

Using JOD Regular Expressions

December 14, 2021

1 Using JOD Regular Expressions



1.0.1 Introduction

JOD's regular expressions are built on J's regex class. [regex is documented on the J wiki](#). I would recommend familiarizing yourself with J's regex facilities before using rxs.

rxs calls only three regex verbs: rxfirst, rxall and rxmatches. If you understand how to use these verbs you will quickly master rxs.

```
[1]: NB. display J version
9!:14''
```

```
j903/j64avx2/windows/beta-w/commercial/www.jsoftware.com/2021-12-05T18:25:00/cla
ng-13-0-0/SLEEP=1
```

```
[2]: NB. load JOD in a clear base locale
load 'general/jod' [ clear ''
```

JODVMD_aj od_

+-+-+-----, , ,

```

|1|+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||                               |--|Words|Tests|Groups* ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||rxsdemo229466059168070132414447412768654587241|rw|0    |0    |0    ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||joddev                               |rw|31    |4    |6    ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||jod                               |ro|841   |76   |23   ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||utils                               |ro|419   |8    |23   ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
+--+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...

```

1.0.2 rxs searches only nonnoun JOD text objects

JOD dictionaries can store all types of J objects. It's not unusual to store binary data in JOD. The following saves some nouns in the demo dictionary.

```

[4]: intTablerxsDemo=: i. 2 3 4
floatMerxsDemo=: (100?100) % 7.71
boxMerxsDemo=: ;:'I do what I do because I am what I am'
bigNumsrxsDemo=: (x: i. 10) ^ 300
smoutput charMerxsDemo=: 'even though I am text I will not be searched by rxs because I am a noun'

```

even though I am text I will not be searched by rxs because I am a noun

```

[5]: NB. store nouns
put ;:'charMerxsDemo intTablerxsDemo floatMerxsDemo boxMerxsDemo bigNumsrxsDemo'

```

```

+--+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|1|5 word(s) put in ->|rxsdemo229466059168070132414447412768654587241|
+--+-----+-----+-----+-----+

```

```

[6]: NB. list all objects with suffix rxsDemo
0 3 dnl 'rxsDemo'

```

```

+-+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|1|bigNumsrxsDemo|boxMerxsDemo|charMerxsDemo|floatMerxsDemo|intTablerxsDemo|
+-+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+

```

Search for the string rxs in all nonnoun path words. rxs only displays hits in nonempty text. Observe that charMerxsDemo is not in the match table.

```
[7]: 'rxs' rxs }. dnl ''
```

```

+-+-----+
|1|+-----+---+| | | |
| ||rxs      |rxs||
| |+-----+---+|
| ||rxsget   |rxs||
| |+-----+---+|
| ||rxssearch|rxs||
| |+-----+---+|
+-+-----+

```

1.0.3 Empty rxs patterns return all nonempty search text

If rxs is given an empty pattern it returns all the text that would be searched by a nonempty pattern. This is useful for debugging complex regular expressions.

```
[8]: NB. all nonempty short (EXPLAIN_ajod_ = 8) explanation texts
smoutput ('';0 8 1) rxs }. dnl 'si'

NB. all nonempty long (DOCUMENT_ajod_ = 9) test documents
sbx ('';1 9 2) rxs }. 1 dnl ''
```

```

+-+-----+
|1|+-----+-----+| | | |
| ||sin |sine radians  ||
| |+-----+-----+|
| ||sind|sin degrees   ||
| |+-----+-----+|

```

```

| ||sinh|hyperbolic sine||
| |+-----+-----+|
+-+-----+
+-+-----+
|1|+-----+-----+
| ||doctest|*doctest v-- test text for documentation (doc) verb. This te ...
| |+-----+-----+
+-+-----+

```

1.0.4 rxs searches word text by default

If rxs is given a character list (x) argument it searches word text. To search documents, tests and macros rxs requires option codes.

[9]: *NB. words starting with s with at least one occurrence of string ex*
`'ex' rxs }. dnl 's'`

```

+-+-----+
|1|+-----+-----+
| ||setbuilddirs |ex||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||setifacelinks |ex||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||setifacesummary|ex||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||setifacetargs |ex||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||setjodliterate |ex||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||seturlsha256 |ex||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||setwwwbrowser |ex||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||sexpin |ex||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||strex |ex||

```

```
| | +-----+---+
+-+-----+
```

```
[10]: NB. show all ex matches (option 2) for words starting with s
smoutput opts=: WORD_ajod_,DEFAULT_ajod_,2
('ex';opts) rxs }. dnl 's'
```

```
0 7 2
```

```
+-+-----+
|1|+-----+
| ||setbuilddirs | +---+---+---+ | | | | |
| || |ex|ex|ex|ex| |
| || | +---+---+---+ |
| | +-----+
| ||setifacelinks | +---+---+---+---+ | | | | | | |
| || |ex|ex|ex|ex|ex|ex| |
| || | +---+---+---+---+ |
| | +-----+
| ||setifacesummary| +---+ | |
| || |ex| |
| || | +---+ |
| | +-----+
| ||setifacetargs | +---+---+---+---+ | | | | | | |
| || |ex|ex|ex|ex|ex|ex| |
| || | +---+---+---+---+ |
| | +-----+
| ||setjodliterate | +---+---+---+---+---+---+---+ | | | | | | | | | |
| || |ex|ex|ex|ex|ex|ex|ex|ex|ex| |
| || | +---+---+---+---+---+---+---+ |
| | +-----+
| ||seturlsha256 | +---+---+---+---+ | | | | | |
| || |ex|ex|ex|ex|ex| |
| || | +---+---+---+---+ |
| | +-----+
| ||setwwwbrowser | +---+---+ |
```

```

|  |                ||ex|ex|                ||
|  |                |+++--+|                ||
|  |-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|  |sexpin          |+++--+|                || | |
|  |                ||ex|ex|                ||
|  |                |+++--+|                ||
|  |-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
|  |strex           |+++--+--+|            || | | |
|  |                ||ex|ex|ex|            ||
|  |                |+++--+--+|            ||
|  |-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
+--+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+

```

[11]: *NB. repeat previous search but now show position array (option 3) with matched text*
`sbx ('ex';0 7 3) rxs }. dnl 's'`

```

+--+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
|1|+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
|  ||setbuilddirs   |1204 2|3 : 0  NB.*setbuilddirs v-- sets/creates paths ...
|  ||              |      |      | ...
|  ||              |1497 2|      | ...
|  ||              |      |      | ...
|  ||              |1762 2|      | ...
|  ||              |      |      | ...
|  ||              |2659 2|      | ...
|  |-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
|  ||setifacelinks  |162 2 |4 : 0  NB.*setifacelinks v-- set hyperref ...
|  ||              |      |      | ...
|  ||              |175 2 |      | ...
|  ||              |      |      | ...
|  ||              |229 2 |      | ...
|  ||              |      |      | ...
|  ||              |255 2 |      | ...
|  ||              |      |      | ...
|  ||              |302 2 |      | ...

```



```

| |+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||seturlsha256    |166 2 |4 : 0  NB.*seturlsha256 v-- set url and sha-25 ...
| ||               |      |      | ...
| ||               |175 2 |      | ...
| ||               |      |      | ...
| ||               |537 2 |      | ...
| ||               |      |      | ...
| ||               |683 2 |      | ...
| ||               |      |      | ...
| ||               |707 2 |      | ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||setwwwbrowser   |334 2 |3 : 0  NB.*setwwwbrowser v-- tests and sets th ...
| ||               |      |      | ...
| ||               |363 2 |      | ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||sexpin          |11 2  |3 : 0 NB.*sexpin v-- single line explicit defi ...
| ||               |      |      | ...
| ||               |33 2  |      | ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||strex           | 14 2 |3 : 0  NB.*strex v-- returns a boxed list of ...
| ||               |      |      | ...
| ||               |127 2 |      | ...
| ||               |      |      | ...
| ||               |150 2 |      | ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+ ...
+-----+-----+-----+ ...

```

```
[12]: NB. show first J quoted text in JOD tests with names that begin with r and t
(Jchar_jregex_;1) rxs }. (1 dnl 'r') , }. 1 dnl 't'
```

```

+-----+
|1|+-----+-----+
| ||releasejod      |'ijod'      ||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||restdbasic01     |'createtestdictionaries' ||

```

```

| |+-----+-----+
| ||rxsBadSmoke00      |'base'                ||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||rxsSmoke00         |'testjod00'                ||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||rxsgetSmoke00      |'base'                ||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||testdictionarypaths|'base'                ||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||teststub           |'/AAATrash999/AAASmoke999' ||
| |+-----+-----+
| ||teststubClassGroup |'{~T~}'                ||
| |+-----+-----+
+--+-----+

```

[13]: *NB. show all J quoted text in JOD tests with names that begin with r and t*
 sbx (Jchar_jregex_;1 7 2) rxs }. (1 dnl 'r') , }. 1 dnl 't'

```

+--+-----+ ...
|1|+-----+-----+ ...
| ||releasejod      |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||                ||'ijod' |'base' |'AAATrash999' |'AAATrash999' |'ijod' ...
| ||                |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| |+-----+-----+ ...
| ||restdBasic01    |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||                ||'createtestdictionaries' |'~JODTEST' |'base' |'jodt ...
| ||                |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| |+-----+-----+ ...
| ||rxsBadSmoke00   |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||                ||'base' |'~JODTEST' |'~JODTEST' |'jodtester' |'AAAsmo ...
| ||                |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| |+-----+-----+ ...
| ||rxsSmoke00      |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||                ||'testjod00' |'~JODTEST/testjod00' |'base' |'~JODTES ...
| ||                |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...

```

```

| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||rxsgetSmoke00    |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||                ||'base' || '~JODTEST' || '~JODTEST' || 'jodtester' || 'AAAtra ...
| ||                |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||testdictionarypaths|+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||                ||'base' || 'jodtester' || 'AAAtrash999' || 'AAAtrash999' || ' ...
| ||                |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||teststub         |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||                ||'/AAAtrash999/AAAsmoke999' || 'newtest' || 'base' || 'jod ...
| ||                |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||teststubClassGroup |+-----+ ...
| ||                || '{~T~}' | ...
| ||                |+-----+ ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
+--+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...

```

1.0.5 rxs can search short and long object documents

JOD words, test, groups, suites and macros are often associated with short and long documents.

```
[14]: NB. search all short (EXPLAIN_ajod_ = 8) texts for words starting with wr
('r[aeiou]b*';0,EXPLAIN_ajod_,2) rxs }. dnl 'wr'
```

```

+--+-----+
|1|+-----+-----+-----+-----+| | | | | | | | |
| ||wrapQtlatex    |+-+--+      ||
| ||              ||ra|ri|      ||
| ||              |+-+--+      ||
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+|
| ||wraplinear      |+-+--+--+--+--+--+|
| ||              ||ra|re|re|ri|ri||
| ||              |+-+--+--+--+--+--+|

```

+-----+-----+		
wraplix	+--+--+	
	ra ra	
	+--+--+	
+-----+-----+		
wraprgidx	+--+--+	
	ra re	
	+--+--+	
+-----+-----+		
wrapvrblong	+--+	
	ra	
	+--+	
+-----+-----+		
wrapwords	+--+	
	ra	
	+--+	
+-----+-----+		
wrddglobals	+--+--+	
	ra ro	
	+--+--+	
+-----+-----+		
wrddglobalsOLD000	+--+--+	
	ra ro	
	+--+--+	
+-----+-----+		
wrep	+--+--+--+	
	ra re re	
	+--+--+--+	
+-----+-----+		
write	+--+	
	ri	
	+--+	
+-----+-----+		
writeas	+--+--+--+--+	

```

| ||                ||ri|ro|ro|re|  ||
| ||                |+++---+---+---+  ||
| |-----+-----+
| ||writeijs        |+++---+        || | | |
| ||                ||ri|re|        ||
| ||                |+++---+        ||
| |-----+-----+
| ||writenoun        |+++          || | |
| ||                ||ri|          ||
| ||                |+++          ||
| |-----+-----+
| ||writetd          |+++          || | |
| ||                ||ri|          ||
| ||                |+++          ||
| |-----+-----+
| ||writetd2         |+++          || | |
| ||                ||ri|          ||
| ||                |+++          ||
| |-----+-----+
+-+-----+

```

```
[15]: NB. search group (GROUP_ajod_ = 2) long document (DOCUMENT_ajod_ = 9) texts for all patterns
      sbx ('lo...e';GROUP_ajod_,DOCUMENT_ajod_,2) rxs }. 2 dnl ''
```

```

+-+----- ...
|1|+-----+----- ...
| ||doctest|+-----+----- ...
| ||      ||long documentation of a te|lobyte strings typical operations ...
| ||      |-----+----- ...
| |-----+----- ...
| ||jod    |-----+-----+----- ...
| ||      ||locale|lobs  NB. analyze, report and store global name|loses ...
| ||      |-----+-----+----- ...
| |-----+----- ...
| ||sunmoon|+-----+-----+----- ...

```

```
| ||          ||floating point table where|longitude in degrees with western ...
| ||          |+-+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| |+-+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
+-+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
```

1.0.6 rxs can search the dictionary document

rxs can search the dictionary document.

```
[16]: NB. save a dictionary document (DICTIONARY_ajod_ = 5) for the rxs demo dictionary
      DICTIONARY_ajod_ put ;20 # <' all work and no play make jack a dull boy',LF
      5 disp ''
```

```
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
all work and no play make jack a dull boy
```

```
[17]: NB. all the dull boys
      sbx ('jack';5 7 2) rxs ''
```

```
+--+-----+
|1|++-----+
| |||+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| |||jack|jack|jack|jack|jack|jack|jack|jack|jack|jack|jack|jack|jack|ja ...
| |||+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| |++-----+
+--+-----+ ...
```

1.0.7 Final remarks

rxs performs well for “reasonable” numbers of JOD objects. If you search for a complex pattern in very large dictionaries without restricting your search object list rxs may take some time. It’s a good idea to restrict the list of searched objects whenever feasible. Typical uses of rxs search groups, suites and particular macro types.

The following are typical rxs searches.

```
[18]: NB. search group
      ('DEFAULT';0 7 1) rxs }. grp 'jodstore'
```

```
+--+-----+
|1|+-----+
| ||bnlsearch|DEFAULT|
| |+-----+
| ||dnlsearch|DEFAULT|
| |+-----+
| ||mnlsearch|DEFAULT|
| |+-----+
+--+-----+
```

```
[19]: NB. search test suite for all negative expected (ner) results
      sbx ('ner';1 7 2) rxs }. 3 grp 'jodsmoketests'
```

```
+--+-----+ ...
```



```

| ||                                ||ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner| ...
| ||                                |+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+ ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||rxsSmoke00                    |+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+ ...
| ||                                ||ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner| ...
| ||                                |+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+ ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||rxsgetSmoke00                |+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+ ...
| ||                                ||ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner|ner| ...
| ||                                |+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+---+ ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
+--+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...

```

[20]: *NB. search all (MARKDOWN_ajod_ = 27) macros (MACRO_ajod_ = 4) for J quoted text
sbx (Jchar_jregex;4 7 1) rxs }. (MACRO_ajod_,1,MARKDOWN_ajod_) dnl ''*

```

+--+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
|1|+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||TODO_jodliterate_md|'s      inflection scheme and will ripple through ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||historyjod                |'_' ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||historyjoddoc              |'~addons/general/joddocument/pdfdoc' ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||linuxnotes_TXT             |'john' ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
| ||macnotes_TXT               |'joddev jod utils' ...
| |+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...
+--+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+ ...

```