

CISC181 Introduction to Computer Science

Dr. McCoy

Lecture 8

September 24, 2009

Constant Reference Parameters

- Reference arguments inherently "dangerous"
 - Caller's data can be changed
 - Often this is desired, sometimes not
- To "protect" data, & still pass by reference:
 - Use const keyword
 - `void sendConstRef(const int &par1,
const int &par2);`
 - Makes arguments "read-only" by function
 - No changes allowed inside function body

Parameters and Arguments

- Confusing terms, often used interchangeably
- True meanings:
 - Formal parameters
 - In function declaration and function definition
 - Arguments
 - Used to "fill-in" a formal parameter
 - In function call (argument list)
 - Call-by-value & Call-by-reference
 - Simply the "mechanism" used in plug-in process