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Subject: Re: NCEP Reanalysis Temperature Data Problem  
Posted by [Conor](#) on Thu, 25 Oct 2007 17:23:51 GMT

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Have you considered that it might already be in date format? It looks like it could be in YYYY-MM-DD format. You would get:

70, 72, 1706 and 01, 04, 1795

If you then allow months and days to wrap you would get actual dates of:

December 20, 1710 and  
January 4, 1795

That sounds pretty reasonable to me... It's obviously an old data set. Where was the US government taking temperature data in the 1700's???

On Oct 25, 12:56 pm, David Fanning <da...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,  
>  
> I am looking at some monthly NCEP Temperature Data, stored in a  
> NetCDF file:  
>  
> <http://www.cdc.noaa.gov/dtat.ncep.reanalysis.pressure.html>  
>  
> I have no problem reading the data file, but the time data,  
> which is suppose to be monthly from 1 Jan 1948 to present,  
> has a min and max values of 17067072 and 17590104. These looks like  
> Julian numbers to me, except they are off by several orders  
> of magnitude from anything that makes sense to me!!  
>  
> IDL> Caldat, 17067072, m, d, y  
> IDL> Print, m, d, y  
> 12 15 42015  
>  
> These numbers are even several orders of magnitude bigger  
> than the number of SECONDS since 1948. :-(  
>  
> Does anyone have any experience with this data set and  
> have some idea of how I can get these values into something  
> that makes sense?  
>  
> Thanks,  
>  
> David  
>

- > --
  - > David Fanning, Ph.D.
  - > Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
  - > Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>
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