

Question: 1 Explain pattern matching in Linux with its types.

Ans: Any character that appears in a pattern, other than the special pattern characters described below, matches itself. The `\` character may occur in a pattern.

- A backslash escapes the following character, the escaping ~~the~~ backslash is discarded when matched.

⇒ Wildcards:

- Wildcards allow you to specify a pattern that matches a set of filenames (for example `*.pdf` to get all the pdf files present in that directory).

Pattern

*

?

[...]

?(pattern)

*(pattern)

+(pattern)

@(pattern)

!(pattern)

About.

match zero or more characters.

match any single character.

match any of the character in a set.

match zero or occurrence of the pattern

match zero or occurrence of the pattern.

match one or more occurrence of the pattern.

match one pattern

match anything other than the given pattern.

Ex: `ls *.jpg`

All the jpg files will be listed

② `ls *.pdf`

pdf file with one character in its name will be listed.

Ex: 1.pdf.

③ `ls [ab]*`

a.pdf

b.pdf

④ `ls !(*.jpg|*.pdf)`

one.txt

two.png

⇒ Metacharacters of Linux: (Regular expression):

• Regular expression is a pattern for matching string that follows some pattern.

• - Replaces any character.

^ - matches start of string and represents character not in string.

\$ - matches end of a string.

\ - represents group of characters.

() - Group of regular expressions.

? - matches one character.

⇒ Character class:

A expression in a list of characters enclosed by '[' and ']'. It matches any single character in list. If the first character of the list is the caret '^', then it matches any character not in the list and not in the list.

and it is unspecified whether it matches an encoding error. ~~Match~~

- Within bracket, a range expression consists of two characters separated by a hyphen. It matches any single character that sorts between the two characters inclusive.

Ex: `'[:alnum:]'` : Alphanumeric characters.

`'[:alpha:]'` : Alphabetic characters.

`'[:blank:]'` : Blank characters : space or tab.

`'[:cntrl:]'` : Control characters in ASCII.

`'[:digit:]'` : Digit.

`'[:graph:]'` : Graphical characters.