

# Package ‘Rlabkey’

July 3, 2009

**Version** 0.0.8

**Date** 2009-07-02

**Title** Data retrieval from a Labkey database

**Author** Valerie Obenchain

**SystemRequirements** curl (version 7.12.0 or higher) <<http://curl.haxx.se>>

**Maintainer** Karl Lum <[klum@labkey.com](mailto:klum@labkey.com)>

**Description** This package imports data from a labkey database into an R data frame

**License** Apache License 2.0

**LazyLoad** true

**Depends** RCurl, rjson (>= 0.1.3)

**Repository** CRAN

**Date/Publication** 2009-07-03 07:15:53

## R topics documented:

Rlabkey-package . . . . .	2
labkey.deleteRows . . . . .	3
labkey.executeSql . . . . .	5
labkey.insertRows . . . . .	7
labkey.selectRows . . . . .	9
labkey.updateRows . . . . .	11
makeFilter . . . . .	12
<b>Index</b>	<b>15</b>

---

Rlabkey-package      *Import/export data between a labkey database and R*

---

## Description

This package allows the transfer of data between a labkey database and an R session. Data can be imported from a labkey database into R by specifying the query schema information (`labkey.selectRows`) or by using sql commands (`labkey.executeSql`). From an R session, existing data can be updated (`labkey.updateRows`), new data can be inserted (`labkey.insertRows`) or data can be deleted from the labkey database (`labkey.deleteRows`).

The user must have the appropriate authorization on the labkey server in order to modify the database through the use of these functions.

## Details

```

Package:  Rlabkey
Type:     Package
Version:  0.0.8
Date:     2009-07-01
License:  Apache License 2.0
LazyLoad: yes

```

Using this package to access a password protected labkey data base requires that the user has their login information in a netrc file. The netrc file contains configuration and autologin information for the File Transfer Protocol client (ftp) and other programs such as CURL.

On a UNIX system this file should be named `.netrc` (dot netrc) and on windows it should be named `_netrc` (underscore netrc). The file should be located in the users home directory and the permissions on the file should be unreadable for everybody except the owner.

To create the `_netrc` on a windows machine, first create an environment variable called 'HOME' that is set to your home directory (`c:/Users/<User-Name>` on Vista) or any directory you want to use. In that directory, create a text file named `_netrc` (note that it's underscore netrc, not dot netrc like it is on UNIX).

The following three lines must be included in the `.netrc` or `_netrc` file either separated by white space (spaces, tabs, or newlines) or commas.

```

machine <remote-machine-name>
login <user-email>
password <user-password>

```

One example would be:

```

machine atlas.scharp.org
login vobench@fhcrc.org
password mypassword

```

Another example would be:

```

machine atlas.scharp.org login vobench@fhcrc.org password mypassword

```

**Author(s)**

Valerie Obenchain

**References**

<http://www.omegahat.org/RCurl/>,  
<http://dssm.unipa.it/CRAN/web/packages/rjson/rjson.pdf>,  
<https://www.labkey.org/project/home/begin.view>

**See Also**

[labkey.selectRows](#), [labkey.executeSql](#), [makeFilter](#), [labkey.insertRows](#),  
[labkey.updateRows](#), [labkey.deleteRows](#)

---

labkey.deleteRows *Delete rows of data from a labkey database*

---

**Description**

Specify rows of data to be deleted from the database.

**Usage**

```
labkey.deleteRows(baseUrl, folderPath, schemaName, queryName, toDelete)
```

**Arguments**

baseUrl	a string specifying the baseUrl for labkey server
folderPath	a string specifying the folderPath
schemaName	a string specifying the schemaName for the query
queryName	a string specifying the queryName
toDelete	a data frame containing a single column of data containing the data identifiers of the rows to be deleted

**Details**

A single row or multiple rows of data can be deleted. For the toDelete data frame, version 0.0.5 or later accepts either a single column of data containing the data identifiers (e.g., key or lsid) or the entire row of data to be deleted. The names of the data in the data frame must be the column names from the labkey database. The data frame must be created with the stringsAsFactors set to FALSE.

NOTE: Each variable in a dataset has both a column label and a column name. The column label is visible at the top of each column on the web page and is longer and more descriptive. The column name is shorter and is used “behind the scenes” for database manipulation. It is the column name that must be used in the Rlabkey functions when a column name is expected. To identify a particular

column name in a dataset on a web site, use the “export to R script” option available as a drop down option under the “views” tab for each dataset.

In versions 0.0.5 and earlier, `labkey.deleteRows` had a `stripAllHidden` argument. This argument did not perform a useful function and has since been removed.

## Value

A list is returned with named categories of **command**, **rowsAffected**, **rows**, **queryName**, **containerPath** and **schemaName**. The **schemaName**, **queryName** and **containerPath** properties contain the same schema, query and folder path used in the request. The **rowsAffected** property indicates the number of rows affected by the API action. This will typically be the same number as passed in the request. The **rows** property contains a list of rows corresponding to the rows deleted.

## Author(s)

Valerie Obenchain

## References

<http://www.omegahat.org/RCurl/>,  
<http://dssm.unipa.it/CRAN/web/packages/rjson/rjson.pdf>,  
<https://www.labkey.org/project/home/begin.view>

## See Also

[labkey.selectRows](#), [labkey.executeSql](#), [makeFilter](#), [labkey.insertRows](#),  
[labkey.updateRows](#)

## Examples

```
## Insert, update and delete
# Note that users must have the necessary permissions in the database
# to be able to modify data through the use of these functions

### Not run
#newrow <- data.frame(name="Frank", age=11, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
#labkey.insertRows(
#baseUrl="https://atlas-test.scharp.org/cpas",
#folderPath="/CHAVI/Analysis/vobencha",
#schemaName="lists",
#queryName="testlist",
#toInsert=newrow)
#
#updaterow=data.frame(Key=4,name="Patty",age=11, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
#mydata <- labkey.updateRows(
#baseUrl="https://atlas-test.scharp.org/cpas",
#folderPath="/CHAVI/Analysis/vobencha",
#schemaName="lists",
#queryName="testlist",
#toUpdate=updaterow)
#
```

```
#deleterow <- data.frame(Key=1, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
#mydata <- labkey.deleteRows(
#baseUrl="https://atlas-test.scharp.org/cpas",
#folderPath="/CHAVI/Analysis/vobencha",
#schemaName="lists",
#queryName="testlist",
#toDelete=deleterow)
```

---

labkey.executeSql *Retrieve data from a labkey database using SQL commands*

---

## Description

Use Sql commands to specify data to be imported into R. Prior to import, data can be manipulated through standard SQL commands supported in labkey SQL.

## Usage

```
labkey.executeSql(baseUrl, folderPath, schemaName, sql, maxRows = NULL,
rowOffset = NULL, showHidden = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

baseUrl	a string specifying the baseUrl for the labkey server
folderPath	a string specifying the folderPath
schemaName	a string specifying the schemaName for the query
sql	a string containing the sql commands to be executed
maxRows	(optional) an integer specifying the maximum number of rows to return. If no value is specified, all rows are returned.
rowOffset	(optional) an integer specifying which row of data should be the first row in the retrieval. If no value is specified, rows will begin at the start of the result set.
showHidden	(optional) a logical value indicating whether or not to return data columns that would normally be hidden from user view. If no value is specified, the hidden columns are not returned. In versions 0.0.5 and earlier, this argument was called stripAllHidden. The stripAllHidden argument performed the same function as showHidden but with different logic. The change was made for clarity.

## Details

A full dataset or any portion of a dataset can be imported into an R data frame using the labkey.executeSql function. Function arguments are components of the url that identify the location of the data and the SQL actions that should be taken on the data prior to import.

NOTE: Each variable in a dataset has both a column label and a column name. The column label is visible at the top of each column on the web page and is longer and more descriptive. The column

name is shorter and is used “behind the scenes” for database manipulation. It is the column name that must be used in the Rlabkey functions when a column name is expected. To identify a particular column name in a dataset on a web site, use the “export to R script” option available as a drop down option under the “views” tab for each dataset.

### Value

The requested data are returned in a data frame with column names as they appear on the website.

### Author(s)

Valerie Obenchain

### References

<http://www.omegahat.org/RCurl/>,  
<http://dssm.unipa.it/CRAN/web/packages/rjson/rjson.pdf>,  
<https://www.labkey.org/project/home/begin.view>

### See Also

[labkey.selectRows](#), [makeFilter](#), [labkey.insertRows](#), [labkey.updateRows](#),  
[labkey.deleteRows](#)

### Examples

```
## These example datasets are located at
## https://www.labkey.org/project/home/Study/demo/begin.view?

## Select participants who meet acute status requirements
getacute <- labkey.executeSql(
  baseUrl="https://www.labkey.org",
  folderPath="/home/Study/demo",
  schemaName="study",
  sql = 'select "Status Assessment".ParticipantId,
"Status Assessment".MeetsCriteria from "Status Assessment" where
"Status Assessment".MeetsCriteria=\'Yes\'' )

## Compute average ages over different gender groups,
## use column alias "Number" to rename the column
getage <- labkey.executeSql(
  baseUrl="https://www.labkey.org",
  folderPath="/home/Study/demo",
  schemaName="study",
  sql = "select Demographics.Gender, avg(Demographics.Age) as Number from
Demographics group by Demographics.Gender")

## Get a list of participants with partner information
getpartners <- labkey.executeSql(
  baseUrl="https://www.labkey.org",
  folderPath="/home/Study/demo",
  schemaName="study",
```

```
sql = 'select "Status Assessment".ParticipantID,
"Status Assessment".Partner1 from "Status Assessment" where
"Status Assessment".Partner1 is not null')
```

---

labkey.insertRows *Insert new rows of data into a labkey database*

---

## Description

Insert new rows of data into the database.

## Usage

```
labkey.insertRows(baseUrl, folderPath, schemaName, queryName, toInsert)
```

## Arguments

baseUrl	a string specifying the baseUrl for the labkey server
folderPath	a string specifying the folderPath
schemaName	a string specifying the schemaName for the query
queryName	a string specifying the queryName
toInsert	a data frame containing rows of data to be inserted

## Details

A single row or multiple rows of data can be inserted. The `toInsert` data frame must contain values for each column in the dataset and must be created with the `stringsAsFactors` option set to `FALSE`. The names of the data in the data frame must be the column names from the labkey database. When inserting data into a study dataset, the sequence number must be specified.

NOTE: Each variable in a dataset has both a column label and a column name. The column label is visible at the top of each column on the web page and is longer and more descriptive. The column name is shorter and is used “behind the scenes” for database manipulation. It is the column name that must be used in the Rlabkey functions when a column name is expected. To identify a particular column name in a dataset on a web site, use the “export to R script” option available as a drop down option under the “views” tab for each dataset.

In versions 0.0.5 and earlier, `labkey.insertRows` had a `stripAllHidden` argument. This argument did not perform a useful function and has since been removed.

## Value

A list is returned with named categories of **command**, **rowsAffected**, **rows**, **queryName**, **containerPath** and **schemaName**. The **schemaName**, **queryName** and **containerPath** properties contain the same schema, query and folder path used in the request. The **rowsAffected** property indicates the number of rows affected by the API action. This will typically be the same number as passed in the request. The **rows** property contains a list of row objects corresponding to the rows inserted.

**Author(s)**

Valerie Obenchain

**References**

<http://www.omegahat.org/RCurl/>,  
<http://dssm.unipa.it/CRAN/web/packages/rjson/rjson.pdf>,  
<https://www.labkey.org/project/home/begin.view>

**See Also**

[labkey.selectRows](#), [labkey.executeSql](#), [makeFilter](#), [labkey.updateRows](#),  
[labkey.deleteRows](#)

**Examples**

```
## Insert, update and delete
# Note that users must have the necessary permissions in the database
# to be able to modify data through the use of these functions

### Not run
newrow <- data.frame(name="Frank", age=11, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
labkey.insertRows(
  #baseUrl="https://atlas-test.ssharp.org/cpas",
  #folderPath="/CHAVI/Analysis/vobencha",
  #schemaName="lists",
  #queryName="testlist",
  #toInsert=newrow)
#
#updaterow=data.frame(Key=4,name="Patty",age=11, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
mydata <- labkey.updateRows(
  #baseUrl="https://atlas-test.ssharp.org/cpas",
  #folderPath="/CHAVI/Analysis/vobencha",
  #schemaName="lists",
  #queryName="testlist",
  #toUpdate=updaterow)
#
#deleterow <- data.frame(Key=1, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
mydata <- labkey.deleteRows(
  #baseUrl="https://atlas-test.ssharp.org/cpas",
  #folderPath="/CHAVI/Analysis/vobencha",
  #schemaName="lists",
  #queryName="testlist",
  #toDelete=deleterow)
```

---

labkey.selectRows *Retrieve data from a labkey database*

---

### Description

Import full datasets or selected rows into R. The data can be sorted and filtered prior to import.

### Usage

```
labkey.selectRows(baseUrl, folderPath, schemaName, queryName,
viewName = NULL, colSelect = NULL, maxRows = NULL,
rowOffset = NULL, colSort = NULL, colFilter = NULL, showHidden = FALSE)
```

### Arguments

baseUrl	a string specifying the baseUrl for the labkey server
folderPath	a string specifying the folderPath
schemaName	a string specifying the schemaName for the query
queryName	a string specifying the queryName
viewName	(optional) a string specifying the viewName
colSelect	(optional) a vector of comma separated strings specifying which columns of a dataset or view to import
maxRows	(optional) an integer specifying how many rows of data to return. If no value is specified, all rows are returned.
colSort	(optional) a string including the name of the column to sort preceded by a "+" or "-" to indicate sort direction
rowOffset	(optional) an integer specifying which row of data should be the first row in the retrieval. If no value is specified, the retrieval starts with the first row.
colFilter	(optional) a vector or array object created by the makeFilter function which contains the column name, operator and value of the filter(s) to be applied to the retrieved data.
showHidden	(optional) a logical value indicating whether or not to return data columns that would normally be hidden from user view. If no value is specified, the hidden columns are not returned. In versions 0.0.5 and earlier, this argument was called stripAllHidden. The stripAllHidden argument performed the same function as showHidden but with different logic. The change was made for clarity.

### Details

A full dataset or any portion of a dataset can be imported into an R data frame using the labkey.selectRows function. Function arguments are the components of the url that identify the location of the data and what actions should be taken on the data prior to import (ie, sorting, selecting particular columns or maximum number of rows, etc.).

NOTE: Each variable in a dataset has both a column label and a column name. The column label is visible at the top of each column on the web page and is longer and more descriptive. The column name is shorter and is used “behind the scenes” for database manipulation. It is the column name that must be used in the Rlabkey functions when a column name is expected. To identify a particular column name in a dataset on a web site, use the “export to R script” option available as a drop down option under the “views” tab for each dataset.

### Value

The requested data are returned in a data frame with column names as they appear on the website.

### Author(s)

Valerie Obenchain

### References

<http://www.omegahat.org/RCurl/>,  
<http://dssm.unipa.it/CRAN/web/packages/rjson/rjson.pdf>,  
<https://www.labkey.org/project/home/begin.view>

### See Also

[labkey.executeSql](#), [makeFilter](#), [labkey.insertRows](#), [labkey.updateRows](#),  
[labkey.deleteRows](#)

### Examples

```
## These example datasets are located at
## https://www.labkey.org/project/home/Study/demo/begin.view?

## Retrieve full HIV Test Results dataset
fulldata <- labkey.selectRows(
  baseUrl="https://www.labkey.org",
  folderPath="/home/Study/demo",
  schemaName="study",
  queryName="HIV Test Results")

## Specifying filters, max rows and selecting columns
myfilters<- makeFilter(c("HIVLoadQuant", "GREATER_THAN", 500),
  c("HIVRapidTest", "EQUAL", "Positive"))
smallldata <- labkey.selectRows(
  baseUrl="https://www.labkey.org",
  folderPath="/home/Study/demo",
  schemaName="study",
  queryName="HIV Test Results",
  colSelect=c("ParticipantId", "HIVDate", "HIVLoadQuant", "HIVRapidTest"),
  maxRows=20,
  colFilter=myfilters)
```

---

labkey.updateRows *Update existing rows of data in a labkey database*

---

### Description

Send data from an R session to update existing rows of data in the database.

### Usage

```
labkey.updateRows(baseUrl, folderPath, schemaName, queryName, toUpdate)
```

### Arguments

baseUrl	a string specifying the baseUrl for the labkey server
folderPath	a string specifying the folderPath
schemaName	a string specifying the schemaName for the query
queryName	a string specifying the queryName
toUpdate	a data frame containing the row(s) of data to be updated

### Details

A single row or multiple rows of data can be updated. The `toUpdate` data frame should contain the rows of data to be updated and must be created with the `stringsAsFactors` option set to `FALSE`. The names of the data in the data frame must be the column names from the labkey database.

NOTE: Each variable in a dataset has both a column label and a column name. The column label is visible at the top of each column on the web page and is longer and more descriptive. The column name is shorter and is used “behind the scenes” for database manipulation. It is the column name that must be used in the Rlabkey functions when a column name is expected. To identify a particular column name in a dataset on a web site, use the “export to R script” option available as a drop down option under the “views” tab for each dataset.

In versions 0.0.5 and earlier, `labkey.updateRows` had a `stripAllHidden` argument. This argument did not perform a useful function and has since been removed.

### Value

A list is returned with named categories of **command**, **rowsAffected**, **rows**, **queryName**, **containerPath** and **schemaName**. The **schemaName**, **queryName** and **containerPath** properties contain the same schema, query and folder path used in the request. The **rowsAffected** property indicates the number of rows affected by the API action. This will typically be the same number as passed in the request. The **rows** property contains a list of row objects corresponding to the rows updated.

### Author(s)

Valerie Obenchain

## References

<http://www.omegahat.org/RCurl/>,  
<http://dssm.unipa.it/CRAN/web/packages/rjson/rjson.pdf>,  
<https://www.labkey.org/project/home/begin.view>

## See Also

[labkey.selectRows](#), [labkey.executeSql](#), [makeFilter](#), [labkey.insertRows](#),  
[labkey.deleteRows](#)

## Examples

```
## Insert, update and delete
# Note that users must have the necessary permissions in the database
# to be able to modify data through the use of these functions

### Not run
#newrow <- data.frame(name="Frank", age=11, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
#labkey.insertRows(
#baseUrl="https://atlas-test.ssharp.org/cpas",
#folderPath="/CHAVI/Analysis/vobencha",
#schemaName="lists",
#queryName="testlist",
#toInsert=newrow)
#
#updaterow=data.frame(Key=4,name="Patty",age=11, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
#mydata <- labkey.updateRows(
#baseUrl="https://atlas-test.ssharp.org/cpas",
#folderPath="/CHAVI/Analysis/vobencha",
#schemaName="lists",
#queryName="testlist",
#toUpdate=updaterow)
#
#deleterow <- data.frame(Key=1, stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
#mydata <- labkey.deleteRows(
#baseUrl="https://atlas-test.ssharp.org/cpas",
#folderPath="/CHAVI/Analysis/vobencha",
#schemaName="lists",
#queryName="testlist",
#toDelete=deleterow)
```

---

makeFilter

*Builds filters to be used in labkey.selectRows*

---

## Description

This function takes inputs of column name, filter value and filter operator and returns an array of filters to be used in `labkey.selectRows`.

**Usage**

```
makeFilter(...)
```

**Arguments**

... Arguments in c("colname","operator","value") form, used to create a filter.

**Details**

These filters are applied to the data prior to import into R. The user can specify as many filters as desired. The format for specifying a filter is a vector of characters including the column name, operator and value.

**colname** a string specifying the name of the column to be filtered

**operator** a string specifying what operator should be used in the filter (see options below)

**value** an integer or string specifying the value the columns should be filtered on

Operator values:

EQUAL

NOT\_EQUAL

NOT\_EQUAL\_OR\_MISSING

DATE\_EQUAL

DATE\_NOT\_EQUAL

MISSING

NOT\_MISSING

GREATER\_THAN

GREATER\_THAN\_OR\_EQUAL

LESS\_THAN

LESS\_THAN\_OR\_EQUAL

CONTAINS

DOES\_NOT\_CONTAIN

STARTS\_WITH

DOES\_NOT\_START\_WITH

EQUALS\_ONE\_OF

QC\_VALUE

NOT\_QC\_VALUE

When using the MISSING or NOT\_MISSING operators, an empty string should be supplied as the value. See example below.

**Value**

The function returns either a single string or an array of strings to be use in the `colFilter` argument of the `labkey.selectRows` function.

**Author(s)**

Valerie Obenchain

## References

<http://www.omegahat.org/RCurl/>,  
<http://dssm.unipa.it/CRAN/web/packages/rjson/rjson.pdf>,  
<https://www.labkey.org/project/home/begin.view>

## See Also

`labkey.selectRows`

## Examples

```
## These example datasets are located at
## https://www.labkey.org/project/home/Study/demo/begin.view?

## Two filters:
filter1<- makeFilter(c("HIVLoadQuant", "GREATER_THAN", 500),
c("HIVRapidTest", "EQUAL", "Positive"))

## Using "equals one of" operator:
filter2 <- makeFilter(c("HIVLoadIneq", "EQUALS_ONE_OF", "Equals ; Less than"))

## Using "not missing" operator:
filter3 <- makeFilter(c("HIVRapidTest", "NOT_MISSING", ""))

## Apply a filter in labkey.selectRows function
getdata <- labkey.selectRows(
  baseUrl="https://www.labkey.org",
  folderPath="/home/Study/demo",
  schemaName="study",
  queryName="HIV Test Results",
  colSelect=c("ParticipantId", "HIVDate", "HIVLoadQuant", "HIVRapidTest"),
  colFilter=filter3)
```

# Index

## \*Topic **IO**

- labkey.deleteRows, [4](#)
- labkey.executeSql, [6](#)
- labkey.insertRows, [8](#)
- labkey.selectRows, [9](#)
- labkey.updateRows, [11](#)

## \*Topic **file**

- makeFilter, [13](#)

## \*Topic **package**

- Rlabkey-package, [1](#)

labkey.deleteRows, [3](#), [4](#), [7](#), [9](#), [11](#), [12](#)  
labkey.executeSql, [3](#), [5](#), [6](#), [9](#), [11](#), [12](#)  
labkey.insertRows, [3](#), [5](#), [7](#), [8](#), [11](#), [12](#)  
labkey.selectRows, [3](#), [5](#), [7](#), [9](#), [9](#), [12](#), [14](#)  
labkey.updateRows, [3](#), [5](#), [7](#), [9](#), [11](#), [11](#)

makeFilter, [3](#), [5](#), [7](#), [9](#), [11](#), [12](#), [13](#)

Rlabkey (*Rlabkey-package*), [1](#)

Rlabkey-package, [1](#)