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# **pybase64 Documentation**

***Release 0.2.0***

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This project is a wrapper on [libbase64](#).

It aims to provide a fast base64 implementation for standard base64 encoding/decoding.



# CHAPTER 1

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## Installation

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```
pip install pybase64
```





## Usage

pybase64 uses the same API as Python `base64` “modern interface” (introduced in Python 2.4) for an easy integration.

To get the fastest decoding, it is recommended to use the `b64decode()` and `validate=True` when possible.

```
import pybase64

# Standard encoding
print(pybase64.standard_b64encode(b'>>>foo???'))      # b'Pj4+Zm9vPz8/'
print(pybase64.standard_b64decode(b'Pj4+Zm9vPz8/'))    # b'>>>foo???'
print(pybase64.urlsafe_b64encode(b'>>>foo???'))        # b'Pj4-Zm9vPz8_'
print(pybase64.urlsafe_b64decode(b'Pj4-Zm9vPz8_'))     # b'>>>foo???'
print(pybase64.b64encode(b'>>>foo???' , altchars='_')) # b'Pj4_Zm9vPz8:'
print(pybase64.b64decode(b'Pj4_Zm9vPz8:', altchars='_', validate=True)) # b'>>>foo???'
↪ '
```

Check [API](#) for more details.

A command-line tool is also provided. It has `encode`, `decode` and `benchmark` subcommands.

```
usage: pybase64 [-h] [-v] {benchmark,encode,decode} ...

pybase64 command-line tool.

positional arguments:
  {benchmark,encode,decode}
                        tool help
  benchmark             -h for usage
  encode                -h for usage
  decode                -h for usage

optional arguments:
  -h, --help            show this help message and exit
  -v, --version          show program's version number and exit
```



## CHAPTER 3

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### Benchmark

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Running Python 3.6.0, Apple LLVM version 8.1.0 (clang-802.0.42), Mac OS X 10.12.6 on an Intel Core i7-4870HQ @ 2.50GHz

```
0.1.2 (C extension active)
bench: altchars=None, validate=False
pybase64._pybase64.b64encode:      3203.816 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
pybase64._pybase64.b64decode:      322.261 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64encode:                   539.713 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64decode:                   321.367 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
bench: altchars=None, validate=True
pybase64._pybase64.b64encode:      3119.150 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
pybase64._pybase64.b64decode:      4389.709 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64encode:                   585.207 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64decode:                   101.803 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
bench: altchars=b'-'_, validate=False
pybase64._pybase64.b64encode:      2298.564 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
pybase64._pybase64.b64decode:      276.244 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64encode:                   313.476 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64decode:                   229.085 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
bench: altchars=b'-'_, validate=True
pybase64._pybase64.b64encode:      2379.698 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
pybase64._pybase64.b64decode:      2862.796 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64encode:                   315.344 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64decode:                   91.621 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes)
```

## 3.1 API

### 3.1.1 Main API

`pybase64.b64encode` (*s*, *altchars=None*)  
Encode bytes using the standard Base64 alphabet.

Argument `s` is a `bytes-like object` to encode.

Optional `altchars` must be a byte string of length 2 which specifies an alternative alphabet for the '+' and '/' characters. This allows an application to e.g. generate url or filesystem safe Base64 strings.

The result is returned as a `bytes` object.

`pybase64.b64decode(s, altchars=None, validate=False)`

Decode bytes encoded with the standard Base64 alphabet.

Argument `s` is a `bytes-like object` or ASCII string to decode.

Optional `altchars` must be a `bytes-like object` or ASCII string of length 2 which specifies the alternative alphabet used instead of the '+' and '/' characters.

If `validate` is `False` (the default), characters that are neither in the normal base-64 alphabet nor the alternative alphabet are discarded prior to the padding check. If `validate` is `True`, these non-alphabet characters in the input result in a `binascii.Error`.

The result is returned as a `bytes` object.

A `binascii.Error` is raised if `s` is incorrectly padded.

### 3.1.2 Helpers API

`pybase64.standard_b64encode(s)`

Encode bytes using the standard Base64 alphabet.

Argument `s` is a `bytes-like object` to encode.

The result is returned as a `bytes` object.

`pybase64.standard_b64decode(s)`

Decode bytes encoded with the standard Base64 alphabet.

Argument `s` is a `bytes-like object` or ASCII string to decode.

The result is returned as a `bytes` object.

A `binascii.Error` is raised if the input is incorrectly padded.

Characters that are not in the standard alphabet are discarded prior to the padding check.

`pybase64.urlsafe_b64encode(s)`

Encode bytes using the URL- and filesystem-safe Base64 alphabet.

Argument `s` is a `bytes-like object` to encode.

The result is returned as a `bytes` object.

The alphabet uses '-' instead of '+' and '\_' instead of '/'.

`pybase64.urlsafe_b64decode(s)`

Decode bytes using the URL- and filesystem-safe Base64 alphabet.

Argument `s` is a `bytes-like object` or ASCII string to decode.

The result is returned as a `bytes` object.

A `binascii.Error` is raised if the input is incorrectly padded.

Characters that are not in the URL-safe base-64 alphabet, and are not a plus '+' or slash '/', are discarded prior to the padding check.

The alphabet uses '-' instead of '+' and '\_' instead of '/'.

### 3.1.3 Information API

`pybase64.get_version()`

Returns pybase64 version as a `str` object.

The result reports if the C extension is used or not. e.g. *1.0.0 (C extension active)*

`pybase64.get_license_text()`

Returns pybase64 license information as a `str` object.

The result includes libbase64 license information as well.

## 3.2 License

### 3.2.1 pybase64

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### 3.2.2 libbase64

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