

1 Your Task

In this assignment you will work in groups of two to critically read a research paper. The paper, cited below, can be found on the class web site.

- “Soft-error Detection Through Software Fault-Tolerance Techniques,” M. Rebaudengo, et al, *IEEE Int’l Symposium on Defect and Fault Tolerance in VLSI Systems*, November, 1999.

In reading the paper, you should think about its limitations and shortcomings. Are there cases for which the described technique does not work? Is the experimental methodology reasonable? Is the described technique a good one? Can you think of ways to improve the solution? As you can see, there are many possible types of criticisms to consider, and we encourage you to explore these as much as possible.

For this assignment, you may assume that the basic motivation is valid, namely, that soft-errors, also known as transient errors, will become more frequent over the next few years, and that a software-based solution to solving this problem would be desirable.

2 Collaboration

For this assignment, please restrict your collaboration to the members of your group.

3 What to Turn In

Provide a brief summary of the contributions of the paper. This should probably be a paragraph. Then submit at least three criticisms of the paper, and support each criticism with a justification. Order your criticisms with the most important criticism appearing first and the least significant appearing last.

Submit one report per group, and be sure to include the names of all group members.

4 Due date

This assignment is due Thursday April 6th at 1:59pm, that is, before class starts.