

## urllib or urllib2?

If you've used the `urllib2` library in Python 2.x, you might have noticed that things have changed somewhat between `urllib2` and `urllib`. In Python 3.x, `urllib2` was renamed `urllib` and was split into several submodules:

`urllib.request`, `urllib.parse`, and `urllib.error`. Although function names mostly remain the same, you might want to note which functions have moved to submodules when using the new `urllib`.

`urllib` is a standard Python library (meaning you don't have to install anything extra to run this example) and contains functions for requesting data across the web, handling cookies, and even changing metadata such as headers and your user agent. We will be using `urllib` extensively throughout the book, so we recommend you read the Python documentation for the library (<http://bit.ly/1FncvYE>).

`urlopen` is used to open a remote object across a network and read it. Because it is a fairly generic library (it can read HTML files, image files, or any other file stream with ease), we will be using it quite frequently throughout the book.