

Programming Issues

Keep the following in mind when looking at the example programs included in this tutorial:

APIs vary with different languages

- C routines begin with the prefix "H5*" where * is a single letter indicating the object on which the operation is to be performed:
File Interface: `H5Fopen`
Dataset Interface: `H5Dopen`
- FORTRAN routines begin with "h5*" and end with "_f":
File Interface: `h5fopen_f`
Dataset Interface: `h5dopen_f`
- APIS for languages like C++, Java, and Python use methods associated with specific objects.

HDF5 library has its own defined types

For portability, the HDF5 library has its own defined types. Some common types that you will see in the example code are:

`hid_t` is used for object handles

`hsize_t` is used for dimensions

`herr_t` is used for many return values

Language specific files must be included in applications

C: Add `#include hdf5.h`

FORTRAN: Add `USE HDF5` and call `h5open_f` and `h5close_f` to initialize and close the HDF5 FORTRAN interface

Python: Add `import h5py/import numpy`