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Subject: IDL problem with ncdf\_vardef: can' exit definition mode

Posted by [Therese](#) on Thu, 30 May 2013 15:00:05 GMT

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Hello,

I have problems with creating a ncdf-file: I can't define all of my variables with ncdf\_vardef().

Two of my variables (longitude, latitude) have the dimensions  $x*y=6000*4800$  and the whole data-field has  $x*y*k=6000*4800*10$ . I want to save the data-field in  $k=10$  variables with dimensions  $x*y$  in the ncdf-file.

The definition of longitude and latitude works but if I want to define the ten data-fields I get the following error message:

"NCDF\_CONTROL: Attempt to take the file out of define mode (ENDEF) failed.  
(NC\_ERROR=-31)"

I first tried to define them in a for-loop and I also tried to do it "by hand" one for one but it didn't help. If I remove the definitions for the data-fields the program works.

I do not understand why there is a difference between "latid", "lonid" and the "datid"-vector. Is there a maximum number of definitions which can be defined?

I'm using idl 6.4.

Please help! Thank you!

Therese Keck

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My example-code:

```
id = NCDF_CREATE(file,/CLOBBER)
NCDF_CONTROL,id,/FILL

xid = NCDF_DIMDEF(id,"xid",x)
yid = NCDF_DIMDEF(id,"yid",y)

latid = NCDF_VARDEF(id,"latitude",[xid,yid],/FLOAT)
lonid = NCDF_VARDEF(id,"longitude",[xid,yid],/FLOAT)

datid = lonarr(size(label,/n_elements))
for d=0,1 do $
    datid[d] = NCDF_VARDEF(id,label[d],[xid,yid],/SHORT)
```

NCDF\_CONTROL,id,/ENDEF ; the program stops here

```
NCDF_VARPUT,id,lonid,lon
NCDF_VARPUT,id,latid,lat
for d=0,size(label,/n_elements)-1 do $
    NCDF_VARPUT,id,dat[d],data[*,*,d]
```

NCDF\_CLOSE,id

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note:

label is a string-array for the names of the variables of the data-field: Albedo\_WSA\_Band1  
Albedo\_WSA\_Band2 Albedo\_WSA\_Band3 Albedo\_WSA\_Band4 Albedo\_WSA\_Band5  
Albedo\_WSA\_Band6 Albedo\_WSA\_Band7 Albedo\_WSA\_vis Albedo\_WSA\_nir  
Albedo\_WSA\_shortwave

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