

Queens College, CUNY, Department of Computer Science
Software Engineering
CSCI 370
Fall 2018

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due Sunday Nov 18, 2018

Submission info

- Submit your report in a zip archive with the following name.
StudentId_first_last_CS370_Assignment4.zip
- Include one text file per question, acceptable file formats are txt/pdf/docx.
- **Every student must submit an individual report, even if he/she is in a team.**

1 Pentium FDIV bug

- **Write a report on the Pentium FDIV bug.**
- This is admittedly a hardware bug, not software. “FDIV” means floating-point division.
- However, the real lesson is about customer relations and business management when bugs are discovered in a widely delivered product.
- It was top tech news in 1994. There were all sorts of cartoons. Some pointers:
 1. Wikipedia article.
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pentium_FDIV_bug
 2. This is a nice commentary. It includes the note by Thomas Nicely, who found the bug.
<https://courses.cs.washington.edu/courses/cse378/05au/lec378au05-23.pdf>
 3. This is by Cleve Moler, the founder of MATLAB.
<https://blogs.mathworks.com/cleve/2013/05/13/pentium-division-bug-affair/>
- **Explain the bug and how it was found.**
- **Describe the response by INTEL and the public reaction.**
- **Write a commentary of your own about the importance of honesty and good customer relations when customers report problems in a product you have sold.**
- **Find additional articles (not just the three listed above).**
Newspaper articles? Tech blogs?
- **State the sources of your information.**