

Unit-IV
String Manipulation and Regular Expression
Lecture 6 : Regular Expression (Part-II)

Use of preg_match(), preg_replace(), preg_split() functions in Regular Expression:

PHP has built in functions that allow us to work with regular functions:

- **preg_match()** : this function is used to perform pattern matching in PHP on a string. It returns true if a match is found and false if a match is not found.
- **preg_split()** : this function is used to perform a pattern match on a string and then split the results into a numeric array.
- **preg_replace()**: this function is used to perform a pattern match on a string and then replace the match with the specified text.

Syntax for regular expression functions in PHP:

```
<?php  
function_name('/patter/',subject);  
?>
```

- “function_name” is either PHP preg_match(), PHP preg_split() or PHP preg_replace().
- /pattern/ is the pattern that we need to matched
- subject is the text string to be matched against.

Example:

- preg_match()

```
<?php  
$my_url = "www.c3ihub.org";  
if (preg_match("/hub/", $my_url))  
{  
echo "the url $my_url contains hub";  
}  
else  
{
```

```
echo "the url $my_url does not contain hub";  
}  
?>
```

Output:

the url www.c3ihub.org contains hub.

- **preg_split()**

```
<?php  
  
$my_text="I Love Regular Expressions";  
  
$my_array = preg_split("/ /", $my_text);  
  
print_r($my_array );  
  
?>
```

Output:



- **preg_replace():**

The code below searches for word cyber and then replaces it with the word cyber surrounded by the css code that highlights the background color.

```
<?php
```

```
$text = " Welcome to cyber-newbie. Let's play some cyber CTFs";
```

```
$text = preg_replace ("/cyber/", '<span style=
"background:yellow">cyber</span>', $text);
```

```
echo $text;
```

```
?>
```

Output:

Welcome to **cyber**-newbie. Let's play some **cyber** CTFs.