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4.6 User Parameters Dialog

Activated by pressing the user parameters icon. Each tab holds different setup information, however the dialog has three common buttons which have the following functions:

1. press ***OK*** to enable the chosen options and dismiss the dialog.
2. press ***Cancel*** to dismiss the dialog, without enabling the chosen options.
3. press ***Apply*** to enable the chosen options but retain the dialog so that further changes may be made.

Figure 4:20. The OK, Cancel and Apply buttons common to the User Parameters Dialog.

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4.6.1 Data Set Tab

Select the ***Data Set*** tab.

The top panel, *Section Numbering*, is used to specify the system of X axis coordinates for input and output, i.e. whether the X coordinates represent a true X ***Distance***, ***Station*** numbers or ***Frame*** numbers. Press the relevant radio button to select.

The ***Flat of side***, ***Flat of bottom*** and ***PMB*** check boxes are used to control the interpolation from orthogonal curves within these regions. The default is that when interpolating the points for an orthogonal curve that passes through one or more of these regions, no points will be generated from orthogonal curves within these regions. If these options are toggled on then the data points will be generated for any orthogonal curves in these regions.

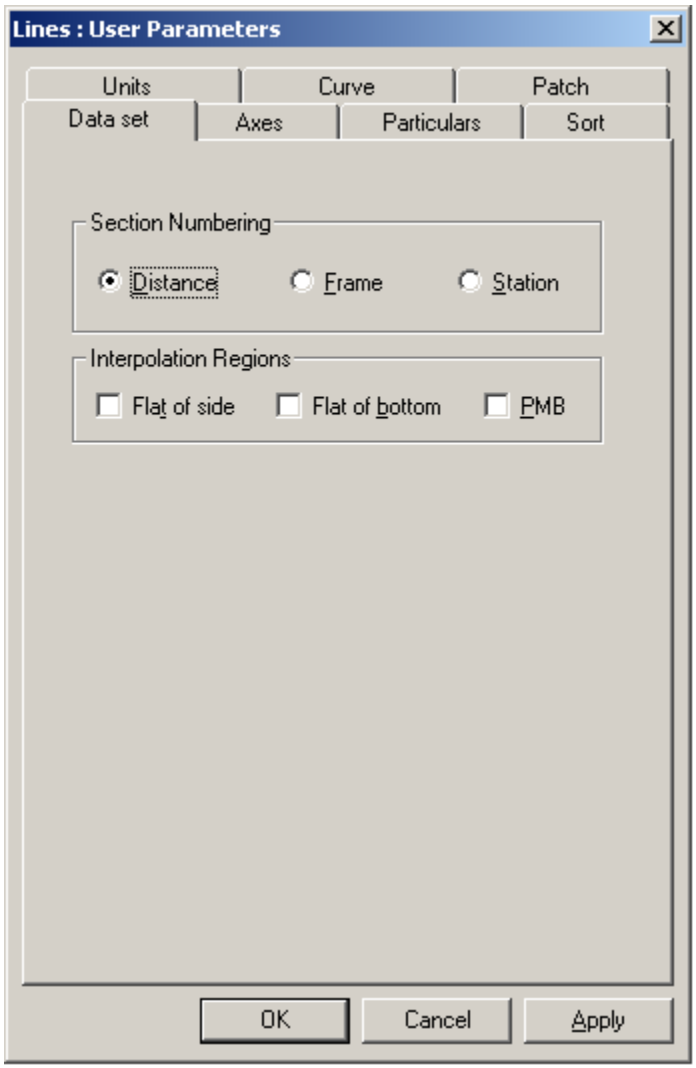

Figure 4:21. User Parameters Dialog - Data Set Tab.

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4.6.2 Axes Tab

Select the ***Axes*** tab.

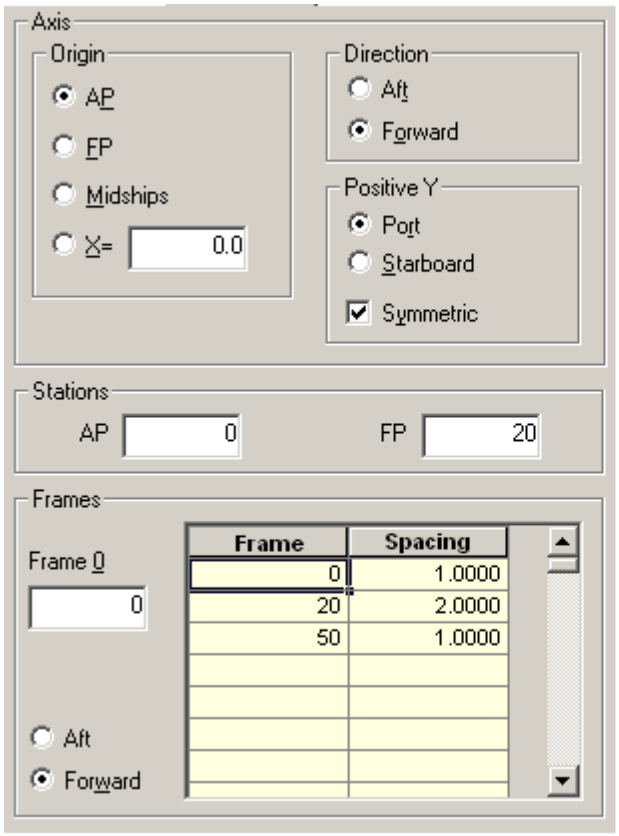

Figure 4:22. User Parameters Dialog - Axes Tab.

The *Origin* panel is used to select the position of the origin for the X axis and it's positive direction. The origin can be at the aft perpendicular ***AP***, fore perpendicular ***FP***, ***Midships*** or at a user specified distance from the aft perpendicular ***X=***. The positive axis direction can be ***Aft*** or ***Forward***.

The *Positive Y* panel is used to specify the axis system. Select ***Port*** for a left-handed axis system or ***Starboard*** for a right-handed axis system. Select ***Symmetric*** to indicate that the design is symmetric and is only being modelled on one side of the centreline. In this case, only half the beam is shown in section and waterline views. Unselect the Symmetric checkbox to indicate that both port and starboard sides are to be modelled. In this case, the full beam is shown in section and waterline views.

The *Stations* panel is used to specify the station numbers at the *AP* and *FP*. There are no restrictions on station numbering.

The *Frames* panel is used to input or modify the table of frame spacings. The position of frame 0 relative to the origin is entered in the *Frame 0* edit box. The frame number and the spacing forward of this frame are entered into the grid. Lines can be copied, pasted, inserted and deleted by pressing the right mouse button over the grid and selecting the appropriate option. The positive direction of the frames can be specified as ***Aft*** or ***Forward***.

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4.6.3 Particulars Tab

Select the ***Particulars*** tab.

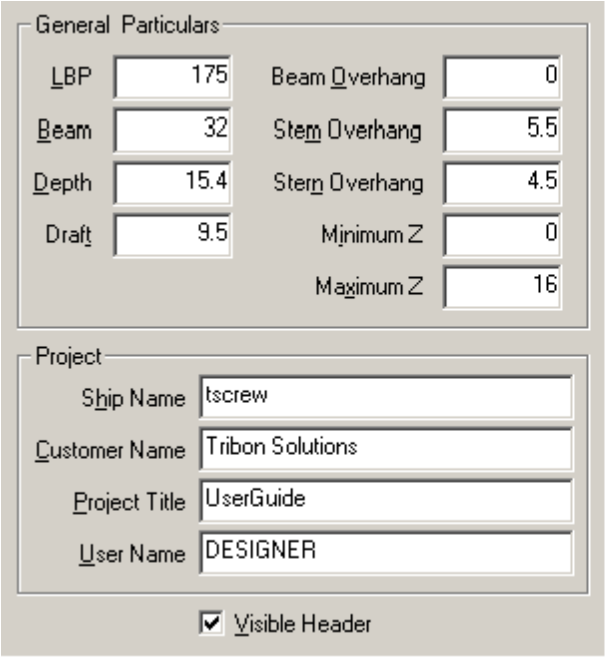

Figure 4:23. User Parameters Dialog - Particulars Tab.

Used to change the values of the listed general particulars. Changing these items does not distort the design.

LBP, Beam, Depth, Stem Overhang, *Stern Overhang*, *Beam Overhang*, *Minimum Z* and *Maximum Z*, alter the size of the default window box displayed when assigning a view to a graphics display window.

Draft alters the draft used in the calculation of the hydrostatics.

The *Project* panel is used to set the *Ship Name*, *Customer Name* and *Project Title*. These are included in the file header that is output at the start of the loftbook and title box output on the standard lines plans, etc.

The ***Visible Header*** check box, turns the file header on when highlighted, which is the default. If the header is turned off, the output of point type and coordinate headers when listing the data points of the current curve, are also suppressed.

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4.6.4 Sort Tab

The ***Sort*** tab allows the user to set the default sort method the system will use to sort the data points of a curve.

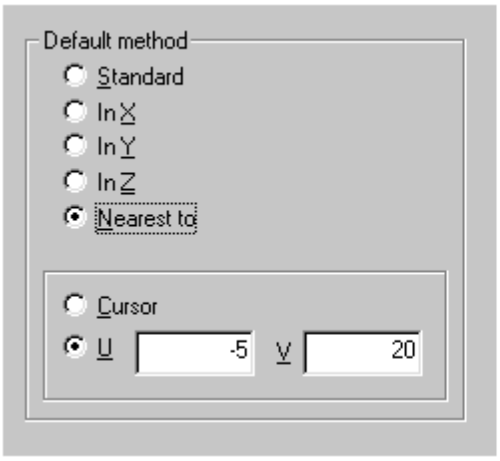

Figure 4:24. User Parameters Dialog - Sort Tab.

The usual sort is ***Standard***, which sorts the data points in ascending order from the U, V coordinate setting of 0,0. The user can alter this U, V setting.

The ***In X***, ***In Y***, ***In Z*** radio buttons tell the system to sort the data points into ascending order in the direction of the specified chosen axis.

Nearest to will sort by starting with the data point nearest to a specified start position, then finding the nearest data point to the previous data point and so on. The user can select the start position either by using the ***Cursor*** or by inputting *U*, *V* coordinates. Note the axes to which the U, V coordinates are applied depend upon the current view. This sort cannot be used if the current view is an isometric view.

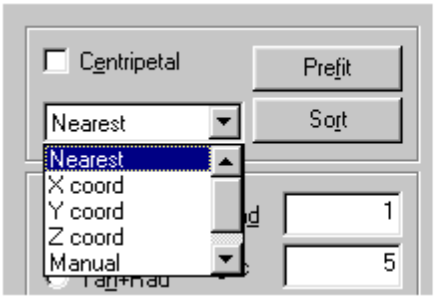

Figure 4:25. The User can Temporarily Change the Sort for the Current Curve.

During a prefit on a current curve the sort can be modified from the Edit dialog (see Edit Dialog) under the fitting tab. The user can temporarily change the sort for the current curve by clicking on the dropdown list and choosing the type of sort needed. Then press the ***Sort*** button.

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4.6.5 Units Tab

The ***Units*** tab is used to alter the current setting of the input and output units. The type of units that can be selected are ***Metres***, ***Millimetres*** (mm), ***Feet*** and ***Inches***. Note, the feet and inches options are decimal formats. The default setting is for metres.

The precision to which numbers are displayed throughout Lines can be changed by selecting the appropriate decimal place setting.

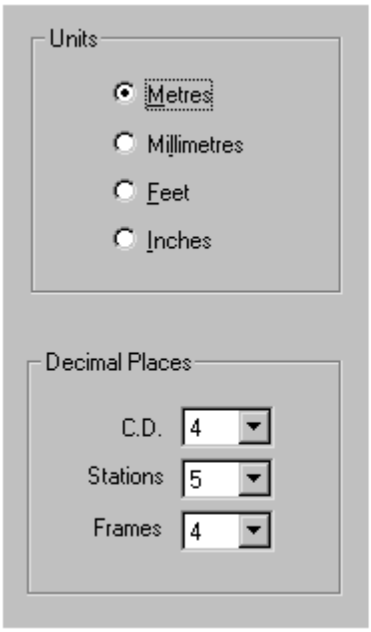

Figure 4:26. User Parameters Dialog - Units Tab.

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4.6.6 Curve Tab

Select the ***Curve*** Tab.

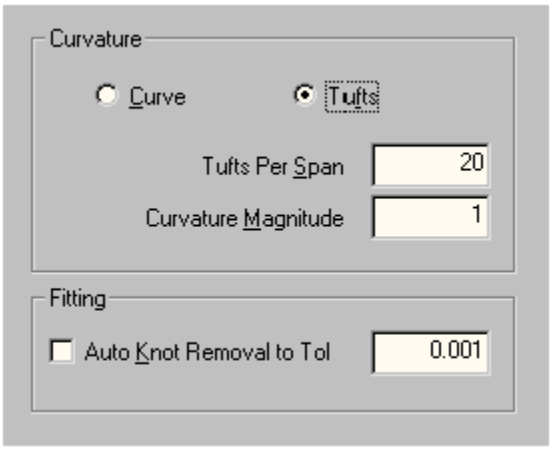

Figure 4:27. User Parameters Dialog - Curve Tab.

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Curvature Panel

The Curvature panel is used to select whether the curvature curve is displayed as a continuous line (***Curve***) or a set of tufts (***Tufts***). If the curvature curve is displayed as tufts, the number of *Tufts Per Span* can be set in the relevant edit box. The default setting is 20 tufts per span. The magnification factor of the curvature curve can also be set in the *Curvature Magnitude* edit box. The default setting is 1.

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Fitting Panel

The ***Auto Knot Remove to Tol*** check box is used to automatically remove knots to the given tolerance every time a curve is fitted.

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4.6.7 Patch Tab

Select the ***Patch*** tab.

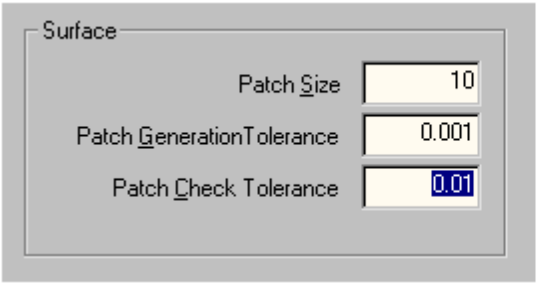

Figure 4:28. User Parameters Dialog - Patch Tab.

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Surface Panel

Patch Size is an integer between 4 and 30 and defines the amount of data in a patch when generating patches manually. The higher the number, the more accurate the patch will be, although this will slow down patch fitting and analysing.

Patch Generation Tolerance is the tolerance used to recognise valid intersections between boundary curves and between defining curves and the boundaries when generating patches manually. It is also used to recognise adjacent corners when setting continuity between patches.

Patch Check Tolerance is used during automatic checking of patches. If the maximum error of any patch exceeds the Patch Check Tolerance during fitting, then an error is issued and the patch is highlighted in the tabular feedback in the Output Window.

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