
Subject: Inconsistent problem of HDF I/O
Posted by [K.Y.Choi](#) on Wed, 27 Nov 2002 16:02:31 GMT
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Hello

I've got HDF files that have been created with NCSA HDF Version 3.3 Release 3, February 1994. It contains several VGroups and one or two SD objects. I wrote an IDL code for the HDF file I/O, that extracts some file information from VGroups, as well as image data in SD objects.

My routine has inconsistent problem, that is, when I tried to run my code to open a file, it some times yields error message like

% HDF_CLOSE: Failed to close file (ï¿½).

In parentheses, it shows funny ASCII shapes, such as ï¿½ shape or | shape. With or without recompiling, it *sometimes* works after a couple of trials for the same file. The file has no problem whatsoever with HDF_BROWSER, indicating that the HDF file is fine.

Only solution I can think of was to separate HDF_OPEN - HDF_CLOSE from HDF_SD_START - HDF_SD_ENDACCESS - HDF_SD_END. Hence structure of my code is as follows,

```
HDF_OPEN
:
access VGroup
:
HDF_CLOSE

HDF_SD_START
:
access SD
:
HDF_SD_ENDACCESS
HDF_SD_END

HDF_OPEN
:
access VGroup
:
HDF_CLOSE
```

The error always points HDF_CLOSE at the end of the routine

I thought (still think) HDF_OPEN - HDF_CLOSE and HDF_SD_START -

HDF_SD_ENDACCESS - HDF_SD_END behave exactly like OPENR /GET_LUN - FREE_LUN. But they don't?

Should I blame a guy who creates the HDF file or IDL or myself? How am I improve my routine as solid as BMW?

I look forward to hearing from you guys soon. Please share your wisdom and experience...

Thanks

Reno

Subject: Re: Inconsistent problem of HDF I/O
Posted by [MarioIncandenza](#) on Mon, 22 Jul 2013 18:15:28 GMT
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On Wednesday, November 27, 2002 8:02:31 AM UTC-8, Reno Choi wrote:

>

> % HDF_CLOSE: Failed to close file (↵).

I have just been bitten by this problem. The file passes HDF_ISHDF() and HDF_OPEN(), but HDF_CLOSE gives an error. No SD or VG or any kind of access statement between HDF_OPEN() and HDF_CLOSE() is required to give this error. Any other tests people use out there that can catch a bad HDF before it breaks IDL?

Subject: Re: Inconsistent problem of HDF I/O
Posted by [MarioIncandenza](#) on Mon, 22 Jul 2013 18:49:10 GMT
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On Monday, July 22, 2013 11:15:28 AM UTC-7, Edward Hyer wrote:

> I have just been bitten by this problem. The file passes HDF_ISHDF() and HDF_OPEN(), but HDF_CLOSE gives an error. No SD or VG or any kind of access statement between HDF_OPEN() and HDF_CLOSE() is required to give this error. Any other tests people use out there that can catch a bad HDF before it breaks IDL?

The file does cause 'ncdump' to fail. So my worst-case scenario is to add another layer of checks with 'ncdump,' but I'd be much happier if there was a check I could do within IDL.
