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# **Booby Documentation**

*Release 0.7.0*

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**Sep 27, 2017**



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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.

```
from booby import Model, fields

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

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

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

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

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

```
{
  "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
    }
  ]
}
```



## CHAPTER 2

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### Installation

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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
```



## CHAPTER 3

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### Tests

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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
```



## CHAPTER 4

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### Changes

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See Changes.



## 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
```

## 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()
'{"owner": {"login": "jaimegildesagredo", "name": "Jaime Gil de Sagredo"}, "name":
↪ "Booby"}'
```

**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:

```
>>> 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.

## 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:



```

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.Collection(model, *args, **kwargs)`  
*Field* subclass with builtin *list of models.Model* validation, encoding and decoding.

Example:

```

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

class User(Model):
    tokens = Collection(Token)

user = User({
    'tokens': [
        {
            'key': 'xxx',
            'secret': 'yyy'
        },
        {
            'key': 'zzz',
            'secret': 'xxx'
        },
    ]
})

user.tokens.append(Token(key='yyy', secret='xxx'))

```

**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.
```

## 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`.

## 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`.

## 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`.

## Changes

### 0.7.0 (Dec 3, 2014)

#### Backwards-incompatible

- The `List` encoder no longer encodes models. To achieve the old behavior pass the `Model` encoder as an argument instead:

```
class User(Model):
    tokens = fields.Field(encoders=[encoders.List(encoders.Model())])
```

### Highlights

- Added a `Collection` field that works like `Embedded` for lists of models:

```
class User(Model):
    tokens = fields.Collection(Token)

user = User({
    'tokens': [
        {
            'key': 'xxx',
            'secret': 'yyy'
        }
    ]
})

user.tokens.append(Token(key='zzz', secret='www'))
user.validate()
```

See the docs for more info.

## 0.6.0 (Oct 12, 2014)

### 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.

## 0.5.2 (Mar 22, 2014)

### Highlights

- Added readable `Field` instances repr. See [issue 20](#).
- Added readable `Model` classes and instances repr.

## 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](#).

## 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 no 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.

## 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 validation 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.

## 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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### Indices and tables

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