

# Reconsidering a null-terminated string view

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TODO: Insert 2001 references to one's heart content

## 1 Introduction

In early 2019 in Kona, LEWGI saw [P1402R0], titled “std::cstring\_view - a C compatible std::string\_view adapter”. The consensus from that discussion was, that this problem space is not to be pursued further:

POLL: We should promise more committee time to pursuing a null-terminated string view, knowing that our time is scarce and this will leave less time for other work.

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Attendance: 16

CONSENSUS: We will not pursue P1402R0 or this problem space.

Source: [P1402-issue]

The author of this paper feels like this decision was ill-advised, and in light of more evidence, would like to reignite the discussion. For the sake of this paper, this class is called `std::cstring_view`, but it may be subject to change in future revisions.

## 2 Scope

This paper is proposing adding a new class with similar characteristics to `std::string_view`, with the notable exception of having an invariant of null-termination.

At this time, this paper does not go into more detail in the design of this class, namely the detail whether the class should store the size of the string.

## 3 References

[P1402-issue] GitHub issue for P1402.  
<https://wg21.link/p1402/github>

[P1402R0] Andrew Tomazos. 2019. std::cstring\_view - a C compatible std::string\_view adapter.  
<https://wg21.link/p1402r0>