
importlib module

- ❖ Imported modules stored in ``sys.modules``
 - ❖ Both for caching, and for uniformity
- ❖ Modules are imported to a “module path”
 - ❖ e.g.: ``urllib.path``, ``sys.path``, ``your.module.here``
 - ❖ This usually corresponds to relative paths
 - ❖ But not always... (*grr* ROS)

importlib module: import_module

- ❖ Usually backs the ``import`` statement
 - ❖ Can be changed with ``builtins.__import__`` (but don't)
- ❖ The usual need is to import a module by variable name:

```
import importlib
module_name = 'foo'
globals()[module_name] = importlib.import_module(module_name)
```
- ❖ ``import foo`` puts ``foo`` into the (module's) namespace
 - ❖ ``__import__`` and ``importlib.import_module`` don't