

Navigating Directories with ftplib

Let's learn how to see what's on the FTP server and change directories! Here is some code that demonstrates the normal method of doing so:

```
from ftplib import FTP
ftp = FTP()
ftp.login()
ftp.retrlines('LIST')
#total 28
#drwxrwxrwx   2 0      0      4096 Sep  6  2015 .snapshot
#drwxr-xr-x   2 202019 5564  4096 Sep  6  2015 CSE421
#drwxr-xr-x   2 0      0      4096 Jul 23  2008 bin
#drwxr-xr-x   2 0      0      4096 Mar 15  2007 etc
#drwxr-xr-x   6 89987   546   4096 Sep  6  2015 mirror
#drwxrwxr-x   7 6980    546   4096 Jul  3  2014 pub
#drwxr-xr-x  26 0      11    4096 Apr 29 20:31 users
# '226 Transfer complete.'

ftp.cwd('mirror')
# '250 CWD command successful.'

ftp.retrlines('LIST')
#total 16
#drwxr-xr-x   3 89987   546   4096 Sep  6  2015 BSD
#drwxr-xr-x   5 89987   546   4096 Sep  6  2015 Linux
#drwxr-xr-x   4 89987   546   4096 Sep  6  2015 Network
#drwxr-xr-x   4 89987   546   4096 Sep  6  2015 X11
# '226 Transfer complete.'
```

Here we get logged in and then we send the LIST command to the FTP server. This is done by calling our ftp object's **retrlines** method. The **retrlines** method prints out the result of the command we called. In this example, we called LIST which retrieves a list of files and/or folders along with their respective informations and prints them out. Then we used the **cwd** command to change our working directory to a different folder and then re-ran the LIST command to see what was in it. You could also use your ftp object's **dir** function to get a listing of the current folder.

