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Subject: Re: Reopen HDF5 file to add more data?

Posted by [markb77](#) on Tue, 10 Feb 2015 08:17:37 GMT

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On Monday, February 9, 2015 at 5:25:56 PM UTC+1, David Grier wrote:

> Dear Folks,  
>  
> It appears not to be possible to add more data to an HDF5 file once  
> the file has been closed, at least not in the IDL implementation.  
> Is that correct?  
>  
> Here's a minimal example of what I'm trying to do. This triggers  
> the error that inspires my question.  
>  
> Is there a way to reopen an file for writing, or do I have to read in the  
> old archive and recopy everything to a new archive?  
>  
> Many thanks,  
>  
> David  
>  
> ;--- cut here for minimal example ---  
> filename = 'testfile.h5'  
> group = 'group'  
> name = 'testdata'  
>  
> ;;; Create and close an HDF5 archive with one group and no data  
> fid = h5f\_create(filename)  
> gid = h5g\_create(fid, group)  
> h5g\_close, gid  
> h5f\_close, fid  
>  
> ;;; Reopen the HDF5 archive to add some data to the group  
> fid = h5f\_open(filename)  
> gid = h5g\_open(fid, group)  
>  
> ;;; attempt to write some data  
> a = bindgen(640, 480)  
> tid = h5t\_idl\_create(a)  
> sid = h5s\_create\_simple(a.dim)  
> did = h5d\_create(gid, name, tid, sid) ;;; <-- this fails  
> h5d\_write, did, a  
>  
> ;;; close the file  
> h5d\_close, did  
> h5s\_close, sid  
> h5t\_close, tid  
> h5g\_close, gid

```
> h5f_close, fid
```

hi David,

You need to use H5D\_EXTEND to increase the size of your dataset before you can append additional data.

best  
Mark

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