

# *IVP Batch Program User's Manual For Verification*

## *1.0 Overview*

The IVP Batch Program serves two functions:

- (1) constructing forecast-observed data pairs and
- (2) calculating verification statistics.

This manual provides instructions for the second function, calculating verification statistics using data stored in the vfpairs table of the archive database.

## *2.0 Instructions*

The following steps can be used to setup a batch input file to produce verification statistics:

1. Decide on the location and physical element pairs for which verification is to be done. For each location, if you wish to define forecast or observed value categories, then do so by using the FCST\_CAT and OBS\_CAT. Each location is then made available for verification via the DEF\_LOC command. Categories can be set in either absolute terms or relative to the location's flood stage, as defined in the rivercrit table of the archive database.
2. Decide on the data time interval for which verification is to be done. Set the time frame in the batch file using the START\_TIME and END\_TIME commands.
3. If you wish to break down the overall time interval into subintervals, then determine the width of each subinterval and set it within the batch file using the ANALYSIS\_INTERVAL command.
4. If you wish to only calculate statistics for forecasts with a lead time within a particular range of values, then determine the total lead time interval, and set it within the batch file using the LEADTIME\_START and LEADTIME\_END commands. If you wish to further break down the total lead time interval into subintervals, each with separately calculated statistics, then determine the width of each subinterval and set it within the batch file using the LEADTIME\_STEP command.
5. If you wish to only calculate statistics for locations with specific river response times, then determine the response times you wish to use (slow, medium, or fast), and set it within the batch file via the RIVERRESPONSE command.
6. If you wish to limit the analysis to data values with particular physical elements or forecast type sources, then determine what physical elements and forecast type source you wish to use and set them in the batch file using the PE and FCST\_TS commands.
7. Determine the verification groups you wish to construct and define the groups using the DEF\_GRP command. A verification group defines a collection of locations for which one set of verification statistics are to be produced. A location can only be added to a

- group if it has a river response time within those response times given in Step 5, and if it has the same number of forecast categories and observed categories, defined in Step 1, as all other locations added to the group.
8. If you do not wish to use the default output file, then determine what output file name to use and open up the file by calling the batch action `OUTPUT_FILE`.
  9. Determine the statistics you wish to produce and call the `CALCSTATS` action in the batch file passing in those statistics.

### 3.0 *Notation and Definitions*

This section provides definitions used throughout this section and the remaining sections. Additional definitions to those in this section will be provided as needed. The definitions are as follows:

- *input token*: The `<token>` portion of a batch file input line. All tokens are displayed in `this font`.
- *token value*: The `<value>` portion of a batch file input line. All token values are displayed in `this font` and in quotes `""`.
- *batch command*: An input token that is used to specify a parameter. Its token value is stored by the batch file processor. A batch command does not result in any calculations or output (except logging output written to the terminal). Batch commands are displayed in **bold**.
- *batch action*: An input token that triggers a particular action, such as querying the archive database for pairs or performing calculation of verification statistics. The token value specifies parameters of that action. Batch actions are displayed in **bold**.
- *data pair*: A forecast-observed pair, defined in the `vfypairs` table of the archive database.
- *verification group*: A collection of locations, physical elements, etc., that are to be lumped together to produce one set of statistics.

### 4.0 *Execution*

Before executing the IVP Batch Program, be sure that the tables `vfyruninfo`, `rivercrit`, and `location` are all populated correctly for each location for which verification is to be done. The `vfyruninfo` table is populated using the `Vfyruninfo Editor`. The `rivercrit` table must be populated in order for the flood stage to be found, given by the field `flood`, if the flood stage is used in determining categories. The `location` table must be populated in order for the `rfc` to be identified for a location, given by the field `rfc`. If no `rfc` is found, then the `rfc` is assumed to be `"NONE"`.

To execute the Verification Batch Program, enter:

```
cd $(get_apps_defaults verify_dir)/scripts
```

```
ivpbatch [-c] <batch file name>
```

where `<batch_file_name>` is the name of the batch file. If the first letter of the name of the batch file is either `'.'` or `'/'`, then the file name is assumed to be fully specified, relative to the current directory. Otherwise, it is assumed to be specified relative to the directory given by the apps-defaults token `"vsys_input"`. Use the `-c` option only if executed within a cron.

## 5.0 *Apps-Defaults Tokens*

In order to properly access the `vfyruninfo` table within the archive database, the user's environment must be setup to read from the archive database and access the java system code. This requires setting the apps-defaults token `"adb_name"` to be the name for the archive database, making sure the `INFORMIXSERVER` is set to the correct server, and setting the apps-defaults token `"sys_java_dir"` to the correct value. This should be part of the national apps-defaults file.

Also, the following apps-defaults tokens are used by the IVP Batch Program (with their national file setting given):

- `vsys_input` : `$(vsys_dir)/input`
- `vsys_output` : `$(vsys_dir)/output`

All input batch files are assumed to exist within the directory corresponding to apps-defaults token `"vsys_input"`, unless specified otherwise. All output files will be generated in the directory corresponding to token `"vsys_output"` and in a subdirectory corresponding to the user's `LOGNAME` environment variable. The directory will be created if it does not exist.

## 6.0 *Batch File Format*

Each line of the batch file corresponds to a command or a parameter setting. All lines must be of the format:

```
<token> = <value>
```

with the following restrictions:

1. The token is not case sensitive.
2. Any number of spaces or tabs may be placed before or after the token and before or after the value.
3. A space, new-line (carriage return), tab, or pound (`"#"`) marks the end of a value or token.
4. Double quotes must be placed around the value if it is to contain tabs, spaces, or pounds, but the value may never contain a new-line. For example,

```
my_name = john doe
```

has a token of `"my_name"` and a value of `"john"`, whereas

```
my_name = "john doe"
```

- has a token of "my\_name" and a value of "john doe". If a new-line is encountered, it is treated as the closing double-quote.
5. The character '#', unless it is within double quotes, is used to indicate a comment. Any characters after a '#' are ignored.
  6. The equal sign ('=') must not be used as part of a value.

If a line is found which does not follow this format or specifies an unrecognized token, an error message will be generated. Blank lines are ignored.

## 7.0 Batch Commands

A batch command sets a parameter that is used by a batch action (see Section 8).

This section provides an alphabetical listing of all of the available batch commands. Acceptable values will be listed for each command, as well as the default if the command is not specified or if the command's token value is "<DEFAULT>". If the passed in token value is not acceptable, then the batch program will print an error message and stop. The following are batch commands:

### **ANALYSIS\_INTERVAL = "<quantity> <unit>"**

*Description:* Defines the analysis interval for the verification calculations. This interval breaks down the total [START\_TIME, END\_TIME] interval into subintervals, each of width equal to that amount given by the token's value. When statistics are calculated, they will be calculated independently for each interval. A value of "NONE" can be used to specify that no subintervals are to be created.

*Acceptable Values:* "<quantity> <unit>" or "MONTHLY". The <quantity> must be a positive integer and the <unit> must be either "WEEKS" ("WEEK" or "WK"), "DAYS" ("DAY" or "DY"), or "HOURS" ("HOURL" or "HR"). If "MONTHLY" is specified, then the overall interval will be broken down into months, with the first interval being from START\_TIME to the end of its month and the last interval being from the first of the END\_TIME month through the END\_TIME.

*Default Value:* "NONE".

### **END\_TIME = "<DATE>"**

*Description:* Defines the end date/time for the pairing run. The end time can be absolute or can be relative to the current system time. Any data pair included in statistics calculation must have a valid time prior or equal to this date/time.

*Acceptable Values:* If the date is absolute, then it must be of one of these formats:

- "CCYY-MM-DD",
- "CCYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss",
- "CCYY-MM-DD hh:mm:ss TZC",
- "MMDDCCYY:hh".

If the date is relative, then it must be of the following format:

"\* [<+ or -> <quantity> <unit> <quantity> <unit> ...]".

Everything in '[ ]' is optional. The <quantity> must be a positive integer and the <unit> must be either "WEEKS" ("WEEK" or "WK"), "DAYS" ("DAY" or "DY"), or "HOURS" ("HOUR" or "HR").

*Default Value:* "\*" (the current system time).

**FCST\_CAT = "<CAT1>,<CAT2>,...,<CATn>"**

*Description:* Defines categories used to break down data pairs by the forecast value. The categories are defined as follows: ( $CAT1 \leq x < CAT2$ ), ..., ( $CAT_{n-1} \leq x \leq CAT_n$ ). Any data pair included in statistics calculation must have a forecast value within at least one of the defined categories. The categories can be location dependent if defined relative to the flood stage.

*Acceptable Values:* A list of categories or "NONE" to not categorize data. The list must be comma separated and, if you have spaces within the list, must be within double quotes. Each "<CATn>" value must be one of the following:

- a number (decimal or otherwise),
- "MIN" to denote no lower bound,
- "MAX" to denote no upper bound,
- a number immediately preceded by an asterisk, '\*' (no space is allowed in between).

If the number is preceded by an asterisk, then it is assumed to be a multiple of the location's flood stage, as found in the rivercrit table (field flood) of the archive database using a location id and physical element. If the location's flood stage cannot be found, a message will be generated stating that no flood stage was found and the batch processor will print an error message and stop. The list will be sorted into ascending order prior to use. See Section 10 for examples.

*Default Value:* "NONE", which is equivalent to "MIN, MAX".

**FCST\_TS = "<TS1>,<TS2>,...,<TSn>"**

*Description:* Defines a list of forecast type sources. Any data pair included in statistics calculation must have a forecast type source in this list.

*Acceptable Values:* A list of valid forecast type sources or "ALL" to allow for any valid type source. The list must be comma separated and, if there are spaces within the list, must be within double quotes. If "ALL" is specified, then a list of all forecast type sources is generated from the vfyruninfo table, and that list is used to query the database for data pairs.

*Default Value:* "ALL".

**LEADTIME\_END = "<number of hours>"**

*Description:* Defines the largest lead time to be used in verification. Any data pair included in statistics calculation must have a (validtime – basistime) smaller than or equal to this upper bound. A value of "NONE" can be used to specify no upper bound.

*Acceptable Values:* Any positive integer larger than LEADTIME\_START, or "NONE".

*Default Value:* "NONE".

**LEADTIME\_START = "<number of hours>"**

*Description:* Defines the smallest lead time to be used in verification. Any data pair included in statistics calculation must have a (validtime – basistime) greater than this lower bound. A value of "NONE" can be used to specify no lower bound (this is equivalent to a LEADTIME\_START of "0").

*Acceptable Values:* Any positive integer, zero, or "NONE".

*Default Value:* "NONE".

**LEADTIME\_STEP = "<number of hours>"**

*Description:* Defines the lead time interval for the verification calculations. This interval breaks down the total (LEADTIME\_START, LEADTIME\_END] interval into subintervals, each with a width equal to the token's value. When statistics are calculated, they will be calculated independently for each lead time interval. Note that each interval is open at the lower end and close at the upper end. For example, if LEADTIME\_STEP is 6 and LEADTIME\_START is 0, then the first interval will be (0,6], the next will be (6, 12], and so on. A value of "NONE" can be used to specify that no subintervals are to be created.

*Acceptable Values:* Any positive integer or "NONE".

*Default Value:* "NONE".

**OBS\_CAT = "<CAT1>,<CAT2>,...,<CATn>"**

*Description:* Defines categories used to break down data pairs by the observed value. The categories are defined as follows: ( $CAT1 \leq x < CAT2$ ), ..., ( $CAT_{n-1} \leq x \leq CAT_n$ ). Any data pair included in statistics calculation must have an observed value within at least one of the defined categories. The categories can be location dependent if defined relative to the flood stage.

*Acceptable Values:* See FCST\_CAT command above, except that the categories bound the observed value, not the forecast value.

*Default Value:* "NONE".

**PAIRS\_FILE = "<filename>,<c/a>"**

*Description:* Defines the name of the pairs file to use and whether to open it for creation or append.

*Acceptable Values:* Either "NONE" or a filename, followed by a comma, and then either 'c' for create or 'a' for append. If the filename does not have either a '.' or a '/' at the first character, then it will be assumed that the file is to be placed relative to the directory given by the app-default token "vsys\_output". If "NONE" is given, then the pairs data will not be output to any file. See the DEF\_GRP action (Section 8) for more details.

*Default Value:* "NONE".

*NOTE: If you wish to view the pairs data within the IVP graphical user interface, then you will need to create a pairs\_file first, and the pairs file absolutely must contain the string ".pairs" in its name. It is this pairs file that the IVP GUI reads as a source of data.*

**PE = "<PE1>,<PE2>,...,<PEn>"**

*Description:* Defines a list of physical elements. Any data pair included in statistics calculation must have a physical element in this list.

*Acceptable Values:* A list of valid physical elements or "ALL" to allow for any valid physical element. The list must be comma separated and, if you have spaces within the list, must be within double quotes. If "ALL" is specified, then a list of all physical elements is generated from the vfyruninfo table, and that list is used to query the database for data pairs.

*Default Value:* "ALL".

**PERSISTENCE = <ON/OFF>**

*Description:* Determines if persistence forecast pairs are to be used in computing statistics. If set to ON and if FCST\_TS is set to ALL (its default value), then pairs with a persistence forecast type source will be included in verification. If set to OFF, then the only way to include persistence forecasts in verification is to explicitly list the persistence forecast type source ("FR") in the value of a FCST\_TS command.

*Acceptable Values:* Either "ON" or "OFF".

*Default Value:* "ON".

*NOTE:* When using the IVP Batch Builder, the PERSISTENCE command is accessible in the Pairs/Output command panel..

**RIVERRESPONSE = "<RESP1>,<RESP2>,..."**

*Description:* Defines a list of river response times. The response time is stored in the vfyruninfo table of the archive database as the resptime field. Any location included in statistics calculation must have a response time in this list. If no resptime field can be found for a given location in the vfyruninfo table, then that location will be assigned a response time of "NONE".

*Acceptable Values:* A list of valid response times ("SLOW", "MEDIUM", "FAST") or "ALL" to allow for any response time, including "NONE". The list must be comma separated and, if you have spaces within the list, must be within double quotes.

*Default Value:* "ALL".

**START\_TIME = "<DATE>"**

*Description:* Defines the start date/time for the pairing run. The start date/time can be absolute or can be relative to the current system time. Any data pair included in statistics calculation must have a valid time after or equal to this date/time.

*Acceptable Values:* See END\_TIME above.

*Default Value:* "\* - 14 DAYS" (two weeks prior to current system time).

## 8.0 Batch Actions

Actions instruct the verification program to do something, such as open a file or calculate statistics. The nature of what is done depends on the action given. Acceptable values will be listed for each token value. If the value is not acceptable, then the batch program will print an error message and stop.

The following are valid actions within the verification system:

**CALCSTATS = "<category>,<STAT1>,<STAT2>,...,<STATn>"**

*Description:* This action causes statistics to be generated given the current command settings provided prior to this line in the batch file. Statistics will be produced for every verification group. All output is sent to the output file specified by the latest execution of the OUTPUT\_FILE action.

*Acceptable Values:*

- <category>: Specifies if categories are to be constructed relative to observed values, forecast values, or both observed and then forecast. The value must be either "OBS" for observed categories, "FCST" for forecast categories, or "BOTH" for both categories.

- <STATn>: Specifies a statistic to produce. Values for <STATn> can be one of the following:
  - ERRORS: All of the statistics root mean square error, maximum error, mean error, and mean absolute error.
  - CATSTATS: All of the statistics probability of detection, traditional false alarm rate, hydrologic false alarm rate, under forecast rate, and over forecast rate.
  - QUANTILES: The minimum, 25% quantile, median, 75% quantile, and maximum values for the non-category variable in each category.

*Default Value:* Does not apply. The value must be acceptable.

*NOTE:* If the output file has not been opened via the OUTPUT\_FILE action below when CALCSTATS is called, then the default name will be used, and it will be created.

**CLEAR\_GROUPS = <anything>**

*Description:* Clears all of the groups that have been added up until this point in the batch file.

*Acceptable Values:* The value is ignored.

*Default Value:* Does not apply. The value is ignored.

**DEF\_GRP = "<LID1>,<LID2>,...,<LIDn>"**

*Description:* Defines a group as a collection of location ids, each one of which must have been defined at least once via a DEF\_LOC action previously within the batch file. In addition to a list of locations, associated with each group is a list of physical elements, forecast type sources, start time, end time, analysis interval, lead time start, lead time end, lead time step, and pairs output file. These are given by the commands PE, FCST\_TS, START\_TIME, END\_TIME, ANALYSIS\_INTERVAL, LEADTIME\_START, LEADTIME\_END, LEADTIME\_STEP, and PAIRS\_FILE, respectively. If the pairs output file is defined as "NONE", then no data pairs will be output to a file. However, if it is a valid file, then all of the data pairs for this group will be output to that file.

*Acceptable Values:*

- <LIDn>: A defined location (via DEF\_LOC, described below) or "ALL" to use every location currently defined via DEF\_LOC. Note that:
  - All locations must be defined for at least one physical element via the DEF\_LOC command.
  - All locations within a group must have an identical number of forecast categories and an identical number of observed categories.
  - If any location is specified does not have a response time that is one of the response times provided in the latest execution of the RIVERRESPONSE command, then it will be left out of the group.

*Default Value:* None.

**DEF\_LOC = "<LID1>,<LID2>,...,<LIDn>"**

*Description:* Defines the locations given in the list using parameters as set via commands in the batch file prior to this action. This action uses the PE command to determine the physical elements for which to define the given locations. Associated with each location and physical element pair are forecast and observed categories, given by commands FCST\_CAT and OBS\_CAT, respectively.

*Acceptable Values:*

- <LIDn>: A location to define for which a record must exist within the vfyruninfo table, or "ALL" to define all locations given within vfyruninfo to have the categories.



*Default Value:* None.

**NATLSTATS = "<LID1>,<LID2>,...,<LIDn>"**

*Description:* This action causes national statistics to be generated for each of the passed in locations. All previously defined commands are used as with CALCSTATS, except that the following are assumed: ANALYSIS\_INTERVAL = NONE, FCST\_CAT = NONE, LEADTIME\_END = 72, LEADTIME\_START = 0, LEADTIME\_STEP = 6, OBS\_CAT = "\*0.0,\*1.0,\*10.0", PERSISTENCE = OFF. It is assumed that every passed in location is to have its statistics calculated independently. Therefore, any previously defined verification locations and groups are ignored. Locations can still be restricted by using the PE command, and forecast type sources can be restricted by using the FCST\_TS command. The OUTPUT\_FILE is ignored: the output statistics produced are organized into files by location RFC, leadtime interval, and category. The names of the output files are:

```
"<rfc>_<ccyyymm>_<above/below>.stat_<lead time interval
end>hr_tab".
```

The file is placed in the directory given by the value of the apps-defaults token "vsys\_output". <rfc> is the lower case five letter rfc abbreviation; <ccyyymm> is the four digit year and two digit month of the date specified by the batch command START\_TIME; <above/below> is either "above" for data in the upper category or "below" for data in the lower category; and <lead time interval end> is the upper bound of the lead time interval of the statistics contained in the file.

*Acceptable Values:*

- <LIDn>: Specifies locations for which statistics are to be produced. Each location id must be present within the vfyruninfo database table.

*Default Value:* None.

**OUTPUT\_FILE = "<filename>,<c/a>"**

*Description:* Opens up a file to store statistics. All statistics output, other than that generated by a NATLSTATS action, are written to this file. If an output file was opened previously, it will be close.

*Acceptable Values:*

- <filename>: The name of the file to open or "<DEFAULT>" to use the default name. If the first character is not a '/' or '.', then the file will be opened relative to the directory pointed to by apps-defaults token "vsys\_output".
- <c/a>: Either 'c' or 'a'. If 'c', then the file specified by the <filename> will be created or overwritten. If 'a', then the file specified by the <filename> will be opened for appending.

*Defaults:* None. However, if an OUTPUT\_FILE is not called when CALCSTATS is called, all output will be sent to an output file as if the action "OUTPUT\_FILE = vfyoutput.txt,c" was called.

## 9.0 Special Tokens

A special token is a batch language token that is not related to specifying parameters or performing actions related to the software program.

This section provides an alphabetical listing of all special tokens. The following are special tokens:

**@FILE = <filename>**

*Description:* Forces batch processor to process the file specified by <filename>. The file is treated just as if its contents were included within the original batch file.

*Acceptable Values:* Any valid file that will not force the batch processor to enter into an infinite, recursive loop (i.e. if file 1 references file 2, then file 2 can never reference file 1).

*Default Value:* Does not apply. The file name must be valid.

## ***10.0 The Verification Data Gathering Algorithm***

The algorithm used to collect verification data pairs from the vfpairs table of the archive database is as follows:

1. Every time the action DEF\_LOC is called, a collection of locations are defined for the specified location ids and user specified list of pes (via PE command). Associated with each defined location in the collection are the following:
  - List of forecast value categories given by the FCST\_CAT command. This is stored in its unprocessed (comma separated list) form.
  - List of observed value categories given by the OBS\_CAT command. This is stored in its unprocessed (comma separated list) form.
  - Other information, including RFC, response time, and flood stage, each of which is loaded from the archive database (tables location, vfyruninfo, and rivercrit, respectively).
  
2. Every time the action DEF\_GRP is called, a verification group is defined. Associated with each defined group are the following:
  - List of locations in the group.
  - List of acceptable physical elements (PE command).
  - List of acceptable forecast type sources (FCST\_TS command).
  - Analysis window start and end times (START\_TIME, END\_TIME commands) and analysis interval (ANALYSIS\_INTERVAL commands).
  - Lead time interval start and end (LEADTIME\_START, LEADTIME\_END commands), and lead time step (LEADTIME\_STEP commands).

When DEF\_GRP is executed, each location's river response time is checked against the list of river responses provided by the command RIVERRESPONSE. If it is not found, then it will not be added to the group.

3. Every time the action OUTPUT\_FILE is called, a file is opened based upon the parameters passed in for the action, and is left open until the next call to OUTPUT\_FILE or until the program ends.

4. When the CALCSTATS algorithm is called, for each group in the current list of groups and for each analysis interval in the list of analysis intervals for that group, the following is done:
  - a. All vfypairs records are loaded that have a location, physical element, and forecast type source for the current group, a forecast validtime within the current analysis interval, and a forecast (validtime – basistime) within the overall lead time interval (from LEADTIME\_START to LEADTIME\_END) for the current group.
  - b. For each lead time subinterval (based on LEADTIME\_STEP), a subset of the current vfypairs records is created.
  - c. If the first argument of the CALCSTATS command is either “BOTH” or “FCST”, then for each subset from Step 4b and forecast category, the following is done:
    - i. All vfypairs records are extracted from the list gathered in Step 4b for which the forecast value is in the current category.
    - ii. All statistics are produced for the current records.
    - iii. All statistics are output to the output file in the appropriate format.
  - d. If the first argument of the CALCSTATS command is either “BOTH” or “OBS”, for each observed category, Steps 4c-i, 4c-ii, and 4c-iii, are each performed, except that in step 4c-i, the observed value is checked in place of the forecast value.

## 11.0 Examples

The following examples illustrate how to construct batch files to accomplish particular goals.

Example 1: A batch file to produce verification statistics for October 2003 for the national verification project. The locations used have lids of AAAAA,BBBBB,CCCCC, and DDDDD. The files to create will have prefix “stats\_OCT\_2003” and will be in the directory corresponding to apps-defaults token “vsys\_output”.

---

```

START_TIME = "20031001 00:00:00"
END_TIME   = "20031031 23:59:59"

# Do the statistics...
NATLSTATS  = "AAAAA,BBBBB,CCCCC,DDDDD"

```

---

Example 2: A batch file to produce verification statistics for October 2003 and for all locations defined within the vfyruninfo table with slow or medium response times. Only overall statistics are needed; categories are not needed. The statistics to produce are the error statistics (“ERRORS”) and will be written to the default file. Persistence and normal forecasts are included in the verification.

---

```

DEF_LOC      = ALL

START_TIME   = "20031001 00:00:00"
END_TIME     = "20031031 23:59:59"
RIVERRESPONSE = "SLOW, MEDIUM"
DEF_GRP      = ALL

```

---

```

# Do the statistics...
# For overall statistics, I can pass any of the three
# acceptable values as the first argument.
CALCSTATS      = obs,ERRORS

```

---

*Example 3:* As example 2, except that for location AAAAA, which is a slow response time river, create two categories for the observed value: ( $2.0 < x \leq 15.0$ ), and (above 15.0). For all other locations, use the categories below flood stage and above flood stage. Also, add the categorical statistics.

---

```

# First, define all locations.
OBS_CAT        = "MIN, *1.0 ,MAX"
DEF_LOC        = ALL

# Override the categories for lid AAAAA by calling
# DEF_LOC again for it only.
OBS_CAT        = 2.0,15.0,MAX
DEF_LOC        = AAAAA

# Now define the general group parameters.
START_TIME     = "20031001 00:00:00"
END_TIME       = "20031031 23:59:59"
RIVERRESPONSE = "SLOW, MEDIUM"

# Do the statistics...
DEF_GRP        = ALL
CALCSTATS      = "obs, errors, catstats"

```

---

*Example 4:* Same as example 3, except produce statistics for lead times between 0 and 72 hours and at 24 hour time steps and only for locations AAAAA, BBBBB, and CCCCC. Also, send the output to a file with name "outfile.txt" relative to the apps-defaults token "vsys\_output". Finally, do not include persistence forecasts in verification. The file should be appended to as it may already contain previously produced statistics.

---

```

# First, define the BBBBB and CCCCC locations.
OBS_CAT        = "MIN, *1.0 ,MAX"
DEF_LOC        = BBBBB,CCCCC

# Now define the AAAAA location.
OBS_CAT        = 2.0,15.0,MAX
DEF_LOC        = AAAAA

# Now define the general group parameters.
START_TIME     = "20031001 00:00:00"
END_TIME       = "20031031 23:59:59"
RIVERRESPONSE = "SLOW, MEDIUM"
LEADTIME_START = 0
LEADTIME_END   = 72
LEADTIME_STEP  = 24

```

```

PERSISTENCE = OFF

# Do the statistics...
DEF_GRP      = AAAAA,BBBBB,CCCCC
OUTPUT_FILE  = "outfile.txt,a"
CALCSTATS    = "obs, error, catstats"

```

---

*Example 5:* Same as example 4, except break apart the persistence forecasts, which have a type source of "FR", from the non-persistence forecasts. This will yield two groups.

---

```

# First, define the BBBBB and CCCCC locations.
OBS_CAT      = "MIN, *1.0 ,MAX"
DEF_LOC      = BBBBB,CCCCC

# Now define the AAAAA location.
OBS_CAT      = 2.0,15.0,MAX
DEF_LOC      = AAAAA

# Now define the general group parameters.
START_TIME   = "20031001 00:00:00"
END_TIME     = "20031031 23:59:59"
RIVERRESPONSE = "SLOW, MEDIUM"
LEADTIME_START = 0
LEADTIME_END   = 72
LEADTIME_STEP  = 24

# Define the two groups. The first includes all non-persistence
# forecasts.
PERSISTENCE  = off
DEF_GRP      = AAAAA,BBBBB,CCCCC

# The second group includes only persistence forecasts.
FCST_TS      = "FR"
DEF_GRP      = AAAAA,BBBBB,CCCCC

# Do the statistics...
OUTPUT_FILE  = "outfile.txt,a"
CALCSTATS    = "obs, error, catstats"

```

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