

# Regular Expressions

# Reminder: Commonly used special symbols in Python regular expressions

| Symbol | Meaning               |
|--------|-----------------------|
| .      | matches any character |
| +      | 1 or more             |
| *      | 0 or more             |
| ()     | capture group         |
| \d     | digit                 |
| \D     | non-digit             |
| \s     | whitespace            |
| \S     | non-whitespace        |
| \w     | alphanumeric          |
| \W     | non-alphanumeric      |

# A few more useful special symbols

| Symbol           | Meaning                           |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <code>^</code>   | beginning of string               |
| <code>\$</code>  | end of string                     |
| <code>R S</code> | matches either regex R or regex S |

^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: ^name

^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: ^name

Match: *Does not match!*

^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: name\$

^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: name\$

Match: *Does not match!*

^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: name



^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: name

Match: My name is Claus

^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: ^My name

^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: ^My name

Match: My name is Claus

^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: Claus\$

^ matches at beginning, \$ matches at end

String: My name is Claus

Regex: Claus\$

Match: My name is Claus

# R|S matches regex R or regex S

String: My name is Claus

Regex: My name (is|was)

# R|S matches regex R or regex S

String: My name is Claus

Regex: My name (is|was)

Match: My name is Claus

# R|S matches regex R or regex S

String: My name was Claus

Regex: My name (is|was)



# R|S matches regex R or regex S

String: My name was Claus

Regex: My name (is|was)

Match: My name was Claus

# Puzzle: What does this regex do?

```
/Susan sings(\.$|\s+(\S+.*)\.)/
```