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# Command Reference: setInputPeriod()

## Set the period for reading time series from files and querying from databases

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The `setInputPeriod()` command sets the period used for reading time series data from files and querying data from databases. The default is to read/query all available data so that all data are available for analysis and data filling. However, a shorter period may be desirable to increase performance (e.g., when processing real-time data) or to force matching a historical period. This command replaces the `setQueryPeriod()` command. See also the `setOutputPeriod()` command.

The following dialog is used to edit the command and illustrates the command syntax.

**Edit setInputPeriod() Command**

The input period constrains the period when reading data from files and databases. Use this command only if a limited data period is necessary (e.g., to improve performance). Using a `setInputPeriod()` command may result in incomplete data being available for data filling. Enter dates to a precision appropriate for time series being read. For example:

- Year data: YYYY
- Month data: MM/YYYY or YYYY-MM
- Day data: MM/DD/YYYY or YYYY-MM-DD
- Hour data: MM/DD/YYYY HH or YYYY-MM-DD HH
- Minute data: MM/DD/YYYY HH:mm or YYYY-MM-DD HH:mm

Special values are also recognized (for all precisions):

- CurrentToYear = the current date to year precision
- CurrentToMinute = the current date/time to minute precision
- CurrentToMinute - 7Day = current date/time minus 7 days
- CurrentToMinute + 7Day = current date/time plus 7 days

Leave blank to read all available data (default if `setInputPeriod()` is not used).

Input period start:

Input period end:

Command:

**setInputPeriod() Command Editor**

setInputPeriod

The command syntax is as follows:

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

#### Command Parameters

Parameter	Description	Default
InputStart	<p>The date/time to start reading/querying time series data, one of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A date/time string (see dialog above for examples).</li> <li>• CurrentToYear, CurrentToMonth, CurrentToDay, CurrentToHour, CurrentToMinute, indicating the current date/time to the specified precision.</li> <li>• A Current* value +/- an interval, for example: CurrentToMinute - 7Day</li> </ul>	None – must be specified.
InputEnd	<p>The date/time to end reading/querying time series data, one of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A date/time string (see dialog above for examples).</li> <li>• CurrentToYear, CurrentToMonth, CurrentToDay, CurrentToHour, CurrentToMinute, indicating the current date/time to the specified precision.</li> <li>• A Current* value +/- an interval, for example: CurrentToMinute - 7Day</li> <li>• An expression involving InputStart, used similar to the Current* values.</li> </ul>	None – must be specified.

A sample commands file for historical data is as follows:

```
setInputPeriod(InputStart="1950-01",InputEnd="2000-09")
# 06754000 - SOUTH PLATTE RIVER NEAR KERSEY
06754000.DWR.Streamflow.Month~HydroBase
```

A sample commands file for real-time data is as follows:

```
setInputPeriod(InputStart="CurrentToMinute - 14Day",InputEnd="CurrentToMinute + 1Hour")
# 06754000 - SOUTH PLATTE RIVER NEAR KERSEY
06754000.DWR.Streamflow-DISCHRG.Irregular~HydroBase
```