

# Package: swissgeo.core (via r-universe)

July 1, 2026

**Type** Package

**Title** Core Package to Access Data via the Geoportal des Bundes (Swiss Federal Government Open Data Portal)

**Version** 0.0-9001

**Date** 2026-06-29

**Maintainer** Reto Stauffer <reto.stauffer@uibk.ac.at>

**Depends** htr2, sf, parsedate, tidyr, dplyr, utils

**Suggests** tinytest, knitr

**Description** Package to download data from data.geo.admin.ch.

**URL** <https://retostauffer.github.io/swissgeo.core>

**License** GPL-2

**VignetteBuilder** knitr

**Encoding** UTF-8

**RoxygenNote** 7.3.3

**Roxygen** list(markdown = TRUE)

**Config/pak/sysreqs** libabsl-dev cmake libgdal-dev gdal-bin libgeos-dev libicu-dev libssl-dev libproj-dev libsqlite3-dev libudunits2-dev

**Repository** <https://retostauffer.r-universe.dev>

**Date/Publication** 2026-07-01 18:30:43 UTC

**RemoteUrl** <http://codeberg.org/retostauffer/swissgeo.core>

**RemoteRef** HEAD

**RemoteSha** 8287a3c76782a9f51b0953fae6f0677895cb1467

## Contents

assets	2
autoconvert_datetime	3
dataframe_to_sf	4
remove_language_cols	5

sg_api_url . . . . .	5
sg_assets . . . . .	6
sg_collections . . . . .	7
sg_download_asset . . . . .	8
sg_items . . . . .	9
sg_options . . . . .	10
sg_send_api_request . . . . .	10

<b>Index</b>	<b>12</b>
--------------	-----------

---

assets	<i>Assets</i>
--------	---------------

---

## Description

Each item can provide multiple assets. An asset specifies the type of data (e.g., historical, recent) as well as the temporal resolution of the data and the data period (if suitable). The `sg_assets` class is used to handle these assets within the package.

## Usage

```
assets(x)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'assets'
format(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'assets'
print(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'assets'
x[i, ...]
```

```
## S3 method for class 'assets'
as.double(x, ...)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'assets'
names(x)
```

```
## S3 method for class 'assets'
as.data.frame(x, row.names = NULL, optional = NA, ...)
```

## Arguments

<code>x</code>	object of class 'assets'.
<code>...</code>	currently ignored.
<code>i</code>	elements to extract or replace. Numeric values coerced to integer identifying the <i>i</i> th element(s) for subsetting.

row.names	NULL (default) or a character vector giving the row names for the data frame. Only used if x is of length 1L.
optional	currently ignored.

**Value**

An asset data frame with the name of the asset and all provided additional information.

**Author(s)**

Reto

---

autoconvert\_datetime *Converting Datetime Columns*

---

**Description**

Takes a data frame as input and tries to identify columns containing datetime information.

**Usage**

```
autoconvert_datetime(x)
```

**Arguments**

x                    data frame.

**Details**

Data received by the API or read via the files provided regularly contain date or datetime information as character strings.

This function takes a data frame and tries to identify variables/columns containing date and time information to coerce the information into Date or POSIXct objects. Currently, the following formats are checked currently:

- 2026-01-16T17:34:34(... )Z: converted to POSIXct
- 16.01.2026: converted to Date
- 2026-01-16: converted to Date
- 16.01.2026 12:03: converted to POSIXct w/ time zone Europe/Zuerich
- 16.01.2026 00:00: converted to Date

**Value**

Data frame with POSIXct variables if any variable containing datetime information was detected.

**Author(s)**

Reto

## Examples

```
## Not run:
autoconvert_datetime(data.frame(a = 1, b = "2026-01-16T12:34:56.23435Z"))
autoconvert_datetime(data.frame(a = 1, b = "2026-01-16T12:34:56Z"))
autoconvert_datetime(data.frame(a = 1, b = "16.01.2026 12:34"))
autoconvert_datetime(data.frame(a = 1, b = "16.01.2026 00:00"))
autoconvert_datetime(data.frame(a = 1, b = "16.01.2026"))
autoconvert_datetime(data.frame(a = 1, b = "2026-01-16"))

## End(Not run)
```

---

dataframe_to_sf	<i>Convert Dataframe to Simple Feature Dataframe</i>
-----------------	--

---

## Description

Many data sets retrieved via the Geoportal are geolocated, providing coordinates of e.g., a station location. This function tries to auto-detect locations, converting a dataframe into a simple feature dataframe.

## Usage

```
dataframe_to_sf(x, use_crs = c("lv95", "wgs84"), verbose = FALSE)
```

## Arguments

x	a data frame which (potentially) contains coordinates.
use_crs	character, order of coordinate reference to use (if found).
verbose	logical, defaults to FALSE. If set TRUE the some messages are printed.

## Details

Some data sets like station locations come their geolocation (coordinates), sometimes given in two different reference systems. This function takes a data frame and checks if it can find coordinates. If found, the object is converted into a simple feature data frame dropping all coordinates from the data part.

## Value

If no matching coordinates are found, x is returned as is. Else x is converted into a simple feature data frame, removing all coordinate related columns.

---

remove\_language\_cols *Removing Non-required Language-specific Variables*

---

**Description**

Removing Non-required Language-specific Variables

**Usage**

```
remove_language_cols(x, lang)
```

**Arguments**

x                    data frame to be checked and potentially modified.  
lang                character, languages to keep. If "all" no modifications are done. Else trying to remove all columns not matching the requested lang.

**Value**

A data frame, potentially modified by removing all columns not matching the requested language.

**Author(s)**

Reto

---

sg\_api\_url                    *Generate Geoportal API URLs*

---

**Description**

Generate Geoportal API URLs

**Usage**

```
sg_api_url(req, ...)
```

**Arguments**

...                    additional arguments to extend the base API URL. All arguments (after coercion to character) must represent valid non-empty characters.

**Details**

On loading the package sets the option "swissgeo.apiurl" with the main entry point to the API. This is used inside this function (i.e., by the entire package) to talk to the API.

This would allow users to change the end-point (or version) without updating the package, e.g., for testing.

**Value**

Character of length one with the URL of the API end point.

**Author(s)**

Reto

**Examples**

```
## Base URL
req <- getOption("swissgeo.req")
sg_api_url(req)$url

## Extending the base URL to point to a specific API endpoint
req |> sg_api_url("ch.meteoschweiz.ogd-smn")$url
req |> sg_api_url("ch.meteoschweiz.ogd-smn", "items")$url

## Changing default API URL. Possible, but not a standard use-case.
hold_apiurl <- getOption("swissgeo.apiurl") # kept for resetting
options(swissgeo.apiurl = "https://some.new.domain/api/stac/v5")
getOption("swissgeo.req") |> sg_api_url()$url

## Setting back to defaults
options(swissgeo.apiurl = hold_apiurl)
getOption("swissgeo.req") |> sg_api_url()$url
```

---

sg\_assets

*Collection Assets*

---

**Description**

Retrieving all assets of a specific collection.

**Usage**

```
sg_assets(id, verbose = FALSE, raw = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

id	character, ID of the collection for which to retrieve the items (see <a href="#">sg_collections()</a> ).
verbose	logical, defaults to FALSE. If set TRUE the some messages are printed.
raw	logical, defaults to FALSE (see Return).

**Value**

A tbl data frame containing the asset details is returned.

If raw = TRUE a list of lists is returned with the raw (json decoded) result from the API calls. Each element in the list corresponds to one API call (paging).

**Author(s)**

Reto

---

`sg_collections`*Collections*

---

**Description**

Requesting a list of all available collections provided via the API.

**Usage**

```
sg_collections(pattern = NULL, verbose = FALSE, raw = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>pattern</code>	NULL or a pattern used return a subset of all available collections, applied to the collection ID.
<code>verbose</code>	logical, defaults to FALSE. If set TRUE the some messages are printed.
<code>raw</code>	logical, defaults to FALSE (see Return).

**Value**

Returns a tibble data frame with the available collections. If `pattern = NULL` all collections found are returned. If a pattern is specified, all collections where the collection ID (`id`) matches the pattern are returned. If no IDs match the pattern, a warning is thrown and NULL is returned.

If `raw = TRUE` is specified, `pattern` is ignored and the raw data as retrieved by the API are returned as a list of lists. Each element of the list corresponds to one API call containing a set of lists corresponding to the different collections returned.

**Author(s)**

Reto

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
## Fetch all available collections
collections <- sg_collections()

## Extract collections by MeteoSchweiz
subset(res, grepl("meteoschweiz", id))

## End(Not run)
```

---

sg\_download\_asset      *Download (Cache) and Import Assets/Data Sets*

---

### Description

Download (Cache) and Import Assets/Data Sets

### Usage

```
sg_download_asset(  
  x,  
  dir = NULL,  
  language = c("all", "en", "de", "fr", "it"),  
  use_crs = c("lv95", "wgs84"),  
  verbose = FALSE  
)
```

### Arguments

x	data frame (with one row) or list containing at least the following variables: id, type, href, file_checksum.
dir	character, name/path to a directory to cache the data sets (see 'Details' for more information).
language	character, one of "all" (default), "en", "de", "fr", or "it". If set different to "all" columns ending in <code>&lt;lang&gt;</code> not matching the requested language will be removed.
use_crs	character vector used to auto-detect coordinates. Can be set to NULL/FALSE to not do the conversion.
verbose	logical, defaults to FALSE. If set TRUE the some messages are printed.

### Details

Assets (data sets) provided via geo.admin.ch come with a file checksum which can be used to check if a file changed. We use this to cache files.

If a directory is specified (`dir`) it will be checked if that file has already been downloaded and stored in the directory. In this situation, the local file is used rather than downloading the data. If not, the asset will be downloaded and stored in the directory specified so that it can be potentially used again next time.

Please note that the the size of the directory can grow fast, especially if this mechanic is used when downloading/accessing data sets that rapidly change (i.e., most recent data) as a new file will be created every time the checksum changes.

### Author(s)

Reto

---

`sg_items`*Collection Items*

---

**Description**

Retrieving all items of a specific collection.

**Usage**

```
sg_items(id, raw = FALSE, verbose = FALSE)
```

**Arguments**

<code>id</code>	character, ID of the collection for which to retrieve the items (see <a href="#">sg_collections()</a> ).
<code>raw</code>	logical, defaults to FALSE (see Return).
<code>verbose</code>	logical, defaults to FALSE. If set TRUE the some messages are printed.

**Value**

If `raw = TRUE` a list of lists is returned with the raw (json decoded) result from the API calls. Each element in the list corresponds to one API call (paging).

Else (default) the function tries to auto-detect the format. As an example, if the returned data are of type "FeatureCollection"s The data is converted to a simple feature data frame which is then returned. If now only "FeatureCollection" is implemented, if the returned data is of a different type the raw list is returned (TODO).

**Author(s)**

Reto

**Examples**

```
## Not run:
## Retrieving items for a collection w/ features
CID <- "ch.meteoschweiz.ogd-smn"
items <- sg_items(CID)

## Visualizing the features
library("ggplot2")
ggplot(st_transform(items, crs = st_crs(2056))) +
  geom_sf(col = "lightgreen") + geom_sf_text(aes(label = id))

## End(Not run)
```

---

`sg_options`*Setting swissgeo Options*

---

**Description**

Allows the user to overwrite a series of default options used in the package, mainly fine-tuning how the HTTPS requests are handled.

**Usage**

```
sg_options(  
  timeout = 20,  
  retry = 3,  
  capacity = 3,  
  filltime = 3,  
  apiurl = NULL,  
  verbose = FALSE  
)
```

**Details**

Defaults to 20 seconds.

A series of default options is set every time the package is attached. They can be overruled by the user calling this function.

**Value**

Invisibly returns the current swissgeo settings, these are used in the `sg_*` functions for request handling.

**Author(s)**

Reto

---

`sg_send_api_request`*Get Request Helper Function*

---

**Description**

Auxiliary function to send HTTPS requests with additional error handling. Requests are sent over the `htr2` requests object (see `sg_options()` for details).

**Usage**

```
sg_send_api_request(  
    req,  
    query = NULL,  
    paging = FALSE,  
    limit = 100L,  
    verbose = FALSE,  
    ...  
)
```

**Arguments**

query	NULL (default) or a list with get parameters to be sent with the request. Warning: If the URL contains get requests and query is not NULL, the parameters in the URL ( <code>url</code> ) will be overwritten!
paging	logical, defaults to FALSE. If TRUE we will send an initial request is sent to the <code>url</code> which returns a maximum of 100 entries. It is then checked if a 'next' link is included in the response used to request the next batch of up to 100 entries until finished.
limit	integer, defaults to 100L. Number of entries to be requested if <code>paging = TRUE</code> .
verbose	logical, defaults to FALSE. If set TRUE the some messages are printed.
...	forwarded to the <code>httr::GET()</code> function. TODO(R)

**Details**

We are expecting a JSON response from the API, thus we expect that the request content is decoded to a list by the `httr` package. IF `paging = FALSE` this list is returned. If `paging = TRUE` a list of lists is returned, where each element in the main list contains the results of one API call following the 'next' links (see argument `paging`).

If we do not get a proper HTTP status code, or the extracted content is not a list, this function will throw an error.

**Value**

List with the decoded information.

**Author(s)**

Reto

# Index

[.assets (assets), 2

as.data.frame.assets (assets), 2

as.double.assets (assets), 2

assets, 2

autoconvert\_datetime, 3

dataframe\_to\_sf, 4

format.assets (assets), 2

names.assets (assets), 2

print.assets (assets), 2

remove\_language\_cols, 5

sg\_api\_url, 5

sg\_assets, 6

sg\_collections, 7

sg\_collections(), 6, 9

sg\_download\_asset, 8

sg\_items, 9

sg\_options, 10

sg\_options(), 10

sg\_send\_api\_request, 10