
Subject: Do netCDF Files Have a DataType of INT?
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Mon, 03 Jun 2013 02:36:19 GMT
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Folks,

I've run into a problem with a netCDF file and I need a sanity check.

I define a variable attribute "colortable" with an integer value, say 33. As far as I know netCDF files don't have a datatype named "INT", so I use the datatype "SHORT" when I create the attribute:

```
NCDF_ATTPUT, fileID, self.ID, 'colortable', 33, /SHORT
```

Now, I want to read this attribute out of the file and copy it to another file. To learn something about this attribute I use the IDL routine NCDF_ATTINQ:

```
attrInfo = NCDF_Attnq(fileID, GLOBAL=1, 'colortable')
```

But, the datatype field of this attribute structure is inexplicably set to INT:

```
IDL> Print, attrInfo.datatype  
INT
```

Does that make **any** sense to anyone?

Cheers,

David

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Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>
Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")
