ECE 448
Special Homework Assignment
20 quiz points + 10 quiz bonus points

Deadline: Monday, May 7, 11:59pm (submission using Blackboard)

Task 1

Review web pages of the following two on-line FPGA journals:

1. *Electronic Engineering Journal*
   available on the web @
   [http://www.eejournal.com/design/fpga](http://www.eejournal.com/design/fpga)
   and by e-mail after subscribing @
   [http://www.eejournal.com/subscribe](http://www.eejournal.com/subscribe)

2. *Xcell Journal*
   available for FREE on line @

Additionally, review web pages of two emerging start-ups:

3. Achronix Semiconductor Corp.
   [http://www.achronix.com](http://www.achronix.com)

4. Tabula
   [http://tabula.com](http://tabula.com)

Locate in these journals any articles describing:

- Achronix Speedster22i HD FPGAs
- Tabula ABAX 3PLDs
- Xilinx Virtex 7 FPGAs.
**Task 2**

A. Create one or more tables summarizing major differences (at least 10) among the three aforementioned product families. Supplement your tables with the list of all abbreviations you have used, including their full meaning.

B. Create a list of 5 most important features that are likely to affect the designers’ choice of the most appropriate FPGA family for applications in communications and networking. Explain shortly the importance of each feature.

**Task 3 bonus**

Write a short essay describing (in your own words) which of the two emerging competitors, Achronix or Tabula, has a greater chance of competing successfully with Xilinx, and why?

Provide a list of all references you have used.
For journal articles, please provide: list of authors, article title, journal name, and publication date.
For web sites please provide: title, url, and access date.