

Statistics and Probability in the news. 5-26-10

Given below are links to sources for information about trade-offs between accuracy versus speed/power-demand in computer architecture. There is talk of computers accepting less than perfect answers in order to operate much faster and at reduced power with reductions in associated heat.

Terms such as "stochastic processors" (meaning processors producing random outputs that are suitably "close" to being correct) and "statistical variability" are cropping up in connection with what computers are expected to do.

News links may only be available for a brief time.

[http : // passat.crhc.illinois.edu/projects.html](http://passat.crhc.illinois.edu/projects.html)

<http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/technology/10134655.stm>