jq JSON processor

CONCEPTS

Everything is a filter: it takes one input and emits zero or more outputs. The pipe | feeds each output of the left side into the right side. Quote the program in single quotes.

COMMAND-LINE FLAGS

jq -r '*<filter>*'
Print strings without quotes

jq -c '*<filter>*'
Compact, one value per line

jq -n '*<filter>*'
Use null as input, read nothing

jq -s '*<filter>*' *<file>*
Slurp all inputs into one array

jq --arg *<name>* *<value>* '$*<name>*'
Pass a string variable

SELECTING

.
The whole input

.*<key>*
Object field

.*<key>*.*<sub>*
Nested field

.[*<n>*]
Array element, negative counts from end

.[]
Every element or value

FILTERING AND LOGIC

select(*<cond>*)
Keep inputs where cond is true

map(*<f>*)
Apply f to each array element

== != < > <= >=
Compare values

and / or / not
Combine conditions

FILTERING AND LOGIC (cont.)

<a>* // *<default>
Use default if a is null or false

if *<cond>* then *<a>* else *<b>* end
Conditional

test("*<regex>*")
Regex match, returns boolean

CONSTRUCTING

{*<a>*, *<b>*: .*<c>*}
Build an object, shorthand for {a: .a}

[*<f>*]
Collect all outputs into an array

"*<text>* \(.*<key>*)"
String interpolation

.*<key>* = *<v>*
Set a field

.*<key>* |= *<f>*
Update a field with a filter

del(.*<key>*)
Remove a field or element

to_entries / from_entries / with_entries(*<f>*)
Object to key-value pairs and back

ARRAYS AND AGGREGATION

length
Size of array, object, string

keys
Sorted object keys or array indexes

sort / sort_by(.*<key>*)
Sort array

STRINGS AND FORMATS

tostring / tonumber
Convert type

split("*<sep>*") / join("*<sep>*")
Split and join strings