

European Digital Twin Ocean

NCZarr Viewer

Exploring and Subsetting Zarr & NetCDF

Data

2 Sept 2025

Samuel Fooks — VLIZ









NCZarr Viewer

- III Load and explore NetCDF and Zarr datasets
- **Q Browse variables** and dimensions through a simple interface
- X Subset data by time, space, and other dimensions visually
- Visualize results with interactive plots
- **Access cloud data** directly from S3 buckets
- Work with large datasets efficiently
- **Containerized** for easy deployment and sharing
- In EDITO Datalab!

Architecture Overview

- User Interface → Ø Dash App → Data Engine
- \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow
- 🖳 Web Browser 🔊 Python Core 📊 Xarray
- \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow
- 🕏 Interactive UI 🦴 Data Manager 🖿 NetCDF/Zarr

X Technology Stack

- Frontend: Dash + Bootstrap Components
- Data Processing: Xarray + NumPy
- File Formats: NetCDF4, Zarr
- Visualization: Plotly, Matplotlib, Cartopy
- Cloud Access: S3FS, FSSpec (cloud storage access)
- Marine Data: Copernicus Marine Toolbox integration

Quick Start

On EDITO

OR

```
# Use Docker
docker run -p 8050:8050 samfooks/nczarr-viewer:latest
```

OR

```
# Local development (if you have Python)
git clone [https://github.com/EDITO-Infra/nczarr-viewer)](https://github.com/EDITO-Infra/nczarr-viewer)
cd nczarr-viewer
pip install -r requirements.txt
python run.py
```

Access at: http://localhost:8050





Supported Data Sources

- ARCO data on EDITO: ARCO datasets from the EDITO STAC
- Personal Cloud Storage: Minio storage on EDITO
- Local Files: NetCDF, Zarr

Core Features

Data Exploration

- Variable Browser: See all variables, dimensions, and metadata
- Dimension Handling: Time, depth, latitude, longitude
- Data Subsetting: Interactive selection of regions and time periods

Visualization

- Interactive Maps: Cartopy-based geographic plots
- Time Series: Plotly charts for temporal data
- Statistical Analysis: Basic stats, and summaries

C Marine Data Examples

EDITO Integration

- Biodiversity: Species distribution data
- Chemistry: Water quality parameters
- Geology: Seafloor characteristics
- **STAC Access**: Browse collections and datasets

Copernicus Marine

- **Direct Access**: CMEMS credentials integration (you will need an account)
- Multiple Formats: NetCDF, Zarr (and others in future)
- Real-time Data: Latest ocean observations



Performance Features

- Chunked Processing: Handle datasets larger than memory
- Lazy Loading: Only load data when needed
- Cloud Optimization: Efficient S3 data access

Configuration & Deployment

Setup

To access CMEMS datasets you may need an account using Copernicus Marine Toolbox

```
# CMEMS credentials
CMEMS_USERNAME=your_username
CMEMS_PASSWORD=your_password
```

Docker Deployment

```
docker build -t nczarr-viewer .
docker run -p 8050:8050 nczarr-viewer
```

Subsetting ARCO Data: Core Concepts

Multidimensional Data Structure

ARCO Dataset Variables: temperature, salinity, oxygen, etc. Dimensions: time, depth, latitude, longitude Shape: (time: 365, depth: 50, lat: 1800, lon: 3600)

Subsetting Operations

- Variable: Pick specific parameters
- **Temporal**: Select specific dates
- **Spatial**: Choose latitude/longitude boundaries



Subsetting in Practice

Example: Extract Surface Temperature for North Sea

```
import xarray as xr
# Load ARCO dataset
ds = xr.open_zarr("s3://arco-data/ocean-temp.zarr")
# Variable: surface temperature
temp_surface = ds['temperature'].sel(depth=0)
# Temporal: August 30
august30_data = temp_surface.sel(
    time='2025-08-30'
# Spatial bounds: North Sea region
north_sea = august30_data.sel(
    latitude=slice(51.0, 61.0), # 51°N to 61°N
    longitude=slice(-5.0, 15.0) # 5°W to 15°E
```



Visual Representation

```
Original: 365×50×1800×3600

↓ Variable selection

Surface: 365×1×1800×3600

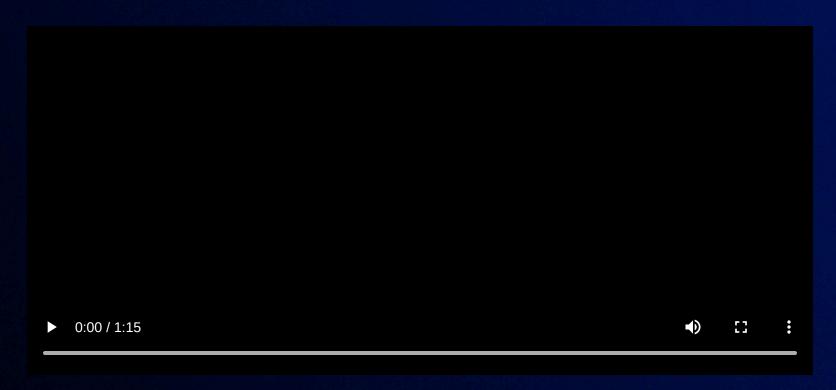
↓ Temporal subset

August 30, 2025: 1×1×1800×3600

↓ Spatial subset

North Sea region: 1×1×100×200
```

C Use the NCZarr Viewer locally or on EDITO



Video link

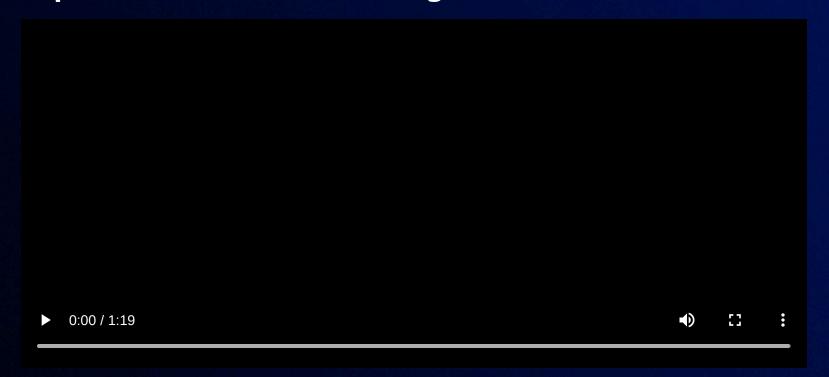
Explore a NetCDF from your Minio bucket on EDITO



Video link

C Live Demo Time!

Explore CMEMs dataset using zarr link from EDITO STAC



Video link

Future Developments

- More Interactive Visualization: More interactive global maps and plots
- Advanced Analytics: Statistical modeling tools/plugins
- New ARCO Data types: Parquet, Geoparquet
- Collaboration: Multi-user editing and sharing

C Thank You!

Samuel Fooks - samuel.fooks@vliz.be

GitHub: https://github.com/EDITO-Infra/nczarr-viewer

Docker Hub: samfooks/nczarr-viewer

Questions?