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

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?

Subject: Re: url-encoded binary data in URL query string - how to decode properly?
Posted by dolik.rce on Sat, 03 Aug 2013 07:05:07 GMT

Hi Peter,

Passing base64 data in GET parameter is not a good idea, in any framework. What you need is to urlencode the data before you send them, then they should arrive just OK in the Skylark handler.

Best regards,
Honza