

@property (nonatomic, assign) ABAddressBookRef addressBook;
atomic => the synthesized accessors ensure that the value is fully retrieved by the getter or fully set via the setter method, even if the accessors are called simultaneously from different threads. Only one thread of a particular instance of that class can have the control over that object.

nonatomic => You can use the nonatomic property attribute to specify that synthesized accessors simply set or return a value directly, with no guarantees about what happens if that same value is accessed simultaneously from different threads.

assign => assigns the value to the instance variable directly, rather than copying or retaining it.