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TDT - A Library for Typed Data Transfer

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The task of coupling climate system models - or indeed any other models - has been approached in many ways. Solutions include CORBA (Common Object Request Broker Architecture) and OASIS (Ocean Atmosphere Sea Ice Soil) among others. These methods in general handle all aspects of model coupling - data transfer, timestepping and interpolation but tend to be complex and require significant investment of time and effort to implement.

Here, the TDT (Typed Data Transfer) library is presented. The TDT is a simple, flexible solution for the transfer of data between programs in a platform and language independent way.

Design of the TDT was based on the "Unix philosophy" of doing one thing well - in this case data transfer. It can be used standalone or as a basis for more advanced model coupling systems using similarly self-contained components.