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Flask 0.10 giving unicode error on session cookie



After upgrading to Flask 0.10, I get this error:

```
flask.debughelpers.UnexpectedUnicodeError
UnexpectedUnicodeError: A byte string with non-ASCII data was passed to the session
system which can only store unicode strings. Consider base64 encoding your string
(String was 'iB\rOU#\xf7B0\x08^\xa6\xd1)v\xad')

Traceback (most recent call last)
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/app.py", line 1836, in
__call__
return self.wsgi_app(environ, start_response)
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/app.py", line 1820, in
wsgi_app
response = self.make_response(self.handle_exception(e))
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/app.py", line 1403, in
handle_exception
reraise(exc_type, exc_value, tb)
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/app.py", line 1817, in
wsgi_app
response = self.full_dispatch_request()
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/app.py", line 1479, in
full_dispatch_request
response = self.process_response(response)
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/app.py", line 1693, in
process_response
self.save_session(ctx.session, response)
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/app.py", line 837, in
save_session
return self.session_interface.save_session(self, session, response)
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/sessions.py", line 321, in
save_session
val = self.get_signing_serializer(app).dumps(dict(session))
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/itsdangerous.py", line 471, in
dumps
return self.make_signer(salt).sign(self.dump_payload(obj))
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/itsdangerous.py", line 676, in
dump_payload
json = super(URLSafeSerializerMixin, self).dump_payload(obj)
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/itsdangerous.py", line 454, in
dump_payload
return self.serializer.dumps(obj)
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/sessions.py", line 82, in
dumps
return json.dumps(_tag(value), separators=(',', ':'))
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/sessions.py", line 72, in
_tag
return dict((k, _tag(v)) for k, v in iteritems(value))
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/sessions.py", line 72, in
<genexpr>
return dict((k, _tag(v)) for k, v in iteritems(value))
File "/srv/www/li/venv/lib/python2.7/site-packages/flask/sessions.py", line 80, in
_tag
u'base64 encoding your string (String was %r)' % value)
UnexpectedUnicodeError: A byte string with non-ASCII data was passed to the session
system which can only store unicode strings. Consider base64 encoding your string
(String was 'iB\rOU#\xf7B0\x08^\xa6\xd1)v\xad')
```

What the `self.save_session(ctx.session, response)` for `flask/app.py` line 1693 gives is this: `flask.sessions.SecureCookieSession({'_id': 'iB\rOU#\xf7B0\x08^\xa6\xd1)v\xad', '_flashes': [('message', 'Please log in to access this page.')]})`

So, if I read this correctly, the session gives an id that flask tries to unicode (and fails at). I have no clue on how to correct this (emptying my browsers cache to hope for a new session didn't help either). Can anyone give me any suggestions on what I should do?

Kind regards,

Carst

edit: some extra info. My setup uses flask, flask_mail, flask.ext.mongoengine and flask.ext.security; i use MongoEngine: `db = flask.ext.mongoengine.MongoEngine(app)` and `flask-security: user_datastore = flask.ext.security.MongoEngineUserDatastore(db, User, Role)`

security – flask.ext.security.Security(app, user_datastore)

Edit: it appears to be a double question: [Flask Login: TypeError: decoding Unicode is not supported](#)

(hadn't seen it, sorry)

[python](#) [flask](#) [flask-login](#)

edited Jun 14 '13 at 1:05

 [maxcountryman](#)
1,237 ● 4 ● 19

asked Jun 13 '13 at 21:18

 [Carst](#)
648 ● 2 ● 8 ● 16

This question is not exactly a duplicate since the answers there are solving by downgrading to another version, while here the author of Flask gave an answer that actually works. – [Lipis](#) Jun 27 '13 at 10:30

2 Answers

That's currently an issue with [Flask-Login](#). As far as I know it's fixed in the git version of the extension.

edited Jun 27 '13 at 10:31

 [Lipis](#)
12.2k ● 13 ● 55 ● 88


answered Jun 13 '13 at 21:27


 [Armin Ronacher](#)
21.6k ● 7 ● 56 ● 63

thank you! i will check it out (and thanks for making Flask :) For people who find this post, see also: github.com/maxcountryman/flask-login/issues/78 – [Carst](#) Jun 13 '13 at 21:29

This has not been fixed in any version of the extension. – [maxcountryman](#) Jun 14 '13 at 0:59

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A temporary workaround (thanks to Kave) is downgrading both Flask and Werkzeug:

```
pip install werkzeug==0.8.3
pip install flask==0.9
pip install Flask-Login==0.1.3
```

answered Jun 13 '13 at 22:43

 [Carst](#)
648 ● 2 ● 8 ● 16

Yes, please use Flask 0.9: there is nothing wrong with 0.9 and we have no intention of doing a release of Flask-Login before we're ready. (We aren't ready.) – [maxcountryman](#) Jun 14 '13 at 1:00

3 @maxcountryman are you ready now? It works.. – [Lipis](#) Jun 27 '13 at 10:35