

# CDI Fortran Manual

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Climate Data Interface  
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Uwe Schulzweida  
Max-Planck-Institute for Meteorology

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# 1. Introduction

**CDI** is an Interface to access Climate and forecast model Data. The interface is independent from a specific data format and has a C and Fortran API. **CDI** was developed for a fast and machine independent access to GRIB and NetCDF datasets with the same interface. The local [MPI-MET](#) data formats SERVICE, EXTRA and IEG are also supported.

## 1.1. Building from sources

This section describes how to build the **CDI** library from the sources on a UNIX system. **CDI** is using the GNU configure and build system to compile the source code. The only requirement is a working ANSI C99 compiler.

First go to the [download](https://code.mpimet.mpg.de/projects/cdi/files) page (<https://code.mpimet.mpg.de/projects/cdi/files>) to get the latest distribution, if you do not already have it.

To take full advantage of **CDI**'s features the following additional libraries should be installed:

- Unidata [NetCDF](http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/packages/netcdf) library (<http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/packages/netcdf>) version 3 or higher. This is needed to read/write NetCDF files with **CDI**.
- ECMWF [ecCodes](https://software.ecmwf.int/wiki/display/ECC/ecCodes+Home) library (<https://software.ecmwf.int/wiki/display/ECC/ecCodes+Home>) version 2.3.0 or higher. This library is needed to encode/decode GRIB2 records with **CDI**.

### 1.1.1. Compilation

Compilation is now done by performing the following steps:

1. Unpack the archive, if you haven't already done that:

```
gunzip cdi-$VERSION.tar.gz      # uncompress the archive
tar xf cdi-$VERSION.tar         # unpack it
cd cdi-$VERSION
```

2. Run the configure script:

```
./configure
```

Or optionally with NetCDF support:

```
./configure --with-netcdf=<NetCDF root directory>
```

For an overview of other configuration options use

```
./configure --help
```

3. Compile the program by running make:

```
make
```

The software should compile without problems and the **CDI** library (`libcdi.a`) should be available in the `src` directory of the distribution.

### **1.1.2. Installation**

After the compilation of the source code do a `make install`, possibly as root if the destination permissions require that.

```
make install
```

The library is installed into the directory `<prefix>/lib`. The C and Fortran include files are installed into the directory `<prefix>/include`. `<prefix>` defaults to `/usr/local` but can be changed with the `--prefix` option of the configure script.

## 2. File Formats

### 2.1. GRIB

GRIB [[GRIB](#)] (GRIdded Binary) is a standard format designed by the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) to support the efficient transmission and storage of gridded meteorological data.

A GRIB record consists of a series of header sections, followed by a bitstream of packed data representing one horizontal grid of data values. The header sections are intended to fully describe the data included in the bitstream, specifying information such as the parameter, units, and precision of the data, the grid system and level type on which the data is provided, and the date and time for which the data are valid.

Non-numeric descriptors are enumerated in tables, such that a 1-byte code in a header section refers to a unique description. The WMO provides a standard set of enumerated parameter names and level types, but the standard also allows for the definition of locally used parameters and geometries. Any activity that generates and distributes GRIB records must also make their locally defined GRIB tables available to users.

The GRIB records must be sorted by time to be able to read them correctly with **CDI**.

**CDI** does not support the full GRIB standard. The following data representation and level types are implemented:

GRIB1 grid type	GRIB2 template	GRIB_API name	description
0	3.0	regular_ll	Regular longitude/latitude grid
3	–	lambert	Lambert conformal grid
4	3.40	regular_gg	Regular Gaussian longitude/latitude grid
4	3.40	reduced_gg	Reduced Gaussian longitude/latitude grid
10	3.1	rotated_ll	Rotated longitude/latitude grid
50	3.50	sh	Spherical harmonic coefficients
192	3.100	–	Icosahedral-hexagonal GME grid
–	3.101	–	General unstructured grid



GRIB1 level type	GRIB2 level type	GRIB_API name	description
1	1	surface	Surface level
2	2	cloudBase	Cloud base level
3	3	cloudTop	Level of cloud tops
4	4	isothermZero	Level of 0° C isotherm
8	8	nominalTop	Norminal top of atmosphere
9	9	seaBottom	Sea bottom
10	10	entireAtmosphere	Entire atmosphere
100	100	isobaricInhPa	Isobaric level in hPa
102	101	meanSea	Mean sea level
103	102	heightAboveSea	Altitude above mean sea level
105	103	heightAboveGround	Height level above ground
107	104	sigma	Sigma level
109	105	hybrid	Hybrid level
110	105	hybridLayer	Layer between two hybrid levels
111	106	depthBelowLand	Depth below land surface
112	106	depthBelowLandLayer	Layer between two depths below land surface
113	107	theta	Isentropic (theta) level
–	114	–	Snow level
160	160	depthBelowSea	Depth below sea level
162	162	–	Lake or River Bottom
163	163	–	Bottom Of Sediment Layer
164	164	–	Bottom Of Thermally Active Sediment Layer
165	165	–	Bottom Of Sediment Layer Penetrated By Thermal Wave
166	166	–	Mixing Layer
210	–	isobaricInPa	Isobaric level in Pa

### 2.1.1. GRIB edition 1

GRIB1 is implemented in **CDI** as an internal library and enabled per default. The internal GRIB1 library is called CGRIBEX. This is lightweight version of the ECMWF GRIBEX library. CGRIBEX is written in ANSI C with a portable Fortran interface. The configure option `--disable-cgribex` will disable the encoding/decoding of GRIB1 records with CGRIBEX.

### 2.1.2. GRIB edition 2

GRIB2 is available in **CDI** via the ECMWF ecCodes [[ecCodes](#)] library. ecCodes is an external library and not part of **CDI**. To use GRIB2 with **CDI** the ecCodes library must be installed before the configuration of the **CDI** library. Use the configure option `--with-eccodes` to enable GRIB2 support.

The ecCodes library is also used to encode/decode GRIB1 records if the support for the CGRIBEX library is disabled. This feature is not tested regularly and the status is experimental!

## 2.2. NetCDF

NetCDF [[NetCDF](#)] (Network Common Data Form) is an interface for array-oriented data access and a library that provides an implementation of the interface. The NetCDF library also defines a machine-independent format for representing scientific data. Together, the interface, library, and format support the creation, access, and sharing of scientific data.

**CDI** only supports the classic data model of NetCDF and arrays up to 4 dimensions. These dimensions should only be used by the horizontal and vertical grid and the time. The NetCDF attributes should follow the [GDT](#), [COARDS](#) or [CF Conventions](#).

NetCDF is an external library and not part of **CDI**. To use NetCDF with **CDI** the NetCDF library must be installed before the configuration of the **CDI** library. Use the configure option `--with-netcdf` to enable NetCDF support (see [Build](#)).

## 2.3. SERVICE

SERVICE is the binary exchange format of the atmospheric general circulation model ECHAM [\[ECHAM\]](#). It has a header section with 8 integer values followed by the data section. The header and the data section have the standard Fortran blocking for binary data records. A SERVICE record can have an accuracy of 4 or 8 bytes and the byteorder can be little or big endian. In **CDI** the accuracy of the header and data section must be the same. The following Fortran code example can be used to read a SERVICE record with an accuracy of 4 bytes:

```
INTEGER*4 icode,ilevel,ideate,itime,nlon,nlat,idispo1,idispo2
REAL*4 field(mlon,mlat)
...
READ(unit) icode,ilevel,ideate,itime,nlon,nlat,idispo1,idispo2
READ(unit) ((field(ilon,ilat), ilon=1,nlon), ilat=1,nlat)
```

The constants `mlon` and `mlat` must be greater or equal than `nlon` and `nlat`. The meaning of the variables are:

<code>icode</code>	The code number
<code>ilevel</code>	The level
<code>ideate</code>	The date as YYYYMMDD
<code>itime</code>	The time as hhmmss
<code>nlon</code>	The number of longitudes
<code>nlat</code>	The number of latitudes
<code>idispo1</code>	For the users disposal (Not used in <b>CDI</b> )
<code>idispo2</code>	For the users disposal (Not used in <b>CDI</b> )

SERVICE is implemented in **CDI** as an internal library and enabled per default. The configure option `--disable-service` will disable the support for the SERVICE format.

## 2.4. EXTRA

EXTRA is the standard binary output format of the ocean model MPIOM [\[MPIOM\]](#). It has a header section with 4 integer values followed by the data section. The header and the data section have the standard Fortran blocking for binary data records. An EXTRA record can have an accuracy of 4 or 8 bytes and the byteorder can be little or big endian. In **CDI** the accuracy of the header and data section must be the same. The following Fortran code example can be used to read an EXTRA record with an accuracy of 4 bytes:

```
INTEGER*4 ideate,icode,ilevel,nsiz
REAL*4 field(msize)
...
READ(unit) ideate,icode,ilevel,nsiz
READ(unit) (field(isize),isize=1,nsiz)
```

The constant `msize` must be greater or equal than `nsize`. The meaning of the variables are:

<code>idate</code>	The date as YYYYMMDD
<code>icode</code>	The code number
<code>ilevel</code>	The level
<code>nsize</code>	The size of the field

EXTRA is implemented in **CDI** as an internal library and enabled per default. The configure option `--disable-extra` will disable the support for the EXTRA format.

## 2.5. IEG

IEG is the standard binary output format of the regional model REMO [[REMO](#)]. It is simple an unpacked GRIB edition 1 format. The product and grid description sections are coded with 4 byte integer values and the data section can have 4 or 8 byte IEEE floating point values. The header and the data section have the standard Fortran blocking for binary data records. The IEG format has a fixed size of 100 for the vertical coordinate table. That means it is not possible to store more than 50 model levels with this format. **CDI** supports only data on Gaussian and LonLat grids for the IEG format.

IEG is implemented in **CDI** as an internal library and enabled per default. The configure option `--disable-ieg` will disable the support for the IEG format.

## 3. Use of the CDI Library

This chapter provides templates of common sequences of **CDI** calls needed for common uses. For clarity only the names of routines are used. Declarations and error checking were omitted. Statements that are typically invoked multiple times were indented and ... is used to represent arbitrary sequences of other statements. Full parameter lists are described in later chapters. Complete examples for write, read and copy a dataset with **CDI** can be found in [Appendix B](#).

### 3.1. Creating a dataset

Here is a typical sequence of **CDI** calls used to create a new dataset:

```
gridCreate      ! create a horizontal Grid: from type and size
...
zaxisCreate     ! create a vertical Z-axis: from type and size
...
taxisCreate     ! create a Time axis: from type
...
vlistCreate     ! create a variable list
...
  vlistDefVar    ! define variables: from Grid and Z-axis
...
streamOpenWrite ! create a dataset: from name and file type
...
streamDefVlist  ! define variable list
...
streamDefTimestep ! define time step
...
  streamWriteVar ! write variable
...
streamClose     ! close the dataset
...
vlistDestroy    ! destroy the variable list
...
taxisDestroy    ! destroy the Time axis
...
zaxisDestroy    ! destroy the Z-axis
...
gridDestroy     ! destroy the Grid
```

### 3.2. Reading a dataset

Here is a typical sequence of **CDI** calls used to read a dataset:

```
streamOpenRead  ! open existing dataset
...
streamInqVlist  ! find out what is in it
...
  vlistInqVarGrid ! get an identifier to the Grid
...
```

```
    vlistInqVarZaxis    ! get an identifier to the Z-axis
    ...
    vlistInqTaxis       ! get an identifier to the T-axis
    ...
    streamInqTimestep   ! get time step
    ...
    streamReadVar       ! read variable
    ...
    streamClose         ! close the dataset
```

### 3.3. Compiling and Linking with the CDI library

Details of how to compile and link a program that uses the **CDI** C or FORTRAN interfaces differ, depending on the operating system, the available compilers, and where the **CDI** library and include files are installed. Here are examples of how to compile and link a program that uses the **CDI** library on a Unix platform, so that you can adjust these examples to fit your installation. There are two different interfaces for using **CDI** functions in Fortran: `cfortran.h` and the intrinsic `iso_c_binding` module from Fortran 2003 standard. At first, the preparations for compilers without F2003 capabilities are described.

Every FORTRAN file that references **CDI** functions or constants must contain an appropriate `INCLUDE` statement before the first such reference:

```
INCLUDE "cdi.inc"
```

Unless the `cdi.inc` file is installed in a standard directory where FORTRAN compiler always looks, you must use the `-I` option when invoking the compiler, to specify a directory where `cdi.inc` is installed, for example:

```
f77 -c -I/usr/local/cdi/include myprogram.f
```

Alternatively, you could specify an absolute path name in the `INCLUDE` statement, but then your program would not compile on another platform where **CDI** is installed in a different location. Unless the **CDI** library is installed in a standard directory where the linker always looks, you must use the `-L` and `-l` options to link an object file that uses the **CDI** library. For example:

```
f77 -o myprogram myprogram.o -L/usr/local/cdi/lib -lcdi
```

Alternatively, you could specify an absolute path name for the library:

```
f77 -o myprogram myprogram.o -L/usr/local/cdi/lib/libcdi
```

If the **CDI** library is using other external libraries, you must add these libraries in the same way. For example with the NetCDF library:

```
f77 -o myprogram myprogram.o -L/usr/local/cdi/lib -lcdi \
-L/usr/local/netcdf/lib -lnetcdf
```

For using the `iso_c_bindings` two things are necessary in a program or module

```
USE ISO_C_BINDING
USE mo_cdi
```

The `iso_c_binding` module is included in `mo_cdi`, but without `cfortran.h` characters and character variables have to be handled separately. Examples are available in section [B.4](#).

After installation `mo_cdi.o` and `mo_cdi.mod` are located in the library and header directory respectively. `cdilib.o` has to be mentioned directly on the command line. It can be found in the library directory, too. Depending on the **CDI** configuration, a compile command should look like this:

```
nagf95 -f2003 -g cdi_read_f2003.f90 -L/usr/lib -lnetcdf -o cdi_read_example
-I/usr/local/include
/usr/local/lib/cdilib.o /usr/local/lib/mo_cdi.o
```

## 4. CDI modules

### 4.1. Dataset functions

This module contains functions to read and write the data. To create a new dataset the output format must be specified with one of the following predefined file format types:

<code>CDI_FILETYPE_GRB</code>	File type GRIB version 1
<code>CDI_FILETYPE_GRB2</code>	File type GRIB version 2
<code>CDI_FILETYPE_NC</code>	File type NetCDF
<code>CDI_FILETYPE_NC2</code>	File type NetCDF version 2 (64-bit offset)
<code>CDI_FILETYPE_NC4</code>	File type NetCDF-4 (HDF5)
<code>CDI_FILETYPE_NC4C</code>	File type NetCDF-4 classic
<code>CDI_FILETYPE_NC5</code>	File type NetCDF version 5 (64-bit data)
<code>CDI_FILETYPE_SRV</code>	File type SERVICE
<code>CDI_FILETYPE_EXT</code>	File type EXTRA
<code>CDI_FILETYPE_IEG</code>	File type IEG

`CDI_FILETYPE_GRB2` is only available if the **CDI** library was compiled with ecCodes support and all NetCDF file types are only available if the **CDI** library was compiled with NetCDF support!

To set the byte order of a binary dataset with the file format type `CDI_FILETYPE_SRV`, `CDI_FILETYPE_EXT` or `CDI_FILETYPE_IEG` use one of the following predefined constants in the call to `streamDefByteorderstreamDefB`

<code>CDI_BIGENDIAN</code>	Byte order big endian
<code>CDI_LITTLEENDIAN</code>	Byte order little endian

#### 4.1.1. Create a new dataset: `streamOpenWrite`

The function `streamOpenWrite` creates a new dataset.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamOpenWrite(CHARACTER*(*) path, INTEGER filetype)
```

**path**            The name of the new dataset.

**filetype**       The type of the file format, one of the set of predefined **CDI** file format types. The valid **CDI** file format types are `CDI_FILETYPE_GRB`, `CDI_FILETYPE_GRB2`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC2`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC4`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC4C`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC5`, `CDI_FILETYPE_SRV`, `CDI_FILETYPE_EXT` and `CDI_FILETYPE_IEG`.

##### Result

Upon successful completion `streamOpenWrite` returns an identifier to the open stream. Otherwise, a negative number with the error status is returned.

**Errors**

CDI_ESYSTEM	Operating system error.
CDI_EINVAL	Invalid argument.
CDI_EUFILETYPE	Unsupported file type.
CDI_ELIBNAVAIL	Library support not compiled in.

**Example**

Here is an example using `streamOpenWrite` to create a new NetCDF file named `foo.nc` for writing:

```
INCLUDE 'cdi.h'
...
INTEGER streamID
...
streamID = streamOpenWrite("foo.nc", CDI_FILETYPE_NC)
IF ( streamID .LT. 0 ) CALL handle_error(streamID)
...
```

**4.1.2. Open a dataset for reading: streamOpenRead**

The function `streamOpenRead` opens an existing dataset for reading.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamOpenRead(CHARACTER*(*) path)
```

`path` The name of the dataset to be read.

**Result**

Upon successful completion `streamOpenRead` returns an identifier to the open stream. Otherwise, a negative number with the error status is returned.

**Errors**

CDI_ESYSTEM	Operating system error.
CDI_EINVAL	Invalid argument.
CDI_EUFILETYPE	Unsupported file type.
CDI_ELIBNAVAIL	Library support not compiled in.

**Example**

Here is an example using `streamOpenRead` to open an existing NetCDF file named `foo.nc` for reading:

```
INCLUDE 'cdi.h'
...
INTEGER streamID
...
streamID = streamOpenRead("foo.nc")
IF ( streamID .LT. 0 ) CALL handle_error(streamID)
...
```



### 4.1.3. Close an open dataset: `streamClose`

The function `streamClose` closes an open dataset.

#### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE streamClose(INTEGER streamID)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenRead](#) or [streamOpenWrite](#).

### 4.1.4. Get the filetype: `streamInqFiletype`

The function `streamInqFiletype` returns the filetype of a stream.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamInqFiletype(INTEGER streamID)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenRead](#) or [streamOpenWrite](#).

#### Result

`streamInqFiletype` returns the type of the file format, one of the set of predefined **CDI** file format types. The valid **CDI** file format types are `CDI_FILETYPE_GRB`, `CDI_FILETYPE_GRB2`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC2`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC4`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC4C`, `CDI_FILETYPE_NC5`, `CDI_FILETYPE_SRV`, `CDI_FILETYPE_EXT` and `CDI_FILETYPE_IEG`.

### 4.1.5. Define the byte order: `streamDefByteorder`

The function `streamDefByteorder` defines the byte order of a binary dataset with the file format type `CDI_FILETYPE_SRV`, `CDI_FILETYPE_EXT` or `CDI_FILETYPE_IEG`.

#### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE streamDefByteorder(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER byteorder)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenWrite](#).

`byteorder` The byte order of a dataset, one of the **CDI** constants `CDI_BIGENDIAN` and `CDI_LITTLEENDIAN`.

### 4.1.6. Get the byte order: `streamInqByteorder`

The function `streamInqByteorder` returns the byte order of a binary dataset with the file format type `CDI_FILETYPE_SRV`, `CDI_FILETYPE_EXT` or `CDI_FILETYPE_IEG`.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamInqByteorder(INTEGER streamID)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenRead](#) or [streamOpenWrite](#).

#### Result

`streamInqByteorder` returns the type of the byte order. The valid **CDI** byte order types are `CDI_BIGENDIAN` and `CDI_LITTLEENDIAN`

#### 4.1.7. Define the variable list: `streamDefVlist`

The function `streamDefVlist` defines the variable list of a stream.

To safeguard against errors by modifying the wrong vlist object, this function makes the passed vlist object immutable. All further vlist changes have to use the vlist object returned by `streamInqVlist()`.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE streamDefVlist(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER vlistID)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to `streamOpenWrite`.

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to `vlistCreate`.

#### 4.1.8. Get the variable list: `streamInqVlist`

The function `streamInqVlist` returns the variable list of a stream.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamInqVlist(INTEGER streamID)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to `streamOpenRead` or `streamOpenWrite`.

##### Result

`streamInqVlist` returns an identifier to the variable list.

#### 4.1.9. Define a timestep: `streamDefTimestep`

The function `streamDefTimestep` defines a timestep of a stream by the identifier `tsID`. The identifier `tsID` is the timestep index starting at 0 for the first timestep. Before calling this function the functions `taxisDefVdate` and `taxisDefVtime` should be used to define the timestamp for this timestep. All calls to write the data refer to this timestep.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamDefTimestep(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER tsID)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to `streamOpenWrite`.

`tsID` Timestep identifier.

##### Result

`streamDefTimestep` returns the number of expected records of the timestep.

#### 4.1.10. Get timestep information: `streamInqTimestep`

The function `streamInqTimestep` sets the next timestep to the identifier `tsID`. The identifier `tsID` is the timestep index starting at 0 for the first timestep. After a call to this function the functions `taxisInqVdate` and `taxisInqVtime` can be used to read the timestamp for this timestep. All calls to read the data refer to this timestep.

## Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamInqTimestep(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER tsID)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to `streamOpenRead` or `streamOpenWrite`.

`tsID` Timestep identifier.

## Result

`streamInqTimestep` returns the number of records of the timestep or 0, if the end of the file is reached.

### 4.1.11. Write a variable: `streamWriteVar`

The function `streamWriteVar` writes the values of one time step of a variable to an open dataset. The values are converted to the external data type of the variable, if necessary.

## Usage

```
SUBROUTINE streamWriteVar(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, REAL*8 data,  
                           INTEGER nmiss)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to `streamOpenWrite`.

`varID` Variable identifier.

`data` Pointer to a block of double precision floating point data values to be written.

`nmiss` Number of missing values.

### 4.1.12. Write a variable: `streamWriteVarF`

The function `streamWriteVarF` writes the values of one time step of a variable to an open dataset. The values are converted to the external data type of the variable, if necessary.

## Usage

```
SUBROUTINE streamWriteVarF(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, REAL*4 data,  
                           INTEGER nmiss)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to `streamOpenWrite`.

`varID` Variable identifier.

`data` Pointer to a block of single precision floating point data values to be written.

`nmiss` Number of missing values.

### 4.1.13. Write a horizontal slice of a variable: `streamWriteVarSlice`

The function `streamWriteVarSlice` writes the values of a horizontal slice of a variable to an open dataset. The values are converted to the external data type of the variable, if necessary.

## Usage

```
SUBROUTINE streamWriteVarSlice(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER levelID,  
                               REAL*8 data, INTEGER nmiss)
```

**streamID** Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenWrite](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier.  
**levelID** Level identifier.  
**data** Pointer to a block of double precision floating point data values to be written.  
**nmiss** Number of missing values.

#### 4.1.14. Write a horizontal slice of a variable: streamWriteVarSliceF

The function streamWriteVarSliceF writes the values of a horizontal slice of a variable to an open dataset. The values are converted to the external data type of the variable, if necessary.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE streamWriteVarSliceF(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER levelID,  
                                REAL*4 data, INTEGER nmiss)
```

**streamID** Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenWrite](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier.  
**levelID** Level identifier.  
**data** Pointer to a block of single precision floating point data values to be written.  
**nmiss** Number of missing values.

#### 4.1.15. Read a variable: streamReadVar

The function streamReadVar reads all the values of one time step of a variable from an open dataset.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE streamReadVar(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, REAL*8 data,  
                          INTEGER nmiss)
```

**streamID** Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenRead](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier.  
**data** Pointer to the location into which the data values are read. The caller must allocate space for the returned values.  
**nmiss** Number of missing values.

#### 4.1.16. Read a variable: streamReadVarF

The function streamReadVar reads all the values of one time step of a variable from an open dataset.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE streamReadVar(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, REAL*4 data,  
                          INTEGER nmiss)
```

**streamID** Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenRead](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier.  
**data** Pointer to the location into which the data values are read. The caller must allocate space for the returned values.  
**nmiss** Number of missing values.

**4.1.17. Read a horizontal slice of a variable: streamReadVarSlice**

The function `streamReadVarSlice` reads all the values of a horizontal slice of a variable from an open dataset.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE streamReadVarSlice(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER levelID,  
                             REAL*8 data, INTEGER nmiss)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenRead](#).

`varID` Variable identifier.

`levelID` Level identifier.

`data` Pointer to the location into which the data values are read. The caller must allocate space for the returned values.

`nmiss` Number of missing values.

**4.1.18. Read a horizontal slice of a variable: streamReadVarSliceF**

The function `streamReadVarSliceF` reads all the values of a horizontal slice of a variable from an open dataset.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE streamReadVarSliceF(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER levelID,  
                              REAL*4 data, INTEGER nmiss)
```

`streamID` Stream ID, from a previous call to [streamOpenRead](#).

`varID` Variable identifier.

`levelID` Level identifier.

`data` Pointer to the location into which the data values are read. The caller must allocate space for the returned values.

`nmiss` Number of missing values.

## 4.2. Variable list functions

This module contains functions to handle a list of variables. A variable list is a collection of all variables of a dataset.

### 4.2.1. Create a variable list: `vlistCreate`

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistCreate()
```

#### Example

Here is an example using `vlistCreate` to create a variable list and add a variable with `vlistDefVar`.

```
INCLUDE 'cdi.h'
...
INTEGER vlistID, varID
...
vlistID = vlistCreate()
varID = vlistDefVar(vlistID, gridID, zaxisID, TIME_VARYING)
...
streamDefVlist(streamID, vlistID)
...
vlistDestroy(vlistID)
...
```

### 4.2.2. Destroy a variable list: `vlistDestroy`

#### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDestroy(INTEGER vlistID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to `vlistCreate`.

### 4.2.3. Copy a variable list: `vlistCopy`

The function `vlistCopy` copies all entries from `vlistID1` to `vlistID2`.

#### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE vlistCopy(INTEGER vlistID2, INTEGER vlistID1)
```

`vlistID2` Target variable list ID.

`vlistID1` Source variable list ID.

### 4.2.4. Duplicate a variable list: `vlistDuplicate`

The function `vlistDuplicate` duplicates the variable list from `vlistID1`.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistDuplicate(INTEGER vlistID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to `vlistCreate` or `streamInqVlist`.

**Result**

`vlistDuplicate` returns an identifier to the duplicated variable list.

**4.2.5. Concatenate two variable lists: `vlistCat`**

Concatenate the variable list `vlistID1` at the end of `vlistID2`.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE vlistCat(INTEGER vlistID2, INTEGER vlistID1)
vlistID2  Target variable list ID.
vlistID1  Source variable list ID.
```

**4.2.6. Copy some entries of a variable list: `vlistCopyFlag`**

The function `vlistCopyFlag` copies all entries with a flag from `vlistID1` to `vlistID2`.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE vlistCopyFlag(INTEGER vlistID2, INTEGER vlistID1)
vlistID2  Target variable list ID.
vlistID1  Source variable list ID.
```

**4.2.7. Number of variables in a variable list: `vlistNvars`**

The function `vlistNvars` returns the number of variables in the variable list `vlistID`.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistNvars(INTEGER vlistID)
vlistID  Variable list ID, from a previous call to vlistCreate or streamInqVlist.
```

**Result**

`vlistNvars` returns the number of variables in a variable list.

**4.2.8. Number of grids in a variable list: `vlistNgrids`**

The function `vlistNgrids` returns the number of grids in the variable list `vlistID`.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistNgrids(INTEGER vlistID)
vlistID  Variable list ID, from a previous call to vlistCreate or streamInqVlist.
```

**Result**

`vlistNgrids` returns the number of grids in a variable list.

**4.2.9. Number of zaxis in a variable list: `vlistNzaxis`**

The function `vlistNzaxis` returns the number of zaxis in the variable list `vlistID`.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistNzaxis(INTEGER vlistID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).

**Result**

`vlistNzaxis` returns the number of zaxis in a variable list.

**4.2.10. Define the time axis: vlistDefTaxis**

The function `vlistDefTaxis` defines the time axis of a variable list.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefTaxis(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER taxisID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#).

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to [taxisCreate](#).

**4.2.11. Get the time axis: vlistInqTaxis**

The function `vlistInqTaxis` returns the time axis of a variable list.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqTaxis(INTEGER vlistID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).

**Result**

`vlistInqTaxis` returns an identifier to the time axis.



### 4.3. Variable functions

This module contains functions to add new variables to a variable list and to get information about variables from a variable list. To add new variables to a variables list one of the following timestep types must be specified:

TSTEP_CONSTANT	The data values have no time dimension.
TSTEP_INSTANT	The data values are representative of points in space or time (instantaneous).
TSTEP_ACCUM	The data values are representative of a sum or accumulation over the cell.
TSTEP_AVG	Mean (average value)
TSTEP_MAX	Maximum
TSTEP_MIN	Minimum
TSTEP_SD	Standard deviation

The default data type is 16 bit for GRIB and 32 bit for all other file format types. To change the data type use one of the following predefined constants:

CDI_DATATYPE_PACK8	8 packed bit (only for GRIB)
CDI_DATATYPE_PACK16	16 packed bit (only for GRIB)
CDI_DATATYPE_PACK24	24 packed bit (only for GRIB)
CDI_DATATYPE_FLT32	32 bit floating point
CDI_DATATYPE_FLT64	64 bit floating point
CDI_DATATYPE_INT8	8 bit integer
CDI_DATATYPE_INT16	16 bit integer
CDI_DATATYPE_INT32	32 bit integer

#### 4.3.1. Define a Variable: `vlistDefVar`

The function `vlistDefVar` adds a new variable to `vlistID`.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistDefVar(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER gridID, INTEGER zaxisID,  
                             INTEGER timetype)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#).  
`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#).  
`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to [zaxisCreate](#).  
`timetype` One of the set of predefined **CDI** timestep types. The valid **CDI** timestep types are `TIME_CONSTANT` and `TIME_VARYING`.

##### Result

`vlistDefVar` returns an identifier to the new variable.

##### Example

Here is an example using `vlistCreate` to create a variable list and add a variable with `vlistDefVar`.

```
INCLUDE 'cdi.h'
...
INTEGER vlistID, varID
...
vlistID = vlistCreate()
varID = vlistDefVar(vlistID, gridID, zaxisID, TIME_VARYING)
...
streamDefVlist(streamID, vlistID)
...
vlistDestroy(vlistID)
...
```

#### 4.3.2. Get the Grid ID of a Variable: `vlistInqVarGrid`

The function `vlistInqVarGrid` returns the grid ID of a Variable.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarGrid(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).

`varID` Variable identifier.

##### Result

`vlistInqVarGrid` returns the grid ID of the Variable.

#### 4.3.3. Get the Zaxis ID of a Variable: `vlistInqVarZaxis`

The function `vlistInqVarZaxis` returns the zaxis ID of a variable.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarZaxis(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).

`varID` Variable identifier.

##### Result

`vlistInqVarZaxis` returns the zaxis ID of the variable.

#### 4.3.4. Get the timestep type of a Variable: `vlistInqVarTsteptype`

The function `vlistInqVarTsteptype` returns the timestep type of a Variable.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarTsteptype(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).

`varID` Variable identifier.

## Result

`vlistInqVarTstepType` returns the timestep type of the Variable, one of the set of predefined **CDI** timestep types. The valid **CDI** timestep types are `TSTEP_INSTANT`, `TSTEP_ACCUM`, `TSTEP_AVG`, `TSTEP_MAX`, `TSTEP_MIN` and `TSTEP_SD`.

### 4.3.5. Define the code number of a Variable: `vlistDefVarCode`

The function `vlistDefVarCode` defines the code number of a variable.

#### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarCode(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER code)
vlistID  Variable list ID, from a previous call to vlistCreate.
varID    Variable identifier.
code     Code number.
```

### 4.3.6. Get the Code number of a Variable: `vlistInqVarCode`

The function `vlistInqVarCode` returns the code number of a variable.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarCode(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
vlistID  Variable list ID, from a previous call to vlistCreate or streamInqVlist.
varID    Variable identifier.
```

## Result

`vlistInqVarCode` returns the code number of the variable.

### 4.3.7. Define the name of a Variable: `vlistDefVarName`

The function `vlistDefVarName` defines the name of a variable.

#### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarName(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
vlistID  Variable list ID, from a previous call to vlistCreate.
varID    Variable identifier.
name     Name of the variable.
```

### 4.3.8. Get the name of a Variable: `vlistInqVarName`

The function `vlistInqVarName` returns the name of a variable.

#### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE vlistInqVarName(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
vlistID  Variable list ID, from a previous call to vlistCreate or streamInqVlist.
varID    Variable identifier.
name     Returned variable name. The caller must allocate space for the returned string.
         The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the pre-
         defined constant CDI_MAX_NAME.
```

**Result**

`vlistInqVarName` returns the name of the variable to the parameter name if available, otherwise the result is an empty string.

**4.3.9. Define the long name of a Variable: `vlistDefVarLongname`**

The function `vlistDefVarLongname` defines the long name of a variable.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarLongname(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID,  
                               CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to `vlistCreate`.

`varID` Variable identifier.

`longname` Long name of the variable.

**4.3.10. Get the longname of a Variable: `vlistInqVarLongname`**

The function `vlistInqVarLongname` returns the longname of a variable if available, otherwise the result is an empty string.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE vlistInqVarLongname(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID,  
                               CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to `vlistCreate` or `streamInqVlist`.

`varID` Variable identifier.

`longname` Long name of the variable. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

**Result**

`vlistInqVarLongname` returns the longname of the variable to the parameter `longname`.

**4.3.11. Define the standard name of a Variable: `vlistDefVarStdname`**

The function `vlistDefVarStdname` defines the standard name of a variable.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarStdname(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID,  
                              CHARACTER*(*) stdname)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to `vlistCreate`.

`varID` Variable identifier.

`stdname` Standard name of the variable.

**4.3.12. Get the standard name of a Variable: `vlistInqVarStdname`**

The function `vlistInqVarStdname` returns the standard name of a variable if available, otherwise the result is an empty string.

## Usage

```
SUBROUTINE vlistInqVarStdname(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID,  
                             CHARACTER*(*) stdname)
```

**vlistID** Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).

**varID** Variable identifier.

**stdname** Standard name of the variable. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

## Result

`vlistInqVarStdname` returns the standard name of the variable to the parameter `stdname`.

### 4.3.13. Define the units of a Variable: `vlistDefVarUnits`

The function `vlistDefVarUnits` defines the units of a variable.

## Usage

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarUnits(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

**vlistID** Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#).

**varID** Variable identifier.

**units** Units of the variable.

### 4.3.14. Get the units of a Variable: `vlistInqVarUnits`

The function `vlistInqVarUnits` returns the units of a variable if available, otherwise the result is an empty string.

## Usage

```
SUBROUTINE vlistInqVarUnits(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

**vlistID** Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).

**varID** Variable identifier.

**units** Units of the variable. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

## Result

`vlistInqVarUnits` returns the units of the variable to the parameter `units`.

### 4.3.15. Define the data type of a Variable: `vlistDefVarDatatype`

The function `vlistDefVarDatatype` defines the data type of a variable.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarDatatype(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER datatype)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#).

`varID` Variable identifier.

`datatype` The data type identifier. The valid **CDI** data types are `CDI_DATATYPE_PACK8`, `CDI_DATATYPE_PACK16`, `CDI_DATATYPE_PACK24`, `CDI_DATATYPE_FLT32`, `CDI_DATATYPE_FLT64`, `CDI_DATATYPE_INT8`, `CDI_DATATYPE_INT16` and `CDI_DATATYPE_INT32`.

**4.3.16. Get the data type of a Variable: vlistInqVarDatatype**

The function `vlistInqVarDatatype` returns the data type of a variable.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarDatatype(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).

`varID` Variable identifier.

**Result**

`vlistInqVarDatatype` returns an identifier to the data type of the variable. The valid **CDI** data types are `CDI_DATATYPE_PACK8`, `CDI_DATATYPE_PACK16`, `CDI_DATATYPE_PACK24`, `CDI_DATATYPE_FLT32`, `CDI_DATATYPE_FLT64`, `CDI_DATATYPE_INT8`, `CDI_DATATYPE_INT16` and `CDI_DATATYPE_INT32`.

**4.3.17. Define the missing value of a Variable: vlistDefVarMissval**

The function `vlistDefVarMissval` defines the missing value of a variable.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarMissval(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, REAL*8 missval)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#).

`varID` Variable identifier.

`missval` Missing value.

**4.3.18. Get the missing value of a Variable: vlistInqVarMissval**

The function `vlistInqVarMissval` returns the missing value of a variable.

**Usage**

```
REAL*8 FUNCTION vlistInqVarMissval(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

`vlistID` Variable list ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).

`varID` Variable identifier.

**Result**

`vlistInqVarMissval` returns the missing value of the variable.

## 4.4. Attributes

Attributes may be associated with each variable to specify non CDI standard properties. CDI standard properties as code, name, units, and missing value are directly associated with each variable by the corresponding CDI function (e.g. [vlistDefVarName](#)). An attribute has a variable to which it is assigned, a name, a type, a length, and a sequence of one or more values. The attributes have to be defined after the variable is created and before the variable list is associated with a stream. Attributes are only used for NetCDF datasets.

It is also possible to have attributes that are not associated with any variable. These are called global attributes and are identified by using `CDI_GLOBAL` as a variable pseudo-ID. Global attributes are usually related to the dataset as a whole.

CDI supports integer, floating point and text attributes. The data types are defined by the following predefined constants:

<code>CDI_DATATYPE_INT16</code>	16-bit integer attribute
<code>CDI_DATATYPE_INT32</code>	32-bit integer attribute
<code>CDI_DATATYPE_FLT32</code>	32-bit floating point attribute
<code>CDI_DATATYPE_FLT64</code>	64-bit floating point attribute
<code>CDI_DATATYPE_TXT</code>	Text attribute

### 4.4.1. Get number of attributes: `cdiInqNatts`

The function `cdiInqNatts` gets the number of attributes assigned to this variable.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqNatts(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER nattsp)

cdiID    CDI ID, from a previous call to vlistCreate, gridCreate or streamInqVlist.
varID    Variable identifier, or CDI_GLOBAL for a global attribute.
nattsp   Pointer to location for returned number of attributes.
```

### 4.4.2. Get information about an attribute: `cdiInqAtt`

The function `cdiInqAtt` gets information about an attribute.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqAtt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER attnum,
                           CHARACTER*(*) name, INTEGER typep, INTEGER lenp)

cdiID    CDI ID, from a previous call to vlistCreate, gridCreate or streamInqVlist.
varID    Variable identifier, or CDI_GLOBAL for a global attribute.
attnum   Attribute number (from 0 to natts-1).
name     Pointer to the location for the returned attribute name. The caller must allocate
         space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of
         the string is given by the predefined constant CDI_MAX_NAME.
typep    Pointer to location for returned attribute type.
lenp     Pointer to location for returned attribute number.
```

### 4.4.3. Define an integer attribute: `cdiDefAttInt`

The function `cdiDefAttInt` defines an integer attribute.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiDefAttInt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER type, INTEGER len, INTEGER ip)
```

**cdiID** CDI ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [gridCreate](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier, or `CDI_GLOBAL` for a global attribute.  
**name** Attribute name.  
**type** External data type (`CDI_DATATYPE_INT16` or `CDI_DATATYPE_INT32`).  
**len** Number of values provided for the attribute.  
**ip** Pointer to one or more integer values.

**4.4.4. Get the value(s) of an integer attribute: cdiInqAttInt**

The function `cdiInqAttInt` gets the values(s) of an integer attribute.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqAttInt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER mlen, INTEGER ip)
```

**cdiID** CDI ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#), [gridCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier, or `CDI_GLOBAL` for a global attribute.  
**name** Attribute name.  
**mlen** Number of allocated values provided for the attribute.  
**ip** Pointer location for returned integer attribute value(s).

**4.4.5. Define a floating point attribute: cdiDefAttFlt**

The function `cdiDefAttFlt` defines a floating point attribute.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiDefAttFlt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER len, REAL*8 dp)
```

**cdiID** CDI ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [gridCreate](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier, or `CDI_GLOBAL` for a global attribute.  
**name** Attribute name.  
**type** External data type (`CDI_DATATYPE_FLT32` or `CDI_DATATYPE_FLT64`).  
**len** Number of values provided for the attribute.  
**dp** Pointer to one or more floating point values.

**4.4.6. Get the value(s) of a floating point attribute: cdiInqAttFlt**

The function `cdiInqAttFlt` gets the values(s) of a floating point attribute.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqAttFlt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER mlen, REAL*8 dp)
```



**cdiID** CDI ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#), [gridCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier, or `CDI_GLOBAL` for a global attribute.  
**name** Attribute name.  
**mLen** Number of allocated values provided for the attribute.  
**dp** Pointer location for returned floating point attribute value(s).

#### 4.4.7. Define a text attribute: `cdiDefAttTxt`

The function `cdiDefAttTxt` defines a text attribute.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiDefAttTxt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER len, CHARACTER*(*) tp)
```

**cdiID** CDI ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#) or [gridCreate](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier, or `CDI_GLOBAL` for a global attribute.  
**name** Attribute name.  
**len** Number of values provided for the attribute.  
**tp** Pointer to one or more character values.

#### 4.4.8. Get the value(s) of a text attribute: `cdiInqAttTxt`

The function `cdiInqAttTxt` gets the values(s) of a text attribute.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqAttTxt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER mlen, CHARACTER*(*) tp)
```

**cdiID** CDI ID, from a previous call to [vlistCreate](#), [gridCreate](#) or [streamInqVlist](#).  
**varID** Variable identifier, or `CDI_GLOBAL` for a global attribute.  
**name** Attribute name.  
**mLen** Number of allocated values provided for the attribute.  
**tp** Pointer location for returned text attribute value(s).

## 4.5. Grid functions

This module contains functions to define a new horizontal Grid and to get information from an existing Grid. A Grid object is necessary to define a variable. The following different Grid types are available:

GRID_GENERIC	Generic user defined grid
GRID_LONLAT	Regular longitude/latitude grid
GRID_GAUSSIAN	Regular Gaussian lon/lat grid
GRID_SPECTRAL	Spherical harmonic coefficients
GRID_GME	Icosahedral-hexagonal GME grid
GRID_LCC	Lambert conformal conic grid
GRID_CURVILINEAR	Curvilinear grid
GRID_UNSTRUCTURED	Unstructured grid

### 4.5.1. Create a horizontal Grid: `gridCreate`

The function `gridCreate` creates a horizontal Grid.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridCreate(INTEGER gridtype, INTEGER size)
```

**gridtype** The type of the grid, one of the set of predefined **CDI** grid types. The valid **CDI** grid types are `GRID_GENERIC`, `GRID_GAUSSIAN`, `GRID_LONLAT`, `GRID_PROJECTION`, `GRID_SPECTRAL`, `GRID_GME`, `GRID_CURVILINEAR` and `GRID_UNSTRUCTURED`.

**size** Number of gridpoints.

#### Result

`gridCreate` returns an identifier to the Grid.

#### Example

Here is an example using `gridCreate` to create a regular lon/lat Grid:

```
INCLUDE 'cdi.h'
...
#define nlon 12
#define nlat 6
...
REAL*8 lons(nlon) = (/0, 30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210, 240, 270, 300, 330/)
REAL*8 lats(nlat) = (/ -75, -45, -15, 15, 45, 75/)
INTEGER gridID
...
gridID = gridCreate(GRID_LONLAT, nlon*nlat)
CALL gridDefXsize(gridID, nlon)
CALL gridDefYsize(gridID, nlat)
CALL gridDefXvals(gridID, lons)
CALL gridDefYvals(gridID, lats)
...
```

#### 4.5.2. Destroy a horizontal Grid: `gridDestroy`

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE gridDestroy(INTEGER gridID)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#).

#### 4.5.3. Duplicate a horizontal Grid: `gridDuplicate`

The function `gridDuplicate` duplicates a horizontal Grid.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridDuplicate(INTEGER gridID)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#) or [vlistInqVarGrid](#).

##### Result

`gridDuplicate` returns an identifier to the duplicated Grid.

#### 4.5.4. Get the type of a Grid: `gridInqType`

The function `gridInqType` returns the type of a Grid.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqType(INTEGER gridID)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#) or [vlistInqVarGrid](#).

##### Result

`gridInqType` returns the type of the grid, one of the set of predefined **CDI** grid types. The valid **CDI** grid types are `GRID_GENERIC`, `GRID_GAUSSIAN`, `GRID_LONLAT`, `GRID_PROJECTION`, `GRID_SPECTRAL`, `GRID_GME`, `GRID_CURVILINEAR` and `GRID_UNSTRUCTURED`.

#### 4.5.5. Get the size of a Grid: `gridInqSize`

The function `gridInqSize` returns the size of a Grid.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqSize(INTEGER gridID)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#) or [vlistInqVarGrid](#).

##### Result

`gridInqSize` returns the number of grid points of a Grid.

#### 4.5.6. Define the number of values of a X-axis: `gridDefXsize`

The function `gridDefXsize` defines the number of values of a X-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXsize(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER xsize)
```

gridID Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#).

xsize Number of values of a X-axis.

**4.5.7. Get the number of values of a X-axis: gridInqXsize**

The function `gridInqXsize` returns the number of values of a X-axis.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqXsize(INTEGER gridID)
```

gridID Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#) or [vlistInqVarGrid](#).

**Result**

`gridInqXsize` returns the number of values of a X-axis.

**4.5.8. Define the number of values of a Y-axis: gridDefYsize**

The function `gridDefYsize` defines the number of values of a Y-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYsize(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER ysize)
```

gridID Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#).

ysize Number of values of a Y-axis.

**4.5.9. Get the number of values of a Y-axis: gridInqYsize**

The function `gridInqYsize` returns the number of values of a Y-axis.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqYsize(INTEGER gridID)
```

gridID Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#) or [vlistInqVarGrid](#).

**Result**

`gridInqYsize` returns the number of values of a Y-axis.

**4.5.10. Define the number of parallels between a pole and the equator: gridDefNP**

The function `gridDefNP` defines the number of parallels between a pole and the equator of a Gaussian grid.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefNP(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER np)
```

gridID Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#).

np Number of parallels between a pole and the equator.

**4.5.11. Get the number of parallels between a pole and the equator: `gridInqNP`**

The function `gridInqNP` returns the number of parallels between a pole and the equator of a Gaussian grid.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqNP(INTEGER gridID)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.

**Result**

`gridInqNP` returns the number of parallels between a pole and the equator.

**4.5.12. Define the values of a X-axis: `gridDefXvals`**

The function `gridDefXvals` defines all values of the X-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXvals(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 xvals)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.

`xvals` X-values of the grid.

**4.5.13. Get all values of a X-axis: `gridInqXvals`**

The function `gridInqXvals` returns all values of the X-axis.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqXvals(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 xvals)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.

`xvals` Pointer to the location into which the X-values are read. The caller must allocate space for the returned values.

**Result**

Upon successful completion `gridInqXvals` returns the number of values and the values are stored in `xvals`. Otherwise, 0 is returned and `xvals` is empty.

**4.5.14. Define the values of a Y-axis: `gridDefYvals`**

The function `gridDefYvals` defines all values of the Y-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYvals(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 yvals)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.

`yvals` Y-values of the grid.

#### 4.5.15. Get all values of a Y-axis: `gridInqYvals`

The function `gridInqYvals` returns all values of the Y-axis.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqYvals(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 yvals)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#) or [vlistInqVarGrid](#).

`yvals` Pointer to the location into which the Y-values are read. The caller must allocate space for the returned values.

##### Result

Upon successful completion `gridInqYvals` returns the number of values and the values are stored in `yvals`. Otherwise, 0 is returned and `yvals` is empty.

#### 4.5.16. Define the bounds of a X-axis: `gridDefXbounds`

The function `gridDefXbounds` defines all bounds of the X-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXbounds(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 xbounds)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#).

`xbounds` X-bounds of the grid.

#### 4.5.17. Get the bounds of a X-axis: `gridInqXbounds`

The function `gridInqXbounds` returns the bounds of the X-axis.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqXbounds(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 xbounds)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#) or [vlistInqVarGrid](#).

`xbounds` Pointer to the location into which the X-bounds are read. The caller must allocate space for the returned values.

##### Result

Upon successful completion `gridInqXbounds` returns the number of bounds and the bounds are stored in `xbounds`. Otherwise, 0 is returned and `xbounds` is empty.

#### 4.5.18. Define the bounds of a Y-axis: `gridDefYbounds`

The function `gridDefYbounds` defines all bounds of the Y-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYbounds(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 ybounds)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to [gridCreate](#).

`ybounds` Y-bounds of the grid.

#### 4.5.19. Get the bounds of a Y-axis: `gridInqYbounds`

The function `gridInqYbounds` returns the bounds of the Y-axis.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqYbounds(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 ybounds)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.

`ybounds` Pointer to the location into which the Y-bounds are read. The caller must allocate space for the returned values.

##### Result

Upon successful completion `gridInqYbounds` returns the number of bounds and the bounds are stored in `ybounds`. Otherwise, 0 is returned and `ybounds` is empty.

#### 4.5.20. Define the name of a X-axis: `gridDefXname`

The function `gridDefXname` defines the name of a X-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.

`name` Name of the X-axis.

#### 4.5.21. Get the name of a X-axis: `gridInqXname`

The function `gridInqXname` returns the name of a X-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqXname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.

`name` Name of the X-axis. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

##### Result

`gridInqXname` returns the name of the X-axis to the parameter `name`.

#### 4.5.22. Define the longname of a X-axis: `gridDefXlongname`

The function `gridDefXlongname` defines the longname of a X-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXlongname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.

`longname` Longname of the X-axis.

**4.5.23. Get the longname of a X-axis: gridInqXlongname**

The function `gridInqXlongname` returns the longname of a X-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqXlongname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.  
`longname` Longname of the X-axis. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

**Result**

`gridInqXlongname` returns the longname of the X-axis to the parameter `longname`.

**4.5.24. Define the units of a X-axis: gridDefXunits**

The function `gridDefXunits` defines the units of a X-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXunits(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.  
`units` Units of the X-axis.

**4.5.25. Get the units of a X-axis: gridInqXunits**

The function `gridInqXunits` returns the units of a X-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqXunits(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.  
`units` Units of the X-axis. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

**Result**

`gridInqXunits` returns the units of the X-axis to the parameter `units`.

**4.5.26. Define the name of a Y-axis: gridDefYname**

The function `gridDefYname` defines the name of a Y-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.  
`name` Name of the Y-axis.



**4.5.27. Get the name of a Y-axis: gridInqYname**

The function `gridInqYname` returns the name of a Y-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqYname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.

`name` Name of the Y-axis. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

**Result**

`gridInqYname` returns the name of the Y-axis to the parameter `name`.

**4.5.28. Define the longname of a Y-axis: gridDefYlongname**

The function `gridDefYlongname` defines the longname of a Y-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYlongname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.

`longname` Longname of the Y-axis.

**4.5.29. Get the longname of a Y-axis: gridInqYlongname**

The function `gridInqYlongname` returns the longname of a Y-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqYlongname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.

`longname` Longname of the Y-axis. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

**Result**

`gridInqYlongname` returns the longname of the Y-axis to the parameter `longname`.

**4.5.30. Define the units of a Y-axis: gridDefYunits**

The function `gridDefYunits` defines the units of a Y-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYunits(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.

`units` Units of the Y-axis.

#### 4.5.31. Get the units of a Y-axis: `gridInqYunits`

The function `gridInqYunits` returns the units of a Y-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqYunits(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.

`units` Units of the Y-axis. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

##### Result

`gridInqYunits` returns the units of the Y-axis to the parameter `units`.

#### 4.5.32. Define the reference number for an unstructured grid: `gridDefNumber`

The function `gridDefNumber` defines the reference number for an unstructured grid.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefNumber(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER number)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.

`number` Reference number for an unstructured grid.

#### 4.5.33. Get the reference number to an unstructured grid: `gridInqNumber`

The function `gridInqNumber` returns the reference number to an unstructured grid.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqNumber(INTEGER gridID)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate` or `vlistInqVarGrid`.

##### Result

`gridInqNumber` returns the reference number to an unstructured grid.

#### 4.5.34. Define the position of grid in the reference file: `gridDefPosition`

The function `gridDefPosition` defines the position of grid in the reference file.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefPosition(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER position)
```

`gridID` Grid ID, from a previous call to `gridCreate`.

`position` Position of grid in the reference file.

#### 4.5.35. Get the position of grid in the reference file: `gridInqPosition`

The function `gridInqPosition` returns the position of grid in the reference file.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqPosition(INTEGER gridID)
gridID  Grid ID, from a previous call to gridCreate or vlistInqVarGrid.
```

**Result**

`gridInqPosition` returns the position of grid in the reference file.

**4.5.36. Define the reference URI for an unstructured grid: `gridDefReference`**

The function `gridDefReference` defines the reference URI for an unstructured grid.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefReference(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) reference)
gridID      Grid ID, from a previous call to gridCreate.
reference    Reference URI for an unstructured grid.
```

**4.5.37. Get the reference URI to an unstructured grid: `gridInqReference`**

The function `gridInqReference` returns the reference URI to an unstructured grid.

**Usage**

```
char *gridInqReference(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) reference)
gridID  Grid ID, from a previous call to gridCreate or vlistInqVarGrid.
```

**Result**

`gridInqReference` returns the reference URI to an unstructured grid.

**4.5.38. Define the UUID for an unstructured grid: `gridDefUUID`**

The function `gridDefUUID` defines the UUID for an unstructured grid.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefUUID(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) uuid)
gridID  Grid ID, from a previous call to gridCreate.
uuid    UUID for an unstructured grid.
```

**4.5.39. Get the UUID to an unstructured grid: `gridInqUUID`**

The function `gridInqUUID` returns the UUID to an unstructured grid.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqUUID(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) uuid)
gridID  Grid ID, from a previous call to gridCreate or vlistInqVarGrid.
```

**Result**

`gridInqUUID` returns the UUID to an unstructured grid to the parameter `uuid`.

## 4.6. Z-axis functions

This section contains functions to define a new vertical Z-axis and to get information from an existing Z-axis. A Z-axis object is necessary to define a variable. The following different Z-axis types are available:

ZAXIS_GENERIC	Generic user defined level
ZAXIS_SURFACE	Surface level
ZAXIS_MEANSEA	Mean sea level
ZAXIS_TOA	Norminal top of atmosphere
ZAXIS_ATMOSPHERE	Entire atmosphere
ZAXIS_SEA_BOTTOM	Sea bottom
ZAXIS_ISENTROPIC	Isentropic (theta) level
ZAXIS_HYBRID	Hybrid level
ZAXIS_SIGMA	Sigma level
ZAXIS_PRESSURE	Isobaric pressure level in Pascal
ZAXIS_HEIGHT	Height above ground in meters
ZAXIS_ALTITUDE	Altitude above mean sea level in meters
ZAXIS_CLOUD_BASE	Cloud base level
ZAXIS_CLOUD_TOP	Level of cloud tops
ZAXIS_ISOTHERM_ZERO	Level of 0° C isotherm
ZAXIS_SNOW	Snow level
ZAXIS_LAKE_BOTTOM	Lake or River Bottom
ZAXIS_SEDIMENT_BOTTOM	Bottom Of Sediment Layer
ZAXIS_SEDIMENT_BOTTOM_TA	Bottom Of Thermally Active Sediment Layer
ZAXIS_SEDIMENT_BOTTOM_TW	Bottom Of Sediment Layer Penetrated By Thermal Wave
ZAXIS_ZAXIS_MIX_LAYER	Mixing Layer
ZAXIS_DEPTH_BELOW_SEA	Depth below sea level in meters
ZAXIS_DEPTH_BELOW_LAND	Depth below land surface in centimeters

### 4.6.1. Create a vertical Z-axis: `zaxisCreate`

The function `zaxisCreate` creates a vertical Z-axis.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION zaxisCreate(INTEGER zaxistype, INTEGER size)
```

**zaxistype** The type of the Z-axis, one of the set of predefined **CDI** Z-axis types. The valid **CDI** Z-axis types are ZAXIS\_GENERIC, ZAXIS\_SURFACE, ZAXIS\_HYBRID, ZAXIS\_SIGMA, ZAXIS\_PRESSURE, ZAXIS\_HEIGHT, ZAXIS\_ISENTROPIC, ZAXIS\_ALTITUDE, ZAXIS\_MEANSEA, ZAXIS\_TOA, ZAXIS\_SEA\_BOTTOM, ZAXIS\_ATMOSPHERE, ZAXIS\_CLOUD\_BASE, ZAXIS\_CLOUD\_TOP, ZAXIS\_ISOTHERM\_ZERO, ZAXIS\_SNOW, ZAXIS\_LAKE\_BOTTOM, ZAXIS\_SEDIMENT\_BOTTOM, ZAXIS\_SEDIMENT\_BOTTOM\_TA, ZAXIS\_SEDIMENT\_BOTTOM\_TW, ZAXIS\_MIX\_LAYER, ZAXIS\_DEPTH\_BELOW\_SEA and ZAXIS\_DEPTH\_BELOW\_LAND.

**size** Number of levels.

## Result

`zaxisCreate` returns an identifier to the Z-axis.

## Example

Here is an example using `zaxisCreate` to create a pressure level Z-axis:

```
INCLUDE 'cdi.h'
...
#define nlev 5
...
REAL*8 levs(nlev) = (/101300, 92500, 85000, 50000, 20000/)
INTEGER zaxisID
...
zaxisID = zaxisCreate(ZAXIS_PRESSURE, nlev)
CALL zaxisDefLevels(zaxisID, levs)
...
```

### 4.6.2. Destroy a vertical Z-axis: `zaxisDestroy`

#### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDestroy(INTEGER zaxisID)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to [zaxisCreate](#).

### 4.6.3. Get the type of a Z-axis: `zaxisInqType`

The function `zaxisInqType` returns the type of a Z-axis.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION zaxisInqType(INTEGER zaxisID)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to [zaxisCreate](#) or [vlistInqVarZaxis](#).

## Result

`zaxisInqType` returns the type of the Z-axis, one of the set of predefined **CDI** Z-axis types. The valid **CDI** Z-axis types are `ZAXIS_GENERIC`, `ZAXIS_SURFACE`, `ZAXIS_HYBRID`, `ZAXIS_SIGMA`, `ZAXIS_PRESSURE`, `ZAXIS_HEIGHT`, `ZAXIS_ISENTROPIC`, `ZAXIS_ALTITUDE`, `ZAXIS_MEANSEA`, `ZAXIS_TOA`, `ZAXIS_SEA_BOTTOM`, `ZAXIS_ATMOSPHERE`, `ZAXIS_CLOUD_BASE`, `ZAXIS_CLOUD_TOP`, `ZAXIS_ISOTHERM_ZERO`, `ZAXIS_SNOW`, `ZAXIS_LAKE_BOTTOM`, `ZAXIS_SEDIMENT_BOTTOM`, `ZAXIS_SEDIMENT_BOTTOM_TA`, `ZAXIS_SEDIMENT_BOTTOM`, `ZAXIS_MIX_LAYER`, `ZAXIS_DEPTH_BELOW_SEA` and `ZAXIS_DEPTH_BELOW_LAND`.

### 4.6.4. Get the size of a Z-axis: `zaxisInqSize`

The function `zaxisInqSize` returns the size of a Z-axis.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION zaxisInqSize(INTEGER zaxisID)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to [zaxisCreate](#) or [vlistInqVarZaxis](#).

**Result**

`zaxisInqSize` returns the number of levels of a Z-axis.

**4.6.5. Define the levels of a Z-axis: `zaxisDefLevels`**

The function `zaxisDefLevels` defines the levels of a Z-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDefLevels(INTEGER zaxisID, REAL*8 levels)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to `zaxisCreate`.

`levels` All levels of the Z-axis.

**4.6.6. Get all levels of a Z-axis: `zaxisInqLevels`**

The function `zaxisInqLevels` returns all levels of a Z-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisInqLevels(INTEGER zaxisID, REAL*8 levels)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to `zaxisCreate` or `vlistInqVarZaxis`.

`levels` Pointer to the location into which the levels are read. The caller must allocate space for the returned values.

**Result**

`zaxisInqLevels` saves all levels to the parameter `levels`.

**4.6.7. Get one level of a Z-axis: `zaxisInqLevel`**

The function `zaxisInqLevel` returns one level of a Z-axis.

**Usage**

```
REAL*8 FUNCTION zaxisInqLevel(INTEGER zaxisID, INTEGER levelID)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to `zaxisCreate` or `vlistInqVarZaxis`.

`levelID` Level index (range: 0 to `nlevel-1`).

**Result**

`zaxisInqLevel` returns the level of a Z-axis.

**4.6.8. Define the name of a Z-axis: `zaxisDefName`**

The function `zaxisDefName` defines the name of a Z-axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDefName(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to `zaxisCreate`.

`name` Name of the Z-axis.

#### 4.6.9. Get the name of a Z-axis: `zaxisInqName`

The function `zaxisInqName` returns the name of a Z-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisInqName(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to `zaxisCreate` or `vlistInqVarZaxis`.

`name` Name of the Z-axis. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

##### Result

`zaxisInqName` returns the name of the Z-axis to the parameter `name`.

#### 4.6.10. Define the longname of a Z-axis: `zaxisDefLongname`

The function `zaxisDefLongname` defines the longname of a Z-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDefLongname(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to `zaxisCreate`.

`longname` Longname of the Z-axis.

#### 4.6.11. Get the longname of a Z-axis: `zaxisInqLongname`

The function `zaxisInqLongname` returns the longname of a Z-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisInqLongname(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to `zaxisCreate` or `vlistInqVarZaxis`.

`longname` Longname of the Z-axis. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

##### Result

`zaxisInqLongname` returns the longname of the Z-axis to the parameter `longname`.

#### 4.6.12. Define the units of a Z-axis: `zaxisDefUnits`

The function `zaxisDefUnits` defines the units of a Z-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDefUnits(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to `zaxisCreate`.

`units` Units of the Z-axis.

#### 4.6.13. Get the units of a Z-axis: `zaxisInqUnits`

The function `zaxisInqUnits` returns the units of a Z-axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisInqUnits(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

`zaxisID` Z-axis ID, from a previous call to `zaxisCreate` or `vlistInqVarZaxis`.

`units` Units of the Z-axis. The caller must allocate space for the returned string. The maximum possible length, in characters, of the string is given by the predefined constant `CDI_MAX_NAME`.

##### Result

`zaxisInqUnits` returns the units of the Z-axis to the parameter `units`.



## 4.7. T-axis functions

This section contains functions to define a new Time axis and to get information from an existing T-axis. A T-axis object is necessary to define the time axis of a dataset and must be assigned to a variable list using `vlistDefTaxis`. The following different Time axis types are available:

<code>TAXIS_ABSOLUTE</code>	Absolute time axis
<code>TAXIS_RELATIVE</code>	Relative time axis

An absolute time axis has the current time to each time step. It can be used without knowledge of the calendar.

A relative time is the time relative to a fixed reference time. The current time results from the reference time and the elapsed interval. The result depends on the used calendar. CDI supports the following calendar types:

<code>CALENDAR_STANDARD</code>	Mixed Gregorian/Julian calendar.
<code>CALENDAR_PROLEPTIC</code>	Proleptic Gregorian calendar. This is the default.
<code>CALENDAR_360DAYS</code>	All years are 360 days divided into 30 day months.
<code>CALENDAR_365DAYS</code>	Gregorian calendar without leap years, i.e., all years are 365 days long.
<code>CALENDAR_366DAYS</code>	Gregorian calendar with every year being a leap year, i.e., all years are 366 days long.

### 4.7.1. Create a Time axis: `taxisCreate`

The function `taxisCreate` creates a Time axis.

#### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisCreate(INTEGER taxistype)
```

**taxistype** The type of the Time axis, one of the set of predefined **CDI** time axis types.  
The valid **CDI** time axis types are `TAXIS_ABSOLUTE` and `TAXIS_RELATIVE`.

#### Result

`taxisCreate` returns an identifier to the Time axis.

#### Example

Here is an example using `taxisCreate` to create a relative T-axis with a standard calendar.

```
INCLUDE 'cdi.h'
...
INTEGER taxisID
...
taxisID = taxisCreate(TAXIS_RELATIVE)
taxisDefCalendar(taxisID, CALENDAR_STANDARD)
taxisDefRdate(taxisID, 19850101)
taxisDefRtime(taxisID, 120000)
...
```

#### 4.7.2. Destroy a Time axis: `taxisDestroy`

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDestroy(INTEGER taxisID)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to `taxisCreate`

#### 4.7.3. Define the reference date: `taxisDefRdate`

The function `taxisDefRdate` defines the reference date of a Time axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefRdate(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER rdate)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to `taxisCreate`

`rdate` Reference date (YYYYMMDD)

#### 4.7.4. Get the reference date: `taxisInqRdate`

The function `taxisInqRdate` returns the reference date of a Time axis.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqRdate(INTEGER taxisID)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to `taxisCreate` or `vlistInqTaxis`

##### Result

`taxisInqRdate` returns the reference date.

#### 4.7.5. Define the reference time: `taxisDefRtime`

The function `taxisDefRtime` defines the reference time of a Time axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefRtime(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER rtime)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to `taxisCreate`

`rtime` Reference time (hhmmss)

#### 4.7.6. Get the reference time: `taxisInqRtime`

The function `taxisInqRtime` returns the reference time of a Time axis.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqRtime(INTEGER taxisID)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to `taxisCreate` or `vlistInqTaxis`

##### Result

`taxisInqRtime` returns the reference time.

#### 4.7.7. Define the verification date: `taxisDefVdate`

The function `taxisDefVdate` defines the verification date of a Time axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefVdate(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER vdate)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to `taxisCreate`

`vdate` Verification date (YYYYMMDD)

#### 4.7.8. Get the verification date: `taxisInqVdate`

The function `taxisInqVdate` returns the verification date of a Time axis.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqVdate(INTEGER taxisID)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to `taxisCreate` or `vlistInqTaxis`

##### Result

`taxisInqVdate` returns the verification date.

#### 4.7.9. Define the verification time: `taxisDefVtime`

The function `taxisDefVtime` defines the verification time of a Time axis.

##### Usage

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefVtime(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER vtime)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to `taxisCreate`

`vtime` Verification time (hhmmss)

#### 4.7.10. Get the verification time: `taxisInqVtime`

The function `taxisInqVtime` returns the verification time of a Time axis.

##### Usage

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqVtime(INTEGER taxisID)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to `taxisCreate` or `vlistInqTaxis`

##### Result

`taxisInqVtime` returns the verification time.

#### 4.7.11. Define the calendar: `taxisDefCalendar`

The function `taxisDefCalendar` defines the calendar of a Time axis.

**Usage**

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefCalendar(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER calendar)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to [taxisCreate](#)

`calendar` The type of the calendar, one of the set of predefined **CDI** calendar types. The valid **CDI** calendar types are `CALENDAR_STANDARD`, `CALENDAR_PROLEPTIC`, `CALENDAR_360DAYS`, `CALENDAR_365DAYS` and `CALENDAR_366DAYS`.

**4.7.12. Get the calendar: taxisInqCalendar**

The function `taxisInqCalendar` returns the calendar of a Time axis.

**Usage**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqCalendar(INTEGER taxisID)
```

`taxisID` Time axis ID, from a previous call to [taxisCreate](#) or [vlistInqTaxis](#)

**Result**

`taxisInqCalendar` returns the type of the calendar, one of the set of predefined **CDI** calendar types. The valid **CDI** calendar types are `CALENDAR_STANDARD`, `CALENDAR_PROLEPTIC`, `CALENDAR_360DAYS`, `CALENDAR_365DAYS` and `CALENDAR_366DAYS`.

# Bibliography

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[ECHAM]

The atmospheric general circulation model ECHAM5, from the [Max Planck Institute for Meteorologie](#)

[GRIB]

[GRIB version 1](#), from the World Meteorological Organisation ([WMO](#))

[HDF5]

[HDF version 5](#), from the HDF Group

[NetCDF]

[NetCDF Software Package](#), from the [UNIDATA](#) Program Center of the University Corporation for Atmospheric Research

[MPIOM]

The ocean model MPIOM, from the [Max Planck Institute for Meteorologie](#)

[REMO]

The regional climate model REMO, from the [Max Planck Institute for Meteorologie](#)

## A. Quick Reference

This appendix provide a brief listing of the Fortran language bindings of the **CDI** library routines:

### `cdiDefAttFlt`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiDefAttFlt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER type, INTEGER len, REAL*8 dp)
```

Define a floating point attribute

### `cdiDefAttInt`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiDefAttInt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER type, INTEGER len, INTEGER ip)
```

Define an integer attribute

### `cdiDefAttTxt`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiDefAttTxt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER len, CHARACTER*(*) tp)
```

Define a text attribute

### `cdiInqAtt`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqAtt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER attnum,  
                           CHARACTER*(*) name, INTEGER typep, INTEGER lenp)
```

Get information about an attribute

### `cdiInqAttFlt`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqAttFlt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                              INTEGER mlen, REAL*8 dp)
```

Get the value(s) of a floating point attribute

### `cdiInqAttInt`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqAttInt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                              INTEGER mlen, INTEGER ip)
```

Get the value(s) of an integer attribute

## `cdiInqAttTxt`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqAttTxt(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name,  
                             INTEGER mlen, CHARACTER*(*) tp)
```

Get the value(s) of a text attribute

## `cdiInqNatts`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION cdiInqNatts(INTEGER cdiID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER nattsp)
```

Get number of attributes

## `gridCreate`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridCreate(INTEGER gridtype, INTEGER size)
```

Create a horizontal Grid

## `gridDefNP`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefNP(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER np)
```

Define the number of parallels between a pole and the equator

## `gridDefNumber`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefNumber(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER number)
```

Define the reference number for an unstructured grid

## `gridDefPosition`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefPosition(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER position)
```

Define the position of grid in the reference file

## `gridDefReference`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefReference(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) reference)
```

Define the reference URI for an unstructured grid

## `gridDefUUID`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefUUID(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) uuid)
```

Define the UUID for an unstructured grid

### [gridDefXbounds](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXbounds(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 xbounds)
```

Define the bounds of a X-axis

### [gridDefXlongname](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXlongname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

Define the longname of a X-axis

### [gridDefXname](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

Define the name of a X-axis

### [gridDefXsize](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXsize(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER xsize)
```

Define the number of values of a X-axis

### [gridDefXunits](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXunits(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

Define the units of a X-axis

### [gridDefXvals](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefXvals(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 xvals)
```

Define the values of a X-axis

### [gridDefYbounds](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYbounds(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 ybounds)
```

Define the bounds of a Y-axis

### [gridDefYlongname](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYlongname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

Define the longname of a Y-axis



### `gridDefYname`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

Define the name of a Y-axis

### `gridDefYsize`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYsize(INTEGER gridID, INTEGER ysize)
```

Define the number of values of a Y-axis

### `gridDefYunits`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYunits(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

Define the units of a Y-axis

### `gridDefYvals`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDefYvals(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 yvals)
```

Define the values of a Y-axis

### `gridDestroy`

```
SUBROUTINE gridDestroy(INTEGER gridID)
```

Destroy a horizontal Grid

### `gridDuplicate`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridDuplicate(INTEGER gridID)
```

Duplicate a horizontal Grid

### `gridInqNP`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqNP(INTEGER gridID)
```

Get the number of parallels between a pole and the equator

### `gridInqNumber`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqNumber(INTEGER gridID)
```

Get the reference number to an unstructured grid

## [gridInqPosition](#)

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqPosition(INTEGER gridID)
```

Get the position of grid in the reference file

## [gridInqReference](#)

```
char *gridInqReference(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) reference)
```

Get the reference URI to an unstructured grid

## [gridInqSize](#)

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqSize(INTEGER gridID)
```

Get the size of a Grid

## [gridInqType](#)

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqType(INTEGER gridID)
```

Get the type of a Grid

## [gridInqUUID](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqUUID(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) uuid)
```

Get the UUID to an unstructured grid

## [gridInqXbounds](#)

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqXbounds(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 xbounds)
```

Get the bounds of a X-axis

## [gridInqXlongname](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqXlongname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

Get the longname of a X-axis

## [gridInqXname](#)

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqXname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

Get the name of a X-axis

## `gridInqXsize`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqXsize(INTEGER gridID)
```

Get the number of values of a X-axis

## `gridInqXunits`

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqXunits(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

Get the units of a X-axis

## `gridInqXvals`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqXvals(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 xvals)
```

Get all values of a X-axis

## `gridInqYbounds`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqYbounds(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 ybounds)
```

Get the bounds of a Y-axis

## `gridInqYlongname`

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqYlongname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

Get the longname of a Y-axis

## `gridInqYname`

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqYname(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

Get the name of a Y-axis

## `gridInqYsize`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqYsize(INTEGER gridID)
```

Get the number of values of a Y-axis

## `gridInqYunits`

```
SUBROUTINE gridInqYunits(INTEGER gridID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

Get the units of a Y-axis

## gridInqYvals

```
INTEGER FUNCTION gridInqYvals(INTEGER gridID, REAL*8 yvals)
```

Get all values of a Y-axis

## streamClose

```
SUBROUTINE streamClose(INTEGER streamID)
```

Close an open dataset

## streamDefByteorder

```
SUBROUTINE streamDefByteorder(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER byteorder)
```

Define the byte order

## streamDefRecord

```
SUBROUTINE streamDefRecord(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER levelID)
```

Define the next record

## streamDefTimestep

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamDefTimestep(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER tsID)
```

Define a timestep

## streamDefVlist

```
SUBROUTINE streamDefVlist(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER vlistID)
```

Define the variable list

## streamInqByteorder

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamInqByteorder(INTEGER streamID)
```

Get the byte order

## streamInqFiletype

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamInqFiletype(INTEGER streamID)
```

Get the filetype

## `streamInqTimestep`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamInqTimestep(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER tsID)
```

Get timestep information

## `streamInqVlist`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamInqVlist(INTEGER streamID)
```

Get the variable list

## `streamOpenRead`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamOpenRead(CHARACTER*(*) path)
```

Open a dataset for reading

## `streamOpenWrite`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION streamOpenWrite(CHARACTER*(*) path, INTEGER filetype)
```

Create a new dataset

## `streamReadVar`

```
SUBROUTINE streamReadVar(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, REAL*8 data,  
                          INTEGER nmiss)
```

Read a variable

## `streamReadVarF`

```
SUBROUTINE streamReadVar(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, REAL*4 data,  
                          INTEGER nmiss)
```

Read a variable

## `streamReadVarSlice`

```
SUBROUTINE streamReadVarSlice(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER levelID,  
                              REAL*8 data, INTEGER nmiss)
```

Read a horizontal slice of a variable

## `streamReadVarSliceF`

```
SUBROUTINE streamReadVarSliceF(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER levelID,  
                               REAL*4 data, INTEGER nmiss)
```

Read a horizontal slice of a variable

### `streamWriteVar`

```
SUBROUTINE streamWriteVar(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, REAL*8 data,  
                           INTEGER nmiss)
```

Write a variable

### `streamWriteVarF`

```
SUBROUTINE streamWriteVarF(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, REAL*4 data,  
                           INTEGER nmiss)
```

Write a variable

### `streamWriteVarSlice`

```
SUBROUTINE streamWriteVarSlice(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER levelID,  
                               REAL*8 data, INTEGER nmiss)
```

Write a horizontal slice of a variable

### `streamWriteVarSliceF`

```
SUBROUTINE streamWriteVarSliceF(INTEGER streamID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER levelID,  
                                REAL*4 data, INTEGER nmiss)
```

Write a horizontal slice of a variable

### `taxisCreate`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisCreate(INTEGER taxistype)
```

Create a Time axis

### `taxisDefCalendar`

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefCalendar(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER calendar)
```

Define the calendar

### `taxisDefRdate`

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefRdate(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER rdate)
```

Define the reference date

### `taxisDefRtime`

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefRtime(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER rtime)
```

Define the reference time

### `taxisDefVdate`

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefVdate(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER vdate)
```

Define the verification date

### `taxisDefVtime`

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDefVtime(INTEGER taxisID, INTEGER vtime)
```

Define the verification time

### `taxisDestroy`

```
SUBROUTINE taxisDestroy(INTEGER taxisID)
```

Destroy a Time axis

### `taxisInqCalendar`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqCalendar(INTEGER taxisID)
```

Get the calendar

### `taxisInqRdate`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqRdate(INTEGER taxisID)
```

Get the reference date

### `taxisInqRtime`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqRtime(INTEGER taxisID)
```

Get the reference time

### `taxisInqVdate`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqVdate(INTEGER taxisID)
```

Get the verification date

### `taxisInqVtime`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION taxisInqVtime(INTEGER taxisID)
```

Get the verification time

### `vlistCat`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistCat(INTEGER vlistID2, INTEGER vlistID1)
```

Concatenate two variable lists

### `vlistCopy`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistCopy(INTEGER vlistID2, INTEGER vlistID1)
```

Copy a variable list

### `vlistCopyFlag`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistCopyFlag(INTEGER vlistID2, INTEGER vlistID1)
```

Copy some entries of a variable list

### `vlistCreate`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistCreate()
```

Create a variable list

### `vlistDefTaxis`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefTaxis(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER taxisID)
```

Define the time axis

### `vlistDefVar`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistDefVar(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER gridID, INTEGER zaxisID,  
                             INTEGER timetype)
```

Define a Variable

### `vlistDefVarCode`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarCode(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER code)
```

Define the code number of a Variable

### `vlistDefVarDatatype`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarDatatype(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, INTEGER datatype)
```

Define the data type of a Variable



### `vlistDefVarLongname`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarLongname(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID,  
                                CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

Define the long name of a Variable

### `vlistDefVarMissval`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarMissval(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, REAL*8 missval)
```

Define the missing value of a Variable

### `vlistDefVarName`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarName(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

Define the name of a Variable

### `vlistDefVarStdname`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarStdname(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID,  
                                CHARACTER*(*) stdname)
```

Define the standard name of a Variable

### `vlistDefVarUnits`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDefVarUnits(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

Define the units of a Variable

### `vlistDestroy`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistDestroy(INTEGER vlistID)
```

Destroy a variable list

### `vlistDuplicate`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistDuplicate(INTEGER vlistID)
```

Duplicate a variable list

### `vlistInqTaxis`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqTaxis(INTEGER vlistID)
```

Get the time axis

### `vlistInqVarCode`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarCode(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

Get the Code number of a Variable

### `vlistInqVarDatatype`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarDatatype(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

Get the data type of a Variable

### `vlistInqVarGrid`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarGrid(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

Get the Grid ID of a Variable

### `vlistInqVarLongname`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistInqVarLongname(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID,  
                                CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

Get the longname of a Variable

### `vlistInqVarMissval`

```
REAL*8 FUNCTION vlistInqVarMissval(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

Get the missing value of a Variable

### `vlistInqVarName`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistInqVarName(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

Get the name of a Variable

### `vlistInqVarStdname`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistInqVarStdname(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID,  
                                CHARACTER*(*) stdname)
```

Get the standard name of a Variable

### `vlistInqVarTsteptype`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarTsteptype(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

Get the timestep type of a Variable

## `vlistInqVarUnits`

```
SUBROUTINE vlistInqVarUnits(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

Get the units of a Variable

## `vlistInqVarZaxis`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistInqVarZaxis(INTEGER vlistID, INTEGER varID)
```

Get the Zaxis ID of a Variable

## `vlistNgrids`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistNgrids(INTEGER vlistID)
```

Number of grids in a variable list

## `vlistNvars`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistNvars(INTEGER vlistID)
```

Number of variables in a variable list

## `vlistNzaxis`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION vlistNzaxis(INTEGER vlistID)
```

Number of zaxis in a variable list

## `zaxisCreate`

```
INTEGER FUNCTION zaxisCreate(INTEGER zaxistype, INTEGER size)
```

Create a vertical Z-axis

## `zaxisDefLevels`

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDefLevels(INTEGER zaxisID, REAL*8 levels)
```

Define the levels of a Z-axis

## `zaxisDefLongname`

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDefLongname(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

Define the longname of a Z-axis

### zaxisDefName

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDefName(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

Define the name of a Z-axis

### zaxisDefUnits

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDefUnits(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

Define the units of a Z-axis

### zaxisDestroy

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisDestroy(INTEGER zaxisID)
```

Destroy a vertical Z-axis

### zaxisInqLevel

```
REAL*8 FUNCTION zaxisInqLevel(INTEGER zaxisID, INTEGER levelID)
```

Get one level of a Z-axis

### zaxisInqLevels

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisInqLevels(INTEGER zaxisID, REAL*8 levels)
```

Get all levels of a Z-axis

### zaxisInqLongname

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisInqLongname(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) longname)
```

Get the longname of a Z-axis

### zaxisInqName

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisInqName(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) name)
```

Get the name of a Z-axis

### zaxisInqSize

```
INTEGER FUNCTION zaxisInqSize(INTEGER zaxisID)
```

Get the size of a Z-axis

## **zaxisInqType**

```
INTEGER FUNCTION zaxisInqType(INTEGER zaxisID)
```

Get the type of a Z-axis

## **zaxisInqUnits**

```
SUBROUTINE zaxisInqUnits(INTEGER zaxisID, CHARACTER*(*) units)
```

Get the units of a Z-axis

## B. Examples

This appendix contains complete examples to write, read and copy a dataset with the **CDI** library.

### B.1. Write a dataset

Here is an example using **CDI** to write a NetCDF dataset with 2 variables on 3 time steps. The first variable is a 2D field on surface level and the second variable is a 3D field on 5 pressure levels. Both variables are on the same lon/lat grid.

```
1  ,PROGRAM CDIWRITE

    IMPLICIT NONE

5  INCLUDE 'cdi.inc'

    INTEGER nlon, nlat
    INTEGER nlev, nts
    PARAMETER (nlon = 12) ! Number of longitudes
    PARAMETER (nlat = 6) ! Number of latitudes
    PARAMETER (nlev = 5) ! Number of levels
    PARAMETER (nts = 3) ! Number of time steps

    INTEGER gridID, zaxisID1, zaxisID2, taxisID
    INTEGER vlistID, varID1, varID2, streamID, tsID, i, status
    INTEGER nmiss
    REAL*8 lons(nlon), lats(nlat), levs(nlev)
    REAL*8 var1(nlon*nlat), var2(nlon*nlat*nlev)

20  DATA lons /0, 30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210, 240, 270, 300, 330/
    DATA lats /-75, -45, -15, 15, 45, 75/
    DATA levs /101300, 92500, 85000, 50000, 20000/

    nmiss = 0

25  ! Create a regular lon/lat grid
    gridID = gridCreate(GRID_LONLAT, nlon*nlat)
    CALL gridDefXsize(gridID, nlon)
    CALL gridDefYsize(gridID, nlat)
    CALL gridDefXvals(gridID, lons)
    CALL gridDefYvals(gridID, lats)

30  ! Create a surface level Z-axis
    zaxisID1 = zaxisCreate(ZAXIS_SURFACE, 1)

35  ! Create a pressure level Z-axis
    zaxisID2 = zaxisCreate(ZAXIS_PRESSURE, nlev)
    CALL zaxisDefLevels(zaxisID2, levs)

40  ! Create a variable list
    vlistID = vlistCreate()
```

```

!   Define the variables
varID1 = vlistDefVar(vlistID, gridID, zaxisID1, TIME_VARYING)
45 varID2 = vlistDefVar(vlistID, gridID, zaxisID2, TIME_VARYING)

!   Define the variable names
CALL vlistDefVarName(vlistID, varID1, "varname1")
CALL vlistDefVarName(vlistID, varID2, "varname2")
50

!   Create a Time axis
taxisID = taxisCreate(TAXIS_ABSOLUTE)

!   Assign the Time axis to the variable list
55 CALL vlistDefTaxis(vlistID, taxisID)

!   Create a dataset in netCDF format
streamID = streamOpenWrite("example.nc", CDI_FILETYPE_NC)
IF ( streamID < 0 ) THEN
60     WRITE(0,*) cdiStringError(streamID)
     STOP
END IF

!   Assign the variable list to the dataset
65 CALL streamDefVlist(streamID, vlistID)

!   Loop over the number of time steps
DO tsID = 0, nts-1
!   Set the verification date to 1985-01-01 + tsID
70 CALL taxisDefVdate(taxisID, 19850101+tsID)
!   Set the verification time to 12:00:00
CALL taxisDefVtime(taxisID, 120000)
!   Define the time step
status = streamDefTimestep(streamID, tsID)
75

!   Init var1 and var2
DO i = 1, nlon*nlat
    var1(i) = 1.1
END DO
80 DO i = 1, nlon*nlat*nlev
    var2(i) = 2.2
END DO

!   Write var1 and var2
85 CALL streamWriteVar(streamID, varID1, var1, nmiss)
CALL streamWriteVar(streamID, varID2, var2, nmiss)
END DO

!   Close the output stream
90 CALL streamClose(streamID)

!   Destroy the objects
CALL vlistDestroy(vlistID)
CALL taxisDestroy(taxisID)
95 CALL zaxisDestroy(zaxisID1)
CALL zaxisDestroy(zaxisID2)
CALL gridDestroy(gridID)

```

---

END

---

### B.1.1. Result

This is the `ncdump -h` output of the resulting NetCDF file `example.nc`.

```

1 netcdf example {
  dimensions:
    lon = 12 ;
    lat = 6 ;
    lev = 5 ;
6    time = UNLIMITED ; // (3 currently)
  variables :
    double lon(lon) ;
        lon:long_name = "longitude" ;
        lon:units = "degrees_east" ;
11    lon:standard_name = "longitude" ;
    double lat(lat) ;
        lat:long_name = "latitude" ;
        lat:units = "degrees_north" ;
        lat:standard_name = "latitude" ;
16    double lev(lev) ;
        lev:long_name = "pressure" ;
        lev:units = "Pa" ;
    double time(time) ;
        time:units = "day as %Y%m%d.%f" ;
21    float varname1(time, lat, lon) ;
    float varname2(time, lev, lat, lon) ;
  data:

    lon = 0, 30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210, 240, 270, 300, 330 ;
26    lat = -75, -45, -15, 15, 45, 75 ;

    lev = 101300, 92500, 85000, 50000, 20000 ;
31    time = 19850101.5, 19850102.5, 19850103.5 ;
}
```

## B.2. Read a dataset

This example reads the NetCDF file `example.nc` from [Appendix B.1](#).

```

PROGRAM CDIREAD

3  IMPLICIT NONE

    INCLUDE 'cdi.inc'

    INTEGER nlon, nlat
8    INTEGER nlev, nts
    PARAMETER (nlon = 12) ! Number of longitudes
    PARAMETER (nlat = 6) ! Number of latitudes
    PARAMETER (nlev = 5) ! Number of levels
    PARAMETER (nts = 3) ! Number of time steps
13
```



```

INTEGER gridID, zaxisID1, zaxisID2, taxisID
INTEGER vlistID, varID1, varID2, streamID, tsID
INTEGER status, vdate, vtime
INTEGER nmiss
18 REAL*8 var1(nlon*nlat), var2(nlon*nlat*nlev)

!   Open the dataset
streamID = streamOpenRead("example.nc")
IF ( streamID < 0 ) THEN
23     WRITE(0,*) cdiStringError(streamID)
     STOP
END IF

!   Get the variable list of the dataset
28 vlistID = streamInqVlist(streamID)

!   Set the variable IDs
varID1 = 0
varID2 = 1
33

!   Get the Time axis from the variable list
taxisID = vlistInqTaxis(vlistID)

!   Loop over the number of time steps
38 DO tsID = 0, nts-1
!     Inquire the time step
     status = streamInqTimestep(streamID, tsID)

!     Get the verification date and time
43 vdate = taxisInqVdate(taxisID)
vtime = taxisInqVtime(taxisID)
     WRITE(0, *) "read_timestep_", tsID+1, "date=", vdate, "time=", vtime

48 !     Read var1 and var2
     CALL streamReadVar(streamID, varID1, var1, nmiss)
     CALL streamReadVar(streamID, varID2, var2, nmiss)
END DO

53 !   Close the input stream
CALL streamClose(streamID)

END

```

### B.3. Copy a dataset

This example reads the NetCDF file `example.nc` from [Appendix B.1](#) and writes the result to a GRIB dataset by simple setting the output file type to `CDI_FILETYPE_GRB`.

```

PROGRAM CDICOPY

IMPLICIT NONE

4 INCLUDE 'cdi.inc'

INTEGER nlon, nlat, nlev, nts

```

```

9      PARAMETER (nlon = 12) ! Number of longitudes
PARAMETER (nlat = 6) ! Number of latitudes
PARAMETER (nlev = 5) ! Number of levels
PARAMETER (nts = 3) ! Number of time steps

INTEGER gridID, zaxisID1, zaxisID2, tsID
14 INTEGER vlistID1, vlistID2, varID1, varID2, streamID1, streamID2
INTEGER i, status
INTEGER nmiss
REAL*8 var1(nlon*nlat), var2(nlon*nlat*nlev)

19  !   Open the input dataset
streamID1 = streamOpenRead("example.nc")
IF ( streamID1 < 0 ) THEN
    WRITE(0,*) cdiStringError(streamID1)
    STOP
24 END IF

!   Get the variable list of the dataset
vlistID1 = streamInqVlist(streamID1)

29  !   Set the variable IDs
varID1 = 0
varID2 = 1

!   Open the output dataset (GRIB format)
34 streamID2 = streamOpenWrite("example.grb", CDI_FILETYPE_GRB)
IF ( streamID2 < 0 ) THEN
    WRITE(0,*) cdiStringError(streamID2)
    STOP
END IF

39 vlistID2 = vlistDuplicate(vlistID1)

CALL streamDefVlist(streamID2, vlistID2)

44  !   Loop over the number of time steps
DO tsID = 0, nts-1
    !   Inquire the input time step */
    status = streamInqTimestep(streamID1, tsID)

49  !   Define the output time step
    status = streamDefTimestep(streamID2, tsID)

    !   Read var1 and var2
    CALL streamReadVar(streamID1, varID1, var1, nmiss)
54 CALL streamReadVar(streamID1, varID2, var2, nmiss)

    !   Write var1 and var2
    CALL streamWriteVar(streamID2, varID1, var1, nmiss)
    CALL streamWriteVar(streamID2, varID2, var2, nmiss)
59 END DO

!   Close the streams
CALL streamClose(streamID1)
CALL streamClose(streamID2)
64

```

END

## B.4. Fortran 2003: mo\_cdi and iso\_c\_binding

This is the Fortran 2003 version of the reading and writing examples above. The main difference to `cfortran.h` is the character handling. Here `CHARACTER(type=c_char)` is used instead of `CHARACTER`. Additionally plain fortran characters and character variables have to be converted to C characters by

- appending `'\0'` with `//C_NULL_CHAR`
- prepending `C_CHAR_` to plain characters
- take `ctrim` from `mo_cdi` for `CHARACTER(type=c_char)` variables

```

PROGRAM CDIREADF2003
  use iso_c_binding
  use mo_cdi

5  IMPLICIT NONE

  INTEGER(c_size_t) :: gsize, nmiss
  INTEGER :: nlevel, nvars, code
  INTEGER :: vdate, vtime, status, ilev
10  INTEGER :: streamID, varID, gridID, zaxisID
  INTEGER :: tsID, vlistID, taxisID
  DOUBLE PRECISION, ALLOCATABLE :: field(:, :)
  CHARACTER(kind=c_char), POINTER, DIMENSION(:) :: &
    msg, cdi_version
15  CHARACTER(kind=c_char, LEN = cdi_max_name + 1) :: &
    name, longname, units
  INTEGER :: name_c_len, longname_c_len, units_c_len

  cdi_version => cdiLibraryVersion()

20  WRITE (0, '(a,132a)') 'cdi_version: ', cdi_version

  ! Open the dataset
  streamID = streamOpenRead(C_CHAR_"example.nc"//C_NULL_CHAR)
25  IF ( streamID < 0 ) THEN
    PRINT *, 'Could not read the file.'
    msg => cdiStringError(streamID)
    WRITE(0, '(132a)') msg
    STOP 1
30  END IF

  ! Get the variable list of the dataset
  vlistID = streamInqVlist(streamID)

35  nvars = vlistNvars(vlistID)

  DO varID = 0, nvars-1
    code = vlistInqVarCode(vlistID, varID)
    CALL vlistInqVarName(vlistID, varID, name)
    CALL vlistInqVarLongname(vlistID, varID, longname)
40    CALL vlistInqVarUnits(vlistID, varID, units)

```

```

45      ! CALL ctrim(name)
      ! CALL ctrim(longname)
      ! CALL ctrim(units)

      longname_c_len = c_len(longname)
      name_c_len = c_len(name)
      units_c_len = c_len(units)
50      PRINT '(a,2(i0,a),132a)', 'Parameter:┘', varID+1, '┘', code, '┘', &
         name(1:name_c_len), '┘', longname(1:longname_c_len), '┘', &
         units(1: units_c_len ), '┘|'

      END DO

55      ! Get the Time axis form the variable list
      taxisID = vlistInqTaxis(vlistID)

      ! Loop over the time steps
60      DO tsID = 0, 999999
         ! Read the time step
         status = streamInqTimestep(streamID, tsID)
         IF ( status == 0 ) exit

65         ! Get the verification date and time
         vdate = taxisInqVdate(taxisID)
         vtime = taxisInqVtime(taxisID)

         PRINT '(a,i3,i10,i10)', 'Timestep:┘', tsID+1, vdate, vtime

70         ! Read the variables at the current timestep
         DO varID = 0, nvars-1
            gridID = vlistInqVarGrid(vlistID, varID)
            gsize = gridInqSize(gridID)
75            zaxisID = vlistInqVarZaxis(vlistID, varID)
            nlevel = zaxisInqSize(zaxisID)
            ALLOCATE(field(gsize, nlevel))
            CALL streamReadVar(streamID, varID, field, nmiss)
            DO ilev = 1, nlevel
80                PRINT '(a,i3,a,i3,a,f10.5,1x,f10.5)', '┘┘┘var=', varID+1, &
                   '┘level=', ilev, '┘:', &
                   MINVAL(field(:,ilev)), MAXVAL(field(:,ilev))
            END DO
            DEALLOCATE(field)
85        END DO
      END DO

      ! Close the input stream
      CALL streamClose(streamID)
90      END PROGRAM CDIREADF2003

```

#### PROGRAM CDIWRITEF2003

```

4      USE iso_c_binding
      USE mo_cdi

```

```

      IMPLICIT NONE

```

```

9      INTEGER :: nlev, nts
      INTEGER(c_size_t) :: nlon, nlat, nmiss
      PARAMETER (nlon = 12) ! Number of longitudes
      PARAMETER (nlat = 6) ! Number of latitudes
      PARAMETER (nlev = 5) ! Number of levels
      PARAMETER (nts = 3) ! Number of time steps

14
      INTEGER gridID, zaxisID1, zaxisID2, taxisID
      INTEGER vlistID, varID1, varID2, streamID, tsID
      INTEGER i, status
      DOUBLE PRECISION lons(nlon), lats(nlat), levs(nlev)
19      DOUBLE PRECISION var1(nlon*nlat), var2(nlon*nlat*nlev)
      CHARACTER(len=256, kind=c_char) :: varname
      CHARACTER(kind=c_char,len=1), POINTER :: msg(:)

24      DATA lons /0, 30, 60, 90, 120, 150, 180, 210, 240, 270, 300, 330/
      DATA lats /-75, -45, -15, 15, 45, 75/
      DATA levs /101300, 92500, 85000, 50000, 20000/

      nmiss = 0

29      ! Create a regular lon/lat grid
      gridID = gridCreate(GRID_LONLAT, nlon*nlat)
      CALL gridDefXsize(gridID, nlon)
      CALL gridDefYsize(gridID, nlat)
      CALL gridDefXvals(gridID, lons)
34      CALL gridDefYvals(gridID, lats)

      ! Create a surface level Z-axis
      zaxisID1 = zaxisCreate(ZAXIS_SURFACE, 1)

39      ! Create a pressure level Z-axis
      zaxisID2 = zaxisCreate(ZAXIS_PRESSURE, nlev)
      CALL zaxisDefLevels(zaxisID2, levs)

      ! Create a variable list
44      vlistID = vlistCreate()

      ! Define the variables
      varID1 = vlistDefVar(vlistID, gridID, zaxisID1, TIME_VARYING)
      varID2 = vlistDefVar(vlistID, gridID, zaxisID2, TIME_VARYING)
49

      ! Define the variable names
      varname = "varname1" // c_null_char
      CALL vlistDefVarName(vlistID, varID1, varname)
      CALL vlistDefVarName(vlistID, varID2, C_CHAR_"varname2"//C_NULL_CHAR)
54

      ! Create a Time axis
      taxisID = taxisCreate(TAXIS_ABSOLUTE)

      ! Assign the Time axis to the variable list
59      CALL vlistDefTaxis(vlistID, taxisID)

      ! Create a dataset in netCDF format
      streamID = streamOpenWrite(C_CHAR_"example.nc"//C_NULL_CHAR, CDI_FILETYPE_NC)
      IF ( streamID < 0 ) THEN

```

```

64      msg => cdiStringError(streamID)
      WRITE(0,'(132a)') msg
      STOP 1
      END IF

69      !      Assign the variable list to the dataset
      CALL streamDefVlist(streamID, vlistID)

      !      Loop over the number of time steps
      DO tsID = 0, nts-1
74      !      Set the verification date to 1985-01-01 + tsID
      CALL taxisDefVdate(taxisID, INT(19850101+tsID,8))
      !      Set the verification time to 12:00:00
      CALL taxisDefVtime(taxisID, 120000)
      !      Define the time step
79      status = streamDefTimestep(streamID, tsID)

      !      Init var1 and var2
      DO i = 1, nlon*nlat
          var1(i) = 1.1
84      END DO
      DO i = 1, nlon*nlat*nlev
          var2(i) = 2.2
      END DO

89      !      Write var1 and var2
      CALL streamWriteVar(streamID, varID1, var1, nmiss)
      CALL streamWriteVar(streamID, varID2, var2, nmiss)
      END DO

94      !      Close the output stream
      CALL streamClose(streamID)

      !      Destroy the objects
      CALL vlistDestroy(vlistID)
99      CALL taxisDestroy(taxisID)
      CALL zaxisDestroy(zaxisID1)
      CALL zaxisDestroy(zaxisID2)
      CALL gridDestroy(gridID)

104     END PROGRAM CDIWRITEF2003

```

## C. Environment Variables

The following table describes the environment variables that affect **CDI**.

Variable name	Default	Description
CDI_INVENTORY_MODE	None	Set to time to skip double variable entries.
CDI_VERSION_INFO	1	Set to 0 to disable NetCDF global attribute CDI.

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