

Verifying Snapping Mechanism - Floating Point Implementation Version

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In order to verify the differential privacy property of an implementation of the snapping mechanism [5], we follow the logic rules designed from [1] and the floating point error semantics from [7, 4, 2, 6].

1 Preliminary Definitions

Definition 1 (Laplace mechanism [3])

Let $\epsilon > 0$. The Laplace mechanism $\mathcal{L}_\epsilon: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \text{Distr}(\mathbb{R})$ is defined by $\mathcal{L}(t) = t + v$, where $v \in \mathbb{R}$ is drawn from the Laplace distribution $\text{laplce}(\frac{1}{\epsilon})$.

2 Syntax

Following are the syntax of the system. The circled operators are rounded operation in floating point computation.

Floating Point Expr.	$e_{\mathbb{F}}$	$::=$	$c \mid x_{\mathbb{F}} \mid f(x_{\mathbb{F}}) \mid e_{\mathbb{F}} \odot e_{\mathbb{F}} \mid \textcircled{\text{ln}}(e_{\mathbb{F}}) \mid x_{\mathbb{F}} \xleftarrow{\$} \mu$
Real Expr.	$e_{\mathbb{R}}$	$::=$	$r \mid x_{\mathbb{R}} \mid F(x_{\mathbb{R}}) \mid e_{\mathbb{R}} * e_{\mathbb{R}} \mid \text{ln}(e_{\mathbb{R}}) \mid x_{\mathbb{R}} \xleftarrow{\$} \mu$
Arithmetic Operation	$*$	$::=$	$+ \mid - \mid \times \mid \div$
Value	v	$::=$	$r \mid c$
Distribution	μ	$::=$	$\text{laplce} \mid \text{unif} \mid \text{bernoulli}$
Error	err	$::=$	$(e_{\mathbb{R}}, e_{\mathbb{R}})$

We use upper case for variables in real computation and lower case for variables in floating point computation.

$F(x_{\mathbb{R}})$ denotes function F evaluates to value $F(x_{\mathbb{R}})$ given input $x_{\mathbb{R}}$ in real computation, and $f(x_{\mathbb{F}})$ denotes the same function F evaluates to value $f(x_{\mathbb{F}})$ given the same input $x_{\mathbb{F}}$ in floating point computation.

3 Semantics

The big step semantics with relative floating point computation error are shown in Figure. 1. The semantics are $e_{\mathbb{R}} \Downarrow e_{\mathbb{F}}, err$, which means a real world expression $e_{\mathbb{R}}$ can be represented in floating point computation $e_{\mathbb{F}}$ with error bound err . The η is the machine epsilon.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\frac{c = \text{fl}(r)}{r \Downarrow c, \left(\frac{r}{(1+\eta)}, r(1+\eta)\right)} \text{CONST} \qquad \frac{e_{\mathbb{R}}^1 \Downarrow e_{\mathbb{F}}^1, (e_{\mathbb{R}}^1, \bar{e}_{\mathbb{R}}^1) \quad e_{\mathbb{R}}^2 \Downarrow e_{\mathbb{F}}^2, (e_{\mathbb{R}}^2, \bar{e}_{\mathbb{R}}^2)}{e_{\mathbb{R}}^1 * e_{\mathbb{R}}^2 \Downarrow \text{fl}(e_{\mathbb{F}}^1 \odot e_{\mathbb{F}}^2), \left(\frac{e_{\mathbb{R}}^1 * e_{\mathbb{R}}^2}{(1+\eta)}, (e_{\mathbb{R}}^1 * e_{\mathbb{R}}^2)(1+\eta)\right)} \text{OP} \\
\\
\frac{e_{\mathbb{R}} \Downarrow e_{\mathbb{F}}, (e_{\mathbb{R}}^1, \bar{e}_{\mathbb{R}}^2)}{\ln(e_{\mathbb{R}}) \Downarrow \mathbb{D}(e_{\mathbb{F}}), \left(\frac{\mathbb{D}(e_{\mathbb{R}}^1)}{(1+\eta)}, (\ln(e_{\mathbb{R}}^2))(1+\eta)\right)} \text{LN}
\end{array}$$

Figure 1: Semantics with Relative Floating Point Error

Theorem 1 (Soundness Theorem)

Given $e_{\mathbb{R}}$ and $e_{\mathbb{F}}$ where $e_{\mathbb{R}} \Downarrow e_{\mathbb{F}}, err$, when evaluating the $e_{\mathbb{F}}$ in floating point computation and get the value c , we have $c \in err$.

4 Snapping Mechanism

Definition 2 ($\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{R}}(a) : A \rightarrow \text{Distr}(\mathbb{R})$)

Given privacy parameter ϵ , the ideal Snapping mechanism $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{R}}(a)$ is defined as:

$$U \xleftarrow{\$} \mu; S \xleftarrow{\$} \{-1, 1\}; Y = \ln(U) \div \epsilon; Z = S \times Y; X = F(a); W = X + Z; W' = \lfloor W \rfloor_{\Lambda}; R = \text{clamp}_B(W')$$

where f is the query function over input $a \in A$, ϵ is the privacy budget, B is the clamping bound and Λ is the rounding argument satisfying $\lambda = 2^k$ where 2^k is the smallest power of 2 greater or equal to the $\frac{1}{\epsilon}$.

Let $\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a, U, S)$ be the same as $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{R}}(a)$ given $U \xleftarrow{\$} \mu; S \xleftarrow{\$} \{-1, 1\}$ without rounding and clamping steps.

Definition 3 ($\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{F}}(a) : A \rightarrow \text{Distr}(\mathbb{R})$)

Given privacy parameter ϵ , the floating point implemented Snapping mechanism $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{F}}(a)$ is defined as (where all parameters are defined the same as above):

$$u_{\mathbb{F}} \xleftarrow{\$} \mu; s_{\mathbb{F}} \xleftarrow{\$} \{-1, 1\}; y = \mathbb{D}(u) \odot \epsilon; z = s \otimes y; x = f(a); w = x \oplus z; w' = \lfloor w \rfloor_{\Lambda}; r = \text{clamp}_B(w')$$

Let $\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a, u, s)$ be the same as $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{F}}(a)$ without rounding and clamping precesses given $u \xleftarrow{\$} \mu; s \xleftarrow{\$} \{-1, 1\}$.

5 Main Theorem

Theorem 2 (The Snap mechanism is ϵ -differentially private)

Consider $\text{Snap}(a)$ defined as before, if $\text{Snap}(a) = x$ given database a and privacy parameter ϵ , then its actual privacy loss is bounded by $\epsilon + 12\epsilon\eta + 2\eta$

Proof. Given $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{F}}(a) = x$ and parameter ϵ , we consider a' be the adjacent database of a satisfying $|f(a) - f(a')| \leq 1$. Without loss of generalization, we assume $f(a) + 1 = f(a')$ (\diamond). The proof is developed by cases of the output of $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{F}}(a)$ mechanism.

Consider the $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{R}}(a)$ outputting the same result x , let (L, R) be the range where $\forall u \in (L, R)$ and some s , $\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a, u, s) = x$, we have $\Pr[\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{R}}(a)] = R - L$. Given the $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{R}}$ is ϵ -dp, we have:

$$e^{-\epsilon} \leq \frac{\Pr[\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{R}}(a)]}{\Pr[\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{R}}(a)]} = \frac{R - L}{R' - L'} \leq e^{\epsilon}$$

Let (l, r) be the range where $\forall u \in (l, r)$ and some s , $\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a, u, s) = x$, we estimated the $|r - l|$ in terms of floating point relative error and $|R - L|$ through our semantics in order to verify the privacy loss of $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{F}}$.

case $x = -B$

Let b be the largest number rounded by Λ that is smaller than B . We know $s = 1$, $L = l = 0$ and $R = b$, so we only need to estimate the right side range r in this case. The derivation of this case given $\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a, R, 1) = \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a', R, 1) = x$ is shown as following:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\text{LN} \\
R \Downarrow r, (\underline{R}, \bar{R}) \\
\hline
\text{OP} \\
\ln(R) \Downarrow \textcircled{\text{D}}(r), (\ln(\underline{R})(1 + \eta), \frac{\ln(\bar{R})}{(1 + \eta)}) \\
\hline
\text{OP} \\
\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(R) \Downarrow \frac{1}{\epsilon} \otimes \textcircled{\text{D}}(r), ((\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\underline{R}))(1 + \eta)^2, \frac{\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{R})}{(1 + \eta)^2}) \\
\hline
\text{ID} \\
f(a) + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(R) \Downarrow f(a) \oplus \frac{1}{\epsilon} \otimes \textcircled{\text{D}}(r), (\frac{f(a) + (\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\underline{R}))(1 + \eta)^2}{1 + \eta}, (f(a) + \frac{\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{R})}{(1 + \eta)^2})(1 + \eta)) \\
\hline
\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a, R, 1) \Downarrow \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a, r, 1), (\frac{f(a) + (\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\underline{R}))(1 + \eta)^2}{1 + \eta}, (f(a) + \frac{\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{R})}{(1 + \eta)^2})(1 + \eta))
\end{array}$$

In the same way, we have the derivation for $\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a', r, 1)$:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\cdots \\
\hline
\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a', R, 1) \Downarrow \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a', r, 1), (\frac{f(a') + (\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\underline{R}'))(1 + \eta)^2}{1 + \eta}, (f(a') + \frac{\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{R}'))}{(1 + \eta)^2})(1 + \eta))
\end{array}$$

Given $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{F}}(a) = \text{Snap}_{\mathbb{F}}(a') = x = b$, we have following values for $\underline{R}, \bar{R}, \underline{R}'$ and \bar{R}' :

$$\begin{aligned}
u &\in \left(0, (e^{\epsilon(\frac{-b-\frac{\Lambda}{2}}{1+\eta}-f(a))(1+\eta)^2}, e^{\frac{\epsilon(-b-\frac{\Lambda}{2})(1+\eta)-f(a)}{(1+\eta)^2}})\right) \wedge (s = 1) \\
&\sim u' \in \left(0, (e^{\epsilon(\frac{-b-\frac{\Lambda}{2}}{1+\eta}-f(a'))(1+\eta)^2}, e^{\frac{\epsilon(-b-\frac{\Lambda}{2})(1+\eta)-f(a')}{(1+\eta)^2}})\right) \wedge (s = 1)
\end{aligned}$$

The privacy loss of $\text{Snap}_{\mathbb{F}}(a)$ in this case is bounded by:

$$\frac{\frac{1}{2}(\bar{R} - 0)}{\frac{1}{2}(\underline{R}' - 0)} = e^{\epsilon((-b-\frac{\Lambda}{2})(1+\eta-\frac{1}{1+\eta})+f(a)((1+\eta)^2-\frac{1}{(1+\eta)^2})+(1+\eta)^2)} \leq e^{\epsilon(1+\eta)^2 2B} \leq e^{\epsilon+12B\epsilon\eta+2\eta}$$

case $x \in (-B, \lfloor f(a) \rfloor_{\Lambda})$

Let $y_1 = x - (\frac{\Lambda}{2})$, $y_2 = x + (\frac{\Lambda}{2})$, we know $S = s = 1$, $L = e^{\epsilon(y_1 - f(a))}$ and $R = e^{\epsilon(y_2 - f(a))}$ in this case.

The derivations of estimating l and r are shown as following:

$$\begin{array}{c}
L \Downarrow l, (\underline{L}, \bar{L}) \\
\hline
\ln(L) \Downarrow \oplus(l), (\ln(\bar{L})(1+\eta), \frac{\ln(L)}{(1+\eta)}) \\
\hline
\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(L) \Downarrow \frac{1}{\epsilon} \otimes \oplus(l), ((\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{L}))(1+\eta)^2, \frac{\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(L)}{(1+\eta)^2}) \\
\hline
f(a) + \frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(L) \Downarrow f(a) \oplus \frac{1}{\epsilon} \otimes \oplus(l), (\frac{f(a) + (\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{L}))(1+\eta)^2}{1+\eta}, (f(a) + \frac{\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(L)}{(1+\eta)^2})(1+\eta)) \\
\hline
\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a, L, 1) \Downarrow \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a, l, 1), (err_1, err_2)
\end{array}$$

From soundness theorem, we have $err_1 \leq y_2 \leq err_2$.

Taking the lower bound (i.e. $err_1 = y_1$), we get: $\underline{L} = e^{(y_1/(1+\eta) - f(a))(1+\eta)^2\epsilon}$. Taking the upper bound (i.e. $err_2 = y_1$), we get: $\bar{L} = e^{(y_1(1+\eta) - f(a))\epsilon/(1+\eta)^2}$.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\dots \\
\hline
\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a, R, 1) \Downarrow \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a, r, 1), (\frac{f(a) + (\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{R}))(1+\eta)^2}{1+\eta}, (f(a) + \frac{\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{R})}{(1+\eta)^2})(1+\eta)) \\
\hline
\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a, R, 1) \Downarrow \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a, r, 1), (err_1, err_2)
\end{array}$$

From soundness theorem, we have $err_1 \leq y_2 \leq err_2$.

Taking the lower bound (i.e. $err_1 = y_2$), we have: $\underline{R} = e^{(y_2/(1+\eta) - f(a))(1+\eta)^2\epsilon}$. Taking the upper bound (i.e. $err_2 = y_1$), we have: $\bar{R} = e^{(y_2(1+\eta) - f(a))\epsilon/(1+\eta)^2}$.

In the same way, we have the derivation for $\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a', l, 1)$ and $\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a', r, 1)$:

$$\begin{array}{c}
\dots \\
\hline
\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a', L', 1) \Downarrow \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a', l', 1), (\frac{f(a') + (\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{L}'))(1+\eta)^2}{1+\eta}, (f(a') + \frac{\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{L}')}{(1+\eta)^2})(1+\eta)) \\
\hline
\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a', L', 1) \Downarrow \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a', l', 1), (err_1, err_2)
\end{array}$$

From soundness theorem, we have $err_1 \leq y_2 \leq err_2$.

Taking the lower bound (i.e. $err_1 = y_1$), we get: $\underline{L} = e^{(y_1/(1+\eta) - f(a'))(1+\eta)^2\epsilon}$. Taking the upper bound (i.e. $err_2 = y_1$), we get: $\bar{L} = e^{(y_1(1+\eta) - f(a'))\epsilon/(1+\eta)^2}$.

$$\begin{array}{c}
\dots \\
\hline
\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a', R', 1) \Downarrow \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a', r', 1), (\frac{f(a') + (\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{R}'))(1+\eta)^2}{1+\eta}, (f(a') + \frac{\frac{1}{\epsilon} \times \ln(\bar{R}')}{(1+\eta)^2})(1+\eta)) \\
\hline
\text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{R}}(a', R', 1) \Downarrow \text{Snap}'_{\mathbb{F}}(a', r', 1), (err_1, err_2)
\end{array}$$

From soundness theorem, we have $err_1 \leq y_2 \leq err_2$.

Taking the lower bound (i.e. $err_1 = y_2$), we have: $\underline{R} = e^{(y_2/(1+\eta) - f(a'))(1+\eta)^2\epsilon}$. Taking the upper bound (i.e. $err_2 = y_1$), we have: $\bar{R} = e^{(y_2(1+\eta) - f(a'))\epsilon/(1+\eta)^2}$.

The privacy loss is bounded by:

$$\frac{|\bar{R} - \underline{L}|}{|\underline{R}' - \bar{L}'|}$$

case $x = \lfloor f(a) \rfloor_\Lambda$

Following the semantics in Figure 1, we have following evaluation results:

$$u \in [(r_1, \bar{r}_1), 1] \wedge (s = -1) \vee u \in [(r_2, \bar{r}_2), 1] \wedge (s = 1) \sim u' \in [(r'_1, \bar{r}'_1), (r'_2, \bar{r}'_2)] \wedge (s = -1),$$

[[where $r_1, \bar{r}_1, r_2, \bar{r}_2, r'_1, \bar{r}'_1, r'_2, \bar{r}'_2$ have following values: Given that the probability is equivalent to the length of the range, we have the ratio between u and u' is bounded by:

$$\frac{u}{u'} \leq \frac{1 - \frac{1}{2}(r_2 + r_1)}{\frac{1}{2}(r'_2 - \bar{r}'_1)} \leq \epsilon + 12x\epsilon\eta + 2\eta$$

By the AxUnif rule, we have the actual privacy loss is bounded by the same value.]]

case $x \in (\lfloor f(a) \rfloor_\Lambda, \lfloor f(a') \rfloor_\Lambda)$

Following the semantics in Figure 1, we have following evaluation results:

$$u \in [(r_1, \bar{r}_1), (r_2, \bar{r}_2)] \wedge (s = 1) \sim u' \in [(r'_1, \bar{r}'_1), (r'_2, \bar{r}'_2)] \wedge (s = -1),$$

[[where $r_1, \bar{r}_1, r_2, \bar{r}_2, r'_1, \bar{r}'_1, r'_2, \bar{r}'_2$ have following values: Given that the probability is equivalent to the length of the range, we have the ratio between u and u' is bounded by:

$$\frac{u}{u'} \leq \frac{\frac{1}{2}(\bar{r}_2 - r_1)}{\frac{1}{2}(r'_2 - \bar{r}'_1)} \leq \epsilon + 12x\epsilon\eta + 2\eta$$

By the AxUnif rule, we have the actual privacy loss is bounded by the same value.]]

case $x = \lfloor f(a') \rfloor_\Lambda$

Following the semantics in Figure 1, we have following evaluation results:

$$u \in [(r_1, \bar{r}_1), (r_2, \bar{r}_2)] \wedge (s = 1) \sim u' \in [(r'_1, \bar{r}'_1), 1] \wedge (s = -1) \vee [(r'_2, \bar{r}'_2), 1] \wedge (s = 1),$$

[[where $r_1, \bar{r}_1, r_2, \bar{r}_2, r'_1, \bar{r}'_1, r'_2, \bar{r}'_2$ have following values: Given that the probability is equivalent to the length of the range, we have the ratio between u and u' is bounded by:

$$\frac{u}{u'} \leq \frac{\frac{1}{2}(\bar{r}_2 - r_1)}{1 - \frac{1}{2}(r'_2 + \bar{r}'_1)} \leq \epsilon + 12x\epsilon\eta + 2\eta$$

By the AxUnif rule, we have the actual privacy loss is bounded by the same value.]]

case $x \in (\lfloor f(a') \rfloor_\Lambda, B)$

Following the semantics in Figure 1, we have following evaluation results:

$$u \in [(r_1, \bar{r}_1), (r_2, \bar{r}_2)] \wedge (s = 1) \sim u' \in [(r'_1, \bar{r}'_1), (r'_2, \bar{r}'_2)] \wedge (s = 1),$$

[[where $r_1, \bar{r}_1, r_2, \bar{r}_2, r'_1, \bar{r}'_1, r'_2, \bar{r}'_2$ have following values: Given that the probability is equivalent to the length of the range, we have the ratio between u and u' is bounded by:

$$\frac{u}{u'} \leq \frac{\frac{1}{2}(\bar{r}_2 - r_1)}{\frac{1}{2}(r'_2 - \bar{r}'_1)} \leq \epsilon + 12x\epsilon\eta + 2\eta$$

By the AxUnif rule, we have the actual privacy loss is bounded by the same value.]]

case $x = B$

Following the semantics in Figure 1, we have following evaluation results:

$$u \in (0, (\underline{r}, \bar{r})) \sim u' \in (0, (r'_-, \bar{r}')),$$

[[where $\underline{r}, \bar{r}, r'_-$ and \bar{r}' have following values: Given that the probability is equivalent to the length of the range, we have the ratio between u and u' is bounded by:

$$\frac{u}{u'} \leq \frac{\frac{1}{2}\bar{r}}{\frac{1}{2}r'_-} \leq \epsilon + 12xc\eta + 2\eta$$

By the AxUnif rule, we have the actual privacy loss is bounded by the same value.]]

□

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