

Ruby trunk - Feature #7748

Contextual send

01/28/2013 04:11 PM - trans (Thomas Sawyer)

Status:	Open
Priority:	Normal
Assignee:	matz (Yukihiro Matsumoto)
Target version:	Next Major
Description	
<p>=begin</p> <p>If I write a method that uses #send vs. #public_send, I am making an assumption about how that method is invoked. For example, take the simplest form of such a method:</p> <pre>class String def send_out(op, *a, &b) send(op, *a, &b) end end</pre> <p>This code has a bug in it, in the sense that it can be used to call private string methods. The solution is to use #public_send. In most cases that will be fine. But if anyone tries to reuse the method while extending String themselves, e.g.</p> <pre>class String def send_out(op, *a, &b) public_send(op, *a, &b) end def some_public_method send_out(:some_private_method) end private def some_private_method end end</pre> <p>Then it will be a problem b/c it cannot be used on a private supporting method.</p> <p>So it seems like there should be something like a ((<i>contextual send</i>)) which invokes a send with the same visibility as the parent method is invoked. e.g.</p> <pre>class String def send_out(op, *a, &b) contextual_send(op, *a, &b) end end</pre> <p>And then all cases will work as expected.</p> <p>=end</p>	

History

#1 - 02/03/2013 01:34 PM - nobu (Nobuyoshi Nakada)

#send had been implemented in that manner once, but reverted and #public_send was separated instead.

#2 - 02/03/2013 05:24 PM - trans (Thomas Sawyer)

Ah, so this has been thought of before. I agree it should not replace behaviour of private #send (although, how much sweeter the syntax if it were called #private_send ?). But as an additional method, it would be useful.

Or was there some reason, other than zonking #send, that made it "bad"?

#3 - 02/22/2013 09:10 AM - ko1 (Koichi Sasada)

- Assignee set to matz (Yukihiko Matsumoto)

I think matz tried it.

Matz: Could you give us your knowledge?

#4 - 02/22/2013 09:18 AM - matz (Yukihiko Matsumoto)

=begin

What I did was allowing ((%send%)) to invoke public method when called without explicit receiver.

And I gave up the idea because (a) it made send behavior more complex, (b) it slightly slowed down #send, (c) it was difficult to implement it in other implementations.

Matz.

=end