Subject: Re: how to search if a variable exists in a file
Posted by Xiaohua Pan on Tue, 29 Sep 2015 19:05:15 GMT
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On Monday, September 28, 2015 at 7:25:32 PM UTC-4, David Fanning wrote:
> Xiaohua Pan writes:
>
>>   I am dealing with a set of stations which unfortunately contain
> different variables (netcdf formate). For example, Some stations have
> the variables, say 'temperature' and 'pressure', while some stations
> only have 'temperature'. When I read data with DO loop the stations, I
> would like to search the variable first, so I can skip those variables
> not existing to avoid the crash of program. I found a function of
> file_search(), but can't find a similar function for a variable. Is
> there anyone know how to do it? Thanks.
>>
>>   DO i_station = 0, n-1 do begin
>>   DO i_var = 0, 1 do begin
>>   ; How to skip the variable if it doesn't exit ????
>>   ENDFOR
>>   ENDFOR
>
> If you were to use the netCDF programs in the Coyote Library to work
> with your netCDF files, you could use the method HasVar to tell you if a
> file contains a variable with a particular name:
>
>   http://www.idlcoyote.com/fileio_tips/ncdf_browser.html
>
> Cheers,
>
> David
> --
> David Fanning, Ph.D.
> Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.
> Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: http://www.idlcoyote.com/
> Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

Hi David,
   It works. Thank you so much!
Xiaohua

For those who may need this information as well,
  here is an example:

```
  filename = 'data.nc'
  var_name = 'sst'
  ncdfObj = Obj_New('NCDF_FILE', filename)
 hasVar = ncdfObj -> HasVar(var_name, OBJECT=varObj)
```

```
IF hasVar THEN BEGIN
 print, '  find the variable ' + var_name
         ENDIF ELSE BEGIN
 print, "  Can't find the variable "+var_name
ENDELSE
```