
Subject: HDF_SD_START: Invalid HDF file or filename: problem related to network issues

Posted by [Robert Levy](#) on Tue, 22 Oct 2013 18:06:50 GMT

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Hi all,

I am a group newbie, so i apologize if a solution exists but I didn't find.

Anyway, I am running a giant script to read thousands of MODIS HDF data files, which the files are located on a LVES mount (data are virtually mounted through a network).

So the problem seems to be that there are occasional network "blips" that happen. For example, I run these command:

1) determine that the file exists and is a proper HDF file

```
fileHandle = HDF_OPEN(Filename, /READ )
```

```
IF fileHandle LT 1 THEN BEGIN
```

```
    errorLevel = 1
```

```
    Return, errorLevel
```

```
ENDIF
```

```
HDF_CLOSE, fileHandle
```

2) Then I go and actually open the file:

```
hdfid = HDF_SD_START(Filename, /READ)
```

This is where the code bombs and gives me:

```
HDF_SD_START: Invalid HDF file or filename
```

and stops my whole code. This file exists and is a perfectly fine file.

Note that this may happen after the code is running for days (opening and closing files). If I try a second later, it works fine. Is there any way to have HDF_SD_START exit gracefully, and return an error code, rather than stop with error message? Then I could know it is a network problem and try again a few seconds later.

Thanks for any ideas.

-Rob

Subject: Re: HDF_SD_START: Invalid HDF file or filename: problem related to network issues

Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Tue, 22 Oct 2013 18:37:34 GMT

Hi Rob :)

This has happened to me a lot so I'm also interested if there's a solution... I normally manually copy-paste the line the code failed on, and then type `.continue` after to resume it. It works, but requires manual intervention.

Andy

On Tuesday, October 22, 2013 2:06:50 PM UTC-4, Robert Levy wrote:

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>     Return, errorLevel
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>   ENDIF
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>   HDF_CLOSE, fileHandle
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and try again a few seconds later.
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> Thanks for any ideas.
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>
> -Rob

Subject: Re: HDF_SD_START: Invalid HDF file or filename: problem related to
network issues

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Tue, 22 Oct 2013 18:44:49 GMT

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Robert Levy writes:

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and try again a few seconds later.
>
> Thanks for any ideas.

Well, CATCH error handlers are always pretty useful. :-)

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Seper ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Subject: Re: HDF_SD_START: Invalid HDF file or filename: problem related to
network issues

Posted by [Carsten Lechte](#) on Wed, 23 Oct 2013 09:05:08 GMT

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On 22/10/13 20:44, David Fanning wrote:

>> Thanks for any ideas.

>
> Well, CATCH error handlers are always pretty useful. :-)

I would add that you should WAIT a few seconds between retries, and maybe also limit the number of retries to a few hundreds.

chl

Subject: Re: HDF_SD_START: Invalid HDF file or filename: problem related to network issues

Posted by [xin.xi30](#) on Wed, 20 Jan 2016 21:33:43 GMT

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On Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at 11:06:50 AM UTC-7, Robert Levy wrote:

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and try again a few seconds later.

>

> Thanks for any ideas.

>

> -Rob

Hi Rob,

Have you found a solution to your problem? I am having the same issue. The MODIS collection 6 MYD04 file I want to read is valid, but hdf_open reports -1 fileHandle, and hdf_sd_start reports invalid HDF file or filename.
