Mantid PMB Meeting  
Minutes of Meeting 9  
23rd Nov 2015, 1000-1200

Present from SNS: Garrett Granroth, Thomas Proffen (TP), Timmy Ramirez-Cuesta and Wenduo Zhou (secretary)

Present from ISIS: Ross Stewart, Toby Perring (TGP) (Chair), Debbie Greenfield, Nick Draper (PM) and Anders Markvardsen (TSC chair)

Present from ESS: Jon Taylor

# Links to reports

[www.github.com](http://www.github.com) is used for version control of documents. Note that when clicking on a link to a Word document, in most browsers, you will then need to download the document by clicking the ‘Raw’ button to the left of the ‘History’ button.

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| Minutes from last meeting | https://github.com/mantidproject/documents/blob/master/Project-Management/PMB/Minutes/PMBMinutes29thMay15.docx |
| PM report | <https://github.com/mantidproject/documents/blob/master/Project-Management/PMB/PM%20report%20to%20the%20PMB%2023%20November%202015.doc?raw=true> |
| Technical Steering Committee (TSC) report | https://github.com/mantidproject/documents/blob/master/Project-Management/TechnicalSteeringCommittee/reports/TSC-PMB-report-2015-11-23.md |

# Changes to the PMB

There is no change to PMB.

# Minutes from the last meeting

PMB members agreed on the minutes from the last meeting, see the link above.

Some actions were confirmed to be complete, including 8.3, 8.7, 8.9 and 9.1.

The status of the on-going actions was updated and discussed as well.

**8.3 Distribute SNS and ESS requirement before Next PMB**

SNS proposed the *ORNL’s 5-year plan for Mantid* to illustrate their requirements on Mantid.

**8.7 Drive the adding of Mantid training material for direct inelastic scattering**

**Ross and Toby said this work still needs to be done.**

Toby: could you please comment on this? We missed first five minutes.

**8.8 Drive the adding of Mantid training material for powder diffraction**

GG and TProffen are working with instrument scientists for it.

**8.9 Have a Mantid forum in use a month before the next PMB**

Mantid forum has been in use since July 2015.

**9.1 Windows compiler will be moved to VS2015 free community edition**

VS2015 free community edition has been used as Windows compiler.

**9.2 Move to Github issues after PMB meeting**

Github issues has been used since last PMB meeting

**9.3 Upgrade to Qt5 after next release of ParaView**

We have to match the version of Qt to that used in Paraview, while they have stated that they will move to Qt5 they have not done so yet.  When they do we will have to move in order to adopt newer versions of Paraview. This change is complicated by dependencies on Qt3 from QtiPlot, so this will involve some rework..

**9.4 Coordinate a teleconference among imaging instrument scientists from SNS, ISIS and ESS**

ND had the UK and US scientists at a Mantid review meeting earlier in the year. While everyone was interested they were at very different points in terms of there needs and as such there were no immediate areas for common development

**9.5 Look into next generation of IDF**

This task will be started from the Mantid workshop in January 2016.

# PM Report

ND presented the PM report to PMB. The full PM report can be found via the link listed above.

ND went over the PM report. PMB endorsed the PM report.

The next release, i.e., Mantid v3.6, is planned on February 15th 2016. It is agreed that the release date should be decoupled from facility’s operating schedule.

It was also discussed about the attendees for the scientific steering committee meeting in the 2016 Mantid workshop. It was suggested that the number for the developers should be fewer than 26. For the discussion of IDF, Peter Willendrup should be invited.

# Technical Steering Committee (TSC) report

AM presented the latest TSC report to PMB. The full report can be found via the link listed above. He reported that Mantid had been moved to use Github issue and Visual Studio 2015 was in use for Windows compiler. He also reported that TSC evaluated external pull requests and merged selected contributes. He led a discussion about renting cloud service for build servers.

Complete actions from last minutes

AM reported the status of action 9.1 (Windows compiler being moved to VS2015 free community edition) and 9.2 (Moving to Github issue). PMB agreed that these two actions were completed.

# Other facility news

There was no news from other facilities.

# Preparation for Scientific Steering Committee (SSC)

ND suggested 2 days for SSC meeting. One day on general topics about common tools including plotting and visualization. On the second day, there will be breakout sessions specific to diffraction, reflectometry, diffusion scattering for disorder material and etc.

# ORNL’s five year plan for Mantid

ORNL’s five-year plan can be downloaded from https://www.dropbox.com/s/28bide1fpzd0jww/ORNL\_Mantid\_5yearplan.pdf?dl=0.

During Mantid workshop in January 2016, a one-day meeting will be scheduled to discuss ORNL’s five-year plan for Mantid. The attendees will include all PMB members, TSC chair and developers who understand Mantid’s framework. The candidates of developers include Owen, Martyn, one or two developers from SNS and ESS. It is expected to find what are obviously missing in the draft of five-year plan.

TP pointed out that this five-year plan is more a technical direction to enable science, to which the SNS’s five-year science plan will be referred. It should be discussed about the common and difference in science driver among various facilities as well.

# Update from ESS

JT introduced 2 new developers hired by ESS. He reported that STFC packages would start early 2016 running with effort well into preparation phase. He introduced ESS’s key objectives in 201, which include starting of 24-month core framework development and redeveloping geometry components.

# Technical debt in Mantid

JT presented that Mantid constituted a big risk in performance and reputation due to significant amounts of technical debt. Specifically, some aspects of the initial design, issues for moving instruments, and difficulties with indirect geometry spectrometers comprise the technical debt. As the size of the Mantid developers’ team, the number of partner labs, and users increases, there will be issues with increasing implementation time and bifurcation of common algorithms. Implementation can never be production ready. And complexity leads to under utilization. JT suggested that PBM and facilities to provide a steering on the solution of these issues.

Besides, JT also discussed about the future interface of Mantid.

# AOB

None

# Next Meeting

Towards Mantid workshop in January 2016.

# New and On-going Actions

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| 8.3 | Distribute ESS requirement reports in August | JT |
| 8.4 | Ensure that a discussion of facilities strategies in the light of the ISIS, SNS and ESS requirements reports is an agenda item for the next PMB | WZ |
| 8.7 | Drive the adding of Mantid training material for direct inelastic scattering | RS, TGP |
| 8.8 | Drive the adding of Mantid training material for powder diffraction in 2-3 months. The training material will be published on web. | GG, TP |
| 9.3 | Upgrade to Qt5 after next release of ParaView | ND |
| 9.5 | Look into next generation of IDF | Stuart Campbell |

# Completed Actions

Completed actions will remain in this list for one meeting and then will be removed.

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| 8.3 | Distribute SNS requirement reports in August | GG |
| 8.9 | Have a Mantid forum in use. There are still issues to solve. | ND |
| 9.1 | Windows compiler will be moved to VS2015 free community edition. Will take four working weeks and cannot be started before September 2015. | ND |
| 9.2 | Move to Github issue in 1 or 2 weeks after PMB meeting | ND |
| 9.4 | Coordinate a teleconference among Imaging instrument scientists from SNS, ISIS and ESS. | ND |