StringIO

The StringIO module implements an in-memory file like object. This object can then be used as input or output to most functions that would expect a standard file object.

The best way to show this is by example:

In [1]:
```
import StringIO
```

In [16]:
```
# Arbitrary String
message = 'This is just a normal string.'
```

In [25]:
```
# Use StringIO method to set as file object
f = StringIO.StringIO(message)
```

Now we have an object *f* that we will be able to treat just like a file. For example:

In [30]:
```
f.read()
```

Out[30]:
```
''
```

We can also write to it:

In [27]:
```
f.write(' Second line written to file like object')
```

In [28]:
```
# Reset cursor just like you would a file
f.seek(0)
```

In [29]:
```
# Read again
f.read()
```

Out[29]:
```
'This is just a normal string. Second line written to file like object'
```

Great! Now you've seen how we can use StringIO to turn normal strings into in-memory file objects in our code. This kind of action has various use cases, especially in web scraping cases where you want to read some string you scraped as a file.

For more info on StringIO check out the documentation:https://docs.python.org/2/library/stringio.html (https://docs.python.org/2/library/stringio.html)