

# Erlang Syntax

## String

Characters: \$a, \$n

String: a list of integers

"hello\7" : [104,101,108,111,7]

## Operators

Arithmetic: +, -, \*, /, div (get Integer), rem (mod)

Equal value: ==, /= (!=), =:= (type, value), =/= (!  
==)

Boolean: and, or, xor, not, andalso, orelss

## Lists

synstax: [ ], [ head | remain ]

Operator: ++, --;

eg: L ++ [aa]. ; L -- [aa].

## Function

start with lowercase letter

```
fun(0) -> 1;
```

```
fun(N) -> when N>0 -> N*fun(N-1);
```

```
fun(_) -> others.
```

% \_ represent don't care variable

## Print

```
io:format("~p~p",[Num1,Num2]).
```

```
io:fwrite("~p ~p",[Num1,Num2]).
```

## Module Complie

module name should be same like file  
name without extension

.erl file

```
-module(modulename).
```

```
-compile(exportall).
```

## Type Check

```
isatom/1
```

```
isfunction/1
```

```
isboolean/1
```

```
isrecord/1
```

## -spec

use this to define a function

arguments' type and return type

```
-spec Function(Arguments_type) ->  
RT.
```

```
-spec Function(Arguments::Type) ->  
RT.
```

## Record

data like json

```
-record ( record_name ,  
{ some_field , some_default = "  
yeah !", unimaginative_name } ).
```

if record in .hrl file, this should be  
included in .erl file

```
-include(module_name.hrl).
```

## e.g:

```
-record(robot,  
{name,type=industrial, hobbies,  
details=[ ] })  
#rebot{name="Mechatron", type =  
handmade,details = ["Moved by a  
samll man inside"]}.  
%access field  
variable#rebot.name
```

## Type

define a data structure more

convenient than record

```
-type btree():: {empty}|{node,  
term(),btree(),btree()}.
```

## Control Structures

if

```
X > Y ->  
true;  
true -> % works as else branch  
false  
end  
case expression of  
value1 -> statement#1;  
value2 -> statement#2;  
valueN -> statement#N  
end.
```

## -spawn

creates a new process and returns  
the pid.

```
spawn(Module, Name, Args) ->
```

```
pid()
```

## Message Passing

use flush() . can get message from  
shell.

PID ! msg is non-blocking, it will

send message msg to process PID

```
Pid ! Message
```

```
% send multiple messages
```

```
Pid1 ! Message, Pid2 ! Message,
```

```
Pid3 ! Message
```

```
Pid1 ! (Pid2 ! (Pid3 ! Message))
```

```
Pid1 ! Pid2 ! Pid3 ! Message
```

receive blocks until a message is  
available in the mailbox;

```
receive
```

```
Pattern1 when Guard1 ->
```

```
ToDo1;
```

```
Pattern2 when Guard2 ->
```

```
ToDo2;
```

```
_Other ->
```

```
Catch_all
```

```
after time->
```

```
timeout
```

```
% after part will triggered if  
time milliseconds have passed  
without receiving a message that  
matched the pattern
```

```
end
```

## e.g:

```
-module ( echo ).
```

```
-export ([ start /0]).
```

```
echo () ->
```

```
receive
```

```
{From , Msg} ->
```

```
From ! { Msg },
```

```
echo ();
```

```
stop -> true
```

```
end .
```

```
start () ->
```

```
Pid = spawn ( fun echo /0 ) ,
```

```
% Returns pid of a new process
```

```
% started by the application of
```

```
echo /0 to []
```

```
Token = " Hello Server !",
```

```
% Sending tokens to the server
```

```
Pid ! { self (), Token },
```

```
io: format (" Sent
```

```
~s~n",[ Token ]),
```

```
receive
```

```
{ Msg } ->
```

```
io: format (" Received ~s~n",
```

```
[Msg ])
```

```
end ,
```

```
Pid ! stop .
```

```
% Stop server
```

make\_ref() . can get a global

reference objects

## Semaphore

```
-module(sem) .
```

```
-compile(export_all) .
```

```
start_sem(Init) ->
```

```
spawn(?MODULE,sem_loop,[Init]) .
```

```
sem_loop(0) ->
```

```
receive
```

```
{release} ->
```

```
sem_loop(1)
```

```
end;
```

```
sem_loop(P) when P>0 ->
```

```
receive
```

```
{release} ->
```

```
sem_loop(P+1);
```

```
{acquire,From} ->
```

```
From!{ack},
```

```
sem_loop(P-1)
```

```
end.
```

```
acquire(S) ->
```

```
S!{acquire,self()},
```

```
receive
```

```
{ack} ->
```

```
done
```

```
end.
```

```
release(S) ->
```

```
S!{release}.
```

## Links

```
link(Pid)
```

```
link(spawn(fun
```

```
module_name:fun_name/N))
```

unlink/1 can tear the link down

## counter

```
-module(ex1) .
```

```
-compile(export_all) .
```

```
start(N) ->
```

```
%% Spawns a counter and N
```

```
turnstile clients
```

```
C =
```

```
spawn(?MODULE ,counter_server ,[  
0]),
```

```
[ spawn(?MODULE ,turnstile ,[C,5  
0]) || _ <- lists:seq(1,N)],
```

```
C.
```

```
counter_server(State) ->
```

```
%% State is the current value of  
the counter
```

```
receive
```

```
{bump} ->
```

```
counter_server(State+1);
```

```
{read,From} ->
```

```
From!State,
```

```
counter_server(State)
```

```
end.
```

```
turnstile(_C,0) ->
```

```
%% C is the PID of the counter,
```

```
and N the number of
```

```
%% times the turnstile turns
```

```
done;
```

```
turnstile(C,N) when N>0 ->
```

```
C!{bump},
```

```
turnstile(C,N-1) .
```

## print letter before number

```
-module(barr) .
```

```
-compile(export_all) .
```

```

start(N) ->
B =
spawn(?MODULE,loop,[2,2,[]]),
spawn(?MODULE,client1,[B]),
spawn(?MODULE,client2,[B]),
ok.

% loop(N,M,L)
% the main loop for a barrier of
size N
% M are the number of threads
yet to reach the barrier
% L is the list of PID,Ref of
the threads that have already
reached the barrier

loop(N,0,L) ->
[ Pid!{ok,Ref} || {Pid,Ref} <-
L ],
loop(N,N,[]);
loop(N,M,L) ->
receive
{From,Ref} ->
loop(N,M-1, [{From,Ref}|L])
end.

```

```

reached(B) ->
R = make_ref(),
B!{self(),R},
Receive
{ok,R} ->
ok
end.

client1(B) ->
io:format("a~n"),
reached(B),
io:format("1~n").

client2(B) ->
io:format("b~n"),
reached(B),
io:format("2~n").

```

## promela

active spawn a process type. active  
 prototype P() {}  
 init is the first process that is

## activated

run instantiates a process  
 init {  
 n = 1;  
 atomic {  
 run P(1, 10);  
 run P(2, 15)  
 }  
 }  
 assert();  
 do  
 :: i > N -> break  
 :: else ->  
 sum = sum + i;  
 i++;  
 od;  
 for (i : 1 .. N) {  
 sum = sum + i;  
 }  
 }

## Transition Systems

**Definition 1 (TS).** A Transition System (TS)  $\mathcal{T}$  is a tuple  $\mathcal{T} = (S, Act, \rightarrow, I, AP, L)$  where

- $S$  is a set of states,
- $Act$  is a set of actions,
- $\rightarrow \subseteq S \times Act \times S$  is a transition relation,
- $I \subseteq S$  is a set of initial states,
- $AP$  is a set of atomic propositions<sup>[1]</sup> and
- $L : S \rightarrow 2^{AP}$  is a labeling function.

A TS is *finite* if  $S, Act$  and  $AP$  are finite.

We typically write  $s \xrightarrow{\alpha} s'$  for  $(s, \alpha, s') \in \rightarrow$ . Also,  $L(s)$  are the set of atomic propositions in  $AP$  that are satisfied at state  $s$ .

**Definition 6 (Predecessors, Successors).** Let  $\mathcal{T} = (S, Act, \rightarrow, I, AP, L)$  be a TS. For  $s \in S$  and  $\alpha \in Act$ , we define:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Post}(s, \alpha) &:= \{s' \in S \mid s \xrightarrow{\alpha} s'\} \\
 \text{Post}(s) &:= \bigcup_{\alpha \in Act} \text{Post}(s, \alpha) \\
 \text{Pre}(s, \alpha) &:= \{s' \in S \mid s' \xrightarrow{\alpha} s\} \\
 \text{Pre}(s) &:= \bigcup_{\alpha \in Act} \text{Pre}(s, \alpha)
 \end{aligned}$$

These notions are extended to sets of states  $C \subseteq S$ , pointwise.

**Definition 7 (Terminal State).** Let  $\mathcal{T} = (S, Act, \rightarrow, I, AP, L)$  be a TS. A state  $s \in S$  is *terminal* iff  $\text{Post}(s) = \emptyset$ .

**Definition 8 (Path fragment).** Let  $\mathcal{T} = (S, Act, \rightarrow, I, AP, L)$  be a TS. A *finite path fragment*  $\hat{\pi}$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  is a sequence of states  $s_0, s_1, \dots, s_n$  s.t.  $s_i \in \text{Post}(s_{i-1})$  for all  $0 < i \leq n$ .

An *infinite path fragment*  $\pi$  of  $\mathcal{T}$  is a sequence of states  $s_0, s_1, \dots$  s.t.  $s_i \in \text{Post}(s_{i-1})$  for all  $0 < i$ .

**Notation 9.** Let  $\pi$  be the path fragment  $s_0 s_1 \dots$ . We define:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{first}(\pi) &:= s_0 \\
 \pi[j] &:= s_j \\
 \pi[..j] &:= s_0 s_1 \dots s_j \\
 \pi[j..] &:= s_j s_{j+1} \dots
 \end{aligned}$$

**Definition 11 (Maximal and initial path fragment).** A *maximal path fragment* is either a finite path that ends in a terminal state, or an infinite path fragment. A path fragment  $s_0 s_1 \dots$  is *initial* if  $s_0 \in I$ .

**Definition 12 (Path).** A *path* of a transition system  $\mathcal{T}$  is an initial, maximal path fragment.

A path is an execution in the system: it starts at a start state and runs to completion, where completion means either reaching a terminal state or else running infinitely.

**Example 13 (Beverage Vending Machine (cont.)).** Consider Example <sup>[2]</sup>

$$\begin{aligned}
 \hat{\pi} &= \text{pay select soda pay select soda} \\
 \pi_1 &= \text{pay select soda pay select soda} \dots \\
 \pi_2 &= \text{select soda pay select soda} \dots
 \end{aligned}$$