

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. $\overline{123}$ $\overline{120}$

Rules

- 1) All non-zero digits of a no. are significant
- 2) zeros between non-zero nos are significant
 $\underline{1}002\underline{1}$
- 3) leading zeros to the left of the first non-zero digits are not S.D.

$\underline{000}\underline{1}23$

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

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

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

Error Analysis: Significant figures

Examples:

1.) Add the floating pt. nos 0.4546×10^3 & 0.5433×10^7

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

$$\begin{array}{r} 0.00004546 \times 10^7 \\ 0.5433 \times 10^7 \\ \hline 0.54334546 \times 10^7 \end{array} \rightarrow 0.5433 \times 10^7.$$

2.) Subtract 0.5424×10^{-99} from 0.5452×10^{-99}

$$\begin{array}{r} 0.5452 \times 10^{-99} \\ - 0.5424 \times 10^{-99} \\ \hline = 0.0028 \times 10^{-99} \\ = 0.28 \times 10^{-101} \end{array}$$

0.2800×10^{-101}

Any

Error Analysis: Significant figures

Examples:

3) Multiply 0.1111×10^{74} and 0.2000×10^{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. $10002.254 - 10002.264 \rightarrow 2 \text{ S.D.}$

$$\begin{array}{r} 10002.254 \\ - 10002.264 \\ \hline 0.0\cancel{1}0 \end{array} \rightarrow 2 \text{ S.D.}$$

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?

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Solution } x - y &= 0.3721478693 - 0.3720230572 \\ &= 0.0001248121\end{aligned}$$

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

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

$$\text{A.E. } |x - x^*| = 0.00002 \quad \quad \quad 0.000124812$$

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

Error Analysis: Finite-digit-Arithmetic

Finite-digit-Arithmetic:

$$x \oplus y$$

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

n-digit Arithmetic

$$an^3 + bn^2 + cn + d$$

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

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

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

$$fl(x) + u$$

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

Nested Arithmetic $f(x)$

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

$$f(x) = ax^2 + bx + c = c + x(b + ax)$$

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

$$\begin{aligned}x &= f(4.71) = 1.5 + 3.2(4.71) - 6.1(4.71)^2 + (4.71)^3 \\&= -14.263899\end{aligned}$$

with 3-digit Arithmetic

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 &= f(4.71) = 1.5 + 3.2(4.71) - 6.1(\overline{4.7})^2 + (4.71)^3 \\&= 1.5 + 15.1 - 6.1(22.2) + 4.71(22.2) \\&= 1.5 + 15.1 - 135 + 105 = -13.4\end{aligned}$$

with Nesting 4 3-digit Arithmetic

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

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

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

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

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

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

$$A.E. = |x - x_1| = |-14.263899 + 13.41| = 0.864$$

$$|x - x_2| = |-14.263899 + 14.3| = 0.03610$$

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

Error Analysis: Nested Arithmetic

Example:

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

$$\underline{x = 0.01} \quad \checkmark$$

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

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

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

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

Error Analysis

Exercise:

- 1** Let x be any real number we want to represent in a computer. Let $f_l(x)$ be the representation by chopping with n -digits of x then what is largest possible values of $\frac{|x - f_l(x)|}{|x|}$?
- 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.