



Siphon

Simplifying Data Access and Expanding Data Sources

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Siphon is a Python library developed by Unidata for accessing data from remote data servers, such as the THREDDS Data Server (TDS). The TDS is a web server that provides metadata and data access for scientific datasets stored in a wide range of formats, using a variety of remote data access protocols, including:

- OPeNDAP (DAP-2, DAP-4)
- CdmRemote
- NetCDF Subset Service (NCSS)
- OGC Web Map Service (WMS)
- OGC Web Coverage Service (WCS)
- Data cataloging services (TDS Catalogs)
- Metadata services (ISO, NcML, UDDC)

Each protocol offers positive and negative aspects, and this can be quite confusing! The Siphon API has been extended to simplify the choice based on described data interaction rather than specific protocols.

Not all data live on a TDS. With this in mind, Siphon has been extended to access remote data from simple web services, such as data portals with their own custom web-based APIs.

QR codes link to examples which demonstrate Siphon taking advantage of each new API.

