



April 20-21, 2006

Octave2006

Themes

- Barriers to adoption
- Graphics handles and widget support
- Collaborating with Matlab users
- Working with Python, OpenDX, ...
- Distinguishing features of Octave
- Project priorities
- Wish list

Barriers to Adoption

- Speed
- Must work with Matlab users and code
- Windows binary + IDE
- Must be better and not worse for people to change
- Documentation out of date
- Marketing (regular news, etc.)

Graphics and Widgets

- Set / Get into Octave now
- Gnuplot backend to graphic handles now
- 3.0?
- Other backends
- Widgets – get handles to work with UI objects first
- FLTK – look into this first
- Web browser – forms and SVG backend???

Interlingua

- Important to work with users of Matlab
- Matlab code doesn't run in Octave
 - Missing graphics handles and widgets
 - Incomplete toolboxes
 - Mex needs to move to core
- Octave code doesn't run in Matlab – automatic translators – update oct2mat??
- Send packagemgr and testassert to matlabcentral
- Maybe move sockets into core?
- Maybe support inline Perl, Python, etc?

Windows support

- Cygwin
 - Compiler issues – can't compile on 3.4.x
 - Dynamic linking – static libc++ link – too big
 - Setjmp / longjmp issue - slowdown
- MinGW
 - Error garbage
 - Click on x to close
 - Atlas binary
 - Packaging – effort needs to be distributed
- Octave Workshop – Octave IDE is a good idea
 - NSIS installer
 - Think about good ideas to embed octave
 - Short term idea – Long term write Octave IDE in Octave

Distinguishing features

- Open source and collaborative development
- Responsive development team
- Fast sparse
- Bridges to other languages / unix style tool

Volunteers

- Need to spread the maintenance work
 - Moderating mailing list
 - Updating web page – News files
 - Web page - Bill D
 - Wiki Tom H
 - Octave-forge web page
- Implementing graphics properties - Niles
- Updating documentation
- Writing tests (octave and forge)
- Packaging octave-forge
- Organize Octave2007/8? (Europe) – Paris?

Wish list

- Easy types
 - Handles, intervals, units, extended precision, ...
- Compiler or alternative VM
- Language extensions
 - Keyword args, modules, classes
- High level GUI application support
- Find funding sources
- Ability to build turnkey applications
- Profiler

Project Priorities

- 3.0 release
- Repackage octave-forge as packages
- Graphics properties represented in Octave
- Regular builds of windows package
- Improve marketing
- Performance – interpreter