

Using Regular Expressions to “Filter the Noise” in CM evolveIT

CM evolveIT provides a number of ways to use Regular Expressions to focus your analysis in ways that save lots of time and provide precision results without all of the “Noise” of standard scanning tools.

Let’s find all of the locations in our source code where ANY field is moved to our field “LOAN-AMOUNT”.

`^.....\s+MOVE +[A-Z][A-Z0-9\-\]* +to +Loan-Amount`

Description of the meaning of this regular expression:

- `^.....\s+` - Start at the beginning of the line, accept any characters in the first 6 positions and ignore comments (white space in the 7 position).
- `MOVE +[A-Z][A-Z0-9\-\]* +to +Loan-Amount` - Find all Move statements with any field being moved to a field called Loan-Amount.

The screenshot shows the CM evolveIT application window. On the left, the 'Inventory Search' sidebar is visible. In the 'Search' field, the regular expression `^.....\s+MOVE +[A-Z][A-Z0-9\-\]* +to +Loan-Amount` is entered. The 'Search In' section is set to 'Application Program'. The 'Results' pane shows 20 results in 4 items, including programs like LC0728B3, LC0728PG, and M0191BAT. The 'Details' pane shows the expanded source code for one of the results, with the line `MOVE WS-TRAN-AMOUNT TO LOAN-AMOUNT (2)` highlighted.

A: Entry area for regular expression search criteria

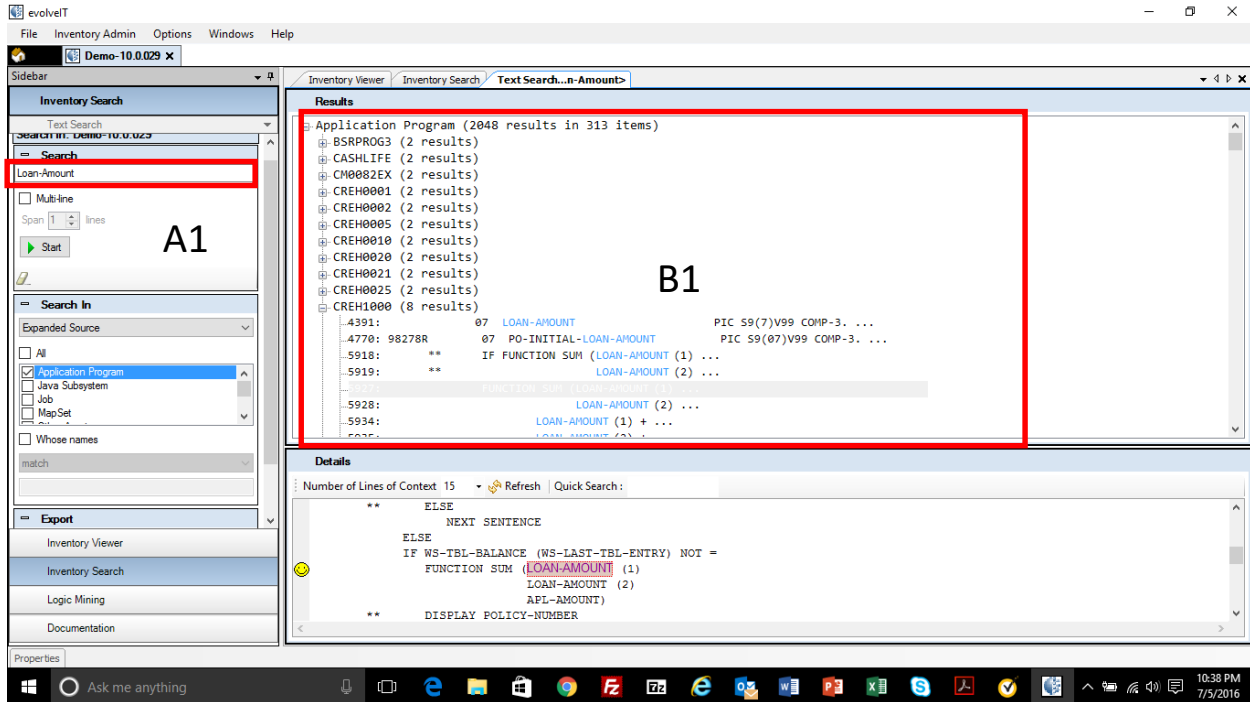
B: Regular Expression Search Results

- Found 20 results in 4 programs with specific results requested.

C: Expanded source code view of search results

- Shows specific line found with any number of lines of context.

Example of search for Loan-Amount without Regular Expression:



A1: Search for “Loan-Amount”

B1: 2048 results in 313 programs

- This result would take significant time in order to sort out the (Noise) false positive results and identify the specific Move statements that are needed.