

The HDF Blog Guidelines & Directions for Guests

The purpose of the HDF Blog

The purpose of the HDF Blog is to share knowledge about HDF products and The HDF Group. We want people to understand the possibilities and solutions HDF products can deliver, particularly in light of technology trends that are challenging organizations to re-examine where and how they manage their data.

Writing a blog...

We encourage guest blogs. If you have an HDF-related idea for an article, please email blog@hdfgroup.org. We'd love to talk it over with you and answer any questions you may have about guesting on our blog. As our guest, you will receive a byline and the option to provide links to your website, publications, citations or social media pages.

Blog about new ideas, innovation, technical Insights, what you're doing with HDF products, why you chose HDF5, how HDF improved your operation, etc. If you have found an interesting new application or new technique to let people know about, blog, and encourage feedback!

Who are we writing to?

- Existing HDF users – programmers and managers,
- Potential new users – both technical and non-technical staff,
- People building new products using HDF,
- Peers and partners.

General Guidelines

- Contact blog@hdfgroup.org to suggest a blog post and identify a date.
- We need to receive your blog a minimum of seven days before the publishing date, normally the Wednesday before the week of publication. We will review the blog, communicate with you about any changes, supply any necessary or requested editing and prepare it for posting. We'll forward it to you for approval prior to posting it.
- If you are unable to meet the deadline for a blog, please inform blog@hdfgroup.org at least a week before the due date.
- We reserve the right to decline any submission.

Blogger Guidelines

1. Please do a search on our blog to see if we've covered your topic before.
2. Content must relate to HDF.
3. Your submission should be a well-written, high-quality original article, or a properly cited excerpt of another in order to be published.
4. Submissions must conform to the terms of any related contracts.

5. Please provide a short, 1-2 sentence author profile; we'd also like to get a nice photo of the author(s) or an image that represents your organization.
6. Images/media to illustrate your article must be original, or must be royalty-free or used in accordance with their license. Please provide a thorough statement of attribution along with the source URL for the media. See below for file formats.
7. Style suggestions:
 - A. Blogs don't have to be long or involved, although some will be. Give our readers good information, but try to be to-the-point, with clear instructions as to where to go for more information. That said, posts should be as long as they need to be for high- quality and comprehensive coverage.
 - B. The writing style can be conversational or formal, whatever you feel is appropriate.
8. Submitting your blog
 - A. If possible, submit your draft electronically in a MS Word document. For your convenience (and ours), there is a fillable [Blog Prep Worksheet](#) (.docx) with the information we need for your blog. The information we need includes:
 - a) An interesting title.
 - b) A description of your intended audience.
 - c) Tags, or keywords, about your topic and HDF, for search engine optimization.
 - d) A brief (156 characters or less) description, which may appear as the detail on search engine results.
 - e) The category that identifies the general subject area of the blog.
 - f) Links to data, charts, quotations, and other third-party content referenced or included in the article. (Highlight the word or words that should be part of the active link and use the hyperlink function to link to the URL).
 - B. If you are submitting material that helps illustrate your article, WordPress supports uploading the following file types:
 - a) **Images** .jpg, .jpeg, .png, .gif (.png is best)
 - b) **Documents** .pdf, .doc, .docx .ppt, .pptx, .pps, .ppsx, .odt .xls, .xlsx
 - c) **Audio** .mp3, .m4a, .ogg, .wav
 - d) **Video** .mp4, .m4v (MPEG-4); .mov (QuickTime); .wmv (Windows Media Video); .avi; .mpg; .ogv (Ogg); .3gp (3GPP); .3g2 (3GPP2)
 - e) **Code** If you're providing examples of code, choose a format that the user can copy and paste. Please use a monospace font and use spaces rather than tabs in formatting the code. HTML is best, and if providing numerous code examples, we prefer the code snippets to be in separate HTML files.

1. Please include the source code in between the following tags:

```
<pre><strong><code>
... source code goes here ...
</code></strong></pre>
```

2. For example, it might look something like this:

```
<pre><strong><code>
1 import h5py
2 import sys
3 from pyspark import SparkContext
4
5 if __name__ == "__main__":
6     """
7     Usage: doit [partitions]
8     """
9     sc = SparkContext(appName="SparkHDF5")
10    partitions = int(sys.argv[1]) if len(sys.argv) > 1 else 2
11
12    #####
13    # read a dataset and return it as a Python list #
14
15    def f(x):
16        a = x.split(",")
17        with h5py.File(a[0]) as f:
18            result = f[a[1]]
19            return list(result[:])
20
21    #####
22
23    file_paths = sc.textFile("file_names_and_paths.csv",
24                            minPartitions=partitions)
25
26    rdd = file_paths.flatMap(f)
27
28    print "\ncount %d : min %f : mean %f : stdev %f : \
29        max %f\n" % (rdd.count(), rdd.min(), rdd.mean(), \
29        rdd.stdev(), rdd.max())
30
31    print rdd.histogram(10)
32    sc.stop()
</code></strong></pre>
```

Questions? Please email blog@hdfgroup.org. Thank you for contributing to the HDF Blog!