
Subject: Re: NCDF_ATTCOPY and typecasting
Posted by alexzcervantes@gmail.com on Fri, 18 Aug 2006 20:23:51 GMT
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Here is a chunk of my code:

```
if(natts gt 0) then begin
  FOR index = 0L, natts - 1L DO BEGIN
    ;----Load the attribute name in attribute name array
    maf_attname = ncdf_attname(mafncid, mafvarid, index)
    ncdf_attget, mafncid, mafvarid, maf_attname, attval
    ncdf_attput, cdfid, l2pvarid, maf_attname, attval, /byte
  ENDFOR
endif
```

Everything seems to work except when I have to copy over strings. When I typecast a string to byte, I get output like this:

```
solar_irradiance:_FillValue = -1b ;
solar_irradiance:scale_factor = 1b ;
solar_irradiance:add_offset = 0b ;
solar_irradiance:valid_min = 0b ;
solar_irradiance:valid_max = 0b ;
solar_irradiance:long_name = 115b, 111b, 108b, 97b, 114b, 32b, 105b,
114b, 114b, 97b, 100b, 105b, 97b, 110b, 99b, 101b ;
solar_irradiance:units = 87b, 32b, 109b, 42b, 42b, 45b, 50b, 32b, 115b
;
solar_irradiance:comment = 102b, 105b, 108b, 108b, 101b, 114b, 32b,
99b, 111b, 109b, 109b, 101b, 110b, 116b ;
solar_irradiance:source = 69b, 117b, 114b, 111b, 112b, 101b, 97b, 110b,
32b, 67b, 101b, 110b, 116b, 101b, 114b, 32b, 102b, 111b, 114b, 32b,
77b, 101b, 100b, 105b, 117b, 109b, 32b, 114b, 97b, 110b, 103b, 101b,
32b, 87b, 101b, 97b, 116b, 104b, 101b, 114b, 32b, 70b, 111b, 114b,
101b, 99b, 97b, 115b, 116b, 105b, 110b, 103b, 58b, 32b, 69b, 67b, 77b,
87b, 70b ;
```

Thanks,
Alex

Kenneth Bowman wrote:

```
> In article <1155921996.121510.52270@75g2000cwc.googlegroups.com>,
> "alexzcervantes@gmail.com" <alexzcervantes@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>> Hello All,
>>
>> I am newb to NetCDF and IDL so bear with me :)
>>
```

>> Here's my situation:
>>
>> I am reading in a data array of type FLOAT, and creating a new NetCDF
>> file and writing the data array to the new file in type BYTE. I can do
>> this fine. However, when I try to do a ncdf_attcopy on the variable
>> attributes from the float array to my new byte array, it fails. I do
>> know that when doing a varput, the datatype of the array and its
>> attributes need to be the same.
>>
>> Does anyone know any way around this where I can maybe do a typecast
>> from float to byte using ncdf_attcopy?
>>
>> Thanks in advance,
>> Alex
>
> I have not used NCDF_ATTCOPY, but I suspect the output file needs to be in
> define mode when copying the attributes. Do you copy the attributes first, then
> exit define mode, then write the byte array?
>
> If you are changing the type of the attribute, you will have to read it with
> NCDF_ATTGET, change the type, then put it with NCDF_ATTPUT.
>
> Ken Bowman
