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## 1 Introduction

The package is an R interface for HDF5. On the one hand it implements R interfaces to many of the low level functions from the C interface. On the other hand it provides high level convenience functions on R level to make a usage of HDF5 files more easy.

# 2 Installation of the HDF5 package

To install the package rhdf5, you need a current version (>2.15.0) of R (www.r-project.org). After installing R you can run the following commands from the R command shell to install the bioconductor package rhdf5.

- > source("http://bioconductor.org/biocLite.R")
- > biocLite("rhdf5")

# 3 High level R -HDF5 functions

### 3.1 Creating an HDF5 file and group hierarchy

```
An empty HDF5 file is created by
> library(rhdf5)
> h5createFile("myhdf5file.h5")
[1] TRUE
The HDF5 file can contain a group hierarchy. We create a number of groups and list the file content afterwards.
> h5createGroup("myhdf5file.h5","foo")
[1] TRUE
> h5createGroup("myhdf5file.h5","baa")
[1] TRUE
> h5createGroup("myhdf5file.h5","foo/foobaa")
[1] TRUE
> h51s("myhdf5file.h5")
  group
          name
                    otype dclass dim
0
            baa H5I_GROUP
      /
            foo H5I_GROUP
2 /foo foobaa H5I_GROUP
```

#### 3.2 Writing and reading objects

Objects can be written to the HDF5 file. Attributes attached to an object are written as well, if write.attributes=TRUE is given as argument to h5write. Note that not all *R*-attributes can be written as HDF5 attributes.

```
> A = matrix(1:10, nr=5, nc=2)
> h5write(A, "myhdf5file.h5","foo/A")
> B = array(seg(0.1,2.0,by=0.1),dim=c(5,2,2))
> attr(B, "scale") <- "liter"</pre>
> h5write(B, "myhdf5file.h5","foo/B")
> C = matrix(paste(LETTERS[1:10],LETTERS[11:20], collapse=""),
   nr=2, nc=5)
> h5write(C, "myhdf5file.h5","foo/foobaa/C")
> df = data.frame(1L:5L,seq(0,1,length.out=5),
    c("ab", "cde", "fghi", "a", "s"), stringsAsFactors=FALSE)
> h5write(df, "myhdf5file.h5","df")
> h5ls("myhdf5file.h5")
        group
                name
                           otype
                                    dclass
                                                 dim
0
                 baa H5I_GROUP
            /
            /
                 df H5I_DATASET COMPOUND
                                                   5
1
            /
2
                 foo H5I_GROUP
3
         /foo
                   A H5I_DATASET INTEGER
                                               5 x 2
                   B H5I_DATASET
4
         /foo
                                     FLOAT 5 x 2 x 2
5
                       H5I_GROUP
         /foo foobaa
6 /foo/foobaa
                   C H5I_DATASET
                                    STRING
                                               2 x 5
> D = h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/A")
> E = h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/B")
> F = h5read("myhdf5file.h5","foo/foobaa/C")
> G = h5read("myhdf5file.h5","df")
```

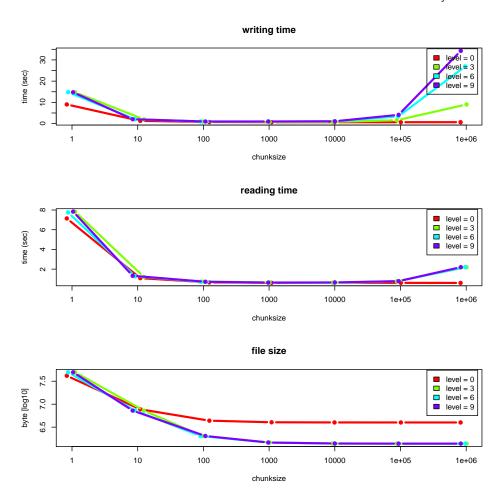
If a dataset with the given name does not yet exist, a dataset is created in the HDF5 file and the object obj is written to the HDF5 file. If a dataset with the given name already exists and the datatype and the dimensions are the same

as for the object obj, the data in the file is overwritten. If the dataset already exists and either the datatype or the dimensions are different, h5write fails.

#### 3.3 Writing and reading with subsetting, chunking and compression

The *rhdf5* package provides two ways of subsetting. One can specify the submatrix with the *R*-style index lists or with the HDF5 style hyperslabs. Note, that the two next examples below show two alternative ways for reading and writing the exact same submatrices. Before writing subsetting or hyperslabbing, the dataset with full dimensions has to be created in the HDF5 file. This can be achieved by writing once an array with full dimensions as in Section 3.2 or by creating a dataset. Afterwards the dataset can be written sequentially.

Influence of chunk size and compression level The chosen chunk size and compression level have a strong impact on the reading and writing time as well as on the resulting file size. In an example an integer vector of size 10e7is written to an HDF5 file. The file is written in subvectors of size 10'000. The definition of the chunk size influences the reading as well as the writing time. In the chunk size is much smaller or much larger than actually used, the runtime performance decreases dramatically. Furthermore the file size is larger for smaller chunk sizes, because of an overhead. The compression can be much more efficient when the chunk size is very large. The following figure illustrates the runtime and file size behaviour as a function of the chunk size for a small toy dataset.



After the creation of the dataset, the data can be written sequentially to the HDF5 file. Subsetting in *R*-style needs the specification of the argument index to h5read and h5write.

```
> h5write(matrix(1:5,nr=5,nc=1), file="myhdf5file.h5",
          name="foo/S", index=list(NULL,1))
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/S")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
[1,]
            0
                 0
                       0
                            0
                                 0
[2,]
             0
                            0
                                 0
                                           0
        2
                  0
                       0
[3,]
                            0
                                 0
                                           0
       3
             0
                  0
                       0
                                      0
[4,]
       4
            0
                 0
                       0
                            0
                                 0
                                      0
                                           0
[5,]
       5
            0
                 0
                       0
                            0
                                           0
> h5write(6:10, file="myhdf5file.h5",
         name="foo/S", index=list(1,2:6))
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/S")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
[1,]
            6
                 7
                      8 9 10
                                      0 0
       1
[2,]
                            0
        2
             0
                  0
                       0
                                 0
                                      0
                                           0
[3,]
        3
             0
                  0
                       0
                            0
                                 0
                                      0
                                           0
[4,]
       4
            0
                 0
                       0
                            0
                                 0
                                      0
                                           0
[5,]
       5
             0
                  0
                       0
                            0
                                 0
                                      0
                                           0
> h5write(matrix(11:40,nr=5,nc=6), file="myhdf5file.h5",
          name="foo/S", index=list(1:5,3:8))
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/S")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
[1,]
       1
            6
                11
                      16
                           21
                                26
                                     31
[2,]
        2
             0
                 12
                      17
                           22
                                27
                                     32
                                          37
             0
[3,]
        3
                 13
                      18
                           23
                                28
                                     33
                                          38
[4,]
        4
             0
                 14
                      19
                           24
                                29
                                     34
                                          39
[5,]
       5
             0
                 15
                      20
                           25
                                30
                                     35
                                          40
> h5write(matrix(141:144,nr=2,nc=2), file="myhdf5file.h5",
         name="foo/S", index=list(3:4,1:2))
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/S")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
[1,]
      1
          6 11 16
                           21
                                26
                                     31
                                          36
[2,]
        2
            0
                 12
                      17
                           22
                                27
                                     32
                                          37
[3,] 141 143
                 13
                      18
                           23
                                28
                                     33
                                          38
[4,] 142 144
                                29
                                          39
                 14
                      19
                           24
                                     34
[5,]
       5
           0
                 15
                      20
                           25
                                30
                                     35
                                          40
> h5write(matrix(151:154,nr=2,nc=2), file="myhdf5file.h5",
          name="foo/S", index=list(2:3,c(3,6)))
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/S")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
      1 6 11
[1,]
                           21
                              26
                                     31
                                          36
                      16
[2,]
       2
            0 151
                      17
                           22 153
                                     32
                                          37
[3,] 141
           143
               152
                      18
                           23
                               154
                                     33
                                          38
                           24
                               29
[4,] 142 144
                14
                      19
                                     34
                                          39
                                30
[5,]
       5
          0
                 15
                      20
                           25
                                     35
                                          40
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/S", index=list(2:3,2:3))
     [,1] [,2]
     0 151
[1,]
[2,] 143 152
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/S", index=list(2:3,c(2,4)))
     [,1] [,2]
[1,] 0 17
```

```
[2,] 143
            18
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/S", index=list(2:3,c(1,2,4,5)))
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]
[1,]
        2
             0
                17
                 18
                       23
[2,] 141 143
The HDF5 hyperslabs are defined by some of the arguments start, stride, count, and block. These arguments
are not effective, if the argument index is specified.
> h5createDataset("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/H", c(5,8), storage.mode = "integer",
                   chunk=c(5,1), level=7)
[1] TRUE
> h5write(matrix(1:5,nr=5,nc=1), file="myhdf5file.h5", name="foo/H",
          start=c(1,1)
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/H")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
[1,]
             0
                  0
                        0
                             0
        1
                                  0
[2,]
        2
             0
                  0
                        0
                             0
                                  Ω
                                        Λ
                                             Ω
[3,]
        3
             0
                  0
                        0
                             0
                                  0
                                        0
                                             0
[4,]
             0
                  0
                        0
                             0
                                  0
                                             0
[5,]
                        0
                             0
                                  0
                                             0
> h5write(6:10, file="myhdf5file.h5", name="foo/H",
          start=c(1,2), count=c(1,5))
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/H")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
[1,]
             6
                  7
                        8
                             9
                                 10
        1
                                             0
[2,]
        2
             0
                   0
                        0
                             0
                                  0
                                        0
                                             0
[3,]
        3
             0
                  0
                        0
                             0
                                  0
                                        0
                                             0
[4,]
             0
                  0
                             0
                                  0
                                             0
        4
                        0
                                        0
[5,]
        5
             0
                   0
                        0
                             0
                                  0
                                        0
                                             0
> h5write(matrix(11:40,nr=5,nc=6), file="myhdf5file.h5", name="foo/H",
          start=c(1,3)
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/H")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
                       16
[1,]
             6
                 11
                            21
                                 26
                                       31
        1
[2,]
        2
             0
                 12
                       17
                            22
                                 27
                                       32
                                            37
[3,]
        3
             0
                 13
                       18
                            23
                                  28
                                       33
                                            38
[4,]
        4
             0
                 14
                       19
                            24
                                  29
                                       34
                                            39
             0
                 15
                            25
                                 30
                                      35
                                            40
[5,]
                       20
> h5write(matrix(141:144,nr=2,nc=2), file="myhdf5file.h5", name="foo/H",
          start=c(3,1)
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/H")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
[1,]
        1
             6
                 11
                       16
                            21
                                  26
                                       31
                                            36
[2,]
        2
             0
                 12
                       17
                            22
                                 27
                                       32
                                            37
[3,] 141
                 13
                            23
                                 28
                                       33
                                            38
           143
                       18
[4,] 142 144
                 14
                       19
                            24
                                 29
                                       34
                                            39
[5,]
                 15
                       20
                            25
                                 30
                                       35
> h5write(matrix(151:154,nr=2,nc=2), file="myhdf5file.h5", name="foo/H",
          start=c(2,3), stride=c(1,3))
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/H")
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5] [,6] [,7] [,8]
[1,]
      1 6 11 16
                            21
                                 26
                                      31
```

```
[2,]
        2
             0
                151
                       17
                            22 153
                                      32
                                            37
[3,]
                                154
                                      33
                                            38
     141
           143
                152
                       18
                            23
[4,]
     142
           144
                 14
                       19
                            24
                                 29
                                       34
                                            39
                                 30
                                      35
                                            40
[5,]
        5
             0
                 15
                       20
                            25
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/H",
         start=c(2,2), count=c(2,2)
     [,1] [,2]
[1,]
        0 151
[2,] 143 152
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/H",
         start=c(2,2), stride=c(1,2), count=c(2,2))
     [,1] [,2]
[1,]
        0
            17
[2,] 143
            18
> h5read("myhdf5file.h5", "foo/H",
         start=c(2,1), stride=c(1,3), count=c(2,2), block=c(1,2))
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4]
[1,]
                 17
        2
[2,] 141 143
                 18
                       23
```

## 3.4 Saving multiple objects to an HDF5 file (h5save)

A number of objects can be written to the top level group of an HDF5 file with the function h5save (as analogonanalogous to the R function save).

```
> A = 1:7; B = 1:18; D = seq(0,1,by=0.1)
> h5save(A, B, D, file="newfile2.h5")
> h5dump("newfile2.h5")

$A
[1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7

$B
    [1] 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18

$D
    [1] 0.0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.0
```

#### 3.5 List the content of an HDF5 file

The function h51s provides some ways of viewing the content of an HDF5 file.

> h5ls("myhdf5file.h5")

```
dim
        group
                name
                                    dclass
                            otype
0
                       H5I_GROUP
            /
                 baa
1
            /
                  df H5I_DATASET COMPOUND
                                                    5
2
                 foo
                       H5I_GROUP
                   A H5I_DATASET
3
         /foo
                                   INTEGER
                                                5 x 2
         /foo
                   B H5I_DATASET
                                     FLOAT 5 x 2 x 2
4
5
         /foo
                   H H5I_DATASET
                                   INTEGER
                                                5 x 8
6
         /foo
                   S H5I_DATASET
                                   INTEGER
                                                5 x 8
7
         /foo foobaa
                        H5I_GROUP
8 /foo/foobaa
                   C H5I_DATASET
                                    STRING
                                                2 x 5
> h5ls("myhdf5file.h5", all=TRUE)
```

```
ltype corder_valid corder cset
                                                                    otype num_attrs
        group
0
                 baa H5L_TYPE_HARD
            /
                                           FALSE
                                                       0
                                                            0
                                                                H5I_GROUP
1
                  df H5L_TYPE_HARD
                                           FALSE
                                                       0
                                                            O H5I_DATASET
                                                                                   0
            /
2
            /
                 foo H5L_TYPE_HARD
                                           FALSE
                                                       0
                                                                H5I_GROUP
                                                                                   0
                                                            0
                   A H5L_TYPE_HARD
3
         /foo
                                           FALSE
                                                       0
                                                            O H5I_DATASET
                                                                                   0
                   B H5L_TYPE_HARD
                                                            O H5I_DATASET
                                                                                   0
4
         /foo
                                           FALSE
                                                       0
5
         /foo
                   H H5L_TYPE_HARD
                                           FALSE
                                                       0
                                                            O H5I_DATASET
                                                                                   0
                   S H5L_TYPE_HARD
                                                                                   0
6
         /foo
                                                       0
                                                            O H5I_DATASET
                                           FALSE
         /foo foobaa H5L_TYPE_HARD
7
                                           FALSE
                                                       0
                                                            0
                                                                H5I_GROUP
                                                                                   0
8 /foo/foobaa
                   C H5L_TYPE_HARD
                                           FALSE
                                                       0
                                                            O H5I_DATASET
                                                                                   0
    dclass
                     dtype stype rank
                                              dim
                                                     maxdim
0
                                     0
             HST_COMPOUND SIMPLE
1 COMPOUND
                                     1
                                                5
                                                          5
2
                                     0
  INTEGER H5T_STD_I32LE SIMPLE
                                     2
3
                                            5 x 2
                                                      5 x 2
     FLOAT H5T_IEEE_F64LE SIMPLE
                                     3 5 x 2 x 2 5 x 2 x 2
4
5
   INTEGER H5T_STD_I32LE SIMPLE
                                     2
                                           5 x 8
                                                      5 x 8
6
   INTEGER H5T_STD_I32LE SIMPLE
                                     2
                                           5 x 8
7
                                     Ω
               HST_STRING SIMPLE
                                     2
8
    STRING
                                            2 x 5
                                                      2 x 5
> h5ls("myhdf5file.h5", recursive=2)
                      otype
                              dclass
                                            dim
  group
          name
0
           baa
                 H5I_GROUP
1
            df H5I_DATASET COMPOUND
2
      /
           foo
                 H5I_GROUP
                                         5 x 2
3
  /foo
             A H5I_DATASET
                            INTEGER
4
  /foo
             B H5I_DATASET
                               FLOAT 5 x 2 x 2
             H H5I_DATASET
                            INTEGER
5
  /foo
                                         5 x 8
             S H5I_DATASET
                             INTEGER
                                         5 x 8
6
  /foo
                 H5I_GROUP
  /foo foobaa
```

#### 3.6 Dump the content of an HDF5 file

The function h5dump is similar to the function h51s. If used with the argument load=FALSE, it produces the same result as h51s, but with the group structure resolved as a hierarchy of lists. If the default argument load=TRUE is used all datasets from the HDF5 file are read.

```
> h5dump("myhdf5file.h5",load=FALSE)
$baa
NULL
$df
  group name
                   otype
                           dclass dim
         df H5I_DATASET COMPOUND
     /
$foo
$foo$A
  group name
                   otype dclass
           A H5I_DATASET INTEGER 5 x 2
$foo$B
  group name
                   otype dclass
           B H5I_DATASET FLOAT 5 x 2 x 2
$foo$H
  group name
                   otype dclass
                                   dim
```

```
1 / H H5I_DATASET INTEGER 5 x 8

$foo$S
group name otype dclass dim
1 / S H5I_DATASET INTEGER 5 x 8

$foo$foobaa
$foo$foobaa$C
group name otype dclass dim
1 / C H5I_DATASET STRING 2 x 5

> D <- h5dump("myhdf5file.h5")
```

#### 3.7 Reading HDF5 files with external software

The content of the HDF5 file can be checked with the command line tool *h5dump* (available on linux-like systems with the HDF5 tools package installed) or with the graphical user interface *HDFView* (http://www.hdfgroup.org/hdf-java-html/hdfview/) available for all major platforms.

```
> system("h5dump myhdf5file.h5")
```

warning: Please note, that arrays appear as transposed matrices when opening it with a C-program (h5dump or HDFView). This is due to the fact the fastest changing dimension on C is the last one, but on R it is the first one (as in Fortran).

# 4 64-bit integers

*R* does not support a native datatype for 64-bit integers. All integers in *R* are 32-bit integers. When reading 64-bit integers from a HDF5-file, you may run into troubles. *rhdf5* is able to deal with 64-bit integers, but you still should pay attention.

As an example, we create an HDF5 file that contains 64-bit integers.

```
> x = h5createFile("newfile3.h5")
> D = array(1L:30L,dim=c(3,5,2))
> d = h5createDataset(file="newfile3.h5", dataset="D64", dims=c(3,5,2),H5type="H5T_NATIVE_INT64")
> h5write(D,file="newfile3.h5",name="D64")
```

There are three different ways of reading 64-bit integers in *R*. H5Dread and h5read have the argument bit64conversion the specify the conversion method.

By setting bit64conversion='int', a coercing to 32-bit integers is enforced, with the risc of data loss, but with the insurance that numbers are represented as native integers.

```
> D64a = h5read(file="newfile3.h5",name="D64",bit64conversion="int")
> D64a
, , 1
              [,1]
                            [,2]
                                           [,3]
[1,] 4.940656e-324 1.976263e-323 3.458460e-323 4.940656e-323 6.422853e-323
[2,] 9.881313e-324 2.470328e-323 3.952525e-323 5.434722e-323 6.916919e-323
[3,] 1.482197e-323 2.964394e-323 4.446591e-323 5.928788e-323 7.410985e-323
, , 2
              [,1]
                            [,2]
                                           [,3]
                                                         [,4]
                                                                        [,5]
[1,] 7.905050e-323 9.387247e-323 1.086944e-322 1.235164e-322 1.383384e-322
[2,] 8.399116e-323 9.881313e-323 1.136351e-322 1.284571e-322 1.432790e-322
[3,] 8.893182e-323 1.037538e-322 1.185758e-322 1.333977e-322 1.482197e-322
```

```
attr(,"class")
[1] "integer64"
> storage.mode(D64a)
[1] "double"
```

bit64conversion='double' coerces the 64-bit integers to floating point numbers. doubles can represent integers with up to 54-bits, but they are not represented as integer values anymore. For larger numbers there is still a data loss

```
> D64b = h5read(file="newfile3.h5",name="D64",bit64conversion="double")
> D64b
, , 1
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
[1,]
        1
              4
                   7
                        10
                             13
[2,]
        2
              5
                   8
                             14
                        11
[3,]
        3
              6
                   9
                        12
                             15
, , 2
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
                  22
                        25
                             28
[1,]
       16
             19
[2,]
                             29
       17
             20
                  23
                        26
[3,]
       18
             21
                  24
                        27
                             30
```

> storage.mode(D64b)

[1] "double"

bit64conversion='bit64' is recommended way of coercing. It represents the 64-bit integers as objects of class integer64 as defined in the package bit64. Make sure that you have installed bit64. warning: The datatype integer64 is not part of base R, but defined in an external package. This can produce unexpected behaviour when working with the data. When choosing this option the package bit64 will be loaded.

```
> D64c = h5read(file="newfile3.h5",name="D64",bit64conversion="bit64")
> D64c
integer64
, , 1
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
[1,] 1
                           13
          4
                7
                     10
[2,] 2
          5
                8
                           14
                     11
[3,] 3
                9
                           15
          6
                     12
, , 2
     [,1] [,2] [,3] [,4] [,5]
[1,] 16
          19
                22
                     25
                           28
[2,] 17
           20
                23
                     26
                           29
[3,] 18
                           30
          21
                24
                     27
> class(D64c)
```

#### 4.1 Large integer data types

[1] "integer64"

The following table gives an overview of the limits of the different integer representations in R and in HDF5.

	R-datatype			HDF5 datatype				
		integer	double	integer64	132	U32	164	U64
$2^{64}$	18446744073709551616	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
$2^{64} - 1$	18446744073709551615	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
:	i i	:	•	:	:	:	:	÷
$2^{63}$	9223372036854775808	-	-	-	-	-	-	+
$2^{63}-1$	9223372036854775807	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
:	<u>:</u>	÷	:	:	:	:	÷	i
$2^{53}$	9007199254740992	-	-	+	-	-	+	+
$2^{53} - 1$	9007199254740991	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
:	:	÷	÷	:	:	÷	:	÷
$2^{32}$	4294967296	-	+	+	-	-	+	+
$2^{32}-1$	4294967295	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
:	:	:	•	:	:		:	÷
$2^{31}$	2147483648	-	+	+	-	+	+	+
$2^{31} - 1$	2147483647	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
:	:	•	•	:	:	÷	:	÷
$2^{0}$	1	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
0	0	+	+	+	+	+	+	+
$-2^{0}$	-1	+	+	+	+	-	+	-
:	i:	:	:	:	÷	:		:
$-2^{31}+1$	-2147483647	+	+	+	+	-	+	-
$-2^{31}$	-2147483648	NA	+	+	+	-	+	-
$-2^{31}-1$	-2147483649	-	+	+	-	-	+	-
:	:	÷		:	:	÷	:	:
$-2^{53}+1$	-9007199254740991	-	+	+	-	-	+	-
$-2^{53}$	-9007199254740992	-	-	+	_	-	+	-
÷	:	÷	÷	÷	:	÷	:	÷
$-2^{63}+1$	-9223372036854775807	-	-	+	-	-	+	-
$-2^{63}$	-9223372036854775808	-	-	NA	-	-	+	-
$-2^{63}-1$	-9223372036854775809	-	-	-	_	-	-	-

From the table it becomes obvious that some integer values in HDF5 files cannot be displayed in R. Note that this can happen for both 64-bit integer as well as for unsigned 32-bit integer. When generating an HDF5 file, it is recommended to use signed 32-bit integers.

# 5 Low level HDF5 functions

### 5.1 Creating an HDF5 file and a group hierarchy

## 5.2 Writing data to an HDF5 file

Create 4 different simple and scalar data spaces. The data space sets the dimensions for the datasets.

```
> d = c(5,7)
> h5space1 = H5Screate_simple(d,d)
> h5space2 = H5Screate_simple(d,NULL)
> h5space3 = H5Scopy(h5space1)
> h5space4 = H5Screate("H5S_SCALAR")
> h5space1
HDF5 DATASPACE
        rank 2
        size 5 x 7
     maxsize 5 x 7
> H5Sis_simple(h5space1)
[1] TRUE
Create two datasets, one with integer and one with floating point numbers.
> h5dataset1 = H5Dcreate( h5file, "dataset1", "H5T_IEEE_F32LE", h5space1 )
> h5dataset2 = H5Dcreate( h5group2, "dataset2", "H5T_STD_I32LE", h5space1 )
> h5dataset1
HDF5 DATASET
        name /dataset1
    filename
        type H5T_IEEE_F32LE
        rank 2
        size 5 \times 7
     maxsize 5 x 7
```

Now lets write data to the datasets.

```
> A = seq(0.1,3.5,length.out=5*7)
> H5Dwrite(h5dataset1, A)
> B = 1:35
> H5Dwrite(h5dataset2, B)
```

To release resources and to ensure that the data is written on disk, we have to close datasets, dataspaces, and the file. There are different functions to close datasets, dataspaces, groups, and files.

- > H5Dclose(h5dataset1)
- > H5Dclose(h5dataset2)
- > H5Sclose(h5space1)
- > H5Sclose(h5space2)
- > H5Sclose(h5space3)
- > H5Sclose(h5space4)
- > H5Gclose(h5group1)
- > H5Gclose(h5group2)
- > H5Gclose(h5group3)
- > H5Fclose(h5file)

# 6 Session Info

- > toLatex(sessionInfo())
  - R version 3.2.2 (2015-08-14), x86\_64-pc-linux-gnu
  - Locale: LC\_CTYPE=en\_US.UTF-8, LC\_NUMERIC=C, LC\_TIME=en\_US.UTF-8, LC\_COLLATE=C, LC\_MONETARY=en\_US.UTF-8, LC\_MESSAGES=en\_US.UTF-8, LC\_PAPER=en\_US.UTF-8, LC\_NAME=C, LC\_ADDRESS=C, LC\_TELEPHONE=C, LC\_MEASUREMENT=en\_US.UTF-8, LC\_IDENTIFICATION=C
  - Base packages: base, datasets, grDevices, graphics, methods, stats, utils
  - Other packages: bit 1.1-12, bit64 0.9-5, rhdf5 2.14.0
  - Loaded via a namespace (and not attached): BiocStyle 1.8.0, tools 3.2.2, zlibbioc 1.16.0