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# ELSE - EL Locus Solus' Externals

for the Pure Data programming language

**Version: 1.0-0 RC-13 (release candidate #13) With Live Electronics Tutorial.**

**Released May 2nd 2025**

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<https://github.com/porres/pd-else/blob/master/License.txt> and <http://www.wtfpl.net/> for more details

For details on authorship check the source code. Other licenses also apply for specific objects and this is also informed in the source code. For instance:

- [beat~], [sfont~], [giga.rev~] are licensed under the GNU GPL library
- [sfz~] and band limited oscillators like [bl.saw~] are licensed under the BSD 2-Clause library
- [plaits~], [osc.format], [osc.parse] and [osc.route] are licensed under the MIT library

ELSE comes with a Live Electronics tutorial as part of its documentation written by Alexandre Torres Porres, this work is licensed under a Creative Commons (CC) License.

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## About ELSE

This version of ELSE needs **Pd 0.55-2** or above.

ELSE is a big library of externals that extends the performance Pure Data (Pd) - Miller S. Puckette's realtime computer music environment (download Pd from: <http://msp.ucsd.edu/software.html>).

ELSE provides a cohesive system for computer music, it also serves as a basis for an Live Electronics Tutorial by the same author, yours truly, Alexandre Torres Porres. This library's repository resides at <https://github.com/porres/pd-else/>. This tutorial is also found as part of the download of the ELSE library. Look for the 'Live-Electronics-Tutorial' folder inside it and also check its README on how to install it.

ELSE is also part of PlugData by Timothy Schoen, which is a fork of Pd that loads as a standalone or VST with a revamped GUI. ELSE has received collaboration from Tim and others involved with PlugData and many objects have been included in ELSE just so they are supported in PlugData. See:

<https://github.com/timothyschoen/PlugData>

ELSE also ships a modification of [pdlua] <https://github.com/agraef/pd-lua> which is needed for a couple of GUI objects.

This project is still in an experimental phase (currently at a 'release candidate' phase), where changes may occur and backwards compatibility is not guaranteed until a final and more stable release is available.

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## Downloading ELSE:

You can get ELSE from <https://github.com/porres/pd-else/releases> - where all releases are available, but ELSE is also found via Pd's external manager (In Pd, just go for **Help --> Find External**s and search for 'else'). In any case, you should download the folder to a place Pd automatically searches for, and the common place is the `~/Documents/Pd/externals` folder. Instructions on how to install and build ELSE are provided below.

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## Installing ELSE:

This library runs in Pd Vanilla and do I still need to say it doesn't run in the long dead for over a decade "Pd Extended"? Neither its new (and unfortunately incompatible) reincarnations "Pd-L2ork/Purr Data". Nevertheless, it can run in other forks that are actually compatible to Vanilla and up to date, most notably, ELSE is included in the PlugData fork --> <https://github.com/timothyschoen/PlugData> and you don't need to install it there.

ELSE comes mostly as a set of separate binaries and abstractions, which work if you just add the 'else' folder to the path via "**Preferences --> Path**" or via `[declare -path else]`. Nonetheless, you must also load ELSE as a library via "**Preferences --> Startup**" or with `[declare -lib else]`.

Loading the library loads an object browsing plugin. It also registers a loader that allows Pd externals written in Lua (with the `"*.pd_lua"` extension) to be loaded. Some objects in ELSE are coded in lua, like the `[lua]` object itself. Loading the library also prints information of what version of ELSE you have when you open Pd. Check `else-help.pd` for more details.

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## Building ELSE for Pd Vanilla:

ELSE relies on the build system called [pd.build](#) by Pierre Guillot.

```
cmake -BBuild -DPD_PATH="path/to/pd"
cd Build
make
```

This will output a complete ELSE installation in the Build/else folder.

You can also generate Xcode or Ninja projects by passing `-GXcode` or `-GNinja` to the cmake command.

## Installing

```
cp -r ./Build/else ~/Documents/Pd/externals/
```

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## More About ELSE

"EL Locus Solus" is run by yours truly, Alexandre Torres Porres, and it organizes cultural events/concerts and computer music courses (<http://alexandre-torres.wixsite.com/el-locus-solus> ). The course uses Porres' Live Electronics Tutorial as a main textbook. The tutorial is here: <https://github.com/porres/Live-Electronic-Music-Tutorial>. This tutorial solely depends on the ELSE library and is a great didactic companion to this library. Both the library and the tutorial are provided as a single download, directly via Pure Data or GitHub.

The examples from the first incarnation of this tutorial were first developed for the now abandoned Pd Extended, making extensive use of the existing objects available in Pd Extended's libraries. Even though Pd Extended had many externals, there was the need at some point for something "else" - thus, this library emerged with the goal of providing more objects to include missing functionalities in the Pd Ecosystem.

But the library grew to encompass functionalities found in other Pd objects/libraries from old Pd Extended as well, with a different design and more functionalities. This was done in order to remove ALL the dependencies of the didactic material from these other libraries - with the goal to rely on just a single library that's alive (in active development) instead of many projects that are now long gone abandoned or not receiving much attention. I'm also involved in maintaining Cyclone, a legacy library for Pd (see: <https://github.com/porres/pd-cyclone>). But ELSE also superseeds cyclone for the purposes of this didactic material. See below in this document a list of alternatives to Cyclone provided by ELSE.

Cyclone is also part of plugdata and there's been some kind of integration between ELSE and Cyclone. Some objects in Cyclone are actually borrowed from ELSE and backwards compatible to the ones in Cyclone, like [pink~] and [tanh~].

The goal of ELSE also outgrew the didactic material as it now includes objects not necessarily depicted in the computer music examples. Moreover, even basic elements from Pd Vanilla are being redesigned into new objects. So that's it, ELSE is becoming a quite big library and keeps growing and growing. A recent addition to it is 'M.E.R.D.A' a set of abstractions inspired by EuroRack modules.

ELSE has been in active development since early 2017 for real, but it hasn't stabilized into a final version yet. The aim is to do so as soon as PlugData's 1.0 version comes out! For now, it's at a "Release Candidate" stage of development, where changes may occur and backwards compatibility is not guaranteed until a final stable release is available.

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## Acknowledgements

Flávio Luis Schiavoni helped me out in a few things when I first started coding and collaborated with the objects: [median~] and [keyboard].

I'd also like to thank my Cyclone buddies Derek Kwan and Matt Barber, cause I started learning how to code externals with them as part of the cyclone team. Other developers of cyclone need to be praised, like Czaja, the original author, as I did steal quite a bit from cyclone into ELSE. I'd like to give a special thanks for Matt Barber for developing the "magic" in cyclone that I'm using here and also collaborating to ELSE

with the objects: [float2bits], [brown~], [gray~], [perlin~], [pink~] and [blip~].

Lucarda helped countless times with testing and compilation issues for windows and more. Seb shader is a tcl/tk master that helped me a lot with this (which I know next to nothing) and is responsible for the [keycode] object. I stole [scope3d~] from Ben Wesh. AI is also helping me to code, but fuck them.

Kudos and thanks to my buddy Esteban Viveros for helping with the compilation of ELSE for other systems as well as ELSE for Camomile and libpd projects, which opened the way for PlugData by Timothy Schoen, who's doing an amazing jaw dropping job with this project based on camomile that includes ELSE. Timothy has also helped me fix many ELSE related issues and has made incredible and countless contributions to ELSE with fixes, improvements and new objects. Other folks from the PlugData gang are being very helpful like Alex Mitchell and Amy. PlugData is a fork of Pd with a revamped GUI and comes with the ELSE library. See: <https://github.com/timothyschoen/PlugData>.

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## Current Object list (573 objects):

---

### assorted

```
else
```

### gui

```
knob numbox~ drum.seq bicoeff pad messbox mtx.ctl biplot zbiplot pic colors functio
```

### time

```
chrono datetime
```

### fft

```
hann~ bin.shift~
```

### table

```
buffer tabgen tabreader tabreader~
```

### tuning/notes

```
scales scale2freq scala autotune autotune2 makenote2 retune eqdiv cents2scale scale
```

## patch/subpatch management

```
loadbanger args meter presets dollsym sender receiver retrieve dispatch var send2~
```

## message management

```
format swap2 nmess unite separate symbol2any any2symbol changed hot initmess messag
```

## list management

```
break order combine delete remove equal group iterate insert scramble sort reverse
```

## file management

```
dir
```

## midi

```
midi midi.learn midi.in midi.out sysrt.in sysrt.out ctl.in ctl.out touch.in touch.o
```

## osc/network

```
osc.route osc.format osc.parse osc.send osc.receive pd.link pd.link~
```

## math functions

```
add add~ median avg mov.avg count gcd lcm frac.add frac.mul ceil ceil~ factor floor
```

## math conversion

```
hex2dec dec2hex bpm car2pol car2pol~ cents2ratio cents2ratio~ ms2samps ms2samps~ db
```

## math: constant values

```
sr~ nyquist~ pi e
```

## logic

loop

## audio multichannel tools

nchs~ sigs~ repeat~ select~ pick~ get~ sum~ merge~ unmerge~ slice~ lace~ delace~

## analog circuitry emulation

circuit~

## fx: assorted

downsample~ conv~ chorus~ shaper~ crusher~ drive~ power~ flanger~ freq.shift~ pitch

## fx: delay

del~ fbdelay~ ffdelay~ revdelay~ filterdelay~

## fx: dynamics

compress~ duck~ expand~ noisegate~ norm~

## fx: reverberation

allpass.rev~ comb.rev~ echo.rev~ mono.rev~ stereo.rev~ free.rev~ giga.rev~ plate.re

## fx: filters

allpass.2nd~ allpass.filt~ bitnormal~ comb.filt~ lop.bw~ hip.bw~ biquads~ bandpass~

## sampling, playing, granulation

player~ gran.player~ pvoc.player~ pvoc.live~ batch.rec~ bach.write~ rec.file~ play.

## synthesis: synthesizers

```
pm2~ pm4~ pm6~ sfont~ sfz~ plaits~ synth~
```

## synthesis: granular

```
grain.synth~
```

## synthesis: physical modeling

```
pluck~
```

## synthesis: oscillators

```
cosine~ impulse~ impulse2~ parabolic~ pulse~ saw~ saw2~ oscbank~ oscnoise~ sine~ sq
```

## synthesis: chaotic, stochastic, noise

```
white~ brown~ perlin~ crackle~ cusp~ fbsine~ fbsine2~ gbman~ gray~ henon~ ikeda~ la
```

## control: mouse/keyboard

```
mouse canvas.mouse keycode keymap keypress
```

## control: fade/pan/routing

```
euclid fader~ autofade~ autofade.mc~ autofade2~ autofade2.mc~ balance~ pan~ pan.mc~
```

## control: sequencers

```
score score2 pattern list.seq sequencer sequencer~ phaseseq~ impseq~ rec rec2 lace
```

## control: envelopes

```
asr~ adsr~ decay~ envelope~ envgen~
```

## control: ramp/line/curve generators

```
ramp~ susloop~ function~ slew slew~ slew2 slew2~ lag~ lag2~ glide glide~ glide2 gli
```

## control: random/stochastic

```
rand.f rand.f~ rand.i rand.i~ rand.list rand.u rand.dist rand.hist histogram markov
```

## control: control rate lfo

```
lfo phasor pimp impulse pulse
```

## control: triggers

```
above above~ bangdiv chance chance~ dust~ dust2~ gatehold gatehold~ gaterelease gat
```

## control: triggers, clock

```
clock metronome metronome~ polymetro polymetro~ speed tempo tempo~
```

## analysis

```
changed~ changed2~ detect~ lastvalue~ median~ peak~ tap range range~ maxpeak~ rms~
```

## M.E.R.D.A.

(Modular EuroRacks Dancing Along)

A submodule of ELSE by Porres (this is also by Porres).

## Modules list (20 objects):

---

## classic

```
adsr.m~ lfo.m~ seq8.m~ vca.m~ vcf.m~ vco.m~
```



# FX

```
chorus.m~ crusher.m~ delay.m~ drive.m~ flanger.m~ phaser.m~ plate.rev.m~ rm.m~
```

## generators

```
gendyn.m~ plaits.m~ pluck.m~ pm6.m~ sfont.m~
```

## tools

```
presets.m sig.m~ level.m~
```

## extra

```
brane.m~
```

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### ALTERNATIVES TO CYCLONE

ELSE offers alternatives to objects from the Cyclone library (a library that clones objects from MAX/MSP). The objects that have no similar counterpart in ELSE (at least so far) are: anal / buddy / capture / capture~ / coll / cycle / decide / decode / frameaccum~ / framedelta~ / funbuff / funnel / flush / forward / kink~ / linedrive / prob / match / maximum / minimum / mousefilter / next / offer / peak / prob / pv / spray / substitute / teeth~ / trough / universal / vectral~

But, here are some considerations: - maximum/minimum => [array max] [array\\_min](#) - for [capture~] you can use [print~] - for [kink~] you can use [function~](#) - [spike~] => [else/status~] + [else/detect~] => [threshold~] + [timer] - [anal] is usually used with [prob] for markov chains, but you can use [else/markov] instead - [teeth~] is just a comb reverberator which can be constructed with [else/ffdelay~] + [else/fbdelay~] - [forward] => just message boxes with ";" - [flush] => [poly] has a flush option, so does [else/voices] - for [coll], you can use [text] which miller considers is a better design, but it's simpler.

Alternatives:

- 2d.wave~ => else/wt2d~ (sort of)
- +=~ / [plusequals~] => else/add~
- operators >~ / <~ / %~ / etc => else/op~ => [expr~]
- bitwise operators (bitand~ / bitor~, etc) => [expr~]
- accum => else/add -  
acos/acosh/acos~/acos~/asin/asin~/atan~/atan2~/asin/asinh~/cosh/cosh~/cosx~/sinh/sinh~/sinx~/tanh/tanh~/tanx~  
=> [expr]/[expr~]
- active => else/canvas.active
- append => [list append]

- atob/atodb~/dbtoa/dbtoa~ => db2lin/lin2db/db2lin~/lin2db/~
- bangbang => else/loadbanger => trigger
- borax / else/noteinfo
- average~/ avg~ => else/mov.avg~
- bondo => else/hot
- buffer~ => else/sample~
- buffir~ => else/conv~
- counter => else/count
- changed => else/changed~
- click~ => else/impseq~
- clip/clip~ => clip/clip~
- comb~ => else/comb.rev~
- count~ => else/ramp~
- cross~ => else/crossover~
- cycle~ => else/wavetable~ => tabosc4~
- curve~ => else/envgen~
- cartopol/poltoacar/cartopol~/poltoacar~ => else car2pol/pol2car/car2pol~/pol2car~
- degrade~ => else/crusher~
- drunk => else/drun kard
- delay~ => else/ffdelay~
- delta~ => [rzero~ 1]
- deltaclip~ => else/slew~ => slop~
- downsamp~ => else/downsample~
- edge~ => else/status~ => threshold~
- fromsymbol => else/symbol2any / else/separate
- grab => else/retrieve
- gate => else/router
- gate~ => else/xgate~
- histo => else/histogram
- index~ => else/ramp~
- iter => else/iterate
- join => else/merge
- listfunnel => else/order
- loadmess => else/initmess
- line~ => else/envgen~ => vline~
- lookup~ => else/shaper~
- lores~ => else/lowpass~
- mean => else/mov.avg
- matrix~ => else/mtx~
- maximum~/minimum~ => max~/min~/expr~ (totally unnecessary external)
- minmax~ => else/range~
- mstosamps~/samps2ms~ => else/ms2samps ms2samps~ samps2ms samps2ms~
- midiflush => else/panic
- midiformat/midiparse => midi in/out objects (else/note.in/note.out, etc)
- mtr => else/rec
- mousestate => else/mouse

- onebang => else/nmess
- onepole~ => lop~
- overdrive~ => else/drive~
- peakamp~ => else/peak~
- pak => else/pack2
- past => else/above
- peek~ => tabwrite
- phaseshift~ => else/allpass.2nd~
- phasewrap~ => else/wrap2~ => wrap~
- pink~ => else/pinknoise~
- play~ => else/tabplayer~
- poke~ => else/tabwriter~
- pong/pong~ => else/fold / else/wrap2 / else/fold~ / else/wrap2~
- pow~ => pow~ (totally unnecessary external)
- prepend => else/insert => [list prepend]
- round / round~ => else/quantizer / else/quantizer~
- rand~ => else/rampnoise~
- record~ => else/tabwriter~
- reson~ => else/bandpass~
- scale / scale~ => else/rescale / else/rescale~
- seq => else/midi
- speedlim => else/limit
- spell => [list fromsymbol]
- split => else/spread
- sprintf => else/format => makefilename
- sustain => else/suspedal
- switch => else/selector
- sah~ => else/sh~ => samphold~
- selector~ => else/xselect~
- slide~ => else/lag2~
- snapshot~ => else/s2f~ => snapshot~
- svf~ => else/svfilter~
- table => array
- tanh~ (again) => else/drive~ or else/tanh~
- thresh~ => else/schmitt~
- train~ => else/pulse~
- trapezoid~ => else/envelope~
- triangle~ => else/vsaw~
- trunc~ => else/trunc~
- thresh => else/combine
- togedge => else/status
- tosymbol => else/any2symbol / else/unite
- unjoin => else/unmerge
- urn => else/rand.seq
- uzi => else/loop
- xbendin/sbendin2/xbendout/xbenout2 => else/bend.in / else/bend.out

- xnotein/xnoteout => else/note.in / else/note.out
- wave~ => else/wavetable~
- zerox~ => else/zerocross~
- zl => several dedicated objects include functionalities from it, such as: else/group, else/scramble, else/sort, else/reverse, else/rotate, else/sum, else/slice and else/stream

GUI:

- scope~ => else/scope~ (not the same but quite similar)
- comment => else/note (actually, comment is deprecated and based on else's [note] now.