

## Lecture 3: Numerical Analysis (UMA011)

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## Error Analysis: Significant figures

### Significant figures

Significant figures of a number are those figures (digits) that carry meaning contributing to its precision. e.g.  $\overset{\sim}{1}\overset{\sim}{2}\overset{\sim}{3}$   $120\checkmark$

#### Rules

- 1) All non-zero digits of a no. are significant
- 2) zeros between non-zero no's are significant  
 $1002\checkmark$
- 3) leading zeros to the left of the first non-zero digits are not S.D.  
 $\underline{000}123$

4) Trailing zeros that are also to the right of a decimal pt. in a no. are S.D.

$$15 \rightarrow 2 \text{ S.D.}$$

$$15.\underset{\checkmark}{0} \rightarrow 3 \text{ S.D.}$$

## Error Analysis: Significant figures

### Examples:

1.) Add the floating pt. no's  $0.4546e3$  &  $0.5433e7$

$$= 0.4546 \times 10^3 + 0.5433 \times 10^7$$

$$0.00004546 \times 10^7$$

$$0.5433 \times 10^7$$

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$$0.54334546 \times 10^7$$

$$\rightarrow 0.5433 \times 10^7$$

2.) Subtract  $0.5424e-99$  from  $0.5452e-99$

$$0.5452 \times 10^{-99}$$

$$- 0.5424 \times 10^{-99} =$$

$$0.0028 \times 10^{-99}$$

$$= 0.28e-101 \quad \underline{\text{Ans}}$$

$$0.2800 \times 10^{-101}$$

## Error Analysis: Significant figures

### Examples:

3) Multiply  $0.1111 \text{e}74$  and  $0.2000 \text{e}80$

$$0.02222 \times 10^{154} = 0.2222 \times 10^{153}$$

## Error Analysis: Loss of Significance

### Loss of Significance:

one of most common error producing  
Calculations involve the cancellation of S.D.  
due to subtractions of two nearly equal no's

e.g.  $10002 \cdot 254 \rightarrow 8 \text{ S.D.}$

$10002 \cdot 264 \quad 8 \text{ S.D.}$

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$0.010 \rightarrow 2 \text{ S.D.}$

loss of 6 S.D.

## Error Analysis: Loss of Significance

### Examples:

If  $x = 0.3721478693$  and  $y = 0.3720230572$ , then what is the relative error in the computation of  $x - y$  using 5-decimal digits of accuracy?

Solution  $x = x - y = 0.3721478693 - 0.3720230572$   
 $= 0.0001248121$

$$fl(x) = 0.37215, \quad fl(y) = 0.37202$$

$$\checkmark x^* = fl(x) - fl(y) = 0.13000 \times 10^{-3} = 0.00013$$

$$A.E. |x - x^*| = 0.00002 \dots$$

$$0.0001248121$$

$$R.E. \frac{|x - x^*|}{|x|} = \frac{0.00002 \dots}{0.0001248121} = 0.04 = 4\% \checkmark$$

## Error Analysis: Finite-digit-Arithmetic

### Finite-digit-Arithmetic:

$$x \oplus y$$

$n$ -digit Arithmetic

$$fl(x) + fl(y) = ( )$$

$$\underline{ax^3 + bx^2 + cx + d}$$

$$d + x(c + bx + ax^2)$$

$$d + x(c + x(b + ax)) \checkmark$$

$$x \oplus y \otimes z = fl(x) + fl(y) * fl(z)$$

$$\checkmark$$

$$fl(x) + u$$

$$fl(x) + fl(u) = v = fl(v)$$

Nested Arithmetic  $f(x)$

evaluate  $f(x)$  at  $x = p$

$$f(x) = \underline{ax^2 + bx} + c = c + x(b + ax)$$



## Error Analysis: Nested Arithmetic

### Example:

Evaluate  $f(x) = 1.5 + 3.2x - 6.1x^2 + x^3$  at  $x = 4.71$  using 3-digit arithmetic directly and with nesting.

Solution:  $f(x) = 1.5 + 3.2x - 6.1x^2 + x^3$

$$x = f(4.71) = 1.5 + 3.2(4.71) - 6.1(4.71)^2 + (4.71)^3$$

$$= -14.263899$$

with 3-digit Arithmetic

$$x_1 = f(4.71) = 1.5 + 3.2(4.71) - 6.1(\overset{\vee}{4.71})^2 + (4.71)^3$$

$$= 1.5 + 15.1 - 6.1(22.2) + 4.71(22.2)$$

$$= 1.5 + 15.1 - 135 + 105 = -13.4$$

With Nesting 4 3-digit Arithmetic

$$f(x) = 1.5 + x(3.2 - 6.1x + x^2)$$

$$= 1.5 + x(3.2 + x(-6.1 + x))$$

$$x_2 = f(4.71) = 1.5 + 4.71(3.2 + 4.71(-6.1 + 4.71))$$

$$= 1.5 + 4.71(3.2 + 4.71(-1.39))$$

$$= 1.5 + 4.71(3.2 - 6.55)$$

$$= 1.5 + 4.71(-3.35) = 1.5 - 15.8 = -14.3$$

$$A.E. = |x - x_1| = |-14.263899 + 13.4| = 0.864$$

$$|x - x_2| = |-14.263899 + 14.3| = 0.036101$$

$$\Rightarrow |x - x_2| < |x - x_1|$$

## Error Analysis: Nested Arithmetic

### Example:

Evaluate  $y \approx x - \sin(x)$ , when  $x$  is small.

$$x = 0.01 \quad \checkmark$$

$$y = x - \left( x - \frac{x^3}{3!} + \frac{x^5}{5!} - \dots \right)$$

$$= \frac{x^3}{3!} - \frac{x^5}{5!} + \frac{x^7}{7!} - \dots$$

$$= \frac{x^3}{3!} \left( 1 - \frac{3!x^2}{5!} + \frac{3!x^4}{7!} - \dots \right)$$

$$= \frac{x^3}{3!} \left( 1 - \frac{3!}{5!} x^2 \left( 1 - \frac{5!x^2}{7!} - \dots \right) \right) \quad \checkmark$$

## Error Analysis

### Exercise:

- 1 ✓ Let  $x$  be any real number we want to represent in a computer. Let  $fl(x)$  be the representation by chopping with  $n$ -digits of  $x$  then what is largest possible values of  $\frac{|x - fl(x)|}{|x|}$ ?
- 2 Evaluate  $f(x) = x^3 - 3x^2 + 4x + 0.21$  at  $x = 2.73$  using 3-digit arithmetic directly and with nesting. Also, find the absolute error and relative error.