
Subject: Re: NetCDF and empty variables

Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Wed, 22 Apr 2009 04:03:48 GMT

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Mark writes:

> That said, there's nothing weird about this file except that it has an
> unlimited dimension (N_HISTORY) with size zero. And that's not really
> very weird at all.

>

> The ncdump utility shows this:

>

> \$ ncdump -v HISTORY_PARAMETER 69003_prof.nc

> netcdf \69003_prof {

> dimensions:

> DATE_TIME =3D 14 ;

> STRING256 =3D 256 ;

> STRING64 =3D 64 ;

> STRING32 =3D 32 ;

> STRING16 =3D 16 ;

> STRING8 =3D 8 ;

> STRING4 =3D 4 ;

> STRING2 =3D 2 ;

> N_PROF =3D 16 ;

> N_PARAM =3D 2 ;

> N_LEVELS =3D 94 ;

> N_CALIB =3D 1 ;

> N_HISTORY =3D UNLIMITED ; // (0 currently)

> variables:

> ...etc

>

> and so does IDL

>

> IDL> id =3D ncd_f_open('C:\Temp\69003_prof.nc')

> IDL> inq =3D ncd_f_inquire(id)

> IDL> ncd_f_diminq, id, inq.recdim, name, size

> IDL> print, name, size

> N_HISTORY 0

> IDL> ncd_f_close, id

Yeah, so what does that mean that it has an unlimited dimension. Why would someone do that? :-)

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.")
