



Difference Plots for Extreme Weather Tracking & Dask Parallelism at NCAR

CICF 2025, Priscilla Angelina Zavala Mentor: Brian Dobbins













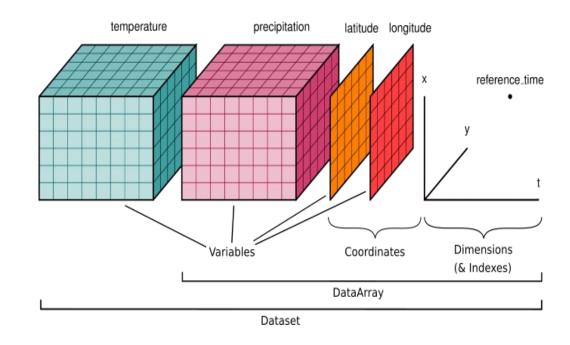




Difference Plots

Visualize the differences between two measurements with magnitude and spatial distribution

Comparing on different grids to highlight discrepancies between the two



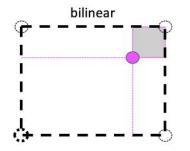
Xarray and UXarray

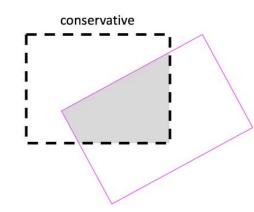
- builds upon Xarray's data structures Dataset and DataArray through uxgrid accessor
- challenges with broadcasting different shapes and grids





Remapping





Bilinear

- interpolates using weighted average of surrounding grid points preserves smoothness, best for continuous variables (temperature)

Conservative

- preserves area-integrated quantities (precipitation) fluxes and conservation-critical variables (relative humidity, atmospheric pressure) for interpreting fluxes

UXarray

- ensures data compatibility between coarse and fine grids offers multiple algorithms





Extreme Weather Tracking Software

TempestExtremes

- designed for large-scale climate datasets focuses on global-scale feature tracking no X/UXarray, uses c++

Tracking and Object-Based Analysis of Clouds (TOBAC)

- analyzing individual clouds in gridded datasets tracks individual convective systems in high-resolution model outputs

Scientific and technical considerations

remapping, variation for types of plots, more memory usage

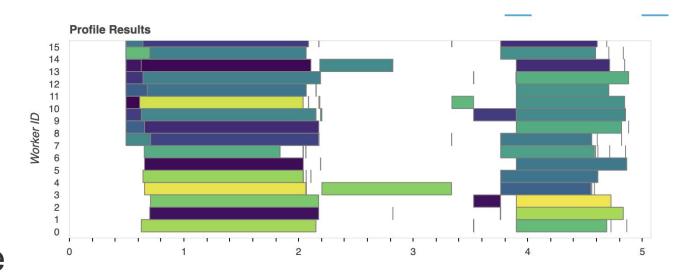


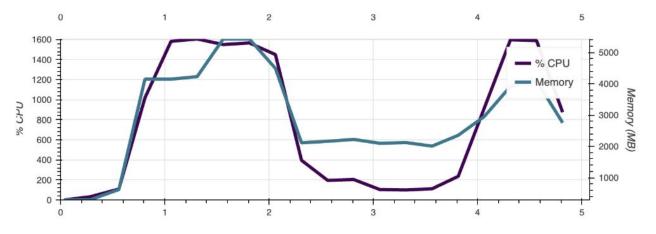


Dask Parallelism

Worked with Casper PBS changes the node, cpu, and memory

- profiler, resource, and cache profiler objects
- core dask analysis
- performance profiling









Skills Learned and Future Steps

Parallel computing and working with Xarray and UXarray performing operations on multidimensional arrays

Extreme Weather Tracking Softwares

Working with Dask for large-scale data analysis

Applying Dask parallelism with global daily temperature dataset





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