
Subject: Re: Yet again, The Sky is Falling!
Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Fri, 09 Mar 2007 22:53:07 GMT
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On Mar 9, 12:52 pm, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Paul van Delst writes:

>>> 2. Don't pass the same named variable as both an input and output
>>> parameter in a routine call. (Or as two output parameters!)

>

>> Good lord. Why would anyone do *that*? (In any language) :o)

>

> Well, because it seems "natural", for one thing. Consider
> the POSITION keyword to TVIMAGE when you don't know for
> sure if the user wants to preserve the aspect ratio of the
> image or not, but you are keenly interested in knowing
> where the image ended up.

>

> That's, uh, about the only example I can think of at the
> moment, but it seems a good one. :-)

I think you're thinking of a single parameter that is both an input
and an output. I think that is fine as long as that is clearly
documented. (READF/READU is another example of using this well.)

I'm talking about two parameters that are both passed a single named
variable (like Paul's mypro example). While legal, I don't think this
is a good technique for clear code.

Mike

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