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DESIGN AUTOMATION

Mixed-Type Wafer Failure Pattern Recognition (Invited Paper)

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Introduction

Wafer Defect Inspection

- Technology nodes shrinks, smaller but more complex circuits are etched on wafers
- Recognizing wafer defects is vital



The defect inspection technologies in wafer manufacturing.¹



¹P.-C. Chen et al., "Defect Inspection Techniques in SiC," Nanoscale Research Letters, 2022.



Single-type defect patterns emerge and are coupled and shaped mixed-type patterns



Some wafer map patterns in MixedWM38 benchmark: (a) Center; (b) Scratch; (c) Location; (d) Edge-Location; (e) 2 single-type defects mixed (Center, Scratch); (f) 2 single-type defects mixed (Scratch, Location); (g) 3 single-type defects mixed (Center, Scratch, and Location); (h) 4 single-type defects mixed (Center, Scratch, Location, and Edge-Location).

Wafer Defect Pattern Recognition Flow







Visualizing wafer maps

Recognizing wafer defect patterns by various approaches

reasoning the root cause of defects

The General Wafer Defect Pattern Recognition Flow.

Current Methods For Wafer Defect Pattern Recognition





Shallow Learning-based Recognition Paradigm

Clustering-based Methods





An example of clustering-based method.¹

¹M. B. Alawieh et al., "Identifying wafer-level systematic failure patterns via unsupervised learning," IEEE TCAD, 2017.

Typical Classification-based Methods





An example of typical classification-based method.¹

¹M.-J. Wu et al., "Wafer map failure pattern recognition and similarity ranking for large-scale data sets," IEEE TSM, 2015.

Deep Learning-based Recognition Paradigm





The illustration of the data augmentation and selective wafer defect recognition network.¹

 $^{^1}$ M. B. Alawieh et al., "Wafer map defect patterns classification using deep selective learning," DAC, 2020.





The proposed semi-supervised wafer failure pattern classifier.¹

¹H. Geng et al., "When wafer failure pattern classification meets few-shot learning and self-supervised learning," ICCAD, 2021.





The architecture of the transformer-based defect recognition.

¹Y. Wei et al., "Mixed-type wafer defect recognition with multi-scale information fusion transformer," IEEE TSM, 2022.





(a) An example of pattern-level recognition. ¹ (b) The segmentation example for the wafer defect detection. ²

¹ P. P. Shinde et al., "Wafer defect localization and classification using deep learning techniques," IEEE Access, 2022.

²Y. Kong et al., "Qualitative and quantitative analysis of multi-pattern wafer bin maps," IEEE TSM, 2020.

Conclusion & Future Directions

... ...



- A survey of recent line of arts in wafer failure pattern recognition
- The conflict between the security of wafer information and the development of a learning-based method
- Rethinking deep learning-based algorithms: susceptible to perturbations, prior information incorporation, ...
- Considering extracting and fusing multi-level features from wafer-level to die-level



THANK YOU!