
Subject: Re: IDL and OPENDAP

Posted by [Michael Galloy](#) on Fri, 09 Jul 2010 19:29:01 GMT

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On 7/9/10 12:48 PM, Kenneth P. Bowman wrote:

- > Is anyone using IDL and OPENDAP to access netCDF and HDF files?
- > Can you write as well as read files?
- >
- > I see that there is an OPENDAP IDL client, but I can't find any
- > actual examples of how it is used. I am concerned that server
- > installation and configuration may be complex. It appears
- > that the server software might have complex dependencies.

There is an DAP IDL client from OPeNDAP which is a DLM around a C OPeNDAP implementation. It requires building both the C code and the DLM. Alternatively, I have a pure IDL DAP client that does not require anything else (its just a .sav file to drop into your IDL_PATH). It comes with IDLdoc documentation with examples. Let me know if you are interested in trying this.

Clients can not write files, only read them.

The server is another story: there are many servers available. Because the clients and servers agree on a common standard (DAP), you should be able to pick your clients and servers independently. Some of the servers are (fairly) easy to install and configure, some more difficult. The PyDAP server (pydap.org) is well supported and fairly easy to install (it helps if you have some experience installing Python packages). It is written in Python, but that only matters when installing, modifying, or creating a plugin for it. OPeNDAP has their own server, Hyrax, which runs under Tomcat. It is written in Java, but has dependencies written in C++ and C.

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