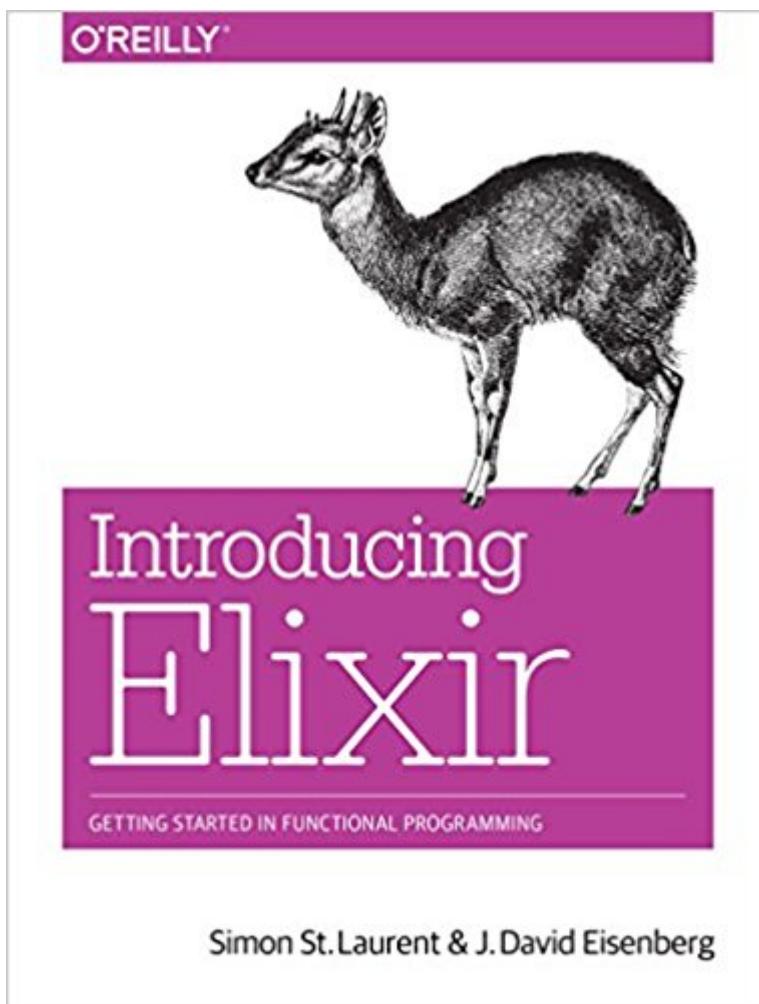


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Introducing Elixir: Getting Started In Functional Programming



Simon St. Laurent & J. David Eisenberg



Synopsis

Elixir is an excellent language if you want to learn about functional programming, and with this hands-on introduction, you'll discover just how powerful and fun Elixir can be. This language combines the robust functional programming of Erlang with a syntax similar to Ruby, and includes powerful features for metaprogramming. This book shows you how to write simple Elixir programs by teaching one skill at a time. Once you pick up pattern matching, process-oriented programming, and other concepts, you'll understand why Elixir makes it easier to build concurrent and resilient programs that scale up and down with ease. Get comfortable with Iex, Elixir's command line interface. Discover atoms, pattern matching, and guards: the foundations of your program structure. Delve into the heart of Elixir with recursion, strings, lists, and higher-order functions. Create processes, send messages among them, and apply pattern matching to incoming messages. Store and manipulate structured data with Erlang Term Storage and the Mnesia database. Build resilient applications with Erlang's Open Telecom Platform. Define macros with Elixir's metaprogramming tools.

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Customer Reviews

Relatively speaking, this deserves 4 stars. If you've had no exposure to Erlang, do NOT grab the book by Dave Thomas UNTIL you've grabbed this; the other alternative would be to really go through elixir-lang.org tutorial because it's actually really good. Dave Thomas' book moves pretty fast, just so you know. But this book takes a decent pace and starts with the small stuff, and so I

give it four stars. Now, one star had to be deducted for something irksome. The author uses examples that are kinda dumb. This makes the book feel like there ought to be a book BETWEEN it and Dave Thomas Programmatic Programmers book. I just wound up putting this book down after the tutorial because you get into writing a server, doing something practical. When you learn a new language, you want to connect the data structures and functions with something closer to what you'll be DOING with the language. Whatever. It's a decent book and the only one out there like it right now for understanding the basics. Someone'll come along and write a "Learn You Some Elixir" and I hope they are as effective as elixir-lang.org at conveying WHY the language is so cool in practice.

Both this book, and the same title for Erlang by this author are both excellent first introductory books. They both follow the same formats, so an added benefit of having both is seeing how the exact same functions, etc. are implemented in both languages. Though I use both Erlang, and Elixir, I purchased both of these to add to my library.

This is a short and readable intro and tour to Elixir language syntax mostly. The reason I gave 4 stars instead of 5 because the principles of FP are not well elucidated in the book as the title suggested.

As a newbie I have found this book easy to understand and well thought out. I'm not finished with it yet but am finding it one of the better programming books I have purchased. I would highly recommend this book to any beginner who wants to explore functional programming.

Awesome introduction into Elixir. Well laid out and definitely more geared towards the beginner (which suits me just fine). I haven't been this excited about a programming language since I first learned Ruby. An excellent precursor to Programming Elixir by Dave Thomas.

As an introduction serves the purpose well. Easy reading and good examples of code. As first impression Elixir looks like a sweet flavored Erlang version where the variables gets the behaviour of variables and may change. Metaprogramming is a powerfull tool to handle tedious and repetitive tasks. To be a six star miss a chapter for web app and system architecture within the functional paradigm.

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