

Ellipse: Tips and tactics, in addition to prior notes

- 1.) Convert into standard form. May need to "complete the square."
- 2.) Find the Center (h, k).
- 3.) Identify a^2 and b^2 and determine vertical or horizontal orientation.
- 4.) Find a, b, and c.
- 5.) Find the total major and minor axis lengths, $2a$ and $2b$.
- 6.) Find the coordinates of the foci.
- 7.) Graph the ellipse—including the center, foci, and major/minor axes.

$$\frac{16x^2}{144} + \frac{9y^2}{144} = \frac{144}{144}$$

$$\frac{x^2}{9} + \frac{y^2}{16} = 1$$

$b^2 \rightarrow 9$ $a^2 \rightarrow 16$
 Big

Center: (h, k) vertical
(0, 0)

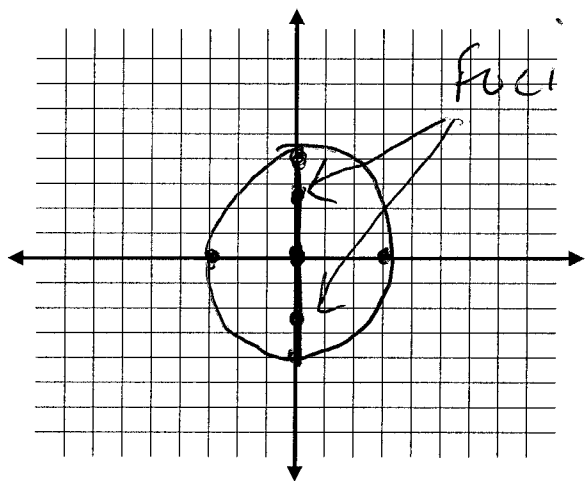
$a^2 = 16 \rightarrow a = 4$ major Axis: 8
 $b^2 = 9 \rightarrow b = 3$ minor Axis: 6

$$b^2 = a^2 - c^2$$

$$9 = 16 - c^2$$

$$\frac{-16 \quad -16}{\sqrt{+7} = +c^2} \text{ Foci } (h, k+c)$$

$(0, \sqrt{7})$
 $(h, k-c)$
 $(0, -\sqrt{7})$
 $c = \sqrt{7}$



$$7x^2 + 3y^2 - 28x - 12y + 19 = 0$$

$$7x^2 - 28x + \square + 3y^2 - 12y + \square = -19$$

$$7(x^2 - 4x + \square) + 3(y^2 - 4y + \square) = -19$$

$$\frac{7(x-2)^2}{21} + \frac{3(y-2)^2}{21} = \frac{21}{21}$$

$$\frac{(x-2)^2}{3} + \frac{(y-2)^2}{7} = 1$$

$b^2 \rightarrow 3$

Center (h, k) $a^2 = 7, a = \sqrt{7}$
 Vertical $b^2 = 3, b = \sqrt{3}$

Foci: (h, k+c) & (h, k-c)
 $(2, 4) & (2, 0)$
 $b^2 = a^2 - c^2$
 $3 = 7 - c^2$

Major: $2\sqrt{7}$
 Minor: $2\sqrt{3}$

$$\frac{-7 \quad -7}{\sqrt{+4} = \sqrt{+c^2}}$$

$2 = c$
 \uparrow Foci
 dist.
 from
 center

