

Minutes of the:

held in:

on:

Ecma TC39-TG1
Phone conference
21th of August 2007

Attending

- · Jeff Dyer, Adobe Systems
- Brendan Eich, Mozilla Foundation
- Dave Herman, Northeastern University
- Dick Sweet, Adobe Systems
- Lars Hansen, Adobe Systems
- Chris Pine, Opera Software
- Graydon Hoare, Adobe Systems
- Jason Orendorff, Mozilla Foundation
- Francis Cheng, Adobe Systems

Agenda

- Proposal cleanup:
 - [Lars] Remove the operators proposal. See the discussion page for a rationale.
 - [Lars] <u>The arrays proposal</u>, much scaled back since last month, now mostly cementing things we've agreed on already.
 - [Lars] The vectors proposal, a facility for FORTRAN-like arrays built on parameterized types.
 - o [Lars] The generic functions proposal, a proposal for multimethods with type dispatch.
 - [Lars] The "map" proposal, a value → value map facility based on hash tables.
- Schedule, other administrivia
- Open tickets

Minutes

- Operators: we agree tentatively that we will remove the operators overloading proposal from the language, but we will await reactions from Michael Daumling (who championed the initial proposal).
 Jeff contacts Michael.
- Map:
 - general agreement that the proposal is desirable.
 - o open issues about whether IdentityMap is well typed (the type of K is a recursively defined nominal type); self types may be involved but this is unclear.
 - o unclear whether it should not rather be called ObjectIdentityMap or ObjectMap given that the interface is called ObjectIdentity.
- Parameterized types:
 - These are causing a lot of implementation headaches for Graydon. There are several problems, having to do with when type information is available, this is changing the structure of the reference implementation quite a lot, Graydon has a massive patch in the works.
 - Graydon: "One scale-back point is Ada generics"
 - Graydon: "Don't forget we have type *, and safety is guaranteed, so we may need generics less than Java did"
 - Brendan: safety and conciseness through cast elimination are not the only issues:

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- Type-based extensibility (rather than name-based as in Python) for <u>iterators</u> and <u>generators</u>.
- Container same-type-for-elements "safety", which does require instanceof or cast again.