

**TELECOM**  
ParisTech



Institut  
Mines-Télécom

# **Design of Reliable Processors Based on Unreliable Devices**

Séminaire COMELEC

Lirida Alves de Barros Naviner  
Paris, 1 July 2013





# Outline

Basics on reliability

Technology Aspects

Design for Reliability

Conclusions



## What is Reliability ?

**Reliability** is the ability of a system or component to perform its required functions under stated conditions for a specified period of time.



# What is Reliability ?

**Reliability** is the ability of a system or component to perform its required functions under **stated conditions** for a **specified period of time**.

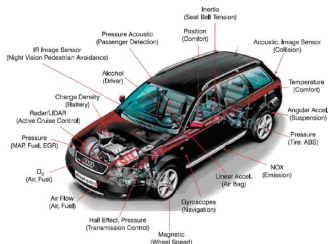
# When is Reliability Important ?

## ■ Safety critical applications

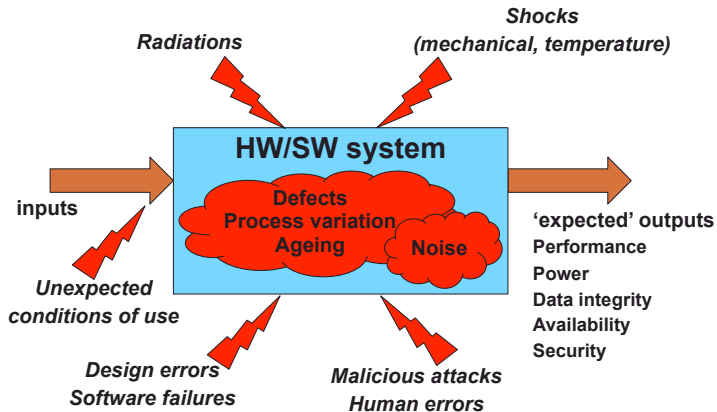
- Biomedical
- Transport
- Spatial
- Energy
- Security
- ...

## ■ But today also for

- Computer
- Communications
- Consumer

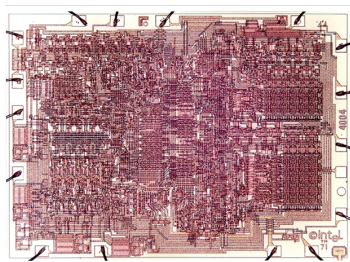


# Is the Electronics Reliable ?

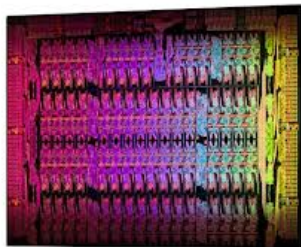


# Advances in CMOS

- Moore's law (popular form) :  $2 \times N_{tr}/mm^2$  every 18 months



Intel 4004 (1971) :  $10\mu m$  and  $2.3 \times 10^3$  tr



Intel Xeon Phi (2012) :  $22nm$  and  $5 \times 10^9$  tr

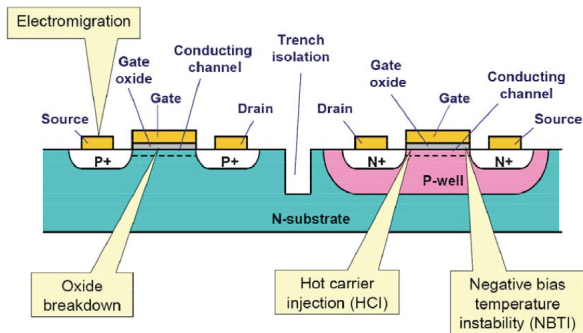


# More Moore

- Scaling issues
  - Design complexity, test challenge, low power voltage
  - Variability – Modelling
  - Sensitivity to unscaled environmental disturbances
- Scaling effects
  - Yield decrease
  - **Reliability decrease**

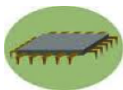


# Scaling and Reliability



ageing, single and multiple transient faults

# Fault Propagation



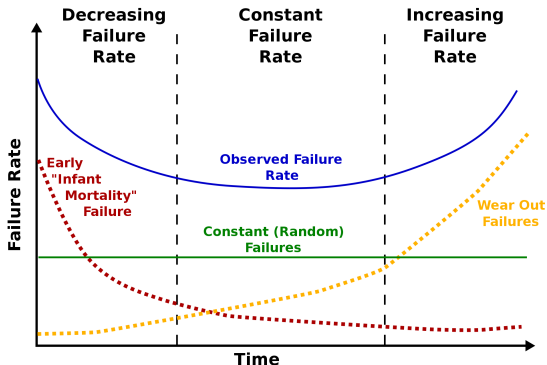
Fault

Propagation and Failure

Crash



# Bathtub Curve



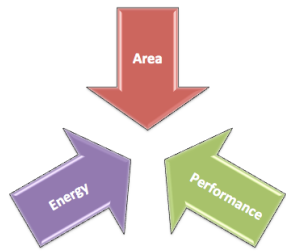
## Some Metrics

- Mean Time To Failures *MTTF*
- Mean Time To Repair *MTTR*
- **Mean Time Between Failures**  
*MTBF*
- **Failures In Time** *FIT*
- **Failure Rate**

$$R = e^{-\frac{\text{Time}}{MTBF}}$$

$$R = \text{Prob}(\text{exact})$$

How to get **optimized** design of processors ?



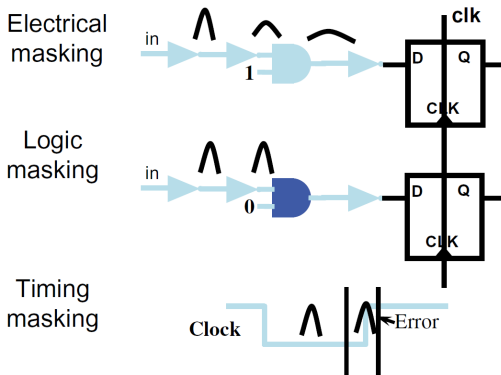
How to get **optimized** design of **reliable** processors based on **unreliable** devices ?



- Risk minimization
- More (than) Moore
- Fabless generalization

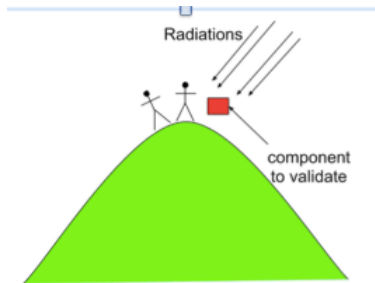
**Reliability improvement**  
⇒ **penalties !**

# Masking Effects



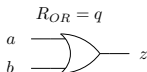
⇒ **Reliability assessment !**

# Hardware Fault Injection





# Probabilistic Transfer Matrices (PTM)



outputs

inputs	0	1
00	1	0
01	0	1
10	0	1
11	0	1

$ITM_{OR}$

outputs

inputs	0	1
00	$q$	$1 - q$
01	$1 - q$	$q$
10	$1 - q$	$q$
11	$1 - q$	$q$

$PTM_{OR}$

$R_{XOR3} = q$



outputs

inputs	0	1
000	1	0
001	0	1
010	0	1
011	1	0
100	0	1
101	1	0
110	1	0
111	0	1

$ITM_{XOR3}$

outputs

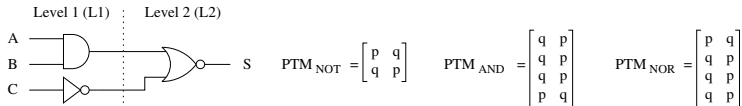
inputs	0	1
000	$q$	$1 - q$
001	$1 - q$	$q$
010	$1 - q$	$q$
011	$q$	$1 - q$
100	$1 - q$	$q$
101	$q$	$1 - q$
110	$q$	$1 - q$
111	$1 - q$	$q$

$PTM_{XOR3}$

- [1] S. Krishnaswamy, G.F Viamontes, I.L. Markov, I.L and J.P Hayes, Accurate reliability evaluation and enhancement via probabilistic transfer matrices, DATE'2005

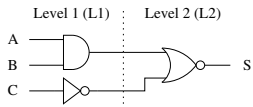
★

# PTM Computation



$$PTM_{L1} = PTM_{AND} \otimes PTM_{NOT} = \begin{bmatrix} q \cdot \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{bmatrix} & p \cdot \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{bmatrix} \\ q \cdot \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{bmatrix} & p \cdot \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{bmatrix} \\ q \cdot \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{bmatrix} & p \cdot \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{bmatrix} \\ p \cdot \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{bmatrix} & q \cdot \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} pq & q^2 & p^2 & pq \\ q^2 & pq & pq & p^2 \\ pq & q^2 & p^2 & pq \\ q^2 & pq & pq & p^2 \\ p^2 & pq & pq & q^2 \\ pq & p^2 & q^2 & pq \end{bmatrix}$$

# PTM Computation



$$PTM_{NOT} = \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \end{bmatrix}$$

$$PTM_{AND} = \begin{bmatrix} q & p \\ q & p \\ p & q \end{bmatrix}$$

$$PTM_{NOR} = \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \\ q & p \end{bmatrix}$$

$$PTM_{CIR} = PTM_{L1} \cdot PTM_{NOR} = \begin{bmatrix} pq & q^2 & p^2 & pq \\ q^2 & pq & pq & p^2 \\ pq & q^2 & p^2 & pq \\ q^2 & pq & pq & p^2 \\ pq & q^2 & p^2 & pq \\ q^2 & pq & pq & p^2 \\ p^2 & pq & pq & q^2 \\ pq & p^2 & q^2 & pq \end{bmatrix} \cdot \begin{bmatrix} p & q \\ q & p \\ q & p \\ q & p \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 2p^2q + pq^2 + q^3 & p^2q + 2pq^2 + p^3 \\ p^2q + 3pq^2 & 2p^2q + p^3 + q^3 \\ 2p^2q + pq^2 + q^3 & p^2q + 2pq^2 + p^3 \\ p^2q + 3pq^2 & 2p^2q + p^3 + q^3 \\ 2p^2q + pq^2 + q^3 & p^2q + 2pq^2 + p^3 \\ p^2q + 3pq^2 & 2pq^2 + p^3 + q^3 \\ 2pq^2 + p^3 + q^3 & 3p^2q + pq^2 \\ 2p^2q + pq^2 + q^3 & p^2q + 2pq^2 + p^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Reliability Calculation with PTM

$$R_{cir} = \sum_{ITM_{cir}(i,j)=1} p(j|i)p(i)$$

- $p(i)$  is the probability of input value  $i$
- $p(j|i)$  is the  $(i, j)$ th element in  $PTM_{cir}$

$$ITM_{CIR} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$PTM_{CIR} = \begin{bmatrix} 2p^2q + pq^2 + q^3 & p^2q + 2pq^2 + p^3 \\ p^2q + 3pq^2 & 2p^2q + p^3 + q^3 \\ 2p^2q + pq^2 + q^3 & p^2q + 2pq^2 + p^3 \\ p^2q + 3pq^2 & 2p^2q + p^3 + q^3 \\ 2p^2q + pq^2 + q^3 & p^2q + 2pq^2 + p^3 \\ p^2q + 3pq^2 & 2pq^2 + p^3 + q^3 \\ 2pq^2 + p^3 + q^3 & 3p^2q + pq^2 \\ 2p^2q + pq^2 + q^3 & p^2q + 2pq^2 + p^3 \end{bmatrix}$$

# Signal Probability and Reliability (SPR)

$$S = \begin{bmatrix} 0_c & 1_i \\ 0_i & 1_c \end{bmatrix}$$

$$SPR_S = \begin{bmatrix} p(s = 0_c) & p(s = 1_i) \\ p(s = 0_i) & p(s = 1_c) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} s_0 & s_1 \\ s_2 & s_3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R_S = p(s = 0_c) + p(s = 1_c) = s_0 + s_3$$

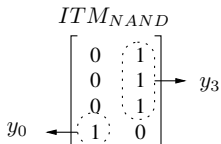
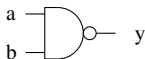
- [1] D. Franco, M. Vasconcelos, L. Naviner et J.-F. Naviner, Signal Probability for Reliability Evaluation of Logic Circuits, Microelectronics Reliability Journal, Septembre 2008, vol. 48, pp. 1586-1591

# Signal Reliability Propagation

$$A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.5 & 0 \\ 0 & 0.5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$q_{NAND} = 0.92$$



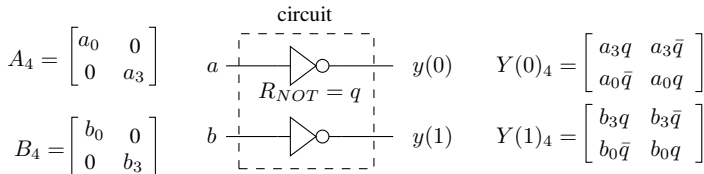
$$I_{NAND} = A_4 \otimes B_4 \times PTM_{NAND} = p(y)$$

$$Y_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0.23 & 0.02 \\ 0.06 & 0.69 \end{bmatrix}$$

★

# Reconvergent Signals

$$a = b$$

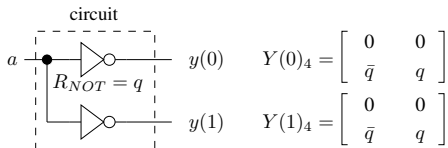


$$R(\text{circuit}) = R_{y(0)}R_{y(1)} = a_3b_3q^2 + a_3b_0q^2 + a_0b_3q^2 + a_0b_0q^2$$

# Multipath SPR

Pass 1 :

$$A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$

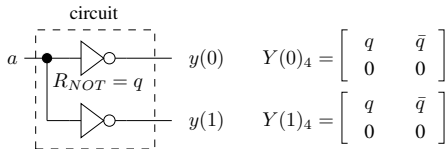


$$R(\text{circuit}, a_0) = R_{y(0)}R_{y(1)}a_0 = a_0q^2$$

---

Pass 2 :

$$A_4 = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$



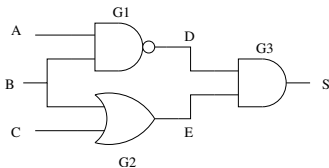
$$R(\text{circuit}, a_3) = R_{y(0)}R_{y(1)}a_3 = a_3q^2$$

---

$$R(\text{circuit}) = R(\text{circuit}, a_0) + R(\text{circuit}, a_3) = a_0q^2 + a_3q^2$$



# Multipath SPR



$$SPR_{D_i} = ITM_{G_1} \times (SPR_A \otimes SPR_{B_i}) \times PTM_{G_1} \quad (1)$$

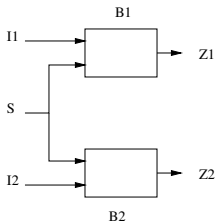
$$SPR_{E_i} = ITM_{G_2} \times (SPR_{B_i} \otimes SPR_C) \times PTM_{G_2} \quad (2)$$

$$SPR_{S_i} = ITM_{G_3} \times (SPR_{D_i} \otimes SPR_{E_i}) \times PTM_{G_3} \quad (3)$$

$$SPR_S = \sum_{i=1}^4 SPR_{S_i} \times w_i \quad (4)$$

- [1] D. Teixeira Franco, M. Rabelo de Vasconcelos, L. A. B. de Naviner, and J. cois Naviner, "A Tool for Signal Reliability Analysis of Logic Circuits," DATE'09

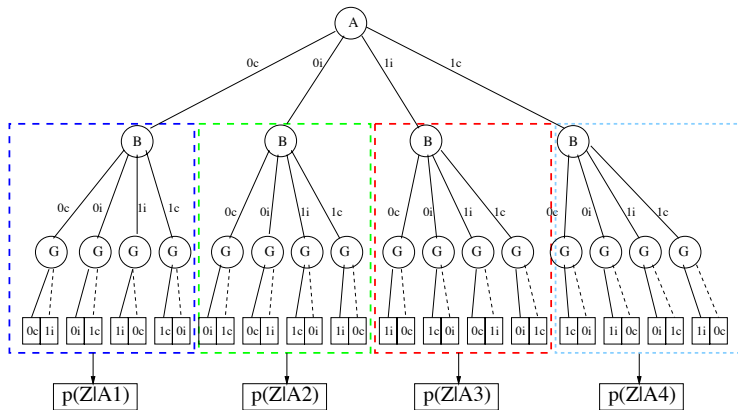
# Conditional Probability



$$p(Z1 = i) = f1(S, I1, B1) \Rightarrow p(Z1 = i | S = k) = f1(I1, B1)$$

$$p(Z2 = j) = f2(S, I2, B2) \Rightarrow p(Z2 = j | S = k) = f2(I2, B2)$$

# Conditional Probability



Logic XOR

# Conditional Probability Matrices (CPM)

$$CPM_Z = \begin{pmatrix} p(z_1/a_1) & p(z_1/a_2) & p(z_1/a_3) & p(z_1/a_4) \\ p(z_2/a_1) & p(z_2/a_2) & p(z_2/a_3) & p(z_2/a_4) \\ p(z_3/a_1) & p(z_3/a_2) & p(z_3/a_3) & p(z_3/a_4) \\ p(z_4/a_1) & p(z_4/a_2) & p(z_4/a_3) & p(z_4/a_4) \end{pmatrix}$$

★

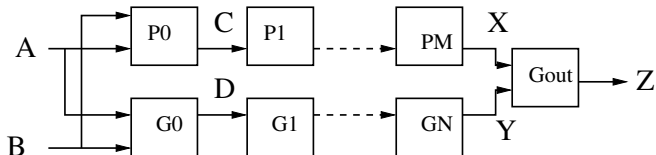
- [1] J. Torras Flaquer, J.-M. Daveau, L. Naviner and Ph. Roche, Handling reconvergent paths using conditional probabilities in combinatorial logic netlists reliability estimation, IEEE ICECS'10.

# Conditional Probability Matrices (CPM)

$$CPM_Y = \begin{pmatrix} p(y_1/s_1^1 \cap \dots \cap s_1^N) & \dots & p(y_1/s_4^1 \cap \dots \cap s_4^N) \\ p(y_2/s_1^1 \cap \dots \cap s_1^N) & \dots & p(y_1/s_4^1 \cap \dots \cap s_4^N) \\ p(y_3/s_1^1 \cap \dots \cap s_1^N) & \dots & p(y_1/s_4^1 \cap \dots \cap s_4^N) \\ p(y_4/s_1^1 \cap \dots \cap s_1^N) & \dots & p(y_1/s_4^1 \cap \dots \cap s_4^N) \end{pmatrix}$$

- [1] J. Torras Flaquer, J.-M. Daveau, L. Naviner and Ph. Roche, Handling reconvergent paths using conditional probabilities in combinatorial logic netlists reliability estimation, IEEE ICECS'10.

# Reliability based on CPM



$$SPR_Z = ITM_{G_{out}}^T \cdot M_{XY} \cdot PTM_{G_{out}}^T$$

$$CPM_{X/A \cap B} = \prod_{i=0}^M CPM_{P_i}$$

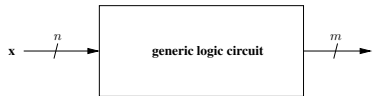
$$CPM_{Y/A \cap B} = \prod_{i=0}^N CPM_{G_i}$$

$$p(x_i \cap y_j) = \sum_{k=1}^4 \sum_{l=1}^4 p(x_i/a_k \cap b_l) \cdot p(y_j/a_k \cap b_l) \cdot p(a_k) \cdot p(b_j)$$

# Probabilistic Binomial Reliability Model

$$R = \sum_{j=0}^{2^{n_e}-1} \prod_{\text{fault-free}} q_i \prod_{\text{faulty}} (1-q_i) \sum_{i=0}^{2^{n_x}-1} p(\mathbf{x}_i) \left( \overline{\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_0) \oplus \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_j)} \right)$$

- Logical masking features
- Technology/profile aspects
- Relevant faults
- Relevant input vectors

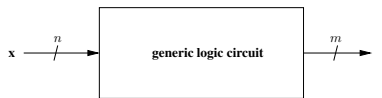


- [1] M. Correia De Vasconcelos, D. Teixeira Franco, L. Alves de Barros Naviner and J. F. Naviner, Reliability Analysis of Combinational Circuits Based on a Probabilistic Binomial Model, IEEE-NEWCAS and TAISA Conference, Montréal, Canada, June 2008.

# Probabilistic Binomial Reliability Model

$$R = \sum_{j=0}^{2^{n_e}-1} \prod_{\text{fault-free}} q_i \prod_{\text{faulty}} (1-q_i) \sum_{i=0}^{2^{n_x}-1} p(\mathbf{x}_i) \left( \overline{\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_0) \oplus \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_j)} \right)$$

- Logical masking features
- Technology/profile aspects
- Relevant faults
- Relevant input vectors



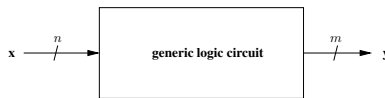
- [1] M. Correia De Vasconcelos, D. Teixeira Franco, L. Alves de Barros Naviner and J. F. Naviner, Reliability Analysis of Combinational Circuits Based on a Probabilistic Binomial Model, IEEE-NEWCAS and TAISA Conference, Montréal, Canada, June 2008.



# Probabilistic Binomial Reliability Model

$$R = \sum_{j=0}^{2^{n_e}-1} \prod_{\text{fault-free}} q_i \prod_{\text{faulty}} (1-q_i) \sum_{i=0}^{2^{n_x}-1} p(\mathbf{x}_i) \left( \overline{\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_0) \oplus \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_j)} \right)$$

- Logical masking features
- **Technology/profile aspects**
- Relevant faults
- Relevant input vectors

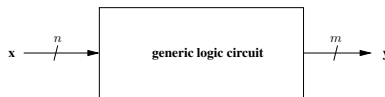


- [1] M. Correia De Vasconcelos, D. Teixeira Franco, L. Alves de Barros Naviner and J. F. Naviner, Reliability Analysis of Combinational Circuits Based on a Probabilistic Binomial Model, IEEE-NEWCAS and TAISA Conference, Montréal, Canada, June 2008.

# Probabilistic Binomial Reliability Model

$$R = \sum_{j=0}^{2^{n_e}-1} \prod_{\text{fault-free}} q_i \prod_{\text{faulty}} (1-q_i) \sum_{i=0}^{2^{n_x}-1} p(\mathbf{x}_i) \left( \overline{\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_0) \oplus \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_j)} \right)$$

- Logical masking features
- Technology/profile aspects
- **Relevant faults**
- Relevant input vectors

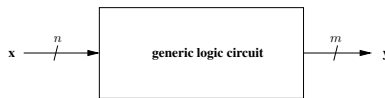


- [1] M. Correia De Vasconcelos, D. Teixeira Franco, L. Alves de Barros Naviner and J. F. Naviner, Reliability Analysis of Combinational Circuits Based on a Probabilistic Binomial Model, IEEE-NEWCAS and TAISA Conference, Montréal, Canada, June 2008.

# Probabilistic Binomial Reliability Model

$$R = \sum_{j=0}^{2^{n_e}-1} \prod_{\text{fault-free}} q_i \prod_{\text{faulty}} (1-q_i) \sum_{i=0}^{2^{n_x}-1} p(\mathbf{x}_i) \left( \overline{\mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_0) \oplus \mathbf{y}(\mathbf{x}_i, \mathbf{e}_j)} \right)$$

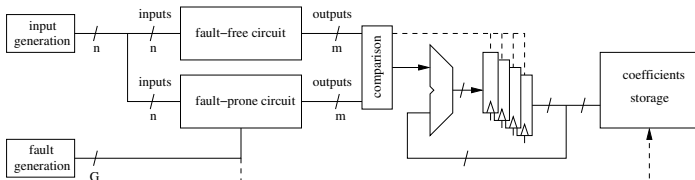
- Logical masking features
- Technology/profile aspects
- Relevant faults
- **Relevant input vectors**



- [1] M. Correia De Vasconcelos, D. Teixeira Franco, L. Alves de Barros Naviner and J. F. Naviner, Reliability Analysis of Combinational Circuits Based on a Probabilistic Binomial Model, IEEE-NEWCAS and TAISA Conference, Montréal, Canada, June 2008.

# PBR Implementation

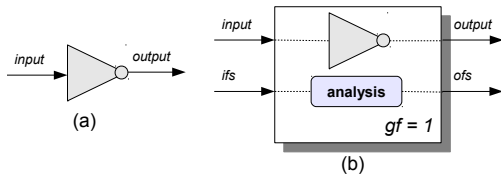
- Simulate (or emulate) errors and then compare outputs
- FIFA : Fault-Injection Fault-Analysis platform<sup>[1,2]</sup>
  - Acceleration of fault injection and functional simulation



- [1] E. Marques, N. Maciel, L. Naviner and J. F. Naviner, A New Fault Generator Suitable for Reliability Analysis of Digital Circuits, IEEE CUMTA'10.
- [2] L. Alves de Barros Naviner, J. F. Naviner, G. Gonçalves dos Santos Jr, E. Crespo Marques and N. Maciel, FIFA : A Fault-Injection-Fault-Analysis-based tool for reliability assessment at RTL level, ES-REF'11.

# SNAP Approach

## ■ Fault source and fault propagation

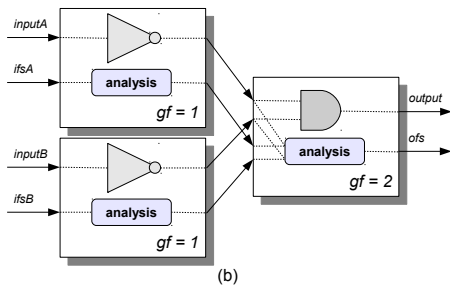
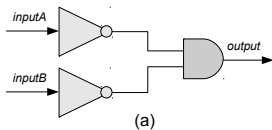


$$ofs = f(ifs, gf, input, gate)$$

- [1] S. Pagliarini, A. Ben Dhia, L. Naviner and J. F. Naviner, SNaP : a Novel Hybrid Method for Circuit Reliability Assessment Under Multiple Faults, ESREF'13.

# Reliability Calculation based on SNAP

■  $R = q^{ofs}$



# Comparisons

	Accuracy	Complexity	Trade-off	FPGA
PTM	😊😊😊	😞😞😞	-	-
SPR	😊😞	😊😊😊	-	-
SPR-MP	😊😊😊	😊😊😞	Yes	-
CPM	😊😊😊	😊😊😞	Yes	-
PBR	😊😊😊	😊😊😞	Yes	Yes
SNAP	😊😊😞	😊😊😊	-	Yes

# Conclusions

- Reliability issues and challenges
- Need of cost-effective fault tolerant architectures
- Need of efficient assessment approaches
- Some Telecom ParisTech contributions (models, methods and tools)
  - SPR, SPR-MP, CPM, SPR-DWAA
  - PBR, FIFA, SNAP, ...



# Conclusions

- Reliability issues and challenges
- Need of **cost-effective** fault tolerant architectures
- Need of **efficient** assessment approaches
- Some Telecom ParisTech contributions (models, methods and tools)
  - SPR, SPR-MP, CPM, SPR-DWAA
  - PBR, FIFA, SNAP, ...





## To know more about ...

Contact : Prof. Lirida A. B. Naviner  
lirida.naviner@telecom-paristech.fr

Visit : <http://nanoelec.wp.mines-telecom.fr>