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Subject: Re: New netCDF Browser

Posted by [lasse](#) on Mon, 04 Feb 2008 16:06:21 GMT

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On 4 Feb, 07:48, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:

> Folks,  
>  
> I have been working with netCDF files recently, and I have been  
> bothered by the lack of a decent way to browse the contents of  
> these files. I've found decent software to read the variables  
> out of these files, but you have to know the names of the  
> variables you want to read, and I often don't. I've tried  
> using the HDF\_BROWSER, but that interface is god-awful  
> ugly, not to mention non-intuitive, and I don't like it.  
>  
> So I wrote my own netCDF Browser. All you do is pass it  
> the name of the file and it can parse all the data and  
> metadata in the file and it will give you a graphical  
> view of it. Select a variable you want to read, and the  
> browser will read the variable and put it into a variable  
> at the main IDL level for you.  
>  
> Most of the functionality is built into a NCDF\_DATA  
> object. This gives the user great flexibility and functionality  
> to work with netCDF files. But I think most users will  
> use the NCDF\_BROWSER front end. This is just an IDL procedure  
> that takes the name of a netCDF file. It does everything else,  
> including cleanup up after itself.  
>  
> I have some ideas for cosmetic updates, but before I implement  
> them, I thought I would try to get some feedback to see if the  
> browser works with everyone's netCDF files. They have worked  
> with all I've tried, but I haven't subjected them to newbie  
> programming pressure yet. :-)  
>  
> If you are interested, you can find all the Coyote programs  
> you need here:  
>  
> [http://www.dfanning.com/programs/ncdf\\_browser.zip](http://www.dfanning.com/programs/ncdf_browser.zip)  
>  
> To run the basic program, just pass the filename of a netCDF  
> file to the program, like this:  
>  
> IDL> nCDF\_BROWSER, file  
>  
> Always interested in your feedback.  
>  
> Cheers,

>  
> David  
> --  
> David Fanning, Ph.D.  
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming:<http://www.dfanning.com/>  
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Hi there,

CDF support would be a feature I would really like to see, because I have been bothered by the none-existence of a cdf browser myself. Took your code, substituted all "ncdf" occurrences by "cdf" and zut alors!, it doesn't work. Never really thought it would, though. But it seems like small issues so that I might just invest some time. Unless somebody with more experience suggests writing the whole thing new from scratch for cdf because of differences in the file structure.

So long  
Lasse Clausen

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