

WHENEVER I LEARN A NEW SKILL I CONCOCT ELABORATE FANTASY SCENARIOS WHERE IT LETS ME SAVE THE DAY.

OH NO! THE KILLER MUST HAVE FOLLOWED HER ON VACATION!



BUT TO FIND THEM WE'D HAVE TO SEARCH THROUGH 200 MB OF EMAILS LOOKING FOR SOMETHING FORMATTED LIKE AN ADDRESS!



IT'S HOPELESS!

EVERYBODY STAND BACK.



I KNOW REGULAR EXPRESSIONS.



Afry IT South Competence

- Tipsrundan



[Recommended Online Courses](#) [Competence Groups](#)

Tipsrundan #13

Welcome to the 13th (!) edition of Tipsrundan! As Corona keeps us at home some of the Competence Groups decided to reboot virtually, make sure to join in for a pizza and a ton of fun!

Regional News 🗞️

Kompetenskväll Deep Learning

Wednesday 6/5 a new Kompetenskväll will take place virtually! You'll be able to get some pizza on Afry and have fun engaging in the task at hands - Named Entity Recognition in Swedish. Reach out to Hampus Londögård to tune in!

[Read more](#)

Kompetenskväll Algoritmer

The Algorithms and Problem Solving competence group is re-booting. The next meeting will take place on the 12th of May, make sure to join in and crack the latest challenging problem!

[Read more](#)

Soft Values 👥

Afry IT South Competence

- Tipsrundan
- Afry IT South Blog - afry-south.github.io

IT South at AFRY
The blog



A simple FAQ search engine in Swedish using fastText & Smooth Inverse Frequency

🕒 6 minute read

CoViD-19 Swedish QA

Exclaimer: To get implementation & md directly in an executable environment, jump onto the google colab [here](#).

Afry IT South Competence

- Tipsrundan
- Afry IT South Blog - afry-south.github.io
- Kompetenskvällar
 - Machine Learning, Algorithms & Front-End (currently)

Afry IT South Competence

- Tipsrundan
- Afry IT South Blog - afry-south.github.io
- Kompetenskvällar
 - Machine Learning, Algorithms & Front-End (currently)
- Kompetenslunch / Competence Sharing Lunch

Afry IT South Competence

- Tipsrundan
- Afry IT South Blog - afry-south.github.io
- Kompetenskvällar
 - Machine Learning, Algorithms & Front-End (currently)
- Kompetenslunch / Competence Sharing Lunch
- & more

Responsible: Hampus Londögård & Hassan Ftouni, & all of you.

Don't forget about Slack!

AFRY BU IT South
buitsouth.slack.com

Regex 101

Taking search to the next level

Hampus Londögård



Searching

Searching

- Find personal numbers

Searching

- Find personal numbers
- Validate passwords

Searching

- Find personal numbers
- Validate passwords
- Normalize input

Searching

- Find personal numbers
- Validate passwords
- Normalize input
- Extracting data from logs

What is Regex?

Regular Expression

Regular Expression

- **A Domain Specific Language**

Regular Expression

- A **Domain Specific Language**
- Sequence of character that define a **search pattern**

Regular Expression



**A DOMAIN SPECIFIC
LANGUAGE**

Regular Expression



A DOMAIN SPECIFIC LANGUAGE



SEQUENCE OF CHARACTER THAT
DEFINE A **SEARCH PATTERN**

Regular Expression



A **DOMAIN SPECIFIC LANGUAGE**

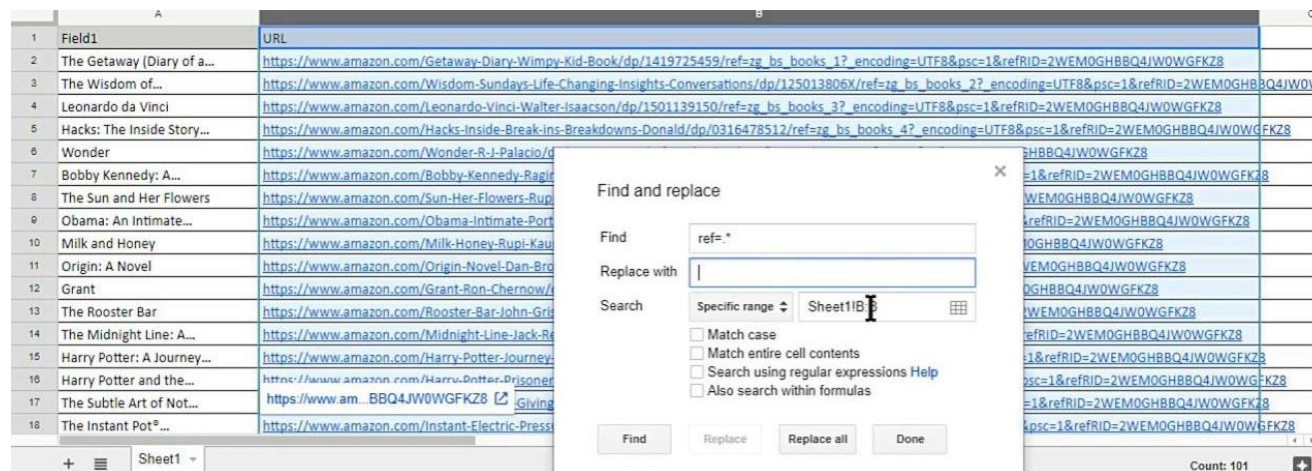
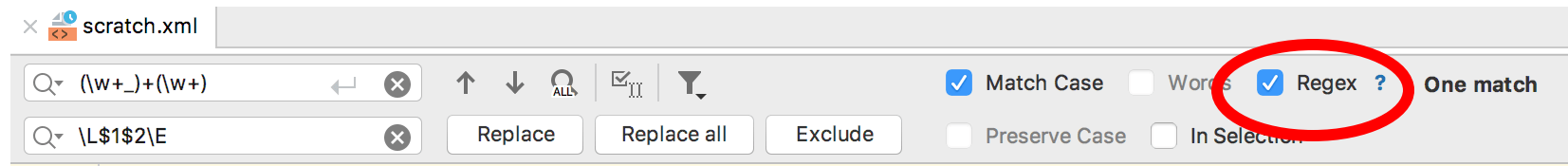
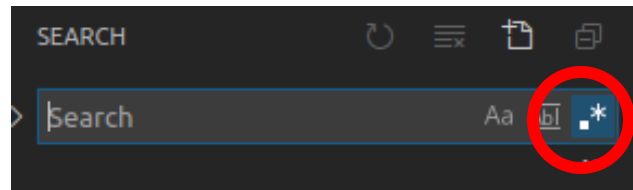
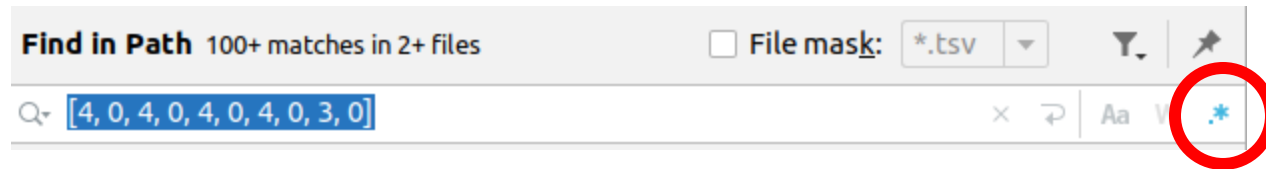


SEQUENCE OF CHARACTER THAT
DEFINE A **SEARCH PATTERN**



WIDELY USED

Most of today's editors support Regex



Show me some regex!

Starting with some simple techniques

REGULAR EXPRESSION

:/ \d{6,8}-\d{4}

TEST STRING

hejsan där borta

20002-02-20 1921

20100532-1833

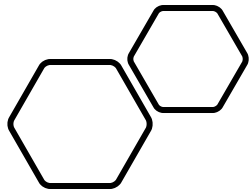
2010-05-32-1833

100532-1833

20202020202020-10

mitt personnummer är 100532-1833 och kan

The basics



Different types

`\d` digit

`\D` non-digit

REGULAR EXPRESSION

:/ \d

TEST STRING

A regular expression (shortened as regex or regexp;^[1] also is a sequence of characters that define a search pattern. searching algorithms for "find" or "find and replace" operations. It is a technique developed in theoretical computer science.

The concept arose in the 1950s when the American mathematician

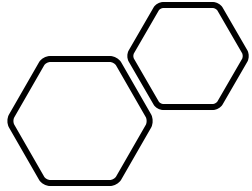
REGULAR EXPRESSION

:/ \D

TEST STRING

A regular expression (shortened as regex or regexp;^[1] also is a sequence of characters that define a search pattern. searching algorithms for "find" or "find and replace" operations. It is a technique developed in theoretical computer science.

The concept arose in the 1950s when the American mathematician



Different types

\w word

\W non-word

REGULAR EXPRESSION

:/ \w

TEST STRING

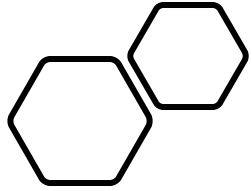
A regular expression (shortened as regex or regexp; [is a sequence of characters that define a search pattern] searching algorithms for "find" or "find and replace" It is a technique developed in theoretical computer

REGULAR EXPRESSION

:/ \W

TEST STRING

A regular expression (shortened as regex or regexp; [is a sequence of characters that define a search pattern] searching algorithms for "find" or "find and replace" It is a technique developed in theoretical computer



Different types

`\s` = whitespace

`\S` = non-whitespace

REGULAR EXPRESSION

`/ \s`

TEST STRING

A regular expression (shortened as regex or regexp) is a sequence of characters that define a search pattern. Searching algorithms for "find" or "find and replace" use regular expressions. It is a technique developed in theoretical computer science.

REGULAR EXPRESSION

`/ \S`

TEST STRING

A regular expression (shortened as regex or regexp) is a sequence of characters that define a search pattern. Searching algorithms for "find" or "find and replace" use regular expressions. It is a technique developed in theoretical computer science.

REGULAR EXPRESSION

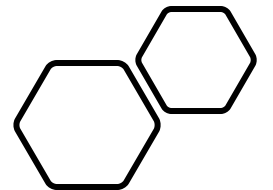
:/.

TEST STRING

A regular expression (shortened as regex or regexp;[1] also referred to as a regexp) is a sequence of characters that define a search pattern. Usually used to perform pattern matching and searching algorithms for "find" or "find and replace" operations. It is a technique developed in theoretical computer science and f

Different types

. anything



Different types

`\d (\D)`

`\w (\W)`

`\s (\S)`

`.`

Custom type

[]

-

^

|

Boundaries

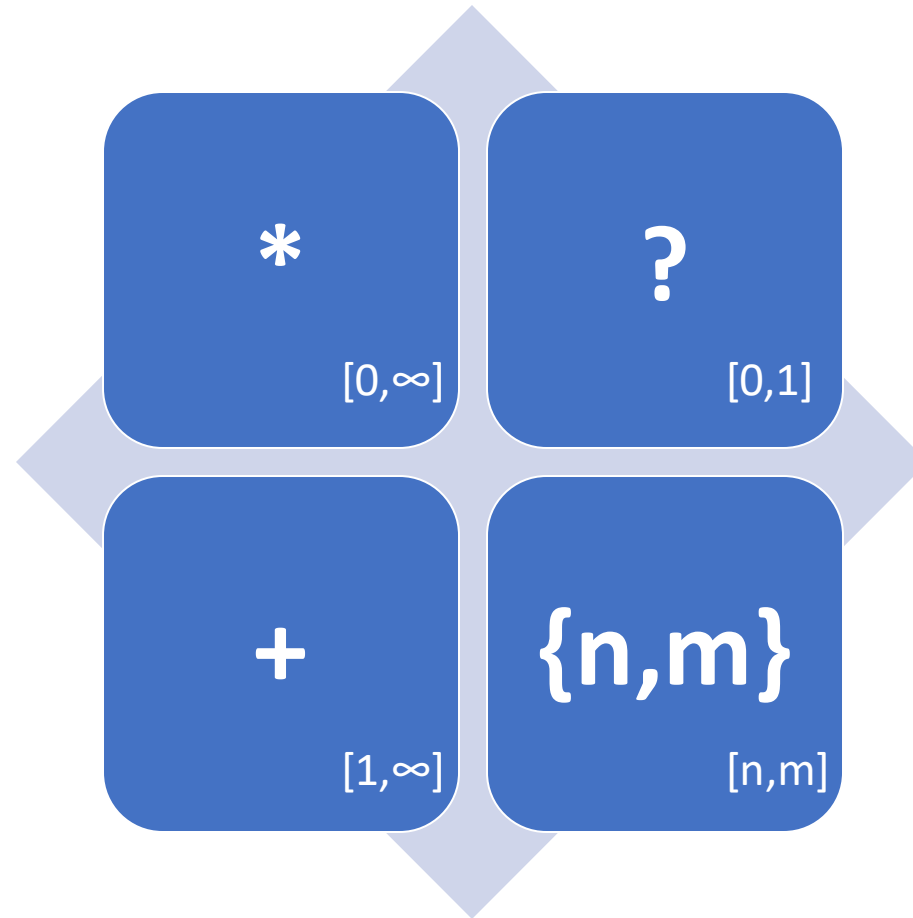
`\b`

`\B`

`^`

`$`

Different ways of matching on a type



Grouping and backreferences

- Grouping is done through the use of parenthesis
 - Apply multipliers
 - Backreference (match & replace, match & extract)

```
:/ \sre(g)(e)?
```

TEST STRING SWITCH TO UN

A regular expression (shortened as regex or regexp;

Pros & Cons

Pros

- Versatile
- Exists almost everywhere

Cons

- A little bit slow
- Easy to "abuse"

Example: Password

Scenario:

- 6 to 12 characters in length
- Must have at least one uppercase letter
- Must have at least one lower case letter
- Must have at least one digit
- Should contain other characters

REGEX GOLF:

YOU TRY TO MATCH ONE GROUP BUT NOT THE OTHER.

`/M | [TN]|B/` MATCHES
STAR WARS SUBTITLES
BUT NOT STAR TREK.

COOL.



META-REGEX GOLF:

SO I WROTE A PROGRAM
THAT PLAYS REGEX GOLF
WITH ARBITRARY LISTS...

UH OH...



META-META-REGEX GOLF:

...BUT I LOST MY CODE,
SO I'M GREPPING FOR
FILES THAT LOOK LIKE
REGEX GOLF SOLVERS.



...AND BEYOND:

REALLY, THIS IS ALL
`/((META-)*REGEX GOLF/`.

NOW YOU HAVE
INFINITE PROBLEMS.

NO, I HAD
THOSE ALREADY.



Resources

- Regex101: <https://regex101.com>
- Regexp golf: <https://alf.nu/RegexGolf>
- **Challenge:** <https://regexone.com/>
- Language Docs
- Cheat Sheet: <http://web.mit.edu/hackl/www/lab/turkshop/slides/regex-cheatsheet.pdf>
- Pro-tip; Fuzzy Search
- Google searching pro-tip
 - <https://support.google.com/websearch/answer/2466433>