Providing data, tools, and community leadership for enhanced Earth-system education and research

GOES-16 Data Dissemination in Unidata

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Typical University Facilities in Late 1970s

Teletype for observations

- Free 300 baud circuit from local WFO
- Service A, C
- hand-decoded data
- hand-plotted maps, soundings

Wet paper facsimile

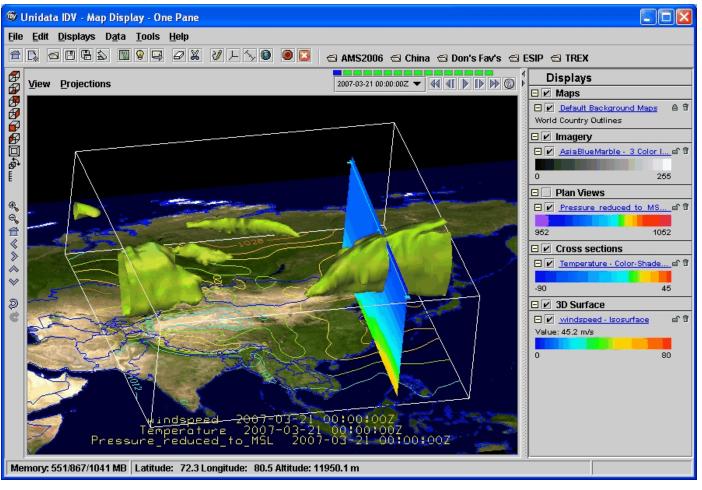
- Free facsimile service from local WFO
- 2-D maps
- Satellite imagery
- Populated the Weather Wall





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Typical University Capabilities Today



GFS Windspeed Isosurface and Temperature Cross Section

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Unidata's Birth Madison Workshop - 1983

- 80+ university participants
- Demonstration of mainframe McIDAS
- Proposal to NSF to fund a UNIversity DATA system initiative within UCAR (Dutton, et. al.)
- UNIDATA launched in 1984 2 employees
- Initial foci:
 - Broad menu of weather data including satellite imagery
 - Local interactive analysis
 - Communications to central mainframe
 - Interactive operation of field programs
- Mantra: "Don't do anything centrally that the universities themselves can do well"

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UNIversity DATA systems - UNIDATA

- Funded primarily by the U.S. National Science Foundation
- Mission:

To provide data services, tools & cyberinfrastructure leadership that advance Earth system science, enhance educational opportunities & broaden participation

- At the Unidata Program Center, we
 - Provide access to data (via push and pull systems)
 - Develop open source tools and infrastructure for data access, analysis, visualization, and data management
 - Support users of our technologies: faculty, students, and researchers
 - Help to build, represent, and advocate for a community

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Tools and Support Are Central

- Enhance and distribute software developed by others
 - Meteorological display and analysis tools from UW/SSEC (McIDAS-X), National Weather Service (GEMPAK, AWIPS), Purdue (WXP), etc.
 - Remote access technologies: OPeNDAP (U of RI, NASA, and others), ADDE (UW/SSEC)
- Develop software in-house
 - Widely used tools for manipulating scientific data (e.g., LDM, netCDF, UDUNITS, MetPY, data decoders, etc.)
 - Java-based tools (IDV Framework built on top of VisAD) for 2D and 3D visualization and next-generation, collaborative data analyses
- Build systems from the software we support
 - Internet Data Distribution (IDD) system
 - THematic Realtime Environmental Data Distributed Services (THREDDS) Data Server (TDS)
- Support the use of software by offering training, consultation, bug fixes, and upgrades

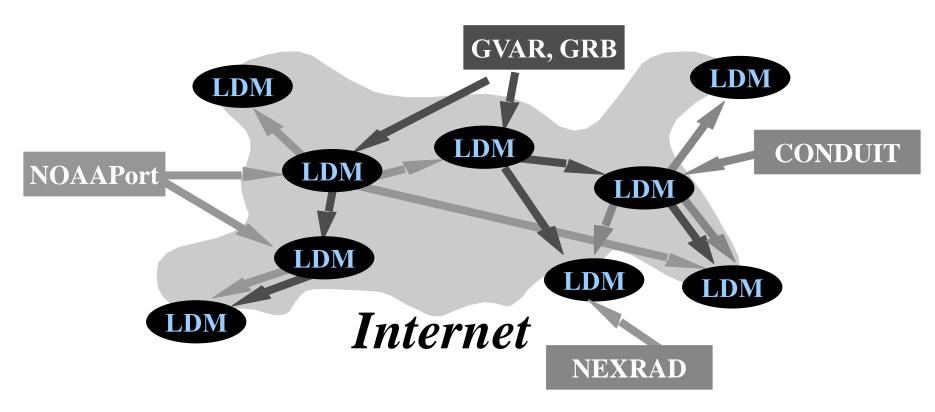
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LDM and Internet Data Distribution System

- Local Data Manager (LDM) one of largest distributed applications put met departments on leading edge of Internet use
- Initiated in the mid-1990s in response to weather-data ingest challenges:
 - Solar occultation data loss
 - Terrestrial interference
 - Campus beautification committees
- Event-driven network of cooperating Unidata Local Data Manager (LDM) servers interconnected by TCP/IP Ethernet
- Built to realize a communications goal laid out in the earliest Unidata planning documents (Cooper, 1985)
 - Active use of local-area and national network infrastructure
 - Allow for multi-way sharing of data including locally-held datasets
- Evolved in lock-step with national and international networking capabilities
- Profoundly changed how universities acquire and use (real-time) data
- Lowered costs and increased reliability of data delivery

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Internet Data Distribution System



Sharing data from multiple sources using cooperating LDMs

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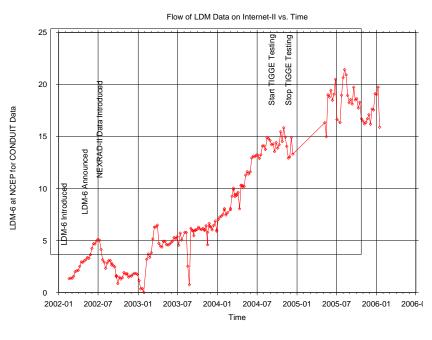
Real-time Data Flows

In the Beginning...

Service	Data Rate (Bits Per Second)
NAFAX	Analog
DIFAX	2400
Watches & Warnings	1200
U.S. Surface/Upper-Air	4800
NMC & ECMWF Grids	4800
Wisconsin Channel	9600
International (GTS) Data	1800
FAA 604	1200
Lightning Data & Others	at Non-Discounted Prices

"a dizzying volume of information – on the order of 100 MB/day, aggregate" (Davis and Rew, 1990)

Early 2000s



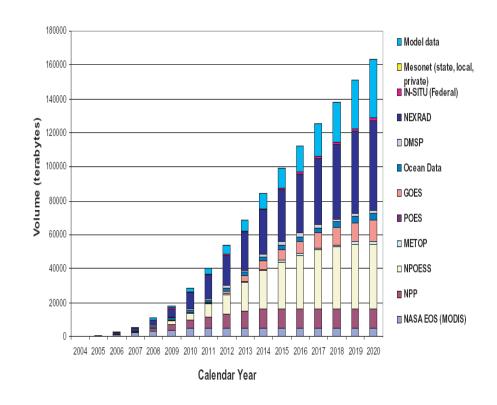
LDM-6 Internet2 bandwidth use > 35 TB/week

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The Ongoing Data Deluge

More Data and New Data Sources

- NEXRAD Dual Polarization data
- GOES-R/S / JPSS
- MSG, MTG, METOP
- Global, coupled models at a grid spacing of 0.25-1 km, integrated for multi-decades
- NCAR Global WRF in Weather and Climate research
- NEXRAD Level II
- AMPS Antarctic WRF
- New initiative
- More, More, More



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Satellite Data Ingest



NOAAPort



GOES-R



GVAR



GOES-S



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Historic Data Flow Paradigm

Unidata user running GEMPAK, McIDAS, WXP

Application specific protocols

Local data decoded into application-specific formats

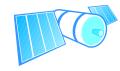


Forecast Model Output

IDD



Weather station observations



Satellite imagery

Radar data



Lightning, aircraft, GPSmet, etc.

Decoders

Decoders

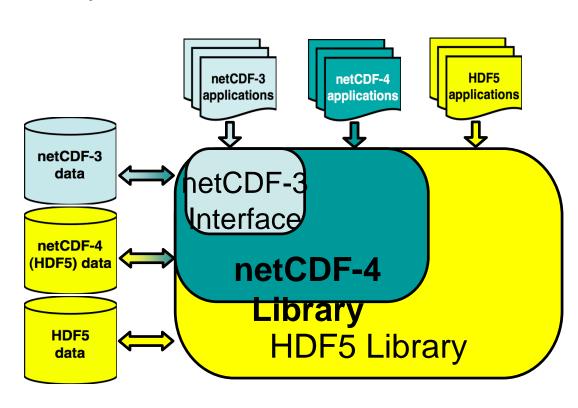
Decmers

D

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Data Storage: Network Common Data Form netCDF-3, netCDF-4

- Stable, multi-platform, multilanguage data access since 1988
- Data model for multidimensional and structured scientific data
- Set of APIs (C, Java, Fortran, C++, Perl, Ruby, MATLAB, Objective C, Tcl/Tk, ...) for data access
- Reference implementation for the APIs
- Over 100 software packages provide netCDF access
- In use in over 100 countries



NetCDF/HDF5 Merger

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McIDAS Abstract Data Distribution Environment ADDE

ADDE Assets

- Access to real-time and archived datasets
 - GRID (model output, objective analysis, etc.)
 - IMAGE (satellite imagery, radar, etc.)
 - POINT data (surface observations, lightning, wind profiler, etc.)
 - TEXT (free form text)
- Access implemented by a variety of applications: McIDAS-X/V, IDV, Matlab, IDL
- One of the largest advanced application users of Internet2 bandwidth
- Longest lived demonstration of scientific programmatic remote data access

ADDE Deficits

- Limited data discovery
- Limited metadata
- Proprietary implementation: Unidata can provide McIDAS-X to universities only

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Thematic Real-time Environmental Distributed Data Services Data Server - TDS

- THREDDS Data Server (TDS):
 - a web-based server which provides metadata and data access
 - provides several data access protocols including OPeNDAP and HTTP
 - developed, distributed and supported by Unidata
 - written in Java and easily implemented by the Tomcat server
- Free and open access to the data is now available to users around the world using standard web browsers and TDSenabled applications:
 - Integrated Data Viewer (IDV, Unidata)
 - McIDAS-V (McV, UW/SSEC)
 - MetPY

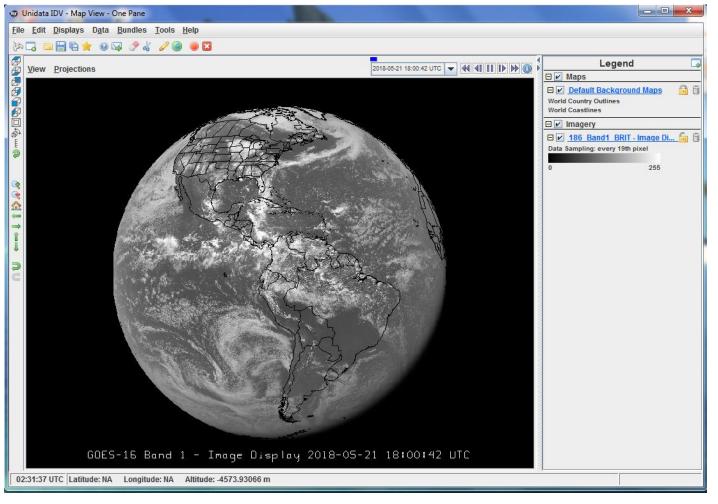
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AWIPS Environmental Data Exchange - EDEX

- Main server for AWIPS
- Qpid sends alerts to EDEX when data stored by the LDM is ready for processing
- Qpid messages include file header information which allows EDEX to determine the appropriate data decoder to use
- Default ingest server (simply named ingest) handles all data ingest other than grib messages, which are processed by a separate ingestGrib server
- After decoding, EDEX writes metadata to a Postgres database and saves processed data in HDF5 via PyPIES
- A third EDEX server, request, feeds requested data to CAVE clients

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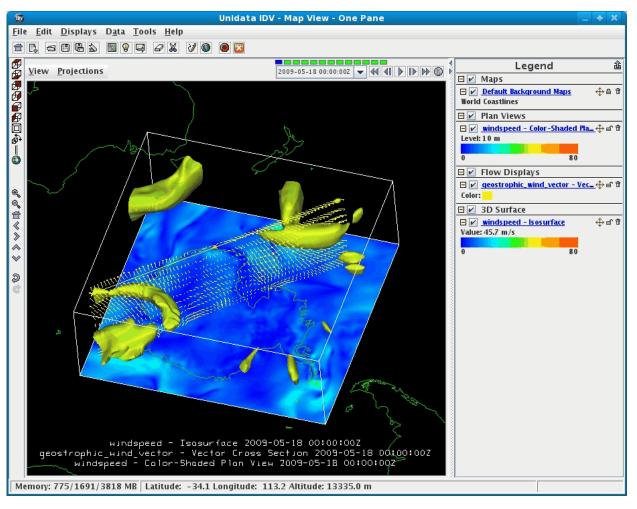
IDV: GOES-16 Full Disk 0.47 um VIS served by ADDE



http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/idv

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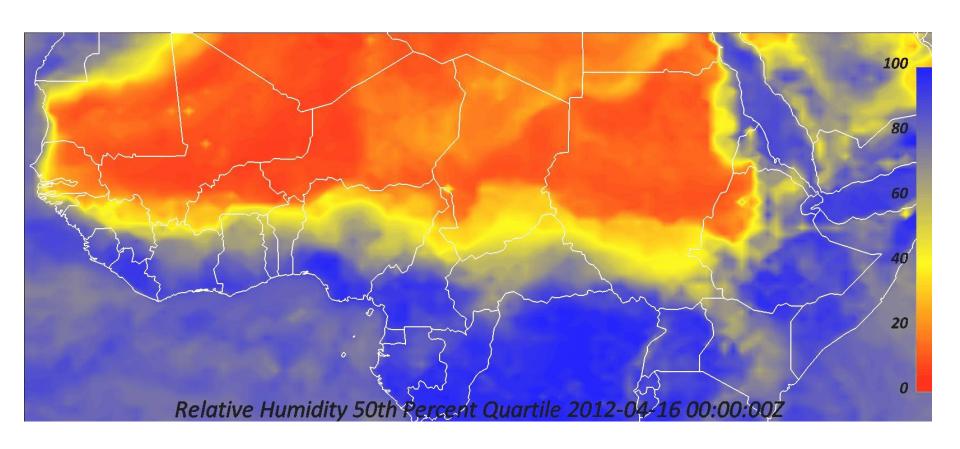
IDV: AMPS model output served by TDS



http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/idv



IDV: ECMWF Ensemble model output from local data



ECMWF Ensemble RH 50th Percent Quantile for 20120416

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Unidata GOES-16/17 Data Access

Service	Current	Future
IDD	idd.unidata.ucar.edu iddb.unidata.ucar.edu Idd.meteo.psu.edu iddcc.ucr.ac.cr	idd.aos.wisc.edu
ADDE	lead.unidata.ucar.edu atm.ucar.edu	adde.ucar.edu adde.ssec.wisc.edu AWS, Azure, Jetstream
TDS	thredds-test.unidata.ucar.edu	thredds.ucar.edu AWS, Azure, Jetstream
EDEX	edex-cloud.unidata.ucar.edu	AWS, Azure, Jetstream
WEB	atm.ucar.edu	motherlode.unidata.ucar.edu adde.ssec.wisc.edu

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Unidata Information

HomePage www.unidata.ucar.edu

Support support@unidata.ucar.edu

Software www.unidata.ucar.edu/software

LDM www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/ldm

netCDF www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/netcdf

IDV www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/idv

AWIPS www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/awips2

McIDAS www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/mcidas

TDS www.unidata.ucar.edu/software/current/tds



