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Subject: Re: NetCDF and empty variables  
Posted by [liamgumley](#) on Fri, 17 Apr 2009 15:55:53 GMT  
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On Apr 17, 8:18 am, renaud.dussur...@gmail.com wrote:  
> IDL>ncid = NCDF\_OPEN('myFile.nc')  
> IDL>varId = NCDF\_VARID(ncid,'HISTORY\_INSTITUTION')  
> IDL>out=NCDF\_VARINQ(ncid, VarId)  
> IDL>help, out, /str  
> \*\* Structure <a9c098>, 5 tags, length=56, data length=52, refs=1:  
> NAME           STRING   'HISTORY\_INSTITUTION'  
> DATATYPE       STRING   'CHAR'  
> NDIMS           LONG       3  
> NATTS           LONG       3  
> DIM            LONG    Array[3]  
>  
> IDL>print, out.dim  
>       6       8       12  
>  
> IDL>NCDF\_VARGET, ncid, varId, data, COUNT=cnt  
> % Array dimensions must be greater than 0.

Where is the array CNT defined?

Have you tried something like this?

```
PRO TEST
ncid = ncdf_open('myfile.nc')
varid = ncdf_varid(ncid, 'HISTORY_INSTITUTION')
if (varid eq -1) then message, 'Variable does not exist'
ncdf_varget, ncid, varid, value
help, value
END
```

If the code gets past the check for (varid eq -1) and it still crashes, then something very odd is going on, and I think you have a reason to contact ITTVIS technical support.

Liam.  
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