
Subject: help, cannot create hdf-sd string array variable
Posted by [R.G. Stockwell](#) on Thu, 06 Mar 2003 16:43:28 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hopefully someone can give me a quick pointer.

(as a favor) I am transferring data written in idl, to another computer to be read by matlab. I chose hdf to make it "easier". I don't actually know any hdf, hence the question.

My problem is that I create 3 arrays in the hdf file, one of which is a 2D string array. When I try to write it (string array), I get the follow error message:

```
% HDF_SD_ADDDATA: Cannot write 13 elements. The data area is not that big.  
% Execution halted at: HDF_RADAR_WRITE
```

Here is the relevant code:

```
..... snip .....  
headersize = size(header_array)  
sds_header_id=HDF_SD_CREATE(sd_id,'Header',[headersize[1],headersize[2]],/string)  
HDF_SD_SETINFO,sds_header_id,LABEL='header thing', $  
    UNIT='nadda'  
; Write labels to each of the dimensions  
HDF_SD_DIMSET,HDF_SD_DIMGETID(sds_header_id,0),NAME='headwidth',LABEL='label  
head tall'  
HDF_SD_DIMSET,HDF_SD_DIMGETID(sds_header_id,1),NAME='headtall',LABEL='label head  
tall'  
; Create and write the data  
HDF_SD_ADDDATA, sds_header_id, header_array  
; Done Close down the SDS  
HDF_SD_ENDACCESS,sds_header_id  
..... snip .....
```

Now, when I change this (header_array and the sd_create call) to float (for instance) everthing works fine.

So what is the problem with this? It seems specific to the string variable type.

Where does "13 elements" come from?

Note: header_array = string(findgen(10,2)+100)

Chees,
bob stockwell
