

SI 413: Programming Languages and Implementation

Erlang was developed by Joe Armstrong for Ericsson. The name itself is a shortened version of its full name, Ericsson Language.

Erlang was designed to cope with the needs of a telephone network, giving it many unique characteristics. Erlang:

- Is a functional language; variables may only have one value
- Encourages concurrency by passing information between threads in messages, eliminating locks
- Allows sections of code to be modified while it is running
- Has no built in string manipulation

Erlang may have been designed for Ericsson, but it has many uses now, including:

Facebook Chat

Databases

MMORPGs



```
main(A, B, N, X, Pid) ->
```

```
  C = A + B,
```

```
  Pid ! {"~s lines of text on the screen.~n", C},  
  io:format("~s lines of text on the screen.~n",
```

```
    [?i2l(C)]),
```

```
  if
```

```
end.
```

```
  N < X -> main(C, A, N+1, X, Pid);  
  true -> Pid ! stop
```

Code Example