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Subject: Coyote NCDF\_FILE object to read HDF  
Posted by [Mario Incandenza](#) on Sat, 17 May 2014 00:17:16 GMT  
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David,

I was very excited to see (years ago now) that you updated your NCDF\_FILE object to read HDF4 as well. The NCDF\_BROWSER implements a "Read Entire File" method which is analogous to (though it may predate) the H5\_PARSE routine. This works like a charm.

However, when I tried to call it without using the GUI, I find that

```
IDL> sObj=Obj_New('NCDF_FILE',hdf_file)
```

fails:

Traceback Report from NCDF\_FILE::INIT:

```
% NCDF_OPEN: Unable to open the file "/aerosol_cal/users/hyer/data/scratch/Matc
h_Aerosol_MODIS.VIIRS.COLLOC.20130729.201520130729.2015.BLK1 0.8x
8.AEROSOL.hdf". (NC_ERROR=-128)
% Execution halted at: NCDF_FILE::INIT 3229
/shared/aerosol_dev2/users/hyer/calsrc/idlpro/idl_res/coyote /ncdf_file__define.pro
%
$MAIN$
% Compiled module: CGROOTNAME.
```

Is there a trick to making something like this happen for HDF files:

```
sObj = Obj_New('NCDF_FILE',hdf_file)
allData = ncdfObject -> ReadFile(filename)
```

--Edward H.

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Subject: Re: Coyote NCDF\_FILE object to read HDF  
Posted by [David Fanning](#) on Sat, 17 May 2014 12:27:48 GMT  
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Edward Hyer writes:

> I was very excited to see (years ago now) that you updated your  
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>   $MAIN$
> % Compiled module: CGROOTNAME.
>
>
> Is there a trick to making something like this happen for HDF files:
>
> sObj = Obj_New('NCDF_FILE',hdf_file)
> allData = ncdfObject -> ReadFile(filename)

```

The ability to read HDF files is built into the NCDF\_DATA object (a precursor to the NCDF\_FILE object). You want this:

```
sObj = Obj_New('NCDF_DATA',hdf_file)
```

The methods are similar, but less powerful. I wrote NCDF\_FILE specifically because I was working with netCDF files at the time and needed a more robust object for them specifically.

Cheers,

David

--

David Fanning, Ph.D.

Fanning Software Consulting, Inc.

Coyote's Guide to IDL Programming: <http://www.idlcoyote.com/>

Sepore ma de ni thue. ("Perhaps thou speakest truth.")