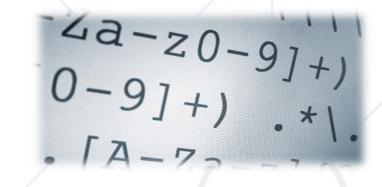
Regular Expressions (RegExp)

Regular Expressions Language Syntax



SoftUni Team Technical Trainers







Software University

https://softuni.bg

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Have a Question?







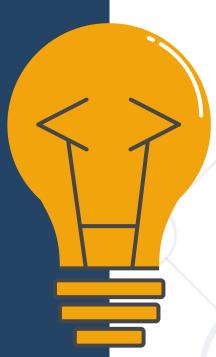
Regular Expressions

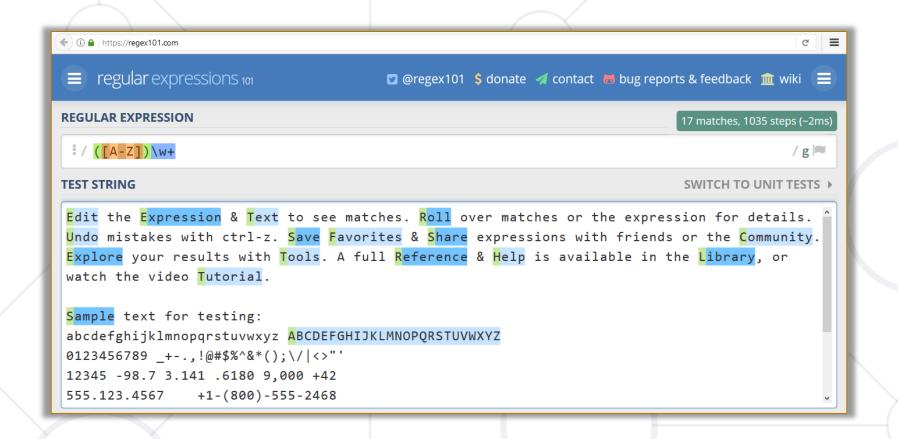
Definition and Classes

What Are Regular Expressions?



- Regular expressions (RegExp)
 - Match text by pattern
- Patterns are defined by special syntax, e.g.
 - [0-9]+ matches non-empty sequence of digits
 - [A-Z][a-z]* matches a capital + small letters
- Play with regexp live at: <u>regexr.com</u>, <u>regex101.com</u>





www.regex101.com

Live Demo

Regular Expression Pattern – Example



- Regular expressions (RegExp) describe a search pattern
- Used to find / extract / replace / split data from text by pattern

John Smith

Linda Davis

Contact: Alex Scott

Character Classes: Ranges



[nvj]+ matches any character that is either n, v or j

```
node.js v0.12.2
```

[^abc] – matches any character that is not a, b or c

Abraham

■ [0-9] — character range: matches any digit from 0 to 9

John is 8 years old.

Predefined Classes



- w matches any word character (a-z, A-Z, 0-9, _)
- \W matches any non-word character (the opposite of \w)
- \s matches any white-space character
- S matches any non-white-space character (opposite of \s)
- \d matches any decimal digit (0-9)
- \D matches any non-decimal character (the opposite of \d)



Quantifiers



* – matches the previous element zero or more times

■ + — matches the previous element one or more times

? – matches the previous element zero or one time

```
\+\d? +359885976002 a+b
```

■ {3} – matches the previous element exactly 3 times

Grouping Constructs



 (subexpression) – captures the matched subexpression as numbered group

$$\d{2}-(\w{3})-\d{4}$$
 \implies 22-Jan-2015

(?:subexpression) – defines a non-capturing group

```
^(?:Hi|hello),\s*(\w+)$ 
Hi, Peter
```

(?<name>subexpression) - defines a named capturing group

```
(?<day>\d{2})-(?<month>\w{3})-
(?<year>\d{4})

22-Jan-2015
```

Problem: Match All Words



Write a regular expression in www.regex101.com that extracts all word char sequences from given text

_ (Underscores) are
also word characters!



_|Underscores|are|also| word|characters

Problem: Match Dates



- Write a regular expression that extracts dates from text
 - Valid date format: dd-MMM-yyyy
 - Examples: 12-Jun-1999, 3-Nov-1999

I am born on 30-Dec-1994.

My father is born on the 9-Jul-1955.

01-July-2000 is not a valid date.

Problem: Email Validation



- Write a regular expression that performs simple email validation
 - An email consists of: username @ domain name
 - Usernames are alphanumeric
 - Domain names consist of two strings, separated by a period
 - Domain names may contain only English letters

Valid: valid123@email.bg

Invalid: invalid*name@emai1.bg



Backreferences

Numbered Capturing Group

Backreferences Match Previous Groups



number – matches the value of a numbered capture group

```
<b>Regular Expressions</b> are cool!
I am a paragraph ... some text after
Hello, <div>I am a<code>DIV</code></div>!
<span>Hello, I am Span</span>
<a href="https://softuni.bg/">SoftUni</a>
```



RegExp in JS



- In JS you construct a regular expression in one of two ways:
 - Regular Expression Literal
 - The constructor function RegExp

```
// Provides compilation when the script is loaded
let regLiteral = /[A-Za-z]+/g

// Provides runtime compilation
// Used when the pattern is from another source
let regExp = new RegExp('[A-Za-z]+', 'g');
```

Validating String by Pattern



- The method test(string)
 - Determines whether there is a match

```
let text = 'Today is 2015-05-11';
let regexp = /\d{4}-\d{2}-\d{2}/g;

let containsValidDate = regexp.test(text);
console.log(containsValidDate); // true
```

Checking for Matches



- The method match(regexp)
 - Returns an array of all matches (strings)

```
let text = 'Peter: 123 Mark: 456';
let regexp = /([A-Z][a-z]+): (\d+)/g;
let matches = text.match(regexp);
console.log(matches.length); // 2
console.log(matches[0]); // Peter: 123
console.log(matches[1]); // Mark: 456
```

Using the Exec() Method



- The method exec(string, text)
 - Works with a pointer & returns the groups

```
let text = 'Peter: 123 Mark: 456';
let regexp = /([A-Z][a-z]+): (d+)/g;
let firstMatch = regexp.exec(text);
let secondMatch = regexp.exec(text);
console.log(firstMatch[0]) // Peter: 123
console.log(firstMatch[1]); // Peter
console.log(firstMatch[2]); // 123
```

Replacing with RegExp



- The method replace(regexp, stringReplacement)
 - Replaces all strings that match the pattern with the provided replacement

```
let text = 'Peter: 123 Mark: 456';
let replacement = '999';
let regexp = /\d{3}/g;
let result = text.replace(regexp, replacement);
// Peter: 999 Mark: 999
```

MatchAll



- The method matchAll(regexp)
 - returns an iterator of all results matching a string against a regular expression, including capturing groups

```
const regexp = /t(e)(st(\d?))/g;
const str = 'test1test2';
const array = [...str.matchAll(regexp)];
console.log(array[0]);
// ['test1', 'e', 'st1', '1', index: 0, input:'test1test2', length: 4]
```

Splitting with RegExp



- The method split(regexp)
 - Splits the text by the pattern
 - Returns an array of strings



Problem: Match Full Name



- You are given a list of names
 - Match all full names

Ivan Ivanov, Ivan ivanov, ivan Ivanov, IVan Ivanov, Test Testov, Ivan Ivanov



Ivan Ivanov Test Testov

Solution: Match Full Name



```
function solve(input) {
  let pattern = / b[A-Z][a-z]+[ ][A-Z][a-z]+ b/g;
 let validNames = [];
  let validName = null;
 while((validName = pattern.exec(input)) !== null){
   validNames.push(validName[0]);
  console.log(validNames.join(' '));
```

Problem: Match Phone Number



- Match a valid phone number from Sofia. After you find all valid phones, print them on the console, separated by ", "
- A valid number has the following characteristics:
 - Starts with "+359"
 - Followed by the area code (always 2)
 - Followed by the number itself, which consists of 7 digits (separated into two groups of 3 and 4 digits respectively)
 - The different parts are separated by either a space or a hyphen ('-')

Solution: Match Phone Number



```
function regExPhones(input) {
 let validNames = [];
 let pattern = /(?<!\d)[+]359([-])2\1\d{3}\1\d{4}\b/g;
 while ((validName = pattern.exec(input)) !== null) {
   validNames.push(validName[0]);
  console.log(validNames.join(', '));
```

Summary



- Regular expressions describe patterns for searching through text.
- Define special characters, operators and constructs for building complex pattern.
- Can utilize character classes, groups, quantifiers and more.





Questions?

















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