

Earth Science Markup Language: A Solution for Generic Access to Heterogeneous Data Sets

R. Ramachandran, M. Alshayeb, B. Beaumont, H. Conover, S. Graves, X. Li, S. Movva,
A. McDowell and M. Smith

Information Technology and Systems Center
University of Alabama in Huntsville
www.itsc.uah.edu

Abstract

The Earth Science community is processing and analyzing a large amount and variety of data. These data are generally stored in different data formats, which forces the scientists to spend a significant amount of time in writing specialized, data format specific readers. However, this preprocessing burden can be alleviated by using the Earth Science Markup Language (ESML). ESML is a specialized markup language for Earth Science metadata. Based on the eXtensible Markup Language ([XML™](#)), ESML allows data descriptions to be written in a standard fashion.