

In linux regular expression are special characters which helps to search data and matching complex, pattern. Regular expressions are stored, as 'regexp' or 'regex'. Regexp are most commonly used within the linux commands.

Types of regular expression

Expression $\{n\}$ matches the preceding character appearing 'n' times

$\{n,m\}$ matches the preceding character appearing n times but not more than m .

$\{n,\}$ matches the preceding character only when it appears n times or more.

3. External regular expression

This expression contains combinations of more

than one expression

Expression

\wedge matches one or more occurrence of the previous character

$\wedge?$ matches zero or more occurrence of the previous character.

Q: Give a file 'sample' containing text

banana

apple

Guava

Pineapple

tree

(i) Search for content containing letter 'a'

(ii) Search for content start with 'a'

(iii) Search for content that end with 't' using $\$$

(iv) Search for content that contains 'p' appearing 2 times in a string one after the other

(v) Search for content when character 'a' precedes it

→ i) \$ cat sample | grep a
banana
apple
Guava
pineapple.

(ii) \$ cat sample | grep ^a
apple.

(iii) \$ cat sample | grep t \$
tree

(iv) cat sample | grep -E p\{2,4
apple

(v) cat sample | grep .\{a\} + t"
tree