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C > AST Format

The provided code implements the AST representation described below.

Data Types

The AST type is an abstract class which provides a tag and a source code line number. The tag identifies the kind of node; the line number is stored for use in error messages.

There are three subclasses of the AST class:

- AST_nonleaf used for node types which have a fixed number of children (but at least one).
- AST_kary used for node types which have a variable number of children, from zero up.
- AST_leaf used for node types which can *never* have any children.

Static factory methods in the AST base class are normally used to instantiate AST nodes. These are as follows.

```
AST.NonLeaf( NodeType tag, int ln, ... )
AST.AST_kary Kary( NodeType tag, int ln, ... )
AST.Leaf( NodeType tag, int ln, string s )
AST.Leaf( NodeType tag, int ln, int i )
AST.Leaf( NodeType tag, int ln )
```

In each case, the first two parameters are the tag and the source code line number to be stored in the node. For the NonLeaf method, there are one or more additional arguments of type AST which are references to the children of this new node. The children (i.e. subtrees) must have already been constructed. The AST.Kary method constructs a new node of the AST_kary type. There are normally zero children when the node is created ... each subtree is constructed later and added as a child of this node by invoking its AddChild method. However, if there are some initial children already constructed, they can be provided as additional arguments to the Kary method.

There are three versions of the AST. Leaf method. The one with a string argument is used when the node has an associated string value (such as an identifier or a string constant). The one with an extra int argument is used when the node has as associated int value (such as an int constant). The version with no additional argument is used when the leaf node has neither an associated int or string value (such as the value null).

AST Node Tag Type

The tags are implemented as values of an enum type named **NodeType**. Its constants have the following names.

Program, UsingList, DeclList, Const, Struct, Method, FieldList, FieldDecl, IdList, Formals, Formal, Array, Block, LocalDecl, Assign, Call, Actuals, PlusPlus, MinusMinus, If, While, Break, Return, Read, Empty, Add, Sub, Mul, Div, Mod, And, Or, Equals, NotEquals, LessThan, GreaterThan, LessOrEqual, GreaterOrEqual, UnaryMinus, Dot, NewStruct, NewArray, Index, IntConst, StringConst, Ident

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AST Node Types

If the Arity entry shows 0, then the Tag is used for a leaf node type. If it appears as k, then the Tag is used for a k-ary node type.

Tag	Arity	Description
Program	3	Used at root of AST. Children are a using-list, the class name identifier, a list of declarations.
UsingList	k	Children are 0 or more identifiers which were declared after the keyword using.
DeclList	k	Children are 0 or more const, struct or method declarations.
Const	3	A constant declaration; children are the type, the identifier and the value.
Struct	2	A struct declaration; children are the identifier and a list of fields.
FieldList	k	Children are the fields declared inside a struct.
FieldDecl	2	Children are the type and a list of identifiers
IdList	k	Children are 0 or more identifiers
Method	3	A method declaration; children are the identifier, a list of formal parameters, and a method body (a block).
Formals	k	Children are 0 or more formal parameter declarations
Formal	2	Children are a type and an identifier (the name of the formal).
Array	1	Represents an array type; the child is the element type.
Block	k	Children are 0 or more local declarations or statements
LocalDecl	2	Children are a type and a list of identifiers
Assign	2	An assignment statement; children are the LHS and the RHS
Call	2	A method call; children are the method name and the arguments (actual parameters).
Actuals	k	Children are 0 or expressions (to be used as actual parameters).
PlusPlus MinusMinus	1	The child is the operand of a postfix ++ or operator.
If	3	An if statement; children are the test expression, the then-part statement and the else-part statement.
While	2	A while statement; children are the test expression and the statement forming the body.

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Tag	Arity	Description
Break	0	A break statement.
Return	k	A return statement; there is a single optional child, an expression.
Read	2	This is the statement cbio.read(out v); The two children should be the method 'cbio.read' and the variable v.
Empty	0	This is an empty statement. It must also be generated when the <i>else</i> part of an <i>if-statement</i> is omitted.
Add Sub Mul Div Mod	2	An expression where the operator is the binary + - * / or %
And Or	2	An expression where the operator is && or
Equals NotEquals LessThan GreaterThan LessOrEqual GreaterOrEq ual	2	An expression where the operator is == != < > <= or >=
UnaryMinus	1	An expression where the operator is a prefix -
Dot	2	The LHS is an expression and the RHS is an identifier.
NewStruct	1	The child is an identifier providing the name of a struct type.
NewArray	2	The children are the element type of the array and the size.
Index	2	The children are an expression (which is an array or string value) and an index expression
IntConst StringConst	0	Constants
Ident	0	An identifier (which could represent a type, method, variable or property)