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# Command Reference: RunningAverage()

## Convert time series data to running average values

Version 08.15.00, 2008-05-11

The `RunningAverage()` command converts a time series' raw data values to a running average, resulting in data that are smoothed. New time series are NOT created. There are two versions of the command. The centered running average requires that the number intervals on each side of a point be specified (e.g., specifying 1 will average 3 values at each point). The N-year running average is computed by averaging the current year and N - 1 values on previous years, for a specific date. An average value is produced only if the needed number of non-missing values is available.

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

**Edit RunningAverage() Command**

Convert a time series to a running average. Units, data type, etc., are not changed.  
A centered running average averages the values at a date/time and on either side.  
Previous and future running averages use points only on one side of the current point, and optionally inclusive of the current point.  
An N-year running average averages the values for the date/time and previous years (N years total).

TS list:  Indicates the time series to process (default=AllTS).

TSID (for TSList=AllMatchingTSID):

EnsembleID (for TSList=EnsembleID):

Type of Average:

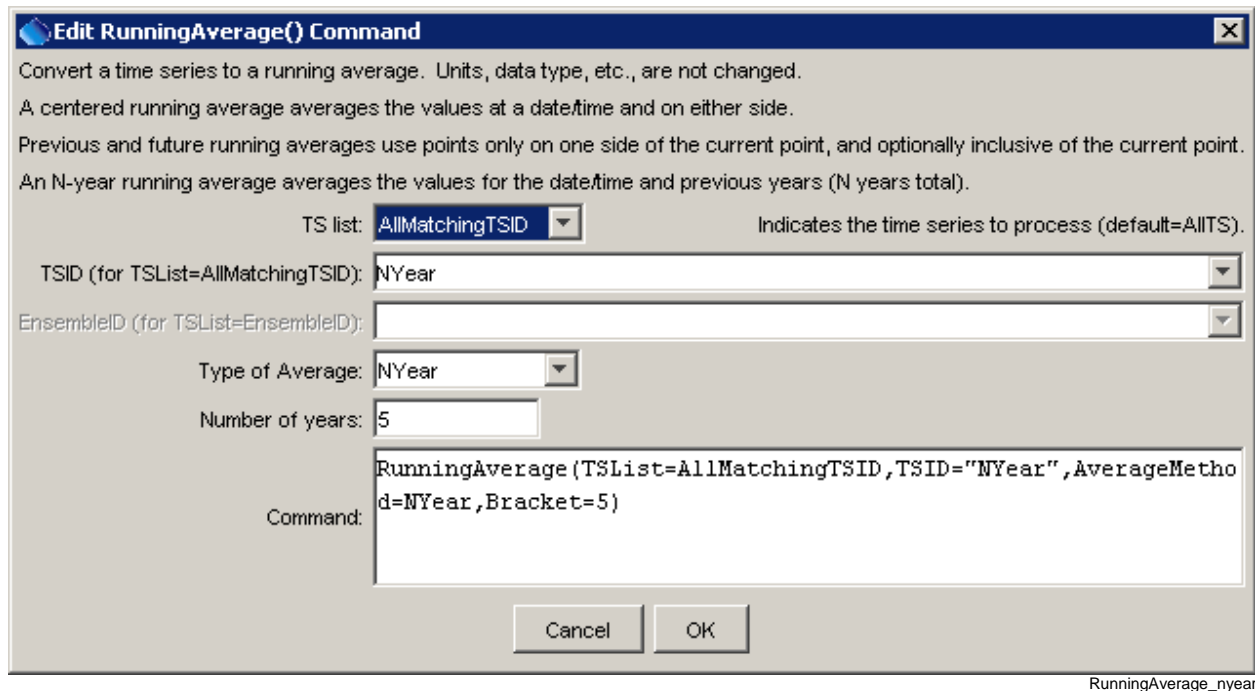
Number of intervals on each side:

Command:

RunningAverage\_centered

**RunningAverage() Command Editor for Centered Running Average**

The following dialog illustrates the N-year running average command syntax.



**RunningAverage() Command Editor for N-Year Running Average**

The command syntax is as follows:

```
RunningAverage (Parameter=Value, ...)
```

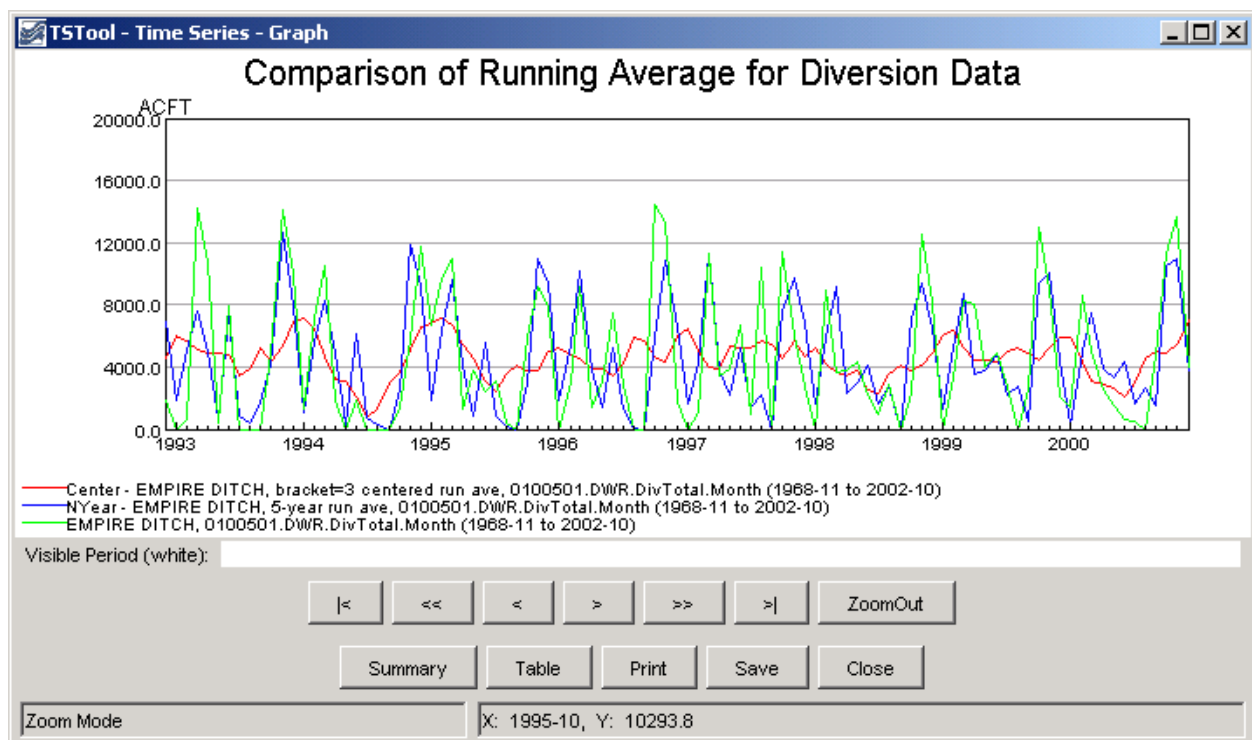
### Command Parameters

Parameter	Description	Default
TSList	Indicates the list of time series to be processed, one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>AllMatchingTSID – all time series that match the TSID (single TSID or TSID with wildcards) will be modified.</li> <li>AllTS – all time series before the command.</li> <li>EnsembleID – all time series in the ensemble will be modified.</li> <li>LastMatchingTSID – the last time series that matches the TSID (single TSID or TSID with wildcards) will be modified.</li> <li>SelectedTS – the time series are those selected with the <code>SelectTimeSeries()</code> command.</li> </ul>	AllTS
TSID	The time series identifier or alias for the time series to be modified, using the * wildcard character to match multiple time series.	TSID or EnsembleID must be specified if identifiers are being matched.
EnsembleID	The ensemble to be modified, if processing an ensemble.	TSID or EnsembleID must be specified if identifiers are being matched.
AverageMethod	The method used to create the running average, one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Centered – values on each side of a date/time are averaged.</li> <li>N-Year – values for the current year and (N – 1) preceding years, for the same date/time, are averaged.</li> </ul>	None – must be specified.
Bracket	For centered running average, the bracket is the number of points on each side of the current point (therefore a value of 1 will average 3 data values). For N-year running average, the bracket is the total number of years to average, including the current year.	None – must be specified.

A sample command file to convert State of Colorado HydroBase diversion time series to running averages is as follows:

```
# 0100501 - EMPIRE DITCH
TS Center = readTimeSeries("0100501.DWR.DivTotal.Month~HydroBase")
RunningAverage(TSList=AllMatchingTSID,TSID="Center",
    AverageMethod=Centered,Bracket=3)
TS NYear = readTimeSeries("0100501.DWR.DivTotal.Month~HydroBase")
RunningAverage(TSList=AllMatchingTSID,TSID="NYear",
    AverageMethod=NYear,Bracket=5)
0100501.DWR.DivTotal.Month~HydroBase
```

The resulting graph is as follows:



RunningAverage\_graph

**Results from RunningAverage() Commands**