CFStringTokenizer Reference

Core Foundation > Internationalization



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CFStringTokenizer Reference

Derived From: CFType

Framework: CoreFoundation/CoreFoundation.h

Companion guide Strings Programming Guide for Core Foundation

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h

Overview

CFStringTokenizer allows you tokenize strings into words, sentences or paragraphs in a language-neutral way. It supports languages such as Japanese and Chinese that do not delimit words by spaces, as well as de-compounding German compounds. You can obtain Latin transcription for tokens. It also provides language identification API.

You can use a CFStringTokenizer to break a string into tokens (sub-strings) on the basis of words, sentences, or paragraphs. When you create a tokenizer, you can supply options to further modify the tokenization—see "Tokenization Modifiers" (page 13).

In addition, with CFStringTokenizer:

- You can de-compound German compounds
- You can identify the language used in a string (using CFStringTokenizerCopyBestStringLanguage (page 8))
- You can obtain Latin transcription for tokens

To find a token that includes the character specified by character index and set it as the current token, you call CFStringTokenizerGoToTokenAtIndex (page 11). To advance to the next token and set it as the current token, you call CFStringTokenizerAdvanceToNextToken (page 7). To get the range of current token, you call CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentTokenRange (page 11). You can use CFStringTokenizerCopyCurrentTokenAttribute (page 8) to get the attribute of the current token. If the current token is a compound, you can call CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentSubTokens (page 10) to retrieve the subtokens or derived subtokens contained in the compound token. To guess the language of a string, you call CFStringTokenizerCopyBestStringLanguage (page 8).

CFStringTokenizer replaces the Language Analysis Manager (see Language Analysis Manager Reference). The Language Analysis Manager API provides access to one specific language engine at a time. For example you can create an analysis environment for Japanese tokenization, but it can't then be used to tokenize Chinese. Such API is good when you develop a language specific applications that handle a specific language such as input methods. It is not, however, convenient when you develop an internationalized applications which

handle text in language neutral way. Conceptually, CFStringTokenizer provides a higher level API that supports typical tasks of internationalized applications. With CFStringTokenizer you can tokenize a string without knowing the language.

The following Language Analysis Manager functionality is not available with CFStringTokenizer:

- Obtaining the part of speech for a token
- Obtaining alternative tokenization
- Kana-Kanji conversion

Functions by Task

Creating a Tokenizer

CFStringTokenizerCreate (page 9)

Returns a tokenizer for a given string.

Setting the String

CFStringTokenizerSetString (page 12)
Sets the string for a tokenizer.

Changing the Location

CFStringTokenizerAdvanceToNextToken (page 7)

Advances the tokenizer to the next token and sets that as the current token.

CFStringTokenizerGoToTokenAtIndex (page 11)

Finds a token that includes the character at a given index, and set it as the current token.

Getting Information About the Current Token

CFStringTokenizerCopyCurrentTokenAttribute (page 8)

Returns a given attribute of the current token.

CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentTokenRange (page 11)

Returns the range of the current token.

CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentSubTokens (page 10)

Retrieves the subtokens or derived subtokens contained in the compound token.

Identifying a Language

CFStringTokenizerCopyBestStringLanguage (page 8)

Guesses a language of a given string and returns the guess as a BCP 47 string.

Getting the CFStringTokenizer Type ID

CFStringTokenizerGetTypeID (page 11)

Returns the type ID for CFStringTokenizer.

Functions

CFStringTokenizerAdvanceToNextToken

Advances the tokenizer to the next token and sets that as the current token.

```
CFStringTokenizerTokenType CFStringTokenizerAdvanceToNextToken (
    CFStringTokenizerRef tokenizer
);
```

Parameters

tokenizer

A CFStringTokenizer object.

Return Value

The type of the token if the tokenizer succeeded in finding a token and setting it as current token. Returns kCFStringTokenizerTokenNone if the tokenizer failed to find a token. For possible values, see "Token Types" (page 15).

Discussion

If there is no preceding call to CFStringTokenizerGoToTokenAtIndex (page 11) or

CFStringTokenizerAdvanceToNextToken, the function finds the first token in the range specified by the CFStringTokenizerCreate (page 9). If there is a preceding, successful, call to

CFStringTokenizerGoToTokenAtIndex (page 11) or CFStringTokenizerAdvanceToNextToken and there is a current token, proceeds to the next token. If a token is found, it is set as the current token and the function returns true; otherwise the current token is invalidates and the function returns false.

You can obtain the range and attribute of the token calling

CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentTokenRange (page 11) and

CFStringTokenizerCopyCurrentTokenAttribute (page 8). If the token is a compound (with type kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasSubTokensMask or

kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasDerivedSubTokensMask), you can obtain its subtokens and (or) derived subtokens by calling CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentSubTokens (page 10).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

See Also

CFStringTokenizerGoToTokenAtIndex (page 11)

Functions 7

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

CFStringTokenizerCopyBestStringLanguage

Guesses a language of a given string and returns the guess as a BCP 47 string.

```
CFStringRef CFStringTokenizerCopyBestStringLanguage (
    CFStringRef string,
    CFRange range
);
```

Parameters

string

The string to test to identify the language.

range

The range of string to use for the test. If NULL, the first few hundred characters of the string are examined.

Return Value

A language in BCP 47 form, or NULL if the language in string could not be identified. Ownership follows the Create Rule.

Discussion

The result is not guaranteed to be accurate. Typically, the function requires 200-400 characters to reliably guess the language of a string.

CRStringTokenizer recognizes the following languages:

ar (Arabic), bg (Bulgarian), cs (Czech), da (Danish), de (German), el (Greek), en (English), es (Spanish), fi (Finnish), fr (French), he (Hebrew), hr (Croatian), hu (Hungarian), is (Icelandic), it (Italian), ja (Japanese), ko (Korean), nb (Norwegian Bokmål), nl (Dutch), pl (Polish), pt (Portuguese), ro (Romanian), ru (Russian), sk (Slovak), sv (Swedish), th (Thai), tr (Turkish), uk (Ukrainian), zh-Hans (Simplified Chinese), zh-Hant (Traditional Chinese).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

CFStringTokenizerCopyCurrentTokenAttribute

Returns a given attribute of the current token.

```
CFTypeRef CFStringTokenizerCopyCurrentTokenAttribute (
    CFStringTokenizerRef tokenizer,
    CFOptionFlags attribute
);
```

Parameters

tokenizer

A CFStringTokenizer object.

```
attribute
```

The token attribute to obtain. The value must be

 $\label{lem:kcfstringTokenizerAttributeLatinTranscription, or $$ kCFStringTokenizerAttributeLanguage. $$$

Return Value

The attribute specified by attribute of the current token, or NULL if the current token does not have the specified attribute or there is no current token. Ownership follows the Create Rule.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

CFStringTokenizerCreate

Returns a tokenizer for a given string.

```
CFStringTokenizerRef CFStringTokenizerCreate (
    CFAllocatorRef alloc,
    CFStringRef string,
    CFRange range,
    CFOptionFlags options,
    CFLocaleRef locale
);
```

Parameters

alloc

The allocator to use to allocate memory for the new object. Pass NULL or kCFAllocatorDefault to use the current default allocator.

string

The string to tokenize.

range

The range of the characters in string to tokenize.

options

A tokenization unit option that specifies how string should be tokenized. The options can be modified by adding unit modifier options to tell the tokenizer to prepare specified attributes when it tokenizes string.

For possible values, see "Tokenization Modifiers" (page 13).

locale

A locale that specifies language- or region-specific behavior for the tokenization. You can pass NULL to use the default system locale, although this is typically not recommended—instead use CFLocaleCopyCurrent to specify the locale of the current user.

For more information, see "Tokenization Modifiers" (page 13).

Return Value

A tokenizer to analyze the range range of string for the given locale and options. Ownership follows the Create Rule.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentSubTokens

Retrieves the subtokens or derived subtokens contained in the compound token.

```
CFIndex CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentSubTokens (
    CFStringTokenizerRef tokenizer,
    CFRange *ranges,
    CFIndex maxRangeLength,
    CFMutableArrayRef derivedSubTokens
);
```

Parameters

tokenizer

A CFStringTokenizer object.

tokenizer

Upon return, an array of CFRanges containing the ranges of subtokens. The ranges are relative to the string specified to CFStringTokenizerCreate. This parameter can be NULL.

maxRangeLength

The maximum number of ranges to return.

derivedSubTokens

A CFMutableArray to which the derived subtokens are to be added. This parameter can be NULL.

Return Value

The number of ranges returned.

Discussion

If token type is kCFStringTokenizerTokenNone, the ranges array and derivedSubTokens array are untouched and the return value is 0.

If token type is kCFStringTokenizerTokenNormal, the ranges array has one item filled in with the entire range of the token (if maxRangeLength >= 1) and a string taken from the entire token range is added to the derivedSubTokens array and the return value is 1.

If token type is kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasSubTokensMask or

kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasDerivedSubTokensMask, the ranges array is filled in with as many items as there are subtokens (up to a limit of maxRangeLength).

The derivedSubTokens array will have sub tokens added even when the sub token is a substring of the token. If token type is kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasSubTokensMask, the ordinary non-derived subtokens are added to the derivedSubTokens array.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentTokenRange

Returns the range of the current token.

```
CFRange CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentTokenRange (
  CFStringTokenizerRef tokenizer
);
```

Parameters

tokenizer

A CFStringTokenizer object.

Return Value

The range of the current token, or {kCFNotFound, 0} if there is no current token.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

CFStringTokenizerGetTypeID

Returns the type ID for CFStringTokenizer.

```
CFTypeID CFStringTokenizerGetTypeID (
  void
);
```

Return Value

The type ID for CFStringTokenizer.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

CFStringTokenizerGoToTokenAtIndex

Finds a token that includes the character at a given index, and set it as the current token.

```
CFStringTokenizerTokenType CFStringTokenizerGoToTokenAtIndex (
  CFStringTokenizerRef tokenizer,
  CFIndex index
);
```

Parameters

tokenizer

A CFStringTokenizer object.

index

The index of a character in the string for tokenizer.

Functions 2009-01-06 | © 2003, 2009 Apple Inc. All Rights Reserved. 11

Return Value

The type of the token if the tokenizer succeeded in finding a token and setting it as the current token. Returns kCFStringTokenizerTokenNone if the tokenizer failed to find a token. For possible values, see "Token Types" (page 15).

Discussion

You can obtain the range and attribute of the token calling

CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentTokenRange (page 11) and

CFStringTokenizerCopyCurrentTokenAttribute (page 8). If the token is a compound (with type kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasSubTokensMask or

kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasDerivedSubTokensMask), you can obtain its subtokens and (or) derived subtokens by calling CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentSubTokens (page 10).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

See Also

CFStringTokenizerAdvanceToNextToken (page 7)

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

CFStringTokenizerSetString

Sets the string for a tokenizer.

```
void CFStringTokenizerSetString (
    CFStringTokenizerRef tokenizer,
    CFStringRef string,
    CFRange range
);
```

Parameters

tokenizer

A tokenizer.

string

The string for the tokenizer to tokenize.

range

The range of string to tokenize. The range of characters within the string to be tokenized. The specified range must not exceed the length of the string.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

Data Types

CFStringTokenizerRef

A reference to a CFStringTokenizer object.

typedef struct __CFStringTokenizer * CFStringTokenizerRef;

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

CFS tring Token Type

Token types returned by CFStringTokenizerGoToTokenAtIndex (page 11) and CFStringTokenizerAdvanceToNextToken (page 7).

typedef CFOptionFlags CFStringTokenizerTokenType;

Discussion

For possible values, see "Token Types" (page 15).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

Constants

Tokenization Modifiers

Tokenization options are used with CFStringTokenizerCreate (page 9) to specify how the string should be tokenized

Data Types 13

```
enum {
    kCFStringTokenizerUnitWord = 0,
    kCFStringTokenizerUnitSentence = 1,
    kCFStringTokenizerUnitParagraph = 2,
    kCFStringTokenizerUnitLineBreak = 3,
    kCFStringTokenizerUnitWordBoundary = 4,
    kCFStringTokenizerAttributeLatinTranscription = 1L << 16,
    kCFStringTokenizerAttributeLanguage = 1L << 17
};</pre>
```

Constants

kCFStringTokenizerUnitWord

Specifies that a string should be tokenized by word. The <code>locale</code> parameter of <code>CFStringTokenizerCreate</code> (page 9) is ignored.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

kCFStringTokenizerUnitSentence

Specifies that a string should be tokenized by sentence. The <code>locale</code> parameter of <code>CFStringTokenizerCreate</code> (page 9) is ignored.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

kCFStringTokenizerUnitParagraph

Specifies that a string should be tokenized by paragraph. The <code>locale</code> parameter of <code>CFStringTokenizerCreate</code> (page 9) is ignored.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

kCFStringTokenizerUnitLineBreak

Specifies that a string should be tokenized by line break. The *locale* parameter of CFStringTokenizerCreate (page 9) is ignored.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

kCFStringTokenizerUnitWordBoundary

Specifies that a string should be tokenized by locale-sensitive word boundary.

You can use this constant in double-click range detection and whole word search. It is locale-sensitive. If the locale is en_US_POSIX, a colon (U+003A) is treated as a word separator. If the <code>locale</code> parameter of <code>CFStringTokenizerCreate</code> (page 9) is <code>NULL</code>, the locale from the global

AppleTextBreakLocale preference is used if it is available; otherwise the locale defaults to the first locale in AppleLanguages.

kCFStringTokenizerUnitWordBoundary also returns space between words as a token.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

kCFStringTokenizerAttributeLatinTranscription

Used with kCFStringTokenizerUnitWord, tells the tokenizer to prepare the Latin transcription when it tokenizes the string.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

```
kCFStringTokenizerAttributeLanguage
```

Tells the tokenizer to prepare the language (specified as an RFC 3066bis string) when it tokenizes the string.

```
Used with kCFStringTokenizerUnitSentence (page 14) or kCFStringTokenizerUnitParagraph (page 14).
```

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

Discussion

You use the tokenization unit options with CFStringTokenizerCreate (page 9) to specify how a string should be tokenized.

You use the modifiers together with a tokenization unit to modify the way the string is tokenized.

You use the attribute specifiers to tell the tokenizer to prepare the specified attribute when it tokenizes the given string. You can retrieve the attribute value by calling

CFStringTokenizerCopyCurrentTokenAttribute (page 8) with one of the attribute options.

The locale sensitivity of the tokenization unit options may change in a future release.

Declared In

CFStringTokenizer.h

Token Types

Token types returned by CFStringTokenizerGoToTokenAtIndex (page 11) and CFStringTokenizerAdvanceToNextToken (page 7).

```
enum {
    kCFStringTokenizerTokenNone
    kCFStringTokenizerTokenNormal
    kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasSubTokensMask
    kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasDerivedSubTokensMask
    kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasHasNumbersMask
    kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasNonLettersMask
    kCFStringTokenizerTokenIsCJWordMask
};
```

Constants

kCFStringTokenizerTokenNone

Has no token.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

kCFStringTokenizerTokenNormal

Has a normal token.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

Constants 15

k CFS tring Token izer Token Has Sub Tokens Mask

Compound token which may contain subtokens but with no derived subtokens.

You can obtain subtokens by calling CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentSubTokens (page 10).

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasDerivedSubTokensMask

Compound token which may contain derived subtokens.

You can obtain subtokens and derived subtokens by calling

 ${\tt CFStringTokenizerGetCurrentSubTokens} \ \ \textbf{(page 10)}.$

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

k CFS tring Token izer Token Has Has Numbers Mask

Appears to contain a number.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

kCFStringTokenizerTokenHasNonLettersMask

Contains punctuation, symbols, and so on.

Given the way Unicode word break works, this means it is a standalone punctuation or symbol character, or a string of such.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

kCFStringTokenizerTokenIsCJWordMask

Contains kana and/or ideographs.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CFStringTokenizer.h.

Discussion

See http://www.unicode.org/reports/tr29/#Word_Boundaries for a detailed description of word boundaries.

Declared In

 ${\tt CFStringTokenizer.h}$

Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to CFStringTokenizer Reference.

Date	Notes
2009-01-06	Added information about the locale sensitivity of each token unit used with the CFStringTokenizerCreate function.
2007-10-31	Added new API.
2007-05-21	New document that describes the opaque typed used to break a string into tokens (sub-strings) on the basis of words, sentences, or paragraphs.

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