Data structure/formatting

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Outline

- Standard names, vocabularies
- NetCDF/CF grid, trajectory, profile, timeseries
- Granularity requirements



Benefits of standardised documentation

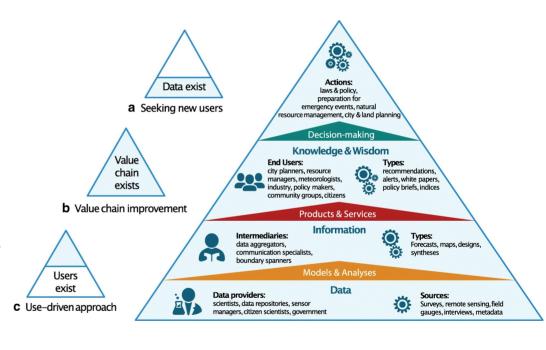
- Why not use the "Google" approach?
- Science is based on a shared terminology
 - There will never be only one proper way of documenting
 - There will always be a need for brokering
- Data and metadata must be connected
 - To find data
 - To use data

- Standardised documentation and formatting
 - enables the possibility to filter datasets
 - enables the possibility to link datasets
 - enables standardised applications to analyse data
 - enables users to use the data
- Need to be pragmatic...
 - And let computers do the boring part
 - But humans need to instruct computers



Standardised documentation criteria

- Self contained information
 - Structural representation of data
 - Semantic annotation of data and structures
 - Avoid using "containers"
 - Slicing of data during analysis
 - Sustainability of format specification, tools and APIs





Virapongse, A., Pearlman, F., Pearlman, J. et al. Ten rules to increase the societal value of earth observations. Earth Sci Inform 13, 233–247 (2020). https://doi.org/10.1007/s12145-020-00453-w

Data Formats: Choosing and Adopting Community Accepted Standards

- Most projects (rightly so) focus on the content of their data files, you need to consider the format as well.
- Since you captured or created the data, and stored them in your own files, you know
 - how the data are organized,
 - how to read them,
 - how to use them,
 - characteristics of the data that could constrain their use.
- The goal of a good data format is to make it easier for others to read the data too.
- Many hours have gone into developing standards for formats try to learn from them.



Why use community standards

- If you try to develop your data format from scratch, you will forget something.
- Build on the experience and improvements built into the community standards over years of use.
- Tools and analysis software natively support reading community standard data.
- Reduce development effort and support reuse.
- Positive feedback they are more likely to be adopted by others.

HOW STANDARDS PROLIFERATE:
(SEE: A/C CHARGERS, CHARACTER ENCODINGS, INSTANT MESSAGING, ETC.)

SITUATION: THERE ARE 14 COMPETING STANDARDS.



SON: SITUATION: THERE ARE 15 COMPETING STANDARDS.

http://xkcd.com/927/



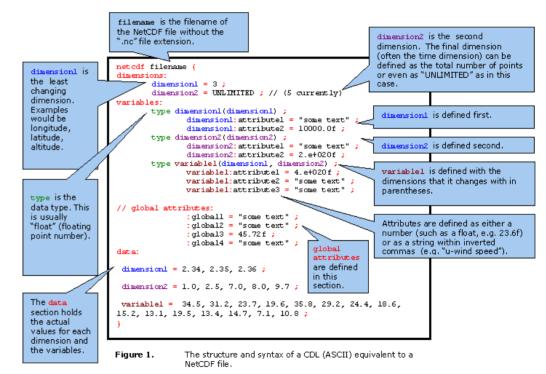


There is nothing like a perfect standard...



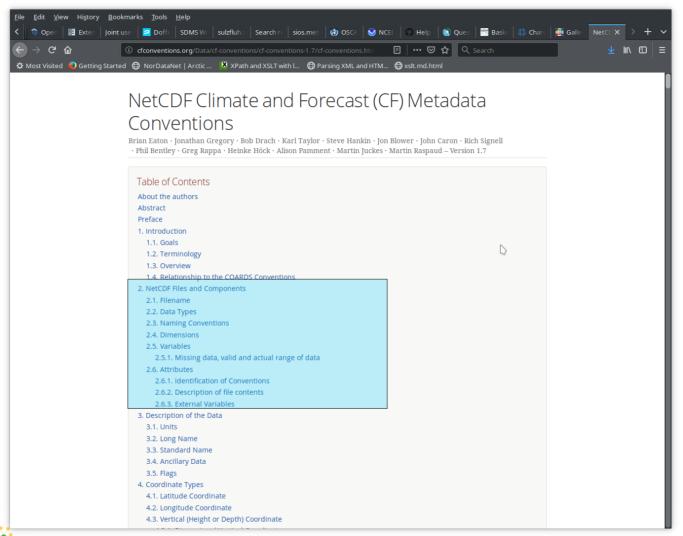
Use self describing data formats

- Self-describing data formats have become a well accepted way of archiving and disseminating scientific data.
- Before self-describing data formats became widely used, each project often invented their own data formats, often raw binary or even ASCII.
- These approaches had a number of problems:
 - Machine dependent byte ordering or floating point organizations
 - Required a 'key' to be able to open the file and read the right data.
 - A new custom reader is needed for each different data organization. Working in a new language could be very difficult since you have to redevelop the reader anew.

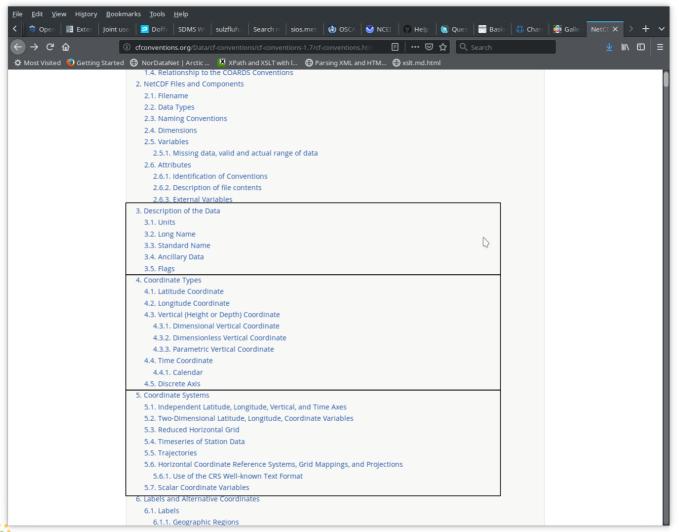




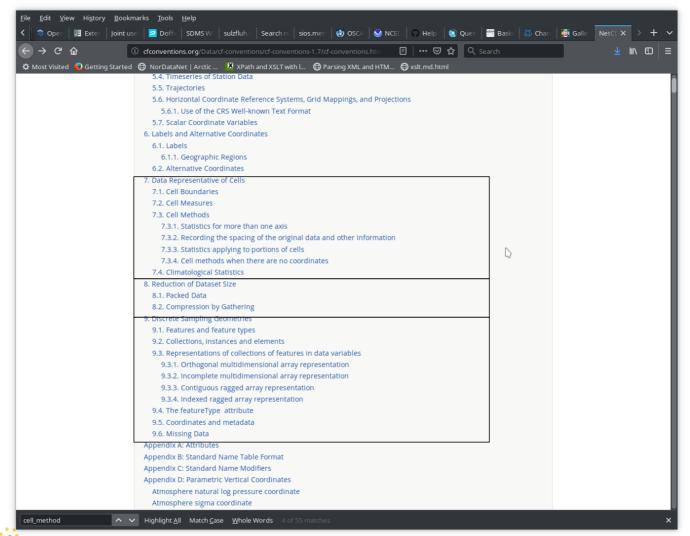






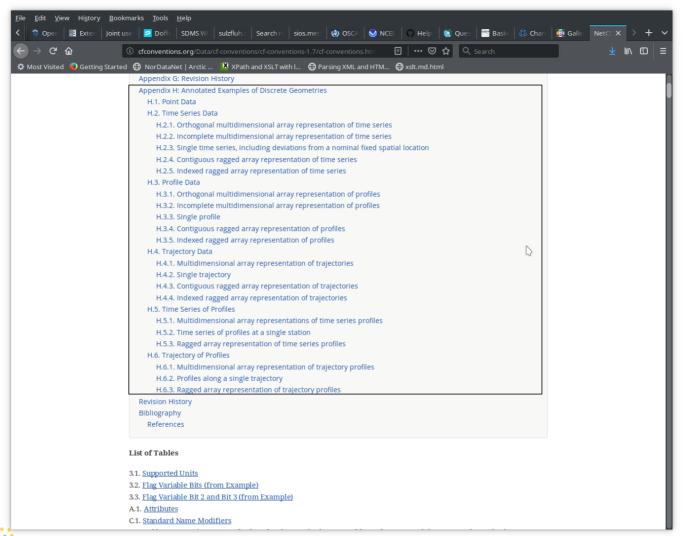








	featureType	Description of a single feature with this discrete sampling geometry		Link
		Form of a data variable containing values defined on a collection of these features	Mandatory space-time coordinates for a collection of these features	
	point	a single data point (having no implied coordinate relationship to other points)		
		data(i)	x(i) y(i) t(i)	Section H.1, "Point Data"
	timeSeries	a series of data points at the same spatial location with monotonically increasing times		
		data(i,o)	x(i) y(i) t(i,o)	Section H.2, "Time Series <u>Data"</u>
	trajectory	a series of data points along a path through space with monotonically increasing times		
		data(i,o)	x(i,o) y(i,o) t(i,o)	Section H.4, "Trajectory <u>Data"</u>
	profile	an ordered set of data points along a vertical line at a fixed horizontal position and fixed time		
		data(i,o)	x(i) y(i) z(i,o) t(i)	Section H.3, "Profile Data"
	timeSeriesProfile	a series of profile features at the same horizontal position with monotonically increasing times		
		data(i,p,o)	x(i) y(i) z(i,p,o) t(i,p)	Section H.5, "Time Series of Profiles"
	trajectoryProfile	a series of profile features located at points ordered along a trajectory		
NorDataNet		data(i,p,o)	x(i,p) y(i,p) z(i,p,o) t(i,p)	Section H.6, "Trajectory of Profiles"
vorwegian Scientific Data Network				

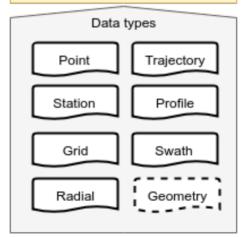




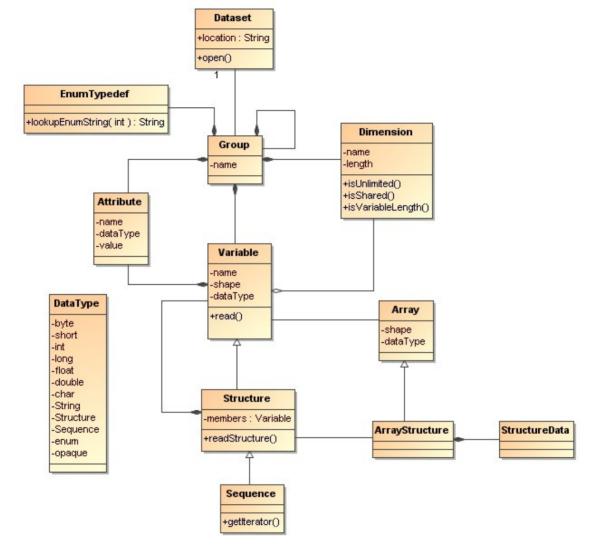


Data access

Coordinate systems

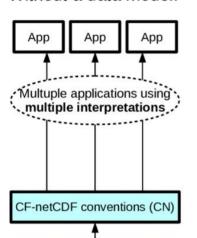






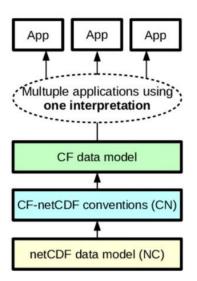


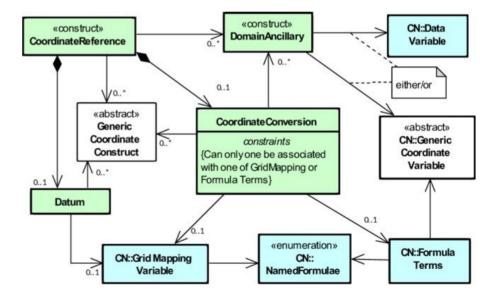
Without a data model:



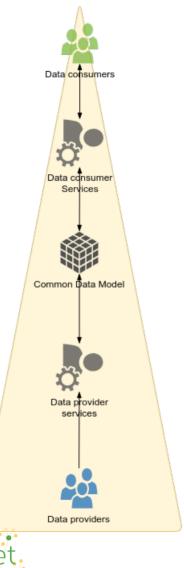
netCDF data model (NC)

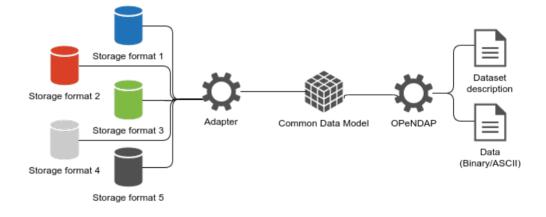
With a data model:

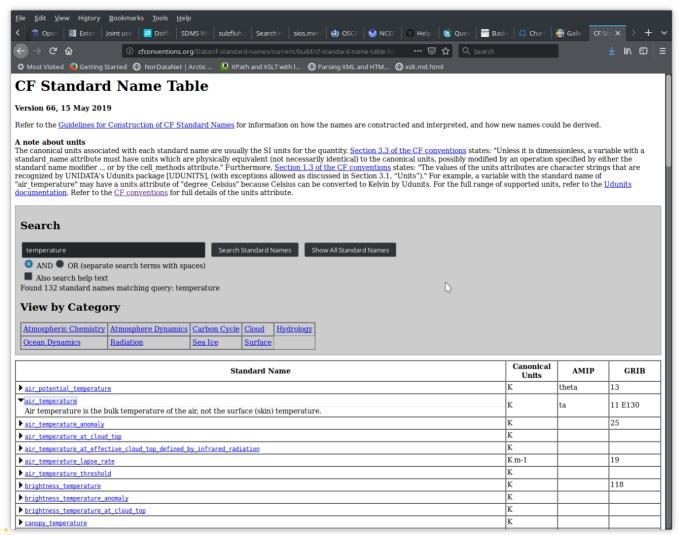














```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
etcdf radflux biornova {
imensions:
       time = UNLIMITED : // (3847970 currently)
       strlen25 = 25:
/ariables:
       double time(time) :
              time:long name = "time of the observation";
              time:short name = "time" :
              time:standard name = "time"
              time:units = "seconds since 1970-01-01 00:00:00 UTC" ;
      time:axis = "T";
char stationid(strlen25);
              stationid:long name = "name and/or stationnumber used as identity
       float latitude ;
               latitudé:long name = "latitude" :
               latitude:short name = "latitude"
               latitude:standard name = "latitude" :
               latitude:units = "degree_north" ;
               latitude:valid min = -90.f;
               latitude:valid max = 90.f :
       float longitude ;
               longitude:long_name = "longitude"
               longitude:short_name = "longitude"
               longitude:standard name = "longitude" ;
               longitude:units = "degree east" :
               longitude:valid min = -180.f :
               longitude:valid max = 180.f;
       float ssi(time) :
               ssi:long name = "shortwave irradiation at the surface";
              ssi:short_name = "ssi" ;
              ssi:standard_name = "surface_downwelling_shortwave_flux" ;
              ssi: FillValue = -999.f ;
              ssi:units = "watts/meter2" :
              ssi:cell method = "time: mean (last minute)" :
       float ssisenstemp(time) :
              ssisenstemp:long_name = "temperature of the surface shortwave i
adiation sensor"
              ssisenstemp:short_name = "ssisenstemp" ;
ssisenstemp:_FillValue = -999.f ;
              ssisenstemp:units = "degC"
              ssisenstemp:cell method = "time: mean (last minute)" :
       float dli(time) :
              dli:long name = "difference between downward atmospheric longway
irradiation and emitted CGR4 irradiance" :
              dli:short name = "dli" :
              dli:standard_name = "surface_net_downward_longwave_flux";
              dli: FillValue = -999.f ;
              dli:cell_method = "time: mean (last minute)" ;
       float dlisenstemp(time);
               dlisenstemp:long name = "temperature of the surface longwave in
diation sensor"
               dlisenstemp:short name = "dlisenstemp" ;
              dlisenstemp:_FillValue = -999.f ;
              dlisenstemp:units = "degC" ;
               dlisenstemp:cell method = "time: mean (last minute)" :
       float battery(time);
              battery:long_name = "minimum battery voltage" ;
              battery:short_name = "battery" ;
              battery: FillValue = -999.f;
              battery:units = "V" :
              battery:cell_method = "time: min (last minute)";
```

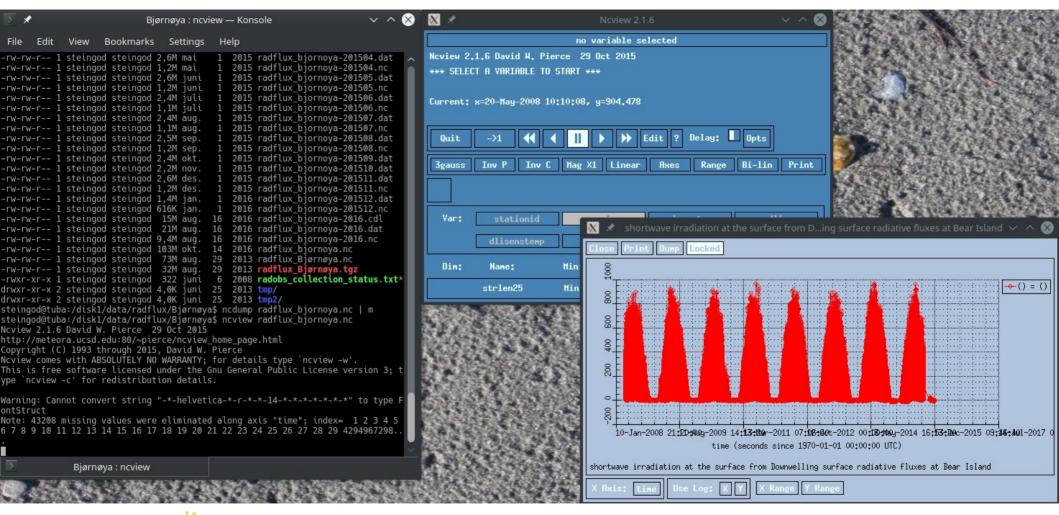
Bjørnøya : ncdump



```
global attributes:
                 :Conventions = "CF-1.0";
                 :history = "2008-10-23 creation\n".
                           "2016-01-01 revision" ;
                 :title = "Downwelling surface radiative fluxes at Bear Island"
:abstract = "Downwelling surface radiative fluxes observed at t
meteorological station at Bear Island in the Barents Sea. Measurements are mad
using Kipp and Zonen CMP21 and CGR4 pyranometers and pyrgeometers. Daily maint
nance is performed by the meteorological personnel at the station. Data are ave
aged over the last minute and the time is set to UTC. This data set has been co
lected with support from the Norwegian Research Council. The quality control for
us on the radiative parameters, thus sensor temperatures may contain errors."
                :topiccategory = "ClimatologyMeteorologyAtmosphere" ;
:keywords = "Radiative Flux" ;
                 :gcmd keywords = "Atmosphere > Atmospheric Radiation > Shortwave
Radiation\n".
                          "Atmosphere > Atmospheric Radiation > Longwave Radiation
                 :area = "Barents Sea" ;
                :activity_type = "Land station" ;
:PI name = "4085/stein Godk=83y" ;
:contact = "o.godoy@met.no" ;
:institution = "Norwegian Meteorological Institute" ;
                 :url = "http://www.met.no/"
                 :product name = "radiative fluxes" ;
                 :Platform_name = "Bj<F8>rn<F8>ya" :
                 :project name = "iAOOS-Norway/IPY-THORPEX" ;
                 :start date = "2008-04-01 13:14 UTC" :
                 :stop_date = "2015-12-16 12:50 UTC"
                 :distribution statement = "Restricted to iAOOS-Norway";
                :southernmost_latitude = 74.5166667
:northernmost_latitude = 74.5166667
                 :westernmost longitude = 19.01666667
                 :easternmost longitude = 19.01666667
                 :quality statement = "Quality controlled" ;
                 :nco openmp thread number = 1 :
data:
time = 1207055640, 1207055700, 1207055760, 1207055820, 1207055880
   1207055940, 1207056000, 1207056060, 1207056120, 1207056180, 1207056240,
   1207056300, 1207056360, 1207056420, 1207056480, 1207056540, 1207056600,
   1207056660, 1207056720, 1207056780, 1207056840, 1207056900, 1207056960,
   1207057020, 1207057080, 1207057140, 1207057200, 1207057260, 1207057320,
   1207057380, 1207057440, 1207057500, 1207057560, 1207057620, 1207057680,
   1207057740, 1207057800, 1207057860, 1207057920, 1207057980, 1207058040,
   1207058100, 1207058160, 1207058220, 1207058280, 1207058340, 1207058400
   1207058460, 1207058520, 1207058580, 1207058640, 1207058700, 1207058760,
   1207058820, 1207058880, 1207058940, 1207059000, 1207059060, 1207059120
   1207059180, 1207059240, 1207059300, 1207059360, 1207059420, 1207059480, 1207059540, 1207059600, 1207059660, 1207059720, 1207059780, 1207059840,
   1207059900, 1207059960, 1207060020, 1207060080, 1207060140, 1207060200,
   1207060260, 1207060320, 1207060380, 1207060440, 1207060500, 1207060560,
   1207060620, 1207060680, 1207060740, 1207060800, 1207060860, 1207060920,
   1207060980, 1207061040, 1207061100, 1207061160, 1207061220, 1207061280,
   1207061340, 1207061400, 1207061460, 1207061520, 1207061580, 1207061640,
   1207061700, 1207061760, 1207061820, 1207061880, 1207061940, 1207062000,
   1207062060, 1207062120, 1207062180, 1207062240, 1207062300, 1207062360,
   1207062420, 1207062480, 1207062540, 1207062600, 1207062660, 1207062720, 1207062780, 1207062840, 1207062900, 1207062960, 1207063020, 1207063080,
   1207063140, 1207063200, 1207063260, 1207063320, 1207063380, 1207063440,
   1207063500, 1207063560, 1207063620, 1207063680, 1207063740, 1207063800,
   1207063860, 1207063920, 1207063980, 1207064040, 1207064100, 1207064160,
   1207064220, 1207064280, 1207064340, 1207064400, 1207064460, 1207064520,
```

Bjørnøya : ncdump

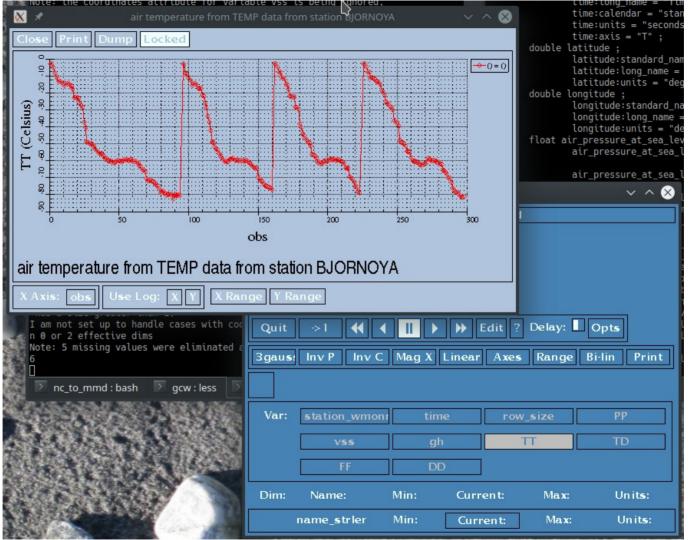
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help





```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
netcdf obs-temp_01028 {
                                                                                        File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
dimensions:
                                                          PP:units = "hPa" ;
       obs = UNLIMITED ; // (299 currently)
                                                          PP:axis = "Z" ;
                                                                                                      FF: FillValue = -999.f :
       profile = 30000 :
                                                   int vss(obs) :
                                                                                                      FF:coordinates = "time PP";
       name strlen = 5 :
                                                          vss:long name = "Vertical soun
                                                                                              float DD(obs):
variables:
                                                          vss:flag masks = 131072, 65536
                                                                                                      DD:long name = "wind direction";
       float lon:
                                           1024, 512, 256, 128, 64, 32, 16, 8, 2;
                                                                                                      DD:standard name = "wind from direction" :
              lon:long name = "station longit
                                                          vss:flag meanings = "surface l
                                                                                                      DD:units = "degree";
              lon:standard_name = "longitude"el maximum wind level significant_level_temper
                                                                                                      DD: FillValue = -999.f :
              DD:coordinates = "time PP" :
       float lat ;
                                           rature_data beginning_of_missing_humidity_data
              lat:long_name = "station latitinning_of_missing_wind_data end_of_missing_wind// global attributes:
              lat:standard_name = "latitude" etermined by regional decision pressure_level_
                                                                                                      :featureType = "timeSeriesProfile" ;
              lat:units = "degrees_north" ; the vertical coordinate" ;
                                                                                                      :title = "TEMP data from station BJORNOYA" :
       float alt;
                                                          vss:valid_range = 0, 262142;
                                                                                                      :abstract = "Radiosonde profiles from BJORNOYA" ;
              alt:long name = "station altitu
                                                          vss: FillValue = 262143 :
                                                                                                      :institution = "Norwegian Meteorological Institute" :
              alt:standard_name = "height" ;
                                                          vss:coordinates = "time PP" ;
                                                                                                      :contact = "o.godoy@met.no";
              alt:units = "m" ;
                                                   float gh(obs):
                                                                                                      :PI name = "Øystein Godøy" ;
       char station wmonr(name strlen) :
                                                          gh:long name = "geopotential h
                                                                                                      :Conventions = "CF-1.7" :
              station wmonr:long name = "WMO
                                                          gh:standard_name = "geopotenti
                                                                                                      :activity type = "Land station" ;
       double time(profile) :
                                                          qh:units = "m" ;
                                                                                                      :topiccategory = "ClimatologyMeteorologyAtmosphere";
              time:standard name = "time" :
                                                          gh: FillValue = -999.f;
                                                                                                      :keywords = "Atmospheric Observation Temperature Humidity Pressu
              time:long name = "time of radio
                                                          ah:coordinates = "time PP" ; re Wind Radiosonde TEMP" ;
              time:units = "seconds since 197
                                                   float TT(obs) ;
                                                                                                      :gcmd_keywords = "Atmosphere > Atmospheric Pressure > Surface Pr
              time:axis = "T" ;
                                                          TT:long name = "air temperatur essure\n",
              time:cf_role = "profile_id" ;
                                                          TT:standard name = "air temper
                                                                                                             "Atmosphere > Atmospheric Temperature > Surface Air Temp
       int row size(profile);
                                                          TT:units = "Celsius";
                                                                                       erature\n",
              row_size:long_name = "number of
                                                          TT: FillValue = -999.f;
                                                                                                             "Atmosphere > Atmospheric Water Vapor > Humidity" :
              row size:sample dimension = "ot
                                                          TT:coordinates = "time PP" ;
                                                                                                      :project name = "ACCESS" ;
       float PP(obs) ;
                                                   float TD(obs):
                                                                                                      :area = "Northern Hemisphere" :
              PP:long_name = "pressure level"
                                                          TD:long name = "dew point temp
                                                                                                      :product name = "TEMP" ;
              PP:standard name = "air pressur
                                                          TD:standard_name = "dew_point"
                                                                                                      :distribution statement = "Free" ;
              PP:units = "hPa" ;
                                                          TD:units = "Celsius";
                                                                                                      :history = "2019-02-14 revision" ;
              PP:axis = "Z" ;
                                                          TD: FillValue = -999.f:
                                                                                                      :southernmost latitude = 74.5038f
       int vss(obs) :
                                                          TD:coordinates = "time PP";
                                                                                                      :northernmost latitude = 74.5038f
              vss:long_name = "Vertical sound
                                                   float FF(obs);
                                                                                                      :westernmost longitude = 19.0012f;
              vss:flag masks = 131072, 65536.
                                                          FF:long_name = "wind speed" ;
                                                                                                      :easternmost longitude = 19.0012f ;
1024, 512, 256, 128, 64, 32, 16, 8, 2;
                                                          FF:standard name = "wind speed
                                                                                                      :start_date = "2018-01-01 00:00:00 UTC" ;
                                                          FF:units = "m s-1";
                                                                                                      :stop_date = "2018-01-02 00:00:00 UTC" ;
   nc_to_mmd : bash 🕟 gcw : less 🕟 applicate
```

Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help

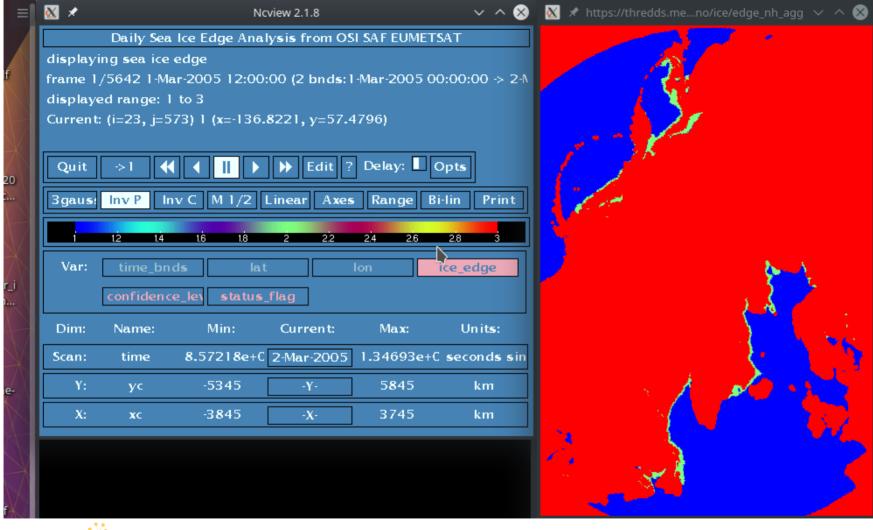




```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
etcdf edge nh agg {
limensions:
       time = 5642 :
       xc = 760;
       yc = 1120;
ariables:
       int Polar Stereographic Grid :
               Polar_Stereographic_Grid:grid_mapping_name = "polar_stereographi
               Polar Stereographic Grid:straight vertical longitude from pole =
               Polar_Stereographic_Grid:latitude_of_projection_origin = 90.f;
               Polar Stereographic Grid:standard parallel = 70.f;
               Polar_Stereographic_Grid:false_easting = 0.f;
Polar_Stereographic_Grid:false_northing = 0.f;
Polar_Stereographic_Grid:semi_major_axis = 6378273.f;
               Polar Stereographic Grid:semi minor axis = 6356890.f;
               Polar_Stereographic_Grid:proj4_string = "+proj=stere +a=6378273
-b=6356889.44891 +lat 0=90 +lat ts=70 +lon 0=-45" :
       double xc(xc)
                xc:axis = "X" :
                xc:units = "km"
               xc:long_name = "x coordinate of projection (eastings)";
                xc:standard name = "projection x coordinate" :
       double yc(yc) ;
                yc:long_name = "y coordinate of projection (northings)";
                vc:standard_name = "projection_y_coordinate";
       double time(time) :
               time:long_name = "reference time of product" ;
                time:standard_name = "time"
                time:units = "seconds since 1978-01-01 00:00:00" :
                time:calendar = "standard" :
                time:bounds = "time bnds" ;
       double time_bnds(time, nv);
                time_bnds:units = "seconds since 1978-01-01 00:00:00";
       float lat(yc, xc);
                lat:long name = "latitude coordinate";
                lat:standard name = "latitude" :
                lat:units = "degrees north" :
                lon:long_name = "longitude coordinate" ;
lon:standard_name = "longitude" ;
                lon:units = "degrees_east" ;
       byte ice_edge(time, yc, xc);
                ice_edge: Unsigned = "false";
                ice edge:long name = "sea ice edge" ;
                ice edge:standard name = "sea ice classification" :
                ice_edge:_FillValue = -1b ;
                ice_edge:valid_min = 1b ;
               ice_edge:valid_max = 3b;
ice_edge:grid_mapping = "Polar_Stereographic_Grid";
ice_edge:coordinates = "lat lon";
                ice_edge:flag_values = 1b, 2b, 3b;
               ice_edge:flag_meanings = "open_water open_ice close_ice" ;
ice_edge:flag_descriptions = "\n",
                          " 1 -> no ice or very open ice\n",
                         " 2 -> open ice cover (4 to 7 tens)\n".
                        " 3 -> close, very close and fast ice";
       byte confidence level(time, yc, xc)
                confidence_level:_Unsigned = "false";
```

```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
 etcdf edge_nh_agg {
imensions:
       time = 5642 :
       xc = 760;
       yc = 1120 ;
ariables:
       int Polar Stereographic Grid :
                Polar Stereographic Grid:grid_mapping_name = "polar_stereographi
                Polar Stereographic Grid:straight vertical longitude from pole =
                Polar_Stereographic_Grid:latitude_of_projection_origin = 90.f ;
                Polar Stereographic Grid:standard parallel = 70.f;
                Polar_Stereographic_Grid:false_easting = 0.f;
Polar_Stereographic_Grid:false_northing = 0.f
               Polar_Stereographic_Grid:semi_major_axis = 6378273.f;
Polar_Stereographic_Grid:semi_minor_axis = 6356890.f;
                Polar Stereographic Grid:proj4 string = "+proj=stere +a=6378273
+b=6356889.44891 +lat 0=90 +lat ts=70 +lon 0=-45" :
       double xc(xc) :
                xc:axis = "X" :
                xc:units = "km" :
                xc:long_name = "x coordinate of projection (eastings)";
                xc:standard name = "projection x coordinate" :
       double vc(vc) :
                yc:units = "km";
                yc:long_name = "y coordinate of projection (northings)";
                yc:standard_name = "projection_y_coordinate" ;
       double time(time);
                time:long_name = "reference time of product" :
                time:standard name = "time"
                time:units = "seconds since 1978-01-01 00:00:00" :
                time:calendar = "standard" :
                time:bounds = "time bnds";
       double time bnds(time, nv);
                time_bnds:units = "seconds since 1978-01-01 00:00:00";
       float lat(yc, xc);
                lat:long name = "latitude coordinate";
                lat:standard name = "latitude" :
                lat:units = "degrees north" :
                lon:long_name = "longitude coordinate";
                lon:standard_name = "longitude" ;
                lon:units = "degrees_east" ;
       byte ice_edge(time, yc, xc);
                ice_edge:_Unsigned = "false" ;
                ice edge:long name = "sea ice edge" ;
                ice edge:standard name = "sea ice classification" :
                ice edge: FillValue = -1b :
                ice edge:valid min = 1b ;
                ice edge:valid max = 3b;
                ice_edge:grid_mapping = "Polar_Stereographic_Grid" ;
ice_edge:coordinates = "lat lon" ;
                ice_edge:flag_values = 1b, 2b, 3b;
                ice_edge:flag_meanings = "open_water open_ice close_ice" ;
ice_edge:flag_descriptions = "\n",
                          1 -> no ice or very open ice\n",
                         " 2 -> open ice cover (4 to 7 tens)\n",
                        " 3 -> close, very close and fast ice";
       byte confidence level(time, yc, xc);
                confidence level: Unsigned = "false";
```

```
File Edit View Bookmarks Settings Help
                status flag:flag descriptions = "\n",
                         " 0 -> nominal value from algorithm used\n",
" 2 -> sea ice algorithm applied over lake\n",
                          " 10 -> background data was used for setting the value\n
                         " 14 -> value set using an ice type mask\n",
                         "100 -> missing value due to over land\n".
                         "101 -> missing value due to missing data\n".
                          "102 -> unclassified pixel" :
  global attributes:
                 :title = "Daily Sea Ice Edge Analysis from OSI SAF EUMETSAT" ;
                 :product_id = "OSI-402"
                 :product_name = "osi_saf_ice_edge" ;
:product_status = "operational" ;
                 :abstract = "The daily analysis of sea ice edges and extent is
                          "from operation satellite images of the polar regions.
It is\n",
                          "based on atmospherically corrected signal and a Ba
vesian\n".
                          "merging approch to estimate sea ice class probabilities
                          "product is freely available from the EUMETSAT Ocean a
  Sea\n".
                          "Ice Satellite Application Facility (OSI SAF).";
                 :topiccategory = "Oceans ClimatologyMeteorologyAtmosphere"
                 :keywords = "Sea Ice Edge, Sea Ice, Oceanography, Meteorology, Clima
 ,Remote Sensing"
                 :gcmd_keywords = "Cryosphere > Sea Ice > Ice Edges\n",
                          "Oceans > Sea Ice > Ice Edges\n",
                          "Cryosphere > Sea Ice > Ice Extent\n",
                          "Oceans > Sea Ice > Ice Extent\n",
                          "Geographic Region > Northern Hemisphere\n".
                          "Vertical Location > Sea Surface\n".
                          "EUMETSAT/OSISAF > Satellite Application Facility on Oce
n and Sea Ice, European Organisation for the Exploitation of Meteorological Sat
                 :northernmost_latitude = 90.f ;
                 :southernmost_latitude = 31.02939f ;
                 :easternmost longitude = 180.f;
                .easternmost_longitude = -180.f;
.easternmost_longitude = -180.f;
.activity_type = "Space borne instrument";
.area = "Morthern Hemisphere";
.instrument_type = "Multi-sensor analysis";
                 :platform name = "Multi-sensor analysis" ;
                 :start_date = "2020-09-05 00:00:00"
                 :stop_date = "2020-09-06 00:00:00"
                 :project_name = "EUMETSAT OSI SAF"
                 :institution = "EUMETSAT OSI SAF" ;
                 :PI_name = "Signe Aaboe" ;
                 :contact = "osisaf-manager@met.no" ;
                 :distribution_statement = "Free" ;
                 :copyright statement = "Copyright 2020 EUMETSAT";
                 :references = "OSI SAF Sea Ice Edge and Type Product User\'s Man
ual. Aaboe. S., v1.1, 2015\n"
                          "http://www.osi-saf.org"
                 :history = "2020-09-06 creation";
                 :product_version = "4.0" ;
                 :software version = "5.0" :
                 :netcdf_version = "3.6.3";
                 :Conventions = "CF-1.4";
(END)
    steingod: bash
```

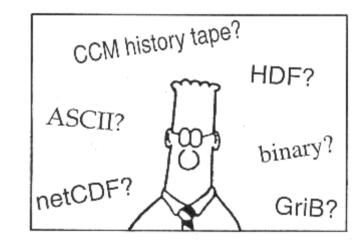




Why NetCDF and OPeNDAP?

- · NetCDF-CF provides a self describing data
 - in a form compatible with semantic web approaches
 - allowing interdisciplinary use
 - suitable for many different types of data
 - widely used by science communities
 - those not using are often not using standardised approaches
 - Widely supported by analysis tools
 - http://www.cgd.ucar.edu/ccr/bettge/CSM-netCDF/csm_why_netcdf.html
- OPeNDAP provides data to be access over the internet as data streams
 - from programs that weren't originally designed for that purpose,
 - as well as some that were.
 - delivers data, not files
 - Segmenting data in time and space(s)
 - Bridges the message approach of operational data with the long time series approach of climate analysis
 - An OPeNDAP URL might point to an archive containing large volumes of data
 - OPeNDAP provides sophisticated server side sub-sampling capabilities
 - To continue http://docs.opendap.org/index.php/QuickStart



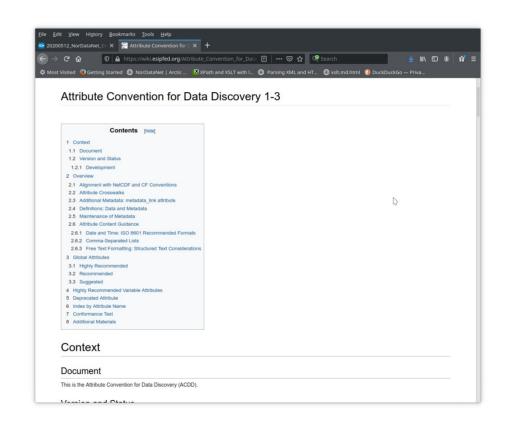


Climate and Forecast Conventions Governance



Discovery metadata embedded with data

- Attribute Convention for Data Discovery
- Current in version 1.3
- Allows discovery metadata to be generated automatically
- https://wiki.esipfed.org/Attribu te_Convention_for_Data_Dis covery 1-3
- https://www.nordatanet.no/en/node/172



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Granularity

- The level of detail considered in a model or decision making process.
 - The greater the granularity, the more detailed information.
- From granule
 - A small compact particle of substance
- Granular data are detailed data
 - The bits and pieces data are divided into
- To decide on granularity when publishing, think on user perspectives
 - Aggregation can be done automatically

