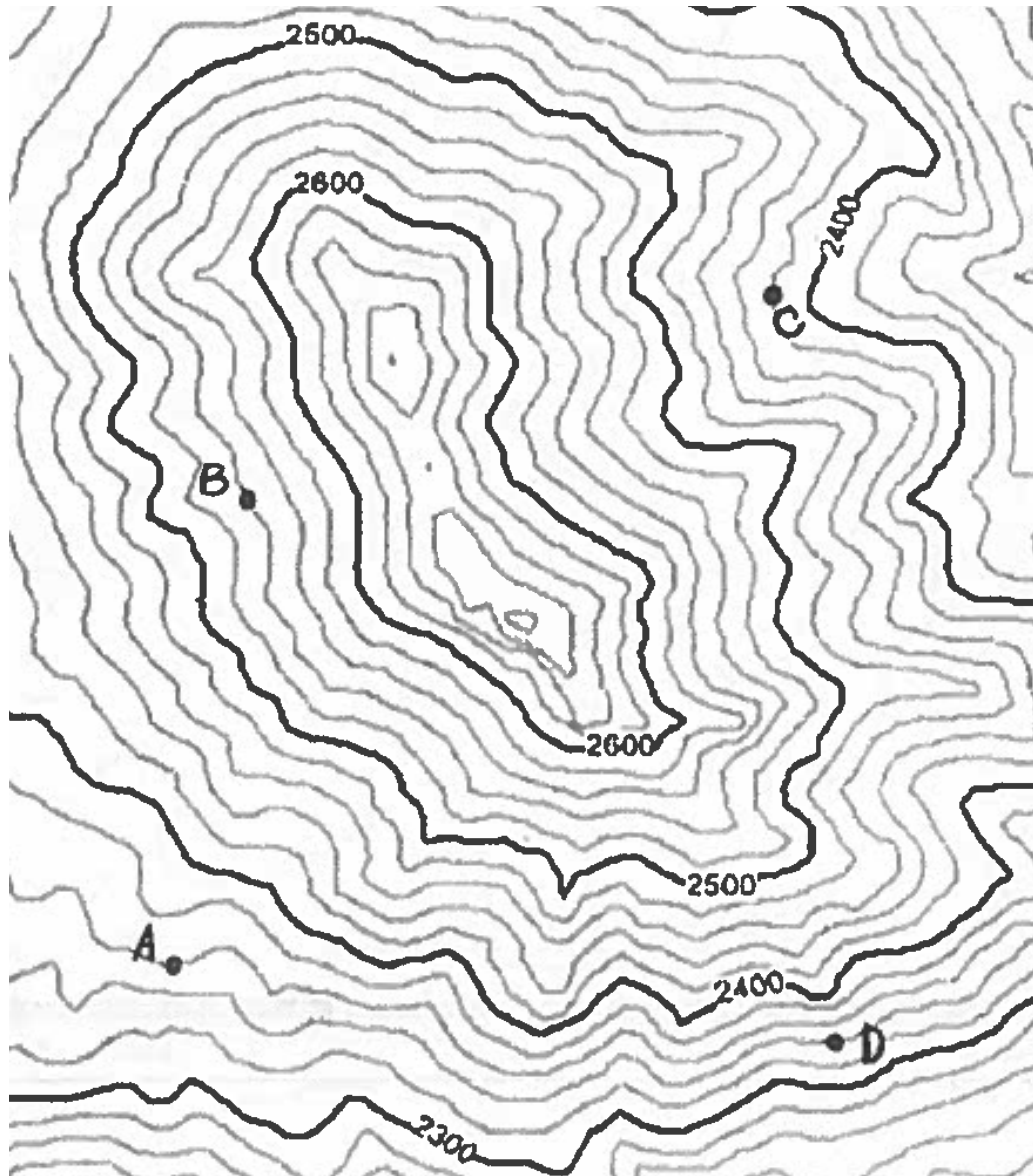


## Math 211 Gradients and directional derivatives

1. The topo map below shows level curves of height on a hill, marked in feet. Sketch gradient vectors at each of the points A, B, C, D. At which of these 4 points is the slope the steepest if you step in the direction of the gradient?



Suppose you are standing at point A and you follow the steepest direction with each step. Sketch the path you will follow.

2. Suppose the temperature in a region is given by  $T(x, y) = \frac{110}{x^2 + y^2 + 2}$  °F.
- Sketch a few level curves of  $T$ , marking the temperature on each one.
  - Where is the temperature hottest? What is that hottest temperature?
  - Find the unit vector in the direction of greatest increase in temperature at the point  $(2, 3)$ . Sketch this direction on your graph of level curves.
  - Is the temperature increasing or decreasing in the direction  $\langle \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}, \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}} \rangle$  at the point  $(2, 3)$ ?

3. Find all directions in which the directional derivative of  $f(x, y) = ye^{-xy}$  equals 1 at the point  $(0, 2)$ .