
Subject: Re: PV-WAVE/HDF/SDS

Posted by [rivers](#) on Wed, 28 Jun 1995 07:00:00 GMT

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In article <DAvn1G.M76@news.dlr.de>, grueber@dv.kp.dlr.de (Wilhelm Grueber) writes:

> I want to read a one dimensional array of a scientific data set (SDS)
> from a HDF file via the function SDreaddata into a two dimensional array
> (respective into a subarray of buffer array).

> For example:

> -----

> length = 3000000L

> number = 12L

>

> buffer = intarr(length,number)

>

> k = 2

>

>

> status = SDreaddata(sdsid,[0],[1],[len],buffer(0:len,k))

> ----- ^^^^^^^^^

>

> This example doesn't work, despite it's possible to address subarrays

> in this manner (array(from:to)) in PV-Wave. Status doesn't indicate

> an error! I work around it in this way:

> -----

> tmpbuf = intarr(len)

>

>

> status = SDreaddata(sdsid,[0],[1],[len],tmpbuf)

> buffer(0:len,k) = tmpbuf

> -----

This is not a problem with the SDS interface, it is an intrinsic problem in IDL and PV-WAVE. When you pass a subset of an array (buffer(0:len,k) to a routine you are actually passing an EXPRESSION, which is a COPY of that part of the array. You cannot store back into the original array using this syntax. Your workaround is the only way to do it.

I am surprised the copies are taking as long as you say. You might try the syntax:

buffer(0, k) = tmpbuf

which should be equivalent to buffer(0:len, k)=tmpbuf, but may be faster.

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