Robust Adaptive Floating-Point Geometric Predicates

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+ additional notes by Petr Felkel, CTU Prague, 2020-2023

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Precise floats represented as expansions

Just the idea, not using IEEE float, but 4-digit decimal numbers …

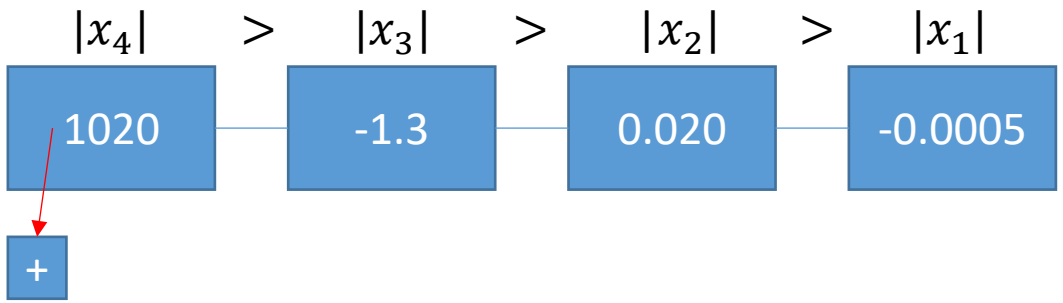
$$-1.500000000000000000000000000008000000000000000000000000000077 * 10^{-1}$$

$$-1.500 * 10^{-1} \quad + \quad -8.000 * 10^{-31} \quad + \quad -7.700 * 10^{-64}$$

Expansion

- **Sorted** sequence of **non-overlapping** machine native numbers (float, double) – each with its own exponent and significand (mantissa)
- Sorted by **absolute values**
- **Signum** of the highest FP number is the signum of the expansion
- Zero members of the expansion will be not added.

```
1020
-  1.3
-------
1018.7
+  0.02
---------
1018.7200
-  0.0005
---------
1018.7195
```



represents $x = +1018.7195$

approximated $x \sim +1020 = x_4$

Expansions are not unique

binary	decimal (overlap)
1001.1	… 9.5

Possibly stored as

$1100 + (-10.1)$	$\ldots 12 + (-2.5)$
$= 1100.0 - 10.1$	$\ldots 12 - 2.5$
$= 1001 + 0.1$	$\ldots \quad 9 + 0.5$
$= 1000 + 1 + 0.1$	$\ldots \quad 8 + 1 + 0.5$

Meaning of symbols

p-bit floating point operations with exact rounding (float, double):

$\oplus$ addition
$\ominus$ subtraction
$\otimes$ multiplication

Perform the operation with higher precision
Round the result to the representable number

Exact rounding

Operations with exact rounding to p-bits (32 / 64) store result:

exact results store exact, and
non-precise results store rounded

More than 4-bits arithmetic (precise)	With exact rounding to 4-bits	

$010 \times 011 = 100$
$2 \times 3 = 6$
	$010 \otimes 011 = 100$
	$2 \otimes 3 = 6$
		if (possible)
		store exact
		else
		store rounded

$111 \times 101 = 100011$ $7 \times 5 = 35$	$111 \otimes 101 = 1.001 \times 2^5$ $7 \otimes 5 = 36$	

Operations on expansions

IEEE 754 standard on floating point format and computing rules.

Operations on expansions require *exact rounding* of each op. to 32 / 64bit.

```
Fast-Two-Sum(a, b) :  (a>=b) -> (x, y),          a+b=x+y
Two-Sum(a, b) -> (x, y)
Linear-Expansion-Sum(a interleaved with b) -> correct expansion
                                                  (non-overlapping)

Split (a) -> (a_hi, a_lo),              a = a_hi + a_lo
Two-Product (a,b) -> (x, y)
```

Theorem 1 (Dekker [4]) *Let a and b be p-bit floating-point numbers such that $|a| \geq |b|$. Then the following algorithm will produce a nonoverlapping expansion $x + y$ such that $a + b = x + y$, where x is an approximation to $a + b$ and y represents the roundoff error in the calculation of x.* ■

2-bits mantissa

$8 \Leftarrow 6 \oplus 1$

$2 \Leftarrow 8 \ominus 6$

$-1 \Leftarrow 1 \ominus 2$

return $(8, -1)$

FAST-TWO-SUM(a, b)

1 $x \Leftarrow a \oplus b$ // Rounded sum = approximation

2 $b_{\text{virtual}} \Leftarrow x \ominus a$ // What was truly added - Rounded

3 $y \Leftarrow b \ominus b_{\text{virtual}}$ // round-off error

4 **return** (x, y)

FAST-TWO-SUM(a, b)

1 $x \Leftarrow a \oplus b$

2 $b_{\text{virtual}} \Leftarrow x \ominus a$

3 $y \Leftarrow b \ominus b_{\text{virtual}}$

4 **return** (x, y)

$$a + b = x + y$$
$$= a \oplus b + b \ominus b_{virtual}$$

$|a| \geq |b|$

a

b

$x \Leftarrow a \oplus b$

$-a$

$b_{virtual}$

b

$-b_{virtual}$

y

Fast TwoSum with result rounded up (on 4-digits decimal numbers)

Correct	Rounded up	Really added	Correction
$a = 5081$	$a = 5081$	$x = 5175$	$b = 93.5$
$b = 93.5$	$b = 93.5$	$-a = -5081$	$-b_{virtual} = -94$
---	---	---	---
5174.5	$x = 5175$	$b_{virtual} = 94$	$y = -0.5$

up

$$(a + b) = (x + y)$$

$$5081 + 93.5 = (5175 - 0.5)$$

Fast TwoSum with result rounded down (on 4-digits decimal numbers)

Correct	Rounded down	Really added	Correction
$a = 5081$	$a = 5081$	$x = 5174$	$b = 93.4$
$b = 93.4$	$b = 93.4$	$-a = -5081$	$-b_{virtual} = -94$
---	---	---	---
5174.4	$x = 5174$	$b_{virtual} = 93$	$y = 0.4$

down

$$(a + b) = (x + y)$$

$$5081 + 93.4 = (5174 + 0.4)$$

Theorem 2 (Knuth [10]) *Let a and b be p-bit floating-point numbers, where $p \geq 3$. Then the following algorithm will produce a nonoverlapping expansion $x + y$ such that $a + b = x + y$.* ■

TWO-SUM(a, b)

1 → $x \Leftarrow a \oplus b$ // Rounded sum = approximation

2 → $b_{\text{virtual}} \Leftarrow x \ominus a$ // What b was truly added – Rounded for $a > b$

3 $a_{\text{virtual}} \Leftarrow x \ominus b_{\text{virtual}}$ // What a was truly added – Rounded for $b > a$

4 → $b_{\text{roundoff}} \Leftarrow b \ominus b_{\text{virtual}}$ // round-off error of b

5 $a_{\text{roundoff}} \Leftarrow a \ominus a_{\text{virtual}}$ // round-off error of a

6 $y \Leftarrow a_{\text{roundoff}} \oplus b_{\text{roundoff}}$

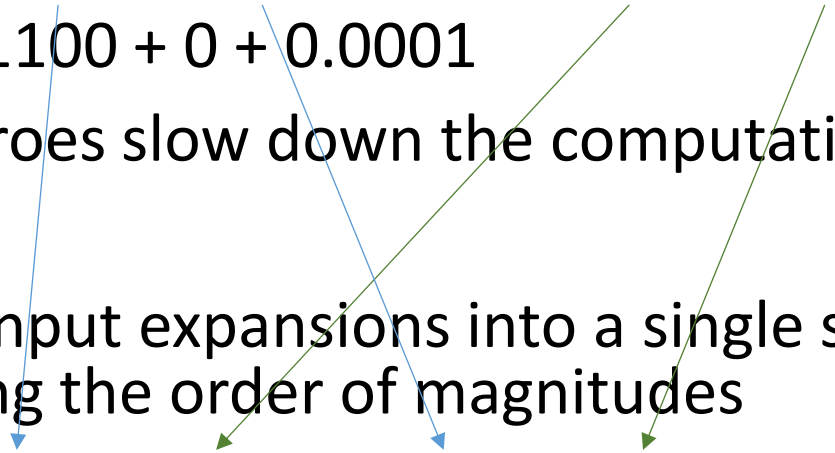
7 → **return** (x, y)

Sum of two expansions (4-bit arithmetic)

Input: 1111+0.1001 and 1100 + 0.1

Output: 11100 + 0 + 0.0001

Zeroes slow down the computation – removed afterwards



1. Merge both input expansions into a single sequence *g* respecting the order of magnitudes

1111+ 1100 + 0.1001 + 0.1 numbers in the sequence overlap

2. Use LINEAR-EXPANSION-SUM (*g*) to create a correct expansion

$$g5 + g4 + g3 + g2 + g1 \rightarrow \mathrm{h}5 + h4 + h3 + h2 + h1$$

overlapping input → non-overlapping output

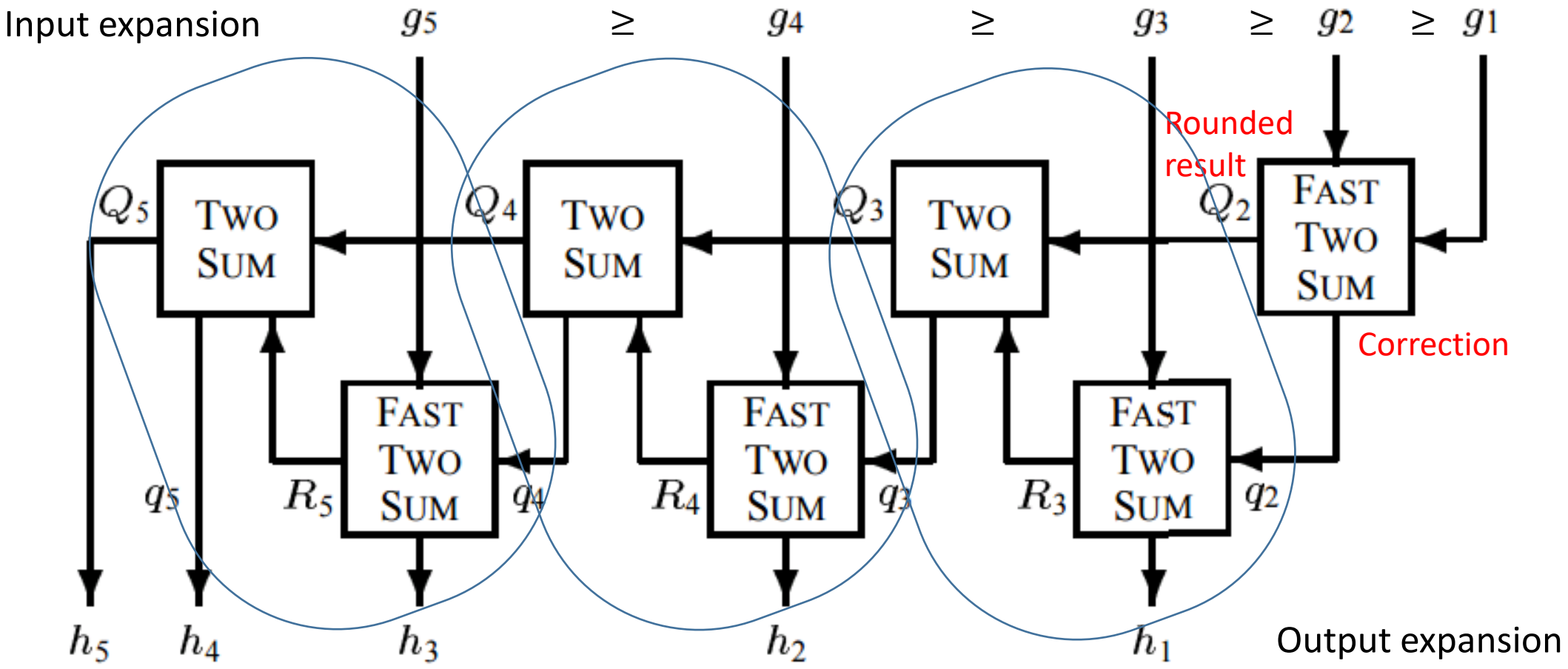


Figure 1: Operation of LINEAR-EXPANSION-SUM. The expansions g and h are illustrated with their most significant components on the left. $Q_i + q_i$ maintains an approximate running total. The FAST-TWO-SUM operations in the bottom row exist to clip a high-order bit off each q_i term, if necessary, before outputting it.

LINEAR-EXPANSION-SUM

1111+ 1100 + 0.1001 + 0.1

1111

1100

0.1001

0.1

11100.0001

1111	1100	0.1001
1101	1	0.1
11100	1101+0	1 + 0.0001

11100 + 0 + 0.0001

11100 + 0.0001

Multiplication

Multiplies two p-bit values a and b

1. Split both p-bit values into two halves (with ~p/2 bits)
2. perform four exact multiplications on these fragments.

$$a_{hi} \times b_{hi} \quad a_{hi} \times b_{lo} \quad a_{lo} \times b_{hi} \quad a_{lo} \times b_{lo}$$

The trick is to find a way to split a floating-point value into two.

SPLIT(a) operation

- Splits p bits into two non-overlapping halves ($\left\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \right\rfloor$ bits $\mathrm{a_{hi}}$ and $\left\lceil \frac{p}{2} \right\rceil - 1$ bits a_{lo})
- Missing bit is hidden in the signum of a_{lo}
- Example

7bit number splits to two 3 bit significands

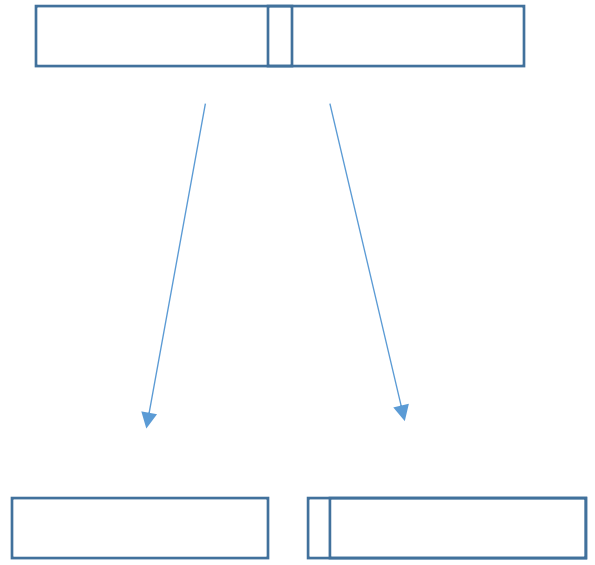
1001001 splits to 1010000 (101×2^4) and -111

73 = 80 - 7

Theorem 4 (Dekker [4]) *Let a be a p-bit floating-point number, where $p \geq 3$. The following algorithm will produce a $\lfloor \frac{p}{2} \rfloor$-bit value a_{hi} and a nonoverlapping $(\lceil \frac{p}{2} \rceil - 1)$-bit value a_{lo} such that $|a_{\text{hi}}| \geq |a_{\text{lo}}|$ and $a = a_{\text{hi}} + a_{\text{lo}}$.* ■

SPLIT(a)

1 $c \Leftarrow (2^{\lceil p/2 \rceil} + 1) \otimes a$
2 $a_{\text{big}} \Leftarrow c \ominus a$
3 $a_{\text{hi}} \Leftarrow c \ominus a_{\text{big}}$
4 $a_{\text{lo}} \Leftarrow a \ominus a_{\text{hi}}$
5 **return** $(a_{\text{hi}}, a_{\text{lo}})$



Theorem 5 (Veltkamp) *Let a and b be p-bit floating-point numbers, where $p \geq 4$. The following algorithm will produce a nonoverlapping expansion $x + y$ such that $ab = x + y$.* ■

TWO-PRODUCT(a, b)

1 $x \Leftarrow a \otimes b$
2 $(a_{\text{hi}}, a_{\text{lo}}) = \text{SPLIT}(a)$
3 $(b_{\text{hi}}, b_{\text{lo}}) = \text{SPLIT}(b)$
4 $err_1 \Leftarrow x \ominus (a_{\text{hi}} \otimes b_{\text{hi}})$
5 $err_2 \Leftarrow err_1 \ominus (a_{\text{lo}} \otimes b_{\text{hi}})$
6 $err_3 \Leftarrow err_2 \ominus (a_{\text{hi}} \otimes b_{\text{lo}})$
7 $y \Leftarrow (a_{\text{lo}} \otimes b_{\text{lo}}) \ominus err_3$
8 **return** (x, y)

Demonstration of SPLIT splitting a five-bit number into two two-bit numbers

$$
\begin{array}{rcl}
a & = & 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1 \\
2^3 a & = & 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1 \\
\hline
c & = & (2^3+1) \otimes a = 1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 0\ 1 \\
a & = & 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 1 \\
\hline
a_{\text{big}} & = & c \ominus a = 1\ 1\ 1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 1\ 1 \\
a_{\text{hi}} & = & c \ominus a_{\text{big}} = 1\ 0\ 0\ 0\ 0 \\
a_{\text{lo}} & = & a \ominus a_{\text{hi}} = -\ 1\ 1
\end{array}
$$

	29
$\times 2^3$	232
$\times 2^4$	261 → 256
	−29
$\times 2^3$	224 ← 227
	256 − 224
$\times 2^1$	32
	29 − 32
	− 3

$29 \rightarrow (32, -3)$

Demonstration of TWO-PRODUCT in six-bit arithmetic

$$
\begin{array}{rcrcccccccccccl}
a & = & & & & & & & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & \\
b & = & & & & & & & 1 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & \\
\hline
x & = & a \otimes b & = & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & & & & & & \times 2^6 \\
 & & a_{\text{hi}} \otimes b_{\text{hi}} & = & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 1 & & & & & & \times 2^6 \\
\hline
err_1 & = & x \ominus (a_{\text{hi}} \otimes b_{\text{hi}}) & = & & & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & & & \times 2^3 \\
 & & a_{\text{lo}} \otimes b_{\text{hi}} & = & & & & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & & \times 2^2 \\
\hline
err_2 & = & err_1 \ominus (a_{\text{lo}} \otimes b_{\text{hi}}) & = & & & & & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & & \times 2^2 \\
 & & a_{\text{hi}} \otimes b_{\text{lo}} & = & & & & & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & & \times 2^2 \\
\hline
err_3 & = & err_2 \ominus (a_{\text{hi}} \otimes b_{\text{lo}}) & = & & & & & & & - & 1 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 0 \\
 & & a_{\text{lo}} \otimes b_{\text{lo}} & = & & & & & & & & & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 \\
\hline
-y & = & err_3 \ominus (a_{\text{lo}} \otimes b_{\text{lo}}) & = & & & & & & & - & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1
\end{array}
$$

The resulting expansion is $110110 \times 2^6 + 11001$

$54 * 2^6 + 25$

$$56^2 = 3481 \rightarrow (3456 + 25)$$

Adaptive arithmetic

- Expensive – avoid when possible
- Some applications need results with absolute error below a threshold
- Set of procedures with different precision (& speed) + error bounds
- For each input – compute the error bounds and choose the procedure

But

- Sometimes hard to determine error before computation
- Especially when relative error needed – like sign of expression compar.
  - Result can be much larger than error bound – rounded arithmetic will suffice
  - Result can be near zero – must be evaluated exactly

Shewchuk predicates

- Compute a sequence of increasingly accurate results
- Testing each for accuracy
- Not using separate procedures BUT
- Using intermediate results as steps to more accurate results (work already done is not discarded, but refined)
- Idea: presented routines can be split to two parts
  - Line 1 gives an approximate result - run each time
  - Remaining lines compute the roundoff error – delayed until needed, if ever …

Principle of adaptive computation

Distance of two points $(b_x - a_x)^2 + (b_y - a_y)^2$

Store $b_x - a_x$ as $x_1 + y_1$

and $b_y - a_y$ as $x_2 + y_2$

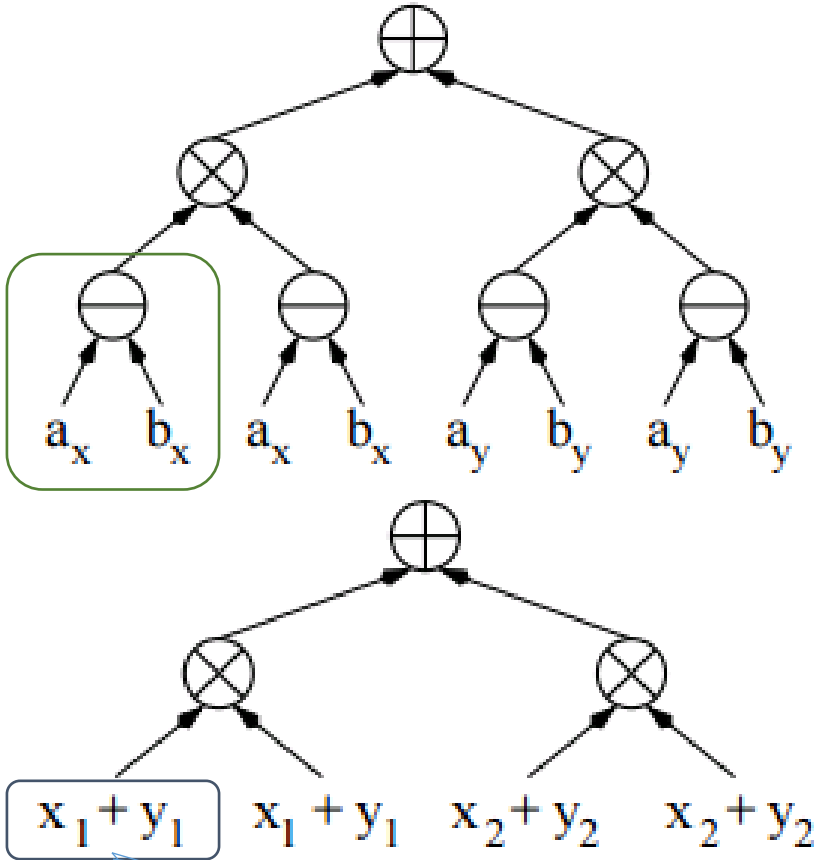
$$(x_1^2 + 2x_1y_1 + y_1^2) + (x_2^2 + 2x_2y_2 + y_2^2)$$

Reorder terms according to their size

$$(x_1^2 + x_2^2) + (2x_1y_1 + 2x_2y_2) + (y_1^2 + y_2^2)$$

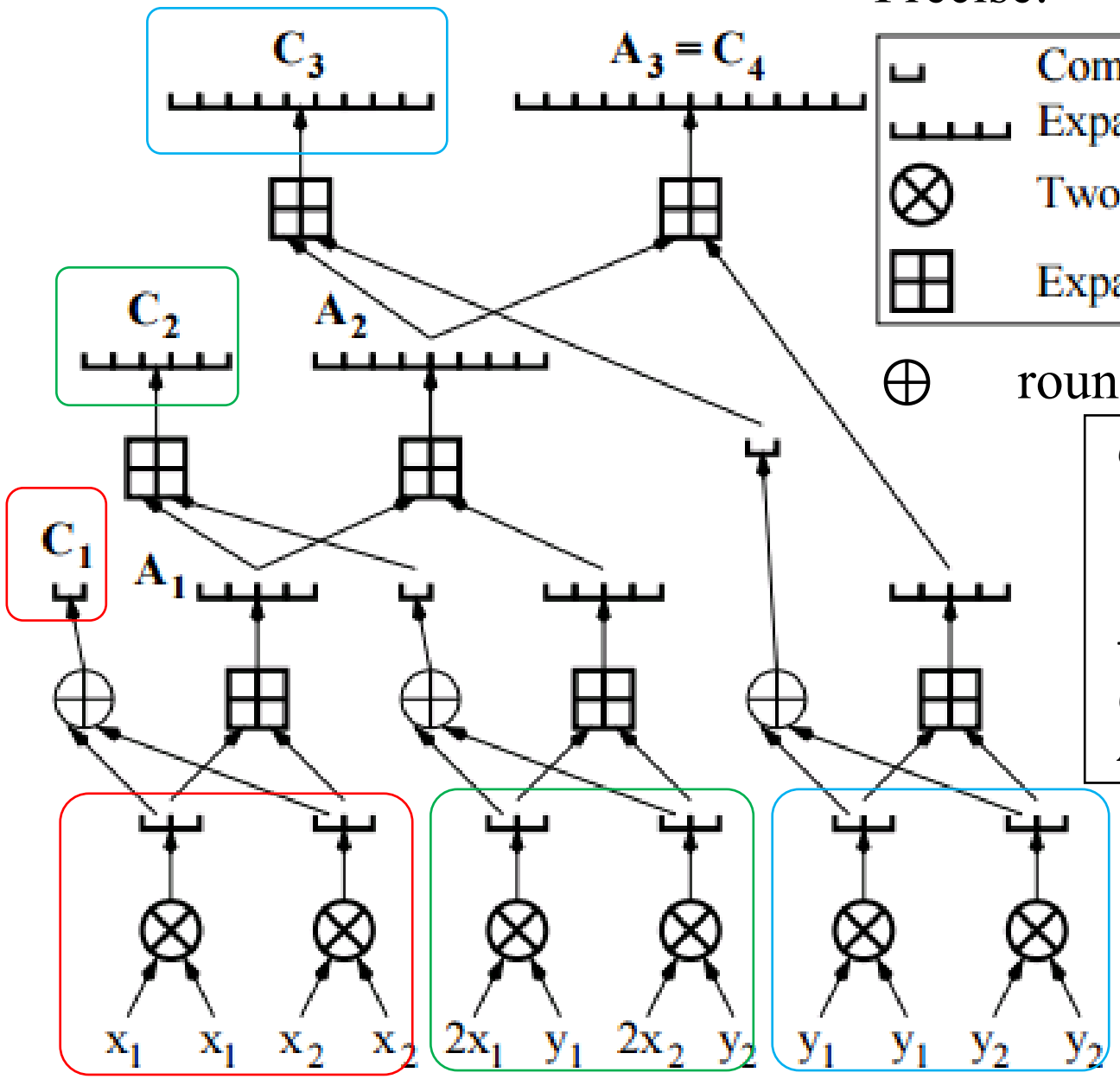
Compute them only if needed

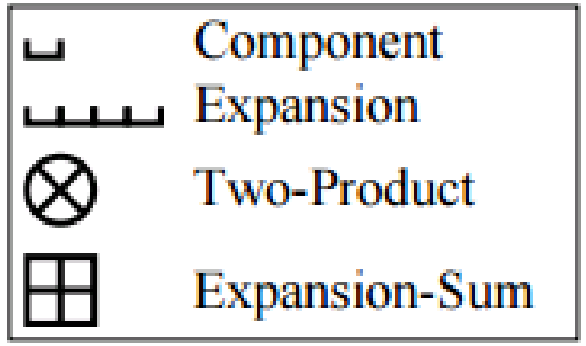
$$(b_x - a_x)^2 + (b_y - a_y)^2$$



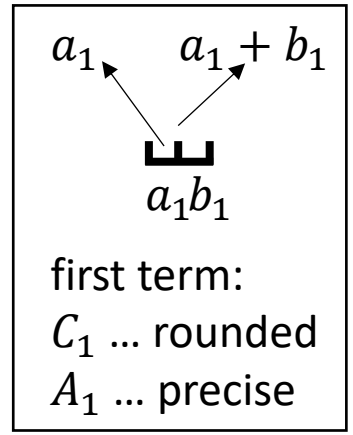
$$\left(\boxed{x_1^2} + \boxed{2x_1y_1} + \boxed{y_1^2}\right) + \left(\boxed{x_2^2} + \boxed{2x_2y_2} + \boxed{y_2^2}\right)$$

Precise:





⊕ rounded addition



pivot p

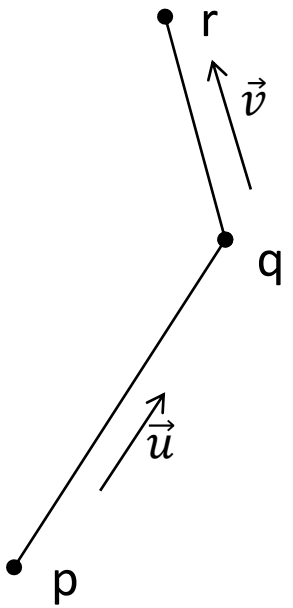
Orientation predicate - definition

$$\text{orientation}(p,q,r) = \text{sign}\left(\det\begin{bmatrix}1 & p_x & p_y\\ 1 & q_x & q_y\\ 1 & r_x & r_y\end{bmatrix}\right) =$$

$$= \text{sign}\left((p_x - r_x)(q_y - r_y) - (p_y - r_y)(q_x - r_x)\right),$$

$$\text{where point } p = (p_x, p_y), \ldots$$

$$= \text{third coordinate of} = (\vec{u} \times \vec{v}),$$



Three points
- lie on common line
- form a left turn
- form a right turn

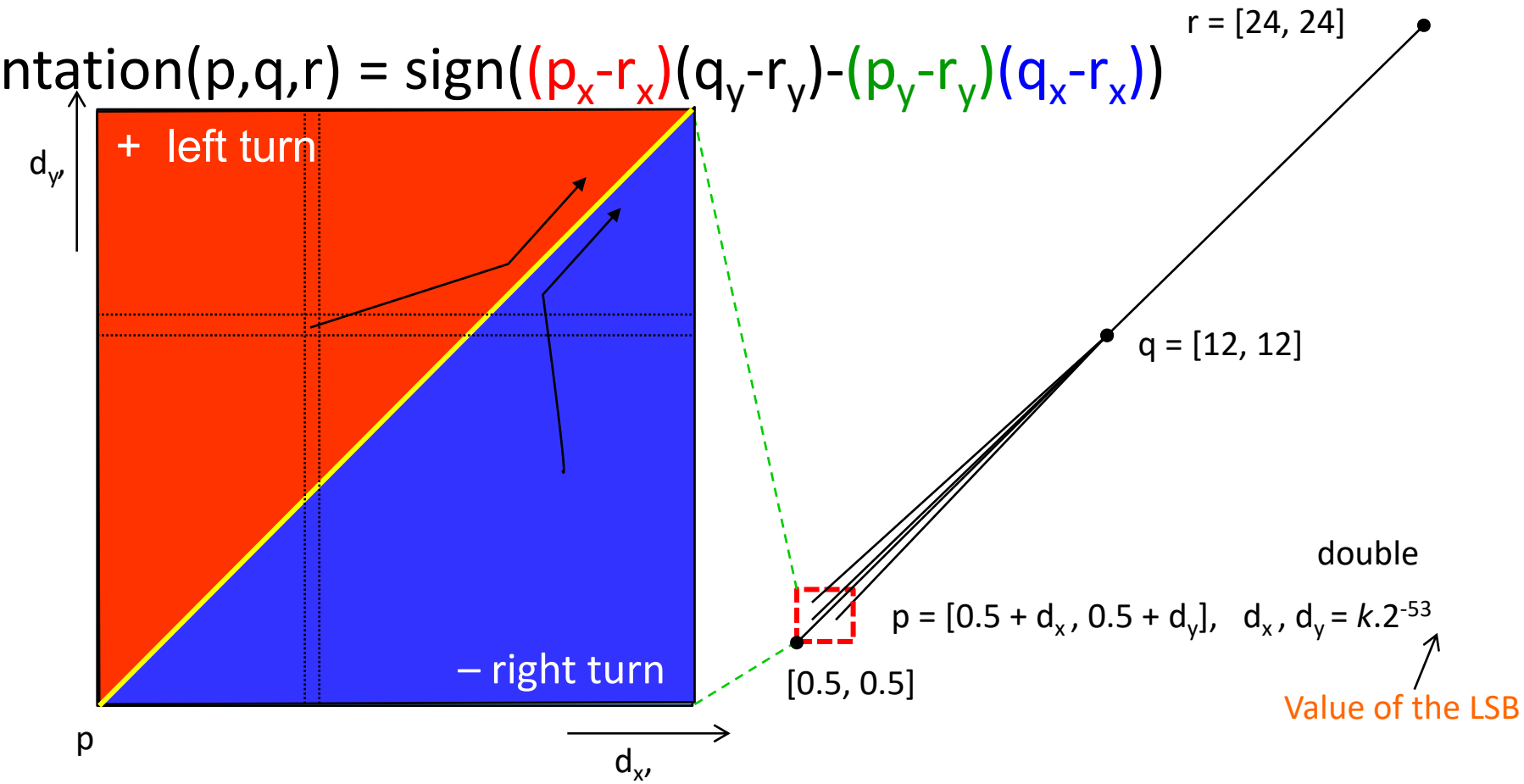
$\text{orientation}(p,q,r) =$
= 0
= +1 (positive)
= –1 (negative)

pivot r

Experiment with orientation predicate

- orientation(p,q,r) = sign($(p_x-r_x)(q_y-r_y)-(p_y-r_y)(q_x-r_x)$)

Ideal return values



Standard floats

	single	double	extended double (Intel)
celkový počet bitů	32	64	80
počet bitů mantisy	24	53	64
počet bitů exponentu	8	11	15
rozsah exponentu	$[-126; +127]$	$[-1022; +1023]$	$[-16382; +16383]$
platná desetinná místa (přibližně)	7	16	19
místa na lib. Čísla v dané přesnosti	9	17	

$2^{24} = 16\,777\,216$ různých mantis

$\log 2^{24} \doteq 7{,}2$

$1{,}11111\,11111\,11111\,11111\,111_2 \times 2^{-126}$

$2{,}35098856151472858345576598207153302664571798551798085536592623685000612993034607711706485133618116378784179687 5 \times 10^{-38}$