Subject: Files on external drive not accessible with hdf_open()
Posted by Helder Marchetto on Thu, 20 Oct 2016 12:28:17 GMT
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Hi,
I'm encountering a strange problem opening a file on an external drive. I'm not sure if IDL or the
system is generating the error.

So I use a command like this to open an hdf file:

f_id   = hdf_open(inFileName, /read)

And I get a -1 as a result.
If I test for the file, I get 1 (=file existing and readable):

print, file_test(inFileName, /read)

This happens when my external drive turns off (goes idle) after a short brake or when I close and
reopen my laptop (haven't checked which one...). Unplugging and replugging (unmounting,
mounting) the drive solves the error. All other options I tried did not (reset IDL session,
close-reopen IDL).

The command:
help, /files
does not give any information.

My question: how can I catch this error? I could of course test if hdf_open is -1 and file_test is 1
then tell the user "unmount and remount your drive", but maybe there is a better way to do this...

I would appreciate any help on the topic.

Cheers,
Helder