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

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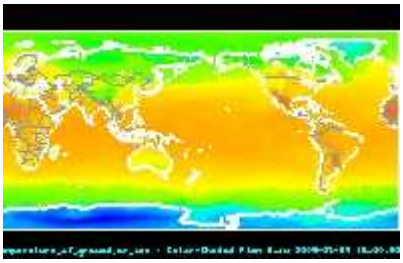
The Data Series: FNMOC

Unidata is pleased to announce that we are now able to relay COAMPS and NOGAPS model data in the LDM/IDD under the FNMOC feedtype.

The streams are products of Fleet Numerical Meteorology and Oceanography Center (or FNMOC), and have been available as point-to-point IDD feeds since 2000 under the names FNMOC or COAMPS or NOGAPS.

COAMPS®: The Coupled Ocean/Atmosphere Mesoscale Prediction System (COAMPS®) is an analysis, now cast, and short-term forecast tool applicable to any given region of the earth. COAMPS includes an atmospheric data assimilation system (comprised of data quality control, analysis and initialization), a non-hydrostatic atmospheric model component and an ocean model component (NCOM). Data assimilation procedures incorporate observations from aircraft, rawinsondes, ships, buoys, satellites, and other data sources to enhance the model's analysis.

NOGAPS: The NOGAPS (Navy Operational Global Atmospheric Prediction System) forecast model is a global model that is spectral in the horizontal and energy-conserving finite difference (sigma coordinate) in the vertical. NOGAPS is at the center of the Navy's environmental prediction capability. NOGAPS provides forcing fields for mesoscale weather prediction; tropical cyclone prediction; aerosol prediction; ocean, wave, and ice prediction; and aircraft and ship routing applications. NOGAPS also forms the backbone of the Navy's ensemble prediction system, which provides global forecasts out to 10 days.



When available for correction, both datastreams are adjusted with real time observations. As we know, accurate wind speeds are extremely important to create an accurate swell forecast. Both models do a very good job, but there are times when both models can be very far off when calculating the wind speeds in a storm in the middle of the ocean.

We anticipate that usage will increase significantly by offering the data on the LDM/IDD data feed, and, early indications are that this is the case. Gerry Creager, Texas A&M University, an early advocate of the FNMOC feeds, has been using the data in the SURA Coastal OceanObserving and Prediction project (SCOOP) project. He and collaborators at the Bedford Institute of Oceanography in New Brunswick, Nova Scotia (BIO) use COAMPS and NOGAPS to obtain data used as initial conditions and boundary conditions for running the WaveWatch-III (WW3) model. They have also taken the COAMPS and NOGAPS data and "blended" it, as BIO's domain for WW3 is larger than the areas supported by the North Atlantic model output alone. Incorporating the Central American results, and interpolating the data to a common grid has allowed BIO to operate in the manner they'd already been doing, with more timely products for their model runs.

Contact support-idd@unidata.ucar.edu for additional information and answers to your questions.

Unidata Training Workshop

Unidata's 2009 Software Training Workshops will take place 29 July - 15 August 2009. You can register by using reg online. Below is the schedule for indicating dates for individual packages:

Date of workshop	Software package
July 29 – August 1	McIDAS
August 3	Basic netCDF
August 4	Advanced netCDF
August 5 & 6	THREDDS Data Server
August 7 & 8	LDM
August 10 - 12	GEMPAK
August 13 - 15	IDV

The display and analysis packages are McIDAS, GEMPAK, and IDV. The data access and management tools are the Local Data Manager (LDM), the Network Common Data Form (netCDF), and the THREDDS software for cataloging, browsing, and accessing remote data and metadata.

Detailed information is available at: http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/events/2009TrainingWorkshop/

The cutoff date for registration and return of registration fees is June 30, 2009. While it may seem like that date is a long way off, it will be here before we know it. In addition, some sessions fill up very quickly so early registration is advised.

News Briefs

Farewell to a dear friend

It is with the deepest sadness that we let our community know that Professor Elen Maria Camara Cutrim died on 15 April, peacefully and surrounded by her family and friends.

Elen taught in the Department of Geography at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. She was a long time member of the Unidata community as well as an active participant in our Users Committee since 2003.

Although she will be dearly missed, her positive influence on all of us and the Unidata program will persist for years to come. We will continue to carryout our work with the same enthusiasm, energy, and openness that Elen exhibited throughout her life.

More information is available on Unidata's home page.

Triennial Users Workshop: Last call

Unidata's seventh triennial Users Workshop, *Using Operational and Experimental Observations in Education,* is scheduled for June 8-12, 2009 in Boulder, Colorado. The workshop will provide a chance for participants to experience a combination of presentations, labs, and actual demonstrations of the latest techniques. We'll also have a glimpse of some emerging technologies. A poster session will be held on June 8. Registration closes May 15. For more information open the following link: http://www.unidata.ucar.edu/events/2009UsersWorkshop/

Earth Day

In recognition of Earth Day, April 22, several Unidata staff members got together to collect the trash that had accumulated in the ditch that runs along the east side of the parking lot at Foothills Lab 4.

They had **some fun** doing it, as you can see in the images on the right.

Please send comments to support-eletter@unidata.ucar.edu
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