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Subject: Re: How can I know all the information of a CDF file?  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Thu, 16 Apr 2009 18:56:11 GMT  
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litongmu@gmail.com writes:

> I am not sure whether there is anyone who is working on CDF files. But  
> if there is, I want to ask how you get the variable information, like  
> the variable name. I know how to do that in Matlab. But as to  
> manipulating CDF files, Matlab is not as powerful as IDL. So I want to  
> switch to IDL. But I do not want to use them both. Because one of my  
> machine do not have a Matlab license. So please tell me if you know  
> the answer.

I've not done this, but I think you would do  
it something like this:

```
PRO CDFVARNAME
fID = CDF_Open(filename)
info = CDF_Inquire(fID)
nvars = info.nvars
FOR j=0,nvars-1 DO BEGIN
    varInfo = CDF_VarInq(fID, j)
    Help, varInfo, /Structure
    Print, 'Variable Name: ', varInfo.name
ENDFOR
CDF_Close, fID
END
```

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming ([www.dfanning.com](http://www.dfanning.com))  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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