

Regular Expressions

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Wildcards

- `ls *a` or `ls *.txt`
- `dir *a` or `dir *.doc`
- These are wildcards

REGULAR EXPRESSIONS ARE WILDCARDS
ON STEROIDS

- Patterns

- Credit cards

- PIN

- Time and Date

- Logins and passwords

- Addresses

- Typical Uses

- Input Validation

- Data scraping

- Search and replace

- String parsing

Our Example: Imagine we wanted from
this text only the text

'From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za'

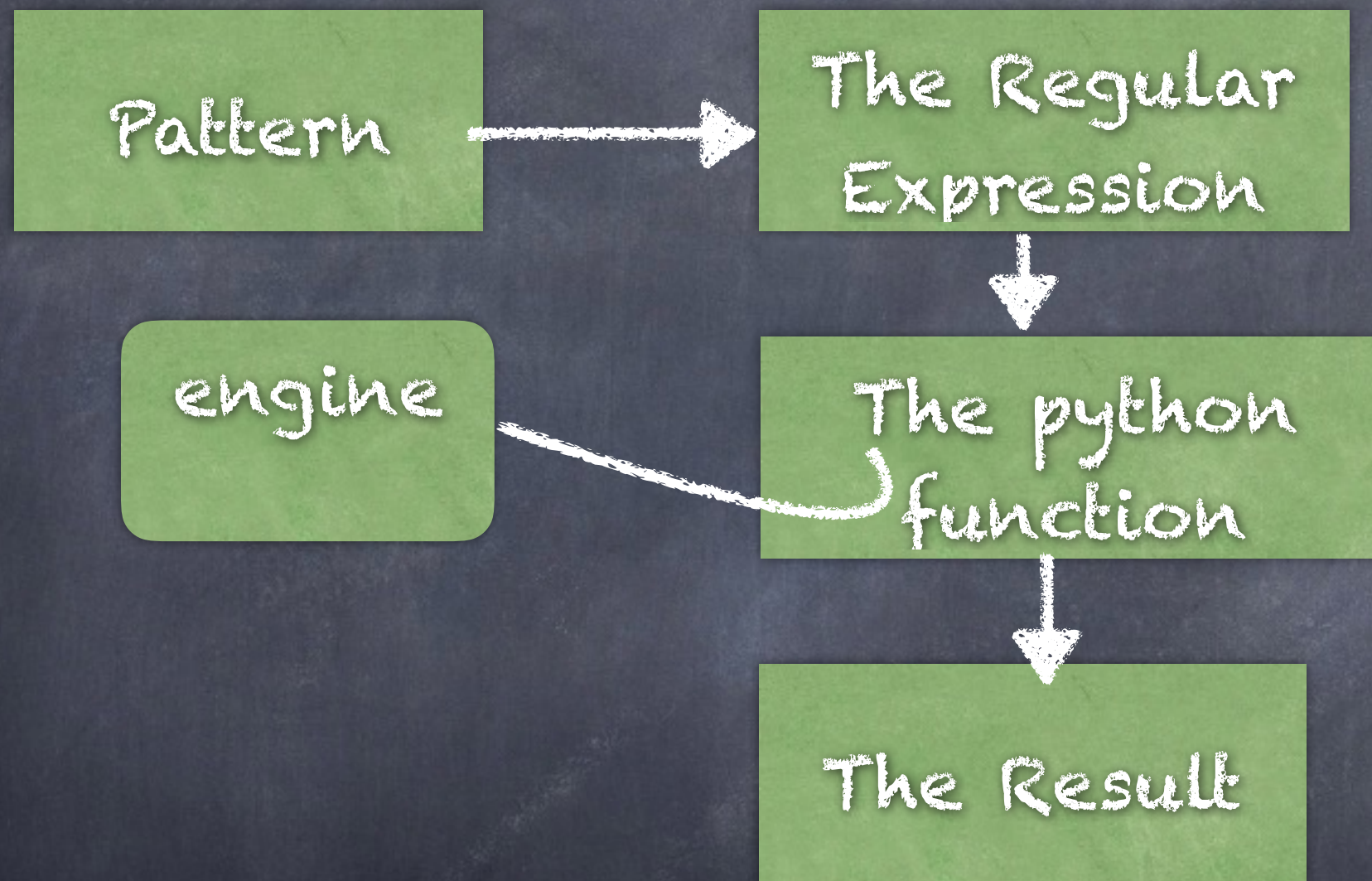
From: stephen.marquard@uct.ac.za
Subject: [sakai] svn commit: r39772 - content/branches/sakai_2-5-x/content-impl/impl/src/java/org/sakaiproject/
content/impl
X-Content-Type-Outer-Envelope: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
X-Content-Type-Message-Body: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=UTF-8
X-DSPAM-Result: Innocent
X-DSPAM-Processed: Sat Jan 5 09:14:16 2008
X-DSPAM-Confidence: 0.8475
X-DSPAM-Probability: 0.0000

Details: <http://source.sakaiproject.org/viewsvn/?view=rev&rev=39772>

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Date: 2008-01-05 09:12:07 -0500 (Sat, 05 Jan 2008)

- `import re`
- Step 1: Understand the pattern
- It is the only line that starts with
From:
- `if re.search('^From:', line):`

Steps to using regular expressions



"Some people, when confronted with a problem, think
"I know, I'll use regular expressions." Now they have two problems."

-Jamie Zawinski

Thank you to Charles Severance from Coursera. Also the book Core Python Applications Programming by Wesley J. Chun - this info is condensed from these two sources.

- <https://github.com/alexmacos/regexTutorial.git>
- `mkdir pyLadies`
- `git clone https://github.com/alexmacos/regexTutorial.git`
- Open `RegExTutorialQuestions.py` for the hands on part of this tutorial