
Subject: Re: attempt to save memory

Posted by [davidf](#) on Thu, 06 Apr 2000 07:00:00 GMT

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eeeyler@my-deja.com (eeeyler@my-deja.com) writes:

> Suppose I have a procedure that creates a large string array
> (for example, [150,60000] elements).
> The next step in that procedure is to make another array that is a
> subset of the afore mentioned array. To do this, I pass the large array
> into another procedure as a parameter, the procedure creates the second
> array and passes the resulting array back up to the calling procedure.
>
> My concern is this. I believe a child procedure makes a copy of the
> parameters passed to it from the parent. If that is true, I now have
> two copies of the original array in memory, and at the end of the child
> procedure, I have the resulting array as well.

Not true, unless the input array is being passed as a subscripted variable, structure dereference, or expression, all of which are passed by "value", meaning that a copy is made. But if the input array is a variable, it is being passed by "reference". This means no copy is made and you are working on the data itself.

I think you are fine.

Cheers,

David

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