

---

Subject: Re: Saving HDF templates

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Mon, 04 Jan 1999 08:00:00 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

raph@phy.ornl.gov wrote:

> Thanks for answering my previous question. As always, this just  
> leads to another. I've figured out how to use HDF\_BROWSER and HDF\_READ to  
> read in an HDF file. But that's about as far as the HDF documentation  
> takes me. So I'm left with the following questions.

>  
> How can I save the template which HDF\_BROWSER generates? If I can save  
> it, either in a .dat file which I can read in with a procedure or in a form  
> which I can put directly into a .pro (template = ...), I can automate some  
> of this analysis. It seems to me that the template is just a structure,  
> so both of these should be possible but my limited knowledge of structures  
> has thus far thwarted my efforts. Any pointers?

>  
> On a related question, how do I get IDL to use the SD names I went  
> to the trouble of putting in the HDF file, instead of defaulting to  
> filename\_SD\_1 etc?

A couple of resources which might help:

[http://www.dfanning.com/tips/hdf\\_documentation.html](http://www.dfanning.com/tips/hdf_documentation.html) contains a pointer to David's HDF tips. His IDL book also contains a nice chapter on working with HDF.

[http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/sds\\_read.html](http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley/sds_read.html) is a procedure I wrote that allows you to read arbitrary HDF SDS datasets using either a GUI, or a command line interface.

Cheers,  
Liam.

---