

Ocean Data Interoperability Platform

Deliverable D5.8: Common ODIP standards submitted to the IODE Ocean Data Standards (ODS) process

Workpackage	WP5	Dissemination and Promotion
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Doc Id	ODIP_D5.8_Standards_ODS	
Dissemination Level	PUBLIC	
Issue	1.0	
Date	15 October 2015	





Document History				
Version	Author(s)	Status	Date	Comments
0.1	Sissy Iona	DRAFT	15 October 2015	Draft version
0.2	Helen Glaves	DRAFT	15 October 2015	Editing
1.0	Helen Glaves	FINAL	17 October 2015	Final edits and sign-off





Contents

1	Introduction	4		
2	Submitted proposal	4		
	Review Process			
ANN	IEX A Terminology	6		
ANN	ANNEX B Proposaldocumentation7			



1 Introduction

The Ocean Data Interoperability Platform (ODIP) project aims to create an EU/USA/Australia/IOC-IODE coordination platform which supports and promotes activities to establish interoperability between the regional ocean and marine data management infrastructures and also with the relevant global systems e.g. ODP, POGO, GEOSS etc. To demonstrate this coordination several joint prototype interoperability solutions are being developed that ensure persistent availability and effective sharing of data across scientific domains, organisations and national boundaries.

The dialogue between key representatives from the European, US and Australian ocean and marine data management communities is taking place via regular joint ODIP workshops where the project partners and other invited experts review and compare existing marine data standards in order to identify major differences between them, and propose how to overcome these through the development of interoperability solutions and/or the adoption of common standards.

As part of this strategy, several standards and best practices have been adopted by ODIP for wider implementation by regional infrastructures. The experts participating in ODIP, in partnership with the SeaDataNet project, have identified the NetCDF (CF) data transport format for submission to the IODE/JCOMM Ocean Standard and Best Practices (ODSBP) Project. The "SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) data transport model for marine and oceanographic datasets" has been developed by the Technical Task Team of the SeaDataNet project and discussed further during the ODIP workshops. This standard has now been submitted as a joint proposal to the ODSBP for acceptance as a global standard by the wider ocean and marine community.

The ODSBP Project is a continuation of the Ocean Data Standards Prilot Project (ODS), established and implemented jointly between JCOMM and IODE. The ODSBP project was established by IODE-XXII (2013) through Recommendation IODE-XXII.6

This deliverable is documents the submission of the NetCDF (CF) data exchange format to the ODS process.

2 Submitted proposal

In May 2015, a proposal for "SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) data format "was submitted jointly by ODIP and the FP7/EU "Pan European Infrastructure for Ocean & Marine Data Management (SeaDataNet)" Projects to the IODE/JCOMM Ocean Standard and Best Practices (ODSBP) Project. The aim of this proposal was to make the SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) data transport model the accepted and acknowledged regional (i.e. European) standard for sharing marine and oceanographic datasets.

The proposal is currently under review (http://www.oceandatastandards.org/submitted-proposals-mainmenu-49) and when complete acknowledgment of this SeaDataNet/ODIP standard by IODE/JCOMM will further promote common data management practices and interoperability across the marine and oceanographic community



3 Review Process

In line with the stated procedure, the proposal was submitted to the IOC Project Office for IODE (IODE-PO) (<u>p.pissierssens@unesco.org</u>) for the initiation of the review. The process is overseen by the Project Steering Group and includes the following steps:

- **Step 1 Proposal submission:** Proposals are prepared in a standard template and submitted to the IODE-PO
- **Step 2 Internal review:** Steering Group conducts a review of the fitness of the proposal and responds in 15 days
- **Step 3 Expert review:** Expert team conducts a technical review of the fitness of the proposal and responds within 3 months
- **Step 4 Community review:** The review is open to the community to determine the fitness of the proposal and responds within 3 months
- **Step 5 Recommended:** The proposal is recommended for wide use

More detailed information on this process can be found at: http://www.oceandatastandards.org/the-standards-process-mainmenu-50, Ocean Data Standards and Best Practices Review Process (2012 revision)





Annex Terminology

Term	Definition
GEOSS	Global Earth Observation System of Systems: international initiative linking together existing and planned observing systems around the world
	http://www.earthobservations.org/geoss.php
JCOMM	WMO-IOC Joint Technical Commission for Oceanography and Marine Meteorology
IOC	Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission of UNESCO (IOC/UNESCO).
IODE	International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (part of IOC)
ODP	Ocean Data Portal: data discovery and access service, part of the IODE network
POGO	The Partnership for Observation of the Global Oceans: a forum created by the major oceanographic institutions around the world to promote global oceanography.
	http://www.ocean-partners.org/
SeaDataNet	EU-funded project developing and operating a pan-European infrastructure for ocean data management





Annex B Proposal documentation

SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) data transport model for Marine and Oceanographic Datasets

A joint proposal by SeaDataNet and ODIP projects

May 2015

Document type: Standard

Current status: Proposal

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<u>Title:</u> SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) data transport model for Marine and Oceanographic Datasets- A joint Proposal by SeaDataNet and ODIP projects.

Scope: Proposal to acknowledge SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) data transport format, a profile of CF 1.6, as a standard for processing and sharing data files. Particularly, this proposal aims to promote SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) as a regional (i.e. European) standard.

SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) has been based upon Version 1.6 of the CF Metadata Conventions, published by the CF community in December 2011 and published as data transport format by SeaDataNet, the leading infrastructure in Europe for marine & ocean data management. The format for profiles, time series and trajectories has been defined by bringing together a community comprising NetCDF and CF experts (such as from NCAR and UNIDATA), and many users of CF NetCDF for oceanographic point data from MyOcean, IMOS, Australian Navy and USNODC.

The acknowledgement of SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) as a standard data model by IODE/JCOMM will further favour interoperability and data management in the Marine and Oceanographic community.

Envisaged publication type: The proposal target audience includes all the European bodies, programs, and projects that manage and exchange marine and oceanographic data. Besides, the proposed document informs all the international community dealing with marine and oceanographic data about the SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) data transport model.

Purpose and Justification: Provide details based wherever practicable.

1. <u>Describe the specific aims and reason for this Proposal, with particular emphasis on the aspects of standardization covered, the problems it is expected to solve or the difficulties it is intended to overcome.</u>

By acknowledging SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) as a standard data transport model for Marine and Oceanographic datasets, multiple objectives are sought:

- Wider adoption of SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) by additional marine data centres around European waters. The process will favour further harmonisation and standardisation of European ocean and marine CF metadata as well as interoperability by reducing the existing metadata heterogeneity. Organizations adopting this standard will be able to share their datasets according to a well-known and well specified marine data file format model, therefore the data management and exchange of marine and oceanographic information will be eased in many ways (see following point 2).
- Ease interoperability and outreach towards international communities and initiatives.
 The existence of a recognized standard at European level will favour its understanding also at a broader level.
 - Example given, international marine and oceanographic communities will be able to correctly understand the information carried by SeaDataNet NetCDF(CF) model
- 2. <u>Describe how this proposed standard supports data management, exchange or interoperability. When applicable include mention of what data management functions (e.g. date transport, quality control, archive) the proposal supports.</u>



SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) enhances interoperability by providing more mandatory attributes on data encoding, such as data quality flags, than the vanilla CF 1.6 standard. Its format supports interaction with other SeaDataNet standards for data management:

- Vocabularies,
- Quality Flag Scale

It is designed to be used for profiles time series, trajectories, time series profile (e.g. moored ADCP) and trajectory profile (e.g. shipborn ADCP) and is fully integrated with the SeaDataNet Common Data Index (CDI) portal, an online data discovery and access service of the pan-European data management infrastructure.

It is designed to be compatible with SeaDataNet analysis (data products services) & presentation tools (ODV, DIVA). Example given, the Regional SeaDataNet products can be accessed through the SeaDataNet OceanBrowser web interface and downloaded as a whole in NetCDF. or as a subset using OPeNDAP.

3. Describe the main interests benefitting from or affected by the proposed standard, such as industry, consumers, governments, distributors. Identify any relationships and/or dependencies.

Adoption by IODE/JCOMM of SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) as a data transport standard will give extra momentum to European marine and ocean data centres adopting SeaDataNet. This will also benefit users from all over the world from various sectors as SeaDataNet plans to use it as the transport protocol for other types of data that are difficult to handle in the ASCII formats (ODV, Medatlas) due to their large volume or structural complexity. Moreover, it will benefit efforts for global interoperability (such as ODIP project activities) because that process can focus on a limited set of marine data transport formats, whereby SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) represents European input.

4. Describe the feasibility of implementing the proposed standard. Include any factors that could hinder the successful establishment or global application of the proposed standard. Are there any associated issues? Identify resource implications resulting from the recommendations.

The feasibility and practicality of implementing the SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) can be, and has already been successfully accomplished in the co-operation of SeaDataNet with several Projects managing their data in NetCDF format as well as in EMODNet activities.

 Considering the needs of other fields or organizations, indicate the timeliness, target date(s), or if proposing a series of standards, suggest priorities. List any statutory requirement or other driving factors.

There are no statutory requirements for adoption of the SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) standard as one of the data transport format standards. A number of National Oceanographic Data Centres in Europe are bound to implement the standard within their contractual obligations of several EU projects. The NODCs also motivate other data centres in their countries to adopt it. The IOC recommendation will add to this process.



- 6. Describe the possible benefits gained by the implementation of the proposed standard.

 Alternatively, describe the loss or disadvantage(s) if no standard is established within a reasonable time.
 - The advantage of using the SeaDataNet NetCDF(CF) standard in Europe is described in (2) and (3). There are no anticipated disadvantages to adopting it.
- 7. <u>Indicate whether the proposed standard is or may become the subject of regulations or may require the harmonization of existing regulations. Describe any impacts of this activity.</u>
 - CF conventions NetCDF is already a mature standard used worldwide. Its extension by the SeaDataNet is already used as a de-facto standard in Europe and increasingly prescribed in calls for proposal and contracts by the European Commission.

<u>Current Operational Implementations:</u> A number of National Ocean Data Centres (NODC's) and marine data centres within the SeaDataNet partnership have successfully implemented the SeaDataNet NetCDF(CF) standard for profiles, time series and trajectories. The format can be used next to the SeaDataNet ODV 4 ASCII format in the services of the SeaDataNet infrastructure (see http://www.seadatanet.org), such as the Data Discovery and Access Services and Regional Products. Implementation is currently based on the reference SeaDataNet XML encoding: a CSW ISO service is available for queries from automatic tools (e.g this is the interface leveraged by GEOSS), as well as an OAI-PMH service (e.g. leveraged to automatize harvesting by the ODP portal). The results of these activities can be followed at the SeaDataNet portal (see above).

Moreover, different software tools support the SeaDataNet NetCDF(CF) standard, such as <u>NEMO</u> <u>conversion software</u> and the <u>Download Manager software</u>.

Relevant Documents:

The following document (attached to the current proposal) is relevant for describing and specifying the SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF):

• SeaDataNet NetCDF data file format-Manual and examples

This document is an excerpt from the SeaDataNet data file formats version 1.16 (deliverable SDN2_D85_WP8_Datafile_formats.pdf)

Cooperation and liaison:

- 1. Existing Community: All the organizations listed in the 'Current Operational Implementations' section are using SeaDataNet NetCDF(CF) in an operational environment and represent the SeaDataNet NetCDF (CF) community. In particular BODC, CNR-IIA, MARIS and IFREMER have been involved in the drafting and publication of the SeaDataNet NetCDF standard (together with the rest of the SeaDataNet Technical Task Team and with the help of NetCDF and CF experts such as from NCAR and UNIDATA and many participants from MyOcean, IMOS, Australian Navy and USNODC) and are responsible for the current proposal submission.
- 2. **Expanded Community:** Firstly, other relevant marine and oceanographic data centres in Europe that are not yet engaged in the NODC national networks and/or any of the EU





projects and would like to adopt SeaDataNet NetCDF(CF) data transport model for the processing and sharing of their datasets.

Moreover, other marine and oceanographic data centres worldwide eager to use the SeaDataNet NetCDF(CF) at full. SeaDataNet is maintaining active cooperation and exchange on an international scale with data management initiatives and networks outside Europe (such as ODIP) where common standards and interoperability solutions are investigated.

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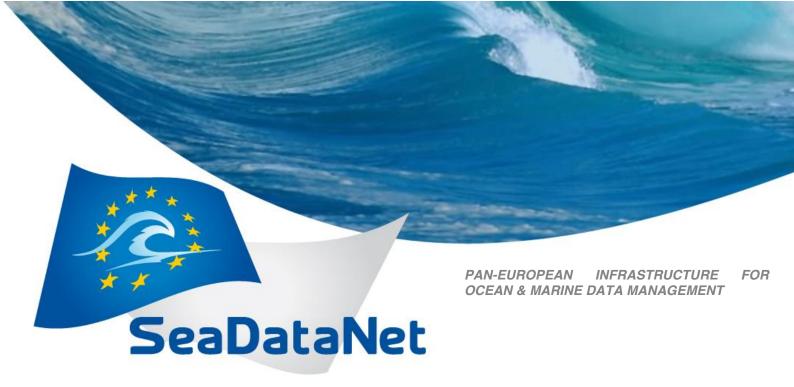
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Proposal version: Version 1.0 March 2015

List of Acronyms:

- ADCP Acoustic Doppler Current Profiler
- CDI Common Data Index metadata format
- CF Climate and Forecast
- EMODNET European Marine Observation and Data Network
- EU European Union
- EuroFleets EU FP7 project Towards an Alliance of European Research Fleets
- Geo-Seas EU FP7 project for a Pan-European Infrastructure for Marine Geological and Geophysical Data Management
- IMOS Australian 's Integrated Marine Observing System
- INSPIRE Infrastructure for Spatial Information in the Europe Community
- IOC Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission
- IODE International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange
- ISO International Organization for Standardization
- MEDATLAS
- MyOcean Ocean Monitoring
- NCAR National Centre for Atmospheric Research
- NetCDF Network Common Data Form
- NODC National Oceanographic Data Centre
- ODIP Ocean Data Interoperability Platform
- ODV Ocean Data View
- OPeNDAP Open-source Project for a Network Data Access Protocol
- SeaDataNet EU FP6 project for a Pan-European Infrastructure for Marine and Oceanographic Data Management
- UNIDATA
- Upgrade Black Sea SCENE EU FP7 project for an Upgrade Black Sea Scientific Network
- USNODC United States National Oceanographic Data Centre



SeaDataNet NetCDF data file format

Manual and examples





History

Version	Date	Comments
1.16	2015-05-18	This document is an excerpt from the SeaDataNet data file formats version 1.16 (deliverable SDN2_D85_WP8_Datafile_formats.pdf)



Content

1.	Voca	abulary URN Versioning	5
2.	Clim	nate and Forecast (CF) Convention NetCDF Format	5
	2.1. I	Introduction	5
	2.2.	SeaDataNet CF Profiling and Beyond	6
	2.3.	SeaDataNet Extensions to CF	7
	2.4.	General Features of the SeaDataNet NetCDF Profiles	8
	2.4.1	1. Dimensions	8
	2.4.2	2. Co-ordinate Variables	9
	2.4.3	3. Ancillary Variables	10
	2.4.4	4. Geophysical Variables	11
	2.4.5	5. Global Attributes	12
	2.4.6	6. Extension to Multiple Object Storage	13
	2.4.7	7. Character Storage and Encoding	13
	2.4.8	8. Data Typing	13
	2.4.9		
	2.5. I	Feature-specific SeaDataNet Profiles	16
	2.5.1	1. SeaDataNet NetCDF Profile for Profile Data	16
	2.5.2	2. SeaDataNet NetCDF Profile for Time Series Data	27
	2.5.3	3. SeaDataNet NetCDF Profile for Trajectory Data	34
	2.5.4	4. SeaDataNet NetCDF for timeSeriesProfile Data	41
	2.5.5		

1. Vocabulary URN Versioning

This document has been written since the introduction of Version 2 of the NERC Vocabulary server, which has a closely related, but nevertheless slightly different, syntax for URNs used to reference concepts and vocabularies than the one used in the previous version. For example, the V1 URN SDN:P011:53:TEMPPR01 is replaced in V2 by SDN:P01::TEMPPR01. It is important to realise that V2 URNs may be derived from V1 by a fixed string-slicing algorithm and that V2 URNs are also valid V1 URNs. The string slicing algorithm (PL/SQL) is:

V2_URN = SUBSTR (V1_URN,1,7)||'::'||SUBSTR(V1_URN,INSTR(V1_URN,':',1,3)+1))

The reason for this change is that an unforeseen consequence of the way labels were constructed in NVS V1 was that every concept ended up with a plethora of possible URNs. Having just one unique reference to each concept is an obvious rule that should not have been broken and needed to be repaired. The corrective solution adopted was to choose one of the possible V1 URNs for V2. Unfortunately the back office architecture forced a change from the syntax that had been adopted by SeaDataNet.

The SeaDataNet Technical Task Team have agreed a 'mixed-economy' approach for the migration in which tools that read pre-existing SeaDataNet files will work equally well with V1 and V2 URNs. Tools that generate SeaDataNet files will be updated so that only V2 URNs are produced. Whilst tools that do a V1 to V2 conversion will be made available, conversion of existing file stock from V1 to V2 will not be obligatory. Note that as no SeaDataNet NetCDF with V1 URNs has ever been produced, there is no requirement for tools that read SeaDataNet NetCDF to offer 'mixed- economy' support.

2. Climate and Forecast (CF) Convention NetCDF Format

2.1. Introduction

The CF metadata conventions (http://cf-pcmdi.llnl.gov/) are designed to promote the processing and sharing of files created with the NetCDF API. The conventions define metadata that provide a definitive description of what the data in each variable represents, and the spatial and temporal properties of the data. This enables users of data from different sources to decide which quantities are comparable, and facilitates building applications with powerful extraction, regridding, and display capabilities.

The standard is both mature and well-supported by formal governance for its further development. The standard is fully documented by a PDF manual accessible from a link from the CF metadata homepage (http://cf-pcmdi.llnl.gov/). Note that CF is a developing standard and consequently access via the homepage rather than through a direct URL to the document is recommended to ensure that the latest version is obtained. The current version of this document was prepared using version 1.6 of the conventions dated 5 December 2011.

The approach taken with the development of the SeaDataNet profile based on CF 1.6 was to classify data on the basis of feature types and produce a SeaDataNet specification for storage of each of the following:



- Profile (x, y, t fixed; z variable). The specification given is for storage of a single profile such as a CTD cast or bottle profile. However, the design is such that very little change is required to facilitate the storage of multiple profiles in a single netCDF file.
- TimeSeries (x, y, z fixed; t variable). The specification given is for storage of a single time series, such as a current meter record. However, the design is such that very little change is required to facilitate the storage of multiple time series in a single netCDF file.
- Trajectory (x, y, z, t all variable). The specification given is for storage of a single trajectory, but this may be easily modified to store several trajectories in a single file.

The specification was then developed through discussions on a collaborative e-mail list involving participants in SeaDataNet, MyOcean, USNODC, NCAR and AODN. The working objective focussed on producing profiles with the following properties:

- CF 1.6 conformant
- Have maximum interoperability with CF 1.6 implementations in use by MyOcean (OceanSITES conventions), USNODC (USNODC NetCDF templates) and two contributors to AODN (IMOS and METOC)
- Include storage for all labels, metadata and standardised semantic mark-up that were included in the SeaDataNet ODV format files for the equivalent feature type.

Significant list discussion focussed on the version of NetCDF that should be used for SeaDataNet. The conclusion was that NetCDF 4 should be used wherever possible, but that NetCDF 3, although strongly discouraged, should not be totally forbidden.

2.2. SeaDataNet CF Profiling and Beyond

The CF conventions include guidance on data encoding into NetCDF, a small number of mandatory attributes plus a large number of optional attributes. This results in a great deal of flexibility, which unfortunately tends to compromise interoperability. The objective of the profiling process is to enhance interoperability by reducing the number of degrees of freedom. Profiling therefore generally focuses on making optional elements in the base specification mandatory, specification of mandatory data streams and the introduction of additional attributes or data streams from other conventions.

The \$64,000 question when profiling is "How far should one go?" In terms of the optional elements in CF should be made mandatory for SeaDataNet it was decided to adopt a 'light touch' approach. For this mandatory attributes that assure any CF-aware application has usable labels for all variables and their units of measure (long_name and units mandatory) and is able to make full use of the spatial data.

The mandatory data streams specified are either data quality flags or variables to hold information included in the ODV data specification. An optional data stream has also been included under the SeaDataNet namespace to provide linkage URLs to additional usage metadata resources.

The CF profiling by OceanSITES, USNODC and METOC has included the specification of attributes (some mandatory), particularly global attributes, to store additional discovery metadata. This approach has not been followed for SeaDataNet to avoid issues resulting from the management of information duplicated in the CDI records. The SeaDataNet extensions, clearly labelled with the SDN namespace, have been restricted to what is needed to ensure that SeaDataNet ODV data files may be converted to NetCDF with no loss of information.

It is extremely important to realise that the SeaDataNet CF profile is a specification for the MINIMUM information content in a SeaDataNet NetCDF file. There is absolutely no reason why additional attributes or ancillary variables from CF (or even other conventions) should not be included. The example format for the profile feature type includes guidance on how a NetCDF file could be created that is fully compliant with both the SeaDataNet and OceanSITES conventions.

Indeed, the Sea Data Net profile could even itself be profiled to produce specifications for the storage of specific data types for use in projects based on Sea Data Net technology such as EMODNET and Geo-Seas. Such additional profiles would need to be developed by communities with expertise in the data types to be stored.

2.3. SeaDataNet Extensions to CF

The SeaDataNet extensions to CF are concerned with providing storage for the standardised semantics and metadata included in the SeaDataNet ODV format. The standardised semantics are included as four MANDATORY parameter attributes for each data or co-ordinate variable, which are:

- sdn_parameter_urn this is the URN for the parameter description taken from the P01 vocabulary, for example SDN:P01::TEMPST01.
- sdn_parameter_name this is the plain language label (Entryterm) for the parameter taken
 from the P01 vocabulary at the time of data file creation. Note that whilst the URN is fixed in
 both syntax and meaning, there is a possibility that the text of the label might be updated
 subsequently (e.g. to clarify misleading wording) in the master vocabulary.
- sdn_uom_urn this is the URN for the parameter units of measure taken from the P06 vocabulary, for example SDN:P06::ULAA.
- sdn_uom_name this is the plain language label (Entryterm) for the parameter taken from
 the P06 vocabulary at the time of data file creation. Note that whilst the URN is fixed in both
 syntax and meaning, there is a possibility that the text of the label might be updated
 subsequently (e.g. to clarify misleading wording) in the master vocabulary.

Note that the local name (SDN:LOCAL) used for the column headings in the ODV format becomes the variable name in the NetCDF file. For example, the equivalent of an ODV column named 'Salinity' related to the semantic header entry

PSAL:sdn uom name = "Dimensionless"

In addition to attributes there are a number of variables that form part of the SeaDataNet extension:

- SDN_CRUISE this is an array (which can have a dimension of 1 for single object storage) containing text strings identifying a grouping label for the data object to which the array element belongs. This will obviously be the cruise name for data types such as CTD and bottle data, but could be something like a mooring name for current meter data.
- SDN_STATION this is an array of text strings identifying the data object to which the array element belongs. This will be the station name for some types of data, but could also be an instrument deployment identifier.
- SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID this is an array of text strings containing the local identifier of the Common Data Index record associated with the data object to which the array element belongs. The maximum size allowed for this parameter is 80 bytes.
- SDN_EDMO_CODE this is an integer array containing keys identifying the organisation hosting the Download Manager (CDI_partner) given in the European Directory of Marine Organisations (EDMO). This provides the namespace for the label.
- SDN_BOT_DEPTH this is a floating point array holding bathymetric water depth in metres
 where the sample was collected or measurement was made. Set to the fill value (-999) if
 unknown or inapplicable.
- SDN_REFERENCES this is an array of text strings containing a URI (URN or URL) pointing to a
 web resource such as a usage metadata document for the data object to which the array
 element belongs. If URNs such as DOIs are used then the namespace (e.g. 'doi:' for DOI) must
 be included.

With the exception of SDN_REFERENCES, these variables are mandatory for all SeaDataNet profile, time series and trajectory (but not grid) data.

2.4. General Features of the SeaDataNet NetCDF Profiles

Whilst the SeaDataNet NetCDF profiles differ in certain details, such as the dimensioning of co-ordinate variables, there is much that they have in common and these common features are documented in this section.

2.4.1. Dimensions

There are many ways in which a given type of data may be stored in NetCDF, each of which is associated with a particular pattern of dimension assignments.

The pattern followed by SeaDataNet for profiles, time series and trajectories is to have an 'INSTANCE' unlimited dimension plus a maximum repetition within instance dimension. This is the maximum number of z co-ordinate levels (MAXZ) for profiles and the maximum number of time steps (MAXT) for time series and trajectories.

Grids again have an unlimited 'UNLIMITED' dimension plus two maximum repetition instances, one each for the x and y axes. Generally, these will be associated with longitude and latitude in SeaDataNet usage.

one or more string size dimension(s) (STRINGx) is also included for text arrays. See 2.4.7.

2.4.2. Co-ordinate Variables

CF subdivides variables into three categories, namely geophysical variables (the things that are actually measured), co-ordinate variables that provide the spatio-temporal information for the geophysical variables and ancillary variables that provide supporting information for them.

The co-ordinate variables in the SeaDataNet profiles have inherited co-ordinate variable names from the OceanSITES convention, which are 'LONGITUDE' for x, 'LATITUDE' for y, 'TIME' for t and 'DEPTH', 'PRES' or 'HEIGHT' for z.

Each SeaDataNet co-ordinate variable has the following mandatory attributes:

- long_name free text label
- standard_name CF variable label that may be found in the P07 vocabulary (http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/P07/current/accepted)
- units plain text label taken from the UDUNITS-2 database (http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/udunits/udunits-2/udunits2.html)
- ancillary_variables name of the flag channel for the co-ordinate variable. Note that the OceanSITES practice of having a single flag channel to cover both latitude and longitude has been adopted for profile, time series and trajectory data.
- axis the Cartesian axis (X, Y, Z, T) that maps to the co-ordinate.
- calendar set to 'julian' for SeaDataNet (TIME co-ordinate only)
- SeaDataNet mandatory semantic attributes (sdn_parameter_urn, sdn_parameter_name, sdn_uom_urn, sdn_uom_name as described in section 2.3) and optional instrument attributes:
 - o sdn_instrument_urn:This contains the URN for the device used to measure the parameter taken from the SeaVoX L22 vocabulary (http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L22/current/. Again, if you don't understand what this all means, just prefix the appropriate code from L22 with the text 'SDN:L22::' and all will be well.
 - o sdn instrument name:preferred label of L22 code given in sdn instrument urn
 - sdn_fall_rate_urn:This element is specifically designed for XBT data and it contains the URN for the XBT probe type and the fall rate equation applied to obtain the z coordinate values for the data from the Seavox L33 vocabulary (http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L33/current/). L33 is done from WMO C3 vocabulary of XBT data types.
 - o sdn_fall_rate_name:preferred label of L33 code given in sdn_instrument_urn

SeaDataNet practice is to specify that x and y spatial co-ordinates should be LATITUDE and LONGITUDE within the 2D WGS-84 co-ordinate reference system or so inaccurate that WGS-84 may be assumed. This is stated explicitly by the inclusion of the crs container variable taken from the USNODC NetCDF template with linkages to LATITUDE and LONGITUDE through the grid_mapping attribute.

It should be noted that some of these co-ordinate variable names are ambiguous, particularly for the z co-ordinate. For example, 'HEIGHT' could be the height above the seabed or the height above the sea surface. Likewise 'DEPTH' could be depth below sea surface for water column data or depth below the seabed for sediment profiles. This ambiguity is eliminated using the standard_name, sdm_parameter_urn and sdn_parameter_name attributes.

2.4.3. Ancillary Variables

SeaDataNet has its origins in the designs of the IODE Group of Experts in the Technical Aspects of Data Exchange (GETADE) in which a fundamental requirement for interoperability was a clear understanding of data quality on a point by point basis. This was achieved by tagging every measurement with a single-byte encoded label, often referred to as a 'flag'. This practice is carried through to the SeaDataNet NetCDF formats as follows:

- A flag variable is mandatory for all geophysical and co-ordinate variables in all feature types except gridded data.
- The OceanSITES practice of combining the flag variables for latitude and longitude into a single flag for 'position' has been adopted.
- Flag channels are encoded using the SeaDataNet L20 vocabulary (http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L20).

The flag channels have been incorporated as CF ancillary variables. The ancillary variables are linked to the geophysical or co-ordinate variable to which they relate through an 'ancillary_variables' attribute in the parent variable set to the name of the ancillary variable.

Each SeaDataNet flag ancillary variable has the following mandatory attributes:

- long_name plaintext indicating the function of the ancillary variable, such as 'Quality flag'
- Conventions reference to the encoding convention used for the flag ('SeaDataNet measurand qualifier flags' in the case of SeaDataNet.
- FillValue the value associated with missing data set to 57b (ASCII '9')
- sdn_conventions_urn a SeaDataNet extension set to 'SDN:L20::'
- flag values a list of all the flag values used in the encoding scheme
- flag_meanings a list of the meanings associated with the codes in flag_values as spacedelimited strings with internal spaces replaced by underscores.

The flag variables are encoded as type 'byte' to circumvent some technical concerns raised during the design discussions. However, the flag values used are the ASCII encodings resulting in data identical to variables typed 'char'.

One feature of the design is that it overcomes interoperability issues with data that use different flag conventions by allowing for the storage of multiple flag channels for every variable. For this

approach to have any value, it is essential that any application software is able to easily recognise the flag channels in which it is interested. Consequently, the naming of the flag channels has been standardised through the L27 controlled vocabulary (http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L27). The flag channel name is given by concatenating an underscore and the concept key to the corresponding geophysical variable name, co-ordinate variable name or 'POSITION' for combined latitude/longitude flags.

For example, the SeaDataNet L27 entry at URL http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L27/current/SEADATANET_QC is:

```
<skos:Concept rdf:about="http://vocab.nerc.ac.uk/collection/L27/current/SEADATANET_QC/">
<skos:prefLabel xml:lang="en">SeaDataNet measurand qualifier flags</skos:prefLabel>
<skos:altLabel/>
<skos:definition xml:lang="en">SeaDataNet measurand qualifier flags</skos:definition>
<dc:identifier>SDN:L27::SEADATANET_QC</dc:identifier>
<skos:notation>SDN:L27::SEADATANET_QC</skos:notation>
<owlxml:versionInfo>2</owlxml:versionInfo>
<dc:date>2012-07-24 13:48:47.0</dc:date>
<skos:note xml:lang="en">accepted</skos:note>
<owlxml:deprecated>false</owlxml:deprecated>
</skos:Concept>
```

The concept key to be included in the flag variable name is the text after 'SDN:L27::' in the dc:identifier element and the text to be included in the Conventions attribute is the content of the skos:prefLabel element.

Flags are not the only type of ancillary variable specified by the CF conventions. For, example it is possible to include quantitative descriptions of quality such as standard errors. The CF documentation contains a clear description with examples of how this should be done. Additional ancillary variables may be included as required, or specified as part of more restrictive profiles built on the SeaDataNet profiles.

2.4.4. Geophysical Variables

The 'geophysical variables' are the measured variables in the data file, such as temperature and salinity for a CTD profile. Their name indicates the origins of the CF conventions, but has absolutely no relevance. 'Geophysical variables' may contain chemical, biological or geological parameters in addition to physical ones.

The geophysical variables have the following mandatory attributes:

- long_name free text label
- units plain text label taken from the UDUNITS-2 database (http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/udunits/udunits-2/udunits2.html)
- coordinates lists the co-ordinate variables for the measurement value as a space-delimited list. For example this could be "TIME DEPTH LATITUDE LONGITUDE" for a CTD or "TIME HEIGHT LATITUDE LONGITUDE" for a radiosonde.
- SeaDataNet mandatory semantic attributes (sdn_parameter_urn, sdn_parameter_name, sdn_uom_urn, sdn_uom_name as described in section2.3) and optional instrument attributes

(sdn_instrument_urn, sdn_instrument_name, sdn_fall_rate_urn, sdn_fall_rate_nameas described insection 2.4.2)..

A _FillValue attribute may be included if the data object includes absent data. Note that the CF standard_name attribute is not mandatory. This is to simplify the inclusion of parameters for which there are no standard names into SeaDataNet NetCDF. However, the CF Standard Names have become widely used and so significantly enhance interoperability. Consequently, their inclusion is STRONGLY recommended to the extent that SeaDataNet partners should engage with the CF community to extend the Standard Name list where required.

2.4.5. Global Attributes

The following global attributes are mandatory for SeaDataNet NetCDF. The first two are taken from CF; the remaining two are from OceanSITES:

- Conventions this informs application software of the encoding conventions to which the
 data conform. If the file conforms to multiple conventions then they are all listed as
 space-delimited or comma-delimited (if one or more convention labels include embedded
 spaces) list. The usual value for SeaDataNet will be 'SeaDataNet_1.0 CF1.6'. Should the
 file also conform to OceanSITES conventions then this becomes 'SeaDataNet_1.0,
 OceanSITES Manual 1.1, CF1.6'
- featureType this is a description of the spatio-temporal shape of the data held in the NetCDF using a vocabulary specified in CF 1.6. The value to be used is given in the relevant feature-specific profile description
- title this is a plain language label for the file contents, such as 'CTD data for station CS from North Sea Project cruise RRS Challenger CH33'. It is designed to be used for labelling visualisations of the data held in the file.
- date_update a timestamp (UT to 1-second precision as an ISO8601 string) specifying when the contents (i.e. its attributes and/or values) of the file were last changed. This provides both a publication date and a version label for the dataset contained in the file. It may be earlier (but obviously not later) than the last modification date of the physical file.

Other conventions, such as OceanSITES, have specified significant numbers of additional global attributes primarily for the storage of discovery metadata. This hasn't been done for SeaDataNet, but this doesn't mean that additional attributes are prohibited. If additional attributes are included it is strongly preferred that their names and usage are taken from an existing convention. Local attributes are allowed if no such suitable attribute can be located.

In an ideal world, attributes added by conventions other than CF should be labelled with a namespace to indicate their origin. Unfortunately, this practice hasn't been universally followed in existing profiles of CF. For SeaDataNet, if local attributes are introduced then labelling them with a namespace is mandatory to ensure identification of their source.

The 'profile' feature-specific profile includes a large number of example attributes from the OceanSITES convention (data_type, format_version, platform_code, institution, wmo_platform_code, platform_name, history, etc.) for purposes of illustration.

2.4.6. Extension to Multiple Object Storage

The SeaDataNet operational model is based on very fine-grained data objects, such as individual CTD casts. Consequently, the primary SeaDataNet use case is to provide NetCDF containers for single profiles, time series or trajectories. However, it is not difficult to envisage the need for an aggregation layer between the user and SeaDataNet data holdings that requires a container for multiple profiles, time series, etc. Consequently, the SeaDataNet profiles have been designed to switch from single to multiple object storage with a minimum of change. The changes required are documented in each feature-specific profile specification.

2.4.7. Character Storage and Encoding

Character handling is not one of the strengths of the NetCDF data model. There is no string data type and so characters need to be stored in fixed length arrays with each array element storing a single byte, very much like FORTRAN66 holleriths. For example, to store 50 strings up to 80 bytes in length we need:

```
NSTRING = 50;
STRING80 = 80;
CHARACTER STRING (NSTRING, STRING80);
```

The SeaDataNet profile of CF point data needs to store a significant amount of character information as data. The convention adopted in the examples is to use a single dimension named STRING80 set to a value of 80. **This is just an example and does not imply any restriction on the nature of character data stored.** If the strings to be stored are longer then this dimension needs to be increased to the length of the longest string in the dataset. However, if the dimension is set excessively large then wastage of storage will become significant.

It is also unnecessary to have all string arrays in a file set to the same length. For example, it is possible to have:

```
NSTRING = 50;

STRING20 = 20;

STRING80 = 80;

STRING200 = 200;

CHARACTER SHORTSTRING (NSTRING, STRING20);

CHARACTER MEDSTRING (NSTRING, STRING80);

CHARACTER LONGSTRING (NSTRING, STRING200);
```

It is strongly recommended that the convention of naming the string length dimensions STRINGx where x is the value be maintained.

All character data should be encoded in ASCII and restricted to the ISO/IEC 8859-1 (commonly referred to as the Latin alphabet number 1 Latin-1) character set (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/ISO/IEC_8859-1).

2.4.8. Data Typing

Geophysical variables can hold any valid NetCDF data type. Note that there are performance implications if double precision is used where single precision will suffice. However, because tools

cannot be aware of the required precision for a given parameter, they will default to double precision.

Variables that contain textual data are stored as data type 'char'. They will depend on an additional dimension that holds the length of the longest string in the data stream. The dimension should follow the naming convention of STRING80 to start with 'STRING' and end on its length (e.g STRING20).

2.4.9. Linkages to External Resources

One of the founding principles of CF is that all data files should be totally self-contained. One of the most controversial aspects of the SeaDataNet profiling of CF is to break this principle. The reasoning behind this move is that the SeaDataNet design is modular with numerous types of metadata document. If the data files are to be self-contained then the content of all these documents - CDI, CSR, EDMED, EDIOS, EDMERP, EDMO and vocabulary server RDF XML - would need to be included in the data file. This is unwise for two reasons. First, whenever a single item of information is stored in two locations there is the risk of the content in one location being changed and not in the other. Secondly, a lot of this information is hierarchically related text. NetCDF is very bad at handling text (on a par with FORTRAN-66 with fixed-length 1-byte arrays, not strings) and even worse at handling hierarchies. There is also the matter that the world has moved on since 2003. Not only has internet availability increased dramatically, but there has also been the emergence of Linked Data and the Semantic Web.

The SeaDataNet approach is to keep duplication of information to a minimum through the provision of external linkages to additional information. Initially, the intention was to follow the DOI model and provide a mechanism to link the SeaDataNet data file to a single 'landing page' - an XHTML document providing additional information. The intention was that this page could include additional links to other XML documents, such as the CDI and CSR. The SDN_REFERENCES variable was introduced for this purpose. This is a character array for each INSTANCE (i.e. normally one per file for SeaDataNet) in which a URI is stored. This is either the landing page URL or a URN including namespace such as a DOI.

However, this was considered insufficient as there was no information in the data files to inform software agents what to expect at the end of the URI and insufficient control over landing page content to guarantee that it would be provided elsewhere. Consequently, the SDN_XLINK character array was introduced. This allows any number (the REFMAX dimension) of strings to be associated with each INSTANCE. Each string is formatted according to the following model:

<sdn_reference xlink:type="URN" xlink:role="text" xlink:href="URI"/>

The xlink:href is mandatory, whilst xlink:type and xlink:role are optional. It is either a URL or a URN including namespace.

The xlink:type attribute specifies the XML document type using the URN of that document type in the L23 vocabulary. For example, SDN:L23::CDI specifies a Common Data Index document and SDN:L23::CSR specifies a Cruise Summary Report document. If xlink:type is omitted then the document type is assumed to be XHTML.

The xlink:role indicates the purpose of the document. The following roles are allowed:



isDescribedBy CDI document or controlled vocabulary concept document

The mapping between the ODV and NetCDF linkages is as follows. Consider a case where an ODV file includes 5 stations and has the following SDN_REFERENCES entry:

//<SDN REFERENCES>https://www.bodc.ac.uk/data/documents/series/436972/

In this case, the NetCDF INSTANCE dimension will be equal to 5, so SDN_REFERENCES will be a 5-element string array. All five elements should be set to 'https://www.bodc.ac.uk/data/documents/series/436972/'. Likewise if there is an sdn_reference entry with no sdn:scope attribute, the XLINK string is copied into five SDN_XLINK elements having the same REFMAX index. However, if sdn:scope is specified then the XLINK string is only stored in one SDN_XLINK element.

For example, an ODV file carries two stations having the local CDI IDs '8575' and '8576'. In NetCDF, '8575' is stored in INSTANCE=1 and '8576' is stored in INSTANCE=2. If the ODV file has two sdn_reference entries thus:

//<sdn_reference xlink:type="SDN:L23::CDI" xlink:role="isDescribedBy" xlink:href="http://seadatanet.maris2.nl/v_cdi_v3/print_xml.asp?edmo=486&identifier=8575" sdn:scope="486:8575/> //<sdn_reference xlink:type="SDN:L23::CDI" xlink:role="isDescribedBy" xlink:href="http://seadatanet.maris2.nl/v cdi v3/print xml.asp?edmo=486&identifier=8576"

sdn:scope="486:8576/>
//<sdn reference xlink:href="doi:10.5285/41479c42-4dfb-4da9-be97-4c532ce13922"/>

Then the SDN XLINK array will be:

 $SDN_XLINK~(1,1) = < sdn_reference~xlink:type="SDN:L23::CDI"~xlink:role="isDescribedBy" xlink:href="http://seadatanet.maris2.nl/v_cdi_v3/print_xml.asp?edmo=486&identifier=8575" sdn:scope="486:8575/>$

SDN_XLINK (2,1) = <sdn_reference xlink:type="SDN:L23::CDI" xlink:role="isDescribedBy" xlink:href="http://seadatanet.maris2.nl/v_cdi_v3/print_xml.asp?edmo=486&identifier=8576" sdn:scope="486:8576/>

SDN_XLINK (1,2) = <sdn_reference xlink:href="doi:10.5285/41479c42-4dfb-4da9-be97-4c532ce13922"/>

SDN_XLINK (2,2) = < sdn_reference xlink:href="doi:10.5285/41479c42-4dfb-4da9-be97-4c532ce13922"/>

2.5. Feature-specific SeaDataNet Profiles

2.5.1. SeaDataNet NetCDF Profile for Profile Data

This is the SeaDataNet NetCDF profile to be used for the storage of data that have been mapped onto the profile feature types, which is defined as having a single x co-ordinate (e.g. longitude), a single y co-ordinate (e.g. latitude), a single time co-ordinate and a monotonic set of z co-ordinates (e.g. depth or pressure). It covers many common oceanographic types such as processed (e.g. binned) CTD data, water bottle data and XBT data.

2.5.1.1. Co-ordinate variables

The co-ordinate variables are of two types. Time, latitude and longitude are 1-D vectors, which for single profile storage have a length of 1. These have been used in preference to scalars to provide a foundation for multi-profile storage. The SeaDataNet practice of using Chronological Julian Day (CJD) as the numeric representation of time has been followed.

The z co-ordinate is either depth, pressure (although depth is preferred), or a height above sea level. The values are stored in a 2D array, with one dimension set to one for single-profile storage. Note that CF required that co-ordinate variables be monotonic. Consequently, this means that CTD data that include both the upcast and the downcast in a single file cannot be stored as logged. Further, some discrete downcasts may require processing such as pressure sorting or binning before they become CF compliant.

2.5.1.2. Geophysical variables

The geophysical variables, like the z co-ordinates, are stored as 2D arrays with the INSTANCE dimension set to 1. Each geophysical variable has at least one ancillary variable named using the conventions described in section 3.4.3 containing the SeaDataNet qualifier flags for that variable.

2.5.1.3. Attributes

The Featuretype attribute is set to 'profile'.

2.5.1.4. **CDL** example

There now follows an example NetCDF file structure for the storage of a single profile (e.g. a CTD cast) in annotated network Common Data form Language (CDL). The annotations are contained in lines prefixed by two hyphens ('- - ').

The example is quite verbose because it is designed to illustrate how a SeaDataNet file could be created that is also compliant with another extension – in this case the OceanSITES convention used by MyOcean. Interoperability is established through repetition, such as including both SeaDataNet and OceanSITES flags. OceanSITES tools will ignore the SeaDataNet elements and SeaDataNet tools will ignore the OceanSITES elements, but the one file serves both communities.

Please note that this example is only an illustration and includes a lot of attributes and variables that are not required for SeaDataNet. The 'extras' required for OceanSITES have been coloured red. Anything that is mandatory for SeaDataNet is in bold black text. Other optional elements suggested for SeaDataNet files that are not part of OceanSITES are in normal black text.

⁻⁻ This file specifies the SeaDataNet NetCDF encoding for a single profile

```
-- (e.g. a CTD cast) in annotated CDL
dimensions:
-- The 'unlimited' dimension is the number of profiles stored in the file,
-- which in this case is fixed at 1
-- The MAXZ dimension is set to the maximum number of z co-ordinate values
-- in a stored profile (other profiles are padded to this length)
-- The STRING80 dimension is specifies the length of fixed size strings for
-- profile label variables
-- The optional REFMAX dimension specifies the maximum number of external URIs that
-- may be linked to a profile instance. For backward compatibility 2-D SDN_REFERENCES
-- (INSTANCE, STRING80) is also allowed.
      INSTANCE = 1;
      MAXZ = 501;
      STRING80 = 80;
      REFMAX = 5;
variables:
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for
-- SeaDataNet
      double TIME(INSTANCE);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet - include verbatim except for
-- ancillary variables
             TIME:long_name = "Chronological Julian Date";
             TIME:standard_name = "time";
             TIME:units = "days since -4713-01-01T00:00:00Z";
-- If no OceanSITES flag channel is included then TIME:ancillary_variables is set to
"TIME_SEADATANET_QC"
             TIME:ancillary_variables = "TIME_OCEANSITES_QC
TIME_SEADATANET_QC";
             TIME:axis = "T";
             TIME:calendar = "julian";
-- CF attributes optional for SeaDataNet
             TIME:valid min = 0.;
             TIME: valid max = 2500000.;
-- OceanSITES attributes optional for SeaDataNet
-- QC_indicator is an OceanSITES extension to CF categorising the quality
-- for the entire data channel.
-- QC_procedure is an OceanSITES extension describing how QC was done
-- The coding conventions for these attributes is documented in the
-- OceanSITES manual.
-- Note each attribute has its own convention and these conventions are not
-- identical to the OceanSITES QC flag convention. These are documented in
-- the OceanSITES manual.
```

SeaDataNet

```
TIME:QC_indicator = 1;
            TIME:QC_procedure = 1;
-- The values in the following optional attributes are hypothetical
-- examples and should not be copied verbatim
       TIME:uncertainty = "5 minutes"
       TIME:comment = "Timestamp refers to the start of the downcast"
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet
-- sdn parameter urn should specify the correct concept from the P01
-- vocabulary for the parameter.
-- sdn_parameter_name is the preferred label for the concept from the P01
-- vocabulary.
-- sdn_uom_urn should specify the correct concept from the P06 vocabulary
-- for the unit of measure
-- sdn_uom_name is the preferred label for the concept from the P06
-- vocabulary
            TIME:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::CJDY1101";
            TIME:sdn_parameter_name = "Julian Date (chronological)";
            TIME:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UTAA";
            TIME:sdn_uom_name = "Days"
-- This is the OceanSITES QC flag convention and is optional for SeaDataNet
-- but essential for full MyOcean interoperability
      byte TIME_OCEANSITES_QC(INSTANCE);
            TIME OCEANSITES QC:long name = "OceanSites quality flag";
            TIME OCEANSITES QC:Conventions = "OceanSites reference table 2";
            TIME_OCEANSITES_QC:_FillValue = -128b;
            TIME_OCEANSITES_QC:valid_min = 0b;
            TIME_OCEANSITES_QC:valid_max = 9b;
            TIME_OCEANSITES_QC:flag_values = 0b, 1b, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b
            TIME OCEANSITES QC:flag meanings = "no gc performed good data
probably good data bad data that are potentially correctable bad data value changed
not_used nominal_value interpolated_value missing_value";
-- This is the SeaDataNet flag convention and is mandatory (all attributes)
-- for SeaDataNet
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for
-- SeaDataNet. Include verbatim.
      byte TIME_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE);
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b,
            54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
```

TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";

```
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for
-- SeaDataNet
-- Note the rule in SeaDataNet is that position is assumed to be WGS-84 on
-- the basis that this is either the correct CRS or the accuracy
-- is so poor that CRS is irrelevant.
-- This rule is reported by the inclusion below of a crs variable with
-- attributes appropriate to WGS84
      double LATITUDE(INSTANCE) ;
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet
             LATITUDE:long_name = "Latitude";
             LATITUDE:standard name = "latitude";
             LATITUDE:units = "degrees_north";
             LATITUDE:ancillary_variables
                                                       "POSITION OCEANSITES QC
POSITION_SEADATANET_QC";
             LATITUDE:axis = "Y";
-- CF attributes optional for SeaDataNet
             LATITUDE:valid_min = -90.;
             LATITUDE: valid max = 90.;
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet
             LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ALATZZ01";
             LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Latitude north";
             LATITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGN";
             LATITUDE:sdn_uom_name = "Degrees north";
-- CRS Linkage - mandatory for SeaDataNet
             LATITUDE:grid mapping = "crs";
-- OceanSITES attributes optional for SeaDataNet
-- See 'TIME' for more details
             LATITUDE:QC_indicator = 1;
             LATITUDE:QC_procedure = 1;
             LATITUDE:uncertainty = "0.00001 degree";
             LATITUDE:comment = "Averaged value over profile measurement";
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for
-- SeaDataNet
      double LONGITUDE(INSTANCE);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet
```



```
LONGITUDE:long_name = "Longitude";
            LONGITUDE:standard_name = "longitude";
            LONGITUDE:units = "degrees_east";
                                                     "POSITION_OCEANSITES_QC
            LONGITUDE:ancillary_variables
POSITION_SEADATANET_QC";
            LONGITUDE:axis = "X";
-- CF attributes optional for SeaDataNet
            LONGITUDE: valid min = -180.;
            LONGITUDE:valid_max = 180.;
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet
            LONGITUDE:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ALONZZ01";
            LONGITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Longitude east";
            LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGE";
            LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_name = "Degrees east";
-- CRS Linkage - mandatory for SeaDataNet
            LONGITUDE:grid_mapping = "crs";
-- OceanSITES attributes optional for SeaDataNet
-- See 'TIME' for more details
            LONGITUDE:QC_indicator = 1;
            LONGITUDE:QC_procedure = 1;
            LONGITUDE:uncertainty = " 0,00001 degree ";
            LONGITUDE:comment = "Averaged value over profile measurement";
-- The OceanSITES convention of merging latitude and longitude QC into a
-- position OC has been followed.
-- Again we have flags in OceanSITES (optional) and SeaDataNet (mandatory)
-- conventions.
-- OceanSITES
      byte POSITION OCEANSITES QC(INSTANCE);
            POSITION_OCEANSITES_QC:long_name = "OceanSites quality flag";
            POSITION_OCEANSITES_QC:Conventions = "OceanSites reference table 2"
            POSITION_OCEANSITES_QC:_FillValue = -128b;
            POSITION_OCEANSITES_QC:valid_min = 0b;
            POSITION_OCEANSITES_QC:valid_max = 9b;
            POSITION_OCEANSITES_QC:flag_values = 0b, 1b, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 6b, 7b,
8b, 9b;
                                                              "no_qc_performed
            POSITION_OCEANSITES_QC:flag_meanings
good_data probably_good_data bad_data_that_are_potentially_correctable bad_data
value_changed not_used nominal_value interpolated_value missing_value";
-- SeaDataNet
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for
-- SeaDataNet.
```



```
byte POSITION_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE);
            POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality
            flag";
            POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions
                                                                 "SeaDataNet
            measurand qualifier flags";
            POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
            53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
            good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
            changed value
                                 value_below_detection
                                                              value in excess
            interpolated value missing value value phenomenon uncertain";
-- OceanSITES profile description variables.
-- Optional for SeaDataNet.
      char DATA MODE(INSTANCE);
            DATA_MODE:long_name = "Delayed mode or real time data";
            DATA MODE: Conventions = "R: real time; D:delayed mode; A:real time with
adjustment";
            DATA MODE: FillValue = " ";
      char DIRECTION(INSTANCE);
            DIRECTION:long_name = "Direction of the profiles";
            DIRECTION: Conventions = "A: Ascending profile, D: descending profile";
            DIRECTION: FillValue = " ";
-- SeaDatanet CRS reporting - include verbatim
      int crs;
            crs:grid_mapping_name = "latitude_longitude"
            crs:epsg_code = "EPSG:4326"
            crs:semi_major_axis = 6378137.0;
            crs:inverse_flattening = 298.257223563;
-- SeaDataNet attribute and metadata variables such as profile identifiers
-- and water depths at the measurement site
-- Mandatory for SeaDataNet
-- Note this could be included as delimited lists in global attributes, but
-- this is encoding is preferred.
-- The names for these variables, including case, are fixed for SeaDataNet.
      char SDN CRUISE(INSTANCE,STRING80);
            SDN_CRUISE:long_name = "Profile group label";
      char SDN_STATION(INSTANCE,STRING80);
            SDN_STATION:long_name = "Profile label";
      char SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID (INSTANCE,STRING80);
            SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID:long_name = "SeaDataNet CDI identifier";
            SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID:cf_role = "profile_id";
-- EDMO code provides the namespace for CDI local identifier
-- (SeaDataNet convention).
-- Name including case id fixed for SeaDataNet.
```

```
int SDN EDMO CODE (INSTANCE);
            SDN_EDMO_CODE:long_name = "European Directory of Marine
            Organisations code for the CDI partner"
-- Bathymetric depth required to support seafloor masking of section plot
-- visualisations
      float SDN_BOT_DEPTH (INSTANCE);
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:standard_name
            "sea floor depth below sea surface";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:long_name = "Bathymetric depth at profile
            measurement site";
             SDN_BOT_DEPTH:units = "meters";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::MBANZZZZ";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_parameter_name = "Sea-floor depth (below
            instantaneous sea level) {bathymetric depth} in the water body";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_uom_name = "Metres";
            SDN BOT DEPTH: FillValue = -999.0
-- SeaDataNet optional attribute variables
-- Linkages to external resources (see Section 4.4.8)
-- SDN_REFERENCES - single linkage to a URI which resolves to an XHTML page
-- carrying additional information such as usage metadata or DOI landing page
-- SDN XLINK - multiple (in this example 5) linkages to external resource URNs
-- following a strictly defined syntax that resolve into either XML documents of known
-- schema or XHTML.
      char SDN_REFERENCES(INSTANCE, STRING80);
            SDN_REFERENCES:long_name = "Usage metadata reference";
      char SDN_XLINK (INSTANCE, REFMAX, STRING80);
            SDN_XLINK:long_name = "External resource linkages";
-- This is the profile z co-ordinate of dimension MAXZ.
-- Acceptable parameters for the z co-ordinate are DEPTH, PRES and
-- HEIGHT. These names do not imply an origin (e.g. sea surface) - that must be
-- specified through attributes.
-- Depth is preferred to pressure.
-- Height is used for atmospheric profiles such as radiosondes.
-- A rule for SeaDataNet profiles is that the z co-ordinate increases or decreases
-- monotonically but not necessarily in regular increments.
-- The netCDF name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for
-- SeaDataNet at DEPTH, PRES or HEIGHT as appropriate.
      float DEPTH(INSTANCE, MAXZ);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet.
```

SeaDataNet

```
DEPTH:long_name = "Depth";
-- Example standard names to use are 'depth', 'sea_water_pressure_due_to_sea_water'
or 'heiaht'
            DEPTH:standard_name = "depth";
            DEPTH:units = "meters";
            DEPTH:ancillary_variables= "DEPTH_OCEANSITES_QC
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC";
            DEPTH:axis = "Z";
            DEPTH:positive = "down";
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet
            DEPTH:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ADEPZZ01";
            DEPTH:sdn_parameter_name = "Depth below surface of the water
            DEPTH:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA" ;
            DEPTH:sdn_uom_name = "Metres"
-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter
-- and the fall rate equation applied for XBT and XCTD data.
         DEPTH::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22:: TOOL0714"
         DEPTH::sdn_instrument_name =" Lockheed Martin Sippican AXCTD "
         DEPTH::sdn_fall_rate_urn = "SDN:L33::720"
         DEPTH::sdn_fall_rate_name = " Sippican AXCTD"
-- Again we have flags in OceanSITES (optional) and SeaDataNet
-- (mandatory) conventions.
-- OceanSITES
      byte DEPTH_OCEANSITES_QC(INSTANCE, MAXZ);
            DEPTH_OCEANSITES_QC:long_name = "OceanSites quality flag" ;
            DEPTH_OCEANSITES_QC:Conventions = "OceanSites reference table 2";
            DEPTH_OCEANSITES_QC:_FillValue = -128b;
            DEPTH_OCEANSITES_QC:valid_min = 0b ;
            DEPTH_OCEANSITES_QC:valid_max = 9b ;
            DEPTH_OCEANSITES_QC:flag_values = 0b, 1b, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 6b, 7b, 8b,
            DEPTH_OCEANSITES_QC:flag_meanings = "no_qc_performed good_data
            probably_good_data_bad_data_that_are_potentially_correctable_bad_data
            value changed not used nominal value interpolated value missing value";
-- SeaDataNet
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for
-- SeaDataNet at DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC, PRES_SEADATANET_QC
-- or HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC as appropriate.
      byte DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXZ);
```



```
DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
            53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings =
                                                             "no_quality_control
            good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
                                  value_below_detection
            changed_value
                                                                value_in_excess
            interpolated value missing value value phenomenon uncertain";
-- Salinity is included here as an example data variable: there will almost
-- certainly be others!
-- Repeat the same set of attributes for each data parameter.
-- The variable names and long names of these variables are not
-- standardised - the standardised naming is achieved through
-- the sdn_parameter_urn and sdn_parameter_name attributes.
      float PSAL(INSTANCE, MAXZ);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet.
            PSAL:long_name = "Practical salinity";
            PSAL:units = "1e-3";
-- It is possible that other ancillary variables such as standard
-- deviations might be required.
-- These should be included following the examples in the CF1.6 Metadata
-- Convention, but should also include the four SeaDataNet semantic
-- parameter attributes (sdn parameter urn, sdn parameter name,
-- sdn uom urn, sdn uom name).
            PSAL:ancillary_variables= "PSAL_OCEANSITES_QC"
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC";
-- Note this will be different if the z co-ordinate is PRES or HEIGHT
            PSAL:coordinates = "TIME DEPTH LATITUDE LONGITUDE";
-- CF attributes optional for SeaDataNet
-- Inclusion of the Standard Name here is intentional because the
-- SeaDataNet vocabulary is more extensive and it fulfils the function
-- of uniquely identifying the variable within the file.
-- However, inclusion of a Standard Name if at all possible is very
-- strongly recommended.
            PSAL:standard_name = "sea_water_practical_salinity";
            PSAL:_FillValue = -1.0f;
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet.
```

PSAL:sdn_parameter_name = "Practical salinity of the water body";

PSAL:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::PSLTZZ01";

SeaDataNet

```
PSAL:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UUUU";
            PSAL:sdn_uom_name = "Dimensionless"
-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter
            PSAL::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0002"
            PSAL::sdn_instrument_name ="Neil Brown MK3 CTD"
-- Again we have flags in OceanSITES (optional) and SeaDataNet
-- (mandatory) conventions.
-- OceanSITES
      byte PSAL_OCEANSITES_QC(INSTANCE, MAXZ);
            PSAL_OCEANSITES_QC:long_name = "OceanSites quality flag";
            PSAL_OCEANSITES_QC:Conventions = "OceanSites reference table 2";
            PSAL_OCEANSITES_QC:_FillValue = -128b;
            PSAL_OCEANSITES_QC:valid_min = 0b;
            PSAL OCEANSITES QC:valid max = 9b;
            PSAL_OCEANSITES_QC:flag_values = 0b, 1b, 2b, 3b, 4b, 5b, 6b, 7b, 8b, 9b
            PSAL_OCEANSITES_QC:flag_meanings = "no_qc_performed good_data
probably_good_data bad_data_that_are_potentially_correctable bad_data value_changed
not_used nominal_value interpolated_value missing_value";
-- SeaDataNet flag
      byte PSAL_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXZ);
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b,
            54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings
                                                          "no_quality_control
                                                     good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
                                 value below detection
            changed value
                                                             value in excess
            interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
// global attributes:
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet
-- If the file is SeaDataNet compliant, but not MyOcean compliant then the
-- Conventions attribute would be "SeaDataNet_1.0 CF1.6" (no comma: they
-- are only included if a convention label included embedded spaces
-- - see CF Trac ticket 76).
      :Conventions = "SeaDataNet_1.0,OceanSITES Manual 1.1,CF1.6";
      :featureType = "profile";
      :title = "RRS Challenger Cruise CH33 CTD Station 35";
      :date_update = "2012-05-22T19:28:30Z";
```

SeaDataNet

```
-- CF attributes recommended for SeaDataNet where appropriate
       :comment = "Published version of the profile."
-- OceanSITES attributes
-- Optional for SeaDataNet. Note that "references" has been moved from an
-- attribute to a variable to allow a reference to be assigned to each
-- profile in the collection.
             :references = "http://www.myocean.eu.org,http://www.coriolis.eu.org";
             :source = "GLIDER: observation";
-- OceanSITES extensions
-- Optional for SeaDataNet
-- From a SeaDataNet perspective, there is no problem with the
-- inclusion of additional global attributes to enhance interoperability
-- with MyOcean or other conventions such as USNODC NetCDF templates.
-- However, be aware that some attributes might place constraints on the
-- composition of the collection (e.g. inclusion of "platform_name"
-- restricts the collection to profiles from a given platform) that are
-- contrary to SeaDataNet business objectives such as EMODNET product
-- aggregations.
-- Note that each profile in SeaDataNet has an accompanying ISO19115
-- (soon to be ISO19139) metadata document so a "metadata light"
-- approach has been taken to avoid the inevitable maintenance
-- issues with information duplication
             :data_type = "OceanSITES vertical profile";
             :format_version = "1.1";
             :platform_code = "EGO-Pheidippides";
             :institution = "Oceanography Center Cyprus";
             :wmo_platform_code = "68450" :
             :platform name = "EGO-Pheidippides";
             :history = "2012-05-22T19:28:30Z : Creation" ;
             :data_mode = "R" ;
             :quality_control_indicator = "6";
             :quality_index = "A";
             :netcdf version = "3.5";
             :summary = "The Pheidippides glider was deployed in December 2011,
             equiped with salinity and oxygen sensors";
             :naming_authority = "OceanSITES" ;
             :id = "68450_20120521";
             :cdm_data_type = "vertical profile";
             :area = "Global Ocean";
             :geospatial_lat_min = "33.7655";
             :geospatial_lat_max = "33.796"
             :geospatial_lon_min = "33.2675";
             :geospatial_lon_max = "33.305";
             :geospatial_vertical_min = "2";
             :geospatial vertical max = "1002";
             :geospatial_vertical_positive = "down";
             :time_coverage_start = "2012-05-21T03:43:00Z";
             :time_coverage_end = "2012-05-21T17:34:00Z"
             :institution_references = "http://www.coriolis.eu.org";
```

```
:contact = "codac@ifremer.fr";
              :author = "Coriolis and MyOcean data provider";
              :data_assembly_center = "Coriolis";
              :pi_name = "Dan Hayes" ;
:distribution_statement = "These data follow MyOcean standards; they are
public and free of charge. User assumes all risk for use of data. User must display citation
in any publication or product using data. User must contact PI prior to any commercial use
of data. More on: http://www.myocean.eu/data_policy";
              :citation = "These data were collected and made freely available by the
MyOcean project and the programs that contribute to it";
              :update_interval = "daily";
              :qc_manual = "OceanSITES User\'s Manual v1.1";
-- Additional attributes from other conventions may be included here.
-- The SeaDataNet specification describes the minimum amount of information
-- required by SeaDataNet.
-- There is no upper limit.
data:
Follows on from here......
```

2.5.1.5. Extension to multiple profile storage

Extending the single-profile design to multiple profile storage is simple, requiring two changes. First, the INSTANCE dimension value needs to be changed from 1 to UNLIMITED. Secondly, a _FillValue attribute, to be used when padding profiles to an even length, needs to be added to the z co-ordinate variable.

2.5.2. SeaDataNet NetCDF Profile for Time Series Data

This is the SeaDataNet NetCDF profile to be used for the storage of data that have been mapped onto the time series feature types, which is defined as having a single x co-ordinate (e.g. longitude), a single y co-ordinate (e.g. latitude), a single z co-ordinate (e.g. depth) and a monotonic set of time co-ordinates. It covers many common oceanographic types such as most moored instrument data (except ADCPs) and sea level data from tide gauges.

2.5.2.1. Co-ordinate variables

The co-ordinate variables are of two types. The z co-ordinate, latitude and longitude are 1-D vectors, which for single profile storage have a length of 1. These have been used in preference to scalars to provide a foundation for multi-profile storage. The preferred z co-ordinate parameter is either depth below sea level for measurements in water bodies or height above sea level for measurements in the atmosphere such as meteorological measurements. Height above the seafloor is also allowed (but depth is STRONGLY preferred) to cover legacy data where depth cannot be calculated because no bathymetric depth data are available. Pressure as a z co-ordinate is not allowed for time series.

Time values are stored in a 2D array, with one dimension set to one for single-profile storage. The SeaDataNet practice of using Chronological Julian Day (CJD) as the numeric representation of time has been followed. Note that CF requires that co-ordinate variables be monotonic, so the data need to be time sorted.

2.5.2.2. Geophysical variables

The geophysical variables, like the time co-ordinates, are stored as 2D arrays with the INSTANCE dimension set to 1. Each geophysical variable has at least one ancillary variable named using the conventions described in section 3.4.3 containing the SeaDataNet qualifier flags for that variable.

2.5.2.3. Attributes

The Featuretype attribute is set to 'timeSeries'.

2.5.2.4. **CDL** example

There now follows an example NetCDF file structure for the storage of a single time series (e.g. a current meter record) in annotated network Common Data form Language (CDL). The annotations are contained in lines prefixed by two hyphens ('--'). Mandatory (for SeaDataNet) variables and attributes are shown in bold type.

```
-- This file specifies the SeaDataNet NetCDF encoding for a single time series
-- in annotated CDL
dimensions:
-- The INSTANCE dimension is the number of profiles stored in the file
-- The MAXT dimension is set to the number of time steps in the stored series
-- The STRING80 dimension is specifies the length of fixed size strings for time
-- series label variables
      INSTANCE = 1; // MAXT = 1000;
      STRING80 = 80:
      REFMAX = 5;
variables:
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet
      double TIME(INSTANCE, MAXT);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet - include verbatim
             TIME:long_name = "Chronological Julian Date";
             TIME:standard_name = "time";
             TIME:units = "days since -4713-01-01T00:00:00Z";
             TIME:ancillary_variables = "TIME_SEADATANET_QC";
             TIME:axis = "T";
             TIME:calendar = "julian";
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet
-- sdn_parameter_urn should specify the correct concept from the
-- P01 vocabulary for the parameter.
-- sdn_parameter_name is the preferred label for the concept from the P01
-- vocabulary.
-- sdn_uom_urn should specify the correct concept from the P06 vocabulary
-- for the unit of measure.
-- sdn_uom_name is the preferred label for the concept from
```

SeaDataNet

```
-- the P06 vocabulary.
            TIME:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::CJDY1101";
            TIME:sdn_parameter_name = "Julian Date (chronological)";
            TIME:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UTAA";
            TIME:sdn_uom_name = "Days"
-- This is the SeaDataNet flag and is mandatory (all attributes) for SeaDataNet
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed
-- for SeaDataNet. Include verbatim.
      byte TIME_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
            53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
            good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
            changed_value_value_below_detection_value_in_excess
            interpolated value missing value value phenomenon uncertain";
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet
-- Note the rule in SeaDataNet is that position is assumed to be
-- WGS-84 on the basis that this is either the correct CRS
-- or the accuracy is so poor that CRS is irrelevant
-- This is reported by the inclusion below of a crs variable with attributes
-- appropriate to WGS84
      double LATITUDE(INSTANCE);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet
            LATITUDE:long_name = "Latitude";
            LATITUDE:standard_name = "latitude";
            LATITUDE:units = "degrees_north";
            LATITUDE:ancillary_variables = "POSITION_SEADATANET_QC";
            LATITUDE:axis = "Y";
            LATITUDE:grid_mapping = "crs";
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet
            LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ALATZZ01";
            LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Latitude north";
            LATITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGN";
            LATITUDE:sdn_uom_name = "Degrees north";
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet
      double LONGITUDE(INSTANCE);
```

```
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet
           LONGITUDE:long_name = "Longitude";
           LONGITUDE:standard_name = "longitude";
           LONGITUDE:units = "degrees_east";
           LONGITUDE:ancillary_variables = "POSITION_SEADATANET_QC";
           LONGITUDE:axis = "X";
            LONGITUDE:grid_mapping = "crs";
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet
           LONGITUDE:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ALONZZ01";
           LONGITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Longitude east";
           LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGE";
           LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_name = "Degrees east";
-- The OceanSITES convention of merging latitude and longitude QC into
-- a position QC has been followed
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet
     byte POSITION_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE);
           POSITION SEADATANET QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality
           flag";
            POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet
            measurand qualifier flags";
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b,
           52b, 53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
           good value probably good value probably bad value bad value
           changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess
           interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
-- SeaDatanet CRS reporting - include verbatim
     int crs;
           crs:grid_mapping_name = "latitude_longitude"
           crs:epsg_code = "EPSG:4326"
           crs:semi_major_axis = 6378137.0;
           crs:inverse_flattening = 298.257223563;

    SeaDataNet attribute and metadata variables such as identifiers

-- and water depths at the measurement site.
-- Mandatory for SeaDataNet.
-- Note this could be included as delimited lists in global attributes, but this
-- encoding is preferred.
-- The names for these variables, including case, are fixed for SeaDataNet.
     char SDN_CRUISE(INSTANCE,STRING80);
           SDN_CRUISE:long_name = "Time series grouping label";
      char SDN_STATION(INSTANCE,STRING80);
```

```
SDN_STATION:long_name = "Time series label";
      char SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID (INSTANCE,STRING80);
            SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID:long_name = "SeaDataNet CDI identifier";
            SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID:cf_role = "timeseries_id";
-- EDMO code provides the namespace for CDI local identifier.
-- Name including case id fixed for SeaDataNet.
      int SDN_EDMO_CODE (INSTANCE);
      SDN_EDMO_CODE:long_name = "European Directory of Marine
      Organisations code for the CDI partner"
-- SeaDataNet optional attribute variables.
-- Bathymetric depth required is considered less important for time series than profiles
-- and so is optional rather than mandatory.
      float SDN BOT DEPTH (INSTANCE);
            SDN BOT DEPTH:standard name =
            "sea_floor_depth_below_sea_surface";
            SDN BOT DEPTH:long name = "Bathymetric depth at time series
            measurement site";
            SDN BOT DEPTH:units = "meters";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::MBANZZZZ";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_parameter_name = "Sea-floor depth (below
            instantaneous sea level) {bathymetric depth} in the water body";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_uom_name = "Metres";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:_FillValue = -999.0
-- Linkages to external resources (see Section 4.4.8)
-- SDN REFERENCES - single linkage to a URI which resolves to an XHTML page
-- carrying additional information such as usage metadata or DOI landing page
-- SDN_XLINK - multiple (in this example 5) linkages to external resource URNs
-- following a strictly defined syntax that resolve into either XML documents of known
-- schema or XHTML.
      char SDN REFERENCES(INSTANCE, STRING80);
            SDN_REFERENCES:long_name = "Usage metadata reference";
      char SDN_XLINK (INSTANCE, REFMAX, STRING80);
            SDN_XLINK_TYPE:long_name = "External resource linkages";
-- In the CF1.6 specification time series do not have a z co-ordinate.
-- However in observational oceanography, the depth of a measurement is as
-- important as latitude and longitude and so a z co-ordinate array with
-- one value per time series stored has been included.
-- Acceptable netCDF variable names are DEPTH and HEIGHT.
-- These names do not imply an origin (e.g. sea surface) - that must be
-- specified through attributes.
```

HEIGHT may be used for atmospheric profiles such as radiosondes
or to specify locations in the water column relative to the seabed.
The latter should be regarded as a last resort. Depth below sea surface

SeaDataNet

```
-- should be used instead if at all possible.
      float DEPTH(INSTANCE);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet.
            DEPTH:long_name = "Nominal depth over time series";
-- Standard names to use are 'depth', 'height' or 'height_above_sea_floor'
            DEPTH:standard name = "depth";
            DEPTH:units = "meters";
            DEPTH:ancillary_variables = "DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC";
            DEPTH:axis = "Z";
            DEPTH:positive = "down";
            DEPTH:_FillValue -999.0f;
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet.
            DEPTH:sdn parameter urn = "SDN:P01::ADEPZZ01";
            DEPTH:sdn_parameter_name = "Depth below surface of the water
            body";
            DEPTH:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA";
            DEPTH:sdn_uom_name = "Metres"
-- The name for the flag variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet
-- at DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC, HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC or
-- HEIGHT_ABOVE_SEAFLOOR_SEADATANET_QC as appropriate.
      byte DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE);
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
            53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            DEPTH SEADATANET OC: flag meanings = "no quality control
            good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
            changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess
            interpolated value missing value value phenomenon uncertain";
-- Salinity is included here as an example data variable:
-- there will almost certainly be others!
-- Repeat the same set of attributes for each data parameter.
-- The variable names and long names of these variables are not standardised.
-- The standardised naming is achieved through the sdn parameter urn
-- and sdn_parameter_name attributes.
      float PSAL(INSTANCE, MAXT);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet
            PSAL:long_name = "Practical salinity";
```

```
SeaDataNet
```

```
PSAL:units = "1e-3";
-- It is possible that other ancillary variables such as standard
-- deviations might be required.
-- These should be included following the examples in the
-- CF1.6 Metadata Convention, but should also include the four SeaDataNet
-- semantic parameter attributes (sdn_parameter_urn, sdn_parameter_name,
-- sdn_uom_urn, sdn_uom_name).
            PSAL:ancillary_variables = "PSAL_SEADATANET_QC";
-- Note this will be different if the z co-ordinate is HEIGHT ABOVE SEAFLOOR
-- or HEIGHT.
            PSAL:coordinates = "TIME DEPTH LATITUDE LONGITUDE";
-- CF attributes optional for SeaDataNet.
-- Inclusion of the Standard Name here is intentional because the SeaDataNet vocabulary
-- is more extensive and it fulfils the function of uniquely identifying the variable within
-- However, inclusion of a Standard Name if at all possible is very strongly
-- recommended.
            PSAL:standard_name = "sea_water_practical_salinity";
            PSAL:_FillValue = -1.0f;
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet.
            PSAL:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::PSLTZZ01";
            PSAL:sdn_parameter_name = "Practical salinity of the water
            body";
            PSAL:sdn uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UUUU";
            PSAL:sdn_uom_name = "Dimensionless"
-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter
            PSAL::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0211"
            PSAL::sdn instrument name ="Aanderaa RCM 4/5 Recording Current
            Meter"
-- SeaDataNet flag channel.
      byte PSAL_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
            53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
            good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
            changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess
            interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
```

Follows on from here......

2.5.2.5. Extension to multiple time series storage

Extending the single time series design to multiple time series storage is simple, requiring two changes. First, the INSTANCE dimension value needs to be changed from 1 to UNLIMITED. Secondly, a _FillValue attribute, to be used when padding time series to an equal number of time steps, needs to be added to the TIME variable.

2.5.3. SeaDataNet NetCDF Profile for Trajectory Data

This is the SeaDataNet NetCDF profile to be used for the storage of data that have been mapped onto the trajectory feature types, which is defined as having an equal number of x co-ordinates (e.g. longitude), y co-ordinates (e.g. latitude), z co-ordinates (e.g. depth) and time co-ordinates. It is generally used for continuously sampled shipboard measurements, such as thermosalinograph data (but not vessel-mounted ADCP data) and some AUV data, such as unbinned glider data.

CF feature types do not distinguish between two-dimensional and three-dimensional trajectories. Consequently, the approach taken has been to use the same NetCDF profile for both, with a mandatory z co-ordinate variable. In the case of two-dimensional trajectories all values in the z co-ordinate array are set to the same value.

Should full (downcast plus upcast) CTD profiles need to be stored in SeaDataNet compliant NetCDF then they may be modelled as trajectories. Note that this will require inclusion of date/time, latitude and longitude values for every data point.

2.5.3.1. Co-ordinate variables

All four co-ordinate variables are stored in 2D arrays, with the INSTANCE dimension set to one for single-trajectory storage. The TIME array should be monotonic. The SeaDataNet practice of using Chronological Julian Day (CJD) as the numeric representation for time has been followed.

The x and y co-ordinates are LONGITUDE and LATITUDE. SeaDataNet convention is to use the 2D WGS-84 CRS (EPSG 4326). The two co-ordinates share a common qualifier flag variable (POSITION_SEADATANET_QC).

The permitted z co-ordinate variables are the same as for profile data, namely DEPTH, HEIGHT or PRES. DEPTH is preferred to PRES.

2.5.3.2. Geophysical variables

The geophysical variables, like the co-ordinate variables, are stored as 2D arrays with the INSTANCE dimension set to 1. Each geophysical variable has at least one ancillary variable named using the conventions described in section 3.4.3 containing the SeaDataNet qualifier flags for that variable.

2.5.3.3. Attributes

The Featuretype attribute is set to 'trajectory'.

2.5.3.4. **CDL** example

There now follows an example NetCDF file structure for the storage of a single trajectory (e.g. a thermosalinograph record for a cruise) in annotated network Common Data form Language (CDL). The annotations are contained in lines prefixed by two hyphens ('- -'). Mandatory (for SeaDataNet) variables and attributes are shown in bold type.

```
-- This file specifies the SeaDataNet NetCDF encoding for a single trajectory
-- in annotated CDL.
dimensions:
-- The 'INSTANCE dimension is set to 1.
-- This example was based on storage a trajectory containing 1000 time steps.
-- The STRING80 dimension is specifies the length of fixed size strings for time
-- series label variables.
      INSTANCE = 1;
      MAXT = 1000;
      STRING80 = 80;
      REFMAX = 5:
variables:
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet.
      double TIME(INSTANCE, MAXT);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet - include verbatim except for
-- ancillary variables.
             TIME:long_name = "Chronological Julian Date";
             TIME:standard name = "time";
             TIME:units = "days since -4713-01-01T00:00:00Z";
             TIME:ancillary_variables = "TIME_SEADATANET_QC";
             TIME:axis = "T";
             TIME:calendar = "julian";
```

```
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet
-- sdn parameter urn should specify the correct concept
-- from the P01 vocabulary for the parameter.
-- sdn_parameter_name is the preferred label for the concept from the
-- P01 vocabulary.
-- sdn uom urn should specify the correct concept from the P06
-- vocabulary for the unit of measure.
-- sdn_uom_name is the preferred label for the concept from the
-- P06 vocabulary.
            TIME:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::CJDY1101";
            TIME:sdn_parameter_name = "Julian Date (chronological)";
            TIME:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UTAA";
            TIME:sdn_uom_name = "Days"
-- This is the SeaDataNet flag and is mandatory (all attributes) for SeaDataNet.
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet.
-- Include verbatim.
      byte TIME_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b,
            54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings
                                                           "no_quality_control
            good value probably good value probably bad value bad value
            changed value
                                 value below detection
                                                              value in excess
            interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet.
-- Note the rule in SeaDataNet is that position is assumed to be WGS-84
-- on the basis that this is either the correct CRS or the accuracy is so poor
-- that CRS is irrelevant.
-- This is reported by the inclusion below of a crs variable with attributes
-- appropriate to WGS84.
      double LATITUDE(INSTANCE, MAXT) ;
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet
            LATITUDE:long_name = "Latitude";
            LATITUDE:standard_name = "latitude";
            LATITUDE:units = "degrees_north";
            LATITUDE:ancillary_variables = "POSITION_SEADATANET_QC";
            LATITUDE:axis = "Y";
            LATITUDE:grid_mapping = "crs";
```

-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet.

```
LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ALATZZ01";
           LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Latitude north";
           LATITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGN";
           LATITUDE:sdn uom name = "Degrees north";
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet.
     double LONGITUDE(INSTANCE, MAXT);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet.
           LONGITUDE:long_name = "Longitude";
           LONGITUDE:standard name = "longitude";
           LONGITUDE:units = "degrees_east";
           LONGITUDE:ancillary_variables = "POSITION_SEADATANET_QC";
           LONGITUDE:axis = "X";
           LONGITUDE:grid_mapping = "crs";
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet.
           LONGITUDE:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ALONZZ01";
           LONGITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Longitude east";
           LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGE";
           LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_name = "Degrees east";
-- The OceanSITES convention of merging latitude and longitude QC into a
-- position QC has been followed.
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet.
     byte POSITION_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
           POSITION SEADATANET QC:long name = "SeaDataNet quality
           flag";
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions
                                                               "SeaDataNet
           measurand qualifier flags";
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
           53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
           good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
           changed_value
                               value_below_detection
                                                           value_in_excess
           interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
-- SeaDatanet CRS reporting - include verbatim
     int crs;
           crs:grid_mapping_name = "latitude_longitude"
           csr:epsg_code = "EPSG:4326"
           crs:semi_major_axis = 6378137.0;
           crs:inverse_flattening = 298.257223563;
-- SeaDataNet attribute and metadata variables such as identifiers.
```

-- Note that bathymetric depth is considered as a geophysical variable for

```
-- trajectory series as it constitutes a measured parameter within the dataset.
-- Mandatory for SeaDataNet.
-- Note this could be included as delimited lists in global attributes
-- but this is encoding is preferred.
-- The names for these variables, including case, are fixed for SeaDataNet.
      char SDN_CRUISE(INSTANCE,STRING80);
             SDN_CRUISE:long_name = "Trajectory grouping label";
      char SDN_STATION(INSTANCE,STRING80);
             SDN_STATION:long_name = "Trajectory label";
      char SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID (INSTANCE,STRING80);
             SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID:long_name = "SeaDataNet CDI identifier";
             SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID:cf_role = "trajectory_id";
-- EDMO code provides the namespace for CDI local identifier
-- (SeaDataNet convention).
-- Name including case id fixed for SeaDataNet.
      int SDN EDMO CODE (INSTANCE);
             SDN_EDMO_CODE:long_name = "European Directory of Marine
             Organisations code for the CDI partner"
-- Linkages to external resources (see Section 4.4.8)

    SDN_REFERENCES - single linkage to a URI which resolves to an XHTML page

-- carrying additional information such as usage metadata or DOI landing page
-- SDN XLINK - multiple (in this example 5) linkages to external resource URNs
-- following a strictly defined syntax that resolve into either XML documents of known
-- schema or XHTML.
      char SDN_REFERENCES(INSTANCE, STRING80);
             SDN_REFERENCES:long_name = "Usage metadata reference";
      char SDN_XLINK (INSTANCE, REFMAX, STRING80);
             SDN_XLINK_TYPE:long_name = "External resource linkages";
-- In the CF1.6 specification trajectories do not have a z co-ordinate.
-- However in observational oceanography, the depth of a measurement is as
-- important as latitude and longitude. Also, there are an increasing number
-- of 3D trajectory datasets in oceanography with the growth in the
-- use of AUVs.
-- Consequently, a z co-ordinate has been included.
-- This will have a constant value for 2D trajectory data such
-- as thermosalinograph data.
-- The name for this variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet
-- to DEPTH, HEIGHT or PRES as appropriate. DEPTH is preferred over PRES.
-- These names do not imply an origin (e.g. sea surface) - that must be
-- specified through attributes.
      float DEPTH(INSTANCE, MAXT);
```

-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet

SeaDataNet

```
DEPTH:long_name = "Depth";
-- Standard names to use are 'depth', 'height' or
--'sea water pressure due to sea water'
            DEPTH:standard_name = "depth" ;
            DEPTH:units = "meters";
            DEPTH:ancillary_variables = "DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC";
            DEPTH:axis = "Z";
            DEPTH:positive = "down";
            DEPTH: FillValue -999.0f;
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet
            DEPTH:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ADEPZZ01";
            DEPTH:sdn_parameter_name = "Depth below surface of the water
            body";
            DEPTH:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA";
            DEPTH:sdn_uom_name = "Metres"
-- The name for the flag variable, including upper case, is fixed for SeaDataNet
-- at DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC, HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC or
-- PRES_SEADATANET_QC as appropriate.
      byte DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag" ;
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
            53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control"
            good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
            changed_value
                                value_below_detection
                                                             value_in_excess
            interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
-- Salinity is included here as an example data variable:
-- there will almost certainly be others!
-- Repeat the same set of attributes for each data parameter.
-- The variable names and long names of these variables are not standardised.
-- The standardised naming is achieved through the sdn_parameter_urn
-- and sdn_parameter_name attributes.
      float PSAL(INSTANCE, MAXT);
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet
            PSAL:long_name = "Practical salinity";
            PSAL:units = "1e-3";
-- It is possible that other ancillary variables such as standard
-- deviations might be required.
```

```
-- These should be included following the examples in the CF1.6 Metadata
-- Conventions, but should also include the four SeaDataNet semantic
-- parameter attributes (sdn_parameter_urn, sdn_parameter_name,
-- sdn uom urn, sdn uom name).
            PSAL:ancillary_variables = "PSAL_SEADATANET_QC";
-- Note this will be different if the z co-ordinate is PRES or HEIGHT.
            PSAL:coordinates = "TIME DEPTH LATITUDE LONGITUDE";
-- CF attributes optional for SeaDataNet.
-- Inclusion of the Standard Name here is intentional because the SeaDataNet vocabulary
-- is more extensive and it fulfils the function of uniquely identifying the variable within
-- the file. However, inclusion of a Standard Name if at all possible is very strongly
-- recommended.
            PSAL:standard_name = "sea_water_practical_salinity";
            PSAL: FillValue = -1.0f;
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet.
            PSAL:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::PSLTZZ01";
            PSAL:sdn_parameter_name = "Practical salinity of the water body";
            PSAL:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UUUU";
            PSAL:sdn uom name = "Dimensionless"
-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter
            PSAL::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0276"
            PSAL::sdn instrument name ="OceanData TSG103 thermosalinograph"
-- SeaDataNet flag channel.
      byte PSAL_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b,
            54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            PSAL_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings
                                                           "no_quality_control
            good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
                                value_below_detection
            changed_value
                                                              value_in_excess
            interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
// global attributes:
-- CF attributes mandatory for SeaDataNet.
      :Conventions = "SeaDataNet_1.0 CF1.6";
      :featureType = "trajectory";
      :title = "North Sea Project thermosalinograph data";
```

Follows on from here......

```
:date_update = "2012-05-22T19:28:30Z" ;
--
-- CF attributes recommended for SeaDataNet where appropriate.
-- :comment = "Published dataset"
--
-- Additional attributes from other conventions may be included here.
-- The SeaDataNet specification describes the minimum amount of information
-- required by SeaDataNet.
--
-- There is no upper limit.
--
data:
```

2.5.3.5. Extension to multiple trajectory storage

Extending the single trajectory design to multiple trajectory storage is simple, requiring two changes. First, the INSTANCE dimension value needs to be changed from 1 to UNLIMITED. Secondly, a _FillValue attribute, to be used when padding trajectories to an equal number of time steps, needs to be added to all four co-ordinate variables (TIME, LATITUDE, LONGITUDE and DEPTH).

2.5.4. SeaDataNet NetCDF for timeSeriesProfile Data

The data model for the CF1.6 timeSeries feature time includes one or more geophysical variables along the TIME dimension plus co-ordinate variables (latitude, longitude and depth/height) along the INSTANCE dimension. The timeSeriesProfile feature type adds the possibility of one or more geophysical variables for each instance that have another dimension in addition to the time dimension.

It is tempting when considering some types of oceanographic data such as moored ADCPs or thermistor chains to jump in and label this additional dimension as 'depth'. However, this approach is both limiting and potentially very confusing. It is limiting because there are data types, such as the grain-size distribution of suspended particulate material where this additional dimension could be non-spatial. It is potentially confusing because there is the possibility for 'DEPTH' to provide the z co-ordinate for one or more 2-D (INSTANCE and TIME) geophysical variables. Consider a moored ADCP mounted mid-water (e.g. on the leg of an oil rig) with a temperature sensor as part of the instrument. The water temperatures need to be associated with a depth that is different from the depths of any of the current measurements. Consequently, a different, neutral variable name - PROFZ - has been chosen for the additional dimension of the 3-D geophysical variables.

2.5.4.1. Co-ordinate variables

The co-ordinate variables are of three types. The depth/height, latitude and longitude are 1-D vectors, which for single profile storage have a length of 1. These have been used in preference to scalars to provide a foundation for multi-profile storage. The SeaDataNet practice where latitude and longitude are either given in 2-D WGS-84 (EPSG 4326) CRS or are of such low accuracy that WGS-84 can be assumed has been followed.

The preferred z co-ordinate parameter is either depth below sea level for measurements in water bodies or height above sea level for measurements in the atmosphere such as meteorological

measurements. Height above the seafloor is also allowed for seabed packages especially those measuring sea level or to cover legacy data where depth cannot be calculated because no bathymetric depth data are available. If feasible then depth is strongly preferred. Pressure as a z co-ordinate is not allowed for time series.

Time values are stored in a 2-D array, with one dimension set to one for single-profile storage. The SeaDataNet practice of using Chronological Julian Day (CJD) as the numeric representation of time has been followed. Note that CF requires that co-ordinate variables be monotonic, so the data need to be time sorted.

The profile z co-ordinates are stored in a 3-D array, with one dimension set to one for single-profile storage. In order to maximise the flexibility of the format, there are minimal restrictions in the SeaDataNet profile on the variables that may be mapped onto this co-ordinate. It could be an absolute depth below sea surface, an absolute height above the seabed, the distance between the instrument and the measurement, a grain size or even the identifier of a biological taxon.

2.5.4.2. Geophysical variables

The geophysical variables are of two types. First, there are the variables measured at each level in the profile, such as current velocities for an ADCP., Like the profile z co-ordinates, these are stored as 3-D arrays with the INSTANCE dimension set to 1.

The second type are only measured at a single level for each time step, such as water temperature measured by a temperature sensor fixed to an ADCP instrument. These are stored in 2-D arrays of dimension (INSTANCE, MAXT)

Each geophysical variable has at least one ancillary variable named using the conventions described in section 3.4.3 containing the SeaDataNet qualifier flags for that variable.

2.5.4.3. Attributes

The Featuretype attribute is set to 'timeSeriesProfile'.

2.5.4.4. **CDL** example

There now follows an example NetCDF file that will hold a single series from a moored ADCP with 24 current bins and both pressure and temperature sensors fitted to the base instrument in annotated networkCommonDataform Language (CDL). The annotations are contained in lines prefixed by two hyphens ('- - '). Mandatory (for SeaDataNet) variables and attributes are shown in bold type.

This example has been designed for the primary SeaDataNet use case, which is to deliver data to a user who is primarily interested in applying the geophysical variables, such as the builder of an aggregated data product like a climatology. Consequently, the number of geophysical variables carried is kept to a minimum. Should the format be required to fulfil use cases such as delivery to an expert for reanalysis then additional geophysical variables may be added, such as individual beam returns and performance criteria.

- -- This file specifies the SeaDataNet NetCDF encoding for a moored ADCP with
- -- pressure and temperature sensors mounted on the instrument in annotated CDL
- -- Compared to the profile, timeSeries and trajectory examples above the level
- -- of annotation has been drastically reduced. If further clarification is required

SeaDataNet

```
-- consult the timeSeries example above.
dimensions:
-- The INSTANCE dimension is the number of profiles stored in the file
-- The MAXZ dimension is the size of the second dimension of the geophysical variables
-- The MAXT dimension is set to the number of time steps in the stored series
-- The STRING80 dimension is specifies the length of fixed size strings for labels
     INSTANCE = 1; // MAXT = 1000;
     STRING80 = 80; MAXZ = 24; REFMAX = 5;
variables:
-- Co-ordinates
     double TIME(INSTANCE, MAXT);
           TIME:long_name = "Chronological Julian Date";
           TIME:standard_name = "time";
           TIME:units = "days since -4713-01-01T00:00:00Z";
           TIME:ancillary_variables = "TIME_SEADATANET_QC";
           TIME:axis = "T";
           TIME:calendar = "julian";
           TIME:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::CJDY1101";
           TIME:sdn_parameter_name = "Julian Date (chronological)";
           TIME:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UTAA";
           TIME:sdn_uom_name = "Days";
     byte TIME_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
           TIME_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
           TIME_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
           qualifier flags";
           TIME_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           TIME_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
           TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
           53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control"
           good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
           changed_value_value_below_detection value_in_excess
           interpolated value missing value value phenomenon uncertain";
     double LATITUDE(INSTANCE);
           LATITUDE:long_name = "Latitude";
           LATITUDE:standard_name = "latitude";
           LATITUDE:units = "degrees north";
           LATITUDE:ancillary_variables = "POSITION_SEADATANET_QC";
           LATITUDE:axis = "Y";
           LATITUDE:grid_mapping = "crs";
           LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ALATZZ01";
           LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Latitude north";
           LATITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGN";
           LATITUDE:sdn_uom_name = "Degrees north";
     double LONGITUDE(INSTANCE);
           LONGITUDE:long_name = "Longitude";
           LONGITUDE:standard_name = "longitude";
```



LONGITUDE:units = "degrees_east"; LONGITUDE:ancillary_variables = "POSITION_SEADATANET_QC"; LONGITUDE:axis = "X"; LONGITUDE:grid_mapping = "crs"; LONGITUDE:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ALONZZ01"; LONGITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Longitude east"; LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGE"; LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_name = "Degrees east"; -- The OceanSITES convention of merging latitude and longitude QC into -- a single position QC has been followed byte POSITION_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE); POSITION SEADATANET OC: long_name = "SeaDataNet quality **POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet** measurand qualifier flags"; **POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;** POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::"; POSITION SEADATANET OC:flag values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b; **POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control** good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain"; float HEIGHT(INSTANCE); **HEIGHT:long_name = "Nominal height above bed for time series"**; HEIGHT:standard_name = "'height_above_sea_floor "; **HEIGHT:units = "meters"; HEIGHT:ancillary_variables = "HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC"**; **HEIGHT:axis** = "Z" : **HEIGHT:**positive = "up"; HEIGHT:_FillValue -999.0f; HEIGHT:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::AHSFZZ01"; **HEIGHT:sdn_parameter_name = "Height above bed in the water** HEIGHT:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA"; **HEIGHT:sdn_uom_name = "Metres"** byte HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE); HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag"; **HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand"** qualifier flags"; **HEIGHT SEADATANET OC: FillValue = 57b;**

53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;

changed value value below detection value in excess

HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::"; HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,

HEIGHT_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value

interpolated value missing value value phenomenon uncertain";

⁻⁻ Note that following CF 1.6 each time step carries a set of PROFZ co-ordinates

SeaDataNet

```
--so these do not have to be constant throughout the time series
     float PROFZ(INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ);
           PROFZ:long_name = "Bin depth below mean sea level";
           PROFZ:standard_name = "depth_below_geoid";
           PROFZ:units = "meters";
           PROFZ:ancillary_variables = "PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC";
           PROFZ:axis = "Z";
           PROFZ:positive = "down";
           PROFZ:_FillValue -999.0f;
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet.
           PROFZ:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::DBINAA01";
           PROFZ:sdn_parameter_name = "Depth below sea surface (ADCP
           bin)";
           PROFZ:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA";
           PROFZ:sdn_uom_name = "Metres"
     byte PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE);
           PROFZ SEADATANET QC:long name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
           qualifier flags";
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
           53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
           good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
           changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess
           interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
-- SeaDatanet CRS reporting - include verbatim
     int crs;
     crs:grid_mapping_name = "latitude_longitude"
     crs:epsg_code = "EPSG:4326"
     crs:semi_major_axis = 6378137.0;
     crs:inverse_flattening = 298.257223563;
-- SeaDataNet identifiers and site water depth
-- 'CRUISE' is a grouping label that could be the deploying cruise
-- or mooring name. If in doubt set the same as 'STATION'
     char SDN_CRUISE(INSTANCE,STRING80);
           SDN_CRUISE:long_name = "Time series profile grouping label";
     char SDN STATION(INSTANCE,STRING80);
           SDN_STATION:long_name = "Time series label";
     char SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID (INSTANCE,STRING80);
           SDN LOCAL CDI ID:long name = "SeaDataNet CDI identifier";
           SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID:cf_role = "timeSeriesProfile_id";
-- EDMO code provides the namespace for CDI local identifier.
```

int SDN_EDMO_CODE (INSTANCE) ; SDN_EDMO_CODE:long_name = "European Directory of Marine Organisations code for the CDI partner"

```
-- Bathymetric depth is considered less important for time series than profiles
-- and so is optional rather than mandatory.
      float SDN BOT DEPTH (INSTANCE);
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:standard_name = "sea_floor_depth_below_geoid";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:long_name = "Mean bathymetric depth at time series
            profile measurement site":
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:units = "meters";
            SDN BOT DEPTH:sdn parameter urn = "SDN:P01::BATHDPTH";
            SDN BOT DEPTH:sdn parameter name = "Sea-floor depth (below mean
            sea level) {bathymetric depth}";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA";
            SDN_BOT_DEPTH:sdn_uom_name = "Metres";
            SDN BOT DEPTH: FillValue = -999.0
-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter
            SDN BOT DEPTH::sdn instrument urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0130"
            SDN BOT DEPTH::sdn instrument name = "Simrad EA500 echosounder"
-- SeaDataNet optional attribute variables
-- Linkages to external resources (see Section 4.4.8)
-- SDN_REFERENCES - single linkage to a URI which resolves to an XHTML page
-- carrying additional information such as usage metadata or DOI landing page
-- SDN XLINK - multiple (in this example 5) linkages to external resource URNs
-- following a strictly defined syntax that resolve into either XML documents of known
-- schema or XHTML.
      char SDN_REFERENCES(INSTANCE, STRING80);
            SDN REFERENCES:long name = "Usage metadata reference";
      char SDN_XLINK (INSTANCE, REFMAX, STRING80);
            SDN_XLINK_TYPE:long_name = "External resource linkages";
-- The geophysical variables included in this example are:
--Sea temperature (2-D)
-- Sea level - i.e. SFPG pressure (2-D)
-- Eastward current component (3-D)
-- Northward current component (3-D)
-- There could well be others!
      float TEMP (INSTANCE, MAXT);
            TEMP:long_name = "Water temperature";
            TEMP:units = "degC";
            TEMP:ancillary_variables = "TEMP_SEADATANET_QC";
            TEMP:coordinates = "TIME HEIGHT LATITUDE LONGITUDE";
            TEMP:standard_name = "sea_water_temperature";
```



TEMP:_FillValue = -99.0f;

TEMP:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::TEMPPR01";

TEMP:sdn_parameter_name = "Temperature of the water body";

TEMP:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UPAA";

TEMP:sdn_uom_name = "Degrees Celsius"

PaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter

-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter

TEMP::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0294" **TEMP**::sdn_instrument_name = "Teledyne RDI Workhorse Sentinel-600 ADCP"

byte TEMP_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);

TEMP_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
TEMP_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand qualifier flags";

TEMP_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;

TEMP_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
TEMP_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,

53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;

TEMP_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";

float WATERDEP (INSTANCE, MAXT);

WATERDEP:long_name = "Pressure due to sea water";

WATERDEP:units = "meters";

WATERDEP:ancillary_variables = "WATERDEP_SEADATANET_QC"; WATERDEP:coordinates = "TIME HEIGHT LATITUDE LONGITUDE";

WATERDEP:standard_name = "sea_water_pressure_due_to_sea_water" ;
WATERDEP:_FillValue = -99.0f;

WATERDEP:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::PRESPS02";

WATERDEP:sdn_parameter_name = "Pressure (measured variable) exerted by the water body by fixed in-situ pressure sensor and corrected to read zero at sea level";

WATERDEP:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UPDB";

WATERDEP:sdn_uom_name = "Decibars"

-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter

WATERDEP::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::T00L0294" **WATERDEP**::sdn instrument name = "Teledyne RDI Workhorse Sentinel-

600 ADCP"

byte WATERDEP_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);

52b, 53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;

WATERDEP_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality

flag" ;

WATERDEP_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand qualifier flags";

WATERDEP_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;

WATERDEP_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::"; WATERDEP_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b,

WATERDEP_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess interpolated_value

```
float EWCT (INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ);
           EWCT:long_name = "Eastward current velocity";
           EWCT:units = "meter/second";
           EWCT:ancillary_variables = "EWCT_SEADATANET_QC";
           EWCT:coordinates = "TIME PROFZ LATITUDE LONGITUDE";
           EWCT:standard name = "eastward sea water velocity";
           EWCT:_FillValue = -99.0f;
           EWCT:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::LCEWAP01";
           EWCT:sdn_parameter_name = Eastward current velocity (Eulerian) in the
           water body by moored acoustic doppler current profiler (ADCP)";
           EWCT:sdn uom urn = "SDN:P06::UVAA";
           EWCT:sdn_uom_name = "Metres per second"
-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter
           EWCT::sdn instrument urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0294"
           EWCT::sdn instrument name ="Teledyne RDI Workhorse Sentinel-600
           ADCP"
     byte EWCT_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ);
           EWCT_EADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
           EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
           qualifier flags";
           EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
           EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b,
           54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings
                                                        "no_quality_control
           good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
                               value_below_detection
                                                           value in excess
           changed value
           interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
     float NWCT (INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ);
           NWCT:long_name = "Northward current velocity";
           NWCT:units = " meter/second ";
           NWCT:ancillary_variables = "NWCT_SEADATANET_QC";
           NWCT:coordinates = "TIME PROFZ LATITUDE LONGITUDE";
           NWCT:standard_name = "northward_sea_water_velocity" ;
           NWCT: FillValue = -99.0f;
           NWCT:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::LCNSAP01";
           NWCT:sdn_parameter_name = "Northward current velocity (Eulerian) in
           the water body by moored acoustic doppler current profiler (ADCP)";
           NWCT:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UVAA";
           NWCT:sdn_uom_name = "Metres per second"
-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter
```

NWCT::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::T00L0294" NWCT::sdn instrument name ="Teledyne RDI Workhorse Sentinel-600 ADCP"

```
SeaDataNet
```

```
byte NWCT_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ);
            NWCT_EADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
            NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
            qualifier flags";
            NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
            NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
            NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b,
            54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
            NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings
                                                         "no_quality_control
            good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
            changed value
                                value_below_detection
                                                            value in excess
            interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
// global attributes:
      :Conventions = "SeaDataNet_1.0 CF1.6";
      :featureType = "timeSeriesProfile";
      :title = "North Sea Project current meter data";
      :date_update = "2012-05-22T19:28:30Z";
-- CF attributes recommended for SeaDataNet where appropriate.
            :comment = "Published dataset"
-- Additional attributes from other conventions may be included here.
-- The SeaDataNet specification describes the minimum amount of information
-- required by SeaDataNet. There is no upper limit on what may be included.
data:
```

Follows on from here......

2.5.4.5. Extension to multiple time series storage

Extending the single time series profile design to multiple time series profile storage is simple, requiring two changes. First, the INSTANCE dimension value needs to be changed from 1 to UNLIMITED. Secondly, a _FillValue attribute, to be used when padding time series to an equal number of time steps, needs to be added to the TIME and PROFZ variables.

2.5.5. SeaDataNet NetCDF for trajectoryProfile Data

The data model for the CF1.6 trajectory feature time includes one or more geophysical variables along the TIME dimension plus co-ordinate variables (latitude, longitude and depth/height) that are also along the TIME dimension. The trajectoryProfile feature type adds the possibility of one or more geophysical variables for each instance that have another dimension in addition to the time dimension.

It is tempting when considering some types of oceanographic data such as ship-borne ADCP data to label this additional dimension as 'depth'. However, this approach is both limiting and potentially very confusing. It is limiting because there are data types, such as towed optical plankton counters or shipborne spectral radiometers where this additional dimension could be non-spatial. It is potentially confusing because there is the possibility for 'DEPTH' to provide the z co-ordinate for one or more 2-D (INSTANCE and TIME) geophysical variables. Consider a submarine-mounted ADCP with a temperature

sensor mounted on the platform or bottom currents determined by a ship-borne ADCP using bottom-tracking. These need to be associated with a depth that is different from the depths of any of the binned current measurements. Consequently, a different, neutral variable name - PROFZ - has been chosen for the additional dimension of the 3-D geophysical variables.

Note that CF 1.6 specifies that the z co-ordinate for the 3-D geophysical variables has dimensions (INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ). This means that the PROFZ values can vary as a function of time. In the case of ship-borne ADCP data, where the PROFZ values are fixed, this will result in identical values being repeated for each time step. The resulting inefficiency in storage is a small price to pay for interoperability through the adoption of standards.

2.5.5.1. Co-ordinate variables

The co-ordinate variables are of two types. Time, depth/height, latitude and longitude are 2-D vectors of dimension (INSTANCE, MAXT). For single profile storage INSTANCE is set to 1. The SeaDataNet practices are followed in which time is expressed as Chronological Julian Day and latitude/longitude are either given in 2-D WGS-84 (EPSG 4326) CRS or are of such low accuracy that WGS-84 can be assumed. Time should be monotonic.. Latitude and longitude share a common qualifier flag variable (POSITION_SEADATANET_QC).

The parameter mapping to 'DEPTH' for SeaDataNet trajectoryProfiles requires some explanation. The purpose of 'DEPTH' (or 'HEIGHT') is to provide the z co-ordinate for the 2-D geophysical variables. If we had an AUV carrying a temperature sensor then DEPTH would carry the depth below the surface of the AUV and would be linked through the 'coordinates' attribute to the temperature geophysical variable. In the case of bottom-tracking seabed currents, 'DEPTH' needs to be mapped to the water depth, because that is the depth at which the bottom tracked current is measured.

The preferred depth parameter is either depth below sea level for measurements in water bodies or height above sea level for measurements in the atmosphere such as meteorological measurements. Height above the seafloor is also allowed to cover cases where depth cannot be calculated because no bathymetric depth data are available. It should only be used as a last resort for trajectories. Pressure as a platform z co-ordinate is not allowed for time series.

The profile z co-ordinates are stored in a 3-D array of dimension (INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ). Instance is set to one for single-profile storage. In order to maximise the flexibility of the format, there are minimal restrictions in the SeaDataNet profile on the variables that may be mapped onto this co-ordinate. It could be an absolute depth below sea surface, the distance between the instrument and the measurement, a particle size class, a wavelength or even the identifier of a biological taxon.

2.5.5.2. Geophysical variables

The geophysical variables are of two types. First, there are the variables measured at each level in the profile, such as current velocities for an ADCP., Like the profile z co-ordinates, these are stored as 3-D arrays with the INSTANCE dimension set to 1.

The second type are only measured at a single level for each time step, such as bottom currents measured in shallow water by ADCP bottom tracking. These are stored in 2-D arrays of dimension (INSTANCE, MAXT)

Each geophysical variable has at least one ancillary variable named using the conventions described in section 3.4.3 containing the SeaDataNet qualifier flags for that variable.

2.5.5.3. Attributes

The Featuretype attribute is set to 'trajectoryProfile'.

2.5.5.4. **CDL** example

There now follows an example NetCDF file that will hold a single series from aship-borne ADCP with 24 current bins and seabed currents measured by bottom tracking. The annotations are contained in lines prefixed by two hyphens ('--'). Mandatory (for SeaDataNet) variables and attributes are shown in bold type.

This example has been designed for the primary SeaDataNet use case, which is to deliver data to a user who is primarily interested in applying the geophysical variables, such as the builder of an aggregated data product like a climatology. Consequently, the number of geophysical variables carried is kept to a minimum. Should the format be required to fulfil use cases such as delivery to an expert for reanalysis then additional geophysical variables may be added, such as individual beam returns, performance criteria and platform velocity parameters.

```
-- This file specifies the SeaDataNet NetCDF encoding for a ship-borne ADCP with
-- bottom-tracking currents in annotated CDL
-- Compared to the profile, timeSeries and trajectory examples above the level
-- of annotation has been drastically reduced. If further clarification is required
-- consult the trajectory example above.
dimensions:
-- The 'INSTANCE dimension is set to 1.
-- This example was based on storage a trajectory Profile containing 24 depth levels
-- (i.e. bins) on the vertical and 1000 time steps.
-- The STRING80 dimension is specifies the length of fixed size strings for label variables.
      INSTANCE = 1;
      MAXZ = 24;
      MAXT = 1000;
      STRING80 = 80;
      REFMAX = 5;
variables:
      double TIME(INSTANCE, MAXT);
```

```
TIME:long_name = "Chronological Julian Date";

TIME:standard_name = "time";

TIME:units = "days since -4713-01-01T00:00:00Z";

TIME:ancillary_variables = "TIME_SEADATANET_QC";

TIME:axis = "T";

TIME:calendar = "julian";

TIME:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::CJDY1101";

TIME:sdn_parameter_name = "Julian Date (chronological)";

TIME:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UTAA";

TIME:sdn_uom_name = "Days"

byte TIME_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);

TIME_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";

TIME_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand qualifier flags";
```



```
TIME_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           TIME_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
           TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b,
           54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           TIME_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings
                                                     "no quality control
           good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
           changed value
                             value_below_detection
                                                       value in excess
           interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
     double LATITUDE(INSTANCE, MAXT);
           LATITUDE:long_name = "Latitude";
           LATITUDE:standard_name = "latitude";
           LATITUDE:units = "degrees_north";
           LATITUDE:ancillary_variables = "POSITION_SEADATANET OC";
           LATITUDE:axis = "Y";
           LATITUDE:grid_mapping = "crs";
           LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ALATZZ01";
           LATITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Latitude north";
           LATITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGN";
           LATITUDE:sdn uom name = "Degrees north";
     double LONGITUDE(INSTANCE, MAXT);
           LONGITUDE:long_name = "Longitude";
           LONGITUDE:standard_name = "longitude";
           LONGITUDE:units = "degrees_east";
           LONGITUDE:ancillary variables = "POSITION SEADATANET OC";
           LONGITUDE:axis = "X";
           LONGITUDE:grid_mapping = "crs";
           LONGITUDE:sdn parameter urn = "SDN:P01::ALONZZ01";
           LONGITUDE:sdn_parameter_name = "Longitude east";
           LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::DEGE";
           LONGITUDE:sdn_uom_name = "Degrees east";
-- The OceanSITES convention of merging latitude and longitude QC into a
-- position QC has been followed.
     byte POSITION_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality
           POSITION SEADATANET QC:Conventions =
                                                           "SeaDataNet
           measurand qualifier flags";
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
           53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           POSITION_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
           good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
           changed value
                             value_below_detection
                                                       value in excess
           interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
     float DEPTH(INSTANCE);
           DEPTH:long_name = "Instantaneous water depth";
           DEPTH:standard_name = "sea_floor_depth_below_sea_surface";
           DEPTH:units = "meters";
```

```
SeaDataNet
```

```
DEPTH:ancillary_variables = "DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC";
           DEPTH:axis = "Z";
           DEPTH:positive = "down";
           DEPTH:_FillValue -999.0f;
           DEPTH:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::ADEPZZ01" ;
           DEPTH:sdn_parameter_name = Depth below surface of the water
           body";
           DEPTH:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA";
           DEPTH:sdn_uom_name = "Metres"
     byte DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE);
           DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
           DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
           qualifier flags";
           DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
           DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
           53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           DEPTH_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
           good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
           changed value value below detection value in excess
           interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
-- Note that following CF 1.6 each time step carries a set of PROFZ co-ordinates
-- which do not have to be constant throughout the time series
     float PROFZ(INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ);
           PROFZ:long_name = "Bin depth below mean sea level";
           PROFZ:standard_name = "depth_below_geoid";
           PROFZ:units = "meters";
           PROFZ:ancillary_variables = "PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC";
           PROFZ:axis = "Z";
           PROFZ:positive = "down";
           PROFZ:_FillValue -999.0f;
-- SeaDataNet semantic extensions - mandatory for SeaDataNet.
           PROFZ:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::DBINAA01";
           PROFZ:sdn_parameter_name = "Depth below sea surface (ADCP
           bin)";
           PROFZ:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::ULAA";
           PROFZ:sdn_uom_name = "Metres"
     byte PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE);
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand"
           qualifier flags";
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b,
           53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           PROFZ_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
           good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
           changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess
           interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
```

```
-- SeaDataNet CRS reporting - include verbatim
      int crs;
            crs:grid_mapping_name = "latitude_longitude"
            csr:epsg_code = "EPSG:4326"
            crs:semi_major_axis = 6378137.0;
            crs:inverse_flattening = 298.257223563;
-- SeaDataNet identifiers.
      char SDN_CRUISE(INSTANCE,STRING80);
            SDN_CRUISE:long_name = "Trajectory grouping label";
      char SDN_STATION(INSTANCE,STRING80);
            SDN_STATION:long_name = "Trajectory label";
      char SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID (INSTANCE,STRING80);
            SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID:long_name = "SeaDataNet CDI identifier";
            SDN_LOCAL_CDI_ID:cf_role = "trajectoryProfile_id";
-- EDMO code provides the namespace for CDI local identifier
-- (SeaDataNet convention).
      int SDN_EDMO_CODE (INSTANCE);
      SDN_EDMO_CODE:long_name
                                           "European
                                                         Directory
                                                                     of
                                                                          Marine
      Organisations code for the CDI partner"
-- SeaDataNet optional attribute variables
-- Linkages to external resources (see Section 4.4.8)
-- SDN REFERENCES - single linkage to a URI which resolves to an XHTML page
-- carrying additional information such as usage metadata or DOI landing page
-- SDN_XLINK - multiple (in this example 5) linkages to external resource URNs
-- following a strictly defined syntax that resolve into either XML documents of known
-- schema or XHTML.
      char SDN_REFERENCES(INSTANCE, STRING80);
            SDN_REFERENCES:long_name = "Usage metadata reference";
      char SDN_XLINK (INSTANCE, REFMAX, STRING80);
            SDN_XLINK_TYPE:long_name = "External resource linkages";
-- Geophysical variables
-- Bottom-track Eastward current velocity
-- Bottom-tracked Northward current velocity
-- Eastward current velocity in ADCP bins
-- Northward current velocity in ADCP bins
--There may well need to be others (e.g. upward current velocity)
      float EWBV (INSTANCE, MAXT);
            EWBV:long_name = "Bottom track eastward current velocity";
```

```
EWBV:units = "meters/second";
           EWBV:ancillary_variables = " EWBV_SEADATANET_QC";
           EWBV:coordinates = "TIME DEPTH LATITUDE LONGITUDE";
           EWBV:standard name = "eastward sea water velocity";
           EWBV: FillValue = -99.0f;
           EWBV:sdn parameter urn = "SDN:P01::LCEWBT01";
           EWBV:sdn parameter name = "Eastward current velocity (Eulerian) in the water
           body by ADCP bottom tracking;
           EWBV:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UVAA";
-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter
           EWBV::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0062"
           EWBV::sdn instrument name = "Teledyne RDI 150kHz Narrowband Vessel-
           Mounted ADCP"
           EWBV:sdn_uom_name = "Metres per second"
     byte EWBV_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
           EWBV_EADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
           EWBV_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
           qualifier flags";
           EWBV_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;
           EWBV SEADATANET OC:sdn conventions urn = "SDN:L20::";
           EWBV SEADATANET OC:flag values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b,
           54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b;
           EWBV_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no_quality_control
           good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value
           changed value
                               value_below_detection
                                                          value in excess
           interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain";
     float NSBV (INSTANCE, MAXT);
           NSBV:long_name = "Bottom track northward current velocity";
           NSBV:units = "meters/second";
           NSBV:ancillary_variables = " NSBV_SEADATANET_QC";
           NSBV:coordinates = "TIME DEPTH LATITUDE LONGITUDE";
           NSBV:standard name = "northward sea water velocity";
           NSBV:_FillValue = -99.0f;
           NSBV:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::LCNSBT01";
           NSBV:sdn_parameter_name = "Northward current
           (Eulerian) in the water body by ADCP bottom tracking)";
           NSBV:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UVAA";
           NSBV:sdn_uom_name = "Metres per second"
-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter
           NSBV::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0062"
           NSBV::sdn_instrument_name = "Teledyne RDI 150kHz Narrowband Vessel-
           Mounted ADCP"
     byte NSBV_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT);
           NSBV_EADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag";
           NSBV_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand
           qualifier flags";
```

NSBV_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::";

NSBV_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;



NSBV_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b; NSBV_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no quality control good value probably good value probably bad value bad value value_below_detection changed value value in excess interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain"; float EWCT (INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ); EWCT:long_name = "Eastward current velocity"; **EWCT:units = "meter/second"; EWCT:**ancillary variables = "EWCT SEADATANET OC"; **EWCT:coordinates = "TIME PROFZ LATITUDE LONGITUDE";** EWCT:standard_name = "eastward sea water velocity"; EWCT: FillValue = -99.0f: EWCT:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::LCEWAS01"; **EWCT:sdn_parameter_name** = Eastward current velocity (Eulerian) in the water body by shipborne acoustic doppler current profiler (ADCP)"; EWCT:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UVAA" ; EWCT:sdn_uom_name = "Metres per second" -- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter **EWCT**::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0062" EWCT::sdn_instrument_name = "Teledyne RDI 150kHz Narrowband Vessel-Mounted ADCP" byte EWCT_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ); EWCT_EADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag"; **EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions** = "SeaDataNet measurand qualifier flags"; **EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;** EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::"; **EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b,** 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b; **EWCT_SEADATANET_QC:**flag_meanings = "no_quality_control" good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value changed_value value_below_detection value_in_excess interpolated_value missing_value value_phenomenon_uncertain"; float NWCT (INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ); NWCT:long_name = "Northward current velocity"; NWCT:units = " meter/second "; NWCT:ancillary_variables = "NWCT_SEADATANET_QC"; NWCT:coordinates = "TIME PROFZ LATITUDE LONGITUDE"; NWCT:standard_name = "northward sea water velocity"; $NWCT:_FillValue = -99.0f$; NWCT:sdn_parameter_urn = "SDN:P01::LCNSAS01"; NWCT:sdn_parameter_name = "Northward current velocity (Eulerian) in the water body by shipborne acoustic doppler current profiler (ADCP)"; NWCT:sdn_uom_urn = "SDN:P06::UVAA"; NWCT:sdn_uom_name = "Metres per second"

-- Optional SeaDataNet linkage to the instrument used to measure the parameter

NWCT::sdn_instrument_urn = "SDN:L22::TOOL0062"



NWCT::sdn_instrument_name = "Teledyne RDI 150kHz Narrowband Vessel-Mounted ADCP" byte NWCT_SEADATANET_QC(INSTANCE, MAXT, MAXZ); NWCT_EADATANET_QC:long_name = "SeaDataNet quality flag"; NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:Conventions = "SeaDataNet measurand qualifier flags"; **NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:_FillValue = 57b;** NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:sdn_conventions_urn = "SDN:L20::"; **NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:**flag_values = 48b, 49b, 50b, 51b, 52b, 53b, 54b, 55b, 56b, 57b, 65b; NWCT_SEADATANET_QC:flag_meanings = "no quality control good_value probably_good_value probably_bad_value bad_value value_below_detection changed value value in excess interpolated value missing value value phenomenon uncertain"; // global attributes: :Conventions = "SeaDataNet_1.0 CF1.6";

:Conventions = "SeaDataNet_1.0 CF1.6"; :featureType = "trajectoryProfile"; :title = "Shipborne ADCP data example"; :date_update = "2014-03-14T09:28:30Z"; :comment = "Published dataset"

-- Additional attributes from other conventions may be included here.

-- The SeaDataNet specification describes the minimum amount of information

-- required by SeaDataNet. More may be added with no upper limit.

data:

Follows on from here......