

# h5copy

[Expand all](#) [Collapse all](#)

- [Jump to ...](#)
- [Summary](#)
- [Description](#)
- [Example](#)
- [Switch language ...](#)
- [C](#)
- [C++](#)
- [FORTRAN](#)
- [JAVA](#)

[Summary](#)  
[Description](#)  
[Example](#)  
[JAVA](#)  
[FORTRAN](#)  
[C++](#)  
[C](#)

# h5copy

Copies an HDF5 object within an HDF5 file or from one HDF5 file to another

## Syntax:

```
h5copy [OPTIONS] [OBJECTS]
```

## Description:

`h5copy` copies an HDF5 object (a dataset, named datatype, or group) from an input HDF5 file to an output HDF5 file.

If a group is specified as the input object, any objects in that group will be recursively copied.

The output file may or may not already exist.

`h5copy` will fail if the destination object name already exists.

## Arguments:

### Options and Parameters:

`-h` or `--help`

Print a usage message and exit.

`-v` or `--verbose`

Produce verbose output, printing information regarding the specified options and objects.

`-V` or `--Version`

Print version information.

`-p` or `--parents`

Create parent or intermediate groups as required. (There is no error if they already exist.)

`-f flag_type` or `--flag=flag_type`

Specify one or more of several copy options; `flag_type` may be one of the following strings or a logical AND of two or more:

shallow	Copy only immediate members of a group. (Default: Recursively copy all objects below the group.)
soft	Expand soft links to copy target objects. (Default: Keep soft links as they are.)
ext	Expand external links to copy external objects. (Default: Keep external links as they are.)
ref	Copy references and any referenced objects, i.e., objects that the references point to. Referenced objects are copied in addition to the objects specified on the command line and reference datasets are populated with correct reference values. Copies of referenced datasets outside the copy range specified on the command line will normally have a different name from the original.  (Default: Without this option, reference value(s) in any reference datasets are set to NULL and referenced objects are not copied unless they are otherwise within the copy range specified on the command line.)
attr	Copy objects without copying attributes. (Default: Copy objects and all attributes.)
allflags	Switch each setting above from the default to the setting described in this table. Equivalent to logical AND of all flags above.

**Objects (all required):**

`-i input_file` or `--input=input_file`

Input HDF5 file name

`-o output_file` or `--output=output_file`

Output HDF5 file name (existing or non-existing)

`-s source_object` or `--source=source_object`

Input HDF5 object name within the input file

`-d destination_object` or `--destination=destination_object`

Output HDF5 object name within the output file

**Exit Status:**

0	Succeeded.
> 0	An error occurred.

**Example:**

In verbose mode, create a new file, `test1.out.h5`, containing the object `array` in the root group, copied from the existing file `test1.h5` and object `array`.

```
h5copy -v -i "test1.h5" -o "test1.out.h5" -s "/array" -d "/array"
```

In verbose mode and using the flag `shallow` to prevent recursion in the file hierarchy, create a new file, `test1.out.h5`, containing

the object array in the root group, copied from the existing file test1.h5 and object array.

```
h5copy -v -f shallow -i "test1.h5" -s "/array" -o test1.out.h5" -d "/array"
```

### History:

Release	Change
1.8.0	Tool introduced in this release.
1.8.7	Tool updated to accept same file as input file and as output file.

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