Booby Documentation

Release 0.6.0

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Booby is a standalone data modeling and validation library written in Python. Booby is under active development (visit this blog post for more info and the roadmap) and licensed under the Apache2 license, so feel free to contribute and report errors and suggestions.
See the sample code below to get an idea of the main features.

```python
from booby import Model, fields

class Token(Model):
    key = fields.String()
    secret = fields.String()

class User(Model):
    login = fields.String(required=True)
    name = fields.String()
    email = fields.Email()
    token = fields.Embedded(Token, required=True)
    addresses = fields.Field(default=list)

class Address(Model):
    line_1 = fields.String()
    line_2 = fields.String()

jack = User(
    login='jack',
    name='Jack',
    email='jack@example.com',
    token={
        'key': 'vs7dfxxx',
        'secret': 'ds5ds4xxx'
    },
    addresses=[
        Address(line_1='Main Street'),
        Address(line_1='Main St')
    ]
)

if jack.is_valid:
    print jack.to_json(indent=2)
else:
    print json.dumps(dict(jack.validation_errors))
```

```json
{
    "email": "jack@example.com",
    "login": "jack",
    "token": {
        "secret": "ds5ds4xxx",
```
"key": "vs7dfxxx"
},
"name": "Jack",
"addresses": [
{
  "line_1": "Main St",
  "line_2": null
},
{
  "line_1": "Main Street",
  "line_2": null
}
]
You can install the last stable release of Booby from PyPI using pip or easy_install.

$ pip install booby

Also you can install the latest sources from Github.

$ pip install -e git+git://github.com/jaimegildesagredo/booby.git#egg=booby
To run the Booby test suite you should install the development requirements and then run nosetests.

$ pip install -r test-requirements.txt
$ nosetests tests/unit
$ nosetests tests/integration
See Changes.
5.1 Installation

You can install Booby directly from PyPI using pip or easy_install:

$ pip install booby

Or install the latest sources from Github:

$ pip install -e git+git://github.com/jaimegildesagredo/booby.git#egg=booby

Also you can download a source code package from Github and install it using setuptools:

$ tar xvf booby-{version}.tar.gz
$ cd booby
$ python setup.py install

5.2 Models

The models module contains the booby highest level abstraction: the Model.

To define a model you should subclass the Model class and add a list of fields as attributes. And then you could instantiate your Model and work with these objects.

Something like this:

class Repo(Model):
    name = fields.String()
    owner = fields.Embedded(User)

booby = Repo(
    name='Booby',
    owner={
        'login': 'jaimegildesagredo',
        'name': 'Jaime Gil de Sagredo'
    })

print booby.to_json()
'

class models.Model(**kwargs)
    The Model class. All Booby models should subclass this.
By default the Model's __init__() takes a list of keyword arguments to initialize the fields values. If any of these keys is not a field then raises errors.FieldError. Of course you can overwrite the Model's __init__() to get a custom behavior.

You can get or set Model fields values in two different ways: through object attributes or dict-like items:

```python
>>> booby.name is booby['name']
True
>>> booby['name'] = 'booby'
>>> booby['foo'] = 'bar'
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "<stdin>", line 1, in <module>
errors.FieldError: foo
```

**Parameters** **kwargs – Keyword arguments with the fields values to initialize the model.

**is_valid**

This property will be True if there are not validation errors in this model fields. If there are any error then will be False.

This property wraps the Model.validate() method to be used in a boolean context.

**to_json(*args, **kwargs)**

This method returns the model as a json string. It receives the same arguments as the builtin json.dump() function.

To build a json representation of this model this method iterates over the object to build a dict and then serializes it as json.

**update(*args, **kwargs)**

This method updates the model fields values with the given dict. The model can be updated passing a dict object or keyword arguments, like the Python's builtin dict.update().

**validate()**

This method validates the entire model. That is, validates all the fields within this model.

If some field validation fails, then this method raises the same exception that the field.validate() method had raised.

**validation_errors**

Generator of field name and validation error string pairs for each validation error on this model fields.

### 5.3 Fields

The fields module contains a list of Field classes for model's definition.

The example below shows the most common fields and builtin validations:

```python
class Token(Model):
    key = String()
    secret = String()

class User(Model):
    login = String(required=True)
    name = String()
    role = String(choices=['admin', 'moderator', 'user'])
    email = Email(required=True)
    token = Embedded(Token, required=True)
    is_active = Boolean(default=False)
```
class fields.Boolean(*args, **kwargs)
    Field subclass with builtin bool validation.

class fields.Email(*args, **kwargs)
    Field subclass with builtin email validation.

class fields.Embedded(model, *args, **kwargs)
    Field subclass with builtin embedded models.Model validation.

class fields.Field(*validators, **kwargs)
    This is the base class for all booby.fields. This class can also be used as field in any models.Model declaration.

    Parameters
    
    • default – This field default’s value.
      If passed a callable object then uses its return value as the field’s default. This is particularly useful when working with mutable objects.
      If default is a callable it can optionally receive the owner model instance as its first positional argument.
    • required – If True this field value should not be None.
    • choices – A list of values where this field value should be in.
    • name – Specify an alternate key name to use when decoding and encoding.
    • read_only – If True, the value is treated normally in decoding but omitted during encoding.
    • *validators – A list of field validators as positional arguments.

class fields.Float(*args, **kwargs)
    Field subclass with builtin float validation.

class fields.Integer(*args, **kwargs)
    Field subclass with builtin integer validation.

class fields.List(*args, **kwargs)
    Field subclass with builtin list validation and default value.

class fields.String(*args, **kwargs)
    Field subclass with builtin string validation.

5.4 Validators

The validators module contains a set of fields validators.

A validator is any callable object which receives a value as the target for the validation. If the validation fails then should raise an errors.ValidationError exception with an error message.

Validators are passed to fields.Field and subclasses as positional arguments.

class validators.Boolean
    This validator forces fields values to be an instance of bool.

class validators.Email
    This validator forces fields values to be strings and match a valid email address.
class validators.Float
   This validator forces fields values to be an instance of float.

class validators.In(choices)
   This validator forces fields to have their value in the given list.

   Parameters choices -- A list of possible values.

class validators.Integer
   This validator forces fields values to be an instance of int.

class validators.List(*validators)
   This validator forces field values to be a list. Also a list of inner validators could be specified to validate each list element. For example, to validate a list of models.Model you could do:

   books = fields.Field(validators.List(validators.Model(YourBookModel)))

   Parameters *validators -- A list of inner validators as positional arguments.

class validators.Model(model)
   This validator forces fields values to be an instance of the given models.Model subclass and also performs a validation in the entire model object.

   Parameters model -- A subclass of models.Model

class validators.Required
   This validator forces fields to have a value other than None.

class validators.String
   This validator forces fields values to be an instance of basestring.

5.5 Inspection

The inspection module provides users and 3rd-party library developers a public api to access booby objects and classes internal data, such as defined fields, and some low-level type validations.

This module is based on the Python inspect module.

inspection.get_fields(model)
   Returns a dict mapping the given model field names to their fields.Field objects.

   Parameters model -- The models.Model subclass or instance you want to get their fields.

   Raises TypeError if the given model is not a model.

inspection.is_model(obj)
   Returns True if the given object is a models.Model instance or subclass. If not then returns False.

5.6 Errors

The errors module contains all exceptions used by Booby.

exception errors.BoobyError
   Base class for all Booby exceptions.

exception errors.FieldError
   This exception is used as an equivalent to AttributeError for fields.
exception errors.ValidationError

This exception should be raised when a value doesn’t validate. See validators.

5.7 Changes

5.7.1 0.6.0 (Not released yet)

Backwards-incompatible

- The List validator now accepts None as a valid value allowing not required list fields. Before this a field with a List validator couldn’t be None.

Highlights

- The Model class now defines a decode and encode methods with serialization/deserialization support.
- A Field now can receive lists of callable objects, encoders and decoders, to perform serialization/deserialization.
- Added a List field that can be used to create fields containing lists of objects (even models).
- Datetime validator, encoder, and decoder were added.

5.7.2 0.5.2 (Mar 22, 2014)

Highlights

- Added readable Field instances repr. See issue 20.
- Added readable Model classes and instances repr.

5.7.3 0.5.1 (Jan 31, 2014)

Highlights

- The Email validator now only performs a basic sanity check instead of the more restrictive previous check. See issue 17.
- The List validator now accepts any object that implements the list interface (collections.MutableSequence). See issue 18.
- Any object implementing the dict interface (collections.MutableMapping) can be used as a value for an Embedded field. See issue 18.
- When iterating a Model object all objects implementing the list interface are treated as lists. See issue 18.

5.7.4 0.5.0 (Jan 4, 2014)

Backwards-incompatible

- Now field validators must be callable objects. Before this release validators had a validate method that is not longer used to perform a validation. This change only affects to custom user validators with a validate method.
Highlights

- The `FieldError` exception now is raised only with the field name as argument. See issue 12.
- Fields `default` argument callables can now optionally receive the model as argument.
- Added the `inspection` module which provides the `get_fields` and `is_model` functions as a public api to get access to `models` fields and type validation.

5.7.5 0.4.0 (Ago 4, 2013)

Backwards-incompatible

- Moved the `Model.to_dict` functionality to `dict(model)`.
- The `Model.validation_errors` method now is an iterable of field name and validator error pairs.
- Removed the `Field` suffix for all Booby fields. Now use the module as namespace: `fields.String`.

Highlights

- Added an `is_valid` property to `Model`.
- The `Model` instances now are iterables of field name, value pairs.

5.7.6 0.3.0 (Jun 20, 2013)

Highlights

- When passed a `callable` object as a field `default` then the default value for this field in a model instance will be the return value of the given callable.
- Added the `models.Model.validation_errors()` method to get a dict of field name and error message pairs for all invalid model fields.
CHAPTER 6

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