HDF5 Tools by Category

The following table organizes tools by category to help users focus on the tools they need.

Category	Tools	Comments	Usage
View or Display	HDFView	Interactive Java tool. Can view HDF5 file tree structure, images, spreadsheets, properties, attributes.	See tutorial topic Learning HDF5 with HDFView.
	h5dump	Command-line utility to display or *dump* contents of HDF5 file in text.	h5dump xxx.h5 h5dump -n xxx.h5
	h5ls	Command-line utility to display or *list* contents of HDF5 file in text.	h5ls xxx.h5
	h5diff	Command-line utility to compare HDF5 files.	h5diff file1.h5 file2.h5
	Other tools	There are various HDF5 command-line tools to view files in different ways (h5stat, h5perf_serial, ...)	
Modify	HDFView	Interactive Java tool: can create, delete, copy and edit datasets, groups, attributes	See tutorial topic Learning HDF5 with HDFView.
	h5repack	Command-line tool to repack a file. Can be used to get rid of unused space, change properties of datasets and more.	
	h5edit	Command-line tool to create and delete attributes in groups and datasets (not complete, more features to be added later).	
	Other tools	There are various HDF5 command-line tools to edit files in different ways (h5copy, h5jam, ...)	
Export	HDFView	Interactive Java tool. Text and Binary data can be exported to a file. HDF4 and HDF5 images and palettes can be exported to JPEG, PNG, GIF, or BMP files.	
	h5dump	Text and binary data can be exported to a file.	h5dump -o dset.asci -y -w 400 dset.h5 h5dump -b -o file.bin h5dump --xml --use-dtd --xml-dtd=U --xml-ns=S
Convert	HDFView	Can convert GIF, JPEG, BMP, and PNG images into HDF5, and vice-versa	See Section 6.6 in UG.
	h5toh4	Command-line utility to convert some HDF5 files to HDF4. See h4h5tools.	h5toh4 input.h5 output.h4
	HDF5 to NetCDF	Several tools to get HDF5 to NetCDF	
	HDF5 To Excel	You can use h5dump or HDFView to get output that is readable by Excel.	
Import	HDFView	Interactive Java tool. Can import a palette from a file into an image. Can inport text and binary data into a spreadsheet.	See Section 6.5 in UG.
	h5import	Command-line tool to import data into an existing or new HDF5 file.	