Package 'photon'

April 10, 2026

Type Package

Title High-Performance Geocoding using 'photon'

Version 1.0.0-1

Description Features unstructured, structured and reverse geocoding using the 'photon' geocoding API <https://photon.komoot.io/>. Facilitates the setup of local 'photon' instances to enable offline geocoding.

License Apache License (>= 2)

URL https://github.com/jslth/photon/, https://jslth.github.io/photon/

BugReports https://github.com/jslth/photon/issues

Encoding UTF-8

RoxygenNote 7.3.3

Imports utils, cli, countrycode, httr2, R6, sf, processx, rvest

Suggests testthat (>= 3.0.0), tibble, knitr, rmarkdown, webfakes, ps

Config/testthat/edition 3

VignetteBuilder knitr

NeedsCompilation no

Author Jonas Lieth [aut, cre, cph] (ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-3451-3176>)

Maintainer Jonas Lieth <jslth@outlook.com>

Repository CRAN

Date/Publication 2026-04-10 16:40:02 UTC

Contents

`cmd_options` *Format command line options*

Description

Helper function to format options for command line calls. The function accepts key-value pairs where the parameter name is the name of the option and the parameter value is the value of the option. Arguments are formatted according to the following rules:

- If a value is `TRUE`, add parameter name as flag.
- If a value is `FALSE`, do not add parameter name as flag.
- If a value has `length(x) > 1`, collapse it as a CSV.
- If a parameter name is missing, take the value as the flag name.
- If a parameter name is given, replace underscores with hyphens.

Usage

```
cmd_options(..., use_double_hyphens = FALSE)
```

Arguments

`...`	Key-value pairs of command line options.
`use_double_hyphens`	If `TRUE`, uses double hyphens to designate non-abbreviated command line options and single-hyphens to designate abbreviated ones. If `FALSE`, always uses single hyphens. Defaults to `FALSE` as both Java and photon use single hyphens.

Value

A character vector of formatted command line options that can be used as input to `system2` or `run`.

Examples

```
# converts R parameters to CMD options
# parameters for the ping command
cmd_options(n = 1, w = 5, "127.0.0.1")

# sometimes, it is necessary to use double hyphens
# options for the docker ps command
cmd_options("ps", all = TRUE, format = "json", use_double_hyphens = TRUE)

# particularly useful together with photon
# the following options can be used for the `photon_opts` argument
# of photon$start()
cmd_options(cors_any = TRUE, data_dir = "path/to/dir")
```

---

download_database *Download search index*

Description

Finds and downloads the OpenSearch index database necessary to set up Photon locally.

`list_regions` returns an overview of regions and countries that are valid to pass to the `region` argument.

Usage

```
download_database(
  region,
  path = tempdir(),
  version = get_latest_photon(),
  json = FALSE,
  only_url = FALSE,
  quiet = FALSE,
  country = NULL
)

list_regions(region = NULL)
```

Arguments

`region`	Character string that identifies a region or country. An extract for this region will be downloaded. If `"planet"`, downloads a global extract (see note). Run `list_regions()` to get an overview of available regions. You can specify countries using any code that can be translated by `countrycode`.
`path`	Path to a directory where the identified file should be stored. Defaults to `tempdir()`.
`version`	Photon version that the database should be used with. Defaults to the latest version known to the package (1.0.0). Can also be `"master"`, which is probably based on the master branch of photon.

`json`	Extracts come in two forms: JSON dumps and pre-build databases. Pre-built databases are more convenient but less flexible and are not available for all regions. If you wish or need to build your own database, set `json = TRUE` and use the `$import()` method (see `photon_local`).
`only_url`	If `TRUE`, performs a download. Otherwise, only returns a link to the file.
`quiet`	If `TRUE`, suppresses all informative messages.
`country`	Deprecated since photon 1.0.0. Use `region` instead.

Value

If `only_url = FALSE`, returns the local path to the downloaded file. Otherwise, returns the URL to the remote file.

Limitations

The index download depends on a public repository (https://download1.graphhopper.com/public/). This repository only hosts search indices for the latest stable and experimental versions and is thus not suitable for reproducibility. If you wish to make a project reproducible, consider storing the search index somewhere persistent. Photon is generally not backwards-compatible and newer versions of Photon are not guaranteed to work with older search indices (based on personal experience).

Additionally, this function can only download pre-built search indices from region extracts. If you need a more fine-grained scope or a combination of multiple countries, you need to build your own search index. See `vignette("nominatim-import", package = "photon")`.

Note

Depending on the region, search index databases tend to be very large. The global search index is about 75 GB of size (10/2024). Keep that in mind when running this function.

Examples

```
# check available regions in Europe first
list_regions("europe")

# download the latest database of Andorra
download_database("Andorra")

# if you need to build your own search index, you can download a JSON dump
# this might also be necessary if no pre-built database dump exists
download_database("Andorra", json = TRUE)

# get the latest global coverage
# NOTE: the file to be downloaded is several tens of gigabytes of size!
## Not run:
download_database("planet")
## End(Not run)
```

download_photon *Download photon*

Description

Download the photon executable from GitHub.

Usage

```
download_photon(
  path = tempdir(),
  version = NULL,
  opensearch = TRUE,
  only_url = FALSE,
  quiet = FALSE
)
```

Arguments

path	Path to a directory to store the executable. Defaults to `tempdir()`.
version	Version tag of the photon release. If `NULL`, downloads the latest known version (1.0.0). A list of all releases can be found here: https://github.com/komoot/photon/releases/. Ignored if `jar` is given.
opensearch	If `TRUE`, downloads the OpenSearch version of photon if available. OpenSearch versions are available for photon >= 0.6.0. Since photon >= 0.7.0, OpenSearch versions are recommended. Defaults to `TRUE`.
only_url	If `TRUE`, performs a download. Otherwise, only returns a link to the file.
quiet	If `TRUE`, suppresses all informative messages.

Value

If `only_url = FALSE`, returns a character string giving the path to the downloaded file. Otherwise, returns the URL to be downloaded.

Examples

```
download_photon(tempdir(), version = "0.4.1", opensearch = FALSE)
```

geocode *Unstructured geocoding*

Description

Geocode arbitrary text strings. Unstructured geocoding is more flexible but generally less accurate than structured geocoding.

Usage

```
geocode(
  texts,
  limit = 1,
  lang = "en",
  bbox = NULL,
  osm_tag = NULL,
  layer = NULL,
  locbias = NULL,
  locbias_scale = NULL,
  zoom = NULL,
  dedupe = TRUE,
  include = NULL,
  exclude = NULL,
  latinize = TRUE,
  progress = interactive()
)
```

Arguments

texts	Character vector of a texts to geocode.
limit	Number of results to return. A maximum of 50 results can be returned for a single search term. Defaults to 1. When more than a single text is provided but limit is greater than 1, the results can be uniquely linked to the input texts using the idx column in the output.
lang	Language of the results. If "default", returns the results in local language.
bbox	Any object that can be parsed by st_bbox. Results must lie within this bbox.
osm_tag	Character string giving an OSM tag to filter the results by. See details.
layer	Character string giving a layer to filter the results by. Can be one of "house", "street", "locality", "district", "city", "county", "state", "country", or "other".
locbias	Numeric vector of length 2 or any object that can be coerced to a length-2 numeric vector (e.g. a list or sfg object). Specifies a location bias for geocoding in the format c(lon, lat). Geocoding results are biased towards this point. The radius of the bias is controlled through zoom and the weight of place prominence through location_bias_scale.

`locbias_scale` Numeric vector specifying the importance of prominence in `locbias`. A higher prominence scale gives more weight to important places. Possible values range from 0 to 1. Defaults to 0.2.

`zoom` Numeric specifying the radius for which the `locbias` is effective. Corresponds to the zoom level in OpenStreetMap. The exact relation to `locbias` is $0.25 \text{ km} \cdot 2^{(18-\text{zoom})}$. Defaults to 16.

`dedupe` If `FALSE`, keeps duplicates in the geocoding results. By default, photon attempts to deduplicate results that have the same name, postcode, and OSM value. Defaults to `TRUE`.

`include, exclude` Character vector containing categories to include or exclude. Places will be *included* if any category in `include` is present. Places will be *excluded* if all categories in `exclude` are present.

`latinize` If `TRUE` sanitizes search terms in `texts` by converting their encoding to `"latin1"` using `latinize`. This can be helpful if the search terms contain certain symbols (e.g. fancy quotes) that photon cannot handle properly. Defaults to `TRUE` as `latinize` is very conservative and should usually not cause any problems.

`progress` If `TRUE`, shows a progress bar for longer queries.

Details

Filtering by OpenStreetMap tags follows a distinct syntax explained on https://github.com/komoot/photon. In particular:

- Include places with tag: `key:value`
- Exclude places with tag: `!key:value`
- Include places with tag key: `key`
- Include places with tag value: `:value`
- Exclude places with tag key: `!key`
- Exclude places with tag value: `:!value`

Value

An sf dataframe or tibble containing the following columns:

- `idx`: Internal ID specifying the index of the `texts` parameter.
- `osm_type`: Type of OSM element, one of N (node), W (way), R (relation), or P (polygon).
- `osm_id`: OpenStreetMap ID of the matched element.
- `country`: Country of the matched place.
- `city`: City of the matched place.
- `osm_key`: OpenStreetMap key.
- `countrycode`: ISO2 country code.
- `housenumber`: House number, if applicable.
- `postcode`: Post code, if applicable.

- `locality`: Locality, if applicable.
- `street`: Street, if applicable.
- `district`: District name, if applicable.
- `osm_value`: OpenStreetMap tag value.
- `name`: Place name.
- `type`: Layer type as described for the `layer` parameter.
- `extent`: Boundary box of the match.

Examples

```
# an instance must be mounted first
photon <- new_photon()

# geocode a city
geocode("Berlin")

# return more results
geocode("Berlin", limit = 10)

# return the results in german
geocode("Berlin", limit = 10, lang = "de")

# limit to cities
geocode("Berlin", layer = "city")

# limit to European cities
geocode("Berlin", bbox = c(xmin = -71.18, ymin = 44.46, xmax = 13.39, ymax = 52.52))

# search for museums in berlin
geocode("Berlin", osm_tag = "tourism:museum")

# search for touristic attractions in berlin
geocode("Berlin", osm_tag = "tourism")

# search for anything but tourism
geocode("Berlin", osm_tag = "!tourism")

# use location biases to match Berlin, IL instead of Berlin, DE
geocode("Berlin", locbias = c(-100, 40), locbias_scale = 0.1, zoom = 7, osm_tag = "place")

# latinization can help normalize search terms
geocode("Luatuanu\u2019u", latinize = FALSE) # fails
geocode("Luatuanu\u2019u", latinize = TRUE)  # works
```

get_instance *Photon utilities*

Description

Utilities to manage photon instances. These functions operate on mounted photon instances which can be initialized using new_photon.

- get_instance() retrieves the active photon instance.
- get_photon_url() retrieves the photon URL to send requests.

Usage

```
get_instance()

get_photon_url()
```

Value

get_instance returns a R6 object of class photon. get_photon_url() returns a URL string.

Examples

```
# make a new photon instance
new_photon()

# retrieve it from the cache
get_instance()

# get the server url
get_photon_url()
```

has_java *Is Java installed?*

Description

Utility function to check if Java is installed and if it has the right version.

Usage

```
has_java(version = NULL)
```

Arguments

version	Character string specifying the minimum version of Java. If the installed Java version is lower than this, returns FALSE. If NULL, only checks if any kind of Java is installed on the system.

Value

A logical vector of length 1.

Examples

```
has_java() # Is Java installed?
has_java("11") # Is Java > 11 installed?
```

`latinize` *Latinization*

Description

Helper tool to transliterate various encodings to latin. Attempts to convert a character vector from its current encoding to `"latin1"` and - if it fails - defaults back to the original term. This can be useful for `geocode` and `structured` when attempting to geocode terms containing symbols that photon does not support.

Usage

```
latinize(x, encoding = "latin1")
```

Arguments

`x`	A character vector.
`encoding`	Encoding that the strings in `x` should be converted to. If the conversion fails, defaults back to the original encoding. Defaults to `"latin1"`.

Value

The transliterated vector of the same length as `x`. `NA`s are avoided.

Examples

```
# converts fancy apostrophes to normal ones
latinize("Luatuanu\u2019u")

# does nothing
latinize("Berlin")

# also does nothing, although it would fail with `iconv`
latinize("\u0391\u03b8\u03ae\u03bd\u03b1")
```

new_photon *Initialize a photon instance*

Description

Initialize a photon instance by creating a new photon object. This object is stored in the R session and can be used to perform geocoding requests.

Instances can either be local or remote. Remote instances require nothing more than a URL that geocoding requests are sent to. Local instances require the setup of the photon executable, a search index, and Java. See `photon_local` for details.

Usage

```
new_photon(
  path = NULL,
  url = NULL,
  photon_version = NULL,
  region = NULL,
  opensearch = TRUE,
  mount = TRUE,
  overwrite = FALSE,
  quiet = FALSE,
  country = NULL
)
```

Arguments

`path`	Path to a directory where the photon executable and data should be stored. Defaults to a directory "photon" in the current working directory. If `NULL`, a remote instance is set up based on the `url` parameter.
`url`	URL of a photon server to connect to. If `NULL` and `path` is also `NULL`, connects to the public API under `https://photon.komoot.io/`.
`photon_version`	Version of photon to be used. A list of all releases can be found here: `https://github.com/komoot/photon/releases/`. Ignored if `jar` is given. If `NULL`, uses the latest known version.
`region`	Character string that identifies a region or country. An extract for this region will be downloaded. If `"planet"`, downloads a global extract (see note). Run `list_regions()` to get an overview of available regions. You can specify countries using any code that can be translated by `countrycode`.
`opensearch`	Deprecated for photon versions >= 1.0.0 and superseded for photon versions >= 0.7.0. If `TRUE`, attempts to download the OpenSearch version of photon. OpenSearch-based photon supports structured geocoding. If `FALSE`, falls back to ElasticSearch. Since photon 0.7.0, OpenSearch is the default and since 1.0.0, ElasticSearch is not supported anymore.

mount	If TRUE, mounts the object to the session so that functions like geocode automatically detect the new instance. If FALSE, initializes the instance but doesn't mount it to the session. Defaults to TRUE.
overwrite	If TRUE, overwrites existing jar files and search indices when initializing a new instance. Defaults to FALSE.
quiet	If TRUE, suppresses all informative messages.
country	Deprecated since photon 1.0.0. Use region instead.

Value

An R6 object of class photon.

Examples

```
# connect to public API
photon <- new_photon()

# connect to arbitrary server
photon <- new_photon(url = "https://photonserver.org")

if (has_java("11")) {
  # set up a local instance in a temporary directory
  dir <- file.path(tempdir(), "photon")
  photon <- new_photon(dir, region = "Andorra")
  photon$purge(ask = FALSE)
}
```

---

photon_local *Local photon instance*

Description

This R6 class is used to initialize and manage local photon instances. It can download and setup the Java, the photon executable, and the necessary OpenSearch index. It can start, stop, and query the status of the photon instance. It is also the basis for geocoding requests as it is used to retrieve the URL for geocoding.

Value

A list containing four elements:

status: Shows "Ok" when photon is running without problems. **import_date**: Time stamp when the database was built. **version**: Photon version currently running. **git_commit**: Git commit string of the photon version currently running.

Search indices

Search indices can be self-provided by importing an existing Nominatim database or they can be downloaded from the Photon download server. If you want to download pre-built search indices, simply provide a `region` string during initialization or use the `$download_data` method. Pre-built search indices do not come with support for structured geocoding.

If you want to build from Nominatim, do not provide a region string and use the `$import()` method. See `vignette("nominatim-import", package = "photon")` for details on how to import from Nominatim.

To enable structured geocoding, the photon geocoder needs to be built to support OpenSearch. Since photon 0.7.0, OpenSearch jar files are the standard and ElasticSearch is deprecated.

Super class

`photon::photon` -> `photon_local`

Public fields

`path` Path to the directory where the photon instance is stored.

`proc` `process` object that handles the external process running photon.

Methods

Public methods:

- `photon_local$new()`
- `photon_local$mount()`
- `photon_local$info()`
- `photon_local$help()`
- `photon_local$purge()`
- `photon_local$import()`
- `photon_local$start()`
- `photon_local$stop()`
- `photon_local$status()`
- `photon_local$download_data()`
- `photon_local$remove_data()`
- `photon_local$is_running()`
- `photon_local$is_ready()`
- `photon_local$get_url()`
- `photon_local$get_logs()`
- `photon_local$clone()`

Method `new()`**:** Initialize a local photon instance. If necessary, downloads the photon executable, the search index, and Java.

Usage:

```
photon_local$new(
  path,
  photon_version = NULL,
  region = NULL,
  opensearch = TRUE,
  mount = TRUE,
  overwrite = FALSE,
  quiet = FALSE,
  country = NULL
)
```

Arguments:

`path` Path to a directory where the photon executable and data should be stored.

`photon_version` Version of photon to be used. A list of all releases can be found here: https://github.com/komoot/photon/releases/. Ignored if `jar` is given. If `NULL`, uses the latest known version (Currently: 1.0.0).

`region` Character string that identifies a region or country. An extract for this region will be downloaded. If `"planet"`, downloads a global extract (see note). Run `list_regions()` to get an overview of available regions. You can specify countries using any code that can be translated by `countrycode`.

`opensearch` Deprecated for photon versions >= 1.0.0 and superseded for photon versions >= 0.7.0. If `TRUE`, attempts to download the OpenSearch version of photon. OpenSearch-based photon supports structured geocoding. If `FALSE`, falls back to ElasticSearch. Since photon 0.7.0, OpenSearch is the default and since 1.0.0, ElasticSearch is not supported anymore.

`mount` If `TRUE`, mounts the object to the session so that functions like `geocode` automatically detect the new instance. If `FALSE`, initializies the instance but doesn't mount it to the session. Defaults to `TRUE`.

`overwrite` If `TRUE`, overwrites existing jar files and search indices when initializing a new instance. Defaults to `FALSE`.

`quiet` If `TRUE`, suppresses all informative messages.

`country` Deprecated since photon 1.0.0. Use `region` instead.

Method `mount()`**:** Attach the object to the session. If mounted, all geocoding functions send their requests to the URL of this instance. Manually mounting is useful if you want to switch between multiple photon instances.

Usage:

```
photon_local$mount()
```

Method `info()`**:** Retrieve metadata about the java and photon version used as well as the region and creation date of the search index.

Usage:

```
photon_local$info()
```

Returns: A list containing the java version, the photon version, and if applicable, the spatial and temporal coverage of the search index.

Method `help()`**:** Print the default arguments to the R console. This can be helpful to get a list of additional photon arguments for `$start()` or `$import()`.

Usage:

```
photon_local$help(cmd = "start")
```

Arguments:

`cmd` A command for which to display the help page. Must be one of `"start"`, `"import"`, `"update"`, `"update-init"`, or `"dump-nominatim-db"`. Defaults to `"start"`.

Returns: Nothing, but prints to the console.

Method `purge()`**:** Kill the photon process and remove the directory. Useful to get rid of an instance entirely.

Usage:

```
photon_local$purge(ask = TRUE)
```

Arguments:

`ask` If `TRUE`, asks for confirmation before purging the instance.

Returns: `NULL`, invisibly.

Method `import()`**:** Import a Postgres Nominatim database to photon. Runs the photon jar file using the additional parameter `-nominatim-import`. Requires a running Nominatim database that can be connected to.

Usage:

```
photon_local$import(
  host = "127.0.0.1",
  port = 5432,
  database = "nominatim",
  user = "nominatim",
  password = "",
  json = FALSE,
  languages = c("en", "fr", "de", "it"),
  countries = NULL,
  full_geometries = FALSE,
  extra_tags = NULL,
  timeout = 60,
  java_opts = NULL,
  photon_opts = NULL,
  structured = NULL,
  update = NULL,
  enable_update_api = NULL
)
```

Arguments:

`host` Postgres host of the database. Defaults to `"127.0.0.1"`.

`port` Postgres port of the database. Defaults to `5432`.

`database` Postgres database name. Defaults to `"nominatim"`.

`user` Postgres database user. Defaults to `"nominatim"`.

`password` Postgres database password. Defaults to `""`.

`json` If `TRUE` and a JSON dump is present in the photon directory, imports from a JSON dump. Otherwise, tries to import from Nominatim.

`languages` Character vector specifying the languages to import from the Nominatim databases. Defaults to English, French, German, and Italian.

`countries` Character vector specifying the country codes to import from the Nominatim database. Defaults to all country codes.

`full_geometries` Add the full geometry for each place if available. Considerably increases the size of the photon database.

`extra_tags` Character vector specifying extra OSM tags to import from the Nominatim database. These tags are used to augment geocoding results. Defaults to `NULL`.

`timeout` Time in seconds before the java process aborts. Defaults to 60 seconds.

`java_opts` Character vector of further flags passed on to the `java` command.

`photon_opts` Character vector of further flags passed on to the photon jar in the java command. See `cmd_options` for a helper function.

`structured` Deprecated since v1.0.0. Structured geocoding is enabled by default now. For earlier versions, use `photon_opts`.

`update` Deprecated since v1.0.0. Updates are done using a distinct command now. For earlier versions, use `photon_opts`.

`enable_update_api` Deprecated since v1.0.0. For earlier versions, use `photon_opts`.

Method `start()`**:** Start a local instance of the Photon geocoder. Runs the jar executable located in the instance directory.

Usage:

```
photon_local$start(
  host = "0.0.0.0",
  port = "2322",
  ssl = FALSE,
  timeout = 60,
  countries = NULL,
  threads = 1,
  query_timeout = NULL,
  max_results = NULL,
  max_reverse_results = NULL,
  java_opts = NULL,
  photon_opts = NULL
)
```

Arguments:

`host` Character string of the host name that the geocoder should be opened on.

`port` Port that the geocoder should listen to.

`ssl` If `TRUE`, uses `https`, otherwise `http`. Defaults to `FALSE`.

`timeout` Time in seconds before the java process aborts. Defaults to 60 seconds.

`countries` Character vector of countries to import. By default, all countries in the database are imported.

`threads` Number of threads in parallel. Defaults to 1.

`query_timeout` Time in seconds after which to cancel queries to Photon. Defaults to 7 seconds.

`max_results` Maximum number of results returned to `geocode` and `structured`. Defaults to 50.

`max_reverse_results` Maximum number of results returned to `reverse`. Defaults to 50.

`java_opts` Character vector of further flags passed on to the `java` command.

`photon_opts` Character vector of further flags passed on to the photon jar in the java command. See `cmd_options` for a helper function.

Details: While there is a certain way to determine if a photon instance is ready, there is no clear way as of yet to determine if a photon setup has failed. Due to this, a failing setup may sometimes hang instead of emitting an error. In this case, please open a bug report.

Method `stop()`**:** Kills the running photon process.

Usage:

```
photon_local$stop()
```

Method `status()`**:** Returns information from a live server about the photon version used and the date of data import.

Usage:

```
photon_local$status()
```

Method `download_data()`**:** Downloads a search index using `download_database`.

Usage:

```
photon_local$download_data(region, json = FALSE)
```

Arguments:

`region` Character string that identifies a region or country. An extract for this region will be downloaded. If `"planet"`, downloads a global extract (see note). Run `list_regions()` to get an overview of available regions. You can specify countries using any code that can be translated by `countrycode`.

`json` Extracts come in two forms: JSON dumps and pre-build databases. Pre-built databases are more convenient but less flexible and are not available for all regions. If you wish or need to build your own database, set `json = TRUE` and use the `$import()` method.

Method `remove_data()`**:** Removes the data currently used in the photon directory. This only affects the unpacked `photon_data` directory, not archived files.

Usage:

```
photon_local$remove_data()
```

Method `is_running()`**:** Checks whether the photon instance is running and ready. The difference to `$is_ready()` is that `$is_running()` checks specifically if the running photon instance is managed by a process from its own `photon` object. In other words, `$is_running()` returns `TRUE` if both `$proc$is_alive()` and `$is_ready()` return `TRUE`. This method is useful if you want to ensure that the `photon` object can control its photon server (mostly internal use).

Usage:

```
photon_local$is_running()
```

Returns: A logical of length 1.

Method `is_ready()`**:** Checks whether the photon instance is ready to take requests. This is the case if the photon server returns a HTTP 400 when sending a queryless request. This method is useful if you want to check whether you can send requests.

Usage:

```
photon_local$is_ready()
```

Returns: A logical of length 1.

Method `get_url()`**:** Constructs the URL that geocoding requests should be sent to.

Usage:

```
photon_local$get_url()
```

Returns: A URL to send requests to.

Method `get_logs()`**:** Retrieve the logs of previous photon runs.

Usage:

```
photon_local$get_logs()
```

Returns: Returns a dataframe containing the run ID (`rid`, the highest number is the most recent run), a timestamp (`ts`), the thread, the log type (INFO, WARN, or ERROR), the class trace and the error message.

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

Usage:

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

Arguments:

`deep` Whether to make a deep clone.

Examples

```
if (has_java("11")) {
dir <- file.path(tempdir(), "photon")

# start a new instance using a Monaco extract
photon <- new_photon(path = dir, region = "Andorra")

# start a new instance with an older photon version
photon <- new_photon(path = dir, photon_version = "0.4.1", opensearch = FALSE)
}

## Not run:
# import a nominatim database using OpenSearch photon
# this example requires the OpenSearch version of photon and a running
# Nominatim server.
photon <- new_photon(path = dir, opensearch = TRUE)
photon$import(photon_options = cmd_options(port = 29146, password = "pgpass"))
## End(Not run)

photon$purge(ask = FALSE)
```

purge_java *Purge Java processes*

Description

Kill all or selected running Java processes. This function is useful to stop Photon instances when not being able to kill the `process` objects. Be aware that you can also kill Java processes other than the photon application using this function!

Usage

```
purge_java(pids = NULL, ask = TRUE)
```

Arguments

`pids`	PIDs to kill. The PIDs should be Java processes. If `NULL`, tries to kill all Java processes.
`ask`	If `TRUE`, asks for consent before killing the processes. Defaults to `TRUE`.

Details

A list of running Java tasks is retrieved using `ps` (on Linux and MacOS) or `tasklist` (on Windows). Tasks are killed using `pkill` (on Linux and MacOS) or `Taskkill` (on Windows).

Value

An integer vector of the `pkill` / `Taskkill` status codes or `NULL` if not running Java processes are found.

Examples

```
# NOTE: These examples should only be run interactively or when you are
# sure that no other java processes are running simultaneously!
## Not run:
purge_java() # does nothing if no java processes are running

# start a new photon instance
dir <- file.path(tempdir(), "photon")
photon <- new_photon(dir, country = "Monaco")
photon$start()

# kill photon using a sledgehammer
purge_java()

photon$start()

# kill photon using a scalpel
library(ps)
p <- ps_handle(photon$proc$get_pid())
```

```
pids <- sapply(ps_children(p), ps::ps_pid)
purge_java(pids)
## End(Not run)
```

`reverse` *Reverse geocoding*

Description

Reverse geocode a set of points to retrieve their corresponding place names. To geocode a place name or an address, see unstructured or structured geocoding.

Usage

```
reverse(
  .data,
  radius = NULL,
  limit = 1,
  lang = "en",
  osm_tag = NULL,
  layer = NULL,
  locbias = NULL,
  locbias_scale = NULL,
  zoom = NULL,
  dedupe = TRUE,
  include = NULL,
  exclude = NULL,
  distance_sort = TRUE,
  progress = interactive()
)
```

Arguments

`.data`	A dataframe or list with names `lon` and `lat`, or an `sfc` or `sf` object containing point geometries.
`radius`	Numeric specifying the range around the points in `.data` that is used for searching.
`limit`	Number of results to return. A maximum of 50 results can be returned for a single search term. Defaults to 1. When more than a single text is provided but limit is greater than 1, the results can be uniquely linked to the input texts using the `idx` column in the output.
`lang`	Language of the results. If `"default"`, returns the results in local language.
`osm_tag`	Character string giving an OSM tag to filter the results by. See details.
`layer`	Character string giving a layer to filter the results by. Can be one of `"house"`, `"street"`, `"locality"`, `"district"`, `"city"`, `"county"`, `"state"`, `"country"`, or `"other"`.

`locbias` Numeric vector of length 2 or any object that can be coerced to a length-2 numeric vector (e.g. a list or `sfg` object). Specifies a location bias for geocoding in the format `c(lon, lat)`. Geocoding results are biased towards this point. The radius of the bias is controlled through `zoom` and the weight of place prominence through `location_bias_scale`.

`locbias_scale` Numeric vector specifying the importance of prominence in `locbias`. A higher prominence scale gives more weight to important places. Possible values range from 0 to 1. Defaults to 0.2.

`zoom` Numeric specifying the radius for which the `locbias` is effective. Corresponds to the zoom level in OpenStreetMap. The exact relation to `locbias` is 0.25 km $\cdot$ $2^{(18-\text{zoom})}$. Defaults to 16.

`dedupe` If `FALSE`, keeps duplicates in the geocoding results. By default, photon attempts to deduplicate results that have the same name, postcode, and OSM value. Defaults to `TRUE`.

`include, exclude` Character vector containing categories to include or exclude. Places will be *included* if any category in `include` is present. Places will be *excluded* if all categories in `exclude` are present.

`distance_sort` If `TRUE`, sorts the reverse geocoding results based on the distance to the input point. Defaults to `TRUE`.

`progress` If `TRUE`, shows a progress bar for longer queries.

Details

Filtering by OpenStreetMap tags follows a distinct syntax explained on https://github.com/komoot/photon. In particular:

- Include places with tag: `key:value`
- Exclude places with tag: `!key:value`
- Include places with tag key: `key`
- Include places with tag value: `:value`
- Exclude places with tag key: `!key`
- Exclude places with tag value: `:!value`

Value

An sf dataframe or tibble containing the following columns:

- `idx`: Internal ID specifying the index of the `texts` parameter.
- `osm_type`: Type of OSM element, one of N (node), W (way), R (relation), or P (polygon).
- `osm_id`: OpenStreetMap ID of the matched element.
- `country`: Country of the matched place.
- `city`: City of the matched place.
- `osm_key`: OpenStreetMap key.

- countrycode: ISO2 country code.
- housenumber: House number, if applicable.
- postcode: Post code, if applicable.
- locality: Locality, if applicable.
- street: Street, if applicable.
- district: District name, if applicable.
- osm_value: OpenStreetMap tag value.
- name: Place name.
- type: Layer type as described for the layer parameter.
- extent: Boundary box of the match.

Examples

```
# an instance must be mounted first
photon <- new_photon()

# works with sf objects
sf_data <- sf::st_sfc(sf::st_point(c(8, 52)), sf::st_point(c(7, 52)), crs = 4326)
reverse(sf_data)

# ... but also with simple dataframes
df_data <- data.frame(lon = c(8, 7), lat = c(52, 52))
reverse(df_data)

# limit search radius to 10m
reverse(df_data, radius = 10)
```

---

structured *Structured geocoding*

Description

Geocode a set of place information such as street, house number, or post code. Structured geocoding is generally more accurate but requires more information than unstructured geocoding.

You can use the helper function has_structured_support() to check if the current API supports structured geocoding. Structured geocoding should be enabled on the public photon instance and all photon instances >= 1.0.0, but older versions usually have structured queries disabled.

Usage

```
structured(
  .data,
  limit = 1,
  lang = "en",
```

```
  bbox = NULL,
  osm_tag = NULL,
  layer = NULL,
  locbias = NULL,
  locbias_scale = NULL,
  zoom = NULL,
  dedupe = TRUE,
  include = NULL,
  exclude = NULL,
  progress = interactive()
)

has_structured_support()
```

Arguments

`.data`	Dataframe or list containing structured information on a place to geocode. Can contain the columns `street`, `housenumber`, `postcode`, `city`, `district`, `county`, `state`, and `countrycode`. At least one of these columns must be present in the dataframe. Country names are automatically converted to ISO-2 codes where possible.
`limit`	Number of results to return. A maximum of 50 results can be returned for a single search term. Defaults to 1. When more than a single text is provided but limit is greater than 1, the results can be uniquely linked to the input texts using the `idx` column in the output.
`lang`	Language of the results. If `"default"`, returns the results in local language.
`bbox`	Any object that can be parsed by `st_bbox`. Results must lie within this bbox.
`osm_tag`	Character string giving an OSM tag to filter the results by. See details.
`layer`	Character string giving a layer to filter the results by. Can be one of `"house"`, `"street"`, `"locality"`, `"district"`, `"city"`, `"county"`, `"state"`, `"country"`, or `"other"`.
`locbias`	Numeric vector of length 2 or any object that can be coerced to a length-2 numeric vector (e.g. a list or `sfg` object). Specifies a location bias for geocoding in the format `c(lon, lat)`. Geocoding results are biased towards this point. The radius of the bias is controlled through `zoom` and the weight of place prominence through `location_bias_scale`.
`locbias_scale`	Numeric vector specifying the importance of prominence in `locbias`. A higher prominence scale gives more weight to important places. Possible values range from 0 to 1. Defaults to 0.2.
`zoom`	Numeric specifying the radius for which the `locbias` is effective. Corresponds to the zoom level in OpenStreetMap. The exact relation to `locbias` is $0.25\ \text{km} \cdot 2^{(18-\text{zoom})}$. Defaults to 16.
`dedupe`	If `FALSE`, keeps duplicates in the geocoding results. By default, photon attempts to deduplicate results that have the same name, postcode, and OSM value. Defaults to `TRUE`.

include, exclude
: Character vector containing categories to include or exclude. Places will be *included* if any category in include is present. Places will be *excluded* if all categories in exclude are present.

progress
: If TRUE, shows a progress bar for longer queries.

Details

Filtering by OpenStreetMap tags follows a distinct syntax explained on https://github.com/komoot/photon. In particular:

- Include places with tag: key:value
- Exclude places with tag: !key:value
- Include places with tag key: key
- Include places with tag value: :value
- Exclude places with tag key: !key
- Exclude places with tag value: :!value

Value

An sf dataframe or tibble containing the following columns:

- idx: Internal ID specifying the index of the texts parameter.
- osm_type: Type of OSM element, one of N (node), W (way), R (relation), or P (polygon).
- osm_id: OpenStreetMap ID of the matched element.
- country: Country of the matched place.
- city: City of the matched place.
- osm_key: OpenStreetMap key.
- countrycode: ISO2 country code.
- housenumber: House number, if applicable.
- postcode: Post code, if applicable.
- locality: Locality, if applicable.
- street: Street, if applicable.
- district: District name, if applicable.
- osm_value: OpenStreetMap tag value.
- name: Place name.
- type: Layer type as described for the layer parameter.
- extent: Boundary box of the match.

Examples

```
# check if structured() is supported
has_structured_support()

# structured() works on dataframes containing structurized data
place_data <- data.frame(
  housenumber = c(NA, "77C", NA),
  street = c("Falealilli Cross Island Road", "Main Beach Road", "Le Mafa Pass Road"),
  state = c("Tuamasaga", "Tuamasaga", "Atua")
)
structured(place_data, limit = 1)

# countries must be specified as iso2 country codes
structured(data.frame(countrycode = "ws"))

# traditional parameters from geocode() can also be used but are much more niche
structured(data.frame(city = "Apia"), layer = "house") # matches nothing

# structured geocoding can discern small differences in places
safune <- data.frame(
  city = c("Berlin", "Berlin"),
  countrycode = c("DE", "US")
)
structured(safune, limit = 1)
```

`with_photon` *Local photon instances*

Description

Evaluate R code with a photon instance without changing the active photon mount.

Usage

```
with_photon(photon, code)
```

Arguments

photon	An object of class photon that is temporarily mounted to the session.
code	Code to execute in the temporary environment.

Value

The results of the evaluation of the code argument.

Examples

```
# Get a public instance
pub_photon <- new_photon()

# Mount a custom instance
new_photon(url = "https://localhost:8001/")

# Geocode with the public instance only once
with_photon(pub_photon, geocode("Rutland"))

# The custom instance is still mounted
get_instance()
```

Index