

< > <= >= are also comparison operators

Control structures

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# ----- CONTROL STRUCTURE -----  
  
# CONDITIONALS  
  
# IF ELSE  
# elixir has no built-in implementation of elsif statements  
# do end => used to mark the start and end of the if else block  
  
if false do  
  "watermelon"  
else  
  "shit ass"  
end # this evaluates to "shit ass"  
  
# UNLESS ELSE  
# unless => provides for the negation of a specified condition  
# do end => used to mark the start and end of the unless else block  
  
unless true do  
  "this will never be seen"  
else  
  "this will shit"  
end # this evaluates to "this will shit"  
  
# PATTERN MATCHING  
# elixir's powerful pattern-matching construct rivals Rust in its conciseness and completeness  
# case => declares and creates a case statement, similar to switch case statements in other languages  
# do end => used to mark the start and end of a given case statement's cases, within which -> specifies the relationship between a given case condition and the internal logic to run if said condition is satisfied  
# _ -> catch-all operator used as the equivalent of a default statement in other languages  
  
case {one, :two} do  
  {four, :five} ->  
    "this won't match"  
  {one, x} ->  
    "this will match and bind 'x' to 'two' in this clause"  
  _ ->  
    "this will match any value"  
end # notice that pattern-matching can occur for tuples and other data structures  
  
[head | _] = [1,2,3] # note the catch-all operator _ can be used to throw away any unwanted value, as seen here where only the head value is matched and assigned and the tail is thrown away  
head # this evaluates to the integer value 1  
  
# COND  
# cond => declares and creates a cond block, which runs multiple conditional checks at the same time, equivalent to switch case statements in other languages and often used within elixir as a concise alternative to nesting multiple if statements, with -> specifying the relationship between a condition and the internal logic to run if a given condition evaluates to true  
# do end => used to mark the start and end of the cond block  
# true => it is convention to set the last condition as true to act as a default statement within a cond block  
  
cond do  
  1 + 1 == 3 ->  
    "I will never be seen"  
  2 * 5 == 12 ->  
    "ne neither"  
  1 + 2 == 3 ->  
    "but I will!"  
end # this evaluates to "but I will!"  
  
cond do  
  1 + 1 == 3 ->  
    "I will never be seen"  
  2 * 5 == 12 ->  
    "ne neither"  
  true ->  
    "but I will!"  
end # this evaluates to "but I will!" as well due to the presence of the true condition which acts as a default statement  
  
# TRY CATCH AFTER  
# try catch => declares a try catch block, similar to try except in other languages  
# after => specifies code that should execute regardless of whether a value is caught by the try catch block  
# rescue => used to handle specified errors  
# do end => used to mark the start and end of a try catch after block  
  
try do  
  throw(:hello)  
catch  
  message -> "got #{message}."  
after  
  IO.puts("I'm the after clause.")  
end # this prints "I'm the after clause" to the stdout  
  
# RANGES  
# .. => creates an inclusive range on both ends  
  
1..10 # this evaluates to a range that stores integers from 1 to 10  
  
# LOOPS  
# as a functional language, elixir does not have conventional imperative loops implemented, but offers higher-order functions, recursion and list comprehension that allow for the same effect in a concise manner  
# Enum module => provides Enum.each, Enum.map, Enum.reduce and other higher-order functions  
  
# LIST COMPREHENSION  
# uses the syntax => for (PATTERN) <- (ITERABLE STRUCTURE), {FILTER CONDITIONS}, do: (EXPRESSION)  
# pattern => applies a specified pattern-matching construct against elements from the iterable structure  
# iterable structure => data structure like a range, list etc  
# filter conditions => optional conditions to further filter elements  
# expression => does something to the given element and includes it in the resulting new list  
  
numbers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]  
doubled_numbers = for n <- numbers, do: n * 2 # this iterates over the list numbers, taking each value and multiplying it by 2, then reassigning it to a new list doubled_numbers  
doubled_numbers # this evaluates to the integer list of value [2, 4, 6, 8, 10]
```