## Subject: how to list variable names from netCDF file? Posted by f055 on Thu, 07 Dec 1995 08:00:00 GMT

View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

Can anyone help me with the following problem?

I am trying to write some IDL code to read in a number of netCDF files, without knowing in advance the names of the variables in the file. Is there a routine which can return the variable name of the Nth variable in the file?

Once open, I can use ncdf\_inquire to find the number of variables, but ncdf\_varinq says it can only return the name of a variable if you give it the variable's id, which can be got from calling ncdf\_varid. But ncdf\_varid requires the variables name! What I need is an equivalent of ncdf\_attname, which returns the name of the Nth attribute.

What's the solution?

Dr Tim Osborn	. t.osborn@uea.ac.uk
// / /. Senior Research Ass	sociate . phone:01603 592089
/ /. / / Climatic Research Unit	. fax: 01603 507784
// / School of Environment	al Sciences.
. / / / University of East Anglia	a .
//\/ Norwich NR4 7T.	J .
UK .	

Subject: Re: how to list variable names from netCDF file? Posted by Andy Loughe on Thu, 07 Dec 1995 08:00:00 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

## T.Osborn wrote:

>

- > Can anyone help me with the following problem?
- > I am trying to write some IDL code to read in a number of netCDF files, without
- > knowing in advance the names of the variables in the file. Is there a routine
- > which can return the variable name of the Nth variable in the file?
- > Once open, I can use ncdf\_inquire to find the number of variables, but
- > ncdf\_varinq says it can only return the name of a variable if you give it
- > the variable's id, which can be got from calling ncdf\_varid. But ncdf\_varid
- > requires the variables name! What I need is an equivalent of ncdf\_attname,
- > which returns the name of the Nth attribute.

>

>

Maybe the documentation is causing you trouble (imagine that!).

Here is a small example...

file = '/Datasets/nmc/uwnd.79.nc'
ncid = NCDF\_OPEN( file )
result = NCDF\_INQUIRE( ncid )
num\_vars = result.NVARS
for i = 0, num\_vars-1 do print, ncdf\_varinq(ncid,i)

-----

Andrew F. Loughe (afl@cdc.noaa.gov)
University of Colorado, CIRES \* Campus Box 449 \* Boulder, CO 80309

phone: (303) 492-0707 fax: (303) 497-7013