
Subject: Re: Assigning Coordinates in NetCDF
Posted by [Mark\[1\]](#) on Sun, 07 Dec 2008 21:39:51 GMT
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The usual practice in netCDF to describe position along a dimension is to create a variable that varies in that dimension and has the same name as that dimension. Variables that satisfy these conditions are called coordinate variables.

Thus in your case

```
xvarid=ncdf_vardef(data, 'west_east', xid, /float)
yvarid=ncdf_vardef(data, 'south_north', xid, /float)
```

and then put your coordinate data into those variables.

I must say that 'west_east' and 'south_north' are unusual names for variables. Personally, I would be inclined to call them "x" and "y" and give each one a long_name attribute that describes it in more detail.
