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Subject: Q: Anyone know of an IDL generic HDF SDS reader?

Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Tue, 12 Dec 1995 08:00:00 GMT

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I am looking for IDL code to read general (i.e. structure not pre-defined) HDF SDS datafiles. I thought I'd check before I start writing one. The module(s) I need should be able to inventory the contents of a HDF file containing multiple SDS entries, with each SDS being of arbitrary type and number of dimensions, and having an arbitrary number of attributes. This inventory would preferably be presented as a widget list, and allow the user to select a variable by name. The user would then be presented with a new widget dialog box that asks the user to select the dimensions of the data hyperslab to be read.

I realize that this is a tall order, but perhaps someone has already written some code to do it. I have looked at the Data and Dimensions Interface (DDI) package available at

<http://www.nersc.gov/doc/Services/Applications/Graphics/DDI/DDI.html> but I could not get it to work properly. If anyone is using DDI to import HDF SDS data into IDL I would like to hear from them. Likewise, if there is another similar package available I would also like to hear about it.

Cheers,  
Liam.

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