

# MOVING AN INT IS SLOW

## DEBUG PERFORMANCE MATTERS!

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<https://github.com/vittorioromeo/accu2022>

```
int accumulate_range(int* begin, int* end)
{
    return std::accumulate(begin, end, 0);
}
```

- GCC and Clang, compiling with -O0
  - accumulate\_range runs 1.4x slower in C++20 compared to C++17
- Why?

```
1 template <class _InputIterator, class _Tp>
2 _Tp
3 accumulate(_InputIterator __first,
4            _InputIterator __last,
5            _Tp __init)
6 {
7     for (; __first != __last; ++__first)
8     #if _LIBCPP_STD_VER > 17
9         __init = std::move(__init) + *__first;
10 #else
11         __init = __init + *__first;
12 #endif
13     return __init;
14 }
```



- Wait, is `std::move` adding run-time overhead?
- Isn't `std::move` just a cast?

```
template <class _Tp>
[[nodiscard]] inline constexpr
std::remove_reference_t<_Tp>&& move(_Tp&& __t) noexcept
{
    return static_cast<std::remove_reference_t<_Tp>&&>(__t);
}
```

- Semantically, it is just a cast
- To the compiler, it is just another *function call*
- I.e. overhead unless inlining happens
  - It doesn't in -O0

The same issue applies to many functions:

- `std::move`
- `std::forward`
- `std::as_const`
- `std::as_underlying`
- `std::vector<T>::iterator::operator*`
- `std::vector<T>::iterator::operator++`
- `std::unique_ptr<T>::operator*`
- *etc...*

In some fields, debug performance is very important:

- E.g. games can't be unplayable in debug mode

**People are discouraged from using Modern C++**

- So they write C-like code...
- ...which has more bugs...
- ...which needs more debugging.



**WHAT CAN WE DO?**

- -Og doesn't cut it
  - Sometimes optimizes too much
  - For Clang, it's the same as -O1
  - MSVC doesn't have an equivalent

## Some people resort to macros:

```
#define MOV(...) \
    static_cast< \
        std::remove_reference_t< \
            decltype(__VA_ARGS__)>&&>(__VA_ARGS__)

#define FWD(...) \
    static_cast<decltype(__VA_ARGS__)&&>(__VA_ARGS__)
```

(From <https://www.foonathan.net/2020/09/move-forward/>)

# Some compilers are taking action:



# If this matters to you, make your voice be heard!



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...

Dear [#gamedev](#) community: I hear your concerns about poor debug performance with modern [#cpp](#).

I am trying to improve the situation by making standard library implementers aware:

- [github.com/llvm/llvm-proj...](https://github.com/llvm/llvm-project)
- [gcc.gnu.org/bugzilla/show\\_...](https://gcc.gnu.org/bugzilla/show_...)

**Please consider contributing to the above issues.**

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- Links:
  - GCC: [Bugzilla Report](#)
  - Clang: [GitHub Issue](#)
  - MSVC: [Developer Community Feedback](#)

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