

PHP working with regular expressions

PHP web development 2019/2020

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Definition and usage

Definition and usage

A **regular expression**,

regex or

regexp¹

is a sequence of characters that define a search pattern.



Definition and usage

- telephone pattern: **+1 - (800)-555-2468**
- link pattern: **<http://foo.co.uk/>**
- date pattern: **14 – 07 – 2015**



Definition and usage

Usage

- "find" or "find and replace" operations on strings,
- input validation.

Regular expressions are used in search engines, search and replace dialogs of word processors and text editors, in text processing utilities such as sed and AWK and in lexical analysis.

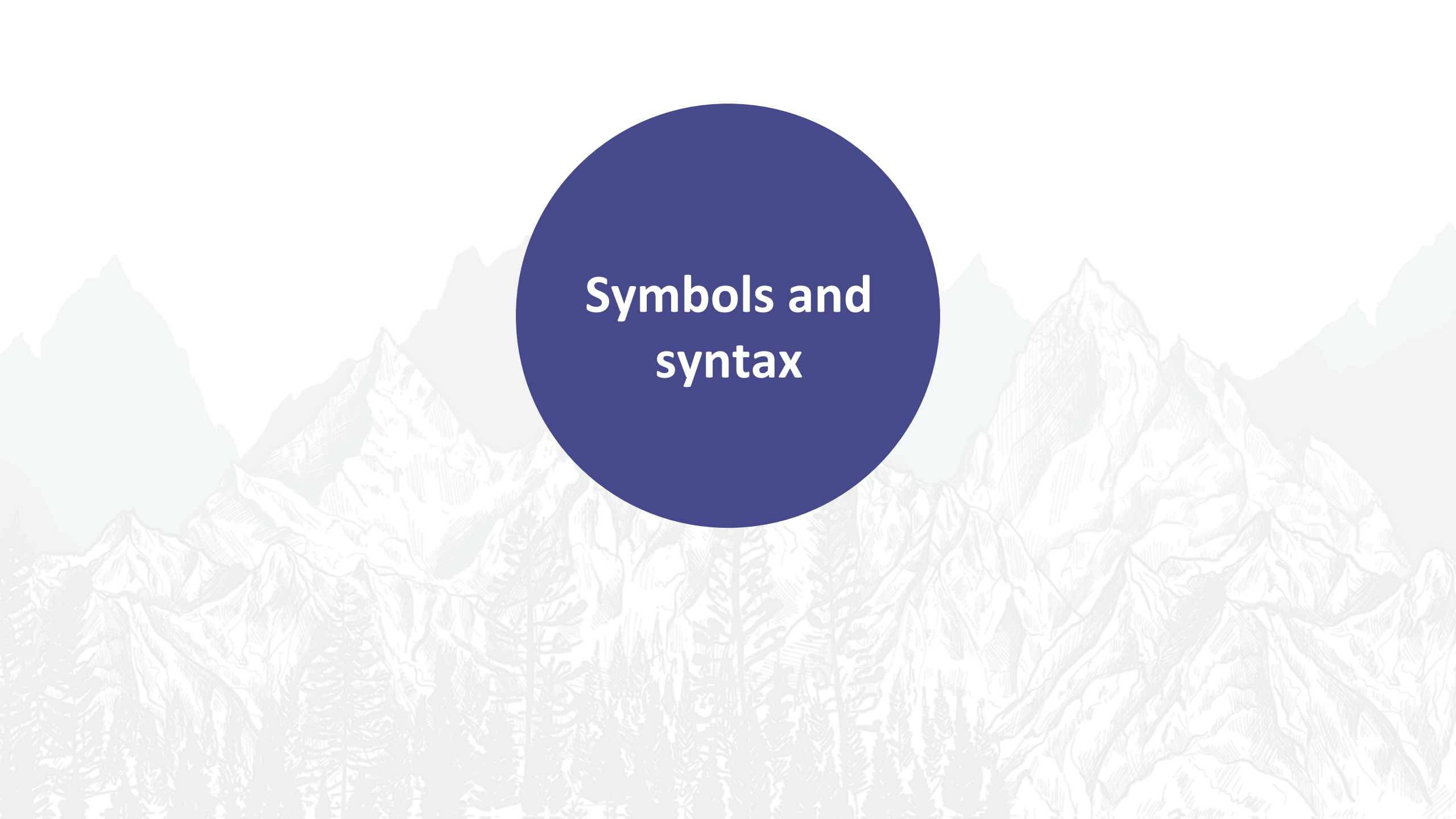


Definition and usage

Many programming languages provide **regex** capabilities either built-in or via libraries.

Principles and techniques for building **regular expressions** are the same for all programming languages that use them.





Symbols and syntax

Symbols and syntax for bulduing regex

Start
End
RegExr

Build patterns that only find matches they are intended to!

^L //Line starts with L

B\$ //Line ends with B

\b //marks boundaries of a word

Symbols and syntax for bulduing regex

flags

RegExr

Build patterns that only find matches they are intended to!

g – global search

i – case-insensitive search

m – multiline search

Symbols and syntax for bulduing regex

letters, digits

RegExr

Build patterns that only find matches they are intended to!

. – any symbol

[bgi] – look for the symbols specified in brackets

[a-zA-Z] – look for the symbol interval specified in brackets - all small and uppercase letters

[0-9] – all digits 0 to 9

[^abc] – all but the specified in brackets

Symbols and syntax for bulduing regex

general symbols

RegExr

Build patterns that only find matches they are intended to!

\s – matches a single white space character, including space, tab, form feed, line feed

\S – matches a single character other than white space

\d – same as `[0-9]`

\D – еквивалентно с `[^0-9]`

\w – all letters - small and uppercase, digits and `_`

\W – all but letters - small and uppercase, digits and

Symbols and syntax for bulduing regex

symbol repeats

RegExr

Build patterns that only find matches they are intended to!

+ - symbol repeats 1 or many times

? – symbol repeats 0 or 1 time

| - first **or** the second pattern

{5} – number of repeats - 5 times exactly

{1, 5} – number of repeats - from 1 to 5 times

Symbols and syntax for bulduing regex

Build patterns that only find matches they are intended to!

grouping

RegExr

use () to make a group for the pattern

Symbols and syntax for bulduing regex

grouping
RegExr

Build patterns that only find matches they are intended to!

Task Make pattern that matches telephone numbers in the format

555.123.4567

The pattern is

`(([0-9] {3} \.)){2}([0-9] {4})`



PHP regex functions

PHP regex functions

preg_match() - searches in string for match of the given pattern. Returns only the first match.

preg_match_all() – searches in string for match of the given pattern. Returns all matches.

preg_replace() - searches and replaces in string matching given pattern

preg_split() - splits a string according to given pattern



Learn to Search in Internet

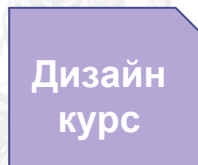
- The course assignments require to search in Internet
 - This is an important part of the learning process
 - Some exercises intentionally have no hints
- Learn to find solutions!
 - Software development includes everyday searching and learning
 - No excuses, just learn to study!
 - Developers learn new technologies, tools, languages every day!



Questions?



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