

Making H5P Multi-Thread Safe: A Sketch Design

John Mainzer
Lifeboat, LLC

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Due to the absence of design documentation for the H5P package this document is an attempt to outline the reverse-engineered design and to offer two approaches to making H5P multi-thread safe. For completeness Appendix 3 contains a design document for HDF5 generic properties found on internet but not included in the current HDF5 documentation maintained by The HDF Group.

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Introduction

H5P provides support for the property lists used throughout HDF5. It must depend on H5I since property lists are accessed via IDs – instances of `hid_t` to be precise. Similarly, it must depend on H5E for error reporting. While in principle, there seems no reason why H5P proper should have any other dependencies, it should be no surprise at this point that this is not the case.

More generally, since H5P includes support for getting and setting the various properties associated with the various standard property lists – FCPL (File Creation Property List), FAPL (File Access Property List), etc. – there must be at least minimal interaction with the packages configured with these properties. In principle, this should be limited to structure definitions, constants, and a bit of sanity checking – all items with little or no multi-thread safety significance. While this is certainly true in some cases, at present I don't know the extent to which it is true in general.

This version of the RFC is a large improvement over the previous version, but it is still a work in progress. While I have completed my review of the core property list code, and an initial review of the initialization process for HDF5 library defined property list classes, I have only glanced at the various HDF5 library specific property list class and property specific callbacks – which are a source of the interactions with packages configured via the property lists.

While this deficit must be addressed before we commit to any of the designs outlined in this RFC, I am now in position to discuss the structure of the property list facility in some detail – and have done so in the next section.

This discussion is longer and more detailed than I would like. However, a good understanding of the current implementation is necessary to motivate the solutions proposed.

H5P at Present

In the context of HDF5, a property list is conceptually a list of (`<name>`, `<value>`) pairs used to pass configuration data into HDF5 API calls.¹ Given this use case, it is convenient to define property list classes, which facilitate creation of default property lists for a given purpose (i.e., creating an HDF5 file) which have a specified set of (`<name>`, `<value>`) pairs. These property lists can then be edited as necessary for the purpose at hand.

Further, new properties can be added to both property list classes and property lists. At the application program level, the major use case for this feature is adding configuration data for externally developed Virtual File Drivers (VFD) and VOL connectors to the appropriate HDF5 defined property lists.

1 In a few cases, it is also used to pass data back out to the application program.

H5P exists to provide property list services to the HDF5 library proper, and also to application programs. The basic services may be summarized as follows:

- Create, delete, copy, modify, and compare property list classes, and also iterate through properties in a property list class.

Here a property list class is best thought of as an archetype for newly created property lists of the desired structure. It specifies the properties that appear in a new property list derived from a target class along with their default values. While the actual implementation is different, conceptually new property list classes are created by duplicating an existing class, and then either adding new properties or overwriting the default values of inherited properties.

- Create, delete, copy, compare, encode, and decode property lists. Get and set the values of properties in a property list. Delete properties from a given property list. Insert new properties into a given property list. Iterate through the properties in a property list.

In terms of internal architecture, the property list code employs a design that echoes a number of ideas from object-oriented programming languages. This design decision creates a number of issues for both the existing single thread implementation and any revision or re-write to add multi-thread support.

H5P Data Structures

There are three main structures used in H5P:

- `H5P_genprop_t` – used represent properties,
- `H5P_genclass_t` – used to represent property list classes, and
- `H5P_genlist_t` – used to represent property lists.

There is also `H5P_libclass_t`, which is used to construct tables that control the construction of the HDF5 library defined property list classes. As my review of H5P initialization is still in progress, a discussion of this structure will have to wait for the next revision of this RFC. For those who can't wait, there are preliminary notes in Appendix 2.

Properties

The fundamental elements in property lists and property list classes are properties, which are stored in instances of `H5P_genprop_t` – whose definition is reproduced below.

```

/* Define structure to hold property information */
typedef struct H5P_genprop_t {
    /* Values for this property */
    char *          name;          /* Name of property */
    size_t          size;          /* Size of property value */
    void *          value;         /* Pointer to property value */
    H5P_prop_within_t type;        /* Type of object the property is within */
    hbool_t          shared_name;  /* Whether the name is shared or not */

    /* Callback function pointers & info */
    H5P_prp_create_func_t create; /* Function to call when a property is created */
    H5P_prp_set_func_t    set;    /* Function to call when a property value is set */
    H5P_prp_get_func_t    get;    /* Function to call when a property value is
                                   retrieved */
    H5P_prp_encode_func_t encode; /* Function to call when a property is encoded */
    H5P_prp_decode_func_t decode; /* Function to call when a property is decoded */
    H5P_prp_delete_func_t del;    /* Function to call when a property is deleted */
    H5P_prp_copy_func_t   copy;   /* Function to call when a property is copied */
    H5P_prp_compare_func_t cmp;   /* Function to call when a property is compared */
    H5P_prp_close_func_t  close;  /* Function to call when a property is closed */
} H5P_genprop_t;

```

At the fundamental level, a property consists of a name, a value stored in a buffer, and an optional set of functions to be called on property

- create,
- set,
- get,
- encode,
- decode,
- delete (from a property list),
- copy,
- compare, and
- close (of the host property list).

Since there are no constraints on these callbacks, they present an obvious risk from a multi-thread perspective. For properties defined by the HDF5 library, this should be manageable, since this code is under the control of the library. Externally defined properties are of greater concern.

The type field is used to note whether the property is contained in a property list class, or a property list proper.

Property List Classes

Property list classes can be thought of as templates for property lists – in essence they specify the properties contained in property lists based on a given property list class, along with their

default values². Property list classes are stored in instances of `H5P_genclass_t` – whose definition is reproduced below.

```
/* Define structure to hold class information */
struct H5P_genclass_t {
    struct H5P_genclass_t *parent;    /* Pointer to parent class */
    char *                name;        /* Name of property list class */
    H5P_plist_type_t      type;        /* Type of property */
    size_t                nprops;      /* Number of properties in class */
    unsigned              plists;      /* Number of property lists that have been
                                      created since the last modification to
                                      the class */
    unsigned              classes;     /* Number of classes that have been derived
                                      since the last modification to the class */
    unsigned              ref_count;   /* Number of outstanding ID's open on this
                                      class object */
    hbool_t               deleted;     /* Whether this class has been deleted and is
                                      waiting for dependent classes & proplists
                                      to close */
    unsigned              revision;    /* Revision number of a particular class
                                      (global) */
    H5SL_t                * props;     /* Skip list containing properties */

    /* Callback function pointers & info */
    H5P_cls_create_func_t create_func; /* Function to call when a property list
                                      is created */
    void *                create_data; /* Pointer to user data to pass along to
                                      create callback */
    H5P_cls_copy_func_t   copy_func;   /* Function to call when a property list
                                      is copied */
    void *                copy_data;   /* Pointer to user data to pass along to
                                      copy callback */
    H5P_cls_close_func_t  close_func;  /* Function to call when a property list
                                      is closed */
    void *                close_data;  /* Pointer to user data to pass along to
                                      close callback */
};
```

Conceptually, a property list class is a named list of properties with default values, decorated by functions to be called when a derived property list is created, copied, or closed, and finally, a pointer its parent property list class.

The pointer to the parent class central here, as the set of properties contained in the property list class is defined to be set of all properties that appear in a given instance of `H5P_genclass_t` **A**, **plus all properties that appear in the singly linked list of instances of `H5P_genclass_t` for which A is the first entry** (see below for management of duplicate properties). This linked list must always terminate in the ROOT property list class, which is created by the HDF5 library at initialization, and contains no properties.

While no single instance of `H5P_genclass_t` can contain two or more properties of the same name, different instances of `H5P_genclass_t` may contain properties of the same name. When

2 But note that properties may be either added to or removed from individual property lists.

searching for a property in a linked list of instances of `H5P_genclass_t`, the first such property encountered shadows any later properties of the same name.

The properties (really instances of `H5P_genprop_t`) that reside in a property list class are stored in a skip list – which is implemented in the H5SL package. Note that this package is not thread safe, and – to a first order approximation – has been the primary cause of HDF5 performance degradation seen since HDF5 version 1.6³.

`nprops` is used to track the number of unique properties in the target instance of `H5P_genclass_t`.

The `classes` field is used to maintain a count of the number of property list classes whose parent pointers point to this instance of `H5P_genclass_t`. Similarly, the `plists` field is used to maintain a count of the number of property lists that point to this instance of `H5P_genclass_t` with their `pclass` fields (see below).

The `type` field indicates which of the HDF5 defined property list classes this is, with an additional option for user defined property list classes. The definition of `H5P_plist_type_t` is reproduced below.

```
typedef enum H5P_plist_type_t {
    H5P_TYPE_USER           = 0,
    H5P_TYPE_ROOT           = 1,
    H5P_TYPE_OBJECT_CREATE  = 2,
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_CREATE    = 3,
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_ACCESS    = 4,
    H5P_TYPE_DATASET_CREATE = 5,
    H5P_TYPE_DATASET_ACCESS = 6,
    H5P_TYPE_DATASET_XFER   = 7,
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_MOUNT     = 8,
    H5P_TYPE_GROUP_CREATE   = 9,
    H5P_TYPE_GROUP_ACCESS   = 10,
    H5P_TYPE_DATATYPE_CREATE = 11,
    H5P_TYPE_DATATYPE_ACCESS = 12,
    H5P_TYPE_STRING_CREATE  = 13,
    H5P_TYPE_ATTRIBUTE_CREATE = 14,
    H5P_TYPE_OBJECT_COPY    = 15,
    H5P_TYPE_LINK_CREATE    = 16,
    H5P_TYPE_LINK_ACCESS    = 17,
    H5P_TYPE_ATTRIBUTE_ACCESS = 18,
    H5P_TYPE_VOL_INITIALIZE = 19,
    H5P_TYPE_MAP_CREATE     = 20,
    H5P_TYPE_MAP_ACCESS     = 21,
    H5P_TYPE_REFERENCE_ACCESS = 22,
    H5P_TYPE_MAX_TYPE
} H5P_plist_type_t;
```

The remaining fields – `ref_count`, `deleted`, and `revision` – appear to exist to support modifications to property list classes at run time.

3 I will argue later that skip lists should be removed from the property list implementation.

The revision field is set to a new, unique integer each time a property list class is created or modified. However, since multiple instances of `H5P_genclass_t` containing identical values are possible, its utility is questionable.

Once created, property list classes are normally stored in the index and (at least from a user perspective) are accessed via IDs. However, it is possible for a property list class (specifically an instance of `H5P_genclass_t`) to have multiple IDs, or no ID at all. The `ref_count` field is used to track the number of IDs in the index. The `deleted` field is set to `TRUE` when `ref_count` drops to zero. However, an instance of `H5P_genclass_t` is not deleted until the `ref_count`, `classes`, and `plists` fields all drop to zero. Further, it is possible for an instance of `H5P_genclass_t` which has lost all its references in the index to be re-inserted in the index – at which point `ref_count` is incremented and the `deleted` field is set back to `FALSE`. The mechanics of this will be discussed in greater detail when we discuss operations on property list classes and property lists below.

Property Lists

Conceptually, a property list is simply a list of (name, value) pairs. In H5P, property lists are stored in instances of `H5P_genlist_t` – whose definition is reproduced below.

```
/* Define structure to hold property list information */
struct H5P_genplist_t {
    H5P_genclass_t *pclass; /* Pointer to class info */
    hid_t          plist_id; /* Copy of the property list ID (for use in
                             close callback) */
    size_t         nprops;   /* Number of properties in class */
    // This comment appears to be in error. In the
    // context of a property list, nprops seems to be
    // the number of properties in the property list.
    // While the number of properties in a property list
    // and in its immediate parent property list class will
    // usually match, this need not be the case.
    hbool_t        class_init; /* Whether the class initialization callback
                                finished successfully */
    H5SL_t *        del;       /* Skip list containing names of deleted properties */
    H5SL_t *        props;    /* Skip list containing properties */
};
```

Here, the `props` skip list contains all the properties that may have a value that is different from the default values listed in the properties of the same name in the linked list of property list classes (strictly speaking of instances of `H5P_genclass_t`) whose head is pointed to by the `pclass` field⁴. I say “may” here, as properties are copied from the base property list class(es) to the newly created property list if they have “copy” or “create” callbacks associated with them. While these callbacks are run on the default value to generate the value for the property in the new property list, this need not modify the property value.

4 Or the parent property list class(es) for short.

As shall be seen, it is also possible for a property list to contain properties that do not appear in the parent property list class(es), or for a property to be reset to its default value without being removed from the props skip list.

The del skip list contains the names of properties that have been deleted from the property list. This is necessary, as in the absence of its name appearing in the del skip list, any property that doesn't appear in the props skip list is assumed to retain its default value – which is obtained by searching the parent property list class(es), starting with pclass→props.

The class_init boolean is used to record whether the create_func's (if any) of the parent property list class(es) completed without error when the property list was created. If they didn't, the corresponding close_func's are not run when the property list is closed.

Like property list classes, property lists are entered into the index. Unlike property list classes, the resulting IDs appear to be unique, and are stored in the plist_id field of the associated instance of H5P_genlist_t.

With this discussion of the underlying data structures in hand, we now proceed to discussions of selected operations on property list classes and property lists. For details on omitted operations, please see the appendices, or the source code.

Operations on properties are always incidental to these operations, and thus are covered in passing.

Selected Operations on Property List Classes

The details of the various public and private API calls that operate on property list classes are discussed in detail in the appendices. Some of these operations are what one would expect, and thus are not covered here.

This section boils these discussions down as much as possible, and focuses on operations that are either central, that highlight issues with the existing implementation, or that are likely to present challenges to a multi-thread safe implementation.

Property List Class Creation

New property lists are created via calls to

```
hid_t H5Pcreate_class(hid_t parent, const char *name,
                    H5P_cls_create_func_t create,
                    void *create_data, H5P_cls_copy_func_t copy,
                    void *copy_data, H5P_cls_close_func_t close,
                    void *close_data);
```

All HDF5 library property list classes are created by the H5P package during initialization, so there is no library private API call for this purpose. The package function call for creating a new property list class (but not installing it in the index) is

```
H5P_genclass_t *H5P__create_class(H5P_genclass_t *par_class,
                                   const char *name, H5P_plist_type_t type,
                                   H5P_cls_create_func_t cls_create,
                                   void *create_data,
                                   H5P_cls_copy_func_t cls_copy,
                                   void *copy_data,
                                   H5P_cls_close_func_t cls_close,
                                   void *close_data);
```

which is called by H5Pcreate_class() and other public API calls.

H5Pcreate_class does pretty much what one would expect – it calls H5P__create_class() to

- Allocate a new instance of H5P_genclass_t,
- Copy the supplied data into it,
- Create the props skip list,
- Set the nprops, plists, and classes fields to zero,
- Set deleted to FALSE,
- Set revision to a unique number, and
- Set ref_count to zero.

Assuming that the par_class parameter is not NULL, it sets the parent field to point to the parent property list class, and increments parent→classes.

After H5P__create_class() returns, H5Pcreate_class inserts the new property list class in the index, which increments its ref_count field in passing.

Property List Class Copy

While one wouldn't expect much use for a property list copy facility internally, the current property list implementation uses it heavily when modifying existing property list classes.

Interestingly, while there is a public API call

```
hid_t H5Pcopy(hid_t plist_id)
```

that can create a copy of a property list class, insert it in the index, and return the id of the copy, the user level documentation on this API call doesn't mention this capability.

This is may be a documentation bug, as there is the obvious use case of creating a customized version of a HDF5 defined property list class⁵. On the other hand, it may be an attempt to steer the user towards `H5Pcreate_class()` for this purpose, as that would at least allow the possibility of different property list class names. But if this is the case, why leave in the capability?

In contrast, the H5P package internal function

```
H5P_genclass_t * H5P__copy_pclass(H5P_genclass_t *pclass)
```

is used heavily in operations that modify existing property list classes, and is outlined here in preparation for these discussions.

`H5P__copy_pclass()` first calls `H5P__create_class()` to construct a duplicate of the instance of `H5P_genclass_t` that forms the source property list class. It then walks the props skip list of the source, duplicates each property, and inserts it into the props skip list in the duplicate. Note that the function does not insert the new instance of `H5P_genclass_t` in the index, or increment the classes field in the parent property list class.

Adding and Deleting Properties from an Existing Property List Class

As suggested earlier, the decision to employ a design that echoes ideas from object-oriented programming languages presents a number of issues that are not handled gracefully. Here is where the cracks begin to show.

An obvious question when modifying existing property list classes is what happens to existing property lists and property list classes that are derived from the property list class that is being modified? Several possible solutions present themselves:

1. Avoid the problem by making property list classes with derived property lists or property list classes read only.
2. Propagate changes through all derived property lists and property list classes.
3. Version the property list class so that the previously derived property lists and property list classes can still reference the version of the property list class from which they are derived.

5 For example, a version of the FAPL property list class that includes a property needed to configure a user supplied VFD.

I don't have design documentation for the implementation of the property list facility in HDF5 – indeed, it is quite possible that such documentation never existed⁶. Thus, I don't know what considerations went in to the choice between these options and any others I have missed.⁷ However, from examination of the code, option 3 appears to have been selected. I say appears, as this apparent decision is not implemented uniformly.

In the public API, new properties can be inserted into an existing property list class⁸ via two different calls:

```
herr_t H5Pcopy_prop(hid_t dst_id, hid_t src_id, const char *name)
```

and

```
herr_t H5Pregister2(hid_t cls_id, const char *name, size_t size,
                  void *def_value, H5P_prp_create_func_t create,
                  H5P_prp_set_func_t set, H5P_prp_get_func_t get,
                  H5P_prp_delete_func_t prp_del,
                  H5P_prp_copy_func_t copy,
                  H5P_prp_compare_func_t compare,
                  H5P_prp_close_func_t close);
```

Internally, all property list classes are created and populated during H5P package initialization, and hence there is not a library private function for this purpose. The call used here is

```
herr_t H5P__register_real(H5P_genclass_t *pclass,
                        const char *name,
                        size_t size,
                        const void *def_value,
                        H5P_prp_create_func_t prp_create,
                        H5P_prp_set_func_t prp_set,
                        H5P_prp_get_func_t prp_get,
                        H5P_prp_encode_func_t prp_encode,
                        H5P_prp_decode_func_t prp_decode,
                        H5P_prp_delete_func_t prp_delete,
                        H5P_prp_copy_func_t prp_copy,
                        H5P_prp_compare_func_t prp_cmp,
                        H5P_prp_close_func_t prp_close)
```

which simply inserts the new properties into the property list without versioning. This works, because at this point the target property list can't have any derived property lists or property list classes.

H5Pregister2() first looks up a pointer to the target property list class (call it A) and then calls H5P__register().

6 Until relatively recently, RFCs proposing modifications or extensions to the HDF5 library usually discussed only public API changes and motivation – with little or no attention to implementation details.

7 But note Appendix 3, in which I have reproduced what appears to be an early RFC for the current implementation of H5P.

8 Including HDF5 library defined property list classes.

H5P__register() starts by checking to see if A has any immediately derived property list classes or property lists.⁹ If it doesn't, H5P__register() simply calls H5P__register_real() to:

- Create the specified property and insert it into A (specifically to insert it into the skip list pointed to by the props field),
- Increment the nprops field, and
- Set A's revision field to a new unique number.

In contrast, if A does have immediately derived property list classes or property list, H5P__register():

- Calls H5P__copy_pclass() (see above) to duplicate A – call this copy A-Prime.
- Calls H5P__register_real() (see above) to create the new property and insert it into A-Prime.

After H5P__register() returns, H5Pregister2() checks to see if A-prime has been created. If it has, it calls H5I_subst() to replace A in the index with A-Prime and H5P_close_class() to decrement the ref_count field of A – which will be deleted when its ref_count, classes, and plists fields all drop to zero.

Observe that as a result of this process, we now have (at least) two versions of the property list class A – of which only the latest one is accessible via the index, with the previous version(s) being accessible only via the property list classes and property lists derived from that version. Note that this matches the user documentation, which states that modifications to property list classes only effect property lists created after the modification.

As shall be seen, this design decision has further implications when the user attempts to look up the parent class of a property list – see the section **Getting a Property Lists Parent Property List Class** below.

The public call for deleting a property from a property list class is

```
herr_t H5Punregister(hid_t pclass_id, const char *name)
```

9 A property list class A has immediately derived property list class(es) or property list(s) if there exists one or more property list classes (i.e., instances of H5P_genclass_t) whose parent fields point to A and/or one or more property lists (i.e., instances of H5P_genlist_t) whose pclass fields point to A. This is determined via inspection of A's classes and plists fields. If either of these fields contain a positive value, the property list class A has immediately derived property list class(es) and or property list(s).

All property deletions in the HDF5 library are done within the H5P package, and thus there is no internal API call for this purpose. The H5P package function that performs property deletions from property list classes is

```
herr_t H5P__unregister(H5P_genclass_t *pclass, const char *name)
```

In addition to being called by H5Punregister() it is also used in H5Pcopy_prop().

H5Punregister() simply looks up a pointer to the instance of H5P_genclass_t (call it A) that forms the root of the data structure that represents the target property list class, passes this pointer along with the name of the target property to H5P__unregister(), and returns.

H5P__unregister() makes no test for immediately derived property lists or property list classes. It unconditionally:

- Deletes the named property from A's list of properties (an error is flagged if the named property doesn't exist),
- Decrements the nprops field, and
- Sets A's revision field to a new unique number.

This has the effect of deleting the named property from all derived property lists that have not yet changed the value of the target property from its default – which will cause the H5Pget() and H5Pset() calls to fail when invoked on the deleted property.

As this directly contradicts the user documentation, and since the behavior of H5P__unregister() is appropriate in its other use in H5Pcopy_prop(), this is probably a bug – which should be fixed if the current property list implementation is retained.

Deleting Property List Classes

The public API for deleting a property list class is

```
herr_t H5Pclose_class(hid_t plist_id);
```

There is no corresponding internal API or H5P package function – which should be no surprise given that a property list class can't be deleted until its ref_count, classes, and plists fields all drop to zero.

H5Pclose_class() calls H5I_dec_app_ref() with the id associated with the target property list class – call it A. This has the effect of decrementing the reference count on the index entry (not to be confused with the reference counts on A). If this index reference count drops to zero, H5I

deletes the entry from the index, and calls `H5P__close_class_cb()` to allow H5P to do the appropriate cleanup.

`H5P__close_class_cb()` calls `H5P__close_class()` which calls `H5P__access_class()` which does the real work.

`H5P__access_class()` is a bit of a Swiss army function. Depending on its parameters, it will increment or decrement the `ref_count`, `classes`, or `plists` fields of the target property list class. When all of these fields drop to zero, it decrements the `classes` field of the parent property list class via a recursive call to itself, and then discards the target property list class.

Iteration over Properties in a Property List Class

The main point to be made here is that the `H5Piterate()` public API exists, and presents a variety of multi-thread safety issues. While we are far from making such decisions, it should probably be dealt with like the other iteration functions encountered in this effort.

Selected Operations on Property Lists

As with property list classes, the details of the various public and private API calls that operate on property lists are discussed in detail in the appendices.

As before, the objective is to cover central operations, to highlight issues with the existing implementation, and to point out challenges for a multi-thread safe implementation.

Note that some public API calls operate on both property list classes and property lists – and thus appear both in this section, and the previous discussion of selected operations on property list classes.

Property List Creation, Deletion, and Copy

The public API call to create a new property list is

```
hid_t H5Pcreate(hid_t cls_id)
```

Its internal API cognate is

```
hid_t H5P_create_id(H5P_genclass_t *pclass, hbool_t app_ref);
```

which is called almost immediately by `H5Pcreate()`, which looks up the pointer to the parent property list class (call it `P`), and then passes it to `H5P_create_id()`.

`H5P_create_id()` first calls `H5P__create()` which does most of the work. In particular it:

- Allocates and initializes a new instance of `H5P_genlist_t`, along with its associated skip lists. Call this new property list A
- Scans the properties in the parent property list class(es) starting with P, being careful to skip any properties with duplicate names after the first instance has been encountered. For each such property, it tests to see if it has a create callback, and if so, it duplicates the property (calling its create callback in passing) and inserts it into the skip list pointed to by A's `props` field.
- Calls `H5P__access_class()` to increment P's `plists` field.
- Returns a pointer to A

After `H5P__create()` returns, `H5P_create_id()` inserts A into the index, and then scans the list of parent property list class(es), starting with P and executes their create callbacks (the `create_func` field in `H5P_genclass_t`). If all these functions complete successfully, it sets A's `class_init` field to `TRUE`. Regardless of the success of the create callbacks, `H5P__create` returns the new ID associated with A, which is then returned to the user by `H5Pcreate()`.

The public API call for discarding a property list is

```
herr_t H5Pclose(hid_t plist_id);
```

Its private API cognate is

```
herr_t H5P_close(H5P_genplist_t *plist)
```

which is used extensively in error cleanup and also by H5I to discard property lists whose reference count has dropped to zero.

`H5Pclose()` calls `H5I_dec_app_ref()` with the id associated with the target property list – call it A. This has the effect of decrementing the reference count on the index entry. If this index reference count drops to zero, H5I deletes the entry from the index, and calls `H5P__close_list_cb()` to discard A.

`H5P_close_list_cb()` is just a pass through function that calls `H5P_close()`

`H5P_close()` does the actual work. It is a long and involved function – simplifying as much as possible, it

- Tests to see if A's `class_init` field is `TRUE`. If it is, it scans the list of parent property list class(es), starting with `*pclass` and executes each property list class's close callback (the `close_func` field in `H5P_genclass_t`) in order.

- Scans the entries in A's props skip list, and calls the close callback for each property that has one.
- Scans the entries in the parent property list class(es) props skip list, starting with the parent property list class pointed to by A's parent field. For each such entry, it tests to see if a property of that name appears in A's props or del skip lists, or earlier in the current scan. If not, it calls that property's close callback if it exists.
- Decrement A's immediate parent property list class's plists field via a call to `H5P__access_class()`. Recall that may result in the discard of one or more of the property lists class(es) of A.
- Discard the props and del skip lists maintained by A, along with their contents.
- Discard A's base instance of `H5P_genlist_t`.

The public API call to copy property lists is

```
hid_t H5Pcopy(hid_t plist_id)
```

Recall that this API call also works on property list classes, although this fact is not mentioned in the user documentation. The private API cognate is

```
hid_t H5P_copy_plist(const H5P_genplist_t *old_plist, hbool_t app_ref)
```

The process for copying a property list is similar to that for creating a property list. The major differences are the use of property copy callbacks, and the need to copy properties from the base property list. See the appendices for details.

Property Insertion and Deletion

The whole idea of either inserting or deleting properties from an existing property list is a departure from the object-oriented notions that appear to have been the basis of the property list facility. However, it does allow user processes to insert new properties in a property list without modifying HDF5 library defined property list classes, or creating modified copies of same. As such, it has obvious uses for properties that are only needed once.

The public API for inserting properties into an existing property list is

```
herr_t H5Pinsert2(hid_t plist_id, const char *name, size_t size,
                 void *value, H5P_prp_set_func_t prp_set,
                 H5P_prp_get_func_t prp_get,
                 H5P_prp_delete_func_t prp_del,
                 H5P_prp_copy_func_t prp_copy,
                 H5P_prp_compare_func_t prp_cmp,
                 H5P_prp_close_func_t prp_close)
```

The private API cognate is

```
herr_t H5P_insert(H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name, size_t size,
                 void *value, H5P_prp_set_func_t prp_set,
                 H5P_prp_get_func_t prp_get,
                 H5P_prp_encode_func_t prp_encode,
                 H5P_prp_decode_func_t prp_decode,
                 H5P_prp_delete_func_t prp_delete,
                 H5P_prp_copy_func_t prp_copy,
                 H5P_prp_compare_func_t prp_cmp,
                 H5P_prp_close_func_t prp_close)
```

H5Pinsert2() looks up a pointer to the target property list (call it A) and then passes this pointer to H5P_insert() along with the necessary parameters.

H5P_insert() verifies that the skip list referenced by A's props field doesn't contain a property of the supplied name, and returns an error if does.

It then checks A's deleted list (referenced by the del field) to see if it contains the supplied name, and removes it from the deleted list it is found.

If the supplied name doesn't appear in the deleted list, H5P_insert() next searches for a property of the supplied name in A's parent property list class(es), and returns an error if this search is successful.

With this sanity checking complete, H5P_insert() creates the new property as specified by its parameters, inserts it in the skip list referenced by A's props field, increments A's nprops field, and returns

The public API for deleting properties from property lists is

```
herr_t H5Premove(hid_t plist_id, const char *name)
```

Its private API cognate is

```
herr_t H5P_remove(H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name)
```

H5Premove() looks up a pointer to the target property list (call it A) and then passes this pointer to H5P_remove() along with the name of the target property. H5P_remove() in turn calls H5P__do_prop() to do the actual work.

H5P__do_prop() is another swiss army function. It scans the target property list for the target name, and then applies one of the supplied functions depending on where the target property is found. In this case, it performs as follows:

Test to see if the target name already appears in A's deleted list, and fail if it does.

Search for the target property in A's props skip list. If it is found, run the properties deletion callback, insert the properties name in A's deleted list, remove the property from the skip list, free it, decrement A's nprops field, and return.

If the search of A's props skip list fails, search the properties of A's parent property list class(es) for the target property. If it is found, run the properties deletion callback **on a copy of the properties value**¹⁰, insert the properties name in A's deleted list, decrement A's nprops field and return. Note that the target property is not removed from its host property list class.

If both searches fail, H5P__do_prop() fails.

Property Value Get and Set

The public API call to get the value of a property in a property list is

```
herr_t H5Pget(hid_t plist_id, const char *name, void *value)
```

Its internal API cognate is

```
herr_t H5P_get(H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name, void *value)
```

Conceptually, these routines look up the target property in the target property list, and copy its value into the supplied buffer. The actual implementation is a bit more complex.

H5Pget() looks up a pointer to the target property list (call it A) and passes this pointer into H5P_get() with its other parameters.

H5P_get() calls H5P__do_prop() with the appropriate parameters to perform the lookup and then returns.

In this configuration, H5P__do_prop() first scans A's deleted list for the target name, and returns failure if this search succeeds.

If the search of A's deleted list fails, H5P__do_prop() searches first A's props skip list, and then the props skip lists of the parent property list class(es) until a property of the specified name is found.

If the search fails, H5P__do_prop() returns failure.

If the search succeeds, H5P__do_prop() tests to see if the target property has a get callback.

¹⁰ At present, I don't know why this is done. I expect that investigation of the call back functions will reveal the answer.

If it doesn't, H5P__do_prop() just memcpy's the target property's value buffer into the supplied buffer and returns.

If it does, H5P__do_prop() allocates a temporary buffer of size equal to the target property's value buffer, copies the value buffer into the temporary buffer, runs the properties get function on the temporary buffer, copies the temporary buffer into the supplied buffer¹¹, discards the temporary buffer and returns.

The public API to set the value of a property in a property list is

```
herr_t H5Pset(hid_t plist_id, const char *name, const void *value)
```

Its private API cognate is

```
herr_t H5P_set(H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name, const void *value)
```

Conceptually, these routines look up the property of the supplied name in the target property list, and set its value to the supplied value. In practice, this is complicated by property specific set callbacks, and the possibility that the target property may still have its default value, and thus not reside in the target property list.

H5Pset() looks up a pointer to the target property list (call it A) and passes this pointer into H5P_set() with its other parameters.

H5P_set() calls H5P__do_prop() with the appropriate parameters to perform the lookup and then returns. Note that in this case, the supplied function pointers are different – one for the case in which the target property is in A's props skip list, and another for the case in which the target property is found in one of A's property list class(es).

In this configuration, H5P__do_prop() first scans A's deleted list for the target name, and returns failure if this search succeeds.

It then searches A's props skip list for the target property.

If the target property is found, H5P__do_prop()

- Tests to see if the property's set call back is defined. If it is defined, H5P__do_prop() allocates a buffer of size equal to the property's value buffer, memcpy's the supplied buffer into the temporary buffer, and runs the property's set callback on the temporary buffer¹².

11 Again, the reason for this is unknown to me. A review the property callbacks is needed to determine if this is really necessary, and if so why.

12 Yet another epicycle whose motivation must be investigated.

- Tests to see if the property's del callback is defined, and if so calls it on the property's value.
- Memcpy's the new value into the property's value field, either from the supplied buffer (if the set callback is undefined) or from the above temporary buffer if it is.
- Frees the temporary buffer if it exists, and
- Returns

If the target property is not found in A's props skip list, H5P__do_prop() searches for a property of the specified name in the parent property list class(es). If such a property is found, H5P__do_prop()

- Checks to see if the target property's set callback is defined, and if so, set up the temporary buffer as above.
- Duplicates the property
- Inserts the duplicate property into A
- Memcpy's the new value into the duplicate property's value field, either from the supplied buffer (if the set callback is undefined) or from the above temporary buffer if it is.
- Frees the temporary buffer if it exists, and
- Returns

If both searches fail, H5P__do_prop() fails.

Property List Encode and Decode

Perhaps the only points to be made here is that the facility for encoding and decoding property lists exists, that it is restricted to property lists derived from one of the HDF5 library defined types, and that only properties with encode / decode callbacks are encoded / decoded.

To my knowledge, there is no documentation on the file format of encoded property lists. The format is very simple, so this isn't a major issue.

Getting a Property Lists Parent Property List Class

The public API

```
hid_t H5Pget_class(hid_t plist_id)
```

exists to return the id of the immediate parent property list class of the supplied property list. It has an internal API cognate

```
H5P_genclass_t *H5P_get_class(const H5P_genplist_t *plist)
```

which fortunately doesn't have the problems that `H5Pget_class()` has.

In principle, this should be simple. Property list classes are stored in the index, and are referenced by their ID when the user creates a property list based on one of the extant property list classes. Thus, it should be simple for a property list to report the ID of the property list class it is immediately derived from.

However, the policy decision to version property list classes that have immediately derived property list classes or property lists when the target property list class is modified breaks this¹³, as the relevant version of the property list class may no longer exist in the index.

`H5Pget_class()` solves this problem by unconditionally inserting the instance of `H5P_genclass_t` pointed to by its parent field into the index, and returning the newly allocated ID.

This has several knock-on effects:

- A given property list class can have multiple IDs – and therefore multiple entries in the index.
- The index can contain multiple property list classes with the same name but different contingents of properties, or perhaps the same properties but with different default values.
- Since it is also possible to have multiple property list classes with identical definitions but different IDs, the process of comparing property list classes is greatly complicated. Instead of a simple comparison of IDs or revision numbers, a deep, field by field comparison is required. See `H5Pequal()` in the first appendix.

This introduces a level of potential confusion into the public API that seems unacceptable. If at all possible, this should be resolved.

13 See the section **Adding and Deleting Properties from an Existing Property List Class** above for further discussion.

Comments on the Current Implementation of Property Lists

As should be obvious from the above, the data structures used to implement property lists are complex. While I expect it is possible, implementing the mutual exclusion required to avoid data structure corruption in a multi-thread environment would be challenging, and likely slow due to the multitude of locks. More importantly, its complexity would make it hard to avoid accidentally inserting either deadlocks or holes in mutual exclusion during routine maintenance. Finally, a complex MT solution will exacerbate the lock ordering problem between packages.

The use of skip lists (implemented in H5SL) is also worthy of comment. Skip lists were once used extensively throughout the HDF5 library. However, profiling exercises indicated that the shift to skip lists was the primary cause of the slowdown in HDF5 performance since HDF5 1.6.

Much of this slowdown was located in H5P as skip lists are a fairly heavy weight data structures, property lists seldom if ever exceed 25 entries, and (at the time) properties were looked up repeatedly. The introduction of H5CX largely mitigated this issue as it (among other things) caches the values of commonly accessed property list entries. However, property list operations remain expensive, and other optimization efforts have pushed H5P back up near the top of the optimization to-do list.

Given this move away from skip lists for performance reasons, it is hard to argue for developing a MT safe implementation for use in property lists.

If the above points are not sufficient to rule out any attempt to retrofit multi-thread safety on the current property list implementation, there are also the various interesting features of the current implementation as outlined above. In particular, while one can argue the merits of the versioning approach to modifications to property list classes, the current implementation introduces too much complexity, and too much potential confusion into the public API. Further, I am not aware of any used case for it.

Given all the above, the remainder of this RFC operates on the assumption that a re-design and re-implementation of the core property list code is the only viable approach. Needless to say, this re-implementation should change the public and private API's as little as possible, and then only with prior consultation with the developer and user communities.

Multi-Thread Issues in H5P

Before offering sketches for potential redesigns and re-implementation of property lists, it will be useful to list the issues that should be addressed.

Use of other HDF5 packages in H5P

Any implementation of property lists must use H5E (error reporting) and H5I (indexing). As these will be retrofitted for multi-thread safety, the only issue here should be lock ordering – and that issue should be minimized to the extent possible.

A much greater issue is the interaction with the various packages that use property lists derived from HDF5 library defined property list classes both for configuration and (in a few cases) to return data to the user.

These packages implement property specific callbacks that must be executed when various operations are performed on the associated properties. In my experience, few if any of these callbacks do anything significant from a multi-thread safety perspective. However, all these callbacks must be reviewed, documented, and tamed where necessary.

The problem of packages that use property lists to return data to the user will require some thought. For example, one way to avoid the problem of property lists being modified out from under executing API calls is to read lock the relevant property lists on entry, and drop the read locks on exit. However, this prevents the API call from modifying a property during execution. I expect that the context (H5CX) can be extended to resolve this issue, but that will have to wait for a more detailed examination of that package and an update of the associated RFC.

Finally, there is the matter of user defined properties and property list classes. Both of these have user defined callbacks – other than asking nicely, we don't have any way of filtering out code that could cause deadlocks and such. Unfortunately, I don't see any practical solutions other than careful user documentation or disallowing these callbacks in the multi-thread case.

Multi-thread thread issues in H5P proper

There is the usual problem of potential public API race conditions. This is an unsolvable problem from the perspective of H5P – all H5P can do is to execute operations in some order, and to keep its data structures 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.

Solutions

The notion of optimizing skip lists out of property lists has been under discussion for some time. The basic idea has been to put all the properties in a property list or property list class into an array sorted by name, and then use a binary search on a sorted list for look-ups. While requires reallocating the array for property insertions, that operation is rare, and the cost would be amortized across the lookups.

This basic idea can be extended to the multi-thread safety problem, with a number of changes to minimize the number of locks.

Quick outlines of two variations on this idea follow.

The first should allow us to implement the current API exactly (minus some potential confusion in the public API), albeit at the cost of a larger memory footprint and one small semantic change.

The second addresses the increased memory footprint, at the cost of a semantic change in the public API.

Option 1

Conceptually, the idea is to make each property list class and property list self-contained – thus avoiding the need to access more than one structure or obtain more than one lock. This has the advantage of avoiding the necessity of versioning property list classes, as all relevant information is copied into the property list class.

To do this, implement property list classes as sorted arrays of properties. When a new property list class is created, copy all properties into the new property list class, and accommodate new properties by reallocating the array of properties. Similarly, maintain a list of the callbacks defined for all property list classes in the path from the ROOT property list class to the new property list class.

Observe that this makes each property list class independent from its parent property list classes.

Similarly, implement property lists as sorted arrays of properties. When a property list is created, copy all properties from the parent property list class into the new property list. New properties are accommodated by reallocating the array of properties as necessary. Also copy the list of property list class callbacks into the property list.

Again, observe that this makes each property list independent from its property list class(es).

The net effect of this is to make versioning of property list classes on modification unnecessary as modifications to a property list class cannot have any effect on any previously created property list classes or property lists.

Further, since each property list class and property list is self-contained, only one lock is required – thus removing any possible lock ordering concerns within H5P proper.

It does, however, force a small semantic change in the public API as the ID of the property list class reported as the parent of a property list may have changed since the property list was created. If this is an issue, there are ways around the problem – the easiest of which would be to report failure if this condition occurs.

The down side is the increased memory footprint. My impression is that the number of property lists and property list classes extant at any point in time is limited – if so, the increased memory footprint is likely not significant. However, my impression may be in error, and even if I am right, this could change.

Option 2

A second approach is to make property list classes read only if they have any extant immediately derived property list classes or property lists.

From my initial review of the H5P package initialization code, the HDF5 library creates property list classes and adds all their properties before creating any immediately derived property list classes or property lists. Assuming I have this right, the proposed semantic change would be transparent to the HDF5 library proper.

It will, however, make it impossible for the application code to modify HDF5 library defined property list classes. Thus, if an application program needs to add a property to one of the HDF5 defined property list classes, it would have to create a property list class derived from the target HDF5 defined property list class, modify this property list class as required, and then used this derived property list class to create the needed property lists.

Similarly, any application defined property list classes would become read only once an immediately derived property list class or property list is created.

Needless to say, we must poll the user community to see how much disruption this change would cause.

Assuming that this semantic change is acceptable, it presents some interesting possibilities.

First, this side steps the property list class versioning issue completely.

Second, relative to the first option, we can lighten the property list classes significantly. While for performance reasons we should maintain a sorted array of (property name, property pointer) pairs to support fast lookups, the actual properties need not be copied from the parent property list class(es). Similarly, the list of parent property list class call backs is no longer necessary. This is possible since read only structures can be accessed without concern for mutual exclusion. Needless to say, some sort of mutual exclusion would be required whenever no immediately derived property list classes or property lists exist.

Third, property lists could be lightened as per property list classes.

Fourth, this arrangement allows mutual exclusion to be enforced on property lists with only a single lock, even though some data is stored in the parent property lists class(es). This is possible as the existence of the property list guarantees that the parent property list class(es) are read only – and thus can be accessed without concern for mutual exclusion.

The net effect here is to remove the concern for memory footprint increases – indeed, given the overhead of skip lists, it might reduce the footprint slightly.

Whether this is possible, depends on whether the suggested semantic change in the public API is acceptable.

Properties Proper

So far, I haven't discussed the notion of mutual exclusion at the level of individual properties – viewing it only at the level of property list classes and property lists.

While this is probably the right place for it in general, properties that are used to return data to the caller may be an exception to this. No decisions on this, but it is an option to keep in mind.

Next Steps

As stated in the introduction, this RFC is still a work in progress. Assuming that we continue with this effort, the following items should be addressed for the next version of this RFC.

- Review the existing HDF5 property list class and property callbacks, and catalog those that have potential multi-thread safety issues. Amend proposed multi-thread safe implementations of property lists accordingly.
- Circulate this RFC among HDF5 library developers both for ideas, and in the hope that they will spot errors in my discussion of the current state of the property list code, and/or holes in my sketches of possible multi-thread safe implementations.
- Poll the HDF5 user community to determine the maximum number of property list classes and property lists that exist at any point of time in HDF5 applications.
- Poll the HDF5 user community on the proposed semantic change in the HDF5 H5P public API.

- With the above input, develop the design(s) for a multi-thread safe implementation of property lists in greater detail. In particular, work out the details of the data structures, and any locking protocols.

Appendix 1 – H5P public API calls

After some type and macro definitions, this appendix contains a list of all the public H5P API calls, along with call trees, relevant structure definitions, and descriptions of their processing with particular emphasis on multi-thread safety issues. Apparent bugs / design issues are documented in red. 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 H5Ppublic.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 skipped the detailed discussion for one API call that didn't seem interesting, and started skipping the discussions of multi-thread safety issues once it became obvious that a re-implementation was likely.

```
/* Define structure to hold class information */
struct H5P_genclass_t {
    struct H5P_genclass_t *parent; /* Pointer to parent class */
    char *name; /* Name of property list class */
    H5P_plist_type_t type; /* Type of property */
    size_t nprops; /* Number of properties in class */
    unsigned plists; /* Number of property lists that have been
                     created since the last modification to
                     the class */
    unsigned classes; /* Number of classes that have been derived
                     since the last modification to the class */
    unsigned ref_count; /* Number of outstanding ID's open on this
                       class object */
    hbool_t deleted; /* Whether this class has been deleted and is
                    waiting for dependent classes & proplists
                    to close */
    unsigned revision; /* Revision number of a particular class
                      (global) */
    H5SL_t * props; /* Skip list containing properties */

    /* Callback function pointers & info */
    H5P_cls_create_func_t create_func; /* Function to call when a property list
                                       is created */
    void *create_data; /* Pointer to user data to pass along to
                       create callback */
    H5P_cls_copy_func_t copy_func; /* Function to call when a property list
                                    is copied */
    void *copy_data; /* Pointer to user data to pass along to
                     copy callback */
    H5P_cls_close_func_t close_func; /* Function to call when a property list
                                      is closed */
    void *close_data; /* Pointer to user data to pass along to
                      close callback */
};

/* Define structure to hold property list information */
```

```

struct H5P_genplist_t {
    H5P_genclass_t *pclass; /* Pointer to class info */
    hid_t          plist_id; /* Copy of the property list ID (for use in
                             close callback) */

    size_t         nprops;   /* Number of properties in class */
    hbool_t        class_init; /* Whether the class initialization callback
                             finished successfully */

    H5SL_t *       del;      /* Skip list containing names of deleted properties */
    H5SL_t *       props;    /* Skip list containing properties */
};

/* Generic Property Class ID class */
static const H5I_class_t H5I_GENPROPCLS_CLS[1] = {{
    H5I_GENPROP_CLS, /* ID class value */
    0,               /* Class flags */
    0,               /* # of reserved IDs for class */
    (H5I_free_t)H5P__close_class_cb /* Callback routine for closing objects of this
class */
}};

/* Generic Property List ID class */
static const H5I_class_t H5I_GENPROPLST_CLS[1] = {{
    H5I_GENPROP_LST, /* ID class value */
    0,               /* Class flags */
    0,               /* # of reserved IDs for class */
    (H5I_free_t)H5P__close_list_cb /* Callback routine for closing objects of this
class */
}};

/* Define structure to hold property information */
typedef struct H5P_genprop_t {
    /* Values for this property */
    char *      name; /* Name of property */
    size_t      size; /* Size of property value */
    void *      value; /* Pointer to property value */
    H5P_prop_within_t type; /* Type of object the property is within */
    hbool_t     shared_name; /* Whether the name is shared or not */

    /* Callback function pointers & info */
    H5P_prp_create_func_t create; /* Function to call when a property is created */
    H5P_prp_set_func_t   set;     /* Function to call when a property value is set */
    H5P_prp_get_func_t   get;     /* Function to call when a property value is
retrieved */
    H5P_prp_encode_func_t encode; /* Function to call when a property is encoded */
    H5P_prp_decode_func_t decode; /* Function to call when a property is decoded */
    H5P_prp_delete_func_t del;     /* Function to call when a property is deleted */
    H5P_prp_copy_func_t   copy;    /* Function to call when a property is copied */
    H5P_prp_compare_func_t cmp;    /* Function to call when a property is compared */
    H5P_prp_close_func_t  close;   /* Function to call when a property is closed */
} H5P_genprop_t;

```

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPL0
 *
 * \brief Terminates access to a property list
 *
 * \plist_id
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pclose() terminates access to a property list. All property
 *          lists should be closed when the application is finished
 *          accessing them. This frees resources used by the property
 *          list.
 *
 * \since 1.0.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pclose(hid_t plist_id);

H5Pclose()
+-H5I_get_type()
+-H5I_dec_app_ref()
  +-H5I__dec_app_ref()
    +-H5I__dec_ref()
      | +-H5I__find_id()
      | | +- ...
      | +- (type_info->cls->free_func)((void *)info->object, request)
      | | |
      | | H5P__close_list_cb() // in this case
      | | +-H5P__close()
      | | | // iterate through the plist class close functions.
      | | +- (tclass->close_func)(plist->plist_id, tclass->close_data);
      | | |
      | | +-H5SL_create() // create seen list
      | | |
      | | | // iterate through properties running the close function
      | | | // on each property and inserting its name in the seen list
      | | +-H5SL_count(plist->props)
      | | +-H5SL_first(plist->props)
      | | +- (H5P_genprop_t *)H5SL_item(curr_node)
      | | +- (tmp->close)(tmp->name, tmp->size, tmp->value)
      | | +-H5SL_insert(seen, tmp->name, tmp->name)
      | | +-H5SL_next(curr_node)
      | | |
      | | | // repeat the above process iterating through the parent
      | | | // plist classes.
      | | +-H5SL_first(tclass->props)
      | | +- (H5P_genprop_t *)H5SL_item(curr_node);
      | | +-H5SL_search(seen, tmp->name)
      | | +-H5SL_search(plist->del, tmp->name)
      | | +-H5MM_malloc()
      | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
      | | +- (tmp->close)(tmp->name, tmp->size, tmp->value)
      | | +-H5MM_xfree()
      | | +-H5SL_insert(seen, tmp->name, tmp->name)
      | | +-H5SL_next(curr_node);
      | | |
      | | +-H5P__access_class(plist->pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_LST)
      | | | +-H5MM_xfree()
      | | | +-H5SL_destroy()
      | | | +- ...

```

```

| | | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS)
| | | + ...
| | +-H5SL_close(seen)
| | +-H5SL_destroy(plist->del, H5P__free_del_name_cb, NULL);
| | | +- ... // eventually
| | | | H5P__free_del_name_cb()
| | | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | +-H5SL_destroy(plist->props, H5P__free_prop_cb, &make_cb);
| | | +- ... // eventually
| | | | H5P__free_prop_cb()
| | | | | // tprop->close is not called in this case because *make_cb
| | | | | // is FALSE.
| | | | +- (tprop->close)(tprop->name, tprop->size, tprop->value);
| | | | | +- ... // property specific - may not exist
| | | | +-H5P__free_prop(tprop);
| | | | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | | | | +-H5FL_FREE()
| | +-H5FL_FREE(H5P_genplist_t, plist);
| | +-H5SL_close(seen);
| +-H5I__remove_common()
+-H5I__find_id()
+- ...

```

In a nutshell:

Decrement the ref count on the target property list. If it drops to zero, remove it from the index, and delete it.

In greater detail:

If the supplied `hid_t` is `H5P_DEFAULT`, **H5Pclose()** does nothing and returns.

If the supplied `hid_t` is not associated with a property list, `H5Pclose()` flags an error and returns. Otherwise, it calls `H5I_dec_app_ref()` and returns.

H5I_dec_app_ref() is basically a pass through. It preforms some sanity checks, and then 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 than 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()` (which will be `H5P__close_list_cb()` in this case) to free `info->object`, calls `H5I__remove_common()` to remove `*info` from the index, and returns 0.

H5P_close_list_cb() calls `H5P_close()`, flags an error if it fails, and returns.

H5P_close() is a lengthy, and involved function – it performs the following actions:

- Test to see if the property list initialization function completed (i.e. `plist->class_init == TRUE`). If it did, execute the close function of the parent property list class (i.e. `plist->pclass->close_func`) if it exists, along with those of any property list classes from which the parent property list class was derived (i.e. `plist->pclass->parent->close_func`, etc).
- Create a skip list – call it “seen”. This is used to track the property list entries that have been encountered in the subsequent scan of the target property list, and the property list class(es) from which the property list was derived. This list is then used to ensure that the close callback for each property encountered is only called the first time it is seen.
- Scan the target property list (i.e. the `plist->props` skip list). It should contain only properties that have been modified from their default values. For each such property, add it to the “seen” list, and call its close callback if it exists.
- Scan the list of properties in the parent property list class. For each property, test to see if it appears in either the seen list, or the target property list’s deleted list (`plist->del`). If it does not, add the property to the seen list, and call its close function if it exists.

If the parent property list class has a parent property list class, repeat the process on the parent until the root of the property list class hierarchy is reached.

- Call `H5P__access_class(plist->pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_LST)` to decrement the parent property list class’s dependent property list count.
- Free the skip lists associated with the target property list (`plist->del` and `plist->props`) via calls to `H5SL_destroy(plist->del, H5P__free_del_name_cb, NULL)` and `H5SL_destroy(plist->props, H5P__free_prop_cb, &make_cb)` respectively.

Note that `H5P__free_del_name_cb` just discards the string containing the name of the discarded property. `H5P__free_prop_cb` can call the close callback for the target property, but does not in this case because `*make_cb` is zero (i.e. `FALSE`).

- Finally, call `H5FL_FREE()` to discard the base plist structure (an instance of `H5P_genplist_t` – see above for definition).

Multi-thread safety concerns:

Skip list implementation is not thread safe.

Property List classes, property lists, and properties are all subject to simultaneous access and / or modification – with the obvious potential for corruption.

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Closes an existing property list class
 *
 * \plistcls_id{plist_id}
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pclose_class() removes a property list class from the library.
 *          Existing property lists of this class will continue to exist,
 *          but new ones are not able to be created.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pclose_class(hid_t plist_id);

H5Pclose_class()
+-H5I_get_type()
+-H5I_dec_app_ref()
  +-H5I__dec_app_ref()
    +-H5I__dec_ref()
      +-H5I__find_id()
        | +- ...
        | +- (type_info->cls->free_func)((void *)info->object, request)
        | |
        | | H5P__close_class_cb() // in this case
        | | +-H5P__close_class()
        | |   +-H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_REF)
        | |     +-H5MM_xfree()
        | |     +-H5SL_destroy(pclass->props, H5P__free_prop_cb, &make_cb)
        | |       +- ... // eventually
        | |       | H5P__free_prop_cb()
        | |       | +- (tprop->close)(tprop->name, tprop->size, tprop->value);
        | |       | +- ... // property specific - may not exist
        | |       | +-H5P__free_prop(tprop);
        | |       | +-H5MM_xfree()
        | |       | +-H5FL_FREE()
        | |       +-H5FL_FREE()
        | |       +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS);
        | |       +- ... // note recursion
        | +-H5I__remove_common()
        +-H5I__find_id()
          +- ...

```

In a nutshell:

Decrement the reference count on the target property list class. If this reference count drops to zero, the class is removed from the index, and is marked as deleted. The class is not actually discarded until both the number of property lists that instantiate it, and the number of classes derived from it drop to zero as well.

In greater detail:

If the supplied `hid_t` is not associated with a property list class, **H5Pclose_class()** flags an error and returns. Otherwise, it calls `H5I_dec_app_ref()` and returns.

H5I_dec_app_ref() is basically a pass through. It preforms some sanity checks, and then 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 than 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()` (which will be `H5P__close_class_cb()` in this case) to free `info->object`, calls `H5I__remove_common()` to remove `*info` from the index, and returns 0.

H5P_close_class_cb() calls `H5P__close_class()`, flags an error if it fails, and returns.

H5P__close_class() calls `H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_REF)`, flags an error if it fails, and returns.

H5P__access_class() maintains counts of the number of property lists and/or property list classes that depend on the target property list class.

In this case it is called with the `H5P_MOD_DEC_REF` op code (actually an instance of `H5P_class_mod_t` enumerated type), which directs it to decrement `pclass->ref_count` and set `pclass->deleted` to `TRUE` if the ref count has dropped to zero.

Regardless of op code, it also checks to see if:

`(pclass->deleted && pclass->plists == 0 && pclass->classes == 0)`

If so, it:

- frees all class properties without calling the associated close callbacks,

- discards the skip list that contained the class properties,
- discards the instance of `H5P_genclass_t` that represented the property list class, and
- calls `H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS)` on the parent of the discarded class (if there was one).

The call to `H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS)` will decrement `par_class->classes`, before the check of:

```
(par_class->deleted && par_class->plists == 0 && par_class->classes == 0)
```

is run on the parent class – possibly resulting in its deletion as well.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

Skip list implementation is not thread safe.

Property List classes, and their associated properties are all subject to simultaneous access and / or modification – with the obvious potential for corruption.

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLLO
 *
 * \brief Copies an existing property list to create a new property list
 *
 * \plist_id
 *
 * \return \hid_t{property list}
 *
 * \details H5Pcopy() copies an existing property list to create a new
 *          property list. The new property list has the same properties
 *          and values as the original property list.
 *
 * \since 1.0.0
 */
H5_DLL hid_t H5Pcopy(hid_t plist_id);

H5Pcopy()
+-H5I_get_type() // verify they is either H5I_GENPROP_LST or H5I_GENPROP_CLS
+-H5I_object()
| + ...
+-H5P_copy_plist() // if a property list
| +-H5FL_CALLOC()
| +-H5SL_create()
| | +- ...
| |
| | // copy the deleted list into the copy. Also duplicate the seen list
| +-H5SL_count()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_first()
| | +- ...
| +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| +-H5SL_insert()
| | + ...
| +-H5SL_next()
| | + ...
| |
| | // copy the properties from plist->props
| +-H5SL_first()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_item()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__dup_prop()
| | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| +- (new_prop->copy) (new_prop->name, new_prop->size, new_prop->value)
| | +- ... // property specific
| +-H5P__add_prop()
| | +-H5SL_insert()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__free_prop() // error recovery
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_insert()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_next()
| | +- ...
| |
| | // copy properties from parent property list class(es) if required.

```

```

| +-H5SL_first()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_item()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_search()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__do_prop_cb1(plist->props, tmp, tmp->copy)
| | +-H5MM_malloc()
| | | +-cb(prop->name, prop->size, tmp_value) // cb == tmp->copy
| | | | +- // property specific
| | | +-H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)
| | | | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| | | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | | | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | | | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
| | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | | +-H5P__add_prop()
| | | | +-H5SL_insert()
| | | | | +- ...
| | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | | +-H5P__free_prop()
| | | +-H5P__free_prop()
| | | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | | | +-H5FL_FREE()
| +-H5SL_insert()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_next()
| | +- ...
| |
| +-H5P__access_class(new_plist->pclass, H5P_MOD_INC_LST)
| | +-H5MM_xfree() // can't happen in this case
| | +-H5SL_destroy() // can't happen in this case
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS) // can't happen in this case
| | | + ...
| |
| +-H5I_register(H5I_GENPROP_LST, new_plist, app_ref)
| | +- ...
| |
| | // tclass is initialized as plist->parent, and then scans up the inheritance tree
| +- (tclass->copy_func)(new_plist_id, old_plist->plist_id,
| | | | old_plist->pclass->copy_data)
| | | +- ... // class specific
| |
| +-H5I_remove() // error cleanup
| | +- ...
|
+-H5P__copy_pclass // if a property class
| +-H5P__create_class()
| | +-H5FL_CALLOC()
| | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | +-H5SL_create()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_INC_CLS)
| | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | | +-H5SL_destroy()
| | | | +- ...
| | | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS) // can't happen in this
case

```

```

| | | + ...
| | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | +-H5SL_destroy()
| | +- ... // eventually
| |     H5P__free_prop_cb()
| |     +- (tprop->close) (tprop->name, tprop->size, tprop->value);
| |     | +- ... // property specific - may not exist
| |     +-H5P__free_prop(tprop);
| |     +-H5MM_xfree()
| |     +-H5FL_FREE()
| |
| +-H5SL_first()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__dup_prop()
| | +- // see above
| +-H5P__add_prop()
| | +- // see above
| +-H5SL_next()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__close_class() // error recovery
|     +-H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_REF)
|     +-H5MM_xfree()
|     +-H5SL_destroy()
|     | +- ...
|     +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS)
|     +- ...
+-H5I_register() // if a property class
| +- ...
+-H5P__close_class() // error cleanup on H5I_register()
+- // see above

```

In a nutshell:

Duplicate the supplied property list or property list class, insert the duplicate in the appropriate index, and return the associated `hid_t`.

It is interesting to note that the user documentation only discusses copying property lists – is there a reason for this?

Also, the duplicate property list need not be an exact duplicate, as its property list will contain any properties that have been deleted from the base property list. These added properties are copied from the parent property list class(es).

Is this a feature or a bug?

In greater detail:

H5Pcopy() verifies that the supplied `hid_t` refers to either a property list or a property list class, and verifies that the target of the ID actually exists. If any of these checks fail, **H5Pcopy()** fails.

H5Pcopy() then checks to see if the supplied id is that of a property list, or a property list class.

If it is a property list, it calls H5P_copy_plist(), flags an error if it fails, and returns.

If it is a property list class, it first calls H5P_copy_pclass(). If that function succeeds, it then calls H5I_register() to insert the new property list class in appropriate index. If H5I_register fails, it calls H5P_close_class() to discard the new property list class before returning. See H5Pclose_class() above for details on H5P_close_class().

COPY PROPERTY LIST CASE:

H5P_copy_plist() first verifies that the supplied old_plist pointer is not NULL, and then allocates a new instance of H5P_gen_plist_t and stores its address in new_plist.

It then sets new_plist→pclass = old_plist→pclass – which is to say that the new property list will be derived from the same property list class as the old property list.

It then initializes:

```
new_plist→nprops = 0;          // the plist is empty to begin with
new_plist→class_init = FALSE; // until the class callback completes
```

and calls H5SL_create() to create the new_plist→props and new_plist→del skip lists. Both of these lists are empty to begin with.

Similarly, it creates the “seen” skip list used to track properties that have already been seen and thus had their copy callbacks invoked – thus avoiding invoking the copy callback again on the property of the same name in a parent property list class.

It then copies the contents of the old_plist→del skip list into the new_plist→del skip list. The del skip lists contain the names of properties that have been deleted from old_plist.

It then scans through old_plist→props and performs the following operations on each property it encounters:

Duplicate the property via a call to H5P__dup_prop() (specifically, new_prop = H5P_dup_prop(old_prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST).

In this context, **H5P__dup_prop()** allocates a new instance of H5P_genprop_t (new_prop), copies the image of *old_prop into it, and (if old_prop→shared_name is FALSE), duplicates the string pointed to by old_prop→name and stored its address in new_prop→name. It then duplicates the buffer pointed to by old_prop→value (if it

exists) storing the address of the duplicate in `new_prop->value`, and returns the address of the new instance of `H5P_genprop_t`

Note that the name would be shared if the property was copied from a class – which can't happen in this case.

Call the copy callback for the property if it exists (specifically, `(new_prop->copy)(new_prop->name, new_prop->size, new_prop->value)`), calling `H5P__free_prop()` if this copy fails.

Insert the new property into `new_plist->props` via a call to `H5P__add_prop()`, again calling `H5P__free_prop()` if the insertion fails. **`H5P__add_prop()`** simply calls `H5SL_insert()` to perform the insertion.

Insert the name of the new property into the “seen” skip list.

Increment `nseen`.

Increment `new_plist->nprops`.

`H5P_copy_plist()` then scans through the properties of the parent property list class (i.e. `tclass->props`), and then for any property list classes that the parent property list class may be derived from. For each such property (`prop`) that is not in the “seen” list, the following operations are performed:

1. Test to see if `prop->copy` is defined. If it is, duplicate the property and insert it into `new_plist->props`. Do this via a call to `H5P__do_prop_cb1(new_plist->props, prop, prop->copy)`. In this context, **`H5P__do_prop_cb1()`** does the following:
 - Allocate a buffer (`tmp_value`) of size equal to the size of the value of the property (`prop->size`),
 - `memcpy` the value of the property (`prop->value`) into `tmp_value`,
 - Call `(prop->copy)(prop->name, prop->size, tmp_value)`,
*** need spec on what copy is supposed to do ***
 - Call `H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)`. In this context, **`H5P__dup_prop()`** allocates a new instance of `H5P_genprop_t`, copies the image of `*prop` into it, and (if `prop->shared_name` is `FALSE`), duplicates the string pointed to by `old_prop->name` and stored its address in `new_prop->name`. It then duplicates the buffer pointed to by `prop->value` (if it exists) storing the address of the duplicate in `pcopy->value`, and returns the address of the new instance of `H5P_genprop_t`

- Malloc tmp_value into new_prop→value.
- Call H5P__add_prop() to insert the new property into new_slist→props.
- Discard tmp_value.
- On failure, call H5P__free_prop() to discard the copy of the property.

Observe that while all properties in old_plist→props are copied into new_plist→props, only properties that have copy callbacks are copied from parent property list class(es) into new_plist→props.

2. Add the name of the new property to the “seen” skip list
3. Increment nseen
4. Increment new_plist→nprops

After the scan of the parent property list(s), H5P_copy_plist() increments the number of property lists derived from the parent property list class via a call to H5P__access_class(new_plist→pclass, H5P_MOD_INC_LST). In this context, H5P__access_class() increments pclass→plists and returns.

It then registers the new property list via a call to H5I_register(H5I_GENPROP_LST, new_plist, app_ref) where app_ref is a boolean parameter passed into H5P_copy_plist, and stores the new id in new_plist→plist_id.

It then calls the pclass→copy_func() for all parent property list classes for which the call exists. If any of these calls fail, it calls H5I_remove(new_plist→plist_id) and flags an error. If all succeed, it sets new_plist→class_init to TRUE.

Finally, it sets the return value to the id of the new property list, and discards the “seen” skip list.

On failure, the new property list is discarded if it exists via a call to H5P_close(new_plist) – see discussion of H5Pclose() above for details of H5P_close().

COPY PROPERTY LIST CLASS CASE:

H5P_copy_pclass() first calls:

```
H5P__create_class(old_pclass→parent, old_pclass→name,
```

```

old_pclass->type, old_pclass->create_func,
old_pclass->create_data, old_pclass->copy_func,
old_pclass->copy_data, old_pclass->close_func,
old_pclass->close_data)

```

to create a new instance `H5P_genclass_t`. The pointer to the new instance is stored in `new_pclass`. In addition to allocating the the new instance, **`H5P__create_pclass()`** also:

Sets `new_pclass->parent = old_pclass->parent`

Duplicates the string pointed to by `old_class->name`, and sets `new_pclass->name` equal to the address of the duplicate string.

Initializes other fields of `new_pclass` as follows:

```

new_pclass->type          = old_pclass->type;
new_pclass->nprops         = 0;          /* No properties initially */
new_pclass->plist         = 0;          /* No property lists of this class yet */
new_pclass->classes        = 0;          /* No classes derived from this class yet */
new_pclass->ref_count      = 1;          /* This is the first ref to the new class */
new_pclass->deleted        = FALSE;     /* Not deleted yet... :-) */
new_pclass->revision       = H5P_GET_NEXT_REV; /* Get a rev num for the class */
new_pclass->create_func    = old_pclass->create_func;
new_pclass->create_data    = old_pclass->create_data;
new_pclass->copy_func      = old_pclass->copy_func;
new_pclass->copy_data      = old_pclass->copy_data;
new_pclass->close_func     = old_pclass->close_func;
new_pclass->close_data     = old_pclass->close_data;

```

Allocates the properties skip list and set `new_pclass->props` to point to it.

Increments `new_pclass->parent->classes` via a call to `H5P__access_class()`.

This done, `H5P__copy_pclass()` scans the property list (`old_pclass->props`) and does the following with each property found:

1. Call `new_prop = H5P__dup_prop(old_prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_CLASS)` to create a duplicate of the property.

In this context, **`H5P__dup_prop()`** allocates a new instance of `H5P_genprop_t`, copies the image of `*old_prop` into it, and duplicates the string pointed to by `old_prop->name` and stored its address in `new_prop->name`. Note that the unconditional duplication of the name is forced by the `H5P_PROP_WITHIN_CLASS` flag. It then duplicates the buffer pointed to by `old_prop->value` (if it exists) storing the address of the duplicate in `new_prop->value`, and returns the address of the new instance of `H5P_genprop_t`

Note that unlike the copy property list case, the property specific copy call is not invoked.

2. Insert the new_prop into the new_class→props skip list via a call to H5P__add_prop(new_pclass→props, new_prop).
3. Increment new_class→nprops

After the scan of the old_pclass→props completes, the function sets its return value to new_pclass and returns.

On failure, H5P__close_class(new_pclass) is called to cleanup. See discussion of H5Pclose_class() above for a description of this call.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

Skip list implementation is not thread safe.

Property list, property list classes, and their associated properties are all subject to simultaneous access and / or modification – with the obvious potential for corruption.

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Copies a property from one list or class to another
 *
 * \param[in] dst_id Identifier of the destination property list or class
 * \param[in] src_id Identifier of the source property list or class
 * \param[in] name Name of the property to copy
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pcopy_prop() copies a property from one property list or
 * class to another.
 *
 * If a property is copied from one class to another, all the
 * property information will be first deleted from the destination
 * class and then the property information will be copied from the
 * source class into the destination class.
 *
 * If a property is copied from one list to another, the property
 * will be first deleted from the destination list (generating a
 * call to the close callback for the property, if one exists)
 * and then the property is copied from the source list to the
 * destination list (generating a call to the copy callback for
 * the property, if one exists).
 *
 * If the property does not exist in the class or list, this
 * call is equivalent to calling H5Pregister() or H5Pinsert() (for
 * a class or list, as appropriate) and the create callback will
 * be called in the case of the property being copied into a list
 * (if such a callback exists for the property).
 *
 * \since 1.6.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pcopy_prop(hid_t dst_id, hid_t src_id, const char *name);

H5Pcopy_prop()
+-H5I_get_type()
| +- ...
+-H5P__copy_prop_plist()
| +-H5I_object()
| | +- ...
| |
| | // property exists in destination property list
| +-H5P__find_prop_plist()
| | +-H5SL_search()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P_remove()
| | +-H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__del_plist_cb, H5P__del_pclass_cb, NULL)
| | +-H5SL_search()
| | +- ...
| | // if the target property is in the property list
| | +-(*plist_op)(plist, name, prop, udata) // H5P__del_plist_cb in this case
| | // if the target property is in the property class
| | +-(*pclass_op)(plist, name, prop, udata) // H5P__del_pclass_cb in this case
| +-H5P__dup_prop()
| | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup

```

```

| | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
| +- (new_prop->copy) (new_prop->name, new_prop->size, new_prop->value)
| | +- ... // property specific
| +-H5P__add_prop()
| | +-H5SL_insert()
| | +- ...
| |
| | // property doesn't exist in the destination property list
| +-H5P__find_prop_plist()
| | +- // see above
| +-H5P__create_prop()
| | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | +-H5MM_malloc()
| | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
| +- (new_prop->create) (new_prop->name, new_prop->size, new_prop->value)
| | +- ... // prop. specific
| +-H5P__add_prop()
| | +- // see above
| |
| | // error cleanup
| +-H5P__free_prop() // error cleanup
| | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | +-H5FL_FREE()
|
+-H5P__copy_prop_pclass()
| +-H5I_object()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__find_prop_pclass()
| | +-H5SL_search()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__exist_pclass()
| | +-H5SL_search()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__unregister()
| | +-H5SL_search()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5SL_remove()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__free_prop()
| | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | | +-H5FL_FREE()
| +-H5P__register()
| | // duplicate class if required
| | +-H5P__create_class()
| | | +-H5FL_CALLOC()
| | | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | | +-H5SL_create()
| | | | +- ...
| | | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_INC_CLS)
| | | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | | | +-H5SL_destroy()
| | | | +- ...
| | | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS) // can't happen
| | | | + ... // in this case
| | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | +-H5SL_destroy()
| | | +- ... // eventually
| | | H5P__free_prop_cb()

```

```

| |             +- (tprop->close) (tprop->name, tprop->size, tprop->value);
| |             | +- ... // property specific - may not exist
| |             +-H5P__free_prop(tprop);
| |             +-H5MM_xfree()
| |             +-H5FL_FREE()
| +-H5SL_first()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__dup_prop()
| | +- // see above
| +-H5P__add_prop()
| | +- // see above
| +-H5SL_next()
| | +- ...
| |
| +-H5P__register_real()
| | +-H5SL_search()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__create_prop()
| | | +- // see above
| | +-H5P__add_prop()
| | | +- // see above
| | +-H5P__free_prop()
| | | +- // see above
| +-H5P__close_class() // error recovery
|   +-H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_REF)
|   +-H5MM_xfree()
|   +-H5SL_destroy()
|   | +- ...
|   +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS)
|   +- ...
+-H5I_subst()
| +- ...
+-H5P__close_class()
  +- // see above

```

In a nutshell:

Copy a property from one property list or property list class to another.

In greater detail:

H5Pcopy_prop() first verifies that the objects referred to by the source and destination ids are either both property lists, or both property list classes. The function flags an error and returns if this is not the case.

Note: No test to verify that source and destination are distinct. Subsequent review indicates that unique ids need not refer to unique property list classes. So far this doesn't seem to be the case for property lists.

If both source and destination are property lists, the function then calls:


```
H5P__copy_prop_plist(dst_id, src_id, name)
```

and returns success if that function succeeds, and failure if it fails. Otherwise, if both source and destination are property list classes, the function calls:

```
H5P__copy_prop_pclass(dst_id, src_id, name)
```

again returning success if the function succeeds and failure if it fails.

PROPERTY LIST CASE:

H5P__copy_prop_plist() first makes calls to **H5I_object()** to obtain pointers to the source and destination property lists (**src_plist** and **dst_plist**) (**Note: no test for distinctness**).

This done, the function calls **H5P__find_prop_plist(dst_plist, name)**, which calls **H5SL_search()** to see if the target property already exists in **dst_plist**.

If it does, **H5P__copy_prop_plist()**:

1. Calls **H5P__remove(dst_plist, name)** to remove the target property from the destination plist.

H5P__remove() is mostly a pass through function. It does some sanity checking, and then calls

```
H5P__do_prop(dst_plist, name, H5P__del_plist_cb, H5P__del_pclass_cb, NULL)
```

In this context, **H5P__do_prop()** first searches **dst_plist→del** to see if the target property has already been deleted – and flags an error if it has been.

It then tries to find the named property in **dst_plist→props** via the call

```
prop = H5SL_search(dst_plist→props, name).
```

If successful, it calls

```
H5P__del_plist_cb(dst_plist, name, prop, NULL)
```

and returns success or failure if this call succeeds or fails.

If this search fails, **H5P__do_prop()** searches the parent property list class(es) for the target property, and if successful calls:

```
H5P__del_pclass_cb(dst_plist, name, prop, NULL)
```

and again returns success or failure if this call succeeds or fails.

If the searches of the supplied property list and its parent property list class(es) fail, `H5P__do_prop()` returns failure.

H5P__del_plist_cb() calls the properties delete callback

```
(* (prop->del)) (plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, prop->value)
```

(What does the delete callback use the `plist_id` for? MT issues? Possible re-entry into H5I?)

if it exists, duplicates the property name string and inserts it into the `dst_plist->del` skip list, deletes the property from the `dst_plist->props` skip list, frees it, and decrements `dst_plist->nprops`.

H5P__del_pclass_cb() is similar to **H5P__del_plist_cb()** but subtly different.

Like **H5P__del_plist_cb()** it calls the properties delete callback if it exists. However, before it does so, it duplicates `*(prop->value)`, and passes a pointer to this duplicate as the final parameter to the properties delete callback. After that, it duplicates the property name string and inserts it into the `dst_plist->del` skip list, and decrements `dst_plist->nprops`. Note, however, that since the target property is not in the `dst_plist->props` skip list, it doesn't attempt to remove it.

2. Calls `prop = H5P__find_prop_plist(src_plist, name)` to get a pointer to the source property.

H5P__find_prop_plist() first searches `src_plist->del` to see if the property has been deleted, and returns an error if it has been.

It then searches `src_plist->props`, and returns a pointer to the target property if this search is successful.

If this search fails, it searches for the property in the parent property list class(es), and returns a pointer to the target property if this search succeeds.

If neither search succeeds, it returns an error.

3. Calls `new_prop = H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)`. **H5P__dup_prop()** allocates a new instance of `H5P_genprop_t` (`new_prop`), copies the image of `*prop` into it, and (if `prop->shared_name` is `FALSE`), duplicates the string pointed to by `prop->name` and stored its address in `new_prop->name`, duplicates the buffer pointed to by

prop→value (if it exists) storing the address of the duplicate in new_prop→value, and returns the address of the new instance of H5P_genprop_t

4. Calls the property copy callback if it exists – (new_prop→copy)(new_prop→name, new_prop→size, new_prop→value).
5. Calls H5P__add_prop(dst_plist→props, new_prop) to insert the new property in the destination property list. **H5P__add_prop()** does this via a call to

```
H5SL_insert(dst_plist→props, new_prop, new_prop→name)
```

6. Increments dst_plist→nprops.

If, on the other hand, the target property doesn't already exist in the destination property list, H5P__copy_prop_plist() proceeds as follows:

1. Call prop = H5P__find_prop_plist(src_plist, name) to obtain a pointer to the target property. See discussion above.
2. Create the new property via the call

```
new_prop = H5P__create_prop(prop→name, prop→size,  
                             H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST, prop→value,  
                             prop→create, prop→set, prop→get,  
                             prop→encode, prop→decode,  
                             prop→del, prop→copy, prop→cmp,  
                             prop→close)
```

After some sanity checks, **H5P__create_prop()** allocates a new instance of H5P_genprop_t (new_prop), duplicates *(prop→name) and sets new_prop→name to point to it. Similarly, if prop→value is not NULL, it duplicates *(prop→value), and sets new_prop→value to point to the copy.

In this context, it initializes the remaining fields of *new_prop from its parameters as follows:

```
new_prop→shared_name = FALSE  
new_prop→size        = prop→size;  
new_prop→type        = H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST;  
new_prop→create      = prop→create;  
new_prop→set         = prop→set;  
new_prop→get         = prop→get;  
new_prop→encode      = prop→encode;  
new_prop→decode      = prop→decode;  
new_prop→del         = prop→del;  
new_prop→copy        = prop→copy;  
new_prop→cmp         = prop→cmp;  
new_prop→close       = prop→close;
```

While I don't think it can happen in this case, if `prop→cmp` were NULL, `new_prop→cmp` would be set to `&memcmp`.

On success, `H5P__create_prop()` returns the pointer to the new instance of `H5P_genprop_t` (i.e. `new_prop`).

3. Call the property creation callback if it exists:

```
(new_prop->create)(new_prop->name, new_prop->size,  
                  new_prop->value)
```

4. Insert the new property into the `dst_plist` via the call

```
H5P__add_prop(dst_plist->props, new_prop)
```

5. Increment `dst_plist→nprops`

Whichever path is taken, `H5P__copy_prop_plist()` then returns. On error, `*new_prop` is discarded via a call to `H5P__free_prop()` prior to return.

PROPERTY LIST CLASS CASE:

H5P__copy_prop_pclass() first makes calls to `H5I_object()` to obtain pointers to the source and destination property list classes (`src_pclass` and `dst_pclass`) (No test for distinctness).

It then obtains a pointer to the target property in the source property list class via the call:

```
prop = H5P__find_prop_pclass(src_pclass, name)
```

which is essentially a pass through to `H5SL_search(src_pclass→props, name)`.

`H5P__copy_prop_pclass()` then calls

```
H5P__exist_pclass(dst_pclass, name)
```

to determine whether the destination property list class already contains a property of the target name.

H5P__exist_class() does this by first running `H5SL_search(dst_class→props, name)`. If this search fails, it repeats the process on `dst_class→parent→props`, and so on up the inheritance tree until a property of the specified name is found, or there are no further parent property list classes. It returns TRUE if such a property is found, and FALSE otherwise.

If `H5P__exist_pclass()` returns `TRUE`, `H5P__copy_prop_pclass()` calls

```
H5P__unregister(dst_pclass, name)
```

to remove the target property from the destination property list class.

H5P__unregister() calls

```
prop = H5SL_search(pclass->props, name)
```

to obtain a pointer to the target property, calls

```
H5SL_remove(pclass->props, prop->name)
```

to remove it from `pclass->props`, calls

```
H5P__free_prop(prop)
```

to free it, decrements `pclass->nprops`, sets `pclass->revision` equal to the global variable `H5P_next_rev`, increments `H5P_next_rev`, and returns.

Note: `H5P__unregister()` operates only on `dst_pclass`, but `H5P__exist_pclass()` will return `TRUE` if either `dst_pclass` or any property list class that `dst_pclass` is derived from contains a property of the target name. Thus it appears that it is possible for `H5P__exist_pclass()` to return `TRUE`, and for `H5P__unregister()` to fail because it is unable to find the target property. This appears to be a bug.

After removing the target property from the destination property list class, if necessary, `H5P__copy_prop_pclass()` saves a copy of the pointer `dst_pclass` in `old_dst_pclass`, and then calls

```
H5P__register(&dst_pclass, name, prop->size, prop->value,
             prop->create, prop->set, prop->get,
             prop->encode, prop->decode, prop->del,
             prop->copy, prop->cmp, prop->close)
```

The objective of **H5P__register()** is to insert the new property into the target property list. However, there is a problem if there are any extant property lists, or property list classes derived from `dst_pclass`. Specifically, there appears to be no method for updating the derived property lists and property list classes for changes to `*dst_pclass`. Instead, `H5P__register()` duplicates `*dst_pclass`, inserts the new property into the duplicate, and returns a pointer to the duplicate. The duplicate later replaces the earlier version of `*dst_class` in the index. The original version of `*dst_pclass` is then only accessible via the parent pointers in its derived property lists and property list classes (not quite – as shall be seen `H5Pget_class()` can insert the old version of the property list class into the index, albeit with a new id. See discussion of `H5Pget_class()` for further details.). It is retained until both its plists (number of derived

property lists) and classes (number of derived property list classes) fields drop to zero – at which point it is discarded.

With this background, we return to a detailed discussion of `H5P__register()`.

H5P__register first tests to see if either `dst_pclass→plists` or `dst_class→classes` is positive. If either is, it calls

```
new_pclass = H5P__create_class(dst_pclass→parent,
                               dst_pclass→name,
                               dst_pclass→type,
                               dst_pclass→create_func,
                               dst_pclass→create_data,
                               dst_pclass→copy_func,
                               dst_pclass→copy_data,
                               dst_pclass→close_func,
                               dst_pclass→close_data)
```

After some sanity checks, **H5P__create_class()** allocates a new instance of `H5P_genclass_t`, and stores its address in `new_pclass`. It then duplicates the string containing the name of the new property list class (`dst_class→name` in this case) and set `new_pclass→name` equal to the duplicate string.

`H5P__create_class()` then calls `H5SL_create()` to create the skip list used to store properties in the property list class, sets `new_pclass→nprops` to point to it, and then initializes the remaining fields of `*new_pclass` as follows (in this case):

```
new_pclass→parent      = dst_pclass→parent;
new_pclass→type        = dst_class→type;
new_pclass→nprops      = 0;                /* No properties initially */
new_pclass→plists      = 0;                /* No properties lists of this class yet */
new_pclass→classes     = 0;                /* No classes derived from this class yet */
new_pclass→ref_count   = 1;                /* This is the first reference to *new_class */
new_pclass→deleted     = FALSE;            /* Not deleted yet... :-) */
new_pclass→revision    = H5P_next_rev++;   /* Get a revision number for the class */
new_pclass→create_func = dst_pclass→create_func;
new_pclass→create_data = dst_pclass→create_data;
new_pclass→copy_func   = dst_pclass→copy_func;
new_pclass→copy_data   = dst_pclass→copy_data;
new_pclass→close_func  = dst_pclass→close_func;
new_pclass→close_data  = dst_pclass→close_data;
```

where `H5P_next_rev` is a global variable used to assign unique revision numbers to property list classes. Finally, `H5P__create_class()` calls

```
H5P__access_class(new_pclass→parent, H5P_MOD_INC_CLS)
```

to increment `new_pclass→parent→classes`, and returns `new_pclass`.

With `*new_pclass` created, `H5P__register` must now populate it with copies of all properties that appear in `dst_pclass`. It does this by scanning `dst_pclass→props`, and performing the following operations on each property (`old_prop`) encountered:

1. Duplicate the property with a call to

```
new_prop = H5P__dup_prop(old_prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_CLASS)
```

In this context, **`H5P__dup_prop()`** allocates a new instance of `H5P_genprop_t`, copies the image of `*old_prop` into it, duplicates the string pointed to by `old_prop→name` and stored its address in `new_prop→name` duplicates the buffer pointed to by `prop→value` (if it exists) storing the address of the duplicate in `pcopy→value`, and returns the address of the new instance of `H5P_genprop_t`.

Note that the unconditional duplication of the name is forced by the `H5P_PROP_WITHIN_CLASS` flag.

2. Insert `new_prop` into `new_pclass` via the call

```
H5P__add_prop(new_pclass→props, new_prop)
```

3. Increment `new_pclass→nprops`

This done, `H5P__register` sets `dst_pclass = new_pclass`, completing processing for the `dst_pclass→plists` or `dst_class→classes` positive case. Note that the copy of `dst_pclass` made earlier is used later to detect whether a copy of `dst_pclass` has been created after `H5P__register` returns.

Whether either `dst_pclass→plists` or `dst_class→classes` is positive or not, `H5P__register()` next calls

```
H5P__register_real(dst_pclass, name, prop→size, prop→value,  
                  prop→create, prop→set, prop→get, prop→encode,  
                  prop→decode, prop→delete, prop→copy,  
                  prop→cmp, prop→close)
```

Recall that `dst_pclass` may be either the original, or the duplicate at this point.

After some sanity checks, **`H5P__register_real()`** creates the new property via the call:

```
new_prop = H5P__create_prop(name, prop→size,  
                            H5P_PROP_WITHIN_CLASS, prop→value,  
                            prop→create, prop→set, prop→get,  
                            prop→encode, prop→decode,  
                            prop→delete, prop→copy,  
                            prop→cmp, prop→close)
```

See the PROPERTY LIST CASE above for a detailed discussion of `H5P__create_prop()`. Note that in this case, `new_prop→type` is set to `H5P_PROP_WITHIN_CLASS` instead of `H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST`.

After `new_prop` is created, `H5P__register_real()` inserts it into `dst_class` via a call to

```
H5P__add_prop(dst_pclass->props, new_prop)
```

increments `dst_pclass→nprops`, sets `dst_pclass→revision = H5P_next_rev`, increments that global integer, and returns. Recall that `dst_pclass` may now point to a duplicate with the new property added.

Assuming no errors, `H5P__register()` returns immediately after `H5P__register_real()` returns.

After `H5P__register()` returns, `H5P__copy_prop_pclass()` compares `dst_pclass` with `old_dst_pclass` – the copy it made just before calling `H5P__register()`. If the two don't match, it must replace `old_dst_pclass` with `dst_pclass` in the index. It does this with the call

```
H5I_subst(dst_id, dst_pclass)
```

and then calls

```
H5P__close_class(old_dst_pclass)
```

which decrements `old_dst_pclass→ref_count`, and may delete it. See discussion in `H5Pclose_class()` above for further details.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

Skip list implementation is not thread safe.

Property list, property list classes, and their associated properties are all subject to simultaneous access and / or modification – with the obvious potential for corruption.

`H5P_next_rev` is a global used to assign unique ids. Mutual exclusion is required.


```

/**
 * \ingroup GPL0
 *
 * \brief Creates a new property list as an instance of a property list class
 *
 * \plistcls_id{cls_id}
 *
 * \return \hid_t{property list}
 *
 * \details H5Pcreate() creates a new property list as an instance of
 *          some property list class. The new property list is initialized
 *          with default values for the specified class. The classes are as
 *          follows:
 *
 * <table>
 *   <tr>
 *     <th>Class Identifier</th>
 *     <th>Class Name</th>
 *     <th>Comments</th>
 *   </tr>
 *   <tr>
 *     <td>#H5P_ATTRIBUTE_CREATE</td>
 *     <td>attribute create</td>
 *     <td>Properties for attribute creation</td>
 *   </tr>
 *   <tr>
 *     <td>#H5P_DATASET_ACCESS</td>
 *     <td>dataset access</td>
 *     <td>Properties for dataset access</td>
 *   </tr>
 *   <tr>
 *     <td>#H5P_DATASET_CREATE</td>
 *     <td>dataset create</td>
 *     <td>Properties for dataset creation</td>
 *   </tr>
 *   <tr>
 *     <td>#H5P_DATASET_XFER</td>
 *     <td>data transfer</td>
 *     <td>Properties for raw data transfer</td>
 *   </tr>
 *   <tr>
 *     <td>#H5P_DATATYPE_ACCESS</td>
 *     <td>datatype access</td>
 *     <td>Properties for datatype access</td>
 *   </tr>
 *   <tr>
 *     <td>#H5P_DATATYPE_CREATE</td>
 *     <td>datatype create</td>
 *     <td>Properties for datatype creation</td>
 *   </tr>
 *   <tr>
 *     <td>#H5P_FILE_ACCESS</td>
 *     <td>file access</td>
 *     <td>Properties for file access</td>
 *   </tr>
 *   <tr>
 *     <td>#H5P_FILE_CREATE</td>
 *     <td>file create</td>
 *     <td>Properties for file creation</td>
 *   </tr>
 *   <tr>
 *     <td>#H5P_FILE_MOUNT</td>
 *     <td>file mount</td>

```

```

*      <td>Properties for file mounting</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr valign="top">
*      <td>#H5P_GROUP_ACCESS</td>
*      <td>group access</td>
*      <td>Properties for group access</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>#H5P_GROUP_CREATE</td>
*      <td>group create</td>
*      <td>Properties for group creation</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>#H5P_LINK_ACCESS</td>
*      <td>link access</td>
*      <td>Properties governing link traversal when accessing objects</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>#H5P_LINK_CREATE</td>
*      <td>link create</td>
*      <td>Properties governing link creation</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>#H5P_OBJECT_COPY</td>
*      <td>object copy</td>
*      <td>Properties governing the object copying process</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>#H5P_OBJECT_CREATE</td>
*      <td>object create</td>
*      <td>Properties for object creation</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>#H5P_STRING_CREATE</td>
*      <td>string create</td>
*      <td>Properties for character encoding when encoding strings or
*        object names</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>#H5P_VOL_INITIALIZE</td>
*      <td>vol initialize</td>
*      <td>Properties for VOL initialization</td>
*    </tr>
*  </table>
*
* This property list must eventually be closed with H5Pclose();
* otherwise, errors are likely to occur.
*
* \version 1.12.0 The #H5P_VOL_INITIALIZE property list class was added
* \version 1.8.15 For each class, the class name returned by
*   H5Pget_class_name() was added.
*   The list of possible Fortran values was updated.
* \version 1.8.0 The following property list classes were added at this
*   release: #H5P_DATASET_ACCESS, #H5P_GROUP_CREATE,
*   #H5P_GROUP_ACCESS, #H5P_DATATYPE_CREATE,
*   #H5P_DATATYPE_ACCESS, #H5P_ATTRIBUTE_CREATE
*
* \since 1.0.0
*/
H5_DLL hid_t H5Pcreate(hid_t cls_id);

```

```

H5Pcreate()
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5P_create_id()
+-H5P__create()
| +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| +-H5SL_create()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_first()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_item()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_search()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__do_prop_cb1(plist->props, tmp, tmp->create)
| | +-H5MM_malloc()
| | | +-cb(prop->name, prop->size, tmp_value) // cb == tmp->create
| | | +-H5P_dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)
| | | | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| | | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | | | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | | | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
| | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | | +-H5P__add_prop()
| | | | +-H5SL_insert()
| | | | | +- ...
| | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | | +-H5P__free_prop()
| | | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | | | +-H5FL_FREE()
| | +-H5SL_insert()
| | | +- ...
| +-H5SL_next()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__access_class(plist->pclass, H5P_MOD_INC_LST)
| | // in this case, increment the plist count in the pclass
| |
| +-H5SL_close() // error cleanup
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_destroy() // error cleanup
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_close() // error cleanup
| | +- ...
| +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
|
+-H5I_register()
| +- ...
+-(tclass->create_func)(plist_id, tclass->create_data) // class specific,
| // may not exist
+-H5I_remove() // error cleanup only
| +- ...
+-H5P_close() // error cleanup only
| +- // see H5Pclose() above

```

In a nutshell:

Create a new property list derived from the property list class indicated by the supplied id.

In greater detail:

H5Pcreate() first calls

```
pclass = H5I_object_verify(cls_id, H5I_GENPROP_CLS)
```

to obtain a pointer to the source property list class, calls

```
plist_id = H5P_create_id(pclass, TRUE)    // discussed below
```

to create the new property list and then returns `plist_id`.

H5P_create_id() starts by calling

```
plist = H5P__create(pclass)    // discussed below
```

to create the new property list, and then inserts it into the index with the callback

```
plist_id = H5I_register(H5I_GENPROP_LST, plist, app_ref)
```

Note that `app_ref` is `TRUE` in this case. `H5P_create_id()` then sets `plist→plist_id = plist_id`, and then scans up the property list class inheritance tree (i.e. `tclass = plist→parent`, `tclass = plist→parent→parent`, etc), calling the create function:

```
(tclass->create_func)(plist_id, tclass->create_data)
```

whenever it exists. This done, it sets `pclass→class_init = TRUE` and returns `plist_id`.

H5P__create() is the main routine for creating a new property list. It starts by allocating a new instance of `H5P_genplist_t` and setting `plist` to point to it. This done, it sets:

```
plist→pclass      = pclass;
plist→nprops       = 0;
plist→class_init   = FALSE;
```

and creates the

```
plist→props
plist→del
```

skip lists with calls to `H5SL_create()`. The “seen” skip list is also created.

The next step is to populate the new property list. Do this by scanning the property lists of the parent property list class(es) and copying properties into the new property list. This is complicated by two factors:

First, only properties with create functions are copied into plist->props.

Second, in cases where pclass has one or more parent property list classes (i.e. pclass->parent != NULL), it appears to be possible that two or more of these property list classes will contain properties of the same name. This is handled by first scanning the property list of pclass, then pclass->parent (if it exists), and so forth, and for any given name, only coping the first property of that name encountered (and then only if its create function is defined). The “seen” skip list is used to track the names of properties already been considered for copying into the new property list.

For each property (prop) selected by this method, **H5P__create()** does the following:

1. Test to see if the property creation callback exists (i.e. prop->create != NULL). If it does, it calls

```
H5P__do_prop_cb1(plist->props, prop, prop->create)
```

H5P__do_prop_cb1() duplicates the property, and inserts it into plist->props. In this context, it does the following:

- Allocate a buffer (tmp_value) of size equal to the size of the value of the property (prop->size),
- memcpy the value of the property (prop->value) into tmp_value,
- Call (prop->create)(prop->name, prop->size, tmp_value),
*** need spec on what create is supposed to do ***
- Call H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST). In this context, **H5P__dup_prop()** allocates a new instance of H5P_genprop_t (new_prop), copies the image of *prop into it, sets new_prop->shared_name = TRUE, duplicates the buffer pointed to by prop->value (if it exists) storing the address of the duplicate in new_prop->value, and returns the address of the new instance of H5P_genprop_t.
- Memcopy tmp_value into new_prop->value.
- Call H5P__add_prop() to insert the new property into new_slist->props.
- Discard tmp_value.

- On failure, call `H5P__free_prop()` to discard the copy of the property.

Again, note that only properties that have create callbacks are copied from parent property list class(es) into `plist→props`.

After `H5P__do_prop_cb1()` returns, increment `pclass→nprops`.

2. Regardless of whether `prop→create != NULL`, add `prop→name` to the “seen” skip list.

After populating `plist→props`, `H5P__create()` calls

```
H5P__access_class(plist->pclass, H5P_MOD_INC_LST)
```

which in this context increments `plist→pclass→plists`.

Finally, `H5P__create()` returns `plist`.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

Skip list implementation is not thread safe.

Property list, property list classes, and their associated properties are all subject to simultaneous access and / or modification – with the obvious potential for corruption.

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Creates a new property list class
 *
 * \plistcls_id{parent}
 * \param[in] name      Name of property list class to register
 * \param[in] create     Callback routine called when a property list is
 *                      created
 * \param[in] create_data Pointer to user-defined class create data, to be
 *                      passed along to class create callback
 * \param[in] copy      Callback routine called when a property list is
 *                      copied
 * \param[in] copy_data Pointer to user-defined class copy data, to be
 *                      passed along to class copy callback
 * \param[in] close     Callback routine called when a property list is
 *                      being closed
 * \param[in] close_data Pointer to user-defined class close data, to be
 *                      passed along to class close callback
 *
 * \return \hid_t{property list class}
 *
 * \details H5Pcreate_class() registers a new property list class with the
 *          library. The new property list class can inherit from an
 *          existing property list class, \p parent, or may be derived
 *          from the default "empty" class, NULL. New classes with
 *          inherited properties from existing classes may not remove
 *          those existing properties, only add or remove their own class
 *          properties. Property list classes defined and supported in the
 *          HDF5 library distribution are listed and briefly described in
 *          H5Pcreate(). The \p create, \p copy, \p close functions are called
 *          when a property list of the new class is created, copied, or closed,
 *          respectively.
 *
 *          H5Pclose_class() must be used to release the property list class
 *          identifier returned by this function.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL hid_t H5Pcreate_class(hid_t parent, const char *name,
                             H5P_cls_create_func_t create,
                             void *create_data, H5P_cls_copy_func_t copy,
                             void *copy_data, H5P_cls_close_func_t close,
                             void *close_data);

H5Pcreate_class()
+-H5I_get_type()
| + ...
+-H5I_object()
| +- ...
+-H5P__create_class()
| +-H5FL_CALLOC()
| +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| +-H5SL_create()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_INC_CLS)
| | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | +-H5SL_destroy()
| | | +- ...

```

```

| | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS) // can't happen in this case
| | + ...
| +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| +-H5SL_destroy()
| +- ... // eventually
|     H5P__free_prop_cb()
|     +- (tprop->close) (tprop->name, tprop->size, tprop->value);
|     | +- ... // property specific - may not exist
|     +-H5P__free_prop(tprop);
|     +-H5MM_xfree()
|     +-H5FL_FREE()
+-H5I_register()
| +- ...
+-H5P__close_class() // error cleanup
    +-H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_REF)
    +-H5MM_xfree()
    +-H5SL_destroy()
    | +- ...
    +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS)
    +- // see above

```

In a nutshell:

Create a new property list class based on the supplied parent property list class, insert it in the index, and return its id.

In greater detail:

After input validations, **H5Pcreate_class()** checks to see if the parent property list class id is H5P_DEFAULT. If it is, it sets `par_class = NULL`. Otherwise it calls `H5I_object` to obtain a pointer to the parent class, and sets `par_class` to this value. (Note: a NULL `par_class` will trigger an assertion failure in `H5P__create_class()` in debug builds, but does not seem to trigger an error in production builds. This is probably a bug.)

This done, `H5Pcreate_class()` calls

```

pclass = H5P__create_class(par_class, name, H5P_TYPE_USER,
                           cls_create, create_data,
                           cls_copy, copy_data,
                           cls_close, close_data)

```

to create the new property list class.

H5P__create_class() is discussed in detail in the “COPY PROPERTY LIST CLASS” case of the discussion of `H5Pcopy()` above. Briefly, it creates a property list class with no properties and no derived property lists or property list classes, that is otherwise a duplicate of the parent property list class, and returns a pointer to it. In passing, it also increments `dst_pclass->parent->classes`.

When `H5P__create_class()` returns, `H5Pcreate_class()` calls

```
H5I_register(H5I_GENPROP_CLS, pclass, TRUE)
```

to insert the new property list class into the index, and returns the new property list class id.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

Skip list implementation is not thread safe.

Property list classes, and their associated properties are all subject to simultaneous access and / or modification – with the obvious potential for corruption.

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPL0
 *
 * \brief Decodes property list received in a binary object buffer and
 *        returns a new property list identifier
 *
 * \param[in] buf Buffer holding the encoded property list
 *
 * \return \hid_tv{object}
 *
 * \details Given a binary property list description in a buffer, H5Pdecode()
 *        reconstructs the HDF5 property list and returns an identifier
 *        for the new property list. The binary description of the property
 *        list is encoded by H5Pencode().
 *
 *        The user is responsible for passing in the correct buffer.
 *
 *        The property list identifier returned by this function should be
 *        released with H5Pclose() when the identifier is no longer needed
 *        so that resource leaks will not develop.
 *
 * \note Some properties cannot be encoded and therefore will not be available
 *        in the decoded property list. These properties are discussed in
 *        H5Pencode().
 *
 * \since 1.10.0
 */
H5_DLL hid_t H5Pdecode(const void *buf);

H5Pdecode()
+-H5P__decode()
    +-H5P__new_plist_of_type()
        | +-H5I_object()
        | | +- ...
        | +-H5P_create_id()
        | | +-H5P_create()
        | | | +-H5FL_CALLOC()
        | | | +-H5SL_create()
        | | | | +- ...
        | | | +-H5SL_first()
        | | | | +- ...
        | | | +-H5SL_item()
        | | | | +- ...
        | | | +-H5SL_search()
        | | | | +- ...
        | | +-H5P__do_prop_cb1(plist->props, tmp, tmp->create)
        | | | +-H5MM_malloc()
        | | | +-cb(prop->name, prop->size, tmp_value) // cb == tmp->create
        | | | +-H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)
        | | | | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
        | | | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
        | | | | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
        | | | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
        | | | | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
        | | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
        | | | +-H5P__add_prop()
        | | | | +-H5SL_insert()
        | | | | +- ...
        | | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup

```

```

|         | | +-H5P__free_prop()
|         | | +-H5P__free_prop()
|         | |     +-H5MM_xfree()
|         | |     +-H5FL_FREE()
|         | +-H5SL_insert()
|         | | +- ...
|         | +-H5SL_next()
|         | | +- ...
|         | +-H5P__access_class(plist->pclass, H5P_MOD_INC_LST)
|         | | // in this case, increment the plist count in the pclass
|         | |
|         | +-H5SL_close() // error cleanup
|         | | +- ...
|         | +-H5SL_destroy() // error cleanup
|         | | +- ...
|         | +-H5SL_close() // error cleanup
|         | | +- ...
|         | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
|         |
|         +-H5I_register()
|         | +- ...
|         +- (tclass->create_func)(plist_id, tclass->create_data) // class specific,
|         | // may not exist
|         +-H5I_remove() // error cleanup only
|         | +- ...
|         +-H5P_close() // error cleanup only
|         +- // see H5Pclose() above
|
+-H5I_object()
| +- ...
+-H5Dstrlen()
+-H5P__find_prop_plist()
| +-
+-H5MM_realloc()
+- (prop->decode)((const void **)&p, value_buf)
| +- // property specific
|
+-H5P_poke()
| +-H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__poke_plist_cb,
| |             H5P__poke_pclass_cb, &udata)
| +-H5SL_search()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__poke_plist_cb()
| | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| +-H5P__poke_pclass_cb()
| | +-H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)
| | | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
| | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | +-H5P__add_prop()
| | | +-H5SL_insert()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__free_prop() // error cleanup
| | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | | +-H5FL_FREE()
|
+-H5MM_xfree()
+-H5I_dec_ref() // error cleanup

```

+- ...

In a nutshell:

Given a buffer containing an encoded property list, decode the buffer, construct the property list described in the buffer, insert it in the index, and return the id associated with the decoded property list.

Note that only property lists derived from HDF5 defined property list classes are supported. This is not mentioned in the user documentation.

In greater detail:

H5Pdecode() simply calls **H5P__decode()** with the supplied buffer, and returns whatever **H5P__decode()** returns, flagging an error in passing if **H5P__decode()** fails.

H5P__decode() first reads the encoding version number from the first byte of the supplied buffer and fails if it is not **H5P_ENCODE_VERS** (currently defined to be zero).

It then loads the type of the property list (another byte) and fails if

type <= **H5P_TYPE_USER** or type >= **H5P_TYPE_MAX_TYPE**.

Observe that this disallows user defined property lists. **H5P_TYPE_USER** and **H5P_TYPE_MAX_TYPE** are both members of the enumerated type **H5P_plist_type_t**, whose definition is reproduced below:

```
typedef enum H5P_plist_type_t {
    H5P_TYPE_USER           = 0,
    H5P_TYPE_ROOT           = 1,
    H5P_TYPE_OBJECT_CREATE  = 2,
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_CREATE    = 3,
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_ACCESS    = 4,
    H5P_TYPE_DATASET_CREATE = 5,
    H5P_TYPE_DATASET_ACCESS = 6,
    H5P_TYPE_DATASET_XFER   = 7,
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_MOUNT     = 8,
    H5P_TYPE_GROUP_CREATE   = 9,
    H5P_TYPE_GROUP_ACCESS   = 10,
    H5P_TYPE_DATATYPE_CREATE = 11,
    H5P_TYPE_DATATYPE_ACCESS = 12,
    H5P_TYPE_STRING_CREATE  = 13,
    H5P_TYPE_ATTRIBUTE_CREATE = 14,
    H5P_TYPE_OBJECT_COPY    = 15,
    H5P_TYPE_LINK_CREATE    = 16,
    H5P_TYPE_LINK_ACCESS    = 17,
    H5P_TYPE_ATTRIBUTE_ACCESS = 18,
    H5P_TYPE_VOL_INITIALIZE  = 19,
    H5P_TYPE_MAP_CREATE     = 20,
```

```

    H5P_TYPE_MAP_ACCESS      = 21,
    H5P_TYPE_REFERENCE_ACCESS = 22,
    H5P_TYPE_MAX_TYPE
} H5P_plist_type_t;

```

If the property list type is in range, `H5P__decode()` calls

```
plist_id = H5P__new_plist_of_type(type)
```

to create a new property list of the specified type, insert it in the index, and return its id. Given `plist_id`, `H5P_decode()` obtains a pointer to the new property list (`plist`) via a call to `H5I_object()`. It populates `*plist` by executing the following loop until the supplied buffer is exhausted.

- Test to see if the buffer is exhausted, and exit the loop if it is.
- Set `name` to point to the string in the buffer containing the next property name.
- Call

```
prop = H5P__find_prop_plist(plist, name)
```

to obtain a pointer to the existing property in the newly created property list of the specified name. Since `plist` is a newly created property list, `prop` should have the default value.

- The `value_buf` is a buffer that is provided to `prop->decode()`, and must be of length greater than or equal to `prop->size`. Check to see if the current `value_buf` is large enough, and if not, `realloc()` it to the required size, and make note of the new size in `value_buf_size`.
- Call

```
prop->decode)((const void **)&p, value_buf)
```

where `p` is a pointer to the current location in the supplied buffer. In addition to loading the value into `value_buf`, `prop->decode()` must update `p` to reflect the number of bytes read from the buffer.

- Call

```
H5P_poke(plist, name, value_buf)
```

to insert the value into the named property in the property list.

On exiting this loop, free `value_buf`, and return `plist_id`.

On error, test to see if the new property list has been created, and if so, discard it via a call to `H5I_dec_ref()`.

After some sanity checking (which includes specifically disallowing property lists derived from user created property list classes) **`H5P__new_plist_of_type()`** runs a switch statement to map the supplied instance of `H5P_plist_type_t` to the id of the associated property list class. These ids are read from the appropriate global variable, and stored in the local variable `class_id`.

`H5P__new_plist_of_type()` then calls `H5I_object()` to obtain a pointer (`pclass`) to the source data set class, and then calls

```
ret_value = H5P_create_id(pclass, TRUE)
```

which creates the desired property list class, inserts it into the index, and returns the new id, which `H5P__rew_plist_of_type()` returns.

`H5P_create_id()` is discussed at length in `H5Pcreate()` above – please see the discussion of that API call for details. Briefly, it creates a new property list of the supplied property list class, populates it with default values, inserts it in the index, and returns the id of the new property list class.

`H5P__find_prop_plist()` first searches the deleted list (`prop→del`) for the supplied name, and flags an error and returns if the search is successful.

Failing that, it searches `plist→props` for a property of the supplied name, and returns a pointer to the target instance of `H5P_genprop_t` if the search succeeds.

Failing that, it searches the property lists of its parent property list class(es), starting with `plist→parent→props`, and then up the list of parents until it either finds a property of the supplied name – in which case it returns a pointer to the target instance of `H5P_genprop_t`, or it runs out of parents – in which case it returns `NULL` and flags an error.

All searches are done via calls to `H5SL_search()`

`H5P_poke()` allocates an instance of `H5P_prop_set_ud_t` (definition below)

```
/* Typedef for property list set/poke callbacks */
typedef struct {
    const void *value; /* Pointer to value to set */
} H5P_prop_set_ud_t;
```

and initializes the instance (`udata`) as follows:

```
udata.value = value;
```

This done, it calls

```
H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__poke_plist_cb, H5P__poke_pclass_cb, &udata)
```

and returns.

H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__poke_plist_cb, H5P__poke_pclass_cb, &udata) first searches `plist→del` for the specified name, and fails if it is found.

It then tries to find the named property in `dst_plist→props` via the call

```
prop = H5SL_search(dst_plist→props, name).
```

If successful, it calls

```
H5P__poke_plist_cb(plist, name, prop, udata)
```

and returns success or failure if this call succeeds or fails.

If this search fails, **H5P__do_prop()** searches the parent property list class(es) for the target property, and if successful calls:

```
H5P__poke_pclass_cb(dst_plist, name, prop, udata)
```

and again returns success or failure if this call succeeds or fails.

If the searches of the supplied property list and its parent property list class(es) fail, **H5P__do_prop()** returns failure.

H5P__poke_plist_cb() simply `memcpy`'s the supplied buffer (`udata→value`) into `prop→value` and returns.

After some sanity checks, **H5P__poke_pclass_cb()** calls

```
pcopy = H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)
```

to duplicate the named property, `memcpy()`s `udata.value` into `pcopy→value`, and then calls

```
H5P__add_prop(plist→props, pcopy)
```

to insert the modified property into plist before returning.

In this context, **H5P__dup_prop()** allocates a new instance of `H5P_genprop_t` (`pcopy`), copies the image of `*prop` into it, sets `pcopy→shared_name = TRUE`, duplicates the buffer pointed to by `prop→value` (if it exists) storing the address of the duplicate in `pcopy→value`, and returns the address of the new instance of `H5P_genprop_t`.

H5P__add_prop() simply calls `H5SL_insert()` to add `pcopy` to `plist→props`.

Multi-thread safety concerns:


```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLO
 *
 * \brief Encodes the property values in a property list into a binary
 *        buffer
 *
 * \plist_id
 * \param[out] buf    Buffer into which the property list will be encoded.
 *                    If the provided buffer is NULL, the size of the
 *                    buffer required is returned through \p nalloc; the
 *                    function does nothing more.
 * \param[out] nalloc The size of the required buffer
 * \fapl_id
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pencode2() encodes the property list \p plist_id into the
 *          binary buffer \p buf, according to the file format setting
 *          specified by the file access property list \p fapl_id.
 *
 *          If the required buffer size is unknown, \p buf can be passed
 *          in as NULL and the function will set the required buffer size
 *          in \p nalloc. The buffer can then be created and the property
 *          list encoded with a subsequent H5Pencode2() call.
 *
 *          If the buffer passed in is not big enough to hold the encoded
 *          properties, the H5Pencode2() call can be expected to fail with
 *          a segmentation fault.
 *
 *          The file access property list \p fapl_id is used to
 *          control the encoding via the \a libver_bounds property
 *          (see H5Pset_libver_bounds()). If the \a libver_bounds
 *          property is missing, H5Pencode2() proceeds as if the \a
 *          libver_bounds property were set to (#H5F_LIBVER_EARLIEST,
 *          #H5F_LIBVER_LATEST). (Functionally, H5Pencode1() is identical to
 *          H5Pencode2() with \a libver_bounds set to (#H5F_LIBVER_EARLIEST,
 *          #H5F_LIBVER_LATEST).)
 *          Properties that do not have encode callbacks will be skipped.
 *          There is currently no mechanism to register an encode callback for
 *          a user-defined property, so user-defined properties cannot
 *          currently be encoded.
 *
 *          Some properties cannot be encoded, particularly properties that
 *          are reliant on local context.
 *
 *          \b Motivation:
 *          This function was introduced in HDF5-1.12 as part of the \a H5Sencode
 *          format change to enable 64-bit selection encodings and a dataspace
 *          selection that is tied to a file.
 *
 * \since 1.12.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pencode2(hid_t plist_id, void *buf, size_t *nalloc, hid_t fapl_id);

H5Pencode2()
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5CX_set_apl()
| +- //
+-H5P__encode()
+-H5P__iterate_plist(plist, enc_all_prop, &idx, H5P__encode_cb, &udata)

```

```

+-H5SL_create()
| +- ...
|
| // Note different callback functions in two invocations
| // of H5SL_iterate().
|
+-H5SL_iterate(plist->props, H5P__iterate_plist_cb, &udata_int)
| |
| | // in this case - note that arg names have been changed
| | // for clarity
| +-H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
|   +-H5P__cmp_plist_cb(id, prop->name, udata)
|     +-H5P__exist_plist(udata->plist2, prop->name)
|       | +-H5SL_search()
|       | +- ...
|       +-H5P__find_prop_plist(udata->plist2, prop->name)
|         | +-H5SL_search()
|         | +- ...
|         +-H5P__encode_cb(prop, prop2)
|           +-HDstrlen()
|           +-HDstrcpy()
|           +-prop->encode(prop->value, udata->pp, &prop_value_len)
|           +- ??? // property specific
|
+-H5SL_iterate(plist->props, H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb, &udata_int)
| |
| | // in this case - note that arg names have been changed
| | // for clarity
| +-H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
|   +-H5SL_search()
|     | +- ...
|     +-H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
|       +-H5P__encode_cb(id, prop->name, udata)
|       +- // see above
|
+-H5SL_close()
+- ...

```

In a nutshell:

Encode the indicated property list in the supplied buffer, and return the number of bytes written to buf in *nalloc. If buf is NULL, *nalloc is set to the number of bytes required in buf.

In greater detail:

H5Pencode2() calls **H5I_object_verify()** to obtain a pointer (plist) to the target property list, and then calls

```
H5CX_set_apl(&fapl_id, H5P_CLS_FACC, H5I_INVALID_HID, TRUE)
```

to setup the context – in particular to make the FAPL available to the next call. This done, **H5Pencode2()** calls

```
H5P__encode(plist, TRUE, buf, nalloc)
```

and returns the result.

Note: there appears to be no mechanism to use **nalloc* to detect or prevent buffer overruns when *buf* is not NULL.

After some sanity checking, **H5P__encode()** tests to see if the *buf* parameter is NULL. If it is, it sets the local *encode* variable to FALSE. Otherwise, *encode* is TRUE. Similarly, it sets the local variable *p* equal to *buf*. *p* is used to point to the next location to write in *buf*.

If *encode* is TRUE, **H5P__encode** sets the first two bytes of *buf* equal to **H5P_ENCODE_VERS** and the type of the property list to be encoded, and updates *p* accordingly. Regardless of the value of *encode*, the local variable *encode_size* (used to accumulate the number of bytes written / required in the buffer) is set to 2

It then initializes *udata*, an instance of **H5P_enc_iter_ud_t** (definition below)

```
/* Typedef for iterator when encoding a property list */
typedef struct {
    hbool_t encode;          /* Whether the property list should be encoded */
    size_t *enc_size_ptr;    /* Pointer to size of encoded buffer */
    // Note: the above comment is inaccurate
    // in this case. *enc_size_ptr is used to
    // accumulate the number of bytes that are
    // (or would be) written to the buffer.
    void ** pp;              /* Pointer to encoding buffer pointer */
} H5P_enc_iter_ud_t;
```

as follows

```
/* Initialize user data for iteration callback */
udata.encode      = encode;
udata.enc_size_ptr = &encode_size;
udata.pp          = (void **) &p;
```

H5P__encode() next sets the local variable *idx* equal to zero and calls

```
H5P__iterate_plist(plist, TRUE, &idx, H5P__encode_cb, &udata)
```

to encode the properties in *plist*. After **H5P__iterate_plist()** returns, it sets the last byte in the buffer to zero. As mentioned above, the number of bytes either written to the buffer (if *encode* is TRUE) or that would be written (if *encode* is FALSE) is maintained in the local variable *encode_size*. Just before **H5P__encode()** returns, it sets **nalloc* = *encode_size*.

H5P__iterate_plist() first creates the “seen” skip list that is used to track the names of properties that have already been seen in the scan of the properties. It then initializes `udata_int`, which is an instance of `H5P_iter_plist_ud_t` (definition below)

```
/* Typedef for property list iterator callback */
typedef struct {
    H5P_iterate_int_t    cb_func;      /* Iterator callback */
    void *               udata;        /* Iterator callback pointer */
    const H5P_genplist_t *plist;       /* Property list pointer */
    H5SL_t *             seen;         /* Skip list to hold names of
                                       properties already seen */
    int *                curr_idx_ptr; /* Pointer to current iteration
                                       index */
    int                  prev_idx;     /* Previous iteration index */
} H5P_iter_plist_ud_t;
```

as follows:

```
/* Set up iterator callback info */
udata_int.plist      = plist;
udata_int.cb_func    = cb_func; // H5P__encode_cb() in this case
udata_int.udata      = udata;   // the udata initialized by H5P__encode()
udata_int.seen       = seen;
udata_int.curr_idx_ptr = &curr_idx; // curr_idx is a local integer
                                       // that is initialized to zero
udata_int.prev_idx    = *idx;    // *idx is zero in this case
```

This done, `H5P__iterate_plist()` calls

```
H5SL_iterate(plist->props, H5P__iterate_plist_cb, &udata_int)
```

After this call returns, `H5P__iterate_plist()` tests to see if the `iter_all_prop` parameter is `TRUE` (which it is in this case). If it is, the function scans the property list(s) of the parent property list class(es) starting with `plist->parent->props` via the calls

```
H5SL_iterate(tclass->props, H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb, &udata_int)
```

where `tclass` is the parent property list class currently under scan. Note that it breaks out of this scan of the parent property list class(es) if an error is return by `H5SL_iterate()`.

Before returning, `H5P__iterate_plist()` sets `*idx` equal to `*(udata_int.curr_idx)` and frees the “seen” skip list.

H5SL_iterate() simply walks the skip list, calling the supplied call back function on the contents of each node until it either reaches the end of the list, or the supplied callback returns a non-zero value. In this case, it calls either

```
H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

or

```
H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

depending on which invocation in `H5P__iterate_plist()` we are looking at. Here, `prop` is a pointer to the instance of `H5P_getprop_t`, and `name` is the name of the property pointed to by `prop`.

After some sanity checks, **`H5P__iterate_plist_cb()`** tests to see if

```
*(udata_int->curr_idx_ptr) >= udata_int->prev_idx
```

if it is, `H5P__iterate_plist_cb()` calls:

```
ret_value = (*udata_int->cb_func)(prop, udata_int->udata)
```

or, in this case

```
ret_value = H5P__encode_cb(prop, udata_int->udata)
```

If the above test is false, or if `ret_value` is non-zero, `H5P__iterate_plist_cb()` increments `*(udata_int->cur_idx_ptr)` and adds `name` to the “seen” skip list (`udata_int->seen`) prior to returning.

In reading the above, recall that `udata->prev_idx` is zero in this case, thus the effect is to call `H5P__encode_cb()` on each property in the target property list.

Finally, note that `udata_int->udata` is (in this case) the instance of `H5P_enc_iter_ud_t` allocated on the stack of `H5P__encode()` and initialized by that function.

If `prop->encode` is NULL, **`H5P__encode_cb()`** is a NO-OP.

Otherwise, `H5P__encode_cb()` calls `strlen()` to determine the length of the name of the supplied property. If `udata->encode` is TRUE, the function calls `strcpy()` to copy the property name into the buffer starting at `udata->pp`, and updates `*(udata->pp)` to point to the next available byte in the buffer. Regardless of the value of `udata->encode`, it also adds the length of property name to `*(udata->enc_size_ptr)`.

Also regardless of the value of `udata->encode`, `H5P__encode_cb()` sets the local variable `prop_value_len = 0`, calls

```
(prop->encode)(prop->value, udata->pp, &prop_value_len)
```

adds `prop_value_len` to `*(udata→enc_size_ptr)` and returns.

Note: This unconditional call to `prop→encode()` implies that encode functions will not write to a NULL, and will update `*(udata→pp)` if it is not NULL. Further, the decode code makes the assumption that value length is `prop→size`. When this is not the case, it seems that the encode and decode functions must conceal this.

Backing up a bit, **`H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb()`** first checks to see if the supplied name is in either the “seen” skip list (`udata_int→seen`) or the properties deleted skip list (`prop→del`). If it isn’t, `H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb()` calls

```
ret_value = H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

and returns `ret_value`. See above for a discussion of `H5P__iterate_plist_cb`.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Compares two property lists or classes for equality
 *
 * \param[in] id1 First property object to be compared
 * \param[in] id2 Second property object to be compared
 *
 * \return \htri_t
 *
 * \details H5Pequal() compares two property lists or classes to determine
 *          whether they are equal to one another.
 *
 *          Either both \p id1 and \p id2 must be property lists or both
 *          must be classes; comparing a list to a class is an error.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL htri_t H5Pequal(hid_t id1, hid_t id2);

H5Pequal()
+-H5I_get_type()
| +- ...
+-H5I_object()
| +- ...
|
| // parameter names have been changed for clarity
+-H5P__cmp_plist(plist1, plist2, &cmp_ret) // if plists
| +-H5P__iterate_plist(plist1, TRUE, &idx, H5P__cmp_plist_cb, &udata)
| | +-H5SL_create()
| | | +- ...
| | |
| | | // Note different callback functions in two invocations
| | | // of H5SL_iterate().
| | |
| | +-H5SL_iterate(plist->props, H5P__iterate_plist_cb, &udata_int)
| | |
| | | // in this case - note that arg names have been changed for clarity
| | | +-H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
| | |   +-H5P__cmp_plist_cb(id, prop->name, udata)
| | |     +-H5P__exist_plist(udata->plist2, prop->name)
| | |       | +-H5SL_search()
| | |       | +- ...
| | |       +-H5P__find_prop_plist(udata->plist2, prop->name)
| | |       | +-H5SL_search()
| | |       | +- ...
| | |       +-H5P__cmp_prop(prop, prop2)
| | |         +-prop->cmp(prop->value, prop2->value, prop->size)
| | |         +- ??? // property specific
| | |
| | +-H5SL_iterate(plist->props, H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb, &udata_int)
| | |
| | | // in this case - note that arg names have been changed for clarity
| | | +-H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
| | |   +-H5SL_search()
| | |   | +- ...
| | |   +-H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
| | |     +-H5P__cmp_plist_cb(id, prop->name, udata)
| | |     +- // see above

```

```

| | |
| | +-H5SL_close()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__cmp_class(plist1->pclass, plist2->pclass)
| +-strcmp()
| +-H5SL_first()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_item()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__cmp_prop()
| | +- // see above
| +-H5SL_next()
| | +- ...
|
| // parameter names have been changed for clarity
+-H5P__cmp_class(pclass1, pclass2)
+- // see above

```

In a nutshell:

Compare two property list or two property list classes and return TRUE if they are identical, and FALSE otherwise.

In greater detail:

H5Pequal() first verifies that either both the supplied ids refer to property list classes, or both refer to property lists. It flags an error and returns if this is not the case.

It then calls `H5I_object()` to obtain pointers to both property lists or property list classes, and in passing verifies that both exist.

If both of the supplied ids refer to property lists, it calls

```
H5P__cmp_plist(plist1, plist2, &cmp_ret)
```

sets `ret_value` to TRUE `*cmp_ret = 0`, and FALSE otherwise and then returns.

Alternatively, if both of the supplied ids refer to property list classes, `H5Pequal()` calls

```
H5P__cmp_class(pclass1, pclass2)
```

and then returns TRUE if that function returns 0, and FALSE otherwise.

PROPERTY LIST CASE:

H5P__cmp_plist() first checks to see if `plist1->nprops` is either greater than or less than `plist2->nprops`, sets `*cmp_ret` to either +1 or -1 if this is the case and returns SUCCEED.

If the nprops fields are equal, it checks to see if plist1→class_init is either greater than or less than plist2→class_init, again setting *cmp_ret to either +1 or -1 and returning SUCCEED if this is the case.

If neither of these tests demonstrate inequality, H5P__cmp_plist initializes udata, an instance of H5P_plist_cmp_ud_t (definition below)

```
/* Typedef for property list comparison callback */
typedef struct {
    const H5P_genplist_t *plist2;    /* Pointer to second property list */
    int cmp_value; /* Value from property comparison */
} H5P_plist_cmp_ud_t;
```

as follows:

```
/* Set up iterator callback info */
udata.cmp_value = 0;
udata.plist2    = plist2;
```

This done, H5P__cmp_plist() calls

```
ret_value = H5P__iterate_plist(plist1, TRUE, &idx,
                               H5P__cmp_plist_cb, &udata)
```

Here, idx is a local integer that is initialized to zero.

If ret_value is negative, H5P__cmp_plist() flags an error and returns. If ret_value is positive, it sets *cmp_ret = udata.cmp_value. Otherwise, it calls

```
*cmp_ret = H5P__cmp_class(plist1->pclass, plist2->pclass)
```

and returns SUCCEED if cmp_ret is non-zero.

Finally, if none of these tests have demonstrated inequality, it sets *cmp_ret = 0 and returns SUCCEED.

H5P__iterate_plist() is discussed in detail in the description of H5Piterate() below. Thus, only a brief outline that highlights the differences is shown here, and the reader is directed to H5Piterate() for further details.

The only significant difference between the calls to H5P__iterate_plist() here and in H5Piterate() are the call back and udata parameters, which are reflected in the initialization of udata_int as shown below:

```
/* Set up iterator callback info */
udata_int.plist    = plist1;
```

```

udata_int.cb_func      = cb_func;    // H5P__cmp_plist_cb() in this case
udata_int.udata        = udata;      // the udata initialized by
                                     // H5P__cmp_plist()
udata_int.seen         = seen;
udata_int.curr_idx_ptr = &curr_idx;  // curr_idx is a local integer
                                     // that is initialized to zero
udata_int.prev_idx     = *idx;

```

While these differences have no effect on the processing of `H5P__iterate_plist()` proper, they become key further down the calling tree.

This initialization done, `H5P__iterate_plist` calls:

```
ret_value = H5SL_iterate(plist1->props, H5P__iterate_plist_cb, &udata_int)
```

to scan the `plist1->props`, and, if `H5SL_iterate()` returns zero (indicating no differences found in this case) and if the `iter_all_props` parameter is `TRUE` (which it is in this case) it goes on to scan the property lists of the parent property list classes via (possibly) repeated calls to:

```
ret_value = H5SL_iterate(tclass->props, H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb,
                        &udata_int)
```

where `tclass` is the parent property list class currently being scanned. `H5P__iterate_plist()` breaks out of the scan and returns if `ret_value` is non-zero – which indicates (in this case) that either an error or a difference has been found.

`H5SL_iterate()` simply walks the skip list, calling the supplied call back function on the contents of each node until it either reaches the end of the list, or the supplied callback returns a non-zero value. In this case, it calls either

```
H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

or

```
H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

depending on which invocation in `H5P__iterate_plist()` we are looking at. Here, `prop` is a pointer to the instance of `H5P_getprop_t`, and `name` is the name of the property pointed to by `prop`.

`H5P__iterate_plist_cb()` is also discussed under `H5Piterate()`, and the reader is directed there for a detailed discussion. In this context, `H5P__iterate_plist_cb()` simply calls:

```
ret_value = (*udata_int->cb_func)(prop, udata_int->udata)
```

or, in this case

```
ret_value = H5P__cmp_plist_cb(prop, udata_int→udata)
```

and returns `ret_value`. Other than maintaining the “seen” skip list, the remaining processing of the function is irrelevant to property list comparison.

H5P__cmp_plist_cb() starts by calling

```
prop2_exist = H5P_exist_plist(udata→plist2, prop→name)
```

to see whether `plist2` contains a property of the same name as the target property.

If `prop2_exist` is TRUE, **H5P__cmp_plist_cb()** calls

```
prop2 = H5P__find_prop_plist(udata→plist2, prop→name)
```

to obtain a pointer to the target property in `plist2`, and then calls

```
udata→cmp_value = H5P__cmp_prop(prop, prop2)
```

to compare the two properties. If `udata→cmp_value` is not zero, **H5P__cmp_plist_cb()** returns `H5_ITER_STOP`.

If `prop2_exist` is FALSE, **H5P__cmp_plist_cb()** sets `udata→cmp_value` to 1 and again returns `H5_ITER_STOP`.

H5P_exist_plist() first searches for the supplied property name in the deleted list (`plist→del`), and returns FALSE if this search is successful.

It then searches `plist→props`, returning TRUE if this search succeeds.

If the search of `plist→props` fails, it searches the parent property list class(es), starting with `plist→pclass→props` and works its way up until either the search succeeds – in which case it returns TRUE – or it runs out of parent property list classes – in which case it returns FALSE.

All searches are done via calls to **H5SL_search()**.

H5P__find_prop_plist() is essentially the same as **H5P_exist_plist()**, save that it returns a pointer to the target property on success, and flags an error if either the target property has been deleted or if the search fails.

H5P__cmp_prop() does a field by field comparison of the two instances of `H5P_genprop_t` pointed to by the `prop1` and `prop2` parameters. The names are compared via `strcmp()` and the values via the `cmp` call back. The function returns zero if all fields are identical, and either +1 or -1 if a difference is detected.

Backing up a bit, **H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb()** first checks to see if the supplied name is in either the “seen” skip list (`udata_int→seen`) or in the properties deleted skip list (`prop→del`). If it isn’t, `H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb()` calls

```
ret_value = H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

and returns `ret_value`. See above for a discussion of `H5P__iterate_plist_cb`.

Backing up even further, **H5P__cmp_class()**, compares the supplied instances of `H5P_genclass_t`. If the revision fields match, the function assumes that the rest of the structures are identical, and returns zero.

Otherwise, `H5P__cmp_class()` does a field by field comparison of the instances of `H5P_genclass_t` (Note that parent fields are not compared). Names are compared via `strcmp()`. The contents of the property lists are compared by stepping through both property lists entry by entry, and calling `H5P__cmp_prop()` to compare the properties. Since skip lists sort their entries, this test appears to be correct.

`H5P__cmp_class()` returns zero if no differences are found, and either +1 or -1 otherwise.

PROPERTY LIST CLASS CASE:

The property list class case is handled by a call to `H5P__cmp_class()` – see above.

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Queries whether a property name exists in a property list or
 *        class
 *
 * \param[in] plist_id  Identifier for the property list or class to query
 * \param[in] name      Name of property to check for
 *
 * \return \htri_t
 *
 * \details H5Pexist() determines whether a property exists within a
 *          property list or class.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL htri_t H5Pexist(hid_t plist_id, const char *name);

H5Pexist(id, name)
+-H5I_get_type()
| +- ...
+-H5I_object()
| +- ...
+-H5P_exist_plist()
| +-H5SL_search()
| +- ...
+-H5P__exist_pclass()
+-H5SL_search()
+- ...

```

In a nutshell:

Search for a property of the specified name in the property list or property list class associated with the supplied ID. Return TRUE if such a property exist, and FALSE otherwise.

In greater detail:

H5Pexists() first calls `H5I_get_type()` to verify that the supplied id refers to either a property list or a property list class. It then calls `H5I_object()` to get a pointer to the property list or class.

If it is property list, it calls `H5P_exist_plist(plist, name)` and returns the result.

If it is a property list class, it calls `H5P__exist_pclass(pclass, name)` and again returns the result.

H5P_exist_plist(plist, name), first searches `plist→del` for the target name and returns FALSE if the search succeeds.

Failing that, it searches `plist→props` for a property of the supplied name, and returns TRUE if the search succeeds.

Failing that, it searches the property list classes of its parent property list class(es), starting with `plist→parent→props`, and then works its way up the list of parents until it either finds a property of the supplied name – in which case it returns TRUE, or it runs out of parents – in which case it returns FALSE.

All searches are done via calls to `H5SL_search()`

H5P__exist_pclass(pclass_name) first searches `pclass→props` for a property of the supplied name, and returns TRUE if the search succeeds.

Failing that, it searches the property lists of its parent property list class(es), starting with `pclass→parent→props`, and then works its way up the list of parents until it either finds a property of the supplied name – in which case it returns TRUE, or it runs out of parents – in which case it returns FALSE.

Again, all searches are done via calls to `H5SL_search()`.

Thread safety concerns:

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Queries the value of a property
 *
 * \plist_id
 * \param[in]  name  Name of property to query
 * \param[out] value Pointer to a location to which to copy the value of
 *                  the property
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pget() retrieves a copy of the value for a property in a
 *          property list. If there is a \p get callback routine registered
 *          for this property, the copy of the value of the property will
 *          first be passed to that routine and any changes to the copy of
 *          the value will be used when returning the property value from
 *          this routine.
 *
 *          This routine may be called for zero-sized properties with the
 *          \p value set to NULL. The \p get routine will be called with
 *          a NULL value if the callback exists.
 *
 *          The property name must exist or this routine will fail.
 *
 *          If the \p get callback routine returns an error, \ value will
 *          not be modified.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pget(hid_t plist_id, const char *name, void *value);

H5Pget()
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5P_get()
+-H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__get_cb, H5P__get_cb, &udata)
+-H5SL_search()
| +- ...
| // In this case, the same callback is provided for both the
| // plist_op and pclass_op parameters - hence simplifying the
| // call tree in this case.
+-H5P__get_cb(plist, name, prop, udata)
+-H5MM_malloc()
+-H5MM_memcpy()
+-(* (prop->get)) (plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, tmp_value)
+- ...

```

In a nutshell:

Lookup the named property in the specified property list and copy its value into the supplied buffer.

In greater detail:

H5Pget() validates input, calls `H5I_object_verify()` to obtain a pointer (plist) to the supplied property, calls

```
H5P_get(plist, name, value)
```

and returns success or failure depending on the result.

`H5P_get()` is essentially a pass through. It sets `udata.value = value` (here, `udata` is an instance of `H5P_prop_get_ud_t`), calls

```
H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__get_cb, H5P__get_cb, &udata)
```

and returns success or failure depending on its result.

In this context, **H5P__do_prop()** first searches `plist→del` to see if the target property has already been deleted – and flags an error if it has been.

It then tries to find the named property, first in `plist→props` via the call

```
prop = H5SL_search(dst_plist→props, name),
```

and if that is unsuccessful, via similar calls on the `props` fields of the parent property list class(es) starting with `plist→parent`, and working its way up.

If `H5P__do_prop()` is unable to find the target property, the function returns failure.

If it succeeds, it calls

```
H5P__get_cb(dst_plist, name, prop, udata)
```

and returns success or failure depending on whether this call succeeds or fails.

Conceptually, **H5P__get_cb()** copies the value of the target property into the supplied buffer `*(udata→value)`. If the property has a get callback, it calls it on this buffer before returning it to the caller.

The actual implementation is a bit more complex, as outlined below.

`H5P__get_cb()` first verifies that `prop→size > 0`, and fails if this is not the case.

Note that this disagrees with the user documentation that states “This routine may be called for zero-sized properties with the value set to NULL. The get routine will be called with a NULL value if the callback exists.” As H5Pget() will also fail if the value parameter is NULL, this appears to be a documentation bug (at best).

H5P__get_cb() then checks to see if prop→get is NULL.

If it is, H5P__get_cb() simply calls

```
H5MM_memcpy(udata->value, prop->value, prop->size)
```

and returns. If the get callback is defined, H5P__get_cb() duplicates prop→value and saves the duplicate’s address in tmp_value. It then calls

```
(* (prop->get)) (plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, tmp_value)
```

on the duplicate, copies *tmp_value into *value via

```
H5MM_memcpy(udata->value, tmp_value, prop->size)
```

discards *tmp_value, and returns. The comments suggest that this done to avoid corrupting prop→value if prop→get fails.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

```

/**
*\ingroup GPLO
*
* \brief Returns the property list class identifier for a property list
*
* \plist_id
*
* \return \hid_t{property list class}
*
* \details H5Pget_class() returns the property list class identifier for
*          the property list identified by the \p plist_id parameter.
*
*          Note that H5Pget_class() returns a value of #hid_t type, an
*          internal HDF5 identifier, rather than directly returning a
*          property list class. That identifier can then be used with
*          either H5Pequal() or H5Pget_class_name() to determine which
*          predefined HDF5 property list class H5Pget_class() has returned.
*
*          A full list of valid predefined property list classes appears
*          in the description of H5Pcreate().
*
*          Determining the HDF5 property list class name with H5Pequal()
*          requires a series of H5Pequal() calls in an if-else sequence.
*          An iterative sequence of H5Pequal() calls can compare the
*          identifier returned by H5Pget_class() to members of the list of
*          valid property list class names. A pseudo-code snippet might
*          read as follows:
*
*          \code
*          plist_class_id = H5Pget_class (dsetA_plist);
*
*          if H5Pequal (plist_class_id, H5P_OBJECT_CREATE) = TRUE;
*              [ H5P_OBJECT_CREATE is the property list class      ]
*              [ returned by H5Pget_class.                          ]
*
*          else if H5Pequal (plist_class_id, H5P_DATASET_CREATE) = TRUE;
*              [ H5P_DATASET_CREATE is the property list class.    ]
*
*          else if H5Pequal (plist_class_id, H5P_DATASET_XFER) = TRUE;
*              [ H5P_DATASET_XFER is the property list class.      ]
*
*          .
*          .   [ Continuing the iteration until a match is found. ]
*          .
*          \endcode
*
*          H5Pget_class_name() returns the property list class name directly
*          as a string:
*
*          \code
*          plist_class_id = H5Pget_class (dsetA_plist);
*          plist_class_name = H5Pget_class_name (plist_class_id)
*          \endcode
*
*          Note that frequent use of H5Pget_class_name() can become a
*          performance problem in a high-performance environment. The
*          H5Pequal() approach is generally much faster.
*
* \version 1.6.0 Return type changed in this release.
* \since 1.0.0
*

```

```

*/
H5_DLL hid_t H5Pget_class(hid_t plist_id);

H5Pget_class(plist_id)
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5P_get_class(plist)
| +-
+-H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_INC_REF)
| +-H5MM_xfree()
| +-H5SL_destroy()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS)
| +- // see above
+-H5I_register(H5I_GENPROP_CLS, pclass, TRUE)
| +-
+-H5P__close_class() // error cleanup
+-H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_REF)
+- // see above

```

In a nutshell:

Return an id that maps to the property list class from which the supplied property list was derived.

In greater detail:

H5Pget_class() first calls **H5I_object_verify** to obtain a pointer to the target property list (plist). It then calls **H5P_get_class()** to obtain a pointer to the target property list's parent property list class (pclass = plist→pclass).

This done, **H5Pget_class()** calls **H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_INC_REF)**. This has the effect of setting pclass→deleted back to FALSE if it was TRUE, and incrementing pclass→ref_count.

H5Pget_class() then calls **H5I_register()** to insert the property list class into the index.

Note that can result in a given property list class having multiple ids in the index. Further, if the parent property list class has been modified since plist was created, this will cause the previous version of the property list class to be inserted into the index – resulting in multiple property list classes of the same name but different structure.

This behavior is not discussed in the user documentation.

If **H5I_register()** fails, **H5Pget_class()** calls **H5P__close_class(pclass)** to undo the prior call to **H5P__access_class()**.

Thread safety concerns:


```

*      <td> </td>
*      <td>H5P_DATATYPE_CREATE</td>
*      <td>This class can be created, but there
*      are no properties in the class currently.</td>
*  </tr>
*  <tr>
*      <td>file access</td>
*      <td>fapl</td>
*      <td>File Access Property List</td>
*      <td>H5P_FILE_ACCESS</td>
*      <td> </td>
*  </tr>
*  <tr>
*      <td>file create</td>
*      <td>fcpl</td>
*      <td>File Creation Property List</td>
*      <td>H5P_FILE_CREATE</td>
*      <td> </td>
*  </tr>
*  <tr>
*      <td>file mount</td>
*      <td>fmpl</td>
*      <td>File Mount Property List</td>
*      <td>H5P_FILE_MOUNT</td>
*      <td> </td>
*  </tr>
*  <tr>
*      <td>group access</td>
*      <td> </td>
*      <td> </td>
*      <td>H5P_GROUP_ACCESS</td>
*      <td>This class can be created, but there
*      are no properties in the class currently.</td>
*  </tr>
*  <tr>
*      <td>group create</td>
*      <td>gcpl</td>
*      <td>Group Creation Property List</td>
*      <td>H5P_GROUP_CREATE</td>
*      <td> </td>
*  </tr>
*  <tr>
*      <td>link access</td>
*      <td>lapl</td>
*      <td>Link Access Property List</td>
*      <td>H5P_LINK_ACCESS</td>
*      <td> </td>
*  </tr>
*  <tr>
*      <td>link create</td>
*      <td>lcpl</td>
*      <td>Link Creation Property List</td>
*      <td>H5P_LINK_CREATE</td>
*      <td> </td>
*  </tr>
*  <tr>
*      <td>object copy</td>
*      <td>ocpypl</td>
*      <td>Object Copy Property List</td>
*      <td>H5P_OBJECT_COPY</td>
*      <td> </td>
*  </tr>
*  <tr>

```

```

*         <td>object create</td>
*         <td>ocpl</td>
*         <td>Object Creation Property List</td>
*         <td>H5P_OBJECT_CREATE</td>
*         <td> </td>
*     </tr>
*     <tr>
*         <td>string create</td>
*         <td>strcpl</td>
*         <td>String Creation Property List</td>
*         <td>H5P_STRING_CREATE</td>
*         <td> </td>
*     </tr>
* </table>
*
* \since 1.4.0
*
*/
H5_DLL char *H5Pget_class_name(hid_t pclass_id);

H5Pget_class_name(pclass_id)
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5P_get_class_name(pclass)
+-H5MM_xstrdup(pclass->name)

```

In a nutshell:

Look up the indicated property list class, allocate a string of appropriate length, copy the class's name into the new string, and return a pointer to it.

In greater detail:

Later

Multi-thread safety concerns:

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Retrieves the parent class of a property class
 *
 * \plistcls_id{pclass_id}
 *
 * \return \hid_t{parent class object}
 *
 * \details H5Pget_class_parent() retrieves an identifier for the parent
 *          class of a property class.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL hid_t H5Pget_class_parent(hid_t pclass_id);

H5Pget_class_parent(pclass_id)
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5P_get_class_parent(pclass)
| +-
+-H5P__access_class(parent, H5P_MOD_INC_REF)
| +-H5MM_xfree()
| +-H5SL_destroy()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS)
| +- // see above
+-H5I_register(H5I_GENPROP_CLS, pclass, TRUE)
| +-
+-H5P__close_class() // error cleanup
+-H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_REF)
+- // see above

```

In a nutshell:

Return an id that maps to the property list class from which the supplied property list class was derived.

In greater detail:

H5Pget_class_parent() first calls `H5I_object_verify` to obtain a pointer to the target property list class (`pclass`). It then calls `H5P_get_class_parent()` to obtain a pointer to the target property list class's parent property list class (`parent = pclass→parent`).

This done, `H5Pget_class_parent()` calls `H5P__access_class(parent, H5P_MOD_INC_REF)`. This has the effect of setting `parent→deleted` back to `FALSE` if it was `TRUE`, and incrementing `parent→ref_count`.

`H5Pget_class()` then calls `H5I_register()` to insert the parent property list class into the index.

Note that can result in a given property list class having multiple ids in the index. Further, if the parent property list class has been modified since pclass was created, this will cause the previous version of the property list class to be inserted into the index – resulting in multiple property list classes of the same name but different structure.

This behavior is not discussed in the user documentation.

If H5I_register() fails, H5Pget_classparent() calls H5P__close_class(pclass) to undo the prior call to H5P__access_class().

Thread safety concerns:

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Queries the number of properties in a property list or class
 *
 * \param[in] id Identifier for property object to query
 * \param[out] nprops Number of properties in object
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pget_nprops() retrieves the number of properties in a
 *          property list or property list class.
 *
 *          If \p id is a property list identifier, the current number of
 *          properties in the list is returned in \p nprops.
 *
 *          If \p id is a property list class identifier, the number of
 *          registered properties in the class is returned in \p nprops.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pget_nprops(hid_t id, size_t *nprops);

H5Pget_nprops()
+-H5I_get_type()
+-H5I_object()
| +- ...
+-H5P__get_nprops_plist(plist, nprops)
|
+-H5P_get_nprops_pclass(pclass, nprops, FALSE)

```

In a nutshell:

Given the id of a property list or a property list class, return the number of properties in same. In the case of property list classes, this is just the number of properties defined in the target property list class, and does not include properties defined in its parents.

In greater detail:

After verifying that the supplied id refers to either a property list, or a property list class, and that the target property list or property list class actually exists, **H5Pget_nprops()** first calls either **H5P__get_nprops_plist()** or **H5P_get_nprops_pclass()** to obtain the number of properties in the target, and returns this value in **nprops*.

H5P__get_nprops_plist() simply sets **nprops* = *plist*→*nprops* and returns.

If its “recurse” parameter is FALSE (as it is in this case) **H5P_get_nprops_pclass()** also just sets **nprops* = *pclass*→*nprops*. However, if “recurse” is TRUE, it also walks the list of parent of *pclass*, and returns the sum of the *nprops* fields of *pclass* and all of its parents.

Thread safety concerns:

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Queries the size of a property value in bytes
 *
 * \param[in] id Identifier of property object to query
 * \param[in] name Name of property to query
 * \param[out] size Size of property in bytes
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pget_size() retrieves the size of a property's value in
 *          bytes. This function operates on both property lists and
 *          property classes.
 *
 *          Zero-sized properties are allowed and return 0.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pget_size(hid_t id, const char *name, size_t *size);

H5Pget_size()
+-H5I_get_type(id)
| +- ...
+-H5I_get_object(id)
| +- ...
+-H5P__get_size_plist(plist, name, size)
| +-H5P__find_prop_plist(plist, name)
| +-H5SL_search()
| +- ...
+-H5P__get_size_pclass(pclass, name, size)
+-H5P__find_prop_pclass(pclass, name)
+-H5SL_search()
+- ...

```

In a nutshell:

Look up the named property in the property list or property list class associated with the supplied id, and return the size of the value of the property in *size.

In greater detail:

After verifying that the supplied id refers to either a property list class or a property list, **H5Pget_size()** verifies that the target property list class or property list exists, and then calls either

```
H5P__get_size_plist(plist, name, size)
```

or

```
H5P__get_size_pclass(pclass, name, size)
```

to load the size of the target properties value in *size, and returns.

H5P__get_size_plist() calls

```
prop = H5P__find_prop_plist(plist, name)
```

to obtain a pointer to the target property. If this is successful, it sets *size = prop→size and returns.

H5P__find_prop_plist() first searches the deleted list (prop→del) for the supplied name, and flags an error and returns if the search is successful.

Failing that, it searches plist→props for a property of the supplied name, and returns a pointer to the target instance of H5P_genprop_t if the search succeeds.

Failing that, it searches the property lists of its parent property list class(es), starting with plist→parent→props, and then up the list of parents until it either finds a property of the supplied name – in which case it returns a pointer to the target instance of H5P_genprop_t, or it runs out of parents – in which case it returns NULL and flags an error.

All searches are done via calls to H5SL_search()

H5P__get_size_pclass() calls

```
prop = H5P__find_prop_pclass(pclass, name)
```

to obtain a pointer to the target property. If this is successful, it sets *size = prop→size and returns.

H5P__find_prop_pclass() searches its property list (pclass→props) via a call to H5SL_search() for a property of the supplied name, and returns a pointer to the target instance of H5P_genprop_t if successful. If the search fails, it flags an error and returns NULL.

Note that H5P__find_prop_pclass() does not search the property lists of its parent property list class(es) for the target property if it doesn't exist in pclass→props. This makes H5Pset_size() incongruent with similar calls and is probably a bug.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Registers a temporary property with a property list
 *
 * \plist_id
 * \param[in] name      Name of property to create
 * \param[in] size      Size of property in bytes
 * \param[in] value      Initial value for the property
 * \param[in] set        Callback routine called before a new value is copied
 *                       into the property's value
 * \param[in] get        Callback routine called when a property value is
 *                       retrieved from the property
 * \param[in] prp_del    Callback routine called when a property is deleted
 *                       from a property list
 * \param[in] copy       Callback routine called when a property is copied
 *                       from an existing property list
 * \param[in] compare    Callback routine called when a property is compared
 *                       with another property list
 * \param[in] close      Callback routine called when a property list is
 *                       being closed and the property value will be disposed
 *                       of
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pinsert2() creates a new property in a property
 *          list. The property will exist only in this property list and
 *          copies made from it.
 *
 *          The initial property value must be provided in \p value and
 *          the property value will be set accordingly.
 *
 *          The name of the property must not already exist in this list,
 *          or this routine will fail.
 *
 *          The \p set and \p get callback routines may be set to NULL
 *          if they are not needed.
 *
 *          Zero-sized properties are allowed and do not store any data
 *          in the property list. The default value of a zero-size
 *          property may be set to NULL. They may be used to indicate the
 *          presence or absence of a particular piece of information.
 *
 *          The \p set routine is called before a new value is copied
 *          into the property. The #H5P_prp_set_func_t callback function
 *          is defined as follows:
 *          \snippet this H5P_prp_cb2_t_snip
 *
 *          The parameters to the callback function are defined as follows:
 *          <table>
 *          <tr>
 *          <td>\ref hid_t \c prop_id</td>
 *          <td>IN: The identifier of the property list being
 *              modified</td>
 *          </tr>
 *          <tr>
 *          <td>\Code{const char * name}</td>
 *          <td>IN: The name of the property being modified</td>
 *          </tr>
 *          <tr>
 *          <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>

```

```

*      <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\Code{void * value}</td>
*      <td>IN: Pointer to new value pointer for the property
*        being modified</td>
*    </tr>
*  </table>
*
*  The \p set routine may modify the value pointer to be set and
*  those changes will be used when setting the property's value.
*  If the \p set routine returns a negative value, the new property
*  value is not copied into the property and the \p set routine
*  returns an error value. The \p set routine will be called for
*  the initial value.
*
*  \b Note: The \p set callback function may be useful to range
*  check the value being set for the property or may perform some
*  transformation or translation of the value set. The \p get
*  callback would then reverse the transformation or translation.
*  A single \p get or \p set callback could handle multiple
*  properties by performing different actions based on the
*  property name or other properties in the property list.
*
*  The \p get routine is called when a value is retrieved from
*  a property value. The #H5P_prp_get_func_t callback function
*  is defined as follows:
*
*  \snippet this H5P_prp_cb2_t_snip
*
*  The parameters to the above callback function are:
*
*  <table>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\ref hid_t \c prop_id</td>
*      <td>IN: The identifier of the property list being queried</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\Code{const char * name}</td>
*      <td>IN: The name of the property being queried</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>
*      <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\Code{void * value}</td>
*      <td>IN: The value of the property being returned</td>
*    </tr>
*  </table>
*
*  The \p get routine may modify the value to be returned from
*  the query and those changes will be preserved. If the \p get
*  routine returns a negative value, the query routine returns
*  an error value.
*
*  The \p prp_del routine is called when a property is being
*  deleted from a property list. The #H5P_prp_delete_func_t
*  callback function is defined as follows:
*
*  \snippet this H5P_prp_cb2_t_snip
*
*  The parameters to the above callback function are:

```

```

*
*
* <table>
*   <tr>
*     <td>\ref hid_t \c prop_id</td>
*     <td>IN: The identifier of the property list the property is
*       being deleted from</td>
*   </tr>
*   <tr>
*     <td>\Code{const char * name}</td>
*     <td>IN: The name of the property in the list</td>
*   </tr>
*   <tr>
*     <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>
*     <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*   </tr>
*   <tr>
*     <td>\Code{void * value}</td>
*     <td>IN: The value for the property being deleted</td>
*   </tr>
* </table>

```

The \p prp_del routine may modify the value passed in, but the value is not used by the library when the \p prp_del routine returns. If the \p prp_del routine returns a negative value, the property list \p prp_del routine returns an error value but the property is still deleted.

The \p copy routine is called when a new property list with this property is being created through a \p copy operation.

The #H5P_prp_copy_func_t callback function is defined as follows:

```
\snippet this H5P_prp_cbl_t_snip
```

The parameters to the above callback function are:

```

*
* <table>
*   <tr>
*     <td>\Code{const char * name}</td>
*     <td>IN: The name of the property being copied</td>
*   </tr>
*   <tr>
*     <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>
*     <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*   </tr>
*   <tr>
*     <td>\Code{void * value}</td>
*     <td>IN/OUT: The value for the property being copied</td>
*   </tr>
* </table>

```

The \p copy routine may modify the value to be set and those changes will be stored as the new value of the property. If the \p copy routine returns a negative value, the new property value is not copied into the property and the copy routine returns an error value.

The \p compare routine is called when a property list with this property is compared to another property list with the same property.

The #H5P_prp_compare_func_t callback function is defined as follows:


```

*      \snippet this H5P_prp_compare_func_t_snip
*
*      The parameters to the callback function are defined as follows:
*
*      <table>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{const void * value1}</td>
*      <td>IN: The value of the first property to compare</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{const void * value2}</td>
*      <td>IN: The value of the second property to compare</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>
*      <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*      </tr>
*      </table>
*
*      The \p compare routine may not modify the values. The \p compare
*      routine should return a positive value if \p value1 is greater
*      than \p value2, a negative value if \p value2 is greater than
*      \p value1 and zero if \p value1 and \p value2 are equal.
*
*      The \p close routine is called when a property list with this
*      property is being closed.
*
*      The #H5P_prp_close_func_t callback function is defined as follows:
*      \snippet this H5P_prp_cb1_t_snip
*
*      The parameters to the callback function are defined as follows:
*
*      <table>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{const char * name}</td>
*      <td>IN: The name of the property in the list</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>
*      <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{void * value}</td>
*      <td>IN: The value for the property being closed</td>
*      </tr>
*      </table>
*
*      The \p close routine may modify the value passed in, the
*      value is not used by the library when the close routine
*      returns. If the \p close routine returns a negative value,
*      the property list \p close routine returns an error value
*      but the property list is still closed.
*
*      \b Note: There is no \p create callback routine for temporary
*      property list objects; the initial value is assumed to
*      have any necessary setup already performed on it.
*
*      \since 1.8.0
*
*/
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pinsert2(hid_t plist_id, const char *name, size_t size,
                        void *value, H5P_prp_set_func_t prp_set,
                        H5P_prp_get_func_t prp_get,

```

```

        H5P_prp_delete_func_t prp_del,
        H5P_prp_copy_func_t prp_copy,
        H5P_prp_compare_func_t prp_cmp,
        H5P_prp_close_func_t prp_close);

H5Pinsert2(plist_id, name, size, value, prp_set, prp_get, prp_del, prp_copy,
|         prp_cmp, prp_close)
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5P_insert(plist, name, size, value, prp_set, prp_get, NULL, NULL,
|         prp_delete, prp_copy, prp_cmp, prp_close)
+-H5SL_search()
| +- ...
+-H5SL_remove()
| +- ...
+-H5MM_xfree()
+-H5P__create_prop()
| +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| +-H5MM_malloc()
| +-H5MM_memcpy()
| +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| +-H5FL_FREE()  // error cleanup
+-H5P__add_prop()
+-H5P__add_prop()
| +-H5SL_insert()
| +- ...
+-H5P__free_prop() // error cleanup
    +-H5MM_xfree()
    +-H5FL_FREE()

```

In a nutshell:

Create a property as specified by the supplied parameters and insert it in the target property list.

In greater detail:

H5Pinsert2() calls `H5I_object_verify()` to obtain a pointer (plist) to the target property list. After some sanity checking, it then calls

```

H5P_insert(plist, name, size, value, prp_set, prp_get, NULL,
           NULL, prp_delete, prp_copy, prp_cmp, prp_close)

```

and returns whatever `H5P_insert()` returns.

H5P_insert() proceeds as follows:

- Search plist→props for name. If this search is successful, a property of the supplied name already exists. In this case, `H5P_insert()` flags an error and returns.

- Search the deleted list (plist→del) for the supplied name. If it is found, remove it from the deleted list.

If the supplied name doesn't appear in the deleted list, search the parent property list class(es) for the supplied name. If it is found, a property of the supplied name already exists. In this case as well, H5P_insert() flags an error and returns.

- Create the new property via the call:

```
new_prop = H5P__create_prop(name, size, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST,
                             value, NULL, prp_set, prp_get,
                             prp_encode, prp_decode,
                             prp_delete, prp_copy, prp_cmp,
                             prp_close)
```

After some sanity checks, **H5P__create_prop()** allocates a new instance of `H5P_genprop_t (new_prop)`, duplicates `*name` and sets `new_prop→name` to point to it. Similarly, if `value` is not `NULL`, it duplicates `*value`, and sets `new_prop→value` to point to the copy.

It initializes the remaining fields of `*new_prop` from its parameters as follows:

```
new_prop→shared_name = FALSE
new_prop→size        = size;
new_prop→type        = H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST;
new_prop→create       = NULL;
new_prop→set         = prp_set;
new_prop→get         = prp_get;
new_prop→encode       = prp_encode;
new_prop→decode       = prp_decode;
new_prop→del         = prp_delete;
new_prop→copy        = prp_copy;
new_prop→cmp         = prp_cmp;
new_prop→close       = prp_close;
```

If `prp_cmp` is `NULL`, `new_prop→cmp` is set to `&memcmp`.

- Insert the new property in plist via the call

```
H5P__add_prop(plist→props, new_prop)
```

- Increment `plist→nprops`.

And then return. In the event of error, `H5P_insert()` tests for the existence of `*new_prop` and discards it if found prior to return.

Multi-thread safety concerns:


```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Determines whether a property list is a member of a class
 *
 * \plist_id
 * \plistcls_id{pclass_id}
 *
 * \return \htri_t
 *
 * \details H5Pisa_class() checks to determine whether the property list
 *          \p plist_id is a member of the property list class
 *          \p pclass_id.
 *
 * \see H5Pcreate()
 *
 * \since 1.6.0
 */
H5_DLL htri_t H5Pisa_class(hid_t plist_id, hid_t pclass_id);

H5Pisa_class(plist_id, pclass_id)
+-H5I_get_type()
| +- ...
+-H5P_isa_class(plist_id, pclass_id)
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
|
| // pclass1 == plist->pclass, pclass2 == pclass
+-H5P_class_isa(pclass1, pclass2)
|
|+-H5P__cmp_class(pclass1, pclass2)
| +-strcmp()
| +-H5SL_first()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_item()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__cmp_prop(prop1, prop2)
| | +-prop->cmp(prop1->value, prop2->value, prop1->size)
| | +- ??? // property specific
| +-H5SL_next()
| +- ...
|
+-H5P_class_isa(pclass1->parent, pclass2)
+- // recursive call - see above

```

In a nutshell:

Determine whether the the supplied property list is a member of the supplied property list class.

Note: Here “member” appears to mean that `plist_id` refers to a property list that is an instance of the property list class referred to by `pclass_id` **OR** that the immediate parent property list class of the supplied property list is a descendant of the supplied property list class. While this is standard OOP terminology, it may be asking a bit much of our users to know this. Assuming

that this interpretation is retained, this point should be made clear in the user level documentation.

In more detail:

H5Pisa_class() verifies that plist_id and pclass_id refer to a property list and a property list class respectively, calls:

```
H5P_isa_class(plist_id, pclass_id)
```

and returns whatever that function returns.

H5P_isa_class() calls H5I_object_verify() to obtain pointers (plist and pclass2) to the supplied property list and property class. To make the following discussion easier to follow, define pclass1 = plist→pclass.

Finally, H5P_isa_class() calls

```
H5P_class_isa(pclass1, pclass2)
```

and returns whatever that function returns. In what follows, keep in mind that H5P_isa_class() and H5P_class_isa() are two very different functions, and that pclass1 is the parent property list class of the supplied property list, and that pclass2 is the property list class supplied by the user.

H5P_class_isa(pclass1, pclass2) first calls

```
H5P__cmp_class(pclass1, pclass2)
```

and returns TRUE if H5P__cmp_class() returns 0. For any other return value, H5P_class_isa() sets pclass1 = pclass1→parent. If pclass1 is NULL, H5P_class_isa() returns FALSE. Otherwise, H5P_class_isa() makes the recursive call:

```
H5P_class_isa(pclass1, pclass2)
```

and returns whatever the recursive call returns. The effect of this recursive call is to compare all the property list classes from which pclass1 is derived to pclass2 and return TRUE if and only if one of these property list classes is identical to pclass2.

H5P__cmp_class(), compares the supplied instances of H5P_genclass_t. If the revision fields match, the function assumes that the rest of the structures are identical, and returns zero.

Otherwise, H5P__cmp_class() does a field by field comparison of the instances of H5P_genclass_t (Note that parent fields are not compared). Names are compared via strcmp(). The contents of the property lists are compared by stepping through both property lists entry

by entry, and calling `H5P__cmp_prop()` to compare the properties. Since skip lists sort their entries, this test appears to be correct.

`H5P__cmp_class()` returns zero if no differences are found, and either +1 or -1 otherwise.

`H5P__cmp_prop()` does a field by field comparison of the two instances of `H5P_genprop_t` pointed to by the `prop1` and `prop2` parameters. The names are compared via `strcmp()` and the values via the `cmp` call back. The function returns zero if all fields are identical, and either +1 or -1 if a difference is detected.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Iterates over properties in a property class or list
 *
 * \param[in] id Identifier of property object to iterate over
 * \param[in,out] idx Index of the property to begin with
 * \param[in] iter_func Function pointer to function to be called
 *                  with each property iterated over
 * \param[in,out] iter_data Pointer to iteration data from user
 *
 * \return On success: the return value of the last call to \p iter_func if
 *         it was non-zero; zero if all properties have been processed.
 *         On Failure, a negative value
 *
 * \details H5Piterate() iterates over the properties in the property
 *         object specified in \p id, which may be either a property
 *         list or a property class, performing a specified operation
 *         on each property in turn.
 *
 *         For each property in the object, \p iter_func and the
 *         additional information specified below are passed to the
 *         #H5P_iterate_t operator function.
 *
 *         The iteration begins with the \p idx-th property in the
 *         object; the next element to be processed by the operator
 *         is returned in \p idx. If \p idx is NULL, the iterator
 *         starts at the first property; since no stopping point is
 *         returned in this case, the iterator cannot be restarted if
 *         one of the calls to its operator returns non-zero.
 *
 *         The operation \p iter_func receives the property list or class
 *         identifier for the object being iterated over, \p id, the
 *         name of the current property within the object, \p name,
 *         and the pointer to the operator data passed in to H5Piterate(),
 *         \p iter_data.
 *
 *         H5Piterate() assumes that the properties in the object
 *         identified by \p id remain unchanged through the iteration.
 *         If the membership changes during the iteration, the function's
 *         behavior is undefined.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL int H5Piterate(hid_t id, int *idx, H5P_iterate_t iter_func,
                    void *iter_data);

H5Piterate(id, idx, iter_func, iter_data)
+-H5I_get_type(id)
| +- ...
+-H5I_object(id)
| +- ...
|
| // iter_func and iter_data stored in udata
|
+-H5P__iterate_plist((H5P_genplist_t *)obj, TRUE, idx, H5P__iterate_cb, &udata)
| +-H5SL_create()
| | +- ...
| |
| | // Note different callback functions in two invocations of H5SL_iterate().

```



```

| |
| +-H5SL_iterate(plist->props, H5P__iterate_plist_cb, &udata_int)
| | |
| | | // in this case - note that arg names have been changed for clarity
| | +-H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata)
| |   +-H5P__iterate_cb(prop, iter_data)
| |     +-*iter_func(id, prop->name, iter_data) // user supplied function
| |     +- ...
| |   +-H5SL_insert()
| |
| +-H5SL_iterate(plist->props, H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb, &udata_int)
| | |
| | | // in this case - note that arg names have been changed for clarity
| | +-H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb(prop, name, udata)
| |   +-H5SL_search()
| |     +- ...
| |   +-H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata)
| |     +-H5P__iterate_cb(prop, iter_data)
| |       +-*iter_func(id, prop->name, iter_data) // user supplied function
| |       +- ...
| |     +-H5SL_insert()
| |
| +-H5SL_close()
|   +- ...
|
+-H5P__iterate_pclass(pclass, idx, H5P__iterate_cb, &udata)
  +-H5SL_iterate(pclass->props, H5P__iterate_pclass_cb, &udata_int)
  | |
  | | // in this case - note that arg names have been changed for clarity
  | +-H5P__iterate_pclass_cb(prop, name, udata)
  |   +-*iter_func(prop, iter_data) // user supplied function
  |   +- ...
  +-H5SL_close()

```

In a nutshell:

Starting with the *idx'th property, scan the target property list or property list class and call the supplied iter_fcn with the id of the property list or property list class, the name of the property, and the supplied user data.

In greater detail:

After verifying that the supplied id exists, and references either a property list class or a property list, **H5Piterate()** initializes an instance of H5P_iter_ud_t (definition shown below):

```

typedef struct {
    H5P_iterate_t iter_func; /* Iterator callback */
    hid_t         id;        /* Property list or class ID */
    void *        iter_data; /* Iterator callback pointer */
} H5P_iter_ud_t;

```

(udata) as follows:

```

udata.iter_func = iter_func;
udata.id        = id;
udata.iter_data = iter_data;

```

With udata initialized, H5Piterate() calls either

```

H5P__iterate_plist((H5P_genplist_t *)obj, TRUE, (idx ? idx : &fake_idx),
                  H5P__iterate_cb, &udata)

```

if id refers to a property list, or

```

H5P__iterate_pclass((H5P_genplist_t *)obj, (idx ? idx : &fake_idx),
                   H5P__iterate_cb, &udata)

```

if id refers to a property list class. Note that fake_idx is an integer that is initialized to zero. It allows the function to handle a NULL idx pointer gracefully.

In either case, H5Piterate() returns whatever value is returned.

THE PROPERTY LIST CASE:

H5P__iterate_plist() first creates the “seen” skip list that is used to track the names of properties that have already been seen in the scan of the properties. It then initializes udata_int, which is an instance of H5P_iter_plist_ud_t (definition below)

```

/* Typedef for property list iterator callback */
typedef struct {
    H5P_iterate_int_t    cb_func;      /* Iterator callback */
    void *               udata;        /* Iterator callback pointer */
    const H5P_genplist_t *plist;      /* Property list pointer */
    H5SL_t *             seen;         /* Skip list to hold names of
                                     properties already seen */
    int *                curr_idx_ptr; /* Pointer to current iteration
                                     index */
    int                  prev_idx;     /* Previous iteration index */
} H5P_iter_plist_ud_t;

```

as follows:

```

/* Set up iterator callback info */
udata_int.plist      = plist;
udata_int.cb_func    = cb_func; // H5P__iterate_cb() in this case
udata_int.udata      = udata;   // the udata initialized by H5Piterate()
udata_int.seen       = seen;
udata_int.curr_idx_ptr = &curr_idx; // curr_idx is a local integer
                                     // that is initialized to zero
udata_int.prev_idx    = *idx;

```

This done, H5P__iterate_plist() calls

```

H5SL_iterate(plist->props, H5P__iterate_plist_cb, &udata_int)

```

After this call returns, `H5P__iterate_plist()` tests to see if the `iter_all_prop` parameter is `TRUE` (which it is in this case). If it is, the function scans the property list(s) of the parent property list class(es) starting with `plist→parent→props` via the calls

```
H5SL_iterate(tclass->props, H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb, &udata_int)
```

where `tclass` is the parent property list class currently under scan. Note that it breaks out of this scan of the parent property list class(es) if an error is return by `H5SL_iterate()`.

Before returning, `H5P__iterate_plist()` sets `*idx` equal to `*(udata_int.curr_idx)` and frees the “seen” skip list.

H5SL_iterate() simply walks the skip list, calling the supplied call back function on the contents of each node until it either reaches the end of the list, or the supplied callback returns a non-zero value. In this case, it calls either

```
H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

or

```
H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

depending on which invocation in `H5P__iterate_plist()` we are looking at. Here, `prop` is a pointer to the instance of `H5P_getprop_t`, and `name` is the name of the property pointed to by `prop`.

After some sanity checks, **H5P__iterate_plist_cb()** tests to see if

```
*(udata_int→curr_idx_ptr) >= udata_int→prev_idx
```

if it is, `H5P__iterate_plist_cb()` calls:

```
ret_value = (*udata_int->cb_func)(prop, udata_int→udata)
```

or, in this case

```
ret_value = H5P__iterate_cb(prop, udata_int→udata)
```

If the above test is false, or if `ret_value` is non-zero, `H5P__iterate_plist_cb()` increments `*(udata_int→cur_idx_ptr)` and adds `name` to the “seen” skip list (`udata_int→seen`) prior to returning.

In reading the above, recall that `udata->prev_idx` is either the starting index passed into `H5Piterate()` in `*idx`, or 0 if `idx` was NULL, and that `udata_int->cur_idx_ptr` points to a local variable in `H5Piterate` that was initialized to zero. Thus the initial test has the effect of skipping over the first `udata_int->prev_idx` items.

Further, note that `udata_int->udata` is (in this case) the instance of `H5P_iter_ud_t` allocated on the stack of `H5Piterate()` and initialized by that function.

H5P__iterate_cb() simply calls the user supplied function

```
ret_value = (*udata->iter_func)(udata->id, prop->name, udata->iter_data)
```

where `udata->iter_func`, and `udata->iter_data` are the `iter_func` and `iter_data` parameters passed to `H5Piterate`, and `udata->id` is both the id of the property list within which `*prop` resides, and also the id parameter passed to `H5Piterate()`.

`H5P__iterate_cb()` returns `ret_value` unconditionally.

Backing up a bit, **H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb()** first checks to see if the supplied name is in either the “seen” skip list (`udata_int->seen`) or the properties deleted skip list (`prop->del`). If it isn’t, `H5P__iterate_plist_pclass_cb()` calls

```
ret_value = H5P__iterate_plist_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

and returns `ret_value`. See above for a discussion of `H5P__iterate_plist_cb`.

THE PROPERTY LIST CLASS CASE:

H5P__iterate_pclass() is similar to `H5P_iterate_plist()`, but simpler.

It does not create the “seen” skip list, as only the properties of the target property list class are scanned, and thus the “seen” list is not necessary. It does initialize `udata_int` (an instance of `H5P_iter_plist_ud_t`) as follows:

```
/* Set up iterator callback info */
udata_int.cb_func      = cb_func;      // H5P__iterate_cb() in this case
udata_int.udata        = udata;        // the udata initialized by H5Piterate()
udata_int.curr_idx_ptr = &curr_idx;    // curr_idx is a local integer
udata_int.prev_idx     = *idx;
```

It then calls

```
ret_value = H5SL_iterate(pclass->props, H5P__iterate_pclass_cb, &udata_int);
```

H5P__iterate_pclass() returns ret_value after setting *idx = *(udata_int.cur_idx_ptr).

As discussed above, **H5SL_iterate()** simply walks the skip list, and calls the supplied call back function on the contents of each node until it either reaches the end of the list, or the supplied function returns a non-zero value. In this case, it calls:

```
H5P__iterate_pclass_cb(prop, name, udata_int)
```

Here, prop is a pointer to the instance of H5P_getprop_t, and name is the name of the property pointed to by prop.

Likewise, **H5P__iterate_pclass_cb()** is similar to H5P__iterate_plist_cb(), only simpler.

As per H5P__iterate_plist_cb(), H5p__iterate_pclass_cb() tests to see if

```
*(udata_int->curr_idx_ptr) >= udata_int->prev_idx
```

and calls:

```
ret_value = (*udata_int->cb_func)(prop, udata_int->udata)
```

if it is. Since udata_int->cb_func == H5P__iterate_cb() this case, the call is really:

```
ret_value = H5P__iterate_cb(prop, udata_int->udata)
```

If ret_value isn't zero, H5P__iterate_plist() returns ret_value immediately.

Otherwise, H5P__iterate_plist_cb() increments *(udata_int->curr_idx_ptr) before returning ret_value.

As discussed at the end of the PROPERTY LIST CASE above, **H5P__iterate_cb()** simply calls the user supplied function

```
ret_value = (*udata->iter_func)(udata->id, prop->name, udata->iter_data)
```

where udata->iter_func, and udata->iter_data are the iter_func and iter_data parameters passed to H5Piterate, and udata->id is both the id of the property list within which *prop resides, and also the id parameter passed to H5Piterate().

Multi-thread safety concerns:


```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Registers a permanent property with a property list class
 *
 * \plistcls_id{cls_id}
 * \param[in] name      Name of property to register
 * \param[in] size      Size of property in bytes
 * \param[in] def_value Default value for property in newly created
 *                      property lists
 * \param[in] create     Callback routine called when a property list is
 *                      being created and the property value will be
 *                      initialized
 * \param[in] set        Callback routine called before a new value is
 *                      copied into the property's value
 * \param[in] get        Callback routine called when a property value is
 *                      retrieved from the property
 * \param[in] prp_del    Callback routine called when a property is deleted
 *                      from a property list
 * \param[in] copy       Callback routine called when a property is copied
 *                      from a property list
 * \param[in] compare    Callback routine called when a property is compared
 *                      with another property list
 * \param[in] close      Callback routine called when a property list is
 *                      being closed and the property value will be
 *                      disposed of
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pregister2() registers a new property with a property list
 *          class. The \p cls_id identifier can be obtained by calling
 *          H5Pcreate_class(). The property will exist in all property
 *          list objects of \p cl_id created after this routine finishes. The
 *          name of the property must not already exist, or this routine
 *          will fail. The default property value must be provided and all
 *          new property lists created with this property will have the
 *          property value set to the default value. Any of the callback
 *          routines may be set to NULL if they are not needed.
 *
 *          Zero-sized properties are allowed and do not store any data in
 *          the property list. These may be used as flags to indicate the
 *          presence or absence of a particular piece of information. The
 *          default pointer for a zero-sized property may be set to NULL.
 *          The property \p create and \p close callbacks are called for
 *          zero-sized properties, but the \p set and \p get callbacks are
 *          never called.
 *
 *          The \p create routine is called when a new property list with
 *          this property is being created. The #H5P_prp_create_func_t
 *          callback function is defined as follows:
 *
 *          \snippet this H5P_prp_cbl_t_snip
 *
 *          The parameters to this callback function are defined as follows:
 *
 *          <table>
 *            <tr>
 *              <td>\Code{const char * name}</td>
 *              <td>IN: The name of the property being modified</td>
 *            </tr>
 *            <tr>
 *              <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>

```

```

*      <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\Code{void * value}</td>
*      <td>IN/OUT: The default value for the property being created,
*        which will be passed to H5Pregister2()</td>
*    </tr>
*  </table>
*
*  The \p create routine may modify the value to be set and those
*  changes will be stored as the initial value of the property.
*  If the \p create routine returns a negative value, the new
*  property value is not copied into the property and the
*  \p create routine returns an error value.
*
*  The \p set routine is called before a new value is copied into
*  the property. The #H5P_prp_set_func_t callback function is defined
*  as follows:
*
*  \snippet this H5P_prp_cb2_t_snip
*
*  The parameters to this callback function are defined as follows:
*
*  <table>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\ref hid_t \c prop_id</td>
*      <td>IN: The identifier of the property list being modified</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\Code{const char * name}</td>
*      <td>IN: The name of the property being modified</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>
*      <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*    </tr>
*    <tr>
*      <td>\Code{void *value}</td>
*      <td>IN/OUT: Pointer to new value pointer for the property
*        being modified</td>
*    </tr>
*  </table>
*
*  The \p set routine may modify the value pointer to be set and
*  those changes will be used when setting the property's value.
*  If the \p set routine returns a negative value, the new property
*  value is not copied into the property and the \p set routine
*  returns an error value. The \p set routine will not be called
*  for the initial value; only the \p create routine will be called.
*
*  \b Note: The \p set callback function may be useful to range
*  check the value being set for the property or may perform some
*  transformation or translation of the value set. The \p get
*  callback would then reverse the transformation or translation.
*  A single \p get or \p set callback could handle multiple
*  properties by performing different actions based on the property
*  name or other properties in the property list.
*
*  The \p get routine is called when a value is retrieved from a
*  property value. The #H5P_prp_get_func_t callback function is
*  defined as follows:
*
*  \snippet this H5P_prp_cb2_t_snip

```


The parameters to the callback function are defined as follows:

<code>\ref hid_t \c prop_id</code>
IN: The identifier of the property list being queried
<code>\Code{const char * name}</code>
IN: The name of the property being queried
<code>\Code{size_t size}</code>
IN: The size of the property in bytes
<code>\Code{void * value}</code>
IN/OUT: The value of the property being returned

The `\p get` routine may modify the value to be returned from the query and those changes will be returned to the calling routine. If the `\p set` routine returns a negative value, the query routine returns an error value.

The `\p prp_del` routine is called when a property is being deleted from a property list. The `#H5P_prp_delete_func_t` callback function is defined as follows:

`\snippet this H5P_prp_cb2_t_snip`

The parameters to the callback function are defined as follows:

<code>\ref hid_t \c prop_id</code>
IN: The identifier of the property list the property is being deleted from
<code>\Code{const char * name}</code>
IN: The name of the property in the list
<code>\Code{size_t size}</code>
IN: The size of the property in bytes
<code>\Code{void * value}</code>
IN: The value for the property being deleted

The `\p prp_del` routine may modify the value passed in, but the value is not used by the library when the `\p prp_del` routine returns. If the `\p prp_del` routine returns a negative value, the property list delete routine returns an error value but the property is still deleted.

The `\p copy` routine is called when a new property list with

```

*      this property is being created through a \p copy operation.
*      The #H5P_prp_copy_func_t callback function is defined as follows:
*
*      \snippet this H5P_prp_cbl_t_snip
*
*      The parameters to the callback function are defined as follows:
*
*      <table>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{const char * name}</td>
*      <td>IN: The name of the property being copied</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>
*      <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{void * value}</td>
*      <td>IN/OUT: The value for the property being copied</td>
*      </tr>
*      </table>
*
*      The \p copy routine may modify the value to be set and those
*      changes will be stored as the new value of the property. If
*      the \p copy routine returns a negative value, the new
*      property value is not copied into the property and the \p copy
*      routine returns an error value.
*
*      The \p compare routine is called when a property list with this
*      property is compared to another property list with the same
*      property. The #H5P_prp_compare_func_t callback function is
*      defined as follows:
*
*      \snippet this H5P_prp_compare_func_t_snip
*
*      The parameters to the callback function are defined as follows:
*
*      <table>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{const void * value1}</td>
*      <td>IN: The value of the first property to compare</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{const void * value2}</td>
*      <td>IN: The value of the second property to compare</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>
*      <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*      </tr>
*      </table>
*
*      The \p compare routine may not modify the values. The \p compare
*      routine should return a positive value if \p value1 is greater
*      than \p value2, a negative value if \p value2 is greater than
*      \p value1 and zero if \p value1 and \p value2 are equal.
*
*      The \p close routine is called when a property list with this
*      property is being closed. The #H5P_prp_close_func_t callback
*      function is defined as follows:
*
*      \snippet this H5P_prp_cbl_t_snip
*

```

```

*      The parameters to the callback function are defined as follows:
*
*      <table>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{const char * name}</td>
*      <td>IN: The name of the property in the list</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{size_t size}</td>
*      <td>IN: The size of the property in bytes</td>
*      </tr>
*      <tr>
*      <td>\Code{void * value}</td>
*      <td>IN: The value for the property being closed</td>
*      </tr>
*      </table>
*
*      The \p close routine may modify the value passed in, but the
*      value is not used by the library when the \p close routine returns.
*      If the \p close routine returns a negative value, the property
*      list close routine returns an error value but the property list is
*      still closed.
*
* \since 1.8.0
*
*/
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pregister2(hid_t cls_id, const char *name, size_t size,
                           void *def_value, H5P_prp_create_func_t create,
                           H5P_prp_set_func_t set, H5P_prp_get_func_t get,
                           H5P_prp_delete_func_t prp_del,
                           H5P_prp_copy_func_t copy,
                           H5P_prp_compare_func_t compare,
                           H5P_prp_close_func_t close);

H5Pregister2(cls_id, name, size, def_value, create, set, get, prp_del,
|           copy, compare, close)
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5P__register()
| | // duplicate class if required
| | +-H5P__create_class()
| | | +-H5FL_CALLOC()
| | | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | | +-H5SL_create()
| | | | +- ...
| | | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_INC_CLS)
| | | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | | | +-H5SL_destroy()
| | | | +- ...
| | | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS) // can't happen in this
case
| | | | +- ...
| | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | | +-H5SL_destroy()
| | | +- ... // eventually
| | | H5P__free_prop_cb()
| | | +- (tprop->close) (tprop->name, tprop->size, tprop->value);
| | | | +- ... // property specific - may not exist

```

```

| |             +-H5P__free_prop(tprop);
| |             +-H5MM_xfree()
| |             +-H5FL_FREE()
| +-H5SL_first()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)
| | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
| +-H5P__add_prop()
| | +-H5SL_insert()
| | +- ...
| +-H5SL_next()
| | +- ...
| |
| +-H5P__register_real()
| | +-H5SL_search()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__create_prop()
| | | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| | | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | | +-H5MM_malloc()
| | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
| | +-H5P__add_prop()
| | | +- // see above
| | +-H5P__free_prop()
| | | +- // see above
| +-H5P__close_class() // error recovery
| | +-H5P__access_class(pclass, H5P_MOD_DEC_REF)
| | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | +-H5SL_destroy()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS)
| | +- ... // see above
+-H5I_subst()
| +- ...
+-H5P__close_class()
| +- // see above

```

In a nutshell:

Insert a new property in a property list class.

If the target class has any directly derived property lists or property list classes, this will result in duplication of the target property list, with the duplicate (with the new property added) replacing the old version in the index.

In greater detail:

H5Pregister2(cls_id, name, size, def_value, prp_create, prp_set, prp_get, prp_delete, prp_copy, prp_cmp, prp_close) first calls **H5I_object_verify(cls_id)** to obtain a pointer to the target property list class (pclass).

After some sanity checks, it saves a copy of pclass in orig_pclass, and then calls:

```
H5P__register(&pclass, name, size, def_value, prp_create,  
             prp_set, prp_get, NULL, NULL, prp_delete,  
             prp_copy, prp_cmp, prp_close)
```

H5P__register() is discussed at great length in the “PROPERTY LIST CLASS CASE” of the section on **H5Pcopy_prop()**, and the reader is referred there for details.

For purposes of this discussion, perhaps the following summary will suffice.

The objective of **H5P__register()** is to insert the new property into the target property list class. However, if there are any extant property lists, or property list classes directly derived from **dst_pclass**, it must duplicate the supplied property list class, insert the new property into the duplicate, and set ***pclass** to point to the modified duplicate. The duplicate later replaces the earlier version of ***pclass** in the index. The original version of ***pclass** is then only accessible via the parent pointers in its derived property lists and property list classes. It is retained until both its **plists** (number of derived property lists) and **classes** (number of derived property list classes) fields drop to zero – at which point it is discarded.

After **H5P__register()** returns, **H5Pregister()** compares **pclass** with **orig_pclass** – the copy it made just before calling **H5P__register()**. If the two don’t match, it must replace **orig_pclass** with **pclass** in the index. It does this with the call

```
H5I_subst(cls_id, pclass)
```

and then calls

```
H5P__close_class(orig_pclass)
```

which decrements **old_dst_pclass→ref_count**, and may delete it. See discussion in **H5Pclose_class()** above for further details.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Removes a property from a property list
 *
 * \plist_id
 * \param[in] name Name of property to remove
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Premove() removes a property from a property list. Both
 *          properties which were in existence when the property list was
 *          created (i.e. properties registered with H5Pregister()) and
 *          properties added to the list after it was created (i.e. added
 *          with H5Pinsert1() may be removed from a property list.
 *          Properties do not need to be removed from a property list
 *          before the list itself is closed; they will be released
 *          automatically when H5Pclose() is called.
 *
 *          If a \p close callback exists for the removed property, it
 *          will be called before the property is released.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Premove(hid_t plist_id, const char *name);

H5Premove()
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5P_remove()
| +-H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__del_plist_cb, H5P__del_pclass_cb, NULL)
| | +-H5SL_search(plist->del, name)
| | | +- ...
| | +-(*plist_op)(plist, name, prop, udata)
| | | |
| | | H5P__del_plist_cb() // in this case
| | | +-(*prop->del)(plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, prop->value)
| | | | // property specific call - different for each property
| | | +-H5MM_xstrdup(name)
| | | +-H5SL_insert()
| | | | + ...
| | | +-H5P__free_prop()
| | | | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | | | +-H5FL_FREE()
+-(*pclass_op)(plist, name, prop, udata)
| |
| | H5P__del_pclass_cb() // in this case
| | +-H5MM_malloc()
| | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | +-(*prop->del)(plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, tmp_value)
| | | // property specific call - different for each property
| | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | +-H5SL_insert()
| | +- ...

```

In a nutshell:

Remove a property from a property list.

In greater detail:

H5Premove() looks up the supplied property list id to obtain a pointer (plist) to it. It then calls **H5P_remove(plist, name)** to remove the named property from plist, and returns whatever that function returns.

H5P_remove() simply calls

```
H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__del_plist_cb, H5P__del_pclass_cb, NULL)
```

and returns whatever that call returns.

H5P__do_prop() first searches `plist→del` to see if the target property has already been deleted, and fails if it has.

It then searches `plist→props` for the target property. If it finds it, it stores its address in `prop`, calls

```
H5P__del_plist_cb(plist, name, prop, NULL)
```

and returns success or failure depending on whether this call succeeds or fails.

If the search of `plist→props` fails, **H5P__do_prop()** searches the property lists of the parent property list class(es) for the target property, starting with `plist→pclass→props`, and working its way up until it either finds the target property, or it runs out of parent property list classes. If this search is successful, it stores a pointer to the target property in `prop`, calls

```
H5P__del_pclass_cb(plist, name, prop, NULL)
```

and returns success or failure depending on whether this call succeeds or fails. If the search of the parent property list class(es) fails, **H5P__do_prop()** returns failure.

H5P__del_plist_cb() calls the properties delete callback

```
(* (prop->del)) (plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, prop->value)
```

if it exists, duplicates the property name string and inserts it into the `plist→del` skip list, deletes the property from the `plist→props` skip list, frees it, and decrements `plist→nprops`.

H5P__del_pclass_cb() is similar to **H5P__del_plist_cb()** but subtly different.

Like **H5P__del_plist_cb()** it calls the properties delete callback if it exists. However, before it does so, it duplicates `*(prop→value)`, and passes a pointer to this duplicate as the final parameter to the properties delete callback. After that, it duplicates the property name string and inserts it into the `plist→del` skip list, and decrements `plist→nprops`. Note, however, that since the target property is not in the `plist→props` skip list, it doesn't attempt to remove it.

Multi-thread safety concerns:


```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Sets a property list value
 *
 * \plist_id
 * \param[in] name Name of property to modify
 * \param[in] value Pointer to value to set the property to
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Pset() sets a new value for a property in a property list.
 * If there is a \p set callback routine registered for this
 * property, the \p value will be passed to that routine and any
 * changes to the \p value will be used when setting the property
 * value. The information pointed to by the \p value pointer
 * (possibly modified by the \p set callback) is copied into the
 * property list value and may be changed by the application
 * making the H5Pset() call without affecting the property value.
 *
 * The property name must exist or this routine will fail.
 *
 * If the \p set callback routine returns an error, the property
 * value will not be modified.
 *
 * This routine may not be called for zero-sized properties and
 * will return an error in that case.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Pset(hid_t plist_id, const char *name, const void *value);

H5Pset(plist_id, name, value)
+-H5I_object_verify(plist_id)
| +- ...
+-H5P_set(plist, name, value)
+-H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__set_plist_cb, H5P_set_pclass_cb, &udata)
+-H5SL_search()
| +- ...
+-(*plist_op)(plist, name, prop, udata)
| || // in this case
| H5P__set_plist_cb(plist, name, prop, udata)
| +-H5MM_malloc()
| +-H5MM_memcpy()
| +-(*(prop->set))(plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, tmp_value)
| | +- // property specific
| |
| | // if prop->del != NULL
| +-(*(prop->del)(plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, prop->value)
| | +- // property specific
| |
| +-H5MM_xfree()
|
+-(*pclass_op)(plist, name, prop, udata)
| || // in this case
H5P__set_pclass_cb(plist, name, prop, udata)
+-H5MM_malloc()
+-H5MM_memcpy()
+-(*(prop->set))(plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, tmp_value)
| +- // property specific

```

```

+-H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)
| +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| +-H5MM_memcpy()
| +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
+-H5P__add_prop()
| +-H5SL_insert()
| +- ...
+-H5MM_xfree()
+-H5P__free_prop() // error cleanup
    +-H5MM_xfree()
    +-H5FL_FREE()

```

In a nutshell:

Set the value of an existing property in a property list.

In greater detail:

After some sanity checking, **H5Pset()** calls `H5I_object_verify()` to obtain a pointer to the target property list, calls:

```
H5P_set(plist, name, value)
```

and returns.

H5P_set() allocates an instance of `H5P_prop_set_ud_t` (definition below) on its stack

```

/* Typedef for property list set/poke callbacks */
typedef struct {
    const void *value; /* Pointer to value to set */
} H5P_prop_set_ud_t;

```

and initializes it as follows:

```
udata.value = value
```

It then calls

```
H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__set_plist_cb, H5P_set_pclass_cb, &udata)
```

and returns.

H5P__do_prop() first searches `plist→del` to see if the target property has already been deleted, and fails if it has.

It then searches `plist→props` for the target property. If it finds it, it stores its address in `prop`, calls (in this case)

```
H5P__set_plist_cb(plist, name, prop, udata)
```

and returns success or failure depending on whether this call succeeds or fails.

If the search of `plist→props` fails, `H5P__do_prop()` searches the property lists of the parent property list class(es) for the target property, starting with `plist→pclass→props`, and working its way up until it either finds the target property, or it runs out of parent property list classes. If this search is successful, it stores a pointer to the target property in `prop`, calls (in this case)

```
H5P__set_pclass_cb(plist, name, prop, NULL)
```

and returns success or failure depending on whether this call succeeds or fails. If the search of the parent property list class(es) fails, `H5P__do_prop()` returns failure.

If `prop→set` is not NULL, **`H5P__set_plist_cb()`** allocates a buffer of size `prop→size`, stores its address in `tmp_value`, `memcpy`'s `udata→value` into `*tmp_value`, calls

```
(* (prop->set)) (plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, tmp_value)
```

and then set `prp_value = tmp_value`.

If `prop→set` is NULL, it just sets `prp_value = udata→value`.

This done, `H5P__set_plist_cb()` test to see if `prop→del` is not NULL, and if so, calls

```
(* (prop->del)) (plist->plist_id, name, prop->size, prop->value)
```

Finally, it `memcpy`'s `prp_value` into `prop→value`, and frees the buffer pointed to by `tmp_value` (if it exists) before returning.

Note the implication that the del callback doesn't free `prop→value`.

`H5P__set_pclass_cb()` starts by setting up `prp_value` as per `H5P__set_plist_cb()` above.

It then calls

```
pcopy = H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)
```

Here, **`H5P__dup_prop()`** allocates a new instance of `H5P_genprop_t` (`pcopy`), copies the image of `*prop` into it, and (if `prop→shared_name` is FALSE), duplicates the string pointed to by `prop→name` and stored its address in `pcopy→name`. It then duplicates the buffer pointed to by `prop→value` (if it exists) storing the address of the duplicate in `pcopy->value`, and returns the address of the new instance of `H5P_genprop_t`.

This done, `H5P__set_pclass_cb()` memccpy's `prp_value` into `pcopy→value`, and calls

```
H5P__add_prop(plist→props, pcopy)
```

which inserts `pcopy` into the skip list pointed to by `plist→props` via a call to `H5SL_insert()`.

Finally, `H5P__set_pclass_db()` deletes `*tmp_value` if it has been allocated, and returns. On error, it discards `*pcopy` via a call to `H5P__free_prop()` if it was created prior to the failure.

Multi-Thread safety concerns:

```

/**
 * \ingroup GPLOA
 *
 * \brief Removes a property from a property list class
 *
 * \plistcls_id{pclass_id}
 * \param[in] name Name of property to remove
 *
 * \return \herr_t
 *
 * \details H5Punregister() removes a property from a property list class.
 *          Future property lists created of that class will not contain
 *          this property; existing property lists containing this property
 *          are not affected.
 *
 * \since 1.4.0
 */
H5_DLL herr_t H5Punregister(hid_t pclass_id, const char *name);

H5Punregister()
+-H5I_object_verify()
| +- ...
+-H5P__unregister()
+-H5SL_search()
| +- ...
+-H5SL_remove()
| +- ...
+-H5P__free_prop()
+-H5MM_xfree()
+-H5FL_FREE()

```

In a nutshell:

Delete a property from the specified property list class.

According to the user documentation, this should have no effect on existing property lists – however examination of the code suggests otherwise. See detailed discussion below.

In greater detail:

H5Punregister() looks up the supplied property list class id to obtain a pointer (pclass) to it. It then calls **H5P__unregister(pclass, name)** to remove the named property from pclass, and returns whatever that function returns.

H5P__unregister() calls

```
prop = H5SL_search(pclass->props, name)
```

to obtain a pointer to the target property, calls

```
H5SL_remove(pclass->props, prop->name)
```

to remove it from pclass->props, calls

```
H5P__free_prop(prop)
```

to free it, decrements pclass->nprops, sets pclass->revision equal to the global variable H5P_next_rev, increments H5P_next_rev, and returns.

Note: While H5Punregister removes a property from a property list class, decrements its nprops field, and assigns a new unique revision number, it does not duplicate the property list class, apply these changes to the duplicate, and then replace the original version with the new modified version in the index as per H5P__register() (see discussion of H5Pcopy_prop() above).

This has two problematic effects:

First, the version number seen by property lists previously derived from the starting version of the property list class changes. This may or may not be an issue, but it should be noted.

Second, if the target property doesn't have a create callback, and a derived property list class never changes its value, the call to H5Punregister has the effect of removing the target property from all such property lists without decrementing the associated nprops field – recall that such properties are not copied into the property list but are instead read from the parent property list class(es) if accessed (see H5Pcreate() above).

This second issue is much more serious, as not only is it at odds with the documented behavior of the function, it also corrupts the property list data structure. I presume that this is a bug.

Multi-thread safety concerns:

Appendix 2 – H5P internal API calls

In addition to its public API, H5P also has a private API providing property list 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 H5P multi-thread safe so it can be safely called by multiple threads in multi-thread safe VOL connectors, at first glance, the internal H5P API is not relevant to this effort. However, the internal H5P API is used by other packages – including some that are necessary to support multi-thread VOL connectors.

H5lprivate.h is reproduced below, with annotations to some of the internal API calls and the some of the package initialization calls. Most entries are annotated with a reference to the relevant public API call. Those with no public API cognate have more extensive annotations or no annotation at all for calls specific to particular property lists. Annotations to the initialization calls are a work in progress.

```
/* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * */
/* Copyright by The HDF Group.                                     */
/* Copyright by the Board of Trustees of the University of Illinois. */
/* All rights reserved.                                           */
/*                                                                 */
/* This file is part of HDF5.  The full HDF5 copyright notice, including */
/* terms governing use, modification, and redistribution, is contained in */
/* the COPYING file, which can be found at the root of the source code */
/* distribution tree, or in https://www.hdfgroup.org/licenses.      */
/* If you do not have access to either file, you may request a copy from */
/* help@hdfgroup.org.                                             */
/* * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * * */

/*
 * This file contains private information about the H5P module
 */
#ifndef H5Pprivate_H
#define H5Pprivate_H

/* Early typedefs to avoid circular dependencies */
typedef struct H5P_genplist_t H5P_genplist_t;

/* Include package's public header */
#include "H5Ppublic.h"

/* Private headers needed by this file */
#include "H5private.h" /* Generic Functions */

/*****
 * Library Private Macros */
*****/

/* ===== String creation property names ===== */
#define H5P_STRCRT_CHAR_ENCODING_NAME "character_encoding" /* Character set encoding
for string */

/* If the module using this macro is allowed access to the private variables, access
them directly */
```

```

#ifdef H5P_MODULE
#define H5P_PLIST_ID(P) ((P)->plist_id)
#define H5P_CLASS(P) ((P)->pclass)
#else /* H5P_MODULE */
#define H5P_PLIST_ID(P) (H5P_get_plist_id(P))
#define H5P_CLASS(P) (H5P_get_class(P))
#endif /* H5P_MODULE */

#define H5_COLL_MD_READ_FLAG_NAME "collective_metadata_read"

/*****
/* Library Private Typedefs */
*****/

typedef enum H5P_coll_md_read_flag_t {
    H5P_FORCE_FALSE = -1,
    H5P_USER_FALSE = 0,
    H5P_USER_TRUE = 1
} H5P_coll_md_read_flag_t;

/* Forward declarations for anonymous H5P objects */
typedef struct H5P_genclass_t H5P_genclass_t;

typedef enum H5P_plist_type_t {
    H5P_TYPE_USER = 0,
    H5P_TYPE_ROOT = 1,
    H5P_TYPE_OBJECT_CREATE = 2,
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_CREATE = 3,
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_ACCESS = 4,
    H5P_TYPE_DATASET_CREATE = 5,
    H5P_TYPE_DATASET_ACCESS = 6,
    H5P_TYPE_DATASET_XFER = 7,
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_MOUNT = 8,
    H5P_TYPE_GROUP_CREATE = 9,
    H5P_TYPE_GROUP_ACCESS = 10,
    H5P_TYPE_DATATYPE_CREATE = 11,
    H5P_TYPE_DATATYPE_ACCESS = 12,
    H5P_TYPE_STRING_CREATE = 13,
    H5P_TYPE_ATTRIBUTE_CREATE = 14,
    H5P_TYPE_OBJECT_COPY = 15,
    H5P_TYPE_LINK_CREATE = 16,
    H5P_TYPE_LINK_ACCESS = 17,
    H5P_TYPE_ATTRIBUTE_ACCESS = 18,
    H5P_TYPE_VOL_INITIALIZE = 19,
    H5P_TYPE_MAP_CREATE = 20,
    H5P_TYPE_MAP_ACCESS = 21,
    H5P_TYPE_REFERENCE_ACCESS = 22,
    H5P_TYPE_MAX_TYPE
} H5P_plist_type_t;

/* Function pointer for library classes with properties to register */
typedef herr_t (*H5P_reg_prop_func_t)(H5P_genclass_t *pclass);

/*
 * Each library property list class has a variable of this type that contains
 * class variables and methods used to initialize the class.
 */
typedef struct H5P_libclass_t {
    const char * name; /* Class name */
    H5P_plist_type_t type; /* Class type */

    H5P_genclass_t ** par_pclass; /* Pointer to global parent class
                                   property list class */

```



```

H5P_genclass_t ** pclass; /* Pointer to global property list class */
hid_t *const class_id; /* Pointer to global property list class
ID */
hid_t *const def_plist_id; /* Pointer to global default property
list ID */
H5P_reg_prop_func_t reg_prop_func; /* Register class's properties */

/* Class callback function pointers & info */
H5P_cls_create_func_t create_func; /* Function to call when a property
list is created */
void * create_data; /* Pointer to user data to pass along
to create callback */
H5P_cls_copy_func_t copy_func; /* Function to call when a property list
is copied */
void * copy_data; /* Pointer to user data to pass along
to copy callback */
H5P_cls_close_func_t close_func; /* Function to call when a property list
is closed */
void * close_data; /* Pointer to user data to pass along
to close callback */
} H5P_libclass_t;

/*****
/* Library Private Variables */
*****/

/* Predefined property list classes. */
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_ROOT_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_OBJECT_CREATE_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_FILE_CREATE_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_FILE_ACCESS_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_DATASET_CREATE_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_DATASET_ACCESS_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_DATASET_XFER_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_FILE_MOUNT_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_GROUP_CREATE_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_GROUP_ACCESS_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_DATATYPE_CREATE_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_DATATYPE_ACCESS_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_MAP_CREATE_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_MAP_ACCESS_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_ATTRIBUTE_CREATE_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_ATTRIBUTE_ACCESS_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_OBJECT_COPY_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_LINK_CREATE_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_LINK_ACCESS_g;
H5_DLLVAR H5P_genclass_t *H5P_CLS_STRING_CREATE_g;

/* Internal property list classes */
H5_DLLVAR const struct H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_LCRT[1]; /* Link creation */
H5_DLLVAR const struct H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_LACC[1]; /* Link access */
H5_DLLVAR const struct H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_AACC[1]; /* Attribute access */
H5_DLLVAR const struct H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_DACC[1]; /* Dataset access */
H5_DLLVAR const struct H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_GACC[1]; /* Group access */
H5_DLLVAR const struct H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_TACC[1]; /* Named datatype access */
H5_DLLVAR const struct H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_MACC[1]; /* Map access */
H5_DLLVAR const struct H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_FACC[1]; /* File access */
H5_DLLVAR const struct H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_OCPY[1]; /* Object copy */

/*****
/* Library Private Prototypes */
*****/

```

```

/* Forward declaration of structs used below */
struct H5O_fill_t;
struct H5T_t;
struct H5VL_connector_prop_t;

/* Package initialization routines */
H5_DLL herr_t H5P_init_phasel(void);
H5_DLL herr_t H5P_init_phase2(void);

H5P_init_phasel()
+-H5I_register_type()
| +- ...
+-H5P__create_class()
| +-H5FL_CALLOC()
| +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| +-H5SL_create()
| | +- ...
| +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_INC_CLS)
| | +-H5MM_xfree()
| | +-H5SL_destroy()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__access_class(par_class, H5P_MOD_DEC_CLS) // not in this case
| | + ...
| +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| +-H5SL_destroy()
| +- ... // eventually
|     H5P__free_prop_cb()
|     +- (tprop->close) (tprop->name, tprop->size, tprop->value);
|     | +- ... // property specific - may not exist
|     +-H5P__free_prop(tprop);
|     +-H5MM_xfree()
|     +-H5FL_FREE()
+-(*lib_class->reg_prop_func) (*lib_class->pclass)
| +- ... // varies
+-H5I_register(H5I_GENPROP_CLS, *lib_class->pclass, FALSE)
| +- ...
+-H5P_create_id(*lib_class->pclass, FALSE)
| +-H5P__create()
| | +-H5FL_CALLOC()
| | +-H5SL_create()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5SL_first()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5SL_item()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5SL_search()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__do_prop_cb1(plist->props, tmp, tmp->create)
| | | +-H5MM_malloc()
| | | +-cb(prop->name, prop->size, tmp value) // cb == tmp->create
| | | +-H5P__dup_prop(prop, H5P_PROP_WITHIN_LIST)
| | | | +-H5FL_MALLOC()
| | | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | | | +-H5MM_xstrdup()
| | | | +-H5MM_xfree() // error cleanup
| | | | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
| | | +-H5MM_memcpy()
| | | +-H5P__add_prop()
| | | | +-H5SL_insert()
| | | +- ...

```

```

| | | +-H5MM_xfree () // error cleanup
| | | +-H5P__free_prop()
| | | +-H5P__free_prop()
| | |     +-H5MM_xfree()
| | |     +-H5FL_FREE()
| | +-H5SL_insert()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5SL_next()
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5P__access_class(plist->pclass, H5P_MOD_INC_LST)
| | | // in this case, increment the plist count in the pclass
| | |
| | +-H5SL_close() // error cleanup
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5SL_destroy() // error cleanup
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5SL_close() // error cleanup
| | | +- ...
| | +-H5FL_FREE() // error cleanup
| |
| +-H5I_register()
| | +- ...
| +- (tclass->create_func)(plist_id, tclass->create_data) // class specific,
| | // may not exist
| +-H5I_remove() // error cleanup only
| | +- ...
| +-H5P_close() // error cleanup only
| | +- // see H5Pclose() above
|
+-H5I_clear_type() // error cleanup only
| +- ...
+-H5I_dec_ref() // error cleanup only
| +- ...
+-H5P_close_class() // error cleanup only
| +- // see H5Pclose_class()

H5P_init_phase2()
+-H5P__facc_set_def_driver()
| +-HDgetenv(HDF5_DRIVER)
| | +- ...
+-H5FD_is_driver_registered_by_name()
| +- ...
+-H5I_inc_ref()
| +- ...
+-H5P__facc_set_def_driver_check_predefined(driver_env_var, &driver_id)
| +- ...
+-H5FD_register_driver_by_name(driver_env_var, TRUE)
| +- ...
+-H5I_object()
| +- ...
+-H5P__class_set(def_fapclass, H5F_ACS_FILE_DRV_NAME, &driver_prop)
| +- ...
+-H5P_set_driver(def_fapl, driver_prop.driver_id, driver_prop.driver_info,
| | driver_prop.driver_config_str)
| |
| +- ...
+-H5I_dec_app_ref(driver_id) // error cleanup
| +- ...

```

H5P__init_phase1() starts by creating the indexes for property list classes and property lists:

```
H5I_register_type(H5I_GENPROPCLS_CLS)
H5I_register_type(H5I_GENPROPLST_CLS)
```

The next step is to create the various property list classes used by the HDF5 library, populate their property lists setting default values in passing, and then create the default property lists. The data required to create the property list classes is stored in init_class[] – an array of pointers to constant instances of H5P_libclass_t, whose definition is reproduced below for convenience:

```
typedef struct H5P_libclass_t {
    const char *      name; /* Class name */
    H5P_plist_type_t type; /* Class type */

    H5P_genclass_t ** par_pclass; /* Pointer to global parent
                                   class property list class */
    H5P_genclass_t ** pclass;     /* Pointer to global property
                                   list class */
    hid_t *const      class_id;    /* Pointer to global property
                                   list class ID */
    hid_t *const      def_plist_id; /* Pointer to global default
                                   property list ID */
    H5P_reg_prop_func_t reg_prop_func; /* Register class's
                                       properties */

    /* Class callback function pointers & info */
    H5P_cls_create_func_t create_func; /* Function to call when a
                                       property list is created */
    void *                create_data; /* Pointer to user data to pass
                                       along to create callback */
    H5P_cls_copy_func_t   copy_func;   /* Function to call when a
                                       property list is copied */
    void *                copy_data;   /* Pointer to user data to pass
                                       along to copy callback */
    H5P_cls_close_func_t  close_func;  /* Function to call when a
                                       property list is closed */
    void *                close_data;  /* Pointer to user data to pass
                                       along to close callback */
} H5P_libclass_t;
```

init_class[] is initialized as follows:

```
/* List of all property list classes in the library */
/* (order here is not important, they will be initialized in the proper
 *    order according to their parent class dependencies)
 */
static H5P_libclass_t const *const init_class[] = {
    H5P_CLS_ROOT,      /* Root */
    H5P_CLS_OCRT,      /* Object create */
    H5P_CLS_STRCRT,    /* String create */
    H5P_CLS_LACC,      /* Link access */
    H5P_CLS_GCRT,      /* Group create */
    H5P_CLS_OCPY,      /* Object copy */
    H5P_CLS_GACC,      /* Group access */
    H5P_CLS_FCRT,      /* File creation */
    H5P_CLS_FACC,      /* File access */
    H5P_CLS_DCRT,      /* Dataset creation */
}
```

```

H5P_CLS_DACC, /* Dataset access */
H5P_CLS_DXFR, /* Data transfer */
H5P_CLS_FMNT, /* File mount */
H5P_CLS_TCRT, /* Datatype creation */
H5P_CLS_TACC, /* Datatype access */
H5P_CLS_MCRT, /* Map creation */
H5P_CLS_MACC, /* Map access */
H5P_CLS_ACRT, /* Attribute creation */
H5P_CLS_AACC, /* Attribute access */
H5P_CLS_LCRT, /* Link creation */
H5P_CLS_VINI, /* VOL initialization */
H5P_CLS_RACC /* Reference access */
};

```

The individual entries in the array are mostly initialized in H5Pint.c. Note that the instances of H5P_libclass_t contain references to values that are not known until run time. This is handled by initializing fields to point to global variables that are initialized at run time. The following initialization of H5P_CLS_FACC gives an example of this.

```

/* File access property list class library initialization object */
const H5P_libclass_t H5P_CLS_FACC[1] = {{
    "file access", /* Class name for debugging */
    H5P_TYPE_FILE_ACCESS, /* Class type */

    &H5P_CLS_ROOT_g, /* Parent class */
    &H5P_CLS_FILE_ACCESS_g, /* Pointer to class */
    &H5P_CLS_FILE_ACCESS_ID_g, /* Pointer to class ID */
    &H5P_LST_FILE_ACCESS_ID_g, /* Pointer to default property list ID */
    H5P_facc_reg_prop, /* Default property registration routine */

    NULL, /* Class creation callback */
    NULL, /* Class creation callback info */
    NULL, /* Class copy callback */
    NULL, /* Class copy callback info */
    NULL, /* Class close callback */
    NULL /* Class close callback info */
}};

```

With the background, we can now discuss the actual initialization.

At the conceptual level, H5P_init_phase1() scans each entry in the init_class[] array. If the property list class and default property list described by this entry is uninitialized, it checks to see if all prerequisites for initialization are met, and if so, creates the indicated property list class and default property list. It repeats this scan until there is no activity for a full scan of init_class[], verifies that the required number of initializations have occurred, and returns.

Let lib_class be a pointer to the element of init_class[] currently under examination in the above scan. Proceed as follows for each such entry before going on to the next:

If *lib_class→class_id is not equal -1, the indicated property list class has been initialized. Go on to the next entry in the scan.

Similarly, if `lib_class->par_pclass` is not NULL, and `*lib_class->par_pclass` is, the parent property list class hasn't been created yet. Go on to the next entry in the scan.

If `lib_class->par_pclass` is NULL (i.e. this is the root property list class) or `*lib_class->par_pclass` is not NULL (i.e. the parent class has been initialized), create the indicated property list class as follows:

Call:

```
*lib_class->pclass = H5P__create_class(par_pclass,
                                     lib_class->name,
                                     lib_class->type,
                                     lib_class->create_func,
                                     lib_class->create_data,
                                     lib_class->copy_func,
                                     lib_class->copy_data,
                                     lib_class->close_func,
                                     lib_class->close_data)
```

where `par_class = NULL` if `lib_class->par_pclass` is NULL, and `*lib_class->par_pclass` otherwise. This call creates the indicated property list class, but does not populate it beyond the properties inherited from its parent class. See `H5Pcopy()` above for further details on `H5P__create_class()`.

Next, if `lib_class->reg_prop_func` is not NULL, call:

```
(*lib_class->reg_prop_func) (*lib_class->pclass)
```

To create the properties specific to the new property list class, and insert them.

Once the new property list class is created, it is registered via the call:

```
*lib_class->class_id = H5I_register(H5I_GENPROP_CLS, *lib_class->pclass, FALSE)
```

Finally, check to see if the default property list of the new class already exists, and create it if not via the call:

```
*lib_class->def_plist_id = H5P_create_id(*lib_class->pclass, FALSE)
```

All this done, go on to the next entry in the scan.

```

/* Internal versions of API routines */
H5_DLL herr_t H5P_close(H5P_genplist_t *plist);

**** See H5Pclose() ****

H5_DLL hid_t H5P_create_id(H5P_genclass_t *pclass, hbool_t app_ref);

**** See H5Pcreate() ****

H5_DLL hid_t H5P_copy_plist(const H5P_genplist_t *old_plist, hbool_t app_ref);

**** See H5Pcopy() ****

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_get(H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name, void *value);

**** See H5Pget() ****

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_set(H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name, const void *value);

**** See H5Pset() ****

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_peek(H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name, void *value);

H5P_peek(plist, name, value)
|
| // udata.value = value
|
| +-H5P__do_prop(plist, name, H5P__peek_cb, H5P__peek_cb, &udata)
|   +-H5SL_search()
|     | +- ...
|     | // In this case, the same callback is provided for both the
|     | // plist_op and pclass_op parameters - hence simplifying the
|     | // call tree in this case.
|     +-H5P__peek_cb(plist, name, prop, udata)
|       +-H5MM_memcpy()

```

Similar to H5P_get() – the main difference is that H5P__peek_cb simply memcpy()s prop→value into the supplied value buffer instead of calling prop→copy() for this purpose.

```

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_poke(H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name,
                      const void *value);

**** See H5Pdecode() ****

```

```

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_insert(H5P_genplist_t *plist,
                        const char *name,
                        size_t size,
                        void *value,
                        H5P_prp_set_func_t prp_set,
                        H5P_prp_get_func_t prp_get,
                        H5P_prp_encode_func_t prp_encode,
                        H5P_prp_decode_func_t prp_decode,
                        H5P_prp_delete_func_t prp_delete,
                        H5P_prp_copy_func_t prp_copy,

```

```

        H5P_prp_compare_func_t prp_cmp,
        H5P_prp_close_func_t prp_close);

**** See H5Pinsert2() ****

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_remove(H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name);

***** See H5Premove() *****

H5_DLL htri_t H5P_exist_plist(const H5P_genplist_t *plist, const char *name);

**** See H5Pexist() ****

H5_DLL htri_t H5P_class_isa(const H5P_genclass_t *pclass1,
                           const H5P_genclass_t *pclass2);

**** See H5Pisa_class() ****

H5_DLL char * H5P_get_class_name(H5P_genclass_t *pclass);

**** See H5Pget_class_name() ****

/* Internal helper routines */
H5_DLL herr_t      H5P_get_nprops_pclass(const H5P_genclass_t *pclass,
                                         size_t *nprops, hbool_t recurse);

**** See H5Pget_nprops() ****

// only used in H5P.c and H5Pint.c - make it a package function?

H5_DLL hid_t      H5P_peek_driver(H5P_genplist_t *plist);

// used in H5FD, and H5F

H5_DLL const void *H5P_peek_driver_info(H5P_genplist_t *plist);

// used in H5FD

H5_DLL const char *H5P_peek_driver_config_str(H5P_genplist_t *plist);

// used in H5FD, and H5F

H5_DLL herr_t      H5P_set_driver(H5P_genplist_t *plist, hid_t new_driver_id,
                                  const void *new_driver_info,
                                  const char *new_driver_config_str);

// used in H5FD

H5_DLL herr_t      H5P_set_driver_by_name(H5P_genplist_t *plist,
                                          const char *driver_name,
                                          const char *driver_config,
                                          hbool_t app_ref);

```



```

// Only in 5Pfap1.c

H5_DLL herr_t      H5P_set_driver_by_value(H5P_genplist_t *plist,
                                           H5FD_class_value_t driver_value,
                                           const char *driver_config,
                                           hbool_t app_ref);

// Used in H5FD

H5_DLL herr_t      H5P_set_vol(H5P_genplist_t *plist, hid_t vol_id,
                               const void *vol_info);

// used in H5VL

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_reset_vol_class(const H5P_genclass_t *pclass,
                                  const struct H5VL_connector_prop_t *vol_prop);

// Used in H5VL

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_set_vlen_mem_manager(H5P_genplist_t *plist,
                                       H5MM_allocate_t alloc_func,
                                       void *alloc_info,
                                       H5MM_free_t free_func, void *free_info);

// Used in H5D

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_is_fill_value_defined(const struct H5O_fill_t *fill,
                                         H5D_fill_value_t *status);

// Used in H5D and H5O

H5_DLL int      H5P_fill_value_cmp(const void *value1, const void *value2,
                                   size_t size);

// Used in H5D

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_modify_filter(H5P_genplist_t *plist, H5Z_filter_t filter,
                                unsigned flags, size_t cd_nelmts,
                                const unsigned cd_values[]);

// Used in H5Z

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_get_filter_by_id(H5P_genplist_t *plist, H5Z_filter_t id,
                                   unsigned int *flags, size_t *cd_nelmts,
                                   unsigned cd_values[], size_t namelen,
                                   char name[], unsigned *filter_config);

// Used in H5Z

H5_DLL htri_t H5P_filter_in_pline(H5P_genplist_t *plist, H5Z_filter_t id);

// Used in H5Z

```

```

/* Query internal fields of the property list struct */
H5_DLL hid_t H5P_get_plist_id(const H5P_genplist_t *plist);

// Doesn't appear to be used in the library

H5_DLL H5P_genclass_t *H5P_get_class(const H5P_genplist_t *plist);

**** See H5Pget_class()

// Used in H5trace.c

/* *SPECIAL* Don't make more of these! -QAK */
H5_DLL htri_t H5P_isa_class(hid_t plist_id, hid_t pclass_id);

**** See H5Pisa_class() ****

// Used in H5CX, H5D, H5F, H5FD, H5G, H5L, H5M, H5O, H5R, H5T, and H5VL

H5_DLL H5P_genplist_t *H5P_object_verify(hid_t plist_id, hid_t pclass_id);

// Used in H5FD, H5F, H5L, H5VL, and H5Z

/* Private DCPL routines */
H5_DLL herr_t H5P_fill_value_defined(H5P_genplist_t *plist,
                                     H5D_fill_value_t *status);

// Used in H5Z

H5_DLL herr_t H5P_get_fill_value(H5P_genplist_t *plist,
                                 const struct H5T_t *type,
                                 void *value);

// used in H5Z

H5_DLL int H5P_ignore_cmp(const void H5_ATTR_UNUSED *val1,
                          const void H5_ATTR_UNUSED *val2,
                          size_t H5_ATTR_UNUSED size);

// Doesn't appear to be used in the library

#endif /* H5Pprivate_H */

```

Appendix 3 – Original Proposal For Generic Properties?

Thank you to Elena Pourmal for finding the following document, and bringing it to my attention.
https://support.hdfgroup.org/HDF5/doc_resource/H5Generic_Props.html#H5Pcopy_prop.

My understanding is that the original property list facility was implemented as a flat structure, supporting only a pre-defined set of properties for each type of property list.

The following document appears to be an early RFC written by Quincey Koziol for the re-write of H5P to support generic properties. Until only five or ten years ago, proposals for extensions / changes in the HDF5 library (typically referred to as RFCs) usually consisted of user level documentation for the new feature / revision along with a brief discussion of motivation. Implementation details were seldom if ever discussed. As it is dated 9/10/01, the document is consistent with this practice.

Leaving aside implementation concerns, the motivation still applies – specifically the need to allow user defined properties to configure user supplied VFDs. Indeed, the VOL layer has only accentuated this requirement.

While this is not a design document as I would use the term, it does shed light on the objectives of the current implementation of H5P – and thus makes the current implementation easier to understand.

Generic Properties Overview and Justification

It is useful to allow "drivers" (VFL, VDL, datatype conversion, etc.) to create properties for controlling features they wish to add to the library. Allowing a driver to create properties when installed at run-time will enable new features to be easily created and controlled while localizing the changes to just the section of code being modified or added. This should allow easier maintenance and evolution of the library's properties in future versions of the library code.

It would also be useful to give users the ability to create and set properties which are temporary in nature and do not need to be stored longer than the application is active. These would allow users to set application specific properties which can be set and queried during the application's execution.

Generic Properties Implementation

The existing property list classes would be modified so that the existing properties are generic properties which are registered when the library starts up. The existing property list API functions would become wrappers around the new "generic" get/set functions. This would

allow the library to become more modular, with each driver or API registering it's own properties without hard- wiring new fields in the property list class.

The library will provide a default or "empty" property list class with no property values defined for property lists of that class. A mechanism for deriving a new property list class will be defined by inheriting from an existing property list class. The existing property list classes defined by the library (file access, dataset creation, etc) will be created during library initialization and will have global constants available for applications to use. (This is similar to the way the library-defined datatypes are created at run-time)

Users may derive new property list classes from any existing property list class, including the completely new classes derived from the default "empty" property list class, or other user-derived property list classes. User-derived property list classes which are derived from the library-defined classes may be passed to API functions which expect library-defined property lists and the API functions will traverse the inherited classes to find the correct class to retrieve information.

The new generic property list API functions allow properties to be registered for each property list class (library or user defined) to create a set of initial properties for newly created property lists of that class. These registered properties can have default values for each new property list created for that class.

Temporary generic properties can also be attached to any existing property list without affecting new property lists of that class.

Property names beginning with "H5" are reserved for library use and should not be used by third-party applications or libraries.

The names and sizes of property values for each property are local to each property list and changing them in a property list class do not affect existing property lists.

API Changes for Implementing Generic Properties

New Functions:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <u>H5Pcreate class</u> | - Create a new property list class. |
| <u>H5Pcreate list</u> | - Create a new property list of a given class. |
| <u>H5Pregister</u> | - Register a permanent property with a class. |
| <u>H5Pinsert</u> | - Create a temporary property for a property list. |
| <u>H5Pset</u> | - Set an existing property (permanent or temporary) to a value. |
| <u>H5Pexist</u> | - Query whether a property exists in a property list or class. |
| <u>H5Pget size</u> | - Query size of property value in bytes. |

<u>H5Pget_nprops</u>	- Query number of properties in list or class
<u>H5Pget_class_name</u>	- Retrieve the name of a class object
<u>H5Pget_class_parent</u>	- Retrieve a property class's parent class
<u>H5Pisa_class</u>	- Checks if a property list is a member of a property class
<u>H5Pget</u>	- Retrieve property value.
<u>H5Pequal</u>	- Compares two property lists or classes for equality
<u>H5Piterate</u>	- Iterates over properties in a property class or list
<u>H5Pcopy_prop</u>	- Copies a property from one list to another
<u>H5Premove</u>	- Removes a property from a property list.
<u>H5Punregister</u>	- Un-register a permanent property from a class.
<u>H5Pclose_list</u>	- Close a property list.
<u>H5Pclose_class</u>	- Remove a property list class.

Removed Functions:

H5Pcreate and H5Pclose are replaced with H5Pcreate_list and H5Pclose_list.

Changes to Existing Functions:

All the existing H5Pget/set routines would need to be changed to use the new generic register/unregister and get/set routines for the properties they manage, but that shouldn't be a user-visible change. Also, H5Pget_class will change from returning a H5P_class_t to the ID of a generic property class.

New API Function Definitions

NAME

H5Pcreate_class

PURPOSE

Create a new property list class

USAGE

```
hid_t H5Pcreate_class(class, name, create, copy, close)
    hid_t class;                IN: Property list class to inherit from.
    const char *name;           IN: Name of property list class to register.
    H5P_cls_create_func_t create; IN: Callback routine called when a property list is
```

H5P_cls_copy_func_t <i>copy</i> ;	created.
	IN: Callback routine called when a property list is copied.
H5P_cls_close_func_t <i>close</i> ;	IN: Callback routine called when a property list is being closed.

RETURNS

Success: Valid property list class ID
 Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Registers a new property list class with the library. The new property list class can inherit from an existing property list class or may be derived from the default "empty" class. New classes with inherited properties from existing classes may not remove those existing properties, only add or remove their own class properties.

The *create* routine is called when a new property list of this class is being created. The H5P_cls_create_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_cls_create_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, void * create_data );
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

hid_t <i>prop_id</i> ;	IN: The ID of the property list being created.
void * <i>create_data</i> ;	IN/OUT: User pointer to any class creation information needed

The *create* routine is called after any registered *create* function is called for each property value. If the *create* routine returns a negative value, the new list is not returned to the user and the property list creation routine returns an error value.

The *copy* routine is called when an existing property list of this class is copied. The H5P_cls_copy_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_cls_copy_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, void * copy_data );
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

hid_t <i>prop_id</i> ;	IN: The ID of the property list created by copying.
void * <i>copy_data</i> ;	IN/OUT: User pointer to any class copy information needed

The *copy* routine is called after any registered *copy* function is called for each property value. If the *copy* routine returns a negative value, the new list is not returned to the user and the property list copy routine returns an error value.

The *close* routine is called when a property list of this class is being closed. The H5P_cls_close_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_cls_close_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, void * close_data );
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

`hid_t prop_id;` IN: The ID of the property list being closed.

`void * close_data;` IN/OUT: User pointer to any class close information needed

The *close* routine is called before any registered *close* function is called for each property value. If the *close* routine returns a negative value, the property list close routine returns an error value but the property list is still closed.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

I would like to say "the property list is not closed" when a `_close_` routine fails, but I don't think that's possible due to other properties in the list being successfully closed & removed from the property list. I suppose that it would be possible to just remove the properties which have successful `_close_` callbacks, but I'm not happy with the ramifications of a mangled, un-closable property list hanging around... Any comments?

NAME

`H5Pcreate_list`

PURPOSE

Create a new property list class of a given class

USAGE

`hid_t H5Pcreate_list(class)`

`hid_t class;` IN: Class of property list to create.

RETURNS

Success: Valid property list ID

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Creates a property list of a given class. If a *create* callback exists for the property list class, it is called before the property list is passed back to the user. If *create* callbacks exist for any individual properties in the property list, they are called before the class *create* callback.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pregister

PURPOSE

Register a permanent property with a property list class

USAGE

```
herr_t H5Pregister(class, name, size, default, create, set, get, close)
```

<code>hid_t class;</code>	IN: Property list class to register permanent property within.
<code>const char * name;</code>	IN: Name of property to register.
<code>size_t size;</code>	IN: Size of property in bytes.
<code>void * default;</code>	IN: Default value for property in newly created property lists.
<code>H5P_prp_create_func_t create;</code>	IN: Callback routine called when a property list is being created and the property value will be initialized.
<code>H5P_prp_set_func_t set;</code>	IN: Callback routine called before a new value is copied into the property's value.
<code>H5P_prp_get_func_t get;</code>	IN: Callback routine called when a property value is retrieved from the property.
<code>H5P_prp_delete_func_t delete;</code>	IN: Callback routine called when a property is deleted from a property list.
<code>H5P_prp_copy_func_t copy;</code>	IN: Callback routine called when a property is copied from in a property list.
<code>H5P_prp_close_func_t close;</code>	IN: Callback routine called when a property list is being closed and the property value will be disposed of.

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Registers a new property with a property list class. The property will exist in all property list objects of *class* created after this routine finishes. The name of the property must not already exist, or this routine will fail. The default property value must be provided and all new property lists created with this property will have the property value set to the default value. Any of the callback routines may be set to NULL if they are not needed.

Zero-sized properties are allowed and do not store any data in the property list. These may be used as flags to indicate the presence or absence of a particular piece of information. The 'default' pointer for a zero-sized property may be set to NULL. The property 'create' & 'close' callbacks are called for zero-sized properties, but the 'set' and 'get' callbacks are never called.

The *create* routine is called when a new property list with this property is being created. H5P_prp_create_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_create_func_t)( const char *name, size_t size, void
*initial_value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

const char * *name*; IN: The name of the property being modified.

size_t *size*; IN: The size of the property in bytes.

void * IN/OUT: The default value for the property being created. (The
initial_value; *default* value passed to H5Pregister)

The *create* routine may modify the value to be set and those changes will be stored as the initial value of the property. If the *create* routine returns a negative value, the new property value is not copied into the property and the create routine returns an error value.

The *set* routine is called before a new value is copied into the property.

H5P_prp_set_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_set_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, const char *name, size_t
size, void *new_value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

hid_t *prop_id*; IN: The ID of the property list being modified.

const char * *name*; IN: The name of the property being modified.

size_t *size*; IN: The size of the property in bytes.

void ** *new_value*; IN/OUT: Pointer to new value pointer for the property being
modified.

The *set* routine may modify the value pointer to be set and those changes will be used when setting the property's value. If the *set* routine returns a negative value, the new property value is not copied into the property and the set routine returns an error value. The *set* routine will not be called for the initial value, only the *create* routine will be called.

The *get* routine is called when a value is retrieved from a property value.

H5P_prp_get_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_get_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, const char *name, size_t
size, void *value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

<code>hid_t prop_id;</code>	IN: The ID of the property list being queried.
<code>const char * name;</code>	IN: The name of the property being queried.
<code>size_t size;</code>	IN: The size of the property in bytes.
<code>void * value;</code>	IN/OUT: The value of the property being returned.

The *get* routine may modify the value to be returned from the query and those changes will be returned to the calling routine. If the *set* routine returns a negative value, the query routine returns an error value.

The *delete* routine is called when a property is being deleted from a property list.

H5P_prp_delete_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_delete_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, const char *name, size_t size, void *value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

<code>hid_t prop_id;</code>	IN: The ID of the property list the property is being deleted from.
<code>const char * name;</code>	IN: The name of the property in the list.
<code>size_t size;</code>	IN: The size of the property in bytes.
<code>void * value;</code>	IN: The value for the property being deleted.

The *delete* routine may modify the value passed in, but the value is not used by the library when the *delete* routine returns. If the *delete* routine returns a negative value, the property list delete routine returns an error value but the property is still deleted.

The *copy* routine is called when a new property list with this property is being created through a copy operation. H5P_prp_copy_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_copy_func_t)( const char *name, size_t size, void *value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

<code>const char * name;</code>	IN: The name of the property being copied.
<code>size_t size;</code>	IN: The size of the property in bytes.
<code>void * value;</code>	IN/OUT: The value for the property being copied.

The *copy* routine may modify the value to be set and those changes will be stored as the new value of the property. If the *copy* routine returns a negative value, the new property value is not copied into the property and the copy routine returns an error value.

The *close* routine is called when a property list with this property is being closed.

H5P_prp_close_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_close_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, const char *name, size_t size, void *value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

<code>hid_t prop_id;</code>	IN: The ID of the property list being closed.
<code>const char * name;</code>	IN: The name of the property in the list.
<code>size_t size;</code>	IN: The size of the property in bytes.
<code>void * value;</code>	IN: The value for the property being closed.

The *close* routine may modify the value passed in, but the value is not used by the library when the *close* routine returns. If the *close* routine returns a negative value, the property list close routine returns an error value but the property list is still closed.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

The *set* callback function may be useful to range check the value being set for the property or may perform some tranformation/translation of the value set. The *get* callback would then [probably] reverse the transformation, etc. A single *get* or *set* callback could handle multiple properties by performing different actions based on the property name or other properties in the property list.

I would like to say "the property list is not closed" when a *close* routine fails, but I don't think that's possible due to other properties in the list being successfully closed & removed from the property list. I suppose that it would be possible to just remove the properties which have successful *close* callbacks, but I'm not happy with the ramifications of a mangled, un-closable property list hanging around... Any comments?

NAME

H5Pinsert

PURPOSE

Register a temporary property with a property list

USAGE

```
herr_t H5Pinsert(plid, name, size, value, set, get, close)
```

<code>hid_t plid;</code>	IN: Property list id to create temporary property within.
<code>const char *name;</code>	IN: Name of property to create.
<code>size_t size;</code>	IN: Size of property in bytes.
<code>void *value;</code>	IN: Initial value for the property.
<code>H5P_prp_set_func_t set;</code>	IN: Callback routine called before a new value is copied into the property's value.
<code>H5P_prp_get_func_t get;</code>	IN: Callback routine called when a property value is retrieved

	from the property.
H5P_prp_delete_func_t <i>delete</i> ;	IN: Callback routine called when a property is deleted from a property list.
H5P_prp_copy_func_t <i>copy</i> ;	IN: Callback routine called when a property is copied from an existing property list.
H5P_prp_close_func_t <i>close</i> ;	IN: Callback routine called when a property list is being closed and the property value will be disposed of.

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Create a new property in a property list. The property will exist only in this property list and copies made from it. The name of the property must not already exist in this list, or this routine will fail. The initial property value must be provided and the property value will be set to it. The *set* and *get* callback routines may be set to NULL if they are not needed.

Zero-sized properties are allowed and do not store any data in the property list. The default value of a zero-size property may be set to NULL. They may be used to indicate the presence or absence of a particular piece of information.

The *set* routine is called before a new value is copied into the property. The H5P_prp_set_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_set_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, const char *name, size_t size,
void *new_value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

hid_t prop_id;	IN: The ID of the property list being modified.
const char *name;	IN: The name of the property being modified.
size_t size;	IN: The size of the property in bytes.
void **new_value;	IN: Pointer to new value pointer for the property being modified.

The *set* routine may modify the value pointer to be set and those changes will be used when setting the property's value. If the *set* routine returns a negative value, the new property value is not copied into the property and the set routine returns an error value. The *set* routine will be called for the initial value.

The *get* routine is called when a value is retrieved from a property value. The H5P_prp_get_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_get_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, const char *name, size_t
size, void *value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

hid_t <i>prop_id</i> ;	IN: The ID of the property list being queried.
const char * <i>name</i> ;	IN: The name of the property being queried.
size_t <i>size</i> ;	IN: The size of the property in bytes.
void * <i>value</i> ;	IN: The value of the property being returned.

The *get* routine may modify the value to be returned from the query and those changes will be preserved. If the *get* routine returns a negative value, the query routine returns an error value.

The *delete* routine is called when a property is being deleted from a property list.

H5P_prp_delete_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_delete_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, const char *name, size_t
size, void *value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

hid_t <i>prop_id</i> ;	IN: The ID of the property list the property is being deleted from.
const char * <i>name</i> ;	IN: The name of the property in the list.
size_t <i>size</i> ;	IN: The size of the property in bytes.
void * <i>value</i> ;	IN: The value for the property being deleted.

The *delete* routine may modify the value passed in, but the value is not used by the library when the *delete* routine returns. If the *delete* routine returns a negative value, the property list delete routine returns an error value but the property is still deleted.

The *copy* routine is called when a new property list with this property is being created through a copy operation. H5P_prp_copy_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_copy_func_t)( const char *name, size_t size, void
*value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

const char * <i>name</i> ;	IN: The name of the property being copied.
size_t <i>size</i> ;	IN: The size of the property in bytes.
void * <i>value</i> ;	IN/OUT: The value for the property being copied.

The *copy* routine may modify the value to be set and those changes will be stored as the new value of the property. If the *copy* routine returns a negative value, the new property value is not copied into the property and the copy routine returns an error value.

The *close* routine is called when a property list with this property is being closed. The H5P_prp_close_func_t is defined as:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_prp_close_func_t)( hid_t prop_id, const char *name, size_t
size, void *value);
```

where the parameters to the callback function are:

hid_t prop_id;	IN: The ID of the property list being closed.
const char *name;	IN: The name of the property in the list.
size_t size;	IN: The size of the property in bytes.
void *value;	IN: The value for the property being closed.

The *close* routine may modify the value passed in, the value is not used by the library when the *close* routine returns. If the *close* routine returns a negative value, the property list close routine returns an error value but the property list is still closed.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

The *set* callback function may be useful to range check the value being set for the property or may perform some tranformation/translation of the value set. The *get* callback would then [probably] reverse the transformation, etc. A single *get* or *set* callback could handle multiple properties by performing different actions based on the property name or other properties in the property list.

There is no *create* callback routine for temporary property list objects, the initial value is assumed to have any necessary setup already performed on it.

I would like to say "the property list is not closed" when a *close* routine fails, but I don't think that's possible due to other properties in the list being successfully closed & removed from the property list. I suppose that it would be possible to just remove the properties which have successful *close* callbacks, but I'm not happy with the ramifications of a mangled, un-closable property list hanging around... Any comments?

NAME

H5Pset

PURPOSE

Set a property list value

USAGE

```
herr_t H5Pset(plid, name, value)
    hid_t plid;          IN: Property list id to modify
    const char *name;    IN: Name of property to modify.
```

void **value*;

IN: Pointer to value to set the property to.

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Sets a new value for a property in a property list. The property name must exist or this routine will fail. If there is a *set* callback routine registered for this property, the *value* will be passed to that routine and any changes to the *value* will be used when setting the property value. The information pointed at by the *value* pointer (possibly modified by the *set* callback) is copied into the property list value and may be changed by the application making the H5Pset call without affecting the property value.

If the *set* callback routine returns an error, the property value will not be modified. This routine may not be called for zero-sized properties and will return an error in that case.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pexist

PURPOSE

Query if a property name exists in a property list or class

USAGE

htri_t H5Pexist(*id*, *name*)

hid_t *id*;

IN: Property ID to query

const char **name*;

IN: Name of property to check for.

RETURNS

Success: Positive if the property exists in the property object, zero if the property does not exist.

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

This routine checks if a property exists within a property list or class.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pget_size

PURPOSE

Query size of property value in bytes

USAGE

```
int H5Pget_size(id, name, size)
    hid_t id;           IN: ID of property object to query
    const char *name;   IN: Name of property to query
    size_t *size;       OUT: Size of property in bytes
```

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value
Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

This routine retrieves the size of a property's value in bytes. Zero- sized properties are allowed and return 0. This function operates on both property lists and property classes

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pget_nprops

PURPOSE

Query number of properties in property list or class

USAGE

```
int H5Pget_nprops(id, nprops)
    hid_t id;          IN: ID of property object to query
    size_t *nprops;    OUT: Number of properties in object
```

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value
Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

This routine retrieves the number of properties in a property list or class. If a property class ID is given, the number of registered properties in the class is returned in *nprops*. If a property list ID is given, the current number of properties in the list is returned in *nprops*.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pget_class_name

PURPOSE

Retrieve the name of a class

USAGE

```
char * H5Pget_class_name(pcid)
    hid_t pcid;    IN: Property class id to query
```

RETURNS

Success: Pointer to a malloc'ed string containing the class name
Failure: NULL

DESCRIPTION

This routine retrieves the name of a generic property list class. The pointer to the name must be free'd by the user for successful calls.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pget_class_parent

PURPOSE

Retrieve the parent class of a property class

USAGE

```
hid_t H5Pget_class_parent(pcid)  
    hid_t pcid;    IN: Property class ID to query
```

RETURNS

Success: ID of parent class object
Failure: negative

DESCRIPTION

This routine retrieves an ID for the parent class of a property class.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pisa_class

PURPOSE

Check if a property list is a member of a class

USAGE

```
htri_t H5Pisa_class(plist, pclass)  
    hid_t plist;    IN: ID of property list to compare
```

hid_t *pclass*; IN: ID of property class to compare against

RETURNS

Success: TRUE (positive) if equal, FALSE (zero) if unequal

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

This routine checks if a property list is a member of a class.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pget

PURPOSE

Query value of property

USAGE

herr_t H5Pget(*plid*, *name*, *value*)

hid_t *plid*; IN: Property list id to query

const char **name*; IN: Name of property to query

void **value*; OUT: Pointer to location to copy value of property retrieved into.

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value.

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Retrieves a copy of the value for a property in a property list. The property name must exist or this routine will fail. If there is a *get* callback routine registered for this property, the copy of the value of the property will first be passed to that routine and any changes to the copy of the value will be used when returning the property value from this routine. If the *get* callback routine returns an error, *value* will not be modified. This routine may

be called for zero-sized properties with the *value* set to NULL and the *get* routine will be called with a NULL value if the callback exists.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pequal

PURPOSE

Compare two property lists or classes for equality

USAGE

```
htri_t H5Pequal(id1, id2)  
    hid_t id1;    IN: First property object to compare  
    hid_t id2;    IN: Second property object to compare
```

RETURNS

Success: TRUE (positive) if equal, FALSE (zero) if unequal
Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

This routine determines whether two property lists or classes are equal to one another. Both *id1* and *id2* must be either property lists or classes, comparing a list to a class is an error.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Piterate

PURPOSE

Iterates over properties in a property class or list

USAGE

```
int H5Piterate(idass_id, idx, iter_func, iter_data)
    hid_t id;                IN: ID of property object to iterate over
    int * idx;                IN/OUT: Index of the property to begin with
    H5P_iterate_t iter_func; IN: Function pointer to function to be called with each
                                property iterated over.
    void * iter_data;         IN/OUT: Pointer to iteration data from user
```

RETURNS

Success: Returns the return value of the last call to *iter_func* if it was non-zero, or zero if all properties have been processed.

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

This routine iterates over the properties in the property object specified with ID. The properties in both property lists and classes may be iterated over with this function. For each property in the object, the *iter_func* and some additional information, specified below, are passed to the *iter_func* function. The iteration begins with the *idx* property in the object and the next element to be processed by the operator is returned in *idx*. If *idx* is NULL, then the iterator starts at the first property; since no stopping point is returned in this case, the iterator cannot be restarted if one of the calls to its operator returns non-zero.

The prototype for *H5P_iterate_t* is:

```
typedef herr_t (*H5P_iterate_t)(hid_t id, const char *name, void *iter_data)
```

The operation receives the property list or class identifier for the object being iterated over, ID, the name of the current property within the object, name, and the pointer to the operator data passed in to *H5Piterate*, *iter_data*.

The return values from an operator are:

- Zero: Causes the iterator to continue, returning zero when all properties have been processed.
- Positive: Causes the iterator to immediately return that positive value, indicating short-circuit success. The iterator can be restarted at the index of the next property.
- Negative: Causes the iterator to immediately return that value, indicating failure. The iterator can be restarted at the index of the next property.

H5Piterate assumes that the properties in the object identified by ID remains unchanged through the iteration. If the membership changes during the iteration, the function's behavior is undefined.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pcopy_prop

PURPOSE

Copies a property from one list or class to another

USAGE

```
herr_t H5Pcopy_prop(dst_id, src_id, name)
    hid_t dst_id;          IN: ID of destination property list or class
    hid_t src_id;          IN: ID of source property list or class
    const char *name;      IN: Name of property to copy
```

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value.
Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Copies a property from one property list or class to another.

If a property is copied from one class to another, all the property information will be first deleted from the destination class and then the property information will be copied from the source class into the destination class.

If a property is copied from one list to another, the property will be first deleted from the destination list (generating a call to the *close* callback for the property, if one exists) and then the property is copied from the source list to the destination list (generating a call to the *copy* callback for the property, if one exists).

If the property does not exist in the class or list, this call is equivalent to calling H5Pregister or H5Pinsert (for a class or list, as appropriate) and the *create* callback will be

called in the case of the property being copied into a list (if such a callback exists for the property).

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

NAME

H5Premove

PURPOSE

Removes a property from a property list

USAGE

```
herr_t H5Premove(plid, name)  
    hid_t plid;          IN: Property list id to modify  
    const char *name;    IN: Name of property to remove
```

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value.
Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Removes a property from a property list. Both properties which were in existence when the property list was created (i.e. properties registered with H5Pregister) and properties added to the list after it was created (i.e. added with H5Pinsert) may be removed from a property list. Properties do not need to be removed a property list before the list itself is closed, they will be released automatically when H5Pclose is called. The *close* callback for this property is called before the property is release, if the callback exists.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

NAME

H5Punregister

PURPOSE

Removes a property from a property list class

USAGE

```
herr_t H5Punregister(class, name)
```

```
    H5P_class_t class;
```

IN: Property list class to remove permanent property from.

```
    const char *name;
```

IN: Name of property to remove

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value.

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Removes a property from a property list class. Future property lists created of that class will not contain this property. Existing property lists containing this property are not affected.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pclose_list

PURPOSE

Close a property list

USAGE

```
herr_t H5Pclose_list(plist)
```

```
    hid_t plist;
```

IN: Property list to close.

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value

Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Closes a property list. If a *close* callback exists for the property list class, it is called before the property list is destroyed. If *close* callbacks exist for any individual properties in the property list, they are called after the class *close* callback.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

NAME

H5Pclose_class

PURPOSE

Closes an existing property list class

USAGE

```
herr_t H5Pclose_class(class)
      hid_t class;    IN: Property list class to close.
```

RETURNS

Success: non-negative value
Failure: negative value

DESCRIPTION

Removes a property list class from the library. Existing property lists of this class will continue to exist, but new ones are not able to be created.

COMMENTS, BUGS, ASSUMPTIONS

[?]

Examples:

Example #1: Register a new property for future dataset creation property lists. This property uses a "set" callback to range check the values for the property. This set of features would likely be used with Virtual File or Dataset drivers. This example also shows how get/set API functions for the property registered might work.

```
/* Property "set" callback */
herr_t driver_set_check(hid_t prop, const char *name, void *_value)
{
    int *value=(int *)_value;

    /* Check that this routine is called for proper property name */
```

```

    if(strcmp(name,"property1"))
        return(-1);

    /* Range check property value */
    if(*value<0 || *value>SOME_LIMIT)
        return(-1);

    /* Name and value are OK */
    return(0);
}

/* An API routine that sets the property for this driver */
herr_t H5Pset_driver_property1(hid_t prop, int value)
{
    /*
     * Call the generic H5Pset routine and let the "set" callback do the
     * range checking, etc.
     */
    return(H5Pset(prop, "property1", &value));
}

/* An API routine that gets the property for this driver */
herr_t H5Pget_driver_property1(hid_t prop, int *value)
{
    /* Call the generic H5Pget routine to retrieve the value */
    return(H5Pget(prop, "property1", value));
}

int setup_driver()
{
    int prop1_default=12;    /* Default value for "property1" */

    [Set up other driver information]

    /* Register new property with Dataset Creation property list class */
    /* Provide a "set" callback, but no "get" callback for this property */
    H5Pregister(H5P_DATASET_CREATE, "property1", sizeof(int), &prop1_default,
        driver_set_check, NULL);
}

int shutdown_driver()
{
    [Shut down other driver information]

    /* Unregister property from Dataset Creation property list class */
    H5Punregister(H5P_DATASET_CREATE, "property1");
}

```

QAK:9/10/01