# Regular Expressions

#### **Problem**

Write a Python code to check if the given mobile number is valid or not. The conditions to be satisfied for a mobile number are:

- a) Number of characters must be 10
- b) All characters must be digits and must not begin with a '0'

# **Validity of Mobile Number**

| Input                                 | Processing  | Output                 |
|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------|
| A string representing a mobile number | Take character by character and check if it valid | Print valid or invalid |

- abc8967891
- Invalid
- Alphabets are not allowed

- 440446845
- Invalid
- Only 9 digits

- 0440446845
- Invalid
- Should not begin with a zero

- 8440446845
- Valid
- All conditions statisfied

#### Python code to check validity of mobile number (Long Code)

```
import sys
number = input()
if len(number)!=10:
  print ('invalid')
  sys.exit(0)
if number[0]=='0':
   print ('invalid')
  sys.exit(0)
for chr in number:
  if chr.isalpha():
     print ('invalid')
     break
else:
  print('Valid')
```

- Manipulating text or data is a big thing
- If I were running an e-mail archiving company, and you, as one of my customers, requested all of the e-mail that you sent and received last February, for example, it would be nice if I could set a computer program to collate and forward that information to you, rather than having a human being read through your email and process your request manually.

- Another example request might be to look for a subject line like "ILOVEYOU," indicating a virusinfected message, and remove those e-mail messages from your personal archive.
- So this demands the question of how we can program machines with the ability to look for patterns in text.
- Regular expressions provide such an infrastructure for advanced text pattern matching, extraction, and/or search-and-replace functionality.
- Python supports regexes through the standard library re module

- regexes are strings containing text and special characters that describe a pattern with which to recognize multiple strings.
- Regexs without special characters

| Regex Pattern | String(s) Matched |
|---------------|-------------------|
| foo           | foo               |
| Python        | Python            |
| abc123        | abc123            |

- These are simple expressions that match a single string
- Power of regular expressions comes in when special characters are used to define character sets, subgroup matching, and pattern repetition

# **Special Symbols and Characters**

| Notation | Description   | Example Regex |
|----------|---|---------------|
| Symbols  |   |               |
| literal  | Match literal string value 1iteral                  | foo           |
| re1 re2  | Match regular expressions re1 or re2                | foo bar       |
|          | Match any character (except \n)                     | b.b           |
| ٨        | Match start of string                               | ^Dear         |
| \$       | Match end of string                                 | /bin/*sh\$    |
| *        | Match 0 or more occurrences of pre-<br>ceding regex | [A-Za-z0-9]*  |
| +        | Match 1 or more occurrences of pre-<br>ceding regex | $[a-z]+\.com$ |
| ?        | Match 0 or 1 occurrence(s) of pre-<br>ceding regex  | goo?          |

# **Special Symbols and Characters**

| { <i>N</i> } | Match Noccurrences of preceding regex                  | [0-9]{3}       |
|--------------|--|----------------|
| {M, N}       | Match from M to N occurrences of preceding regex       | [0-9]{5,9}     |
| []           | Match any single character from<br>character class     | [aeiou]        |
| [x-y]        | Match any single character in the<br>range from x to y | [0-9],[A-Za-z] |

# **Special Symbols and Characters**

#### Symbols

[^...] Do not match any character from character class, including any ranges, if present

[^aeiou], [^A-Za-z0-9\_]

# Matching Any Single Character (.)

- dot or period (.) symbol (letter, number, whitespace (not including "\n"), printable, nonprintable, or a symbol) matches any single character except for \n
- To specify a dot character explicitly, you must escape its functionality with a backslash, as in "\."

| Regex Pattern | Strings Matched   |
|---------------|---|
| f.o           | Any character between "f" and "o"; for example, fao, f9o, f#o, etc. |
|               | Any pair of characters  |
| .end          | Any character before the string end                                 |

```
import re
if re.match("f.o","fooo"):
  print("Matched")
else:
  print("Not matched")
Output:
Prints matched
Since it searches only for the pattern 'f.o' in the
  string
```

```
import re
if re.match("f.o$","fooo"):
    print("Matched")
else:
    print("Not matched")
```

Check that the entire string starts with 'f', ends with 'o' and contain one letter in between

```
import re
if re.match("..","fooo"):
  print("Matched")
else:
  print("Not matched")
Matched
```

Two dots matches any pair of characters.

```
import re
if re.match("..$","fooo"):
    print("Matched")
else:
    print("Not matched")
```

#### Not matched

Including a '\$' at the end will match only strings of length 2

```
import re
if re.match(".end","bend"):
    print("Matched")
else:
    print("Not matched")
```

#### **Matched**

The expression used in the example, matches any character for '.'

```
import re
if re.match(".end","bends"):
    print("Matched")
else:
    print("Not matched")
Prints Matched
```

```
import re
if re.match(".end$","bends"):
    print("Matched")
else:
    print("Not matched")
Prints Not matched - $ check for end of string
```

# Matching from the Beginning or End of Strings or Word Boundaries (^, \$)

- A Match beginning of string
- \$ Match End of string

| Regex Pattern  | Strings Matched  |
|----------------|--|
| ^From          | Any string that starts with From                       |
| /bin/tcsh\$    | Any string that ends with /bin/tcsh                    |
| ^Subject: hi\$ | Any string consisting solely of the string Subject: hi |

if you wanted to match any string that ended with a dollar sign, one possible regex solution would be the pattern .\*\\$\$

#### But not sufficient

Check whether the given register number of a VIT student is valid or not.

Example register number – 15bec1032

Register number is valid if it has two digits

Followed by three letters

Followed by four digits

# Denoting Ranges (-) and Negation (^)

- brackets also support ranges of characters
- A hyphen between a pair of symbols enclosed in brackets is used to indicate a range of characters;
- For example A–Z, a–z, or 0–9 for uppercase letters, lowercase letters, and numeric digits, respectively

| Regex Pattern        | Strings Matched   |
|----------------------|---|
| z.[0-9]              | "z" followed by any character then followed by a single digit   |
| [r-u][env-y]<br>[us] | "r," "s," "t," or "u" followed by "e," "n," "v," "w," "x," or "y" followed by "u" or "s"              |
| [^aeiou]             | A non-vowel character (Exercise: why do we say<br>"non-vowels" rather than "consonants"?)             |
| [^\t\n]              | Not a TAB or \n   |
| ["-a]                | In an ASCII system, all characters that fall between '"' and "a," that is, between ordinals 34 and 97 |

# Multiple Occurrence/Repetition Using Closure Operators (\*, +, ?, {})

- special symbols \*, +, and ?, all of which can be used to match single, multiple, or no occurrences of string patterns
- Asterisk or star operator (\*) match zero or more occurrences of the regex immediately to its left
- Plus operator (+) Match one or more occurrences of a regex

- Question mark operator (?) match exactly 0 or 1 occurrences of a regex.
- There are also brace operators ({}) with either a single value or a comma-separated pair of values.
   These indicate a match of exactly N occurrences (for {N}) or a range of occurrences; for example, {M, N} will match from M to N occurrences

# Code to check the validity of register number

```
import re
register= input()
if re.match("^[1-9][0-9][a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z][0-
  9][0-9][0-9][0-9]$",register):
  print("Matched")
else:
  print("Not matched")
```

- ^ denote begin (Meaning is different when we put this symbol inside the square bracket)
- \$ denote end

| Regex Pattern | Strings Matched  |
|---------------|--|
| [dn]ot?       | "d" or "n," followed by an "o" and, at most, one "t" after that; thus, do, no, dot, not.   |
| 0?[1-9]       | Any numeric digit, possibly prepended with a "0." For example, the set of numeric representations of the months January to September, whether single or double-digits. |
| [0-9]{15,16}  | Fifteen or sixteen digits (for example, credit card numbers.   |

# Refined Code to check the validity of register number

{n} – indicate that the pattern before the braces should occur n times

import re
register= input()

```
if re.match("^[1-9][0-9][a-zA-Z]{3}[0-
    9]{4}$",register):
    print("Matched")
else:
    print("Not matched")
```

# Check validity of Mobile Number (Shorter Code)

```
import re
number = input()
if re.match('[^0][0-9]{9}',number):
  print('valid')
else:
  print('invalid')
Bug: Will also accept a843338320
```

# Check validity of Mobile Number (Shorter Code)

```
import re
number = input()
if re.match('[1-9][0-9]{9}',number):
    print('valid')
else:
    print('invalid')
```

# Check validity of PAN card number with RE

```
import re
pan=input()
if len(pan) < 10 and len(pan) > 10 :
    print ("PAN Number should be 10 characters")
    exit
```

```
elif re.search("[^a-zA-Z0-9]",pan):
  print ("No symbols allowed, only
  alphanumerics")
  exit
elif re.search("[0-9]",pan[0:5]):
  print ("Invalid - 1")
  exit
```

```
elif re.search("[A-Za-z]",pan[5:9]):
  print ("Invalid - 2")
  exit
elif re.search("[0-9]",pan[-1]):
  print ("Invalid - 3")
  exit
else:
  print ("Your card "+ pan + " is valid")
```

- Python read all input as string
- In some cases it is necessary to check if the value entered is an integer
- We can check it using regular expressions

# Rules for an integer

- optionally begin with a negative sign include ^ symbol
- first digit must be a number other than zero may be followed zero to any number of digits string must end with it so add \$ symbol

```
import re
register= input()
```

#optionally begin with a negative sign include ^ symol

#first digit must be a number other than zero # may be followed zero to any number of digits # string must end with it so add \$ symbol

```
if re.match("^\-?[1-9][0-9]*$",register):
    #'\' is added in front of '-' to overcome its default
    meaning in REs
    print("Matched")
else:
    print("Not matched")
```

Rules for an integer or a floating point value optionally begin with a negative sign include ^ symbol

first digit must be a number other than zero may be followed zero to any number of digits string must end with it so add \$ symbol Optionally followed by a '.'

Followed by zero or more digits String ends here

```
import re
register= input()
if re.match("^-?[1-9][0-9]*.?[0-9]*$",register):
  #'.' can occur zero or one time followed by a
  digit occurred zero to infinite number of times
  print("Matched")
else:
  print("Not matched")
```