
Subject: Add a new variable to netCDF file?

Posted by [Ashley Berg](#) on Mon, 24 Oct 2011 23:44:29 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

So, I know how to overwrite a variable in a netCDF file, but how do I add a new one?

I have a netCDF file with about 30 variables and I want to add two new ones. It would be a pain to have to copy over all 30 vars plus the new ones into a new file, so is there a way to add variables using the netCDF operators? I've been experimenting but haven't been able to find a way to do it (when I try to write a new variable to the file, it complains that it can't find the variable, which implies it's looking to overwrite an existing one rather than tack on the new one).

Thanks!

Subject: Re: Add a new variable to netCDF file?

Posted by [Ashley Berg](#) on Tue, 25 Oct 2011 18:17:58 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Hello all,

Paul's suggestion actually did not work for me (in IDL). The problem still seems to be that the variable I want to put into the netCDF file doesn't already exist in the file:

```
% NCDF_VARPUT: Variable "TEST_VAR" not found.
```

```
% NCDF_VARPUT: Variable Inquiry failed, -1 is not a valid variable id.
```

However, I believe I can use NCL (NCAR Command Language) to add a new variable to an existing netCDF file, so I will try that next.

Subject: Re: Add a new variable to netCDF file?

Posted by [Kenneth P. Bowman](#) on Tue, 25 Oct 2011 18:46:30 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article

<8b005a34-1e1e-4d98-9a61-a16a994fe5dc@j36g2000prh.googlegroups.com>,
Ashley Berg <ashley.berg@gmail.com> wrote:

> Hello all,

>

> Paul's suggestion actually did not work for me (in IDL). The problem

> still seems to be that the variable I want to put into the netCDF file

> doesn't already exist in the file:
>
> % NCDF_VARPUT: Variable "TEST_VAR" not found.
> % NCDF_VARPUT: Variable Inquiry failed, -1 is not a valid variable id.
>
> However, I believe I can use NCL (NCAR Command Language) to add a new
> variable to an existing netCDF file, so I will try that next.

Did you define it first (per Paul's list of steps)?

Ken Bowman

Subject: Re: Add a new variable to netCDF file?
Posted by [Ashley Berg](#) on Tue, 25 Oct 2011 20:50:24 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Oct 25, 12:46 pm, "Kenneth P. Bowman" <k-bow...@null.edu> wrote:

> Did you define it first (per Paul's list of steps)?
>
> Ken Bowman

Yes, I followed each one of his steps. If someone has been able to get it to work, I would appreciate seeing some sample code in case I made some error... but since I have now successfully used NCL to add my variables to the file, figuring out how to do it in IDL is not a priority for me anymore (though others may still be interested).

Subject: Re: Add a new variable to netCDF file?
Posted by [fereshthekomijani](#) on Sun, 15 Dec 2013 12:49:22 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

On Tuesday, October 25, 2011 3:14:29 AM UTC+3:30, Ashley Berg wrote:

> So, I know how to overwrite a variable in a netCDF file, but how do I
>
> add a new one?
>
>
>
> I have a netCDF file with about 30 variables and I want to add two new
>
> ones. It would be a pain to have to copy over all 30 vars plus the
>
> new ones into a new file, so is there a way to add variables using the
>

> netCDF operators? I've been experimenting but haven't been able to
>
> find a way to do it (when I try to write a new variable to the file,
>
> it complains that it can't find the variable, which implies it's
>
> looking to overwrite an existing one rather than tack on the new one).
>
>
>
> Thanks!

dear

i am newbie with netcdf files manipulate. my aim is same as Ashley Berg to add 3 variables which all of them are in 3 different netcdf files with fourth netcdf file. all of them have same time step, longitude and latitude. but i cant fine way to do that. is it possible to do that with MATLAB? if it is, would you please tell me how.

cheers

fereshte

Subject: Re: Add a new variable to netCDF file?

Posted by [Andy Sayer](#) on Sun, 15 Dec 2013 22:37:37 GMT

[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

You might have better luck posting in a Matlab group (this one is for IDL). I don't know how many of us use Matlab (I don't). Good luck!

>
> dear
>
> i am newbie with netcdf files manipulate. my aim is same as Ashley Berg to add 3 variables which all of them are in 3 different netcdf files with fourth netcdf file. all of them have same time step, longitude and latitude. but i cant fine way to do that. is it possible to do that with MATLAB? if it is, would you please tell me how.
>
> cheers
>
> fereshte
