

```
...
Starting at 9:05 pm
Enjoy the song :)
...
```

#Agenda

- Understand what Regular Expressions (regex) are and why they matter
- Learn core regex components (metacharacters, anchors, quantifiers, etc.)
- Practice matching patterns manually and via code
- Explore DevOps use cases: log parsing, masking, validation
- Work through hands-on Python examples
- Embedded quizzes for interactive learning

What is Regex?

Regular Expression are patterns used
to match character combinations in strings.

Why?

- Search, extract data from logs
- Validate email, phone, etc
- Automate text cleanup, masking, etc
- All programming languages

#Devops use case?

- Kubernetes parsing or Docker logs
- Extract IPs, Timestamps
- Hide sensitive information in logs

\d{4}-\d{2}-\d{2} #regex

2025-09-08

\d -> digit

4,2,2 -> how many digits there can be

Simple Matching & Metacharacters

```
...
```

Common Metacharacters

Character	Meaning
.	Any character (except newline) only one
\d	Digit (0-9)
\D	Not a digit
\w	Alphanumeric or underscore
\W	Not alphanumeric
\s	Whitespace
\S	Not whitespace
...	

"abc" -> .bc -> abc, xbc, bbc, 1bc, Abc, %bc all matched

```
...
```

Any character is matched with .

```
a-z  
A-Z  
0-9  
!@#$%^&*()_+  
space, tab, punctuation  
It wont match new line  
'''  
Doesnt match  
bc -> no  
aab -> no
```

```
#Quiz 1  
# Which of the following strings would match the pattern a.\d?  
1: ab3 -> a.\d  
2: a37 -> a.\d  
3: a- -> a. wrong  
4: a*7 -> a.\d  
5: abc -> a.. wrong
```

```
# Quiz 2  
# Which of the following strings would match the pattern `^\D\W\$`?  
1: 3_a #not possible  
2: @ #not possible  
3: @#a -> \D\W\$  
4: a-9 -> \D\W\$  
5: 1& #not possible
```

```
# Anchors and Boundaries  
'''  
^abc - Matches if string starts with "abc".  
This pattern checks whether the string begins with "abc".  
'''  
Matches:  
"abc123"  
"abcsdfghgeikghe"  
"abc is the start of this"
```

```
Doesnt Match:  
"xabcs"  
"124abc"  
" the abc"
```

```
'''  
abc$ - Matches if string ends with "abc".  
This pattern checks whether the string ends with "abc".  
'''
```

```
Match:  
"123abc"  
"adjsgfawdoifnabc"  
"ending with abc"  
"aaaaabc"
```

Doesnt Match:

```
"abc124"
"xabcs"
"abc "
```

```
ing$  
"Studying"  
"working"  
"just a beginning"  
"just a ing"
```

'''

\bword\b – Matches the exact word "word" with word boundaries (not as a part of another word).

This pattern matches "word" only when it appears as a complete word,
not part of a longer word like "sword" or "wording".

'''

Match:

```
"this is a word"  
"word,328940381@"  
"the word is here"
```

Doesnt Match:

```
"password"  
"sword"  
"wording"
```

Quiz 3

Which string will match the pattern ^world?

```
" world starts here" – starting with space  
"world-clock" –> ^world correct  
"tworld" –> tstarting with t  
"start with world"
```

Quiz 4

```
# Which of the following strings will
# NOT match the regex \bsmile\b?  
"the smile is key" –> match  
"smile!" –> match  
"a smile," –> match  
"smileys are used a lot" –> not a match
```

Break: 10:00 – 10:10 pm

Character Sets & Ranges

'''

Examples

[abc] → matches a, b, or c
 [a-z] → matches any one lowercase letters
 [0-9] → matches any one digits
 [^a-z] → NOT lowercase letters
 [A-Z] – Uppercase
 ...

[A-Z] [a-z] [a-z]

one uppercase
 one lowercase
 one lowercase

"App" → match
 "APo" → has capital second letter hence no match
 "Bob" → match
 "B1" → no
 "An" → only one small char
 "Ape" → match

Quiz 5
 # What does [^a-z] match?
 [a-z] → all lowercase alphabets
 [^a-z] → anything but lowercase alphabets

Quantifiers

...
 Symbol Meaning
 * 0 or more
 + 1 or more
 ? 0 or 1
 {3} Exactly 3
 {2,4} Between 2 and 4
 ...

Groups

...
 () groups a sub-pattern.
 This means you can treat part of the pattern as a single unit.
 ...

"(ab)+" →
 ab
 abababab
 abaafjnsjkfnbab
 abx
 a → doesn't match
 acb → doesn't match

"(abc)+" → match abc as whole, it should occur 1 or more times
 "abc+" → ab whole, followed by 1 or more c

```
([\\.-]?\w+)*
```

[\\.-]? -> zero or one occurrence of . or -
 . is a metacharacter in regex hence using \\.
 - is not a metacharacter hence no need of \

\w+ ->
 \w -> [a-z] [A-Z] [0-9]
 + -> one or more

[\\.-]?\w+ -> optionally . or - followed by one or more word characters

* -> complete group repeats 0 or more times

```
([\\.-]?\w+)*
```

Match:

""
 "hello"
 "hello-world" -> hello + -world
 "user.name" -> user + .name

Doesnt match:

"_" -> just hyphen no word after it
 ".."
 "user..name" -> after first dot therse must be a word

#or symbol
 (Mr | Mrs | Miss)

\b(Mr|Mrs|Ms)\\.?\s[A-Z][a-z]+\b

\b -> word boundary
 (Mr|Mrs|Ms) -> match wither of these
 \.? -> optional .
 \s -> one Whitespace
 [A-Z] -> First better should be Capital letter
 [a-z]+ -> any number of small letters
 \b -> word boundary

"Mr. John"
 "Mrs Smith"
 "Ms. Alice"
 "Hello Mr John"
 "Ms Akanksha spoke to her students"

Doesnt match

```
"Mr hello John " -> not match
"mr john"
"Mr. JOHN"
"Ms."
```

```
# Quiz 6
# Which of the following strings would
#match the pattern \w+@\w+\.com?
\w+@\w+\.com
```

```
\w+ -> one or more word characters
@ -> symbol @
\w+ -> one or more word characters
\.com -> .com
```

word@word.com -> email like format

```
abc.xyz.com -> @ is missing
x_1@domain.co -> .co instead of .com
abc@xyz.com -> matching
@gmail.com -> starts with @ not a word
```

```
# Quiz 7
# Which regex matches at least 2 but max 4 digits?
\d{2,4}
```

Understanding Regex with an Online tool

<https://regex101.com/>

Pattern:
Pattern 1
Pattern: `\\s(\\d{3})\\s`

Which part will this pattern match in the line?

```

```
127.0.0.1 -- [10/Oct/2023:13:56:55 +0000] "GET /index.html HTTP/1.1" 40
```

```

\\s - whitespace
(\\d{3}) -> 3 digits
\\s whitespace
answer: 404

Pattern 2
What will be the regex for "Words of at least 5 letters"

Pattern 3

What do we use to match the whole word ?

```
What do we use to match the whole word :
```

Pattern 4

What will be regex for "First Letter Capital, Rest Lowercase"