

---

Subject: Re: IDL structure to HDF-5

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 07 Nov 2007 21:37:15 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

---

Wayne Landsman writes:

> Interestingly, I have been just looking for something similar for  
> HDF-5 files. You can read an HDF5 file into an IDL structure using  
> a single call to H5\_PARSE. But what I haven't found anywhere is  
> the capability to write that same structure back to an HDF-5 file  
> without considerable programming. --Wayne

Humm. Interesting, indeed. My client wants a fair amount of information packed into the FITS file, as that is what they are used to. I've been trying to sell HDF as an alternative, since I am more certain about how to get the data out of there. (Simply more experience with it than with FITS.)

Here is my situation. I process an image, which results in 24-separate spectra. Each spectra needs to be fit with three separate Gaussians. (I'm waving my hands a bit here, because I haven't figured out how to do this part yet.) I need to save the original image, the processed image, the spectra, and the fitting parameters and other equations.

Would you recommend FITS or HDF for such a project?

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

---