
Subject: Re: NetCDF and empty variables
Posted by [Mark\[1\]](#) on Wed, 22 Apr 2009 03:48:24 GMT
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On Apr 22, 6:38 am, David Fanning <n...@dfanning.com> wrote:
> renaud.dussur...@gmail.com writes:
>> I've posted the a link to the original file on the other post:
>
>> ftp://ftp.ifremer.fr/ifremer/argo/dac/coriolis/69003/69003_prof.nc
>
> Pretty weird. NONE of the HISTORY_* variables were
> populated in this file. I've modified my nCDF_Browser
> routine to handle this strange state of affairs.
> Download this new file:
>
> http://www.dfanning.com/programs/ncdf_data__define.pro
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming (www.dfanning.com)
> Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

First, please accept apologies for starting a new thread (I don't know how that happened) and for not reading the other thread thoroughly enough to see that the file had already been posted.

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 = 14 ;
    STRING256 = 256 ;
    STRING64 = 64 ;
    STRING32 = 32 ;
    STRING16 = 16 ;
    STRING8 = 8 ;
    STRING4 = 4 ;
    STRING2 = 2 ;
    N_PROF = 16 ;
    N_PARAM = 2 ;
```

```
N_LEVELS = 94 ;  
N_CALIB = 1 ;  
N_HISTORY = UNLIMITED ; // (0 currently)
```

variables:

...etc

and so does IDL

```
IDL> id = ncdf_open('C:\Temp\69003_prof.nc')  
IDL> inq = ncdf_inquire(id)  
IDL> ncdf_diminq, id, inq.recdim, name, size  
IDL> print, name, size  
N_HISTORY      0  
IDL> ncdf_close, id
```

And this is what I said in the first post of the current thread.
