Python read JSON file and modify

Ask Question

Hi I am trying to take the data from a json file and insert and id then perform POST REST. my file data.json has:

```
{
    'name':'myname'
}
```

and I would like to add an id so that the json data looks like:

```
{
    'id': 134,
    'name': 'myname'
}
```

So I tried:

```
import json
f = open("data.json","r")
data = f.read()
jsonObj = json.loads(data)
```

I can't get to load the json format file. What should I do so that I can convert the json file into json object and add another id value.

python　　　json　　　file-io

edited Jul 19 '16 at 0:15　　　　　　　asked Jan 10 '14 at 3:34

falsetru　　　　　　**codeBarer**
225k 27 371 379　　　**810** 4 21 41

3　　That is not valid json. A string should be wrapped in **double quotes**. – falsetru Jan 10 '14 at 3:40

　　　Thanks that solved it. – codeBarer Jan 10 '14 at 3:42

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2 Answers

Set item using `data['id'] = ...` .

```
import json

with open('data.json', 'r+') as f:
    data = json.load(f)
    data['id'] = 134 # <--- add `id` value.
    f.seek(0)        # <--- should reset file position to the beginning.
    json.dump(data, f, indent=4)
    f.truncate()     # remove remaining part
```

edited Nov 22 '16 at 8:17　　　　answered Jan 10 '14 at 3:44

falsetru
225k 27 371 379

5　　unrelated: json format is defined for Unicode text. You could use `with codecs.open('data.json', 'r+',`
　　`encoding='utf-8') as f` – jfs Jan 10 '14 at 4:51

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falsetru's solution is nice, but has a little bug:

Suppose original 'id' length was larger than 5 characters. When we then dump with the new 'id' (134 with only 3 characters) the length of the string being written from position 0 in file is *shorter* than the original length. Extra chars (such as '}') left in file from the original content.

I solved that by replacing the original file.

```
import json
import os

filename = 'data.json'
with open(filename, 'r') as f:
    data = json.load(f)
    data['id'] = 134 # <--- add `id` value.

os.remove(filename)
with open(filename, 'w') as f:
    json.dump(data, f, indent=4)
```

answered Nov 21 '16 at 10:37

VadimBelov
101 1 2

I updated the answer to fix a bug – falsetru Jul 1 '17 at 7:50