NAME

bintrans, **uuencode**, **uudecode**, **b64encode**, **b64decode** - encode/decode a binary file

SYNOPSIS

bintrans [algorithm] [...]
uuencode [**-m**] [**-r**] [**-o** *output_file*] [*file*] *name*
uudecode [**-cimprs**] [*file ...*]
uudecode [**-i**] **-o** *output_file*
b64encode [**-r**] [**-w** *column*] [**-o** *output_file*] [*file*] *name*
b64decode [**-cimprs**] [*file ...*]
b64decode [**-i**] **-o** *output_file* [*file*]
base64 [**-d**] [**-w** *column*] [*file*]

DESCRIPTION

The **uuencode** and **uudecode** utilities are used to transmit binary files over transmission mediums that do not support other than simple ASCII data. The **b64encode** utility is synonymous with **uuencode** with the **-m** flag specified. The **b64decode** utility is synonymous with **uudecode** with the **-m** flag specified.

The **base64** utility acts as a base64 decoder when passed the **--decode** (or **-d**) flag and as a base64 encoder otherwise. As a decoder it only accepts raw base64 input and as an encoder it does not produce the framing lines. **base64** reads standard input or *file* if it is provided and writes to standard output. Options **--wrap** (or **-w**) and **--ignore-garbage** (or **-i**) are accepted for compatibility with GNU base64, but the latter is unimplemented and silently ignored.

The **uuencode** utility reads *file* (or by default the standard input) and writes an encoded version to the standard output, or *output_file* if one has been specified. The encoding uses only printing ASCII characters and includes the mode of the file and the operand *name* for use by **uudecode**.

The **uudecode** utility transforms *uuencoded* files (or by default, the standard input) into the original form. The resulting file is named either *name* or (depending on options passed to **uudecode**) *output_file* and will have the mode of the original file except that setuid and execute bits are not retained. The **uudecode** utility ignores any leading and trailing lines.

The following options are available for **uuencode**:

-m   Use the Base64 method of encoding, rather than the traditional **uuencode** algorithm.

-r   Produce raw output by excluding the initial and final framing lines.

-o *output_file*

Output to *output_file* instead of standard output.

The following options are available for **uudecode**:

-c   Decode more than one uuencoded file from *file* if possible.

-i   Do not overwrite files.

-m   When used with the **-r** flag, decode Base64 input instead of traditional **uuencode** input. Without **-r** it has no effect.

-o *output_file*
Output to *output_file* instead of any pathname contained in the input data.

-p   Decode *file* and write output to standard output.

-r   Decode raw (or broken) input, which is missing the initial and possibly the final framing lines. The input is assumed to be in the traditional **uuencode** encoding, but if the **-m** flag is used, or if the utility is invoked as **b64decode**, then the input is assumed to be in Base64 format.

-s   Do not strip output pathname to base filename. By default **uudecode** deletes any prefix ending with the last slash '/' for security reasons.

Additionally, **b64encode** accepts the following option:

-w *column*
Wrap encoded output after *column*.

bintrans is a generic utility that can run any of the aforementioned encoders and decoders. It can also run algorithms that are not available through a dedicated program:

qp is a quoted-printable converter and accepts the following options:

-u   Decode.

-o *output_file*
Output to *output_file* instead of standard output.

EXAMPLES
The following example packages up a source tree, compresses it, uuencodes it and mails it to a user on

another system. When **uudecode** is run on the target system, the file ''src_tree.tar.Z'' will be created which may then be uncompressed and extracted into the original tree.

    tar cf - src_tree | compress |
    uuencode src_tree.tar.Z | mail user@example.com

The following example unpacks all uuencoded files from your mailbox into your current working directory.

    uudecode -c < $MAIL

The following example extracts a compressed tar archive from your mailbox

    uudecode -o /dev/stdout < $MAIL | zcat | tar xfv -

SEE ALSO
basename(1), compress(1), mail(1), uucp(1) (*ports/net/freebsd-uucp*), uuencode(5)

HISTORY
The **uudecode** and **uuencode** utilities appeared in 4.0BSD.

BUGS
Files encoded using the traditional algorithm are expanded by 35% (3 bytes become 4 plus control information).