

load_time_histmth

May 14, 2021

1 Investigating Iris load time for loading a single variable from a NetCDF multi-variable file

1.1 We mean 300 variables

```
[15]: import iris
import time
import cProfile, io, pstats
import os

[17]: from IPython.core.display import display, HTML
display(HTML("<style>.container { width:100% !important; }</style>"))

<IPython.core.display.HTML object>

[2]: ddir  = "../histmth_data"

# a file of size 260 Mo and with ~ 300 variables covering a period of one month
# Format is NetCDF4 classic
dhist = ddir+"/CM61-LR-hist-03.1950_20000101_20000131_1M_histmth.nc"

# a single variable file of size 100 Mo and covering a period of 164 years
dts   = ddir+"/CM61-LR-hist-03.1950_18500101_20141231_1M_t2m.nc"
```

1.2 A helper function for timing

```
[3]: def testit(file,func,constraints) :
    # Call FUNC on FILE with arg CONSTRAINTS and print execution time
    tim1 = time.time()
    lc=func(file,constraints)
    duration = time.time() - tim1
    print(file.split('_')[-1], func.__name__, "% .2g s" %duration, constraints)
```

1.3 Load time is quite small for a single variable file, whatever the load function version

```
[6]: testit(dts,func=iris.load,constraints=None)
```

```
t2m.nc load 0.083 s None  
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-  
packages/iris/fileformats/cf.py:374: UserWarning: Missing CF-netCDF boundary  
variable 'time_counter_bounds', referenced by netCDF variable 'time_counter'  
warnings.warn(message % (name, nc_var_name))
```

```
[7]: testit(dts,func=iris.load,constraints=iris.NameConstraint(var_name='t2m'))
```

```
t2m.nc load 0.083 s NameConstraint(var_name='t2m')  
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-  
packages/iris/fileformats/cf.py:374: UserWarning: Missing CF-netCDF boundary  
variable 'time_counter_bounds', referenced by netCDF variable 'time_counter'  
warnings.warn(message % (name, nc_var_name))
```

```
[8]: testit(dts,func=iris.load_raw,constraints=iris.NameConstraint(var_name='t2m'))
```

```
t2m.nc load_raw 0.079 s NameConstraint(var_name='t2m')  
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-  
packages/iris/fileformats/cf.py:374: UserWarning: Missing CF-netCDF boundary  
variable 'time_counter_bounds', referenced by netCDF variable 'time_counter'  
warnings.warn(message % (name, nc_var_name))
```

1.4 Load time is very large on the multi-variable file : ~ 100s

```
[9]: testit(dhist,func=iris.load,constraints=iris.NameConstraint(var_name='t2m'))
```

```
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-  
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:  
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'epmax' invalid units 'su'  
warnings.warn(msg)  
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-  
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:  
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'sza' invalid units 'deg'  
warnings.warn(msg)  
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-  
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:  
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'R_incl' invalid units 'deg'  
warnings.warn(msg)  
  
histmth.nc load 99 s NameConstraint(var_name='t2m')
```

```
[10]: testit(dhist,func=iris.load_raw, constraints=iris.
           ↪NameConstraint(var_name='t2m'))
```

```
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'epmax' invalid units 'su'
    warnings.warn(msg)
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'sza' invalid units 'deg'
    warnings.warn(msg)
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'R_incl' invalid units 'deg'
    warnings.warn(msg)

histmth.nc load_raw 99 s NameConstraint(var_name='t2m')
```

```
[11]: testit(dhist,func=iris.load_cube, constraints=iris.
           ↪NameConstraint(var_name='t2m'))
```

```
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'epmax' invalid units 'su'
    warnings.warn(msg)
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'sza' invalid units 'deg'
    warnings.warn(msg)
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'R_incl' invalid units 'deg'
    warnings.warn(msg)

histmth.nc load_cube 99 s NameConstraint(var_name='t2m')
```

1.5 Another tool takes much less time, even when including writing data to disk

```
[31]: tim1 = time.time()
os.system("cdo -selvar,t2m "+dhist+" tmp.nc")
iris.load("tmp.nc")
duration = time.time() - tim1
print( "same with cdo", "%.2g s"%duration)
```

same with cdo 0.71 s

1.6 Profiling the execution shows that NetCDFDataProxy.__getitem__ is the main time consuming function

```
[29]: pr = cProfile.Profile()
pr.enable()
iris.load(dhist,constraints=iris.NameConstraint(var_name='t2m'))
s = io.StringIO()
ps = pstats.Stats(pr, stream=s).sort_stats('cumulative')
ps.print_stats()
# Just un-comment next line to get the profile on stdout
a=s.getvalue()
for line in a.splitlines()[0:25] :
    print(line)
```

```
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'epmax' invalid units 'su'
    warnings.warn(msg)
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'sza' invalid units 'deg'
    warnings.warn(msg)
/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-dev/lib/python3.9/site-
packages/iris/fileformats/_pyke_rules/compiled_krb/fc_rules_cf_fc.py:2206:
UserWarning: Ignoring netCDF variable 'R_incl' invalid units 'deg'
    warnings.warn(msg)

4771193 function calls (4757624 primitive calls) in 103.197 seconds
```

Ordered by: cumulative time

ncalls	tottime	percall	cumtime	percall	filename:lineno(function)
3	0.000	0.000	103.202	34.401	/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool- dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/IPython/core/interactiveshell.py:3396(run_code)
4/3	0.000	0.000	103.202	34.401	{built-in method builtins.exec}
1	0.000	0.000	103.202	103.202	<ipython- input-29-3dd963c4780d>:3(<module>)
1	0.000	0.000	103.202	103.202	/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool- dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/__init__.py:279(load)
1	0.000	0.000	103.198	103.198	/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool- dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/__init__.py:268(_load_collection)
1	0.008	0.008	103.198	103.198	/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool- dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/cube.py:107(from_cubes)
315	0.001	0.000	103.173	0.328	/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool- dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/__init__.py:245(_generate_cubes)
315	0.002	0.000	103.173	0.328	/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool- dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/io/__init__.py:175(load_files)
315	0.003	0.000	103.140	0.327	/data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-

```
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/fileformats/netcdf.py:774(load_cubes)
    314    0.014    0.000  102.007    0.325 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/fileformats/netcdf.py:587(_load_cube)
    314    0.005    0.000   95.462    0.304 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/fileformats/netcdf.py:565(_get_cf_var_data)
    314    0.005    0.000   94.997    0.303 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/_lazy_data.py:150(as_lazy_data)
    314    0.010    0.000   94.894    0.302 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/dask/array/core.py:2934(from_array)
    314    0.013    0.000   94.688    0.302 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/dask/array/core.py:1121(__new__)
    628    0.013    0.000   94.600    0.151 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/dask/array/utils.py:32(meta_from_array)
    314   90.717    0.289   94.547    0.301 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/iris/fileformats/netcdf.py:434(__getitem__)
    314    0.001    0.000    6.171    0.020 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/pyke/knowledge_engine.py:291(activate)
    314    0.002    0.000    6.169    0.020 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/pyke/rule_base.py:151(activate)
    314    0.015    0.000    5.986    0.019 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/pyke/rule_base.py:144(run_fc_rules)
  19468    0.044    0.000    5.971    0.000 /data/ssenesi/conda/esmvaltool-
dev/lib/python3.9/site-packages/pyke/fc_rule.py:88(run)
```

[]: