

Advanced Regular Expressions: Takeaways



by Dataquest Labs, Inc. - All rights reserved © 2020

Syntax

CAPTURE GROUPS

- Extracting text using a capture group:

```
s.str.extract(pattern_with_capture_group)
```

- Extracting text using multiple capture groups:

```
s.str.extract(pattern_with_multiple_capture_groups)
```

SUBSTITUTION

- Substituting a regex match:

```
s.str.replace(pattern, replacement_text)
```

Concepts

- Capture groups allow us to specify one or more groups within our match that we can access separately.

Pattern	Explanation
---------	-------------

<code>(yes)no</code>	Matches <code>yesno</code> , capturing <code>yes</code> in a single capture group.
----------------------	--

<code>(yes)(no)</code>	Matches <code>yesno</code> , capturing <code>yes</code> and <code>no</code> in two capture groups.
------------------------	--

- Backreferences allow us to repeat a capture group within our regex pattern by referring to them with an integer in the order they are captured.

Pattern	Explanation
---------	-------------

<code>(yes)no\1</code>	Matches <code>yesnoyes</code>
------------------------	-------------------------------

<code>(yes)(no)\2\1</code>	Matches <code>yesnonoyes</code>
----------------------------	---------------------------------

- Lookarounds let us define a positive or negative match before or after our string.

Pattern	Explanation
---------	-------------

<code>zzz(?:abc)</code>	Matches <code>zzz</code> only when it is followed by <code>abc</code>
-------------------------	---

<code>zzz(?:!abc)</code>	Matches <code>zzz</code> only when it is not followed by <code>abc</code>
--------------------------	---

<code>(?<=abc)zzz</code>	Matches <code>zzz</code> only when it is preceded by <code>abc</code>
-----------------------------	---

<code>(?<&exc1;zzz)abc</code>	Matches <code>zzz</code> only when it is not preceded by <code>abc</code>
--------------------------------------	---

Resources

- [re module](#)
- [RegExr Regular Expression Builder](#)

