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Subject: Re: Is\_netCDF Function  
Posted by [mmiller3](#) on Fri, 26 Mar 2004 14:56:27 GMT  
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>>>> "Kenneth" == Kenneth P Bowman <kpb@null.com> writes:

> To tell if a file is a netCDF file, try opening it and be  
> prepared to handle the error.

We check for netcdf files like this:

```
header = bytarr(3)
openr, lun, filename, /get_lun
readu, lun, header
free_lun, lun
if string(header) eq 'CDF' then print, 'I think this might be a netcdf file...'
```

This is based on the file format specs from Unidata  
( <http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/packages/netcdf/guidec/guidec-18.html> )

Mike

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