Python regex `match` vs. `search` functions

Difference between Python regex match() and search() function!

Python Matching Versus Searching

We have learned so far that Python offers two different **primitive** operations:

- `match`
- `search`

So, how they are different to each other?

Note that `match` checks for a match only at the beginning of a string, while `search` checks for a match anywhere in the string!

Example 1

Let's try to find the word `Python`:

```
#!/usr/bin/python
import re

line = "Learn to Analyze Data with Scientific Python";

m = re.search( r'(python)', line, re.M|re.I)

if m:
   print "m.group() : ", m.group()
else:
   print "No match by obj.search!!"

m = re.match( r'(python)', line, re.M|re.I )
```

```
if m:
  print "m.group() : ", m.group()

else:
  print "No match by obj.match"
```

You will be able to see that, `match` function won't find the word "Python", but search can! Also note the use of the `re.I` (case insensitive) option.

Example 2:

```
#!/usr/bin/python
import re

email = "hello@leremove_thisarntoanalayzedata.com ";

# m = re.match ("remove_this", email) // This will not work!
m = re.search("remove_this", email)

if m:
   print "email address : ", email[:m.start()] + email[m.end():]
else:
   print "No match!!"
```