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Subject: Re: frustrated by hdf\_sd\_adddata

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Thu, 15 Mar 2001 17:45:16 GMT

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George McCabe wrote:

>  
> james,  
>  
> thanks for you many suggestions.  
>  
> can you tell me what do you mean by 'corrupt'. though i think that i  
> understand the use of idl's hdf procedures, my general experience is  
> limited. i am curious about occurances of hdf file corruption.

When I talk about file corruption, I'm not talking about anything particularly exotic. HDF expects the input file to have data is a certain format. If the file is damaged, the data might not be in the right format any more. Ways to damage a file include using non-HDF facilities to modify the file, doing file transfers with no error checking, using text mode ftp, or physical damage to your storage medium.

There are probably ways to damage an HDF file by passing bad arguments to HDF functions, but I've never bothered testing to see which kinds of bad arguments HDF actually checks for, and which ones it lets through.

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