



Better Tools in Your Clang Toolbox

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Abstract

Clang-tidy is the go to assistant for most C++ programmers looking to improve their code. If you set out to modernize your aging code base and find hidden bugs along the way, clang-tidy is your friend. Last year, we brought all the clang-tidy magic to Visual Studio C++ developers with a Visual Studio extension called “Clang Power Tools”. After successful usage within our team, we decided to open-source the project and make Clang Power Tools available for free in the Visual Studio Marketplace. This helped tens of thousands of developers leverage its powers to improve their projects, regardless of their compiler of choice for building their applications.

Clang-tidy comes packed with over 250 built-in checks for best practice, potential risks and static analysis. Most of them are extremely valuable in real world code, but we found several cases where we needed to run specific checks for our project.

This session will focus on extending clang-tidy with custom checks. If you ever wanted a tidy check specific to a particular need of your codebase, you will now get a crash course in writing your own check from scratch. This talk will also share some of the things we learned while developing these tools and using them at scale on our projects and within the codebases of our community users.

<http://clangpowertools.com>

<https://github.com/Caphyon/clang-power-tools>



Better Tools in Your Clang Toolbox

Vignette in 3 parts

The Tools

Massaging The Code

Take Control



@ciura_victor

Victor Ciura

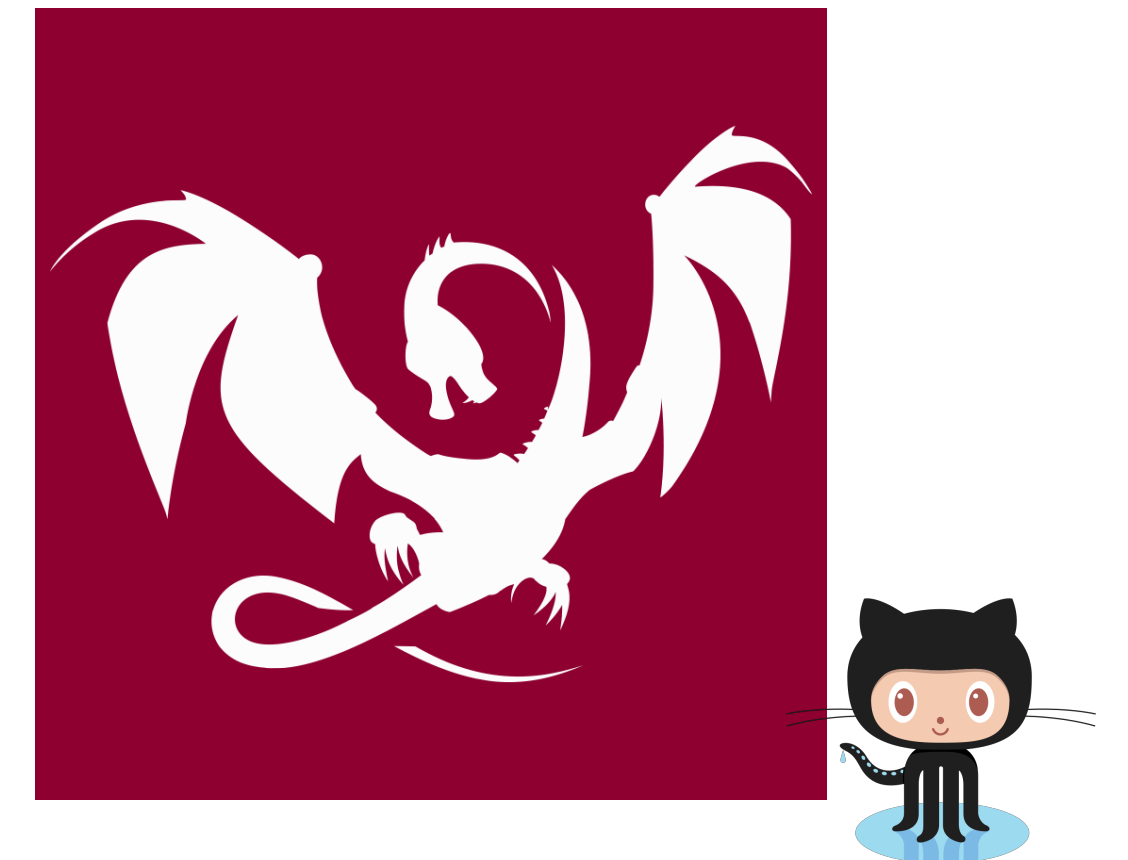
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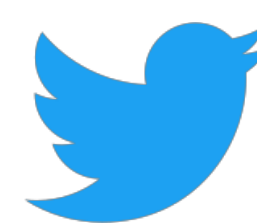
Who Am I?



Advanced Installer



Clang Power Tools



@ciura_victor

Part I

The Tools



+



->



LLVM
clang-tidy
clang++
clang-format

Visual Studio
2015/2017/2019

Clang Power Tools
www.clangpowertools.com

FREE / Open source

Clang Power Tools

- free open-source Visual Studio extension
- helping developers leverage Clang/LLVM tools (clang++, clang-tidy and clang-format)
- perform various code transformations and fixes like **modernizing** code to C++ 11/14/17
- finding subtle latent **bugs** with its static analyzer and C++ Core Guidelines checks

Lunch ~1 Year Ago: September 2017



The image shows a video player interface. The main content area displays a presentation slide with the following text:

Bringing Clang-tidy Magic to Visual Studio C++ Developers

Victor Ciura
Technical Lead, Advanced Installer
www.advancedinstaller.com

Logos for **cppcon** (the C++ conference) and **CAPHYON** are visible. A small inset video on the right shows the speaker, **VICTOR CIURA**, at a podium. Below the inset is a caption: **Bringing Clang-tidy Magic to Visual Studio C++ Developers**. The video player controls at the bottom show a play button, a progress bar at 0:06 / 1:00:34, and icons for CC, HD, and a full-screen button.

CppCon 2017: Victor Ciura "Bringing Clang-tidy Magic to Visual Studio C++ Developers"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Wl-9ozmxXbo>

<http://sched.co/BgsQ>



Clang Power Tools

Caphyon | 16,240 installs |  115,177 downloads | 

A tool bringing clang-tidy magic to Visual Studio C++ developers.

Download

- **16,000** users 🎉
- **115K** installs
- **40+** releases
- 173 reported issues fixed
- 29 Git forks
- 175+ stars/followers (GitHub)
- 56+ external PRs

1 Year and counting...



1 Year and counting...

A big Thank You to **Gabriel & Ionuț**,
for all the great work they put into this project
and to all our **community contributors**





Get Involved

<https://github.com/Caphyon/clang-power-tools>



- submit issues/bugs
- give us feedback
- make pull requests
- suggest new features and improvements



www.clangpowertools.com



Clang PowerShell Script

- very configurable (many parameters)
- supports both clang compile and tidy workflows
- works directly on Visual Studio **.vcxproj** files (or MSBuild projects)
 -  **no** roundtrip transformation through Clang JSON compilation database
- supports parallel compilation
- constructs Clang PCH from VS project <stdafx.h>
- automatically extracts all necessary settings from VS projects:
 -  preprocessor definitions, platform toolset, SDK version, include directories, PCH, etc.

`clang-build.ps1`



Using The PowerShell Script

-dir	Source directory to process for VS project files
-proj	List of projects to compile
-proj-ignore	List of projects to ignore
-file	What cpp(s) to compile from the found projects
-file-ignore	List of files to ignore
-parallel	Run clang++ in parallel mode, on all logical CPU cores
-continue	Continue project compilation even when errors occur
-clang-flags	Flags passed to clang++ driver
-tidy	Run specified clang-tidy checks
-tidy-fix	Run specified clang-tidy checks with auto-fix
...	

clang-build.ps1



Using The PowerShell Script

You can run `clang-build.ps1` directly,
by specifying all required parameters (low-level control over details)

or



You can use a `configuration file` (eg. `cpt.config`),
that pre-loads some of the constant configurations specific for your team/project
=> source control



Using The PowerShell Script

```
PS> .\clang-build.ps1 -parallel
```

➔ Runs clang **compile** on all projects in current directory

```
PS> .\clang-build.ps1 -parallel -proj-ignore foo,bar
```

➔ Runs clang **compile** on all projects in current directory, except 'foo' and 'bar'

```
PS> .\clang-build.ps1 -proj foo,bar -file-ignore meow -tidy-fix "--*,modernize-*"
```

➔ Runs **clang-tidy**, using all *modernize* checks, on all CPPs not containing 'meow' in their name, from the projects 'foo' and 'bar'.



cpt.config

```
<cpt-config>
  <clang-flags>    "-Werror"
                  , "-Wall"
                  , "-fms-compatibility-version=19.10"
                  , "-Wmicrosoft"
                  , "-Wno-invalid-token-paste"
                  , "-Wno-unknown-pragmas"
                  , "-Wno-unused-value"
  </clang-flags>
  <header-filter>' .* '</header-filter>
  <parallel/>
  <vs-sku>' Professional '</vs-sku>
  <file-ignore>   'htmlayoutsdk\include\behaviors'
                  , 'vsphere\vim25\core'
  </file-ignore>
  <proj-ignore>   'SciLexer'
                  , 'tools\msix-psf'
  </proj-ignore>
</cpt-config>
```



Using The PowerShell Script



Jenkins CI Configuration



Jenkins CI Configuration

Install PowerShell plugin (available from Jenkins gallery)



[Manage Plugins](#)

Add, remove, disable or enable plugins that can extend the functionality of Jenkins.

The screenshot shows the Jenkins web interface. At the top left is the Jenkins logo and name. To the right is a search bar. Below the header is a breadcrumb trail: Jenkins > Plugin Manager. On the left side, there are two navigation links: 'Back to Dashboard' with a green arrow icon and 'Manage Jenkins' with a gear icon. On the right side, there are four tabs: 'Updates', 'Available' (which is selected), 'Installed', and 'Advanced'. Below the tabs is a table with a header row containing 'Install ↓' and 'Name'. The table content is partially obscured by a grey bar.

<https://wiki.jenkins.io/display/JENKINS/PowerShell+Plugin>



Jenkins CI Configuration

Install PowerShell plugin

Jenkins		Plugin Manager	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Plain Credentials Plugin	Allows use of plain strings and files as credentials.	1.4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	PowerShell plugin	This plugin allows Jenkins to invoke Windows PowerShell as build scripts.	1.3
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	SCM API Plugin	This plugin provides a new enhanced API for interacting with SCM systems.	2.2.2

<https://wiki.jenkins.io/display/JENKINS/PowerShell+Plugin>



Jenkins CI Configuration

- Create a **new job** just for clang builds

or

- Attach a **new build step** on an existing job

The screenshot shows the 'Build' section of the Jenkins configuration interface. At the top, there is a button labeled 'Add build step' with a downward arrow. A dropdown menu is open, listing various build steps. The 'Windows PowerShell' option is highlighted with a blue background. Below the dropdown, there is a text input field containing the text: '[ArtifactDeployer] - Deploy the artifacts from build workspace to remote locations'.

Build

Add build step ▼

- Advanced Installer
- Build a Visual Studio project or solution using MSBuild
- Execute Windows batch command
- Execute shell
- Execute shell script on remote host using ssh
- Inject environment variables
- Invoke Ant
- Invoke top-level Maven targets
- Set build status to "pending" on GitHub commit
- Windows PowerShell**
- [ArtifactDeployer] - Deploy the artifacts from build workspace to remote locations



Jenkins CI Configuration



Reference PowerShell script from the job working directory: `clang-build.ps1`

Build

Windows PowerShell

Command `.\scripts\ai-clang-build.ps1 -parallel -proj-ignore LZMA.vcxproj`

See [the list of available environment variables](#)

Add build step ▾



Jenkins CI Configuration



If you configured Clang build as a new Jenkins job, a good workflow is to track and build any SCM changes:

Build Triggers

- Trigger builds remotely (e.g., from scripts)
- Build after other projects are built
- Build periodically
- GitHub hook trigger for GITScm polling
- Poll SCM

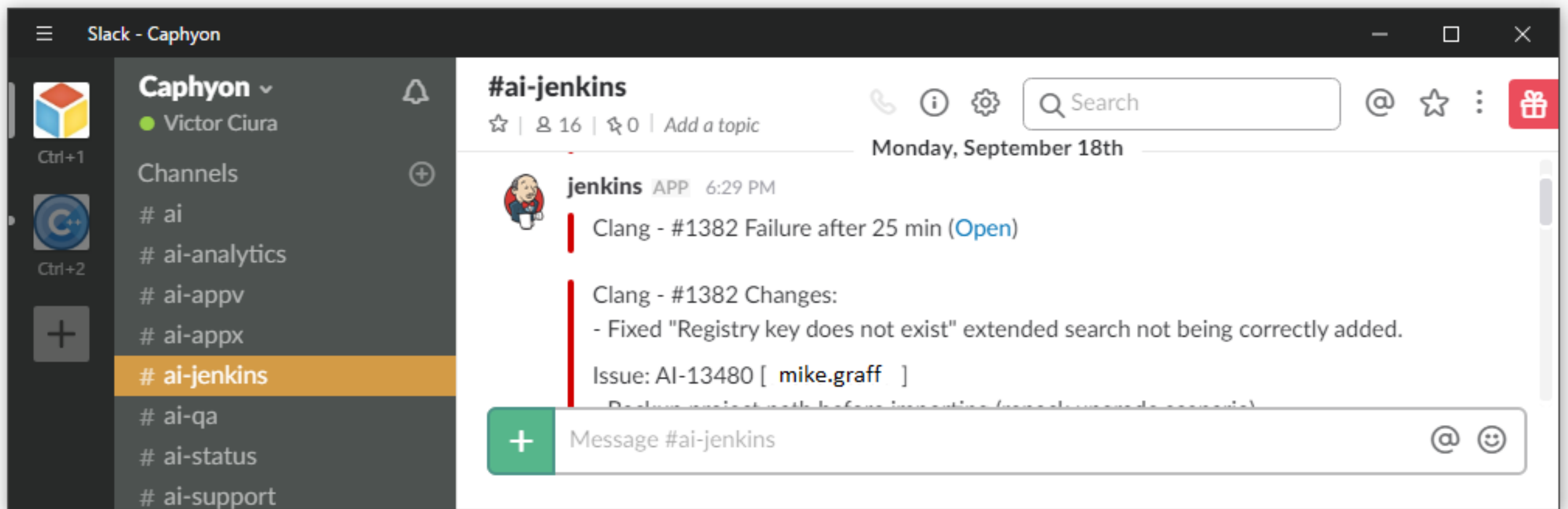




Jenkins CI Workflow



When Clang build is broken...



Slack bot alert ➔ #ai-jenkins



Jenkins CI Workflow

The screenshot shows an Outlook window titled 'Jenkins'. The left sidebar shows folders for 'victor', 'Inbox', 'Jenkins', and 'Local Folders'. The main pane displays a list of emails from Jenkins. The selected email is titled '[AIROBOT] Build Still Failing Clang - Revision: 81423' and is dated 9/19/2017 6:54 PM. The email body contains the following information:

BUILD FAILURE

Build URL: <http://airobot/job/Clang/1385/>
Project: Clang
Date of build: Tue, 19 Sep 2017 18:05:05 +0300
Build duration: 49 min

CHANGES

Revision 81423 by [redacted] (Added support for using formatted references for Service failure operations.)

Issue: AI-11790)

- edit advinst\msicomp\appxcfg\AppXNtServiceSync.cpp
- edit advinst\msicomp\servconfigfailactions\IMsiServConfigFailActionsTable.h
- edit advinst\msicomp\servconfigfailactions\MsiServConfigFailActionsRow.cpp
- edit advinst\msicomp\servconfigfailactions\MsiServConfigFailActionsRow.h
- edit advinst\msicomp\servconfigfailactions\MsiServConfigFailActionsTable.cpp
- edit advinst\msicomp\servconfigfailactions\MsiServConfigFailActionsTable.h
- edit advinst\msicomp\servinst\MsiServInstView.cpp
- edit advinst\msicomp\servinst\ServConfigFailActionsView.cpp

1 attachment: build.log 431 KB

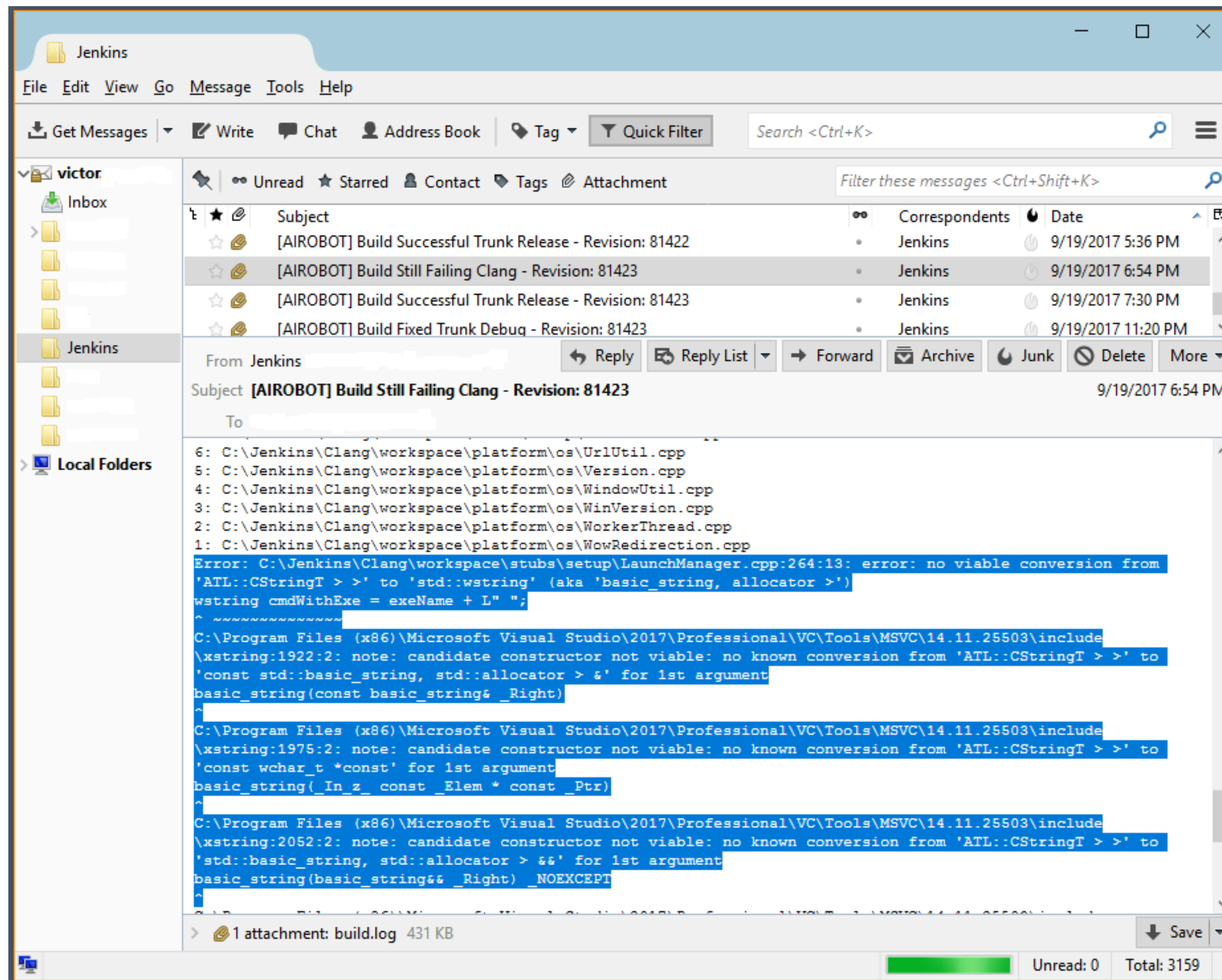


When Clang build is broken...

Team devs email alert ➡



Jenkins CI Workflow



When Clang build is broken...

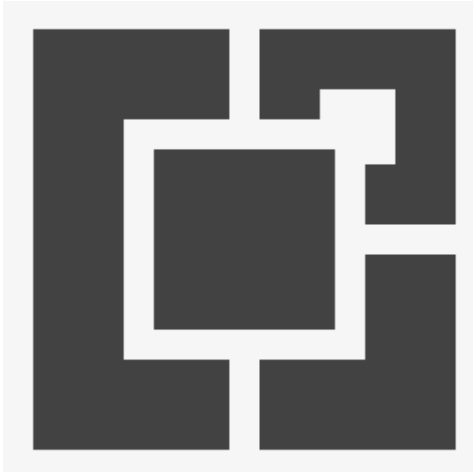
Team devs email alert ➡

What About Developer Workflow?



+



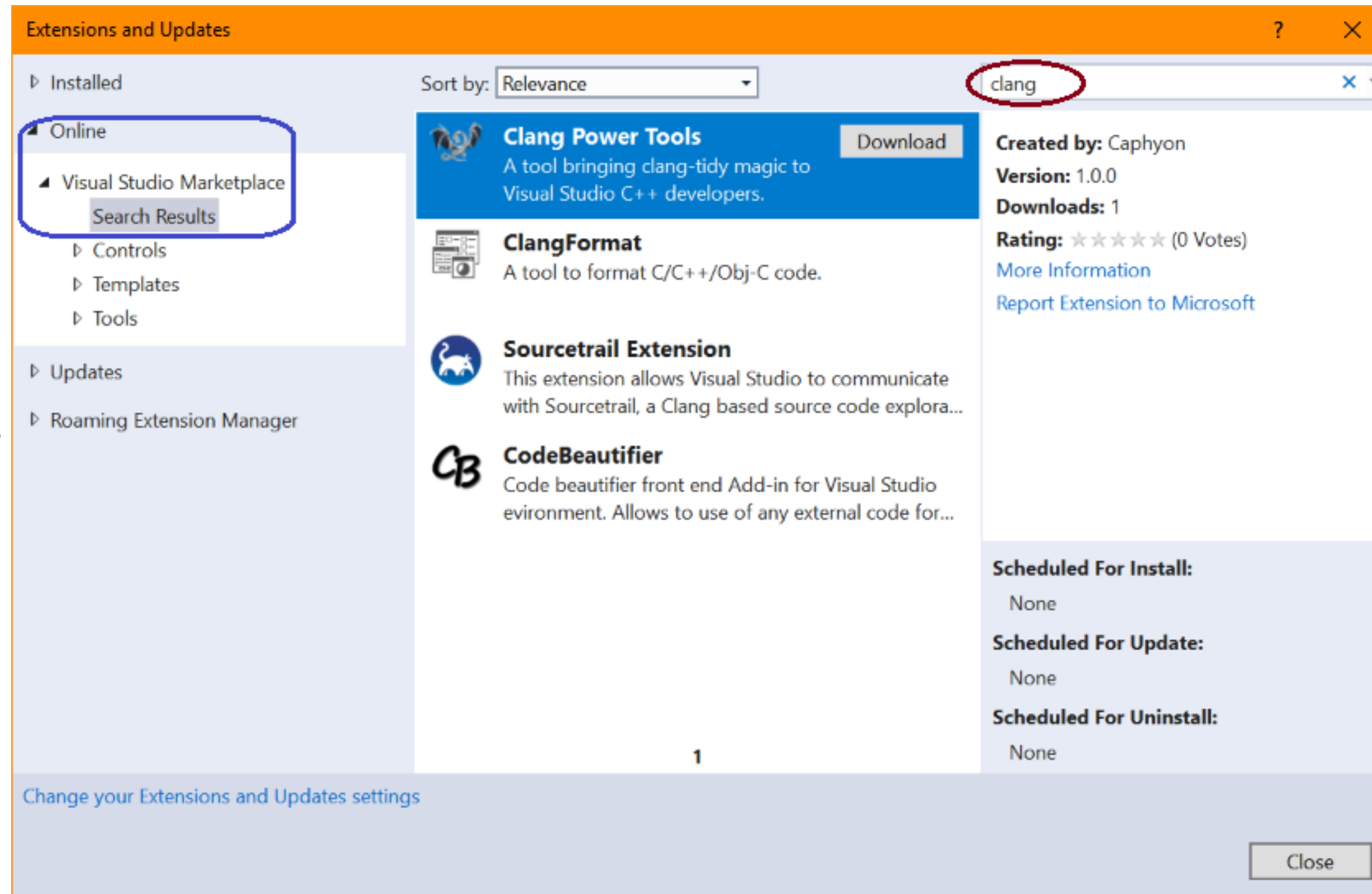


Install The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension

[Tools]

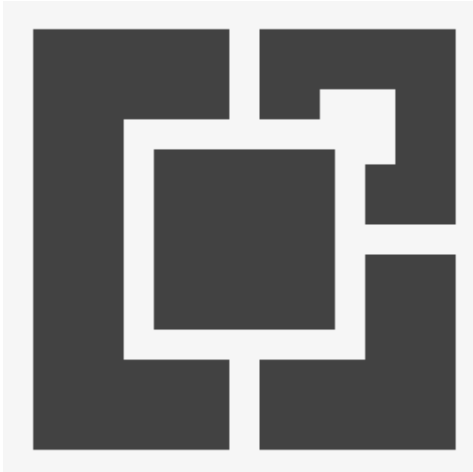


Extensions and updates

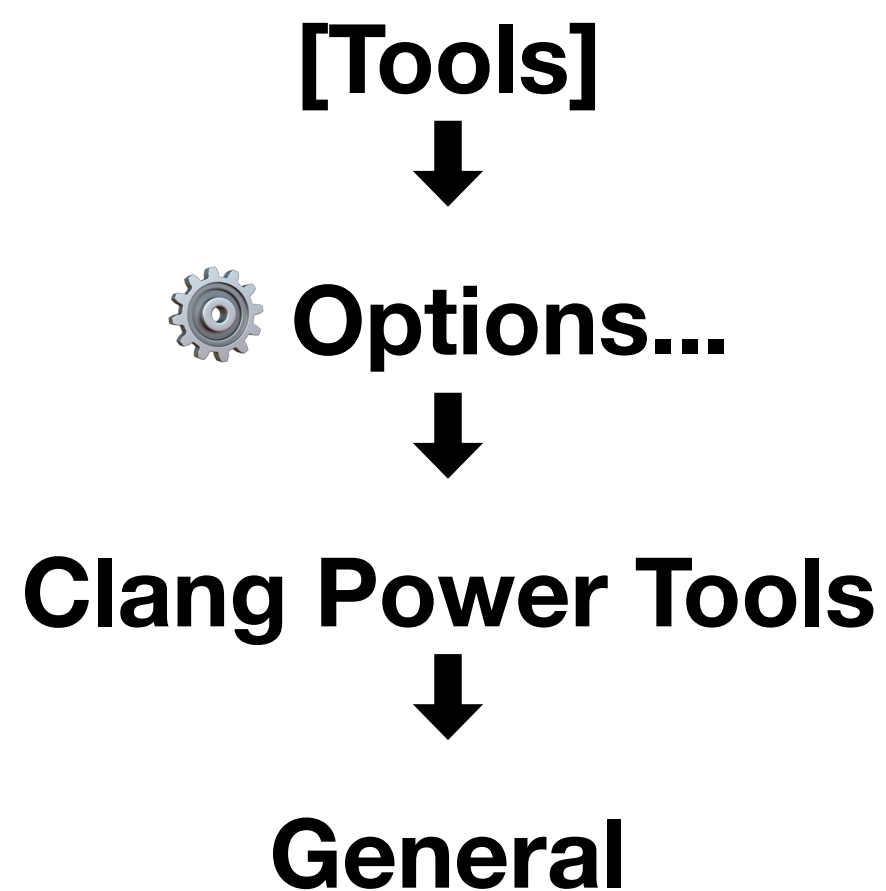


Requires **LLVM** for **Windows** to be installed.

<http://releases.lvm.org/7.0.1/LLVM-7.0.1-win64.exe>



Configure The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension



General

Compile flags

File to ignore

Project to ignore

Treat additional includes as

Treat warnings as errors

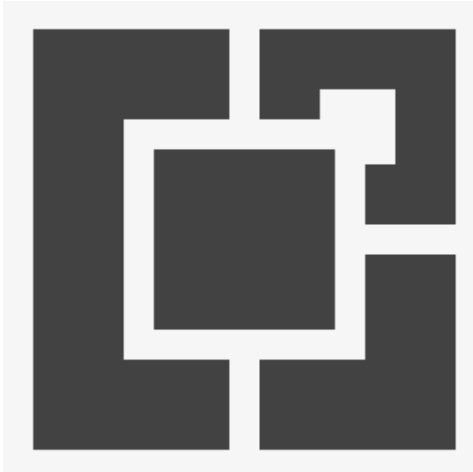
Continue on error

Clang compile after MSVC compile

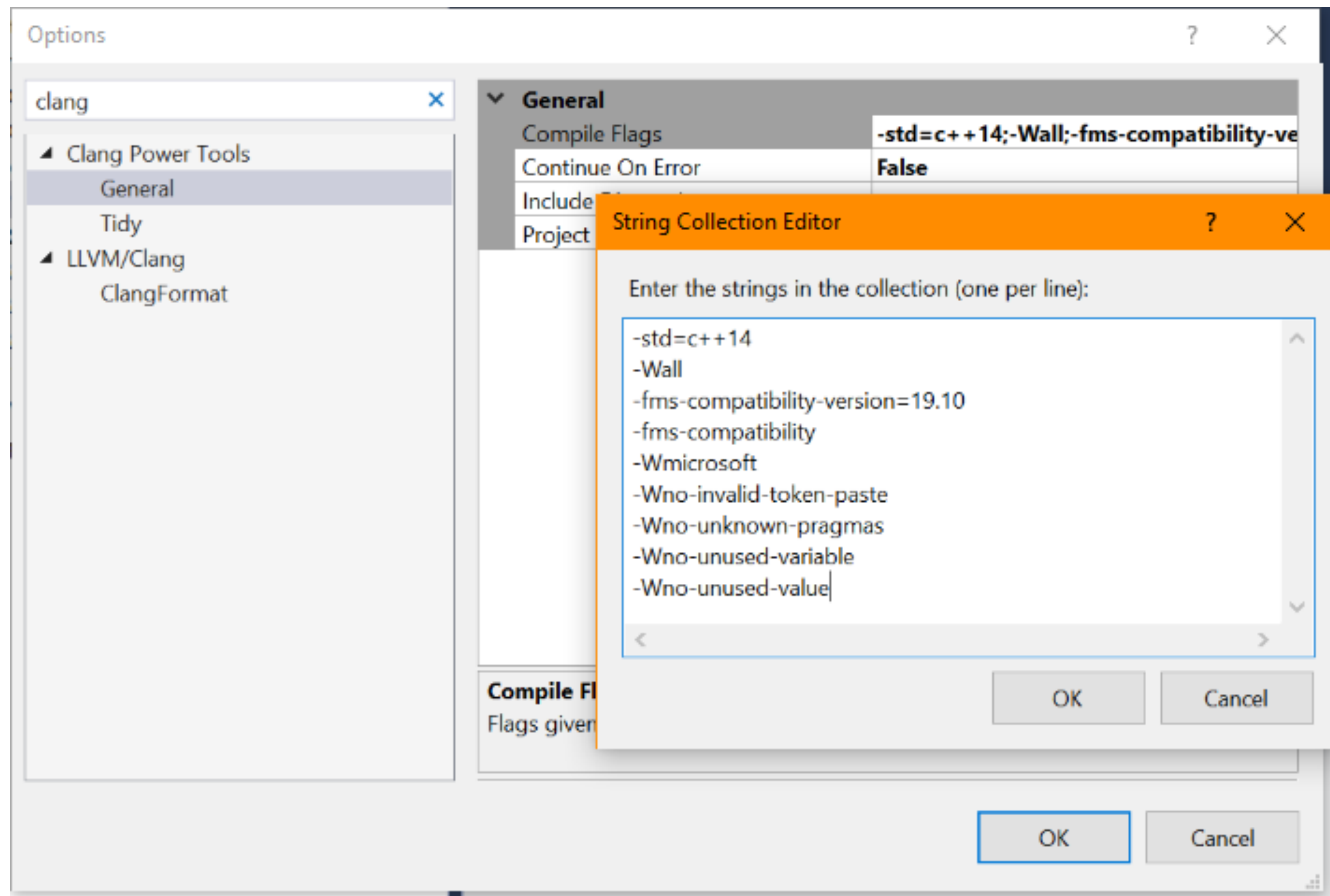
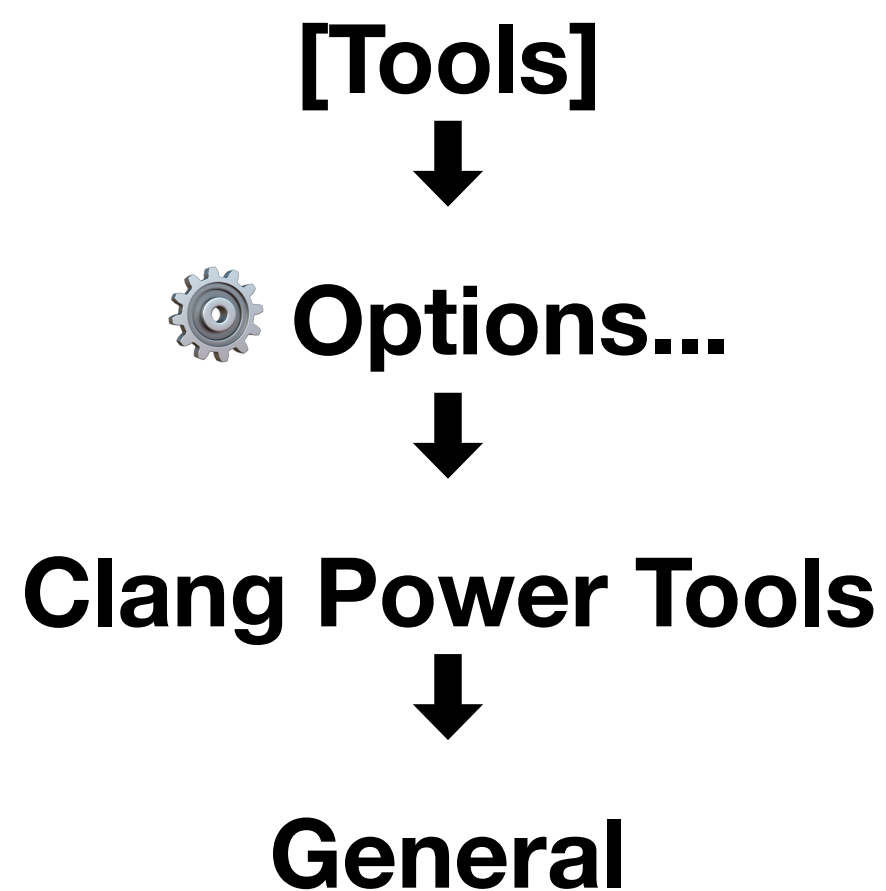
Verbose mode

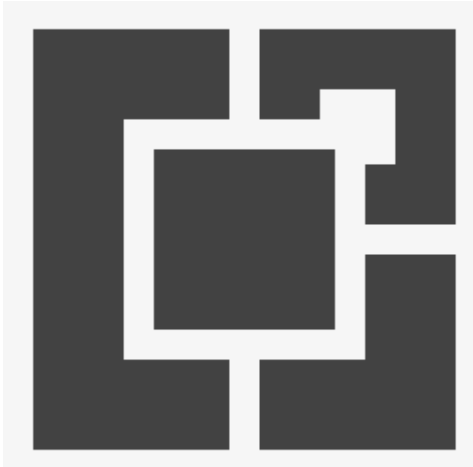
Clang compile after MSVC compile
Automatically run Clang compile on the current source file, after successful MSVC compilation.

← Compilation settings

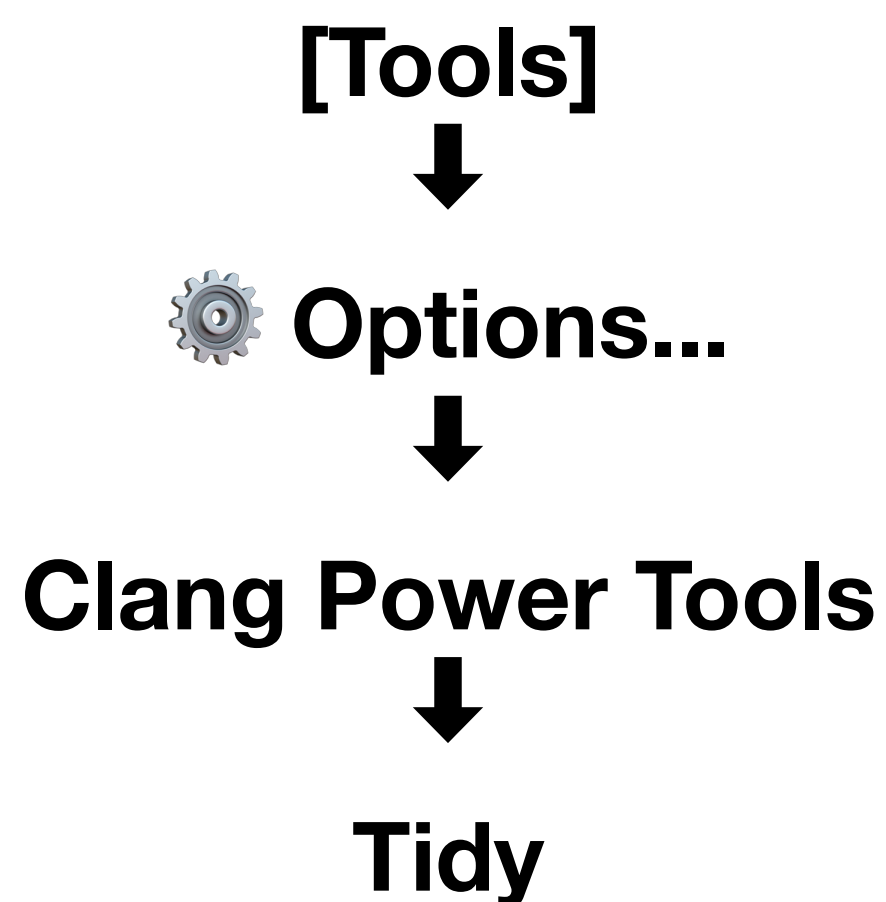


Configure The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension





Configure The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension



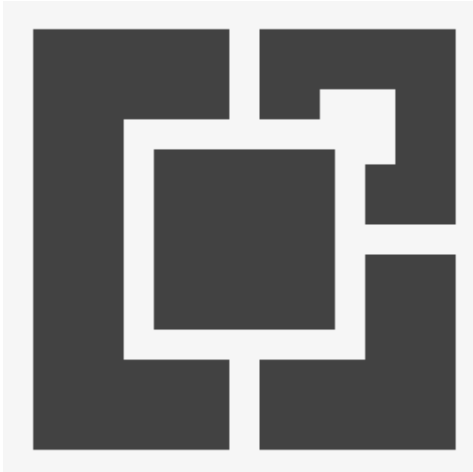
⤴ Tidy

Format after tidy

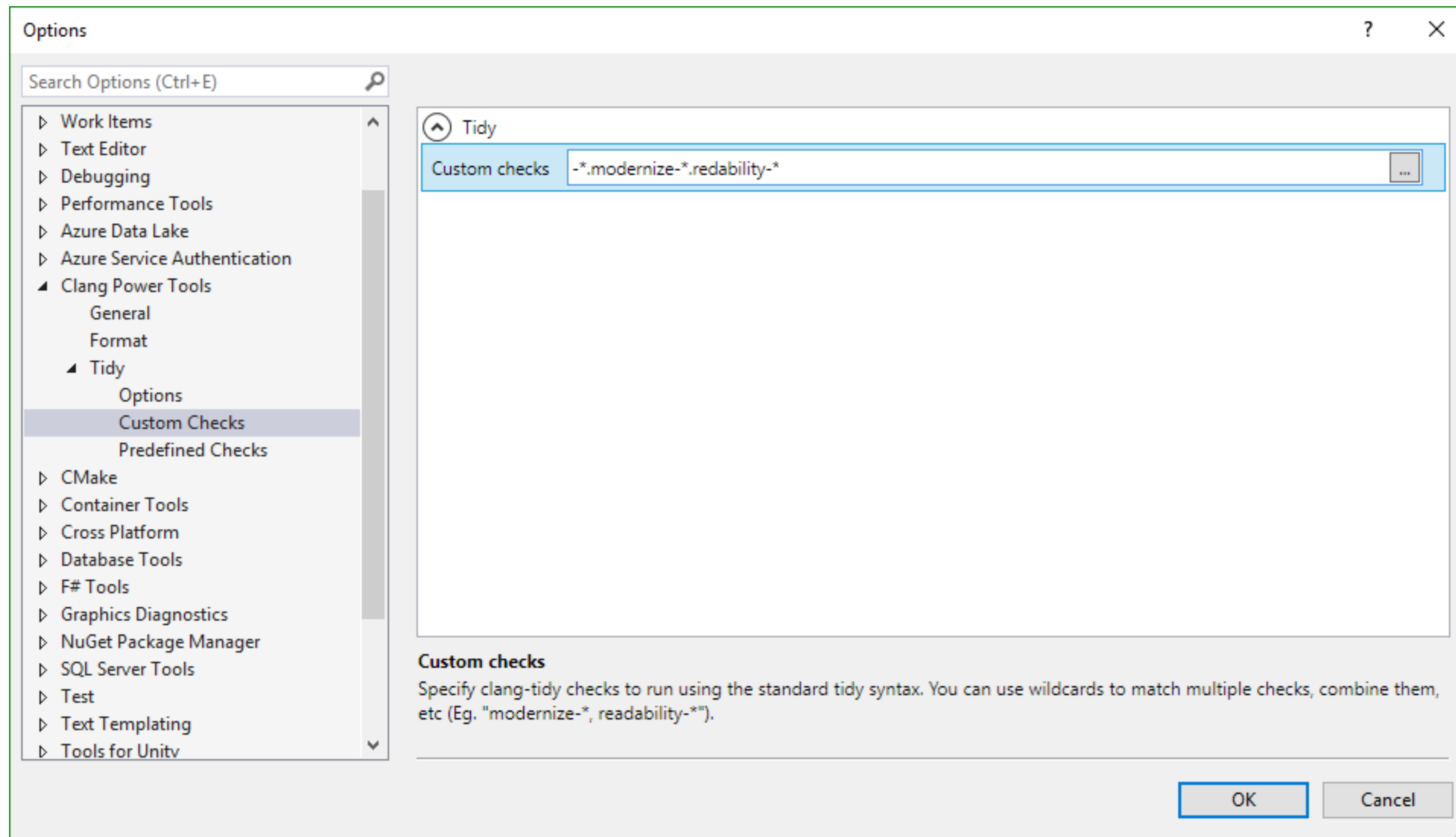
Perform clang-tidy on save

Header filter

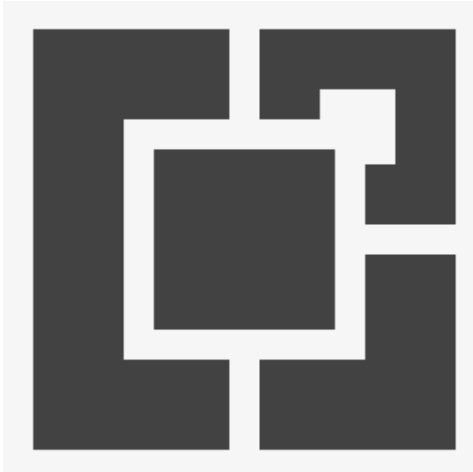
Use checks from



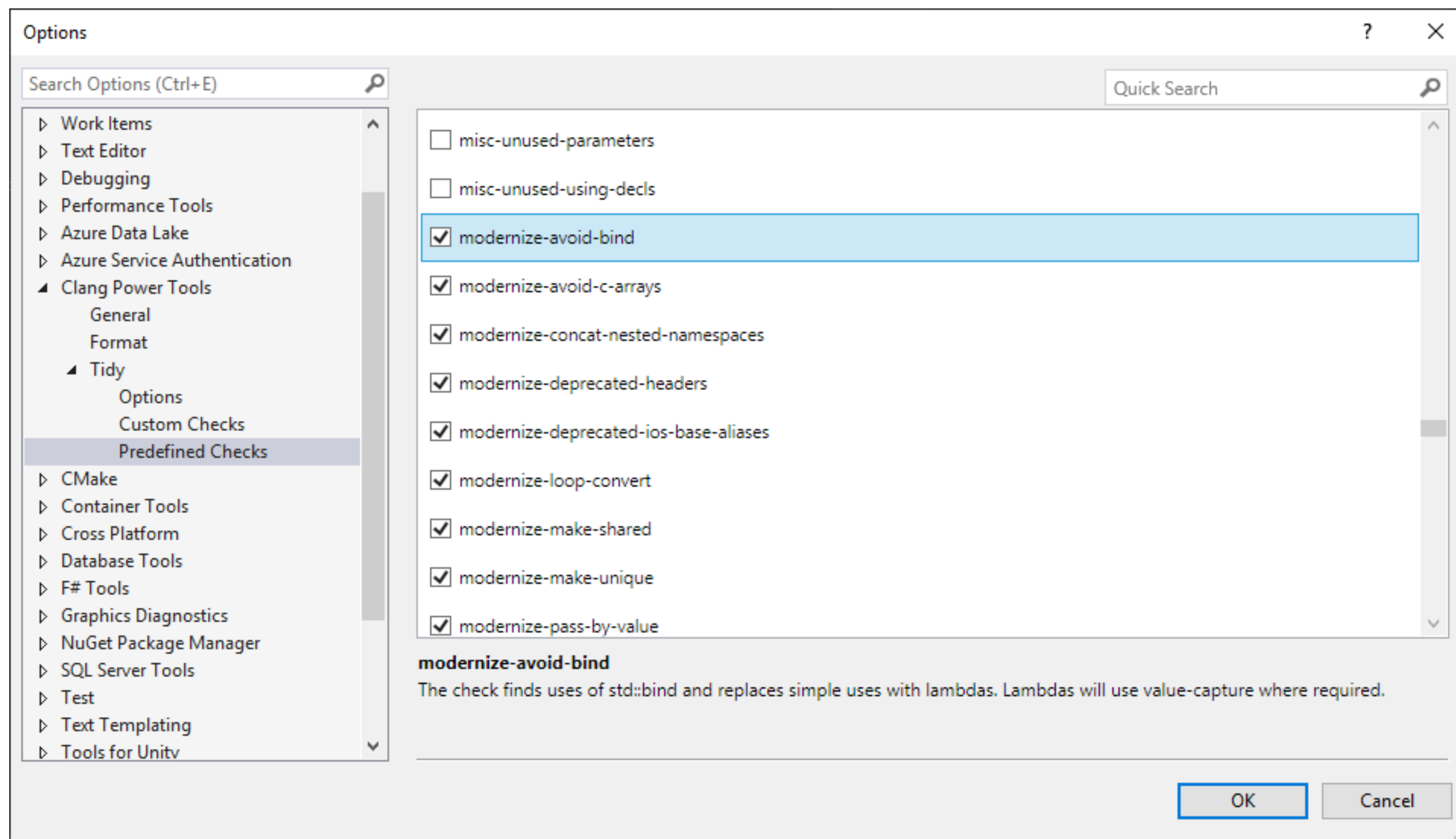
Configure The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension



← wildcard match

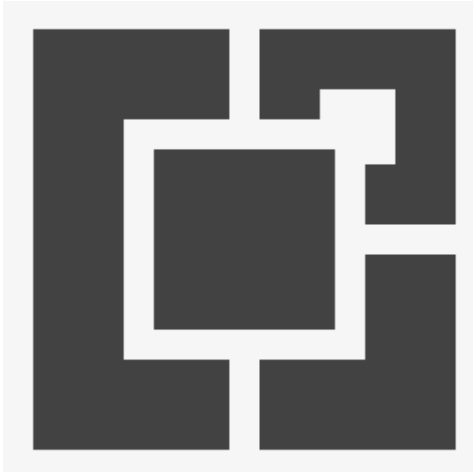


Configure The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension

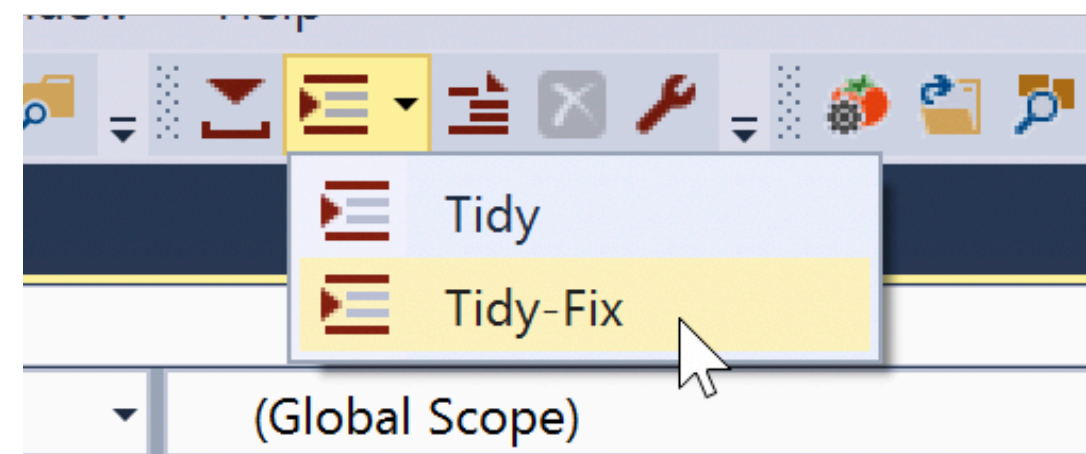


← clang-tidy checks

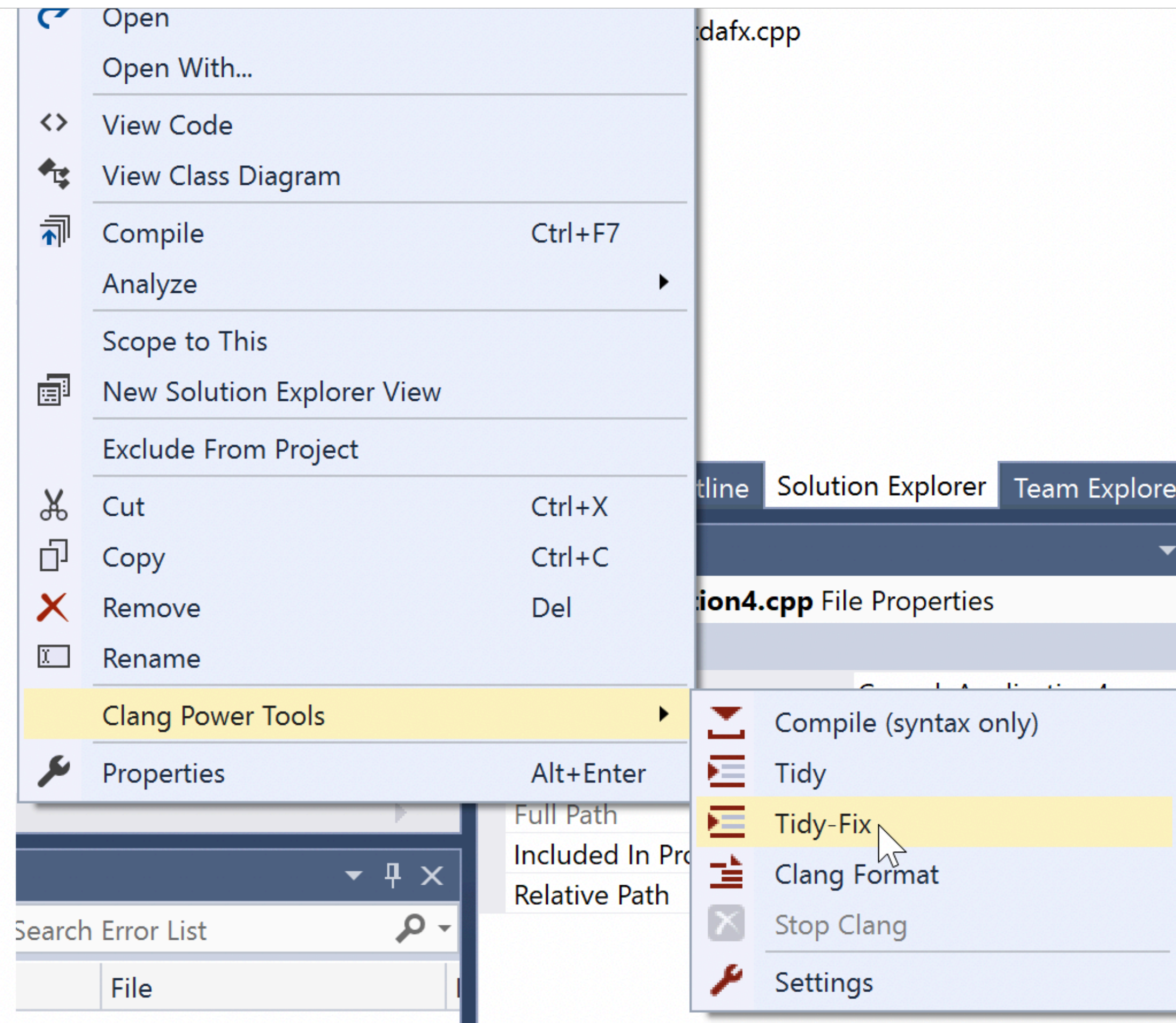
← inline documentation

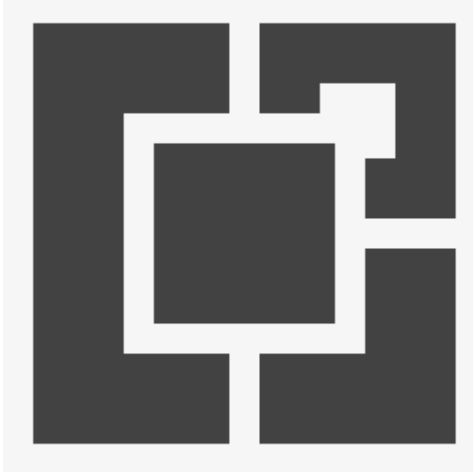


Using The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension



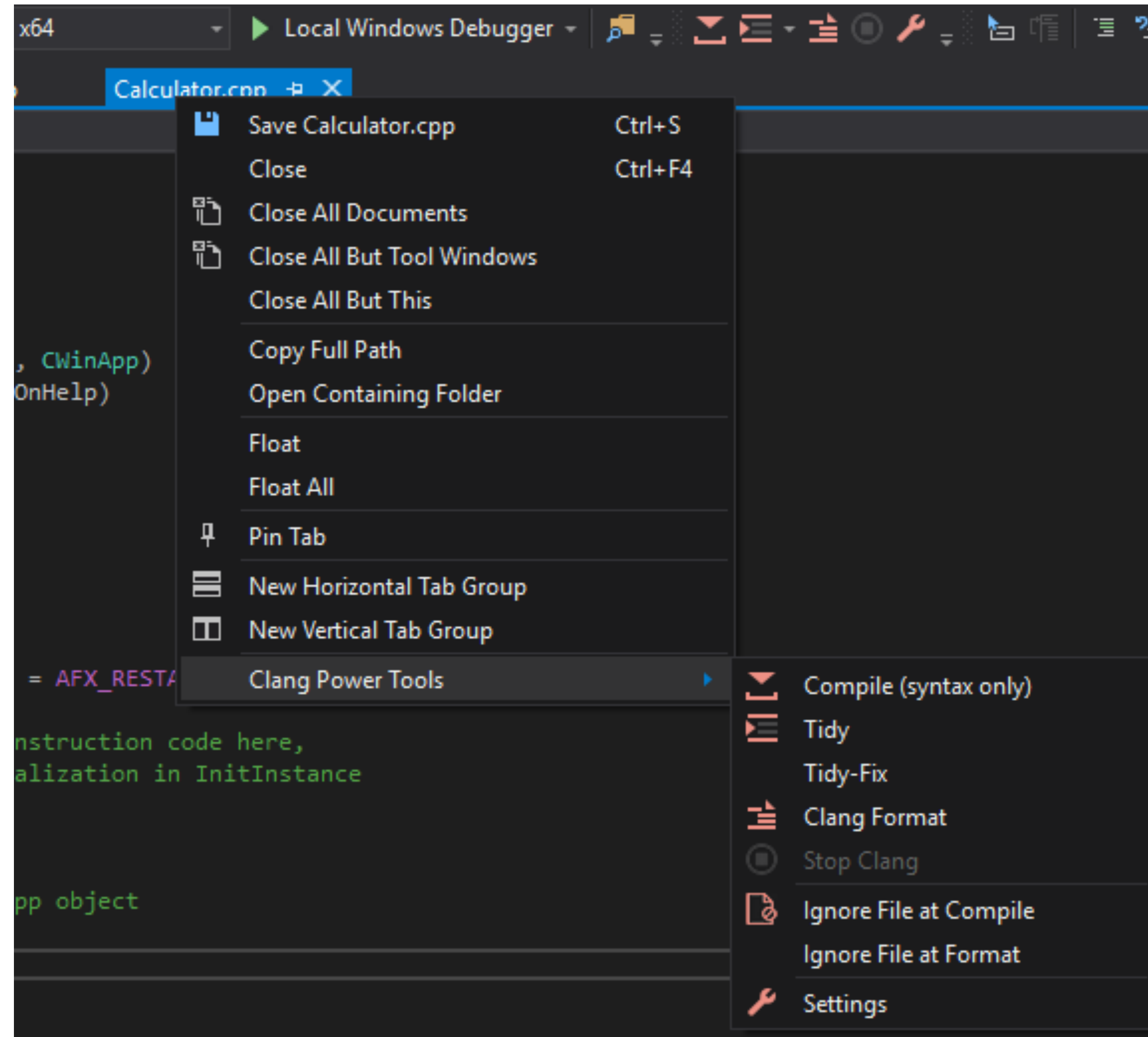
**Run Clang Power Tools on
a whole *project* or *solution***

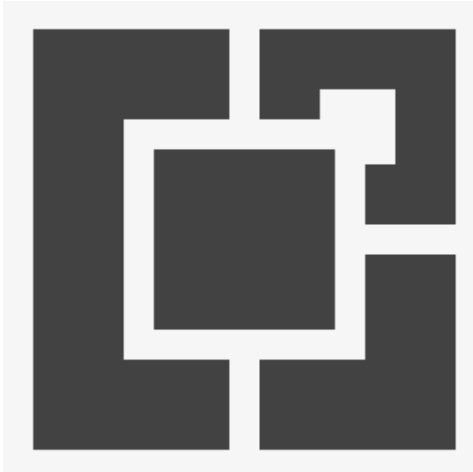




Using The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension

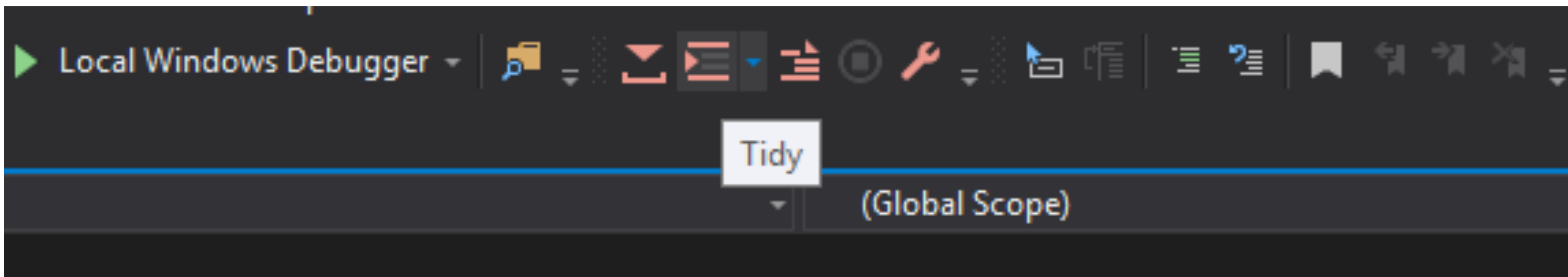
Options on an open source file (tab) →

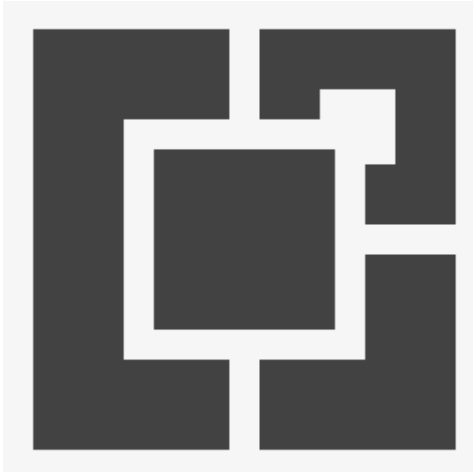




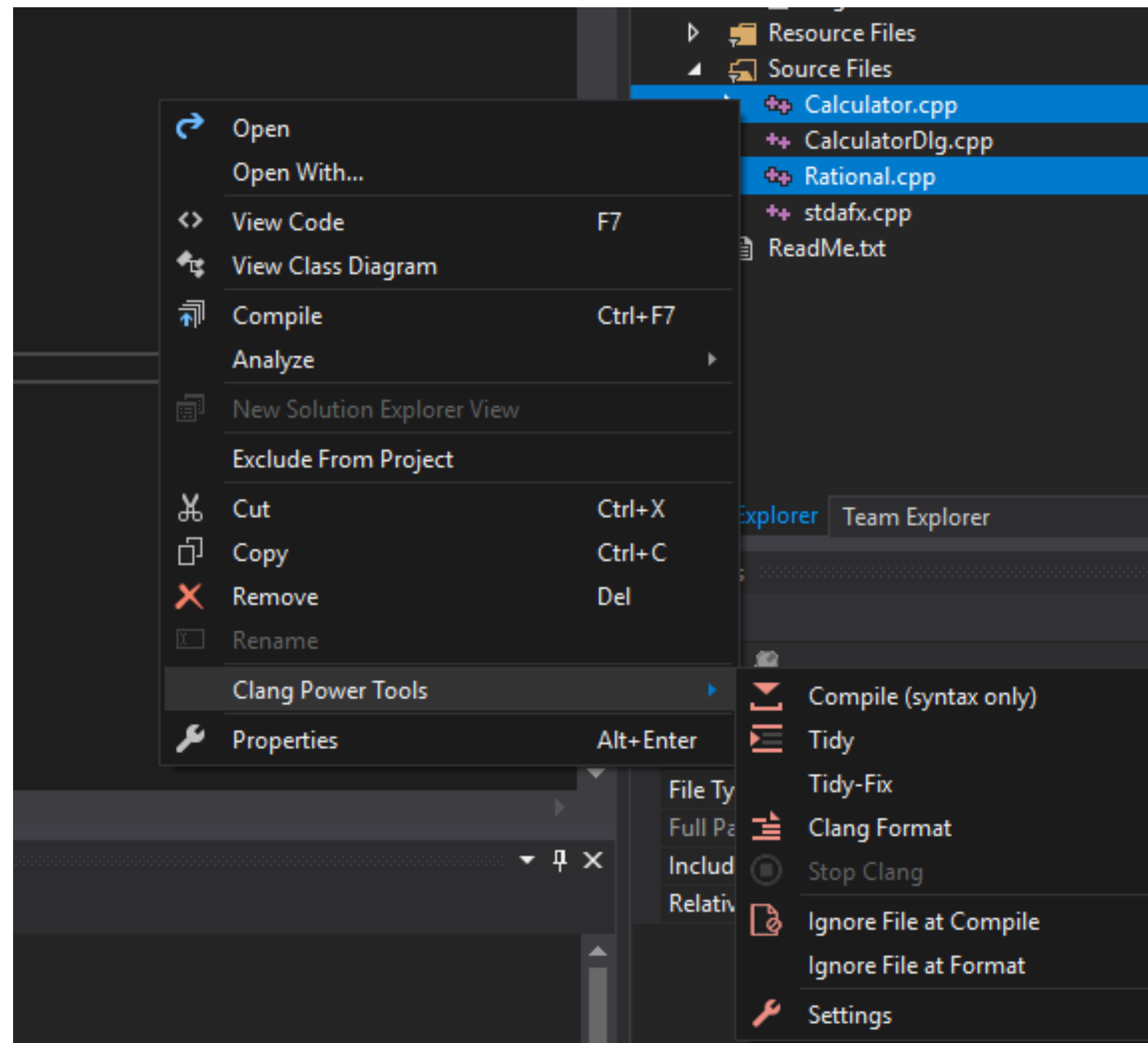
Using The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension

Handy Toolbar



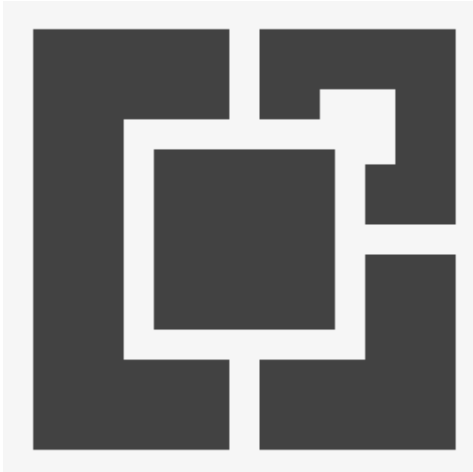


Using The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension



← Run Clang Power Tools on selected files

← Compile or Tidy code



Using The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension

```
StringProcessing.cpp  StringEncoding.cpp
Platform  StringUtil  IsRTL(const wstring & aString)
498 {
499     size_t textLength = aString.length();
500
501     CAutoVectorPtr<WORD> charsType;
502     charsType.Allocate(textLength);
503
504     Facet facet = DEFAULT_LOCALE;
505
506     // get type of each character from string
507     BOOL ret = ::GetStringTypeW(CT_CTYPE2, aString.c_str(), (int)textLength, charsType);
508     if (!ret)
509         return false;
510
511     for (size_t i = 0; i < textLength; i++)
512     {
513         // at least one char is RTL so we consider entire string as RTL
514         if (charsType[i] == C2_RIGHTTOLEFT)
```

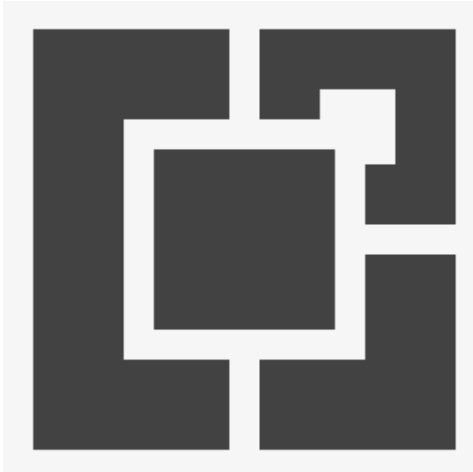
Output

Show output from: Clang Power Tools

```
1: C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp
Error: C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp:504:9: error: no viable conversion from 'const wchar_t [6]' to 'Facet'
    Facet facet = DEFAULT_LOCALE;
      ^
C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp
:344:7: note: candidate constructor (the implicit copy constructor) not viable: no known conversion from 'const wchar_t [6]' to 'const class Facet
class Facet
C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp:344:7: note: candidate constructor (the implicit move constructor) not viable: no
class Facet
```

← Clang compile error





Using The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension

```
StringProcessing.cpp  X
Platform  StringUtil  IsRTL(const wstring & aString)
491 // get type of each character from string
492 BOOL ret = ::GetStringTypeW(CT_CTYPE2, aString.c_str(), (int)textLength, charsType);
493
494 if (!ret)
495     return false;
496
497 for (size_t i = 0; i < textLength; i++)
498 {
499     // at least one char is RTL so we consider entire string as RTL
500     if (charsType[i] == C2_RIGHTTOLEFT)
501         return true;
```

Output

Show output from: Clang Power Tools

```
C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp:500:9: warning: Array access results in a null pointer dereference [clang-analyzer-core.NullDereference]
    if (charsType[i] == C2_RIGHTTOLEFT)
        ^
C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp:494:7: note: Assuming 'ret' is not equal to 0
    if (!ret)
        ^
C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp:494:3: note: Taking false branch
    if (!ret)
        ^
C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp:497:22: note: Assuming 'i' is < 'textLength'
    for (size_t i = 0; i < textLength; i++)
                        ^
C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp:497:3: note: Loop condition is true. Entering loop body
    for (size_t i = 0; i < textLength; i++)
        ^
C:\JobAI\platform\util\strings\StringProcessing.cpp:500:9: note: Array access results in a null pointer dereference
    if (charsType[i] == C2_RIGHTTOLEFT)
        ^
Suppressed
```

Error List Output Find Symbol Results

← clang-tidy : analyzer report



Eg.
[clang-analyzer-core.NullDereference]

Why Do I Care ?

15 year old code base under active development
3 million lines of C++ code
a few brave nerds...

or

“How we managed to **clang-tidy** our whole code base,
while maintaining our monthly release cycle”

Mandatory Slide

Gauging the audience...

C++98/03

C++11

C++14

C++17



Part II

Massaging The Code

Why do we need this ?

**ISO C++ standard
conformance**

Finding bugs

ISO C++ standard conformance

MSVC /permissive-

Problem: older Windows SDKs

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/cpp/build/reference/permissive-standards-conformance?view=vs-2017>

ISO C++ standard conformance

Latest **MSVC STL**

Compiles/requires with Clang 7

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/cpp/build/reference/permissive-standards-conformance?view=vs-2017>

Goals

- It all started with **clang-format**
- Building on the success of **clang-format** adoption within the team, we gained courage to experiment with **clang-tidy**
- New problem: getting all our code to fully **compile** with Clang, using the correct project settings (synced with Visual Studio) and Windows SDK dependencies
- We found several compatibility issues between MSVC compiler and Clang
- Note that we were already using MSVC **/W4** and **/WX** on all our projects 🦵 🧐

Goals

- Welcome to the land of **non-standard C++** language extensions and striving for C++ ISO conformance in our code
- We started **fixing** all non-conformant code... (some automation required)
- Perform large scale **refactorings** on our code with clang-tidy:
`modernize-*`, `readability-*`
- Run **static analysis** on our code base to find subtle latent bugs
- Switch to the new MSVC compiler: `/permissive-`



Fixes, fixes, fixes...



Just a few examples:

Error: delete called on non-final 'AppPathVar' that has virtual functions but non-virtual destructor [-Werror, **-Wdelete-non-virtual-dtor**]

Error: 'MsiComboBoxTable::PreRowChange' hides overloaded virtual function [-Werror, **-Woverloaded-virtual**]

```
void PreRowChange(const IMsiRow & aRow, BitField aModifiedContext);
```

Error: variable 'it' is incremented both in the loop header and in the loop body [-Werror, **-Wfor-loop-analysis**]



Fixes, fixes, fixes...



Just a few examples:

```
Error: FilePath.cpp:36:17: error: moving a temporary object prevents copy elision  
[-Werror, -Wpessimizing-move]  
    : GenericPath(move(UnboxHugePath(aPath)))
```

```
Error: moving a local object in a return statement prevents copy elision  
[-Werror, -Wpessimizing-move]  
    return move(replacedConnString);
```



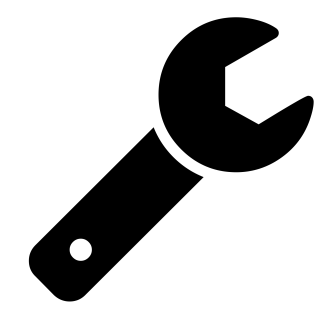
Fixes, fixes, fixes...



Just a few examples:

```
Error: field 'mCommandContainer' will be initialized after field 'mRepackBuildType'  
[-Werror, -Wreorder]
```

```
Error: PipeServer.cpp:42:39: error: missing field 'InternalHigh' initializer  
[-Werror, -Wmissing-field-initializers]
```



Fixes, fixes, fixes...

StringProcessing.cpp:504:9: error: no viable **conversion** from 'const wchar_t [6]' to 'Facet'

```
    Facet facet = DEFAULT_LOCALE;
      ^           ~~~~~
```

StringProcessing.cpp:344:7: note: candidate constructor (the implicit copy constructor) not viable: no known conversion from 'const wchar_t [6]' to 'const Facet &' for 1st argument

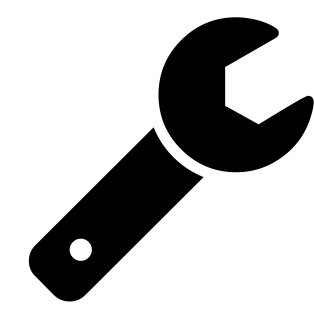
```
class Facet
  ^
```

StringProcessing.cpp:349:3: note: candidate constructor not viable: no known conversion from 'const wchar_t [6]' to 'const std::wstring &' for 1st argument

```
    Facet(const wstring & facet)
  ^
```



Frequent offender: Two user-defined conversions needed



Fixes, fixes, fixes...

Error: destructor called on non-final 'InternalMessageGenerator' that has virtual functions but non-virtual destructor [-Werror, **-Wdelete-non-virtual-dtor**]

```
    _Getptr()->~_Ty();  
    ^
```

MessageCenter.cpp:49:29: note: in instantiation of function template specialization 'std::make_shared<InternalMessageGenerator>' requested here

```
    mInternalMsgGenerator = make_shared<InternalMessageGenerator>(...);  
                            ^
```

C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual

Studio\2017\Professional\VC\Tools\MSVC\14.14.26428\include\memory:1783:15: note:

qualify call to silence this warning

```
    _Getptr()->~_Ty();
```



Frequent offender



Fixes, fixes, fixes...

Error: delete called on 'NetFirewall::INetFirewallMgr' that is **abstract** but has non-virtual destructor [-Werror, **-Wdelete-non-virtual-dtor**]

```
    delete _Ptr;  
    ^
```

C:\Program Files (x86)\Microsoft Visual Studio\2017\Professional\VC\Tools\MSVC\14.14.26428\include\memory:2267:4: note: in instantiation of member function

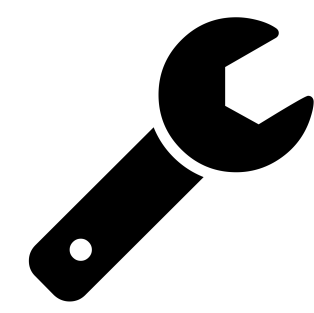
```
'std::default_delete<NetFirewall::INetFirewallMgr>::operator()' requested here  
    this->get_deleter() (get());  
    ^
```

NetFirewallMgrFactory.cpp:21:44: note: in instantiation of member function

```
'std::unique_ptr<NetFirewall::INetFirewallMgr,  
std::default_delete<NetFirewall::INetFirewallMgr> >::~~unique_ptr' requested here  
    unique_ptr<NetFirewall::INetFirewallMgr> fwMgr;
```



Frequent offender



Fixes, fixes, fixes...

```
FormattedLexer.cpp(2982): error [-Werror, -Wenum-compare-switch]:
```

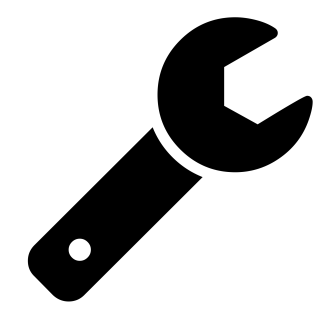
```
comparison of two values with different enumeration types in switch statement  
'FormattedLexer::CharType' and 'FormattedLexer::CharSubType'
```

```
case REGULAR:
```

```
    ^~~~~~
```



Frequent offender



Iterative Conformance

-fno-delayed-template-parsing

-Werror=microsoft

-Werror=typename-missing

-Wno-xyz-warn

eg. -Wno-microsoft-sealed



Iterative Conformance

The long road to **MSVC** /permissive-

Problems:



fix issues in your code



deal with older Windows SDKs

(eg. targeting Win7, WinXP)



MSVC /permissive-



Fix issues in your code

Tips:

- **lots of issues related to TPL two-phase lookup**
- **include headers required by your template inline code**
- **fix issues related to dependent types**
- **do not assume STL headers include each other; be explicit**



MSVC /permissive-

Deal with older Windows SDKs

(eg. targeting Win7, WinXP)

Tips:



Hello, COM !

- **forward declare `struct IUnknown` before including Win SDK headers**
(related to TPL two-phase lookup)



MSVC /permissive-

Deal with older Windows SDKs

(eg. targeting Win7, WinXP)

Tips:

- use `/Zc:strictStrings-` for **SDK headers (your PCH)**

Off by default; the `/permissive-` implicitly sets this option.

When set, the compiler requires strict const-qualification conformance for pointers initialized by using string literals.

<https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/cpp/build/reference/zc-strictstrings-disable-string-literal-type-conversion?view=vs-2017>



cpt.config

```
<cpt-config>
  <clang-flags>  "-Werror"
                , "-Wall"
                , "-fms-compatibility-version=19.10"
                , "-Wmicrosoft"
                , "-Wno-invalid-token-paste"
                , "-Wno-unknown-pragmas"
                , "-Wno-unused-value"
  </clang-flags>
  <header-filter>' .* '</header-filter>
  <parallel/>
  <vs-sku>' Professional '</vs-sku>
  <file-ignore>  'htmlayoutsdk\include\behaviors'
                , 'vsphere\vim25\core'
  </file-ignore>
  <proj-ignore>  'SciLexer'
                , 'tools\msix-psf'
  </proj-ignore>
</cpt-config>
```





clang-tidy

Clang-Tidy Checks

- **abseil-string-find-startswith**
 - Options
- **android-cloexec-accept**
- **android-cloexec-accept4**
- **android-cloexec-creat**
- **android-cloexec-dup**
- **android-cloexec-epoll-create**
- **android-cloexec-epoll-create1**
- **android-cloexec-fopen**
- **android-cloexec-inotify-init**
- **android-cloexec-inotify-init1**
- **android-cloexec-memfd-create**
- **android-cloexec-open**
- **android-cloexec-socket**
- **android-comparison-in-temp-failure-retry**
- **boost-use-to-string**
- **bugprone-argument-comment**
 - Options
- **bugprone-assert-side-effect**
 - Options
- **bugprone-bool-pointer-implicit-conversion**
- **bugprone-copy-constructor-init**



clang-tidy

over 250 checks

<https://clang.llvm.org/extra/clang-tidy/checks/list.html>



clang-tidy

Large scale refactorings we performed:

- `modernize-use-nullptr`
- `modernize-loop-convert`
- `modernize-use-override`
- `readability-redundant-string-cstr`
- `modernize-use-emplace`
- `modernize-use-auto`
- `modernize-make-shared` & `modernize-make-unique`
- `modernize-use-equals-default` & `modernize-use-equals-delete`



clang-tidy

Large scale refactorings we performed:

- `modernize-use-default-member-init`
- `readability-redundant-member-init`
- `modernize-pass-by-value`
- `modernize-return-braced-init-list`
- `modernize-use-using`
- `cppcoreguidelines-pro-type-member-init`
- `readability-redundant-string-init` & `misc-string-constructor`
- `misc-suspicious-string-compare` & `misc-string-compare`
- `misc-inefficient-algorithm`
- `cppcoreguidelines-*`



clang-tidy



Issues we found:

[readability-redundant-string-cstr]

```
// mChRequest is a 1KB buffer, we don't want to send it whole.  
// So copy it as a C string, until we reach a null char.  
ret += mChRequest.c_str();
```



clang-tidy



Issues we found:

```
[modernize-make-shared, modernize-make-unique]
```

```
- requestData.reset(new BYTE[reqLength]);  
+ requestData = std::make_unique<BYTE>();
```



clang-tidy



Issues we found:

`[modernize-use-auto]`

=> error: **unused typedef** 'BrowseIterator' [-Werror,-Wunused-local-typedef]

```
typedef vector<BrowseSQLServerInfo>::iterator BrowseIterator;
```



clang-tidy



Issues we found:

`[modernize-loop-convert]`

`=> unused values (orphan) [-Werror,-Wunused-value]`

```
vector<ModuleInfo>::iterator first = Modules_.begin();  
vector<ModuleInfo>::iterator last  = Modules_.end();
```

or:

```
size_t count = Data_.size();  
  
for (auto & module : Modules_)  
{  
    ...  
}
```




clang-tidy



Issues we found:

[modernize-use-using] => errors & *incomplete*

```
-typedef int (WINAPI * InitExtractionFcn) (ExtractInfo *);
```

```
+ using InitExtractionFcn =  
    int (*) (ExtractInfo *) __attribute__((stdcall)) (ExtractInfo *);
```

```
=> using InitExtractionFcn = int (WINAPI *) (ExtractInfo *);
```



clang-tidy



Issues we found:

[modernize-use-using] => errors & *incomplete*

```
template<typename KeyType>
class Row
{
    - typedef KeyType KeyT;      <= substitutes concrete key type (template argument)
    + using KeyT = basic_string<wchar_t, char_traits<wchar_t>, allocator<wchar_t> >;
    ...
    KeyType mID;
};
```

// purpose of type alias being to access that template type from a derived class:

```
typename Row::KeyT
```

Concrete type used in code: **Row**<**wstring**>

Beyond clang-tidy

- we wrote custom tools for our needs (project specific)
- fixed hundreds of member initializer lists with wrong order [-Wreorder]
- removed unused class private fields (references, pointers) [-Wunused-private-field]
- refactored some heavily used class constructors (changed mechanism for acquiring dependencies - interface refs)
- even more on the way...

[-Wunused-private-field]

Remove unused class private fields:

- references
- pointers
- PODs



Watch out for **orphan method *declarations* in classes**



Roadmap

- **-Wextra** (a few remaining issues in our code)
- improve **Clang Power Tools** Visual Studio extension
- run more clang-tidy checks (fix more issues with **clang-analyzer-***)
- re-run previous checks (for new code)
- more custom code transformations (project-specific)

Part III

Take Control



More clang-tidy checks

<https://github.com/llvm-mirror/clang-tools-extra/tree/master/clang-tidy>

Checks are organized in **modules**, which can be linked into clang-tidy with minimal or no code changes in clang-tidy

Checks can plug into the analysis on the **preprocessor** level using **PPCallbacks** or on the AST level using **AST Matchers**

Checks can **report** issues in a similar way to how Clang diagnostics work. A **fix-it** hint can be attached to a diagnostic message

Tools

- `add_new_check.py` - automate the process of adding a new check
(creates check, update the CMake file and creates test)
- `rename_check.py` - renames an existing check
- `clang-query` - interactive prototyping of AST matchers and exploration of the Clang AST
- `clang-check -ast-dump` - provides a convenient way to dump the AST

```

clang-tidy/
|-- ClangTidy.h
|-- ClangTidyModule.h
|-- ClangTidyModuleRegistry.h
    ...
|-- mymod/
|+
| |-- MyModTidyModule.cpp
| |-- MyModTidyModule.h
    ...

|-- tool/
    ...
test/clang-tidy/
    ...
unittests/clang-tidy/
|-- ClangTidyTest.h
|-- MyModModuleTest.cpp

```

```

# Clang-tidy core.
# Interfaces for users and checks.
# Interface for clang-tidy modules.
# Interface for registering of modules.

# My Own clang-tidy module.

# Sources of the clang-tidy binary.

# Integration tests.

# Unit tests.

```

Setup

```
# download the sources
git clone http://llvm.org/git/llvm.git
cd llvm/tools/
git clone http://llvm.org/git/clang.git
cd clang/tools/
git clone http://llvm.org/git/clang-tools-extra.git extra

# build everything
cd ../../../../
mkdir build && cd build/
cmake -DCMAKE_BUILD_TYPE=RelWithDebInfo ..
make check-clang-tools
```

Init

We will add our check to the [**readability**] category/module

```
add_new_check.py readability pretty-func
```

This will create:

```
/readability/PrettyFuncCheck.h  
/readability/PrettyFuncCheck.cpp
```

=> include it in:

```
/readability/ReadabilityTidyModule.cpp
```



```
#include "../ClangTidy.h"
```

```
namespace clang {  
namespace tidy {  
namespace readability {
```

```
class PrettyFuncCheck : public ClangTidyCheck
```

```
{
```

```
public:
```

```
    PrettyFuncCheck(StringRef Name, ClangTidyContext * Context)  
        : ClangTidyCheck(Name, Context) {}
```

```
    void registerMatchers(ast_matchers::MatchFinder * Finder) override;
```

```
    void check(const ast_matchers::MatchFinder::MatchResult & Result) override;
```

```
};
```

```
} // namespace readability
```

```
} // namespace tidy
```

```
} // namespace clang
```

ClangTidyCheck

Our check needs to operate on the AST level:

- `registerMatchers()` - register clang AST matchers to filter out interesting source locations
- `check()` - provide a function which is called by the Clang whenever a match was found;
we can perform further actions here (eg. emit diagnostics)

If we wanted to analyze code on the **preprocessor** level

=> override `registerPPCallbacks()` method

ClangTidyCheck

```
using namespace ast_matchers;
```

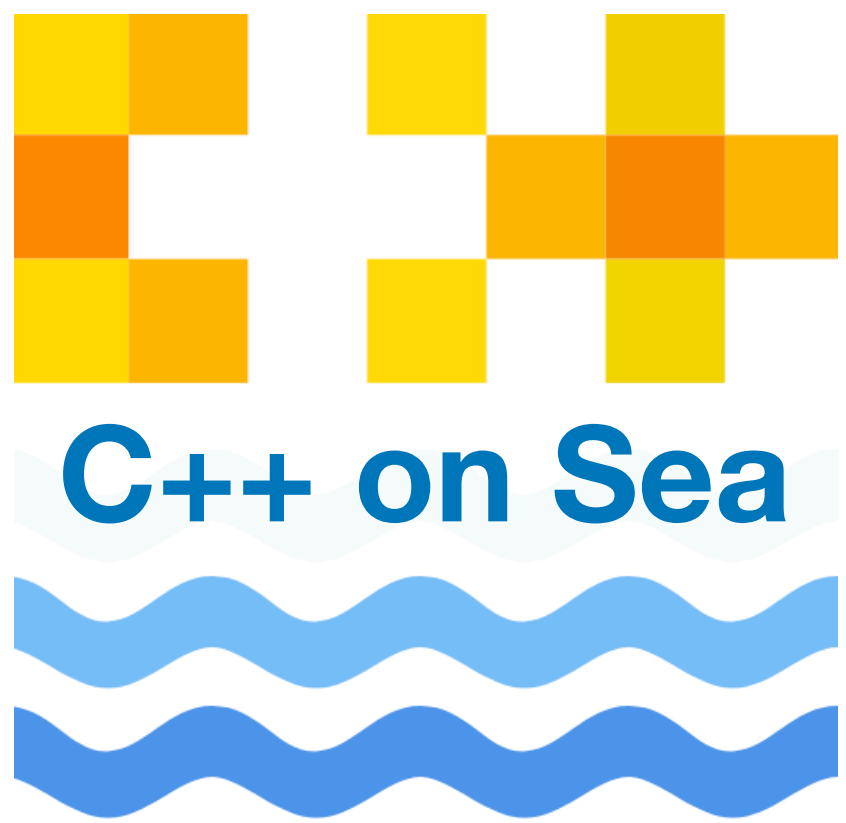
```
void PrettyFuncCheck::registerMatchers(MatchFinder * Finder)  
{  
    Finder->addMatcher(functionDecl().bind("needle"), this);  
}
```



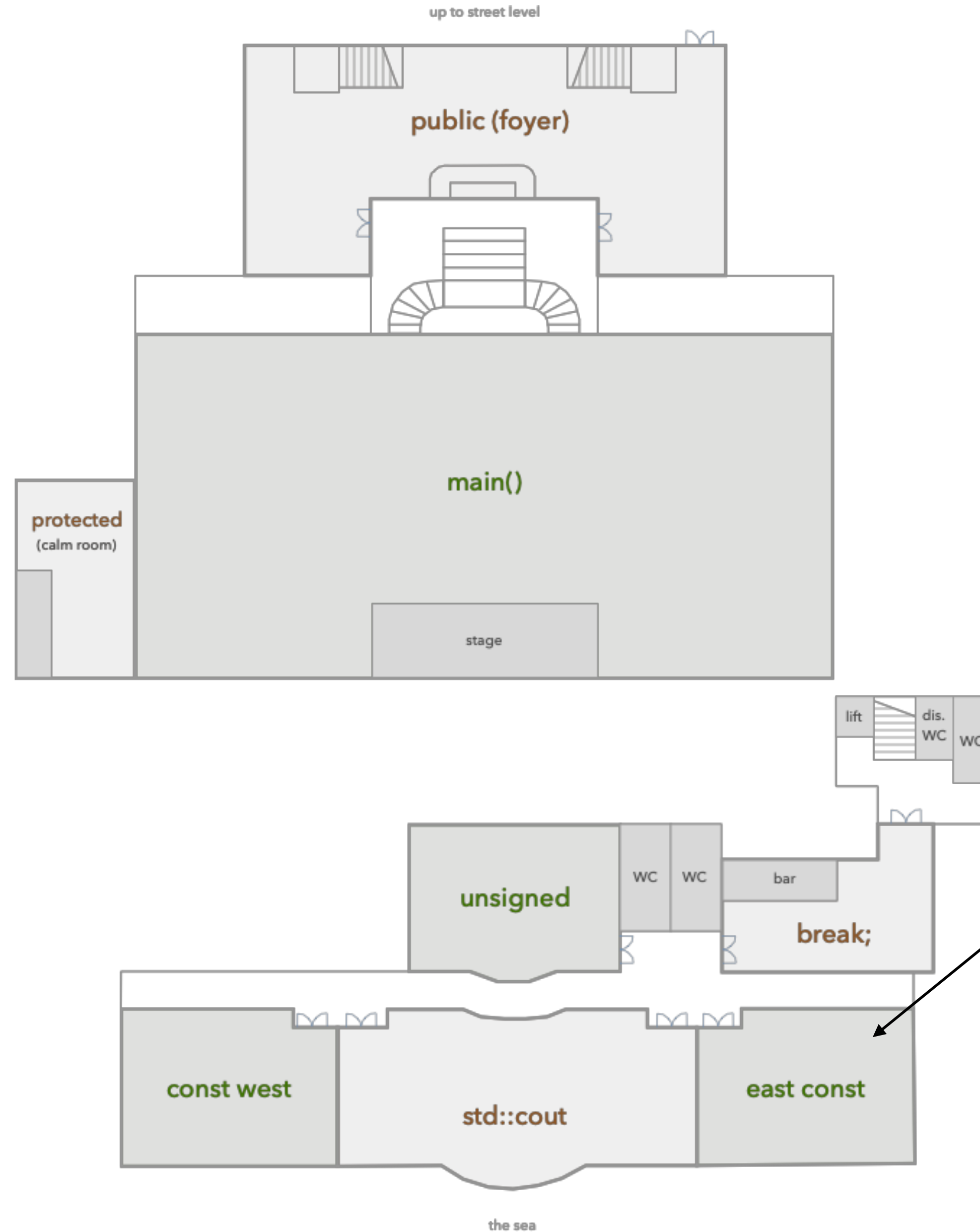
```
using namespace ast_matchers;
```

```
void PrettyFuncCheck::check(const MatchFinder::MatchResult & Result)
{
    const auto * MatchedDecl = Result.Nodes.getNodeAs<FunctionDecl>("needle");

    if (MatchedDecl->getName().startswith_lower("get_"))
    {
        diag(MatchedDecl->getLocation(), "function %0 needs your attention")
            << MatchedDecl
            << FixItHint::CreateInsertion(MatchedDecl->getLocation(), "Get");
    }
}
```



Folkestone Leas Cliff Hall



you are here



```
using namespace ast_matchers;
```

```
void PrettyFuncCheck::check(MatchFinder::MatchResult const & Result)
{
    auto const * MatchedDecl = Result.Nodes.getNodeAs<FunctionDecl>("needle");

    if (MatchedDecl->getName().startswith_lower("get_"))
    {
        diag(MatchedDecl->getLocation(), "function %0 needs your attention")
            << MatchedDecl
            << FixItHint::CreateInsertion(MatchedDecl->getLocation(), "Get");
    }
}
```


east const



Test it...

```
clang-tidy -checks='-*,readability-pretty-func' some/file.cpp
```

Check Options

If a check needs configuration **options**, it can access check-specific options using:

```
Options.get<Type>("SomeOption", DefaultValue)
```

Check Options

```
class PrettyFuncCheck : public ClangTidyCheck
{
    const unsigned    Tolerance; // option 1
    const std::string TargetFunc; // option 2
public:
    PrettyFuncCheck(StringRef Name, ClangTidyContext * Context)
        : ClangTidyCheck(Name, Context),
          Tolerance (Options.get("Tolerance", 0)),
          TargetFunc(Options.get("TargetFunc", "get_")) {}

    void storeOptions(ClangTidyOptions::OptionMap & Opts) override
    {
        Options.store(Opts, "Tolerance",    Tolerance);
        Options.store(Opts, "TargetFunc",    TargetFunc);
    }
}
```

.clang-tidy

CheckOptions:

- key: readability-pretty-func.Tolerance a1
value: 123 b1
- key: readability-pretty-func.TargetFunc a2
value: 'get_' b2

clang-tidy

-config="{CheckOptions: [{key: a1, value: b1}, {key: a2, value: b2}]}" ...

Testing Our Check

Write some test units...

```
% ninja check-clang-tools
```

or

```
% make check-clang-tools
```

```
check_clang_tidy.py
```


Debug AST Matcher

```
% clang-check -ast-dump my_source.cpp --
```

```
TranslationUnitDecl 0x2b3cd20 <<invalid sloc>> <invalid sloc>
|-TypedefDecl 0x2b3d258 <<invalid sloc>> <invalid sloc> implicit __int128_t '__int128'
|-TypedefDecl 0x2b3d2b8 <<invalid sloc>> <invalid sloc> implicit __uint128_t 'unsigned __int128'
|-TypedefDecl 0x2b3d698 <<invalid sloc>> <invalid sloc> implicit __builtin_va_list '__va_list_tag [1]'
```

```
|-CXXRecordDecl 0x2b3d6e8 </test.cpp:1:1, line:3:1> line:1:8 referenced struct A definition
| |-CXXRecordDecl 0x2b3d800 <col:1, col:8> col:8 implicit struct A
| `--CXXMethodDecl 0x2b3d8e0 <line:2:9, col:19> col:14 f 'void (void)'
```

```
|   `--CompoundStmt 0x2b3d9b8 <col:18, col:19>
`--CXXRecordDecl 0x2b3d9d0 <line:5:1, line:7:1> line:5:8 struct B definition
  |-public 'struct A'
  |-CXXRecordDecl 0x2b85050 <col:1, col:8> col:8 implicit struct B
  |-CXXMethodDecl 0x2b85100 <line:6:3, col:21> col:16 f 'void (void)' virtual
  | `--CompoundStmt 0x2b854f8 <col:20, col:21>
```

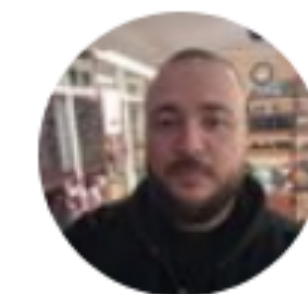
... <https://clang.llvm.org/docs/LibASTMatchersReference.html>

More custom tidy checks...

There's never too many sanitizers 🧐

- [ParmeSan](#)
Catch cheesy comments.
- [BipartiSan](#)
Find code that uses two different containers in a complimentary way.
- [ArtiSan](#)
Find code that took the writer a very long time to do and can be replaced with a common well tested library.

<https://twitter.com/olafurw/status/1085544102870044674?s=21>

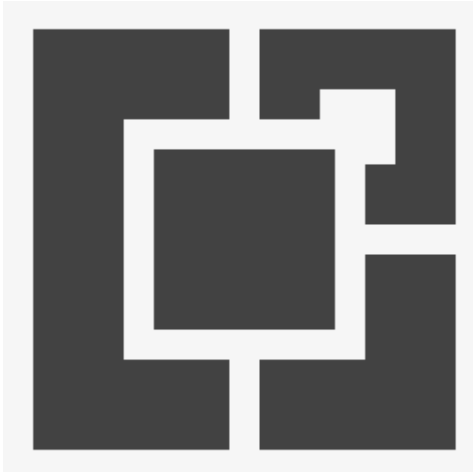


Ólafur Waage
@olafurw

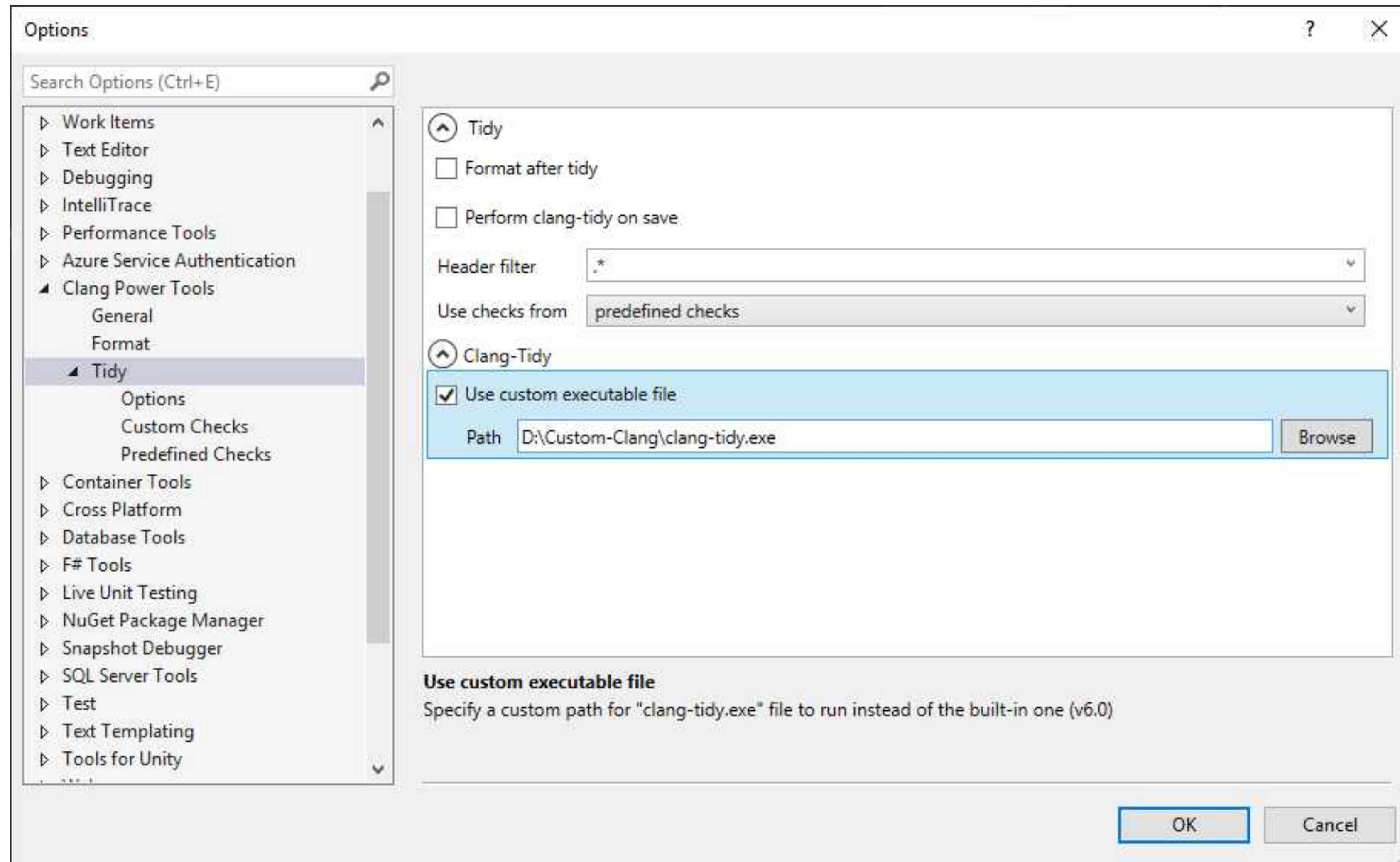
**Write custom checks for your needs
(project specific)**

Run them regularly !





Configure The "Clang Power Tools" Visual Studio Extension



← your custom
clang-tidy

2018 Theme Of The Year For Me:

STRINGS



Enough `string_view` to hang ourselves

CppCon 2018

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xwP4YCP_0q0



These Aren't the COM Objects You're Looking For

CppCon 2018



Part 1 of N: Strings

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T_1zutlBHs0

String related checks



clang-tidy

- `abseil-string-find-startswith`
- `boost-use-to-string`
- `bugprone-string-constructor`
- `bugprone-string-integer-assignment`
- `bugprone-string-literal-with-embedded-nul`
- `bugprone-suspicious-string-compare`
- `modernize-raw-string-literal`
- `performance-faster-string-find`
- `performance-inefficient-string-concatenation`
- `readability-redundant-string-cstr`
- `readability-redundant-string-init`
- `readability-string-compare`

<https://clang.llvm.org/extra/clang-tidy/checks/list.html>



bugprone-dangling-handle

” Detect dangling references in value handles like `std::string_view`.

These dangling references can be a result of constructing handles from temporary values, where the temporary is destroyed soon after the handle is created.

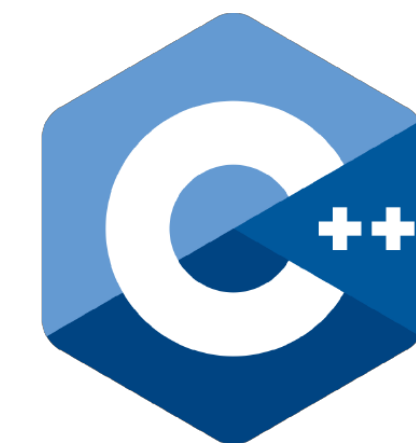
<https://clang.llvm.org/extra/clang-tidy/checks/bugprone-dangling-handle.html>



Lifetime profile v1.0

<https://herbsutter.com/2018/09/20/lifetime-profile-v1-0-posted/>

- “ A dangling `string_view`, which is important because it turns out to be **easy** to convert a `std::string` to a `string_view`, so that **dangling is almost the default behavior**.



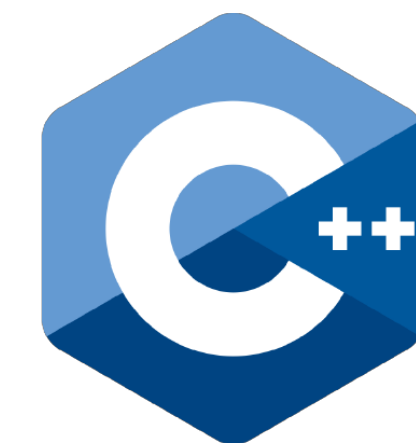
CppCoreGuidelines

<https://github.com/isocpp/CppCoreGuidelines/blob/master/docs/Lifetime.pdf>

Lifetime profile v1.0

<https://herbsutter.com/2018/09/20/lifetime-profile-v1-0-posted/>

```
void example_2_6_2_1()
{
    std::string_view s = "foo"s;    // A
    s[0];    // ERROR (lifetime.3): 's' was invalidated when
            // temporary "foo"s' was destroyed (line A)
}
```



CppCoreGuidelines

<https://github.com/isocpp/CppCoreGuidelines/blob/master/docs/Lifetime.pdf>

Lifetime profile v1.0

<https://herbsutter.com/2018/09/20/lifetime-profile-v1-0-posted/>

```
<source>:7:5: warning: passing a dangling pointer as argument [-Wlifetime]
    s[0];                // ERROR (lifetime.3): 's' was invalidated when
    ^
<source>:6:32: note: temporary was destroyed at the end of the full expression
    std::string_view s = "foo"s;                // A
                        ^
```

1 warning generated.
Compiler returned: 0

```
clang -Wlifetime
```



CppCoreGuidelines

<https://github.com/isocpp/CppCoreGuidelines/blob/master/docs/Lifetime.pdf>

Lifetime profile v1.0

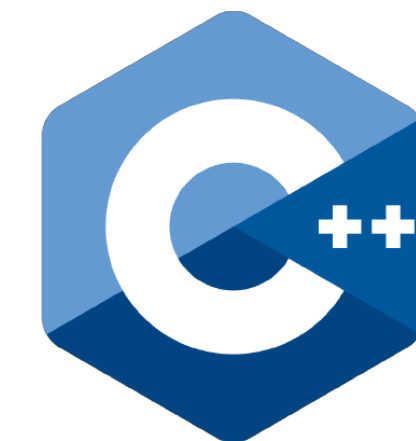
<https://herbsutter.com/2018/09/20/lifetime-profile-v1-0-posted/>

CppCon 2018

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjnp3P9x5jA>

Implementing the C++ Core Guidelines' Lifetime Safety Profile in Clang

Matthias Gehre & Gabor Horvath



CppCoreGuidelines

<https://github.com/isocpp/CppCoreGuidelines/blob/master/docs/Lifetime.pdf>



Explore Further

A new series of blog articles on [Visual C++ Team blog](#) by [Stephen Kelly](#)

Exploring Clang Tooling, Part 0: Building Your Code with Clang

<https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/vcblog/2018/09/18/exploring-clang-tooling-part-0-building-your-code-with-clang/>

Exploring Clang Tooling, Part 1: Extending Clang-Tidy

<https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/vcblog/2018/10/19/exploring-clang-tooling-part-1-extending-clang-tidy/>

Exploring Clang Tooling, Part 2: Examining the Clang AST with clang-query

<https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/vcblog/2018/10/23/exploring-clang-tooling-part-2-examining-the-clang-ast-with-clang-query/>



Explore Further

A new series of blog articles on [Visual C++ Team blog](#) by [Stephen Kelly](#)

Exploring Clang Tooling, Part 3: Rewriting Code with clang-tidy

<https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/vcblog/2018/11/06/exploring-clang-tooling-part-3-rewriting-code-with-clang-tidy/>

Exploring Clang Tooling: Using Build Tools with clang-tidy

<https://blogs.msdn.microsoft.com/vcblog/2018/11/27/exploring-clang-tooling-using-build-tools-with-clang-tidy/>



Explore Further

More blog articles by [Stephen Kelly](#)

Future Developments in clang-query

<https://steveire.wordpress.com/2018/11/11/future-developments-in-clang-query/>

Composing AST Matchers in clang-tidy

<https://steveire.wordpress.com/2018/11/20/composing-ast-matchers-in-clang-tidy/>



Explore Further



Refactor your codebase with Clang tooling

Stephen Kelly

code::dive 2018

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= T-5pWQVxeE](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=T-5pWQVxeE)

<https://steveire.wordpress.com/2019/01/02/refactor-with-clang-tooling-at-codedive-2018/>



Explore Further

A new Visual Studio [extension](#) is available in the **Marketplace**:

A screenshot of the Visual Studio Marketplace interface. At the top, it says "Visual Studio | Marketplace". Below that is a breadcrumb trail: "Visual Studio > Tools > LLVM Compiler Toolchain". The main content area features a square icon of the dragon logo on the left. To its right, the title "LLVM Compiler Toolchain" is displayed in a large, bold font. Underneath the title, it says "LLVM Extensions" followed by a download icon, "1,432 installs", and a five-star rating with "(2)" reviews. A short description reads: "Allows the LLVM Compiler Toolchain (installed separately) to be used from within Visual Studio to build C/C++ Projects." At the bottom of this section is a green "Download" button. To the right of the screenshot, the word "FREE" is written in large, bold, green capital letters.

<https://marketplace.visualstudio.com/items?itemName=LLVMExtensions.llvm-toolchain>

Better Tools in Your Clang Toolbox



www.clangpowertools.com



facebook.com/ClangPowerTools



[@ClangPowerTools](https://twitter.com/ClangPowerTools)



CppCast

```
auto CppCast = pod_cast<C++>("http://cppcast.com");
```



Rob Irving

@robwirving

Jason Turner

@lefticus

<http://cpp.chat>

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsefcSZGxO9ITBqFbsV3sJg/>

<https://overcast.fm/itunes1378325120/cpp-chat>



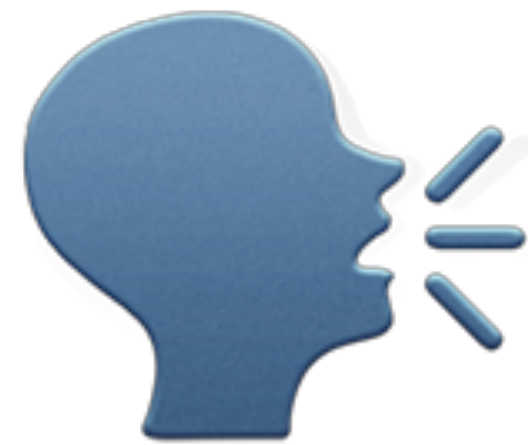
Jon Kalb

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Questions



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