

**Minutes of the:
held in:
on:**

**Ecma TC39-TG1
Phone conference
8th November 2006**

Attendees

- Graydon Hoare, Mozilla Foundation
- Steven Johnson, Adobe Systems
- Doug Crockford, Yahoo!
- Cormac Flanagan, UC Santa Cruz
- Dave Herman, Northastern University
- Brendan Eich, Mozilla Foundation
- Chris Pine, Opera Software
- Lars Thomas Hansen, Opera Software
- Francis Cheng, Adobe Systems
- Pratap Lakshman, Microsoft
- Michael O'Brian, mbedthis
- Jeff Dyer, Adobe Systems

Agenda

- ByteArray proposal
- Unicode proposal
- ML reference status
- Order of class initialisation
- Meeting plans

Discussion

- ByteArray proposal (see [bytearray](#))
 - We want a small targeted class for handling blobs such as bitmaps and bytecode
 - Typed arrays are too big given no builtin character class
 - Array properties are not generally useful
- Unicode proposal (see [update unicode](#)) – to be finalized at next weeks f2f
- ML reference status
 - Not a lot happening
 - Cormac asks if we are allowed to use non-standard language extensions (e.g. or patterns). it is agreed that if it makes the code clear, then it is okay but lets call out uses of such features
 - Dave has a code generator for pretty printing
 - Graydon has implemented a lexer and ast pretty printer
 - Jeff will update the parser this afternoon
 - Cormac and Dave have made some progress on the typechecker
- Order of class initialisation
 - Pratap asks about lazy initialising classes
 - While developing AS3 we found that the best policy for order of initialisation is the one that gives the programmer explicit control.
 - The rule is: a class is initialised when its definition is encountered at runtime

- This avoids surprising uninitialised variable problems
 - Pratap points out that this could lead to load-time performance issues since all of the classes in a compilation unit must be compiled (jit'd) at load-time
 - This is true, but it is a cost we are willing to pay, and the user can make smaller compilation units to work around the problem
- Meeting plans
 - We have a face-to-face at Yahoo! next week
 - Doug to send out the details