

23. SENDING EMAIL

Simple Mail Transfer Protocol (SMTP) is a protocol, which handles sending e-mail and routing e-mail between mail servers.

Python provides **smtplib** module, which defines an SMTP client session object that can be used to send mail to any Internet machine with an SMTP or ESMTP listener daemon.

Here is a simple syntax to create one SMTP object, which can later be used to send an e-mail:

```
import smtplib  
  
smtpObj = smtplib.SMTP( [host [, port [, local_hostname]]] )
```

Here is the detail of the parameters:

- **host:** This is the host running your SMTP server. You can specify IP address of the host or a domain name like `tutorialspoint.com`. This is optional argument.
- **port:** If you are providing *host* argument, then you need to specify a port, where SMTP server is listening. Usually this port would be 25.
- **local_hostname:** If your SMTP server is running on your local machine, then you can specify just *localhost* as of this option.

An SMTP object has an instance method called **sendmail**, which is typically used to do the work of mailing a message. It takes three parameters:

- The *sender* - A string with the address of the sender.
- The *receivers* - A list of strings, one for each recipient.
- The *message* - A message as a string formatted as specified in the various RFCs.

Example

Here is a simple way to send one e-mail using Python script. Try it once:

```
#!/usr/bin/python  
  
import smtplib  
  
sender = 'from@fromdomain.com'
```