
Subject: Re: Writing compressed HDF5 files with IDL
Posted by [Maarten\[1\]](#) on Tue, 16 Feb 2010 15:08:51 GMT
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On Feb 16, 2:50 pm, Carsten Lechte <c...@toppoint.de> wrote:
> Has anyone managed to write (gzip) compressed HDF5 files with IDL?
> My guess is that it is not possible with IDL 6.4.
>
> The help for the high-level function H5_CREATE does not mention
> compression, and the low-level functions for the H5P_* interface
> are noticable only for their absence. The H5P_* functions are
> necessary for setting the compression options.

HDF5 support was introduced quite slowly, it took RSI/ITT a few iterations to get it right (well, complete). Your best bet is to compress after creation.

In the shell (unix, right?) you can spawn the following. h5repack is part of the HDF5 library distribution. Be sure to read the help of the tool; note that --latest may prevent IDL from reading the file (if you have HDF5 1.8 installed).

```
h5repack --native --latest --filter=GZIP=6 file.h5 file-out.h5
```

Best,

Maarten.
