

# Re: C++ Matrix & Linear Algebra library

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*Source:* <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.math.num-analysis/2008-08/msg00202.html>

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- *From:* Evgenii Rudnyi <[usenet@xxxxxxxx](mailto:usenet@xxxxxxxx)>
  - *Date:* Fri, 22 Aug 2008 11:09:52 -0700 (PDT)
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On Aug 22, 9:12 am, Gert Van den Eynde <[gvdey...@xxxxxxxx](mailto:gvdey...@xxxxxxxx)> wrote:

Dear Evgenii,

I think I'm still on the oonumerics maillist, but as you say, there is no more traffic. On this list used to be a reasonable effort in gathering all projects related to Object Oriented Numerics (not only linear algebra). But this has quickly died out. If I'm not mistaken, it was the author of Blitz who set up this list/webpage, Todd Veldhuizen.

It seems that, even several years after the introduction of C++ in scientific computing, people have moved back to "old style" Fortran because "the software is already there and it works" or they go for "full option packages" like Matlab, Mathematica, Maple,...

I would say that the reason is not Fortran but rather Matlab, Mathematica, Maple,.... What is necessary for research is actually rapid prototyping and neither Fortran nor C++ are qualified for this.

A good student after a month or two time can obtain something useful in Matlab or Mathematica – I mean from a scientific viewpoint. What he/she could have done for a comparable time in Fortran/C++?

Also there is a trend for the software development that there should be a scripting gluing all pieces together. This also changes the way the software is developed. C++ is left for relatively low level things where comfortability is not that important. It is after all for a Real Programmer. The comfort is for the scripting.

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