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Subject: url-encoded binary data in URL query string - how to decode properly?

Posted by [Peter](#) on Wed, 31 Jul 2013 07:55:32 GMT

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Hi.

I'm facing the following problem. Suppose I have a binary file which I want to send via a http GET request in a URL. Before transfer, the raw data must be Base64 encoded.

Suppose I have the following url:

`http://myhost.com/path/?data=...`

Where `?data=...` is the URL query string with Base64 encoded binary data after `"="` character.

Now suppose I have a Skylark handler for `"/path"`. Binary data (still Base64 encoded) can be accessed on server side by `http["data"].ToString()`, but there's a problem. The resulting string is not the same as the original one: all `"+"` characters from original string become `" "` (space) characters. I know this is due to the fact that spaces in url query strings are encoded by plus characters, but what about two other potentially "dangerous" characters, particularly `"/"` and `"="` (padding indicator) appearing in Base64 encoded strings? Will they be substituted either?

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