
Subject: Error opening NetCDF - file

Posted by [Kai Heckel](#) on Wed, 15 Jul 2015 15:51:34 GMT

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Hello!

I am currently working on a time series including multiple NetCDF's. My procedure includes a call to a "read_netcdf"-script. The first line there is "ncdf_open".

This is usually no problem but very few files are causing an error here saying 'Unable to open the file "...". (NC_ERROR=-101)'.

When I try to open these NetCDF's in the BEAM software I get the message 'No appropriate reader found'.

So I guess somethings wrong with the header of these NetCDF's? I have no clue and would be glad if you could help me out here.

Subject: Re: Error opening NetCDF - file

Posted by [Lajos Foldy](#) on Wed, 15 Jul 2015 16:53:39 GMT

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On Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at 5:51:39 PM UTC+2, Kai Heckel wrote:

> Hello!

>

> I am currently working on a time series including multiple NetCDF's. My procedure includes a call to a "read_netcdf"-script. The first line there is "ncdf_open".

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>

>

> So I guess somethings wrong with the header of these NetCDF's? I have no clue and would be glad if you could help me out here.

The NetCDF error codes are in netcdf.h:

```
...
/** Error at HDF5 layer. */
#define NC_EHDFERR      (-101)
...
```

So it is an error reported by the HDF5 layer. Your file is a HDF5 file in disguise. Try to check it with a HDF5 reader.

regards,
Lajos

Subject: Re: Error opening NetCDF - file
Posted by [Kai Heckel](#) on Thu, 16 Jul 2015 08:28:27 GMT
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Am Mittwoch, 15. Juli 2015 18:53:43 UTC+2 schrieb fawltyl...@gmail.com:
> On Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at 5:51:39 PM UTC+2, Kai Heckel wrote:
>> Hello!
>>
>> I am currently working on a time series including multiple NetCDF's. My procedure includes a call to a "read_netcdf"-script. The first line there is "ncdf_open".
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> #define NC_EHDFERR (-101)
> ...
>
> So it is an error reported by the HDF5 layer. Your file is a HDF5 file in disguise. Try to check it with a HDF5 reader.
>
> regards,
> Lajos

Hello Lajos,

thanks for the reply.

I'm sorry but how can I access a HDF5 file if I only have a NetCDF?

Subject: Re: Error opening NetCDF - file
Posted by [Lajos Foldy](#) on Thu, 16 Jul 2015 09:26:09 GMT
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On Thursday, July 16, 2015 at 10:28:31 AM UTC+2, Kai Heckel wrote:
> Am Mittwoch, 15. Juli 2015 18:53:43 UTC+2 schrieb fawltyl...@gmail.com:
>> On Wednesday, July 15, 2015 at 5:51:39 PM UTC+2, Kai Heckel wrote:
>>> Hello!
>>>

>>> I am currently working on a time series including multiple NetCDF's. My procedure includes a call to a "read_netcdf"-script. The first line there is "ncdf_open".
>>> This is usually no problem but very few files are causing an error here saying 'Unable to open the file "... " (NC_ERROR=-101)'.
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>> So it is an error reported by the HDF5 layer. Your file is a HDF5 file in disguise. Try to check it with a HDF5 reader.
>>
>> regards,
>> Lajos
>
> Hello Lajos,
>
> thanks for the reply.
>
> I'm sorry but how can I access a HDF5 file if I only have a NetCDF?

You have IDL :-). Check your file eg. with x=H5_BROWSER('your_file').

regards,
Lajos

Subject: Re: Error opening NetCDF - file
Posted by [Paul Van Delst\[1\]](#) on Mon, 20 Jul 2015 13:11:02 GMT
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On 07/15/15 11:51, Kai Heckel wrote:

> Hello!
>
> I am currently working on a time series including multiple NetCDF's.
> My procedure includes a call to a "read_netcdf"-script. The first
> line there is "ncdf_open". This is usually no problem but very few
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> So I guess somethings wrong with the header of these NetCDF's? I have
> no clue and would be glad if you could help me out here.

What version of IDL do you have?

From Lajos's reply it would appear you have a netCDF4 file - which uses HDF5 to handle the hard stuff that classic netCDF couldn't.

Newer versions of IDL "understand" netCDF4. So, if you have an old(er) version of IDL, that may be your problem. (If, indeed, it isn't what Lajos indicated - you are trying to read a regular HDF5 file)

I use the IDL netCDF browser to read netCDF3-and-4 datafiles with no problems.

cheers,

paulv

p.s.

```
IDL> print, !version  
{ x86_64 linux unix linux 8.3 Nov 15 2013    64    64}
```

Subject: Re: Error opening NetCDF - file
Posted by [benjaminforeback](#) on Wed, 05 Aug 2015 00:39:08 GMT
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On Monday, July 20, 2015 at 6:11:07 AM UTC-7, Paul van Delst wrote:

> On 07/15/15 11:51, Kai Heckel wrote:
>> Hello!
>>
>> I am currently working on a time series including multiple NetCDF's.
>> My procedure includes a call to a "read_netcdf"-script. The first
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> I use the IDL netCDF browser to read netCDF3-and-4 datafiles with no
> problems.
>
> cheers,
>
> paulv
>
>
> p.s.
>
> IDL> print, !version
> { x86_64 linux unix linux 8.3 Nov 15 2013 64 64}

In general, HDF5 and NetCDF-4 are the same. IDL's HDF5 library can be used for accessing and reading NetCDF-4, so you could try using IDL's H5_* routines and using the file as if it was NetCDF4.
