

DY Fuzzing: Formal Dolev-Yao Models Meet Protocol Fuzz Testing

Lucca Hirschi, Inria Nancy

June 28th 2023 @ JN GDR Sécurité, Paris

joint work with Steve Kremer and Max Ammann

Secure Cryptographic Protocols

Cryptographic Protocols

Informal definition

concurrent program relying on **cryptography**
to **secure** communications

Examples: TLS, EMV (credit cards), RFID, e-voting, mobile com., etc.

Cryptographic Protocols

Informal definition

concurrent program relying on **cryptography**
to **secure** communications

Examples: TLS, EMV (credit cards), RFID, e-voting, mobile com., etc.

- **Notoriously difficult to design and deploy securely**
- **Loads of failure stories: attacks, fixes, attacks, fixes, attacks, etc.**

Cryptographic Protocols

Informal definition

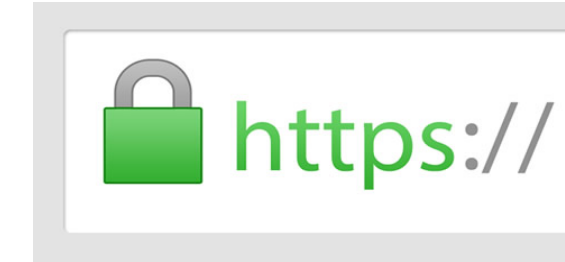
concurrent program relying on **cryptography**
to **secure** communications

Examples: TLS, EMV (credit cards), RFID, e-voting, mobile com., etc.

- **Notoriously difficult to design and deploy securely**
- **Loads of failure stories: attacks, fixes, attacks, fixes, attacks, etc.**

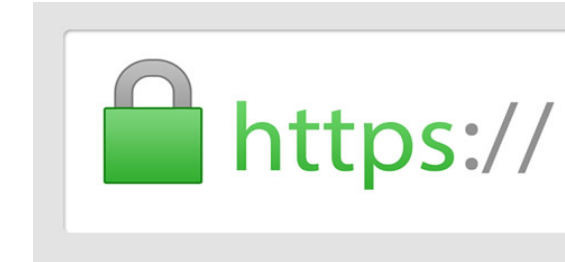
👉 What can we do today to avoid such failures in the future?

Retrospective of TLS Failures



2014-2022

Retrospective of TLS Failures



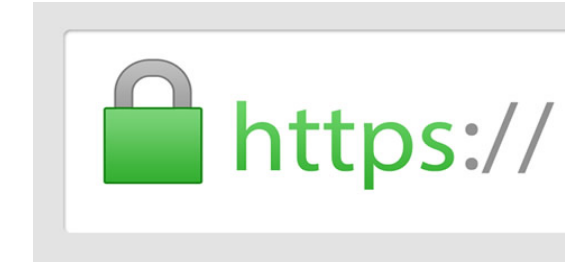
2014-2022

HeartBleed

Apple's GotoFail

CloudBleed

Retrospective of TLS Failures



2014-2022

HeartBleed

Apple's GotoFail

CVE-2022-25640

FREAK

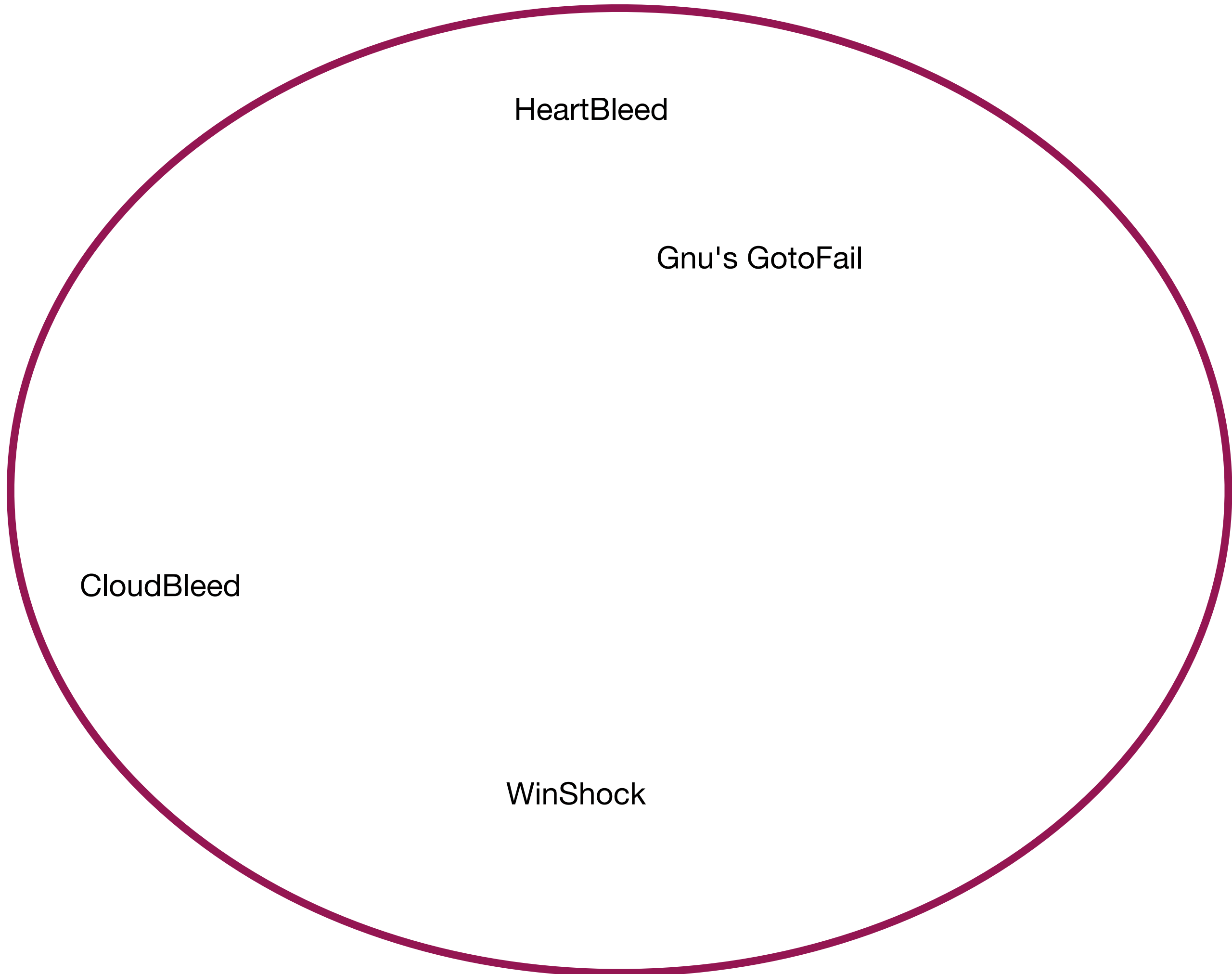
CloudBleed

3SHAKE

Retrospective of TLS Failures



2014-2022



HeartBleed

Gnu's GotoFail

CloudBleed

WinShock

Spatial and temporal memory bugs
(e.g., buffer-overflow)

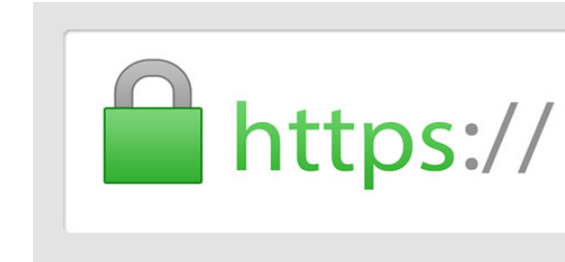
Apple's GotoFail

CVE-2022-25640

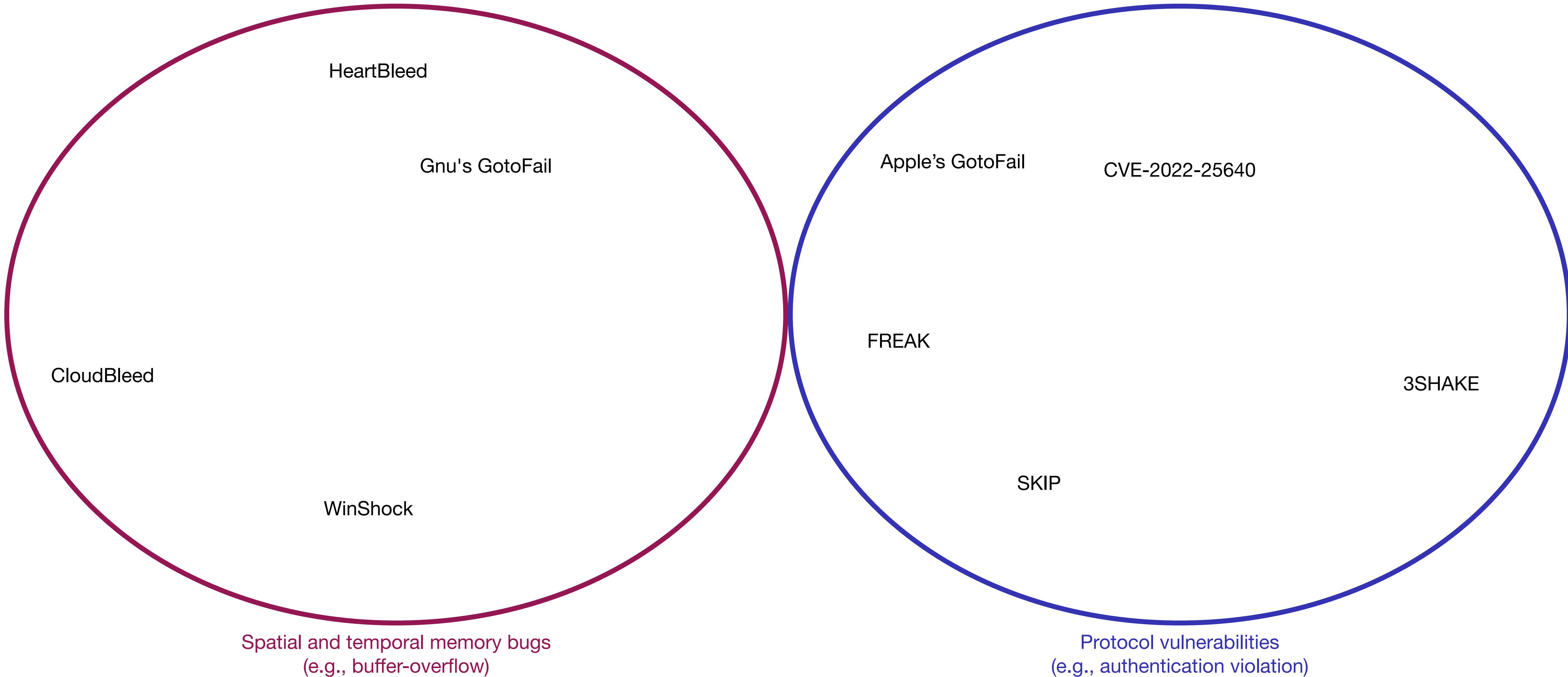
FREAK

3SHAKE

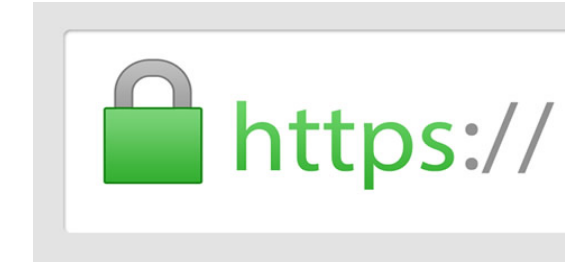
Retrospective of TLS Failures



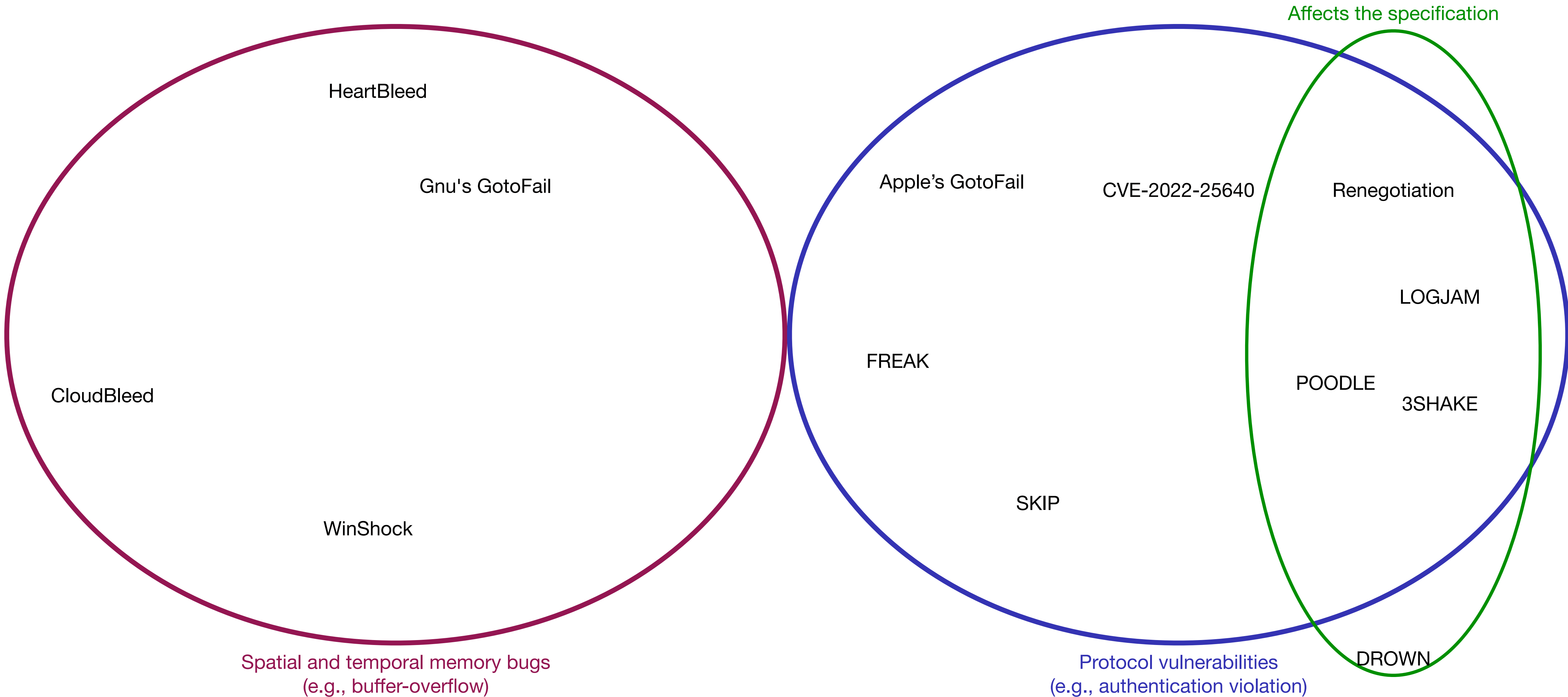
2014-2022



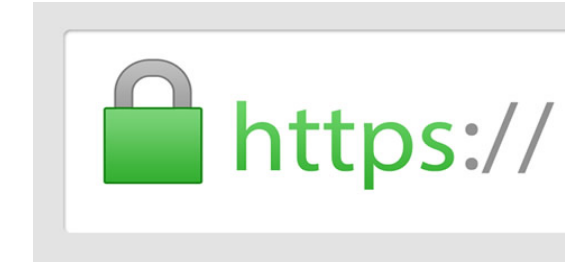
Retrospective of TLS Failures



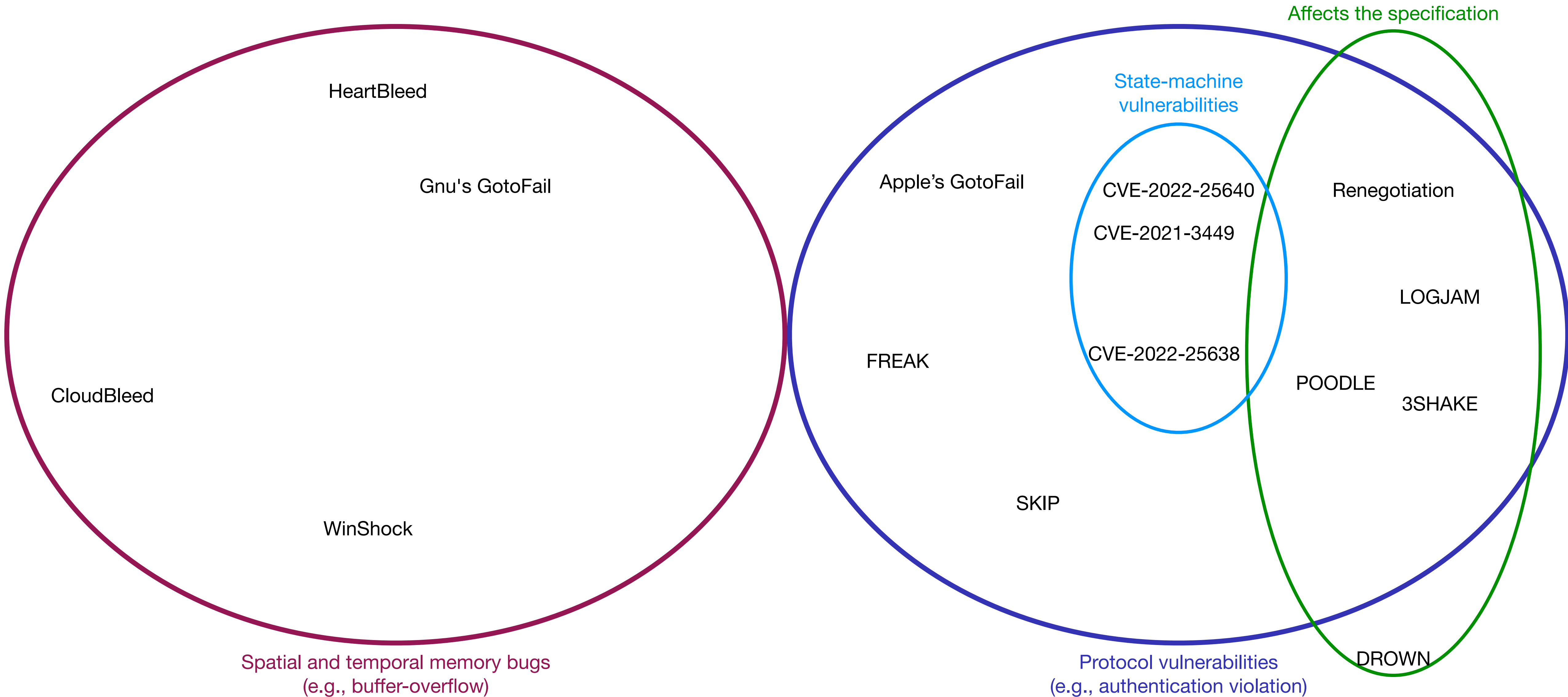
2014-2022



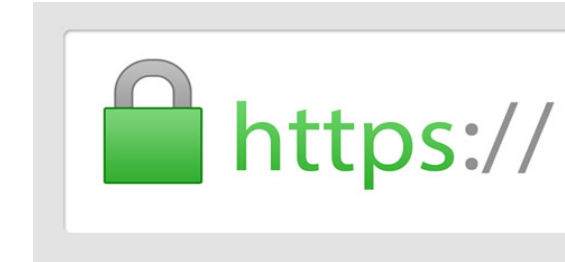
Retrospective of TLS Failures



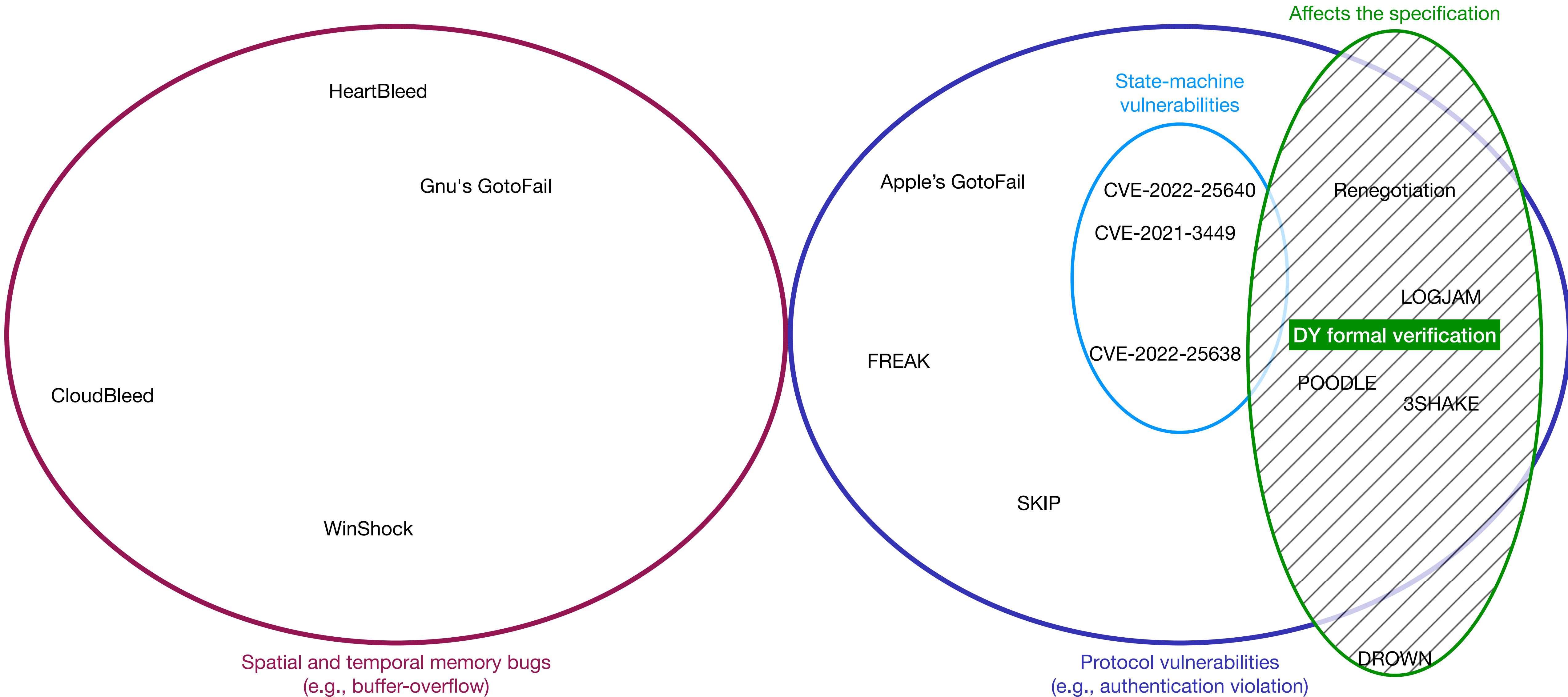
2014-2022



Retrospective of TLS Failures



2014-2022



Dolev-Yao Formal Verification

Dolev-Yao Formal Verification

- Formal models for analyzing cryptographic protocols (e.g., applied- π calculus)

Dolev-Yao Formal Verification

- **Formal models for analyzing** cryptographic protocols (e.g., applied- π calculus)
- **Threat model:**
 - i. active adversary controlling the network (**intercept, modify, inject**)
 - ii. is able to **use cryptography**
 - iii. cryptography as **black-box** (attacker's interface = functionality)

Dolev-Yao Formal Verification

- **Formal models for analyzing** cryptographic protocols (e.g., applied- π calculus)
- **Threat model:**
 - i. active adversary controlling the network (**intercept, modify, inject**)
 - ii. is able to **use cryptography**
 - iii. cryptography as **black-box** (attacker's interface = functionality)
- **« Messages as formal terms »** paradigm:

E.g., symmetric encryption:

 - **function symbols** $\text{enc}/2$, $\text{dec}/2$ and
 - **equation** $\text{dec}(\text{enc}(m,k),k) = m$

Dolev-Yao Formal Verification

- **Formal models for analyzing** cryptographic protocols (e.g., applied- π calculus)

- **Threat model:**

- i. active adversary controlling the network (**intercept, modify, inject**)
- ii. is able to **use cryptography**
- iii. cryptography as **black-box** (attacker's interface = functionality)

- « **Messages as formal terms** » paradigm:

E.g., symmetric encryption:

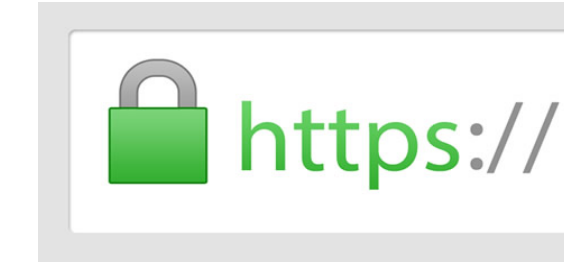
- **function symbols** $enc/2$, $dec/2$ and
- **equation** $dec(enc(m,k),k) = m$

👉 **Find or prove the absence of design-level logical attacks** since the 80s

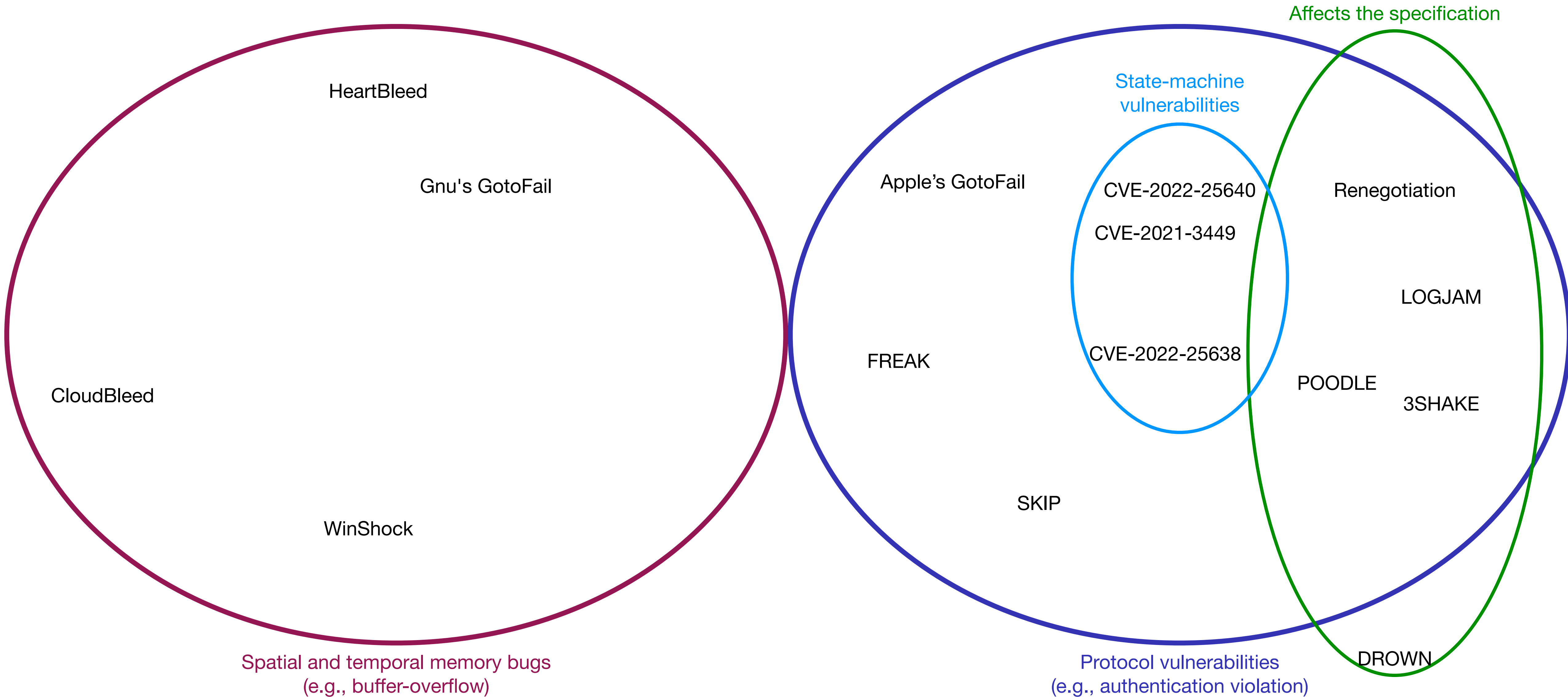
E.g., **MITM**, **downgrade**, **impersonation**, authentication bypass, Unknown Key-Share (UKS), Key Compromise Impersonation (KCI), **cross-protocol**, and protocol composition attacks, etc.

👉 **Limited to specifications, existing implementations are out of scope (e.g., OpenSSL)**

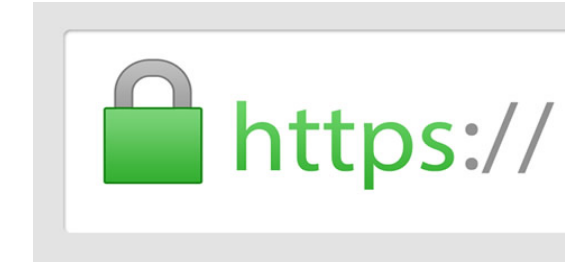
Retrospective of TLS Failures



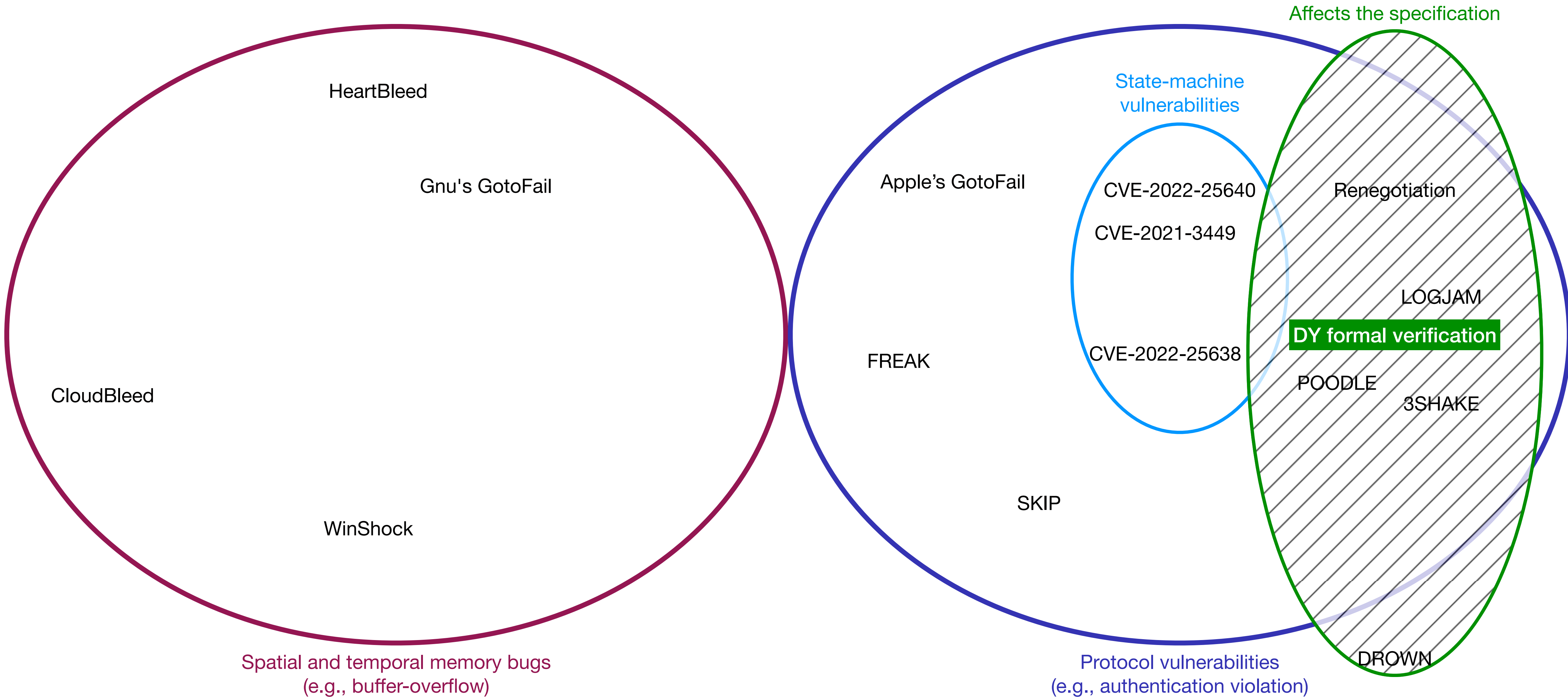
2014-2022



Retrospective of TLS Failures



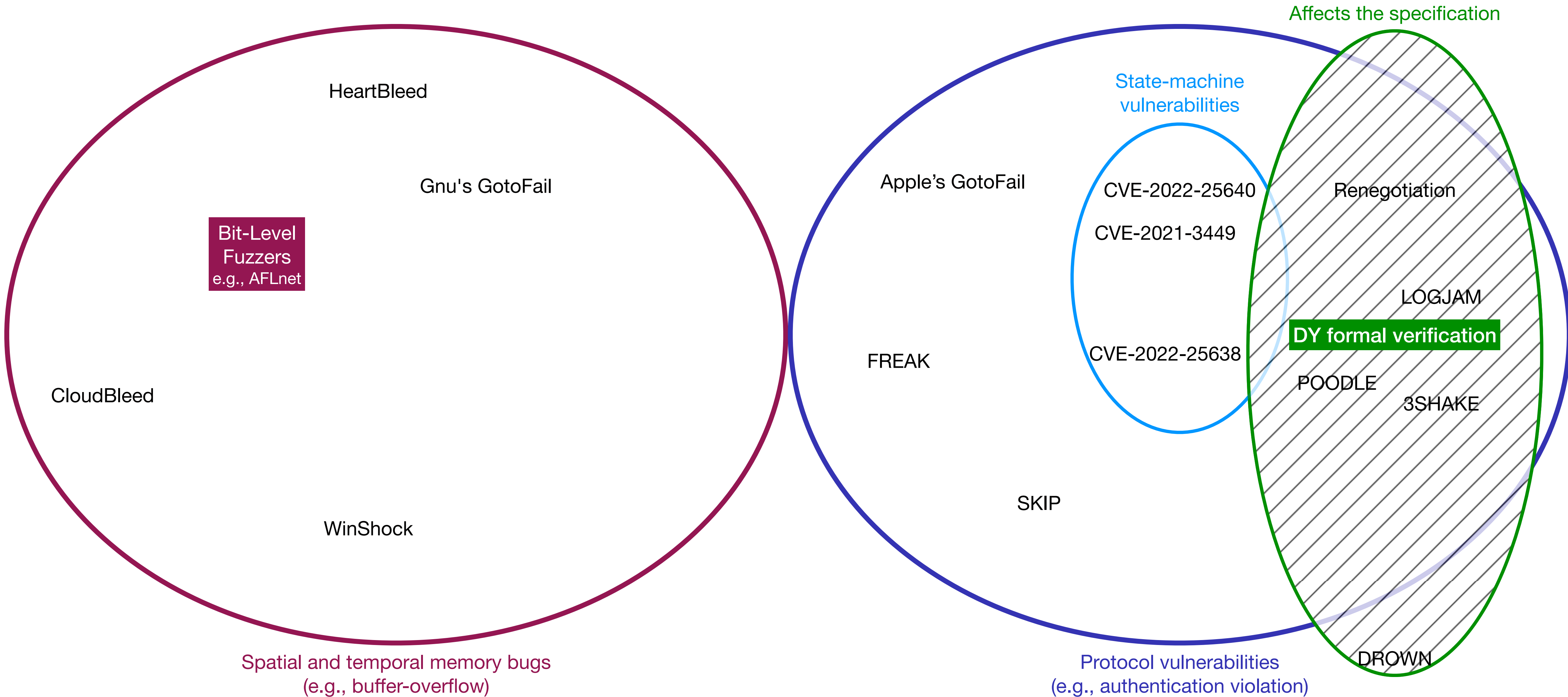
2014-2022



Retrospective of TLS Failures



2014-2022

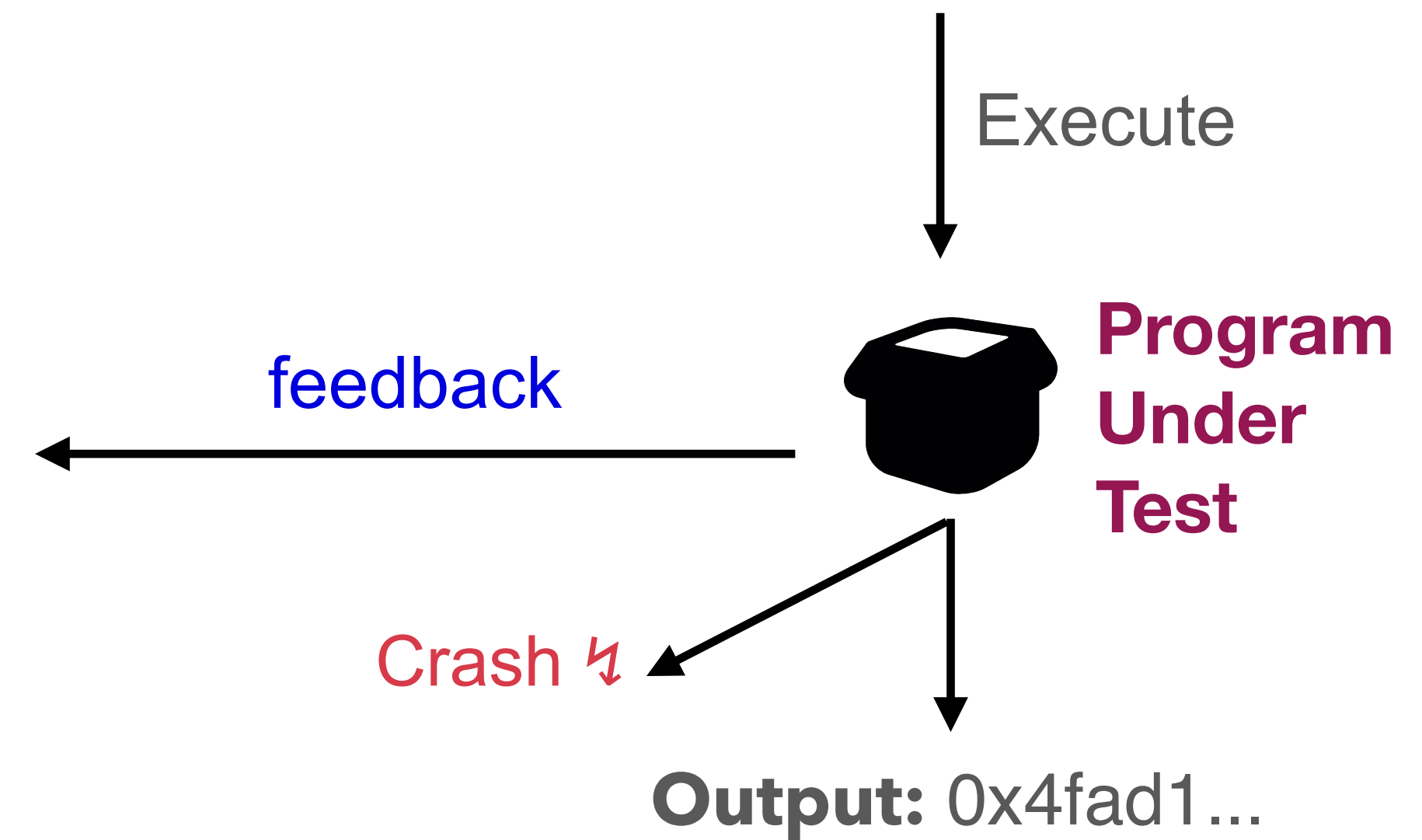


Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

Fuzzing:

- Instrument the PUT to record **feedback**

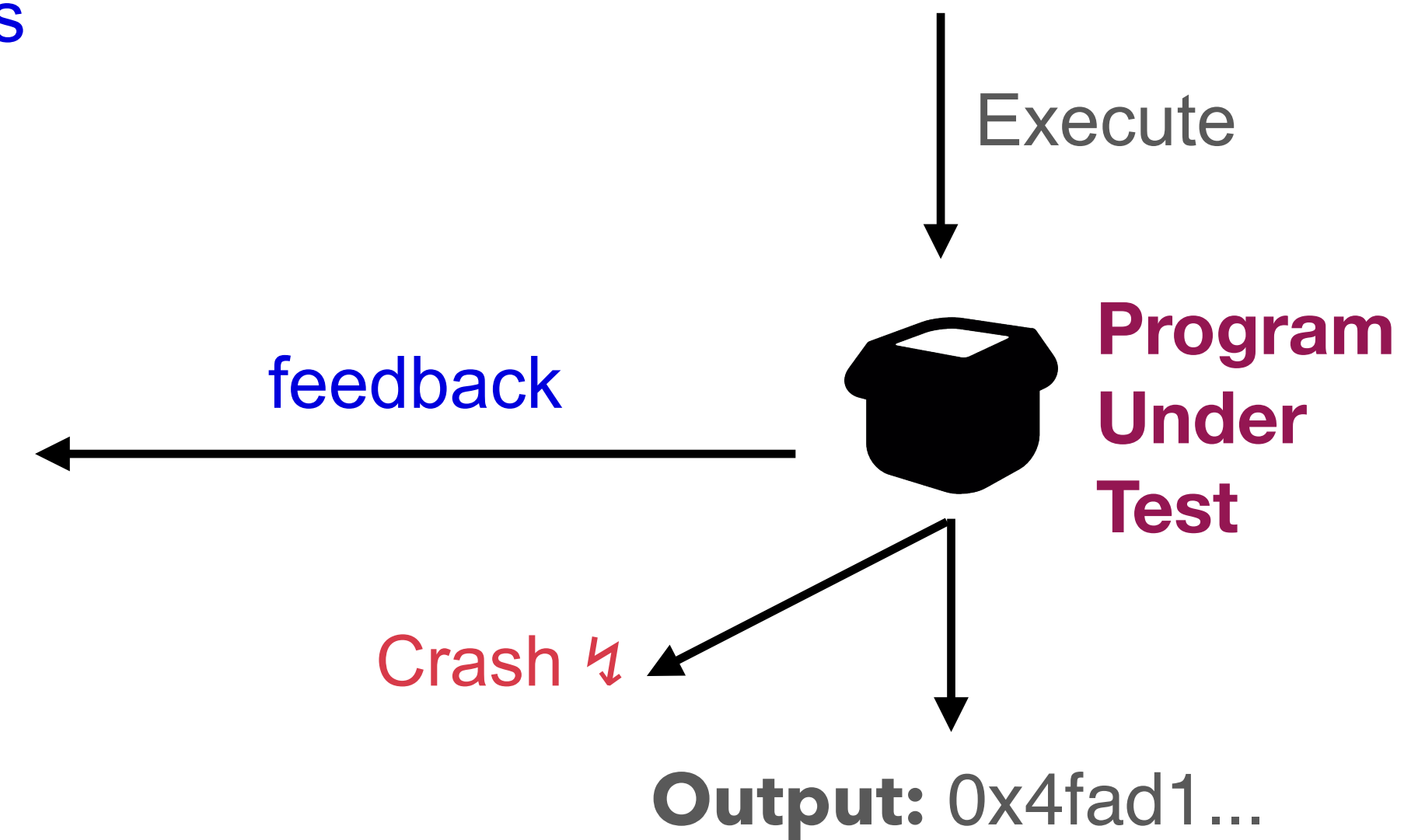


Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

Fuzzing:

- Instrument the PUT to record **feedback**
- Store a **corpus of test-cases**

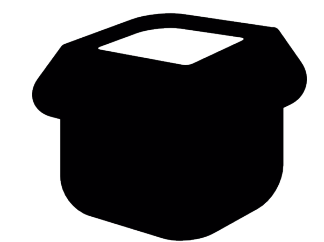
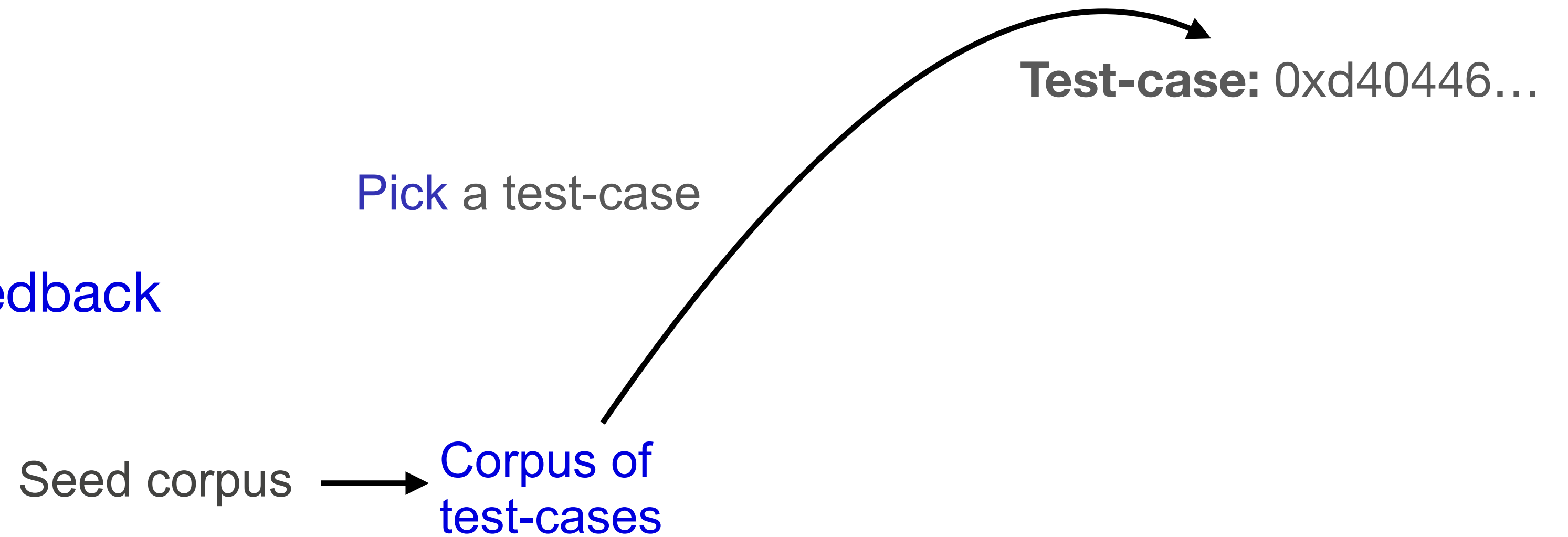
Seed corpus → Corpus of test-cases



Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

Fuzzing:

- Instrument the PUT to record **feedback**
- Store a **corpus of test-cases**
- Fuzzing loop: while true do
 - **Pick** a test-case

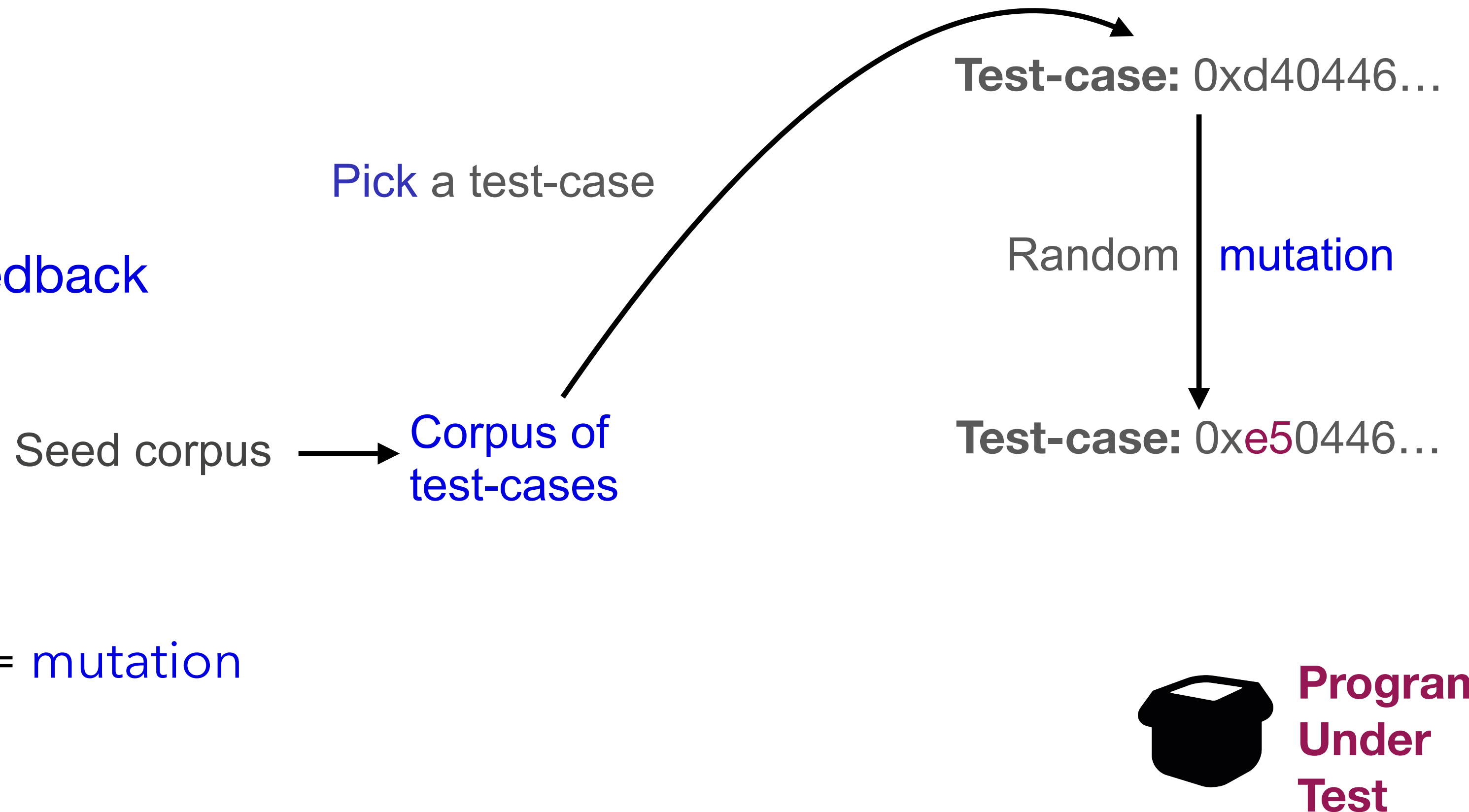


**Program
Under
Test**

Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

Fuzzing:

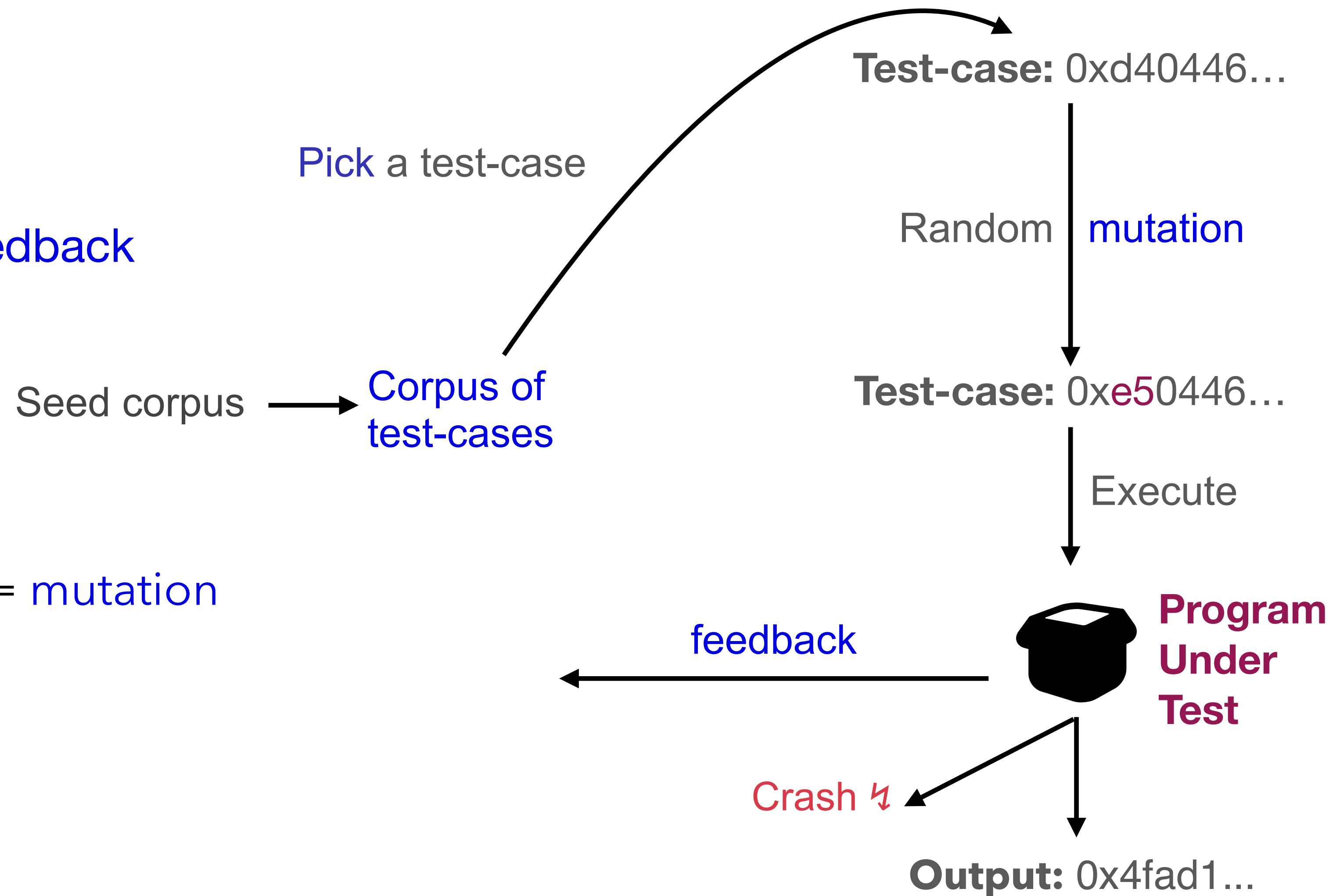
- Instrument the PUT to record **feedback**
- Store a **corpus of test-cases**
- Fuzzing loop: while true do
 - **Pick** a test-case
 - Apply random transformation = **mutation**



Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

Fuzzing:

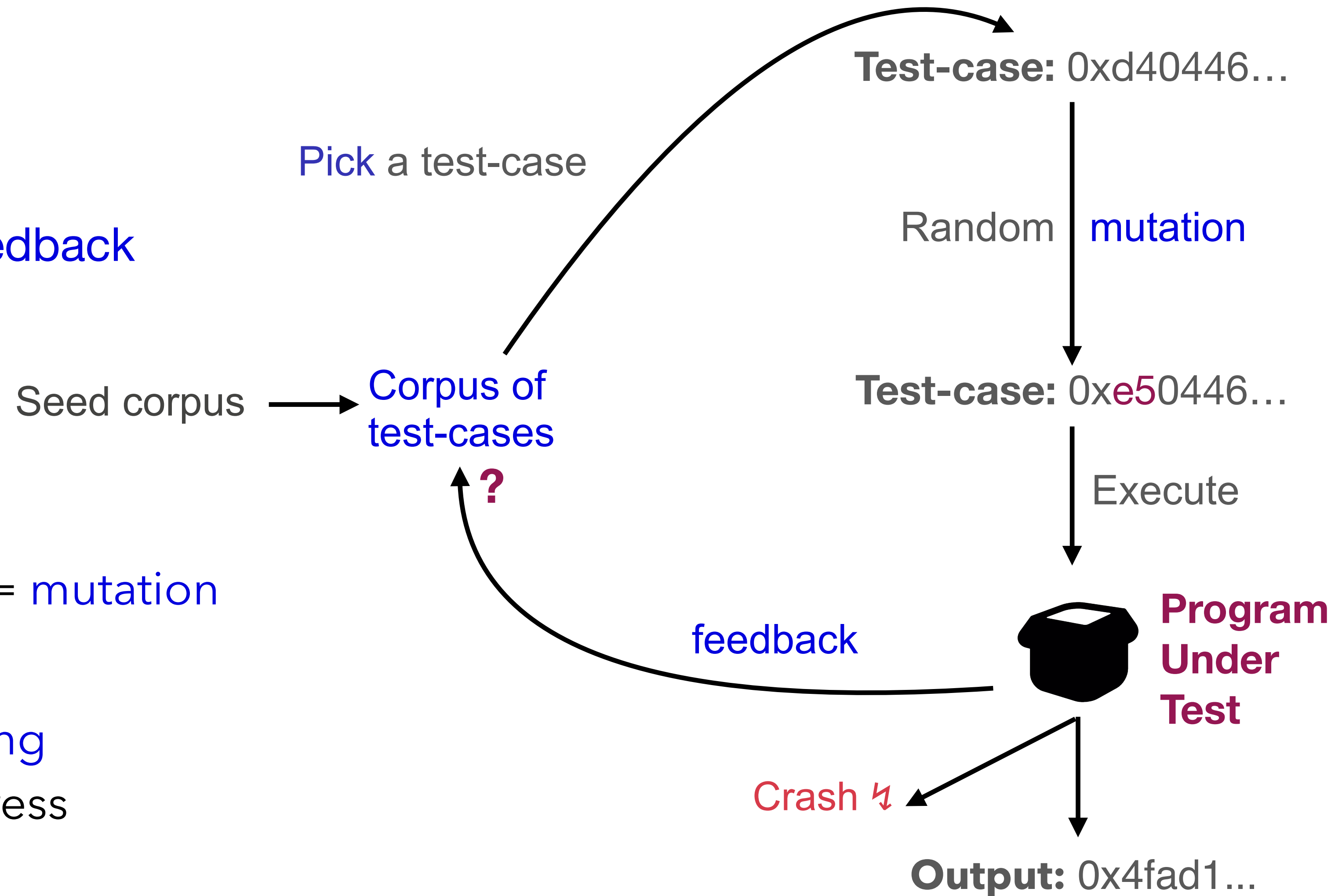
- Instrument the PUT to record **feedback**
- Store a **corpus of test-cases**
- Fuzzing loop: while true do
 - **Pick** a test-case
 - Apply random transformation = **mutation**
 - Execute + **collect feedback**



Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

Fuzzing:

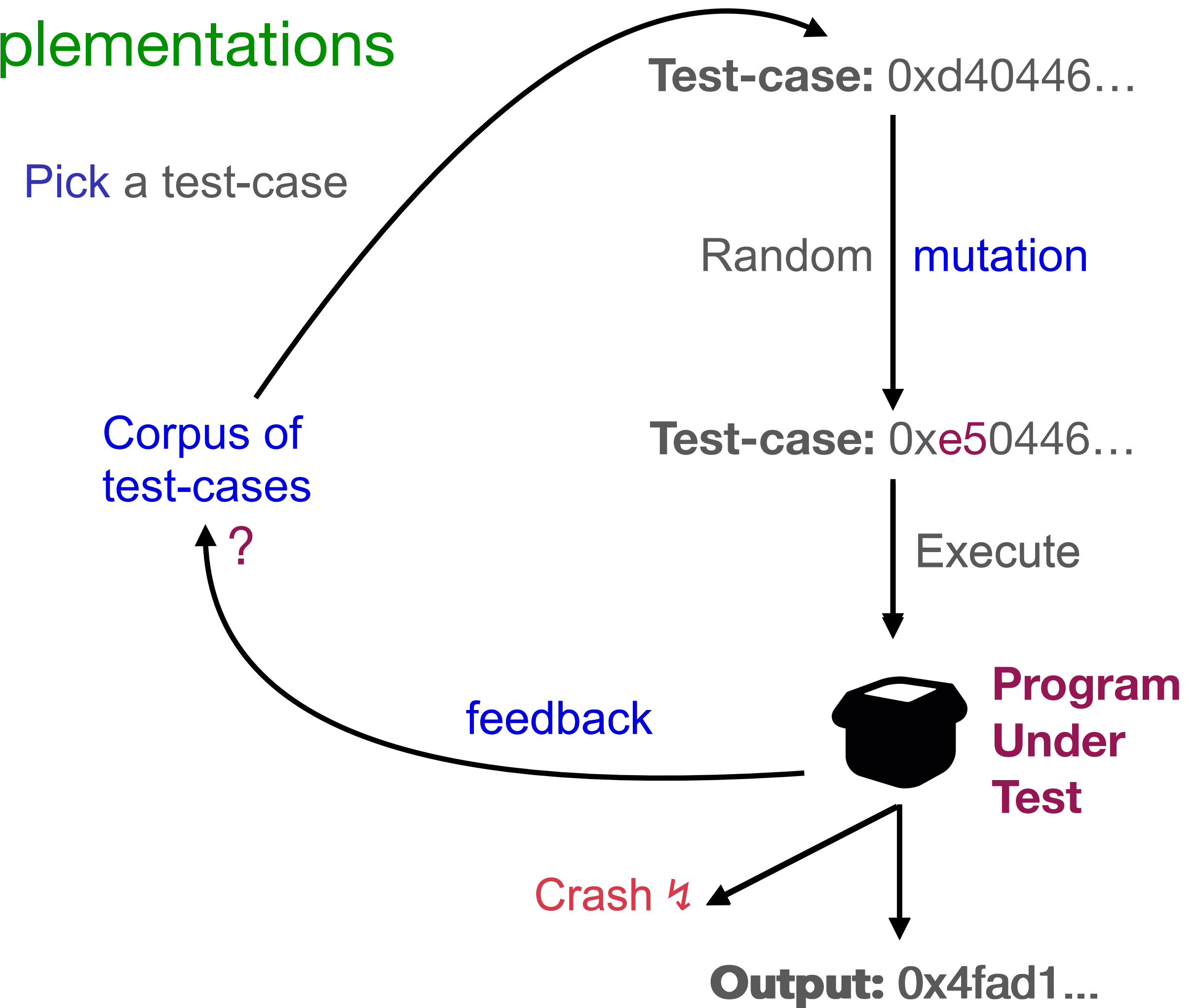
- Instrument the PUT to record **feedback**
- Store a **corpus of test-cases**
- Fuzzing loop: while true do
 - **Pick** a test-case
 - Apply random transformation = **mutation**
 - Execute + **collect feedback**
 - Add it to the corpus **if interesting** according to feedback = progress (e.g., new coverage)



Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

👉 Finds memory/crash vulnerabilities in implementations

E.g., buffer-overflow, use after free, RCE, etc.



Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

👉 Finds memory/crash vulnerabilities in implementations

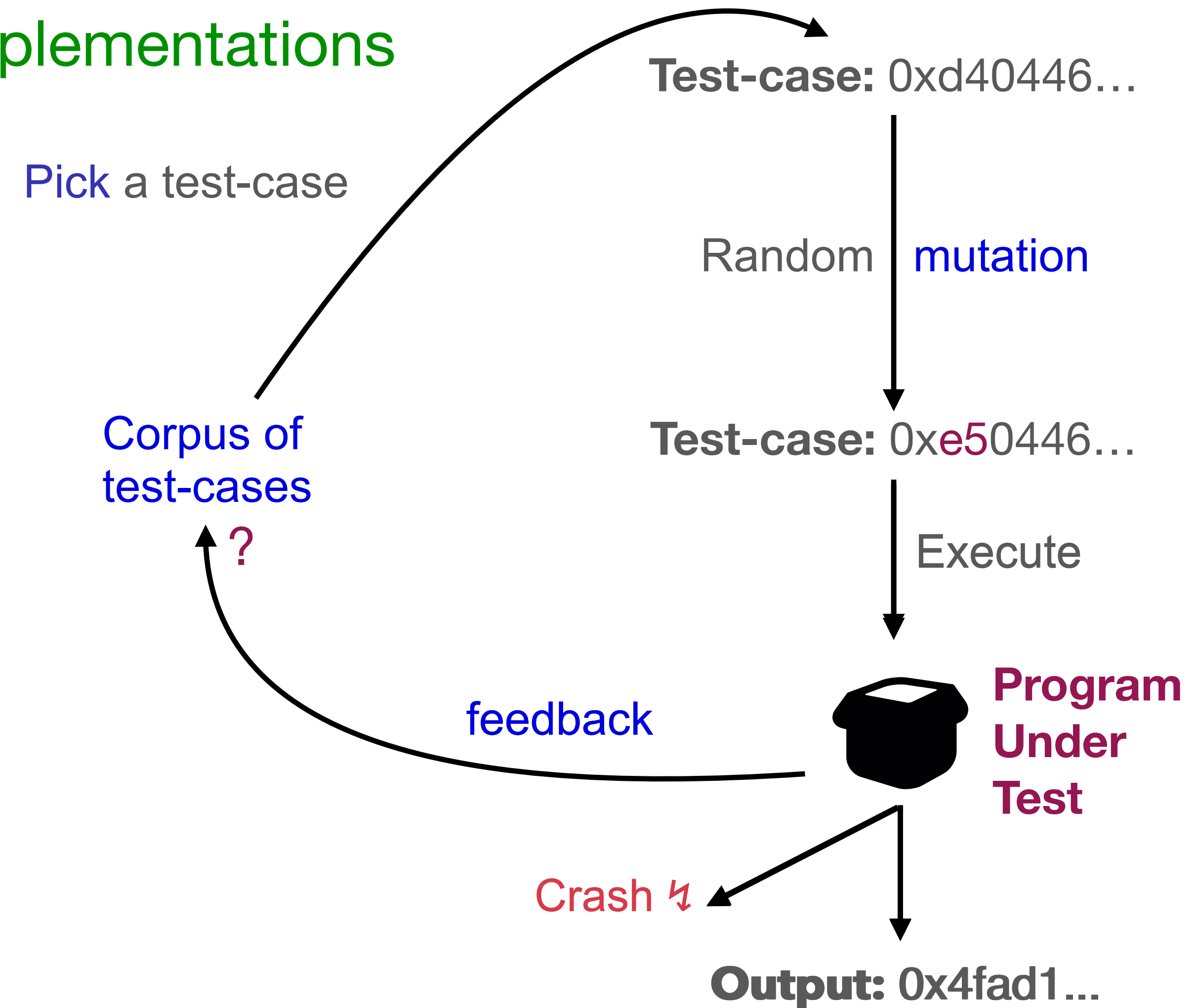
E.g., buffer-overflow, use after free, RCE, etc.

👉 Logical attack states are not reached
👉 miss some memory vulnerabilities

structural message modification:

e.g., negligible probability of finding a valid encryption through mutations

message flow modification



Bit-level fuzzing (AFL-like)

👉 Finds memory/crash vulnerabilities in implementations

E.g., buffer-overflow, use after free, RCE, etc.

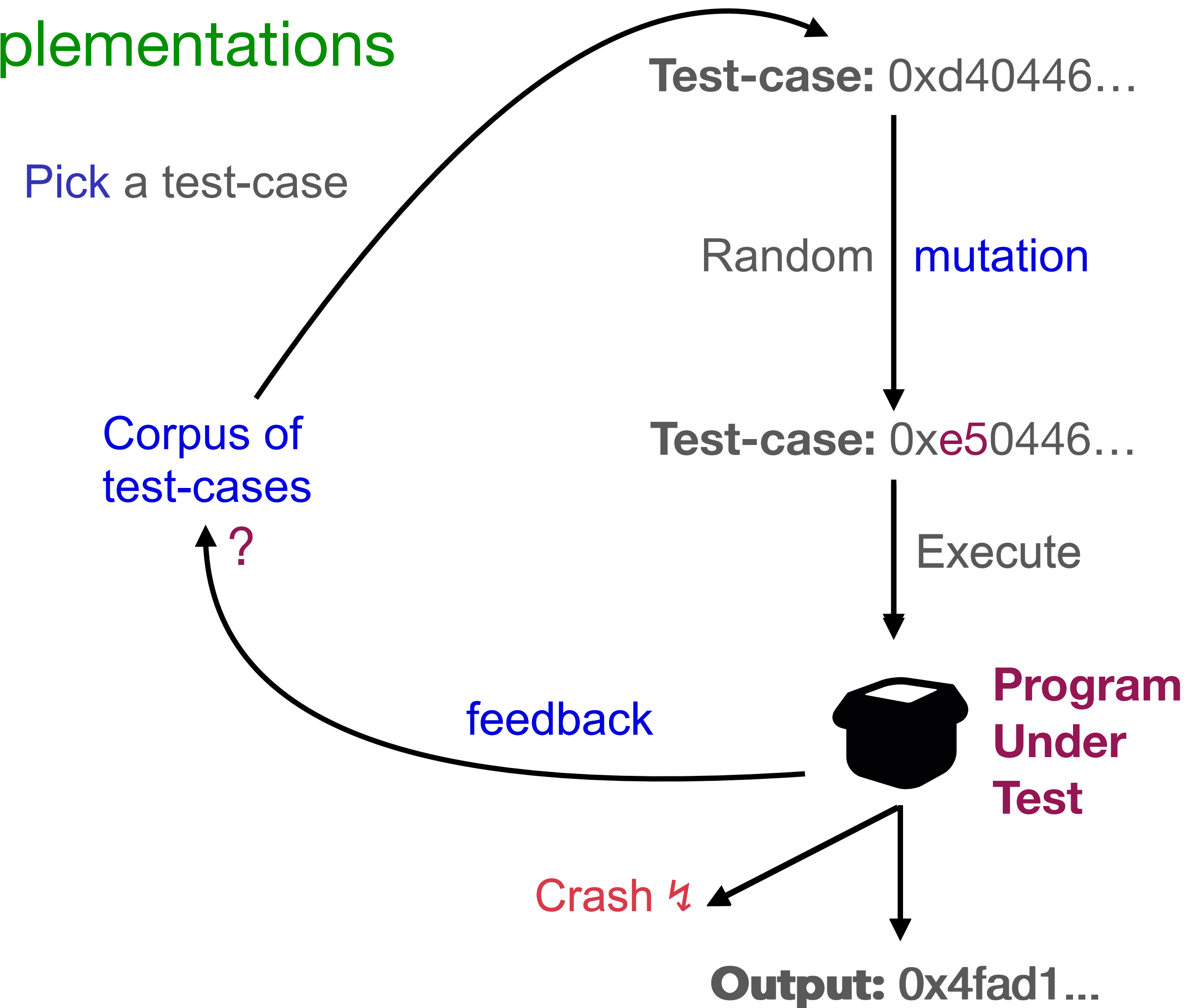
👉 Logical attack states are not reached
👉 miss some memory vulnerabilities

structural message modification:

e.g., negligible probability of finding a valid encryption through mutations

message flow modification

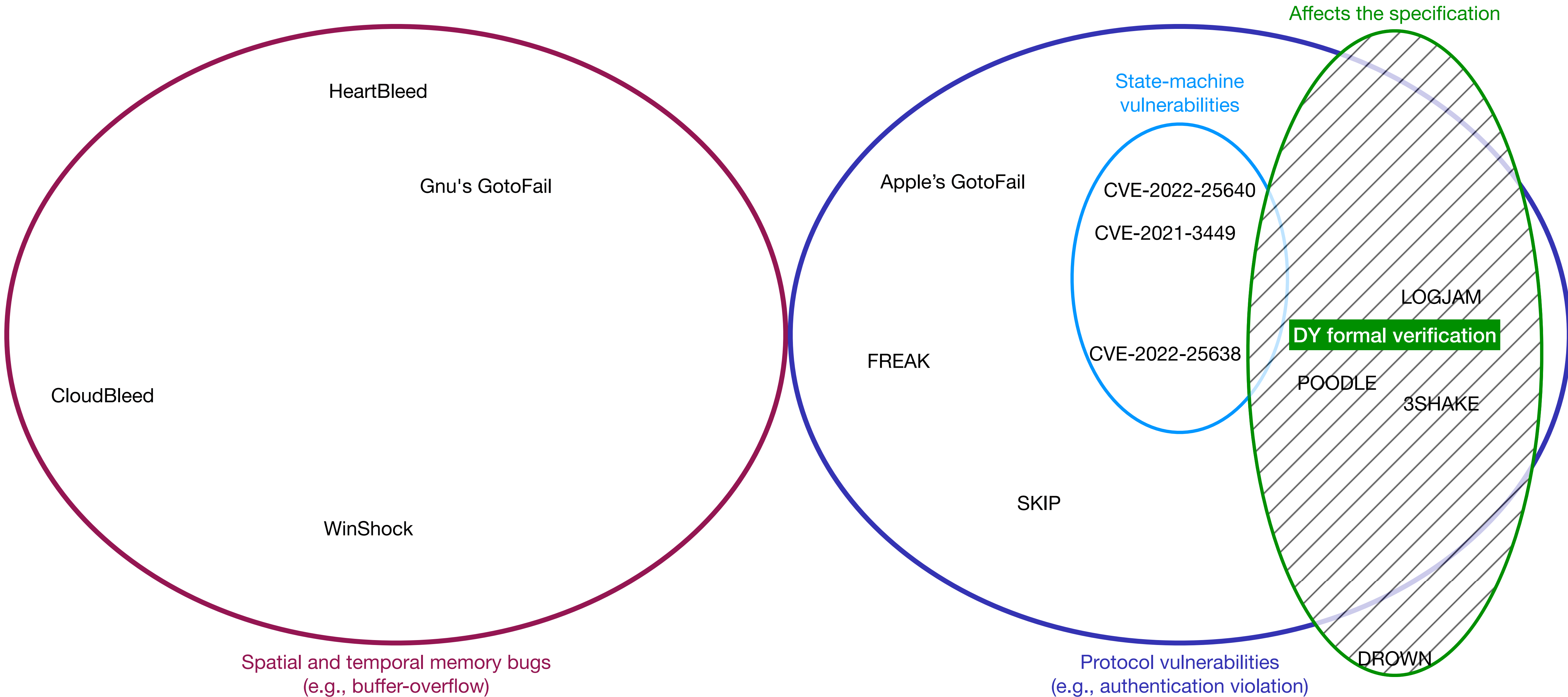
👉 Protocol vulnerabilities are not detected
e.g., authentication bypass (no crash)



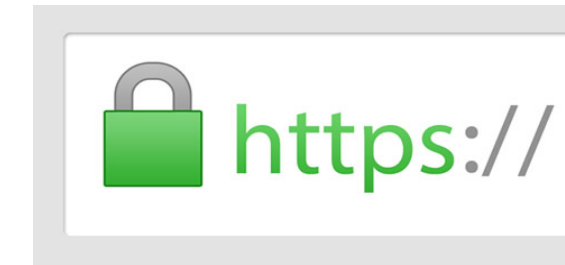
Retrospective of TLS Failures



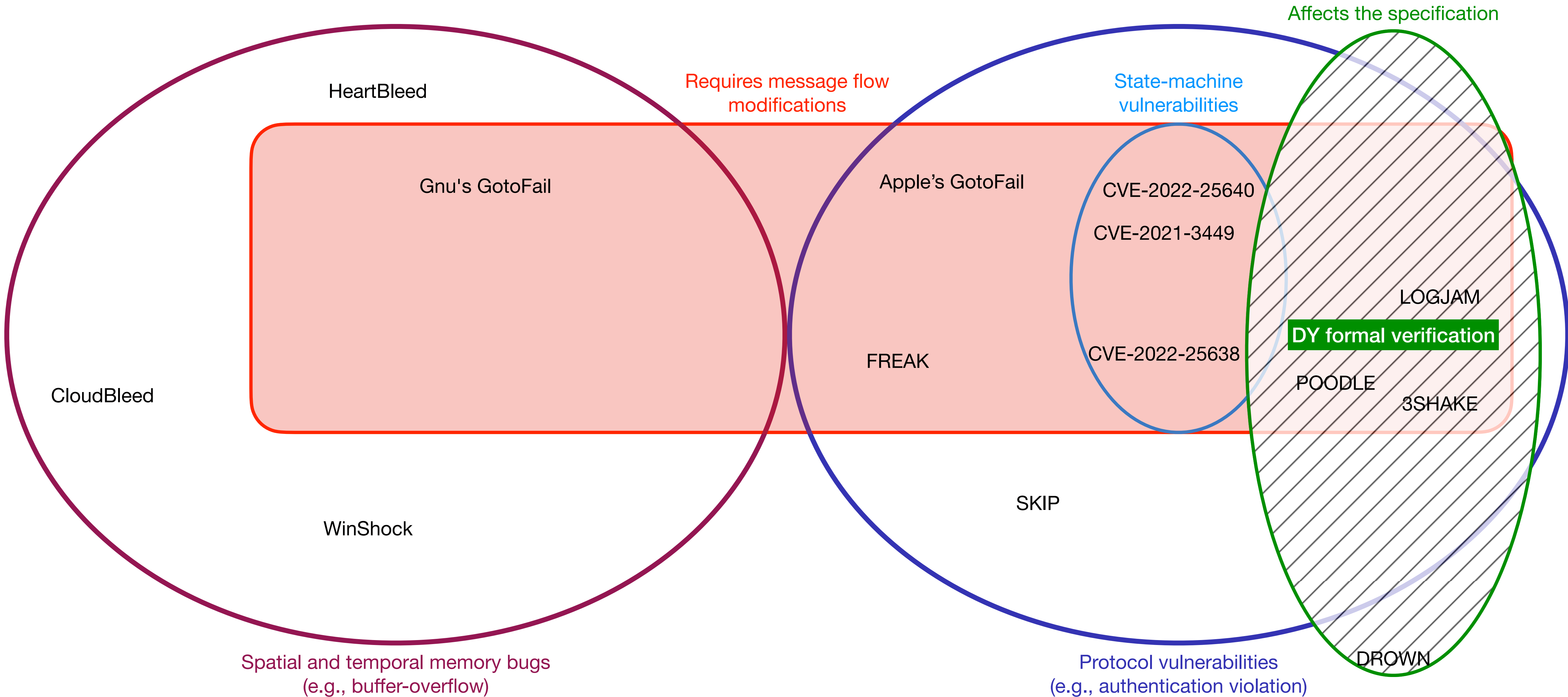
2014-2022



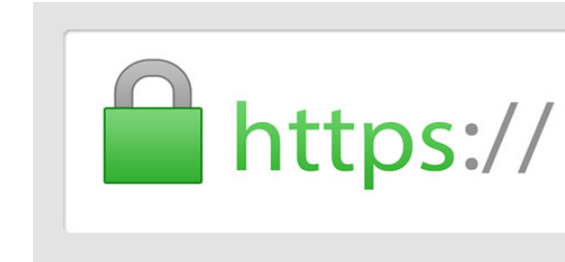
Retrospective of TLS Failures



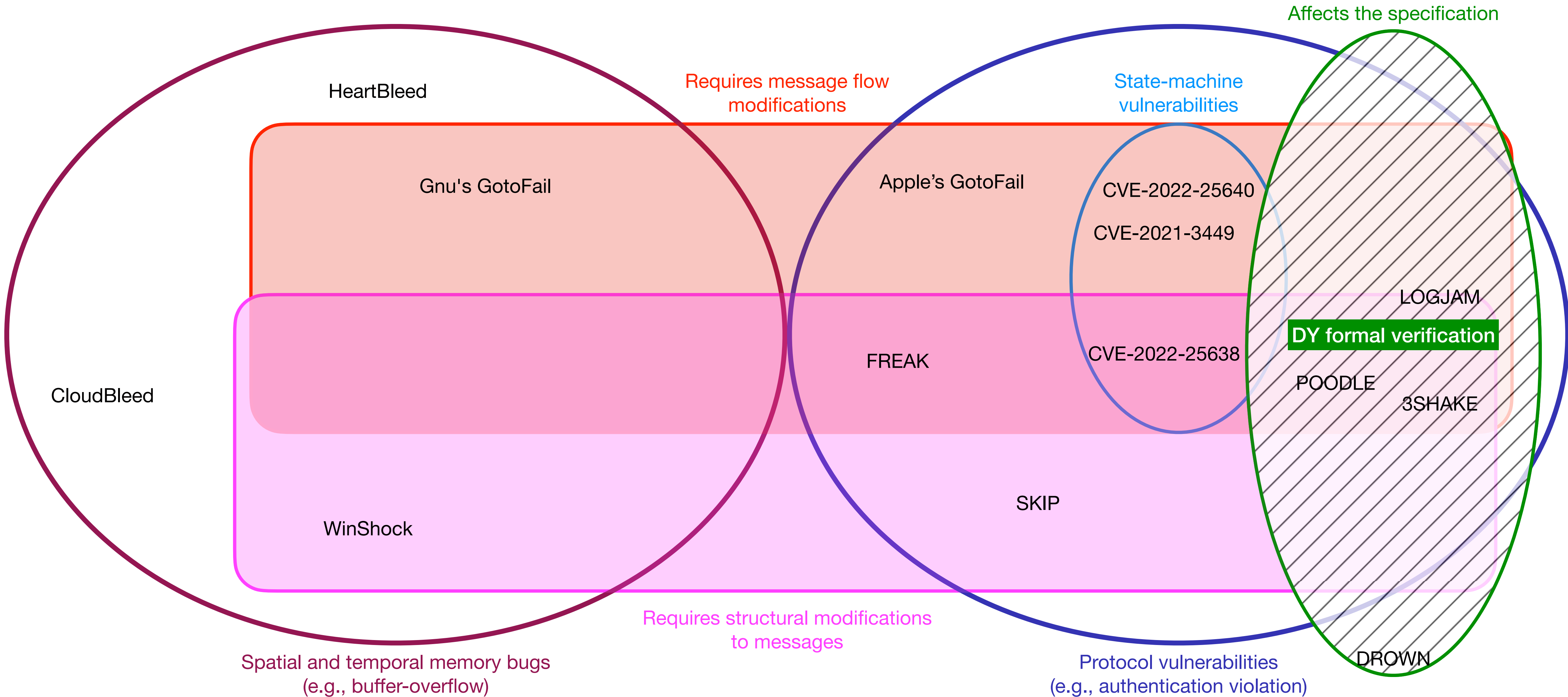
2014-2022



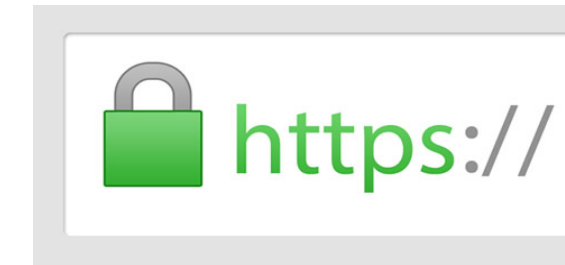
Retrospective of TLS Failures



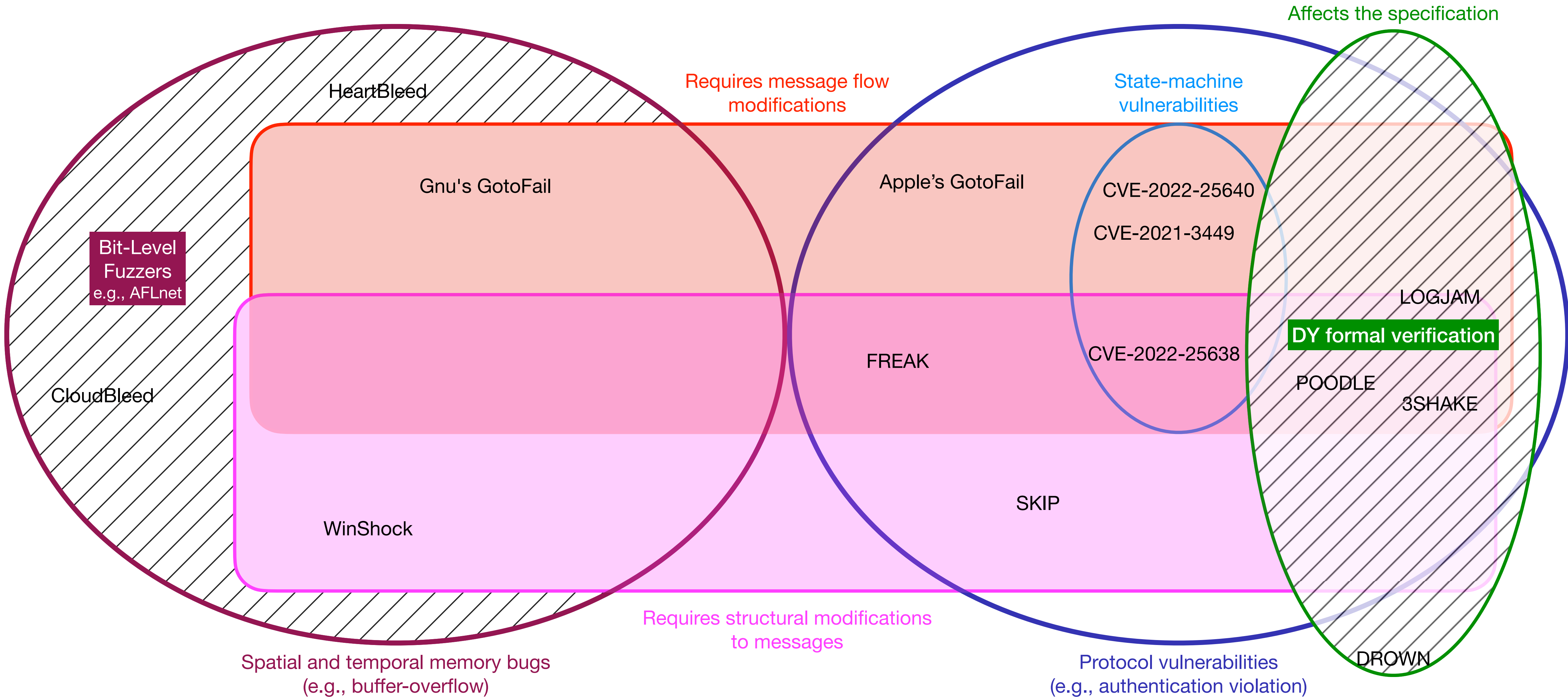
2014-2022



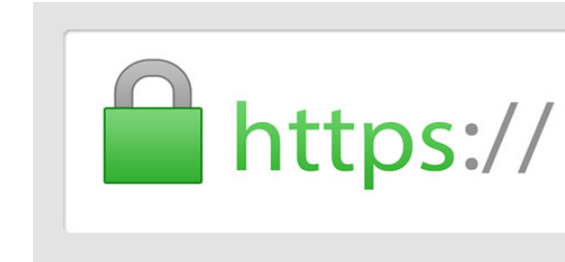
Retrospective of TLS Failures



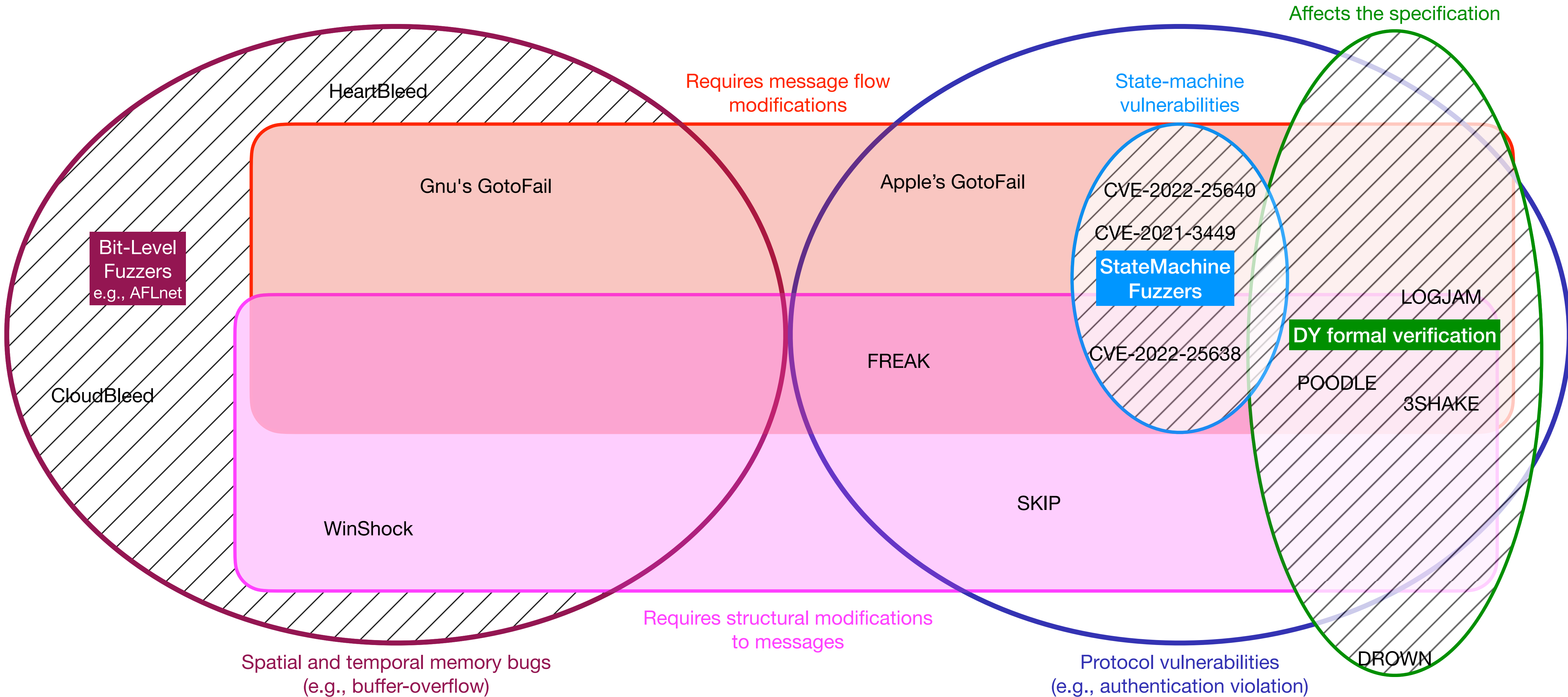
2014-2022



Retrospective of TLS Failures



2014-2022



State-Machine-based Fuzzers

State-Machine-based Fuzzers

- State-machine fuzzers/learners where:
 - **Input state** = state-machine model: e.g., finite alphabet, automaton
 - **Test-case** = series of actions (from alphabet), e.g., ClientHello, ServerHello

State-Machine-based Fuzzers

- State-machine fuzzers/learners where:
 - **Input state** = state-machine model: e.g., finite alphabet, automaton
 - **Test-case** = series of actions (from alphabet), e.g., ClientHello, ServerHello
- + Captures protocol vulnerabilities corresponding to state-machine violations in implementations, e.g., [22-25640] SkipVerify (auth. bypass with CertInfo but wo/ Cert)

State-Machine-based Fuzzers

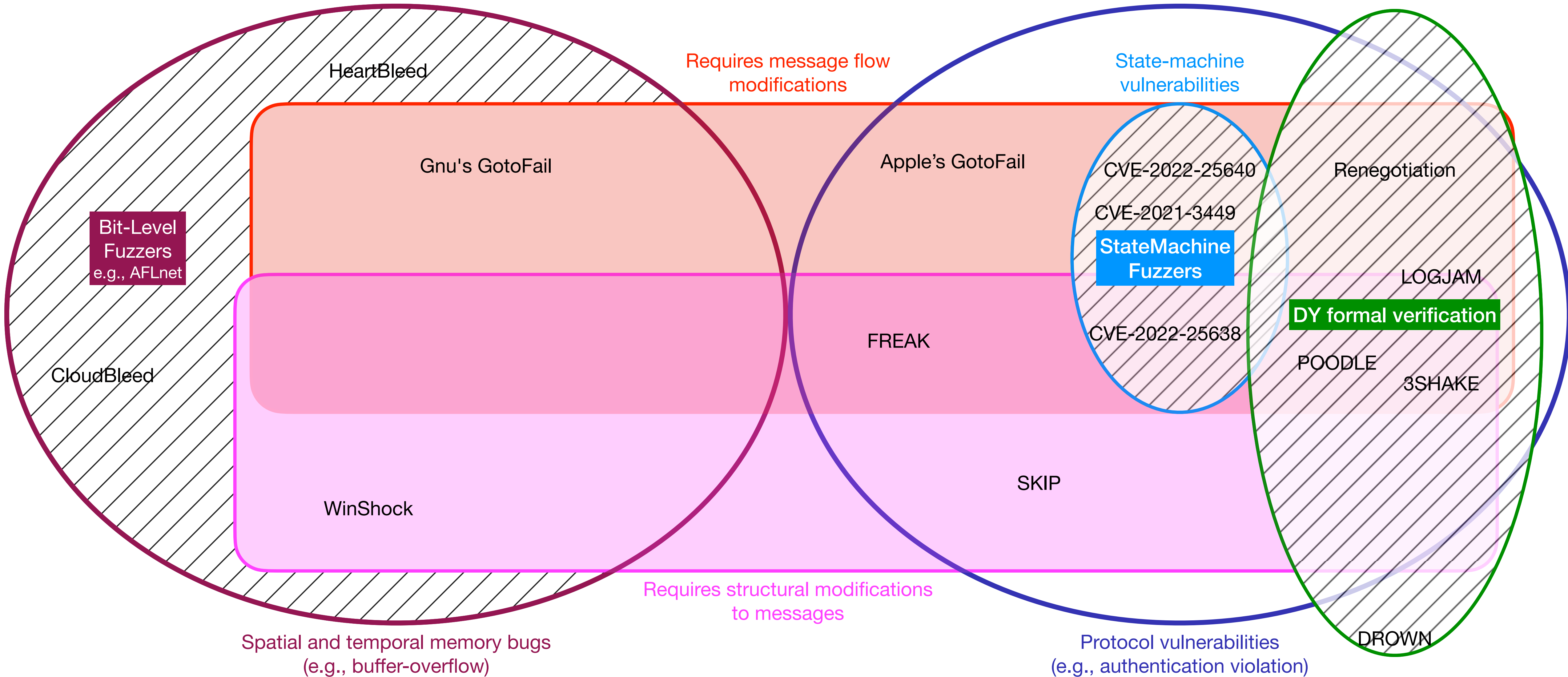
- State-machine fuzzers/learners where:
 - **Input state** = state-machine model: e.g., finite alphabet, automaton
 - **Test-case** = series of actions (from alphabet), e.g., ClientHello, ServerHello
- + **Captures protocol vulnerabilities corresponding to state-machine violations in implementations**, e.g., [22-25640] SkipVerify (auth. bypass with CertInfo but wo/ Cert)
- **Reachability**: no (structural) message modifications (except finite built-in mods)
 - 👉 does not capture the class of logical attacks
- **Detection**: manual+incomplete vulnerability detections (memory/protocol vulns)

Retrospective of TLS Failures

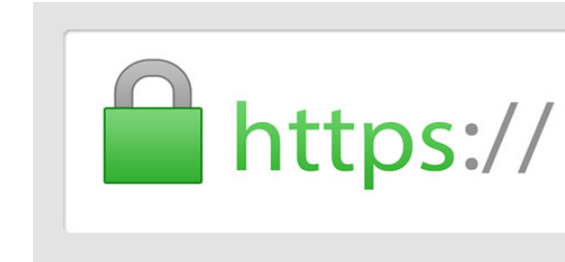


2014-2022

Affects the specification

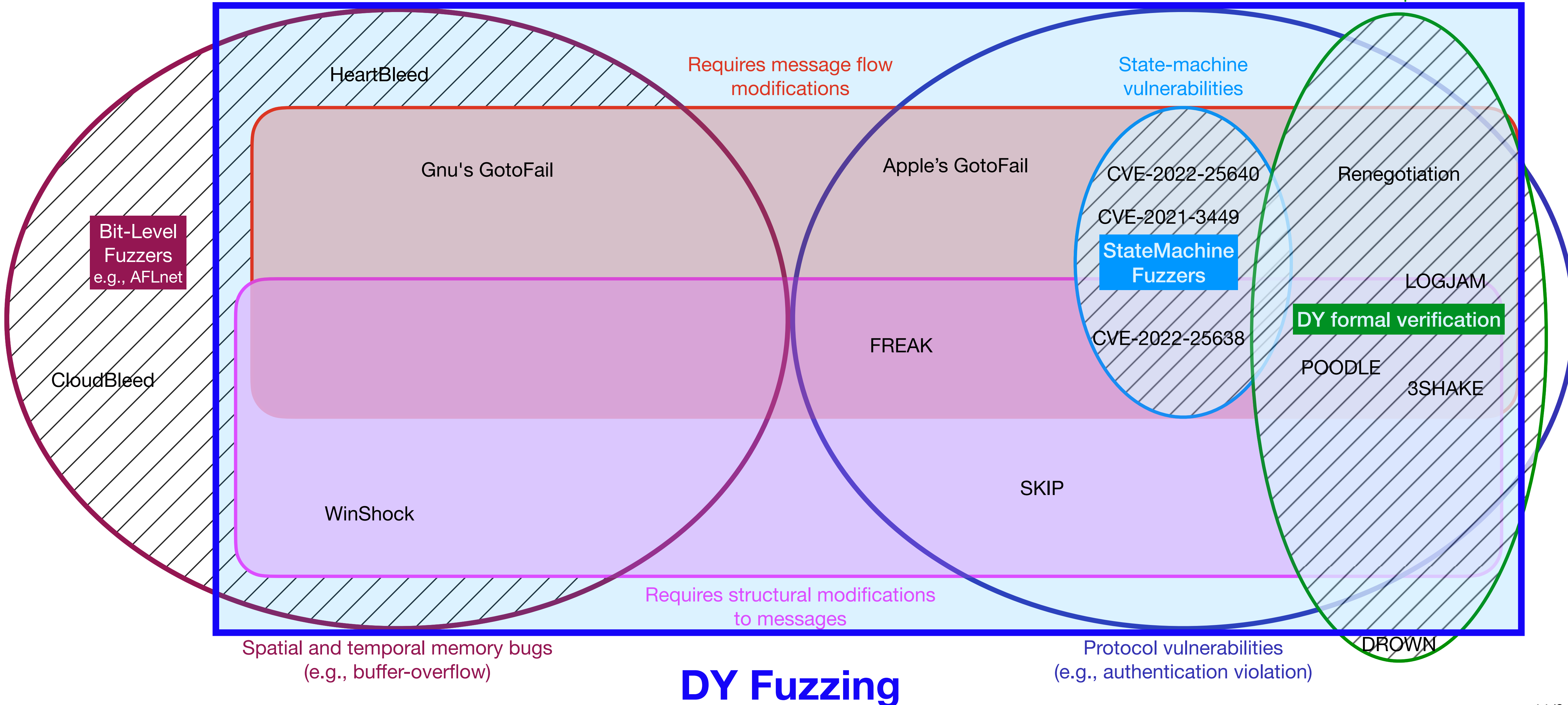


Retrospective of TLS Failures

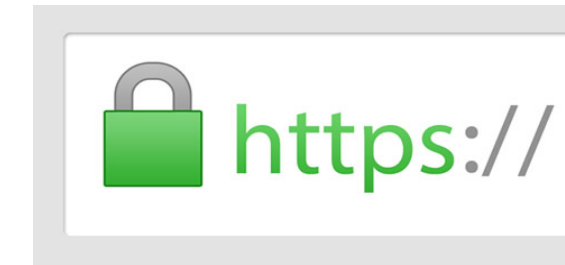


2014-2022

Affects the specification

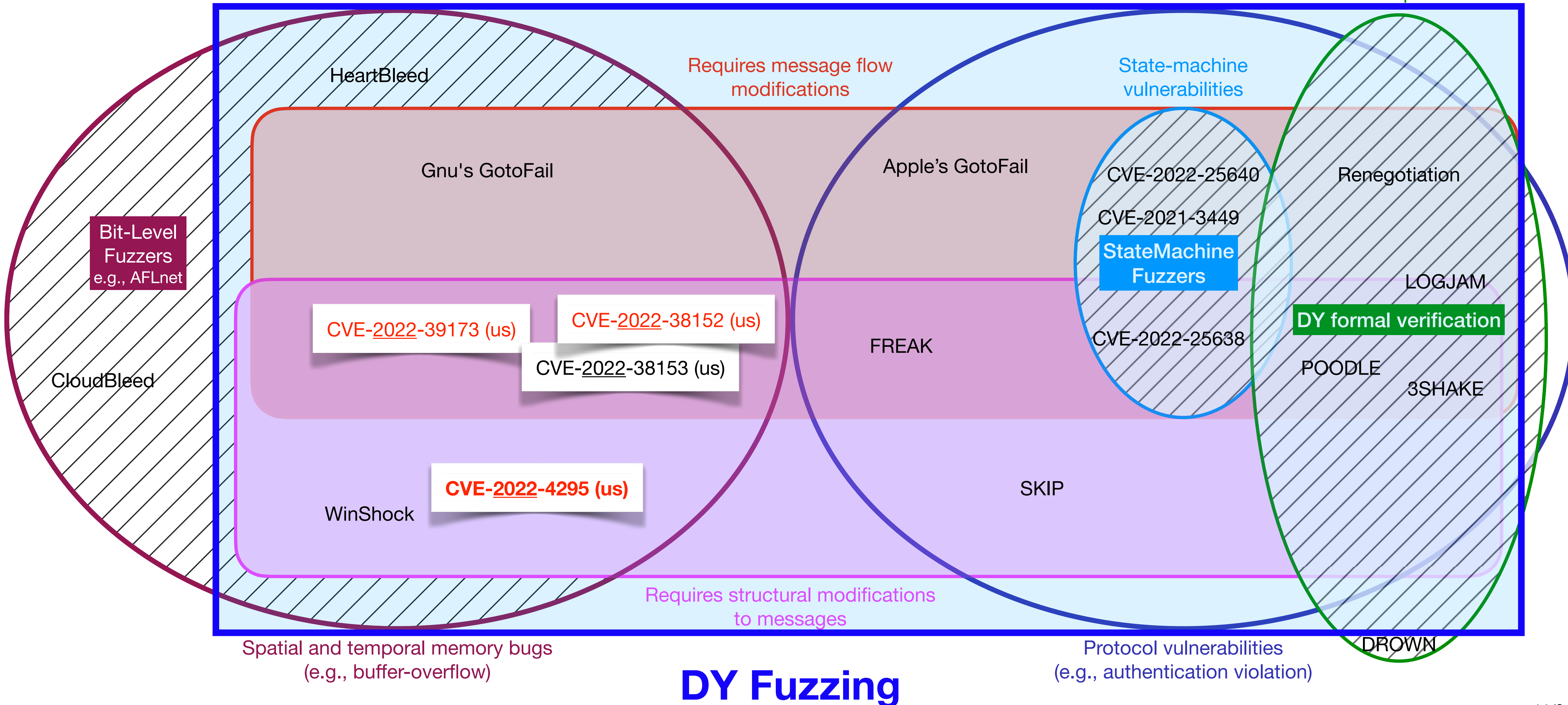


Retrospective of TLS Failures



2014-2022

Affects the specification



DY Fuzzing Design

DY Fuzzing: **Big Picture**

DY Fuzzer = DY attacker in a fuzzing loop

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = DY attacker in a fuzzing loop

- We build on "messages as formal terms" and assume a term algebra

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = DY attacker in a fuzzing loop

- We build on "messages as formal terms" and assume a term algebra
- Test cases = symbolic traces expressing DY attacker's actions

$tr := \text{out}(r, w).tr$: r is a role (client/server) and w is a variable (attacker knows)
| $\text{in}(r, R).tr$: R is a term in the term algebra (computed by attacker)
| 0

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = DY attacker in a fuzzing loop

- We build on "messages as formal terms" and assume a term algebra
- Test cases = symbolic traces expressing DY attacker's actions

$tr := \text{out}(r, w).tr$: r is a role (client/server) and w is a variable (attacker knows)
| $\text{in}(r, R).tr$: R is a term in the term algebra (computed by attacker)
| 0

Example: $tr_a = \text{out}(cl, w_1).in(serv, w_1).out(serv, w_2).in(cl, \text{sign}(\text{extract}(w_2), sk_a)).0$

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = MITM DY attacker

```
tr := out(r, w).tr  
    | in(r, R).tr  
    | 0
```

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = MITM DY attacker

Symbolic traces (`tr`) are « concretized » with the PUT (or any ref. implem.)

```
tr := out(r, w).tr  
    | in(r, R).tr  
    | 0
```

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = MITM DY attacker

Symbolic traces (tr) are « concretized » with the PUT (or any ref. implem.)



1. $out(r, w)$  call **PUT role function** to read bitstring b_w from output buffer of r

```
tr := out(r, w).tr  
    | in(r, R).tr  
    | 0
```

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = MITM DY attacker

Symbolic traces (tr) are « concretized » with the PUT (or any ref. implem.)

1. $out(r, w)$  call PUT role function to read bitstring b_w from output buffer of r
2. $in(r, R)$ 
 - a. call ref/PUT crypto functions to evaluate R into a bitstring b_R

```
tr := out(r, w).tr  
    | in(r, R).tr  
    | 0
```

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = MITM DY attacker

Symbolic traces (tr) are « concretized » with the PUT (or any ref. implem.)

1. $out(r, w)$  call PUT role function to read bitstring b_w from output buffer of r

2. $in(r, R)$ 

a. call ref/PUT crypto functions to evaluate R into a bitstring b_R

E.g., $eval(sign(R', sk)) = RSA_{PUT}(eval(R'), b_{sk})$

$eval(w) = b_w$

b_{sk} is obtained by calling $genKey_{PUT}()$

```
tr := out(r, w).tr
    | in(r, R).tr
    | 0
```


DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = MITM DY attacker

Symbolic traces (tr) are « concretized » with the PUT (or any ref. implem.)

1. $out(r, w)$  call PUT role function to read bitstring b_w from output buffer of r

2. $in(r, R)$ 

a. call ref/PUT crypto functions to evaluate R into a bitstring b_R

E.g., $eval(sign(R', sk)) = RSA_{PUT}(eval(R'), b_{sk})$

$eval(w) = b_w$

b_{sk} is obtained by calling $genKey_{PUT}()$

b. call PUT role function to write b_R onto input buffer of r + make r progress

```
tr := out(r, w).tr
    | in(r, R).tr
    | 0
```

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = MITM DY attacker

Symbolic traces (tr) are « concretized » with the PUT (or any ref. implem.)

1. $out(r, w)$  call PUT role function to read bitstring b_w from output buffer of r

2. $in(r, R)$ 

a. call ref/PUT crypto functions to evaluate R into a bitstring b_R

E.g., $eval(sign(R', sk)) = RSA_{PUT}(eval(R'), b_{sk})$

$eval(w) = b_w$

b_{sk} is obtained by calling $genKey_{PUT}()$

b. call PUT role function to write b_R onto input buffer of r + make r progress

```
tr := out(r, w).tr
      | in(r, R).tr
      | 0
```

Executor (1 + 2.b): require a lightweight instrumentation of the PUT
Mapper (2.a): requires a per-protocol « executable term-algebra »

DY Fuzzing: Big Picture

DY Fuzzer = MITM DY attacker

Symbolic traces (tr) are « concretized » with the PUT (or any ref. implem.)

1. $out(r, w)$  call PUT role function to read bitstring b_w from output buffer of r

2. $in(r, R)$ 

a. call ref/PUT crypto functions to evaluate R into a bitstring b_R

E.g., $eval(sign(R', sk)) = RSA_{PUT}(eval(R'), b_{sk})$

$eval(w) = b_w$

b_{sk} is obtained by calling $genKey_{PUT}()$

b. call PUT role function to write b_R onto input buffer of r + make r progress

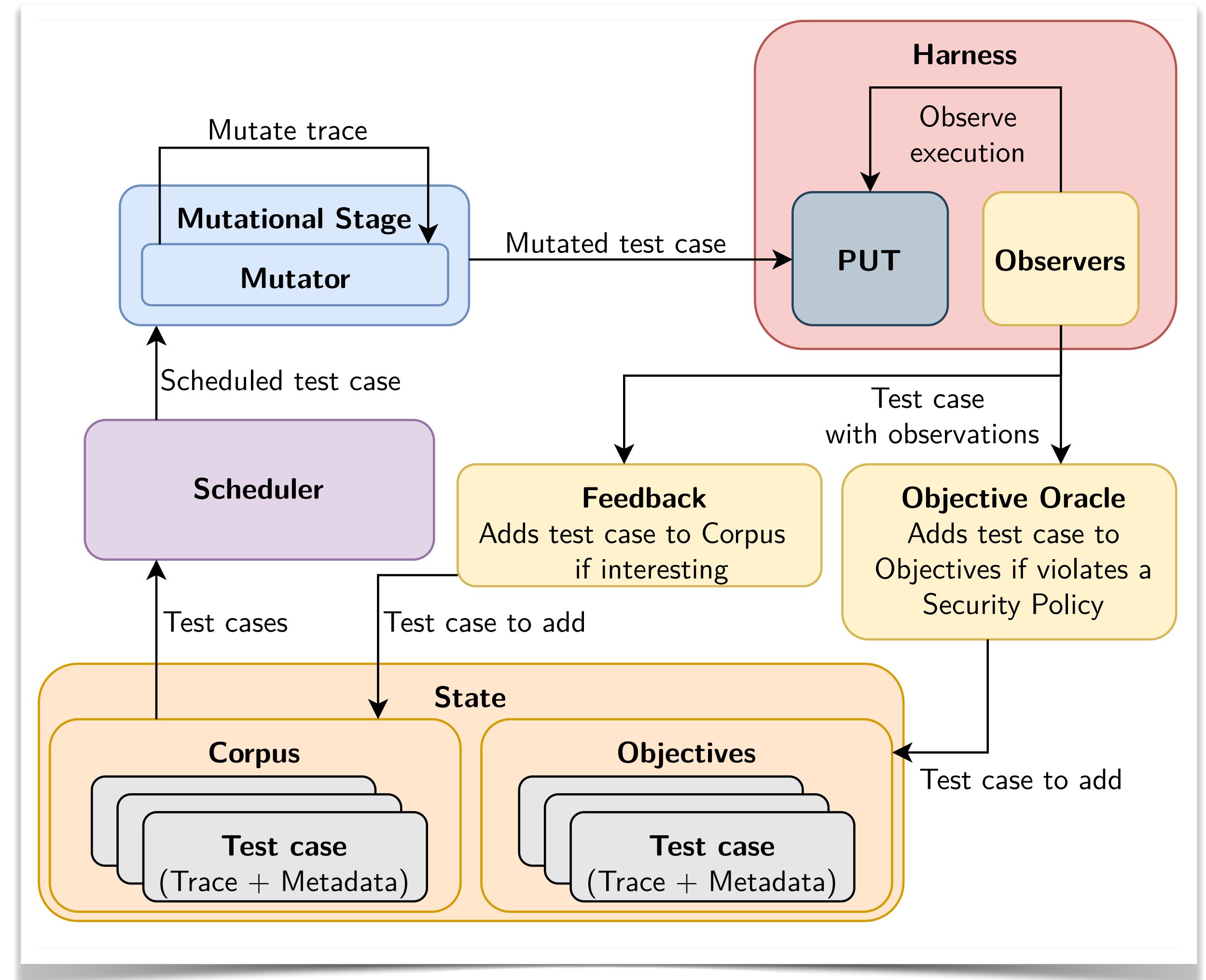
```
tr := out(r, w).tr
     | in(r, R).tr
     | 0
```

Executor (1 + 2.b): require a lightweight instrumentation of the PUT

Mapper (2.a): requires a per-protocol « executable term-algebra »

 Do not require a protocol DY model but only a DY attacker model (i.e., term algebra)

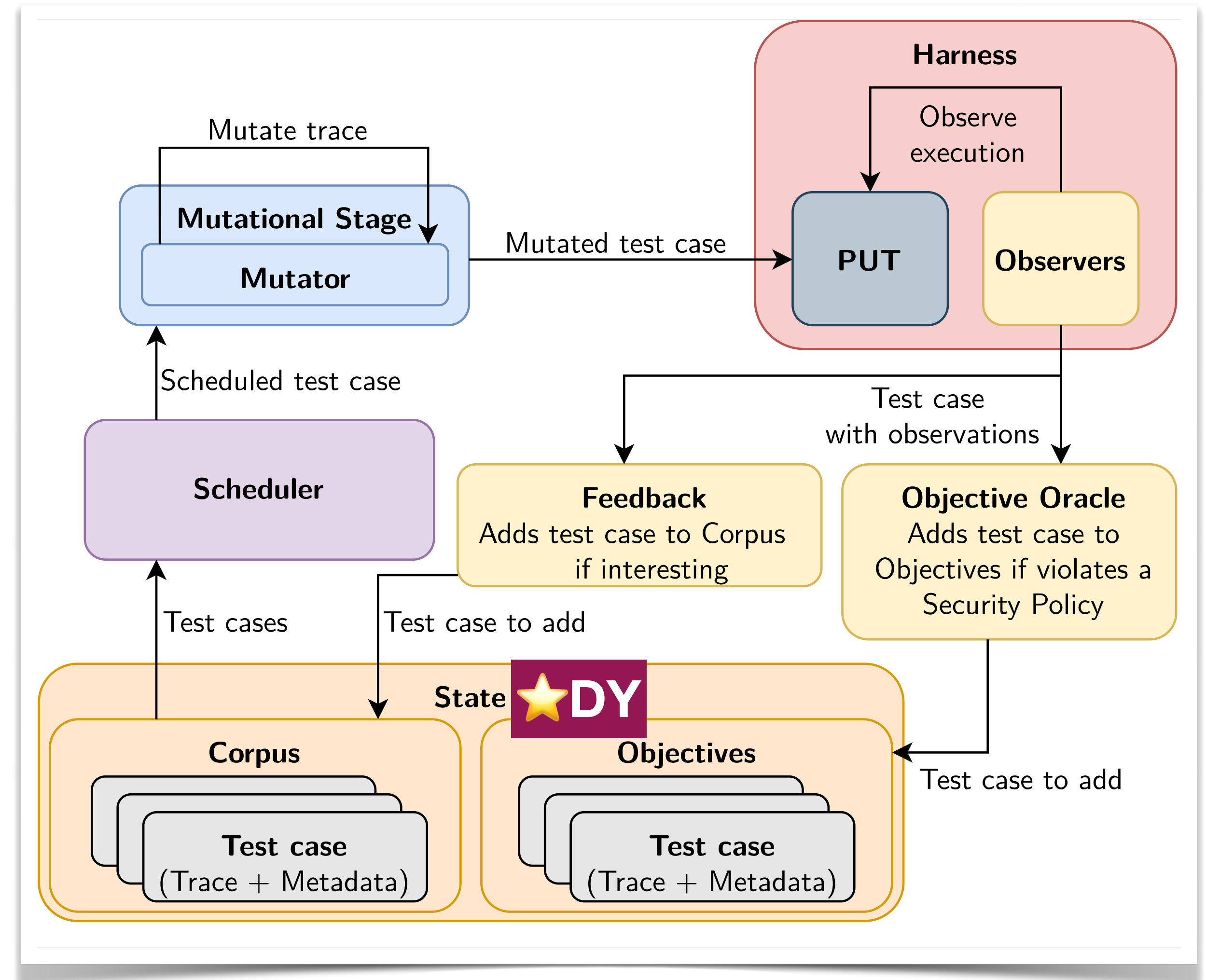
DY Fuzzer components



LibAFL components (we build on)

DY Fuzzer components

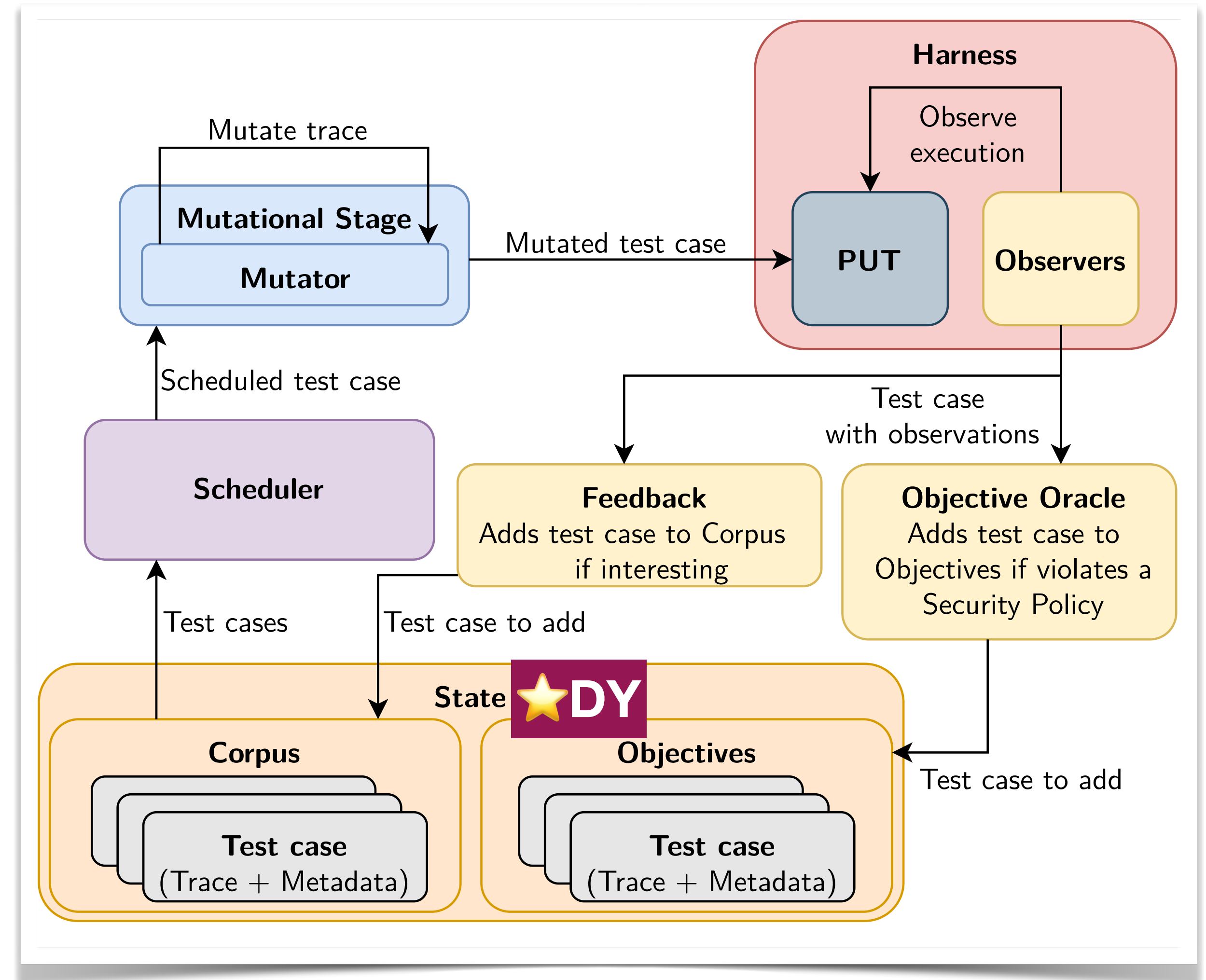
- **State**★: test-cases = DY traces, seeds corpus = happy flows



LibAFL components (we build on)

DY Fuzzer components

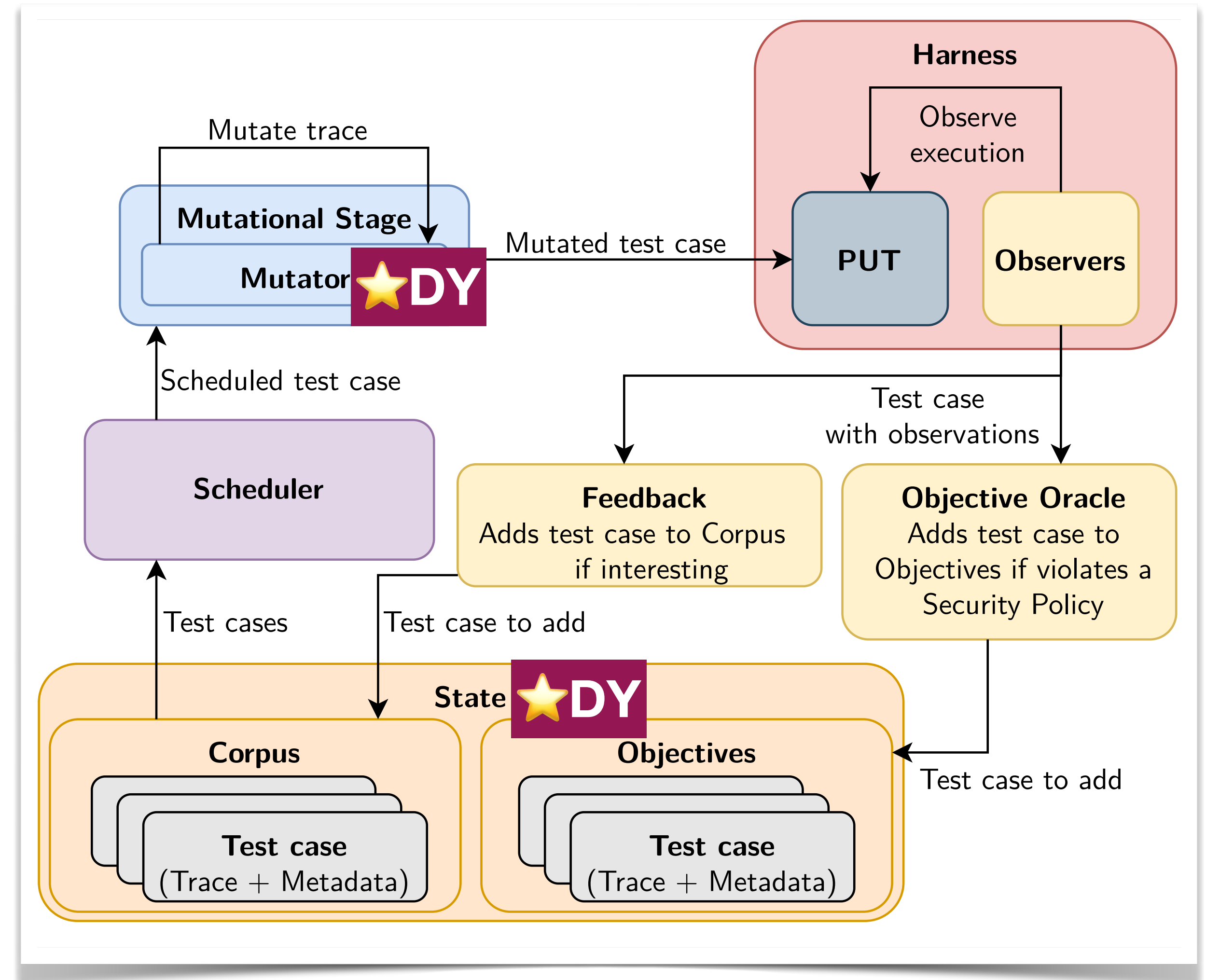
- **State**★: test-cases = DY traces, seeds corpus = happy flows
- **Scheduler**: FIFO



LibAFL components (we build on)

DY Fuzzer components

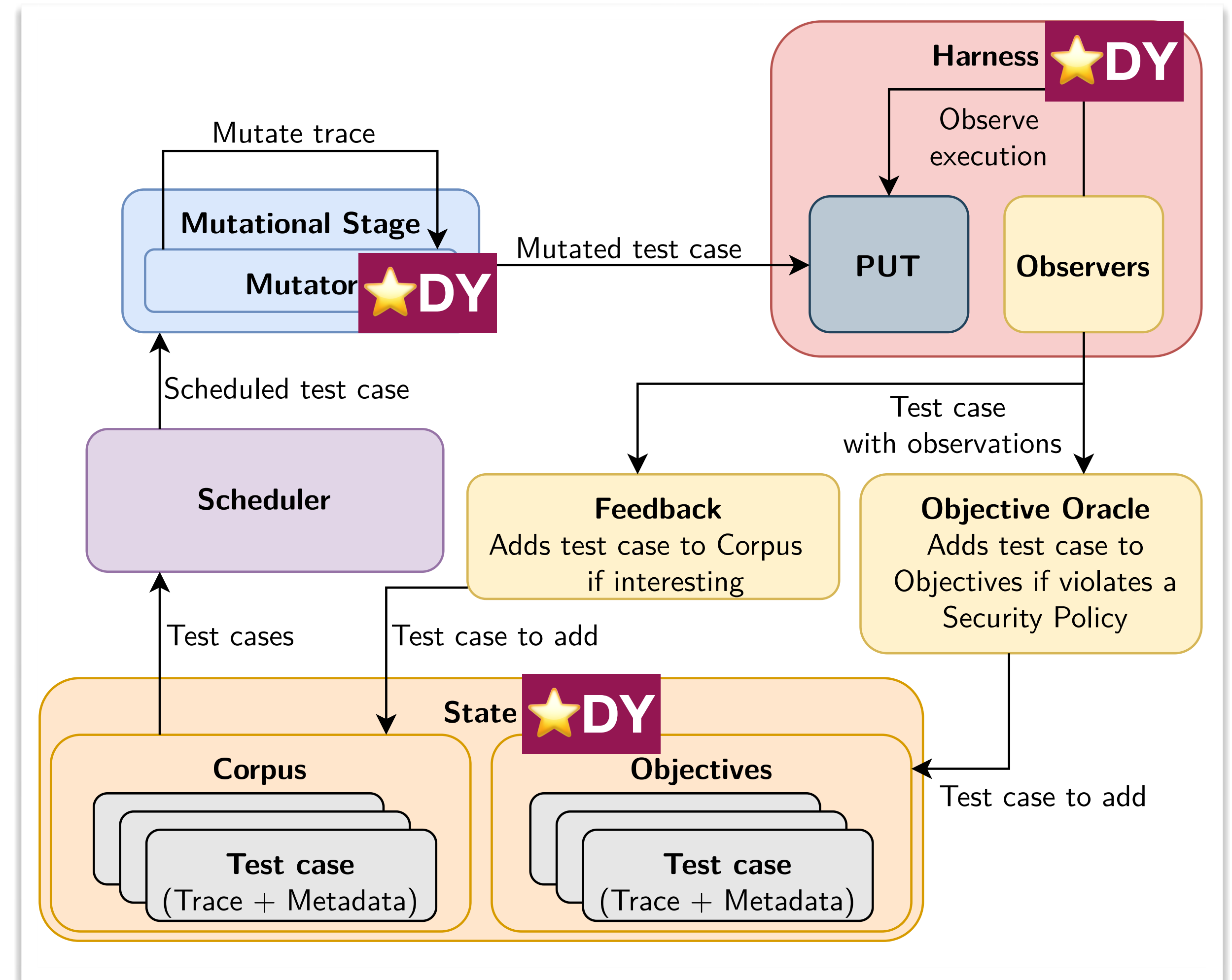
- **State**★: test-cases = DY traces, seeds corpus = happy flows
- **Scheduler**: FIFO
- **Mutator**★: custom trace mutations



LibAFL components (we build on)

DY Fuzzer components

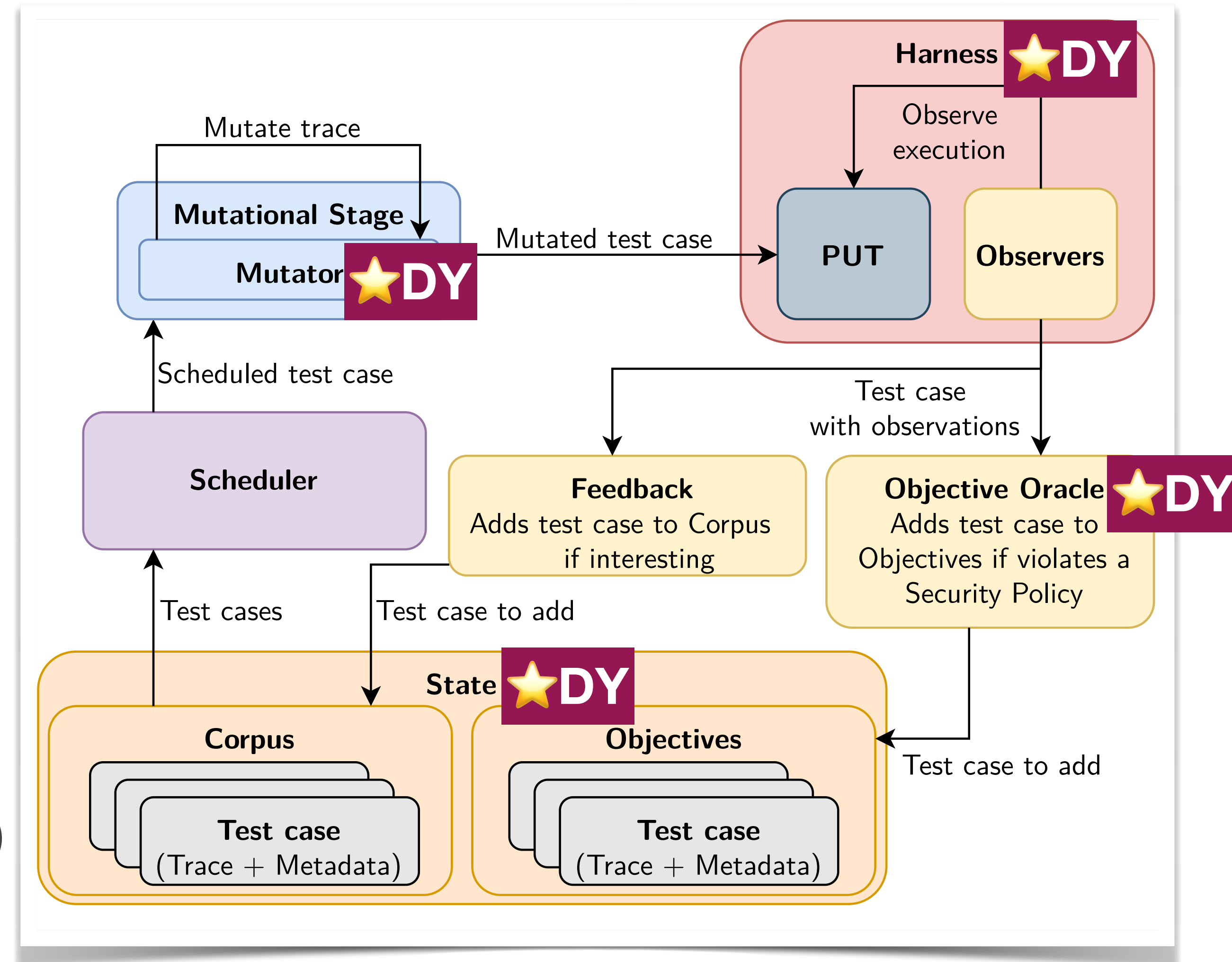
- **State**★: test-cases = DY traces, seeds corpus = happy flows
- **Scheduler**: FIFO
- **Mutator**★: custom trace mutations
- **Harness**★: Mapper + Executor + Claims



LibAFL components (we build on)

DY Fuzzer components

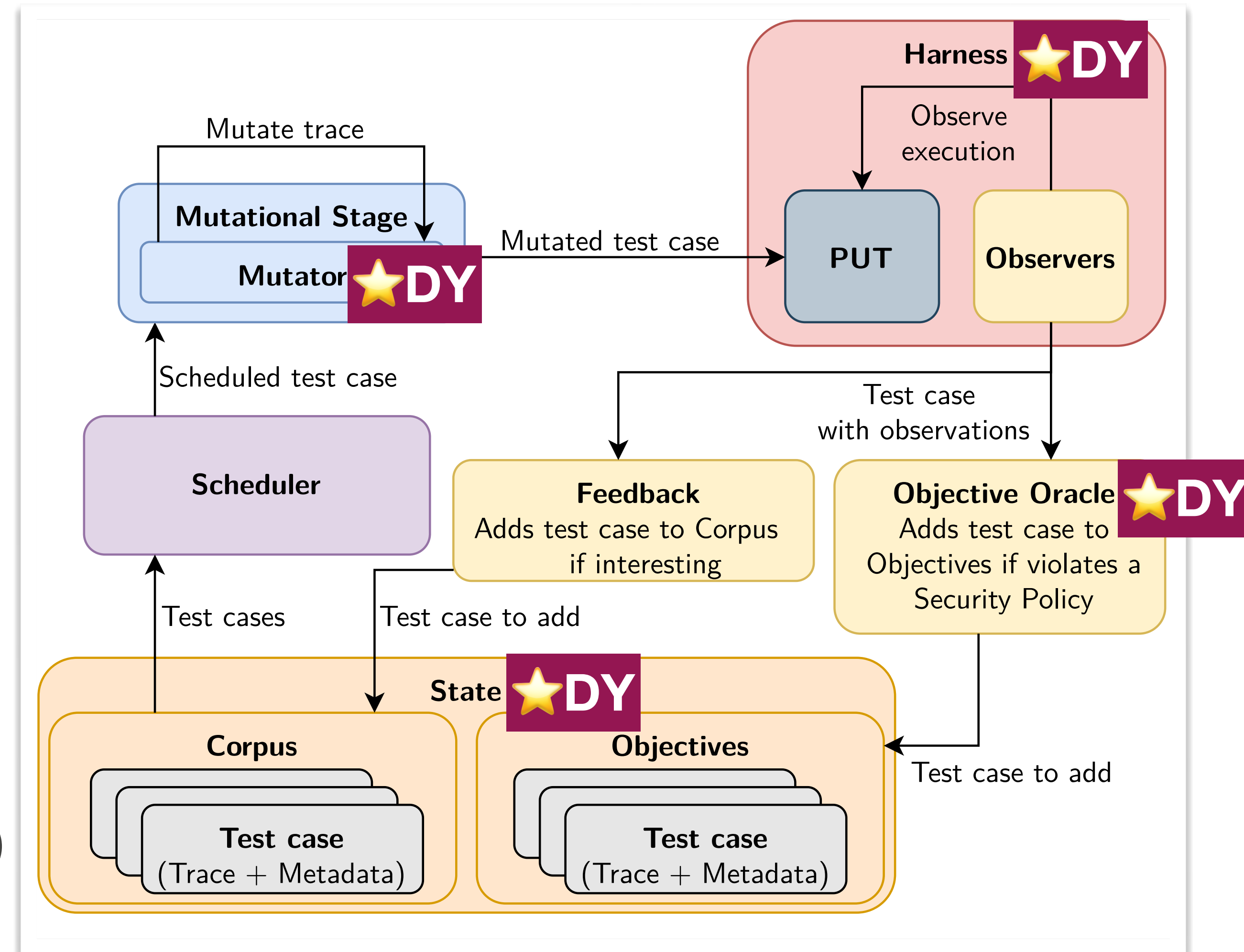
- **State**★: test-cases = DY traces, seeds corpus = happy flows
- **Scheduler**: FIFO
- **Mutator**★: custom trace mutations
- **Harness**★: Mapper + Executor + Claims
- **Obj. Oracle**★: DY security properties★ (e.g., agreement) + ASAN (memory vulns.)



LibAFL components (we build on)

DY Fuzzer components

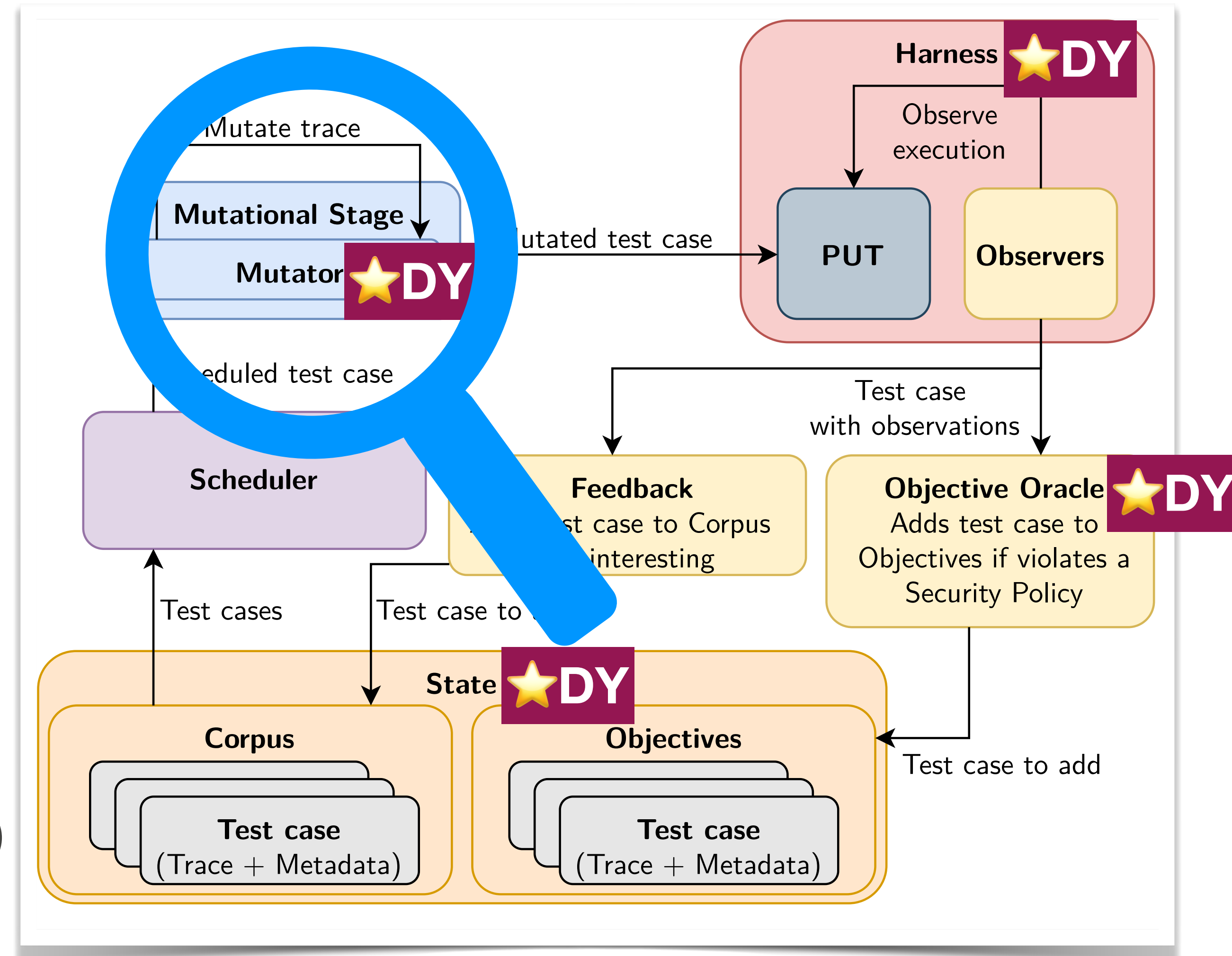
- **State**★: test-cases = DY traces, seeds corpus = happy flows
- **Scheduler**: FIFO
- **Mutator**★: custom trace mutations
- **Harness**★: Mapper + Executor + Claims
- **Obj. Oracle**★: DY security properties★ (e.g., agreement) + ASAN (memory vulns.)
- **Feedback**: PUT code-coverage



LibAFL components (we build on)

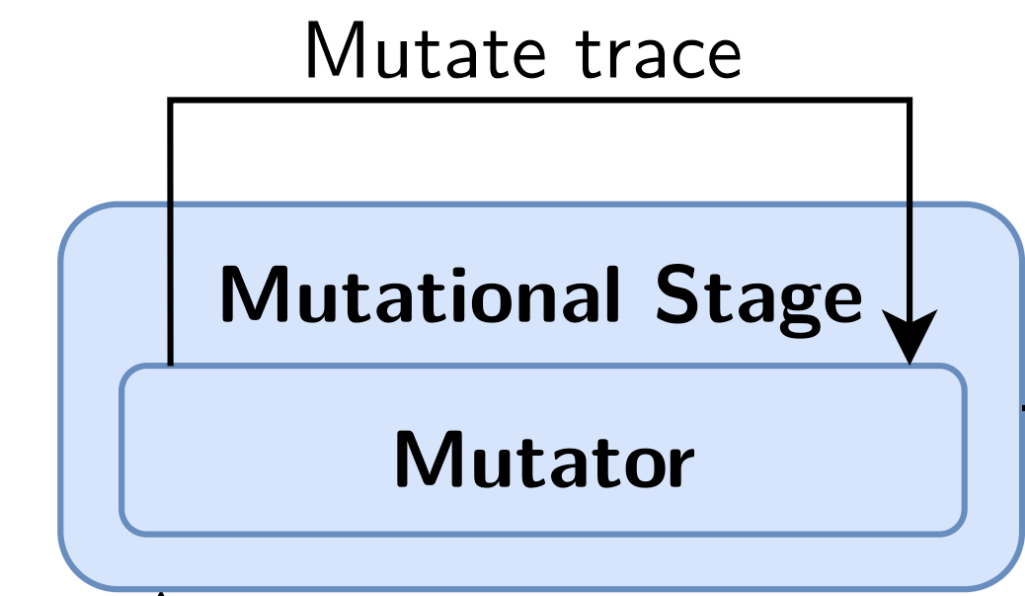
DY Fuzzer components

- **State**★: test-cases = DY traces, seeds corpus = happy flows
- **Scheduler**: FIFO
- **Mutator**★: custom trace mutations
- **Harness**★: Mapper + Executor + Claims
- **Obj. Oracle**★: DY security properties★ (e.g., agreement) + ASAN (memory vulns.)
- **Feedback**: PUT code-coverage



LibAFL components (we build on)

DY mutations

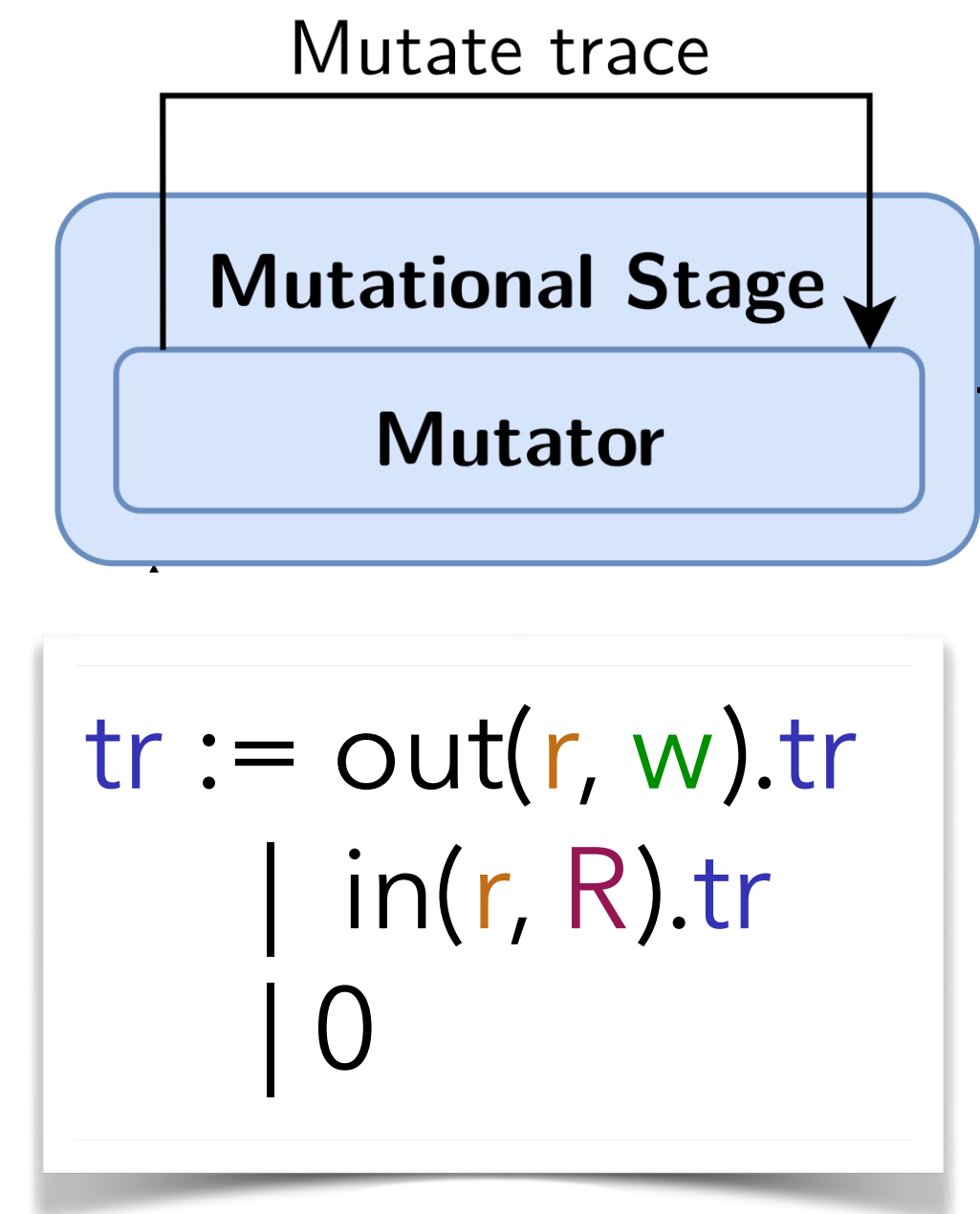


```
tr := out(r, w).tr  
    | in(r, R).tr  
    | 0
```

DY mutations

Action-level Mutations

- **Skip**: remove random action (in/out)

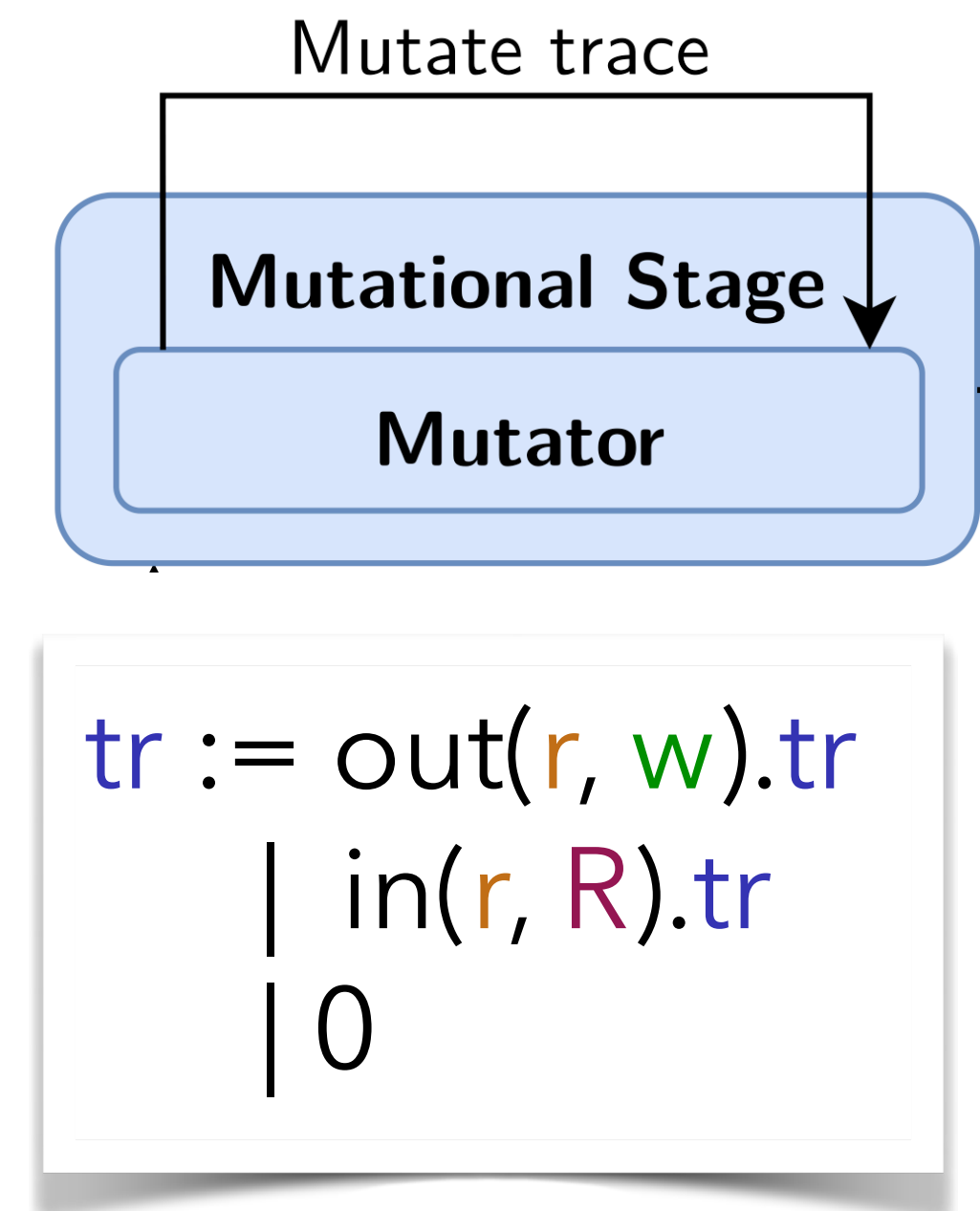


DY mutations

Action-level Mutations

- **Skip**: remove random action (in/out)
- **Repeat**: randomly copy and insert an action

☞ Already enough to capture some state-machine vulns such as auth. bypass



DY mutations

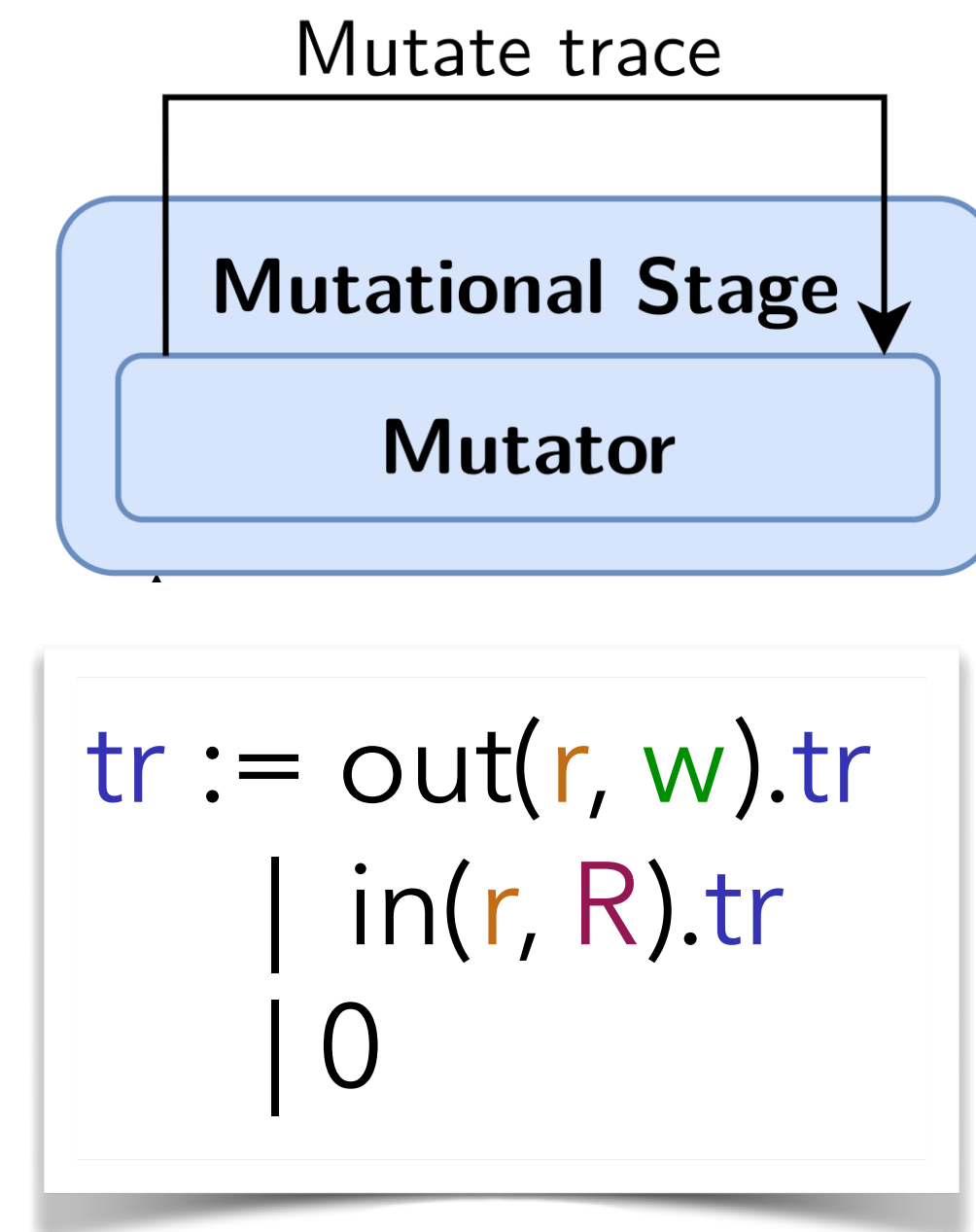
Action-level Mutations

- **Skip**: remove random action (in/out)
- **Repeat**: randomly copy and insert an action

☞ Already enough to capture some state-machine vulns such as auth. bypass

Term-level Mutations★

- **Swap**: Swap two (sub-)terms in the trace



DY mutations

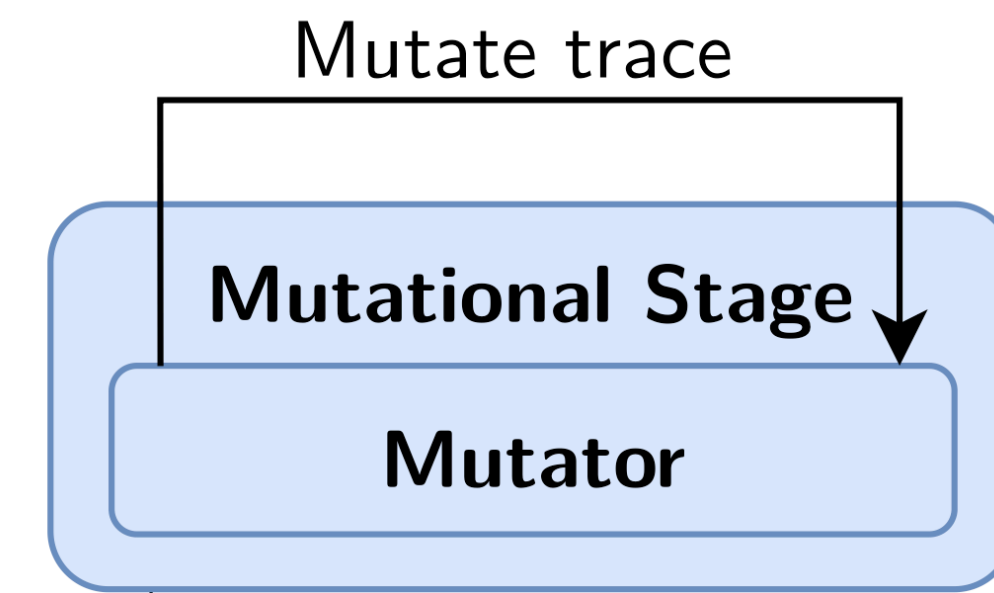
Action-level Mutations

- **Skip**: remove random action (in/out)
- **Repeat**: randomly copy and insert an action

☞ Already enough to capture some state-machine vulns such as auth. bypass

Term-level Mutations★

- **Swap**: Swap two (sub-)terms in the trace
- **Generate**: Replace a term by a random one



```
tr := out(r, w).tr  
    | in(r, R).tr  
    | 0
```

DY mutations

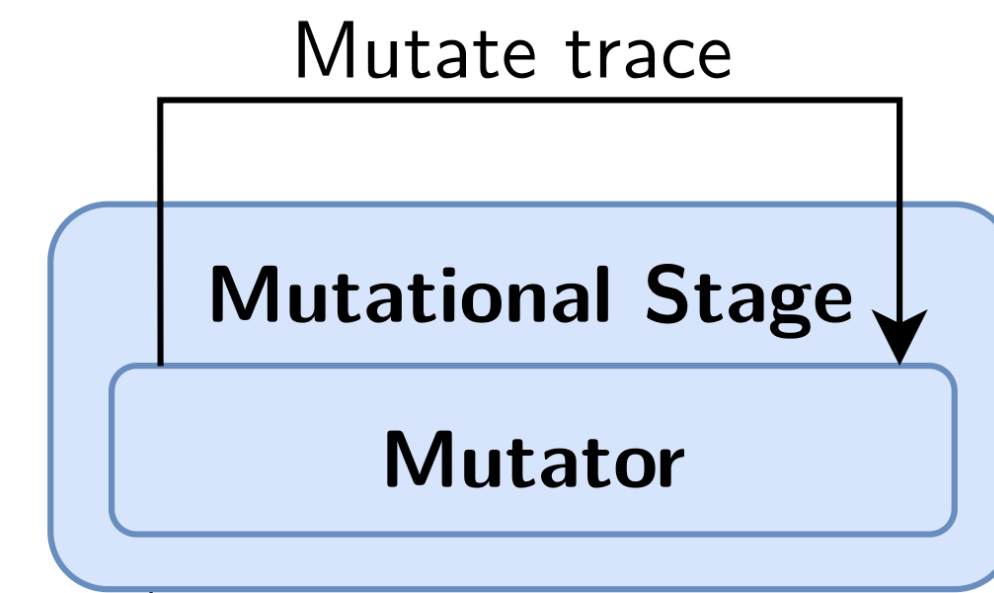
Action-level Mutations

- **Skip**: remove random action (in/out)
- **Repeat**: randomly copy and insert an action

☞ Already enough to capture some state-machine vulns such as auth. bypass

Term-level Mutations★

- **Swap**: Swap two (sub-)terms in the trace
- **Generate**: Replace a term by a random one
- **Replace-Match**: Swap two function symbols in the trace (e.g., SHA2 \leftrightarrow SHA3)



```
tr := out(r, w).tr  
    | in(r, R).tr  
    | 0
```

DY mutations

Action-level Mutations

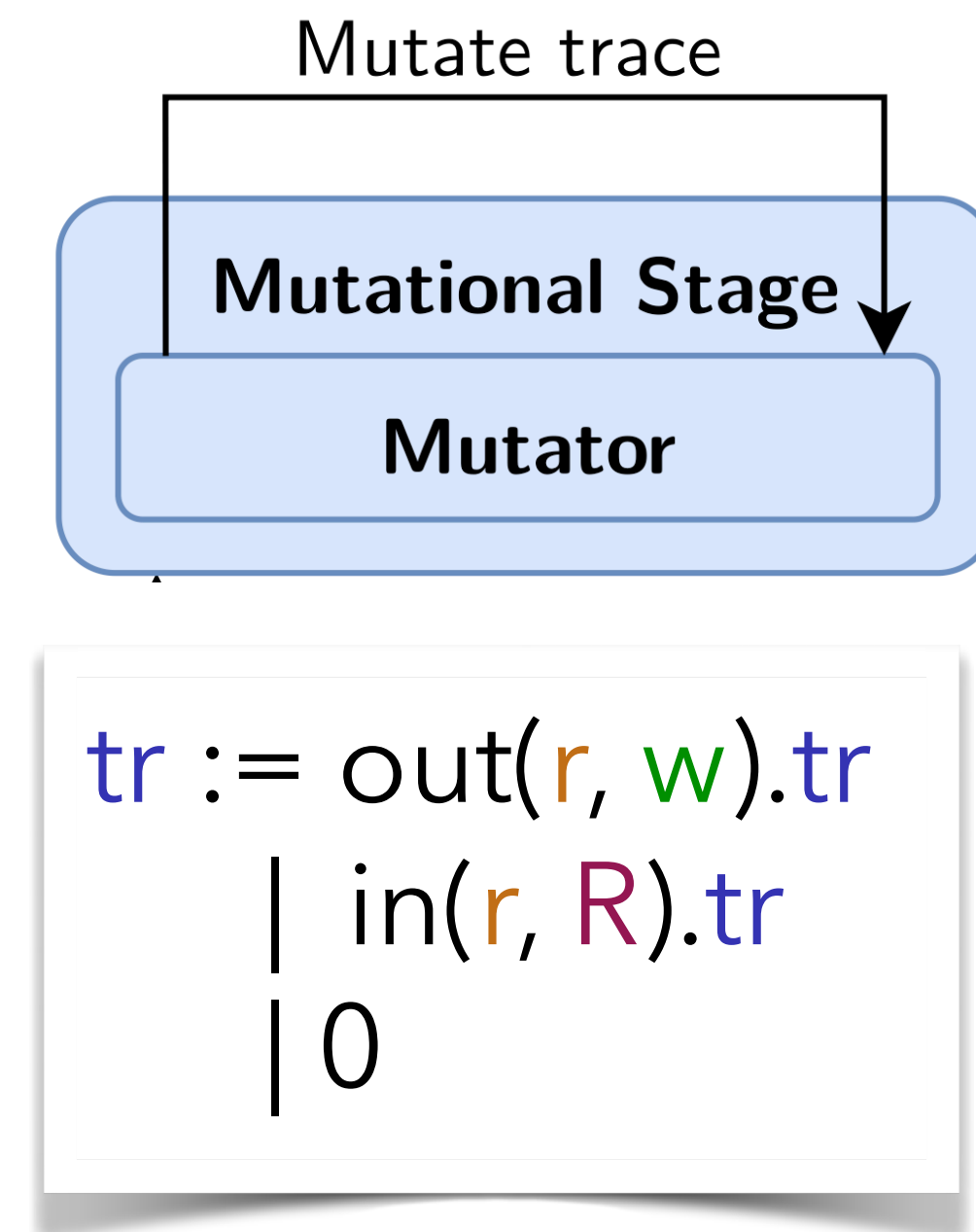
- **Skip**: remove random action (in/out)
- **Repeat**: randomly copy and insert an action

☞ Already enough to capture some state-machine vulns such as auth. bypass

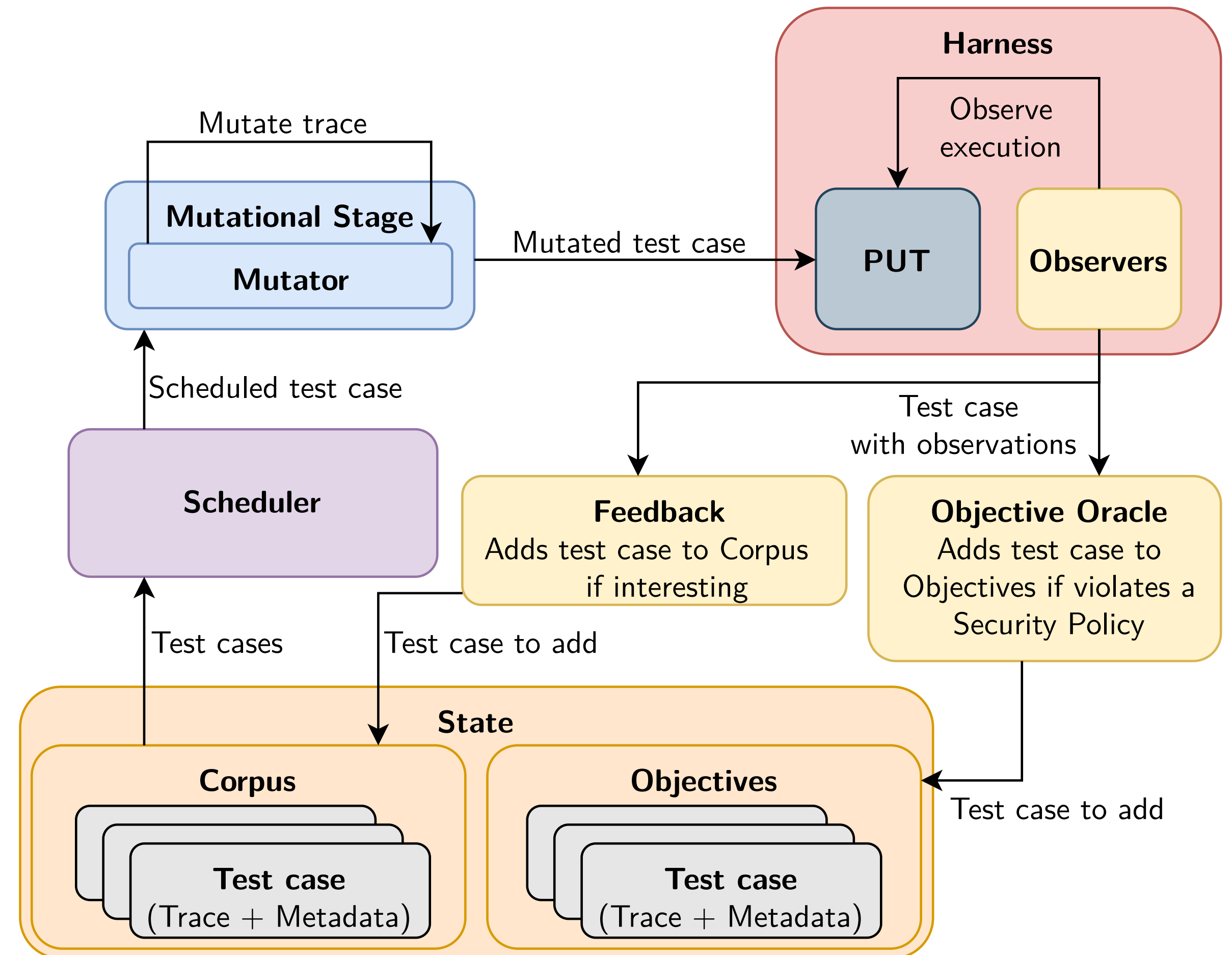
Term-level Mutations★

- **Swap**: Swap two (sub-)terms in the trace
- **Generate**: Replace a term by a random one
- **Replace-Match**: Swap two function symbols in the trace (e.g., SHA2 \leftrightarrow SHA3)
- **Replace-Reuse**: Replace a (sub-)term by another (sub-)term in the trace
- **Replace-and-Lift**: Replace a (sub-)term by one of its sub-terms

☞ Mutations are conditioned: well-typed (avoid systematic failures) + size-bounds



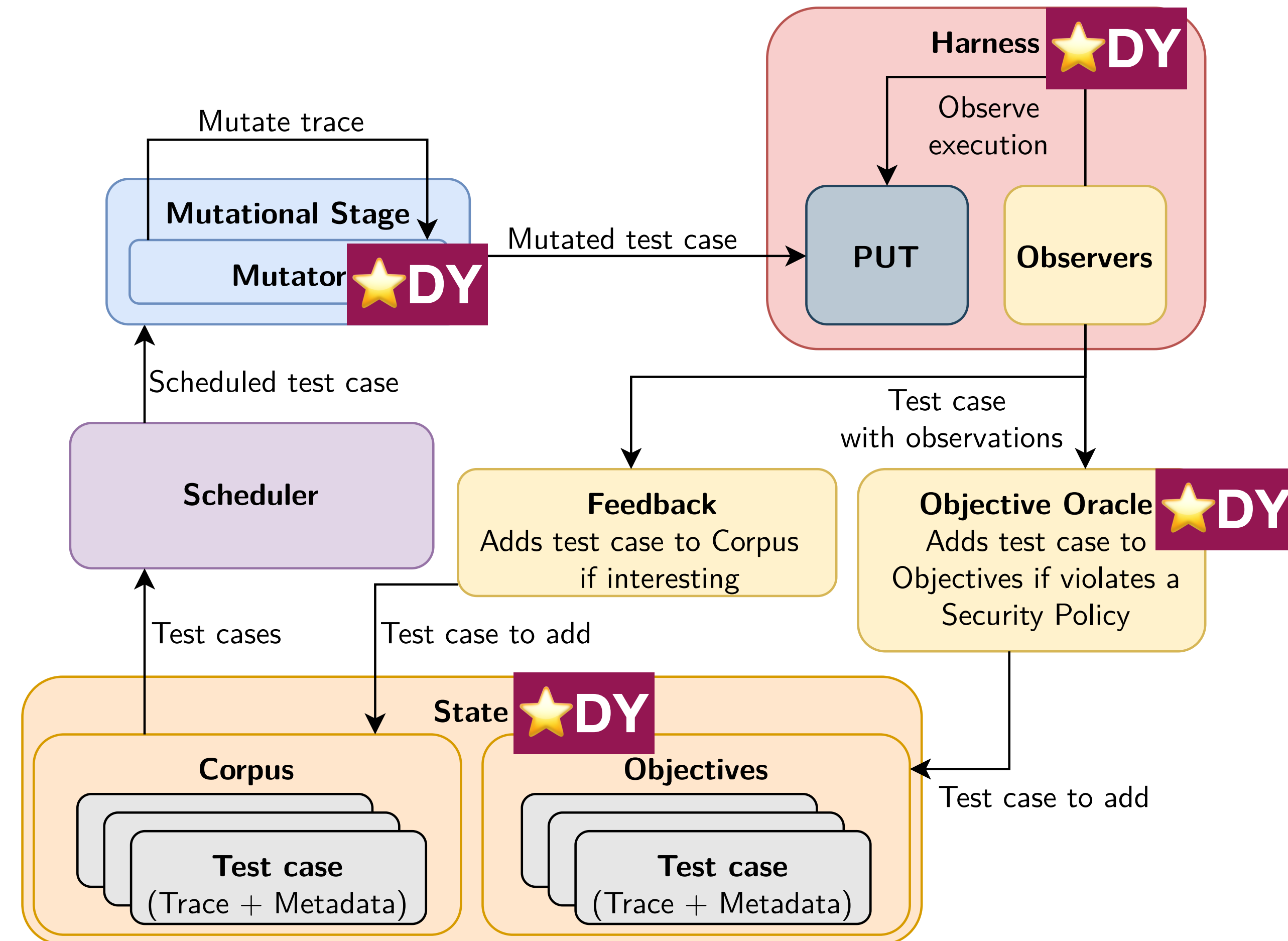
DY Fuzzer components



LibAFL components (we build on)

DY Fuzzer components

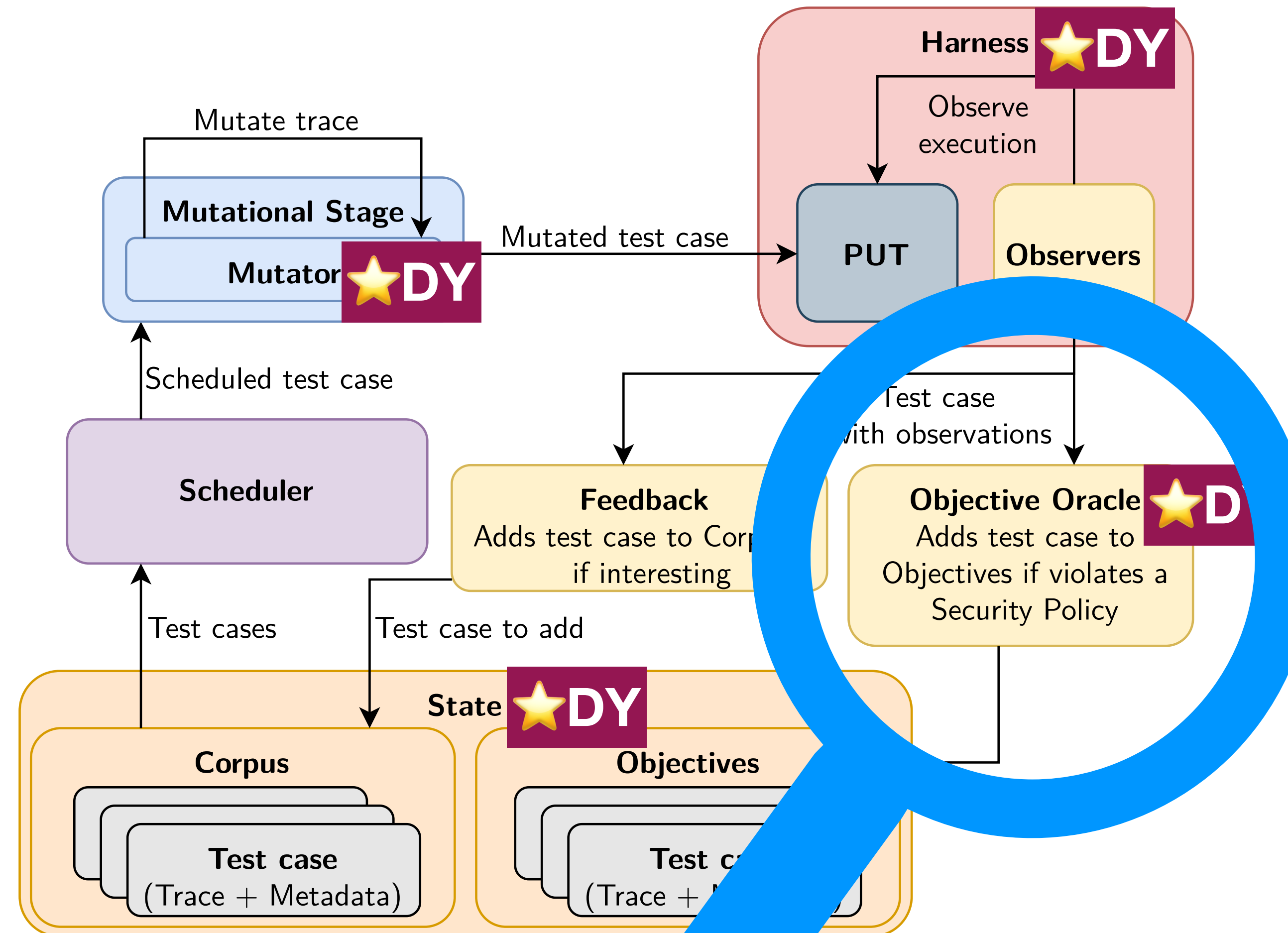
- **State**★: test-cases = DY traces, seeds corpus = happy flows
- **Scheduler**: FIFO
- **Mutator**★: custom trace mutations
- **Harness**★: Mapper + Executor + Claims
- **Obj. Oracle**★: DY security properties★ (e.g., agreement) + ASAN (memory vulns.)
- **Feedback**: PUT code-coverage



LibAFL components (we build on)

DY Fuzzer components

- **State**★: test-cases = DY traces, seeds corpus = happy flows
- **Scheduler**: FIFO
- **Mutator**★: custom trace mutations
- **Harness**★: Mapper + Executor + Claims
- **Obj. Oracle**★: DY security properties★ (e.g., agreement) + ASAN (memory vulns.)
- **Feedback**: PUT code-coverage



LibAFL component (built on)

DY Objective Oracle

Objective Oracle

Adds test case to Objectives if violates a Security Policy

DY Objective Oracle

Objective Oracle
Adds test case to
Objectives if violates a
Security Policy

Memory-related objective oracle

- Classical with bit-level fuzzing: code instrumentation with **AddressSanitizer (ASan)**

DY Objective Oracle

Objective Oracle
Adds test case to Objectives if violates a Security Policy

Memory-related objective oracle

- Classical with bit-level fuzzing: code instrumentation with **AddressSanitizer (ASan)**

+

DY Security properties ★

- Introduce **claims** triggered by roles executing the PUT (part of **Harness/Executor**)
E.g., agreement claims: $\text{Agr}(\text{client}, \text{pk}, \text{m})@i$ client believes to have agreed with server with pk on m @ i^{th} action

DY Objective Oracle

Objective Oracle
Adds test case to Objectives if violates a Security Policy

Memory-related objective oracle

- Classical with bit-level fuzzing: code instrumentation with **AddressSanitizer (ASan)**

+

DY Security properties ★

- Introduce **claims** triggered by roles executing the PUT (part of **Harness/Executor**)
E.g., agreement claims: $\text{Agr}(\text{client}, \text{pk}, \text{m})@i$ client believes to have agreed with server with pk on m @ i^{th} action
- Classical in DY models: **security properties** expressed as **1st-order formula**
E.g., agreement property $\forall \text{pk}, \text{m}: \text{Agr}(\text{client}, \text{pk}, \text{m})@i \Rightarrow \text{Run}(\text{server}, \text{pk}, \text{m})@j \wedge j < i$

DY Objective Oracle

Objective Oracle
Adds test case to Objectives if violates a Security Policy

Memory-related objective oracle

- Classical with bit-level fuzzing: code instrumentation with **AddressSanitizer (ASan)**

+

DY Security properties ★

- Introduce **claims** triggered by roles executing the PUT (part of **Harness/Executor**)
E.g., agreement claims: $\text{Agr}(\text{client}, \text{pk}, \text{m})@i$ client believes to have agreed with server with pk on m @ i^{th} action
- Classical in DY models: **security properties** expressed as **1st-order formula**
E.g., agreement property $\forall \text{pk}, \text{m}: \text{Agr}(\text{client}, \text{pk}, \text{m})@i \Rightarrow \text{Run}(\text{server}, \text{pk}, \text{m})@j \wedge j < i$
- **DY Objective oracle** also **checks** DY security properties
 - Gather all the **claims** throughout traces executions at the PUT
 - Check all the **DY security properties** (where terms are concretized to bitstrings)


tlspuffin Implementation

tlspuffin: a full-fledge DY fuzzer


tlspuffin: a full-fledge DY fuzzer

- [Open-source](#) project written in [Rust](#) (16k LoC) (tlspuffin on Github)


tlspuffin: a full-fledge DY fuzzer

- [Open-source](#) project written in [Rust](#) (16k LoC) (tlspuffin on Github)
- Built on [LibAFL](#), a modular library to build fuzzers (+ new/custom components )


tlspuffin: a full-fledge DY fuzzer

- **Open-source** project written in **Rust** (16k LoC) (tlspuffin on Github)
- Built on **LibAFL**, a modular library to build fuzzers (+ new/custom components )
- **In-memory** buffers, **delightfully parallel**, **fast** (700 execs/s/core)


tlspuffin: a full-fledge DY fuzzer

- **Open-source** project written in **Rust** (16k LoC) (tlspuffin on Github)
- Built on **LibAFL**, a modular library to build fuzzers (+ new/custom components )
- **In-memory** buffers, **delightfully parallel**, **fast** (700 execs/s/core)
- For TLS: **189 function symbols**, harnessed PUTs: **OpenSSL, WolfSSL, LibreSSL**

tlspuffin: a full-fledge DY fuzzer

- **Open-source** project written in **Rust** (16k LoC) (tlspuffin on Github)
- Built on **LibAFL**, a modular library to build fuzzers (+ new/custom components )
- **In-memory** buffers, **delightfully parallel**, **fast** (700 execs/s/core)
- For TLS: **189 function symbols**, harnessed PUTs: **OpenSSL, WolfSSL, LibreSSL**
- **Beyond fuzzing**: Connect to a PUT through **TCP** (easier to connect to new PUTs)
+ **Traces are**: executable, serializable, pretty-printable (as trees), concretizable (for PoC)

tlspuffin: a full-fledge DY fuzzer

- **Open-source** project written in **Rust** (16k LoC) (tlspuffin on Github)
- Built on **LibAFL**, a modular library to build fuzzers (+ new/custom components )
- **In-memory** buffers, **delightfully parallel**, **fast** (700 execs/s/core)
- For TLS: **189 function symbols**, harnessed PUTs: **OpenSSL, WolfSSL, LibreSSL**
- **Beyond fuzzing**: Connect to a PUT through **TCP** (easier to connect to new PUTs)
+ **Traces are**: executable, serializable, pretty-printable (as trees), concretizable (for PoC)
- **Optimizations**: fragmented output, queries for variables, transcript extraction

Puffin Modular **Architecture**

Puffin Modular **Architecture**

Puffin

- Terms (based on term signature)
- Traces + Domain-Specific Language
- Mutations
- Objective oracle (based on DY properties)
- Fuzzing-loop, CLI with all commands

Puffin Modular Architecture

Puffin

- Terms (based on term signature)
- Traces + Domain-Specific Language
- Mutations
- Objective oracle (based on DY properties)
- Fuzzing-loop, CLI with all commands

Once-for-all
6k LoC

tlspuffin

- Term signature
- **Mapper**: term → bitstrings
- DY security properties
- Seed corpus with DSL

Per protocol (here TLS)
Mapper most difficult
8k LoC

Puffin Modular Architecture

Puffin

- Terms (based on term signature)
- Traces + Domain-Specific Language
- Mutations
- Objective oracle (based on DY properties)
- Fuzzing-loop, CLI with all commands

Once-for-all
6k LoC

tlspuffin

- Term signature
- **Mapper**: term → bitstrings
- DY security properties
- Seed corpus with DSL

Per protocol (here TLS)
Mapper most difficult
8k LoC

Per PUT, quite lightweight
+ TCP mode
500 LoC

OpenSSL Harness

- **Executor** interface
- Claim extractions

Puffin Modular Architecture

Puffin

- Terms (based on term signature)
- Traces + Domain-Specific Language
- Mutations
- Objective oracle (based on DY properties)
- Fuzzing-loop, CLI with all commands

Once-for-all
6k LoC

tlspuffin

- Term signature
- **Mapper**: term → bitstrings
- DY security properties
- Seed corpus with DSL

Per protocol (here TLS)
Mapper most difficult
8k LoC

Per PUT, quite lightweight
+ TCP mode
500 LoC

OpenSSL Harness

- **Executor** interface
- Claim extractions

WolfSSL Harness

Puffin Modular Architecture

Puffin

- Terms (based on term signature)
- Traces + Domain-Specific Language
- Mutations
- Objective oracle (based on DY properties)
- Fuzzing-loop, CLI with all commands

Once-for-all
6k LoC

tlspuffin

- Term signature
- **Mapper**: term → bitstrings
- DY security properties
- Seed corpus with DSL

Per protocol (here TLS)
Mapper most difficult
8k LoC

SSHpuffin

-

Per PUT, quite lightweight
+ TCP mode
500 LoC

OpenSSL Harness

- **Executor** interface
- Claim extractions

WolfSSL Harness

OpenSSH Harness

tlspuffin Results

tlspuffin findings 🤡

tlspuffin findings 🤡

- We selected a small **benchmark suite**: recent logical attacks found on **OpenSSL** (most used) and **WolfSSL** (IoT)

tlspuffin findings

- We selected a small **benchmark suite**: recent logical attacks found on **OpenSSL** (most used) and **WolfSSL** (IoT)
- Found by tlspuffin in hours or seconds (SKIP), systematic reproducibility!

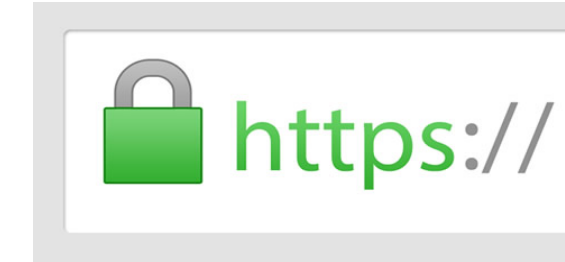
CVE ID	AKA	CVSS	Type	New	Version	TLS
2021-3449	SDOS1	5.9	Server DoS, M	✗	1.1.1j	1.2
2022-25638	SIG	6.5	Auth. Bypass, P	✗	5.1.0	1.3
2022-25640	SKIP	7.5	Auth. Bypass, P	✗	5.1.0	1.3

tlspuffin findings

- We selected a small **benchmark suite**: recent logical attacks found on **OpenSSL** (most used) and **WolfSSL** (IoT)
- Found by tlspuffin in hours or seconds (SKIP), systematic reproducibility!
- We ran **fuzzing campaigns** on the harnessed PUTs and found **4 new CVEs**
👉 Not found by other fuzzers

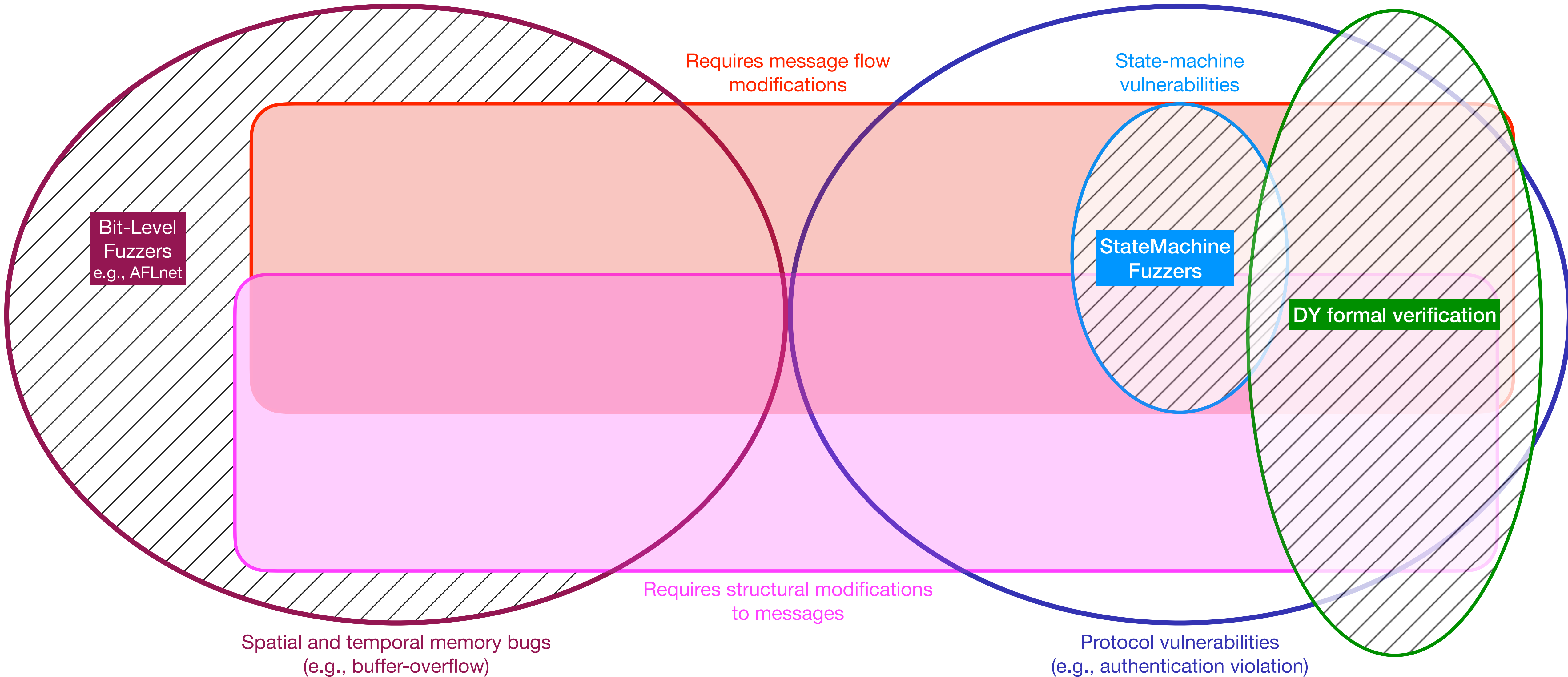
CVE ID	AKA	CVSS	Type	New	Version	TLS
2021-3449	SDOS1	5.9	Server DoS, M	✗	1.1.1j	1.2
2022-25638	SIG	6.5	Auth. Bypass, P	✗	5.1.0	1.3
2022-25640	SKIP	7.5	Auth. Bypass, P	✗	5.1.0	1.3
2022-38152	SDOS2	7.5	! Server DoS, M	✓	5.4.0	1.3
2022-38153	CDOS	5.9	Client DoS, M	✓	5.3.0	1.2
2022-39173	BUF	7.5	! Server DoS, M	✓	5.5.0	1.3
2022-42905	HEAP	9.1	!!! Info. Leak, M	✓	5.5.0	1.3

Retrospective of TLS Failures

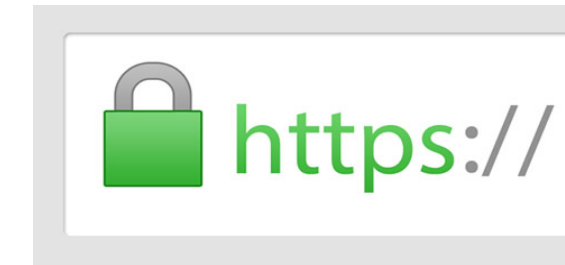


2014-2022

Affects the specification

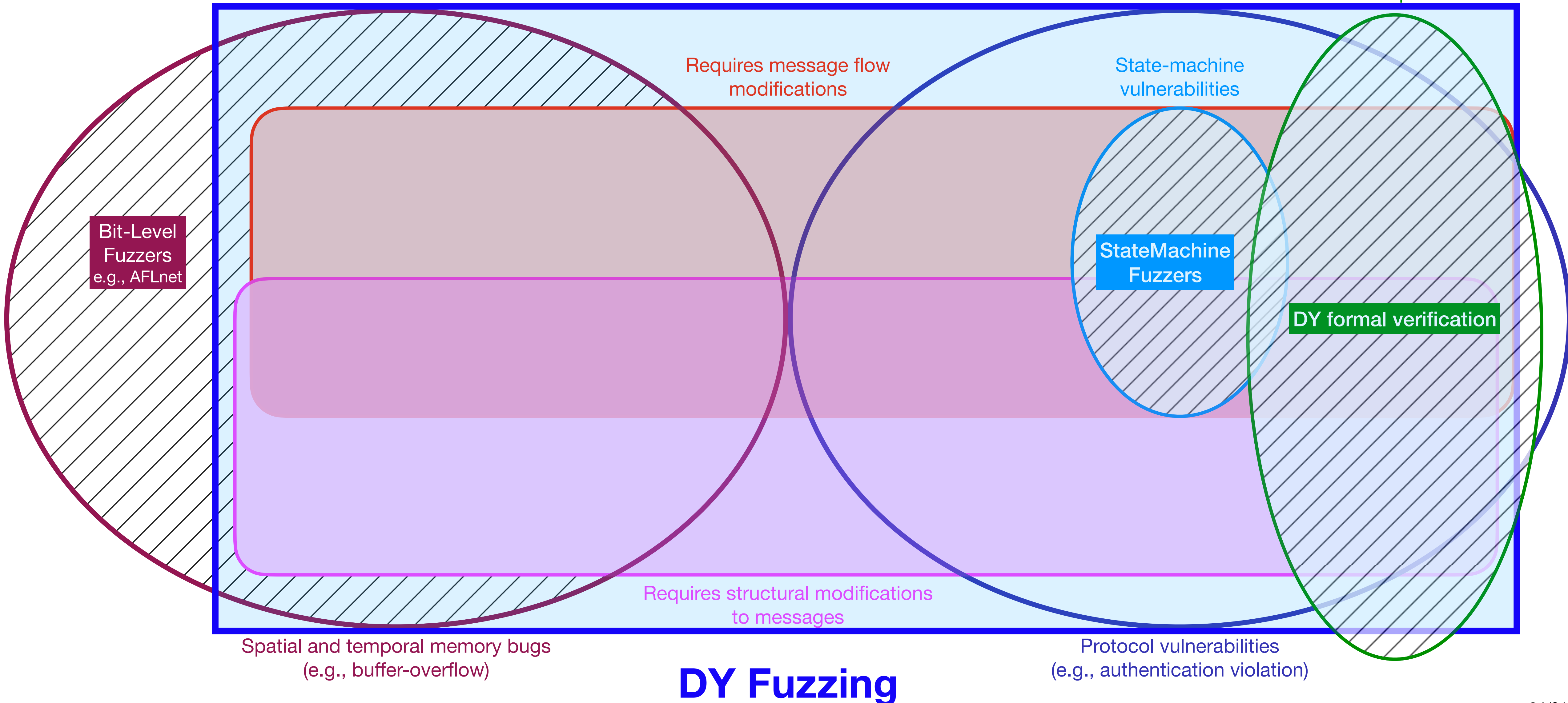


Retrospective of TLS Failures

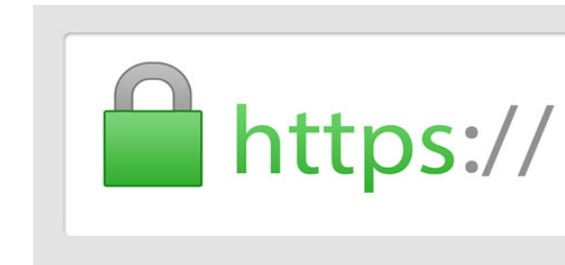


2014-2022

Affects the specification

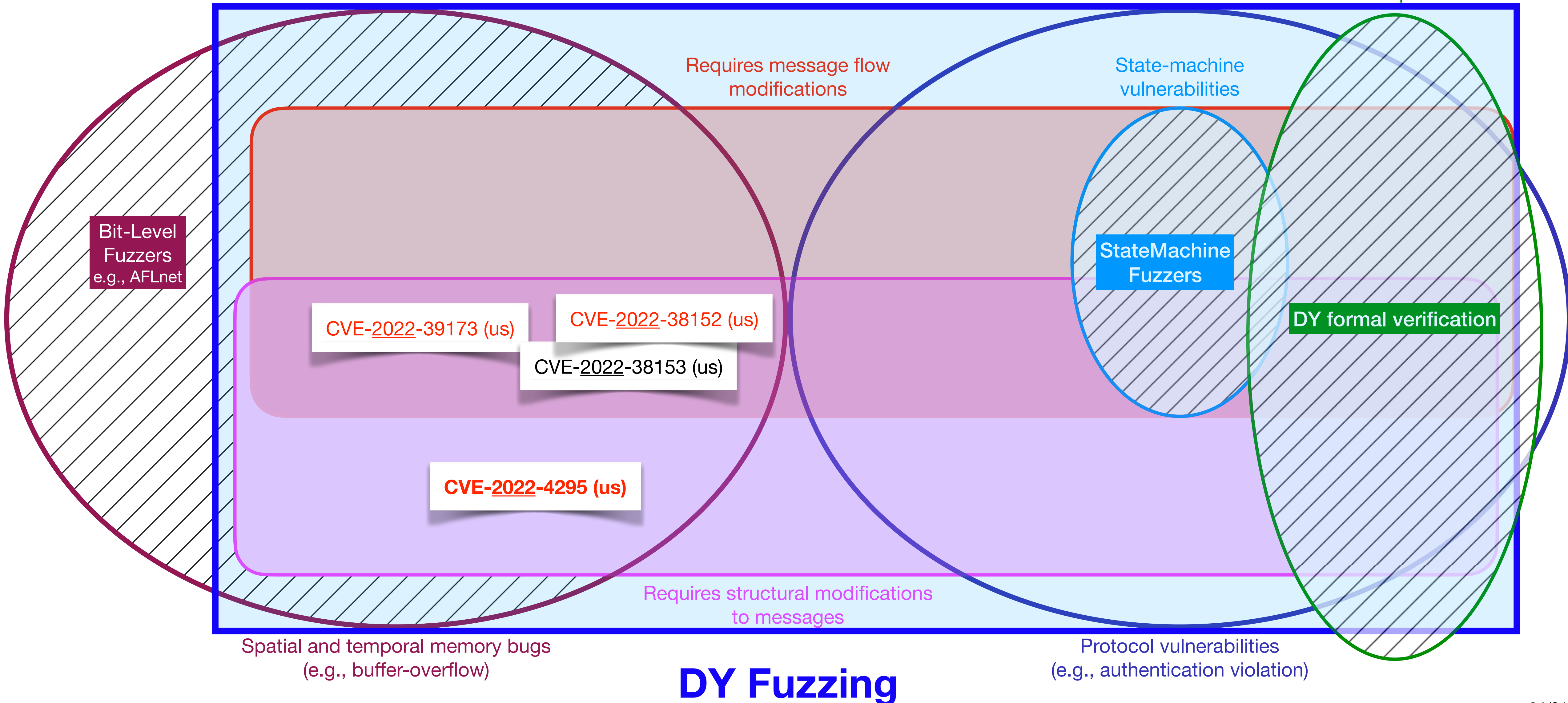


Retrospective of TLS Failures

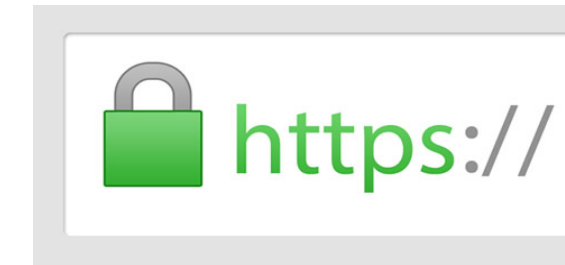


2014-2022

Affects the specification

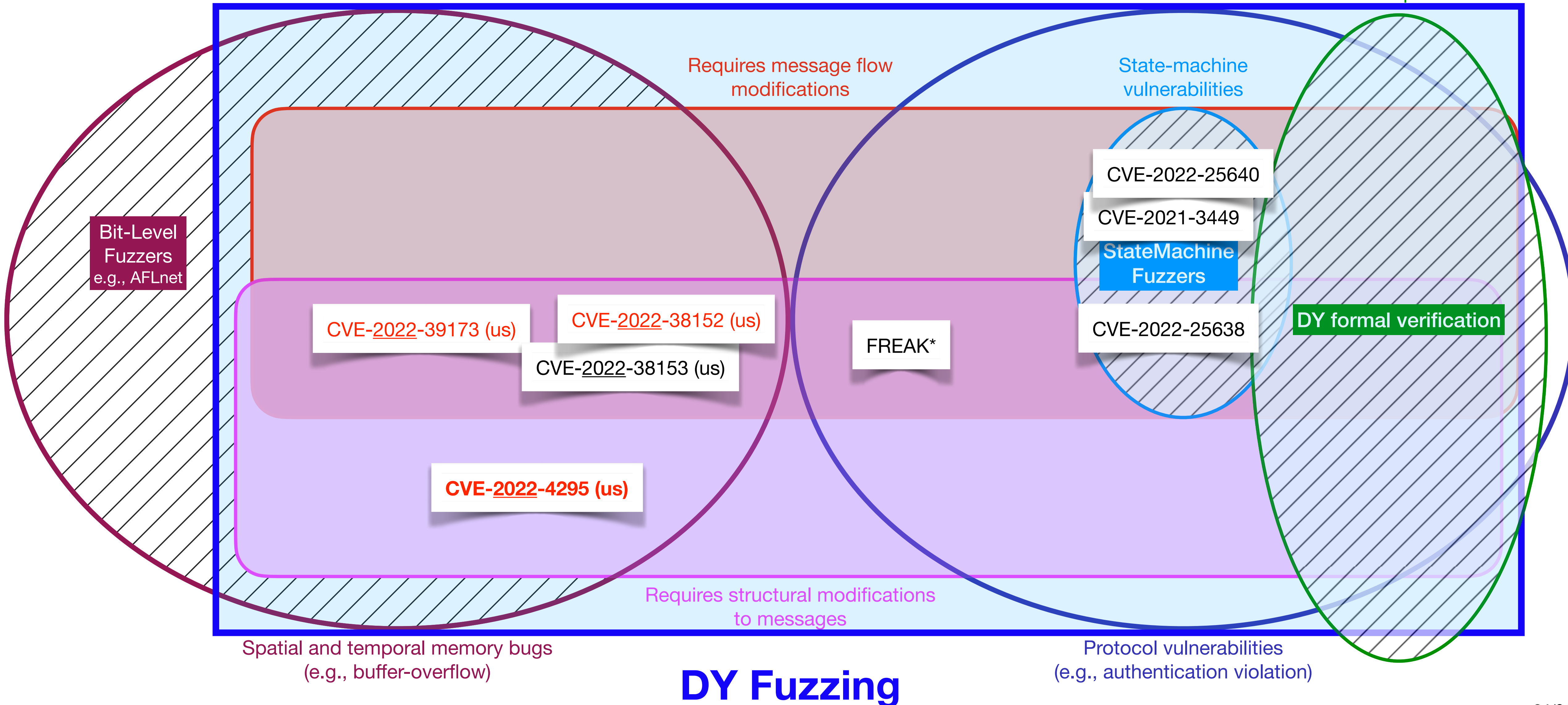


Retrospective of TLS Failures



2014-2022

Affects the specification



Bug triaging

1. Objective traces are stored on disk during fuzzing
2. Execute against clean slate WolfSSL through TCP
3. Plot the trace, inspect the attacker terms, could modify and re-execute

👉 Understand the attack requirements

4. gdb/lldb `tlspuffin+WolfSSL` execute trace (action-by-action, step-by-step)

👉 Understand the attack root causes

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

1. **Attacker acting as client** performs a full TLS handshake, establishing a Pre-Shared-Key (PSK)

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

1. **Attacker acting as client** performs a full TLS handshake, establishing a Pre-Shared-Key (PSK)
2. Forges a malicious **ClientHello([c;..;c])** message such that

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

1. **Attacker acting as client** performs a full TLS handshake, establishing a Pre-Shared-Key (PSK)
2. Forges a malicious **ClientHello([c;..;c])** message such that
 - (a) it **resumes previous session with PSK (needs to apply decrypt, hash, signature)** and
 - (b) It has as list of supported cipher suites with **duplicates of c** (say n times)

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

1. **Attacker acting as client** performs a full TLS handshake, establishing a Pre-Shared-Key (PSK)
 2. Forges a malicious **ClientHello([c;..;c])** message such that
 - (a) it **resumes previous session with PSK (needs to apply decrypt, hash, signature)** and
 - (b) It has as list of supported cipher suites with **duplicates of c** (say n times)
- 👉 Server calls `refineSuites` to update `suitesS` (ciphers offered both by client and server) bc. of **resumption**
- 👉 **Flaw 1: actually** computes « multiset-intersection » so `suitesS` will contain **duplicates of c** (say k times)
- 👉 **No big deal** because `suitesS` initially had no duplicate so: $k = n \leq |\text{suitesC}| \leq \text{MAX_SZ} = 150$

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

1. **Attacker acting as client** performs a full TLS handshake, establishing a Pre-Shared-Key (PSK)
 2. Forges a malicious **ClientHello([c;..;c])** message such that
 - (a) it **resumes previous session with PSK (needs to apply decrypt, hash, signature)** and
 - (b) It has as list of supported cipher suites with **duplicates of c** (say n times)
- 👉 Server calls `refineSuites` to update `suitesS` (ciphers offered both by client and server) bc. of **resumption**
- 👉 **Flaw 1: actually** computes « multiset-intersection » so `suitesS` will contain **duplicates of c** (say k times)
- 👉 **No big deal** because `suitesS` initially had no duplicate so: $k = n \leq |\text{suitesC}| \leq \text{MAX_SZ} = 150$

How WolfSSL implements \cap with `refineSuites(suitesC)`@tls13.c:4355

```
// suitesS initially with offered suites, MAX_SZ allocated
byte suites[MAX_SZ]; int suiteSz = 0; // supposed to compute suitesS  $\cap$  suitesC

for (i = 0; i < suitesS.size; i += 1) {
    for (j = 0; j < suitesC.size; j += 1) { // suitesC.size <= MAX_SZ
        if (suitesS->suites[i] == suitesC->suites[j]) {
            suites[suiteSz++] = suitesC->suites[j]; } } }

XMEMCPY(suitesS, &suites, sizeof(suites));
```

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

1. **Attacker acting as client** performs a full TLS handshake, establishing a Pre-Shared-Key (PSK)
 2. Forges a malicious **ClientHello([c;..;c])** message such that
 - (a) it **resumes previous session with PSK (needs to apply decrypt, hash, signature)** and
 - (b) It has as list of supported cipher suites with **duplicates of c** (say n times)
- 👉 Server calls `refineSuites` to update `suitesS` (ciphers offered both by client and server) bc. of **resumption**
- 👉 **Flaw 1: actually** computes « multiset-intersection » so `suitesS` will contain **duplicates of c** (say k times)
- 👉 **No big deal** because `suitesS` initially had no duplicate so: $k = n \leq |\text{suitesC}| \leq \text{MAX_SZ} = 150$

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

1. **Attacker acting as client** performs a full TLS handshake, establishing a Pre-Shared-Key (PSK)
 2. Forges a malicious `ClientHello([c;..;c])` message such that
 - (a) it **resumes previous session with PSK (needs to apply decrypt, hash, signature)** and
 - (b) It has as list of supported cipher suites with **duplicates of c** (say n times)
- 👉 Server calls `refineSuites` to update `suitesS` (ciphers offered both by client and server) bc. of **resumption**
 - 👉 **Flaw 1: actually** computes « multiset-intersection » so `suitesS` will contain **duplicates of c** (say k times)
 - 👉 **No big deal because** `suitesS` initially had no duplicate so: $k = n \leq |\text{suitesC}| \leq \text{MAX_SZ} = 150$
 - (c) Is **ill-formed** and **will be rejected but late** (after call to `refineSuites`), mess with `supportGroupExtension`
 - 👉 Server rejects it and sends a `HelloRetryRequest` but
 - 👉 **Flaw 2: side-effects** of `refineSuites` **are not reverted**
 - 👉 **From now on**, `refineSuites` invariant is broken: `suitesS` contains n duplicates of c

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

1. **Attacker acting as client** performs a full TLS handshake, establishing a Pre-Shared-Key (PSK)
2. Forges a malicious `ClientHello([c;..;c])` message such that
 - (a) it **resumes previous session with PSK (needs to apply decrypt, hash, signature)** and
 - (b) It has as list of supported cipher suites with **duplicates of c** (say n times)
 - 👉 Server calls `refineSuites` to update `suitesS` (ciphers offered both by client and server) bc. of **resumption**
 - 👉 **Flaw 1: actually** computes « multiset-intersection » so `suitesS` will contain **duplicates of c** (say k times)
 - 👉 **No big deal because** `suitesS` initially had no duplicate so: $k = n \leq |\text{suitesC}| \leq \text{MAX_SZ} = 150$
 - (c) Is **ill-formed** and **will be rejected but late** (after call to `refineSuites`), mess with `supportGroupExtension`
 - 👉 Server rejects it and sends a `HelloRetryRequest` but
 - 👉 **Flaw 2: side-effects** of `refineSuites` **are not reverted**
 - 👉 **From now on**, `refineSuites` invariant is broken: `suitesS` contains n duplicates of c
3. Send `ClientHello([c;..;c])` again, `refineSuites` is called again, the resulting buffer `suites` that contains $k^2 = n^2$ ciphers c is copied into `suitesS`
 - 👉 For $n = 13$, we already overwrite the `suitesS` buffer allocated on `MAX_ciphers_list_length = 150`

Root causes of **CVE-2022-39173** (WolfSSL, CVSS high)

1. **Attacker acting as client** performs a full TLS handshake, establishing a Pre-Shared-Key (PSK)
 2. Forges a malicious **ClientHello([c;..;c])** message such that
 - (a) it **resumes previous session with PSK (needs to apply decrypt, hash, signature)** and
 - (b) It has as list of supported cipher suites with **duplicates of c** (say n times)
- 👉 Server calls `refineSuites` to update `suitesS` (ciphers offered both by client and server) bc. of **resumption**
 - 👉 **Flaw 1: actually** computes « multiset-intersection » so `suitesS` will contain **duplicates of c** (say k times)
 - 👉 **No big deal because** `suitesS` initially had no duplicate so: $k = n \leq |\text{suitesC}| \leq \text{MAX_SZ} = 150$
- (c) Is **ill-formed** and **will be rejected but late** (after call to `refineSuites`), mess with `supportGroupExtension`

An overflow on the stack of max 44700 bytes (controlled by n).

- 👉 **Therefore, large portions of the stack can get overwritten, including return addresses (confirmed)**
- 👉 **Potential RCE (unconfirmed)**
- 👉 **Potential for negotiating ciphers that server should reject (downgrade)**

👉 For $n = 13$, we already overwrite the `suitesS` buffer allocated on `MAX_ciphers_list_length = 150`

DY Fuzzing **Future Work**

Future Work - Evaluation

Future Work - Evaluation

- tlspuffin **always found** the new CVEs
- state-of-the art competitive fuzzers **never found** any of them

We can explain this with **qualitative evidences** but **quantitative evidences** are hard to obtain

Future Work - Evaluation

- tlspuffin **always found** the new CVEs
- state-of-the art competitive fuzzers **never found** any of them

We can explain this with **qualitative evidences** but **quantitative evidences** are hard to obtain

- **Code-coverage** is a **poor metric**

A statement reached from an attack state is similarly counted as if reached from the happy flow

E.g., client accepting a legitimate server's certificate =_{coverage} accepting illegitimate cert.

Future Work - Evaluation

- tlspuffin **always found** the new CVEs
- state-of-the art competitive fuzzers **never found** any of them

We can explain this with **qualitative evidences** but **quantitative evidences** are hard to obtain

- **Code-coverage** is a **poor metric**

A statement reached from an attack state is similarly counted as if reached from the happy flow

E.g., client accepting a legitimate server's certificate =_{coverage} accepting illegitimate cert.

- **Yet, some insights by manual analysis of the diff-coverage** (tlspuffin vs. AFLnet)
 - tlspuffin explores more extensions **requiring structured messages approach** (crypto) (e.g., mutations UNDER encryption/signature)
 - Other fuzzers beat tlspuffin code-coverage for **discovering some functionalities in ClientHello** (e.g., discover a lot more ciphers yet without being able to then use them)

Future Work (cont.)

Future Work (cont.)

DY coverage: code-coverage is currently a bottleneck (prone to exhaustion)

- Need for a domain-specific DY-based notion of coverage
Hitting the same code with different adversarial behaviors should not be considered the same
- Combine with a proxy for how close a trace is to an attack trace
Could be useful to incentivize better term generation and some attack scenarios
- Combine and find a balance with code-based coverage (specified vs. implemented functionalities)

Future Work (cont.)

DY coverage: code-coverage is currently a bottleneck (prone to exhaustion)

- Need for a domain-specific DY-based notion of coverage
Hitting the same code with different adversarial behaviors should not be considered the same
- Combine with a proxy for how close a trace is to an attack trace
Could be useful to incentivize better term generation and some attack scenarios
- Combine and find a balance with code-based coverage (specified vs. implemented functionalities)

Improved objective oracle

- Differential fuzzing: save t as objective when $\text{WolfSSL}(t) \neq \text{OpenSSL}(t)$

Future Work (cont.)

DY coverage: **code-coverage is currently a bottleneck** (prone to exhaustion)

- Need for a domain-specific DY-based notion of coverage
Hitting the same code with different adversarial behaviors should not be considered the same
- Combine with a proxy for how close a trace is to an attack trace
Could be useful to incentivize better term generation and some attack scenarios
- Combine and find a balance with code-based coverage (specified vs. implemented functionalities)

Improved objective oracle

- **Differential fuzzing**: save t as objective when $\text{WolfSSL}(t) \neq \text{OpenSSL}(t)$
- **Or extend the oracle**: **more** compromise scenarios, **secrecy** (abstraction, deduction?), **privacy** (approx.?), functional correctness / a **model**

Future Work (cont.)

Future Work (cont.)

- Combine DY fuzzing with bit-level fuzzing (WIP): reach « deep states » with DY attacker and then smash with some bit-level mutations

Future Work (cont.)

- **Combine DY** fuzzing with **bit-level** fuzzing (WIP): reach « deep states » with DY attacker and then smash with some bit-level mutations
- **DY-based concolic testing**: use DY verifiers to synthesize test cases that pass “complex” conditions

Future Work (cont.)

- **Combine DY** fuzzing with **bit-level** fuzzing (WIP): reach « deep states » with DY attacker and then smash with some bit-level mutations
- **DY-based concolic testing**: use DY verifiers to synthesize test cases that pass “complex” conditions
- Apply DY fuzzing to **more protocols and PUTs** (e.g., SChannel, WPA, TelCo)

Future Work (cont.)

- Combine DY fuzzing with bit-level fuzzing (WIP): reach « deep states » with DY attacker and then smash with some bit-level mutations
- DY-based concolic testing: use DY verifiers to synthesize test cases that pass “complex” conditions
- Apply DY fuzzing to more protocols and PUTs (e.g., SChannel, WPA, TelCo)

Long-Term

- (Partially) Automate Mapper and Harness → PUT-agnostic DY fuzzer
- Model extraction
- Connect further with DY verifiers (ProVerif, Tamarin, Saptic+)

Summary of Contributions

Summary of Contributions

1. A new approach to fuzzing cryptographic protocols connecting the **DY formal approach** with **fuzzing** → captures for the first time the class of logical attacks / DY attacker
2. **DY Fuzzing design specification**
3. **tlspuffin: full-fledged, modular, efficient DY fuzzer implementation for TLS**
4. **Evaluate tlspuffin on TLS libraries:**
 - (re)found **seven vulnerabilities**
 - including **four new ones** (one critical, two high, and one medium)

Preprint IACR 2023/057

DY Fuzzing: Formal Dolev-Yao Models Meet Protocol Fuzz Testing

Max Ammann*
Independent Researcher &
Trail of Bits
max@maxammann.org

Lucca Hirschi
Inria Nancy Grand-Est
Université de Lorraine, LORIA, France
lucca.hirschi@inria.fr

Steve Kremer
Inria Nancy Grand-Est
Université de Lorraine, LORIA, France
steve.kremer@inria.fr

v1.0[†] — January 18, 2023

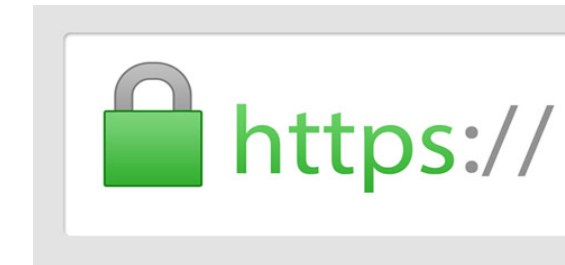
Project ANR JCJC

→ Looking for student/postdocs/engineers

AAPG2022	PROTOFUZZ	JCJC
Coordinated by	Lucca Hirschi	36 months
Axe E.1 : Fondements du numérique : informatique, automatique, traitement du signal		
PROTOFUZZ: Cryptographic Protocol Logic Fuzz Testing		
Formal Verification Meets Fuzz Testing		
Consortium: PESTO (Inria Nancy)		

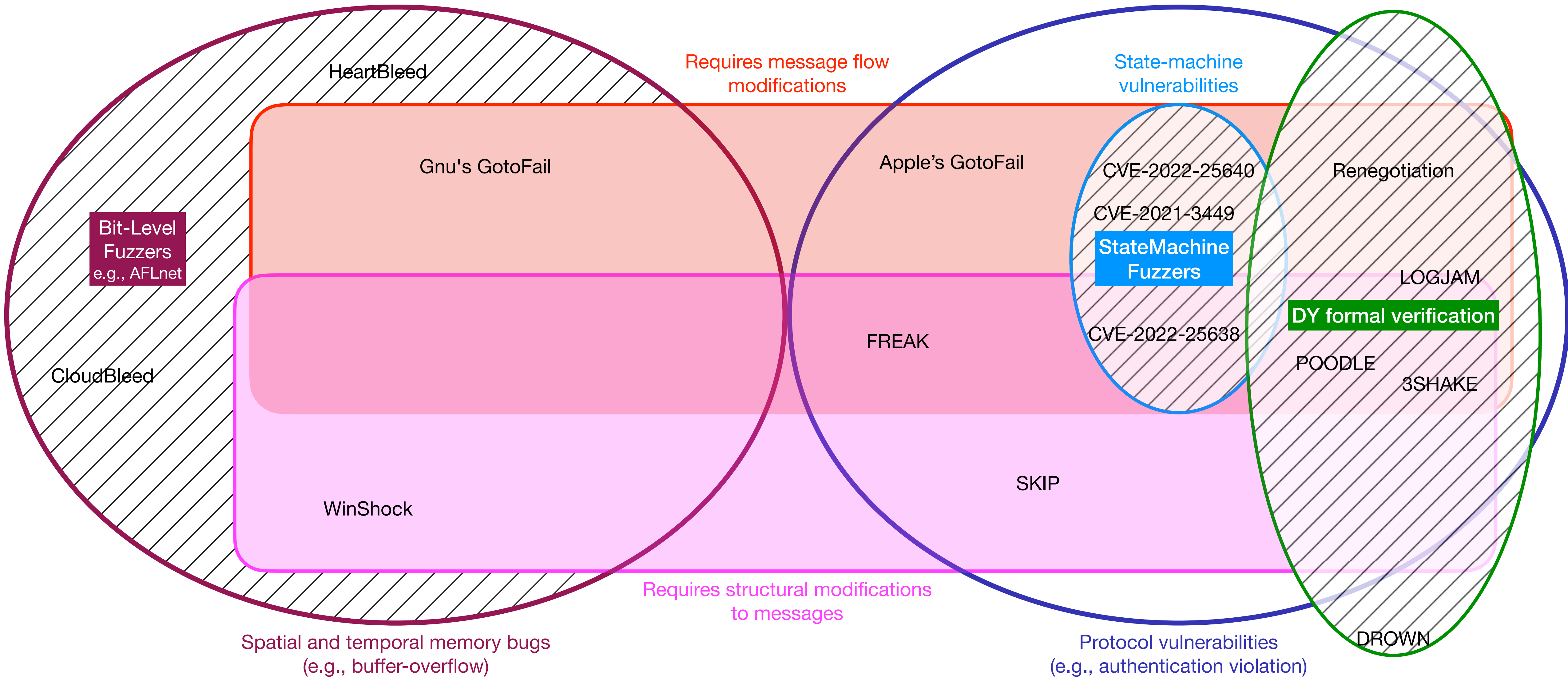
Backup Slides

Retrospective of TLS Failures

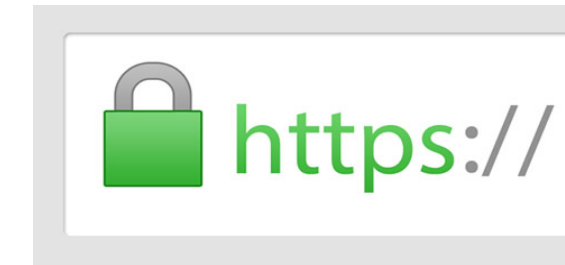


2019-2022

Affects the specification

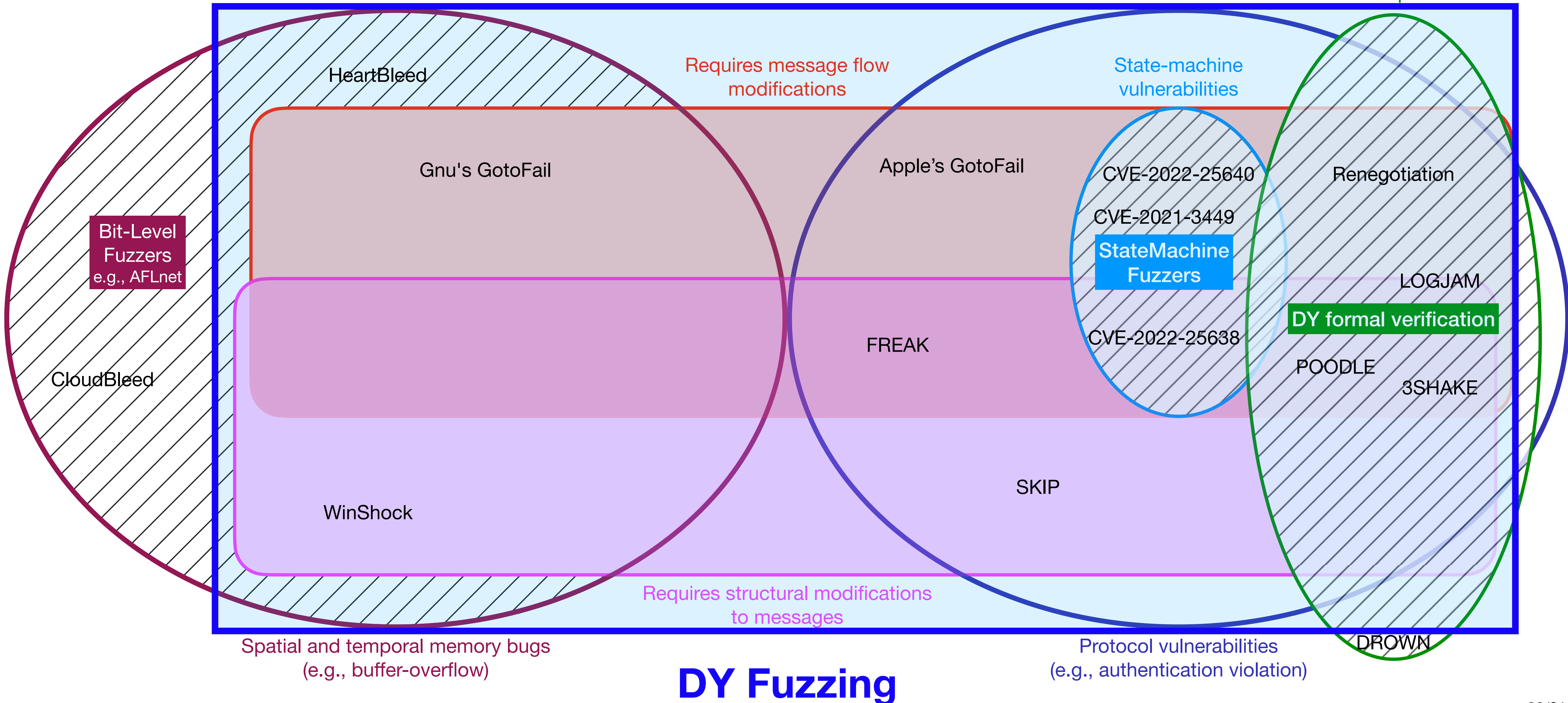


Retrospective of TLS Failures

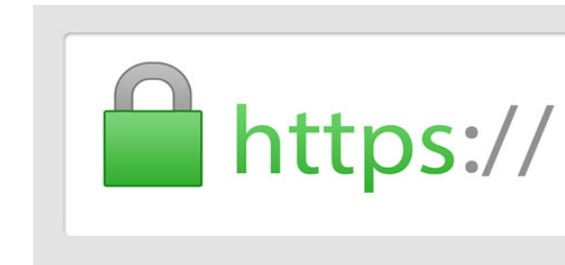


2019-2022

Affects the specification

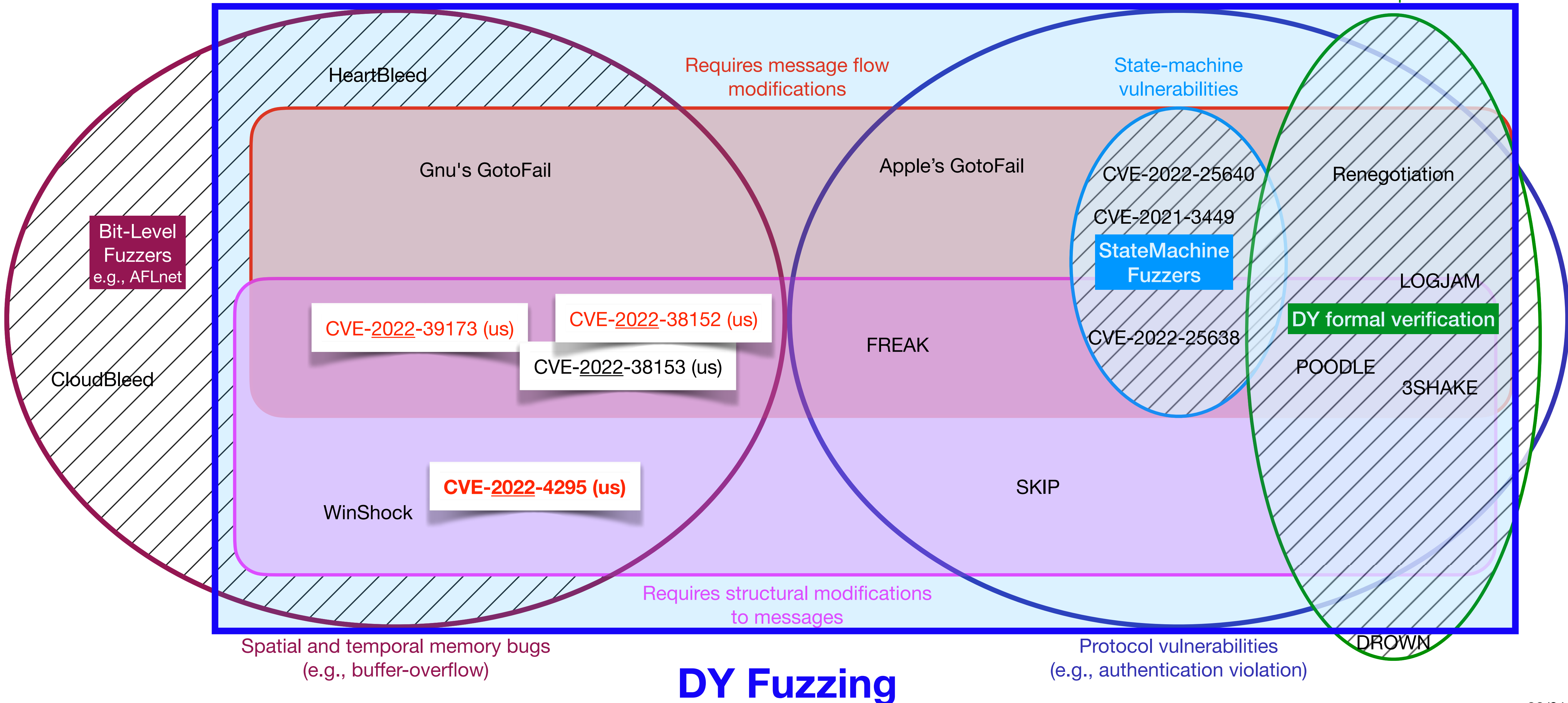


Retrospective of TLS Failures

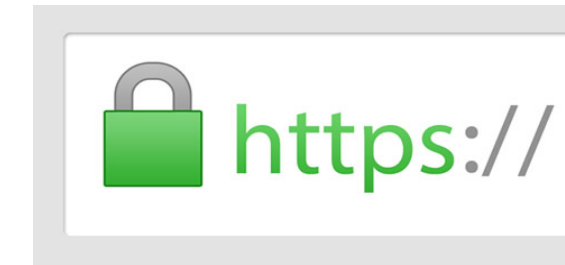


2019-2022

Affects the specification

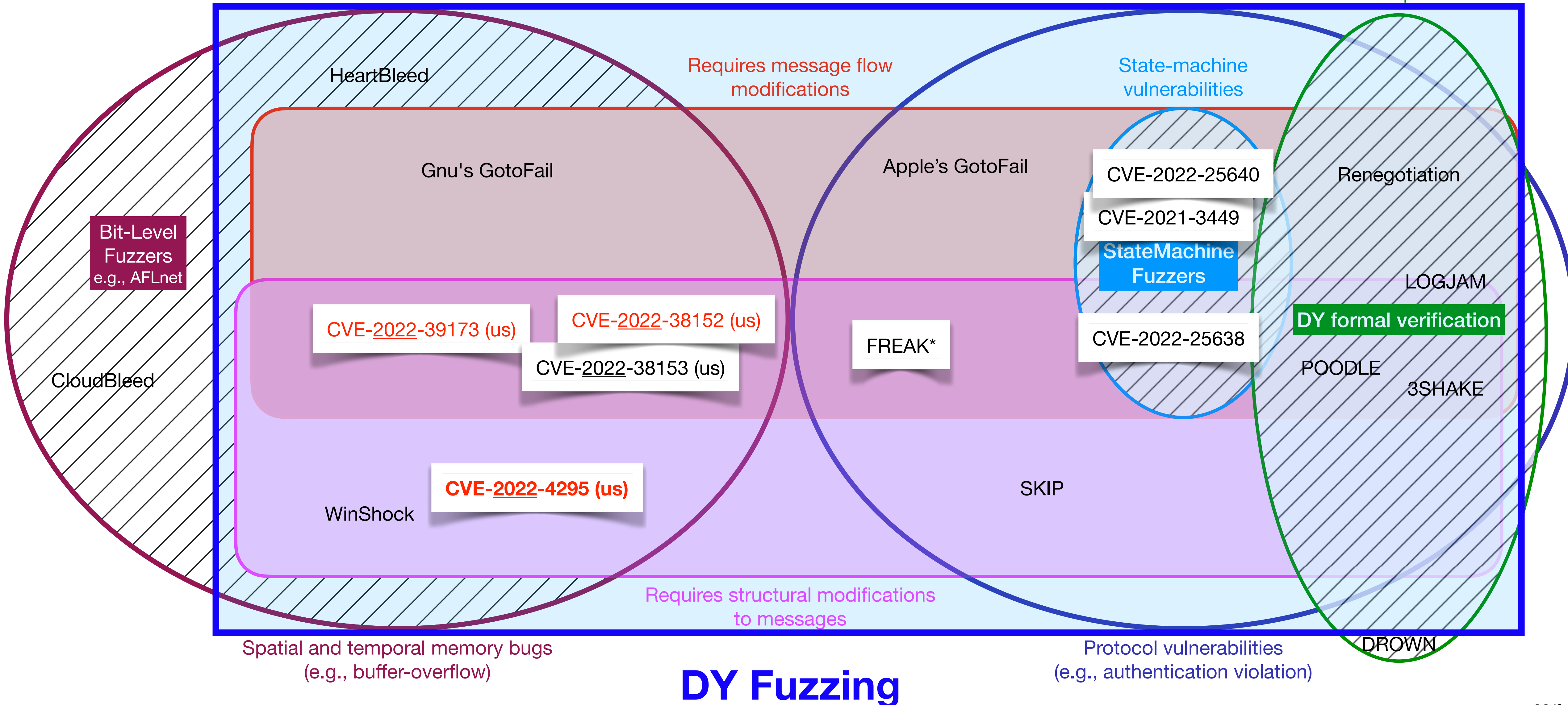


Retrospective of TLS Failures

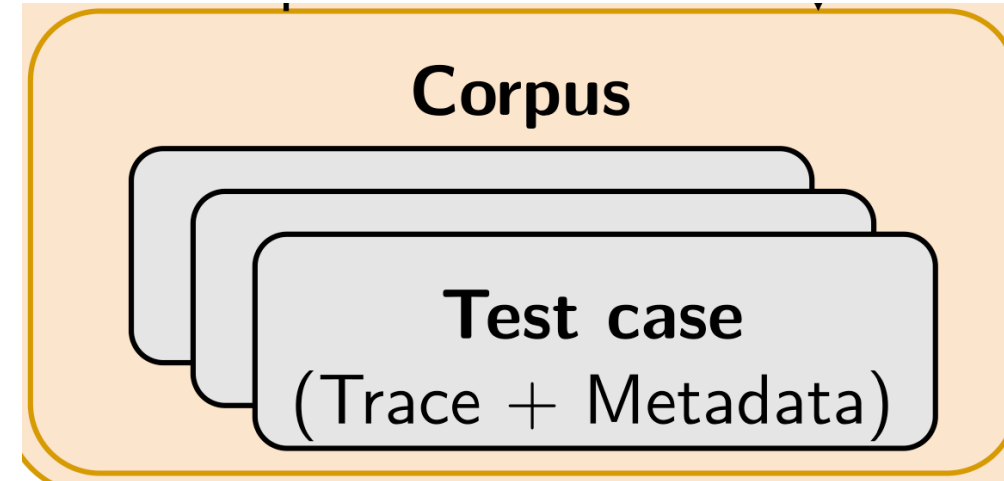


2019-2022

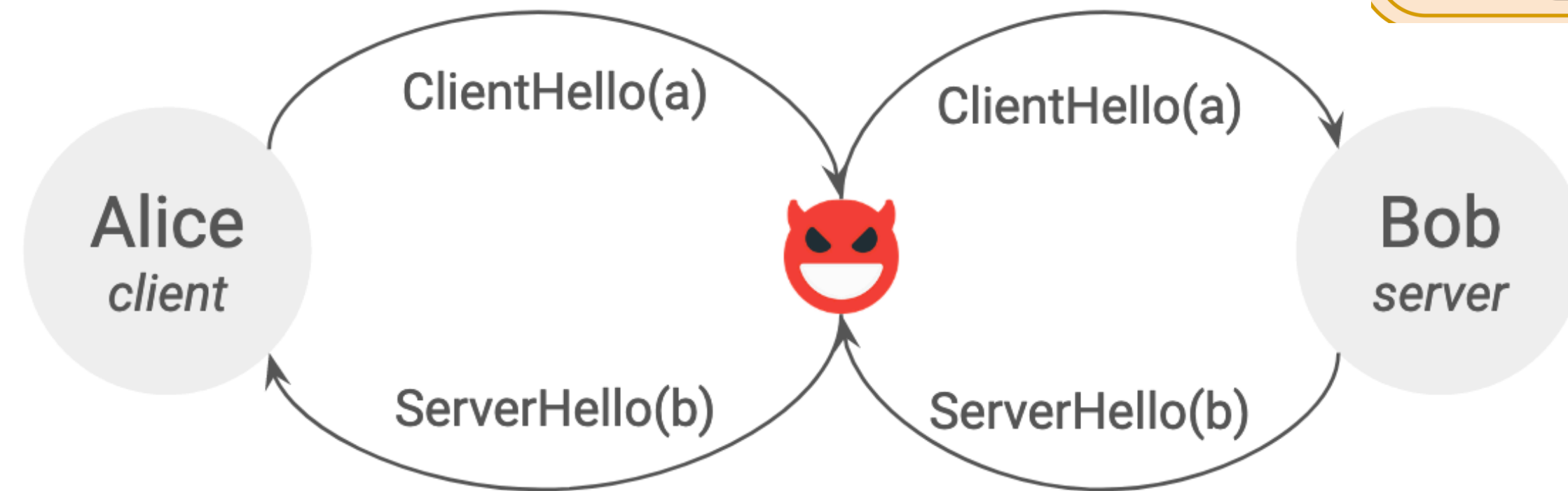
Affects the specification



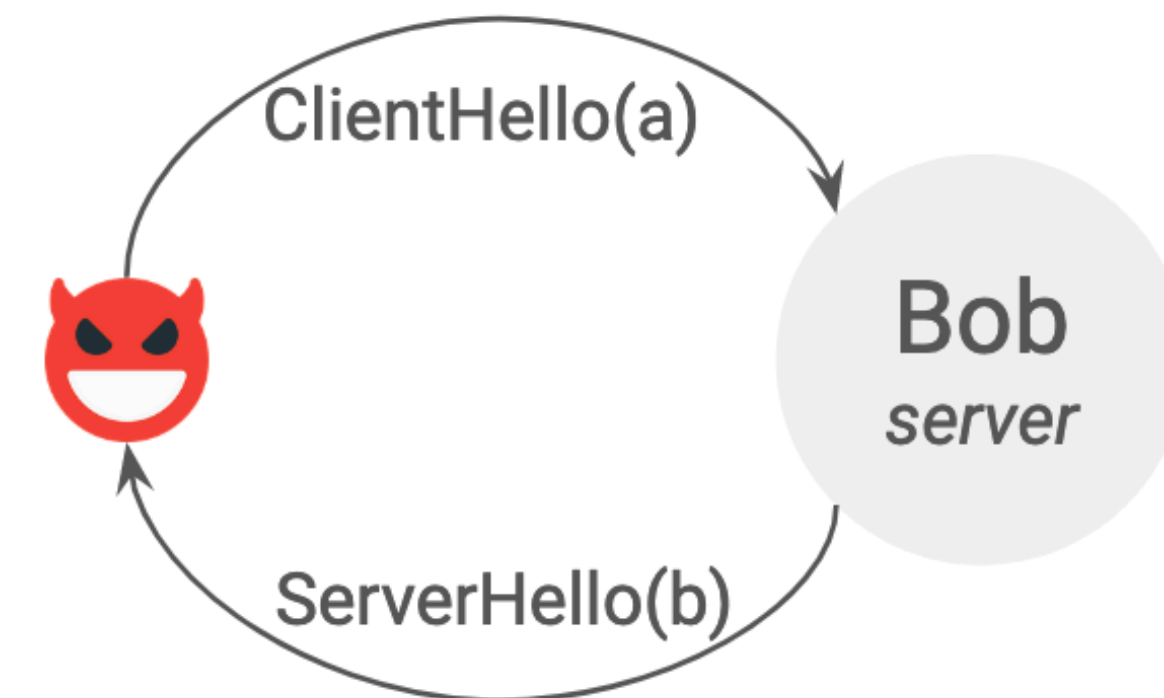
Seed Corpus



MITM Happy Flow

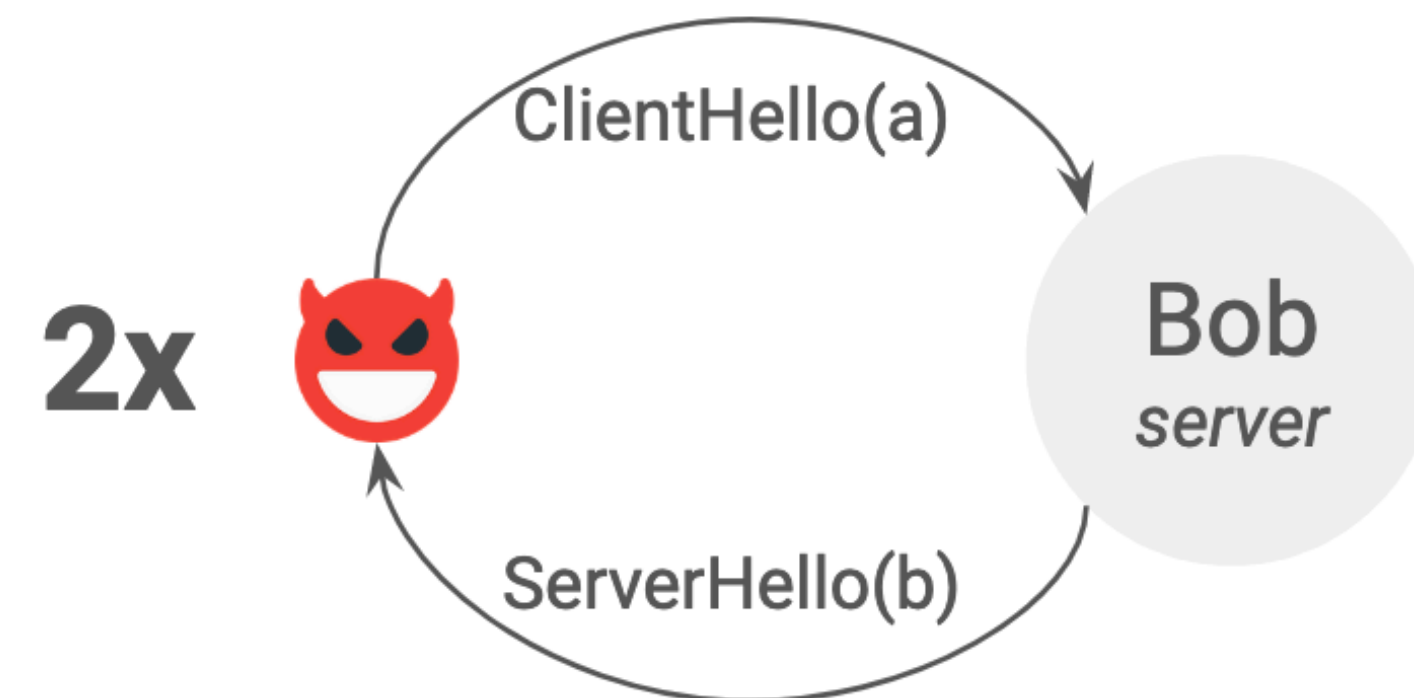


Client Attacker (Happy flow)



Session Resumption (Happy flow)

Similar to Client attacker, but performs a second handshake



Tls puffin Terms Domain-Specific Language

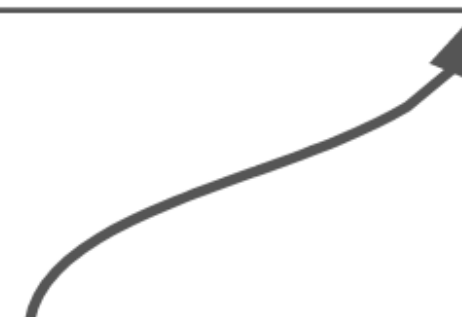
```
let rsa_certificate = term! {  
  fn_certificate13(...)  
};
```

```
let certificate = term! {  
  fn_encrypt_handshake(  
    (@certificate_rsa),  
    (fn_sh_transcript(((server, 0)))),  
    (fn_server_share(((server, 0)))),  
    fn_seq_0,  
    ...  
  )  
};
```

Tlsppuffin Traces Domain-Specific Language

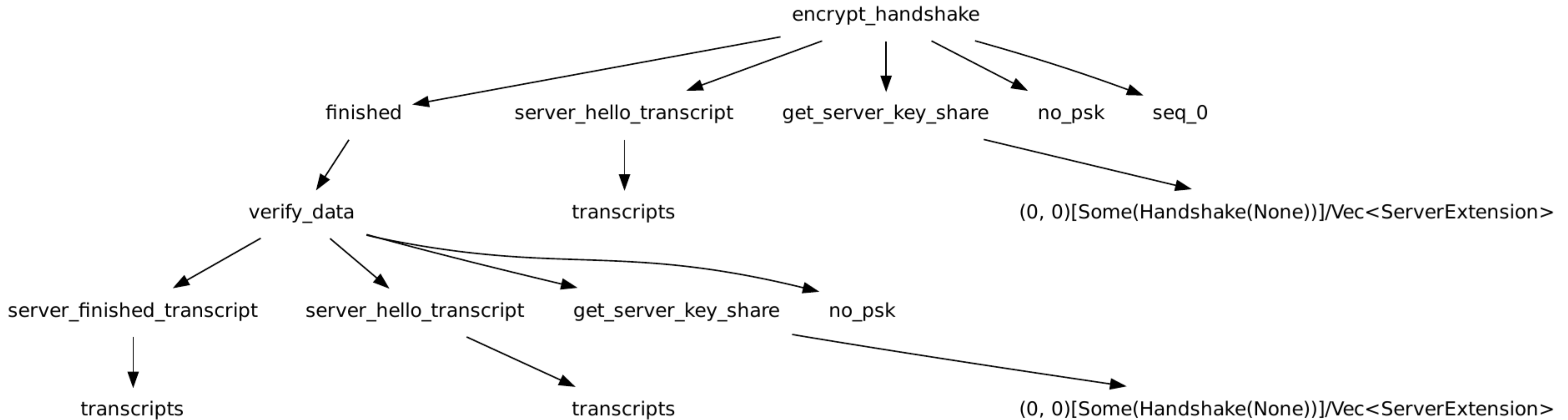
```
1 let recipe: Term = term! {  
2   fn_client_hello(  
3     fn_protocol_version12,  
4     fn_random,  
5     fn_session_id,  
6     fn_cipher_suites,  
7     fn_compressions,  
8     fn_client_extensions  
9   )  
10 };
```

Domain Specific Language
for declaring terms




```
1 let client_name = AgentName::new();  
2 let server_name = client::next();  
3  
4 let steps: Vec<Steps> = vec![  
5   OutputAction::new_step(client_name),  
6   InputAction::new_step(  
7     server_name, recipe  
8   )  
9 ];  
10  
11 let trace: Trace = Trace {  
12   prior_traces: vec![],  
13   descriptors: vec![  
14     AgentDescriptor::  
15       new_client(client_name, V1_3),  
16     AgentDescriptor::  
17       new_server(server_name, V1_3)  
18   ],  
19   steps  
20 };
```

Plotting Terms and Traces



tlspuffin: a full-fledge DY fuzzer

tlspuffin: a full-fledge DY fuzzer

- **Open-source** project written in **Rust** (16k LoC) (tlspuffin on Github)
- Built on **LibAFL**, a modular library to build fuzzers (+ new/custom components )
- **In-memory** buffers, **delightfully parallel**, **fast** (700 execs/s/core)
- For TLS: **189 function symbols**, harnessed PUTs: **OpenSSL, WolfSSL, OpenSSL**
- **Beyond fuzzing**: Connect to a PUT through **TCP** (easier to connect to new PUTs)
+ **Traces are**: executable, serializable, pretty-printable (as trees), concretizable (for PoC)
- **Optimizations**:
 - **fragment** outputs by extracting sub-messages → smaller terms
 - **queries** for accessing output variable access → more robust through mutations
 - automatic **transcript extraction** → much smaller terms, think $\langle m, \text{MAC}(h(\text{transcript}), k) \rangle$