

# The "ref" keyword

U# now supports the "ref" keyword, which is really cool! For those who don't know what the "ref" keyword does, I'll link the C# documentation here : <https://learn.microsoft.com/en-US/dotnet/csharp/language-reference/keywords/ref>

But does it affect the performance in U#?

```
private void FunctionRef(ref int a)
{
    a = 1;
}

private int FunctionRet(ref int a)
{
    return 1;
}

public override void Benchmark1()
{
    for (int i = 0; i < 50000; i++)
    {
        int a = 0;
        FunctionRef(ref a);
    }
}

public override void Benchmark2()
{
    for (int i = 0; i < 50000; i++)
    {
        int a = 0;
        a = FunctionRet();
    }
}
```

Both methods do the same thing, setting a variable `a` to 1, but the first script passes a reference.

B1 : 14.859 ms (1.04 times slower)

B2 : 14.171 ms

Good news! The difference is really negligible, you can safely use "ref" without worrying about performance impacts.

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