Subject: Re: Random NetCDF I/O error
Posted by Kenneth P. Bowman on Mon, 03 Jan 2011 22:40:08 GMT

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In article <8oeqofFed0U1@mid.dfncis.de>,
 Fabzou <fabien.maussion@tu-berlin.de> wrote:

> Dear IDLers,
>
> I am using IDL to post-process a large amount of NCDF files, e.g.
> creating new NCDF files by copying parts of many original files.
>
> I am using IDL Version 7.1.1 (linux x86_64 m64) WITH the ITT "NCDF Large
> File support" patch for linux.
>
> I noticed that a very annoying unpredictable error occurs once in a
> while, e.g:
>
> NCDF_VARPUT: Operation Failed, bad file (7208960) or variable (6) id ?
> (NC_ERROR=-101)
>
> Again, the error occurs randomly, but after many experiments I came to
> these conclusions:
> - this happens very often when working on files stored on network drives
> - this happens often when working on files stored on external USB drives
> - this happens often when other processes are running parallel to IDL
> - this happens less often when using IDL in command line (without
> workbench)
>
> Are other IDL users experiencing similar problems? Is it platform
> specific or Version specific?
>
> I'd be grateful for any tip! Thanks in advance,
>
> Fab

This could be unrelated to IDL or netCDF. We had similar problems
reading/writing large files on Linux systems (with IDL). The problem
turned out to be the SCSI controller for our RAID. Switching
from the SCSI controller on the motherboard to a controller
in a card slot solved the problem. It could have been drivers or
the controller hardware on the motherboard that caused the problem.

Ken Bowman