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36.14. nis — Interface to Sun's NIS (Yellow Pages)

Platforms: Unix

The `nis` module gives a thin wrapper around the NIS library, useful for central administration of several hosts.

Because NIS exists only on Unix systems, this module is only available for Unix.

The `nis` module defines the following functions:

```
nis.match(key, mapname[, domain=default_domain])
```

Return the match for `key` in map `mapname`, or raise an error ([nis.error](#)) if there is none. Both should be strings, `key` is 8-bit clean. Return value is an arbitrary array of bytes (may contain `NULL` and other joys).

Note that `mapname` is first checked if it is an alias to another name.

Changed in version 2.5: The `domain` argument allows to override the NIS domain used for the lookup. If unspecified, lookup is in the default NIS domain.

```
nis.cat(mapname[, domain=default_domain])
```

Return a dictionary mapping `key` to `value` such that `match(key, mapname)==value`. Note that both keys and values of the dictionary are arbitrary arrays of bytes.

Note that `mapname` is first checked if it is an alias to another name.

Changed in version 2.5: The `domain` argument allows to override the NIS domain used for the lookup. If unspecified, lookup is in the default NIS domain.

```
nis.maps([domain=default_domain])
```

Return a list of all valid maps.

Changed in version 2.5: The `domain` argument allows to override the NIS domain used for the lookup. If unspecified, lookup is in the default NIS domain.

```
nis.get_default_domain()
```

Return the system default NIS domain.

New in version 2.5.

The `nis` module defines the following exception:

```
exception nis.error
```

An error raised when a NIS function returns an error code.

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