
Subject: Re: HDF_Browser Woes

Posted by [Richard Edgar](#) on Thu, 03 May 2007 17:08:46 GMT

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David Fanning wrote:

> Benjamin Hornberger writes:

>

>> I can tell you how (little) I used hdf_read(). I believe hdf_browser()
>> can produce a template to subsequently open several files of the same
>> type / structure with hdf_read() without going through what I describe
>> below each time.

>

> Ooohhhh! Humm, I didn't even know there was a connection
> between HDF_BROWSER and HDF_READ. I probably should have
> read the documentation instead of assuming this would
> work intuitively. :-)

Indeed, HDF_BROWSER is to HDF_READ as ASCII_TEMPLATE is to READ_ASCII. I
have a simple routine which uses the template produced:

```
PRO ReadHDF,filename,struct
; Simple procedure to read an HDF file
```

```
RESTORE,FILENAME='template.dat'
struct = HDF_READ(filename,TEMPLATE=template)
```

```
END
```

where 'template.dat' contained a template previously SAVED from HDF_BROWSER.

It's been a while since I used HDF_BROWSER, so I can't remember how to
use it exactly.... it's certainly not as intuitive as ASCII_TEMPLATE.
Knowing what's supposed to be in the file would be a good start :-) The
fields should at least be named within the HDF file.

Richard
