Subject: Comments and questions concerning initialization and finalization – maybe resolving issue 191.
From: Van Snyder

There is no pretense offered that remarks in this paper constitute complete edits necessary to correct problems or answer questions noted here. Some of the alleged problems may not be problems at all. Some of them should perhaps turn into unresolved issues.

Page and line numbers refer to 99-007r1.

Each initial procedure shall have at least one dummy argument. The first dummy argument shall have the following characteristics: 49:39-42 through "attribute"

1. it shall be of the type to which the initial procedure is bound;
2. it shall not be polymorphic (5.1.1.8);
3. if it is an array it shall have assumed shape;
4. it shall have the INTENT(INOUT) attribute;
5. it shall not have the ALLOCATABLE, POINTER or OPTIONAL attribute.

Delete if this paper resolves issue 191. 50:3-10

Am I correct to assume "it" refers to the procedure, not it's first argument? This would be clearer for me if it began "If an initial procedure is not elemental and its first argument is scalar, it may be used...." But see the next paragraph. 50:15

I would be perfectly happy to do away with "pseudo-elemental" and allow one to specify an elemental initialization or finalization procedure, subject to the usual properties of elemental procedures. If array order is really important, or a side-effect is necessary, the user could provide a non-elemental procedure for each rank. It would seem that array order cannot possibly be important in the pseudo-elemental case, because the argument is required to be a scalar. 50:15-51:40

If we really REALLY need this feature, it should be provided by an additional attribute of elemental procedures, e.g. SEQUENCE, that specifies that the procedure operates in array element order, and maybe that side-effects are OK.

Each final procedure shall have exactly one dummy argument having the same characteristics as required for the first dummy argument of an initial procedure (4.5.1.5.1). 51:44-46