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C++ static code analysis

Unique rules to find Bugs, Vulnerabilities, Security Hotspots, and Code Smells in your C++ code

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Tags

Search by name...

"memset" should not be used to delete sensitive data

Vulnerability

POSIX functions should not be called with arguments that trigger buffer overflows

Vulnerability

XML parsers should not be vulnerable to XXE attacks

Vulnerability

Function-like macros should not be invoked without all of their arguments

Bug

The address of an automatic object should not be assigned to another object that may persist after the first object has ceased to exist

Bug

Assigning to an optional should directly target the optional

Bug

Result of the standard remove algorithms should not be ignored

Bug

"std::scoped_lock" should be created with constructor arguments

Bug

Objects should not be sliced

Bug

Immediately dangling references should not be created

Bug

"pthread_mutex_t" should be unlocked in the reverse order they were locked

Bug

"pthread_mutex_t" should be properly initialized and destroyed

Bug

"pthread_mutex_t" should not be consecutively locked or unlocked twice

"std::bit_cast" should be used to reinterpret binary representation instead of "std::memcpy"

Analyze your code

Code SmellMajorsince-c++20 bad-practice pitfall

std::bit_cast is one of the standard functions working with the binary representation. Together with other bit-level functions, it is defined in the <bits> header introduced by C++20.

std::bit_cast standardizes the diverse and sub-optimal approaches of reinterpreting a value as being of a different type of the same length preserving its binary representation.

Before C++20 the correct way to reinterpret a value was a call to std::memcpy, copying the exact binary representation from a variable of one type into a variable of another. Although canonical, the use of std::memcpy might still be confusing, it is verbose, and it might introduce performance overhead if the compiler does not recognize the idiom and does not remove the function call.

In contrast, std::bit_cast clearly states the intent and is guaranteed to map to an optimal implementation.

This rule reports the uses of std::memcpy that can be replaced by std::bit_cast.

Noncompliant Code Example

```
static_assert(sizeof(float) == sizeof(uint32_t));
float src = 1.0f;
uint32_t dst;
std::memcpy(&dst, &src, sizeof(float)); // Noncompliant: verb
```

Compliant Solution

```
float src = 1.0f;
auto dst = std::bit_cast<uint32_t>(src); // Compliant
```

See

Other common patterns predating C++20:

- {rule:cpp:S3630} - replacing std::reinterpret_cast with std::bit_cast.
- {rule:cpp:S871} - replacing C-style cast with std::bit_cast.

Available In:

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 Bug
"std::move" and "std::forward" should not be confused  Bug
A call to "wait()" on a "std::condition_variable" should have a condition  Bug
A pointer to a virtual base class shall only be cast to a pointer to a derived class by means of dynamic_cast  Bug
Functions with "noreturn" attribute should not return  Bug
RAII objects should not be temporary  Bug
"memcmp" should only be called with pointers to trivially copyable types with no padding  Bug
"memcpy", "memmove", and "memset" should only be called with pointers to trivially copyable types  Bug
"std::auto_ptr" should not be used  Bug
Destructors should be "noexcept"  Bug