maximum number of field values to write into new columns. Used for fields that can contain more than one value. Set it to 0 to get all values.

*prefix* Insert a prefix at the start of all field names.

*own.id* If set to TRUE includes the database id field named <database\_name>.id whose values are the same as the accession field.

A data frame containing in columns the requested field values, with one entry per line, in the same order than in *ids* vector.

**Method** `addColsToDataframe()`: Add values from a database to an existing data frame using a column containing entry identifiers.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$addColsToDataframe(x, id.col, db, fields, limit = 3, prefix = "")
```

*Arguments:*

*x* A data frame containing at least one column with Biodb entry IDs identified by the parameter *id.col*.

*id.col* The name of the column containing IDs inside the input data frame.

*db* The biodb database name for the entry IDs, or a connector ID, as a single character value.

*fields* A character vector containing entry fields to add.

*limit* The maximum number of field values to write into new columns. Used for fields that can contain more than one value. Set it to 0 to get all values.

*prefix* Insert a prefix at the start of all field names.

*Returns:* A data frame containing *x* and new columns appended for the fields requested.

**Method** `entriesToJson()`: Converts a list of `BiodbEntry` objects into JSON. Returns a vector of characters.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$entriesToJson(entries, compute = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

*entries* A list of `BiodbEntry` instances. It may contain NULL elements.

*compute* If set to `TRUE`, computable fields will be added to JSON too.

*Returns:* A list of JSON strings, the same length as *entries* list.

**Method** `collapseRows()`: Collapses rows of a data frame, by looking for duplicated values in the reference columns (parameter *cols*). The values contained in the reference columns are supposed to be ordered inside the data frame, in the sense that all duplicated values are supposed to directly follow the original values. For all rows containing duplicated values, we look at values in all other columns and concatenate values in each column containing different values.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$collapseRows(x, sep = "|", cols = 1L)
```

*Arguments:*

x A data frame.

sep The separator to use when concatenating values in collapsed rows.

cols The indices or the names of the columns used as reference.

*Returns:* A data frame, with rows collapsed."

**Method** `entriesToSingleFieldValues()`: Extract all values of a field from a list of entries.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$entriesToSingleFieldValues(
  entries,
  field,
  sortOutput = FALSE,
  uniq = TRUE
)
```

*Arguments:*

entries A list of BiodbEntry objects.

field The field for which to extract values.

sortOutput Set to TRUE to sort the values.

uniq Set to TRUE to remove duplicates.

*Returns:* The values of the field as a vector.

**Method** `entryIdsToSingleFieldValues()`: Extract all values of a field from a list of entries.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$entryIdsToSingleFieldValues(
  ids,
  db,
  field,
  sortOutput = FALSE,
  uniq = TRUE
)
```

*Arguments:*

ids A list of entry identifiers.

db The database ID or connector ID where to find the entries.

field The field for which to extract values.

sortOutput Set to TRUE to sort the values.

uniq Set to TRUE to remove duplicates.

*Returns:* The values of the field as a vector.

**Method** `computeFields()`: Computes missing fields in entries, for those fields that are computable.

*Usage:*

BiodbMain\$computeFields(entries)

*Arguments:*

entries A list of `BiodbEntry` instances. It may contain NULL elements.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** saveEntriesAsJson(): Saves a list of entries in JSON format. Each entry will be saved in a separate file.

*Usage:*

BiodbMain\$saveEntriesAsJson(entries, files, compute = TRUE)

*Arguments:*

entries A list of `BiodbEntry` instances. It may contain NULL elements.

files A character vector of file paths, the same length as entries list.

compute If set to `TRUE`, computable fields will be saved too.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** copyDb(): Copies all entries of a database into another database. The connector of the destination database must be editable.

*Usage:*

BiodbMain\$copyDb(conn.from, conn.to, limit = 0)

*Arguments:*

conn.from The connector of the source datababase to copy.

conn.to The connector of the destination database.

limit The number of entries of the source database to copy. If set to `NULL`, copy the whole database.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** print(): Prints object information.

*Usage:*

BiodbMain\$print()

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** fieldIsAtomic(): DEPRECATED method to test if a field is an atomic field. The new method is `BiodbEntryField$isVector()`.

*Usage:*

BiodbMain\$fieldIsAtomic(field)

*Arguments:*

field The name of the field.

*Returns:* TRUE if the field's value is atomic.

**Method** getFieldClass(): DEPRECATED method to get the class of a field. The new method is `BiodbMain$getEntryFields()$get(field)$getClass()`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$getFieldClass(field)
```

*Arguments:*

field The name of the field.

*Returns:* The class of the field.

**Method clone():** The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbMain$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

[BiodbFactory](#), [BiodbPersistentCache](#), [BiodbConfig](#), [BiodbEntryFields](#), [BiodbDbsInfo](#).

### Examples

```
# Create an instance:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get the factory instance
fact <- mybiodb$getFactory()

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
mybiodb <- NULL
```

---

BiodbPersistentCache *The abstract class for handling file caching.*

---

### Description

The abstract class for handling file caching.

The abstract class for handling file caching.

### Details

This abstract class is the mother class of concrete classes that manage cache systems for saving downloaded files and request results.

It is designed for internal use, but you can still access some of the read-only methods if you wish.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `BiodbPersistentCache$new()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$isReadable()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$isWritable()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$getDir()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$getFolderPath()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$folderExists()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$getFilepath()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$filesExist()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$fileExist()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$fileExists()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$markerExist()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$markerExists()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$setMarker()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$getTmpFolderPath()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$getUsedCacheIds()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$loadFileContent()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$saveContentToFile()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$addFilesToCache()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$copyFilesIntoCache()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$moveFilesIntoCache()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$erase()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$deleteFile()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$deleteAllFiles()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$deleteFiles()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$listFiles()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$print()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$enabled()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$enable()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$disable()`
- `BiodbPersistentCache$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Persistent cache objects must not be created directly. Instead, access the cache instance through the `BiodbMain` instance using the `getPersistentCache()` method.

#### *Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$new(cfg, bdb = NULL)
```

#### *Arguments:*

`cfg` An instance of the `BiodbConfig` class.

`bdb` An instance of the `BiodbMain` class.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method isReadable():** Checks if the cache system is readable.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$isReadable(conn = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

conn If not `NULL`, checks if the cache system is readable for this particular connector.

*Returns:* `TRUE` if the cache system is readable, `FALSE` otherwise.

**Method isWritable():** Checks if the cache system is writable.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$isWritable(conn = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

conn If not `NULL`, checks if the cache system is writable for this particular connector.

*Returns:* `TRUE` if the cache system is writable, `FALSE` otherwise.

**Method getDir():** Gets the path to the persistent cache folder.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$getDir()
```

*Returns:* The path to the cache folder as a character value.

**Method getFolderPath():** Gets path to the cache system sub-folder dedicated to this cache ID.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$getFolderPath(cache.id, create = TRUE, fail = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

create If set to `TRUE` and the folder does not exist, creates it.

fail If set to `TRUE`, throws a warning if the folder does not exist.

*Returns:* A string containing the path to the folder.

**Method folderExists():** Tests if a cache folder exists for this cache ID.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$folderExists(cache.id)
```

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

*Returns:* `TRUE` if a cache folder exists.

**Method getFilePath():** Gets path of file in cache system.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$getFile_path(cache.id, name, ext)
```

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing file names.

ext The extension of the files.

*Returns:* A character vector, the same size as `\codenames`, containing the paths to the files.

**Method** `filesExist()`: Tests if at least one cache file exist for the specified cache ID.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$filesExist(cache.id)
```

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

*Returns:* A single boolean value.

**Method** `fileExist()`: DEPRECATED. Use `fileExists()`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$fileExist(cache.id, name, ext)
```

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing file names.

ext The extension of the files, without the dot ("`html`", "`xml`", etc).

*Returns:* A logical vector, the same size as `\codename`, with `TRUE` value if the file exists in the cache, or `FALSE` otherwise.

**Method** `fileExists()`: Tests if a particular file exist in the cache.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$fileExists(cache.id, name, ext)
```

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing file names.

ext The extension of the files, without the dot ("`html`", "`xml`", etc).

*Returns:* A logical vector, the same size as `\codename`, with `TRUE` value if the file exists in the cache, or `FALSE` otherwise.

**Method** `markerExist()`: DEPRECATED. Use `markerExists()`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$markerExist(cache.id, name)
```

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing marker names.

*Returns:* A logical vector, the same size as `\codename`, with `TRUE` value if the marker file exists in the cache, or `FALSE` otherwise.

**Method** `markerExists()`: Tests if markers exist in the cache. Markers are used, for instance, by `biodb` to remember that a downloaded zip file from a database has been extracted correctly.

*Usage:*

BiodbPersistentCache\$markerExists(cache.id, name)

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing marker names.

*Returns:* A logical vector, the same size as `name`, with `TRUE` value if the marker file exists in the cache, or `FALSE` otherwise.

**Method** setMarker(): Sets a marker.

*Usage:*

BiodbPersistentCache\$setMarker(cache.id, name)

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing marker names.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getTmpFolderPath(): Gets path to the cache system temporary folder.

*Usage:*

BiodbPersistentCache\$getTmpFolderPath()

*Returns:* A string containing the path to the folder.

**Method** getUsedCacheIds(): Returns a list of cache IDs actually used to store cache files.

*Usage:*

BiodbPersistentCache\$getUsedCacheIds()

*Returns:* A character vector containing all the cache IDs actually used inside the cache system.

**Method** loadFileContent(): Loads content of files from the cache.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$loadFileContent(
  cache.id,
  name,
  ext,
  output.vector = FALSE
)
```

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing file names.

ext The extension of the files.

output.vector If set to `TRUE`, force output to be a `vector` instead of a `list`. Where the list contains a `NULL`, the `vector` will contain an `NA` value.

*Returns:* A list (or a vector if `output.vector` is set to `TRUE`), the same size as `name`, containing the contents of the files. If some file does not exist, a `NULL` value is inserted inside the list.

**Method** saveContentToFile(): Saves content to files into the cache.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$saveContentToFile(content, cache.id, name, ext)
```

*Arguments:*

content A list or a character vector containing the contents of the files. It must have the same length as \codename.

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing file names.

ext The extension of the files.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** addFilesToCache(): Adds existing files into the cache.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$addFilesToCache(  
  src.file.paths,  
  cache.id,  
  name,  
  ext,  
  action = c("copy", "move")  
)
```

*Arguments:*

src.file.paths The current paths of the source files, as a character vector.

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing file names.

ext The extension of the files.

action Specifies if files have to be moved or copied into the cache.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** copyFilesIntoCache(): Copies existing files into the cache.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$copyFilesIntoCache(src.file.paths, cache.id, name, ext)
```

*Arguments:*

src.file.paths The current paths of the source files, as a character vector.

cache.id The cache ID to use.

name A character vector containing file names.

ext The extension of the files.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** moveFilesIntoCache(): Moves existing files into the cache.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$moveFilesIntoCache(src.file.paths, cache.id, name, ext)
```

*Arguments:*

src.file.paths The current paths of the source files, as a character vector.  
 cache.id The cache ID to use.  
 name A character vector containing file names.  
 ext The extension of the files.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** erase(): Erases the whole cache.

*Usage:*

BiodbPersistentCache\$erase()

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** deleteFile(): Deletes a list of files inside the cache system.

*Usage:*

BiodbPersistentCache\$deleteFile(cache.id, name, ext)

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.  
 name A character vector containing file names.  
 ext The extension of the files, without the dot ("html", "xml", etc).

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** deleteAllFiles(): Deletes, in the cache system, all files associated with this cache ID.

*Usage:*

BiodbPersistentCache\$deleteAllFiles(cache.id, fail = FALSE, prefix = FALSE)

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.  
 fail If set to TRUE, a warning will be emitted if no cache files exist for this cache ID.  
 prefix DEPRECATED If set to TRUE, use cache.id as a prefix, deleting all files whose cache.id starts with this prefix.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** deleteFiles(): Deletes all files with the specific extension of the cache ID in the cache system.

*Usage:*

BiodbPersistentCache\$deleteFiles(cache.id, ext)

*Arguments:*

cache.id The cache ID to use.  
 ext The extension of the files, without the dot ("html", "xml", etc). Only files having this extension will be deleted.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** listFiles(): Lists files present in the cache system.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$listFiles(
    cache.id,
    ext = NULL,
    extract.name = FALSE,
    full.path = FALSE
)
```

*Arguments:*

`cache.id` The cache ID to use.

`ext` The extension of the files, without the dot (`"html"`, `"xml"`, etc).

`extract.name` If set to `TRUE`, instead of returning the file paths, returns the list of names used to construct the file name: `[cache_folder]/[cache.id]/[name].[ext]`.

`full.path` If set to `TRUE`, returns full path for files.

*Returns:* The files of found files, or the names of the files if `extract.name` is set to `TRUE`.

**Method** `print()`: Displays information about this object.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$print()
```

**Method** `enabled()`: DEPRECATED method. Use now `BiodbConfig:isEnabled('cache.system')`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$enabled()
```

**Method** `enable()`: DEPRECATED method. Use now `BiodbConfig:enable('cache.system')`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$enable()
```

**Method** `disable()`: DEPRECATED method. Use now `BiodbConfig:disable('cache.system')`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$disable()
```

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbPersistentCache$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

[BiodbMain](#), [BiodbBiocPersistentCache](#), [BiodbBiocPersistentCache](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get a compound CSV file database
chebi.tsv <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.tsv", package='biodb')

# Get a connector instance:
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.csv.file', url=chebi.tsv)

# Get all entries
entries <- conn$getEntry(conn$getEntryIds())

# Get the cache instance:
cache <- mybiodb$getPersistentCache()

# Get list of files inside the cache:
files <- cache$listFiles(conn$getCacheId())

# Delete files inside the cache:
cache$deleteAllFiles(conn$getCacheId())

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbRequest

*Class Request.*

---

## Description

Class Request.

Class Request.

## Details

This class represents a Request object that can be used with the Request Scheduler.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbRequest\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequest\\$setConn\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequest\\$getConn\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequest\\$getUrl\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequest\\$getMethod\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequest\\$getEncoding\(\)](#)

- `BiodbRequest$getCurlOptions()`
- `BiodbRequest$getUniqueKey()`
- `BiodbRequest$getHeaderAsSingleString()`
- `BiodbRequest$getBody()`
- `BiodbRequest$print()`
- `BiodbRequest$toString()`
- `BiodbRequest$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequest$new(  
    url,  
    method = c("get", "post"),  
    header = character(),  
    body = character(),  
    encoding = integer(),  
    conn = NULL  
)
```

*Arguments:*

`url` A `BiodbUrl` object.

`method` HTTP method. Either "get" or "post".

`header` The header.

`body` The body.

`encoding` The encoding to use.

`conn` A valid `BiodbConn` instance for which this request is built.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `setConn()`: Sets the associated connector (usually the connector that created this request).

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequest$setConn(conn)
```

*Arguments:*

`conn` A valid `BiodbConn` object.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getConn()`: gets the associated connector (usually the connector that created this request).

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequest$getConn()
```

*Returns:* The associated connector as a `BiodbConn` object.

**Method** `getUrl()`: Gets the URL.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequest$getUrl()`

*Returns:* The URL as a `BiodbUrl` object.

**Method** `getMethod()`: Gets the method.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequest$getMethod()`

*Returns:* The method as a character value.

**Method** `getEncoding()`: Gets the encoding.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequest$getEncoding()`

*Returns:* The encoding.

**Method** `getCurlOptions()`: Gets the options object to pass to cURL library.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequest$getCurlOptions(useragent)`

*Arguments:*

`useragent` The user agent as a character value.

*Returns:* An `RCurl` options object.

**Method** `getUniqueKey()`: Gets a unique key to identify this request. The key is an MD5 sum computed from the string representation of this request.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequest$getUniqueKey()`

*Returns:* A unique key as an MD5 sum.

**Method** `getHeaderAsSingleString()`: Gets the HTTP header as a string, concatenating all its information into a single string.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequest$getHeaderAsSingleString()`

*Returns:* The header as a single character value.

**Method** `getBody()`: Gets the body.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequest$getBody()`

*Returns:* The body as a character value.

**Method** `print()`: Displays information about this instance.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequest$print()`

*Returns:* `self` as invisible.

**Method** `toString()`: Gets a string representation of this instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequest$toString()
```

*Returns:* A single string giving a representation of this instance.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequest$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

[BiodbRequestScheduler](#), [BiodbUrl](#).

### Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Create a request object
u <- 'https://www.ebi.ac.uk/webservices/chebi/2.0/test/getCompleteEntity'
url <- BiodbUrl$new(url=u)
url$setParam('chebiId', 15440)
request <- BiodbRequest$new(method='get', url=url)

# Send request
mybiodb$getRequestScheduler()$sendRequest(request)

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbRequestScheduler *Class for handling requests.*

---

### Description

Class for handling requests.

Class for handling requests.

### Details

This class handles GET and POST requests, as well as file downloading. Each remote database connection instance creates an instance of `BiodbRequestScheduler` for handling database connection. A timer is used to schedule connections, and avoid sending too much requests to the database. This class is not meant to be used directly by the library user. See section `Fields` for a list of the constructor's parameters.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$sendSoapRequest\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$sendRequest\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$downloadFile\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$notifyConnUrlsUpdated\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$notifyConnSchedulerFrequencyUpdated\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$getUrlString\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$getUrl\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$findRule\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$getConnectorRules\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$registerConnector\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$unregisterConnector\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$getAllRules\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestScheduler\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. `BiodbRequestScheduler` class must not be instantiated directly. Instead, use the `getRequestScheduler()` method from `BiodbMain`.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$new(bdb)
```

*Arguments:*

`bdb` The `BiodbMain` instance.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `sendSoapRequest()`: Sends a SOAP request to a URL. Returns the string result.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$sendSoapRequest(
  url,
  soap.request,
  soap.action = NA_character_,
  encoding = integer()
)
```

*Arguments:*

`url` The URL to access, as a character string.

`soap.request` The XML SOAP request to send, as a character string.

`soap.action` The SOAP action to contact, as a character string.

`encoding` The encoding to use.

*Returns:* The results returned by the contacted server, as a single string value.

**Method** `sendRequest()`: Sends a request, and returns content result.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$sendRequest(request, cache.read = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

`request` A BiodbRequest instance.

`cache.read` If set to TRUE, the cache system will be used. In case the same request has already been run and its results saved into the cache, then the request is not run again, the targeted server not contacted, and the results are directly loaded from the cache system.

*Returns:* The results returned by the contacted server, as a single string value.

**Method** `downloadFile()`: Downloads the content of a URL and save it into the specified destination file.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$downloadFile(url, dest.file)
```

*Arguments:*

`url` The URL to access, as a BiodbUrl object.

`dest.file` A path to a destination file.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `notifyConnUrlsUpdated()`: Call back function called when connector URLs are changed.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$notifyConnUrlsUpdated(conn)
```

*Arguments:*

`conn` The connector instance for which the URLs were changed.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `notifyConnSchedulerFrequencyUpdated()`: Call back function called when connector T and N parameters (frequency) are changed.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$notifyConnSchedulerFrequencyUpdated(conn)
```

*Arguments:*

`conn` The connector instance for which the frequency were changed.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getUrlString()`: Builds a URL object, using a base URL and parameters to be passed.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$getUrlString(url, params = list())
```

*Arguments:*

`url` A URL string.

`params` A list of URL parameters.

*Returns:* A BiodUrl object.

**Method** `getUrl()`: Sends a request and get the result.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$getUrl(
    url,
    params = list(),
    method = c("get", "post"),
    header = character(),
    body = character(),
    encoding = integer()
)
```

*Arguments:*

url A URL string.  
 params A list of URL parameters.  
 method The method to use. Either 'get' or 'post'.  
 header The header to send.  
 body The body to send.  
 encoding The encoding to use.

*Returns:* The results of the request.

**Method** findRule(): Searches for a rule by host name.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$findRule(url, create = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

url The host URL.  
 create Sets to TRUE to create a rule when none exists.

*Returns:* A BiodbRequestSchedulerRule object.

**Method** getConnectorRules(): Gets the rules associates with a connector.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$getConnectorRules(conn)
```

*Arguments:*

conn A valid connector object.

*Returns:* A list of rules.

**Method** registerConnector(): Registers a new connector with the scheduler.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$registerConnector(conn)
```

*Arguments:*

conn A valid connector object.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** unregisterConnector(): Unregisters a connector from this scheduler.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$unregisterConnector(conn)
```

*Arguments:*

conn A valid connector object.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getAllRules(): Gets all defined rules.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$getAllRules()
```

*Returns:* The list of all rules.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestScheduler$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

[BiodbRequestSchedulerRule](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get the scheduler
sched <- mybiodb$getRequestScheduler()

# Create a request object
u <- 'https://www.ebi.ac.uk/webservices/chebi/2.0/test/getCompleteEntity'
url <- BiodbUrl$new(url=u)
url$setParam('chebiId', 15440)
request <- BiodbRequest$new(method='get', url=url)

# Send request
sched$sendRequest(request)

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
mybiodb <- NULL
```

---

BiodbRequestSchedulerRule

*Scheduler rule class.*

---

## Description

Scheduler rule class.

Scheduler rule class.

## Details

This class represents a rule for the request scheduler.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$getHost\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$getN\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$getT\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$setFrequency\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$getConnectors\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$addConnector\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$removeConnector\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$print\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$waitAsNeeded\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$recomputeFrequency\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$computeSleepTime\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$storeCurrentTime\(\)](#)
- [BiodbRequestSchedulerRule\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method new():** Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$new(host, conn = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

host The web host for which this rule is applicable.

conn The connector instance that is concerned by this rule.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method getHost():** Gets host.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$getHost()
```

*Returns:* Returns the host.

**Method** `getN()`: Gets N value. The number of connections allowed during a period of T seconds.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$getN()`

*Returns:* Returns N as an integer.

**Method** `getT()`: Gets T value. The number of seconds during which N connections are allowed.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$getT()`

*Returns:* Returns T as a numeric.

**Method** `setFrequency()`: Sets both N and T.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$setFrequency(n, t)`

*Arguments:*

n The number of connections allowed during a period of t seconds, as an integer.

t The number of seconds during which n connections are allowed, as a numeric value.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getConnectors()`: Gets connectors associated with this rule.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$getConnectors()`

*Returns:* A list of BiodbConn objects.

**Method** `addConnector()`: Associate a connector with this rule.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$addConnector(conn)`

*Arguments:*

conn A BiodbConn object.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `removeConnector()`: Disassociate a connector from this rule.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$removeConnector(conn)`

*Arguments:*

conn A BiodbConn instance.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `print()`: Displays information about this instance.

*Usage:*

`BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$print()`

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `waitAsNeeded()`: Wait (sleep) until a new request is allowed.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$waitAsNeeded()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `recomputeFrequency()`: Recompute frequency from submitted N and T values.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$recomputeFrequency()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `computeSleepTime()`: Compute the needed sleep time to wait until a new request is allowed, starting from the submitted time.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$computeSleepTime(cur.time = Sys.time())
```

*Arguments:*

`cur.time` Time from which to compute needed sleep time.

*Returns:* The needed sleep time in seconds.

**Method** `storeCurrentTime()`: Stores the current time.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$storeCurrentTime(cur.time = Sys.time())
```

*Arguments:*

`cur.time` The current time.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbRequestSchedulerRule$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

[BiodbRequestScheduler](#).

---

BiodbSdfEntry	<i>Entry class for content in SDF format.</i>
---------------	---

---

### Description

Entry class for content in SDF format.

Entry class for content in SDF format.

### Details

This is an abstract class for handling database entries whose content is in SDF format.

### Super classes

`biodb::BiodbEntry` -> `biodb::BiodbTxtEntry` -> `BiodbSdfEntry`

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- `BiodbSdfEntry$new()`
- `BiodbSdfEntry$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Entry objects must not be created directly. Instead, they are retrieved through the connector instances.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSdfEntry$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSdfEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

Super class `BiodbTxtEntry`.

### Examples

```
# Create a concrete entry class inheriting from CSV class:  
MyEntry <- R6::R6Class("MyEntry", inherit=biodb::BiodbSdfEntry)
```

---

BiodbSqlBinaryOp      *This class represents an SQL binary operator.*

---

### Description

This class represents an SQL binary operator.

This class represents an SQL binary operator.

### Super class

`biodb::BiodbSqlExpr` -> BiodbSqlBinaryOp

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- `BiodbSqlBinaryOp$new()`
- `BiodbSqlBinaryOp$string()`
- `BiodbSqlBinaryOp$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

`BiodbSqlBinaryOp$new(lexpr, op, rexpr)`

*Arguments:*

`lexpr` A BiodbSqlExpr instance for the left part.

`op` The binary operator, as a string.

`rexpr` A BiodbSqlExpr instance for the right part.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `toString()`: Converts into a string.

*Usage:*

`BiodbSqlBinaryOp$string()`

*Returns:* A string containing the SQL expression.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

`BiodbSqlBinaryOp$clone(deep = FALSE)`

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

---

BiodbSqlExpr      *The SQL Expression abstract class.*

---

### Description

The SQL Expression abstract class.

The SQL Expression abstract class.

### Details

This abstract class represents an SQL expression.

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- [BiodbSqlExpr\\$string\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlExpr\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `toString()`: Converts into a string.

*Usage:*

`BiodbSqlExpr$string()`

*Returns:* A string containing the SQL expression.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

`BiodbSqlExpr$clone(deep = FALSE)`

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

---

BiodbSqlField      *This class represents an SQL field.*

---

### Description

This class represents an SQL field.

This class represents an SQL field.

### Super class

[biodb::BiodbSqlExpr](#) -> BiodbSqlField

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbSqlField\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlField\\$string\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlField\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlField$new(table = NA_character_, field)
```

*Arguments:*

table The table name.

field The field name.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `toString()`: Converts into a string.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlField$string()
```

*Returns:* A string containing the SQL expression.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlField$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

---

BiodbSqlList

*This class represents an SQL list.*

---

## Description

This class represents an SQL list.

This class represents an SQL list.

## Super class

[biodb::BiodbSqlExpr](#) -> BiodbSqlList

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbSqlList\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlList\\$string\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlList\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlList$new(values)
```

*Arguments:*

values The values of the list.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `toString()`: Converts into a string.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlList$string()
```

*Returns:* A string containing the SQL expression.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlList$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

---

BiodbSqlLogicalOp      *This class represents an SQL logical operator.*

---

## Description

This class represents an SQL logical operator.

This class represents an SQL logical operator.

## Super class

```
biodb::BiodbSqlExpr -> BiodbSqlLogicalOp
```

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [BiodbSqlLogicalOp\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlLogicalOp\\$addExpr\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlLogicalOp\\$string\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlLogicalOp\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlLogicalOp$new(op)
```

*Arguments:*

op The logical operator, as a string.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `addExpr()`: Add an SQL expression to the logical operator.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlLogicalOp$addExpr(expr)
```

*Arguments:*

expr A BiodbSqlExpr instance.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `toString()`: Converts into a string.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlLogicalOp$string()
```

*Returns:* A string containing the SQL expression.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlLogicalOp$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

---

BiodbSqlQuery

*This class handles an SQL Query.*

---

### Description

This class handles an SQL Query.

This class handles an SQL Query.

### Details

This class represents an SQL query. It is used internally to generate an SQL query string.

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$setTable\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$addField\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$setDistinct\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$setLimit\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$addJoin\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$setWhere\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$getJoin\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$getWhere\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$getFields\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$string\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlQuery\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

`BiodbSqlQuery$new()`

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `setTable()`: Set the table.

*Usage:*

`BiodbSqlQuery$setTable(table)`

*Arguments:*

table The table name.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `addField()`: Set the fields.

*Usage:*

BiodbSqlQuery\$addField(table = NULL, field)

*Arguments:*

table The table name.

field A field name.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** setDistinct(): Set or unset distinct modifier.

*Usage:*

BiodbSqlQuery\$setDistinct(distinct)

*Arguments:*

distinct Either TRUE or FALSE for setting or unsetting the distinct flag.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** setLimit(): Set results limit.

*Usage:*

BiodbSqlQuery\$setLimit(limit)

*Arguments:*

limit The limit to set, as an integer value.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** addJoin(): Add a join.

*Usage:*

BiodbSqlQuery\$addJoin(table1, field1, table2, field2)

*Arguments:*

table1 The first table.

field1 The field of the first table.

table2 The second table.

field2 The field of the second table.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** setWhere(): Set the where clause.

*Usage:*

BiodbSqlQuery\$setWhere(expr)

*Arguments:*

expr A BiodbSqlExpr representing the "where" clause.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getJoin(): Builds and returns the join expression.

*Usage:*

BiodbSqlQuery\$getJoin()

*Returns:* A character vector representing the join expression.

**Method** `getWhere()`: Gets the where expression.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlQuery$getWhere()
```

*Returns:* The BiodbSqlExpr instance representing the "where" clause.

**Method** `getFields()`: Gets the fields to retrieve.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlQuery$getFields()
```

*Returns:* A string containing the list of fields to retrieve.

**Method** `toString()`: Generates the string representation of this query.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlQuery$toString()
```

*Returns:* A string containing the full SQL query.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlQuery$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

[BiodbRequestScheduler](#), [BiodbRequest](#).

---

BiodbSqlValue

*This class represents an SQL value.*

---

### Description

This class represents an SQL value.

This class represents an SQL value.

### Super class

[biodb::BiodbSqlExpr](#) -> BiodbSqlValue

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbSqlValue\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlValue\\$string\(\)](#)
- [BiodbSqlValue\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlValue$new(value)
```

*Arguments:*

value The value.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `toString()`: Converts into a string.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlValue$string()
```

*Returns:* A string containing the SQL expression.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbSqlValue$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

---

BiodbTestMsgAck

*A class for acknowledging messages during tests.*

---

## Description

A class for acknowledging messages during tests.

A class for acknowledging messages during tests.

## Details

This observer is used to call a `testthat::expect_*`() method each time a message is received. This is used when running tests on Travis-CI, so Travis does not stop tests because no change is detected in output.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [BiodbTestMsgAck\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbTestMsgAck\\$notifyProgress\(\)](#)
- [BiodbTestMsgAck\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbTestMsgAck$new()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `notifyProgress()`: Call back method used to get progress advancement of a long process.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbTestMsgAck$notifyProgress(what, index, total)
```

*Arguments:*

`what` The reason as a character value.

`index` The index number representing the progress.

`total` The total number to reach for completing the process.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbTestMsgAck$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# To use the acknowledger, set ack=TRUE when creating the Biodb test
# instance:
biodb <- biodb::createBiodbTestInstance(ack=TRUE)

# Terminate the BiodbMain instance
biodb$terminate()
```

---

BiodbTxtEntry      *Entry class for content in text format.*

---

### Description

Entry class for content in text format.

Entry class for content in text format.

### Details

This is an abstract class for handling database entries whose content is in text format.

### Super class

`biodb::BiodbEntry` -> BiodbTxtEntry

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- `BiodbTxtEntry$new()`
- `BiodbTxtEntry$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Entry objects must not be created directly. Instead, they are retrieved through the connector instances.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbTxtEntry$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbTxtEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

Super class `BiodbEntry`.

### Examples

```
# Create a concrete entry class inheriting from CSV class:  
MyEntry <- R6::R6Class("MyEntry", inherit=biodb::BiodbTxtEntry)
```

---

BiodbUrl

*Class URL.*

---

### Description

Class URL.

Class URL.

### Details

This class represents a URL object that can be used in requests.

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- [BiodbUrl\\$new\(\)](#)
- [BiodbUrl\\$getDomain\(\)](#)
- [BiodbUrl\\$setUrl\(\)](#)
- [BiodbUrl\\$setParam\(\)](#)
- [BiodbUrl\\$print\(\)](#)
- [BiodbUrl\\$string\(\)](#)
- [BiodbUrl\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbUrl$new(url = character(), params = character(), chompExtraSlashes = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

`url` The URL to access, as a character vector.

`params` The list of parameters to append to this URL.

`chompExtraSlashes` If set to TRUE, then slashes at the end and the beginning of each element of the url vector parameter will be removed before proper concatenation.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getDomain()`: Gets the domain.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbUrl$getDomain()
```

*Returns:* The domain.

**Method** `setUrl()`: Sets the base URL string.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbUrl$setUrl(url)
```

*Arguments:*

url The base URL string.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** setParam(): Sets a parameter.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbUrl$setParam(key, value)
```

*Arguments:*

key The parameter name.

value The value of the parameter.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** print(): Displays information about this instance.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbUrl$print()
```

*Returns:* self as invisible.

**Method** toString(): Gets the URL as a string representation.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbUrl$toString(encode = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

encode If set to TRUE, then encodes the URL.

*Returns:* The URL as a string, with all parameters and values set.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbUrl$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

[BiodbRequestScheduler](#), [BiodbRequest](#).

## Examples

```
# Create a URL object
u <- c("https://www.uniprot.org", "uniprot")
p <- c(query="reviewed:yes+AND+organism:9606",
      columns='id,entry name,protein names',
      format="tab")
url <- BiodbUrl$new(url=u, params=p)
url$toString()
```

---

BiodbXmlEntry	<i>Entry class for content in XML format.</i>
---------------	---

---

### Description

Entry class for content in XML format.

Entry class for content in XML format.

### Details

This is an abstract class for handling database entries whose content is in XML format.

### Super class

`biodb::BiodbEntry` -> BiodbXmlEntry

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- `BiodbXmlEntry$new()`
- `BiodbXmlEntry$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Entry objects must not be created directly. Instead, they are retrieved through the connector instances.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbXmlEntry$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
BiodbXmlEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

Super class `BiodbEntry`.

### Examples

```
# Create a concrete entry class inheriting from CSV class:  
MyEntry <- R6::R6Class("MyEntry", inherit=biodb::BiodbXmlEntry)
```

---

checkDeprecatedCacheFolders

*Check deprecated default cache folders.*

---

### Description

Searches for a deprecated location of the default cache folder, and moves files to the new location if possible. Otherwise raises a warning.

### Usage

```
checkDeprecatedCacheFolders()
```

### Value

Nothing.

### Examples

```
biodb::checkDeprecatedCacheFolders()
```

---

closeMatchPpm

*Close match PPM*

---

### Description

Matches peaks between two spectra.

### Usage

```
closeMatchPpm(x, y, xidx, yidx, xlength, dppm, dmz)
```

### Arguments

x	sorted M/Z values (ascending order) of input spectrum (no NA).
y	sorted M/Z values (ascending order) of reference spectrum (no NA).
xidx	indices of the M/Z peaks of x, taken from the original spectrum ordered in decreasing intensity values.
yidx	indices of the M/Z peaks of y, taken from the original spectrum ordered in decreasing intensity values.
xlength	The length of the output.
dppm	The M/Z tolerance in PPM.
dmz	Minimum M/Z tolerance.

**Value**

A list of results.

---

CompCsvFileConn	<i>Compound CSV File connector class.</i>
-----------------	---

---

**Description**

Compound CSV File connector class.

Compound CSV File connector class.

**Details**

This is the connector class for a Compound CSV file database.

**Super classes**

[biodb::BiodbConnBase](#) -> [biodb::BiodbConn](#) -> [biodb::CsvFileConn](#) -> CompCsvFileConn

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [CompCsvFileConn\\$new\(\)](#)
- [CompCsvFileConn\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Connector classes must not be instantiated directly. Instead, you must use the `createConn()` method of the factory class.

*Usage:*

```
CompCsvFileConn$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
CompCsvFileConn$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

Super class [CsvFileConn](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get a connector:
chebi_file <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.tsv", package="biodb")
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.csv.file', url=chebi_file)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

CompCsvFileEntry	<i>Compound CSV File entry class.</i>
------------------	---------------------------------------

---

## Description

Compound CSV File entry class.

Compound CSV File entry class.

## Details

This is the entry class for Compound CSV file databases.

## Super classes

`biodb::BiodbEntry` -> `biodb::BiodbCsvEntry` -> `CompCsvFileEntry`

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `CompCsvFileEntry$new()`
- `CompCsvFileEntry$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Entry objects must not be created directly. Instead, they are retrieved through the connector instances.

*Usage:*

```
CompCsvFileEntry$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
CompCsvFileEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

Super class [BiodbCsvEntry](#).

**Examples**

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get a connector that inherits from CsvFileConn:
chebi_file <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.tsv", package="biodb")
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.csv.file', url=chebi_file)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

 CompSqliteConn

*Class for handling a Compound database in SQLite format.*

---

**Description**

This is the connector class for a Compound database.

**Super classes**

[biodb::BiodbConnBase](#) -> [biodb::BiodbConn](#) -> [biodb::SqliteConn](#) -> CompSqliteConn

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [CompSqliteConn\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
CompSqliteConn$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

Super class [SqliteConn](#).

**Examples**

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get a connector:
chebi_file <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.sqlite", package="biodb")
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.sqlite', url=chebi_file)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('1018')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

CompSqliteEntry	<i>Compound SQLite entry class.</i>
-----------------	-------------------------------------

---

**Description**

This is the entry class for a Compound SQLite database.

**Super classes**

[biodb::BiodbEntry](#) -> [biodb::BiodbListEntry](#) -> [CompSqliteEntry](#)

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [CompSqliteEntry\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
CompSqliteEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

**See Also**

Super class [BiodbListEntry](#).

### Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get path to LCMS database example file
lcmsdb <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.sqlite", package="biodb")

# Create a connector
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.sqlite', url=lcmsdb)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('34.pos.col12.0.78')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

connNameToClassPrefix *Convert connector name into class prefix.*

---

### Description

Converts the connector name into the class prefix (e.g.: "mass.csv.file" -> "MassCsvFile").

### Usage

```
connNameToClassPrefix(connName)
```

### Arguments

connName            A connector name (e.g.: "mass.csv.file").

### Value

The corresponding class prefix (e.g.: "MassCsvFile").

---

createBiodbTestInstance

*Creating a BiodbMain instance for tests.*

---

### Description

Creates a BiodbMain instance with options specially adapted for tests. You can request the logging of all messages into a log file. It is also possible to ask for the creation of a BiodbTestMsgAck observer, which will receive all messages and emit a testthat test for each message. This will allow the testthat output to not stall a long time while, for example, downloading or extracting a database. Do not forget to call terminate() on your instance at the end of your tests.

**Usage**

```
createBiodbTestInstance(ack = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

ack                    If set to TRUE, an instance of BiodbTestMsgAck will be attached to the BiodbMain instance.

**Value**

The created BiodbMain instance.

**Examples**

```
# Instantiate a BiodbMain instance for testing
biodb <- biodb::createBiodbTestInstance()

# Terminate the instance
biodb$terminate()
```

---

CsvFileConn

*CSV File connector class.*

---

**Description**

CSV File connector class.

CSV File connector class.

**Details**

This is the abstract connector class for all CSV file databases.

**Super classes**

[biodb::BiodbConnBase](#) -> [biodb::BiodbConn](#) -> [CsvFileConn](#)

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [CsvFileConn\\$new\(\)](#)
- [CsvFileConn\\$getCsvQuote\(\)](#)
- [CsvFileConn\\$setCsvQuote\(\)](#)
- [CsvFileConn\\$getCsvSep\(\)](#)
- [CsvFileConn\\$setCsvSep\(\)](#)
- [CsvFileConn\\$getFieldNames\(\)](#)
- [CsvFileConn\\$hasField\(\)](#)

- `CsvFileConn$addField()`
- `CsvFileConn$getFieldColName()`
- `CsvFileConn$setField()`
- `CsvFileConn$getFieldsAndColumnsAssociation()`
- `CsvFileConn$getUnassociatedColumns()`
- `CsvFileConn$print()`
- `CsvFileConn$setDb()`
- `CsvFileConn$setIgnoreUnassignedColumns()`
- `CsvFileConn$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Connector classes must not be instantiated directly. Instead, you must use the `createConn()` method of the factory class.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getCsvQuote()`: Gets the characters used to delimit quotes in the CSV database file.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$getCsvQuote()
```

*Returns:* The characters used to delimit quotes as a single character value.

**Method** `setCsvQuote()`: Sets the characters used to delimit quotes in the CSV database file.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$setCsvQuote(quote)
```

*Arguments:*

quote The characters used to delimit quotes as a single character value.

You may specify several characters. Example `"\\\""`.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getCsvSep()`: Gets the current CSV separator used for the database file.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$getCsvSep()
```

*Returns:* The CSV separator as a character value.

**Method** `setCsvSep()`: Sets the CSV separator to be used for the database file. If this method is called after the loading of the database, it will throw an error.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$setCsvSep(sep)
```

*Arguments:*

sep The CSV separator as a character value.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getFieldNames(): Get the list of all biodb fields handled by this database.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$getFieldNames()
```

*Returns:* A character vector of the biodb field names.

**Method** hasField(): Tests if a field is defined for this database instance.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$hasField(field)
```

*Arguments:*

field A valid Biodb entry field name.

*Returns:* TRUE if the field is defined, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** addField(): Adds a new field to the database. The field must not already exist. The same single value will be set to all entries for this field. A new column will be written in the memory data frame, containing the value given.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$addField(field, value)
```

*Arguments:*

field A valid Biodb entry field name.

value The value to set for this field.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getFieldColName(): Get the column name corresponding to a Biodb field.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$getFieldColName(field)
```

*Arguments:*

field A valid Biodb entry field name. This field must be defined for this database instance.

*Returns:* The column name from the CSV file.

**Method** setField(): Sets a field by making a correspondence between a Biodb field and one or more columns of the loaded data frame.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$setField(field, colname, ignore.if.missing = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

field A valid Biodb entry field name. This field must not be already defined for this database instance.

colname A character vector containing one or more column names from the CSV file.

ignore.if.missing Deprecated parameter.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getFieldsAndColumnsAssociation()`: Gets the association between biodb field names and CSV file column names.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$getFieldsAndColumnsAssociation()
```

*Returns:* A list with names being the biodb field names and values being a character vector of column names from the CSV file.

**Method** `getUnassociatedColumns()`: Gets the list of unassociated column names from the CSV file.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$getUnassociatedColumns()
```

*Returns:* A character vector containing column names.

**Method** `print()`: Prints a description of this connector.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$print()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `setDb()`: Sets the database directly from a data frame. You must not have set the database previously with the URL parameter.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$setDb(db)
```

*Arguments:*

`db` A data frame containing your database.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `setIgnoreUnassignedColumns()`: Tells the connector to ignore or not the columns found in the CSV file for which no assignment were found.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$setIgnoreUnassignedColumns(ignore)
```

*Arguments:*

`ignore` Set to TRUE to ignore the unassigned columns, and to FALSE otherwise.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
CsvFileConn$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

Super classes [BiodbConn](#), and sub-classes [CompCsvFileConn](#), [MassCsvFileConn](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get a connector that inherits from CsvFileConn:
chebi_file <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.tsv", package="biodb")
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.csv.file', url=chebi_file)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('1018')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

df2str

*Convert a data.frame into a string.*

---

## Description

Prints a data frame (partially if too big) into a string.

## Usage

```
df2str(x, rowCut = 5, colCut = 5)
```

## Arguments

x	The data frame object.
rowCut	The maximum of rows to print.
colCut	The maximum of columns to print.

## Value

A string containing the data frame representation (or part of it).

## Examples

```
# Converts the first 5 rows and first 6 columns of a data frame into a
# string:
x <- data.frame(matrix(1:160, nrow=10, byrow=TRUE))
s <- df2str(x, rowCut=5, colCut=6)
```

---

doesRCurlRequestUriExist

*Test if a URL is valid according to RCurl*

---

### Description

Test if a URL is valid according to RCurl

### Usage

```
doesRCurlRequestUriExist(request, useragent = NULL)
```

### Arguments

request	A BiodbRequest object, from which the URL will be gotten.
useragent	The user agent identification.

### Value

Returns TRUE if the URL

---

error	<i>Throw an error and log it too.</i>
-------	---------------------------------------

---

### Description

Throws an error and logs it too with biodb logger.

### Usage

```
error(...)
```

### Arguments

...	Values to be passed to sprintf().
-----	-----------------------------------

### Value

Nothing.

### Examples

```
# Throws an error:
tryCatch(biodb::error('Index is %d.', 10), error=function(e){e$message})
```

---

error0	<i>Throw an error and log it too.</i>
--------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Throws an error and logs it too with biodb logger, using paste0().

**Usage**

```
error0(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Values to be passed to paste0().

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```
# Throws an error:
tryCatch(biodb::error0('Index is ', 10, '.'), error=function(e){e$message})
```

---

ExtConnClass	<i>Extension connector clas</i>
--------------	---------------------------------

---

**Description**

A class for generating a new connector class.

**Details**

This class generates a new connector class from given parameters. The new class inherits from BiodbConn. It can be defined as a compound or mass database connector, and made downloadable, editable and/or writable.

**Super classes**

```
biodb::ExtGenerator -> biodb::ExtFileGenerator -> ExtConnClass
```

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [ExtConnClass\\$new\(\)](#)
- [ExtConnClass\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtConnClass$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of `ExtFileGenerator` for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtConnClass$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate a new connector class inside R folder:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtConnClass$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
                        dbTitle='Foo database',
                        connType='mass', remote=TRUE)$generate()
```

---

ExtCpp

*Extension C++ code class*

---

## Description

A class for generating C++ example files (code & test).

## Details

This class generates examples of an R function written in C++ using `Rcpp`, of a pure C++ function used to speed up computing, and of C++ code for testing the pure C++ function. As for the R function written with `Rcpp`, it is tested inside standard `testthat` R code.

## Super class

[biodb::ExtGenerator](#) -> `ExtCpp`

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [ExtCpp\\$new\(\)](#)
- [ExtCpp\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtCpp$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of `ExtGenerator` for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtCpp$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate C++ files
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtCpp$new(path=pkgFolder)$generate()
```

---

ExtDefinitions

*Extension definitions file class*

---

## Description

A class for generating the `definitions.yml` file of a new extension package.

## Details

This class generates the `definitions.yml` of a new extension package, needed for defining the new connector.

## Super classes

[biodb::ExtGenerator](#) -> [biodb::ExtFileGenerator](#) -> `ExtDefinitions`

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [ExtDefinitions\\$new\(\)](#)
- [ExtDefinitions\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtDefinitions$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of `ExtFileGenerator` for the parameters. offers this possibility.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtDefinitions$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate the biodb definitions.yml file inside "inst" folder:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtDefinitions$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
                          dbTitle='Foo database')$generate()
```

---

ExtDescriptionFile      *Extension DESCRIPTION file*

---

## Description

A class for generating a DESCRIPTION file for an extension package.

## Details

This class generates a DESCRIPTION for a biodb extension package.

## Super classes

[biodb::ExtGenerator](#) -> [biodb::ExtFileGenerator](#) -> `ExtDescriptionFile`

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [ExtDescriptionFile\\$new\(\)](#)
- [ExtDescriptionFile\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtDescriptionFile$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of `ExtFileGenerator` for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtDescriptionFile$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

**Examples**

```
# Generate the DESCRIPTION file:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtDescriptionFile$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
                             dbTitle='Foo database', email='j.smith@e.mail',
                             firstname='John', lastname='Smith', rcpp=TRUE,
                             entryType='xml')$generate()
```

---

ExtEntryClass

*Extension entry class*

---

**Description**

A class for generating a new entry class.

**Details**

This class generates a new entry class from given parameters. The new class can inherit directly from `BiodbEntry` or from one of its sub-classes: `BiodbCsvEntry`, `BiodbHtmlEntry`, ...

**Super classes**

`biodb::ExtGenerator` -> `biodb::ExtFileGenerator` -> `ExtEntryClass`

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [ExtEntryClass\\$new\(\)](#)
- [ExtEntryClass\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtEntryClass$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtFileGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtEntryClass$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate a new entry class inside R folder:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtEntryClass$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
                        dbTitle='Foo database',
                        connType='mass', entryType='xml')$generate()
```

---

ExtFileGenerator

*Extension file generator abstract class*

---

## Description

The mother class of all file generators for biodb extension packages.

## Details

All file generator classes for biodb extensions must inherit from this class.

## Super class

[biodb::ExtGenerator](#) -> ExtFileGenerator

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `ExtFileGenerator$new()`
- `ExtFileGenerator$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

#### *Usage:*

```
ExtFileGenerator$new(
  filename = NULL,
  overwrite = FALSE,
  folder = character(),
  template = NULL,
  upgrader = c("fullReplacer", "lineAdder"),
  ...
)
```

#### *Arguments:*

`filename` The name of the generated file.

`overwrite` If set to TRUE, then overwrite existing destination file, even whatever the version of the template file. If set to FALSE, only overwrite if the version of the template file is strictly greater than the existing destination file.

`folder` The destination subfolder inside the package directory, as a character vector of subfolders hierarchy.

`template` The filename of the template to use.

`upgrader` The type of upgrader to use. "fullReplacer" replaces the whole destination file by the template if it is newer (it compares version numbers). "lineAdder" only adds to the destination file the missing lines from the template file.

... See the constructor of ExtGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

#### *Usage:*

```
ExtFileGenerator$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

#### *Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtConnClass$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
  dbTitle='Foo database',
  connType='mass', remote=TRUE)$generate()
```

---

ExtGenerator	<i>Extension generator abstract class</i>
--------------	---

---

## Description

The mother class of all generators for biodb extension packages.

## Details

All generator classes for biodb extensions must inherit from this class.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [ExtGenerator\\$new\(\)](#)
- [ExtGenerator\\$generate\(\)](#)
- [ExtGenerator\\$upgrade\(\)](#)
- [ExtGenerator\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method new():** Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtGenerator$new(  
  path,  
  loadCfg = TRUE,  
  saveCfg = TRUE,  
  pkgName = getPkgName(path),  
  email = "author@e.mail",  
  dbName = "foo.db",  
  dbTitle = "Foo database",  
  pkgLicense = getLicenses(),  
  firstname = "Firstname of author",  
  lastname = "Lastname of author",  
  newPkg = FALSE,  
  connType = getConnTypes(),  
  entryType = getEntryTypes(),  
  editable = FALSE,  
  writable = FALSE,  
  remote = FALSE,  
  downloadable = FALSE,  
  makefile = FALSE,  
  travis = FALSE,  
  rcpp = FALSE,  
  vignetteName = getPkgName(path),  
  githubRepos = getReposName(path, default = "myaccount/myrepos")  
)
```

*Arguments:*

path The path to the package folder.  
 loadCfg Set to FALSE to disable loading of tag values from config file "biodb\_ext.yml".  
 saveCfg Set to FALSE to disable saving of tag values into config file "biodb\_ext.yml".  
 pkgName The package name. If set to NULL, the folder name pointer by the "path" parameter will be used as the package name.  
 email The email of the author.  
 dbName The name of the database (in biodb format "my.db.name"), that will be used in "definitions.yml" file and for connector and entry classes.  
 dbTitle The official name of the database (e.g.: HMDB, UniProtKB, KEGG).  
 pkgLicense The license of the package.  
 firstname The firstname of the author.  
 lastname The lastname of the author.  
 newPkg Set to TRUE if the package is not yet published on Bioconductor.  
 connType The type of connector class to implement.  
 entryType The type of entry class to implement.  
 editable Set to TRUE to allow the generated connector to create new entries in memory.  
 writable Set to TRUE to enable the generated connector to write into the database.  
 remote Set to TRUE if the database to connect to is not local.  
 downloadable Set to TRUE if the database needs to be downloaded or offers this possibility.  
 makefile Set to TRUE if you want a Makefile to be generated.  
 travis Set to TRUE if you want a .travis.yml file to be generated.  
 rcpp Set to TRUE to enable Rcpp C/C++ code inside the package.  
 vignetteName Set to the name of the default/main vignette.  
 githubRepos Set to the name of the associated GitHub repository. Example: myaccount/myrepos.  
*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** generate(): Generates the destination file(s).

*Usage:*

```
ExtGenerator$generate(overwrite = FALSE, fail = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

overwrite If set to TRUE and destination files exist, overwrite the destination files.

fail If set to FALSE, do not fail if destination files exist, just do nothing and return.

*Examples:*

```
# Generate a new extension package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
biodb::ExtPackage$new(pkgFolder)$generate()
```

**Method** upgrade(): Upgrade the destination file(s).

*Usage:*

```
ExtGenerator$upgrade(generate = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

generate If set to FALSE, and destination file(s) do not exist, then do not generate them.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtGenerator$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate a new connector class inside the R folder:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtConnClass$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
                        dbTitle='Foo database',
                        connType='mass', remote=TRUE)$generate()

## -----
## Method `ExtGenerator$generate`
## -----

# Generate a new extension package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
biodb::ExtPackage$new(pkgFolder)$generate()
```

---

ExtGitignore

*Extension Gitignore file class*

---

## Description

A class for generating the `.gitignore` file of an extension package.

## Details

This class can be used to generate a new `.gitignore` file or to keep one up to date.

## Super classes

```
biodb::ExtGenerator -> biodb::ExtFileGenerator -> ExtGitignore
```

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `ExtGitignore$new()`
- `ExtGitignore$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtGitignore$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtFileGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtGitignore$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtGitignore$new(path=pkgFolder)$generate()
```

---

ExtLicense

*Extension license*

---

## Description

A class for generating or upgrading the license of a biodb extension package.

## Details

This class generates the license for a new extension package, or update the license of an existing one.

## Super classes

[biodb::ExtGenerator](#) -> [biodb::ExtFileGenerator](#) -> ExtLicense

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [ExtLicense\\$new\(\)](#)
- [ExtLicense\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** new(): Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtLicense$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtFileGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtLicense$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

### Examples

```
# Generate a new connector class inside R folder:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtLicense$new(path=pkgFolder)$generate()
```

---

ExtMakefile

*Extension Makefile*

---

### Description

A class for generating a Makefile for an extension package.

### Details

This class generates a Makefile, usable on UNIX-like platforms, for managing a biodb extension package. Targets are automatically generated for running CRAN check, Bioconductor check, test-that tests, compiling, generating documentation, cleaning, etc.

### Super class

```
biodb::ExtGenerator -> ExtMakefile
```

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- `ExtMakefile$new()`
- `ExtMakefile$clone()`

**Method** new(): Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtMakefile$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtMakefile$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate a new connector class inside R folder:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtMakefile$new(path=pkgFolder)$generate()
```

---

ExtPackage

*Extension package class*

---

## Description

A class for generating the skeleton of a new extension package.

## Details

This class manages the files of an extension package.

It can generate all the files of a new extension package: DESCRIPTION, NEWS, README.md, tests, definitons.yml, etc. Optionnaly it also generates other files like: a .travis.yml file for Travis-CI, a Makefile for easing development on UNIX-like platforms outside of Rstudio.

It can also upgrade files of an existing package like: definitions.yml, Makefile, .travis.yml, LICENSE, etc.

## Super class

`biodb::ExtGenerator` -> ExtPackage

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `ExtPackage$new()`
- `ExtPackage$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtPackage$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtPackage$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

**Examples**

```
# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtPackage$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
                      dbTitle='Foo database', rcpp=TRUE,
                      connType='mass', entryType='txt', downloadable=TRUE,
                      remote=TRUE)$generate()
```

---

ExtPackageFile

*Extension package file class.*

---

**Description**

A class for generating the package.R file for a biodb extension.

**Details**

This class generates the package.R file, writing a reference to the generated skeleton vignette, and possibly including directives for C++ code.

**Super classes**

[biodb::ExtGenerator](#) -> [biodb::ExtFileGenerator](#) -> ExtPackageFile

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [ExtPackageFile\\$new\(\)](#)
- [ExtPackageFile\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** new(): Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtPackageFile$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtFileGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtPackageFile$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

**Examples**

```
# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtPackageFile$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db')$generate()
```

---

 ExtRbuildignore

*Extension Rbuildignore file class*


---

**Description**

A class for generating the .Rbuildignore file of an extension package.

**Details**

This class can be used to generate a new .Rbuildignore file or to keep one up to date.

**Super classes**

`biodb::ExtGenerator` -> `biodb::ExtFileGenerator` -> `ExtRbuildignore`

**Methods****Public methods:**

- `ExtRbuildignore$new()`
- `ExtRbuildignore$clone()`

**Method** new(): Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtRbuildignore$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtFileGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtRbuildignore$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

### Examples

```
# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtRbuildignore$new(path=pkgFolder)$generate()
```

---

ExtReadme

*Extension README file class*

---

### Description

A class for generating a README file for a new extension package.

### Details

Write a README file inside package directory, using a template file.

### Super classes

`biodb::ExtGenerator` -> `biodb::ExtFileGenerator` -> `ExtReadme`

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- `ExtReadme$new()`
- `ExtReadme$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtReadme$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of `ExtFileGenerator` for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtReadme$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtReadme$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
                    dbTitle='Foo database')$generate()
```

---

ExtTests

*Extension tests class*

---

## Description

A class for generating test files.

## Details

This class generates a test file for running biodb generic tests, and a test file containing an example of a custom test for this extension.

## Super class

`biodb::ExtGenerator` -> ExtTests

## Methods

### Public methods:

- `ExtTests$new()`
- `ExtTests$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtTests$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtTests$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtTests$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db', rcpp=TRUE,
                    remote=TRUE)$generate()
```

---

ExtTravisFile

*Extension Travis YAML file generator class*

---

## Description

A class for generating a .travis.yml file for a new extension package.

## Details

Write a .travis.yml file inside the package directory, using a template file.

## Super classes

[biodb::ExtGenerator](#) -> [biodb::ExtFileGenerator](#) -> ExtTravisFile

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [ExtTravisFile\\$new\(\)](#)
- [ExtTravisFile\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method new():** Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
ExtTravisFile$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of ExtFileGenerator for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method clone():** The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
ExtTravisFile$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

**Examples**

```
# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtTravisFile$new(path=pkgFolder, email='myname@e.mail')$generate()
```

---

 ExtVignette

*Extension vignette class*


---

**Description**

A class for generating a vignette example for an extension package.

**Details**

This class generates a vignette file, serving as example to demonstrate the use of the extension package.

**Super classes**

`biodb::ExtGenerator` -> `biodb::ExtFileGenerator` -> `ExtVignette`

**Methods****Public methods:**

- `ExtVignette$new()`
- `ExtVignette$clone()`

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

`ExtVignette$new(...)`

*Arguments:*

... See the constructor of `ExtFileGenerator` for the parameters.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

`ExtVignette$clone(deep = FALSE)`

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::ExtVignette$new(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
                      dbTitle='Foo database', vignetteName='main',
                      firstname='John', lastname='Smith',
                      remote=TRUE)$generate()
```

---

FileTemplate

*File template class.*

---

## Description

A class for reading a file template, replacing tags inside, and writing the results in an output file.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [FileTemplate\\$new\(\)](#)
- [FileTemplate\\$replace\(\)](#)
- [FileTemplate\\$choose\(\)](#)
- [FileTemplate\\$select\(\)](#)
- [FileTemplate\\$write\(\)](#)
- [FileTemplate\\$getLines\(\)](#)
- [FileTemplate\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
FileTemplate$new(path)
```

*Arguments:*

path The path to the template file.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `replace()`: Replace a tag by its value inside the template file.

*Usage:*

```
FileTemplate$replace(tag, value)
```

*Arguments:*

tag The tag to replace.

value The value to replace the tag with.

*Returns:* invisible(self) for chaining method calls.

**Method** `choose()`: Choose one case among a set of cases.

*Usage:*

```
FileTemplate$choose(set, case)
```

*Arguments:*

`set` The name of the case set.

`case` The name of case.

*Returns:* `invisible(self)` for chaining method calls.

**Method** `select()`: Select or remove sections that match a name.

*Usage:*

```
FileTemplate$select(section, enable)
```

*Arguments:*

`section` The name of the section.

`enable` Set to `TRUE` to select the section (and keep it), and `FALSE` to remove it.

*Returns:* `invisible(self)` for chaining method calls.

**Method** `write()`: Write template with replaced values to disk.

*Usage:*

```
FileTemplate$write(path, overwrite = FALSE, checkRemainingTags = TRUE)
```

*Arguments:*

`path` Path to output file.

`overwrite` If set to `FALSE` and the destination file already exists, a message is thrown. Otherwise writes into the destination.

`checkRemainingTags` If set to `TRUE`, checks first, before writing, if there any remaining tags that have not been processed. A warning is thrown for each found tag.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getLines()`: Get the lines of the templates.

*Usage:*

```
FileTemplate$getLines()
```

*Returns:* A vector containing the lines of the templates.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
FileTemplate$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

---

genNewExtPkg	<i>Generate a new extension package for biodb.</i>
--------------	--

---

**Description**

Generates all the necessary files for a new extension package.

**Usage**

```
genNewExtPkg(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Parameters passed to [ExtPackage](#) constructor.

**Value**

Nothing.

**See Also**

[ExtPackage](#).

**Examples**

```
# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::genNewExtPkg(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
                    dbTitle='Foo database', rcpp=TRUE,
                    connType='mass', entryType='txt', downloadable=TRUE,
                    remote=TRUE)
```

---

getBaseUrlContent	<i>Get URL content using base::url().</i>
-------------------	---

---

**Description**

Get URL content using `base::url()`.

**Usage**

```
getBaseUrlContent(u, binary = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

u	The URL as a character value.
binary	Set to TRUE if the content to be retrieved is binary.

**Value**

The URL content as a character single value.

---

```
getBaseUrlRequestResult
```

*Get URL request result using base::url().*

---

**Description**

Get URL request result using base::url().

**Usage**

```
getBaseUrlRequestResult(request)
```

**Arguments**

request	A BiodbRequest object.
---------	------------------------

**Value**

A RequestResult object.

---

```
getConnClassName
```

*Get connector class name.*

---

**Description**

Gets the name of the connector class corresponding to a connector.

**Usage**

```
getConnClassName(connName)
```

**Arguments**

connName	A connector name (e.g.: "mass.csv.file").
----------	---

**Value**

The name of the corresponding connector class (e.g.: "MassCsvFileConn").

**Examples**

```
biodb::getConnClassName('foo.db')
```

---

getConnTypes	<i>Get connector types.</i>
--------------	-----------------------------

---

**Description**

Get the list of available connector types.

**Usage**

```
getConnTypes()
```

**Value**

A character vector containing the connector types.

**Examples**

```
biodb::getConnTypes()
```

---

getDefaultCacheDir	<i>Get default cache folder.</i>
--------------------	----------------------------------

---

**Description**

Returns the path to the default cache folder.

**Usage**

```
getDefaultCacheDir()
```

**Value**

The path to the cache folder.

**Examples**

```
cacheFolderPath <- biodb::getDefaultCacheDir()
```

---

getEntryClassName      *Get entry class name.*

---

**Description**

Gets the name of the entry class corresponding to a connector.

**Usage**

```
getEntryClassName(connName)
```

**Arguments**

connName      A connector name (e.g.: "mass.csv.file").

**Value**

The name of the corresponding entry class (e.g.: "MassCsvFileEntry").

**Examples**

```
biodb::getEntryClassName('foo.db')
```

---

getEntryTypes      *Get entry types.*

---

**Description**

Get the list of available entry types.

**Usage**

```
getEntryTypes()
```

**Value**

A character vector containing the entry types.

**Examples**

```
biodb::getEntryTypes()
```

---

`getLicenses`*Get the available licenses for extension packages.*

---

**Description**

Get the available licenses for extension packages.

**Usage**

```
getLicenses()
```

**Value**

A character vector containing license names.

**Examples**

```
biodb::getLicenses()
```

---

`getLogger`*Get the main package logger.*

---

**Description**

Gets the main package logger, parent of all loggers of this package.

**Usage**

```
getLogger()
```

**Value**

The main package logger (named "biodb") as a `lgr::Logger` object.

**Examples**

```
biodb::getLogger()
```

---

getPkgName	<i>Get the package name from a package folder path.</i>
------------	---

---

### Description

The package name is extracted from the path by taking the basename.

### Usage

```
getPkgName(pkgRoot, check = TRUE)
```

### Arguments

pkgRoot	The path to the root folder of the package.
check	If set to TRUE the extracted package name is checked against regular expression <code>"^biodb[A-Z][A-Za-z0-9]+\$"</code> , to ensure the format is respected.

### Value

The package name of the biodb extension.

### Examples

```
biodb::getPkgName('/my/path/to/my/extension/biodbFoo')
```

---

getRCurlContent	<i>Get URL content using RCurl::getURL().</i>
-----------------	---

---

### Description

Get URL content using RCurl::getURL().

### Usage

```
getRCurlContent(
  u,
  opts = NULL,
  enc = integer(),
  header.fct = NULL,
  ssl.verifypeer = TRUE,
  method = c("get", "post"),
  binary = FALSE
)
```

**Arguments**

<code>u</code>	The URL as a character value.
<code>opts</code>	A valid RCurl options object.
<code>enc</code>	The encoding.
<code>header.fct</code>	An RCurl header gatherer function.
<code>ssl.verifypeer</code>	Set to TRUE to enable SSL verify peer.
<code>method</code>	The HTTP method to use, either 'get' or 'post'.
<code>binary</code>	Set to TRUE if the content to be retrieved is binary.

**Value**

The URL content as a character single value.

---

`getRCurlRequestResult` *Get URL request result using RCurl::getURL().*

---

**Description**

Get URL request result using RCurl::getURL().

**Usage**

```
getRCurlRequestResult(request, useragent = NULL, ssl.verifypeer = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>request</code>	A BiodbRequest object.
<code>useragent</code>	The user agent identification.
<code>ssl.verifypeer</code>	Set to TRUE to enable SSL verify peer.

**Value**

A RequestResult object.

---

getReposName	<i>Extract the repository name from a package folder.</i>
--------------	---

---

**Description**

Given the root path of a package, returns the GitHub repository name.

**Usage**

```
getReposName(pkgRoot, default = NULL)
```

**Arguments**

pkgRoot	The path to the root folder of the package.
default	A default value to return in case git4r package is not available or the folder is not a Git repository.

**Value**

The repository name.

**Examples**

```
biodb::getReposName('/my/path/to/my/extension/biodbFoo')
```

---

getTestOutputDir	<i>Get the test output directory.</i>
------------------	---------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Returns the path to the test output directory. The function creates this also this directory if it does not exist.

**Usage**

```
getTestOutputDir()
```

**Value**

The path to the test output directory, as a character value.

**Examples**

```
# Get the test output directory:  
biodb::getTestOutputDir()
```

---

getUrlContent	<i>Get a URL content.</i>
---------------	---------------------------

---

**Description**

Get a URL content.

**Usage**

```
getUrlContent(u, binary = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

u	The URL as a single character value.
binary	Set to TRUE if the content to be retrieved is binary.

**Value**

The content, as a single character value.

---

getUrlRequestResult	<i>Send a request and get results.</i>
---------------------	--

---

**Description**

Send a request and get results.

**Usage**

```
getUrlRequestResult(request, useragent = NULL, ssl.verifypeer = TRUE)
```

**Arguments**

request	A BiodbRequest object.
useragent	The user agent identification.
ssl.verifypeer	Set to TRUE to enable SSL verify peer.

**Value**

A RequestResult object.

---

`listTestRefEntries`      *List test reference entries.*

---

### Description

DEPRECATED. Use TestRefEntries class instead.

### Usage

```
listTestRefEntries(conn.id, pkgName, limit = 0)
```

### Arguments

<code>conn.id</code>	A valid Biodb connector ID.
<code>pkgName</code>	The name of the
<code>limit</code>	The maximum number of entries to retrieve.

### Details

Lists the reference entries in the test folder for a specified connector. The test reference files must be in `<pkg>/inst/testref/` folder and their names must match `entry-<database_name>-<entry_accession>.json` (e.g.: `entry-comp.csv.file-1018.json`).

### Value

A list of entry IDs.

### Examples

```
# List IDs of test reference entries:
biodb::listTestRefEntries('comp.csv.file', pkgName='biodb')
```

---

`loadFileContents`      *Loads the contents of files in memory.*

---

### Description

This function loads the contents of a list of files and returns the contents as a list, each element being the content of a single file, in the same order. If a file could not be opened, a NULL value is used as the content. NA values are interpreted by default, but this behaviour can be turned off.

### Usage

```
loadFileContents(x, naValues = "NA", outVect = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

x	A character vector containing the paths of the files.
naValues	A character vector listing the content values to convert into NA value. Set to NULL to disable the interpretation of NA values. set to a different set of values to be interpreted.
outVect	If set to TRUE outputs a character vector (converting any NULL value into NA), otherwise outputs a list.

**Value**

A list with the contents of the files.

---

logDebug	<i>Log debug message.</i>
----------	---------------------------

---

**Description**

Logs a debug level message with biodb logger.

**Usage**

```
logDebug(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Values to be passed to sprintf().

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```
# Logs a debug message:  
biodb::logDebug('Index is %d.', 10)
```

---

logDebug0	<i>Log debug message.</i>
-----------	---------------------------

---

**Description**

Logs a debug level message with biodb logger, using paste0().

**Usage**

```
logDebug0(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Values to be passed to paste0()

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```
# Logs a debug message:  
biodb::logDebug0('Index is ', 10, '.')
```

---

logInfo	<i>Log information message.</i>
---------	---------------------------------

---

**Description**

Logs an information level message with biodb logger.

**Usage**

```
logInfo(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Values to be passed to sprintf().

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```
# Logs an info message:  
biodb::logInfo('Index is %d.', 10)
```

---

logInfo0	<i>Log information message.</i>
----------	---------------------------------

---

**Description**

Logs an information level message with biodb logger, using paste0().

**Usage**

```
logInfo0(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Values to be passed to paste0().

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```
# Logs an info message:  
biodb::logInfo0('Index is ', 10, '.')
```

---

logTrace	<i>Log trace message.</i>
----------	---------------------------

---

**Description**

Logs a trace level message with biodb logger.

**Usage**

```
logTrace(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Values to be passed to sprintf().

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```
# Logs a trace message:  
biodb::logTrace('Index is %d.', 10)
```

---

logTrace0	<i>Log trace message.</i>
-----------	---------------------------

---

**Description**

Logs a trace level message with biodb logger, using paste0().

**Usage**

```
logTrace0(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Values to be passed to paste0()

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```
# Logs a trace message:  
biodb::logTrace0('Index is ', 10, '.')
```

---

lst2str	<i>Convert a list into a string.</i>
---------	--------------------------------------

---

**Description**

Prints a string (partially if too big) into a string.

**Usage**

```
lst2str(x, nCut = 10)
```

**Arguments**

x The list to convert into a string.  
nCut The maximum of elements to print.

**Value**

A string containing the list representation (or part of it).

**Examples**

```
# Converts the first 5 elements of a list into a string:
s <- lst2str(1:10, nCut=5)
```

---

makeRCurlOptions      *Build an RCurl::CURLOptions object.*

---

**Description**

Build an RCurl::CURLOptions object.

**Usage**

```
makeRCurlOptions(  
  useragent = NULL,  
  httpheader = NULL,  
  postfields = NULL,  
  timeout.ms = 60000,  
  verbose = FALSE  
)
```

**Arguments**

useragent	The user agent identification.
httpheader	The HTTP header to send.
postfields	POST fields, in case of a POST method.
timeout.ms	The timeout in milliseconds.
verbose	Set to TRUE to get verbose output in RCurl.

**Value**

An RCurl::CURLOptions object.

---

MassCsvFileConn      *Mass CSV File connector class.*

---

### Description

Mass CSV File connector class.

Mass CSV File connector class.

### Details

This is the connector class for a MASS CSV file database.

### Super classes

[biodb::BiodbConnBase](#) -> [biodb::BiodbConn](#) -> [biodb::CsvFileConn](#) -> MassCsvFileConn

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- [MassCsvFileConn\\$new\(\)](#)
- [MassCsvFileConn\\$getPrecursorFormulae\(\)](#)
- [MassCsvFileConn\\$isAPrecursorFormula\(\)](#)
- [MassCsvFileConn\\$setPrecursorFormulae\(\)](#)
- [MassCsvFileConn\\$addPrecursorFormulae\(\)](#)
- [MassCsvFileConn\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Connector classes must not be instantiated directly. Instead, you must use the `createConn()` method of the factory class.

*Usage:*

`MassCsvFileConn$new(...)`

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getPrecursorFormulae()`: Gets the list of formulae used to recognize precursors.

*Usage:*

`MassCsvFileConn$getPrecursorFormulae()`

*Returns:* A character vector containing chemical formulae.

**Method** `isAPrecursorFormula()`: Tests if a formula is a precursor formula.

*Usage:*

`MassCsvFileConn$isAPrecursorFormula(formula)`

*Arguments:*

formula A chemical formula, as a character value.

*Returns:* TRUE if the submitted formula is considered a precursor.

**Method** setPrecursorFormulae(): Sets the list precursor formulae.

*Usage:*

```
MassCsvFileConn$setPrecursorFormulae(formulae)
```

*Arguments:*

formulae A character vector containing formulae.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** addPrecursorFormulae(): Adds new formulae to the list of formulae used to recognize precursors.

*Usage:*

```
MassCsvFileConn$addPrecursorFormulae(formulae)
```

*Arguments:*

formulae A character vector containing formulae.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
MassCsvFileConn$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

Super class [CsvFileConn](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get path to LCMS database example file
lcmsdb <- system.file("extdata",
                      "massbank_extract_lcms_2.tsv", package="biodb")

# Create a connector
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('mass.csv.file', url=lcmsdb)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('PR010001')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

MassCsvFileEntry      *Mass CSV File entry class.*

---

### Description

Mass CSV File entry class.

Mass CSV File entry class.

### Details

This is the entry class for Mass CSV file databases.

### Super classes

[biodb::BiodbEntry](#) -> [biodb::BiodbCsvEntry](#) -> MassCsvFileEntry

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- [MassCsvFileEntry\\$new\(\)](#)
- [MassCsvFileEntry\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Entry objects must not be created directly. Instead, they are retrieved through the connector instances.

*Usage:*

`MassCsvFileEntry$new(...)`

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

`MassCsvFileEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)`

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

Super class [BiodbCsvEntry](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get path to LCMS database example file
lcmsdb <- system.file("extdata",
                     "massbank_extract_lcms_2.tsv", package="biodb")

# Create a connector
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('mass.csv.file', url=lcmsdb)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('PR010001')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

MassSqliteConn

*Class for handling a Mass spectrometry database in SQLite format.*

---

## Description

This is the connector class for a MASS SQLite database.

## Super classes

[biodb::BiodbConnBase](#) -> [biodb::BiodbConn](#) -> [biodb::SqliteConn](#) -> MassSqliteConn

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [MassSqliteConn\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
MassSqliteConn$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

Super class [SqliteConn](#).

### Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get path to LCMS database example file
lcmsdb <- system.file("extdata", "massbank_extract.sqlite", package="biodb")

# Create a connector
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('mass.sqlite', url=lcmsdb)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('34.pos.col12.0.78')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

MassSqliteEntry	<i>Mass spectra SQLite entry class.</i>
-----------------	---

---

### Description

This is the entry class for a Mass spectra SQLite database.

### Super classes

[biodb::BiodbEntry](#) -> [biodb::BiodbListEntry](#) -> [MassSqliteEntry](#)

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- [MassSqliteEntry\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
MassSqliteEntry$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

### See Also

Super class [BiodbListEntry](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get path to LCMS database example file
lcmsdb <- system.file("extdata", "massbank_extract.sqlite", package="biodb")

# Create a connector
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('mass.sqlite', url=lcmsdb)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('34.pos.col12.0.78')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

newInst	<i>Create a new BiodbMain instance.</i>
---------	---

---

## Description

Instantiates a new BiodbMain object by calling the constructor.

## Usage

```
newInst(...)
```

## Arguments

... The parameters to pass to the BiodbMain constructor. See [BiodbMain](#).

## Value

A new BiodbMain instance.

## See Also

[BiodbMain](#).

## Examples

```
# Create a new BiodbMain instance:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Terminate the instance:
mybiodb$terminate()
```

prepareFileContents     *Prepares file contents for saving.*

---

**Description**

Prepares file contents for saving.

**Usage**

```
prepareFileContents(contents)
```

**Arguments**

contents             File contents, as a list or a character vector.

**Value**

File contents.

---

Progress             *Progress class.*

---

**Description**

A class for informing user about the progress of a process.

**Details**

This class displays progress of a process to user, and sends notifications of this progress to observers too.

**Methods****Public methods:**

- [Progress\\$new\(\)](#)
- [Progress\\$increment\(\)](#)
- [Progress\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** new(): Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
Progress$new(biodb = NULL, msg, total = NA_integer_)
```

*Arguments:*

biodb A BiodbMain instance that will be used to notify observers of progress.

msg The message to display to the user.

`total` The total number of elements to process or NA if unknown.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `increment()`: Increment progress.

*Usage:*

```
Progress$increment()
```

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
Progress$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Create an instance
prg <- biodb::Progress$new(msg='Processing data.', total=10L)

# Processing
for (i in seq_len(10)) {
  print("Doing something.")
  prg$increment()
}
```

---

Range

*Range class.*

---

## Description

Range class.

Range class.

## Details

A class for storing min/max range or value/tolerance.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [Range\\$new\(\)](#)
- [Range\\$getValue\(\)](#)
- [Range\\$getMin\(\)](#)
- [Range\\$getMax\(\)](#)

- [Range\\$getMinMax\(\)](#)
- [Range\\$getDelta\(\)](#)
- [Range\\$getPpm\(\)](#)
- [Range\\$getTolExpr\(\)](#)
- [Range\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method new():** Initializer.

*Usage:*

```
Range$new(  
  min = NULL,  
  max = NULL,  
  value = NULL,  
  delta = NULL,  
  ppm = NULL,  
  tol = NULL,  
  tolType = c("delta", "plain", "ppm")  
)
```

*Arguments:*

min The minimum value of the range.

max The maximum value of the range.

value The value.

delta The delta tolerance.

ppm The PPM tolerance.

tol The tolerance value, whose type (ppm or delta) is specified by the "tolType" parameter.

tolType The type of the tolerance value specified by the "tol" parameter.

*Returns:* Nothing.

*Examples:*

```
# Create an instance from min and max:  
Range$new(min=1.2, max=1.5)
```

**Method getValue():** Gets the middle value of the range.

*Usage:*

```
Range$getValue()
```

*Returns:* The middle value.

**Method getMin():** Gets the minimum value of the range.

*Usage:*

```
Range$getMin()
```

*Returns:* The minimum value.

**Method getMax():** Gets the maximum value of the range.

*Usage:*

```
Range$getMax()
```

*Returns:* The maximum value.

**Method** `getMinMax()`: Get the min/max range.

*Usage:*

```
Range$getMinMax()
```

*Returns:* A list containing two fields: "min" and "max".

**Method** `getDelta()`: Gets the delta tolerance of the range.

*Usage:*

```
Range$getDelta()
```

*Returns:* The delta tolerance.

**Method** `getPpm()`: Gets the PPM tolerance of the range.

*Usage:*

```
Range$getPpm()
```

*Returns:* The tolerance in PPM.

**Method** `getTolExpr()`: Gets the tolerance expression as a list.

*Usage:*

```
Range$getTolExpr()
```

*Returns:* A list containing the tolerance range expression.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
Range$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

## Examples

```
# Convert a min/max range into a value/ppm tolerance:
rng <- Range$new(min=0.4, max=0.401)
value <- rng$getValue()
ppm <- rng$getPpm()
```

```
## -----
## Method `Range$new`
## -----
```

```
# Create an instance from min and max:
Range$new(min=1.2, max=1.5)
```

---

RequestResult	<i>Class RequestResult.</i>
---------------	-----------------------------

---

## Description

Class RequestResult.

Class RequestResult.

## Details

Represents the result of a request.

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [RequestResult\\$new\(\)](#)
- [RequestResult\\$getContent\(\)](#)
- [RequestResult\\$getRetry\(\)](#)
- [RequestResult\\$getErrMsg\(\)](#)
- [RequestResult\\$getStatus\(\)](#)
- [RequestResult\\$getRetryAfter\(\)](#)
- [RequestResult\\$getLocation\(\)](#)
- [RequestResult\\$processRequestErrors\(\)](#)
- [RequestResult\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer.

*Usage:*

```
RequestResult$new(  
    content = NULL,  
    retry = FALSE,  
    errMsg = NULL,  
    status = 0,  
    statusMessage = "",  
    retryAfter = NULL,  
    location = NULL  
)
```

*Arguments:*

`content` The result content.

`retry` If request should be resent.

`errMsg` Error message.

`status` HTTP status.

`statusMessage` Status message.

`retryAfter` Time after which to retry.

location New location.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** getContent(): Get content.

*Usage:*

RequestResult\$content()

*Returns:* The content as a character value or NULL.

**Method** getRetry(): Get the retry flag.

*Usage:*

RequestResult\$getRetry()

*Returns:* TRUE if the URL request should be sent again, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** getErrMsg(): Get the error message.

*Usage:*

RequestResult\$getErrMsg()

*Returns:* The error message as a character value or NULL.

**Method** getStatus(): Get the HTTP status of the response.

*Usage:*

RequestResult\$status()

*Returns:* The status as an integer.

**Method** getRetryAfter(): Get the time to wait before retrying.

*Usage:*

RequestResult\$getRetryAfter()

*Returns:* The time.

**Method** getLocation(): Get the redirect location.

*Usage:*

RequestResult\$getLocation()

*Returns:* The redirect location as a character value or NULL.

**Method** processRequestErrors(): Process possible HTTP error.

*Usage:*

RequestResult\$processRequestErrors()

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

RequestResult\$clone(deep = FALSE)

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

---

runGenericTests	<i>Run generic tests.</i>
-----------------	---------------------------

---

### Description

This function must be used in tests on all connector classes, before any specific tests.

### Usage

```
runGenericTests(  
  conn,  
  pkgName,  
  testRefFolder = NULL,  
  opt = NULL,  
  short = TRUE,  
  long = FALSE,  
  maxShortTestRefEntries = 1  
)
```

### Arguments

conn	A valid biodb connector.
pkgName	The name of your package.
testRefFolder	The folder where to find test reference files.
opt	A set of options to pass to the test functions.
short	Run short tests.
long	Run long tests.
maxShortTestRefEntries	The maximum number of reference entries to use in short tests.

### Value

Nothing.

### Examples

```
# Instantiate a Biodb instance for testing  
biodb <- biodb::createBiodbTestInstance()  
  
# Create a connector instance  
lcmsdb <- system.file("extdata", "massbank_extract.tsv", package="biodb")  
conn <- biodb$getFactory()$createConn('mass.csv.file', lcmsdb)  
  
# Run generic tests  
  
biodb::runGenericTests(conn)
```

```
# Terminate the instance
biodb$terminate()
```

---

saveContentsToFiles     *Saves contents to files.*

---

### Description

Saves contents to files.

### Usage

```
saveContentsToFiles(files, contents, prepareContents = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

files	The file paths to use for saving contents.
contents	The contents to save, as a list or a character vector.
prepareContents	If set to TRUE, then calls prepareFileContents() on the contents before saving them.

### Value

Nothing.

---

SQLiteConn     *SQLite connector class.*

---

### Description

SQLite connector class.  
 SQLite connector class.

### Details

This is the abstract connector class for all SQLite databases.

### Super classes

[biodb::BiodbConnBase](#) -> [biodb::BiodbConn](#) -> [SQLiteConn](#)

## Methods

### Public methods:

- [SqliteConn\\$new\(\)](#)
- [SqliteConn\\$hasField\(\)](#)
- [SqliteConn\\$getQuery\(\)](#)
- [SqliteConn\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer. Connector classes must not be instantiated directly. Instead, you must use the `createConn()` method of the factory class.

*Usage:*

```
SqliteConn$new(...)
```

*Arguments:*

... All parameters are passed to the super class initializer.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `hasField()`: Tests if a field is defined for this database instance.

*Usage:*

```
SqliteConn$hasField(field)
```

*Arguments:*

field A valid Biodb entry field name.

*Returns:* TRUE if the field is defined, FALSE otherwise.

**Method** `getQuery()`: Run a query using a biodb SQL object.

*Usage:*

```
SqliteConn$getQuery(query)
```

*Arguments:*

query A valid BiodbSqlQuery object.

*Returns:* The result returned by `DBI::dbGetQuery()` call.

**Method** `clone()`: The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
SqliteConn$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

## See Also

Super class [BiodbConn](#) and sub-classes [CompSqliteConn](#), and [MassSqliteConn](#).

## Examples

```
# Create an instance with default settings:
mybiodb <- biodb::newInst()

# Get a connector that inherits from SqliteConn:
chebi_file <- system.file("extdata", "chebi_extract.sqlite", package="biodb")
conn <- mybiodb$getFactory()$createConn('comp.sqlite', url=chebi_file)

# Get an entry
e <- conn$getEntry('1018')

# Terminate instance.
mybiodb$terminate()
```

---

testContext	<i>Set a test context.</i>
-------------	----------------------------

---

## Description

Define a context for tests using testthat framework. In addition to calling `testthat::context()`.

## Usage

```
testContext(text)
```

## Arguments

text            The text to print as test context.

## Value

No value returned.

## Examples

```
# Define a context before running tests:
biodb::testContext("Test my database connector.")

# Instantiate a BiodbMain instance for testing
biodb <- biodb::createBiodbTestInstance()

# Terminate the instance
biodb$terminate()
```

---

TestRefEntries      *A class for accessing the test reference entries.*

---

### Description

A class for accessing the test reference entries.

A class for accessing the test reference entries.

### Details

The test reference entries are stored as JSON files inside `inst/testref` folder of each extension package.

### Methods

#### Public methods:

- [TestRefEntries\\$new\(\)](#)
- [TestRefEntries\\$getAllIds\(\)](#)
- [TestRefEntries\\$getContents\(\)](#)
- [TestRefEntries\\$getRealEntries\(\)](#)
- [TestRefEntries\\$saveEntriesAsJson\(\)](#)
- [TestRefEntries\\$getRealEntry\(\)](#)
- [TestRefEntries\\$getRefEntry\(\)](#)
- [TestRefEntries\\$getAllRefEntriesDf\(\)](#)
- [TestRefEntries\\$clone\(\)](#)

**Method** `new()`: New instance initializer.

*Usage:*

```
TestRefEntries$new(db.class, pkgName, folder = NULL, bdb = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

`db.class` Identifier of the database.

`pkgName` Name of the package in which are stored the reference entry files.

`folder` The folder where to find test reference files for the package. Usually it is "inst/testref".

`bdb` A valid `BiodbMain` instance or `NULL`.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getAllIds()`: Retrieve all identifiers.

*Usage:*

```
TestRefEntries$getAllIds(limit = 0)
```

*Arguments:*

`limit` The maximum number of identifiers to return.

*Returns:* A character vector containing the IDs.

**Method** `getContents()`: Get the reference contents for the specified IDs.

*Usage:*

```
TestRefEntries$getContents(ids)
```

*Arguments:*

`ids` The reference IDs for which to get the contents.

*Returns:* A character vector.

**Method** `getRealEntries()`: Retrieve all real entries from database corresponding to the reference entries.

*Usage:*

```
TestRefEntries$getRealEntries(ids = NULL)
```

*Arguments:*

`ids` A character vector of entry identifiers.

*Returns:* A list containing `BiodbEntry` instances.

**Method** `saveEntriesAsJson()`: Saves a list of entries into separate JSON files, inside the test output folder.

*Usage:*

```
TestRefEntries$saveEntriesAsJson(ids, entries)
```

*Arguments:*

`ids` The IDs of the entries.

`entries` A list of entries. It can contain `NULL` values.

*Returns:* Nothing.

**Method** `getRealEntry()`: Retrieves one real entry from database corresponding to one reference entry.

*Usage:*

```
TestRefEntries$getRealEntry(id)
```

*Arguments:*

`id` The identifier of the entry.

*Returns:* A `BiodbEntry` instance.

**Method** `getRefEntry()`: Retrieves the content of a single reference entry.

*Usage:*

```
TestRefEntries$getRefEntry(id)
```

*Arguments:*

`id` The identifier of the reference entry to retrieve.

*Returns:* The content of the reference entry as a list.

**Method** `getAllRefEntriesDf()`: Load all reference entries.

*Usage:*

```
TestRefEntries$getAllRefEntriesDf()
```

*Returns:* A data frame containing all the reference entries with their values.

**Method** clone(): The objects of this class are cloneable with this method.

*Usage:*

```
TestRefEntries$clone(deep = FALSE)
```

*Arguments:*

deep Whether to make a deep clone.

### Examples

```
# Creates an instance
refEntries <- TestRefEntries$new('comp.sqlite', pkgName='biodb')

# Gets identifiers of all reference entries
refEntries$getAllIds()

# Gets a data frame with the content of the reference entries
refEntries$getAllRefEntriesDf()
```

---

testThat

*Run a test.*

---

### Description

Run a test function, using testthat framework. In addition to calling `testthat::test_that()`.

### Usage

```
testThat(msg, fct, biodb = NULL, conn = NULL, opt = NULL)
```

### Arguments

msg	The test message.
fct	The function to test.
biodb	A valid BiodbMain instance to be passed to the test function.
conn	A connector instance to be passed to the test function.
opt	A set of options to pass to the test function.

### Value

No value returned.

**Examples**

```

# Define a context before running tests:
biodb::testContext("Test my database connector.")

# Instantiate a BiodbMain instance for testing
biodb <- biodb::createBiodbTestInstance()

# Define a test function
my_test_function <- function(biodb) {
  # Do my tests...
}

# Run test
biodb::testThat("My test works", my_test_function, biodb=biodb)

# Terminate the instance
biodb$terminate()

```

---

 upgradeExtPkg

*Upgrading an existing extension package for biodb.*


---

**Description**

Upgrades some of the files previously generated (.gitignore, .travis.yml, .Rbuildignore, Makefile, etc) to the latest versions.

**Usage**

```
upgradeExtPkg(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Parameters passed to [ExtPackage](#) constructor.

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```

# Generate a new package:
pkgFolder <- file.path(tempfile(), 'biodbFoo')
dir.create(pkgFolder, recursive=TRUE)
biodb::genNewExtPkg(path=pkgFolder, dbName='foo.db',
  dbTitle='Foo database', rcpp=TRUE,
  connType='mass', entryType='txt', downloadable=TRUE,
  remote=TRUE)

# Upgrade it later

```

```
biodb::upgradeExtPkg(path=pkgFolder)
```

---

warn	<i>Throw a warning and log it too.</i>
------	--

---

**Description**

Throws a warning and logs it too with biodb logger.

**Usage**

```
warn(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Values to be passed to sprintf().

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```
# Throws a warning:  
tryCatch(biodb::warn('Index is %d.', 10), warning=function(w){w$message})
```

---

warn0	<i>Throw a warning and log it too.</i>
-------	--

---

**Description**

Throws a warning and logs it too with biodb logger, using paste0().

**Usage**

```
warn0(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Values to be passed to paste0().

**Value**

Nothing.

**Examples**

```
# Throws a warning:  
tryCatch(biodb::warn0('Index is ', 10, '.'), warning=function(w){w$message})
```

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