
SBElementArray Class Reference

Interapplication Communication



2007-05-29



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Apple Inc.
1 Infinite Loop
Cupertino, CA 95014
408-996-1010

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SBElementArray Class Reference

Inherits from	NSMutableArray : NSArray : NSObject
Conforms to	NSCoding (NSArray) NSCopying (NSArray) NSMutableCopying (NSArray) NSFastEnumeration (NSArray) NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/ScriptingBridge.framework
Availability	Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.
Declared in	SBElementArray.h
Related sample code	iChatStatusFromApplication SBSetFinderComment ScriptingBridgeFinder ScriptingBridgeiCal

Overview

`SBElementArray` is subclass of `NSMutableArray` that manages collections of related `SBObject` objects. For example, when you ask the Finder for a list of disks, or ask iTunes for a list of playlists, you get the result back as an `SBElementArray` containing Scripting Bridge objects representing those items.

`SBElementArray` defines methods beyond those of `NSArray` for obtaining individual objects. In addition to `objectAtIndex:`, `SBElementArray` also defines `objectWithName:` (page 9), `objectWithID:` (page 8), and `objectAtLocation:` (page 8).

Subclassing Notes

The `SBElementArray` class is not designed for subclassing.

Tasks

Getting Objects in the Array

- `objectWithName:` (page 9)
Returns the object in the array with the given name.
- `objectWithID:` (page 8)
Returns the object in the array with the given identifier.
- `objectAtLocation:` (page 8)
Returns the object at the given location in the receiver.

Getting the Referenced Array

- `get` (page 7)
Forces evaluation of the receiver, causing the real object to be returned immediately.

Filtering an Element Array

- `arrayByApplyingSelector:` (page 6)
Returns a array containing the results of sending the specified message to each object in the receiver.
- `arrayByApplyingSelector:withObject:` (page 7)
Returns a array containing the results of sending the specified message to each object in the receiver.

Instance Methods

arrayByApplyingSelector:

Returns a array containing the results of sending the specified message to each object in the receiver.

```
- (NSArray *)arrayByApplyingSelector:(SEL)selector
```

Parameters

selector

A selector identifying the message to be sent to each object in the array.

Return Value

A new array containing the results of sending the *selector* message to each object in the receiver, starting with the first object and continuing through the element array to the last object.

Discussion

The method identified by *selector* must not take any arguments and must return an Objective-C object. It should not have the side effect of modifying the receiving array. The order of the items in the result array corresponds to the order of the items in the original array.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

See Also

- [arrayByApplyingSelector:withObject:](#) (page 7)

Declared In

SBElementArray.h

arrayByApplyingSelector:withObject:

Returns a array containing the results of sending the specified message to each object in the receiver.

```
- (NSArray *)arrayByApplyingSelector:(SEL)selector withObject:(id)argument
```

Parameters

selector

A selector identifying the message to be sent to each object in the array.

argument

The value for the parameter of the message identified by *selector*.

Return Value

A new array containing the results of sending the *selector* message to each object in the receiver, starting with the first object and continuing through the element array to the last object.

Discussion

The method identified by *selector* must take a single argument—whose value is provided in *argument*—and must return an Objective-C object. It should not have the side effect of modifying the receiving array. The order of the items in the result array corresponds to the order of the items in the original array.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

See Also

- [arrayByApplyingSelector:](#) (page 6)

Declared In

SBElementArray.h

get

Forces evaluation of the receiver, causing the real object to be returned immediately.

```
- (NSArray *)get
```

Return Value

The object referenced by the receiver.

Discussion

This method forces the evaluation of the current object reference (the receiver), resulting in the return of the referenced object. By default, Scripting Bridge deals with references to objects until you actually request some concrete data from them or until you call the `get` method.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared In

SBElementArray.h

objectAtLocation:

Returns the object at the given location in the receiver.

```
- (id) objectAtLocation:(id)loc
```

Parameters

loc

An object that specifies the absolute position of the object within the array. It can be an integer index, a list of coordinates, a URL, or other determinant. See the discussion for clarification.

Return Value

A reference to the `SBObject` object identified by *loc* or `nil` if the object couldn't be located.

Discussion

This method is a generalization of `objectAtIndex:` for applications where the "index" is not simply an integer. For example, Finder can specify objects using a `NSURL` object as a location. In OSA this is known as "absolute position," a generalization of the notion of "index" in Foundation—it could be an integer, but it doesn't have to be. A single object may even have a number of different "absolute position" values depending on the container.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

See Also

- [objectWithName:](#) (page 9)
- [objectWithID:](#) (page 8)

Related Sample Code

SBSetFinderComment

Declared In

SBElementArray.h

objectWithID:

Returns the object in the array with the given identifier.

```
- (id) objectWithID:(id)identifier
```

Parameters

identifier

The identifier of one of the receiver's objects.

Return Value

A reference to the identified object or `nil` if could not be found.

Discussion

This method is provided as an alternative to `objectAtIndex:` for applications where an identifier is available instead of (or in addition to) an index. A unique ID is generally more stable than an index. For example, it may be more useful to identify a contact in Address Book by its identifier (which doesn't change over time) than by its index in the list of contacts (which can change as contacts are added or removed).

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

See Also

- [objectWithName:](#) (page 9)
- [objectAtLocation:](#) (page 8)

Declared In

SBElementArray.h

objectWithName:

Returns the object in the array with the given name.

```
- (id)objectWithName:(NSString *)name
```

Parameters

name

The name of one of the receiver's objects.

Return Value

A reference to the designated object or `nil` if the object couldn't be found.

Discussion

This method is provided as an alternative to `objectAtIndex:` for applications where a name is available instead of (or in addition to) an index. A name is generally more stable than an index. For example, it is typically more useful to identify a mailbox in Mail by its name than by its index in the list of mailboxes.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

See Also

- [objectWithID:](#) (page 8)
- [objectAtLocation:](#) (page 8)

Declared In

SBElementArray.h

Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *SBElementArray Class Reference*.

Date	Notes
2007-05-29	New document that describes the Scripting Bridge class for dealing with collections of related SObjects.

REVISION HISTORY

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