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# Core Audio Data Types Reference

Audio & Video: Audio



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**Document Revision History 61**

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# Core Audio Data Types Reference

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<b>Framework:</b>	CoreAudio/CoreAudio.h
<b>Declared in</b>	CoreAudioTypes.h

## Overview

This document lists and describes data types and constants used throughout Core Audio. This document also describes a handful of convenience functions for working with these types and constants.

## Functions by Task

### Testing for Native Endian Linear PCM Data

[TestAudioFormatNativeEndian](#) (page 11)

A macro for checking if an `AudioFormatBasicDescription` structure indicates native endian linear PCM data.

[IsAudioFormatNativeEndian](#) (page 11)

A C++ inline function for checking if an `AudioFormatBasicDescription` structure indicates native-endian linear PCM data.

### Getting the Number of Channels From a Layout Tag

[AudioChannelLayoutTag\\_GetNumberOfChannels](#) (page 6)

A macro to get the number of channels from an audio channel layout tag (`AudioChannelLayoutTag` data type).

### Helper Functions for Filling out Core Audio Data Structures

[CalculateLPCMFlags](#) (page 6)

A C++ inline function for calculating the value for the audio stream basic description `mFormatFlags` field for linear PCM data.

[FillOutASBDForLPCM](#) (page 7)

A C++ inline function for filling out an `AudioStreamBasicDescription` to describe linear PCM data.

[FillOutAudioTimeStampWithHostTime](#) (page 9)

A C++ inline function for filling out an `AudioTimeStamp` structure with a host time.

[FillOutAudioTimeStampWithSampleTime](#) (page 10)

A C++ inline function for filling out an `AudioTimeStamp` structure with a sample time.

[FillOutAudioTimeStampWithSampleAndHostTime](#) (page 9)

A C++ inline function for filling out an `AudioTimeStamp` structure with a sample time and a host time.

## Functions

### **AudioChannelLayoutTag\_GetNumberOfChannels**

A macro to get the number of channels from an audio channel layout tag (`AudioChannelLayoutTag` data type).

```
#define AudioChannelLayoutTag_GetNumberOfChannels(layoutTag)
    ((UInt32)((layoutTag) & 0x0000FFFF))
```

#### **Parameters**

*layoutTag*

The audio channel layout tag to examine.

#### **Return Value**

The number of channels the tag indicates.

#### **Discussion**

The low 16 bits of an audio channel layout tag gives the number of channels, unless the layout tag is `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_UseChannelDescriptions` or `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_UseChannelBitmap`, which specify other ways of defining the layout.

#### **Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

#### **Related Sample Code**

`QTAudioContextInsert`

`QTAudioExtractionPanel`

#### **Declared In**

`CoreAudioTypes.h`

### **CalculateLPCMFlags**

A C++ inline function for calculating the value for the audio stream basic description `mFormatFlags` field for linear PCM data.

```

#if defined(__cplusplus)
inline UInt32 CalculateLPCMFlags (
    UInt32 inValidBitsPerChannel,
    UInt32 inTotalBitsPerChannel,
    bool inIsFloat,
    bool inIsBigEndian,
    bool inIsNonInterleaved = false
) {
    return
        (inIsFloat ? kAudioFormatFlagIsFloat : kAudioFormatFlagIsSignedInteger) |
        (inIsBigEndian ? ((UInt32)kAudioFormatFlagIsBigEndian) : 0) |
        ((!inIsFloat && (inValidBitsPerChannel == inTotalBitsPerChannel)) ?
            kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked : kAudioFormatFlagIsAlignedHigh) |
        (inIsNonInterleaved ? ((UInt32)kAudioFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved) : 0);
}
#endif

```

**Parameters***inValidBitsPerChannel*

The number of valid bits in each sample.

*inTotalBitsPerChannel*

The total number of bits in each sample.

*inIsFloat*Use `true` if the samples are represented with floating point numbers.*inIsBigEndian*Use `true` if the samples are big endian.*inIsNonInterleaved*Use `true` if the samples are noninterleaved.**Return Value**A `UInt32` value containing the calculated format flags.**Discussion**

This function does not support specifying sample formats that are either unsigned integer or low-aligned.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

**FillOutASBDForLPCM**A C++ inline function for filling out an `AudioStreamBasicDescription` to describe linear PCM data.

```

#if defined(__cplusplus)
inline void FillOutASBDForLPCM (
    AudioStreamBasicDescription &outASBD,
    Float64 inSampleRate,
    UInt32 inChannelsPerFrame,
    UInt32 inValidBitsPerChannel,
    UInt32 inTotalBitsPerChannel,
    bool inIsFloat,
    bool inIsBigEndian,
    bool inIsNonInterleaved = false
) {
    outASBD.mSampleRate = inSampleRate;
    outASBD.mFormatID = kAudioFormatLinearPCM;
    outASBD.mFormatFlags = CalculateLPCMFlags (
        inValidBitsPerChannel,
        inTotalBitsPerChannel,
        inIsFloat,
        inIsBigEndian,
        inIsNonInterleaved
    );
    outASBD.mBytesPerPacket =
        (inIsNonInterleaved ? 1 : inChannelsPerFrame) * (inTotalBitsPerChannel/8);
    outASBD.mFramesPerPacket = 1;
    outASBD.mBytesPerFrame =
        (inIsNonInterleaved ? 1 : inChannelsPerFrame) * (inTotalBitsPerChannel/8);
    outASBD.mChannelsPerFrame = inChannelsPerFrame;
    outASBD.mBitsPerChannel = inValidBitsPerChannel;
}
#endif

```

**Parameters***outASBD***On output, a filled-out `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure.***inSampleRate***The number of sample frames per second of the data in the stream.***inChannelsPerFrame***The number of channels in each frame of data.***inValidBitsPerChannel***The number of valid bits in each sample.***inTotalBitsPerChannel***The total number of bits in each sample.***inIsFloat***Use `true` if the samples are represented as floating-point numbers.***inIsBigEndian***Use `true` if the samples are big endian.***inIsNonInterleaved***Use `true` if the samples are noninterleaved.****Discussion**

This function does not support specifying sample formats that are either unsigned integer or low-aligned.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

**FillOutAudioTimeStampWithHostTime**

A C++ inline function for filling out an `AudioTimeStamp` structure with a host time.

```
#if defined(__cplusplus)
inline void FillOutAudioTimeStampWithHostTime (
    AudioTimeStamp &outATS,
    UInt64 inHostTime
) {
    outATS.mSampleTime = 0;
    outATS.mHostTime = inHostTime;
    outATS.mRateScalar = 0;
    outATS.mWordClockTime = 0;
    memset (&outATS.mSMPTETime, 0, sizeof (SMPTETime));
    outATS.mFlags = kAudioTimeStampHostTimeValid;
}
#endif
```

**Parameters***outATS*

On output, a filled-out `AudioTimeStamp` structure.

*inHostTime*

The host time to assign to the audio timestamp.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

**FillOutAudioTimeStampWithSampleAndHostTime**

A C++ inline function for filling out an `AudioTimeStamp` structure with a sample time and a host time.

```

#if defined(__cplusplus)
inline void FillOutAudioTimeStampWithSampleAndHostTime (
    AudioTimeStamp &outATS,
    Float64 inSampleTime,
    UInt64 inHostTime
) {
    outATS.mSampleTime = inSampleTime;
    outATS.mHostTime = inHostTime;
    outATS.mRateScalar = 0;
    outATS.mWordClockTime = 0;
    memset (&outATS.mSMPTETime, 0, sizeof (SMPTETime));
    outATS.mFlags = kAudioTimeStampSampleTimeValid |
        kAudioTimeStampHostTimeValid;
}
#endif

```

**Parameters***outATS***On output, a filled-out AudioTimeStamp structure.***inSampleTime***The sample time to assign to the audio timestamp.***inHostTime***The host time to assign to the audio timestamp.****Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

**FillOutAudioTimeStampWithSampleTime**

A C++ inline function for filling out an AudioTimeStamp structure with a sample time.

```

#if defined(__cplusplus)
inline void FillOutAudioTimeStampWithSampleTime (
    AudioTimeStamp &outATS,
    Float64 inSampleTime
) {
    outATS.mSampleTime = inSampleTime;
    outATS.mHostTime = 0;
    outATS.mRateScalar = 0;
    outATS.mWordClockTime = 0;
    memset (&outATS.mSMPTETime, 0, sizeof (SMPTETime));
    outATS.mFlags = kAudioTimeStampSampleTimeValid;
}
#endif

```

**Parameters***outATS***On output, a filled-out AudioTimeStamp structure.***inSampleTime***The sample time to assign to the audio timestamp.**

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

**IsAudioFormatNativeEndian**

A C++ inline function for checking if an `AudioFormatBasicDescription` structure indicates native-endian linear PCM data.

```
#if defined(__cplusplus)
inline bool IsAudioFormatNativeEndian (
    const AudioStreamBasicDescription &f
) {
    return (f.mFormatID == kAudioFormatLinearPCM) &&
           ((f.mFormatFlags & kAudioFormatFlagIsBigEndian) ==
            kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian);
}
#endif
```

**Parameters**

*f*

The `AudioFormatBasicDescription` structure you want to examine.

**Return Value**

A Boolean value indicating whether the `AudioFormatBasicDescription` structure specifies native endian linear PCM data, `true` if the data is linear PCM and is native endian.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

**TestAudioFormatNativeEndian**

A macro for checking if an `AudioFormatBasicDescription` structure indicates native endian linear PCM data.

```
#define TestAudioFormatNativeEndian (f) (
    (f.mFormatID == kAudioFormatLinearPCM) &&
    ((f.mFormatFlags & kAudioFormatFlagIsBigEndian) ==
     kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian)
)
```

**Parameters**

*f*

The `AudioFormatBasicDescription` structure you want to examine.

**Return Value**

`True` if the data is linear PCM and is native endian.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

## Data Types

### AudioBuffer

Holds a buffer of audio data.

```

struct AudioBuffer {
    UInt32  mNumberChannels;
    UInt32  mDataByteSize;
    void*   mData;
};
typedef struct AudioBuffer  AudioBuffer;

```

**Fields**

mNumberChannels

The number of interleaved channels in the buffer.

mDataByteSize

The number of bytes in the buffer pointed at by mData.

mData

A pointer to the buffer of audio data.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

### AudioBufferList

Holds a variable length array of AudioBuffer structures.

```

struct AudioBufferList {
    UInt32      mNumberBuffers;
    AudioBuffer mBuffers[1];
};
typedef struct AudioBufferList  AudioBufferList;

```

**Fields**

mNumberBuffers

The number of AudioBuffer structures in the mBuffers array.

mBuffers

A variable length array of AudioBuffer structures.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

## AudioChannelDescription

Describes an audio data channel.

```

struct AudioChannelDescription {
    AudioChannelLabel    mChannelLabel;
    UInt32               mChannelFlags;
    Float32              mCoordinates[3];
};
typedef struct AudioChannelDescription AudioChannelDescription;

```

### Fields

mChannelLabel

The `AudioChannelLabel` structure that describes the channel.

mChannelFlags

Flags that control the interpretation of `mCoordinates`. See “[Channel Coordinate Flags](#)” (page 46) for possible values.

mCoordinates

An ordered triple that specifies a precise speaker location. See “[Channel Coordinate Index Constants](#)” (page 46) for the interpretation of the items in the array.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

### Declared In

`CoreAudioTypes.h`

## AudioChannelLabel

Identifies how an audio data channel is to be used.

```

typedef UInt32 AudioChannelLabel;

```

### Discussion

This data type is used for the `mChannelLabel` field of the `AudioChannelDescription` (page 13) structure. See “[Audio Channel Label Constants](#)” (page 35) for possible values.

### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

### Declared In

`CoreAudioTypes.h`

## AudioChannelLayout

Specifies a channel layout in a file or in hardware.

```

struct AudioChannelLayout {
    AudioChannelLayoutTag    mChannelLayoutTag;
    UInt32                   mChannelBitmap;
    UInt32                   mNumberChannelDescriptions;
    AudioChannelDescription  mChannelDescriptions[1];
};
typedef struct AudioChannelLayout AudioChannelLayout;

```

**Fields**

mChannelLayoutTag

The `AudioChannelLayoutTag` value that indicates the layout. See “[Audio Channel Layout Tags](#)” (page 47) for possible values.

mChannelBitmap

If `mChannelLayoutTag` is set to `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_UseChannelBitmap`, this field is the channel use bitmap.

mNumberChannelDescriptions

The number of items in the `mChannelDescriptions` array.

mChannelDescriptions

A variable length array of `mNumberChannelDescription` elements that describes a layout. If the `mChannelLayoutTag` field is set to `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_UseChannelDescriptions`, use this field to describe the layout.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

**AudioChannelLayoutTag**

Identifies a previously-defined channel layout.

```
typedef UInt32 AudioChannelLayoutTag;
```

**Discussion**

This data type is used for the `mChannelLayoutTag` field of the `AudioChannelLayout` (page 13) structure. See “[Audio Channel Layout Tags](#)” (page 47) for possible values.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

**AudioClassDescription**

Describes an installed codec.

```
struct AudioClassDescription {
    OSType  mType;
    OSType  mSubType;
    OSType  mManufacturer;
};
typedef struct AudioClassDescription AudioClassDescription;
```

**Fields**

mType

The four character code for the codec type. Defined by the codec manufacturer.

mSubType

The four character code for the codec subtype. Defined by the codec manufacturer.

mManufacturer

The four character code for the codec manufacturer. This must be a unique code registered with Apple.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

## AudioSampleType

The canonical audio data sample type for input and output.

```
typedef SInt16 AudioSampleType;
```

**Discussion**

The canonical audio sample type for input and output in iPhone OS is linear PCM with 16-bit integer samples.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

## AudioUnitSampleType

The canonical audio data sample type for audio processing.

```
typedef SInt32 AudioUnitSampleType;
#define kAudioUnitSampleFractionBits 24
```

**Discussion**

The canonical audio sample type for audio units and other audio processing in iPhone OS is noninterleaved linear PCM with 8.24-bit fixed-point samples.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

## AudioStreamBasicDescription

A format description for a stream of audio data.

```
struct AudioStreamBasicDescription {
    Float64 mSampleRate;
    UInt32 mFormatID;
    UInt32 mFormatFlags;
    UInt32 mBytesPerPacket;
    UInt32 mFramesPerPacket;
    UInt32 mBytesPerFrame;
    UInt32 mChannelsPerFrame;
    UInt32 mBitsPerChannel;
    UInt32 mReserved;
};
typedef struct AudioStreamBasicDescription AudioStreamBasicDescription;
```

### Fields

mSampleRate

The number of sample frames per second of the data in the stream. For compressed formats, this field indicates the number of sample frames per second of decompressed data. You can combine this value with the frames per packet to determine the amount of time represented by a packet. This value must be nonzero, except when this structure is used in a listing of supported formats (see [“AudioStreamBasicDescription Constant”](#) (page 21)).

mFormatID

A four character code indicating the general kind of data in the stream. See [“Audio Data Format Identifiers”](#) (page 22). This value must be nonzero.

mFormatFlags

Flags specific to each format, if any. May be set to 0 to indicate no format flags. See [“Audio Data Format Identifiers”](#) (page 22) for the types of flags used with each data type.

mBytesPerPacket

The number of bytes in a packet of data. For formats with a variable packet size, this field is set to 0. In that case, the size of each packet is specified by an [AudioStreamPacketDescription](#) (page 17) structure.

mFramesPerPacket

The number of sample frames in each packet of data. For compressed formats, this field indicates the number of frames encoded in each packet. For formats with a variable number of frames per packet, this field is set to 0 and the packet is described by an [AudioStreamPacketDescription](#) (page 17) structure.

mBytesPerFrame

The number of bytes in a single sample frame of data. This field is set to 0 if the data format (for instance any compressed format) does not contain separate samples for each channel.

mChannelsPerFrame

The number of channels in each frame of data. This value must be nonzero.

mBitsPerChannel

The number of bits of sample data for each channel in a frame of data. This field is set to 0 if the data format (for instance any compressed format) does not contain separate samples for each channel.

mReserved

Pads the structure out to force an even 8-byte alignment.

**Discussion**

This structure is sufficient to describe any constant bit rate format that has channels that are the same size. For variable bit rate data and for constant bit rate data where the channels have unequal sizes, each packet must additionally be described by an [AudioStreamPacketDescription](#) (page 17) structure. In all fields, a value of 0 indicates that the field is either unknown, not applicable, or otherwise is inappropriate for the format and should be ignored.

For the purposes of this data structure, the following definitions apply:

A **sample** is one data value (that is, one number) for one channel of digitized audio data.

A **frame** is a set of samples that includes one sample for each channel. The samples in a frame are intended to be played together (that is, simultaneously). (Note that this definition might be different from the use of the term *frame* by codecs, video files, and audio or video processing applications.) In non-interleaved audio, the per-frame fields in the structure apply to one channel. In interleaved audio, the per-frame fields apply to the set of  $n$  channels.

A **packet** is the smallest, indivisible block of data. In uncompressed audio, each packet contains exactly one frame. In compressed audio, the number of frames in a packet depends on the encoding. For example, an AAC packet contains 1024 sample frames. In some formats, the number of frames per packet varies.

The **sample rate** is the number of complete frames of samples per second of noncompressed or decompressed data.

Typically, the fields of an `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure describe the complete layout of the sample data in data buffers represented by `AudioBuffer` structures that are contained in an `AudioBufferList` structure.

When an `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure has the `kAudioFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved` flag set, however, the `AudioBufferList` structure is used in a different way. In this case, each `AudioBuffer` structure in the list contains a single (mono) channel of audio data and the `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure fields describe the format of one `AudioBuffer` structure. The exception to this rule is the `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure's `mChannelsPerFrame` field, which indicates the total number of `AudioBuffer` structures that are contained in the `AudioBufferList`. This data format is used primarily by audio units and audio converters. It is not used by audio hardware.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

`CoreAudioTypes.h`

**AudioStreamPacketDescription**

Describes one packet in a buffer of audio data where the sizes of the packets differ or where there is non-audio data between audio packets.

```

struct AudioStreamPacketDescription {
    SInt64  mStartOffset;
    UInt32  mVariableFramesInPacket;
    UInt32  mDataByteSize;
};
typedef struct AudioStreamPacketDescription AudioStreamPacketDescription;

```

**Fields**

mStartOffset

The number of bytes from the start of the buffer to the beginning of the packet. For example, if the data buffer contains 5 bytes of data, with one byte per packet, then mStartOffset for the last packet is 4 (that is, there are 4 bytes in the buffer before the start of the last packet).

mVariableFramesInPacket

The number of sample frames of data in the packet. For formats with a constant number of frames per packet, this field is set to 0.

mDataByteSize

The number of bytes in the packet.

**Discussion**

For data formats where the packet size is not constant, such as variable bit rate data and data where the channels have unequal sizes, this structure is used to supplement the information in the [AudioStreamBasicDescription](#) (page 16) structure.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

**Declared In**

CoreAudioTypes.h

**AudioTimeStamp**

Holds multiple representations of a time stamp.

```

struct AudioTimeStamp {
    Float64      mSampleTime;
    UInt64      mHostTime;
    Float64      mRateScalar;
    UInt64      mWordClockTime;
    SMPTETime    mSMPTETime;
    UInt32      mFlags;
    UInt32      mReserved;
};
typedef struct AudioTimeStamp AudioTimeStamp;

```

**Fields**

mSampleTime

The absolute sample frame time.

mHostTime

The host machine's time base (see CoreAudio/HostTime.h).

mRateScalar

The ratio of actual host ticks per sample frame to the nominal host ticks per sample frame.

mWordClockTime

The word clock time.

mSMPTETime

The SMPTE time (see [SMPTETime](#) (page 20)).

mFlags

A set of flags indicating which representations of the time are valid; see “[Audio Time Stamp Flags](#)” (page 34) and “[Audio Time Stamp Flag Combination Constant](#)” (page 35).

mReserved

Pads the structure out to force an even 8-byte alignment.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

#### Declared In

CoreAudioTypes.h

## AudioValueRange

Holds a pair of numbers that represent a continuous range of values.

```
struct AudioValueRange {
    Float64 mMinimum;
    Float64 mMaximum;
};
typedef struct AudioValueRange AudioValueRange;
```

#### Fields

mMinimum

The minimum value.

mMaximum

The maximum value.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.1 and later.

#### Declared In

CoreAudioTypes.h

## AudioValueTranslation

Holds buffers used in translation operations.

```
struct AudioValueTranslation {
    void* mInputData;
    UInt32 mInputDataSize;
    void* mOutputData;
    UInt32 mOutputDataSize;
};
typedef struct AudioValueTranslation AudioValueTranslation;
```

#### Fields

mInputData

The buffer containing the data to be translated.

mInputDataSize

The number of bytes in the buffer pointed at by mInputData.

mOutputData

The buffer to hold the result of the translation.

mOutputDataSize

The number of bytes in the buffer pointed at by mOutputData.

#### Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.1 and later.

#### Declared In

CoreAudioTypes.h

## SMPTETime

Specifies a time stamp as one of the SMPTE time types.

```
struct SMPTETime {
    SInt16  mSubframes;
    SInt16  mSubframeDivisor;
    UInt32  mCounter;
    UInt32  mType;
    UInt32  mFlags;
    SInt16  mHours;
    SInt16  mMinutes;
    SInt16  mSeconds;
    SInt16  mFrames;
};
typedef struct SMPTETime SMPTETime;
```

#### Fields

mSubframes

A subframe offset to the HH:MM:SS:FF time. You can use this field to position a time marker somewhere within the time span represented by a video frame, if necessary.

mSubframeDivisor

The number of subframes per video frame (typically 80).

mCounter

The total number of messages received. It takes 8 messages to carry a full SMPTE time code.

mType

A SMPTE time type constant indicating the kind of SMPTE time used (see [“SMPTE Timecode Type Constants”](#) (page 32)).

mFlags

A set of flags that indicate the SMPTE state (see [“SMPTE State Flags”](#) (page 34)).

mHours

The value of the hours portion of the SMPTE time.

mMinutes

The value of the minutes portion of the SMPTE time.

mSeconds

The value of the seconds portion of the SMPTE time.

mFrames

The value of the frames portion of the SMPTE time.

**Discussion**

SMPTE (Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, pronounced “SIMPtee”) times are used to correlate a point in an audio stream with an external event. For example, a SMPTE time can be used to correlate a sound in an audio file with a video frame in a movie file.

Note that the frames referred to by this structure are video frames, where a video frame is a single complete image. (Compare with the definition of audio frames in the discussion for [AudioStreamBasicDescription](#) (page 16).)

A complete SMPTE time description takes 80 bits, including 32 user bits that contain vendor-specific information. The actual time-code portion of the SMPTE time description is normally sent in several messages, each message containing a portion of the time code. (The user bits are sent in a separate message.) Typically, the SMPTE time description is divided up into 8 1-byte messages, with the first nibble of each message specifying which portion of the time code is contained in the message and the second nibble containing the time information. Four such messages are normally sent with each video frame.

Video data contains somewhere from 24 to 60 frames per second (as specified by the SMPTE time type—see “[SMPTE Timecode Type Constants](#)” (page 32)) and each video frame has an associated SMPTE time. SMPTE time is based on a 24-hour clock. Each frame’s SMPTE time consists of an hour, minute, and second value, plus the number of the frame within the second. Because audio data is sampled at a much higher rate (MP3 data is sampled at over 100,000 bits per second, for example), it is frequently desirable to correlate the audio data with a time within the persistence period of a single video frame. For this reason, the time period during which a single video frame is displayed is subdivided into subframes (typically 80 or 100 subframes per frame, as specified by the `mSubFrameDivisor` field). The `mSubFrames` field specifies the number of subframes into the video frame represented by this time structure.

**Availability**

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

**Declared In**

`CoreAudioTypes.h`

## Constants

### AudioStreamBasicDescription Constant

A constant for use with the `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure.

```
enum {
    kAudioStreamAnyRate = 0
};
```

**Constants**

`kAudioStreamAnyRate`

The format can use any sample rate. Note that this constant can only appear in listings of supported formats. It can never be used as part of the description of a current format.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

## Audio Data Format Identifiers

Four-character code identifiers for audio data formats, used in the `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure.

```
enum {
    kAudioFormatLinearPCM           = 'lpcm',
    kAudioFormatAC3                 = 'ac-3',
    kAudioFormat60958AC3           = 'cac3',
    kAudioFormatAppleIMA4          = 'ima4',
    kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC           = 'aac ',
    kAudioFormatMPEG4CELP          = 'celp',
    kAudioFormatMPEG4HVXC          = 'hvxc',
    kAudioFormatMPEG4TwinVQ        = 'twvq',
    kAudioFormatMACE3              = 'MAC3',
    kAudioFormatMACE6              = 'MAC6',
    kAudioFormatULaw               = 'ulaw',
    kAudioFormatALaw               = 'alaw',
    kAudioFormatQDesign            = 'QDMC',
    kAudioFormatQDesign2          = 'QDM2',
    kAudioFormatQUALCOMM           = 'Qc1p',
    kAudioFormatMPEGLayer1         = '.mp1',
    kAudioFormatMPEGLayer2        = '.mp2',
    kAudioFormatMPEGLayer3        = '.mp3',
    kAudioFormatTimeCode           = 'time',
    kAudioFormatMIDIStream         = 'midi',
    kAudioFormatParameterValueStream = 'apvs',
    kAudioFormatAppleLossless      = 'alac',
    kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC_HE        = 'aach',
    kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC_LD        = 'aac1',
    kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC_HE_V2     = 'aacp',
    kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC_Spatial   = 'aacs',
    kAudioFormatAMR                = 'samr',
    kAudioFormatAudible            = 'AUDB',
    kAudioFormatILBC               = 'ilbc',
    kAudioFormatDVIIntelIMA        = 0x6D730011,
    kAudioFormatMicrosoftGSM      = 0x6D730031,
    kAudioFormatAES3               = 'aes3'
};
```

### Constants

`kAudioFormatLinearPCM`

A key that specifies linear PCM, a noncompressed audio data format with one frame per packet. Uses the linear PCM format flags in “[AudioStreamBasicDescription Flags](#)” (page 26).

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatAC3`

A key that specifies an AC-3 codec. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormat60958AC3`

A key that specifies an AC-3 codec that provides data packaged for transport over an IEC 60958 compliant digital audio interface. Uses the standard format flags in “[AudioStreamBasicDescription Flags](#)” (page 26).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatAppleIMA4`

A key that specifies Apple’s implementation of the IMA 4:1 ADPCM codec. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC`

A key that specifies an MPEG-4 AAC codec. The flags field contains the MPEG-4 audio object type constant listed in “[MPEG-4 Audio Object Type Constants](#)” (page 31) indicating the specific kind of data.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEG4CELP`

A key that specifies an MPEG-4 CELP codec. The flags field contains the MPEG-4 audio object type constant listed in “[MPEG-4 Audio Object Type Constants](#)” (page 31) indicating the specific kind of data.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEG4HVXC`

A key that specifies an MPEG-4 HVXC codec. The flags field contains the MPEG-4 audio object type constant listed in “[MPEG-4 Audio Object Type Constants](#)” (page 31) indicating the specific kind of data.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEG4TwinVQ`

A key that specifies an MPEG-4 TwinVQ codec. The flags field contains the MPEG-4 audio object type constant listed in “[MPEG-4 Audio Object Type Constants](#)” (page 31) indicating the specific kind of data.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMACE3`

MACE 3:1. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMACE6`

MACE 6:1. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatULaw`

`μLaw 2:1`. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatALaw`

`aLaw 2:1`. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatQDesign`

`QDesign music`. Uses no flags

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatQDesign2`

`QDesign2 music`. Uses no flags

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatQUALCOMM`

`QUALCOMM PureVoice`. Uses no flags

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEGLayer1`

`MPEG-1/2, Layer 1 audio`. Uses no flags

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEGLayer2`

`MPEG-1/2, Layer 2 audio`. Uses no flags

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEGLayer3`

`MPEG-1/2, Layer 3 audio`. Uses no flags

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatTimeCode`

A stream of `IOAudioTimeStamp` structures. Uses the `IOAudioTimeStamp` flags (see [“Audio Time Stamp Flags”](#) (page 34) and [“Audio Time Stamp Flag Combination Constant”](#) (page 35)).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMIDIStream`

A stream of `MIDIPacketList` structures where the time stamps in the `MIDIPacket` structures are sample offsets in the stream. The `mSampleRate` field in the `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure is used to describe how time is passed in this kind of stream and an audio unit that receives or generates this stream can use this sample rate together with the number of frames it is rendering and the sample offsets within the `MIDIPacketList` to define the time for any MIDI event within this list. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatParameterValueStream`

A "side-chain" of `Float32` data that can be fed or generated by an audio unit and that is used to send a high density of parameter value control information. An audio unit typically runs a parameter value stream at either the sample rate of the audio unit's audio data, or some integer quotient of this (say a half or a third of the sample rate of the audio). The `mSampleRate` field in the `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure describes this relationship. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatAppleLossless`

Apple Lossless. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC_HE`

MPEG-4 High Efficiency AAC audio object. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC_LD`

MPEG-4 AAC Low Delay audio object. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC_HE_V2`

MPEG-4 High Efficiency AAC Version 2 audio object. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMPEG4AAC_Spatial`

MPEG-4 Spatial Audio audio object. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatAMR`

The AMR (Adaptive Multi-Rate) narrow band speech codec.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatAudible`

The codec used for Audible, Inc. audio books. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatiLBC`

The iLBC (internet Low Bitrate Codec) narrow band speech codec. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatDVIIntelIMA`

DVI/Intel IMA ADPCM - ACM code 17.

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatMicrosoftGSM`

Microsoft GSM 6.10 - ACM code 49.

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatAES3`

The format defined by the AES3-2003 standard. Adopted into MXF and MPEG-2 containers and SDTI transport streams with SMPTE specs 302M-2002 and 331M-2000. Uses no flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

### Discussion

Use these identifiers to test for the presence of audio codecs on a system. If a given codec is present, you can use its identifier to specify that codec for data encoding or decoding, according to the capabilities of the codec. For more information, see *Core Audio Overview*.

## AudioStreamBasicDescription Flags

Standard flags for use in the `mFormatFlags` field of the [AudioStreamBasicDescription](#) (page 16) structure.

```
enum {
    kAudioFormatFlagIsFloat                = (1 << 0),    // 0x1
    kAudioFormatFlagIsBigEndian            = (1 << 1),    // 0x2
    kAudioFormatFlagIsSignedInteger        = (1 << 2),    // 0x4
    kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked                = (1 << 3),    // 0x8
    kAudioFormatFlagIsAlignedHigh          = (1 << 4),    // 0x10
    kAudioFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved       = (1 << 5),    // 0x20
    kAudioFormatFlagIsNonMixable           = (1 << 6),    // 0x40
    kAudioFormatFlagsAreAllClear            = (1 << 31),
```

```

kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsFloat          = kAudioFormatFlagIsFloat,
kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsBigEndian      = kAudioFormatFlagIsBigEndian,
kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsSignedInteger  = kAudioFormatFlagIsSignedInteger,
kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsPacked         = kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked,
kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsAlignedHigh    = kAudioFormatFlagIsAlignedHigh,
kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved = kAudioFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved,
kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsNonMixable     = kAudioFormatFlagIsNonMixable,
kLinearPCMFormatFlagsSampleFractionShift = 7,
kLinearPCMFormatFlagsSampleFractionMask =
    (0x3F << kLinearPCMFormatFlagsSampleFractionShift),
kLinearPCMFormatFlagsAreAllClear     = kAudioFormatFlagsAreAllClear,

kAppleLosslessFormatFlag_16BitSourceData = 1,
kAppleLosslessFormatFlag_20BitSourceData = 2,
kAppleLosslessFormatFlag_24BitSourceData = 3,
kAppleLosslessFormatFlag_32BitSourceData = 4
};

```

**Constants**

`kAudioFormatFlagIsFloat`

Set for floating point, clear for integer.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagIsBigEndian`

Set for big endian, clear for little endian.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagIsSignedInteger`

Set for signed integer, clear for unsigned integer. This is only valid if `kAudioFormatFlagIsFloat` is clear.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked`

Set if the sample bits occupy the entire available bits for the channel, clear if they are high- or low-aligned within the channel.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagIsAlignedHigh`

Set if the sample bits are placed into the high bits of the channel, clear for low bit placement. This is only valid if `kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked` is clear.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved`

Set if the samples for each channel are located contiguously and the channels are laid out end to end, clear if the samples for each frame are laid out contiguously and the frames laid out end to end. This flag affects the use of the `AudioStreamBasicDescription` and `AudioBufferList` structures; see the discussion of the [AudioStreamBasicDescription](#) (page 16) structure for details.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagIsNonMixable`

Set to indicate when a format is nonmixable. Note that this flag is only used when interacting with the HAL's stream format information. It is not a valid flag for any other use.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kLinearPCMFormatFlagsSampleFractionShift`

The linear PCM flags contain a 6-bit bitfield indicating that an integer format is to be interpreted as fixed point. The value indicates the number of bits are used to represent the fractional portion of each sample value. This constant indicates the bit position (counting from the right) of the bitfield in `mFormatFlags` field.

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kLinearPCMFormatFlagsSampleFractionMask`

```
<number_of_fractional_bits> = (mFormatFlags &
kLinearPCMFormatFlagsSampleFractionMask) >>
kLinearPCMFormatFlagsSampleFractionShift
```

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagsAreAllClear`

Set to indicate all the flags are clear. You must use this constant instead of 0, because a 0 in the `mFormatFlags` field of the `AudioStreamBasicDescription` structure indicates that there are no format flags.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsFloat`

Synonym for `kAudioFormatFlagIsFloat`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsBigEndian`

Synonym for `kAudioFormatFlagIsBigEndian`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsSignedInteger`

Synonym for `kAudioFormatFlagIsSignedInteger`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsPacked`

Synonym for `kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsAlignedHigh`

Synonym for `kAudioFormatFlagIsAlignedHigh`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved`  
**Synonym for** `kAudioFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved`.  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.**  
**Declared in** `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kLinearPCMFormatFlagIsNonMixable`  
**Synonym for** `kAudioFormatFlagIsNonMixable`.  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in** `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kLinearPCMFormatFlagsAreAllClear`  
**Synonym for** `kAudioFormatFlagsAreAllClear`.  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.**  
**Declared in** `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAppleLosslessFormatFlag_16BitSourceData`  
**This flag is set for Apple Lossless data that was sourced from 16 bit native endian signed integer data.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in** `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAppleLosslessFormatFlag_20BitSourceData`  
**Set for Apple Lossless data that was sourced from 20 bit native endian signed integer data aligned high in 24 bits.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in** `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAppleLosslessFormatFlag_24BitSourceData`  
**Set for Apple Lossless data that was sourced from 24 bit native endian signed integer data.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in** `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAppleLosslessFormatFlag_32BitSourceData`  
**Set for Apple Lossless data that was sourced from 32 bit native endian signed integer data.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in** `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

## AudioStreamBasicDescription Flag Combinations Constants

Commonly used combinations of data format flags for the [AudioStreamBasicDescription](#) (page 16) structure.

```
enum {
    #if TARGET_RT_BIG_ENDIAN
        kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian    = kAudioFormatFlagIsBigEndian,
    #else
        kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian    = 0,
    #endif
}
```

```

#if !CA_PREFER_FIXED_POINT
    kAudioFormatFlagsCanonical = kAudioFormatFlagIsFloat |
                                kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian |
                                kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked,
    kAudioFormatFlagsAudioUnitCanonical = kAudioFormatFlagIsFloat |
                                           kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian |
                                           kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked |
                                           kAudioFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved,
#else
    kAudioFormatFlagsCanonical = kAudioFormatFlagIsSignedInteger |
                                kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian |
                                kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked,
    kAudioFormatFlagsAudioUnitCanonical = kAudioFormatFlagIsSignedInteger |
                                           kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian |
                                           kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked |
                                           kAudioFormatFlagIsNonInterleaved |
                                           (kAudioUnitSampleFractionBits <<
                                            kLinearPCMFormatFlagsSampleFractionShift),
#endif

    kAudioFormatFlagsNativeFloatPacked = kAudioFormatFlagIsFloat |
                                           kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian |
                                           kAudioFormatFlagIsPacked
};

```

**Constants**

`kAudioFormatFlagsNativeEndian`

Defined to set or clear `kAudioFormatFlagIsBigEndian` depending on the endianness of the processor at build time.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagsCanonical`

The set of flags for the canonical input-output audio sample type, which match the [AudioSampleType](#) (page 15) type.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagsAudioUnitCanonical`

The flags for the canonical audio unit and processing sample type, which match the [AudioUnitSampleType](#) (page 15) type.

Available in Mac OS X v10.6 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioFormatFlagsNativeFloatPacked`

The flags for the canonical format of fully packed, native endian floating point data.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

**Discussion**

Fixed-point formats are preferred in iPhone OS, while floating-point formats are preferred in Mac OS X.

## MPEG-4 Audio Object Type Constants

Used in the `mFormatFlags` field of an `AudioStreamBasicDescription` (page 16) structure that describes an MPEG-4 audio stream to specify the type of MPEG-4 audio data. (Deprecated. Deprecated in Mac OS X v10.5.)

```
enum {
    kMPEG4Object_AAC_Main          = 1,
    kMPEG4Object_AAC_LC           = 2,
    kMPEG4Object_AAC_SSR          = 3,
    kMPEG4Object_AAC_LTP          = 4,
    kMPEG4Object_AAC_SBR          = 5,
    kMPEG4Object_AAC_Scalable     = 6,

    kMPEG4Object_TwinVQ           = 7,
    kMPEG4Object_CELP             = 8,
    kMPEG4Object_HVXC             = 9,
};
```

### Constants

`kMPEG4Object_AAC_Main`

Advanced audio coding; the basic MPEG-4 technology.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kMPEG4Object_AAC_LC`

Lossless coding; provides compression with no loss of quality.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kMPEG4Object_AAC_SSR`

Scalable sampling rate; provides different sampling frequencies for different targets.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kMPEG4Object_AAC_LTP`

Long term prediction; reduces redundancy in a coded signal.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kMPEG4Object_AAC_SBR`

Spectral band replication; reconstructs high-frequency content from lower frequencies and side information.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kMPEG4Object_AAC_Scalable`

Scalable lossless coding.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kMPEG4Object_TwinVQ`

Transform-domain weighted interleaved vector quantization, an audio codec optimized for audio coding at ultra low bit rates around 8 kbit/s.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kMPEG4Object_CELP`

Code Excited Linear Prediction, a narrow-band/wide-band speech codec.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kMPEG4Object_HVXC`

Harmonic Vector Excitation Coding, a very-low bit-rate parametric speech codec.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

### Discussion

See the Moving Picture Experts Group web page (<http://www.chiariglione.org/mpeg/>) for details about MPEG technologies.

## SMPTETimecode Type Constants

SMPTETimecode types, used in the `SMPTETime` (page 20) structure.

```
enum {
    kSMPTETimeType24           = 0,
    kSMPTETimeType25           = 1,
    kSMPTETimeType30Drop      = 2,
    kSMPTETimeType30           = 3,
    kSMPTETimeType2997         = 4,
    kSMPTETimeType2997Drop    = 5,
    kSMPTETimeType60           = 6,
    kSMPTETimeType5994         = 7,
    kSMPTETimeType60Drop      = 8,
    kSMPTETimeType5994Drop    = 9,
    kSMPTETimeType50           = 10,
    kSMPTETimeType2398         = 11
};
```

### Constants

`kSMPTETimeType24`

24 video frames per second—standard for 16mm and 35mm film.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType25`

25 video frames per second—standard for PAL and SECAM video.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType30Drop`

30 video frames per second, with video-frame numbers adjusted to ensure that the timecode matches elapsed clock time.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType30`

30 video frames per second.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType2997`

29.97 video frames per second—standard for NTSC video.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType2997Drop`

29.97 video frames per second, with video-frame numbers adjusted to ensure that the timecode matches elapsed clock time.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType60`

60 video frames per second.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType5994`

59.94 video frames per second.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType60Drop`

60 video frames per second, with video-frame numbers adjusted to ensure that the timecode matches elapsed clock time.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType5994Drop`

59.94 video frames per second, with video-frame numbers adjusted to ensure that the timecode matches elapsed clock time.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kSMPTETimeType50`

50 video frames per second.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

kSMPTETimeType2398

23.98 video frames per second.

Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.

Declared in CoreAudioTypes.h.

## SMPTE State Flags

Flags that describe a SMPTE time state.

```
enum {
    kSMPTETimeValid      = (1 << 0),
    kSMPTETimeRunning   = (1 << 1)
};
```

### Constants

kSMPTETimeValid

The full time is valid.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in CoreAudioTypes.h.

kSMPTETimeRunning

Time is running.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in CoreAudioTypes.h.

## Audio Time Stamp Flags

These flags indicate the valid fields in an [AudioTimeStamp](#) (page 18) structure.

```
enum {
    kAudioTimeStampSampleTimeValid      = (1 << 0),
    kAudioTimeStampHostTimeValid       = (1 << 1),
    kAudioTimeStampRateScalarValid     = (1 << 2),
    kAudioTimeStampWordClockTimeValid  = (1 << 3),
    kAudioTimeStampSMPTETimeValid      = (1 << 4)
};
```

### Constants

kAudioTimeStampSampleTimeValid

The sample frame time is valid.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in CoreAudioTypes.h.

kAudioTimeStampHostTimeValid

The host time is valid.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in CoreAudioTypes.h.

`kAudioTimeStampRateScalarValid`

The rate scalar is valid.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioTimeStampWordClockTimeValid`

The word clock time is valid.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioTimeStampSMPTETimeValid`

The SMPTE time is valid.

Available in Mac OS X v10.0 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

## Audio Time Stamp Flag Combination Constant

A commonly used combination of audio time stamp flags.

```
enum {
    kAudioTimeStampSampleHostTimeValid = (kAudioTimeStampSampleTimeValid |
    kAudioTimeStampHostTimeValid)
};
```

### Constants

`kAudioTimeStampSampleHostTimeValid`

The sample frame time and the host time are valid.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

## Audio Channel Label Constants

Channel labels for use in the `mChannelLabel` field of an [AudioChannelDescription](#) (page 13) structure.

```
enum {
    kAudioChannelLabel_Unknown           = 0xFFFFFFFF,
    kAudioChannelLabel_Unused           = 0,
    kAudioChannelLabel_UseCoordinates    = 100,
```

```

kAudioChannelLabel_Left           = 1,
kAudioChannelLabel_Right          = 2,
kAudioChannelLabel_Center         = 3,
kAudioChannelLabel_LFEScreen      = 4,
kAudioChannelLabel_LeftSurround   = 5,
kAudioChannelLabel_RightSurround  = 6,
kAudioChannelLabel_LeftCenter     = 7,
kAudioChannelLabel_RightCenter    = 8,
kAudioChannelLabel_CenterSurround = 9,
kAudioChannelLabel_LeftSurroundDirect = 10,
kAudioChannelLabel_RightSurroundDirect = 11,
kAudioChannelLabel_TopCenterSurround = 12,
kAudioChannelLabel_VerticalHeightLeft = 13,
kAudioChannelLabel_VerticalHeightCenter = 14,
kAudioChannelLabel_VerticalHeightRight = 15,
kAudioChannelLabel_TopBackLeft    = 16,
kAudioChannelLabel_TopBackCenter  = 17,
kAudioChannelLabel_TopBackRight   = 18,
kAudioChannelLabel_RearSurroundLeft = 33,
kAudioChannelLabel_RearSurroundRight = 34,
kAudioChannelLabel_LeftWide       = 35,
kAudioChannelLabel_RightWide      = 36,
kAudioChannelLabel_LFE2           = 37,
kAudioChannelLabel_LeftTotal      = 38,
kAudioChannelLabel_RightTotal     = 39,
kAudioChannelLabel_HearingImpaired = 40,
kAudioChannelLabel_Narration      = 41,
kAudioChannelLabel_Mono           = 42,
kAudioChannelLabel_DialogCentricMix = 43,
kAudioChannelLabel_CenterSurroundDirect = 44,
kAudioChannelLabel_Haptic         = 45,

// first order ambisonic channels
kAudioChannelLabel_Ambisonic_W    = 200,
kAudioChannelLabel_Ambisonic_X    = 201,
kAudioChannelLabel_Ambisonic_Y    = 202,
kAudioChannelLabel_Ambisonic_Z    = 203,

// Mid/Side Recording
kAudioChannelLabel_MS_Mid         = 204,
kAudioChannelLabel_MS_Side       = 205,

// X-Y Recording
kAudioChannelLabel_XY_X          = 206,
kAudioChannelLabel_XY_Y          = 207,

// other
kAudioChannelLabel_HeadphonesLeft = 301,
kAudioChannelLabel_HeadphonesRight = 302,
kAudioChannelLabel_ClickTrack    = 304,
kAudioChannelLabel_ForeignLanguage = 305,

// generic discrete channel
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete      = 400,

```

```

// numbered discrete channel
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_0      = (1<<16) | 0,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_1      = (1<<16) | 1,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_2      = (1<<16) | 2,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_3      = (1<<16) | 3,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_4      = (1<<16) | 4,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_5      = (1<<16) | 5,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_6      = (1<<16) | 6,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_7      = (1<<16) | 7,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_8      = (1<<16) | 8,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_9      = (1<<16) | 9,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_10     = (1<<16) | 10,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_11     = (1<<16) | 11,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_12     = (1<<16) | 12,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_13     = (1<<16) | 13,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_14     = (1<<16) | 14,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_15     = (1<<16) | 15,
kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_65535  = (1<<16) | 65535
};

```

**Constants**

`kAudioChannelLabel_Unknown`

**Unknown role or unspecified other use for channel.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLabel_Unused`

**The channel is present, but has no intended role or destination.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLabel_UseCoordinates`

**The channel is described solely by the `mCoordinates` field of the `AudioChannelDescription` structure.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLabel_Left`

**Left channel.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLabel_Right`

**Right channel.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLabel_Center`

**Center channel.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLabel_LFEScreen`  
Low Frequency Effects Screen; a subwoofer located in front of the theater.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_LeftSurround`  
Left surround channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, back left.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_RightSurround`  
Right surround channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, back right.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_LeftCenter`  
Left center channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_RightCenter`  
Right center channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_CenterSurround`  
Center surround channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, back center or rear surround.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_LeftSurroundDirect`  
Left surround direct channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, side left.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_RightSurroundDirect`  
Right surround direct channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, side right.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_TopCenterSurround`  
Top center surround-sound channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_VerticalHeightLeft`  
Vertical height left channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, top front left.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLabel_VerticalHeightCenter`  
Vertical height center channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, top front center.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_VerticalHeightRight`  
Vertical height right channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, top front right.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_TopBackLeft`  
Top back left channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_TopBackCenter`  
Top back center channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_TopBackRight`  
Top back right channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_RearSurroundLeft`  
Rear surround left channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_RearSurroundRight`  
Rear surround right channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_LeftWide`  
Left wide channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_RightWide`  
Right wide channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_LFE2`  
Low Frequency Effects 2.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLabel_LeftTotal`  
The left channel of matrix encoded 4 channel audio.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_RightTotal`  
The right channel of matrix encoded 4 channel audio.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_HearingImpaired`  
Channel carrying audio for the hearing impaired.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Narration`  
Narration channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Mono`  
Monaural channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_DialogCentricMix`  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_CenterSurroundDirect`  
Back center, non diffuse channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Haptic`  
A channel for haptic (touch) data.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Ambisonic_W`  
First order Ambisonic channel W.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Ambisonic_X`  
First order Ambisonic channel X.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLabel_Ambisonic_Y`  
First order Ambisonic channel Y.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Ambisonic_Z`  
First order Ambisonic channel Z.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_MS_Mid`  
Mid channel of a Mid/Side recording.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_MS_Side`  
Side channel of a Mid/Side recording.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_XY_X`  
X channel of an X-Y recording.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_XY_Y`  
Y channel of an X-Y recording.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_HeadphonesLeft`  
Left channel of stereo headphones.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_HeadphonesRight`  
Right channel of stereo headphones.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_ClickTrack`  
Click track channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_ForeignLanguage`  
Foreign language channel.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete`  
**Generic discrete channel.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_0`  
**Discrete channel 0.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_1`  
**Discrete channel 1.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_2`  
**Discrete channel 2.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_3`  
**Discrete channel 3.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_4`  
**Discrete channel 4.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_5`  
**Discrete channel 5.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_6`  
**Discrete channel 6.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_7`  
**Discrete channel 7.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_8`  
**Discrete channel 8.**  
**Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.**  
**Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.**

- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_9`  
Discrete channel 9.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_10`  
Discrete channel 10.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_11`  
Discrete channel 11.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_12`  
Discrete channel 12.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_13`  
Discrete channel 13.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_14`  
Discrete channel 14.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_15`  
Discrete channel 15.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLabel_Discrete_65535`  
Discrete channel 65536.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

## Channel Bitmap Constants

Channel bits for use in the `mChannelBitmap` field of an [AudioChannelLayout](#) (page 13) structure.

```

enum {
    kAudioChannelBit_Left           = (1<<0),
    kAudioChannelBit_Right          = (1<<1),
    kAudioChannelBit_Center         = (1<<2),
    kAudioChannelBit_LFEScreen      = (1<<3),
    kAudioChannelBit_LeftSurround   = (1<<4),
    kAudioChannelBit_RightSurround  = (1<<5),
    kAudioChannelBit_LeftCenter     = (1<<6),
    kAudioChannelBit_RightCenter    = (1<<7),
    kAudioChannelBit_CenterSurround = (1<<8),
    kAudioChannelBit_LeftSurroundDirect = (1<<9),
    kAudioChannelBit_RightSurroundDirect = (1<<10),
    kAudioChannelBit_TopCenterSurround = (1<<11),
    kAudioChannelBit_VerticalHeightLeft = (1<<12),
    kAudioChannelBit_VerticalHeightCenter = (1<<13),
    kAudioChannelBit_VerticalHeightRight = (1<<14),
    kAudioChannelBit_TopBackLeft    = (1<<15),
    kAudioChannelBit_TopBackCenter  = (1<<16),
    kAudioChannelBit_TopBackRight   = (1<<17)
};

```

**Constants**

`kAudioChannelBit_Left`

**Left channel.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_Right`

**Right channel.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_Center`

**Center channel.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_LFEScreen`

**Low Frequency Effects screen channel.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_LeftSurround`

**Left surround channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, back left.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_RightSurround`

**Right surround channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, back right.**

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_LeftCenter`

Left center channel.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_RightCenter`

Right center channel.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_CenterSurround`

Center surround channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, back center.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_LeftSurroundDirect`

Left surround direct channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, side left.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_RightSurroundDirect`

Right surround direct channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, side right.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_TopCenterSurround`

Top center surround channel.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_VerticalHeightLeft`

Vertical height left channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, top front left.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_VerticalHeightCenter`

Vertical height center channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, top front center.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_VerticalHeightRight`

Vertical height right channel; or for WAVE (.wav) files, top front right.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_TopBackLeft`

Top back left channel.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_TopBackCenter`

Top back center channel.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelBit_TopBackRight`

Top back right channel.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

## Channel Coordinate Flags

Used in the `mChannelFlags` field of an `AudioChannelDescription` (page 13) structure.

```
enum {
    kAudioChannelFlags_AllOff                = 0,
    kAudioChannelFlags_RectangularCoordinates = (1<<0),
    kAudioChannelFlags_SphericalCoordinates  = (1<<1),
    kAudioChannelFlags_Meters                = (1<<2)
};
```

### Constants

`kAudioChannelFlags_AllOff`

All flags are clear.

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelFlags_RectangularCoordinates`

Set to indicate the channel is specified by the Cartesian coordinates of the speaker position. This flag is mutually exclusive with `kAudioChannelFlags_SphericalCoordinates`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelFlags_SphericalCoordinates`

Set to indicate the channel is specified by the spherical coordinates of the speaker position. This flag is mutually exclusive with `kAudioChannelFlags_RectangularCoordinates`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelFlags_Meters`

Set to indicate the units are in meters, clear to indicate the units are relative to the unit cube or unit sphere. For relative units, the listener is assumed to be at the center of the cube or sphere and the radius of the sphere or the distance from the center to the midpoint of the side of the cube is 1.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

## Channel Coordinate Index Constants

Indexes the fields of the `mCoordinates` array in an `AudioChannelDescription` (page 13) structure.

```
enum {
    kAudioChannelCoordinates_LeftRight    = 0,
    kAudioChannelCoordinates_BackFront    = 1,
    kAudioChannelCoordinates_DownUp       = 2,
    kAudioChannelCoordinates_Azimuth      = 0,
    kAudioChannelCoordinates_Elevation    = 1,
    kAudioChannelCoordinates_Distance     = 2
};
```

**Constants**

`kAudioChannelCoordinates_LeftRight`

For rectangular coordinates, negative is left and positive is right. The units are specified by the `mChannelFlags` field of the `AudioChannelDescription` structure.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelCoordinates_BackFront`

For rectangular coordinates, negative is back and positive is front. The units are specified by the `mChannelFlags` field.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelCoordinates_DownUp`

For rectangular coordinates, negative is below ground level, 0 is ground level, and positive is above ground level. The units are specified by the `mChannelFlags` field.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelCoordinates_Azimuth`

For spherical coordinates, 0 is front center, positive is right, negative is left, and measurements are in degrees.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelCoordinates_Elevation`

For spherical coordinates, +90 is zenith, 0 is horizontal, -90 is nadir, and measurements are in degrees.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelCoordinates_Distance`

For spherical coordinates, distance is radially from the center. The units are specified by the `mChannelFlags` field of the `AudioChannelDescription` structure.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

**Audio Channel Layout Tags**

Used in the `mChannelLayoutTag` field of an [AudioChannelLayout](#) (page 13) structure.

```

enum {
    // General layouts
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_UseChannelDescriptions = (0<<16) | 0,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_UseChannelBitmap      = (1<<16) | 0,

    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Mono                  = (100<<16) | 1,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Stereo               = (101<<16) | 2,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_StereoHeadphones     = (102<<16) | 2,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MatrixStereo        = (103<<16) | 2,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MidSide              = (104<<16) | 2,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_XY                   = (105<<16) | 2,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Binaural             = (106<<16) | 2,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Ambisonic_B_Format   = (107<<16) | 4,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Quadraphonic        = (108<<16) | 4,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Pentagonal           = (109<<16) | 5,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Hexagonal            = (110<<16) | 6,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Octagonal            = (111<<16) | 8,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Cube                 = (112<<16) | 8,

    // MPEG defined layouts
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_1_0             = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Mono,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_2_0             = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Stereo,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_3_0_A           = (113<<16) | 3,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_3_0_B           = (114<<16) | 3,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_4_0_A           = (115<<16) | 4,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_4_0_B           = (116<<16) | 4,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_A           = (117<<16) | 5,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_B           = (118<<16) | 5,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_C           = (119<<16) | 5,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_D           = (120<<16) | 5,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_A           = (121<<16) | 6,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_B           = (122<<16) | 6,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_C           = (123<<16) | 6,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_D           = (124<<16) | 6,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_6_1_A           = (125<<16) | 7,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_A           = (126<<16) | 8,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_B           = (127<<16) | 8,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_C           = (128<<16) | 8,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Emagic_Default_7_1   = (129<<16) | 8,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_SMPTE_DTV            = (130<<16) | 8,

    // ITU defined layouts
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_1_0              = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Mono,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_2_0              = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Stereo,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_2_1              = (131<<16) | 3,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_2_2              = (132<<16) | 4,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_0              =
        kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_3_0_A,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_1              =
        kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_4_0_A,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_2              =
        kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_A,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_2_1           =
        kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_A,
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_4_1           =
        kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_C,

```

```

// DVD defined layouts
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_0           = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Mono,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_1           = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Stereo,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_2           = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_2_1,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_3           = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_2_2,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_4           = (133<<16) | 3,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_5           = (134<<16) | 4,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_6           = (135<<16) | 5,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_7           =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_3_0_A,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_8           =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_4_0_A,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_9           =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_A,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_10          = (136<<16) | 4,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_11          = (137<<16) | 5,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_12          =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_A,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_13          = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_8,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_14          = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_9,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_15          = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_10,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_16          = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_11,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_17          = kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_12,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_18          = (138<<16) | 5,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_19          =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_B,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_20          =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_B,

// These layouts are recommended for AudioUnit use
// These are the symmetrical layouts
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_4     =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Quadraphonic,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_5     =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Pentagonal,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_6     =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Hexagonal,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_8     =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Octagonal,
// These are the surround-based layouts
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_5_0    =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_B,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_6_0    = (139<<16) | 6,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_7_0    = (140<<16) | 7,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_7_0_Front = (148<<16) | 7,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_5_1    =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_A,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_6_1    =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_6_1_A,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_7_1    =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_C,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_7_1_Front =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_A,

```

```

kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_3_0                =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_3_0_B,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_Quadrasonic,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Quadrasonic,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_4_0                =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_4_0_B,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_5_0                =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_D,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_5_1                =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_D,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_6_0                = (141<<16) | 6,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_6_1                = (142<<16) | 7,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_7_0                = (143<<16) | 7,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_7_1                =
    kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_B,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_Octagonal         = (144<<16) | 8,

kAudioChannelLayoutTag_TMH_10_2_std           = (145<<16) | 16,
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_TMH_10_2_full         = (146<<16) | 21,

kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_1_0_1             = (149<<16) | 2,    // C LFE
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_3_0               = (150<<16) | 3,    // L C R
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_3_1               = (151<<16) | 4,    // L C R
Cs
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_3_0_1             = (152<<16) | 4,    // L C R
LFE
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_2_1_1             = (153<<16) | 4,    // L R Cs
LFE
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_3_1_1             = (154<<16) | 5,    // L C R
Cs LFE

kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DiscreteInOrder       = (147<<16) | 0
kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Unknown               = 0xFFFF0000
    // needs to be 0Red with the actual number of channels
};

```

**Constants**

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_UseChannelDescriptions`

Use the array of `AudioChannelDescription` structures to define the layout.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_UseChannelBitmap`

Use the bitmap to define the layout.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Mono`

A standard monaural stream.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Stereo`  
A standard stereo stream (left, right); playback implied.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_StereoHeadphones`  
A standard stereo stream (left, right); headphone playback implied.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MatrixStereo`  
A matrix encoded stereo stream (left total, right total).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MidSide`  
Mid/side recording.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_XY`  
Coincident microphone pair (often 2 figure eights).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Binaural`  
Binaural stereo (left, right).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Ambisonic_B_Format`  
Ambisonics B-format (W, X, Y, Z).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Quadraphonic`  
Quadraphonic (front left, front right, back left, back right) with 90° loudspeaker separation.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Pentagonal`  
Pentagonal (left, right, rear left, rear right, center) with 72° loudspeaker separation.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Hexagonal`  
Hexagonal (left, right, rear left, rear right, center, rear) with 60° loudspeaker separation.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Octagonal`

Octagonal (front left, front right, rear left, rear right, front center, rear center, side left, side right) with 45° loudspeaker separation.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Cube`

Cubic (left, right, rear left, rear right, top left, top right, top rear left, top rear right).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_1_0`

MPEG 1-channel (center).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_2_0`

MPEG 2-channel (left, right).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_3_0_A`

MPEG 3-channel layout A (left, right, center).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_3_0_B`

MPEG 3-channel layout B (center, left, right).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_4_0_A`

MPEG 4-channel layout A (left, right, center, center surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_4_0_B`

MPEG 4-channel layout B (center, left, right, center surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_A`

MPEG 5-channel layout A (left, right, center, left surround, right surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_B`

MPEG 5-channel layout B (left, right, left surround, right surround, center).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_C`  
MPEG 5-channel layout C (left, center, right, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_0_D`  
MPEG 5-channel layout D (center, left, right, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_A`  
MPEG 5.1-channel layout A (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_B`  
MPEG 5.1-channel layout B (left, right, left surround, right surround, center, low-frequency effects).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_C`  
MPEG 5.1-channel layout C (left, center, right, left surround, right surround, low-frequency effects).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_5_1_D`  
MPEG 5.1-channel layout D (center, left, right, left surround, right surround, low-frequency effects).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_6_1_A`  
MPEG 6.1-channel layout A (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround, center surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_A`  
MPEG 7.1-channel layout A (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround, left center, right center).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_B`  
MPEG 7.1-channel layout A (center, left center, right center, left, right, left surround, right surround, low-frequency effects (see IS-13818-7 MPEG2-AAC, Table 3.1)).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_MPEG_7_1_C`

MPEG 7.1-channel layout C (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right, rear left surround, rear right surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Emagic_Default_7_1`

Emagic 7.1-channel default layout (left, right, left surround, right surround, center, low-frequency effects, left center, right center).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_SMPTE_DTV`

SMPTE DTV layout (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround, left matrix total (for matrix encoded stereo), right matrix total (for matrix encoded stereo), (`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_5_1` plus a matrix encoded stereo mix)).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_1_0`

ITU 1-channel layout (center).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_2_0`

ITU 2-channel layout (left, right).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_2_1`

ITU 2.1-channel layout (left, right, center surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_2_2`

ITU 2.2-channel layout (left, right, left surround, right surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_0`

ITU 3-channel layout (left, right, center).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_1`

ITU 3.1-channel layout (left, right, center, center surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_2`  
ITU 3.2-channel layout (left, right, center, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_2_1`  
ITU 3.2.1-channel layout (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_ITU_3_4_1`  
ITU 3.4.1-channel layout (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround, rear left surround, rear right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_0`  
DVD monaural layout (center).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_1`  
DVD stereo layout (left, right).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_2`  
DVD 3-channel layout (left, right, center surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_3`  
DVD 4-channel layout (left, right, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_4`  
DVD 2.1-channel layout (left, right, low-frequency effects).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_5`  
DVD 3.1-channel layout (left, right, low-frequency effects, center surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_6`  
DVD 4.1-channel layout (left, right, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_7`  
DVD 3-channel layout (left, right, center).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_8`  
DVD 4-channel layout (left, right, center, center surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_9`  
DVD 5-channel layout (left, right, center, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_10`  
DVD 3.1-channel layout (left, right, center, low-frequency effects).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_11`  
DVD 4.1-channel layout (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, center surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_12`  
DVD 5.1-channel layout (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_13`  
DVD 4-channel layout (left, right, center, center surround); duplicate of `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_8`.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_14`  
DVD 5-channel layout (left, right, center, left surround, right surround); duplicate of `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_9`.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_15`  
DVD 3.1-channel layout (left, right, center, low-frequency effects); duplicate of `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_10`.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_16`

DVD 4.1-channel layout (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, center surround); duplicate of `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_11`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_17`

DVD 5.1-channel layout (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround); duplicate of `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_12`.

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_18`

DVD 4.1-channel layout (left, right, left surround, right surround, low-frequency effects).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_19`

DVD 5-channel layout (left, right, left surround, right surround, center).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DVD_20`

DVD 5.1-channel layout (left, right, left surround, right surround, center, low-frequency effects).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_4`

Quadraphonic symmetrical layout, recommended for use by audio units.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_5`

Pentagonal symmetrical layout, recommended for use by audio units.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_6`

Hexagonal symmetrical layout, recommended for use by audio units.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_8`

Octagonal symmetrical layout, recommended for use by audio units.

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_5_0`

5-channel surround-based layout, recommended for use by audio units (left, right, left surround, right surround, center).

Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_6_0`  
6-channel surround-based layout, recommended for use by audio units (left, right, left surround, right surround, center, center surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_7_0`  
7-channel surround-based layout, recommended for use by audio units (left, right, left surround, right surround, center, rear left surround, rear right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_7_0_Front`  
Alternate 7-channel surround-based layout, for use by audio units (left, right, left surround, right surround, center, left center, right center).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_5_1`  
5.1-channel surround-based layout, recommended for use by audio units (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_6_1`  
6.1-channel surround-based layout, recommended for use by audio units (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround, center surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_7_1`  
7.1-channel surround-based layout, recommended for use by audio units (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround, rear left surround, rear right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.2 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_7_1_Front`  
7.1-channel surround-based layout, recommended for use by audio units (left, right, center, low-frequency effects, left surround, right surround, left center, right center).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_3_0`  
AAC 3-channel surround-based layout.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_Quadraphonic`  
AAC quadraphonic surround-based layout (left, right, left surround, right surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_4_0`

AAC 4-channel surround-based layout (center, left, right, center surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_5_0`

AAC 5-channel surround-based layout (center, left, right, left surround, right surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_5_1`

AAC 5.1-channel surround-based layout (center, left, right, left surround, right surround, low-frequency effects).

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_6_0`

AAC 6-channel surround-based layout (center, left, right, left surround, right surround, center surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_6_1`

AAC 6.1-channel surround-based layout (center, left, right, left surround, right surround, center surround, low-frequency effects).

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_7_0`

AAC 7-channel surround-based layout (center, left, right, left surround, right surround, rear left surround, rear right surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_7_1`

AAC 7.1-channel surround-based layout (center, left center, right center, left, right, left surround, right surround, low-frequency effects).

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AAC_Octagonal`

AAC 8-channel surround-based layout (center, left, right, left surround, right surround, rear left surround, rear right surround, center surround).

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_TMH_10_2_std`

TMH 10.2, a multiple-channel surround-based layout (left, right, center, vertical height center, left surround direct, right surround direct, left surround, right surround, vertical height left, vertical height right, left wide, right wide, center surround direct, center surround, low-frequency effects 1, low-frequency effects 2).

Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.

Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_TMH_10_2_full`  
TMH 10.2 (`kAudioChannelLayoutTag_TMH_10_2_std`) plus the following channels: left center, right center, HI, VI, and Haptic; recommended for use by audio units.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_1_0_1`  
An AC-3 layout (center, low-frequency effects).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_3_0`  
An AC-3 layout (left, center, right).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_3_1`  
An AC-3 layout (left, center, right, center surround).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_3_0_1`  
An AC-3 layout (left, center, right, low-frequency effects).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_2_1_1`  
An AC-3 layout (left, right, center surround, low-frequency effects).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_3_1_1`  
An AC-3 layout (left, center, right, center surround, low-frequency effects).  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_DiscreteInOrder`  
Needs to be ORed with the actual number of channels.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.3 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.
- `kAudioChannelLayoutTag_Unknown`  
Needs to be ORed with the actual number of channels.  
Available in Mac OS X v10.5 and later.  
Declared in `CoreAudioTypes.h`.

# Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *Core Audio Data Types Reference*.

Date	Notes
2009-06-24	Added descriptions for the <a href="#">kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AC3_3_0</a> (page 60) and <a href="#">kAudioChannelLayoutTag_AudioUnit_7_1_Front</a> (page 58) surround-sound constants.
	Added descriptions for the <a href="#">kSMPTETimeType2398</a> (page 34), <a href="#">kSMPTETimeType50</a> (page 33), <a href="#">kSMPTETimeType5994Drop</a> (page 33), and <a href="#">kSMPTETimeType60Drop</a> (page 33) timecode constants.
2009-03-16	Updated for iPhone OS 3.0.
	Added descriptions for the new <a href="#">kAudioFormatDVIntelIMA</a> (page 26), <a href="#">kAudioFormatMicrosoftGSM</a> (page 26), and <a href="#">kAudioFormatAES3</a> (page 26) audio data format constants. Updated declaration for the <a href="#">FillOutASBDForLPCM</a> (page 7) C++ inline function.
2008-11-19	Clarified the distinction between the availability of audio data format identifier symbols and the presence of audio codecs in the operating system. See the Discussion for <a href="#">“Audio Data Format Identifiers”</a> (page 22).
2008-09-09	Updated for iPhone OS version 2.1.
2008-07-08	Updated for iPhone OS 2.0.
2007-01-08	New document that lists and describes the data types and constants used throughout the Core Audio API.

## REVISION HISTORY

### Document Revision History

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