

# Command Reference: ComputeErrorTimeSeries()

**Compute the error between time series and create new time series for the results**

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The `ComputeErrorTimeSeries()` command computes the error between two time series as absolute value or percent, creating a new time series for each pair of time series that is compared. This is useful for comparing observed and simulated time series. The time series that are created have the simulated time series' metadata but an alias can be assigned. The command can be used to process multiple pairs of time series, each determined using the appropriate `*TSList` parameter.

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

**Edit ComputeErrorTimeSeries() Command**

Compute the error between simulated time series and observed time series, and generate time series of the specified error measure.  
This command is useful for calibrating models and evaluating predictions after observed data are available.  
If one observed time series is specified, it will be analyzed against all simulated time series.  
If multiple observed time series are specified (e.g., for ensembles), the same number of simulated time series must be specified.

Observed TS list:  Optional - indicates the time series to process (default=AllTS).

Observed TSID (for ObservedTSList=AllMatchingTSID):

Observed ensembleID (for ObservedTSList=EnsembleID):

Simulated TS List:  Optional - indicates the time series to process (default=AllTS).

Simulated TSID (for SimulatedTSList=AllMatchingTSID):

Simulated EnsembleID (for SimulatedTSList=EnsembleID):

Error measure:  Required - indicates how to compute error.

Alias to assign:  Insert:  Required - use %L for location, etc.

Command:  
`ComputeErrorTimeSeries (ObservedTSList=AllMatchingTSID, ObservedTSID="ts1", SimulatedTSList=AllMatchingTSID, SimulatedTSID="ts2", SimulatedEnsembleID="PercentError", ErrorMeasure=PercentError)`

ComputeErrorTimeSeries

## ComputeErrorTimeSeries() Command Editor

The command syntax is as follows:

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

### Command Parameters

Parameter	Description	Default
Observed TSList	Indicates the list of observed 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).</li><li>AllTS – all time series before the command.</li><li>EnsembleID – all time series in the ensemble.</li><li>FirstMatchingTSID – the first time series that matches the TSID (single TSID or TSID with wildcards).</li></ul>	AllTS

Parameter	Description	Default
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LastMatchingTSID – the last time series that matches the TSID (single TSID or TSID with wildcards).</li> <li>SelectedTS – the time series are those selected with the SelectTimeSeries() command.</li> </ul>	
Observed TSID	The time series identifier or alias for the observed time series, using the * wildcard character to match multiple time series.	Use when ObservedTSList=*MatchingTSID.
Observed EnsembleID	The observed ensemble to be compared, if processing an ensemble.	Use when ObservedTSList=EnsembleID.
Simulated TSList	Indicates how to determine the list of simulated time series (see the explanation of ObservedTSList).	AllTS
Simulated TSID	The time series identifier or alias for the simulated time series (see the explanation of ObservedTSID).	Use when SimulatedTSList=*MatchingTSID.
Simulated EnsembleID	The ensemble identifier for the simulated time series (see the explanation of SimulatedEnsembleID).	Use when SimulatedTSList=EnsembleID
ErrorMeasure	The error measure to compute, one of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PercentError – Simulated minus observed, divided by observed.</li> <li>AbsoluteError – not yet implemented.</li> </ul>	
Alias	The alias to assign to the time series, as a literal string or using the special formatting characters listed by the command editor. The alias is a short identifier used by other commands to locate time series for processing, as an alternative to the time series identifier (TSID).	Alias will not be assigned.

A sample command file is as follows (in this case using contrived data):

```
RemoveFile(InputFile="Results\Test_ComputeErrorTimeSeries_1_out.dv",WarnIfMissing=False)
NewPatternTimeSeries(Alias="ts1",NewTSID="ts1..test.Day",Description="Test data",
    SetStart="1950-01-01",SetEnd="1951-03-12",Units="CFS",PatternValues="5,10,12,13,75")
NewPatternTimeSeries(Alias="ts2",NewTSID="ts2..test.Day",Description="Test data",
    SetStart="1950-01-01",SetEnd="1951-03-12",Units="CFS",PatternValues="6,12,14,11.5,80")
ComputeErrorTimeSeries(ObservedTSList=AllMatchingTSID,ObservedTSID="ts1",
    SimulatedTSList=AllMatchingTSID,SimulatedTSID="ts2",ErrorMeasure=PercentError)
# Uncomment the following command to regenerate the expected results file.
# WriteDateValue(OutputFile="ExpectedResults\Test_ComputeErrorTimeSeries_1_out.dv")
WriteDateValue(OutputFile="Results\Test_ComputeErrorTimeSeries_1_out.dv")
CompareFiles(InputFile1="Results\Test_ComputeErrorTimeSeries_1_out.dv",
    InputFile2="ExpectedResults\Test_ComputeErrorTimeSeries_1_out.dv",WarnIfDifferent=True)
```