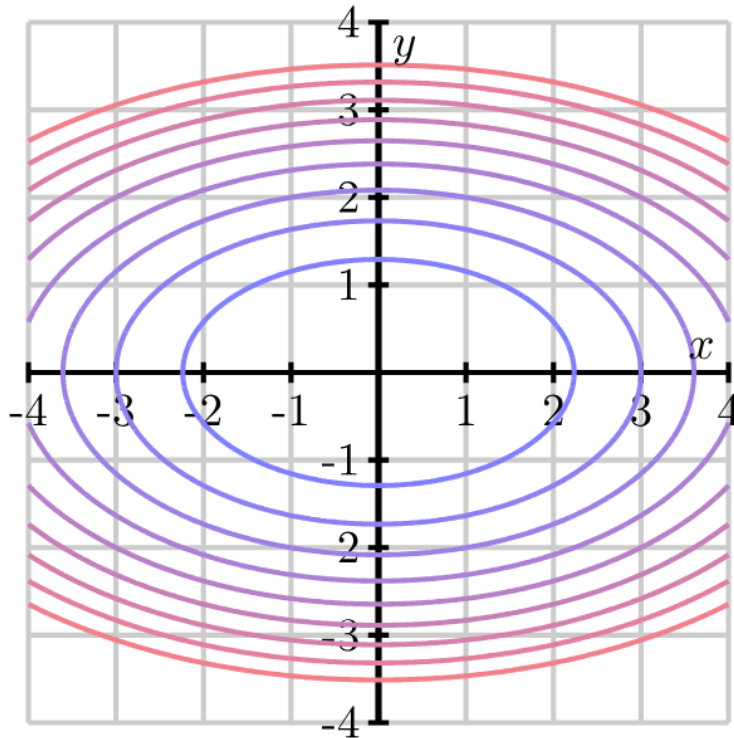


**Checkpoint: The gradient**

Consider the function  $f(x, y) = x^2 + 3y^2$ ; here's a contour plot of the function but with the contours deliberately not labeled.



- (a) Compute  $\nabla f(x, y)$ .
- (b) At the point  $(1, 2)$ , what is the direction of greatest increase?
- (c) Draw a vector on the contour plot showing the direction of greatest increase.
- (d) Find the slope of  $f$  in this direction.