

PYTHON - NOTES II - CONTROL STRUCTURES

Control Structures. Control structures are blocks of code that determine the direction a program takes. In particular, they allow us to iterate calculations. They are best illustrated via examples.

(i) for <variable> in <sequence>:
 <statements>

EXAMPLE:

```
x = 0
for i in range(10):
    x = x + i
    print(x)
```

(ii) if <condition>:
 <statements>
else:
 <statements>

EXAMPLE:

```
# This code determines the maximum of two integers x1,x2.
if x1 >= x2:
    max = x1
else:
    max = x2
```

(iii) if <condition>:
 <statements>
elif <condition>:
 <statements>
elif <condition>:
 <statements>
elif <condition>:
 <statements>
else:
 <statements>

EXAMPLE:

```
# This code determines the maximum of three integers x1,x2,x3.
if x1 >= x2 and x1 >= x3:
    max = x1
elif x2 >= x1 and x2 >= x3:
    max = x2
else:
    max = x3
```

(iv) while <condition>:
 <statements>

EXAMPLE:

```
# This code computes the factorial of a positive integer n.
factorial = 1
while n > 0:
    factorial = factorial*n
    n = n-1
print(factorial)
```

(v) while <condition>:
 if <condition>:
 break
 else:
 <statements>

EXAMPLE:

```
# This while loop breaks (and thus the program in which it is embedded, proceeds)
# if n is positive, and otherwise it prints a statement that n must be positive,
# and asks for a new input.
while True:
    n = int(input("Enter a positive integer: "))
    if n>0:
        break
    else:
        print("The number must be positive.")
```