Objective C static code analysis: Results of ~ and << operations on operands of underlying types unsigned char and unsigned short should immediately be cast to the operand's underlying type

2 minutes

When ~ and << are applied to small integer types (unsigned char or unsigned short), the operations are preceded by integral promotion, and the result may contain high-order bits which have not been anticipated.

Noncompliant Code Example

unsigned char port = 0x5aU;
unsigned char result_8;
unsigned short result_16;
unsigned short mode;
result_8 = (~port) >> 4; // Noncompliant; '~port' is 0xFFA5 on a 16bit machine but 0xFFFFFFA5 on a 32-bit machine. Result is 0xFA
for both, but 0x0A may have been expected.
result_16 = ((port << 4) & mode) >> 6; // Noncompliant; result_16
value depends on the implemented size of an int.

Compliant Solution

result_8 = ((unsigned char)(~port)) >> 4; // Compliant
result_16 = ((unsigned short)((unsigned short) port << 4) & mode)
>> 6; // Compliant

See

- MISRA C 2004, 10.5 If the bitwise operators ~ and << are applied
 to an operand of *underlying type* unsigned char or unsigned short,
 the result shall be immediately cast to the *underlying type* of the
 operand.
- MISRA C++ 2008, 5-0-10 If the bitwise operators ~ and << are
 applied to an operand with an *underlying type* of unsigned char or
 unsigned short, the result shall be immediately cast to the *underlying type* of the operand.

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