
Command Reference: openNDFD()

Open a connection to NWS National Digital Forecast Database (NDFD) XML Web Service

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The `openNDFD()` command opens a connection to the NWS NDFD data server, allowing data to be read from the site (e.g., with `readNDFD()` commands and time series identifiers that have NDFD input types; see **Appendix – NDFD Input Type - 1**). This command is not typically used for interactive sessions but may be inserted to run in batch only mode to allow a specific database and commands files to be distributed.

The command syntax is as follows:

```
openNDFD(param=value,...)
```

Command Parameters

Parameter	Description	Default
DatabaseServer	The URL for the NDFD web service page.	The URL for the NWS national NDFD data server: http://www.weather.gov/forecasts/xml/
InputName	The input name corresponding to the ~InputType~InputName information in time series identifiers. This is used when more than one connection to the NDFD server is used in the same commands file.	Blank (no input name).
RunMode	Indicates when the command should be run, one of: BatchOnly – run the command only in batch mode. GUIOnly – run the command only in GUI mode. GUIAndBatch – run the command in batch and GUI mode.	GUIAndBatch

The following example commands file illustrates how to connect to the default data server:

```
openNDFD( )
```

The following example commands file illustrates how to connect to a specific data server in GUI only mode:

```
openNDFD(DatabaseServer="http://www.weather.gov/forecasts/xml/",  
          RunMode=GUIOnly)
```