The CoastWatch Utilities: Ten Years in the Making

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Talk Outline

- About the Utilities

- Current Release

- Future Releases

Historical Timeline

About the Utilities

Current Release

Future Releases

1997	v1.0, internal release, La Jolla lab
1998	v2.0, public release, West Coast website
1999	v2.2/3, Caribbean website
2000	v2.4, Gulf of Mexico website
2001	v3.1.0, Java version, CDAT beta release in C
2002	v3.1.1/2, reprojection and rendering
2003	v3.1.3/4/5/6, NOAA 1b, math, GeoTIFF
2004	v3.1.7/8/9, new CDAT, install wizard, autonav
2005	v3.2.0, OPeNDAP, datum shifts
2006	v3.2.1, GUI updates, units, expression masks
2007	v3.2.2-pre, navigation analysis, GRIB data

User Groups

- NOAA/NESDIS researchers: verify products, web page images, analysis

- Academic researchers: data conversion, analysis, comparison to biological data

- Casual and commercial users: fishing, weather, redistribution

Home Page

About the Utilities

Current Release

Future Releases

- coastwatch.noaa.gov/cw_cwfv3.html

- Installation packages, documentation

- Errata, prereleases

Development

- New versions released every 4-6 months

- Major feature requests from NESDIS (approval and funding)

- Minor feature requests from users

- Bug fixes (normally minor) are an ongoing task

Documentation

- Data users: User's guide, help menus

- Software developers: Java API in HTML (Javadoc), user's guide chapter (coming soon)

- Data providers: User's guide appendices on supported formats & metadata

New Features (3.2.1)

- Java now included

- Units conversion

- GUI updates

- Context help buttons

- Expression masking

New Features (continued ...)

User Distributions

Network Domain
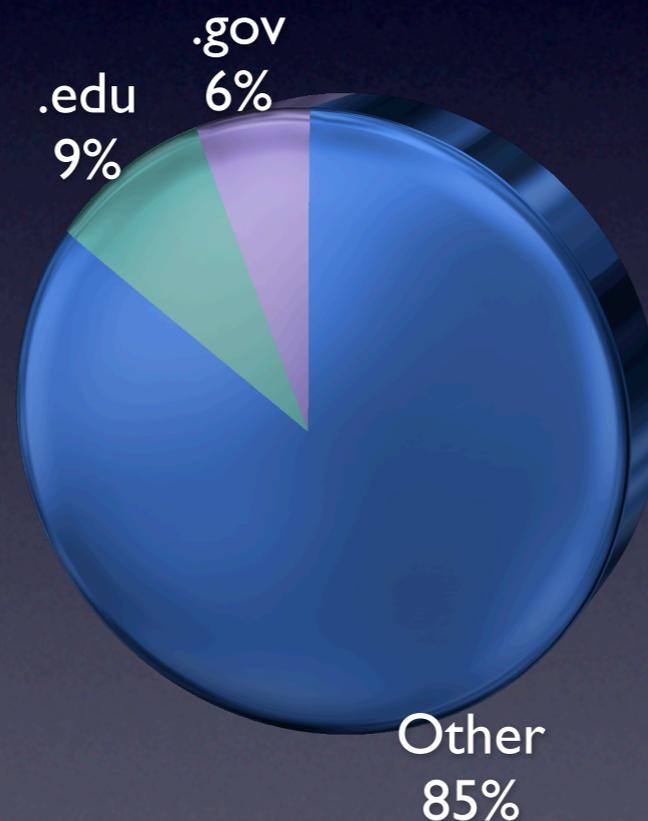
.edu
9%

.gov
6%

Other
85%

Operating System

Mac
5%

Unix
4%

Windows
91%
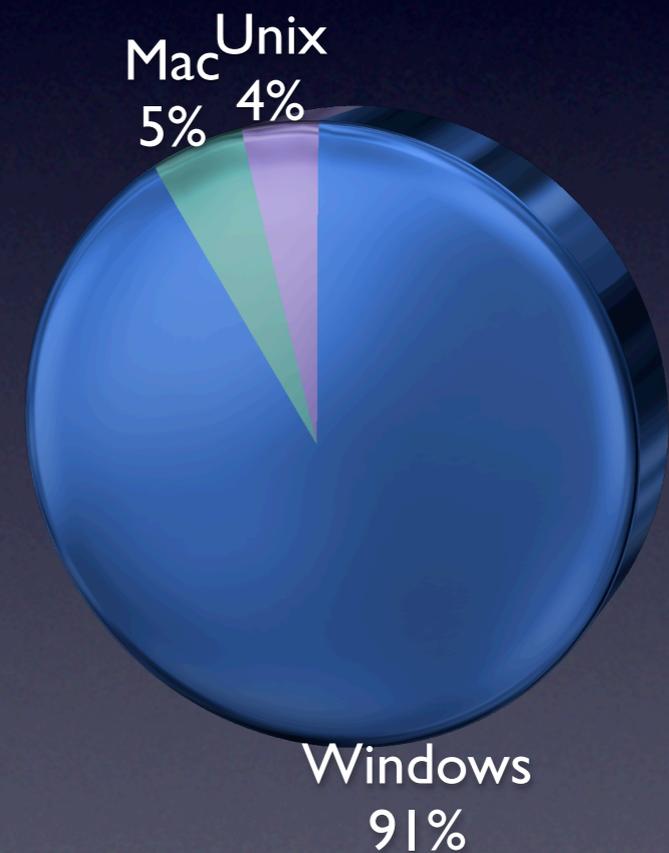
User Distributions (continued ...)

Geographic Location
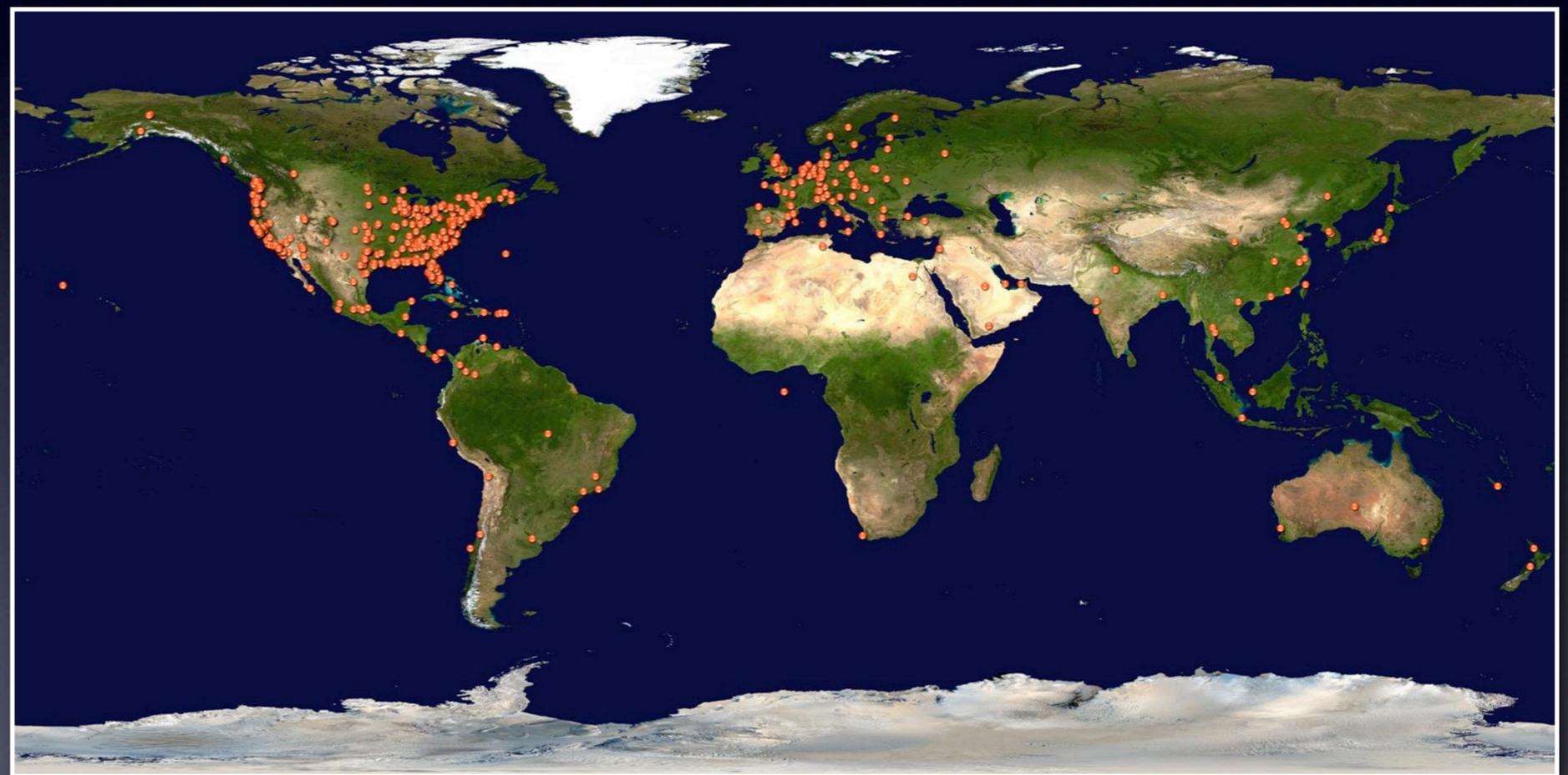
User Installations

- Total of 1953 users since April 2006 (~140 new users per month)

- Many more users installing than actively using:

Active
12%

Inactive
88%
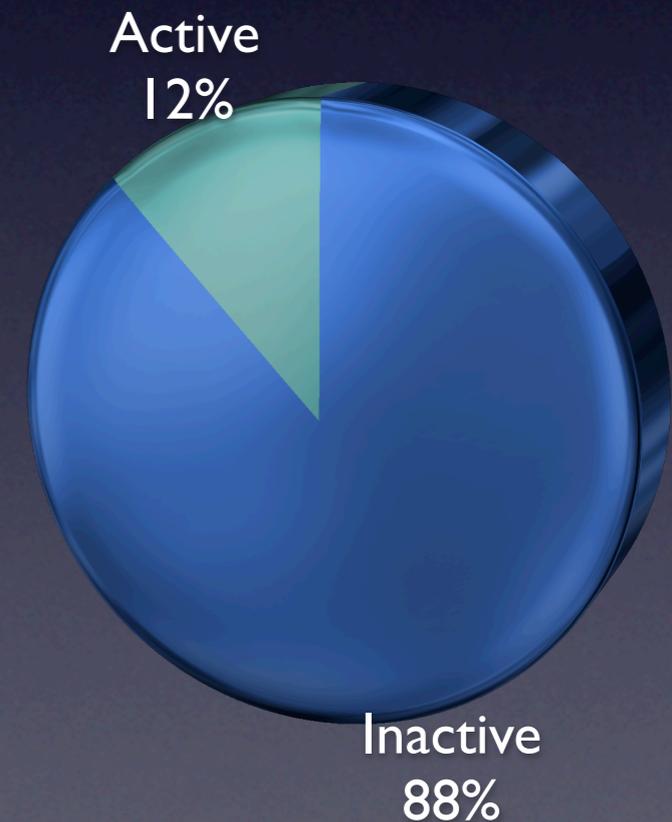
Current Development (3.2.2)

About the Utilities

Current Release

Future Releases

- CDAT chapter in user's guide

- Developers chapter in user's guide

- Support for GRIB data

- Bug fixes

Feature Ideas

About the Utilities

Current Release

Future Releases

- Full screen viewing mode

- Google Earth KML ouput

- Vector data & time series display

- ESRI shape file point display

Feature Ideas (continued...)

About the Utilities

Current Release

Future Releases

- Intelligent data import wizard

- Support for CF 3D/4D datasets (mutli-level, multi-timestep)

- Easier integration of user programs & data formats

- Generic shape import in XML

- Scriptable operations in CDAT

Summary

- About the Utilities: history, users, web site, development, docs

- Current Release: new features, current user stats

- Future Releases: development for 3.2.2, feature ideas

Acknowledgements

- CoastWatch node and central operations staff

- CoastWatch data users