
Subject: Reading netcdf/hdf5 files slows down

Posted by [khyde](#) on Thu, 01 Oct 2015 19:12:56 GMT

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Hello,

I have several thousand netcdf and hdf5 files that I need to open and extract data from. As the program loops through the files, it progressively takes longer and longer to read each file. Over the course of 24 hours, it went from taking ~6 seconds to completely read the file to more than a minute. Since seconds add up when reading 50,000+ files, I was hoping someone might know why the program would be slowing down and if there is anything (other than restarting IDL) I can do to fix it.

For the netcdf files I'm using the following procedures:

```
NCDF_OPEN  
NCDF_INQUIRE  
NCDF_ATTNAME  
NCDF_ATTGET  
NCDF_CLOSE
```

And for the HDF5:

```
H5F_OPEN  
H5G_OPEN  
H5D_OPEN  
H5D_READ  
H5D_CLOSE  
H5G_CLOSE  
H5F_CLOSE
```

Lastly, I am being sure to close every file once I am done with it and removing any unneeded variables from memory.

Any suggestions would be greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Kim
