

# Using *timedreb2erl* version 0.3

Department of Computer Science  
Reykjavik University, Iceland.

February 24, 2012

## 1 Prerequisites

### 1.1 Installing Erlang

Before you are able to run translated code from *timedreb2erl*, you have to have Erlang R12B-5 or greater installed.

To install follow these simple steps:

#### Windows:

1. Download Erlang/OTP Windows binaries from <http://www.erlang.org>.  
*This tutorial assumes that you are downloading R15B binaries.*
2. Install Erlang by running `otp_win32_R15B.exe`.
3. Follow the instruction and finish the installation.  
*Notice that the binaries are only available for x86, so it will install to `c:\program files (x86)\erl5.9\` on x64 versions of Windows.<sup>1</sup>*
4. (Windows XP) Go to "Control Panel" and click "System". From there go to the "Advanced" tab and click "Environment Variables".
5. (Windows 7 / Vista) Go to "Control Panel" and click "System". From there go to the "Advanced system settings" link (placed on the left of the panel) and click "Environment Variables".

---

<sup>1</sup>Is my Windows 32 or 64 bits: <https://help.ru.is/index.php?/Knowledgebase/Article/View/49/1/staff-is-my-windows-32-or-64-bit>

6. Add Erlang to **PATH**, by clicking on the **PATH** variable from the top list and by pressing **Edit**. There you can add the string ";c:\program files (x86)\erl5.6\bin" at the end of the variable (*note that for 32bit versions of Windows you will need to omit "(x86)"*). Note that ";" separates locations inside the **PATH** variable.
7. Click OK, to stop editing and you are finished.

## 1.2 Installing *timedreb2erl*

### 1.2.1 Obtain *timedreb2erl* binaries

Binaries for *timedreb2erl* is available from <http://en.ru.is/icerose>, in the "tools" section.

When downloaded, you should have a compressed ZIP archive, containing the folder "timedreb2erl-0.3". This folder has:

- bin (The binaries)
- timedreb2erl-0.3 (Support data)
- examples (Examples)

### 1.2.2 Installing binaries and support data

To install binaries and support data for *timedreb2erl*, simply place the folder "timedreb2erl-0.3" to C:\ (Root of your OS disk).

After that you can choose one of the following approaches to run *timedreb2erl*:

- Always use full reference c:\timedreb2erl\bin\timedreb2erl.exe, to translate models.
- Add c:\timedreb2erl\bin to **PATH** by adding the string ";c:\timedreb2erl-0.3\bin" at the end of the variable (using the method above) and be able to run *timedreb2erl* from anywhere.

## 2 Running *timedreb2erl*

After successfully implementing the steps in former chapter, you should be able to run the following commands without errors (giving that *timedreb2erl.exe* is in **PATH**):

- erl (CTRL-Z, to exit shell)
- erlc (Should give an empty output)
- timedreb2erl -help (gives possible arguments for timedreb2erl)

## 2.1 Arguments for *timedreb2erl*

- -s (Simulate with McErlang \*This needs McErlang. This is not explained in this tutorial)
- -m (Generate a monitor to be used with McErlang. This is not explained in this tutorial)
- -r (Decides what time factor is to be used, default 1000 (1 sec). This is not explained in this tutorial)
- -e (Displays a graphical event trace while simulating)
- -o (Output directory for the translated Erlang code)

## 2.2 Translate models

As an example we will use the model "simplecommunication.rebeca". To translate an timed Rebeca model, you can use the following syntax:

- timedreb2erl.exe -o **out** simplecommunication.rebeca

This will generate Erlang code to the folder **out**\\.

## 2.3 Simulate models

After being successful in generating the Erlang code for the model you need to compile the code with the following syntax:

- cd out\ (Given that the output folder is "out")
- erlc simplecommunication.erl
- erlc rebeca.erl

*Note, that you can ignore all warnings containing "unused variables". Though "Unbound" errors means that something is wrong with the model.*

If compiling the model was successful (should see \*.beam files), you are ready to simulate the model with the following syntax:

- `erl -run simplecommunication main 1 1 -noshell`

*Note, that the two integers following main, are environment integers that are being passed to the model.*

If the model is successfully simulated you should see the following output:

```
Type; ReceivedDate; SentDate; Failed; Rebec; MsgSrv; Parm
system;1329959668688002;1329959668688000;0;receiverObj;initial;[]
system;1329959668688003;1329959668688001;0;senderObj;initial;[]
system;1329959668688005;1329959668688004;0;senderObj;start;[]
system;1329959669780000;1329959668778000;0;receiverObj;send;[]
system;1329959676780001;1329959669780001;0;senderObj;ack;[]
system;1329959676780002;1329959676780000;0;senderObj;checkAck;[]
.
.
.
```

### 2.3.1 Saving simulations

Output of *timedreb2erl* is basically a CSV format, thus it is very easy to pipe the simulation results to a file, like this:

- `erl -run simplecommunication main 1 1 -noshell > simple.output.txt`

Then you can look at the output with your favorite editor by opening `simple.output.txt`.