
Subject: Re: Reading h5 dataset by chunks

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Thu, 09 Jun 2016 15:25:40 GMT

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

On 6/7/16 6:53 am, alx wrote:

> Le mardi 7 juin 2016 11:33:10 UTC+2, Nikola Vitas a écrit :

>> Gentle folks,

>>

>> I'm trying to read a dataset from a h5 file by chunks. Let's say that in the file I have dataset called 'temperature' that contains 3D matrix (nx x ny x nz). Normally I use H5D_READ to read the entire dataset/cube at once. Since the dimensions of the cube may be huge (I easily get out of memory), I wonder is it possible to read h5 datasets chunk by chunk (slice by slice for example)? Something like using ASSOC to read large binary files.

>>

>> I'm lost in the list of h5-related IDL routines. Any help will be appreciated!

>>

>> Thanks!

>>

>> Nikola

>

> The recipe with IDL implementation of HDF5 library might be the following:

> - open your file: fileId = H5F_OPEN(...)

> - open your 3D dataset: dsId = H5D_OPEN(fileId, ...)

> - get the corresponding dataspace: dId = H5D_GET_SPACE(dsId)

> - define the memory space to hold each readout chunk:

> mId = H5S_CREATE_SIMPLE(dims)

> (dims is the 3-vector containing sizes of the 3D slice):

> Inside the reading loop:

> - define an individual chunk: H5S_SELECT_HYPERSLAB, dId, start, dims, /RESET

> (start is the 3-vector containing position of the 3D slice)

> - read the data subset: data = H5D_READ(dsId, FILE_SPACE=dId, MEMORY_SPACE=mId)

> Loop as far as you like.

> When finished, close all the opened Ids.

> I guess that the reading performance will depend on the way in which the file was originally written.

> Cheers,

> alx

>

Yes, I believe those are all the steps/routines you need. Check out MG_H5_GETDATA for an example of doing this (or just use it, if that suits your purposes):

https://github.com/mgalloy/mglib/blob/master/src/hdf5/mg_h5_getdata.pro

Mike

--

Michael Galloy

