
Subject: Re: unable to set time attribute for netCDF in IDL
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 29 Oct 2011 17:52:03 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Stephanie writes:

- > I struggle to create netCDF output that has the correctly time axis
- > for further post-processing. I thought/tried different ways: (1)
- > writing the time variable, read in from a correct netCDF file,
- > directly to the output file, but it does not let me set the attribute.
- > (2) creating a date-time axis myself, which does not seem trivial.
- >
- > Can you give advice or a code example on how to manage this issue?

I use the nCDF_File object in my Coyote Library to read, write, and copy netCDF files. But I have updated the example programs this morning to show how to write and read a time dimension and variable in a netCDF file. You can find the updated example program here:

http://www.idlcoyote.com/programs/ncdf_file_examples.pro

Cheers,

David

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

Subject: Re: unable to set time attribute for netCDF in IDL
Posted by [Erik\[2\]](#) on Mon, 31 Oct 2011 14:39:53 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

When in doubt, resort to the free NCAR's NCL language for this fix:

```
a = addfile("file.nc","r") ; read in file
var = a->var ; let's say var is (time, lat, lon)
var!0 = "time"
Time = (/0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10/) ; or Time = ispan(0,10,1) or... Time
= <some string>
var&time = Time
.
<snip>
```

```
.  
;write out to netcdf file  
b = addfile("out_file.nc","c")  
b->var=var
```

There are also other time fixes one may do.
<http://www.ncl.ucar.edu/>

Erik

On Oct 29, 6:13 am, Stephanie <ee...@leeds.ac.uk> wrote:

```
> Dear all,  
>  
> I struggle to create netCDF output that has the correctly time axis  
> for further post-processing. I thought/tried different ways: (1)  
> writing the time variable, read in from a correct netCDF file,  
> directly to the output file, but it does not let me set the attribute.  
> (2) creating a date-time axis myself, which does not seem trivial.  
>  
> Can you give advice or a code example on how to manage this issue?  
>  
> Thanks,  
> Steph
```
