
Subject: Re: Reopen HDF5 file to add more data?
Posted by [dg86](#) on Tue, 10 Feb 2015 17:25:49 GMT
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On Tuesday, February 10, 2015 at 3:17:39 AM UTC-5, superchromix wrote:

> 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
```

It turns out the answer is even simpler than that.
H5F_OPEN opens a file read-only by default. The /WRITE switch opens it
read-write. Everything is working now!

TTFN,

David
