
Certbot Documentation

Release 0.26.0.dev0

Certbot Project

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INTRODUCTION

Note: To get started quickly, use the [interactive installation guide](#).

Certbot is part of EFF's effort to encrypt the entire Internet. Secure communication over the Web relies on HTTPS, which requires the use of a digital certificate that lets browsers verify the identity of web servers (e.g., is that really google.com?). Web servers obtain their certificates from trusted third parties called certificate authorities (CAs). Certbot is an easy-to-use client that fetches a certificate from Let's Encrypt—an open certificate authority launched by the EFF, Mozilla, and others—and deploys it to a web server.

Anyone who has gone through the trouble of setting up a secure website knows what a hassle getting and maintaining a certificate is. Certbot and Let's Encrypt can automate away the pain and let you turn on and manage HTTPS with simple commands. Using Certbot and Let's Encrypt is free, so there's no need to arrange payment.

How you use Certbot depends on the configuration of your web server. The best way to get started is to use our [interactive guide](#). It generates instructions based on your configuration settings. In most cases, you'll need [root or administrator access](#) to your web server to run Certbot.

If you're using a hosted service and don't have direct access to your web server, you might not be able to use Certbot. Check with your hosting provider for documentation about uploading certificates or using certificates issued by Let's Encrypt.

Certbot is a fully-featured, extensible client for the Let's Encrypt CA (or any other CA that speaks the [ACME](#) protocol) that can automate the tasks of obtaining certificates and configuring web servers to use them. This client runs on Unix-based operating systems.

To see the changes made to Certbot between versions please refer to our [changelog](#).

Until May 2016, Certbot was named simply `letsencrypt` or `letsencrypt-auto`, depending on install method. Instructions on the Internet, and some pieces of the software, may still refer to this older name.

1.1 Contributing

If you'd like to contribute to this project please read [Developer Guide](#).

1.2 Installation

The easiest way to install Certbot is by visiting [certbot.eff.org](#), where you can find the correct installation instructions for many web server and OS combinations. For more information, see [Get Certbot](#).

1.3 How to run the client

In many cases, you can just run `certbot-auto` or `certbot`, and the client will guide you through the process of obtaining and installing certs interactively.

For full command line help, you can type:

```
./certbot-auto --help all
```

You can also tell it exactly what you want it to do from the command line. For instance, if you want to obtain a cert for `example.com`, `www.example.com`, and `other.example.net`, using the Apache plugin to both obtain and install the certs, you could do this:

```
./certbot-auto --apache -d example.com -d www.example.com -d other.example.net
```

(The first time you run the command, it will make an account, and ask for an email and agreement to the Let's Encrypt Subscriber Agreement; you can automate those with `--email` and `--agree-tos`)

If you want to use a webserver that doesn't have full plugin support yet, you can still use "standalone" or "webroot" plugins to obtain a certificate:

```
./certbot-auto certonly --standalone --email admin@example.com -d example.com -d www.  
example.com -d other.example.net
```

1.4 Understanding the client in more depth

To understand what the client is doing in detail, it's important to understand the way it uses plugins. Please see the [explanation of plugins](#) in the User Guide.

1.4.1 Links

Documentation: <https://certbot.eff.org/docs>

Software project: <https://github.com/certbot/certbot>

Notes for developers: <https://certbot.eff.org/docs/contributing.html>

Main Website: <https://certbot.eff.org>

Let's Encrypt Website: <https://letsencrypt.org>

IRC Channel: #letsencrypt on Freenode

Community: <https://community.letsencrypt.org>

ACME spec: <http://ietf-wg-acme.github.io/acme/>

ACME working area in github: <https://github.com/ietf-wg-acme/acme>

1.4.2 System Requirements

See <https://certbot.eff.org/docs/install.html#system-requirements>.

WHAT IS A CERTIFICATE?

A public key or digital *certificate* (formerly called an SSL certificate) uses a public key and a private key to enable secure communication between a client program (web browser, email client, etc.) and a server over an encrypted SSL (secure socket layer) or TLS (transport layer security) connection. The certificate is used both to encrypt the initial stage of communication (secure key exchange) and to identify the server. The certificate includes information about the key, information about the server identity, and the digital signature of the certificate issuer. If the issuer is trusted by the software that initiates the communication, and the signature is valid, then the key can be used to communicate securely with the server identified by the certificate. Using a certificate is a good way to prevent “man-in-the-middle” attacks, in which someone in between you and the server you think you are talking to is able to insert their own (harmful) content.

You can use Certbot to easily obtain and configure a free certificate from Let’s Encrypt, a joint project of EFF, Mozilla, and many other sponsors.

2.1 Certificates and Lineages

Certbot introduces the concept of a *lineage*, which is a collection of all the versions of a certificate plus Certbot configuration information maintained for that certificate from renewal to renewal. Whenever you renew a certificate, Certbot keeps the same configuration unless you explicitly change it, for example by adding or removing domains. If you add domains, you can either add them to an existing lineage or create a new one.

See also: *Re-creating and Updating Existing Certificates*

GET CERTBOT

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- *About Certbot*
- *System Requirements*
- *Alternate installation methods*
 - *Certbot-Auto*
 - *Problems with Python virtual environment*
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3.1 About Certbot

Certbot is packaged for many common operating systems and web servers. Check whether `certbot` (or `letsencrypt`) is packaged for your web server's OS by visiting certbot.eff.org, where you will also find the correct installation instructions for your system.

Note: Unless you have very specific requirements, we kindly suggest that you use the Certbot packages provided by your package manager (see certbot.eff.org). If such packages are not available, we recommend using `certbot-auto`, which automates the process of installing Certbot on your system.

3.2 System Requirements

Certbot currently requires Python 2.7 or 3.4+ running on a UNIX-like operating system. By default, it requires root access in order to write to `/etc/letsencrypt`, `/var/log/letsencrypt`, `/var/lib/letsencrypt`; to bind to ports 80 and 443 (if you use the `standalone` plugin) and to read and modify webserver configurations (if you use the `apache` or `nginx` plugins). If none of these apply to you, it is theoretically possible to run without root privileges, but for most users who want to avoid running an ACME client as root, either `letsencrypt-nosudo` or `simp_le` are more appropriate choices.

The Apache plugin currently requires an OS with Augeas version 1.0; currently it supports modern OSes based on Debian, Fedora, SUSE, Gentoo and Darwin.

Installing with `certbot-auto` requires 512MB of RAM in order to build some of the dependencies. Installing from pre-built OS packages avoids this requirement. You can also temporarily set a swap file. See “Problems with Python virtual environment” below for details.

3.3 Alternate installation methods

If you are offline or your operating system doesn’t provide a package, you can use an alternate method for installing certbot.

3.3.1 Certbot-Auto

The `certbot-auto` wrapper script installs Certbot, obtaining some dependencies from your web server OS and putting others in a python virtual environment. You can download and run it as follows:

```
user@webserver:~$ wget https://dl.eff.org/certbot-auto
user@webserver:~$ chmod a+x ./certbot-auto
user@webserver:~$ ./certbot-auto --help
```

Hint: The `certbot-auto` download is protected by HTTPS, which is pretty good, but if you’d like to double check the integrity of the `certbot-auto` script, you can use these steps for verification before running it:

```
user@server:~$ wget -N https://dl.eff.org/certbot-auto.asc
user@server:~$ gpg2 --recv-key A2CFB51FA275A7286234E7B24D17C995CD9775F2
user@server:~$ gpg2 --trusted-key 4D17C995CD9775F2 --verify certbot-auto.asc certbot-
↪ auto
```

The `certbot-auto` command updates to the latest client release automatically. Since `certbot-auto` is a wrapper to `certbot`, it accepts exactly the same command line flags and arguments. For more information, see [Certbot command-line options](#).

For full command line help, you can type:

```
./certbot-auto --help all
```

3.3.2 Problems with Python virtual environment

On a low memory system such as VPS with less than 512MB of RAM, the required dependencies of Certbot will fail to build. This can be identified if the pip outputs contains something like `internal compiler error: Killed (program cc1)`. You can workaround this restriction by creating a temporary swapfile:

```
user@webserver:~$ sudo fallocate -l 1G /tmp/swapfile
user@webserver:~$ sudo chmod 600 /tmp/swapfile
user@webserver:~$ sudo mkswap /tmp/swapfile
user@webserver:~$ sudo swapon /tmp/swapfile
```

Disable and remove the swapfile once the virtual environment is constructed:

```
user@webserver:~$ sudo swapoff /tmp/swapfile
user@webserver:~$ sudo rm /tmp/swapfile
```

3.3.3 Running with Docker

Docker is an amazingly simple and quick way to obtain a certificate. However, this mode of operation is unable to install certificates or configure your webserver, because our installer plugins cannot reach your webserver from inside the Docker container.

Most users should use the operating system packages (see instructions at certbot.eff.org) or, as a fallback, `certbot-auto`. You should only use Docker if you are sure you know what you are doing and have a good reason to do so.

You should definitely read the *Where are my certificates?* section, in order to know how to manage the certs manually. Our *ciphersuites* page provides some information about recommended ciphersuites. If none of these make much sense to you, you should definitely use the *certbot-auto* method, which enables you to use installer plugins that cover both of those hard topics.

If you're still not convinced and have decided to use this method, from the server that the domain you're requesting a certificate for resolves to, **install Docker**, then issue a command like the one found below. If you are using Certbot with the *Standalone* plugin, you will need to make the port it uses accessible from outside of the container by including something like `-p 80:80` or `-p 443:443` on the command line before `certbot/certbot`.

```
sudo docker run -it --rm --name certbot \
    -v "/etc/letsencrypt:/etc/letsencrypt" \
    -v "/var/lib/letsencrypt:/var/lib/letsencrypt" \
    certbot/certbot certonly
```

Running Certbot with the `certonly` command will obtain a certificate and place it in the directory `/etc/letsencrypt/live` on your system. Because Certonly cannot install the certificate from within Docker, you must install the certificate manually according to the procedure recommended by the provider of your webserver.

There are also Docker images for each of Certbot's DNS plugins available at <https://hub.docker.com/u/certbot> which automate doing domain validation over DNS for popular providers. To use one, just replace `certbot/certbot` in the command above with the name of the image you want to use. For example, to use Certbot's plugin for Amazon Route 53, you'd use `certbot/dns-route53`. You may also need to add flags to Certbot and/or mount additional directories to provide access to your DNS API credentials as specified in the *DNS plugin documentation*. If you would like to obtain a wildcard certificate from Let's Encrypt's ACMEv2 server, you'll need to include `--server https://acme-v02.api.letsencrypt.org/directory` on the command line as well.

For more information about the layout of the `/etc/letsencrypt` directory, see *Where are my certificates?*.

3.3.4 Operating System Packages

Arch Linux

```
sudo pacman -S certbot
```

Debian

If you run Debian Stretch or Debian Sid, you can install certbot packages.

```
sudo apt-get update
sudo apt-get install certbot python-certbot-apache
```

If you don't want to use the Apache plugin, you can omit the `python-certbot-apache` package. Or you can install `python-certbot-nginx` instead.

Packages exist for Debian Jessie via backports. First you'll have to follow the instructions at <http://backports.debian.org/Instructions/> to enable the Jessie backports repo, if you have not already done so. Then run:

```
sudo apt-get install certbot python-certbot-apache -t jessie-backports
```

Fedora

```
sudo dnf install certbot python2-certbot-apache
```

FreeBSD

- Port: `cd /usr/ports/security/py-certbot && make install clean`
- Package: `pkg install py27-certbot`

Gentoo

The official Certbot client is available in Gentoo Portage. If you want to use the Apache plugin, it has to be installed separately:

```
emerge -av app-crypt/certbot
emerge -av app-crypt/certbot-apache
```

When using the Apache plugin, you will run into a “cannot find an SSLCertificateFile directive” or “cannot find an SSLCertificateKeyFile directive for certificate” error if you're sporting the default Gentoo `httpd.conf`. You can fix this by commenting out two lines in `/etc/apache2/httpd.conf` as follows:

Change

```
<IfDefine SSL>
LoadModule ssl_module modules/mod_ssl.so
</IfDefine>
```

to

```
#<IfDefine SSL>
LoadModule ssl_module modules/mod_ssl.so
#</IfDefine>
```

For the time being, this is the only way for the Apache plugin to recognise the appropriate directives when installing the certificate. Note: this change is not required for the other plugins.

NetBSD

- Build from source: `cd /usr/pkgsrc/security/py-certbot && make install clean`
- Install pre-compiled package: `pkg_add py27-certbot`

OpenBSD

- Port: `cd /usr/ports/security/letsencrypt/client && make install clean`
- Package: `pkg_add letsencrypt`

Other Operating Systems

OS packaging is an ongoing effort. If you'd like to package Certbot for your distribution of choice please have a look at the [Packaging Guide](#).

3.3.5 Installing from source

Installation from source is only supported for developers and the whole process is described in the *Developer Guide*.

Warning: Please do **not** use `python setup.py install`, `python pip install .`, or `easy_install ..`. Please do **not** attempt the installation commands as superuser/root and/or without virtual environment, e.g. `sudo python setup.py install`, `sudo pip install`, `sudo ./venv/bin/..` .. These modes of operation might corrupt your operating system and are **not supported** by the Certbot team!

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4.1 Certbot Commands

Certbot uses a number of different commands (also referred to as “subcommands”) to request specific actions such as obtaining, renewing, or revoking certificates. The most important and commonly-used commands will be discussed throughout this document; an exhaustive list also appears near the end of the document.

The `certbot` script on your web server might be named `letsencrypt` if your system uses an older package, or `certbot-auto` if you used an alternate installation method. Throughout the docs, whenever you see `certbot`, swap in the correct name as needed.

4.2 Getting certificates (and choosing plugins)

The Certbot client supports two types of plugins for obtaining and installing certificates: authenticators and installers.

Authenticators are plugins used with the `certonly` command to obtain a certificate. The authenticator validates that you control the domain(s) you are requesting a certificate for, obtains a certificate for the specified domain(s), and places the certificate in the `/etc/letsencrypt` directory on your machine. The authenticator does not install the certificate (it does not edit any of your server’s configuration files to serve the obtained certificate). If you specify multiple domains to authenticate, they will all be listed in a single certificate. To obtain multiple separate certificates you will need to run Certbot multiple times.

Installers are Plugins used with the `install` command to install a certificate. These plugins can modify your web-server’s configuration to serve your website over HTTPS using certificates obtained by certbot.

Plugins that do both can be used with the `certbot run` command, which is the default when no command is specified. The `run` subcommand can also be used to specify a *combination* of distinct authenticator and installer plugins.

Plugin	Auth	Inst	Notes	Challenge types (and port)
<i>apache</i>	Y	Y	Automates obtaining and installing a certificate with Apache 2.4 on OSes with <code>libaugeas0</code> 1.0+.	tls-sni-01 (443)
<i>webroot</i>	Y	N	Obtains a certificate by writing to the <code>webroot</code> directory of an already running webserver.	http-01 (80)
<i>nginx</i>	Y	Y	Automates obtaining and installing a certificate with Nginx. Shipped with Certbot 0.9.0.	tls-sni-01 (443)
<i>standalone</i>	Y	N	Uses a “standalone” webserver to obtain a certificate. Requires port 80 or 443 to be available. This is useful on systems with no webserver, or when direct integration with the local webserver is not supported or not desired.	http-01 (80) or tls-sni-01 (443)
<i>DNS plugins</i>	Y	N	This category of plugins automates obtaining a certificate by modifying DNS records to prove you have control over a	dns-01 (53)
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Under the hood, plugins use one of several ACME protocol [challenges](#) to prove you control a domain. The options are [http-01](#) (which uses port 80), [tls-sni-01](#) (port 443) and [dns-01](#) (requiring configuration of a DNS server on port 53, though that's often not the same machine as your webserver). A few plugins support more than one challenge type, in which case you can choose one with `--preferred-challenges`.

There are also many [third-party-plugins](#) available. Below we describe in more detail the circumstances in which each plugin can be used, and how to use it.

4.2.1 Apache

The Apache plugin currently requires an OS with `augeas` version 1.0; currently it supports modern OSes based on Debian, Fedora, SUSE, Gentoo and Darwin. This automates both obtaining *and* installing certificates on an Apache webserver. To specify this plugin on the command line, simply include `--apache`.

4.2.2 Webroot

If you're running a local webserver for which you have the ability to modify the content being served, and you'd prefer not to stop the webserver during the certificate issuance process, you can use the webroot plugin to obtain a certificate by including `certonly` and `--webroot` on the command line. In addition, you'll need to specify `--webroot-path` or `-w` with the top-level directory ("web root") containing the files served by your webserver. For example, `--webroot-path /var/www/html` or `--webroot-path /usr/share/nginx/html` are two common webroot paths.

If you're getting a certificate for many domains at once, the plugin needs to know where each domain's files are served from, which could potentially be a separate directory for each domain. When requesting a certificate for multiple domains, each domain will use the most recently specified `--webroot-path`. So, for instance,

```
certbot certonly --webroot -w /var/www/example -d www.example.com -d example.com -w /
↳ var/www/other -d other.example.net -d another.other.example.net
```

would obtain a single certificate for all of those names, using the `/var/www/example` webroot directory for the first two, and `/var/www/other` for the second two.

The webroot plugin works by creating a temporary file for each of your requested domains in `${webroot-path}/.well-known/acme-challenge`. Then the Let's Encrypt validation server makes HTTP requests to validate that the DNS for each requested domain resolves to the server running certbot. An example request made to your web server would look like:

```
66.133.109.36 - - [05/Jan/2016:20:11:24 -0500] "GET /.well-known/acme-challenge/
↳ HGr8U1IeTW4kY_Z6UIyaakzOkyQgPr_7ArlLgtZE8SX HTTP/1.1" 200 87 "-" "Mozilla/5.0
↳ (compatible; Let's Encrypt validation server; +https://www.letsencrypt.org)"
```

Note that to use the webroot plugin, your server must be configured to serve files from hidden directories. If `/.well-known` is treated specially by your webserver configuration, you might need to modify the configuration to ensure that files inside `/.well-known/acme-challenge` are served by the webserver.

4.2.3 Nginx

The Nginx plugin has been distributed with Certbot since version 0.9.0 and should work for most configurations. We recommend backing up Nginx configurations before using it (though you can also revert changes to configurations with `certbot --nginx rollback`). You can use it by providing the `--nginx` flag on the commandline.

```
certbot --nginx
```

4.2.4 Standalone

Use standalone mode to obtain a certificate if you don't want to use (or don't currently have) existing server software. The standalone plugin does not rely on any other server software running on the machine where you obtain the certificate.

To obtain a certificate using a “standalone” webserver, you can use the standalone plugin by including `certonly` and `--standalone` on the command line. This plugin needs to bind to port 80 or 443 in order to perform domain validation, so you may need to stop your existing webserver. To control which port the plugin uses, include one of the options shown below on the command line.

- `--preferred-challenges http` to use port 80
- `--preferred-challenges tls-sni` to use port 443

It must still be possible for your machine to accept inbound connections from the Internet on the specified port using each requested domain name.

By default, Certbot first attempts to bind to the port for all interfaces using IPv6 and then bind to that port using IPv4; Certbot continues so long as at least one bind succeeds. On most Linux systems, IPv4 traffic will be routed to the bound IPv6 port and the failure during the second bind is expected.

Use `--<challenge-type>-address` to explicitly tell Certbot which interface (and protocol) to bind.

Note: The `--standalone-supported-challenges` option has been deprecated since `certbot` version 0.9.0.

4.2.5 DNS Plugins

If you'd like to obtain a wildcard certificate from Let's Encrypt or run `certbot` on a machine other than your target webserver, you can use one of Certbot's DNS plugins.

These plugins are still in the process of being packaged by many distributions and cannot currently be installed with `certbot-auto`. If, however, you are comfortable installing the certificates yourself, you can run these plugins with *Docker*.

Once installed, you can find documentation on how to use each plugin at:

- `certbot-dns-cloudflare`
- `certbot-dns-cloudxns`
- `certbot-dns-digitalocean`
- `certbot-dns-dnssimple`
- `certbot-dns-dnsmadeeasy`
- `certbot-dns-google`
- `certbot-dns-linode`
- `certbot-dns-luadns`
- `certbot-dns-nsone`
- `certbot-dns-ovh`
- `certbot-dns-rfc2136`
- `certbot-dns-route53`

4.2.6 Manual

If you'd like to obtain a certificate running `certbot` on a machine other than your target webserver or perform the steps for domain validation yourself, you can use the manual plugin. While hidden from the UI, you can use the plugin to obtain a certificate by specifying `certonly` and `--manual` on the command line. This requires you to copy and paste commands into another terminal session, which may be on a different computer.

The manual plugin can use either the `http`, `dns` or the `tls-sni` challenge. You can use the `--preferred-challenges` option to choose the challenge of your preference.

The `http` challenge will ask you to place a file with a specific name and specific content in the `/.well-known/acme-challenge/` directory directly in the top-level directory ("web root") containing the files served by your webserver. In essence it's the same as the [webroot](#) plugin, but not automated.

When using the `dns` challenge, `certbot` will ask you to place a TXT DNS record with specific contents under the domain name consisting of the hostname for which you want a certificate issued, prepended by `_acme-challenge`.

For example, for the domain `example.com`, a zone file entry would look like:

```
_acme-challenge.example.com. 300 IN TXT "gfj9Xq...Rg85nM"
```

When using the `tls-sni` challenge, `certbot` will prepare a self-signed SSL certificate for you with the challenge validation appropriately encoded into a `subjectAltNames` entry. You will need to configure your SSL server to present this challenge SSL certificate to the ACME server using SNI.

Additionally you can specify scripts to prepare for validation and perform the authentication procedure and/or clean up after it by using the `--manual-auth-hook` and `--manual-cleanup-hook` flags. This is described in more depth in the [hooks](#) section.

4.2.7 Combining plugins

Sometimes you may want to specify a combination of distinct authenticator and installer plugins. To do so, specify the authenticator plugin with `--authenticator` or `-a` and the installer plugin with `--installer` or `-i`.

For instance, you may want to create a certificate using the [webroot](#) plugin for authentication and the [apache](#) plugin for installation, perhaps because you use a proxy or CDN for SSL and only want to secure the connection between them and your origin server, which cannot use the [tls-sni-01](#) challenge due to the intermediate proxy.

```
certbot run -a webroot -i apache -w /var/www/html -d example.com
```

4.2.8 Third-party plugins

There are also a number of third-party plugins for the client, provided by other developers. Many are beta/experimental, but some are already in widespread use:

Plugin	Auth	Inst	Notes
plesk	Y	Y	Integration with the Plesk web hosting tool
haproxy	Y	Y	Integration with the HAProxy load balancer
s3front	Y	Y	Integration with Amazon CloudFront distribution of S3 buckets
gandi	Y	Y	Integration with Gandi's hosting products and API
varnish	Y	N	Obtain certificates via a Varnish server
external	Y	N	A plugin for convenient scripting (See also ticket 2782)
icecast	N	Y	Deploy certificates to Icecast 2 streaming media servers
pritunl	N	Y	Install certificates in pritunl distributed OpenVPN servers
proxmox	N	Y	Install certificates in Proxmox Virtualization servers
postfix	N	Y	STARTTLS Everywhere is becoming a Certbot Postfix/Exim plugin
heroku	Y	Y	Integration with Heroku SSL

If you're interested, you can also *[write your own plugin](#)*.

4.3 Managing certificates

To view a list of the certificates Certbot knows about, run the `certificates` subcommand:

```
certbot certificates
```

This returns information in the following format:

```
Found the following certs:
Certificate Name: example.com
  Domains: example.com, www.example.com
  Expiry Date: 2017-02-19 19:53:00+00:00 (VALID: 30 days)
  Certificate Path: /etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com/fullchain.pem
  Private Key Path: /etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com/privkey.pem
```

Certificate Name shows the name of the certificate. Pass this name using the `--cert-name` flag to specify a particular certificate for the `run`, `certonly`, `certificates`, `renew`, and `delete` commands. Example:

```
certbot certonly --cert-name example.com
```

4.3.1 Re-creating and Updating Existing Certificates

You can use `certonly` or `run` subcommands to request the creation of a single new certificate even if you already have an existing certificate with some of the same domain names.

If a certificate is requested with `run` or `certonly` specifying a certificate name that already exists, Certbot updates the existing certificate. Otherwise a new certificate is created and assigned the specified name.

The `--force-renewal`, `--duplicate`, and `--expand` options control Certbot's behavior when re-creating a certificate with the same name as an existing certificate. If you don't specify a requested behavior, Certbot may ask you what you intended.

`--force-renewal` tells Certbot to request a new certificate with the same domains as an existing certificate. Each domain must be explicitly specified via `-d`. If successful, this certificate is saved alongside the earlier one and symbolic links (the "live" reference) will be updated to point to the new certificate. This is a valid method of renewing a specific individual certificate.

`--duplicate` tells Certbot to create a separate, unrelated certificate with the same domains as an existing certificate. This certificate is saved completely separately from the prior one. Most users will not need to issue this command in normal circumstances.

`--expand` tells Certbot to update an existing certificate with a new certificate that contains all of the old domains and one or more additional new domains. With the `--expand` option, use the `-d` option to specify all existing domains and one or more new domains.

Example:

```
certbot --expand -d existing.com,example.com,newdomain.com
```

If you prefer, you can specify the domains individually like this:

```
certbot --expand -d existing.com -d example.com -d newdomain.com
```

Consider using `--cert-name` instead of `--expand`, as it gives more control over which certificate is modified and it lets you remove domains as well as adding them.

`--allow-subset-of-names` tells Certbot to continue with certificate generation if only some of the specified domain authorizations can be obtained. This may be useful if some domains specified in a certificate no longer point at this system.

Whenever you obtain a new certificate in any of these ways, the new certificate exists alongside any previously obtained certificates, whether or not the previous certificates have expired. The generation of a new certificate counts against several rate limits that are intended to prevent abuse of the ACME protocol, as described [here](#).

4.4 Changing a Certificate's Domains

The `--cert-name` flag can also be used to modify the domains a certificate contains, by specifying new domains using the `-d` or `--domains` flag. If certificate `example.com` previously contained `example.com` and `www.example.com`, it can be modified to only contain `example.com` by specifying only `example.com` with the `-d` or `--domains` flag. Example:

```
certbot certonly --cert-name example.com -d example.com
```

The same format can be used to expand the set of domains a certificate contains, or to replace that set entirely:

```
certbot certonly --cert-name example.com -d example.org,www.example.org
```

4.4.1 Revoking certificates

If your account key has been compromised or you otherwise need to revoke a certificate, use the `revoke` command to do so. Note that the `revoke` command takes the certificate path (ending in `cert.pem`), not a certificate name or domain. Example:

```
certbot revoke --cert-path /etc/letsencrypt/live/CERTNAME/cert.pem
```

You can also specify the reason for revoking your certificate by using the `reason` flag. Reasons include `unspecified` which is the default, as well as `keycompromise`, `affiliationchanged`, `superseded`, and `cessationofoperation`:

```
certbot revoke --cert-path /etc/letsencrypt/live/CERTNAME/cert.pem --reason_
↪keycompromise
```

Additionally, if a certificate is a test certificate obtained via the `--staging` or `--test-cert` flag, that flag must be passed to the `revoke` subcommand. Once a certificate is revoked (or for other certificate management tasks), all of a certificate's relevant files can be removed from the system with the `delete` subcommand:

```
certbot delete --cert-name example.com
```

Note: If you don't use `delete` to remove the certificate completely, it will be renewed automatically at the next renewal event.

Note: Revoking a certificate will have no effect on the rate limit imposed by the Let's Encrypt server.

4.4.2 Renewing certificates

Note: Let's Encrypt CA issues short-lived certificates (90 days). Make sure you renew the certificates at least once in 3 months.

See also:

Many of the certbot clients obtained through a distribution come with automatic renewal out of the box, such as Debian and Ubuntu versions installed through `apt`, CentOS/RHEL 7 through EPEL, etc. See [Automated Renewals](#) for more details.

As of version 0.10.0, Certbot supports a `renew` action to check all installed certificates for impending expiry and attempt to renew them. The simplest form is simply

```
certbot renew
```

This command attempts to renew any previously-obtained certificates that expire in less than 30 days. The same plugin and options that were used at the time the certificate was originally issued will be used for the renewal attempt, unless you specify other plugins or options. Unlike `certonly`, `renew` acts on multiple certificates and always takes into account whether each one is near expiry. Because of this, `renew` is suitable (and designed) for automated use, to allow your system to automatically renew each certificate when appropriate. Since `renew` only renews certificates that are near expiry it can be run as frequently as you want - since it will usually take no action.

The `renew` command includes hooks for running commands or scripts before or after a certificate is renewed. For example, if you have a single certificate obtained using the `standalone` plugin, you might need to stop the webserver before renewing so `standalone` can bind to the necessary ports, and then restart it after the plugin is finished. Example:

```
certbot renew --pre-hook "service nginx stop" --post-hook "service nginx start"
```

If a hook exits with a non-zero exit code, the error will be printed to `stderr` but renewal will be attempted anyway. A failing hook doesn't directly cause Certbot to exit with a non-zero exit code, but since Certbot exits with a non-zero exit code when renewals fail, a failed hook causing renewal failures will indirectly result in a non-zero exit code. Hooks will only be run if a certificate is due for renewal, so you can run the above command frequently without unnecessarily stopping your webserver.

`--pre-hook` and `--post-hook` hooks run before and after every renewal attempt. If you want your hook to run only after a successful renewal, use `--deploy-hook` in a command like this.

```
certbot renew --deploy-hook /path/to/deploy-hook-script
```

For example, if you have a daemon that does not read its certificates as the root user, a deploy hook like this can copy them to the correct location and apply appropriate file permissions.

```
/path/to/deploy-hook-script
```

```
#!/bin/sh

set -e

for domain in $RENEWED_DOMAINS; do
    case $domain in
        example.com)
            daemon_cert_root=/etc/some-daemon/certs

            # Make sure the certificate and private key files are
            # never world readable, even just for an instant while
            # we're copying them into daemon_cert_root.
            umask 077

            cp "$RENEWED_LINEAGE/fullchain.pem" "$daemon_cert_root/$domain.cert"
            cp "$RENEWED_LINEAGE/privkey.pem" "$daemon_cert_root/$domain.key"

            # Apply the proper file ownership and permissions for
            # the daemon to read its certificate and key.
            chown some-daemon "$daemon_cert_root/$domain.cert" \
                "$daemon_cert_root/$domain.key"
            chmod 400 "$daemon_cert_root/$domain.cert" \
                "$daemon_cert_root/$domain.key"

            service some-daemon restart >/dev/null
            ;;
        esac
    done
```

You can also specify hooks by placing files in subdirectories of Certbot's configuration directory. Assuming your configuration directory is `/etc/letsencrypt`, any executable files found in `/etc/letsencrypt/renewal-hooks/pre`, `/etc/letsencrypt/renewal-hooks/deploy`, and `/etc/letsencrypt/renewal-hooks/post` will be run as `pre`, `deploy`, and `post` hooks respectively when any certificate is renewed with the `renew` subcommand. These hooks are run in alphabetical order and are not run for other subcommands. (The order the hooks are run is determined by the byte value of the characters in their filenames and is not dependent on your locale.)

Hooks specified in the command line, *configuration file*, or *renewal configuration files* are run as usual after running all hooks in these directories. One minor exception to this is if a hook specified elsewhere is simply the path to an executable file in the hook directory of the same type (e.g. your pre-hook is the path to an executable in `/etc/letsencrypt/renewal-hooks/pre`), the file is not run a second time. You can stop Certbot from automatically running executables found in these directories by including `--no-directory-hooks` on the command line.

More information about hooks can be found by running `certbot --help renew`.

If you're sure that this command executes successfully without human intervention, you can add the command to `crontab` (since certificates are only renewed when they're determined to be near expiry, the command can run on a regular basis, like every week or every day). In that case, you are likely to want to use the `-q` or `--quiet` quiet flag to silence all output except errors.

If you are manually renewing all of your certificates, the `--force-renewal` flag may be helpful; it causes the expiration time of the certificate(s) to be ignored when considering renewal, and attempts to renew each and every installed certificate regardless of its age. (This form is not appropriate to run daily because each certificate will be renewed every day, which will quickly run into the certificate authority rate limit.)

Note that options provided to `certbot renew` will apply to *every* certificate for which renewal is attempted; for example, `certbot renew --rsa-key-size 4096` would try to replace every near-expiry certificate with an equivalent certificate using a 4096-bit RSA public key. If a certificate is successfully renewed using specified options,

those options will be saved and used for future renewals of that certificate.

An alternative form that provides for more fine-grained control over the renewal process (while renewing specified certificates one at a time), is `certbot certonly` with the complete set of subject domains of a specific certificate specified via `-d` flags. You may also want to include the `-n` or `--noninteractive` flag to prevent blocking on user input (which is useful when running the command from cron).

```
certbot certonly -n -d example.com -d www.example.com
```

All of the domains covered by the certificate must be specified in this case in order to renew and replace the old certificate rather than obtaining a new one; don't forget any `www.` domains! Specifying a subset of the domains creates a new, separate certificate containing only those domains, rather than replacing the original certificate. When run with a set of domains corresponding to an existing certificate, the `certonly` command attempts to renew that specific certificate.

Please note that the CA will send notification emails to the address you provide if you do not renew certificates that are about to expire.

Certbot is working hard to improve the renewal process, and we apologize for any inconvenience you encounter in integrating these commands into your individual environment.

Note: `certbot renew` exit status will only be 1 if a renewal attempt failed. This means `certbot renew` exit status will be 0 if no certificate needs to be updated. If you write a custom script and expect to run a command only after a certificate was actually renewed you will need to use the `--deploy-hook` since the exit status will be 0 both on successful renewal and when renewal is not necessary.

4.4.3 Modifying the Renewal Configuration File

When a certificate is issued, by default Certbot creates a renewal configuration file that tracks the options that were selected when Certbot was run. This allows Certbot to use those same options again when it comes time for renewal. These renewal configuration files are located at `/etc/letsencrypt/renewal/CERTNAME`.

For advanced certificate management tasks, it is possible to manually modify the certificate's renewal configuration file, but this is discouraged since it can easily break Certbot's ability to renew your certificates. If you choose to modify the renewal configuration file we advise you to test its validity with the `certbot renew --dry-run` command.

Warning: Modifying any files in `/etc/letsencrypt` can damage them so Certbot can no longer properly manage its certificates, and we do not recommend doing so.

For most tasks, it is safest to limit yourself to pointing symlinks at the files there, or using `--deploy-hook` to copy / make new files based upon those files, if your operational situation requires it (for instance, combining certificates and keys in different way, or having copies of things with different specific permissions that are demanded by other programs).

If the contents of `/etc/letsencrypt/archive/CERTNAME` are moved to a new folder, first specify the new folder's name in the renewal configuration file, then run `certbot update_symlinks` to point the symlinks in `/etc/letsencrypt/live/CERTNAME` to the new folder.

If you would like the live certificate files whose symlink location Certbot updates on each run to reside in a different location, first move them to that location, then specify the full path of each of the four files in the renewal configuration file. Since the symlinks are relative links, you must follow this with an invocation of `certbot update_symlinks`.

For example, say that a certificate's renewal configuration file previously contained the following directives:

```
archive_dir = /etc/letsencrypt/archive/example.com
cert = /etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com/cert.pem
privkey = /etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com/privkey.pem
chain = /etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com/chain.pem
fullchain = /etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com/fullchain.pem
```

The following commands could be used to specify where these files are located:

```
mv /etc/letsencrypt/archive/example.com /home/user/me/certbot/example_archive
sed -i 's,/etc/letsencrypt/archive/example.com,/home/user/me/certbot/example_archive,
↪' /etc/letsencrypt/renewal/example.com.conf
mv /etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com/*.pem /home/user/me/certbot/
sed -i 's,/etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com,/home/user/me/certbot,g' /etc/letsencrypt/
↪renewal/example.com.conf
certbot update_symlinks
```

4.4.4 Automated Renewals

Many Linux distributions provide automated renewal when you use the packages installed through their system package manager. The following table is an *incomplete* list of distributions which do so, as well as their methods for doing so.

If you are not sure whether or not your system has this already automated, refer to your distribution’s documentation, or check your system’s crontab (typically in `/etc/crontab/` and `/etc/cron.*/*` and systemd timers (systemctl list-timers).

Table 4.1: Distributions with Automated Renewal

Distribution Name	Distribution Version	Automation Method
CentOS	EPEL 7	systemd
Debian	jessie	cron, systemd
Debian	stretch	cron, systemd
Debian	testing/sid	cron, systemd
Fedora	26	systemd
Fedora	27	systemd
RHEL	EPEL 7	systemd
Ubuntu	17.10	cron, systemd
Ubuntu	certbot PPA	cron, systemd

4.5 Where are my certificates?

All generated keys and issued certificates can be found in `/etc/letsencrypt/live/$domain`. Rather than copying, please point your (web) server configuration directly to those files (or create symlinks). During the *renewal*, `/etc/letsencrypt/live` is updated with the latest necessary files.

Note: `/etc/letsencrypt/archive` and `/etc/letsencrypt/keys` contain all previous keys and certificates, while `/etc/letsencrypt/live` symlinks to the latest versions.

The following files are available:

privkey.pem Private key for the certificate.

Warning: This **must be kept secret at all times!** Never share it with anyone, including Certbot developers. You cannot put it into a safe, however - your server still needs to access this file in order for SSL/TLS to work.

This is what Apache needs for `SSLCertificateKeyFile`, and Nginx for `ssl_certificate_key`.

fullchain.pem All certificates, **including** server certificate (aka leaf certificate or end-entity certificate). The server certificate is the first one in this file, followed by any intermediates.

This is what Apache $\geq 2.4.8$ needs for `SSLCertificateFile`, and what Nginx needs for `ssl_certificate`.

cert.pem and chain.pem (less common) `cert.pem` contains the server certificate by itself, and `chain.pem` contains the additional intermediate certificate or certificates that web browsers will need in order to validate the server certificate. If you provide one of these files to your web server, you **must** provide both of them, or some browsers will show “This Connection is Untrusted” errors for your site, [some of the time](#).

Apache $< 2.4.8$ needs these for `SSLCertificateFile`. and `SSLCertificateChainFile`, respectively.

If you’re using OCSP stapling with Nginx $\geq 1.3.7$, `chain.pem` should be provided as the `ssl_trusted_certificate` to validate OCSP responses.

Note: All files are PEM-encoded. If you need other format, such as DER or PFX, then you could convert using `openssl`. You can automate that with `--deploy-hook` if you’re using automatic [renewal](#).

4.6 Pre and Post Validation Hooks

Certbot allows for the specification of pre and post validation hooks when run in manual mode. The flags to specify these scripts are `--manual-auth-hook` and `--manual-cleanup-hook` respectively and can be used as follows:

```
certbot certonly --manual --manual-auth-hook /path/to/http/authenticator.sh --manual-
↪ cleanup-hook /path/to/http/cleanup.sh -d secure.example.com
```

This will run the `authenticator.sh` script, attempt the validation, and then run the `cleanup.sh` script. Additionally certbot will pass relevant environment variables to these scripts:

- `CERTBOT_DOMAIN`: The domain being authenticated
- `CERTBOT_VALIDATION`: The validation string (HTTP-01 and DNS-01 only)
- `CERTBOT_TOKEN`: Resource name part of the HTTP-01 challenge (HTTP-01 only)
- `CERTBOT_CERT_PATH`: The challenge SSL certificate (TLS-SNI-01 only)
- `CERTBOT_KEY_PATH`: The private key associated with the aforementioned SSL certificate (TLS-SNI-01 only)
- `CERTBOT_SNI_DOMAIN`: The SNI name for which the ACME server expects to be presented the self-signed certificate located at `$CERTBOT_CERT_PATH` (TLS-SNI-01 only)

Additionally for cleanup:

- `CERTBOT_AUTH_OUTPUT`: Whatever the auth script wrote to stdout

Example usage for HTTP-01:

```
certbot certonly --manual --preferred-challenges=http --manual-auth-hook /path/to/
↪ http/authenticator.sh --manual-cleanup-hook /path/to/http/cleanup.sh -d secure.
↪ example.com
```

```
/path/to/http/authenticator.sh
```

```
#!/bin/bash
echo $CERTBOT_VALIDATION > /var/www/htdocs/.well-known/acme-challenge/$CERTBOT_TOKEN
```

```
/path/to/http/cleanup.sh
```

```
#!/bin/bash
rm -f /var/www/htdocs/.well-known/acme-challenge/$CERTBOT_TOKEN
```

Example usage for DNS-01 (Cloudflare API v4) (for example purposes only, do not use as-is)

```
certbot certonly --manual --preferred-challenges=dns --manual-auth-hook /path/to/dns/
↪authenticator.sh --manual-cleanup-hook /path/to/dns/cleanup.sh -d secure.example.com
```

```
/path/to/dns/authenticator.sh
```

```
#!/bin/bash

# Get your API key from https://www.cloudflare.com/a/account/my-account
API_KEY="your-api-key"
EMAIL="your.email@example.com"

# Strip only the top domain to get the zone id
DOMAIN=$(expr match "$CERTBOT_DOMAIN" '.*\.(.*\..*\.)')

# Get the Cloudflare zone id
ZONE_EXTRA_PARAMS="status=active&page=1&per_page=20&order=status&direction=desc&
↪match=all"
ZONE_ID=$(curl -s -X GET "https://api.cloudflare.com/client/v4/zones?name=$DOMAIN&
↪$ZONE_EXTRA_PARAMS" \
-H "X-Auth-Email: $EMAIL" \
-H "X-Auth-Key: $API_KEY" \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" | python -c "import sys,json;print(json.
↪load(sys.stdin)['result'][0]['id'])")

# Create TXT record
CREATE_DOMAIN="_acme-challenge.$CERTBOT_DOMAIN"
RECORD_ID=$(curl -s -X POST "https://api.cloudflare.com/client/v4/zones/$ZONE_ID/dns_
↪records" \
-H "X-Auth-Email: $EMAIL" \
-H "X-Auth-Key: $API_KEY" \
-H "Content-Type: application/json" \
--data '{"type":"TXT","name":"'$_CREATE_DOMAIN'", "content":"'$_CERTBOT_
↪VALIDATION'", "ttl":120}' \
| python -c "import sys,json;print(json.load(sys.stdin)['result']['id'])
↪")

# Save info for cleanup
if [ ! -d /tmp/CERTBOT_$CERTBOT_DOMAIN ];then
    mkdir -m 0700 /tmp/CERTBOT_$CERTBOT_DOMAIN
fi
echo $ZONE_ID > /tmp/CERTBOT_$CERTBOT_DOMAIN/ZONE_ID
echo $RECORD_ID > /tmp/CERTBOT_$CERTBOT_DOMAIN/RECORD_ID

# Sleep to make sure the change has time to propagate over to DNS
sleep 25
```

/path/to/dns/cleanup.sh

```
#!/bin/bash

# Get your API key from https://www.cloudflare.com/a/account/my-account
API_KEY="your-api-key"
EMAIL="your.email@example.com"

if [ -f /tmp/CERTBOT_${CERTBOT_DOMAIN}/ZONE_ID ]; then
    ZONE_ID=$(cat /tmp/CERTBOT_${CERTBOT_DOMAIN}/ZONE_ID)
    rm -f /tmp/CERTBOT_${CERTBOT_DOMAIN}/ZONE_ID
fi

if [ -f /tmp/CERTBOT_${CERTBOT_DOMAIN}/RECORD_ID ]; then
    RECORD_ID=$(cat /tmp/CERTBOT_${CERTBOT_DOMAIN}/RECORD_ID)
    rm -f /tmp/CERTBOT_${CERTBOT_DOMAIN}/RECORD_ID
fi

# Remove the challenge TXT record from the zone
if [ -n "${ZONE_ID}" ]; then
    if [ -n "${RECORD_ID}" ]; then
        curl -s -X DELETE "https://api.cloudflare.com/client/v4/zones/${ZONE_ID}/dns_
→records/${RECORD_ID}" \
            -H "X-Auth-Email: $EMAIL" \
            -H "X-Auth-Key: $API_KEY" \
            -H "Content-Type: application/json"
    fi
fi
```

4.7 Changing the ACME Server

By default, Certbot uses Let's Encrypt's initial production server at <https://acme-v01.api.letsencrypt.org/>. You can tell Certbot to use a different CA by providing `--server` on the command line or in a *configuration file* with the URL of the server's ACME directory. For example, if you would like to use Let's Encrypt's new ACMEv2 server, you would add `--server https://acme-v02.api.letsencrypt.org/directory` to the command line. Certbot will automatically select which version of the ACME protocol to use based on the contents served at the provided URL.

If you use `--server` to specify an ACME CA that implements a newer version of the spec, you may be able to obtain a certificate for a wildcard domain. Some CAs (such as Let's Encrypt) require that domain validation for wildcard domains must be done through modifications to DNS records which means that the [dns-01](#) challenge type must be used. To see a list of Certbot plugins that support this challenge type and how to use them, see *plugins*.

4.8 Lock Files

When processing a validation Certbot writes a number of lock files on your system to prevent multiple instances from overwriting each other's changes. This means that by default two instances of Certbot will not be able to run in parallel.

Since the directories used by Certbot are configurable, Certbot will write a lock file for all of the directories it uses. This includes Certbot's `--work-dir`, `--logs-dir`, and `--config-dir`. By default these are `/var/lib/letsencrypt`, `/var/logs/letsencrypt`, and `/etc/letsencrypt` respectively. Additionally if you are using Certbot with Apache or nginx it will lock the configuration folder for that program, which are typically also in the `/etc` directory.

Note that these lock files will only prevent other instances of Certbot from using those directories, not other processes. If you'd like to run multiple instances of Certbot simultaneously you should specify different directories as the `--work-dir`, `--logs-dir`, and `--config-dir` for each instance of Certbot that you would like to run.

4.9 Configuration file

Certbot accepts a global configuration file that applies its options to all invocations of Certbot. Certificate specific configuration choices should be set in the `.conf` files that can be found in `/etc/letsencrypt/renewal`.

By default no `cli.ini` file is created, after creating one it is possible to specify the location of this configuration file with `certbot-auto --config cli.ini` (or shorter `-c cli.ini`). An example configuration file is shown below:

```
# This is an example of the kind of things you can do in a configuration file.
# All flags used by the client can be configured here. Run Certbot with
# "--help" to learn more about the available options.
#
# Note that these options apply automatically to all use of Certbot for
# obtaining or renewing certificates, so options specific to a single
# certificate on a system with several certificates should not be placed
# here.

# Use a 4096 bit RSA key instead of 2048
rsa-key-size = 4096

# Uncomment and update to register with the specified e-mail address
# email = foo@example.com

# Uncomment to use the standalone authenticator on port 443
# authenticator = standalone
# standalone-supported-challenges = tls-sni-01

# Uncomment to use the webroot authenticator. Replace webroot-path with the
# path to the public_html / webroot folder being served by your web server.
# authenticator = webroot
# webroot-path = /usr/share/nginx/html
```

By default, the following locations are searched:

- `/etc/letsencrypt/cli.ini`
- `$XDG_CONFIG_HOME/letsencrypt/cli.ini` (or `~/.config/letsencrypt/cli.ini` if `$XDG_CONFIG_HOME` is not set).

Since this configuration file applies to all invocations of certbot it is incorrect to list domains in it. Listing domains in `cli.ini` may prevent renewal from working. Additionally due to how arguments in `cli.ini` are parsed, options which wish to not be set should not be listed. Options set to false will instead be read as being set to true by older versions of Certbot, since they have been listed in the config file.

4.10 Log Rotation

By default certbot stores status logs in `/var/log/letsencrypt`. By default certbot will begin rotating logs once there are 1000 logs in the log directory. Meaning that once 1000 files are in `/var/log/letsencrypt` Certbot will delete the oldest one to make room for new logs. The number of subsequent logs can be changed by passing the desired number to the command line flag `--max-log-backups`.

Note: Some distributions, including Debian and Ubuntu, disable certbot's internal log rotation in favor of a more traditional logrotate script. If you are using a distribution's packages and want to alter the log rotation, check `/etc/logrotate.d/` for a certbot rotation script.

4.11 Certbot command-line options

Certbot supports a lot of command line options. Here's the full list, from `certbot --help all`:

```
usage:
  certbot [SUBCOMMAND] [options] [-d DOMAIN] [-d DOMAIN] ...

Certbot can obtain and install HTTPS/TLS/SSL certificates.  By default,
it will attempt to use a webserver both for obtaining and installing the
certificate. The most common SUBCOMMANDS and flags are:

obtain, install, and renew certificates:
    (default) run          Obtain & install a certificate in your current webserver
    certonly              Obtain or renew a certificate, but do not install it
    renew                 Renew all previously obtained certificates that are near expiry
    enhance               Add security enhancements to your existing configuration
    -d DOMAINS            Comma-separated list of domains to obtain a certificate for

    --apache              Use the Apache plugin for authentication & installation
    --standalone           Run a standalone webserver for authentication
    --nginx               Use the Nginx plugin for authentication & installation
    --webroot             Place files in a server's webroot folder for authentication
    --manual              Obtain certificates interactively, or using shell script hooks

    -n                   Run non-interactively
    --test-cert           Obtain a test certificate from a staging server
    --dry-run            Test "renew" or "certonly" without saving any certificates to disk

manage certificates:
    certificates          Display information about certificates you have from Certbot
    revoke               Revoke a certificate (supply --cert-path)
    delete              Delete a certificate

manage your account with Let's Encrypt:
    register             Create a Let's Encrypt ACME account
    --agree-tos          Agree to the ACME server's Subscriber Agreement
    -m EMAIL             Email address for important account notifications

optional arguments:
    -h, --help            show this help message and exit
    -c CONFIG_FILE, --config CONFIG_FILE
                        path to config file (default: /etc/letsencrypt/cli.ini
                        and ~/.config/letsencrypt/cli.ini)
    -v, --verbose          This flag can be used multiple times to incrementally
                        increase the verbosity of output, e.g. -vvv. (default:
                        -2)
    --max-log-backups MAX_LOG_BACKUPS
                        Specifies the maximum number of backup logs that
                        should be kept by Certbot's built in log rotation.
                        Setting this flag to 0 disables log rotation entirely,
```

```

causing Certbot to always append to the same log file.
(default: 1000)
-n, --non-interactive, --noninteractive
    Run without ever asking for user input. This may
    require additional command line flags; the client will
    try to explain which ones are required if it finds one
    missing (default: False)
--force-interactive
    Force Certbot to be interactive even if it detects
    it's not being run in a terminal. This flag cannot be
    used with the renew subcommand. (default: False)
-d DOMAIN, --domains DOMAIN, --domain DOMAIN
    Domain names to apply. For multiple domains you can
    use multiple -d flags or enter a comma separated list
    of domains as a parameter. The first domain provided
    will be the subject CN of the certificate, and all
    domains will be Subject Alternative Names on the
    certificate. The first domain will also be used in
    some software user interfaces and as the file paths
    for the certificate and related material unless
    otherwise specified or you already have a certificate
    with the same name. In the case of a name collision it
    will append a number like 0001 to the file path name.
    (default: Ask)
--cert-name CERTNAME
    Certificate name to apply. This name is used by
    Certbot for housekeeping and in file paths; it doesn't
    affect the content of the certificate itself. To see
    certificate names, run 'certbot certificates'. When
    creating a new certificate, specifies the new
    certificate's name. (default: the first provided
    domain or the name of an existing certificate on your
    system for the same domains)
--dry-run
    Perform a test run of the client, obtaining test
    (invalid) certificates but not saving them to disk.
    This can currently only be used with the 'certonly'
    and 'renew' subcommands. Note: Although --dry-run
    tries to avoid making any persistent changes on a
    system, it is not completely side-effect free: if used
    with webserver authenticator plugins like apache and
    nginx, it makes and then reverts temporary config
    changes in order to obtain test certificates, and
    reloads webserver to deploy and then roll back those
    changes. It also calls --pre-hook and --post-hook
    commands if they are defined because they may be
    necessary to accurately simulate renewal. --deploy-
    hook commands are not called. (default: False)
--debug-challenges
    After setting up challenges, wait for user input
    before submitting to CA (default: False)
--preferred-challenges PREF_CHALLS
    A sorted, comma delimited list of the preferred
    challenge to use during authorization with the most
    preferred challenge listed first (Eg, "dns" or "tls-
    sni-01,http,dns"). Not all plugins support all
    challenges. See
    https://certbot.eff.org/docs/using.html#plugins for
    details. ACME Challenges are versioned, but if you
    pick "http" rather than "http-01", Certbot will select
    the latest version automatically. (default: [])
--user-agent USER_AGENT

```



```

Set a custom user agent string for the client. User
agent strings allow the CA to collect high level
statistics about success rates by OS, plugin and use
case, and to know when to deprecate support for past
Python versions and flags. If you wish to hide this
information from the Let's Encrypt server, set this to
"". (default: CertbotACMEClient/0.25.1
(certbot(-auto); OS_NAME OS_VERSION) Authenticator/XXX
Installer/YYY (SUBCOMMAND; flags: FLAGS)
Py/major.minor.patchlevel). The flags encoded in the
user agent are: --duplicate, --force-renew, --allow-
subset-of-names, -n, and whether any hooks are set.
--user-agent-comment USER_AGENT_COMMENT
Add a comment to the default user agent string. May be
used when repackaging Certbot or calling it from
another tool to allow additional statistical data to
be collected. Ignored if --user-agent is set.
(Example: Foo-Wrapper/1.0) (default: None)

automation:
  Flags for automating execution & other tweaks

  --keep-until-expiring, --keep, --reinstall
    If the requested certificate matches an existing
    certificate, always keep the existing one until it is
    due for renewal (for the 'run' subcommand this means
    reinstall the existing certificate). (default: Ask)

  --expand
    If an existing certificate is a strict subset of the
    requested names, always expand and replace it with the
    additional names. (default: Ask)

  --version
    show program's version number and exit

  --force-renewal, --renew-by-default
    If a certificate already exists for the requested
    domains, renew it now, regardless of whether it is
    near expiry. (Often --keep-until-expiring is more
    appropriate). Also implies --expand. (default: False)

  --renew-with-new-domains
    If a certificate already exists for the requested
    certificate name but does not match the requested
    domains, renew it now, regardless of whether it is
    near expiry. (default: False)

  --reuse-key
    When renewing, use the same private key as the
    existing certificate. (default: False)

  --allow-subset-of-names
    When performing domain validation, do not consider it
    a failure if authorizations can not be obtained for a
    strict subset of the requested domains. This may be
    useful for allowing renewals for multiple domains to
    succeed even if some domains no longer point at this
    system. This option cannot be used with --csr.
    (default: False)

  --agree-tos
    Agree to the ACME Subscriber Agreement (default: Ask)

  --duplicate
    Allow making a certificate lineage that duplicates an
    existing one (both can be renewed in parallel)
    (default: False)

  --os-packages-only
    (certbot-auto only) install OS package dependencies
    and then stop (default: False)

  --no-self-upgrade
    (certbot-auto only) prevent the certbot-auto script

```

```

from upgrading itself to newer released versions
(default: Upgrade automatically)
--no-bootstrap      (certbot-auto only) prevent the certbot-auto script
                    from installing OS-level dependencies (default: Prompt
                    to install OS-wide dependencies, but exit if the user
                    says 'No')
-q, --quiet         Silence all output except errors. Useful for
                    automation via cron. Implies --non-interactive.
                    (default: False)

security:
  Security parameters & server settings

--rsa-key-size N    Size of the RSA key. (default: 2048)
--must-staple       Adds the OCSP Must Staple extension to the
                    certificate. Autoconfigures OCSP Stapling for
                    supported setups (Apache version >= 2.3.3 ). (default:
                    False)
--redirect          Automatically redirect all HTTP traffic to HTTPS for
                    the newly authenticated vhost. (default: Ask)
--no-redirect       Do not automatically redirect all HTTP traffic to
                    HTTPS for the newly authenticated vhost. (default:
                    Ask)
--hsts             Add the Strict-Transport-Security header to every HTTP
                    response. Forcing browser to always use SSL for the
                    domain. Defends against SSL Stripping. (default: None)
--uir              Add the "Content-Security-Policy: upgrade-insecure-
                    requests" header to every HTTP response. Forcing the
                    browser to use https:// for every http:// resource.
                    (default: None)
--staple-ocsp       Enables OCSP Stapling. A valid OCSP response is
                    stapled to the certificate that the server offers
                    during TLS. (default: None)
--strict-permissions Require that all configuration files are owned by the
                    current user; only needed if your config is somewhere
                    unsafe like /tmp/ (default: False)

testing:
  The following flags are meant for testing and integration purposes only.

--test-cert, --staging
                    Use the staging server to obtain or revoke test
                    (invalid) certificates; equivalent to --server https
                    ://acme-staging-v02.api.letsencrypt.org/directory
                    (default: False)
--debug            Show tracebacks in case of errors, and allow certbot-
                    auto execution on experimental platforms (default:
                    False)
--no-verify-ssl    Disable verification of the ACME server's certificate.
                    (default: False)
--tls-sni-01-port TLS_SNI_01_PORT
                    Port used during tls-sni-01 challenge. This only
                    affects the port Certbot listens on. A conforming ACME
                    server will still attempt to connect on port 443.
                    (default: 443)
--tls-sni-01-address TLS_SNI_01_ADDRESS
                    The address the server listens to during tls-sni-01
                    challenge. (default: )

```

```
--http-01-port HTTP01_PORT
    Port used in the http-01 challenge. This only affects
    the port Certbot listens on. A conforming ACME server
    will still attempt to connect on port 80. (default:
    80)
--http-01-address HTTP01_ADDRESS
    The address the server listens to during http-01
    challenge. (default: )
--break-my-certs
    Be willing to replace or renew valid certificates with
    invalid (testing/staging) certificates (default:
    False)
```

paths:

Flags for changing execution paths & servers

```
--cert-path CERT_PATH
    Path to where certificate is saved (with auth --csr),
    installed from, or revoked. (default: None)
--key-path KEY_PATH
    Path to private key for certificate installation or
    revocation (if account key is missing) (default: None)
--fullchain-path FULLCHAIN_PATH
    Accompanying path to a full certificate chain
    (certificate plus chain). (default: None)
--chain-path CHAIN_PATH
    Accompanying path to a certificate chain. (default:
    None)
--config-dir CONFIG_DIR
    Configuration directory. (default: /etc/letsencrypt)
--work-dir WORK_DIR
    Working directory. (default: /var/lib/letsencrypt)
--logs-dir LOGS_DIR
    Logs directory. (default: /var/log/letsencrypt)
--server SERVER
    ACME Directory Resource URI. (default:
    https://acme-v01.api.letsencrypt.org/directory)
```

manage:

Various subcommands and flags are available for managing your certificates:

```
certificates    List certificates managed by Certbot
delete          Clean up all files related to a certificate
renew           Renew all certificates (or one specified with --cert-
               name)
revoke          Revoke a certificate specified with --cert-path
update_symlinks Recreate symlinks in your /etc/letsencrypt/live/
               directory
```

run:

Options for obtaining & installing certificates

certonly:

Options for modifying how a certificate is obtained

```
--csr CSR
    Path to a Certificate Signing Request (CSR) in DER or
    PEM format. Currently --csr only works with the
    'certonly' subcommand. (default: None)
```

renew:

The 'renew' subcommand will attempt to renew all certificates (or more precisely, certificate lineages) you have previously obtained if they are

close to expiry, and print a summary of the results. By default, 'renew' will reuse the options used to create obtain or most recently successfully renew each certificate lineage. You can try it with '--dry-run' first. For more fine-grained control, you can renew individual lineages with the 'certonly' subcommand. Hooks are available to run commands before and after renewal; see <https://certbot.eff.org/docs/using.html#renewal> for more information on these.

`--pre-hook PRE_HOOK` Command to be run in a shell before obtaining any certificates. Intended primarily for renewal, where it can be used to temporarily shut down a webserver that might conflict with the standalone plugin. This will only be called if a certificate is actually to be obtained/renewed. When renewing several certificates that have identical pre-hooks, only the first will be executed. (default: None)

`--post-hook POST_HOOK` Command to be run in a shell after attempting to obtain/renew certificates. Can be used to deploy renewed certificates, or to restart any servers that were stopped by --pre-hook. This is only run if an attempt was made to obtain/renew a certificate. If multiple renewed certificates have identical post-hooks, only one will be run. (default: None)

`--deploy-hook DEPLOY_HOOK` Command to be run in a shell once for each successfully issued certificate. For this command, the shell variable \$RENEWED_LINEAGE will point to the config live subdirectory (for example, "/etc/letsencrypt/live/example.com") containing the new certificates and keys; the shell variable \$RENEWED_DOMAINS will contain a space-delimited list of renewed certificate domains (for example, "example.com www.example.com" (default: None)

`--disable-hook-validation` Ordinarily the commands specified for --pre-hook /--post-hook/--deploy-hook will be checked for validity, to see if the programs being run are in the \$PATH, so that mistakes can be caught early, even when the hooks aren't being run just yet. The validation is rather simplistic and fails if you use more advanced shell constructs, so you can use this switch to disable it. (default: False)

`--no-directory-hooks` Disable running executables found in Certbot's hook directories during renewal. (default: False)

`--disable-renew-updates` Disable automatic updates to your server configuration that would otherwise be done by the selected installer plugin, and triggered when the user executes "certbot renew", regardless of if the certificate is renewed. This setting does not apply to important TLS configuration updates. (default: False)

certificates:

List certificates managed by Certbot

delete:

Options for deleting a certificate

```

revoke:
    Options for revocation of certificates

    --reason {unspecified,keycompromise,affiliationchanged,superseded,
↪cessationofoperation}
        Specify reason for revoking certificate. (default:
        unspecified)
    --delete-after-revoke
        Delete certificates after revoking them. (default:
        None)
    --no-delete-after-revoke
        Do not delete certificates after revoking them. This
        option should be used with caution because the 'renew'
        subcommand will attempt to renew undeleted revoked
        certificates. (default: None)

register:
    Options for account registration & modification

    --register-unsafely-without-email
        Specifying this flag enables registering an account
        with no email address. This is strongly discouraged,
        because in the event of key loss or account compromise
        you will irrevocably lose access to your account. You
        will also be unable to receive notice about impending
        expiration or revocation of your certificates. Updates
        to the Subscriber Agreement will still affect you, and
        will be effective 14 days after posting an update to
        the web site. (default: False)
    --update-registration
        With the register verb, indicates that details
        associated with an existing registration, such as the
        e-mail address, should be updated, rather than
        registering a new account. (default: False)
    -m EMAIL, --email EMAIL
        Email used for registration and recovery contact. Use
        comma to register multiple emails, ex:
        u1@example.com,u2@example.com. (default: Ask).
    --eff-email
        Share your e-mail address with EFF (default: None)
    --no-eff-email
        Don't share your e-mail address with EFF (default:
        None)

unregister:
    Options for account deactivation.

    --account ACCOUNT_ID Account ID to use (default: None)

install:
    Options for modifying how a certificate is deployed

config_changes:
    Options for controlling which changes are displayed

    --num NUM
        How many past revisions you want to be displayed
        (default: None)

rollback:

```

Options for rolling back server configuration changes

`--checkpoints N` Revert configuration N number of checkpoints.
(default: 1)

plugins:

Options for for the "plugins" subcommand

`--init` Initialize plugins. (default: False)
`--prepare` Initialize and prepare plugins. (default: False)
`--authenticators` Limit to authenticator plugins only. (default: None)
`--installers` Limit to installer plugins only. (default: None)

update_symlinks:

Recreates certificate and key symlinks in /etc/letsencrypt/live, if you changed them by hand or edited a renewal configuration file

enhance:

Helps to harden the TLS configuration by adding security enhancements to already existing configuration.

plugins:

Plugin Selection: Certbot client supports an extensible plugins architecture. See 'certbot plugins' for a list of all installed plugins and their names. You can force a particular plugin by setting options provided below. Running `--help <plugin_name>` will list flags specific to that plugin.

`--configurator CONFIGURATOR`
 Name of the plugin that is both an authenticator and an installer. Should not be used together with `--authenticator` or `--installer`. (default: Ask)

`-a AUTHENTICATOR, --authenticator AUTHENTICATOR`
 Authenticator plugin name. (default: None)

`-i INSTALLER, --installer INSTALLER`
 Installer plugin name (also used to find domains). (default: None)

`--apache` Obtain and install certificates using Apache (default: False)

`--nginx` Obtain and install certificates using Nginx (default: False)

`--standalone` Obtain certificates using a "standalone" webserver. (default: False)

`--manual` Provide laborious manual instructions for obtaining a certificate (default: False)

`--webroot` Obtain certificates by placing files in a webroot directory. (default: False)

`--dns-cloudflare` Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using Cloudflare for DNS). (default: False)

`--dns-cloudxns` Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using CloudXNS for DNS). (default: False)

`--dns-digitalocean` Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using DigitalOcean for DNS). (default: False)

`--dns-dnssimple` Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using DNSimple for DNS). (default: False)

`--dns-dnsmadeeasy` Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using DNS Made Easy for DNS). (default: False)

`--dns-google` Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are

```

        using Google Cloud DNS). (default: False)
--dns-luadns      Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are
                  using LuaDNS for DNS). (default: False)
--dns-nsone       Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are
                  using NS1 for DNS). (default: False)
--dns-ovh         Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are
                  using OVH for DNS). (default: False)
--dns-rfc2136     Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are
                  using BIND for DNS). (default: False)
--dns-route53     Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are
                  using Route53 for DNS). (default: False)

apache:
  Apache Web Server plugin - Beta

  --apache-enmod APACHE_ENMOD
                  Path to the Apache 'a2enmod' binary. (default: None)
  --apache-dismod APACHE_DISMOD
                  Path to the Apache 'a2dismod' binary. (default: None)
  --apache-le-vhost-ext APACHE_LE_VHOST_EXT
                  SSL vhost configuration extension. (default: -le-
                  ssl.conf)
  --apache-server-root APACHE_SERVER_ROOT
                  Apache server root directory. (default: /etc/apache2)
  --apache-vhost-root APACHE_VHOST_ROOT
                  Apache server VirtualHost configuration root (default:
                  None)
  --apache-logs-root APACHE_LOGS_ROOT
                  Apache server logs directory (default:
                  /var/log/apache2)
  --apache-challenge-location APACHE_CHALLENGE_LOCATION
                  Directory path for challenge configuration. (default:
                  /etc/apache2/other)
  --apache-handle-modules APACHE_HANDLE_MODULES
                  Let installer handle enabling required modules for
                  you. (Only Ubuntu/Debian currently) (default: False)
  --apache-handle-sites APACHE_HANDLE_SITES
                  Let installer handle enabling sites for you. (Only
                  Ubuntu/Debian currently) (default: False)

certbot-route53:auth:
  Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using AWS Route53
  for DNS).

  --certbot-route53:auth-propagation-seconds CERTBOT_ROUTE53:AUTH_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
                  The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
                  before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
                  record. (default: 10)

dns-cloudflare:
  Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using Cloudflare
  for DNS).

  --dns-cloudflare-propagation-seconds DNS_CLOUDFLARE_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
                  The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
                  before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
                  record. (default: 10)
  --dns-cloudflare-credentials DNS_CLOUDFLARE_CREDENTIALS

```

```

        Cloudflare credentials INI file. (default: None)

dns-cloudxns:
    Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using CloudXNS for
    DNS).

    --dns-cloudxns-propagation-seconds DNS_CLOUDXNS_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
        The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
        before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
        record. (default: 30)
    --dns-cloudxns-credentials DNS_CLOUDXNS_CREDENTIALS
        CloudXNS credentials INI file. (default: None)

dns-digitalocean:
    Obtain certs using a DNS TXT record (if you are using DigitalOcean for
    DNS).

    --dns-digitalocean-propagation-seconds DNS_DIGITALOCEAN_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
        The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
        before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
        record. (default: 10)
    --dns-digitalocean-credentials DNS_DIGITALOCEAN_CREDENTIALS
        DigitalOcean credentials INI file. (default: None)

dns-dnssimple:
    Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using DNSimple for
    DNS).

    --dns-dnssimple-propagation-seconds DNS_DNSIMPLE_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
        The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
        before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
        record. (default: 30)
    --dns-dnssimple-credentials DNS_DNSIMPLE_CREDENTIALS
        DNSimple credentials INI file. (default: None)

dns-dnsmadeeasy:
    Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using DNS Made Easy
    for DNS).

    --dns-dnsmadeeasy-propagation-seconds DNS_DNSMADEEASY_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
        The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
        before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
        record. (default: 60)
    --dns-dnsmadeeasy-credentials DNS_DNSMADEEASY_CREDENTIALS
        DNS Made Easy credentials INI file. (default: None)

dns-google:
    Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using Google Cloud
    DNS for DNS).

    --dns-google-propagation-seconds DNS_GOOGLE_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
        The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
        before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
        record. (default: 60)
    --dns-google-credentials DNS_GOOGLE_CREDENTIALS
        Path to Google Cloud DNS service account JSON file.
        (See https://developers.google.com/identity/protocols/
        OAuth2ServiceAccount#creatinganaccount for information

```



```

about creating a service account and
https://cloud.google.com/dns/access-
control#permissions_and_roles for information about
therequired permissions.) (default: None)

```

dns-luadns:

```

Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using LuaDNS for
DNS).

```

```

--dns-luadns-propagation-seconds DNS_LUADNS_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
    The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
    before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
    record. (default: 30)
--dns-luadns-credentials DNS_LUADNS_CREDENTIALS
    LuaDNS credentials INI file. (default: None)

```

dns-nsone:

```

Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using NS1 for DNS).

```

```

--dns-nsone-propagation-seconds DNS_NSONE_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
    The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
    before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
    record. (default: 30)
--dns-nsone-credentials DNS_NSONE_CREDENTIALS
    NS1 credentials file. (default: None)

```

dns-ovh:

```

Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using OVH for DNS).

```

```

--dns-ovh-propagation-seconds DNS_OVH_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
    The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
    before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
    record. (default: 30)
--dns-ovh-credentials DNS_OVH_CREDENTIALS
    OVH credentials file. (default: None)

```

dns-rfc2136:

```

Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using BIND for
DNS).

```

```

--dns-rfc2136-propagation-seconds DNS_RFC2136_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
    The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
    before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
    record. (default: 60)
--dns-rfc2136-credentials DNS_RFC2136_CREDENTIALS
    RFC 2136 credentials INI file. (default: None)

```

dns-route53:

```

Obtain certificates using a DNS TXT record (if you are using AWS Route53
for DNS).

```

```

--dns-route53-propagation-seconds DNS_ROUTE53_PROPAGATION_SECONDS
    The number of seconds to wait for DNS to propagate
    before asking the ACME server to verify the DNS
    record. (default: 10)

```

manual:

```

Authenticate through manual configuration or custom shell scripts. When

```

using shell scripts, an authenticator script must be provided. The environment variables available to this script depend on the type of challenge. \$CERTBOT_DOMAIN will always contain the domain being authenticated. For HTTP-01 and DNS-01, \$CERTBOT_VALIDATION is the validation string, and \$CERTBOT_TOKEN is the filename of the resource requested when performing an HTTP-01 challenge. When performing a TLS-SNI-01 challenge, \$CERTBOT_SNI_DOMAIN will contain the SNI name for which the ACME server expects to be presented with the self-signed certificate located at \$CERTBOT_CERT_PATH. The secret key needed to complete the TLS handshake is located at \$CERTBOT_KEY_PATH. An additional cleanup script can also be provided and can use the additional variable \$CERTBOT_AUTH_OUTPUT which contains the stdout output from the auth script.

```
--manual-auth-hook MANUAL_AUTH_HOOK
                        Path or command to execute for the authentication
                        script (default: None)
--manual-cleanup-hook MANUAL_CLEANUP_HOOK
                        Path or command to execute for the cleanup script
                        (default: None)
--manual-public-ip-logging-ok
                        Automatically allows public IP logging (default: Ask)
```

nginx:

 Nginx Web Server plugin

```
--nginx-server-root NGINX_SERVER_ROOT
                        Nginx server root directory. (default: /etc/nginx or
                        /usr/local/etc/nginx)
--nginx-ctl NGINX_CTL
                        Path to the 'nginx' binary, used for 'configtest' and
                        retrieving nginx version number. (default: nginx)
```

null:

 Null Installer

standalone:

 Spin up a temporary webserver

webroot:

 Place files in webroot directory

```
--webroot-path WEBROOT_PATH, -w WEBROOT_PATH
                        public_html / webroot path. This can be specified
                        multiple times to handle different domains; each
                        domain will have the webroot path that preceded it.
                        For instance: ` -w /var/www/example -d example.com -d
                        www.example.com -w /var/www/thing -d thing.net -d
                        m.thing.net` (default: Ask)
--webroot-map WEBROOT_MAP
                        JSON dictionary mapping domains to webroot paths; this
                        implies -d for each entry. You may need to escape this
                        from your shell. E.g.: --webroot-map
                        '{"eg1.is,m.eg1.is":"/www/eg1/", "eg2.is":"/www/eg2"}'
                        This option is merged with, but takes precedence over,
                        -w / -d entries. At present, if you put webroot-map in
                        a config file, it needs to be on a single line, like:
                        webroot-map = {"example.com":"/var/www"}. (default:
```

{ })

4.12 Getting help

If you're having problems, we recommend posting on the Let's Encrypt [Community Forum](#).

You can also chat with us on IRC: ([#letsencrypt](#) @ freenode)

If you find a bug in the software, please do report it in our [issue tracker](#). Remember to give us as much information as possible:

- copy and paste exact command line used and the output (though mind that the latter might include some personally identifiable information, including your email and domains)
- copy and paste logs from `/var/log/letsencrypt` (though mind they also might contain personally identifiable information)
- copy and paste `certbot --version` output
- your operating system, including specific version
- specify which installation method you've chosen

DEVELOPER GUIDE

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5.1 Getting Started

Certbot has the same *system requirements* when set up for development. While the section below will help you install Certbot and its dependencies, Certbot needs to be run on a UNIX-like OS so if you're using Windows, you'll need to set up a (virtual) machine running an OS such as Linux and continue with these instructions on that UNIX-like OS.

5.1.1 Running a local copy of the client

Running the client in developer mode from your local tree is a little different than running Certbot as a user. To get set up, clone our git repository by running:

```
git clone https://github.com/certbot/certbot
```

If you're on macOS, we recommend you skip the rest of this section and instead run Certbot in Docker. You can find instructions for how to do this [here](#). If you're running on Linux, you can run the following commands to install dependencies and set up a virtual environment where you can run Certbot.

```
cd certbot
./certbot-auto --debug --os-packages-only
tools/venv.sh
```

If you have Python3 available and want to use it, run the `venv3.sh` script.

```
tools/venv3.sh
```

Note: You may need to repeat this when Certbot's dependencies change or when a new plugin is introduced.

You can now run the copy of Certbot from git either by executing `venv/bin/certbot`, or by activating the virtual environment. You can do the latter by running:

```
source venv/bin/activate
# or
source venv3/bin/activate
```

After running this command, `certbot` and development tools like `ipdb`, `ipython`, `pytest`, and `tox` are available in the shell where you ran the command. These tools are installed in the virtual environment and are kept separate from your global Python installation. This works by setting environment variables so the right executables are found and Python can pull in the versions of various packages needed by Certbot. More information can be found in the [virtualenv docs](#).

5.1.2 Find issues to work on

You can find the open issues in the [github issue tracker](#). Comparatively easy ones are marked [good first issue](#). If you're starting work on something, post a comment to let others know and seek feedback on your plan where appropriate.

Once you've got a working branch, you can open a pull request. All changes in your pull request must have thorough unit test coverage, pass our tests, and be compliant with the [coding style](#).

5.1.3 Testing

When you are working in a file `foo.py`, there should also be a file `foo_test.py` either in the same directory as `foo.py` or in the `tests` subdirectory (if there isn't, make one). While you are working on your code and tests, run

`python foo_test.py` to run the relevant tests.

For debugging, we recommend putting `import ipdb; ipdb.set_trace()` statements inside the source code.

Once you are done with your code changes, and the tests in `foo_test.py` pass, run all of the unittests for Certbot with `tox -e py27` (this uses Python 2.7).

Once all the unittests pass, check for sufficient test coverage using `tox -e cover`, and then check for code style with `tox -e lint` (all files) or `pylint --rcfile=.pylintrc path/to/file.py` (single file at a time).

Once all of the above is successful, you may run the full test suite using `tox --skip-missing-interpreters`. We recommend running the commands above first, because running all tests like this is very slow, and the large amount of output can make it hard to find specific failures when they happen.

Warning: The full test suite may attempt to modify your system's Apache config if your user has sudo permissions, so it should not be run on a production Apache server.

Integration testing with the Boulder CA

Generally it is sufficient to open a pull request and let Github and Travis run integration tests for you, however, if you want to run them locally you need Docker and docker-compose installed and working. Fetch and start Boulder, Let's Encrypt's ACME CA software, by using:

```
./tests/boulder-fetch.sh
```

If you have problems with Docker, you may want to try [removing all containers and volumes](#) and making sure you have at least 1GB of memory.

Set up a `certbot_test` alias that enables easily running against the local Boulder:

```
export SERVER=http://localhost:4000/directory
source tests/integration/_common.sh
```

Run the integration tests using:

```
./tests/boulder-integration.sh
```

5.2 Code components and layout

acme contains all protocol specific code

certbot main client code

certbot-apache and certbot-nginx client code to configure specific web servers

certbot.egg-info configuration for packaging Certbot

5.2.1 Plugin-architecture

Certbot has a plugin architecture to facilitate support for different webrowsers, other TLS servers, and operating systems. The interfaces available for plugins to implement are defined in [interfaces.py](#) and [plugins/common.py](#).

The main two plugin interfaces are *IAuthenticator*, which implements various ways of proving domain control to a certificate authority, and *IInstaller*, which configures a server to use a certificate once it is issued. Some

plugins, like the built-in Apache and Nginx plugins, implement both interfaces and perform both tasks. Others, like the built-in Standalone authenticator, implement just one interface.

There are also *IDisplay* plugins, which can change how prompts are displayed to a user.

5.2.2 Authenticators

Authenticators are plugins that prove control of a domain name by solving a challenge provided by the ACME server. ACME currently defines three types of challenges: HTTP, TLS-SNI, and DNS, represented by classes in `acme.challenges`. An authenticator plugin should implement support for at least one challenge type.

An Authenticator indicates which challenges it supports by implementing `get_chall_pref(domain)` to return a sorted list of challenge types in preference order.

An Authenticator must also implement `perform(achalls)`, which “performs” a list of challenges by, for instance, provisioning a file on an HTTP server, or setting a TXT record in DNS. Once all challenges have succeeded or failed, Certbot will call the plugin’s `cleanup(achalls)` method to remove any files or DNS records that were needed only during authentication.

5.2.3 Installer

Installers plugins exist to actually setup the certificate in a server, possibly tweak the security configuration to make it more correct and secure (Fix some mixed content problems, turn on HSTS, redirect to HTTPS, etc). Installer plugins tell the main client about their abilities to do the latter via the `supported_enhancements()` call. We currently have two Installers in the tree, the `ApacheConfigurator`. and the `NginxConfigurator`. External projects have made some progress toward support for IIS, Icecast and Plesk.

Installers and Authenticators will oftentimes be the same class/object (because for instance both tasks can be performed by a webserver like nginx) though this is not always the case (the standalone plugin is an authenticator that listens on port 443, but it cannot install certs; a postfix plugin would be an installer but not an authenticator).

Installers and Authenticators are kept separate because it should be possible to use the `StandaloneAuthenticator` (it sets up its own Python server to perform challenges) with a program that cannot solve challenges itself (Such as MTA installers).

5.2.4 Installer Development

There are a few existing classes that may be beneficial while developing a new *IInstaller*. Installers aimed to reconfigure UNIX servers may use Augeas for configuration parsing and can inherit from `AugeasConfigurator` class to handle much of the interface. Installers that are unable to use Augeas may still find the *Reverter* class helpful in handling configuration checkpoints and rollback.

Writing your own plugin

Certbot client supports dynamic discovery of plugins through the `setuptools` entry points using the `certbot.plugins` group. This way you can, for example, create a custom implementation of *IAuthenticator* or the *IInstaller* without having to merge it with the core upstream source code. An example is provided in `examples/plugins/` directory.

While developing, you can install your plugin into a Certbot development virtualenv like this:


```
. venv/bin/activate
. tests/integration/_common.sh
pip install -e examples/plugins/
certbot_test plugins
```

Your plugin should show up in the output of the last command. If not, it was not installed properly.

Once you've finished your plugin and published it, you can have your users install it system-wide with `pip install`. Note that this will only work for users who have Certbot installed from OS packages or via `pip`. Users who run `certbot-auto` are currently unable to use third-party plugins. It's technically possible to install third-party plugins into the virtualenv used by `certbot-auto`, but they will be wiped away when `certbot-auto` upgrades.

Warning: Please be aware though that as this client is still in a developer-preview stage, the API may undergo a few changes. If you believe the plugin will be beneficial to the community, please consider submitting a pull request to the repo and we will update it with any necessary API changes.

5.3 Coding style

Please:

1. **Be consistent with the rest of the code.**
2. Read [PEP 8 - Style Guide for Python Code](#).
3. Follow the [Google Python Style Guide](#), with the exception that we use [Sphinx-style](#) documentation:

```
def foo(arg):
    """Short description.

    :param int arg: Some number.

    :returns: Argument
    :rtype: int

    """
    return arg
```

4. Remember to use `pylint`.

5.4 Mypy type annotations

Certbot uses the [mypy](#) static type checker. Python 3 natively supports official type annotations, which can then be tested for consistency using `mypy`. Python 2 doesn't, but type annotations can be [added in comments](#). `Mypy` does some type checks even without type annotations; we can find bugs in Certbot even without a fully annotated codebase.

Certbot supports both Python 2 and 3, so we're using Python 2-style annotations.

[Zulip](#) wrote a [great guide](#) to using `mypy`. It's useful, but you don't have to read the whole thing to start contributing to Certbot.

To run `mypy` on Certbot, use `tox -e mypy` on a machine that has Python 3 installed.

Note that instead of just importing `typing`, due to packaging issues, in Certbot we import from `acme.magic_typing` and have to add some comments for `pylint` like this:

```
from acme.magic_typing import Dict # pylint: disable=unused-import, no-name-in-module
```

Also note that OpenSSL, which we rely on, has type definitions for crypto but not SSL. We use both. Those imports should look like this:

```
from OpenSSL import crypto
from OpenSSL import SSL # type: ignore # https://github.com/python/typeshed/issues/
↪2052
```

5.5 Submitting a pull request

Steps:

1. Write your code!
2. Make sure your environment is set up properly and that you're in your virtualenv. You can do this by running `./tools/venv.sh`. (this is a **very important** step)
3. Run `tox -e lint` to check for pylint errors. Fix any errors.
4. Run `tox --skip-missing-interpreters` to run the entire test suite including coverage. The `--skip-missing-interpreters` argument ignores missing versions of Python needed for running the tests. Fix any errors.
5. Submit the PR.
6. Did your tests pass on Travis? If they didn't, fix any errors.

5.6 Asking for help

If you have any questions while working on a Certbot issue, don't hesitate to ask for help! You can do this in the `#letsencrypt-dev` IRC channel on Freenode. If you don't already have an IRC client set up, we recommend you join using [Riot](#).

5.7 Updating certbot-auto and letsencrypt-auto

5.7.1 Updating the scripts

Developers should *not* modify the `certbot-auto` and `letsencrypt-auto` files in the root directory of the repository. Rather, modify the `letsencrypt-auto.template` and associated platform-specific shell scripts in the `letsencrypt-auto-source` and `letsencrypt-auto-source/pieces/bootstrappers` directory, respectively.

5.7.2 Building letsencrypt-auto-source/letsencrypt-auto

Once changes to any of the aforementioned files have been made, the `letsencrypt-auto-source/letsencrypt-auto` script should be updated. In lieu of manually updating this script, run the build script, which lives at `letsencrypt-auto-source/build.py`:

```
python letsencrypt-auto-source/build.py
```

Running `build.py` will update the `letsencrypt-auto-source/letsencrypt-auto` script. Note that the `certbot-auto` and `letsencrypt-auto` scripts in the root directory of the repository will remain **unchanged** after this script is run. Your changes will be propagated to these files during the next release of Certbot.

5.7.3 Opening a PR

When opening a PR, ensure that the following files are committed:

1. `letsencrypt-auto-source/letsencrypt-auto.template` and
`letsencrypt-auto-source/pieces/bootstrappers/*`
2. `letsencrypt-auto-source/letsencrypt-auto` (generated by `build.py`)

It might also be a good idea to double check that **no** changes were inadvertently made to the `certbot-auto` or `letsencrypt-auto` scripts in the root of the repository. These scripts will be updated by the core developers during the next release.

5.8 Updating the documentation

In order to generate the Sphinx documentation, run the following commands:

```
make -C docs clean html man
```

This should generate documentation in the `docs/_build/html` directory.

Note: If you skipped the “Getting Started” instructions above, run `pip install -e ".[docs]"` to install Certbot’s docs extras modules.

5.9 Running the client with Docker

You can use Docker Compose to quickly set up an environment for running and testing Certbot. To install Docker Compose, follow the instructions at <https://docs.docker.com/compose/install/>.

Note: Linux users can simply run `pip install docker-compose` to get Docker Compose after installing Docker Engine and activating your shell as described in the *Getting Started* section.

Now you can develop on your host machine, but run Certbot and test your changes in Docker. When using `docker-compose` make sure you are inside your clone of the Certbot repository. As an example, you can run the following command to check for linting errors:

```
docker-compose run --rm --service-ports development bash -c 'tox -e lint'
```

You can also leave a terminal open running a shell in the Docker container and modify Certbot code in another window. The Certbot repo on your host machine is mounted inside of the container so any changes you make immediately take effect. To do this, run:

```
docker-compose run --rm --service-ports development bash
```

Now running the check for linting errors described above is as easy as:

```
tox -e lint
```

5.10 Notes on OS dependencies

OS-level dependencies can be installed like so:

```
./certbot-auto --debug --os-packages-only
```

In general...

- `sudo` is required as a suggested way of running privileged process
- [Python 2.7](#) or 3.4+ is required
- [Augeas](#) is required for the Python bindings
- `virtualenv` is used for managing other Python library dependencies

5.10.1 FreeBSD

FreeBSD by default uses `tcsh`. In order to activate `virtualenv` (see above), you will need a compatible shell, e.g. `pkg install bash && bash`.

PACKAGING GUIDE

6.1 Releases

We release packages and upload them to PyPI (wheels and source tarballs).

- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/acme>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-apache>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-nginx>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-cloudflare>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-cloudxns>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-digitalocean>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-dnssimple>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-dnsmadeeasy>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-google>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-linode>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-luadns>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-nsone>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-ovh>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-rfc2136>
- <https://pypi.python.org/pypi/certbot-dns-route53>

The following scripts are used in the process:

- <https://github.com/letsencrypt/letsencrypt/blob/master/tools/release.sh>

We use git tags to identify releases, using Semantic Versioning. For example: `v0.11.1`.

6.2 Notes for package maintainers

0. Please use our tagged releases, not `master`!
1. Do not package `certbot-compatibility-test` or `letshelp-certbot` - it's only used internally.

2. If you'd like to include automated renewal in your package `certbot renew -q` should be added to crontab or systemd timer. Additionally you should include a random per-machine time offset to avoid having a large number of your clients hit Let's Encrypt's servers simultaneously.
3. `jws` is an internal script for `acme` module and it doesn't have to be packaged - it's mostly for debugging: you can use it as `echo foo | jws sign | jws verify`.
4. Do get in touch with us. We are happy to make any changes that will make packaging easier. If you need to apply some patches don't do it downstream - make a PR [here](#).

6.3 Already ongoing efforts

6.3.1 Arch

From our official releases:

- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/python-acme>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-apache>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-nginx>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-cloudflare>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-cloudxns>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-digitalocean>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-dnssimple>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-dnsmadeeasy>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-google>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-luadns>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-nsone>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-rfc2136>
- <https://www.archlinux.org/packages/community/any/certbot-dns-route53>

From master: <https://aur.archlinux.org/packages/certbot-git>

6.3.2 Debian (and its derivatives, including Ubuntu)

- <https://packages.debian.org/sid/certbot>
- <https://packages.debian.org/sid/python-certbot>
- <https://packages.debian.org/sid/python-certbot-apache>

6.3.3 Fedora

In Fedora 23+.

- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-acme>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/certbot>

- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-apache>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-cloudflare>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-cloudxns>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-digitalocean>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-dnssimple>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-dnsmadeeasy>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-google>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-luadns>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-nsone>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-rfc2136>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-dns-route53>
- <https://apps.fedoraproject.org/packages/python-certbot-nginx>

6.3.4 FreeBSD

- <https://www.freshports.org/security/py-acme/>
- <https://www.freshports.org/security/py-certbot/>

6.3.5 Gentoo

Currently, all `certbot` related packages are in the testing branch:

- <https://packages.gentoo.org/packages/app-crypt/certbot>
- <https://packages.gentoo.org/packages/app-crypt/certbot-apache>
- <https://packages.gentoo.org/packages/app-crypt/certbot-nginx>
- <https://packages.gentoo.org/packages/app-crypt/acme>

6.3.6 GNU Guix

- <https://www.gnu.org/software/guix/package-list.html#certbot>

6.3.7 OpenBSD

- <http://cvsweb.openbsd.org/cgi-bin/cvsweb/ports/security/letsencrypt/client/>

RESOURCES

Documentation: <https://certbot.eff.org/docs>

Software project: <https://github.com/certbot/certbot>

Notes for developers: <https://certbot.eff.org/docs/contributing.html>

Main Website: <https://certbot.eff.org>

Let's Encrypt Website: <https://letsencrypt.org>

IRC Channel: #letsencrypt on Freenode

Community: <https://community.letsencrypt.org>

ACME spec: <http://ietf-wg-acme.github.io/acme/>

ACME working area in github: <https://github.com/ietf-wg-acme/acme>

API DOCUMENTATION

8.1 certbot.account

Creates ACME accounts for server.

class `certbot.account.Account` (*regr, key, meta=None*)
Bases: `object`

ACME protocol registration.

Variables

- **regr** (*RegistrationResource*) – Registration Resource
- **key** (*JWK*) – Authorized Account Key
- **Meta** – Account metadata
- **id** (*str*) – Globally unique account identifier.

class `Meta` (***kwargs*)
Bases: `josepy.json_util.JSONObjectWithFields`

Account metadata

Variables

- **creation_dt** (*datetime.datetime*) – Creation date and time (UTC).
- **creation_host** (*str*) – FQDN of host, where account has been created.

Note: `creation_dt` and `creation_host` are useful in cross-machine migration scenarios.

slug

Short account identification string, useful for UI.

`certbot.account.report_new_account` (*config*)
Informs the user about their new ACME account.

class `certbot.account.AccountMemoryStorage` (*initial_accounts=None*)
Bases: `certbot.interfaces.AccountStorage`

In-memory account storage.

class `certbot.account.RegistrationResourceWithNewAuthzrURI` (***kwargs*)
Bases: `acme.messages.RegistrationResource`

A backwards-compatible `RegistrationResource` with a new-authz URI.

Hack: Certbot versions pre-0.11.1 expect to load `new_authzr_uri` as part of the account. Because people sometimes switch between old and new versions, we will continue to write out this field for some time so older clients don't crash in that scenario.

class `certbot.account.AccountFileStorage` (*config*)

Bases: `certbot.interfaces.AccountStorage`

Accounts file storage.

Variables `config` (`IConfig`) – Client configuration

save_regr (*account, acme*)

Save the registration resource.

Parameters `account` (`Account`) – account whose regr should be saved

delete (*account_id*)

Delete registration info from disk

Parameters `account_id` – id of account which should be deleted

_delete_links_and_find_target_dir (*server_path, link_func*)

Delete symlinks and return the nonsymlinked directory path.

Parameters

- **server_path** (*str*) – file path based on server
- **link_func** (*callable*) – callable that returns possible links given a `server_path`

Returns the final, non-symlinked target

Return type `str`

8.2 certbot.achallenges

Client annotated ACME challenges.

Please use names such as `achall` to distinguish from variables “of type” `acme.challenges.Challenge` (denoted by `chall`) and `ChallengeBody` (denoted by `challb`):

```
from acme import challenges
from acme import messages
from certbot import achallenges

chall = challenges.DNS(token='foo')
challb = messages.ChallengeBody(chall=chall)
achall = achallenges.DNS(chall=challb, domain='example.com')
```

Note, that all annotated challenges act as a proxy objects:

```
achall.token == challb.token
```

class `certbot.achallenges.AnnotatedChallenge` (***kwargs*)

Bases: `josepy.util.ImmutableMap`

Client annotated challenge.

Wraps around server provided challenge and annotates with data useful for the client.

Variables `challb` – Wrapped `ChallengeBody`.

```
class certbot.achallenges.KeyAuthorizationAnnotatedChallenge (**kwargs)
    Bases: certbot.achallenges.AnnotatedChallenge
    Client annotated KeyAuthorizationChallenge challenge.

    response_and_validation (*args, **kwargs)
        Generate response and validation.

class certbot.achallenges.DNS (**kwargs)
    Bases: certbot.achallenges.AnnotatedChallenge
    Client annotated “dns” ACME challenge.

    acme_type
        alias of DNS
```

8.3 certbot.auth_handler

ACME AuthHandler.

```
class certbot.auth_handler.AnnotatedAuthzr (authzr, achalls)
    Bases: tuple
    Stores an authorization resource and its active annotated challenges.

    _asdict ()
        Return a new OrderedDict which maps field names to their values

    classmethod _make (iterable, new=<built-in method __new__ of type object at 0x8feda0>, len=<built-
        in function len>)
        Make a new AnnotatedAuthzr object from a sequence or iterable

    _replace (_self, **kws)
        Return a new AnnotatedAuthzr object replacing specified fields with new values

    achalls
        Alias for field number 1

    authzr
        Alias for field number 0

class certbot.auth_handler.AuthHandler (auth, acme, account, pref_challs)
    Bases: object
    ACME Authorization Handler for a client.

    Variables
    • auth – Authenticator capable of solving Challenge types
    • acme (acme.client.BackwardsCompatibleClientV2) – ACME client API.
    • account – Client’s Account
    • pref_challs (list) – sorted user specified preferred challenges type strings with the
        most preferred challenge listed first

    handle_authorizations (orderr, best_effort=False)
        Retrieve all authorizations for challenges.

    Parameters
    • orderr (acme.messages.OrderResource) – must have authorizations filled in
```

- **best_effort** (*bool*) – Whether or not all authorizations are required (this is useful in renewal)

Returns List of authorization resources

Return type `list`

Raises `AuthorizationError` – If unable to retrieve all authorizations

- _choose_challenges** (*aauthzrs*)
Retrieve necessary challenges to satisfy server.
- _has_challenges** (*aauthzrs*)
Do we have any challenges to perform?
- _solve_challenges** (*aauthzrs*)
Get Responses for challenges from authenticators.
- _get_all_achalls** (*aauthzrs*)
Return all active challenges.
- _respond** (*aauthzrs, resp, best_effort*)
Send/Receive confirmation of all challenges.

Note: This method also cleans up the `auth_handler` state.

- _send_responses** (*aauthzrs, resps, chall_update*)
Send responses and make sure errors are handled.

Parameters

- **aauthzrs** (*list* of `AnnotatedAuthzr`) – authorizations and the selected annotated challenges to try and perform
- **resps** (`collections.abc.Iterable` of `ChallengeResponse` or `False` or `None`) – challenge responses from the authenticator where each response at index *i* corresponds to the annotated challenge at index *i* in the list returned by `_get_all_achalls()`
- **chall_update** (*dict*) – parameter that is updated to hold `aauthzr` index to list of outstanding solved annotated challenges

- _poll_challenges** (*aauthzrs, chall_update, best_effort, min_sleep=3, max_rounds=30*)
Wait for all challenge results to be determined.
- _handle_check** (*aauthzrs, index, achalls*)
Returns tuple of ('completed', 'failed').
- _find_updated_challb** (*authzr, achall*)
Find updated challenge body within Authorization Resource.

Warning: This assumes only one instance of type of challenge in each challenge resource.

Parameters

- **authzr** (`AuthorizationResource`) – Authorization Resource
- **achall** (`AnnotatedChallenge`) – Annotated challenge for which to get status

`_get_chall_pref (domain)`

Return list of challenge preferences.

Parameters `domain` (*str*) – domain for which you are requesting preferences

`_cleanup_challenges (aauthzrs, achalls=None)`

Cleanup challenges.

Parameters

- **aauthzrs** (*list* of *AnnotatedAuthzr*) – authorizations and their selected annotated challenges
- **achalls** (*list* of *certbot.achallenges.AnnotatedChallenge*) – annotated challenges to cleanup

`verify_authzr_complete (aauthzrs)`

Verifies that all authorizations have been decided.

Parameters **aauthzrs** (*list* of *AnnotatedAuthzr*) – authorizations and their selected annotated challenges

Returns Whether all authzr are complete

Return type *bool*

`_challenge_factory (authzr, path)`

Construct Namedtuple Challenges

Parameters

- **authzr** (*messages.AuthorizationResource*) – authorization
- **path** (*list*) – List of indices from challenges.

Returns achalls, list of challenge type *certbot.achallenges.Indexed*

Return type *list*

Raises *errors.Error* – if challenge type is not recognized

`certbot.auth_handler.challb_to_achall (challb, account_key, domain)`

Converts a ChallengeBody object to an AnnotatedChallenge.

Parameters

- **challb** (*ChallengeBody*) – ChallengeBody
- **account_key** (*JWK*) – Authorized Account Key
- **domain** (*str*) – Domain of the challb

Returns Appropriate AnnotatedChallenge

Return type *certbot.achallenges.AnnotatedChallenge*

`certbot.auth_handler.gen_challenge_path (challbs, preferences, combinations)`

Generate a plan to get authority over the identity.

Todo

This can be possibly be rewritten to use resolved_combinations.

Parameters

- **challbs** (*tuple*) – A tuple of challenges (`acme.messages.Challenge`) from `acme.messages.AuthorizationResource` to be fulfilled by the client in order to prove possession of the identifier.
- **preferences** (*list*) – List of challenge preferences for domain (`acme.challenges.Challenge` subclasses)
- **combinations** (*tuple*) – A collection of sets of challenges from `acme.messages.Challenge`, each of which would be sufficient to prove possession of the identifier.

Returns tuple of indices from `challenges`.

Return type `tuple`

Raises `certbot.errors.AuthorizationError` – If a path cannot be created that satisfies the CA given the preferences and combinations.

`certbot.auth_handler._find_smart_path(challbs, preferences, combinations)`

Find challenge path with server hints.

Can be called if combinations is included. Function uses a simple ranking system to choose the combo with the lowest cost.

`certbot.auth_handler._find_dumb_path(challbs, preferences)`

Find challenge path without server hints.

Should be called if the combinations hint is not included by the server. This function either returns a path containing all challenges provided by the CA or raises an exception.

`certbot.auth_handler._report_no_chall_path(challbs)`

Logs and raises an error that no satisfiable chall path exists.

Parameters `challbs` – challenges from the authorization that can't be satisfied

`certbot.auth_handler._report_failed_challs(failed_achalls)`

Notifies the user about failed challenges.

Parameters `failed_achalls` (*set*) – A set of failed `certbot.achallenges.AnnotatedChallenge`.

`certbot.auth_handler._generate_failed_chall_msg(failed_achalls)`

Creates a user friendly error message about failed challenges.

Parameters `failed_achalls` (*list*) – A list of failed `certbot.achallenges.AnnotatedChallenge` with the same error type.

Returns A formatted error message for the client.

Return type `str`

8.4 certbot.cert_manager

Tools for managing certificates.

`certbot.cert_manager.update_live_symlinks(config)`

Update the certificate file family symlinks to use `archive_dir`.

Use the information in the config file to make symlinks point to the correct archive directory.

Note: This assumes that the installation is using a Reverter object.

Parameters `config` (`certbot.configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – Configuration.

`certbot.cert_manager.rename_lineage` (`config`)
Rename the specified lineage to the new name.

Parameters `config` (`certbot.configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – Configuration.

`certbot.cert_manager.certificates` (`config`)
Display information about certs configured with Certbot

Parameters `config` (`certbot.configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – Configuration.

`certbot.cert_manager.delete` (`config`)
Delete Certbot files associated with a certificate lineage.

`certbot.cert_manager.lineage_for_certname` (`cli_config`, `certname`)
Find a lineage object with name certname.

`certbot.cert_manager.domains_for_certname` (`config`, `certname`)
Find the domains in the cert with name certname.

`certbot.cert_manager.find_duplicative_certs` (`config`, `domains`)
Find existing certs that match the given domain names.

This function searches for certificates whose domains are equal to the `domains` parameter and certificates whose domains are a subset of the domains in the `domains` parameter. If multiple certificates are found whose names are a subset of `domains`, the one whose names are the largest subset of `domains` is returned.

If multiple certificates' domains are an exact match or equally sized subsets, which matching certificates are returned is undefined.

Parameters

- **config** (`certbot.configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – Configuration.
- **domains** (list of `str`) – List of domain names

Returns lineages representing the identically matching cert and the largest subset if they exist

Return type `tuple` of `storage.RenewableCert` or `None`

`certbot.cert_manager._archive_files` (`candidate_lineage`, `filetype`)
In order to match things like: `/etc/letsencrypt/archive/example.com/chain1.pem`.

Anonymous functions which call this function are eventually passed (in a list) to `match_and_check_overlaps` to help specify the `acceptable_matches`.

Parameters

- **candidate_lineage** (`storage.RenewableCert`) – Lineage whose archive dir is to be searched.
- **filetype** (`str`) – main file name prefix e.g. “fullchain” or “chain”.

Returns Files in `candidate_lineage`'s archive dir that match the provided filetype.

Return type list of `str` or `None`

`certbot.cert_manager._acceptable_matches` ()
Generates the list that's passed to `match_and_check_overlaps`. Is its own function to make unit testing easier.

Returns list of functions

Return type list

`certbot.cert_manager.cert_path_to_lineage(cli_config)`

If `config.cert_path` is defined, try to find an appropriate value for `config.certname`.

Parameters `cli_config` (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – parsed command line arguments

Returns a lineage name

Return type `str`

Raises

- `errors.Error` – If the specified cert path can’t be matched to a lineage name.
- `errors.OverlappingMatchFound` – If the matched lineage’s archive is shared.

`certbot.cert_manager.match_and_check_overlaps(cli_config, acceptable_matches, match_func, rv_func)`

Searches through all lineages for a match, and checks for duplicates. If a duplicate is found, an error is raised, as performing operations on lineages that have their properties incorrectly duplicated elsewhere is probably a bad idea.

Parameters

- `cli_config` (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – parsed command line arguments
- `acceptable_matches` (`list`) – a list of functions that specify acceptable matches
- `match_func` (`function`) – specifies what to match
- `rv_func` (`function`) – specifies what to return

`certbot.cert_manager.human_readable_cert_info(config, cert, skip_filter_checks=False)`

Returns a human readable description of info about a RenewableCert object

`certbot.cert_manager.get_certnames(config, verb, allow_multiple=False, custom_prompt=None)`

Get certname from flag, interactively, or error out.

`certbot.cert_manager._report_lines(msgs)`

Format a results report for a category of single-line renewal outcomes

`certbot.cert_manager._report_human_readable(config, parsed_certs)`

Format a results report for a parsed cert

`certbot.cert_manager._describe_certs(config, parsed_certs, parse_failures)`

Print information about the certs we know about

`certbot.cert_manager._search_lineages(cli_config, func, initial_rv, *args)`

Iterate `func` over unbroken lineages, allowing custom return conditions.

Allows flexible customization of return values, including multiple return values and complex checks.

Parameters

- `cli_config` (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – parsed command line arguments
- `func` (`function`) – function used while searching over lineages
- `initial_rv` – initial return value of the function (any type)

Returns Whatever was specified by `func` if a match is found.

8.5 certbot.cli

Certbot command line argument & config processing.

`certbot.cli.report_config_interaction(modified, modifiers)`

Registers config option interaction to be checked by `set_by_cli`.

This function can be called by during the `__init__` or `add_parser_arguments` methods of plugins to register interactions between config options.

Parameters

- **modified** (*iterable or str (string_types)*) – config options that can be modified by modifiers
- **modifiers** (*iterable or str (string_types)*) – config options that modify modified

`certbot.cli.possible_deprecation_warning(config)`

A deprecation warning for users with the old, not-self-upgrading letsencrypt-auto.

class `certbot.cli._Default`

Bases: `object`

A class to use as a default to detect if a value is set by a user

`certbot.cli.set_by_cli(var)`

Return True if a particular config variable has been set by the user (CLI or config file) including if the user explicitly set it to the default. Returns False if the variable was assigned a default value.

`certbot.cli.has_default_value(option, value)`

Does option have the default value?

If the default value of option is not known, False is returned.

Parameters

- **option** (*str*) – configuration variable being considered
- **value** – value of the configuration variable named option

Returns True if option has the default value, otherwise, False

Return type `bool`

`certbot.cli.option_was_set(option, value)`

Was option set by the user or does it differ from the default?

Parameters

- **option** (*str*) – configuration variable being considered
- **value** – value of the configuration variable named option

Returns True if the option was set, otherwise, False

Return type `bool`

`certbot.cli.argparse_type(variable)`

Return our argparse type function for a config variable (default: `str`)

`certbot.cli.read_file(filename, mode='rb')`

Returns the given file's contents.

Parameters

- **filename** (*str*) – path to file
- **mode** (*str*) – open mode (see `open`)

Returns absolute path of filename and its contents

Return type `tuple`

Raises `argparse.ArgumentTypeError` – File does not exist or is not readable.

`certbot.cli.flag_default` (*name*)

Default value for CLI flag.

`certbot.cli.config_help` (*name*, *hidden=False*)

Extract the help message for an `IConfig` attribute.

class `certbot.cli.HelpfulArgumentGroup` (*helpful_arg_parser*, *topic*)

Bases: `object`

Emulates an `argparse` group for use with `HelpfulArgumentParser`.

This class is used in the `add_group` method of `HelpfulArgumentParser`. Command line arguments can be added to the group, but help suppression and default detection is applied by `HelpfulArgumentParser` when necessary.

add_argument (**args*, ***kwargs*)

Add a new command line argument to the argument group.

class `certbot.cli.CustomHelpFormatter` (*prog*, *indent_increment=2*, *max_help_position=24*, *width=None*)

Bases: `argparse.HelpFormatter`

This is a clone of `ArgumentDefaultsHelpFormatter`, with bugfixes.

In particular we fix <https://bugs.python.org/issue28742>

class `certbot.cli.HelpfulArgumentParser` (*args*, *plugins*, *detect_defaults=False*)

Bases: `object`

`Argparse` Wrapper.

This class wraps `argparse`, adding the ability to make `-help` less verbose, and request help on specific subcategories at a time, eg ‘`certbot -help security`’ for security options.

_usage_string (*plugins*, *help_arg*)

Make usage strings late so that plugins can be initialised late

Parameters

- **plugins** – all discovered plugins
- **help_arg** – False for none; True for `-help`; “`TOPIC`” for `-help TOPIC`

Return type `str`

Returns a short usage string for the top of `-help TOPIC`)

remove_config_file_domains_for_renewal (*parsed_args*)

Make “`certbot renew`” safe if domains are set in `cli.ini`.

parse_args ()

Parses command line arguments and returns the result.

Returns parsed command line arguments

Return type `argparse.Namespace`

set_test_server (*parsed_args*)

We have `-staging/-dry-run`; perform sanity check and set `config.server`

handle_csr (*parsed_args*)

Process a `-csr` flag.

determine_verb ()

Determines the verb/subcommand provided by the user.

This function works around some of the limitations of `argparse`.

prescan_for_flag (*flag, possible_arguments*)

Checks cli input for flags.

Check for a flag, which accepts a fixed set of possible arguments, in the command line; we will use this information to configure `argparse`'s help correctly. Return the flag's argument, if it has one that matches the sequence `@possible_arguments`; otherwise return whether the flag is present.

add (*topics, *args, **kwargs*)

Add a new command line argument.

Parameters

- **topics** – str or [str] help topic(s) this should be listed under, or None for “always documented”. The first entry determines where the flag lives in the “-help all” output (None -> “optional arguments”).
- ***args** (*list*) – the names of this argument flag
- ****kwargs** (*dict*) – various `argparse` settings for this argument

modify_kwargs_for_default_detection (***kwargs*)

Modify an arg so we can check if it was set by the user.

Changes the parameters given to `argparse` when adding an argument so we can properly detect if the value was set by the user.

Parameters **kwargs** (*dict*) – various `argparse` settings for this argument

Returns a modified versions of **kwargs**

Return type *dict*

add_deprecated_argument (*argument_name, num_args*)

Adds a deprecated argument with the name `argument_name`.

Deprecated arguments are not shown in the help. If they are used on the command line, a warning is shown stating that the argument is deprecated and no other action is taken.

Parameters

- **argument_name** (*str*) – Name of deprecated argument.
- **num_args** (*int*) – Number of arguments the option takes.

add_group (*topic, verbs=(), **kwargs*)

Create a new argument group.

This method must be called once for every topic, however, calls to this function are left next to the argument definitions for clarity.

Parameters

- **topic** (*str*) – Name of the new argument group.
- **verbs** (*str*) – List of subcommands that should be documented as part of this help group / topic

Returns The new argument group.

Return type `HelpfulArgumentGroup`

add_plugin_args (*plugins*)

Let each of the plugins add its own command line arguments, which may or may not be displayed as help topics.

determine_help_topics (*chosen_topic*)

The user may have requested help on a topic, return a dict of which topics to display. @chosen_topic has prescan_for_flag's return type

Returns dict

`certbot.cli.prepare_and_parse_args` (*plugins, args, detect_defaults=False*)

Returns parsed command line arguments.

Parameters

- **plugins** (`PluginsRegistry`) – available plugins
- **args** (`list`) – command line arguments with the program name removed

Returns parsed command line arguments

Return type `argparse.Namespace`

class `certbot.cli.CaseInsensitiveList`

Bases: `list`

A list that will ignore case when searching.

This class is passed to the `choices` argument of `argparse.add_arguments` through the helpful wrapper. It is necessary due to special handling of command line arguments by `set_by_cli` in which the `type_func` is not applied.

class `certbot.cli._EncodeReasonAction` (*option_strings, dest, nargs=None, const=None, default=None, type=None, choices=None, required=False, help=None, metavar=None*)

Bases: `argparse.Action`

Action class for parsing revocation reason.

class `certbot.cli._DomainsAction` (*option_strings, dest, nargs=None, const=None, default=None, type=None, choices=None, required=False, help=None, metavar=None*)

Bases: `argparse.Action`

Action class for parsing domains.

`certbot.cli.add_domains` (*args_or_config, domains*)

Registers new domains to be used during the current client run.

Domains are not added to the list of requested domains if they have already been registered.

Parameters

- **args_or_config** (`argparse.Namespace` or `configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – parsed command line arguments
- **domain** (`str`) – one or more comma separated domains

Returns domains after they have been normalized and validated

Return type `list of str`

```
class certbot.cli._PrefChallAction(option_strings, dest, nargs=None, const=None, default=None, type=None, choices=None, required=False, help=None, metavar=None)
```

Bases: `argparse.Action`

Action class for parsing preferred challenges.

```
certbot.cli.parse_preferred_challenges(pref_challs)
```

Translate and validate preferred challenges.

Parameters `pref_challs` (list of `str`) – list of preferred challenge types

Returns validated list of preferred challenge types

Return type list of `str`

Raises `errors.Error` – if `pref_challs` is invalid

```
class certbot.cli._DeployHookAction(option_strings, dest, nargs=None, const=None, default=None, type=None, choices=None, required=False, help=None, metavar=None)
```

Bases: `argparse.Action`

Action class for parsing deploy hooks.

```
class certbot.cli._RenewHookAction(option_strings, dest, nargs=None, const=None, default=None, type=None, choices=None, required=False, help=None, metavar=None)
```

Bases: `argparse.Action`

Action class for parsing renew hooks.

```
certbot.cli.nonnegative_int(value)
```

Converts value to an int and checks that it is not negative.

This function should be used as the type parameter for argparse arguments.

Parameters `value` (`str`) – value provided on the command line

Returns integer representation of value

Return type `int`

Raises `argparse.ArgumentTypeError` – if value isn't a non-negative integer

8.6 certbot.client

Certbot client API.

```
certbot.client.acme_from_config_key(config, key, regr=None)
```

Wrangle ACME client construction

```
certbot.client.determine_user_agent(config)
```

Set a `user_agent` string in the config based on the choice of plugins. (this wasn't knowable at construction time)

Returns the client's User-Agent string

Return type `str`

```
certbot.client.ua_flags(config)
```

Turn some very important CLI flags into clues in the user agent.

class `certbot.client.DummyConfig`

Bases: `object`

Shim for computing a sample user agent.

`certbot.client.sample_user_agent()`

Document what this Certbot's user agent string will be like.

`certbot.client.register(config, account_storage, tos_cb=None)`

Register new account with an ACME CA.

This function takes care of generating fresh private key, registering the account, optionally accepting CA Terms of Service and finally saving the account. It should be called prior to initialization of `Client`, unless account has already been created.

Parameters

- **config** (`IConfig`) – Client configuration.
- **account_storage** (`AccountStorage`) – Account storage where newly registered account will be saved to. Save happens only after TOS acceptance step, so any account private keys or `RegistrationResource` will not be persisted if `tos_cb` returns `False`.
- **tos_cb** – If ACME CA requires the user to accept a Terms of Service before registering account, client action is necessary. For example, a CLI tool would prompt the user acceptance. `tos_cb` must be a callable that should accept `RegistrationResource` and return a `bool`: `True` iff the Terms of Service present in the contained `Registration.terms_of_service` is accepted by the client, and `False` otherwise. `tos_cb` will be called only if the client action is necessary, i.e. when `terms_of_service` is not `None`. This argument is optional, if not supplied it will default to automatic acceptance!

Raises

- `certbot.errors.Error` – In case of any client problems, in particular registration failure, or unaccepted Terms of Service.
- `acme.errors.Error` – In case of any protocol problems.

Returns Newly registered and saved account, as well as protocol API handle (should be used in `Client` initialization).

Return type `tuple` of `Account` and `acme.client.Client`

`certbot.client.perform_registration(acme, config, tos_cb)`

Actually register new account, trying repeatedly if there are email problems

Parameters

- **client** (`acme.client.Client`) – ACME client object.
- **config** (`IConfig`) – Client configuration.
- **tos_cb** (`Callable`) – a callback to handle Term of Service agreement.

Returns `RegistrationResource`.

Return type `acme.messages.RegistrationResource`

class `certbot.client.Client` (`config, account_, auth, installer, acme=None`)

Bases: `object`

Certbot's client.

Variables

- **config** (`IConfig`) – Client configuration.

- **account** (`Account`) – Account registered with `register`.
- **auth_handler** (`AuthHandler`) – Authorizations handler that will dispatch DV challenges to appropriate authenticators (providing `IAAuthenticator` interface).
- **auth** (`IAAuthenticator`) – Prepared (`IAAuthenticator.prepare`) authenticator that can solve ACME challenges.
- **installer** (`IInstaller`) – Installer.
- **acme** (`acme.client.BackwardsCompatibleClientV2`) – Optional ACME client API handle. You might already have one from `register`.

obtain_certificate_from_csr (`csr, orderr=None`)

Obtain certificate.

Parameters

- **csr** (`util.CSR`) – PEM-encoded Certificate Signing Request. The key used to generate this CSR can be different than `authkey`.
- **orderr** (`acme.messages.OrderResource`) – contains `authzrs`

Returns certificate and chain as PEM byte strings

Return type `tuple`

obtain_certificate (`domains, old_keypath=None`)

Obtains a certificate from the ACME server.

`register` must be called before `obtain_certificate`

Parameters **domains** (`list`) – domains to get a certificate

Returns certificate as PEM string, chain as PEM string, newly generated private key (`util.Key`), and DER-encoded Certificate Signing Request (`util.CSR`).

Return type `tuple`

_get_order_and_authorizations (`csr_pem, best_effort`)

Request a new order and complete its authorizations.

Parameters

- **csr_pem** (`str`) – A CSR in PEM format.
- **best_effort** (`bool`) – True if failing to complete all authorizations should not raise an exception

Returns order resource containing its completed authorizations

Return type `acme.messages.OrderResource`

obtain_and_enroll_certificate (`domains, certname`)

Obtain and enroll certificate.

Get a new certificate for the specified domains using the specified authenticator and installer, and then create a new renewable lineage containing it.

Parameters

- **domains** (`list of str`) – domains to request a certificate for
- **certname** (`str or None`) – requested name of lineage

Returns A new `certbot.storage.RenewableCert` instance referred to the enrolled cert lineage, False if the cert could not be obtained, or None if doing a successful dry run.

_choose_lineage_name (*domains, certname*)

Chooses a name for the new lineage.

Parameters

- **domains** (*list* of *str*) – domains in certificate request
- **certname** (*str* or *None*) – requested name of lineage

Returns lineage name that should be used

Return type *str*

save_certificate (*cert_pem, chain_pem, cert_path, chain_path, fullchain_path*)

Saves the certificate received from the ACME server.

Parameters

- **cert_pem** (*str*) –
- **chain_pem** (*str*) –
- **cert_path** (*str*) – Candidate path to a certificate.
- **chain_path** (*str*) – Candidate path to a certificate chain.
- **fullchain_path** (*str*) – Candidate path to a full cert chain.

Returns *cert_path*, *chain_path*, and *fullchain_path* as absolute paths to the actual files

Return type *tuple* of *str*

Raises *IOError* – If unable to find room to write the cert files

deploy_certificate (*domains, privkey_path, cert_path, chain_path, fullchain_path*)

Install certificate

Parameters

- **domains** (*list*) – list of domains to install the certificate
- **privkey_path** (*str*) – path to certificate private key
- **cert_path** (*str*) – certificate file path (optional)
- **chain_path** (*str*) – chain file path

enhance_config (*domains, chain_path, ask_redirect=True*)

Enhance the configuration.

Parameters

- **domains** (*list*) – list of domains to configure
- **chain_path** (*str* or *None*) – chain file path

Raises *errors.Error* – if no installer is specified in the client.

apply_enhancement (*domains, enhancement, options=None*)

Applies an enhancement on all domains.

Parameters

- **domains** (*list*) – list of *ssl_vhosts* (as strings)
- **enhancement** (*str*) – name of enhancement, e.g. *ensure-http-header*

- **options** (*str*) – options to enhancement, e.g. Strict-Transport-Security

Note: When more options are needed, make options a list.

Raises `errors.PluginError` – If Enhancement is not supported, or if there is any other problem with the enhancement.

_recovery_routine_with_msg (*success_msg*)

Calls the installer's recovery routine and prints success_msg

Parameters **success_msg** (*str*) – message to show on successful recovery

_rollback_and_restart (*success_msg*)

Rollback the most recent checkpoint and restart the webserver

Parameters **success_msg** (*str*) – message to show on successful rollback

`certbot.client.validate_key_csr` (*privkey*, *csr=None*)

Validate Key and CSR files.

Verifies that the client key and csr arguments are valid and correspond to one another. This does not currently check the names in the CSR due to the inability to read SANs from CSRs in python crypto libraries.

If csr is left as None, only the key will be validated.

Parameters

- **privkey** (`certbot.util.Key`) – Key associated with CSR
- **csr** (`util.CSR`) – CSR

Raises `errors.Error` – when validation fails

`certbot.client.rollback` (*default_installer*, *checkpoints*, *config*, *plugins*)

Revert configuration the specified number of checkpoints.

Parameters

- **checkpoints** (*int*) – Number of checkpoints to revert.
- **config** (`certbot.interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration.

`certbot.client.view_config_changes` (*config*, *num=None*)

View checkpoints and associated configuration changes.

Note: This assumes that the installation is using a Reverter object.

Parameters **config** (`certbot.interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration.

`certbot.client._open_pem_file` (*cli_arg_path*, *pem_path*)

Open a pem file.

If cli_arg_path was set by the client, open that. Otherwise, uniquify the file path.

Parameters

- **cli_arg_path** (*str*) – the cli arg name, e.g. cert_path
- **pem_path** (*str*) – the pem file path to open

Returns a tuple of file object and its absolute file path

`certbot.client._save_chain(chain_pem, chain_file)`

Saves `chain_pem` at a unique path based on `chain_path`.

Parameters

- **chain_pem** (*str*) – certificate chain in PEM format
- **chain_file** (*str*) – chain file object

8.7 certbot.configuration

Certbot user-supplied configuration.

class `certbot.configuration.NamespaceConfig(namespace)`

Bases: `object`

Configuration wrapper around `argparse.Namespace`.

For more documentation, including available attributes, please see `certbot.interfaces.IConfig`. However, note that the following attributes are dynamically resolved using `work_dir` and relative paths defined in `certbot.constants`:

- `accounts_dir`
- `csr_dir`
- `in_progress_dir`
- `key_dir`
- `temp_checkpoint_dir`

And the following paths are dynamically resolved using `config_dir` and relative paths defined in `certbot.constants`:

- `default_archive_dir`
- `live_dir`
- `renewal_configs_dir`

Variables `namespace` – Namespace typically produced by `argparse.ArgumentParser.parse_args()`.

server_path

File path based on `server`.

accounts_dir_for_server_path (*server_path*)

Path to accounts directory based on `server_path`

renewal_hooks_dir

Path to directory with hooks to run with the renew subcommand.

renewal_pre_hooks_dir

Path to the pre-hook directory for the renew subcommand.

renewal_deploy_hooks_dir

Path to the deploy-hook directory for the renew subcommand.

renewal_post_hooks_dir

Path to the post-hook directory for the renew subcommand.

`certbot.configuration.check_config_sanity` (*config*)

Validate command line options and display error message if requirements are not met.

Parameters `config` – `IConfig` instance holding user configuration

8.8 certbot.constants

Certbot constants.

`certbot.constants.SETUPTOOLS_PLUGINS_ENTRY_POINT` = `'certbot.plugins'`

Setuptools entry point group name for plugins.

`certbot.constants.OLD_SETUPTOOLS_PLUGINS_ENTRY_POINT` = `'letsencrypt.plugins'`

Plugins Setuptools entry point before rename.

`certbot.constants.REVOCATION_REASONS` = `{'keycompromise': 1, 'affiliationchanged': 3, 'superseded': 4, 'unspecified': 5}`

Defaults for CLI flags and `IConfig` attributes.

`certbot.constants.QUIET_LOGGING_LEVEL` = 30

Logging level to use in quiet mode.

`certbot.constants.RENEWER_DEFAULTS` = `{'renew_before_expiry': '30 days', 'deploy_before_expiry': '99 years', 'renew_before_expiry': '30 days'}`

Defaults for renewer script.

`certbot.constants.ENHANCEMENTS` = `['redirect', 'ensure-http-header', 'ocsp-stapling', 'spdy']`

List of possible `certbot.interfaces.IInstaller` enhancements.

List of expected options parameters: - redirect: None - ensure-http-header: name of header (i.e. Strict-Transport-Security) - ocsp-stapling: certificate chain file path - spdy: TODO

`certbot.constants.ARCHIVE_DIR` = `'archive'`

Archive directory, relative to `IConfig.config_dir`.

`certbot.constants.CONFIG_DIRS_MODE` = 493

Directory mode for `IConfig.config_dir` et al.

`certbot.constants.ACCOUNTS_DIR` = `'accounts'`

Directory where all accounts are saved.

`certbot.constants.LE_REUSE_SERVERS` = `{'acme-staging-v02.api.letsencrypt.org/directory': 'acme-staging.api.letsencrypt.org/directory'}`

Servers that can reuse accounts from other servers.

`certbot.constants.BACKUP_DIR` = `'backups'`

Directory (relative to `IConfig.work_dir`) where backups are kept.

`certbot.constants.CSR_DIR` = `'csr'`

See `IConfig.csr_dir`.

`certbot.constants.IN_PROGRESS_DIR` = `'IN_PROGRESS'`

Directory used before a permanent checkpoint is finalized (relative to `IConfig.work_dir`).

`certbot.constants.KEY_DIR` = `'keys'`

Directory (relative to `IConfig.config_dir`) where keys are saved.

`certbot.constants.LIVE_DIR` = `'live'`

Live directory, relative to `IConfig.config_dir`.

`certbot.constants.TEMP_CHECKPOINT_DIR` = `'temp_checkpoint'`

Temporary checkpoint directory (relative to `IConfig.work_dir`).

`certbot.constants.RENEWAL_CONFIGS_DIR` = `'renewal'`

Renewal configs directory, relative to `IConfig.config_dir`.

`certbot.constants.RENEWAL_HOOKS_DIR = 'renewal-hooks'`

Basename of directory containing hooks to run with the renew command.

`certbot.constants.RENEWAL_PRE_HOOKS_DIR = 'pre'`

Basename of directory containing pre-hooks to run with the renew command.

`certbot.constants.RENEWAL_DEPLOY_HOOKS_DIR = 'deploy'`

Basename of directory containing deploy-hooks to run with the renew command.

`certbot.constants.RENEWAL_POST_HOOKS_DIR = 'post'`

Basename of directory containing post-hooks to run with the renew command.

`certbot.constants.FORCE_INTERACTIVE_FLAG = '-force-interactive'`

Flag to disable TTY checking in IDisplay.

`certbot.constants.EFF_SUBSCRIBE_URI = 'https://supporters.eff.org/subscribe/certbot'`

EFF URI used to submit the e-mail address of users who opt-in.

`certbot.constants.SSL_DHPARAMS_DEST = 'ssl-dhparams.pem'`

Name of the ssl_dhparams file as saved in `IConfig.config_dir`.

`certbot.constants.UPDATED_SSL_DHPARAMS_DIGEST = 'updated-ssl-dhparams-pem-digest.txt'`

Name of the hash of the updated or informed ssl_dhparams as saved in `IConfig.config_dir`.

`certbot.constants.ALL_SSL_DHPARAMS_HASHES = ['9ba6429597aecd2d8617a7705b56e96d044f64b07971659382e42667'`

SHA256 hashes of the contents of all versions of `SSL_DHPARAMS_SRC`

`certbot.constants.SSL_DHPARAMS_SRC = '/path/to/certbot/ssl-dhparams.pem'`

Path to the nginx ssl_dhparams file found in the Certbot distribution.

8.9 certbot.crypto_util

Certbot client crypto utility functions.

Todo

Make the transition to use PSS rather than PKCS1_v1_5 when the server is capable of handling the signatures.

`certbot.crypto_util.init_save_key(key_size, key_dir, keyname='key-certbot.pem')`

Initializes and saves a privkey.

Init's key and saves it in PEM format on the filesystem.

Note: `keyname` is the attempted filename, it may be different if a file already exists at the path.

Parameters

- **key_size** (*int*) – RSA key size in bits
- **key_dir** (*str*) – Key save directory.
- **keyname** (*str*) – Filename of key

Returns `Key`

Return type `certbot.util.Key`

Raises `ValueError` – If unable to generate the key given `key_size`.

`certbot.crypto_util.init_save_csr(privkey, names, path)`
Initialize a CSR with the given private key.

Parameters

- **privkey** (*certbot.util.Key*) – Key to include in the CSR
- **names** (*set*) – *str* names to include in the CSR
- **path** (*str*) – Certificate save directory.

Returns CSR

Return type *certbot.util.CSR*

`certbot.crypto_util.valid_csr(csr)`
Validate CSR.

Check if *csr* is a valid CSR for the given domains.

Parameters **csr** (*str*) – CSR in PEM.

Returns Validity of CSR.

Return type *bool*

`certbot.crypto_util.csr_matches_pubkey(csr, privkey)`
Does private key correspond to the subject public key in the CSR?

Parameters

- **csr** (*str*) – CSR in PEM.
- **privkey** (*str*) – Private key file contents (PEM)

Returns Correspondence of private key to CSR subject public key.

Return type *bool*

`certbot.crypto_util.import_csr_file(csrfile, data)`
Import a CSR file, which can be either PEM or DER.

Parameters

- **csrfile** (*str*) – CSR filename
- **data** (*str*) – contents of the CSR file

Returns (*crypto.FILETYPE_PEM*, *util.CSR* object representing the CSR, list of domains requested in the CSR)

Return type *tuple*

`certbot.crypto_util.make_key(bits)`
Generate PEM encoded RSA key.

Parameters **bits** (*int*) – Number of bits, at least 1024.

Returns new RSA key in PEM form with specified number of bits

Return type *str*

`certbot.crypto_util.valid_privkey(privkey)`
Is valid RSA private key?

Parameters **privkey** (*str*) – Private key file contents in PEM

Returns Validity of private key.

Return type `bool`

`certbot.crypto_util.verify_renewable_cert(renewable_cert)`

For checking that your certs were not corrupted on disk.

Several things are checked:

1. Signature verification for the cert.
2. That fullchain matches cert and chain when concatenated.
3. Check that the private key matches the certificate.

Parameters `renewable_cert` (`storage.RenewableCert`) – cert to verify

Raises `errors.Error` – If verification fails.

`certbot.crypto_util.verify_renewable_cert_sig(renewable_cert)`

Verifies the signature of a `storage.RenewableCert` object.

Parameters `renewable_cert` (`storage.RenewableCert`) – cert to verify

Raises `errors.Error` – If signature verification fails.

`certbot.crypto_util.verify_cert_matches_priv_key(cert_path, key_path)`

Verifies that the private key and cert match.

Parameters

- `cert_path` (`str`) – path to a cert in PEM format
- `key_path` (`str`) – path to a private key file

Raises `errors.Error` – If they don't match.

`certbot.crypto_util.verify_fullchain(renewable_cert)`

Verifies that fullchain is indeed cert concatenated with chain.

Parameters `renewable_cert` (`storage.RenewableCert`) – cert to verify

Raises `errors.Error` – If cert and chain do not combine to fullchain.

`certbot.crypto_util.pyopenssl_load_certificate(data)`

Load PEM/DER certificate.

Raises `errors.Error` –

`certbot.crypto_util.get_sans_from_cert(cert, typ=1)`

Get a list of Subject Alternative Names from a certificate.

Parameters

- `cert` (`str`) – Certificate (encoded).
- `typ` – `crypto.FILETYPE_PEM` or `crypto.FILETYPE_ASN1`

Returns A list of Subject Alternative Names.

Return type `list`

`certbot.crypto_util.get_names_from_cert(csr, typ=1)`

Get a list of domains from a cert, including the CN if it is set.

Parameters

- `cert` (`str`) – Certificate (encoded).
- `typ` – `crypto.FILETYPE_PEM` or `crypto.FILETYPE_ASN1`

Returns A list of domain names.

Return type `list`

`certbot.crypto_util.dump_pyopenssl_chain(chain, filetype=1)`

Dump certificate chain into a bundle.

Parameters `chain` (`list`) – List of `crypto.X509` (or wrapped in `josepy.util.ComparableX509`).

`certbot.crypto_util.notBefore(cert_path)`

When does the cert at `cert_path` start being valid?

Parameters `cert_path` (`str`) – path to a cert in PEM format

Returns the `notBefore` value from the cert at `cert_path`

Return type `datetime.datetime`

`certbot.crypto_util.notAfter(cert_path)`

When does the cert at `cert_path` stop being valid?

Parameters `cert_path` (`str`) – path to a cert in PEM format

Returns the `notAfter` value from the cert at `cert_path`

Return type `datetime.datetime`

`certbot.crypto_util._notAfterBefore(cert_path, method)`

Internal helper function for finding `notbefore/notafter`.

Parameters

- `cert_path` (`str`) – path to a cert in PEM format
- `method` (`function`) – one of `crypto.X509.get_notBefore` or `crypto.X509.get_notAfter`

Returns the `notBefore` or `notAfter` value from the cert at `cert_path`

Return type `datetime.datetime`

`certbot.crypto_util.sha256sum(filename)`

Compute a sha256sum of a file.

Parameters `filename` (`str`) – path to the file whose hash will be computed

Returns sha256 digest of the file in hexadecimal

Return type `str`

`certbot.crypto_util.cert_and_chain_from_fullchain(fullchain_pem)`

Split `fullchain_pem` into `cert_pem` and `chain_pem`

Parameters `fullchain_pem` (`str`) – concatenated cert + chain

Returns tuple of string `cert_pem` and `chain_pem`

Return type `tuple`

8.10 certbot.display

Certbot display utilities.

8.10.1 certbot.display.util

Certbot display.

`certbot.display.util.OK = 'ok'`

Display exit code indicating user acceptance.

`certbot.display.util.CANCEL = 'cancel'`

Display exit code for a user canceling the display.

`certbot.display.util.HELP = 'help'`

Display exit code when for when the user requests more help. (UNUSED)

`certbot.display.util.ESC = 'esc'`

Display exit code when the user hits Escape (UNUSED)

`certbot.display.util.SIDE_FRAME = '-----'`

Display boundary (alternates spaces, so when copy-pasted, markdown doesn't interpret it as a heading)

`certbot.display.util._wrap_lines(msg)`

Format lines nicely to 80 chars.

Parameters `msg` (*str*) – Original message

Returns Formatted message respecting newlines in message

Return type *str*

`certbot.display.util.input_with_timeout(prompt=None, timeout=36000.0)`

Get user input with a timeout.

Behaves the same as `six.moves.input`, however, an error is raised if a user doesn't answer after timeout seconds. The default timeout value was chosen to place it just under 12 hours for users following our advice and running Certbot twice a day.

Parameters

- **prompt** (*str*) – prompt to provide for input
- **timeout** (*float*) – maximum number of seconds to wait for input

Returns user response

Return type *str*

:raises errors.Error if no answer is given before the timeout

class `certbot.display.util.FileDisplay(outfile, force_interactive)`

Bases: *object*

File-based display.

notification (*message*, *pause=True*, *wrap=True*, *force_interactive=False*)

Displays a notification and waits for user acceptance.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – Message to display
- **pause** (*bool*) – Whether or not the program should pause for the user's confirmation
- **wrap** (*bool*) – Whether or not the application should wrap text
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it's safe to prompt the user because it won't cause any workflow regressions

menu (*message*, *choices*, *ok_label=None*, *cancel_label=None*, *help_label=None*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, *force_interactive=False*, ***unused_kwargs*)
Display a menu.

Todo

This doesn't enable the help label/button (I wasn't sold on any interface I came up with for this). It would be a nice feature

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – title of menu
- **choices** (*list of tuples (tag, item) or list of descriptions (tags will be enumerated)*) – Menu lines, len must be > 0
- **default** – default value to return (if one exists)
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – option used to set this value with the CLI
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it's safe to prompt the user because it won't cause any workflow regressions

Returns tuple of (*code*, *index*) where *code* - str display exit code *index* - int index of the user's selection

Return type *tuple*

input (*message*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, *force_interactive=False*, ***unused_kwargs*)
Accept input from the user.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – message to display to the user
- **default** – default value to return (if one exists)
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – option used to set this value with the CLI
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it's safe to prompt the user because it won't cause any workflow regressions

Returns tuple of (*code*, *input*) where *code* - str display exit code *input* - str of the user's input

Return type *tuple*

yesno (*message*, *yes_label='Yes'*, *no_label='No'*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, *force_interactive=False*, ***unused_kwargs*)
Query the user with a yes/no question.

Yes and No label must begin with different letters, and must contain at least one letter each.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – question for the user
- **yes_label** (*str*) – Label of the “Yes” parameter
- **no_label** (*str*) – Label of the “No” parameter
- **default** – default value to return (if one exists)
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – option used to set this value with the CLI

- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it’s safe to prompt the user because it won’t cause any workflow regressions

Returns True for “Yes”, False for “No”

Return type *bool*

checklist (*message*, *tags*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, *force_interactive=False*, ***unused_kwargs*)
Display a checklist.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – Message to display to user
- **tags** (*list*) – *str* tags to select, len(tags) > 0
- **default** – default value to return (if one exists)
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – option used to set this value with the CLI
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it’s safe to prompt the user because it won’t cause any workflow regressions

Returns tuple of (*code*, *tags*) where *code* - str display exit code *tags* - list of selected tags

Return type *tuple*

_return_default (*prompt*, *default*, *cli_flag*, *force_interactive*)
Should we return the default instead of prompting the user?

Parameters

- **prompt** (*str*) – prompt for the user
- **default** – default answer to prompt
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – command line option for setting an answer to this question
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – if interactivity is forced by the IDisplay call

Returns True if we should return the default without prompting

Return type *bool*

_can_interact (*force_interactive*)
Can we safely interact with the user?

Parameters **force_interactive** (*bool*) – if interactivity is forced by the IDisplay call

Returns True if the display can interact with the user

Return type *bool*

directory_select (*message*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, *force_interactive=False*, ***unused_kwargs*)
Display a directory selection screen.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – prompt to give the user
- **default** – default value to return (if one exists)
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – option used to set this value with the CLI
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it’s safe to prompt the user because it won’t cause any workflow regressions

Returns tuple of the form (`code`, `string`) where `code` - display exit code `string` - input entered by the user

`_scrub_checklist_input` (*indices*, *tags*)

Validate input and transform indices to appropriate tags.

Parameters

- **indices** (*list*) – input
- **tags** (*list*) – Original tags of the checklist

Returns valid tags the user selected

Return type *list* of *str*

`_print_menu` (*message*, *choices*)

Print a menu on the screen.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – title of menu
- **choices** (*list of tuples (tag, item) or list of descriptions (tags will be enumerated)*) – Menu lines

`_get_valid_int_ans` (*max_*)

Get a numerical selection.

Parameters **max** (*int*) – The maximum entry (len of choices), must be positive

Returns tuple of the form (`code`, `selection`) where `code` - str display exit code ('ok' or 'cancel') `selection` - int user's selection

Return type *tuple*

`certbot.display.util.assert_valid_call` (*prompt*, *default*, *cli_flag*, *force_interactive*)

Verify that provided arguments is a valid IDisplay call.

Parameters

- **prompt** (*str*) – prompt for the user
- **default** – default answer to prompt
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – command line option for setting an answer to this question
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – if interactivity is forced by the IDisplay call

class `certbot.display.util.NoninteractiveDisplay` (*outfile*, **unused_args*, ***unused_kwargs*)

Bases: `object`

An IDisplay implementation that never asks for interactive user input

`_interaction_fail` (*message*, *cli_flag*, *extra*='')

Error out in case of an attempt to interact in noninteractive mode

`notification` (*message*, *pause=False*, *wrap=True*, ***unused_kwargs*)

Displays a notification without waiting for user acceptance.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – Message to display to stdout
- **pause** (*bool*) – The NoninteractiveDisplay waits for no keyboard
- **wrap** (*bool*) – Whether or not the application should wrap text

menu (*message*, *choices*, *ok_label=None*, *cancel_label=None*, *help_label=None*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, ***unused_kwargs*)
 Avoid displaying a menu.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – title of menu
- **choices** (*list of tuples (tag, item) or list of descriptions (tags will be enumerated)*) – Menu lines, len must be > 0
- **default** (*int*) – the default choice
- **kwargs** (*dict*) – absorbs various irrelevant labelling arguments

Returns tuple of (*code*, *index*) where *code* - str display exit code *index* - int index of the user's selection

Return type tuple

Raises `errors.MissingCommandlineFlag` – if there was no default

input (*message*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, ***unused_kwargs*)
 Accept input from the user.

Parameters **message** (*str*) – message to display to the user

Returns tuple of (*code*, *input*) where *code* - str display exit code *input* - str of the user's input

Return type tuple

Raises `errors.MissingCommandlineFlag` – if there was no default

yesno (*message*, *yes_label=None*, *no_label=None*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, ***unused_kwargs*)
 Decide Yes or No, without asking anybody

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – question for the user
- **kwargs** (*dict*) – absorbs yes_label, no_label

Raises `errors.MissingCommandlineFlag` – if there was no default

Returns True for “Yes”, False for “No”

Return type bool

checklist (*message*, *tags*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, ***unused_kwargs*)
 Display a checklist.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – Message to display to user
- **tags** (*list*) – *str* tags to select, len(tags) > 0
- **kwargs** (*dict*) – absorbs default_status arg

Returns tuple of (*code*, *tags*) where *code* - str display exit code *tags* - list of selected tags

Return type tuple

directory_select (*message*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, ***unused_kwargs*)
 Simulate prompting the user for a directory.

This function returns default if it is not None, otherwise, an exception is raised explaining the problem. If cli_flag is not None, the error message will include the flag that can be used to set this value with the CLI.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – prompt to give the user
- **default** – default value to return (if one exists)
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – option used to set this value with the CLI

Returns tuple of the form (*code*, *string*) where *code* - int display exit code *string* - input entered by the user

`certbot.display.util.separate_list_input(input_)`
Separate a comma or space separated list.

Parameters **input** (*str*) – input from the user

Returns strings

Return type *list*

`certbot.display.util._parens_around_char(label)`
Place parens around first character of label.

Parameters **label** (*str*) – Must contain at least one character

8.10.2 certbot.display.ops

Contains UI methods for LE user operations.

`certbot.display.ops.get_email(invalid=False, optional=True)`
Prompt for valid email address.

Parameters

- **invalid** (*bool*) – True if an invalid address was provided by the user
- **optional** (*bool*) – True if the user can use `–register-unsafely-without-email` to avoid providing an e-mail

Returns e-mail address

Return type *str*

Raises `errors.Error` – if the user cancels

`certbot.display.ops.choose_account(accounts)`
Choose an account.

Parameters **accounts** (*list*) – Containing at least one *Account*

`certbot.display.ops.choose_values(values, question=None)`
Display screen to let user pick one or multiple values from the provided list.

Parameters **values** (*list*) – Values to select from

Returns List of selected values

Return type *list*

`certbot.display.ops.choose_names(installer, question=None)`
Display screen to select domains to validate.

Parameters

- **installer** (`certbot.interfaces.IInstaller`) – An installer object

- **question** (*str*) – Overriding dialog question to ask the user if asked to choose from domain names.

Returns List of selected names

Return type `list of str`

`certbot.display.ops.get_valid_domains` (*domains*)

Helper method for choose_names that implements basic checks on domain names

Parameters **domains** (*list*) – Domain names to validate

Returns List of valid domains

Return type `list`

`certbot.display.ops._sort_names` (*FQDNs*)

Sort FQDNs by SLD (and if many, by their subdomains)

Parameters **FQDNs** (*list*) – list of domain names

Returns Sorted list of domain names

Return type `list`

`certbot.display.ops._filter_names` (*names, override_question=None*)

Determine which names the user would like to select from a list.

Parameters **names** (*list*) – domain names

Returns tuple of the form (`code`, *names*) where `code` - str display exit code *names* - list of names selected

Return type `tuple`

`certbot.display.ops._choose_names_manually` (*prompt_prefix=''*)

Manually input names for those without an installer.

Parameters **prompt_prefix** (*str*) – string to prepend to prompt for domains

Returns list of provided names

Return type `list of str`

`certbot.display.ops.success_installation` (*domains*)

Display a box confirming the installation of HTTPS.

Parameters **domains** (*list*) – domain names which were enabled

`certbot.display.ops.success_renewal` (*domains*)

Display a box confirming the renewal of an existing certificate.

Parameters **domains** (*list*) – domain names which were renewed

`certbot.display.ops.success_revocation` (*cert_path*)

Display a box confirming a certificate has been revoked.

Parameters **cert_path** (*list*) – path to certificate which was revoked.

`certbot.display.ops._gen_ssl_lab_urls` (*domains*)

Returns a list of urls.

Parameters **domains** (*list*) – Each domain is a 'str'

`certbot.display.ops._gen_https_names(domains)`

Returns a string of the https domains.

Domains are formatted nicely with `https://` prepended to each.

Parameters `domains` (*list*) – Each domain is a ‘str’

`certbot.display.ops.validated_input` (*validator*, **args*, ***kwargs*)

Like `input`, but with validation.

Parameters

- **validator** (*callable*) – A method which will be called on the supplied input. If the method raises a `errors.Error`, its text will be displayed and the user will be re-prompted.
- ***args** (*list*) – Arguments to be passed to `input`.
- ****kwargs** (*dict*) – Arguments to be passed to `input`.

Returns as `input`

Return type `tuple`

`certbot.display.ops.validated_directory` (*validator*, **args*, ***kwargs*)

Like `directory_select`, but with validation.

Parameters

- **validator** (*callable*) – A method which will be called on the supplied input. If the method raises a `errors.Error`, its text will be displayed and the user will be re-prompted.
- ***args** (*list*) – Arguments to be passed to `directory_select`.
- ****kwargs** (*dict*) – Arguments to be passed to `directory_select`.

Returns as `directory_select`

Return type `tuple`

8.10.3 certbot.display.enhancements

Certbot Enhancement Display

`certbot.display.enhancements.ask` (*enhancement*)

Display the enhancement to the user.

Parameters `enhancement` (*str*) – One of the `certbot.CONFIG.ENHANCEMENTS` enhancements

Returns True if feature is desired, False otherwise

Return type `bool`

Raises `errors.Error` – if the enhancement provided is not supported

`certbot.display.enhancements.redirect_by_default` ()

Determines whether the user would like to redirect to HTTPS.

Returns True if redirect is desired, False otherwise

Return type `bool`

8.11 certbot.eff

Subscribes users to the EFF newsletter.

`certbot.eff.handle_subscription(config)`

High level function to take care of EFF newsletter subscriptions.

The user may be asked if they want to sign up for the newsletter if they have not already specified.

Parameters `config` (`IConfig`) – Client configuration.

`certbot.eff._want_subscription()`

Does the user want to be subscribed to the EFF newsletter?

Returns True if we should subscribe the user, otherwise, False

Return type `bool`

`certbot.eff.subscribe(email)`

Subscribe the user to the EFF mailing list.

Parameters `email` (`str`) – the e-mail address to subscribe

`certbot.eff._check_response(response)`

Check for errors in the server's response.

If an error occurred, it will be reported to the user.

Parameters `response` (`requests.Response`) – the server's response to the subscription request

`certbot.eff._report_failure(reason=None)`

Notify the user of failing to sign them up for the newsletter.

Parameters `reason` (`str` or `None`) – a phrase describing what the problem was beginning with a lowercase letter and no closing punctuation

8.12 certbot.error_handler

Registers functions to be called if an exception or signal occurs.

class `certbot.error_handler.ErrorHandler(func=None, *args, **kwargs)`

Bases: `object`

Context manager for running code that must be cleaned up on failure.

The context manager allows you to register functions that will be called when an exception (excluding `SystemExit`) or signal is encountered. Usage:

```
handler = ErrorHandler(cleanup1_func, *cleanup1_args, **cleanup1_kwargs)
handler.register(cleanup2_func, *cleanup2_args, **cleanup2_kwargs)

with handler:
    do_something()
```

Or for one cleanup function:

```
with ErrorHandler(func, args, kwargs):
    do_something()
```

If an exception is raised out of `do_something`, the cleanup functions will be called in last in first out order. Then the exception is raised. Similarly, if a signal is encountered, the cleanup functions are called followed by the previously received signal handler.

Each registered cleanup function is called exactly once. If a registered function raises an exception, it is logged and the next function is called. Signals received while the registered functions are executing are deferred until they finish.

register (*func*, **args*, ***kwargs*)

Sets *func* to be run with the given arguments during cleanup.

Parameters *func* (*function*) – function to be called in case of an error

_call_registered ()

Calls all registered functions

_set_signal_handlers ()

Sets signal handlers for signals in `_SIGNALS`.

_reset_signal_handlers ()

Resets signal handlers for signals in `_SIGNALS`.

_signal_handler (*signum*, *unused_frame*)

Replacement function for handling received signals.

Store the received signal. If we are executing the code block in the body of the context manager, stop by raising `signal` exit.

Parameters *signum* (*int*) – number of current signal

_call_signals ()

Finally call the deferred signals.

class `certbot.error_handler.ExitHandler` (*func=None*, **args*, ***kwargs*)

Bases: `certbot.error_handler.ErrorHandler`

Context manager for running code that must be cleaned up.

Subclass of `ErrorHandler`, with the same usage and parameters. In addition to cleaning up on all signals, also cleans up on regular exit.

8.13 certbot.errors

Certbot client errors.

exception `certbot.errors.Error`

Bases: `exceptions.Exception`

Generic Certbot client error.

exception `certbot.errors.AccountStorageError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Generic `AccountStorage` error.

exception `certbot.errors.AccountNotFound`

Bases: `certbot.errors.AccountStorageError`

Account not found error.

exception `certbot.errors.ReverterError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Certbot Reverter error.

exception `certbot.errors.SubprocessError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Subprocess handling error.

exception `certbot.errors.CertStorageError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Generic CertStorage error.

exception `certbot.errors.HookCommandNotFound`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Failed to find a hook command in the PATH.

exception `certbot.errors.SignalExit`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

A Unix signal was received while in the ErrorHandler context manager.

exception `certbot.errors.OverlappingMatchFound`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Multiple lineages matched what should have been a unique result.

exception `certbot.errors.LockError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

File locking error.

exception `certbot.errors.AuthorizationError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Authorization error.

exception `certbot.errors.FailedChallenges` (*failed_achalls*)

Bases: `certbot.errors.AuthorizationError`

Failed challenges error.

Variables `failed_achalls` (*set*) – Failed *AnnotatedChallenge* instances.

exception `certbot.errors.PluginError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Certbot Plugin error.

exception `certbot.errors.PluginEnhancementAlreadyPresent`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Enhancement was already set

exception `certbot.errors.PluginSelectionError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

A problem with plugin/configurator selection or setup

exception `certbot.errors.NoInstallationError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.PluginError`

Certbot No Installation error.

exception `certbot.errors.MisconfigurationError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.PluginError`

Certbot Misconfiguration error.

exception `certbot.errors.NotSupportedError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.PluginError`

Certbot Plugin function not supported error.

exception `certbot.errors.PluginStorageError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.PluginError`

Certbot Plugin Storage error.

exception `certbot.errors.StandaloneBindError` (*socket_error*, *port*)

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Standalone plugin bind error.

exception `certbot.errors.ConfigurationError`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

Configuration sanity error.

exception `certbot.errors.MissingCommandLineFlag`

Bases: `certbot.errors.Error`

A command line argument was missing in noninteractive usage

8.14 certbot.hooks

Facilities for implementing hooks that call shell commands.

`certbot.hooks.validate_hooks` (*config*)

Check hook commands are executable.

`certbot.hooks._prog` (*shell_cmd*)

Extract the program run by a shell command.

Parameters `shell_cmd` (*str*) – command to be executed

Returns basename of command or None if the command isn't found

Return type `str` or `None`

`certbot.hooks.validate_hook` (*shell_cmd*, *hook_name*)

Check that a command provided as a hook is plausibly executable.

Raises `errors.HookCommandNotFound` – if the command is not found

`certbot.hooks.pre_hook` (*config*)

Run pre-hooks if they exist and haven't already been run.

When Certbot is running with the `renew` subcommand, this function runs any hooks found in the `config.renewal_pre_hooks_dir` (if they have not already been run) followed by any pre-hook in the config. If hooks in `config.renewal_pre_hooks_dir` are run and the pre-hook in the config is a path to one of these scripts, it is not run twice.

Parameters `config` (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – Certbot settings

`certbot.hooks._run_pre_hook_if_necessary` (*command*)

Run the specified pre-hook if we haven't already.

If we've already run this exact command before, a message is logged saying the pre-hook was skipped.

Parameters `command` (*str*) – pre-hook to be run

`certbot.hooks.post_hook(config)`

Run post-hooks if defined.

This function also registers any executables found in `config.renewal_post_hooks_dir` to be run when Certbot is used with the `renew` subcommand.

If the verb is `renew`, we delay executing any post-hooks until `run_saved_post_hooks()` is called. In this case, this function registers all hooks found in `config.renewal_post_hooks_dir` to be called followed by any post-hook in the config. If the post-hook in the config is a path to an executable in the post-hook directory, it is not scheduled to be run twice.

Parameters `config` (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – Certbot settings

`certbot.hooks._run_eventually(command)`

Registers a post-hook to be run eventually.

All commands given to this function will be run exactly once in the order they were given when `run_saved_post_hooks()` is called.

Parameters `command` (`str`) – post-hook to register to be run

`certbot.hooks.run_saved_post_hooks()`

Run any post hooks that were saved up in the course of the ‘renew’ verb

`certbot.hooks.deploy_hook(config, domains, lineage_path)`

Run post-issuance hook if defined.

Parameters

- **config** (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – Certbot settings
- **domains** (`list` of `str`) – domains in the obtained certificate
- **lineage_path** (`str`) – live directory path for the new cert

`certbot.hooks.renew_hook(config, domains, lineage_path)`

Run post-renewal hooks.

This function runs any hooks found in `config.renewal_deploy_hooks_dir` followed by any `renew-hook` in the config. If the `renew-hook` in the config is a path to a script in `config.renewal_deploy_hooks_dir`, it is not run twice.

If Certbot is doing a dry run, no hooks are run and messages are logged saying that they were skipped.

Parameters

- **config** (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – Certbot settings
- **domains** (`list` of `str`) – domains in the obtained certificate
- **lineage_path** (`str`) – live directory path for the new cert

`certbot.hooks._run_deploy_hook(command, domains, lineage_path, dry_run)`

Run the specified deploy-hook (if not doing a dry run).

If `dry_run` is `True`, `command` is not run and a message is logged saying that it was skipped. If `dry_run` is `False`, the hook is run after setting the appropriate environment variables.

Parameters

- **command** (`str`) – command to run as a deploy-hook
- **domains** (`list` of `str`) – domains in the obtained certificate
- **lineage_path** (`str`) – live directory path for the new cert
- **dry_run** (`bool`) – True iff Certbot is doing a dry run

`certbot.hooks._run_hook(shell_cmd)`

Run a hook command.

Returns `stderr` if there was any

`certbot.hooks.execute(shell_cmd)`

Run a command.

Returns `tuple (str stderr, str stdout)`

`certbot.hooks.list_hooks(dir_path)`

List paths to all hooks found in `dir_path` in sorted order.

Parameters `dir_path (str)` – directory to search

Returns `list of str`

Return type sorted list of absolute paths to executables in `dir_path`

8.15 certbot

Certbot client.

8.16 certbot.interfaces

Certbot client interfaces.

class `certbot.interfaces.AccountStorage`

Bases: `object`

Accounts storage interface.

find_all()

Find all accounts.

Returns All found accounts.

Return type `list`

load(account_id)

Load an account by its id.

Raises

- **AccountNotFound** – if account could not be found
- **AccountStorageError** – if account could not be loaded

save(account, client)

Save account.

Raises **AccountStorageError** – if account could not be saved

interface `certbot.interfaces.IPluginFactory`

IPlugin factory.

Objects providing this interface will be called without satisfying any entry point “extras” (extra dependencies) you might have defined for your plugin, e.g (excerpt from `setup.py` script):

```

setup(
    ...
    entry_points={
        'certbot.plugins': [
            'name=example_project.plugin[plugin_deps]',
        ],
    },
    extras_require={
        'plugin_deps': ['dep1', 'dep2'],
    }
)

```

Therefore, make sure such objects are importable and usable without extras. This is necessary, because CLI does the following operations (in order):

- loads an entry point,
- calls `inject_parser_options`,
- requires an entry point,
- creates plugin instance (`__call__`).

description

Short plugin description

`__call__(config, name)`

Create new `IPlugin`.

Parameters

- **config** (`IConfig`) – Configuration.
- **name** (`str`) – Unique plugin name.

`inject_parser_options(parser, name)`

Inject argument parser options (flags).

1. Be nice and prepend all options and destinations with `option_namespace` and `dest_namespace`.
2. Inject options (flags) only. Positional arguments are not allowed, as this would break the CLI.

Parameters

- **parser** (`ArgumentParser`) – (Almost) top-level CLI parser.
- **name** (`str`) – Unique plugin name.

interface `certbot.interfaces.IPlugin`

Certbot plugin.

prepare()

Prepare the plugin.

Finish up any additional initialization.

Raises

- **PluginError** – when full initialization cannot be completed.
- **MisconfigurationError** – when full initialization cannot be completed. Plugin will be displayed on a list of available plugins.
- **NoInstallationError** – when the necessary programs/files cannot be located. Plugin will NOT be displayed on a list of available plugins.

- **NotSupportedError** – when the installation is recognized, but the version is not currently supported.

more_info()

Human-readable string to help the user.

Should describe the steps taken and any relevant info to help the user decide which plugin to use.

Rtype str

interface certbot.interfaces.**IAAuthenticator**

Extends: `certbot.interfaces.IPlugin`

Generic Certbot Authenticator.

Class represents all possible tools processes that have the ability to perform challenges and attain a certificate.

get_chall_pref(domain)

Return collections.Iterable of challenge preferences.

Parameters domain (str) – Domain for which challenge preferences are sought.

Returns collections.Iterable of challenge types (subclasses of `acme.challenges.Challenge`) with the most preferred challenges first. If a type is not specified, it means the Authenticator cannot perform the challenge.

Return type collections.Iterable

perform(achalls)

Perform the given challenge.

Parameters achalls (list) – Non-empty (guaranteed) list of `AnnotatedChallenge` instances, such that it contains types found within `get_chall_pref()` only.

Returns

collections.Iterable of ACME `ChallengeResponse` instances or if the `Challenge` cannot be fulfilled then:

None Authenticator can perform challenge, but not at this time.

False Authenticator will never be able to perform (error).

Return type collections.Iterable of `acme.challenges.ChallengeResponse`, where responses are required to be returned in the same order as corresponding input challenges

Raises `PluginError` – If challenges cannot be performed

cleanup(achalls)

Revert changes and shutdown after challenges complete.

This method should be able to revert all changes made by perform, even if perform exited abnormally.

Parameters achalls (list) – Non-empty (guaranteed) list of `AnnotatedChallenge` instances, a subset of those previously passed to `perform()`.

Raises `PluginError` – if original configuration cannot be restored

interface certbot.interfaces.**IConfig**

Certbot user-supplied configuration.

Warning: The values stored in the configuration have not been filtered, stripped or sanitized.

server

ACME Directory Resource URI.

email

Email used for registration and recovery contact. Use comma to register multiple emails, ex: `u1@example.com,u2@example.com`. (default: Ask).

rsa_key_size

Size of the RSA key.

must_staple

Adds the OCSP Must Staple extension to the certificate. Autoconfigures OCSP Stapling for supported setups (Apache version \geq 2.3.3).

config_dir

Configuration directory.

work_dir

Working directory.

accounts_dir

Directory where all account information is stored.

backup_dir

Configuration backups directory.

csr_dir

Directory where newly generated Certificate Signing Requests (CSRs) are saved.

in_progress_dir

Directory used before a permanent checkpoint is finalized.

key_dir

Keys storage.

temp_checkpoint_dir

Temporary checkpoint directory.

no_verify_ssl

Disable verification of the ACME server's certificate.

tls_sni_01_port

Port used during tls-sni-01 challenge. This only affects the port Certbot listens on. A conforming ACME server will still attempt to connect on port 443.

tls_sni_01_address

The address the server listens to during tls-sni-01 challenge.

http01_port

Port used in the http-01 challenge. This only affects the port Certbot listens on. A conforming ACME server will still attempt to connect on port 80.

http01_address

The address the server listens to during http-01 challenge.

pref_challs

Sorted user specified preferred challengetype strings with the most preferred challenge listed first

allow_subset_of_names

When performing domain validation, do not consider it a failure if authorizations can not be obtained for a strict subset of the requested domains. This may be useful for allowing renewals for multiple domains to succeed even if some domains no longer point at this system. This is a boolean

strict_permissions

Require that all configuration files are owned by the current user; only needed if your config is somewhere unsafe like /tmp/. This is a boolean

disable_renew_updates

If updates provided by installer enhancements when Certbot is being run with “renew” verb should be disabled.

interface `certbot.interfaces.IInstaller`

Extends: `certbot.interfaces.IPlugin`

Generic Certbot Installer Interface.

Represents any server that an X509 certificate can be placed.

It is assumed that `save()` is the only method that finalizes a checkpoint. This is important to ensure that checkpoints are restored in a consistent manner if requested by the user or in case of an error.

Using `certbot.reverter.Reverter` to implement checkpoints, rollback, and recovery can dramatically simplify plugin development.

get_all_names()

Returns all names that may be authenticated.

Return type `collections.Iterable of str`

deploy_cert (*domain*, *cert_path*, *key_path*, *chain_path*, *fullchain_path*)

Deploy certificate.

Parameters

- **domain** (*str*) – domain to deploy certificate file
- **cert_path** (*str*) – absolute path to the certificate file
- **key_path** (*str*) – absolute path to the private key file
- **chain_path** (*str*) – absolute path to the certificate chain file
- **fullchain_path** (*str*) – absolute path to the certificate fullchain file (cert plus chain)

Raises `PluginError` – when cert cannot be deployed

enhance (*domain*, *enhancement*, *options=None*)

Perform a configuration enhancement.

Parameters

- **domain** (*str*) – domain for which to provide enhancement
- **enhancement** (*str*) – An enhancement as defined in `ENHANCEMENTS`
- **options** – Flexible options parameter for enhancement. Check documentation of `ENHANCEMENTS` for expected options for each enhancement.

Raises `PluginError` – If Enhancement is not supported, or if an error occurs during the enhancement.

supported_enhancements()

Returns a `collections.Iterable` of supported enhancements.

Returns supported enhancements which should be a subset of `ENHANCEMENTS`

Return type `collections.Iterable of str`

save (*title=None, temporary=False*)

Saves all changes to the configuration files.

Both title and temporary are needed because a save may be intended to be permanent, but the save is not ready to be a full checkpoint.

It is assumed that at most one checkpoint is finalized by this method. Additionally, if an exception is raised, it is assumed a new checkpoint was not finalized.

Parameters

- **title** (*str*) – The title of the save. If a title is given, the configuration will be saved as a new checkpoint and put in a timestamped directory. `title` has no effect if `temporary` is true.
- **temporary** (*bool*) – Indicates whether the changes made will be quickly reversed in the future (challenges)

Raises *PluginError* – when save is unsuccessful

rollback_checkpoints (*rollback=1*)

Revert `rollback` number of configuration checkpoints.

Raises *PluginError* – when configuration cannot be fully reverted

recovery_routine ()

Revert configuration to most recent finalized checkpoint.

Remove all changes (temporary and permanent) that have not been finalized. This is useful to protect against crashes and other execution interruptions.

Raises *errors.PluginError* – If unable to recover the configuration

view_config_changes ()

Display all of the LE config changes.

Raises *PluginError* – when config changes cannot be parsed

config_test ()

Make sure the configuration is valid.

Raises *MisconfigurationError* – when the config is not in a usable state

restart ()

Restart or refresh the server content.

Raises *PluginError* – when server cannot be restarted

interface `certbot.interfaces.IDisplay`

Generic display.

notification (*message, pause, wrap=True, force_interactive=False*)

Displays a string message

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – Message to display
- **pause** (*bool*) – Whether or not the application should pause for confirmation (if available)
- **wrap** (*bool*) – Whether or not the application should wrap text
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it's safe to prompt the user because it won't cause any workflow regressions

menu (*message*, *choices*, *ok_label=None*, *cancel_label=None*, *help_label=None*, *default=None*, *cli_flag=None*, *force_interactive=False*)
Displays a generic menu.

When not setting `force_interactive=True`, you must provide a default value.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – message to display
- **choices** (*list* of *tuple*() or *str*) – choices
- **ok_label** (*str*) – label for OK button (UNUSED)
- **cancel_label** (*str*) – label for Cancel button (UNUSED)
- **help_label** (*str*) – label for Help button (UNUSED)
- **default** (*int*) – default (non-interactive) choice from the menu
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – to automate choice from the menu, eg “--keep”
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it’s safe to prompt the user because it won’t cause any workflow regressions

Returns tuple of (*code*, *index*) where *code* - str display exit code *index* - int index of the user’s selection

Raises `errors.MissingCommandlineFlag` – if called in non-interactive mode without a default set

input (*message*, *default=None*, *cli_args=None*, *force_interactive=False*)
Accept input from the user.

When not setting `force_interactive=True`, you must provide a default value.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – message to display to the user
- **default** (*str*) – default (non-interactive) response to prompt
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it’s safe to prompt the user because it won’t cause any workflow regressions

Returns tuple of (*code*, *input*) where *code* - str display exit code *input* - str of the user’s input

Return type tuple

Raises `errors.MissingCommandlineFlag` – if called in non-interactive mode without a default set

yesno (*message*, *yes_label='Yes'*, *no_label='No'*, *default=None*, *cli_args=None*, *force_interactive=False*)
Query the user with a yes/no question.

Yes and No label must begin with different letters.

When not setting `force_interactive=True`, you must provide a default value.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – question for the user
- **default** (*str*) – default (non-interactive) choice from the menu
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – to automate choice from the menu, eg “--redirect / --no-redirect”

- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it’s safe to prompt the user because it won’t cause any workflow regressions

Returns True for “Yes”, False for “No”

Return type *bool*

Raises *errors.MissingCommandlineFlag* – if called in non-interactive mode without a default set

checklist (*message, tags, default=None, cli_args=None, force_interactive=False*)
Allow for multiple selections from a menu.

When not setting force_interactive=True, you must provide a default value.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – message to display to the user
- **tags** (*list*) – where each is of type *str* len(tags) > 0
- **default** (*str*) – default (non-interactive) state of the checklist
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – to automate choice from the menu, eg “--domains”
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it’s safe to prompt the user because it won’t cause any workflow regressions

Returns tuple of the form (code, list_tags) where *code* - int display exit code *list_tags* - list of str tags selected by the user

Return type *tuple*

Raises *errors.MissingCommandlineFlag* – if called in non-interactive mode without a default set

directory_select (*self, message, default=None, cli_flag=None, force_interactive=False*)
Display a directory selection screen.

When not setting force_interactive=True, you must provide a default value.

Parameters

- **message** (*str*) – prompt to give the user
- **default** – the default value to return, if one exists, when using the NoninteractiveDisplay
- **cli_flag** (*str*) – option used to set this value with the CLI, if one exists, to be included in error messages given by NoninteractiveDisplay
- **force_interactive** (*bool*) – True if it’s safe to prompt the user because it won’t cause any workflow regressions

Returns tuple of the form (code, string) where *code* - int display exit code *string* - input entered by the user

interface *certbot.interfaces.IValidator*
Configuration validator.

certificate (*cert, name, alt_host=None, port=443*)
Verifies the certificate presented at name is cert

Parameters

- **cert** (*OpenSSL.crypto.X509*) – Expected certificate

- **name** (*str*) – Server’s domain name
- **alt_host** (*bytes*) – Host to connect to instead of the IP address of host
- **port** (*int*) – Port to connect to

Returns True if the certificate was verified successfully

Return type `bool`

redirect (*name*, *port*=80, *headers*=None)

Verify redirect to HTTPS

Parameters

- **name** (*str*) – Server’s domain name
- **port** (*int*) – Port to connect to
- **headers** (*dict*) – HTTP headers to include in request

Returns True if redirect is successfully enabled

Return type `bool`

hsts (*name*)

Verify HSTS header is enabled

Parameters **name** (*str*) – Server’s domain name

Returns True if HSTS header is successfully enabled

Return type `bool`

ocsp_stapling (*name*)

Verify ocsp stapling for domain

Parameters **name** (*str*) – Server’s domain name

Returns True if ocsp stapling is successfully enabled

Return type `bool`

interface `certbot.interfaces.IReporter`

Interface to collect and display information to the user.

HIGH_PRIORITY

Used to denote high priority messages

MEDIUM_PRIORITY

Used to denote medium priority messages

LOW_PRIORITY

Used to denote low priority messages

add_message (*self*, *msg*, *priority*, *on_crash*=True)

Adds msg to the list of messages to be printed.

Parameters

- **msg** (*str*) – Message to be displayed to the user.
- **priority** (*int*) – One of HIGH_PRIORITY, MEDIUM_PRIORITY, or LOW_PRIORITY.
- **on_crash** (*bool*) – Whether or not the message should be printed if the program exits abnormally.

print_messages (*self*)

Prints messages to the user and clears the message queue.

class `certbot.interfaces.GenericUpdater`

Bases: `object`

Interface for update types not currently specified by Certbot.

This class allows plugins to perform types of updates that Certbot hasn't defined (yet).

To make use of this interface, the installer should implement the interface methods, and `interfaces.GenericUpdater.register(InstallerClass)` should be called from the installer code.

The plugins implementing this enhancement are responsible of handling the saving of configuration checkpoints as well as other calls to interface methods of `interfaces.IInstaller` such as `prepare()` and `restart()`

generic_updates (*lineage*, **args*, ***kwargs*)

Perform any update types defined by the installer.

If an installer is a subclass of the class containing this method, this function will always be called when “certbot renew” is run. If the update defined by the installer should be run conditionally, the installer needs to handle checking the conditions itself.

This method is called once for each lineage.

Parameters **lineage** (`storage.RenewableCert`) – Certificate lineage object

class `certbot.interfaces.RenewDeployer`

Bases: `object`

Interface for update types run when a lineage is renewed

This class allows plugins to perform types of updates that need to run at lineage renewal that Certbot hasn't defined (yet).

To make use of this interface, the installer should implement the interface methods, and `interfaces.RenewDeployer.register(InstallerClass)` should be called from the installer code.

renew_deploy (*lineage*, **args*, ***kwargs*)

Perform updates defined by installer when a certificate has been renewed

If an installer is a subclass of the class containing this method, this function will always be called when a certificate has been renewed by running “certbot renew”. For example if a plugin needs to copy a certificate over, or change configuration based on the new certificate.

This method is called once for each lineage renewed

Parameters **lineage** (`storage.RenewableCert`) – Certificate lineage object

8.17 certbot.lock

Implements file locks for locking files and directories in UNIX.

`certbot.lock.lock_dir` (*dir_path*)

Place a lock file on the directory at *dir_path*.

The lock file is placed in the root of *dir_path* with the name `.certbot.lock`.

Parameters **dir_path** (*str*) – path to directory

Returns the locked LockFile object

Return type `LockFile`

Raises `errors.LockError` – if unable to acquire the lock

class `certbot.lock.LockFile` (*path*)

Bases: `object`

A UNIX lock file.

This lock file is released when the locked file is closed or the process exits. It cannot be used to provide synchronization between threads. It is based on the `lock_file` package by Martin Horcicka.

acquire ()

Acquire the lock file.

Raises

- `errors.LockError` – if lock is already held
- `OSError` – if unable to open or stat the lock file

_try_lock (*fd*)

Try to acquire the lock file without blocking.

Parameters *fd* (*int*) – file descriptor of the opened file to lock

_lock_success (*fd*)

Did we successfully grab the lock?

Because this class deletes the locked file when the lock is released, it is possible another process removed and recreated the file between us opening the file and acquiring the lock.

Parameters *fd* (*int*) – file descriptor of the opened file to lock

Returns True if the lock was successfully acquired

Return type `bool`

release ()

Remove, close, and release the lock file.

8.18 certbot.log

Logging utilities for Certbot.

The best way to use this module is through `pre_arg_parse_setup` and `post_arg_parse_setup`. `pre_arg_parse_setup` configures a minimal terminal logger and ensures a detailed log is written to a secure temporary file if Certbot exits before `post_arg_parse_setup` is called. `post_arg_parse_setup` relies on the parsed command line arguments and does the full logging setup with terminal and rotating file handling as configured by the user. Any logged messages before `post_arg_parse_setup` is called are sent to the rotating file handler. Special care is taken by both methods to ensure all errors are logged and properly flushed before program exit.

`certbot.log.pre_arg_parse_setup` ()

Setup logging before command line arguments are parsed.

Terminal logging is setup using `certbot.constants.QUIET_LOGGING_LEVEL` so Certbot is as quiet as possible. File logging is setup so that logging messages are buffered in memory. If Certbot exits before `post_arg_parse_setup` is called, these buffered messages are written to a temporary file. If Certbot doesn't exit, `post_arg_parse_setup` writes the messages to the normal log files.

This function also sets `logging.shutdown` to be called on program exit which automatically flushes logging handlers and `sys.excepthook` to properly log/display fatal exceptions.

`certbot.log.post_arg_parse_setup(config)`

Setup logging after command line arguments are parsed.

This function assumes `pre_arg_parse_setup` was called earlier and the root logging configuration has not been modified. A rotating file logging handler is created and the buffered log messages are sent to that handler. Terminal logging output is set to the level requested by the user.

Parameters `config` (`certbot.interface.IConfig`) – Configuration object

`certbot.log.setup_log_file_handler(config, logfile, fmt)`

Setup file debug logging.

Parameters

- **config** (`certbot.interface.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **logfile** (`str`) – basename for the log file
- **fmt** (`str`) – logging format string

Returns file handler and absolute path to the log file

Return type `tuple`

`class certbot.log.ColoredStreamHandler(stream=None)`

Bases: `logging.StreamHandler`

Sends colored logging output to a stream.

If the specified stream is not a tty, the class works like the standard `logging.StreamHandler`. Default `red_level` is `logging.WARNING`.

Variables

- **colored** (`bool`) – True if output should be colored
- **red_level** (`bool`) – The level at which to output

format (`record`)

Formats the string representation of record.

Parameters **record** (`logging.LogRecord`) – Record to be formatted

Returns Formatted, string representation of record

Return type `str`

`class certbot.log.MemoryHandler(target=None, capacity=10000)`

Bases: `logging.handlers.MemoryHandler`

Buffers logging messages in memory until the buffer is flushed.

This differs from `logging.handlers.MemoryHandler` in that flushing only happens when `flush(force=True)` is called.

close ()

Close the memory handler, but don't set the target to None.

flush (`force=False`)

Flush the buffer if `force=True`.

If `force=False`, this call is a noop.

Parameters **force** (`bool`) – True if the buffer should be flushed.

shouldFlush (`record`)

Should the buffer be automatically flushed?

Parameters `record` (*logging.LogRecord*) – log record to be considered

Returns False because the buffer should never be auto-flushed

Return type bool

class `certbot.log.TempHandler`

Bases: `logging.StreamHandler`

Safely logs messages to a temporary file.

The file is created with permissions 600. If no log records are sent to this handler, the temporary file is deleted when the handler is closed.

Variables `path` (*str*) – file system path to the temporary log file

emit (*record*)

Log the specified logging record.

Parameters `record` (*logging.LogRecord*) – Record to be formatted

close ()

Close the handler and the temporary log file.

The temporary log file is deleted if it wasn't used.

`certbot.log.pre_arg_parse_except_hook` (*memory_handler*, *args, **kwargs)

A simple wrapper around `post_arg_parse_except_hook`.

The additional functionality provided by this wrapper is the memory handler will be flushed before Certbot exits. This allows us to write logging messages to a temporary file if we crashed before logging was fully configured.

Since `sys.excepthook` isn't called on `SystemExit` exceptions, the memory handler will not be flushed in this case which prevents us from creating temporary log files when `argparse` exits because a command line argument was invalid or `-h`, `--help`, or `--version` was provided on the command line.

Parameters

- **memory_handler** (*MemoryHandler*) – memory handler to flush
- **args** (*tuple*) – args for `post_arg_parse_except_hook`
- **kwargs** (*dict*) – kwargs for `post_arg_parse_except_hook`

`certbot.log.post_arg_parse_except_hook` (*exc_type*, *exc_value*, *trace*, *debug*, *log_path*)

Logs fatal exceptions and reports them to the user.

If `debug` is True, the full exception and traceback is shown to the user, otherwise, it is suppressed. `sys.exit` is always called with a nonzero status.

Parameters

- **exc_type** (*type*) – type of the raised exception
- **exc_value** (*BaseException*) – raised exception
- **trace** (*traceback*) – traceback of where the exception was raised
- **debug** (*bool*) – True if the traceback should be shown to the user
- **log_path** (*str*) – path to file or directory containing the log

`certbot.log.exit_with_log_path` (*log_path*)

Print a message about the log location and exit.

The message is printed to `stderr` and the program will exit with a nonzero status.

Parameters `log_path` (*str*) – path to file or directory containing the log

8.19 certbot.main

Certbot main entry point.

`certbot.main._suggest_donation_if_appropriate(config)`

Potentially suggest a donation to support Certbot.

Parameters `config` (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main._report_successful_dry_run(config)`

Reports on successful dry run

Parameters `config` (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main._get_and_save_cert(le_client, config, domains=None, certname=None, lineage=None)`

Authenticate and enroll certificate.

This method finds the relevant lineage, figures out what to do with it, then performs that action. Includes calls to hooks, various reports, checks, and requests for user input.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **domains** (`list` of `str`) – List of domain names to get a certificate. Defaults to `None`
- **certname** (`str`) – Name of new certificate. Defaults to `None`
- **lineage** (`storage.RenewableCert`) – Certificate lineage object. Defaults to `None`

Returns the issued certificate or `None` if doing a dry run

Return type `storage.RenewableCert` or `None`

Raises `errors.Error` – if certificate could not be obtained

`certbot.main._handle_subset_cert_request(config, domains, cert)`

Figure out what to do if a previous cert had a subset of the names now requested

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **domains** (`list` of `str`) – List of domain names
- **cert** (`storage.RenewableCert`) – Certificate object

Returns Tuple of (str action, cert_or_None) as per `_find_lineage_for_domains_and_certname` action can be: “newcert” | “renew” | “reinstall”

Return type `tuple` of `str`

`certbot.main._handle_identical_cert_request(config, lineage)`

Figure out what to do if a lineage has the same names as a previously obtained one

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object

- **lineage** (`storage.RenewableCert`) – Certificate lineage object

Returns Tuple of (str action, cert_or_None) as per `_find_lineage_for_domains_and_certname` action can be: “newcert” | “renew” | “reinstall”

Return type tuple of str

`certbot.main._find_lineage_for_domains` (*config*, *domains*)

Determine whether there are duplicated names and how to handle them (renew, reinstall, newcert, or raising an error to stop the client run if the user chooses to cancel the operation when prompted).

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **domains** (list of str) – List of domain names

Returns Two-element tuple containing desired new-certificate behavior as a string token (“reinstall”, “renew”, or “newcert”), plus either a `RenewableCert` instance or `None` if renewal shouldn’t occur.

Return type tuple of str and `storage.RenewableCert` or `None`

Raises `errors.Error` – If the user would like to rerun the client again.

`certbot.main._find_cert` (*config*, *domains*, *certname*)

Finds an existing certificate object given domains and/or a certificate name.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **domains** (list of str) – List of domain names
- **certname** (str) – Name of certificate

Returns Two-element tuple of a boolean that indicates if this function should be followed by a call to fetch a certificate from the server, and either a `RenewableCert` instance or `None`.

Return type tuple of bool and `storage.RenewableCert` or `None`

`certbot.main._find_lineage_for_domains_and_certname` (*config*, *domains*, *certname*)

Find appropriate lineage based on given domains and/or certname.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **domains** (list of str) – List of domain names
- **certname** (str) – Name of certificate

Returns Two-element tuple containing desired new-certificate behavior as a string token (“reinstall”, “renew”, or “newcert”), plus either a `RenewableCert` instance or `None` if renewal should not occur.

Return type tuple of str and `storage.RenewableCert` or `None`

Raises `errors.Error` – If the user would like to rerun the client again.

`certbot.main._get_added_removed` (*after*, *before*)

Get lists of items removed from before and a lists of items added to after

`certbot.main._format_list` (*character*, *strings*)

Format list with given character

`certbot.main._ask_user_to_confirm_new_names` (*config*, *new_domains*, *certname*, *old_domains*)

Ask user to confirm update cert certname to contain new_domains.

Parameters

- **config** (*interfaces.IConfig*) – Configuration object
- **new_domains** (list of *str*) – List of new domain names
- **certname** (*str*) – Name of certificate
- **old_domains** (list of *str*) – List of old domain names

Returns None

Return type None

Raises *errors.ConfigurationError* – if cert name and domains mismatch

`certbot.main._find_domains_or_certname` (*config*, *installer*, *question=None*)

Retrieve domains and certname from config or user input.

Parameters

- **config** (*interfaces.IConfig*) – Configuration object
- **installer** (*interfaces.IInstaller*) – Installer object
- **question** (*str*) – Overriding dialog question to ask the user if asked to choose from domain names.

Returns Two-part tuple of domains and certname

Return type tuple of list of *str* and *str*

Raises *errors.Error* – Usage message, if parameters are not used correctly

`certbot.main._report_new_cert` (*config*, *cert_path*, *fullchain_path*, *key_path=None*)

Reports the creation of a new certificate to the user.

Parameters

- **cert_path** (*str*) – path to certificate
- **fullchain_path** (*str*) – path to full chain
- **key_path** (*str*) – path to private key, if available

Returns None

Return type None

`certbot.main._determine_account` (*config*)

Determine which account to use.

If `config.account` is None, it will be updated based on the user input. Same for `config.email`.

Parameters **config** (*interfaces.IConfig*) – Configuration object

Returns Account and optionally ACME client API (biproduct of new registration).

Return type tuple of *certbot.account.Account* and *acme.client.Client*

Raises *errors.Error* – If unable to register an account with ACME server

`certbot.main._delete_if_appropriate` (*config*)

Does the user want to delete their now-revoked certs? If run in non-interactive mode, deleting happens automatically, unless if both `--cert-name` and `--cert-path` were specified with conflicting values.

Parameters `config` (`interfaces.IConfig`) – parsed command line arguments

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

Raises `errors.Error` – If anything goes wrong, including bad user input, if an overlapping archive dir is found for the specified lineage, etc ...

`certbot.main._init_le_client` (`config`, `authenticator`, `installer`)

Initialize Let's Encrypt Client

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **authenticator** (`interfaces.IAuthenticator`) – Acme authentication handler
- **installer** (`interfaces.IInstaller`) – Installer object

Returns client: Client object

Return type `client.Client`

`certbot.main.unregister` (`config`, `unused_plugins`)

Deactivate account on server

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **unused_plugins** (`list` of `str`) – List of plugins (deprecated)

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.register` (`config`, `unused_plugins`)

Create or modify accounts on the server.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **unused_plugins** (`list` of `str`) – List of plugins (deprecated)

Returns `None` or a string indicating an error

Return type `None` or `str`

`certbot.main._install_cert` (`config`, `le_client`, `domains`, `lineage=None`)

Install a cert

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **le_client** (`client.Client`) – Client object
- **domains** (`list` of `str`) – List of domains
- **lineage** (`storage.RenewableCert`) – Certificate lineage object. Defaults to `None`

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.install` (`config`, `plugins`)

Install a previously obtained cert in a server.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **plugins** (`list of str`) – List of plugins

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main._populate_from_certname (config)`

Helper function for install to populate missing config values from lineage defined by `–cert-name`.

`certbot.main.plugins_cmd (config, plugins)`

List server software plugins.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **plugins** (`list of str`) – List of plugins

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.enhance (config, plugins)`

Add security enhancements to existing configuration

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **plugins** (`list of str`) – List of plugins

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.rollback (config, plugins)`

Rollback server configuration changes made during install.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **plugins** (`list of str`) – List of plugins

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.config_changes (config, unused_plugins)`

Show changes made to server config during installation

View checkpoints and associated configuration changes.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **unused_plugins** (`list of str`) – List of plugins (deprecated)

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.update_symlinks` (*config*, *unused_plugins*)

Update the certificate file family symlinks

Use the information in the config file to make symlinks point to the correct archive directory.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **unused_plugins** (list of `str`) – List of plugins (deprecated)

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.rename` (*config*, *unused_plugins*)

Rename a certificate

Use the information in the config file to rename an existing lineage.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **unused_plugins** (list of `str`) – List of plugins (deprecated)

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.delete` (*config*, *unused_plugins*)

Delete a certificate

Use the information in the config file to delete an existing lineage.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **unused_plugins** (list of `str`) – List of plugins (deprecated)

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.certificates` (*config*, *unused_plugins*)

Display information about certs configured with Certbot

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **unused_plugins** (list of `str`) – List of plugins (deprecated)

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.revoke` (*config*, *unused_plugins*)

Revoke a previously obtained certificate.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **unused_plugins** (list of `str`) – List of plugins (deprecated)

Returns `None` or string indicating error in case of error

Return type `None` or `str`

`certbot.main.run (config, plugins)`

Obtain a certificate and install.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **plugins** (list of `str`) – List of plugins

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main._csr_get_and_save_cert (config, le_client)`

Obtain a cert using a user-supplied CSR

This works differently in the CSR case (for now) because we don't have the privkey, and therefore can't construct the files for a lineage. So we just save the cert & chain to disk !/

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **client** (`client.Client`) – Client object

Returns `cert_path` and `fullchain_path` as absolute paths to the actual files

Return type tuple of `str`

`certbot.main.renew_cert (config, plugins, lineage)`

Renew & save an existing cert. Do not install it.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **plugins** (list of `str`) – List of plugins
- **lineage** (`storage.RenewableCert`) – Certificate lineage object

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

Raises `errors.PluginSelectionError` – MissingCommandLineFlag if supplied parameters do not pass

`certbot.main.certonly (config, plugins)`

Authenticate & obtain cert, but do not install it.

This implements the 'certonly' subcommand.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **plugins** (list of `str`) – List of plugins

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

Raises `errors.Error` – If specified plugin could not be used

`certbot.main.renew (config, unused_plugins)`

Renew previously-obtained certificates.

Parameters

- **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object
- **unused_plugins** (list of `str`) – List of plugins (deprecated)

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.make_or_verify_needed_dirs` (*config*)

Create or verify existence of config, work, and hook directories.

Parameters **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.set_displayer` (*config*)

Set the displayer

Parameters **config** (`interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration object

Returns `None`

Return type `None`

`certbot.main.main` (*cli_args=['-b', 'html', '-d', '_build/doctrees', '.', '_build/html']*)

Command line argument parsing and main script execution.

Returns result of requested command

Raises

- `errors.Error` – OS errors triggered by wrong permissions
- `errors.Error` – error if plugin command is not supported

8.20 `certbot.notify`

Send e-mail notification to system administrators.

`certbot.notify.notify` (*subject, whom, what*)

Send email notification.

Try to notify the addressee (*whom*) by e-mail, with Subject: defined by *subject* and message body by *what*.

8.21 `certbot.ocsp`

Tools for checking certificate revocation.

class `certbot.ocsp.RevocationChecker`

Bases: `object`

This class figures out OCSP checking on this system, and performs it.

ocsp_revoked (*cert_path, chain_path*)

Get revoked status for a particular cert version.

Todo

Make this a non-blocking call

Parameters

- **cert_path** (*str*) – Path to certificate
- **chain_path** (*str*) – Path to intermediate cert

Rtype bool or None

Returns True if revoked; False if valid or the check failed

determine_ocsp_server (*cert_path*)

Extract the OCSP server host from a certificate.

Parameters **cert_path** (*str*) – Path to the cert we’re checking OCSP for

Rtype tuple

Returns (OCSP server URL or None, OCSP server host or None)

certbot.ocsp._translate_ocsp_query (*cert_path, ocsp_output, ocsp_errors*)

Parse openssl’s weird output to work out what it means.

8.22 certbot.plugins.common

Plugin common functions.

certbot.plugins.common.option_namespace (*name*)

ArgumentParser options namespace (prefix of all options).

certbot.plugins.common.dest_namespace (*name*)

ArgumentParser dest namespace (prefix of all destinations).

class certbot.plugins.common.Plugin (*config, name*)

Bases: *object*

Generic plugin.

classmethod add_parser_arguments (*add*)

Add plugin arguments to the CLI argument parser.

NOTE: If some of your flags interact with others, you can use `cli.report_config_interaction` to register this to ensure values are correctly saved/overridable during renewal.

Parameters **add** (*callable*) – Function that proxies calls to `argparse.ArgumentParser.add_argument` prepending options with unique plugin name prefix.

classmethod inject_parser_options (*parser, name*)

Inject parser options.

See `inject_parser_options` for docs.

option_namespace

ArgumentParser options namespace (prefix of all options).

option_name (*name*)

Option name (include plugin namespace).

dest_namespace

ArgumentParser dest namespace (prefix of all destinations).

dest (*var*)

Find a destination for given variable *var*.

conf (*var*)

Find a configuration value for variable *var*.

class `certbot.plugins.common.Installer` (**args, **kwargs*)

Bases: `certbot.plugins.common.Plugin`

An installer base class with `reverter` and `ssl_dhparam` methods defined.

Installer plugins do not have to inherit from this class.

add_to_checkpoint (*save_files, save_notes, temporary=False*)

Add files to a checkpoint.

Parameters

- **save_files** (*set*) – set of filepaths to save
- **save_notes** (*str*) – notes about changes during the save
- **temporary** (*bool*) – True if the files should be added to a temporary checkpoint rather than a permanent one. This is usually used for changes that will soon be reverted.

Raises `errors.PluginError` – when unable to add to checkpoint

finalize_checkpoint (*title*)

Timestamp and save changes made through the reverter.

Parameters **title** (*str*) – Title describing checkpoint

Raises `errors.PluginError` – when an error occurs

recovery_routine ()

Revert all previously modified files.

Reverts all modified files that have not been saved as a checkpoint

Raises `errors.PluginError` – If unable to recover the configuration

revert_temporary_config ()

Rollback temporary checkpoint.

Raises `errors.PluginError` – when unable to revert config

rollback_checkpoints (*rollback=1*)

Rollback saved checkpoints.

Parameters **rollback** (*int*) – Number of checkpoints to revert

Raises `errors.PluginError` – If there is a problem with the input or the function is unable to correctly revert the configuration

view_config_changes ()

Show all of the configuration changes that have taken place.

Raises `errors.PluginError` – If there is a problem while processing the checkpoints directories.

ssl_dhparams

Full absolute path to `ssl_dhparams` file.

updated_ssl_dhparams_digest

Full absolute path to digest of updated ssl_dhparams file.

install_ssl_dhparams()

Copy Certbot's ssl_dhparams file into the system's config dir if required.

class `certbot.plugins.common.Addr` (*tup, ipv6=False*)

Bases: `object`

Represents an virtual host address.

Parameters

- **addr** (*str*) – addr part of vhost address
- **port** (*str*) – port number or *, or ""

classmethod `fromstring` (*str_addr*)

Initialize Addr from string.

normalized_tuple()

Normalized representation of addr/port tuple

get_addr()

Return addr part of Addr object.

get_port()

Return port.

get_addr_obj (*port*)

Return new address object with same addr and new port.

_normalize_ipv6 (*addr*)

Return IPv6 address in normalized form, helper function

get_ipv6_exploded()

Return IPv6 in normalized form

_explode_ipv6 (*addr*)

Explode IPv6 address for comparison

class `certbot.plugins.common.ChallengePerformer` (*configurator*)

Bases: `object`

Abstract base for challenge performers.

Variables

- **configurator** – Authenticator and installer plugin
- **achalls** (*list of KeyAuthorizationAnnotatedChallenge*) – Annotated challenges
- **indices** (*list of int*) – Holds the indices of challenges from a larger array so the user of the class doesn't have to.

add_chall (*achall, idx=None*)

Store challenge to be performed when perform() is called.

Parameters

- **achall** (*KeyAuthorizationAnnotatedChallenge*) – Annotated challenge.
- **idx** (*int*) – index to challenge in a larger array

description

Description of the plugin.

description_with_name

Description with name. Handy for UI.

long_description

Long description of the plugin.

hidden

Should this plugin be hidden from UI?

ifaces (*ifaces_groups)

Does plugin implements specified interface groups?

initialized

Has the plugin been initialized already?

init (config=None)

Memoized plugin initialization.

verify (ifaces)

Verify that the plugin conforms to the specified interfaces.

prepared

Has the plugin been prepared already?

prepare ()

Memoized plugin preparation.

misconfigured

Is plugin misconfigured?

problem

Return the Exception raised during plugin setup, or None if all is well

available

Is plugin available, i.e. prepared or misconfigured?

class certbot.plugins.disco.PluginsRegistry (plugins)

Bases: `_abcoll.Mapping`

Plugins registry.

classmethod find_all ()

Find plugins using setuptools entry points.

init (config)

Initialize all plugins in the registry.

filter (pred)

Filter plugins based on predicate.

visible ()

Filter plugins based on visibility.

ifaces (*ifaces_groups)

Filter plugins based on interfaces.

verify (ifaces)

Filter plugins based on verification.

prepare ()

Prepare all plugins in the registry.

available()

Filter plugins based on availability.

find_init(plugin)

Find an initialized plugin.

This is particularly useful for finding a name for the plugin (although *IPluginFactory.__call__* takes name as one of the arguments, *IPlugin.name* is not part of the interface):

```
# plugin is an instance providing IPlugin, initialized
# somewhere else in the code
plugin_registry.find_init(plugin).name
```

Returns None if plugin is not found in the registry.

8.24 certbot.plugins.dns_common

Common code for DNS Authenticator Plugins.

class certbot.plugins.dns_common.DNSAuthenticator(*config, name*)

Bases: *certbot.plugins.common.Plugin*

Base class for DNS Authenticators

_setup_credentials()

Establish credentials, prompting if necessary.

_perform(domain, validation_domain_name, validation)

Performs a dns-01 challenge by creating a DNS TXT record.

Parameters

- **domain** (*str*) – The domain being validated.
- **validation_domain_name** (*str*) – The validation record domain name.
- **validation** (*str*) – The validation record content.

Raises *errors.PluginError* – If the challenge cannot be performed

_cleanup(domain, validation_domain_name, validation)

Deletes the DNS TXT record which would have been created by *_perform_achallenge*.

Fails gracefully if no such record exists.

Parameters

- **domain** (*str*) – The domain being validated.
- **validation_domain_name** (*str*) – The validation record domain name.
- **validation** (*str*) – The validation record content.

_configure(key, label)

Ensure that a configuration value is available.

If necessary, prompts the user and stores the result.

Parameters

- **key** (*str*) – The configuration key.
- **label** (*str*) – The user-friendly label for this piece of information.

`_configure_file` (*key*, *label*, *validator=None*)
 Ensure that a configuration value is available for a path.
 If necessary, prompts the user and stores the result.

Parameters

- **`key`** (*str*) – The configuration key.
- **`label`** (*str*) – The user-friendly label for this piece of information.

`_configure_credentials` (*key*, *label*, *required_variables=None*, *validator=None*)
 As `_configure_file`, but for a credential configuration file.

If necessary, prompts the user and stores the result.
 Always stores absolute paths to avoid issues during renewal.

Parameters

- **`key`** (*str*) – The configuration key.
- **`label`** (*str*) – The user-friendly label for this piece of information.
- **`required_variables`** (*dict*) – Map of variable which must be present to error to display.
- **`validator`** (*callable*) – A method which will be called to validate the `CredentialsConfiguration` resulting from the supplied input after it has been validated to contain the `required_variables`. Should throw a `PluginError` to indicate any issue.

`static _prompt_for_data` (*label*)
 Prompt the user for a piece of information.

Parameters **`label`** (*str*) – The user-friendly label for this piece of information.

Returns The user’s response (guaranteed non-empty).

Return type *str*

`static _prompt_for_file` (*label*, *validator=None*)
 Prompt the user for a path.

Parameters

- **`label`** (*str*) – The user-friendly label for the file.
- **`validator`** (*callable*) – A method which will be called to validate the supplied input after it has been validated to be a non-empty path to an existing file. Should throw a `PluginError` to indicate any issue.

Returns The user’s response (guaranteed to exist).

Return type *str*

`class certbot.plugins.dns_common.CredentialsConfiguration` (*filename*, *map-per=<function <lambda>>>*)

Bases: `object`

Represents a user-supplied file which stores API credentials.

`require` (*required_variables*)
 Ensures that the supplied set of variables are all present in the file.

Parameters `required_variables` (*dict*) – Map of variable which must be present to error to display.

Raises `errors.PluginError` – If one or more are missing.

conf (*var*)

Find a configuration value for variable *var*, as transformed by mapper.

Parameters `var` (*str*) – The variable to get.

Returns The value of the variable.

Return type *str*

`certbot.plugins.dns_common.validate_file(filename)`

Ensure that the specified file exists.

`certbot.plugins.dns_common.validate_file_permissions(filename)`

Ensure that the specified file exists and warn about unsafe permissions.

`certbot.plugins.dns_common.base_domain_name_guesses(domain)`

Return a list of progressively less-specific domain names.

One of these will probably be the domain name known to the DNS provider.

Example

```
>>> base_domain_name_guesses('foo.bar.baz.example.com')
['foo.bar.baz.example.com', 'bar.baz.example.com', 'baz.example.com', 'example.com', 'com']
```

Parameters `domain` (*str*) – The domain for which to return guesses.

Returns The a list of less specific domain names.

Return type *list*

8.25 certbot.plugins.dns_common_lexicon

Common code for DNS Authenticator Plugins built on Lexicon.

class `certbot.plugins.dns_common_lexicon.LexiconClient`

Bases: `object`

Encapsulates all communication with a DNS provider via Lexicon.

add_txt_record (*domain, record_name, record_content*)

Add a TXT record using the supplied information.

Parameters

- **domain** (*str*) – The domain to use to look up the managed zone.
- **record_name** (*str*) – The record name (typically beginning with ‘_acme-challenge.’).
- **record_content** (*str*) – The record content (typically the challenge validation).

Raises `errors.PluginError` – if an error occurs communicating with the DNS Provider API

del_txt_record (*domain, record_name, record_content*)

Delete a TXT record using the supplied information.

Parameters

- **domain** (*str*) – The domain to use to look up the managed zone.
- **record_name** (*str*) – The record name (typically beginning with ‘_acme-challenge.’).
- **record_content** (*str*) – The record content (typically the challenge validation).

Raises *errors.PluginError* – if an error occurs communicating with the DNS Provider API

_find_domain_id (*domain*)

Find the domain_id for a given domain.

Parameters **domain** (*str*) – The domain for which to find the domain_id.

Raises *errors.PluginError* – if the domain_id cannot be found.

8.26 certbot.plugins.manual

Manual authenticator plugin

class `certbot.plugins.manual.ManualTlsSni01` (*configurator*)

Bases: *certbot.plugins.common.TLSSNI01*

TLS-SNI-01 authenticator for the Manual plugin

Variables

- **configurator** – Authenticator object
- **achalls** (*list*) – Annotated class:*KeyAuthorizationAnnotatedChallenge* challenges

Parameters

- **indices** (*list*) – Meant to hold indices of challenges in a larger array. NginxTlsSni01 is capable of solving many challenges at once which causes an indexing issue within NginxConfigurator who must return all responses in order. Imagine NginxConfigurator maintaining state about where all of the http-01 Challenges, TLS-SNI-01 Challenges belong in the response array. This is an optional utility.
- **challenge_conf** (*str*) – location of the challenge config file

perform ()

Create the SSL certificates and private keys

class `certbot.plugins.manual.Authenticator` (**args, **kwargs*)

Bases: *certbot.plugins.common.Plugin*

Manual authenticator

This plugin allows the user to perform the domain validation challenge(s) themselves. This either be done manually by the user or through shell scripts provided to Certbot.

8.27 certbot.plugins.selection

Decide which plugins to use for authentication & installation

```
certbot.plugins.selection.pick_configurator(config, default, plugins, question='How
would you like to authenticate and install cer-
tificates?')
```

Pick configurator plugin.

```
certbot.plugins.selection.pick_installer(config, default, plugins, question='How would
you like to install certificates?')
```

Pick installer plugin.

```
certbot.plugins.selection.pick_authenticator(config, default, plugins, question='How
would you like to authenticate with the
ACME CA?')
```

Pick authentication plugin.

```
certbot.plugins.selection.get_unprepared_installer(config, plugins)
```

Get an unprepared interfaces.IInstaller object.

Parameters

- **config** (`certbot.interfaces.IConfig`) – Configuration
- **plugins** (`certbot.plugins.disco.PluginsRegistry`) – All plugins registered as entry points.

Returns Unprepared installer plugin or None

Return type *IPlugin* or None

```
certbot.plugins.selection.pick_plugin(config, default, plugins, question, ifaces)
```

Pick plugin.

Parameters

- **certbot.interfaces.IConfig** – Configuration
- **default** (*str*) – Plugin name supplied by user or None.
- **plugins** (`certbot.plugins.disco.PluginsRegistry`) – All plugins registered as entry points.
- **question** (*str*) – Question to be presented to the user in case multiple candidates are found.
- **ifaces** (*list*) – Interfaces that plugins must provide.

Returns Initialized plugin.

Return type *IPlugin*

```
certbot.plugins.selection.choose_plugin(prepared, question)
```

Allow the user to choose their plugin.

Parameters

- **prepared** (*list*) – List of *PluginEntryPoint*.
- **question** (*str*) – Question to be presented to the user.

Returns Plugin entry point chosen by the user.

Return type *PluginEntryPoint*

```
certbot.plugins.selection.record_chosen_plugins(config, plugins, auth, inst)
```

Update the config entries to reflect the plugins we actually selected.

`certbot.plugins.selection.choose_configurator_plugins` (*config, plugins, verb*)

Figure out which configurator we're going to use, modifies `config.authenticator` and `config.installer` strings to reflect that choice if necessary.

:raises `errors.PluginSelectionError` if there was a problem

Returns (an `IAuthenticator` or `None`, an `IInstaller` or `None`)

Return type `tuple`

`certbot.plugins.selection.set_configurator` (*previously, now*)

Setting configurators multiple ways is okay, as long as they all agree :param str *previously*: previously identified request for the installer/authenticator :param str *requested*: the request currently being processed

`certbot.plugins.selection.cli_plugin_requests` (*config*)

Figure out which plugins the user requested with CLI and config options

Returns (requested authenticator string or `None`, requested installer string or `None`)

Return type `tuple`

`certbot.plugins.selection.diagnose_configurator_problem` (*cfg_type, requested, plugins*)

Raise the most helpful error message about a plugin being unavailable

Parameters

- **cfg_type** (*str*) – either “installer” or “authenticator”
- **requested** (*str*) – the plugin that was requested
- **plugins** (`PluginsRegistry`) – available plugins

Raises `error.PluginSelectionError` – if there was a problem

8.28 certbot.plugins.standalone

Standalone Authenticator.

class `certbot.plugins.standalone.ServerManager` (*certs, http_01_resources*)

Bases: `object`

Standalone servers manager.

Manager for `ACMEServer` and `ACMETLSServer` instances.

`certs` and `http_01_resources` correspond to `acme.crypto_util.SSLSocket.certs` and `acme.crypto_util.SSLSocket.http_01_resources` respectively. All created servers share the same certificates and resources, so if you're running both TLS and non-TLS instances, HTTP01 handlers will serve the same URLs!

run (*port, challenge_type, listenaddr=''*)

Run ACME server on specified port.

This method is idempotent, i.e. all calls with the same pair of (`port`, `challenge_type`) will reuse the same server.

Parameters

- **port** (*int*) – Port to run the server on.
- **challenge_type** – Subclass of `acme.challenges.Challenge`, either `acme.challenge.HTTP01` or `acme.challenges.TLSSNI01`.

- **listenaddr** (*str*) – (optional) The address to listen on. Defaults to all addrs.

Returns DualNetworkedServers instance.

Return type ACME Server Mixin

stop (*port*)

Stop ACME server running on the specified port.

Parameters **port** (*int*) –

running ()

Return all running instances.

Once the server is stopped using *stop*, it will not be returned.

Returns Mapping from port to servers.

Return type tuple

```
class certbot.plugins.standalone.SupportedChallengesAction(option_strings,
                                                         dest, nargs=None,
                                                         const=None, de-
                                                         fault=None, type=None,
                                                         choices=None,
                                                         required=False,
                                                         help=None,
                                                         metavar=None)
```

Bases: `argparse.Action`

Action class for parsing standalone_supported_challenges.

_convert_and_validate (*data*)

Validate the value of supported challenges provided by the user.

References to “dvsni” are automatically converted to “tls-sni-01”.

Parameters **data** (*str*) – comma delimited list of challenge types

Returns validated and converted list of challenge types

Return type str

```
class certbot.plugins.standalone.Authenticator(*args, **kwargs)
```

Bases: `certbot.plugins.common.Plugin`

Standalone Authenticator.

This authenticator creates its own ephemeral TCP listener on the necessary port in order to respond to incoming tls-sni-01 and http-01 challenges from the certificate authority. Therefore, it does not rely on any existing server program.

supported_challenges

Challenges supported by this plugin.

8.29 certbot.plugins.util

Plugin utilities.

certbot.plugins.util.get_prefixes (*path*)

Retrieves all possible path prefixes of a path, in descending order of length. For instance,

```
/a/b/c/ => ['/a/b/c/', '/a/b/c', '/a/b', '/a', '/']
```

Parameters `path` (*str*) – the path to break into prefixes

Returns all possible path prefixes of given path in descending order

Return type `list` of `str`

`certbot.plugins.util.path_surgery(cmd)`

Attempt to perform PATH surgery to find cmd

Mitigates <https://github.com/certbot/certbot/issues/1833>

Parameters `cmd` (*str*) – the command that is being searched for in the PATH

Returns True if the operation succeeded, False otherwise

8.30 `certbot.plugins.webroot`

Webroot plugin.

class `certbot.plugins.webroot.Authenticator(*args, **kwargs)`

Bases: `certbot.plugins.common.Plugin`

Webroot Authenticator.

class `certbot.plugins.webroot._WebrootMapAction(option_strings, dest, nargs=None, const=None, default=None, type=None, choices=None, required=False, help=None, metavar=None)`

Bases: `argparse.Action`

Action class for parsing `webroot_map`.

class `certbot.plugins.webroot._WebrootPathAction(*args, **kwargs)`

Bases: `argparse.Action`

Action class for parsing `webroot_path`.

`certbot.plugins.webroot._validate_webroot(webroot_path)`

Validates and returns the absolute path of `webroot_path`.

Parameters `webroot_path` (*str*) – path to the webroot directory

Returns absolute path of `webroot_path`

Return type `str`

8.31 `certbot.renewal`

Functionality for autorenewal and associated juggling of configurations

`certbot.renewal._reconstitute(config, full_path)`

Try to instantiate a RenewableCert, updating config with relevant items.

This is specifically for use in renewal and enforces several checks and policies to ensure that we can try to proceed with the renewal request. The config argument is modified by including relevant options read from the renewal configuration file.

Parameters

- **config** (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – configuration for the current lineage
- **full_path** (`str`) – Absolute path to the configuration file that defines this lineage

Returns the RenewableCert object or None if a fatal error occurred

Return type `storage.RenewableCert` or `NoneType`

`certbot.renewal._restore_webroot_config` (`config`, `renewalparams`)

`webroot_map` is, uniquely, a dict, and the general-purpose configuration restoring logic is not able to correctly parse it from the serialized form.

`certbot.renewal._restore_plugin_configs` (`config`, `renewalparams`)

Sets plugin specific values in config from renewalparams

Parameters

- **config** (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – configuration for the current lineage
- **renewalparams** (`configobj.Section`) – Parameters from the renewal configuration file that defines this lineage

`certbot.renewal.restore_required_config_elements` (`config`, `renewalparams`)

Sets non-plugin specific values in config from renewalparams

Parameters

- **config** (`configuration.NamespaceConfig`) – configuration for the current lineage
- **renewalparams** (`configobj.Section`) – parameters from the renewal configuration file that defines this lineage

`certbot.renewal._restore_pref_challs` (`unused_name`, `value`)

Restores preferred challenges from a renewal config file.

If `value` is a `str`, it should be a single challenge type.

Parameters

- **unused_name** (`str`) – option name
- **value** (`list` of `str` or `str`) – option value

Returns converted option value to be stored in the runtime config

Return type `list` of `str`

Raises `errors.Error` – if value can't be converted to an bool

`certbot.renewal._restore_bool` (`name`, `value`)

Restores an boolean key-value pair from a renewal config file.

Parameters

- **name** (`str`) – option name
- **value** (`str`) – option value

Returns converted option value to be stored in the runtime config

Return type `bool`

Raises `errors.Error` – if value can't be converted to an bool

`certbot.renewal._restore_int(name, value)`

Restores an integer key-value pair from a renewal config file.

Parameters

- **name** (*str*) – option name
- **value** (*str*) – option value

Returns converted option value to be stored in the runtime config

Return type `int`

Raises `errors.Error` – if value can't be converted to an int

`certbot.renewal._restore_str(unused_name, value)`

Restores an string key-value pair from a renewal config file.

Parameters

- **unused_name** (*str*) – option name
- **value** (*str*) – option value

Returns converted option value to be stored in the runtime config

Return type `str` or `None`

`certbot.renewal.should_renew(config, lineage)`

Return true if any of the circumstances for automatic renewal apply.

`certbot.renewal._avoid_invalidating_lineage(config, lineage, original_server)`

Do not renew a valid cert with one from a staging server!

`certbot.renewal.renew_cert(config, domains, le_client, lineage)`

Renew a certificate lineage.

`certbot.renewal.report(msgs, category)`

Format a results report for a category of renewal outcomes

`certbot.renewal.handle_renewal_request(config)`

Examine each lineage; renew if due and report results

8.32 certbot.reporter

Collects and displays information to the user.

class `certbot.reporter.Reporter(config)`

Bases: `object`

Collects and displays information to the user.

Variables `messages` (`queue.PriorityQueue`) – Messages to be displayed to the user.

HIGH_PRIORITY = 0

High priority constant. See `add_message`.

MEDIUM_PRIORITY = 1

Medium priority constant. See `add_message`.

LOW_PRIORITY = 2

Low priority constant. See `add_message`.

`_msg_type`

alias of `ReporterMsg`

`add_message(msg, priority, on_crash=True)`

Adds msg to the list of messages to be printed.

Parameters

- `msg` (*str*) – Message to be displayed to the user.
- `priority` (*int*) – One of `HIGH_PRIORITY`, `MEDIUM_PRIORITY`, or `LOW_PRIORITY`.
- `on_crash` (*bool*) – Whether or not the message should be printed if the program exits abnormally.

`print_messages()`

Prints messages to the user and clears the message queue.

If there is an unhandled exception, only messages for which `on_crash` is `True` are printed.

8.33 certbot.reverter

Reverter class saves configuration checkpoints and allows for recovery.

`class certbot.reverter.Reverter(config)`

Bases: `object`

Reverter Class - save and revert configuration checkpoints.

This class can be used by the plugins, especially Installers, to undo changes made to the user's system. Modifications to files and commands to do undo actions taken by the plugin should be registered with this class before the action is taken.

Once a change has been registered with this class, there are three states the change can be in. First, the change can be a temporary change. This should be used for changes that will soon be reverted, such as config changes for the purpose of solving a challenge. Changes are added to this state through calls to `add_to_temp_checkpoint()` and reverted when `revert_temporary_config()` or `recovery_routine()` is called.

The second state a change can be in is in progress. These changes are not temporary, however, they also have not been finalized in a checkpoint. A change must become in progress before it can be finalized. Changes are added to this state through calls to `add_to_checkpoint()` and reverted when `recovery_routine()` is called.

The last state a change can be in is finalized in a checkpoint. A change is put into this state by first becoming an in progress change and then calling `finalize_checkpoint()`. Changes in this state can be reverted through calls to `rollback_checkpoints()`.

As a final note, creating new files and registering undo commands are handled specially and use the methods `register_file_creation()` and `register_undo_command()` respectively. Both of these methods can be used to create either temporary or in progress changes.

Note: Consider moving everything over to CSV format.

Parameters `config(certbot.interfaces.IConfig)` – Configuration.

revert_temporary_config()

Reload users original configuration files after a temporary save.

This function should reinstall the users original configuration files for all saves with temporary=True

Raises *ReverterError* – when unable to revert config

rollback_checkpoints (*rollback=1*)

Revert ‘rollback’ number of configuration checkpoints.

Parameters *rollback* (*int*) – Number of checkpoints to reverse. A str num will be cast to an integer. So “2” is also acceptable.

Raises *ReverterError* – if there is a problem with the input or if the function is unable to correctly revert the configuration checkpoints

view_config_changes (*for_logging=False, num=None*)

Displays all saved checkpoints.

All checkpoints are printed by *certbot.interfaces.IDisplay.notification()*.

Todo

Decide on a policy for error handling, OSError IOError...

Raises *errors.ReverterError* – If invalid directory structure.

add_to_temp_checkpoint (*save_files, save_notes*)

Add files to temporary checkpoint.

Parameters

- *save_files* (*set*) – set of filepaths to save
- *save_notes* (*str*) – notes about changes during the save

add_to_checkpoint (*save_files, save_notes*)

Add files to a permanent checkpoint.

Parameters

- *save_files* (*set*) – set of filepaths to save
- *save_notes* (*str*) – notes about changes during the save

_add_to_checkpoint_dir (*cp_dir, save_files, save_notes*)

Add save files to checkpoint directory.

Parameters

- *cp_dir* (*str*) – Checkpoint directory filepath
- *save_files* (*set*) – set of files to save
- *save_notes* (*str*) – notes about changes made during the save

Raises

- *IOError* – if unable to open cp_dir + FILEPATHS file
- *ReverterError* – if unable to add checkpoint

`_read_and_append` (*filepath*)

Reads the file lines and returns a file obj.

Read the file returning the lines, and a pointer to the end of the file.

`_recover_checkpoint` (*cp_dir*)

Recover a specific checkpoint.

Recover a specific checkpoint provided by cp_dir Note: this function does not reload Augeas.

Parameters `cp_dir` (*str*) – checkpoint directory file path

Raises `errors.ReverterError` – If unable to recover checkpoint

`_run_undo_commands` (*filepath*)

Run all commands in a file.

`_check_tempfile_saves` (*save_files*)

Verify save isn't overwriting any temporary files.

Parameters `save_files` (*set*) – Set of files about to be saved.

Raises `certbot.errors.ReverterError` – when save is attempting to overwrite a temporary file.

`register_file_creation` (*temporary, *files*)

Register the creation of all files during certbot execution.

Call this method before writing to the file to make sure that the file will be cleaned up if the program exits unexpectedly. (Before a save occurs)

Parameters

- **`temporary`** (*bool*) – If the file creation registry is for a temp or permanent save.
- **`*files`** – file paths (*str*) to be registered

Raises `certbot.errors.ReverterError` – If call does not contain necessary parameters or if the file creation is unable to be registered.

`register_undo_command` (*temporary, command*)

Register a command to be run to undo actions taken.

Warning: This function does not enforce order of operations in terms of file modification vs. command registration. All undo commands are run first before all normal files are reverted to their previous state. If you need to maintain strict order, you may create checkpoints before and after the the command registration. This function may be improved in the future based on demand.

Parameters

- **`temporary`** (*bool*) – Whether the command should be saved in the IN_PROGRESS or TEMPORARY checkpoints.
- **`command`** (*list of str*) – Command to be run.

`_get_cp_dir` (*temporary*)

Return the proper reverter directory.

`recovery_routine` ()

Revert configuration to most recent finalized checkpoint.

Remove all changes (temporary and permanent) that have not been finalized. This is useful to protect against crashes and other execution interruptions.

Raises `errors.ReverterError` – If unable to recover the configuration

`_remove_contained_files (file_list)`

Erase all files contained within file_list.

Parameters `file_list (str)` – file containing list of file paths to be deleted

Returns Success

Return type `bool`

Raises `certbot.errors.ReverterError` – If all files within file_list cannot be removed

`finalize_checkpoint (title)`

Finalize the checkpoint.

Timestamps and permanently saves all changes made through the use of `add_to_checkpoint()` and `register_file_creation()`

Parameters `title (str)` – Title describing checkpoint

Raises `certbot.errors.ReverterError` – when the checkpoint is not able to be finalized.

`_checkpoint_timestamp ()`

Determine the timestamp of the checkpoint, enforcing monotonicity.

`_timestamp_progress_dir ()`

Timestamp the checkpoint.

8.34 certbot.storage

Renewable certificates storage.

`certbot.storage.renewal_conf_files (config)`

Build a list of all renewal configuration files.

Parameters `config (certbot.interfaces.IConfig)` – Configuration object

Returns list of renewal configuration files

Return type `list of str`

`certbot.storage.renewal_file_for_certname (config, certname)`

Return /path/to/certname.conf in the renewal conf directory

`certbot.storage.cert_path_for_cert_name (config, cert_name)`

If `--cert-name` was specified, but you need a value for `--cert-path`.

Parameters

- `config (configuration.NamespaceConfig)` – parsed command line arguments
- `cert_name (str)` – cert name.

`certbot.storage.config_with_defaults (config=None)`

Merge supplied config, if provided, on top of builtin defaults.

`certbot.storage.add_time_interval` (*base_time*, *interval*, *textparser=<parsedatetime.Calendar object>*)

Parse the time specified time interval, and add it to the *base_time*

The interval can be in the English-language format understood by `parsedatetime`, e.g., ‘10 days’, ‘3 weeks’, ‘6 months’, ‘9 hours’, or a sequence of such intervals like ‘6 months 1 week’ or ‘3 days 12 hours’. If an integer is found with no associated unit, it is interpreted by default as a number of days.

Parameters

- **base_time** (*datetime.datetime*) – The time to be added with the interval.
- **interval** (*str*) – The time interval to parse.

Returns The *base_time* plus the interpretation of the time interval.

Return type `datetime.datetime`

`certbot.storage.write_renewal_config` (*o_filename*, *n_filename*, *archive_dir*, *target*, *relevant_data*)

Writes a renewal config file with the specified name and values.

Parameters

- **o_filename** (*str*) – Absolute path to the previous version of config file
- **n_filename** (*str*) – Absolute path to the new destination of config file
- **archive_dir** (*str*) – Absolute path to the archive directory
- **target** (*dict*) – Maps ALL_FOUR to their symlink paths
- **relevant_data** (*dict*) – Renewal configuration options to save

Returns Configuration object for the new config file

Return type `configobj.ConfigObj`

`certbot.storage.rename_renewal_config` (*prev_name*, *new_name*, *cli_config*)

Renames *cli_config.certname*’s config to *cli_config.new_certname*.

Parameters **cli_config** (`NamespaceConfig`) – parsed command line arguments

`certbot.storage.update_configuration` (*lineage_name*, *archive_dir*, *target*, *cli_config*)

Modifies *lineage_name*’s config to contain the specified values.

Parameters

- **lineage_name** (*str*) – Name of the lineage being modified
- **archive_dir** (*str*) – Absolute path to the archive directory
- **target** (*dict*) – Maps ALL_FOUR to their symlink paths
- **cli_config** (`NamespaceConfig`) – parsed command line arguments

Returns Configuration object for the updated config file

Return type `configobj.ConfigObj`

`certbot.storage.get_link_target` (*link*)

Get an absolute path to the target of link.

Parameters **link** (*str*) – Path to a symbolic link

Returns Absolute path to the target of link

Return type *str*

Raises `CertStorageError` – If link does not exists.

`certbot.storage._relevant` (*option*)

Is this option one that could be restored for future renewal purposes? :param str option: the name of the option

Return type `bool`

`certbot.storage.relevant_values` (*all_values*)

Return a new dict containing only items relevant for renewal.

Parameters `all_values` (*dict*) – The original values.

Returns A new dictionary containing items that can be used in renewal.

Rtype dict

`certbot.storage.lineage_name_for_filename` (*config_filename*)

Returns the lineage name for a configuration filename.

`certbot.storage.renewal_filename_for_lineage_name` (*config, lineage_name*)

Returns the lineage name for a configuration filename.

`certbot.storage._relpath_from_file` (*archive_dir, from_file*)

Path to a directory from a file

`certbot.storage.full_archive_path` (*config_obj, cli_config, lineage_name*)

Returns the full archive path for a lineage name

Uses cli_config to determine archive path if not available from config_obj.

Parameters

- `config_obj` (*configobj.ConfigObj*) – Renewal conf file contents (can be None)
- `cli_config` (*configuration.NamespaceConfig*) – Main config file
- `lineage_name` (*str*) – Certificate name

`certbot.storage._full_live_path` (*cli_config, lineage_name*)

Returns the full default live path for a lineage name

`certbot.storage.delete_files` (*config, certname*)

Delete all files related to the certificate.

If some files are not found, ignore them and continue.

class `certbot.storage.RenewableCert` (*config_filename, cli_config, update_symlinks=False*)

Bases: `object`

Renewable certificate.

Represents a lineage of certificates that is under the management of Certbot, indicated by the existence of an associated renewal configuration file.

Note that the notion of “current version” for a lineage is maintained on disk in the structure of symbolic links, and is not explicitly stored in any instance variable in this object. The `RenewableCert` object is able to determine information about the current (or other) version by accessing data on disk, but does not inherently know any of this information except by examining the symbolic links as needed. The instance variables mentioned below point to symlinks that reflect the notion of “current version” of each managed object, and it is these paths that should be used when configuring servers to use the certificate managed in a lineage. These paths are normally within the “live” directory, and their symlink targets – the actual cert files – are normally found within the “archive” directory.

Variables

- **cert** (*str*) – The path to the symlink representing the current version of the certificate managed by this lineage.
- **privkey** (*str*) – The path to the symlink representing the current version of the private key managed by this lineage.
- **chain** (*str*) – The path to the symlink representing the current version of the chain managed by this lineage.
- **fullchain** (*str*) – The path to the symlink representing the current version of the fullchain (combined chain and cert) managed by this lineage.
- **configuration** (*configobj.ConfigObj*) – The renewal configuration options associated with this lineage, obtained from parsing the renewal configuration file and/or systemwide defaults.

key_path

Duck type for self.privkey

cert_path

Duck type for self.cert

chain_path

Duck type for self.chain

fullchain_path

Duck type for self.fullchain

target_expiry

The current target certificate's expiration datetime

Returns Expiration datetime of the current target certificate

Return type `datetime.datetime`

archive_dir

Returns the default or specified archive directory

relative_archive_dir (*from_file*)

Returns the default or specified archive directory as a relative path

Used for creating symbolic links.

is_test_cert

Returns true if this is a test cert from a staging server.

_check_symlinks ()

Raises an exception if a symlink doesn't exist

_update_symlinks ()

Updates symlinks to use archive_dir

_consistent ()

Are the files associated with this lineage self-consistent?

Returns Whether the files stored in connection with this lineage appear to be correct and consistent with one another.

Return type `bool`

_fix ()

Attempt to fix defects or inconsistencies in this lineage.

Todo

Currently unimplemented.

`_previous_symlinks()`

Returns the kind and path of all symlinks used in recovery.

Returns list of (kind, symlink) tuples

Return type `list`

`_fix_symlinks()`

Fixes symlinks in the event of an incomplete version update.

If there is no problem with the current symlinks, this function has no effect.

`current_target(kind)`

Returns full path to which the specified item currently points.

Parameters `kind(str)` – the lineage member item (“cert”, “privkey”, “chain”, or “fullchain”)

Returns The path to the current version of the specified member.

Return type `str` or `None`

`current_version(kind)`

Returns numerical version of the specified item.

For example, if kind is “chain” and the current chain link points to a file named “chain7.pem”, returns the integer 7.

Parameters `kind(str)` – the lineage member item (“cert”, “privkey”, “chain”, or “fullchain”)

Returns the current version of the specified member.

Return type `int`

`version(kind, version)`

The filename that corresponds to the specified version and kind.

Warning: The specified version may not exist in this lineage. There is no guarantee that the file path returned by this method actually exists.

Parameters

- `kind(str)` – the lineage member item (“cert”, “privkey”, “chain”, or “fullchain”)
- `version(int)` – the desired version

Returns The path to the specified version of the specified member.

Return type `str`

`available_versions(kind)`

Which alternative versions of the specified kind of item exist?

The archive directory where the current version is stored is consulted to obtain the list of alternatives.

Parameters `kind(str)` – the lineage member item (cert, privkey, chain, or fullchain)

Returns all of the version numbers that currently exist

Return type `list` of `int`

newest_available_version (*kind*)

Newest available version of the specified kind of item?

Parameters *kind* (*str*) – the lineage member item (cert, privkey, chain, or fullchain)

Returns the newest available version of this member

Return type *int*

latest_common_version ()

Newest version for which all items are available?

Returns the newest available version for which all members (cert, ``privkey, chain, and fullchain) exist

Return type *int*

next_free_version ()

Smallest version newer than all full or partial versions?

Returns the smallest version number that is larger than any version of any item currently stored in this lineage

Return type *int*

ensure_deployed ()

Make sure we’ve deployed the latest version.

Returns False if a change was needed, True otherwise

Return type *bool*

May need to recover from rare interrupted / crashed states.

has_pending_deployment ()

Is there a later version of all of the managed items?

Returns True if there is a complete version of this lineage with a larger version number than the current version, and False otherwise

Return type *bool*

_update_link_to (*kind*, *version*)

Make the specified item point at the specified version.

(Note that this method doesn’t verify that the specified version exists.)

Parameters

- **kind** (*str*) – the lineage member item (“cert”, “privkey”, “chain”, or “fullchain”)
- **version** (*int*) – the desired version

update_all_links_to (*version*)

Change all member objects to point to the specified version.

Parameters *version* (*int*) – the desired version

names (*version=None*)

What are the subject names of this certificate?

(If no version is specified, use the current version.)

Parameters *version* (*int*) – the desired version number

Returns the subject names

Return type `list of str`

Raises `CertStorageError` – if could not find cert file.

autodeployment_is_enabled()

Is automatic deployment enabled for this cert?

If autodeploy is not specified, defaults to True.

Returns True if automatic deployment is enabled

Return type `bool`

should_autodeploy (*interactive=False*)

Should this lineage now automatically deploy a newer version?

This is a policy question and does not only depend on whether there is a newer version of the cert. (This considers whether autodeployment is enabled, whether a relevant newer version exists, and whether the time interval for autodeployment has been reached.)

Parameters **interactive** (`bool`) – set to True to examine the question regardless of whether the renewal configuration allows automated deployment (for interactive use). Default False.

Returns whether the lineage now ought to autodeploy an existing newer cert version

Return type `bool`

ocsp_revoked (*version=None*)

Is the specified cert version revoked according to OCSP?

Also returns True if the cert version is declared as intended to be revoked according to Let's Encrypt OCSP extensions. (If no version is specified, uses the current version.)

This method is not yet implemented and currently always returns False.

Parameters **version** (`int`) – the desired version number

Returns whether the certificate is or will be revoked

Return type `bool`

autorenewal_is_enabled()

Is automatic renewal enabled for this cert?

If autorenew is not specified, defaults to True.

Returns True if automatic renewal is enabled

Return type `bool`

should_autorenew()

Should we now try to autorenew the most recent cert version?

This is a policy question and does not only depend on whether the cert is expired. (This considers whether autorenewal is enabled, whether the cert is revoked, and whether the time interval for autorenewal has been reached.)

Note that this examines the numerically most recent cert version, not the currently deployed version.

Returns whether an attempt should now be made to autorenew the most current cert version in this lineage

Return type `bool`

classmethod new_lineage (*lineagename, cert, privkey, chain, cli_config*)

Create a new certificate lineage.

Attempts to create a certificate lineage – enrolled for potential future renewal – with the (suggested) lineage name `lineage_name`, and the associated `cert`, `privkey`, and `chain` (the associated fullchain will be created automatically). Optional `configurator` and `renewalparams` record the configuration that was originally used to obtain this cert, so that it can be reused later during automated renewal.

Returns a new `RenewableCert` object referring to the created lineage. (The actual lineage name, as well as all the relevant file paths, will be available within this object.)

Parameters

- **lineage_name** (*str*) – the suggested name for this lineage (normally the current cert’s first subject DNS name)
- **cert** (*str*) – the initial certificate version in PEM format
- **privkey** (*str*) – the private key in PEM format
- **chain** (*str*) – the certificate chain in PEM format
- **cli_config** (`NamespaceConfig`) – parsed command line arguments

Returns the newly-created `RenewableCert` object

Return type `storage.renewableCert`

save_successor (*prior_version*, *new_cert*, *new_privkey*, *new_chain*, *cli_config*)

Save new cert and chain as a successor of a prior version.

Returns the new version number that was created.

Note: this function does NOT update links to deploy this version

Parameters

- **prior_version** (*int*) – the old version to which this version is regarded as a successor (used to choose a `privkey`, if the key has not changed, but otherwise this information is not permanently recorded anywhere)
- **new_cert** (*bytes*) – the new certificate, in PEM format
- **new_privkey** (*bytes*) – the new private key, in PEM format, or `None`, if the private key has not changed
- **new_chain** (*bytes*) – the new chain, in PEM format
- **cli_config** (`NamespaceConfig`) – parsed command line arguments

Returns the new version number that was created

Return type `int`

8.35 certbot.util

Utilities for all Certbot.

class `certbot.util.Key` (*file*, *pem*)

Bases: `tuple`

_asdict ()

Return a new `OrderedDict` which maps field names to their values

classmethod `_make` (*iterable*, *new*=<built-in method `__new__` of type object at 0x8feda0>, *len*=<built-in function `len`>)

Make a new Key object from a sequence or iterable

replace (*_self*, ***kwargs*)

Return a new Key object replacing specified fields with new values

file

Alias for field number 0

pem

Alias for field number 1

class `certbot.util.CSR` (*file*, *data*, *form*)

Bases: `tuple`

asdict ()

Return a new OrderedDict which maps field names to their values

classmethod `_make` (*iterable*, *new*=<built-in method `__new__` of type object at 0x8feda0>, *len*=<built-in function `len`>)

Make a new CSR object from a sequence or iterable

replace (*_self*, ***kwargs*)

Return a new CSR object replacing specified fields with new values

data

Alias for field number 1

file

Alias for field number 0

form

Alias for field number 2

`certbot.util.run_script` (*params*, *log*=<bound method `Logger.error` of <logging.Logger object>>)

Run the script with the given params.

Parameters

- **params** (*list*) – List of parameters to pass to Popen
- **log** (*logging.Logger*) – Logger to use for errors

`certbot.util.is_exe` (*path*)

Is path an executable file?

Parameters **path** (*str*) – path to test

Returns True iff path is an executable file

Return type `bool`

`certbot.util.exe_exists` (*exe*)

Determine whether path/name refers to an executable.

Parameters **exe** (*str*) – Executable path or name

Returns If exe is a valid executable

Return type `bool`

`certbot.util.lock_dir_until_exit` (*dir_path*)

Lock the directory at dir_path until program exit.

Parameters **dir_path** (*str*) – path to directory

Raises `errors.LockError` – if the lock is held by another process

`certbot.util.set_up_core_dir(directory, mode, uid, strict)`

Ensure directory exists with proper permissions and is locked.

Parameters

- **directory** (*str*) – Path to a directory.
- **mode** (*int*) – Directory mode.
- **uid** (*int*) – Directory owner.
- **strict** (*bool*) – require directory to be owned by current user

Raises

- `errors.LockError` – if the directory cannot be locked
- `errors.Error` – if the directory cannot be made or verified

`certbot.util.make_or_verify_dir(directory, mode=493, uid=0, strict=False)`

Make sure directory exists with proper permissions.

Parameters

- **directory** (*str*) – Path to a directory.
- **mode** (*int*) – Directory mode.
- **uid** (*int*) – Directory owner.
- **strict** (*bool*) – require directory to be owned by current user

Raises

- `errors.Error` – if a directory already exists, but has wrong permissions or owner
- `OSError` – if invalid or inaccessible file names and paths, or other arguments that have the correct type, but are not accepted by the operating system.

`certbot.util.check_permissions(filepath, mode, uid=0)`

Check file or directory permissions.

Parameters

- **filepath** (*str*) – Path to the tested file (or directory).
- **mode** (*int*) – Expected file mode.
- **uid** (*int*) – Expected file owner.

Returns True if mode and uid match, False otherwise.

Return type `bool`

`certbot.util.safe_open(path, mode='w', chmod=None, buffering=None)`

Safely open a file.

Parameters

- **path** (*str*) – Path to a file.
- **mode** (*str*) – Same os mode for `open`.
- **chmod** (*int*) – Same as mode for `os.open`, uses Python defaults if None.
- **buffering** (*int*) – Same as bufsize for `os.fdopen`, uses Python defaults if None.

`certbot.util.unique_file(path, chmod=511, mode='w')`
 Safely finds a unique file.

Parameters

- **path** (*str*) – path/filename.ext
- **chmod** (*int*) – File mode
- **mode** (*str*) – Open mode

Returns tuple of file object and file name

`certbot.util.unique_lineage_name(path, filename, chmod=420, mode='w')`
 Safely finds a unique file using lineage convention.

Parameters

- **path** (*str*) – directory path
- **filename** (*str*) – proposed filename
- **chmod** (*int*) – file mode
- **mode** (*str*) – open mode

Returns tuple of file object and file name (which may be modified from the requested one by appending digits to ensure uniqueness)

Raises **OSError** – if writing files fails for an unanticipated reason, such as a full disk or a lack of permission to write to specified location.

`certbot.util.safely_remove(path)`
 Remove a file that may not exist.

`certbot.util.get_filtered_names(all_names)`
 Removes names that aren't considered valid by Let's Encrypt.

Parameters **all_names** (*set*) – all names found in the configuration

Returns all found names that are considered valid by LE

Return type *set*

`certbot.util.get_os_info(filepath='/etc/os-release')`
 Get OS name and version

Parameters **filepath** (*str*) – File path of os-release file

Returns (os_name, os_version)

Return type tuple of *str*

`certbot.util.get_os_info_ua(filepath='/etc/os-release')`
 Get OS name and version string for User Agent

Parameters **filepath** (*str*) – File path of os-release file

Returns os_ua

Return type *str*

`certbot.util.get_systemd_os_info(filepath='/etc/os-release')`
 Parse systemd /etc/os-release for distribution information

Parameters **filepath** (*str*) – File path of os-release file

Returns (os_name, os_version)

Return type `tuple of str`

`certbot.util.get_systemd_os_like(filepath='/etc/os-release')`

Get a list of strings that indicate the distribution likeness to other distributions.

Parameters `filepath (str)` – File path of os-release file

Returns List of distribution acronyms

Return type `list of str`

`certbot.util.get_var_from_file(varname,filepath='/etc/os-release')`

Get single value from systemd /etc/os-release

Parameters

- **varname (str)** – Name of variable to fetch
- **filepath (str)** – File path of os-release file

Returns requested value

Return type `str`

`certbot.util._normalize_string(orig)`

Helper function for `get_var_from_file()` to remove quotes and whitespaces

`certbot.util.get_python_os_info()`

Get Operating System type/distribution and major version using python platform module

Returns (os_name, os_version)

Return type `tuple of str`

`certbot.util.safe_email(email)`

Scrub email address before using it.

class `certbot.util._ShowWarning(option_strings, dest, nargs=None, const=None, default=None, type=None, choices=None, required=False, help=None, metavar=None)`

Bases: `argparse.Action`

Action to log a warning when an argument is used.

`certbot.util.add_deprecated_argument(add_argument, argument_name, nargs)`

Adds a deprecated argument with the name `argument_name`.

Deprecated arguments are not shown in the help. If they are used on the command line, a warning is shown stating that the argument is deprecated and no other action is taken.

Parameters

- **add_argument (callable)** – Function that adds arguments to an argument parser/group.
- **argument_name (str)** – Name of deprecated argument.
- **nargs** – Value for nargs when adding the argument to argparse.

`certbot.util.enforce_le_validity(domain)`

Checks that Let's Encrypt will consider domain to be valid.

Parameters `domain (str or unicode)` – FQDN to check

Returns The domain cast to `str`, with ASCII-only contents

Return type `str`

Raises `ConfigurationError` – for invalid domains and cases where Let’s Encrypt currently will not issue certificates

`certbot.util.enforce_domain_sanity(domain)`

Method which validates domain value and errors out if the requirements are not met.

Parameters `domain` (`str` or `unicode`) – Domain to check

Raises `ConfigurationError` – for invalid domains and cases where Let’s Encrypt currently will not issue certificates

Returns The domain cast to `str`, with ASCII-only contents

Return type `str`

`certbot.util.is_wildcard_domain(domain)`

“Is domain a wildcard domain?”

Parameters `domain` (`bytes` or `str` or `unicode`) – domain to check

Returns True if domain is a wildcard, otherwise, False

Return type `bool`

`certbot.util.get_strict_version(normalized)`

Converts a normalized version to a strict version.

Parameters `normalized` (`str`) – normalized version string

Returns An equivalent strict version

Return type `distutils.version.StrictVersion`

`certbot.util.is_staging(srv)`

Determine whether a given ACME server is a known test / staging server.

Parameters `srv` (`str`) – the URI for the ACME server

Returns True iff `srv` is a known test / staging server

Rtype `bool`

`certbot.util.atexit_register(func, *args, **kwargs)`

Sets `func` to be called before the program exits.

Special care is taken to ensure `func` is only called when the process that first imports this module exits rather than any child processes.

Parameters `func` (`function`) – function to be called in case of an error

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