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# Appendix: HEC-DSS Input Type

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## Overview

HEC-DSS input type refers to the United States Army Corps of Engineers' Hydrologic Engineering Center (HEC) Data Storage System (DSS). Refer to the following web site for more information, including full documentation:

<http://www.hec.usace.army.mil>

## HEC-DSS Files and Standard Time Series Properties

The standard time series identifier for HEC-DSS files is of the form:

`Location.HEC-DSS.DataType.Interval.Scenario~HEC-DSS~PathToFile`

HEC-DSS time series identifier information is taken from the A-F “parts”. The following assignments are made:

- The location part of the identifier is set to the A-part, a dash, and the B-part.
- The data source part of the identifier is set to HEC-DSS.
- The data type is set to the C-part.
- The data interval is set to the E-part.
- The scenario is set to the F-part.
- The data units are determined from time series information.
- The D-part is initially used to assign the start date, but is reset with information from the time series, if available.
- The “tag” is currently not assigned to the alias but may be assigned in the future.
- The missing data value is assigned to the internal representation for HEC-DSS files (a large negative number).
- The description is set to the location, a comma, followed by the data type.

## Limitations

The following limitations are known with the HEC-DSS input type:

- A-, B-, and F- parts that have periods cause problems with normal time series identifiers. If encountered, the alias for the time series is set to the full identifier with periods. The periods are then removed before setting the full identifier.
- Irregular data are not fully supported yet.

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