
python-pae

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Matthias Valvekens

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API REFERENCE

This is the API reference for *python-pae*, compiled from the docstrings present in the Python source files.

<p>Warning: Any function, class or method that is <i>not</i> covered by this documentation is considered private API by definition.</p>
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1.1 python-pae

1.1.1 Submodules

python_pae.abstract module

This module defines the basic abstract building blocks of the API.

class python_pae.abstract.PAEType(*args, **kwargs)

Bases: Generic[python_pae.abstract.T]

Provides a serialisation implementation for a particular type of values.

constant_length: Optional[int] = None

If not None, the output length of the *write()* method must always be equal to the value of this property.

Length prefixes for types with a fixed byte length can optionally be omitted.

write(value: python_pae.abstract.T, stream: IO) → int

Serialise and write a value to a stream, length prefix *not* included.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to write.
- **stream** – The stream to write to.

Returns The number of bytes written.

read(stream: IO, length: int) → python_pae.abstract.T

Read a value from a stream, length prefix *not* included, and decode it.

Parameters

- **stream** – The stream to write to.
- **length** – The expected length of the content to be read.

Returns The decoded value.

exception `python_pae.abstract.PAEDecodeError`

Bases: `ValueError`

Raised if an error occurs during PAE decoding.

`python_pae.encode` module

This module defines helper functions and coroutines for encoding and decoding PAE values.

`python_pae.encode.marshall`(*value*: `python_pae.encode.T`, *pae_type*:
`python_pae.abstract.PAEType[python_pae.encode.T]`) → bytes

Serialise a value into bytes.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to be processed.
- **pae_type** – The `PAEType` that provides the serialisation logic.

Returns A byte string representing the value passed in.

`python_pae.encode.unmarshall`(*packed*: bytes, *pae_type*: `python_pae.abstract.PAEType[python_pae.encode.T]`)
→ `python_pae.encode.T`

Decode a byte string back into a value. Inverse operation of `marshall()`.

Parameters

- **packed** – The byte string to be processed.
- **pae_type** – The `PAEType` that provides the deserialisation logic.

Returns A decoded value.

Raises `python_pae.PAEDecodeError` – if an error occurs in the decoding process.

`python_pae.encode.write_prefixed`(*value*: `python_pae.encode.T`, *pae_type*:
`python_pae.abstract.PAEType[python_pae.encode.T]`, *stream*: IO,
length_type: `python_pae.number.PAENumberType`, *prefix_if_constant*:
bool = True) → int

Write a value to a stream, prefixed with the length of the serialised payload.

Note: The output stream must be seekable for this to work.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to write.
- **pae_type** – The `PAEType` that provides the serialisation logic.
- **stream** – The output stream to write to.
- **length_type** – Numeric type to use for the length prefix.
- **prefix_if_constant** – Flag toggling whether to apply the length prefix if the type being written is a fixed-width type. Defaults to True.

Returns The number of bytes written (including the length prefix, if present).

```
python_pae.encode.read_prefixed_coro(pae_type: python_pae.abstract.PAEType[python_pae.encode.T],
                                   stream: IO, length_type: python_pae.number.PAENumberType,
                                   prefix_if_constant: bool = True)
```

Coroutine that reads and parses a length-prefixed value. The coroutine yields at most twice. First, the expected length is yielded. Next, the value is decoded and yielded.

Note: The idea is that the caller can abort the parse based on the length value.

Parameters

- **pae_type** – The *PAEType* that provides the deserialisation logic.
- **stream** – The stream to read from.
- **length_type** – Numeric type to use for the length prefix.
- **prefix_if_constant** – Flag toggling whether to expect a length prefix if the type being read is a fixed-width type. Defaults to `True`.

Raises *python_pae.PAEDecodeError* – if an error occurs in the decoding process.

Returns A generator object.

```
python_pae.encode.read_pae_coro(stream: IO, settings: python_pae.encode.PAEListSettings,
                               expected_length=None)
```

Coroutine to read a (possibly heterogeneous) PAE-encoded list.

The protocol is as follows:

1. First, the coroutine parses and yields the number of list elements.
2. Then, the caller should `.send()` in a *PAEType* object, after which the coroutine will yield a value.
3. Repeat step 2 for each element of the list.

The coroutine-based approach allows for a degree of freedom in the schema (e.g. optional fields), while still parsing on an on-demand basis.

Parameters

- **stream** – The stream to read from.
- **settings** – List encoding settings.
- **expected_length** – The expected byte length of the encoded list payload. If `None`, the length is not enforced.

Raises *python_pae.PAEDecodeError* – if an error occurs in the decoding process.

Returns A generator object.

```
class python_pae.encode.PAEListSettings(size_type: python_pae.number.PAENumberType = <uint64
                                       (ULLONG)>, length_type:
                                       Optional[python_pae.number.PAENumberType] = None,
                                       prefix_if_constant: bool = True)
```

Bases: object

List encoding settings. The defaults represent the PASETO version of PAE.

size_type: *python_pae.number.PAENumberType* = `<uint64 (ULLONG)>`
 Numeric type to use for the list size.

Note: The default is a 64-bit integer for compatibility with PASETO PAE.

length_type: Optional[*python_pae.number.PAENumberType*] = None
Numeric type to use for the length prefixes of the list items.

Note: If unspecified, will be the same as *size_type*.

prefix_if_constant: bool = True
Flag toggling whether to apply the length prefix if the type being written or read is a fixed-width type.
Defaults to True.

python_pae.number module

This module defines the unsigned number types for our PAE encoding scheme.

class python_pae.number.PAENumberType(*value*)

Bases: *python_pae.abstract.PAEType*[int]

Encodes various unsigned integer types. All are encoded in little-endian order.

property constant_length

unpack(*packed: bytes*)

pack(*value: int*)

write(*value: int, stream: IO*) → int

Serialise and write a value to a stream, length prefix *not* included.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to write.
- **stream** – The stream to write to.

Returns The number of bytes written.

read(*stream: IO, length: int*) → int

Read a value from a stream, length prefix *not* included, and decode it.

Parameters

- **stream** – The stream to write to.
- **length** – The expected length of the content to be read.

Returns The decoded value.

python_pae.number.PAE_UCHAR = <uint8 (UCHAR)>

Unsigned char, encodes to a single byte.

python_pae.number.PAE_USHORT = <uint16 (USHORT)>

Unsigned short, encodes to two bytes.

python_pae.number.PAE_UINT = <uint32 (UINT)>

Unsigned int, encodes to four bytes.

python_pae.number.PAE_ULLONG = <uint64 (ULLONG)>

Unsigned (long) long, encodes to eight bytes.

python_pae.pae_types module

This module defines the serialisation logic for a number of basic types.

class python_pae.pae_types.PAEBytes(*args, **kws)

Bases: [python_pae.abstract.PAEType\[bytes\]](#)

Represents a raw byte string, encoded as the identity.

write(value: bytes, stream: IO) → int

Serialise and write a value to a stream, length prefix *not* included.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to write.
- **stream** – The stream to write to.

Returns The number of bytes written.

read(stream: IO, length: int) → bytes

Read a value from a stream, length prefix *not* included, and decode it.

Parameters

- **stream** – The stream to write to.
- **length** – The expected length of the content to be read.

Returns The decoded value.

class python_pae.pae_types.PAEString(*args, **kws)

Bases: [python_pae.abstract.PAEType\[str\]](#)

Represents a text string, encoded in UTF-8.

write(value: str, stream: IO) → int

Serialise and write a value to a stream, length prefix *not* included.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to write.
- **stream** – The stream to write to.

Returns The number of bytes written.

read(stream: IO, length: int) → str

Read a value from a stream, length prefix *not* included, and decode it.

Parameters

- **stream** – The stream to write to.
- **length** – The expected length of the content to be read.

Returns The decoded value.

class python_pae.pae_types.PAENumberType(value)

Bases: [python_pae.abstract.PAEType\[int\]](#)

Encodes various unsigned integer types. All are encoded in little-endian order.

property constant_length

unpack(packed: bytes)

pack(value: int)

write(*value: int, stream: IO*) → int
Serialise and write a value to a stream, length prefix *not* included.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to write.
- **stream** – The stream to write to.

Returns The number of bytes written.

read(*stream: IO, length: int*) → int
Read a value from a stream, length prefix *not* included, and decode it.

Parameters

- **stream** – The stream to write to.
- **length** – The expected length of the content to be read.

Returns The decoded value.

```
class python_pae.pae_types.PAEHomogeneousList(child_type:  
                                              python_pae.abstract.PAEType[python_pae.pae_types.S],  
                                              settings: python_pae.encode.PAEListSettings =  
                                              PAEListSettings(size_type=<uint64 (ULLONG)>,  
                                              length_type=None, prefix_if_constant=False))
```

Bases: [python_pae.abstract.PAEType\[List\[python_pae.pae_types.S\]\]](#)

Homogeneous list of length-prefixed items.

Parameters

- **child_type** – The type of the list's elements.
- **settings** – Encoding settings for the list.

write(*value: List[python_pae.pae_types.S], stream: IO*) → int
Serialise and write a value to a stream, length prefix *not* included.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to write.
- **stream** – The stream to write to.

Returns The number of bytes written.

read(*stream: IO, length: int*) → List[python_pae.pae_types.S]
Read a value from a stream, length prefix *not* included, and decode it.

Parameters

- **stream** – The stream to write to.
- **length** – The expected length of the content to be read.

Returns The decoded value.

```
class python_pae.pae_types.PAEHeterogeneousList(component_types:  
                                              List[python_pae.abstract.PAEType], settings:  
                                              python_pae.encode.PAEListSettings =  
                                              PAEListSettings(size_type=<uint64 (ULLONG)>,  
                                              length_type=None, prefix_if_constant=True))
```

Bases: [python_pae.abstract.PAEType\[list\]](#)

Heterogeneous, fixed-length list of length-prefixed items, or a tuple.

Parameters

- **component_types** – The list of types that appear as the list’s components, in order.
- **settings** – Encoding settings for the list.

write(*value: list, stream: IO*) → int

Serialise and write a value to a stream, length prefix *not* included.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to write.
- **stream** – The stream to write to.

Returns The number of bytes written.

read(*stream: IO, length: int*) → list

Read a value from a stream, length prefix *not* included, and decode it.

Parameters

- **stream** – The stream to write to.
- **length** – The expected length of the content to be read.

Returns The decoded value.

```
python_pae.pae_types.DEFAULT_HMG_LIST_SETTINGS = PAEListSettings(size_type=<uint64
(ULLONG)>, length_type=None, prefix_if_constant=False)
```

Default list settings for homogeneous lists.

```
python_pae.pae_types.DEFAULT_HTRG_LIST_SETTINGS = PAEListSettings(size_type=<uint64
(ULLONG)>, length_type=None, prefix_if_constant=True)
```

Default list settings for heterogeneous lists.

1.1.2 Members

This is the main entry point for the PAE encoding/decoding API.

```
python_pae.pae_encode(lst: List[bytes], size_t: python_pae.number.PAENumberType = <uint64 (ULLONG)>)
→ bytes
```

Encode a list of byte strings in PAE.

Note: By default, this function produces output that is compatible with PASETO PAE.

Parameters

- **lst** – A list of byte strings.
- **size_t** – Numeric type to use for the list’s size and its members’ length prefixes.

Returns The PAE-encoded list as a byte string.

```
python_pae.pae_encode_multiple(value_type_pairs, size_t: python_pae.number.PAENumberType = <uint64
(ULLONG)>) → bytes
```

Encode a list of multiple typed values in PAE.

Parameters

- **value_type_pairs** – A list of tuples of the form (v, t), where v is a value, and t is a *PAEType* implementation for that value type.

- **size_t** – Numeric type to use for the list’s size and its members’ length prefixes.

Returns The PAE-encoded list as a byte string.

`python_pae.marshall` (*value*: `python_pae.encode.T`, *pae_type*:
`python_pae.abstract.PAEType[python_pae.encode.T]`) → bytes
Serialise a value into bytes.

Parameters

- **value** – The value to be processed.
- **pae_type** – The *PAEType* that provides the serialisation logic.

Returns A byte string representing the value passed in.

`python_pae.unmarshal` (*packed*: bytes, *pae_type*: `python_pae.abstract.PAEType[python_pae.encode.T]`) →
`python_pae.encode.T`
Decode a byte string back into a value. Inverse operation of `marshall()`.

Parameters

- **packed** – The byte string to be processed.
- **pae_type** – The *PAEType* that provides the deserialisation logic.

Returns A decoded value.

Raises `python_pae.PAEDecodeError` – if an error occurs in the decoding process.

```
class python_pae.PAEListSettings(size_type: python_pae.number.PAENumberType = <uint64 (ULLONG)>,
                                length_type: Optional[python_pae.number.PAENumberType] = None,
                                prefix_if_constant: bool = True)
```

Bases: object

List encoding settings. The defaults represent the PASETO version of PAE.

size_type: `python_pae.number.PAENumberType = <uint64 (ULLONG)>`
Numeric type to use for the list size.

Note: The default is a 64-bit integer for compatibility with PASETO PAE.

length_type: `Optional[python_pae.number.PAENumberType] = None`
Numeric type to use for the length prefixes of the list items.

Note: If unspecified, will be the same as *size_type*.

prefix_if_constant: `bool = True`

Flag toggling whether to apply the length prefix if the type being written or read is a fixed-width type.
Defaults to True.

exception `python_pae.PAEDecodeError`

Bases: `ValueError`

Raised if an error occurs during PAE decoding.

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This minimal library (`python-pae`) offers an implementation of (a variant of) PASETO's pre-authentication encoding (PAE) scheme in pure Python.

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