
Subject: IDL 5.2: Can't read HDF files any more ...
Posted by [harald](#) on Thu, 04 Feb 1999 08:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hello,

I've recently upgraded to IDL 5.2 on my NT machine and now I can't read my HDF files any more (which works perfectly well under IDL 5.1.1). The HDF files contains image data stored in scientific data sets (SDS). Every time I try to read the SDS, I get the following error message:

%HDF_SD_GETDATA: Unsupported or unknown HDF data type (16406).

The same error message appears if I use the HDF_BROWSER program.

Does anybody know about this bug/behaviour?

Regards,
Harald

Harald Jan Jeszenszky
harald@iwf.tu-graz.ac.at

Space Research Institute
Austrian Academy of Sciences

Subject: Re: IDL 5.2: Can't read HDF files any more ...
Posted by [Liam Gumley](#) on Wed, 10 Feb 1999 08:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Harald Jeszenszky wrote:

> I've recently upgraded to IDL 5.2 on my NT machine and now I can't
> read my HDF files any more (which works perfectly well under IDL
> 5.1.1). The HDF files contains image data stored in scientific data
> sets (SDS). Every time I try to read the SDS, I get the following
> error message:
>
> %HDF_SD_GETDATA: Unsupported or unknown HDF data type (16406).
>
> The same error message appears if I use the HDF_BROWSER program.
>
> Does anybody know about this bug/behaviour?

I've reported a bug I found when trying to read HDF3.3r1 files in IDL

5.2. It turns out the bug (in my case) stems from the HDF4.1r2 library from NCSA - it cannot read SDS objects created with HDF3.3r1.

The following code was very helpful in tracking down the problem. Try running it on your HDF file in IDL 5.2 vs. IDL 5.1.

My advice; go back to IDL 5.1. I believe a fix for this problem is planned for IDL 5.2.1.

Cheers,
Liam.

```
;---cut here---
PRO HDF_VERSION, FILE

;+
;Purpose:
;  To print the version of HDF used by IDL and
;  the version of HDF used to create a particular file.
;
;Input:
;  FILE  Name of the HDF file
;
;Output:
;  None
;
;Author:
;  Liam.Gumley@ssec.wisc.edu
;-

;- Check arguments

if n_elements( file ) ne 1 then $
  message, 'Argument FILE is missing'

;- Check that input file is really HDF

if not hdf_ishdf( file ) then begin
  help, file
  message, 'Argument FILE is not HDF'
endif

;- Print version of IDL

print, "
print, 'This is IDL version ', !version

;- Print version of HDF library used internally by IDL
```

```
hdf_lib_info, version=ver  
print, 'This version of IDL was built with ', ver
```

;- Print version of HDF library used to create file

```
id = hdf_open( file, /read )  
hdf_lib_info, id, version=ver  
print, "  
print, file, ' was created with ', ver  
hdf_close, id
```

;- List the names of all SDS in the file

```
sd_id = hdf_sd_start( file, /read )  
hdf_sd_fileinfo, sd_id, nsds, natts  
print, file, nsds, $  
  format = '( a, " contains ", i6, " SDS objects" )'  
if nsds gt 0 then begin  
  print, "  
  for index = 0, nsds-1 do begin  
    sds_id = hdf_sd_select( sd_id, index )  
    hdf_sd_getinfo, sds_id, name=name  
    print, index, name, $  
    format = '( "SDS object ", i6, " name is ", a )'  
    hdf_sd_endaccess, sds_id  
  endfor  
endif  
hdf_sd_end, sd_id
```

END

;---cut here---

Liam E. Gumley
Space Science and Engineering Center, UW-Madison
1225 W. Dayton St., Madison WI 53706, USA
Phone (608) 265-5358, Fax (608) 262-5974
<http://cimss.ssec.wisc.edu/~gumley>
