## Greatest rate of change



The plot above shows level curves for a function  $f:\mathbb{R}^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ . It might be helpful to think of each output as the temperature (in degrees Celsius) at a point in the plane (with distances measured in meters).

1. For the point A, estimate the direction of the greatest rate of change in outputs f(x,y) with respect to changes in inputs (x,y).

2. For the point A, estimate the magnitude of this greatest rate of change.

3. At the point A, draw a vector in the direction of the greatest rate of change having magnitude equal to that rate of change. Note that you will need to choose a separate scale for rate of change. For example, with the temperature interpretation, rate of change has units of degrees Celsius per meter while the scales on the x and y axes are in meters.

4. For the point B, estimate the direction of the greatest rate of change in outputs f(x,y) with respect to changes in inputs (x,y).

5. For the point B, estimate the magnitude of this greatest rate of change.

6. At the point A, draw a vector in the direction of the greatest rate of change having magnitude equal to that rate of change. Use the scale you chose in #3.