

SED and regular expressions

We have already learned REGEX. Let's learn the use of **SED + REGEX** by using a couple of practical examples:

Example 1: match patterns and REGEX (**\!.***)

```
$ sed '/\!/s/\!.*//g' datafile
```

In this example, if the line matches with the pattern **“!”**, then it replaces all the characters from **“!”** with an empty char.

Example 2: use REGEX to delete the last **x** characters

```
$ sed 's/...$//' datafile
```

This sed example deletes last 3 characters from each line.

Example 3: use REGEX to eliminate comments (**#**)

```
$ sed -e 's/#.*//' datafile
```

This sed example deletes last 3 characters from each line.

Example 4: use REGEX and eliminate Comments (**#**) as well as the empty lines

```
$ sed -e 's/#.*//; /^$/d' datafile
```