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Handbook of Floating-Point Arithmetic

Second Edition

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Handbook of Floating-Point Arithmetic

- Provides a complete overview of a topic that is widely used to implement real-number arithmetic on modern computers, yet is far from being fully exploited to its full potential
- Techniques are illustrated, whenever possible, by a corresponding program, allowing the reader to put them directly into practice
- Develops smart and nontrivial algorithms for implementation of floating-point arithmetic in software
- For a broad audience of programmers of numerical applications, compiler designers, programmers of floating-point algorithms, designers of arithmetic operators; as well as students and researchers in numerical analysis

This handbook is a definitive guide to the effective use of modern floating-point arithmetic, which has considerably evolved, from the frequently inconsistent floating-point number systems of early computing to the recent IEEE 754-2008 standard. Most of computational mathematics depends on floating-point numbers, and understanding their various implementations will allow readers to develop programs specifically tailored for the standard's technical features. Algorithms for floating-point arithmetic are presented throughout the book and illustrated where possible by example programs which show how these techniques appear in actual coding and design. The volume itself breaks its core topic into four parts: the basic concepts and history of floating-point arithmetic; methods of analyzing floating-point algorithms and optimizing them; implementations of IEEE 754-2008 in hardware and software; and useful extensions to the standard floating-point system, such as interval arithmetic, double- and triple-word arithmetic, operations on complex numbers, and formal verification of floating-point algorithms. This new edition updates chapters to reflect recent changes to programming languages and compilers and the new prevalence of GPUs in recent years. The revisions also add material on fused multiply-add instruction, and methods of extending the floating-point precision.

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