

NEW FEATURES IN HDF5 RELEASE 1.12

HDF5

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⚠ This release includes changes in the HDF5 storage format. **PLEASE NOTE that HDF5-1.10 and earlier releases cannot read files created with the new features described below that are marked with a ***.

HDF5 1.12 introduces several new features in the HDF5 library:

- [Virtual Object Layer \(VOL\) *](#)
- [Virtual File Drivers - S3 and HDFS *](#)
- [Hyperslab Performance Improvement](#)
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Virtual Object Layer (VOL) (RFC) *

See the [Virtual Object Layer](#) page for more information.

The Virtual Object Layer (VOL) is an abstraction layer within the HDF5 library that enables different methods for accessing data and objects that conform to the HDF5 data model. The VOL intercepts all HDF5 API calls that potentially modify data on disk and forwards those calls to a plugin "object driver". The data on disk can be a different format than the HDF5 format.