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Subject: How to read field attributes in HDF-EOS  
Posted by [dabin](#) on Thu, 29 Apr 2010 03:28:43 GMT  
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I'm trying to read attributes 'scale factor' and 'offset' contained in a hdf-eos data field. But can't find any good method to do this. Could any one give me some advise.  
The attributes information are shown in the following picutre.

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Subject: Re: How to read field attributes in HDF-EOS  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Fri, 30 Apr 2010 16:53:03 GMT  
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dabin writes:

> I'm trying to read attributes 'scale factor' and 'offset' contained  
> in a hdf-eos data field. But can't find any good method to do this.  
> Could any one give me some advise.

It seems exceedingly odd to me that to read attributes from swath datafields, you have to stop what you are doing and open a new scientific dataset operation, convert the datafield name to a scientific dataset index, then parse that for information you need. Too weird!

Anyway, I plan to write an article about this and incorporate this into my ncdf\_browser tool, but who knows when that will happen. In the interim, I have put a very preliminary piece of code that parses HDF-EOS swath data here:

[http://www.dfanning.com/misc/examine\\_hdf\\_swath.pro](http://www.dfanning.com/misc/examine_hdf_swath.pro)

It might give you some ideas.

Cheers,

David

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David Fanning, Ph.D.  
Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.  
Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.dfanning.com/>  
Sepore ma de ni thui. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")

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