
Subject: Re: NetCDF: Converting time variable using start time from "units"

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Mon, 14 Sep 2015 22:29:54 GMT

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On 9/14/15 2:33 PM, Larry H. wrote:

> I've been reading and writing NetCDF files using IDL for some time.
> Now I'm wondering whether there's a better way to convert the values
> in the "time" variable to real times than by using ncdump to get the
> units from the attributes and then hard coding the offset into my
> routines. I can read the units, e.g.,
>
> time:units = "minutes since 2007-01-26 01:30:00"
>
> using ncdf_attget, but don't know of any way IDL can understand this
> information and automatically apply the offset to the values in
> "time". I've heard a rumor that this can be done. Any suggestions?
> Thanks.
>

I have a basic routine to do this MG_CF2JULIAN to convert from the CF convention in netCDF to Julian time:

https://github.com/mgalloy/mglib/blob/master/src/calendar/mg_cf2julian.pro

This handled my needs, but I think is fairly general. Please let me know if there is more you need from it.

Mike

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Modern IDL: A Guide to IDL Programming (<http://modernidl.idldev.com>)
