



3 Introduction to the book

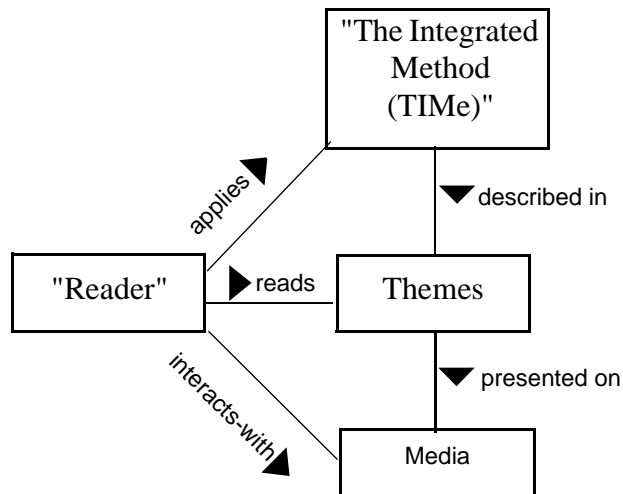
The book	2
Readers	4
Reader's guide to TIME ELB (FrameMaker version)	5
Main entry points	6
Menus	7
Icons	8
Hypertext links	8
Reader's guide to TIME HTML (HTML version of TIME ELB)	10
Hypertext links	10
List of figures	12

Introduction to the Book

The book

Figure 3-1: Reader's perspective

[Open figure](#)



The Integrated Method (TIME), presented in this book, is a model oriented approach to domain analysis and system family development based on formal and visual modeling using UML, SDL and MSC.

The methodology is presented in a number of themes that together cover the different parts of the methodology.

Readers (p.3-4) in many different work situations may benefit from the book. It may be used as a textbook for the newcomer, as well as a reference book for the seasoned practitioner. It may also be used as a template for system and product documentation.

To serve different categories of readers and work situations, the book is available on three different kinds of media:

- A hypertext, FrameMaker based electronic medium which allows the reader to navigate and access the complete contents in different ways.
- An abridged HTML based version, where selected themes are converted from their FrameMaker origin.
- A printable version that can be used like any other printed book. The user may print specially prepared printable versions of any theme, or the whole book, from the FrameMaker electronic book.

The standard functionality of FrameMaker/FrameReader or the HTML browser together with built-in features in the TIME ELB and TIME HTML website make it easy to move between the different parts of the book. In addition there are hypertext links in the text, in figures and in special icons.

The reader may navigate in a number of ways as described in the Reader's guide to TIME ELB (FrameMaker version) (p.3-5) and in Reader's guide to TIME HTML (HTML version of TIME ELB) (p.3-10).

Readers

There are many different categories of readers, and there are many different situations in which a reader will use the book. Some readers are unfamiliar with the methodology, and would like to read parts to get a high level impression of what it is all about.

Other readers may want to study it deeper in order to learn how to use it on their own project.

Then there are readers that know the methodology at large, but need to look up some finer details during their day-to-day work. This may for instance be the exact syntax of a language construct, or a particular guide-line for some task.

Still other readers would like to look at examples to get ideas for their own work, perhaps even use them as templates for descriptions and system documentation they are developing.

Our aim is that all categories of readers will find support in this book.

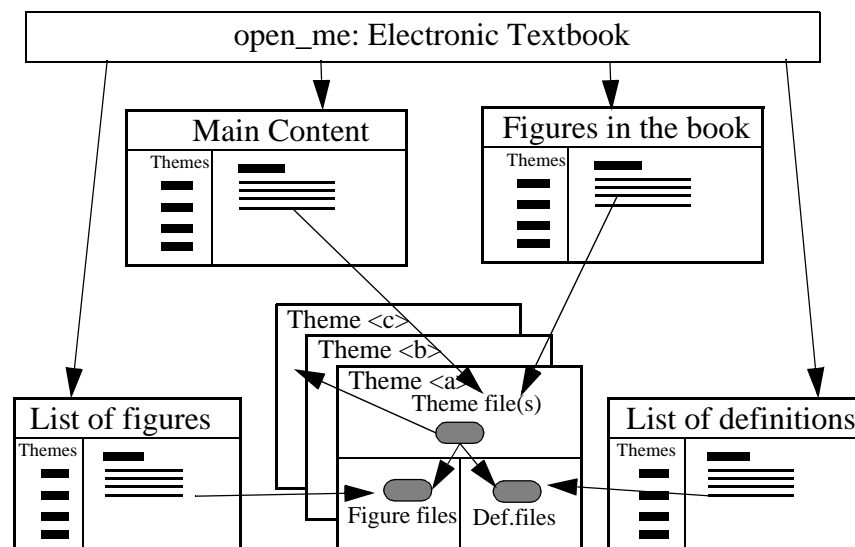
Reader's guide to TIME ELB (FrameMaker version)

This book is designed for on-line reading with FrameMaker, and for conventional reading as a printed book. Let us present our intentions in the on-line version, as the reader may benefit from a knowledge of the possibilities offered.

We have used different technics for navigation by having different entry points to the content of the book (Main Content (p.3-6)) and offering navigation during the reading of book (Hypertext links (p.3-10), Menus (p.3-7), Icons (p.3-8) etc.). As shown in Figure 3-2 (p.3-5) the book consists of several themes which may either be reached from the lists of contents or from the main contents window.

Figure 3-2: Structure of the TIME ELB

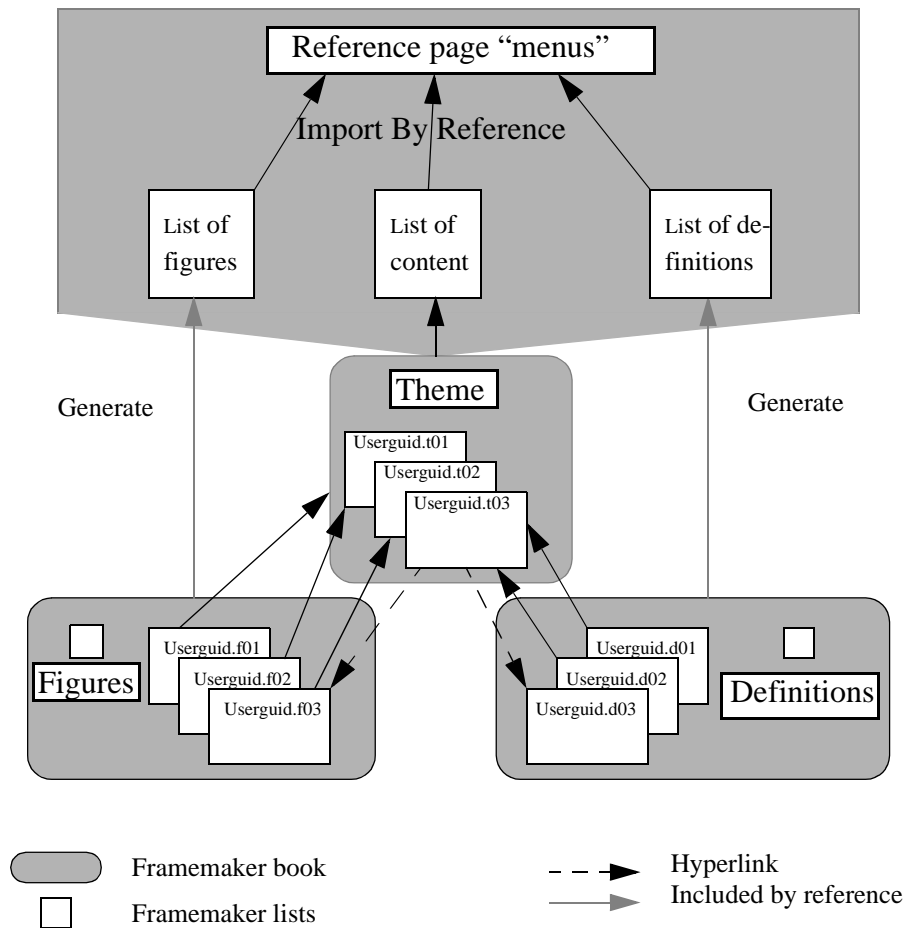
[Open figure.](#)



In each theme the reader may use different menus for accessing the figures, the definitions and the content of the theme in separate document windows. In addition there is a menu which has links to the Main entry points (p.3-6). There are also possibilities to use short cuts in the framemaker menus for navigation in the current document to next page, previous page, last page or first page. The reader may also move back along the hyperlinks the reader has used within the same document window.

Normally the reader should not worry about the document structure. But the structure influences on the reader's possibilities for navigation in the book. The book is therefore split into different document types (Theme, Figures, Definitions), as shown in Figure 3-3 (p.3-6). There is one document file for each definition and for each figure. This makes it possible for the reader to open figures and definitions in separate document windows. Each theme is split into several document files to increase the speed of navigation in the book.

Figure 3-3: Structure of a theme in TIME ELB

[Open figure](#)

Main entry points

As shown in Figure 3-2 (p.3-5) the reader may enter the book in several ways:

Main Page Entry point to the book. This page is normally the starting point when you start reading the book (e.g. after opening "open_me"), and is usually the window where all themes are displayed.

The main page has links to the following contents windows (for your convenience, any number of these may be kept open at any time):

Main Content List of the content with hyperlinks to all the main chapters in the book sorted by theme. Select theme in left portion of window, and then select chapter in the right portion (the same applies to all the content windows). Note that selecting themes via the Main Content window may cause a new theme window to be opened, as opposed to selecting a theme from the Main/List of other Themes menu (which will open the new theme in the same window).

- Figures* List of all figures with hyperlinks to all figures. These are opened in a new window (one for each figure you chose).
- Figures in the book* List of all figures with hyperlinks to all figures as they are located in the book. The links point to the places in the theme files where the figures are, which makes it easier for the reader to read more about the content of the figure. Note though that this brings the user to the anchor of the figure, which may be on the page preceding the one with the figure on it. In this case using Next Page will reveal the wanted figure. Themes may be opened in new windows, as for the Main Content.
- Definitions* Hyperlinks to all definitions. The definitions are opened in a new window (one for each definition you chose).

Menus

Each theme window has menus (see Menu (p.3-8)) for viewing figures and definitions that are part of the current theme. When selected, these are opened in new windows. In addition there are menus for going to any other themes and to the Main entry points (p.3-6). These menus are:

- Main* Contains a List of other Themes menu, which enables you to navigate to other themes within the same theme window. The Goto menu gives access to the contents windows mentioned in Main entry points (p.3-6).
- Print* Printing of current or any other selected theme. All themes may be printed out, formatted for paper reading. In the printing versions many of the hyperlinks are converted to proper references with page numbers. All definitions are also included in extensio. You can, if you like, also print out a theme as it appears on the screen by using the Frame-Maker "print" command, but the result is not as satisfactory - e.g. hyperlinks are shown, and all the menu bars are also printed. It is less compact than the printing version.

There are buttons for:



Going backwards along the links in the current document window.



Going to the previous page (if any).



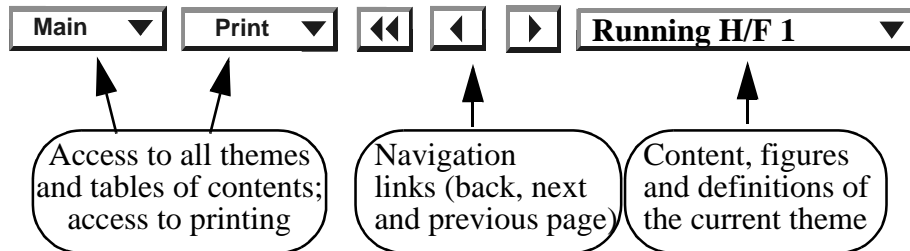
Going to the next page (if any).

Menu containing sub menus for:



1. Content for this theme: Hyperlinks to the main chapters of the current theme.
2. List of figures in this theme: Hyperlinks to all figures in the current theme. Normally all figures are also shown in the document, but this menu is an easy way to view figures without changing the focus of reading the book.
3. List of definitions in this theme: Hyperlinks to all terms that have been explained formally or informally.





Figure 3-4: Menus

Open figure

Icons

There exist some icons for opening figures or examples. These icons are normally placed in the left margin just outside the paragraph where the figures or example icons are referred to. Clicking on an icon will open the figure or the example in a new window. The icons are:

Table 3-1: Use of Icons

	Link to a figure.
	Link to an example referred to in the text.
	Link to an example referred to in the text.
	Link to a definition referred to in the text.

Hypertext links

In general, all words that are marked underlined and are in red or blue (grey on monochrome screens) are hypertext links. Clicking on these links will move to whatever text or figure the link points to.

Activating a blue link will automatically create a new window, while activating a red link will change the contents of the current window. The motivation for this was to enable the user to open e.g. definitions and figures in separate windows, while the themes remain in a single window, thus avoiding overcrowded screens and binding up of computing resources.

Normally the reader shouldn't need to think about the file structure of an electronic book. However, the structure influences the reader's possibilities for navigation. Therefore it might be helpful to know that the book is split into different document types (themes, figures, and definitions, plus additional derivatives such as print files and tables of contents). There is a separate file for each definition and for each figure, and some of the larger themes are split into several files to reduce loading times.

It is possible for the reader to open even red links (e.g. to themes) in separate document windows by holding the Shift key down while clicking the red link (may work differently on different platforms; check your FrameMaker documentation if in doubt).

Reader's guide to TIME HTML (HTML version of TIME ELB)

The original TIME documentation (*TIME ELB*) is a hypertext linked electronic book based on FrameMaker. The webified subset of the original TIME ELB is designed for on-line reading with a web browser. In the following we present the functionality of the on-line version, as the reader may benefit from a knowledge of the possibilities offered.

The layout of the website is based on frames in HTML, which must be supported by the web browser used. On all levels of TIME HTML you will find the same two frames: The Table Of Contents (TOC) frame to the left and the main frame displaying the actual contents to the right.

The TOC frame is divided into two sections. The upper part is standardised throughout the website. It provides some general navigation tools. There's a "Top" icon which will always take you back to the TIME HTML homepage and also a "Search" icon which will take you to a TIME HTML search page. Finally there's a pulldown-menu providing entry points to all the themes (chapters) of the electronic book. The lower part of the TOC frame is context sensitive. It contains an ordinary table of contents list that changes according to what theme is selected in the main frame.

The main entry point to the HTML version is the TIME HTML homepage "*StartHere.htm*". In the main frame on this level you will find general information about TIME. There's also a table showing how the HTML version is structured. Just like the pull-down menu of the TOC frame, this table contains hypertext links to all the themes of the HTML version.

The original FrameMaker TIME ELB depends on hypertext links as the means of navigation within the electronic book. The same goes for the HTML version, as it is merely based on a HTML conversion of the original FrameMaker source. The main difference is that in the original version the navigation tools (backwards and forward arrows, menus etc.) are incorporated into the FrameMaker documents, while in the HTML version this functionality is provided by the browser. Readers who are familiar with web browsers should find their way easily through TIME HTML.

Due to the conversion system, TIME HTML contains some links that don't work. Mostly they refer to chapters that aren't converted. The web server can be instructed to return a special error message whenever a stray link is encountered; ask your webmaster for assistance.

As mentioned above, the TIME HTML version is only a subset of the original FrameMaker electronic book TIME ELB. However, new chapters will be converted, and our goal is that eventually TIME HTML will be as complete as the FrameMaker version.

Hypertext links

In general, all words that are marked underlined and are in red or blue (grey on monochrome screens) are hypertext links. Clicking on these links will move to whatever text or figure the link points to.

In TIME ELB (the FrameMaker version), activating a blue link will automatically create a new window, while activating a red link will change the contents of the current window. Unfortunately, this kind of blue/red functionality didn't survive the HTML conversion.

Normally the reader shouldn't need to think about the file structure of an electronic book. However, the structure influences the reader's possibilities for navigation in the book. Therefore it might be helpful to know that the book is split into different document types (themes, figures, and definitions, plus additional derivatives such as print files and tables of contents). There is a separate file for each definition and for each figure, and some of the larger themes are split into several files to reduce loading times.

In web browsers the user can open links in separate document windows e.g. by placing the pointer just above any link, pressing down the right mouse button and selecting "Open in New Window" from the appearing menu. How this is actually done may vary between web browsers.

List of figures

Reader's perspective	2
Structure of the TiME ELB	5
Structure of a theme in TiME ELB	5
Menus	7