Subject: Re: Reading HDF5 Variable
Posted by Michael Wallace on Mon, 14 Feb 2005 21:19:42 GMT

> At the risk of starting a flame war, the netCDF interface (about 25
> functions) seems to have been written by scientists for scientists,
> while the HDF interface appears to have been written by programmers for
> programmers (hundreds(?) of functions).

The various problems with HDF are what led me to use netCDF. Not only
are they written "by scientists for scientists" but much of the
underpinnings of the format appear to have been written by "computer
scientists rather than scientists." Issues with the format aside, I
just like the fact that there are *stable, working* netCDF access
routines in IDL, Java, C, Perl, Python, etc. In fact, whenever I have
to work with HDF, the first thing I usually do is write a small
conversion program that converts the file to netCDF and then I work with
it from there. :-)

-Mike