Questions

Bookmark this page

Regular Expressions

1/1 point (graded)

Consider the following regular expression. Assume the regular expression syntax described in this reading, in which `^` is not a special character unless it's inside square brackets.

```
[a-g]+(_|^)?
```

Which of the following strings match this regular expression?

- [x] a_
- [x] c^
- [ ] abk_
- [ ] a_b
- [x] gfe

✔

Explanation

Read the regular expression as follows: a-g+ matches one or more occurrences of the letters a, b, c, d, e, f, or g. (_|^)? matches (optionally) either a single _ or a single ^. So:
a_ matches because a-g+ matches a, and (_|^)? matches _.
c^ matches similarly.
abk_ does not match because k is not in the range a-g.
a_b does not match because _ is not at the end.
gfe matches because a-g matches gfe, and the _ and ^ are optional.
Note that in many regular expression libraries, including Java's, `^` has special meaning outside of square brackets, too: it means "match the start of the string or the start of a line". If `^` is a special character, than it would need to be escaped to be used as in this problem, i.e. `[a-g]+(_|\^)?`.

Submit

Show Answer

Answers are displayed within the problem