68.1. DESCRIPTION CHAPTER 68. PERLXS

```
bool_t
rpcb_gettime(host,timep)
    char *host = (char *)SvPV($arg,PL_na);
    time_t &timep = 0;
OUTPUT:
    timep
```

This should not be used to supply default values for parameters. One would normally use this when a function parameter must be processed by another library function before it can be used. Default parameters are covered in the next section.

If the initialization begins with =, then it is output in the declaration for the input variable, replacing the initialization supplied by the typemap. If the initialization begins with; or +, then it is performed after all of the input variables have been declared. In the; case the initialization normally supplied by the typemap is not performed. For the + case, the declaration for the variable will include the initialization from the typemap. A global variable, %v, is available for the truly rare case where information from one initialization is needed in another initialization.

Here's a truly obscure example:

```
bool_t
rpcb_gettime(host,timep)
    time_t &timep ; /* \$v{timep}=@{[$v{timep}=$arg]} */
    char *host + SvOK($v{timep}) ? SvPV($arg,PL_na) : NULL;
OUTPUT:
    timep
```

The construct \\$v{timep}=@{[\$v{timep}=\$arg]} used in the above example has a two-fold purpose: first, when this line is processed by **xsubpp**, the Perl snippet \$v{timep}=\$arg is evaluated. Second, the text of the evaluated snippet is output into the generated C file (inside a C comment)! During the processing of char \*host line, \$arg will evaluate to ST(0), and \$v{timep} will evaluate to ST(1).

## **68.1.16** Default Parameter Values

Default values for XSUB arguments can be specified by placing an assignment statement in the parameter list. The default value may be a number, a string or the special string NO\_INIT. Defaults should always be used on the right-most parameters only.

To allow the XSUB for rpcb\_gettime() to have a default host value the parameters to the XSUB could be rearranged. The XSUB will then call the real rpcb\_gettime() function with the parameters in the correct order. This XSUB can be called from Perl with either of the following statements:

```
$status = rpcb_gettime( $timep, $host );
$status = rpcb_gettime( $timep );
```

The XSUB will look like the code which follows. A CODE: block is used to call the real rpcb\_gettime() function with the parameters in the correct order for that function.

```
bool_t
rpcb_gettime(timep,host="localhost")
    char *host
    time_t timep = NO_INIT
CODE:
        RETVAL = rpcb_gettime( host, &timep );
OUTPUT:
    timep
    RETVAL
```