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# Probabilistic Error Analysis of Limited-Precision Stochastic Rounding

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## Abstract

Classical probabilistic rounding error analysis is particularly well suited to stochastic rounding (SR), and it yields strong results when dealing with floating-point algorithms that rely heavily on summation. For many numerical linear algebra algorithms, one can prove probabilistic error bounds that grow as  $\mathcal{O}(\sqrt{n}u)$ , where  $n$  is the problem size and  $u$  is the unit roundoff. These probabilistic bounds are asymptotically tight in some cases, which grow as  $\mathcal{O}(nu)$ . For certain classes of algorithms, SR has been shown to be unbiased. However, all these results are for precision SR. By taking into account the number  $r$  of random bits used, this new rounding mode matches hardware implementation. We develop a novel model for probabilistic error analysis of algorithms. We show that precision SR converges to the ideal, unbiased SR operator. We develop a novel model for probabilistic error analysis of algorithms.

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