

# Regex

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## Regular Expressions

A sequence of characters used to precisely match text

Simple: `hello` (matches "hello")

Complex: `h[0-9]llo` (matches "h0llo", "h1llo", "h2llo", ...)

# Regex: Sets



Sets: [ ]

Matches any character within the set

e.g. `cat file | grep -E [abcd]`

returns any line which contains a, b, c, or d

e.g. `cat file | grep -E [a-z]`

returns any line which contains lowercase letters

e.g. `cat file | grep -E [a-zA-Z]`

returns any line which contains letters

# Regex: Character Classes



`.` = wildcard (matches **any** character)

`\d` = digits (equivalent to `[0-9]`)

`\s` = whitespace

# Regex: Quantifiers



\* = match **any** number of a pattern

+ = match at least 1

? = match 0 or 1

{n} = match exactly n times

e.g. `cat file | grep -E "[a-z]{2}"`

# Regex



What regular expression will match *anything*?