

Using the HDF5 Command-line Tools

Obtain Tools and Files (Optional)

Pre-built binaries for Linux and Windows are distributed within the respective HDF5 binary release packages, which can be obtained from the [Download HDF5](#) page.

HDF5 files can be obtained from various places such as [HDF5 Examples](#) and [HDF-EOS and Tools and Information Center](#). Specifically, the following examples are used in this tutorial topic:

- HDF5 Files created from compiling the [HDF5 Introductory Examples](#)
 - HDF5 Files on the [C Examples by API](#) page
 - NPP JPSS files, [SVM01_npp..](#) (gzipped) and [SVM09_npp..](#) (gzipped)
 - HDF-EOS OMI-Aura file
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Tutorial Topics

A variety of command-line tools are included in the HDF5 binary distribution. There are tools to view, edit, convert and compare HDF5 files. This tutorial discusses the tools by their functionality. It does not cover all of the HDF5 tools.

Tool Category	Topic	Tools Used
View	File Content and Structure	h5dump and h5ls
	Datasets and Properties	h5dump and h5ls
	Groups	h5dump and h5ls
	Attributes	h5dump
	Dataset Subset	h5dump
	Datatypes	h5dump
	Edit	Remove Inaccessible Objects/Unused Space in a File
Change a Dataset's Storage Layout		h5repack
Apply Compression Filter to a Dataset		h5repack
Copy Objects to Another File		h5copy
Add or Remove User Block from File		h5jam and h5unjam
Convert	Output HDF5 Dataset into an ASCII File	h5dump
	Output HDF5 Dataset into Binary File	h5dump
	Export from h5dump and Import into HDF5	h5dump and h5import