

## Ruby master - Feature #11782

### String#+@ and String#-@

12/07/2015 10:13 AM - ko1 (Koichi Sasada)

<b>Status:</b>	Assigned
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal
<b>Assignee:</b>	matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)
<b>Target version:</b>	
<b>Description</b>	
Matz said	
In fact, my best choice is introducing String#+ that returns a mutable copy of a string. [ruby-core:71879] [Ruby trunk - Bug <a href="#">#11759</a> ]	
So that this is a ticket for that. I'll commit it ASAP to check this methods before 2.3.	
Specification:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• +'foo' returns modifiable string.</li><li>• -'foo' returns frozen string (because wasters will freeze below 0 degree in Celsius).</li></ul>	

#### Associated revisions

##### Revision 6d8bf54c - 12/07/2015 03:10 PM - ko1 (Koichi Sasada)

- string.c: introduce String#+@ and String#-@ to control String mutability. [Feature #11782]

git-svn-id: svn+ssh://ci.ruby-lang.org/ruby/trunk@52917 b2dd03c8-39d4-4d8f-98ff-823fe69b080e

##### Revision 52917 - 12/07/2015 03:10 PM - ko1 (Koichi Sasada)

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#### History

##### #1 - 12/07/2015 12:58 PM - matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)

It's OK if we don't have strong objection.

Matz.

##### #2 - 12/07/2015 02:05 PM - mame (Yusuke Endoh)

+1

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Yusuke Endoh [mame@ruby-lang.org](mailto:mame@ruby-lang.org)

### #3 - 12/07/2015 03:10 PM - ko1 (Koichi Sasada)

- Status changed from Open to Closed

Applied in changeset r52917.

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- string.c: introduce String#+@ and String#-@ to control String mutability. [Feature [#11782](#)]

### #4 - 12/07/2015 03:14 PM - ko1 (Koichi Sasada)

- Status changed from Closed to Assigned

Endo-san pointed out that +foo.upcase! is evaluated as +(foo.upcase!).  
It can be problem. But any practical examples?

Mutate operations such as str = +'foo' << bar << baz works (because +@ is stronger than <<).

Evaluation with current implementation (no optimization)

```
require 'benchmark'
```

```
N = 10_000_000
```

```
Benchmark.bm{|x|
  x.report{
    N.times{ 'foo'.dup }
  }
  x.report{
    N.times{ +'foo' }
  }
  x.report{
    N.times{ 'foo'.freeze }
  }
  x.report{
    N.times{ -'foo' }
  }
}
```

\_\_END\_\_

```
# frozen-string-literal: true
   user      system      total      real
 5.850000    0.010000    5.860000 ( 5.858450)
 0.780000    0.000000    0.780000 ( 0.780911)
 0.340000    0.000000    0.340000 ( 0.351072)
 0.530000    0.000000    0.530000 ( 0.529234)
```

```
# frozen-string-literal: false
   user      system      total      real
 2.540000    0.000000    2.540000 ( 2.533344)
 0.750000    0.000000    0.750000 ( 0.752019)
 0.350000    0.000000    0.350000 ( 0.349776)
 1.180000    0.000000    1.180000 ( 1.180882)
```

### #5 - 12/07/2015 03:19 PM - ko1 (Koichi Sasada)

The purpose of this proposal is to encourage frozen string literals and provide better way than "foo".dup. So that String#-@ can be redundancy.

### #6 - 12/08/2015 01:05 AM - ko1 (Koichi Sasada)

Quoted from DevelopersMeeting20151021Japan log:

<https://bugs.ruby-lang.org/projects/ruby/wiki/DevelopersMeeting20151021Japan>  
<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1axnQv1A2SdRExw--RzXXJAPrRyvN7MCIB0WrKcZaSE/pub>

matz: i have another idea +"..." -> mutable, -"..." -> immutable. it is more clean than "...".freeze. how about that, instead of the magic comment? i don't care about pull-requests, but care about the representation of source code.

akr: ...

matz: I don't like magic comment, so that I hesitate to introduce it.

a\_matsuda: + and - seems string operation. << -"foo" can be seen as a here document.

matz: I understand. + and - is not good idea.

matz: another idea: make ""foo"" frozen. incompatibility is negligible.

matz: yet another idea: make single quoted strings frozen. This is incompatible.

Matz said "+ and - is not good idea."  
So that please check it.

#### **#7 - 12/08/2015 05:38 PM - rosenfeld (Rodrigo Rosenfeld Rosas)**

how about splitting strings like this?

```
long_string = 'first part ' +  
  'second part ' +  
  'last part'
```

Should `long_string` be optimized by the compiler to generate 'first part second part last part' as a frozen string, or should it actually perform the additions and generate a modified string?

#### **#8 - 12/28/2015 04:36 PM - bughit (bug hit)**

What is primary use case for `-string`? I initially thought it was to be a shorthand for `'string'.freeze`, avoiding allocation (due to special compiler support), producing an interned frozen string. But it does a dup, so does `-string` lack compiler support, thus first allocating a normal string then duping and freezing a copy which is not interned? So instead of 0 allocations (`'string'.freeze`) you get 2 (`-string`)?