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Subject: 2 questions

Posted by [Bob Fugate](#) on Thu, 16 Aug 2001 02:49:24 GMT

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I am batch processing a number of HDF files, saving output to results files. I have a short procedure that first checks the validity of the files using `HDF_ISHDF` -- just to avoid file access problems during the main processing routines. The files are located on a server, or if old enough, on a tape library, with only a stub left on the server. A file on tape opened by `HDF_ISHDF` (or any other routine) is automatically restored from tape to the server. The problem is, if the file is on tape, `HDF_ISHDF` times out before the file gets reloaded. `HDF_ISHDF` fails. I could modify the check routine to put these files in a separate list to process on the second pass once the files are restored. I don't have a simple way (and apparently not even a complicated way) to check on the status of these files to know whether they are on the server or in the library.

Question: Is there a better way to handle this? For instance, is there a way to extend the time-out period to allow the file to be restored so it can be checked and subsequently processed? Is there a way to terminate the `HDF_ISHDF` query before it times out and put this file on a list to process in a second batch? Any suggestions greatly appreciated.

Question 2: I am using IDL on 2 platforms: MacOS and Windows NT, both versions 5.4. On the Mac, there is a feature that lets one select any number of lines in the editor and comment them all out in one command (and subsequently uncomment them when needed)--- a very valuable feature for someone like me who is not proficient at programming. I can't find this feature in the Windows version. Am I missing it somehow? Any suggested approaches short of saving the file under a new name and deleting lines in that file?

Thanks in advance. This group is one reason I like IDL.

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