
Subject: Re: netCDF - ... and file size
Posted by [bowman](#) on Fri, 14 May 1999 07:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

In article <373C8FDA.3C47B2@io.harvard.edu>, Martin Schultz
<mgs@io.harvard.edu> wrote:

> Martin Schultz wrote:
>>
>
> ... the file size of my test netCDF file is practically identical to the
> size of my
> "primitive" binary file (all dat being stored as float). Wouldn't it be
> nice if netCDF would support compression? In my case that would mean a
> reduction by a factor of 4 (using gzip). Or would they loose
> cross-platform portability then?

There has been talk about doing this, but I think there are considerable
obstacles. You can maintain cross-platform compatibility by using 'scale'
and 'offset' attributes to linearly transform your variables and store
them as, for example, 2-byte INTs instead of 4-byte FLOATS (at some cost
in precision, of course).

Ken

Subject: Re: netCDF - ... and file size
Posted by [Martin Schultz](#) on Fri, 14 May 1999 07:00:00 GMT
[View Forum Message](#) <> [Reply to Message](#)

Martin Schultz wrote:
>

... the file size of my test netCDF file is practically identical to the
size of my
"primitive" binary file (all dat being stored as float). Wouldn't it be
nice if netCDF would support compression? In my case that would mean a
reduction by a factor of 4 (using gzip). Or would they loose
cross-platform portability then?

Martin.

--

|||||-----//|
Martin Schultz, DEAS, Harvard University, 29 Oxford St., Pierce 109,
Cambridge, MA 02138 phone (617) 496 8318 fax (617) 495 4551
e-mail mgs@io.harvard.edu web <http://www-as/people/staff/mgs/>

Subject: Re: netCDF - ... and file size

Posted by [robert.m.candey.1\[1\]](#) on Mon, 17 May 1999 07:00:00 GMT

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

In article <373C8FDA.3C47B2@io.harvard.edu>, Martin Schultz
<mgs@io.harvard.edu> wrote:

> Martin Schultz wrote:

>>

>

> ... the file size of my test netCDF file is practically identical to the

> size of my

> "primitive" binary file (all dat being stored as float). Wouldn't it be

> nice if netCDF would support compression? In my case that would mean a

> reduction by a factor of 4 (using gzip). Or would they loose

> cross-platform portability then?

>

> Martin.

The sister format (CDF) to netCDF does have compression

<http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/cdf/cdf_home.html>. We have a nice ingest
routine (read_myCDF.pro) at

<<ftp://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/pub/CDAWlib/source/>> (whole library tarred up
at <<ftp://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/pub/CDAWlib/unix/>>). See

<<http://cdaweb.gsfc.nasa.gov/>> fo plots using the library.

--

Robert.M.Candey@gsfc.nasa.gov 1-301-286-6707 (286-1771 fax)

NASA Goddard Space Flight Center, Code 632

Greenbelt MD 20771 USA <<http://nssdc.gsfc.nasa.gov/personnel/rcandey/>>
