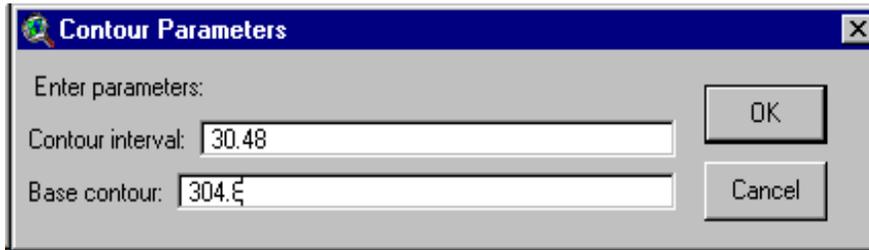


Calculating contour lines



To calculate contour lines in Feet:

The DEM files are in meters so some conversion will need to be done to get contours in feet. For 100 foot contour lines the Contour interval should be 30.48 and the Base contour should be 304.8. These numbers come from the conversion of meters to feet. There are 3.28084 feet in a meter. So $100/3.28084$ is 30.48 to get the 100 foot contour. The base contour is where the contours start. We want the 100 foot contours to be on even 100 foot intervals so in this example we are using a base of 1000 feet. So $1000/3.28084$ is 304.8.

If you want contours in feet at a interval of something other then 100 feet you will need to calculate the interval and base.

The resulting theme will have a field of contour that is still in meters. To calculate feet save the theme to a new shape file by selecting <Theme> <Convert to Shape>. Give the new theme a name and delete the old theme. Open the new themes table and start editing <Table> <Start Editing>. Add a field as a number with a width of 16 with no decimal places and a name of "Feet", <Edit> <Add Field>. Use the calculator to calculate feet. The equation should be "[Contour] * 3.28084". The resulting numbers should be even 100 feet intervals if the contour interval was 100 feet.

Stop editing by clicking on <Table> <Stop Editing>.

