
Subject: Re: How to check for existence of an HDF5 group

Posted by [markb77](#) on Sun, 08 Feb 2015 09:39:50 GMT

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On Saturday, February 7, 2015 at 7:24:50 PM UTC+1, David Grier wrote:

> Dear Folks,

>

> I want to create new groups within an HDF5 file. Before creating a new group, however,

> I'd like to check whether a group of the same name already exists. What's the right

> way to do this?

>

> Calling H5G_OPEN or H5G_GET_OBJINFO with a new group name throws an error.

> I could write a wrapper routine that catches the error and returns a "group not found"

> value but that seems kludgy.

>

> H5_LIST returns a whole lot of information, which I suppose I could parse. That also seems

> clunky.

>

> Is there a more elegant solution? Something along the lines of FILE_TEST that works

> for HDF5 groups (H5G_TEST, e.g.)?

>

> All the best,

>

> David

hi David,

The way to do it is to use H5_LIST with the FILTER keyword.

Also, I have a routine for this in my library: `wmb_h5_group_exists()`

which can be found at http://www.github.com/superchromix/wmb_lib

best,

Mark
