

SECOND DERIVATIVES

Why

1

1 Definition

Let $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ open. Let $f: A \to \mathbb{R}$ be differentiable with derivative $f': \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$. We call f twice differentiable (or two times differentiable) if its derivative f' is differentiable. In this case, we call the derivative of f' the second derivative of f.

Notation

Let $A \subset R$. The second derivative of the twice-differentiable function $f: A \to \mathbb{R}$ is sometimes denoted $f''(x): A \to \mathbb{R}$

¹Future editions will include.

