Subject: Re: NetCDF and empty variables
Posted by renaud.dussurget on Mon, 20 Apr 2009 12:18:32 GMT
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On 20 avr, 01:08, Mark <mark.h...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Apr 18, 7:34 am, renaud.dussur...@gmail.com wrote:
>
>> Well, as I've said, it is much nastier than this.
>> varid returned by NCDF_VARID is correct
>> (the variable exists in the netcdf file and this
>> is its ID). The return of NCDF_VARINQ also suppose
>> that this variable should have 3 dimensions
>> (as, I think,the creator of this file
>> intended it...) But there is simply NO DATA
>> within this variable, and there is no way
>> to check this before trying to get the
>> data from the file.
>
> To the best of my knowledge the only way you can get an "empty"
> variable in a netCDF file is for that variable to depend on the
> unlimited dimension, and for the unilimited dimension to have 0
> records. You can check for the ID of the unlimited dimension with
> NCDF_INQUIRE and then determine its size with NCDF_DIMINQ. You can
> determine the dimensions associated with each variable with
> NCDF_VARINQ. And you can use the ncdump utility (outside IDL) to give
> you a user-friendly listing of the file structure and contents.

NCDF_INQUIRE and NCDF_DIMINQ just give what the properties of the
variable should be, and not what it really is in the file (i.e. no
data)