

# How request routing should be

Alternative title: why Django's URL routing sucks

# It all comes down to...

*Some people, when confronted with a problem, think ``I know, I'll use regular expressions.'' Now they have two problems*

–JWZ

# DRY Fail

- You need to relearn and repeat each time the magic patterns to match:
  - Numeric pks
  - Slugs
  - Dates
  - Usernames
  - ...

# DRY Fail (cont'd)

- Boiler plate code to lookup
  - Multiple objects
  - Single objects

(by any of the items in the list before)
- And to convert strings to
  - Number
  - Dates
  - Etc.

# This is what I'd like

- Match “field types” instead of regexes
- Make the view receive directly:
  - Model instances
  - Or querysets
  - Or just the **value** (not always a string) from the url

# That gives us

- Easier to read/write urlconfs
- Higher level code in views
- Easier to do smarter decorators
- DRY
- Some interdependence between URL routing and model layer that I don't like
- A bit less flexibility (but you can always use standard routing)

# Yes, I have a working prototype

Look for me during the conference or sprint on Friday

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