
Subject: Re: HDF5 data

Posted by [James Kuyper](#) on Fri, 20 Apr 2007 22:27:59 GMT

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On Apr 20, 3:48 pm, Orion Poplawski <o...@cora.nwra.com> wrote:

> Does anyone know how to read *part* of a dataset stored in an HDF5 file?

>

> Currently we're doing something like:

>

> voltdataset=H5D_OPEN(fn,"RAW11/Data/Samples/Data")

> VoltagesArray=H5D_READ(voltdataset)

>

> But this is a float array of 2,1000,2500,50 and is too big to allocate

> on a 32-bit machine. We'd like to return a subset of the data.

>

> - Orion

The following is based entirely upon reading the IDL HDF5 documentation; I have no personal experience with HDF5 files, only with HDF4.

You need to use the FILE_SPACE or MEMORY_SPACE arguments to H5D_READ. These arguments are dataspace identifiers. You have to use the H5S_* functions to create and manipulate dataspaces. You pass the dimensions of the offset that you want to H5S_CREATE_SIMPLE(), and pass the starting position to H5S_OFFSET_SIMPLE. Hopefully you won't need to create more complicated subsets, but if you do, you can use H5S_SELECT_HYPERSLAB. Don't forget to call H5S_CLOSE when you're done with a dataspace.
