

External PARFILE

Figure 1 shows the parsfile screen, which is used to link to text files that were created with software other than the VehicleSim (VS) browser, such as custom files that do not have associated screens.

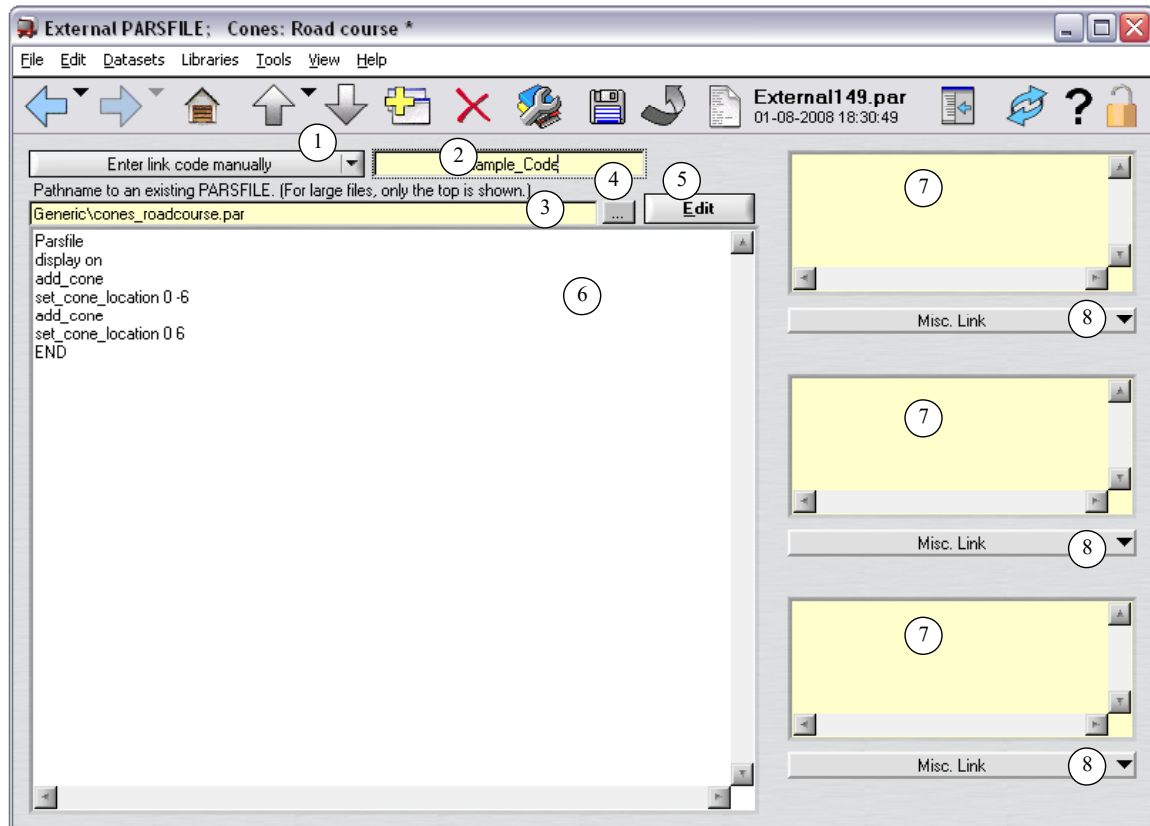


Figure 1. Parsfile screen.

Discussion

This screen serves two main purposes. First, it can be used to access information that does not fit easily into the existing VS browser. For example, it can be used to set values for variables and parameters defined with VS commands to extend existing vehicle models. The second purpose is to access echo files generated by VS solvers, bypassing the normal browser GUI. (See the VS Solver Manual for details of how the solvers read data from parsfiles.)

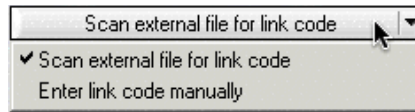
VS datasets normally include the following two kinds of information.

1. The identity of the type of data in the file.
2. Values assigned to the parameters and tables in the mathematical model.

The **External PARSFILE** screen provides both the code used to identify the type of dataset (item 1 above), and a pathname for a text file with model parameter values (item 2 above).

User Settings

- ① Scanning option. The pull-down control has two options:



The first option is that the external file is scanned for the keywords #VehCode, #VehicleCode, and #LinkCat. In the example screen image, the keyword identifies the code as Ind_Ind.

The second option displays a data field for manually entering a link code.



- ② Link Message (Code). This is a code like the one that appears by the vehicle data link on the **Run Control** screen, used by the VS browser to identify which VS solver should be used when you click the **Run Simulation** button. They are used elsewhere to identify the type of dataset used in a link (e.g., to determine if a suspension is independent or solid axle). The codes can either be obtained from the linked file or entered manually, depending on the selected scanning option ①.

The VS browser uses this code only if the dataset is used to represent a vehicle or suspension. In these cases, the software will not perform properly unless the code is set. If the automatic scanning option does not work, then you must enter the correct code in order to make new runs using the linked external data file.

- ③ Pathname to external text file. You can type the name in directly or use the adjacent browser button ④ to select the file.
- ④ Browser button. Click on this to bring up a Windows file browser to select a text file interactively. If a file is selected, the pathname is placed into the adjacent field ③.
- ⑤ **Edit** button. The linked file might be lengthy. Only the first part of the file is displayed on the screen (for quick confirmation that the intended file is linked); editing of the file contents on this screen is not allowed. Click this button to load the file into a text editor.
- ⑥ First part of file. The beginning of the linked file is loaded into this field to help confirm that the intended file is the one that is linked. Contents from the field can be selected and copied to the Windows clipboard but they cannot be changed on this screen. (To edit the file, click the **Edit** button ⑤).
- ⑦ Miscellaneous parameter set fields. Enter keywords and the value you want assigned to them. The format is that each line has a keyword and value, separated with white space (at least a single space). These keyword values for vehicle units (IAXLE, ISIDE, etc.) are used until the keyword appears again in the inputs.

- ⑧ Links to other CarSim datasets. A common example is to link to the animation data that would normally be obtained from the regular vehicle screens.