
Subject: Re: netCDf problem in IDL 6.0

Posted by [Mark Hadfield](#) on Fri, 10 Oct 2003 01:04:58 GMT

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Bruce A. Toth wrote:

> The following netcdf call worked fine inder IDL 5.6, but I get an error
> under IDL 6.0.
>
> ncd_f_attput,id,'BAT file: ',/GLOBAL,file
>
> The error produced:
> % NCDF_ATTPUT: Attribute write failed. (NC_ERROR=-59)
>
> After this error, the rest of the file gets written just fine.
>
> Any ideas?

Well, netCDF error -59 is defined in ndetcdf.h thus:

```
#define NC_EBADNAME (-59) /* Attribute or variable name  
                           contains illegal characters */
```

The string 'BAT file: ' is an illegal netCDF attribute name for two reasons: 1) it includes spaces; 2) it includes a colon. (Not that I have bothered to look up the netCDF reference.)

The puzzle is why it worked in IDL 5.6.

--

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