

How does the sign of the first derivative relate to the original function?

If $f'(x) > 0$ Then $f(x)$ is increasing.
 $f'(x)$ is positive

If $f'(x) < 0$ Then $f(x)$ is decreasing.
 $f'(x)$ is negative

How does the sign of the second derivative relate to the original function?

If $f''(x) > 0$ Then $f(x)$ is concave upward
 $f''(x)$ is positive "up" like a cup



If $f''(x) < 0$ Then $f(x)$ is concave downward
 $f''(x)$ is negative "down" like a frown



How do you find points of inflection?
What must happen at a "possible" P.O.I for it to be a Point of Inflection?

To find points of inflection:
you set $f''(x)=0$ and solve for x.

For it to be a point of inflection you must change signs

Yes P.O.I
+ | Possible P.O.I | -

No not P.O.I.
+ | Possible P.O.I. | +

How do you
find critical
numbers?

What occurs at
critical numbers?

Find critical
numbers for
 $f(x) = \frac{3}{x+2}$

Critical numbers:

set $f'(x) = 0$ and solve for x .

Critical numbers are where
extrema occur OR where
maximums or minimums
occur.

$$f(x) = \frac{3}{x+2} \quad \text{domain } [IR: x \neq -2]$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{(x+2)\cancel{\frac{d}{dx}[3]} - 3\cancel{\frac{d}{dx}[x+2]}}{(x+2)^2}$$

$$f'(x) = \frac{-3(1)}{(x+2)^2} = \frac{-3}{(x+2)^2}$$

Fraction: Set top & bottom = 0
and solve

$$\cancel{-3} \neq 0 \quad (x+2)^2 = 0 \quad x = -2 \leftarrow$$

critical
number,
but can
not be
a max or
min