



Regular Expression

Ferdowsi University of Mashhad Linux Users Group
t.me/FUMLUG

\$ Definition

A regular expression provides a concise and flexible means for matching strings of text or patterns of characters. A regular expression is interpreted by a regular expression processor.

- grep: Linux tool for regex

Examples:

<code>b[a-z]*t</code>	Start with «b», end with «t»
<code>\S+@\S+\.\S+</code>	Email Validation
<code>^[a-z0-9_-]{3,16}\$</code>	Username Validation

\$ Regular Expression Quick Guide

<code>^</code>	Matches the beginning of a line
<code>\$</code>	Matches the end of the line
<code>.</code>	Matches any character
<code>\s</code>	Matches whitespace
<code>\S</code>	Matches any non-whitespace character
<code>*</code>	Repeats a character zero or more times
<code>*?</code>	Repeats a character zero or more times (non-greedy)
<code>+</code>	Repeats a character one or more times
<code>+?</code>	Repeats a character one or more times (non-greedy)
<code>[aeiou]</code>	Matches a single character in the listed set
<code>[^XYZ]</code>	Matches a single character not in the listed set
<code>[a-z0-9]</code>	The set of characters can include a range
<code>(</code>	Indicates where string extraction is to start (Start group)
<code>)</code>	Indicates where string extraction is to end (End group)
<code>?</code>	Repeats a character zero or one time

\$ Usage

^ : Beginning of a line
* : Repeats zero or more
. : Any character

\$: End of a line
+ : Repeats one or more

```
X-Sieve: CMU Sieve 2.3
X-DSPAM-Result: Innocent
Y-DSPAM-Confidence: 0.8475
X-Content Type Message Body: text/plain
```

→ ^X.* :

→ t\$:

→ ^Y.* :

\$ More

? : zero or one time

[aouie] : a single character in set

[^ab]: a single character not in set

- Escape With \

→ `^[io]a+.$`

→ `[^a-zA-Z0-9]`

\$ Extra

$\{m, n\}$	Repeats between m and n times
$\{m, \}$	Repeats more than or equal to m times
$\{m\}$	Repeats exactly m times

→ $^{[0-9]\{1, 2\}}\$$

→ $^{[a-zA-Z]\{8, \}}tion\$$

\$ More Questions

Email

`^[a-zA-Z][a-zA-Z0-9]+@[a-z]+\ .com`

Scientific Notation (5.23e-12)

`[+-]?[1-9]\.[0-9]+[Ee][+-]?[0-9]+`

Html Tags

`<[a-zA-Z]+`