
Subject: Re: delete a dataset in a hdf file

Posted by [Klemens Barfus](#) on Thu, 27 Feb 2003 08:04:16 GMT

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Thanks James ! Because of your answer, I will not waste more time trying to delete things I can not delete.

best regards

Klemens

James Kuyper wrote:

> Klemens Barfus wrote:

>

>> Hello together,

>> how can I delete a dataset in a hdf file ? I have not found anything

>> about it except a command like HDF_DELDD. Is it the right way and how do

>> I have to use it ?

>>

>

> That only removes tags and descriptors. HDF isn't really designed for

> deleting things; its design reflects a "write once, read many" attitude.

> There are a few things that you can delete. You can use HDF_DELDD,

> and since HDF is built upon CDF, you can use NCDF_ATTDEL to delete

> attributes. However, they aren't really removed from the file;

> internally, they're marked as "no longer active", but they still use up

> space.

>

> You can emulate deletions of a dataset, by copying every part of a file,

> except the part you want deleted, to a new file. Then erase the old one,

> and change the name of the new file to match the old one. Sorry, that's

> about the best you can do.

>
