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Subject: `_pick` understanding  
Posted by [kohait00](#) on Tue, 27 Apr 2010 19:08:52 GMT  
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hi there,

in  
[http://www.ultimatepp.org/srcdoc\\$Core\\$pick\\_\\$en-us.html](http://www.ultimatepp.org/srcdoc$Core$pick_$en-us.html)

there is `_pick` explained as

```
#define _pick const
```

but when i look in code the `_pick` definition in MSC environment is empty.. why? setting it to `const` there as well compiles well..  
is there any thing special to MSC to consider? just out of curiosity..

Defs.h:277

```
#ifndef COMPILER_MSC  
#define pick_  
#else  
#define pick_ const  
#endif
```

another question:

Topt.h:252

```
template <class T, class B = EmptyClass>  
class DeepCopyOption : public B {  
public:  
    friend T& operator<<=(T& dest, const T& src)  
    { if(&dest != &src) { (&dest)->T::~~T(); ::new(&dest) T(src, 1); } return dest; }  
    friend void DeepCopyConstruct(void *dest, const T& src)  
    { ::new (dest) T(src, 0); }  
    friend T *DeepCopyNew(const T& src)  
    { return ::new T(src, 0); }  
};
```

uses 1 for param in `<<=` operator while link above also states that the second int parameter is just for distinction and ignored. is it evaluated anywhere? maybe to indicate a reuse??

IMHO `_pick` should be explained a bit better, i understand the problem leading to `_pick` solution, but especially the explanation

Quote:

C++ disallows binding temporaries to non-const references - and that is unfortunately just the thing we need to do here, as we need to change the source temporary returned from a function.

should be visualised by a (not permitted) code snippet as well.

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Subject: Re: `_pick` understanding

Posted by [cbpporter](#) on Wed, 28 Apr 2010 09:27:30 GMT

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I believe that the different defines are because in default mode, MSC is not 100% compliant with C++ standard and is a little more allowing than it should be. Basically, it allows you to not use `const` in some cases where `const` should be used. This dates back from the golden era of MFC AFAIK.

Please correct me if I'm wrong.

I would like to see `const` added to `pick` for MSC too on a pure ideological level, but I have no practical consideration that would make me change that.

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Subject: Re: `_pick` understanding

Posted by [kohait00](#) on Wed, 28 Apr 2010 18:38:15 GMT

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as far as trying, it works so far...

any ideas on the `int` value in special copy constructor, why sometimes 0 sometimes 1..?

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Subject: Re: `_pick` understanding

Posted by [mirek](#) on Thu, 29 Apr 2010 21:38:29 GMT

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cbpporter wrote on Wed, 28 April 2010 05:27: believe that the different defines are because in default mode, MSC is not 100% compliant with C++ standard and is a little more allowing than it should be. Basically, it allows you to not use `const` in some cases where `const` should be used. This dates back from the golden era of MFC AFAIK.

Please correct me if I'm wrong.

You are right.

Quote:

I would like to see `const` added to `pick` for MSC too on a pure ideological level, but I have no

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practical consideration that would make me change that.

There is a practical reason why we "exploit" this MSC bug:

Doing so, we are able to catch some pick semantics bugs at compile time. E.g.

```
void Foo(const Vector<int>& b) {  
    Vector<int> a;  
    a = b;  
}
```

does not compile with MSC (which is correct).

(Frankly, I believe that M\$ got it right here and standard has it wrong

Note: Thankfully M\$ seems to use its own semantics in MFC in some places, therefore they perhaps have to keep this non-compliance to standard.

Mirek

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Subject: Re: \_pick understanding  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Thu, 29 Apr 2010 21:40:08 GMT  
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kohait00 wrote on Wed, 28 April 2010 14:38as far as trying, it works so far...

any ideas on the int value in special copy constructor, why sometimes 0 sometimes 1..?

The parameter is there only to distinguish the copy constructor. The value is ignored.

(Frankly, if I would do this again, I would probably used some sort of enum or other special type. But that would be only a minor difference).

Mirek

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Subject: Re: \_pick understanding  
Posted by [kohait00](#) on Fri, 30 Apr 2010 07:17:53 GMT  
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thanks all, that claerified it a bit

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