

NeXusDataFormat

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Chapter 1

Module Index

1.1 Modules

Here is a list of all modules:

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Chapter 2

Module Documentation

2.1 C API

Modules

- **Data Types**
- **General Initialisation and shutdown**
- **Reading and Writing Groups**
- **Reading and Writing Data**
- **General File navigation**
- **Meta data routines**
- **Linking**
- **Memory allocation**
- **External linking**

2.1.1 Detailed Description

2.2 Data Types

Macros

- `#define NX_FLOAT32 5`
32 bit float

2.2.1 Detailed Description

2.3 General Initialisation and shutdown

Functions

- NXstatus **NXopen** (CONSTCHAR *filename, NXaccess access_method, NXhandle *pHandle)
Open a NeXus file.
- NXstatus **NXreopen** (NXhandle pOrigHandle, NXhandle *pNewHandle)
Opens an existing NeXus file a second time for e.g.
- NXstatus **NXclose** (NXhandle *pHandle)
close a NeXus file
- NXstatus **NXsetcache** (long newVal)
A function for setting the default cache size for HDF-5.

2.3.1 Detailed Description

2.3.2 Function Documentation

2.3.2.1 NXstatus NXclose (NXhandle * pHandle)

close a NeXus file

Parameters

<i>pHandle</i>	A NeXus file handle as returned from NXopen. pHandle is invalid after this call.
----------------	--

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.3.2.2 NXstatus NXopen (CONSTCHAR * filename, NXaccess access_method, NXhandle * pHandle)

Open a NeXus file.

NXopen honours full path file names. But it also searches for files in all the paths given in the NX_LOAD_PATH environment variable. NX_LOAD_PATH is supposed to hold a list of path string separated by the platform specific path separator. For unix this is the : , for DOS the ; . Please note that crashing on an open NeXus file will result in corrupted data. Only after a NXclose or a NXflush will the data file be valid.

Parameters

<i>filename</i>	The name of the file to open
<i>access_method</i>	The file access method. This can be: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NXACC_READ read access • NXACC_RDWR read write access • NXACC_CREATE, NXACC_CREATE4 create a new HDF-4 NeXus file • NXACC_CREATE5 create a new HDF-5 NeXus file • NXACC_CREATEXML create an XML NeXus file. see #NXaccess_mode Support for HDF-4 is deprecated.
<i>pHandle</i>	A file handle which will be initialized upon successfull completion of NXopen.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.3.2.3 NXstatus NXreopen (NXhandle *pOrigHandle*, NXhandle * *pNewHandle*)

Opens an existing NeXus file a second time for e.g.
access from another thread.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.4 Reading and Writing Groups

Functions

- NXstatus **NXmakegroup** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *name, CONSTCHAR *NXclass)
NeXus groups are NeXus way of structuring information into a hierarchy.
- NXstatus **NXopengroup** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *name, CONSTCHAR *NXclass)
Step into a group.
- NXstatus **NXclosegroup** (NXhandle handle)
Closes the currently open group and steps one step down in the NeXus file hierarchy.

2.4.1 Detailed Description

2.4.2 Function Documentation

2.4.2.1 NXstatus NXclosegroup (NXhandle handle)

Closes the currently open group and steps one step down in the NeXus file hierarchy.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.4.2.2 NXstatus NXmakegroup (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR * name, CONSTCHAR * NXclass)

NeXus groups are NeXus way of structuring information into a hierarchy.

This function creates a group but does not open it.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized NXopen.
<i>name</i>	The name of the group
<i>NXclass</i>	the class name of the group. Should start with the prefix NX

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.4.2.3 NXstatus NXopengroup (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR * name, CONSTCHAR * NXclass)

Step into a group.

All further access will be within the opened group.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>name</i>	The name of the group
<i>NXclass</i>	the class name of the group. Should start with the prefix NX

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5 Reading and Writing Data

Functions

- NXstatus **NXflush** (NXhandle *pHandle)
flush data to disk
- NXstatus **NXmakedata** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *label, int datatype, int rank, int dim[])
Create a multi dimensional data array or dataset.
- NXstatus **NXcompmakedata** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *label, int datatype, int rank, int dim[], int comp_typ, int bufsize[])
Create a compressed dataset.
- NXstatus **NXcompress** (NXhandle handle, int compr_type)
Switch compression on.
- NXstatus **NXopendata** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *label)
Open access to a dataset.
- NXstatus **NXclosedata** (NXhandle handle)
Close access to a dataset.
- NXstatus **NXputdata** (NXhandle handle, const void *data)
Write data to a dataset which has previously been opened with NXopendata.
- NXstatus **NXputattr** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *name, const void *data, int iDataLen, int iType)
Write an attribute.
- NXstatus **NXputslab** (NXhandle handle, const void *data, const int start[], const int size[])
Write a subset of a multi dimensional dataset.
- NXstatus **NXgetdata** (NXhandle handle, void *data)
Read a complete dataset from the currently open dataset into memory.
- NXstatus **NXgetslab** (NXhandle handle, void *data, const int start[], const int size[])
Read a subset of data from file into memory.
- NXstatus **NXgetnextattr** (NXhandle handle, NXname pName, int *iLength, int *iType)
Iterate over global, group or dataset attributes depending on the currently open group or dataset.
- NXstatus **NXgetattr** (NXhandle handle, char *name, void *data, int *iDataLen, int *iType)
Read an attribute.
- NXstatus **NXsetnumberformat** (NXhandle handle, int type, char *format)
Sets the format for number printing.

2.5.1 Detailed Description

2.5.2 Function Documentation

2.5.2.1 NXstatus NXclosedata (NXhandle handle)

Close access to a dataset.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
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Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.2 `NXstatus NXcompmkedata (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR * label, int datatype, int rank, int dim[], int comp_typ, int bufsize[])`

Create a compressed dataset.

The dataset is NOT opened. Data from this set will automatically be compressed when writing and decompressed on reading.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>label</i>	The name of the dataset
<i>datatype</i>	The data type of this data set.
<i>rank</i>	The number of dimensions this dataset is going to have
<i>comp_typ</i>	The compression scheme to use. Possible values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NX_COMP_NONE no compression • NX_COMP_LZW lossless Lempel Ziv Welch compression (recommended) • NX_COMP_RLE run length encoding (only HDF-4) • NX_COMP_HUF Huffmann encoding (only HDF-4)
<i>dim</i>	An array of size rank holding the size of the dataset in each dimension. The first dimension can be NX_UNLIMITED. Data can be appended to such a dimension using NXputslab.
<i>bufsize</i>	The dimensions of the subset of the data which usually be written in one go. This is a parameter used by HDF for performance optimisations. If you write your data in one go, this should be the same as the data dimension. If you write it in slabs, this is your preferred slab size.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.3 `NXstatus NXcompress (NXhandle handle, int compr_type)`

Switch compression on.

This routine is superseded by NXcompmkedata and thus is deprecated.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>compr_type</i>	The compression scheme to use. Possible values: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NX_COMP_NONE no compression • NX_COMP_LZW lossless Lempel Ziv Welch compression (recommended) • NX_COMP_RLE run length encoding (only HDF-4) • NX_COMP_HUF Huffmann encoding (only HDF-4)

2.5.2.4 `NXstatus NXflush (NXhandle * pHandle)`

flush data to disk

Parameters

<i>pHandle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
----------------	---

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.5 NXstatus NXgetattr (NXhandle *handle*, char * *name*, void * *data*, int * *iDataLen*, int * *iType*)

Read an attribute.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>name</i>	The name of the attribute to read.
<i>data</i>	A pointer to a memory area large enough to hold the attributes value.
<i>iDataLen</i>	The length of data in bytes.
<i>iType</i>	A pointer to an integer which will had been set to the NeXus data type of the attribute.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.6 NXstatus NXgetdata (NXhandle *handle*, void * *data*)

Read a complete dataset from the currently open dataset into memory.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>data</i>	A pointer to the memory area where to read the data, too. Data must point to a memory area large enough to accomodate the data read. Otherwise your program may behave in unexpected and unwelcome ways.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.7 NXstatus NXgetnextattr (NXhandle *handle*, NXname *pName*, int * *iLength*, int * *iType*)

Iterate over global, group or dataset attributes depending on the currently open group or dataset.

In order to search attributes multiple calls to **NXgetnextattr** (p. 10) are performed in a loop until **NXgetnextattr** (p. 10) returns NX_EOD which indicates that there are no further attributes. reset search using **NXinitattrdir** (p. 15)

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>pName</i>	The name of the attribute
<i>iLength</i>	A pointer to an integer which be set to the length of the attribute data.
<i>iType</i>	A pointer to an integer which be set to the NeXus data type of the attribute.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error, NX_EOD when there are no more items.

2.5.2.8 NXstatus NXgetslab (NXhandle *handle*, void * *data*, const int *start*[], const int *size*[])

Read a subset of data from file into memory.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>data</i>	A pointer to the memory data where to copy the data too. The pointer must point to a memory area large enough to accomodate the size of the data read.
<i>start</i>	An array holding the start indices where to start reading the data subset.
<i>size</i>	An array holding the size of the data subset to read for each dimension.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.9 NXstatus NXmakedata (NXhandle *handle*, CONSTCHAR * *label*, int *datatype*, int *rank*, int *dim*[])

Create a multi dimensional data array or dataset.

The dataset is NOT opened.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>label</i>	The name of the dataset
<i>datatype</i>	The data type of this data set.
<i>rank</i>	The number of dimensions this dataset is going to have
<i>dim</i>	An array of size rank holding the size of the dataset in each dimension. The first dimension can be NX_UNLIMITED. Data can be appended to such a dimension using NXputslab.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.10 NXstatus NXopendata (NXhandle *handle*, CONSTCHAR * *label*)

Open access to a dataset.

After this call it is possible to write and read data or attributes to and from the dataset.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>label</i>	The name of the dataset

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.11 NXstatus NXputattr (NXhandle *handle*, CONSTCHAR * *name*, const void * *data*, int *iDataLen*, int *iType*)

Write an attribute.

The kind of attribute written depends on the position in the file: at root level, a global attribute is written, if a group is open but no dataset, a group attribute is written, if a dataset is open, a dataset attribute is written.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>name</i>	The name of the attribute.
<i>data</i>	A pointer to the data to write for the attribute.
<i>iDataLen</i>	The length of the data in data in bytes.
<i>iType</i>	The NeXus data type of the attribute.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.12 NXstatus NXputdata (NXhandle *handle*, const void * *data*)

Write data to a dataset which has previously been opened with NXopendata.

This writes all the data in one go. Data should be a pointer to a memory area matching the datatype and dimensions of the dataset.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>data</i>	Pointer to data to write.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.13 NXstatus NXputslab (NXhandle *handle*, const void * *data*, const int *start*[], const int *size*[])

Write a subset of a multi dimensional dataset.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>data</i>	A pointer to a memory area holding the data to write.
<i>start</i>	An array holding the start indices where to start the data subset.
<i>size</i>	An array holding the size of the data subset to write in each dimension.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.5.2.14 NXstatus NXsetnumberformat (NXhandle *handle*, int *type*, char * *format*)

Sets the format for number printing.

This call has only an effect when using the XML physical file format.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>type</i>	The NeXus data type to set the format for.
<i>format</i>	The C-language format string to use for this data type.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.6 General File navigation

Functions

- NXstatus **NXopenpath** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *path)
Open the NeXus object with the path specified.
- NXstatus **NXopengrouppath** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *path)
Opens the group in which the NeXus object with the specified path exists.
- NXstatus **NXgetpath** (NXhandle handle, char *path, int pathlen)
Retrieve the current path in the NeXus file.
- NXstatus **NXopensourcegroup** (NXhandle handle)
Open the source group of a linked group or dataset.
- NXstatus **NXgetnextentry** (NXhandle handle, NXname name, NXname nxclass, int *datatype)
Get the next entry in the currently open group.
- NXstatus **NXinitgroupdir** (NXhandle handle)
Resets a pending group search to the start again.
- NXstatus **NXinitattrdir** (NXhandle handle)
Resets a pending attribute search to the start again.

2.6.1 Detailed Description

2.6.2 Function Documentation

2.6.2.1 NXstatus NXgetnextentry (NXhandle handle, NXname name, NXname nxclass, int * datatype)

Get the next entry in the currently open group.

This is for retrieving information about the content of a NeXus group. In order to search a group **NXgetnextentry** (p. 14) is called in a loop until **NXgetnextentry** (p. 14) returns NX_EOD which indicates that there are no further items in the group. Reset search using **NXinitgroupdir** (p. 15)

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>name</i>	The name of the object
<i>nxclass</i>	The NeXus class name for a group or the string SDS for a dataset.
<i>datatype</i>	The NeXus data type if the item is a SDS.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error, NX_EOD when there are no more items.

2.6.2.2 NXstatus NXgetpath (NXhandle handle, char * path, int pathlen)

Retrieve the current path in the NeXus file.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	a NeXus file handle
<i>path</i>	A buffer to copy the path too
<i>pathlen</i>	The maximum number of characters to copy into path

Returns

NX_OK or NX_ERROR

2.6.2.3 NXstatus NXinitattrdir (NXhandle *handle*)

Resets a pending attribute search to the start again.

To be called in a **NXgetnextattr** (p. 10) loop when an attribute search has to be restarted.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
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Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.6.2.4 NXstatus NXinitgroupdir (NXhandle *handle*)

Resets a pending group search to the start again.

To be called in a **NXgetnextentry** (p. 14) loop when a group search has to be restarted.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
---------------	---

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.6.2.5 NXstatus NXopengrouppath (NXhandle *handle*, CONSTCHAR * *path*)

Opens the group in which the NeXus object with the specified path exists.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>path</i>	A unix like path string to a NeXus group or dataset. The path string is a list of group names and SDS names separated with / (slash). Example: /entry1/sample/name

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.6.2.6 NXstatus NXopenpath (NXhandle *handle*, CONSTCHAR * *path*)

Open the NeXus object with the path specified.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as returned from NXopen.
<i>path</i>	A unix like path string to a NeXus group or dataset. The path string is a list of group names and SDS names separated with / (slash). Example: /entry1/sample/name

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.6.2.7 NXstatus NXopensourcegroup (NXhandle *handle*)

Open the source group of a linked group or dataset.

Returns an error when the item is not a linked item.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
---------------	---

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.7 Meta data routines

Functions

- NXstatus **NXgetinfo** (NXhandle handle, int *rank, int dimension[], int *datatype)
Retrieve information about the currently open dataset.
- NXstatus **NXgetattrinfo** (NXhandle handle, int *no_items)
Get the count of attributes in the currently open dataset, group or global attributes when at root level.
- NXstatus **NXgetgroupinfo** (NXhandle handle, int *no_items, NXname name, NXname nxclass)
Retrieve information about the currently open group.
- NXstatus **NXinquirefile** (NXhandle handle, char *filename, int filenameBufferLength)
Inquire the filename of the currently open file.
- const char * **NXgetversion** ()
Utility function to return NeXus version.
- NXstatus **NXgetrawinfo** (NXhandle handle, int *rank, int dimension[], int *datatype)
Retrieve information about the currently open dataset.

2.7.1 Detailed Description

2.7.2 Function Documentation

2.7.2.1 NXstatus NXgetattrinfo (NXhandle handle, int * no_items)

Get the count of attributes in the currently open dataset, group or global attributes when at root level.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>no_items</i>	A pointer to an integer which be set to the number of attributes available.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.7.2.2 NXstatus NXgetgroupinfo (NXhandle handle, int * no_items, NXname name, NXname nxclass)

Retrieve information about the currently open group.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>no_items</i>	A pointer to an integer which will be set to the count of group elements available. This is the count of other groups and data sets in this group.
<i>name</i>	The name of the group.
<i>nxclass</i>	The NeXus class name of the group.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.7.2.3 NXstatus NXgetinfo (NXhandle handle, int * rank, int dimension[], int * datatype)

Retrieve information about the currently open dataset.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>rank</i>	A pointer to an integer which will be filled with the rank of the dataset.
<i>dimension</i>	An array which will be initialized with the size of the dataset in any of its dimensions. The array must have at least the size of rank.
<i>datatype</i>	A pointer to an integer which be set to the NeXus data type code for this dataset.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.7.2.4 NXstatus NXgetrawinfo (NXhandle *handle*, int * *rank*, int *dimension*[], int * *datatype*)

Retrieve information about the currently open dataset.

In contrast to the main function below, this function does not try to find out about the size of strings properly.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>rank</i>	A pointer to an integer which will be filled with the rank of the dataset.
<i>dimension</i>	An array which will be initialized with the size of the dataset in any of its dimensions. The array must have at least the size of rank.
<i>datatype</i>	A pointer to an integer which be set to the NeXus data type code for this dataset.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.7.2.5 const char* NXgetversion ()

Utility function to return NeXus version.

Returns

pointer to string in static storage. Version in same format as NEXUS_VERSION string in napi.h i.e. "major.-minor.patch"

2.7.2.6 NXstatus NXinquirefile (NXhandle *handle*, char * *filename*, int *filenameBufferLength*)

Inquire the filename of the currently open file.

FilenameBufferLength of the file name will be copied into the filename buffer.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>filename</i>	The buffer to hold the filename.
<i>filenameBufferLength</i>	The length of the filename buffer.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.8 Linking

Functions

- NXstatus **NXgetdataID** (NXhandle handle, NXlink *pLink)
Retrieve link data for a dataset.
- NXstatus **NXmakelink** (NXhandle handle, NXlink *pLink)
Create a link to the group or dataset described by pLink in the currently open group.
- NXstatus **NXmakenamedlink** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *newname, NXlink *pLink)
Create a link to the group or dataset described by pLink in the currently open group.
- NXstatus **NXgetgroupID** (NXhandle handle, NXlink *pLink)
Retrieve link data for the currently open group.
- NXstatus **NXsameID** (NXhandle handle, NXlink *pFirstID, NXlink *pSecondID)
Tests if two link data structures describe the same item.

2.8.1 Detailed Description

2.8.2 Function Documentation

2.8.2.1 NXstatus NXgetdataID (NXhandle *handle*, NXlink * *pLink*)

Retrieve link data for a dataset.

This link data can later on be used to link this dataset into a different group.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>pLink</i>	A link data structure which will be initialized with the required information for linking.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.8.2.2 NXstatus NXgetgroupID (NXhandle *handle*, NXlink * *pLink*)

Retrieve link data for the currently open group.

This link data can later on be used to link this group into a different group.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>pLink</i>	A link data structure which will be initialized with the required information for linking.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.8.2.3 NXstatus NXmakelink (NXhandle *handle*, NXlink * *pLink*)

Create a link to the group or dataset described by pLink in the currently open group.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>pLink</i>	A link data structure describing the object to link. This must have been initialized by either a call to NXgetdataID or NXgetgroupID.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.8.2.4 NXstatus NXmakenamedlink (NXhandle *handle*, CONSTCHAR * *newname*, NXlink * *pLink*)

Create a link to the group or dataset described by pLink in the currently open group.

But give the linked item a new name.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>newname</i>	The new name of the item in the currently open group.
<i>pLink</i>	A link data structure describing the object to link. This must have been initialized by either a call to NXgetdataID or NXgetgroupID.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.8.2.5 NXstatus NXsameID (NXhandle *handle*, NXlink * *pFirstID*, NXlink * *pSecondID*)

Tests if two link data structures describe the same item.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>pFirstID</i>	The first link data for the test.
<i>pSecondID</i>	The second link data structure.

Returns

NX_OK when both link data structures describe the same item, NX_ERROR else.

2.9 Memory allocation

Functions

- NXstatus **NXmalloc** (void **data, int rank, const int dimensions[], int datatype)
Utility function which allocates a suitably sized memory area for the dataset characteristics specified.
- NXstatus **NXfree** (void **data)
Utility function to release the memory for data.

2.9.1 Detailed Description

2.9.2 Function Documentation

2.9.2.1 NXstatus NXfree (void ** data)

Utility function to release the memory for data.

Parameters

<i>data</i>	A pointer to a pointer to free.
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Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.9.2.2 NXstatus NXmalloc (void ** data, int rank, const int dimensions[], int datatype)

Utility function which allocates a suitably sized memory area for the dataset characteristics specified.

Parameters

<i>data</i>	A pointer to a pointer which will be initialized with a pointer to a suitably sized memory area.
<i>rank</i>	the rank of the data.
<i>dimensions</i>	An array holding the size of the data in each dimension.
<i>datatype</i>	The NeXus data type of the data.

Returns

NX_OK when allocation succeeds, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.10 External linking

Functions

- NXstatus **NXisexternalgroup** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *name, CONSTCHAR *nxclass, char *url, int urlLen)
Test if a group is actually pointing to an external file.
- NXstatus **NXisexternaldataset** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *name, char *url, int urlLen)
Test if a dataset is actually pointing to an external file.
- NXstatus **NXlinkexternal** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *name, CONSTCHAR *nxclass, CONSTCHAR *url)
Create a link to a group in an external file.
- NXstatus **NXlinkexternaldataset** (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR *name, CONSTCHAR *url)
Create a link to a dataset in an external file.

2.10.1 Detailed Description

2.10.2 Function Documentation

2.10.2.1 NXstatus NXisexternaldataset (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR * name, char * url, int urlLen)

Test if a dataset is actually pointing to an external file.

If so, retrieve the URL of the external file.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>name</i>	The name of the dataset to test.
<i>url</i>	A buffer to copy the URL too.
<i>urlLen</i>	The length of the Url buffer. At maximum urlLen bytes will be copied to url.

Returns

NX_OK when the dataset is pointing to an external file, NX_ERROR else.

2.10.2.2 NXstatus NXisexternalgroup (NXhandle handle, CONSTCHAR * name, CONSTCHAR * nxclass, char * url, int urlLen)

Test if a group is actually pointing to an external file.

If so, retrieve the URL of the external file.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>name</i>	The name of the group to test.
<i>nxclass</i>	The class name of the group to test.
<i>url</i>	A buffer to copy the URL too.
<i>urlLen</i>	The length of the Url buffer. At maximum urlLen bytes will be copied to url.

Returns

NX_OK when the group is pointing to an external file, NX_ERROR else.

2.10.2.3 NXstatus NXlinkexternal (NXhandle *handle*, CONSTCHAR * *name*, CONSTCHAR * *nxclass*, CONSTCHAR * *url*)

Create a link to a group in an external file.

This works by creating a NeXus group under the current level in the hierarchy which actually points to a group in another file.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>name</i>	The name of the group which points to the external file.
<i>nxclass</i>	The class name of the group which points to the external file.
<i>url</i>	The URL of the external file. Currently only one URL format is supported: nxfile://path-tofile#path-in-file. This consists of two parts: the first part is of course the path to the file. The second part, path-in-file, is the path to the group in the external file which appears in the first file.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

2.10.2.4 NXstatus NXlinkexternaldataset (NXhandle *handle*, CONSTCHAR * *name*, CONSTCHAR * *url*)

Create a link to a dataset in an external file.

This works by creating a dataset under the current level in the hierarchy which actually points to a dataset in another file.

Parameters

<i>handle</i>	A NeXus file handle as initialized by NXopen.
<i>name</i>	The name of the dataset which points to the external file.
<i>url</i>	The URL of the external file. Currently only one URL format is supported: nxfile://path-tofile#path-in-file. This consists of two parts: the first part is of course the path to the file. The second part, path-in-file, is the path to the dataset in the external file which appears in the first file.

Returns

NX_OK on success, NX_ERROR in the case of an error.

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