# Making H5I Multi-Thread Safe: A Sketch Design

John Mainzer Lifeboat, LLC

9/15/22

# Introduction

Unlike H5E, it was obvious from the start that H5I would have at least one dependency – specifically H5E as H5I can flag errors. While there is no fundamental reason why H5I should have any further dependencies on any other packages in the HDF5 library, in actuality there are quite a few.

As this is a preliminary sketch design for retrofitting multi-thread safety on H5I, the initial objective is to outline the issues to be addressed, and to outline possible solutions. It will be necessary to study additional packages before this sketch design can be brought to something approaching final form.

# A Quick Overview of H5I

H5I exists to provide indexing services both to the HDF5 library proper, and to application programs. The basic services may be summarized as follows:

- Create and delete types of indexes. Here the type of an index indicates the type of entries the index supports. In the HDF5 library proper, types include error messages, files, data sets, etc.
- Insert, lookup, and delete entries in individual indexes. To insert an entry the user
  provides the type of the target index, and a void pointer to whatever data is to be
  associated with the entry, and receives an ID in return. This ID is used for subsequent
  lookups and deletions. Note that IDs have reference counts, and under normal
  circumstances are not deleted until their reference counts drop to 0.

The private API also provides calls to:

- lookup the ID associated with a given void pointer,
- modify the void pointer associated with an existing index entry

- insert an entry into an index with a specified ID
- Iteration and searching through indexes. Here the user provides a function and an index type. The function is executed on every ID in the target index (in the case of iteration) or until it reports success (in the case of searches).
- Miscellaneous services including incrementing and decrementing reference counts on entries and types of indexes, tests for validity, fetching the number of index entries of a give type, deletion of types of indexes with all their entries, etc.

Unfortunately, there are also miscellaneous calls to look up the file or name associated with entries in certain indexes – which result in dependencies on packages in addition to H5E. The hope is that these dependencies can be resolved either through re-architecting or through multi-thread safety requirements on the external calls – but we will not know until the target packages have been examined in greater detail.

The iteration calls also raise issues.

In iteration calls that pass the void pointer associated with the current id to the iteration call back function, H5I calls H5I\_unwrap on this pointer before passing it to the callback. While this is a no-op in the public API, for some internal types of indexes (H5I\_FILE, H5I\_GROUP, H5I\_DATASET, H5I\_ATTR, and H5I\_DATATYPE), the call to H5I\_unwrap() results in a H5VL call, and a subsequent call into the appropriate VOL connector. While I have largely bypassed this issue for now, it is an unknown that will have to be resolved before we proceed with actual development.

The external iteration calls (H5Isearch() and H5Iiterate()) also present issues, as the HDF5 library has no control over these user supplied call backs – in principle they can make arbitrary calls back into the HDF5 library.

# Multi-Thread Issues in H51

As with H5E, leaving aside the issue of the unexpected dependencies, there appear to be no fundamental reasons why H5I can't be made multi-thread safe. That said, there are a number of issues to be dealt with. Before discussing how these challenges might be addressed, it will be useful to discuss each of these issues in greater detail.

# Use of other HDF5 packages by H5I

As should be obvious from the above outline of the H5I package, there is no functional reason why H5I has to make calls to packages in the HDF5 library other than H5E for error reporting. That said, in its current implementation it does – specifically it has calls to:

- H5MM
- H5FL,
- H5E
- H5VL
- H5F

Note that while H5P is included in H5I source code files, it appears to be used only for access to a single constant used in a H5VL call – and thus it isn't listed above.

As in H5E, H5MM and H5FL are easily avoided by using the C dynamic memory allocation functions directly, and by either not maintaining free lists, or maintaining them internally.

The dependency on H5E is a larger issue, as it presents the possibility of lock ordering issues since we may need to call H5E from H5I, which in turn may call H5I. In the long term, the safest way to resolve this would be to remove H5E's dependency on H5I. However, there are several other ways which would work – albeit with greater danger of inadvertent insertion of deadlocks. Perhaps the easiest would be to make any locks used by H5I recursive.

The dependencies on H5VL and H5F spring from the above mentioned public API calls to determine the file or name associated with certain types of IDs, and the calls to H5I\_\_unwrap() in some of the iteration calls. Indeed, the problem is potentially greater than this, as initial call trees for these public API calls indicate that H5CX and H5T are also involved, along with calls into VOL connectors. That said, the current focus is on H5I proper – thus these issues are left as known unknowns for now.

The callbacks used in both the public and private iteration calls (H5Isearch, H5Iiterate(), H5I\_iterate(), etc.) are of similar concern as they have the potential to introduce dependencies, and thus potential lock ordering issues.

For the immediate objective (retrofitting multi-thread safety on H5E, H5I, H5P, H5CX, and H5VL), this is not too troubling, as we need only consider H5I iteration calls from these five packages – and an initial scan indicates that only H5VL is involved. The remainder of the HDF5 library is not an immediate concern, as any H5I iteration calls from these packages will be protected by the global lock for now.

Finally, the callbacks used in the public iteration calls (H5Isearch() and H5Iiterate()) have the potential to introduce arbitrary indirect dependencies. In principle, the free\_func provided to H5Iregister\_type, and the realize and discard functions provided to H5Iregister\_future() present similar issues.

# Multi-thread thread issues in H5l proper

A review of the H5I public, private, and developer APIs reveals the following multi-thread safety issues in the current H5I implementation.

# Use of uthash to implement indexes

H5I uses uthash – a collection of macros – to implement the hash tables used to implement indexes. According to uthash documentation, uthash can be made thread safe by wrapping all uthash macros in a read / write lock. Write locks are required for operations modifying the target hash table, with read locks being sufficient for all other operations.

At present, uthash is not integrated into the HDF5 error reporting system. This is convenient, as it removes H5E from the problem, and thus avoids any lock ordering / lock recursion issues from this quarter at least. However, if HDF5 is going to stay with uthash indefinitely, this oversight should be corrected.

# Use of global variables

The list of types of indexes and the next available index type are kept in global variables – with the obvious potential for race conditions and resulting data corruption.

Locks around the appropriate critical regions are an obvious solution, but they present lock ordering issues in the event of failure due to the resulting H5E calls. Locks could be dropped prior to error calls, but a solution based on atomic operations would be preferable as it would likely be faster and less error prone.

# Potential race conditions in indexes and index entries

A multi-thread version of H5I must allow simultaneous operations by multiple threads. Thus it is possible that there will be simultaneous operations on a given index, or even on a given ID in that index.

The structures currently used to implement both types of indexes (H5I\_type\_info\_t) and index entries proper (H5I\_id\_info\_t) contain a number of fields where race conditions are an obvious issue – most notably reference counts, and (in the case of types of indexes) counts of existing IDs.

As with the global variables, locks around critical regions are the obvious solution, but solutions based on atomic operations would be preferable.

# **Mark and Sweep Operations**

H5I allows scans and searches of types of indexes. My understanding is that to avoid breaking existing tests, H5I does not immediately delete entries deleted by the user during scans or searches. Instead, entries are marked for deletion, and then deleted in a subsequent sweep.

The same approach is used in the clear and destroy operations – which compound the problem by leaving index entries in a partially deleted state pending the subsequent sweep to complete the deletion.

This has the effect of making iteration operations of whatever type large critical regions – which is obviously undesirable in a multi-thread implementation. At a minimum, repairing this will require algorithmic changes, and may require subtle modifications to the H5I API as well.

# **Support for Future IDs**

Addition of support for the asynchronous VOL required the addition of support for future IDs. In particular, there is code in the ID lookup function that attempts to convert a future ID into an actual ID. This operation is somewhat involved, and presents a variety of race conditions should the same future ID be looked up simultaneously by multiple threads.

The critical region here is sufficiently large, that locking may be the only practical solution.

## **Public API Race Conditions**

The nature of an index service in a multi-thread environment makes it possible for the client application to create race conditions – for example, it will always be possible for one thread to delete an ID (or a whole index) out from under another thread.

This is an unsolvable problem from the perspective of H5I – thus H5I's responsibility will be to at least appear to execute operations in some order, and to keep indexes in an internally consistent state. It will be the responsibility of the client to either avoid race conditions of the above type, or to handle them gracefully.

# **Design Considerations**

The unexpected dependencies of H5I on other packages are worrying. Even if my initial impressions are correct, and we can both avoid all potential deadlocks from all calls from H5I to other packages, and tame the public iteration call back problem through strict constraints on the functions, the resulting code will be error prone. Since the HDF5 library is under constant development, re-insertion of deadlocks is inevitable unless we have simple, easily followed and

verified rules for avoiding them. Failure to do this will result in maintenance nightmare, as prompt detection of newly inserted deadlocks in regression testing is problematic at best.

With this point in mind, I can't but conclude that in the long term, a multi-thread safe implementation of H5I will have to hold no locks whenever it makes a call to another package – thus removing all H5I related lock ordering concerns<sup>1</sup>. Ideally, this would be accomplished by making the multi-thread safe implementation of H5I lock free, but small critical regions containing no function calls and protected by locks should be workable as well.

However, in the short term, time and resource constraints give us a strong incentive to minimize the changes required for the initial implementation. This, however, must be balanced with efficiency and integration concerns, as not only must the packages required to support multi-thread VOL connectors be multi-thread safe, they must also work together without deadlocks, and must facilitate sufficient performance gains as to justify their development.

While it would be best to avoid locks completely to sidestep the lock ordering question, there are several impediments:

- For thread safety, uthash requires a R/W lock around all of its macros. Thus, avoiding locks here would require replacing uthash with some other lock free data structure. Note that this is not as large a problem as it may seem, as until we integrate uthash into HDF5's error reporting system, these locks present no potential for deadlocks. Further, if we do integrate uthash properly, we should be able to drop locks before calling H5E to report errors.
- Many of the calls that modify indexes modify the relevant data structures in a variety of places – both in the data structures and the code. Making all these changes atomically while maintaining ordering constraints would likely require significant redesign of the code, and may be impossible without public API changes.
- The mark and sweep algorithm used in H5Iclear\_type() and H5Idestroy\_type() leave the target index in an invalid state between the mark and sweep passes. Absent algorithm changes, it will be difficult to prevent access to the target index during this period without locking.

For these reasons, the approach to making H5E multi-thread safe offered below is largely lock based, and presumes that the external dependencies can be managed well enough to make this design approach viable at least in the short term.

At best, I regard this approach to be an initial solution aimed at facilitating relatively rapid implementation of a prototype. At worst, it will prove impractical in the light of further investigation, and will have to be re-worked in part or in whole. Its primary advantage is

<sup>1</sup> With the possible exception of H5E – if we remove that package's dependency on H5I.

simplicity. It is offered only in rough sketch form, as there is no point in putting further effort into it until the full requirements are well understood.

# Making H5I Multi-Thread Safe

Given that resource considerations dictate at least a partially lock based solution for the first cut, the least expensive approach would be to put a recursive lock on H5I, allowing only one thread into H5I at a time. The recursive lock would be needed to allow for calls from H5E back into H5I.

However, this allows for no concurrency – and thus brings into question the performance requirement. Fortunately, with minimal effort, we should be able to relax this one thread in H5I at a time constraint as follows:

# **Global Variables**

H5I uses two global variables to maintain a list of indexes (or types as they are called in the code). These are H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g, which contains pointers to the instances of H5I\_type\_info\_t that are the root structures for each index or type, and H5I\_next\_type\_g, which is an integer containing the index of the next free slot in H5I\_type\_info\_t.

The operations on these global variables are both simple and tightly coupled. Thus, with minimal code changes, we should be able to maintain the consistency of these variables with atomic operations and not have to resort to locks.

The code that searches for unused entries in H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g does present issues. The obvious solution is to simply delete it, but this functionality can probably be retained via the definition of a special null pointer indicating that a cell is allocated but not valid.

# Indexes (AKA Types)

The base structure for each index (or type) is an instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t.<sup>2</sup> After initialization is complete, the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t associated with each index (or type) is pointed to by H5I\_type\_info\_array\_t[type] – here type is the integer ID of the index. NULL entries in this array indicate that the associated index has not yet been created or has been discarded.

Individual entries in each index are represented by instances of H5I\_id\_info\_t. Each index entry is assigned a unique ID. This ID has the ID of the host index (or type) encoded in it – allowing an ID to be looked up even if the ID of the index it resides in is not available.

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix 1 for the definition of this and all other structures mentioned in this section.

When a new ID is registered, an instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t is allocated, initialized, and loaded with the supplied void \*. An ID is allocated in the target index (or type), and the new instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t is inserted into the target indexes hash table, with the new ID as the key.

Thus each index (or type) is represented with one instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t, with zero or more instances of H5I\_id\_info\_t stored in the hash table that is rooted in the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t.

To sketch out a locking protocol, we need to catalog the fields that are modified during the various operation on indexes – this is provided in Appendix 3.

Review of this table shows that API calls that don't modify the hash table modify few fields in the relevant instances of H5I\_type\_info\_t and H5I\_id\_info\_t – usually just one but occasionally two.

This suggests the following approach to ensuring multi-thread safety in the indexes (or types) proper:

- Associated a recursive read/write lock with each index (or type).
- Require all H5I API calls that modify the hash table to acquire a write lock on the target index (or type) before proceeding.
- Require all other H5I API calls to obtain a read lock on the target index (or type).
   Further, identify all fields of H5I\_type\_info\_t and H5I\_id\_info\_t modified by these calls and require them to be accessed via atomics.

This approach is clearly simple and relatively easy to implement, and provides the locking required to use uthash in a multi-thread environment. Further, if future IDs are excluded<sup>3</sup>, it offers a significant degree of concurrency. However, there are a few points that should be discussed.

The first is efficacy – will this approach maintain the indexes in an internally consistent state, and make it appear to the clients that the H5I API calls have been executed in some sequential order? The only issue I see here is the modification of fields in H5I\_type\_info\_t and H5I\_id\_info\_t while only a read lock is held.

If only one field is modified, and that modification is done atomically, that should preserve the appearance of sequential execution of API calls. With two or more fields, there is the possibility

<sup>3</sup> If an index contains a future id, a simple lookup of that id will trigger an attempt to convert it into an actual id. Along with other things, this operation requires a deletion from the hash table – and thus a write lock. Fortunately, future objects are rare, and we could modify indexes to track the number of future objects they contain – permitting use of a read lock in most cases.

of interleaving – however the only externally visible example of this is the regular and application reference counts in H5I\_id\_info\_t. Since reference count decrements present the possibility of deletion, those operations will require a write lock. Thus only increments will be done concurrently – and it is hard to see how allowing the regular and application reference counts to be temporarily out of sync will be an issue as long as both remain positive. That said, this is a point to keep in mind as I continue to review the target packages.

A second point is the observation that by creating a separate read / write lock for each index, I have introduced a potential deadlock. This potential could be realized if any of the user callbacks supplied to the iteration API calls, or any of the external calls that I have left uninvestigated attempts an H5I API call on another index. This seems improbable but not impossible – I must keep an eye out for it.

Third, note that all the iteration API calls will require a write lock – severely restricting concurrency. While this constraint could be relaxed selectively, the proposed solution is at best a temporary measure – and thus I don't see the point.

Finally, the use of recursive read/write locks should allow H5I to keep its error calls unchanged. While I haven't investigated in detail, I expect that the recursive locks will also be necessary for some iterative APIs.

# Appendix 1 – H5I public API calls

After some type and macro definitions, this appendix contains a list of all the public H5I API calls, along with call trees, relevant structure definitions, and descriptions of their processing with particular emphasis on multi-thread safety issues. Note that this data was derived by inspection, and thus some errors and/or oversights should be expected.

The list of public API calls was taken from H5Ipublic.h and H5Idev.h. All the public API calls in this file are decorated with Doxygen code to generate user level documentation on public API calls. I have included this code as it may be a useful addition to my own documentation.

Finally, I have not investigated H5lget\_file\_id() and H5lget\_name() beyond construction of an initial call tree, as these functions contain direct calls to H5VL, and H5F, and to other packages farther down the call tree. As the focus of the current effort is H5I, I am bypassing these calls for now.

```
* Library type values.
 * \internal Library type values. Start with `1' instead of `0' because it
                    makes the tracing output look better when hid t values are large
                     numbers. Change the TYPE BITS in H5I.c if the MAXID gets larger
                     than 32 (an assertion will fail otherwise).
                     When adding types here, add a section to the 'misc19' test in
                     test/tmisc.c to verify that the H5I{inc|dec|get} ref() routines
                      work correctly with it. \endinternal
//! <!-- [H5I_type_t_snip] -->
    Dedef enum H5I_type_t {
H5I_UNINIT = (-2), /**< uninitialized type //
H5I_BADID = (-1), /**< invalid Type //
H5I_FILE = 1, /**< type ID for File objects //
H5I_GROUP, /**< type ID for Group objects //
H5I_DATATYPE, /**< type ID for Datatype objects //
H5I_DATASPACE, /**< type ID for Dataspace objects //
H5I_DATASET, /**< type ID for Dataset objects //
H5I_MAP, /**< type ID for Map objects //
H5I_ATTR, /**< type ID for Attribute objects //
H5I_VFL, /**< type ID for virtual file layer //
H5I_VOL, /**< type ID for virtual object layer //
H5I_GENPROP_CLS, /**< type ID for generic property list classes //
H5I_ERROR_CLASS, /**< type ID for error classes //
H5I_ERROR_STACK, /**< type ID for error stacks //
H5I_SPACE_SEL_ITER, /**< type ID for dataspace selection iterator //
typedef enum H5I_type_t {
      H5I SPACE_SEL_ITER, /**< type ID for dataspace selection iterator */
      H5I_EVENTSET, /**< type ID for event sets
H5I NTYPES /**< number of library types, MUST BE LAST!
                                                                                                                               */
                                                                                                                               */
} H5I_type_t;
H5Iprivate.h:#define H5I IS LIB TYPE(type) (type > 0 && type < H5I NTYPES)
/*********
/* Package Private Typedefs */
/*********
```

```
/* ID information structure used */
typedef struct H5I id info t {
  hid t
           id;
                                      /* ID for this info */
                              /* Ref. count for this ID */
  unsigned count;
  unsigned app count; /* Ref. count of application visible IDs */
  const void *object; /* Pointer associated with the ID */
   /* Future ID info */
  hbool t
                                       is future;
                                                       /* Whether this ID represents a
future object */
  H5I_future_realize_func_t realize_cb; /* 'realize' callback for future object */
H5I_future_discard_func_t discard_cb; /* 'discard' callback for future object */
   /* Hash table ID fields */
                    marked; /* Marked for deletion */
  hbool t
  UT hash handle hh;
                          /* Hash table handle (must be LAST) */
} H5I id info t;
/* Type information structure used */
typedef struct H5I_type_info_t {
  const H5I_class_t *cls;
                                         /* Pointer to ID class */
  unsigned
                           init count;
                                       /* # of times this type has been initialized
                                         /* Current number of IDs held */
  /* ID to use for the next object */
  uint64 t
                             id count;
  uint64 t
                             nextid;
  H5I id info t
                          *last id info; /* Info for most recent ID looked up */
  H5I_id_info_t
                          *hash_table; /* Hash table pointer for this ID type */
} H5I_type_info_t;
/**********
/* Library Private Typedefs */
/***********
typedef struct H5I_class_t {
  unsigned flags; /* Class behavior flags */
unsigned reserved; /* Number of reserved IDs for this type */
                                     /* [A specific number of type entries may be
                                      * reserved to enable "constant" values to be
                                       * handed out which are valid IDs in the type,
                                       * but which do not map to any data structures
                                       * and are not allocated dynamically later.]
                                      * /
  H5I free t free func; /* Free function for object's of this type */
} H5I class t;
H5I Public API calls:
* \ingroup H5IUD
 ^{\star} \brief Registers an object under a type and returns an ID for it
 * \param[in] type The identifier of the type of the new ID
 * \param[in] object Pointer to object for which a new ID is created
* \return \hid_t{object}
 * \details H5Iregister() creates and returns a new ID for an object.
 * \details The \p type parameter is the identifier for the ID type to which
            this new ID will belong. This identifier must have been created by
```

H5Iregister() inserts the supplied void pointer in the index of the indicated type, and returns an ID that can be used to access this void pointer at later date.

### In more detail:

The function tests to see if the supplied type is a library type (i.e. one used internally). It fails if it is. Otherwise it calls H5I\_\_register() with the app\_ref. realize\_cb, and discard\_cb parameters set to TRUE, NULL, and NULL respectively.

H5I\_\_register() performs some sanity checks and flags errors if they fail (interaction with H5E). Assuming success, it allocates a new instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t via a call to H5FL\_CALLOC(), constructs a new ID via a call to the H5I\_MAKE macro, loads the new instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t, and inserts it into the hash table associated with the type via a call to the HASH\_ADD() macro.

Note that the object provided for insertion in the index is simply stored by reference (i.e. only a pointer is saved). Since the caller may retain a pointer to this object, the index has no control over access to it. Thus maintaining mutual exclusion on this object to avoid corruption must be the caller's responsibility.

Finally, before returning, H5I\_register() makes note of the most recent ID referenced of this type.

H5I register() returns the new ID, which is returned to the caller by H5Iregister().

## Multi-Thread safety concerns:

Read access to the H5I\_next\_type\_g and H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global variables to validate the supplied type, and to look up a pointer (type\_info) to the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t associated with the target index.

Read / write access to \*type info for purposes of:

- Allocating the next ID (type info->nextid)
- Incrementing the number of IDs in the index (type\_info->id\_count)
- Setting the last id touched (type info->last id info)
- Inserting the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the new id into the hash table associated with the type (type\_info->hash\_table)

Use of H5FL\_CALLOC() to allocate the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t used to store the new ID and its void \*.

```
* \ingroup H5IUD
 * \brief Returns the object referenced by an ID
 * \param[in] id ID to be dereferenced
 * \param[in] type The identifier type
 * \return Pointer to the object referenced by \p id on success, NULL on failure.
 * \details H5Iobject verify() returns a pointer to the memory referenced by id
            after verifying that \p id is of type \p type. This function is
            analogous to dereferencing a pointer in C with type checking.
 * \note H5Iobject verify() does not change the ID it is called on in any way
        (as opposed to H5Iremove verify(), which removes the ID from its
        type's hash table).
 * \see H5Iregister()
 * /
H5 DLL void *H5Iobject verify(hid t id, H5I type t type);
H5Iobject verify()
 +-H5I object verify()
   +-H5I find id()
      +-(id info->realize cb)()
      +-H5I remove common()
      +-(id info->discard db)()
```

## In a nutshell:

H5Iobject\_verify() looks up the supplied ID & type pair, and, absent errors, returns the void pointer that was associated with this ID and type in a previous H5Iregister() or H5Iregister\_future() call.

## In more detail:

H5Iobject\_verify() first tests to see if the supplied type either out of range, or is a library type (i.e. one used internally by the HDF5 library). It fails if either of these conditions are true.

Otherwise, it calls H5I\_object\_verify() with the supplied parameters, and returns that function's return value.

H5I\_object\_verify() verifies that the type is in range -- that is that it is greater than zero and less than the H5I\_next\_type\_g global, and that the supplied type matches the supplied ID via H5I\_TYPE() macro.

If all sanity checks pass, H5I\_object\_verify() calls H5I\_\_find\_id(). Absent errors, H5I\_\_find\_id() returns a pointer to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the ID in the target index -- call this pointer info. H5I\_object\_verify() returns info->object, which is the void pointer associated with the ID in a previous register call.

H5I\_\_find\_id() obtains the type associated with the supplied ID via the H5I\_type() macro, validates that it is in range, and looks up the pointer to the associated instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t in the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global array, and stores this pointer in type\_info.

If type\_info is not NULL, and type\_info->init\_count is positive, it looks up the target id, checking type\_info->last\_id\_info first, and using the HASH\_FIND() macro if that fails. The result of this search is stored in the local variable id\_info, and in type\_info->last\_id\_info – both of which will be NULL if the target id is not found.

If the search is successful (i.e., id\_info is not NULL), H5I\_\_find\_id() tests to see if the index entry is a "future" entry (i.e., if id\_info->is\_future). This is an uncommon case, used only (to my knowledge) by the asynchronous VOL.

If it is, H5I\_\_find\_id() calls the user provided realize callback (id\_info->realize\_cb)((void \*)id\_info->object, &actual\_id) which was provided in H5Iregister\_future() (see below).

While I have not located any documentation specifying the behavior of the user supplied realize\_cb function, from context it seems that it is supposed to find the actual ID associated with the future\_id if it exists, and return it in \*actual\_id. If (id\_info->realize\_cb)() fails in this for whatever reason, H5I find id() returns NULL.

Assuming the actual ID is found, H5I\_\_find\_id() makes note of the future object, and calls H5I\_\_remove\_common() both to delete the actual ID from the index, and to return the object associated with the actual ID. The function then sets the object associated with the future ID equal to the object associated with the actual id (i.e. sets id\_info->object = actual\_object;), and calls the discard\_cb to discard the object previously associated with the future ID. Finally, it converts the "future" index entry to an actual entry by setting:

```
id_info->is_future = FALSE;
id_info->realize_cb = NULL;
id_info->discard_cb = NULL;
```

Finally, id info is returned to the caller

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

Read access to the H5I\_next\_type\_g and H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global variables to validate the supplied type, and to look up a pointer (type\_info) to the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t associated with the target index.

Read / write access to \*type\_info for purposes of:

- Reading type info→init count.
- Obtain a pointer (id\_info) to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the target ID.
- Setting the last ID touched (type\_info→last\_id\_info).

Read access to \*id info for purposes of reading:

- id info→is future and
- id info→object.

If id\_info—is\_future is TRUE, matters become much more involved from a thread safety perspective as H5I\_\_find\_id() attempts to convert the future id into the actual id. Assuming that it is successful, this involves the following additional accesses to data that is accessible to other threads:

Read of the H5I marking g global.

R/W access to \*type\_info to lookup of the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the actual id, and (if H5I\_marking\_g is FALSE) removal of the associated instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t from the hash table.

R/W access to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the actual id. In particular read of the object field, and (if H5I\_marking\_g is TRUE), set of the marked field. Finally, (if H5I\_marking\_g is FALSE), free of the instance via H5FL\_FREE().

R/W access to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the supplied ID (\*id\_info). In particular:

- execution of the realize cb() to obtain the actual id,
- execution of the discard cp to discard id info→object,
- set id info→object equal to the object field of the actual id
- set id info→realize cb = NULL
- set id info→discard cb = NULL

set id\_info→is\_future = FALSE

Note that these accesses are spread across a number of functions – which complicates matters further.

```
* \ingroup H5IUD
 * \brief Removes an ID from its type
 * \param[in] id The ID to be removed from its type
 * \param[in] type The identifier type
 ^{\star} \return Returns a pointer to the memory referred to by \p id on success,
          NULL on failure.
  \details H5Iremove verify() first ensures that \p id belongs to \p type.
            If so, it removes \p id from its type and returns the pointer
            to the memory it referred to. This pointer is the same pointer that
            was placed in storage by H5Iregister(). If id does not belong to
            \p type, then NULL is returned.
            The \p id parameter is the ID which is to be removed from its type.
            The \p type parameter is the identifier for the ID type which \p id
            is supposed to belong to. This identifier must have been created by
            a call to H5Iregister_type().
 ^{\star} \note This function does NOT deallocate the memory that \protect\ p id refers to.
        The pointer returned by H5Iregister() must be deallocated by the user
        to avoid memory leaks.
H5 DLL void *H5Iremove verify(hid t id, H5I type t type);
H5Iremove verify()
+-H5I remove verify()
   +-H5I remove()
       +-H5I__remove_common()
```

### In a nutshell:

Delete the index entry associated with the supplied id, and return the void pointer that was supplied at registration. If the H5I\_marking\_g global is TRUE, just mark the entry for deletion without actually deleting it at this time.

#### In more detail:

H5Iremove\_verify() verifies that the supplied type is not a HDF5 library internal type. If it is, the function flags an error and returns NULL.

Assuming that this test passes, the function calls H5I\_remove\_verify(). and returns whatever value that function returns.

H5I\_\_remove\_verify() verifies that the supplied type and id match (via H5I\_TYPE() -- returning NULL without flagging an error if they do not. If they do, it calls H5I\_remove() and returns whatever value that function returns.

H5I\_remove() looks up the type embedded in the supplied ID, verifies that it is valid, and looks up the associated type info. It then calls H5I\_\_remove\_common() passing a pointer to this type info and the supplied ID as parameters. The function saves the value returned by H5I remove common() and returns this value

Using the supplied type info, H5I\_\_remove\_common() looks up the supplied ID in the hash table associated with the supplied type\_info using HASH\_FIND(). If the associated instance of H5I id info t is not found, the function flags an error and returns NULL.

If the associated instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t is found, H5I\_\_remove\_common() tests the H5I\_marking\_global.

If H5I\_marking\_g is FALSE, the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t is removed from the type specific hash table via HASH\_DELETE(). If H5I\_marking\_g is TRUE, the marked field of the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t is set to TRUE.

In either case, if target id was the last id of this type accessed, type\_info->last\_id\_info is set to NULL (thread safety), and the return value of the function is set equal to the void pointer that was provided when the id was registered.

If H5I\_marking\_g is FALSE, the target instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t is freed via H5FL\_FREE().

The number of IDs of the target type is decremented, and the function returns.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

Read access to the H5I\_next\_type\_g and H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global variables to validate and look up a pointer (type\_info) to the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t associated with the target index. Also read access to the H5I\_marking\_g global to determine how to implement the removal.

Read / write access to \*type info for purposes of:

- Reading type\_info→init\_count.
- Obtain a pointer (id info) to the instance of H5I id info t associated with the target ID.
- Reading the last id touched (type\_info→last\_id\_info) and setting it to NULL if it equals id info.
- Decrementing type info->id count

Read / write access to \*id info for purposes of reading:

- setting id\_info→marked = TRUE if H5I\_marking\_g is TRUE
- reading id\_info→object.

## Freeing \*id\_info via H5FL\_FREE().

```
* \ingroup H5I
 \star \brief Retrieves the type of an object
 * \obj_id{id}
 * \return Returns the object type if successful; otherwise #H5I BADID.
 * \details H5Iget type() retrieves the type of the object identified by
            \p id. If no valid type can be determined or the identifier submitted is
            invalid, the function returns #H5I BADID.
            This function is of particular use in determining the type of
            object closing function (H5Dclose(), H5Gclose(), etc.) to call
            after a call to H5Rdereference().
 ^{\star} \note Note that this function returns only the type of object that \p id
       would identify if it were valid; it does not determine whether \p id
        is valid identifier. Validity can be determined with a call to
        H5Iis valid().
H5 DLL H5I type t H5Iget type (hid t id);
H5Iget type()
+-H5I_get_type()
 +-H5I_object()
    +-\overline{H}5I find id()
      +-(id info->realize cb)()
       +-H5I remove common()
       +-(id info->discard db)()
```

In a nutshell:

Return the type to which the supplied id belongs.

In more detail:

The type of an ID is encoded in the ID.

Thus H5Iget\_type() calls H5I\_get\_type() which invokes the H5I\_TYPE() macro to extract the type from the supplied ID, and returns this value to H5Iget\_type().

H5Iget\_type() then verifies that the type is valid, and that the supplied id is valid. If both tests pass, the type is returned to the caller. If not, an error is flagged and H5I BADID is returned.

The bad type test accesses the H5I next type g global.

The test for the validity of the supplied ID calls H5I\_object(), which attempts to look up the ID, and return the void pointer that was supplied in the register call that created the ID. It does this via a call to H5I\_\_find\_id() which returns a pointer (info) to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the id, or NULL if the search fails. If the search succeeds, the function returns info→object.

H5I\_\_find\_id() is discussed in some detail in the section on H5Iobject\_verify() above -- thus no need to repeat that discussion here.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

Leaving aside H5I\_\_find\_id(), the only multi-thread safety concern in H5Iget\_type() is read access to the H5I\_next\_type\_g global.

In contrast, H5I\_\_find\_id() has significant multi-thread safety issues – particularly if the target id is a future id. See the discussion of thread safety for H5Iobject\_verify() above for a full discussion.

```
* \ingroup H5I
 * \brief Retrieves an identifier for the file containing the specified object
 * \obj id{id}
 * \return \hid t{file}
 * \details H5Iget file id() returns the identifier of the file associated with
           the object referenced by \p id.
 * \note Note that the HDF5 library permits an application to close a file
        while objects within the file remain open. If the file containing the
        object \p id is still open, H5Iget file id() will retrieve the
        existing file identifier. If there is no existing file identifier for
        the file, i.e., the file has been closed, H5Iget file id() will reopen
        the file and return a new file identifier. In either case, the file
        identifier must eventually be released using H5Fclose().
  \since 1.6.3
H5 DLL hid t H5 Iget file id(hid t id);
H5Iget file id()
+-H5VL vol object()
 | +-H5I get type()
 | +-H5I object()
 | + +H5I \text{ find id()}
 1 1
         +-(id info->realize cb)()
 +-H5I remove common()
        +-(id info->discard db)()
 | +-H5T get named type()
 +-H5F get file id()
   +-H5VL_object_get()
   +-H5I__find_id()
```

```
+-(id info->realize cb)()
   | +-H5I remove common()
    +-(id info->discard db)()
   +-H5VL_set_vol_wrapper()
    | +-H5CX get_vol_wrap_ctx()
    | +-H5CX get my context() macro -- resolves to H5CX get context() in MT
           H5CX get context()
            +-H5TS_get_thread_local_value() -- pthread_getspecific() in most cases
            +-H5TS_set_thread_local_value() -- pthread_setspecific() in most cases
    +-((vol obj->connector->cls->wrap cls.get wrap ctx) (vol obj->data,
&obj wrap ctx)
    \overline{\phantom{a}} +-H5VL conn inc rc()
     +-H5CX_set_vol_wrap_ctx()
         +-H5CX_get_my_context() macro -- resolves to H5CX__get_context() in MT
           H5CX get context()
            +-H5TS get thread local value() -- pthread getspecific() in most cases
            +-H5TS set thread local value() -- pthread setspecific() in most cases
   +-H5VL wrap register()
    | +-H5CX_get_vol_wrap_ctx()
     | +- ... see above
      +-H5T_already_vol_managed()
      +-H5VL__wrap_obj()
      | +-H5CX get vol wrap ctx()
         | +- ... see above
         +-H5VL_wrap_object()
           +-(connector->wrap_cls.wrap_object)(obj, obj_type, wrap_ctx)
      +-H5VL_register_using_vol_id()
         +-H5VL new connector()
         | +-H5I object verify()
         | | +-H5I find id()
                 +-(id info->realize cb)()
                 +-H5I remove common()
                 +-(id_info->discard_db)()
         +-H5I_inc_ref()
         +- ... see above
         +-H5I_dec_ref()
+-H5I__dec_ref()
                 +-\overline{H5}I find id()2Y
                  | +- ... see above
                  +-(type_info->cls->free_func)((void *)info->object, request)
                  +-H5I remove common()
         +-H5VL register()
         | +-H5VL new vol obj()
         | +-H5I register()
            +-\H5I__register()
         +-H5VL conn dec rc()
            +-H5I_dec_ref()
               +- ... see above
   +-H5I inc ref()
      +-H5I dec_ref()
         +- ... see above
   +-H5VL reset vol wrapper()
      +-H5CX get vol wrap ctx()
      | +- ... see above
      +-H5VL free vol wrapper()
      +-(*vol wrap ctx->connector->cls->wrap cls.free wrap ctx) (vol wrap ctx-
>obj_wrap_ctx)
      +-H5VL_conn_dec_rc()
```

```
| +- ... see above
+-H5CX_set_vol_wrap_ctx()
+- ... see above
```

Skipped for now due to calls to H5VL, H5CX, H5F, and H5T.

Return to this call after reviewing H5VL and H5CX.

```
* \ingroup H5I
 * \brief Retrieves a name of an object based on the object identifier
 * \obj id{id}
  \param[out] name A buffer for thename associated with the identifier
 * \param[in] size The size of the \p name buffer; usually the size of
                   the name in bytes plus 1 for a NULL terminator
* \return ssize t
 * \details H5Iget name() retrieves a name for the object identified by \p id.
 * \details Up to size characters of the name are returned in \p name;
            additional characters, if any, are not returned to the user
            application.
            If the length of the name, which determines the required value of
            \p size, is unknown, a preliminary H5Iget_name() call can be made.
            The return value of this call will be the size in bytes of the
            object name. That value, plus 1 for a NULL terminator, is then
            assigned to size for a second H5Iget name() call, which will
           retrieve the actual name.
           If the object identified by \p id is an attribute, as determined
           via H5Iget type(), H5Iget name() retrieves the name of the object
            to which that attribute is attached. To retrieve the name of the
            attribute itself, use H5Aget name().
            If there is no name associated with the object identifier or if the
            name is NULL, H5Iget name() returns 0 (zero).
 ^{\star} \note Note that an object in an HDF5 file may have multiple paths if there
         are multiple links pointing to it. This function may return any one of
         these paths. When possible, H5Iget name() returns the path with which
         the object was opened.
 * \since 1.6.0
H5 DLL ssize t H5Iget name(hid t id, char *name /*out*/, size t size);
H5Iget name()
+-H5VL vol object()
 | +-H5I get type()
 | +-H5I object()
 | + \overline{H5I}_find_id()
 +-(id_info->realize_cb)()
   +-H5I__remove_common()
+-(id_info->discard_db)()
| +-H5T get named type()
```

```
+-H5I_get_type()
 +-H5VL object get()
    +-H5VL set vol wrapper()
    | +-H5CX get vol wrap ctx()
    | +-H5CX get my context() macro -- resolves to H5CX get context() in MT
    H5CX__get_context()
            +-H5TS_get_thread_local_value() -- pthread_getspecific() in most cases
             +-H5TS_set_thread_local_value() -- pthread_setspecific() in most cases
    +-((vol obj->connector->cls->wrap cls.get wrap ctx) (vol obj->data,
&obj wrap ctx)
    | +-H5VL conn inc rc()
      +-H5CX set vol wrap ctx()
          +-H5CX_get_my_context() macro -- resolves to H5CX_get_context() in MT
            H5CX get context()
             +-H5TS get thread local value() -- pthread getspecific() in most cases
             +-H5TS set thread local value() -- pthread setspecific() in most cases
    +-H5VL object get()
    | +-(cls->object cls.get)(obj, loc params, args, dxpl id, req)
    +-H5VL_reset_vol_wrapper()
       +-H5CX_get_vol_wrap_ctx()
       | +- ... see above
+-H5VL__free_vol_wrapper()
       +-(*vol wrap ctx->connector->cls->wrap cls.free wrap ctx) (vol wrap ctx-
>obj_wrap_ctx)
         -
+-H5VL_conn_dec_rc()
            +- ... see above
       +-H5CX set vol wrap ctx()
          +- ... see above
```

Skipped for now due to calls to H5VL, H5CX, and H5T.

Return to this call after reviewing H5VL and H5CX.

```
* \ingroup H5I
^{\star} \brief Increments the reference count for an object
* \obj id{id}
* \return Returns a non-negative reference count of the object ID after
          incrementing it if successful; otherwise a negative value is
          returned.
^{\star} \details H5Iinc ref() increments the reference count of the object
           identified by p id.
           The reference count for an object ID is attached to the information
           about an object in memory and has no relation to the number of
           links to an object on disk.
           The reference count for a newly created object will be 1. Reference
           counts for objects may be explicitly modified with this function or
           with H5Idec_ref(). When an object ID's reference count reaches
           zero, the object will be closed. Calling an object ID's \c close
           function decrements the reference count for the ID which normally
           closes the object, but if the reference count for the ID has been
           incremented with this function, the object will only be closed when
```

```
the reference count reaches zero with further calls to H5Idec ref()
            or the object ID's \c close function.
            If the object ID was created by a collective parallel call (such as
            H5Dcreate(), H5Gopen(), etc.), the reference count should be
            modified by all the processes which have copies of the ID.
            Generally this means that group, dataset, attribute, file and named
            datatype IDs should be modified by all the processes and that all
            other types of IDs are safe to modify by individual processes.
            This function is of particular value when an application is
            maintaining multiple copies of an object ID. The object ID can be
            incremented when a copy is made. Each copy of the ID can then be
            safely closed or decremented and the HDF5 object will be closed
            when the reference count for that that object drops to zero.
 * \since 1.6.2
H5 DLL int H5Iinc ref(hid t id);
H5Iinc_ref()
 +-H5I_inc_ref()
    +-H5I
          find id()
       +-(id info->realize cb)()
       +-H5I__remove_common()
+-(id_info->discard_db)()
```

Find the target id, and increment both its regular and applications reference counts. Return the new value of the application reference count.

If the target ID is a future ID, in passing, attempt to convert it to a real ID. Note that this attempt may cause the function to fail.

## In greater detail:

H5Iinc\_ref() calls H5I\_inc\_ref() with the supplied ID, and the app\_ref parameter set to TRUE.

H5I\_inc\_ref() calls H5I\_\_find\_id() to obtain a pointer to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the ID. Assuming that this is successful, the function increments both the regular an application reference counts, and returns the new value of the application reference count.

H5I\_\_find\_id() is discussed in some detail in the section on H5Iobject\_verify() above -- thus no need to repeat that discussion here.

## Multi-Thread safety concerns:

Leaving aside H5I\_\_find\_id(), the only multi-thread safety concern in H5Iget\_type() is read / write access to the count and app\_count fields of the target instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t .

In contrast, H5I\_\_find\_id() has significant multi-thread safety issues – particularly if the target ID is a future ID. See the discussion of thread safety for H5Iobject\_verify() above for a full discussion.

```
* \ingroup H5I
 ^{\star} \brief Decrements the reference count for an object
 * \obj_id{id}
 * \return Returns a non-negative reference count of the object ID after
           decrementing it, if successful; otherwise a negative value is
           returned.
  \details H5Idec ref() decrements the reference count of the object
            identified by \p id.
            The reference count for an object ID is attached to the information
            about an object in memory and has no relation to the number of
            links to an object on disk.
            The reference count for a newly created object will be 1. Reference
            counts for objects may be explicitly modified with this function or
            with H5Iinc ref(). When an object identifier's reference count
            reaches zero, the object will be closed. Calling an object
            identifier's \c close function decrements the reference count for
            the identifier which normally closes the object, but if the
            reference count for the identifier has been incremented with
           H5Iinc ref(), the object will only be closed when the reference
            count reaches zero with further calls to this function or the
            object identifier's \c close function.
            If the object ID was created by a collective parallel call (such as
            H5Dcreate(), H5Gopen(), etc.), the reference count should be
            modified by all the processes which have copies of the ID.
            Generally this means that group, dataset, attribute, file and named
            datatype IDs should be modified by all the processes and that all
            other types of IDs are safe to modify by individual processes.
            This function is of particular value when an application is
            maintaining multiple copies of an object ID. The object ID can be
            incremented when a copy is made. Each copy of the ID can then be
            safely closed or decremented and the HDF5 object will be closed
            when the reference count for that that object drops to zero.
 * \since 1.6.2
H5 DLL int H5Idec ref(hid t id);
H5Idec ref()
+-H5I_dec_app_ref()
    +-H5I__dec_app_ref()
       +-H5I__dec_ref()
         +-H5I__find_id()
         | +-(id info->realize cb)()
       | | +-H5I__remove_common()
| | +-(id_info->discard_db)()
```

```
| +-(type_info->cls->free_func)((void *)info->object, request)
| +-H5I__remove_common()
+-H5I__find_id()
+-(id_info->realize_cb)()
+-H5I__remove_common()
+-(id_info->discard_db)()
```

Decrement both the regular and application reference counts on the target id. If the regular reference count drops to zero, delete the target instance from the index.

If the target ID is a future ID, in passing, attempt to convert it to a real ID. Note that this attempt may cause the function to fail.

### In more detail:

After some sanity checks, H5Idec\_ref() calls H5I\_dec\_app\_ref(), and returns its return value.

H5I\_dec\_app\_ref() is basically a pass through. It preforms some sanity checks, and the calls H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref(id, H5\_REQUEST\_NULL), and returns whatever value H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref() returns.

H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref() calls H5I\_\_dec\_ref() to decrement the regular ref count on the target. If H5I\_\_dec\_ref() returns a positive value (indicating that the regular reference count has not been decremented to zero), the function calls H5I\_\_find\_id() to obtain a pointer to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the ID. This in hand, the function decrements the application reference count. The function returns either the value return by H5I\_\_dec\_ref() (if it is non-positive), or the application reference count after it has been decremented.

H5I\_\_dec\_ref() first calls H5I\_\_find\_id() to obtain a pointer (info) to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the target index entry.

If info→count is greater that one, it decrements that value, and returns it to the caller.

If info→count is one, it accesses the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global to look up the pointer to the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t associated with the target, calls type\_info→free\_func() (if it exists) to free info→object, calls H5I\_\_remove\_common() to remove \*info from the index, and returns 0.

H5I\_\_find\_id() is discussed in some detail in the section on H5Iobject\_verify() above -- thus no need to repeat that discussion here.

H5I\_\_remove\_common() looks up the target ID in the index to obtain a pointer (info) to the associated instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t.

If the H5I\_marking\_g global is FALSE, it removes \*info from the index, and frees it via a call to H5FL FREE().

If the H5I marking g global is TRUE, it sets info $\rightarrow$ marked = TRUE.

In either case, it decrements type info→id count, and returns info→object.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

Leaving aside H5I\_\_find\_id() and H5I\_remove\_common() (which is called by H5I\_\_find\_id(), and thus included in its discussion), the multi-thread safety concerns in H5Idec\_ref() are:

- Read access to H5I\_type\_info\_array\_t to obtain a pointer (type\_info) to the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t associated with the index containing the target id.
- Execution of type info→free func()
- Decrement of info→count and info→app count.

H5I\_\_find\_id() has significant multi-thread safety issues – particularly if the target ID is a future ID. See the discussion of thread safety for H5Iobject\_verify() above for a full discussion.

```
* \ingroup H5I
 ^{\star} \brief Retrieves the reference count for an object
 * \obj_id{id}
 * \return Returns a non-negative current reference count of the object
           identifier if successful; otherwise a negative value is returned.
 * \details H5Iget ref() retrieves the reference count of the object identified
           by p id.
            The reference count for an object identifier is attached to the
            information about an object in memory and has no relation to the
            number of links to an object on disk.
            The function H5Iis valid() is used to determine whether a specific
            object identifier is valid.
  \since 1.6.2
H5 DLL int H5Iget ref(hid t id);
H5Iget ref()
 +-H5I_get_ref()
    +-H5I__find id()
       +-(id_info->realize_cb)()
       +-H5I__remove_common()
+-(id_info->discard_db)()
```

Lookup the supplied id. If it exists, return its application reference count. If the call fails for any reason, return -1.

### In more detail:

After some sanity checks, H5Iget\_ref() calls H5I\_get\_ref() with the app\_ref parameter equal to TRUE. It returns whatever value H5I get\_ref() returns.

H5I\_get\_ref() calls H5I\_\_find\_id() to look up the target index entry and return a pointer (info) to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the id. If it is successful, H5I\_get\_ref() returns the current value of either the regular or the application reference count as directed by the app\_ref parameter.

H5I\_\_find\_id() is discussed in some detail in the section on H5Iobject\_verify() above -- thus no need to repeat that discussion here.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

Leaving aside H5I\_\_find\_id(), the multi-thread safety concerns in H5Iget\_ref() are read access to either info->count or info->app\_count, depending on the value of the app\_ref parameter passed to H5I\_get\_ref().

H5I\_\_find\_id() has significant multi-thread safety issues – particularly if the target ID is a future ID. See the discussion of thread safety for H5Iobject verify() above for a full discussion.

```
* The \p free_func parameter is a function pointer to a function
* which returns an herr_t and accepts a \c void*. The purpose of this
* function is to deallocate memory for a single ID. It will be called
* by H5Iclear_type() and H5Idestroy_type() on each ID. This function
* is NOT called by H5Iremove_verify(). The \c void* will be the same
* pointer which was passed in to the H5Iregister() function. The \p
* free_func function should return 0 on success and -1 on failure.
*
*/
H5_DLL H5I_type_t H5Iregister_type(size_t hash_size, unsigned reserved, H5I_free_t
free_func);

H5Iregister_type()
+-H5I_register_type()
```

Create a new type of index as specified, and return its ID. On failure, return a negative value.

In more detail:

H5Iregister\_type() first attempts to allocate an ID for the new type.

If H5I\_next\_type\_g is less than H5I\_MAX\_NUM\_TYPES, it sets new\_type = H5I\_next\_type\_g and then increments H5I\_next\_type\_g.

If this approach fails, it scans the global H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g array skipping library defined types looking for a NULL entry. If it finds one, it sets new\_type equal to the index of the NULL entry.

If this second approach fails, the function fails.

Assuming an ID can be allocated for the new type, H5Iregister\_type() allocates an instance of H5I\_class\_t via a call to H5MM\_calloc(), initializes it with the data provided and the new ID, and then calls H5I register type() to perform the actual registration.

H5I\_register\_type() allows multiple registrations of a given type – of which more in the discussion of multi-thread safety concerns.

After some initial sanity checks, H5I\_register\_type() reads the new id from the supplied instance of H5I\_class\_t (cls->type), and then examines the global H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g array at that index (H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g[cls->type]). If that index contains NULL, it allocates a new instance H5I\_type\_info\_t (via H5MM\_calloc), sets type\_info to point to it, and sets H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g[cls->type] = type\_info.

If H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g[cls->type] is not NULL, the function sets type\_info = H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g[cls->type].

The function tests type info->init count. If it is zero it initializes \*type info.

Finally, it increments type info->init count and returns.

## Multi-Thread safety concerns:

In the absence of any access control on the H5I\_next\_type\_g and H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global variables, the current algorithm for allocating type IDs has a number of race conditions which appear to make it possible for a given ID to be allocated more than once – not to mention the possibility that other threads that require only read access to these variables will see them in an inconsistent state.

In addition, H5I\_register\_type() acceptance of multiple registrations of a given type present potential race conditions potentially resulting in data corruption unless calls for a given type are somehow serialized.

```
* \ingroup H5IUD
 * \brief Deletes all identifiers of the given type
 * \param[in] type Identifier of identifier type which is to be cleared of identifiers
 ^{\star} \param[in] force Whether or not to force deletion of all identifiers
 * \return \herr t
 * \details H5Iclear type() deletes all identifiers of the type identified by
            the argument \p type.
            The identifier type's free function is first called on all of these
            identifiers to free their memory, then they are removed from the
            type.
            If the \p force flag is set to false, only those identifiers whose
            reference counts are equal to 1 will be deleted, and all other
            identifiers will be entirely unchanged. If the force flag is true,
            all identifiers of this type will be deleted.
H5 DLL herr t H5Iclear type(H5I type t type, hbool t force);
/* User data for H5I clear type cb */
typedef struct {
   H5I type info t *type info; /* Pointer to the type's info to be cleared */
                     force; /* Whether to always remove the ID */
app_ref; /* Whether this is an appl. ref. call */
   hbool_t
hbool_t
} H5I clear type ud t;
H5Iclear type()
 +-H5I clear type()
   +-H5I mark node()
      +-H5I mark node()
```

### In a nutshell:

Delete all IDs of the target type with ref count 1 (i.e. not in current use) from the index. If the force flag is set, delete all IDs of the target type regardless of ref count.

### In more detail:

H5Iclear\_type() verifies that the supplied type is not a library type, and then calls H5I\_clear\_type() with the supplied type and force parameters, and with the app\_ref parameter set to TRUE. It returns whatever value H5I\_clear\_type() returns.

Using the H5I\_next\_type\_g and H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global variables, H5I\_clear\_type() validates the supplied type, and looks up a pointer (udata.type\_info) to the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t associated with the target type, and loads it into its user data (instance of H5I\_clear\_type\_ud\_t - see above) along with the force and app\_ref parameters.

It then sets the H5I\_marking\_g global to TRUE, and uses the uthash HASH\_ITER macro to set up a for loop to scan through all the entries in the hash table associated with the target id type -- calling H5I mark node() on each such entry.

H5I\_mark\_node() examines the supplied instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t. If the force flag is set or if its ref count (info->count) is no greater than 1, it marks it for deletion (NOTE: it the app\_ref flag is set, the ref count condition is changed to ref count - application ref count (info->app\_count) <= 1).

If either of the above conditions are met, H5I\_\_mark\_node() discards the target of the void \* that was provided on registration if a free function is provided for the type (The info->discard\_cb is used for future objects if provided). The marked flag (info->marked) is then set to TRUE, and the id count (type\_info->id\_count) is decremented before H5I\_\_mark\_node() returns.

After the initial marking scan through the hash table associated with the target type, H5I\_clear\_type() sets the H5I\_marking\_g global to FALSE, and then uses HASH\_ITER to setup a second scan, running the HASH\_DELETE macro on every id whose marked flag was set in the prior scan. After removal from the hash table, each instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t is freed via H5FL\_FREE().

Assuming no errors have been detected, H5I clear type() then returns.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

H5Iclear\_type() has the multi-thread safety issues of accessing data structures that are visible to other threads – specifically:

- Read access to the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_t and H5I\_next\_type\_g global variables,
- Read/write access to the target instance of H5I type info t, and
- Read/write/delete access to instance of H5I id info t in the target index.

# Use of H5FL\_FREE()

In addition, H5Iclear\_type() displays a fundamental issue not seen so far in this pass through the public H5I API – specifically, H5I\_\_mark\_node() leaves index entries in a half deleted state pending their eventual full deletion in the second pass through the hash table. Absent changes in the algorithm, the only solution that comes to mind is to treat the entire H5Iclear\_type() call as critical region.

From discussion with Dana, I gather that this mark and sweep approach was adopted to avoid issues with the regression test for H5litterate() (discussed below). Must investigate this to see if changes to H5I public API semantics would be required to avoid this issue.

```
* \ingroup H5IUD
 * \brief Removes an identifier type and all identifiers within that type
 * \param[in] type Identifier of identifier type which is to be destroyed
 * \return \herr t
 * \details H5Idestroy type deletes an entire identifier type \p type. All
           identifiers of this type are destroyed and no new identifiers of
           this type can be registered.
           The type's free function is called on all of the identifiers which
           are deleted by this function, freeing their memory. In addition,
           all memory used by this type's hash table is freed.
           Since the H5I type t values of destroyed identifier types are
           reused when new types are registered, it is a good idea to set the
           variable holding the value of the destroyed type to #H5I UNINIT.
H5_DLL herr_t H5Idestroy_type(H5I_type_t type);
H5Idestroy type()
 +-H5I destroy type()
   +-H5I clear type()
    | +-H5I mark node()
        +-H5I mark node()
    +-H5MM_xfree_const()
    | +-H5MM xfree()
    +-H5MM xfree()
```

## In a nutshell:

Discard the target index type, along with all IDs that may reside in the target index.

#### In more detail:

H5Idestroy\_type() verifies that the target type is not an internal HDF5 library type, and then calls H5I\_\_destroy\_type(), returning whatever value that function returns.

H5I\_\_destroy\_type() validates the type id reading the H5I\_next\_type\_g global in the process, and then gets a pointer to the target type from the indicated entry in the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global array of pointer to H5I\_type\_info\_t. It verifies that this pointer is not NULL, and that type\_info->init\_count is positive.

If these tests pass, H5I\_destroy\_type() then calls H5I\_clear\_type() with the force parameter set to TRUE, and the app\_ref parameter set to FALSE. Any error return from this call is ignored.

H5I\_clear\_type() is discussed in detail in H5Iclear\_type() above. For purposes of this discussion, it should be sufficient to note that with the above parameters, it will discard all IDs of the target type.

On H5I\_clear\_type()'s return, H5I\_\_destroy\_type() tests to see if the H5I\_CLASS\_IS\_APPLICATION flag is set in type\_info->cls->flags. If so, it frees type\_info->cls via a call to H5MM xfree const().

The hash table is then freed via the HASH\_CLEAR() macro, followed by the \*type\_info itself (via H5MM\_xfree()).

Finally, the target entry in the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global array is set to NULL just before the function returns.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

Structurally, H5Idestroy\_type() is very similar to H5Iclear\_type(), and thus has all the multi-thread concerns surrounding that call with the addition of write access to the H5I type info array g global array.

```
/**
 * \ingroup H5IUD
 *
 * \brief Increments the reference count on an ID type
 *
 * \param[in] type The identifier of the type whose reference count is to be incremented
 *
 * \return Returns the current reference count on success, negative on failure.
 *
 * \details H5Iinc_type_ref() increments the reference count on an ID type. The
 * reference count is used by the library to indicate when an ID type
 * can be destroyed.
 *
 * The type parameter is the identifier for the ID type whose
 * reference count is to be incremented. This identifier must have
 * been created by a call to H5Iregister_type().
 *
 */
H5_DLL int H5Iinc_type_ref(H5I_type_t type);
H5Iinc_type_ref()
+-H5I__inc_type_ref()
```

Increment the reference count on the indicated index.

### In more detail:

After accessing the H5I\_next\_type\_g global variable to validate the supplied type and verify that it is not a library type, H5Iinc\_type\_ref() calls H5I\_\_inc\_type\_ref(), and returns whatever that function returns.

H5I\_\_inc\_type\_ref() does sanity checks on the supplied type. If they pass, it gets a pointer (type\_info) to the target type from the indicated entry in the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global array. It verifies that this pointer is not NULL, and if so, increments type\_info->init\_count, and returns the new value of that field.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

H5Iinc type ref() accesses data structures that are visible to other threads – specifically:

- Read access to the H5I type info array t and H5I next type g global variables,
- Read/write access to the target instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t, specifically the init\_count field.

```
* \ingroup H5IUD
 * \brief Decrements the reference count on an identifier type
 * \param[in] type The identifier of the type whose reference count is to be
decremented
^{\star} \return Returns the current reference count on success, negative on failure.
 * \details H5Idec type_ref() decrements the reference count on an identifier
           type. The reference count is used by the library to indicate when
           an identifier type can be destroyed. If the reference count reaches
           zero, this function will destroy it.
           The type parameter is the identifier for the identifier type whose
            reference count is to be decremented. This identifier must have
           been created by a call to H5Iregister_type().
H5 DLL int H5Idec_type_ref(H5I_type_t type);
H5Idec type ref()
 +-H5I dec type ref()
      +-H5I_clear_type()
      | +-H5I__mark_node()
           +-H5I _mark_node()
```

```
+-H5MM_xfree_const()
| +-H5MM_xfree()
+-H5MM xfree()
```

Decrement the reference count of the target type. If the index count drops to zero, discard all IDs in the target index, and then discard the index type as well.

## In greater detail:

After verifying that the supplied type is not a library type, H5Idec\_type\_ref() calls H5I\_dec\_type\_ref(), and returns whatever value that function returns.

Using the H5I\_next\_type\_g global, H5I\_dec\_type\_ref() does sanity checks on the supplied type. If they pass, it gets a pointer (type\_info) to the target type from the indicated entry in the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global array. It verifies that this pointer is not NULL, and if so, it tests to see if type info—init count is 1.

If it is not, it decrements type\_info->init\_count and returns that value.

If it is, it calls H5I\_\_destroy\_type() and returns zero.

H5I\_\_destroy\_type() is discussed in detail in H5Idestroy\_type() above, and thus need not be discussed here.

## Multi-Thread safety concerns:

As per H5Idestroy type().

```
H5Iget_type_ref()
+-H5I get type ref()
```

Return the reference count on the target type.

## In greater detail:

After accessing the H5I\_next\_type\_g global variable to validate the supplied type and verify that it is not a library type, H5Iget\_type\_ref() calls H5I\_\_get\_type\_ref(), and returns whatever value that function returns.

H5I\_\_get\_type\_ref() does sanity checks on the supplied type. If they pass, it gets a pointer (type\_info) to the target type from the indicated entry in the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global array. It verifies that this pointer is not NULL, and if so, it returns the current value of type info->init count.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

H5lget\_type\_ref() accesses data structures that are visible to other threads – specifically:

- Read access to the H5I type info array t and H5I next type g global variables,
- Read access to the target instance of H5I type info t, specifically the init count field.

```
* \ingroup H5IUD
* \brief Finds the memory referred to by an ID within the given ID type such
        that some criterion is satisfied
* \param[in] type The identifier of the type to be searched
* \protect\ function defining the search criteria
* \param[in] key A key for the search function
* \return Returns a pointer to the object which satisfies the search function
         on success, NULL on failure.
^{\star} \details H5Isearch() searches through a given ID type to find an object that
          satisfies the criteria defined by \p func. If such an object is
          found, the pointer to the memory containing this object is
          returned. Otherwise, NULL is returned. To do this, \p func is
          called on every member of type \p type. The first member to satisfy
          \p func is returned.
          The \p type parameter is the identifier for the ID type which is to
          be searched. This identifier must have been created by a call to
          H5Iregister_type().
```

```
The parameter \p func is a function pointer to a function which
            takes three parameters. The first parameter is a \c void* and will
           be a pointer to the object to be tested. This is the same object
           that was placed in storage using H5Iregister(). The second
           parameter is a hid t and is the ID of the object to be tested. The
           last parameter is \overline{a} \setminus c void*. This is the \setminus p key parameter and can
           be used however the user finds helpful, or it can be ignored if it
           is not needed. \p func returns 0 if the object it is testing does
            not pass its criteria. A non-zero value should be returned if the
            object does pass its criteria. H5I search func t is defined in
           H5Ipublic.h and is shown below.
            \snippet this H5I search func t snip
           The \p key parameter will be passed to the search function as a
           parameter. It can be used to further define the search at run-time.
H5 DLL void *H5Isearch(H5I type t type, H5I search func t func, void *key);
typedef struct {
   H5I_search_func_t app_cb; /* Application's callback routine */
   void * app_key; /* Application's "key" (user data) */
void * ret_obj; /* Object to return */
} H5I search ud t;
/* User data for iterator callback for ID iteration */
typedef struct {
   H5I_search_func_t user_func; /* 'User' function to invoke */
   void * user_udata; /* User data to pass to 'user' function */
                     app ref; /* Whether this is an appl. ref. call */
   hbool t
   H5I_type_t
                    obj type; /* Type of object we are iterating over */
} H5I iterate ud t;
H5Isearch()
 +-H5I iterate()
    +-H5I iterate cb()
       +-H5I unwrap()
         +-H5VL object_data()
         | +-(vol obj->connector->cls->wrap cls.get object)(vol obj->data)()
               +- ??? -- must investigate
         +-H5T_get_actual_type()
            +-H5VL object data()
                +-(vol obj->connector->cls->wrap cls.get object)(vol obj->data)()
                  +- ??? -- must investigate
       +-func() -- user function provided in call to H5Iserach()
```

Scan through the IDs of the target type, running the supplied search function on each. Return when the search function returns either success or error.

## In greater detail:

On entry, H5Isearch() verifies that the supplied type is not a library type, and then initializes an instance of H5I\_search\_ud\_t as follows:

```
udata.app_cb = func;
udata.app_key = key;
udata.ret obj = NULL;
```

It then calls H5I\_iterate() with the supplied type, H5I\_\_search\_cb() as the func parameter, a pointer to the instance of H5I\_search\_ud\_t as the udata parameter, and with the app\_ref parameter set to TRUE. The return value of H5I\_iterate() is ignored, and the function returns udata.ret\_obj to the caller.

On entry, H5I\_iterate() does some sanity checks, looks up the target type's instance of H5I type info t in the global H5I type info array g, and stores that pointer in type info.

If type\_info is not NULL, type\_info->init\_count > 0, and type\_info->id\_count > 0, H5I\_iterate() proceeds as follows:

First, it sets its user data in an instance H5I iterate ud t and initializes it as follows:

```
iter_udata.user_func = func; // H5I__search_cb in this case
iter_udata.user_udata = udata; // udata from H5Isearch()
iter_udata.app_ref = app_ref; // TRUE in this case
iter_udata.obj_type = type; // the target index type
```

The the function uses the HASH\_ITER macro to set up a for loop to iterate through all IDs in the target type. For each such ID that is not marked for deletion (i.e. the marked field in the associated instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t is not set), H5I\_iterate() calls H5I\_\_iterate\_cb() with the item parameter pointing to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the current ID, NULL for the key parameter, and the udata parameter pointing to the instance of H5I\_iterate\_ud\_t just initialized. If H5I\_iterate() returns either H5\_ITER\_STOP or H5\_ITER\_ERROR, H5I\_iterate() breaks out of the for loop and returns – flagging an error in the latter case.

H5I\_\_iterate\_cb() checks to see if the app\_ref field of the user data provided by H5I\_iterate() is TRUE, and if application reference count on the target instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t (\*\_item) is positive.

If these tests pass, H5I\_\_iterate\_cb() calls H5I\_\_unwrap() on the void pointer that was passed to H5Iregister(), and passes the result to the search function (instance of H5I\_search\_func\_t) that was passed into H5Isearch(). If the search function returns a positive value, the return value of H5I\_\_iterate\_cb() is set to H5\_ITER\_STOP, if a negative value, H5\_ITER\_ERROR. Otherwise, H5I\_\_iterate\_cb() returns H5\_ITER\_CONT.

In the context of external API's, H5I\_unwrap() is a no-op. It simply returns the void pointer that was passed to it in the object parameter.

However, for library IDs of H5I\_FILE, H5I\_GROUP, H5I\_DATASET, or H5I\_ATTR type, the void pointer is cast tor a pointer to H5VL\_object\_t, and passed to H5VL\_object\_data(). The return value of H5VL\_object\_data() is returned to the caller. Similarly, if the ID is of type

H5I\_DATATYPE, the void pointer is cast to a pointer to H5T\_t and passed to H5VL\_object\_data() -- where

if may be passed to H5VL\_object\_data(). Again, the value from H5T\_get\_actual\_type() is returned to the caller.

Tracing through H5VL\_object\_data() and its subsequent calls to see what is going on here is beyond the scope of the current investigation. However, this will have to be addressed when H5VL is investigated, if not before.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

H5Isearch() accesses data structures that are visible to other threads – specifically:

- Read access to the H5I type info array t and H5I next type g global variables,
- Read access to the target instance of H5I type info t.
- Read access to every instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t In the target index

In addition, there are the unknown issues raised by H5I\_unwrap() as discussed above.

Leaving aside the issues raised by H5I\_unwrap(), H5I has little control over the behavior of the user provided search function.

Finally, there is the fact that H5Isearch() iterates through the IDs in the target index. While H5Isearch() doesn't have the obvious data consistency issues of H5Iclear() and H5Idestroy(), it will probably be convenient to apply the same solutions to it as well.

```
* \ingroup H5IUD
* \brief Calls a callback for each member of the identifier type specified
* \param[in] type The identifier type
* \param[in] op The callback function
* \param[in,out] op_data The data for the callback function
* \return The last value returned by \p op
* \details H5Iiterate() calls the callback function \p op for each member of
          the identifier type \p type. The callback function type for \p op,
          H5I_iterate_func_t, is defined in H5Ipublic.h as:
          \snippet this H5I_iterate_func_t_snip
          \p op takes as parameters the identifier and a pass through of
          \p op data, and returns an herr t.
          A positive return from op will cause the iteration to stop and
          H5Iiterate() will return the value returned by \p op. A negative
          return from \p op will cause the iteration to stop and H5Iiterate()
          will return failure. A zero return from \p op will allow iteration
```

```
to continue, as long as there are other identifiers remaining in
          type.
* \since 1.12.0
H5 DLL herr t H5Iiterate(H5I type t type, H5I iterate func t op, void *op data);
typedef herr t (*H5I iterate func t)(hid t id, void *udata);
typedef struct {
   void * op_data; /* Application's user data */
} H5I iterate pub ud t;
H5Iiterate()
+-H5I iterate()
   +-H5I iterate cb()
      +-H5I unwrap()
      | +-H5VL_object_data()
      | +-(vol_obj->connector->cls->wrap_cls.get_object)(vol_obj->data)()
      | +- ??? -- must investigate
        +-H5T_get_actual_type()
          +-H5VL object data()
             +-(vol obj->connector->cls->wrap cls.get object) (vol obj->data) ()
                +- ??? -- must investigate
      +-op() -- user function provided in call to H5Iiterate()
```

In a nutshell:

Scan through the IDs of the target type, running the supplied function on each. Return early if the supplied function returns either success or error.

In greater detail:

H5literate() initializes an instance of H5l iterate pub ud t as follows:

and then calls H5I\_iterate() with the supplied type as the type parameter, H5I\_\_iterate\_pub\_cb as the func parameter, the int\_udata as the udata, and TRUE as the app\_ref parameter. H5Iiterate() returns the value returned by H5I\_iterate().

From this point, H5literate is very similar to H5lsearch()

H5I\_iterate() is the same as in H5Isearch() with the exception of the initialization of its instance of H5I\_iterate\_ud\_t:

Similarly, H5I\_\_iterate\_cb() functions much as it does in H5Isearch(), the difference being in the user function called (H5I iterate pub cb() vs H5I search cp()) and the user data.

H5I\_\_iterate\_pub\_cb() is simpler than H5I\_\_search\_cb(). It just calls the function supplied to H5Isearch() with the current ID and udata supplied to H5Isearch() as parameters. It translates the return value to either H5\_ITER\_STOP, H5\_ITER\_ERROR, or H5I\_ITER\_CONT as appropriate, and returns.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

Much the same as H5Isearch(), with additional concerns about the function supplied to H5Iiterate(). Since this function is only supplied with the ID of the index entry under examination, it will probably have to make a H5I call to obtain the associated data – complicating the multi-thread safety problem.

In a nutshell:

Return the number of IDs in the target type.

In greater detail:

After accessing the H5I\_next\_type\_g and the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global variables to validate the supplied type and verify that it is not a library type, H5Inmembers() calls H5I\_nmembers() to obtain the current number of entries in the target type, and return that value in Inum members.

H5I\_nmembers() validates the type again, and then obtains a pointer (type\_info) to the target instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t. If this pointer is NULL, or if type\_info→init\_count is non-positive, H5I\_nmembers() returns zero. Otherwise, it returns type\_info->id\_count.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

H5Iget\_type\_ref() accesses data structures that are visible to other threads – specifically:

- Read access to the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_t and H5I\_next\_type\_g global variables,
- Read access to the target instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t, specifically the init\_count and id count fields.

In a nutshell:

Return TRUE if the specified type exists, and FALSE otherwise.

In greater detail:

Look up the entry in the global H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g array indicated by the supplied type. Return FALSE if this entry is NULL, and TRUE otherwise.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

H5Itype exists() accesses data structures that are visible to other threads – specifically:

• Read access to the H5I type info array t and H5I next type g global variables,

```
* \ingroup H5I
 * \brief Determines whether an identifier is valid
 * \obj id{id}
 * \return \htri t
 * \details H5Iis valid() determines whether the identifier \p id is valid.
 ^{\star} \details Valid identifiers are those that have been obtained by an
            application and can still be used to access the original target.
            Examples of invalid identifiers include:
            \li Out of range values: negative, for example
            \li Previously-valid identifiers that have been released:
                for example, a dataset identifier for which the dataset has
                been closed
            H5Iis_valid() can be used with any type of identifier: object
            identifier, property list identifier, attribute identifier, error
           message identifier, etc. When necessary, a call to H5Iget_type()
           can determine the type of the object that \p id identifies.
  \since 1.8.3
H5 DLL htri t H5Iis valid(hid t id);
H5Iis_valid()
 +-H5I find id()
   +-(id info->realize cb)()
   +-H5I__remove_common()
   +-(id info->discard_db)()
```

#### In a nutshell:

Look up the supplied ID. If it doesn't exist, of if it has a zero application ref count (i.e. it is HDF5 library internal), return FALSE. Otherwise return TRUE.

## In greater detail:

H5Iis\_valid() calls H5I\_\_find\_id() to look up a pointer to the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t (info) associated with the supplied ID. See H5Iobject\_verify() for a discussion of this call.

If info is NULL, or if info→app\_count is zero, H5lis\_valid() returns FALSE. Otherwise, it returns TRUE.

## Multi-Thread safety concerns:

# See H5lobject\_verify().

```
* \ingroup H5I
 * \brief Registers a "future" object under a type and returns an ID for it
 * \param[in] type The identifier of the type of the new ID
 * \param[in] object Pointer to "future" object for which a new ID is created
 * \param[in] realize_cb Function pointer to realize a future object
 * \param[in] discard_cb Function pointer to destroy a future object
 * \return \hid t{object}
 * \details H5Iregister future() creates and returns a new ID for a "future" object.
                    Future objects are a special kind of object and represent a
                    placeholder for an object that has not yet been created or opened.
                    The \p realize_cb will be invoked by the HDF5 library to 'realize'
                    the future object as an actual object. A call to H5Iobject verify()
                    will invoke the \p realize cb callback and if it successfully
                    returns, will return the actual object, not the future object.
    \details The \p type parameter is the identifier for the ID type to which
                    this new future ID will belong. This identifier may have been created
                    by a call to H5Iregister type() or may be one of the HDF5 pre-defined
                    ID classes (e.g. H5I_FILE, H5I_GROUP, H5I_DATASPACE, etc).
    \details The \p object parameter is a pointer to the memory which the new ID
                    will be a reference to. This pointer will be stored by the library,
                    but will not be returned to a call to H5Iobject verify() until the
                    \p realize cb callback has returned the actual pointer for the object.
                    A NULL value for \p object is allowed.
* \details The \p realize cb parameter is a function pointer that will be
                    invoked by the HDF5 library to convert a future object into an
                    actual object. The \p realize cb function may be invoked by
                    H5Iobject verify() to return the actual object for a user-defined
                    ID class (i.e. an ID class registered with H5Iregister type()) or
                    internally by the HDF5 library in order to use or get information
                    from an HDF5 pre-defined ID type. For example, the \protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\protect\
                    for a future dataspace object will be called during the process
                    of returning information from H5Sget simple extent dims().
                    Note that although the \p realize_cb routine returns
                    an ID (as a parameter) for the actual object, the HDF5 library
                    will swap the actual object in that ID for the future object in
                    the future ID. This ensures that the ID value for the object
                    doesn't change for the user when the object is realized.
                    Note that the \p realize cb callback could receive a NULL value
                    for a future object pointer, if one was used when H5Iregister future()
                    was initially called. This is permitted as a means of allowing
                    the \p realize cb to act as a generator of new objects, without
```

```
requiring creation of unnecessary future objects.
            It is an error to pass NULL for \p realize cb.
 ^{\star} \details The \p discard cb parameter is a function pointer that will be
           invoked by the HDF5 library to destroy a future object. This
           callback will always be invoked for _every_ future object, whether
           the \p realize_cb is invoked on it or not. It's possible that
           the \p discard cb is invoked on a future object without the
            \p realize cb being invoked, e.g. when a future ID is closed without
            requiring the future object to be realized into an actual one.
           Note that the \p discard cb callback could receive a NULL value
           for a future object pointer, if one was used when H5Iregister future()
           was initially called.
           It is an error to pass NULL for \p discard cb.
 * \note The H5Iregister_future() function is primarily targeted at VOL connector
           authors and is not designed for general-purpose application use.
H5_DLL hid_t H5Iregister_future(H5I_type_t type, const void *object,
                               H5I future realize func t realize cb,
                               H5I future discard func t discard cb);
H5Iregister_future()
+-H5I register()
In a nutshell:
```

H5Iregister\_future() inserts the supplied void pointer in the index of the indicated type, marks the entry as a future object, and decorates it with the supplied realize and discard callbacks. The function returns an ID that can be used to access this void pointer (or its realized version) at a later date.

#### In more detail:

Test to see if the supplied type is a library type (i.e. one used internally. Fail if it is. Similarly, verify that the realize and discard callbacks are defined. If all tests pass, call H5I\_register() with the app\_ref. realize\_cb, and discard\_cb parameters set to TRUE, and the supplied values respectively.

Further processing is as per H5Iregister(), with the exception that the is\_future flag is set to TRUE, not FALSE.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

As per H5Iregister().

# Appendix 2 – H5I private API calls

In addition to its public and developer APIs, H5I also has a private API providing indexing services to the HDF5 library. For the most part, these calls are similar to their cognates in the public API – but there are some differences, and also some calls which offer additional capabilities.

Since the objective of this exercise is make H5I multi-thread safe so it can be safely called by multiple threads in multi-thread safe VOL connectors, at first glance, the internal H5I API is not relevant to this effort. However, the internal H5I API is used by other packages – including those necessary to support multi-thread VOL connectors.

The list of internal H5I API calls below is taken from H5Iprivate.h. Most entries are annotated with a reference to the relevant public API call. Those with no public API cognate have more extensive annotations.

```
H5 DLL herr t
                  H5I register type(const H5I class t *cls);
See H5Iregister type()
H5 DLL int64 t H5I nmembers (H5I type t type);
See H5Inmembers()
H5 DLL herr t
                H5I clear type(H5I type t type, hbool t force, hbool t app ref);
See H5Iclear type()
H5 DLL H5I type t H5I get type(hid t id);
See H5Iget_type()
H5 DLL herr t
                  H5I iterate(H5I type t type, H5I search func t func, void *udata,
hbool_t app_ref);
See H5Isearch() and H5Iiterate()
H5 DLL int
                  H5I_get_ref(hid_t id, hbool_t app_ref);
See H5lget_ref()
H5 DLL int
                  H5I_inc_ref(hid_t id, hbool_t app_ref);
See H5linc_ref()
```

H5I\_dec\_ref() verifies that the ID is non-negative, and then calls H5I\_\_dec\_ref() with H5 REQUEST NULL as the request parameter.

See H5Idec ref() for further details.

```
H5 DLL int
                  H5I dec app ref(hid t id);
See H5Idec ref()
H5 DLL int
                   H5I dec app ref async(hid t id, void **token);
H5I_dec_app_ref_async()
 +-H5I__dec_app_ref()
   +-H5I__dec_ref()
      +-H5I__find_id()
       | +-(id info->realize cb)()
      +-H5I__remove_common()
+-(id_info->discard_db)()
      +-(type info->cls->free func)((void *)info->object, request)
      +-H5I remove common()
    +-H5I find id()
       +-(id info->realize cb)()
       +-H5I remove common()
       +-(id info->discard db)()
```

H5I\_dec\_app\_ref\_async() verifies that the ID is non-negative, and then calls H5I\_dec\_app\_ref(). This differs from calls to H5I\_dec\_app\_ref() elsewhere in that the request parameter passed into H5I\_dec\_app\_ref() is user supplied, and not hard coded to H5\_REQUEST\_NULL as in H5Idec\_ref() above. This request appears to be passed into the free function from the class when it is called on the void pointer that was passed in on ID registration. It does not appear to be used elsewhere.

Otherwise, the call to H5I dec app ref() seems to be as described in H5Idec ref() above.

```
H5_DLL int H5I_dec_app_ref_always_close(hid_t id);
H5I_dec_app_ref_always_close()
+-H5I__dec_app_ref_always_close()
+-H5I__dec_app_ref()
| +-H5I__dec_ref()
| | +-H5I__find_id()
| | | +-(id_info->realize_cb)()
| | | +-H5I__remove_common()
```

```
| | +-(id_info->discard_db)()
| +-(type_info->cls->free_func)((void *)info->object, request)
| +-H5I__remove_common()
| +-H5I__find_id()
| +-(id_info->realize_cb)()
| +-H5I__remove_common()
| +-(id_info->discard_db)()
+-H5I_remove()
+-H5I_remove common()
```

H5I\_dec\_app\_ref\_always\_close() verifies that the supplied ID is non-negative, and then calls H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref\_always\_close() with the supplied ID and the request parameter set to H5\_REQUEST\_NULL. It returns whatever value H5I dec app\_ref\_always\_close() returns.

After initial sanity checks, H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref\_always\_close() calls H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref() with the supplied id and request (H5\_REQUEST\_NULL in this case). See H5Idec\_ref() for a discussion of H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref() under these circumstances.

When H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref(), H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref\_always\_close() checks for failure, and calls H5I\_remove() if a failure is detected. This appears to be an attempt to force removal of the ID even if the free call fails -- see the following comment:

```
* If an object is closing, we can remove the ID even though the free * method might fail. This can happen when a mandatory filter fails to * write when a dataset is closed and the chunk cache is flushed to the * file. We have to close the dataset anyway. (SLU - 2010/9/7) */
```

H5I remove() is discussed in H5Iremove verify() above.

```
H5 DLL int
                   H5I dec app ref always close async(hid t id, void **token);
H5I_dec_app_ref_always_close async()
 +-H5I__dec_app_ref_always_close()
    +-H5I dec_app_ref()
    | +-H5I dec ref()
    | + \overline{H5}I \quad \overline{f} \text{ ind id()}
    | | +-(id info->realize cb)()
    | | +-H5I remove common()
    | | +-(id info->discard db)()
    +-(type_info->cls->free_func)((void *)info->object, request)
    | +-H5I__remove_common()
       +-H5I__find_id()
          +-(id info->realize cb)()
          +-H5I__remove_common()
+-(id_info->discard_db)()
    +-H5I \text{ remove}()
       +-H5I remove_common()
```

As per H5I\_dec\_app\_ref\_always\_close() above, save that H5I\_dec\_app\_ref\_always\_close\_async() takes a token parameter (void \*\*), that is passed down

to +-H5I\_\_dec\_app\_ref\_always\_close() as its request parameter. This parameter is eventually passed to the free function for the type if the ref count drops to zero.

```
H5 DLL int
                H5I dec type ref(H5I type t type);
See H5Idec type ref()
H5 DLL herr t H5I find id(const void *object, H5I type t type, hid t *id /*out*/);
/* User data for iterator callback for retrieving an ID corresponding to an object
pointer */
typedef struct {
   ret id; /* ID returned */
} H5I get id ud t;
H5I find id()
 +-\overline{H}5I find id cb()
   +-H5I unwrap()
      +-H5VL object data()
      +-(vol obj->connector->cls->wrap cls.get object) (vol obj->data) ()
           +- ??? -- must investigate
      +-H5T_get_actual_type()
         +-H5VL object data()
            +-(vol_obj->connector->cls->wrap cls.get object)(vol obj->data)()
              +- ??? -- must investigate
```

In a nutshell:

Scan all IDs in the target type. If an ID has a void pointer associated with it that matches the supplied void \*, return this ID in \*id.

In greater detail:

After initial sanity checks, and setting \*id = H5I\_INVALID\_HID, H5I\_find\_id() looks up the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t associated with the supplied type in the H5I\_type\_info\_array\_g global array. If the target type exists and has been initialized, and has at least one entry. the function initializes an instance of H5I\_get\_id\_ud\_t as follows:

```
/* Set up iterator user data */
udata.object = object;
udata.obj_type = type;
udata.ret_id = H5I_INVALID_HID;
```

and then uses the HASH\_ITER uthash macro to set up a for loop that visits each ID in the target type.

It calls H5I\_\_find\_id\_cb() on each such entry, returning an error if H5I\_\_find\_id\_cb() returns and error, and breaking out of the for loop if H5I\_\_find\_id\_cb() returns H5\_ITER\_STOP. In either case, H5I\_find\_id() sets \*id = udata.ret\_id after it exits the for loop.

H5I\_\_find\_id\_cb() calls H5I\_\_unwrap() on the void pointer associated with the target id. It tests to see if the return value of H5I\_\_unwrap() equals udata->object. If it does, it sets udata->ret\_id = info->id, and returns H5\_ITER\_STOP.

See H5Isearch() above for a discussion of H5I\_unwrap(). The bottom line is that it makes calls into H5VL, and then into a VOL connector callback -- with the resulting potential multithread safety issues. I am putting this issue to one side pending review of H5VL.

```
/* NOTE:
           The object and ID functions below deal in non-VOL objects (i.e.;
           H5S t, etc.). Similar VOL calls exist in H5VLprivate.h. Use
           the H5VL calls with objects that go through the VOL, such as
          datasets and groups, and the H5I calls with objects
          that do not, such as property lists and dataspaces. Datatypes
          are can be either named, where they will use the VOL, or not,
           and thus require special treatment. See the datatype docs for
           how to handle this.
/* Functions that manipulate objects */
H5_DLL void * H5I_object(hid_t id);
See H5Iget type()
H5 DLL void * H5I object verify(hid t id, H5I type t type);
See H5lobject verify()
H5 DLL void * H5I remove(hid t id);
See H5Iremove verify()
H5 DLL void * H5I subst(hid t id, const void *new object);
H5I subst()
 +-H5I find id()
    +-(id info->realize cb)()
    +-H5I__remove_common()
    +-(id info->discard db)()
```

In a nut shell:

Replace the void \* associated with the ID with the supplied void \*, returning the old void \*.

In greater detail:

H5I\_subst() calls H5I\_find\_id() to obtain the instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t associated with the target ID. See H5Iobject verify() above for a discussion of H5I find id().

Assuming that H5I\_\_find\_id() is successful, H5I\_subst() sets info->object = new\_object, and returns the original value of info->object.

```
H5_DLL htri_t H5I_is_file_object(hid_t id);
H5I_is_file_object()
+-H5I_get_type()
+-H5I_object()
| +-H5I_find_id()
| +-(id_info->realize_cb)()
| +-H5I_remove_common()
| +-(id_info->discard_db)()
+-H5T is named()
```

H5I\_is\_file\_object() calls H5I\_get\_type() to obtain the type of the supplied ID. If the type is either H5I\_DATASET, H5I\_GROUP, or H5I\_MAP, the function return TRUE.

If the type is H5I\_DATATYPE, it calls H5I\_object() to obtain the instance of H5T\_t associated with the id, calls H5T\_is\_named() on this instance, and returns whatever H5T\_is\_named() returns.

Otherwise, the function returns FALSE.

H5I get type() invokes the H5I TYPE() macro to extract the type, and returns this value.

See H5Iobject verify() for a discussion of H5I object().

H5T\_is\_named() returns TRUE iff the datatype is named/committed. This is determined by examining fields of the supplied instance of H5T\_t, so no special multi-thread issues beyond the usual race conditions.

```
/* ID registration functions */
H5_DLL hid_t    H5I_register(H5I_type_t type, const void *object, hbool_t app_ref);
H5I_register()
+-H5I register()
```

After some sanity checks H5I\_register() calls H5I\_\_register() with its parameters, and NULL for the realize\_cb and discard\_cp parameters.

See H5Iregister() above for a discussion of H5I\_register()

```
+-H5I__find_id()
    +-(id_info->realize_cb)()
    +-H5I__remove_common()
    +-(id_info->discard_db)()
```

#### In a nutshell:

Register the supplied void \* in the specified index with the specified ID. The function will fail if the ID is already in use, or if it doesn't belong to the specified index.

# In greater detail:

H5I\_register\_using\_existing\_id() first verifies that the supplied id is not in use via a call to H5I\_find\_id(). (see H5Iobject\_verify() for a discussion of H5I\_find\_id()). It then verifies that the supplied type is valid, and that the supplied id belongs to the supplied type. As part of these sanity checks, it looks up the instance of H5I\_type\_info\_t associated with the supplied type and stores its address in type\_info. In so doing, it reads the global H5I\_next\_type\_g and the global H5I type info array g array.

If all these sanity checks pass, the function allocates an instance of H5I\_id\_info\_t via H5FL\_CALLOC() storing its address in info. (note the thread safety issue), initializes it, and then uses the uthash HASH\_ADD() to insert it into the hash table of the specified index with the specified id. Before exiting, it sets type\_info->last\_id\_info = info.

From a multi-thread safety perspective, H5I\_register\_using\_existing\_id() seems to have the same issues as H5I\_\_register().

```
/* Debugging functions */
H5_DLL herr_t H5I_dump_ids_for_type(H5I_type_t type);
```

This is a debugging function, and thus can be skipped for now.

# Appendix 3 – Fields modified by API Calls

The following table lists the fields in the relevant instances of H5I\_type\_info\_t and H5I\_id\_info\_t that are modified by the listed API calls. Note that this data is derived from inspection of the code, and thus some errors should be expected.

Note also that H5Iget\_file\_id() and H5Iget\_name() have been omitted from this table.

Operation(s)	Field modified in H5I_type_info_t	Fields modified in H5I_id_info_t
H5Iregister() H5Iregister_future() H5I_register()	nextid, id_count, last_id_info hash_table	all – allocate instance and initialize
H5Iobject_verify() H5I_object_verify() H5I_object() (no future objects)	last_id_info	none
H5Iobject_verify() H5I_object_verify() H5I_object() (future objects possible)	last_id_info, hash_table, id_count	all (delete one index entry, modify another)
H5Iremove_verify() H5I_remove()	hash_table, last_id_info, id_count	all (free instance) or marked (if H5I_marking_g is TRUE)
H5Iget_type() H5I_get_type() (no future objects)	none	none
H5Iget_type() H5I_get_type() (future objects possible)	hash_table, id_count	all (delete one index entry, modify another)
H5Iinc_ref() H5I_inc_ref() (no future objects)	none	count, app_count
H5Iinc_ref() H5I_inc_ref() (future objects possible)	hash_table, id_count	all (delete one index entry, modify another)
H5Idec_ref() H5I_dec_ref() H5I_dec_app_ref_async() H5I_dec_app_ref_always_close() H5I_dec_app_ref_always_close_async()	hash_table, last_id_info, id_count	all

H5Iget_ref() H5I_get_ref() (no future objects)	none	none
H5Iget_ref() H5I_get_ref() (future objects possible)	hash_table, id_count	all (delete and free one index entry, modify another)
H5Iregister_type	all – allocate and initialize	none
H5Iclear_type() H5I_clear_type()	hash_table, id_count	all – delete and free most entries
H5Idestroy_type()	all – de-allocate when done	All – delete and free all entries
H5Iinc_type_ref()	init_count	none
H5Idec_type_ref() H5I_dec_type_ref()	just init_count if it remains positive, or all with de-allocation when done if init_count drops to zero	none, if init_count remains positive. otherwise all – delete and free all entries
H5Iget_type_ref()	none	none
H5Isearch() H5Iiterate() H5I_iterate() H5I_find_id()	potentially hash_table, id_count, last_id_info	potentially all
H5Inmembers() H5I_nmembers()	id_count	none
H5Itype_exists()	none	none
H5Iis_valid() (no future objects)	none	none
H5Iis_valid() (future objects possible)	hash_table, id_count	all (delete one index entry, modify another)
H5I_subst() (no future objects)	last_id_info	object
H5I_subst() (future objects possible)	last_id_info, hash_table, id_count	all (delete one index entry, modify another)
H5I_is_file_object() (no future objects)	none	none
H5I_is_file_object() (future objects possible)	hash_table, id_count	all (delete one index entry,

		modify another)
H5I_register_using_existing_id() (no future objects)	id_count, last_id_info hash_table	all – allocate instance and initialize
H5I_register_using_existing_id() (future objects possible)	id_count, last_id_info hash_table	all – either allocate an instance and initialize, or delete one index entry, modify another