
Subject: HDF_SD_ADDDATA error attempting to copy variable from one HDF file to another

Posted by [BLesht](#) on Mon, 28 Aug 2017 15:35:39 GMT

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I have two existing HDF files. I want to copy a variable from one and add it to the other. I thought this would be pretty straightforward, but I'm getting an error "Unable to write the specified HDF-SD slice" from the HDF_SD_ADDDATA step. Here is the relevant part of the code I'm using:

```
f1id = HDF_OPEN(fullL1A, /READ)      ; Open the L1A file read only
sd1id = HDF_SD_START(fullL1A, /READ)  ; Open the SD dataset read only
;
f2id = HDF_OPEN(inL2, /WRITE)         ; Open the L2 file for writing
sd2id = HDF_SD_START(inL2, /RDWR)     ; Open the L2 SD read/write
;
;
indx1 = HDF_SD_NAMETOINDEX(sd1id, 'ntilts') ; Find the L1A ntilts SD
sdvi1 = HDF_SD_SELECT(sd1id, indx1)      ; Get the dataset ID
;
HDF_SD_GETDATA, sdvi1, ntilts           ; Get the data
HDF_SD_GETINFO, sdvi1, DIMS=dims1, $    ; Get the information for ntilts
      NATTS=numAttrs1, $
      NAME=name1, $
      TYPE=type1, $
      /NOREVERSE

; Create the ntilts SD in the L2 file

newL2SD1 = HDF_SD_CREATE(sd2id, 'ntilts', [dims1], /LONG)

; Add the ntilts data to the L2 file

HDF_SD_ADDDATA, newL2SD1, ntilts

HDF_SD_ENDACCESS, newL2SD1             ; Close the L2 ntilts SD
HDF_SD_ENDACCESS, sdvi1                ; Close the L1 ntilts SD

HDF_SD_END, sd1id                      ; End the SD interface
HDF_CLOSE, f1id                        ; Close the file
;
HDF_SD_END, sd2id
HDF_CLOSE, f2id                        ; Close the file
```

I have checked the values of ntilts, etc. when they are retrieved from the L1A (source) file and they are correct. I also have checked the permissions on the file to which I want to add the data and they are correct.

Perhaps I've missed a step or am approaching this incorrectly. I'd appreciate any ideas about

fixing or additional troubleshooting. Thanks.

Subject: Re: HDF_SD_ADDDATA error attempting to copy variable from one HDF file to another

Posted by [BLesht](#) on Mon, 28 Aug 2017 18:43:01 GMT

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I'm a bit surprised by how few questions/answers there have been in this forum related to HDF file processing. That being said, the problem I asked about below turns out not to be a problem at all - a simple case of programmer error. I was identified the wrong HDF file for modification and the explanation of the error was basically that the file I wanted to write although existing (so it didn't trigger an error when I tried to open it) wasn't the one I could write to.

On Monday, August 28, 2017 at 10:35:42 AM UTC-5, Barry Lesht wrote:

> I have two existing HDF files. I want to copy a variable from one and add it to the other. I thought this would be pretty straightforward, but I'm getting an error "Unable to write the specified HDF-SD slice" from the HDF_SD_ADDDATA step. Here is the relevant part of the code I'm using:

```
>
> f1id = HDF_OPEN(fullL1A, /READ)      ; Open the L1A file read only
> sd1id = HDF_SD_START(fullL1A, /READ)  ; Open the SD dataset read only
> ;
> f2id = HDF_OPEN(inL2, /WRITE)         ; Open the L2 file for writing
> sd2id = HDF_SD_START(inL2, /RDWR)     ; Open the L2 SD read/write
> ;
> ;
> indx1 = HDF_SD_NAMETOINDEX(sd1id, 'ntilts') ; Find the L1A ntilts SD
> sdvi1 = HDF_SD_SELECT(sd1id, indx1)    ; Get the dataset ID
> ;
> HDF_SD_GETDATA, sdvi1, ntilts          ; Get the data
> HDF_SD_GETINFO, sdvi1, DIMS=dims1, $   ; Get the information for ntilts
>     NATTS=numAttrs1, $
>     NAME=name1, $
>     TYPE=type1, $
>     /NOREVERSE
>
> ; Create the ntilts SD in the L2 file
>
> newL2SD1 = HDF_SD_CREATE(sd2id, 'ntilts', [dims1], /LONG)
>
> ; Add the ntilts data to the L2 file
>
> HDF_SD_ADDDATA, newL2SD1, ntilts
>
> HDF_SD_ENDACCESS, newL2SD1            ; Close the L2 ntilts SD
> HDF_SD_ENDACCESS, sdvi1               ; Close the L1 ntilts SD
>
```

```
> HDF_SD_END, sd1id          ; End the SD interface
> HDF_CLOSE, f1id            ; Close the file
> ;
> HDF_SD_END, sd2id
> HDF_CLOSE, f2id            ; Close the file
>
> I have checked the values of ntilts, etc. when they are retrieved from the L1A (source) file and
they are correct. I also have checked the permissions on the file to which I want to add the data
and they are correct.
>
> Perhaps I've missed a step or am approaching this incorrectly. I'd appreciate any ideas about
fixing or additional troubleshooting. Thanks.
```
