

ns-3 Consortium meeting minutes

November 20, 2013

Attendees: Tom Henderson, Nicola Baldo, Manuel Ricardo, Walid Dabbous, Felipe Perrone, George Riley

The ns-3 Consortium steering committee met via telecon to discuss the following items.

1. Administrative

The meeting agreed to keep the current meetings informal and consensus driven, rather than deciding on rules such as respecting quorums and following formal rules of order.

The meeting discussed and agreed upon posting meeting minutes publicly on the web site.

The ns-3 consortium agreement calls for appointment of an Executive Director (position held by Tom Henderson since October 2012). The meeting consensus was to appoint Tom for another year, and perhaps discuss the rotation of the appointment after another year's time.

Tom volunteered to provide the required annual operational and financial report by year's end.

Tom reviewed financial status of the consortium budget at the University of Washington. The incoming funds since last meeting are due to LLNL joining the consortium. There were no expenses during this period. CTTC has agreed to donate its Google Summer of Code mentor summit proceeds once these are provided by Google.

The project recently moved both the code and web server to new servers at Georgia Tech, with maintenance assistance by the university IT department.

2. Action items from last time

- Brochure/handouts for promotional materials

Tom agreed to circulate drafts of these in the near future. Nicola recommended that the emphasis be put on benefits for joining the consortium, not just on the mechanics of the consortium or on ns-3.

- Paypal button on website for small donations

Tom has started to look into this, and Felipe Perrone has some students interested in performing some web site design updates for us.

- Small project ideas

Nicola had suggested this in the past; we do have a wiki page existing: http://www.nsnam.org/wiki/Project_Ideas. Nicola however suggested that we should more clearly state that projects could perhaps be advanced with funding. Nicola took the action item to make changes along these lines.

- Windows port of ns-3

This has been published, thanks to Brian Swenson and John Abraham (Ga. Tech). We have not made this into a supported OS. Similarly, the linkage between further development and maintenance of this to consortium funding should be brought out.

http://www.nsnam.org/wiki/Ns-3_on_Visual_Studio_2012

3. Project status

- Google summer of code and SOCIS

Tom reported on the successful Google Summer of Code students and the current student project for ESA SOCIS. Tom also previously reported his experience in attending the Google Mentor's Summit.

- Releases and proposed code reviews

We have made the ns-3.18.1 maintenance release and are aiming for ns-3.19 in December. Proposals for code reviews and new features are coming in faster than we are currently reviewing them. Below are the new ones since our last release at the end of August:

http://www.nsnam.org/wiki/Current_Development#Code_reviews

- Usage by researchers and educators, or in industry?

We discussed various trends in usage; various participants reported on their knowledge of growing use within wireless research community and in industry.

One concern that remains is that a segment of the potential user base still starts some new projects with ns-2, perhaps still not knowing about ns-3's status. Tom expressed interest in at least continuing the maintenance of ns-2 to allow people to make an informed choice for themselves. Tom said that perhaps providing ns-2 as part of the bake system (where ns-3 is also readily configurable) may lower this barrier. Nicola remarked that he did not think it would be worth much effort to port to bake, as the choice of ns-2 is often driven by other factors such as available models or what students are told to do by their professors.

Walid suggested a paper about ns-3 models and advanced features, such as a CCR submission. Tom mentioned that a recent paper submission could perhaps be sent as an editorial submission, or something could be self-published. Manuel also recommended more literature on the value of ns-3.

Tom agreed to try to more clearly organize ns-2 documentation so that status of ns-2 and ns-3 are clear.

- December ns-3 workshop in India

Tom noted that he will be speaking at a workshop in India (virtually) in December:

<http://wing.nitk.ac.in/events/>

4. Annual meeting planning

- Workshop on ns-3: rough schedule and plan

Peter Barnes of LLNL has agreed to be a TPC chair, and we will be meeting shortly to discuss getting the CFP and schedule announced, and building the TPC.

- Planning for training sessions

We will conduct ns-3 training courses on Monday and Tuesday of the ns-3 week at Georgia Tech. George agreed to inquire whether they could be recorded for later reuse.

- Developers meetings

We have reserved two days after WNS3 for developers meetings and coding sprints. Last Friday's coding sprint was productive, and more are planned.

- Any other ideas/suggestions for annual meeting

Nicola recommended having a "plenary" session similar to what we held in March 2013 in INRIA, perhaps on a day where the highest attendance is likely.

5. Possibilities for 2014 events in Europe or elsewhere

There were no immediate suggestions but people agreed to try to come up with options for the next meeting.

6. next meeting scheduling, and any other business

We agreed to meet again via telecon in early January, and possibly on an every-other-month basis thereafter.