HDF4 Tools

HDF4 Command-line Tools

Following is a list of the HDF utilities that are available. These tools come with the pre-compiled binary distribution for the platforms we support and can also be downloaded individually. See the Obtaining the HDF Software page for downloading.

Please refer to Chapter 15 in the HDF User's Guide for detailed information regarding the HDF4 utilities.

One of the most useful utilities is:

hdp - provides quick and general information about all objects in an HDF file

Other Utilities:

gif2hdf - converts GIF image into HDF GR image.
hdf24to8 - converts 24-bit raster images to hdf 8-bit images
h4cc - compiles an HDF4 C program
h4fc - compiles an HDF4 F90 program
h4redeploy - Updates paths in h4cc/h4fc after the HDF4 pre-compiled binaries have been installed in a new location
hdf2gif - converts HDF GR image into GIF image.
hdf2jpeg - converts hdf raster images to jpeg images
hdf8to24 - converts an 8-bit image into a 24-bit image
hdfcomp - re-compresses an 8-bit raster hdf file
hdfed - hdf file editor
hdfls - lists information about an HDF file at a low level
hdfimport - imports ASCII or binary data into HDF
hdfpack - compacts an hdf file
hdftopal - extracts a palette from an hdf file
hdftor8 - extracts 8-bit raster images and palettes from an hdf file
hdfunpac - unpacks an HDF file by exporting the scientific data elements (DFTAG_SD) to external object elements. This is a utility for external file handling for the parallel I/O interface on the CM5.
hdiff - compares two HDF files and reports the differences
hrepack - copies an HDF file to a new file with/without compression and/or chunking
jpeg2hdf - converts jpeg images to hdf raster images
ncdump - generates an ASCII representation of a netCDF file (for input to ncgen)
ncgen - converts a CDL description of a netCDF file into an HDF file
paltohdf - converts a raw palette to hdf
r8tohdf - converts 8-bit raster images to hdf
ristosds - converts a series of raster image hdf files into a single 3D sds hdf file.
vmake - creates vsets
vshow - dumps out vsets in an hdf file

HDF4 Tools by Category

Table of HDF4 tools by category

HDF Java Products (including HDFView)

HDF-Java

HDF-Java wrappers and a Java-based tool for browsing and editing HDF4 and HDF5 files.

H4-H5 Conversion Software

Converting between HDF 4.x and HDF5

Other Tools of Interest

Software using HDF