ARPS/ADAS NetCDF file conventions

(Version 1, September 22, 2004)

(Sample data is available on ftp.caps.ou.edu/pub/users/ywang/ anonymously.)

NOTE: To visualize using IDV, users are required to set the following flags in namelist block *&output* for ARPS run or ARPSCVT run.

- totflg = 1 (totout = 1 in arps.input or arpscvt.input)
- grdflg = 1 (grdout = 1 in *arps.input* or *arpscvt.input*)

Users are also required to add a ".nc" extension manually to all of the NetCDF files before visualizing it.

Part I. ARPS/ADAS history dumps

Dimensions:

Time : Unlimited dimension, = 1, at present. We may add an option to write multiple time levels inside one file later;

x: Size in west-east direction of the unstagered grid;

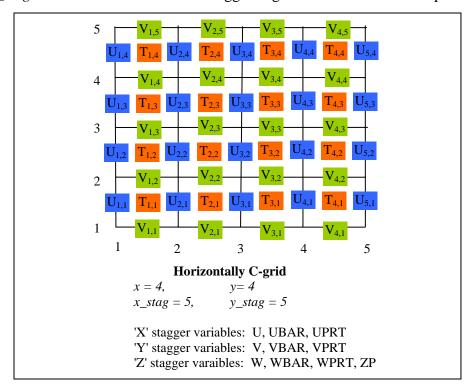
y : Size in north-south direction of the unstagered grid;

z : Size in bottom-top direction of the unstagered grid;

 x_stag : Size in X direction of the staggered grid which has one more point than x;

y stag: Size in Y direction of the staggered grid which has one more point than y;

z_stag: Size in Z direction of the staggered grid which has one more point than z;



```
zsoil : Number of soil layers;
nstyp: Number of soil types for each grid point;
nstyp_total: The fourth dimension size for variable tsoil, qsoil, wetcanp;
                               represents average of all the nstyp soil types
        nstyp\_total = 1
                               represents values for the 1<sup>st</sup> soil types (nstyp=1)
        nstyp\_total = 2
                               represents values for the 2^{nd} soil types (nstyp=2)
        nstyp\_total = 3
        ... etc.
```

Coordinate variables: (grid variables in ARPS)

Will be presented in the file

```
Time(Time):
                   float value, seconds since the model initial time
                   (See global attribute INITIAL_TIME)
```

Should be derived from the above variables

x(x):	(nx-1) middle points for the above nx staggered
	points in X direction;
y(y):	(ny-1) middle points for the above ny staggered
	points in Y direction;
z(z):	(nz-1) middle points for the above nz staggered
	points in Z direction;

Variables:

Time dependent files:

Note: Usually basflq == 0 for time dependent file. This means they will not appear in time dependent files.

```
float UBAR(z, y, x_stag) ;
          UBAR:long name = "Base state u-velocity" ;
            UBAR:units = "m/s";
UBAR:stagger = "X";
```

```
VBAR:units = "m/s";
                            VBAR:stagger = "Y" ;
                    float WBAR(z stag, y, x)
                            WBAR:long name = "Base state w-velocity";
                            WBAR:units = "m/s";
                            WBAR:stagger = "Z";
                    float PTBAR(z, y, x);
                            PTBAR: long name = "Base state potential temperature";
                            PTBAR:units = "K";
                            PTBAR:stagger = " " ;
                    float PBAR(z, y, x);
                            PBAR:long name = "Base state pressure" ;
                            PBAR:units = "Pa" ;
                            PBAR:stagger = " " ;
                   float QVBAR(z, y, x) ;
        QVBAR:long name = "Base state water vapor specific humidity" ;
          mstflg = 1
                            QVBAR:units = "kg/kg";
                            QVBAR: stagger = " ";
                    int SOILTYP(nstyp, y, x) ;
basflg = 1
                            SOILTYP:long name = "Soil type" ;
                            SOILTYP:units = "index";
                            SOILTYP:stagger = " ";
                    float STYPFRCT(nstyp, y, x) ;
                            STYPFRCT:long name = "Soil type fractional coverage";
                            STYPFRCT:units = "fraction";
                            STYPFRCT:stagger = " " ;
                    int VEGTYP(y, x);
                            VEGTYP:long name = "Vegetation type" ;
                            VEGTYP:units = "index" ;
                            VEGTYP:stagger = " " ;
          andflg = 1
                    float LAI(y, x);
                            LAI:long name = "Leaf Area Index";
                            LAI:units = "index";
                            LAI:stagger = " " ;
                    float ROUFNS(y, x);
                            ROUFNS:long name = "Surface roughness" ;
                            ROUFNS:units = "" ;
ROUFNS:stagger = " " ;
                    float VEG(y, x);
                            VEG:long name = "Vegetation fraction" ;
                            VEG:units = "fraction" ;
                            VEG:stagger = " " ;
              float U(Time, z, y, x_stag) ;
     U:long_name = "U-velocity" ;
                      U:units = "m/s";
                      U:stagger = "X" ;
              float V(Time, z, y stag, x) ;
                      V:long name = "V-velocity" ;
                      V:units = "m/s";
                      V:stagger = "Y" ;
              float W(Time, z\_stag, y, x);
                      W:long_name = "W-velocity" ;
 varflg = 1
                      W:units = "m/s";
                      W:stagger = "Z" ;
              float PT(Time, z, y, x);
                      PT:long name = "Potential temperature";
                      PT:units = "K"
                      PT:stagger = " ";
              float P(Time, z, y, x) ;
                      P:long_name = "Pressure" ;
                      P:units = "Pa" ;
                      P:stagger = " ";
```

```
float QV(Time, z, y, x) ;
        QV:long_name = "Water vapor specific humidity" ;
                                     QV:units = "kg/kg";
QV:stagger = " ";
float QC(Time, z, y, x);
    QC:long_name = "Cloud water mixing ratio";
QC:units = "kg/kg";
QC:stagger = " ";
float QR(Time, z, y, x);
    QR:long_name = "Rain water mixing ratio";
    QP:units = "kg/kg";
                                   QV:stagger = " ";
                                     QR:units = "kg/kg";
QR:stagger = " ";
                      float PRCRATE1(Time, y, x) ;
                                    PRCRATE1:long_name = "Total precipitation rate" ;
                                    PRCRATE1:units = "kg m-2 s-1";
                   float PRCRATE1:stagger = " ";
float PRCRATE2(Time, y, x);
    PRCRATE2:long_name = "Grid scale precipitation rate";
    PRCRATE2:units = "kg m-2 s-1";
    PRCRATE2:stagger = " " .
PRCRATE4:long_name = "Microphysics precipitation rate";
                       float QI(Time, z, y, x);
                                     QI:long_name = "Cloud ice mixing ratio" ;
                                    QI:units = "kg/kg";
QI:stagger = " ";
  OI:stagger = " ,
float QS(Time, z, y, x);
    QS:long_name = "Snow mixing ratio";
    QS:units = "kg/kg";
    QS:stagger = " ";
float QH(Time, z, y, x);
    QH:long_name = "Hail mixing ratio";
                                    QH:units = "kg/kg";
                                    QH:stagger = " " ;
                     float TKE(Time, z, y, x) ;
        TKE:long_name = "Turbulent Kinetic Energy" ;
        TKE:units = "m2 s-2" ;
        TKE:stagger = " " ;
   trbflg = 1 

float KMH(Time, z, y, x);

KMH:long_name = "Hori. turb. mixing coef. for momentum";

KMH:units = "m2 s-1";

KMH:stagger = " ";

float KMV(Time, z, y, x);

KMV:long_name = "Vert. turb. mixing coef. for momentum";

KMV:units = "m2 s-1";

KMV:stagger = " ";
                                    KMV:stagger = " " ;
```

```
float TSOIL(Time, nstyp total, zsoil, y, x) ;
          TSOIL:long name = "Soil temperature";
          TSOIL:units = "K"
          TSOIL:stagger = " ";
 float QSOIL(Time, nstyp_total, zsoil, y, x);
   QSOIL:long_name = "Soil moisture";
QSOIL:units = "K";
QSOIL:stagger = " ";
 float WETCANP(Time, nstyp_total, y, x);
     WETCANP:long_name = "Canopy water amount";
         WETCANP:units = "m"
          WETCANP:stagger = " " ;
       float SNOWDPTH(Time, y, x);
SNOWDPTH:long_name = "Snow depth";
SNOWDPTH:units = "m";
                 SNOWDPTH:stagger = " " ;
 RADFRC:units = "K/s";
         RADFRC:stagger = " " ;
float RADSW(Time, y, x);
  RADSW:long_name = "Solar radiation reaching the surface";
  RADSW:units = "W m-2";
RADSW:stagger = " ";
float RNFLX(Time, y, x) ;
 RNFLX:long_name = "Net radiation flux absorbed by surface";
RNFLX:units = "W m-2";
RNFLX:stagger = " ";
float RADSWNET(Time, y, x);
 RADSWNET:long_name = "Net solar radiation" ;
         RADSWNET:units = "W m-2";
          RADSWNET:stagger = " " ;
 float RADLWIN(Time, y, x);
          RADLWIN:long_name = "Incoming longwave radiation" ;
          RADLWIN:unit\overline{s} = "W m-2";
          RADLWIN:stagger = " " ;
 float USFLX(Time, y, x) ;
          USFLX:long name = "Surface flux of u-momentum" ;
          USFLX:units = "kg m-1 s-2";
         USFLX:stagger = " " ;
float VSFLX(Time, y, x) ;
VSFLX:long_name = "Surface flux of v-momentum";
VSFLX:units = "kg m-1 s-2";
VSFLX:stagger = " ";
float PTSFLX(Time, y, x);
PTSFLX:long_name = "Surface heat flux";
PTSFLX:units = "K kg m-1 s-2";
PTSFLX:stagger = " ";
float QVSFLX(Time, y, x);
         QVSFLX:long_name = "Surface moisture flux" ;
          QVSFLX:units = "kg m-2 s-1";
QVSFLX:stagger = " ";
```

Grid & base state file (time independent)

Note: Presented only for the ARPS system, IDV does not need to take care of it.

Usually basfig == 1 only for time independent file

```
float UBAR(z, y, x_stag) ;
                      UBAR:long_name = "Base state u-velocity" ;
                      UBAR:units = "m/s";
                      UBAR:stagger = "X"
             float VBAR(z, y_stag, x) ;
                      VBAR:long_name = "Base state v-velocity" ;
                      VBAR:units = "m/s";
                      VBAR:stagger = "Y" ;
             float WBAR(z stag, y, x);
                      WBAR:long name = "Base state w-velocity" ;
                      WBAR:units = "m/s";
                      WBAR:stagger = "Z";
             float PTBAR(z, y, x);
                      PTBAR: long name = "Base state potential temperature";
                      PTBAR:units = "K"
                      PTBAR:stagger = " " ;
             float PBAR(z, y, x);
                      PBAR:long name = "Base state pressure" ;
                      PBAR:units = "Pa";
                      PBAR:stagger = " "
                    float QVBAR(z, y, x) ;
   QVBAR:long_name = "Base state water vapor specific humidity" ;
                        \widetilde{QVBAR}:uni\widetilde{ts} = "kg/kg";
          mstflg = 1
                        QVBAR:stagger = " " ;
basflg =
                    int SOILTYP(nstyp, y, x);
                            SOILTYP:long name = "Soil type" ;
                            SOILTYP:units = "index";
                            SOILTYP:stagger = " " ;
                    float STYPFRCT(nstyp, y, x) ;
         STYPFRCT:long_name = "Soil type fractional coverage" ;
                            STYPFRCT:units = "fraction";
                            STYPFRCT:stagger = " " ;
                    int VEGTYP(y, x);
                            VEGTYP:long name = "Vegetation type" ;
                            VEGTYP:units = "index" ;
                            VEGTYP:stagger = " " ;
        landflg = 1
                    float LAI(y, x);
                            LAI:long name = "Leaf Area Index";
                            LAI:units = "index";
                            LAI:stagger = " " ;
                    float ROUFNS(y, x);
                            ROUFNS:long_name = "Surface roughness" ;
                            ROUFNS: unit\overline{s} = "";
                            ROUFNS:stagger = " " ;
                    float VEG(y, x);
                            VEG:long name = "Vegetation fraction" ;
                            VEG:units = "fraction" ;
                            VEG:stagger = " " ;
```

Global attributes:

```
:History = "Created from ARPS NetCDF API at 2004-09-07_13:28:44.976 -05";
  :FMTVER = "005.10 NetCDF 3.0 Coded Data";
  : PACKED = 0 ;
NOTE: May support packed data type later
  :RUNNAME = "adas25may1998";
  :nocmnt = 2 ;
  :cmnt01 = "ARPS 5.1" ;
  :cmnt02 = "Del City Storm Simulation" ;
  :DX = 32000.f;
  :DY = 32000.f
  :INITIAL TIME = "1998-05-25 00:00:00";
  :TSTOP = 7200.f
  :THISDMP = 3600.f;
  :MAPPROJ = 2;
                         NOTE: Map projection option.
                                 = 0, no map projection;
                                 = 1, North polar projection
                                                          (-1 South Pole);
                                 = 2, Northern Lambert projection (-2 Southern);
                                 = 3, Mercator projection.
  :SCLFCT = 1.f ;
                           Map scale factor (default is 1.0);
  :TRUELAT1 = 30.f;
                           1st true latitude of map projection;
  :TRUELAT2 = 60.f;
                           2nd true latitude of map projection (used only by mapproj = 2);
  :TRUELON = -100.f;
                           True longitude of map projection;
  :LATITUD = 38.f;
  :CTRLAT = 38.f;
                           Latitude of the model physical domain center (deg. N);
  :CTRLON = -98.f;
                           Longitude of the model physical domain center (deg. E).
  :XGRDORG = 0.f ;
  :YGRDORG = 0.f
  :UMOVE = 0.f;
  :VMOVE = 0.f
  :GRDFLG = 1;
  :BASFLG = 1 ;
  :VARFLG = 0 ;
  :MSTFLG = 1 ;
  :ICEFLG = 0 ;
  :TRBFLG = 0;
  :SFCFLG = 0;
  :RAINFLG = 0;
  :LANDFLG = 1 ;
  :TOTFLG = 1 ;
  :TKEFLG = 0;
  :PRCFLG = 1 ;
  :RADFLG = 1 ;
  :FLXFLG = 1 ;
  :SNOWFLG = 1 ;
```

:Title = "ARPS 5.1 grid & base (time independent) data" ;

<u>Note</u>: By default, ARPS always set totflag = 1. If totflag = 0 for special testing cases, some of the above variables will be substituted by their perturbations, i.e.

```
 uprt + ubar = u \qquad vprt + vbar = v  etc.  U \qquad -> UPRT; \qquad V \qquad -> VPRT; \qquad W \qquad -> WPRT; \\ PT \qquad -> PTPRT; \qquad P \qquad -> PPRT; \qquad QV \qquad -> QVPRT;
```

This will not occur in normal ARPS/ADAS runs.

Part II. ARPS Terrain data

Dimensions:

: Size in west-east direction of the unstagered grid; \boldsymbol{x} : Size in north-south direction of the unstagered grid;

Variables:

```
float HTERAIN(y, x) ;
        HTERAIN:long name = "Terrain height" ;
        HTERAIN:units = "m"
        HTERAIN:stagger = " " ;
```

Global attributes:

```
:Title = "ARPS 5.1 terrain data (ARPSTRN)";
:Conventions = "Unknow" ;
:History = "Created from ARPS NetCDF API at 2004-09-10_13:37:22.369 -05" ;
:FMTVER = "005.10 NetCDF 3.0 Terrain Data";
: PACKED = 0
:DX = 32000.f
:DY = 32000.f;
:MAPPROJ = 2;
:SCLFCT = 1.f;
:TRUELAT1 = 30.f
:TRUELAT2 = 60.f ;
:TRUELON = -100.f;
:CTRLAT = 38.f;
:CTRLON = -98.f;
```

NOTE: projection parameters are the same as above.

Part III. ARPS Soil variables

Dimensions:

```
: Size in west-east direction of the unstagered grid;
       : Size in north-south direction of the unstagered grid;
y
zsoil : Number of soil layers;
nstyp: Number of soil types for each grid point;
nstyp total: The fourth dimension size for variable tsoil, gsoil, wetcanp;
                               represents average of all the nstyp soil types
       nstyp\_total = 1
                               represents values for the 1^{st} soil types (nstyp=1)
       nstyp\_total = 2
                               represents values for the 2^{nd} soil types (nstyp=2)
       nstyp\_total = 3
       ... etc.
```

Variables:

Global attributes:

```
:Title = "ARPS 5.1 Soil data" ;
:History = "Created from ARPS NetCDF API at 2004-09-10 13:38:02.278 -05" ;
:FMTVER = "005.10 NetCDF 3.0 Soil Data";
: PACKED = 0 ;
:DX = 32000.f;
:DY = 32000.f;
:MAPPROJ = 2;
:SCLFCT = 1.f;
:TRUELAT1 = 30.f;
:TRUELAT2 = 60.f;
:TRUELON = -100.f;
:CTRLAT = 38.f;
:CTRLON = -98.f;
:ZPSOILFLG = 1 ;
:TSOILFLG = 1 ;
:QSOILFLG = 1 ;
:WCANPFLG = 1 ;
:SNOWDFLG = 1 ;
:STYPFLG = 1 ;
```

Part IV. ARPS surface characteristics data

Dimensions:

x : Size in west-east direction of the unstagered grid;
 y : Size in north-south direction of the unstagered grid;
 nstyp : Number of soil types for each grid point;

Variables:

```
stypflg = 1

fint SOILTYP(nstyp, y, x);
    SOILTYP:lunits = "soil type";
    SOILTYP:lunits = "index";
    SOILTYP:stagger = " ";
    float STYPFRCT(nstyp, y, x);
        STYPFRCT:long_name = "Soil type fractional coverage";
        STYPFRCT:stagger = " ";

vegTYP:long_name = "Vegetation type";
        VEGTYP:long_name = "Vegetation type";
        VEGTYP:long_name = "Leaf Area Index";
        LAI:long_name = "Leaf Area Index";
        LAI:stagger = " ";

float ROUFNS(y, x);
        ROUFNS:long_name = "Surface roughness";
        ROUFNS:units = "0-1";
        ROUFNS:units = "0-1";
        ROUFNS:stagger = " ";

vegflg = 1

float VEG(y, x);
        VEG:units = "fraction";
        VEG:units = "fraction";
        VEG:stagger = " ";

float NDVI(y, x);
        NDVI:long_name = "Normalized differential vegetation index";
        NDVI:units = "index";
        NDVI:stagger = " ";
```

Global attributes:

```
:Title = "ARPS 5.1 surface characteristics data (ARPSSFC)";
:History = "created from ARPS NetCDF API at 2004-09-10_13:42:15.073 -05";
:FMTVER = "005.10 NetCDF 3.0 Surface Data";
:PACKED = 0;
:DX = 32000.f;
:DY = 32000.f;
:MAPPROJ = 2;
:SCLFCT = 1.f;
:TRUELAT1 = 30.f;
:TRUELAT2 = 60.f;
:TRUELON = -100.f;
```

```
:CTRLAT = 38.f;
:CTRLON = -98.f;
:STYPFLG = 1;
:VTYPFLG = 1;
:LAIFLG = 1;
:RFNSFLG = 1;
:VEGFLG = 1;
```

Part V. ARPS external boundary data

Dimensions:

Time: Unlimited dimension, = 1, at present. We may add an option to write multiple time levels inside one file later;
x: Size in west-east direction of the unstagered grid;
y: Size in north-south direction of the unstagered grid;
z: Size in bottom-top direction of the unstagered grid;
x_stag: Size in X direction of the staggered grid which has one more point than x;
y_stag: Size in Y direction of the staggered grid which has one more point than y;
z_stag: Size in Z direction of the staggered grid which has one more point than z;
CtimeStrLen: Times is a character string in this file

Variables:

Global attributes:

```
:Title = "ARPS 5.1 surface characteristics data (ARPSSFC)";
:History = "Created from ARPS NetCDF API at 2004-09-10 13:42:15.073 -05" ;
:FMTVER = "005.10 NetCDF 3.0 Surface Data";
: PACKED = 0 ;
:DX = 32000.f
:DY = 32000.f;
:MAPPROJ = 2;
:SCLFCT = 1.f;
:TRUELAT1 = 30.f;
:TRUELAT2 = 60.f;
:TRUELON = -100.f;
:STRHOPT = 2 ;
:MAPPROJ = 2;
:SCLFCT = 1.f;
:TRUELAT1 = 30.f;
:TRUELAT2 = 60.f;
:TRUELON = -100.f;
:CTRLAT = 38.f;
:CTRLON = -98.f;
:UBCFLG = 1 ;
:VBCFLG = 1;
:WBCFLG = 1 ;
:PTBCFLG = 1 ;
:PRBCFLG = 1 ;
:QVBCFLG = 1 ;
: OCBCFLG = 0;
:QRBCFLG = 0;
:QIBCFLG = 0 ;
:QSBCFLG = 0;
:QHBCFLG = 0;
```