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# **pybase64 Documentation**

***Release 0.3.0***

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## Contents:

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|          |                                     |          |
|----------|-------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>1</b> | <b>Getting started</b>              | <b>3</b> |
| 1.1      | Installation . . . . .              | 3        |
| 1.2      | Usage . . . . .                     | 3        |
| 1.3      | Benchmark . . . . .                 | 4        |
| <b>2</b> | <b>API Reference</b>                | <b>5</b> |
| 2.1      | Main API Reference . . . . .        | 5        |
| 2.2      | Helpers API Reference . . . . .     | 5        |
| 2.3      | Legacy API Reference . . . . .      | 6        |
| 2.4      | Information API Reference . . . . . | 6        |
| <b>3</b> | <b>Changelog</b>                    | <b>7</b> |
| 3.1      | 0.3.0 . . . . .                     | 7        |
| 3.2      | 0.2.1 . . . . .                     | 7        |
| 3.3      | 0.2.0 . . . . .                     | 7        |
| 3.4      | 0.1.2 . . . . .                     | 7        |
| 3.5      | 0.1.1 . . . . .                     | 8        |
| 3.6      | 0.1.0 . . . . .                     | 8        |
| <b>4</b> | <b>License</b>                      | <b>9</b> |
| 4.1      | pybase64 . . . . .                  | 9        |
| 4.2      | libbase64 . . . . .                 | 10       |



Fast Base64 implementation for Python.



# CHAPTER 1

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## Getting started

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pybase64 is a wrapper on `libbase64`.

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

## 1.1 Installation

```
pip install pybase64
```

## 1.2 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

print(pybase64.b64encode(b'>>>foo???', altchars='_:'))
# b'Pj4_Zm9vPz8:'
print(pybase64.b64decode(b'Pj4_Zm9vPz8:', altchars='_:', validate=True))
# b'>>>foo???'

# Standard encoding helpers
print(pybase64.standard_b64encode(b'>>>foo???'))
# b'Pj4+Zm9vPz8/'
print(pybase64.standard_b64decode(b'Pj4+Zm9vPz8/'))
# b'>>>foo???'

# URL safe encoding helpers
print(pybase64.urlsafe_b64encode(b'>>>foo???'))
# b'Pj4-Zm9vPz8_'
```

```
print(pybase64.urlsafe_b64decode(b'Pj4-Zm9vPz8_'))
# b'>>>foo???'
```

Check [API Reference](#) 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
```

## 1.3 Benchmark

Running Python 3.6.0, Apple LLVM version 9.1.0 (clang-902.0.39.1), Mac OS X 10.13.3 on an Intel Core i7-4870HQ @ 2.50GHz

```
pybase64 0.3.0 (C extension active - AVX2)
bench: altchars=None, validate=False
pybase64.__pybase64.encodebytes: 1671.633 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,928,129 bytes)
pybase64.__pybase64.b64encode: 3355.630 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,695,296 bytes)
pybase64.__pybase64.b64decode: 313.357 MB/s (17,695,296 bytes -> 13,271,472 bytes)
base64.encodebytes: 84.229 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,928,129 bytes)
base64.b64encode: 594.513 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,695,296 bytes)
base64.b64decode: 316.510 MB/s (17,695,296 bytes -> 13,271,472 bytes)
bench: altchars=None, validate=True
pybase64.__pybase64.b64encode: 3447.100 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,695,296 bytes)
pybase64.__pybase64.b64decode: 3513.827 MB/s (17,695,296 bytes -> 13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64encode: 592.162 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,695,296 bytes)
base64.b64decode: 103.155 MB/s (17,695,296 bytes -> 13,271,472 bytes)
bench: altchars=b'-'_, validate=False
pybase64.__pybase64.b64encode: 2440.743 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,695,296 bytes)
pybase64.__pybase64.b64decode: 285.376 MB/s (17,695,296 bytes -> 13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64encode: 344.905 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,695,296 bytes)
base64.b64decode: 224.162 MB/s (17,695,296 bytes -> 13,271,472 bytes)
bench: altchars=b'-'_, validate=True
pybase64.__pybase64.b64encode: 2566.995 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,695,296 bytes)
pybase64.__pybase64.b64decode: 2522.613 MB/s (17,695,296 bytes -> 13,271,472 bytes)
base64.b64encode: 342.011 MB/s (13,271,472 bytes -> 17,695,296 bytes)
base64.b64decode: 89.865 MB/s (17,695,296 bytes -> 13,271,472 bytes)
```



### 2.1 Main API Reference

`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.

### 2.2 Helpers API Reference

`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 `'/'`.

## 2.3 Legacy API Reference

`pybase64.encodebytes(s)`

Encode bytes into a bytes object with newlines (`b'\n'`) inserted after every 76 bytes of output, and ensuring that there is a trailing newline, as per [RFC 2045](#) (MIME).

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

The result is returned as a `bytes` object.

## 2.4 Information API Reference

`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 - AVX2)*

`pybase64.get_license_text()`

Returns pybase64 license information as a `str` object.

The result includes libbase64 license information as well.

### 3.1 0.3.0

- Add encodebytes function

### 3.2 0.2.1

- Fixed invalid results on Windows

### 3.3 0.2.0

- Added documentation
- Added subcommands to the main script:
  - help
  - version
  - encode
  - decode
  - benchmark

### 3.4 0.1.2

- Updated base64 native library

## 3.5 0.1.1

- Fixed deployment issues

## 3.6 0.1.0

- First public release

### 4.1 pybase64

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## 4.2 libbase64

```
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```

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## B

[b64decode\(\)](#) (in module pybase64), [5](#)

[b64encode\(\)](#) (in module pybase64), [5](#)

## E

[encodebytes\(\)](#) (in module pybase64), [6](#)

## G

[get\\_license\\_text\(\)](#) (in module pybase64), [6](#)

[get\\_version\(\)](#) (in module pybase64), [6](#)

## R

RFC

[RFC 2045](#), [6](#)

## S

[standard\\_b64decode\(\)](#) (in module pybase64), [6](#)

[standard\\_b64encode\(\)](#) (in module pybase64), [5](#)

## U

[urlsafe\\_b64decode\(\)](#) (in module pybase64), [6](#)

[urlsafe\\_b64encode\(\)](#) (in module pybase64), [6](#)