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

Posted by [laura.hike](#) on Tue, 15 Sep 2015 15:32:32 GMT

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Thanks! Given that this expression of start time is a standard, you'd think there'd already be an IDL function to read it....

On Monday, September 14, 2015 at 3:29:07 PM UTC-7, Mike Galloy wrote:

> 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

> --

> Michael Galloy

> www.michaelgalloy.com

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