



논문투고

논문투고

▶ 학회지 논문투고

▶ 학술발표회 논문투고/참가

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학술발표회

학술발표회 논문제출

한국원자력학회 학술발표회
논문을 제출하여 수상시오.

바로가기



등록
신청

논문
심사

논문
집

발표자료
제출

개요 및 주요 일정

등록비 안내

프로그램

2021년 일정

2021년 일정

2021년도의 춘/추계 학술발표회 일정을 아래와 같이 안내합니다.

☞ 춘계학술발표회

- 일시 : 5월 12일(수) ~ 14일(금)
- 장소 : 온라인

논문마감 : 3월 11일(목)

등록기한 : 5월 14일(금) 행사기간 까지

☞ 제54회 정기총회 및 추계학술발표회

- 일시 : 10월 20일(수) ~ 22일(금)
- 장소 : 창원컨벤션센터

논문마감 : 8월 19일(목)

사전등록 : 10월 6일(수)

8C

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Gwang-il Jung, Sang-pil Yoon, and Myung-kook Moon(KAERI)
- P08C02 Analysis on Static Noise Margin and Single Event Upset of 10T SRAM for Radiation Tolerance
Eunju Jo and Inyong Kwon(KAERI)
- P08C03 Design of Radioactive Krypton Detection System using PIPS Detector
Mee Jang, Jinhyung Lee, Hyuncheol Kim, Won Young Kim, and Wannoo Lee(KAERI)
- P08C04 Enhancement of Physical Properties of Boehmite/HDPE Nanocomposite Film by Electron Irradiation
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- P08C05 Fabrication and Performance Test of Scintillator Free-Replaceable Type Detector for Comparison of Inorganic Scintillator Performance
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- P08C06 Characteristics of 3D Printed Plastic Scintillator for Thermal Neutron Measurement with Pulse Shape Discrimination
Kyungmin Kim, Dong Geon Kim, Sangmin Lee, Jaebum Son, and Yong Kyun Kim(HYU)
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Analysis on Static Noise Margin and Single Event Upset of 10T SRAM for Radiation Tolerance

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1. Introduction

In the space environment, a common problem in memory semiconductors is soft errors. The soft error is a sort of single event effect (SEE) caused by radiation, which means that a single active particle additionally generates electric charges or current inside the semiconductor chip, resulting in malfunction [1].

Static random access memory (SRAM) is now widely used in many digital circuits. The memory device of which cell consists of inverters can retain its stored information as long as power is supplied. Also, it has some advantages in fast processing speed and minimum power consumption. However, SRAMs are also vulnerable to radiation, especially when single event upset (SEU) occurs [2]. The SEU is a type of SEE that makes bits inverted. Therefore, it is critical for SRAM and must be considered when designing for specific applications under radiation environments.

In this study, we propose a new 10T SRAM structure which is simply added a tri-state buffer to a conventional 6T SRAM as shown in Fig. 1 and Fig. 2. The additional tri-state buffer provides more drive strength onto the internal data nodes to prevent a data flip in a situation of SEE. And we compare the performances with the conventional 6T SRAM structure by simulations.

2. Conventional 6T SRAM

2.1 Operation

• Read mode

First, the word line (WL) is given a LOW signal to turn off the access transistors. Then bit line (BL) and bit line bar (BLB) are precharged by half of VDD. When the access transistors are turned on by giving HIGH signal to WL again, the values stored in nodes Q and QB are transmitted into BL and BLB. Finally, it is amplified by a sense amp at the end of BL and BLB.

• Write mode

In contrast to the read operation, the access transistors are initially turned on by applying a HIGH signal to the WL. BL must get HIGH signal for writing

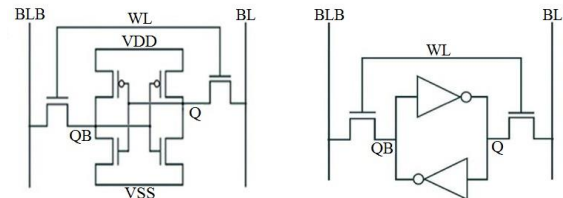


Fig. 1. Schematic and block diagram of the conventional 6T SRAM cell

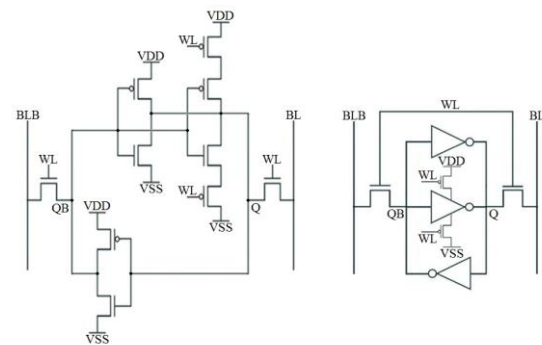


Fig. 2. Schematic and block diagram of the proposed 10T SRAM cell

HIGH to memory, and LOW signal for writing LOW. Finally, turning off the access transistors by giving the LOW signal to the WL ends the operation and keeps the memory value until next writing.

2.2 Single Event Upset

A data of the conventional 6T SRAM is easily flipped by the radiation. In the worst case, current is generated in a sensitive node due to radiation effects. If the data of the affected node is changed, then the other is instantly changed along. To address this problem, we propose a new radiation hardened SRAM cell using ten transistors.

3. Proposed 10T SRAM

Proposed 10T SRAM consists of three inverters in parallel as shown in Fig. 2. One of them is a tri-state buffer with a PMOS switch at the top and bottom of the inverter, and it raises the drive strength. As a result, a 10T SRAM can stand higher radiation energy level after irradiated than 6T SRAM. So, it has better durability to radiation effects.

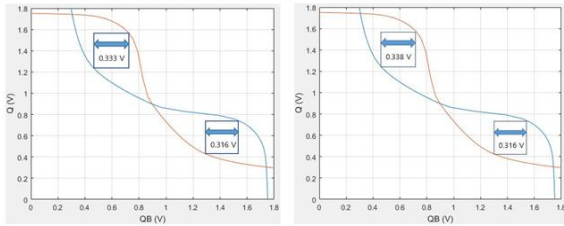


Fig. 3. Read SNM of 6T SRAM (left) and 10T SRAM (right)

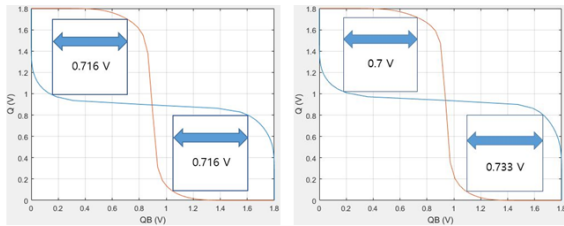


Fig. 4. Hold SNM of 6T SRAM (left) and 10T SRAM (right)

4. Simulation Results

4.1 Static Noise Margin

Static noise margin (SNM) is one of the indicators to determine the stability of SRAM operation [3]. As shown in Fig. 3, read SNM is 0.316 V for both of conventional 6T SRAM and proposed 10T SRAM. But hold SNM of the 10T SRAM is reduced than the 6T SRAM as shown in Fig. 4. However, it does not affect normal operation of SRAM.

4.2 SEU Test Simulation

To verify radiation resistance, we injected the exponential current source to the sensitive node Q or QB in hold mode [4]. As shown in Fig. 5, 6T SRAM data is flipped when 220 μA is injected to the sensitive node Q unlike 253 μA of 10T SRAM. The exponential current source of 220 μA has 43.6 fC and that of 253 μA has 49 fC. Linear energy transfer (LET) can be obtained by: $1 \text{ MeV}/\mu\text{m} = 4.31 \text{ MeV}\cdot\text{cm}^2/\text{mg} = 44 \text{ fC}/\mu\text{m}$ [5]. As a result, the proposed 10T SRAM can stand higher radiation energy level of 27.2 $\text{MeV}\cdot\text{cm}^2/\text{mg}$ than the conventional 6T SRAM of 23.7 $\text{MeV}\cdot\text{cm}^2/\text{mg}$. On actual irradiation tests, we anticipate that a LET value for the bit flip will be obtained much larger because of less leakage current generation induced by radiation than the ideal current source enforcing the node in the simulation.

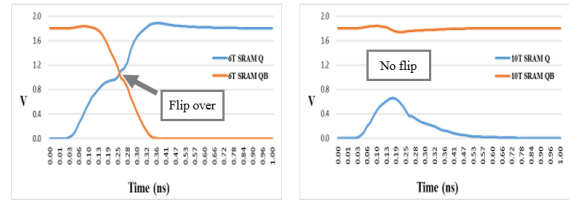


Fig. 5. SEU test of 6T SRAM and 10T SRAM when current is 220 μA .

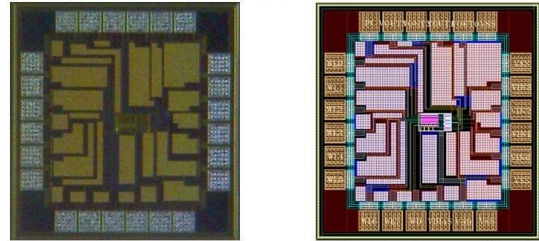


Fig. 6. Proposed 10T SRAM: Test chip photo and Layout

TABLE I
COMPARISON OF 6T SRAM AND 10T SRAM

	6T SRAM	10T SRAM
Cell size (μm^2)	41.69	65.83
Hold SNM (V)	0.716	0.7
Read SNM (V)	0.316	0.316
Cell power consumption (pW)	83.942	97.006
Threshold LET at SEU failure ($\text{MeV}\cdot\text{cm}^2/\text{mg}$)	23.7	27.2

5. Conclusions

For memory semiconductor devices such as SRAM, soft errors must be considered for harsh radiation environments. So, we design a new 10T SRAM which has an additional tri-state buffer compared to conventional 6T SRAM as shown in Fig. 6. This 10T SRAM cell size is 65.83 μm^2 and the cell power consumption is 97.006 pW as shown in Table I. The proposed 10T SRAM has SNMs of 0.7 V and 0.316 V and LET of 27.2 $\text{MeV}\cdot\text{cm}^2/\text{mg}$. Although the hold SNM is reduced by 2.28 %, it does not affect normal operation and LET of the 10T SRAM is 14.8 % better than the conventional 6T SRAM due to the additional tri-state buffer. The simulation results show that the proposed 10T SRAM has better radiation tolerance than the conventional 6T SRAM.

After performing the actual radiation test on the tape-out chip, the results will be announced in conference.

Acknowledgements

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- [2] L. D. Trang Dang, M. Kang, J. Kim and I. Chang, "Studying the Variation Effects of Radiation Hardened Quatro SRAM Bit-Cell," in *IEEE Transactions on Nuclear Science*, vol. 63, no. 4, pp. 2399-2401, Aug. 2016.
- [3] T. B. Hook et al., "Noise margin and leakage in ultra-low leakage SRAM cell design," in *IEEE Transactions on Electron Devices*, vol. 49, no. 8, pp. 1499-1501, Aug. 2002.
- [4] L. D. Trang Dang, J. S. Kim and I. J. Chang, "We-Quatro: Radiation-Hardened SRAM Cell With Parametric Process Variation Tolerance," in *IEEE Transactions on Nuclear Science*, vol. 64, no. 9, pp. 2489-2496, Sept. 2017.
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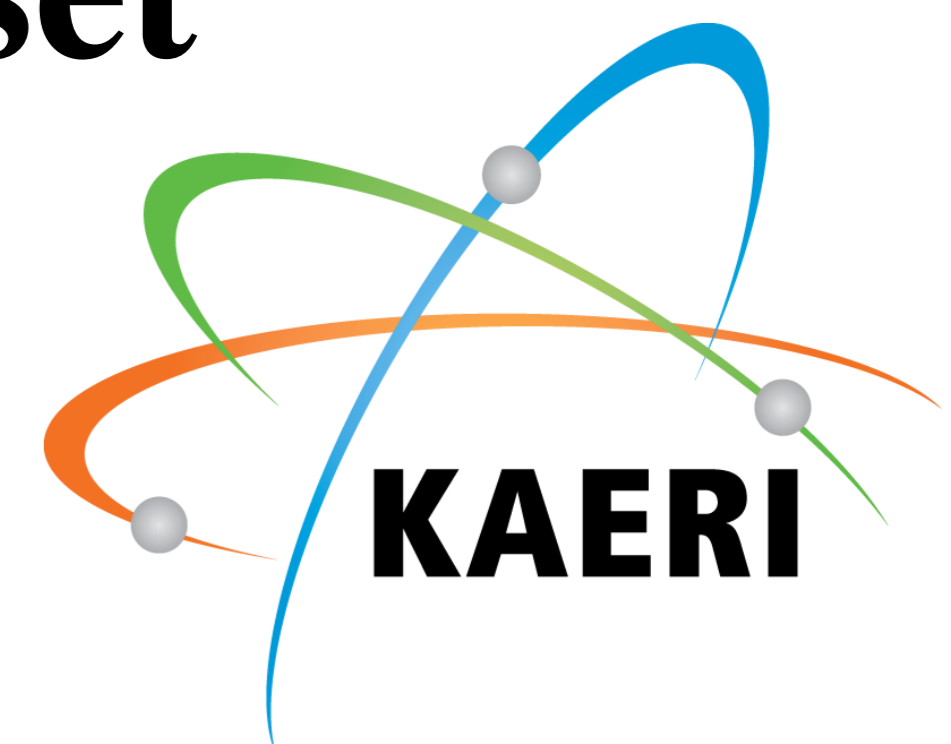


Analysis on Static Noise Margin and Single Event Upset of 10T SRAM for Radiation Tolerance

Eunju Jo^{a,b}, Wooyoung Choi^a, Inyong Kwon^{b*}

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^b Korea Atomic Energy Research Institute

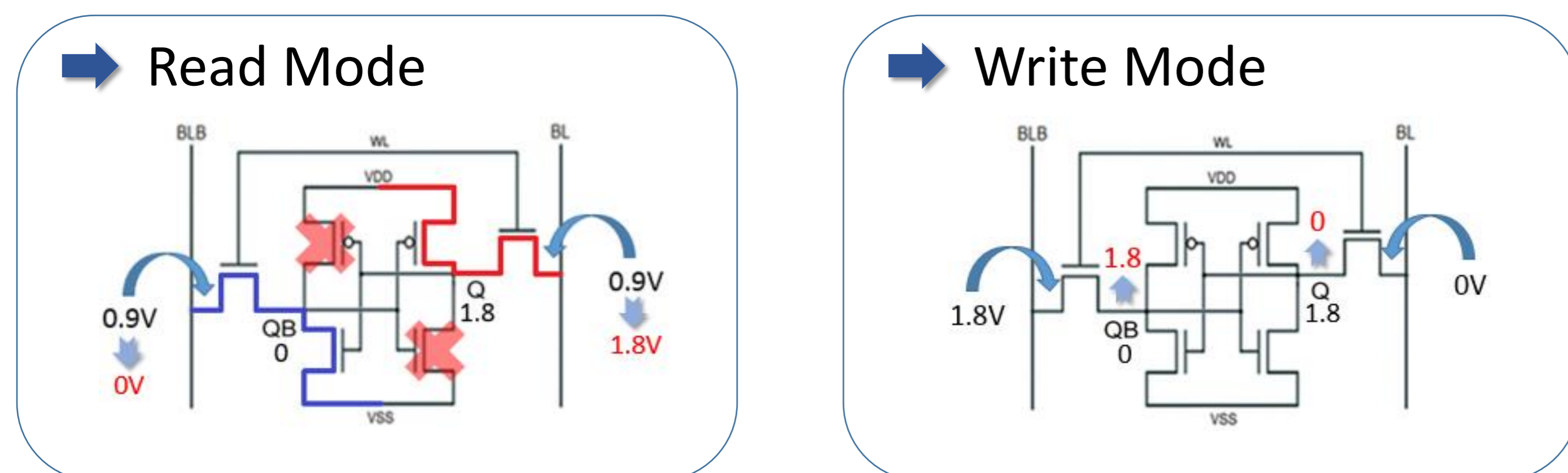


I. Introduction

- In the space environment, a common problem in memory semiconductors is soft errors.
- The soft error is a sort of Single Event Effect (SEE) caused by radiation, which means that a single active particle additionally generates electric charges or current inside the semiconductor chip, resulting in malfunction [1].
- SRAMs are vulnerable to radiation, especially when single event upset (SEU) occurs. The SEU is a type of SEE that makes bits inverted [2].
- Proposed 10T SRAM structure has stronger radiation resistance than conventional 6T SRAM in the SEU simulation.

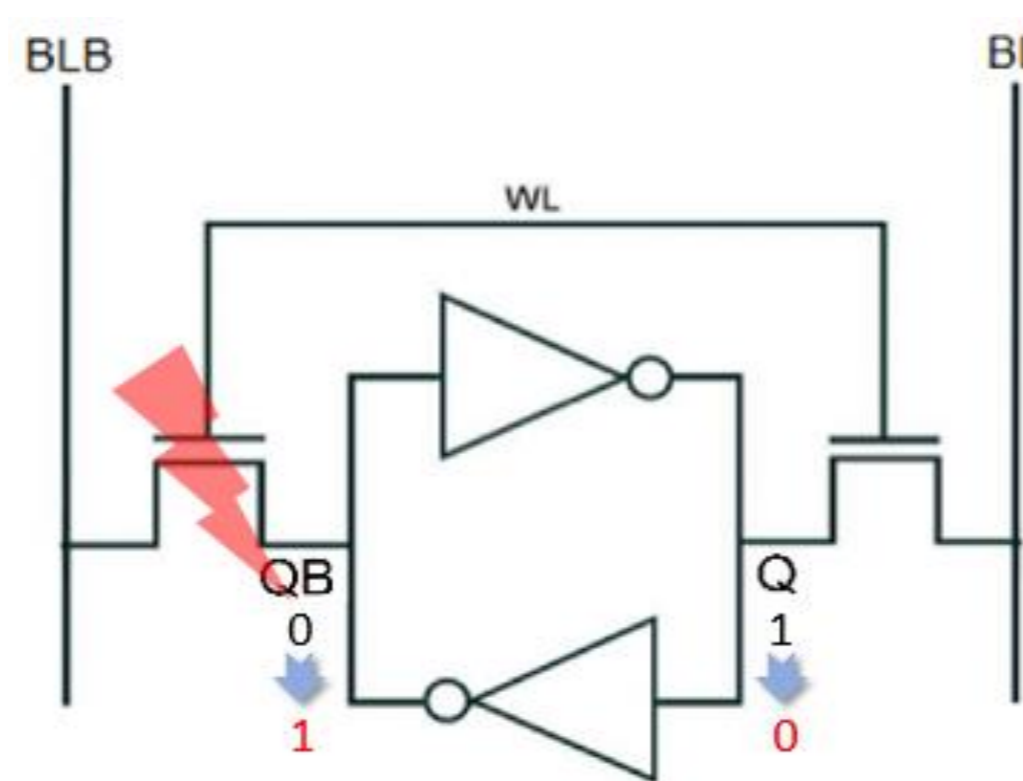
II. Conventional 6T SRAM

Operation



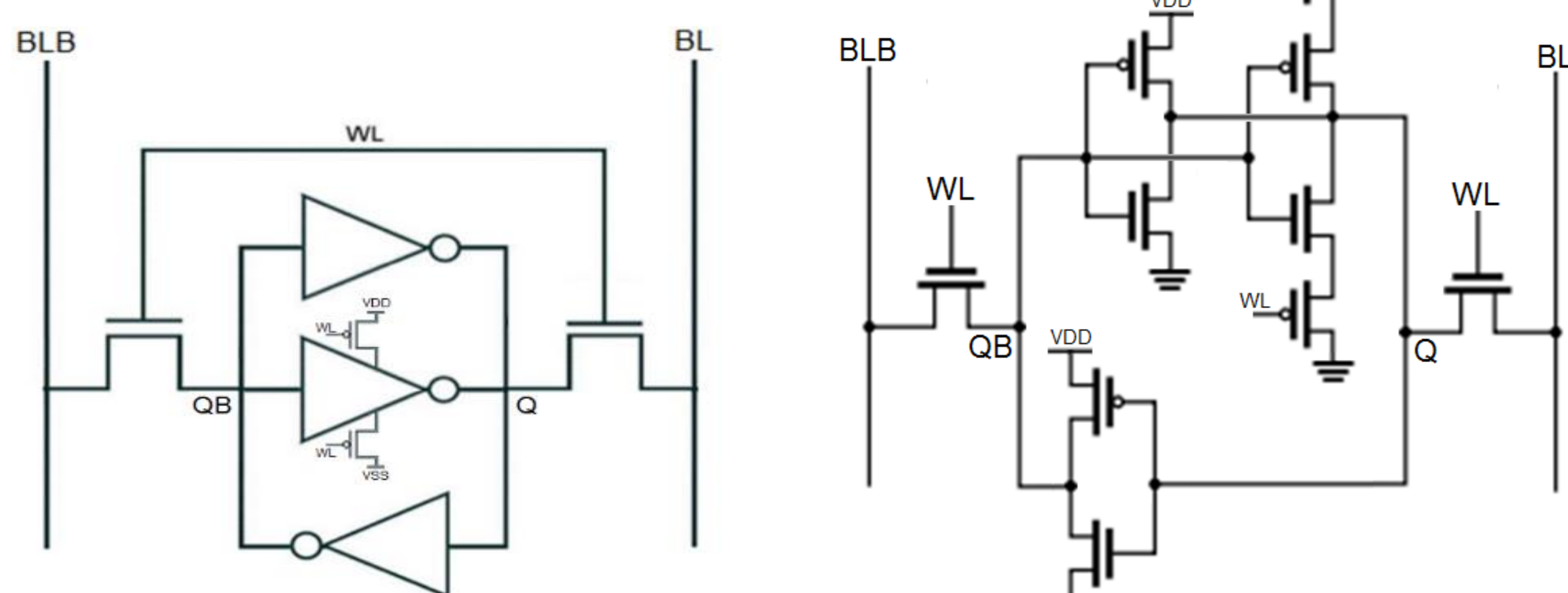
Single Event Upset (SEU)

- If the induced current by radiation is injected to these sensitive volumes, the bit of affected node is changed due to the influence of radiation, and then the other is instantly changed along.
- Therefore, the bit is easily flipped by the radiation in 6T SRAM cell.



III. Proposed 10T SRAM

- Proposed 10T SRAM consists of three inverters in parallel.
- One of them is a tri-state buffer with a PMOS switch at the top and bottom of the inverter, and it raises the drive strength.
- As a result, a 10T SRAM can stand higher radiation energy level after irradiated than 6T SRAM.
- So, it has better durability to radiation effects.



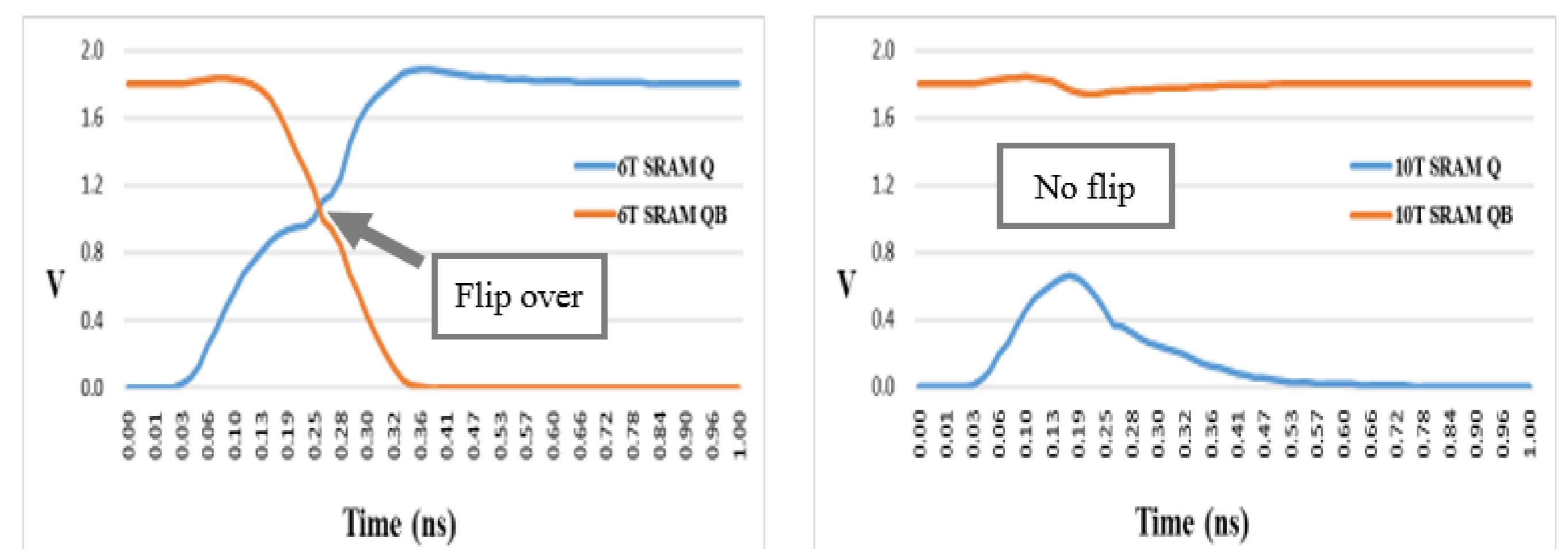
Block diagram of 10T SRAM

Schematic of 10T SRAM

IV. Results

Simulation test

- SEU test of 6T SRAM and 10T SRAM when current is 220 μ A.

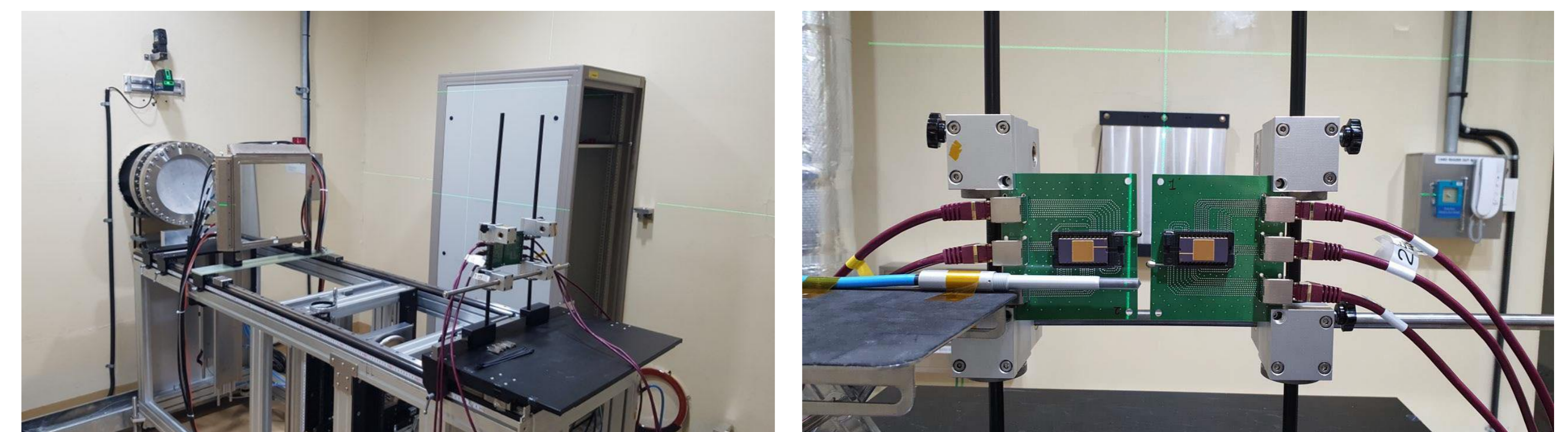


SRAM	Transistors	Hold SNM	Read SNM	Minimum Current
6T	6	0.716 V	0.316 V	220 μ A
10T	10	0.7 V	0.316 V	253 μ A

Table. Comparison of 6T and 10T SRAM

Actual irradiation test

- Radiation test at KAERI KOMAC (Korea Multi-purpose Accelerator Complex)



- We irradiate the tape-out chip of 6T and 10T SRAM with energy level 69MeV and 100MeV.
- As a result, there were many soft errors found in the irradiated chips but some issued on data acquisition blocks.
- The second test will be performed with upgraded SRAM chips this summer.

V. Conclusion

Conclusion

- For memory semiconductor devices such as SRAM, soft errors must be considered for harsh radiation environments.
- So, we design a new 10T SRAM which has an additional tri-state buffer compared to conventional 6T SRAM.
- Although the hold SNM is reduced by 2.28 %, it does not affect normal operation and LET of the 10T SRAM is 14.8 % better than the conventional 6T SRAM.
- Result of actual irradiation test on the tape-out chip is not what I expected. And this result shows that there are some effects.

Future work

- We have designed the upgraded SRAM chip. And then, the irradiation test will be performed again to obtain the desired results.

Acknowledgement

This work was supported in part by Basic Science Research Program through the National Research Foundation of Korea (NRF) funded by the Ministry of Science and ICT (2017M2A8A4056388 and 2020M2A8A1000830).

References

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- N. Kamal, A. Lahgere and J. Singh, "Evaluation of Radiation Resiliency on Emerging Junctionless/Dopingless Devices and Circuits," in IEEE Transactions on Device and Materials Reliability, vol. 19, no. 4, pp. 728-732, Dec. 2019, doi: 10.1109/TDMR.2019.2949064.



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증명서

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- 아래 -

- 학술발표회명 : 한국원자력학회 2021 온라인 춘계학술발표회
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- 저자명 : Eunju Jo, Inyong Kwon

2021년 5월 17일

사단법인 한국원자력학회

