

DEFINING PARAMETERS

CLARKE SPHEROID OF 1866: (NAD 1927)

a = 6,378,206.4 meters	Semi-major axis
b = 6,356,583.8 meters	Semi-minor axis

Computed Values

1/f = 294.978698214	Reciprocal flattening
c = 6,399,902.5516 m	Polar radius of curvature

GEODETTIC REFERENCE SYSTEM 1980: (NAD 1983)

a = 6,378,137.000 meters	Semi-major axis
1/f = 298.2572221008827	Reciprocal flattening

Computed values

b = 6,356,752.3141 m	Semi-minor axis
c = 6,399,593.6259 m	Polar radius of curvature

WORLD GEODETTIC SYSTEM 1984: (GPS Computations)

a = 6,378,137.000 meters	Semi-major axis
1/f = 298.257223563	Reciprocal flattening

Computed values

b = 6,356,752.3142 m	Semi-minor axis
c = 6,399,593.6258 m	Polar radius of curvature

IMPLICATION & CAUTION!

As ellipsoids, WGS84 and GRS80 (NAD83) are interchangeable. But WGS84 & NAD83 geocentric coordinates may not be compatible.